



Santa Clara Valley Water District Homeless Encampment Committee

Zoom Teleconference

REGULAR MEETING ***AMENDED AGENDA**

**Tuesday, March 30, 2021
8:30 AM**

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

John L. Varela - District 1

Barbara F. Keegan - District 2

During the COVID-19 restrictions, all public records relating to an open session 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 to the public through the legislative body agenda web page at the same time that the public records are distributed or made available to the legislative body, or through a link in the Zoom Chat Section during the respective meeting. Santa Clara Valley Water District will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities wishing to participate in the legislative body's meeting. Please advise the Clerk of the Board Office of any special needs by calling (408) 265-2600.

COMMITTEE LIAISON
Sue Tippetts

COMMITTEE CLERK
Natalie F. Dominguez, CMC

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**

Tuesday, March 30, 2021

8:30 AM

Zoom Teleconference

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" tool 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.

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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.

Under the Brown Act, members of the public are not required to provide identifying information in order to attend public meetings. Through the link below, the Zoom webinar program requests entry of a name and email address, and Valley Water is unable to modify this requirement. Members of the public not wishing to provide such identifying information are encouraged to enter "Anonymous" or some other reference under name and to enter a fictional email address (e.g., attendee@valleywater.org) in lieu of their actual address. Inputting such values will not impact your ability to access the meeting through Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://valleywater.zoom.us/j/97077693820>

Meeting ID: 970 7769 3820

One tap mobile: +16699009128,,97077693820# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

1. CALL TO ORDER:

1.1. 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. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE OFFICERS.

3.1. Elect 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Officers.

[21-0352](#)

Recommendation: Nominate and elect the 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Manager: Michele King, 408-630-2711

Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- 4.1. Approval of August 31, 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Meeting Minutes. [21-0350](#)
Recommendation: Approve the minutes.
Manager: Michele King, 408-630-2711
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 083120 HEC Meeting Minutes](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

5. ACTION ITEMS:

- 5.1. Update From Destination Home Regarding the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness. [21-0334](#)
Recommendation: A. Receive an update from Destination: Home regarding the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness, the newest roadmap for addressing homelessness in Santa Clara County.
B. Recommend the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness to the Valley Water Board of Directors for consideration and endorsement.
Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Community Plan to End Homelessness](#)
[Attachment 2: Community Plan Executive Summary](#)
[Attachment 3: PowerPoint](#)
Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes

- * 5.2. Receive an Update Regarding the March 23, 2021 Meeting of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. [21-0349](#)
Recommendation: A. Receive a verbal update from staff regarding the March 23, 2021 County Board of Supervisors meeting which included an agenda item on the topic of a potential Memorandum of Understanding with Valley Water for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.
B. Recommend to the Board of Directors that it direct staff to work with the County of Santa Clara to accomplish a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or similar legal entity with the County of Santa Clara, for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.
Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Referral Letter to Board of Supervisors](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

- 5.3. Update on Rescheduled Coyote Creek Cleanup Event. [21-0335](#)
Recommendation: Receive an update from staff regarding the rescheduled Coyote Creek Cleanup event planned for May 1, 2021.
Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253
Attachments: [Attachment 1: Coyote Creek Cleanup Site Locations](#)
Est. Staff Time: 10 Minutes
- 5.4. Receive CEO Input Box Suggestion to Rename the Homeless Encampment Committee to “Houseless Encampment Committee”. [21-0344](#)
Recommendation: A. Receive the CEO Input box suggestion to rename the Homeless Encampment Committee to “Houseless Encampment Committee”;
B. Receive staff’s recommendation to change the committee name to “Encampment Committee”; and
C. Provide input to staff.
Manager: Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 5.5. 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishments Report. [21-0356](#)
Recommendation: Review and accept the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishments Report.
Manager: Michele King, 408-630-2711
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2020 HEC Accomplishments Report](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes
- 5.6. Review 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan. [21-0351](#)
Recommendation: A. Review the 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan, and make adjustments as necessary; and
B. Discuss and determine the 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting schedule.
Manager: Michele King, 408-2630-2711
Attachments: [Attachment 1: 2021 HEC Work Plan](#)
Est. Staff Time: 5 Minutes

6. INFORMATION ITEMS:

7. 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.

8. ADJOURN:

- 8.1. Adjourn to next regular meeting to be called to order in compliance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0352

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021

Item No.: 3.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Elect 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Officers.

RECOMMENDATION:

Nominate and elect the 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

SUMMARY:

The Homeless Encampment Committee was established to discuss homelessness and encampment issues, and bring discussion and recommendations back to the Board.

The Committee is comprised of the Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, who serve as the Committee's primary and secondary facilitators, and Committee representatives. The Committee Chairperson and Vice Chairperson are elected by the Committee annually.

The following is a summary of the Homeless Encampment Committee officer terms since the Committee's 2017 enactment by the Board of Directors.

Year	Chairperson	Vice Chairperson
2017	Director Richard Santos	Director Tony Estremera
2018	Director Richard Santos	Director Tony Estremera
2019	Director Richard Santos	Director Tony Estremera
2020	Director Richard Santos	Director Tony Estremera

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Michele King, 408-630-2711

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0350

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 4.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Approval of August 31, 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Meeting Minutes.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the 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: 083120 HEAHC Meeting Minutes

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Michele King, 408-630-2711

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HOMELESS ENCAMPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

**FRIDAY, August 31, 2020
2:00 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 2:00 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 R. Callender, Chief Executive Officer, M. King, Clerk, Board of Directors, M. Bilski, J. Collins, N. Dominguez, M. Ganjoo, R. Gibson, C. Grande, B. Hopper, M. Richardson, D. Rocha, K. Struve, S. Tippetts, and S. Tran.

Guests in attendance were: San Jose residents Robert Aguirre, John Davis, and Gail Osmer; Ragan Henninger and Olympia Washington, City of San Jose; Kathryn Kaminsky, County of Santa Clara, Amanda Olson and Scott Van Gordon, Downtown Streets Team; Jennifer Loving, Destination Home, Deb Kramer, Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful

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 destruction of the Coyote Creek embankment, between Williams Street Park and Highway 280, due to the establishment of homeless encampments. He requested that Valley Water consider installing a rocky boulder barrier to prevent intentional destruction of the natural creek embankment and submitted a copy of his letter (Handout 2-A) to the California Environmental Protection Agency/San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board requesting assistance to address issues.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

4.1. Approval of Minutes.

Recommendation: Approve the March 13, 2020 Meeting Minutes.

The Committee considered the attached minutes of the March 13, 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee meeting. It was moved by Director Varela, seconded by Director Estremera, and unanimously carried that the minutes be approved as presented.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1. 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.

Ms. Sue Tippetts, Deputy Operating Officer, reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and reviewed the corresponding presentation contained in Attachment 1 and provided verbal updates on the following items:

- Ms. Jennifer Codianne, Acting Deputy Operating Officer, provided an update on the Stream Maintenance Program reporting on trash and debris removed from creeks, winter preparedness activities, creek safety conditions, and the status of encampment abatements during the pandemic.
- Ms. Kirsten Struve, Acting Environmental Services Manager, provided an update on Creek Conditions including current water quality conditions in local creeks and related impacts of homeless encampments. (Attachment 1)
- Ms. Sherilyn Tran, Civic Engagement Manager, provided an update on Valley Water Volunteer Cleanup Events reporting on events canceled due to the pandemic, activities in progress to gear up for the modified Coastal Cleanup events scheduled to occur September 5, 12, 19 and 26, and continued encouragement for communities to self-clean their own neighborhoods while adhering to social distancing protocols.
- Mr. Mark Bilski, Senior Management Analyst, provided an update on land use for homeless housing, the Veterans Housing Project and potential excess Valley Water properties that could be used in partnership to establish housing for the homeless and veterans.
- Ms. Sue Tippetts, Chief Operating Officer, reported on efforts to secure property easements with the County, City of San Jose and San Jose Unified School District to allow Valley Water access to creeks to perform maintenance to address the impacts of homeless encampments. She recapped discussions held by local elected officials regarding the unhealthy creek conditions and wildfires occurring during COVID-19 shelter in place

orders and a proposal to establish a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) to address environmental impacts and homelessness in Santa Clara County. She will report back to the Committee on the proposed JPA as more information becomes available.

Director Varela asked for, and received, clarification on collaborative agreements with the county and cities regarding efforts to address safety along the creeks and rivers.

Director Varela asked for, and received, clarification on potential partnerships with the cities of San Jose, Morgan Hill and Gilroy to address clean up efforts in south county creeks.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

4.2. 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 COBID-19 pandemic on these efforts.

Ms. Tippetts reviewed the information on this item, per the attached Committee Agenda Memo, and verbal updates were provided by the following persons: Mr. Chad Grande, Field Operations Unit Manager, Ms. Kathryn Kaminsky, Acting Deputy Director, Santa Clara County Office of Supportive Housing, Ms. Ragan Henninger, Deputy Director, City of San Jose Housing Department, Ms. Olympia Williams, City of San Jose, and Ms. Amanda Olson and Mr. Scott Van Gordon, Downtown Streets Team.

The Committee received updates from the County, City of San Jose and other advocacy groups on outreach activities to address homelessness, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their efforts, creek preservation activities and safety measures.

Mr. Robert Aguirre and Mr. John Davis, San Jose residents, asked for and received, clarification regarding Santa Clara County and the City of San Jose's activities and efforts to provide housing, Covid-19 testing, and PPE for the homeless.

Ms. Deb Kramer, Keep Coyote Creek Beautiful, expressed concern for conditions at San Jose's Watson Park and reported on volunteer cleanup efforts.

Ms. Gail Osmer, San Jose resident, expressed appreciation for City of San Jose Housing Department efforts to provide basic hygiene needs and trash collection for encampments.

Mr. Aguirre discussed safety conditions along creeks and rivers and the need to provide safe housing and sanctioned encampments to protect the more vulnerable homeless population.

Ms. Tippetts and Mr. Chad Grande discussed scheduled creek maintenance and possibilities of coordinating smaller clean up events along creeks and the Guadalupe River while ensuring the safety of staff and volunteers.

Ms. Amanda Olsen, Downtown Streets Team, reviewed new policies and procedures implemented to support volunteer cleanup efforts, weekly success meetings, contract milestones achieved in areas along the Penitencia Creek and the El Camino in Sunnyvale supporting cleanup efforts, and how Valley Water funding supports their programs.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

4.3. Update From Destination Home regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness.

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

The Committee continued Item 4.3 to a future meeting.

Mr. Aguirre expressed concern for Destination Home's community plan to end homelessness versus address homelessness, and asked that Destination Home consider including input from more people throughout the community that have experienced homelessness.

4.4. 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 the corresponding presentation materials contained in Attachment 1.

The Committee noted the information without formal action.

4. INFORMATION ITEMS.

None.

5. CLERK'S REVIEW AND CLARIFICATION OF COMMITTEE REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

There were no new Committee Recommendations or Requests for Board consideration.

7. ADJOURN.

Chairperson Santos adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m., to the next meeting to be called to order in compliance with the State Emergency Services Act, the Governor's Emergency Declaration related to COVID-19, and the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20.

Natalie F. Dominguez, CMC
Assistant Deputy Clerk

Approved:

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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0334

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 5.1.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Update From Destination Home Regarding the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Receive an update from Destination: Home regarding the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness, the newest roadmap for addressing homelessness in Santa Clara County.
- B. Recommend the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness to the Valley Water Board of Directors for consideration and endorsement.

SUMMARY:

Representatives from Destination: Home will provide a presentation of the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness (Community Plan), a county-wide plan which serves as a roadmap for addressing homelessness in Santa Clara County. The Community Plan is organized around three main strategies: 1) Address the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change; 2) Expand homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the need; and 3) Improve quality of life for unsheltered individuals and create healthy neighborhoods for all.

There is a relationship between the goals in Community Plan strategy 3 (improve quality of life) and the partnership opportunities available under Valley Water's renewed Safe, Clean Water Program, specifically projects under Priority F. This new priority supports public health and public safety along our waterways and critical infrastructure. Project F5: Good Neighbor Program: Encampment Cleanup provides enhanced funding to support Valley Water's coordination with local cities and agencies in a cooperative effort for services related to encampment cleanups and to help provide alternatives to homelessness. Specifically, the renewed Program provides up to \$500,000 per year in cost-share with local agencies for services related to encampment cleanups, including those services supporting staff safety, discouraging re-encampments along waterways or addressing the homelessness crisis with the goal of reducing the need for encampment cleanups.

Staff requests that the Homeless Encampment Committee recommend the Community Plan to the Valley Water Board of Directors for consideration and endorsement.

File No.: 21-0334

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 5.1.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Community Plan to End Homelessness

Attachment 2: Community Plan Executive Summary

Attachment 3: PowerPoint

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253



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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16	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



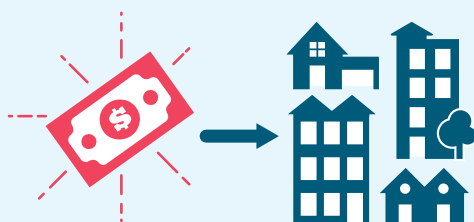
Doubled our temporary housing and emergency shelter capacity



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.

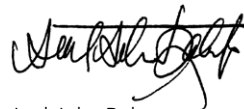
Community Plan Steering Committee Members



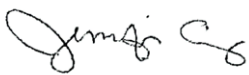
Ky Le, Co-Chair



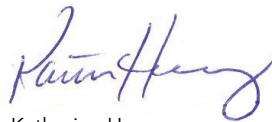
Erin Connor



Joel John Roberts



Jennifer Loving, Co-Chair



Katherine Harasz



Claudine Sipili



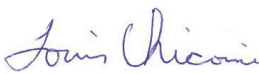
Jan Bernstein Chair



Miguel Marquez



Leland Wilcox



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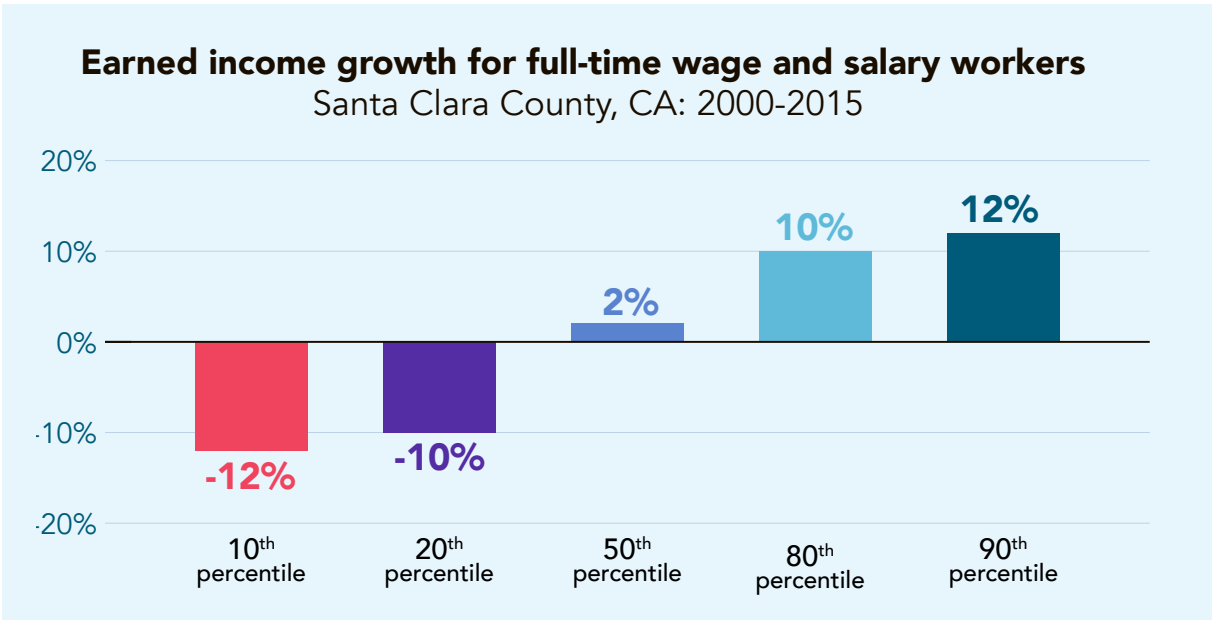


Jacky Morales-Ferrand

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.¹ 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).² 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%.³



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.

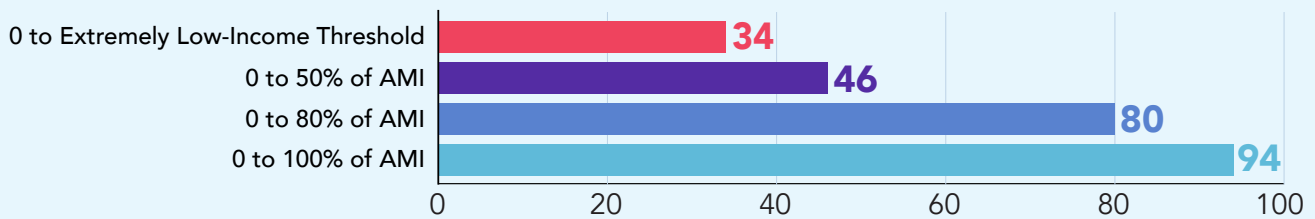
¹ Applied Survey Research, "Santa Clara County Homeless Census & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019." 2019. <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/osh/ContinuumofCare/ReportsandPublications/Pages/HomelessnessCensusandSurvey.aspx>

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

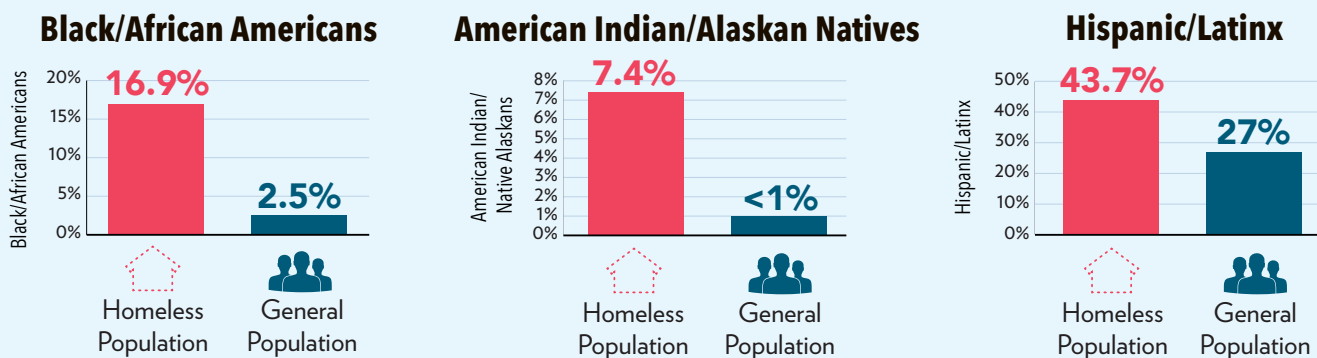
³ Bay Area Equity Atlas, "Earned income growth for full-time wage and salary workers: Santa Clara County, CA, 2000–2015." <https://bayareaequityatlas.org/indicators/income-growth#/?geo=04000000000006085>

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.⁴

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.

⁴ 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



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:

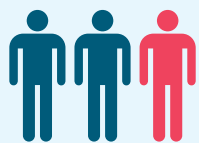
STRATEGY 1	STRATEGY 2	STRATEGY 3
 <p data-bbox="201 816 521 953">Address the root causes of homelessness through system and policy change</p>	 <p data-bbox="662 816 972 953">Expand homelessness prevention and housing programs to meet the need</p>	 <p data-bbox="1115 785 1403 953">Improve quality of life 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

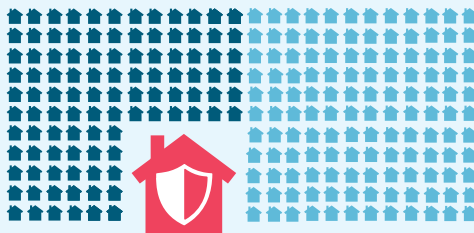
By 2025, we will:



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



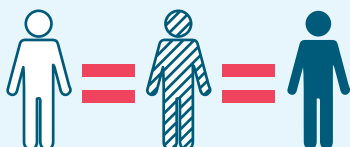
House **20,000 people** through the supportive housing system



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

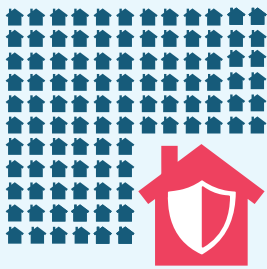
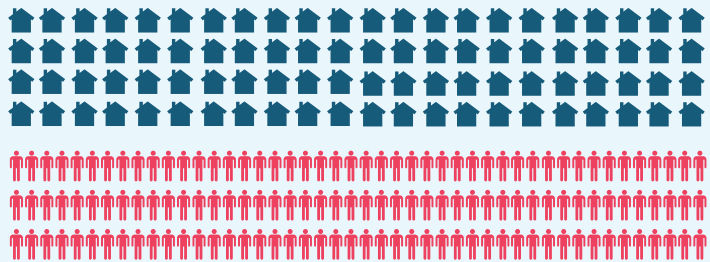
IN SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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**



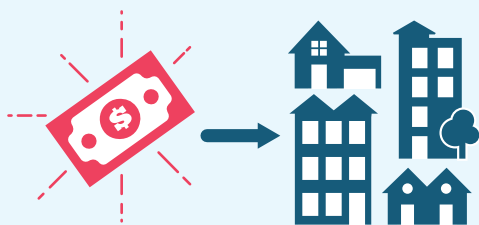
Launched a new homelessness prevention system that now serves about **1,000 households annually**



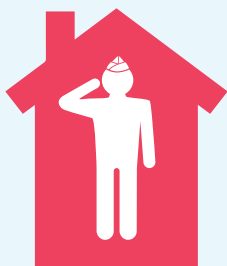
Doubled the number of supportive housing units in Santa Clara County



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

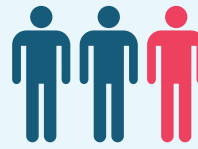
The need for bold action has never been greater. We must expand coordination between systems, center and raise the voices of people with lived experience of homelessness, emphasize the use of data and boost training opportunities for all partners. It will require tremendous effort, new partnerships, 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

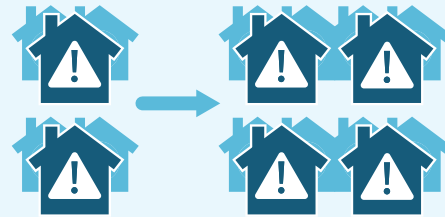
Our Goals:



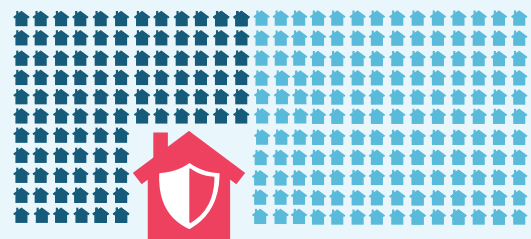
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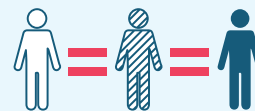
Achieve a **30% reduction** in annual inflow of people becoming homeless*



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

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



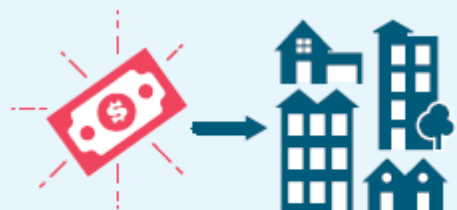
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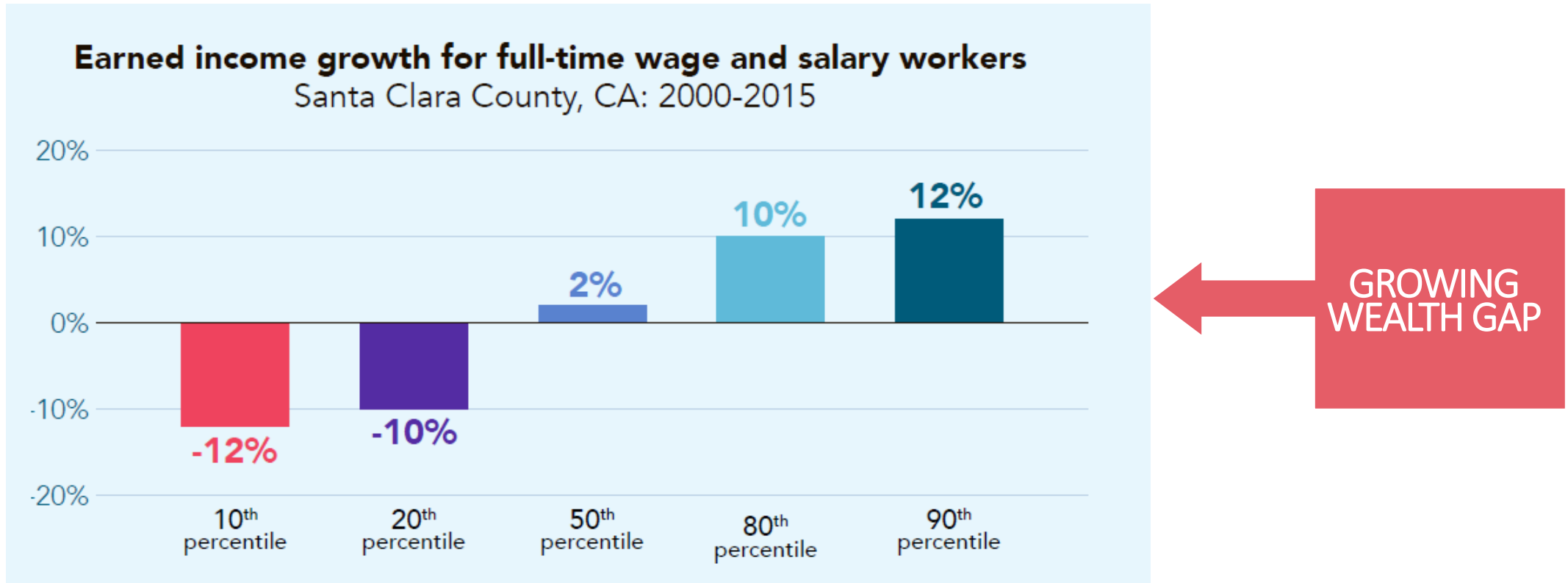
PROGRESS TO DATE

HOMELESSNESS CONTINUES TO GROW



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

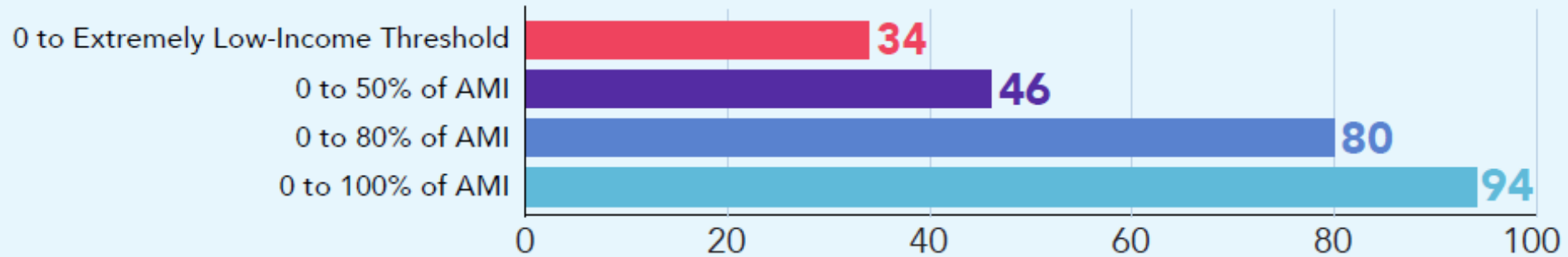
SYSTEMIC FACTORS DRIVING HOMELESSNESS



SYSTEMIC FACTORS DRIVING HOMELESSNESS

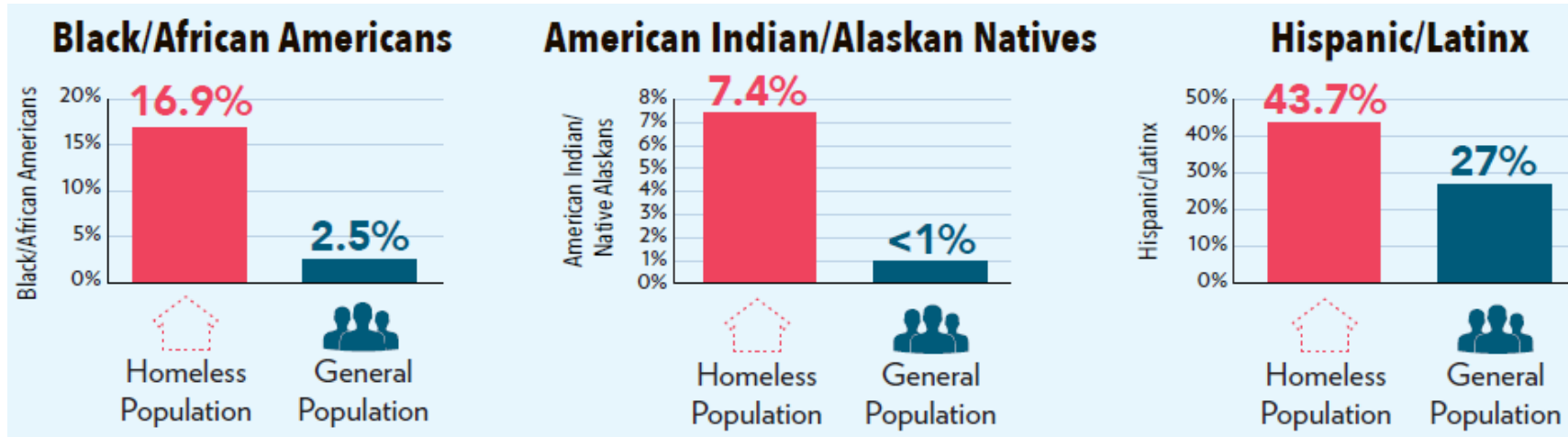
Affordable & Available Rental Homes "Per 100 Renter Households"

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



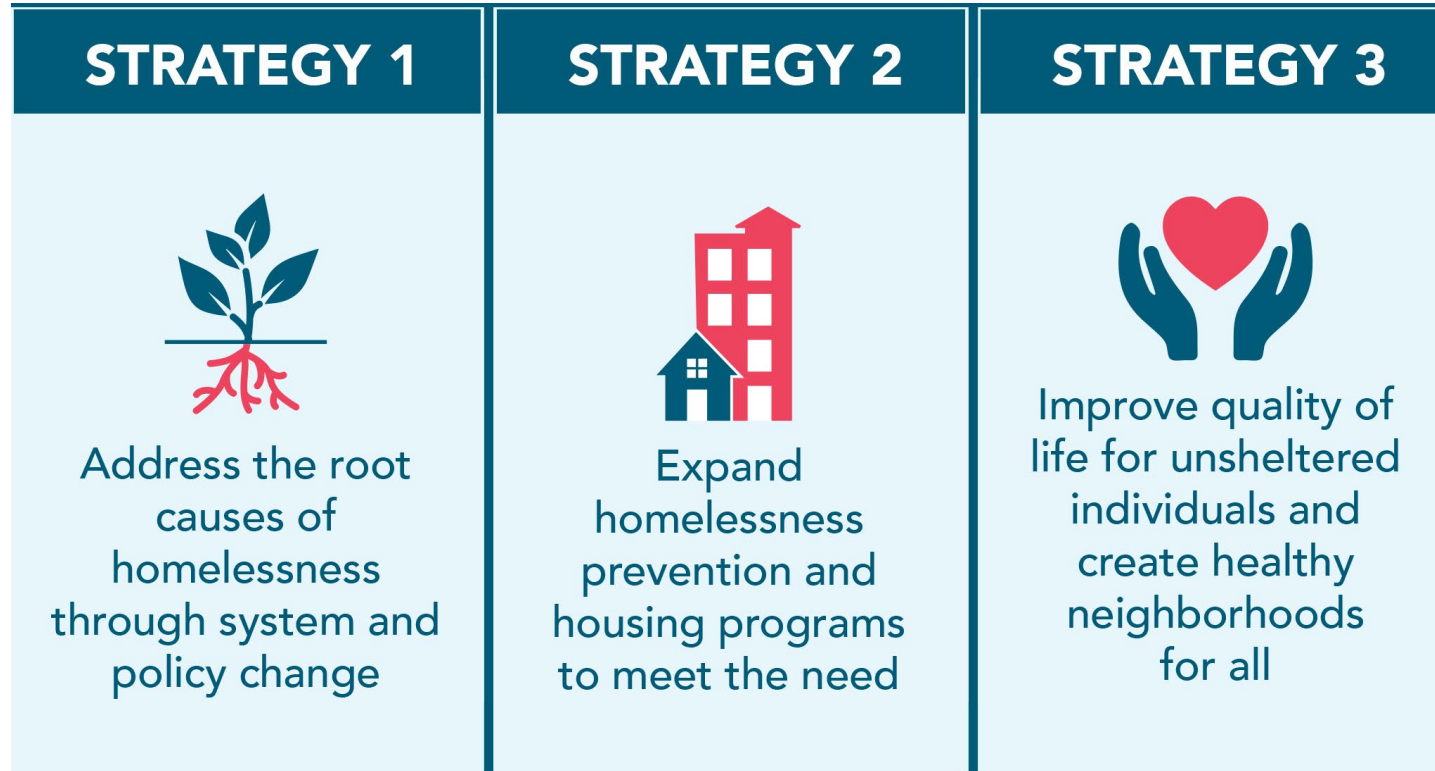
SANTA CLARA COUNTY

COMMUNITY PLAN
TO END HOMELESSNESS

2020–2025



PLAN BUILT ON 3 CORE STRATEGIES





STRATEGY 1

ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES



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



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



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.

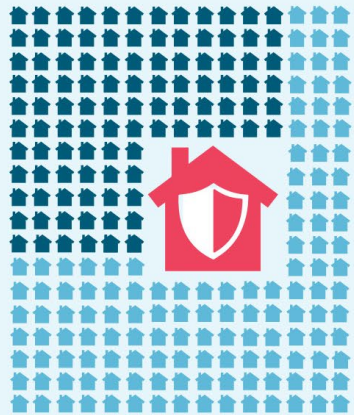
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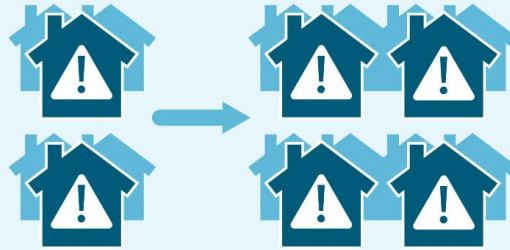


House **20,000 people** through the supportive housing system

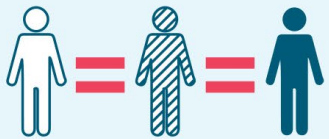


Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve

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

- ✓ Created centralized shelter hotline which has connected over **5,000 households** into congregate and non-congregate shelter
- ✓ Destination: Home and Sacred Heart Community Service have distributed more than \$31 million in direct financial assistance to approximately **14,000 families** in Santa Clara County via a 70-agency partnership
- ✓ Distributed over **100,000 pieces of PPE**, and provided mobile shower and sanitation services for individuals living in encampments
- ✓ Connected **3,454 people** to permanent housing (January 2020 – January 2021)
- ✓ Five temporary housing communities completed or in development to provide interim housing for over **500 homeless households**

Next Steps



ENDORSEMENT TODAY



SHARE & PROMOTE THE PLAN

<https://bit.ly/CommPlan2020>



IMPLEMENTATION



REPORT ON PROGRESS



SANTA CLARA COUNTY

COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS

2020–2025



Questions/Comments



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0349

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021

Item No.: 5.2.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Receive an Update Regarding the March 23, 2021 Meeting of the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Receive a verbal update from staff regarding the March 23, 2021 County Board of Supervisors meeting which included an agenda item on the topic of a potential Memorandum of Understanding with Valley Water for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.
- B. Recommend to the Board of Directors that it direct staff to work with the County of Santa Clara to accomplish a Memorandum of Understanding, Joint Powers Authority, or similar legal entity with the County of Santa Clara, for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County.

SUMMARY:

The March 23, 2021 Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors meeting agenda included a request from Supervisor Chavez to approve referral to Administration and County Counsel to report to the Board with options for consideration on May 4, 2021 relating to the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), or similar legal entity with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, which regional bodies such as Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) and cities in Santa Clara County can choose to opt into, for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County (see Attachment 1).

Staff will provide the Homeless Encampment Committee with a verbal update regarding any relevant outcomes from this meeting of the Board of Supervisors.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Referral Letter to the Board of Supervisors

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

File No.: 21-0349

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 5.2.

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253



County of Santa Clara
Board of Supervisors
Supervisorial District Two
Supervisor Cindy Chavez

105159

DATE: March 23, 2021

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Cindy Chavez, Supervisor

SUBJECT: Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Santa Clara Valley Water District

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve referral to Administration and County Counsel to report to the Board with options for consideration on May 4, 2021 relating to the development of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Joint Powers Agreement (JPA), or similar legal entity with the Santa Clara Valley Water District, which regional bodies such as BAAQMD and cities in Santa Clara County can choose to opt into, for the purpose of coordinated responses to challenges around waterways throughout Santa Clara County. (Chavez)

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The fiscal implications of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Joint Powers Authority (JPA), or other legal entity are not known at this time. The report and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors are expected to include information related to potential costs as well as state and federal revenues that may be available to this new entity.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Creeks, waterways, and reservoirs run throughout and across the County of Santa Clara, including the unincorporated areas and the 15 cities.

The public expects coordinated responses to emergencies and challenges that arise in the County's waterways. The most pressing example is the public health and environmental impact of homeless encampments in creeks throughout Santa Clara County. Legal actions against the Water District and the City of San Jose demonstrate the exposure of the previous and current approach. Individual agencies seek to work together; but there is no formal legal structure, which would allow for shared governance, funding, or management.

Creation of a legal structure, therefore, is recommended. The leadership of the Water District is interested in exploring a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a Joint Powers Agreement (JPAs), or a similar legal structure with the County. Santa Clara County, Santa

Clara Valley Water District, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, and any willing City in the County binding together through a MOU, JPA, or similar legal structure would create a useful entity that aims to make waterways throughout the County safer.

The County Parks Department and the Water District already operate under a Master Agreement, which governs the recreational, water quality and supply, capital, real estate, et cetera, issues that come into play in the County's lakes, reservoirs, and creeks. However, the Master Agreement is not set up for cities to join as parties, and it is primarily designed for normal operations, not the public health and environmental crisis caused by encampments in the waterways.

Due to the seriousness and pervasiveness of the issue, this referral recommends creation of a MOU, JPA, or similar, appropriate legal entity between Santa Clara County and the Santa Clara Valley Water District with the option for cities in the county and regional bodies operating in the county to opt in. The County is positioned to be the primary partner because the issue is one that exists countywide. All cities and relevant regional bodies would be invited to participate to the extent that waterways and dams/reservoirs in their jurisdictions represent opportunities for collaboration and shared efforts to preserve the public health in and around the encampments and the environment in a compassionate and cost-effective manner.

Any action to mitigate the public health and environmental impacts of encampments in waterways, such as damage to the water, the species therein, and the air quality when fires occur, must include mitigation of the human displacement and suffering of the individuals who live in the encampments. The County's services including, but not limited to, the Office of Supportive Housing, the Valley Homeless Healthcare Program (VHHP), and the Behavioral Health Services Department must be offered to individuals before, during, and after any action to clear an encampment occurs. Beyond encampments, there are other important challenges a MOU, JPA, or similar legal entity may facilitate addressing, including flood prevention and response, drought management, and preservation of existing natural resources in and around the County's waterways.



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0335

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 5.3.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Update on Rescheduled Coyote Creek Cleanup Event.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive an update from staff regarding the rescheduled Coyote Creek Cleanup event planned for May 1, 2021.

SUMMARY:

Background

At the October 22, 2019 Board meeting, the Valley Water Board of Directors (Board) approved the Homeless Encampment Committee's (Committee) recommendation to direct staff to organize an environmental cleanup event along Coyote Creek. The event was scheduled for December 7, 2019, however it was postponed due to inclement weather, and two subsequent planning efforts were delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rescheduled Cleanup Event

With the improved pandemic outlook in Santa Clara County and an ever-increasing need for creek cleanups, staff has resumed planning for the Coyote Creek Cleanup. This will be a collaborative cleanup event bringing together local government agencies, homeless service providers, community volunteers and unhoused residents to clean up two sites along Coyote Creek. Staff is proposing to hold the rescheduled event on Saturday, May 1, 2021. This date is also significant because it falls on the opening weekend for National River Cleanup, in which volunteers will be encouraged to clean in and around their own neighborhoods each Saturday throughout the month of May to prevent trash from ending up in local waterways.

Site Locations

Due to changing encampment conditions, staff is proposing two cleanup site locations along Coyote Creek. Valley Water's Watersheds Field Operations staff have carefully assessed potential sites with the following priorities in mind:

1. Valley Water lands - staff focused on sites where Valley Water holds land rights to continue its

efforts to address the environmental impact of increased encampment activity on Valley Water land during the pandemic.

2. Need - for this event to have the most possible impact, staff identified locations where the need for trash pickup is greatest.
3. Access and safety - staff also considered how to accommodate a safe number of volunteer participants, while following all recommended social distancing, hazardous material handling, and general safety protocols.

Staff identified two large sites that balance the above priorities. The two proposed cleanup sites are: 1) Coyote Creek at the Tully Ballfields (800 Tully Road), and 2) Coyote Creek from Montague Expressway to E. Brokaw Road (see Attachment 1 for maps). The Tully Ballfields site will also serve as the event kickoff location.

Engaging the Unhoused

As originally planned, the Coyote Creek Cleanup event will engage multiple levels of the community. It will be a collaboration of local organizations and community volunteers including the unhoused-all coming together to pick up trash and debris from the proposed sites along the creek. Additionally, it will be an opportunity to connect the unhoused to needed services and outreach. The City of San Jose's Cash for Trash Program will also be at each of the cleanup sites to encourage the unhoused to help pick up trash. Through the program, the unhoused will receive a redemption value of \$4 per full bag of trash collected. The program is partially funded by Valley Water's Safe, Clean Water Grants Program.

Volunteers

Given the elevated safety concerns during the pandemic, onsite volunteer enrollment for this event will not be open to the community at large. Instead, Valley Water staff has engaged established volunteer groups who have undergone training in current COVID-19 safety protocols. These groups are led by experienced coordinators who will act as supervisors for their groups. To make coordination easier, and further ensure volunteer safety, onsite volunteers for this event will be present at the Tully Ballfields location only. This will allow staff and coordinators to adequately supervise volunteer activities at the single large site without spreading themselves or their volunteer teams too thin. If an emergency response is needed for any reason, having all responders at the same site will promote quick and effective action.

The Montague site will be staffed by Valley Water personnel with assistance from any unhoused residents along this stretch who wish to participate in the cleanup. Social service organizations will be present at both sites to offer their services and outreach to as many unhoused participants as possible.

Separately, as a part of National River Cleanup, offsite volunteers will be participating by picking up litter and debris in their own local neighborhoods at the same time.

Partners

Valley Water staff is in the process of reaching out to the same partners that committed to participating in the event during previous planning efforts. This includes the City of San Jose, Santa Clara County, and various private organizations. Staff has already engaged the City of San Jose staff in the planning efforts. Over the next several weeks, staff will continue to increase the participant list.

Next Steps

Staff is ready to receive any input or recommendations from the Committee, as it deems appropriate.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Coyote Creek Cleanup Site Locations

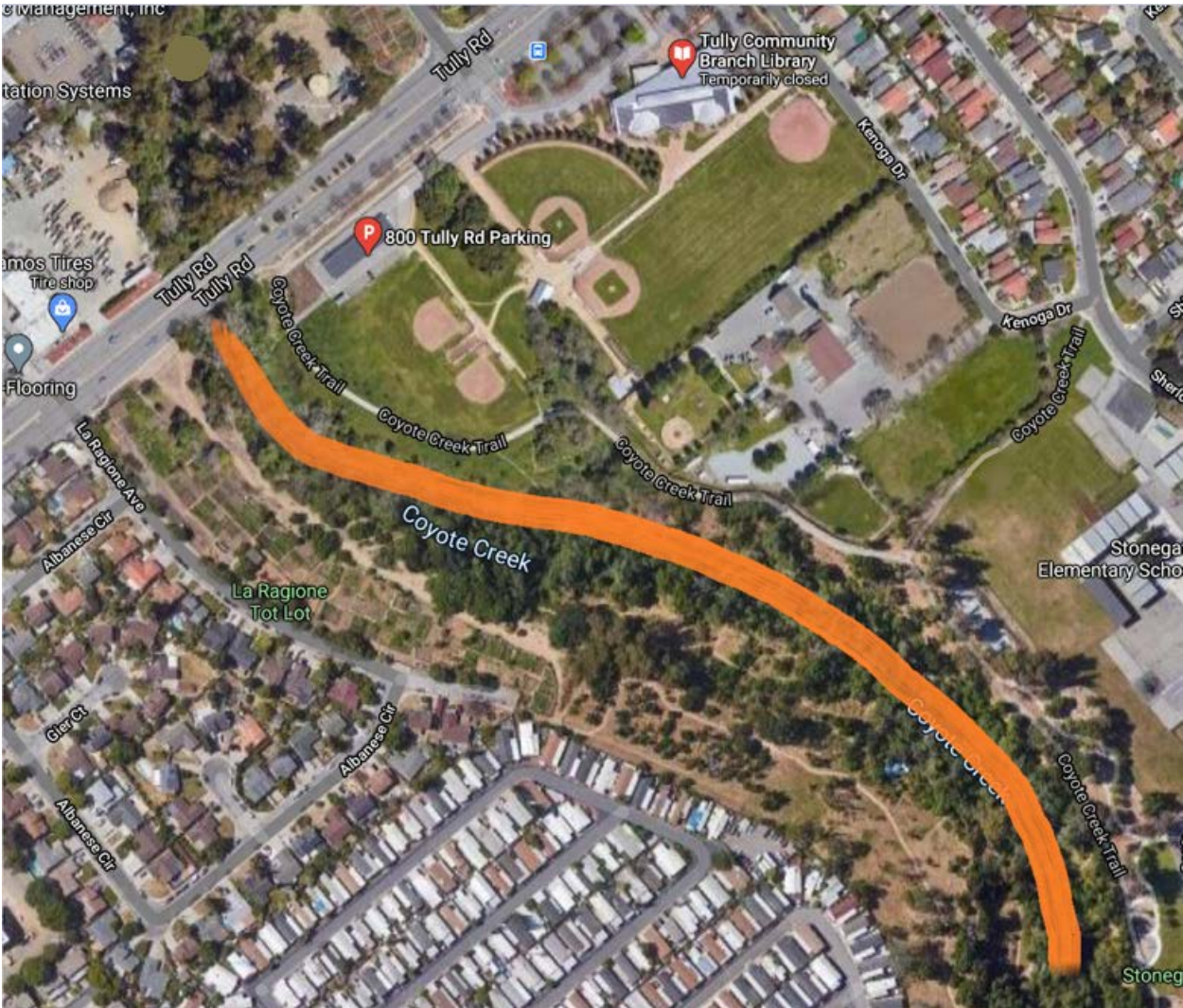
UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253

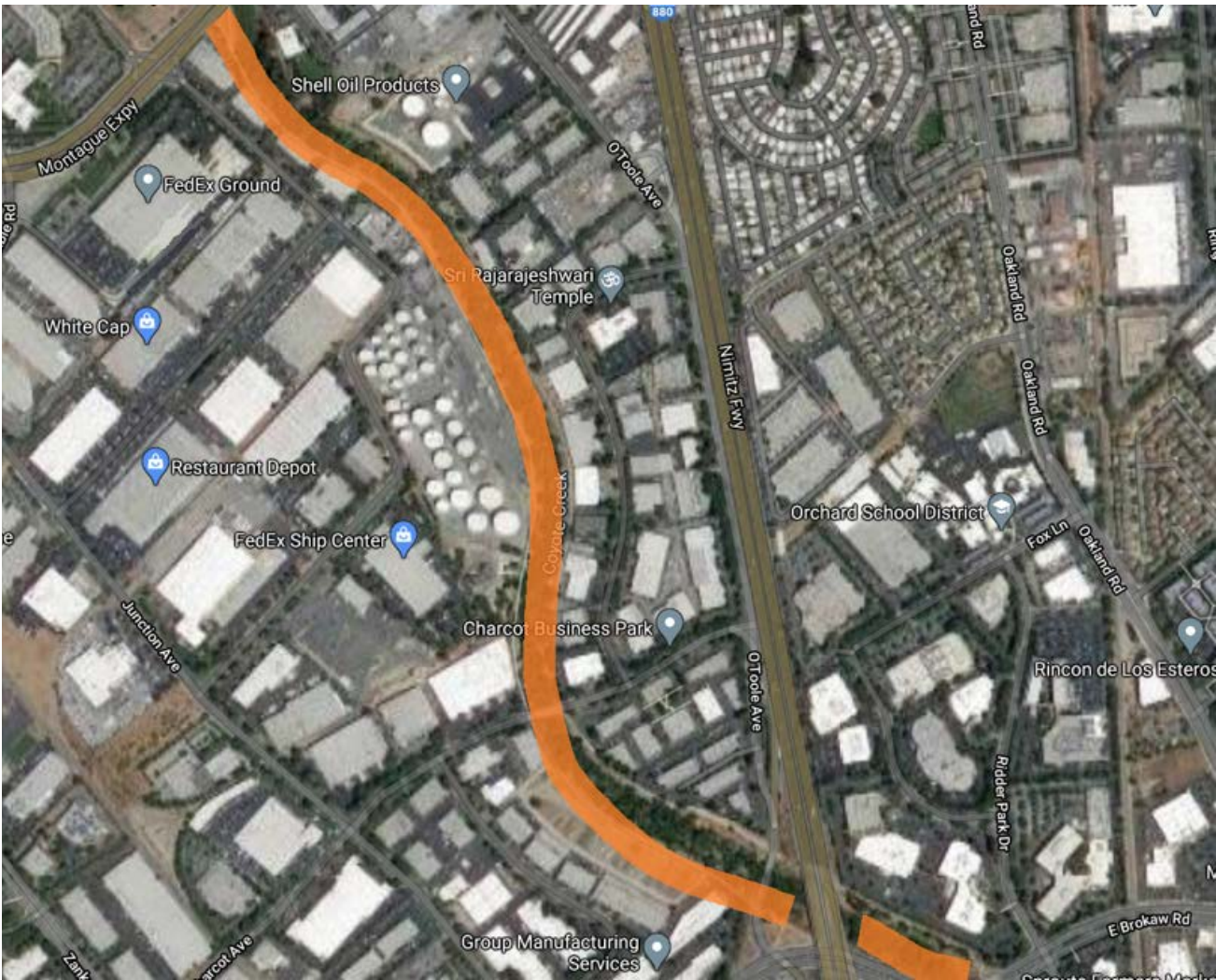
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Spring 2021 Coyote Creek Cleanup Site Locations

Site 1: Coyote Creek at Tully Ballfields (800 Tully Road)



Site 2: Coyote Creek from Montague Expressway to E. Brokaw Road





Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0344

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 5.4.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Receive CEO Input Box Suggestion to Rename the Homeless Encampment Committee to “Houseless Encampment Committee”.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Receive the CEO Input box suggestion to rename the Homeless Encampment Committee to “Houseless Encampment Committee”;
- B. Receive staff’s recommendation to change the committee name to “Encampment Committee”; and
- C. Provide input to staff.

SUMMARY:

On February 22, 2021 Valley Water’s ‘CEO Input’ email inbox received an anonymous suggestion to change the name of the Homeless Encampment Committee (Committee). The precise text of the request is as follows:

“Hello, Would the "Homeless Encampment Committee" ever consider updating the name to "Houseless Encampment Committee"? It would show compassion and Valley Water could be a leader and maybe other organizations would follow? I think it's a simple, yet profound statement in supporting and respecting humans that are experiencing so many challenges in life. Thanks for listening! :-)”

Staff conducted internal research and informally reached out to local organizations to gauge this topic. Valley Water’s Office of Racial Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI) offered initial guidance that is backed up by the current trends on acceptable terminology:

While the term “homeless” is still commonly used among government agencies and various private groups in the sector, it may be losing favor. The term “unhoused” is often preferred when describing individuals experiencing homelessness-because although a person may lack housing, many in this situation do not feel that they lack a home. Incidentally, an internet keyword search suggests that “unhoused” is more often used over the functionally equivalent “houseless”. For the purposes of further analysis, staff will consider “unhoused” as the preferred alternative.

It is true that “homeless” continues to be used by many government organizations, including locally by the City of San José and County of Santa Clara. Although this is currently the case, public discourse continues to evolve around the topic. For the Committee (and Valley Water in general), it would appear both compassionate and forward-looking to use “unhoused” in place of “homeless” wherever possible. And as the CEO Input suggestion mentions, Valley Water could take a leadership stance in this regard.

Yet when referring to encampments, most sources will still use the term “homeless encampment.” Staff encountered examples of news outlets, blogs, and local service providers that strive to use “unhoused” when referring to people but still use the term “homeless encampment” when it is applicable. The REDI Office similarly advised that it could be acceptable to continue to use the term “homeless encampment” because it is not in reference to any individual person. Therefore, “Homeless Encampment Committee” can be understood as an acceptable name and the Committee would have justification in deciding not to make any changes at this time.

However, one local service provider offered advice that is both reasonable and proactive-while “homeless” is acceptable when used in the right context, it is always safer to pivot to “unhoused” when possible. In all, the Committee may want to consider erring on the side of safety by excising the use of the term “homeless” in favor of the term “unhoused” wherever feasible.

Regarding the matter at hand, staff’s ultimate recommendation is to update the name of the Committee. Such an update would show compassion as well as the Committee’s responsiveness to evolving conceptions of the unhoused community. While “Unhoused Encampment Committee” is one option to be considered, staff suggests removing the qualifier altogether and simplifying the name to “Encampment Committee”. This change would remove any current or prospective controversy and ensure that the focus will remain on the Committee’s work rather than its name.

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Sue Tippets, 408-630-2253



Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0356

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021

Item No.: 5.5.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishments Report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Review and accept the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishments Report.

SUMMARY:

Under direction of the Clerk, Work Plans are used by Board Committees to increase Committee efficiency, provide advanced public notice of intended Committee discussions, and enable staff to follow up on Committee direction, requests and recommendations.

Work Plans are dynamic documents managed by the Committee Chairs annually and are subject to change as needed throughout the year.

As Committee work is accomplished, the Accomplishments Report captures outcomes and results achieved, and provides a report of the Committee's accomplishments upon completion of the calendar year.

Recognizing the completion of the 2020 calendar year, the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishment Report (Attachment 1), is presented for the Committee's review and acceptance.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: 2020 HEC Accomplishments Report

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:

Michele King, 408-630-2711

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Homeless Encampment Committee – 2020 Accomplishments Report

Updated: 3/4/21

Committee Work Plans establish a framework for Committee discussion and action during the annual meeting schedule. The Committee work plan is a dynamic document, subject to change as external and internal issues impacting Valley Water occur and are recommended for Committee discussion. Subsequently, an Annual Committee Accomplishments report is developed based on the Work Plan and presented to Valley Water’s Board of Directors.

ITEM	WORK PLAN ITEM	INTENDED OUTCOME(S) (Action or Information Only)	ACCOMPLISHMENT DATE AND OUTCOME
1	Environmental Cleanup Event	3/9/20: 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.	3/9/20: The Committee received an update on the rescheduled Valley Water environmental cleanup event. Action: Requested 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.
2	Downtown Streets Team Updates.	3/9/20: 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. 8/31/20: Receive updates from Valley Water’s partners on their recent efforts addressing homelessness as well as the impact of the COBID-19 pandemic on these efforts.	3/9/20: The Committee received an update from Downtown Streets Team (DTS) staff on cleanup activities along the Upper Guadalupe River, the El Camino in Sunnyvale, and the Coyote, Los Gatos and Penitencia Creeks; assistance programs to provide volunteer team members with employment and housing to achieve self-sufficiency. DTS 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, and recapped the

			<p>implementation of new policy and monitoring programs to address employee concerns. The Committee noted the information without formal action.</p> <p>8/31/20: Downtown Streets Team, reviewed new policies and procedures implemented to support volunteer cleanup efforts, weekly success meetings, contract milestones achieved in areas along the Penitencia Creek and the El Camino in Sunnyvale supporting cleanup efforts, and how Valley Water funding supports their programs. The Committee noted the information without formal action.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Update on Valley Water’s Activities to Address the Effects of Homeless Encampments Along Local Waterways</p>	<p>8/31/20: 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.</p>	<p>8/31/20: The Committee received a report from Valley Water staff on the Stream Maintenance Program, winter preparedness activities, creek safety condition, the status of encampment abatements, volunteer clean up events scheduled to occur in September 2020, efforts to encourage communities to self-clean neighborhoods, land use for homeless housing, the Veterans Housing Project, potential opportunities to partner with other agencies and programs to establish housing opportunities for the homeless and veterans, efforts to secure property easements with the County, City of San Jose and San Jose Unified School District to provide access for creek maintenance; and a recap of discussion among local elected officials regarding unhealthy creek conditions and wildfires and a proposal to establish a JPA to</p>

			address environmental impacts and homelessness in Santa Clara County. The Committee noted the information without formal action.
4	Updates from Valley Water’s External Partners Regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness in Santa Clara County	3/9/20: Receive updates from Valley Water’s partners on their recent efforts addressing homelessness as well as the impact of the COBID-19 pandemic on these efforts.	3/9/20: The Committee received updates from the County, City of San Jose and other advocacy groups on outreach activities to address homelessness, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on their efforts, creek preservation activities and safety measures. The Committee noted the information without formal action.
5	Update From Destination Home regarding Efforts to Address Homelessness	8/31/20: Receive an update from Destination Home on the new roadmap for ending homelessness.	8/31/20: The Committee continued this item to a future meeting.
6	Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishment Report	3/9/20: Review and accept the 2019 Homeless Encampment Committee Accomplishment Report.	3/9/20: The Committee reviewed activities and accomplishments for the calendar year 2019. Action: Report accepted.
7	Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan	3/9/20, 8/31/20: Review the 2020 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan and make adjustments as necessary; and discuss and determine 2020 meeting schedule	3/9/20: The Committee reviewed the 2020 Work Plan and made the following adjustments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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. <p>8/31/20: The Committee noted the information without formal action.</p>
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Santa Clara Valley Water District

File No.: 21-0351

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021

Item No.: 5.6.

COMMITTEE AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Homeless Encampment Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT:

Review 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan.

RECOMMENDATION:

- A. Review the 2021 Homeless Encampment Committee Work Plan, and make adjustments as necessary; and
- B. Discuss and determine the 2021 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 discuss and determine additional topics for discussion in 2021.

2021 Meeting Schedule:

The Committee will discuss establishing a 2021 Meeting schedule to select a date and time for the next meeting. Establishing a meeting schedule is necessary to provide staff a basis for meeting planning and coordination of logistics.

ATTACHMENTS:

File No.: 21-0351

Agenda Date: 3/30/2021
Item No.: 5.6.

Attachment 1: 2021 HEC Work Plan

UNCLASSIFIED MANAGER:
Michele King, 408-2630-2711

Homeless Encampment Committee 2021 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 From Destination Home Regarding the 2020-2025 Community Plan to End Homelessness.			x									
Update on Rescheduled Coyote Creek Cleanup Event.			x									
Receive CEO Input Box Suggestion to rename the Homeless Encampment Committee to "Houseless Encampment Committee".			x									
<i>Standing Items:</i>												
Approval of Minutes			x									
Review of Committee Work Plan			x									

Revised: 3/22/21

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