



Office of the City Manager

To: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

From: Peter Radu, Assistant to the City Manager

Date: September 26, 2022

Re: Nuisance Declaration and Summary Abatement of Encampment Conditions in the Harrison Corridor

Dear Madam City Manager:

As you know, the encampments in and around Harrison Street from 10<sup>th</sup> St to 6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> in West Berkeley have presented ongoing challenges to the City. The City has provided numerous full-scale operations to serve the residents in this area. This includes offering RV residents in the area the first opportunity to move into a Safe RV Parking Program opened in September, 2021. Additionally, for residents in the area staying in tents, the team targeted the City's entire 2021-2022 Alameda County Winter Shelter contract in the form of motel vouchers to resolve their street homelessness. This culminated in a successful closure of the encampment in February, 2022.

Since then, the area has been persistently re-encamped, and the Homeless Response Team (HRT) has discussed strategic options with the residents and business owners in the area. The goal of the discussions was to come up with a common solution that seeks to prevent displacement of the residents (for lack of other shelter or outdoor places for them to relocate to), but at the same time reduces serious impacts to all parties and neighbors. This has included an informal understanding with residents and their advocates that the City would not close the encampment (but would continue to provide regular maintenance and cleanings there) if the residents there could, in turn:

1. Keep the encampments on only one side of the street, thus allowing full pedestrian access to the sidewalks on at least one side;
2. Maintain clean conditions (i.e., no debris spilling into the vehicular lane of traffic and no trash or food sources that could attract vectors);
3. Maintain 3-5 feet of clearance on either side of business driveways; and
4. Keep encampments out of the Codornices Creek area to protect the sensitive watershed and to prevent any damage to that ecologically sensitive waterway.

To help the residents keep up their end of this informal understanding, the City has provided numerous services and opportunities to comply:

1. The City recognizes that mitigating the build-up of trash and debris is difficult with no place to dispose of it. Therefore, to assist with this:
  - a. In April 2022, the city placed a dumpster on 8<sup>th</sup> street with is serviced 2x a week in order to mitigate the amount of trash and debris that piles up in the area, to prevent harborage conditions for rodents, and to keep the vehicular lane of traffic open.
  - b. The Homeless Response Team routinely conducts a regular garbage run throughout the city. Harrison St and the surrounding encampment is the largest area of need for debris to be cleared during this run. We remove multiple tons of debris from this area alone on a near-weekly basis. Between February 2022 until present—roughly 33 weeks—Public Works has removed approximately 132,000 pounds (66 tons) of garbage from this area.
  - c. When conditions warrant it, the Homeless Response Team performs more intensive deep cleanings of encampments to mitigate dangerous conditions without displacing residents. Since the February 2022 closure, the Homeless Response Team has performed 6 major operations in the Harrison Corridor and Codornices Creek area alone—nearly once per month. The after action reports from these operations are included as Exhibit B to this memo. During these operations, over 40,000 pounds of trash and debris have been removed from the area.
2. The City also recognizes that adequate hygiene and the mitigation of human waste is difficult without the provision of hygiene resources. To assist the residents here with this, the City has provided:
  - a. A port-a-potty located at the corner of Eighth and Harrison St. The residents here also have access to another port-a-potty located at Eighth St and the Creek. Both are serviced on a regular basis.
  - b. Free mobile shower and laundry service to the residents of the area on a weekly basis since June 2022.
3. Despite the City's ongoing shortage of shelter and interim housing, and the need to prioritize all shelter and outreach resources to the closure of the large and dangerous encampment in People's Park during the summer months of 2022, the Homeless Response Team:
  - a. Made 16 shelter offers in the area; 4 of which were accepted,
  - b. Connected 2 people to substance abuse treatment through a contract with Options Recovery Services, and
  - c. Matched an RV resident to shelter in a City of Berkeley Respite Trailer; this person has since moved into permanently subsidized housing.
4. Because the City recognizes the lack of shelter and affordable housing, staff have also made numerous efforts to improve the quality of life of these residents even if they continue to live on the streets. For example:
  - a. On June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Environmental Health Division (EH) of the City's Health, Housing and Community Services (HHCS) Department provided targeted treatment to 14 large and active rodent burrows in the area. On June 29<sup>th</sup>, HRT staff provided large Sterilite tubs for everyone living in the area to provide an area for food that could be secured away from rodents, with the goal of mitigating open food sources.

- b. On April 16<sup>th</sup>, staff provided new tents to some of the residents in the area whose previous tents had become egregiously tattered or soiled.

Despite this informal arrangement and staff's ongoing and extensive efforts to support the encampment residents here in meeting it, the conditions in the encampment have continued to deteriorate:

- There have been 4 encampments which have set up in the bed of the creek since February. Three have been removed and the HRT is currently finalizing plans to remove another.
- Despite ongoing communication and instruction to the residents to leave the roadway clear, when HRT staff arrives for the garbage runs, the roadway is filled with belongings. Residents will often move the items from the street to the sidewalk while staff is on scene, then move the items right back to the roadway once staff has left the area.
- For months, HRT staff has repeatedly observed dead animals, open food sources and spoiled food, used uncapped drug needles, bottles of urine, human feces, animal feces, soiled clothing and sheltering material, and other unidentifiable liquid and waste products. Below are only a few photos of the conditions observed over the months:



9/14/22 – Dead rat



9/7/22 – items in lane of traffic



8/10/22 – sidewalk obstruction, harborage



7/27/22 – harborage conditions





7/27/22 – harborage conditions



5/31 – items in the lane of traffic



7/27/22 - loose and scattered syringes



2/9/22 – Dead rat



4/10/22 – encampment in Creek



3/30/22





4/6/22 – harborage conditions



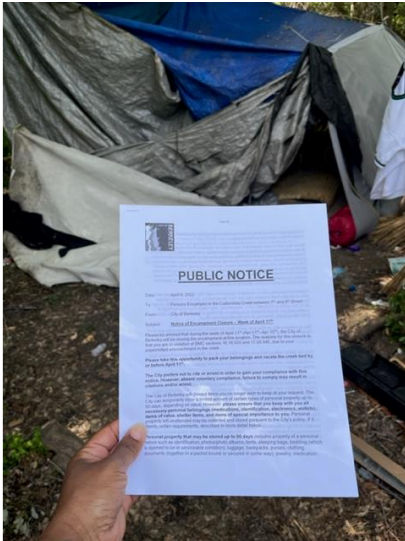
3/30/22 - sewage



2/14/22



3/2/22 – failure to adhere to one side



4/18/22



4/4/22 – failure to adhere to one side

Given these deteriorating conditions, the EH Division joined the HRT for a field inspection of the conditions in the area on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Their findings, which are included as Exhibit A to this memo, warrant declaring the entire area an imminent health hazard, pursuant to Berkeley Municipal Code 11.36.030. The Division Manager of Environmental Health declares these imminent health hazards to be a public nuisance. Pursuant to BMC 11.36.050, such hazards are subject to emergency abatement.

For the health and safety of these residents and the entire Berkeley community, the Homeless Response Team respectfully recommends that you order immediate abatement of the public nuisance conditions in this area (specifically, Harrison St from Tenth St to Sixth St, and Eighth St from the creek to Gilman St), including destruction of any property constituting such a nuisance if the nuisance cannot be abated otherwise, pursuant to BMC 11.36.050 and 11.40.130 through 11.40.120.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter T. Radu  
Assistant to the City Manager

Ronald J. Torres  
Division Manager, Environmental Health

Internal

EXHIBIT A

**From:** Ancheta, Lino

**Sent:** Monday, September 19, 2022 2:24 PM

**To:** Vance-Dozier, Okeya <OVance-Dozier@cityofberkeley.info>; Radu, Peter <pradu@cityofberkeley.info>

**Cc:** Torres, Ronald <RoTorres@cityofberkeley.info>

**Subject:** September 19th of 2022 - Follow-Up to Harrison Encampment - CO0006843

Internal

An evaluation of the sidewalk regions on Harrison Street in between Ninth and Seventh Streets, on **September 19<sup>th</sup> of 2022**, in response to homeless encampments with derelict surroundings, revealed conditions highly favorable for vermin activity:

(I) **North of Harrison and Eighth :**



Internal





Internal



Internal





Internal





Internal

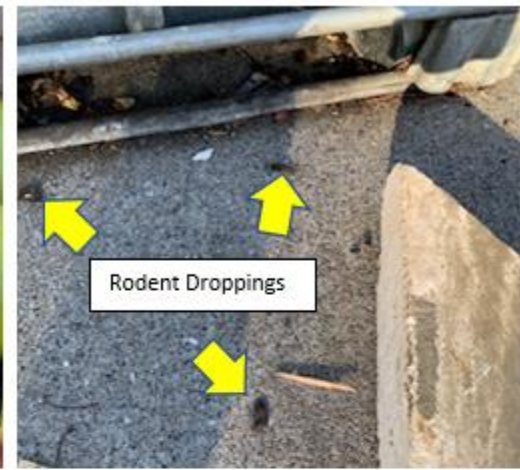


Internal



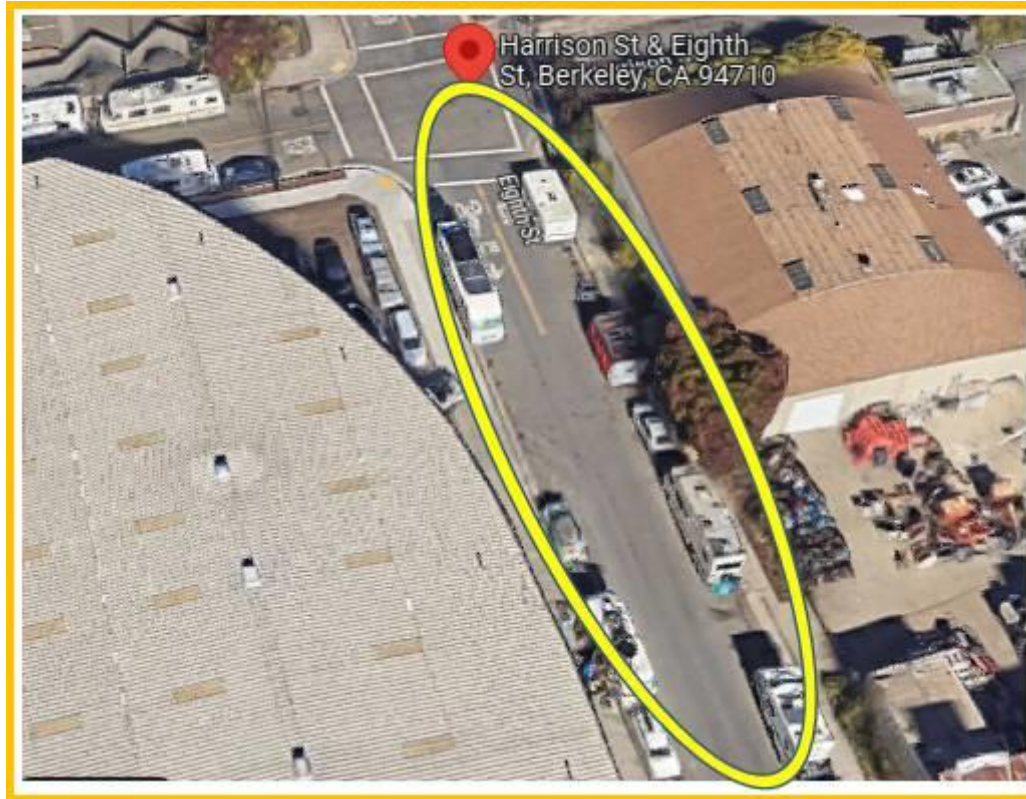


Internal





(II) South of Harrison and Eighth:



Internal



**(III) East of Eighth and Harrison**

Internal





Internal



Internal



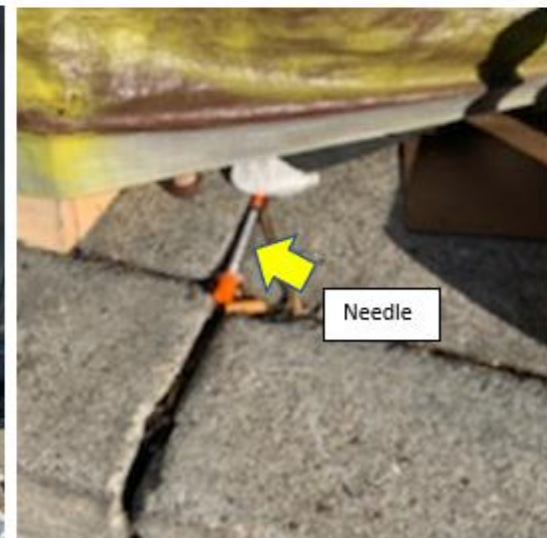


**(IV) West of Eighth and Harrison**





Internal



Internal













**These items are in violation of the Berkeley Municipal Code:**

**Sec 11.32.050. Rodent harborage--Maintenance prohibited.**

No person shall possess, occupy or maintain, or cause or permit another person to occupy or maintain, any building, structure, vehicle or any other place in such a condition as will permit the breeding or harboring therein, or thereon, of rodents or any other vermin.

**Sec 11.32.040. Food product manufacture and storage restrictions.**

All food or food products intended for human or animal consumption shall be kept or stored in rodent-free and rat-proofed containers, compartments, rooms, buildings or structures. No person shall use any building or structure which is infested with rodents or which, in the opinion of the chief of environmental health, is likely to become infested with rodents for the manufacture, preparation, storage, display or service of any food or food product, unless such building is made free of rodents and is rodentproofed.

**Sec 11.32.070. Accumulations creating rodent harborage prohibited.**

No person shall place, leave, dump or permit to accumulate any garbage or rubbish in or upon any building, structure or place so that the same shall afford food and/or harborage for rodents. No person shall accumulate or permit the accumulation on any place, premises or on any open lot any lumber, building material, boxes, paper, rags, excess or dense vegetation, or any material that may be permitted to remain thereon that may serve as a rodent harborage, unless the same shall be placed on open racks that are elevated not less than eighteen inches above the ground and evenly piled or stacked, or otherwise made reasonably unsuitable as a rodent harborage by such manner as may be approved by the chief of environmental health.

**Sec 11.36.030. Imminent health hazards designated.**

For the purpose of this chapter, the existence of the following condition is declared to constitute an imminent health hazard: the discharge of sewage, garbage or any other organic filth into or upon any place in such a manner that transmission of infective material to human beings may result therefrom.

Regards,

Internal

***Lino Ancheta REHS***

City of Berkeley - Environmental Health

2180 Milvia Street, 2nd Floor

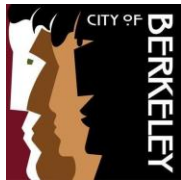
Berkeley, CA 94704

510-981-7680

[Lancheta@CityofBerkeley.info](mailto:Lancheta@CityofBerkeley.info)



## EXHIBIT B



Homeless Response Team

### Harrison and Grant Street Encampment Closures - After Action Report 2/17/22



***Harrison b/w 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> – Before***



***Harrison b/w 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> – After***

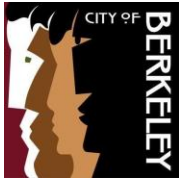


***Grant & University – Before***



***Grant & University - After***

On Tuesday, February 15, 2022, the Homeless Response Team closed the encampments along Harrison Street between Eighth and Seventh and an encampment at Grant and University. An individual was also relocated from

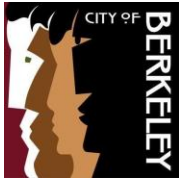


Homeless Response Team

an encampment on private property on Ninth St north of Harrison. This report provides a brief after-action summary of the operation and its outcomes:

- Reason for closures and closure's timing:
  - Violation of Shared Sidewalk policies (BMC sections 14.48.020 and 14.48.120).
  - Rodent harborage conditions such as open food sources (Harrison Street encampments); debris and belongings impeding the sidewalk and spilling into the vehicular right-of-way (both encampments)
  - Final notice of the closure was posted on Feb 10, 2022, providing more than 72 hours' notice.
- Number of Individuals at the Encampment and Brief Site Assessment:
  - Harrison Corridor encampment:
    - All three individuals (in two tents and one lean-to structure) had previously been living in this area when it was closed on Feb 1, but quickly re-encamped.
    - Safety concerns included total blockage of the sidewalk as well as debris impeding the vehicular right-of-way; open food sources that could harbor vectors such as rodents; and evidence of a recent encampment fire.
  - Grant and University encampment:
    - Two individuals were present the morning of the closure, occupying two structures.
    - Safety concerns included total blockage of the sidewalk as well as debris and belongings impeding the vehicular right-of-way.
- History of Outreach/Engagement Attempts and Shelter Placements:
  - Harrison Corridor encampment:
    - All had previously been offered motel rooms and shelter beds; two had previously moved into shelter after that operation.
    - Shelter was offered again on 2/8. One individual accepted and moved in, but was later asked to leave because of aggression from his dog.
    - Motel rooms were offered to all on the morning of the closure. Two of three accepted.
  - Grant and University encampment:
    - This encampment has long been occupied by one resident, who has been offered shelter on five occasions since November, 2021. None have been accepted.
    - On the morning of the closure, two residents were present. Both declined shelter offers.
- Outcomes:
  - Overall, the shelter acceptance rate on the morning of the closure was 2 of 5 (40%); staff are still in the process of moving these two individuals inside, as they could not be located at the time the room was ready (only hours after the closure). In the Harrison corridor, the individual on private property relocated to an unknown destination. On Grant, the two individuals were given an additional two days to comply and ultimately decided to relocate several shopping carts worth of belongings to another destination, which they did on Thursday, 2/17.
  - No arrests/citations were issued on the day of the closure.
  - Storage pursuant to AR 10.1 was not necessary for any individual.
  - 6.88 tons (13,760 pounds) of debris were removed from the two encampments and discarded by Public Works. (This figure also includes debris picked up from a cleaning of Second Street north of Cedar.) The sidewalks were disinfected and pressure washed.



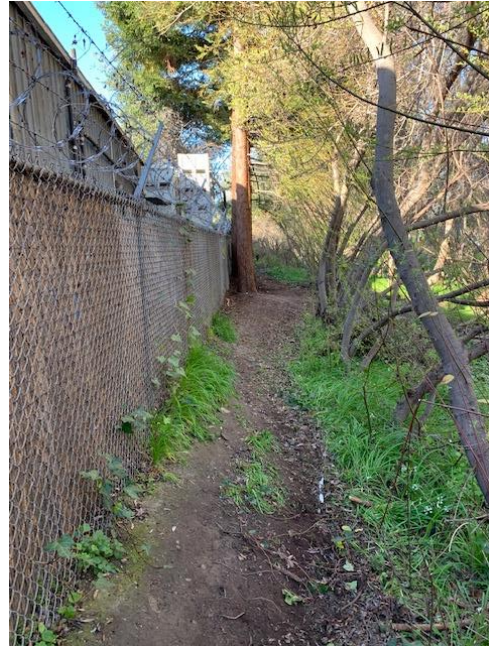


Homeless Response Team

1142 6<sup>th</sup> Street & Berkeley Way and Shattuck Closure Operations - After Action Report  
3/2/22



***1142 6<sup>th</sup> Street – before***



***1142 6<sup>th</sup> Street – After***

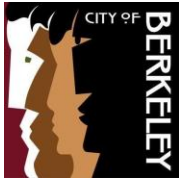


***Berkeley Way and Shattuck – Before***



***Berkeley Way and Shattuck - After***

On Tuesday, March 1, 2022, the Homeless Response Team closed the encampment located at the Northeast corner of Shattuck Ave and Berkeley Way. The team also removed debris from an abandoned

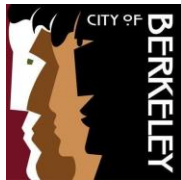


Homeless Response Team

encampment located on private property on 1142 6<sup>th</sup> Street, adjacent to Codornices Creek. The City Attorney advised during the planning and noticing process. This report provides a brief after-action summary of the operation and its outcomes.

- Reason for closure and closure's timing:
  - 1142 6<sup>th</sup> Street:
    - The encampment was abandoned, was located on private property, and was within mere feet of a critical waterway (Codornices Creek).
  - Berkeley Way and Shattuck Ave:
    - Violation of Shared Sidewalk policies (BMC sections 14.48.020 and 14.48.120).
    - Final notice was posted on Friday 2/25, which provided more than 72 hours' notice.
- Number of Individuals at the Encampment and Brief Site Assessment:
  - Nobody was residing at the 6<sup>th</sup> Street encampment location, which had been abandoned.
  - At Berkeley Way and Shattuck:
    - Staff observed 5 tents and 3 people at the location on February 8, when outreach began at the location. On 2/25, at the time of noticing, there were 6 tents and 3 people, and on 3/1 (the morning of the closure) there were also 6 tents and 3 people present.
    - Belongings were obstructing the sidewalk and interfering with bicycle racks.
- History of Outreach/Engagement Attempts and Shelter Placements:
  - At the Berkeley Way and Shattuck Ave encampment, Neighborhood Services staff visited the encampment on 2/8 to post initial notice and make offers of motel vouchers and shelter to the residents. At that time, all offers were declined. Additional visits were made on 2/25 and then again on 2/28, when closure notice was posted. All shelter/motel voucher offers were declined.
  - On 3/1, the morning of the closure, all three residents were again offered motel vouchers and all offers were declined.
- Outcomes:
  - On the day of the closure, three individuals were present and none accepted motel offers. One relocated on foot to an unknown destination. Two individuals (the encampment protest leaders) loaded many of their possessions into their van; the remaining possessions were taken to the Corp Yard for overnight storage. They then relocated to an unknown destination.
  - No arrests/citations were issued on the day of the operation.
  - 3 tons (6,000 pounds) of debris were removed and discarded by Public Works.
  - While belongings for the Berkeley Way and Shattuck encampment were stored overnight, none were sorted according to AR 10.1. Most of the remaining belongings were retrieved by the residents on 3/2 from the Corp Yard. Neighborhood Services continues to work with the residents to help retrieve the remaining items.





Homeless Response Team

## Cordornices Creek Encampment Closure - After Action Report

4/12/22

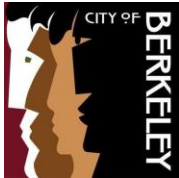


***Cordornices Creek b/w 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> – Before***

***Cordornices Creek b/w 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> After***

On Tuesday, April 12, 2022, the Homeless Response Team closed the encampments along Cordornices Creek between Eighth and Seventh. The City Attorney advised continuously throughout the planning process. This report provides a brief after-action summary of the operation and its outcomes:

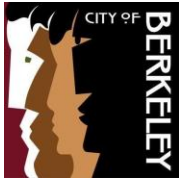
- Reason for closures and closure's timing:
  - Violation of Shared Sidewalk policies (BMC sections 14.48.020 and 14.48.120).
  - Debris and belongings impeding the vehicular right-of-way; needles, excessive trash and debris.
  - Vector concerns and health hazards, pursuant to BMC sections 11.32.040, 11.32.050, 11.32.070, and 11.36.030.
  - Final notice of the closure was posted on April 8, 2022, providing more than 72 hours' notice.
- Number of Individuals at the Encampment and Brief Site Assessment:



#### Homeless Response Team

- The population at this encampment has been fluid and changing, consisting both of long-time residents and others who come and go, sometimes swapping tents with one another or claiming abandoned tents.
- Nonetheless, on April 6<sup>th</sup> and through April 8<sup>th</sup>, Neighborhood Services did regular outreach to the location to attempt to determine a census. Based on frequent visits, the team determined that the original owner of the belongings had been arrested this information was provided by an RV resident Yessica Prado. She stated that she would gather all important documentation left behind and all valuable's to safekeep for the individual until he is released from police custody. Our team later discovered that Kevin Martinez had taken ownership of the encampment.
- The encamped areas began on the north side of Harrison West of Eighth deep into the creek area just before the body of water. Documented conditions at the encampments included: human waste and other sewage; rotting food; soiled bedding; dismantled camping gear; and excessive debris.
- History of Outreach/Engagement Attempts and Shelter Placements:
  - Regular garbage service and outreach has been conducted in this area for months. Neighborhood Services began doing more focused outreach during the week of Dec 20, 2021 to assess the encampment, engage residents, and reduce the footprint. This included a "deep cleaning" of the area on Jan 6 in which 3.63 tons (7,260 pounds) of debris was removed from the encampment.
  - The Homeless Response Team initiated intensive, near-daily outreach to these encampments beginning the week of January 10.
    - Alameda County Winter Shelter motel vouchers were prioritized for the residents in this encampment. Between January 20<sup>th</sup> and Jan 28<sup>th</sup>, the day of noticing, everyone in the encampment was offered a motel voucher. Over that same time, 9 individuals were successfully enrolled and moved into the motel. The debris/belongings left behind were removed each week by the team, gradually reducing the footprint of the encampment.
    - Between Jan 21 and Feb 1 (closure day), 16 unique individuals were encountered and were offered shelter (including motel vouchers) a cumulative total of 30 times. On the day of the closure, 10 shelter offers were made to all persons present (excluding those known to already be sheltered) and 7 were accepted, resulting in 4 motel/Winter Shelter voucher enrollments and 3 enrollments in Horizon.
    - On January 26<sup>th</sup> Kevin Martinez was granted a motel voucher for a 28 day stay at the Berkeley Inn which he successfully completed. Since his departure from the hotel he has refused shelter offers to Horizons. He continues to move around the Harrison corridor mainly in the creek area.
- Outcomes:
  - Upon arrival for closure on April 12<sup>th</sup> Kevin Martinez was not at the camp site nor the surrounding area, as the Neighborhood Services Outreach Team did a check in order to offer services, our team will continue to provide outreach to Kevin Martinez.
  - No arrests/citations were issued on the day of the closure.
  - Storage pursuant to AR 10.1 was not provided as there was no belongings left behind which met the criteria for storage. As previously stated many items had been removed by Yessica Prado. All other

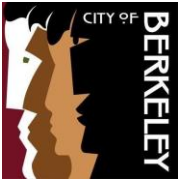




Homeless Response Team

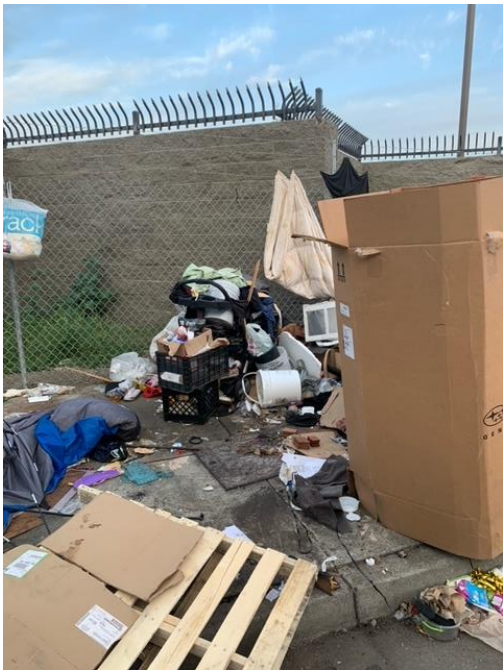
tents and materials were discarded to abate the hazardous conditions at the encampment and clear the creek of any and all safety and hazardous concerns.

- Approximately 100 pounds of debris were removed from the creek's encampment and discarded by Public Works.



City Manager's Office

8th Street Deep Cleaning - After Action Report  
4/26/22



**8<sup>th</sup> St West Side - Before**



**8<sup>th</sup> St West Side - After**



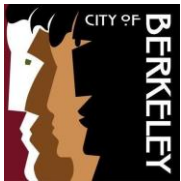


City Manager's Office

On Tuesday, April 26, 2022 the Homeless Response Team (HRT) performed a deep cleaning of 8<sup>th</sup> Street north of Harrison St in West Berkeley. The HRT's current strategy in this area, which has seen repeated instances of encampment and re-encampment for years, is to (1) keep the encampments on only one side of the street, thus allowing full pedestrian access to the sidewalks on at least one side; (2) maintain clean conditions (i.e., no debris spilling into the vehicular lane of traffic and no trash or food sources that could attract vectors); (3) maintain 3-5 feet of clearance on either side of business driveways; and (4) keep encampments out of the Codornices Creek area to protect the sensitive watershed.

The scope of the operation was to remove the accumulation of debris and rodent harborage conditions in the area, which negatively affects both the residents and the surrounding businesses, as well as to replace tents/sheltering materials that were heavily soiled or tattered. No one was required to move or relocate. This report provides a brief after-action summary of the operation and its outcomes:

- Scope and Reason for the operation:
  - The target area was 8<sup>th</sup> Street north of Harrison St., which was found to be in violation of the City's Shared Sidewalk policies (BMC sections 14.48.020 and 14.48.120).
  - Growing accumulation of debris, trash, and hazardous materials (syringes, human and pet waste, and rodent harborage conditions such as open and rotting food sources) in the public right of way and spilling into the Southbound lane of traffic.
- Outreach/Assessment and Notification Efforts:
  - The HRT has provided services and outreach to this area on at least a weekly basis, including regular garbage service twice weekly, the provision of a port-a-potty, and the placement of a Zero Waste dumpster on the West side of the street.
  - Written notice of the deep cleaning was provided to residents in the area on Friday, April 22. This was accompanied by outreach to explain the scope and purpose of the operation to residents in the area.
- Outcomes:
  - 2.29 tons (4,580 pounds) of debris were removed from the area and the encampment's footprint was significantly reduced.
  - Shelter was not offered to anyone, since the HRT has no available beds at this time. No one was displaced from the area.
  - Replacement tents were provided using HRT flex funding to two individuals whose tents were extremely soiled and tattered and we unsanitary to continue using.
  - No arrests/citations were issued.



City Manager's Office

8th Street Deep Cleaning - After Action Report  
6/30/22



***8<sup>th</sup> St West Side - Before***



***8<sup>th</sup> St West Side - After***

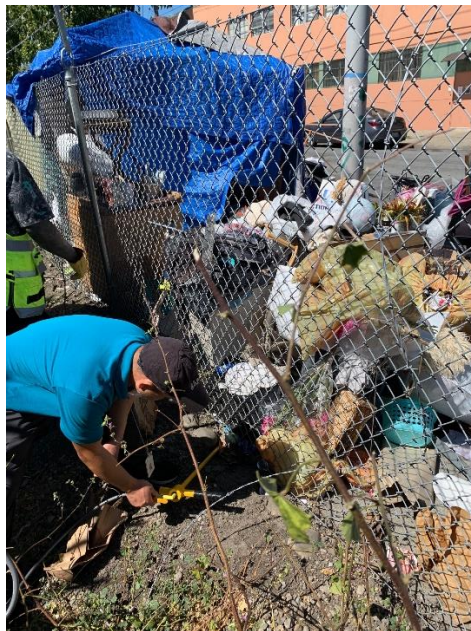


***Harrison St b/w 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> - Before***



***Harrison St b/w 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> - After***



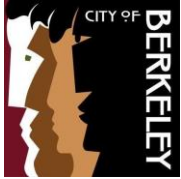


***Rodent Treatment on Eighth St***

On Wednesday, June 29, 2022 the Homeless Response Team (HRT) performed a deep cleaning of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Harrison St between 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in West Berkeley. As outlined in a previous report, The HRT's current strategy in this area is to (1) keep the encampments on only one side of the street, thus allowing full pedestrian access to the sidewalks on at least one side; (2) maintain clean conditions (i.e., no debris spilling into the vehicular lane of traffic and no trash or food sources that could attract vectors); (3) maintain 3-5 feet of clearance on either side of business driveways; and (4) keep encampments out of the Codornices Creek area to protect the sensitive watershed.

As such, the scope of this deep cleaning was three-fold: (1) remove all debris from the lane of traffic; (2) remove and relocate one tent on the East side of Eighth St, near the Creek and creating total sidewalk obstruction on both sides at that location, to the West side of the St; and (3) provide targeted treatment of the extensive rodent burrows in the area, as well as remove trash and food sources that could harbor rodents. No one was required to move away from the area. This report provides a brief after-action summary of the operation and its outcomes:

- Scope and Reason for the operation:
  - The target area was 8<sup>th</sup> Street north of Harrison St. as well as Harrison St from 8<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, which was found to be in violation of the City's Shared Sidewalk policies (BMC sections 14.48.020 and 14.48.120).
  - A permit application was submitted by a neighboring business for 7/5/22 for no parking on both sides of Eighth St, requiring removal of debris from the vehicular right of way to accommodate a large trailer backing into their building.



City Manager's Office

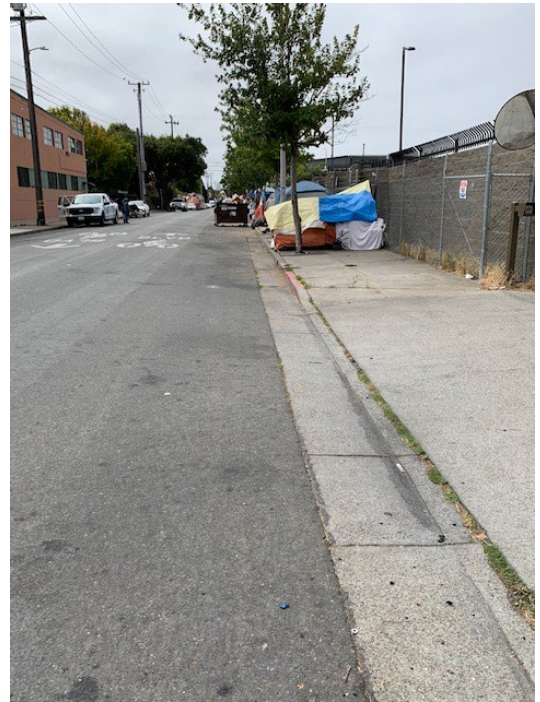
- Growing accumulation of debris, trash, and hazardous materials (human and pet waste, rodent harborage conditions such as open and rotting food sources) in the public right of way and spilling into the Southbound lane of traffic.
- Outreach/Assessment and Notification Efforts:
  - The HRT has provided services and outreach to this area on at least a weekly basis, including regular garbage service twice weekly, the provision of a port-a-potty, and the placement of a Zero Waste dumpster on the West side of the street. For the past several weeks, however, servicing at the site has been reduced due to staffing constraints.
  - Written notice of the deep cleaning was provided to residents in the area on Friday, June 24. This was accompanied by outreach to explain the scope and purpose of the operation to residents in the area.
  - Neighborhood Services and Environmental Health staff visited the site on 6/28/22 to begin pre-treatment of rodent burrows in the area and perform further outreach. At the time of the visit, staff noted 20 tents/structures in the public right-of-way (on Eighth St, 12 tents/structures on the west side and 1 on the east; on Harrison St, 6 tents/structures on north side and 1 on south).
  - On the morning of the cleaning, the same census of tents and structures (20 total) was found.
- Outcomes:
  - Staff encountered roughly 13 residents of the area on the morning of the operation. One individual and her tent were relocated from the east side of Eighth St to the west side. Another individual, encamped on private property on the south side of Harrison, was relocated to public property on the north side.
  - Public Works and PRW collaborated to remove 4.24 tons (8,480 pounds) of debris from the area and the encampment's footprint was significantly reduced.
  - Environmental Health provided treatment to 14 rodent burrows on June 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> along the fence line between the US Postal Service and the sidewalk at Harrison and Eighth. Persistent rodent activity was confirmed by the presence of three live rats scurrying within inches from two burrows following treatment, hundreds of fresh droppings within proximity the both the burrows and within the encampment, and movement within the borrows. EH will provide follow up treatments in the coming days to ensure burrows do not repopulate.
  - Sterilite tubs were purchased using HRT flex funding for every resident of the encampment, to provide them a place to store food that would be secure from rodents and vermin.
  - Neighborhood Services made 5 shelter offers on the day of the operation. None were immediately accepted, but outreach staff will follow up to determine how best to link these individuals to services and housing options.
  - No arrests/citations were issued.



8th Street Deep Cleaning - After Action Report  
7/28/22



***8<sup>th</sup> St West Side - Before***



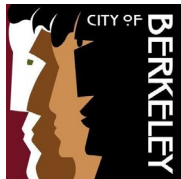
***8<sup>th</sup> St West Side - After***



***Harrison St b/w 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> - Before***



***Harrison St b/w 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> - After***



City Manager's Office

On Wednesday, July 27, 2022 the Homeless Response Team (HRT) performed a deep cleaning of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and Harrison St between 8<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> in West Berkeley. As outlined in previous reports, The HRT's current strategy in this area is to (1) keep the encampments on only one side of the street, thus allowing full pedestrian access to the sidewalks on at least one side; (2) maintain clean conditions (i.e., no debris spilling into the vehicular lane of traffic and no trash or food sources that could attract vectors); (3) maintain 3-5 feet of clearance on either side of business driveways; and (4) keep encampments out of the Codornices Creek area to protect the sensitive watershed.

As such, the scope of this deep cleaning was two-fold: (1) remove all debris from the lane of traffic; and (2) clear all debris and belongings from the Codornices Creek area. This report provides a brief after-action summary of the operation and its outcomes:

- Scope and Reason for the operation:
  - The target area was 8<sup>th</sup> Street north of Harrison St. as well as Harrison St from 8<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>, which was found to be in violation of the City's Shared Sidewalk policies (BMC sections 14.48.020 and 14.48.120).
  - Growing accumulation of debris, trash, bulky items like mattresses, furniture, and pallets, and hazardous materials (human and pet waste, rodent harborage conditions such as open and rotting food sources) in the public right of way and spilling into the lanes of traffic.
- Outreach/Assessment and Notification Efforts:
  - The HRT provides regular services to this area, including regular deep cleanings and outreach efforts. These have been detailed in several previous reports.
  - Written notice of the deep cleaning was provided to residents in the area on Friday, July 22.
- Outcomes:
  - Staff encountered roughly 10-12 residents of the area on the morning of the operation. No one was relocated or asked to move.
  - Public Works removed 3.86 tons (7,720 pounds) of debris from the area and the encampment's footprint was significantly reduced.
  - Neighborhood Services made 1 shelter offer on the day of the operation; it was accepted.
  - No arrests/citations were issued.