



Memorandum

TO: NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES
AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

FROM: Omar Passons
Rosalynn Hughey

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: December 1, 2023

Approved  Date 12/6/23

SUBJECT: CITY OF SAN JOSE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR COMMUNITY PLAN TO END HOMELESSNESS 2020-2025

RECOMMENDATION

- a) Accept a report on the City of San José implementation plan to lay out the vision for the City's support of the Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025 and initial discussion of City engagement for the next regional plan.
- b) Cross-reference this report to the January 9, 2024 City Council meeting.

SUMMARY AND OUTCOME

Acceptance of this report will meet the City's obligation, under the Santa Clara County Regional Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025, to adopt an Implementation Plan (**attachment**) and establish a timeline for tracking progress, making annual updates, and reporting outcomes.

BACKGROUND

In 2020, the City of San José was part of a diverse set of public and private entities, non-profit organizations, and community members with lived experience of homelessness to adopt a shared regional vision for homelessness in Santa Clara County. The Santa Clara County Regional Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025 (Regional Plan) was adopted in late spring of 2020. As part of that adoption, each city pledged to create its own Implementation Plan for how it would contribute to the Regional Plan's shared goals.

Unfortunately, the Regional Plan's adoption coincided with the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, delaying the City's work on the Implementation Plan while resources and energy were

understandably focused on other emergent needs. Despite these challenges, the City continued to make substantial contributions toward addressing homelessness in our region. While there has been progress, adopting an Implementation Plan remains essential to facilitate City action to reduce homelessness. There are opportunities available to prevent people from ever experiencing homelessness, such as expanding the homelessness prevention system and supporting economic inclusion efforts, thus reducing the trauma they face and the resulting challenges for City and regional services. There are not enough permanent affordable homes for extremely low-income community members, which is the primary driver of homelessness. Adopting an Implementation Plan helps light a path for all departments to play a substantial and specific role in improving our streets' conditions for everyone – for people who are suffering on the streets, for other community members, for business owners – and to protect our environment and natural resources.

A. Relationship between the Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness Focus Area and the Implementation Plan

As part of the Fiscal Year 2023-24 budget process, the City Council adopted the inclusion of specific focus areas. One Focus Area, Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness, calls for specific attention and action on the unique challenge of getting people out of unsheltered locations to more supportive and managed alternatives and preventing them from experiencing homelessness.

The Implementation Plan is inclusive of the Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness Focus Area. The Plan is also broader than the Focus Area and encompasses the many ways the 22 departments and offices of the City align and collaborate with regional partners to prevent and end homelessness and manage its impacts.

ANALYSIS

The Implementation Plan provides foundation and context to understand the City's unique role as a regional partner and a direct service provider. It orients the City towards a vision – “A San José for Everyone” – and a shared sense of purpose and accountability across every department.

The Implementation Plan aligns with the Regional Plan. Each City department has examined all of the agreed upon regional strategies and goals and identified specific outcomes to measure progress toward those goals. These outcomes focus progress on goals such as adding temporary housing and other alternative sheltering options and how to identify new ways to share and protect public buildings and public spaces, such as the innovative Holistic Library Initiative. The outcomes ultimately seek to improve conditions by decreasing risk of harm and death to unhoused residents while simultaneously embracing the notion that every person who calls San José home has a responsibility to ensure our community is clean and welcoming.

The Implementation Plan includes built-in accountability by having departments identify which actions they are leading, what their outcomes are for those items, and a specific time each year to return to the City Council with both a progress update and a reflective analysis of what we can

do better or do more of. Each fall, after the close of the previous fiscal year, the Administration plans to return with a single, consolidated Homelessness Annual Report and Implementation Plan update. This single, larger update will include:

- **Implementation Plan:** Progress Update, Reflective Analysis, and New Outcomes;
- **Annual Report of Progress:** Prevention, Housing, Encampment Management, and On-Street Impact Analysis, including lived-in vehicles, fire/emergency response, and environmental protection;
- **Unhoused Improvement Report:** Analysis of steps and progress to improve conditions for unhoused residents; and
- **Homelessness Key Indicators Report:** Presentation of prior year status of indicators (yet to be established) on impact issues ranging from economic and workforce, to environment, safety, and so on.

By combining key items related to preventing and ending homelessness and managing its impacts, together with measurable outcomes and reflection for improvement, the City is moving towards an even deeper One Team approach. This approach pulls together all 22 City departments and offices as one interdependent system to address homelessness together.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

An annual update will be presented in fall of each year to the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee cross-referenced to City Council.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

While the actions included in the Implementation Plan that require funding have been previously approved by the City Council and are currently funded in the 2023-2024 budget, it is important to continue to highlight that the development of 1,000 interim shelter beds (Strategy 3-1) will incur significant ongoing costs to the City. Manager's Budget Addendum #19, *Updated Interim Housing Budgetary Forecast*¹, estimated ongoing annual costs of nearly \$60 million to support 1,000 interim housing beds, 280 hotel rooms, and 156 supportive parking spaces by 2028-2029, of which approximately \$40 million would likely need to come from the General Fund. Though the Administration is in the process of revising the interim housing forecast based on updated assumptions and expenses that will also be included in the 2025-2029 Five-Year Forecast (scheduled for release at the end of February 2024), the total ongoing cost and corresponding General Fund contribution is expected to increase.

¹ <https://www.sanjoseca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/98310/638206313747200000>

COORDINATION

Every department and office of the City, including the City Attorney’s Office and the City Manager’s Budget Office, was consulted in the preparation and submittal of this Implementation Plan.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

This memorandum will be posted on the Neighborhood Services and Education Committee’s website for the December 14, 2023 meeting and the City’s Council Agenda website for the January 9, 2024 City Council meeting.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION AND INPUT

The Implementation Plan will be presented to the Housing and Community Development Commission on December 14, 2023. A supplemental memorandum with the summary of input received will be provided to City Council prior to the January 9, 2024 City Council meeting.

CEQA

Not a Project, File No. PP17-009, Staff Reports, Assessments, Annual Reports, and Informational Memos that involve no approvals of any City action.

PUBLIC SUBSIDY REPORTING

This item does not include a public subsidy as defined in section 53083 or 53083.1 of the California Government Code or the City’s Open Government Resolution.

/s/

OMAR PASSONS
Deputy City Manager

/s/

ROSALYNN HUGHEY
Deputy City Manager
Acting Housing Director

For questions, please contact Omar Passons, Deputy City Manager, at omar.passons@sanjoseca.gov or (408) 535-8104.

ATTACHMENT: City of San José Implementation Plan for the Santa Clara County Regional Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025