1. Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy

Stratégie intégrée de transition au logement

### Committee Recommendations

#### That Council:

- 1. Approve the Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy to support the single adult community shelter system over the longer-term, and delegate authority to the Director, Housing Services to implement the Strategy in collaboration with community partners.
- Approve the Enhanced Housing Allowance for Singles prototype as outlined in this report, and delegate authority to the Director, Housing Services, to work with community partners to refine the overall program and determine the formula to calculate the benefit offered, to support the transition of shelter and Physical Distancing Centre clients to longterm housing.
- 3. Receive for information purposes the factors and considerations for choosing City recreation and/or community centres to be used as short-term centres opened to respond to emergencies in the Housing and Homelessness Sector, in the future, if required.
- 4. Delegate authority to the General Manager, Community and Social Services to adjust the Strategy outlined in this report provided that adjustments are in keeping with the intention of the Strategy as well as City policies and bylaws, in order to quickly respond to factors beyond staff's control, unforeseen circumstances and opportunities that may arise.
- 5. Approve that any organization that receives funding from the city, or funding administered by the city, for programming to shelter people without homes (as defined by Part 1- Section 54 and applied to Part 5 Section 134 of the Zoning Bylaw) are required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Community and Social Services Department, how their proposal will meet the requirements of the

housing first principles expressed in this report, and assist in the transition to permanent, suitable housing options.

### Recommandations du comité

#### Que le Conseil :

- Approuve la stratégie intégrée de transition au logement afin de soutenir le réseau des refuges communautaires réservés aux adultes seuls à plus long terme, et déléguer au directeur, Services du logement, les pouvoirs de mettre en oeuvre la stratégie en collaboration avec les partenaires communautaire.
- 2. Approuve le prototype d'allocation de logement bonifiée pour les personnes qui vivent seules, comme le décrit le présent rapport, et déléguer au directeur des Services du logement le pouvoir de travailler avec des partenaires communautaires afin de peaufiner l'ensemble du programme et de déterminer la formule visant à calculer l'aide accordée, dans l'objectif d'appuyer la transition des clients des refuges et des centres de distanciation physique vers des logements à long terme.
- 3. Reçoit, à titre informatif, les considérations et critères relatifs à la sélection des centres récréatifs ou communautaires de la Ville qui serviront de refuges à court terme afin de répondre à des situations d'urgence dans le secteur du logement et de la lutte contre l'itinérance au cours des années à venir, au besoin.
- 4. Délégue au directeur général, Services sociaux et communautaires, le pouvoir de modifier la stratégie décrite dans le présent rapport, dans la mesure où ces modifications sont conformes à l'intention de la stratégie, ainsi qu'aux politiques et aux règlements municipaux, afin de composer rapidement avec des facteurs qui sont hors du contrôle du personnel, et de répondre aux circonstances et possibilités imprévues qui pourraient se présenter.
- 5. Approuve que toute organisation recevant des sommes de la Ville ou du financement administré par elle pour des services de refuge aux personnes en situation d'itinérance (au sens de l'article 54 de la

partie 1 et aux termes de l'article 134 de la partie 5 du Règlement de zonage) doit démontrer, à la satisfaction de la directrice générale, Services sociaux et communautaires, que sa proposition respecte les principes du programme Logement d'abord énoncés dans ce rapport, et contribuer à la transition vers des options de logement permanent convenables.

## FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL

The committee also approved the following DIRECTION to staff:

**Direction to Staff** (Councillor R. King)

Regarding the City's Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy, if the option of semi-permanent shelter is being considered, staff be directed to review and identify the exact locations of where any semi-permanent shelters may be erected on city-owned land and inform Committee of these locations.

And if feasible, that this report be included as part of regular updates in the implementation of the Strategy up to and including further refinement of medium to long-term initiatives that will be brought forward in Q2 2024.

#### POUR L'INFORMATION DU CONSEIL MUNICIPAL

Le comité a également approuvé la DIRECTIVE au personnel suivante :

#### **Directive au personnel** (Conseiller R. King)

En ce qui concerne la Stratégie intégrée de transition au logement de la Ville, si l'option des abris semi-permanents est envisagée, que l'on demande aux membres du personnel d'examiner et d'identifier les emplacements précis où des abris semi-permanents peuvent être érigés sur des terrains de la Ville, et d'informer le Comité de ces emplacements.

Si possible, que ce rapport soit inclus dans les mises à jour régulières sur la mise en œuvre de la Stratégie, et ce, jusqu'au peaufinage des initiatives à moyen et à long terme qui seront présentées au cours du deuxième trimestre de 2024.

# Documentation/Documentation

- Extract of the draft Minutes, Community Services Committee, June 27, 2023
   Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Comité des services communautaires, le 27 juin 2023
- 2. General Manager's Report, Community and Social Services, dated June 15, 2023 (ACS2023-CSS-GEN-006)
  - Rapport de la Directrice générale, Services sociaux et communautaires daté le 15 juin 2023 (ACS2023-CSS-GEN-006)

Community Services Committee Report 4 July 12, 2023 Comité des services communautaires Rapport 4 Le 12 juillet 2023

Extract of Draft Minutes 4
Community Services Committee
June 27, 2023

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal 4 Comité des services communautaires Le 27 juin 2023

# Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy

File No. ACS2023-CSS-GEN-006 - City-wide

Clara Freire, General Manager, Community and Social Services, Paul Lavigne, Director, Housing, and Kale Brown, Manager, Homelessness Programs and Shelters, presented an overview of the report recommendations and answered questions from the Committee. A copy of the slide presentation is filed with the Office of the City Clerk.

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Dan Chenier, General Manager, Recreation, Cultural and Facility Services Department, was also in attendance and answered questions.

No correspondence was received on this item. Peter Tilley (Ottawa Mission, speaking notes on file) and Kaite Burkholder Harris (Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa), spoke at Committee on this item.

After discussions, the Committee gave the direction below, and considered the motion and report recommendations as follows:

# **Direction to Staff** (Councillor R. King)

Regarding the City's Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy, if the option of semipermanent shelter is being considered, staff be directed to review and identify the exact locations of where any semi-permanent shelters may be erected on city-owned land and inform Committee of these locations.

And if feasible, that this report be included as part of regular updates in the implementation of the Strategy up to and including further refinement of medium to long-term initiatives that will be brought forward in Q2 2024.

# **Report Recommendations**

# That the Community Services Committee recommend that Council:

1. Approve the Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy to support the single adult community shelter system over the longer-term, and delegate

authority to the Director, Housing Services to implement the Strategy in collaboration with community partners.

- Approve the Enhanced Housing Allowance for Singles prototype as outlined in this report, and delegate authority to the Director, Housing Services, to work with community partners to refine the overall program and determine the formula to calculate the benefit offered, to support the transition of shelter and Physical Distancing Centre clients to long-term housing.
- 3. Receive for information purposes the factors and considerations for choosing City recreation and/or community centres to be used as short-term centres opened to respond to emergencies in the Housing and Homelessness Sector, in the future, if required.
- 4. Delegate authority to the General Manager, Community and Social Services to adjust the Strategy outlined in this report provided that adjustments are in keeping with the intention of the Strategy as well as City policies and bylaws, in order to quickly respond to factors beyond staff's control, unforeseen circumstances and opportunities that may arise.

Carried as amended

Amendment:

Motion No. CSC 2023-04-01

Moved by M. Carr

WHEREAS on page 4 of the Integrated Transition to Housing Strategy Report (ACS2023-CSS-GEN-006), hereafter referred to as the report, as part of its medium term strategies identifies, "... a plan for systems change to support housing objectives for clients experiencing homelessness, ..."; and

WHEREAS the Systems Change to Support Housing Objectives is further elaborated on page 21, "Should additional capacity in the form of a new facility be required in the system over the medium term, the City will work with the community to identify the best operating model or focus to support the broader system, including continuing with the principles of the Housing First Approach adopted in 2015; and

WHEREAS on page 9 of the report, it states that the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan has as its first core goal, "Everyone has a home,.."; and

WHEREAS on page 19 of the report, the goal of the Enhanced Housing Allowance for Singles Prototype is, "to quickly reduce the number of clients needing to be served by the shelter system and enable the phasing out of PDCs," and

WHEREAS Councillor King's Rapid Housing Initiative (RHI) motion was carried at Community Services Committee on Feb 28 and was approved at Council on March 8, 2023; and

WHEREAS the motion prioritized considering permanent housing options over a reliance to use recreational spaces as shelters (PDCs); and

WHEREAS the motion's first resolution states, "that the City explore supportive housing options using the third round of Rapid Housing Initiative by working with non-profits, community organizations, and housing providers for eligible clients housed in shelter or PDCs and report back to Community Services Committee and Council with evidence of these efforts and final projects selected for funding;" and

WHEREAS the government of Ontario through its Community Housing Renewal Strategy and response to COVID-19, has prioritized housing first and supportive housing to address homelessness for vulnerable Ontarians, including streamlining and simplifying The Homelessness Prevention Program's access to provincial housing and homelessness supports; and

WHEREAS Minister Clarke, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, when announcing the investment into the program, stated that these investments were critical "...so our municipal partners can spend more time focusing on providing vulnerable Ontarians with the supports they need to stay in their homes or get the housing they need."; and

WHEREAS the Government of Canada's Homelessness Strategy explicitly states a Housing First Approach, by "... moving people experiencing homelessness — particularly people experiencing chronic homelessness—rapidly from the street or emergency shelters into stable and long-term housing, with supports. The goal is to encourage housing stability and improved quality of life for persons served by Housing First and, to the extent possible, foster self-sufficiency."; and

WHEREAS the city has discretion to provide funding consistent with the housing first principles espoused by all our levels of government;

WHEREAS "Shelter" is defined by Part 1 - Section 54 of the Zoning Bylaw as an establishment providing temporary accommodation to individuals who are in immediate need of emergency accommodation and food, and may include ancillary health care, counselling and social support service;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT any organization that receives funding from the city, or funding administered by the city, for programming to shelter people without homes (as defined by Part 1- Section 54 and applied to Part 5 – Section 134 of the Zoning Bylaw) are required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the General Manager, Community and Social Services Department, how their proposal will meet the requirements of the housing first principles expressed in this report, and assist in the transition to permanent, suitable housing options.

Carried