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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 7:22 AM  
**To:** Monica Nino; Adam Nguyen; Jessica Shepard; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: June 10, 2025 Board of Supervisors - Public Comment from Rachel Rosekind re Agenda Item D4: Unallocated One-Time Measure X Funds  
**Attachments:** Rachel Rosekind\_Public Comment Item D4\_MX Allocations\_BOS\_06.10.2025.pdf

The email below and the attachment above were received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

Best regards,

Stacey M. Boyd  
Deputy Clerk  
Clerk of the Board  
1025 Escobar St., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
(925)655-2000 (Office)

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**From:** Rachel Rosekind <[REDACTED]@il.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 8, 2025 3:38 PM  
**To:** John Gioia <John.Gioia@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Candace Andersen <SupervisorAndersen@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor\_Burgis <Supervisor\_Burgis@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Carlson <supervisorcarlson@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Scales-Preston <BOS5@bos.cccounty.us>  
**Cc:** Sonia Bustamante <Sonia.Bustamante@bos.cccounty.us>; Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>; Jen Quallick <Jen.Quallick@bos.cccounty.us>; Alicia Nuchols <Alicia.Nuchols@bos.cccounty.us>; Lisa Chow <Lisa.Chow@bos.cccounty.us>; David Fraser <David.Fraser@bos.cccounty.us>  
**Subject:** June 10, 2025 Board of Supervisors - Public Comment from Rachel Rosekind re Agenda Item D4: Unallocated One-Time Measure X Funds

Dear Supervisors,

I have the pleasure and honor of serving as Vice Chair of the Measure X Community Advisory Board (MXCAB). I am writing to affirm our Board's commitment to rigor, inclusion, equity, and compassionate action and request that you support our most recent priority recommendations.

Advisory boards are the narrowest end of a large funnel—I firmly believe that every MXCAB member takes that proviso extremely seriously. Our board is deeply connected to different communities *and* deeply aware that their experiences, relationships, and perspectives are limited. This is why we proactively seek public input, take responsibility to educate ourselves and each other on important community issues and County developments, and engage in rigorous and transparent roundtable discussion with an inclusive lens.

Based on these commitments, the MXCAB is well-positioned to offer informed, data-driven, and resident-centered recommendations. The priorities we identified and forwarded for your consideration reflect that capacity and commitment. They are also firmly grounded in the County's own data, most recently lifted up by

numerous departments during the 25–26 budget hearings, which demonstrated the widespread racial, economic, and geographic inequities and disparities that jeopardize the present and future well-being of many residents.

Our priority recommendations range across life stages and dimensions and reflect the MXCAB's intention to lift up the interconnections that define access to resources and opportunities. They are:

**Early childhood and family support.** To date, just 4% of Measure X funds have been dedicated to the 0–5 population, and we have consistently seen unspent youth-focused funds reallocated for non-youth-focused expenditures. I serve on the Library Commission, where we had a recent presentation from EHSD's Measure-X-funded Family Navigators who trumpeted the program's success. Locating the navigators in early childhood centers would be a tremendous boon to the County's preventative strategies and supports and provide more proportionate investment to an identified priority population in Measure X's ballot language.

**Community-defined programs that focus on African American males.** Pervasive County data documents that African American males experience disproportionately negative outcomes in mental and physical health, criminal legal system involvement, educational achievement, school disciplinary interventions, employment and housing/homelessness, and other metrics of well-being. Amidst ongoing dismantlement of decades of race-forward legislation and policies at the federal level, it's imperative that our County and its leaders prioritize targeted supports for those who are most harmed and vulnerable to harms.

**Mental health services for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and school-aged youth.** Access to mental health care can make a monumental difference in young people's health and social development and is a critical component of addressing the child and adolescent mental health crisis. I recently served on the evaluation panel for the Measure X Mental Health Services Request for Proposals (RFP), which divided a total \$1.4 million allocation across four priority populations and received over 40 applications. School-aged youth received the smallest amount at \$100,000, wholly disproportionate to not just the need but the capacity of our community-based organizations to meet it. We interviewed numerous excellent service providers, rooted in and responsive to their communities. The limited funding amount meant that we were only able to award a single contract, albeit to an exceptionally capable organization. Increased funding for school-aged youth during an escalated time of vulnerability and crisis is not just a sound investment, it is a timely imperative, given potential cuts to Medicaid, a critical funding source for school-based health services for K–12 students, particularly those from low-income backgrounds. Additionally, the MXCAB has consistently heard testimony from community leaders and residents regarding the lack of culturally competent mental health outreach and services for Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

**Resources to address the dearth of supports for youth and young adults facing housing and economic insecurity.** As documented in the September 2024 community needs assessment for youth and young adult homelessness, *Opportunity to Change*, there is an overwhelming need for youth-focused services and resources and tremendous gaps across the County in terms of meeting those, particularly in East County. In the County's 2024 PIT Count, 13% of all persons identified as experiencing homelessness reported that their first experience with homelessness occurred before they turned eighteen. Funding youth and young adult supports is funding prevention—avoiding downstream consequences and saving lives.

**Rental assistance to help stabilize households at risk of eviction.** Rental assistance is a proven strategy to prevent homelessness and keep families together. According to the County's data, in 2023, at least 86% of Contra Costa residents who received rental assistance were able to retain their housing or move to another source of permanent housing. Rental assistance is also a cost-effective way to address disparities in economic recovery from the pandemic, which our lowest-income renters have never fully recovered from. Notably,

eviction filings in Contra Costa were 22% higher in 2023–24 than they were pre-pandemic, and our county has the second highest eviction rate in the Bay Area.

Lastly, I want to thank Supervisor Gioia for collaborating with county departments to shape the MXCAB's recommendations into actionable initiatives and investments. I hope the Board will support his effort and make the allocations necessary to implement this critical work to ensure a more thriving and equitable county.

With thanks, Rachel

**Rachel Rosekind, PhD, MLIS**

Editing | Research & Consulting | Communications | Teaching & Mentorship | Admissions

[www.takerootandbloom.net](http://www.takerootandbloom.net)



*Community is not something we have. It's something we do.* —Grace Lee Boggs

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*Storytelling reveals meaning without committing the error of defining it.* —Hannah Arendt



**Attn:**

June 8, 2025

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair  
Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair  
Supervisor Ken Carlson  
Supervisor John Gioia  
Supervisor Scales-Preston

**Re: Agenda Item D4: Discuss Next Steps for Unallocated One-Time Measure X Funds**

Dear Supervisors,

I have the pleasure and honor of serving as Vice Chair of the Measure X Community Advisory Board (MXCAB). I am writing to affirm our Board's commitment to rigor, inclusion, equity, and compassionate action and request that you support our most recent priority recommendations.

Advisory boards are the narrowest end of a large funnel—I firmly believe that every MXCAB member takes that proviso extremely seriously. Our board is deeply connected to different communities *and* deeply aware that their experiences, relationships, and perspectives are limited. This is why we proactively seek public input, take responsibility to educate ourselves and each other on important community issues and County developments, and engage in rigorous and transparent roundtable discussion with an inclusive lens.

Based on these commitments, the MXCAB is well-positioned to offer informed, data-driven, and resident-centered recommendations. The priorities we identified and forwarded for your consideration reflect that capacity and commitment. They are also firmly grounded in the County's own data, most recently lifted up by numerous departments during the 25–26 budget hearings, which demonstrated the widespread racial, economic, and geographic inequities and disparities that jeopardize the present and future well-being of many residents.

Our priority recommendations range across life stages and dimensions and reflect the MXCAB's intention to lift up the interconnections that define access to resources and opportunities. They are: **Early childhood and family support.** To date, just 4% of Measure X funds have been dedicated to the 0–5 population, and we have consistently seen unspent youth-focused funds reallocated for non-youth-focused expenditures. I serve on the Library Commission, where we had a recent presentation from EHSD's Measure-X-funded Family Navigators who trumpeted the program's success. Locating the navigators in early childhood centers would be a tremendous boon to the County's preventative strategies and supports and provide more proportionate investment to an identified priority population in Measure X's ballot language.

**Community-defined programs that focus on African American males.** Pervasive County data documents that African American males experience disproportionately negative outcomes in mental and physical health, criminal legal system involvement, educational achievement, school disciplinary interventions, employment and housing/homelessness, and other metrics of well-being. Amidst ongoing dismantlement of decades of race-forward legislation and policies at the federal level, it's

imperative that our County and its leaders prioritize targeted supports for those who are most harmed and vulnerable to harms.

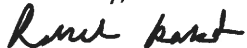
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**Resources to address the dearth of supports for youth and young adults facing housing and economic insecurity.** As documented in the September 2024 community needs assessment for youth and young adult homelessness, *Opportunity to Change*, there is an overwhelming need for youth-focused services and resources and tremendous gaps across the County in terms of meeting those, particularly in East County. In the County's 2024 PIT Count, 13% of all persons identified as experiencing homelessness reported that their first experience with homelessness occurred before they turned eighteen. Funding youth and young adult supports is funding prevention—avoiding downstream consequences and saving lives.

**Rental assistance to help stabilize households at risk of eviction.** Rental assistance is a proven strategy to prevent homelessness and keep families together. According to the County's data, in 2023, at least 86% of Contra Costa residents who received rental assistance were able to retain their housing or move to another source of permanent housing. Rental assistance is also a cost-effective way to address disparities in economic recovery from the pandemic, which our lowest-income renters have never fully recovered from. Notably, eviction filings in Contra Costa were 22% higher in 2023–24 than they were pre-pandemic, and our county has the second highest eviction rate in the Bay Area.

Lastly, I want to thank Supervisor Gioia for collaborating with county departments to shape the MXCAB's recommendations into actionable initiatives and investments. I hope the Board will support his effort and make the allocations necessary to implement this critical work to ensure a more thriving and equitable county.

Sincerely,



Rachel Rosekind, PhD, MLIS

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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 7:23 AM  
**To:** Monica Nino; Adam Nguyen; Jessica Shepard; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: June 10, 2025 Board of Supervisors - Public Comment from Rachel Rosekind re Agenda Item D5: Consideration of former COVID-19 FEMA Reserve funds  
**Attachments:** Rachel Rosekind\_Public Comment Item D5\_ARPA Allocations\_BOS\_06.10.2025.pdf

The email below and the attachment above were received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

Best regards,

Stacey M. Boyd  
Deputy Clerk  
Clerk of the Board  
1025 Escobar St., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
(925)655-2000 (Office)

---

**From:** Rachel Rosekind  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 8, 2025 3:42 PM  
**To:** John Gioia <John.Gioia@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Candace Andersen <SupervisorAndersen@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor\_Burgis <Supervisor\_Burgis@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Carlson <supervisorcarlson@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Scales-Preston <BOS5@bos.cccounty.us>  
**Cc:** Sonia Bustamante <Sonia.Bustamante@bos.cccounty.us>; Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>; Jen Quallick <Jen.Quallick@bos.cccounty.us>; Alicia Nuchols <Alicia.Nuchols@bos.cccounty.us>; Lisa Chow <Lisa.Chow@bos.cccounty.us>; David Fraser <David.Fraser@bos.cccounty.us>  
**Subject:** June 10, 2025 Board of Supervisors - Public Comment from Rachel Rosekind re Agenda Item D5: Consideration of former COVID-19 FEMA Reserve funds

Dear Supervisors,

I trust that we share the vision of a county where all people have the resources and tools needed to achieve their potential and lead healthy and fulfilling lives—where everyone has the ability to access, experience, and participate in all the prosperity and opportunity our region holds.

The pandemic exacerbated long-standing financial insecurities and racial inequities across the country, heightening risks and vulnerabilities already associated with and perpetuated by economic disadvantage, skin color, and zip code. “Recovery” has been both elusive and uneven—here in Contra Costa and elsewhere.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, now known as Covid-19 FEMA reserve funds, are a critical and singular pot of money at a just in time moment. The funds were issued by the federal government during an emergency. **We are in another emergency.** And once again, it is hitting hardest those who are most vulnerable, most harmed, and most marginalized.

In this spirit and sentiment, I am writing to request that the Board:

- Allocate \$4.5 million to launch a Participatory Budgeting process to give real people real power over real money.
- Allocate \$2 million in seed funding to establish a Contra Costa Collective Care Fund in partnership with regional philanthropic partners.

### **Participatory Budgeting**

Participatory budgeting is a proven tool for allocating public dollars effectively while enhancing community participation and trust in local government. It extends civic engagement beyond community surveys, advisory committees, and town halls by placing real decision-making power in communities, serving as a bridge to connect public priorities with public resources. Many jurisdictions allocated significant amounts of ARPA dollars through participatory budgeting processes, and some, like Marin County and Denver, were inspired by its success to launch additional rounds and integrate the process into other funding streams and annual budgets. Participatory budgeting results have uplifted and funded community-sourced initiatives that address food insecurity, workforce development, youth mentorship, community gardens, transit equity, and services for older adults.

### **Collective Care Fund**

This fund is being proposed and incubated by the Collective Care Coalition as a response to both longstanding conditions of hardship and disparity and new conditions and challenges. Through a public-private partnership, the Fund is intended to meet the moment and build a movement that centers equitable and urgent care and concern.

The Collective Care Coalition was first convened during the early period of the pandemic, as a safe forum, open to all, to share vetted information, lift up local resources, co-create strategies to support vulnerable residents and communities, and center healing and connectedness. In light of the harms and threats coming from the new federal administration, we reconvened the Coalition at the end of 2024 to once again lift up local resources, provide verified information on threats and solutions, and strengthen communal connections and solidarity.

Attendance at each Coalition meeting ranges from 50–100+ people, who are affiliated with local community service providers, advocacy organizations, city and county government, faith communities, and others. Our bi-weekly calls have evidenced the scope and scale of need, urgency, and harm across our county. Public Health and Public Defender staff have shared data in tandem with testimony from our community-based organizations and residents. While we understand that a small fund cannot possibly reach all those who need our support, it is undeniable that even a small monetary amount at a critical time can make a **huge** difference in life conditions and trajectories.

A confluence of forces—some beyond our control, others within it—are jeopardizing the health, wealth, and safety of many of our community members. We must affirm our county's foundation in care and concern—not just for ourselves and our own families but for the individuals and families who are part of the fabric of our communities and humanity and who are being threatened by today's dire social and political climate. **Now** is the time to make bold and compassionate investments—in people and their potential.

In community, Rachel Rosekind



**Rachel Rosekind, PhD, MLIS**

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**Attn:**

June 8, 2025

Supervisor Candace Andersen, Chair  
Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair  
Supervisor Ken Carlson  
Supervisor John Gioia  
Supervisor Scales-Preston

**Re:** Agenda Item D5: Consider providing direction on next steps related to the unallocated portion of former COVID-19 FEMA Reserve funds totaling \$14,729,868 appropriated as Appropriation for Contingencies within the General Fund in fiscal year 2025-26.

Dear Supervisors,

I trust that we share the vision of a county where all people have the resources and tools needed to achieve their potential and lead healthy and fulfilling lives—where everyone has the ability to access, experience, and participate in all the prosperity and opportunity our region holds.

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In community,



Rachel Rosekind, PhD, MLIS

D4

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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 4:21 PM  
**To:** Supervisor John\_Gioia; Supervisor Candace Andersen; Supervisor\_Burgis; Supervisor Carlson; Supervisor Scales-Preston  
**Cc:** Monica Nino; Adam Nguyen; Jessica Shepard; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: Rental Assistance Providers of Contra Costa

The email below was received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

Best regards,

Stacey M. Boyd  
Deputy Clerk  
Clerk of the Board  
1025 Escobar St., 1st Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
(925)655-2000 (Office)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Donna Walton <djtcwalton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 3:41 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>  
**Cc:** Donna & Jack Walton <djtcwalton@gmail.com>; b.hunt@svdp-cc.org  
**Subject:** Rental Assistance Providers of Contra Costa

I am writing to you to support the Board allocating more funds to the RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDERS of Contra Costa, like St Vincent de Paul, Catholic Charities and BACS. We understand that there is unallocated Measure X and ARPA dollars and our organization of the St. Agnes St. Vincent de Paul would like to see as much of the money as possible going to rental assistance. All of the St. Vincent de Paul conferences in Contra Costa are contacted by families, seniors, and other individuals trying desperately to stay in their apartments and homes. We help as many as we can, but always run short of the funds to help all of those in need. Families in Concord all pay close to \$2000/month rent, and with a \$20/hour full time job, if they have one extra expense, like needing a car repair, or being sick & off work, it is very hard for them to keep up with the rent.

Thank you, Donna Walton, President, St. Agnes St. Vincent de Paul, Concord CA



D4

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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 7:29 AM  
**To:** Supervisor John\_Gioia; Supervisor Candace Andersen; Supervisor\_Burgis; Supervisor Carlson; Supervisor Scales-Preston  
**Cc:** Monica Nino; Adam Nguyen; Jessica Shepard; Danielle Fokkema; Kaitlyn Jeffus; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: June 10 Public Comment additional funding for housing to St. Vincent de Paul

The email below was received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

Best regards,

Stacey M. Boyd  
Deputy Clerk  
Clerk of the Board  
1025 Escobar St., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
(925)655-2000 (Office)

---

**From:** Anne Crisp <annecrisp@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 9, 2025 5:12 PM  
**To:** Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>  
**Subject:** June 10 Public Comment additional funding for housing to St. Vincent de Paul

To Board of Supervisors: I am the president of the St. Vincent de Paul conference at St. Catherine of Siena in Martinez. Additional funding as Supervisor Gioia requests would be most helpful to conferences trying to prevent people from becoming homeless by assisting them in emergency situation. We are also volunteers and have minimum administrative expenses.

Today I had a call from a woman who is not homeless but has a 90 day notice to vacate because the landlord wishes to sell. She has lived in her home for 11 years. She works for a school district so she has gainful employment. What she does not have is savings to pay the \$5000 the new landlord wants in full that includes deposit and first months rent in advance of July 1. I am afraid that other sources to help her will not be able to do so because she is not Homeless. We at St. Catherine of Siena cannot help her alone but if the St. Vincent de Paul District Council received additional funds we could partner with them to assist her. And thus avoid homelessness. Each month we meet a neighbor or two in a similar situation in our parish alone. Likewise other conferences throughout the county hear from neighbors in similar situations. Additional rental assistance funds to St Vincent de Paul would be put to direct use.

Thank you,  
Anne Crisp





clerkoftheboard@cob.cccounty.us

Comment Regarding Item D.4

6/10/2025

Candace Andersen, Chair, Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors

John Gioia, Supervisor

Diane Burgis, Supervisor

Ken Carlson, Supervisor

Shanelle Scales-Preston, Supervisor

Dear Supervisors:

My name is Katherine Walley, and I am a resident of Walnut Creek as well as a member of ACCE Contra Costa.

Our county is incredibly lucky to have our current Measure X Community Advisory Board, composed of individuals with broad and diverse backgrounds & perspectives, each with their own areas of expertise. They have been nothing if not thorough in their work in service of our County.

I ask that you honor and support the recommendations made by the MeasureX CAB for the remaining Measure X one-time funds. Please fund their priority recommendations, including:

- Early childhood and family support.
- Increased Innovation Fund dollars for programs that focus on African American males.
- Mental health services for priority populations, including AAPI and school-aged youth.
- Resources to address youth and young adult homelessness.
- Rental assistance to support households at risk of eviction and housing security.

Thank you,  
Katherine Walley



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**From:** Clerk of the Board  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 12:44 PM  
**To:** Monica Nino; Adam Nguyen; Jessica Shepard; June McHuen  
**Subject:** FW: Food Security - ARPA and Measure X

The email below was received in the Clerk of the Board's office.

Regards,

Stacey M. Boyd  
Deputy Clerk  
Clerk of the Board  
1025 Escobar St., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925)655-2002 (Desk)  
(925)655-2000 (Office)

---

**From:** Eve Birge <evebirge@bos.cccounty.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 10, 2025 12:22 PM  
**To:** John Gioia <John.Gioia@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Candace Andersen <SupervisorAndersen@bos.cccounty.us>; Diane Burgis <Diane.Burgis@bos.cccounty.us>; Supervisor Carlson <supervisorcarlson@bos.cccounty.us>; district5@bos.cccounty.us; Clerk of the Board <ClerkOfTheBoard@cob.cccounty.us>  
**Subject:** Food Security - ARPA and Measure X

Dear County Supervisors – Good morning from the team at White Pony Express!

I am reaching out to strongly encourage you to focus ARPA and Measure X funds on addressing rising rates of food insecurity and lack of access to healthy food across Contra Costa County.

As you know, these are trying times for nonprofits, and the community is letting us know we are needed more than ever—more fresh, healthy food, more culturally relevant access, more equitable distribution.

WPE's loss of federal support represents 30% of our budget, and we are bracing for the impact if Medicaid and SNAP benefits are reduced as proposed in the Bill before the Senate and proposed State budget.

WPE's services extend beyond eliminating food insecurity, which we can do once we recover the surplus good food being unnecessarily sent to landfills. We also have an impact on the environment and clean air through reductions in landfill and we have a sustaining, volunteer-powered model that is not dependent on purchasing the high-quality food we deliver (11,000 meals each day – 7 days a week). WPE needs your support for infrastructure to realize our vision of county-wide access to nutritious food.

WPE is also a member of the Food Security Collaborative of Contra Costa County. Members include White Pony Express, the Food Bank of CC/Solano, Loaves & Fishes of Contra Costa, Meals on Wheels Diablo Region, and St. Vincent de Paul of Contra Costa. We are all on the frontline fighting hunger every day and if you invest in our efforts, we can work to ensure our vulnerable neighbors have access to the food they want and need. Today, too many people in Contra Costa stand in food lines at our food distributions just to meet their basic needs.

- 25% of children in Contra Costa experience food insecurity.
- Over 1/2 of households in CA fall below the "Real Cost of Living Measure" (meaning the majority of households struggle to meet basic needs).
- Food prices are up 21% since 2022 and wages have not increased proportionately.
- A gallon of gas in CCC costs \$4.74 this week.
- Cuts to Cal Fresh will impact over 109,065 Contra Costa residents, deepening the food insecurity already experienced by many.

An infusion of \$1.5 million for food security funding to combat this crisis is desperately needed. The Food Security Collaborative designed and developed a 'Hunger Heat Map' to identify the most severe service gaps. With additional support we can address the need in an effective, targeted way. We urge the Board to support this need with additional funding now.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, on behalf of thousands of hungry neighbors.

Very warmly,

Eve

Please take a moment to review the [White Pony Express Impact Report](#), which is a testament to our partnership and the delivered-with-love model we have grown together.



**Eve Birge**

CEO

925.393.1356

[www.whiteponyexpress.org](http://www.whiteponyexpress.org)

