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### San Joaquin County Releases Independent Review of Emergency Shelter System

**Stockton, CA** – At its meeting last Tuesday, the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors received an independent review of the County’s emergency shelters. The report looks at how many beds are available, how the shelters are run, and how well they serve people who need a safe place to stay. It gives fact-based findings to help the County improve its work to reduce homelessness and to hold itself accountable with real results.

“Our goal is to create the best possible outcomes for people experiencing homelessness, treating everyone with dignity and respect, while also ensuring our neighborhoods are safe and clean. These investments and improvements bring us closer to achieving that balance,” commented Board Chair Paul Canepa.

**Key Facts and Figures:** Since 2021, the County has invested more than \$56 million in emergency shelter operations, construction, and upgrades.

- These investments have supported:
  - **339 new shelter beds** across the County
  - Upgrades to existing shelter facilities
  - Strengthened partnerships with local service providers
- The evaluation highlights system changes and needs, including:
  - **More non-congregate shelter beds for adults**, which *intentionally* gives people more privacy and safety
  - **Continued growth of shelter options in cities across the County**
  - **Increased demand for shelter**, as more people are seeking help
  - **More complex client needs**, including behavioral health, medical conditions, and age-related challenges

The review found that results vary depending on shelter types and the needs of the people staying there. It also points out opportunities to improve staffing, expand training, data quality, and coordination so shelters can focus more on helping people move into stable housing and so the public can clearly see where progress is being made and where improvements are needed.

To learn more you can watch the [full presentation](#) and the Board's discussion and review of the shelter review and homelessness strategy as the County continues its commitment to measurable progress.

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