

COMMUNITY UPDATE

New Shelter at 1615 Dufferin St.

The City of Toronto is continuing its work to create new, modern shelter spaces that meet the needs of residents and communities alike. At 1615 Dufferin St., a new municipal shelter will provide essential supports to 50 youth (ages 16-24) who are experiencing homelessness. This new shelter, set to open in 2027, will offer a safe, stable and welcoming environment where residents can rebuild their lives, access health, education and social supports and move toward permanent housing.

Engagement Updates

The City of Toronto continues to engage closely with the shelter operator, local residents, businesses and stakeholders as planning for 1615 Dufferin St. moves forward.

The following engagement activities have taken place since May 2025:

July 12: The City introduced [Covenant House Toronto](#) as the selected operator for the youth shelter at 1615 Dufferin St. More than 100 local residents attended a Community Drop-in and Welcome BBQ, where they had the opportunity to meet the Covenant House team and learn more about their work.

October 1: Local stakeholders and immediate neighbours were invited to participate in a Design Roundtable to discuss the new shelter alongside representatives from Covenant House Toronto. During the session, participants reviewed updated site drawings and provided feedback on design elements, including enhanced greenery along the south side of the building and improved lighting. The conversation also explored how the shelter's design can promote dignity and compassion for both residents and the surrounding community. All feedback from the roundtable is now being reviewed by the project and design teams to determine what can be incorporated as plans progress.

Notice of Passing of Zoning By-Law Amendments

The City of Toronto continues to engage closely with the shelter operator, local residents, businesses and stakeholders as planning for 1615 Dufferin St. moves forward.

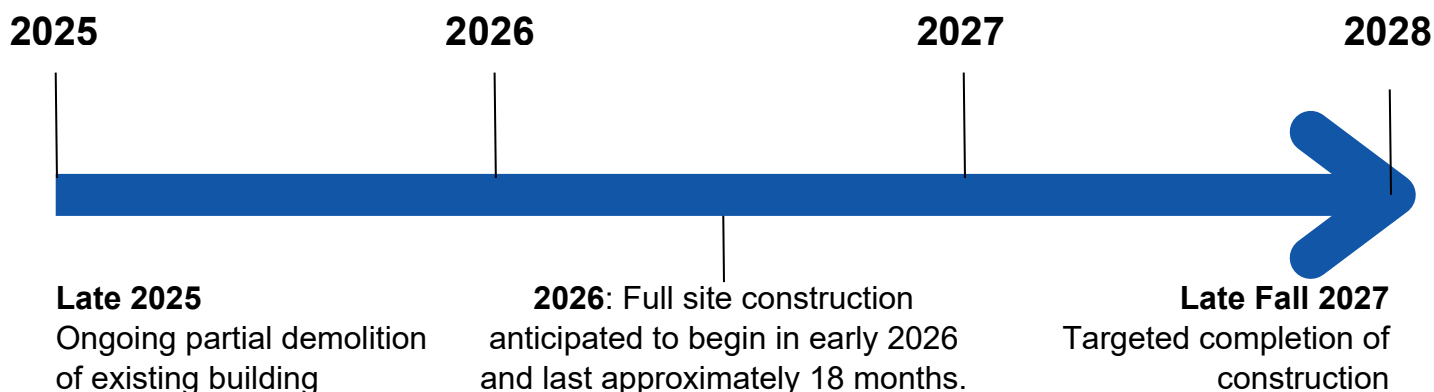
The following engagement activities have taken place since May 2025:

On July 24, Toronto City Council adopted Official Plan Amendment 833 and passed Zoning By-law Amendments for six new shelters, including 1615 Dufferin St. These planning changes support the City's Homelessness Services Capital Infrastructure Strategy (HSCIS), which aims to create approximately 1,600 new long-term and permanent shelter spaces across Toronto by 2033.

At the meeting, Committee members considered and approved proposed amendments for six shelter sites citywide, which were informed by feedback gathered through public meetings and online surveys. Although all six sites are permitted to be used as a shelter, these approvals give the City flexibility to refine the design of the building in partnership with the shelter operator and local community, while allowing construction timelines to move forward efficiently. This ensures that critical services can open sooner, while still providing room to incorporate thoughtful design feedback around features such as landscaping, fencing, lighting and outdoor space.

Construction Updates

Partial demolition of the existing building is ongoing, followed by full site construction in early 2026. Construction is expected to take approximately 18 months, with completion targeted for late 2027.



Staying Connected

The City will continue to keep the community informed as the project progresses through regular bulletins like this one, ongoing coordination with Councillor Bravo's office, and future engagement opportunities. If you have any questions or wish to share any feedback, please contact the project team at 1615dufferin@gmail.com.

This bulletin provides updates to community members interested in learning about the planned shelter at 1615 Dufferin Street. You are receiving this bulletin because you previously indicated an interest in receiving project updates. If you have any questions about the shelter or no longer wish to receive these updates, please visit toronto.ca/1615Dufferin or email us at 1615dufferin@gmail.com.