



MEN'S EMERGENCY AND TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Last updated: July 2023

14452 YONGE STREET, TOWN OF AURORA

For most residents, York Region is a vibrant and prosperous place to live and work. However, for some, living with the risk of homelessness or navigating the Region while experiencing homelessness is a daily reality. Across York Region, there is an urgent need to increase emergency and transitional housing capacity to meet the current and anticipated demand for services.

A key objective in York Region's [10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan](#) is strengthening homelessness and housing stability services that help people find and keep housing. Additionally, the Healthy Communities priority in the [2023 to 2027 Strategic Plan](#), which is set by York Regional Council, identifies appropriate housing for residents of all ages and stages as a goal.

THE NEED FOR A NEW BUILDING IN A NEW LOCATION

York Region is proposing a new men's emergency and transitional housing building to replace the existing aging emergency housing building, Porter Place, which is located in the Town of East Gwillimbury. The current building offers limited opportunity for expansion and program enhancement. Transit service and pedestrian access is limited and there are few job opportunities within walking distance of Porter Place.

The location of the proposed new building – 14452 Yonge Street, just south of Industrial Parkway South in the Town of Aurora – will provide space for more inclusive, flexible and client-centred on-site wraparound supports for men. The site is located centrally in York Region on a main transit corridor with access to potential places of employment as well as social and health services. The property is owned by York Region and the site is shared with the new Henderson Sewage Pumping Station.

ENDING HOMELESSNESS TAKES A COMMUNITY COMING TOGETHER

The new location will expand capacity and bring community partners together to help men find and keep housing as well as prevent homelessness before it happens.

YORK REGION

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york.ca/MensHousing



Community engagement

Throughout every stage of this project, we have been engaging and informing York Region and Town of Aurora residents, businesses and community partners. Examples of activities to date include Public Information Centres (PIC), Community Liaison Committee meetings, door-to-door visits with nearby neighbours and mailings. The project web page is a central source for information with recordings of past consultations, copies of presentations, project updates and answers to frequently asked questions. Visit york.ca/MensHousing to stay informed and subscribe to have updates sent directly to your inbox.

Community Liaison Committee (CLC)

York Region established a Community Liaison Committee (CLC) comprised of members from a broad cross-section of the community to provide advice and input on building concepts, construction, service delivery and opening of the new men's emergency and transitional housing in the Town of Aurora.

To express interest in applying to join the CLC, please contact the project Community Liaison at MensHousing@york.ca

MORE THAN JUST A PLACE TO STAY

Having a safe and secure place to live is a key social determinant of health. The new men's emergency and transitional housing will be more than just a place to stay. It will embody a service delivery model shaped by three founding pillars:

1. Prevent homelessness before it starts through a range of programs, services and supports that help people find stable housing or keep their existing housing before entering a shelter
2. Provide inclusive, client-centred and recovery focused life-stabilization supports when needed, such as mental and physical health supports, financial supports and harm reduction programs
3. End homelessness through interventions that help individuals find and keep housing

TIMELINE

Since work began to complete the necessary steps in the planning application process with the Town of Aurora, York Region has been working with the Town every step of the way to ensure the proposed emergency and transitional housing development is aligned with Provincial, Regional and local planning policies.

Currently, we are in the planning stages for both the physical structure of the building and the service delivery model that will shape programming options for clients. Zoning Bylaw Amendment and Site Plan Amendment applications have been submitted to the Town of Aurora and will require approval from Town of Aurora Council.

The health and well-being of all residents and communities remain a top priority for York Region as planning for a new emergency and transitional housing development continues.

BUDGET

York Region has been planning for and allocating funds to this capital project for several years. The Council-approved budget for the design and construction of the building is approximately \$23.6 million.

PROPOSED BUILDING CONCEPT

York Region is proposing a five-storey building with 55 units of emergency and transitional housing. The project team continues to work closely with the Town of Aurora and the Community Liaison Committee to refine drawings and address community feedback.



Artist rendering of men's emergency and transitional housing project, 14452 Yonge Street

QUESTIONS?

If you would like more information about this housing development, future engagement opportunities, or the work of the Community Liaison Committee, **please contact the project Community Liaison:**

Phone: 289-338-8063

Email: MensHousing@york.ca

For general inquiries, please contact Access York:

Phone: 1-877-464-9675

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Project updates will be added to york.ca/MensHousing as they become available.