

Jane Finch Initiative - Ideas Report and Community Development Plan Phase 2

Date: April 12, 2022

To: Economic and Community Development Committee

From: Interim General Manager, Economic Development and Culture and Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration

Wards: Ward 7 - Humber River-Black Creek and Ward 6 - York Centre

SUMMARY

The Jane Finch Initiative is a resident-informed project to plan for the future of the Jane and Finch area (Neighbourhood 24 - Black Creek and Neighbourhood 25 - Glenfield-Jane Heights). The Initiative involves the development of two integrated plans – a Secondary Plan and a Community Development Plan – both intended to support residents, local groups and businesses as the area changes over time, including with the opening of the Finch West Light Rail Transit line.

This report provides an update from staff in the Social Development, Finance and Administration and Economic Development and Culture Divisions. It responds to City Council's direction to report with a draft Jane Finch Initiative Community Development Plan and a summary of community input received by the fourth quarter of 2021. Due to COVID-19 and its impacts on both community members and City staffing requirements, the Phase 1 engagement process was slowed to ensure meaningful participation. It is now complete. This report summarizes this first round of community engagement and outlines a series of directions to guide the next phase of work to develop a Community Development Plan for the study area. Phase 2 will continue to prioritize extensive engagement to ensure the development of a community centered plan.

An additional staff report, Jane and Finch Initiative: Ideas Report and Phase 2 Directions, prepared by the City Planning Division and is to be included on the agenda of Etobicoke and York Community Council at its meeting on April 19, 2022. That report speaks to the development of the Secondary Plan and urban design guidelines. It is the intention of staff that these two reports be considered together by City Council if forwarded with recommendation by the respective Committee and Community Council. The Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report (Attachment 3) is attached to both reports and speaks to the initiative as a whole, combining project background and directions to be pursued related to both land use and community development, and informed by community engagement. A summary of the Community Development Plan themes and proposed actions is included as Attachment 1.

Over the course of 2021, through a first round of engagement, community members shared their thoughts, concerns and aspirations for the future of the neighbourhood. A record of these community conversations is contained in the Jane Finch Initiative Phase 1 Engagement Summary Report (**Attachment 2**) prepared by the City's engagement partner, the Jane Finch Community and Family Centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration and the Interim General Manager, Economic Development and Culture recommend that:

1. City Council request the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration and the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture to use the Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report, found in Attachment 3 to this report, as a guide for a second phase of community engagement.
2. City Council request the Executive Director, Social Development, Finance and Administration and the General Manager, Economic Development and Culture to report back with a proposed Jane Finch Community Development Plan and associated resource requirements to be considered in the 2024 operating budget process, guided by the Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report and input from ongoing community consultation, by the third quarter of 2023.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Funding to undertake the work proposed in this report including the divisional contributions to Phase 2 community engagement is included in the 2022 Operating Budgets for Economic Development and Culture, and Social Development, Finance and Administration Divisions.

In 2023, staff estimate that funding of \$0.250 million will be required to support the delivery of the community engagement work plan. The additional funding required to support the community engagement activities will be requested in the 2023 Operating Budget Submissions for Social Development, Finance and Administration, and will be considered with other City priorities as part of the 2023 budget review process.

If City Council approves the recommendation to report back with a proposed Jane Finch Community Development Plan and associated resource requirements by the third quarter of 2023, a resource ask to implement the plan will need to be included in the 2024 Operating Budget process.

The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

Investment in the Finch West Light Rail Transit line will provide convenient and reliable rapid transit to residents, businesses and institutions in Jane and Finch, improving connections to the city's higher-order transit network for a part of the city that has been

underserved. However, investment in rapid transit alone will not ensure the development of equitable and inclusive neighbourhoods along the transit line. The Jane and Finch area is shaped by collective legacies of colonization of Indigenous peoples and land, histories of systemic anti-Black racism and discrimination, and the institutional marginalization of broader equity-deserving groups in the area. These legacies shape the health and overall life outcomes of Indigenous, Black, and equity-deserving community members.

Consultations during Phase 1 of the Jane Finch Initiative have highlighted longstanding concerns from residents about the potential impacts of gentrification and the threat of displacement - particularly for Black Torontonians and other equity-deserving groups - as a consequence of the development that transit investment is likely to stimulate. Community members have expressed a strong desire to be able to grow in place.

A Secondary Plan and a Community Development Plan, to be developed through meaningful engagement with local communities, will aim to respect, enhance, and preserve what residents value about their neighbourhoods, amplify existing community-led initiatives and leadership, respond to unique issues facing Indigenous, Black, and equity-deserving groups, advance inclusive economic opportunities and invest in community improvements.

As the focus of this report, a Community Development Plan more specifically offers the potential to recognize and enhance what residents value in their community today, and to address existing economic and social disparities between the Jane and Finch area and the rest of the city through impactful programs and services for Indigenous, Black, and equity-deserving communities. It can also draw on the City's policy levers, partnerships and advocacy/influence with other orders of government to encourage training and apprenticeship, hiring and entrepreneurship opportunities people experiencing economic challenges. The plan can additionally support enhanced access to community spaces and facilities, and collaborative community partnerships.

Through its interdivisional and participatory approach, the Jane Finch Initiative will advance a number of the City of Toronto's equity strategies and commitments including the Toronto Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy, the Housing TO Action Plan, the Reconciliation Action Plan, the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism, Tower Renewal and the Divisional Strategy of Economic Development and Culture Divisional Strategy.

DECISION HISTORY

At its meeting of June 29, 2020, City Council adopted Item EC12.1, Jane Finch Initiative - Community Development Plan and Updated Land Use Planning Framework, which requested three divisions - City Planning, Social Development, Finance and Administration and Economic Development and Culture - to begin the first phase of a collaborative community planning initiative and an associated resident, stakeholder and Indigenous engagement process in the Jane and Finch area that would advance social equity and economic inclusion for current and future residents, manage future growth and development, and guide investment in infrastructure and services.

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2020.EC12.1>

At its meeting on December 9, 2015, City Council adopted Item PG8.9, the Finch Avenue West and Sheppard Avenue East Corridors – Planning Study Approach, which requested the Chief Planner and Executive Director, City Planning, to initiate a planning study focused on the area around Keele Street and Finch Avenue West in recognition of planned rapid transit investments -- the Toronto-York Spadina Subway Extension and the Finch West LRT. Through Item PG8.9, City Council also approved two subsequent areas for future planning studies along Finch Avenue West: 1) Jane Street and Finch Avenue West; and 2) Albion Road, Kipling Avenue and Finch Avenue West.
<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2015.PG8.9>

COMMENTS

The Jane and Finch area is poised to undergo change in the years ahead. Construction of the Finch West Light Rail Transit line, running from the Toronto Transit Commission's Finch West Station to Humber College, is underway with completion planned for 2023. With the arrival of the Light Rail Transit, real estate investment is expected to increase, especially within walking distance of the study area's four future Light Rail Transit stops. Development interest is anticipated in particular on larger sites within the area, the largest of which are three shopping malls with significant surface parking at the Jane Street and Finch Avenue West intersection.

The Jane and Finch Initiative study area is formed by combining City-defined Social Planning Neighbourhoods 24 (Black Creek) and 25 (Glenfield-Jane Heights). Both of these are included in the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy as Neighbourhood Improvement Areas, prioritized for investments based on measures of well-being. In addition to existing barriers facing many of the study area's residents, it is among the parts of the city that have been most impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in terms of residents' health and economic livelihood.

At the outset of work to develop an updated Secondary Plan for Jane and Finch, the City Planning Division sought input from the Economic Development and Culture and Social Development, Finance and Administration Divisions. Together, staff recommended that in parallel to the development of a Secondary Plan, the City could also examine its policy levers and ability to influence the social, economic and cultural opportunities for area residents. City Council endorsed this project structure and provided direction to staff to conduct research and community engagement to inform a parallel Community Development Plan.

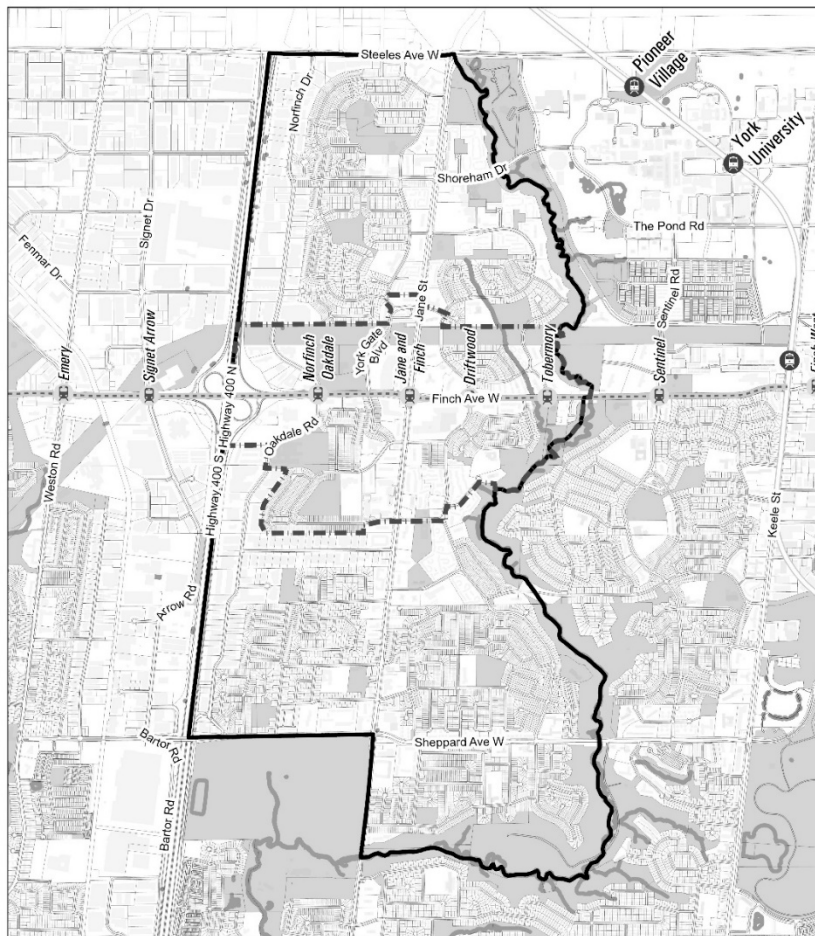
The Secondary Plan and the Community Development Plan will share goals and will include some of the same themes. But while the Secondary Plan will, once approved by City Council provide consistent guidelines for new development once it is approved by City Council, the Community Development Plan will continue to evolve through ongoing partnership and discussion between multiple parties including the City, community members, community organizations and local institutions.

Staff are now bringing forward two staff reports to mark the end of Phase 1 of the Jane Finch Initiative work and to seek City Council direction for subsequent phases. Both staff reports have attached the same combined Ideas Report (Attachment 3) as the proposed basis for future work. This staff report, presented to the Economic and

Community Development Committee, focuses on social, economic and cultural themes and directions for Phase 2(Chapter 4 of the Ideas Report). The parallel report to Etobicoke and York Community Council focuses on the policy directions related to land use themes (Chapter 3 of the Ideas Report).

Study Area

The boundaries of the Jane Finch Initiative study area align with City-defined Social Planning Neighbourhood 24 - Black Creek and Neighbourhood 25 - Glenfield-Jane Heights. This study area is shown in solid black line on Figure 1, roughly bounded by Highway 400 to the west, Steeles Avenue West to the north, Black Creek to the east, and Sheppard Avenue West and a portion of Black Creek to the south. The initial boundaries of the Secondary Plan area are shown by the dotted black line. The two neighbourhoods that form the study area are included with the same boundaries in the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 as Neighbourhood Improvement Areas. Figure 1: Jane Finch Initiative Study Area



Jane Finch Initiative Study Area

- | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Draft Secondary Plan Area | Existing Built Form | Subway Stations | Draft map |
| Study Area | Municipal Parcel | Subway Line | |
| Existing Streets | Finch West LRT Stations | Watercourse | |
| Parks & Open Spaces | Finch West LRT Line | | |

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Streams of Work and Phasing

In June 2020, City Council requested City Planning, Social Development, Finance and Administration, and Economic Development and Culture, to work collaboratively with other Divisions and agencies on a participatory community planning exercise in Jane and Finch. The project structure was to include three integrated streams of work:

- Comprehensive engagement with residents, stakeholder groups and businesses to identify needs, priorities and aspirations (jointly by all three Divisions);
- A Community Development Plan that advances people-focused initiatives to build social inclusion, community safety, inclusive economic opportunities and a strong neighbourhood (led by Social Development, Finance and Administration and Economic Development and Culture); and
- An update to the land use planning framework with Official Plan policies and design guidelines to shape development and identify the community facilities and infrastructure needed to support existing and future populations (led by City Planning).

The initiative has three phases. Each phase is informed by comprehensive community engagement. This report marks the end of Phase 1 and the beginning of Phase 2:

Phase 1: Taking Stock (2020-2021)	Phase 2: Exploring Options (2022)	Phase 3: Final Plans (2023)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background Report • Vision and Guiding Principles • Developing policy ideas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban design options • Draft Secondary Plan • Draft Community Development Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final plans

Community Engagement

The first phase of engagement on the Jane Finch Initiative was designed around the principles of equity, reciprocity, transparency and meaningful participation. The process aimed to create avenues for Jane and Finch residents and communities to actively engage in and influence the city building process. It was informed by an Equitable Community Engagement Terms of Reference co-designed with Black community leaders in collaboration with the City's Confronting Anti-Black Racism Unit. The approach includes offering honouraria in recognition of the time and the personal, professional and emotional labour that people spend providing their input. Many of the consultation events were also enhanced by the participation of community facilitators retained through the [Jane Finch Community and Family Centre](#). Community facilitators helped to create an environment that allowed the free exchange of thoughts and ideas.

Through an open Request for Expressions of Interest process, the City of Toronto partnered with the [Jane Finch Community and Family Centre](#), the local United Way anchor agency, to facilitate community engagement for the Jane Finch Initiative. This approach builds on the principles set out in the [For Public Benefit: City of Toronto Framework for Working with Community-Based Not-For-Profit Organizations](#), which

addresses the role of local organizations in promoting community vitality and helping residents participate in civic life.

A Community Advisory Committee was formed made up of interested members from Jane and Finch communities. People were invited to express their interest in joining the committee through a flyer that was delivered to all 18,000 addresses in the area. The Jane Finch Community and Family Centre received 50 responses from which 21 members were selected using demographic parameters to ensure that the diversity of the broader Jane Finch community was represented. Members span a range of ages and most have self-identified as being members of one or more equity-deserving groups.

The Phase 1 engagement process ran from November 2020 to December 2021. It used a mix of methods including meetings and web-based tools in an effort to reach a comprehensive cross-section of the community. A summary of meetings and communication channels follows in Table 1. Due to the COVID-19 public health restrictions, engagement activities took place virtually.

Table 1: Summary of Community Engagement

Channel	Detail
Indigenous Engagement	<p><i>Treaty holders and traditional caretakers:</i> Connected with First Nations groups whose traditional territories lie within the study area to raise awareness about the planning work underway and to start the conversation about how each group would like to be engaged.</p> <p><i>Aboriginal Affairs Advisory Committee:</i> Staff sought input from the Committee on the draft Indigenous engagement strategy.</p> <p>The Community Advisory Committee includes members identifying as First Nations, Inuit or Metis.</p>
Community Advisory Committee Meetings	<p>Monthly meetings beginning in June 2021. These meetings are ongoing.</p>
Public Meetings	<p>Three public meetings including a launch event in November 2020, a visioning and guiding principles workshop in May 2021 and a Phase 1 review and feedback session in November 2021.</p>
Stakeholder Group Meetings	<p><i>Landowners:</i> One meeting with owners of lands within the proposed Secondary Plan area.</p> <p><i>Youth:</i> Three meetings with youth leaders in the community.</p> <p><i>Jane Finch Hub Organizing Committee:</i> One consultation with the community's organizing committee for the Jane Finch Community Hub and Centre for the Arts.</p> <p><i>Agency Cluster:</i> Two meetings with human service agencies that provide services and supports to residents in the area.</p> <p><i>Inclusive Economic Opportunities Round Table:</i> Two meetings with groups and individuals working to further inclusive economic opportunities.</p>

Channel	Detail
Stakeholder Group Meetings continued	<p><i>Arts and Culture:</i> Two meetings with groups and individuals involved in arts and culture in the neighbourhood and one-on-one follow-up interviews with five artists.</p> <p><i>Firgrove Revitalization:</i> One meeting with tenant leaders of the Toronto Community Housing Firgrove community.</p> <p><i>Confronting Anti-Black Racism:</i> One meeting with members of the Confronting Anti-Black Racism Partnership and Accountability Circle.</p> <p><i>Heritage:</i> Two focus group meetings with residents having an interest in and knowledge of local heritage.</p> <p><i>Grassroots Groups:</i> One meeting with grassroots resident leaders and community groups.</p> <p><i>Local Businesses:</i> Two meetings with local businesses and owners of commercial and industrial properties in the Jane Finch area, one of which included a discussion of the potential for establishing a Business Improvement Area organization. This consultation included a survey of area businesses.</p>
Web-based Tools	<p><i>Website:</i> A comprehensive project website containing background information on the project, summaries of events, and information about the process: www.toronto.ca/janefinch</p> <p><i>Virtual Open House:</i> Use of the City's web-based, asynchronous engagement platform that allowed for feedback on a series of information boards and an ideas forum, where visitors could share their thoughts on planning for the area.</p> <p><i>Video:</i> A community-produced video entitled 'Valuing the Present, Imagining the Future' in which residents reflect on Jane and Finch.</p>

The engagement process during Phase 1 engaged directly with over 380 people.

What we heard:

Key issues coming out of the community conversations in Phase 1 include:

- Prioritizing the unmet needs of existing communities when planning for growth and change;
- Addressing issues of housing affordability, gentrification, and displacement;
- Providing a new park near the intersection of Jane and Finch, as well as making all parks and public spaces safe and accessible;
- Creating an accessible, transit-supportive community with improvements to pedestrian and cycling infrastructure;
- Maintaining and enhancing existing community service facilities to meet evolving needs and leveraging new development for community benefits;
- Investing in and providing additional programs for all demographics, especially newcomers, seniors, youth, children and people living with a disability;
- Improving access to food including space and support for community-led food initiatives like gardens, community farms and other infrastructure to support food sovereignty;
- Providing free access to Wi-Fi, tech equipment and programs;
- Providing affordable, accessible and consistent spaces for grassroots groups, non-profit organizations and social enterprise initiatives to carry out their work;

- Supporting local arts and culture programming by creating opportunities for local artists, promoting art in public spaces, and improving access to space and resources for artists/the arts; and,
- Advancing climate action through net-zero carbon planning, public realm enhancements and encouraging energy retrofits.

A report providing a detailed summary of input received during the community engagement process has been prepared by the Jane Finch Community and Family Centre and can be found in Attachment 2.

Proposed Community Development Plan Themes:

Chapter 4 of the Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report (Attachment 3) sets out five key themes that have been identified through engagement as key elements of an eventual Community Development Plan. These five themes are:

1. Social development;
2. Arts and culture;
3. Inclusive employment opportunities;
4. Inclusive entrepreneurship opportunities; and,
5. Resources, partnerships and governance.

Under each of these high level themes, City staff have taken community suggestions and evaluated possible levers and partnerships. These are referred to as 'directions' for further exploration as part of Phase 2 work. Under each of these directions are some more specific proposed actions to guide this Phase 2 engagement, research and policy development. Community Development Plan themes are summarized below. They are listed with their more specific Phase 2 directions and proposed actions in the Ideas Report and the summary table in Attachment 1:

1. Social Development:

Through the Jane Finch Initiative Phase 1 community engagement process, participants identified the need for social development actions that will enhance the lives of Indigenous, Black, and equity-deserving residents across the neighbourhoods. Community members shared a desire to be more involved in the decision-making processes that shape the Jane and Finch area and wanted new levels of support and investment to address what has felt like a lack of institutional engagement historically, and investment in the area. General directions for the City and partners to further explore in Phase 2 include prioritizing and centering equity-deserving groups in the plan's development; creating actions to improve accessibility for people with disabilities; improving the availability and accessibility of community spaces for all; promoting food sovereignty and food justice; advancing new approaches to community safety and well-being; and creating a plan that addresses gentrification and displacement.

2. Arts and Culture:

Through the Jane Finch Initiative community engagement, local artists and creatives identified the need for additional support in the form of resources, space and opportunities in order to continue to build a thriving, vibrant and sustainable local arts and culture ecosystem. Community members emphasized the need for dedicated

community-run arts spaces, as well as access to funding and development opportunities that will nurture local artists and organizations to support their growth and sustainability. They also emphasized the importance of opportunities for community members of all ages to engage locally in arts and culture. General directions for Phase 2 listed in the Ideas Report include connecting local artists with resources such as partnerships, mentorship and professional development opportunities to advance careers in the arts and creative industries; increasing access to arts and culture funding opportunities; supporting the development and creation of local art spaces; and connecting arts organizations to existing resources.

3. Inclusive Employment Opportunities:

Through the Jane Finch Initiative community engagement, participants have clearly identified a desire that public and private investments in Jane Finch result in good jobs and training opportunities for local residents. Community members have made a point to emphasize the impact of a lack of employment opportunities for youth but have noted the need for good jobs across labour force age categories. Ideas to be pursued in Phase 2 work include exploring how to engage with employers to encourage them to outreach to local candidates and provide good jobs and career pathways; exploring community benefits hiring and training opportunities in public sector infrastructure projects; investing in education and skills training; and complementing workforce development supports.

4. Inclusive Entrepreneurship Opportunities:

Another inclusive economic opportunity theme that has been widely shared through the Jane Finch Initiative community engagement has been the need to support local entrepreneurs to start and grow their businesses. Promising directions to be explored further in Phase 2 work include promoting awareness and accessibility of City of Toronto business supports; identifying affordable and appropriate space for business start-ups and locally owned small businesses; maintaining space to accommodate locally owned, independent and community serving businesses; and supporting social enterprise models that produce key goods and services while also advancing employment and ownership opportunities.

5. Resources, Partnerships and Governance:

Any new policies or programs to be introduced through a Jane Finch Initiative Community Development Plan will require a corresponding resource commitment and implementation plan. The Community Development Plan will be a living plan that consistently evaluates and updates work in the neighbourhood to foster economic and social opportunities, and will require an ongoing commitment in terms of resources for staff and program funding. Directions to be further specified in Phase 2 listed under this theme include developing an evaluation matrix for community actions and funding; developing a community based research agenda; prioritizing community decision making/collaborative structures; and prioritizing a strategically aligned resource strategy.

Policy Context

Role and Jurisdiction of Other Orders of Government

Many of the directions presented in the attached Ideas Report are related to social and economic development policy areas that are primarily within the jurisdiction of the

provincial government. For example, workforce development is funded and planned by the Province. While the City and partners have a role to play, it will primarily be to advocate for and complement policy decisions and programming funded and/or delivered by other orders of government. Likewise, child care options within the study area are critical but are dependent on Provincial and Federal policies and funding. Local childcare options stand to improve, for example, with the new bi-lateral Early Learning and Child Care Agreements.

Other City Place-Based Social, Cultural and Economic Development Initiatives

Notably, the Jane Finch Initiative is being developed at the same time as similar work is proceeding in other parts of Toronto. For example, while first introduced several years ago, the Regent Park Social Development Plan accompanied a new land use planning framework and is advancing many of the same social, economic and cultural policy directions as the attached Jane and Finch Initiative Ideas Report. Additionally, work that is proceeding along Eglinton Avenue West to maintain the cultural heritage and respond to displacement of communities in the Little Jamaica neighbourhood combines a lot of the same type of research and policy coordination. Upcoming work in the Downsview area can also build on these collaborative models. And as a last example, the City has provided input to and is observing the Inclusive Local Economic Opportunities project led by the United Way and corporate partners in the Greater Golden Mile area of Scarborough.

Equity Commitments

The City's equity commitment to Indigenous and Black communities through the unanimously approved Reconciliation Action Plan and the Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism will have positive development on the Jane Finch Initiative.

The [Reconciliation Action Plan](#) is a 10 year plan that will be a guide for advancing truth, justice and reconciliation with Indigenous People in the City of Toronto. The Reconciliation Action Plan sets out concrete actions and processes that ensure the City of Toronto's accountability to Indigenous community members and organizations and commits resources to achieve these goals.

Through the Growing in Place initiative, the [Confronting Anti-Black Racism](#) Unit is working with the staff team to address the destabilizing impacts of gentrification on Black communities and businesses, and to improve opportunities for Black residents to engage in the planning process for Jane and Finch. The [Toronto Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism](#) outlines 80 actions and 22 recommendations for the City to undertake over five years. Several of the recommendations have a bearing on the Jane Finch Initiative and are being integrated into staff's work with the community, including:

- Recommendation 19: Increase opportunities for Black Torontonians to participate in City decision-making;
- Recommendation 20: Make City spaces more accessible and welcoming to Black Torontonians;
- Recommendation 21: Invest in Black arts and culture; and
- Recommendation 22: Provide public education on issues of anti-Black racism in Toronto.

Additionally, several aligned City initiatives will further support the work of the Initiative. These are summarized below in Table 2.

Table 2: Aligned Initiatives

Aligned Initiative	Description
Black Food Sovereignty Strategy	The Black Food Sovereignty Strategy provide a framework to advance these considerations, using a community and public health informed approach to address the issue of chronic Black food insecurity by dismantling systemic socioeconomic barriers, while increasing access, opportunity and Black community ownership over their local food systems
Toronto Heritage Survey	The Toronto Heritage Survey conducts research and community engagement to develop an understanding of the historical development of neighbourhoods across the City, and to identify potential heritage resources. The results of the Toronto Heritage Survey guide long-range planning decisions, support transparent review of development applications, and further a number of policy goals beyond land-use planning, including ensuring that the Toronto Heritage Register reflects the values, histories and experiences of all of its residents.
Our Plan Toronto	Our Plan Toronto is the five-year Official Plan review process, which is mandated by the Province of Ontario, to satisfy conformity requirements set out in the <i>Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2020)</i> . It is identifying where growth should occur, and what is needed to support healthy, complete communities. This process includes planning for Major Transit Station Areas, including four stops on the Finch West Light Rail Transit line that fall within the Jane Finch Initiative Secondary Plan area. Major Transit Station Areas are required to be planned for transit-oriented development with specific density targets within an area that represents an approximate 10-minute walk to the transit stop. Planning for Major Transit Station Areas is linked to the provision of Inclusionary Zoning in certain new developments.
Jane Finch Community Hub and Centre for the Arts	In May 2021, City Council authorized staff to enter into an agreement of purchase and sale with Metrolinx for acquisition of a portion of the Finch West Light Rail Transit Maintenance and Storage Facility site – a 32-metre setback at 2050 Finch Avenue West – for use as a proposed community facility. Corporate Real Estate Management, in consultation with Social Development, Finance and Administration, CreateTO and other City Divisions are in consultation with the community, through the Jane Finch Hub Organizing Committee, on a terms of reference and community consultation approach for the development of the site and will report back with recommended steps by the end of the second quarter of 2022.

Aligned Initiative	Description
Music School at York Woods Library	In February 2022, City Council adopted a motion, Establishing a Music School at York Woods Library , endorsing the building of a music school at the site of the York Woods Library and directing relevant Divisions to explore its feasibility and begin community consultations. This motion is in response to inquiries from the Community Music Schools of Toronto which have expressed interest in – and have retained funding for – building a music school to serve the Jane and Finch community.
RapidTO	The City is working with the Toronto Transit Commission to introduce surface transit priority measures on select routes. RapidTO is examining a proposed Jane Street route between Eglinton Avenue West (future Mount Dennis Light Rail Transit Stop) and Steeles Avenue West (Pioneer Village subway station).
Toronto Community Housing Revitalization	The Firgrove-Grassways revitalization in Jane and Finch includes replacement of 236 RGI units, up to 600 market units and 107 net new affordable units.
Tower Renewal	The City's Tower Renewal program is helping owners of older apartment towers, including those in Jane and Finch, to make building improvements and revitalize the surrounding community.
Finch West Goods Movement Plan	The Finch West Goods Movement Plan is nearing completion. With the forthcoming Finch West Light Rail Transit line, it will recommend strategies that address the future shipping and freight delivery needs while considering the safety and efficiency of travel for commuters, transit users, cyclists and pedestrians.
Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020	The City's Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy (TSNS) supports healthy communities across Toronto by partnering with residents, community agencies and businesses to invest in people, services, programs and facilities in 31 identified Neighbourhood Improvement Areas
Public Art Strategy	The Toronto Public Art Strategy sets out a 10-year plan to enhance the City's commitment to public art. It puts forward a vision to empower creativity and community, everywhere. This is a vision for a city committed to public art, accessible to all, that reinforces neighbourhood character, embraces excellence in design, and advances the careers of local artists. The Jane and Finch area has been a priority for ArtworxTO: Toronto's Year of Public Art in 2021-22, the public face of the strategy.
Little Jamaica Master Plan	The Little Jamaica Master Plan development process will create culturally responsive tools and policies that support and contribute to the cultural identity and significance of the area; manage growth and development; advance social equity and economic inclusion for current and future residents to grow in place; and, guide investment in infrastructure and services.

Next Steps

This report seeks City Council direction to use the Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report (Attachment 3) as the basis for a second phase of community engagement and to report back with a proposed Community Development Plan by the third quarter of 2023.

Phase 2 of the Jane Finch Initiative will begin in the second quarter of 2022. It will include the following next steps:

- On-going comprehensive public engagement;
- Drafting a Secondary Plan for Jane and Finch;
- Drafting of urban design guidelines;
- Drafting a Community Development Plan for Jane and Finch; and,
- Ongoing coordination with other aligned initiatives outlined above.

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SIGNATURE

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ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Summary of Community Development Plan Themes and Phase 2 Proposed Actions

Attachment 2: Phase 1 Engagement Summary Report by the Jane Finch Centre

Attachment 3: Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report