

Unincorporated Alameda County Homelessness Action Plan 2018-2021



County Homelessness Council

Adopted by the Board of Supervisors
December 4, 2018

Introduction

Alameda County contains several unincorporated areas. Best estimates derived from the 2017 Point-in-Time Count and mapping algorithms suggest that during the single 24-hour period of the count in January 2017, there were 194 unsheltered and 26 sheltered people experiencing homelessness in the unincorporated areas of the County, resulting in an estimate of 440 to 660 people per year experiencing homelessness in the unincorporated areas. The majority of the sheltered and unsheltered people were located in the western unincorporated areas of Ashland/Cherryland and Castro Valley (an estimated 147 people or 76% of the Unincorporated Area Point in Time count) and in the eastern unincorporated area near Livermore (an estimated 47 people or 24% of the Unincorporated Point in Time count).

Homeless people in the Unincorporated Area have access to homeless services and housing that are primarily provided regionally or countywide. Examples of these services include winter shelter and warming centers, the regional Housing Resource Centers and Coordinated Entry System, Permanent Supportive Housing (site-based and tenant-based), Rapid Rehousing rental assistance, homeless prevention, and housing navigation services, etc. There remain needs for unincorporated- focused services and shelter and housing resources. Alameda County has responsibility for functions within the Unincorporated Areas that normally are within a city's scope. The development of the *Unincorporated County Homelessness Action Plan 2018-2021*, supplements the County's countywide Homelessness Action Plan for the same time period.

Additionally, the County Homelessness Council is leading a collaborative effort with County agencies to develop an 'Encampment Toolkit' that includes a framework and policies to be piloted within the Unincorporated Area to assist unsheltered persons. It will also be modified so that it can be utilized in County-city partnership agreements with other jurisdictions. As part of the pilot, a County Encampment Response Team (ERT) has been established to coordinate responses to encampments, with an initial focus on unincorporated county areas and priority other County-managed properties. The core ERT member departments include the Community Development Agency, Health Care Services Agency, Public Works Agency, Social Services Agency, and the Sheriff. The Housing Resource Center lead community-based organization will be brought in, as will other County departments, as needed. Attached as Attached is a map developed by the County's Public Works Agency of known encampment locations in the western unincorporated areas, based on data provided by the Sheriff's Office, Public Works, and the General Services Agency. As of November 14, 2018, these are all occupied, however that may change. Also attached is a map of known encampments in the eastern unincorporated areas, based on data from County departments, East County cities and service providers. The ERT will continue to produce updated maps and lists.

The goals of this Plan are to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness in the Unincorporated Area, as well as to meet the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness, to link them to additional needed services and housing resources, and to improve effectiveness and coordination of services. The sections below contain recommended programs and recommendations for use of existing allocations of one-time funding for the three- year period of FY18/19 through FY20/21 to address unsheltered homelessness in the Unincorporated Areas. Many of the programs can flexibly serve people wherever they are located within the Unincorporated Area. Proposed programs that are location-specific, are proposed proportionally to the estimated percentages of unsheltered people living in portions of the Unincorporated Area.

Investments

Over the next three years, the County will invest almost \$10.6 Million in a wide range of homelessness services for the Unincorporated Area. Investments and numbers to be served are detailed below in five service area categories.



Prevent Homelessness: portion of \$3.9M

The Board of Supervisors previously approved an annual allocation of \$7.5 million for affordable housing and homeless response programs. Of that allocation for Fiscal Years 18/19 through 20/21, \$3,890,000 is being proposed to expand and continue anti-displacement and homeless prevention services, including legal services and short-term financial assistance. It is proposed that the new allocation focus on preventing displacement and homelessness among seniors and households at risk of first-time homelessness. In addition, as needed, a portion of the funds could be set-aside to focus on anti-displacement and homeless prevention in the Unincorporated Areas of the County.



Outreach to Unsheltered People: \$1.7M

Expanded Outreach Dedicated to Unincorporated County Area	
Investment	Three year total: \$1.7 M
Funding Source(s)	Whole Person Care through 2020; County General Fund (“Boomerang”) in 2021
Estimated Impact	Outreach and coordination of services for 250 unsheltered clients at a time
<p><i>Studies have shown that housing and health outcomes are improved through outreach efforts that meet people where they are “and help build meaningful relationships with a population that is disconnected from the community and not accessing services through site-based providers.”¹ Utilizing Whole Person Care and County ‘Boomerang’ funding, this program will expand existing networks of street outreach to build capacity in the unincorporated areas of the County. This funding will provide an additional 2.5 FTE outreach workers to the 1.0 FTE existing outreach provided through the Housing Resource Center contracts. The 2.5 FTE will be dedicated solely to unsheltered individuals and households in the Unincorporated Area and will visit known areas where unsheltered people congregate, including encampments and proposed safe parking and other sites. An additional 0.5 FTE Senior Program Specialist is included to coordinate outreach staff operating in the areas, to support communications and training specifically for outreach workers, and to support client-level problem solving. Outreach workers will ensure that people are connected to the most appropriate assistance based on their needs, and that the most vulnerable persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness are connected to housing assistance more quickly. Based on the estimated proportion of unsheltered homelessness, initially 2 FTE would be deployed in the western unincorporated areas and .5% FTE would serve the eastern unincorporated areas. If the January 2019 Point in Time count or other data indicates a shift in needs, the outreach workers could be redeployed as needed. Clients served is based on a caseload ratio of 1 FTE to 100 clients.</i></p>	

¹ Olivet et al., “Outreach and Engagement in Homeless Services.”



Provide Health and Supportive Services: \$0.77M

Mobile Hygiene Unit	
Investment	Three year total: \$460.6K (\$100K one-time purchase; \$360.6K three-year operating expense)
Funding Source(s)	State Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) and County General Fund (“Boomerang”)
Estimated Impact	Mobile hygiene services serving 150 unsheltered individuals
<p><i>Mobile Hygiene Units provide restrooms, showers, and optional laundry facilities for an estimated 150 unduplicated unsheltered individuals per year. Currently, no such services are funded in the Mid-County or East County areas. This funding allows for deployment of such a unit at approximately 32 hours/week, year-round to sites across the Unincorporated Area where homeless people congregate and receive services, and near known homelessness encampments. Toiletries and towels will also be provided to those utilizing the unit. Services will include linking people to the Coordinated Entry System for assessment and follow-up, and providing resource information on homelessness and housing. The Mobile Hygiene Unit may be operated in partnership with neighboring jurisdictions (i.e. cities of Hayward, San Leandro, Livermore, Dublin and/or Pleasanton).</i></p>	

Downtown Streets Team	
Investment	Three year total: \$310.6K
Funding Source(s)	County General Fund (“Boomerang”)
Estimated Impact	8 people at a time receive services. Approximately 24 people are served per year. Approximately 72 would be served over three years.
<p><i>Downtown Streets Team (DST) is a work experience program for people who are unsheltered or at-risk of losing their homes. Eight people at a time serve on teams that clean up trash and debris from streets and sidewalks, currently in the western Unincorporated County. Team members receive a stipend for necessities, case management services, and employment services. The DST outreach and the team members recruited for the work experience program will be linked with the expanded outreach described above and the network of homeless shelter, housing, and services.</i></p>	



Provide Shelter and Housing: \$6.5M

Tiny Homes	
Investment	Three year total: \$310K
Funding Source(s)	County General Fund (“Boomerang”)
Estimated Impact	12-24 people would receive housing over the course of a year
<p><i>First Presbyterian Church of Hayward is developing a 6-unit transitional tiny home community at its site, 2490 Grove Way in Castro Valley. The project is being recommended for capital development funding from Unincorporated County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. However, that funding does not provide for case management or other services. This proposed funding would provide services for tiny home residents, as well as linking them into the Coordinated Entry System, and therefore expanded services and permanent housing resources.</i></p>	

Convert Two Winter Warming Centers to Winter Shelters	
Investment	Three year total: \$718K
Funding Source(s)	HEAP and County General Fund (“Boomerang”)
Estimated Impact	4,545 more bed nights of shelter provided
<p><i>Warming centers generally operate from mid-November until mid-April, but are only open on nights projected to be very cold or rainy. Winter Shelters are open every night during the winter season. In both types of programs, dinner and breakfast are provided. Converting the two current County-funded sites that provide warming centers to unsheltered people in the mid-County unincorporated areas to winter shelters will provide more temporary shelter and stability to participants and allow for more sustained engagement and service provision to assist participants, link them to regular shelters and housing, and other needed services. The only current East County warming center is in Livermore and has indicated that it is not seeking government funding. In FY17/18, the South Hayward Parish warming center operated 49 nights and the First Presbyterian Church warming center operated 33 nights. By expanding to winter shelters, both sites will be open for approximately 145 nights.</i></p>	

Navigation Center	
Investment	Three year total: \$ 3.7M (\$2.5M start-up and \$1.2M for three years operations)
Funding Source(s)	County General Fund (“Boomerang”)
Estimated Impact	300 people will be sheltered (100 per year) and served, and assisted to move into permanent housing.
<p><i>This initiative will create a navigation center in the Unincorporated County based on the City of Berkeley’s STAIR center model (STAIR is an acronym for stability, navigation and respite). The Navigation Center will provide living space for up to 50 people at a time in dorm-style trailers. The site will also be equipped with bathrooms, showers, and laundry facilities. While living at the Navigation Center, people will receive support finding housing, employment, and health services. Ideally, the Navigation Center shelter will address and eliminate barriers to shelter, for example by allowing people to stay during the day, have storage for possessions, and bring pets to live with them. The County is analyzing possible sites for the Navigation Center on the Fairmont Campus and other County-owned sites. No site has been selected.</i></p>	

Men's Shelter	
Investment	Three year total: \$380K
Funding Source(s)	County General Fund ("Boomerang")
Estimated Impact	Approximately 150 men sheltered and served over three years
<p><i>Provide approximately 25 low-barrier shelter beds for unsheltered men. There is no 'general' shelter for men in the Unincorporated Area or in the Mid-County or East County areas currently. One or more sites and operators would be identified through a Request for Proposals process. Ideally, the County will coordinate with area cities to create regional resources and leverage the County's funds. The residents of the shelter would be linked to existing services and the Coordinated Entry System.</i></p>	

Safe Parking Program	
Investment	Three year total: \$1.2M
Funding Source(s)	HEAP and County General Fund ("Boomerang")
Estimated Impact	Establish 3-5 Safe Parking sites, approximately 10 vehicles per site, serving estimated 30 people per site. Yearly impact estimated at 60 people per year, 180 people over three years.
<p><i>For many people who live in their vehicles, the threat of harassment or forced moves add a stressful and destabilizing element to their state of homelessness. Safe parking programs seek to alleviate this by providing people with a sanctioned area to park for the night, with access to restrooms. Across the County overall, 22% of people experiencing homeless in the 2017 Point-in-Time Count were living in vehicles. This number could be higher in the Unincorporated Area as unsheltered homelessness, of which living in a vehicle is a sub-category, is higher than in the County as a whole. Even at 22%, that would mean that approximately 48 people are living in their vehicles in the Unincorporated County on a given night. There is currently only one safe parking site in the Unincorporated County that allows 8 cars. This program will create 3-5 total sites, with approximately 10 vehicles per site, for unsheltered people to use for safe overnight parking. Sites could be located anywhere in the Unincorporated Area, or serving unincorporated areas if established in cooperation with adjacent cities. In addition to proving security and predictability for those staying at the sites, it will also make it easier for outreach workers and case managers and other services to connect with the participants to assist them in obtaining needed services and stable shelter and housing.</i></p>	

RV Waste Disposal Program	
Investment	Three year total: \$155K
Funding Source(s)	HEAP and County General Fund ("Boomerang")
Estimated Impact	150 Households per year living in RVs will have a safe place to dump their waste products.
<p><i>It is currently unknown how many people are living in RVs in the Unincorporated County Areas. Better information will become available as part of the expanded outreach and safe parking programs. The RV Waste Disposal program will provide vouchers to up to 100 homeless households living in operable RVs to dump their RV waste at Chabot Regional Park's dump site once a month, thus keeping hazardous waste off of the streets and other unhealthy locations. Up to an additional 50 homeless households living in the RVs that are not functional would have mobile waste removal services done onsite once a month. This may include RVs parked at Safe Parking sites. Outreach workers would be able to identify needs and link people living in RVs to this program anywhere in the Unincorporated County.</i></p>	



Create a Coordinated System: \$1.55 M

Project Management of Unincorporated Homeless Programming	
Investment	Three year total: \$1.55M
Funding Source(s)	County General Fund (“Boomerang”) and HEAP
Estimated Impact	Coordinate County departments and contractors addressing homelessness in the Unincorporated County
<p><i>The Project Management (PM) Team’s time is dedicated solely to coordination, meeting facilitation, outcome tracking, and overall implementation of the County’s efforts to end homelessness in the Unincorporated Area. The team includes 1.0 FTE Senior Management Analyst (Project Manager); 1.0 FTE Management Analyst (Data Specialist); and 0.5 FTE Secretary (clerical support). The proposed PM Team would be County employees who help bring together the relevant County departments, occasional city staff of neighboring jurisdictions, and contractors providing services in the Unincorporated Area to oversee communications, staff training, implementation of the Encampment Toolkit, tracking outcomes for homeless clients, mapping of homelessness in the area, and responding to data requests. Budgeted expenses include employee salaries and benefits, operational expenses, and indirect/overhead charges.</i></p>	

Conclusion

In summary, implementation of this plan will expand outreach and temporary shelter options to provide health and safety interventions while linking unsheltered people in the unincorporated areas of the County to additional needed services and housing. Implementation over the three years of the plan will utilize funds from Whole Person Care/Alameda County Care Connect and State Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP) funds, as well as County boomerang funds allocated by the Board of Supervisors to address homelessness. The chart in the Appendix summarizes the programs and associated proposed funding sources to implement the plan.

Following approval of the Plan by the Board of Supervisors, the County’s Homelessness Council and its Operations Committee will develop a detailed implementation schedule and performance measure benchmarks to track and regularly report on implementation to the Board.

Appendix

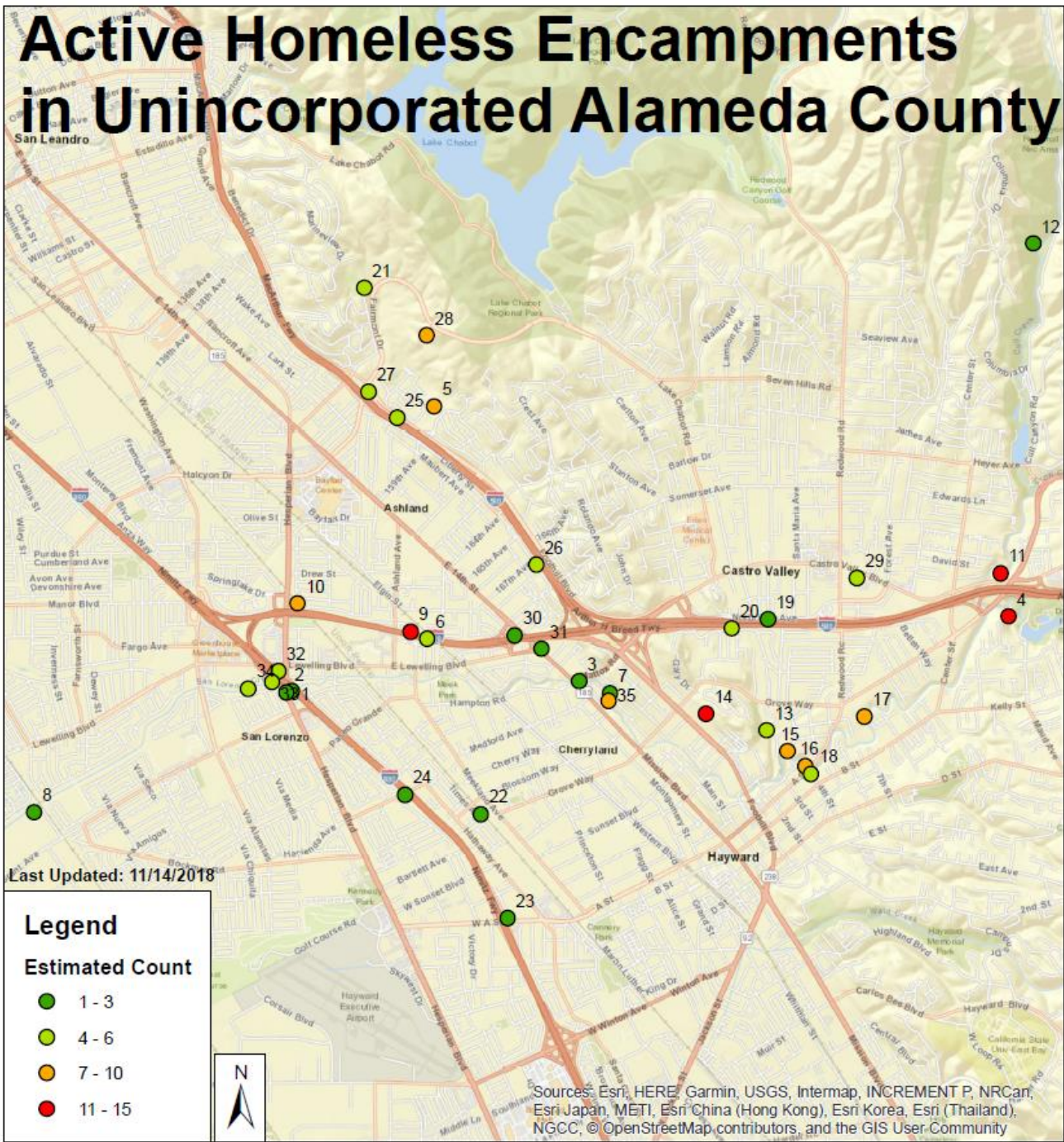
Programs and Funding Sources

Proposed Programs	Funding Sources						
	HEAP	Whole Person Care/AC3	One-time boomerang funds – unsheltered Unincorporated	One-time boomerang funds – Encampment Responses	One-time boomerang funds – Capital	Annual boomerang funds – FY18/19 through FY20/21	TOTAL
Prevent Homelessness							Portion \$3.9M
Prevent Homelessness						A portion of \$3.9M	
Outreach to Unsheltered People							\$1,699,105
Expand outreach - West and East UC Areas		\$1,415,100	\$284,005				\$1,699,105
Provide Health and Supportive Services							\$771,245
Downtown Streets Team			\$100,000			\$210,623	\$310,623
Mobile Hygiene Unit	\$250,000			\$210,623			\$460,623
Provide Shelter and Housing							\$6,550,517
Services to Tiny Homes site						\$310,623	\$310,623
Expand winter warming centers to winter shelters	\$30,574			\$139,378		\$547,586	\$717,538
Navigation Center				\$400,000	\$2,500,000	\$842,490	\$3,742,490
Men's Shelter Beds						\$382,066	\$382,066
Safe Parking Program	\$400,000					\$842,490	\$1,242,490
RV Waste Disposal Program	\$101,750					\$53,561	\$155,311
Create a Coordinated System							\$1,553,113
UC Homeless Response Project Management*	\$384,561		\$115,439			\$1,053,113	\$1,553,113
Total	\$1,166,885	\$1,415,100	\$499,444	\$750,000	\$2,500,000	\$4,242,550	\$10,573,980

*HEAP in this category includes the administrative funds allocated to the unincorporated areas as a jurisdiction.

Totals may vary slightly due to rounding.

Active Homeless Encampments in Unincorporated Alameda County



Site	Name	Est_Count
1	I-880 & San Lorenzo Creek	3
2	Hesperian Blvd. & San Lorenzo Creek	3
3	San Lorenzo Creek (at Mission Blvd & Mattox Rd)	2
4	Don Castro Encampment	12
5	Salvage Encampment	8
6	Alisal Ct Encampment	5
7	Creekside Encampment	3
8	Railroad Ave Encampment	1
9	Heritage Circle Encampment	12
10	Springlake Encampment	8
11	Crow Canyon Encampment	12
12	Cull Canyon Encampment	2
13	Carlos Bee/Earl Drive	6
14	Foothill Encampment	15
15	North 5th/Crescent	8
16	A Street/Ruby	8
17	Grove Public Storage Encampment	8
18	A Street/4th	6
19	Norbridge Encampment	2
20	Strobridge Encampment	4
21	Van Avenue Encampment	6
22	Blossom/Lucot Encampment	3
23	A Street/Arbor	2
24	Hacienda Ave/880	2
25	Foothill/580/159	4
26	Liberty/167	4
27	Foothill/150th	4
28	Fairmont/JJC	8
29	KFC Encampment	6
30	Lucky's Encampment	3
31	East Lewelling Encampment	3
32	7-Eleven/Hesperian/Lewelling	6
33	San Lorenzo Creek behind Hilton Garden Inn near Embers Way	5
34	San Lorenzo Creek directly north of 621 Paseo Del Rio	5
35	San Lorenzo Creek (behind Landmark Villa)	7

Last Updated: 11/14/2018

Legend

Estimated Count

- 1 - 3
- 4 - 6
- 7 - 10
- 11 - 15

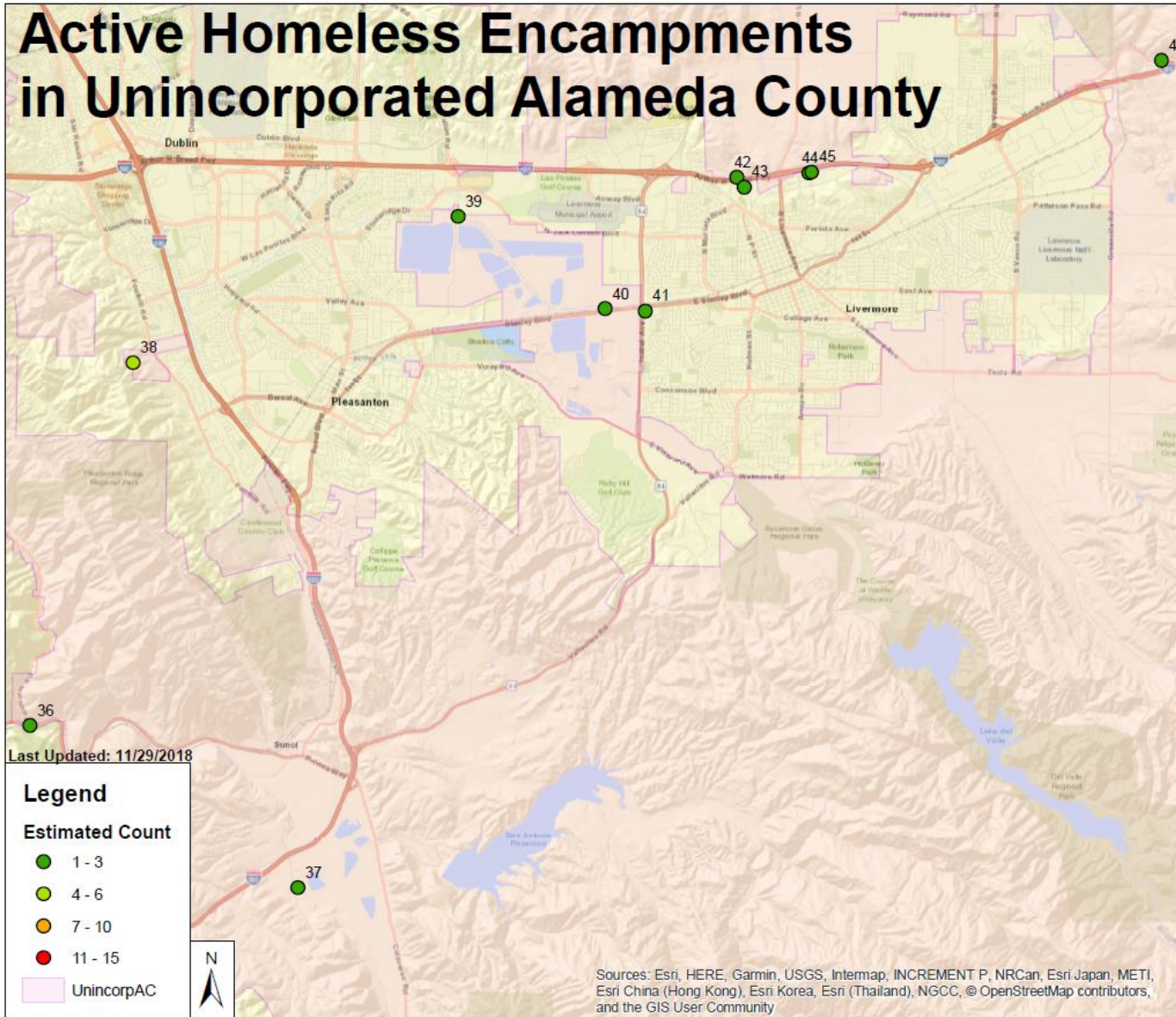


Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community



Public Works Agency
— Alameda County —

Active Homeless Encampments in Unincorporated Alameda County



ID	Name	Est. Count
36	SE of Palomares & Niles Canyon intersection	1
37	Due West of Andrade Quarry	3
38	Santos Ranch Road	4
39	Due South of 2294-2286 El Charro Rd, Pleasanton	1
40	Stanley Blvd due South of Atlantis Ct, Livermore	2
41	SW of the Stanley Blvd & Isabel Ave intersection	2
42	End of Cayetano Ct	3
43	Behind Autumn Springs Apartments near creek	2
44	Due North of 2700 Las Positas Rd, Livermore	3
45	North of 2900 Las Positas Rd, Livermore	2
46	South of 531 Altamont Pass Rd, Livermore	1

