

Date: October 18, 2024

To: **Mayor and Council.**

Name and title: Eric Depenau, Director, Administrative Services

Subject: Social Health – Issues Update

Attachment(s):  
1. Social Health – Issues Update – October 2024  
2. “Who to Call” Resource Guide

**Recommendation(s):**

That Council RECEIVES FOR INFORMATION the report dated October 18, 2024, from the Director of Administrative Services, titled “Social Health – Issues Update”.

**Purpose:**

At the October 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting Council passed a resolution directing staff to “return a report to Council on either the October 21<sup>st</sup> or November 4<sup>th</sup> regular council meeting regarding the City’s plan to update the Millar-Addition residents and adjacent businesses regarding their concerns raised related to public safety in the area”. This report is presented to share updates and to highlight when further wide communications are planned.

**Background:**

Calls for Service / Complaint volume from the mentioned area has been modest over the summer months. Staff feel this may be a result of active engagement at the Lower Patricia Boulevard Encampment (LPBE) to remove permissible materials (burnt structures as example) and due to a general decrease in occupants at the LPBE.

The City continues to view the response to the LPBE in four broad phases. Public communication is intended to mark major milestones in this response and on an as-needed basis. Currently, the City remains in phase one which seeks to build capacity and address hazards, and is preparing to transition to phase two, where the City intends to demonstrate appropriate capacity to the Supreme Court to transition the entrenched LPBE to other forms of shelter. Communication is intended once the court application is advanced and/or when more details on the transition plan have been confirmed.

In the meantime, staff are working to provide more frequent updates on social health related items in the community. A brief report is attached that shares general updates that may be of interest to those following this file and that includes overlap with the area mentioned in the Council resolution.

### Strategic Priorities:

Frequent communication is related to the strategic pillar of City Government and Infrastructure Priorities, specifically, focusing on meaningful communication and relationship development to advance shared priorities.

### Summary and conclusion:

This report is provided in response to an October 7<sup>th</sup> Council resolution and shares updates on social health related issues across the community with a focus on the downtown core, based on staff understanding of the resolution. Public communication is intended to mark major milestones in the City's plan to address entrenched encampments and on an as-needed basis. Currently, the City remains in phase one of this plan and has attached general updates that may be of interest as work continues on this file.

### Respectfully submitted:

Eric Depenau, Director, Administrative Services

### Approved:

Walter Babicz, City Manager

Meeting date: 2024 / 11 / 04