

## MEETING MINUTES –Public Open House 01

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Project:	Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan	Project No:	16-04-A
Meeting Date:	2017-01-25	Meeting Site:	The Rotunda, Scarborough Civic Centre
Report Date:	2017-02-06	Prepared By:	Chris Veres
Attendance:	See attached List		
Attachments:	Presentation		

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### 1.0 Key Messages

- 1.1
- Clarity is required on what the Public Art Master Plan will do, how it will work and who will use it.
  - Public art should complement the specific qualities of sites and contribute in meaningful ways to the evolving context of Scarborough Centre.
  - There is a recognized need for improved wayfinding in the Centre, many of the participants feel that public art can contribute greatly to improving wayfinding or be incorporated within a larger wayfinding strategy.
  - Public art should celebrate the Centre as the Heart of Scarborough.
  - Public art should promote and celebrate the diversity and culture of Scarborough.
  - Support diverse approach to public art and support local artists
  - Public art as a connector - connecting places and people

### 2.0 Meeting Overview

- 2.1 On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2016, 15 members of the public, City Staff and members of the project team participated in the first public open house of the Scarborough Centre Public Art Master Plan (SCPAMP). The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the project and seek feedback on the study team's assessment of existing conditions and work to date. The following summary is not a verbatim transcript; it is a summary of the key feedback shared by participants at the meeting.

### 3.0 Questions of Clarification

- 3.1 Q. Is the public art master plan for all of Scarborough?

*A. No, SCPAMP is for the Scarborough Centre. Scarborough Centre is defined by Highway 401 to the north, Ellesmere Road to the south, the lands generally along Brimley Road to the west, and the lands generally along Bellamy Road North to the east. The Centre represents all of Scarborough, so stories about all of Scarborough are welcome.*

- 3.2 Q. What stage is the intensification of Scarborough Centre at? Does City policy suggest locations for intensification?

*A. Scarborough Centre is continuing to grow. Growth in the Centre is guided by provincial and municipal policy. The SCPAMP will consider several policies and projects in the area such as the City's Official Plan, the Scarborough Centre Secondary Plan, the Scarborough Centre Civic Precinct Implementation Plan, the McCowan Precinct Plan, the Scarborough Subway Extension Project Assessment, the Scarborough Centre Transportation Master Plan and the Scarborough Centre Public Space and Streetscape Master Plan.*

3.3 Q. Is there a budget for Art Projects in the Master Plan?

*A. The SCPAMP is a guideline document and will help establish future maintenance and budget strategies. The SCPAMP will provide a framework to select and prioritize sites for public art and establish criteria to select future sites.*

3.4 Q. Who decides on the site and the type of public art? If a developer is giving 1%, who decides what to do with this money?

*A. Any new project would go through a planning application process, which provides the public an opportunity to provide their Input. City Planning works with the developer to secure public art contributions through development review, Official Plan amendments and re-zonings. The 'Percent for Public art policy', encourages 1% of capital project costs on private development projects go towards public art. The 1% is intended to have public benefit and monies generated from this process can go directly into public art works on site.*

3.5 Q. How does the 1% for Public Art Policy work?

*A. 1% of total construction, through private development, is allocated to Public Art. Public agencies, such as the TTC, are required to provide 1% of their total construction budget for public art.*

3.6 Q. Could you use public art as wayfinding?

*A. Yes, there are many great examples of public art incorporated and/ or assisting with wayfinding in an urban context. One such example would be Parkway Forest.*

## 4.0 Discussion

4.1 Potential sites of public art suggested at the public meeting:

- Entering the Centre from the 401
- The Civic Square, possibly as the site of a public art event
- The Woodlots

4.2 Potential Public Art themes suggested at the public meeting:

- Celebrate the 'Civic' in Scarborough Civic Centre. i.e. pre-amalgamation Scarborough had its own identity as a place with the Civic Square at its heart. The Civic Centre building used to be part of an iconic logo. What about bringing back municipal logos? Many residents have memories of the Civic Square - folk dancing, farmers markets etc.
- Art as wayfinding. There was once a farmers market in the Centre.... but no one could find it. Many of the participants felt the little sense of orientation in the current street network. Some people don't know where Scarborough Centre is or how to get there on foot.
- Use public art to mark the gateways into the Centre
- Talk about the development history of Scarborough.i.e.,has developed in a commuter focused way and is now shifting to a more pedestrian scale walkable place.

4.3 Potential partnerships suggested:

- UT Scarborough Campus - many students take residence in the buildings. There are possibilities to create synergies with the school to evaluate or help conceptualize public art.

4.4 Not enough places to interact, encourage people to interact. Like the Toronto Sign! Wayfinding is very important. Interpretation of art is needed to understand the story.

- 4.5 Would like to see art built on the idea of a trail. This would be a great way to expose them to the culture and diversity of Scarborough.
- 4.6 Scarborough Centre doesn't have enough places to interact, or places that encourage people to interact.
- 4.7 Interpretation of art is needed to understand the story.
- 4.8 Public Art should relate to the context it is sited in. The examples given was the Woodlot along Ellesmere, or art along major streets should consider how it is viewed from the speed of a car along the 401.
- 4.9 There a number of physical and physiological divides in Scarborough resulting from streets. Public Art is an opportunity to bridge these divides.
- 4.10 Abstract art is not that attractive.
- 4.11 Think about how art can be done by local artists. There are artists working and practicing in the neighbourhood that are recognized internationally.
- 4.12 More spaces for temporary art? An example provided was the artwalk in Birkdale (Crafts). Art can also be an event such as a Chinese new year's celebration.

## END OF MEETING MINUTES

*The above meeting notes are believed to be an accurate record of the discussions held and will be formally adopted at the next meeting. Errors or omissions should be submitted in writing within 10 days of the date of the meeting as the minutes are the basis for feedback into the design and engineering scope of work.*

"TAC" denotes Technical Advisory Committee

"City" denotes City of Toronto

## MEETING LOG

#	Date	Subject
1.00	2017/01/17	LAC 1

Next Meeting TBD