

City of Toronto – Parks Development & Capital Projects

Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre (CAC)

Virtual Public Meeting Meeting Summary

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Contents

- Introduction 2
- Meeting Goals 2
- Meeting Promotion 2
- Feedback Summary 2
 - Questions 2
 - Suggestions 4
 - Comments 6
- Next Steps 6
- Contact Us 6

Introduction

This document provides a summary of the Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre (CAC) virtual public meeting that was held on October 27, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

The meeting was attended by approximately 54 community members.

More information about the project can be found on the project webpage at

www.toronto.ca/DavisvilleCAC

Meeting Goals

The new Davisville Community & Aquatic Centre (CAC) will be a welcoming new space where residents of all ages and abilities can come together and participate in a wide range of programming. The goals of this first public meeting are to:

- Provide a project overview and recap of what was heard in previous phases of consultation
- Present the proposed design for the Davisville Community and Aquatic Centre
- Answer questions about the design and gather initial feedback
- Direct community members to the online survey to collect detailed feedback

Meeting Promotion

The meeting was promoted through:

- Postcards to residences in approximately a 1-1.5 km radius of the new Centre.
- Paid social media advertisement on Facebook and Instagram.
- Emails to the project listserve.
- Site signage.
- Promotion through the networks of the local members of the project's Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

Feedback Summary

The design team presented a project overview, review of community feedback from previous phases of engagement, and the proposed design for the new Centre including a 3D walkthrough. A question and answer session followed the presentation. The meeting presentation is available on the [project webpage](#). Feedback is divided into Questions, Suggestions, and Comments, below. This is a summary of the discussion and chat box comments, and is not a verbatim transcript.

Questions

Questions (Q), comments (C), and responses from staff (R) are presented below.

Q. How wide are the hallways/corridors?

R. Six feet wide at least, as per accessibility requirements.

Q. How wide is the walking track?

R. Six feet (two lanes, each three feet wide). The design team is reviewing options to make this wider.

Q. Will the pool be chlorine or saltwater?

R. Chlorine.

Q. Why?

R. All City of Toronto pools are chlorine. Salt water pools are great for use but the maintenance is very costly and the salt degrades the pool very quickly. This leads to closures, which the City tries to avoid.

R (Councillor). Councillor Matlow had brought a motion to City Council in support of saltwater pools but the motion was not passed by Council. Councillor Matlow continues to support the creation of saltwater pools.

Q. Will the building reach all the way to Millwood?

A. The new building goes north halfway between Davisville and Millwood. The building is located on Toronto District School Board Property (leased to the City).

Q. What is the height and material of the rooftop safety ledge/railing?

A. The rail is required to be at least 3 feet 6 inches tall in the building code. It is presently shown as solid glass. The design team is considering making this taller than what is required by code.

Q. How many parking spaces are there and would the parking be open to anyone or just specific users or school uses?

A. Underground parking is located under the school, connected to the Centre through an underground tunnel and elevator. There are 60 spots in total including 40 for the school and 20 for the community centre. During school hours the parking is available to school patrons and City staff only. Outside of school hours, the community centre patrons can use the 20 spots, including once accessible spot.

Q. Is the property to the west being developed into a condo?

A (Councillor). There is a condo application for that property that is currently being opposed by the City at a planning tribunal board. Please contact the Councillor's office for more details, as this meeting is not about the neighbouring property.

Q. How much shading will the roof get, since the pergola will only provide partial shade?

A. The shade structure is at the far south on top of the potential seating area. The Clearstories also provide some shade. There are a number of slab towers around the site that will provide shade. It will be a fairly shady roof because of the neighbouring buildings, but the design team will consider additional shade structures.

Q. Can the rooftop space be accessible for year-round uses?

A. Winter use will depend on the ability to provide safe access during winter weather. The recreation team will consider winter programming as is safe to provide.

Q. What is the capacity of the change rooms and why is there visibility into the hallways in the change rooms?

A. There will be no changing in the hallways of the gender-neutral change rooms, which is why there is high visibility into the space from both sides (glass walls). People will remain clothed, like on the pool deck. Changing will only take place in full-privacy changing stalls. There are 22 change stalls and two universal stalls (including washroom facilities). Six of the standard change stalls are larger to allow for families to change together. There are also four washroom stalls.

Q. Does the fire escape at the north end of the building empty into the schoolyard?

A. The emergency-only exit at the north-east does connect directly to the school playground. If the door opens an alarm would go off. The door does not have external hardware (cannot be opened from the outside).

Q. What are the accessibility features of the new Centre?

A. There is an automatic sliding door to enter the Centre. There is an elevator at the entrance to each floor and barrier free access throughout each floor of the building. On the main floor there are two universal change rooms that each include a toilet, sink, adult change table, and shower. There is a ramp entry into each pool and a portable lift into the lane pool. On the second floor there is an elevator and barrier free washroom. In the kitchen, one of the three workstations is barrier free counter height. The staircase also has an area of refuge with an intercom in the event of a fire. The top floor has another barrier free washroom with barrier free counter height for tables on the south end.

Q. What has led to the installation of gender-neutral washrooms and change rooms?

A. Gender-neutral change rooms and washrooms have become an industry standard and are City policy for all new recreation facilities. The decision to include gender-neutral spaces is not specific to just this community centre.

Q. Will staff only washrooms be included?

A. No, there are only staff specific change rooms, not washrooms.

Q. Is there a first aid room?

A. There is not a specific first aid room but there is a pool office which is where first aid would take place.

Q. Are there drinking fountains and bottle filling stations on each floor?

A. Yes.

Q. Is the building carbon neutral and does it adhere to the Toronto Green Standards?

A. Yes, the building will meet Toronto Green Standards. It aims to be carbon neutral. It will be an electrified building with geothermal renewable energy.

Q. What is the depth of the lap pool and leisure pool?

A. The lap pool is 10 feet deep in the deep end and 3 feet in the shallow end. The leisure pool is 3 feet at the deepest point.

Q. Are there statistics about incidents in gender neutral versus gendered washrooms?

A. Project staff do not have statistics available.

Q. What are the pool temperatures?

A. They are 78 to 82 degrees Fahrenheit for all programming.

Suggestions

- Rooftop:
 - Add permanent seating on the active roof.
 - *Response: There will be some permanent tables and chairs (far south end of the roof) but most will be moveable so that the rooftop can provide*

more multi-purpose spaces. The design team will consider adding more permanent seating like benches, while still allowing for multi-purpose space on the rooftop.

- Clear the rooftop walking track in the winter so that seniors have a safe space to walk for exercise.
- Ensure the clearstoreys are built for snow and will not leak.
- Pool:
 - Provide pool users with more privacy from viewers both outside the building and inside other spaces of the building (e.g. frosted glass). The current level of visibility will be uncomfortable for many pool users.
 - *Response: There will be blinds that can be pulled around the pool for specific programming (e.g. women only programming or other). Frosted glass can be considered.*
 - Include a guide for those doing backstroke.
 - *Response: There will be flags above each lane and bubblers to signal the end of a lane under water.*
 - Make the shallow end in the lap pool 4 feet rather than 3 feet to allow for synchronized swimming.
 - Include a saltwater pool.
- Signage:
 - Make the signage on Davisville Avenue larger and more prominent.
 - *Response: There is also signage on the east as well as digital signage.*
- Accessibility:
 - Install an accessible ramp between all floors, to ensure the building remains accessible if an elevator is broken.
 - *Response: A ramp cannot be accommodated in this plan due to the site's size, as the ramps to move between floors would need to be extremely long to meet accessible grading requirements.*
- Change Rooms and Washrooms:
 - Provide gendered and gender-neutral washrooms (not only gender-neutral washrooms) for those who feel uncomfortable in outside of gendered changing facilities. Specifically, some women will feel vulnerable and unsafe sharing spaces with men, and face menstruation stigma. Some feel uncomfortable in these spaces for religious and cultural reasons.
 - *Response: One of the two change room blocks can be made into a gendered change rooms for example for women's only programming. Staff have found that when there are these types of visually accessible spaces, they are actually safer for patrons. Gender-neutral facilities at Regent Park Aquatic Centre are a good example. The gender-neutral space also enhances safety as a staff member of any gender can respond to any emergency situation. Additionally, as changing takes place in stalls, there is also more privacy in these new facilities than in gendered, shared changing spaces.*
 - Provide menstrual products in change rooms and washrooms.
 - Include shelves in washrooms, so that keys/cell phones/purses can be safely placed away from wet counters.
- Sustainability:
 - To increase sustainability, include high efficiency windows, LED lights, energy harvesting (e.g. Photovoltaics).
 - *Response: Photovoltaics are not appropriate for this site because it is heavily shaded and has relatively little surface area that receives a lot of sun throughout the day. Sustainability features include daylighting, a high-*

efficiency building envelope, high efficiency mechanical equipment, geothermal energy and LED lighting.

- Mechanical:
 - Ensure the mechanical equipment above multipurpose room are acoustically separated to avoid vibration transferring into other spaces.

Comments

- Support for the large amount of natural light that can enter the pool space.

Next Steps

Community members can visit the [project website](#) to:

- Take the online survey from October 27 to November 10. Paper copies are available in North District Library and Deer Park Library (front counters).
- The project team will revise final designs based on community feedback collected through the virtual public meeting and online survey.
- A public art competition will take place from 2021 into 2022.
- Final designs will be posted to the project webpage.

Contact Us

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

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