

NOTE: Inline responses from David Ferreira are highlighted in bold.

Hello Elias

Thanks for your email.

You can send your comments to Council Agenda councilagenda@london.ca. Request that you would like your comments added to the 12th Meeting of the City Council agenda, June 27.

Please keep in mind that you can request to redact your address and last name for privacy purposes.

I was able to answer most of these questions, but I will ask Q 7 at the meeting on your behalf.

Kind regards,

David Ferreira (he/him)
Councillor, Ward 13
City of London

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From: Elias Puurunen <>
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 7:46 PM
To: Ferreira, David <dferreira@london.ca>; Stevenson, Susan <sstevenson@london.ca>
Cc: McGee, Mack <mmcgee@london.ca>; Kampman, Alexis <akampman@london.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Request for Meeting re: Forward Ave/Cavendish Park

Hi David,

Further to my questions, can you confirm that if I write to the City Clerk at ASKCITY@london.ca, my letter will be included in the public record and be read during the council meeting on the 27th?

Who do I address the letter to, and what does the subject line need to read?

Thank you,
Elias Puurunen

From: Elias Puurunen

Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 7:06 PM

To: Ferreira, David <dferreira@london.ca>; sstevenson@london.ca

Cc: McGee, Mack <mmcgee@london.ca>; Kampman, Alexis <akampman@london.ca>

Subject: RE: Request for Meeting re: Forward Ave/Cavendish Park

Hi David,

If we are unable to meet by Zoom, I would appreciate answers to the following questions.

1. On June 27th, Council is voting to approve funding totalling \$414,000 for four (4) service depots located at or near Ann Street Park, Cavendish Park, Wellington Valley Park, and Watson Street Park?

a. **Correct**

2. How long will this fund the proposed depots?

a. **The encampment work is focusing on urgent acute health and safety needs over the next 30–90 days.**

3. How will the money be allocated? Please provide a budget if possible.

a. ***Note from Elias: I moved this image to the last page of this document.***

4. Will these depots be staffed by existing city staff or by new positions hired specific to these depots?

a. **This report was a direction for staff to complete a one-time contract amendment of existing agreements in the total estimated cost of \$100,000, to support London Cares and Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA). The funding also goes towards increased garbage collection and expanded CIR service hours. In addition to the one-time \$100,000, the report directed staff to utilize funding from the Social Services Reserve Fund for the total municipal allocation amount of up to \$255,000.00 to support a portion of the costs of the Phase 1 Encampment Response on a temporary basis. There are some contracted agencies where procurement process still needs to be completed. Please see above chart.**

5. How was \$414,000 decided upon?

a. **Please see Q. 3a.**

6. Based on the funding amount and some of the wording, it seems that the service depots will become permanent fixtures in each of the locations. Please confirm if the proposed depots will be temporary or permanent.

a. If the depots are permanent, how will they be funded on an ongoing basis?

i. **They are not meant to be permanent; the encampment strategy is a response to the deteriorating conditions in the areas where encampments currently exist. With**

conditions on the streets continuing to worsen, there is widespread agreement that action is required immediately. While this will be part of the whole of community system response it cannot wait until full system implementation, so a short-term 30 to 90 day encampment response was created.

ii. The whole of community response is structured to provide direct paths to sustainable living with housing, rather than perpetuating encampments as I said before. This is a measure to assist individuals experiencing homelessness and to assist members of the neighbourhood.

iii. Service depots will be providing

- meals**
- water**
- Fire prevention education and supportive monitoring**
- System navigation**
- Access to washrooms**
- showers at specific staffed location(s) during scheduled hours**
- Harm reduction and Naloxone**
- Removal of garbage and site clean-up support (broken glass, trash, needles etc.)**

iv. These are all things that will support both those experiencing homelessness and individuals living in the neighbourhood.

7. What exactly will a service depot look like in practice? I.e. who will it be staffed by, what kind of structure will it be located in, what specific services will they provide (e.g. healthcare, housing support, etc.)? Please be as specific as possible. There is a lot of hearsay. I would appreciate a clear definition.

a. I will ask this question at the meeting today

i. But, from what I know at this point service depot locations are mobile. Services at these locations will be at scheduled times (times still being figured out), and during open hours, the sites will be prepared for direct service delivery and provision of necessities. Following the direct connection with those in the nearby encampments, the service depot will close and all material and supplies will be packed up and relocated. The only remaining service feature will be the comfort station. (I don't know what this physically will look like).

8. In the "Whole of Community" PDF available on the City of London website, a "network of hubs" is mentioned on Page 9, along with what services they may provide. Are "service depots" the same as these "hubs"?

a. No – hubs are meant to be permanent as an area for intake and part of the first point of contact with someone experiencing homelessness. They are intended to not only reliably provide needs like shelter, food and medical support, but are also connected and integral to the supportive housing component of the system response that moves people to housing.

9. In a recent CBC article entitled “Londoners get to have their say on community hubs for those experiencing homelessness,” it reads, “Feedback collected [...] until June 26, will be given to a team designing the hub's implementation plan. It will then be brought to council by mid-July [...]”

a. Why will the feedback only be brought to council in July?

i. **It's the next stage in our work. We have been working on this for a while and are now gathering input from the general community. You are free to attend the meeting on the 26th regarding the hubs and you can also provide feedback on the service depots there as well. I will be at that meeting. The service depots were accelerated due to the feedback we received from the neighbourhood, from outreach workers, those living unsheltered or who had lived experience and the visible conditions on the ground. The service depots still need to be implemented within the system response work and an encampment strategy table is currently being developed.**

b. Who is the “team designing the hub implementation plan”? Is there a list of individuals and organizations which make up this team? Please be specific.

i. **The total team consists of approximately 200 individuals and 70 organizations. It is being designed by the community and no single leader(s) exist. There are several tables that are specializing on components of the system response and will be attending the meeting today. We have not been given a list of who exactly sits on each table.**

10. In the feedback survey, it mentions, “the feedback we receive will be shared with the Hubs Implementation Table, a group of organizations, professionals, and people with lived and living experience.”

a. Is this the same team as in question 9b? If not, please explain the difference. Again, who comprises the Hubs Implementation Table? I could not find any information regarding this table online.

i. **The individuals working on the different tables have been placed based on experience, expertise and other factors. There are several tables (discussion and development teams) including a Strategy and Accountability table, an Implementation table, a reference table, and an encampment strategy table is currently being implemented. Members of these tables will be at the meeting today and at the meeting on Monday the 26th , again we have not been provided a list of who sits on the tables.**

Thank you,
Elias Puurunen

Appendix A: Budget Answer re: Question 3

Schedule 1 – Overview of Phase One Funding

| Program/Service | Duration | Agency | Phase I Cost Estimate |
|--|----------|---|---|
| Food and Food Safety | 6 weeks | Contracted Agency. In accordance with the City's procurement policy, 3 informal quotations are being sought to determine an appropriate supplier. | Up to \$42,000, to be accommodated within existing Social and Health Development Services budget |
| Existing Drop-in Staff supports | 4 weeks | London Cares | Up to \$65,000 to be accommodate within existing Social and Health Development Services budget |
| Existing Drop-in Staff supports | 4 weeks | Coffee House Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) | Up to \$35,000 to be accommodated within existing Social and Health Development budget |
| Access to Clean Drinking Water | 6 weeks | The City of London | Up to \$5000; To be accommodated within existing Social and Health Development budget |
| Daily Delivery | 6 weeks | Encampment Response Outreach Agencies | No cost as these services to be accommodated within existing Outreach budgets for phase one only. |
| Resources to Ensure Fire Safety | 6 weeks | Fire Prevention & Public Education London Fire Department Neighbourhood and Community-Wide Services, and Coordinated Informed Response, The City of London | No cost as these are existing City of London services that will work collaboratively with attending outreach and social service teams for education and monitoring. |
| Hygiene and Sanitation Services (Comfort Stations) | 6 weeks | Contracted Agency. In accordance with the City's procurement policy | Up to \$5,000; To be accommodated within existing Social and Health Development budget |
| Hygiene and Sanitation Services (Security for showers) | 6 weeks | Contracted Agency. In accordance with the City's procurement policy | Up to \$7,000; To be accommodated within existing Social and Health Development budget |
| Social Supports and Services | 6 weeks | Encampment Response Outreach Agencies | No cost for phase I as these services to be accommodated with Outreach collaboration and scheduling until the specific need is determined by Encampment Response. |
| Resources to Support Harm Reduction | 6 weeks | Regional HIV/Aids Connection | No cost as these are existing services that can be offered at the scale of phase I. |
| Subtotal | | Program Funding from Existing Resources / Budgets | Up to \$159,000 |
| Waste Management | 6 weeks | Enterprise-wide approach – by enhancing our current City of London CIR/Roads Team garbage program in collaboration with the Parks and Waste Management Teams we will include this in their community services for parks depots. | Up to \$100,000 |
| 6-day a week CIR program | 5 months | The City of London | Up to \$155,000 |
| Subtotal | | Additional Proposed to be funded from Social Services Reserve Fund | Up to \$255,000 |
| Total Funding | | | \$ 414,000 |