

## Request for Decision

### The City of Greater Sudbury Housing & Homelessness Plan Update - 2019 to 2023

Presented To: Community Services Committee

Presented: Monday, Nov 18, 2019

Report Date Friday, Nov 01, 2019

Type: Managers' Reports

#### Resolution

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury approves the Housing and Homelessness Five (5) Year Updated Plan as a guiding document for business planning and budgeting, as outlined in the report entitled "The City of Greater Sudbury Housing & Homelessness Plan Update - 2019 to 2023", from the General Manager of Community Development, presented at the Community Services Committee meeting on November 18, 2019.

#### Relationship to the Strategic Plan / Health Impact Assessment

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan in the areas of Housing, to Create a Healthier Community and to Strengthen Community Vibrancy as it aligns with the Population Health Priorities of Indigenous Youth, Resiliency, Families, Mental Health, Compassionate City, Housing, Holistic Health and Age Friendly Strategy and Healthy Streets. The City of Greater Sudbury Housing and Homelessness Plan Update - 2019-2023 (the Plan) will provide an opportunity to pursue housing initiatives by working with community partners to assist the vulnerable population in Greater Sudbury.

#### Report Summary

In 2012 the Housing Services Act, 2011 (HSA) provided direction for municipalities to develop a ten (10) year Plan to be in place by January 2014. The HSA requires municipalities to perform a five (5) year review of Plans. This report brings forward the updated Plan with the seven (7) following priorities:

1. There is a need to improve housing options across the housing continuum;
2. There is a need to improve housing access and affordability for low income households;
3. There is a need to strengthen approaches to preventing homelessness, increase the

#### Signed By

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**Health Impact Review**

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**Manager Review**

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**Division Review**

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**Financial Implications**

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**Recommended by the Department**

Steve Jacques  
General Manager of Community Development  
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**Recommended by the C.A.O.**

Ed Archer  
Chief Administrative Officer  
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diversity of emergency shelter options and support individuals with multiple barriers in obtaining and maintaining their housing; 4. There is need for additional supportive services coupled with permanent housing (both supportive housing and supports in private homes); 5. There is a need to improve co-ordination, collaboration and partnerships among a broad range of stakeholders; 6. There is a need to monitor and report on progress towards meeting the Housing and Homelessness Plan objectives and targets; and 7. There is a need for an Indigenous Housing and Homelessness Strategy in the community. These priorities will guide social housing in the community for the next five (5) years.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications associated with this report as costs associated with achieving the priorities are included in base operating budgets.

## **Executive Summary**

This report outlines the review undertaken to update The City of Greater Sudbury Housing and Homelessness Plan (the Plan), which was approved by the Community Services Committee in 2013. The updated document (Appendix A – The City of Greater Sudbury Housing and Homelessness Plan Update – 2019-2023), identifies seven (7) priority areas, objectives, outcomes and measures that will be used as the framework to house the most vulnerable in our community.

## **What's New in the Revised Policy Statement**

As per the Ministry guidelines, the following revised policy statements are reflected in the updated Plan (Appendix B - Checklist for Content in Housing & Homelessness Plans):

- aligns with the 2016 Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy;
- recognizes the fundamental role of land use planning;
- reflects provincial goals to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness and increase the number of people experiencing housing stability, including the long-term goal of ending homelessness, and the specific goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2025;
- links the Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy updated vision and long-term goal of ending homelessness in Ontario;
- develops a housing strategy to engage with Indigenous organizations and communities;
- highlights how the Plan is an important tool to support poverty reduction;
- emphasizes the need for strong partnerships and collaboration across sectors and improving client access to services across service Systems, including a move to human services integration; and
- the Plan focuses on client-centred, coordinated access to housing and homelessness services.

## **Greater Sudbury Process and Outcome**

The original Plan was adopted at the November 18, 2013 Community Services meeting, details as to the history of the Plan and how it has evolved are outlined in Appendix C – Background The City of Greater Sudbury Housing and Homelessness Plan Update – 2019-2023. Housing Services in collaboration with Planning Services, Social Services, Corporate Communications and NBL Consulting worked to update the Plan by

engaging community partners, citizens and key stakeholders while adhering to Ministry guidelines. Working together with Planning Services and Social Services incorporates these Divisions' current legislation, policies, regulations and studies into the Plan while ensuring that the City is addressing the criteria established by the Ministry.

NBL Consulting was contracted to update the Plan as they have recently developed the City's Social Housing Portfolio Revitalization Plan, ensuring that both documents work in tandem.

The original Plan highlighted six (6) priority areas. In consultation with key stakeholders, citizens and City Departments the revised Plan is updated to reflect the housing needs of the community. The Plan now consists of seven (7) priority areas with updated objectives, outcomes and measures:

1. There is a need to improve housing options across the housing continuum;
2. There is a need to improve housing access and affordability for low income households;
3. There is a need to strengthen approaches to preventing homelessness, increase the diversity of emergency shelter options and support individuals with multiple barriers in obtaining and maintaining their housing,;
4. There is need for additional supportive services coupled with permanent housing (both supportive housing and supports in private homes);
5. There is a need to improve co-ordination, collaboration and partnerships among a broad range of stakeholders;
6. There is a need to monitor and report on progress towards meeting the Housing and Homelessness Plan objectives and targets; and
7. There is a need for an Indigenous Housing and Homelessness Strategy in the community.

As part of the review process, Service Managers are required to provide a written report of their review to the Ministry to summarize major changes made to the Plan (e.g. changes driven by the update to the policy statement, shifts in local priorities, etc.). Service Managers must submit their review report and revised Plan to the Ministry by the end of December 2019.

## **Next Steps**

Upon Council approval of the Plan, the document will be sent to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing for final approval. Yearly updates regarding the Plan will be brought forward to Community Services in Q2 of each year for the next four (4) years.

## References

Community Services Committee, November 18, 2013 – Housing and Homelessness Plan  
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&agenda=report&itemid=3&id=674>

Ministry of Housing, Housing Policy Branch, April 2018 - Five-Year Review of Housing and Homelessness Plans  
[https://www.msdsb.net/images/ADMIN/correspondence/2018/Five\\_Year\\_Review\\_of\\_Housing\\_and\\_Homelessness\\_Plans\\_A\\_Guide\\_for\\_Ontario.pdf](https://www.msdsb.net/images/ADMIN/correspondence/2018/Five_Year_Review_of_Housing_and_Homelessness_Plans_A_Guide_for_Ontario.pdf)

Ministry of Housing Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy -  
<http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=8590>

Service Manager Housing and Homelessness Plans -  
<http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/AssetFactory.aspx?did=15090>

Community Services Committee, April 15, 2019 – Social Housing Portfolio Revitalization Update  
<https://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=feed&action=file&agenda=report&itemid=5&id=1352>