



Region of Durham Master Housing Strategy

November 2020



What is the Master Housing Strategy?

The Master Housing Strategy is a living document that operationalizes the Region of Durham's long-term vision for housing set out in *At Home in Durham, the Durham Housing Plan 2014-2024*.

The Master Housing Strategy emphasizes a holistic and systems-level approach to the planning of community, supportive and transitional housing, as well as homelessness supports and prevention.

The Master Housing Strategy commits to an affordable, suitable and sustainable supply of housing for all people in Durham.

At Home in Durham

The Durham Housing Plan 2014-2024

At Home in Durham is the Region's long-term vision for housing. It commits to a strong housing sector that offers affordable, accessible and suitable choices for everyone in Durham at all life stages.

The Four Goals of At Home in Durham

- End Homelessness in Durham
- Affordable Rent for Everyone
- Greater Housing Choice
- Strong and Vibrant Neighbourhoods

The Master Housing Strategy operationalizes and supports the successful implementation of At Home in Durham and its four goals.

Components of the Master Housing Strategy



The Master Housing Strategy is a living document designed to adapt to the fluctuating economic, policy, legislative and political environment of community and affordable housing in Durham.



Our Commitments under the Master Housing Strategy



Revitalization of the Regionally owned **Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation (DRLHC)** portfolio, including the development of an evidence-based strategy for managing the DRLHC portfolio that addresses maintenance, revitalization, regeneration (redevelopment) and disposal across the portfolio.



Review of **public surplus lands** and their potential social and community benefits.



New **partnerships and incentives** for the provision of affordable, community, supportive and transitional housing, including the development of a **Regional Community Improvement Plan (CIP)**.



Support for the preservation and modernization of **community housing**, including opportunities for more flexible partnerships and support for capital needs.



Review and modernization of the homelessness and emergency shelter system to reduce **chronic homelessness to zero**.

The Region of Durham is committed to exploring all opportunities to support the delivery of affordable housing.



Expected Outcomes of the Master Housing Strategy

In line with At Home in Durham, the Master Housing Strategy aims to improve affordability and access to housing with and without supports, protect the existing affordable housing supply, encourage housing diversity, and build capacity in the housing system.

The initiation of the development of 1,000 new affordable housing units by 2024.

The reduction of chronic homelessness in Durham to zero by 2024.

Long term capital planning for the DRLHC that maximizes assets, aligns with local priorities, supports affordability and promotes balanced, mixed income communities.

Improved readiness for provincial and federal funding announcements.

Expedited development of affordable, community, supportive and transitional housing.

Shovel-ready portfolio of potential projects aligned with the affordable housing needs of our communities.

Streamlined policies and procedures that promote the development of affordable housing.

Sustainable investment strategies to support new affordable rental development and the preservation and growth of community housing.

Suite of incentives that increase effective partnership with private and non-profit developers of affordable housing.

Improved coordination with all housing partners including area municipalities, private developers and non-profit providers to address Regional needs.

Improved ability to position funding needs and advocate for long-term, sustainable funding commitments from the federal and provincial governments

Enhanced value for tax dollars and return on investment.





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