

# Housing Choice Voucher Program Waiting List

Housing Authority July 19, 2021 Rebecca Lane

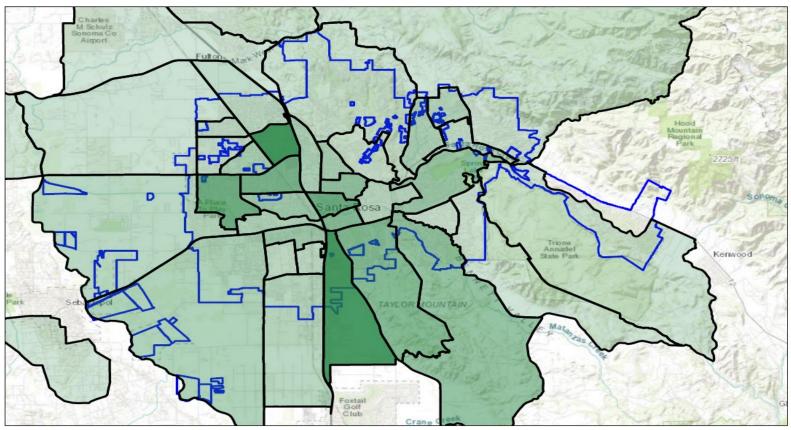
Manager, Housing and Community Services

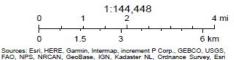
# Housing Choice Voucher Program

- The Housing Choice Voucher Program is a federally-funded rental assistance program administered by the Department of Housing and Community Services on behalf of the Housing Authority
- 1,903 vouchers currently under contract with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Additional vouchers administered in city limits on behalf of other agencies under portability rules

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## Housing Choice Voucher Distribution





June 15, 2021

## HCV Waiting List

- The HCV program is not an entitlement program
- More households qualify for assistance than there are vouchers available
- The HCV program has established a Waiting List for receiving assistance

#### HCV Waiting List

- Waiting List process
  - Generally, opens every two years to allow additional households the opportunity to get on the list
  - Opens for one full month
  - All applications received in that month are sorted by lottery to determine their rank number
  - The new applicants are placed at the bottom of the list in their rank order

## Waiting List Preferences

- The Santa Rosa Housing Authority has one general and two limited preferences:
  - General Preferences apply to the entire Waiting List and anyone who qualifies would rise to the top of the list
  - Limited Preferences refer to a specific set-aside number of vouchers and are targeted to a population in partnership with a service agency

# Calling from the Waiting List

- When the program has vouchers available, households are called from the Waiting List to apply for the HCV program
  - Invitation is by mail, in order of application
  - Success Rate is measured by comparing the number of households invited to apply and the number who ultimately are issued a vouchers

### **Voucher Issuance and Leasing**

- Households who are determined eligible attend a briefing to receive the voucher
- Voucher has a time limit (120 days)
- If the household does not find housing or request an extension on the voucher term by the expiration date, the voucher expires
- Utilization Rate is measured by the number of vouchers under contract with HUD compared to the number of vouchers being used

# Questions?

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