



City of Alameda

Dignity Village is one of several Alameda developments aimed at reducing the city's unsheltered population.

Homelessness in Alameda Increased More Than Ten Percent Over Last Three Years

Ekene Ikeme

The population of people experiencing homelessness in the City of Alameda increased by more than 14% since 2019, according to a preview of the Alameda County "Point in Time" (PIT) count report released Monday, May 16.

The PIT count of individuals and families experiencing homelessness records the number of people staying in shelters and transitional housing and estimates the number of unsheltered people living outdoors on a given night every two years. This year's count was conducted on Feb. 23.

According to the report, on Feb. 23 there were 264 people experiencing homelessness living in the City of Alameda. Of these people, 84 were living in shelters and 180 were unsheltered. The amount of unsheltered people living in Alameda increased significantly since 2019, the last time the PIT count was conducted. In 2019, there were 231 people experiencing homelessness living in Alameda, with 99 living in shelters and 132 unsheltered people. The 180 unsheltered people marks a 36% increase from the tally recorded in 2019.

Of the 180 unsheltered people recorded, 18 live in a tent, 79 live in a car or van, 31 live in an RV and 52 live on the street. The report did not find any unsheltered Alamedans living in an abandoned building or house. The count does not include people temporarily living in a motel, on a friend's couch or in other less-than-stable circumstances.

The City of Alameda's homelessness increase rate (14%) is lower than the Alameda County increase rate of 22%. People experiencing homelessness in Alameda County increased from 8,022 people in 2019 to 9,747 in 2022. Of the 9,747 people experiencing homelessness, 7,135 are unsheltered. Like the City of Alameda, most unsheltered people in Alameda County live in a car or van (2,318).

More than half of the people experiencing homelessness in Alameda County live in Oakland. According to their PIT count, 5,055 people in Oakland are experiencing homelessness (3,337 unsheltered). Berkeley is second with 1,057 people experiencing homelessness (803 unsheltered). However, Berkeley's homeless population decreased by 50 people since 2019.

The highest increase in people experiencing homelessness

in Alameda County occurred in the City of Fremont. Fremont has 1,026 people experiencing homelessness in their 2022 PIT count — third most in the county. It is a 68.7% increase from their 2019 PIT count (608). The number of unsheltered individuals also increased significantly from 485 in 2019 to 866 in 2022.

Only six Bay Area counties have released a preview of their 2022 PIT count report (Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, Santa Clara and Sonoma). Contra Costa County saw the biggest increase in people experiencing homelessness with a 35% rise from their 2019 count. San Francisco saw the biggest decrease at 3.5%.

The City of Alameda's PIT count was conducted by hundreds of volunteers who canvassed the city and counted the number of unsheltered people. Volunteers included Mayor Marilyn Ezzy Ashcraft, Alameda Unified School District (AUSD) Superintendent Pasquale Scuderri, AUSD Board President Jennifer Williams, and Alameda Community Development Director Lisa Maxwell ("Mayor's Message on Alameda's Plans to Help Unhoused Residents," March 3).

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires communities to conduct a PIT count of individuals, youth, and families experiencing homelessness and provide accompanying data. PIT count data informs program, policy, funding, and system design decisions on homelessness by the state of California and individual counties.

Alameda County's PIT count is administered by EveryOne Home, a nonprofit whose mission is to end homelessness in Alameda County. The PIT count was supposed to be conducted in 2021 but was postponed due to COVID-19.

The City of Alameda is in the process of constructing several housing developments with the intention to combat homelessness in the city and Alameda County. The McKay Avenue Wellness Center will include a 50-bed recuperative care facility for unhoused Alameda County residents to resolve acute conditions, stabilize chronic conditions, and receive hospice care ("Alameda Collaborative Executive Gives Council Campus Update," March 24). The city is using a \$12 million Project Homekey grant to build Dignity Village, a 47-unit interim supportive housing development

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Alameda High Club Partners With Food Services Company to Reduce Waste

Ekene Ikeme

Students at Alameda High School (AHS) are in the early stages of a pilot program they hope will lower the amount of single-use plastics used by students during lunchtime.

Fed up with the amount of trash generated around campus during lunch, a group of AHS students decided to act.

"The trash bins around campus would be completely filled up and overflowing in just a single lunchtime," wrote AHS senior Ava McCracken in an email.

McCracken is a member of the AHS Amplify Club, an environmental activism organization that creates initiatives aimed at making Alameda more sustainable. The Amplify Club figured the best way to curb lunchtime waste was to put the power into their fellow students' hands.

Club members reached out to Dispatch Goods, a San Francisco-based environmental activism company. Dispatch Goods works with local restaurants to reduce the amount of food containers thrown in the trash by selling them specialized reusable to-go containers, collecting them from either the restaurant or from the customer's home after they have been used, washing them, and then redistributing them back to the restaurant. Last December, the company raised \$3.7 million from venture funds, according to TechCrunch.

One of Dispatch Goods' partner restaurants is Lola's Chicken Shack, located at 1417 Park St., near AHS' campus.

"When school started back, we decided to reach out to them to see if they would go 100% reusable for student lunches," wrote McCracken. "The owners have been extremely responsive and very willing and excited to work on this with us."

Mark Rodgers, the owner of Lola's, said he started working with Dispatch Goods more than a



AHS Amplify Instagram Page

Alameda High Amplify Club members Mary Thomas Powell (left) and Ava McCracken enjoy a meal at Lola's Chicken Shack using their Dispatch Goods reusable containers.

year ago after he too was fed up with the amount of disposable containers that filled his trash cans everyday. He was thrilled that AHS students wanted to get involved.

"I think it's great. It's their future," said Rodgers. "If somebody doesn't step up, who will?"

Students have the option to leave their containers at Lola's or have them picked up from their home. But, for students who want to eat at school and don't want to hold onto their container all day, Amplify members placed three pink bins around campus students can dump their reusable containers in. Dispatch Goods employees will then pick them up, wash them and redistribute them back to Lola's.

The bins popped up on campus on April 25 and the club has already seen positive results.

"The project has been successful both to decrease waste and has encouraged students to go to Lola's and support this small business,"



AHS Amplify Instagram Page

Dispatch Goods collects containers from these bins, washes them and redistributes them back to Lola's Chicken Shack.

wrote McCracken.

Amplify is trying to get other local restaurants onboard for next school year.

To learn more about Dispatch Goods, visit <https://dispatchgoods.com/home>.

Development Company Applies to Redevelop Harbor Bay Club Site

Sun Staff Reports

On May 2, the City Planning, Building and Transportation Department received an application to amend the General Plan and Zoning Code to allow for redevelopment of the Harbor Bay Club site.

Jackson Square Properties, LLC, a San Francisco development company, and CHDG Investments, LLC, a Los Angeles-based banking company, submitted the application with the City of Alameda Planning Department to facilitate the redevelopment of the Harbor Bay Club site at 200 Packet Landing Road. The redevelopment project would include a new health and fitness club, a new pool and two tennis courts. The plan also includes 400 apartments and 600 parking spaces.

The property, on Bay Farm Island, is currently owned by Harbor Bay Isle Associates, which operates the 20,000-square-foot Harbor Bay Club as well as a pool and 19 tennis courts there. It was not determined whether Jackson



Dahlin Group Architecture

Preliminary rendering of the site of the proposed new fitness club.

Square and CHDG Investments entered into an agreement to buy the property from Harbor Bay Isle.

CHDG Investments, LLC is affiliated with Los Angeles luxury fitness operator IconFit. IconFit would operate the new fitness center. The community and lap pool will be available for use via a club membership program.

"We are very pleased to introduce this proposed project for the redevelopment of the Harbor Bay Club," wrote Matt Wiley, VP, Development Russell Square; Chuck Grieve, IconFit CEO; and Chad Bungcayao VP, Development at Jackson Square Properties in a joint letter to Andrew Thomas, City

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Today	5:56	20:15
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Virtual Candidate Forum

Presented in partnership by the San Leandro Chamber of Commerce & the Alameda Chamber and Economic Alliance

Alameda County Board of Supervisors District 5 May 25, 2022 5:30PM

Alameda
Eden Area
Oakland

Alameda Chamber & Economic Alliance

Virtual Candidate Forum Scheduled

Sun Staff Reports

The Alameda Chamber & Economic Alliance in partnership with the San Leandro Chamber is hosting a candidate forum for the Alameda County Supervisor District 3 seat on zoom Wednesday, May 25.

The four candidates vying for the seat, vacated after the death of Wilma Chan last November, are Rebecca Kaplan, Lena Tam, Surlene G. Grant and David Kakashiba.

Kaplan is Oakland's at-large councilmember, representing all of the town since 2008, and currently the senior member of the Oakland City Council. Tam is a former Alameda councilmember and has served as president of the city of Alameda Health Care Board and chair of the Alameda County Planning Board. Grant is a decade-long San Leandro City Council member. Kakashiba, a longtime resident of Oakland, has served for the past 40 years as the executive director of the East Bay Asian Youth Center, a nonprofit youth development organization.

District 3 oversees San Leandro, City of Alameda, parts of downtown and East Oakland, and San Lorenzo.

The election for the District 3 seat is June 7.

To attend the forum via Zoom, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2p9ftw6y>.

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