APPENDIX 4. Library Drop-In Feedback

The following feedback was documented at the Library Drop-In program. It was provided in writing (through feedback forms and/or on post-it notes that participants attached to the display boards) or verbally, with notes documented by the Waterfront Toronto and/or Swerhun facilitation team. The table organizes the comments by location (the library branch is shaded grey). The left-land column of the table identifies which Volume of the MIDP the comment(s) refer to or whether the comment was directed to one of the display boards describing Waterfront Toronto's risk assessment or evaluation. The topic column identifies the sub-section of the MIDP Volume that the comment(s) refers to, and the final column contains the comments themselves.

MIDP Volume	Topic	Comment
		Brentwood Library – July 11, 2019
2	Digital Innovation	Concern that the proposal is being put forward by Sidewalk Labs (and sought by Waterfront Toronto) in a framework of innovation and technology. City should set up its own technology advisory committee.
		We don't need to conquer countries anymore, we use tech to conquer people where they live through use of their data. Ads are one issue, but worse is profiting from people.
		Advice for City of Toronto Digital/Tech Advisory Panel: (A) Need counter cultural voice not pack of chattering classes - make use of tech people don't drag along the others. Its 1/3 position, 1/3 "just happy to be there" and 1/3 position counter. (B) Mandate will evolve and grow over time should be built in assumption from the start. (C) Tech is not a subset of info. It's everything from automation, biotech, AI, etc. It's much more than info.
		It's impossible to keep data private – it MUST be de-identified. What if someone wants to live in the neighbourhood but doesn't consent to data collection? What happens? What if 10-15 years Wi-Fi has negative health impacts? Commit private actor to cover this liability without opportunity to declare bankruptcy to avoid liability. All digital can/will lead to fewer jobs.
		What are they planning to do with all the data? How do we make sure they follow Canadian law?
	Mobility	Use what resources and connection you have instead of creating new ones. Model Brickworks and Distillery District.
	Public Realm	Are other developers going to be compelled to pay Google to use their "stoa" system and software?
3	IDEA District	Our government is so fixed on getting someone else to pay they don't protect themselves and those who live here. Make sure legal agreements are strong to ensure that a private actor does what they say they will, with consequences if they don't do it - and alternatives if big player breaks rules or leaves.
		Problem is not the proposal - it's that it's focused on technology.
		So what? What's the benefit of automated garbage? Some ideas trivial, some not. Idea seems to take form of "do whatever you can" - they want to use latest technologies at any given time and be part of the

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		"technologization" of society at any given time. Planning to promote any technology at any given time - they'll become more and more advanced at AI. They need to start taking a look at function (i.e. when deciding whether to do it, you need to look to the future). They don't see any reason to not move forward with any tech at any given time and not sure Waterfront Toronto sees a problem there either, their tension is over business aspect. Can't review tech without reviewing innovation.
WT	Risk Assessment	Why don't we do public toll and use money to invest in transit? (and tolls encourage people to take transit)
		Private actor takes everything that makes money and gives everything else to public actor.
**Fort York Public Library – July 20, 2019**
1	Economic Dev	Isn't there already a finalized play for developing Villiers' Island that has been through extensive public consultation?
		What are the benefits of acceleration? Do we save money?
		Are we sure we can absorb all of this development?
	Quayside / River District	Why do we have two tall buildings so close to each other?
		We need some separation between towers
		Keep land as public as possible. Upfront investment is attractive, but not worth long-term benefits.
	Social Infrastructure	Where is the consideration of equity and socio-economic inclusion?
		How does Bill 108 and changes to the Development Charges regime affect the financing of MIDP?
2	Mobility	Would be helpful to understand Sidewalk Labs proposal against what would be done regardless.
3	Roles for SWL	We don't know the effects of future data
		Danger of economy being linked to one company
		Accessibility / affordability affected because of Google HQ
		Option to opt in vs having to opt out - new rules in public space
		Google will bamboozle you
		Google will take a mile if given an inch
		Will you guarantee an even split in women/people of colour/white men in the decision-making group @ Sidewalk
WT	Evaluation	Are we allowed to lobby WT's board?
**North York Central Library – July 8, 2019**
1	Quayside / River District	Who will be able to afford rents?
		Mix of sustainable materials building - taller buildings and more residential
		Small owner-operated RETAIL
	Social Infrastructure	Would there be more than one community hub and civic assembly if the larger plan were adopted?
2	Mobility	Only in the circumstances that it does not take away from TTC tax revenues - it is already very under-funded. Perhaps a specific tax levied on residents? Or a fee-based payment system, per-use, that is used to fund Waterfront LRT.
		The ability to monitor, collect data, and respond to needs of people in moving efficiently and comfortably. Mobility between this development

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		and rest of the city is of the utmost importance, thus overcoming the expressway barrier.
		Re: WTMA - Strategy should go further to provide mobility spaces that are comfortably sheltered and secure. Proposal uses lower level (basement levels?) for transportation, good and trash. Toronto's "Path" is a great example of providing friendly community spaces.
	Privacy and Digital Governance	Is there a way to back out in the future?
		Are you open to this proposal? A: Not at all.
		Conditions? Broad, open access infrastructure. Not privatized but public. PEOPLE not government.
	Public Realm	The proposals create a very insular tone like it is its own city, separate from Toronto. Residents may feel isolated from the city, and vise-versa.
		Proposals need to be more innovative in providing public spaces that are comfortable throughout the year, especially winter months.
		Technology innovation are much more advanced than urban design proposals.
3	Transaction Economics: Real Estate	The affordability of the area is of concern to me - the neighbourhood feels like it is catering towards a younger, tech-oriented crowd. This demographic has traditionally had difficulty purchasing a home, and have had to rent housing. Will housing be affordable and will the cost of living be reasonable? On a related note, is it possible to prevent foreign investment?
		Queen / Saulter Branch – July 11, 2019
1	Economic Dev	Ignore the later proposal from Google "Sidewalk Lab" and evaluate the 12 acre site only.
		Don't let Google tell us how Toronto should be governed.
	Quayside / River District	90% more land just to prove the concept? WTF.
	Social Infrastructure	To what degree will AI and data be used to pre-program daily life? e.g. Orwell's 1984
		Why do we have to entertain 190 acres proposed? RFP asked for 12 acres, if they can't make it work on 12, they are the wrong party to use. Simple.
2	Building and Housing	Not very receptive. Don't want to lose democratic control over Waterfront.
		If one accepts an affordable housing unit, would you consent to Google using one's data and being surveilled?
		Tech companies like Google will drive up the cost of living.
		Wood buildings will rot and grow mould. Concrete and brick (with Canadians start up carbon cure) is what we use in Toronto. Wood buildings are not resilient, with glass - not strong enough in storm.
		This looks like it's going to cost the City a lot - schools, infrastructure. We don't have a vision for the City - so many new condos.
		Instead of data centres and infrastructure to electrify The Quayside, why not promote self-generating solar on devices = solar sites on windows and smartphones that can recharge and don't require additional draw from the grid? Off-grid distributed components - modular solar and soil -

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		what is an ecosystem services approach to using sea plants to secure soil and flood control? My challenge to Google would be - how region going to not use Ontario grid electricity for all of this project? If a Scottish island can teach themselves how to do it, a tech giant like Google might be able to do it.
		A Halifax company has solidified carbon and compacted it into concrete - why not use this technology, strength and carbon sequestration? I saw the models of the proposed buildings at the Sidewalk open house - timber and light. That a high strength storm would turn into toothpicks. When I was 13, a Tornado F3 ripped the roof off of our house when my mom and I were in the basement. Natural forces are powerful the raincoats and wood cubes would be ripped to shreds. Climate change requires better solutions and services throughout than is being presented. We do need as many trees alive as possible to sequester carbon - not kill them. Wood rot in humidity and persistent rain = why we use brick.
	Digital Innovation	Will SWL use 5G instead of Wi-Fi?
		What is the proposed security for data, Wi-Fi, or other digital innovations?
		5G health effects (used by military to disperse crowds) too powerful, carcinogenic
	Mobility	Concerned about 5G - EMFS. Brain development (children) health implications.
		We need LRT in order to achieve these objectives.
2	Privacy and Digital Governance	I don't think SWL should be collecting data, period. This is not a resident "giving" data, this is them "taking" it. No choice to resident.
		I don't want my data to be used or shared at all.
	Public Realm	3D mapping of underground infrastructure is a great idea.
		OSA - not an alliance. WTMA - call it a Division. Naming is wrong.
		The OSA is not realistic or viable. It is necessary to maintain parks better, but not for profit will be lacking funds.
		The whole waterfront should be a park.
	Sustainability	Not taking pressures of nature (resilience) seriously enough. Raincoats on buildings would get ripped out and shredded.
3	IDEA District	Governance concerns.
	Transaction: Economics Infrastructure	Definition of LVC? Use DE instead of thermal grid.
	Scarborough Civic Centre - July 9, 2019	
2	Building and Housing	Do we have compelling evidence that a large cluster of wooden buildings will not create the same hazard we had before the Great Fire of Toronto? There was a reason that the insurance underwriters recommended that we rebuild in stone/brick instead of wood.
		What mechanisms need to be put in place to preserve the 'affordable' in housing over time? What prevents an investor buying or renting an affordable unit or two or three, and then re-selling/re-renting them at above affordable rates? Rents can be controlled, in theory, although quality degrades, but sold units are difficult to manage going forward.

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	Mobility	A challenge is facilitating safe passage through the neighbourhood for people who are blind, or hearing-impaired/deaf or required to use a wheelchair. We cannot assume they can be guided only by digital technology.
		St. Lawrence Branch – July 18, 2019
1	Economic Dev	The biggest question is to what extent Sidewalk is a "business"? How do they calculate profit, loss, who pays whom, and who gets taxed? No way can we expect Sidewalk to take over our city taxes. Do citizens pay, either in kind or cash, for the "amenities", "services" offered by Sidewalk?
		No government $ to private corporations, and they must pay their tax
		We have too many government agencies already with the ones we already have
		How did we get rom 12 acres to this large project? No community consultation!
	Quayside / River District	For residents, the promise of transit is the big attraction: if this cannot be realized, many folks could lose interest. The big obstacle would be our existing political structure in municipal, provincial and federal governments (look at the TTC impasse currently). We don't need any new "entities" to be created for such decisions - we have too many already. Otherwise, our Waterfront is taking care of flood control (Villiers and Queen's Quay). Is it unlikely that Sidewalk can untangle the existing mess that is the Gardiner, Lakeshore, north-south crossovers, which every pedestrian, cyclist and bus has to navigate just to reach the lakefront. Any high tech solutions??
2	Building and Housing	What about the fire hazard of wooden construction?
		Do we want a private corporation to do community development?
	Privacy and Digital Governance	How will Waterfront Toronto be evaluating technologies without enough info? When will they get that info?
		How would Waterfront Toronto deal with a major violation, say, years after the neighbourhood is built?
	Public Realm	How will tall timber affect steel industry?
		Balconies aren't designed with wind in mind - build with enclosed/open balconies
		Roof gardens for fostering community
2	Public Realm	Inter-generational event spaces
		Benches that face each other to allow conversation
WT	Risk Assessment	Conditions? Only if Waterfront Toronto fully researches and understands Sidewalk and the tech
		How come a multinational/global company like Google comes without finances to invest? Why do they build in offerings from existing municipal departments? To the contrary, it is the business (Google) who should be taxed, like any business. Is this why Google chose to try how far they could squeeze benefits from Canada: they were rejected in New York. And Amazon rejected Toronto. What is the difference?
		Villiers is already developed and funded by Canadian governments, as recreational non-development zone and mostly for recreation. Don't mess with that.

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		The extent to which Sidewalk Labs' proposal to offer upfront financing for necessary municipal infrastructure is in the public interest depends on the reciprocity negotiated.
		Toronto Reference Library - July 25, 2019
2	Building and Housing	"Affordable" doesn't mean anything. What is "affordable"?
		Toronto Community Housing is charging less for rent than ODSP and OW provides, they are behind in repairs so why not raise the rent? Who is going to build market rental if the government doesn't raise the rent?
		Rent is in excess of 80% of disability income. Highest priorities in monthly budget: shelter, communication (usually cell phone because don't have landline or internet), transportation (have to get to medical appointments, etc.), Internet access, food
		Want to see true inclusionary housing, i.e. be able to select own apartment and not be restricted to a few specific units in a designated part of the building
		Co-ops: would like to see more co-ops, better model for rent geared to income; consider using labour funds to build co-ops; invest our pension funds in ourselves (i.e. co-ops), the government and Google can afford to provide loans for co-ops; and use profits from co-ops to invest in more co-ops
		Need transition assistance when moving off the street into housing
		impossible to go to work while living in a shelter
		Advice: rent geared to income, co-ops, truly inclusive, choice
		Focus on full cycle living - aging within the community
		Need support services, not just housing
		Replicate income thresholds in the City of Toronto - housing program should match the current need in the city (if 20% of the population makes $30k/year then 20% of the housing program should be geared to this population
		Decouple amenities within the buildings and placing them in the community to make the buildings cheaper and more affordable
		Affordable housing forever
		Community needs around the clock programming to make sure there is activity and people feel safe
		Shared use spaces like a gym that both the school can use and also the building residents
		Integrate seniors and children so there can be a social exchange. Concerns about senior isolation
		Offsite storage needs to be a free service for people living in affordable units. All-in affordability is important.
		Concerns about cost of living - groceries need to be affordable. The retail cannot be all focused on people with a lot of money.
		Discounted or free transit for people in affordable units.
		How are efficient units going to be accessible? You cannot make a shoebox accessible.
		Small units can lead to this idea of "mental turnover" where residents do not care about their community because they are always one foot out the

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		door. How can someone stay invested in their community if they look at it as a temporary housing situation?
		Rental housing residents should not be considered second class citizens
		Change the ratio of the zoning. More housing but not necessarily at full allowable zoning density
		Where is the deep affordable housing? 5% is not enough. Sidewalk Labs needs to make accommodations for people on ODSP
		Full integration - no "poor door".
		Higher percentage on the condo flip fee. 1% is not enough
		You cannot just build units and forget about the people - strong programming is needed and support services wrapped around the neighbourhood