🔊 HOMELESS RESPONSE IN FREMONT

FREMONT HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE PLAN

Fremont's Point-in-Time Homeless Count Results

The 2024 Alameda County Pointin-Time (PIT) Homeless Count was conducted on January 25, 2024. This comprehensive count of those experiencing homelessness takes place every two years and provides a "snapshot" of both sheltered and unsheltered community members. The results are used to better understand and respond to homelessness in Fremont and beyond. Fremont's count was made possible due to the participation of 180 volunteers.

High-level findings for the 2024 count were shared earlier this spring. Fremont experienced a significant 21% reduction in homelessness since the last count in 2022. This accomplishment is a result of the City's strong partnerships with federal, state, and regional agencies; participation in countywide coordination to reach the most vulnerable in the community; and our investments in prevention, shelter, and housing programs.

Detailed findings for Fremont are expected later this year. Stay tuned for this information.



NEW Homelessness Response Plan for Fremont



On May 21, the Fremont City Council took a significant step

towards addressing homelessness in Fremont. The Council adopted the City's first Homelessness Response Plan, which will guide the development of policies, investments, and actions over the next five years to address homelessness in Fremont. The plan identifies five strategies that are based on expert recommendations from leaders in the field and were refined through an extensive engagement process with the community. The new plan will guide the City's approach to funding and conducting programs with a focus on helping Fremont residents on the verge of becoming homeless and housing currently unsheltered community members.

THE FIVE GUIDING STRATEGIES IN THE PLAN INCLUDE:

- **1.** Enhancing investment in homelessness prevention
- 2. Creating and facilitating additional housing solutions
- 3. Enhancing efforts to connect unhoused people to housing and other resources
- **4.** Further investing in activities that will reduce the environmental and health impacts of encampments on Fremont residents and businesses
- **5.** Strengthening coordination and capacity within the city and among regional homelessness resource providers

The next steps for implementing Fremont's Homelessness Response Plan include evaluating current and prospective activities, funding, and resources addressing homelessness in Fremont and determining how to best bring them into alignment with the newly adopted homeless response strategies. Mitigation efforts, such as enforcement and trash removal, will continue to be an important part of the City's work to address the impacts of homelessness, but the plan includes a stronger focus on addressing the root causes of homelessness as well.

During the meeting on May 21, the Council and City staff listened to many community members' concerns about vehicular homelessness and its impact on neighborhood character. The City will continue to evaluate parking, intervention, and enforcement options. We are committed to working collaboratively with the community to find solutions.

We encourage the community to stay up to date on the City's response to homelessness by visiting our award-winning website at <u>city.fremont.gov/homelessresponse</u> or signing up for the City's Homelessness Interest List at <u>city.fremont.gov/homelessinterestlist</u>.

The City would like to thank everyone who participated in developing the Homelessness Response Plan. From community members to businesses, service providers, and those with lived experience, your feedback was instrumental in shaping the plan. We look forward to implementation and being able to make a difference.

To read Fremont's Homelessness Response Plan and learn more, visit city.fremont.gov/hrp.

NOMELESS RESPONSE IN FREMONT

Homeless Response Programs

The City recognizes the importance of providing support to our most vulnerable residents. Working with our partner agencies, we offer a range of programs designed to address the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness, while also helping them find a path towards housing stability. The information on this page describes some key programs that provide individuals and families essential services like shelter, meals, and hygiene facilities, along with additional resources to help them navigate the path towards stable housing and a more secure future. There are many more programs that serve low-income and housing insecure residents. For more information, visit city.fremont.gov/humanservices.

HOUSING NAVIGATION CENTER

As part of the City's strategic approach to addressing homelessness, the City partnered with Bay Area Community Services (BACS) to open the Housing Navigation Center (HNC) in September 2020. Located adjacent to City Hall buildings, the HNC is an innovative approach to help those experiencing homelessness find stable housing while providing a clean, safe, and calm environment. The program is funded through a combination of Alameda County and state funding, foundation/corporate grants, and private donations. For more information, visit city.fremont.gov/hnc.

HOUSING RESOURCE CENTERS (COORDINATED ENTRY)

The City's Human Services Department and Abode Services operate Housing Resource Centers (HRCs) within Fremont. HRCs serve as access points to Alameda County's Coordinated Entry System, which provides resources and linkages, housing problem solving, crisis assessments for shelter referrals, and housing assessments for available permanent supportive housing opportunities. Services are funded by the City, Alameda County, and state funding. For more information, visit city.fremont.gov/housingresourcecenter.



MOBILE EVALUATION TEAM (MET)

Fremont's Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) is a co-responder team of Fremont Police officers and Fremont Human Services clinicians. MET responds to mental health service calls, provides crisis intervention and de-escalation, and conducts outreach to community members needing assistance with local mental health and homeless services. MET is funded by the City. For more information, visit <u>fremontpolice.gov/met</u>.

SAFE PARKING

The City's Safe Parking Ordinance is one of many initiatives that Fremont adopted to help address homelessness in Fremont. The Safe Parking Program is made possible by our faith-based partners who have permitted their site to serve as a safe, transitional space for individuals living in their vehicles. The program is currently a monthly rotational model, serving up to 15 passenger vehicles. The program is funded by the City and private donations. For more information, visit city.fremont.gov/safeparking.

SOUTH COUNTY WELLNESS CENTER

The City partners with Bay Area Community Services (BACS) to operate the South County Wellness Center. Now open every day, the Wellness Center offers social and enrichment activities, healthy meals, essential supplies, showers, laundry services, and housing education and assistance. Services are funded by the City and Alameda County funding. For more information, visit bayareacs.org/wellness-centers.

SUNRISE VILLAGE SHELTER

For nearly 30 years, Abode Services has operated the Sunrise Village (SRV) shelter in Fremont. SRV is a 66-bed facility that serves single adults and families. Service coordination is offered on site. The program is funded through a combination of City, Alameda County, and federal funding; foundation/corporate grants; and private donations. For general shelter information, call 510-252-0910.



WINTER RELIEF PROGRAM

The Fremont Winter Relief Program shelters adults and families in motel rooms from December through April. During the 2023-2024 season, the program served 125 individuals, utilizing 60 rooms. Participants are connected to a service coordinator to assist with a variety of support needs, including housing case management. Meals and essential items are provided. The program is funded through a combination of City, Alameda County, and federal funding; foundation/corporate grants; and private donations. The program also relies on partnerships with local motels, health and support service providers, and local restaurants. For more information, visit city.fremont.gov/winterrelief.

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NEW Affordable Housing for Fremont

More affordable housing is coming to Fremont! Refer to the table for a list of developments that will include new affordable rental units for low-income households, including those experiencing homelessness. The income limits for these developments will vary. For more information, visit city.fremont.gov/upcomingunits.

If you are interested in receiving information when these new affordable housing opportunities become available, sign up for the City's Affordable Housing Interest List at city.fremont.gov/affordablehousinginterest. You can sign up to receive information by email or text message.











Affordable	e Housing Development	Type of Units	Developer/ Sponsor	Anticipated Leasing Date
	Bell Street Gardens 38889 Bell St.	126 rental units in Central Fremont	Resources for Community Development	Fall 2024
	Osgood North Apartments 41829 Osgood Rd.	111 rental units near future Irvington BART Station	The Pacific Companies and Maracor Development	Fall 2024
	Osgood South Apartments 41911 Osgood Rd.	99 rental units near future Irvington BART Station	The Pacific Companies and Maracor Development	Spring 2025
	3900 Thornton Affordable Housing 3900 Thornton Ave.	126 rental units in Centerville District	Resources for Community Development	Summer 2026
	Affordable Housing on Osgood 41965 and 42021 Osgood Rd.	230 rental units near future Irvington BART Station	MidPen Housing	Fall 2026

Encampment Response Efforts

The City has mobilized time and resources to address the impact of homelessness on Fremont. Unsheltered homelessness has grown and continues to outpace available local resources such as shelter, housing options, and abatement services.

Part of the City's homeless response includes addressing encampments throughout Fremont by conducting legal and humane clean up and abatement activities, administering guidelines, and overseeing relocation efforts. For more information about these efforts, visit city.fremont.gov/encampmentresponse.

In late June, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its ruling in the City of Grants Pass case

that centered around a local jurisdiction's ability to enforce a ban on public camping when sufficient shelter is not available. The ruling reverses the Ninth Circuit decision in Grants Pass that held local prohibitions on public camping constitute a cruel and unusual punishment, prohibited by the Eighth

Amendment, unless the person has access to adequate temporary shelter. City staff is reviewing the practical implications of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling and discussing the strategies that will work best for Fremont.



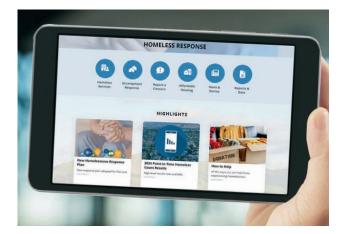
To report an encampment, please complete a service request at city.fremont.gov/reportissues or send an email to homelessness@fremont.gov.

Nomeless response in Fremont

Staying Informed about Homeless Response in Fremont

Homeless response remains a top priority for the City. To keep the community informed, we offer the following tools.

Use these tools to stay engaged regarding homelessness in Fremont. Together, we can make a difference and help improve the quality of life for the entire community.





Information about the City's homeless response is readily available on our City website, including services and programs, the latest news, an interest list to sign up for information, reports and data, and instructions on how to report a concern. Check it out at city.fremont.gov/homelessresponse.



An interest list is available for community members to receive the latest homeless response information. To sign up to receive information by email or text message, visit city,fremont.gov/homelessinterestlist.



A storytelling series called *Fremont Cares* shares the real-life experiences of Fremont's unhoused residents and highlights the homeless response services provided by dedicated City staff and partner agencies. Read the latest stories at city.fremont.gov/homelessnews.

How You Can Help

There are many ways to make a difference in the lives of our unhoused neighbors. You can donate financially, donate essential items, or volunteer your time. Every little bit helps! Get involved today at city.fremont.gov/howtohelp.



To access the homeless response information

included in this section and more, visit <u>city.fremont.gov/</u> <u>homelessresponse</u> or scan the QR code below.

