



BOARD REPORT #HS-2024-015

FOR INFORMATION or FOR APPROVAL

Date: April 24, 2024

Purpose: Housing Needs and Supply Study – Final Report and Delegation

Department Head: Stacey Cyopeck, Director of Housing Services

Approver: Melanie Shaye, Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the District of Nipissing Social Services Administration Board (DNSSAB) accepts Briefing Note HS-2024-015 and the corresponding final report and delegation from SHS Consulting concerning the results of the Housing Needs and Supply Study.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

Alignment with Strategic Plan 2022-2042: Healthy, Sustainable Communities

Maximize Impact **Remove Barriers** **Seamless Access** **Learn & Grow**

Maximize Human Services Impact – the study will result in an enhancement of relationships to collaboratively achieve the desired outcomes of the plan.

Remove Systemic Barriers – the study's vision includes equitable access to housing in a system that takes a holistic approach and is easy to navigate.

Seamless Access – the study takes a data driven approach and includes actions that will require advocacy to enhance service planning and delivery.

Continuous Improvement and Adaptation – the study seeks to establish the DNSSAB as a trusted partner and advocate across the various levels of government and the local housing system in Nipissing District.

BACKGROUND

A Request for Proposals was issued in 2023 (B17-23) for a Housing Needs and Supply Study. SHS Consulting and Daniel J. Brant and Associates were the successful proponents, and the study began in August of 2023.

The Scope of the study included:

- Analysis of the demographic characteristics of Nipissing District and the respective municipalities (11), First Nations (2) and unincorporated areas (2).
- Analysis of stakeholder and resident input (obtained through interviews, surveys, and public consultations), to determine the housing needs in Nipissing District, and the respective municipalities, First Nations, and unincorporated areas.
- Review of the current housing supply using the housing continuum model as a reference.
- Identification of the pressures, gaps or shortfalls between the identified housing needs, demand, and supply (above) in Nipissing District and the respective municipalities, First Nations, and unincorporated areas.
- Identification of barriers to meeting housing need and demand or creating supply in Nipissing District and within the respective municipalities, First Nations, and unincorporated areas.
- Development of strategies and actions or best practices that could be employed to close the housing gaps and remove any barriers identified above, in Nipissing District and within the respective municipalities, First Nations, and unincorporated areas.
- Forecasted demand for housing, by household/unit size, tenure and price in Nipissing District and the respective municipalities, First Nations, and unincorporated areas.
- Define and identify the prioritization of housing needs across the geographic area.

The study is timely with the A Place To Call Home: Nipissing District's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan expiring at the end of the 2023 calendar year. As per the Housing Services Act, 2011, DNSSAB would have been required to review and update where necessary, the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan in 2024. In a letter dated March 1, 2024, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has informed service managers to not complete the review of their local plans until they receive further communication from the ministry. Once the Ministry advises Service Managers to proceed, the DNSSAB will be well positioned to inform the 10-Year plan with the results of the Housing Needs and Supply Study.

FINANCIAL AND RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Work is already underway in some of the strategy areas identified in the study. The study will now bring more emphasis to these strategy areas. Similarly to the now-expired 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, the Board will need to prioritize investments into the study's strategies and actions to ensure that progress is being made to implement the study. Staff will endeavour to create budgets and effectively use existing resources to implement the study's actions.

OPTIONS AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS

This report recommends the adoption of the final report and supporting documents of the Housing Needs and Supply Study.

NEXT STEPS

- Distribute the final study and supporting documents to the District Municipalities, Unincorporated Areas, and First Nations.
- Prioritize the strategies outlined in the plan and develop an implementation plan to effectively monitor progress on the strategies and actions contained in the study.
- Align Housing Services budgets to the strategies and actions of the Plan (when feasible).
- Work collaboratively with community partners and District Municipalities, Unincorporated Areas, and First Nations to implement the strategies and actions contained in the study.
- Report annually on the implementation progress.

RESOURCES CITED

SHS Consulting and Daniel J. Brant and Associates

AUTHOR:

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