

Temporary Shelter Expansion – Overview

Weekly Progress Update: January 13, 2025



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 – January 13, 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"> ○ Continued installation of hydro poles, guy-wires and other electrical infrastructure throughout the site. ○ Concrete apron poured/installed at entrance, and emergency pathways also installed on site. ○ Internal fence post install continued, with chain link being added to posts. ○ Work on community building on site. ○ Mobilization of resources necessary to support first shelter units delivery to site on Jan. 13; being unloaded and prepared for inspection and install. ● Caroline St. Improvements: installation of traffic infrastructure, specifically signal equipment, signage and pavement markings (work ongoing). 	<p>Planned this week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Construction: first delivery of shelter units to site confirmed for January 13. Coordination of shelter unit installation, including: unloading and transfer with crane for installation; placement of units in designated areas on site; regular safety inspections; and preparation for site electrical connections for each unit installed ● Finalizing interior fence work, including gates. ● Continue to finalize any necessary grading on site. ● Ongoing preparation to receive next shipment of shelter units. ● Weekend Work: It is anticipated that construction crews will continue work throughout the weekend to maintain progress.
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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; site visits completed, with more planned to continue to refine operational items related to site activation. 								
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 January 13th: 138/192 – ~72% of beds (+5%) 								
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="432 841 1656 1114"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="432 841 821 885">Dates</th> <th data-bbox="821 841 1656 885">New Shelter Beds</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 885 821 971">Dec. 2 – Jan. 13</td> <td data-bbox="821 885 1656 971"> 87 beds (now open) 64 Temporary Drop-In Spaces (now open)² </td> </tr> <tr style="background-color: #cccccc;"> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="432 971 1656 1015"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 1015 821 1114">January</td> <td data-bbox="821 1015 1656 1114"> 54 beds (projected) 192/192 – 100% of beds </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Dates	New Shelter Beds	Dec. 2 – Jan. 13	87 beds (now open) 64 Temporary Drop-In Spaces (now open) ²			January	54 beds (projected) 192/192 – 100% of beds
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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.