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## **PUBLIC INPUT SOUGHT FOR LOCAL HOMELESSNESS PLAN**

*Three community meetings set to solicit community ideas, feedback*

**Jan. 26, 2024 --** The Santa Cruz County Housing for Health Partnership is holding three community meetings in January and February to gather ideas and recommendations to ensure all Santa Cruz County residents have stable, safe and healthy places to live. Community members, leaders, and representatives from businesses and other organizations are invited to attend and participate.

Discussions and feedback from the meetings will be used to update the Housing for a Healthy Santa Cruz Strategic Framework. The Framework is an outline of coalition steps aimed at reducing the number of people who are experiencing homelessness across Santa Cruz County.

The meetings will focus on how to improve access to local housing services and supportive programs, while reducing the number of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness. Other topics to be covered at the meeting include:

- Helping people avoid homelessness by keeping their existing housing
- Helping more people secure homes more quickly
- Improving street-level outreach and responses to encampments
- Reducing homelessness that results from exiting institutional care, such as criminal justice, health and behavioral care, and foster care
- Increasing personal incomes through employment, public benefits and education
- Small-cost and big-impact ideas

Each meeting will be held in a roundtable format, and Community members are encouraged to attend any of the following meetings:

**January 31, 4:30–6:30 pm**

1400 Emeline Ave.  
Room 206/207  
Santa Cruz

**February 6, 3–5 pm**

5200 Soquel Ave.  
Sheriff's Community  
Room, 1st Fl.  
Santa Cruz

**February 7, 5–7 pm**

275 Main St.  
4th Floor, City Hall  
Community Room  
Watsonville

A check-in period begins 30 minutes before the meeting start time. Attendees who RSVP and attend a session will receive a gift from the Housing for Health Partnership. To RSVP, visit [bit.ly/RegionalHomelessActionPlan](https://bit.ly/RegionalHomelessActionPlan).