



Jesse Arreguín
City Councilmember, District 4

WORKSESSION
June 23, 2015

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Jesse Arreguín

Subject: Homeless Task Force Recommendations

BACKGROUND

In November 2012, Berkeley voters considered an ordinance which would have banned sitting on sidewalks in commercial districts throughout the City. That proposal, Measure S, was put on the ballot by a majority of the City Council in response to long-standing concerns of the Telegraph and Downtown Business Improvement Districts about behavior and encampments on public sidewalks and spaces. There was a strong desire for the City to take immediate action to address problematic behavior in public spaces and to discourage individuals from sitting on sidewalks, which they believed obstructed pedestrian traffic and made commercial districts unwelcoming. The focus of the discussion around Measure S was not what the needs of the homeless street population are and whether additional resources are needed, but rather putting in place rules to address encampments and associated issues.

Measure S failed at the November 2012 ballot. However, the issues raised during the campaign could not be ignored, and the important citywide conversation started around Measure S needed to be continued. In that spirit, in December 2012, Councilmember Jesse Arreguín proposed the Compassionate Sidewalks Plan which would have directed the City Manager to convene a working group of representatives of City staff, the Homeless, Housing Advisory, Human Welfare & Community Action, and Police Review Commissions, the Police Department, and other stakeholders, including but not limited to business owners, homeless persons, service providers, students, and academic experts to develop a Compassionate Sidewalks Plan over a series of workshops.

Any proposal addressing homelessness requires an understanding of the demographics of the homeless population, the causes of homelessness, existing laws, a survey of existing resources and services, and an evaluation of best practices, among other things, if it is to be effective and successful.

The working group would have focused on, but not limited to, the following topics:

- 1) The demographics and causes of homelessness
- 2) A survey of existing homeless services
- 3) An assessment of potential funding needs and sources
- 4) Existing laws and enforcement



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5) Best Practices

Ultimately, the City Council voted to schedule a workshop on April 2, 2013 on homeless programs and to defer the discussion of creating a Task Force to that time. On April 2, 2013, City of Berkeley Health, Housing and Community Services staff provided a comprehensive report on the existing homeless population, existing housing and social services, funding for homeless programs, existing quality of life laws, and best practices employed in other communities. A copy of the report can be found here:

http://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2013/04Apr/Documents/2013-04-02_Worksession_Item_01_Compassionate_Sidewalks.aspx. This report served as a

foundation for the Task Force's discussions. Ultimately, Councilmember Arreguín proposed that he independently convene a community task force on homelessness, to allow for an open and inclusive process.

As this report illustrates, Berkeley spends roughly \$3 million dollars on homeless services, yet there are still large numbers of visible homeless on Telegraph Avenue, in the Downtown area and throughout our commercial districts. Our community has a good safety net of services that meet the basic needs of the homeless, but one critical area where we are lacking is providing short-term and permanent housing to get the homeless off our streets. The Obama administration and government agencies throughout the country are shifting their focus away from emergency services and towards Housing First. In addition, Berkeley's diverse homeless population has a number of distinct needs which must be addressed through appropriate outreach and services. While our population is largely older, male and chronically homeless, there are growing numbers of Transition Age Youth and even families who are becoming homeless and finding their way into shelters and on our streets.

The purpose of the Berkeley Homeless Task Force is to facilitate a community conversation bringing together service providers, homeless persons, students, business owners, and the broader community to identify challenges towards addressing homelessness and to develop a plan for improved services, housing opportunities and other programs to serve Berkeley's homeless population. The goal of the task force is to bring stakeholders together to discuss common goals and to develop a community vision towards addressing homelessness.

Over the past three decades, Berkeley has seen a continued growth in homelessness. While Berkeley's targeted efforts to address chronic homelessness resulted in a 48% decrease in the 2009 Berkeley specific homeless count, the number of hidden homeless increased. While the results of the 2015 Berkeley specific count have not been released, rising housing costs and cost of living most likely has not resulted in a substantial decrease in chronic homelessness. Berkeley per capita has one of the largest chronic homeless populations in the entire county. While our community has



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provided great leadership funding an array of services and supporting regional efforts to address homelessness, there is clearly still more to do. **The Task Force's fundamental goal is ending homelessness in our city.** We have the ability to leverage resources and the vision and dedication of our citizens to solve this crisis and to serve as a model for other cities.

Homeless is fundamentally a regional crisis, and our city's efforts should focus on working with other communities in the Bay Area to develop regional strategies to address homelessness. Increased enforcement and rising housing costs result in a shifting of the homeless population from city to city. Countywide the Everyone Home program has led broader efforts to target federal dollars to promote rapid re-housing and address chronic homelessness, in support of the "Opening Doors" plan goal of ending chronic homelessness. But what happens in San Francisco and Contra Costa County also has an effect on the regional migration of homelessness. **To that end the Task Force supports increased efforts to pursue regional coordination to address homelessness.** A decade ago Berkeley led an ABAG level committee of elected officials from throughout the region to discuss regional solutions to homelessness.

However the City of Berkeley must also address the specific needs of our homeless population. The main need stated by homeless clients and agreed by nearly everyone throughout the Task Force process is **Housing**. Berkeley has a great safety net of services addressing the daily needs of the homeless, and providing emergency support, but in order to truly end homelessness we must provide permanent housing, and resources to prevent homelessness.

Our region and our community are facing a housing crisis. As regional pressures result in rising housing costs, Berkeley must significantly increase its supply of low-income housing, with particular emphasis on housing for extremely low income populations (30% AMI and less). Critical in success of this effort is increasing resources for affordable housing. The Task Force strongly supports any efforts to significantly expand the Housing Trust Fund as well as requirements to create mixed income housing. In addition we support efforts to preserve existing affordable housing from conversion or demolition.

As Berkeley is moving towards a coordinated access model with the implementation of the Housing Crisis Resolution Center (HCRC), we must increase our stock of transitional and permanent supportive housing. Berkeley has far few beds to house our existing homeless population. As the federal government and states and cities are moving towards a Housing First approach, **the Task Force believes that the top priority for the City should be to adopt a Housing First goal, and work towards expanding the supply of housing and housing subsidies available to rapidly house homeless people, stabilize them, provide supportive services to help them**



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escape the cycle of homelessness. We also believe that Berkeley should invest in new services to address identified service gaps, such as the needs of specific homeless populations (ex. Transition Age Youth).

POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Direct the City Manager to develop a plan detailing the costs and feasibility of implementing the Tier 1 Task Force Recommendations. In addition, city staff could explore the possible funding sources recommended by the Task Force as well as any available County, state and federal sources to implement the Task Force's recommendations. The City Manager, Homeless Commission and Housing Advisory Commission could also begin to explore the feasibility of implementing the Tier 2 Recommendations.

Some of the recommendations put forward by the Task Force can be adopted in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Biennial Budget, if additional funds are identified.

The Task Force will continue to meet to study additional issues (needs of homeless seniors, LGBT homeless youth) and to monitor the implementation of the Task Force's recommendations.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION

Unknown. Costs associated with staff time to evaluate Task Force recommendations and develop a plan for implementation. In addition, depending on which recommendations the Council decides to implement, unless additional funding is identified, funding will need to be reallocated from existing services. However there are federal and state subsidies available to potentially fund the programs recommended by the Task Force. In addition, the city can complete for private grant funding.

CONTACT PERSON

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Attachments:

1. Final Report from Berkeley Homeless Task Force
2. Comments by various City Commissions on Task Force recommendations
3. Agendas and Minutes of Task Force
4. Vacant Property Map and Survey

**Berkeley Homeless Task Force
Report to Berkeley Mayor and City Council**

June 23, 2015

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Introduction

In November 2012, Berkeley voters considered an ordinance which would have banned sitting on sidewalks in commercial districts throughout the City. That proposal, Measure S, was put on the ballot by a majority of the City Council in response to long-standing concerns of the Telegraph and Downtown Business Improvement Districts about behavior and encampments on public sidewalks and spaces. There was a strong desire for the City to take immediate action to address problematic behavior in public spaces and to discourage individuals from sitting on sidewalks, which they believed obstructed pedestrian traffic and made commercial districts unwelcoming. The focus of the discussion around Measure S was not what the needs of the homeless street population are and whether additional resources are needed, but rather putting in place rules to address encampments and associated issues.

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The working group would have focused on, but not limited to, the following topics:

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- 2) A survey of existing homeless services
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- 4) Existing laws and enforcement
- 5) Best Practices

Ultimately, the City Council voted to schedule a workshop on April 2, 2013 on homeless programs and to defer the discussion of creating a Task Force to that time. On April 2, 2013, City of Berkeley Health, Housing and Community Services staff provided a comprehensive report on the existing homeless population, existing housing and social services, funding for homeless programs, existing quality of life laws, and best practices employed in other communities. A copy of the report can be found here:

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As this report illustrates, Berkeley spends roughly \$3 million dollars on homeless services, yet there are still large numbers of visible homeless on Telegraph Avenue, in the Downtown area and throughout our commercial districts. Our community has a good safety net of services that meet the basic needs of the homeless, but one critical area where we are lacking is providing short-term and permanent housing to get the homeless off our streets. The Obama administration and government agencies throughout the country

are shifting their focus away from emergency services and towards Housing First. In addition, Berkeley's diverse homeless population has a number of distinct needs which must be addressed through appropriate outreach and services. While our population is largely older, male and chronically homeless, there are growing numbers of Transition Age Youth and even families who are becoming homeless and finding their way into shelters and on our streets.

The purpose of the Berkeley Homeless Task Force is to facilitate a community conversation bringing together service providers, homeless persons, students, business owners, and the broader community to identify challenges towards addressing homelessness and to develop a plan for improved services, housing opportunities and other programs to serve Berkeley's homeless population. The goal of the task force is to bring stakeholders together to discuss common goals and to develop a community vision towards addressing homelessness.

Demographics of Berkeley's Homeless Population

In January 2015, Everyone Home organized a homeless count in Alameda County, including a specific count in Berkeley. However, this information is not expected to be released until the fall. The most recent data currently available for the County is from 2013 and 2009 for Berkeley. The 2009 count identified 824 homeless in Berkeley.

680 of those were literally homeless, meaning they have no permanent housing. This includes living on the streets, shelters, and transitional housing programs. Of the 680, 526 were adults without dependents, and 125 people in families.

276 of the 680 literally homeless were defined as chronically homeless. This is defined as adults unaccompanied by children who have at least one disability and have been homeless for over a year or four times in the last year. While this is a significant decrease from the 529 people reported chronically homeless in Berkeley in 2003, it represents 27% of the County's chronically homeless population.

144 people are hidden homeless. This applies to those who are living temporarily with a friend or relative, in a motel, or facing eviction in the next seven days. This is ten-fold increase compared to 2003. Hidden homeless make up 17% of Berkeley's homeless population, compared to 41% of the County's population.

Berkeley has a considerably higher proportion of homeless with disabilities compared to the County. 41% of Berkeley's literally homeless classified themselves as having a mental illness, compared to 30% of the County. 40% of Berkeley's literally homeless are chronic substance abusers, and the County is at 36%. Half of Berkeley's chronically homeless have both a mental illness and an alcohol or drug dependence.

20% of Berkeley's homeless population is veterans, which is similar to the County's at 17%. 46% of Berkeley's homeless veterans served in the Vietnam War.

Below is a chart that breaks down the race/ethnicity, gender, and age of Berkeley's and the County's homeless population in the 2009 survey compared to demographic info provided in the 2010 US Census.

**People using Homeless Services in 2009 in Berkeley and Alameda County Compared to
Berkeley's Population in the 2010 US Census**

	Berkeley		Alameda County
	Service Users	Entire Population	Service Users
Race			
African American	59%	10%	53%
White	24%	60%	33%
Two or More Races	8%	6%	8%
Unknown	7%		2%
Asian	1%	19%	4%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	1%	<1%	2%
American Indian/Alaska Native	<1%	<1%	6%
Hispanic/Latino	4%	11%	15%
Gender			
Male	56%	49%	55%
Female	44%	51%	45%
Age			
13-17	<1%	3%	<1%
18-25	5%	29%	4%
26-40	21%	21%	19%
41-60	63%	22%	62%
60+	12%	16%	15%
Average Age	48	31	49

Current Homeless Programs and Housing

The FY 2014 budget allocated \$2,833,996 towards homeless agencies. This is a 2% reduction from the FY 2013 budget and a nearly 9% reduction from the FY 2011 budget. Below is a list of organizations that provide homeless services and the City's financial contribution to those programs.

One of the first services a person seeks when becoming homeless is an emergency shelter. The City funds agencies which provide 118 year round beds and 121 seasonal beds. Some of these beds are reserved for those who are referred by the Alameda County Social Services Agency's Community Housing and Shelter Services (CHASS) or the Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services Agency (BHCS). The rest are open to the general homeless population in Berkeley.

Emergency Shelters	Address	Beds	FY 2014 Funds
Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BFHP) Men's Overnight Shelter	1931 Center St	10 CHASS beds and 26 public beds	\$180,986
BFHP Women's Shelter	2140 Dwight Way	24 single beds and 8 family beds	\$116,469
Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (BOSS) Harrison House Singles/Recovery Center	711 Harrison St	17 CHASS beds, 10 BHCS beds, and 23 public beds	\$110,277
Dorothy Day Berkeley Emergency Storm Center	2345 Channing Way	50 beds during severe weather	\$16,206
City of Oakland Winter Shelter Program	Oakland Army Base	50 seasonal beds	\$61,000
Youth Engagement, Advocacy, Housing (YEAH!) Youth Emergency Assistance Hostel	1744 University Ave	21 seasonal beds	\$109,115
BFHP PCEI Centralized Shelter Reservation Hotline (not a shelter, program supports shelter access)	N/A	N/A	\$34,103

Transitional housing is often the next step from an emergency shelter. There are currently 157 beds available in transitional housing, with some programs getting City funding and others receiving no City funding.

Transitional Housing	Address	Beds	FY 2014 City Funds
Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BFHP) Independent House	2140 Dwight Way	11	\$0
BFHP Men's Overnight Shelter (Veterans Program)	1931 Center St	12	Funding included in Emergency Shelter Funds
BFHP Women's Transitional House	2140 Dwight Way	14	\$0
Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (BOSS) Harrison House Family Shelter	711 Harrison St	26	\$27,706
BOSS McKinley Family Transitional House	2111 McKinley St	24	\$0
BOSS Sankofa Transitional Housing	711 Harrison St	30	\$26,253
Fred Finch Youth Center Turning Point (18-25 year olds)	3404 King St	18	\$86,655
Resources for Community Development (RCD) Ashby House	1621 Ashby Ave	10	\$0
Women's Daytime Drop In Center Bridget Transitional House	2218 Acton St	12	\$23,838

There are six programs that provide support services for permanent housing. Four of these are specific sites; the other two programs provide rental subsidies to tenants who are renting in private apartments. Once a person is in permanent housing, they are no longer considered homeless.

Services in Permanent Supportive Housing	Address	People Served in FY 2012	FY 2014 City Funds
Berkeley Food and Housing Project Russell Street Residence Board and Care Facility	1741-43 Russell St	20	\$13,045
Bonita House Supported	2931 MLK Jr. Way, 1910-12	9	\$18,151

Independent Living	Hearst Ave		
Lifelong Medical Care (LMC) COACH Shelter Plus Care Social Worker	Tenant based	12	\$58,322
LMC Supportive Housing Program at UA Homes	1040 and 1330 University Ave	81	\$52,250
LMC PCEI Square One Supportive Housing	Tenant based	16	\$95,330
Toolworks, Inc. Supportive Housing	1040 and 1330 University Ave	81	\$47,665

In addition to the emergency shelter, transitional and permanent housing described above, the City supports a variety of services that are not connected to housing. These include meal programs; drop in centers, substance abuse treatment, legal, employment and homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing.

The City funds two meal programs that specifically target people who are homeless.

Meal Programs	Address	Meals Provided	FY 2014 City Funds
Berkeley Food and Housing Project Quarter Meal	2362 Bancroft Way	Dinner M-F, 145/day	\$45,786
Dorothy Day Trinity Church Breakfast	2362 Bancroft Way	Breakfast M-Sat, 168/day	\$41,223

There are five drop in centers that the City provides funding to. Drop in centers provide a multitude of services. First, they provide basic services such as restrooms, mail delivery, and medical services. Second, they provide housing management and related housing services. Third, they provide case management and retention services and provide social support.

Drop In Centers	Address	People Served in FY 2012	FY 2014 City Funds
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Alameda County Network of Mental Health Clients - Berkeley Drop In Center	3234 Adeline St	711	\$89,817
Berkeley Food and Housing Project - Multi-Service Center (MSC)	2362 Bancroft Way	226	\$197,294
Building Opportunities for Self Sufficiency (BOSS) Multi Agency Service Center (MASC)	1931 Center St	195	\$187,163
United for Health Youth Suitcase Clinic - Monday Night Clinic	2300 Bancroft Way	168	\$9,828
Women's Daytime Drop In Center Homeless Case Management and Health Care Services	2218 Acton St	1,193 (755 adults and 438 children)	\$115,793

There are four substance abuse programs, two of which provide on-site housing and the other providing general services. While these programs are available for all people, there is a significant proportion of the homeless population (40%) that is substance abusers.

Substance Use Treatment Program	Address	People Served in FY 2012	FY 2014 City Funds
Bonita House Inc.	1410 Bonita St	15 bed capacity	\$0
Lifelong Medical Care Acupuncture Detox Clinic	2001 Dwight Way	271	\$64,656
New Bridge Foundation	1820 Scenic Ave	Residential program (6-9 months) 15	\$50,000
Options Recovery Services Day Treatment Program	1931 Center St	895	\$191,839

There are several legal services that receive funding from the City. These services help homeless people become eligible for entitlements and addressing legal issues which can often be a barrier to housing.

Legal Services	Address	People Served in FY 2012	Type of Service	FY 2014 City Funds
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Alameda County Homeless Action Center	3126 Shattuck Ave	SSI (138) PCEI (49)	SSI advocacy and PCEI services	\$126,349
Family Violence Law Center Domestic Violence and Homelessness Prevention Project	470 27th St, Oakland	228	Crisis intervention, advocacy, case management, financial assistance, legal representation	\$87,030

The City also funds several employment programs. These programs are used by both the homeless and those that are housed.

Employment Programs	Address	People Served in FY 2012	Type of Service	FY 2014 City Funds
Rubicon Workforce Services	1918 Bonita Ave	80	Job readiness, pre-employment workshops, vocational assessment, planning and counseling, transitional employment, job placement, business services, job retention and career advancement services	\$35,266
Rubicon Work Maturity Training Program	1918 Bonita Ave	20	Landscape service, on-job training, counseling preparation workshops, placement assistance	\$55,292

Affects of Criminalization of the Homelessness

In February 2015, the Policy Advocacy Clinic, a division of the UC Berkeley School of Law, published a report¹ detailing the effectiveness of anti-homeless laws. The study looked at 58 cities in California that

¹ California's New Vagrancy Laws – Report on anti-homeless laws by Berkeley Law:
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2558944

combined have at least 500 anti-homeless laws. All these cities have restrictions on daytime activities such as sitting resting in public spaces, and all but one have restrictions on nighttime activities such as sleeping and lodging in public spaces.

Vagrancy laws, in which people were cited and jailed for selectively, enforced policies that often targeted people without homes, were struck down by the US Supreme Court in *Papachristou v. City of Jacksonville* in 1972. The ruling stated that vagrancy laws “encourage[d] arbitrary and erratic arrests and convictions,” “ma[de] criminal activities which by modern standards [we]re normally innocent,” and placed “unfettered discretion [...] in the hands of the Jacksonville police”.

In response to the rise of homelessness that started in the 1980s, a new wave of anti-homeless laws was enacted starting in the 1990s. The report found that 59% of anti-homeless laws in the 58 cities studied were enacted since 1990. The Great Recession worsened homelessness and more extreme anti-homeless laws followed. This equates to a collective total of 11 new laws a year under current trends. Californian cities have more anti-homeless laws than cities in other states, including being twice as likely to ban sleeping or lodging in vehicles.

Additionally, these laws appear to be targeted by status, and not behavior. The report goes on to say that there has been a 77% rise in arrests for vagrancy since 2000, even though during the same period arrests for behavioral problems such as public intoxication and disorderly conduct have decreased by 16% and 48% respectively.

The report concludes that there are several critical issues regarding the enactment of anti-homeless laws. First, it is harmful to the homeless as it perpetuates poverty by restricting access to the social safety net, affordable housing, and employment opportunities. Second, these laws raise many ethical, constitutional, and legal issues regarding the rights of homeless people. Finally, the cost of enforcing these laws is expensive, causing a lack of resources that could be used for policies that would be effective and humane in reducing homelessness.

It is clear that providing services, rather than resulting to criminalization, is both cost effective and ethical. While ultimately it should be up to the State to implement statewide homeless solutions, it is up to Berkeley to provide adequate services now. Failure to do so will only further drain resources and funding without dealing with the root causes of homelessness, causing an endless spiral of homelessness and wasteful spending.

Task Force Process

The Berkeley Homeless Task Force held its first meeting on August 15, 2013, with over 70 people in attendance. The meeting provided an overview of homelessness on a federal, county and local level and what policies and programs exist to address homelessness, as a foundation for future Task Force discussions. The Task Force heard presentations from Kristin Lee of the City of Berkeley Health, Housing and Community Services Department and Elaine DeColigny from Alameda County Everyone Home on existing Berkeley and County homeless services and Coordinated Access, and Katherine Gale from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness on federal homeless policy. Pattie Wall, Executive Director of the Homeless Action Center presented the results of a survey of homeless clients about service needs, which indicated that housing was the main priority and unfulfilled need of homeless people. In addition, youth from Youth Spirit Artworks provided testimonials about their experiences being

homeless. The meeting also started identifying questions and issues the Task Force would begin focusing on.

Before the first meeting, over 100 diverse stakeholders were contacted asking them to join the Task Force and to complete a survey to identify priorities for the Task Force. Out of that survey, several key issues emerged: Housing, Existing service needs and expanding services, Homeless Youth and Mental Health. Attendees of the August 15th meeting were asked to identify which subcommittees they wish to serve on. The second meeting of the Task Force was held in October 2013 and consisted of subcommittee meetings based on the priorities identified in the initial survey. Each subcommittee identified ideas/projects to work on.

Following the October 2013 meeting, the Homeless Youth Subcommittee met and not only visited Telegraph Avenue to talk to Transition Age Youth (TAY) congregating on the street, but they also visited service sites to get a sense of how is Berkeley doing in serving the homeless TAY population. Based on these site visits, the Youth Subcommittee worked on improvements to the Willard Shower Program and supporting the Suitcase Clinic's request for city funding. The Housing Subcommittee also met regularly to work on the Berkeley Way development, identifying vacant houses and buildings for homeless housing, additional resources for the Housing Trust Fund, and Housing First.

In 2014, the Task Force moved towards a direction of hosting work sessions on specific issues around homelessness and using that as a spring board for discussion and recommendations. In February and April 2014, the Task Force focused on Housing First models and how Berkeley can fully move towards a Housing First approach. In September 2014, the Task Force reflected on its work to date and identified a process going forward to develop recommendations to the City Council.

Some of the accomplishments the Task Force acknowledged at that time included:

- Successfully advocating for the Berkeley Way project (Bridge Housing and BFHP now selected for an RFQ, 1 year horizon on resolving the parking replacement issue).
- Working on developing a Housing First policy.
- Researched and collaborative learning about Transitionally Aged Youth (TAY), tent villages, hostels, rainy day respite possibilities, residential co-ops, alternative funding sources for housing, how to network and streamline systems, and creating an available properties/housing inventory for Berkeley.
- Marked progress on improving the Willard Showers.
- Made great contacts for residential co-ops: Rick Lewis, Executive Director, Bay Area Community Land Trust. Realized the need to draw more residents, merchants, service providers, churches, and the campus into our conversation.
- Developed the beginnings of a strong recommendation to Council.

From October 2014 to March 2015 the Task Force held focused workshops on important homeless issues: Mental Health services; the needs of the LGBT Youth Homeless population; Criminalization of the Homeless; Youth Homelessness.

From March to May 2015, the Task Force reviewed all of the issues each subcommittee identified, as well as ideas raised during each meeting and developed a comprehensive list of recommendations, which were refined and approved by consensus by the Task Force.

Goals and Priorities

Over the past three decades, Berkeley has seen a continued growth in homelessness. While Berkeley's targeted efforts to address chronic homelessness resulted in a 48% decrease in the 2009 Berkeley specific homeless count, the number of hidden homeless increased. While the results of the 2015 Berkeley specific count have not been released, rising housing costs and cost of living most likely has not resulted in a substantial decrease in chronic homelessness. Berkeley per capita has one of the largest chronic homeless populations in the entire county. While our community has provided great leadership funding an array of services and supporting regional efforts to address homelessness, there is clearly still more to do. **The Task Force's fundamental goal is ending homelessness in our city.** We have the ability to leverage resources and the vision and dedication of our citizens to solve this crisis and to serve as a model for other cities.

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However the City of Berkeley must also address the specific needs of our homeless population. The main need stated by homeless clients and agreed by nearly everyone throughout the Task Force process is **HOUSING**. Berkeley has a great safety net of services addressing the daily needs of the homeless, and providing emergency support, but in order to truly end homelessness we must provide permanent housing, and resources to prevent homelessness.

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TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

In April and May of 2015, the Berkeley Homeless Task Force met to review, revise and adopt by consensus the following recommendations to the Berkeley City Council. These recommendations reflect close to three years of meetings (August 2013-May 2015) during which the Task Force held workshop discussions on a number of topics: existing homeless services, best practices other communities have used to address homelessness, and the needs of specific homeless populations in Berkeley (such as the McKinney Vento and Transition Age Youth populations). These recommendations reflect the input of several hundred Berkeley residents who have participated throughout this process including: homeless clients, service providers, city commissioners, business owners/representatives; UC Berkeley professors, students, clergy, youth, and homeless advocates.

These stakeholders brought their expertise and ideas to the table and many good ideas came forward in the Task Force's discussions. In order to organize the many ideas, these recommendations have been divided into several sections to focus Council attention on short-term and long-term priorities, as well as additional ideas for Council and the City Manager consideration. **Tier 1 recommendations** are those the Task Force has identified as critical and which can be implemented immediately if the City were to dedicate funding and staffing to expand or establish these new services. **Tier 2 recommendations** are new concepts which require additional study and involve longer term implementation.

Recommendations Approved by Consensus by Task Force

Tier 1 Recommendations – for Immediate Implementation

Expand City Homeless Outreach Team

Expand the city's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) from the current staffing level of **one FTE** from the Mental Health Division. Allocate additional General Fund revenues and explore other funding (Federal, State, County, grants) to increase FTE on the Homeless Outreach Team, either in the form of additional full-time staff, or hourly staff. Also explore partnerships with UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare or Psychology Department to establish internships for coursework for interns to work alongside permanent HOT staff. Consider specialized HOT teams for Telegraph Avenue and Downtown and provide additional outreach to the Transition Age Youth (TAY) population. The HOT team should not just focus on mental health outreach, but rather broad homeless outreach, including referrals to housing and services. (Information the City's HOT and on outreach in other cities can be found on pages 10 and 18-19 of this report: http://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2013/04Apr/Documents/2013-04-02_Worksession_Item_01_Compassionate_Sidewalks.aspx)

Expand Mobile Crisis Team

Dedicate additional General Fund revenues, or additional County or Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) resources to expand staffing for the city's Mobile Crisis Unit, **beyond the .5 FTE proposed in the FY 2016-2017 budget**, to increase hours and days of coverage. (A recent *Berkeleyside* article stated that mental health calls make up the largest number of calls for Police services. Limited numbers of Mobile Crisis staff put an increased burden on Police to interact, de-escalate and direct individuals suffering from a mental health crisis into appropriate treatment².)

² <http://www.berkeleyside.com/2015/04/16/mental-health-calls-are-1-drain-on-berkeley-police-resources/>

Fund Increased CIT Training

Allocate additional resources to expand the number of Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) classes to increase the number of CIT-trained officers on patrol. Explore requiring CIT trained patrol officers to dress in plainclothes rather than in uniform. (CIT Coordinator Jeff Shannon recently told the Mental Health Commission that the limited number of classes has prevented the Police Department from increasing the number of CIT trained officers on patrol)

Public Restrooms

Establish a plan to expand the number of public restrooms available in Berkeley's commercial districts and public spaces. Study approaches other cities have employed, including self-cleaning restrooms, attended restrooms, and the Portland Loo³ (www.portlandloo.com) being used in Portland and soon Emeryville⁴. Consider establishing incentives to business owners to allow public access to restrooms. Establish a policy of integrating in new city government buildings public restrooms and allocate necessary funding to construct additional public restrooms in parks and in commercial districts. Expand the hours of current public restrooms in Berkeley.

Request that BART re-opens its restrooms in its Berkeley stations, and urge UC Berkeley to make their restrooms on-campus available for use by the general public. Request that the Downtown Berkeley Association provide a dedicated public restroom or funding for additional public restrooms Downtown.

In addition, consider the inclusion of public restrooms in new high-rise Downtown developments as a "significant community benefit" or funding for constructing public restrooms in the Downtown area. Explore requiring as part of a vacancy tax, or through agreements with owners of vacant commercial spaces, to allow public use of restrooms in vacant spaces.

Storage Space for Homeless

Establish additional secure storage space, including refrigerated lockers, in existing service sites or in public facilities, for homeless people to store their belongings. (Information on previous City locker program: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/citycouncil/2004citycouncil/packet/032304/2004-03-23%20Item%2009.pdf>)

Warming Centers

Establish additional Warming/ Rain-Day Respite Centers during the winter months, in addition to the storm shelters funded by the City, to provide spaces for people to get off the streets and into a safe and comfortable environment, with particular emphasis on the Telegraph and Downtown areas. Warming Centers are an enclosed physical space so that people can get out of the rain and other natural elements. Explore working with service providers, including Night on the Streets Catholic Worker, to establish Warming Centers at existing service sites, and partnering with the faith-based community to provide space for Warming Centers at churches. Look into integrating Warming Centers in either the Telegraph-

³ <http://www.citylab.com/design/2012/01/why-portlands-public-toilets-succeeded-where-others-failed/1020/>

⁴ <https://emeryville.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=2252371&GUID=D09E7F37-E23C-4F60-8175-4D33E597813F>

Channing Parking Garage or the new Center Street Garage, the entrance of the Veterans Memorial Building (1931 Center St.) or in other public facilities, such as senior centers and public libraries. Explore tying Warming Centers to the city's Resiliency initiatives, funded through the Rockefeller Foundation grant.

Tier 2 Recommendations – Require Further Study/Longer Term Implementation

Rehabilitation/Renting Vacant Homes/Multi-Family Buildings for Homeless Housing

Develop an inventory of vacant single-family homes and multi-family properties or properties at risk of conversion to market-rate housing, and engage in discussions with property owners regarding non-profit developers acquiring those properties, as well as single room occupancy hotels, to be rehabilitated for transitional and permanent supportive housing for the homeless. Explore the city leasing existing multi-family properties to provide housing for the homeless.

Short-Term Shelter/Navigation Center

Explore establishing a short-term shelter such as the Navigation Center which recently opened in San Francisco, which would provide short-term housing for individuals who have had difficulty accessing or staying in shelters because of possessions, pets or prior negative experiences. A Navigation Center would provide short-term housing (a week or more) for people to stabilize, rest, and engage in intensive case management to connect people to housing and services. A Navigation Center would allow groups of individuals to remain living together as a community, rather than be separated by limited access to shelter beds. Explore whether HUD funding is available to help establish a Navigation Center in Berkeley.

Alternative Housing Options

Explore alternative housing options that are more affordable to provide short-term or long-term housing to get people off the street such as: tiny houses, micro units, Accessory Dwelling Units, boats or sleeping in vehicles. Explore converting commercial or industrial property into housing for the homeless. Look at amending City laws prohibiting individuals from sleeping in vehicles overnight, and eliminate penalties for sleeping in vehicles. In addition, explore designating public spaces where homeless people can camp overnight.

Additional Recommendations for Council Consideration

- a. Direct the City Manager and Chief of Police to provide expanded Police training on interacting with homeless persons and how to direct individuals to housing and services, including coordination with service providers. Limit the activities of Block by Block Ambassadors to beautification and cleaning, rather than direct interaction and outreach to the street population. Instead DBA should provide funding to the City to expand the city Homeless Outreach Team and Mobile Crisis Unit. If Block by Block Ambassadors are to continue to interact and conduct outreach with the street population, then they must engage in expanded training on crisis intervention, de-escalation, and how to interact with the homeless and connect them to services. (One such training could be the recently established Mental Health First Aid course)

- b. Increase funding for the city's emergency rental assistance program, to increase the number of Berkeley residents served and to prevent eviction and homelessness.
- c. Expand direct, case specific outreach services to homeless TAY youth, either through expanding the HOT team or through contracting with a non-profit organization.
- d. Increase funding to employ more case workers to maximize federal housing dollars coming to Berkeley and to expand the number of Shelter Plus Care eligible individuals.
- e. Amend the city's Housing Trust Fund Guidelines to add among the existing established priorities funding for permanent supportive housing and housing for Transition Age Youth. In addition, when establishing priorities for each Housing Trust Fund Request for Proposals, the city should also give preference to projects that provide transitional or permanent supportive housing for the chronic homeless, with particular emphasis on the Transition Age Youth population.
- f. Increase General Fund allocations to existing homeless service providers to reverse years of funding cuts.
- g. Establish a policy of ensuring 24-hour access to shelters and increasing access to services that offer alternatives to living on streets and in other public spaces. Ensure better access to services through outreach, program design and through available resources to address the basic needs of homeless persons, and to transition individuals from living on streets and in public spaces. **Affirm the right of everyone, homeless or not, to have access and use sidewalks and public spaces.**
- h. Create an independent complaint and review system for the Block by Block Ambassador Program. The City should require as part of its contract with the Downtown Berkeley Association that they establish a formal complaint process including a standardized form for complaints, and that all complaints be forwarded to the city's contract monitor who will review and ensure resolution of the complaint.
- i. Establish a city staff position in Health, Housing and Community Services Department of a homeless services ombudsperson, to take and review complaints from homeless clients related to their denial of services and placement in shelter/housing. In addition, the ombudsman would represent the person making the complaint to the social service agency that is the subject of the complaint.
- j. Work with the Berkeley merchants to expand acceptance by Berkeley restaurants of EBT cards.

Task Force Recommendations/Statements on Criminalization of the Homeless

- a. The Task Force is opposed to any further criminalization of the homeless, including the proposals put forward by Councilmember Maio at the March 17, 2015 City Council meeting. The Task Force recognizes that criminalization does not end homelessness. In fact criminalization impedes

efforts at ending homelessness including in the employment, qualifying for housing and benefits eligibility areas.

- b. The City should establish a tracking system for infractions being levied against homeless people, including smoking and other quality-of-life violations. Currently, BPD is collecting data on all pedestrian and vehicle stops. Information regarding police stops and citations of the homeless and people sleeping and occupying public sidewalks and spaces should be collected and submitted in an annual report to the PRC, Homeless Commission and City Council.
- c. Until we have the resources to house and serve the needs of our homeless it is critical that we stop the continued harassment and criminalization of street homeless people. No new laws or ordinances should be introduced and the laws which currently exist should be reviewed carefully, including those which cite or arrest people for behaviors related to their living situation. We want all people in Berkeley to have a right to use public sidewalks and spaces.
- d. Criminalization is counterproductive and pushes homeless people to different parts of our city or to different communities, and does not solve the problem of homelessness. We should not shuffle homeless people throughout the region, but rather work to provide adequate housing and supportive services to end the cycle of homelessness.
- e. Create opportunities to increase communication between merchants and the homeless, including providing Mental Health First Aid training, and specific training on how to interact and refer homeless people to services.

Possible Funding Sources for Recommendations:

- a. Establish a vacancy tax on vacant ground floor commercial space (requires voter approval)
- b. Adopt an increase in the business license tax on rental property with funds dedicated to the Housing Trust Fund and homeless services. (requires voter approval)
- c. Allocate as part of the biennial budget process revenue from Downtown tax assessments towards homeless services.
- d. Expand the hours of enforcement for parking meters in the Downtown and Telegraph areas to 8 pm on Monday through Saturday, with a portion of that revenue dedicated to homeless services.
- e. Include in the requirement for “significant community benefits” from Downtown projects above 75 feet, that developers provide funding for affordable housing for the homeless and extremely low-income populations, as well as public restrooms.

FY 2016-2017 Budget Recommendations

The Homeless Task Force has reviewed the City Manager’s proposed allocations to community agencies for FY 2016-2017. We are concerned about proposed cuts, as well as the lack of funding at all, for a number of programs that provide important services to our homeless population. We strongly urge the City Council to identify funding to restore these cuts. These services either provide an important safety net currently for the homeless, or are new programs that would address identified gaps in services (such as the needs of the TAY population).

The Task Force appreciates the Council's budget referral of extending the YEAH Shelter beyond the winter months and urges the Council to identify funding to establish a year round shelter/drop-in center for the TAY homeless population. **However, we feel that first and foremost we should restore the cuts to existing homeless services, which are identified below.**

As we are transitioning out of the recession and more revenue becomes available to the city, we should not only invest those resources in physical infrastructure but in human infrastructure, and maintain and possibly expand the important continuum of services Berkeley provides to the homeless. The Berkeley City Council has historically been a leader in funding homeless services, and maintaining the safety net even in difficult economic times. During an improved economic climate we should not be reducing critical homeless services.

Existing services:

Berkeley Drop-In Center Case Management - \$35,000
Dorothy Day Trinity Church Breakfast Program - \$8,894
Youth Spirit Artworks:
Vocational Arts Training - \$33,777
BUSD Homeless Student Program - \$50,000

New programs which should be funded:

Youth Spirit Artworks/YEAH Housing Subsidies proposal - \$125,000
Youth Spirit Artworks TAY Youth Drop In Center/Daytime Job Training Program – \$50,000
Suitcase Clinic – \$15,000
Extending YEAH Shelter beyond winter months - \$300,000 (estimated)

Next Steps

The Homeless Task Force strongly urges the Berkeley City Council to: **Direct the City Manager to develop a plan detailing the costs and feasibility of implementing the Tier 1 Task Force Recommendations. The review should involve the Homeless Commission and a report should return to Council no later than six months. In addition, city staff should explore the possible funding sources recommended (page 17) as well as any available County, state and federal sources to implement the Task Force's recommendations. The City Manager, Homeless Commission and Housing Advisory Commission should also begin to explore the feasibility of implementing the Tier 2 Recommendations.**

Some of the recommendations put forward by the Task Force can be adopted in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Biennial Budget, if additional funds are identified. The Task Force urges the Council to fully fund the existing homeless services slated to be cut and new programs identified on page 18.

The Task Force will continue to meet to study additional issues (needs of homeless seniors, LGBT homeless youth) and to monitor the implementation of the Task Force's recommendations. We offer our expertise and commitment to the City in evaluating and implementing these proposals.

Acknowledgements

The Homeless Task Force wishes to acknowledge and thank its co-conveners, Genevieve Wilson and David Stegman, for their leadership and work in guiding the Task Force process.

In addition we would like to thank the office of Berkeley City Councilmember Jesse Arreguin, most specifically Anthony Sanchez, Stefan Elgstrand, Audrey Gutierrez (former) and Rian Johnson (former) for all their work in organizing Task Force meetings and providing ongoing support to the Task Force.

The Task Force wishes to thank Kristin Lee from the City of Berkeley Health, Housing and Community Services; Elaine DeColigny from Alameda County Everyone Home; and Katherine Gale from the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness for participating in Task Force meetings and in providing important information on homeless policy and services on a federal, county and local level.

We wish to thank the Subcommittee Chairs:

Homeless Youth: Steve Martinot, Elliot Halpern, David Stegman

Housing: Genevieve Wilson and Igor Tregub

Most importantly we wish to thank the many dedicated people who have participated throughout the Task Force process and who have made important contributions towards identifying real needs for our homeless population and developing innovative ideas to help address homelessness in Berkeley.

Comments from City Commissions on Homeless Task Force Recommendations

Housing Advisory Commission

Priority Recommendations

F. Rehabilitation/Renting Vacant Homes/Multi-Family Buildings for Homeless Housing

Commissioner Martinucci (appointed by Maio):

Should work with established non-profits to acquire and rehab houses and multi family properties. City should not undertake role, City has a bad track record as a landlord (i.e. public housing)

Commissioner Maher (filling in for Alejandro, Worthington temp): Should look at Housing First programs in Utah as a model

Commissioner Dominguez (appointed by Moore): Have you looked at converting commercial property or industrial property to short term housing? thinking of a lot of vacant warehouses in West Berkeley.

Commissioner Magofna (Appointed by Bates): Concerned about converting existing multi-family properties to transitional housing, since it results in less rental units available for the general population. Converting vacant single family homes is a good idea, since it has less housing impacts.

H. Alternative Housing options

Commissioner Gordon (appointed by Droste)

Have you looked at tent cities or identifying vacant land to allow homeless people to camp short term?

LA and San Jose have allowed this

Maybe even on industrial land in West Berkeley?

Commissioner Abrahamson (appointed by Capitelli): She agrees with Kate's ideas, is concerned about liberalizing laws to allow people to sleep in vehicles, her neighborhood in West Berkeley dealt with the issue of abandoned vehicles for years, creates impacts on neighborhoods.

Commissioner Maher: Likes the idea of tiny homes, however there may be building/zoning code issues. Should the city be the one to build them or should it be a non-profit/private entity, such as was done in Oakland?

Commissioner Dominguez: Extend area for ADUs beyond ¼ a mile if they agree to provide ADU housing to homeless

Commissioner Magofna: Have problem with people sleeping in cars and motor homes. ADUs and tiny houses is a good idea. How can we incentivize them? Tiny houses are cheaper to build. Perhaps we should allow tiny houses on vacant properties as a short term interim use of vacant land?

Commissioner Abrahamson: Have you considered incentivizing micro units to provide transitional housing? Repurposing SROs for housing is a good idea.

Commissioner Gordon: Tiny homes and ADUs cheaper housing option, maybe look at housing models that have shared bathrooms and no kitchens

Additional recommendations:

f. Commissioner Gordon: Should also think about helping people who are hoarders to manage clutter. Help prevent health and safety evictions.

Martinucci: Okay adding TAY to Housing Trust Fund guidelines, however we should pre-determine that homeless housing should be part of every RFP process

Funding recommendations:

Commissioner Gordon: loves the idea of a vacancy tax, likes the idea of incentivizing public restrooms through the significant community benefits policy

Homeless Commission

About our recommendation (I put direct quotes in ""):

Della-Piana and Sempari both recused.

Commissioner Becker: concerned about behavioral standards and feels the catchphrase "criminalizing the homeless" is incorrect and misguided. "These behavioral standards are not criminalizing homeless people." He said he left the HTF because "it did not address my concerns. It refused to address Measure S. The job was never really finished. That's my advice to the HTF." He told TBD he's not running for president again but will remain on their board. "I'll have to look for a new kingdom."

Commissioner Marasovic: very happy with increasing CIT and mobile crisis. Really appreciates Jeff Shannon's desire to see 50% of BPD CIT trained. Mentioned Shirley Dean's letter about 50% of BPD calls being mental health related. Upping CIT would be fantastic. Loves the idea of YEAH! going year-round and funding Suitcase Clinic.

Feels like warming centers are like drop-ins. Wonders how realistic using vacant storefronts is? Concerned that we're now focused too much on youth, given they're 4-10% of the street population.

Doesn't want to make SF the ideal re Navigation Center or Public Restrooms.

Feels our ideas are impossible. "How creative can you really get when property's just so expensive?"

Thinks there's enough outreach. People she talks to on the street tell her they feel over-outreached. We have BACS and others, and housing (and getting people into it) seems like the bigger issue. Would love to see MHSA monies tapped.

Doesn't think any of our funding ideas are realistic.

Commissioner Gresher: nationally, PD are being used as mental health professionals.

Commissioner Becker: "The HTF hasn't been willing to address what's hurting businesses. You're just adding insult to injury. Your recommendation is a bunch of enabling strategies. The Suitcase Clinic and YSA are enabling entities."

Commissioner Gresher: "Homeless services have become an industry in Berkeley. They are about preserving and advancing their careers."

"It IS a homeless industry. They are all adamantly opposed to any behavior modification."

Commissioner Marasovic: "Some. Not all."

Commissioner Davis: Doesn't see it that way. Thinks Berkeley's shortsighted and needs to take a BOLD step toward housing. We need HOUSING!

Commissioner Gresher: people can't find work, either. Where's the job creation?

Commissioner Marasovic: "Yes. jobs. And not just construction."

Commissioner Bastone: "I agree. And Housing First. We need housing."

Commissioner Davis: Is Council coming around re housing?

Commissioner Gresher: definitely work on good CBAs

Commissioner Marasovic: "My summary on the rec is that you should rewrite it to narrow and specify, and make things realistic."

Commissioner Becker: "We need low-income housing. The people who work for me are not too many paychecks away from being homeless, themselves."

Human Welfare and Community Action Commission

Most commissioners had no comments but were grateful and supportive of what we've set forth. A couple community members asked to be added to the roster. A few specifics:

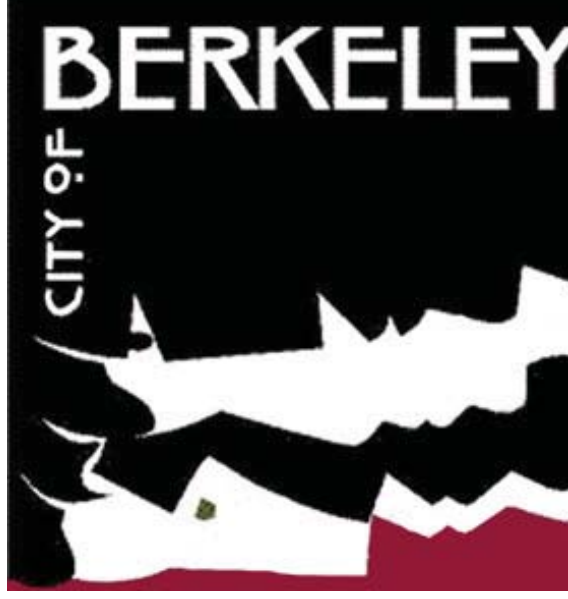
Commissioner McCullan: his one concern/disappointment is that he sees nothing specific about disabled folks on the street. So I have this in my notes to address next year, pending future plans unfolding. I also have a note to have a one to one with McCullan if possible since he is also a member of SAFE and has some specific ideas to talk about based on what we wrote. Maybe Jesse could reach out to him as well? He seems pretty amazing. He's also in a wheelchair and not complaining about the 6' sidewalk clearance part of Maio's Item 19.

Commissioner Dunner: she loved our whole rec, especially public restrooms. I think that one's going to be an easy sell at this point. She hopes BART will collaborate with our vision.

Chair Sood: supportive of everything. Feels certain that the rubber will meet the road when we start talking funding. Assumes we're well aware of that in setting vision forth.

Commissioner McCullan: in addition to the disabled, he's concerned about homeless elderly women, women in general, folks in wheelchairs sitting in the rain, and mentally ill/severely traumatized folks receiving patience and kindness.

Launch of Berkeley's Task Force on Homelessness



**Thursday, August 15, 2013
7:00pm – 9:00pm**

**Berkeley YMCA Teen Center
2111 Martin Luther King Jr. Way**

Organized by the Office of Berkeley City Councilmember Jesse Arreguin
jarreguin@cityofberkeley.info • www.jessearreguin.com • 510-981-7140

Stay in Touch

Contact our office with any follow up questions or ideas

Councilmember Jesse Arreguin
jarreguin@cityofberkeley.info
www.jessearreguin.com

Tel: 510-981-7140

Welcome to the first meeting in a community process to address homelessness in the City of Berkeley. This meeting will focus on the state of homelessness at the national, state, and local level. Thank you for joining us as we start this exciting and much needed process to address homelessness in our community.

Tonight’s Program

Welcome & Introductions – Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Homelessness on a National Level – Katharine Gale,
US Interagency Council on Homelessness

Homelessness in Alameda County – Elaine DeColigny,
EveryoneHome

City of Berkeley Policies & Services - Kristen Lee,
City of Berkeley Housing Department

Berkeley’s Homeless Population – Patti Wall,
Executive Director, Homeless Action Center

Testimonials – YouthSpirit Members

Survey Results & Next Steps – Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Audience Questions* – Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Thank you to the Berkeley YMCA Teen Center for hosting this event, and to Sophie Hahn, Community Leader, Anthony Sanchez, Chief of Staff and Rian Johnson, Legislative Assistant, for their support in making this forum a reality.

*In order to keep the meeting manageable in length and hear from all of our speakers please hold questions until the end of all the presentations, at which point a moderator will collect questions written on index cards from the audience and presenters will answer questions in a panel format.

Berkeley's Taskforce on Homelessness

Subcommittee Meeting Monday Oct 7th, 2013

Session I - 5:30-7:00pm

Homeless Youth

- Describe population & needs
- Assessment of current services
- Regional services for transient homeless youth

Housing & Emergency Shelter

- Evaluate current status, laws and policies
- Consider housing first policy
- Identify resources for affordable housing
 - Transitional housing
 - Permanently supportive housing

Session II - 7:30-9:00pm

Service Assessment

- Big picture of services provided
 - Substance Abuse
 - Seniors
 - Veterans
- Coordinated intake & assessment process
- Coordinated delivery of services

Mental Health

- In depth assessment of current services
- Needs of this population
- Obamacare (Affordable Care Act) – possible impact?
 - Mobile Crisis Units
 - Substance Abuse Support



BERKELEY HOMELESS TASK FORCE MEETING

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

5:30-7:30 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center, Classrooms A & B

AGENDA

- VI. Welcome
- VII. Where We Are and Schedule Going Forward
- VIII. Housing First/City of Berkeley Housing Resources
- IX. Questions
- X. Closing



BERKELEY HOMELESS TASK FORCE MEETING

Tuesday, February 18, 2014

5:30-7:30 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center, Classrooms A & B

AGENDA

- I. Welcome
- II. Where We Are and Schedule Going Forward
- III. Housing First/City of Berkeley Housing Resources
- IV. Questions
- V. Closing



Berkeley Homeless Task Force

April 16, 2014
AGENDA

- I. Welcome and Review/Changes to agenda
- II. Reports from Subcommittees
- III. Berkeley Way Parking Lot: Endorsement
- IV. Amending Housing Trust Fund Guidelines/Recommendation to prioritize funding for acquisition/rehab of buildings for homeless housing/BHA
- V. Steve Martinot – urging BHA to reserve public housing units for homeless youth
- VI. Agree on principles for Housing First, form subcommittee to write policy
- VII. Affordable Housing Tax
- VIII. Next Steps/Closing

Next Meeting: **Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 5:30 p.m, Location TBA**

Items: Presentation from Berkeley Housing Authority & Housing First

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Agenda

Monday, October 20, 2014, 6:30-8:30 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center, Multipurpose Room

Facilitators: Genevieve Wilson, David Stegman

Presenters: Jesse Arreguin, Steven Segal and students

6:30 Intro and Ground-rules – David Stegman

6:35 Jesse's Spot – Jesse Arreguin

6:50 Presentation: SW235, Homelessness in America – Steven Segal and students

7:05 Setting Goals and Objectives – Genevieve Wilson

8:00 Announcements, Snacks, and Connecting

8:30 Clean-up

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes

Monday, September 15, 2014, 6:30-8:30 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center, Multipurpose Room

Facilitators: Jesse Arreguin, Genevieve Wilson, David Stegman

Here's what we've done:

- We helped move Berkeley Way moved to RFQ (Bridge Housing and BFHP now selected, 1 year horizon on resolving the parking replacement issue).
- We began working on Berkeley's Housing First Policy.
- We've done research and collaborative learning about Transitionally Aged Youth (TAY), tent villages, hostels, rainy day respite possibilities, residential co-ops, alternative funding sources for housing, how to network and streamline systems, and creating an available properties/housing inventory for Berkeley.
- We've gotten the word out about potential affordable housing taxes and the like.
- We're helping change folks' attitudes around town.
- There's been marked progress on improving the Willard Showers.
- We have a great contact for residential co-ops : Rick Lewis, ED, Bay Area Community Land Trust.
- We've realized the need to draw more residents, merchants, service providers, churches, and the campus into our conversation.
- We have the beginnings of a strong recommendation to Council.

How do we move forward from here?

- Hold monthly meetings through April 2015.
- Continue to give input on Berkeley Way (Jesse: how?).
- Finish Berkeley's Housing First Policy (Jesse: how?).
- Encourage establishing permanent affordable housing in Berkeley (Jesse: how?).
- Solicit volunteers for projects from the new force roster (as needed).
- Advocate for TAY employment opportunities (Thanks, Michael).
- Collaborate more broadly:
 1. Invite people to our meetings – homeless, residents, services, merchants, campus, churches;
 2. Plan future presentations like the Suitcase Clinic's to match future meeting agendas;
 3. Involve city players in goal-setting;
 4. Partner with relevant commissions.
- **Decide what *kind* of a recommendation we will write in April. Set goals and objectives.**

Future TF meeting topics:

- Harm reduction
- Criminalization
- TAY
- Mental Health
- March 2015: final edits and input on recommendation to Council
- April 2015: Council worksession and celebration
- May 2015 (meeting TBD): potential debrief and next steps

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 17, 2014, 6:30-8:30 pm

North Berkeley Senior Center, Health Room

6:30 Intro David Stegman, ED, Dorothy Day House

6:35 Jesse's Spot Council Member Jesse Arreguin, District 4

6:50 Mental Health and Homelessness: A Community Conversation

Intro: Steve Grolnic-McClurg, Mental Health Manager, Berkeley Mental Health

Body: Paul Kealoha-Blake, Chair, Berkeley Mental Health Commission

8:00/8:30 Announcements, Snacks, Clean-Up

Homeless Task Force Consideration of Mental Health

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, more than 124,000 – or *one-fifth* – of the 610,000 homeless people across the USA suffer from a severe mental illness.

Providing housing to the homeless is often the most effective first step in coping with mental illness.

It is economically sensible to treat the homeless mentally ill.

Berkeley Resources Berkeley Mental Health Division

Alameda County
State of California

<u>Law Enforcement</u>	<u>Mobile Crisis</u>	<u>Ambassadors</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Mental Health First Aid</u>
CIT	BMH	DBA	BOSS	BMH
Jeff Shanon	Steve	Lance/Carmen	Berkeley Free Clinic Suitcase Clinic	

DIRECT TO SERVICES

Mental Illness and Violence

The vast majority of people with mental illness are not violent.

What researchers say about the link between mental illness and violence:

"Although studies suggest a link between mental illnesses and violence, the contribution of people with mental illnesses to overall rates of violence is small, and further, the magnitude of the relationship is greatly exaggerated in the minds of the general population (Institute of Medicine, 2006)

"People with psychiatric disabilities are far more likely to be victims than perpetrators of violent crime (Appleby, et al., 2001).

Compliance & Treatment

5150

Up to 72 hour hold
Involuntary Hospitalization

AB1421

Assisted out-patient care
California State law
enacted by County
Court Ordered hospitalization
or medication

Conservatorship

Gives one adult authority to
legally order hospitalization
or medication

Peer Respite Housing

Alternative to locked
hospitalization, peer
managed and run

Mental Health Court

Links patients who would be
prison bound to long term
community treatment
and resources

Street Intervention

Clinical screening and
on site intervention
in street, encampment

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes
Monday, October 20, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM
North Berkeley Senior Center, Multipurpose Room
David Stegman and Genevieve Wilson, facilitators

BHTF Vision and Mission: Form a broad-based, community coalition by developing relationships with the homeless and others in order to prepare a practical recommendation to City Council for April, 2015.

Future meetings (always 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center):

Oct. 20: Goals (past)

Nov. 17: Mental Health

Dec. 15: LGBTQ

Jan. 26: Criminalization

Feb. 23: Transitionally Aged Youth

Mar. 16: Prep Recommendation

Apr. 20: Council Work Session and Force Celebration

May 18: Force Debrief and Next Steps

From Jesse's Update:

- There will be a Berkeley specific homeless count in Jan. 2015 (volunteer opportunity via EveryOne Home)
- Coordinated intake and assessment are going to be implemented
- HCRC is developing (Homeless Crisis Resolutions Center)
- Housing First Policy is developing
- The city will do an RFP process to select an agency to run integrated assessment
- Berkeley Way is moving forward (BFHP and Bridge Housing) – there will be a future opportunity for us to have input as a task force
- Igor and Steve's project researching vacant properties is another volunteer opportunity
- Jesse will keep us apprised of relevant dates for all of the above items

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Steven Segal's class, Homelessness in America, M 12-2 Haviland 2, spsegal@berkeley.edu
- Suitcase Clinic Proposal for funding, [e halpern@sbcglobal.net](mailto:halpern@sbcglobal.net)
- Dorothy Day House Breakfast, most mornings of the week at Christ Church, dstegman15@aol.com

Guidelines and Possibilities for our April Recommendation:

- Make it specific, focused, and organized. Well-structured, compelling, and coordinated.
- Nolan Pack suggests using a format from Berkeley Goldman School. He can explain.
- Get adequate input from Service Providers.
- Aim to include 3-5 attainable items.
- Some possibilities:
 - Suitcase Clinic Proposal (Eliot and David)
 - Rainy Day Respite (Priscilla Birge)
 - One-Stop Website/generic entry point to shelter, services, etc. (Igor and others)
 - EBT Expansion (Andy and others)
 - Vacancy inventory and perhaps tax suggestion in tandem (Igor and others)

General Thoughts Regarding Funding-Related Possibilities:

- Are we thinking about ways to allocate Housing Trust Fund (HTF) money?
- What about sources for HTF money?
- Don't forget sources for rapid rehousing, housing first, health and community services dept.
- Let's look into best practices by other cities.
- Let's be sure to encourage the City to look into rapid rehousing, then help stabilize that process by providing money for things like deposits (right now there's no money OR housing available) – Lara T. from BHFP

Other Ideas to Consider (may be longer-term than April 2015):

- New co-ops/youth co-ops/property inventory maintenance (Steve M.)
- Needs specific to LGBTQ, TAY, families, elderly (Nolan P.)
- Vehicle village or something similar akin to Rainbow Village (Paul K. Blake)
- Streamline communications and communications system for intake (Genevieve)
- What could be offered in West Berkeley and along San Pablo?
- How could we beef up job-readiness?
- Merchants'/community training in relating to folks on the streets (Genevieve)
- More policy research (Robert Barrer has specific idea)
- Catalyze teams to engage folks on the streets, in shelters, at encampments, at meals (Paul K Blake)

Remaining questions from Oct. 20

What's lacking here?

Which possibilities are immediate vs. longer-term?

Which 5 ideas might we hone for our April Recommendation?

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Agenda
Monday, December 15, 2014, 6:30-8:30 pm
North Berkeley Senior Center, Multi-Purpose Room

6:30 Intro Genevieve Wilson, Co-Chair, Berkeley Homeless Task Force

6:35 Jesse's Spot Council Member Jesse Arreguin, District 4

6:50 The LGBTQ Community and Homelessness : Continuing Conversation

- ***Intro:*** Nolan Pack and Ella Bastone, Members, Berkeley Homeless Task Force
- ***Body:*** Amy Larson, YEAH! Volunteer Coordinator and Facilities Manager
Destiny Webster, YEAH! Shelter Manager
- ***Community Conversation:*** Nolan and Ella, Facilitators

8:00/8:30 Announcements, Snacks, Clean-Up

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes

Monday, November 17, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center

Mental Health and Homelessness: A Community Conversation

Paul Kealoha-Blake, Facilitator (Chair, Berkeley Mental Health Commission)

Steve Grolnic-McClurg, Presenter (Berkeley Mental Health Manager)

From Jesse's Update:

- Jesse late due to closed Council session (no update tonight)

Meeting Transcript:

Paul:

- 1 in 4 homeless is mentally ill
- If you're housed and mentally ill, you have friends, family, and neighbors who know and love you and help you out. But if you're homeless and mentally ill, that is generally not the case. Instead, you're relating to the police force and mobile crisis teams.
- A Berkeley stat: last year, 2 people died in our streets, 1 in People's Park.
- Berkeley has 1 mobile crisis team of 2 people, and generally the police show up first given this limitation. Given a team may not make it, WE are really the first responders around town. We need to continue to educate ourselves and sort out what to do when we encounter people in crisis and in need.
- WE are the first responders!

Steve:

- When someone's experiencing a mental health crisis, those are among the worst days in their life.
- People need care PRIOR to crisis if at all possible.
- Mental Health staff can try to arrange for shelter beds when possible, or if the person is in crisis, they go to the hospital, but if they're released, there's really no follow-up for them.
- Berkeley Mental Health has an adult clinic and a children's clinic: M-Th, 8:30 am to 12:30 pm. They do walk-in assessments. Right now there is 1 mobile crisis team on duty and they MIGHT hire someone new to be able to up this to 2 teams during peak times.
- We're continuing to ask how access to care can be improved for people. The key issue is connecting people into care.
- The system is so impacted; it's incredibly fragile and very fragmented.
- There will be a first aid for mental health course in Dec. (Carol M. to send info)
- We must seize the opportunities when people in need of care are open to it to connect them and build supportive relationships.
- Financially: CA has a waiver with the Feds. Alameda County gets \$. Berkeley's a cutout. We get \$ directly from the state for outpatient care for folks with serious mental health needs.
- Most people won't make an appointment with a therapist. Getting people to care is NOT simple. They need access to care, it's not fast (it takes 3 months to get an appointment with a psychiatrist). We need to help link people to the care they need.
- Some services provided in Berkeley: Berkeley Daytime Drop-in Center, Bonita House, MASC?

George Tinker (homeless, himself):

- It's important to recognize that not everyone on the streets is mentally ill. We need to approach people with openness to learning what is actually going on in their lives. We need to discern. Discernment takes time and ongoing relationship.

Steve:

- Berkeley has a pay-as-you-go budget.
- Co-located services are a great idea. Centralized stuff is easier for anyone (mentally ill or not) to access and navigate.
- Alta Bates doesn't provide the kind of outpatient care we're talking about tonight.

Suitcase Clinic:

- We're trying to expand our services to be able to respond in some of these ways. We would love to have an onsite clinician, but we can't seem to connect with the right folks about it (Eliot Halpern, ACLU, is working with the Suitcase Clinic Project Team to draft a funding proposal).

Steve:

- Berkeley's system is fragmented. There's no central conversation about these things happening. At least not yet.

Roland (Telegraph Business District):

- As a Telegraph area merchant, I see daily the ways that mental health issues and substance abuse issues go hand in hand. I know people who have lost their housing because of their mental health and substance abuse issues.

Steve:

- Most people are able to maintain housing. There are certainly some who cannot. But in general, Housing First is great. It works. We need to rapidly rehouse people as much as we can.

Joseph (also homeless):

- I'm homeless. I'd like to be housed. I'm trying to get housed. I'd love to be in my house with my dog and a beer, not bothering anyone! 😊

Jesse:

- We really do need housing affordable to people coming right off the streets. We need \$ for permanently affordable housing. We've got to establish that in Berkeley. The City's about to start the process of allocating millions of dollars towards services: how will the pie be cut? We're also working out plans for the HCRC. These funding issues are key. The \$'s currently coming out of the big pot for all the services (which needs to change).
- Housing First Policy – needs a project team – Rapid Rehousing, HCRC

Igor (HAC), Steven Segal (Cal), Suitcase Clinic, and others:

- Discussion regarding a one-stop website for some of the things we're discussing. What would be on such a website? Someone from the Suitcase Clinic explains that there are already projects underway for such a thing. Igor connects with them and wonders if a one-stop website could be linked to the City site?

Carole M (Homeless Commission):

- Bidders Conference for homeless proposals Dec 2, proposals are due early January. She will send information. HCRC will be \$800,000 - \$1M out of a 3.1M pool. That's a big chunk of change that will deplete the amount available for other things.

Raija (BFHP):

- BFHP now must hold people in shelters longer than prior because \$ for housing is not available for various reasons. SO, shelter space will now be more limited as a result. They do have some emergency beds.

Genevieve:

- It sounds like we need to get going on writing a Housing First Policy. We don't have anything yet for Berkeley. (Sent email to folks who might be able to help 11/17/2014. Copied Jesse's staff.)

Jesse and Igor:

- There are as many as 800 vacant units or buildings in Berkeley. We really need an inventory. Igor invites us to join him and his project team to survey and inventory vacant lots and buildings. He will send out dates and times for this project. The team will also explore how to work with property owners.
- We're finding fewer and fewer landlords who are willing to provide subsidized housing.

Raija:

- BFHP has a team that connects with landlords. Berkeley is finding fewer and fewer landlords who are willing to house subsidized tenants. This is a big challenge.

Patricia:

- There is a lack of services, yes. There's also a group for whom their illness is keeping them from services. We need to keep talking about different ways we can address things well with that group of people.

Genevieve and others:

- Yes, that's true. This is definitely opening up a larger, ongoing conversation for us. We'll shore up the notes from tonight and pull out the common threads so that we can keep moving forward with our various projects. And I'm sure that in the future, there will be other forums that emerge to continue discussing mental health, specifically. Thanks all for coming tonight.

Meeting adjourns (8:30).

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Agenda
Monday, January 26, 2014, 6:30-8:30 pm
North Berkeley Senior Center, Multi-Purpose Room

6:30 Intro Genevieve Wilson, Co-Chair, Berkeley Homeless Task Force

6:35 Jesse's Spot Council Member Jesse Arreguin, District 4

6:50 Criminalizing the Homeless: A Panel Discussion

- ***Facilitator:*** Genevieve Wilson, Task Force Co-Chair
- ***Panel:*** Paul Boden: Director, Western Regional Advocacy Project (WRAP)
Dru Howard: MDiv, BOCA Board Member, Berkeley Parks and
Waterfront Commissioner, BUSD Employee
George Tinker: Task Force Member, Presently Homeless
Raija Freeman-Patterson: Men's Housing Program Manager, BFHP
- ***The panel discussion will be framed by the following three questions followed by community Q and A as time permits:***
 - 1) What do you think it means to criminalize someone?
 - 2) Have you, or has anyone you know, ever been criminalized? How?
 - 3) How do you think it could be different for us here in Berkeley, and what do you think it would take for us to get there together?

8:00/8:30 Announcements, Snacks, Clean-Up

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes

Monday, December 15, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center

The LGBTQ Community and Homelessness: A Continuing Conversation

Nolan Pack (ACLU) and Ella Bastone (Berkeley Homeless Commission), Facilitators

From Jesse's Update:

- Jesse absent due to closed Council session (no update tonight)

Meeting Notes:

- Youth in particular tend to be questioning their identity
- A high proportion of homeless youth are LGBTQ
- WHY DO SO MANY QUEER YOUTH BECOME HOMELESS? FAMILY rejection, abuse, assault
- Many come out of the foster care system
- Youth become homeless as early as 14 years old. Some even earlier. People are coming out at a younger age. These youth lack independent living skills because of their young age (do your laundry, balance your bank account, find an apartment, manage time and relationships).

Some challenges and stats:

Housing - youth don't feel safe in adult shelters

25% of queer youth cited family rejection as reason for leaving home

50% had parents who reacted negatively

1/3 youth in social services had been assaulted in their homes when they came out

40% experienced physical harassment at or near the time they came out

Daily Survival on the Streets - 50% assaulted; 25% seriously hurt by violent attack / queer youth 70% more likely to be victims of crime

Mental Health - 2/3 have a mental health condition (compared to 26% of adult population); trauma, depression, anxiety, loneliness, isolation, 2-3x higher suicide rate

Physical Health - 26% "fair-poor" state of health

Substance Abuse - greater exposure on the street; more likely to self-medicate; (high among homeless youth in general - not higher among LGBTQ youth specifically)

Sex Work / Survival Sex – giving sex for housing is very common

Sexual Health declines on the street

Identification Documents – are missing or incomplete (for education, employment, housing)

Trans* Youth: need medical services, employment options, housing

Some needs:

LGBTQ-Specific Programming and Housing

Behavioral Health Services

Educational Support - only 1/2 GED or HS diploma

Employment / Workforce Development

Independent Living Skills

Affirming/Culturally Competent Staff

From the YEAH! Shelter's presentation:

(Youth Engagement Advocacy Housing)

2 case managers: 1 clinical, other is regular – work with goals that the youth set themselves.

25 beds. Only open half of the year. Would like to become year-round but need funding.

Intake process:

We ask, “How do you identify (sexual identity)?” Then we go from there. We allow folks to choose where they want to sleep based on how they identify. There are men’s and women’s sleeping areas. The women’s area is curtained. Couples are welcome (we have 6 this season) and can sleep in the same space, but sex is not allowed in the shelter. There’s also no smoking allowed, but we do allow pets. The beds are always filled to capacity, and people are allowed to stay for the full season with us. The three reasons a bed might become available would be that 1) someone found housing; 2) someone was gone more than 3 consecutive nights; or 3) someone was asked to leave due to repeatedly breaking shelter policy/demonstrating problem behavior. That said, YEAH! Is well-known as a place you can return to. If someone’s sent away, there’s a lot of joy if and when they return to us. We look for it. But given we’re nearly always full, you definitely have to show up at the right time to get a bed (we tried a waitlist for a while last year...did not work well at all, so we’re back to first come, first-served). We also keep one emergency bed open for a Berkeley Mental Health Client.

There’s a shelter management team of 6 people, and we also have weekly meetings during which the youth can give us feedback (including gripes about policies and the like). As far as things like coming out, people often don’t come out at first, but once they feel safe, they often open up in that way. Staff model and facilitate behavior in the shelter; we don’t allow discrimination or queer bashing, for example. But at the same time, we find that youth are often less homophobic than many adults.

Case managers try to be helpful. Youth want to have someone to actively listen without giving prescriptive advice.

We like to listen. Along the way, we like to learn their immediate needs and over time, their individual goals as they give them voice. Those often include things like reconciliation with their family, educational goals, and therapy. By end of 6 months, barriers often break down and youth tell their stories.

The outreach team tries to get medical help. You can get someone ID in one week with a DMV voucher – subsidy - \$8. Our case managers handle that sort of thing for people.

Follow up? After shelter season is over. Several service fairs: Works programs, resources in community. It would be great to have several service fairs to help youth connect with services. During the summer time, social services ramps up. People post job announcements. Case managers can continue to contribute support that most people tend to get from their families. A case manager often becomes a go-to person, like someone’s mom might otherwise be. Our youth have lost this in their lives. We can also give support in locating help for HIV and other medical issues, and of course, searching for housing and continuing education.

Right now about 40% stay thru our shelter season. They know they need to check in every three days and often visit friends and family as they reconnect. Were we to go year-round, we’d need to hire permanent staff and would also want our own space have to offer transitional housing as well as shelter.

Youth need the freedom to explore. They're college-age. They want acknowledgement, support, and listening. They want the opportunity to tell their story in their own way in their own time. They don't like being generalized about.

It would be great to produce a youth co-op of some kind and to see YEAH! Go year-round.

Dream Catchers in Oakland is a very small organization; they work with school-aged youth: 13 – 18. Shelters keep kids out of dangerous places. We need to keep building preventative services for them.

Youth Spirit Art works here in Berkeley provides a daytime space for youth between the ages of 14-26. McKinney-Vento students hang there. They set goals every week and do projects (Malcolm X tile pieces). They help work toward employment. In the future, the program will open earlier and collaborate with YEAH!

Even if there is never a youth shelter year-round, we need to have "bill of rights" not to have belongings taken away. The ACLU and the Western Regional Advocacy Project (WRAP) are working on bill of rights. ***This will very likely be addressed at our next monthly meeting on criminalizing the homeless. ***

Lara Tannenbaum (BFHP, and prior at Larkin St. Center):

- **Thinks that people of Berkeley would support housing, services**
- **Mentioned a law in Illinois: can't take homeless' belongings**
- **Explains that current national and county homeless policies and outcomes that homeless programs are held accountable for are often not compatible with how programs for homeless youth operate. For example, *youth* programs want youth to stay as long as possible to build relationships. But homeless *adult* programs are designed to move people out as soon as possible. This is an important distinction to keep in mind as we continue to advocate for different groups of people with different needs.**

**CITY OF BERKELEY HOMELESS TASK FORCE MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 23, 2015 6:30PM TO 8:30PM
NORTH BERKELEY SENIOR CENTER**

**“YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN BERKELEY”
FACILITATED BY YEAH! AND YOUTH SPIRIT ARTWORKS**

- I. Welcome and Introduction of Format
- II. Youth Present Vignettes of Experiences Related to Their Needs—4-5 Youth Stories (10 Minutes)
- III. The Need: Youth Homelessness in Berkeley—Stats & Info (15 Minutes)
 - The Cost Equation for Youth—How It Adds Up to Try to “Make It” as a Low Income Youth in Berkeley Today
 - The Foster Youth Equation—How Being in the Foster System Factors In
 - Being A LGBTQ Youth—How That Contributes In Special Ways
 - Available Current Youth Housing in Berkeley & Ala. County
 - Homeless Youth in Shelter in Berkeley
 - The Est. Number of Homeless & Couch Surfing Youth in Berkeley & Ala County, HUDS Definition of Homelessness
 - The Est. Number of Homeless Youth in the Berkeley High Schools
- IV. Solutions (15 Minutes)
 - Community Support for Year Round Shelter
 - Housing Subsidies
 - Alternative Housing Units Earmarked for Youth—Our Vision for 100 Units
 - A TAY Coop Youth House
 - Jobs & Jobs Training Opportunities
 - A Place for Homeless Youth During the Day
- V. Questions and Answers (20-30 Minutes)
- VI. Next Steps—Split Into Small Groups to Plan Next Steps (10-15 Minutes) (Clip Board Sign Ups & Note Takers)
 - Shelter Group
 - Housing Group
 - Drop In Space Expansion & Transportation
 - Youth Jobs & YSA Jobs Enterprise
 - LGBTQ Ally Support
- VII. Closing

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes
Monday, January 26, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center
Criminalizing the Homeless: A Panel Discussion

Jesse's Update:

- The Task Force was initiated almost 2 years ago in August, 2013. Since then, we've gathered information, ideas, and proposals from constituents. Measure S started our conversation and through it, we realized the need to practically improve the lives of people who are homeless. As we've explored how to do that together, we've built a broad community coalition that's brought people together from all over the region. Over the next several months, we will turn our suggestions and ideas into concrete actions.
- **The City of Berkeley Budget process is in the works:** the Homeless Commission, Mental Health Commission, and Housing Advisory Commission are working on getting funds for the homeless.
- **The Housing Resource Center will be a main point of access.** The process to decide who will run the "Housing Resource Center" ended. There may be some cuts to other services, but we must maintain critical services. We want to make sure the most important things continue to be funded (housing, employment services...).
- **Marsha Poole speaks about a proposal taking shape for Warming Centers in the City.** People have died from exposure. Automatic emergency shelters should be in place. Consider seniors. As rents have gone up, folks can't make it. We'll need centers that allow pets. People need a place to stay during day in bad weather, especially (40's or below). Set up transportation to shelters. Urge City to use City-owned property (Durant mall has empty stores, but the Telegraph Business Improvement Association doesn't want that used for this). Jesse will head up a group to write a proposal for Council. They will bring that proposal back to the Task Force for approval.

Meeting Notes:

Panel: Dru Howard (BOCA Board Member, Parks and Waterfront Commissioner, BUSD Employee)
Paul Boden (ED, Western Regional Advocacy Project – WRAP)
George Tinker (Task Force Member, Presently Homeless)
Absent due to a late shift: Raija Freeman-Patterson (Men's Shelter Manager, BFHP)

WRAP is a leaderless based organization consisting of 135 orgs. They're active in 10 cities, Based in Oregon & CA. They do street outreach as well as develop policy. Paul strongly recommends finding ways to support adopting the Homeless Bill of Rights.

As a member of BOCA, Dru works as a community member to change unjust systems from within. She's a "grassroots disrupter of unjust systems." Story about a homeless family she knew once through the school system that many at her school chose to help together practically over time rather than pursuing legal action against them in any way. The community wanted to help, and so they did. Together.

George expresses the utter lack of privacy when a person is homeless and how much those housed take for granted in that regard. Our privacy. If you're homeless, you really have no privacy. The implications of this are that it can become illegal to do certain things in public that others do inside without ever thinking about it (like resting or using the restroom – and Berkeley has very few public restrooms). WRAP does citation defense work in SF to get poverty-related offenses dismissed. So does the East Bay Community Law Center in Berkeley.

Dru brings it back to “fear. People get afraid to look at ‘the other.’ We’re afraid of looking at someone who we don’t think is like us (or who we don’t want to be like, ourselves), and we demonize and dehumanize them. We use scare tactics to criminalize them. Elites do this to the have-nots in communities for fear of losing resources that generally go to the top. In that kind of community, the “other” doesn’t belong. An extreme historic example of how this has happened among us is Hitler’s leadership in Germany. Hitler was afraid of “the other.” So he moved to eradicate them.

George expresses something similar in Jungian terms: it’s like the homeless are our shadow side. And we don’t want to have to look at or be with our shadow side. So we find ways to avoid people and even get rid of them rather than relating to them and getting to know them as people with feelings and lives and directions. Folks often don’t like making eye contact with you on the street. Andy agrees later that, “You’ve got to engage people. Engage us as people, just like you enjoy being engaged yourselves, and just see what happens. See what develops over time.”

A couple other practical examples of criminalization:

Some restaurants, like Papa Johns, simply refuse to serve the homeless as a group. They state it clearly. Many children in schools don’t have a place to go home at night. They may be finding their way through a season of their lives, but the action taken towards them in that season is often to take the kids away and place them into the Foster system. People get ticketed for things like public urination (but there are few restrooms).

Some suggestions for changing Berkeley’s culture:

- **Advocate for the Homeless Bill of Rights (meeting 2/6, 12-2, at the Homeless Action Center)**
- **Let interested restaurants know they can register with the county to accept food stamps**
- **(The CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program is available to the homeless, disabled, and elderly – Genevieve will have more information to share soon)**
- **The Suitcase Clinic is a great resource for folks – keep talking it up and using it**
- **We should talk more to the Senior Centers as well as to the Commission on Aging about how to involve and support one another**
- **The libraries may also like further involvement since so many homeless spend lots of time there**
- **What about using street theater to debunk myths about homeless people?**

Notes from Meeting 2/3/15 with BPD (Genevieve Wilson)

Chief Meehan invited two other officers to join the meeting: Captain Erik Upson, Operations Division Commander, and Sergeant Spencer Fomby, Community Services Bureau Reserve Director. They are all great people who want to care for folks in the community as best they're able.

Here are a few highlights based on the questions I took in from the Task Force:

- BPD does not presently purchase any goods from military surplus dealers, nor do they plan to in the future.

- PD does not work to any kind of quotas. 30 years ago, that was standard practice, but that is no longer the case. Police quotas are a thing of the past.

- The police force is sensitive to our concerns about officers baiting and/or aggravating folks on the street, as well as to holding to due process. They would also like our sensitivity to their limitations in their roles as well as to just being imperfect as people. I assured them that we're all in the same boat in that way. Everybody gets tired. We all need to take care of ourselves.

- At present, every member of BPD is college educated, which is highly unusual.

- Sergeant Fomby recently began recording the number of mental health related calls they receive each day. The average so far appears to be between 8-10 calls each day. I am connecting them with BMH about the mental health first-aid courses, which they were very encouraged to hear about.

- They also get lots of calls from merchants and passers-by about public drinking, folks actually blocking the sidewalk, too many dogs, and urinating/defecating in doorways. Council Member Wengraf also mentioned the last concern today coming from her constituents, which continues to confirm my sense that asking the city (or whichever entity appropriate) for more public restrooms would be a big help. PD also suggested connecting with Options, which I plan to try doing soon.

- They ask that if anyone witnesses a police officer acting in an inappropriate manner, that we call it in:

Contact information for Berkeley Police Department:

2100 Martin Luther King, Jr. Way, Berkeley, CA 94704

TEL: (510) 981-5900, TDD: (510) 981-5799, FAX: (510) 981-5744

Email: police@cityofberkeley.info

GTW

North Berkeley Senior Center, Multi-Purpose Room

Genevieve

Jesse and team

- What's our City's plan where affordable housing policy is concerned (Housing First)?
- Where are we in accomplishing our plan's objectives?
- Q &A

- What will our Council Recommendation and Work Session be like?
- Let's prepare for it by fleshing out our ideas from the past year (brainstorming session):
 - Housing First Policy
 - Rainy Day Respite/Warming Centers
 - Public Restrooms in Downtown
 - Lockers or Storage Space for Homeless Folks
 - Berkeley Way Project
 - Vacant Properties Inventory
 - Any others?
- Work on the Recommendation will continue at next month's meeting. We'll need to narrow things down to 3-5 well-written items for the Recommendation.

8:00/8:30 **Announcements, Snacks, Clean-Up**

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes

Monday, February 23, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center

Homeless Transitionally Aged Youth

Youth Spirit Artworks (Sally Hindman, ED) and The YEAH! Shelter (Jaclyn Grant, ED)

Presentation by youth from Youth Spirit Artworks:

<http://youthspiritartworks.org/>

Participants: (in order of first appearance) Rayven, Carena, Jaclyn, Sally, Adonis, Vernon, Jada, Yaheem, Steve, Jesus

Carena: “Hello! Welcome to the City of Homeless Task Force’s meeting about youth homelessness in Berkeley. My name is Carena. I am a leader at Youth Spirit Artworks, a youth jobs training program for low income and homeless youth in Berkeley.”

Rayven: “and my name is Rayven. I am also a leader at Youth Spirit Artworks. Today, we are going to discuss the needs of homeless youth in Berkeley, the costs and difficulties of living in Berkeley, even working, foster care and the many youth who exit foster care to become homeless, special groups of youth, such as the LGBTQ community and their high representation among homeless youth, the available youth housing and shelters in Berkeley, the estimated number of couch surfing youth in Berkeley, and how the community could support youth through year-round shelters, housing subsidies, and more jobs training.”

Carena: First, the Executive Director of Youth Spirit Artworks, Sally Hindman, and the Executive Director of YEAH, Berkeley’s only youth shelter, Jaclyn Grant, will talk about the need to support homeless youth in Berkeley.

Jaclyn: Most people think of the homeless as someone who is living on the streets 3, 4, or maybe more years. However, the definition is very complex. The Department of Housing and Urban Development does not recognize couch-surfing as homeless, but the Department of Education does.

Sally: Under the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act of 2001-Title X Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act, the definition for homeless youth is:

- Youth sharing housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, similar reason; living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, campgrounds due to lack of alternative accommodations; living in emergency or transitional shelters; abandoned in hospitals; or awaiting foster care
- Youth without a primary night time residence. Public or private place, not designed as regular sleeping accommodations for humans.
- Youth living in cars, parks, public places, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, similar settings
- Migratory youth qualify

Adonis: There are a lot of youth in need.

- CA has largest population of homeless students in the Country. The CA homeless student population grew from about 220,000 in 2001 to nearly 270,000 in 2013, about 4% of all students. 2x the national average.
- Adonis' personal story (to comfort level/improv)

Vernon: I am a McKinney-Vento student at Berkeley High School. Vernon's personal story (to comfort level/improv).

- In the Bay Area, the percentage of homeless students is below the state average of 4.3%, but much higher in some school districts.
- Berkeley school district has the second highest percentage of homeless students in Alameda County. The overall student population has dropped from 759 in 2011 to 660 in 2014. But, historically, Berkeley has one of the largest concentrations of homeless people in the county.
- Currently, about 480 homeless youth are in the Berkeley Unified School District.

Jada: There are many reasons why youth become homeless.

- "As documented by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, 43% of homeless youth were beaten by a foster parent or caretaker, 25% were sexually propositioned by a caretaker, and 20% left home over a conflict with their parents about their LGBT status." (Halpern and Della-Piana, Berkeleyside)
- "An estimated 25 to 40 percent of LGBTQ homeless youth report leaving home due to conflicts with family members around their sexual orientation or gender expression."
- Youth often find the streets safer than home. Their home situations can be extremely precarious and many of their basic needs gone unmet for sometime. Shelter. Nourishment. Health and mental health, and crisis are also issues.

Rayven: These issues particularly impact youth who have been through foster care.

- In 2011 CA passed the Fostering Connection Act to support foster youth transitioning into adulthood.
- The Fostering Connections Act allows states to claim Title IV-E reimbursement for the costs of maintenance payments to traditional foster care providers (family foster homes, kinship foster homes, group care providers). This includes the administration of a foster care program, as is the case for minors, whom need housing, and independent living settings to meet their developmental needs.
- For states to claim reimbursement on behalf of a young adult in care, the young person has to be either 1. Completing high school or and equivalency program; 2 enrolled in postsecondary or vocational school, 3. Participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment, 4. Employed for at least 80hrs per month.

5. Incapable of doing any of these activities due to a medical condition. (Chapin Hall, Courtney).

Carena: Youth providers have been hopeful the Act will help foster youth avoid homelessness. The evidence is not encouraging.

- In the first years of evaluation, the Homeless Youth Demonstration Project found: 95% of youth report unemployment as a source of strain in their home. 37% of youth domestic violence in home. 2/3 of youth struggle with mental health issues. ½ of youth have alcohol or substance abuse. 1/3 of the female youth have experienced sexual exploitation.
- These stats are particularly of youth are qualify as homeless and in foster care. There is a clear systematic issue at play. Youth are becoming homeless because, even with more support through AB/12, youth are not exiting foster care to happy endings.

Adonis: Most significantly, youth homelessness is an economic problem.

- The median Fair Market rent in Alameda County is \$1,035, and the minimum wage is \$10/hr. Even a youth working a 40hr job cannot avoid cost burden (paying 30% or less of income to rent monthly).
- If you add food, transportation, and other living essentials into the equation, the costs easily surpass the income.
- Housing is the most expensive bill, so it's the first thing to go when income falls short.

Sally: This is why considering the available Youth Housing in Berkeley is so important, and it's not much

- Covenant House, Oakland – 32 beds
- Dream Catcher, Youth Shelter
- Fred Finch Youth Center – 26 beds
- YEAH! – 27 beds
- Fewer than 100 shelter beds in Alameda County. 230 Transitional housing beds.

Yaheem: Luckily, there are solutions we can consider to better support youth.

- Year round shelter
 - Context: 2011-2012 the City considered passing a law against sitting, largely motivated by the homeless youth sitting downtown and on Telegraph Avenue. There was huge community backlash.
 - In June 2007, the City initiated plans to consider a Public Commons for Everyone Initiative to address similar issues. [...]
 - However, these youth sit on the streets because, there are fewer services for homeless youth in the summer. (Halpern and Della-Piana, Berkeleyside). There is a need for a year-round shelter.

- Furthermore, the law encourages starting a year-round shelter. In 2007, Senate Bill 2 passed– “it requires all cities in California to allow the establishment of year-round homeless shelters in the city.” Berkeley is supposed to comply with SB 2 by 2014. A year-round shelter is necessary for the city to remain eligible for certain state grants. (Dinolfo, Daily Cal)
- Berkeley needs to consider where these shelters will be placed, and also cater to the needs of different cultures. It is time to start planning! (Dinolfo, Daily Cal)

Steve: For instance, we are starting youth groups to discuss a TAY coop youth house.

- (Steve’s report)

Jaclyn: Another resource we need to consider are housing subsidies for youth.

- The current resources are for families, chronically homeless (HUD), and disabled. We need for youth specific subsidies!
- Context: Resources for Community Development – two centers, both on University Avenue
- Shelter Care Plus Program – for homeless and disabled – does not denote specific age range
- Berkeley Housing Authority – Public Housing for low income families
 - 44 3-bedroom units
 - 31 4-bedroom units

Sally: Jobs training for youth should also fall into the equation. One study estimates the loss in lifetime earnings resulting from homeless students dropping out of school to be \$5 billion, and the resulting loss to California’s economy to be \$3.2 billion. Jobs training can help youth acquire skills they need to be successful economically.

- Current options are Berkeley adult school, Berkeley youth alternatives, Covenant house jobs training, multicultural institute, young adult project, Youth Employment Opportunities at City of Berkeley, YSA, Youth Works. This isn’t enough.
- The next steps are to create a drop in space/expansion plan. We also need transportation.
- (Sally’s notes)

Jesus: Finally, we need to create a space for youth to empower their own change, make their own money, become responsible for their economic success. A YSA Jobs enterprise could do this. Here’s how....

Notes from portion by YEAH! (Youth Engagement, Advocacy and Housing):

<http://www.yeah-berkeley.org/>

- Amidst the economic downturn, homeless youth of color were the hardest hit where employment was concerned.
- 90% at YEAH! come in without income, with little to no job history, and with mental health issues presenting.
- Over 1/3 at YEAH! are considered chronically homeless by the Federal definition.
- YEAH! received \$50,000 to serve high school youth, but nothing for those not attending school.
- 18,000 youth transition out of foster care, but there are fewer than 200 beds total!
- Jobs are hard to find: 50% unemployment rate for youth in Alameda County.
- Couch surfing is not included in homeless count, not considered as being homeless.
- Berkeley will have a centralized point of entry from which people will get services if homeless.
- People are not eligible to get services if couch-surfing . Half won't get services.
- Many will get cut off from services.

VISION!:

The Youth Spirit Artworks Jobs Training Program is 6 years old. They've served 130 youth each year, and will serve 175 this year. They're a daytime drop-in space that has run from 3:30-6:30 M-F and from 10-6:30 during the summer months. This year they've expanded their hours to run from 12:30-6:30, which is great! The present hope is to create seamless services with YEAH!, including transportation between the two locations, so that youth who are in the two programs can always have someplace to be, day or night. The ideal would be for YEAH! to gain the needed funding to remain open year-round in order for this vision to come together.

Break-out Groups:

Sally has notes from these and will do the follow-up for them.

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Agenda
Monday, April 20, 2014, 6:30-8:30 pm
North Berkeley Senior Center, Multi-Purpose Room

6:30 Intro and Announcements

Genevieve

6:40 A Housing Overview from the City of Berkeley

Jesse and City Staff

- What's our City's plan where affordable housing policy is concerned (Housing First)?
- Where are we in accomplishing our plan's objectives?
- Q &A

7:30 More about our Council Recommendation and June Work Session

Genevieve

- Some reminders about our upcoming Council Work Session (June 23)
- Discussion about our Draft Council Recommendation for that Work Session
(Please refer to the draft document Jesse sent 04.17.2015)

8:00/8:30 Announcements, Snacks, Clean-Up

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes
Monday, March 16, 2014, 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center
Work on Council Rec, Jesse and Genevieve

I. CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program (RMP):

Food Stamps for use in restaurants:

- Genevieve has been going to various restaurants Downtown Berkeley asking if they would be interested in accepting food stamps. Several she talked with are interested.
- We need to find natural platforms to get word out.
- The best way is to talk with people in person.
- We need win-win situations: Homeless people can have a meal & use restaurant restrooms while restaurant profits.
- The Downtown Berkeley Association has not seemed excited about this, but individual restaurants are.

*Regarding restrooms and the various challenges that can arise with their use: Genevieve hopes broader trust will develop between service providers and businesses. We also need to have more mental health outreach workers so that businesses can call on trained (and known) mental health workers if problems develop that are beyond merchants' capabilities. Practical training would be great for merchants, anyone affiliated with the DBA, the BPD, the BPL....

II. Meeting with BPD Chief Meehan and staff:

- Good initial meeting to find common ground, hopes, and concerns.
- We have a direct line to their operations division (Captain Erik Upson).
- Report problems/concerns and contact Genevieve if follow-up via Operations seems needed.

III. Conversation about Council Agenda Item #19 (Council Member Linda Maio):

- 10 ways to criminalize homelessness and only 1 positive (extend YEAH to year-round operation).
- If Council passes the whole thing, the City Manager (Christine Daniels) will draft ordinances.
- Jesse has withdrawn his name from this proposal & has substituted another item: a 16 point proposal in its place with suggestions like extending parking meters to 8 pm to generate revenue. Things like the Ambassadors power-washing the sidewalks in ways that are aggressive toward the homeless don't foster trust between factions. We need more outreach, mobile crisis units, and expansion of Police training to de-escalate situations. We need 24 hour access to shelters and more funding for transitionally aged youth services. Criminalization doesn't work; pressure this direction often comes from merchants' associations. Creating policy in the manner of Item 19 has its own set of legal implications. Jesse formed task force to help address these issues.

Question: Developers were required to set aside affordable units. Court ruled that this was illegal. So to address this, developers can now either pay a fee to Housing Trust Fund or set aside affordable units, but only 10% rather than 20% of the units.

Both transitional housing and permanent supported housing are needed. Very little is being done in Berkeley. We need to generate more \$\$, but we also need to shift our priorities as to how the \$\$ will be spent. Randy suggests using some of the \$\$ generated to improve shelters.

Things people dislike about shelters (those staying there and those living there):

- No privacy
- How to reconcile addiction related issues in groups of those housed and folks' needs for shelter?
- Restrictive rules in shelters against smoking, drinking, drug use

Some felt needs in response:

- We need to expand detox programs and participate in helping people move on from them.
- Problem behaviors are the problem. Detoxing helps people move beyond those behaviors.
- It's very difficult to overcome addiction without permanent stable housing. Work toward permanent stable housing rather than toward more shelters.
- People need structure that creates relationships rather than just making rules about behavior (all of us. This is community).
- Don't forget that the men's shelter is in a seismically unsafe building.

Jesse hopes that we can stop the punitive direction & shift our community's conversation toward finding positive solutions together. Streamlined processes won't work unless there are places to send people. Shelters are at capacity, there are very few places for pets, and just as few places to go during the day. It's our responsibility to educate other people about the nature of homelessness in our city.

Jaclyn emphasizes the need to respect and uphold the dignity of people who are without housing.

IV. Berkeley Homeless Task Force City Council Work Session:

Tentatively set for June 23 – a special Council Meeting for the Task Force to present our recommendation.

We need to prepare a report comprised of 3-5 funding priorities to recommend to the City Council.

We need a draft recommendation ready for May to be taken around to all interested parties – for input, negotiation, and editing.

Brainstorming session:

1. Public Restrooms Downtown

- Idea: have all restrooms in down town open to the public.
- Make an inventory of existing restrooms (Civic Center park, Channing garage, ??)
- Have a center where there are showers, washers, driers at a drop in center.
- Community Benefits for developments – restrooms, showers, etc. could be required.
- Measure R from November: would have required public restrooms in large new developments
- Ask BART to open their restrooms
- New public garage should have public restrooms.

2. Lockers for storage

- Redesign of men's shelter –would include lockers

3. Housing overview/Housing First Policy

- Kristen Lee will attend our next meeting.

4. Vacant lot/building inventory

- Igor – team has consolidated info from South Berkeley & North Shattuck

- Working with YSA and YEAH! to look for “opportunity sites”
- Need help: notify Igor if you see places that have been vacant for a long time. Goal is to create and maintain a good map. Demonstration project for proof of concept. Next step would be to use it to help up our affordable housing supply – generate additional housing by purchasing and revamping or developing vacancies.

Jesse:

New SF shelter, a rehabbed SRO –short term – 8 months. The Mission Street Navigation Center provides for short term housing, case management...rapid acute treatment for homelessness. Takes whole encampments of people & their partners & pets. Can only funnel into program via homeless outreach team.

5. Warming Centers:

- Rainy day warming shelters: model – Youth Spirit Artworks
- Day time drop in centers – 2 in Berkeley – now being defunded
- Temporary – shelters for bad weather time
- Dorothy Day: Operates emergency shelter – but doesn’t open till later at night, then closes at 7 AM.
- Could "resiliency" grants could be used for funding certain things?
- YEAH! – could be open in the daytime
- Libraries, Senior Centers?
- Campuses – UCB, GTU, PSR?
- Berkeley Marina – has restrooms with showers

Alternatives to housing – designated places/streets for vehicle living?

Jesse:

Transitionally Aged Youth services are a special focus right now given the dire, longstanding need. Could businesses offer internships, provide employment in construction of new buildings, etc...?

Could we approach the Rotary Club, present a project to them along these lines? Rotary Club members are mostly small business owners. Lions club, too.

Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Agenda
Monday, May 11, 2015, 6:30-8:30 pm
North Berkeley Senior Center, Multi-Purpose Room

6:30 Intro and Announcements

Genevieve

6:40 Three Agenda Items:

- 1. Presentation by the DBA followed by Q & A**
- 2. Possible Housing Overview by City Staff**
- 3. Prioritizing Items on our Council Rec for June 23**

John Caner and Lance Gorée
Kristen Lee and Jesse
Genevieve and Jesse

8:00/8:30 Last Announcements, Snacks, Clean-Up

City of Berkeley Homeless Task Force Meeting Notes
Monday, April 20, 2015, 6:30-8:30 PM, North Berkeley Senior Center
More Work on Council Rec, Jesse and Genevieve

Some basics on Housing First in Berkeley:

- City of Berkeley spends 3M on homeless services
- Most goes to drop-in centers and emergency shelters
- Only 10% goes to housing
- There's no emphasis on permanent housing
- We need to align our funding priorities with Housing First...if we have an HCRC but no housing....

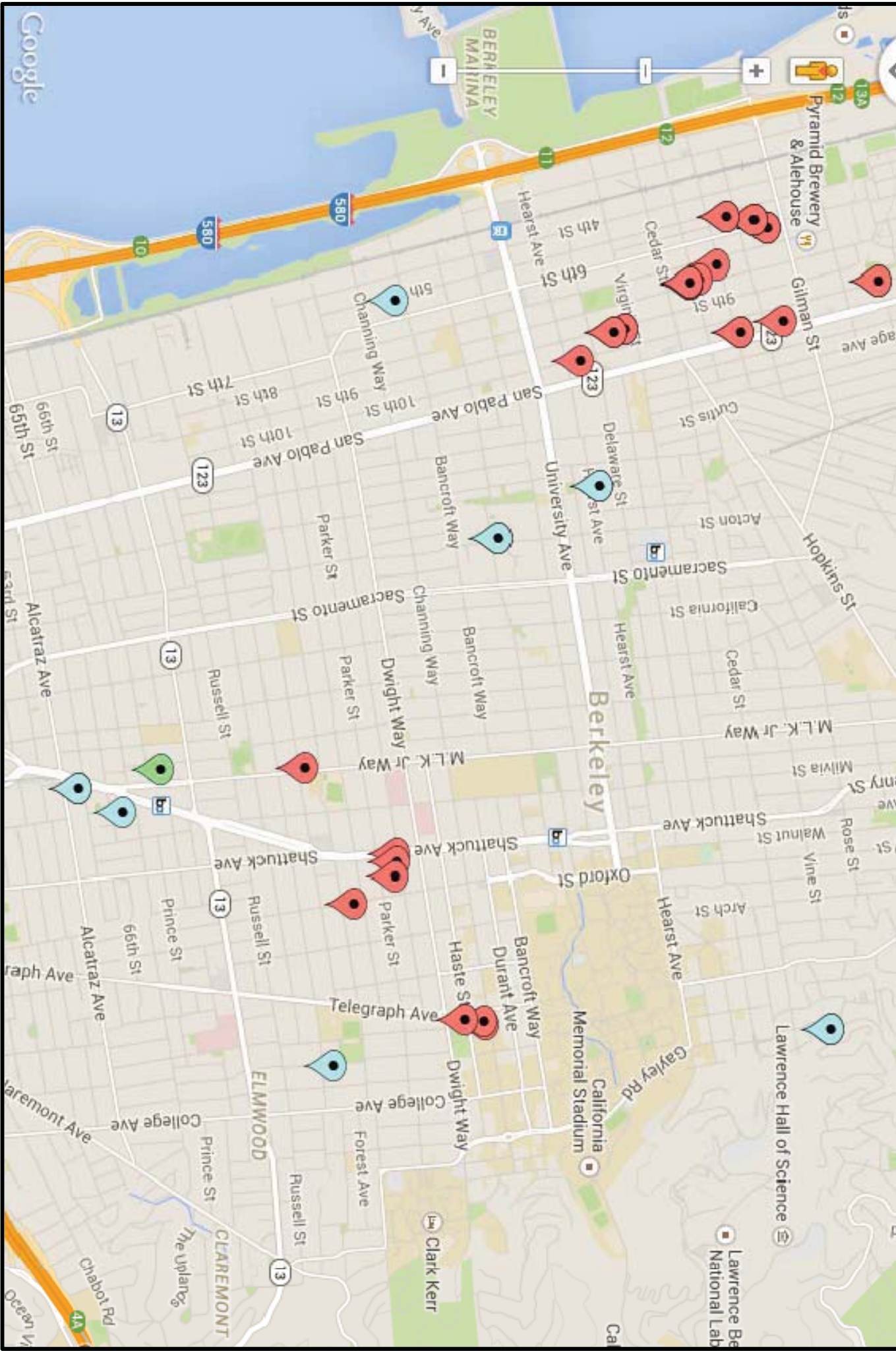
Some brainstorming about funding ideas:

- High rise developers - pay for community benefits, revenue from sales of condos (already have set aside 1% for art)
- Notes from the recent meeting Jesse and others went to will come out
- May 5 – there will be a meeting regarding community benefits for new housing development
- Keep coming out and pushing for homeless services and affordable housing\
- Vacancy fee - pay more the longer it is empty - especially downtown spaces

Berkeley has fewer requirements for developers to provide affordable housing. Our community is missing out for lack of the political will to charge more.

Council Recommendation: Due May 21

Please see the attached revised draft recommendation for the rest of the content from our April meeting. We will need to spend time prioritizing the content on May 11.



2511 Dwight Way

- Type: Store & Office Building
- Building Size: 10,784 sq ft.
- Estimated Value: \$869,885
- 3 Floors
- Last Sold March 1, 1983
- Last Major Renovation: 1964
- Source: <http://commercial-properties.findthebest.com/l/2626575/2511-Dwight-Way-Berkeley-CA-94704>

2119 Carleton Street

- Status: “Off Market”
- Building Size: 4, 941 sq ft.
- Type: Multi-Family unit
- Lot Size: 6,750 sq ft.
- Estimated Value: \$642,452
- Built in 1948
- Last listed for rent August 2, 2011 / Listing removed August 6, 2011
- Source:
 - <http://www.trulia.com/homes/California/Berkeley/sold/1000490123-2119-Carleton-St-Berkeley-CA-94704>
 - <https://www.redfin.com/CA/Berkeley/2119-Carleton-St-94704/home/1832671>
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/2119-Carleton-St-Berkeley-CA-94704/82848960_zpid/

2718 Fulton Street

- Status: “Off Market”
- Building Size: 1,224 sq ft.
- Type: Single Family Home
- Lot Size: 2,436 sq ft.
- Estimated Value: \$693,742
- Built in 1925
- Last Sold: May 1978
- Source:
 - <http://www.trulia.com/homes/California/Berkeley/sold/2656255-2718-Fulton-St-Berkeley-CA-94705>
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/2718-Fulton-St-Berkeley-CA-94705/24832077_zpid/

2525 Telegraph Avenue

- Property Use Type: Vacant/Owner-User
- Building Size: 10,3000 sq ft.
- Lot Size: 5,115 sq ft.
- Property Type: Retail (other)
- Two Stories
- Nine apartments, two retail units, and one office unit
- Source: <http://www.loopnet.com/Listing/14701604/2525-Telegraph-Ave-2512-Regent-Street-Berkeley-CA/>

2800 Martin Luther King Jr. Way

- “Off Market”
- 4 Beds, 1.5 Baths
- Building Size: 2,366 sq ft.
- Lot Size: 5,400 sq ft.
- Built in 1906
- Two Stories
- History
 - January 26, 2012” Foreclosed to Lender for \$604,960 (\$255 per sqft.)
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/2800-Martin-Luther-King-Jr-Way-Berkeley-CA-94703/24831219_zpid/

739 Channing Way

- “Off Market”
- Lot Size: 8,000 sqft
- History:
 - Last sold - February 13, 2008 for \$2,025,500
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/739-Channing-Way-Berkeley-CA-94710/111392363_zpid/

1811 63rd St.

- “Off Market”
- Lot Size: 5,400 sqft
- Built in 1903
- Building Size: 1,925 sqft
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/1811-63RD-St-Berkeley-CA-94703/111404604_zpid/

1415 5th St.

- 2 beds, 1 bath

- Building Size: 1,061 sqft
- Lot Size: 6,499 sqft
- Built in 1910
- History:
 - Recently sold: June 18, 2014 for \$590,00 (\$556 per sqft)
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/1415-5th-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24841748_zpid/

1802 9thSt.

- “Off Market”
- 2 beds, 2 baths
- Building Size: 1,445 sqft
- Lot Size: 5,500 sqft
- Built in 1942
- Multiple Occupancy
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/1802-9th-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24837852_zpid/

1411 10th St.

- “Off Market”
- 1 bed, 1 bath
- Building Size: 682 sqft
- Lot Size: 4,644 sqft
- Built in 1920
- Single Family
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/1411-10th-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24841670_zpid/

1487 10th St.

- “Off Market”
- 2 beds, 1 bath
- Building Size: 789 sqft
- Lot Size: 5,130 sqft
- Built in 1924
- Single Family
- History:
 - Sold August 15, 1990 for \$142,000 (\$179 per sqft)
- Source:

- http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/1487-10th-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24841645_zpid/

949 Delaware St.

- 1 Bed, 1 Bath
- Building Size: 580 sqft
- Built in 1926
- Condo
- History:
 - Recently Sold: October 3, 2014 for \$410,000
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/949-Delaware-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24838070_zpid/

907 Cedar St.

- 2 beds, 2 baths
- Building Size: 1,442 sqft
- Lot Size: 3,870 sqft
- Built in 1943
- Single Family
- Renovated in 1948
- Source:
 - http://www.realtor.com/realestateandhomes-detail/907-Cedar-St_Berkeley_CA_94710_M10215-90224

908 Cedar St.

- “Off Market”
- 1 bed, 1 bath
- Building Size: 624 sqft
- Lot Size: 6,000 sqft
- Built in 1924
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/908-Cedar-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24838018_zpid/

912 Cedar St.

- “Off Market”
- 3 beds, 2 baths
- Building Size: 1,511 sqft
- Lot Size: 6,000 sqft
- Single Family

- Built in 1928
- Source:
 - http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/912-Cedar-St-Berkeley-CA-94710/24838019_zpid/

1025 Harrison St.

- “Off Market”
- Industrial / warehouse
- Building Size: 4,600 sqft
- Source:
 - <http://www.loopnet.com/Listing/17023289/1025-Harrison-Street-Berkeley-CA/>