

Date: August 22, 2019

To: Honorable Vice-President and Members of the Social Service Human Relations Board

From: Ana Bagtas, Community Development Analyst

Re: Alameda County 2019 Point-In-Time Count

## BACKGROUND

The Point-In-Time (PIT) count is a federally mandated accounting of the local homeless population conducted every two years, during the last ten days in January. EveryOne Home, the Continuum of Care collective impact organization that addresses and aims to end homelessness in Alameda County, is responsible for coordinating the PIT count. *EveryOne Counts! 2019 Homeless Count and Survey* was EveryOne Home's most current effort to canvass the homeless population in local jurisdictions, which was conducted on January 30, 2019. Elected officials, City staff, non-profit organizations serving the City of Alameda, community volunteers, and local guides with lived experience participated in conducting the PIT count on the island. According to the 2019 PIT, there are now 8,022 people experiencing homelessness in Alameda County, an increase of 43% from two years ago, and the highest increase among Bay Area counties. The City of Alameda's homeless population had an uptick of 13% to 231 people, compared to the last count conducted in 2017.

## DISCUSSION

In July 2019, EveryOne Home released the *Alameda County Homeless Count & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019* (attachment A). The report delineates the count of sheltered and unsheltered individuals on a specified date and timeframe that includes the following: a general street count based on observation of unhoused individuals in the street; a targeted enumeration of unsheltered youth under the age of 24; an enumeration of persons residing in emergency shelters, safe havens, and transitional housing facilities; and a face-to-face survey of a randomized sample of unsheltered and sheltered persons.

At the August 22 meeting of the Social Service Human Relations Board ("Board"), staff of EveryOne Home will present key data findings from the 2019 Alameda County PIT. The Board will have an opportunity to listen, ask questions, and discuss the results of the count. The *Alameda County Homeless Count & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019* is an important document that will help guide the Board and the City of Alameda in making informed decisions about its priorities and policy agenda pertaining to homelessness. As the Board develops its 2020 plan, this report will be instrumental in understanding the magnitude of the housing instability issues and the characteristics of

the people experiencing homelessness, a problem that permeates across all cities in the entire East Bay region. It is therefore important for the Board to review, ask questions, and discuss the *Alameda County Homeless Count & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019* following the presentation.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Board accept the *Alameda County Homeless Count & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019* as a guiding document to help inform its 2020 Plan priorities and objectives.

#### ATTACHMENT

A. *Alameda County Homeless Count & Survey Comprehensive Report 2019*