

Analysis of Non-Market Housing, Crime, and Social Disorder

Crime

Proponents of the pause have expressed concerns that there are negative effects associated with the spatial concentration of poverty in the five neighbourhoods and that non-market housing is a contributor to those effects. In particular, crime has been frequently cited as a major concern resulting from the concentration of non-market housing.

With support from Edmonton Police Service, Administration investigated how many police events occurred at each of the known non-market housing addresses in the City's inventory of non-market housing in the five neighbourhoods from 2011 to 2018. These were then compared to the number of total police events for each neighbourhood.

Overall, the data shows that the non-market housing properties in the five neighbourhoods were responsible for a small percentage (4.2 percent) of the total number of police events for the five neighbourhoods, despite making up 12 percent of the total housing.

Neighbourhood	Total Police Events	Total Police Events from Non-Market Housing	Percent of Total Police Events from Non-Market Housing	Non-Market Housing as a percent of Total Housing
Alberta Avenue	28,248	789	2.8%	7.8%
Central McDougall	38,958	878	2.3%	11.93%
McCauley	41,901	1,765	4.2%	24.65%
Queen Mary Park	20,651	61	0.3%	3.98%
Eastwood	23,430	2,920	12.49%	11.49%
Total	168,854	6,413	4.2%	12%
<p>Police events are events where officers were dispatched and attended on scene to an address or location. Types of events that the data for this analysis includes: assault, break and enter, mischief, disturbance, trouble with intoxicated persons, trouble with person, prostitution, mental health act complaints, abandoned vehicle, weapons, arson, noise complaint, family disputes, child welfare act complaints, assist EMS/ Fire, drug-related incidents, emergency protection order, child apprehension, fraud, harassment, uttering threats, landlord and tenant troubles, missing persons, suicide attempt, suspicious persons, breach court/ restraining order, theft, warrant execution, trespassing, check on welfare, robbery, sexual assault.</p>				

Social Disorder

Proponents of the pause have expressed concerns that there are other negative neighbourhood effects of the concentration of poverty, often referred to as social disorder characterized by criminal activity and other behaviours and activities that have negative impacts on the neighbourhood. The crime data above captures much of what concerned residents have considered social disorder (such as drug-related activity, violence, prostitution, and property crime). Non-criminal behaviours and activities are best captured using bylaw complaints data.

Administration employed the same methodology as with the crime data and investigated how many bylaw complaints were made against each of the known non-market housing addresses in the City's database in the five neighbourhoods from 2011 to 2018. These were then compared to the number of total bylaw complaints for each neighbourhood.

Overall, the data shows that all of the non-market housing properties in the five neighbourhoods were responsible for 1.3 percent of the total number of bylaw complaints for the five neighbourhoods despite making up 12 percent of the total housing.

Neighbourhood	Total Bylaw Complaints	Non-Market Housing Bylaw Complaints	Percent of Total Bylaw Complaints from Non-Market Housing	Non-Market Housing as a percent of Total Housing
Alberta Avenue	6,392	70	1.1%	7.8%
Central McDougall	4,064	45	1.1%	11.93%
McCauley	7,018	166	2.4%	24.65%
Queen Mary Park	4,239	17	0.4%	3.98%
Eastwood	2,896	18	0.6%	11.49%
Total	24,609	316	1.3%	12%

¹ The data presented here includes the following bylaw complaint types: nuisance properties, graffiti, unlicensed businesses, noise, untidy/ unsightly yard property, dumping on private property, zoning - no development permit, obstruction, dilapidated building, smoking, general complaint, snow/ice on walk, weeds, and signs on City property.