



City of Kingston
Report to Housing & Homelessness Advisory Committee
Report Number HHC-24-008

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: April 11, 2024

Subject: 2024 Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan

Council Strategic Plan Alignment:

Theme: Corporate business

Goal: See above

Executive Summary:

This report provides a summary of the 2024 Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan. A copy of the Work Plan is attached to this report as Exhibit A.

Recommendation:

That the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee recommends to Council:

That the 2024 Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan, attached as Exhibit A to Report Number HHC-24-008, be approved.

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Authorizing Signatures:

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER

**Jennifer Campbell,
Commissioner, Community
Services**

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**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:

The Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC) provides City Council advice regarding policies, directives, and strategies related to housing and homelessness within the City of Kingston. To assist HHAC member's in anticipating the scheduled work that will come before the Committee throughout 2024 Housing & Social Services staff have brought together a Committee work plan (Exhibit A) based on past discussion and feedback from Committee. It should be noted that the work plan focuses on new initiatives alongside of updates to work that is ongoing on initiatives requiring input from Committee members. Housing and Social Services staff oversee a variety of regular projects and programs that are not included in the work plan, however, a broader overview of the work completed in the housing and homelessness areas is available in the department's annual report.

To provide a better opportunity for Committee members to be part of the work plan discussions, Staff previously brought forward [Report Number HHC-24-006](#) on February 8, 2024 to seek input from Committee members on work-related items that should be considered as part of the 2024 work plan. The discussions coming out of the meeting on February 8th have been captured within the proposed work plan presented as Exhibit A of this report.

The following items previously proposed by the Committee have been included in the 2024 HHAC work plan:

- Housing & Homelessness Programs Standing Reports - each meeting the Committee will be presented with a standing report providing key statistics and updates regarding ongoing projects and initiatives.
- Housing & Social Services Annual Report - each year the Housing & Social Services Department provides an annual report highlighting available programs and achievements from the past year. The Committee will receive the 2023 Housing & Social Services Report in June.
- End of Operating Agreements/End of Mortgages (EOA/EOM) - with recent regulatory changes, Service Agreements & Exit Agreements at EOA/EOM have been prescribed with mandatory requirements as of July 1, 2022. Staff have been working on developing a strategy to be used with housing providers nearing their EOA/EOM to ensure an optimal outcome for the overall social housing portfolio and will report back to the Committee with a framework in June.
- Better Homes Kingston Program - As identified under section 2.2.3 of the City of Kingston's Strategic Plan 2023-2026, City staff will be evaluating and reporting on the potential to extend the Better Homes Kingston Program beyond the initial four years. Staff will bring a report forward to the Committee in June for feedback.

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- Service Provider Updates – at the February 8, 2024 Committee meeting, City staff received feedback about the importance of bringing service providers to a meeting to provide the group (and community) with updates to their programming and trends within the sector. The Committee will receive a report accompanied by service provider presentations in August.
- Rent Assistance and Rent Supplement Review – as identified under section 1.3.2 of the City of Kingston’s Strategic Plan 2023-2026, City staff will be conducting a review of the rent assistance and rent supplement programs to support low-income workers and will report back to the Committee in October.
- Affordable Live/Work Spaces for Artists - as identified under section 5.7.3 of the City of Kingston’s Strategic Plan 2023-2026, City staff will be exploring opportunities through affordable housing programs for subsidized live-work spaces for the creative sector, including consideration for underutilized City sites and land. Staff will bring forward a report to Committee for input on this initiative at the October meeting.
- 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Update - under the *Housing Services Act, 2011 (HSA)*, Service Managers are required to review their local housing and homelessness plans at least once every five years. Additionally, the local plans must extend for a period of at least 10 years after the review. As Service Managers last reviewed and approved their local plans in December 2019, it is expected that Service Managers will commence the review of their local plans in 2024 to meet the requirements under the HSA. The Ministry is requesting that Service Managers not complete the review of their local plans until they receive further communication from the Ministry. Staff will bring an update report to Committee on these plans in October.
- Homelessness System Update - to support the implementation of the 10-Year Municipal Housing and Homelessness Plan and to ensure the homelessness services system is responsive to current needs, a review of the City-funded homelessness services was initiated in the fall of 2020 and throughout 2021 culminating in a Homelessness System Review Action Plan consisting of a series of recommendations to help enhance the sector. An information report will be brought to Committee in December providing an update on the current state of the Action Plan.

This report also proposes the 2024 meeting schedule for the remainder of the Committee's 2024 meeting year, which can be found below:

- Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, August 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, October 10, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.
- Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

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Contacts:

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Amy Gibson, Manager, Housing and Homelessness, 613-546-2695 extension 4804

Other City of Kingston Staff Consulted:

Mitchell Grange, Policy Manager, Housing & Social Services

Exhibits Attached:

Exhibit A – 2024 Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan

| Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee Work Plan Schedule 2024 | |
|--|-------------------|
| Initiative | Timeline |
| Housing and Homelessness Programs Standing Report | Each meeting |
| Housing and Homelessness Annual Report Card - 2023 | June 13, 2024 |
| End of Operating Agreements/End of Mortgages | June 13, 2024 |
| Better Homes Kingston Program | June 13, 2024 |
| Community Partner Updates | August 15, 2024 |
| Affordable Life/Work Spaces for Artists | October 10, 2024 |
| Rent Assistance and Rent Supplement Program Review | October 10, 2024 |
| 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Update | October 10, 2024 |
| Homelessness System Review Update | December 12, 2024 |