



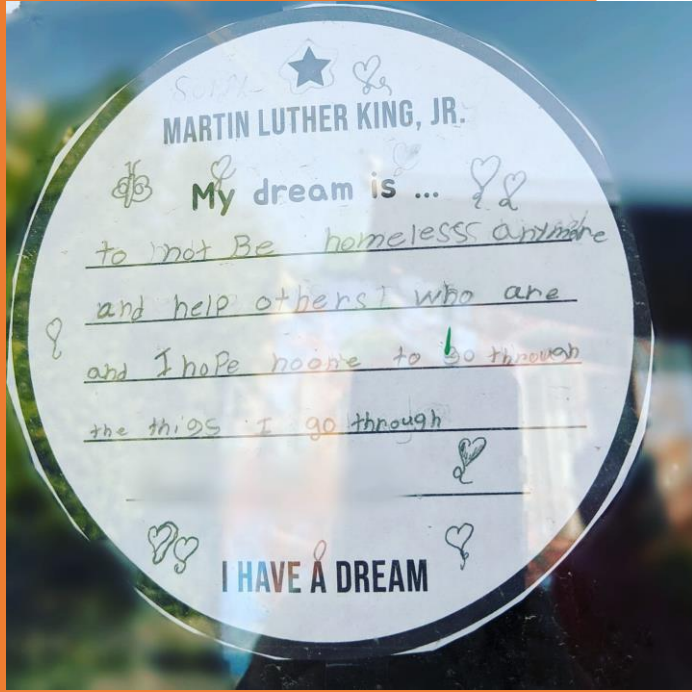
D4 Homelessness Task Force

Draft Strategy

April 20, 2021

D4 Homelessness Task Force

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- Athol Wong, Friends of Capitol Mansions
- Bobby Reed, Capitol Tech Solutions
- Bridget Alexander, Waking the Village
- Bridgette Dean, City of Sacramento
- Charles Pfof, Hope for Sacramento
- Chris Jones, Hope for Sacramento
- Crystal Sanchez, Sacramento Homeless Union
- Diane Matthews, South Land Park Neighborhood Association
- Dion Dwyer, Downtown Sacramento Partnership
- Ella Shanahan, Southside Park Neighborhood Association
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- Joe Smith, Loaves & Fishes
- Joe Zadeh, Land Park Community Association
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- Robynne Rose-Haymer, LGBT Center
- Sean Wright, Alkali and Mansion Flats Neighborhood Association
- Sister Libby Fernandez, Mercy Peddlers
- Steve Hill, SEIU Local 1000
- Steve Watters, First Step Communities
- Travis Silcox, Boulevard Park Neighborhood Association



Overarching Consensus

The current situation for unhoused people on our streets is not ok with anyone.

Doing nothing is not an option.



Overview

- **Overarching Principles**
 - Collaboration with others
 - Good neighbor policies
 - Investing in Meaningful Case Management
- **Short-Term Triage**
 - Establishing triage center locations
- **Transitional Housing**
 - City Motel Vouchers
 - Tiny Home Villages
- **Long-Term Solutions**
 - Supportive Living
 - Expand Affordable Housing
- **Prevention**
 - Crisis Intervention Services



Overarching Principles

Collaboration

- Homelessness is a complex challenge, and District 4 cannot solve this alone.
- The City needs to continue to build partnerships with the County and other groups like the Continuum of Care Advisory Board, as well as other regional jurisdictions, so we can coordinate and share resources.
- **Working in partnership with service providers, outreach workers, and unhoused people will ensure the success of our work in the long-run.**

Good Neighbor Policies

- Continue City and SHRA practice of establishing “good neighbor” policies for any service locations.
- These policies include, but are not limited to:
 - Strategies to mitigate trash and noise impacts
 - On-site staffing and resources, including animal services if needed
 - Bathrooms and shower access
 - Security for the site and nearby areas
 - Clear points of contact for the surrounding community to call with questions or complaints

Investing in Meaningful Case Management

Timeline: ASAP

- Service providers agree that one-on-one relationships are critical to the success of unhoused folks as they are identified for, enter, and continue through service.
- Local service providers, like those working on the Transitional Aged Youth Collaborative, are already deploying this model, but just need funding to scale.
- This approach starts with service provider coordination, creating and maintaining a by-name list, and funding navigators/case managers to do the work – also referred to as the “Built for Zero” approach.
- This increases success by building trust and by ensuring that the right services are matched with an individual’s needs.



Specific Initiatives



Establish Triage Center Locations

Timeline: ongoing

- On March 9, 2021 the Council approved funding to open as many triage centers as possible. These centers can include indoor and outdoor spaces, and be open for daytime, night time, or both.
 - This could involve setting up new sites, or triaging existing sites that are in stable locations with bathrooms, trash pick-up, and other services.
- While not a long-term solution, can provide immediate relief and safety for unhoused residents.
- These sites can either be temporary/rotating or more permanent, depending on location and to take advantage of temporary worker displacement from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Potential Triage Center Locations

- Target sites (**200 spots**):
 - Safe Ground at 12th and C Streets (open now)
 - Safe camping/parking at WX lots between 6th and 8th Streets (open now)
 - Miller Park (open now)
 - *Library Galleria (closed 3/31)*
 - *City Hall parking garage (closed for repairs)*
- Potential sites (pending staff review):
 - YMCA (for overnight parking, **up to 25 spots**)
 - Former Winter Sanctuary program sites (**up to 100 spots**)
 - City parking lots (staff is working on list of underutilized lots, **assuming 50 spots for 2 lots**)
 - Vacant Rite Aid at 21st/S Streets (**up to 50 spots**)
 - ~~Parking garage at 21st and Capitol~~
 - *Raley's parking lot on Freeport (up to 50 spots)*

Expand City Motel Voucher Program

Timeline: ongoing

- The City started implementing City motel voucher program for unhoused people who were at high risk for COVID. FEMA was reimbursing 75% of expenses, and under the Biden Administration increased that reimbursement to 100% through September 30, 2021.
- The City should opt to continue that program beyond that date, and explore whether funding can be spread to cover unoccupied, market-rate apartments.
- The City is on track to bring over 300 rooms online this month, and is looking for additional sites. They can pay \$85/night and cover damages/staffing as needed.

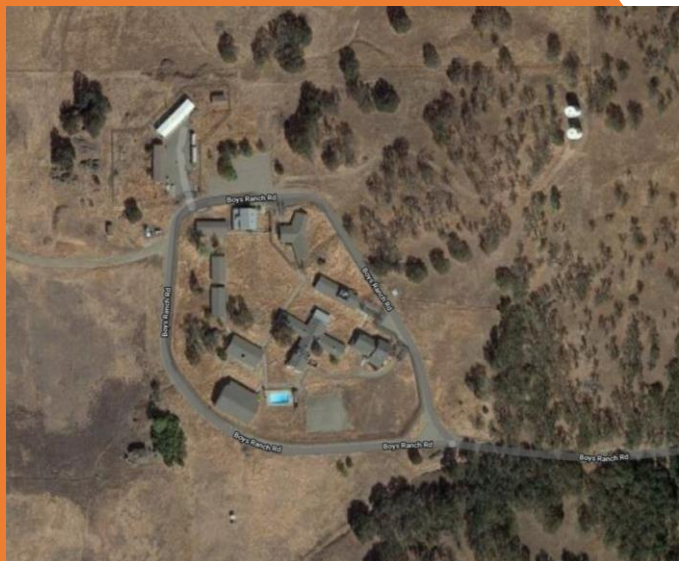


City of San Jose Housing Department

Tiny Home Villages

Timeline: mid/late 2021

- Cities like San Jose have successfully set up tiny home villages that provide individual living spaces with communal bathrooms and kitchen facilities.
- Such sites could enable longer term, transitional housing while other programs are ramped up to meet long-term needs.
- Potential sites (pending staff review):
 - Caltrans parcels under WX (15th Street and east) or under Business 80 (**up to 250 spots**)
 - Miller Park (owned by City, current safe parking location, **up to 25 spots**)
 - Public land (owned by the City, County, or some other public entity, **assuming 50 spots for 2 lots**)
 - Large vacant lots south of El Camino (**up to 1,000 spots**)



Supportive Living

Timeline: end of 2022

- Identifying permanent housing sites that could enable hospitals to scale up placement and case management, or more intensive medical treatments as needed, could increase the economies of scale of the overall approach. Current models include CalAIM and Enhanced Managed Care.
- Target sites:
 - City motel voucher locations
 - Boys Ranch (**approx. 500 beds**)




Expand Affordable Housing

Timeline: end of 2022

- A big break in the continuum of care is the lack of units for those who are ready to live independently or with financial assistance. We cannot get around the deficit of units attainable for those whose income puts them in the “extremely low-income and very-low income” categories. These units are also critical to preventing people who face financial crisis from becoming homeless in the first place.
- Key strategies:
 - Community Opportunity to Purchase Act
 - Inclusionary housing policy
 - Align streamlining and other incentives with affordability requirements
 - Master leasing properties (i.e. Self-Help Housing model)
 - Using the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to purchase existing land/buildings; consider starting a land bank
 - Making City or other public properties available exclusively for affordable housing development

Crisis Intervention Services

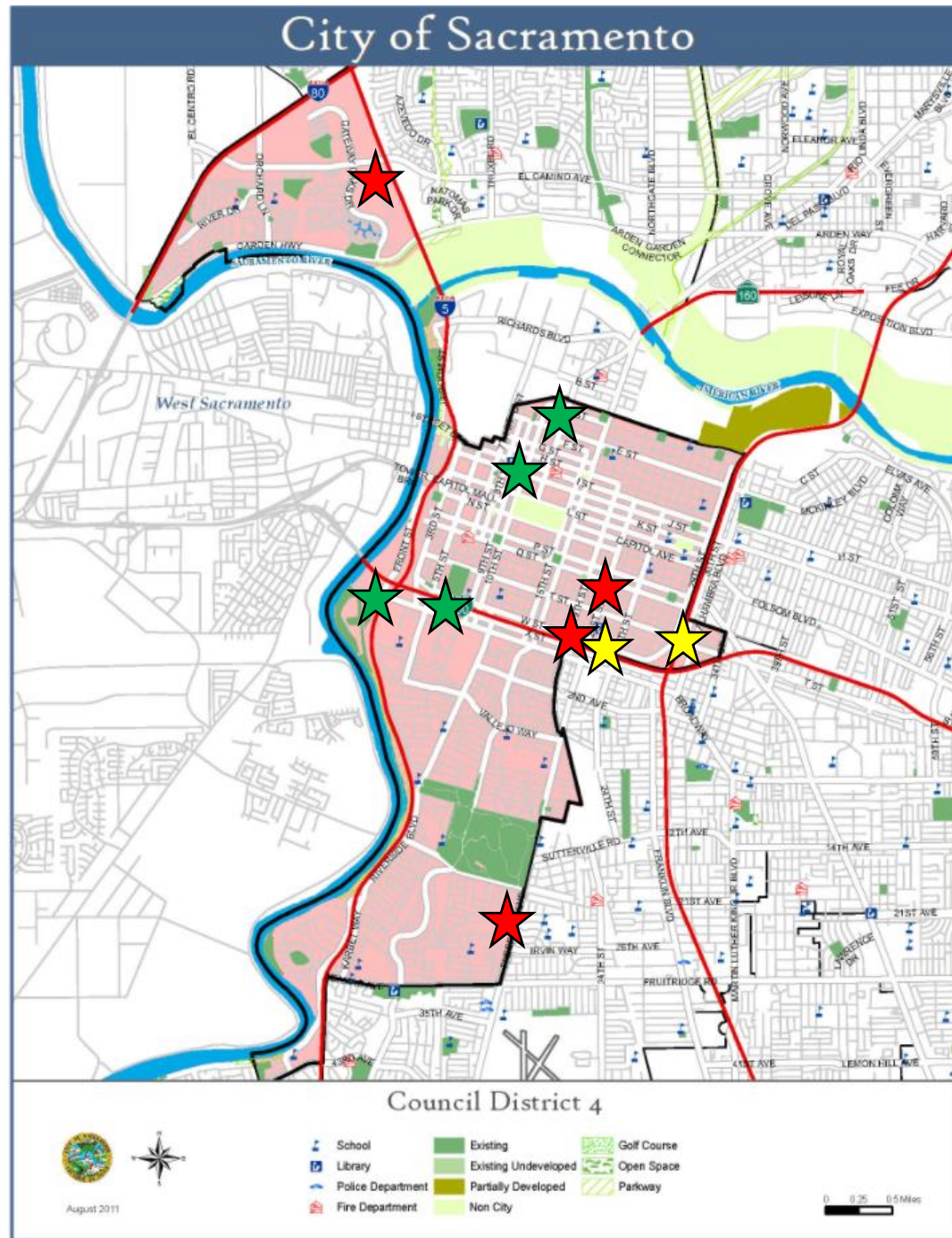
Timeline: ASAP

- Critical to this overall approach is investing in strategies that will help prevent people from becoming homeless in the first place.
 - That includes, but isn't limited to emergency assistance funding (and relocation assistance if needed), access to crisis medical services, and rapid rehousing programs.
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Proposed Sites

Total "Spots" ~ 2,500

(doesn't account for motel vouchers or new affordable housing sites)



Triage Center Locations:

- Green star: past/current sites
- Yellow star: being assessed
- Red star: private parcels/require further negotiation

Not on map:

- Motel voucher sites
- New affordable housing sites
- Public land and parking lots still being evaluated
- Winter Sanctuary sites
- Boys Ranch



Next Steps:

1. Further site vetting with community
2. Work with City staff to explore potential agreements/funding for private lots/buildings
3. Create timelines, metrics, and budgets
4. Exploring additional services for people experiencing homelessness (like employment opportunities)
5. Identify volunteer opportunities



Call to Action

Opening Safe Spaces ASAP

CALIFORNIA

Column: L.A. should take a lesson from Sacramento on how to clear a homeless encampment



Tents sit in a parking lot near Highway 50 in Sacramento as part of a new city-sanctioned "safe ground" for homeless people. (Erika D. Smith / Los Angeles Times)

By ERIKA D. SMITH | COLUMNIST



Opening Safe Spaces ASAP

- District 4 has jumped in, and the two Safe Ground sites are operating smoothly.
- We've learned valuable lessons, and developed systems to stand these up within the City and with First Step Communities.
- Demand is well beyond what we can accommodate near-term.
- **Can each Council district commit to opening new safe spaces in the next month?**