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Governance and Ethics Committee 12/7/2020

RECOMMENDATION

Approve the restructuring and renaming of the Housing Rehabilitation Loan Committee (HRLC) and direct staff to bring an ordinance formalizing the Housing Commission for full Council consideration.

Advisory functions related to the administration of the City's Federal entitlement grants and programs, which include neighborhood enhancement, **homeless programs**, and public service grants.

- Council and Staff receive many calls and emails about unhoused in creeks
- Also receive many calls about people living in cars and RVs
- The numbers of unhoused keeps increasing
- Lots of concerns about trash, safety and fires
- Many neighboring cities are committing staff, money and resources
- Santa Clara needs to step up.

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Homeridge Park – May 2021



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Homeridge Park – May 2021



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Homeridge Park – May 2021



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Saratoga Creek near Maywood Park
April 2021



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Anthony Becker Photos



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Anthony Becker Photos



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Anthony Becker Photos



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Anthony Becker Photos



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Letter from SC Aquamaids

- Off Richards Ave.
- Staff member counted 28 RV or tent encampments
- Needles, feces, trash
- Soliciting for money
- Hired Armed guards

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California Laws

- *Desertrain v. Los Angeles* rulings that limit a city's ability to prohibit using vehicles as sleeping quarters, prosecute homeless for sleeping on public property when no other sleeping spaces are practically available, or towing vehicles whose owners have an inability to pay citations.
- State law prescribes what cities may do in the regulation of street parking

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Statistics

- Based on the [2019 Homeless Census and Survey](#), more than 80 percent of the 10,000 homeless individuals in Santa Clara County are unsheltered.
- 2020-2025 Santa Clara County community plan to end homelessness calls for the county to house 20,000 people through the supportive housing system and double the amount of shelter beds available in the county

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Mt View (March 19, 2019)

- Homeless increased from 139 in 2013, 276 in 2015, to 416 in 2017, to 606 in 2019
- **Three-pronged approach**
 - funding basic hygiene services
 - link people to comprehensive health and social services
 - assistance to find housing
- 290 vehicles that appeared to be used for habitation, including 192 RVs, 89 standard passenger vehicles
- Provided portable restrooms and hand washing stations around the City
- five active **safe parking lots** for Mountain View participants with 24/7 services
- The Council approved funding for a Mobile Outreach Worker based at CSA
- For the first half of Fiscal Year 2018-19, the monthly average was 419 hours of staff time across all departments with an average of 177 incidents per month.
- Mt View maintains a webpage (www.mountainview.gov/homeless)

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RV Parking in Mt View

- Oversize vehicle parking ordinance 2019
- Oversize : > 22 ft long, > 7 ft wide, or >7 ft high
- No RV parking on streets narrower than 40 feet wide
- Vehicles may not intrude in bike lanes
- Mt View must put signs on all narrow streets
- Mt View will fund 100 safe parking sites
- vouchers at the local sanitary waste facility in Redwood City

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Safe Parking in Fremont

- 26% of people who are unhoused in Fremont have underlying chronic medical conditions
- Deploy portable handwashing and restroom facilities at 8 different locations throughout Fremont, where there are known congregations of unsheltered community members.
- Approximately 50% of Fremont's unsheltered homeless population—about 238 individuals—is currently living in an RV or passenger car.
- City staff found that approximately 70% of those living in vehicles in Fremont also last had a permanent home address in Fremont
- The most popular services that people would like to see were utility hook ups (electrical, water, etc.), health and sanitation facilities (showers, laundry, restrooms, handwashing), waste disposal and management, as well as additional storage area.

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Potential Partners

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Alta Housing ▪ Bill Wilson Center ▪ Community Services Agency (CSA) ▪ COVID-19 Community-Based Organization (CBO) Team ▪ Destination: Home ▪ Dignity on Wheels (DOW) ▪ Fight the Hate Ministry food distribution program ▪ HomeFirst ▪ Homeless/Safe Parking Teams ▪ Hope's Corner ▪ Los Altos United Methodist Church ▪ Mountain View Day Worker Center ▪ Human Relations Commission (HRC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>LifeMoves</u> ▪ Live Nation ▪ MOVE Mountain View ▪ New Directions – A Program of Peninsula Healthcare Connections ▪ Reach Potential Movement (RPM) ▪ Santa Clara County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Valley Homeless Healthcare Program (VHHCP) - County Housing Authority - Office of Supportive Housing ▪ Second Harvest Food Bank (Second Harvest) ▪ St. Athanasius food distribution program |
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Santa Clara Ad Hoc Committee

- Modeled after Affordable Housing Nexus Study Committee or the El Camino Real Specific Area Plan Committee – consists of concerned residents, “experts”, and potentially members of partner agencies
- Allocated budget to provide education to the public on complexities of homelessness (with food and childcare)
- Recommend measures to reduce homelessness and to provide services to unhoused persons – short-term and long-term solutions
- Recommend City ordinances to reduce impacts to the community from behavior of unhoused persons.

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