



**City of Kingston**  
**Information Report to Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee**  
**Report Number HHC-24-006**

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**To:** Chair and Members of the Housing & Homelessness Advisory Committee

**From:** Jennifer Campbell, Commissioner, Community Services

**Resource Staff:** Ruth Noordegraaf, Director, Housing & Social Services

**Date of Meeting:** February 8, 2024

**Subject:** Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee – Input Request for 2024/2025 Work Items

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**Council Strategic Plan Alignment:**

Theme: 1. Support Housing Affordability

Goal: See above

**Executive Summary:**

Each year, Housing & Social Services staff bring a recommendation report to the committee in April with pre-determined work items to be included in the committee’s annual work plan.

To provide a better opportunity for committee members to be part of work plan discussions, this year City staff are bringing forward Report Number HHC-24-006 to seek input from committee members on work-related items that should be considered as part of the 2024/2025 committee work plan which will be tabled for recommendation at the committee’s April 2024 meeting.

**Recommendation:**

This report is for information only.

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**Authorizing Signatures:**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER

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**Jennifer Campbell,  
Commissioner, Community  
Services**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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**Lanie Hurdle, Chief  
Administrative Officer**

**Consultation with the following Members of the Corporate Management Team:**

Paige Agnew, Commissioner, Growth & Development Services	Not required
Neil Carbone, Commissioner, Corporate Services	Not required
David Fell, President & CEO, Utilities Kingston	Not required
Peter Huigenbos, Commissioner, Major Projects & Strategic Initiatives	Not required
Brad Joyce, Commissioner, Infrastructure, Transportation & Emergency Services	Not required
Desirée Kennedy, Chief Financial Officer & City Treasurer	Not required

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**Options/Discussion:**

**Background**

The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC) provides City Council advice regarding policies, directives and strategies related to housing and homelessness. To assist HHAC members in their understanding of work-related activities, staff bring forward a work plan with proposed work items.

To ensure that the feedback of HHAC members is included in the 2024/2025 work plan, staff are bringing forward this report to allow members the option to provide input. It will also allow for discussion on [Kingston's Strategic Plan 2023-2026](#) ('the Plan') to ensure alignment with housing-related items identified within the five core pillars of the Plan. The Plan's [webpage](#) allows members of the public to view real-time tracking of the progress on each of the five pillars of the Plan.

Below is a list of some key initiatives identified under the first pillar of the Plan (Support Housing Affordability) that staff anticipate will be good items to receive committee advice and feedback on during the 2024/2025 committee meetings.

Staff also included Council priorities in pillars two, four and five that have an impact on housing which can foster cross-sector collaboration between City departments and community partners.

**1.1 Promote increased supply and affordability of housing**

1.1.1 Seek opportunities to foster innovative approaches to housing

- Establish a Hack-A-House in partnership with institutions, developers, not-for-profit and public using Mayor's Innovation Challenge model

**1.2 Promote an increase in purpose-built rental housing**

**1.3 Increase supply of new-build not-for-profit and co-op housing and ensure sustainability and quality of existing stock**

1.3.2 Invest in affordable and supportive housing

- Review rental assistance and rent supplement programs to support low-income workers

**1.4 Improve service to unhoused and precariously housed**

1.4.1 Conduct an annual update and implement Homelessness System Review Recommendations

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**2.2 Support climate action and sustainability for residents, businesses and partners**

2.2.3 Continue the City’s home retrofit program (Better Homes Kingston)

- Expand the Better Homes Kingston program to multi-residential buildings, institutionally owned residential dwellings and affordable housing units

**4.1 Enhance community safety and well-being**

4.1.1 Lead the implementation of the Community Safety and Well-being Plan

- Review and expand the Discretionary Residency Benefits and Homelessness Prevention Funding including rent and utilities supports

**5.7 Foster culture, history, education, arts and recreation (CHEAR)**

5.7.3 Explore opportunities to develop live-work spaces for artistic professionals

- Explore opportunities through affordable housing programs for subsidized live-work spaces for the creative sector, including consideration for underutilized City sites and land

During the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff welcome input from the committee for consideration in the finalization of the HHAC 2024/2025 work plan.

**Existing Policy/By-Law:**

None

**Notice Provisions:**

None

**Financial Considerations:**

None

**Contacts:**

Ruth Noordegraaf, Director, Housing & Social Services, 613-546-2695 extension 4916

**Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:**

Mitchell Grange, Policy Manager, Housing & Social Services

**Exhibits Attached:**

None