

City of Emeryville Homelessness Strategy

Last Updated May 2018

Introduction

In February 2015, the Emeryville City Council passed Resolution 15-10 to adopt a Homeless Strategy. The purpose behind adopting the Homeless Strategy was to Implement the four major goals identified in the City of Emeryville 2015-2023 General Plan: Housing Element. Those four goals include:

- Prevent those currently housed from becoming homeless
- Assist those who are homeless
- Collaborate across sectors and systems
- Support housing for individuals who are experiencing homelessness

The Homeless Strategy was updated again in May 2018 as described below to further revise the strategy to provide concrete actions based on best practices and policies.

Strategy

1. Goal: Prevent at-risk persons from becoming homeless or returning to homelessness	
Policy	Action
1.1 Provide resources and information to prevent homelessness (Housing Element Program H-3-2-3)	Provide information regarding homeless prevention efforts on the City's website, in City offices and at City sponsored events
1.2 Coordinate and collaborate with providers working with seniors and families who are at risk of becoming homeless (Housing Element Program H-3-2-4)	Continue to communicate with the Emeryville Unified School District as well as the City's Recreation Center and Senior Center staff when households are at risk of homelessness or who are experiencing homelessness
1.3 Promote economic self-sufficiency for Emeryville residents	Provide financial management and independent living resources and training to low-income households
2. Goal: Remove barriers to accessing homeless services	
Policy	Action
2.1 Provide the ability for people experiencing homelessness to meet basic human needs such as food security, medical services and sanitation - including restroom facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Continue to fund third party vendor to provide food distributionb) Coordinate with Alameda County Public Health to bring medical services to low income and homeless populations to Emeryvillec) Maintain and expand access to hygiene, sanitation, and laundry facilities

2.2 Provide street outreach to, and engagement of, people experiencing homelessness and provide information about available resources	Fund staff at a third-party service provider to conduct outreach to individuals experiencing homelessness in Emeryville
2.3 Provide case management from the point of engagement and continue while permanent housing is retained	Fund staff at a third-party service provider to provide case management to individuals experiencing homelessness in Emeryville
2.4 Coordinate referrals by providing intake and service needs assessment for people experiencing homelessness	Fund staff at a third-party service provider to conduct assessments with individuals experiencing homelessness in Emeryville
2.5 Reduce violence against people experiencing homelessness and provide a safe way to access services	Police Department to engage in coordination of outreach efforts to improve community relations with individuals experiencing homelessness
2.6 Provide transportation services to people experiencing homelessness who have reduced capacity to access services	Fund transportation passes for individuals experiencing homelessness to travel between services and shelter.
3. Collaborate across sectors and systems	
Policy	Action
3.1 Participate in regional countywide efforts to prevent and reduce homelessness with the North County Hub (Housing Element Program H-3-2-1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Meet with the Cities of Albany, Berkeley, and Oakland to coordinate and fund outreach, shelter, re-housing and case management services (Housing Element Program H-3-2-1) b) Coordinate with Alameda County to provide housing services to the chronically homeless and medically fragile c) Support the formation of The North County Hub d) Coordinate with Alameda County Housing and Community Development, Behavioral Health and Public Health to reduce homelessness through the provision of mental health, medical and social services
3.2 Coordinate goals and information across city departments and stakeholders	Create a Homeless Triage Team, consisting of staff members from affected City departments including law enforcement and public works, that meets on a regular basis to discuss and address issues impacting individuals experiencing homelessness

4. Provide Housing Services	
Policy	Action
4.1 Support efforts to fund rapid re-housing efforts	Fund Rapid Re-Housing slots for individuals experiencing homelessness in Emeryville as well as utilize countywide funds
4.2 Provide funding for permanent supportive housing	Continue to hold slots with Alameda County Care Connect for individuals experiencing homelessness with a dual diagnosis of substance abuse and mental illness
4.3 Support efforts to build affordable housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Identify sites and funding sources for extremely low-income housing b) Include the provision of permanent supportive housing in future Requests for Qualification for affordable housing developments
4.4 Communicate with landlords and residential management companies to identify institutional barriers to accessing housing	Hold events for landlords and residential management companies to identify and address barriers for renters who have experienced homelessness in the past.
5. Ensure safe living conditions for individuals experiencing homelessness as well as individuals residing in surrounding areas	
Policy	Action
5.1 Perform encampment clean-ups with compassion and observance of individual's rights while ensuring protection of the general public health and welfare as well as the health and safety of all personnel involved	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provide outreach, engagement and support to individuals living in encampments prior to encampment clean up b) Develop procedures to coordinate encampment clean-up process to ensure process is performed consistent with the strategy and due process requirements c) Develop process for recovery of unclaimed property of individuals experiencing homelessness post-clean-up