



Project: Under Gardiner

Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #1

Monday, January 11, 2016

6:00– 8:00 pm

Location: Fort York Visitor Centre - 250 Fort York Boulevard, Toronto ON, M5V 3K9

DRAFT SUMMARY REPORT

On January 11, 2016, approximately 40 members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee participated in the first of a series of stakeholder meetings for Project: Under Gardiner. The purpose of this meeting was to provide an overview of the project, to gather initial feedback, and approve the terms of reference for this committee.

MINUTES

Waterfront Toronto's vice president of planning and design, Chris Glaisek, opened the meeting with a welcome and brief introductory remarks.

Chris McKinnon, public engagement lead for the project, acted as chair and called the meeting to order at 6:07pm.

1. Consent Agenda

The committee unanimously supported the agenda as it was circulated.

2. Introductions

Committee members, project team members and City of Toronto staff introduced themselves. Committee members also explained what group, organization or community they were representing. See a complete list of organizations represented and project team members appended to the end of this report.

3. Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Pina Mallozzi, project manager for the project, reviewed the draft Stakeholder Advisory Committee Terms of Reference. A committee member pointed out that the draft stated the committee would meet on weekday afternoons. It was noted that this was in error and that the Terms of Reference should be revised to indicate that the committee will meet on weekday evenings. Members of the committee further requested to have the meetings start later, suggesting 7:00p.m.

Chris McKinnon requested a show of hands to indicate support for the terms of reference with those changes.

The terms of reference received unanimous support and are considered adopted by the committee. See attachment for the final Terms of Reference.

4. Overview of the project

Due to technical issues, the video produced by *The Globe and Mail* could not be played. Find a link to the streaming version online: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/news-video/video-is-torontos-new-frontier-under-the-gardiner-expressway/article27286323/>

Marc Ryan from PUBLIC WORK provided an overview of the preliminary “framework plan” and design elements for Project: Under Gardiner. Find a summary of that presentation available for download here:

http://www.waterfrontoronto.ca/uploads/documents/2016_01_11_project_under_gardiner_stakeholder_framework_presentation_1.pdf

** As the framework plan and design continue to evolve, all of the content in this presentation is subject to change. For this reason, we ask that you not to forward this presentation summary along. We provide it to you as a tool for use when consulting with your groups or organizations – so that you can collect feedback and questions to share with the project team and the rest of the committee.*

If you have questions, please contact Chris McKinnon or Meghan Hogan to discuss.

5. Review Project Timeline

Pina Mallozzi provided an overview of the project phases and timeline. This included a high-level look at the schedule for SAC and public meetings. The SAC and public meeting schedule depends on certain project milestones, including design phases, the considerations of the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment and City Council reviews.

The meeting schedule provided was very general. Chris McKinnon will distribute more information about the meeting schedule as soon the schedule becomes more firm.

6. Questions from Committee Members

Will we have breakout groups where SAC members can have more in-depth discussions about issues of interest or expertise?

Chris McKinnon (Waterfront Toronto) explained that our meeting agendas are structured around the content and the objectives for the meeting. We anticipate that future meetings will offer greater opportunities for interactivity and sharing. Today's meeting was structured as an information sharing session to get everyone up to speed and hear initial questions.

Concerns about the process for launching a naming contest or competition, specifically related to intellectual property, possible trademark infringement, web domain squatting. What is the plan to safeguard against these things? What criteria will the public be given to help ensure they select a good name? How will we ensure the name selected meets the City of Toronto's criteria for naming public spaces?

Chris McKinnon (Waterfront Toronto) noted that Bespoke Cultural Collective is developing and overseeing the naming campaign. Sabrina Richard from Bespoke outlined the four phases for the process.

- **Public Brainstorm** - The public will be invited to help "brainstorm" a long list of new names for the space. Criteria will be provided to help guide people on important principles of public space naming (uniqueness, recognizable, local reference, etc.) and the City of Toronto's policies and procedures related to this. The process will be more of a campaign than a competition.
- **Jury Short List** - A jury will review the long list against the essential criteria and City requirements and select a short list of names.
- **Public Voting** - An online vote will be conducted to select the people's choice for the project's new name.
- **Final Name Launch** - The new name will be announced to the public before receiving endorsement from the City.

Follow-up note: The jury will play an important role in vetting the short list of names that go to public voting. The project team has reviewed these concerns raised at the meeting and will be working with Waterfront Toronto's Legal team to create additional campaign rules and disclaimers to limit liability.

Several members asked for clarification about the relationship between design, programming and governance. How will the space be operated? Who will maintain it? And how will it be funded?

Chris Glaisek (Waterfront Toronto) provided an outline of the relationship between the donors, the City and Waterfront Toronto.

The project is being funded by the Matthews' family's donation while the City of Toronto owns a significant portion of the study area. Waterfront Toronto has been hired by the City to manage the design, public consultation and construction of the project.

Part of the scope of the project is creating a set of recommendations for the governance, on-going operations, maintenance and programming of the project. Waterfront Toronto is hiring a consultant to research national and international best practices and make a recommendation to Council on what that model should look like.

The objective is to ensure that the project is properly funded, well-maintained and programmed appropriately and that the project vision is sustainable from a budgetary and maintenance perspective.

The results of this research will be brought to a future SAC meeting for input and feedback.

Recommendation: Ensure that adequate supporting facilities and infrastructure are in place to support the level of programming that is anticipated.

The project team heard from committee members that existing facilities and infrastructure at Fort York National Historic Site and around Exhibition Place and Ontario Place are already strained (taxi queuing, transit, public washrooms, etc.) during large-scale events. They urged the project team to carefully consider this when developing plans to create new programming spaces. The project team should evaluate all of these elements and take them into consideration early in the design process, to ensure that they have planned for the appropriate facilities on or along the site.

Can you explain or clarify what will be part of phase one of the project?

Marc Ryan (PUBLIC WORK) clarified the phasing of the project and budget. The first phase is currently being considered as the area from just west of Strachan to Bathurst. This will be the area with the greatest amount of visible transformation. The design team hopes to include trail connections to Exhibition GO Station and Spadina Avenue as part of that first phase and budget.

What can improve the quality of SAC discussions? How much influence and impact will members have?

A committee member suggestion that Waterfront Toronto provide an online forum for SAC members to share ideas and discuss the project.

ACTION: Chris McKinnon to investigate what tool might work for the group in this capacity.

Marc Ryan (PUBLIC WORK) described the infrastructure elements of the project (the grand staircase at Strachan, the pedestrian bridge over Fort York Boulevard) as fundamental to the project's vision. The design team has ideas for what these should look like, but they will want

feedback from the committee on these pieces. The team is also very eager to hear ideas on the design and programming of the individual “rooms” that can be created in the space.

The framework plan presented to the committee is not intended to be taken as a design, but as an illustration of the vision. The design team is about to begin the schematic design phase. That will be the subject of the next SAC meeting and there will be great opportunity to provide input and feedback at that stage and at subsequent stages.

A project budget of \$25 million doesn’t seem like enough for a project of this ambition. How will you stretch the budget to get this whole project complete?

Mark Ryan (PUBLIC WORK) noted that typically a project like this would require upgrades and rehabilitation to all the surrounding and supporting infrastructure. That is one of the reasons a park like the High Line in New York City costs so much. The benefit here is that we are building on top of the existing expressway rehabilitation project. The \$150 million Gardiner rehabilitation project will put nearly all of that major infrastructure in place. As a result, we believe that our \$25 million budget will stretch much further. We are building on what already exists. Much of our work will be “finishing touches” from a public infrastructure perspective.

Will the project engage local artists?

Some committee members expressed that they thought it was important to engage artists on both international and local levels. Chris McKinnon (Waterfront Toronto) explained that a more in-depth programming advisory consultation will happen in the spring. This will include a large meeting open to any not-for-profit organizations or groups in Toronto – including music, food, theatre, art, education, civic events, dance, sports and recreation – that are interested in programming the space. This “town hall” style meeting will be followed up with numerous smaller breakout meetings by artistic discipline or type of programming.

Will we be engaging business community for sponsorship?

Many people are hoping that the Matthews’ generous gift will inspire others.

There has been interest from the business community and developers as a result of the Under Gardiner project. The governance and programming study is expected to explore options for receiving additional donations and sponsorships.

How will members of the public and local residents be engaged in the programming so that the design reflects what they actually want?

The membership of the SAC is composed of local representatives and community-at-large members to help accomplish this. For example, the SAC will preview public meeting presentations to provide feedback before they are presented at larger public meetings. This will

help to ensure that public meeting presentations are presenting the right information and answering the right questions.

SAC members will have opportunities to dig deeper into design issues at future meetings. It is expected that members will also actively consult their constituencies, in order to represent them effectively on the SAC.

Team should work with Metrolinx to address the accessibility issues around Exhibition GO Station

The project team will be reaching out to Metrolinx for a meeting.

7. Vision Exercise / Sharing

Chris McKinnon (Waterfront Toronto) invited each member to share with the group, a response to the following: *In one word, describe what would make this new space truly remarkable for you.*

Here is the list of the words shared by committee members:

- Continuous
- Accessible
- Flowing
- Free
- Open
- Creative
- Light
- Comfort
- Active
- Diverse
- Colour
- Green
- Warm
- Safe Access
- Discovery
- Loud
- Connections
- Engaging
- Accommodate
- Homeless
- Environmentally
- Friendly
- Collaborative
- Magical
- Welcoming
- Barrier-Free
- Socialist
- Hockey
- Indigenous
- Community
- Heritage
- Playful
- Meeting Place
- Timeless
- Ambitious
- Sound
- Amazing
- Green
- Engaging
- Connector
- Flow
- Connecting
- Innovative

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APPENDIX A - Under Gardiner Project Team

Waterfront Toronto

Chris Glaisek, VP, Planning and Design

David Kusturin, Chief Operating Office

Project Manager: Pina Mallozzi, Director, Design

Public Engagement Lead: Chris McKinnon, Manager, Digital and Social Media

Andrew Hilton, Director, Communications & Public Engagement

Public Engagement Support: Meghan Hogan, Communications and Public Engagement Coordinator

City of Toronto

David Stonehouse, Project Director, Waterfront Secretariat

Project Manager: Pinelopi Gramatikopoulos, Project Manager, Waterfront Secretariat

David O'Hara, Manager, Fort York National Historic Site

Ashley Curtis, Transportation Services

Easton Gordon, Engineering & Construction Services

Naz Capano, Transportation Services

Gregg Uens, City Planning

Lynda MacDonald, City Planning

Nasim Adab, Urban Design, City Planning

Design Team

Ken Greenberg, Greenberg Consultants

Marc Ryan, PUBLIC WORK

Adam Nicklin, PUBLIC WORK

Lauren Abrahams, PUBLIC WORK

APPENDIX - Stakeholder Advisory Committee Membership

Residents Associations & Business Improvement Areas

Bathurst Quay Neighbourhood Association	Liberty Village Residents Association
CityPlace Residents Association	Waterfront BIA
Fort York Neighbourhood Association	Wellington Place Neighbourhood Association
Liberty Village BIA	

Adjacent Residential Buildings & Landowners

35 Bastion Street	231 Fort York Boulevard
15 Bruyeres Mews	21 Grand Magazine Street
20 Bruyeres Mews	38 Grand Magazine Street
600 Fleet Street	Concord Adex
628 Fleet Street	Diamondcorp
169 Fort York Boulevard	ONNI
209 Fort York Boulevard	Wittington Properties Limited
219 Fort York Boulevard	

Community Organizations, Institutions & Advocacy Groups

(STEPS) Initiative	Salvation Army Gateway
Advisory Committee on Accessible Transit	SKETCH
Artscape	Stop Gap Foundation
Canadian Hearing Society	Toronto Skateboard Committee
Canadian National Exhibition	
Civic Action DiverseCity Fellows	
Cycle Toronto	
Evergreen	
Exhibition Place	
Fort York Armoury	
Fort York Library	
Friends of Fort York	
Harbourfront Community Centre	
Jane's Walk	
Manifesto Community Projects	