

Agenda Including Addeds

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

21st Meeting of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

August 16, 2023

4:00 PM

Council Chambers - Please check the City website for additional meeting detail information. Meetings can be viewed via live-streaming on YouTube and the City Website.

The City of London is situated on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabek (AUh-nish-in-ah-bek), Haudenosaunee (Ho-den-no-show-nee), Lūnaapéewak (Len-ah-pay-wuk) and Attawandaron (Add-a-won-da-run).

We honour and respect the history, languages and culture of the diverse Indigenous people who call this territory home. The City of London is currently home to many First Nations, Métis and Inuit today.

As representatives of the people of the City of London, we are grateful to have the opportunity to work and live in this territory.

Members

Mayor J. Morgan (Chair), Councillors H. McAlister, S. Lewis, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, S. Lehman, A. Hopkins, P. Van Meerbergen, S. Franke, E. Pelozza, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier

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6.1 Personal Matters / Identifiable Individual	

A matter pertaining to an identifiable individual; employment-related matters; advice or recommendations of officers and employees of the Corporation, including communications necessary for that purpose and for the purpose of providing instructions and directions to officers and employees of the Corporation.

7. Adjournment

Governance Working Group Report

3rd Meeting of the Governance Working Group
July 27, 2023

PRESENT: Councillors S. Lewis (Chair), H. McAlister, P. Cuddy, S. Stevenson, J. Pribil, S. Trosow, C. Rahman, A. Hopkins, S. Franke, D. Ferreira, S. Hillier

ALSO PRESENT: S. Corman, M. Goldrup, K. Huckabone, J. Paradis, M. Schulthess

Remote Attendance: L. Livingstone, A. Barbon, A. Bush, J. Raycroft, E. Skalski

The meeting was called to order at 1:09 PM; it being noted that Councillors P. Cuddy, S. Franke and S. Hillier were in remote attendance.

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That is BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

Moved by: A. Hopkins

Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That, a change in order of the Governance Working Group Agenda BE APPROVED, to provide for Item 5.1 in Stage 5, Confidential, to be considered after Stage 1, Call to Order.

Motion Passed

2. Consent Items

2.1 Schedule of 2023 Governance Working Group Meeting Dates

Moved by: D. Ferreira

Seconded by: H. McAlister

That the following dates BE ESTABLISHED as monthly meeting dates for Governance Working Group (GWG):

- Monday, August 28;
- Monday, September 25;
- Monday, October 16;
- Monday, November 6;
- Monday, November 27; and
- Monday, December 18.

it being noted that the meeting times will be at 1:00 PM.

Motion Passed

3. Items for Discussion

None.

4. Deferred Matters/Additional Business

4.1 Ward Boundary Review - Verbal Update

Moved by: S. Stevenson

Seconded by: A. Hopkins

That the Verbal Update on the Ward Boundary Review from the City Clerk
BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

4.2 Council Members' Expense Account Policy Update

That the following actions be taken with respect to the draft Council
Members' Expense Account Policy:

a) that section 4.2, part c), item vi BE AMENDED to read "advertising, in
the manner deemed appropriate by the Member to extend greetings";

b) that section 4.2, part c), item vii BE AMENDED to read "expenses
related to ward matters, including such expenses as: neighbourhood or
constituent meetings, notices, printing, and other engagement
opportunities deemed appropriate by the Member;" and;

c) the balance of the draft Council Member's Expense Account Policy BE
REFERRED to the next meeting of Governance Working Group for further
discussion;

it being noted that an update to the transportation allowance in 4.2c) ix A.
will come forward at a future meeting of Governance Working Group
(GWG) for consideration.

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: D. Ferreira

Seconded by: S. Stevenson

That section 4.2, part c), item vi BE AMENDED to remove "Seasons
Greetings" and replace with "greetings".

Motion Passed

Moved by: S. Trosow

Seconded by: S. Lewis

That section 4.2, part c), item vii BE AMENDED to remove references to
"ward office" and "lease of constituency office space within the ward".

Motion Passed

Moved by: D. Ferreira
Seconded by: S. Stevenson

That the draft Council Members' Expense Account Policy BE REFERRED to the next meeting of Governance Working Group for further discussion.

Motion Passed

4.3 Appointment of Deputy Mayor - Verbal Update

That the Verbal Update on the Appointment of Deputy Mayor Policy from the City Clerk BE RECEIVED and that the City Clerk BE DIRECTED to bring forward a report on Strong Mayor legislation to a future meeting of Governance Working Group.

ADDITIONAL VOTES:

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the Verbal Update on the Appointment of Deputy Mayor Policy from the City Clerk BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

Moved by: C. Rahman
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the City Clerk BE DIRECTED to bring forward a report on Strong Mayor legislation to a future meeting of Governance Working Group.

Motion Passed

4.4 Remuneration for Elected Officials and Appointed Citizen Members - Verbal Update

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the Verbal Update on the Remuneration for Elected Officials and Appointed Citizen Members Policy from the City Clerk BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

4.5 Selection Process Policy for Appointing Members to Committees, Civic Boards and Commissions - Verbal Update

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the Verbal Update on the Selection Process Policy for Appointing Members to Committees, Civic Boards and Commissions from the City Clerk BE RECEIVED.

Motion Passed

5. Confidential (Enclosed for Members only.)

Moved by: A. Hopkins
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the Governance Working Group convenes In Closed Session, in order to consider a matter pertaining to an identifiable individual; employment-related matters; advice or recommendations of officers and employees of the Corporation, including communications necessary for that purpose and for the purpose of providing instructions and directions to officers and employees of the Corporation.

Motion Passed

The Governance Working Group convenes, In Closed Session at 1:12 PM, and reconvenes in public session at 2:48 PM.

Moved by: A. Hopkins
Seconded by: S. Lewis

That the Governance Working Group recess at this time.

The Governance Working Group recesses at 2:49 PM and reconvenes at 3:00 PM.

6. Adjournment

Moved by: S. Trosow
Seconded by: D. Ferreira

That the meeting BE ADJOURNED.

Motion Passed

The meeting adjourned at 3:57 PM.

Report to Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee

To: Chair and Members, Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
From: Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development
Subject: August Progress Update – Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response
Date: August 16, 2023

Recommendation

That, on the recommendation of the Deputy City Manager, Social and Health Development, that the following Actions be taken;

- a) That, the August Progress Update – Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response Report **Be Received** for information;
- b) To **AUTHORIZE and APPROVE** One-time Single Source contract agreement with Ark Aid Mission Services in the total estimated cost of \$130,000. to support:
 - i. Ark Aid Mission Services for continued services at 696 Dundas from 2:30pm-9:30pm daily from August 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023, in the total estimated cost of \$130,000.
- c) To **AUTHORIZE and APPROVE** a one-time contract amendment agreement to Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) at a total estimated cost of \$70,000. to support the Coffee House drop-in program with additional evening hours per day from August 1, 2023, through September 30, 2023;
- d) To **AUTHORIZE and APPROVE** a one-time contract amendment of existing agreements to London Cares for the continuation of service provision in Encampment Service Depots for a six (6)-week extension from August 14, 2023, to September 30, 2023, the total estimated cost of \$52,000,
 - i. for food total estimated cost \$42,000
 - ii. for water total estimated cost \$5,000
 - iii. for comfort stations total estimated cost \$5,000
- e) That, Civic Administration **BE AUTHORIZED** to undertake all administrative acts which are necessary in relation to this project, and;
- f) That, the approval given herein **BE CONDITIONAL** upon the Corporation amending a Purchase of Service Agreement.

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress made since the last report received at the July 24, 2023, Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee and subsequently the July 25th, 2023, Council meeting related to the endorsed Health and Homelessness Whole of Community System Response. In the time between the July monthly update and the August monthly update, there have been many key initiatives advanced. At this stage, the Implementation Tables have achieved the following outcomes:

Since the last report, and since the approval of the Hubs Implementation Plan, Civic Administration created and launched a Request for Proposals for the Hubs on August 4th, 2023. In addition to the release of the RFP, there have also been various updates related to advancing the work of the System Response including the Business Reference Table engagement and a plan for ongoing Community Engagement related to the System

Response and the formation of another implementation table focused on System Foundations. This report also seeks Council direction in awarding various contracts and contract amendments for the continued provision of supports and basic needs to those vulnerable Londoners currently experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The provision of services through what has been called Service Depots for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness will also undertake neighbour engagement measures and will continue to be evaluated as feedback is received, noting service delivery alterations will be made should they be required.

This report also provides a brief update on the ongoing advocacy efforts with other levels of government in an effort to access financial supports to implement the Health and Homelessness Whole of Community System Response.

Linkage to the Corporate Strategic Plan

This report aligns with the strategic areas of focus in the 2023-2027 [City of London Strategic Plan](#). The City of London Strategic Plan (2023-2027) identifies housing and homelessness as a key area of focus, and housing and homelessness work is identified throughout the Strategic Plan, impacting all areas of life for Londoners.

Housing and Homelessness

- Increased access to a range of quality, affordable, and supportive housing options that meet the unique needs of Londoners.
- Decreased number of Londoners at risk of or experiencing homelessness
- Improved safety in London's shelters system

Wellbeing and Safety

- Londoners have safe access to public spaces, services, and supports that increase wellbeing and quality of life
- Housing in London is affordable and attainable

Links to Community Recovery

The City of London is committed to working in partnership with the community to identify solutions that will drive a strong, deep, and inclusive community recovery for London as we move out of and beyond the global COVID-19 pandemic. This report, and the items within, are linked to supporting Londoners experiencing homelessness to attain and retain permanent housing. This work supports recovery efforts through a coordinated response that will support the transition of individuals and families experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness who have a variety of support needs into permanent housing.

Analysis

● **1.0 Previous Reports Related to this Matter**

- July Progress Update – Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response (SPPC; July 24, 2023)
- June Progress Update – Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response (SPPC; June 20, 2023)
- May Progress Update – Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response (SPPC; May 09, 2023)
- Update – Whole of Community System Response Implementation (SPPC: April 18, 2023)
- Health and Homelessness Summits – Proposed Whole of Community System Response (SPPC: February 28, 2023)

2.0 Background Information

2.1 Service Depot Update:

The Encampment Implementation Table has continued to focus on the delivery of basic needs to vulnerable individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The group has also begun to move forward with a neighbourhood engagement plan through the use of a third-party resource under contract by one of the lead organizations. This intentional and targeted engagement of immediate neighbours will also be supported by Civic Administration from a communications and neighbourhood engagement perspective. A neighbour engagement survey for those living within 400-500 metres of a depot is nearing completion and will be shared directly with those in that catchment area in August.

The Encampment Implementation Table is recommending a 6-week extension for the ongoing response, from August 14, 2023, through September 30, 2023, for Phase 1 Depots. The Depot Response service locations will remain unchanged at this time, but as has been noted previously, should service alterations including location changes be required, those adjustments would be made and communicated.

The Encampment Implementation Table has also been working on their cold weather and extreme weather response plans, as individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness face a number of harsh environmental conditions, which certainly include the cold, but also wet and flooding conditions and extreme heat. The table continues to formulate a needs assessment, a service delivery plan, and resourcing requirements for any upcoming cold weather responses. These plans will be brought forward to the Strategy and Accountability table for discussion at the end of August and expect to be presented to Council in September.

The work of this table is to try and address the most basic needs of individuals right now, in a way that is safe and helps to reduce the precarity and desperation that currently exists. While delivering these basic needs through Service Depots, the table can begin to link the wind down of Service Depots to any cold weather community response and build in the linkage to the Whole of Community System Response through the creation of highly supportive housing and 24/7 Hubs this year.

2.2 Community Engagement Updates:

Following the July 25, 2023, Council meeting where direction was provided to create additional community engagement opportunities, Civic Administration with support from multiple service areas have developed a plan for a series of engagement sessions. These have been created to ensure that moving forward there is a continuous feedback loop between the Whole of Community System Response and community members.

The additional community engagements are scheduled for the end of August and early September at locations throughout the city as follows:

- North
Thursday, Aug 31 – Medway Community Centre

- South
Wednesday, Aug 30 – South London Community Centre

- West
Tues, Sept 5 – Byron Community Centre

- East
Wednesday, Sept 6 – East Lions Community Centre

- Central
Thursday, Sept 7 – Carling Heights Optimist Community Centre

These will follow a presentation and Q&A format, followed by one-on-one discussions. Working with business associations and the London Chamber of Commerce, two business-focused sessions are being scheduled.

In addition to the in-person events that promote education and awareness opportunities related to the Whole of Community System Response, a new tab on the Get Involved website has been created to allow ongoing feedback to be submitted by residents at their convenience. The information gathered throughout these events and online will be brought forward to Council as part of the reporting back process related to the Hubs RFP in September.

2.3 Implementation Progress Updates:

To date, the Business Reference Group, Developers Reference Group, Workforce Development, Encampment Implementation Table, Highly Supportive Housing, and Hubs Implementation Tables have all been meeting. The work of these tables has been guided by the Strategy and Accountability Table that continues to provide support and direction to the work of the various implementation tables. New to be launched in August is the System Foundations Table, which has been established and initial meetings are scheduled for later in the month. This table will work through the process of designing a proposed evaluation framework that will be reported back to Council. The evaluation framework will be aided by the partnership that is forming with the Centre for Research on Health Equity and Inclusion (CRHESI) as additional scope is defined related to research and reporting. Additionally, recognizing that the Hubs Implementation Plan has been approved, the Backbone Team is preparing to launch the Funders Reference Table, to bring together a number of funding bodies including Provincial and Federal funding partners to seek opportunities for priority alignment and funding related to the Hubs and Highly Supportive Housing.

*Below in **Figure 1** is an overview of where the system development efforts currently are, in relation to where it started with the Health and Homelessness Summits.*



Figure 1 System Development Overview

The following details provide a monthly update on activities and recommendations that have moved forward between the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee (SPPC) meeting held on July 24, 2023, and the time of submission of this report.

Strategy and Accountability Table:

The Strategy and Accountability table has responsibility for guiding the overall implementation of the Whole of Community System Response and is populated by leaders from all organizations who are collaborating on system implementation. The Strategy and Accountability at the August 2, 2023, meeting welcomed a new member in

Budget Chair, Councilor Elizabeth Pelosa. At the Municipal Council, meeting held on July 25, 2023, it was resolved that the Mayor and the Budget Chair BE APPOINTED to represent the Municipal Council at the Strategy and Accountability table, for the Whole of Community System response, with the Deputy Mayor to serve as an alternate for either, if required.

Following the Council endorsement of the Hubs Implementation Plan, the August 2nd Strategy and Accountability meeting gave an opportunity for a fulsome discussion on lead agency criteria and preparation for the upcoming procurement process to secure lead agencies for Hubs. Additionally, this meeting initiated a critical conversation on how we are continuing to support the stability of the sector while Hubs are being stood up. This will be an ongoing conversation throughout the Whole of Community System Response and will be revisited again at the meeting at the end of August as it touches on work being done in the Workforce Development table around staff and management support, as well as System Foundations in how to we measure what's working and what's not in this sector.

The next meeting of the Strategy and Accountability table will focus on ways to ensure stability in the current system, review and discussion of plans related to Service Depots, Cold Weather/Extreme Weather Response, and updates from the various tables including updates stemming from the recent Business Reference Table meeting and System Foundations Table.

Finally, The Strategy and Accountability Table approved co-chairs for all five implementation tables and is also working to solidify the detailed definitions of principles and values.

Hubs Implementation Table:

Since the last update to Council, the Hubs Implementation Plan has been endorsed by Council and a procurement process has been initiated through the creation and launch of a Request for Proposals (RFP) through the Bids and Tenders portal on August 4th. The RFP seeks to secure lead agencies and locations for the first three to five Hubs. This process aims to have proponents selected ahead of the September SPPC and Council meetings for Council consideration.

Outside of the procurement process, members from this table will be conducting additional community engagement sessions the last week of August and first week of September across the city. There are two business-focused sessions also being stood up to ensure all community members get a chance to be updated on the Hubs process and be able to provide feedback ahead of those September committee and Council meetings.

Additionally, the Hubs table will begin to reconvene to start the work on additional operational protocols such as the One Number to call model and linking into the work of the Workforce Development table and Highly Supportive Housing.

Highly Supportive Housing:

The Housing Implementation Table has been meeting to focus on the goal of creating 100 highly supportive housing units in 2023. This table last met on July 31 and will be meeting again in August. This table has identified the elements of highly supportive housing and is beginning work on defining the Standards of Care of those elements (similar to the process conducted in the Hubs Implementation Table). Being able to clearly define what Highly Supportive Housing is, who is being supported in those models, the ways in which those services will operate is important work to be able to identify what types of spaces are needed, available, and easily aligned to this work. The Housing Implementation Table is also continuing to identify projects in the housing pipeline to find opportunities to meet the 100 units by the end of 2023.

Currently a number of projects have been identified and tabled as prospective projects, recognizing some are in differing stages of development and more costing and financing work needs to occur respectively for most of those identified.

As a glimpse into the opportunities being brought forward by various organizations as either planned projects or project ideas, the following was shared at the August 2nd, 2023, Strategy and Accountability Table:

Organization Name	Project Identifier	Number of Potential Units
Indwell	Various 4 Year Project Plans	239
Ark Aid	Upper Level Ark	10-12
Ark Aid	Two Houses	5 Bedrooms
Ark Aid	Modular Units	To be determined
CMHA Thames Valley Addiction and Mental Health	Karen's Place	5
Youth Opportunities Unlimited	Joan's Place	36
London Cares/London Health Sciences Centre (LHSC)	Mixed Residential/Medical Support Housing	50
City of London	Sylvan Street	42

The Housing Implementation Table has also created a draft working document that will be vetted through the Developers Reference Group to seek input and feedback for seeking out housing options including different purpose-built options, different size of potential housing projects, and feedback on conversion of commercial space to residential usage. This document outlines suggestions around exterior/communal space elements, service/amenity recommendations, safety supports, interior elements such as storage, individual unit layouts and furnishings.

The Housing Implementation Table has benefitted from input and participation from nearly 40 individuals representing multiple industries including the development community, healthcare, housing service providers, architects, frontline staff, mental health and addictions, youth services, developmental services sector, and Civic Administration.

Encampment Response:

The Encampment Response table launched temporary measures on July 4th, 2023, to support individuals currently sleeping unsheltered in encampments in four (4) locations adjacent to where encampments already exist. As noted previously in this report, the Encampment Implementation Table is actively finalizing a neighbourhood engagement survey for direct distribution to those in close proximity to the existing depots.

Since the launch of these temporary services, the following engagements and service levels have been recorded:

Number of Unique Individuals Engaged With: 445

Materials and Supplies Distributed:

- *Fire Safety Gear: 11*
- *Harm Reduction Equipment: 78*
- *Hygiene Supplies: 147*
- *Meal Kits: 1299*
- *Personal Supplies: 479*

Services Provided:

- *Addiction Support Services: 7*
- *Fire Prevention Education and Monitoring: 3*
- *Garbage and Site Clean Up: 88*
- *Harm Reduction Support: 20*
- *Housing Support: 12*
- *Hygiene and Sanitation Facility Access: 34*
- *System Navigation - Healthcare System: 26*
- *System Navigation - Social Service System: 38*
- *Transportation Assistance: 7*
- *Referrals: 27*

Additionally, beyond the services provided in the temporary service depot, ongoing engagement and interactions between service delivery organizations and members of the public took place at the depot locations. There have been many interactions with surrounding community members where agencies were able to answer questions and Concerns.

To date there have been 99 interactions with the public across the depot locations. Those engagements have been categorized as follows:

- *Education and awareness provided: 25*
- *Reporting of an incident: 3*
- *Feedback regarding concerns: 4*
- *Positive feedback provided: 30*
- *Supporting participants: 37*

The encampment response group continues to focus on maintaining the existing services to support individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness and at this time, any plans for expansion to additional temporary locations are only in the discussion phase and require more details before being presented at the Strategy and Accountability Table and ultimately to Council in September. As previously noted, the service depots are aligned to the beginning of both Hubs and any interim or additional cold weather response.

Workforce Development Implementation Table:

The Workforce Development Table last met on July 26 to explore currently existing roles within this sector, their associated skill sets and spent time matching those skills with the functions of the Hubs. Once that was established, the table then identified the top 10 training priorities for the Hubs workforce. The next step for this table will be to identify where this training is offered, how can those resources be connected into the work of opening the first three to five Hubs and then to the broader sector so all organizations can have access to similar training in a timely manner. Additionally, this table is seeking ways to explore how its workforce and leadership, can heal and grow through listening, sharing and developing solutions to help improve the culture broadly across the sector.

The Workforce Development table is a valuable resource to support the many aspects of curating a sustainable and highly functioning workforce at the Hubs and the rest of the system. Throughout the summit process frontline workers across sectors shared their lived experience of losing those they had been trying to support to this healthcare and housing crisis. The moral distress, burnout, and inequity in pay are focal points that the table continues to hold as matters to address.

These processes will help inform discussions within the broader workforce on where there can be improvements to staff and leadership supports like critical incident debriefing, mental health supports, training opportunities, and so on.

Business Reference Table:

A business reference table meeting was held August 3 with members of the London Chamber of Commerce, Downtown London BIA, and Old East Village BIA. The table had a comprehensive discussion on ways in which the business sector could be better supported as Hubs are stood up around the community. Members of Civic Administration, including from Planning and Economic Development helped facilitate the conversations to support the direct sharing of ideas. These ideas, as generated by the Business Reference Table will continue to be developed and as soon as the group has landed on identifiable items that require new investments, they will be brought back to Council for consideration.

Also coming out of this meeting was a discussion on the two business-focused engagement sessions – with one scheduled for end of August and one in early September – to ensure the business community has a chance to stay engaged in this work and continue to provide valuable feedback as they have throughout this process.

Indigenous Led Response

To ensure a culturally safe response that is appropriate for Indigenous community members, we will follow the lead of Indigenous colleagues and support an Indigenous-led system response, which is not designed in a colonial way and respects the deep knowledge and consultation already inherent in the Giwetashkad Strategy, and the intention to honour all relations in defining next steps.

There is a commitment to Indigenous representation in overall system governance and implementation co-design, and a commitment to recognizing that the definition of Indigenous homelessness is separate and distinct from the common colonialist definition of homelessness.

2.4 Government Relations and Strategic Advocacy Efforts

Following the endorsement of the Hubs Implementation Plan in July, Civic Administration has held several technical briefings with local MPs, MPPs and federal and provincial officials. The Government and External Relations Division has worked to ensure that federal and provincial partners are kept informed on the status of the Whole of Community System Response.

On July 26, 2023, the Prime Minister of Canada announced a significant Cabinet Shuffle, with 30 of the 36 of the federal portfolios seeing new leadership. Of note, the Honourable Sean Fraser (Central Nova, NS) was named Minister of the newly combined Ministry of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities. Furthermore, the Honourable Mark Holland (Ajax, ON) was appointed as Canada's Minister of Health and the Honourable Ya'ara Saks (York Centre) was named Minister of Mental Health and Addictions. The City of London maintains excellent working relationships with federal Ministries and set to work immediately alongside our local Members of Parliament to establish introductory briefings with these new Ministers and their officials on the Whole of Community System Response.

London is set to welcome more than 1,400 delegates from across Ontario's municipal sector to London as part of the 2023 Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) Annual Conference. Members of the Executive Council of Ontario (Cabinet) will be attending as well. London has worked over the last month to seek delegations with key provincial officials to continue the discussions of provincial support for the Whole of Community System Response. AMO 2023 represents a significant opportunity for thoughtful discussion, idea sharing, and advocacy with Ontario's municipal sector and the Government of Ontario.

3.0 Financial Impact/Considerations

This report seeks Council approval for contract amendments to existing London Cares and CMHA contracts in the total amount \$200,000, and One-time Single Source contract agreement with Ark Aid Mission Services in the total estimated cost of \$130,000, the selection process was undertaken in accordance with the Procurement of Goods and Services Policy and will be funded through existing Housing Stability Services budget.

There are no additional funding asks at this time related to the monthly System Response Update.

Recommended by: Kevin Dickins, Deputy City Manager Social Health Development

Cc:
Lynne Livingstone, **City Manager**
Scott Mathers, **Deputy City Manager, Planning & Economic Development**
Kelly Scherr, **Deputy City Manager, Environment, and Infrastructure**
Anna Lisa Barbon, **Deputy City Manager, Finance Supports**
Barry Card, **Deputy City Manager, Legal Services**
Cheryl Smith, **Deputy City Manager, Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services**
John Paradis, **Deputy City Manager, Enterprise Supports**

August 8, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

As we move forward in trying to tackle the epidemic of homelessness being experienced in our community and reimagine a new approach to dealing with this crisis, all of us have acknowledged that we cannot succeed alone, that the provincial and the federal governments must play a role in their areas of responsibility.

It is equally important that we recognize other communities must continue to do their part. Our current social services are beyond capacity. Our available housing inventory, particularly in the rental market, is effectively zero. We have no capacity to do more. Unfortunately, that fact is seemingly being ignored by some in other jurisdictions across Ontario.

We accept and respect that those experiencing homelessness, including individuals in London, will move from community to community of their own volition and for a variety of reasons. What we must not accept, and what must be addressed, are those who are moved to London under false pretenses or against their will. This is no longer the subject of conjecture.

During the first six months of 2023, City of London staff has successfully diverted 319 individuals back to communities where they have a natural support network after having arrived in London seeking supports. That is how a compassionate system should function. However, of those 319 individuals, over 25% were sent here against their will, or under false pretenses, by various individuals and organizations from outside London. That represents almost one person every other day, and – it's important to keep in mind – this is incomplete data. It does not represent those individuals who are not self-identifying as having been sent to London from another community.

Those who relocate to other communities of their own freewill, for whatever reason, is commonplace and not for us to pass judgment. However, those who are being moved against their will or under the false promise of available resources in London is at best grossly misinformed, and at worst inhumane. These actions must cease, and those engaging in this type of activity must be held to account.

Therefore, I am seeking your support for the following motion:

That the Mayor & Government Relations staff BE DIRECTED to a) undertake immediate advocacy efforts with the Association of Municipalities of Ontario, the Ontario Big City Mayors Caucus, and the Government of Ontario to develop a united policy condemning the relocation of homeless individuals under false pretense or against their will;

b) And to further work with those partners to undertake the development of processes to stop this practice, including but not limited to the withdrawal of public funding, charitable, or not for profit status of any organization found to be actively engaged in such activities and/or the suspension of professional accreditation of individuals found to be engaged in such activities.

c) And to work with the province to develop a program by which those released from hospitals or detention centres are provided proper discharge planning that includes transportation back to their home communities.

We have said all of London needs to be involved in tackling this problem. We have said that all levels of government need to do their part. I am asking us to us call on all communities in Ontario to also do their part.

Sincerely,



Shawn Lewis
Deputy Mayor
Ward 2 City Councillor



Elizabeth Pelozo
Budget Chair
Ward 12 City Councillor

August 14, 2023

Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
300 Dufferin Avenue
London, ON N6B 1Z2
Sent via email: SPPC@london.ca

Dear Honourable Mayor J. Morgan and Members of the Committee

LIFE*SPIN is a registered charity that has led programming in London for more than 30 years, as well as one of the longest established Community Economic Development (CED) organizations serving low-income citizens in Ontario.

We have several concerns about a motion that may be tabled at your next meeting, by the Deputy Mayor. Primarily, the draft motion, published on Facebook, has an insufficient evidentiary basis given the limitations of data collection in low income communities. We are further concerned about the ongoing stigmatization of vulnerable and marginalized communities, and that any legislation resulting from this advocacy would both distract from other efforts and struggle to meet ethical, constitutional, and UNDRIP obligations.

We have expressed for quite some time, including through submissions to Council, our reservations about the limitations of data collection of the homeless population using shelter/outreach services and those who do not. Homelessness and poverty are complex systems, and current collection models cannot account for many of these factors. In London, based on our expertise in the field, we estimate an underreporting of women with children (particularly single parent families), new immigrant families, and Indigenous families living off reserve in the city. Across Canada, experts have expressed concern that the true scale of homelessness is being underreported by a ratio of 3:1 and that statistical modeling struggles to account for this phenomenon of "hidden homelessness." Given the existing dataset (or lack thereof) it is not reasonable to conclude that an increase in visible homelessness is caused by or even related to the transient migration of low income people. There is even less evidence to substantiate or define what is meant by relocation "against their will." Without comprehensive data leading the discussion, we are gravely concerned that there is an insufficient evidentiary basis to move forward with this type of motion. The motion in question calls for punitive measures against charitable and non-for-profit organizations and proposes highly unorthodox suspensions of professional accreditations, without an accompanying staff report analyzing the legal implications or an indication of which organizations or individuals might be impacted. Legislation to this effect would penalize service providers doing their best to serve clients in a dramatically under-resourced social service sector and would distract (and even undermine) the important provincial advocacy being done on the Whole of Community System Response.

We also continue to be concerned about the use of dehumanizing and stigmatizing rhetoric in discussions of low income communities in London. We have recently witnessed an attack on shelter staff who were attacked with a variety of weapons including a machete, baseball bat, and taser by neighbouring residents, in addition to other acts of violence, not reported in headline news, towards unhoused individuals and the frontline workers that serve them. As the leaders in our community, London City Council sets the tone for the discussion of vulnerable and marginalized populations. In our opinion, this motion should not move forward without any staff analysis on London's obligations under the Canadian Constitution, which guarantees freedom of movement for all Canadians or under the UNDRIP, which protects the free movement of Indigenous peoples, who are estimated to make up at least 30% of London's homeless population. The suggestion that our homeless problem is being driven by other communities deflects our responsibility, feeds the stigma, and does nothing to address the issue.

London is a healthcare hub in Southwestern Ontario, which attracts many low income individuals who are seeking support for a variety of ailments. The lack of affordable and attainable housing upon their arrival is not the fault of these community members or the social services that may have been servicing them prior to their arrival.

We would encourage Councillors to vote against this motion and to instead prioritize provincial advocacy efforts on the Whole of Community System Response, along with policies that promote housing stability for low income Londoners, such as rent control, ending vacancy decontrol, and government development of affordable housing stock.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Frances Elizabeth Moore

Frances Moore
President, LIFE*SPIN

Marie Rioux

Marie Rioux
Vice-President, LIFE*SPIN

Jacqueline Thompson

Jacqueline Thompson
Executive Director



July 26, 2023

Attn: Chair and Members
Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee
Re: Old East Village Board Resignations and Appointments

Dear Mayor and Committee Chair, Mr. Josh Morgan

The Old East Village BIA would like to submit to the August 16th, 2023 Committee meeting the following names for approval of resignation and appointment to the Old East Village BIA Board of Directors.

Resignations: Kimberly DeSousa - Libro Credit Union, John Young - East Village Market

Approvals requested: Caileigh Robson - Libro Credit Union

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Drangova".

Maria Drangova
Old East Village BIA Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Pastorius".

Jennifer Pastorius
Old East Village BIA General Manager



**HAMILTON
ROAD BIA**

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 HamiltonRoadBIA  HamRoadBIA  HamiltonRoadBIA WWW.HAMROAD.COM

August 9, 2023

ATTN: SPPC Committee Chairs and Members

Re: 2022-2026 BIA Board Member Appointments

Chair and Members of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee;

The Hamilton Road Business Improvement Association presents the following individuals for consideration for a four year term of the Board of Directors.

Hadleigh Mc Alister, Chair, City of London

Shahin Kardan, Vice Chair, Apollo Pizza and Wings

Gursharan Singh, Baked Bites

Dan Martens, Western IT

Naz Tilva, Sak's Variety Store

Rick Pinheiro, Pinheiro Realty

Thank you,

Carolyn Luistro

Executive Director

Hamilton Road BIA