King | Parliament Pop-up

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

The King-Parliament Pop-up

In June 2019, City Planning brought the King-Parliament Secondary Plan Review to the community for nine days through the King-Parliament Pop-up. The Pop-up featured programming focused on people's everyday experience of the area, and provided the community with opportunities to drop-in and chat with a planner and other special guests, join a walking tour or attend a workshop. The feedback gathered through the Pop-up is currently being used to inform the proposed Secondary Plan which will be considered by City Council in Fall 2019.

The King-Parliament Secondary Plan

The current King-Parliament Secondary Plan came into force in 1996. It encourages a mix of uses that reinforce the historic built form and public realm while ensuring growth is mutually compatible and complementary to the existing built form character and scale of the area. It has been instrumental in successfully guiding growth in this area for the past 23 years. However, because this Secondary Plan, like most others, has a scope of 25 years, we recognize that an update is needed to guide future growth.

The recently-approved Downtown Plan provides an updated planning framework for the King-Parliament area. The King-Parliament Secondary Plan review will build on this framework to provide specific direction on **built form**, the **public realm** and **heritage** for the next 25 years.









We promoted the Pop-up through various channels. We sent out emails to our subscriber list and local community groups, posted on our @CityPlanTO social media accounts, and put up posters in the area. We also put up weekly updates to our schedule on our website (<u>toronto.ca/king-parliament</u>). Through a questionnaire and comment forms at the Pop-up, you told us that our mail drop to 28,000 addresses in and just outside of the study area was particularly effective in getting the word out!

OUR SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

We partnered with local community leaders and City staff from other departments to deliver programming to appeal to a wide range of interests.

Walking Tours

Our walking tours provided visitors with an opportunity to explore their neighbourhoods from a new perspective. They were led by both community leaders and City staff, and were focused on the study themes of heritage, built-form and public realm. Our tours of Corktown focused on its significance as an area that used to be part of the Town of York, and how its early inhabitants contributed to the birth of the Toronto we know today. Our tours of the West Don Lands then covered the historical significance and evolution of the Don, and the more recent public art initiatives in this neighbourhood. Finally, we wrapped up our time at the Pop-up with a tour of the Moss Park neighbourhood, which covered its industrial past and legacy.

Lunch & Learns

We hosted three Lunch & Learn sessions which provided visitors with the opportunity to learn more about how City Planning is organized and the various legislation and tools that planners use (Planning 101), and other planning initiatives which are relevant to King-Parliament (King Street Transit: Beyond the Pilot and Growing Up: Planning for Children in New Vertical Communities).

Presentations / Meet & Greets

Throughout the week, we had special guests come in to provide remarks and answer questions about local initiatives. On June 8th, Councillor Wong-Tam joined us for the official kick-off of the Pop-up. Later on in the week, former Chief Planner Paul Bedford joined us to speak about the original Secondary Plan, and Chief Planner Gregg Lintern joined us to discuss the future of King-Parliament in the Downtown.

WHAT WE HEARD...

Many members of the community really liked the Pop-up format, and expressed to us that they were glad this wasn't a one-of, traditional open house.

...BY STUDY THEMES

Many visitors to the Pop-up commented on the built form models of the study area we had on display. The models featured existing, proposed, and approved developments in the area. Several members of the community expressed that new developments in King-Parliament should provide both deeper setbacks from the street and deeper step backs from base buildings.

Overall, visitors to the Pop-up were very supportive of conservation, and had a positive response to our map of potential heritage properties in the area. Some members of the community expressed that they would like to see more preservation as opposed conservation by keeping whole buildings intact when possible.

Many visitors were also interested in learning more about the assessment process and the difference between heritage listings, designations, and conservation districts.

In regards to the First Parliament site, there was a lot of interest in the next phase of the consultation process. Members of the community expressed that they would like to see a focus on heritage interpretation.

We heard a lot of positive sentiment about local parks like Corktown Common, St. James Park, and Sackville Playground. However, many people agreed that some of them could be better connected to the community at large. There was also a desire for more amenities for children, and another dogs off-leash area within the study area.

There was also a lot of interest in creating new mid-block connections. Generally, community members agreed that new mid-block connections should be open to the public and clearly demarcated as public space.

...ABOUT THE POP-UP FORMAT

"It would be wonderful to have these Popups more regularly. It is great to have staff come out to our neighbourhood. Easier and less intimidating for citizens to connect with staff."

"Love that this format allows engagement where it fits in people's schedules and at whatever level they choose to engage at (one-on-one vs. presentation vs. community meeting)."

"This drop-in centre idea is great for the local community to get information and say what's on their minds."

BY THE NUMBERS



Drop-in Hours



Original 10 Blocks Tour



Growing Up Lunch & Learn



Meet & Greet with Chief Planner Gregg Lintern



Drop-in hours with City Planning, Heritage Preservation Services, and Community Planning staff were very popular, with people stopping by to ask questions, meet staff, and join their neighbours in getting involved.

93% of visitors found our sessions to be very helpful!

26% of visitors attended multiple sessions!



19% of our visitors said they never attend City Planning public consultation events, and **29%** said they rarely do.

