

## City Clerk Staff

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**From:** J. Kevin Hunt <jkhesq23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 4, 2023 2:01 PM  
**To:** Grp. City Council and City Web Site; Jordan Hess  
**Subject:** Homeless policy Successes in two cities

These are links to two, short articles I urge reading, from two Bay Area newspapers, that in many aspects validate much of what Travis Mateer has been saying regarding the all-in-one approach that is appropriate for involuntarily unhoused persons/families, but ineffective and enabling of status quo when applied to those among the cohort labeled the "chronic homeless" who are shelter and treatment resistant due to addiction, mental illness or other demons.

The concentration of human outreach resources on those help-resistant social refugees and squalid camps is working in San Francisco and San José; the problem in those cities is figuring out how to apply that approach to that resistant cohort city-wide.

I submit that Missoula has a much smaller challenge in that geographical respect. But one of our biggest challenges is how to apply such an approach for that cohort, while sustaining the current outreach and hand-up approach to those who are not resistant.

Additionally, while millions are spent subsidizing "workforce housing" and other projects under the slogan "We need to massively build housing at all price points," we are conflating the overall housing shortage with the plights of both the assistance-desiring, and help-resistant, unhoused subpopulations.

The former approach has primarily enriched multistate development consortia and sustained a burgeoning bureaucracy, although Trinity and Villagio will make progress in fostering "re-entry" of many in the involuntarily unhoused cohort desirous of re-entry.

Nonetheless, that former approach ("build massively at all price points") caters too much to those from other places who can afford to live almost anywhere.

Perhaps if we engage in close examination of what is working and what is failing in other cities that are ahead of us on the curve, as well as consultation with the stakeholders in those cities, we might be able to fashion a sui generis policy set that applies the two approaches in a much more targeted/surgical fashion, and even be able to pay for it (albeit not without — yes — cuts in other areas).

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2023/06/04/after-encampment-clearing-at-san-joses-coyote-creek-only-some-find-shelter/#>

[https://www.sfchronicle.com/sf/article/homeless-castro-district-encampment-17770957.php?utm\\_campaign=CMS+Sharing+Tools+%28Premium%29&utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_medium=referral](https://www.sfchronicle.com/sf/article/homeless-castro-district-encampment-17770957.php?utm_campaign=CMS+Sharing+Tools+%28Premium%29&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_medium=referral)

Regards,

jkh

