



Hamilton's Housing & Homelessness Action Plan

Everyone has a home...home is the foundation.

**Presentation to Emergency and
Community Services – Dec 9, 2013**



Hamilton
Community Services

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Why Hamilton Needs an Action Plan

- 3,287 men, women and children stayed in a shelter in 2012
- 1 in 5 renter households pay more than 50% of their income on housing
- More than 20% of households can barely afford a bachelor rental unit

Why Hamilton Needs an Action Plan

Without action on housing insecurity and homelessness:

- People struggle to participate in community life
- Public costs increase
- Neighbourhoods are negatively impacted
- Housing infrastructure deteriorates

Why Hamilton Needs an Action Plan

Housing creates opportunities:

- Housing and health strongly linked
- Hamilton's transformation: land and housing will never be as inexpensive as they are now
- Housing = Economic development
 - people will be employment ready
 - A magnet for skilled workers
 - New housing creates jobs

The Action Plan is...

- Bold and ambitious
- Building on our assets and existing work
- A shared responsibility between all three levels of government, the private sector and the community
- Evidence-based
- Built through community partnerships

The Action Plan is...

- A 10-year roadmap to ensure that everyone has a home
- Action-oriented and solution focused
- Person-centred
- A guide for decision making and funding
- A Provincial Requirement

The Action Plan is...

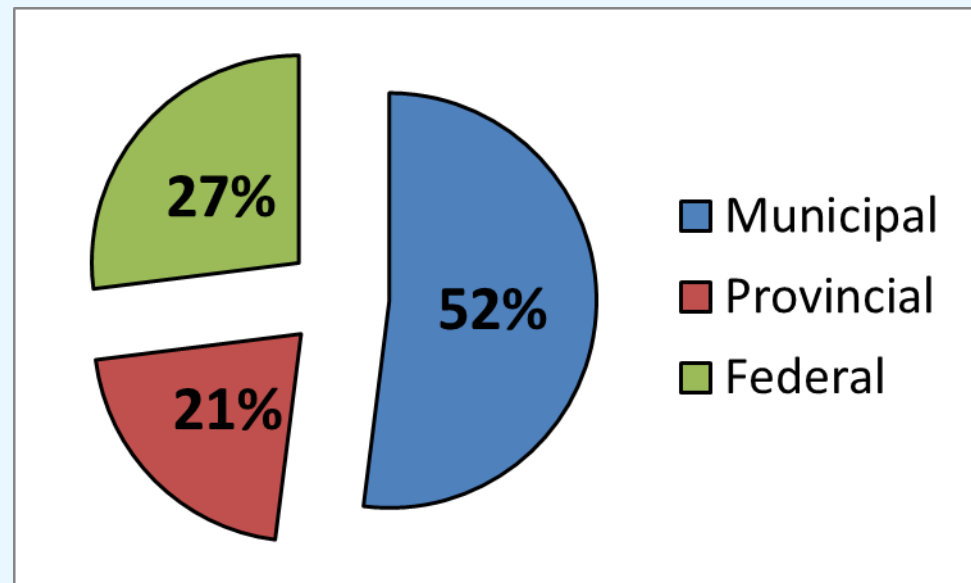
- **A *strategic*** document:
 - A vision, 7 Core Values, 5 Outcome Areas, 54 Strategies
- **An *Implementation*** plan:
 - 20 Critical Investment Strategies
 - Targets
 - Work plans: stakeholders, resources/costs, timing, equity
 - Monitoring and reporting

Action Plan – The Costs

- Many strategies do not require large investment
- Annual investments to meet annual targets:
 - **\$30M** to build **300** affordable units
 - **\$2.5M** to fund **210** housing allowances
 - **\$7M** to rehabilitate **350** units
 - **\$3.2M** to improve the quality of social housing

Government Investments in Housing and Homelessness – 2013 Budget

- Overall funding in Hamilton: **\$96 Million**
- The levy contributed ½ of revenue sources despite more limited tax capacity than senior governments



Government Relations

The Plan supports Council's advocacy efforts:

- **Strategy 1.1** supports the FCM call for a National Housing Strategy with adequate and sustained funding
- **Strategies 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4** seeks better coordination of Provincial ministries' initiatives
- Relationship building with Federal/Provincial governments at the political and the senior Ministry staff level

Getting Started – In 2014

- Use existing resources only
- Implement Government Relations Work
- Financial Strategy in 2015 after Federal and Provincial investments known

Getting Started – Work Underway

- New rental projects **(Strategy 1.2)**
 - Homestead Christian Care (47 units)
 - Halam Park redevelopment (8 units)
- Bed Bug Remediation Strategy **(Strategy 4.5)**
- Building Condition Assessments and Social Housing Infrastructure Repairs **(Strategy 4.10)**
- Eviction Prevention **(Strategy 3.7)**

Getting Started – New Work in 2014

- Informing the new zoning by-law **(Strategy 1.6)**
- Promote existing incentive programs for new housing **(Strategy 1.2)**
- Develop a person-centred engagement model for housing services **(Strategy 5.9)**

Action Plan - Timeline

June 2012	Council Endorsed the strategic components of the Action Plan
December 2013	Present Full Plan to ECS/Council for endorsement
January 2014	Implementation begins
Annually	Annual Progress Reports
2019	Five Year Progress Report/Evaluation
2024	Ten Year Progress Report/Evaluation

An Action Plan that Works

Successful implementation will benefit people, our neighbourhoods and the entire City.

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home is the foundation*