



# COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

HS-22-04

**To:** Chair and Members of the Social Services Committee  
**From:** Mark Poste, Director of Housing  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 12, 2022  
**Subject:** 2021-22 Reaching Home Capital Funding

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### Background:

In May 2021, staff reported to committee and council about an expansion of the 2021-22 Federal homelessness funding through the Reaching Home programme. This funding was a part of a Fall 2020 commitment by the federal government for \$299.4 million to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to help prevent at-risk Canadians from becoming homeless.

While a small portion of this funding has been committed to operational needs in the homeless serving system, the majority of the funding is being dedicated to capital commitments. In total, there is \$1,500,000 in capital funding available for the homeless serving system. Early in January 2022, housing services staff released a Request for Proposals (RFP) for community proponents to apply for this Reaching Home funding to support the capital needs of a project that will help our community reach its goal of ending chronic homelessness. Staff expect to review the results of this RFP and provide recommendations to Committee and Council for consideration of funding commitment(s) in February or March.

In May 2021, Committee and Council granted staff delegated authority to make both operational and capital commitments under the expanded Reaching Home funding programme. Currently, staff intend on bringing this forward for the consideration of committee and council. As with all COVID funding programmes, however, there are tight deadlines for funding commitments and this is a funding programme that staff are not as familiar with as our traditional provincial funding programmes. Should staff be required to make commitments using the previously provided delegated authority instead of bringing to Committee and Council, staff would share details of that commitment with Committee and Council for information as soon as possible.

### Financial Implications:

The proposed 2022 housing budget includes this \$1.5 million in Reaching Home funding. This funding must be directed to new programmes and will not impact the municipal tax levy.

### Recommendation:

That report HS-22-04 2021-22 Reaching Home Capital Funding be received for information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Mark Poste'.

Mark Poste  
Director of Housing