

MAY 28 2019

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
CITY OF BERKELEY

CITY OF BERKELEY ACTIONS TO IMPLEMENT A TWO-FOLD APPROACH TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS CRISIS

1. To alleviate suffering and neighborhood impacts; the City:

- **Increased Shelter Beds.** Increased the number of shelter beds in the system by funding a continuing 52 bed, low-barrier shelter in the Veterans Building throughout 2018 and opening the city's first Navigation Center, the 45-bed STAIR Center at Second and Cedar Streets, in June of 2017;
- **Piloted Downtown Storage Program.** Piloted a downtown storage program with 58 lockers in the courtyard of the Veteran's Building, which opened October of 2018;
- **Enhanced Street Outreach.** Enhanced street outreach by leveraging state Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) resources for the Homeless Outreach and Treatment Team (HOTT), which works with individuals experiencing symptoms of mental illness, and partnering with UC Berkeley to hire a full-time outreach worker in People's Park and the Telegraph area;
- **Fund Other Shelter Programs.** Funds four other year-round shelter programs with 148 beds for single adults and 18 beds for families; funds four transitional housing programs with 64 beds for transition-aged youth, families, people recovering from substance addiction, and women fleeing domestic violence;
- **Fund Access to Basic Needs.** Funds and supports access to basic needs such as showers and laundry, food, sanitation and toilets, income and benefits, and a variety of other supportive services;
- **Fund Increased Trash and Sanitation Services.** Will administer \$4M in State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) funds to increase trash and sanitation services to encampments, support shelter programs, increase the number of public toilets, open a second locker program, and perform outreach to people living in RVs.

2. To improve the availability of affordable housing options, the City:

- **STAIR Center.** Opened the East Bay's first Navigation Center, called the STAIR Center, which is a 45-bed, low-barrier and service-rich shelter that targets people living in encampments for intensive case management and time-limited housing subsidies to help them transition to permanent housing;
- **Permanent Supportive Housing Subsidy.** Administers 260 permanent supportive housing subsidies for homeless people with disabilities;
- **Coordinated Entry System.** Became the first jurisdiction in Alameda County to implement the Federally-mandated Coordinated Entry System in 2016, providing a single point of entry for homeless people seeking shelter, housing, and case management;
- **Berkeley Way.** Prioritized the development of Berkeley Way, the City's largest affordable housing project ever, which would add 53 permanent supportive housing units for formerly homeless people;
- **Measure P.** Received approval from the voters in November 2018 to raise transfer taxes on high-value real estate transactions (Measure P) to generate \$6-\$8M annually for homeless services, and issue a \$135M bond (Measure O) to create and preserve affordable housing in Berkeley.