
MEMORANDUM**COM-C 35-2021**

Subject: Activities related to Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan for September, October, November 2021

Date: December 7, 2021

To: Public Health & Social Services Committee

From: Adrienne Jugley, Commissioner, Community Services

Further to Council's direction in October 2019 (COM 40-2019), staff continue to provide regular updates about activities, local targets, outcomes and challenges related to Niagara's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan (HHAP), as new information is available.

- Seasonal shelters opened November 1, with 40 beds at Westminster Church in St Catharines and 25 beds at St. Andrews Church in Niagara Falls. These will operate in addition to 186 units of emergency shelter which operate year round. The COVID-19 isolation shelter will also operate throughout the winter. An overflow shelter line, accessible through 211, is available to address shelter needs when shelters are full.
- New Housing Development Highlights:
 1. Hawkins Avenue Niagara Falls, 73 affordable units (NRH) – Construction 85% complete and on track for occupancy January 2022.
 2. Victoria Avenue Niagara Falls, 15 bridge housing units and potential for 10 recuperative care beds – Permits submitted July 15, 2021, targeted completion for December 2021/January 2022.
 3. Buchanan Avenue Niagara Falls, 25 permanent supportive housing units – Design Bid RFP awarded, design & permit submitted. Target project completion December 31, 2021.
 4. Rapid Housing Initiative (City Stream) – Federal government has awarded \$10.5 million for the construction of 42 affordable units in Welland by the fall 2022. Contract for Design-Build Contractor to be awarded by end of November 2021.
 5. Rapid Housing Initiative (Project Stream) – Application was submitted for Round 2 Project Stream funding to support a 3-storey, 18-unit apartment. Funding decision anticipated December 2021.

6. Social Services Relief Funding 4 – The investment plan has been approved allowing for the Region to commence work to support the development of an estimated 20 bed bridge housing project.

Respectfully submitted and signed by

Adrienne Jugley, MSW, RSW, CHE