

From:**Sent:** Friday, February 23, 2024 3:17 PM**To:** Pribil, Jerry <jpribil@london.ca>; City of London, Mayor <mayor@london.ca>; Stone, Melanie <mstone@london.ca>; 'Jeremy Ingleton' <Jacqueline Madden < Budget Committee <BudgetCommittee@london.ca>**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] budget 24-28**Importance:** High

February 23, 2024

There is 3 items for budget consideration

We have a homeless crisis (extreme) Two programs will shutdown preventing homelessness on March 1 2024 if city doesn't consider funding to continue their programs

1. VHA Extreme Clean which helps prevent homeless whether it is eviction because hoarding or clutter thru referral to the city by social services, CCAC, fire department. They provide services such as deep clean, decluttering, organization, hoarding/clutter coach, mental health support these are the main they have given me and ongoing checkin so that I can stay independent n my home and not be evicted because threats/harrassments from my landlord o evict me from my home. Most clients on the program mostly on OW, ODSP, seniors or low income that have no other supports to help keep them in their homes. The works with the person to correct the problem whether is too much clutter in the place or hoarding along working with their mental health. Housing is a human right prevents strain on the health care and with stable housing the person is able to contribute to the community as a person. I know there is limited dollars to go around, but when faced with a cut to a program to keep me and others in our homes it scares me and affects my mental health thinking without this program I will be homeless and more likely die because of my health. There are about 150 clients with the Extreme Clean program and many on the waiting list, if funding nt given for this program there will be 150+ more on the street as homeless, a lot of us will not do well in shelters like myself and there is no room in the shelters. Presently it cost \$400, 000 annually to run the program, so for our sake please save this program so I or others will not be another statistic.

2. The second program is the Housing Stability , they help with loans for last or first month rent, hydro or gas bill arrears up to 500.

These loans help persons low-income acquire a place to live by helping with first or last month rent when applying for a place to live. If a person low-income get behind in hydro or gas, they will provide up to 500 whichever is lowest. These loans are paid back on a monthly payment plan and can only apply once every 2 yrs. These loans prevent utilities being shut off or becoming homeless. Please consider saving this program.

Paratransit

LTC has requested money in the budget

But if money is given for improvements as they stated they are requesting please make them accountable that the money the city approves goes to the issues asked paratransit not to another issue with LC that their request was denied. Paratransit needs many improvements to fulfill ADOA requirements please help us needing more accessible transportation so we can participate in the community like everyone else such as work, volunteering, medical appointments community engagement

Thanks for letting me Participate in the Budget Process

Penny Moore
London Ontario