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Space Available in City of San Diego's Safe Parking Program for People Living in Vehicles

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES CAN STAY OVERNIGHT WITH ACCESS TO RESTROOMS, JOB TRAINING, HOUSING PLACEMENT AND OTHER SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

SAN DIEGO – Five months after opening, the City of San Diego's new Safe Parking Program location in Point Loma has over 100 spaces available for individuals and families to safely sleep in their vehicles and receive supportive services aimed at ending their homelessness. The location, known as H Barracks, is open to regular and oversized vehicles, including RVs, overnight and provides people a place to stay without the risk of being ticketed for parking illegally on a City street or park.

The Safe Parking Program is operated by Jewish Family Service (JFS) of San Diego and serves a high percentage of people experiencing homelessness for the first time, who typically have income through employment or benefits and need a safe place to get back on their feet.

With the added capacity at H Barracks, later this month the City will temporarily suspend operations later this month at one of the City's other four Safe Parking sites, located on Aero Drive, to consolidate services while meeting demand for overnight parking. JFS is working with program participants to provide a smooth transition and ensure participants can continue to receive services at one of the City's other four locations.

The move is expected to save an estimated \$23,000 per month in operating expenses through this consolidation. Should the demand for Safe Parking increase beyond the capacity of the existing four lots, the City can reopen the Aero Drive site.

With operations being suspended at the Aero Drive site soon, the City still has just over 350 spaces total for individuals experiencing homelessness in their vehicles, including 18 trailers specifically for family use at the Rose Canyon site.

Like the other Safe Parking lots, H Barracks provides individuals, seniors, and families a secure place to stay while accessing services and pursuing housing. Safe Parking sites include restrooms, basic needs



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assistance, access to resources, mental health services and job training, and participants work with case managers to create individual housing goals.

Among other resources, the Safe Parking Program can assist with supportive housing applications, benefits assistance, job placement and/or deposits or first month's rent. The City encourages individuals in need to schedule an intake session with JFS via an <u>online form</u> or by calling 858-637-3373.

In fiscal year 2025, the City's Safe Parking Program helped connect 260 people to housing and serve more than 1,070 people, including 260 children.



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