



Permanent Homeless Shelter

Community Presentation

January 2026



1. **Welcome and Opening Remarks** *(5 minutes)*
2. **Overview of Future Shelter Project** *(20 minutes)*
3. **Overview of Top Three Locations** *(10 minutes)*
4. **Community Breakout Groups** *(60 minutes)*
5. **Next Steps** *(5 minutes)*
6. **Adjourn**

What to Expect

Background

City shelter history

- **2013-2020:** Faith-based partners provided winter shelter
- **2022:** Voters approve Measure E with a funding priority of addressing homelessness
- **2023:** City launched the Enhanced Winter Sanctuary (EWS)
- **April 2024:** EWS closes
- **November 5, 2024:** 24/7 shelter opens at temporary location
- **October 2028:** Lease for the current shelter location ends

Guiding Principles

- Addressing homelessness is a top community priority
- A compassionate city serves everyone
- Homelessness solutions benefit our whole community
- The shelter should serve Elk Grove's needs, not Sacramento's or the region's needs



Our Goals

- Making sure that someone who becomes homeless in Elk Grove has quick access to shelter
- Clear, transparent process for community input
 - Many opportunities to comment
 - Multiple formats to participate
- Shelter design
 - Trauma-informed and welcoming spaces
 - Serves Elk Grove's specific needs
 - Learns from other communities' successes and failures
 - Adapts and evolves to future community needs



Why do we need a shelter?



There will always be people who lose their housing

- Elk Grove has about **100-150 people** experiencing homelessness at any given time
- Reasons vary, but **job loss, divorce, and family challenges** are common drivers of homelessness
- **Quick connections** to shelter and services make getting people rehoused easier

Why do we need a shelter?



Since the shelter opened in November 2024:

- Citywide, **encampments** have decreased by 65%
- **Reduction in waste** by over 40,000 lbs
- 95 **guests** in the current shelter's first year, plus 25 **emergency beds** utilized by PD
- Compassionate approach to City's camping ordinance

What the Shelter Is and Is Not

What the shelter offers

- A solution to a local problem
- 24/7 staffing, with a minimum of 3 staff on-site at all times
- A safe place for Elk Grove residents experiencing homelessness
- Clear rules and expectations for guests
- Focus on employment and housing outcomes
- Referrals to community supports like mental health and substance use services

What the shelter is NOT

- A solution to a regional problem
- Immediately identifiable as a homeless shelter
- An unsupervised drop-in or drop-off site
- A soup kitchen
- A place for unlawful behavior
- A place for people with no connection to Elk Grove

Current Shelter Successes

November 2024-December 2025

- **95** people served
- **14 people moved to permanent housing**
 - Affordable housing complexes
 - Room and board/room rentals
 - Family/friends
 - Market-rate housing
- **54% of guests were referred to behavioral health services**
 - About 25% were successfully linked to a behavioral health provider
- **Employment**
 - 7 people came in with jobs
 - 12 people found new or better employment while in the shelter



Current Shelter Successes

November 2024-December 2025

- **Impact mitigation efforts**
 - Frequent neighborhood drive-throughs by PD and navigators
 - Designated operator point of contact for resident/business concerns
- Relatively **few neighborhood complaints**
- **51** public initiated calls were received
 - 6 calls generated from the public
 - 32 calls generated from employees
 - 13 calls generated from shelter guests



Background

Project Status

- Current shelter lease expires October 2028
- Planning for a permanent shelter began in July 2025
 - **Phase 1** | Conceptual Planning (July-Sept)
 - **Phase 2** | Siting Criteria and Site Selection (Oct-Jan)



Architect Consultant

NJA Architecture

- Lodi-based firm with experience designing and siting shelters
- Emphasis on community engagement
- Comprehensive team

Conceptual Plan

Conceptual Plan Community Engagement

- **Vision**
 - Multiple opportunities and formats to be engaged
 - Designing through a fair, transparent process
- **Three-part community workshop series**
 - An early opportunity to shape the program concept
 - **#1 - Project kickoff**
August 20, Elk Grove Library
 - **#2 - Community conversation**
September 6, virtual
 - **#3 - Imagine the space**
September 17, District 56



Conceptual Plan Community Engagement

- **Community feedback survey**
 - Online survey open August 20 through September 20, 2025
 - 303 responses, 56% valued a resource room with computers and job source tools as very important
- **Shelter provider and community partner engagement**
 - 10 interviews completed
- **Engaging people with lived experience**
 - Interviews with those who've transitioned to permanent housing and those that are currently unhoused
 - Centers the voices of those with first-hand experience



Conceptual Program

- **Low-barrier model**
 - Possessions, pet, and partner friendly
- **Capacity and population**
 - 20 consistent beds and 5 emergency beds for adults
 - 4 family units, separate space from the adult shelter
- **Commercial kitchen**
 - Supports more robust volunteer engagement
 - Workforce training opportunity
- **Further considerations**
 - Trauma-informed design
 - Adequate office space for types of services offered
 - Interior and exterior design elements



Eligibility

A shelter for Elk Grove, not Sacramento

Requirements and restrictions

- **Strict vetting process**
 - Connection to the City
 - Referral from the City's Navigation team
 - Emergency use by Elk Grove Police Department
- **The facility will not serve:**
 - Registered sex offenders
 - People with serious behavioral health challenges
 - People who wish to use drugs or alcohol on-site
 - Walk-ups or drop-offs
 - People with no connection to Elk Grove

INVITING RECEPTION



FIRST IMPRESSIONS & DIGNITY

- The lobby sets the tone—designed to feel safe, calm, and non-institutional, more like a community center or home.

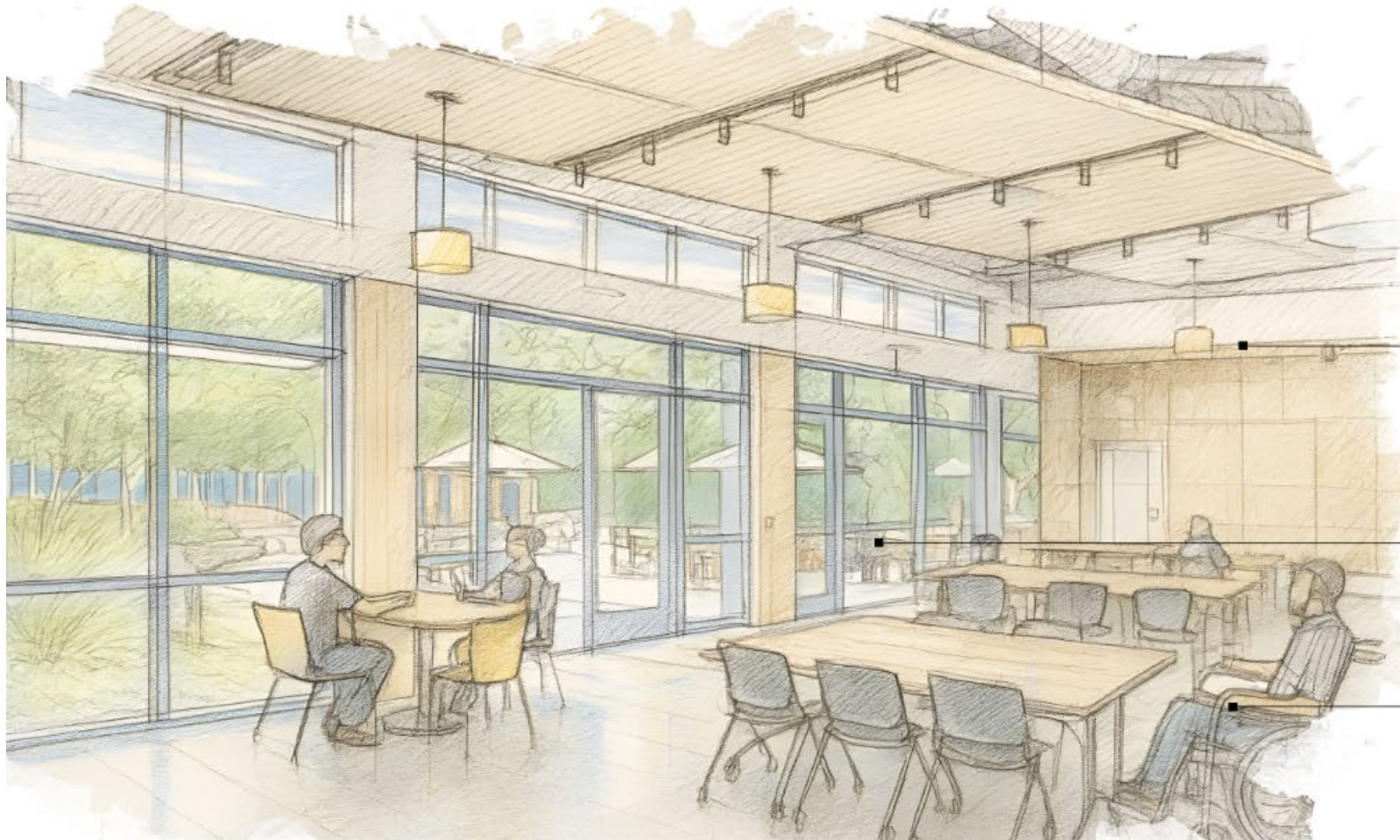
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

- A warm material palette with calming green and blue accents.
- Comfortable, durable furniture with personal space for individuals and families.
- Designed to avoid a “checkpoint” feel, instead emphasizing trust and care.

FUNCTIONALITY & OPERATIONS

- Central Check-In: Provides a clear, accessible entry process for residents, visitors, and service providers.
- Staff Visibility: Reception desk placement allows staff to greet, supervise, and support without being intimidating.
- Wayfinding Hub: Directs residents to dining, services, sleeping quarters, or counseling spaces seamlessly.

MULTIPURPOSE ROOM



FLEXIBLE USES

- Designed to serve multiple functions and equipped with infrastructure for a variety of programs
- Dining Hall, lecture classroom, seminar, and lounge.
- Flexible furniture for different configurations

COMMUNITY ORIENTED SPACE

- Warm and inviting wood tones
- Durable materials for heavy use
- Residential touches: lighting, art, and pictures to create a sense of home.

INDOOR / OUTDOOR CONNECTION

- Provides natural light & fresh air
- Promotes wellness & healing

UNIVERSAL DESIGN

- ADA-accessible paths, seating, and amenities ensure the space serves all residents.

SLEEPING AREAS

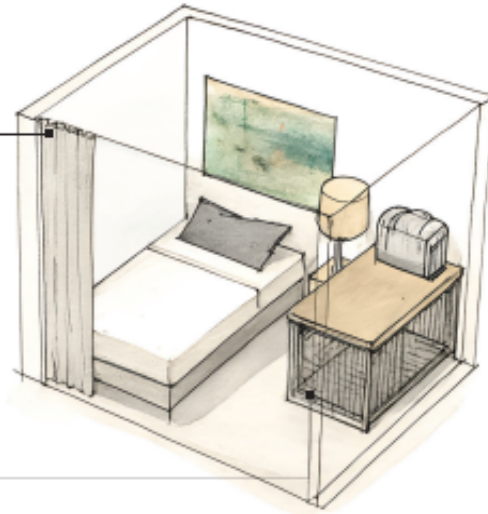
ADAPTABLE CONFIGURATIONS TO PROVIDE
FOR A WIDE VARIETY OF RESIDENT NEEDS

A SENSE OF PRIVACY

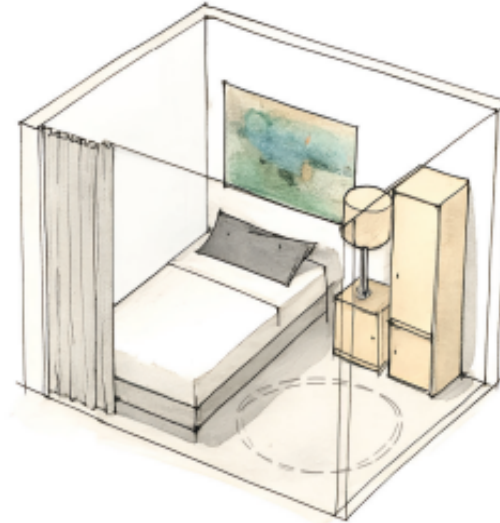
- Curtains provide a sense of personal space without permanent partitions, supporting dignity while allowing oversight.
- Allows the shelter to transition between semi-private and open dormitory-style spaces depending on occupancy and program needs.

VARIETY OF STORAGE NEEDS

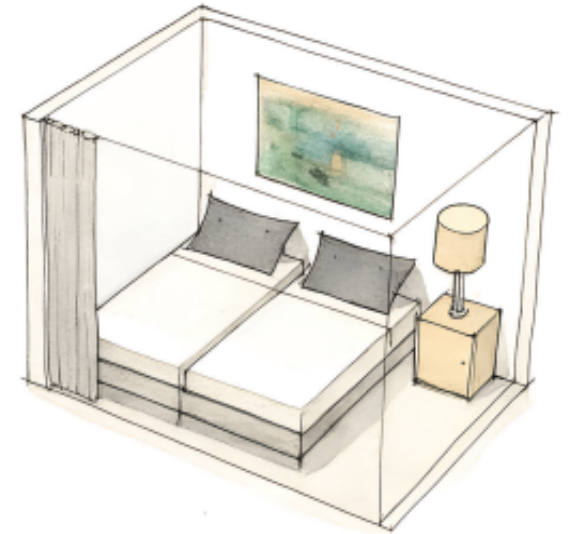
- Recognizes that many unhoused individuals have companion animals and will not seek services without them.
- Individual lockers/cabinets give residents a safe place to keep belongings, reinforcing stability and trust.



SINGLE BED WITH PET



SINGLE BED WITH ACCESSIBILITY
NEEDS



ADAPTABLE FOR COUPLES
(FEW LARGER SUITE OPTIONS)

SECURED GREEN SPACE

GREEN SPACES AND LANDSCAPED AREAS

- Can serve as restorative environments for individuals experiencing trauma.
- Allow for informal social interaction in a supervised environment.

SHADE CANOPY

- Covered trellises, canopies, or shade structures ensure the space is usable year-round in different climates.

EQUITY & DIGNITY

- Welcoming Environment: Moves away from an institutional feel toward a more home-like calming space.
- A Sense of Normalcy: Access to an outdoor area restores a basic element of daily life that many unhoused individuals lose.

DESIGN & SAFETY

- Solid fencing with landscaping to provide privacy and well-being for residents.
- Clear Sight Lines. Staff can easily supervise activity while still giving residents independence and dignity.



Location Evaluation & Selection

LOCATION SELECTION PROCESS

INITIAL FIELD | AUG-SEPT

- Identify potential universe of sites
- Internal working group narrows
- Drop unsuitable sites (occupied, development plans, incompatible size, etc.)

PRELIM ASSESSMENT | SEPT-NOV

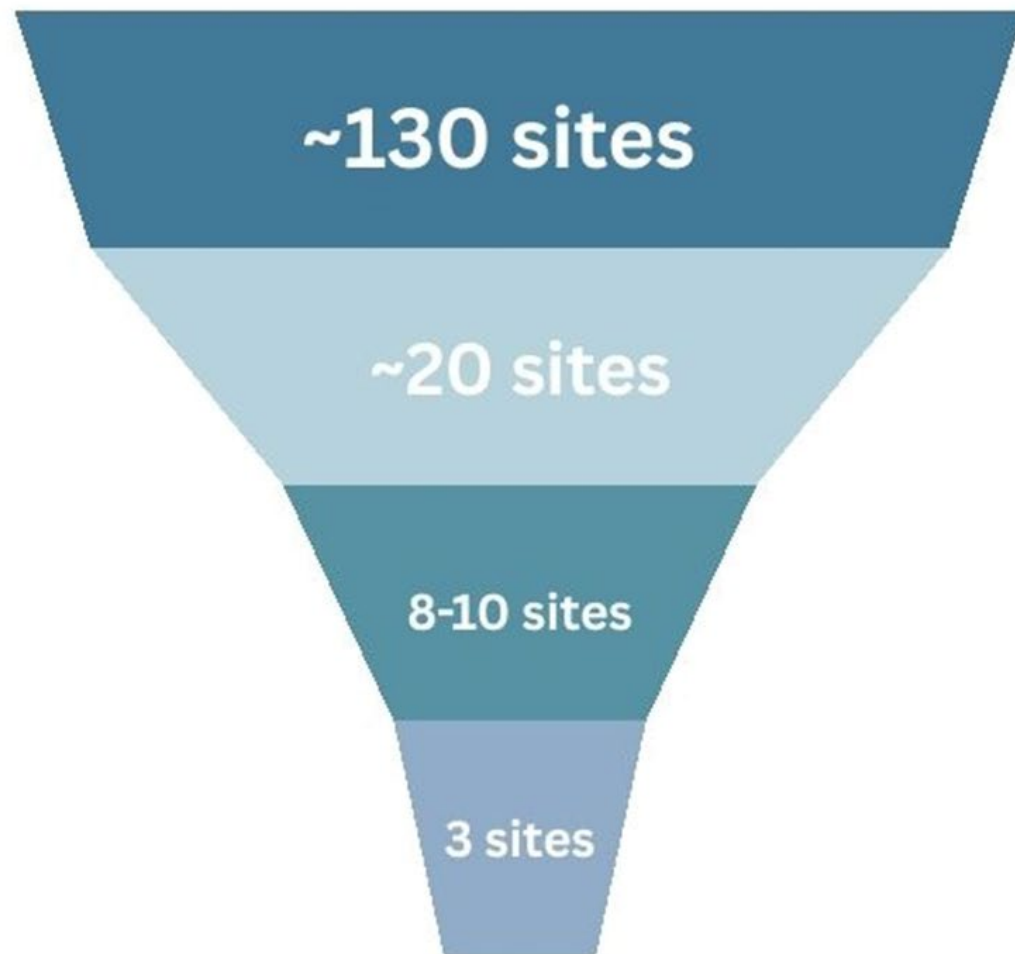
- Exec and leadership review
- Detailed location review with criteria, once approved
- Preliminary evaluation of potential locations

SCORING AND FEASIBILITY | NOV-DEC

- NJA conducts feasibility analysis and test fits
- Compatibility with site criteria review

PUBLIC RELEASE | JAN

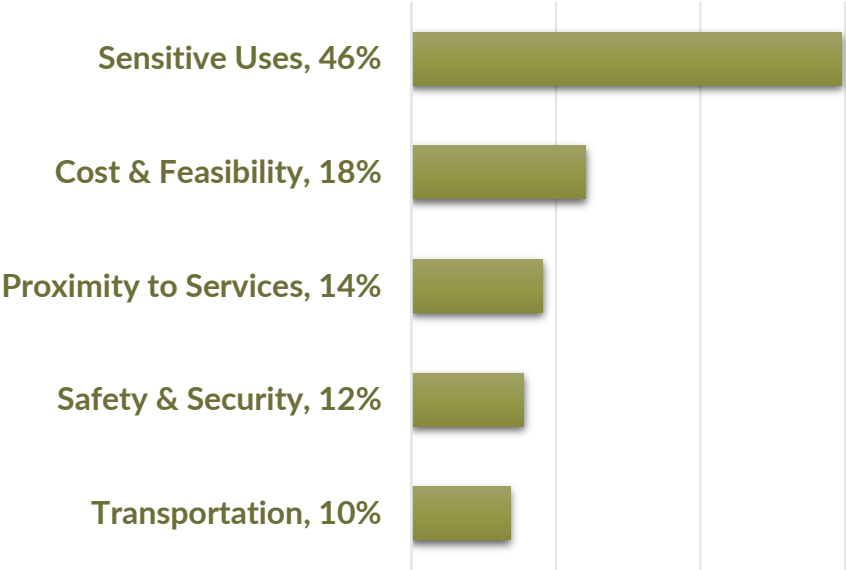
- Extensive awareness campaign
- 4 in-person community meetings
- Online options for comment



Community Survey on Evaluation Criteria

Community Feedback on Evaluation Criteria

655 responses collected from September 29 through October 17 via online survey



Common Survey Themes

- Safety and security considerations
- Location preferences, mainly to stay away from residential areas
- Program design and rules
- Requests for strict vetting of guests
- Emphasis on mental health, addiction treatment, and employment assistance
- Strong support for a pet-friendly shelter
- Minority of responses advocating for dignity and community integration



Potential Shelter Locations



Potential Shelter Locations

Dwight Rd, North of Laguna
Elk Grove, CA 95758

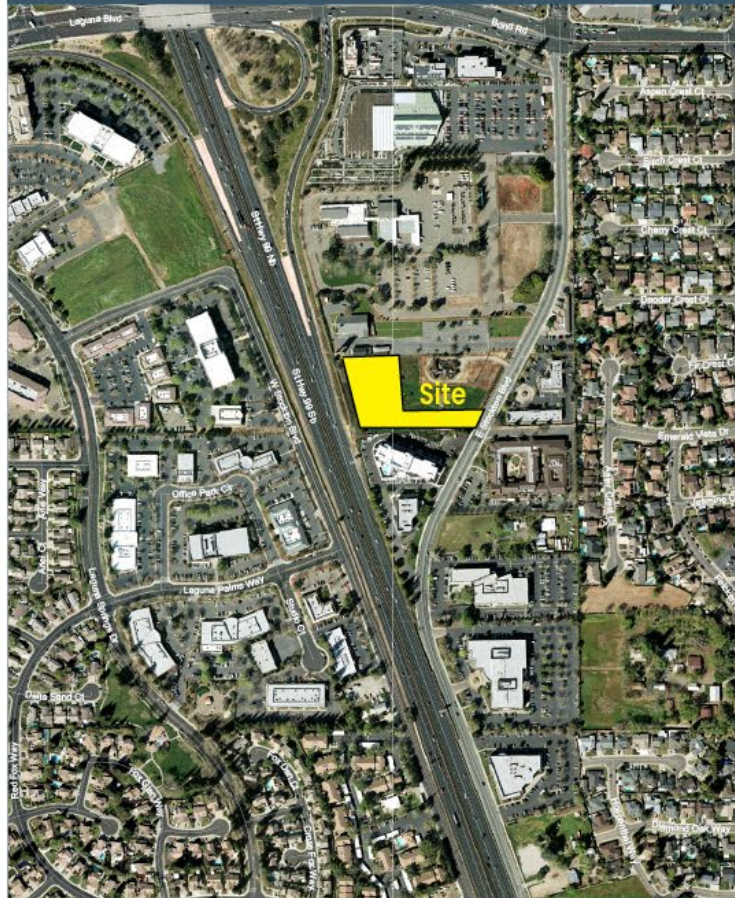


Potential Shelter Locations

Dwight Rd, North of Laguna
Elk Grove, CA 95758



9296 E Stockton Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95624

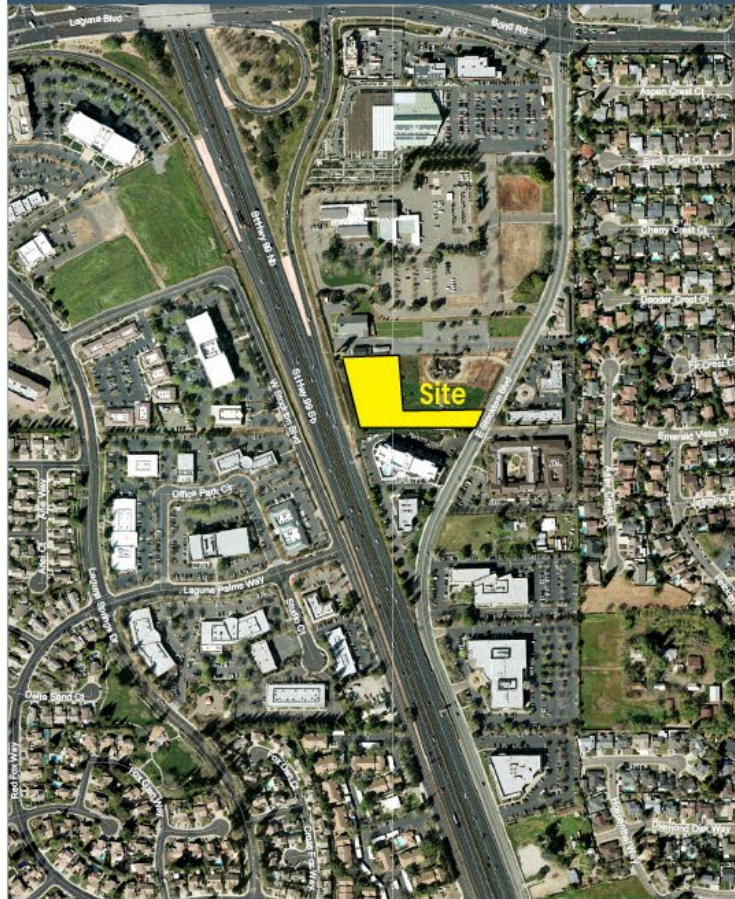


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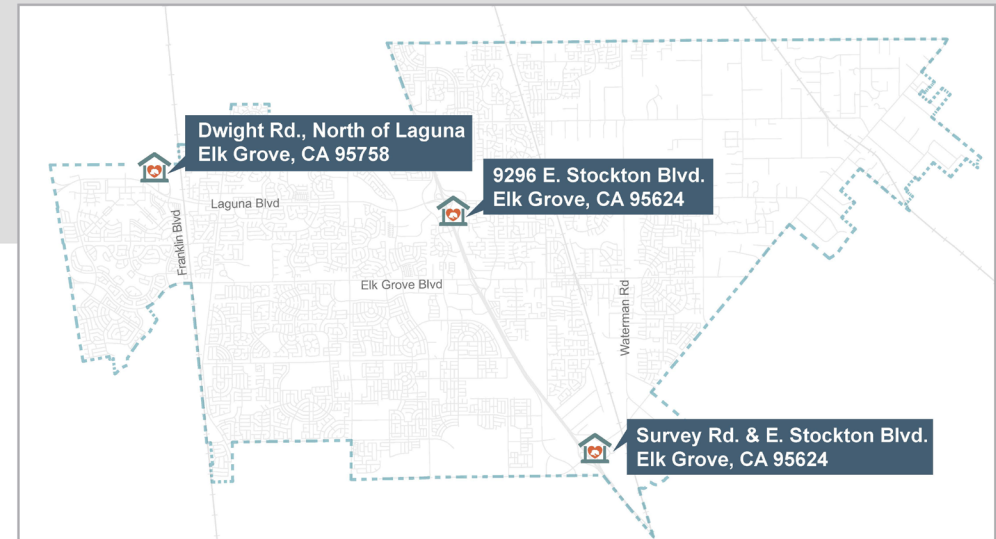


Survey Rd & E Stockton Blvd
Elk Grove, CA 95624



Scores weighted by community priorities.

Score Key



Dwight Rd North of Laguna

Proximity to Sensitive Uses

-  Homes
-  Schools and daycares
-  Parks and Community Centers



Cost and Feasibility

-  Affordability to buy site
-  Affordability to build shelter
-  Affordability to maintain shelter
-  Site size, shape, and space



Proximity to Services

-  Employment opportunities
-  Support services and programs
-  Retail, pharmacy, grocery, and convenience



Safety and Security

-  Site visibility
-  Emergency services proximity



Transportation

-  Access to public transportation
-  Walk score
-  Bike infrastructure



Stockton 9296 E Stockton Blvd

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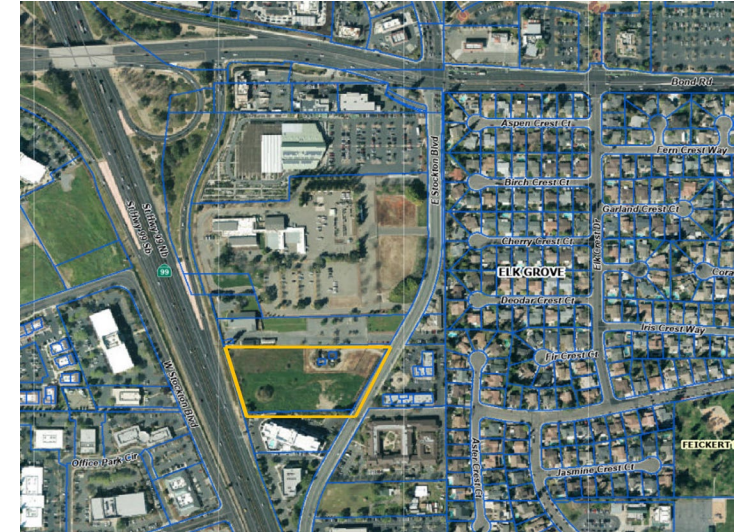
- North of Laguna Boulevard, off Dwight Road
- Mix of vacant land and existing buildings, light industrial zoning



9296 East Stockton Blvd



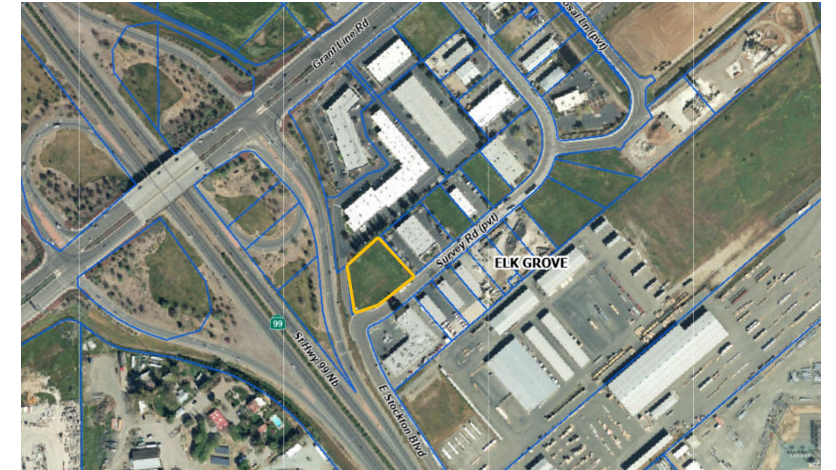
- South of Bond Road, off E. Stockton
- High density residential zoning
- ~4 acres



Survey Road & E Stockton



- Southern end of the City, south of Grant Line Road
- Heavy industrial zoning
- ~1.5 acres



Join a Breakout Group!

Please join a smaller group conversation for diverse conversations and personal story sharing.

We have 60 minutes. You can join any focused discussion group:

- Cost & Feasibility
- Distance from Sensitive Uses
- Proximity to Services
- Safety & Security
- Programs & Operations
- Building Design

You can move to another group whenever you want to.



Scan the code to take the exit survey

or visit bit.ly/4jECV3c

If you would like to complete a physical form or you don't have a working phone, please find a City staff member



**Exit Survey on
Location Preference**

Next Steps

Council Meeting

- **February 11, 2026** | Site preferences will be considered by the City Council

Future Phases

- **Phase 3** | Design Development
 - March 2026-Spring 2027
- **Phase 4** | Public Bidding and Construction
 - Summer 2027-Fall 2028



Permanent Homeless Shelter

Community Presentation

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