

**HOPE Interagency Council (IAC) Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2022**

Present: Supervisor Horsley, Supervisor Slocum, Pastor Paul Bains, Teri Chin, Kate Comfort Harr, Eloiza Murillo-Garcia, Brian Greenberg, Aubrey Merriman, Peggy Jensen, Mark Nagales, Melissa Platte, Diana Reddy

Guests: Lissette Espinoza-Garnica, La Trice Taylor, Ron Babiera, Marci Dragun, Selina Toy Lee, Jessica Silverberg, Tammie Sweetser, Marianne Tessier, Khalia Parish, Alicia Garcia, Brooke Lewellyn, Liz Lange, Chris Ratana, Julissa Acosta, Lee Harrison, Meron Asfaw, Chris Hunter, Brae Hunter, Sarah Fields, Jenel Lim

Topic	Discussion
Zoom overview and meeting logistics	A brief overview of using Zoom videoconferencing was given.
Welcome	Supervisor Horsley called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.
Resolution Authorizing Virtual HOPE IAC Meeting Jessica Silverberg (Human Services Agency)	<p>Adopt a resolution finding that, as a result of the continuing COVID-19 pandemic state of emergency, meeting in person for HOPE IAC would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees. (See Attachment 1a and Attachment 1b)</p> <p>Motion made by Paul Bains to approve resolution; motion seconded made by Diana Reddy.</p> <p>Vote: Paul Bains – yes La Trice Taylor for Laura Bent – yes Mary Bier – not present Matthew Chidester – not present Teri Chin – yes Ken Cole – not present Kate Comfort Harr – yes Eloiza Murillo-Garcia – yes Brian Greenberg – not present at time of vote Judith Guerrero – not present Raymond Hodges – not present Don Horsley – yes Aubrey Merriman – yes Peggy Jensen – yes Mark Nagales – yes Melissa Platte – yes Diana Reddy – yes Mariana Rocha – not present at time of vote Warren Slocum – yes Juslyn Manalo – not present</p>

	Motion passed.
Public Comment	No public comments.
Action to Set Agenda and Approve Minutes	<p>Motion made by Aubrey Merriman to set the agenda, and to approve August 10, 2022 minutes; motion seconded made by Supervisor Slocum.</p> <p>Vote: Paul Bains – yes La Trice Taylor for Laura Bent – yes Mary Bier – not present Matthew Chidester – not present Teri Chin – abstain Ken Cole – not present Kate Comfort Harr – yes Eloiza Murillo-Garcia – yes Brian Greenberg – not present at time of vote Judith Guerrero – not present Raymond Hodges – not present Don Horsley – yes Aubrey Merriman – yes Peggy Jensen – yes Mark Nagales – yes Melissa Platte – yes Diana Reddy – yes Mariana Rocha – abstain Warren Slocum – yes Juslyn Manalo – not present</p> <p>Motion passed.</p>
Farewell and appreciations to HOPE IAC Co-Chair Supervisor Horsley Supervisor Slocum and HOPE IAC members	<p>The following people shared appreciation and farewells to Supervisor Horsley:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor Slocum • Diana Reddy • Pastor Paul Bains • Melissa Platte • Teri Chin • Mark Nagales • Selina Toy Lee

City of Redwood City Homeless Services Initiatives Updates: Enhanced Outreach Services and Approaches to Providing Services to Individuals Residing in Encampments

Teri Chin (City of Redwood City)

Teri Chin from the City of Redwood City presented information on the City's Homeless Service Initiatives

- Homeless Initiatives Work Plan Objectives
 - Implement the County's vision of functional zero homelessness in RWC
 - Mitigate public health, public safety, and environmental concerns related to unsheltered homelessness and homeless encampments in Redwood City.
 - Transition unsheltered residents in Redwood City into permanent housing.
 - Eliminate the long-term impact of encampments and street homelessness in Redwood City.
- Funding
 - City One Time Funding:
 - \$3.2 Million – FY 19-20, 20-21, 21-22
 - \$3.1 Million – FY 22-23, FY 23-24
 - Cal-ICH Encampment Resolution Fund:
 - \$1,843,500 – FY 22-23, FY 23-24
 - San Mateo County Working to End Homelessness (WTEH) Innovation Fund Award
- Data on Homelessness: San Mateo County One Day Count
 - 2019 One Day Count:
 - The number of people living in RVs represented a 127% increase compared to the prior 2017 One Day Count.
 - Redwood City had the highest number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness of any City in the County.
 - Nearly half of the unsheltered residents in Redwood City on the day of the 2019 One Day Count were living in RVs or motorhomes on the street.
 - Focusing on People Living in RVs
 - The County conducted a survey of households living in RVs later that year
 - Redwood City established an RV Safe Parking Ad Hoc Committee, which recommended the creation of the City's Temporary RV Safe Parking Program
 - The safe parking program launched in October 2020 in tandem with the City's prohibition of overnight parking of RVs on the street, which shifted the presence of unsheltered households living in RVs on the street from a high of 140 RVs per night to an average of 5-8 per night.
 - We have successfully transitioned many households formerly living in their RV/Motorhomes into housing.
 - 2022 One Day Count:
 - An overall 20% increase of both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals in Redwood City compared to the 2019 One Day Homeless Count, with a 21% increase in specifically unsheltered homeless individuals.
 - Redwood City again had the highest number of unsheltered residents countywide on the day of the count – 245 individuals (22%) of the 1092 unsheltered individuals counted.

- Per HUD guidelines for PIT counts, individuals living in RVs in Safe Parking Programs are counted as “unsheltered”.
 - Yet, a total of 74 individuals were living in their RVs at the City’s Temporary RV Safe Parking Site at the time of the One Day Count and were at the Safe Parking program and on their pathway towards permanent housing.
 - Removing these 74 individuals from the “unsheltered” count brings the Redwood City number to 171. Still the highest number of unsheltered residents in the county, but this new number actually represents a 23% decrease in unsheltered homeless individuals in Redwood City compared to the 2019 One Day Homeless Count when not including safe parking site program participants
 - So, while we have much work ahead towards addressing encampments and unsheltered homelessness in general, we are making incremental progress towards functional zero.
 - The County’s investment and leveraging of federal and statewide resources has been a critical component of this progress.
- Encampments
 - Redwood City is now shifting focus to addressing the remaining unsheltered populations in Redwood City, the largest of which is individuals living in encampments.
 - There are currently 20 homeless encampments in Redwood City; 14 (70%) of which are on Caltrans right of way.
 - Because of this, our homelessness initiatives efforts have also included increased coordination with Caltrans.
 - Together, the City and County have asked Caltrans for extra time before encampment clearings to allow outreach from multiple partners to those living in encampments.
 - During the Caltrans encampment clearings in late July, 5 encampment residents accessed same day emergency shelter. This was accomplished in coordination with the Center on Homelessness, piloting new ways to provide “on demand” access to shelter beds for residents being displaced by encampment clearings.
 - Resolving encampments through effective engagement
 - Our goal is to be ahead: to focus on resolving encampments through effective engagement rather than reacting to encampment clearings or initiating encampment clearings on City right of way.
 - Our strategy is to help residents of homeless encampments transition to emergency shelter or housing while continuing to address and mitigate health and safety concerns.
 - With the City’s investment in homeless outreach, we will be increasing from approximately 2.5 county-funded homeless outreach workers to at least 9.5 outreach workers in varying roles, all in function of outreach to Redwood City unsheltered homeless residents.
 - Our approach includes:

- By-name list approach, with a lead worker assigned for each individual
- Assignment of outreach workers to specific encampments, making it possible to really know the individuals and dynamics of the encampment
- Weekly encampment waste services by homeless services partner Downtown Streets Team as both a tactic to mitigate health and safety issues at encampments while serving as a tool for engagement of encampment residents.
- Coordination with Caltrans
- Redwood City Coordinated Interagency Homeless Outreach Team and Strategy
 - Since April 2020, we have been convening a bi-weekly Redwood City Homeless Outreach and Service Providers group.
 - This experience led the City to propose the development of a Coordinated Inter-Agency Homeless Outreach Team through a Request for Proposals which strongly encouraged collaborative submittals.
 - As a result, the City selected LifeMoves as coordinator and lead in partnership with Project WeHOPE, Downtown Streets Team, Street Life Ministries, and Nation’s Finest.
 - Also includes outreach workers with lived experience and staff that are bilingual in English and Spanish
 - This inter-agency team is expected to launch later this month and will:
 - Carry out our resolving encampments work
 - Outreach to unsheltered individuals on the street and in vehicles
 - Provide rapid response for Redwood City.
 - Additionally, the BHRS HEAL Mental Health Clinician assigned to Redwood City will be working closely with this team.
 - The team will be utilizing a by-name list approach for individuals in encampments, on the street, or in vehicles.
 - The baseline to be established by citywide one day count in late January 2023.
 - Finally, the team will be incorporating the development of a Hotel Respite pilot as an additional tool to help stabilize individuals who may be experiencing health and behavioral health related issues, as well as to bridge individuals into services, shelter, and or housing.
- On Demand Shelter Pilot
 - As an adjunct to CES, “on demand” shelter access would be available to homeless outreach workers and public safety personnel in Redwood City after hours and on weekends, when CES is not operating or to support individuals who due to special circumstances are unable to successfully access CES. The goal is to bridge homeless individuals to CES emergency shelter and housing.
- Partnering with mainstream systems
 - Redwood City staff together with the Coordinated Inter-Agency Homeless Outreach Team will work closely with the County Center on Homelessness, Health System, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Aging and Adult Services, and other county system partners to identify and

pilot innovative solutions through the work of the Redwood City Homeless Outreach team that could eventually be expanded to other jurisdictions or countywide if proven to be successful.

Questions and comments from HOPE IAC members

- Brian Greenberg: We hope the 'by name' approach will serve as a best practice model, more detailed and current information than One Day Count data
 - Teri: It is very easy to lose track of folks who are not entering services or who go in and out of services. By using the by-name approach, we will a case manager responsible for a set number of people and will continue to work with them over time, even if they go in and out of programs.
- Teri: When an unsheltered individual who has not previously been interested in shelter becomes open to shelter, it's important to be able to connect them to shelter very quickly. Hopefully having on-demand shelter access will help align our windows in order to get the client into shelter as soon as they're ready to go.

There were no public comments.

Updates

Peggy Jensen (County Manager's Office),
Jessica Silverberg (HSA), Lody Burdick (HSA)

- Working Together to End Homelessness Summit and Innovation Grants
 - Who was at the summit?
 - 282 attendees
 - 19 councilmembers from 10 cities
 - 80 plus provider staff
 - Points of progress
 - +262 more unsheltered residents reached this month than in October 2021
 - 91% increase in interim shelter beds by 2023 compared to 2019
 - 733 formerly homeless households moved into permanent housing since October 2021
 - Ending Homeless Innovation Grants: Planned grants include the following:
 - Bayside Coordinated Outreach and support for RWC encampment residents and Millbrae BART station.
 - Coast Safe Parking Proposal
 - Funding will include contract for an evaluator who'll run a "learning circle" and assess pilot project outcomes.
 - Table discussions
 - Economic insecurity
 - Universal Basic Income
 - Job training/trades
 - Easier access to services
 - Local businesses hire homeless & formerly homeless residents
 - Housing insecurity
 - Prevent homelessness

- More vouchers
 - NIMBY (Not in My Backyard) challenges
 - Tiny homes, ADUs, Safe Parking, Faith Community resources/land
 - Physical health, mental health, and addiction challenges
- 130 commitment cards completed
 - Majority had 3 or more commitments
- Feedback survey, on a scale of 1 to 5:
 - 4.7 learned new information
 - 4.5 contributed to table discussions
 - 4.7 felt motivated to take action
 - 4.8 felt today's event was valuable
- Next steps
 - Compile Table Discussion Notes
 - Follow Up on Commitment Cards
 - Tracking Progress
 - 2023 Summit
- Big thanks to everyone who helped make the 2022 summit a success!
- State Announcement on Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Grant (HHAP-3)
 - The HHAP grant has requirements about what is eligible to use its funding for.
 - HHAP round 1 and 2 funds have been used locally to fund additional homeless outreach capacity, as well as some non-congregate shelter operations, rapid rehousing, and other supportive services
 - State has been releasing HHAP funding in rounds, each is one-time funding that spans a set time period
 - Round 4 application is due end of November. The HHAP 4 funding allocation for San Mateo County has not been determined yet.
 - Last Thursday, Governor Newsom made an announcement regarding HHAP round 3 funding.
 - The state felt that local HHAP round 3 plans and metrics were not ambitious enough, so they put a pause on that award in order to meet with local governments.
 - As HOPE IAC is aware, San Mateo County is working with urgency on implementing new programs and reducing homelessness.
 - State is a critical partner, so we look forward to meeting with them. It may be that the state misunderstood some local plans, in terms of how they interpreted the metrics specific to HHAP round 3 funds.
 - In the immediate term, the state's pause will not change our local services that are occurring, though HHAP is an important funding source, so we hope the pause is lifted soon.
 - At this point in time, we have not received specific guidance beyond that the state wants a specific goal to be higher.
 - More information about the grant program can be found here:

- Non-Congregate Shelter Updates
 - El Camino House
 - This shelter is operating in a former motel in the City of San Mateo, which the County acquired with support of Homekey funds.
 - 44 rooms, serves adults.
 - Non-congregate rooms, ensuite bathrooms.
 - Onsite case management
 - Program has now reached full occupancy, which met the expedited timeline for Homekey funds
 - Thanks to Samaritan House and the County's Department of Public Works and community partners who made this intense ramp-up possible.
 - Still the same referral process to receive shelter.
 - Navigation Center
 - Currently being built in Redwood City
 - 240 units, serves adults.
 - Will be the largest shelter by far in our community
 - LifeMoves will operate the program
 - All clients will receive case management onsite
 - Program will also include onsite medical clinic, dental clinic, and substance use treatment services
 - Working with County Health on plans for the health services components of this program
 - Modular construction, will be built quickly
 - Have some units on staging site nearby with more on route from Southern California.
 - This and other shelter expansions together provide many more ways to shelter people in our community

HOPE IAC Comments/Questions

- Brian Greenberg: We are piloting outpatient recovery services at Maple Street and will continue them at the Navigation Center, with El Centro de Libertad providing services on site and when applicable, by helping to connect residents to residential recovery services. We use a harm reduction model. Not participating in our recovery services will NOT impact client's ability to enter or continue in the shelter program.
- Questions?
 - Do either of these sites accommodate families?
 - HSA:
 - These sites do not plan on serving families with minor children.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current availability of family shelters meets the current need of homeless families. Where we see the biggest need for additional shelter capacity is for adults. <p>There were no public comments.</p>
Roundtable Announcements	Diana Reddy announced that this would be her last HOPE IAC meeting as well. HOPE IAC members shared farewells and appreciations to her.
Closure	Meeting Adjourned at 11:28 a.m.
Next Meeting	Dates for 2023 HOPE IAC meetings will be announced soon.