

# 2021 Encampment Strategy

Community & Public Services Committee  
April 28, 2021

## 2020 Encampment Overview

### Encampment Response Team

- 4,000+ encampment complaints
- 1,477 cleaned-up encampments (ranging in size & severity)
- 350 referrals to health and housing supports
- 116 individuals housed in bridge and permanent housing

### Organized Encampments

- Services provided by volunteers
- Housing activity by social agencies
- Transportation provided to Tipinawâw and bridge housing
- Voluntary closure of sites

# 2021 Encampment Strategy

Housing Focused Response  
*(low 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

# 1. Housing Focused Response

- Updated risk assessment tool to schedule the closure of low-risk encampments based on severity of risks present.
- Housing outreach workers will connect with encampment occupants prior to closure to work to transition people indoors.
- Low risk encampments are closed based on available resources.

## 2. Accelerated Response

- City peace officers and EPS will respond rapidly to encampments that have significant community impacts due to disorder, crime, or size.
- The joint team will share information on connections to other services/shelters and offer transportation options.
- Closure follows investigation of 311 notification.

### 3. Large Scale Response

- Each large encampment requires a different approach to account for increased complexity and risks.
- Coordinated response by City Administration, Edmonton Police Service and, if appropriate, social agencies.
- Goal is to prevent large encampments that cause risk of harm to individuals and communities.
- Executive Committee will engage as required.

# Governance Structure

## **Executive Committee**

City Manager, Co-Chair  
Chief of Police, Co-Chair

## **Operating Committee**

City of Edmonton  
Edmonton Police Service

## **Encampment Response Team**

City of Edmonton  
Edmonton Police Service  
Housing and support agencies  
Government of Alberta (as funders)

## Communications

- The City will offer virtual information sharing sessions with neighbourhoods historically impacted by encampments.
- Presentations will focus on encampment strategy and city-wide services available to people experiencing homelessness.
- Speakers will include representatives from the Encampment Response Team, EPS, NET and Neighbourhood Services.



**Thank you. Questions?**