



# Santa Clara Valley Water District Homeless Encampment Committee Meeting

Video Conference Zoom Meeting

## REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

**Monday, August 31, 2020  
2:00 PM**

**District Mission: Provide Silicon Valley safe, clean water for a healthy life, environment and economy.**

**HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT  
COMMITTEE**

Richard P. Santos - District 3,  
Committee Chair  
Tony Estremera - District 6,  
Committee Vice Chair  
John L. Varela - District 1

All public records relating to an item on this agenda, which are not exempt from disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act, that are distributed to a majority of the legislative body will be available for public inspection at the Office of the Clerk of the Board at the Santa Clara Valley Water District Headquarters Building, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118, at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to attend Board of Directors' meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

**Note: The finalized Board Agenda, exception items and supplemental items will be posted prior to the meeting in accordance with the Brown Act.**

**Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Homeless Encampment Committee**

**REGULAR MEETING  
AGENDA**

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Monday, August 31, 2020

2:00 PM

Video Conference Zoom Meeting

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IMPORTANT NOTICES

This meeting is being held in accordance with the Brown Act as currently in effect under the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 issued on March 17, 2020 that allows attendance by members of the Committee, staff, and the public to participate and conduct the meeting by teleconference, videoconference, or both.

Members of the public wishing to address the Committee during a video conferenced meeting on an item not listed on the agenda, or any item listed on the agenda, should use the "Raise Hand" or "Chat" tools located in Zoom meeting link listed on the agenda. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Committee Chair in the order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Committee.

Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) in complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests individuals who require special accommodations to access and/or participate in Valley Water Committee meetings to please contact the Clerk of the Board's office at (408) 630-2711, at least 3 business days before the scheduled meeting to ensure that Valley Water may assist you.

This agenda has been prepared as required by the applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code Sections 54950 et. seq. and has not been prepared with a view to informing an investment decision in any of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations. Any projections, plans or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this agenda are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from any such statement. The information herein is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of Valley Water's bonds, notes or other obligations and investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by Valley Water on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and Valley Water's Investor Relations website, maintained on the World Wide Web at <https://emma.msrb.org/> and <https://www.valleywater.org/how-we-operate/financebudget/investor-relations>, respectively.

## Join the Zoom Webinar

Online at: <https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/94998333933>

By Phone: 1-669-900-9128

Webinar ID: 949 9833 3933

### 1. Roll Call.

### 2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.

*Notice to the Public: Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on any item not listed on the agenda should access the "Raise Hand" or "Chat" tools located in Zoom meeting link listed on the agenda. Speakers will be acknowledged by the Committee Chair in order requests are received and granted speaking access to address the Committee. Speakers comments should be limited to three minutes or as set by the Chair. The law does not permit Committee action on, or extended discussion of, any item not on the agenda except under special circumstances. If Committee action is requested, the matter may be placed on a future agenda. All comments that require a response will be referred to staff for a reply in writing. The Committee may take action on any item of business appearing on the posted agenda.*

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

#### 3.1. Approval of Minutes. [20-0696](#)

Recommendation: Approve the March 13, 2020, Meeting Minutes.

Manager: Michele King, 408-630-2711

Attachments: [Attachment 1: 031320 HEAHC Meeting Minutes](#)

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

### 4. ACTION ITEMS:

#### 4.1. Update on Valley Water's Activities to Address the Effects of Homeless Encampments Along Local Waterways. [20-0693](#)

Recommendation: Receive a verbal update on Valley Water's homelessness-related activities and the associated impact of state and local restrictions that were imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253

Attachments: [Attachment 1: PowerPoint](#)

Est. Staff Time: 20 Minutes

- 4.2. Updates from Valley Water's External Partners Regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness in Santa Clara County. [20-0694](#)  
Recommendation: Receive updates from Valley Water's partners on their recent efforts addressing homelessness as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on these efforts.  
Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253  
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Presentation](#)  
Est. Staff Time: 30 Minutes
- 4.3. Update from Destination Home regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness. [20-0764](#)  
Recommendation: Receive an update from Destination Home on the new roadmap for ending homelessness.  
Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253  
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Community Plan to End Homelessness](#)  
[Attachment 2: Plan Executive Summary](#)  
[Attachment 3: PowerPoint](#)  
Est. Staff Time: 20 minutes
- 4.4. 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan. [20-0695](#)  
Recommendation: A. Review the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan, and make adjustments as necessary; and  
B. Discuss and determine 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting schedule.  
Manager: Michele King, 408-2630-2711  
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2020 HEC Work Plan](#)  
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**6. CLERK REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS.**

*This is an opportunity for the Clerk to review and obtain clarification on any formally moved, seconded, and approved requests and recommendations made by the Committee during the meeting.*

**7. ADJOURN:**

7.1. Adjourn.



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

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**File No.:** 20-0696

**Agenda Date:** 8/31/2020  
**Item No.:** 3.1.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

**SUBJECT:**

Approval of Minutes.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve the March 13, 2020, Meeting Minutes.

**SUMMARY:**

A summary of Committee discussions, and details of all actions taken by the Committee, during all open and public Committee meetings, is transcribed and submitted for review and approval.

Upon Committee approval, minutes transcripts are finalized and entered into the District's historical records archives and serve as historical records of the Committee's meetings.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: 031320 HEAHC Meeting Minutes

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Michele King, 408-630-2711

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HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

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# MINUTES

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FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020  
12:00 PM

(Paragraph numbers coincide with agenda item numbers)

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL.**

A regular meeting of the Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) Homeless Encampment Committee (Committee) was called to order in the Valley Water Headquarters Board Room, 5700 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California at 12:00 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call.

Committee members in attendance were District 1 Director John Varela, District 6 Director Tony Estremera, and District 3 Director Richard Santos, Chairperson presiding, constituting a quorum of the Committee.

Staff members in attendance were J. Choate, N. Dominguez, M. Ganjoo, M. Garcia, R. Gibson, B. Hopper, F. Lee, M. Lugo, C. Pilson, E. Serrano, M. Richardson, K. Struve, S. Tippets, C. Tovar, S. Tran and E. Wilkinson.

**2. TIME OPEN FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA.**

Chairperson Santos declared time open for public comment on any item not on the agenda.

Mr. John Davis, San Jose resident, expressed concern for emerging homeless encampment developments along Coyote Creek near William Street Park, and asked the District to consider installing large boulders along the creek wall to prevent excavation, especially the digging of tunnels to establish dwelling spaces.

Mr. Roger Castillo, Homeless Advocate, expressed concern for salmon migration impacted by emerging homeless encampment developments along the Upper Guadalupe River trails and other safety hazards, and urged Valley Water to work with the City of San Jose to address his concerns.

**3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.**

3.1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair.

Recommendation: Elect a Committee Chair and Vice Chair for the calendar year 2020.

It was moved by Director Estremera, seconded by Director Varela, and unanimously carried that Chairperson Santos and Director Estremera maintain their respective offices as Chairperson and Vice Chair for the year 2020.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

4.1. Approval of Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the November 15, 2019 meeting. It was moved by Director Estremera, seconded by Director Varela, and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved as presented.

**5. ACTION ITEMS**

5.1. Update on Rescheduled Environmental Cleanup Event.

Recommendation: Receive updated information about the rescheduled Valley Water environmental cleanup event recommended by the Board as a Valley Water-led collaborative effort among local government agencies, homeless service providers, community volunteers, and unhoused individuals to perform cleanup activities along Coyote Creek.

Ms. Sue Tippetts, Deputy Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1 were reviewed by Mr. Mark Bilski, Senior Management Analyst, who reported the scheduled environmental cleanup event had been canceled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

During the presentation, the Committee made the following requests of staff:

- Staff to work with the City of San Jose to notify volunteers of the canceled clean-up event and reschedule the event to a future date when COVID-19 restrictions are removed.



5.2. Downtown Streets Team Update.

Recommendation: Receive updates from Downtown Streets Team staff members on grant-funded projects through the Safe, Clean Water and Natural Flood Protection (Safe, Clean Water) Program and address concerns regarding organizational issues highlighted in the media.

Ms. Sherilyn Tran, Civic Engagement Manager, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1 were reviewed by Downtown Streets Team staff who reported on cleanup activities along the Upper Guadalupe River, the El Camino in Sunnyvale, and the Coyote, Los Gatos and Penitencia Creeks. Downtown Streets Team staff also reported on assistance programs to provide volunteer team members with employment and housing to achieve self-sufficiency.

Downtown Streets Team staff reviewed the results of an investigation alleging discrimination and mistreatment of staff noting there was no evidence of gender bias in salary, promotions or other opportunities, or indication that staff had been rewarded based on perceived favoritism or socializing with management. Downtown Streets Team staff recapped the implementation of new policy and monitoring programs to address employee concerns.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

5.3. 2019 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishment Report.

Recommendation: Review and accept the 2019 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishment Report.

Ms. Natalie Dominguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk II, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

5.4. Review 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan.

Recommendation: A. Review the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan and make adjustments as necessary; and B. Discuss and determine 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting schedule.

Ms. Natalie Dominguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk II, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1.

Mr. Robert Aguirre, Homeless Advocate, reported that the City and County have implemented a moratorium on homeless encampment sweeps to avoid relocating homeless communities and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

During the presentation, the Committee made the following requests of staff:

- Staff to coordinate an update from Downtown Streets Team on continued activities and how Valley Water funds are being used to support their efforts.
- Staff to coordinate an update from the CHEERS organization.
- Staff to coordinate an update from other local agencies on their efforts to address homelessness.
- Staff to work with Mr. Aguirre and City of San Jose to coordinate trash pickups from homeless encampments along Valley Water creeks.

**5. INFORMATION ITEMS.**

None.

**6. CLERK'S REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.**

Ms. Natalie Dominguez, Assistant Deputy Clerk, confirmed that there were no new Committee Recommendations or Requests for Board consideration.

Direction to staff was recorded as follows:

Item 5.1:

- Staff to work with the City of San Jose to notify volunteers of the canceled clean-up event and reschedule the event to a future date when COVID-19 restrictions are removed.

Item 5.4:

- Staff to coordinate an update from Downtown Streets Team on continued activities and how Valley Water funds are being used to support their efforts.
- Staff to coordinate an update from the CHEERS organization.
- Staff to coordinate an update from other local agencies on their efforts to address homelessness.
- Staff to work with Mr. Aguirre and City of San Jose to coordinate trash pickups from homeless encampments along Valley Water creeks.

**7. ADJOURN.**

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 12:40 p.m.

Natalie F. Dominguez, CMC  
Assistant Deputy Clerk

Approved:

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 20-0693

Agenda Date: 8/31/2020

Item No.: 4.1.

## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

#### SUBJECT:

Update on Valley Water's Activities to Address the Effects of Homeless Encampments Along Local Waterways.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a verbal update on Valley Water's homelessness-related activities and the associated impact of state and local restrictions that were imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### SUMMARY:

This is the first meeting of the Homeless Encampment Committee since the county-wide shelter-in-place order and subsequent restrictions that began in mid-March 2020. During the ensuing months, various state and local directives have limited Valley Water's ability to carry out its regular activities intended to address the environmental issues caused by homeless encampments situated near local waterways.

As various restrictions have been relaxed over time, Valley Water has been able to resume some of its usual encampment-related activities. Staff will provide verbal updates for the Committee on the following topics:

- A. Stream Maintenance Program Update** - Staff will provide an update on the Valley Water Stream Maintenance Program (SMP), detailing trash and debris removal from the creeks and other proactive work done in preparation for the winter rainy season and in furtherance of flood prevention. Staff will also discuss creek safety conditions and the status of encampment abatements during the pandemic.
- B. Creek Conditions Report** - Staff will speak about the current water quality conditions in local creeks and the related impacts of homeless encampments.
- C. Valley Water Volunteer Cleanup Events** - Large volunteer cleanup events likely constitute the type of outdoor gatherings that are strongly discouraged by the Santa Clara County Mandatory Directive for Gatherings. Therefore, soon after the shelter-in-place order, the Coyote Creek Cleanup and National River Cleanup Day were cancelled in the interest of public health and safety. However, given some ease in the public health restrictions, staff has been working with the California Coastal Commission and the Creek Connections Action Group to modify Coastal Cleanup Day to allow for volunteers to still participate in a safe and socially distanced environment. This year, Coastal Cleanup will take place every Saturday in September and volunteers are encouraged to clean up around their own neighborhoods within

their own social bubbles.

- D. Land Use for Homeless Housing** - Staff maintain a list of potentially available Valley Water excess properties and the list is made available to any organization that inquires. Recently, staff have responded to inquiries from Villages of Hope, HomeFirst, and Swenson Builders.
- E. Veteran's Housing Project** - In response to a proposal by Mr. John Davis and Swenson Builders, staff refreshed and provided the list of potentially available properties and remain engaged in further discussion with the proposers.
- F. Progress of Property Easements** - Staff will provide an update on Valley Water's effort to secure property easements with the County, City of San José, and the San José Unified School District to allow Valley Water access to creeks for maintenance needed due to homeless encampments.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: PowerPoint

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253



# Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

Valley Water PPT Template  
Version Release v.3



# Creek Conditions – Report to Homeless Ad Hoc Committee August 2020

Presented by: Kirsten Struve, Acting Unit Manager



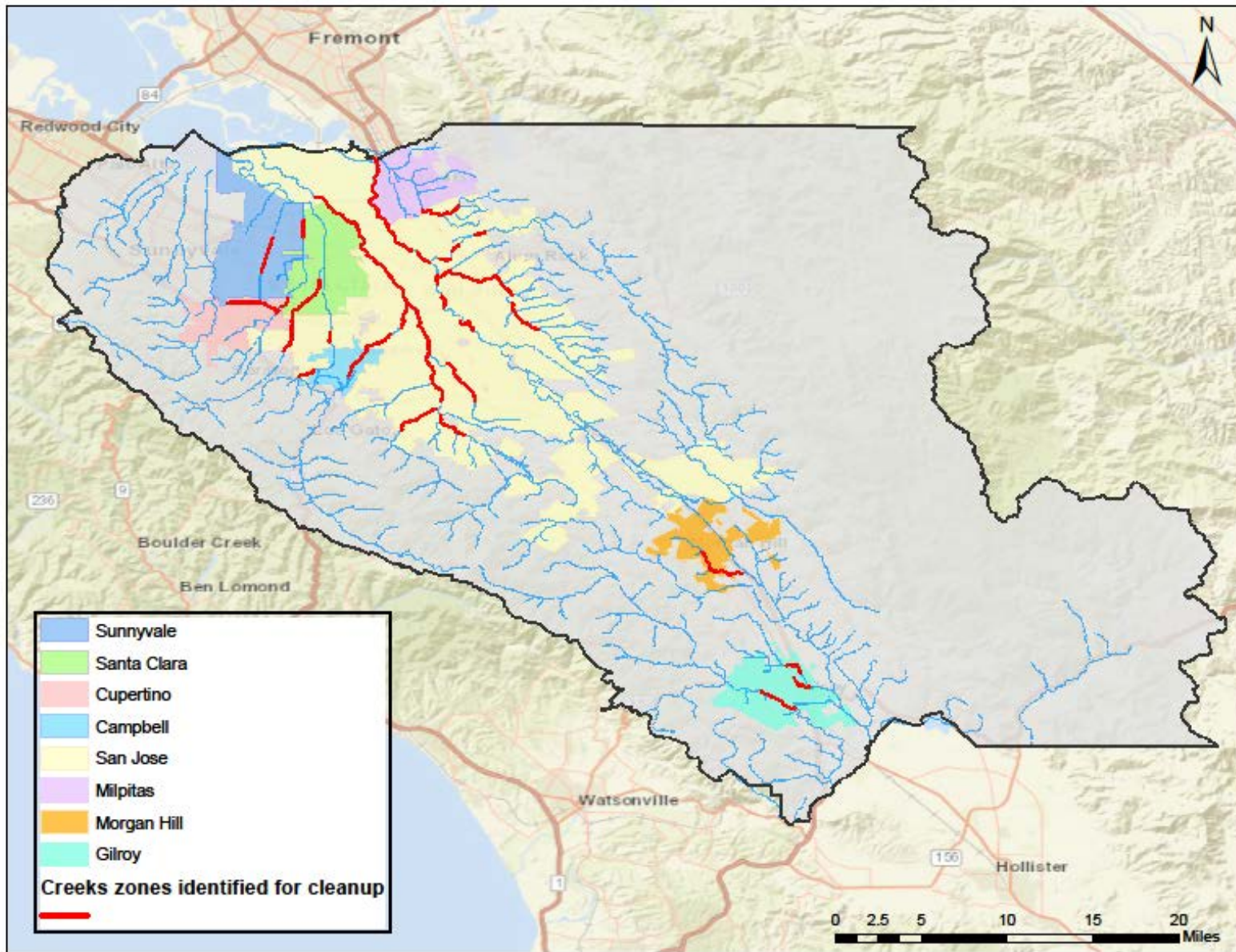
# Creek Conditions Related to Encampments 3

- Due to COVID-19 pandemic, encampment abatements were paused
- Valley Water, city staff, and creek partners report worsening conditions in the creeks
- Impacts are not only in the urban reaches of creeks but have become more widespread



# Impacts include

- Wildlife and Habitat:
  - Vegetation removal, clearing, and fires
  - Impacts to mitigation sites
  - Poaching: Tarps, netting and shopping carts in the channel create barriers
- Water quality: trash, debris, and biological waste
- Increasing safety issues for staff and contractors that inspect, monitor and maintain conditions in the creeks

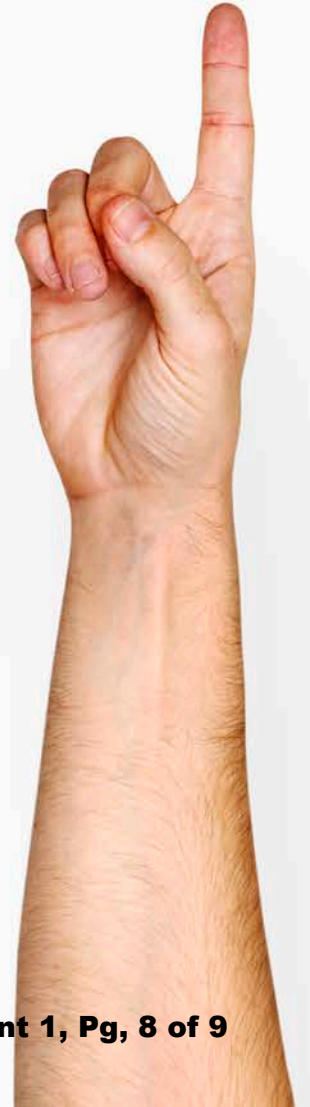




# Activities

- Week of August 10<sup>th</sup>: first trash cleanup event post COVID, with San Jose on Coyote Creek from Williams Street to Highway 280.
- Plans to perform additional trash clean ups
- Week of August 10<sup>th</sup>: Adopt a Creek Partners are in the field again

# QUESTIONS





# Valley Water

Clean Water • Healthy Environment • Flood Protection

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 20-0694

Agenda Date: 8/31/2020

Item No.: 4.2.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

#### **SUBJECT:**

Updates from Valley Water's External Partners Regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness in Santa Clara County.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive updates from Valley Water's partners on their recent efforts addressing homelessness as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on these efforts.

#### **SUMMARY:**

Valley Water's partners in attendance at the meeting will be invited to provide verbal updates to the Committee on the following topics:

- A. General Updates on Homelessness** - Reports from the County, cities, and advocacy groups regarding the current homelessness situation, their ongoing initiatives to combat homelessness, and the related impacts of the pandemic.
- B. Scheduled Creek Cleanup Events** - Update from the City of San José on its Coyote Creek Cleanup (I-280 to the Williams Street bridge) that took place in mid-August. Updates on any other partner-planned cleanup events in the near-term.
- C. Land Use for Homeless Housing** - An update from the County, cities, and other agency representatives on efforts to make properties available for temporary or bridge housing to serve the homeless population.
- D. Downtown Streets Team Activities** - Report from Downtown Streets Team representatives regarding the organization's recent activities and how Valley Water funding is being utilized.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: Presentation

#### **UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253

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DOWNTOWN  
STREETS  
TEAM

# I DOWNTOWN STREETS TEAM

# Policies & Procedures

- Volunteering is not mandatory at this time
- Staggering shifts
- Provide PPE
- Mandatory social distancing rules
- Mandate PPE be worn at all times
- Taking temperatures with infrared thermometers
- Reviewing safety protocols before every shift
- Self assessment
- Resources to receive free COVID-19 testing ([sccfreetest.org](https://www.sccfreetest.org))
- Disinfecting with CDC recommended chemicals before, during, and after shift (disinfectant lead)
- All work experience rules still apply



# OUTDOOR WEEKLY SUCCESS MEETINGS

## Planning & Preparing

- Protocols
- Rule Enforcement- cover before we start meeting
- Posting signs to reinforce rules
- Team Lead Roles
- Trial Run
- Bring extra masks and lots of sanitizer!!!!
- Disinfect, disinfect, disinfect
- Sneeze guards for table to schedule meetings with ES/CM
- Print resources
- Forgo microphones
- After the meeting- hand out payout that is prepackaged, Enforce social distancing rules in parking lot.

**IDOWNTOWN  
STREETS  
TEAM**

**San Jose**



**Penitencia  
Creek Team**

# PENITENCIA CONTRACT MILESTONES

## 896 Cubic Yards of Debris



Picking up debris, cigarette butts and other waste ensures that we are preventing it from entering our water ways.

## 150 Needles



Every needle we dispose of is an opportunity that we are removing for one of our neighbors to be poked and potentially exposed to diseases.

## 3 Volunteer Events



Our community volunteers along side our Team Members to remove debris, put together hygiene kits, preform outreach, teach skills courses, and so much more. DST is about building and reintergrating into the community.

# Before & After





**IDOWNTOWN  
STREETS  
TEAM**

**Sunnyvale**



**El Camino  
Team**

# EL CAMINO CONTRACT MILESTONES

## 70.5 Cubic Yards of Debris



Picking up debris, needles and other waste ensures that we are preventing it from entering our water ways.

## 55,399 Cigarette Butts



Every cigarette butt we dispose of is an opportunity that we are removing for toxic chemicals to seep into our water ways.

## 9 Volunteer Events



Our community volunteers along side our Team Members to remove debris, put together hygiene kits, perform outreach, teach skills courses, and so much more. DST is about building and reintergrating into the community.

## 16 Community Presentations



We present to the community to educate people about the work we do, the resources we provide, and to form meaningful connections that furthers our mission.

# Before & After





# Challenges

“The art of life lies in a constant readjustment to our surroundings.” — Kakuzō Okakura, *The Book of Tea*

- COVID-19
- Weather
- Smoke



# Santa Clara Valley Water District

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**File No.:** 20-0764

**Agenda Date:** 8/31/2020  
**Item No.:** 4.3.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

**SUBJECT:**

Update from Destination Home regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Receive an update from Destination Home on the new roadmap for ending homelessness.

**SUMMARY:**

Representatives from Destination Home and the Santa Clara County Continuum of Care will provide a presentation on the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness, a county-wide plan which will serve as a roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Attachment 1: Community Plan to End Homelessness
- Attachment 2: Plan Executive Summary
- Attachment 3: PowerPoint

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253

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SANTA CLARA COUNTY

# COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS

2020–2025



## **Acknowledgements**

The Community Plan Steering Committee would like to thank the many community stakeholders, people with lived experience of homelessness, and organizations for their participation in the process to update the plan and their valuable input.

For a full list of organizations that participated in the process, see page 14.



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13	Strategy 2: Expand Homelessness Prevention and Housing Programs to Meet the Need
14	Strategy 3: Improve Quality of Life for Unsheltered Individuals and Create Healthy Neighborhoods for All
<b>16</b>	Thank you!



# Introduction

In 2015, the community came together to create a roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County. This plan— which was centered around a collective impact response and the proven Housing First model—set an ambitious goal to create 6,000 new housing opportunities and identified innovative strategies and programs for reducing homelessness.

## Supportive Housing System Progress 2015-2019

Thanks to the collective efforts of partners throughout the community, over the past five years, we have done the following:

Helped **8,884 households** resolve their homelessness,



representing **14,132 people**



**Doubled** the number of supportive housing units in Santa Clara County



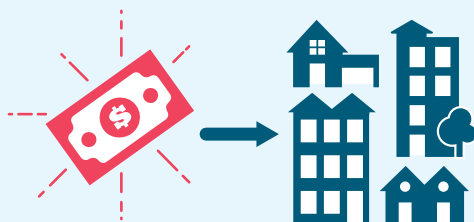
**Doubled** our temporary housing and emergency shelter capacity



Launched a new homelessness prevention system that now serves about **1,000 households annually**



Led a community-wide campaign that has successfully housed more than **1,600 veterans** and engaged nearly **800 private landlords** in the effort



Voters approved **\$950 million** to develop affordable housing through the 2016 Measure A Affordable Housing Bond and raised another **\$100 million** in private contributions to support the implementation of the community plan

Despite our progress creating a supportive housing system that assists thousands of homeless individuals and families each year, the crisis continues to grow. The systemic factors driving homelessness in our community— from the failed policies at the local, state, and national level to the extreme lack of housing options that are affordable for low-income residents—remain stronger than ever and are pushing more of our neighbors onto the streets every day.

These challenges have been compounded by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic that arrived in our community as this plan was in development, making implementation of many of these strategies even more urgent. This public health crisis has ground our local economy to a halt, leaving many more households on the brink of homelessness due to job loss, lack of childcare, and economic uncertainty. The pandemic has also required a massive and immediate response by our crisis response system to quickly ramp up shelter capacity, increase access to hygiene services for people living outside, and protect those people experiencing homelessness who are particularly vulnerable. As a result, as this plan goes into effect, we anticipate there will be many more people experiencing or at risk of homelessness who will need immediate support, which will require our community to continue to be flexible and innovative in our responses to homelessness.

To truly end homelessness in Santa Clara County, we must summon the collective will and resources to not only respond to the current crisis and scale our successful housing strategies, but also address and eliminate the root causes of homelessness in our community.

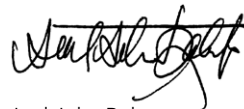
### Community Plan Steering Committee Members



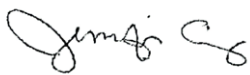
Ky Le, Co-Chair



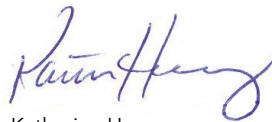
Erin Connor



Joel John Roberts



Jennifer Loving, Co-Chair



Katherine Harasz



Claudine Sipili



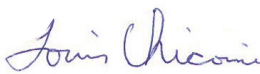
Jan Bernstein Chargin



Miguel Marquez



Leland Wilcox



Louis Chicoine

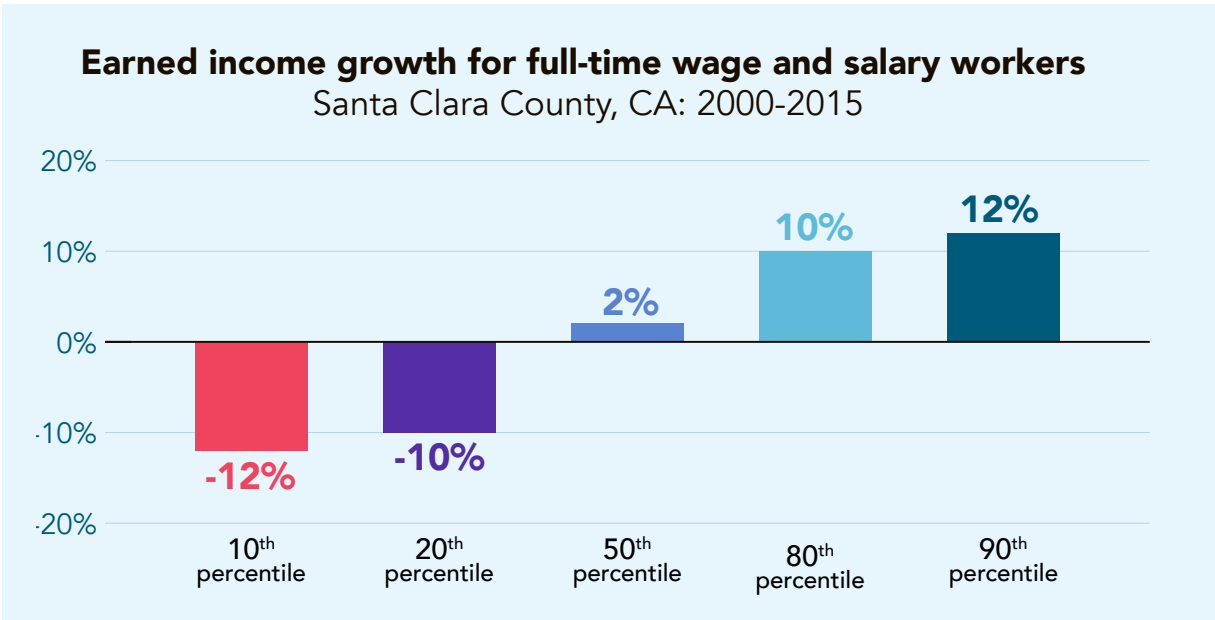


Jacky Morales-Ferrand

# Our Homelessness Crisis

According to the 2019 Point-in-Time count, there are 9,706 individuals experiencing homelessness on any given night in Santa Clara County.<sup>1</sup> Families with children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, veterans, youth and young adults are all represented in the county’s diverse homeless population. More than 80% of these individuals are unsheltered—sleeping outside, in cars, or other places not meant for human habitation. We expect that these numbers will increase over the coming months as the full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is felt.

The gap between the rich and the poor in our community, combined with the lack of housing development particularly at the lowest income levels, is fueling the homelessness crisis. According to the Public Policy Institute of California, families at the highest income levels in the Bay Area (the 90th percentile) have more than 12 times the income of families at the bottom (the 10th percentile).<sup>2</sup> Those at the bottom rung of the economic ladder have also not shared in the region’s significant economic growth. Between 2000 and 2015 in Santa Clara County, workers with earnings in the 10th percentile saw their income decline by 12%.<sup>3</sup>



This income inequality has been further exacerbated by the economic slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic as many low-income households living paycheck-to-paycheck struggle to make rent and pay for other basic needs.

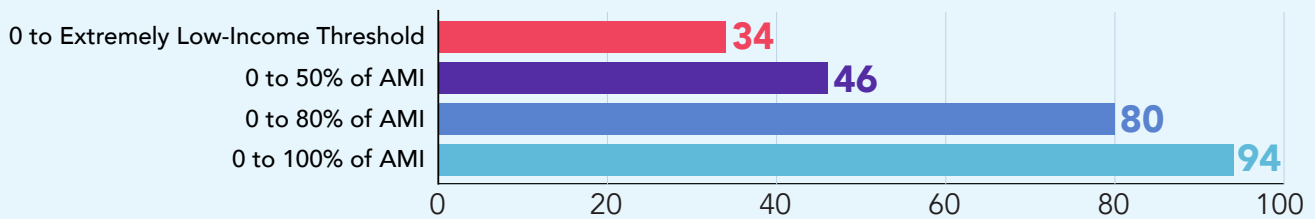
<sup>1</sup> Applied Survey Research, “Santa Clara County Homeless Census & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019.” 2019. <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/osh/ContinuumofCare/ReportsandPublications/Pages/HomelessnessCensusandSurvey.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> Public Policy Institute of California, “Income Inequality in California.” 2020. <https://www.ppic.org/publication/income-inequality-in-california/>

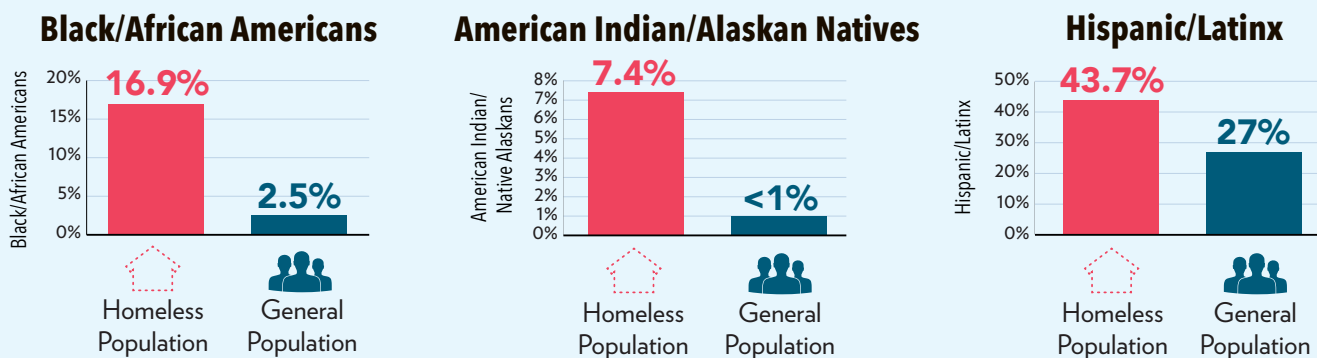
<sup>3</sup> Bay Area Equity Atlas, “Earned income growth for full-time wage and salary workers: Santa Clara County, CA, 2000–2015.” <https://bayareaequityatlas.org/indicators/income-growth#/?geo=04000000000006085>

Compounding the impacts of this inequality is the fact that housing costs are higher than ever and housing that is affordable to the lowest-income families is not being produced. In fact, the National Low-Income Housing Coalition’s most recent report, *The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Homes*, found that in 2018 there were only 34 affordable and available units for every 100 extremely low-income renter households in the San Jose metro area.<sup>4</sup>

### Affordable & Available Rental Homes “Per 100 Renter Households” San Jose Metropolitan Area: 2018



In addition, longstanding and structural racial inequities continue to affect who becomes homeless in our community. A recent report commissioned by Destination: Home found that people of color are dramatically more likely than their white counterparts to become homeless in Santa Clara County, and that poverty alone cannot explain disparities in homelessness. For example:



While the brunt of this crisis is borne by our unhoused neighbors, we know its impacts are felt much more broadly. Our neighborhoods, first responders, businesses, and environment are also suffering the consequences of our region’s severe homelessness crisis.

Even worse, the problem continues to grow as more people are slipping into homelessness than ever before—the result of growing income inequality, gentrification and displacement, rising housing costs, an extreme housing shortage, and a lack of sufficient safety net services to adequately care for the most vulnerable in our community. In fact, for every homeless family or individual we connect to housing, between two and three more are experiencing homelessness for the very first time.

If this trend continues, in addition to the nearly 10,000 individuals currently experiencing homelessness, another 20,000 are at-risk of falling into homelessness over the next five years—far more than our supportive housing system currently has the capacity to serve.

<sup>4</sup> National Low-Income Housing Coalition, “The Gap: A Shortage of Affordable Homes.” 2020. [https://reports.nlihc.org/sites/default/files/gap/Gap-Report\\_2020.pdf](https://reports.nlihc.org/sites/default/files/gap/Gap-Report_2020.pdf)



# Ending Homelessness in Santa Clara County

Solving this crisis is one of the great moral challenges facing us. It will require tremendous effort, new partnerships, and even bolder strategies—and it will require the entire community to be a part of the solution.

We must take immediate actions that can improve the quality of life for the huge number of unsheltered residents in our community. We must increase shelter capacity and increase interim housing options, and we must expand services to meet their basic health and safety needs.

We need to significantly scale our housing development and programs to meet the growing need in our community. This includes building many thousands more supportive housing units, expanding our homelessness prevention strategies, and enhancing the way our supportive housing system serves those in need.

Most importantly, we will never end homelessness in our community if we do not attack the systemic root causes that continually push more of our neighbors into homelessness. As a result, we must address inequitable land use and housing policy to allow every jurisdiction to achieve their Regional Housing Needs Allocation goals for very low and extremely low-income housing production. We must ensure every resident who is able to work can access living wage employment and we must reverse decades-long structural inequities that have driven people of color and other vulnerable residents onto the streets.

**As we implement the strategies in this plan, we will raise the voices of people with lived experience and share power with our unhoused and recently-housed neighbors. We will focus on policies and programs that reduce racial inequity, in an effort to reverse the disproportionately high rates of people of color who are unhoused.**

None of this will be easy or cheap. In fact, just meeting the affordable housing needs of our community would require several billion dollars. But we cannot accept a future in which thousands of our neighbors are forced to live outside. Every member of our community deserves a safe and stable home—and it is our collective responsibility to make this vision a reality.

# Our Plan

The 2020–2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness will serve as our roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County and is organized around three main strategies:

STRATEGY 1	STRATEGY 2	STRATEGY 3
 <p data-bbox="199 816 522 953">Address the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change</p>	 <p data-bbox="660 816 971 953">Expand homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the need</p>	 <p data-bbox="1115 785 1404 953">Improve quality of life for unsheltered individuals and create healthy neighborhoods for all</p>

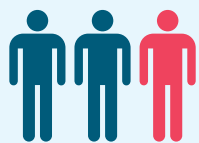
The strategies included in this plan are grounded in evidence-based practices, lessons learned over the past five years, and robust conversation and input from more than 8,000 members of our community; including people with lived experience of homelessness, subject matter experts, key stakeholders, and community members.

In addition, this plan sets aggressive targets designed to reverse the current growth in homelessness we are experiencing and bring us one step closer to our collective goal of eliminating homelessness in our community.



# Our Targets

By 2025, we will:



Achieve a **30% reduction** in annual inflow of people becoming homeless\*



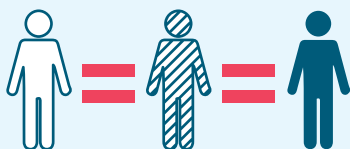
House **20,000 people** through the supportive housing system



Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve **2,500 people per year**



**Double** temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside



Address the **racial inequities present** among unhoused people and families and track progress toward reducing disparities

\*The reduction in annual inflow target was based on annual inflow prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This target will be reevaluated once the longer term impacts of COVID-19 are known.



## The Strategies

Reaching these ambitious goals will require a collaborative community response based on proven, evidence-based strategies to end homelessness as well as innovative approaches that maximize the resources available.

The strategies are organized under three areas of focus that make up the basic framework for the plan.

# STRATEGY 1



## Address the Root Causes of Homelessness Through System and Policy Change

To end homelessness in our community, we must address its root causes. This plan sets a five-year goal of reducing new unhoused individuals and families in a given year by 30%. The strategies below are targeted to address the entrenched economic and societal causes of homelessness through transformational systemic and policy change. The system we live in has created social, economic, and racial disparities and it will take monumental shifts in policies and priorities to make effective change. While eliminating these disparities across our community will take more than the five years covered by this plan, we can make substantial progress towards this important goal by implementing the strategies below.

### 1 Ensure that people accessing safety net services have the support they need to obtain and maintain housing.

- A** Adopt housing screening and referral processes for individuals and families accessing safety net services.
- B** Expand housing programs for families involved in the child welfare system.
- C** Expand and diversify housing programs for foster youth to meet their long-term housing needs, so no foster youth become homeless.
- D** Expand housing resources available to Medi-Cal recipients accessing services in the Specialty Mental Health System.
- E** Advocate for the state and the federal government to increase funding and access to safety net services.

### 2 Ensure that people involved in the criminal justice system do not become homeless.

- A** Support households with incarcerated family members to prevent homelessness.
- B** Expand existing and develop new housing and workforce development programs to successfully reintegrate people leaving probation, parole, jails, and prisons into the community.

**STRATEGY 1**



**Address the Root Causes of Homelessness Through System and Policy Change**  
(Continued)

**3 Create the conditions to develop enough affordable housing to meet the need in our community.**

- A** Work with cities to change local land use and housing policy to allow for development of more affordable housing and help reverse housing disparities that have negatively impacted people of color.
- B** Identify underutilized land across the county to be used for dense affordable housing development.
- C** Prioritize development of housing for extremely low-income individuals and families making 30% of Area Median Income or less and set joint targets.
- D** Advocate for flexible funding that can speed up and create more affordable housing.

**4 Protect residents from evictions, displacement, and housing discrimination.**

- A** Adopt and implement new fair housing plans for the region.
- B** Strengthen local rent control and tenant protections.
- C** Provide legal assistance to ensure that individuals and families most severely impacted by the lack of affordable housing, namely people of color, have equal access to housing.
- D** Create a fund to preserve both naturally affordable and income-restricted affordable housing.

**5 Ensure all residents who are able to work have access to living wage employment.**

- A** Support efforts to increase the minimum wage to a living wage in Santa Clara County.
- B** Partner with corporations to create living wage job opportunities for people who are unhoused or at risk of homelessness.
- C** Provide training, internships, and mentorships to help people who are unhoused or at risk of homelessness to obtain access to living wage jobs.
- D** Invest in social enterprises that train and employ people who are unhoused or at risk of homelessness.

**6 Expand public and private sector support for ending and preventing homelessness.**

- A** Increase community engagement and support for affordable and supportive housing development throughout the county.
- B** Provide leadership opportunities for people with lived experience of homelessness to shape how we address homelessness in our community.
- C** Create a county-wide education campaign that increases awareness of the causes and impacts of homelessness and ongoing efforts to end homelessness.



# STRATEGY 2



## Expand Homelessness Prevention and Housing Programs to Meet the Need

While Strategy 1 aims to close the gaps in our social safety net and address the other systemic causes of homelessness, we know that there will be some people over the next five years who will still become unhoused due to a severe shortage of affordable and accessible housing. To end homelessness, we will need to continue to build capacity to provide a broad array of housing and services over the next five years.

### 1 Increase the capacity of supportive housing programs for people experiencing homelessness.

- A** Expand the supportive housing system to provide housing and services to help 20,000 unhoused people secure stable, permanent housing. Expansion would target the following:
  - 7,000 people housed in Permanent Supportive Housing programs that provide long-term support.
  - 10,000 people housed through Rapid Rehousing programs that provide short- and medium-term support.
  - 3,000 people housed through Housing Problem Solving and other short-term or one-time assistance.
- B** Develop programs tailored to the needs of specific populations of people experiencing homelessness, including:
  - Youth and young adults
  - Older adults (55+) and seniors
  - Families with children
  - Adults (ages 25 to 54) without children

### 2 Provide a broad range of supports to prevent homelessness.

- A** Expand the Homelessness Prevention System to prevent homelessness for an additional 7,000 households who are at risk by providing targeted financial assistance and supportive services.
- B** Provide targeted financial resources to prevent homelessness and eviction for severely rent-burdened residents living in existing affordable units.

### 3 Create a state-of-the-art supportive housing system.

- A** Center the voices of people who have lived experience of homelessness, especially people of color, in the policy and program design decisions of the supportive housing system.
- B** Invest in professional development and competitive pay to attract and retain a highly qualified workforce of homeless service provider staff.
- C** Incentivize hiring of people who have lived experience of homelessness to reflect the client population—especially people of color and LGBTQI+ persons.
- D** Increase access to supportive housing programs for people of color by addressing racial bias in our system.

# STRATEGY 3



## Improve Quality of Life for Unsheltered Individuals and Create Healthy Neighborhoods for All

The first two strategies of the plan seek to end and prevent homelessness for as many people as possible over the next five years. However, the reality is that many people will remain unhoused due to an extreme housing crisis and increasing income inequality. To address this immediate crisis in our community and ensure healthy neighborhoods for all, we must begin by doubling our temporary housing and shelter capacity to serve 2,000 additional households each night and increase investment in health, safety and other basic services to better meet the needs of people living in unsheltered conditions and build connections to housing programs and safety net services offered throughout the county.

### 1 Double the number of year-round temporary housing beds and offer a variety of welcoming temporary housing options throughout the county.

- A** Build new partnerships to host emergency shelter, safe places to park and access services, and sanctioned encampments that are not swept and include hygiene and supportive services.
- B** Reduce barriers to shelter such as allowing for pets, storage of personal items, greater privacy, longer stays, and provide higher levels of safety for residents.
- C** Expand hours at new and existing shelters to remain open during the day.
- D** Ensure that all families with children under 18 years old who are unhoused have access to emergency shelter or temporary housing.
- E** Provide more public services in neighborhoods hosting emergency shelter or temporary housing programs.

### 2 Increase street outreach, hygiene services, and transportation options to match the needs of unsheltered residents.

- A** Increase access to basic hygiene resources, including bathrooms, showers, and laundry
- B** Increase the number of free public transit passes and other transportation options for people who are unhoused to access services.
- C** Increase the number of street outreach staff and case managers working in encampments.
- D** Provide opportunities for people who have lived experience of homelessness to provide peer-to-peer support.

### 3 Increase mental health and substance use services.

- A** Increase the number of mobile crisis teams with clinical staff, and expand their hours, to support individuals experiencing severe mental health and substance use crises.
- B** Increase the number of beds available for substance use treatment and provide the follow-up supportive services needed to prevent relapses.
- C** Increase access to mental health treatment for people who are unhoused and struggling with mental illness.
- D** Develop a plan to eliminate service access and treatment gaps for unsheltered people struggling with chronic and severe mental illness.

**STRATEGY 3**  **Improve Quality of Life for Unsheltered Individuals and Create Healthy Neighborhoods for All** *(Continued)*

**4 Engage a cross-section of community partners to address the needs of unsheltered residents.**

- A** Increase outreach to city and County staff and business and neighborhood associations about available resources to assist people who are unsheltered.
- B** Engage the private sector to contribute funding to support health and safety services and shelter for people who are unsheltered.
- C** Increase coordination between agencies engaging people living in encampments to ensure consistent and humane approaches to encampment resolution.
- D** Create a referral system where unsheltered residents can access information and services, such as available temporary housing and homeless services.

**5 Ensure that community spaces are safe and welcoming for housed and unsheltered residents.**

- A** Partner with new private sector, community-based, and faith-based organizations to create safe and welcoming community spaces in every community for unsheltered people to access services during the day.
- B** Work with community organizations, cities, County agencies, and neighborhood associations to ensure that public spaces such as parks, libraries, and community centers remain clean, well-maintained, and welcoming to all.

**Process Improvements Across Strategies 1, 2, and 3**

Throughout our work, we must continue to expand coordination between systems, increase the use of data to improve programs, and increase training opportunities for all partners, including:

- Share data across safety net, criminal justice, and housing systems to better predict and target households who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.
- Better utilize data collected in the homeless system of care and across County departments to know what is working well, what programs need improvement, and to identify inequities in the system.
- Provide demographic data, including race and ethnicity, in all reports on homelessness to highlight and address inequities.
- Create accessible dashboards that show our progress and hold our systems accountable.
- Provide trauma-informed care and racial equity/anti-racism training to all staff working with people experiencing homelessness.
- Increase access to services, including providing system navigation resources and training to all staff working with people experiencing homelessness.
- Align racial equity work in the homelessness sector with other racial equity initiatives in Santa Clara County.
- Expand partnerships with corporations, philanthropic institutions, and individual donors to secure private funding to reduce and prevent homelessness.
- Align and coordinate with other community efforts to address homelessness, such as the Homelessness Task Force.

# Thank You!

The Community Plan Steering Committee would like to thank the following agencies and staff who participated in the Community Plan Work Group to gather community input and update the community plan:

- County of Santa Clara: Jackie MacLean, Hilary Barroga, Kathryn Kaminski, Hilary Armstrong
- City of San José: Sarah Zárata, Ragan Henninger
- Destination: Home: Ray Bramson, David Low
- City of Morgan Hill: Rebecca Garcia
- City of Mountain View: Wayne Chen
- LifeMoves: Bruce Ives
- Sacred Heart Community Service: Erin Stanton
- Community Solutions: Erin O'Brien

The Steering Committee and Work Group would like to thank the many people who are currently or formerly unhoused who shared their input and experiences to inform the community plan, including the following:

- Lived Experience Advisory Board
- Sacred Heart's Survivors of the Streets
- HomeFirst Sunnyvale Shelter's Client Collaborative
- Clients/residents from Hope's Corner, Bill Wilson Center, New Haven Inn, and Second Street Studios

The Steering Committee and Work Group would like to thank the following community stakeholders, agencies, and organizations for participating in the process:

- Abode Services
- Alta Vista High School
- Amigos de Guadalupe
- Anthem Blue Cross
- Bill Wilson Center
- Bitfocus
- Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County
- Charities Housing
- Cisco
- Cities Association of Santa Clara County
- City Team
- City of Cupertino
- City of Morgan Hill
- City of Mountain View
- City of Palo Alto
- City of San José
- City of Milpitas
- City of Santa Clara
- Community Services Agency
- Community Solutions
- County of Santa Clara:
  - Behavioral Health Services
  - Office of the District Attorney
  - Probation Department
  - Public Defender Office
  - Public Health Department
  - Reentry Services
  - Santa Clara Valley Medical Center
  - Social Services Agency
  - Office of Supportive Housing
  - Office of Equity and Social Justice
  - Offices of Supervisors Cindy Chavez, Dave Cortese, Susan Ellenberg, Joe Simitian, and Mike Wasserman
  - Valley Homeless Healthcare Program
- David and Lucile Packard Foundation
- Destination: Home
- Dependency Advocacy Center



- Downtown Business Association
- Downtown Streets Team
- EAH Housing
- East Side Union High School District
- Family Supportive Housing
- First Community Housing
- Gilroy Compassion Center
- HomeFirst
- Housing Trust Silicon Valley
- Humane Society of Silicon Valley
- Hunger at Home
- Kaiser Permanente
- Kids in Common
- Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
- LifeMoves
- LinkedIn
- Los Altos Community Foundation
- Mental Health Systems
- Next Door Solutions
- On Lok
- PATH
- Razing the Bar
- Resources for Community Development
- Santa Clara County City Managers Association
- Santa Clara County Housing Authority
- Santa Clara County Office of Education
- Santa Clara County Domestic Violence Advocacy Consortium
- Santa Clara Family Health Plan
- Sacred Heart Community Service
- Salvation Army
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits
- Silicon Valley at Home
- Silicon Valley Independent Living Center
- Silicon Valley Organization
- South Bay Coalition to End Human Trafficking
- Spectrum Equity
- St. Joseph Family Center
- Sunnyvale Community Services
- The Health Trust
- United Way Bay Area
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- West Valley Community Services
- YWCA of Silicon Valley



# ENDING HOMELESSNESS

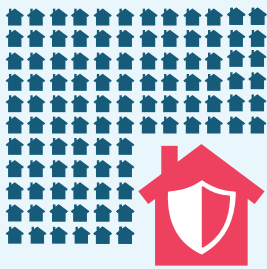
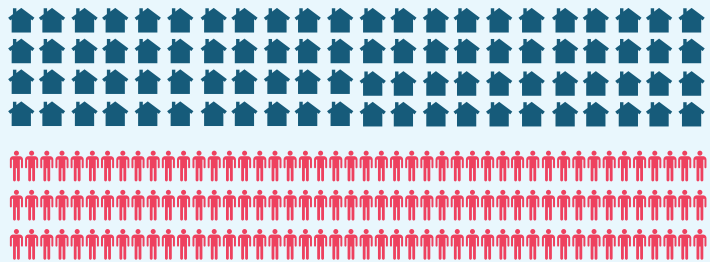
## IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

### Our Progress Since 2015:

In 2015, the community came together to create a roadmap for ending homelessness in Santa Clara County which was centered around a collective impact response. The community set an ambitious goal of creating 6,000 housing opportunities. Collective efforts of partners throughout the community yielded the following results:

Helped **8,884 households** resolve their homelessness,

representing **14,132 people**



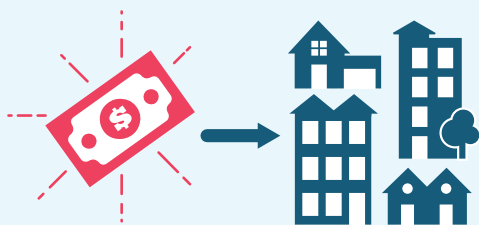
Launched a new homelessness prevention system that now serves about **1,000 households annually**



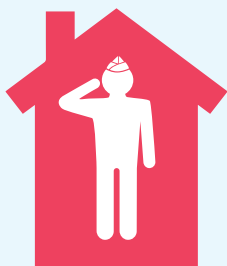
**Doubled** the number of supportive housing units in Santa Clara County



**Doubled** our temporary housing and emergency shelter capacity



Voters approved **\$950 million** to develop affordable housing through the 2016 Measure A Affordable Housing Bond and raised another **\$100 million** in private contributions to support the implementation of the community plan



Led a community-wide campaign that has successfully housed more than **1,600 veterans** and engaged nearly **800 private landlords** in the effort

### Looking Beyond 2020:

We are proud of the progress we have made over the last five years. But, the number of people experiencing homelessness continues to grow due to several systemic factors. These challenges have been compounded by the COVID-19 pandemic, placing ever-more pressure on the nearly 10,000 individuals currently experiencing homelessness and the tens-of-thousands more at risk of falling into homelessness over the next five years. A collective effort to address these efforts over the next five years has yielded the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness. (Read more about our plan for 2020-2025 on the reverse page.)

# ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

## THE 2020-2025 COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS

### Our Strategies:

Built upon input from more than 8,000 community members, including people with lived experience of homelessness, service providers, and advocates, the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness includes a comprehensive set of strategies and aggressive targets designed to reverse the current growth in homelessness and bring us closer to our collective goal of ending homelessness in our community. The plan is centered around three core strategies, each with their own sub-strategies and tactics to achieve our goals. The core strategies are:

-  **STRATEGY 1**  
Address the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change
-  **STRATEGY 2**  
Expand homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the need
-  **STRATEGY 3**  
Improve quality of life for unsheltered individuals and create healthy neighborhoods for all

### The Next Five Years

The need for bold action has never been greater. We must expand coordination between systems, center and raise the voices of people with lived experience of homelessness, emphasize the use of data and boost training opportunities for all partners. It will require tremendous effort, new partnerships, and innovative strategies—and it will require the entire community to be a part of the solution. Every member of community deserves a safe and stable home—and it is our collective responsibility to make this vision a reality.

To read the entire 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness, visit [www.sccgov.org/sites/osh](http://www.sccgov.org/sites/osh)

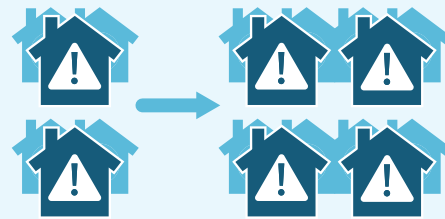
### Our Goals:



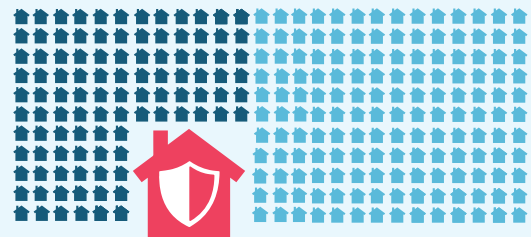
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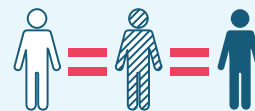
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**Double** temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside



Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve **2,500 people per year**



Address the **racial inequities present** among unhoused people and families and track progress toward reducing disparities

\*The reduction in annual inflow target was based on annual inflow prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This target will be reevaluated once the longer term impacts of COVID-19 are known.



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

**COMMUNITY PLAN  
TO END HOMELESSNESS**

2020–2025



SANTA CLARA COUNTY  
COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS

# PRESENTERS

- **Jennifer Loving**, CEO, Destination: Home
- **Kathryn Kaminski**, Acting Deputy Director, County of Santa Clara Office of Supportive Housing
- **Ragan Henninger**, Deputy Director, City of San José Housing Department

# ABOUT THE CONTINUUM OF CARE

- Broad group of stakeholders dedicated to ending and preventing homelessness
- Ensure a community-wide implementation of efforts & programmatic and systemic effectiveness



Santa Clara County Continuum of Care



# Supportive Housing System Progress 2015-2019

Thanks to the collective efforts of partners throughout the community, over the past five years, we have done the following:

Helped **8,884 households** resolve their homelessness,

representing **14,132 people**



**Doubled** the number of supportive housing units in Santa Clara County



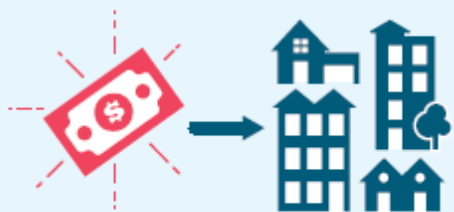
**Doubled** our temporary housing and emergency shelter capacity



Launched a new homelessness prevention system that now serves about **1,000 households annually**



Led a community-wide campaign that has successfully housed more than **1,600 veterans** and engaged nearly **800 private landlords** in the effort



Voters approved **\$950 million** to develop affordable housing through the 2016 Measure A Affordable Housing Bond and raised another **\$100 million** in private contributions to support the implementation of the community plan **60**

# PROGRESS TO DATE



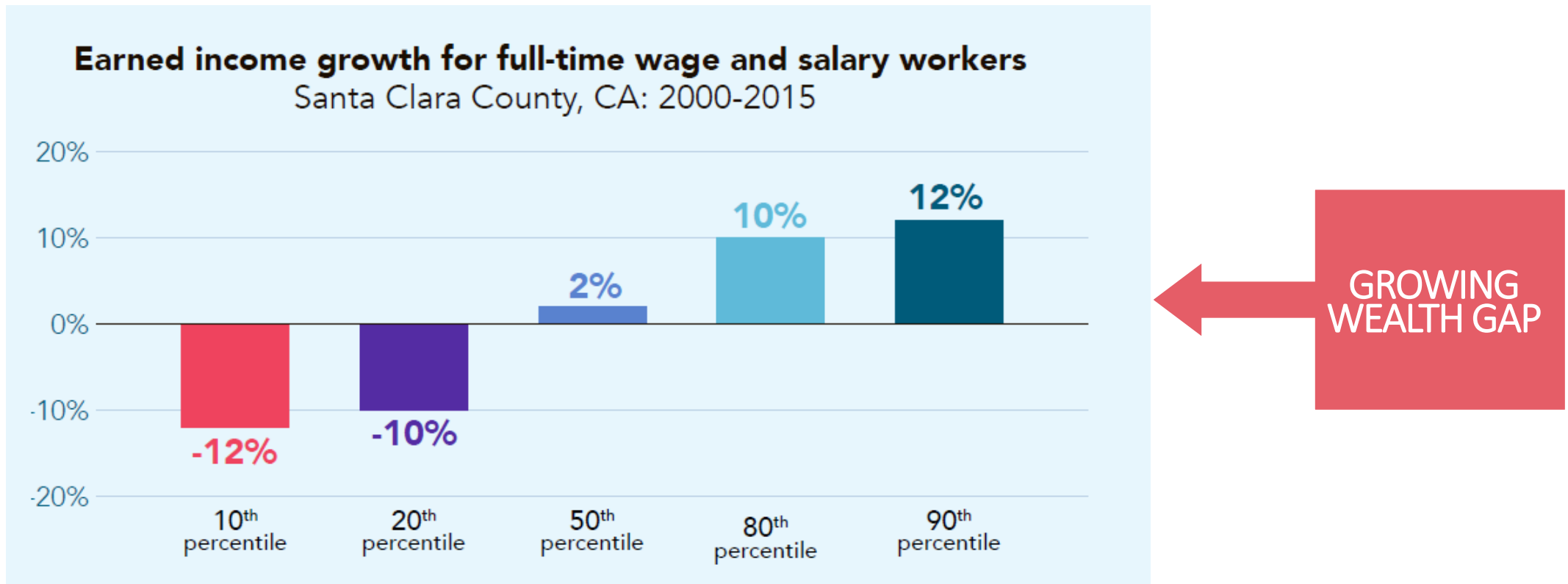
# HOMELESSNESS CONTINUES TO GROW

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For every homeless family or individual connected to housing in the county, two to three more are experiencing homelessness for the very first time

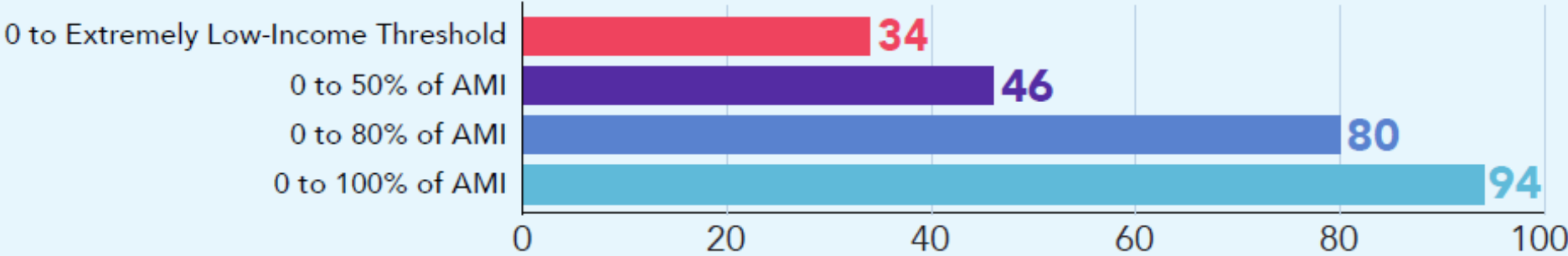
# SYSTEMIC FACTORS DRIVING HOMELESSNESS



# SYSTEMIC FACTORS DRIVING HOMELESSNESS

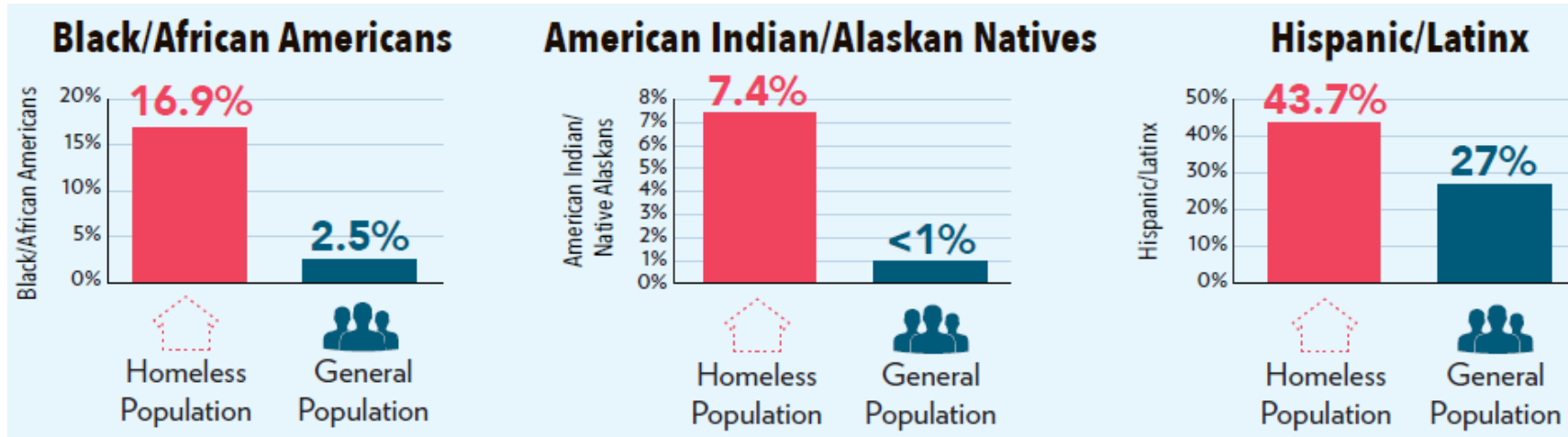
## Affordable & Available Rental Homes "Per 100 Renter Households"

San Jose Metropolitan Area: 2018



↑  
SHORTAGE OF  
AFFORDABLE  
HOMES

# SYSTEMIC FACTORS DRIVING HOMELESSNESS



**RACIAL  
DISPARITIES IN  
HOMELESSNESS**

# 2020-2025 COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS

## GUIDING VALUES

As we implement the strategies in this plan, we will **raise the voices of people with lived experience** and **share power** with our unhoused and recently-housed neighbors.

We will focus on policies and programs that reduce racial inequity, in an effort to **reverse the disproportionately high rates of people of color who are unhoused**.

## THIS PLAN IS BUILT ON:

- ✓ Input from more than 8,000 community members
- ✓ Subject-matter expert convenings
- ✓ Voices of lived experience
- ✓ Evidence-based practices & data



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

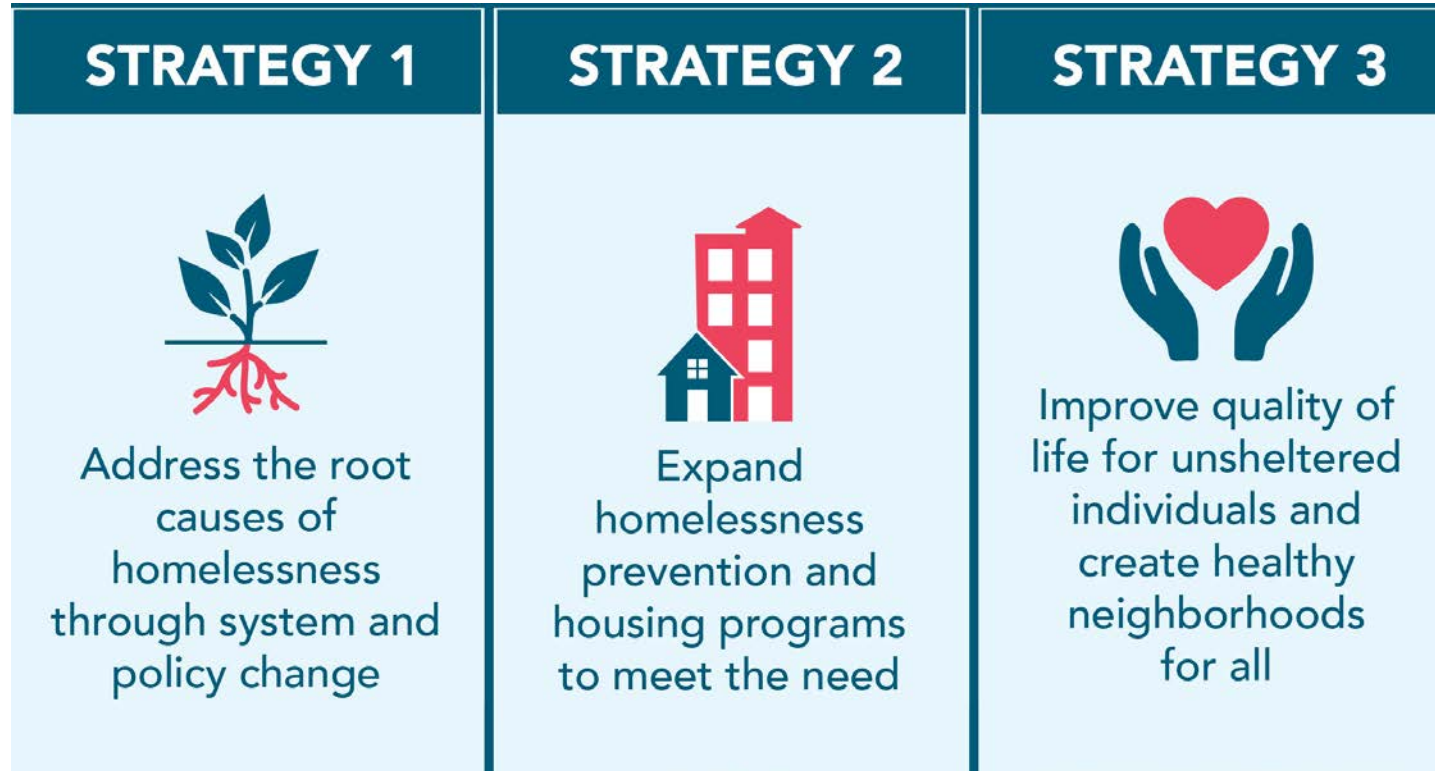
COMMUNITY PLAN  
TO END HOMELESSNESS

2020–2025



# PLAN BUILT ON 3 CORE STRATEGIES

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# STRATEGY 1

## ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES

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1. Ensure that people accessing safety net services have the support they need to obtain and maintain housing.
2. Ensure that people involved in the criminal justice system do not become homeless.
3. Create the conditions to develop enough affordable housing to meet the need in our community.
4. Protect residents from evictions, displacement, and housing discrimination.
5. Ensure all residents who are able to work have access to living wage employment.
6. Expand public and private sector support for ending and preventing homelessness.

# STRATEGY 2

## EXPAND PROGRAMS

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1. Increase the capacity of supportive housing programs for people experiencing homelessness.
  - 7,000 people housed in Permanent Supportive Housing programs
  - 10,000 people housed through Rapid Rehousing programs
  - 3,000 people housed through Housing Problem Solving
2. Provide a broad range of supports to prevent homelessness.
  - Expand the Homelessness Prevention System to prevent homelessness for an additional 7,000 households who are at risk by providing targeted financial assistance and supportive services.
3. Create a state-of-the-art supportive housing system.
  - Center the voices of people who have lived experience of homelessness, especially people of color, in the policy and program design decisions of the supportive housing system.
  - Invest in professional development and competitive pay to attract and retain a highly qualified workforce of homeless service provider staff.



# STRATEGY 3

## IMPROVE QUALITY OF LIFE

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1. Double the number of year-round temporary housing beds and offer a variety of welcoming temporary housing options throughout the county.
2. Increase street outreach, hygiene services, and transportation options to match the needs of unsheltered residents.
  - Increase access to basic hygiene resources, including bathrooms, showers, and laundry
3. Increase mental health and substance use services.
  - Increase the number of mobile crisis teams with clinical staff, and expand their hours, to support individuals experiencing severe mental health and substance use crises.
4. Engage a cross-section of community partners to address the needs of unsheltered residents.
5. Ensure that community spaces are safe and welcoming for housed and unhoused residents.

## By 2025, we will:



Achieve a **30% reduction** in annual inflow of people becoming homeless\*



House **20,000 people** through the supportive housing system



Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve

**2,500 people per year**



**Double** temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside



Address the **racial inequities present** among unhoused people and families and track progress toward reducing disparities

# AGGRESSIVE TARGETS

# WORK ALREADY UNDERWAY

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- ✓ Voters in San Jose approved Measure E this year, generating millions of dollars annually to help fund new affordable housing
- ✓ Destination: Home and Sacred Heart Community Service have distributed more than \$15 million in direct financial assistance to approximately 7,000 families in Santa Clara County via a 70-agency partnership
- ✓ Connected 1,920 households into congregate and non-congregate shelter, distributed over 50,000 pieces of PPE, and provided mobile shower and sanitation services for individuals living in encampments
- ✓ Connected 865 homeless households to permanent housing
- ✓ Three emergency interim housing communities in development by CSJ to provide housing for over 300 homeless residents

# Next Steps

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In the weeks ahead, we plan to submit a formal request for the Board of Directors to:

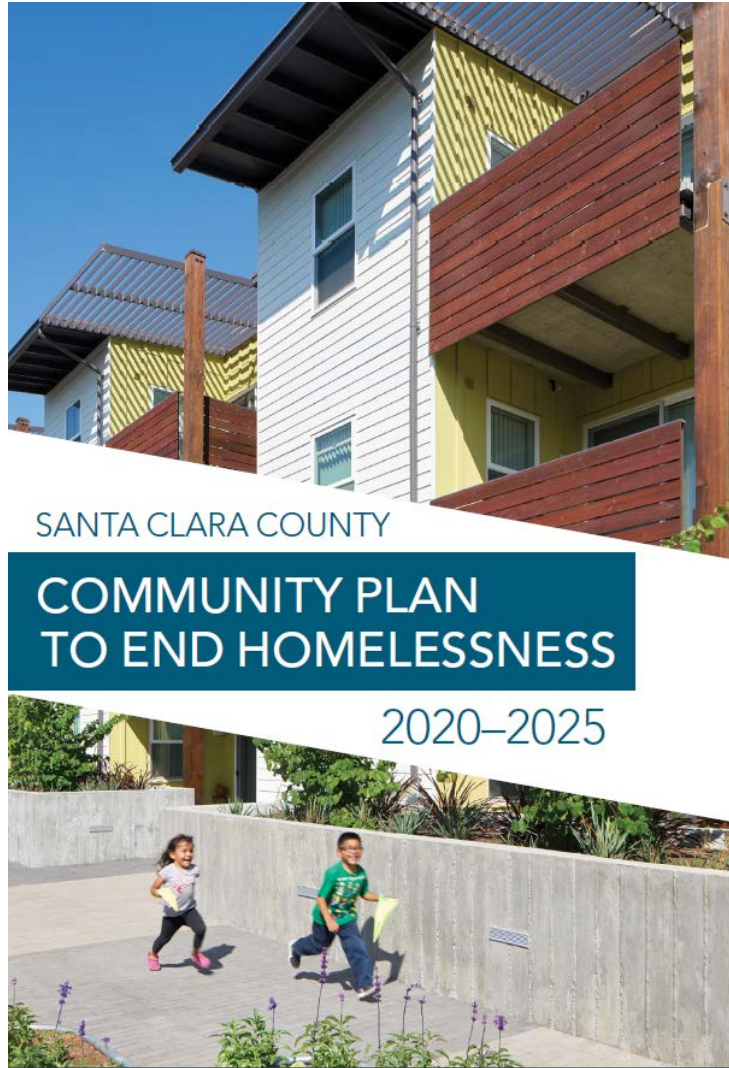


ENDORSE THE NEW COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS



SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF STRATEGY 3 OF THE PLAN

**We'd like to ask for the Homeless Encampment Committee for their support of this request and to recommend agendaing this request for a future Board meeting this fall.**



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

**COMMUNITY PLAN  
TO END HOMELESSNESS**

2020–2025

# Questions/Comments

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# Santa Clara Valley Water District

**File No.:** 20-0695

**Agenda Date:** 8/31/2020

**Item No.:** 4.4.

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## COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

### Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

**SUBJECT:**

2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

- A. Review the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan, and make adjustments as necessary; and
- B. Discuss and determine 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting schedule.

**SUMMARY:**

Work Plans are created and implemented by all Board Committees to increase Committee efficiency, provide advanced public notice of intended Committee discussions, and enable staff to prepare for meetings and respond to Committee direction. Work Plans are dynamic documents managed by Committee Chairs and are subject to change. Committee Work Plans also serve to assist in the preparation of Annual Committee Accomplishments Reports.

The 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee (HEC) Work Plan is contained in Attachment 1. Discussion of topics as stated in the Plan have been described based on information from the following sources:

- Items referred to the Committee by the Board;
- Items requested by the Committee to be brought back by staff;
- Items scheduled for presentation to the full Board of Directors; and
- Items identified by staff.

The 2020 HEC Work Plan contained in Attachment 1 is presented for the Committee's review and to determine additional topics for discussion in 2020.

2020 Meeting Schedule:

Previously as an Ad Hoc Committee, scheduling of meetings was subject to the call of the Committee Chair. The Committee will discuss establishing a 2020 Meeting schedule to 1) determine meeting frequency: monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly meetings, and 2) preferred day of the week meetings are to be held. Establishing a meeting schedule is necessary to provide staff a basis for meeting planning and coordination of logistics.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment 1: 2020 HEC Work Plan

**UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:**

Michele King, 408-2630-2711



# Homeless Encampment Committee 2020 Workplan

<i>Category</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sep</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>
Update on Scheduled/Rescheduled Environmental Cleanup Events			X					X				
Downtown Streets Team Update			X					X				
Update on Homelessness (SCCO and Cities, and advocacy groups)								X				
Update on Landuse for Homeless Housing (County/Cities/other agencies)								X				
Update on Veterans Housing Project								X				
Update on Creek Safety Condition								X				
Update on Stream Maintenance Program								X				
Valley Water Biologist Report												
Update on Property Easements for Creek Maintenance								X				
Tunnel Digging Prevention Along Creeks												
Dredging along 13th Street San Jose												