Welcome
Let’s Talk Supportive Housing in Langley

Community Open House & Dialogue
May 28 2018
Agenda

• Welcome
• Presentation on What We Have Heard
• Facilitated Community Dialogue

* Hold questions until the end of the presentation
What is being proposed?

• **49 homes with support services**, plus space for the Langley Intensive Case Management team.

• All applicants would go through an **assessment process**, sign a **program agreement** and **pay rent**.

• This housing would help to move people **off of the streets and out of shelters** towards **stable and safe housing**, and improved quality of life.
What is supportive housing?

- **Self-contained studio home** with supports provided on-site.
- **Supports** would include outreach workers, wellness checks, life skills training, employment assistance, connection and referral to community services and support groups.

Is it a shelter like Gateway of Hope?

This is **NOT a shelter**. A shelter provides a temporary place to sleep.

**This is a home.**
Can you show us an example of supportive housing?

5 case studies on supportive housing

www.bchousing.org/research-centre/library/tools-developing-social-housing

For all five examples, concerns from neighbors stopped a few months after the buildings became operational. Currently, this supportive housing enjoys positive relationships with neighbours and residents are proud of their home.
Timber Grove – first supportive housing for Surrey

• 2010 - 52 units of supportive housing proposed in a residential area, close to businesses and schools.

• 80% opposed / top concerns: general safety, crime, drug use, safety of seniors/ people with disabilities / nearby students.

• Community Advisory Committee formed during site development, creating forum for voicing concerns and answering questions.

• In 2018, many neighbours show support for the project.

• Residents are proud of their home, engaging with neighbors and frequenting local shops and restaurants.
Why can’t you make the housing abstinence-based?

Not all homeless people have addictions and not all people with addictions are homeless. 53% of people experiencing homelessness report having addiction issues. Not having a home can cause mental health and addiction issues. 80% of people with mental health and addiction issues developed these issues after becoming homeless, not before becoming homeless.

Housing First Principles

• People are better able to move forward with their lives if they are first housed.
• Housing is provided first and then supports are provided including physical and mental health, education, employment, substance abuse and community connections.
How will you keep our community safe?

We want to build a safe community both inside and outside the proposed housing.

A Community Advisory Committee would be formed with representatives from partner organizations, RCMP, local businesses and community members.
Currently, BC Housing funds:

- **Rent assistance in the private market** (1,106 families and seniors + 80 rent supplements for people experiencing homelessness)
- **Social housing units** (409 families and seniors)
- **Youth beds** (6 beds just opened @ Youth Hub on 62nd Avenue)

Coming soon:

- **Affordable rental housing** for low-income families and seniors (82 units under construction on 72nd Avenue)
Community Dialogue