Hamilton’s Housing & Homelessness Action Plan

Everyone has a home…home is the foundation.

Presentation to Emergency and Community Services – Dec 9, 2013
Why Hamilton Needs an Action Plan

• 3,287 men, women and children stayed in a shelter in 2012
• 1 in 5 renter households pay more than 50% of their income on housing
• More than 20% of households can barely afford a bachelor rental unit
Why Hamilton Needs an Action Plan

Without action on housing insecurity and homelessness:

• People struggle to participate in community life
• Public costs increase
• Neighbourhoods are negatively impacted
• Housing infrastructure deteriorates
Why Hamilton Needs an Action Plan

Housing creates opportunities:
• Housing and health strongly linked
• Hamilton’s transformation: land and housing will never be as inexpensive as they are now
• Housing = Economic development
  – people will be employment ready
  – A magnet for skilled workers
  – New housing creates jobs
The Action Plan is...

- Bold and ambitious
- Building on our assets and existing work
- A shared responsibility between all three levels of government, the private sector and the community
- Evidence-based
- Built through community partnerships
The Action Plan is...

- A 10-year roadmap to ensure that everyone has a home
- Action-oriented and solution focused
- Person-centred
- A guide for decision making and funding
- A Provincial Requirement
The Action Plan is...

- A **strategic** document:
  - A vision, 7 Core Values, 5 Outcome Areas, 54 Strategies

- An **Implementation** plan:
  - 20 Critical Investment Strategies
  - Targets
  - Work plans: stakeholders, resources/costs, timing, equity
  - Monitoring and reporting
Action Plan – The Costs

• Many strategies do not require large investment
• Annual investments to meet annual targets:
  – $30M to build 300 affordable units
  – $2.5M to fund 210 housing allowances
  – $7M to rehabilitate 350 units
  – $3.2M to improve the quality of social housing
Government Investments in Housing and Homelessness – 2013 Budget

- Overall funding in Hamilton: **$96 Million**

- The levy contributed ½ of revenue sources despite more limited tax capacity than senior governments
The Plan supports Council’s advocacy efforts:

• **Strategy 1.1** supports the FCM call for a National Housing Strategy with adequate and sustained funding

• **Strategies 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4** seeks better coordination of Provincial ministries’ initiatives

• Relationship building with Federal/Provincial governments at the political and the senior Ministry staff level
Getting Started – In 2014

• Use existing resources only
• Implement Government Relations Work
• Financial Strategy in 2015 after Federal and Provincial investments known
Getting Started – Work Underway

• New rental projects (Strategy 1.2)
  – Homestead Christian Care (47 units)
  – Halam Park redevelopment (8 units)

• Bed Bug Remediation Strategy (Strategy 4.5)

• Building Condition Assessments and Social Housing Infrastructure Repairs (Strategy 4.10)

• Eviction Prevention (Strategy 3.7)
Getting Started – New Work in 2014

• Informing the new zoning by-law (Strategy 1.6)
• Promote existing incentive programs for new housing (Strategy 1.2)
• Develop a person-centred engagement model for housing services (Strategy 5.9)
## Action Plan - Timeline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 2012</td>
<td>Council Endorsed the strategic components of the Action Plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2013</td>
<td>Present Full Plan to ECS/Council for endorsement</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 2014</td>
<td>Implementation begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annually</td>
<td>Annual Progress Reports</td>
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<td>2019</td>
<td>Five Year Progress Report/Evaluation</td>
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<td>2024</td>
<td>Ten Year Progress Report/Evaluation</td>
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An Action Plan that Works

Successful implementation will benefit people, our neighbourhoods and the entire City.

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