

TOCOR Planning Downtown



Towards a Renewed Vision for Downtown

June 21, 2016

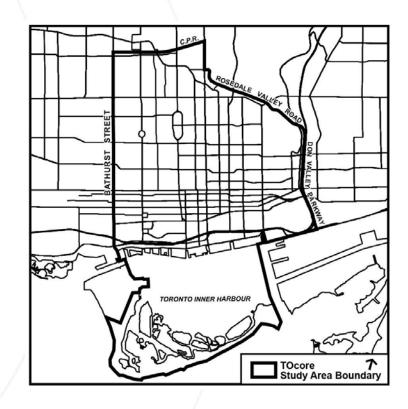


TOcore: Study Purpose

To ensure growth contributes positively to Toronto's Downtown as a great place to live, work, learn, play and invest.

Key Deliverables

- Downtown Secondary Plan
- Supporting Strategies:
 - Economy
 - Parks & Public Spaces
 - Transportation
 - Community Facilities
 - Energy
 - Water







A renewed vision for Downtown is an essential element of TOcore

- A high-level statement
- Should be inspirational and aspirational
- Establishes what things will look like once the plan is fully implemented
- Sets the direction and tone of the plan
- The measure of success for the plan and its policies at a particular time in the future



A Brief History of Downtown

2005 Regent Park revitalization begins. 2015

City launches TOcore to set a new vision for Downtown.

1950s-1960s

Two subways lines built through Downtown. The Gardiner Expressway opens in 1958. 1995

"Kings" Regeneration Initiative opens up former industrial lands in King-Spadina and King-Parliament for reinvestment, driving growth of creative industries.

2001

Waterfront Toronto begins the transformation of Downtown at the water's edge.

1860s-1920s

Streetcar network constructed. University of Toronto campus takes shape as colleges are built.

1976

The Central Area Plan revitalizes Downtown by permitting a mix of residential and commercial uses. 1

1990s-2000s Three big planning visions:

The Greenbelt Act, Places to Grow Act, and the new City of Toronto Official Plan work together to encourage Downtown's intensification.

Pre-Contact

Many First Nations people rely on parts of the area now called Downtown for trade, gathering, hunting and fishing. 1834

The Town of York is renamed "Toronto" and incorporated as a city.

1787

The British Crown purchases land from the Mississaugas of the New Credit in the Toronto Purchase.

1793

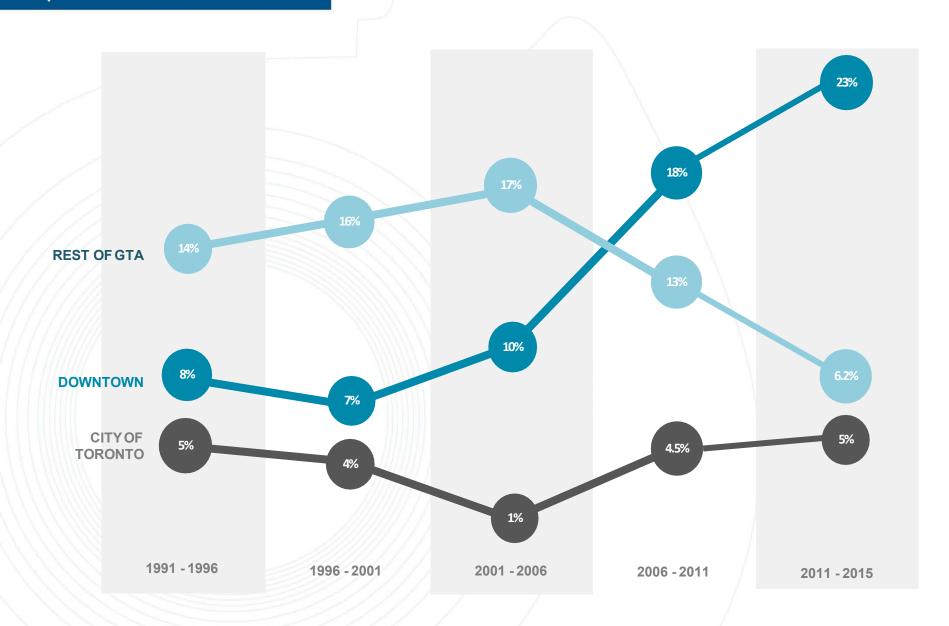
The Town of York is laid out according to a Ten Block Plan around today's St. Lawrence Market area.

1900-1940

"Downtown" moves west of the St. Lawrence Market area. "Old" City Hall is built. 1960s-1970s

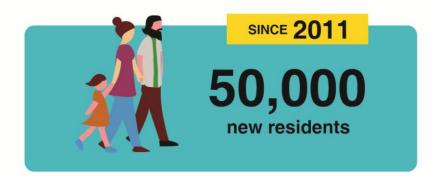
The Financial District emerges, with underground PATH connections to Union Station. 1970s

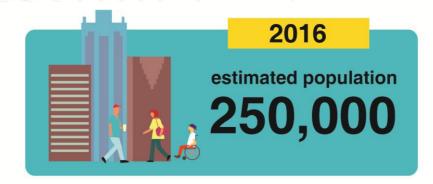
A mixed-income complete community is built on former industrial lands: the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood. The Spadina Expressway is stopped, saving the Annex, Harbord Village, Kensington Market, and Chinatown.

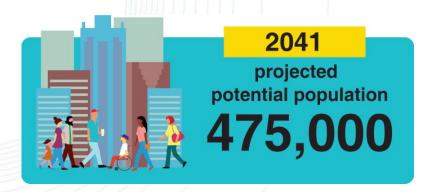














Downtown's Evolving Vision

Central Area Plan

City of Toronto 1976 Encourage people to live Downtown

Prioritize the Financial District for offices

Encourage stores on main streets

Add more mixed use buildings

Vision

A "mixed use" Downtown where people can live & work & all their daily needs are met

Places to Grow Act

Province of Ontario 2006

Direct growth to built-up areas; discourage sprawl

Protect environmentally significant areas

Encourage a range of housing types

Vision

A vibrant, compact community where people can live, work & play without having to drive, & where new development uses existing infrastructure & services





Downtown's Evolving Vision

Official Plan

City of Toronto 2006

Protect neighbourhoods

Direct growth to specific areas of the city

Create green spaces of all sizes

Move people efficiently

Support cultural facilities that celebrate the best of cityliving

Ensure Downtown remains the region's premier employment centre

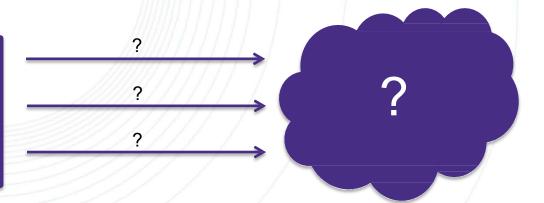
Provide a range of housing opportunities for Downtown workers

Vision

Downtown is a healthy & attractive place to live & work. It fosters innovation in arts & culture, has specialty retail & entertainment districts, & has high-quality business infrastructure

TOcore

City of Toronto 2017







Building Blocks



Buildings & Neighbourhoods



Parks & Public Spaces



Mobility



Community Facilities



Economy



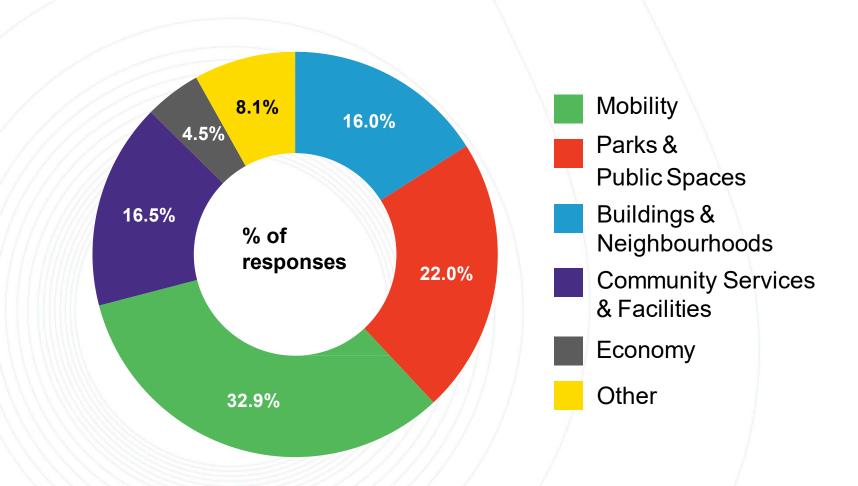
Water



Energy



What we heard: online survey









What do you think would make a liveable Downtown in 2041?

