

Highlights

11,943	7536	233	286	15,965	41%	54%
Engage Hamilton Visitors	Engage Hamilton Contributors	Additional Comments	Protocol Notes	Individual Comments Submitted	Agree With Protocol Provisions	In Favour of Sanctioned Encampments Sites

Methods

Housing Services staff undertook quantitative summary and thematic analysis of the Engage Hamilton submissions. Additional comments submitted through other channels such as emailed comments, comments as a result of face-to-face public consultations, paper survey submissions etc. were also provided to Housing Services staff to include in the analysis. The data collection platform did not restrict multiple comments by submitters.

Summary statistics were generated for Engage Hamilton quantitative survey questions using MS Excel. Counts and percent values were generated. No confidence intervals were not included because of the voluntary non-representative nature of the survey.

Key messages and summary themes were derived from the Engage Hamilton submitted comments using a thematic analysis process. For the survey comments and annotated protocol comments, the process began with preliminary familiarization of the results and the development of the preliminary codebook. Additionally for the annotated protocol comments, the section where the comment was noted was also considered in the analysis. Codebook development initially focused on the comments associated with non-supportive responses to counterbalance any coding bias from Housing Services staff. Codebooks included preliminary descriptions and documentation of any coding decisions. Housing services reviewed comments and assigned codes. Any comments that contained results not in the original codebook were flagged for discussion where either new codes were developed or coding decisions were documented. Final coded results were reviewed themes and summarized into results and key messages. No theoretical framework was used to develop the codebook or themes given the broad open-ended questions posed.

Key Messages

Comment themes beyond general comments of support or non-support include:

- Measures should be taken to ensure safety for all community members, unhoused and community residents more broadly
- Garbage removal and management, including sharps debris, and sanitation are priorities for encampment sites
- Endorsed encampment site(s) should consider enforced rules or participant codes of conduct
- The City should explore the use of existing indoor space to temporarily house the homeless, including
 - Vacant City buildings
 - Vacant schools (e.g. Sir John A MacDonald)
 - Vacant or underutilized private buildings (e.g. office space, industrial buildings, faith-based buildings)
- The City should explore more permanent temporary housing options such as tiny structures or increased emergency shelter beds or other winterized options
- Many residents identified secondary impacts to the city as a result of permitting or endorsing encampments that caused concern.
- The City should invest in or choose to reallocate funding to longer-term solutions
 - Mental health and addictions supports or beds
 - Affordable housing
 - Rent and cost of living controls
 - Basic income

If the City was to allow for sanctioned encampment sites, what things would you like the City to prioritize/consider when implementing this approach (e.g., community aesthetics, impacts on City resources, safety of unhoused residents, services to unhoused residents)

- Sanctioned encampment site(s) should be considered for implementation in lieu of the encampment protocol
- Endorsed encampment site(s) should consider the required amenities, supports, and services

Are you in agreement with the provisions being recommended under the protocol? If not, what suggestions would you make to the protocol that ensures the City can still meet its obligations to compassionately assist unhoused residents? Do you have any ideas on how this protocol could be improved?

- Encampments should not be permitted in:
 - Places where children play (e.g. near schools, playgrounds, recreation centres)
 - City parks

- Close to residential neighbourhoods
- Encampments should possibly be permitted in:
 - Vacant City lots or greenspace
 - Underutilized campgrounds
 - Industrial/ commercial lands
- Lack of support for the current protocol is driven by:
 - Lack of evidence of effectiveness in other cities
 - Preference for sanctioned sites only with or without support service provision
 - Preference for temporary housing rather than permitted tents
 - Philosophical differences in the preferred approach (e.g. enforcement led vs human-centred/rights-based)
- There is limited agreement about the current protocol specifics

Key Messages Breakdown

Theme	Theme Driver	Summary	Illustrative Quotes
Theme Label	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High frequency • Cross question thread • High variability • Other 	Description of the theme	Illustrative example comments of the theme
Measures should be taken to ensure safety for all community members	High frequency	<p>Safety for unhoused residents as well as the community more broadly was identified as a key priority.</p> <p>This includes actions and supports to ensure safety of individuals experiencing homelessness and staying in an encampment, as well as actions to ensure nearby residents and visitors to the City of Hamilton feel safe. Safety concerns expressed include crime in general, harassment, property crime, petty theft, fire safety, violence, having security and ongoing site monitoring, perimeter fencing, and general health and safety related to waste and sanitation.</p>	<p><i>Safety for unhoused residents (they should not be hidden, making it easier for them to be subject to violence), location should be close to other social services (people need to be near their doctors, mental health supports, clinics, etc.), the city should provide access to bathrooms, showers, running water.</i></p> <p><i>Safety for all, no one wants to feel fear when navigating their daily routes, or to have to stare at the ground they walk on to make sure they don't step on any foreign objects</i></p> <p><i>Safety of the general public. This policy feels like the rights of the homeless are above everyone's else. The city makes no effort to ensure safety for everyone else, seems like the only priority is "homeless rights" even when these homeless harass and threaten members of the public, openly use drugs, leave unsafe drug paraphernalia in public, and trash public spaces</i></p> <p><i>It is likely that these encampments will result in an increase in crime in the areas in which they are set up. For the sake of area residents, it is important to enhance policing in those areas to make sure that the neighbourhoods in which the encampments are set up remain safe for existing residents. Services should be provided to unhoused residents to help</i></p>

Theme	Theme Driver	Summary	Illustrative Quotes
			<p><i>them find appropriate housing or deal with the issues that are causing them to be unhoused.</i></p> <p><i>Safety and services to those living in the encampments should be the top concerns</i></p> <p><i>Safety of the unhoused residents and safety in the surrounding neighbourhoods. Many bylaws exist for safety; doesn't seem wise to, for example, prevent open-air burning by residents for fire safety and air quality, but ignore open campfires and otherwise illegal use of propane on public property....Additionally, when encampments lead to crime, harassment, theft, public drug use and paraphernalia, tensions will invariably rise in the vicinity, threatening safety for all.</i></p> <p><i>A major priority is security. These sites must be safe for residents and housed neighbours. Encampment violence is a reality that must be dealt with. (If it is felt that police are not appropriate monitors for these sites, then city housing employees or social workers should be on site at all times - these sites MUST BE SAFE FOR ALL)</i></p>
<p>Garbage removal and management, including sharps debris, and sanitation are priorities for encampment sites</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>The accumulation of garbage, in particular sharps, as well as the sanitary conditions of the site was noted as a priority.</p> <p>Comments include those noting waste removal, waste receptacles, dumpsters, City clean up, sharps clean up, sharps containers, sanitary conditions, human waste, access to washrooms, and access to clean water.</p>	<p><i>Sanctioned sites only, no tents anywhere else, I am sick and tired of them sleeping anywhere causing trouble, intimating people, leaving garbage everywhere and needles on the ground.</i></p> <p><i>Easy access to sanitation similar to when Gage Park has festivals in the summer. There are numerous porta potties in several areas that are maintained. They also have had hand washing stations too.</i></p>

Theme	Theme Driver	Summary	Illustrative Quotes
			<p><i>Sanitation services (portable washrooms and water available for cleansing) and garbage removal should be key.</i></p> <p><i>Who becomes responsible for the site? Currently there is garbage strewn about the encampments. Who is going to maintain/clean the encampment? The protocol doesn't have any responsibilities listed for either the unhoused resident nor for the City.</i></p>
<p>Endorsed encampment sites should consider enforced rules or participant codes of conduct</p>	<p>Cross question thread</p>	<p>Commenters noted that there should be some accountability for participants who use encampments to follow agreed upon site rules or requirements.</p> <p>These comments include those that suggest that the protocol specifics need enforcement plan and resources, those that suggest a code of conduct or participation agreement should be in place, and those that identify consequences for not adhering to safety or site expectations or other relevant bylaws.</p>	<p><i>If anything there isn't enough consequences in the protocol, it can be more compassionate to intervene with purpose.</i></p> <p><i>Also, a code of conduct would be useful to protect some encampment users from others who may be behaving badly.</i></p> <p><i>The protocol should outline responsibilities (not limited to littering, needle safety, trespassing private property, etc.) expectations that must be met by unhoused individuals if choosing to live outside of sanctioned encampment. And the rights that protect them from harassment, and/or destruction of property. Even though the land they are on is not legally there's, the equipment and personal belongings is and should therefore be treated (temporarily) as their property.</i></p>
<p>The City should explore the use of existing indoor space to temporarily house the homeless</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>As an alternative to planned outdoor encampments, many commenters identified that the City should explore the use of existing vacant or underutilized spaces. These spaces include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant City buildings 	<p><i>Using the numerous vacant buildings throughout the city instead o outside subjecting them to the weather elements without public toilets/ showers etc.</i></p> <p><i>Fix up Sir John a Macdonald school and other dilapidating buildings around the city and house them there.</i></p>

Theme	Theme Driver	Summary	Illustrative Quotes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant schools (e.g. Sir John A MacDonald) • Vacant or underutilized private buildings (e.g. office space, industrial building, faith-based buildings) 	<p><i>Unhoused people could be housed temporarily in buildings that are no longer in use. Such as Churches, schools, stores, factories etc.</i></p> <p><i>There are vacant lots of land throughout Hamilton (Upper Ottawa/ Stonechurch Rd.) There is a now barricaded, and previously run down and infested townhouse community (James St. N before Picton St)... why can't the city of Hamilton build there? Or at the very least make an encampment in those locations?</i></p> <p><i>There are many vacant city properties. Identify what ones would be suitable and get to work! Use unused public buildings for housing. I.e., unused schools and office and commercial space. How can you expect these people to live in tents? How inhumane. Petition the Federal and Provincial governments for funding. Pressure our elected officials to actually speak up on our behalf. Canada should be seeing to their citizens first. How disheartening to see such times.</i></p>
<p>The City should explore alternative temporary housing options</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>As an alternative to planned outdoor encampments, many commenters identified that the City should explore alternative temporary housing options. This includes tiny homes, increased shelter beds, and field hospital bed.</p>	<p><i>A sanctioned encampment should closely resemble the Covid 19 hospital expansion built by HHS in a parking lot near the corner of Wellington St N and Barton St E. The site used substantial military type tents with services needed and managed by the hospital. I would suggest this same type of tent-service complex should be again constructed, maybe even on the same site as it was previously considered suitable. Covid 19 was an emergency and this suited the temporary emergency need. Lack of adequate available housing is an emergency as defined by City Council. The same emergency response seems appropriate and should be maintained until more substantial permanent</i></p>

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			<p><i>affordable housing can be built over the next several years.</i></p> <p><i>Increase shelter beds, use motel vouchers to take people of the streets and open temporary shelter homes to move unhoused residents.</i></p> <p><i>Investment needs to be made in appropriate housing solutions - full stop. The city has a wealth of under-developed land that could support new facilities or alternative housing models (e.g., tiny homes, pop-up housing). Seems fertile ground for multi-level or a public-private partnership with Non-profits/ foundations. Site selection is key, but there are lands available.</i></p> <p><i>Not in agreement with encampments! In freezing temperatures and high heat, we don't leave our pets outside. We need tiny homes for people. Let's make this happen!</i></p> <p><i>Provide alternative local solutions - tiny houses project, shelter funding, or programs that can support safe use/injection. Alternatively, fund transportation to an area of choice with these program options and availability.</i></p> <p><i>Perhaps tiny houses on unused industrial lands with very basic amenities & security.</i></p> <p><i>Consider green space that already has some infrastructure and where outreach can go, for example Sir John A school and turn on the power and water, or Confederation park, not encampments in city parks where children play, (or then can't safely play), especially in underprivileged areas where</i></p>

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<p>The community identify a wide range of general concerns.</p>	<p>High variability</p>	<p>Many residents identified secondary impacts to the city as a result of permitting or endorsing encampments that caused concern.</p> <p>Some highlighted concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property values to adjacent properties • Increased service demands from other communities • Impacts to residential taxes and affordability <p>Some identified potential solutions to address the concerns include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary residential tax reduction for surrounding areas • Partnership with neighbouring municipalities • Advocacy to other levels of government who are better positioned to address the issues of basic income, immigration, and housing affordability 	<p><i>children already have so few to no other options for recreation, entertainment, and outdoor play.</i></p> <p><i>There needs to be funds or reduction in taxes to property owners near the encampments to compensate for the loss in property value due to encampments.</i></p> <p><i>When these encampments are allowed it opens the doors for all homeless from other cities to move to Hamilton.</i></p> <p><i>this problem needs to be addressed from a provincial/federal level by supplying funding and housing and community supports. municipalities are suckers in this game and are in no way equipped to deal with this problem. bring forward a report to council that outlines a strategy to join with other municipalities to force higher levels of government to deal with this.</i></p> <p><i>The City needs to have all hands-on-deck and can't be expected to shoulder the task by itself, without the help of senior levels of government and our social service agencies.</i></p> <p><i>If we don't have housing for individuals then perhaps we have too many in Hamilton and numbers need to be shared equally with other area, Burlington, Oakville etc., why does Hamilton have to take on the major brunt of social assistance, as tax payers</i></p>
<p>The City should invest in or choose to reallocate funding to longer-terms solutions</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>The following longer-term solutions were identified as high-priority areas of focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health and addictions supports or beds • Affordable housing • Rent and cost of living controls 	<p><i>We need affordable housing for those that are currently forced to live outside in tents.</i></p> <p><i>Need to focus on a sustainable plan. Sanctioned encampments are not a practical solution in our climate- extreme temperatures in both summer in</i></p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic income <p>Comments include those noting that City investments and advocacy focus should be reallocated or assigned to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mental health and addictions related support services such as treatment programs, institutional care, detox, rehabilitation, counselling, psychiatric supports • housing solutions such as more supportive housing, more affordable housing, more, government housing, rooming houses, subsidized housing • rent control, rent-geared to income services, subsidies, vouchers • income supports such as increased Ontario Works and Ontario Disability Support Program payments, guaranteed income 	<p><i>winter. Need to keep working on shelter spaces / subsidized housing long term. Temporarily bring the services needed out to the people.</i></p> <p><i>The protocol must also have upstream work being done to limit multiple income property ownership without appropriate rent control and taxation.</i></p> <p><i>Commit to a basic income and see it through. If we truly want to end homelessness, it is going to cost \$. But, if it works, it pays for itself by having renewed citizens. Will it fix every situation? Probably not. But at least we could prove we did our best.</i></p> <p><i>Enforce or establish requirements that new buildings have 20% of units for lower income. Creating more housing is the long-term solution</i></p>
<p>Sanctioned encampment sites should be considered for implementation in lieu of the encampment protocol</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>Commenters noted that there was a preference for designated encampment sites rather than the site self-selection permitted by the encampment protocol.</p> <p>Reasons noted for this preference was ease of support service provision, community aesthetics, coordination of supports and site management and monitoring.</p>	<p><i>I think that any encampments that are allowed without any basic health and sanitation services are not doing anyone any good. They are unpleasant at best for housed neighbours and people using parks and trails. More significantly, they are not healthy for the encamped, and they are not sustainable throughout the winter. We simply must create sanctioned sites and/or tiny homes which will include basic amenities such as washrooms and showers, and access to clean drinking water. This is the only way to deal with the homeless crisis in a way that is safe for everyone.</i></p>

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			<p><i>Ensure accessible sanctioned sites across the city, and don't permit encampments outside this. In practical reality It's the only way to appropriately regulate and support this marginalized group with efficient resource allocation. It's better for everyone</i></p> <p><i>Do not permit living outside of sanctioned areas. If we're going to put the effort into creating and enforcing sanctioned areas, we're undermining those efforts with permitting encampments in unsanctioned areas.</i></p>
<p>Endorsed encampment sites should consider providing the required amenities, supports, and services</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>Commenters noted that providing supports to unhoused persons was a priority.</p> <p>The supports identified include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental health and addiction support services including harm reduction services • Medical services for physical health needs such as nurses, paramedics • Assessment and counselling services to provide individualized supports to help individuals move to alternative housing options other than an encampment. For example, emergency shelter, treatment program, transitional housing, or permanent housing • Access to services to meet basic needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ access to running water and drinking water ○ washroom and shower facilities (access to pre- 	<p><i>services are key in order to ensure that encampments provide stability to unhoused residents; being homeless is very stressful and destabilizing; kitchen and washroom facilities, shelter, and staff to provide support is a minimum -- beyond this medium-term step, long term solutions are more important. Many people simply cannot afford market rent, if in fact they can even find a place available.</i></p> <p><i>Safety and services! Toilets, sanitation, water, harm reduction, resources, EVERYTHING they need to take care of themselves while in these circumstances.</i></p> <p><i>Daily services to check on encampment residents - EMS or nurse check ins (like social navigator), harm reduction supplies (safe drug use equipment), garbage collection, mental health outreach (not police officers). Avoid engagement with law enforcement as much as possible.</i></p> <p><i>Community supports need to visit the encampment daily, location of the encampment (if it is away from access to everyday services, how will the residents of the encampment get into the city), security/policing required 24/7</i></p>

Theme	Theme Driver	Summary	Illustrative Quotes
		<p>existing or mobile toilets and showers brought in)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ access to food (for example, mobile food options such as food trucks, regular meal or food hamper delivery, on-site food preparation and safe storage, or close proximity to grocery stores or fast-food chains) ○ garbage removal and sanitation of site overall and washroom and shower facilities on site ○ personal belonging safe-keeping 	<p><i>provide access to places for garbage, hygiene (bathrooms, showers etc.), social service and police visits</i></p> <p><i>Ensure that clean, potable water is available at all times; provide and maintain multiple public bathrooms around the city, not just in sanctioned encampment sites; provide shower facilities; provide basic facilities and supplies to prepare food and drinks; provide laundry facilities; provide safe and secure storage facilities; ensure residents will not be criminalized or policed; provide mental and physical health supports; provide drug testing and naloxone.</i></p> <p><i>Social supports for folks living in the encampments (ie outreach workers to support with hygiene materials, food, harm reduction supplies, first aid kits, sleeping bags etc). Medical supports such as street nursing visiting the site on a scheduled day to provide services (ie wound care, primary care, infectious disease point of care testing/treatment HIV/Hep C). Safety protocols without police involvement. Strongly believe police involvement would be triggering for many residents and likely cause more harm, I believe when looking at how safety protocols can be in place mental health professionals should be involved over police. Community cleaning and access to sharps containers. Food outreach services, and access to public washrooms and/or portable washrooms on the encampment site...What have unhoused community members said about this approach and services they need? Folks know their needs best!</i></p>
Encampments should not be permitted in certain areas	High frequency	Commenters identified the following locations as places where they would not like to see encampments or tents:	<i>Encampments should be away from schools, parks and anywhere children may be alone or families.</i>

Theme	Theme Driver	Summary	Illustrative Quotes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Places where children play (e.g. near schools, playgrounds) • City parks • Close to residential neighbourhoods 	<p><i>Allowing encampments in City Parks where families with children and pets are going to enjoy is not a good "fix" to these problems. Encampments are unsanitary and garbage is strewn everywhere making the city green spaces an eyesore. Community Aesthetics are important to bring new businesses into the city and unfortunately this will not happen if every green space has an encampment in it.</i></p> <p><i>Locations away from city parks and residences if possible to ensure the safety of citizens, especially children. Encampments should not be allowed outside of these zones. Children should not be exposed to violence or drug paraphernalia.</i></p>
<p>Encampments should possibly be permitted in certain areas</p>	<p>High frequency</p>	<p>Commenters identified the following locations as places where encampments or tents could be permitted but there is no clear consensus on which areas of the city are most appropriate (e.g. downtown, outside urban areas, distribution of sites)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vacant City lots or greenspace • Underutilized campgrounds • Industrial/ commercial lands 	<p><i>an area that is away from neighborhoods, schools. Perhaps an empty lot in the industrial area. No one wants an encampment near their home.</i></p> <p><i>We agree with Sanctioned Sites as currently outlined by the city...Sanctioned sites should be located as to not infringe on local resident's enjoyment of their neighbourhood....Being a homeowner on Caroline St. North, near Central Park, we would recommend a sanctioned site on the empty lots north of Barton. It also needs to be recognized by the city, that being a resident on Caroline St. North, that the Central Park encampment has already increased fear in the community regarding the safety of our person & property & enjoyment of our neighbourhood... Property values have decreased dramatically.</i></p> <p><i>Turn the half of confederation park that was campgrounds back into a camp with shower and toilet facilities.</i></p>

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			<p><i>The sanctioned areas should be located in a commercial or industrial area away from schools and the entertainment district. This provides a location for services to be provided to the homeless while also alleviating issues with schools and public places being overrun by tents.</i></p> <p><i>Make a real campsite for Hamilton, include water facilities but no electricity...Let the campers purchase their own generators or have a lease to own system for power generators... Please don't turn our playgrounds into campgrounds, nobody should be intimidated ...it is nerve wracking for us as parents and children to be so close to poverty-stricken people!</i></p> <p><i>There are many underutilized industrial- or commercial-zoned lands around the city that are near public transportation but also not close to people's homes, parks or schools. For example, along Burlington Street. Or, the Barton and Gage site suggested by the Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters</i></p>
Lack of support for the current protocol	Cross question thread	<p>The primary drivers identified as reason why the current proposed protocol was not supported include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of evidence of effectiveness in other cities • Preference for sanctioned sites only with or without support service provision • Preference for temporary housing rather than permitted tents • Philosophical differences in the preferred approach (e.g. enforcement led vs human-centred/ rights-based) 	<p><i>More shelters. Send to other cities with more capacity so Hamilton doesn't have to weather this financial and health burden alone. Encampments beget more unhoused people who will come here, exacerbating the problem we already can't afford to solve. Look at San Francisco. Please walk an alternate path and respect your tax payers who deserve a clean and safe city. Solving a problem for one group should not create a wealth of problems for a larger group</i></p> <p><i>This is the stupidest idea Hamilton has ever had. It is not going to be how you think it will be. Look at Portland OR or San Francisco CA. The homeless population has increased drastically after allowing</i></p>

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			<p><i>these same things to happen. What you're trying to do isn't new, it's been done already in major cities and look at the state those places are in.</i></p> <p><i>Absolutely no unsanctioned site</i></p> <p><i>All the money that has been used to deal with this matter should have been placed into affordable housing; getting to families facing poverty early, etc. Hamilton has done a very poor job at dealing with the root cause of the issue.</i></p> <p><i>Unhoused residents need INDOOR housing with mental health and medical services. Hamilton is one of the largest medical cities in the country, in addition to having many unused/empty buildings. WE CAN DO BETTER THAN PUTTING PEOPLE INTENTS ACROSS THE CITY...health and safety of all people is necessary!</i></p> <p><i>This is a housing issue for the minority. This is a drug and mental health problem disguised as a housing issue. Get rid of the encampments in the parks. Force them into housing or force them into jail. Uphold the parks bylaw</i></p>
<p>There is limited agreement about the current protocol specifics</p>	<p>High variability</p>	<p>There is limited agreement about the current protocol specifics. Some suggestions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prohibit tents in City parks • Increase distances from private property and transit stops/ hubs • Increase distances from schools, daycare, playgrounds, waterpark, spray pads • Decrease distances from sport fields 	<p>NOT IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS. NOT NEAR SCHOOLS. NOT IN PARKS THAT CHILDREN ATTEND...50 metres is essentially 50 giant steps. That's half of a 100 m dash which can be run in like 20 seconds. Are you all serious?</p> <p><i>Not far enough away from private property, I think. I would be interested in hearing the rationalization for 5m, but I think 50m would be much better.</i></p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce restriction related to bridges, cemeteries, golf courses, highways, and attachment to permanent structures • Specify inclusion of parks pathways and multi-use pathways and trails as prohibited areas • Include details for permissible heat and/or cooking options • Identify or provide a map of permissible locations • Include protocol enforcement and monitoring schedule specifics • Specify complaints processes and response times • Reduce or clarify escalated enforcement or removal of belonging including giving notice, warnings. exceptions • Specify protocol performance measures • Specify the timeline that the protocol would be in effect • Increase timeline for identifying and addressing potentially abandoned sites • Clarify additional expectations related to other bylaws e.g. tree removal, responsible animal ownership • No clear consensus on the preferred tent cluster size • No clear consensus on the whether the protocol is too restrictive or not restrictive enough 	<p><i>50m is not far enough from parks, daycares and schools</i></p> <p><i>50 m from any sports field is overly restrictive (Kaye Drage is a perfect location for several sites), and perhaps there should be a time of year exemption, such that in off-seasons these areas (which would not be in use) are able to host sanctioned encampments.</i></p> <p><i>I'm not sure why cemeteries are restricted. The dead aren't capable of being inconvenienced by the unhoused.</i></p> <p><i>Please ensure that these are sufficiently important to warrant being on a list that creates restrictions for folks needing the human right of shelter. Particularly "golf courses" but potentially also others seems over reaching.</i></p> <p><i>I don't think distance to highways should be regulated.</i></p> <p><i>It is unclear to me why "any pathway or sidewalk under a bridge" would be prohibited. The health and safety issue is completely unclear to me. This seems like it would be a good place, given the shelter the bridge would provide.</i></p> <p><i>Please ensure that the definition of "sidewalk" includes park pathways and multi-use trails and is not only limited to sidewalks that are part of the public right-of-way.</i></p> <p><i>Fire is a big risk, but these are typically used for warmth and cooking. If we are strictly applying the fire restrictions that already exist, we need to provide other options for warmth and cooking.</i></p>

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			<p><i>The protocol is a good start, there are a few gaps that make the encampment logistics difficult to understand. The provision of some kind of map showing potential locations that would be acceptable would go a long way to helping to make the policy usable for a diverse unhoused population. I'm not sure if assigning acceptable encampment areas would be possible (or accepted by unhoused populations), but assigning encampment locations based on family or friend groups up to 5 may be a good opportunity to ensure that encampments are created in successful locations rather than needing to be relocated due to the initial location not meeting policy. Taking the uncertainty out of setting up an encampment seems like a positive way to foster goodwill for unhoused populations.</i></p> <p><i>What about individuals whose quality of life is negatively affected by encampments, or whose safety is compromised? Will there be a mechanism for filing a complaint or requesting help?</i></p> <p><i>This should be changed to "may" to allow for some discretion. Two examples where some flexibility would be helpful: First, if there are no apparent safety issues and no community complaints, the lack of discretion translates to an unnecessary use of city resources and a major inconvenience for unhoused neighbours who we can assume, in most cases, will have made best efforts to follow the complex rules of the protocol. Second, discretion would be helpful in situations where best efforts have been made to follow the protocol but, due to space constraints for instance, an encampment is slightly outside the rules of the protocol.</i></p>

Specific Site Locations for Sanctioned Encampments Identified by Respondents:

Area/Location Identified in Public Comments	Nearest Address Identified
Vacant Stelco/Dofasco lands (i.e., abandoned buildings, unused parking lots), such as the site north of Burlington, East of Gage	386 Wilcox St, several additional locations
Tiffany-Barton lots (x3)	239 Caroline St N
City Hall and City Hall Parking Lots (i.e., lot 40)	78 Bay St S
Ancaster	N/A
Dundas	N/A
Binbrook	N/A
Upper Ottawa/Stonechurch Rd.	1375 Upper Ottawa
Woodlands park	501 Barton St E
Sir John A Macdonald school	130 York Blvd
Northeast corner of West fifth and Fennell Avenue	282 Fennel Ave W
Frid Street	606 Aberdeen Ave
Fortinos plaza on Dundurn and King St. W.	50 Dundurn St S
Temporary 'field hospital' that was setup adjacent to the General Hospital	191 Barton St E
Waterdown	N/A
Carlisle	N/A
Mount Hope	N/A

Farmland	N/A
Conservation Areas	N/A
Delta Secondary School	Main St E and Graham Ave S
At Juravinki psychiatric institute site	282 Fennel Ave W
Townhouse community (James St. N before Picton St)	419 James St N
Vacant property north of Barton and Gage	43 Lloyd St
Lands where the old Sanatorium was located	870 Scenic Drive
Gibson Street Elementary School	601 Barton St E
Kaye Drage park	200 Macklin St N
Birch and Brant St areas	Birch St (no number identified)
City parking lots	Several locations
Chedoke Golf park	18 Mountside
Areas around Rail trail	Unsure, escarpment open space
Auchmar House Lands	88 Fennell Ave W
Confederation Park	680 Van Wagner's Beach Rd
Lots along King east of Wentworth that burned down years ago	670 King St E
The toxic land near Collective Arts (the one that had old barrels discovered on it).	350 Wentworth St N
Gore Park	1 Hughson St S
Eastwood Park	111 Burlington St E

Cathedral Park	40 Carling St
Hamilton City Centre	77 James St N
Several city parks already have washrooms, picnic pavilions and security lighting in place. eg:Turner Park, Dundas Driving Park, Battlefield Park. These parks would be ideal first picks. Other parks ,eg: Lawfield Park, have connected Recreation Facilities, these parks would also be ideal, as they also have safe toileting facilities and an added indoor space, this indoor space (often with a kitchen) could be utilized at a reduced or "free" rate by local charities looking to assist the tented population	Several locations
Former Hamilton Scout Shop	375 James St S