

Transportation Network and Event Logistics for Exhibition Place

February 2nd, 2024 | 9:30 AM

Today's Agenda

Presentation Objectives

Emerging Vision and Principles

Pedestrianization Plan

Consultation Feedback

Challenges and Opportunities

Discussion and Questions

Next Steps



Objectives

- To present a preliminary vision and principles for a more **pedestrian-oriented Exhibition Place**.
- To review **challenges and opportunities** with creating a more pedestrian-friendly Exhibition Place.
- To seek agreement in-principle on a future vision.



Board Presentation

Emerging Project Vision



Emerging Project Vision

Exhibition Place will be a **world-class** event space and multi-modal **destination** in Toronto and beyond. Visitors will be able to comfortably and safely access and enjoy Exhibition Place **year-round**. Their experience will be enhanced by **wayfinding**, **accessibility**, and **connectivity**.

Achieving the emerging vision will support implementation of the Exhibition Place Strategic Plan and Master Plan.



Background Studies

The goal of reimagining Exhibition Place will reflect existing policy/vision documents for the site and build upon the previous studies completed, including:

- Exhibition Place Strategic Plan
- Phase 1 Proposals Report (Exhibition Place Master Plan Phase 1)
- Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan
- Central Waterfront Secondary Plan
- Exhibition Place Cultural Heritage Landscape Assessment
- TFC Transportation Management Plan
- Exhibition Place Parking Study
- Ontario Place Redevelopment Traffic Impact Study

To support and align with these policies and studies, this feasibility study explores **connectivity**, **linkages**, **public realm improvements, open space**, and **operational considerations** at Exhibition Place.

Board Presentation

Emerging Principles



Emerging Principles



Connectivity

Pedestrian routes are continuous, connect beyond Exhibition Place, and give priority to walking and rolling.



User Experience and Safety

Make it comfortable and easy to find your way around Exhibition Place through lighting, wayfinding and signage.



Flexibility

Support a multimodal network that can accommodate the needs of different users at different times.

Board Presentation

Pedestrianization Plan





Corridor Key Focus Areas



Technical Considerations

Logistics & Operations

• How do we service each of the buildings within the Exhibition Place grounds?

Safety

 How do we protect pedestrians around vehicles? How do we make the space feel safe?

Wayfinding & Identity

• How do we welcome people into the "new" Exhibition Place?

Emergency Services

 How do we ensure that emergency vehicles maintain access throughout the site? ٩٧

Pedestrianization Strategy



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Board Presentation

Consultation Feedback



Summary of Vendor and Tenant Interviews

	Stakeholders	Key Themes	Key Messages	
• • •	Aqua Dolce CNE Hotel X Liberty Grand Medieval Times	Connectivity	Maintain and/or elevate North – South and East – West connections for visitors, tenants, and vendors	
•	MLSE QE Theatre and Annabel's Royal Agricultural Winter Fair	User Experience and Safety	Enhance user experience and safety through wayfinding and signage	Maintain parking for visitors, tenants, and vendors, including large specialty vehicles
•	TABIA Toronto EMS Toronto Event Centre Toronto Mounted Police	Flexibility	Enable flexible access across Exhibition Place for tenants, and vendors, including maintenance and operations vehicles	

Summary of Community Feedback

- Community Consultation Event held virtually on November 7th, 2023, during a regularly scheduled Exhibition Place community meeting.
- The proposed vision and principles were shared, as well as some inspirational examples of features that could be reviewed at a future stage of design.
- Feedback received was broad, but positive. There is a clear community interest in reimagining Exhibition Place as an active public space year-round, and in softening the hardscaped areas supported by features that encourage leisure/gathering.

Key Messages

Opportunity for more greenery in an urban environment

Picnic/grass areas for leisure/gathering

Exhibition Place is a much safer alternative for pedestrians compared to Lake Shore Blvd

Greater connectivity from the site boundaries to the core precinct Desire for more active street fronts (café, food, pop-up stores)

Board Presentation

Opportunities and Challenges



Key Opportunities to Address

The feasibility study highlighted the following opportunities for consideration:

- The GO/Ontario Line/TTC stations will be a landing point for many patrons, and the future design stages should consider the pedestrian flow to both Exhibition Place and Ontario Place.
- Consistent use of materials and design language throughout the site.
- Improvements to wayfinding features.
- Enhanced lighting and other design elements to promote the feeling of safety.
- Gateway features to announce that "you've arrived at Exhibition Place".
- Implementation of large-scale public art features (murals etc.).
- Improved connectivity for pedestrians and cyclists from the site boundaries, to the core area.
- Integration of new technologies to support the public realm.
- Include design features that promote activation at the street-level

Example Opportunities

Creative Lighting

Flexible Barriers

Public Art







Smart Wayfinding



Creative Lighting & Art Installations



Gateway Features

Key Challenges to Address

Through our feasibility study, we have identified the following challenges to be addressed during the next level of review:

- The method/style of vehicle barrier to be used at relevant crossing points.
- Materials and urban design choices throughout the site.
- Impacts to traffic operations, parking, and location of pickup/drop-off areas.
- Pedestrian and cycling connections to/from Ontario Place during special events.
- An updated operational/event logistics plan.

This Phase 1 Feasibility Study concluded that **these challenges can be solved**, but the exact solution will be determined during future project phases.

<u>A more pedestrian-friendly plan is compatible with the current and future operations of</u> <u>Exhibition Place.</u>

Next Steps

Following the conclusion of this Phase 1 Feasibility Study, the pedestrianization plan could be advanced through the following steps:

- Phase 2 Feasibility Study (greater involvement from stakeholders to further refine the scope for subsequent phases)
- Schematic design (a preliminary design to be informed by further technical studies)
- Design development (detailed designs with continued technical study inputs)

Some of the technical studies to be completed would include:

- Traffic modelling
- Site Storage (optimization/consolidation)
- Sub-surface utility impacts
- Stormwater impacts





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