



# MINUTES

**Queens Quay Working Group Meeting #12**  
**Held on August 23, 2011**  
**Waterfront Toronto**  
**6:00-8:00pm**

## **Attendees:**

### **Members:**

- Clay McFayden, cycling advocate/ Toronto Cyclist Union
- Julie Beddoes, Gooderham and Worts Neighbourhood Association
- Jennifer Chan, constituency assistant to Councillor Vaughan
- Tom Davidson, constituency assistant to Councillor McConnell
- Ulla Colgrass, 55 & 65 Harbour Square
- Kelly Gorman, 260 Queens Quay
- Dennis Findlay, WaterfrontAction
- Laura Feltz, 250 Queens Quay
- Pam Mazza, Toronto Island Community Association
- Braz Menezes, York Quay Neighbourhood Association
- Sylvia Pellman, St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association
- James Russell, 33 Harbour Square
- Carol Jolly, Waterfront Business Improvement Association
- Kathi Bonner, Brookfield Office Properties
- Blair Keetch, PawsWay

### **Regrets:**

- Ritu Gupta, WaterClub Condominium Corporation
- Bob Rasmussen, 65 Harbour Square (represented by a delegate)
- Brian MacLean, Bathurst Quay Neighbourhood Association
- Rick Rabba, Rabba Foods
- Tammy Thorne, cycling advocate
- Cindi Vanden Heuvel, Mariposa Cruises
- Helder Melo, Harbourfront Centre
- Andrew Judge, Redpath Sugar Ltd.
- Anna Prodanou, Toronto Island Community Association (represented by a delegate)
- Vicki Barron, Waterfront Regeneration Trust

**Advisors and Observers:**

- Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies Inc.
- Elsa Fancello, Urban Strategies Inc.
- Alun Lloyd, BA Group
- Bruce Sudds, Waterfront Toronto
- Tanya Brown, West 8 +DTAH
- Adam Nicklin, West 8 +DTAH
- JD Reeves, Waterfront Toronto
- Elnaz Sanati, West 8 +DTAH

**Agenda:**

1. Welcoming remarks  
JD Reeves, Waterfront Toronto  
(Information sharing)
2. Introduction to Construction Liaison Committee membership  
Bruce Sudds, Waterfront Toronto  
(Information sharing)
3. Introduction and meeting overview  
Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies Inc.  
(Information sharing/feedback required)
  - a. Review agenda
  - b. draft meeting minutes from July 19, 2011
  - c. Review tracking matrix
4. Introduction to heritage strategy  
Brendan Stewart, ERA Architects Inc.  
(Information sharing/feedback required)
5. Follow up on Curbside Management  
Adam Nicklin, West 8 + DTAH  
Alun Lloyd, BA Group  
(Information sharing/feedback required)
6. Meeting working schedule and next steps  
Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies Inc.  
(Information sharing)

## Minutes:

### 1. Welcoming remarks

JD Reeves welcomed the Queens Quay Working Group and thanked them for their participation and feedback into the Queens Quay revitalization initiative. He continued by providing an update on the design process and the next phase on the project. Specifically, JD noted that Waterfront Toronto submitted their design package to the City for their review and comments. Waterfront Toronto anticipates comments back from the City by the end of August. He also mentioned there was a delay in preparing the plan of survey which may consequently impact the preparation of the construction drawings. JD announced that Waterfront Toronto initiated a safety assessment by a third party consultant for the next phase of the Queens Quay revitalization. To date, there have been no substantial comments and Waterfront Toronto anticipates a complete draft by mid-September. Further, JD noted that Waterfront Toronto has just released an RFP for the geotechnical scope of work. They have also released the RFP to award the position of construction manager and will receive submissions by the end of the month. They anticipate awarding the position within three weeks of receiving the submissions.

### 2. Introduction to Construction Liaison Committee membership

Bruce Sudds gave an overview of the role and membership of the Construction Liaison Committee (CLC), which is anticipated to begin in October 2011. He noted that the role of the CLC is to provide a structured forum for residents, businesses and land owners in the immediate vicinity of the project area, as well as transportation advocates, to discuss issues related to the construction of Queens Quay.

Bruce highlighted that the CLC role is to act as an ambassador for their respective group/organization by sharing information and reporting back to the Committee with respect to the ideas, concerns and suggestions of their respective groups, committees or organizations. He mentioned that this group would be smaller than the Queens Quay Working Group. However, he acknowledged that members of the Queens Quay Working Group may be part of the CLC and are welcomed to apply. Bruce also noted that the CLC will be chaired by the construction manager and that the group would likely meet monthly and/or biweekly. He circulated a two-page draft Terms of Reference on the CLC to Queens Quay Working Group and reiterated that interested parties should contact him.

**Question/comment 1:** The Terms of Reference does not include any contact information. Who will people contact if they have any questions or issues?

**Response 1:** Once the CLC gets started contact information will be provided and there will be signage on site if members of the public would like to ask questions or share information. Also, Waterfront Toronto is committed to a two-way dialogue with its stakeholders and members of the

public and still plans to provide opportunities for people to get involved and learn more in the activities taking place, including continuing to host quarterly Community Update Meetings.

**Question/comment 2:** Has Waterfront Toronto received any response to the RFP for the construction manager position?

**Response 2:** Yes. This is the second stage in the selection process. Waterfront Toronto has shortlisted five teams for this role. An information session was held a few weeks ago with the prequalified teams and everyone is very interested and engaged in this process. Waterfront Toronto was delayed in releasing the RFP due to funding concerns of the project but now that this hurdle is passed, we plan to announce the new construction manager over the next few weeks.

### 3. Introduction and Report Back

Pino Di Mascio reviewed the evening's agenda and welcomed the Working Group members. Pino continued by providing a quick summary of the minutes from the July 19, 2011 Working Group meeting and the issues/comments tracking matrix (both documents are posted to the working group's webpage). He asked if anyone had any comments on the documents and noted that comments/revisions to the documents should be circulated to [central@waterfrontoronto.ca](mailto:central@waterfrontoronto.ca). He also noted that since the construction manager will not be selected till the end of September, the working group will meet again in September and conclude in October.

**Question/comment 3:** The issue/comment matrix has the Martin Goodman Trail extension as an open item still requiring follow-up. I believe that this item was resolved and believe that we noted that it is resolved.

**Response 3:** Noted.

### 4. Follow up on Curbside Management

At the July 19, 2011 Queen Quay Working Group Meeting, it was requested that the design team continue to review the potential curbside controls that could be introduced along Queens Quay, including the range of parking signs for specific uses, since there was not enough time to discuss the topic in detail at the last monthly meeting. Instead of starting west and continuing east along Queens Quay, Adam Nicklin began with the western portion of the study area (between Bay and Yonge Streets). Alun Lloyd of BA Group was also in attendance to answer questions.

**Question/comment 4:** Have you considered how the spill out zone will work between the bus loading and drop-off area and the Martin Goodman Trail?

**Response 4:** We are still working out that detail but anticipate, at minimum, applying a 4 feet buffer area.

**Question/comment 5:** Would the same amount of space apply to the airport bus waiting area by the Westin Harbour Castle?

**Response 5:** Yes.

**Question/comment 6:** Would there be staff crossing guards from hotel during the busy seasons?

**Response 6:** It is likely that the hotel would continue to provide this service.

**Question/comment 7:** When Waterfront Toronto speaks with the hotel can you ask if they would place a bench by the airport bus and awning area?

**Response 7:** Waterfront Toronto will mention this when they speak to the hotel next.

**Question/comment 8:** Can Waterfront Toronto circulate a notice to the bus drivers that they should announce to passengers to be mindful of not spilling over the Martin Goodman Trail with their luggage, etc.?

**Response 8:** This will be explored.

**Question/comment 9:** Just to clarify, there will be no patrolling of cars at the drop-off area by the ferry?

**Response 9:** Correct.

**Question/comment 10:** With the expansion of the Convention Centre, is there an opportunity to create additional community benefits (re: section 37 of the Ontario Planning Act), such as wider sidewalks and other infrastructure.

**Response 10:** Waterfront Toronto is not aware of any additional funding. These types of benefits are negotiated between the developer and the City.

**Question/comment 11:** Is Waterfront Toronto intending to oversee the management and programming of the new open/park space by York Street and Queens Quay, which will be created by the removal of the York Street ramp? It would be great if this park could be integrated within the other public realm projects along the waterfront.

**Response 11:** It is the intention to integrate this park space within the area and internally, Waterfront Toronto is discussing having a design competition for this park space.

**Question/comment 12:** It is important for Oxford Properties, who has a development application to the City of Toronto for a proposed office development adjacent to the new park space, to think about how this space will be used.

**Response 12:** This space is designated and zoned as a park and open space. This space will be used as a park and not another land use.

**Question/comment 13:** still worried about the proposed taxi stand by 55 Harbour Square. Have you considered if a cluster of 4 or 6 taxi spaces could create potential noise issues for the residents in the area? Have you consulted with 55 Harbour Square?

**Response 13:** Waterfront Toronto plans to set up smaller stakeholder meetings to discuss matter with 55 Harbour Square. (Jennifer Chan, constituency assistant to Councillor Vaughan, also volunteered to explore if there has been any noise complaints regarding the existing taxi stands and will report back to the design team).

**Question/comment 14:** Can Waterfront Toronto make the plans shown today on the curbside management plans and associated controls available to the Queens Quay Working Group. It would be helpful to have these plans when speaking with my respective groups.

**Response 14:** These plans are still in draft form. However, recognizing that the plans are still draft, Waterfront Toronto is prepared to circulate the reference plans on request. (Pam Mazza of the Toronto Island Community Association requested the plan of Bay Street intersection).

#### 5. Intro to heritage strategy

Adam Nicklin began by introducing Brendan Stewart of the ERA Architects Inc. to the Working Group, the firm that is working with the design team to prepare a heritage strategy for the Central Waterfront and East Bayfront Precincts. Brendan continued by stating that their approach is grounded on three strategies:

1. connecting the City to the waterfront;
2. integrating the heritage dockwall into the overall design and
3. enhancing and celebrating the monumental bookends (formal industrial buildings) and the foot of Yonge Street, which form three nodes of interpretation at the east end, west end, and centre of the Central Waterfront.

Brendan noted that his presentation to the Queens Quay Working Group would focus on the heritage dock wall. His presentation and the pamphlet that he circulated, explored the various installations that could be introduced to this area which would tell the rich story of the evolution and history of the waterfront. Specifically, Brendan shared some of the narratives collected on the places and events on the waterfront. He continued by discussing some of the ideas for how best to share these stories along the heritage dock wall, i.e. place maple leaf bronze markers with snippets of text along the water's edge or create audio storytelling opportunities re: <http://murmurtoronto.ca/>

**Question/comment 15:** There was a fossil installation by Don Mills subway station and the markers fell out in a short period of time. Have you explored the longevity of introducing plaques along the water's edge?

**Response 15:** The design team has not finalized

**Question/comment 16:** Is this project linked to the City of Toronto's centennial project?

**Response 16:** Yes, we are working with the City's Heritage Preservation Services staff and advisory committee on this project. We have submitted the first draft to the City and intend to engage and consult others as we collect more information.

**Question/comment 17:** Does the team have a defined boundary in the north portion of the Central Waterfront study area?

**Response 17:** We have been defining the north boundary from Front Street but there is the potential to extend to river corridors.

**Question/comment 18:** When the City was preparing the Archaeological Master Plan of the Central Waterfront, I was part of the advisory committee and the information collected was extremely fascinating. Is there an opportunity to create pamphlet of information collected as part of this process that that could easily be shared? Maybe integrating the stories collected with the murmur project?

**Response 18:** This is a great idea. We plan to explore creative ways of sharing these stories with the public. We are finding it so interesting to use primary sources since the language style- the word choice and tone of the messages- is so telling of a specific period of time.

**Question/comment 19:** I know you are heading north and are planning to extend south to the water's edge, are there plans to share the stories and history of Toronto Island?

**Response 19:** We have started to collect stories on Toronto Island and have reviewed such resources as Dr. Sally Gibsons' book 'More than an Island: A History of the Toronto Island.'

**Question/comment 20:** The historical connection between Toronto Island and main land is fascinating. (Pam Mazza of the Toronto Island Community Association retold the story of William Ward). Have you explored the history of flora/fauna and how it has changed even in the short term? It would be also interesting to capture the environmental story of the waterfront.

**Response 20:** Our approach is essentially a reaction to traditional heritage plaque. We want to engage people with stories from a range of topic areas.

**Question/comment 21:** It could be extremely interesting to talk about ice boating along the bay.

**Response 21:** Our team hopes to coordinate a half day session where we could invite people to share their stories.

**Question/comment 22:** The proposed heritage markers are great but is there an opportunity to make them more high tech? Touch screen?

**Response 22:** We want to ensure that the information is easily accessible to people. We plan to continue to explore opportunities to creatively engage people with the history of the waterfront, including QR codes, poems etched in the light posts, etc.

**Question/comment 23:** The new park on York Street could be a great location to place a touch screen with information on the history of waterfront.

**Response 23:** Noted.

**Question/comment 24:** It would be great to also integrate artifacts into the waterfront design and/or installation pieces. Many people relate better to 3D items.

**Response 24:** We intend to maintain the artifacts and reintegrate them to the design. For example the work people being completed on the dockwall strengthens the historical, as well as the living history.

**Question/comment 25:** Is there an opportunity to use a classic system like the Dewey Decimal System and/or links to website to share stories. Not everyone owns a smart phone.

**Response 25:** We agree that there are many ways and technologies to engage people with the history of the waterfront. It does not need to be from a smart phone but could be something else.

**Question/comment 26:** There seems to be a great opportunity here to host guided historic tours of the waterfront. This could be another way to engage people besides relying on smart phones.

**Response 26:** Some cities have started an ambassador system where locals from a variety of different disciplines will volunteer to give guided tours.

**Question/comment 27:** How large is your team and how is it funded?

**Response 27:** ERA Architects Inc. is part of DTAH + West 8 team and is funded by Waterfront Toronto.

**Question/comment 28:** As development continues to take place on the waterfront, this strategy could potentially be integrated into the City's public art program (The City's Percent for Public Art Program recommends that a minimum of one percent of the gross construction cost of each significant development be contributed to public art).

**Response 28:** Noted.

## 6. Meeting working schedule and next steps

Pino Di Mascio thanked everyone for their feedback and for attending the meeting. He reminded everyone that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at Waterfront Toronto's office. He also noted that the next Queens Quay Working Group meeting will focus on providing an update on the overall design process and reporting back on items highlighted on the issues/comments tracking matrix. Since the construction manager will likely be on board immediately after the September meeting, the October meeting will introduce the construction manager and could be integrated with the first CLC meeting.

**Question/comment 29:** The issues/comments matrix still outlines that wayfinding strategy will be discussed with this group. When will we discuss this topic?

**Response 29:** We plan to discuss this matter with the Working Group at the September meeting.

**Question/comment 30:** There have been numerous email problems on Waterfront Toronto end. Is this now resolved?



**Response 30:** We apologize about the technical issues. We aim not to have any further problems in the future.