



## City Council Considers Fund Allocation to End Homelessness

**Ekene Ikeme**

City Council discussed a proposal for allocating funds from a potential grant created to pursue the state's goal of ending homelessness at its June 15 meeting.

The City of Alameda is in line to receive \$285,767 from round two of California's Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP-2) grant program. The state will be allocating \$300 million HHAP-2. The grant program is designed to develop a unified response among local jurisdictions to reduce and end homelessness. The funds will be allocated to 44 continuums of care, the 13 most populous cities in the state and 58 counties. A continuum of care is a regional or local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals.

Alameda County is scheduled to receive \$4,002,153 from HHAP-2. Grant amounts to counties are based on the county's proportionate share of the state's homeless population.

Alameda County officials notified Alameda city staff in May of their plan to give \$285,767 from the grant to the city. The County indicated that the amount is a preliminary number based on information from the state. The County requested the city submit a plan for the funds to prepare for the contract to award the funding.

HHAP-2 funds must be spent on the best practices to help move unhoused individuals and families into permanent housing. According to California Homeless Coordinating and Financial Council's (HCFC) HHAP-2 report, eligible uses for the funds include rapid rehousing, including rental subsidies and incentives to landlords; operating

subsidies in new and existing affordable or supportive housing units and emergency shelters; street outreach to assist persons experiencing homelessness, and services coordination, which may include access to workforce, education and training programs.

Other eligible uses include systems support for activities necessary to create regional partnerships; delivery of permanent housing; prevention and shelter diversion including crisis resolution, mediation and conflict resolution; and new navigation centers and emergency shelters.

According to the city memorandum, staff is proposing the Council designate \$125,000 to provide an overnight shelter, \$75,000 to augment existing street outreach with mental health services and \$85,767 for flexible funds.

The \$125,000 expenditure for an overnight shelter would allow up to 10 people to have nightly shelter at the Alameda Day Center. This would allow the city to house a small number of homeless people until community cabins or other shelters are available.

The \$75,000 expenditure on street outreach would cover street-based case management with mental health support. These funds would be targeted to the unhoused that have moderate to extreme mental health needs.

Lastly, the dispersal of \$85,767 for flexible funds would cover a wide range of purposes including car repairs, paying back rent and utilities for the previously homeless or people on the verge of homelessness.

It would also cover emergency expenses, such as car repairs for people living in vehicles, emergen-

cy motel stays and working with the unhoused to clear their credit.

City staff recommended that the proposed \$75,000 for mental health be distributed to the other two categories if the Council deems the previously announced Mental Health Response Pilot Program ("City Creating Emergency Response Pilot Program" May 25) is sufficient to handle mental health needs for the unhoused community. The pilot program will end police officer response to non-criminal, mental health-related 911 calls and establish new procedures. The city will be spending \$1 million a year to implement the program.

If Council deems it is sufficient, staff recommends assigning an extra \$67,767 for nightly shelters and an additional \$14,233 for flexible funds. Council will either approve city staff's plan or provide staff with a new direction for allocation of the HHAP-2 funds.

HHAP-2 grant program was a part of Assembly Bill (AB) 83, which Governor Gavin Newsom signed into law on June 29, 2020. A year prior, HHAP-1 was created as a section of AB 101, which Newsom signed on July 31, 2019.

HHAP-1 allocated \$650 million as a five-year block grant to the same jurisdictions awarded in HHAP-2. The city of Alameda was not given any HHAP-1 funds.

In 2017, the HCFC was created by the state to oversee the implementation of "Housing First" policies, guidelines, and regulations to reduce the prevalence and duration of homelessness in California. The Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency is responsible for the distribution of more than \$1.5 billion in homelessness grants on HCFC's behalf.



City of Alameda

A homeless man uses a bus stop in Marina Village in this 2019 photograph. The city hopes to use the \$285,767 in proposed funds from Alameda County to help the homeless community in Alameda. The city will use the funds to help find permanent housing for the homeless and help those on the verge of homelessness pay living expenses.

## Few Options for Students to Make up Credits Lost During Pandemic

**By Kristy Le**

As almost a full year of distance learning comes to a close, hundreds of Encinal High School (EHS) students need to figure out how to make up credits for classes they failed. However, it seems more online courses are the only option for many who struggled with learning online.

Though teachers tried making their classes easier and their curriculum more understandable during this unique school year, online learning was not for everyone. Twenty-one percent of EHS students (205 students) received a no mark (NM) in one or more of their classes last semester and 12% of students (117 students) received an NM in two or more classes last semester.

Alameda Unified School District

(AUSD) is offering an in-person summer program for elementary and middle school students who meet certain criteria, but the district is only offering in-person learning for a select number of high school English Language Learners. This means cyber high is the only option for hundreds of EHS students who need to make up for missing credits.

"I believe that Cyber High has the potential to be a much more meaningful option for credit recovery than it currently is," said assistant principal Ms. Jones-McLean. "There is a greater likelihood for success when students have the opportunity to retake a course at Encinal, but unfortunately that isn't always an option."

In June 2020, the state of

California authorized the release of \$5 billion in an effort to help school districts alleviate learning loss due to COVID-19. AUSD will receive close to \$19 million from Learning Loss Mitigation Funding (LLMF).

"If there is money that could help provide more ways of credit recovery, then the district should provide it," said future senior class president Ian Muchiri.

The district continues to explore alternative credit recovery options for next school year.

"We at EHS are also working on a Fall plan to support students that need to recover credit," said Jones-McLean. "We know the need is here and we want to make sure that our Jets are fully supported."

But with many students facing **CREDITS:** Page 11



City of Alameda

## Noted Disability Advocate Passes

**Sun Staff Reports**

A beloved member of Alameda's Commission on Persons with Disabilities and a familiar sight around town, Arnold Brillinger, passed away on May 19. He was 72 years old. Known to his family as Arne, he was born in Zeven, Germany on Nov. 11, 1948, to Waldemar and Ida Brillinger.

Arne was devoted to his faith, love for teaching, and family — including many friends he considered family. He grew up in Whittier, Calif. and attended Concordia College, both in Oakland and River Forrest, Ill. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in teacher training. He then returned to Oakland where he taught in Lutheran parochial schools for nearly 40 years.

Later in life Arne became wheelchair bound, but that didn't stop him from being dedicated to improving the lives of others. He became a voice for disabled people all over Alameda County serving on the East Bay Paratransit Rider Advisor Committee, as

well as the aforementioned commission.

In his personal life, he was an active member of Zion Lutheran Church participating in worship, Bible study, leadership, service and fellowship. He also enjoyed visiting with his favorite niece and nephew and grandnieces to share in his love for travel, photography, sports, gardening, and raising birds.

Arne never married. He is survived by his sister and her husband Helene and Robert Austin; nephew Greg Austin; niece Brenda Stephenson, her husband Walter Stephenson III, and their three daughters, Caitlin, Kelci and Claire. He is also survived by numerous cousins and their families, as well as his family of friends.

Services were held on May 27. Arne was laid to rest next to his parents at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, Calif. In lieu of flowers, donate to Immanuel Brillinger Mission Fund c/o Immanuel Lutheran Church, 922 Lutheran Church Rd. Copperas Cove, TX, 76522.

## City Invites Residents to Celebrate Juneteenth

**Sun Staff Reports**

The City of Alameda presents Dr. Cindy Acker's Zoom production, "Words That Made the Difference: Brown vs the Board of Education."

Acker is a five-time award-winning educator and playwright who lives and works in Alameda. She both wrote and directed the presentation.

The screening, which runs one hour and 43 minutes, will air on Juneteenth, Saturday, June 19, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Acker based her work on actual events in the fight to end school segregation in the courtrooms of history.

She captures the real words in court cases that culminated in the famous case, Brown vs. the Board of Education. Her script draws from the trial transcripts

of the five cases that were brought together in front of the Supreme Court, as well as from Chief Justice Earl Warren's memoirs.

Juneteenth commemorates the effective end of slavery in the United States. On June 19, 1865, federal troops arrived in Galveston, Tex., to carry the announcement that all enslaved people were free.

The next year, the first celebration of Juneteenth Jubilee Day was organized on June 19.

The Brown vs. Board of Education ruling made history in 1954, 89 years after Juneteenth.

Juneteenth stands to remind us that all must be free, and yet no one is free until all are free.

Learn more at [www.alamedaaca.gov/Shortcut-Content/News-Media/City-of-Alameda-Commemorates-Juneteenth](http://www.alamedaaca.gov/Shortcut-Content/News-Media/City-of-Alameda-Commemorates-Juneteenth).

## INSIDE

**HOMETOWN NEWS**  
Fire Wire Page 2  
Police Blotter Page 5  
All the doings of Island safety & law personnel

**HOMETOWN HERO**  
Local Wins Race Page 3  
Local athlete, now running for the Oregon Ducks, wins big.

**ALAMEDA HISTORY**  
City Founders Page 10  
Part one of the tragic tale of two Alameda founders.

**COVID-19**  
Update Page 12  
Mask wearing, distancing restrictions relaxed

**CONTENTS**

**HOMETOWN NEWS... 2**  
**THE CITY PAGE... 3**  
**OPINION... 4**  
**POLICE BLOTTER... 5**  
**CLASSIFIED... 6**  
**FUN IN THE SUN... 9**  
**ALAMEDA HISTORY... 10**

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**Alameda Sun Almanac**

Date	Rise	Set
Today	5:47	20:33
June 18	5:47	20:33
June 19	5:47	20:34
June 20	5:47	20:34
June 21	5:47	20:34
June 22	5:48	20:34
June 23	5:48	20:35

## Cooper Teare Wins 5,000-Meter Race



Courtesy NCAA

University of Oregon's Cooper Teare, far right, in the school's green and yellow, crosses the finish line in the second-fastest time ever for a collegiate athlete in the 5K race. His finish also set a personal best for the senior. See story and more pictures on page 3.

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