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## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **Chamber asks City Council to Hold Off on Temporary Encampment until Summit is Held with County**

**Fresno, CA (June 19, 2007)** – The Chamber’s Government Affairs Council has reviewed the temporary encampment housing issue that is being proposed by the Fresno City Council. Upon review it has been brought to the Chamber’s attention that a “summit” is being proposed to evaluate all options regarding the relocation of encampments and to discuss a permanent solution to this problem. The Chamber urges City Council to postpone creating a temporary encampment until after the planned Summit to address the overall issue and arrive at a permanent solution that all parties can agree to is reached. The Chamber has agreed the Summit will provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to be a part of this discussion. This issue is too large to allow for a temporary solution.

“The Chamber agrees that in order to develop and revitalize downtown the homeless problem must be addressed. Our concern is that the proposed “temporary” location designated for moving the encampment will have a permanent impact on those adjacent businesses who have invested into their business in that area; the negative impact to these businesses will not and should not be tolerated.” stated Al Smith, President and CEO of the Chamber.

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