

Info Sheet #3: Study Building Blocks

Public Places

Public places include parks, open spaces, ravines, squares and the streets that connect the community. Together, these places and spaces form the 'public realm'. A great public realm provides a more welcoming environment to residents, visitors and employees.

Keele Finch Plus will look at ways to improve these public places with spaces to gather, sit, walk, rest and play.

Building Design

The location, height and form of buildings can influence the look and feel of the area and how it is used. This includes using buildings to better define streets and public space and incorporating amenities to support employment (office, commercial, industrial, etc), retail and residential uses.

Keele Finch Plus will evaluate building design options to help guide potential development in the area that will enhance the physical environment and pedestrian experience.

Community Services

Community Services and Facilities (CS&F) are the building blocks of vibrant, strong and complete communities. Community facilities are non-profit, publicly accessible places such as libraries, child care and recreation centres where City divisions, school boards and community agencies deliver their programs and services. Community facilities act as focal points in neighbourhoods where people can play, learn, work and socialize.

Keele Finch Plus will review the services and facilities currently serving the area and examine the particular needs of the community, now and in the future, to determine what services and facilities are needed to support a growing population.

Smart Mobility

People come to - and move through - this area in many different ways, including by walking, cycling, public transit and car. Goods are also move through the area by different methods, including by truck, rail and by car.

Keele Finch Plus will explore ways to improve mobility in the area including opportunities to strengthen pedestrian and cycling connects to higher order transit (subway and light rail transit), parks and amenities. Improvements to the local street network will also be examined to help reduce reliance on cars and minimize traffic congestion.

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Working Together

There are many existing communities in the Keele and Finch area. At the highest level, the area is characterized by a general east-west split in uses with Keele Street as the dividing line (generally residential to the west and employment uses to the east). Working with each community and working together is critical to achieving the goals of this Study. The type and location of future employment (commercial, office and industrial) and residential growth and investment is an important consideration in relation to existing businesses and their operations. Similarly, there is an opportunity to better integrate the existing residential communities.

Keele Finch Plus will examine how best to shape future growth by looking at land uses and their relationship to each other. Ensuring different uses can work well together is an aspect of the study.