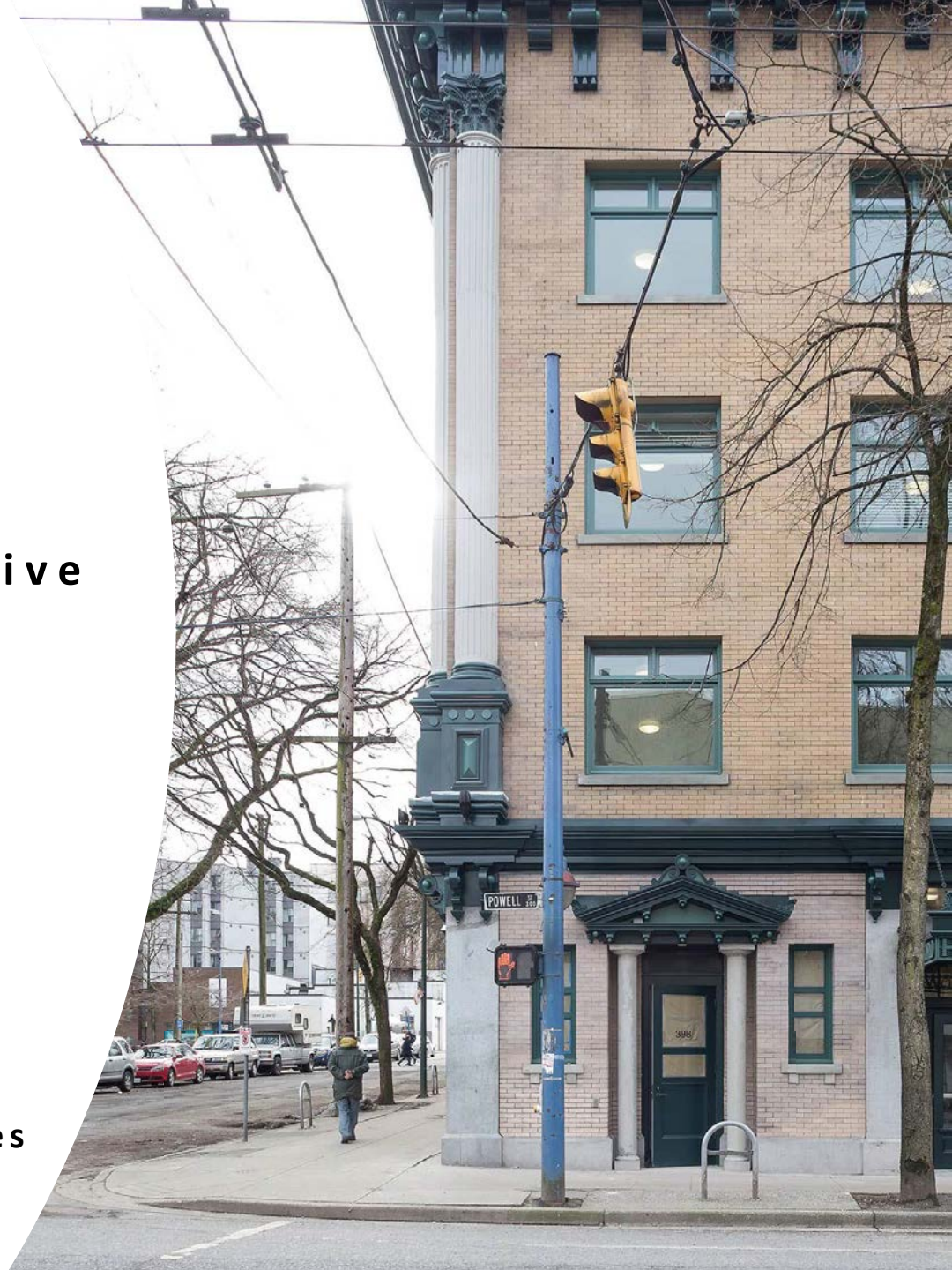




Better Together: Neighbourhood Collective Action Pilot

**Homelessness Services
Arts, Culture, Community Services
March 2, 2022**



Outline of Presentation

- Context and Rationale
- Goals
- Pilot Neighbourhoods
- 4 Key Elements
- Timeline



Better Together: Context and Rationale

- Response to the increasing need for a more structured approach to address neighbourhood concerns
- Need for collaboration & compassion to mitigate impacts of unsheltered homelessness
- Provides resourcing, scope and space for community partnership to address and mitigate broader community issues impacting all neighbours



- Decriminalizing Poverty and Supporting Community-Led Safety Initiatives
- Public Safety: Evaluating and Addressing Any Impacts of City of Vancouver Actions on Neighbourhood Safety
- Community-based Crisis Management Through Understanding and De-escalation



Impacts of Homelessness

- Suffering and devastating impacts on the individual experiencing it
- Contributes to real and perceived impacts on other housed community members and businesses
- Unhoused or precariously housed individuals are more likely to be targets of violent crime and assault



- Builds on existing partnerships
- Proactively respond to specific neighbourhood concerns/issues
- Increases community engagement and awareness
- Collectively problem solve on issues related to the impacts of mental health, poverty, and unsheltered homelessness
- Support for **All**
 - Residents: without and with homes
 - Businesses: their staff and customers
 - Increased confidence in how to work with neighbours living outside

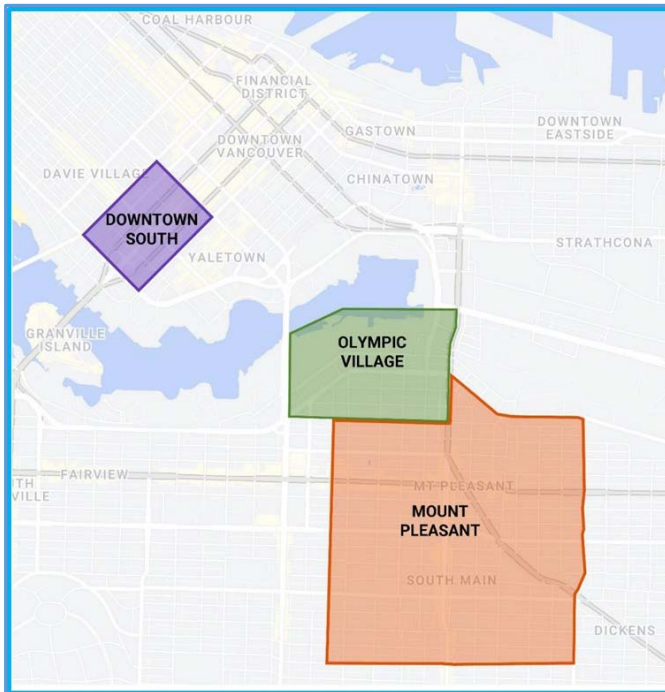


Pilot neighbourhoods:

- Downtown South
- Mount Pleasant
- Olympic Village

Pilot Neighbourhoods selection:

- Build on enhanced supports that have not yet been formalized;
- Presence of neighbourhood champions with a demonstrated interest to tackle broader issues;
- Neighbourhoods where there is not already substantial social and program collaborations that provide point of connection into the City; and
- Diverse geographies across or adjacent to Vancouver's denser urban core.



Improve access to support services in the local neighbourhood

City of Vancouver Homelessness Services Outreach Team

- Enhanced street outreach by the City's Homelessness Services Outreach Team
- Increased coordination with local service providers to support people in need



Improve sense of safety and connection for all and reduce stigma

Community Education and Training Program

Coordination: Homelessness Services Association of BC (HSABC)

- Increase understanding of the causes and solutions to homelessness
- Increase overall confidence in the ability to de-escalate a situation with a customer, a neighbour or situations within a neighbourhood that may arise
- 5 Training modules
- 45 sessions, 15 in each neighbourhood
- Collaboration with the City and content experts to deliver the sessions



Improve sense of safety and connection for all and reduce stigma

Peer Based Neighbourhood Stewardship Program

Coordination: EMBERS Eastside Works

- Deployment of a peer-based neighbourhood stewardship program in each pilot neighbourhood
- Delivered through a community partner
- Will support low-barrier employment, neighbourhood and citizen engagement and enhanced liaison with businesses
- Work towards operationalizing in each of the 3 pilot neighbourhoods, with up to 2 peers/day.



Maintain neighbourhood cleanliness

City of Vancouver Sanitation Services

Support is provided through the recently approved Street Cleaning Grants to non-profits which includes:

- Micro-cleaning Program
- Public Plazas Micro-Cleaning
- BIA Micro-Cleaning Program
- Feces Removal Response Pilot



Improve communication between community organizations, residents associations and service providers, and City Departments

Establishment of a Neighbourhood Collective Action Table (NCAT) in each neighbourhood

- Neighbourhood stakeholders, businesses and community service providers
- Staff role:
 - Support coordination
 - Managing & tracking issues and responses



Better Together: Neighbourhood Collective Action Pilot

Objectives



Timeline



*Pilot mid-point and final evaluation: \$50K

Better Together: Neighbourhood Collective Action Pilot

Collective Action
Built Understanding
Create cohesion
Community Concerns
Better Together
Safety
Impacts of poverty and trauma
Foster Relationships
Neighbourhood Based Response
Convene Community
Responsive