

Overview of Approach/Methodology

The methodology used for this project is derived from the Housing Assessment Resource Tools project developed through a collaboration between the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and the University of British Columbia, incorporating both quantitative and qualitative data to help the City understand affordable housing needs in Edmonton.

Quantitative data was primarily sourced from the Statistics Canada 2016 Census and Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Qualitative data came from one-on-one interviews with 47 community organizations across the housing and homelessness sector. Interviews offered opportunities for staff to add insights into the housing needs and challenges of the individuals they serve. A secondary purpose of these interviews was to gain access to any available data collected by these organizations, in aggregate form, for incorporation into the final report.

Priority Population Groups

Because particular population groups face higher rates of core housing need, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation has identified 12 priority population groups for affordable housing in alignment with the National Housing Strategy. The Housing Assessment Resource Tools project added a 13th group: female-headed households and specifically single mothers. The 13 priority population groups considered for this HNA are as follows:

- Women and children fleeing domestic violence
- Female heads of households, especially single mothers
- Seniors 65+
- Young adults aged 18-29
- Indigenous peoples
- Racialized people
- Recent immigrants, especially refugees
- LGBTQ2S+
- People with physical health or mobility challenges
- People with developmental disabilities
- People dealing with mental health and addictions issues
- Veterans
- People experiencing homelessness

When considering housing options, each priority population group will have different needs and considerations.

Most people do not fall into a single category; it is important to recognize that intersectional identities of multiple individuals within households can influence housing need).

Engagement will be widened to include individuals with lived and living experiences over the course of the summer 2022. The results of this engagement will be included in the final report.

Next Steps

Administration has enlisted the services of consultant InWithForward, a social design organization which specializes in working with people experiencing the realities of poverty and social isolation, to reframe outcomes and co-develop interventions. InWithForward will recruit and shadow 26 individuals who fall into the priority population groups.

Administration has also enlisted the services of EndPovertyEdmonton and the Community University Partnership at the University of Alberta. They will conduct additional interviews with people with lived and living experiences. EndPovertyEdmonton is a community initiative that prioritizes action on reconciliation, the elimination of racism, as well as a range of policy measures, including livable incomes, affordable housing, accessible and affordable transit, affordable and quality child care, and access to mental health services and addiction supports. The Community University Partnership is a collaboration between the University of Alberta and community organizations to improve the development of children, youth, families and communities through evidence-based knowledge that impacts programs and policies.

Each consultant will use a distinct methodology. InWithForward will recruit individuals directly using various techniques, and EndPovertyEdmonton and the Community University Partnership will recruit individuals who receive services through various organizations in Edmonton. The results of the engagement will be included in the final report, which will be presented to the Community and Public Services Committee at the end of September 2022.

Future Updating of Data

The current draft incorporates 2016 Census data. The final report will be updated to reflect 2021 Census data when it is released, which is anticipated for fall 2022.

The Edmonton Affordable Housing Needs Assessment will be updated periodically. All major data points will be updated once new census data comes available. These updates will occur every five years and will be made available in an updated version

Attachment 1

of this Housing Needs Assessment report. Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation housing supply and demand trends will be updated annually.

Major local trends, including waitlists, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness, and provincial rental data will be updated quarterly using an interactive online dashboard, which will be developed in the near future.