Introduction: Homelessness
There are approximately 4,178 homeless people in Alameda County on any given day in 2011. While this number has decreased 13.7% since 2007, the number of unsheltered adults without children grew by 34.6% since 2009*. There are now more unsheltered homeless persons than there are in emergency shelters or transitional housing.

* Source: Alameda Countywide Homeless Count and Survey 2011.

There is clearly a need for more shelters and transitional housing services for the unsheltered homeless in the Bay Area, especially among single adults without children.

Berkeley Food and Housing Project (BFHP)
BFHP is a non-profit organization in Berkeley that provides emergency food and shelter, transitional housing, permanent housing, and housing placement with support services to homeless individuals and families.

H.O.P.E. Project (Housing Opportunities Expanded)
To address growing unsheltered homeless and target services towards homeless males, BFHP is looking to build a centrally located, integrated housing and services site. This site will provide a one-stop center with comprehensive resources to move homeless males from homelessness to permanent housing. Services will include housing case management, employment and training resources, mental health and substance abuse services, medical and dental care, legal services and more.

Desired Elements Identified by BFHP:
- Centrally located near public transportation
- 4 stories including dorm-style transitional housing and 40-50 Single Room Occupancy apartments (SROs)
- Include commercial and office space for social service agencies and health clinics on the bottom floor
- Include housing case management, employment and services from homelessness to permanent housing.
- Services will include comprehensive resources to move homeless males from homelessness to permanent housing. Services will include housing case management, employment and training resources, mental health and substance abuse services, medical and dental care, legal services and more.

Methodology
Objective – Determine Best Location for H.O.P.E Project

Identity Opportunities and Constraints

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opportunity/Constraint</th>
<th>Weight</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low Income Male Population</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Services Centers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grocery Stores</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Transit</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bus Stops</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquefaction Zones</td>
<td>-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Medium Residential Zoning</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Identity Appropriate Module

Module 1: Suitability Analysis
- Low Income Male Population
- Social Services and Crime
- Liquification and Toxic Sites

Module 2: Network Analysis
- Create Pedestrian Minutes Field (pedestrian walking time) in Berkeley Streets file by dividing length of street (Meters) by average walking speed (66 m/min)
- Create Service Areas for Pedestrian Minutes

Final Suitability Map

After all of the opportunities and constraints are added together, a final suitability map is created. Each area is rated from -4 to 6; -4 being the most unsuitable area and 6 being the most suitable area to build a shelter. The areas circled in blue are areas rated 5 or 6 and are best locations to build the H.O.P.E. Project.

Conclusion
Although there are several suitable locations for the H.O.P.E. Project as seen in the final suitability map, I have specifically identified the block on University Avenue between Shattuck Avenue and Mirvits as a potential location. This area includes the parcel with the highest suitability rating of 6 and is centrally located near downtown, public transit stations, and other social services.

Steps for future analysis may include checking the property values of the surrounding area to see which of the Best Locations located on the map are the most cost-effective.

Sources
- Metropolitan Transportation Commission, Bay Area Transit Shapefiles, http://www.mtc.ca.gov/maps_and_data/GIS/data.htm
- City of Berkeley Department of Information Technology, CrimeView Zonation website, http://www.cityofberkeley.info/cvc
- US Census Bureau, 2010 TIGER files
- U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey – B17001 Data on Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Sex by Age