

Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC)

Meeting 2 Summary

August 2021

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Contents

- Attendees..... 2
- Introduction 3
- Meeting Goals..... 3
- Feedback Summary 3
- Other..... 6
- Next Steps 6
- Contact Us 6
- Appendix A – Post-Meeting Email Feedback 7

Attendees

Community Resource Group Members

Artbarn School - Linda McMaster
Davisville Jr Public School Parent Council - Lynne LeBlanc
Davisville Jr Public School & Spectrum Alternative Staff Representative - Shona Farrelly
Davisville Muslim Community Member - Najat Mousa
Deer Park Residents Group - Martin Sweeny
Geneva Centre for Autism - Shelby McCarthy
Midtown Hub - John Hiddema, Lisa Kelleher, Steph Rickard Chadda
North York Aquatic Club - Leela D'Cruz
Oriole Park Resident Association - Nancy Bell
South Asian Muslim Community Member – Rabia Khokhar
South Eglinton Ratepayers and Residents Association (SERRA) - Mary Turcotte
The AppleTree Group - Chris Trussell
77 Davisville Residents - Jannat Hamid

City of Toronto

Suzanne Cooke-Wooland – Sr. Project Coordinator
Susan Korrick - Supervisor
Cheryl MacDonald - Manager, Community Recreation
Eric To – Manager, Aquatics
Mary Elmaassarany-Supervisor, Community Recreation
Alex Lavasidis – Sr. Consultation Coordinator

Design Team (Consultants) – CS&P Architects

Susan Lewin – Principal
Ryan Giuricich – Architect

Introduction

This document provides a summary of the second Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre Stakeholder Advisory Committee virtual meeting that was held on June 15, 2021 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

More information about the project can be found on the project webpage at www.toronto.ca/DavisvilleCAC

Meeting Goals

Meeting goals included:

- Test-run the public presentation for this phase of engagement, which will later be recorded to accompany the online survey
- Present and gather feedback on the draft design for the new Davisville Community & Aquatic Centre
- Answer questions of clarification
- Share next steps

Feedback Summary

Participants provided questions and comment throughout the meeting. These questions (Q), comments (C), and responses from staff (R) presented below. Feedback from SAC members received after the meeting through email are included in Appendix A.

Q: What is the ceiling height (floor to ceiling) in the proposed design?

R: We are targeting 10-foot clear ceilings right now.

Q: There is limited glass on the west side of the building, correct?

R: We are limiting glass because first, we are only 3 meters from the property line. So, we have a percent of glazing that we're allowed before needing to put sprinkler glazing and fire shutters. Second, it's a net zero building so we need to be very careful where we put the glass to reduce energy expenditure.

Q: How will service and supply trucks access the building?

R: We have been working with the traffic consultant and the City of Toronto's transportation department. It looks like we're going to be getting a drop-off spot in front of the building that will be used for ongoing drop offs and for emergency vehicles. There will be a chlorine delivery port on the West side of the building close to Davisville. Also, we will be getting a short-term service drop off area by the front door. The garbage room is at the back of the building, and they're just residential loads because there's a really low garbage load in a building such as this and they'll just go out to the North South walkway and go up to Millwood Road.

C: I think, to the greatest extent possible, we want to keep vehicles like that off the school playground area. So that was something that was discussed very early, and it sounds like all of those problems have been solved. So that's great. Thank you.

R: In terms of the school, there's no vehicles allowed on the school site that are city operational needs. Everything has to be handled on municipal roads. So the only vehicles allowed would be cars that are accessing the underground only.

Q: Can you talk a little bit about the 12-foot hoarding (fencing during construction)? I just want to make sure that that's also going along the walkway.

R: During construction, the hoarding fence will separate the construction site from the school

site, there would be a gate and there would be a police person or a security person that would be on site when construction is happening.

Q: Along the pool corridor is it all windows, and so therefore a view corridor into the school yard?

R: We don't know yet where the fence is going to go from the school yard into this gap. Let's call it the gap between the two buildings. We think that the school's yard proper is going to be only the North area as the children are not going to be playing in the middle. This gap is mostly going to be a pathway. Are you concerned about adults watching children play? I think there would be a fence separating any view.

Follow up comment: That's my question, because I understood that the pool was on the first floor and there are windows along the East side going into the school yard. It's not clear to me I can't actually picture what that would look like because my understanding is that the children will be using the area around the playground. Can we get clarity on that?

R: There will be separation between the buildings.

C: Davisville has two schools and in your presentation, you only mention the junior school but there is also a senior school. Including that in the plan would be great. Also, plans show concrete between the school and the centre. I'm just wondering if there is a gate between the buildings?

R: There will be a gate. We are not sure of the exact location yet.

Q: There are plans for trees along the north side of the building but those will take a while to mature. What will the fence look like here?

R: Your fencing questions are great, and we are working to get some clarity on that. I'm sorry, they're not showing right now. We just didn't know where to show them yet.

Q: I noticed when you're looking at the meeting room, do you have to go through an office to get to the meeting room? Is that kind of a roundabout way of getting that on the second floor?

R: The meeting room on the second floor has a door from the office for their convenience, but if it's booked for public use. There's another door right off the upper lobby into that meeting room.

C: For storage — one of the things we've realized with the new school is that we have very little storage and now that I know that you have space here, is that going to be accommodated? So, for example, in the multi-purpose 1 and 2, where there might be a requirement for chairs or anything along those lines or tables that might be needed, where will they be stored?

R: We have mocked up all of the meeting rooms with chair and table dollies to fit the maximum lecture style format or classroom format for both of these multi-purpose rooms. So we have another drawing that we're not showing you right now, because it's too much detail, but we have laid out all the furniture possibilities in these multi-purpose rooms. We have also accommodated in the storage room enough room to store the dollies because the tables would be stored vertically on a dolly and the chairs would be stored on a dolly also to a certain height of 15 to 25 chairs stacked up.

Q: What about storage on the rooftop patio?

R: We have that outdoor storage room just south of the mechanical room. In order to facilitate flexible use of all the spaces, you absolutely need a lot of storage.

Q: Regarding glazing — did you receive any feedback from parents with regards to having so much visibility across the entire main floor?

R: There are blinds provided when privacy is a concern. For gender-neutral change rooms there's glazing on all sides of the change area and separate cubicles that have got doors and walls. The views between the pool deck, corridors, and change area make it a safer

environment when we compare it to some of our other facilities where the change rooms are gender specific and there's no views. There seem to be more incidences in the old, gendered and closed-off scenario than when you treat the change area the same way you treat the pool deck. So people are wearing bathing suits in both locations and the only place that you wouldn't be clothed would be in an enclosed cubicle. In cases where we have patrons asking us for privacy for a single gender. For instance, in all women's swim, what we're typically doing is providing blinds on the exterior of the building. So, preventing any views into the pool and then in the case of the change room, there would be blinds as well along the interface between the change room and both the corridor and the pool area. We also have two change areas, so we are able to close off one change area entirely and use one of them as a single gender like an all-female swim for instance.

Q: Is the rooftop intended for 4-season access?

R: We envision it as a 3-season rooftop. I think it could be used for season, but that would involve snow shoveling. I don't think there would be a lot of activity up there during the winter. It would definitely be weather dependent.

Q: While the planting and decorative stuff are fantastic, I am wondering if there was any thought given to potentially having a vegetable garden up there, or teaching garden in any of that area?

R: We did think about it and, you know, there is a lot of possibilities. The only issue is that there is a lot of shade on the roof and a lot of vegetable gardens or flower gardens require a lot of sun. We are definitely going to have lots of plantings, but we don't necessarily envision community gardens for a lot of reasons. One of them being that there's not a lot of space up there, nor sun.

Q: It looks like the pathway along the east side is concrete. From the school's perspective, that's going to be a pea gravel walkway and it's not going to be shoveled.

R: We are negotiating with TDSB on that very subject.

Q: To confirm, there are no exits anywhere into the school yard?

R: Yes, there is an emergency exit on the north side, so there's an exit stair that will be only used during an emergency. The door would not have hardware on the outside. So people cannot access the building, but they did give us permission to exit directly into the yard in the event of an emergency. The door will be alarmed. So, if somebody's in the building and accidentally goes out that door alone, an alarm will go off.

Q: Have you given any consideration to the artwork going on the walls? Considering using local artists that represent the community that it will be servicing.

R: This project requires artwork. Our culture division deals with this and it would be a competition. Generally, the public art budget represents approximately 1% of the construction cost.

C: Have you considered planting native plants and pollinator garden for the rooftop?

R: That is a great suggestion.

C: Maybe consider making this design colorful like the school.

R: That is a great idea.

Q: Is there going to be time for female only swimming classes?

R: Yes, we will have time for female only swimming classes and that also pertains to the discussion we had earlier about having those blinds all around the pool and the change room areas so that there can be women's only or inclusive swim times.

Q: Is the entrance for the change rooms for females at a distance from the change rooms for males?

R: Yes, if we gender the change room for specific gendered programming. The change rooms are designed gender neutral and are meant to be very flexible.

Q: Will there be female lifeguards and instructors?

R: If you're talking about for specifically female only programs then it would be female lifeguards that would be supervising and instructing the program.

Q: Will there be any restrictions on what people can wear in the pool specifically what females can wear in the pool?

R: No, all we ask is that people not wear their street clothes in the pool and anything else that they want to wear into the pool is something that they bring into the facility.

Q: If people were getting dropped off at the facility, where will they be dropped off?

R: The school underground parking and the question regarding designated drop off space has not been sorted out yet, but will be.

Q: Do the lockers have locks on them or do you have to bring your own locks?

R: You would bring your own lock.

Q: Is the glass around the pool going to make the water warmer?

R: It will be insulated translucent glazing panel which will not transmit any solar heat beam and it is good for reducing the glare as well.

Other

- Thanks all-around between staff and participants for helping move the plan forward.
- Stakeholders were pleased with the design and its components given the small area the project team is working with.
- Stakeholders noted that the presentation was great and easy to follow.

Next Steps

- Email any additional feedback on June meeting notes by Friday June 18, after which notes will be considered finalized and posted to the project webpage.
- Project team will revise the draft designs based on the feedback received from this meeting and community feedback that will be received from the survey.
- Host youth workshops in June.
- Online survey with accompanying video will be live from June 2 – July 25.
- A refined design will be presented in the fall with final community feedback collected.

Contact Us

For questions or comments related to this project, please contact:

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Appendix A – Post-Meeting Email Feedback

The following questions and comments were received from SAC members following the meeting:

Questions:

- How will multi purpose spaces and things like BBQs will be managed from a booking perspective. Typically, is there an online portal for booking, and are there costs to rent each of the bookable areas?
 - Staff Response: Yes, multi-purpose spaces and the BBQ area will be permitted for events, as per the City's standard permitting/ booking process.
- Will both walkways will be closed for the duration of the build?
 - Staff Response: Both walkways (on either side of the City Aquatic facility) will be closed for the duration of the build.
- Which washroom will provide women with more privacy? Will there be a sign to indicate that this washroom is for women?
 - Staff Response: For women and girls' only swim program times, one of the two sides of the family (gender-neutral) washrooms and change rooms will be designated for women and girls only. This will include signs to show that the washroom and change room is temporarily for women and girls only, during the program time. Both sides of the pool washrooms and change rooms are exactly the same, with all changing happening inside private cubbies (no changing in front of other people, at any time).
- Can people on the upper floors see the people in the pool?
 - Staff response: In the pool during women and girls' only swim program times, all views into the pool and change area will be eliminated by blinds. Therefore, people outside the building or in other areas of the Centre (e.g. on other floors) cannot see inside. The pool is private for only the women and girls participating in the programing. The staff for that programing are also women.

Comments:

- Muslim girls haven't had the chance to learn how to swim due to a lack of accessible swimming facilities. I have daughters, and it is hard to find a place that suits their privacy needs. When my daughter was in grade 7, her school had swimming classes, but they refused to make accommodations, so she had to take two gym classes instead of swimming.
- The pathway between the centre and the school is currently scheduled to be pea-gravel/limestone and not be maintained. The TDSB does not maintain any paths on any of its properties. I understand there is an ask about the City paving it and maintaining it or only paving the front half so you can still access it as a garbage pathway. It appears to still be an unresolved issue.
 - Staff response: Barrier free access must be provided between the pool & school in order to provide Persons with Disabilities an unobstructed path to the gym from the pool.
- The space between the Center and the School belongs to the school and will be used by students. There is not clarity about fencing around the center so it is separate from the school yard.

- Clarify that the school property use is for after 6:00 p.m.. Often communities feel that school ends at 3:30 and the yard is open. However, there are 2 childcare centers on site who have full access until 6:00 p.m.
 - Staff Response: The City Recreation Division will be meeting with the TDSB in October 2021 (as requested by the TDSB) to negotiate shared use space (particularly those spaces not contemplated in the lease).
- The chemical/supply drop off will happen on Davisville Avenue but only outside of school hours and will occur infrequently.
 - Staff Response: Truck will stop at a signed designated location on Davisville Avenue in front of the City Aquatic facility
- Agreed that the 3D model coming first in the public presentation may help answer questions before they arise.
- It would be good to focus on the art competition – the community will be thrilled about this.
- Move the key points of slide 19 (Revised Design Principles) up in the presentation and then do a slide closer to the end where you highlight how the building meets those design principles.