



HOUSING DEPARTMENT

ARENA HOTEL INTERIM HOUSING PROGRAM

October 28, 2025 Item 8.1
City Council

Erik L. Soliván
Director
Housing Department

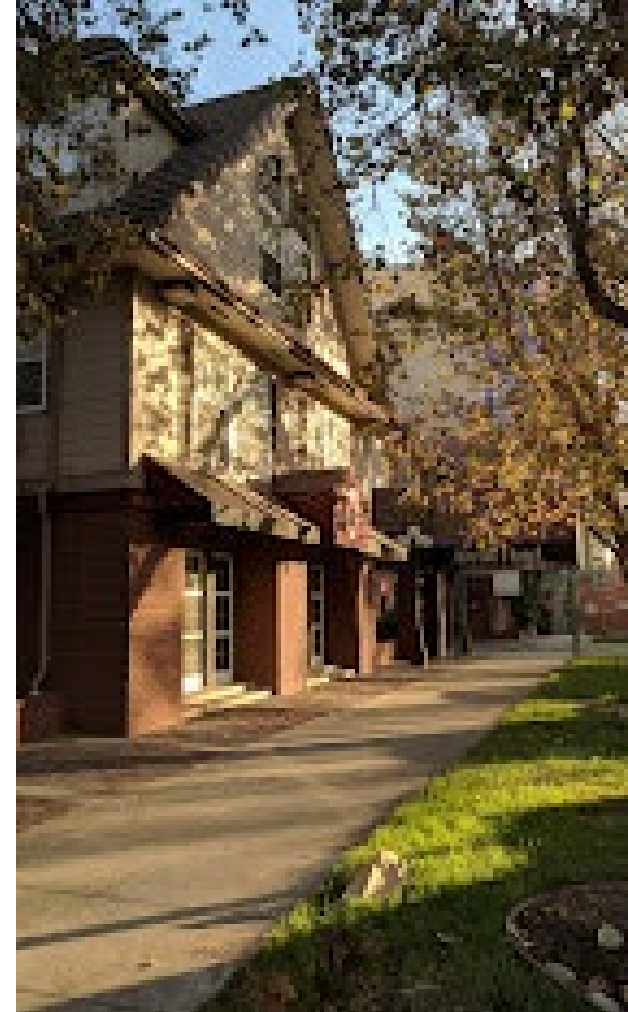
Cupid Alexander
Deputy Director
Housing Department

- a. Brief History
- b. Current Challenges and Opportunities
- c. Moving Forward



Brief History

- HomeKey Project – Hotel Conversion
- FY2025-26 Appropriation: \$5,920,073
- Funding Sources: Measure E / Project HomeKey 2.0
- Date Opened: 8/28/2023
- Address: 817 The Alameda | Council District: 6
- Composition: 89 Units / 114 Beds
- Current Prioritization: Downtown
- Eligible Population: Adults / Couples (no minors)



Current Challenges and Opportunities

a. OPERATIONS

- Location: Site within a business district presents unique challenges not experienced by other interim housing sites
- Staffing: High visibility, high traffic business, activity, and pedestrian corridor. Increased security staffing needed.
- Funding: HomeKey funding for operations constrained staffing plan; required Measure E supplement

b. LACK OF REDEVELOPMENT PLANNING

- Delayed redevelopment initiation
- Financially infeasible project
- Current RFP out for new project partner

c. IMPACTS ON THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD

- Additional debris/litter. Leverage internal SJ Bridge program to assist with clean up.
- Nonparticipants near site; increased dedicated outreach.
- Community compatibility & safety concerns; utilized the community advisory committee to mitigate issues.

Moving Forward

- **WeHOPE assuming operations and management of the site**
 - Supportive Services
 - Property Management / Building Maintenance
 - Site Security
- **New developer selection**
 - Procurement in process
- **Subsidy layering opportunity**
 - The Housing Authority Board has approved \$2.1 million per year over the next three years to the site to help stabilize operations and transition more individuals to permanent housing (PMI Model)