

Toronto Housing & Homelessness Services Planning Forum

Housing Secretariat Updates



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December 2020 Council Report

COVID-19 Housing and Homelessness Recovery Response Plan - Update

Re-cap of the City's COVID-19 Housing and Homelessness Recovery Response Plan (“24-Month Plan”)

- Approved by City Council in October, 2020.
- This 24-Month Plan urges the federal and provincial governments to fast-track investments to urgently create 3,000 permanent affordable housing opportunities, 2,000 of which are intended to provide supportive housing.
- The estimated operating cost to provide supports for **2,000 residents is \$48 million annually** (and ongoing).
 - The operating costs is comprised of rent subsidies and wraparound health and social supports that are necessary to help secure and maintain stable housing.

Summary of the 24-Month Plan

What the City of Toronto wants to accomplish

Create **3,000** permanent housing opportunities (2,000 of which are intended to be supportive housing) through:



1,000 permanent modular homes



1,000 new units through acquisitions and renovations

1,000 new portable (and flexible) Canada-Ontario Housing Benefits (COHB)



Update on the 24-Month Plan

- On December 18, 2020, City Council approved a staff report which provided an update on the 24-Month Plan.
- The report outlines a plan for the City to accelerate:
 - **150** new supportive housing opportunities within **8 to 10 weeks**; and
 - **510** housing opportunities within **10 to 12 weeks**, *subject to the availability of funding for supportive services*
- A further 588 additional supportive housing units can be made ready for occupancy later in 2021, subject to securing funding for supportive services.
- In total, a minimum of 1,248 supportive housing could be delivered in 2021, however, funding for support services for 1,098 of these units would need to be secured.

Update on the 24-Month Plan (cont'd)

The new housing opportunities are proposed to be delivered through a combination of:

- vacant Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) units located across the portfolio; AND
- new acquisitions and renovations, including new homes coming online through the federal Rapid Housing Initiative

Summary of New Housing Opportunities to be Delivered in 2021

Program/Initiative	No. of New Homes Planned to be Delivered in 2021	Anticipated Occupancy	Operating Funding Secured (housing benefits + support services)
8-10 week plan – TCHC units (150)	150	January - March	Yes
10 – 12 week plan – Acquisitions, renovations/conversions, TCHC units (300) and RHI units (127 units)	510	January – March <i>(subject to available operating funding)</i>	No <i>(\$12.24 million annually needed)</i>
Modular Housing Phase Two (already approved by Council)	150	September <i>(subject to available operating funding)</i>	No <i>(\$3.6 million annually needed)</i>
RHI (additional units) (already approved by Council)	438	December <i>(subject to available operating funding)</i>	No <i>(\$10.51 million annually needed)</i>
*Total	1,248 homes		

Scaling Up Affordable and Supportive Housing – City, Provincial and Federal Actions and Tools Required

- 1) Enhanced Non-Profit Capacity to Operationalize and Manage New Affordable and Supportive Housing
- 2) Enhanced Staff Capacity to Operationalize and Manage New Affordable and Supportive Housing
- 3) Operating Funding to Create New Supportive Housing
- 4) Immediate Expansion of the Canada-Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB)
- 5) Integrated Service Model and Enhanced Funding for Health and Community Partners
- 6) Expansion of the Federal Rapid Housing Initiative
- 7) Making Federal and Provincial Surplus Lands Available for Housing
- 8) Expropriations

TAEH's Assistance in Implementing the 24-Month Plan

Relevant Report Recommendations

2. City Council request the City Manager to establish a **Housing and Homelessness Action Table** with representation from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, Ministry of Health and Long-term Care, Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services, Ministry of Children and Youth Services, Health Quality Ontario, Ontario Health Toronto Region, Toronto Central Local Health Integration Network, The Access Point, the United Way, the University Health Network, Parkdale Queen West Community Health Centre and the **Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness** for the purpose of developing a comprehensive plan and aligned funding approach, to help people experiencing homelessness access and maintain housing and supports.

13. City Council authorize the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat and the General Manager, Shelter, Support and Housing Administration to work with **the Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness and Indigenous partners to engage the non-profit sector and select suitable operators, subject to operating funding**, to operate the all new affordable homes prior to occupancy, through a non-competitive process for an initial two-year term (prioritizing those with operating funding and extensive supportive housing management experience), and subsequently conduct a competitive process to select operators for longer term operation of the properties.

2020 Completed Projects

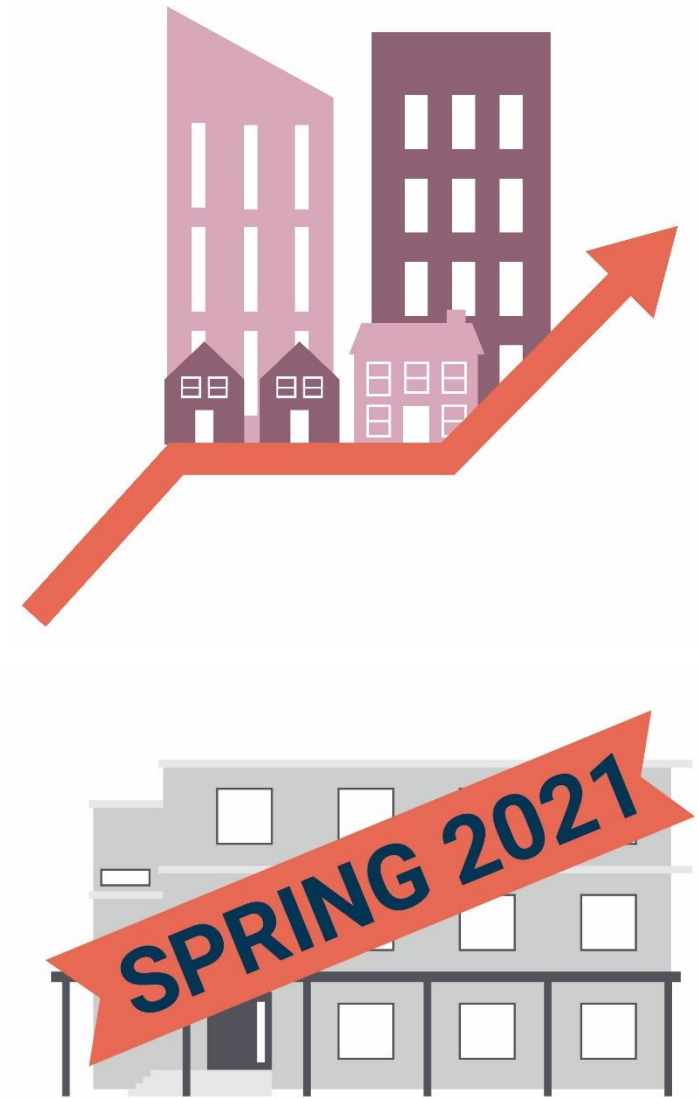
- Between March and December, almost 778 new permanent affordable housing opportunities were created for people experiencing homelessness through various initiatives as outlined below:

Program/Initiative	No. of Housing Opportunities Delivered in 2020	Construction Completion and/or Occupancy
Modular Housing - Phase One	100	December - early January 2021
Open Door Program	353	July - December
Toronto Community Housing (SSHA's Rapid Re-housing Program)	325 (450 people)	April – December
Total	778 homes	

- These housing opportunities are *in* addition to the 3,000 affordable and supportive homes proposed under the 24-month Plan.

What Success Looks Like over next 24 Months

- 3,000 permanent housing opportunities, including 2,000 supportive housing opportunities, created to transition people experiencing chronic homelessness into permanent housing.
- Improved health, housing and social-economic outcomes for vulnerable and marginalized residents.
- Reduced population health risks related to the pandemic by moving people indoors and into safe and adequate housing.
- Reduced cost for the public sector by \$60 - \$180 million per by moving people out of shelters and into permanent housing.
- Additional cost savings to the public sector through reduced use of hospitals and justice system.
- Increased employment opportunities helping to boost economic recovery through investments in affordable housing (including jobs related to new construction and retrofits).



What Success Looks Like by 2030

- HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan fully funded with support from all three orders of government.
- Over 340,000 households in good quality, stable, affordable and accessible homes, including:
 - Chronic homelessness eliminated
 - Seniors able to “age in place” in adequate homes with supports
 - Over 5,000 housing opportunities created for Indigenous Peoples
 - More housing opportunities for Black and people of colour
 - Neighbourhoods revitalized with a range of housing opportunities across the city
 - Renters in core housing need supported and able to achieve housing stability
- Improved health, social and economic outcomes for Toronto residents through safe, secure, affordable housing.



Thank You

Questions can be directed to valesa.faria@toronto.ca