

OPEAC Housing Subcommittee

Activities, Accomplishments, Future

Presentation to Westside Seniors Hub, Brock House
February 21, 2024

Marc White PhD, OPEAC Chair, Co-Chair, Housing Subcommittee




OPEAC Housing Committee Mandate

To provide realistic and evidence-based advice to Council and staff on supporting the creation of safe, healthy, food secure, and sustainable liveable communities for all seniors in Vancouver.




Focus 2021 – 2023 Housing Work Plan

Geo-Mapping Data collection: Collated and analyzed demographic data to support the identification of vulnerable senior populations and better understand the continuum of housing needs



Jurisdictional Scan: To learn how other municipalities across Canada help seniors live and thrive in their communities



Make Seniors Housing a Priority: Fight to realign the Broadway Corridor and the Vancouver Plan to better address Seniors Housing



Secure a Seniors' Strategic Lead: Ideally within the City Manager's office to bring a seniors' lens across all city departments and agencies

City of Vancouver Seniors Housing Strategy Brief Update

February 16, 2024



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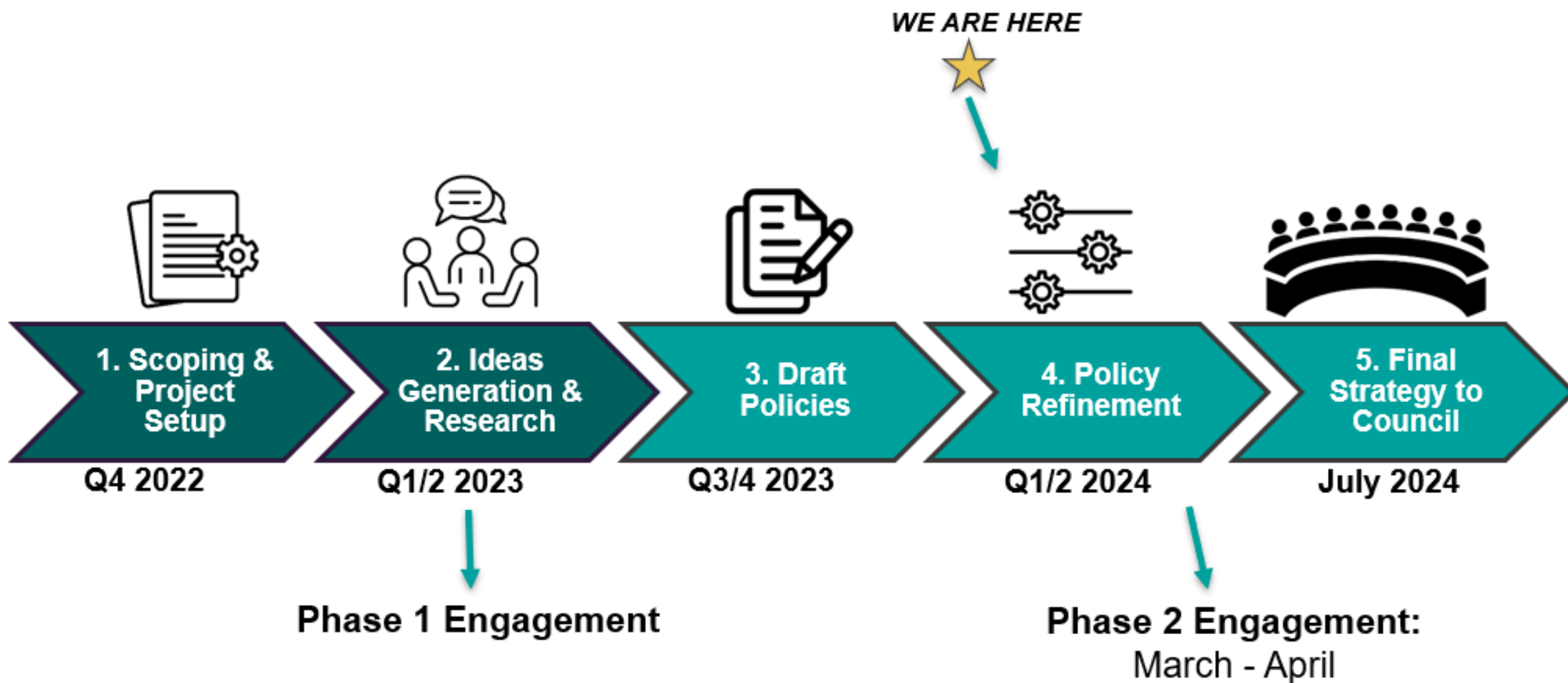
HOUSING
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Why seniors housing?

- Seniors are the **fastest growing population** cohort
- Most seniors are homeowners, but **renters experience greater affordability** challenges
- A significant proportion of those **experiencing homelessness** are seniors



City of Vancouver: Seniors Housing Strategy Timeline



Strategy Goals & Priorities

Overarching goal is to ***ensure elders and older adults have the housing and supports needed to allow for aging in appropriate and affordable housing.*** This means:

- Using our regulatory tools to encourage more appropriate and affordable housing options for elders and older adults across the housing continuum so they may age in their community,
- Advocating for the needed health and rental supports to allow older adults to maintain their housing, and
- Prioritizing those who need it most by focusing on affordable housing options, such as social and supportive housing for those 55+ and subsidized assisted living and long-term care.

Visit <https://www.shapeyourcity.ca/seniors-housing> in April for the Draft Strategy

Focus 2024 – 2025 Housing Work Plan

Support community input and activities to ensure that the Seniors Housing Strategy has measurable goals, objectives, targets, timelines, and partnerships

Promote local, regional, federal and provincial investment and philanthropy to support a Seniors Housing Strategy that can build capacity within the non-profit sector

Support ageing in place, ensure that there is a continuum of affordable housing options across neighbourhoods

Support and facilitate safe transitional and supportive housing, improvements in SROs, as well preventative measures to prevent at risk seniors from homelessness

Support the planning for non-profit Dementia Villages, small community-based non-profit long-term care and other innovative solutions to support individuals and their families

Enhance building bylaws to ensure new homes are better designed to support life-cycle housing for temporary and permanent mobility impairments, dementia supportive technologies, and caregiver/ care worker/ health care ready

Advocate for increasing seniors income, co-ordination and provision of services, within the context of addressing their housing and community needs