

Attachment B: Community Development Action Plan

Ref #	Actions	Timeline	Lead Responsibility	Supporting Partners
Priority 1: Access to Housing				
1.1	Provide general and ongoing information and education on the range of housing types supported by the City (such as rent-g geared-to-income housing, supportive housing, co-op rental, affordable rental and home ownership), as well as the application processes.	Short Term	Housing Secretariat	Property Owners
1.2	Identify opportunities to provide a range of housing options including larger sized units for families (including multi-generational families), housing for seniors and live-work units.	Short Term	Property Owners	Housing Secretariat, City Planning
1.3	Explore opportunities for creating a range of housing options including rent-controlled, affordable rental, rent-g geared-to-income and supportive homes.	Short Term	Housing Secretariat	Property Owners, City Planning
1.4	Explore additional affordable home ownership opportunities, prioritizing Indigenous, Black and other equity-deserving households where possible.	Medium Term	Property Owners	Housing Secretariat, City Planning
1.5	In collaboration with local organizations, explore the feasibility of establishing community land trusts and cooperative ownership models.	Medium Term	Property Owners	Housing Secretariat

Priority 2: Access to Healthy and Affordable Food

2.1	Consider opportunities on private lands to explore new technologies (e.g. hydroponics), establish community gardens, community kitchens, as well as support community food security and sovereignty, food literacy, and food production such as programming and food banks. Partnership with Indigenous and Black not-for-profits and businesses as well as the local community is encouraged.	Short Term	Property Owners	Social Development, Finance and Administration
2.2	Provide outdoor spaces on public lands to support the establishment of community gardens and outdoor ovens to advance stewardship and community food security and sovereignty, food literacy, and food production. Prioritize working with Indigenous and Black-led not-for-profits, local agencies and organizations.	Short Term	Parks, Forestry and Recreation	Transportation Services
2.3	Work to improve access to a range of healthy, affordable, traditional and culturally appropriate food retail options, prioritizing Indigenous and Black communities where possible. This includes restaurants, food markets, grocery stores, markets, and smokehouses.	Medium Term	Property Owners	Economic Development and Culture

Priority 3: Arts, Heritage and Education

3.1	Support, host and/or organize festivals, fairs, markets, and events, prioritizing local, Indigenous and Black cultural and ethnic opportunities to continue to develop Downsview as a key location for arts and culture events. These events could support opportunities for bartering and pop-up vendors as well as the inclusion of youth.	Short Term	Property Owners	Social Development, Finance and Administration, Economic Development and Culture
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3.2	Establish and maintain partnerships with arts organizations and educational institutions to create spaces and opportunities for artists and creatives, with a focus on enhancing the visibility of Indigenous, Black and local arts and culture.	Short Term	Property Owners	Economic Development and Culture
3.3	Identify on-going funding opportunities to support Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving artists for artist creation and programming in the Downsview Area.	Short Term	Property Owners	Economic Development and Culture
3.4	Collaborate with First Nations Rights Holders, urban Indigenous communities and the City on opportunities to host Indigenous ceremonies on the land, with the ceremonies guided by Indigenous elders. Hosting of ceremonies should be considered prior to formal application submissions and throughout the development process.	Short Term	Property Owners	Parks, Forestry and Recreation, City Planning
3.5	Establish temporary and permanent public art, including cultural landmarks, sculptures, murals or monuments, celebrating the area's history, culture and natural heritage, such as Indigenous and Black history and culture, aerospace and local histories in Downsview.	Short Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Economic Development and Culture	Transportation Services, City Planning, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
3.6	Provide indoor and/or outdoor exhibition opportunities, outdoor pavilions, learning and performance spaces.	Short Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Economic Development and Culture	

3.7	Incorporate Indigenous design principles through housing, public spaces, community services and facilities, as appropriate. This should be accomplished through hiring of Indigenous designers and architects.	Short Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Parks Forestry and Recreation, Social Development Finance and Administration, Economic Development and Culture, Children's Services	
3.8	Explore opportunities to provide traditional Indigenous teaching lodges, arbors and spaces for sacred fires, in collaboration with First Nations Rights Holders and the urban Indigenous communities.	Medium Term	Property Owners and Parks, Forestry and Recreation	City Planning
3.9	Consider the history of the lands when establishing the name of streets and public spaces, such as opportunities to acknowledge the Indigenous, Black, aerospace and local histories. Undertake engagement to select the names.	Medium Term	Property Owners	Economic Development and Culture, Social Development, Finance and Administration, Transportation Services, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
3.10	Consider the design of an 'Ancestor Trail' in the Downview area which includes a range of opportunities for Indigenous plantings and teachings, stewardship, as well as sharing knowledge of Indigenous peoples and clans, such as through wayfinding, trail markers and other signage. This will be done in collaboration with First Nations Rights Holders and the urban Indigenous communities.	Medium Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Transportation Services	City Planning

3.11	Explore opportunities to establish an Indigenous cultural or friendship centre that can be used as a place to share knowledge, language, and traditions.	Long Term	Social Development, Finance and Administration, Economic Development and Culture	Property Owners
3.12	Explore opportunities to establish a Black cultural centre, and co-develop a vision for its operations, mandate and programming with the Black community.	Long Term	Social Development, Finance and Administration, Economic Development and Culture	Property Owners
Priority 4: Access to Recreation and Community Spaces				
4.1	Simplify the application processes for events, registration, and booking in Downsview Park.	Short Term	Canada Lands Company	
4.2	Explore opportunities to contribute to the creation of pollinator gardens and medicine gardens (such as tobacco, cedar, sweetgrass and sage) in partnership with First Nations Rights Holders and urban Indigenous communities, not-for-profits, local agencies, and organizations.	Short Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Social Development Finance and Administration	Transportation Services
4.3	Create an accessible community centre, with opportunities for not-for-profit sports and recreation organizations to permit space to support local programming and sports and recreation organizations.	Medium Term	Parks, Forestry and Recreation	
4.4	Provide access to affordable and appropriate long-term spaces (e.g. size, necessary facilities) for not-for-profit organizations, health and social service delivery providers as well as arts and culture organizations.	Medium Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Social Development, Finance and Administration, Economic Development and Culture	Toronto Public Health

4.5	Explore opportunities to establish multi-purpose space, including space to host multi-faith organizations.	Medium Term	Property Owners	
Priority 5: Access to Employment Opportunities				
5.1	Identify opportunities to create measurable community benefits targets that prioritize local residents, Indigenous, Black and equity-deserving groups for training, hiring and social procurement outlined in a community benefits plan. This includes but is not limited to access to training programs, a range of employment positions, identifying business opportunities for diverse-owned or local businesses, and hiring pathways into jobs, such as those related to construction.	Short Term	On private lands: Property Owners On public lands: Social Development, Finance and Administration	Economic Development and Culture, Toronto Employment and Social Services
5.2	Incorporate Indigenous, anti-Black racism and intersectionality training as part of the design and construction processes to support an equity-based approach.	Short Term	Property Owners	Social Development Finance and Administration
5.3	Increase community awareness of local job opportunities by sharing information through bulletins and organizing career fairs.	Short Term	Property Owners	Social Development Finance and Administration, Economic Development and Culture, Toronto Employment and Social Services
Priority 6: Establishing an Inclusive Economy				
6.1	Explore the feasibility of hosting and/or catalyzing a small business incubator(s) that offers a full range of supports and space, such as co-working spaces, mentorship programs and flexible spaces.	Short Term	Property Owners, Social Development, Finance and Administration	Economic Development and Culture

6.2	Collaborate with local not-for-profit organizations, small start-ups, and Post-Secondary institutions to support the development of emerging technologies and promote investment and innovation.	Medium Term	Property Owners, Social Development, Finance and Administration	Economic Development and Culture
6.3	Encourage the creation of new commercial spaces to support small-scale businesses, micro-retail, social enterprises and other diverse forms of entrepreneurship with a focus on Indigenous and Black entrepreneurs. Strategies could include start-up funding, affordable commercial rent, and flexible procurement and lease processes. Further, improvements to existing buildings may provide opportunities to foster these objectives.	Medium Term	Property Owners	Economic Development and Culture, Social Development Finance and Administration
Priority 7: Community Safety, Health and Wellbeing				
7.1	Explore opportunities to enhance wayfinding tools or features that improve user experience. This may include audio/visual features, ASL interpretation, and translation tools.	Medium Term	Property Owners	Parks Forestry and Recreation, City Planning, Transportation Services
7.2	Build a new and sustainable library that is welcoming, accessible and inclusive with a youth service hub to support youth programming and service delivery. Through community engagement, other specialized spaces might be included in the branch such as a children's early literacy centre, Digital Innovation Spaces and multipurpose rooms for community use.	Medium Term	Toronto Public Library	City Planning, Social Development, Finance and Administration
7.3	Provide space for an Indigenous-run child care centre, with outdoor gym equipment and a natural playground.	Medium Term	Children Services	Property Owners

7.4	Explore opportunities to provide programs, services and other supports for community health. These should contribute to improving access to mental and physical health services, harm reduction, intercultural therapy, as well as language, employment, and family supports. Particular focus is given for an Indigenous service and resource hub.	Long Term	Property Owners, Social Development, Finance and Administration	Toronto Public Health
Priority 8: Environment and Climate				
8.1	Create parks and other green spaces for recreation and leisure that are accessible to all ages and abilities, and that consider urban heat mitigation.	Short Term	Property Owners, Parks, Forestry and Recreation	
8.2	Support biodiversity efforts within the community, such as through park design, educational initiatives, green streets and intentional public realm design which includes native species.	Short-term	Property Owners, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, Transportation Services, City Planning	
8.3	Organize a knowledge exchange on climate resilience (e.g. Urban threshold, coping, recovery, adaptive, and transformative capacities) and its impacts on Downsview for residents and community groups.	Short-term	Social Development, Finance and Administration	Environment & Climate, Property Owners

The below table includes structures to support the implementation of the Community Development Plan Priorities and

Implementation Structures			
Undertake comprehensive and ongoing engagement with the Indigenous, Black and equity deserving groups as part of a District Plan application. This engagement will center building a Community Advisory Structure and an Engagement and Communication Strategy to support the ongoing implementation of the CDP including establishing a new cohort of the Community Resource Group, along with Indigenous sharing circles, and meetings with First Nations Rights Holders.	Short Term	Property Owners, Social Development, Finance and Administration and City Planning	
Develop a results-based monitoring and evaluation system that can support the implementation and reporting of the CDP. This could include establishing a Community Impact Table.	Short Term	Property Owners, Social Development, Finance and Administration	
Develop a Community Impact Table include property owners, public, foundation, institutional and private-sector partners to support the implementation of the CDP.	Short Term	Social Development, Finance and Administration and Economic Development and Culture	Property Owners