

2016 Community Housing Implementation Plan (Proposed)

Report Purpose

To provide Council with a recommended implementation plan resulting from the Mayor's Task Force on Community Housing final report.

Recommendations

THAT the 2016 Community Housing Implementation Plan, as set out in Enclosure 2 of the April 26, 2016 Corporate Planning and Intergovernmental Affairs report, be approved.

THAT the Mayor, on behalf of Council, write to the Capital Region Board to express the County's interest in hosting the Capital Region Housing Symposium in 2017.

Council History

February 10, 2015, - Strathcona County Council appointed an 11 person task force to review the current state of "community" housing in Strathcona County and provide recommendations to Council.

June 25, 2015, - the task force invited over 25 community groups to discuss numerous issues around, as well as share an understanding of, the current state of community housing and to contemplate innovative improvements for consideration.

July 14, 2015, - a progress report was shared with Priorities Committee.

January 26, 2016, - the final report filled with numerous recommendations was brought forward to Priorities Committee.

February 11, 2016, - the final report was brought forward to Council for their consideration.

Strategic Plan Priority Areas

Economy: To support industrial, commercial and small business needs for a stable work force, the County must have affordable and attractive homes in which many of those people can live.

Governance: Land use is governed by Council, as is setting the vision of the community as "Canada's Most Liveable Community".

Social: Community housing spans the breadth of the housing continuum, from emergency shelters to home ownership, with transitional housing and home rental in between.

Culture: Community structure has a significant impact on culture.

Environment: With new development on the horizon, and gentrification of existing development already occurring, making conscious choices about housing types, mixes and locations is important.

Other Impacts

Policy: Community housing has always been part of the community. The Task Force and subsequent report and implementation plan further emphasize the importance of community housing when looking at the Strategic Plan.

Legislative/Legal: Any impacts to the Strategic Plan as a result of community housing will be seen in refreshed versions of strategic plans and business plans.

Interdepartmental: Planning and Development Services; Family and Community Services; Transit.

Summary

The Task Force presented its recommendations to Council on February 11, 2016. At that time a motion was approved to bring back an implementation plan to the Council meeting of April 26, 2016.

Since February 11, there has been progress, as set out below, which helped create the implementation plan.

- a. The Heartland Housing Foundation (HHF) Board has approved moving ahead with creating a sub-committee that will consider several of the recommendations embedded within the report. (Recommendations 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.4)
- b. Planning and Development Services has considered recommendations 2.5,2.7,3.1, 3.2, 3.3 and 4.2 as being very complementary of each other and worthy of a coordinated response as part of the Municipal Development Plan update.
- c. The Community Living Advisory Committee (CLAC) has met. Given the commitment of HHF, the role of CLAC is able to shift to being more advisory in nature. Recommendation 2.6 clearly fills that advisory role. As well, lines of open communication between the HHF sub-committee, Council and CLAC will ensure the portfolio is well positioned to be part of future strategic conversations.

Communication Plan

Council's direction will be reflected on the section of the Strathcona County webpage dedicated to Community Housing.

Enclosure(s)

- 1 Encl 1 ppt Housing Implementation Plan
- 2 Encl 2 Community Housing Implementation Plan (Proposed)
- Encl 3 2016 Community Housing Implementation Plan Timeline 3