



Affordable Housing and Homelessness: Updated Affordable Housing Strategy

Edmonton

January 15, 2024 Community and Public Services Committee
CS01673

Building on success - 2016 - 2025

- Edmonton's first Affordable Housing Strategy (2016-2025) and first Affordable Housing Investment Plan (2018) resulted in:
 - 2,807 new and renewed units, including 644 units of supportive housing
 - \$133 million in City investment leveraged \$427 million from other orders of government and housing providers
- Why update now?
 - New data
 - Changing context
 - New opportunities



What Are We Trying to Solve?

Households in **Core Housing Need**:



Almost 1 in 8 **households**



1 in 4 **renter households**



1 in 3 **Indigenous renter households**

- Households that falls below one or more standard are in **Core Housing Need (CHN)**
 - Affordable: <30% of household income
 - Suitable: enough bedrooms
 - Adequate: no major repairs needed
- 46,155 Edmonton households
- 71% are renters
 - 19% racialized households in CHN
 - 41% senior households in CHN
 - 36% single mothers in CHN
 - 27% Indigenous households in CHN
- ~3000 with no permanent home

How was the Strategy created?



1. Review of the 2016-2025 Affordable Housing Strategy
 - **19** Housing Organizations and groups
 - Questionnaire and one-on-one conversations
2. Review of the Foundational Elements of the Updated Strategy
 - **24** Housing Organizations and groups
 - Engaged Edmonton
3. Public engagement on affordable housing priorities
 - **3700** Edmontonians
 - Insight panel

Updated Strategy - Overview

GOAL 1

Edmontonians have access to affordable housing in all areas of the city

GOAL 2

Edmontonians have the housing supports they need

GOAL 3

Increased awareness of housing needs and the importance of affordable housing

Key Actions

- Establish an **acquisitions** program
- Create a stand-alone **accessible housing strategy** to better meet the needs of people with disabilities
- Research and identify strategies to **reduce loss of 'naturally-occurring' affordable housing**
- **Improve housing resources for renters**, including through the establishment of a landlord registry and education
- Invest in **homelessness prevention** program
- Increase access to **seed funding** for housing providers serving priority populations
- Investigate creative **alternative finance methods** to build affordable housing
- Explore innovative solutions to **encourage construction of climate resilient affordable housing**
- Create a formal mechanism for incorporating **regular engagement with people with lived experience**

Key Actions

Working closely with other governments and key partners to:

- Increase **capital and operating funding** and subsidies for housing
- Increase **access and availability of land** for housing
- Deliver **comprehensive support services** to get and keep people housed
- **Reducing red tape** and coordinating program delivery
- Integrating **data and reporting** systems
- Develop **asset management** and renewal plans
- Remove **legislative and regulatory barriers** to affordable housing
- Invest in **climate resilient** affordable housing
- **Streamline access** to housing and support services
- Improve **cross sector planning and integration** of services

Targets

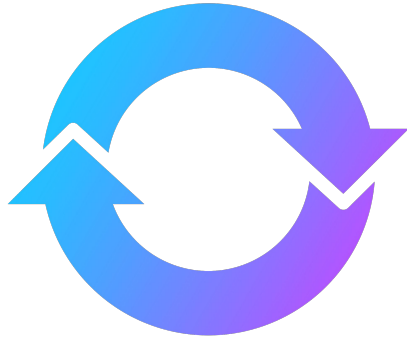
Long Term (2050)

- No one is in Core Housing Need
- No one is experiencing homelessness
- To achieve this we need to expand affordable housing supply by:
 - 3,800 new rent geared to income units
 - 30,200 deep and shallow subsidy units
 - 5,700 near market units
- All parts of Edmonton will have 16% affordable housing

Medium-Term Targets (2026)

- 2700 new units of affordable housing by 2026
- 10% of new affordable housing units are barrier-free
- 25% of new units target women-led households
- Increased annual eviction prevention interventions

Monitoring and Evaluation



- Refresh every two years:
 - Public facing dashboard
 - Housing Needs Assessment
- Monitor external housing trends
- Shared research and engagement findings with partners

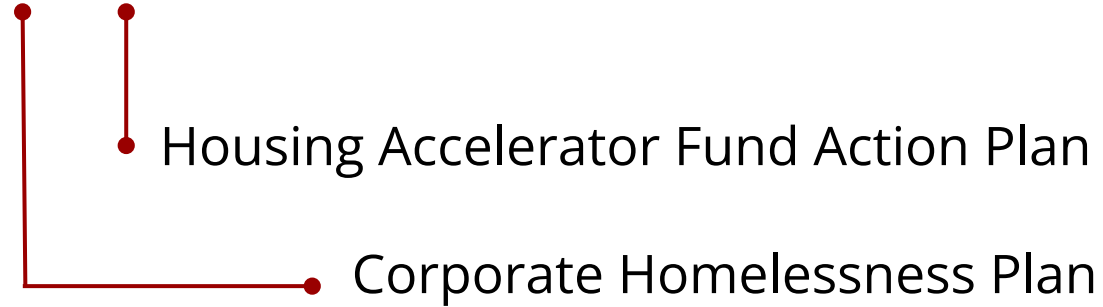


- Robust framework to monitor and report on City performance and outputs

Next Steps



Updated Affordable Housing Strategy



Community Plan To Prevent and End Homelessness

Thank you