Greetings Mayor and Council,

There are often many questions arising with regard to TMH. Recently a Councillor passed on some questions to Sandra regarding the Marpole TMH and I thought the answers would be of interest to all of you:

Q: Inclusion of commercial kitchens. I gather the Marpole TMH does not have a commercial kitchen included in the facility (I toured Little Mountain and it does have one). Is this something the Province/City are looking to address through an addition to the Marpole site?

Reiderman Residence does not have a commercial kitchen - neither does Chartrand (1131 Franklin) or Aneki (525 Powell); the other seven sites do contain a commercial kitchen. In buildings without commercial kitchens, there are food programs typically offered. For example, at the Reiderman Residence, Community Builders Group (CBG) staff provide a daily breakfast and work with residents on a grocery delivery service. CBG also has a coordinator who is doing cooking lessons and nutrition education and supports, with the goal to help tenants become confident and independent on their nutritional needs. There is a weekly meal that is in the amenity space which does have a stove, that is made with staff and residents together. The buildings often receive donations from local groups such as Kitchen on a Mission. Currently, there are no plans to renovate these temporary buildings to include a commercial kitchen.

Q: Community Policing. The local Marpole community policing office has been working closely with residents and the TMH. Is this a model that is common to all TMH sites, specifically the relationship between the TMH and community policing office?

There is a VPD officer that serves as a liaison assigned to every TMH site and works with the operator/building manager and community members.

Q: Locations of TMH. When identifying city owned land for future TMH, does the consider access to amenities and proximity to schools?

Criteria for location for TMH takes into consideration access to services, access to transit, access to water and sewer, hydro availability, future planning timelines, environmental issues, zoning, legal implication, costs and timing. Social and supportive housing, such as TMH, are a residential use and there are no additional restrictions on location (such as proximity to schools, daycare, parks, etc.).

Q: Transitions and independence. Is the city looking at how the temporary modular housing is successful in supporting transitions and increased independence of individuals by following their transitions to 1) more independent housing 2) any form of employment (e.g. supported employment) and 3) connection to wraparound services e.g. mental health and substance use services (replacement therapies or withdrawal programs)?

BC Housing, in consultation with the City of Vancouver (COV), is evaluating the outcomes of temporary modular housing (TMH) on three main areas – outcomes for the tenants, outcomes for the neighbourhood, and outcomes on broader society. It is anticipated that results for residents at 6 months since moving into TMH will be released in May 2019 for residents from Reiderman Residence. The resident survey explored housing stability, quality of life, community connections and health.

Thanks – please do not hesitate to contact Sandra if you have any further questions.

Sadhu
The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.

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