

Homelessness and Encampment Response Strategy-Update

Community and Public Services Committee
October 11, 2022

Unsheltered Homelessness in Edmonton

- **Homelessness and unsheltered homelessness in Edmonton has increased significantly since the start of the pandemic**
 - **2,639** (By Name List - September 2022) vs. **1,551** (By Name List - March 2020)
 - Just under half of all people experiencing homelessness are staying in shelter or are unsheltered
 - **Encampment complaints to 311:**

2016	790
2018	2,171
2021	6,204
2022	6,868 (as of Sept 19)

Homelessness Supports in Edmonton



Encampment Response

Housing Focused Response
(low and moderate risk sites)

- Encampment Response Team will work to house rough sleepers

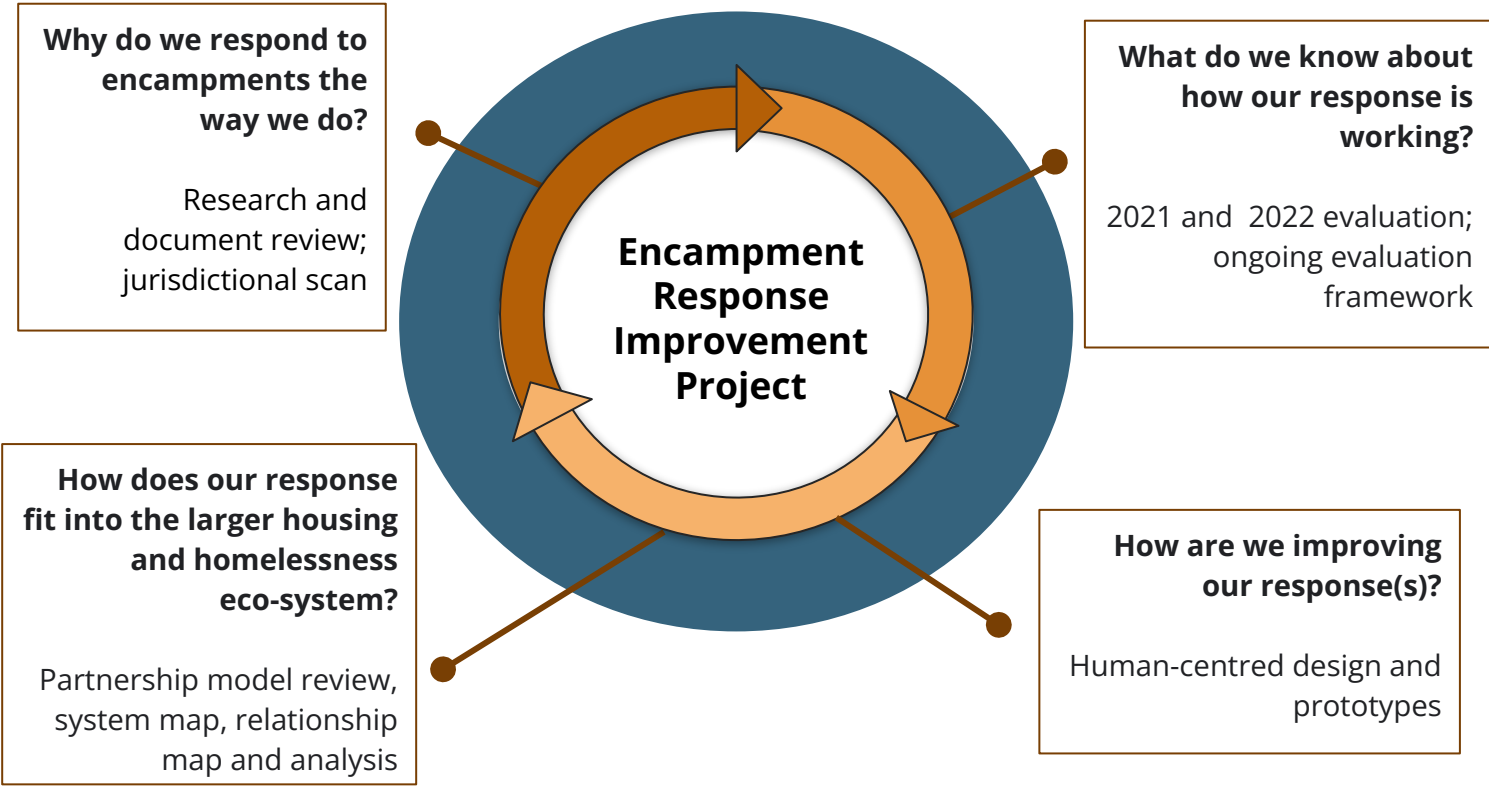
Accelerated Response
(higher risk sites)

- Faster closure
- EPS & Peace Officers will share shelter information and transportation options

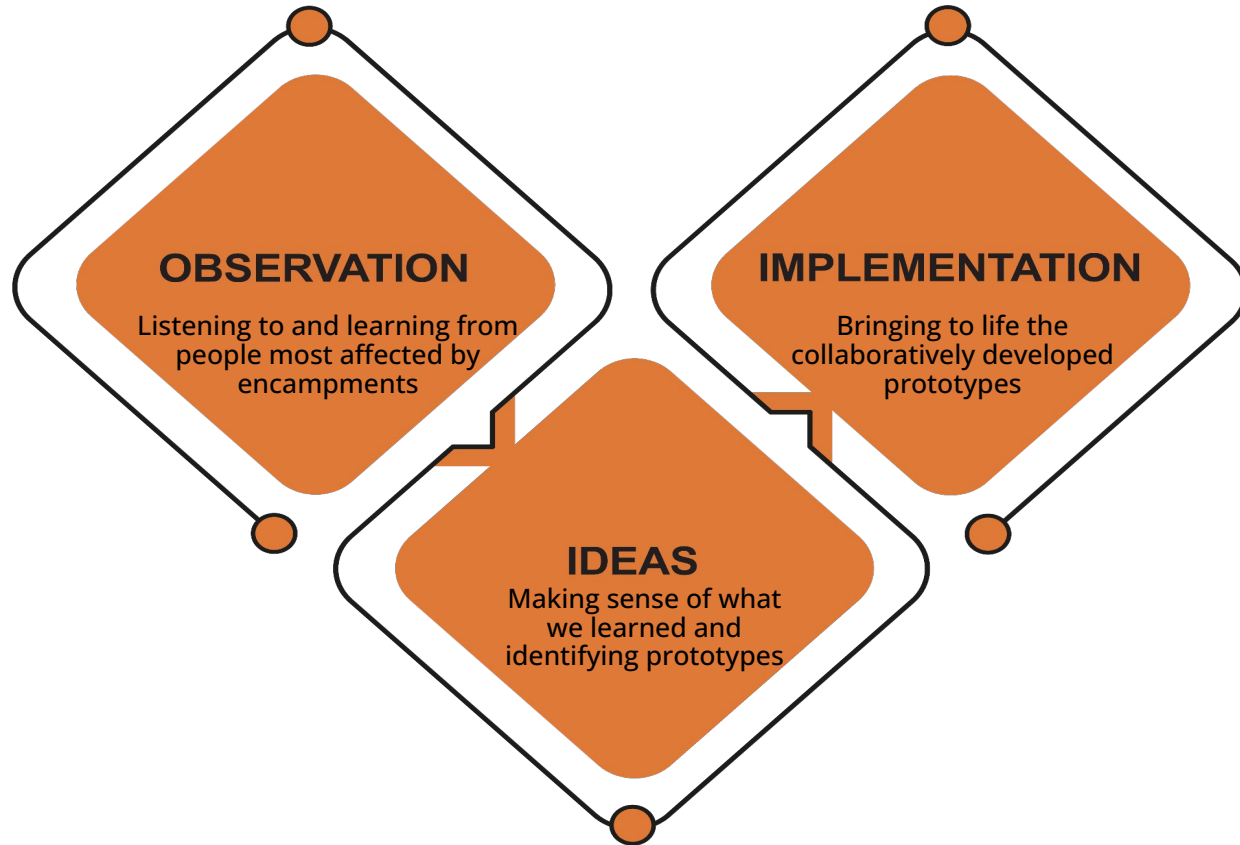
Large Scale Response
(highest risk sites)

- Coordinated approach, combines elements of Accelerated and Housing Focused Response

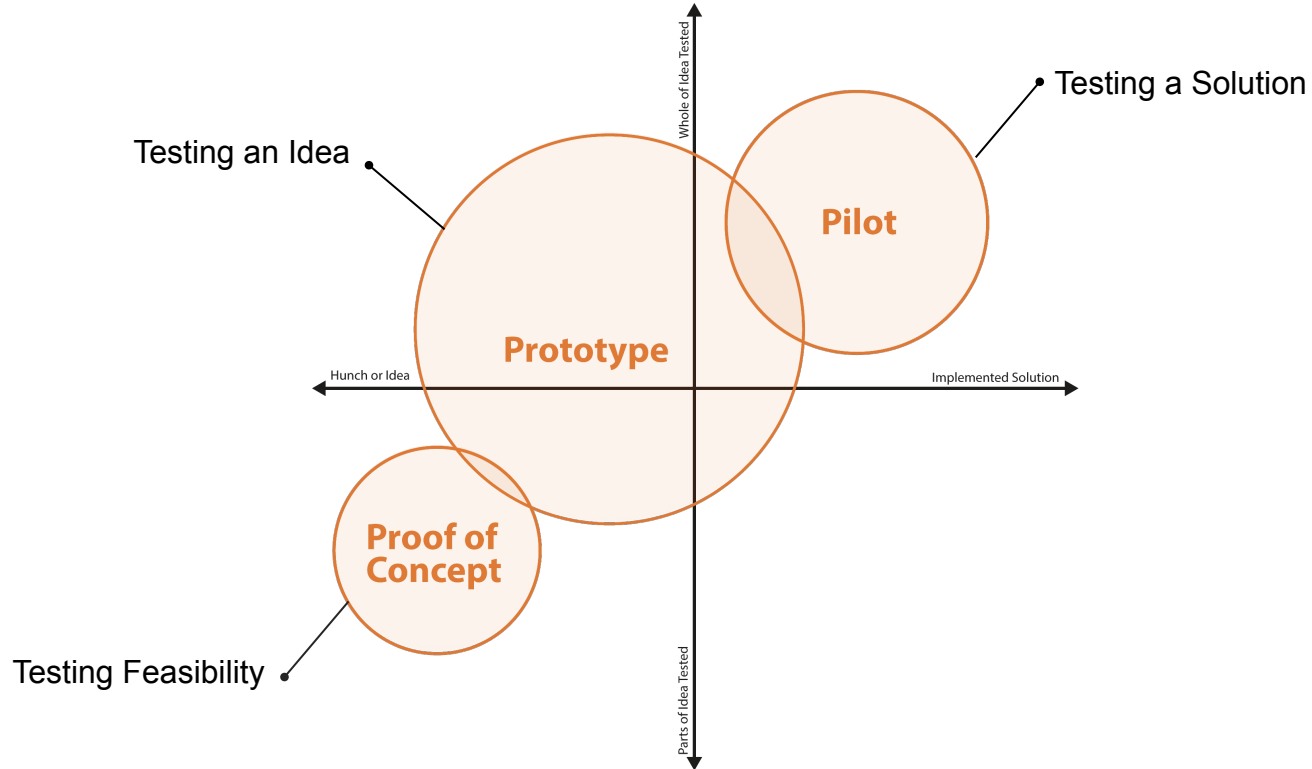
Evolving our Response



Human-Centred Design & Prototyping Process



What is a Prototype?





SPRING | SUMMER 2022

Building empathy and learning directly from people most impacted by encampments

“
Being moved means no one knows where we are and we have to wait for services because we cannot be found.
Encampment Resident”

“
If we want to address compassion fatigue, frustration and polarization we have to actually decentralize areas.
Neighbours & Businesses”

“
System of failed interactions, interdependencies, and pivots that are reactionary making it hard for continuity of supports.
Outreach Team”

“
Understaffed and overworked, it's not sustainable. It's not only about resourcing, it's about the impacts of what we see, what we experience.
Park Ranger and City Operations”

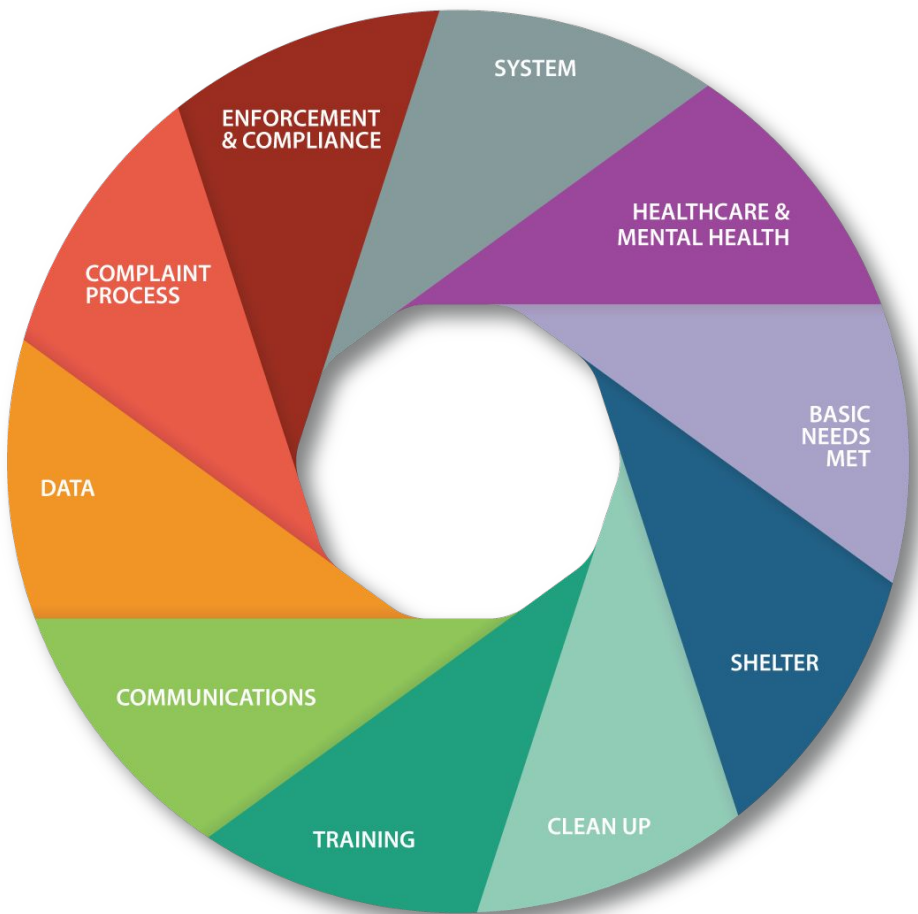
Who Was Engaged

- **86 individuals with lived experience** who stayed outside sometime within the last year
- **78 Neighbours & Businesses**
- **3 Outreach Teams**
- **2 of Administration's Teams:** Natural Areas and Park Rangers Encampment Teams



FALL 2022

Making sense of what was learned, identifying opportunities and initiatives underway





FALL 2022

Identifying the necessary business inputs to develop, test and implement the prototypes





FALL 2022

As part of the City's commitment to equity, equity based considerations are integrated into the prototype selection criteria





**Outcomes Focused +
Business Feasibility +
Decision Making Matrix**

FALL 2022

Multiple filters for evaluating
which prototypes to develop
and implement

Thank you. Questions?