

## Commission on Homelessness – Preliminary Budget and Service Recommendations

---

The recommendations identified that would increase the effectiveness of high priority services/programs to expand support to the City’s homeless community

Recommendations informed by the Homeless Services Audit by City Auditor Courtney Ruby, the 2023 Oakland’s Council Members’ budget recommendations, and the City’s Homelessness Administrator, ACA Simmons.

<b>Encampment and Homeless Services Operations and Resource Recommendations</b>
1. Increase funding to expand contracted support of qualified services providers with clinician services and access to HMIS to expand case management, service delivery, and relocation support for homeless community members
2. Increase funding for OPW – KOCB staffing to increase trash collection and deep cleanings for homeless encampments.
3. Increase ways of providing contracted sanitation and regular porta-potty servicing for encampments with 7 or more households, where feasible
4. The Mayor’s office should prepare a formal for the increase of the County’s allocated Homeless and Health services that more closely aligns with allocation of homeless individuals residing in the City of Oakland according to the County’s Point in time Count numbers and the County’s 2021 publication “Including Race and Equity in Homelessness Systems Design”
5. Expand Food Distribution – Seek additional funding for expansion of city’s food distribution efforts to those in need. (to include unhoused persons).
6. Work to Establish a Safe Villages Pilot Program in the City of Oakland - work collaboratively with the County of Alameda Health and Human Services Department to identify appropriately sized, available county land for this purpose; to provide a safe camping location for unsheltered individuals living in tents.
7. Fund a Safe Parking Program - The safe parking program has a proven, successful track record. These sites will serve people who dwell in their vehicles and are hesitant to enter congregated shelter.
8. Identify and fund places to serve as warming and cooling stations to protect those who lack adequate shelter during extreme weather. Also, consider faith-based organizations as possible locations.

## Commission on Homelessness – Preliminary Budget and Service Recommendations

Under Temporary and Permanent Housing
1. Increase funding for new affordable housing projects. Allocate in advance Measure U affordable housing funds to help kick-start affordable housing projects.
2. Increase Interim and Long-term Housing: Purchase buildings to convert to transitional and permanent housing for extremely low-income and unhoused residents.
3. Expand temporary housing options for unhoused residents by adding tiny home programs, modular housing, and other interventions. Ensure programs are accessible to transitional aged youth, LGBTQ+ residents, and seniors. Each program to provide case management, health and hygiene services, food programs, housing navigation, storage, pet care, and other services. Collaborate with County, State, Federal and private partners to expand housing options.
4. Fund the Exploration of solutions that effectively allow unhoused residents use of private storage facilities. (Turn this into a budget ask)
5. Fund and utilize public and city-owned land and hotels for the development of deeply affordable units (temporary and permanent) for, adult, family, transitional age youth (TAY), veteran, disabled and seniors. Prioritize development in transit corridors and seek out partnerships with government agencies, faith, health, and community-based organizations.
6. Fund the utilization of vacant city property for transitional housing with case management sourced from culturally competent community housing professional organizations; this applies to County-owned spaces within the City of Oakland with no immediate plans for use or warehoused for sale. (accept changes)

Staffing and Other Budgeting Recommendations
1. Fill positions in the depts relevant to responding to the Homeless crisis including relevant Homeless Services Depts and Housing and Community Development Dept. (relevant is repeated)
2. Perform a Staff Analysis then add an adequate number of staff with requisite analytical and technical skills to consistently track and monitor HMIS data, analyze data, and present results for management to review and continuously review racial and other demographic data from HMIS, PIT Counts, and the U.S. Census to ensure the City is identifying and serving communities particularly vulnerable to, or impacted by, homelessness.
3. Define the role of MACRO to clarify outcomes to 911 support, clear support role to the City’s Encampment Team with criteria and metrics for service to the Homeless community, and expand hours and geographic coverage for MACRO (Mobile Assistance Community Responders of Oakland)
4. Add staffing to Oakland animal services for temporary care of pets.