

## **EDMONTON'S APPROACH (2023/24) - SUPPORTING THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS - Additional Information**

being extended for up to seven additional months of operation (December 31, 2023). The subsidy funding agreement was signed in December 2022, but as funds were unable to be released until 2023, the full \$7.5 million was requested for carry forward from 2022 to 2023 which Council approved on March 14, 2022.

Jasper Place Wellness Centre is currently estimating that up to \$1.9 million of the originally approved \$7.5 million will remain unspent at the end of the original six month period of operations, on May 31, 2023. The \$1.9 million is already committed by way of an executed subsidy agreement with Jasper Place Wellness Centre, and would be available to fund the extension of the subsidy funding agreement with Jasper Place Wellness Centre for the continued provision of bridge/transition housing up to December 31, 2023. The available funding is forecast to support the bridge housing until September 30, 2023. Currently, there is \$1.25 million of funding available for the 2023/24 winter response including a mixture of dedicated ongoing funding for Extreme Weather Response (\$1 million) and one-time carryforward of funding from 2022 (\$0.25 million). The funds will be used for extreme and cold weather activations, support for Government of Alberta funded shelters, and an evaluation of transportation service as further detailed in Attachment 2.

The estimated costs for unfunded additional potential supplemental activities are discussed in the report and further explained in Attachment 2. Potential funding sources for an enhanced winter 2023/24 response include Community Safety Well-being funds held within Financial Strategies, new funding requests through the 2023 Fall Supplemental Operating Budget Adjustment process, which may include reallocation of tax levy to unfunded priorities through the OP12 work currently underway, or the FSR. The funding could be provided on an ongoing basis, one-time basis or a combination, depending on the City's financial capacity.

The current balance of the FSR is **\$128.6 million** and the minimum required balance is **\$123.5 million**. As a result, there is \$5.1 million available in the FSR before reaching the reserve's minimum balance. At the May 1, 2023 Community and Public Services Committee, it was forecasted that \$2.5 million would be available in the FSR before reaching its minimum balance. This figure has since been updated based on further review of forecasts and funding availability within the reserve.

### **Legal Implications**

Attachments 3 and 4 contain draft general terms and conditions for two subsidy agreements, for the City to provide subsidy funding to support day shelter services offered by the Bissell Centre and The Boyle Street Service Society, respectively. These subsidy agreements are described earlier in this report as "potential supplemental activities" for Council's consideration.

**Of note, Attachments 3 and 4 are attached for information and do not constitute approvals. If Council wishes these subsidy agreements to proceed, appropriate budget and agreement motions must be made and approved by Council.**