

Request for Decision

Emergency Shelter Funding Budget Option

Presented To:	Community Services Committee
Presented:	Monday, Sep 17, 2012
Report Date	Friday, Sep 07, 2012
Type:	Managers' Reports

Recommendation

Option 1: WHEREAS, the Division has received confirmation that the Homelessness Partnering Strategy Federal Funding (HPS) of \$76,000 received can be used on a one-time basis towards the Emergency Shelter operational top-up, for the 2013 budget year only;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT , the City of Greater Sudbury Council considers the permanent funding for operational top up for the emergency shelter programs for homelessness in the amount of \$305,000, applying the one-time HPS allocation of \$76,000 in 2013 only and directs staff to prepare a budget option during the 2013 budget deliberations; or

Option 2: WHEREAS, the Division has received confirmation that the Homelessness Partnering Strategy Federal Funding (HPS) of \$76,000 received can be used on a one-time basis towards the Emergency Shelter operational top-up, for the 2013 budget year only;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Greater Sudbury Council considers the one time funding for operational top up for the emergency shelter programs for homelessness in the amount of \$229,000 and directs staff to prepare a budget option during the 2013 budget deliberation; or

Option 3: WHEREAS, the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) funding can now be discretionarily allocated to homelessness prevention programs by the City; and

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) funding represents approximately \$1,500,00 less in the community than in prior years and if the operational top up for emergency shelters is funding from this program, then the estimated community shortfall from 2012 to 2013 will be approximately \$1,800,000;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the City of Greater Sudbury Council supports the permanent allocation of the funding for the operational top up for the emergency shelter programs for homelessness in the amount of \$305,000 from the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative Funding.

Signed By

Report Prepared By

Luisa Valle
Director of Social Services
Digitally Signed Sep 7, 12

Division Review

Luisa Valle
Director of Social Services
Digitally Signed Sep 7, 12

Recommended by the Department

Catherine Matheson
General Manager of Community Development
Digitally Signed Sep 7, 12

Recommended by the C.A.O.

Doug Nadorozny
Chief Administrative Officer
Digitally Signed Sep 10, 12

Finance Implications

Option 1 : If approved, a permanent budget option of \$305,000, applying the one-time HPS allocation of \$76,000 in 2013 will be developed for the Finance Committee during the 2013 budget deliberations.

Option 2: If approved, a one-time budget option of \$305,000, applying the one-time HPS allocation of \$76,000 in 2013 will be developed for the Finance Committee during the 2013 budget deliberations.

Option 3: If approved, to be incorporated within the allocation of the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative Funding.

Background

The Social Services Division, Community Development Department of the City of Greater Sudbury is mandated by the Province of Ontario to provide Emergency Shelter. This has been achieved and is successful through partnerships with service providers in our community that provide emergency homelessness shelter programs.

The City of Greater Sudbury receives funding from Federal, Provincial and Municipal Government to support homelessness programs. The funding is used in a coordinated and strategic way to maximize the benefits to the citizens of Greater Sudbury. The financial support of the emergency shelter programs is a key component to the safety net provided to the community.

L'Association des jeunes de la rue has been operating Foyer Notre Dame for several years. This organization has provided an emergency shelter for female and male youth, in the community. Their program goals are to assist each youth in achieving family integration, to undergo functional life skills training, to achieve vocational scholastic reintegration and to reach self sufficiency and personal independence.

The Salvation Army provides emergency shelter services for the Men's and Women's and Families Shelter Program. Their program goals are to provide board, lodging and personal needs to homeless people on a short term basis as well as provide support services to these individuals.

The City of Greater Sudbury continues to partner with both L'Association des jeunes de la rue and The Salvation Army in providing the emergency shelter programs to the citizens and families in need in the community. These services are an integral and vital component in assisting the vulnerable citizens in our community.

Housing and Homelessness Initiatives

Effective January 1, 2012, the *Housing Services Act, 2011* and supporting regulations came into effect which supports the Province's Long-Term Affordable Housing Strategy. This focuses on transforming the way housing and homelessness services are delivered in order to achieve better outcomes for people.

Effective January 1, 2013 The Province has consolidated several existing homelessness funding streams into one new allocation called Consolidated Homelessness Prevention

Initiative (CHPI). This allocation will be administered by the municipalities with additional flexibility provided to address individual local needs. The scope of the consolidation includes:

- Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program;
- Emergency Energy Fund;
- Emergency Hostel Services;
- Domiciliary Hostel Program (no program active in the City of Greater Sudbury);
- Provincial Rent Bank;

In addition, the Province announced that the Ontario Works and ODSP Community Start Up and Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB) will be removed from social assistance and combined with the other programs mentioned above. The CHPI allocation that the City of Greater Sudbury has received is significantly less than received in prior years.

The following is a summary of the effects of the new funding consolidation of the programs and the estimated effect to the City of Greater Sudbury's community for Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability (ODSP) clients.

Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)

	<u>2013 Estimate</u>
OW Provincial Allocation (based on 2012 amounts)	\$ 1,740,000
OW Municipal Allocation (based on 2012 amounts)	334,000
ODSP Allocation (estimate from MCSS)	1,100,000
Total Municipal and ODSP Gross Expenditures	3,174,000
New 2013 CHPI funding Allocation	(1,618,956)
Estimated Community Short fall	\$ 1,555,044
(Beginning in 2013)	

Assumption on this analysis is that the demand will remain the same as in prior years for both the OW and ODSP programs. With this new formula, the requests that would have been made under the ODSP Community Start Up Maintenance Benefit (CSUMB) may be referred to the Municipality. As a result, there is an estimated community short fall of approximately \$1,500,000. If the operational top up is paid from the CHPI funding then the community impact from 2012 to 2013 moves to an estimated shortfall from \$1,500,000 to \$1,800,000.

Budget Option Request

Both L'Association des jeunes de la rue and The Salvation Army have put forward a request during the Public Input Session for operational top up funding for the Emergency Shelter Programs for the 2013 budget year.

Municipal operational top up funding has historically been provided to both The Salvation Army and L'association des jeunes de la rue on an annual one-time basis through budget options. The operational top up is required to fill the gap for the emergency shelter program.

The budget option request for 2013 is for a total of \$605,000 with \$380,000 allocated to The Salvation Army and \$225,000 allocated to L'Association des jeunes de la rue - Foyer Notre Dame House, as compared to \$655,000 in 2012.

The Province has allowed an allocation from the Social Assistance Restructuring funding to be applied to the Women and Families and the Female Youth Shelter programs for operational top up.

As a result the budget option request is amended as follows:

Budget option – funding request	\$ 605,000
Less: Social Assistance Restructuring Funding (SAR)	<u>(300,000)</u>
Total Budget Option for 2013	<u>\$ 305,000</u>

Recommendations

The Emergency Shelter programs have been delivered successfully by both The Salvation Army and L'association des jeunes de la rue for many years. The Social Services Division works closely with all the agencies in the community and has completed due diligence in ensuring that the mandated programs are available and delivered with excellence by the service providers through these partnerships.

Option 1:

In adopting this option, the current services levels will be maintained and would provide sustainability and stability for the Emergency Shelter Program. The operational top up will become permanently part of the base budget, rather than drawing on the reserves on an annual basis.

Option 2:

In adopting this option, the current service levels will be maintained for the 2013 budget year. However the sustainability and stability of the program will remain uncertain as this funding request will need to be reviewed annually for Council's consideration.

The Division has received confirmation that the Homelessness Partnering Strategy Federal Funding (HPS) received can be used on a one-time basis towards the Emergency Shelter operational top-up. For the 2013 budget year only, there is \$76,000 available to contribute towards the budget option. As a result, this would reduce the budget option to \$229,000.

Option 3:

In adopting this option, the current services levels will be maintained for the Emergency

Shelter Program, however there will be a further impact to the community in relation to the consolidated homelessness prevention programs. By utilizing this funding to cover the operational top up dollars reduces the funds available to assist the most vulnerable citizens, those being on OW and ODSP.

Recognizing that the Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) funding represents approximately \$1,500,00 less in the community than in prior years and if the operational top up for emergency shelters is funding from this program, then the estimated community shortfall from 2012 to 2013 will be approximately \$1,800,000.