

STATEMENT (attributable to a DHS spox): “As we continue to transform the shelter system – closing substandard sites and opening new, high-quality facilities across the five boroughs – our focus lies squarely on enhancing the services we provide and ensuring that every community has the requisite safety net resources to support their neighbors in need. *This upcoming transitional housing facility will bring critical capacity and dedicated, on-site services to a council district (CD 5) that currently contains a very limited shelter footprint.* As such, we look forward to working collaboratively with our experienced not-for-profit provider, Housing Services of New York, and this Upper East Side community to support our vulnerable neighbors as they work to get back on their feet and transition to permanent housing. As with any new or existing DHS facility, we remain committed to maintaining open lines of communication with the community and addressing concerns as they arise.”

TOPLINE FACTS ABOUT THE FORTHCOMING FACILITY ON 1ST AVENUE:

- **EQUITABLE SHELTER SITING APPROACH:** As part of our equitable shelter siting approach across the five boroughs, we are committed to ensuring that every community has critical safety net resources to help our neighbors in need and we look forward to bringing this high-quality resource to this area.
- **Council District 5 contains few shelter resources and no traditional shelter facilities for single adults, so this new, facility will be the first of its kind in this community, offering up to 200 individuals experiencing homelessness a safe place to stay in their time of need and dedicated wraparound services to help them regain stability and ultimately obtain permanent housing.**
- In partnership with our experienced not-for-profit provider-partner **Housing Solutions of New York (HSNY)**, who will operate this site, we will work collaboratively with the community to ensure that these individuals will be warmly welcomed and that together, we will make this the most beneficial experience it can be for these residents as they get back on their feet.
- **At this site, HSNY, will provide an array of on-site services and off-site service linkages**, providing these vulnerable New Yorkers holistic supports, dedicated case management, and staff engagement as they work to stabilize their lives, find employment, and obtain independent living.
 - **On-site** services will include case management, individual and group counseling, permanency planning and housing placement assistance, on-site medical and mental health services, support groups, independent living and life skills workshops, and supports in finding and securing employment.
 - **Off-site** service linkages will include primary healthcare, supplementary health/mental health services, referrals to substance use treatment, vocational training, employment placement, GED instruction, conflict mediation, and legal services.
 - HSNY will also work with the community board, local elected officials, and neighbors to facilitate employment opportunities for people living in the neighborhood.
- **ANTICIPATED SPRING 2026 OPENING:**

- When requested by communities at previous sites opened, and for each new site we plan to open, we have and will continue to meet publicly with communities to discuss the new facilities and ways in which we can most effectively work together to support New Yorkers experiencing homelessness as they get back on their feet.
- **The City and the nonprofit service provider partners we work with are committed to ongoing, open engagement and working with all community stakeholders, including local elected officials, community board members, local block associations, as well as faith-based and community-based organizations so that, together, we can ensure this facility is integrated seamlessly into the community and our clients receive a warm welcome.**
- To that end, we also establish a Community Advisory Board (CAB) to hold regular meetings and maintain direct lines of communication between staff, including on-site security, and communities to ensure any community concerns are proactively addressed as they arise.
- **A secure and safe environment is critical to the success of any program facility**—and DSS-DHS is committed to prioritizing the safety of clients, staff, and community members.
 - HSNY will provide on-site security around-the-clock. Security officers will be located at the entrance to control building access and to monitor security cameras, which will be located throughout the building and grounds.
 - Multiple security staff will be on-site at all times to oversee facility security.
 - HSNY will also provide a 24-hour open line for the community to provide feedback in a timely manner and to immediately address any concerns that may arise.
 - As an added measure, 80 security cameras will be installed throughout the building and across the shelter grounds. These cameras allow security officers to continually monitor compliance with house regulations and good neighbor policies both in and around the facility, acting as a deterrent for inappropriate or illegal activities. Recordings will be made available to authorities in the event that arrests or prosecution are warranted.
 - DHS and our provider partners are committed to promoting Good Neighbor Policies and ensuring that clients are aware of these rules and respectful toward neighbors and the community at large.
 - Finally, shelter security staff will conduct community patrols around this location as yet another means of ensuring the safety and security of clients, staff, and community members.