

City of Albany
Homeless Task Force Workshop
Thursday, July 19, 2012 - 5:30-8:30pm
Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue – Council Chambers

Agenda

Item	Speaker	Time
Welcome and Introductions	Penelope Leach	5:30-5:45 PM
Overview of Workshop	Isabelle Leduc	5:45-5:50 PM
EveryOne Home Plan	Linda Gardner, AC Housing Director	5:50-6:20 PM
Frontline of Homelessness	Eve Ahmed, City of Berkeley	6:20-6:50 PM
Break		6:50-7:00 PM
Homelessness in Albany	Isabelle Leduc Ann Chaney Prem Bajaj	7:00-7:40 PM
Resources	Paulette Malak	7:40-8:00 PM
Other Programs	Paulette Malak Isabelle Leduc	8:00-8:10 PM
Key Considerations	Prem Bajaj Isabelle Leduc	8:10-8:20 PM
Comments & Conclusion	All	8:20-8:30 PM

City of Albany Homeless Task Force Workshop

July 19, 2012
5:30 – 8:30 PM

Welcome & Introductions

- Staff
 - Penelope Leach, Assistant City Manager/Community Services Director
 - Isabelle Leduc, Recreation Supervisor
 - Ann Chaney, Community Development Consultant
- Homeless Task Force Members
- Guest Speakers
 - Linda Gardner, Alameda County Housing Director
 - Eve Ahmed, Assistant Mental Health Clinician, City of Berkeley Mental Health Department
- CSUEB MPA Graduate
 - Prem Bajaj
 - Paulette Malak

Overview of the Workshop

- EveryOne Home
- Frontline of Homelessness
- Break
- Homelessness in Albany
- Resources
- Other Programs
- Key Considerations
- Comments & Conclusion



EveryOne
Finding Homelessness
in Alameda County

City of Albany Homeless Taskforce
July 19, 2012

National Context

- 1980s Emphasis on Emergency Shelter
- 1990s Emphasis on Transitional Housing and Continuums of Care—getting people "Housing Ready"
- 2000s Major paradigm shift—from managing homelessness to ending it
 - Housing First vs. Housing Ready
 - Solve homelessness with permanent housing
 - The Federal Government asks communities to develop 10 year plans to end homelessness

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Local Response to EveryOne Home

- Published in 2006, the Plan is widely adopted
 - All 14 cities and Alameda County adopt & commit to implementation
 - Over 70 Housing and Service Providers endorse Plan
- Called for systems change and working together in new ways
- EveryOne Home, the organization is established to coordinate implementation
 - Governed by a 30 member board of jurisdictional, consumer, non-profit and community reps
 - Active committees work to implement the plan strategies



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EveryOne Home Plan Core Strategies

1. Prevent homelessness and other housing crises
2. Create 15,000 housing opportunities within Alameda County by 2020
3. Deliver flexible services to support stability and independence
4. Measure success and report outcomes
5. Develop long-term leadership & develop political will

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EveryOne Home Outcomes

- Obtain permanent homes for 15,000 homeless households
- Dramatically reduce the amount of time people spend homeless—from months, even years, to weeks
- 85% of those placed in permanent housing maintain it for a year or more



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Key Approaches to Our Work

- Implement Permanent Solutions
- Be Results-Oriented
- Replicate Innovation
- Work Collaboratively Across Systems & Jurisdictional Boundaries
- Develop a System of Care Committed to
 - Housing First—solve homelessness with housing
 - Wellness & Recovery
 - Consumer Choice
 - Harm Reduction
 - Cost Effectiveness



Strategy #1 Prevention

- Priority Home Partnership
- Since its launch in October 2009:
 - 4,279 persons at risk of homelessness maintained permanent housing
 - 1,226 homeless persons have been permanently rehoused
- January 2011 Count showed a 3.8% drop in homelessness



Strategy # 2 Housing

- 1,709 EveryOne Home units built
- 1,101 EveryOne Home units in the development pipeline
- 729 permanent rental subsidies and 541 transition-in-place subsidies made available
- 729 permanent rental subsidies
- EveryOne Home Leasing Guidelines developed and piloted

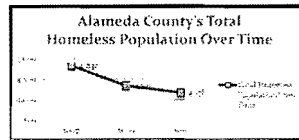


Strategy # 3 Services

- Wrap-around services in permanent supportive housing:
 - 364 funded through Mental Health Services Act funds
 - 50 funded by Oakland PATH
- Expanded SSI benefits advocacy and 250 housing subsidies for homeless GA recipients

Strategy #4 Measure and Report

- o First annual system-wide progress report, **Measuring Progress-Achieving Outcomes** issued July 2011
- o Increased exits to permanent housing
- o Reduced lengths of time homeless
- o Low rates of return to homelessness
- o 2011 Homeless Count shows 13.6% drop in literally homeless since January 2007
 - o Vets down 13%
 - o Mentally ill down 19%
 - o Families down 28%



Strategy #5 Leadership

- Local governments taking action
 - Oakland develops and implements PATH (Permanent Access to Housing)
 - Berkeley, Public Commons for Everyone
 - Fremont Homeless Task Force
 - Livermore, the 100,000 Homes Campaign

Strategies to Consider

- Participate in the 100,000 Homes Campaign: <http://100khomes.org/>
- Negotiate with mainstream resources to prioritize persons living outdoors in Albany:
 - Housing Authority of Alameda County
 - Shelter Plus Care
 - MHSA
 - ESG
 - CDBG
- Use private sources to create a local rapid rehousing fund.

EveryOne
Ending Homelessness
in Alameda County

For more information and to download current reports, please visit www.everyonehome.org

Frontline of Homelessness

By Eve Ahmed, Psychiatric Social Worker, City of Berkeley,
Homeless Outreach Team

Homelessness in Albany

Isabelle Leduc - Staff & CSUEB MPA Graduate student
Prem Bajaj - Principle HR Analyst, BART, CSUEB MPA Graduate
Paulette Malak - CSUEB MPA Graduate student, Albany resident
Byron Johnson - HR Professional, Kaiser, CSUEB MPA Graduate
Ann Chaney - Community Development Consultant

Team Research

- On site visits to the Albany Bulb
 - Met with Bulb residents
 - Met with Solano Community Church Volunteers
- Internal Interviews
 - Chief of Police
 - Community Development Director
 - Retired Community Development Director
 - City Attorney
 - Council Member Joanne Wile
 - Meeting with City Manager
 - Meeting with Assistant City Manager



Team Research continued

- Organizations Interviewed
 - Alameda County Housing and Community Development
 - Solano Community Church volunteers
 - Berkeley Health, Housing and Community Services Dept. Director and Shelter Plus Care Coordinator
 - Operation Dignity, Inc.
 - Berkeley Food & Housing Project
 - Lifelong Medical Care

Team Research continued

- Literature Review
 - City of Albany Master Plan
 - City of Albany Municipal Code
 - 1995 Proposal for the Albany Portion of the Project Site
 - Parks, Recreation & Open Space Master Plan
 - East Bay Regional Park District General Plan (Eastshore park project)
 - Urban County 2012 Action Plan
 - EveryOne Home Plan to ending Homelessness in Alameda County
 - EveryOne Home 2010 & 2011 Progress Report on Ending Homelessness in Alameda County
 - Reports on the 2011 Alameda Countywide Homeless Count & Survey
 - An Evaluation of Dignity Village

Team Research continued

- Online resources
 - City of Albany: <http://www.albanyca.org/>
 - City of Berkeley: <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/>
 - EveryOne Home: <http://www.everyonehome.org/>
 - HUD Homeless Resource Exchange: <http://www.hudhre.info/index.cfm>
 - National Alliance to End Homelessness: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/>
 - National Coalition for the Homeless: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/>
 - The United States Conference of Mayors: <http://www.usmayors.org>
 - Project Homeless Connect: <http://www.projecthomelessconnect.com>

• Vision

- "The City of Albany is environmentally and fiscally sound, champions a healthy local economy, fosters safe, diverse and engaged neighborhoods, and treasures its unique waterfront."

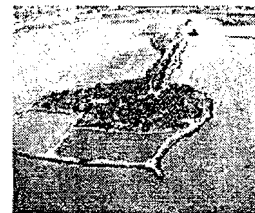
• Mission

- "The City of Albany is dedicated to maintaining its small town ambience, responding to the needs of a diverse community, and providing a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment."

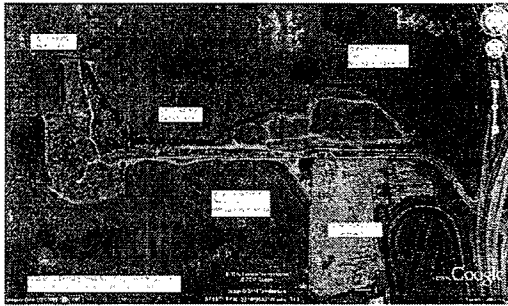
• (City of Albany Website, 2012)

Homelessness in Albany

- The City of Albany has seen an increase in homelessness throughout the City and is currently confronted with the challenge of a proliferating homeless encampment at the Albany Bulb.



Land Ownership



About the Albany Bulb

- History
 - A previous landfill
 - Eastshore State Park

About the Albany Bulb

- Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Waterfront and Albany Hill Areas Ordinance (1999)
 - Social Services Transition (Operation Dignity, Inc.)
- From 1999 to the present
 - City activities and focus
 - City Homeless outreach efforts
 - EBRPD Beach and Neck Restoration

8-4 Parks, Recreation, Open Space, Waterfront and Albany Hill Areas Ordinance (1999)

- 8-4.1 Purpose.
 - The purpose of this section is to provide regulations for the use of City parks, recreation, open space, waterfront and Albany Hill areas within the City of Albany. (Ord. #99-01, §1; Ord. #99-07, §1).
- 8-4.2 Hours of Operation.
 - a. No person shall use, remain in or enter upon any waterfront and Albany Hill area between 10:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., other than duly authorized City employees, persons participating in City sponsored activities or other activities which the City has provided prior written permission to utilize the waterfront area beyond the closing time. The hours of operation of specific facilities within any waterfront area may also be specified by the Director of the Recreation and Community Services Department.
 - b. No person shall use, remain in or enter into Memorial Park between 11:00 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., other than duly authorized City employees, persons participating in City sponsored activities or other activities which the City has provided prior written permission to utilize Memorial Park beyond the closing time. The Director of the Recreation and Community Services Department is authorized to modify the hours of operation for specific facilities within Memorial Park.
 - c. The City Council, by resolution or ordinance, may set hours of operations at other City parks or recreational areas. (Ord. #99-01, §1; Ord. #99-07, §1; Ord. #2011-01)
- 8-4.4 Camping.
 - No person shall loiter, camp or lodge in any park, recreation, open space, waterfront or Albany Hill area. No person shall set up tents, shacks, sleeping bags or any other shelter within any park, recreation, open space, waterfront or Albany Hill area for the purpose of overnight camping. No person shall leave any tents, shacks, sleeping bags or any other shelter, structure or specialty vehicle to be used or could be used for overnight camping, including but not limited to house trailers, camp trailers, camp wagons, and any other mobile or stationary camper in any park, recreation, open space, waterfront or Albany Hill area. The restrictions contained within this section shall not apply to programs sponsored or co-sponsored by the City. (Ord. #99-01, §1; Ord. #99-07, §1)

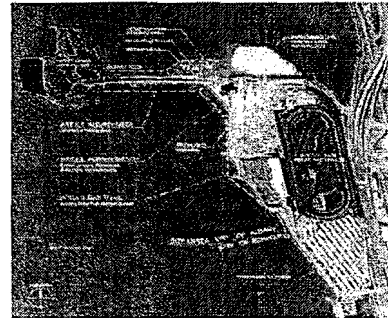
Operation Dignity, Inc.

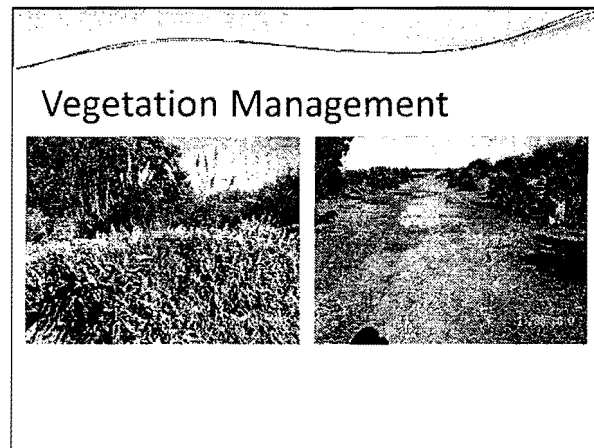
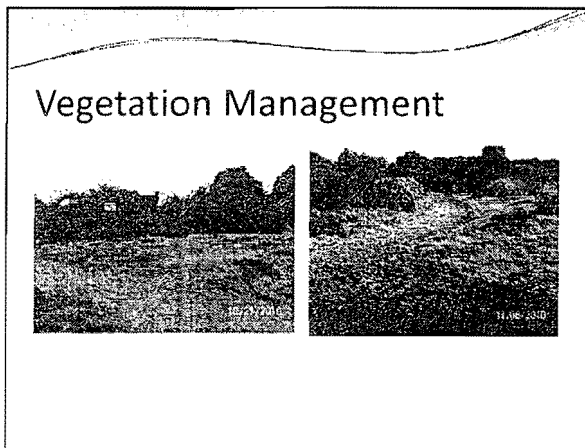
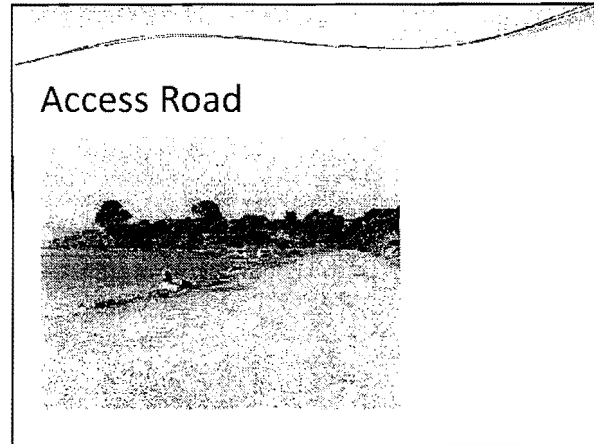
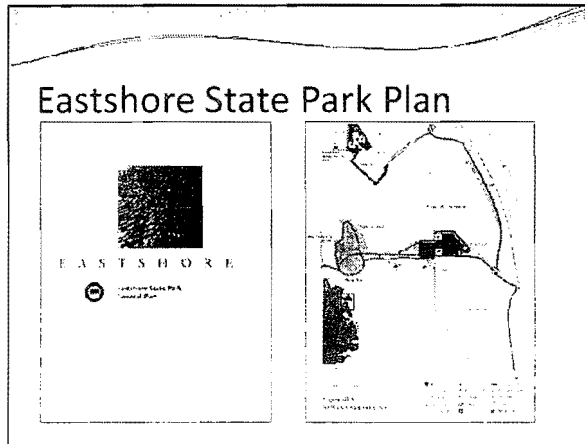
- Mobile Outreach and Transitional Assistance.

From 1999 to the present

- City Activities and Focus
 - Landfill Closure Order
 - Eastshore State Park
 - Access Road
 - Vegetation Management
 - Outreach
 - Campsite Clean up
 - Dumpster Availability & Porta-Potty
 - East Bay Regional Park District Improvement Project

Aerial Map of the Bulb





Outreach



For: All Persons camping at the Albany Bulb

What: Informational discussion to answer your questions about how you might be eligible for housing or social services

When: Wednesday, August 10 at 11:30 a.m.

Where: The "Amphitheater"

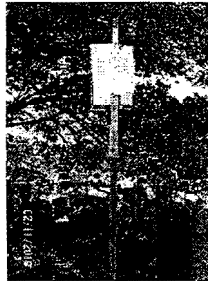
A light lunch of sandwiches and drinks will be served.

Some of the people attending will include representatives from the:

- Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BF&HP)
- Multi-Agency Service Center (MASC)
- Homeless Action Center (HAC)
- Berkeley Mental Health
- City of Albany

Campsite Cleanup

Before



After



Campsite Cleanup

Before



After



Dumpster Availability & Porta-Potty

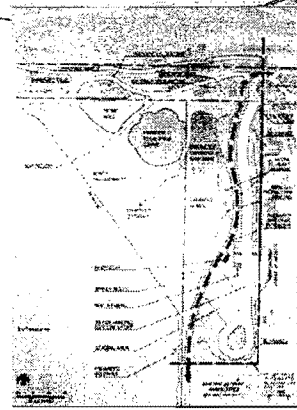
DUMPSTERS HAVE BEEN TEMPORARILY LOCATED AT THE ALBANY BULB TO ASSIST IN CLEANING-UP THE AREA.

City of Albany

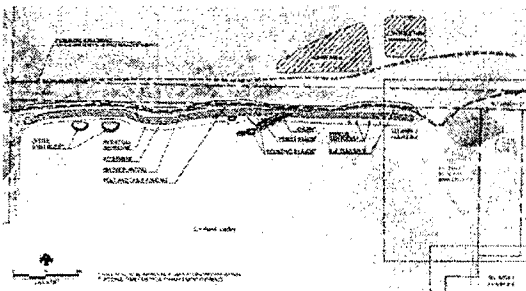
East Bay Regional Park District Improvement Project (EBRPD)

- Future plans for beach and neck

EBRPD Proposed Beach Improvements



EBRPD Proposed Neck Improvements



Aerial Map of the Bulb



Current Conditions

- Encampment
- Amenities
- Access
- Police Presence
- Solano Community Church



Resources

- Federal & County
- Local Organizations

Alameda County Housing and Community Development Dept. (HCD)

- Federal Funding
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
 - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
 - Home Investment Partnership Act (HOME)
 - McKinney/Vento Homeless Assistance Act Funds
 - Supportive Housing Program (SHP)
 - Shelter Plus Care Program
 - Sponsor-Based Rental Assistance (SRA) grant
 - Homeless Outreach and Stabilization Team (HOST)
 - Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Shelter Plus Care TRA

Local Organizations

- Berkeley Mental Health
- Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BF&HP)
- Operation Dignity, Inc.
- Lifelong Medical Care
- Solano Community Church
- Homeless Action Center (HAC)

Berkeley Mental Health

- Provides a range of community-based mental health and related social services to Berkeley and Albany residents.
- Serves people in crisis (MTC), children, teen and families, people with serious mental illnesses and disabilities; and others in need of mental health and social services.
- Staff includes: mental health professionals, case managers, psychiatrist, nurses and peer counselors.
- Berkeley/Albany Mental Health District (MHSA).

Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BF&HP)

- Case management
- Health Care Services
- Men's Overnight shelter for 53 adult men
- Women's Overnight shelter for 32 women and their children
- Women's Resource Center
- Transitional Services
- Multi Service Center

Operation Dignity, Inc.

- Transitional Housing: Up to 18 months housing (30% of household income)
- Mobile Outreach: Supplying basic needs to homeless encampments (hygiene, kits, blankets, clothing, food items etc.) We go out 5 nights a week.
- Case Management, Information & Referrals

Lifelong Medical Care

- Intensive Case Management
- Outreach/Engagement
- Housing Assistance (stabilization & eviction prevention)
- Mental Health Care
- Substance Abuse Services
- Primary Medical Care
- Benefits Advocacy

Solano Community Church

- Connection began 3 years ago (Andrew)
- Thursday pizza opened doors to build friendships
- Developed into "advocate" relationships with several
- Vision is to increase and improve ability to assist
 - Taking risks
 - Not over-extending

Homeless Action Center

- Provides free public benefits advocacy to people who are homeless and mentally ill in Alameda County.
- Provides help with obtaining sustainable income and Health Insurance.
- Free legal assistance
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
 - Medi-Cal
 - CalWorks
 - General Assistance (GA)
 - Food stamps

Strategies used by other cities

- San Francisco
 - Homeward Bound
 - Project Homeless Connect (PHC)
 - Care not Cash
 - Mobile Health Units

Strategies used by other cities

- Portland, Oregon
 - Dignity Village: Transitional housing campground for 60 people at Sunderland Yard, a City-owned property near Portland's leaf-composting yard.
 - 501(c)3 - Self governing community, elected Board of Directors & membership composed of Village residents.
 - February 26, 2004- City Council passed a resolution designating Sunderland Yard as a Designated Campground
 - May 2007, 3-year Contract with City
 - Strong support for contract renewal

Key Considerations for Albany

- Policy options for entire City and/or consider a different one for the bulb
- Ongoing sustained effort
- Build strong and viable partnerships
- Education
- Community outreach
- Not reinvent the wheel

EveryOne Home 5 Goals

- Prevent homelessness and other housing crisis
- Increase housing opportunities for the plan's target population
- Deliver flexible services to support stability and independence
- Measure success and report outcomes
- Develop long-term leadership and build political will

Next Step

- First meeting of the Homeless Task Force
Thursday, August 16, 2012 at 7:00pm