



City of Hamilton
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November 18, 2024

Re: Reducing Homelessness Managing Encampments

Hamilton City Council, at its meeting held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024, passed the following resolution:

Item 6 of the General Issues Committee Report 24-017

6. Reducing Homelessness and Managing Encampments (HSC24027(c)) (City Wide) (General Issues Committee Agenda Item 10.2)

WHEREAS, in 2024 the City of Hamilton is investing \$185.9 million dollars into housing and homelessness solutions, 67% funded directly by municipal taxpayers;

WHEREAS, Ontario cities have been left to deal with the crisis of housing, homelessness, mental health and addictions without adequate resources from upper levels of government;

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada has announced a \$250 million dollar funding initiative to address the urgent issue of encampments and unsheltered homelessness with the intention of a fifty-fifty cost sharing agreement with provincial governments;

WHEREAS, the Government of Canada will work directly with municipalities if necessary, but without the involvement of the Province of Ontario, Ontario municipalities will receive half of the potential funding available, while additional costs continue to be downloaded to municipal taxpayers;

WHEREAS, federal discussions with the Province of Ontario have not led to meaningful progress on a cost sharing funding agreement to date;
WHEREAS, the provincial Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing has publicly announced an upcoming meeting with the federal Minister of Housing to take place in the week of October 28, 2024; and

WHEREAS, mental health care, addiction treatment and housing are the responsibility of the Province of Ontario.

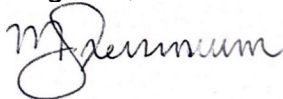
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That Report HSC24027(c), respecting Reducing Homelessness and Managing Encampments, be received;

- (b) That the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Hamilton request that the Province of Ontario re-engage with the Government of Canada to ensure that Ontario municipalities have access to fully funded support towards encampments and unsheltered homelessness initiatives;
- (c) That City of Hamilton be directed to work with our Federal partners to maximize this opportunity; and
- (d) That this resolution be circulated with all Cities across Ontario with a population of 100,000 or more with a request for endorsement and approval of their own requests to the Province of Ontario; the Association of Municipalities of Ontario and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, and local MPPS and MPs.

Hamilton City Council requests that your City Council's endorse this resolution, and circulate your endorsement to the Province of Ontario.

Regards,



Matthew Trennum
City Clerk
:JV

cc.

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(Item 6)