

Health and Housing Working Group Update 2

Background

Council's Corporate Strategic Plan (2015-2018) identifies the development of an Affordable Housing Strategy, targeted to seniors and those who have low incomes, including policy review, removal of barriers and consideration of incentives as a key priority.

Between 2016 and the first half of 2017 a review and preliminary stakeholder consultation was undertaken to establish key priorities for the update of the City of Greater Sudbury's (City's) Affordable Housing Strategy.

Resolution CS2017-17 from the July 10, 2017 Community Services Committee meeting stated, *"THAT the City of Greater Sudbury further investigate and make recommendations regarding Action Items 1 through 5, as outlined in the report entitled "Health and Housing Update" from the General Manager of Community Development, dated June 28, 2017."*

The Health and Housing Working Group have been directed to further investigate and make recommendations regarding the following Action Items:

- **Action Item 1:** Development of an Affordable Housing Community Improvement Plan (AHCIP), including: locational criteria, design criteria, financial incentives, provide the City the ability to acquire, prepare and dispose of property for affordable housing, requirements for units to meet affordable housing definitions, and use of the Social Housing Capital Reserve Fund as a funding source for the AHCIP;
- **Action Item 2:** Investigate options for to the parkland disposal and the use of surplus municipal land;
- **Action Item 3:** Investigate amendments to the Zoning By-law to be more flexible and encourage affordable housing development across the housing continuum;
- **Action Item 4:** Designate a single point of contact for affordable housing and develop a consolidated affordable housing webpage;
- **Action Item 5:** Investigate changes to the Development Charges By-law to ensure that affordable housing criteria are in line with any Federal or Provincial funding programs as part of the scheduled review in 2018-2019.

Work Plan Update

- **Action Item 1:** The development of the Affordable Housing Community Improvement Plan is underway, with the draft plan to be completed for public consultation in Feb. 2018. Additional consultation will be completed with external stakeholders in early 2018.

Funds from the Social Housing Capital Reserve have been identified as a potential funding source for the Affordable Housing Community Improvement Plan pending Council approval and a revision to the existing Reserve and Reserve Fund By-Law.

- **Action Item 2:** A review of surplus municipal lands has been undertaken. 3D visualization is currently being undertaken to develop a short list of sites. The working group has been investigating options for parkland disposal and the use of surplus municipal land for the purposes of affordable housing which will be completed in the second quarter of 2018.
- **Action Item 3:** Review of zoning by-law provisions related to affordable housing is also currently being undertaken. Minimum lot sizes and parking provisions have been taken into consideration.
- **Action Item 4:** A single point of contact has been assigned to a Senior Planner within Community and Strategic Planning in the Planning Services Division. Creation of an affordable housing website is underway. The website is intended to be launched January 2018.
- **Action Item 5:** Amendments to the Development Charges By-law will be considered through the scheduled review process in 2018-2019.

Next Steps

The Health and Housing working group will provide updates to the various standing committees throughout this process. It is anticipated that the Affordable Housing Strategy will be finalized, with a final report coming before City Council by June 2018.

References

1. North East Local Health Integration Network, Innovative Housing with Health Supports in Northeastern Ontario Strategic Plan
<http://www.nelhin.on.ca/housing.aspx>
2. Health and Housing Report from the NE LHIN, November 14, 2016
<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&lang=en&id=1019&itemid=12151>

3. Health and Housing Update, July 10, 2017
<http://agendasonline.greatersudbury.ca/index.cfm?pg=agenda&action=navigator&lang=en&id=1203&itemid=12729>
4. Corporate Strategic Plan (2015-2018) <https://www.greatersudbury.ca/city-hall/reports-studies-policies-and-plans/strategic-plans1/>