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# The Fresno Bee



## City, county partner up to tackle Fresno's homeless crisis

BY LILIANA FANNIN  
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After years of going at it solo, city leaders and Fresno County supervisors say they will coordinate efforts and pool resources to tackle the region's seemingly intractable homelessness crisis.

Historically, the two entities have addressed the issue separately. The city solely focuses on maintaining shelters and resources within city limits, where 70% of the county's homeless population resides, while the county operates the behavioral health and social service departments.

Now, it will be a joint effort, Fresno County Supervisor Luis Chavez told The Bee, bringing the county and cities' services together with the goal of having a stronger network as an alliance.

"The era of collaboration is here, and I think the time when we were just simply throwing more money at a problem is over," Chavez said. "It's going to require us to now be more strategic and more purposeful in how we address the homeless crisis in our county."

City and county officials held three meetings, so far, to craft a memorandum of understanding with the state and coordinate homelessness services in the region.

Chavez said the MOU is expected to be finalized in early 2026.

This endeavor could become the first county, city, state, non-profit collaboration effort of its kind in California, Chavez said.

Chavez saw the potential for a collaborative approach during his time on the Fresno City Council, he said, and made coordination between the city and county part

SEE HOMELESS, 2A



HECTOR AMEZCUA [hamezcua@sacbee.com](mailto:hamezcua@sacbee.com)

Beatriz Vega, Ellein White and Luz Guzman stand in prayer as they take part in a vigil on Sunday, Nov. 30, 2025, for the four people killed and 11 injured after a mass shooting in Stockton.

## What we know about mass shooting in Stockton

BY KATHLEEN QUINN AND GRAHAM WOMACK AND DANIEL LEMPRES  
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A child's birthday party in Stockton turned into one of the region's deadliest mass shootings in years, leaving four people dead — three of them children — and nearly a dozen others wounded.

The tragedy unfolded just before 6 p.m. Saturday at a banquet hall in an unincorporated part of San Joaquin County, north of the Stockton city limits. Investigators say the attack appeared targeted.

Authorities on Tuesday continued searching for suspects as the FBI announced it would offer a reward of up to \$50,000 for information leading to an arrest and conviction.

Here's what we know so far:

### WHAT HAPPENED?

The gunfire erupted shortly before 6 p.m., according to the San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office.

"Our units responded and found approximately 15 victims of gunshot wounds at this party. And, unfortunately, four of those 15 are deceased," San Joaquin County Sheriff Patrick Withrow said.

Officials said the shooting

appeared to begin inside the banquet hall before moving outdoors. "It appears that it started indoors and then worked its way outdoors," Withrow said at a news conference with reporters Sunday.

### WHERE DID IT HAPPEN?

The shooting unfolded at the Monkey Space hall, in the 1900 block of Lucile Avenue. The property is in an unincorporated pocket of north Stockton near Thornton Road, a major thoroughfare north of Hammer Lane, between Wagner Heights Road and Waudman Avenue.

The venue in The Outpost shopping center and office park was formerly home to the Ku-

dos Children's Theater Company, which folded late last year. The hall is several hundred yards west of Thornton Road and the property backs up to Thornton Plaza, which has a Dairy Queen, a liquor store, a comic book store, a martial arts studio, a veterinarian's office and several other businesses. An O'Reilly Auto Parts is also nearby.

Stockton is about 35 miles south of Sacramento and 60 miles east of San Francisco. It's the state's 11th largest city, with a population of about 320,000 people.

SEE SHOOTING, 8A

## Fresno State has season-high attendance at Selland

BY ROBERT KUWADA  
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Fresno State made its return to Selland Arena on Sunday, playing for the first time since 2009 in the downtown arena that was home to legendary coaches Boyd Grant and Jerry Tarkanian, and some of the best basketball teams and players in Bulldogs' history.

The game did not go well — the Bulldogs had an 11-point lead with nine minutes to go and ended up losing 76-71 to Cal State Bakersfield, which is playing this season with an interim coach in Mike Scott and was just 3-4 when it made the drive up Highway 99.

But more than 4,000 tickets were sold for the throwback game, enough to form a solid human tunnel of fans for the Bulldogs as they ran onto the



CRAIG KOHLRUSS

Members of the crowd cheer on Fresno State during their non-conference game against CSU Bakersfield at Selland Arena in downtown Fresno for the "Return to Selland" game Sunday.

court, as they did decades ago, and enough to generate a little revenue for the athletics department, after expenses.

Whether there is a return engagement is an open ques-

tion, however, even with guarantees from Fresno Mayor Jerry Dyer that the city would welcome the Bulldogs at every opportunity.

"I would love to see more

sports activities downtown," Dyer said, before the game. "Bulldogs' games, whatever other events that we can bring downtown. We're seeing a rebirth in our downtown area. I think it's a win-win, being able to bring back a little bit of the history of Bulldog basketball and at the same time be able to enjoy some of the things that were seeing in downtown Fresno."

"Anytime they want to come downtown, I promised them we'll make them a good financial deal that allows the university to be able to benefit financially."

The city of Fresno, which owns Selland Arena as part of its Fresno Convention and Entertainment Center, did just that to help the university financially justify moving the game downtown from the on-campus Save Mart Center.

The city waived a \$7,350 arena move-in cost and cut the rent it charges for similar events to \$10,000 from \$14,700. It also included the cost for equipment, such as the

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