

COMMUNITY BULLETIN

2 Buttonwood Ave. June 2026



Shelter Operations

A new municipal shelter is coming to 2 Buttonwood Ave. for use as a family shelter to help women experiencing homelessness and their children gain stability and work toward permanent housing. The shelter will open gradually, starting by welcoming approximately 24 families in late 2026 and expanding to support up to 96 families over time.

While the number of families on the waitlist has decreased, there continues to be ongoing demand for family shelter spaces. Currently, there are no family shelters in the City's west end.

The shelter will be staffed 24 hours a day and will provide meals and laundry, as well as on-site medical care. Case managers will work with families to build housing plans. The program will also provide important wrap-around services, such as income supports, employment and education training, and referrals to other community services.

The shelter is part of the Council-approved Homelessness Services Capital Infrastructure Strategy, which aims to open 1,600 beds and up to 20 new shelters across the City of Toronto by 2033. These new spaces will help respond to demand and stabilize the shelter system.

Construction Updates

Originally built to be seniors' residence, the City is renovating 2 Buttonwood Ave, to meet Shelter Design and Technical Guidelines.

Substantial construction completion is expected in 2026, with minor working continuing after to complete the interior and landscaping.

Expected Work Hours

Work will generally take place during the following hours:

- **Monday to Friday:** 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Saturdays:** 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

While the City is exempt from the Noise By-law, we are committed to completing the work with minimal community impacts in accordance with the by-laws.

What You Might See

Residents may observe standard construction activity, including:

- Presence of workers and construction vehicles
- Equipment operation and material deliveries
- Intermittent noise typical of active work sites

Managing Construction Impacts

Mitigation measures are in place to reduce disruptions, including:

- On-site supervision to manage noise levels.
- Use of appropriate shielding and equipment to minimize off-site impacts.

Community Engagement Updates

The City is committed to working with the community to support the success of the site. The City has hired Community Engagement Facilitator Birchwood Consulting to continue leading the community engagement process. We like to thank Joe Mihevc Consulting for its support to date.

On November 10, 2025, residents were invited to attend the City of Toronto's Community Drop-In event at the Learning Enrichment Foundation. Residents were able to attend and learn about the new shelter. Residents were able to ask questions of the staff regarding the site. We thank those who were able to attend the meeting.

As a part of the efforts to support the shelter's integration into the community, the City has convened a Shelter Integration & Partnership (SIP) Table. The table consists of community members of the Jane and Weston neighbourhood, including residents, community and business groups, the local Councillor's office, and faith-based organizations. The table will meet regularly to discuss initiatives and opportunities to support the successful integration of the Buttonwood Family Shelter and its residents into the neighbourhood. Updates from the SIP Table will be included in the community updates and posted on the project website.

Street Needs Assessment – Trends in Homelessness

The City of Toronto's Street Needs Assessment is a city-wide point-in-time count of people living outdoors, in encampments, shelters, respite sites, and some institutional settings. In 2024, the average age of children and other non-adult dependents under 18 years of age was eight years. The 2025 count confirms that homelessness continues to affect thousands of people across Toronto, including families and young children, underscoring the need for continued focus on long-term solutions.

Stay Informed

You are receiving this update because you previously expressed interest in receiving information about the shelter at 2 Buttonwood Ave.

If you have questions or would like to stop receiving these updates, please contact 2buttonwood@toronto.ca.

As the project progresses, the City will continue to share updates through community bulletins, ongoing coordination with the councillor's office and planned engagement opportunities.

For more information or to subscribe to project updates, visit toronto.ca/2Buttonwood or email 2buttonwood@toronto.ca.

Stay Connected

If you have questions or would like to stop receiving future updates, please contact us

Email: 2Buttonwood@toronto.ca