



COVID-19 Pandemic Homelessness Response

Edmonton

City Council
April, 9 2021

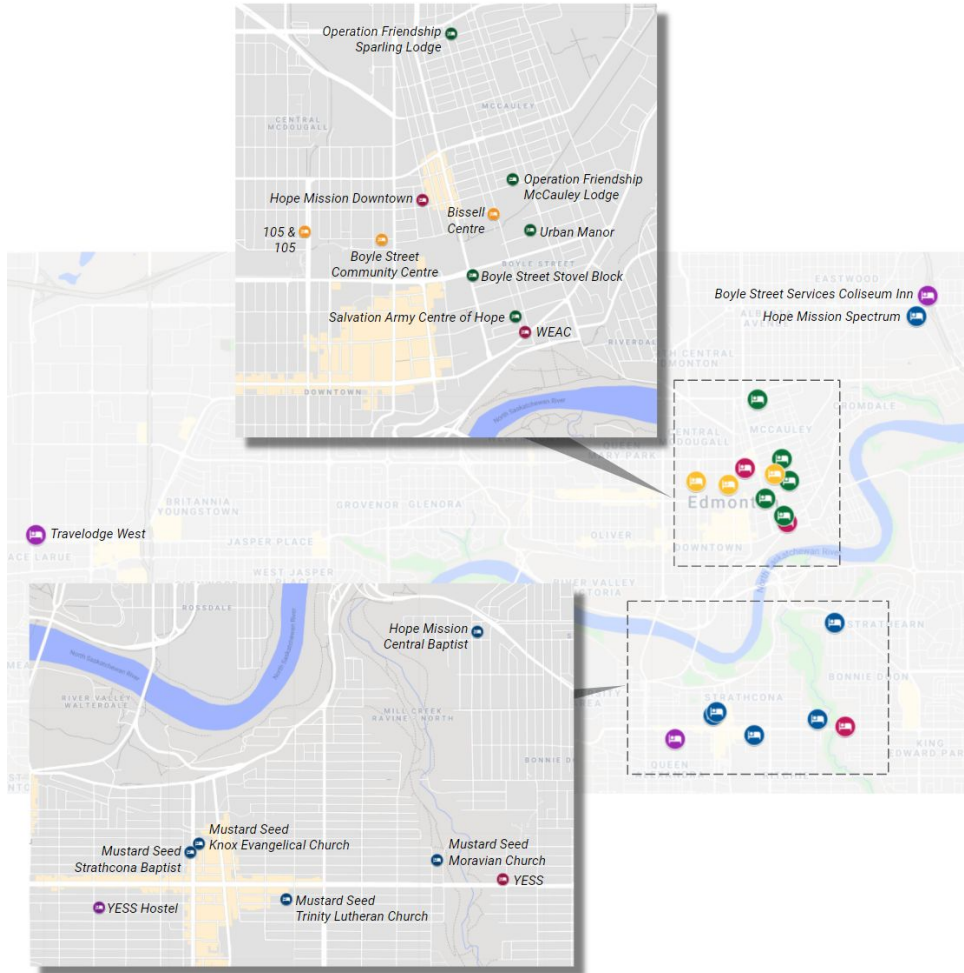
Background

- Winter response focused on large 24/7 shelters, isolation shelters and increased bridge housing options
- Unprecedented cooperation by partners
- Currently 343 bridge housing spaces have been opened, and almost 200 hundred new spaces are expected to open in the next two months
- Need for housing continues to grow with +2100 people on the Homeward Trust By Name List

COVID-19 Response - Bridge the Gap

May - November 2021

- Dispersed model: transition to smaller congregate spaces spread across the city
 - City Building: Spectrum
- Additional transitional housing site in hotels - safer from variants, more dignity and privacy and allows enhanced engagement towards permanent housing outcomes
- City supports in additional day drop in spaces
 - City Building: 10542 105 Street
 - Expanding services at existing locations



COVID-19 Response - Bridge the Gap

May - November 2021

New Day Drop In Space

- 10542 105 Street NW: City building re-purposed for day drop in

Expanded Service Offering

- Boyle Street Community Services Building: use of adjacent courtyard for additional daytime capacity, as well as extended hours
- Bissell Centre: Re-opening of previously closed day drop in spaces with extended hours

Investment will ensure 152 spaces are available at any given time to serve up to 695 unique visitors each day.

Services to Support Recovery

- Community safety and security plans developed with partner agencies and EPS
- Good Neighbour Commitments with information posted online
- Temporary mobile washroom facilities with social agency attendants in core business areas
- Capital City Clean-up contracted and volunteer led enhanced services

Pandemic Response Plan - 24/7 & Overnight Services

Shelter Beds including isolation	789
Government of Alberta	767
Non-Profit	22

Short Term / Bridge Housing Units	834
Government of Alberta	283
Homeward Trust	521*
Non-Profit	30

Up to 1623 total spaces
for overnight sleep

* Up to 521 as a number of rooms are in negotiation

Pandemic Response Plan - Day Services and Washrooms

City Support	Cost
10542 - 105 Street day drop in <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support to 10542 - 105 location• Subsidy to day drop in providers	\$7,385,000
6 Temporary washrooms with attendants including <ul style="list-style-type: none">• additional power washing and spot cleaning• menstrual products	\$515,000
Spectrum building setup and offsite supports*	\$200,000
Total	\$8,100,000

*Hope Mission will operate the Spectrum Building with provincial funding

Encampments Approach

- Encampment Response Team continues to close a number of high risk encampments every week and coordinate operations with housing outreach workers and EPS as required
- Comprehensive coordinated approach to address encampments is being discussed with our partners and EPS
- Communications for concerned residents and businesses underway

Exit Strategy

- November: New Herb Jamieson Centre opens and lessened physical distancing requirements restore capacity at existing facilities

Anticipated effect of City Involvement

- Vulnerable population: understand they are valued as residents and neighbours, and less long term illness and/or mortality from COVID-19
- System: more coordinated and connected
- System: proof of concept on low barrier shelter operations and transitional housing
- City: experiential data to support business case of permanent washrooms

**Thank you.
Questions?**

Edmonton