

Bulletin Type: Notice of Event

Subject: Accessibility Audit of Shelters

Bulletin: The City of Toronto has received additional federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) funding for 2016/17 and 2017/18.

Shelter, Support, and Housing Administration division (SSHA), will use a portion of this funding to hire and pay qualified consultants to conduct accessibility audits of eligible city-funded shelters. Shelter that are in the process of relocating, undergoing significant renovation / redevelopment, or in the process of completing an accessibility audit are not eligible for inclusion.

The accessibility audits will take place shortly after one (or more) qualified consultant(s) is selected. SSHA anticipates audits will take place by late fall or winter 2016/17.

The accessibility audits will incorporate a comprehensive building and site evaluation, including but not limited to interior and exterior lighting, building system and controls and whether life safety systems include accessibility features. The audit will identify accessibility features and conditions that already comply with or exceed AODA legislation and Building Code standards, as well as identifying all necessary accessibility upgrades to achieve full compliance.

A remedial plan will be prepared based on the audit findings. The plan will prioritize the work over a 5 year period and include estimated cost of work for the required accessibility upgrades to achieve full compliance.

Each eligible shelter will receive a consolidated report containing both the accessibility audit findings for their respective shelter, as well as the site-specific remediation plan.

While SSHA will coordinate and fully fund the cost of these audits, your assistance will be required before and during the accessibility audits in order to expedite this process and limit the amount of disruption at your shelter. Deirdre Boyle, Program Co-ordinator, will manage the accessibility audits on behalf of SSHA and will contact your shelter shortly.

Resources: • N/A

Contact Information: For more information about this Bulletin, please contact Deirdre Boyle, Program Co-ordinator at dboyle2@toronto.ca or (416) 338-1139.