

# Improving encampment resolutions with cross-agency, human-centered approaches

In People's Park, CA



**National Alliance to End Homelessness**

Innovations and Solutions for Ending Unsheltered Homelessness

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March 2024

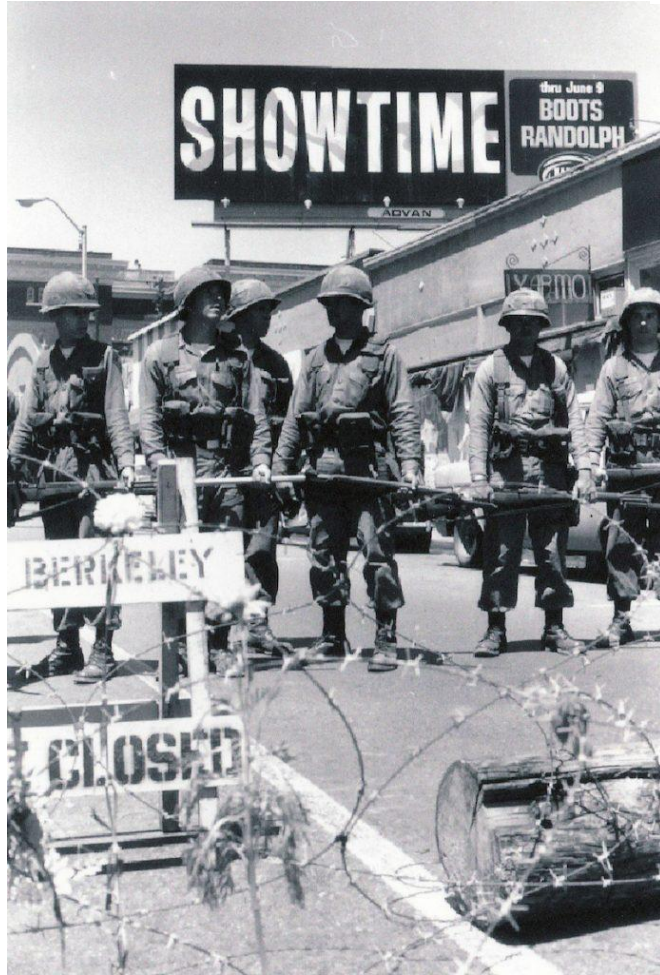


**Berkeley** Social Welfare

**People's Park -**  
Background, history, &  
significance



# Activism at People's Park



CLIP FILE BOSS ARCHIVES Berkeley - Peoples Park

**The Daily Californian**  
Vol. 200, No. 14 The Chronicle of California, Berkeley, California Tuesday, May 18, 1969

## Riot Victim Dies

**National Guard Sweeps Onto Campus; Clouds of Tear Gas Spread in Plaza**

James Rector, a 25-year-old student, shot during Thursday's riot, died last night in Berkeley Hospital.

A hospital spokesman confirmed Rector's death as the 25-year-old student was taken to the hospital.

Rector, who was admitted to Berkeley in critical condition Thursday with an "abdominal gunshot wound," by Sunday afternoon his condition was listed as "fair" and hospital officials expressed optimism about his chances for survival. Rector's wound resulted in "perforated stomach."

Thousands of students, political demonstrators, and members of the National Guard and police of Berkeley and San Francisco gathered at the scene of the riot.

There was a battle in the street and the rioters were taken to the hospital.

There will be a day of mourning with a silent march through the campus and into the city Monday at noon to honor Rector.

By JOE PICKARILLO

**RICHARD HALL**  
National Guardsmen yesterday moved on to campus in large numbers.

Students for the first time in the history of the University of California at Berkeley were taken to the hospital by National Guardsmen and police.

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### Students to Vote

The spring meeting of the SDS is scheduled to be held today, Monday and Tuesday, May 18 and 19, at the People's Park, and the first meeting of the SDS is scheduled for Tuesday, May 19, at the People's Park.



## COVID-19 - A shift



# People's Park - 2022



CITY

## City, university to lease Rodeway Inn as housing for displaced People's Park residents

UC Berkeley is expected to begin construction at the park in the summer.

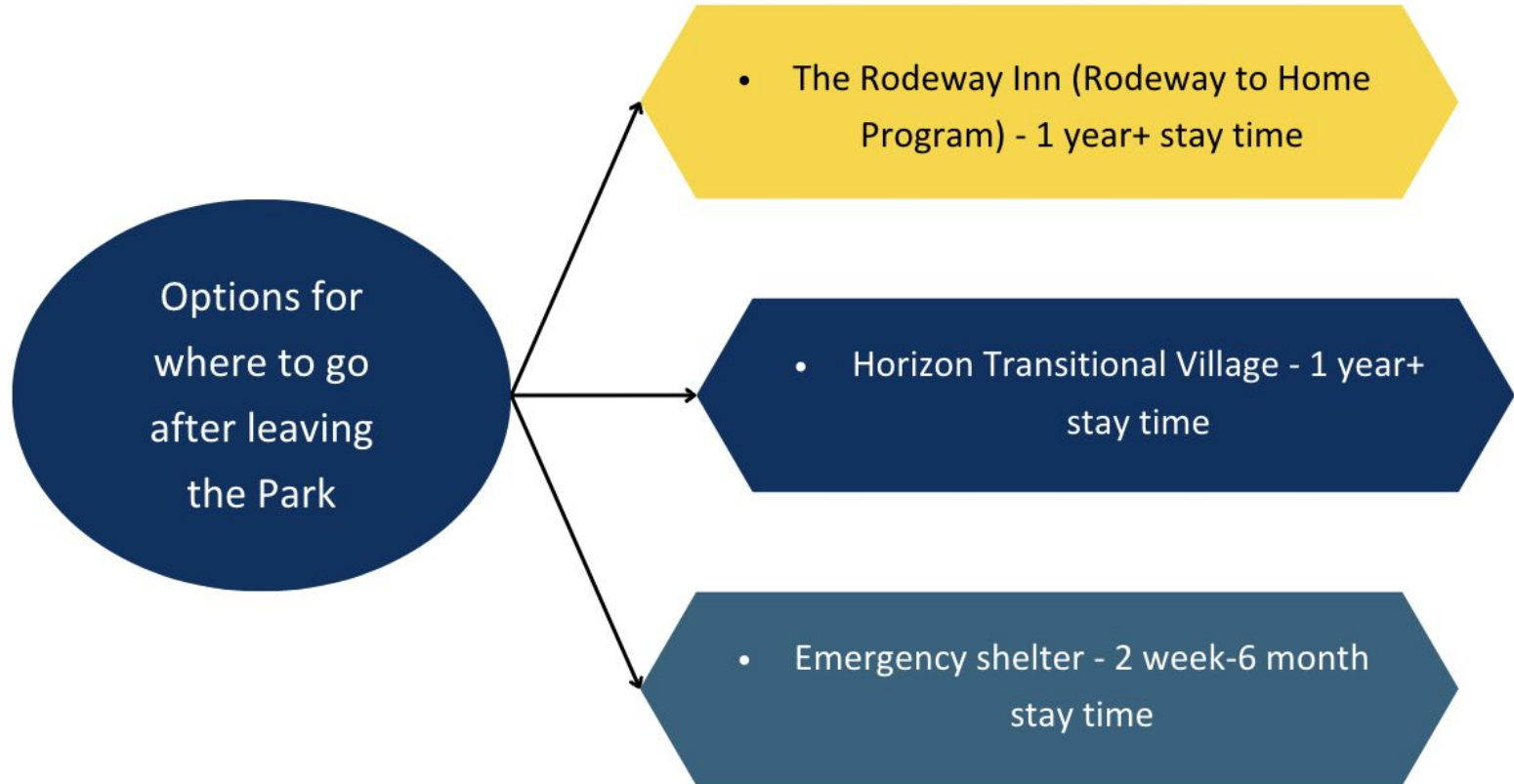
By Supriya Yelimeli

March 9, 2022, 4:58 p.m.





## Cross-agency collaboration - Community-based initiatives



## **“7 Principles for addressing encampments”**

From the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

1. Establish a **cross-agency, multi-sector** response to encampments.
2. **Engage encampment residents** to develop solutions.
3. Conduct **comprehensive** and **coordinated outreach**.
4. **Address basic needs** and provide storage.
5. Ensure access to **shelter** or **housing options**.
6. Develop **pathways** to **permanent housing** and supports.
7. Create a **plan** for what will happen to encampment sites **after closure**.



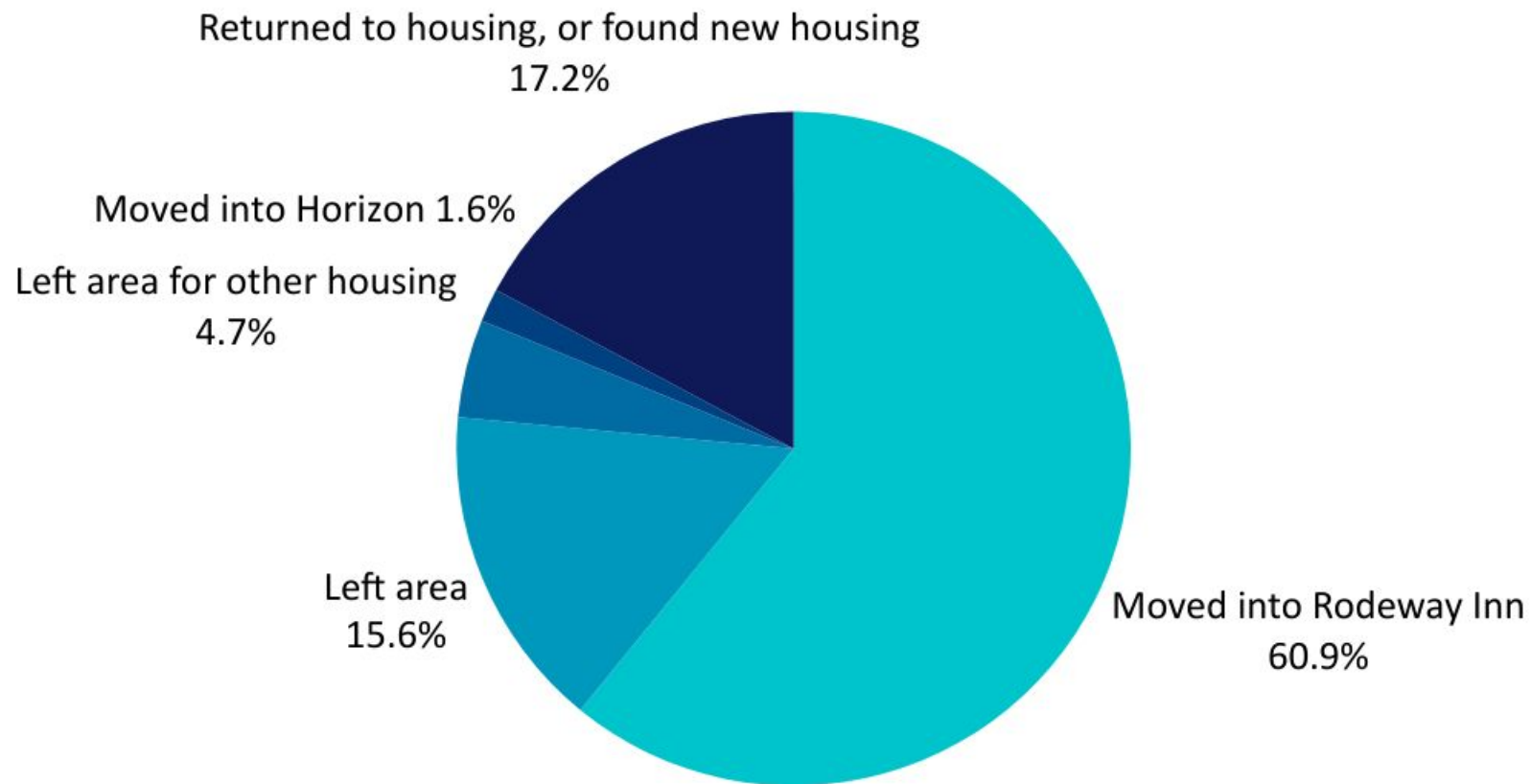
# Methods

This was a **mixed-methods** evaluation involving:

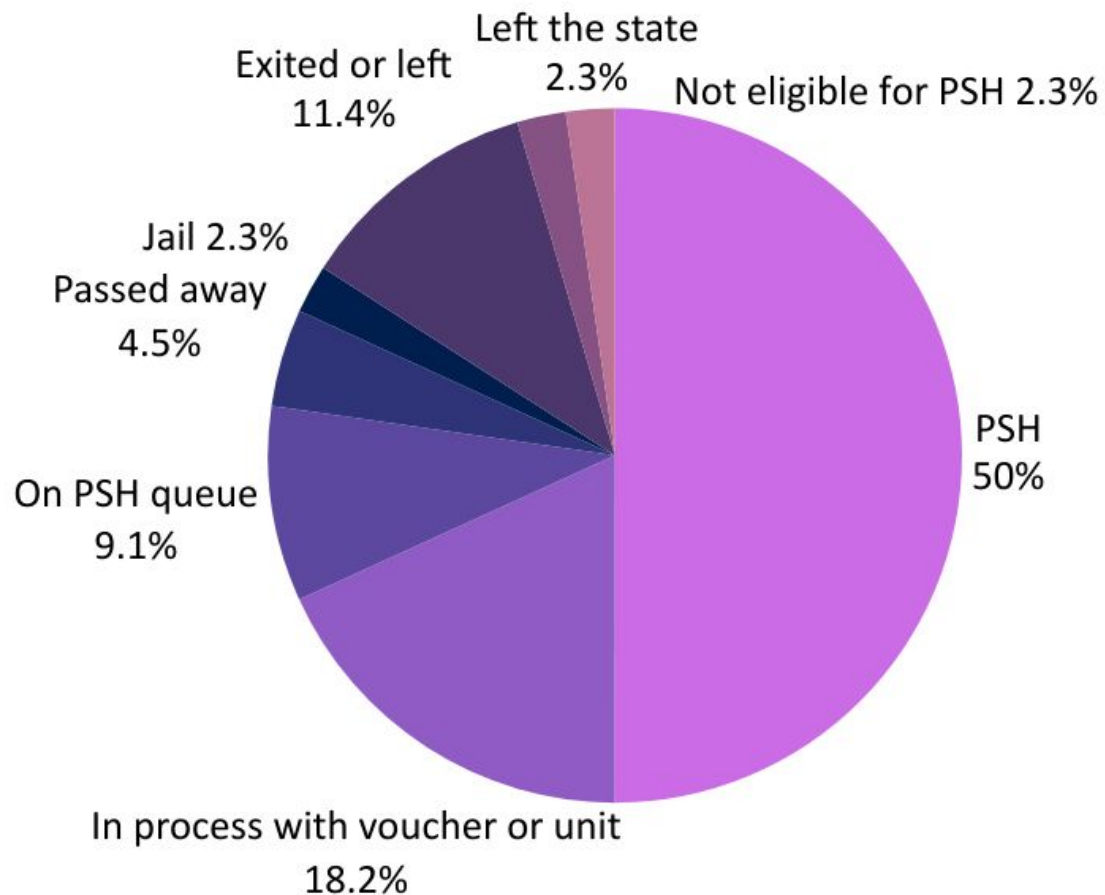
1. Tracking the **housing pathway** of participants;
2. **Survey questions**; and
3. **Open-ended in-depth interview questions.**

I conducted interviews with both **unhoused people from People's Park (n=24)** and **community stakeholders (n=16)**.

**Figure 1: Outcomes for 64 Park Residents**



**Figure 2: Outcomes for 44 Rodeway Inn Residents**





## Recommendations

Based on our learning

1. Rely primarily on **non-congregate housing models** for as many clients as possible.
2. Involve a full-time, **consistent outreach worker** to provide support and linkages, in cross-agency collaboration with a network of partners.
3. Provide a **temporary housing option** that offers real support with permanent housing placement, the possibility of staying longer than 6 months, and a strong, responsive staff and program.
4. **Involve participant voice** in design of the encampment resolution process wherever possible.

## Recommendations

Continued

5. Explore the possibility of tying **specific, funded housing exits** to the resolution process.
6. Continue to make **services and housing available** to community members after an encampment resolution “ends.”
7. Explore the possibility of **creative alternatives** to typical housing models.
8. Utilize a **longer-term approach** centered around providing services rather than a deadline for closure and construction.

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## **Acknowledgements**

My deepest thanks go out to the community and residents of People's Park; the UC Berkeley Homeless Outreach Coordinator Ari Neulight; the UC Berkeley campus facilities team; the staff of the Rodeway Inn, the Sacred Rest Drop-In Center, and Horizon Transitional Village; City of Berkeley Neighborhood Services; the UC Berkeley Office of the Chancellor's Government and Community Relations; and the Telegraph Business Improvement District.

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