

Memorandum

TO: Krista Power, Director of Legislative Services & City Clerk **FILE:**

FROM: Councillor Rajni Agarwal

DATE: 10/03/2025 (mm/dd/yyyy)

SUBJECT: Notice of Motion to Amend - A Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay (Growth–Strategy & Engagement).

MEETING & DATE: City Council – 10/07/2025 (mm/dd/yyyy)

In accordance with the Procedural Rules of City Council, I would like Council to consider a Notice of Motion to Amend the resolution ratified by City Council on October 28, 2024 relating to the Report 384 2024 – A Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay (Growth–Strategy & Engagement). My motion to amend the 10 part plan as presented is to delete item 4 (the Temporary Village) from the 10 part plan as outlined in **BOLD** below.

Outlined in Report 384 2024 – A Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay

This ten-part Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan includes:

1. Advocacy to Provincial and Federal Governments: Continued efforts to secure long-term funding and policy support for housing solutions.
2. Community Partner Commitment: Mobilizing community organizations to provide wrap-around services (healthcare, food, mental health support, etc.) to individuals in encampments.
3. Enhanced Cleanup and Sanitation: Implementing regular cleanup and sanitation services to maintain health and safety in encampments.

4. Temporary Village: Developing a temporary village with a capacity of up to 100 units, providing indoor sheltering options and access to essential services.

5. Designated Encampment Locations: Up to three designating regulated encampment areas within the city's urban cores in accordance with the Council approved Distance Guidelines and with public engagement. Other encampments will be relocated.

6. By-law Assessment: Review and recommend potential by-law provisions which enable encampments in accordance with the Plan. Such review would also ensure broader legal, regulatory, and constitutional compliance related to municipal actions towards encampments.

7. Encampment Response Team: Establishing a dedicated team to monitor and support encampment compliance, and timely response to community and service provider concerns.

8. Lived Experience Advisory: Engaging individuals with lived and living experience of unsheltered homelessness to guide decision-making and ensure efforts reflect the population's needs.

9. Communication and Engagement Plan: Developing a robust and transparent communication strategy to keep the public and people living in encampments informed and engaged, fostering buy-in and collaboration.

10. Support for Long-Term Housing Strategies: Aligning efforts with broader, long-term housing strategies led by the District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board (TBDSSAB) and other partners.

This motion to amend City Council's previous decision will be presented at the October 7, 2025 City Council meeting for notice only. As per City Council's procedural rules, this matter will be before City Council for discussion and decision at the October 21, 2025 City Council meeting.

By-law 51/2021 which is the by-law that was in effect at the time this decision was made and By-law 217/2025 which took effect September 1, 2025 have the same provisions for Notice of Motion, so reference to both by-laws are provided for City Council's information.

The Notice of Motion to Amend requires two thirds of City Council (9 members) as per Section 10.02 of By-law 217/2025. If passed, it is my understanding that Administration will be required to report back to City Council with respect to the potential extra funding

that will be available to the city via the new federal grant which is \$13 billion dollars towards affordable housing and homelessness. The request to remove the temporary village is in order to get the full robust housing required with proper partnerships for permanent structures in lieu of the temporary sheds. With the government funding allocation of \$1 billion dollars towards homelessness we should be able to get a much larger grant to properly serve the population. With this extra funding available we should help lobby for the full spectrum of permanent transitional housing to be owned and operated by other organizations who specialize in these supportive housing models. Funding can be allocated similar to the housing support we received from the Housing Accelerator Fund. It is also important to note that updated copies of this direction and the amended Human Rights Based Community Action Plan would be circulated to those who previously received a copy and to those who may have assumed the positions in the present time.

I am bringing forward this Notice of Motion to Amend ten-part Human Rights-Based Community Action to remove the Temporary Village project to allow City Council a chance to regroup and focus their efforts on seeking additional funding recently announced for housing by the Federal Government. It is my understanding that the communities who receive the highest amount of funding are the communities that are in the most crisis situations, I believe our city is at a crisis point and will be deserving of funding and that we can better support the homeless with a permanent home instead of temporary shelter. I understand that the funding for the temporary village allocated by the provincial government may be lost at this time. It would be prudent to present to the provincial government that we are looking to create permanent transitional housing to help support the people in need and that their contribution will still be required for a more effective permanent structure and model.

Notice of Motion to Amend (requires two-thirds vote of City Council)

The ratified resolution I am seeking to amend is from Report 384 -2024– A Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay (Growth–Strategy & Engagement). was passed by City Council at the October 28, 2024 Meeting and is provided below for information only:

WITH RESPECT to Report 384-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we recommend that the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan (the Plan) as outlined in this report be approved;

AND THAT implementation of the Plan requiring approval or additional financial resources be brought back to Council as required;

AND THAT Administration provide progress updates to City Council as needed;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to the Honourable Sean Fraser - Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, and the Honourable Paul Calandra - Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to Marie-Josée Houle, Federal Housing Advocate;

AND THAT a copy of this resolution and the Plan be sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, MP Superior North and Indigenous Services Minister, MP Marcus Powlowski, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP Lise Vaugeois;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

The amendments I am proposing within this Notice of Motion to Amend are included below in **BOLD**:

WITH RESPECT to Report 384-2024-City Manager's Office-Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, we recommend that the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan (the Plan) as outlined in this report be approved;

AND THAT the following item "**4. Temporary Village: Developing a temporary village with a capacity of up to 100 units, providing indoor sheltering options and access to essential services**" be deleted from the plan as proposed;

AND THAT implementation of the Plan requiring approval or additional financial resources be brought back to Council as required;

AND THAT Administration provide progress updates to City Council as needed;

AND THAT **a updated** copy of this resolution and the **updated** Plan be sent to the Honourable **Gregor Robertson** - Minister of Housing, Infrastructure and Communities of Canada, and the Honourable **Robert Flack**- Ontario's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing;

AND THAT **a updated** copy of this resolution and the **updated** Plan be sent to Marie-Josée Houle, Federal Housing Advocate;

AND THAT **a updated** copy of this resolution and the **updated** Plan be sent to the Honourable Patty Hajdu, MP Superior North and **Jobs and Families Minister**, MP Marcus Powlowski, MPP Kevin Holland, MPP Lise Vaugeois;

AND THAT any necessary by-laws be presented to City Council for ratification.

C.C. John Collin, City Manager
Kerri Marshall, Commissioner – Growth
Cynthia Olsen, Director – Strategy & Engagement