



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MEMORANDUM**

Page: 1
File: S03
Pending #:

TO: MAYOR A. NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

WARD: ALL

NOTED: M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: STATUS UPDATE – OPTIONS TO ADDRESS CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

DATE: June 21, 2023

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council with updates related to resolution 23-A-052 concerning Options to Address Chronic Homelessness in the City which was adopted by City Council on May 17, 2023.

The resolution identified a number of actions/options that the Chief Administrative Officer was to consider or utilize. The following chart outlines the status of the actions/options:

Action	Status	Additional Comments
Request funding from the Province of Ontario for i) additional financial support for the Rapid Access Addiction Medicine (RAAM) Clinic to provide more beds and to increase the hours of operation; and ii) for a similar organization that provides long-term counselling and treatment	Complete Complete	Letter from Mayor Nuttall sent to Minister Tibollo on June 6, 2023, addressing both matters. In addition, meetings have been requested with the Minister at the annual AMO conference to specifically discuss these two matters.
Approve funding for the following: i) a Family Re-unification Fund to pay for the transportation costs and help re-unite individuals with families or support groups.	In progress	Staff met with the Elizabeth Fry Society and John Howard Society on June 13, 2023. An allocation of funding of \$10,000 to each organization will be made to reunify individuals with their families and /or support networks. This amount was identified by the organizations as the amount required to result in a positive impact.



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MEMORANDUM**

Page: 2
File: S03
Pending #:

<p>ii) the operation of a shuttle service for individuals released from the Central North Correctional Centre;</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Staff are working towards a fall launch of a six-month shuttle pilot in collaboration with the Ministry of Solicitor General.</p>
<p>iii) a Cooling and Warming Centre for at-risk individuals and the provision of daily meal programs that are currently being offered on public lands and in public parks over multiple years.</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>On June 5, 2023, City staff met with representatives from the County of Simcoe to discuss its plans for cooling and warming centres. Once the County of Simcoe provides further details on options, a portion of the funds identified in the direct motion will be provided by the City for services in Barrie, to add to the County's commitment of \$100,000 to warming space/services.</p>
<p>iv) to the Salvation Army or a similar organization to support a lunch program; and</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>County staff advised that the Salvation Army had withdrawn its intent to continue with the meal program due to the corporate cost and resources required. It was suggested that an allocation be made to the Simcoe County's Social and Community Investment Fund that helps local organizations develop community-based initiatives that address poverty such as food security programs.</p>
<p>v) for food security programs through local agencies to reduce the needs associated with panhandling</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>As per the above, an investment will be provided to the Simcoe County's Social and Community Investment Fund.</p>
<p>Request permanent funding from the Province of Ontario and the County of Simcoe for the County of Simcoe's mobile outreach pilot program in downtown Barrie, if deemed to be successful by the City of Barrie and the County of Simcoe</p>	<p>Pending</p>	<p>Pending completion of the of the pilot in September 2023, the County of Simcoe and City of Barrie will meet to discuss feedback from the community to determine if the pilot was successful. If the pilot is deemed to have been successful, a request will be made to the Province and the County for the mobile outreach program to be funded on a permanent basis.</p>



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
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Page: 3
File: S03
Pending #:

<p>Changes to the City's By-laws, protocols, and processes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) prohibit the use or distribution of tents or tarps in public parks or on public lands without a permit; ii) prohibit the distribution of food and grocery products in public spaces without the use of a permit; and iii) reduce the time required to address camping in parks and storage of goods in parks or public spaces 	<p>Complete</p> <p>Complete</p>	<p>Bills have been included on the City Council agenda with the necessary amendments to address Council's direction.</p> <p>Bills have been included on the City Council agenda with the necessary amendments to address Council's direction.</p> <p>The protocols and practices are being modified to address Council's direction. A separate confidential memorandum has been included on the Circulation List addressing matters related to iii).</p>
<p>Methods to prohibit the payment to panhandlers on City Streets, intersections, and highway ramps</p>	<p>In progress</p>	<p>Staff are investigating potential methods including legal options that may be available to Council as part of a by-law.</p> <p>Staff have met with Chief Johnston and Deputy Chief Allan of the Barrie Police Service to discuss potential solutions. Barrie Police Service has indicated it would support the City's efforts, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrie Police Service will offer an analysis from a Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) perspective related to the environmental design of intersections, from a pedestrian safety and from an impact on reducing social disorder approach. • Barrie Police Service will work with communications initiatives to advise the public of more impactful ways of donating their funds for homelessness prevention; and



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
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Page: 4
File: S03
Pending #:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barrie Police Service is reviewing options to raise awareness of the Province's Safe Streets Act and the safety issues for drivers and those soliciting from roadways.
The placement of signs on City off-ramps to discourage panhandling or financial support thereof and encouraging donations to local social service agencies	In progress	Signs have been designed with QR codes to direct donations to local social services agencies through Canada Helps. Over the next several weeks signs will be installed at City intersections. Permission has been requested from the Ministry of Transportation to install similar signs on the highway offramps.
Work with the County of Simcoe and Province of Ontario on ways to build more supportive housing for community members experiencing adverse mental health or addictions	In progress	Meeting held June 5, 2023, with the County of Simcoe to discuss opportunities to collaborate on additional supportive housing builds. The City is continuing to review opportunities to collaborate and/or support the development of additional supportive housing. The County is expected to issue a formal call for proposals from municipalities and developers/non-profits in the summer/early fall.
Appeal to the County of Simcoe for funding to help individuals transition from unemployment to employment through training opportunities	In progress	During the meeting held June 5, 2023, with the County of Simcoe. County staff identified that they would look for opportunities to include the Chamber of Commerce in discussions related to employment training and options for support of the Life Stabilization Programming to discuss opportunities.
Schedule a public meeting to be held at the Community Safety Committee regarding the chronic homelessness, addictions and mental health supports in the City of Barrie	Completed	A Public Meeting of the Community Safety Committee to review actions taken to date has been scheduled for Tuesday September 19, 2023.



**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
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Page: 5
File: S03
Pending #:

Have staff apply for any provincial or federal funding opportunities available to support the options outlined this motion	In progress	Staff will apply for any funding opportunities that become available, as they arise. As the County is the service manager designated by the Province, opportunities for the City itself to apply may be limited.
That funding of up to \$825,000 per annum for 2 years from the Re-Investment Reserve be made available to fund any of the options detailed in paragraph 1 that are undertaken, as required	In progress	The Chief Administrative Officer is allocating funding for the actions identified above from the \$825,000 allocation.
That, if necessary, the Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to waive the City's purchasing by-law to award any items or services required to undertake the options listed in paragraph 1	N/A	At this time, this has not been required.
That the Chief Administrative Officer provide quarterly updates to the Community Safety Committee regarding the effectiveness of the options that are undertaken as part of this motion	1 st quarterly report provided	This memorandum serves as the first quarterly report. As the options have either just been exercised or are in process, effectiveness will be reviewed and reported on in future memorandums.