

Temporary Shelter Expansion – Overview

Weekly Progress Update: December 23, 2024



The temporary outdoor shelter is part of the [City’s broader, ongoing strategy to address homelessness in Hamilton](#). This reflects Council’s decision to provide [additional low-barrier shelter space](#) in response to the [Mayor’s directive\(PDF, 106.68 KB\)](#) to establish a temporary outdoor shelter. This is not a standalone project but a crucial component of a larger system that includes [housing support programs, rapid re-housing, drop-in services, outreach, and emergency supports](#).

Weekly Updates – December 23, 2024 *(note: the next update will be posted the week of January 6, 2025):*

Temporary Outdoor Shelter

<p>Construction Activities:</p>	<p>Completed Last Week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Asphalt work on site now fully complete, including parking area, and sidewalk areas into the site. ○ Fence installation around perimeter is now complete, including all necessary access gates. ○ Electrical implementation work continues in coordination with Alectra Utilities. ○ Waterline test and disinfection. ○ Community building has arrived on site. • Caroline St. Improvements: Caroline St. paving is complete; all pedestrian crossings completed in asphalt, and staff will return to install concrete, including AODA treatments and other outstanding crossing works. 	<p>Planned this week (2 weeks total):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Construction: installation of hydro poles; installation of community building; internal fence installation begins; line painting; watermain tie in, phase 2 electrical. • Caroline St. Improvements: installation of traffic infrastructure resumes, specifically poles and associated minor concrete work, followed by installation of traffic infrastructure, specifically signal equipment, signage and pavement markings. • Weekend Work: It is anticipated that construction crews will continue work throughout the weekend to maintain progress. • Communications: <u>Next online update will be posted the week of January 6, 2025.</u>
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Operational Items:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Plan Coordination: Ongoing – continued development of service level policies and procedures in advance of the opening of the Temporary Outdoor Shelter, including implementation of safety protocols that are being built into the site; required schedules approved in principle and undergoing final review. • Ongoing: City / Good Shepherd meeting weekly to work through and confirm site details. 										
192 Shelter Bed Expansion - The City is addressing the urgent need for shelter services by activating 192 additional beds through strategic partnerships with community providers.											
Beds Onboarded:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total number of beds onboarded as of December 23rd: 107/192 – ~56% of beds (+15%) 										
Schedule for Remaining Bed Opening: <i>(Revised, as of December 23¹)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Shepherd Cathedral will temporarily operate as an overnight drop-in (up to 64 spaces) through December into January to accommodate additional need and capacity for overnight sheltering. <table border="1" data-bbox="432 769 1661 1096"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="432 769 821 813">Dates</th> <th data-bbox="821 769 1661 813">New Shelter Beds</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 813 821 899">Dec. 2 - Dec. 23</td> <td data-bbox="821 813 1661 899">56 beds (now open) 64 Temporary Drop-In Spaces (now open)</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 899 821 985">Dec. 23 - Jan. 3</td> <td data-bbox="821 899 1661 985">15 beds² (projected)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="432 985 1661 1029" style="background-color: #cccccc;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 1029 821 1096">January</td> <td data-bbox="821 1029 1661 1096">70 beds (projected)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Dates	New Shelter Beds	Dec. 2 - Dec. 23	56 beds (now open) 64 Temporary Drop-In Spaces (now open)	Dec. 23 - Jan. 3	15 beds ² (projected)			January	70 beds (projected)
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¹ **Note:** largest challenge to date for agencies bringing new beds online has been staffing related, however all partners continue to work diligently to ensure safe onboarding of new shelter beds into the system as soon as operationally possible.

² **Note:** 50 additional beds initially projected to come online at Cathedral have been temporarily converted to up to 64 overnight drop-in spaces to accommodate additional need and capacity for overnight sheltering. These beds will transition to full shelter beds through January.