

Housing Rights Advisory Committee

Meeting No.: 8

Meeting Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Start Time: 9:30 AM

Location: Committee Room 2, City Hall/Video Conference

Contact: Tanya Spinello, Committee Administrator

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Chair: Elizabeth McIsaac

HS8.11 - Assessing Changes to the Interdivisional Protocol on Encampments (IDP) for Alignment with the Toronto Housing Charter

Decision Type: ACTION

Status: Adopted

Wards: All

Committee Decision

The Housing Rights Advisory Committee recommended that the Executive Committee:

1. Request City Council to request that the General Manager, Shelter and Support Services ensure that any changes to the Interdivisional Protocol on Encampments (IDP) be assessed for compliance with the City's obligation to realize the right to adequate housing, as affirmed in the Toronto Housing Charter, national and international law, and be undertaken in consultation with the Housing Rights Advisory Committee.

Summary

At its meeting on November 19, 2025, the Housing Rights Advisory Committee considered Item [HS8.11](#) and made recommendations to City Council.

Summary from the Housing Rights Advisory Committee:

As a member of the Housing Rights Advisory Committee (HRAC) and Chair of its Supporting Unhoused Rights Holders Working Group, it is imperative to my work — and the broader work of the Committee — that the rights of people who are unhoused and living in encampments are both respected and upheld in the City of Toronto's policies and practices.

It is therefore of the utmost concern that recent changes to the Interdivisional Protocol on Encampments (IDP), [passed by City Council on November 14th 2025](#), represents retrogression — a violation of unhoused people's human rights. These changes effectively suspend human rights for encampment residents within prescribed "bubble zones," including by placing a limit on the number of shelter offers a resident can receive. This is a deliberate incursion on the established human rights principles set out in the original IDP, i.e., retrogression.

Background Information

(November 19, 2025) Letter from Diana Chan McNally, Member, Housing Rights Advisory Committee on Assessing Changes to the Interdivisional Protocol on Encampments (IDP) for Alignment with the Toronto Housing Charter (<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2025/hs/bgrrd/backgroundfile-260158.pdf>)