

Town of Aurora Community Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: November 18, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Video Conference

Pages

1. Procedural Notes

This meeting will be held electronically as per Section 19. i) of the Town's Procedure By-law No. 6228-19, as amended, due to the COVID-19 situation, and will be live streamed on the Town's YouTube Channel.

- 2. Approval of the Agenda
- 3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof
- 4. Receipt of the Minutes
 - 4.1. Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of April 15, 2021

That the Community Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 15, 2021, be received for information.

5. Delegations

Note: Anyone wishing to provide comment on an agenda item is encouraged to visit www.aurora.ca/participation for guidelines on electronic delegation.

6. Matters for Consideration

6.1. Memorandum from Manager, Economic Development and Policy; Re: Aurora Promenade Streetscape Needs Assessment

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- 1. That the memorandum regarding Aurora Promenade Streetscape Needs Assessment be received; and
- 2. That the Community Advisory Committee comments regarding the Streetscape Needs Assessment be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

7. Informational Items

8. Adjournment



Town of Aurora

Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 15, 2021

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Video Conference

Committee Members: Balpreet Grewal (Chair)

Laura Thanasse (Vice Chair)

Shivangi Bagga (arrived at 7:12 p.m.)

Chris Gordon Denis Heng Janet Mitchell Jennifer Sault Sera Weiss

Councillor Sandra Humfryes

Members Absent: Earl Cochrane

Other Attendees: Robin McDougall, Director of Community Services

Techa Van Leeuwen, Director of Corporate Services

Mat Zawada, Accessibility Advisor Phil Rose, Manager, Library Square

Katrina Estacio, Marketing Creative Specialist Ishita Soneji, Council/Committee Coordinator

1. Procedural Notes

This meeting was held electronically as per Section 19. i) of the Town's Procedure By-law No. 6228-19, as amended, due to the COVID-19 situation.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Councillor Humfryes Seconded by Laura Thanasse

That agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, be approved.

Carried

3. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

4. Receipt of the Minutes

4.1 Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2021

Moved by Jennifer Sault Seconded by Laura Thanasse

That the Community Advisory Committee meeting minutes of February 18, 2021, be received for information.

Carried

5. Delegations

None.

6. Matters for Consideration

6.1 Memorandum from Accessibility Advisor; Re: Engaged and Inclusive Project

Staff provided an overview of the memorandum and background on the Engaged and Inclusive collaborative project involving Aurora, East Gwillimbury, and Newmarket lead by the Neighbourhood Network. Kim Clark, Gazelle and Company presented an overview of the project highlighting the focus on building increased inclusion in our communities. She further provided details on the objectives to better understand inclusive engagement through an integrated approach across the three municipalities and noted the next steps. The Committee expressed

appreciation to the team for their efforts and provided feedback regarding the project suggesting potential partnership with the local school board to broaden engagement opportunities for the student population.

Moved by Laura Thanasse Seconded by Janet Mitchell

- 1. That the memorandum regarding Engaged and Inclusive Project be received; and
- 2. That the Community Advisory Committee comments regarding Engaged and Inclusive Project be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

6.2 Memorandum from Manager, Library Square; Re: Library Square Renaming Consultation

Staff provided an overview of the memorandum and background on the intent to rename Library Square and the efforts thus far in gathering potential names through internal and external consultation. Staff provided a brief description and sought the Committee's input regarding the following shortlisted names obtained through public engagement: Constellation Square, Aurora Junction, Church Street Square, Town Square, and C-Square.

The Committee and staff discussed about the importance of the name being representative of the current stakeholders, partnerships, and the expected collaboration of art, music, culture, heritage and recreation activities, special events, and other community events that would happen at the space. The Committee provided feedback regarding the proposed shortlisted names including the pros and cons of each name and provided alternate suggestions that would best represent the space. It was mentioned that further name suggestions from the Committee members could be forwarded to staff post the meeting.

Moved by Shivangi Bagga Seconded by Janet Mitchell

1. That the memorandum regarding Library Square Renaming Consultation be received; and

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2. That the Community Advisory Committee comments regarding possible names for Library Square be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

7. Informational Items

None.

8. Adjournment

Moved by Sera Weiss Seconded by Janet Mitchell

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Carried



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Town of Aurora

Memorandum

Planning & Development Services

Re: Aurora Promenade Streetscape Needs Assessment

To: Community Advisory Committee

From: Lisa Hausz, Manager, Economic Development & Policy

Date: November 18, 2021

Recommendation

- 1. That the memorandum regarding Aurora Promenade Streetscape Needs Assessment be received; and,
- 2. That the Community Advisory Committee comments regarding Streetscape Needs Assessment be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Purpose

The purpose of this memo is to seek the input of the Community Advisory Committee on the review of the Aurora Promenade Streetscape Plan. The purpose of the Streetscape Needs Assessment is to validate the original proposed improvements while taking into consideration new policies, technologies and needs. It is intended that staff will gather ideas and input from the Town's various advisory committees as well as the public.

As outlined in the Aurora Promenade Streetscape Plan, several action items were identified to improve the public realm of the Promenade. The majority of the proposed streetscape improvements are proposed to be implemented on Yonge Street and Wellington Street. These activities also align with the initiatives planned by the Aurora Downtown BIA.

Background

The Aurora Promenade Streetscape Design & Implementation Plan was presented to Council at the Public Planning Meeting held in January 2013, where Council resolved the following:

THAT report PL13-003 regarding the Aurora Promenade Streetscape Design and Implementation Plan be received; and,

THAT staff report back with a multi-year capital project for some of the priority projects that staff will further refine and bring forward to Council for further discussion.

Following the January 2013 Public Planning meeting, staff evaluated implementation options and phasing with an emphasis on maximizing the potential impact of improvements and minimizing costs and disruptions. Based on this evaluation, the several recommendations (as articulated in the Plan) were identified for implementation. Some of the recommendations were implemented, or altered to accommodate current conditions, while other recommendations were never implemented and require further investigation as to their feasibility. Examples of the 2013 public realm improvements included:

- Updating all concrete sidewalks with decorative concrete paving that extend from the curb zone to building face.
- Implementing hanging baskets on light poles.
- Installing street furniture throughout the pedestrian street zone that is both respectful of the heritage character and the new town square.
- Developing historic downtown promotional banners for area, events and seasons.
- Plant street trees with 6 metre spacing (maximum) where there is adequate setback for the pedestrian zone to borrow sidewalk width from the frontage zone. Trees should be planted in appropriate tree pits, with optimum soil conditions, protective grates, and tree guards.
- Relocating traffic signs from rebar poles onto street poles where possible.
- Landscaping mid-block connections similar to the existing mid-block connection at the town square-

In February 2014, staff presented a report recommending that the Town focus the planned improvements within the "Main Streets" area. This approach ensured that a

critical mass of improvements could be completed within a relatively short timeframe in a focused geographic area. In October 2019, Council partially lifted a conditional hold on a previously approved capital project to fund some of the removable public realm streetscape elements of the 2013 plan including container landscaping, new street furniture and promotional banners that can be relocated in the event construction occurs.

The completion of a Streetscape Needs Assessment study will detail the design requirements for street lighting and other improvements.

Several factors informed the need to evaluate and recommend the increasing the scope of the Streetscape Design and Implementation Plan including:

- condition of infrastructure to accommodate future signage and lighting needs;
- current developments underway in the area; connectivity and broadband availability;
- parking requirements;
- accessibility needs;
- and the involvement of the local businesses and residents in the area.

Therefore, a Streetscape Needs Assessment is being completed that will inform an updated robust design and construction plan that will include the following considerations:

- Street light pole replacements along Yonge Street
- Entry feature/signage/lighting/public art infrastructure requirements
- Sidewalk improvements
- Crosswalk improvements/enhancements
- Accessibility elements along Yonge Street
- Parking improvements in the Downtown BIA catchment area
- Broadband/high speed internet and cell service in the area

The Town has engaged The Planning Partnership (TPP) to facilitate the Streetscape Needs Assessment project and to engage stakeholders.

Due to tight timelines to inform engineering requirements in 2022, staff retained The Planning Partnership (TPP) team to facilitate the project and engage various stakeholder groups. TPP was the originator of the Aurora Promenade Plan, have worked on several projects within the Promenade and are engaged as part of the Aurora Town Square project.

The Project Team consists of:

- Lisa Hausz, Manager, Economic Development & Policy, Town of Aurora
- Anca Mihail, Manager, Engineering, Town of Aurora
- Sara Tienkamp, Manager, Parks, Town of Aurora
- Janine Cik, Policy Student, Town of Aurora
- Wai Ying Di Giorgio, The Planning Partnership, was involved in the preparation of the Stable Neighbourhoods Urban Design Guidelines and will manage the development of the Streetscape Needs Assessment report;
- Donna Hinde, The Planning Partnership, was responsible for managing and leading the public consultation for both The Promenade Plan and the Library Square and will be in charge of developing and leading the consultation for this exercise;
- David Leinster, was responsible for the development of the Promenade Design Guidelines and is currently leading the public realm design for Library Square.

Attachments

Attachment 1 - Subject Area Map

Reference Documents

- Promenade Concept Plan, Urban Design Strategy; 3.1 Public Realm (2010)
- Promenade Pamphlet (concept highlights) (2013)
- Promenade Streetscape Design and Implementation Plan (2013)

