



Office of the City Manager

December 12, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Paul Buddenhagen, City Manager *RS*  
Re: 2025-2026 Winter Shelter Season – Berkeley Winter and Inclement Weather Shelter Locations and Hours

This memo provides an update on the City of Berkeley's 2025-2026 winter shelter season and the opening of the two emergency shelters (the Berkeley Winter Shelter and the Inclement Weather Shelter).

#### Winter Shelter 2025-2026 Information

This winter season, the City of Berkeley will once again activate two winter shelter programs. Details are as follows:

#### **Inclement Weather-Only Shelter**

This shelter opens on a night-by-night basis when weather criteria are met (specifically, 45 degrees or below and/or 50% or higher chance of rain).

- LOCATION: Veterans Memorial Building Auditorium, 1931 Center Street.
- OPEN DATES: 11/15/25\* – 4/15/26 when weather criteria are met.
- HOURS OF OPERATION: Monday-Saturday, 6 p.m. – 8 a.m.; Sunday, 3:30 p.m.-8a.m.
- BED CAPACITY: 40 beds
- MEALS: Dinner served
- ACCESS: first come, first served

\*Berkeley's Winter Shelter Season is December 1, 2025 – April 15, 2026.

However, due to the extreme weather event predicted by the National Weather Service, the City, in partnership with Dorothy Day House, opened the Inclement Weather Shelter early this year, on November 15th.

This year marks the third year that the Inclement weather shelter has been in Veterans' Building Auditorium at 1931 Center Street. This location has the benefit of co-locating services at the same location as Dorothy Day House's daytime Berkeley Community Resource Center programming, so shelter guests can easily move right downstairs in the morning for food, access to showers/laundry/bathrooms, the clothes closet, drop-in

case management and services, and a warm place to be out of the elements. One of the City's locker programs sits in the Veterans' Building courtyard as well.

### **Berkeley Winter Shelter (New Location)**

This shelter is open 24/7 during the cold weather season.

- LOCATION: 4300 San Pablo Ave, Emeryville, Ca 94608
- OPEN DATES: 12/15/25 – 4/15/26
- HOURS OF OPERATION: 24/7 during open dates
- BED CAPACITY: 25 beds
- MEALS: 3 meals daily
- ACCESS: beds are filled through 211/Coordinated Entry assignment and/or direct outreach referrals from the street, including the City's Homeless Response Team.

Prior to this year, the Berkeley Winter Shelter was located at Old City Hall (OCH). Due to some needed repairs at OCH the Berkeley Winter Shelter has been temporarily relocated to Emeryville for the season. This move has also caused some delays in opening the shelter. Shelter operations are scheduled to begin in Emeryville on December 15th.

To maximize chances that Berkeleyans get first access to our shelters, our community agency partners and outreach teams connect with people who are unhoused living in Berkeley. For more information, people should contact Dorothy Day House at 510-606-2026 or 510-705-1325.

The goal for this program is to help people onto the path for long-term housing. Thus, those seeking short-term or immediate shelter are also encouraged to also call 211 or 510-495-0131, which connects them to our coordinated entry system and onto the path for long-term housing.

cc: David White, Deputy City Manager  
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