



# THE CITY OF MONTEREY

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE:** February 2, 2024

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### **RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SEEKS RESIDENT INPUT Take the Survey and Attend a Community Drop-In Session**

Monterey, Calif. – The City of Monterey is establishing a new Rental Assistance Program to provide rental assistance to eligible households facing housing instability challenges. Funding is anticipated to be available starting in spring 2024. As part of this process, the Housing Office is hosting community outreach opportunities and a survey to gather information on how the City of Monterey can help renters with housing costs.

The City encourages renters and property managers to participate in both the survey and in-person drop-in sessions. Pre-registration is not required:

- Wed., February 7, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Hilltop Park Center, 871 Jessie Street
- Sunday, February 11, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Laguna Grande Park, 401 Virgin Avenue
- Monday, February 12, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at El Estero Park Center, 777 Pearl Street
- Sunday, February 18, 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Montecito Park, 220 Montecito Avenue

The survey is posted in English and Spanish at [haveyoursaymonterey.org/rentalassistance](https://haveyoursaymonterey.org/rentalassistance). In addition, the City's Housing staff will be at the Downtown Tuesday Farmers' Market on Alvarado Street on February 6 and February 13 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. Postcards with the dates are being sent to Monterey residents.

"We are seeking feedback on what types of rental assistance programs would be most beneficial to renters who are facing housing instability and may be struggling to pay rent or deposits," said

*(more)*

City Manager Hans Uslar. “The City Council and staff continue to work strategically to expand housing opportunities and support rental assistance needs in the short and long term.”

Previous City Rental Assistance programs have provided financial relief for members of our community. As a first in the county, Monterey launched an Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) in April 2020 spending almost \$1 million (162 households) in City housing program funds in response to financial hardships resulting from [the COVID-19 pandemic](#). In 2021, the City of Monterey administered the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) funds totaling approximately \$1.25 million on behalf of the United Way of Monterey County, benefiting 128 households. Combined, the two programs benefited 290 households.

*Residents can take the survey and share their ideas on how best to assist renters at <https://haveyoursaymonterey.org/rentalassistance>.*

**THE CITY OF MONTEREY** *Rental ASSISTANCE PROGRAM INPUT 2024*

 **Funding will be available this spring! Tell us what you need!**

**RENTERS AND PROPERTY MANAGERS are encouraged to provide feedback on how the City of Monterey can help renters with housing costs.**

- ✓ Share your ideas at [haveyoursaymonterey.org/rentalassistance](https://haveyoursaymonterey.org/rentalassistance)
- ✓ Participate in a community drop-in session:  
Wed., Feb. 7, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Hilltop Park Center  
Sun., Feb. 11, 12 to 2 p.m. at Laguna Grande Park  
Mon., Feb. 12, 6 to 7 p.m. at El Estero Park Center  
Sun., Feb. 18, 12 to 2 p.m. at Montecito Park
- ✓ Come see us at the Tuesday Farmer’s Market on Alvarado Street, Feb. 6 & Feb. 13, 4 to 7 p.m.

City of Monterey Community Development Department Housing Division  
570 Pacific Street, (831) 646-3995, [monterey.org/housing](https://monterey.org/housing)

**HAVE YOUR SAY MONTEREY**

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