

Overnight Warming Locations Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What is an overnight warming location?

A: A warming location is a place where people can go to stay warm and dry when temperatures or a combination of precipitation, wind and temperature become dangerously inclement.

Q: Has the City provided this type of program before? How many people will it serve?

A: Yes, this is the third year of the program. The program can serve 120 individuals each night at four City-owned sites. Each site can hold up between 25-30 individuals.

Q: Can families use the warming locations?

A: Yes, the Alum Rock Library, 3090 Alum Rock Ave, 95127 is the designated family site. The family site will serve families that have children under the age of 18 or unaccompanied youth. The other three sites will serve adults over the age of 18.

Q: Why is the City creating this program?

A: With over 4,000 people homeless on any given night and a cold and wet winter anticipated, the City is working in partnership with the County and other agencies to provide as much shelter as possible to keep people safe from severe weather.

Q: When will the City's warming location be activated?

A: Following the County's inclement weather activation, City sites will activate if:

- Forecasted overnight low of 40 degrees or lower with a probability of rain less than 50%;
- Forecasted overnight low of 45 degrees or lower with a probability of rain of 50% or greater; or,
- Persistent rainfall forecasted for two or more days.

Q: What are four overnight warming locations sites?

A: The four sites are:

- Roosevelt Community Center - 901 E Santa Clara St, San Jose, CA 95116
- Southside Community Center - 5585 Cottle Rd, San Jose, CA 95123
- Alum Rock Library - 3090 Alum Rock Ave, San Jose, CA 95127 – Family Site
- Tully Library - 880 Tully Rd., San Jose CA

Q: How long will warming locations remain open?

A: Warming locations will be activated during the Cold Weather Season; December 2017-April 2018 Sites will remain open the duration of the forecasted period of inclement weather.

Q: When will the warming locations be open?

A: Hours of operation are 9 pm to 8 am, but may vary from site to site, to ensure there is no interruption of previously scheduled/regularly planned activities.

Q: Will the warming locations interfere with other activities at the site?

A: Since the warming locations operate overnight, during hours when the sites are typically closed to the public, there should be no interruption of regularly planned activities at any location.

Q: Who will operate the warming locations?

A: HomeFirst of Santa Clara County is the non-profit contractor. HomeFirst has over twenty years of experience operating similar programs, such as the County's Cold Weather Shelter Program at the armories in Sunnyvale and Gilroy.

Q: What services will be provided at the warming locations?

A: At each sites all clients will have access to soup, warm drinks and snacks, mats and blankets, kennels for animals and case management. Clients will also be provided bus tokens and/or shuttle services to and from the location each day of operation. HomeFirst will also contract with a private security firm to ensure site security for staff and guests.

Q: Who should the community contact with additional questions about this program?

A: Community members interested in additional information about this program can contact Vanessa Beretta – vanessa.beretta@sanjoseca.gov or 408-975-4424 – or Lorena Diez – lorena.diez@sanjoseca.gov or 408-975-4456 at the City of San Jose Housing Department.