Goal #1
Eliminate illegal disposal of hypodermic needles from all parks and beaches to prevent public health and safety hazards

Strategy:
Propose Ordinance to prohibit possession of hypodermic needles and syringes without a prescription.

Current California State Health and Safety Code Section 11364:

(a) It is unlawful to possess an opium pipe or any device, contrivance, instrument, or paraphernalia used for unlawfully injecting or smoking (1) a controlled substance specified in subdivision...

(b) This section shall not apply to hypodermic needles or syringes that have been sterilized for safe disposal in a container that meets state and federal standards for disposal of sharps waste.

(c) Until January 1, 2021, as a public health measure intended to prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis, and other bloodborne diseases among persons who use syringes and hypodermic needles, and to prevent subsequent infection of sexual partners, newborn children, or other persons, this section shall not apply to the possession solely for personal use of hypodermic needles or syringes if acquired from a physician, pharmacist, hypodermic needle and syringe exchange program, or any other source that is authorized by law to provide sterile syringes or hypodermic needles without a prescription.
Goal #2

Expand and Enhance Public Park boundaries throughout Downtown Santa Cruz, allowing for greater control and regulation of repeat nuisance crimes

Strategy:

Make downtown (900-1500 blocks of Pacific Avenue, and adjacent streets) a public park zone.

Current City Park Boundaries Downtown:

San Lorenzo River levee, from the North at the Highway 1 Bridge, and continuing south through Downtown Santa Cruz and ending at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk.

Goal #3

Reduce daytime campers in public spaces to promote public health, safety and recreation activities

Strategy:

Propose Ordinance 6.36.020 - Daytime Encampments

- Prohibits establishing or maintaining encampments between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.
- Requires warning and a reasonable opportunity to remove belongings before citation issues

Proposed Changes to Current Municipal Code Section 6.36.030 on Nighttime Encampments:

- Prohibits sleeping or setting up encampment between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.
  - Shall not be enforced against persons experiencing homelessness if there are greater number of homeless individuals in City than available shelter beds; and at time citation is issued, person has no actual and immediate access to shelter
  - Requires Police Department to identify and offer shelter placement and an opportunity to relocate prior to citation
Goal #4
Reduce Bicycle Theft and Chop Shops

Strategy:
Propose ordinance to prohibit the assembly, disassembly, sale, offer of sale, distribution, offer of distribution, or storage of bicycles and bicycle parts on the public right-of-ways and authorize the City of Santa Cruz to remove and seize bicycles and bicycle parts following issuance of a notice of violation.

Similar Municipal Ordinance:
Ordinance modeled after City and County of San Francisco Ordinance 203-17, Public Works Code, Bicycle Chop Shops

Goal #5
Reduce overnight vehicles and other vehicle campers on West Cliff Dr.

Strategy:
Introduce 3-hour parking limits on West Cliff Drive.

Background:
- A December, 2019 West Cliff Drive Pilot Project demonstrated that at Cowell's Overlook Parking lot, 95% of people park for 2 hours or less.
- 6% of all parking events consumed 31% of all parking, due to excessively long stays.
- Long-term parkers block access for neighbors and visitors to the West Cliff Drive area.
Goal #6
Allow Police to have greater discretion and diversion strategies to boost effectiveness

Strategies:

- Divert infraction citations by referring perpetrator to drug, mental health or shelter services.
- Divert infractions fines to city-sponsored clean-up public service work (hip pocket immunity).
- Create policy allowing POs to perform misdemeanor arrests rather than citation if they know suspect to be recalcitrant.

Other Municipalities:

- San Diego program to offer unhoused people a 30-day shelter stay to in lieu of amnesty for warrants/FTA.

Goal #7
Reduce shopping cart litter to reduce blight, public nuisances, and potential health and safety hazards.

Strategy:

- Propose ordinance to insure measures are taken by the owners of shopping carts to prevent the removal of the shopping carts from the cart owner's business premises, to make removal of the cart a violation of the Code, and to facilitate the retrieval of abandoned shopping carts in a manner consistent with state law and to use an administrative citation program to establish appropriate fines intended to act as a reasonable deterrent in preventing violations.

Other Municipalities:

- Ordinance modelled after Eureka Municipal Code §130.30.