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# HOUSING SUSTAINABILITY AND INVESTMENT ROADMAP 2024 ANNUAL UPDATE AND 2025 OBJECTIVE SETTING

**General Issues Committee November 20, 2024** 

# Agenda

- 1. Introduction Investment in Housing
- 2. 2024 Achievements: Whole of Hamilton
- 3. Recommendations
- 4. Affordable Housing Development Project Stream
- 5. Housing Accelerator Fund
- 6. Finance and Acquisition Action Plan
- 7. Housing Needs Assessment
- 8. 2025 Program of Work



### Housing Sustainability & Investment Roadmap

### Acknowledgments

- Steering Committee
- Advisory Committee
- Hamilton is Home
- Hamilton Community Foundation
- Canadian Housing Evidence Collaborative (CHEC)



## Four Pillars of the Roadmap

#### **New construction**



- Build affordable units
- Identify land and integrated developments
- New financing strategies

Acquisition of at-risk affordable housing



- Strategic purchase of "at-risk" affordable market units
- Business cases analysis for land and/or under-utilized buildings
- Create Acquisition Assistance Fund

Preservation of existing affordable housing



- Repair existing RGI units
- Create Portable Housing Allowances
- Policies to protect market rental units

Increasing the provision of housing-based supports



- New supportive housing units
- Increase supports for people with high acuity needs
- Invest in ending chronic homelessness
- Transform the RCF system to meet tenant needs



## **Unit Targets**

### **Affordable Housing**

10-Year Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 350 affordable units at 80% AMR



Housing Sustainability and Investment Roadmap
350 moderately affordable units at 125% AMR

Housing Accelerator Fund
200 affordable units at 100% AMR

### **Supportive Housing**

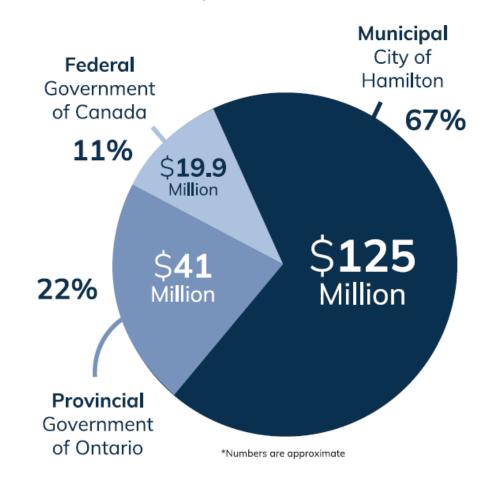
200 units over three years





# Investments in Housing

#### Total Investments \$185.9 Million







Affordable. Housing \$21.3 Million



Tenant Supports

\$23.6 Million



Social Housing \$93.6 Million



Shelters \$39.1 Million



Encampments

\$8.3 Million



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1. New Construction

**2.** Acquisition of at-risk affordable housing

**3.** Preservation of existing affordable housing

**4.** Increasing provision of housing-based supports









### WHOLE OF HAMILTON

Housing supports



**Housing** services



Tenant and landlord resources



Preventing and ending homelessness





### **New Construction**

### 2024 Achievements

### **Additional Dwelling Units**

225 January to June 2024 (appox.)

#### **Affordable Housing**

CityHousing Hamilton Corporation (106 Bay St. North): 55 units

#### **Student Housing**

- McMaster's Graduate Student Residence: 453 units / 644 beds
- Mohawk College's Linden Hall: 150 units / 300 beds

#### **Upcoming**

- Acorn Flats: 23 units
- Victoria Park Community Homes: 261 units
- Hamilton East Kiwanis: 124 units
- CityHousing Hamilton Corporate (55 Queenston Rd & 1620 Main St. E): 82 units
- McMaster's Lincoln Alexander Hall: 1,366 beds (student housing)





### **Preserve and Retain** (Ongoing)

1,913 rental units



### **Housing Based Supports**

- CityHousing Hamilton/Indwell (King William):
   24 units
- St. Matthew's House: 15 units (2025 occupancy)
- Sacajawea: 40 units (upcoming)





### **Housing Secretariat**

- Organizational structure
- Community and industry partnerships
- Transit-Oriented Affordable Housing Fund
- Relationship with indigenous stakeholders
- Delegated authorities





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### **CityHousing Hamilton Corporation**

## 2024 Achievements

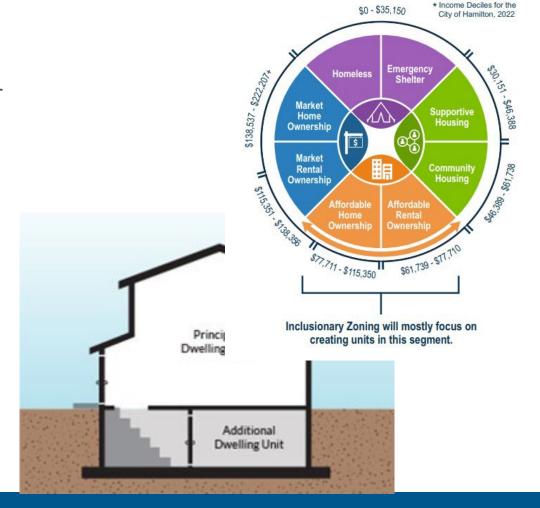
- September 30 data:
- 397 homes were repaired and occupied with additional funding support from the City of Hamilton.
   On track to complete 476 home repairs.
- 604 households housed year-to-date.
- Reduced attritional vacancy rate from 9.07% (March 2023) to 3.68% (Sep. 2024). On track to reach 2% rate by end of 2024.





#### **Sustainable Communities**

- Inclusionary Zoning Market Feasibility Study and Major
   Transit Station Areas
- Rental Housing Protection By-Law and Policy Review
- Additional Dwelling Unit Zoning Permissions
- Residential Zones Project
- Updates to Low Density Residential designations





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### **Licensing and By-Law Services**

- Approval of the Hamilton Apartment Rental Program
  - o First in Ontario, Renovation Licence and Relocation By-law
  - Safe Apartment Buildings By-law
- Rental Housing Licensing Pilot
  - Wards 1, 8, and part of 14
  - Two-year pilot program to conclude December 31, 2025





### **Communications and Engagement**

- "Whole of Hamilton Housing Approach" dedicated webpage (<u>www.hamilton.ca/housinginvestments</u>)
- Public communication on the Affordable Housing Development (ADH) Project Stream
- Communications campaign for the Housing Accelerator Fund program, including print and digital media, radio ads, and social media outreach





#### **Government Relations**

## 2024 Achievements

- Shovel-Ready Affordable Housing Tour with Paul Calandra, Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
- Delegation with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing at the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) conference
- Provided Whole of Hamilton housing briefing notes to all AMO delegations
- Meeting with Sean Fraser, Canada's Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities





### **Long Term Care**

 Macassa Lodge redevelopment expected to be completed by 2026 consisting of a new wing for 64 residents, with 20 net new LTC beds.





#### **Children's and Community Services**

- Priority ward approach for all new child-care spaces
- Directed growth application process
- 26 new child-care spaces at 555 Queenston
   Road (YWCA)





### **Corporate Real Estate Office**

- Ongoing development of 6 surplus properties for the development of affordable housing, representing approximately 170+ units
- Developed the City-owned Property for Affordable Housing Strategy





#### **Indigenous Relations**

- Projects submitted through the Affordable Housing Development Project Stream
- Membership in HSIR Steering Committee
- Liaison between the Housing Secretariat and CHIL and Circle of Beads





#### **Hamilton Water**

- \$9.45 Million in grant funding through the Provincial Housing Enabling Water Systems Fund for watermain replacements/upsizing to enable approx.
   24,450 new housing units
- Preparing for update to City's Water, Wastewater and Stormwater Masterplan to identify infrastructure needed to support community growth





#### **Housing Services**

- Council Approval to create temporary 192 additional shelter beds, and 80 temporary outdoor shelter spaces
- Council Approval of Municipal Portable Housing Benefit
- Building Condition Assessments
- End-of-mortgage agreements
- Tenant Support Program



#### **Corporate Services**

- Supportive Housing Account: \$31M
- Affordable Housing Fund: \$4M
- Development Charge Exemptions for Affordable Housing





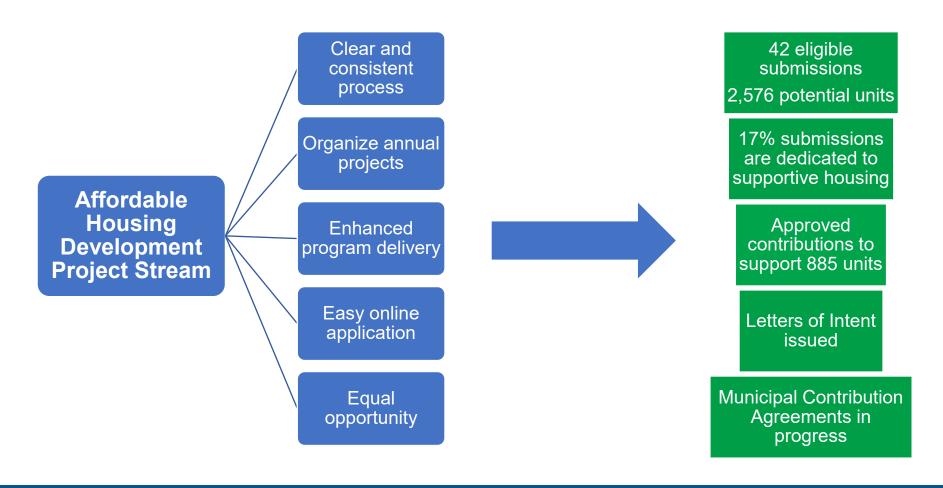


## Report Recommendations

- Receive progress on the Year 2 Program of Work
- Approve 2025 Program of Work
- Receive Draft Housing Needs Assessment
- Receive Draft Finance and Acquisition Plan
- Delegated authority to the Executive Committee to enter into financial agreements of up to \$6.0M
- Delegated authority to the General Manager, Planning and Economic Development and/or Chief Corporate Real Estate Officer as it relates to disposition of surplus lands
- Direction to apply for additional funding



### Affordable Housing Development Project Stream





## Draft Housing Needs Assessment



**Overview** 

Conducting a Housing Needs Assessment to meet requirements of Housing Accelerator Fund Program (Initiative 6)... building on Inclusionary Zoning Housing Needs Assessment (2022-present)

**Draft report: June – Nov, 2024** 

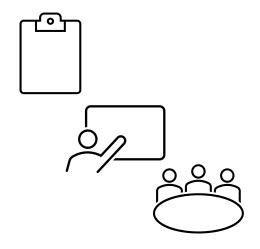
- Data collection > quantitative analysis
- Public consultation > What we Heard

**Surveys Completed: 279** 

**Community Pop-ups:** 12 across the city

Focus Groups: 4 with key stakeholders

Final report: Dec 2024





## Draft Housing Needs Assessment

### **Key Housing Insights**

- Affordable Rental Demand: growing need for affordable rental units, with many renters in Hamilton facing affordability issues
- Aging Housing Stock: over 32% of housing was built before 1960, creating a need for rehabilitation without higher rents
- Housing Diversity: demand for both smaller ownership units and larger family-sized rentals
- Support for Aging Population: need for affordable, supportive housing as Hamilton's population of seniors continues to grow





37,120 purpose-built rental units



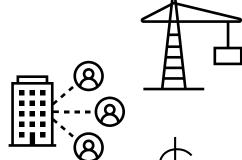
## Draft Housing Needs Assessment

### **Next Steps**

### Final Report (December 2024):

- Policy/program context
- Review of housing continuum definitions
- Construction cost benchmark analysis
- Housing targets, and investment recommendations





#### **Future work:**

- Deeper engagement and research with underrepresented groups (Urban Indigenous)
- Leverage up-to-date data for government advocacy
- Identify vulnerabilities in housing continuum
- Implement Whole of Hamilton solutions





### HOUSING ACCELERATOR FUND

We are taking action to move housing forward in Hamilton



Hamilton

# Housing Accelerator Fund

- \$93.5 Million allocation from CMHC
- Target: 2,675 net new units in three years, achieved through seven different initiatives
- Three public-facing direct-building incentives
  - Accessory Dwelling Units and Multi-plex Housing Incentive Program
  - Rapid Transit Multi-Residential Rental Housing Incentive Program
  - Housing Acceleration Inventive Program
- Next Steps
  - Continued communications campaign
  - Improvements to application process
  - Annual reporting





## Finance and Acquisition Action Plan

- Purpose: to assist in the purchase of private rental units
- 2-year pilot plan
  - Target: 100 units
  - Capital financing: \$5.0M
  - Rent supplements: \$300k
  - 10-year property tax exemption



- Next Steps
  - Program guidelines
  - Social debenture program



## 2025 Program of Work

#### 1. Housing Secretariat Division

- Continue developing capacity within the Housing Secretariat Division
- Continue collaboration with internal and external stakeholders
- Expand Governance Structure to include Indigenous Stakeholders

#### 2. Advance affordable and supportive housing projects

- Implementation of the Finance and Acquisition Action Plan
- Continue to identify sources of funding
- Leverage all available municipal mechanisms to advance pre-qualified projects
- Conduct a review of municipal funds received from upper levels of government to ensure maximum benefit
- Continue to identify municipal lands for affordable housing development
- Implementation of the HSIR Reserve

#### 3. Implement HSIR Government Relations Strategy and Communications and Engagement Plan

- Take a Whole of Hamilton approach; coordinate with stakeholders across the continuum
- Promote key messages and success stories; demonstrate collective will and readiness
- Launch HSIR newsletter and continue expanding website
- Continue Community Partnership Action Table and support representation from people with lived experience



## 2025 Program of Work

#### 4. Program Enhancements

- Continued implementation of the Housing Accelerator Fund and AHD Project Stream
- Leverage the data from the Housing Needs Assessment

#### 5. Oversight of existing housing stock

- Monitor CHH's 20-year Development Strategy, and complementary Action Plan
- Monitor progress on the Building Condition Assessments for social housing providers
- Continue to monitor end-of-mortgage agreements
- Continue to advocate for funding to operationalize housing with supports

## 6. Continue to monitor the needs of emergency response and the homelessness service system





# THANK YOU