

Government Code Section
54957.5
SB 343 Item
Agenda: 04/01/2025 SPECIAL CC



Homelessness Study Session

April 1, 2025

Overview



Legal
Framework



State of
California



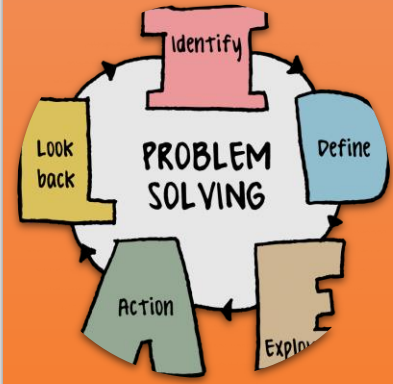
San Mateo
County



South San
Francisco



Other
Cities



Discuss
Potential
Solutions

Legal Framework

Martin v. Boise

- Cannot criminalize sleeping in public if no shelter is available (Eighth Amendment)

Johnson v. Grants Pass

- Initially expanded protections; overturned by Supreme Court in 2024
- Enforcement of camping bans allowed if not based on housing status

Legal Considerations

8th Amendment

- Cruel and unusual punishment

4th and 14th Amendments

- Search/seizure and due process protections

Enforcement must consider all constitutional limitations



State of California

Governor Newsom

Prioritizing encampment resolution

New Funding Accountability Platform accountability.ca.gov

Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP)

Performance-based with claw back provisions



San Mateo County

San Mateo County | Hopeful to Horizons Ordinance



Misdemeanor for encampment after two written warnings/offers of shelter

- Diversion programs



Cannot dismantle encampment unless there is appropriate shelter for each person there

- Pets
- Gender
- Sexual orientation
- Families
- Age

San Mateo County | Encampment Resolution Fund (ERF)



Dignity on Wheels

- Every 3rd Monday at Parking Lot 7 (371 Miller)
- Showers
- Laundry
- Other hygiene services



Priority areas in SSF

- South Maple Avenue
- Lowrie Avenue
- Area near southbound Hwy 101 offramp at Produce Avenue

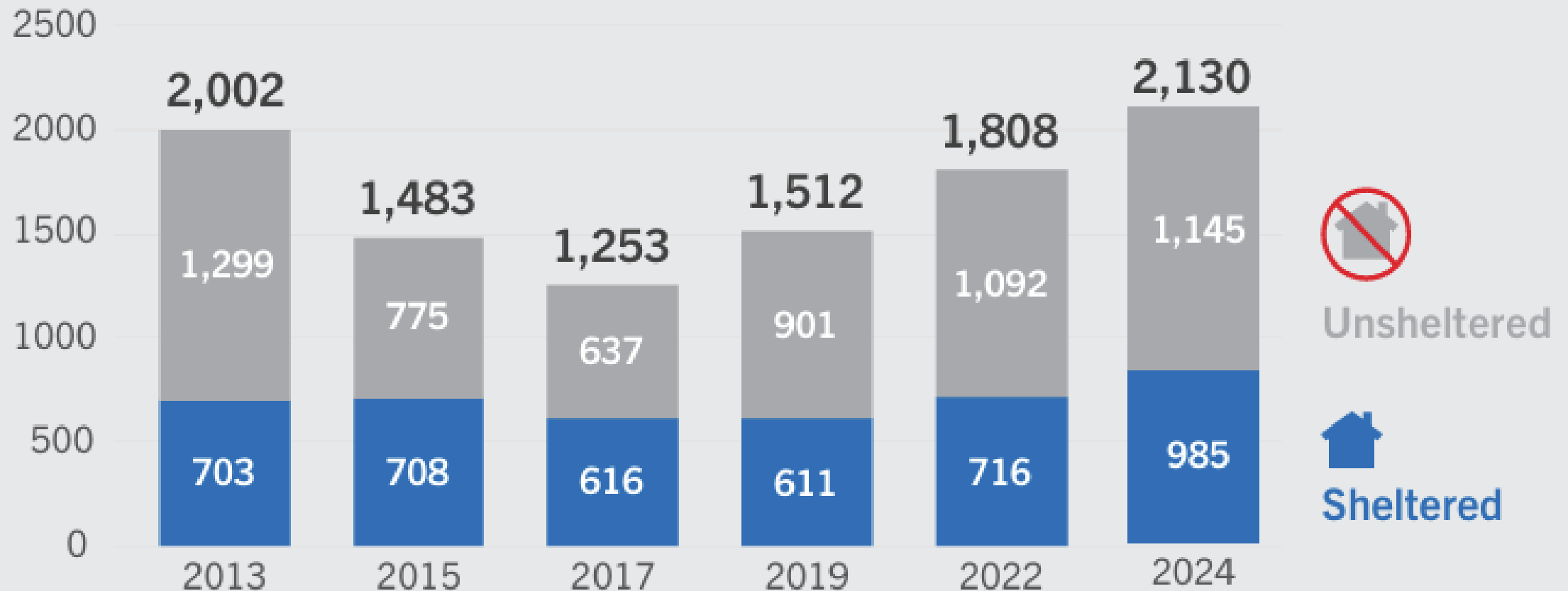


ERF focus

- Mental health
- Physical health
- Substance abuse
- Counseling
- Shelter/housing opportunities that offer long-term solutions

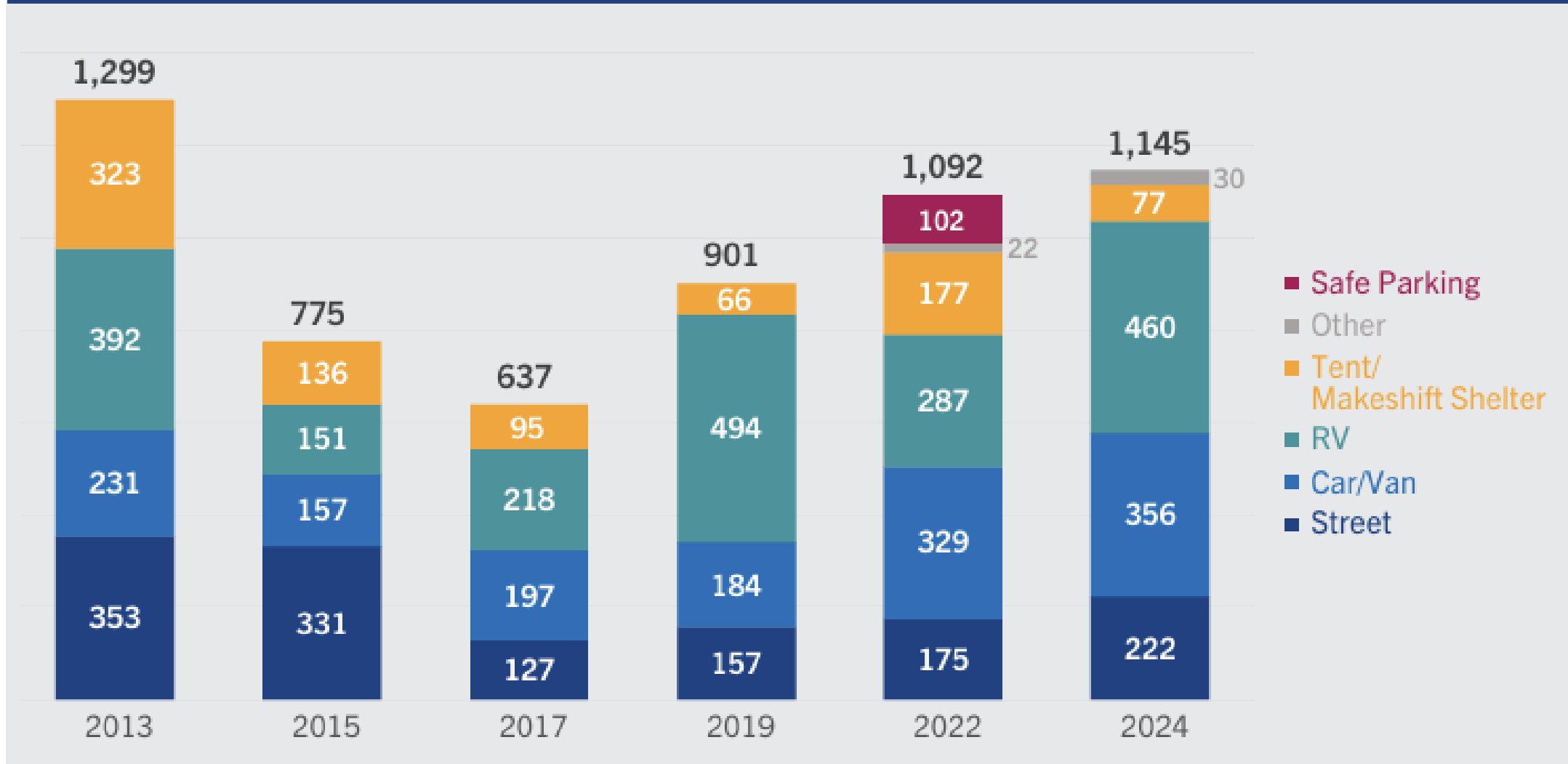
San Mateo County | Point in Time Count Trends

CHART 3. ONE DAY HOMELESS COUNT – TOTAL OVER TIME



San Mateo County | Point in Time Count Trends

CHART 5. UNSHELTERED HOMELESS COUNT OVER TIME



San Mateo County | Point in Time Data Trends

Geographic Location	2013	2015	2017	2019	2022	2024
Atherton	0	1	0	1	3	2
Belmont	43	11	3	7	13	22
Brisbane	34	21	19	4	6	11
Burlingame	13	7	21	25	10	40
Colma	7	3	1	8	1	11
Daly City	27	32	17	66	49	72
East Palo Alto	119	95	98	107	169	81
Foster City	7	0	6	4	4	4
Half Moon Bay	114	84	43	54	68	20
Hillsborough	0	0	0	0	0	0
Menlo Park	16	27	47	27	56	74
Millbrae	21	8	7	9	9	22
Pacifica	150	63	112	116	161	180
Portola Valley	2	0	1	0	0	0
Redwood City	306	223	94	221	245	189
San Bruno	98	8	26	12	63	75
San Carlos	10	20	28	30	14	29
San Francisco Int. Airport	5	1	3	21	14	23
San Mateo	103	82	48	74	60	95
South San Francisco	172	55	33	42	42	79
Unincorporated	46	32	30	73	105	114
Woodside	6	2	0	0	0	2
Total	1,299	775	637	901	1,092	1,145

San Mateo County | Shelter | Parking



Unused Beds



Ban on
overnight
parking for
oversized
vehicles



Safe Parking
Program



South San Francisco

South San Francisco | Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)



City of
South San
Francisco

LifeMoves

San
Mateo
County

Samaritan
House

YMCA

St.
Vincent
de Paul

Outreach Services Teams



Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)

What Do We Do?



- **The Outreach team connects with the hardest-to-reach and most vulnerable members of our community. We enter encampments, work under bridges, and engage clients near freeways—wherever we're needed.**
- **Our team is out in the community rain or shine, hot or cold, serving as the boots on the ground and working in the trenches!**
- **We take a holistic approach to serving our clients, tailoring case plans to support shelter requests, housing placement, substance use treatment, physical and mental health care, and income stability. We think outside the box to help clients overcome barriers to housing and reintegrate into society.**

New Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) 2.0 Program

New Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) 2.0 program:

HOT 2.0 is divided into 4 regions and recently has expanded regional coverage throughout San Mateo County (SMC):

- **Region 1 coverage:** Daly City, San Bruno, Colma, Millbrae, Burlingame, Brisbane, South San Francisco
- **Staffing consists of** 2 Outreach Specialists (day/evening), 3 Outreach Case Managers, 1 Program Director

Encampment Resolution Funds (ERF) Program

ERF LifeMoves program serves 19 of 26 ERF identified encampments throughout San Mateo County (SMC).

- **Region coverage:** Region 1(North County), 3 (Bayside), 4 (South County) & individuals housed
- **Staffing consists of 4 Outreach Case Managers** (1 Bilingual Spanish speaking Case Manager) and 1 Program Director.
- **South San Francisco ERF encampments include #6, #7 and #8**

Success with HOT teams

- Homeless Outreach Team (South San Francisco)
 - **Calendar Yr 2024**
 - Engaged with **268** individuals
 - **134** Linked to coordinated entry system
 - Placed **115** in Interim Housing(Shelter)
 - Housed **15** individuals.
- Success Story
 - 56 year old Latino Male
 - First enrollment into HIMS, February 2016, LifeMoves HOT, Housed in October 2024





Point of contacts

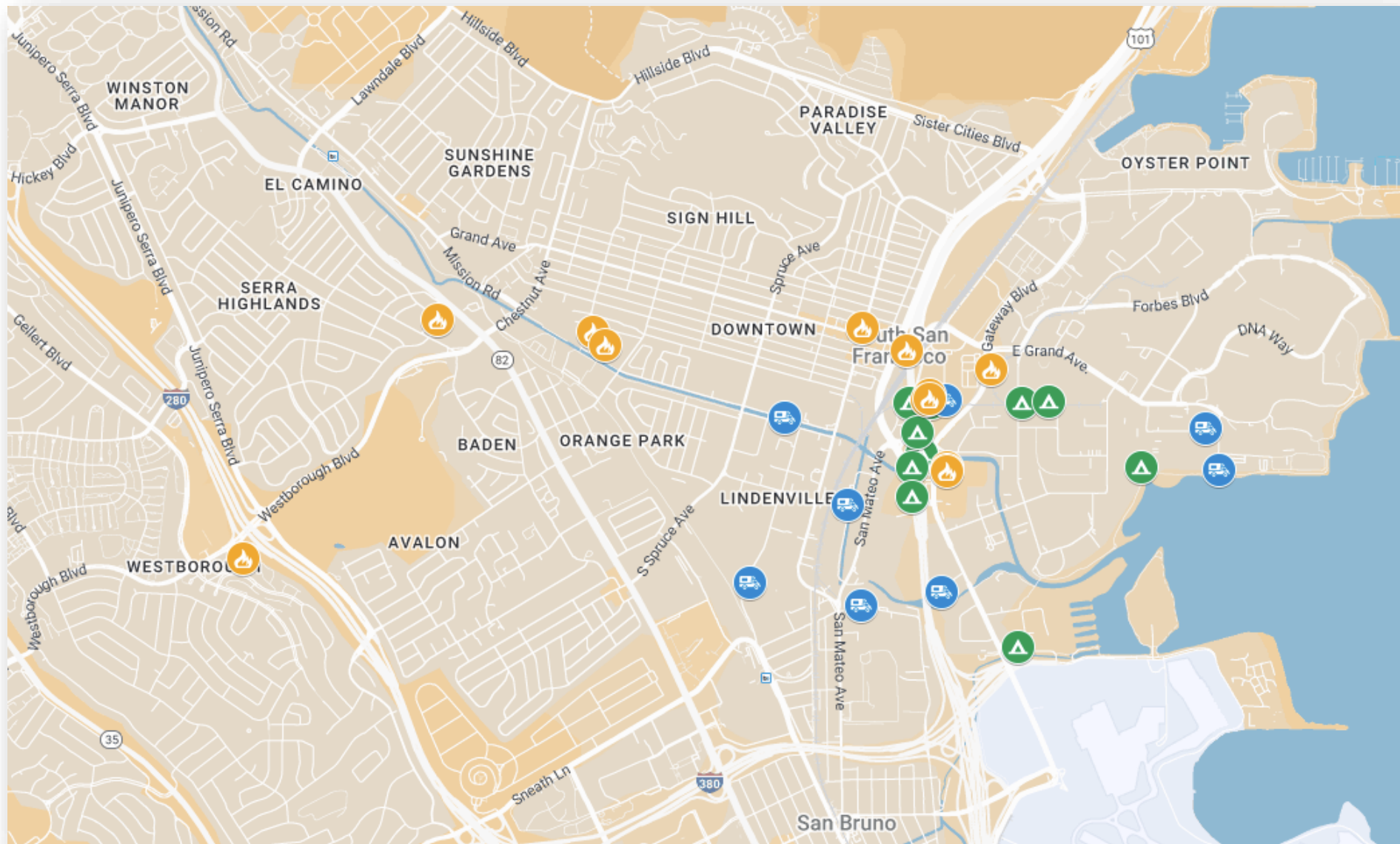
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South San Francisco | Encampment/RV/Fire Heat Map



Private Property

Owner/Rep
requests No
Trespassing
Order

Issued by
SSFPD

Citation or
arrest for
non-
compliance

South San Francisco | Encampment Process

City Property | UPRR | Caltrans

SSFPD initiates contact

Identify individuals

Lifemoves maintains
communication



Public safety, public health, or environmental concerns

SSFPD issues written form, providing
48 hours to remove property

Coordination with Public Works for
encampment clean up

South San Francisco | SSFPD Unhoused Declining Services

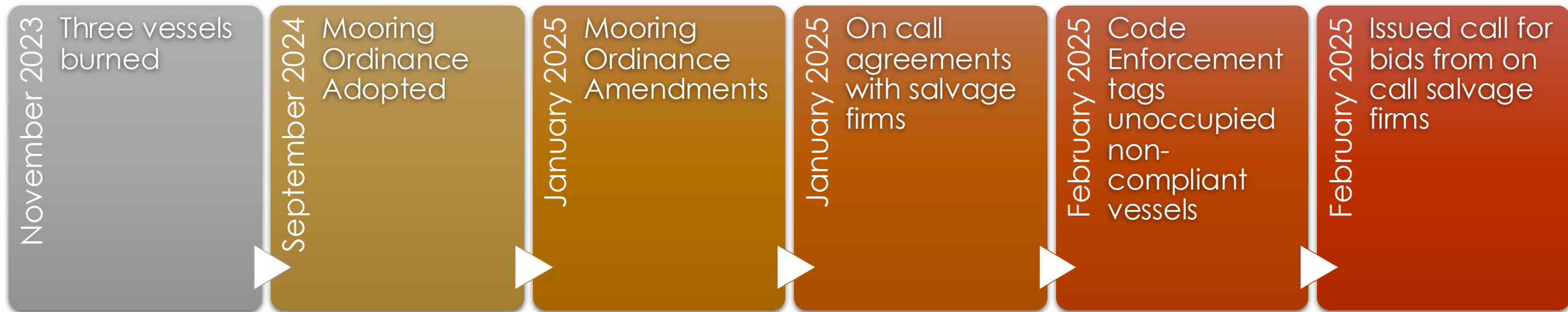
Type	Number	Reason
RVs	5	SSFMC prohibiting 72-hour parking
	2	Expired registration more than six months
Vehicles	17	
Boats	1	

South San Francisco | Towing Challenges

Lack of tow
trucks large
enough to tow
large RVs

Space to store
towed RVs

South San Francisco | Anchor Out Vessels | Milestones



South San Francisco | Anchor Out Vessels





Comparison to Other San Mateo County Cities

RV Safe Parking

120
participants

Wait list |
Permit to
park on city
streets

Each
participant
assigned a
social
worker

Primary
goal to
move
toward
permanent
housing

Operated
by
LifeMoves

Prior to
program:
110 RVs

Program
ended
February
2023

60% of 91
moved into
permanent
housing

East Palo Alto



City of
East Palo
Alto

LifeMoves

Project
WeHOPE

TUP for overnight
parking (beyond
Safe Parking
Program)

Enforces Oversized
Vehicles Ordinance

- Cites/tows vehicles
parked between 2:00 –
5:00 AM



Comparison to Cities in Neighboring Counties

San Francisco | Safe Parking



155 vehicle capacity

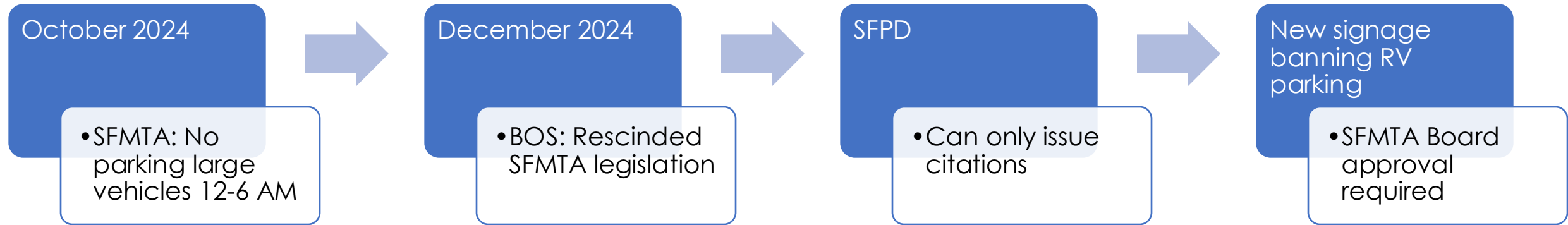
- Only 33 spaces

Lack of electricity

Accessibility issues

Diesel generator pollution

San Francisco



Berkeley | Encampment Policy Resolution to Promote Healthy and Safe Neighborhoods

Exceptions to offering interim housing when closing encampments

Fire hazard or emergency condition

Imminent health hazard

Public nuisance

Located on City street median, in roadway, or other dangerous proximity to traffic

Where City has authorized work

Interferes/impedes City or utility company construction/maintenance in public right of way

Mountain View | Safe Parking Program

Eligibility

Individuals or families with children enrolled in local school

Work or previously lived in city

Seniors (55 or older)

People with disabilities

Services

Restroom and hygiene facilities

Case management and housing navigation

Wraparound support

PPP

Private property owners

Faith-based organizations

Community Integration

Neighborhood outreach and engagement to ensure parking locations are well managed with minimal impact



Potential Solutions

Beyond HOT

Emergency Rental Assistance

- Administered by YMCA
- \$1M since 2020
- Assisted 275+ households
- Pays past due rent
- Avoids evictions due to nonpayment

New Ordinance

- Relocation benefits for displaced tenants
- Change in SRO hotels and mobile home parks

Financial support to nonprofits to prevent homelessness

- Legal Aid of San Mateo County's Home Savers
- Rebuilding Together Peninsula Minor Home Repair

Lot near 1461 San Mateo Ave



City owned

250' x 60'

RV storage
capacity: 36-40

Safe Camping
space
capacity: 18-24
RVs

Lot near 1461 San Mateo Ave | Concerns & Costs

May attract more
RVs than current
footprint and
beyond available
resources

Site upgrade costs:
\$150k - \$250k

Site Staffing &
management
recurring costs
would be in
addition

Potential lease to
contracted tow
company

Other Agencies' Experience



SF Bayview Vehicle Triage Center Challenges (Closed)

- Infrastructure
- Environmental
- Legal
- Underutilization



San Jose Safe Parking (Active)

- Strict requirements (operational, insured, current registration)
- Underutilization



Redwood City Temporary RV Safe Parking

- Managed by LifeMoves
- Capacity for up to 40 RV households
- 60% of 91 participating households had moved into permanent housing by program conclusion



Pacifica Safe Parking

- Managed by Pacific Resource Center (PRC)
- 29-day permits; renewable upon expiration
- 13 dedicated parking spots
- City pays for parking space striping, police patrol, co-hosting mobile dumping station

THANK YOU



Homelessness Study Session
City of South San Francisco