Safe Public Spaces for All: Addressing Encampments in the City of Brampton

Brampton Community Safety Advisory Committee

December 12, 2024





Today's Agenda

1. Background & Overview

2. Council Report

3. Current Situation & Next Steps











What is an encampment?

Encampments

- Refers to emergency accommodations such as tents and informal structures. Established by people who are unhoused, usually on public property or privatelyowned land, and often without permission.¹
- Encampment residents are a small portion of unhoused people but represent a visible form of homelessness.

¹The Office of the Federal Housing Advocate, 2024. *Upholding dignity and human rights: the Federal Housing Advocate's review of homeless encampments – Final report.* Ottawa: The Office of the Federal Housing Advocate.







Timeline







Encampment Policy
Framework and Joint
Protocols for Peel Region
and its Local Municipalities



Interim Procedure for Etobicoke Creek Trail & Elevated Response



Council Report with Recommended Next Steps







Safe Public Spaces for All: Addressing Encampments in the City of Brampton (RM 55/24)





Report highlights

- Identifying gaps in existing internal processes to address encampments
- Identifying implemented and recommended improvements for addressing encampments



Report

Staff Report
The Corporation of the City of Brampton
10/23/2024

Date: 2024-10-09

Safe Public Spaces for All: Addressing Encampments in the City of

Brampton (RM 55/2024)

Contact: Razmin Said, Senior Manager, Community Safety & Well-Being

Office

Report number: Community Services-2024-826

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Subject:

- That the report from Julia Seeratan, Advisor, Community Safety and Well-Being Office, to the Committee of Council Meeting of October 23, 2024, re: Safe Public Spaces for All: Addressing Encampments in the City of Brampton (RM 55/2024), be received:
- That the Brampton Encampment Planning Working Group examine by-laws identified by Enforcement and By-Law Services that fall under the umbrella of 'safe public spaces for all to determine:
- how they can be strengthened to ensure public spaces are safe for all users in the city, and;
- which will need updating for the Encampment Policy Framework and Joint Protocols for Peel Region and its Local Municipalities;
- That this report be forwarded to Regional Council, Regional staff, and the Peel Encampment Working Group and Steering Committee for consideration in the development and implementation of the Encampment Policy Framework and Joint Protocols for Peel Region and its Local Municipalities;
- 4. That staff increase advocacy efforts by supporting the Solve the Crisis campaign and a letter be sent to the Federal Government and Provincial Government, relevant cabinet members, and local MPs and MPPs asking to appoint a single ministry and minister to lead the Province's response to homelessness and mental health issues and to create a municipal-provincial task force to immediately direct resources and supports to cities and establish a common framework that includes operational quidelines for municipalities: and
- 5. That the 2025 Community Services capital budget submission include the cost of a dedicated multi-disciplinary unit focused on risk intervention and response with the subject matter expertise needed to assess and address encampment hazards, provide interventions, and respond to encampment concerns, with an estimated annual budget of \$907.000 and presented to the Mayor for his consideration.





Multi-sector coordinated and collaborative approach

Brampton Encampment Response Group

- Purpose is to review all known encampments, address needs and potential hazards, and coordinate solutions.
- Led by the Community Safety & Well-Being Office and comprised of Brampton staff across multiple divisions and external partners, including Peel Regional Police, Region of Peel Housing Services, Region of Peel Outreach Services.







Multi-sector coordinated and collaborative approach (continued)

Brampton Encampment Planning Working Group

- Purpose is to streamline current procedures and build capacity to implement the finalized Regional Policy Framework and Protocols.
- Led by the Community Safety & Well-Being Office and comprised of City of Brampton staff across multiple divisions.





Multi-sector coordinated and collaborative approach (continued)

Peel Encampment Working Group and Peel Encampment Steering Committee

- Purpose is to develop the Encampment Policy Framework and Joint Protocols for Peel Region and its Local Municipalities
- Develop draft protocols that are relevant to interim encampment needs, and create strategies to pilot protocols
- Provide feedback on drafted protocols and collaborate on opportunities for enhancements
- To be presented to Regional Council in 2025 for approval





Current Situation & Next Steps





Current Situation and Next Steps

Planning Efforts	Risk Mitigation Efforts	Joint Efforts
 Continued implementation of on-going improvements 	 Piloting site assessments 	 Advocacy
 Developing and 	 Weekly patrols 	 Peel Encampment Policy Framework and Joint
implementing new improvements	Restoration efforts	Protocols
 Review and enhance 	 Installing signage 	
current By-laws	Site conference meetings	





Thank you









