

# Castro Valley: Families & The Built Environment

## Community development policy from the Castro Valley 2010 General Plan

December 30th, 2019

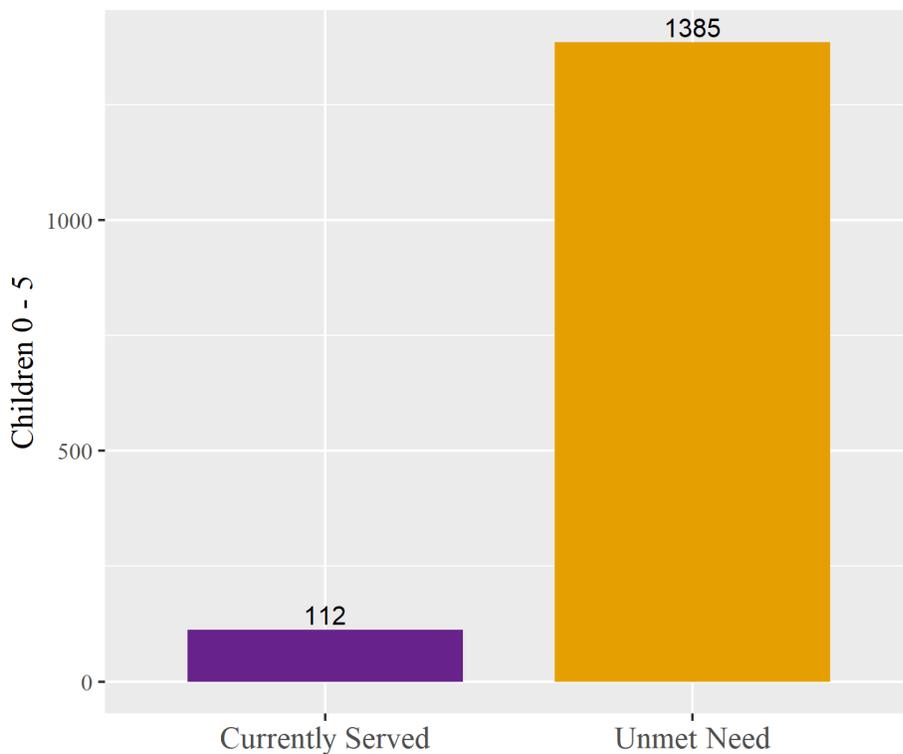
### Data

#### Community Demographics

- Number of income eligible children ages 0 to 5 at or below 85% SMI: 1,497
- Estimated percent of children 0-5 not served: 93%
- County Kindergarten Readiness rate: 44%

### Children Served & Estimated Unmet Need for Income Eligible Children 0-5

Castro Valley



Data from the 2016 AIR Early Learning Needs Assessment Tool

## Land Use & Community Development

### 4-11: Schools

"This designation identifies publicly-owned or operated educational facilities of all sizes serving all age groups in Castro Valley. The designation also includes sites that are owned or used by the school districts for school-related purposes such as maintenance or corporation yards as well as parcels which are leased to private entities. Sites designated as 'School' may also be developed as residential uses at a density comparable to surrounding uses if the school district which owns them determines that they are no longer needed for educational purposes. Any private development proposed on a former school site shall incorporate on site a feature intended to serve as a benefit to the community, such as a park, playground, trail easement, athletic field, public plaza, community meeting facility, or child care center. The feature shall remain accessible to the public. The scale of the community benefit shall be commensurate with the size of the parcel and the intensity of the proposed development. Decisions regarding the type of feature to be provided and its design shall take into consideration public input and shall be coordinated with relevant public entities that will be involved in its operation and maintenance."

## Land Use & Community Development

### 4-26: Action 4.3-8: Downtown Residential Mixed Use

"Establish a new zoning district for high density downtown housing with densities ranging from 30 to 60 units per acre and ground floor retail and other commercial space fronting on busy streets. Allow childcare facilities and senior housing in this district."

### 4-29: Action 4.4-2: Family Daycare as Accessory Use

"Amend the zoning ordinance to allow ministerial approval of childcare and senior centers in residential districts as an accessory use within an existing community center, religious facility, clubhouse, or similar facility subject to reasonable standards and limitations to minimize parking impacts and other conflicts with surrounding residential uses."

## Community Facilities, Parks and Schools

### 8-4: Action 8.1-2: Community Centers

"Work with the Castro Valley and Hayward Unified School Districts, the Hayward Area Recreation District, the Alameda County Library, and Eden Medical Center to establish a network of community centers that offer services such as childcare, healthcare, teen activities, and recreational programs."

### 8-26: Action 8.4-4: Establishment of a Network of Community Centers

"Work with the Castro Valley, San Lorenzo, and Hayward Unified School Districts, the Alameda County Library, HARD, and Eden Medical Center Castro Valley to establish a network of community centers that offer services such as childcare, health care, and recreational programs."

### 8-27: Child Care

"Castro Valley has the highest proportion of children with parents in the workforce among all of Alameda County's cities and unincorporated towns. According to the 2000 census, children aged 12 and younger accounted for more than 16 percent of Castro Valley's population and about 35 percent of all of the households in Castro Valley have children under the age of 18. About 63 percent of Castro Valley children under the age of 6 and 74 percent of children who are 6 to 17 years old had two working parents or a working single parent. Of these single-parent households, 5.7 percent have a female head.

While children in Castro Valley over two years old demand child care at a similar rate to the county, the availability of care for those age groups is higher at the local level, resulting in an apparent surplus. The estimated surplus in preschool slots and school-age slots is based on data for children living in Castro Valley and not for children that live in the surrounding unincorporated areas such as Cherryland and Fairview. Because these areas have few, if any, child care providers, parents must place their children in facilities nearby or near their place of work. Their reliance on Castro Valley providers may explain why the number of slots available in Castro Valley appears to exceed demand. Castro Valley parents with children aged two to four years are more likely to demand family child or center-based care. Approximately 54 percent of children two to four demand center-based or family childcare, which is similar to the 52 percent countywide. Forty-six percent of the city's child care supply is for preschool aged children, and an additional 44 percent serves school-aged children, resulting in a surplus of 314 and 78, respectively.

Determining the demand for childcare is difficult because it is often unclear whether parents' choices reflect their preferences or result from location and cost constraints. Based on statewide patterns for different provider types and income levels, Castro Valley has an existing shortfall of at least 300 licensed childcare spaces. If all families in which both parents or a single head of household works demanded licensed childcare, Castro Valley would need more than three times the number of spaces available in the community's 86 licensed and license-exempt child care centers and family child care homes. Despite the projected aging of Castro Valley's population, the County's Need Assessment Report anticipates that the demand for spaces is expected to increase by about 8 percent within the life of the plan."

## Community Facilities, Parks and Schools

"Moreover, even though the percent of children living below the poverty level in Castro Valley is lower than countywide (3 percent compared with 9 percent countywide according to the 2000 Census), the cost of childcare remains an obstacle for many families.

In 2004, the County's Child Care Coordinating Council received 321 requests for childcare referrals for 388 children needing care. Despite the demand, the Council reports that childcare providers have had difficulty receiving the necessary approvals to add childcare slots. In addition, providers have met with community resistance to proposals for opening new centers or expanding existing services in unincorporated areas of Alameda County including Castro Valley."

### 8-28: Child Care Goal 8.5-1

"Provide a variety of affordable childcare facilities to meet the needs of present and future Castro Valley residents and those who work in the community"

### 8-28: Policy 8.5-1: Expansion of Childcare Facilities

"Expand childcare facilities in residential and commercial districts subject to reasonable standards to reduce conflicts with surrounding uses including traffic, noise, and parking impacts."

### 8-28: Policy 8.5-2: Promotion of Development of Childcare Facilities

"Promote the development of childcare facilities within new residential and commercial projects, and at existing public facilities."

### 8-29: Action 8.5-1: Large Family Daycare Approval Standards

"Amend the zoning ordinance to include standards for ministerial approval of large family daycare facilities in residential districts as provided for by State law. (Same as Action 4.4-1)"

### 8-29: Action 8.5-2: Small Daycare as Accessory Use

"Revise the zoning ordinance to allow ministerial approval of small childcare centers in residential districts as an accessory use within an existing community center, religious facility, clubhouse or similar community facility subject to reasonable standards to minimize parking and other conflicts with surrounding residential uses. (Same as Action 4.4-2)"

### 8-29: Action 8.5-3: Childcare Centers

"Revise the zoning ordinance to make childcare centers a permitted use in neighborhood commercial, mixed use, and office districts subject to reasonable standards to reduce conflicts with surrounding uses including traffic, noise, and parking impacts and combined with other services and amenities in order to improve access and availability."

### 8-29: Action 8.5-4: Additional Options for Promoting Childcare

Consider additional options for providing child care including, but not limited to: providing low cost or no cost leases for programs at vacant or public buildings, in-lieu or impact fees to build and/or expand facilities, or other measures to address the supply, affordability and quality of childcare."

### 8-29: Action 8.5-5: Promote Convenient Locations for Child Care

"Encourage childcare facilities to be located near employment centers, homes, schools, community centers, recreation facilities, and transit hubs.

### 8-29: Action 8.5-6: Expansion of After-School and Summer Childcare Services Programs

"Work with the Castro Valley, San Lorenzo, and Hayward School Districts, local private schools, the Childcare Coordinating Council and HARD to develop a plan for expanding programs providing after-school and summer childcare services."