



## SV@Home Policy Platform: Safe Parking

The number of people living without permanent homes in Santa Clara County is a result of our regional housing, and housing affordability crisis. We are not building permanent housing, including permanent supportive housing, at a rate commensurate with the need. While there are many ways that people survive without permanent homes, for many people living in RVs or other vehicles, their car is what enables them to continue to participate in the community and maintain a job. Serious limits on the ability of those without permanent homes to live in one's car will only increase individual and family instability, furthering the likelihood that they will end up living unsheltered.

### SV@Home supports:

- Permanent housing as the only long-term solution to the challenges of homelessness in our communities, while recognizing that we are not building permanent housing, including permanent supportive housing, at a rate commensurate with the need, which reflects both the need for more time and more funds to bring permanent solutions online.
- Comprehensive local programs that respond to the causes of homelessness, and the unique challenges of living without a permanent home in our communities.
- Safe Parking programs that provide designated locations where people can legally stay in their cars overnight without threat of harassment, recognizing that for many people living in RVs or other vehicles, their car is what enables them to continue to participate in the community and maintain a job.
- Coordinated efforts by local governments and community service agencies to identify community partners, including religious institutions and local employers, to identify both public and private locations where Safe Parking programs can safely operate and where unhoused people can be connected with existing support and services.

### SV@Home does not support:

- Blanket bans on overnight street parking without provision of adequate safe parking, interim or permanent housing alternatives.
- Restrictive ordinances making safe parking unreasonably difficult, which will only increase individual and family instability, furthering the likelihood that they could end up living unsheltered.