

From: [David Harvey](#)
To: [Infrastructure and Environment](#)
Subject: [External Sender] My comments for 2024.IE12.5 on March 27, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee
Date: March 20, 2024 2:44:04 PM

To the City Clerk:

Please add my comments to the agenda for the March 27, 2024 Infrastructure and Environment Committee meeting on item 2024.IE12.5, Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan

I understand that my comments and the personal information in this email will form part of the public record and that my name will be listed as a correspondent on agendas and minutes of City Council or its committees. Also, I understand that agendas and minutes are posted online and my name may be indexed by search engines like Google.

Comments:

I am writing to express Park People's support of City staff's recommendations in Agenda Item IE12.5 and that the Committee endorse the Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan as well as creating an interdivisional advisory committee to guide the implementation of the Plan, with representation from The Bentway Conservancy and the Province.

The Under Gardiner Public Realm Plan is a transformative initiative that establishes shared principles and identifies opportunities that will help to redefine the identity, access and experience of Toronto's Central Waterfront.

Having followed the evolution of the Under Gardiner PRP, Park People is inspired by its commitment to innovation, sustainability, and community-centric design. The plan details a comprehensive vision for repurposing the underutilized spaces beneath the Gardiner Expressway into a cohesive, active corridor of dynamic, inclusive, and environmentally responsive public spaces. As Toronto continues to densify, this plan responds to the growing demands of communities along the corridor and ensures that we are collectively creating affordable, liveable, and accessible neighbourhoods across the waterfront.

Park People works to champion strong and sustainable communities with parks at the centre. We focus on using parks to build connections – between people and nature, communities and government and between urban residents and their neighbourhood green spaces. The Bentway and the Under Gardiner PRP are incredible examples of using creative community building and partnerships to connect downtown residents to green spaces and to each other.

As our city and the waterfront continues to evolve, it is imperative that we embrace forward-thinking initiatives like the PRP.

Sincerely,

Dave Harvey
Co-Executive Director
Park People
Suite 119, 401 Richmond St West
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 3A8