



Gardiner Expressway Environmental Assessment and Integrated Urban Design Study

Backgrounder: Public Consultation Process

Public consultation is an essential element of the Gardiner Expressway environmental assessment (EA) and integrated urban design study process being co-initiated by Waterfront Toronto and the City of Toronto.

The public consultation program is designed to be as inclusive as possible and to hear the full range of opinions, viewpoints and perspectives on the future of the easternmost section of the Gardiner. All input collected during consultations will inform every stage of the process.

At least 16 public meetings will be held, spanning every phase of the EA and urban design study. Open to all interested individuals and organizations, these meetings will be held at various locations throughout Toronto to provide a high level of public accessibility. A neutral facilitator will run all public meetings to ensure that all opinions are heard and recorded.

Public meetings will feature interactive sessions where participants can view presentations and display panels, study material, discuss questions with members of the project team and provide feedback and input on specific topics related to the project.

Two rounds of public meetings will be held to inform the development of the terms of reference for the EA and integrated urban design study. The first round, which starts with a public forum in Etobicoke on Saturday March 28, also includes meetings in Scarborough, North York, and downtown.

Public Forum #1

Saturday, March 28, 2009
Trident Banquet Hall and Conference Centre
145 Evans Avenue, Etobicoke
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Open House)
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Presentation)

Monday, March 30, 2009
Scarborough Civic Centre - Rotunda
150 Borough Drive, Scarborough
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Open House)
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Presentation)

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Harbourfront Community Centre – Gymnasium

627 Queens Quay West, Toronto

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. (Open House)

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (Presentation)

Saturday, April 4, 2009

North York Memorial Hall - Burgundy Room

5110 Yonge Street, North York

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (Open House)

12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Presentation)

The second round of public meetings for the development of the terms of reference will be held in late April.

Three additional rounds of public meetings will take place as part of the EA and integrated urban design study.

A special web site www.gardinerconsultation.ca has been created to provide additional opportunities for public input. Online consultations will occur simultaneously with face-to-face consultations during each key phase of the EA process. On the site, all interested individuals can participate in online consultations and read, rate, post and reply to public comments on specific topics. All input received online will be documented and integrated into the EA process.

A telephone hotline, (416) 894-1448 and email address, info@gardinerconsultation.ca have, also been set up to collect additional feedback and answer questions from the public.

A separate series of First Nations consultations are being planned to further inform the process.

Finally, a Stakeholder Advisory Committee will be established, composed of representatives from relevant community organizations, adjacent landowners, leaseholders, agency representatives and government partners. The Committee will act as a sounding board for the design team to share ideas and findings, and will be expected to provide guidance, critiques, and suggestions. Equally important, the Committee will serve as a liaison between the community at-large and the design team, providing a sense of the broader community's reactions and concerns and how they might be addressed.