



REPORT TO HOSPITALS AND HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JULY 07, 2021

SUBJECT Regional Housing First Program: Project Update, Second Quarter 2021

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide the Hospitals and Housing Committee (HHC) with a quarterly update on the implementation of the Regional Housing First Program (RHFP).

BACKGROUND

The RHFP was formed in 2016, through which the Capital Regional District (CRD), BC Housing Management Commission (BC Housing) and the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) committed \$30 million (M) each to build housing units to help address chronic homelessness in the region. The program model includes 20% of all units having rent levels set at the Government of BC's Income Assistance Rate Table Shelter Maximum (Shelter Rate) and the remaining 80% of units being Affordable Rental Units.

In 2020, the CRD, BC Housing and CMHC committed to increasing their contributions by \$10M each to address escalating land acquisition and construction costs. The total capital fund now available is \$120M and better positions the program to achieve its target of up to 2,000 Affordable Rental Units, with 400 of those units having rents set at Shelter Rate. Overall, the program is expected to leverage the development of approximately \$600M in capital development.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

The Hospitals and Housing Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Regional Housing First Program: Project Update, Second Quarter 2021 report be received for information.

Alternative 2

That the Regional Housing First Program: Project Update, Second Quarter 2021 report be referred back to staff for additional information based on Hospitals and Housing Committee direction.

IMPLICATIONS

Program Delivery

Appendix A, attached to this report, summarizes the progress in the development of 10 RHFP capital projects that have received approval from the CRD Board. These projects represent a total of 1,011 units with 229 to be rented at Shelter Rate.

Financial

These projects have been approved to receive a total of \$67.6M in RHFP funding and represent a total value of \$300.9M. In total, \$72M of the RHFP funds have been committed as of June 30, 2021 with \$48M remaining.

CONCLUSION

The Project Summary provides the Hospitals and Housing Committee with an update on the status of program implementation and high-level details of the 10 approved projects.

RECOMMENDATION

The Hospitals and Housing Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That the Regional Housing First Program: Project Update, Second Quarter 2021 report be received for information.

Submitted by:	Don Elliott, MUP, Senior Manager, Regional Housing
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Planning & Protective Services
Concurrence:	David Hennigan, CPA, CMA, Acting Chief Financial Officer
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Acting Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A – Regional Housing First Program: Project Summary, July 7, 2021