



PUBLIC SAFETY CITIZEN TASK FORCE PUBLIC MEETING

Wednesday, August 7, 2013

6:00 p.m.

Santa Cruz Police Department Community Room
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MINUTES

- I. Chair Reyes Call to Order
 1. Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Reyes.
 2. Chair Reyes thanked the Task Force and the community for attendance, then briefly discussed the layout of the meeting, including guest speakers, a question and answer period and a comment period.

- II. Approval of July 24, 2013 Minutes
 1. July 24, 2013 Minutes approved.

- III. Chair Reyes Made an Announcement Regarding Task Force Publicity
 1. Chair Reyes acknowledged that it is difficult to separate one's role as a Task Force member and individual community member.
 2. Our actions outside of the Task Force proceedings can be a reflection of the Task Force itself. Therefore, Task Force members should consider themselves as public servants and act accordingly.
 3. This is important when the time comes to present solutions to the City Council. A successful outcome will be more attainable if our process is accepted, understood and free of public attacks.

- IV. Susie O'Hara briefly summarized the staff reports from last two meetings.
 1. Reoccurring themes include:
 - a. The intersection of high-density alcohol outlets and their effect on violent crime serial inebriates.
 - b. How the superior court handles municipal code infractions (especially in regards to substance abuse).
 - c. Treatment options in Santa Cruz, what is currently offered, where there is a lack of funding, and a lack of education about early marijuana and alcohol use.
 - d. The effectiveness of the drug court, serial inebriate and needle exchange programs.

2. Other components of the staff report include:
 - a. Focus on community perception, such as: “Why is there such a high concentration of offenders in the City?”
 - b. There are unaddressed questions/concerns (what is the state’s role in alcohol outlet control? The difference between enabling and harm reduction. Roundtree’s status and progress).
3. Changes have been made to the next two meetings:
 - a. August 21st is moved to Louden Nelson.
 - b. September 4th has been moved to September 3rd, and will also be located at Louden Nelson.
4. There needs to be an understanding that having someone from HSC does not concede that the homeless population is directly responsible for these issues.

V. Panel Presentation on Theme 2: Drug and Alcohol Abuse, Drug Trafficking, and Related Non-Violent or Petty Crime

1. Julie Hendee, Redevelopment Manager, City of Santa Cruz
 - a. A study done in 2011 reported that retail sales for the greater Santa Cruz area were around \$2.16 billion, but only \$312 million was captured by the City of Santa Cruz. Why is the City losing so much possible revenue despite its potential?
 - b. Three out of five reasons why the City loses so much potential retail revenue are rampant vagrancy, panhandling and a lack of leading retail anchors.
 - c. Safety of customers and employees is a main concern of many downtown businesses.
 - d. There have been recommendations for the downtown businesses to have consistent hours, though they do not want to handle the high number of homeless and transients in the early morning.
 - e. Frequently, many real estate brokers state the City has lost many potential business and financial partnerships due to safety concerns as well as human waste, biohazard and vandalization issues posed primarily by homeless and transients. This has largely contributed to properties that have not been leased downtown.
 - f. To lease property downtown, fees are high. This brings with it a high expectation for great amenities for the business, though the City is unable to offer these because of the many economic resources that are diverted to address these issues.
 - g. Public property ordinances were adopted in 1994 and have been amended six times since, with hopes of mitigating the public nuisance issues, primarily in downtown.
 - h. The ordinances that have been enacted address the public nuisance issues through a time, place and manner approach.

- i. A Downtown Outreach Worker costs \$80,000/year (as well as the office space), the Homeward Bound project costs \$25,000/year, the downtown hosts cost a total of \$168,000/year and other costs include public restroom remodels and the stipends that are given to four businesses to keep their restrooms open to all of the public.
 - j. In the Downtown Outreach Worker's report for the month of June, she made 78 non-duplicated contacts downtown. Of those 78, 81% were homeless, 13% housed and 6% unknown.
2. Rick Martinez, Deputy Chief of Police for Santa Cruz Police Department
- a. Data is not collected based on someone's socioeconomic status, but on whether or not the individual is homeless, transient, or lists 115 Coral St. as their address.
 - b. The degradation of open spaces and water quality, especially in terms of the San Lorenzo River, have been tremendous.
 - c. The homeless population is not synonymous with substance abuse, they are a reflection of the existing community.
 - d. San José's situation does not seem different from Santa Cruz's.
 - e. Some points brought up from Deputy Chief Martinez's last report were brought up, especially the "perfect storm" concern.
 - f. 100 alcohol outlets is appropriate for the City of Santa Cruz. There are now 247 alcohol outlets within the City.
 - g. For recidivists, substance abusers, etc., it is difficult to leave when everything is located here. Addressing these problems will not be solved through arrests and probation.
 - h. The ratio of probation officers to probationers is about 1:400.
 - i. The community's level of tolerance also contributes to the continuation of high levels of homelessness. It needs to be understood that there is a fine line between enabling and rehabilitation.
 - j. Attempts to help the community/the homeless population are often in conflict with available services. Such as food programs being disrupted by residents giving away food to the homeless. This removes a reason for homeless to reach available services and increases litter. This charitable giving should be directed towards existing organizations and services, rather than distributing food downtown. The City cannot selectively enforce laws when a crime is not being committed (such as addressing individuals sleeping or lying in the park).
 - k. One way to address these issues is through reprogramming space and environmental design.

- l. In 2012, 3,600 citations were issued (32% were homeless, transient or listed 115 Coral as their address). With average staff time being 20 minutes per citation issued, the citations being issued to homeless equate to $\frac{3}{4}$ of a salary of a police officer. Only about 96 of these citations were actually corrected.
 - m. In 2012, 2,044 arrests that were transient, homeless or listed 115 Coral as their address. This is about 42% of all arrests for the City. About 42% of all police resources are going into that population. This is significantly larger than other cities in the County.
 - n. There needs to be a cultural shift in how the City addresses health and human services, primarily because it is mainly a county and state responsibility.
3. Monica Martinez, Executive Director of Santa Cruz Homeless Service Center
- a. The Santa Cruz community has been investing in solutions for a long time, unfortunately they have not always been focused on long-term solutions. Cleanups without outreach services are short-term solutions.
 - b. Due to this, the homeless population is often stuck in a cycle that is difficult to break.
 - c. 77% of the Santa Cruz homeless population is unsheltered. This does not mean that the City needs more shelters. However, it does indicate that there is an issue with individuals who have no place to stay.
 - d. 28% of the homeless population is employed.
 - e. 67% of the homeless population was residing in Santa Cruz County before they became homeless. This makes Santa Cruz very similar to other communities for this $\frac{2}{3} : \frac{1}{3}$ ratio is very common.
 - f. The foster care system, criminal justice system, returning veterans and inadequate mental health services are running faucets pouring people into homelessness.
 - g. These root causes of homelessness need to be addressed.
 - h. Need to get past short-term fixes and need to focus on long-term solutions to these problems.
 - i. Santa Cruz is at a tipping point, for the City can no longer continue on its old path in regards to homeless solutions. It is far behind most of the nation in solutions, and needs to further its understanding and implementation of “smart” solutions.
 - j. If other communities are decreasing homelessness, why can't Santa Cruz?
 - k. Daytime care includes outreach, engagement, intake, assessment, referrals and basic needs.

- l. Until the community has another plan to address the most problematic homelessness, the City is telling the homeless that they are going to remain in that difficult to break from cycle.
 - m. Some locations that engage in homelessness prevention include Rebele Family Shelter, Page Smith Community House, and Paul Lee Loft Shelter.
 - n. For the most chronic homeless, a potential solution includes placing them directly into housing, such as 180/180.
 - o. In one year, 172 residents moved from street or shelter to permanent housing.
 - p. 82 residents moved from street or shelter to transitional housing.
4. Ray Bramson, Homelessness Response Team Manager, City of San José
- a. The 2013 homeless census and survey enumerated there are 4,770 people living on the streets in San José on any given night. There is an estimated 12,000 homeless throughout the year. 73% of that population is unsheltered.
 - b. 1,230 living on two major waterways within the City.
 - c. In four days of cleaning encampments, 70 tons of waste was removed from the camps.
 - d. In 2012, on the streets of San José, 39 people died (in comparison to 47 in Santa Cruz).
 - e. One year ago, the Homelessness Response Team had a \$200,000 budget. Issues were so severe, there were even incidences of bubonic plague. This required a new strategy.
 - f. The budget has grown tremendously since then (over \$10 million from different sources.)
 - g. Though the scope and size of San José in comparison to Santa Cruz is different, one thing to keep in mind is this change in direction stemmed from the support of the community and surrounding jurisdictions.
 - h. In the long-term, what does cleaning encampments do for the community? They are often rebuilt just days after being taken down.
 - i. A Phase 1 project was launched, seeking to repair housing resources, outreach services, encampment cleanouts and methodology.
 - j. There are a lot of potentially self-sustainable individuals who are living in encampments.
 - k. However, about 10-15% of the homeless living in encampments are violent criminals who have felony warrants. These individuals need to work through the criminal justice system.

- l. Phase 1 of the project was a tremendous success. This included help from many different agencies, jurisdictions, and other entities. This allowed shared strategies that included early attempts and long-standing results.
- m. Without environmental design of an area, the issue will be further perpetuated.
- n. On a per capita basis, Santa Cruz is facing an extraordinarily large issue.
- o. Rapid rehousing takes a large investment on the front end, but long-term gains are significant.

VI. Task Force Question and Answer Period

- 1. Question: Can you further explain the smart solutions idea?
- 2. Answer: There are four factors within smart solutions: it is evidence based and proven, cost-effective, measurable and it treats each person with dignity and respect.
- 3. Question: Is there anything going on in Santa Cruz or San José that targets the population of violent criminals in encampments?
- 4. Answer: There are formerly incarcerated people living on the streets and there are a lot of opportunities to help these people through AB 109. San José's policy, in regards to the homeless with felony warrants mentioned earlier, is to utilize the criminal justice system. Also, in order to break down encampments safely and address criminal homeless, teams of five to 12 people are utilized.
- 5. Question: With the 120 days given by the council, what is the program going to look like with the HSC?
- 6. Answer: HMIS, Homeless Management Information System, is an intake system that is implemented countywide and is used nationwide. It allows communities to know who is homeless. It has been implemented in Rebele, the mailroom and the winter shelter. Recently, a gate was set up on the HSC campus. This better allows the monitoring of who is using services.
- 7. Question: Will ID cards, used for tracking, have names and pictures on them?
- 8. Answer: Yes, they can.
- 9. Question: Are there any statistics or data differentiating homeless from transients, in terms of day service?
- 10. Answer: The HSC does not differentiate between homeless and transient. San José does prioritize its services in terms of local citizens. There is an effort to prioritize Santa Cruz's services around need, such as done in 180/180. To access many HSC services, you have to be on a waitlist. The Downtown Outreach Worker often tells transients that there are not enough services in the City, and that they need to move on. This is where the City uses the Homeward Bound Program.

11. Question: Who are many of the people on the streets? For example, the groups of homeless/transient individuals around Harvey West or the HSC. Are they waiting for something to happen?
12. Answer: When the infrastructure improvements are made, it will better be understood who these people are. As far as what they are doing, it is circumstantial. The homeless/transient population is a pedestrian population, and they may be in the process of receiving services. They have to be accessing services to be on campus during the day, so more people are moving around more.
13. Question: Does the City have any idea how to address 247 alcohol outlets instead of recommended 100? How can ABC get involved?
14. Answer: It takes a change in approving, zoning and regulations. This will hopefully limit the number of alcohol outlets out there. The only way to remove an alcohol license is if the business closes for six months, a new owner decides not to continue the license, or other violations. It is a property right. With regards to HSC, the calls for service are rising, though this demonstrates a level of good standards with HSC staff and others. This statistic is not necessarily a negative one.
15. Question: According to the economic development study, what were the other reasons (besides the three) for the difficulties in downtown?
16. Answer: Difficult traffic patterns and a lack of signage.
17. Question: Are there any other ideas that are coming out of the Downtown Association to address homelessness?
18. Answer: There is a task force for downtown issues, though there is no single solution. There is a pressure on business owners in downtown to help come up with solutions to these challenges. The ordinances are complicated, though the officers and hospitality workers try to educate individuals before citing them. A potential solution is housing. Implementation of housing for the most arrested, most chronic, etc. to get them off the street as soon as possible is expected in fall. Also, law enforcement is entirely reactive, the cycle of homelessness will not be broken by arresting people. Property based improvement districts, such as in downtown San José have been highly successful and have been able to address multiple issues at once.
19. Question: How do you break the cycle of homelessness?
20. Answer: The City/County, etc. are spending money on this population no matter what. How do we reallocate money in a more creative way? In order to enact a difference, there needs to be an initial investment.
21. Question: Where does this investment come from?
22. Answer: Getting people together to figure this challenge out is important. Keep in mind, 67% of the homeless population came from the county of Santa Cruz, but only 22% came from the City itself. Therefore, how much money should the City give?
23. Question: How can some problems be alleviated even partially?

24. Answer: First pick your battles. For example, Santa Cruz could tackle its serious green space issue, such as with Pogonip. Space needs to be reprogrammed, which could happen through continued investment, work and revival. This is a bigger issue now that the RDA has been eliminated.
25. Question: What can Santa Cruz do that other communities are doing better or differently?
26. Answer: If the HSC is running nationwide models accordingly, there is nothing better they can do. However, the emergency shelter should be done away with, for it is outdated and was never built on real evidence.
27. Question: In San José, when there is contact with encampments, are there service providers who conduct outreach?
28. Answer: Yes. There are 60-90 days of outreach services before going out to encampments sites. This includes giving tools and trash bags, which have reduced waste and debris. Unfortunately, a lot of independent groups think they are doing good in the community, however, their lack of coordination is detrimental. Coordination in programs and agencies is vital.
29. Question: Are most of the arrests the same people? Do you know the top arrestees names? How do you address this issue in order to limit the problems these individuals are causing?
30. Answer: Yes. The City is looking at a pilot program. There is also a list of the top 25 arrestees. An issue is, however, what information can you release on these top arrestees that is proper, does not infringe on their dignity and is germane to new/recent cases?
31. Question: Are there uniform security officers on the HSC campus? Does the HSC use a service?
32. Answer: No, we have a security staff that operates almost all hours. They are identifiable by their clothes, employed internally and work directly with first alarm staff.
33. Question: Why? Is this due to budgetary restraints?
34. Answer: Yes, but also because of the HSC's mission and needs. The security has been through training, there is a position whose single job is to oversee security, and the security staff have been licensed by the state through Guardcard.
35. Question: How well is the criminal justice system working with other entities?
36. Answer: When you have someone who is exhibiting alarming mental health symptoms, there is often a collaborative case management. There is a lot of room for improvement though. There needs to be a reassurance that people are connected with what they need.
37. Question: Is there a larger potential for using community service officers over the police department? How does this work?

38. Answer: Community service officers are not armed, they cannot arrest and can issue limited citations. This is also with budgetary restraints in mind.
39. Question: Are there any volunteer programs for the homeless/transient population?
40. Answer: Yes, there is a really robust program that has spent thousands of hours each year contributing to spaces. One project is at the Evergreen Cemetery. For the last 18 months, every Monday, volunteers go out and do really hard cleanup work and there has been significant differences in the landscape and trails. One to two times a month a group of 15 or so individuals, through Save our Shores, clean up the Levee.

VII. Closing Comment Period

1. The police department is understaffed according to the City's size. The agencies we depend on seem to be hurting in terms of ability to deal with the issues. The individuals released through AB 109 can be a threat to public safety, and there needs to be improved supervision.
2. All of the community's services are interconnected. The homeless population are people that live in the community, yet we have to hold each other accountable for the community's quality of life.
3. Sometimes you have to step back and reevaluate the agencies' approaches to addressing many challenges. How can agencies better establish cooperation?
4. The collaboration between agencies, law enforcement, and social services is important. Though the homeless population is a reflection of the community, they are also often marginalized by the community. Collaboration is important throughout all communities.
5. The ratio of probation officers to probationers is concerning. If there are a small percentage of individuals causing crimes, such as addicts, can we pull some of them out and get them into rehab? That would seem to reduce crime.
6. It is great to hear about another community. It allows us to think out of the box. The issues that need to be addressed are complex and multi-layered. Some great things are happening, though open spaces can be approached to bring more people, activity, etc.
7. The issue revolving around alcohol outlets seems to keep coming up. The City should not consider issuing any more licenses and address the ABC.
8. Idea of activation seems important. Taking better care of the environment and increasing traffic/engagement will reduce crime. Around the community, a lot of places are not being taken care of.
9. Activating space is important, and should reduce crime. Recommendation for the task force to tour the HSC.

10. Currently, ten officers are off on injury and there are nine openings. Collaborations are important, because these challenges cannot be met alone.
11. Recent programs being taken on this year take on a couple forms, a leadership group that is about 25 community leaders throughout the County (who are researching and proposing best potential practices). Perhaps the task force can align with this. The homeless services industry cannot solve challenges posed by the homeless. The community needs to get out of the blame game and work together.
12. The task force represents a very important vehicle and tool for the City. The City does not have the resources to meet the issues at hand; it will take a huge collaborative effort.

Adjournment -- The Public Safety Citizen Task Force adjourned from the public meeting of August 7, 2013 at 9:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2013, 6:00 p.m., Loudon Nelson Community Center, Room 3.

The City of Santa Cruz does not discriminate against persons with disabilities. Out of consideration for people with chemical sensitivities, we ask that you attend fragrance free. Upon request, the agenda can be provided in a format to accommodate special needs. Additionally, if you wish to attend this public meeting and will require assistance such as an interpreter for American Sign Language, Spanish, or other special equipment, please call the City Clerk's Department at 420-5030 in advance so that we can arrange for such special assistance. The Cal-Relay system number: 1-800-735-2922.

Public Safety Task Force meetings will be recorded for the purpose of preparing minutes.

Homeless Encampment Response

Vision Statement

Provide housing stability and support for homeless residents in Santa Clara County to keep waterways, parks and public space free of encampments to protect the environment, provide safe use of public areas, and ensure that no one is unsheltered.

Issue Overview

On a nightly basis, there are over 7,000 homeless persons in Santa Clara County. Approximately 2,000 homeless persons reside in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, jails, treatment or medical facilities, and other temporary housing arrangements. Unfortunately, more than 5,000 homeless persons are unsheltered, living in creeks, streams, cars, and other open public areas that are not appropriate for human habitation. Most change locations periodically. Unsheltered homeless persons are living in a manner that is unhealthy, dangerous, and inhumane.

Of the 5,000 unsheltered individuals, approximately 1,500 gather at fixed sites or “encampments,” especially in waterways, throughout the county. Homeless encampments pose particular challenges for the community.

- The encampments have a negative impact on the quality of life of neighborhoods and residents (both housed and un-housed) by creating safety concerns and degrading the environment in which they live, work, and play.
- The encampments degrade the built and natural environment on both a short- and long-term basis and have compliance ramifications.
- The continued “management” of homeless encampments is extremely costly in terms of funds and resources that could otherwise be used on other community priorities.

Intent

In the long-term, a permanent solution for the problems associated with homeless encampments can only be achieved through increases in appropriate housing and services. As these resources are developed and implemented, they will be coordinated with community-wide activities to mitigate homeless encampments’ negative effects on the environment and on the community.

Strategy 1 – Housing and Services

- **Goal:** *Integrate with the community’s long-term plan to end homelessness.*
 - Utilize the community’s “Homelessness Framework” for meeting the distinct housing needs of transitionally, episodically, and chronically homeless persons.
 - Create linkages with community-wide initiatives targeted to homeless sub-populations based on demographic criteria and/or housing need (e.g. Housing 1000 Care Coordination Project for chronically homeless individuals and families).

- **Goal:** *Continually assess the number and needs of homeless populations living in encampments in order to develop individualized, actionable plans.*
 - Enhance the capacity, range, and effectiveness of outreach services by incorporating multiple disciplines and multiple systems' services and data.
 - Increase linkages to services and resources of cities, the County and other government agencies.
 - Identify service overlap or opportunities for service connections.
 - Measure and continuously improve timeliness of client's access to safety-net services (e.g. General Assistance).
- **Goal:** *Identify and increase housing for displaced encampment resident.*
 - Increase permanent supportive housing.
 - Increase long-term transitional housing and supportive services.
 - Increase short-term housing programs or shallow rental subsidies.
 - Develop an array of interim housing options (e.g. emergency shelter or motel vouchers) in *direct* support of the aforementioned permanent housing strategies; Conduct a shelter assessment to maximize usage of current bed space and determine if any barriers exist to ensure full utilization.
 - Evaluate other immediate housing first intervention options for encampments
- **Goal:** *Review and evaluate alternative best-practice models and programs to address the needs of encampment residents.*
 - Assess other cities and jurisdictions with effective encampment abatement programs.
 - Consider potential necessary legislation, ordinances, and enforcement options to more adequately meet the needs of high-risk homeless populations.
 - Explore innovative programs or social enterprises that incorporate homeless persons in encampment outreach, prevention, clean up or reduction activities.

Strategy 2 – Protect and Restore the Environment

- **Goal:** *Reduce the number and size of encampments.*
 - Establish a list of key locations based on transparent metrics (e.g. environmental impact, health and safety issues, assessed vulnerability of homeless population, general public concern);
 - Perform regular and proactive clean-ups of priority sites
 - Identify clean-up triggers and priorities for external agencies (e.g. VTA, CalTrans, Caltrain) to ensure coordinated encampment responses
 - Continue to standardize notification procedures across agencies, jurisdictions, and non-profit organizations (i.e. housing, enforcement, etc.);
 - Evaluate alternatives to consolidate or coordinate property storage facilities and disposition procedures across agencies/jurisdictions

- **Goal:** *Decrease re-encampment in cleaned areas.*
 - Assess environment and access to install effective physical deterrents as needed at key sites
 - Increase continued enforcement presence (e.g. rangers) following clean-ups
- **Goal:** *Restore impacted natural resources and assets.*
 - Measure a decreasing amount of debris and waste in cleaned sites over time
 - Increase public usage of trail systems, parks, etc.
- **Goal:** *Seek regulatory relief to streamline workflows and improve clean-up efficiency.*
 - Address ordinance issues, including:
 - property storage
 - posting notification
 - public feeding

Strategy 3 – Engage the Community

- **Goal:** *Increase public awareness of encampment engagement activities and connection to the regional response to homelessness*
 - Implement an ongoing media campaign to increase public awareness to further link encampment clean-ups with the community-wide efforts to eliminate chronic homelessness
 - Provide regular presentations at neighbor and community groups
- **Goal:** *Empower and engage community groups, businesses, and other stakeholders to connect and address encampment issues impacting their neighborhoods*
 - Convene groups to evaluate and address factors that support site-specific encampments including vehicular access to the site, access to water, and the delivery of resources from external parties such as food and clothing to the sites.
- **Goal:** *Mitigate public safety concerns regarding homeless encampments and its impact on the community*
 - Demonstrate decreased impact and score of encampment issues through regular reporting of all encampment-related work through the City’s website and other media channels
 - Provide a system of responsive customer support, utilizing the homeless hotline, to ensure that all encampment concerns are addressed in a timely and comprehensive manner.

To: Downtown Management Corporation					
From: Hospitality Program Manager Ramirez					
Monthly Contacts: June 2013					
Municipal Code Violation	North	Central	South	Total	
Public Intoxication	9	16	11	36	
Open container	3	9	5	17	
Public disturbance	8	13	6	27	
Panhandling	16	32	15	63	
Street performers	32	44	0	76	
Display device	41	46	4	91	
Smoking	187	218	202	607	
Dogs	12	3	3	18	
Bikes	41	48	53	142	
Skate devices	43	90	80	213	
Sitting	36	90	145	271	
Graffiti/	15	23	37	75	
Benches	20	6	0	26	
Public urination/defecation	0	0	1	1	
Parking Garages	233	91	233	557	
Welfare Check	33	55	64	152	
Sub Total	729	784	859	2372	
Hospitality Assistance					
Information	227	308	198	733	
Directions	191	254	159	604	
Merchant calls	27	56	36	119	
Merchant contacts	50	52	36	138	
Mental health referrals	6	8	7	21	
SCPD contacts	24	27	17	68	
SCPD Calls	5	19	6	30	
Sub Total	530	724	459	1713	
Totals	1259	1508	1318	4085	
Monthly Total Hours	6/1-6/15	6/16-6/30		Total	
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Welfare Check	33	55	64	152
Sub Total	729	784	859	2372
Hospitality Assistance				
Information	227	308	198	733
Directions	191	254	159	604
Merchant calls	27	56	36	119
Merchant contacts	50	52	36	138
Mental health referrals	6	8	7	21
SCPD contacts	24	27	17	68
SCPD Calls	5	19	6	30
Sub Total	530	724	459	1713
Totals	1259	1508	1318	4085
Monthly Total Hours	6/1-6/15	6/16-6/30		Total
6 employee's	283.5	290		573.5

Homeless Encampment Response

Vision Statement: *Provide housing stability and support for homeless residents in Santa Clara County to keep waterways, parks and public space free of encampments to protect the environment, provide safe use of public areas, and ensure that no one is unsheltered*

Issue Overview: Of the 5,000 unsheltered individuals in Santa Clara County nightly, approximately 1,500 gather at fixed sites or “encampments,” especially in waterways, throughout the county. Homeless encampments pose particular environmental and quality of life challenges for the community. The continued “management” of homeless encampments is extremely costly in terms of funds and resources that could otherwise be used on other community priorities.

HOUSING & SERVICES	PROTECT & RESTORE THE ENVIRONMENT	ENGAGE THE COMMUNITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Integrate with the community’s long-term plan to end homelessness; ➤ Continually assess the number and needs of homeless populations living in encampments in order to develop individualized, actionable plans; ➤ Identify and increase housing for displaced encampment resident; ➤ Review and consider alternative best-practice models and programs to address the needs of encampment residents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Reduce the number and size of encampments; ➤ Decrease re-encampment in cleaned areas; ➤ Restore impacted natural resources and assets; ➤ Seek regulatory relief to streamline workflows and improve clean-up efficiency. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increase public awareness of encampment engagement activities and connection to the regional response to homelessness; ➤ Empower and engage community groups, businesses, and other stakeholders to connect and address encampment issues impacting their neighborhoods; ➤ Mitigate public safety concerns regarding homeless encampments and its impact on the community.
REGIONAL COORDINATION		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Broaden the engagement and participation of external partners and stakeholders in the long-term and short-term encampment strategies; ➤ Standardize cleanup procedures, priorities, and triggers across agencies and jurisdictions; ➤ Identify opportunities to reduce costs and improve efficiency of cleanup and housing efforts through collaboration. 		



Public Safety Task Force
Theme 1:

Environmental Degradation and Behaviors Affecting our Sense of Safety in the City's Parks, Open Spaces, Beaches and Business Districts

Short Term Responses

- Clean-ups without outreach or services
 - "Sweeping water"
- Investment in emergency services without long-term solutions
- New City Ordinances
 - Increases reliance on Criminal Justice system
- Increased Law Enforcement Involvement
 - Increases number of jail nights
 - Extends police resources
- Reliance on Emergency Healthcare
 - Frequent ambulance rides
 - Costly ER visits and extended hospital stays



Increased Unwanted Behavior

- Public Intoxication
- Panhandling
- Illegal Camping
- Trespassing
- Littering
- Petty crime

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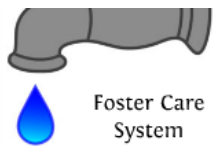
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Foster Care System



Criminal Justice System



Returning Veterans



Inadequate Mental Health Services

Homelessness in Santa Cruz

100% of the population
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Who is experiencing homelessness?

- 2771 people experiencing homelessness in Santa Cruz County
- 67% Male, 32% Female, 1% Transgender/other
- 63% Caucasian, 23% Latino, 6% African American
- 59% Between the ages of 31 and 60 years old
- 11% Veterans
- 17% Homeless families with children
- 143 Unaccompanied youth

- 26% reported chronic health problems
- 18% reported a serious mental illness
- 38% reported a substance abuse addiction
- 11% of women reported experiencing domestic violence
- 23% needed health care but were unable to receive it

- 77% of the homeless population is unsheltered
- 28% is currently employed
- Job loss is the most frequently cited reason for loss of housing
- Lack of affordable house is listed as the most frequently cited reason for staying homeless
- 67% were living in Santa Cruz when they most recently became homeless



Foster Care System



Criminal Justice System



Returning Veterans



Inadequate Mental Health Services

Homelessness

Smart Solutions to Homelessness



- Proven and Evidence-Based
- Cost Effective
- Measurable
- Treat all people with dignity and respect

Smart Solutions are Proven and Evidence Based

Portland

Jail Discharge Planning
57% of Homeless Inmates
Housed Upon Release

Minneapolis

Rapid Re-housing
43% Reduction in
Homeless Families

Chicago

Housing First
12% Reduction in
Total Homelessness

San Francisco

Supportive Housing
28% Reduction in
Chronic Homelessness



Boston

Inter-Agency Collaboration
21% Reduction in
Homeless Veterans

Long Beach

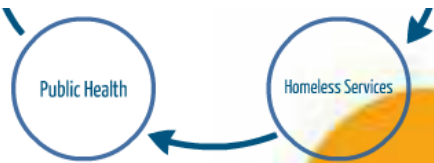
Recuperative Care
\$3 million Total Annual
Savings for Hospitals

Cincinnati

Centralized Intake
46% Reduction in
Homeless Families

Tulsa

Family Intervention
80% of At-Risk Youth
Transitioned to a
Safe Place



Vision
To decrease and end homelessness in Santa Cruz
Deliver effective programs that move people to permanent housing
Successfully advocate for community-wide collective action to reduce homelessness



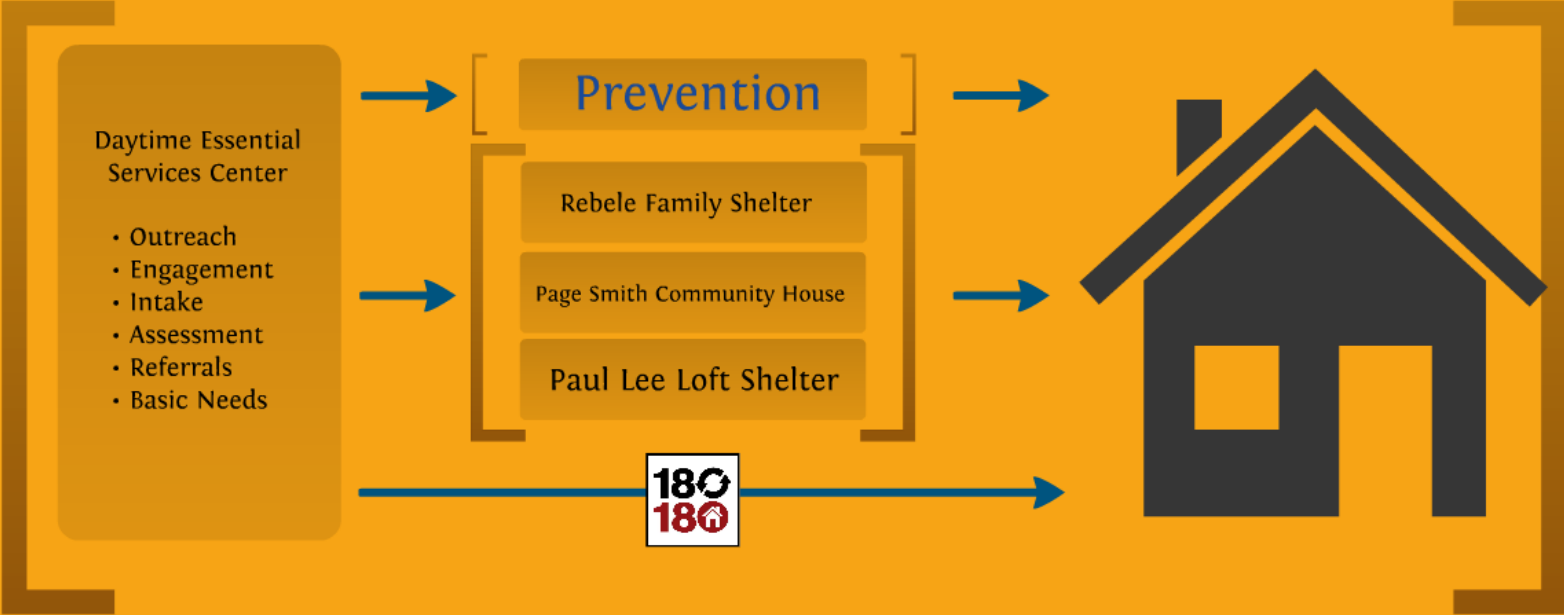


Vision:

To Decrease and End Homelessness in Santa Cruz

Deliver effective programs that move people to permanent housing

Successfully advocate for community-wide collective action to reduce homelessness



Daytime Essential Services Center

- Outreach
- Engagement
- Intake
- Assessment
- Referrals
- Basic Needs



Prevention

Rebele Family Shelter

Page Smith Community House

Paul Lee Loft Shelter



In One Year...

- 172 residents moved from street or shelter to permanent housing
- 82 residents moved from street or shelter to transitional housing
- 257 DESC and PLL clients obtained income
- 53 RFS or PSCH clients became employed
- 172 RFS or PSCH clients gained access to benefits
- 84% of those who exited from RFS went to permanent or transitional housing
- 70% of PSCH residents who exit go to permanent housing



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Homelessness in Santa Cruz

