

Neighbourhood Information Session

Welcome to the Session

saskatoon.ca/shelterspaces

Neighbourhood Information Session

Meeting Agenda

- **Welcome:** Facilitator Penny Popp, Pyvot Consulting
- **City of Saskatoon:** Lesley Anderson, Director, Planning & Development
- **Government of Saskatchewan:** Kim Hornung, Executive Director, Housing Infrastructure and Business Information
- **The Mustard Seed:** Krista-Dawn Kimsey, Community Engagement Specialist
- **Saskatoon Fire Department:** Yvonne Raymer, Deputy Chief of Community Risk Reduction and Public Relations
- **Saskatoon Police Service:** Mike Horvath, Staff Sergeant
- **Q&A**
- **Closing Remarks**

Neighbourhood Information Session

Lesley Anderson
Director, Planning & Development

Neighbourhood Information Session

The City of Saskatoon

- How the City got involved
- Roles of each organization
- How we arrived at the site location
- What you can expect next from the City



Neighbourhood Information Session

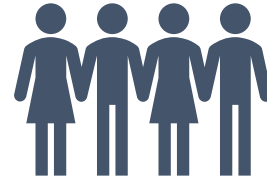
City of Saskatoon Involvement



City agreed to lead process for site selection



Crisis in Homelessness



Annual Civic Services Survey – Top Priority



City Administration & Council advocating for additional shelter spaces

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Council Criteria

- ✓ Room for approximately 30 beds each
- ✓ Beds in an open shelter-type hall (with movable wall systems or partitions)
- ✓ Some private rooms (accessed internally)
- ✓ Area suitable for office space for site staff
- ✓ Showers, bathrooms, kitchen
- ✓ Internal and external gathering spaces (amenity spaces) available on site
- ✓ Proximity to other services
- ✓ Zoned appropriately
- ✓ At least 250 metres from an elementary school

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Selected Site: 170 31st Street East

- Identified after thorough site search process
- Located within the Central Industrial Area
- Owned by the Government of Saskatchewan
- Currently in use for Saskatchewan Polytechnic parking
- Zoned as M3, General Institutional Service District, with a Special Care Home as a permitted use
- Fully serviced and zoned for this type of development; rezoning or approval by City Council is not required

New Shelter Site Location 170 - 31st Street East



**New Shelter Site Location
170 - 31st Street East**

Finalized site boundary to be determined by surveyor



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What you can expect from the City

Listen to your feedback on the best way to integrate the shelter into this area



Community safety considered in all aspects of the design and construction of the shelter



City Council considers necessary infrastructure upgrades:

- Sidewalk construction from Idylwyld Drive along 31 St. E.
- Fence installation along the CPKC Rail line

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Kim Hornung
Executive Director,
Housing Infrastructure and Business Information
The Government of Saskatchewan

Role of the Province

- Government of Saskatchewan works with Indigenous and community partners, and all levels of government to improve outcomes for people experiencing homelessness.
- Our focus is building partnerships, working together to connect people with services and emergency supports, and helping people find the right housing to meet their needs.

Provincial Approach to Homelessness (PATH)

- PATH launched in 2023 with a two-year \$40.2M investment
 - 155 new supportive housing spaces
 - 141 new enhanced emergency shelter spaces
 - 30 new complex needs emergency shelter spaces
 - New outreach and community safety responses
- Partnerships are crucial to achieving our shared goal of improving outcomes for people experiencing homelessness

Responding to emerging needs in Saskatoon

Extreme Weather Responses (2024-25)

- \$300K to City of Saskatoon to support Cold Weather Strategy
- \$178K to The Salvation Army-Crossroads to increase emergency shelter capacity

Emerging Needs (2025-26)

- CUMFI seasonal shower/washroom project
- Continued support of STC Sawēyihtotān outreach services
- Daytime drop-in centre at Station 20 West (STC/City of Saskatoon)
- STC White Buffalo Lodge overnight drop-in centre for youth 16 and older

Enhanced Emergency Shelters

- Operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week
- Provide full access to shelter and meals
- Offer case planning and wrap-around supports, connecting individuals to services that aid in transitioning to appropriate housing
 - Ministry income assistance workers will be on-site at The Mustard Seed shelter
- Currently, there are 221 government-funding enhanced emergency shelter spaces in Saskatoon

Design & Construction

- Government will lead the design and construction of the new shelter operated by The Mustard Seed.
- Community safety will be considered in all aspects of the shelter design.
- Request for proposal process will be conducted this fall, following the neighbourhood information sessions.

Neighbourhood Information Session

Krista-Dawn Kimsey
Community Engagement Specialist
The Mustard Seed

The Mustard Seed: Who we are

Mission: To **eliminate homelessness and reduce poverty where we serve.**

- 40 Years of Operation – Serving communities since 1984
- Operating in multiple cities across Western Canada (*Calgary, Edmonton, Red Deer, Medicine Hat, Kamloops, Saskatoon, Grande Prairie*)
- Housing-focused model: meets immediate needs while supporting pathways to permanent housing

Proven Shelter Operations

- **Large Shelters** – i.e. Foothills Shelter in Calgary hosts 370 people
- **Small Shelters** – i.e. Strathcona Shelter in Edmonton hosts 45 people
- **Women's-Only Shelters**
- **Seasonal Winter Emergency Shelters**

What We've Learned: Housing Focused

- Safety and stability begin with meals, sleep and basic needs
- Once stabilized, guests can work toward securing housing
- Supports include: ID replacement, income assistance, employment coaching and health & wellness advocacy
- A holistic approach addresses physical, mental and spiritual well-being
- Housing Focused Shelters help people move from crisis to long-term stability



FOOTHILLS SHELTER | CALGARY, AB



CENTRAL SHELTER | EDMONTON, AB

The Mustard Seed in Saskatoon:

- **1,499 people** experiencing homelessness (2024 PIT Count)
- Emergency shelter demand exceeds supply
- Temporary shelter opened April 2025 at **210 Pacific Avenue**
 - 40 new shelter beds
 - 26 Move Outs since opening
 - 3,852lbs Food Donated
 - 14,130 Meals Served
 - 447 Unique clients in the shelter per month

NEW Enhanced Emergency Shelter: 170 31st Street East

- The Mustard Seed has been selected as the operator
- New **60-bed enhanced emergency shelter**
- Services: 24/7 shelter, meals, hygiene, housing navigation, case management, mental health & wellness supports
- Focus on **mid-acuity guests** who can manage daily living independently

Next Steps & Community Engagement

- Temporary site (Pacific Ave) remains open until Sept 2026
- Development and Construction of new site led by Province.
- For more information specific to shelter operations, programs & services contact: InfoSaskatoon@theseed.ca or visit TheSeed.ca/Saskatoon-Shelter

Neighbourhood Information Session

Deputy Chief Yvonne Raymer
Saskatoon Fire Department

Staff Sergeant Mike Horvath
Saskatoon Police Service

Working Coordinated Team



SASKATOON
POLICE SERVICE
BE THE DIFFERENCE

Overview



- Saskatoon Police (SPS), SFD and City - coordinated group to support operational area of the first Emergency Wellness Centre in 2021-2022+.
- Initiated by the Chiefs of Police and SFD, with the City.
- Same working group continues in 2025 (SPS, SFD, City).
- Relationships allow for consistent communication and development of Integrated Operating Plans in supporting our community along with our continued work with various stakeholders and the Province.
- In October 2023, Province announced a new Action Plan for Mental Health and Addictions - 500 new addictions treatment spaces and a central intake system that makes care more accessible and responsive.



Integrated Operating Plan



- City, SFD and SPS developed an Integrated Operating Plan for the April 2025 opening of the temporary shelter on Pacific Avenue.
- Tiered SPS, SFD and Commissionaires response to provide the most security coverage possible - additional targeted coverage at specific times and locations identified by the neighbours. Scheduled coverage for 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.
- Staff Sergeant Horvath (SPS), Deputy Chief Raymer (SFD) and Michelle Beveridge (City) met with the Province, The Mustard Seed and Commissionaires to understand each partner's expectations and responsibilities inside/outside the shelter.
- Michelle was the point person for the group of partners and organized meetings for each of the four immediate neighbours of the shelter, with the partners. Purpose: present overview of draft of Integrated Operating Plan, partners hear concerns, next steps.



Integrated Operating Plan



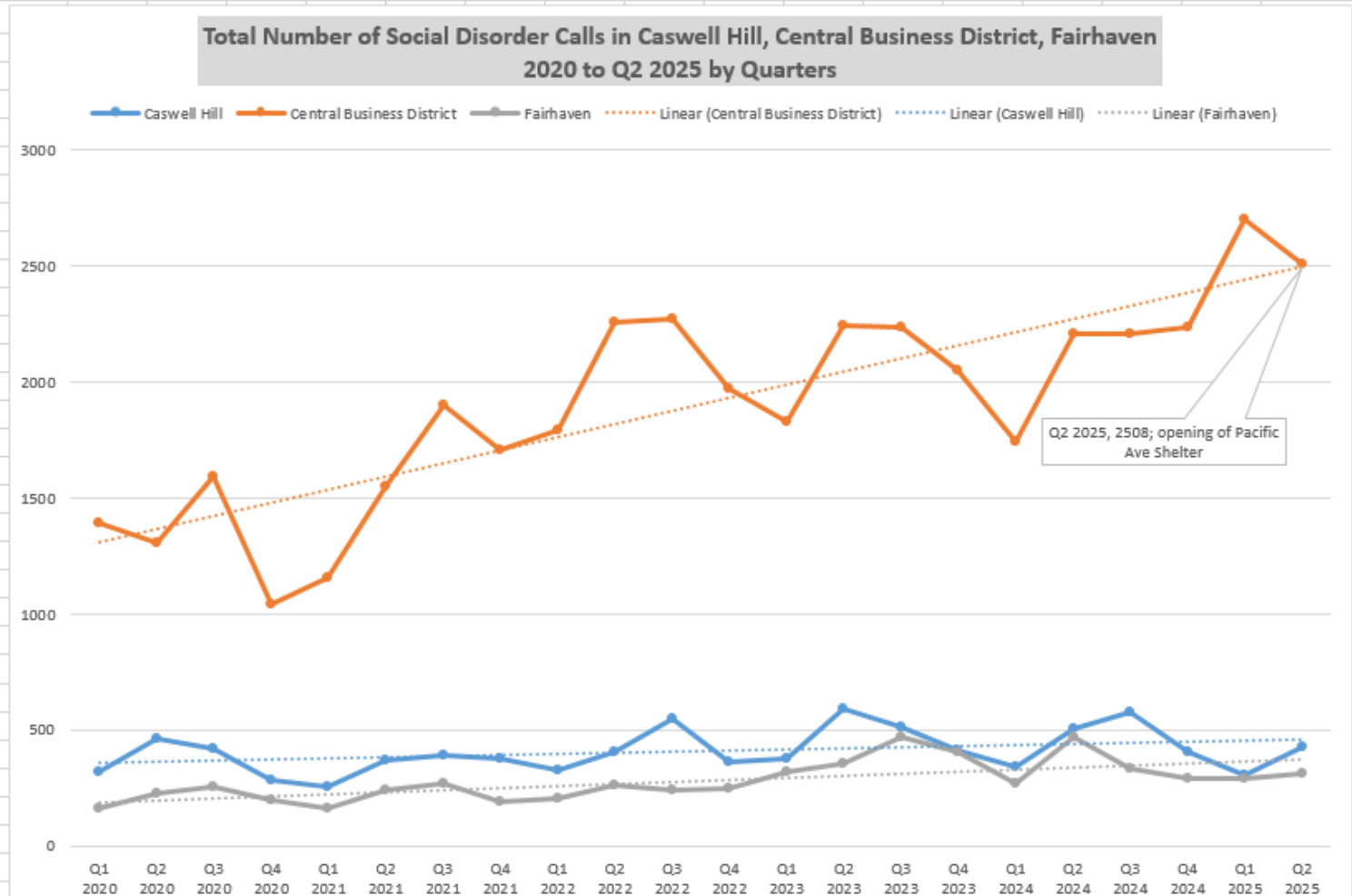
- A revised integrated operational plan was sent to the neighbours to let them know how their concerns had been incorporated, along with a “Who to Call” guide for different scenarios.
- Communication and updates continue regularly among the partners and as needed with the neighbours.
- **For the permanent shelter**, the City will collaborate with SPS, SFD, The Mustard Seed, Province, Commissionaires as well as Polytechnic security team.



Social Disorder Calls

Social Disorder	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025 (Aug 31 2025)
Caswell Hill	323	464	423	287	259	372	390	378	330	408	552	364	376	593	510	411	338	505	575	403	303	426	312
Central Business District	1391	1306	1594	1038	1158	1547	1896	1706	1791	2253	2268	1967	1829	2240	2237	2049	1743	2205	2204	2233	2697	2508	1942
Fairhaven	162	229	252	199	164	241	268	194	203	261	239	246	320	354	472	405	273	470	336	290	288	313	254

Number of Social Disorder Calls (2020 to Aug 31 2025 by Quarters)					
Caswell Hill	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Grand Total
2020	323	464	423	287	1497
2021	259	372	390	378	1399
2022	330	408	552	364	1654
2023	376	593	510	411	1890
2024	338	505	575	403	1821
2025	303	426	312		1041
Central Business District	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Grand Total
2020	1391	1306	1594	1038	5329
2021	1158	1547	1896	1706	6307
2022	1791	2253	2268	1967	8279
2023	1829	2240	2237	2049	8355
2024	1743	2205	2204	2233	8385
2025	2697	2508	1942		7147
Fairhaven	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Grand Total
2020	162	229	252	199	842
2021	164	241	268	194	867
2022	203	261	239	246	949
2023	320	354	472	405	1551
2024	273	470	336	290	1369
2025	288	313	254		855



Call types searched for included suspicious persons, drunkenness, indecent exposure, disturbance, need ambulance (this is one source of where our overdose calls can be recorded), Controlled Drugs & Substances Act (CDSA) offences, mental health, and panhandling
*data up-to-date as of Sep 8 2025

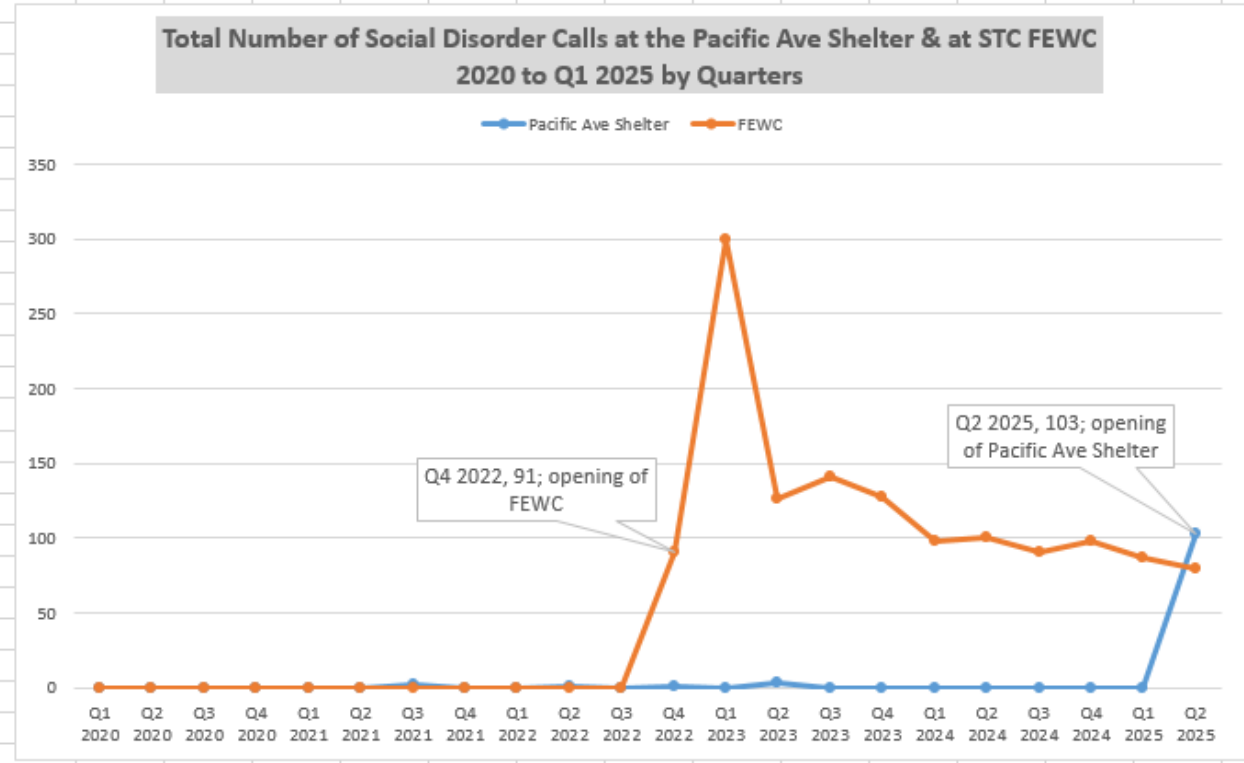
POLICE SERVICE

Social Disorder Calls

Social Disorder	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020	Q1 2021	Q2 2021	Q3 2021	Q4 2021	Q1 2022	Q2 2022	Q3 2022	Q4 2022	Q1 2023	Q2 2023	Q3 2023	Q4 2023	Q1 2024	Q2 2024	Q3 2024	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025 (Aug 31 2025)
Pacific Ave Shelter	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	103	34
FEWC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	299	126	141	128	98	101	91	98	87	79	61

Number of Social Disorder Calls (2020 to Aug 31 2025 by Quarters)					
Pacific Ave Shelter	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Grand Total
2021	0	0	2	0	2
2022	0	1	0	1	2
2023	0	3	0	0	3
2024	0	0	0	0	0
2025	0	103	34	0	137
FEWC	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Grand Total
2021	0	0	0	0	0
2022	0	0	0	91	91
2023	299	126	141	128	694
2024	98	101	91	98	388
2025	87	79	61	0	137

For the STC FEWC, we saw an initial spike in social disorder calls, which has since declined. Similarly, there has been a spike in the number of social disorder calls when the Pacific Ave Shelter opened.



Neighbourhood Information Session

Safety & Security Plan Highlights: 210 Pacific Ave

Safety & Security Highlights

210 Pacific Avenue – Temporary Emergency Shelter

An integrated operating plan between the Saskatoon Police Service and the Saskatoon Fire Department outlines the essential safety and security support for the Government of Saskatchewan's service provider, The Mustard Seed, while they operate a temporary enhanced emergency shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue along with assistance for downtown residents and businesses, and our community at large.

Highlights of the Plan

Operations Overview at the Enhanced Emergency Shelter



The enhanced emergency shelter will offer access to housing-focused case management and moving individuals to long-term sustainable housing. The Mustard Seed will work with the Government of Saskatchewan, other shelters and outreach providers to build relationships within Saskatoon's community. The Mustard Seed has committed to be a good community partner.

A behavior-based shelter model means physical fighting, threat of assault or history of assaults/threats towards guests and staff will not be allowed. Expectations of guests are that use of alcohol and drugs are not to be used on the property. Guests may be intoxicated at time of admission but must be self-sufficient.

Guests will be assessed using the behavior-based model during intake and continually monitored during their stay.

Individuals exhibiting no indicators of escalated behavior and who are cooperative will be taken into the shelter or if at capacity, arrangements made for them to be transported and connected to another shelter.

An individual exhibiting escalated behavior such as anger or continuous disruptive actions, or beyond the Mustard Seed's level of care (unable to care independently for themselves) - be better served, and then offer to arrange for transportation to a more appropriate space using the City's existing transportation services.

Saskatoon Police Service will be called for individuals exhibiting weapons, violent and/or threatening behavior.

Coordinated and Increased Presence of Public Safety Personnel



An ongoing randomized presence will be available in the surrounding and nearby areas to assist the staff and community with any transitional concerns such as:

- Social disorder
- Public Safety (pedestrian paths, parks and green spaces)
- Violence and weapons
- Identification of temporary, unsafe and inadequate structures in green spaces, parks and thoroughfares

Public safety personnel include:

Saskatoon Fire Department - 24 hours a day
Uniformed Fire Inspectors/Investigators, Fire Bylaw Inspectors and Fire Community Support personnel will provide a focused response every 24 hours. They will attend to the shelter and surrounding area to observe, address situations posing a risk where practical, engage in conversation, and offer supports in addition to site and area inspections. Inspectors work 7 days a week with the exception of public holidays from 7am to 6:15 pm. Frontline emergency personnel will respond to emergencies, 24 hours a day.

Saskatoon Police Service - 24 hours a day
Community Mobilization Unit (CMU), Alternative Response Officers (ARO's), Bike Officers and Uniformed Patrol Officers will attend to the shelter and surrounding neighbourhood area specifically assist the shelter staff pursuant to lawful authority in ensuring that individuals external to the building are not interfering with shelter operations. Uniformed public safety personnel will make focused and random visits to the neighbourhood area throughout a 24-hour cycle.

Commissionaires - 7-day-per-week, extended-hour security
Commissionaires will provide 7-day-per-week, extended-hour security dedicated to the downtown with a proactive priority focus on the vicinity around the proposed shelter. The security schedule will be adjusted as needed.

Coordinated Communications 	Communications will be consistent, transparent and collaborative between all parties: The Mustard Seed, Saskatoon Fire Department, Saskatoon Police Service, the City of Saskatoon and other key partners or organizations.
Coordinated Data and Analysis 	Key data is tracked and will continually be evaluated and assessed. The information will be shared between The Mustard Seed, Saskatoon Fire Department, Saskatoon Police Service, the City of Saskatoon and other key partners or organizations to work together to be proactive as well as reactive to emerging concerns based on data-driven decision making. The Mustard Seed and Commissionaires will also provide weekly data reports.
Coordinated and Expanded Outreach 	The partners will identify which outreach is currently happening by which organizations, what they are learning in relation to the increased activity in the community and how best to respond to find out where and when additional outreach is most needed.
Coordination Hub 	Discussions will continue to look toward the future - to assess the need and feasibility for a formalized, coordinated structure or 'hub' that works to pull all the above areas of focus together.

Important Contacts

Non-urgent matters	Saskatoon Police Service Non-Emergency Line 306-975-8300 Commissionaires 306-220-2334
Safe needle pickup (public spaces)	Saskatoon Fire Department 306-975-3030
Someone living in unsafe/outdoor living conditions	City's Service Saskatoon 24hr Customer Care Centre 306-975-2476
Downtown Businesses and Residents	Coordinated City of Saskatoon, Saskatoon Fire Department and Saskatoon Police Service email shelterspaces@saskatoon.ca

EMERGENCIES

911



Last updated March 2025. Subject to change.

 **City of
Saskatoon**

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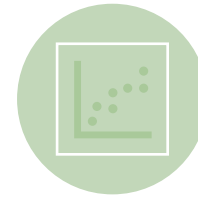
Safety & Security Plan Highlights: 210 Pacific Ave



**Coordinated &
Increased
Presence of Public
Safety Personnel**



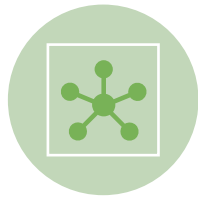
**Coordinated
Communications**



**Coordinated Data &
Analysis**



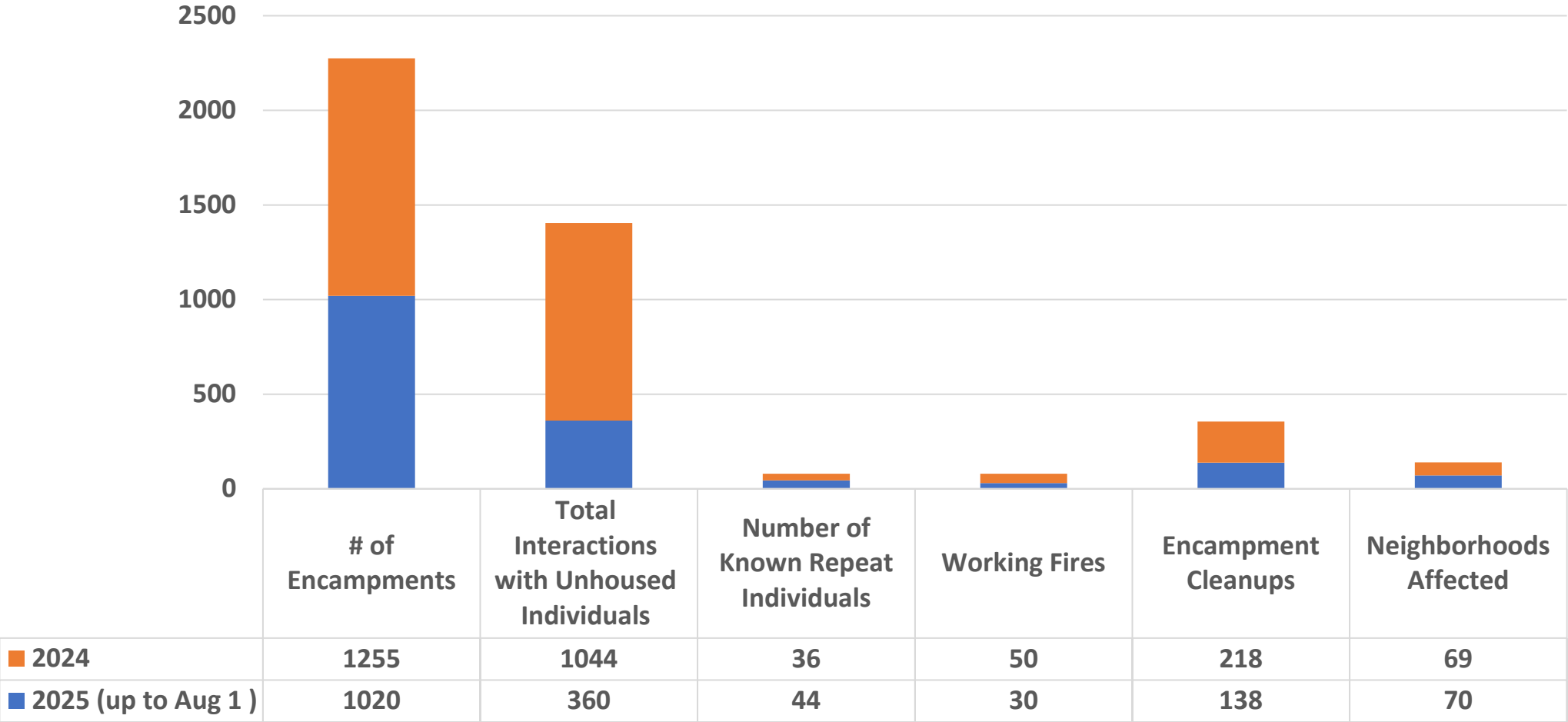
**Coordinated &
Expanded
Outreach**



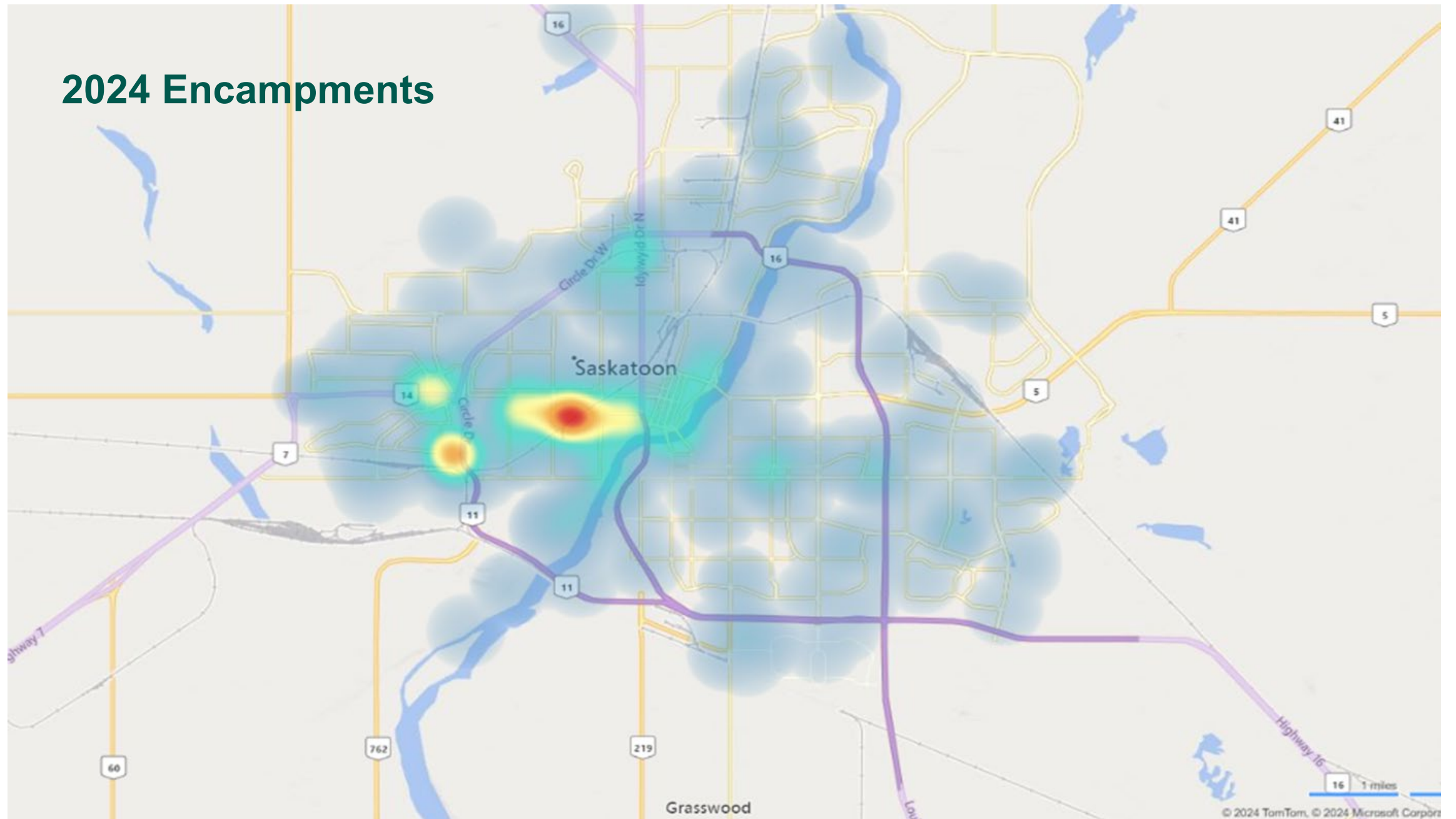
Coordination Hub

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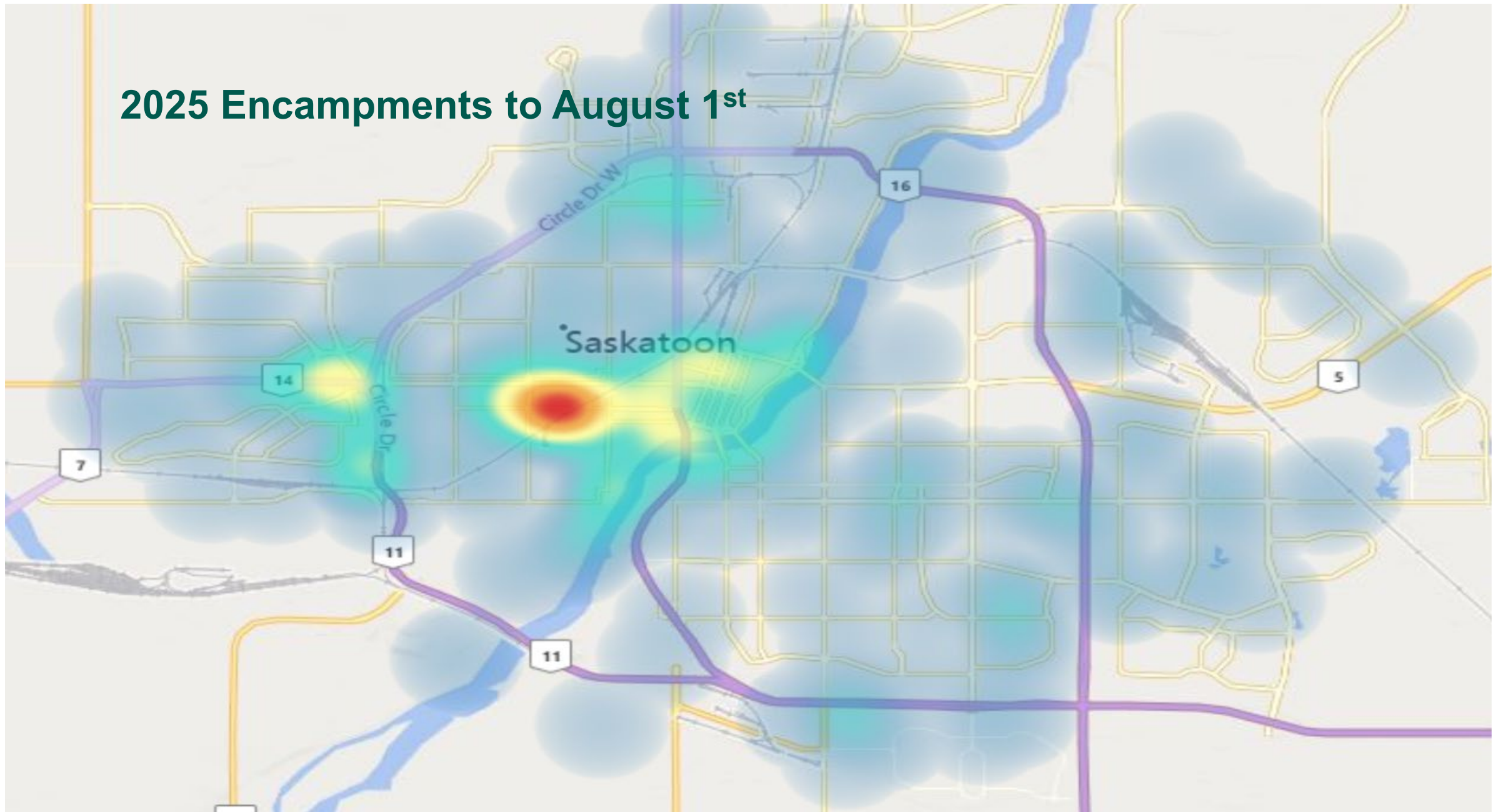
Encampments: Comparison of 2024 to 2025



2024 Encampments



2025 Encampments to August 1st



Neighbourhood Information Session

Example of encampment fire that destroyed a detached garage.

BBQ being used as heating and cooking source.



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Example of unsafe and inadequate housing

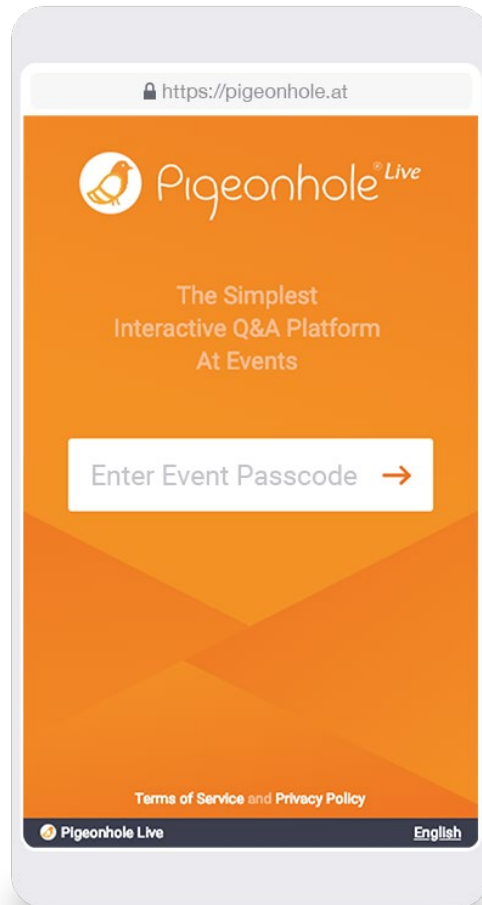
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Questions?

Please proceed to the podium.

Comments – shelterspaces@saskatoon.ca

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 Q&A

Live Q&A Session

Submit your questions for the Q&A session here! To submit your question we kindly ask that you provide your first name in order for your question to be asked.

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Your questions (1) Top voted 



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Closing Remarks

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Next Steps

- Feedback from the information sessions will be considered during the design of the shelter.
- The project to build a new enhanced emergency shelter is just beginning and timelines will be determined by the Government of Saskatchewan.

Reminder: City Council is not responsible for choosing a service provider or decisions regarding the ongoing operations of the shelter.

Neighbourhood Information Session

Thank you for attending. More information:
saskatoon.ca/shelterspaces
shelterspaces@saskatoon.ca