

ALAMEDA HOMELESSNESS REPORT

Presented to City Council
March 20, 2018

City Council Referral

- In November 2016, City Council tasked SSHRB with reviewing:

“City policies and procedures for aiding Alameda’s homeless and addressing issues related to homelessness in order to make recommendations to the City Council for policy revisions and additions.”

City Council Referral

- SSHRB formed a Working Group
- Homelessness Report presented to SSHRB in February
 - Unanimous recommendation for Council adoption of the report and implementation of its recommendations

Research Process

- Began in July 2017, as Jean Sweeney Park construction was getting underway
- Review of City programs and policies including interviews with:
 - Recreation & Parks
 - Community Development
 - Police
 - Fire

Research Process

- Interviews with service and shelter providers:
 - Alameda Point Collaborative, Operation Dignity, Building Futures, Community Paramedics, Alameda Housing Authority, Supervisor Chan's Office
- Research best practices in the Bay Area and beyond:
 - Seattle, Eugene, Portland, San Antonio
- 3 Meetings with SSHRB Working Group

Research Process

- The work continues and conversations are ongoing:
 - County Homelessness Solutions Summit 2018
 - League of California Cities/California State Association of Counties Report (2018)
- Staff will continue be a part of these conversations and incorporate best practices

Homelessness in Alameda

- 2017 EveryOne Counts Homeless Point-in-Time Count found:
 - 204 Homeless Individuals
 - 94 sheltered
 - 110 unsheltered
- 4.9% of overall County population
- 2.85% of County's homeless population

Current Services and Resources

- Operation Dignity – outreach and case management
 - Street outreach & case management
 - Contracted through May 2018
- Alameda Point Collaborative – 200 units
 - Service enriched housing including case management, employment training, youth programming, etc.
- Building Futures (BF)
 - Midway Shelter – 25 beds for women and women with children
 - Bessie Coleman Court – 52 units (domestic violence survivors)
- Coordinated Entry System (CES)
 - Countywide framework with BF as local provider

Coordinated Entry System

- CES is a “standardized method for connecting people experiencing homelessness to the resources available in a given community”
- The purpose of CES is to commit jurisdictions county-wide to tackle homelessness together
- Homeless individuals who interact with any service provider county-wide are registered with the same assessment and client-management system

Looking Forward

Current awareness of homelessness in Alameda

+

Roll-out of CES

Key opportunity to make an impact
NOW

Policy and Programming Options

- Services to Homeless Individuals
 - Case management, healthcare, and other services to homeless Alamedans
- Temporary Shelter for the Homeless
 - A roof over the head of those experiencing homelessness for short-to medium-term duration
- Permanent Housing
 - Housing homeless individuals permanently
- Local Code and Action Strategy
 - Legal and organizational steps to enable the community to better serve those experiencing homelessness

Services to Homeless Individuals

- Homeless Outreach Team
 - Increase communication among agencies/individuals working with homeless individuals and provide a unified message on homelessness
 - Cost: \$50,000 first-year start-up costs (Immediate Impact Grant under consideration by the County)
- Supplemental Case Management
 - Allows Building Futures to double its caseload to provide intensive services to 24 individuals
 - Cost: \$25,000 annually
- Mobile Outreach
 - Meeting homeless individuals where they are to begin process of care and case management
 - Cost: \$120,000 annually (20 hrs/week)

Temporary Shelter for the Homeless

- Warming Shelter

- Partnership with the Alameda faith community to host a winter warming shelter during cold or rainy nights from November-February

- Cost: Supervisor Chan's office has expressed interest in supporting

- McKay Ave. Property

- Multi-modal wellness center with an emphasis on serving adult homeless Alamedans with complex, persistent health issues

- Cost: \$35-40M anticipated total cost. Staff requests \$50,000 for pre-development work

Local Code and Action Strategy

- Zoning Amendments to Support Homeless Programs
 - Better define and permit homeless shelters, warming centers, and assisted living facilities.
 - Cost: staff time
- Parking Meters for Homeless
 - Install “parking meters” around the City that collect funds for homeless programming
 - Cost: \$13,400 for installation of 20 meters (\$670/meter)
- Homeless State of Emergency
 - Adopt a City resolution to declare a State of Emergency within Alameda regarding homelessness
 - Cost: staff time

Funding Request

Program	15-Month Budget Request (through June 30, 2019)
Homeless Outreach Team	\$0 (anticipated from County)
Supplemental Case Management	\$25,000
Warming Shelter	\$0
McKay Ave. Property	\$50,000
Mobile Outreach	\$120,000*
Zoning Amendments	\$0
Parking Meters	\$13,400
Homeless State of Emergency	\$0
TOTAL	\$208,400
Requested Appropriation	\$88,400

*Mobile Outreach funding request will through the mid-cycle budget process

Recommendation

- SSHRB recommends Council adopt the Homelessness Report and implement the recommendations

We can end homelessness in Alameda.