

Temporary Shelter Expansion – Overview

Weekly Progress Update: January 6, 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 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"> ○ Installation of hydro poles throughout the site; including any asphalt repair / finishing required. ○ Internal fence post installation begins. ○ Grading around the site, including parking area and emergency access gates. ● Caroline St. Improvements: Signal install, along with additional infrastructure (see “Planned this week” for overview of ongoing work). 	<p>Planned this week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Construction: finished grade around asphalt on site continues; ongoing installation of interior fencing; additional hydro pole installation as required; work to support hydro connection led by Alectra Utilities; planning around mobilization for shelter unit install. ● Caroline St. Improvements: installation of traffic infrastructure, specifically poles and associated minor concrete work, followed by installation of traffic infrastructure, specifically signal equipment, signage and pavement markings (work ongoing). ● Weekend Work: It is anticipated that construction crews will continue work throughout the weekend to maintain progress.
<p>Operational Items:</p>	<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 	

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	<p>implementation of safety protocols that are being built into the site; required schedules approved in principle and undergoing final review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing: City / Good Shepherd meeting weekly to work through and confirm site details; site visit planned for this week to go over additional operational items related to site activation. 								
<p>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.</p>									
<p>Beds Onboarded:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total number of beds onboarded as of January 6th: 129/192 – ~67% of beds (+11%) 								
<p>Schedule for Remaining Bed Opening:</p> <p><i>(Revised, as of December 23¹)</i></p>	<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="432 727 1656 1003"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="432 727 821 773">Dates</th> <th data-bbox="821 727 1656 773">New Shelter Beds</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 773 821 859">Dec. 2 – Jan. 6</td> <td data-bbox="821 773 1656 859"> 78 beds (now open) 64 Temporary Drop-In Spaces (now open)² </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="432 859 1656 904" style="background-color: #cccccc;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="432 904 821 1003">January</td> <td data-bbox="821 904 1656 1003"> 63 beds (projected) 192/192 – 100% of beds </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Dates	New Shelter Beds	Dec. 2 – Jan. 6	78 beds (now open) 64 Temporary Drop-In Spaces (now open) ²			January	63 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.