

HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE

Delegation to Council

April 29, 2024

Workplan



What we have achieved so far?

	Deliverable / Project	Status
1.	Make recommendations to adjust Zoning and land use policies to further support affordable housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">HTF monitored development and commitment as for trends and options regarding affordable housing at both the federal and provincial levels of government
2.	Temporary spaces in Community Centres. Focus: -Alder -Kinsmen/Kinette Room -Mill Street Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assess local shelter operating hours and address any operating challengesConduct an environmental scan of available indoor spaces (public and private) for possible 'warming centre' utilization avoiding duplication of services with other agenciesConfirm community centre hours and determine gap in service hours to support 'warming centre'Through Community Services division initiate 'warming centres' at Alder, Tony Rose and Library for winter 2024 and 'cooling centres' summer 2024 (to include the training of Facility staff under the R-Zone policy)Publicize this initiative <div>Status: On-going Lead: Community Services Division</div>

What we have achieved so far?

	Deliverable / Project	Status
3.	Advocate on behalf of the needs of homeless/near homeless at all levels of governments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identify governmental agencies responsible for supporting vulnerable people• Develop tactics and timelines to address deficiencies• Who should be included in the conversation - County of Dufferin<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Provincial agencies- AMO resources- Faith-based organizations

Emerging Themes

What influenced our work?

- Sustainability of DMS – Dufferin Men's Shelter
- Out of the Cold Program need
- Varied forms of Affordable Housing are required in Orangeville *(e.g., Tiny Homes, Laneway Homes, repurposing of existing facilities)* to move individuals from homelessness to home

- **Both Provincial and Federal governments are committed to addressing the Affordable Housing crisis**
- **Commitment by SHIP 236 First Street Housing project** *(May 2024)*
- **Exploration dialogue with HfH** *(Habitat for Humanity)* **on a possible affordable housing project**
- **Barriers – recognize barriers (peoples' past/present/future); barriers to motel program; not enough motel space**

Concerns



Opportunity to Share Feedback with Council.

- Upon the start-up of the HTF (*Jan 2023*) concerns regarding the viability of the DMS due to financial and board challenges
- Growing numbers of visible vulnerable individuals in town (*typically during the spring to fall*) How best to address their housing needs and homelessness challenges
- Need to establish 'warming centres' during pre-determined cold-temperature threshold

- The Town doesn't have dedicated resources (*both financial and personnel*) to properly support homelessness in Orangeville
- Planning Act and Zoning issues (*need to allow for more affordable housing or other alternate housing*); Land Use Policy;
- County is not recognizing needs and that is why the Town started this Task Force

Recommendations

Recommendations – ‘Housing and Support Services are a Human Right!’

- **Encourage County to focus on growing homelessness in the County**
- **To conclude the HTF – Homelessness Task Force – *April 2024* due to Motion led by Mayor Post (County Council appointee) to form a County-led HTF***
- **Council commit to annual funding in OOTC program and to establish partnership with ‘faith-based’ organization to operationalize**
- **With established ‘warming centres’, consider a broader ‘mean’ temperature when declaring they are open (zero degree vs. -5)**

- **Flag Town owned land (*as per Infrastructure Services Land Inventory Report*) that could be used for affordable housing initiatives**
- **Address creative options on finding homes for homeless**
- **Approve Terms of Reference for new Affordable Housing Task Force for September 2024 start with Task Force recruitment during the summer**

(To align with the Town's ability to address emerging financial initiatives at the Provincial and Federal level or possible partnerships)