



OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR

UPDATE ON STRATEGIES AND INITIATIVES TO ADDRESS HOMELESSNESS

City Council

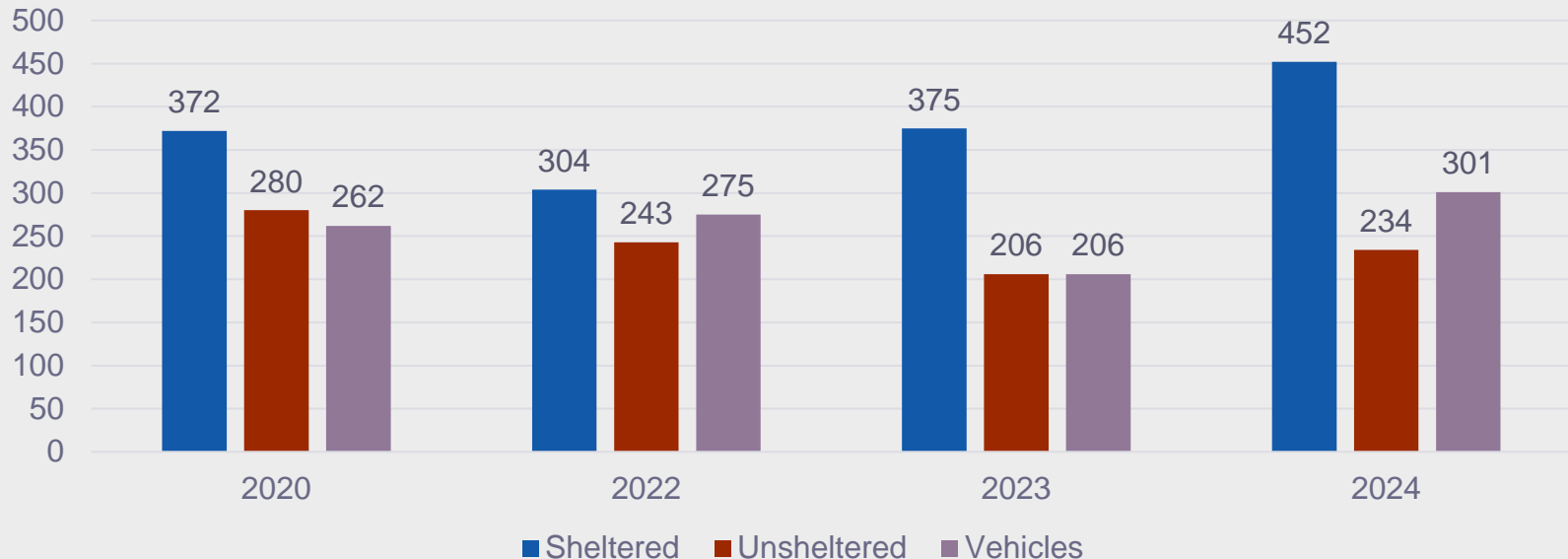
September 24, 2024

Staff Recommendation

- That Council receive an informational update on the strategies and initiatives to address homelessness in the City of Santa Barbara.

General Overview

People Experiencing Homelessness



City-Level Strategies & Approaches

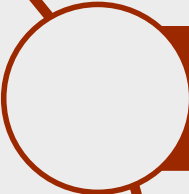
- ACT on Homelessness Collaborative and Regional Action Plans
- Outreach, Case Management & Housing Navigation
- FARO Center and Neighborhood Navigation Centers
- Emergency Sheltering
- Vehicular Homelessness
- Affordable Housing and Tenant Based Rental Assistance
- Addressing the Impacts of Homelessness

Coordination, Collaboration & Strategic Planning

- Three-Year Strategic Plan (2020 – 2023)
- One-Year Regional Targeted Goals (2023 – 2024)



Regional Collaborative Goals & Progress



Facilitate positive housing and/or behavioral health outcomes for 50% of 15 of the “highest acuity” individuals



Facilitate a sustained increase in the number of fully-enrolled Safe Parking RV parking spots by 25%



Reduce non-emergency service calls regarding homelessness to emergency responders by 15%

Outreach, Case Management & Housing Navigation

March 1, 2024 – September 1, 2024	Total
Outreach Contacts	844
Clients Currently Enrolled	47
Clients Served	81
People Housed	8
Entered Emergency Shelter	9
Relocated to Friends or Family	11
Exited to Substance Abuse Treatment Facility	1

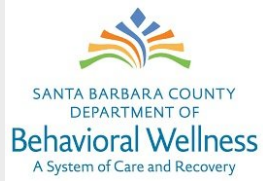


FARO Center and NNCs

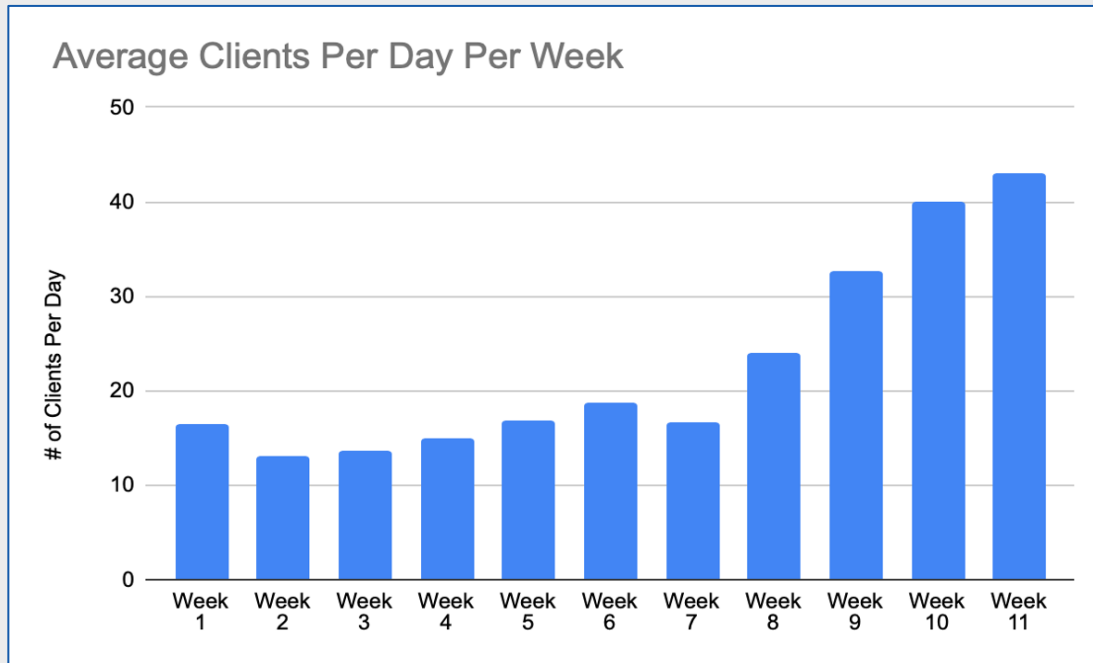


- FARO Center open Monday through Friday, 9am to 3pm
- Eastside NNC at Rescue Mission Wednesdays, 8am to 10am

FARO Center Service Provider Partners

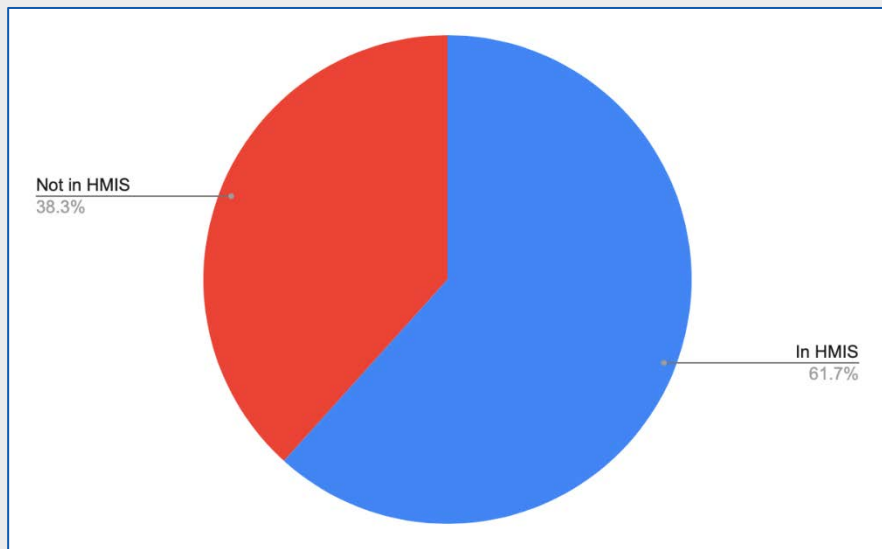


FARO Center



FARO Center

Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

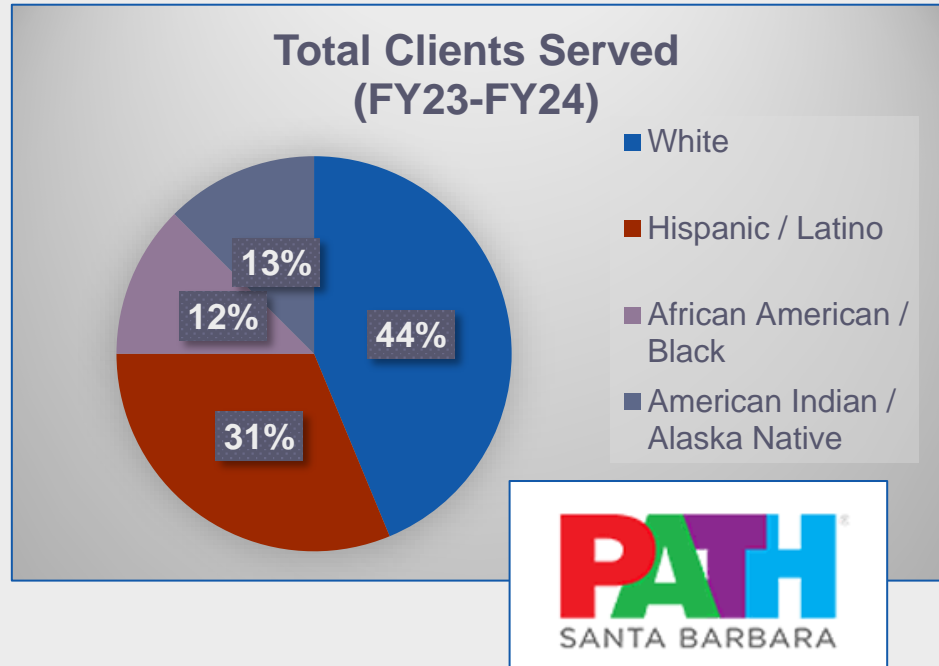


- Used to collect client-level data and data on the provision of housing and services to individuals at risk of and experiencing homelessness

Emergency Sheltering

PATH Santa Barbara

- Twenty (20) clients served; four elderly
- Daily reporting and case conferencing
- Two individuals housed



Vehicular Homelessness

California Encampment Resolution Fund (CERF) Program

- Six identified regions that are prioritized for this additional assistance
- Program launched in July 2024 in partnership with New Beginnings
 - 81 individuals in 51 vehicles enrolled throughout Santa Barbara County
 - 32 individuals in 23 vehicles in the City of Santa Barbara
- Observed increase in undocumented immigrants that are living in vehicles (rented or owned)



Affordable Housing

- Vera Cruz Village
(28 studio units)
- 821 State Street
(14 studio units)
- 15 South Hope
(46 multi-family units)
- 400 W. Carrillo Street
(63 units)
- 3055 De La Vina
(32 studio units)



Santa Barbara / Santa Maria Continuum of Care

- Interim Housing
 - Dignity Moves Downtown (30 Units)
 - La Posada (80 Units)
- Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Buena Tierra (59 Units)



Photo Source: Montecito Journal

Tenant Based Rental Assistance

- Partnerships with New Beginnings, Transition Housing and Housing Authority of the City of Santa Barbara
- Since 2012, City has supported a total of 330 households
- Last year, 55 new households were supported through the program

Addressing the Impacts of Homelessness

- City is committed to serving all our residents, businesses and visitors
- Storage of Personal Belongings in Public Spaces Ordinance
- Encampment Response Policy
 - Shifting of noticing from 72 to 24 hours to help address re-occurring encampments and highly impacted areas



Measurable Impacts (FY23)

- 1 Encampment Response Team responded to a total of 508 reports city-wide including creeks and waterways
- 2 SBPD responded to 8,650 homelessness related calls for service (18% of total)
- 3 SBFD responded to 1,437 homelessness related calls for service (12% of total)
- 4 Since January 2024, Sustainability & Resilience has facilitated 203 abandoned property removals

Costs to Address Homelessness

All City Departments

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Department Costs	\$4,064,095	\$5,612,218	\$6,041,125	\$5,429,562

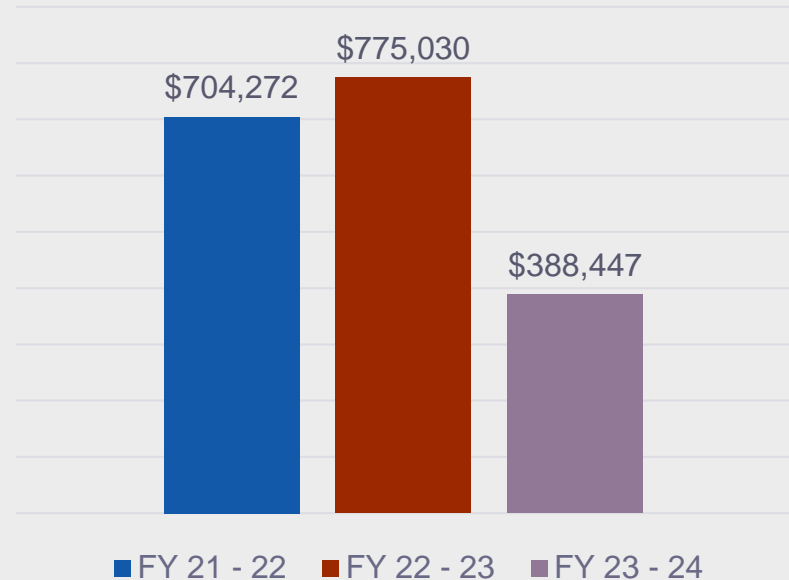
Grants to Social Service Agencies

City Homelessness Initiatives

	FY2020	FY2021	FY2022	FY2023
Grants for Services	\$1,644,506	\$1,872,490	\$3,792,566	\$1,572,580

Future Considerations

- Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) is a primary source of funding for homelessness related initiatives
- Substantial decrease in FY2024 will result in significant cuts to initiatives and programs to address homelessness citywide



Staff Recommendation

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