

<p>2. HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS INVESTMENT PLAN – DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY</p> <p>PLAN D'INVESTISSEMENT POUR LE SECTEUR DU LOGEMENT ET L'ITINÉRANCE – DÉLÉGATION DE POUVOIRS</p>
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COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

That Council approve that the Director, Housing Services, be delegated authority to:

1. Reallocate funding under the two million (\$2M) previously approved for projects under Strategic Initiative No. 40, the Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, from social housing repair to provide operating funding to support 42 chronically homeless women transitioning from emergency shelter into new supportive housing operated by Cornerstone Housing for Women.
2. Execute a contribution agreement with Cornerstone Housing for Women with the reporting requirements as outlined in this report.

RECOMMANDATIONS DU COMITÉ

Que le Conseil approuve la délégation des pouvoirs suivants à la directrice des Services de logement.

1. Réaffecter des fonds puisés à même le budget de deux millions de dollars (2 M\$) approuvé pour divers projets de réparation de logements sociaux dans le cadre de l'initiative stratégique no 40, Plan décennal de logement et de lutte contre l'itinérance, afin de constituer un fonds de fonctionnement pour venir en aide à 42 femmes vivant en itinérance chronique qui vont quitter les refuges d'urgence pour emménager dans de nouveaux logements en milieu de soutien exploité par le service d'hébergement pour femmes Le Pilier.

2. Exécuter un accord de contribution avec Le Pilier conformément aux exigences en matière de rapports énoncées aux présentes

DOCUMENTATION/DOCUMENTATION

1. General Manager's report, Community and Social Services, dated 23 April 2018 (2018-CSS-GEN-0007).

Rapport de la Directrice générale, Services sociaux et communautaires, daté le 23 avril 2018 (2018-CSS-GEN-0007).

2. Extract of draft Minutes, Community and Protective Services Committee, 30 April 2018.

Extrait de l'ébauche du procès-verbal, Comité des services communautaires et de protection, le 30 avril 2018.

**COMMUNITY AND PROTECTIVE
SERVICES COMMITTEE
REPORT 32
9 MAY 2018**

39

**COMITÉ DES SERVICES
COMMUNAUTAIRES ET DE
PROTECTION RAPPORT 32
LE 9 MAI 2018**

**Report to
Rapport au:**

**Community and Protective Services Committee
Comité des services communautaires et de protection
30 April 2018 / 30 avril 2018**

**and Council
et au Conseil
9 May 2018 / 9 mai 2018**

**Submitted on April 23, 2018
Soumis le 23 avril 2018**

**Submitted by
Soumis par:
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Ward: CITY WIDE / À L'ÉCHELLE DE LA VILLE File Number: ACS2018-CSS-GEN-0007

SUBJECT: Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan – Delegation of Authority

**OBJET: Plan d'investissement pour le secteur du logement et l'itinérance –
Délégation de pouvoirs**

REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Community and Protective Services Committee recommend Council approve that the Director, Housing Services, be delegated authority to:

- 1. Reallocate funding under the two million (\$2M) previously approved for projects under Strategic Initiative No. 40, the Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, from social housing repair to provide operating funding to support 42 chronically homeless women transitioning from emergency shelter into new supportive housing operated by Cornerstone Housing for Women.**
- 2. Execute a contribution agreement with Cornerstone Housing for Women with the reporting requirements as outlined in this report.**

RECOMMANDATIONS DU RAPPORT

Que le Comité des services communautaires et de protection recommande au Conseil d'approuver la délégation des pouvoirs suivants à la directrice des Services de logement.

- 1. Réaffecter des fonds puisés à même le budget de deux millions de dollars (2 M\$) approuvé pour divers projets de réparation de logements sociaux dans le cadre de l'initiative stratégique no 40, Plan décennal de logement et de lutte contre l'itinérance, afin de constituer un fonds de fonctionnement pour venir en aide à 42 femmes vivant en itinérance chronique qui vont quitter les refuges d'urgence pour emménager dans de nouveaux logements en milieu de soutien exploité par le service d'hébergement pour femmes Le Pilier.**
- 2. Exécuter un accord de contribution avec Le Pilier conformément aux exigences en matière de rapports énoncées aux présentes.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to request Council approval to re-align \$420 thousand of funding under the \$16 million Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan, previously

earmarked for social housing repairs, to provide operational funding for a new, 42 unit supportive housing project of Cornerstone Housing for Women that will open in the fall of 2018. Investment in both capital and operating funding for supportive housing supports the goals of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (“the Plan”) to reduce chronic homelessness and reduce the length of emergency shelter stay to less than 30 days. This funding will target a high-risk and vulnerable group of women who are experiencing homelessness and require an environment with on-site supports to have successful tenancies.

BACKGROUND

On September 25, 2013, City Council approved our 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan (“the Plan”) entitled: A Home for Everyone - Our Ten Year Plan, 2014-2024 ([ACS2013-COS-CSS-009](#)). A key priority and commitment of the Plan is to ensure that people have access to the right types of housing and supports, suitable to their needs, at various stages in their life.

A key 2011 initiative of the Mayor and Council was a \$14 million Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan that was increased by an additional \$2 million in 2015. As a result, Council approved staff recommendations via Report [#ACS2015-COS-CSS-0017](#) to allocate a portion of this new funding to support the operations of three new supportive housing projects (124 units) that would come on line over 2015 to 2018 and included the John Howard Society (34 units), Ottawa Salus (42 units) and Montfort Renaissance (48 units).

In that same report, staff recommended that any remaining funding be allocated for social housing repairs consistent with Envelope #6 of Document 1 of the Housing and Poverty Reduction Investment Plan report [ASC2011-COS-CSS-0005](#) approved by Council on May 11, 2011. For 2018, the balance of funding available from the \$2 million is approximately \$420 thousand.

Realigning this funding to support the ongoing operations of Cornerstone Housing for Women’s new, 42-unit supportive housing project for women exiting homelessness, will create momentum in achieving the City’s goals in eliminating chronic homelessness by 2024.

DISCUSSION

Recommendation 1:

Reallocate funding under the two million (\$2M) previously approved for projects under Strategic Initiative No. 40, the Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan from social housing repair to provide operating funding to support 42 chronically homeless women transitioning from emergency shelter into new supportive housing to be operated by Cornerstone Housing for Women.

A key commitment under the Plan is to eliminate chronic homelessness by 2024 and return emergency shelters to their true intent, stays of less than 30-days. Chronic homelessness is defined as people who are currently homeless and have been homeless for six months or more in the past year.

Transitioning the longest stay clients with the highest needs from emergency shelters into housing with supports decreases the overall length of shelter stay across all client groups, and in turn, the related shelter costs. Local research shows that 12% of the longest stay clients require 52% of the emergency shelter resources as they are staying for longer periods, which is more costly than providing stable housing with supports. Prioritizing these individuals for housing frees up funding that can be re-aligned to both prevention and support services.

As people experiencing chronic homelessness transition from emergency shelters into housing of their choice, it is imperative they are able to access the supports they need to achieve housing stability, long-term housing retention and improve their quality of life. Key to achieving this are investments in Housing First programming.

Since April of 2015, 619 single adults/youth experiencing homelessness have been housed through the Housing First program as follows:

- 317/619 (51%) moved into private market housing
- 176/619 (28%) moved into supportive housing
- 126/619 (21%) moved into social housing

To date, the City has housed 72% of our Housing First program participants in independent housing (both private market and social housing). The City has also made

significant capital and operating investments in new supportive housing. There is a small percentage of Housing First program participants (approximately 10-15%) that will not be successful living independently even with ongoing mobile supports, and will require a living environment with onsite supports.

The City is committed to increasing supportive housing options for this segment of the population experiencing homelessness, where choice and people's needs dictate. To date, 291 supportive housing units have been approved, with 160 completed and the balance in various stages of development.

In 2017, due to ongoing investments in Housing First and new supportive housing, the City saw the first reduction in chronic homelessness since the Plan started, a 10.8% decrease in chronic homelessness amongst single men with a corresponding reduction in their length of stay by 0.7%. In 2017, while the number of women experiencing episodic homelessness decreased (defined as having three or more episodes of homelessness in the past year), 97 women were identified as experiencing chronic homelessness, a 6.6% increase from 2016.

The City continues to strategically deploy its resources to transition long stay shelter clients with moderate and high needs to stable housing with the necessary supports. Through a Request for Proposal (RPF) process, Cornerstone Housing for Women was the successful proponent to build a 42 unit supportive housing project for women with funding from the federal/provincial Investment in Affordable Housing in Ontario Program (\$5.3 million) and the City of Ottawa (\$600 thousand). Once this project is ready for occupancy in the fall of 2018, operating funding will be required for staffing and program expenses to support the 42 chronically homeless women who will make this building their home.

The City recognizes that ensuring our social and affordable housing stock is in a good state of repair is also a key deliverable of our Ten Year Plan. Since the Plan's inception, considerable new investments have been made toward repairs to social housing:

- \$75.4 million from federal/provincial investments in addition to \$9 million in municipal funding from the Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan.

- \$3.1 million annually beginning in 2014 by exempting Ottawa Community Housing from municipal property taxes in addition to \$110 million in mortgage refinancing (2014 to 2018) to free up funding for repairs.

Ottawa will continue to invest \$2.3 million annually under the original \$14 million Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan earmarked for social housing repair.

With this recommendation, the City is confident that realigning this \$420 thousand will have positive long-term impacts, for women experiencing chronic homelessness, by providing long term housing to help them stabilize and improve their quality of life.

Recommendation 2:

Execute a contribution agreement with Cornerstone Housing for Women with the reporting requirements as outlined in this report.

The reporting requirements for the contribution agreements that the City will enter into with Cornerstone Housing for Women to provide housing supports shall include ongoing quarterly financial reporting, including annual audited financial statements, in addition to quarterly statistical reporting that captures the following:

Housing Loss Prevention Services – Supporting Households at Risk of Housing Loss

- Number of Households served at risk of homelessness (counted once per year)
- Number of Households living in long-term housing that are at risk of homelessness supported in finding alternative long-term housing
- Number of supports or services provided to contribute to positive housing outcomes (one service per day per household)

Other statistics:

- Percentage of clients involved in educational upgrading, volunteering and/or employment (count as occurs)
- Number of clients discharged into non Cornerstone owned permanent housing with or without supports – (count as occurs)
- Number of clients discharged into homelessness

- Number of clients reporting increased economic and social well-being (including changes in income, education, socialization, recreation and cultural activities) per annum - (count as occurs)
- Percentage of clients engaged in the program who indicate achieving one or more self-identified goals
- Number of attendees at group programming – (count as occurs)
- Number of group activities held

RURAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no rural implications to the implementation of the report recommendations.

CONSULTATION

Since 2010, the Housing Services Branch has worked with the Housing System Working Group (HSWG) on the development and implementation of the Ten Year Plan. The HSWG membership includes representatives from a broad range of sectors including: social housing (non-profit and co-ops), shelters, housing and homelessness supports and prevention, supportive housing, the Champlain Local Health Integration Network, the Community Health and Resource Centres, the Royal Ottawa Health Care Group and the Eastern Ontario Landlord Organization. The HSWG was consulted on the proposed re-alignment of this funding under the Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan.

COMMENTS BY THE WARD COUNCILLOR(S)

N/A

ADVISORY COMMITTEE(S) COMMENTS

No Advisory Committees were consulted as part of the development of this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no legal impediments to adopting the recommendations in this report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

ASSET MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with the report recommendations.

ACCESSIBILITY IMPACTS

All affordable/supportive housing projects approved under the City's Action Ottawa program, pursuant to the Investment in Affordable Housing for Ontario and Social Infrastructure Funding programs include mandatory accessibility design criteria in addition to providing a minimum number of barrier-free dwelling units (10%). New construction, whenever possible, will also include Visitability Standards as recommended by the City's Accessibility Advisory Committee to create more accessible and welcoming homes for anyone living with a disability.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

TECHNOLOGY IMPLICATIONS

There are no technology implications associated with this report.

TERM OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES

The recommendations in this report are aligned with the 2015-2018 Term of Council Strategic Plan and address Strategic Initiative #40, The Ten Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, under the Strategic Priority of Healthy and Caring Communities. Specifically, Strategic Objective HC3: create new affordable housing options; ensuring access to, and availability of, a range of housing options to meet the needs of our vulnerable residents for today and tomorrow.

The recommendations in the report also support the following strategic priorities including:

- Sustainable Environmental Services
- Governance, Planning and Decision making
- Financial Sustainability

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

N/A

DISPOSITION

Upon receiving Council approval for the recommendations contained in this report to re-allocate \$420 thousand of funding under the Housing and Homelessness Investment Plan, the City will enter into a contribution agreement with Cornerstone Housing for Women to provide ongoing operational funding for their new, 42 unit supportive housing project on Princeton Ave.