

# **Supportive Housing**

# Recommended Public Engagement Guide

To ensure your proposal for supportive housing is developed openly and transparently, applicants are encouraged to conduct public engagement within a minimum 60m radius of the subject property before applying for a supportive housing development permit. Engaging with the community fully, early, and often is recommended.

An engagement process is intended to inform surrounding neighbours in a proactive and relationship-oriented way to ensure the long-term success of your project. It will allow you to address any questions or concerns directly with the neighbours.

The following pages identify some of the common questions and concerns adjacent neighbours frequently ask regarding the operation of a supportive housing facility. Feel free to use these details and questions to help guide your engagement strategy.

Letters of support from neighbours can also be submitted with a permit application.

Property Information			
Municipal Address			
Legal Description (all/parts of)			
Lot			
Block			
Registered Plan			

Development Permit Applicant		
Name		
Business Name		
Contact Information (to allow neighbours to contact you should they have questions)		

Supportive Housing Business Owner / Operator		
Name		
Business Name		
Contact Information (to allow neighbours to contact you should they have questions)		
Website		



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#### **Common Business Operation Questions**

Can you provide a brief overview and history of your supportive housing business and proposed use of this location? (primary/typical business activities, days and hours of operation, etc.)

What will be the number of clients residing in the home (maximum occupancy) and their intended stay period? (permanent or temporary occupancy, pre-determined exit dates, maximum stay period, etc.)

Can you outline the level of care, safety, and supervision your supportive housing development will provide its clients? (mechanisms in place to support residential safety and security, meal services, housekeeping services, etc.)

What is the number of employees that will be on the property and their schedule?

Are there any certifications and licenses held by the caregivers and other employees? (professional training and certification)

What is the expected number and type of visits to the property and their frequency per day/week? (ex. emergency vehicles, social workers, program pick-up/drop-off, etc.)

Have you obtained other approvals and licenses issued from other governing agencies? (ex. Alberta Health Services Supportive Living approval/license, Family Support for Children with Disabilities accreditation, Public Health - food handling permit, Facility-based Childcare license, etc.)

### **Common Neighbourhood Concerns**

Supportive housing will lower my property values.

Supportive housing will destabilize the properties immediately surrounding it.

Supportive housing will quickly become an eye-sore.

Supportive housing tenants will bring crime into our area.

Supportive housing will bring drugs into our community.

The children residing in supportive housing have such extensive needs that our schools and community services will become overwhelmed.

Supportive housing will increase traffic and place greater demand on emergency services.

Supportive housing will bring people into our community who do not have the same values we hold.

#### **Techniques for Engagement**

Informal discussions.

Open forums.

Ongoing communication.

Community leader.

Outside spokesperson.