

City of San José Implementation Plan

to the *Santa Clara County Community Plan to End Homelessness 2020-2025*

Many Partners, One Team: An Enterprise-wide Approach *Executive Summary*



Objective

This Implementation Plan for the Community Plan to End Homelessness (CPTEH) aims to direct the City on a path to a better future in addressing homelessness. A path on which a person who needs help can find a home and an opportunity for a better tomorrow. A path that leads to mutual responsibility for a clean and welcoming community. This Plan will facilitate a shared vision of City departments working across traditional boundaries to deliver efficient, compassionate services that address homelessness for every community in San José.

This plan prioritizes the quality of life of all San José residents.

The City of San José's Vision on Homelessness – a San José for Everyone

The City's vision for its shared approach to homelessness – a San José for Everyone – combines the direction of the elected leaders of the City, the professional expertise of City staff, and the compassion, will and desires of every person who calls San José home. This includes people who live in homes and people at risk of experiencing homelessness or already experiencing homelessness in shelters, temporary homes, in vehicles or RVs and on our streets. This Plan builds on the City Council's adopted Reducing Unsheltered Homelessness Focus Area to include a zoomed out view of the broad role the City plays in addressing homelessness.



The aligned City vision is built around the three strategies of the CPTEH and includes four specific principles:

End Suffering on the Street: Permanent and Temporary Homes and Safe Alternatives

Share and Protect Public Spaces: Embrace natural resources while responsibly sharing public space. Balance providing access to spaces, such as waterways, trails, parks and public plazas for all, while maintaining clean, welcoming places

Expect Cleanliness: Hold each other accountable for having a clean community

Create Opportunity: Expand inclusive economic opportunities for upward mobility and security

1

Integration with Community Plan

First, there is a direct tie to specific strategies and categories of the CPTEH so that this work is anchored in our regional agreement.

2

Clear Accountability

Second, each action the City is taking is tied to a specific department so that the responsibility for leading the team success for a given outcome is clear.

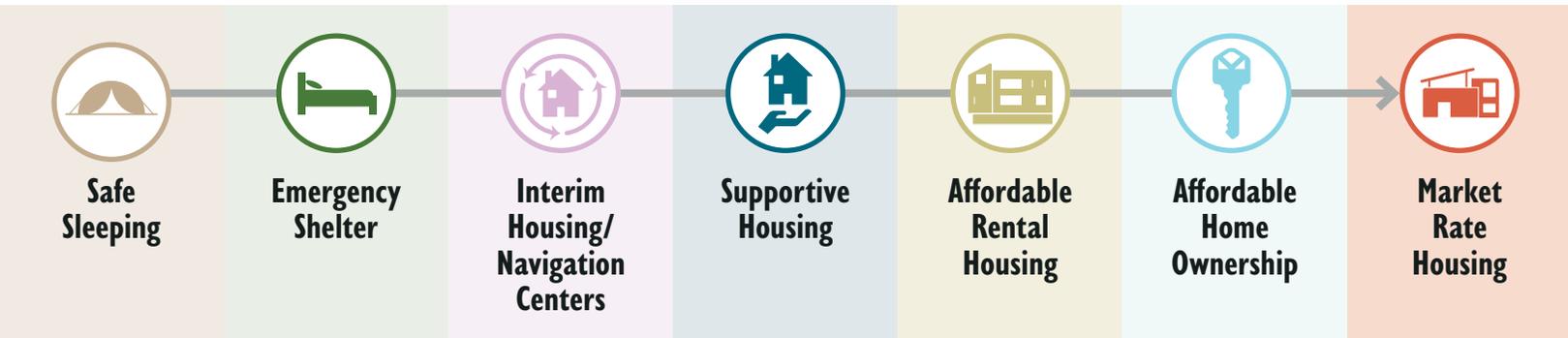
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Measurable Outcomes

Third, each action includes a measurable outcome that will be reported publicly on an annual basis. This accountability is not about blame or credit; it is about progress, learning and leveraging our experiences to push forward.

Modeling Supply: How Much Housing Do We Need?

There is a continuum of housing need. The most important type for long-term success at ending homelessness is permanent, deeply affordable housing. Regionally, entities have modeled the amount of permanent housing necessary to end homelessness prior to the release of the current Community Plan. That work is ongoing in light of the changing dynamics in our community.



Safe Sleeping

Safe sleeping sites provide basic services in a managed setting for individuals lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.

Emergency Shelter

Temporary, short-term housing for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Interim Housing/Navigation Centers

Interim housing/navigation centers provide assistance that helps individuals transition from homelessness to permanent housing.

Supportive Housing

Affordable housing coupled with supportive services that enable residents to stay healthy and housed.

Affordable Rental Housing

Long-term/permanent housing assistance that uses rental subsidies to make the rent affordable to the tenant.

Affordable Home Ownership

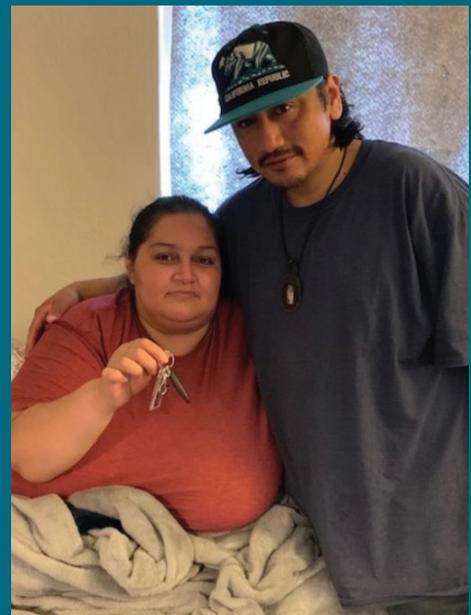
Homeownership assistance program providing financial assistance and subsidies to homebuyers.

Market Rate Housing

Market rate housing that is affordable for individuals without housing subsidy or assistance.

“Their encampment was at risk of flooding during the winter storms in January 2023.

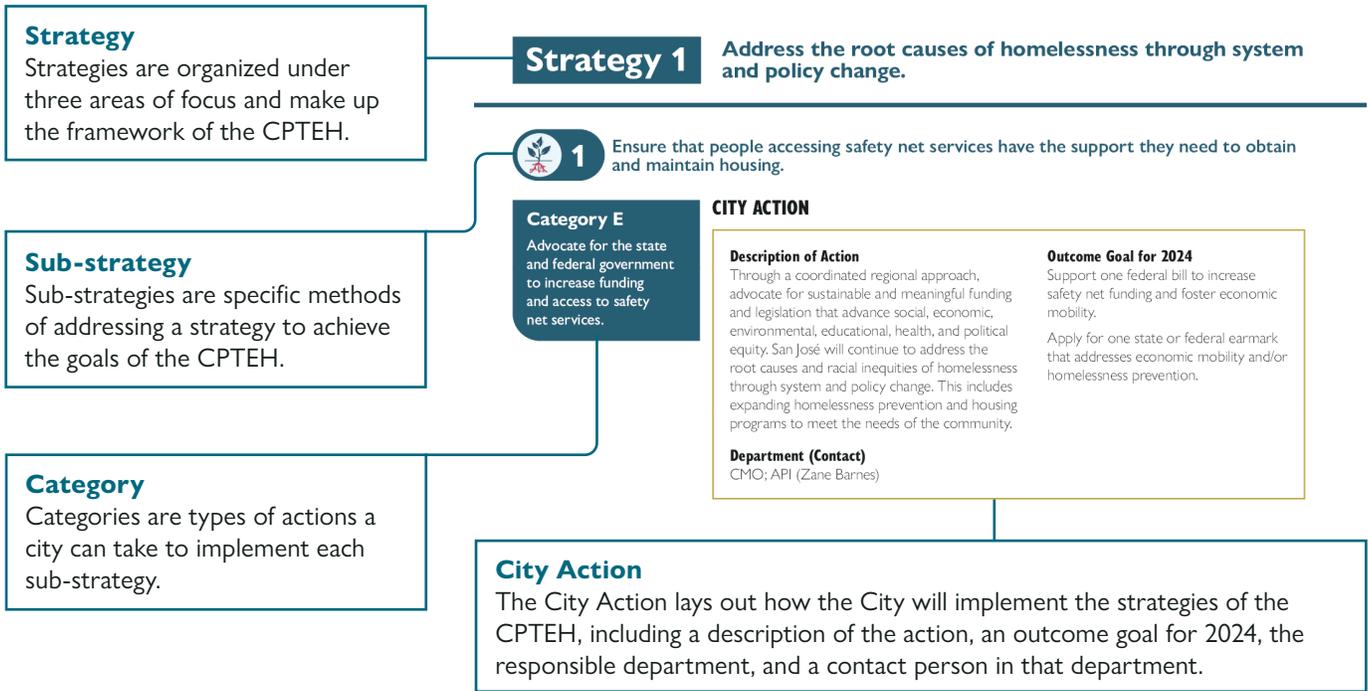
Homeless outreach and engagement teams met Veronica and Alvaro along a creek in San José. Their encampment was at risk of flooding during the winter storms in January 2023. The couple was evacuated and quickly enrolled in the Rue Ferrari Emergency Interim Housing program. Veronica and Alvaro took advantage of the vast supportive services available onsite, including individualized case management. Their case manager helped them navigate the homeless service system and healthcare system since Veronica suffers from chronic pain. The couple learned they were eligible for long term housing support and were referred to a permanent supportive housing program. Coordinating closely with their housing specialist, Veronica and Alvaro secured a 1-bedroom apartment in San José. The couple received financial assistance for a security deposit, furniture needed to fill the unit, and an array of household and cleaning items. After years of experiencing homelessness and a few months at Rue Ferrari, Veronica and Alvaro are now safe and thriving in their affordable rent-subsidized housing unit.



Reporting and Accountability

After each fiscal year, which ends June 30th of each year, the City will update its progress towards achieving established outcome goals and provide a narrative about that progress, including any potential changes. This will include an evaluation of condition changes that may have impacted achieving certain targets (e.g. impact of unexpected global pandemic). The evaluation will also include steps that can be taken by City Departments to improve or revise approaches based on lessons learned.

The following demonstrates the format of the Actions and Outcomes Tables contained in the Plan.



“I had been trying so hard to get a job. Now I can finally breathe.”

In 2022-2023, San José Public Library staff partnered with local nonprofit People Assisting the Homeless (PATH) to host job fairs, strategically engaging with employers who can accommodate traditional barriers to employment, such as resume gaps and previous involvement with the justice system. During the May 2023 job fair, one participant received a job offer on the spot from one of the featured employers. Overcome with joy, the participant tearfully shared, “I had been trying so hard to get a job. Now I can finally breathe.”



Strengthening Regional Partnerships

The City has worked extensively with the County since the adoption of the CPTEH. The County has been a significant partner in critical efforts such as the FAA-mandated clearance of Guadalupe Gardens, the work to support rehousing at various encampments, and developing strategies for increased utilization of coordinated entry for Emergency Interim Housing while evaluating supporting operations. The City and County embrace and recognize the need for ongoing regional partnership, together and with key partners such as the Santa Clara County Housing Authority and Destination: Home, Valley Water, the Valley Transportation Authority and others. This ongoing collaboration will benefit our shared efforts.

Five Major Targets of the CPTEH

The CPTEH includes a shared vision of five major targets across the region from 2020-2025. The table below identifies the regional goal, the City’s specific goal (where applicable) in helping to achieve the regional goal, and the City’s progress through 2023.

Target	Regional Goal	City Progress through June 2023	City 2024 Goal
→ Achieve a 30% reduction in annual inflow of people becoming homeless	30% Reduction	Regional Goal	Regional Goal
→ House 20,000 people through the supportive housing system	20,000 people housed	8856	TBD
→ Expand the Homelessness Prevention System and other early interventions to serve 2,500 people per year	2,500 people served	1652	1700
→ Double temporary housing and shelter capacity to reduce the number of people sleeping outside ¹	3,764 (baseline = 1,882 regionwide)	493	1,000

Key Target—Racial Inequities in Housing

Address the racial inequities present among unhoused people and families and track progress toward reducing disparities

1. The Continuum of Care includes the following unit types in this category: Transitional Housing, Emergency Shelter, Cold Weather Shelter, Inclement Weather Shelter, Safe Parking