

**Community Update Meeting #1**  
**Held on May 12, 2010**  
**Radisson Admiral Hotel – Toronto Harbourfront**  
**Admiral Ballroom – 3rd Floor**  
**249 Queens Quay West, Toronto, ON**  
**6:00-8:15pm**

**Attendees:**

Approximately 150 people attended the Community Update Meeting

**Purpose of the Meeting:**

The meeting was the first in a series of community update meetings, which are intended to provide the public with information on projects underway in the area. The meeting is structured around a series of short presentations, followed by opportunities for members of the public to ask questions and provide feedback.

Feedback forms were also circulated to the attendees. The feedback forms asked questions around how best to engage the public through the Central Waterfront revitalization process. A summary of the comments collected through the forms is provided below (enclosed is copy of the form in the appendix).

**Agenda:**

1. Update from Waterfront Toronto
2. Central Waterfront Public Engagement
3. Toronto's Downtown Waterfront Master Plan
4. Queens Quay Schematic Design
5. York Quay Revitalization Phase Two Design Update
6. Portland Slip Waters Edge Scope & Concept Design
7. Discussion

**Presentations:**

Update from Waterfront Toronto, Chris Glaisek, Waterfront Toronto

Chris Glaisek of Waterfront Toronto gave opening remarks and provided an overview of several of the key projects and initiatives currently underway, including: Queens Quay Revitalization, Sherbourne Park, Sugar Beach, Pan Am Games, Underpass Park and Lower Don Lands.

## Central Waterfront Public Engagement, Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies

Pino Di Mascio of Urban Strategies gave welcoming remarks and provided an overview of the structure of the meeting. Pino continued with the presentation on the Central Waterfront ongoing public engagement process. He began with an overview of why Waterfront Toronto is developing a Public Engagement Plan and the importance of continuing the dialogue with the public; followed by a summary of the engagement principles that will help shape the plan, the structure of the Public Engagement Plan and a variety of related engagement techniques and methods that will be explored through this process.

## Toronto's Downtown Waterfront Master Plan, Adriaan Geuze and Marc Ryan, West 8+DTAH

Adriaan Geuze and Marc Ryan of West 8 + DTAH co-presented the Toronto's Downtown Waterfront Master Plan. They began by stating that their team won the international design competition that Waterfront Toronto held in 2006 for Toronto's Downtown Waterfront and how that vision/identity for the area is now being formalized through the Master Plan. They continued by reviewing a series of design elements that form that vision, including:

- The interaction between the City and its waterfront is reinforced with improved connections, including the Martin Goodman Trail, transit lines and spectacular new WaveDeck gateways at the terminus of City streets.
- The vibrant central spine of the waterfront will unify the entire district for leisure, commerce and public transportation to create the iconic waterfront boulevard that Toronto never had.
- The continuous water's edge route, composed of granite promenade and timber boardwalk, is fully public and expresses a coherent public realm where the city meets the lake.
- The plan increases the overall mooring potential while providing a new order and quality of public experience along the water's edge.
- These innovative hybrid public space designs reflect the serious commitment to sustainability at all levels within the project.
- A collection of diverse public settings across the waterfront is stitched together through the public realm and anchored by the York Quay Cultural Village at the heart of the waterfront.
- Streets and sidewalks will establish a clear character for the streetscapes which link the precincts and bind Queens Quay to the Water's Edge.
- A priority is placed upon installing a set of materials and furnishings which provide visual continuity and consistency to reinforce the identity of the Canadian lakefront.
- Signage/wayfinding is conceived as an integrated system within the public realm that will ease orientation and aim to reduce visual clutter.
- Accessible routes will enhance ease of movement and participation for all visitors by making the waterfront's facilities, programs, site information and services accessible.
- World-class contemporary art installations within a coherent frame will contribute to both the image and experience of the waterfront.
- The waterfront will develop within the context of our built heritage and oral histories.

- A robust and beautifully detailed public realm can create a legacy for the City. Maintenance and operations are essential to encourage people to enjoy the waterfront to the fullest and protect the capital investment.
- Waterfront public spaces will provide the flexible setting to host the evolving culture of activities and programs that reflect the diversity of contemporary Toronto.
- A set of long-term strategic projects provide vision beyond the immediate scope of implementation.

#### Queens Quay Schematic Design, Adriaan Geuze, West 8+DTAH

Adriaan Geuze of West 8 +DTAH presented the Queens Quay Schematic Design concept. He began with a quick overview of the current street condition of Queens Quay; the project to date, most notably the completion of the Environmental Assessment; and the project boundaries. He continued with a series of principles that will shape the overall design for Queen Quay. The principles addressed specific components of the schematic design, including the sidewalk treatment on the north and south side, the Martin Goodman Trail, TTC right-of way and platforms, and materials, furnishing and wayfinding. He also noted that the construction process will be completed in phases and reiterated the importance of anticipating and working with the public through construction issues.

#### York Quay Revitalization Phase Two Design Update, Christopher Glaisek, Waterfront Toronto and Gulliver Sheppard, MVVA

Christopher Glaisek of Waterfront Toronto began with an overview of the York Quay Revitalization Project site and the process to date; including the Harbourfront Centre Master Plan (2000), feasibility study (2008/09), and completion of Phase 1. Gulliver Sheppard of MVVA continued but focused on the current phase 2 scope of work. He gave a summary of the framework plan; provided an overview of existing and future site conditions, including vehicular circulation and subgrade conditions; and reported back from the first public meeting for the project.

#### Portland Slip Waters Edge Scope & Concept Design, Adam Nicklin, West 8+DTAH

Adam Nicklin of West 8 + DTAH presented the Portland Slip Waters Edge project. He began with a description of the area and continued with the history of the project and the proposed design scheme and projected timing.

After the presentations were completed, Pino Di Mascio of Urban Strategies facilitated a question and answer session for the remainder of the meeting.

#### **Discussion:**

**Question 1:** When will Queens Quay be completed? Is there any way to keep away from the summer months (re: construction)?

**Response 1:** (Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto) The first phase of construction is expected to begin next year. The location and the exact timing will be worked out through the schematic design process. We will present more information at the next Community Update Meeting in the fall.

**Question 2:** I presented the plan of an Africana Cultural Village Museum back in 2001 and now I hear about the plan to build a Cultural Village (re: York Quay Revitalization) and we were never consulted; how do you intend to engage with the black community? How do you intend to introduce black art not just Eurocentric art?

**Response 2:** (Christopher Glaisek, Waterfront Toronto) We would like to engage a larger community in the revitalization efforts. The cultural village is not part of this phase of the York Quay Revitalization project. The future cultural village project will be led by Harbourfront. Harbourfront will likely be looking for future tenants and Africana Cultural Village project could apply.

**Question 3:** Are the bridges necessary if Queens Quay is completed?

**Response 3:** (Adriaan Geuze, West 8+DTAH) The foot bridges are part of the unified vision for Toronto's Downtown Waterfront. The bridges will help create a continuous and accessible water's edge. The bridges will also make the slips more friendly and usable.

**Question 4:** I am excited about projects but am concerned about timelines; Queens Quay is important but can it come into fruition? Do we have the money in place to fund the projects? What is the timeline for Queens Quay completion?

**Response 4:** (Christopher Glaisek, Waterfront Toronto) We had to revise our long-term planning due to the slowdown of the economy, since much our funding is linked to private development. The construction of first phase of Queens Quay will take place in a year's time and \$48 million dollars is budgeted for the project. (Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto) It is also important to note that West 8-DTAH have been retained for design of all of the components of Queens Quay in order to maintain the continuity of the vision.

**Question 5:** This was a positive presentation and I want to continue to be engaged through local issues, that said, I have issues with the proposed bridges; they will block views and are not accessible. Is it possible to keep WaveDecks and promenade and not the bridges?

**Response 5:** (Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies) Thank you but the question has already been answered.

**Question 6:** Is there a fundamental change of how people are making left hand turns along Queens Quay? Travelling eastbound will there be limited turning?

**Response 6:** (Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto) Every turning movement across the TTC right-of-way will have a dedicated turning lane. There will be limitations to turning movements; however, every site along Queens Quay will remain accessible. (Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies) please see us after or visit the website for more information (re: limited turning eastbound).

**Question 7:** Where will be the 800 metres along Queens Quay?

**Response 7:** (Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto) The location of the first phase of construction, approximately 800 metres of the street will be determined during the schematic design phase which is now underway. This will be reported back to Stakeholders at our next Central Waterfront Community Meeting. For your reference, 800 metres is approximately the length of York Street to the western edge of HTO park.

**Question 8:** There are plans to expand the island airport, how will the expansion effect enjoyment of waterfront?

**Response 8:** (Christopher Glaisek, Waterfront Toronto) The airport is not in our jurisdiction. We believe that waterfront revitalization must proceed with or without the island airport. Our Board formally adopted this position in 2002 and recent expansions at the airport have not changed this position.

**Question 9:** I love the bridges; my question is in regards to the grass street along the right of ways, why does it not continue?

**Response 9:** (Adriaan Geuze, West 8+DTAH) Grass is not proposed on the platforms or at the crossings.

**Question 10:** I am excited about projects and the move towards implementation. One of the projects that have been highlighted in the media is the proposed sports complex. Could you please inform the audience about the controversy of Ken Greenburg and Design Review Panel threatening to disband and quite?

**Response 10:** (Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies) We are not discussing the Portlands in today's session. You are welcome to speak to Chris Glaisek or other Waterfront Toronto staff off-line after this session.

**Question 11:** I do not think that the bridges will block views, however I see the importance of protecting the views.

**Response 11:** (Pino Di Mascio, Urban Strategies). Thanks for your comment.

**Question 12:** My question is in regards to the proposed double row of trees; did you consider that you overplanted? That maybe so much tree canopy will block out the sun?

**Response 12:** (Adriaan Geuze, West 8+DTAH) We are not overplanting. The proposed 18 metres will support the double row trees, including areas of shade and areas of sun.

**Question 13:** My question is in regards to staging of construction along Queens Quay, especially in light of St. Clair and Bloor Street project; is there a plan to consult with individuals who were part of those projects in order to get the lessons learned; as well as how to ensure that the project maintains on schedule?

**Response 13:** (Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto) We consult with the City on a day to day basis and have and will continue to speak with the project teams for both St. Clair and Bloor St. We will be retaining a construction manager and will ensure that we sequence construction projects and are on schedule.

**Question 14:** It will be important to look at each project holistically; at the entire scale of project- what is the timeline for the boardwalk for Portland Slip

**Response 14:** (Adam Nicklin, West 8+DTAH) The City will begin construction on the Phase 1 improvements to the Canada Malting Silos site this year. Waterfront Toronto will start construction on the public realm the following year.

**Question 15:** What considerations are in place for front road loading at 25/260/270 Queens Quay?

**Response 15:** (Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto) We have been working with the condominium board to introduce lay-by in order to accommodate drop offs and pickups.

\*A man held a sign that read “stop harbourfront bridges” with before and after images. The man held the sign for the entire meeting.

### **Feedback forms:**

96 feedback forms were collected from the Community Update Meeting #1. The following is a summary of the findings:

- 68 out of 96 participants live in the neighbourhood (70.8%)
- 21 out of 96 participants do not live nearby but interested in waterfront revitalization (21.9%)
- 44 out of 96 participants are interested in public transit along Queens Quay (45.8%)
- Several participants would like more detailed information on the construction schedule and funding details for QQ
- Throughout the planning for construction process, the majority of participants would like monthly updates
- Throughout the construction process, the majority of participants would like monthly and sometimes weekly updates
- Throughout the planning for construction and construction process, the majority of participants would like to receive information through:
  - email newsletter;
  - WT website and bulletins; and,
  - signs and posters.
- The temporary measures that would be most tolerable during construction are:
  - removal of on-street parking;
  - one-way travel only; and,
  - extended periods of TTC bus service (instead of streetcar).
- In regards to street furniture along QQ, the participants would overwhelmingly prefer seating (i.e. benches, muskoka chairs). The second choice is public art and the third choice is water features.
- Although 46 out of 96 participants did not provide additional comments (47.8%), the comments received were generally quite positive; several comments focused on the WaveDecks, transportation and landscape treatment.

- Examples of additional comments received:
  - “Continue to be bold, press on! I live on the Queens Quay and am ecstatic with the progress!”
  - “Everything possible should be done to ensure that businesses are not put out of business during this process. No bridges, please.”
  - “A playground for small children please! (to encourage families) and concentrated effort to get better retail shops. Transit, transit, transit!”

# Appendix



# Community Update Meeting #1

May 12, 2010



# CENTRAL WATERFRONT COMMUNITY UPDATE MEETING

May 12, 2010

[www.waterfronttoronto.ca](http://www.waterfronttoronto.ca)



## Agenda

Opening Remarks	6:00pm
Central Waterfront Public Engagement	6:10pm
Downtown Waterfront Master Plan	6:25pm
Queens Quay Schematic Design	6:45pm
York Quay Revitalization Phase Two Design Update	7:05pm
Portland Slip Water's Edge Scope and Concept Design	7:15pm
Discussion	7:25pm

## Input and Feedback

Your input is important and will help Waterfront Toronto to ensure that future public engagement is relevant and useful to you. Please answer the following questions and return this form at the sign-in table or to a Waterfront Toronto representative.

### 1. What are the main reasons for your interest in the Central Waterfront? (Please select all that apply)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> I live in the neighbourhood  | <input type="checkbox"/> I am interested in public transit along Queens Quay              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I am a local business owner  | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a cyclist and I often travel through the Central Waterfront |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I work in the neighbourhood  | <input type="checkbox"/> I am a student with an interest in waterfront revitalization     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I don't live or work nearby but I am interested in waterfront revitalization | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) _____                                    |

### 2. Would you like to have more detailed information on any of the projects discussed today?

Please describe what you are interested in (for example, a component of detailed design for Queens Quay).

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### 3. How often would you like to receive information about the revitalization of Queens Quay?

**Throughout the process of planning for construction**  
(Select up to three options)

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A few times each week         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) _____ |

**Throughout the construction process**  
(Select up to three options)

- |   |
|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monthly                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Weekly                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A few times each week                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daily                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> I would like to receive live updates |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe) _____        |

**4. In what format would you like to receive information about the revitalization of Queens Quay?**

**Throughout the process of planning for construction  
(Select up to three options)**

- Email newsletter
- Bulletins, signs and posters
- Waterfront Toronto website
- Live updates (e.g. Twitter)
- Social media (e.g. Facebook)
- Through a designated representative (e.g. condo corporation, resident, local business person)
- Newspaper or newsletter ads
- Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**Throughout the construction process  
(Select up to three options)**

- Email newsletter
- Bulletins, signs and posters
- Waterfront Toronto website
- Live updates (e.g. Twitter)
- Social media (e.g. Facebook)
- Through a designated representative (e.g. condo corporation, resident, local business person)
- Newspaper or newsletter ads
- Webcam
- Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

**5. The construction process along Queens Quay will be challenging and will involve some disruptions. Which of the following temporary measures would be most tolerable?**

**(Select up to three measures)**

- One-way travel only
- No designated cycling lanes
- Localized temporary closure of Queens Quay and rerouting
- Extended road closures
- Removal of on-street parking
- Reduced sidewalk and promenade widths
- Loss of sidewalk patios and exterior store frontage
- Extended periods of TTC bus service (instead of streetcar)
- Reduced direct access for services such as deliveries and waste management

**6. What types of street furniture would you like to see along Queens Quay Boulevard? (List up to three, in order of preference.) Examples include benches, planting pots, water features, seasonal lighting, community bulletin boards, banners and public art.**

1. (Most preferred) \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Please provide any other questions or comments on Central Waterfront projects.**

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If you are interested in participating in the Queens Quay Working Group and/or working sessions on specific components of Toronto's Downtown Waterfront Master Plan please see a Waterfront Toronto representative or visit Waterfront Toronto's website [www.waterfronttoronto.ca](http://www.waterfronttoronto.ca) for more information.

**Please return this form at the sign-in table or to a Waterfront Toronto representative.**