



TEN YEAR HOUSING PLAN

City of Cornwall and United Counties
of Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry

2014—2024



Second Annual Update (2015-2016)

June 2016



In This Update

- Strategies
- Actions Taken Throughout 2015-2016—based on the 10 Strategies established and recommended by the Ten Year Housing Plan

Provincial Vision



Ontario’s vision for affordable housing is to improve access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing, and provide a solid foundation on which to secure employment, raise families and build strong communities. (Ontario Housing Policy Statement, 2011)

Executive Summary

“Housing is one of the most fundamental of human needs. It is also a key driver shaping the economic and social sustainability of communities, a vehicle for social inclusion and an important component of growth. Access to safe, affordable and adequate housing touches almost every aspect of a community’s well-being and affects all of its members. Communities with a range of housing choices that meet the full range of their housing needs—including the needs of low and moderate income citizens—are generally more livable, more economically competitive and resilient. A growing body of research shows that access to good quality affordable housing supports not only low and moderate income households, but also has positive community-wide benefits related to economic competitiveness, health, education and community well-being”

Municipal Tools for Affordable Housing, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2011

Our Vision for Cornwall SDG

A strong, healthy, sustainable community with a wide range of appropriate, and affordable housing options in which individuals and families can thrive.

City of Cornwall, 2014



Strategies

1. To improve communication about available programs and services to assist residents to find and retain housing.
2. To make best use of existing Social & Affordable Housing stock according to needs identified.
3. To enhance community partnerships, and expand available supports, essential to positive outcomes for individuals and families.
4. To maintain existing housing stock to ensure an ongoing supply of affordable housing.
5. To advocate to senior governments for ongoing predictable funding and legislative changes to respond to current and future local housing needs and consider additional portable subsidies if/when future funding is announced.
6. To review Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Plan (CHPI) - to make adjustments reflecting priorities identified in public/agency feedback.
7. To support energy efficiency initiatives in both public and private affordable housing to enhance sustainability.
8. To use tools available in both City and County Official Plans to encourage a broad range of affordable housing options.
9. To expand the successful supportive housing partnership for persons with physical disabilities on the first floor at 330 Fourth Street East, Cornwall, to include capital and operational funding for complete modifications and ongoing supports on the second floor (this is a social housing building operated by Cornwall and Area Housing Corporation).
10. To work with the City of Cornwall Senior-Friendly Steering Committee to develop and implement elements of a Senior-Friendly Plan, related to “a wide range of appropriate and affordable housing options” (as outlined in Cornwall SDG Vision for Housing).



Actions Taken By the Social Housing Division and/or Community Agency or Organization

Strategy 1: To improve communication about available programs and services to assist residents to find and retain housing.

- During the Chamber Spring Home & Leisure Show, the Social Housing Division showcased its programs with other City departments as part of the City Central which afforded us the opportunity to meet hundreds of residents from Cornwall and SDG.
- Applications for Ontario Renovates opened early May 2016 with advertisement placed via the Standard-Freeholder, Seaway News, County Newspapers.
- Community Presentations were held to Various Community Agencies to Social Housing Programs.
- Accessible Website—ongoing updates are made as required.
- Landlord Association's AGM—represented Department.
- Dundas County 50 + Wellness Day—represented by the Social Housing Division.



Strategy 2: To make best use of existing Social & Affordable Housing stock according to needs identified.

- Building Condition Assessments of all buildings in the Social Housing portfolio were completed.
- Local Rules were established as per the *Housing Services Act, 2011*.
- Ongoing applications were made to apply for grants benefitting the housing portfolio ie: Social Housing Apartment Retrofit Program (approved), Victims of Domestic Violence (pending).



Actions Taken By the Social Housing Division and/or Community Agency or Organization

Strategy 3: To enhance community partnerships, and expand available supports, essential to positive outcomes for individuals and families.

The Social Housing Division has representation on the following committees:

- Hoarding Coalition.
- Seaway Group Meetings/Housing Provider Network/Service Manager Housing Network/Poverty Working Group—Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing committees.
- Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association/Ontario Municipal Social Services Association—Memberships.
- Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative — Technical Advisory Working Group.
- Social Housing Provider AGM's attended by Social Housing Division.
- Partnership with the Social Development Council.
- Senior & Dementia Friendly Community Implementation Committee.
- Representation at recent Housing Services Corporation Regeneration Forum.

Strategy 4: To maintain existing housing stock to ensure an ongoing supply of affordable housing.

- Social Housing Apartment Retrofit Program Funding received and will benefit two Social Housing buildings.
- The Division continues to approve various Housing Provider requests to utilize Reserve Funds to improve necessary capital projects.
- Initial investigation for End of Operating Agreement social housing stock.



Actions Taken By the Social Housing Division and/or Community Agency or Organization

Strategy 5: To advocate to senior governments for ongoing predictable funding and legislative changes to respond to current and future local housing needs and consider additional portable subsidies if/when future funding is announced.

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing introduced the Long-term Affordable Housing Strategy Update.
- The Service Manager advocated for changes to the criteria of distribution of any future funds to assist all Housing Providers with improvements to the existing stock.
- Several meetings were held with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation regarding Federal Infrastructure funding programs.

Strategy 6: To review Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Plan (CHPI) - to make adjustments reflecting priorities identified in public/agency feedback.

- The Division introduced a change in the criteria as it relates to income—changed from the Low Income Cut-Offs to the Low Income Measure which could allow for a broader applicant base.
- An annual Domiciliary Provider meeting was held during which a review of the program and its standards were completed.
- An update of the CHPI policy was undertaken to meet the changing needs from amongst the client requests.

Actions Taken By the Social Housing Division and/or Community Agency or Organization

Strategy 7: To support energy efficiency initiatives in both public and private affordable housing to enhance sustainability.

- The Ontario Renovates Program expanded its criteria (higher market value & household income) to allow for a broader applicant base.
- The Division received approval of the Social Housing Apartment Retrofit Program Funding—benefited two Social Housing buildings (24 & 120 Augustus Street).
- The Division promoted and supported the introduction of the Ontario Electricity Support Program.

Strategy 8: To use tools available in both City and County Official Plans to encourage a broad range of affordable housing options.

- No direct tools at this time.



Actions Taken By the Social Housing Division and/or Community Agency or Organization

Strategy 9: To expand the successful supportive housing partnership for persons with physical disabilities on the first floor at 330 Fourth Street East, Cornwall, to include capital and operational funding for complete modifications and ongoing supports on the second floor (this is a social housing building operated by Cornwall and Area Housing Corporation).

- The Canadian Red Cross agreement is still ongoing.



Strategy 10: To work with the City of Cornwall Senior-Friendly Steering Committee to develop and implement elements of a Senior-Friendly Plan, related to “a wide range of appropriate and affordable housing options” (as outlined in Cornwall SDG Vision for Housing).

- The City has expanded the Steering Committee to the Senior & Dementia Friendly Implementation Committee.



The Plan includes Actions (Section 10.0) to be taken to implement each of the Strategies, and there is an understanding that regular reviews will take place to measure progress with the approved Strategies; along with a more formal update at the 5 year point of the Ten Year Plan.

Conclusion

This update represents the second of ten annual reports to Council. At the five year mark a more detailed update and review of the Plan will be undertaken as required under the Housing Services Act, 2011.

Attachments

- Ontario Renovates Map City of Cornwall
- Ontario Renovates Map United Counties of SDG



For more information, contact:

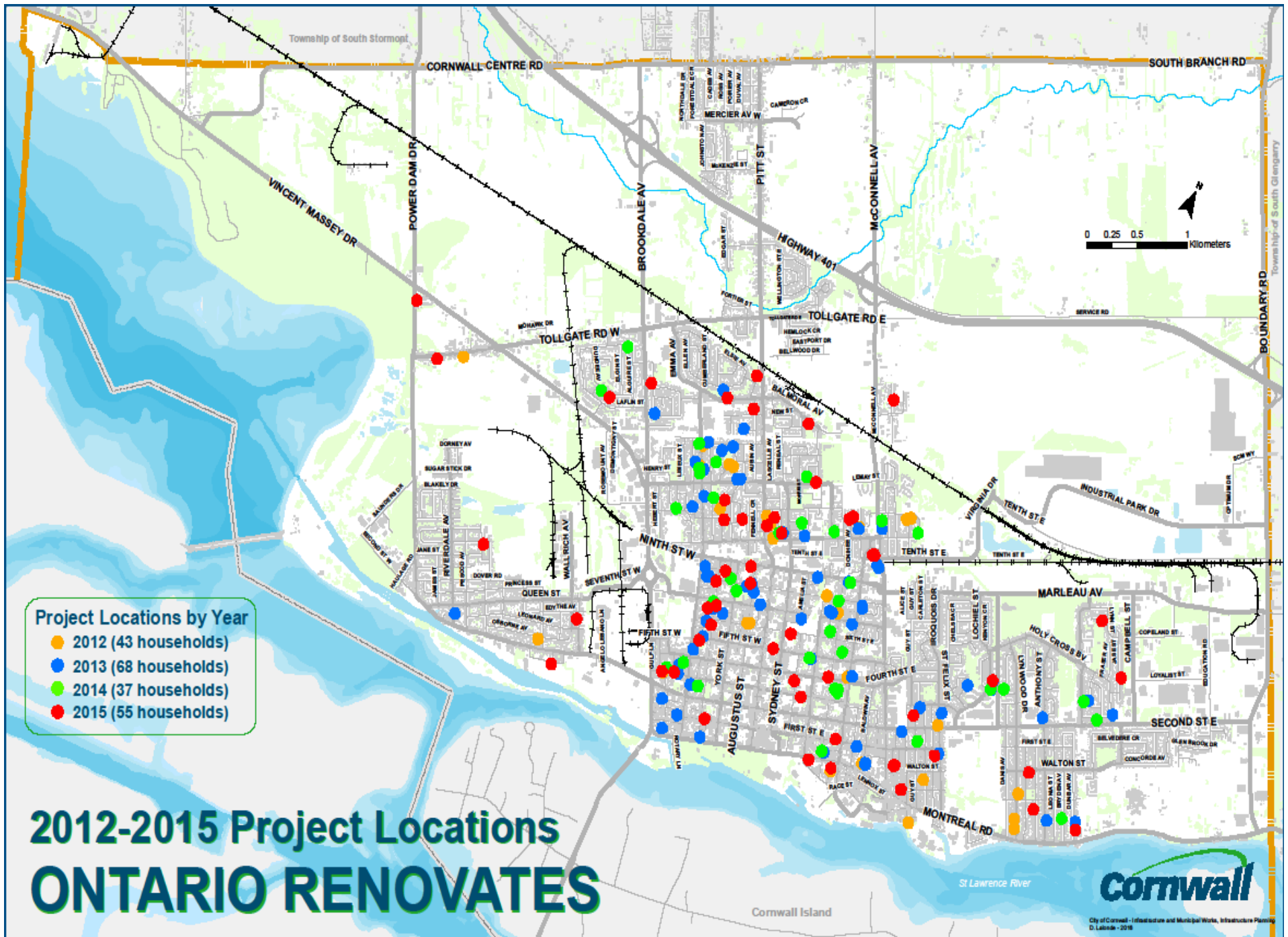
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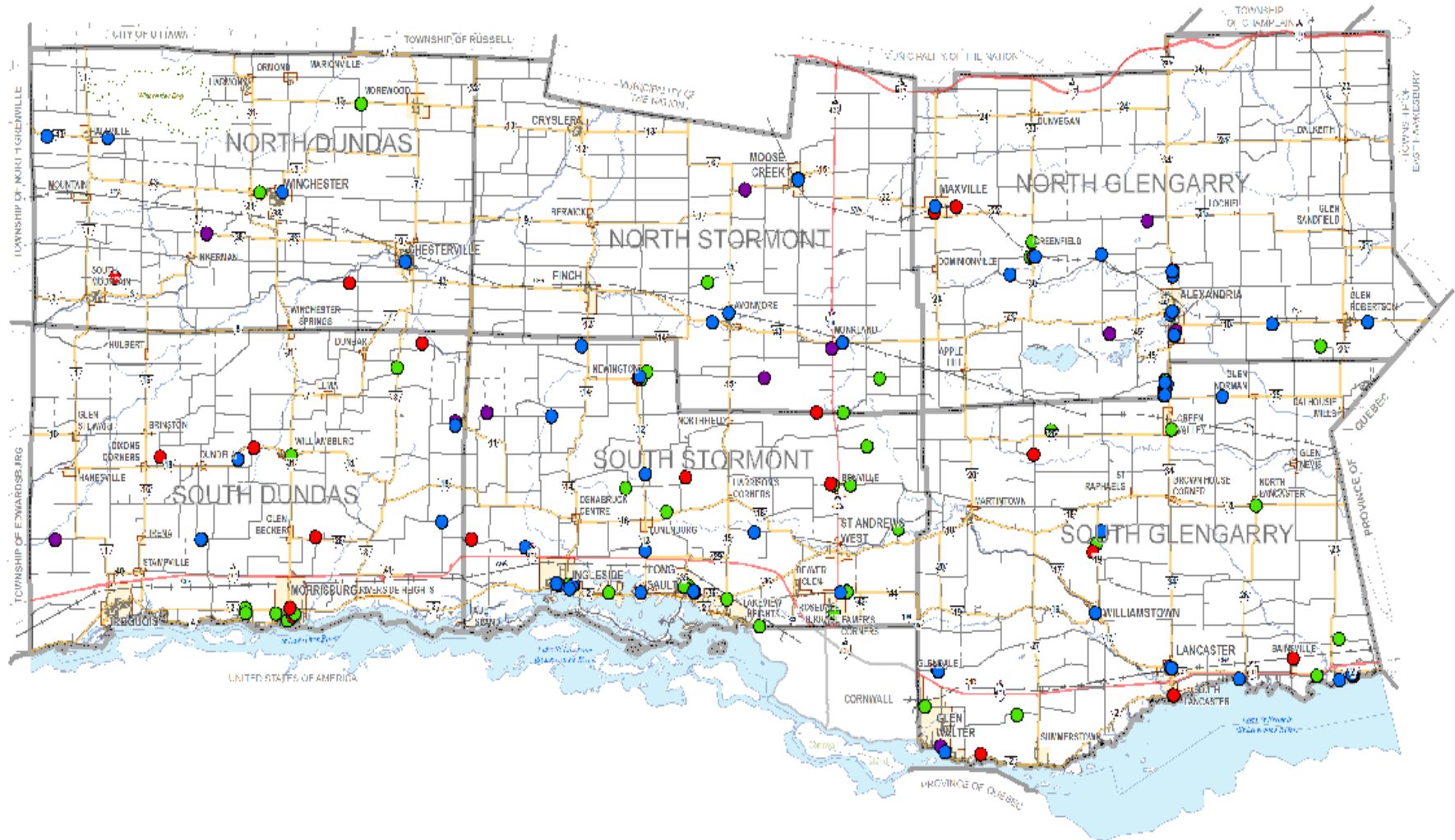
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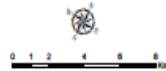


Ontario Renovates - The United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry



Legend

- 2012 (19 households)
 - 2013 (50 households)
 - 2014 (27 households)
 - 2015 (56 households)
- | | | | |
|--|----------------|--|-------------------|
| | Highway | | Main Settlement |
| | County Road | | Township Boundary |
| | Municipal Road | | Cornwall Boundary |
| | Railroad | | |



Produced by:
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