

# **City Council Meeting**

## **~~DRAFT~~ Homelessness Task Force Report**

November ~~XX~~, 2021 **February 1, 2022**

### **City of Milpitas**

*455 E. Calaveras Blvd., Milpitas, CA 95035*  
*[www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov](http://www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov) • (408)-586-3000*

# **Presentation Outline**

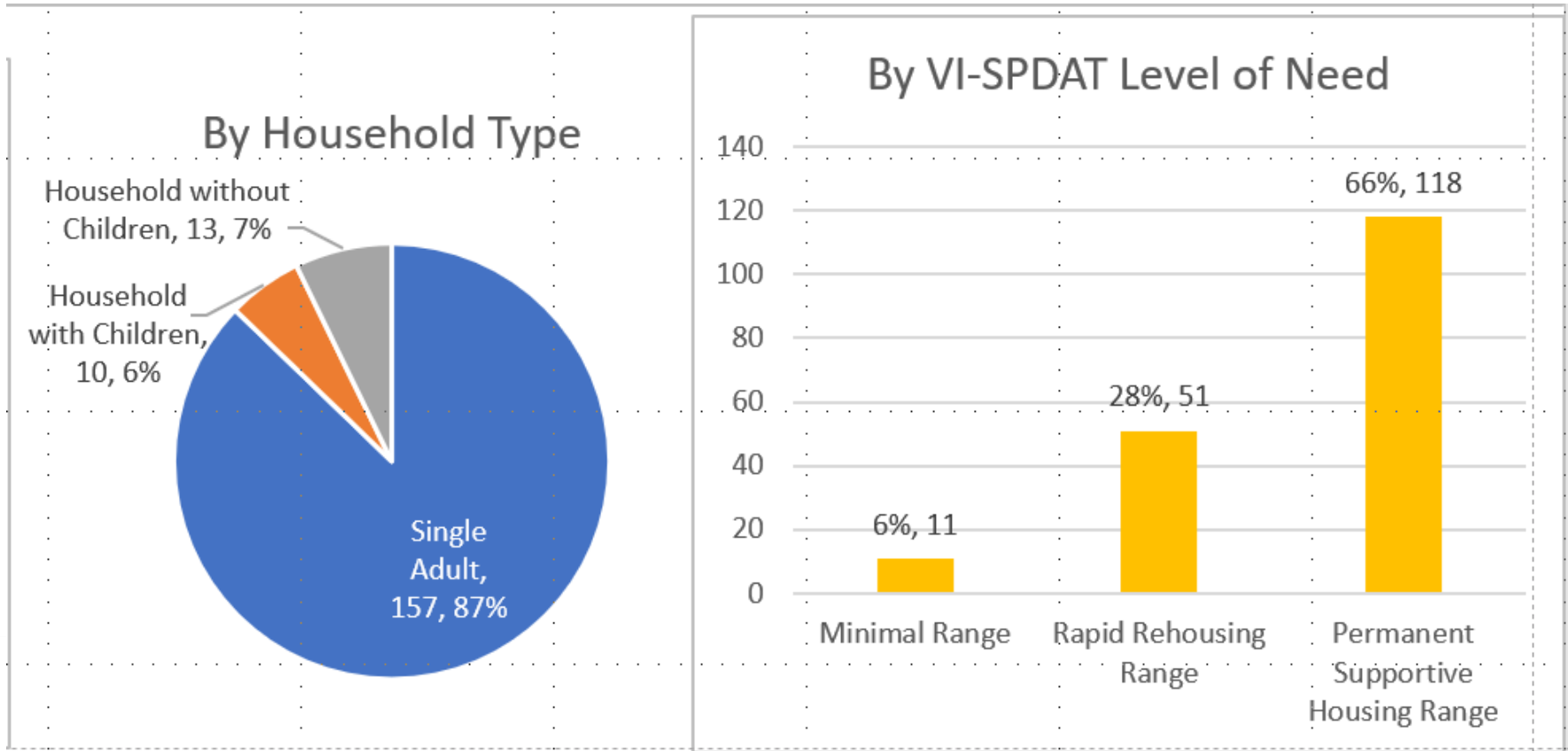
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- Homelessness in Milpitas
- Task Force Overview, Goals, Members
- Task Force Program Ideas
- City Council Discussion and Direction



# Milpitas Affiliated Households Waiting for Housing

- 6,298 households in the Community Queue (Countywide)
  - 180 households are “affiliated” with Milpitas
    - 169 households scored in the RRH or PSH range



Source: Santa Clara County Office of Supportive Housing (August 2021)

# **Homelessness Task Force Overview**

- On January 5, 2021, the City Council, upon the request of Mayor Tran, approved the establishment of a new Ad Hoc Homelessness Task Force with up to ten community members.
- The purpose of the Task Force is to expand resident participation and provide solutions, feedback, and input that will contribute to improving the quality of life of the Milpitas community, neighborhoods, and residents.
- Monthly meetings except July



# **Homelessness Task Force Overview**

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- **March:** Welcome, introductions, selection of Chair and Vice Chair, role of the task force, logistics
- **April:** Brown Act training, possible areas of focus, staff shared resources on homelessness
- **May:** Presentation by County Office of Supportive Housing, task force goals and objectives
- **June-Sept:** Explore programs focused on employment and self reliance, temporary housing, homelessness prevention, safety, accountability, and public policy
- **Oct-Jan:** Review, edit, and approve slides to be presented to City Council, and select Task Force representatives to deliver the presentation

# Homelessness Task Force Goals

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- ~~Connect individuals to resources they need, restore dignity, and plan for prevention through our youth~~
- Help the unhoused move into housing for the homeless
- Provide resources, support, restore dignity and plan for prevention through our unhoused services and support for navigation of services
- Find cost effective solutions for the unhoused to create a safer community
- ~~Address concerns about cleanliness of the City and areas of Milpitas that are polluted~~
- Provide input/feedback on the challenges faced by families and students and find a sustainable and innovative solution to help the unhoused and McKinney-Vento students in Milpitas



# **Homelessness Task Force Members**

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Chair William Lam

Martha Lamdin

Vice Chair Sanae Alexander

Norma Morales

Ferdie Centeno

Lisa Moreno

Jeremy Bevington

Barbara Jo Navarro

Ricky Davis

Tingna Xu

**Members that resigned from Task Force:  
Martha Lamdin, Lisa Moreno, and Ricky Davis**



# Homelessness Task Force Report

- Plan Overview (Chair Lam)
- Program Ideas:
  - ~~Public Policies~~
  - Milpitas Homeless Help Center (Chair Lam)
  - Temporary Housing (Vice Chair Alexander)
  - Homelessness Prevention (Vice Chair Alexander)
  - Work and Self-sufficiency (Chair Lam)
  - Accountability (Chair Lam)





# Public Policies

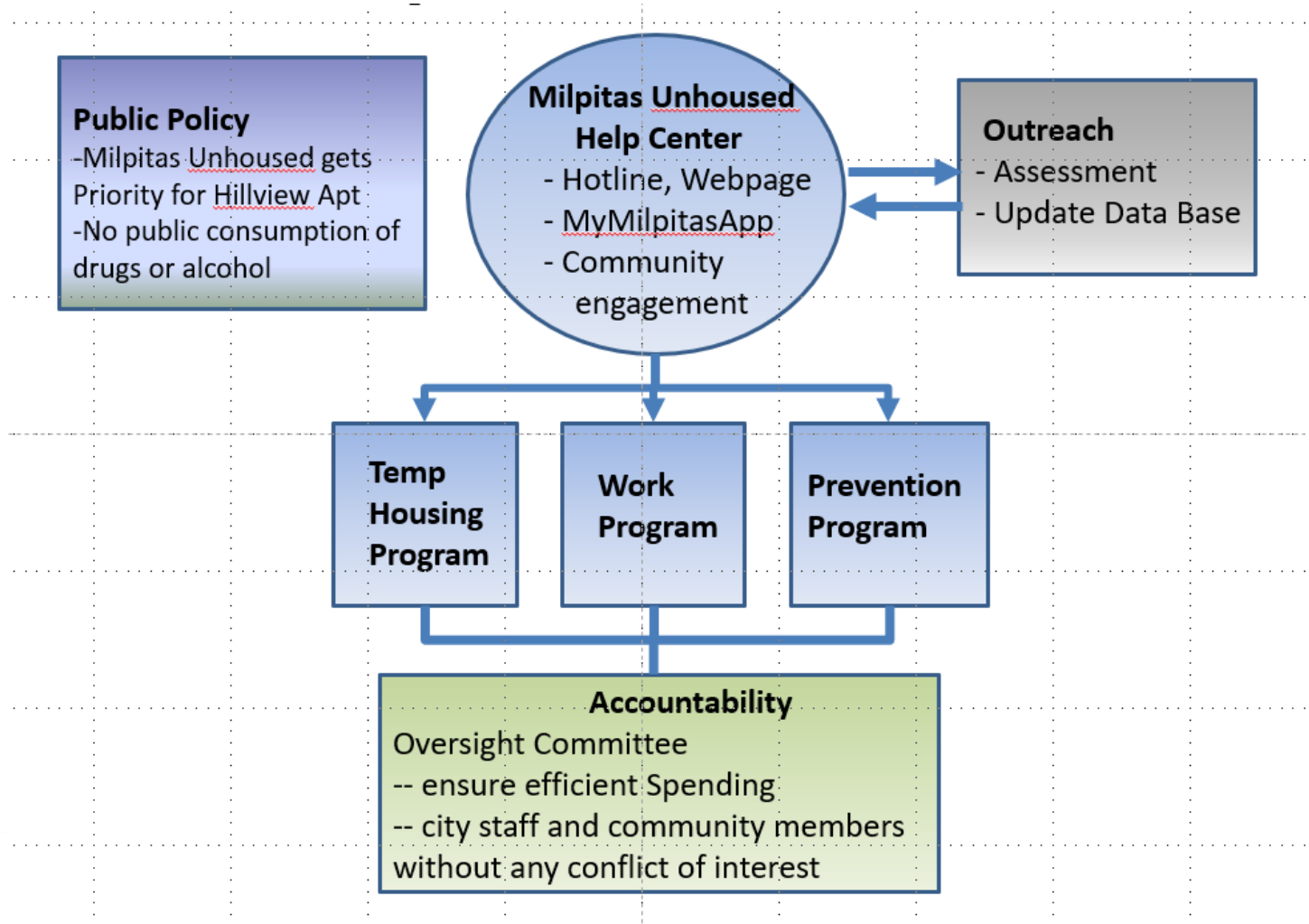
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- Purpose: Prevent crimes against unhoused and housed residents and restore confidence that the streets are safe. Reduce homelessness in Milpitas.
- Enforce the law, prosecute property crime, increase police patrols, install new security cameras
- No open drug consumption, require rehab programs
- Stop panhandling at street intersections and supermarkets
- Provide temporary housing options to reduce the number of unhoused residents living on the street
- Priority for Milpitas residents at Hillview Court Apartments
- Example: Cities of Houston and Culver City

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# Milpitas Unhoused Task Force Plan



# Milpitas Homeless Help Center

- Purpose: increase public information on homelessness resources, programs, and concerns
- Staff person at City Hall who can respond to questions and receive community feedback with language accommodation (e-mail, hotline, or walk-in)
- Webpage with local and county resources, oversight committee schedule
- **Create a new category on the MyMilpitas App to facilitate outreach to the unhoused**
- Community involvement and awareness of programs
- Example: Resource fairs and pop-up events



# **Temporary Housing Programs**

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- **City-sanctioned encampment or safe parking areas**
  - Purpose: Transition to permanent housing. Assistance with self-reliance, self-esteem, pride, dignity, etc.
  - Safer, more stable alternative to encampments; transitional
  - RVs and tents with showers, toilets, laundry, running water, garbage pick-up and food service
  - Assessment and case management
  - Example: City of Fremont, Mountain View, Union City



# **Temporary Housing Programs**

- Temporary shelter and resource center with **giving priority to families, seniors, working individuals, and youth aging out of foster care system (17.5 to 22 years of age)**
  - Purpose: Transition to permanent housing. To build independence, quality of life, self-reliance, hope
  - Create a new congregate shelter with beds, food, daycare, employment resources, financial coaching and more
  - Possibly use an abandoned church building or vacant warehouse
  - Assessment and case management
  - Public-private sector collaboration
  - Example: St. Mary's Center in Oakland



# Temporary Housing Programs

- “Tiny home” transitional housing
  - Purpose: Transition to permanent housing. Assistance with self-reliance, self-esteem, pride, dignity, etc.
  - Faster to construct and much lower cost than permanent housing (shipping containers can be prefabricated, are movable and scalable)
  - Non-congregate housing allows for more privacy and security
  - On-site services, assessment, case management, amenities
  - Explore subsidy for homeowners who host unhoused in Accessory Dwelling Units
  - Explore funding for homeowners or organizations to build tiny homes on their property
  - Example: City of ~~Los Angeles, Oakland, San Jose, Mountain View,~~ Seattle’s “The BLOCK Project”

# **Prevention Programs**

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- **Connect with McKinney-Vento households; expand childcare**
  - Purpose: Identify and assist at-risk residents, youth, and MUSD McKinney-Vento households and increase child-care options
  - More robust outreach to McKinney-Vento households
  - More connections to services and organizations like LifeMoves
  - More outreach in various languages
  - Expand day care options so parents can go back to work and avoid falling into homelessness
  - Example: After the Bell and YMCA after school programs



# **Work and Self-Sufficiency Programs**

- **Rewards for litter pick-up and job training**
  - Purpose: Create a work program to help with self-reliance, self-esteem, pride, dignity and to beautify the City.
  - Stage 1: Provide gift cards or food vouchers to unhoused residents who clean their own encampments, parks, freeway entrances, and other key areas
  - Stage 2: Motivated candidates are referred to SCC work program to train for professional skills
  - Reach out to neighborhoods, corporations, local organizations to volunteer and support the program
  - Refer workers to programs through NovaWorks, Goodwill, Downtown Streets Team and more
  - Example: City of Elk Grove, NovaWorks





# Accountability

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- **Local Oversight Committee**

- Purpose: Ensure tax dollars are spent efficiently on **unhoused** programs
- Create a **7-9** member committee to oversee City spending on homelessness
- Committee approval for all expenditures
- Review 911 calls and crime reports related to **unhoused** residents



# **Recommendations**

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- Receive report from Homelessness Task Force and provide direction on Task Force program ideas.



A photograph of the City of Milpitas building at dusk. The building is a modern, curved structure with a light-colored facade and large glass windows. The interior lights are on, and the building is illuminated from within. In the foreground, there is a fountain with several jets of water spraying upwards. The sky is a deep blue, and the overall atmosphere is serene and modern.

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