

Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure A

To deny Alameda faces an unprecedented homelessness crisis is to deny reality. We all know that homeless seniors are living – and sometimes dying – on our streets. The Alameda Wellness Center is a positive and life-saving solution.

By voting Yes on Measure A, voters have an opportunity to get medically frail homeless seniors the care and shelter all of us deserve.

The Alameda Wellness Center would be managed by the highly respected nonprofit Alameda Point Collaborative, which has a long history of providing medical care and housing to people at risk of homelessness.

The opponents to Measure A ask a lot of leading questions and answer none of them. That's because they know the facility will be fully funded through a combination of private, county and federal funds, not Alameda taxpayer funds.

When homeless seniors avoid costly and unnecessary hospital visitations through a facility like the Alameda Wellness Center, it saves the city money in emergency response and uncompensated medical care.

The initiative is on the ballot, because the wealthy opponents to the Alameda Wellness Center paid signature gathers nearly \$20,000 to use the ballot box to stop the facility. Funded primarily by out-of-town property owners, their campaign hid who paid for the signature gathering until a complaint was filed by the head of Alameda's Open Government Commission.

Vote Yes on Measure A to reaffirm Alameda's commitment to being a caring and fiscally responsible city.

www.wecarealameda.com

s/ Laura Thomas
Vice President, Renewed Hope Housing Advocates

s/ Audrey Hyman
President, Social Service Human Relations Board

s/ Alice Lai-Bitker
Former Alameda County Supervisor

s/ Laura Rose
Reverend

s/ Barbara Price
Liaison for Military Affairs City of Alameda