

CITY OF HAMILTON

NOTICE OF MOTION

Emergency & Community Services Committee: October 17, 2019

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....

Home for the Holidays Social Housing Program

WHEREAS, the City has a significant and rising number of households currently on the centralized waitlist;

WHEREAS, high vacancies exist within CityHousing Hamilton subsidized housing units, as a result of on-going and increasing capital repair needs;

WHEREAS, current deferred maintenance deficits run annually by CityHousing Hamilton is approximately \$18 Million with a portfolio of assets on average of 40 years old;

WHEREAS, on average, the cost to repair an existing vacant unit within the CityHousing Hamilton portfolio, such that it becomes occupiable, is approximately \$8,000 per unit;

WHEREAS, the Housing Services reconciliation process has resulted in a forecast Income Subsidy program surplus of over \$2 Million in 2019;

WHEREAS, approximately 250 rent-geared-to-income units could be positively improved such that they could be occupied in time for the 2020 winter holiday season;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities Department be authorized and directed to deliver and administer an emergency social housing repair program (“Home for the Holidays”) in the form of unit occupation, with the intent of making as many units as possible available by December 24, 2019, with a program end date of March 31, 2020, at a maximum aggregate cost of \$2,000,000 to be funded from the Unallocated Capital Levy Reserve (108020) or 2019 Year-End Corporate Surplus;
- (b) That, in consultation with City’s Procurement Services, Housing Services and CityHousing Hamilton staff be directed to take immediate action to source and undertake all necessary repairs to carry out the Home for the Holidays program;

- (c) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities, the General Manager of Corporate Finance and the Chief Executive Officer of CityHousing Hamilton collectively be provided the authority to waive the City's Procurement Policy in those instances where it is not possible to conduct a competitive procurement process to complete the work for the Home for the Holiday's Program;
- (d) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities be authorized and directed to negotiate, enter into and execute any required contract(s) and any ancillary documents required to give effect thereto with all vendors who are selected to undertake the work for the Home for the Holiday's Program, in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor; and,
- (e) That the General Manager of the Healthy and Safe Communities be directed to submit an Information Update to Council, reporting on the success of the program in the first quarter of 2020.