

Corporate Report

REPORT NUMBER 425-2024-Growth-Strategy & Engagement	
DATE PREPARED	November 15, 2024
FILE	
MEETING DATE	November 25, 2024
SUBJECT	Report Back – Temporary Shelter Village Initiative

RECOMMENDATION

WITH RESPECT to Report 425-2024-Growth-Strategy & Engagement, we recommend that 114 Miles St E be approved as the site for the Temporary Shelter Village Initiative;

AND THAT the municipally owned property at 142 Simpson St and immediately adjacent property be excluded in the future identification process for designated encampment locations to put a priority focus on revitalization efforts for the entirety of Kam River Heritage Park;

AND THAT Kam River Heritage Park, if at all possible, be excluded in the future identification process for designated encampment locations;

AND THAT a recurring financial contribution of \$40,000 be included in the 2025 Fort William Business Improvement Association (BIA) Budget to support their revitalization efforts, and to address their perceived concerns related to security and neighbourhood cleanup;

AND THAT the financial contribution to the Fort William BIA be allocated from within the previously approved operating cap of \$1,500,000 municipal contribution for operating the Temporary Shelter Village Initiative;

AND THAT the municipal contribution to the Temporary Shelter Village Initiative's operations cease after a maximum of five years, with a stretch target of 3 years (situation dependent). If conditions allow, Administration will explore the gradual scaling down of the size the of the Temporary Shelter Village as appropriate;

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

LINK TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Within the Maamawe, Growing Together, City of Thunder Bay Strategic Plan 2023-2027:

Strategic Direction: All Together. We honour the truth and reconcile for the future.

GOAL: Strengthen the City's relationships with Indigenous communities, leaders and organizations to advance Truth & Reconciliation priorities together.

GOAL: Work toward inclusion, diversity, equity, and respect for all.

Strategic Direction: Safety and Well-being. Our community is healthy, safe, and strong.

GOAL: Improve access to supports for priority populations to narrow gaps in equity.

GOAL: Enhance safety and well-being at the community level through climate action and environmental design.

GOAL: Create and maintain strong neighbourhoods and Indigenous spaces where people connect and engage.

Additionally, this work connects with the following City Council approved strategic plans:

Community Safety & Well-Being Plan

Priority 2: Housing and Homelessness; Targeted Outcomes: Reduce Indigenous homelessness by 50 percent by 2027; Increase transitional and supportive housing opportunities in Thunder Bay

Indigenous Relations & Inclusion Strategy

Pillar 1: Respectful relations; 2. Honour & foster relations with Fort William First Nation, Metis, and local Indigenous Partners

Pillar 2: Responsive city; 5. Inclusive research & policy development

Pillar 4: Community prosperity; 9. Provide guidance to make City services responsive to needs of Indigenous Peoples; 10. Improve outreach & communications on City services; 11. Advocate & work with governments & local partners to improve outcomes

Thunder Bay Drug Strategy

Housing Pillar: Advocating for more supportive housing for people with complex needs; Contributing to the understanding of homelessness in Canada.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Thunder Bay is addressing the growing challenges of unsheltered homelessness and encampments through its ten-part *Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan*. Part of this plan includes a Temporary Shelter Village Initiative, which Council has approved, conditional on a site recommendation.

Administration is recommending 114 Miles St E as the site for the Temporary Village, based on its compliance with evaluation criteria, feasibility, and public support, with 68% of survey respondents favoring this location.

Engagement was central to the recommendation, including consultations with the public at large, surrounding residents and businesses, the Fort William BIA Board, and individuals with lived experience in encampments. Feedback received generally

emphasized the importance of safety, cleanliness, and community inclusion alongside concerns about downtown revitalization, costs, and the temporary nature of the project.

DISCUSSION

The City of Thunder Bay, like many municipalities, is facing mounting challenges associated with year-over-year increases in the rates of unsheltered homelessness and encampments. Encampments may pose risks to public health and safety, while failing to provide residents with a dignified or stable environment. In response, the City has developed the Temporary Shelter Village Initiative as one part of its ten-part [Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay](#). The initiative provides a rapid response to the immediate crisis at hand, bridging the gap until gains in social, transitional, and supportive housing stock are realized by external community organizations.

Site Identification Process

Administration evaluated numerous sites across the city using a set of clearly defined criteria. *114 Miles St E* and *Kam River Heritage Park* were the only options that successfully met all the criteria while balancing cost, feasibility, and alignment with other municipal priorities. By proposing two thoroughly evaluated sites, Administration provided the most realistic and actionable options to support rapidly addressing the immediate crisis and implementing a Temporary Village initiative by April 30, 2025. Selection criteria are described below.

- 1. Municipally Owned:** Property must be municipally owned to facilitate the City achieving its accelerated timelines and stay within budget constraints.
- 2. Proximity to Supportive Services:** Sites must be near essential services, such as healthcare, food programs, and addiction and mental health supports, to ensure accessibility for residents. Proximity to public transportation was also paramount.
- 3. Historical Encampment Areas:** Sites must be near areas where people living in encampments have historically stayed to minimize the disruption to established routines and increase the likelihood of acceptance by potential residents of the Temporary Village.
- 4. Sufficient Space:** Sites must have adequate room to accommodate a minimum of 80 units, along with hygiene and laundry facilities, communal spaces, and staff offices.
- 5. Readiness for Construction:** Sites must require minimal preparation to meet an accelerated implementation timeline. Sites that require tree clearing or significant grading work are not suitable.

6. **Alignment with Growth Goals:** Sites must not interfere with housing development plans to support the City's objective of facilitating 1,691 new housing units by February 2027. Sites must not interfere with commercial development plans.
7. **Safety Considerations:** Sites must ensure personal safety for residents by avoiding risks such as proximity to industrial hazards or heavy traffic areas.
8. **Emergency Access:** Sites must be easily accessible for emergency services and meet the requirements of Thunder Bay Fire Rescue (i.e., fire hydrant within proximity) for the safety of residents and the surrounding neighbourhood.
9. **Active Uses:** Sites cannot be on property that is actively used for municipal programs or recreational activities.

The public was not invited to propose alternative sites in advance nor during the public survey due to the complex and technical nature of the site identification process. In addition to the set criteria, other factors such as zoning, servicing readiness, environmental conditions, regulatory considerations, and alignment with other municipal priorities required a detailed analysis that could only be conducted by Administration. A more open-ended approach would have delayed the project, thereby jeopardizing the City's ability to meet the accelerated implementation timeline of April 30, 2025.

Administration did conduct time-limited consultations on the two proposed site locations. The public survey that was issued as part of the consultation was focused on the only two sites that met the entirety of the site selection criteria. Exploring other possibilities within the survey would have created a lack of focused input and would have been misleading. One of the survey's questions did have an option to provide an open-ended response, which some used to provide suggestions for alternative sites. None of those suggestions met all the evaluation criteria. During the other consultation events/activities and through individual emails, Administration received a variety of suggestions. All comments were carefully considered in the development of recommendations.

114 Miles St E – Recommended

Based on Administration's analysis and series of consultations, *114 Miles St E* is the recommended location for the Temporary Shelter Village. This site is more cost-effective, with estimated combined infrastructure and construction costs of \$4.0–\$4.3 million, which is within the City's maximum municipal contribution of \$5.0 million. Its manageable size allows for the accommodation of up to 80 shelter units and associated amenities without extensive and costly site preparation. The more compact layout will also facilitate more efficient management and lower ongoing operating costs. This choice also aligns with pre-consultation feedback from commentary agencies, which identified fewer concerns with this site as compared to Kam River Heritage Park.

Public consultation results also strongly favor this location, with 68% of total survey respondents supporting 114 Miles St E over Kam River Heritage Park. This preference spans various demographic groups, including downtown residents, workers, and frequent visitors to the area. The site is in closer proximity to supportive services and public transportation than the other site. Its visibility better supports community inclusion efforts and will play a role in downtown revitalization and beautification efforts.

Unlike Kam River Heritage Park, 114 Miles St E does not require the relocation of a current encampment to facilitate the Village's construction. Such a relocation would likely cause significant delays and incur high costs.

Kam River Heritage Park – Not Recommended

Kam River Heritage Park, while offering the potential to accommodate up to 100 units, presents more challenges than 114 Miles St E. The estimated infrastructure and construction costs for this location ranges from \$5.9–\$6.8 million, exceeding the City's maximum municipal contribution. These higher costs are primarily due to site preparation requirements and complex permanent service upgrades.

The site's layout, while offering greater capacity, may be more difficult to manage operationally. This could lead to higher ongoing operating costs. Additionally, the proximity to a railroad introduces noise and safety risks, which could impact the well-being of Village residents.

Public feedback also raises significant concerns about the suitability of this location. The public survey found that only 32% of all respondents preferred Kam River Heritage Park over 114 Miles St E. Further, as part of overall beautification and revitalization efforts, Administration has plans for Kam River Heritage Park which would be delayed by the presence of the Temporary Shelter Village.

While the location has historically served as an encampment area, it lacks the visibility and accessibility of 114 Miles St E. Its hidden nature could perpetuate stigmatization and reduce opportunities for community inclusion, which was a key theme arising from engagements.

Additionally, relocating the encampment to facilitate the Village's construction would likely be contentious. This could exacerbate trauma and mistrust among individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Further, the relocation process would require significant resources and planning, creating delays and increasing costs.

CONSULTATION

Administration conducted a series of time-limited consultations with various stakeholders to gather feedback on the proposed sites and the Village's operations. This feedback not only informed Administration's site recommendation, but also provided critical insights and considerations related to implementation. Overall, these efforts resulted in approximately 802 interactions of public engagement.

- **Public Survey:** Online and hard copies available from October 24, 2024, to November 4, 2024.
- **Fort William BIA Board:** Two meetings. First on October 22, 2024 and second on November 12, 2024.
- **Surrounding Neighbourhood:** Two in-person sessions. First on November 15, 2024, and open to residents and businesses. Second on November 19, 2024, and targeted engagement with surrounding businesses.
- **People with Lived Experience:** Planned visits encampments with an outreach team on both the North and South sides. The South side engagement was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. North side engagement took place on November 15, 2024.
- **Service Providers Gathering:** Scheduled for November 20, 2024. Over 60 registrations from diverse sectors (i.e., policing, justice, housing, shelter, health care – including mental health and substance use health, food security, children and youth, advocacy).

Administration recognizes that public communication and engagement is a critically important piece of this initiative. With a proactively developed Strategy and Communications Plan, Administration is ready to continue engaging with stakeholders and ramp up public communication efforts, should Council approve the site recommendation.

Public Survey

Methodology

To allow for a broad and inclusive collection of feedback on the proposed Temporary Village initiative, the survey was made accessible through both online and hard copies. This approach sought to accommodate diverse populations, including those without internet access.

- **Online Survey:** Hosted on the "Get Involved" platform, the online survey ensured respondents completed required questions before submission. While there was no dedicated space for general comments, Question 4 ("What else?") provided an opportunity for respondents to leave open-ended suggestions.
- **Paper Survey:** Paper copies of the survey were made available at all Thunder Bay Public Library branches. The nature of paper surveys allowed respondents to provide additional handwritten comments in blank spaces. Some paper submissions (6 responses) left required questions blank and were excluded in data entry. However, invalid surveys with written comments were still included in the "general feedback" analysis.

Key Insights

This section provides key insights from the public survey. See *Appendix A – Temporary Village Proposed Sites Public Survey Results* for data visualization and a high-level overview of results.

Response Rate

- The survey attracted a significant response from the community, with 706 submissions in total.
- 700 responses were deemed valid, including 688 online submissions and 12 paper submissions. Six paper surveys were incomplete and excluded from the quantitative data analysis.
- Not all 700 respondents provided answers to every question, resulting in variations in response totals across questions.

Connection to Downtown Fort William

- The majority of respondents do not live or work in downtown Fort William (67%), while similar proportions live (14%) and work (15%) in the area. A small percentage of respondents both live and work in the area (4%).
- A majority of respondents are frequent visitors to downtown Fort William (61%), represented by daily or most days (33%), or weekly or a few times a month (28%).
- A smaller percentage of respondents are occasional visitors to downtown Fort William (23%), an even smaller percentage are rare visitors (13%), and an even smaller percentage of respondents never visit the area (3%).

Site Preference

- A clear majority of total respondents (68%) expressed a preference for 114 Miles St E, as compared to those who preferred Kam River Heritage Park (32%). This preference was consistent across most demographics.
- 114 Miles St E was the preferred location for people living in downtown Fort William (74%), people working in downtown Fort William (63%), and people who do not live or work in downtown Fort William (69%).
- Only people both living and working in downtown Fort William marginally preferred Kam River Heritage Park (52%) over Miles St E (48%).

- On average, of those who either work, live, or both in the area (23%), Miles St E emerged as the preferred site (62%).
- While the majority of respondents do not live or work in downtown Fort William (67%), just under half of those respondents (45% or 212 votes) reported frequently visiting (daily or weekly). Of those 212 votes, 68% preferred Miles St E. over Kam River Heritage Park.
- 114 Miles St E was preferred by the majority of daily visitors (61%), weekly visitors (72%), monthly visitors (74%) and rare visitors (71%).
- Non-visitors were evenly divided (50%) in their preferences between the two proposed sites.

Top Priorities to Support a Positive Neighbourhood Addition

- In terms of helping to make sure the Temporary Village is a positive addition to the neighborhood, on-site staff and security (489 votes) and garbage cleanup in the surrounding areas (361 votes) emerged as the top two priorities.
- Supportive services for residents (302) also emerged as a top priority.
- Measures such as a neighbourhood liaison committee (50 votes) and regular public communication and education (44 votes) emerged as lower priorities.
- Of those who selected “What else?” (93 votes), a small amount of respondents expressed their outright opposition to the project (15 comments, 2% of total respondents), and a small amount noted support for the concept but not at either of the proposed sites (7 comments, 1% of total respondents).
- Overall, comments related to location underscored the importance of security measures and a clean, dignified environment for both residents and the surrounding community.
- Some comments highlighted the value of working collaboratively with residents of the Village and meaningfully involving them in planning and decision-making, while keeping the community informed and involved as well.
- Others highlighted the importance of purpose and stability, advocating for opportunities like employment, volunteer work, and stable housing to help residents exit homelessness.
- Many comments spoke to the importance of maintaining order with clear rules and expectations of the Temporary Village residents, consistent monitoring, and transition plans.

- Community inclusion was another common theme, with suggestions for public art projects, neighborhood events, and partnerships with local businesses to foster a sense of belonging and pride among Temporary Village residents.

General Feedback

In addition to responses directly tied to survey questions, written feedback on paper copies highlighted several broader themes, providing valuable context for community sentiment and considerations for the Temporary Village initiative.

A prominent concern arose around the impact of the Temporary Village on ongoing revitalization efforts in downtown Fort William. Respondents expressed the need for careful integration to ensure the initiative aligns with and supports broader development goals for the area. Another suggestion emphasized the potential benefits of establishing smaller, dispersed sites across the city rather than relying on a single location. This approach was seen as a way to ease management challenges for operators and reduce the impact on the surrounding community.

The cost of implementing the Temporary Village and its temporary nature also emerged as points of concern, with respondents questioning whether the investment would result in meaningful, long-term benefits. Some feedback included proposals to explore alternative locations, particularly on the North side of town, to increase capacity and adopt a city-wide approach. Some respondents emphasized the need for additional units to address the full scope of unsheltered homelessness, underscoring the importance of a solution that meets the scale of the issue.

Surrounding Neighbourhood Drop-In Sessions

Two dedicated engagement sessions were organized to gather input from surrounding residents and businesses regarding the proposed Temporary Village Initiative. These sessions provided attendees with an opportunity to engage directly with project leads, learn more about the initiative, and share their feedback.

Both sessions followed the same format. Take-home copies of the City's ten-part *Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan for Thunder Bay* and a one-page overview of the Temporary Village were available. Information boards were also displayed, providing an overview of the project and examples from other communities. The project's lead and members of the Strategy & Engagement team were available for one-on-one discussions. Paper copies of surveys and comment cards were also provided to capture feedback.

Session One

Held on November 15, 2024, from 12:00 – 1:30 PM at Victoriaville Mall. The City invited surrounding residences and businesses to the session through a mailout postcard. The Fort William BIA also shared the event with their internal mailing list and Facebook page.

There were approximately 35 individuals in attendance with varying perspectives. While some attendees expressed strong support for the project, others voiced concerns about the potential for increased crime, impacts to on-street parking, disruptive public behaviors, and social disorder in the area. Some participants opposed the proposed sites but were not entirely against the concept itself. Several suggestions were put forward, including increased police and security presence, enhanced garbage cleanup in the vicinity, and a focus on reducing encampments in the surrounding area. Seven (7) valid survey responses were collected, four (4) respondents preferred 114 Miles St E and three (3) respondents preferred Kam River Heritage Park. Overall, feedback underscored the importance of fostering a safe and clean environment for both the village residents and the surrounding community.

Highlighted Participant Comments

- “The cost of this plan is excessive for a ‘stop-gap’ measure.”
- “Way too much money for a temporary solution! Tax payer insult!”
- “I live and work in downtown FW, and I believe that this is a great project that is very much needed. Marginalized people are part of our community and deserve safety and support and be seen and treated as valuable members of our community. I selected the Miles location because I had concerns about moving anyone from the encampment location in order to build it. However, I do not have a strong preference for either location. I trust that people working with the unhoused in our community will make the best decision.”

Session Two

Held on November 19, 2024, from 5:00 – 6:30 PM at City Hall for members of the Fort William BIA and adjacent businesses. There were approximately 7 attendees, most of whom attended the first session. The feedback received echoed the concerns raised during the first session.

On November 19, 2024 Administration was notified that an apartment building did not receive the mailout postcard prior to the first session. To address this, Administration reached out to the property manager and requested that a poster be displayed in the building. The poster included an apology for the delay and invited residents to directly contact the Encampment Response Plan Lead to share their feedback. Any feedback received is not reflected in this report but Administration can provide a verbal update.

Fort William Business Improvement Association Board

Two meetings were held to gather feedback and address concerns regarding the initiative. During the first meeting, Administration answered questions, listened to concerns, and collected feedback from participants. Following this meeting, the Fort William BIA submitted a list of additional questions to Administration. A second meeting

was convened to respond to these questions and provide an update on the actions being taken to address the issues raised and feedback received at the first meeting.

The Board emphasized the importance of confirming the initiative as temporary, with a defined duration of three to five years. They also highlighted the need for the third-party operator to have expertise in supporting populations with complex needs. Concerns about safety in the area were raised, particularly in relation to the possibility of a designated encampment site (the Simpson Street section of Kam River Park) being near the Temporary Village, if the Miles Street location was to be recommended to Council.

In response to the Board's concerns, Administration is offering the following:

- \$40,000 financial contribution to the Fort William BIA to support their revitalization efforts and to address their perceived concerns related to security and neighbourhood cleanup.
- Assurance that the third-party operator request for proposals will require applicants to demonstrate their expertise in supporting populations with complex needs.
- Assurance that the municipal contributions to the Temporary Village's operations will cease after a maximum of 5 years.
- The Simpson Street section of Kam River Park will be excluded as a potential designated encampment location if Council approves 114 Miles St E as the Village's site.

Despite hours of discussion with Board members of the Fort William BIA, and offers of mitigating measures for their concerns, the Board has publicly announced their opposition to the Temporary Village in downtown Fort William. Their press release stated that their reasons included a lack of trust in any commitment made by Council and a preference for the status quo for "the next 12 to 24 months" – which does nothing to help address the immediate crisis. Administration also notes that the BIA Board states they are representing the residents of the area; a role they noted to Administration that they do not hold.

We agree that permanent housing for all is the ultimate goal, but we are still many years away and the interim measure of a temporary village is essential to caring for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Administration maintains that the most viable site is at 114 Miles St E and that the site will help revitalize the entire core - not detract from it. Administration also believes that the recommendation before Council adequately addresses perceived concerns with the Village being established at Miles St.

City Administration is committed to continuing to working with stakeholders to address their needs, and to maintain ongoing engagement and communication through the duration of the Temporary Village Initiative and implementation of the ten-part plan.

People with Lived and Living Experience

Engaging individuals with lived and living experience is a key component of a human-rights-based approach. Administration planned to go out with an outreach team and engage with people living in encampments on both the North and South sides of the city. Unfortunately, unforeseen circumstances prevented the planned South side engagement, and time constraints made rescheduling impossible. As a result, feedback was collected solely from a small number of individuals on the North Side.

The feedback gathered highlighted several critical themes. Relocation emerged as a significant topic, with some participants expressing openness to moving to the Temporary Village while others were firmly opposed to leaving the North side. Participants also identified essential needs, such as access to showers and laundry facilities, as vital for improving their quality of life.

The importance of voluntary and consensual support services was another key insight. Participants advocated for accessible services tailored to individual needs, including addiction treatment and healthcare. Fostering community connection through inclusion initiatives was also a priority, with participants underscoring the value of programs that build a sense of belonging. Additionally, many expressed a desire for meaningful activities that provide purpose, such as community gardens and structured programs.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATION

A recurring financial contribution of \$40,000 would be allocated to the 2025 Fort William Business Improvement Association (BIA) Budget to support their revitalization efforts and address perceived concerns related to security and neighborhood cleanup. This funding will be allocated from within the previously approved \$1,500,000 municipal operating cap for the Temporary Village Initiative.

CONCLUSION

The Temporary Shelter Village Initiative represents a critical step in addressing the urgent challenges of unsheltered homelessness in Thunder Bay. The recommendation to proceed with 114 Miles St E as the site for the Temporary Village is supported by its cost-effectiveness, alignment with evaluation criteria, and strong public preference. This site ensures proximity to essential services, efficient use of municipal resources, and minimal disruption to ongoing development and revitalization efforts.

Should Council approve the site recommendation, Administration is committed to working with all key stakeholders and continuing public education and communication efforts. These efforts will ensure transparency, build community trust, and foster collaborative solutions to meet the needs of residents experiencing unsheltered homelessness. By moving forward with this site, the City will not only address the immediate crisis but also enhance overall community safety and well-being in the long-term.

BACKGROUND

June 27, 2022, Memorandum from C. Olsen, Manager – Community Strategies, was presented at Committee of the Whole on June 27, 2022, requesting an opportunity to provide an update relative to the ongoing collaborative approach responding to unsheltered homelessness in the community. Executive Director Holly Gauvin -Elevate NWO, and Staff Sergeant Jason Anderson – Community Outreach - Thunder Bay Police Service provided an overview relative to the above noted and responded to questions.

August 8, 2022, Memorandum from C. Olsen, Manager – Community Strategies, was presented to Committee of the Whole and a resolution was passed, and ratified at City Council on August 22, 2022 that approved the financial support for an Unsheltered Homelessness Pilot Project, maintaining peer involvement and appropriate amenities provided to Elevate NWO and authorized the General Manager of Development and Emergency Services and the City Clerk to execute necessary documents.

February 13, 2023, Susan Lester and Jeanne Adams appeared before Committee of the Whole and provided a PowerPoint presentation, relative to encampments on the McVicar Creek Recreational Trail, and responded to questions.

May 1, 2023, City Council ratified a resolution to adopt a human-rights based approach to responding to encampments, including a \$20,000 expansion in the Operating Budget for 2024, and directing Administration conduct community consultation to better understand the feasibility of designated/supported encampments, and to work with the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee to advocate to the provincial government.

September 25, 2023, Memorandum from C. Olsen, Acting Director – Strategic Initiatives & Engagement, was presented to Committee of the Whole and provided an update on the response to unsheltered homelessness, including preparations for the upcoming winter months.

April 22, 2024, Corporate Report 137-2024 from C. Olsen, Director – Strategy & Engagement and R. Willianen, Policy & Research Analyst, was presented to Committee of the Whole and provided an update on the feasibility of designated encampment locations, including community consultation results.

May 6, 2024, Council directed that the City conduct an environmental scan of municipal approaches to designated and sanctioned sites, undertake an assessment of recommendations to municipalities by the Office of the Federal Housing Advocate, update the Encampment Response Protocol, further define designated encampments for the City, and continue to coordinate a human-rights based encampment response.

June 24, 2024, Corporate Report 252-2024 from R. Willianen, Policy & Research Analyst and C. Olsen, Director Strategy & Engagement was presented to Committee

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of the Whole and provided recommendations related to adopting distance guidelines, and advocacy items to other orders of government related to encampments and unsheltered homelessness.

July 15, 2024, Memorandum dated July 5, 2024, from C. Olsen, Director Strategy & Engagement was presented and proposed amended distance guidelines to include 20 metres away from private non-residential property and 5 metres away from rivers and railway tracks as they were not originally reflected. The final recommendation as presented in the memorandum was approved and ratified.

August 12, 2024, Corporate Report 312-2024 from R. Willianen, Policy & Research Analyst and C. Olsen, Director Strategy & Engagement was presented and recommended to Council that the encampment distance guidelines for trails, sidewalks, parking lots and bridges remain at 5 metres, and that they be included in the overall Distance Guidelines that were approved and ratified on July 15, 2024.

October 7, 2024, Corporate Report 384-2024 from C. Olsen, Director Strategy & Engagement was presented as a first report and proposed an enhanced encampment response through a ten-part Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan.

October 21, 2024, Corporate Report 384-2024 from C. Olsen, Director Strategy & Engagement was represented and recommended that the Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan be approved, and that a copy of the resolution be sent to the Office of the Federal Housing Advocate, and provincial and federal members of parliament

October 21, 2024, Corporate Report 394-2024 from R. Willianen, Policy & Research Analyst was presented and recommended that the Temporary Village Initiative be approved conditional on final site approval by City Council, and that Administration conduct further analysis and time-limited consultations on the two proposed site locations.

REFERENCE MATERIAL ATTACHED

Appendix A –Temporary Village Proposed Sites Public Survey Results

REPORT PREPARED BY

Rilee Willianen, Encampment Response Plan Lead – Growth

REPORT SIGNED AND VERIFIED BY

John Collin, City Manager

Date (11/21/2025)