

Elgin Promenade Phase 2 and 3 – Public Consultation

Art Gallery Burlington on May 16, 2017

I. MEETING OVERVIEW

On Tuesday May 16th, 2017, approximately 50 people including members of the public, the Downtown Parking Committee, the Burlington Downtown Business Association, and Coucillour Marianne Meed-Ward participated in the second public consultation for the Elgin Promenade. This public meeting was focused on Phase 2 and 3 of the proposed walkway. The purpose of the meeting was to present the layout of the full walkway, planning timing of the project and seek feedback related to how the new walkway should be used and what features should be included.

II. FEEDBACK FROM PARTICPANTS

The following information was shared by participants through messages written on sticky notes attached to various panels in the room.

USE – Beyond being a means of getting from one place to another, how might the new pathway and open adjacent to it be used (for example, to display public art, provide social spaces for events . .etc)?

- Raised platform for buskers
- Patio cafes
- Support local artist and public art
- Market
- Saturday farmer market

FEATURES – What kind or style of site furniture and lighting would you like to see included as part of the pathway design? Are there unique design features you would like to see in the adjacent open space?

- Lots of seating (that are not too low and not the benches with advertising on them)
- Pathway should be lit for walking
- Speaker system for music
- Free of advertising on benches
- Colourful planters (e.g. big red containers)
- Wide path for room to pass
- Flexibility for markets, fairs . .etc

- Wayfinding with interpretation information
- Pavilion or shelter for gathering place
- Public washrooms
- Plant material that is seasonal, native and edible
- Permeable surfaces
- Sheltered pavilion (e.g. Four Seasons downtown St Catherine's)
- Solar lighting
- Areas of shade are important too
- Lots of trees

NAME THE PATHWAY – What would be a great name for the new pathway (other than the Elgin Promenade)?

- Lakeside Lane
- The Pub Crawl
- Downtown Core Greenway
- The Drift
- The Canada 150 Promenade
- The Spoke
- The Knot
- Wellington Way
- Artist Alley
- The Lane
- The Village Path
- Sesquicentennial Pathway
- One Fifty
- Up from the Waterfront

- Pathway McPathface
- Centennial Promenade
- Down by the Bay
- The Ale Trail
- The Public Crew
- The Connection
- 150 Promenade

ADVANTAGES – What do you like about this concept? What are its strengths, advantages? What’s good about it and what makes it desirable and what benefits might it produce . . .etc

- A great ‘people’ place
- The organic elements (trees, flowers and water feature?)
- Safety
- Convenience
- Connectivity
- Ability to connect with community
- Connection from the path to Brant Street
- Should benefit Village Square Business

IMPEDIMENTS - What are the weaknesses/disadvantages of the concept? What are the things that don’t make sense to you or that are potentially problematic? What are the potential flaws in the concept?

- Keep current one-way traffic in Parking Lot 1
- Traffic bottlenecks on Elizabeth St at entrances/exits to Lot 1 and 4
- Phase 4 is so important to the east – make it happen
- No connection with Spencer Smith bike path
- This is great but interim connectivity to parking lot “future” (phase 4) development is crucial right now
- Concern about add 1 traffic on Pine – already terrible

- When will the link B/W Pearl and Martha (phase 4) be confirmed?
- Parking is an issue for the businesses. With Bridgewater bringing 300 banquet +200 restaurant guests. They only were 189 resident spaces. Where will the guests park Downtown?

MITIGATION – How can concept impediments, concerns or objections be addressed? How can perceived weaknesses/disadvantages or flaws be mitigated, reduced or eliminated?

- On going communication so people are kept informed and not blind-sighted
- Innovation to redirect drivers to garage @ Locust structure. Install a sign like on Brant Street advertising open spots in the garage
- Reduce parking \$ fee in Locust garage
- Add a SIGN on the east side of Lot 4 advertising available parking after 6pm @425 Pearl Street
- Add a temporary SIGN in Lot 4 advertising more parking is available in garage 2 blocks away
- Add SIGNS that advertise public parking after 6pm in lot on west side of Sims Square

MAYBES – What, if any, are the uncertainties related to the concept? What key questions do you have about it? What the major unknowns?

- Extend the promenade all the way down Elgin Street to Maple Ave
- Pathway Lighting to extend evening safe use for core (not overhead but on path as marker)
- How will downtown merchants meet accessibility requirements by 2015?

III. NEXT STEPS

Many ideas and viewpoints were shared and captured in these summary meeting notes. The next steps include posting these summary notes and presentation graphics on City's project web page.

<http://www.burlington.ca/en/services-for-you/elgin-street-promenade.asp>

Look for additional updates to this web page throughout the summer as plans are updated and information becomes available.