

PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)

MEETING #1: Tuesday, March 29, 2022, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Public Advisory Committee

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

The initial PAC meeting was to facilitate introductions among the members, provide an overview site context and understand existing conditions. The PAC members were presented the proposed Vision and Guiding Principles with an opportunity to provide feedback and understand the next steps for the Master Plan.

ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY OF FEEDBACK

Many of the PAC members expressed a sincere excitement and vested interest in being a member of the PAC and in the Master Plan. The discussion involved a high degree of interest in improving Confederation Heights, with a desire for prioritizing active mobility and accessibility as key principles of the Master Plan.

A major element of the discussion was regarding the transformation of Confederation Heights into a mixed-use, complete community and conversation surrounding the federal government's commitment towards this. A perceived territorial attitude from the government was noted, describing that this limits the opportunities for redevelopment and hinders the realization of what the community envisions for the area.

There is a strong desire from the PAC to really see this site transformed, with more of an emphasis on the live and play notions within the vision for the site, moving beyond the idea of a place to work as much of the land is currently tied up in federal government uses.

KEY THEMES OF THE DISCUSSION

Vision and Guiding Principles

The main outcome of the PAC was to receive feedback on the proposed Vision and Guiding Principles developed by the consultant team. Initial feedback was in support of what was proposed, with a desire to take a deeper dive into the background in support of each principle. Suggestions were made on the number, order and wording of some of the principles among other feedback. Members agreed to reflect further on the proposed Vision and Principles and provide additional feedback after the meeting.

Accessibility and Inclusivity

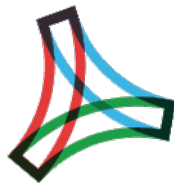
There was discussion around the term "15-minute neighbourhood" and if this terminology is inclusive of those with mobility challenges and seniors for example. This comment resonated with many members as a reminder to ensure that inclusivity and accessibility should be key principles in the redevelopment of Confederation Heights. Members also expressed comments regarding vulnerable populations with a particular focus on age and ability, including a desire to look beyond planning for complete streets and really prioritize people.

**CONFEDERATION
HEIGHTS**

Realize the potential

**BUTTES DE LA
CONFÉDÉRATION**

Réaliser le potentiel



Canada Lands Company
Société immobilière du Canada



Public Services and
Procurement Canada

Services publics et
Approvisionnement Canada

FOTENN

Innovative and Forward-Thinking Planning

The idea of innovative and forward-thinking planning and design was raised by several members, where Confederation Heights presents an opportunity to think outside of the box, considering international design practices and becoming world-class.

Transportation and Connectivity

Transportation was highly recognized as a key issue in Confederation Heights by the committee. PAC members expressed their desire to see the area move away from the auto-centric focus and prioritize active mobility and transit, with a vision of the site as a place to bike and walk. Support was expressed for parking reduction, where it was deemed that it is no longer appropriate given the site's proximity to downtown and its connectivity to its surroundings. It was also noted that the site is well connected by transit and that this presents opportunities for building more densely near transit stations.

Mixed-Use/Complete Community

The theme of mixed-use development in Confederation Heights was embedded throughout the discussion as a key priority for the PAC and what should be an integral part to the Master Plan. This was raised by many members and there was a strong desire for the federal government to make a commitment to realize the site's potential as a complete community. It was noted that buildings alone do not animate the streets enough; that there needs to be open public spaces to allow for vibrant areas, supported by elements such as art, street furniture, plazas, and small-scale vendors. One member highlighted the need for healthcare facilities (such as clinics and hospitals) to be considered as a part of the planning.

Heritage

Members were interested in the future of the different heritage buildings on site, specifically if the heritage designation would prohibit the building from being torn down. Participants were also interested in knowing more about designation on the heritage views seen coming to the site from the Airport Parkway and if the view has a formal designation which comes with requirements.

NEXT STEPS

Closing remarks were provided by the Chair, who encouraged members to provide, and submit their additional feedback to the Draft proposed Vision and Guiding Principles by April 22, 2022. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

“Exciting that federal government is looking to make major parcel of land more useable and integrated as part of the community. Keep up the great work on the goal of live work and play.” PAC Member
