

File No. 04-1000-20-2011-001

February 11, 2011

s.22(1)



Dear s.2
2(1):

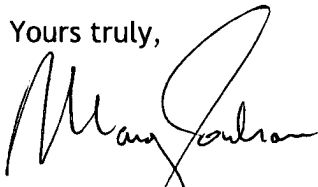
Re: Request for Access to Records under the *Freedom of Information & Protection of Privacy Act* (the "Act")

I am responding to your request dated January 4, 2011 for copies of the following records:

agendas and minutes for all Homeless Emergency Action Team meetings since inception.

Please find the responsive records enclosed.

Yours truly,



Marg Coulson
City Clerk

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Phone: 604.873.7266
Fax: 604.873.7419

Encl.

:vh

HEAT Meeting: Minutes, December 14th 2008:

Sunday, 2:00 – 4:00pm City Hall

Meeting Participants:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Janice Abbott, ATIRA Women's Resource Society | 10. Kerry Jang, City Councillor, (Council Liaison) |
| 2. Jim Chu, Vancouver Police Dept., Chief | 11. Raymond Louie, City Councillor |
| 3. Patricia Daly, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority | 12. Mike Magee, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office |
| 4. Jill Davidson, City of Vancouver | 13. John MacKay, Strand Properties Corp., Director, StreetoHome Foundation |
| 5. David Eby, Civil Liberties Association | 14. Kevin Quinlan, Executive Assistant, Mayor's Office |
| 6. Judy Graves, City of Vancouver, Housing Dept., Outreach Coordinator | 15. Gregor Robertson, Mayor |
| 7. Cameron Grey, City of Vancouver | 16. Shayne Ramsay, B.C. Housing |
| 8. Jerry Evans, City of Vancouver, Real Estate Services, Associate Director | 17. Patrick Stewart, Chair Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee |
| 9. Suzanne Hawkes, facilitator | |

Internal communications:

Action: to set up a group list, please send personal emails to Kevin.quinlan@vancouver.ca

On-line donation portal through City website:

- Decision: HEAT will not be competing or serving as a portal to existing non-profits
- **Action: John: will lead a fundraising effort focused on targeting untapped sources (ie not competing with existing NGOs); will 'package' amounts and purposes of specific funds & report on progress Dec. 21**

City-identified potential buildings:

- Action: City staff: Celine Moboules has just been tasked to work with VANOC; MF will report at next meeting
- Action: Jerry/Michael Flanigan will lead efforts to work with building inspectors (coordinating with health inspectors through Patty), meet with operators re: current operating agreements, and current owners where relevant, in the next week to accelerate potential use of spaces.
- Jerry/Cameron Gray will lead efforts to begin immediate upgrades of priority spaces where possible (removing old fixtures, electrical upgrades etc.) next week & report Dec. 21st
- Action: Jerry will provide an estimate of the condition and costs to upgrade key spaces to functional conditions by Tuesday or Thursday (via email) so Raymond can draft the appropriate motion

SUMMARY OF AVAILABLE SPACES TO DATE:

Update: City-owned 3 Commercial buildings: all need formal building inspection

- 1435 Granville, 28 beds
- 1442 Howe, 23 beds
- 1449 Hornby, 58 beds (note: not available but not til end. Jan because of lease)
- 240 Northern 62 beds – next week will start removing old fixtures, do electrical upgrades

Privately owned:

- Dunsmuir House, 23 beds (Bay parkade, Seymour and Richards) – 160 rooms, 23 shelter beds according to an older report
- Eldorado Hotel [Decision: consider as medium term option; discuss in future]
- 2400 Motel [Decision: consider as medium term option; discuss in future]

Dunsmuir International Student Village: raises Master Lease issue

- Decision: to be discussed as part of mid- to long-term strategies in future

Decision: Downtown priorities

- 1442 Howe,
- 240 Northern
- Aboriginal Friendship Centre

Medium Term sites:

- Action: Cameron will review 1827 Pandora Street availability and report back before Dec. 21
- Action: Jerry will set up meeting with new operator of the 2400 Motel next week to report back by Dec. 21st and get feedback
- Action: Kerry will convene a meeting with Judy, Jerry and Raymond in the next week to develop next step proposals for the following medium term options: Dunsmuir, Eldorado, Little Mountain [and 2400 Motel?]; and will report Dec. 21st.

Calculating shelter space population density:

The above spaces amount to 17,000 sq feet. Could = 170 beds (10 X 10 sq ft per person; roughly allows extra space for corridors, common space, staff/volunteer space); could be as dense as 40 sq feet per person, according to VANOC's calculations of minimum space per person required.

HEAT's estimates: 40-60 square feet per person

Minimum Criteria for cold weather emergency shelters (3-month only)

- mat – 40 Sq. feet per person; plus space corridors etc.
- 12 hours
- pet friendly
- cart friendly
- ventilation
- heat
- meal (not just snack)
- washrooms

- barriers – none; no turn-aways

Decision: Minimum staff: two paid staff; given 3-4 days of lead time before in place.

Note: BC Housing specifies 1 staff per 30 people, plus volunteers. But HEAT will not assume skilled volunteers will be available

Nice-to-haves (but not essential):

- showers, laundry

Family shelters: Issue: Some families are afraid to seek shelters for fear of social services taking their children in cases of possible neglect

- Action: Penny will lead discussion with MCFD: re: short-term shelters for families and issues of child welfare

Development Cost Levies:

- Intention had been to raise this at the Dec. 16th council meeting. However, staff advise against.
- Action: Raymond will discuss with Penny where she wishes to allocate that resource, ie Finance or Real Estate

Transportation to and from shelters:

- Action: Gregor will ensure the issue of transit provision (eg. as with students) is raised in discussions with Province if possible [note: likely shelter users at the 2400/Eldorado options would require transit support].
- Action: Mike and Geoff will discuss possible support with Taxi Association next week and report back
- Action: Mike will speak to Janice and Judy before Wed. to clarify ask to Taxi Assoc.
- SafeRide update: Jim Chu has approached SafeRide; they are willing to provide service now as long as their primary purpose is not impacted. They do have some capacity, can take pets and buggies, and have well-trained staff. If the service needs to expand to accommodate costs required it will cost \$40,000 for another van, and \$70,000 to add additional staff over a year.
- Action: Jim will ensure communications goes out. re: Transportation safe ride: communicate to community agencies and police officers: go, evaluate at future meeting

Expanding existing shelters:

- Janice reports that Portland says another 30 beds possible for them, pending additional operating support
- Raincity/St. James could also staff up in as little as 3-4 days with additional operating funds

Costing full service shelters:

- Jill: also looked at full service shelter costs, eg. with services such as links to jobs etc. Estimated cost: \$98/bed/day (provincial average). \$93.50 in Vancouver
- **Action: Jill Davidson will work with BC Housing to provide an updated estimate of the minimum cold weather emergency costs**

Targets for shelter space:

- Issue: Original target was 800-1000. However, not all homeless will want mats. The target may be unreasonable in terms of need and affordability.
- **Recommended incremental/“Phase 1” targets:**
 - **60-100 shelter beds downtown Granville South**
 - **Kitsilano (Russian Hall being explored)**
 - **Aboriginal Friendship Centre**
 - **240 Northern Way**

Financial targets for shelter space:

- Gregor: with estimate of \$60/day (including food and staffing, 12 hours), best-case 300 spaces, we assume we'll find something in Kits, so maybe \$350/day. for 100 days = \$2.1 million. That gets us through the winter, plus 150 at First United

Car 88 Proposal:

Jim Chu dusted off old Police White Paper proposing a patrol car carrying a police officer and trained outreach worker to support homeless. Potential functions: coordinate and advise other police efforts, track, document and provide tailored support to specific individuals over time. Car 86 is child protection worker; Car 87 is mental health outreach and police officer; this would be “Car 88”.

- Proposal: willing to try for a 3-month period in winter; could look at partners who could co-pilot
- Action: Jim, David and Judy will convene in next week and refine Car 88 proposal.

Consulting/vetting with existing outreach workers

- Action: Judy will bring forward recommendations on how to bring the City's outreach into this entire shelter discussion by Dec. 21st
- Action: Janice will convene a larger meeting with shelter workers in the next week, avoiding excessive “process” but aimed at getting a quick “reality check” with others on the draft model (ie the targets and criteria).

Aboriginal Friendship Centre:

- Action: Patrick will approach Board tomorrow (Monday Dec. 15th) about their interest and availability; ideally all aboriginal staff

Coordinating Shelter Space

- Issue: Communication between shelters – to efficiently fill spaces across the city, we may need a web interface for advocates to quickly assess availability on the spot.
- Action: Janice will follow up with Michael Flanagan re: information services line, out of New Coordinated Tenant Selection Office (1 phone line for shelters) next week.
- Action: David will convene conversation with Janice and Judy re: possible tools and approaches for quickly and efficiently coordinating shelter space among shelters

Next Meeting: 2:00 – 4:00 City Hall December 21st

- Jim will send alternate; Gregor and David Eby will not be able to attend

HEAT Meeting: Minutes, December 21st 2008:

Sunday, 2:00 – 4:00pm City Hall

Meeting Participants:

1. Janice Abbott, ATIRA Women's Resource Society
2. Patricia Daly, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
3. Judy Graves, City of Vancouver, Housing Dept., Outreach Coordinator
4. Cameron Grey, City of Vancouver
5. Jerry Evans, City of Vancouver, Real Estate Services, Associate Director
6. Suzanne Hawkes, facilitator
7. Kerry Jang, City Councillor, (Council Liaison)
8. John MacKay, Strand Properties Corp., Director, StreetoHome Foundation
9. Shayne Ramsay, B.C. Housing
10. Patrick Stewart, Chair Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee
11. Warren Lemke, VPD

Regrets:

12. Jim Chu, Vancouver Police Dept., Chief
13. Kevin Quinlan, Executive Assistant, Mayor's Office
14. Gregor Robertson, Mayor
15. Jill Davidson, City of Vancouver
16. David Eby, Civil Liberties Association
17. Raymond Louie, City Councillor
18. Mike Magee, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office

Family shelters: Action: Penny will lead discussion with MCFD: re: short-term shelters for families and issues of child welfare. Progress: TBD

Development Cost Levies: Action: Raymond will discuss with Penny where she wishes to allocate that resource, ie Finance or Real Estate . Progress: TBD

Transportation to and from shelters: Action: Propose Gregor or Geoff Meggs will develop formal proposal to Taxi Association; Janice will lead a meeting with Judy and Mike Magee to set out proposal idea.

Car 88 Proposal:

- **Action: Jim, David and Judy will convene in next week and refine Car 88 proposal. Progress: TBD**
- Update from Warren: VPD just hired new position of Homeless Outreach Coordinator. Also doing small 2-week survey of homeless; results in two weeks from Planning and Research.
- Patti: VCH recommending regular spraying of shelters to rid bedbugs. Will be costly, requiring regular re-spraying. Improved housing will help. Bagging may help. Bullies.

Consulting/vetting with existing outreach workers

- **Action: Judy will bring forward recommendations on how to bring the City's outreach into this entire shelter discussion by Dec. 21st Progress: TBD**

- **Action: Janice will convene a larger meeting with shelter workers in the next week, avoiding excessive “process” but aimed at getting a quick “reality check” with others on the draft model (ie the targets and criteria). Progress: TBD**

Coordinating Shelter Space

- Action: Judy will give SafeRide staff a briefing...
- Proposal 2: longer-term: task one person to call all shelters and SROs; could also coordinate VCH
- Update: Janice met with BC Housing about the Coordinated Tenants Selection line... still unclear

UPDATES: SHORT-TERM/IMMEDIATE SHELTERS:

Short-term shelters: Jerry’s update:

- 1435 Granville: Jerry – did inspect and completed upgrades Friday. RainCity were in operation last night. 15 guests last night. Capacity for 35
- 1442 Howe: Jerry not planning to use after all;. Required more fire exit work; Granville was better
- 240 Northern: started upgrades this week. Major internal demolition required to open up internal multiple areas, most of which aren’t to code. Demo expected to end Dec. 24th. More contractors in through the New Year. Building inspectors reviewing then and giving further direction. Likely not available until Jan. 8th
- Aboriginal Friendship Centre: Jerry: City meeting Tuesday on final issue (washrooms etc).
- Portland (30 more beds): Up and running, overcapacity last night by two beds.
- Russian Hall: Penny met re: Kits Saturday Morning Shower program, working out of St. Augustines and St. Marks shelter in Kits. Will be looking at that for the City, will call John Mackay and Cameron Gray for support and advice on whether we can get, real estate and liability whether it’s viable. It could be a next step/medium term beyond Kits High, so after the New Year.

Kits High: as emergency shelter possibility (next 2 weeks); Judy knows Penny Rogers

Action: Judy will ask Penny Rogers [sp?] to contact Kerry Jang and Andrea Reimer.

UPDATES: Med-term potential shelters/housing:

- 1449 Hornby, 58 beds (note: not available but not til end. Jan because of lease) – off table now as Granville being used.
- Eldorado Hotel: Jerry’s update: Jerry and Raymond both spoke with Simon Lim. Negative response to date – including fact they don’t have title to it yet. Still in play, not urgent.
- 2400 Motel (for families). Jerry’s update: we spoke to the operator. Planted the seed, and asked them to consider how they might incorporate the need for families to locate there, and how it might impact their operation, eg. could they still keep operating as a motel? Building is old.

- 1827 Pandora: Cameron: Off the list. Not up to code, no sprinklers, no escape; had been used as a rooming house and ordered evicted.
- 240 Northern: 62 beds – next week will start removing old fixtures, do electrical upgrades
- Little Mountain: Kerry met with residents Friday. They aren't keen on it being used as a shelter. Won't be resolved in the next week.
- Dunsmuir House, 23 beds (Bay parkade, Seymour and Richards) – 160 rooms, 23 shelter beds according to an older report. Jerry inspected on Wednesday. Simon Lim still positive on general idea. Michael Flanigan did discuss possible framework for that deal. It's about 50% full now, used mainly for language school students. In OK shape. Clearly just being kept going, but ultimately a development site. They have about 157 rooms functioning. About 165 beds in total plus common areas. But won't be an easy discussion. Expensive proposition, and owner wants control of who gets in the building. May evolve. John Mackay also working through Tony Ti contact on that side.
- **Action: Shayne will send 8-year old report to Jerry, from when BC Housing was exploring the site.**

Other possible mid-term shelters? Post-90 days...

- Considering SROs/Housing that could operate 3-5 years while longer term housing being developed
- Criteria: looking for buildings currently empty or with significant vacancy. Size not that important.
- Judy: Location may not matter much if people can set down roots.
- Cameron: could be empty commercial buildings
- Preliminary Ideas: Biltmore (but promised to CBC during Olympics); American Hotel)
- John Mackay: with current economy, many more ideas/spaces may emerge and become much more viable.

Action: Cameron, John, Jerry and Shayne to conduct raw scan and report back on opportunities for temporary housing/SROs for next meeting.

PARKING LOT

- **Action: Kevin to send contact list again with everyone's name, position, email address and cell phone number.**
- Stop Gap Housing: Trailers: Gregory Henriquez, Liz and Mark from Portland have proposed. Britco Builders, of construction trailers converted to modular homes in Albert; have gone out of business. Considering 500-600 units. 6 months to have them ready. Would require much land/real estate; very low density for Vancouver. High land cost per room. Drake possible location? Feasibility unclear. Jan. 15th expect a concrete proposal from them. Do have some preliminary sketches. Tyee article discusses. Idea: bridge between shelters and longer term housing – supports can be provided at a fraction of cost of starting from scratch. Judy: would require much VPD input; they won't want to become the managers
- **Decision: wait til Jan. 15th to review fuller proposal**

In-kind donations needed: updates:

- Handwarmers: \$500 donation from Sands Hotel for VPD
- Balkan House will donate more blankets
- Canadian Tire opened up shelves to give VPD hand-warmers
- First United needs food – donations welcome

Next agenda:

- Updates from Penny Rogers re: Kitsilano via Jerry
- Updates from VPD on how things going in current shelters
- Updates from Cameron et al re: raw scan of mid-term space

Minutes from HEAT meeting – January 4, 2009

Mayor's Office

Present from HEAT:

Mayor Robertson, Janice Abbott, Dr. Patricia Daly, Dave Eby, Jerry Evans, Michael Flanigan, Judy Graves, Cameron Gray, Clr. Kerry Jang, Warren Lemke, Clr. Raymond Louie, Shayne Ramsay

Also present: Suzanne Hawkes, Mike Magee, Kevin Quinlan

Absent: Dr. Penny Ballem, John Mackay, Patrick Stewart

Review of actions from previous HEAT meeting:

- PB to have discussions with MCFD: no update
- RL had discussions with PB re: Development Cost Levies. These would be considered as sources for replacement housing.
- GR proposal to taxi association with Mike Magee and Geoff Meggs
 - Had not had any movement on it
 - JG said that there are issues with not being able to transport people with shopping carts

ACTION ITEM: KJ will contact Saferide re: shopping carts

ACTION ITEM: GR and MM to follow up with taxi association

- WL provided an update on VPD survey, which should be finished by the end of this week and compiled for the next HEAT meeting
- JG has not had a chance to have discussions with Province's outreach workers.

ACTION ITEM: 2 weeks from now JG will have met Province's outreach workers

CG raised the issue that the extreme weather shelters have excess capacity, which might be due to the different hours they open

- should have shelters opening at the same time

JG suggested leaving the issue of shelter opening times to BC Housing

WL noted that First United was finding people coming to the shelter who had a home, but came for the social aspect

ACTION ITEM: CG, JM, JE, and SR will organize a scan of temporary housing and SRO opportunities for mid-January

SH noted that a review of a proposal for modular housing will take place in mid-January

DE raised the issue of a non-conforming house that had tenants in it, who might be forced to leave

- RL said that it was a single-family house that had been converted into 9 units, and was not safe

ACTION ITEM: CG will report back on next steps with this property by next HEAT meeting

HEAT Report to council

MF said that Housing and Real Estate would be happy to do the report

CG noted the distinction between a report to council, which would generally be used when council approval is needed, versus a memo to council. The memo could be put on the City's website.

ACTION ITEM: Mayor's Office will provide a first draft of the memo by January 7th.

JE reported that inspectors are going into 240 Northern Way on January 12th, and that it is conceivable that it could open that night. It has 15-18 foot ceilings, a section for pets, shopping carts, and disability access.

JE met with the Aboriginal Friendship Centre around operations; they are there until the 5th and there is a void until the 12th.

ACTION ITEM: JE to call PS to see if the AFC can stay open through to the 12th

JE provided an update on shelters for the Westside. Jericho hospital is doing major upgrades in January. He is meeting with them on Tuesday.

CG said that we would not want a shelter to delay the opening of the supportive housing, as it could be done before 2010

GR asked if it would be possible to use 1442 Howe if we needed it. MF said that it could be opened if we needed it.

ACTION ITEM: By January 18th MF will have detailed analysis of 1442 Howe if we need it.

Mid-range planning

Intermediate Housing

GR discussed the need for 400 units of “intermediate” housing to bridge the gap from the shelters until the 1200 new units and SRO upgrades are completed.

- these would not be long term, but the city would make them available with the province providing the operating costs, until the new units are open
- suggested locations included the El Dorado and Dunsmuir

ACTION ITEM: SR is putting together a meeting with BC Housing, StreetToHome, and the city’s real estate department on the new units coming on stream

ACTION ITEM: CG and SR will provide a rough summary of what is coming on stream, who can go, when it will open, for HEAT next week

Identification at Shelters

JG raised the issue of identification of people coming into shelters. It could be avoided as a barrier depending on who is asking, how it is asked, and that the questions are not a barrier.

DE: concerns about access/privacy to lists, who can see it, many people will be concerned about warrants or tickets

WL suggested keeping VPD out of the id process

PD and KJ suggested doing sampling of the shelter populations to identify health needs and to better formulate a plan for dealing with people post-shelter.

DE expressed concern about directing resources to the research, asked if BC Housing, Atira or PHS already had info or could collect it.

KJ and PD expressed that the survey would be useful for next steps for HEAT and would take minimal work, and could incorporate different university departments for research.

GR noted that San Francisco has housed 5000 homeless people in four years, and is now on the verge of a “San Francisco First” policy

KJ said that there is already a tacit policy like that in place, whereby people are placed based on ties to community

ACTION ITEM: PD, KJ, and DE will comprise a working group for sampling and research.

ACTION ITEM: JA to discuss with shelter operators how to deal with registration.

Other updates:

CG provided an update on VANOC's \$250,000 for shelters, said it is only intended for people coming to town for Games; will charge a fee like a hostel.

KJ provided a summary of events around the emerging issue about forcing people into shelters, and the shift from the mental health act to temperature-based.

WL noted that contrary to what many people think, Code Blue in New York incorporates the same powers as Vancouver has.

Group discussion proposed the need for messaging to include creating the right range of options, as there is a shortage of mental health and addiction services.

NEXT HEAT MEETING: Sunday, January 11, 2-4pm

HEAT Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2009, City Hall

Meeting Participants:

1. Janice Abbott, ATIRA Women's Resource Society
1. Jim Chu, Vancouver Police Department
2. Patricia Daly, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority
3. Judy Graves, City of Vancouver, Housing Dept., Outreach Coordinator
4. Cameron Grey, City of Vancouver
5. Jerry Evans, City of Vancouver, Real Estate Services, Associate Director
6. Michael Flanigan, City of Vancouver Real Estate
7. Suzanne Hawkes, facilitator
8. Kerry Jang, City Councillor, (Council Liaison)
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10. John MacKay, Strand Properties Corp., Director, StreetoHome Foundation
11. Michael Magee, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
12. Kevin Quinlan, Mayor's Office
13. Shayne Ramsay, B.C. Housing
14. Gregor Robertson, Mayor
15. Patrick Stewart, Chair Aboriginal Homelessness Steering Committee

Regrets: David Eby, Civil Liberties Association

TRANSPORTATION: TAXIS AND SAFERIDE

- Taxi Association (Black Top; likely also Yellow if needed) – met with Kerry and Janice, and have agreed to a deal.
- Notes: when calling will need to specify if pet or cart.
- Outreach worker will call; not necessarily accompany client on ride (up to us).
- Issues/questions: volume; health and cleanliness; abuse of drivers. Outreach worker tasked with assessing.

DECISION: SafeRide priority for outreach workers to call; taxis 2nd priority/last resort

ACTION: Janice Abbott and Taxi Association will assess the initiative in one week

ACTION: Michael F will talk to City's Risk Management dept. re: extending indemnity to taxi drivers

ACTION: Jim Chu will contact Saferide to confirm service w. carts; inquire about service continuing in inclement weather; and the possibility of outreach workers requesting rides by calling SafeRide through a direct line, vs. the current process of calling 911

ACTION: Patty will speak with VCH and Saferide regarding current policy of only allowing VCH-funded shelters to request SafeRide services

DATA COLLECTION

Issue: Many other agencies, HEAT has learned, have extensive databases of survey research. These include BC Housing, the Mental Health Commission (Kerry is on), VCH (hospitals through admissions data, ie “no fixed address”), and the collective knowledge of front-line outreach workers. Only some of the HEAT shelters have been collecting data. For example, First United is unable and unwilling to.

DECISION: HEAT’s public message regarding data collection: “HEAT did not and does not intend to collect data on demographics etc.; it exists for emergency response only”

ACTION: Kerry and Patti will convene a meeting with VCH, BC Housing, UBC and other appropriate bodies to review collectively available data that may help HEAT identify service/need gaps; results likely unavailable for two weeks.

ACTION: Patti and Kerry will review BC Housing’s extensive data set to identify any data or analysis gaps or needs for HEAT’s mandate.

ACTION: Patti will seek report on “no fixed address” data from hospitals to share with HEAT by next meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS

ACTION: HEAT members will send proposed edits of HEAT’s Memo to Council to Kevin by Monday, if any

In the coming week(s) there are three possible announcements from the Mayor’s Office:

1. First United: recognizing their enormous efforts and success
2. 201 Central: opening next week. Building and Health inspection first thing Monday. AFS moving in today, so ready to go Monday night.
3. Taxi Association deal

ACTION: Penny and Mike will coordinate the 3 announcements along with the memo to Council, recognizing sensitivities

DONATIONS:

Issue: StreettoHome and BC Housing have provided increased financial support to First United church in order to hire more staff etc. There may be other longer term fundraising (ie major gifts from ‘untapped sources’ as discussed in previous HEAT meetings) opportunities for First United and others, to be explored in the future as specific needs emerge.

As well, some local United churches (eg. St. Andrew's Wesley) have sent funds in support of First United. Other possible sources of support: the Catholic, Anglican and other United churches, possibly through direct requests to their archbishops. Possible role for City to facilitate?

ACTION: Gregor will talk to Tim Stephenson about convening this meeting; will report next week; will include Judy (who can connect with Tom at City in Focus, in order to mitigate potential sensitivities)

OTHER ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

ACTION (pending from prev. meetings): Penny will meet with MCFD re: fears of shelter users re: children apprehension potentials

ACTION?: Judy G will meet with Province's outreach workers...

ACTION?: Cameron will report back on next steps with 1827 Pandora property. Issue: is it is not up to code, no sprinklers, no escape; had been used as a rooming house and ordered evicted; is off the list as possible temporary housing for now

ACTION: Jerry to report on Jericho Hostel as possible temporary shelter for the West side; was meeting the last week of December

ACTION: Michael F will provide a detailed analysis of 1442 Howe if more shelter space is needed

TEMPORARY HOUSING

Note: Aboriginal Friendship Centre moved this week; had to change locations to 201 Central; will open Monday..

ACTION: re: Cameron, John, and Shane will organize a scan of temporary housing opportunities for mid-January [ie Jan. 18th HEAT meeting]

Summary of Incremental Spaces coming on-steam in 2009: [see Shayne's memo]
300 (approx.) SROs based on 17 currently purchased SRO sites; total of 1100 rooms, of which 300 unoccupied. Note correct description: "previously vacant, now-or-soon-to-be-renovated"

455 New units (eg. Woodward's)

Total: 755 incremental spaces

PLUS 800 previously occupied, recently renovated SROs through the province (ie not incremental space, but improved)

Issue: Operations plan for these? These are privately run SROs now... what about plan for hard to house? No clear answer for hard-to-house.

Issue: capacity of landlords/owners. Note that some private SROs owned/run by elderly owner/landlords; some are fronts for criminal operators.

ACTION: Shayne will draft a paragraph using nuanced language describing both the incremental space coming on-line in 2009 and incremental support (highlight differences).

ACTION: Shayne Ramsay will lead a meeting with BC Housing, StreettoHome and City Real Estate to identify new units coming on stream for temporary/intermediate housing and timelines

HEAT'S MANDATE: [DRAFT]

Issue: With HEAT's major mandate already accomplished, what is its mandate for the remaining 60 days of its existence? And how does its mandate relate to the extensive research and analyses many other bodies are already conducting, from BC Housing, the Central Tenants Selection Process and the Mental Health Commission, to the many non-profit operators throughout the city?

DECISION: HEAT may reconvene in winter 2009 to again address emergency shelter needs, but it is not intended to evolve into a permanent institution, or to duplicate existing work. Its mandate is to:

1. Create emergency shelters for winter 2008-09
2. Identify and fill the gaps between the Spring 2009 closure of emergency shelters, and 'new' housing and services coming on-stream in 2009, within the remainder of its 90-day mandate.

To accomplish the second part of its mandate, HEAT must:

- Identify gaps between shelters and "interim" housing before permanent housing is ready, over the long term
- Identify gaps in services and operations for that interim housing
- Focus on the processes and planning needed to fill those gaps

Issue: The issue of needs (clients – age, gender, morbidities, neighbourhoods, criminal behaviour etc) is complex. The range of spaces is also complex – they range from "new" space (eg. Woodward's) to renovated existing spaces, to renovated 'new' spaces previously not used for shelter, and among privately owned vs. city or provincially-owned spaces. Service and operation needs across these spaces and for different sub-populations are also complex.

As well, with current waiting lists and intake processes, there will not be an exact correlation between the availability of incremental housing spaces and current shelter users.

While HEAT does not seek to replace or duplicate the ongoing work of other bodies, no agency or body appears to have a clear, time-lined matrix or map of the needs and available spaces/services for homeless populations in the City of Vancouver once the emergency shelters close at the end of March or possibly April. In order to fulfill its mandate, HEAT therefore needs to identify these gaps.

ACTION: Michael Flanigan, John Mackay and Shayne Ramsay will develop a preliminary matrix for the next meeting, showing:

- Y axis: Population/service needs by category (eg. women; youth; hard-to-house; disabled)
- X axis: Types and numbers of incremental interim and permanent housing spaces available by time (eg. March 31, April 30 etc)

This matrix will be formatted as a large wall chart for the next meeting.

HEAT Agenda and Action Items

Saturday January 31st, 2009:

Present: Jerry, Shayne, Cameron, David, Janice, Raymond, Gregor, John, Jim, Judy, Patrick

Staff: Kevin, Suzanne, Mike (late)

Regrets: Penny, Patty

Transport: ACTIONS:

- Penny to follow up with Translink re: possible additional support; possibly free tix
- Judy will check # 1-zone Vancouver tix needed, #s needed & send email before next meeting
- Jim and Patty to continue to look into Saferide program and how it may be utilized and report to the next meeting;
- Jim will follow up with Blacktop re: their reported concerns with taking calls directly from police vs. outreach workers

Data Collection ACTIONS:

- Pat/Janice to circulate data collected on the homeless admissions to St Pauls
- Kevin circulate news release from BC Housing's announcement this week

Donation ACTIONS:

- Judy to follow up with churches regarding needs for donations
- Janice will confirm S2H and City still to contribute \$ to First United

Other ACTION Items:

- Kevin will send Mayor's update memo on BC Housing and STH funds to HEAT
- Janice to report back on meeting with MCFC re: fears of shelter user on child apprehension
- Cameron to circulate email before next meeting on how/where tenants of 1827 Pandora property will be relocated
- Jerry will confirm capacity of newly opened 1442 Howe S and email Kevin

Temporary Housing ACTIONS:

- Jim will share link to upcoming police report on integrating information sharing on key individuals once available
- Gregor will report back on discussions with Musqueam re: Jericho Garrison
- Judy will meet with Gail and Willie [?] and conduct street assessments of both housing and service needs for potentially hard-to-house, beginning next week (ie "go to where they are"); this list will be forwarded to BC Housing
- Jim Chu will forward VPD hard-to-house list to BC Housing's CTS also

INTERIM HOUSING ISSUES

Interim Target

Target: 1,000 spaces

By: October 09 – seven months from now

Known to be coming on-stream or existing now:

	anticipated	Notes
Vacant SRO's 400 + 200 (based on known BC Housing and City opportunities)	600	Needs HEAT validation
Interim ??		Do we need?
HEAT shelters	200	Just emerg back up til next winter
New housing	450	Likely 18 months away

Issue: re: New housing coming on stream over the next 18 months: BC Housing will be under pressure from sponsors if priorities shift toward harder to house populations

DECISION: HEAT will recommend in report to council a public policy shift at BC Housing - that the themed categories of BC Housing would be useful to expand from current categories (women, abstinence etc) to include a major focus on street & sheltered homeless. Target numbers to be based on data in the homeless count of last year; this will raise costs of operations, as more support services will be needed

Issue: Interim vs. Permanent Housing? Which would be more cost-effective even in the short term?

Note: "interim" = leasing and borrowing, vs. owning

- Post Feb. 17th budget will be clearer
- ideally in 9 months, we won't need HEAT shelters next year
- we have enormous community support and political opportunity right now; we may not have this much momentum next year, so make the case and drive right now

Two weeks from now (February 15th) – full HEAT meeting

VPD Business Plan to be on the agenda

Action Item: Mayor's staff to provide draft of final reporting out for HEAT

Decision: Sub group 1: Business Case for permanent housing

Members: Jerry, Cameron, John, Shayne

Task from now until Feb. 15th:

- Review stop-gap housing
- Cost different options: leases, modular, etc
- Include cost of 200 HEAT shelters in 09/10

Decision: Sub group 2: Filling vacant units w. street/sheltered homeless

Members: Janice, Judy, BC Housing, Jim

Task from now until Feb. 15th:

- I.D. top 100
- Identify challenges on the street: prisons, VPD, outreach
- Describe services needed so can cost out
 - o In hotels
 - o Community service specific
- identify how system will work
 - o will CTS coordinate?
- Jim will talk to Warren, Mary Clare re: upstream/prevention group of Streethome

Recommendations for future meetings

- distribute minutes sooner
- subcommittees: provide written presentations sooner
- set date for 1000 units
 - o dates, targets – Feb. 21st
- staff report: post-90 day proposal
- Agenda: stay focused on action items

HEAT Meeting – February 15, 2009

Present: Gregor Robertson, , Dr. Kerry Jang, John Mackay, Cameron Gray, Michael Flanigan, Judy Graves, Janice Abbott, Dr. Patty Daly, Shayne Ramsay, Jim Chu, Dave Eby Mike Magee, Kevin Quinlan

Absent: Patrick Stewart, Raymond Louie

Last Week's Action items:

- Patty to follow-up with Saferide on addressing priorities re: phone calls
 - Should be able to call them from street now – Patti will send # to Judy
- Judy will be meeting with Dale and Willy in early March
 - pending
- Michael and Jerry will bring a report to HEAT with an assessment of Pender and Nanaimo
 - done; toured facility; commissioned building assessment; submitted offer this week with conditions; presenting offer formally tomorrow. 2 other interested buyers. We're strongest covenant. Aggressive price, but expecting counter-offer
- Janice to report next week on # of people out of jail who become homeless
 - sent data last week; Penny and Kerry have distributed to some other bodies (eg. Kerry sent to Mental Health Commission of Canada) also.
- Kerry to provide a report on options for HEAT's structure/next phase post-March 8th
 - done at this meeting
- Cameron to report back next week on options for funding post-March, and funding partners
 - on agenda today

Context: Changes in Past Month

Provincial Budget released; Provincial announcement on homelessness

- Some positive: no new \$ for housing, or services. But substantial infrastructure \$; some can be used for homelessness, though not identified yet, but expect positive news in next week
- Operating side is larger issue: BC Housing's operations not funded; all funding on support service side; so met with SRO operators this week around still 24/7 coverage, but doing in different way. Also has implications: no \$ for continued operation of HEAT shelters. And operating side of gov't will be challenge over next 2 years.

VCH:

- Patti: all health authorities struggling, all have projected deficits; demand risen more than we anticipated. Hard to manage, but don't plan on cuts yet. We got an increase. All CFOs projecting significant deficits

ACTION: Penny (and Kerry and Patti) will meet David Ostreau (interim VCH CFO) re: Riverview opportunity. City may be able to help enable; VCH has not moved on this; other health authorities had, they had real estate. NIMBY's a huge issue. Kerry and Patti will join in meeting. Kerry: think we can manage NIMBY. Likely 120-125 beds? Not all empty

BC Housing's Selection Process:

Province released no new \$ but wanting to do more with less, eg. one person overseeing selection could help; but really need more housing.

HEAT Shelters:

Decisions/agreements:

- Yes, extend past March 31st (unanimous)
- aim for 16/7 (vs. 24/7) in summer
- aim for extending not just beyond May 31st, but for another year (March 2010)
- may not be all same sites

Note: Gregor meeting Premier March 5th or 6th

Building the business case for March 3rd (to allow time for briefing note):

- ACTION: Kerry and Judy will recommend which shelters should stay open specifically, and why (criteria), accounting for new potential openings eg. Nanaimo
- ACTION: Penny will seek data on reduced ambulance costs
- ACTION: Kerry will complete data on reduced VPD disturbance etc. calls and summarize
- ACTION: Kerry will list (brief bullets) political costs likely if HEAT shelters close
- ACTION: Patti will confirm the specific issues raised by Health and Safety re: First United; may be pressure to close on March 31st as planned due to concerns
- ACTION: Cameron and Judy will breakdown demographic data in a table, broadly

Cost:

24/7 shelters cost \$100/person/day, or \$10-12 million over the year

16/7 shelters cost \$60/day or \$6.6 million/year

Issues:

- Value - \$100/person/day is high; is that \$ better spent on interim housing now?
- Private sector – might not be up for 1/3 for this extension
- summer reprieve – will shelters be fully utilized through the warm months? (Judy feels yes)

Interim Housing

Note: costs are \$120/day either way (lease or modular)

Satisfied with draft proposal looking at 500 spaces this year, 1000 next year?

ACTION: Penny and staff will adjust case for March 5th briefing

Issues:

Identifying locations for modular housing (NIMBY expected)

Identifying possible SROs to lease

Do projected modular costs include sprinklers?

Public Engagement

Purpose:

- Need to engage publics eager to help; daily/weekly calls
- Need to expedite vs. creating process for processes sakes, or creating havoc with too many duplicate 'platforms' (eg. Street2Home)

Public Engagement: see Kerry's Proposal: useful; possibly engage through First United or a process designed (eg. Stanley King) to see where people can plug in, eg. food, clean water, wellness, social needs

HEAT: FINAL Meeting – March 8, 2009

Present: Gregor Robertson, Dr. Kerry Jang, John Mackay, Cameron Gray, Janice Abbott, Dr. Patty Daly, Shayne Ramsay, Jim Chu, Raymond Louie, Penny Ballem (phone), Jerry Evans, Mike Magee, Kevin Quinlan

Absent: Patrick Stewart, Michael Flanigan, Judy Graves, Dave Eby

Review of HEAT Action Items from March 1st, 2009

ACTION: Penny (and Kerry and Patti) will meet David Ostrow (interim VCH CFO) re: Riverview opportunity.

PENDING. meeting scheduled for week of March 10th.

ACTION: Kerry and Judy will recommend which shelters should stay open specifically, and why (criteria), accounting for new potential openings eg. Nanaimo (IN PROGRESS)

ACTION: Penny will seek data on reduced ambulance costs to help build business case for shelters. (IN PROGRESS)

ACTION: Kerry will complete data on reduced VPD disturbance calls and summarize to help build business case.

DONE. Sent to Gregor. Received data from Michael Krause (LEAF Chair on Addictions and Mental Health, in Kerry's Dept), who is keen to help assess Emergency Room Data. Note: we also need more data on reduced VPD disturbance calls. Kerry and Warren in discussion about this, mapping data.

ACTION: Cameron and Judy will breakdown broad-stroke demographic data in a table format. IN PROGRESS. Have data from extreme weather reports; breakdown report will be prepared for Council report.

ACTION: Penny and staff will adjust business case for March 5th briefing [DONE]

ACTION: Michael F to send Kerry information on community past engagement/consultation/Stamley King [DONE]

REPORT-BACK: MARCH 6TH PROPOSAL TO PREMIER

Extending Shelters

- Overall positive response. Great news on shelter front: Further to Friday's meeting, BC has committed funding for next 3 months for the shelters; confirmation that they'll be funded all year (ie March 2010) expected next week. \$6.6 million likely.

- Note that the funding will probably be coming out of contingency, as it was not allocated in the budget; this will be challenging

Interim/permanent housing

- Piecemeal approach likely; low confidence/certainty around the speed and timing of implementing new permanent housing.
- We need consistent score card about progress with the new approaches; data needs to keep coming in

Next step:

Final date to check in on proposal and to have dinner together.

Wed. 25th 6-9 pm