

# Jane Finch Initiative

Phase 1 Community Services and Facilities Study April 2022

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## Study Overview

In December 2015, City Council directed staff to undertake planning studies for focus areas along the Finch Avenue West Corridor in advance of the opening of the new transit line. The intent was to leverage the public investment in transit infrastructure for the benefit of local communities. City Council identified the Keele-Finch area as the first priority for study (see <u>Keele Finch Plus</u>). City Council approved the Jane Finch area as a subsequent priority for a future planning study.

In anticipation of this transit investment and the potential for growth and change in the area, several City Divisions are collaborating on a community planning exercise in the area. The purpose of the Jane Finch Initiative is to align people- and place-focused initiatives into an integrated complete-community framework for the area, through an engagement process where residents help shape the planning of their community.

As part of the Jane Finch Initiative, a Land Use Planning Framework and a Community Development Plan will be developed. A Community Services and Facilities (CS&F) study is being undertaken to identify CS&F priorities to be incorporated in the new planning framework. In collaboration with other City Divisions and partner agencies, City Planning is examining the current needs of the local community to determine what services and facilities are needed to support potential future growth and change in the area.

This Profile Report includes an overview of existing conditions in the area including an inventory and examination of existing services and facilities. Data was gathered from City Divisions and partner agencies, as well as through consultations with City staff, local service providers and residents to identify gaps in services. This Profile will be used to inform the development of a planning framework for the area and to identify potential alignments with capital plans.

## Planning Context

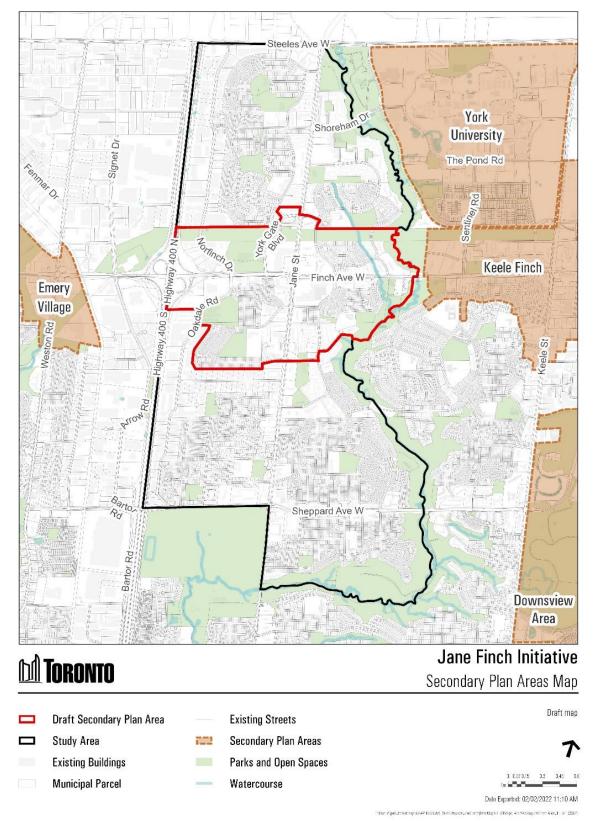
The Jane Finch Initiative Land Use stream of work will result in an updated land use planning framework with Official Plan policies and zoning to shape the development of a transitsupportive complete community. To learn more visit <u>www.toronto.ca/janefinch</u>

A number of plans, strategies and initiatives in the local area need to be taken into consideration in assessing the existing and future CS&F needs of the area. Given its geographic scale, the Study has been closely aligned with both city-wide initiatives and local studies.

## Black Creek and Glenfield-Jane Heights Neighbourhood Improvement Areas

The Study Area includes two Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs); Black Creek and Glenfield-Jane Heights. NIAs are part of the Council-adopted Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy led by the Social Development, Finance & Administration Division. An NIA is an area that falls below the Neighbourhood Equity Score and requires special attention. The Neighbourhood Equity Score is derived from 15 indicators of neighbourhood inequity across five thematic domains and describes how neighbourhoods in Toronto are faring relative to others.

The Toronto Strong Neighbourhood Strategy (TSNS) 2020 has adopted a "place-based" approach for addressing the needs of the City's NIAs that incorporates multiple factors related to demand of human services, rates of low income and unemployment. The Strategy responds to issues faced by equity deserving groups, by supporting community engagement and enhancing services and access to community infrastructure. For this reason, any future investment in CS&F should be leveraged for community social benefit and aim to improve the everyday lives of existing and future residents.



Map 1: Secondary Plan Areas near Jane Finch Study Area

## Keele Finch Secondary Plan

Keele Finch Plus is a City of Toronto study for the future of the area surrounding the TTC's Finch West Station that explores how best to leverage investment in subway and light rail transit for the benefit of the local community and the city as a whole. The Official Plan Amendments including the Secondary Plan and Protected Major Transit Station Area are intended to provide a balanced official plan framework to encourage growth, place-making and community building, leverage transit investment and provide for compatible land uses and built form. On December 16, 2020, City Council adopted Official Plan Amendment No. 482 (Protected Major Transit Station Areas) and endorsed Official Plan Amendment No. 483 (Keele Finch Secondary Plan).

## York University Secondary Plan

The York University Secondary Plan articulates the guiding framework for decisions related to detailed planning and development proposals within the area bordered by Steeles Avenue West to the north, Murray Ross Parkway to the south and west, and Keele Street to the east. This area is located east of the Jane-Finch Initiative study area.

The Secondary Plan calls for a transformation of the area from the existing University enclave surrounded by parking lots and open fields to an urban, human-scaled neighbourhood integrated with the surrounding community.

## Emery Village Secondary Plan

The Emery Village Secondary Plan establishes local development policies to guide growth and development for the lands surrounding the intersection of Finch Avenue West, Weston Road, and Toryork Drive. This area is located west of the Jane-Finch Initiative study area, adjacent to the Canadian Pacific Railway.

### Downsview Secondary Plan Update

The City of Toronto recently launched Update Downsview, an update to the existing 2011 Downsview Area Secondary Plan. The updated Plan will set out the long-term vision for a complete community centred on transit investment, job creation, parks and open spaces, and community services and facilities that will meet the needs of existing and future residents and workers. The Update will be coordinated with the Official Plan Amendment application made by Canada Lands Company and Northcrest Developments on the existing airport lands.

The current boundaries for the Downsview Area Secondary Plan, as well as the OPA application, are generally bounded by Keele Street to the west, Wilson Heights Boulevard to the east, Sheppard Avenue to the north and Wilson Avenue and Highway 401 to the south.

## What are Community Services and Facilities?

Community services and facilities (CS&F) contribute to the social, economic and cultural development of the city and are vital in supporting liveable communities. CS&F are publicly accessible, non-profit facilities and places where City Divisions, agencies and boards, and school boards deliver programs and services such as public libraries, child care and recreation centres, public schools and human services. CS&F support a strong network of programs and services that are essential to building community capacity as well as fostering complete communities.

Accessible, high-quality community services and facilities support the health, safety and wellbeing of those living and working in our communities. The Official Plan identifies CS&F as an essential part of the City's social infrastructure, which is as vital to people's wellbeing as hard services like sewers, water, roads and transit. Ensuring that provision of CS&F meets both current and future community needs is fundamental in planning for new growth and development in communities.

## CS&F Policy and Planning Process

The Provincial policy framework recognizes the importance of CS&F. The framework directs municipalities to plan CS&F to keep pace with changing needs, to promote complete communities and support strategic growth areas as appropriate.

The Provincial Policy Statement 2020 (PPS) uses the term public service facilities and identifies that such facilities will be coordinated and integrated with land use planning so that they are financially viable and available to meet current and projected needs. The PPS supports the optimization and adaptive re-use of existing facilities.

The Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2020) reinforces the PPS and further identifies that public service facilities form part of the achievement of complete communities and improve social equity and overall quality of life. The Growth Plan calls for facilities to be co-located where possible with preference given to locations in or near strategic growth areas easily accessible by active transportation and transit.

Planning for complete communities is a key objective of the overall community planning process. Toronto's Official Plan sets out a policy framework for CS&F planning in the land use planning process which includes the completion of background studies and CS&F strategies for areas experiencing significant growth or change.

Guided by its Official Plan and provincial direction, the City takes a place-based approach to planning. The City works with Divisions, boards, agencies and community stakeholders to identify and assess existing conditions of CS&F, confirm facility capacity and identify existing and/or future gaps in CS&F needed to support growth and change.

## Study Area Boundaries

The boundaries of the Jane-Finch Initiative and the CS&F Study Area align with the areas covered by SDFA's Black Creek Neighbourhood and Glenfield-Jane Heights Neighbourhood. This Study Area, illustrated in Map 2, is roughly bounded by Highway 400 to the west, Steeles Avenue West to the north, Black Creek to the east, and Sheppard Avenue West and a portion of Black Creek to the south.

A demographic overview of the Study Area is available in the Jane Finch Initiative Existing Conditions Background Report.

The draft Secondary Plan Area covers an area north and south of Finch Avenue West including four Finch West LRT Stations, as illustrated in Map 2.



Map 2: Jane Finch Initiative Study Area and Draft Secondary Plan Area

## Methodology

The CS&F Study was developed in coordination with Phase 1 of the overall Jane Finch Initiative: *Taking Stock and Analysis*. A comprehensive inventory of existing facilities was undertaken and existing gaps and emerging needs were identified. This work was undertaken through a review of existing service and capital plans and consultation with City divisions, boards and agencies in addition to the overall public engagement process. A survey and focus group of local human service agencies was also conducted to better understand the nature and capacity of the human services sector in the Study Area. Consultations and survey responses yielded information on current gaps, needs and priorities for existing community services and facilities.

## Service and Facility Inventory

## Schools

School sites and facilities play an important role as learning institutions and also as integral community resources providing space, play spaces and green and open spaces that support the community. Each school board undertakes ongoing evaluation and monitoring to inform program and accommodation planning.

There is a total of 18 schools in the Study Area including 12 TDSB schools and 6 TCDSB schools.

## Toronto District School Board

The Toronto District School Board operates eleven elementary schools and one secondary school in the Study Area. Two additional schools are located outside the Study Area but serve parts of the Study Area.

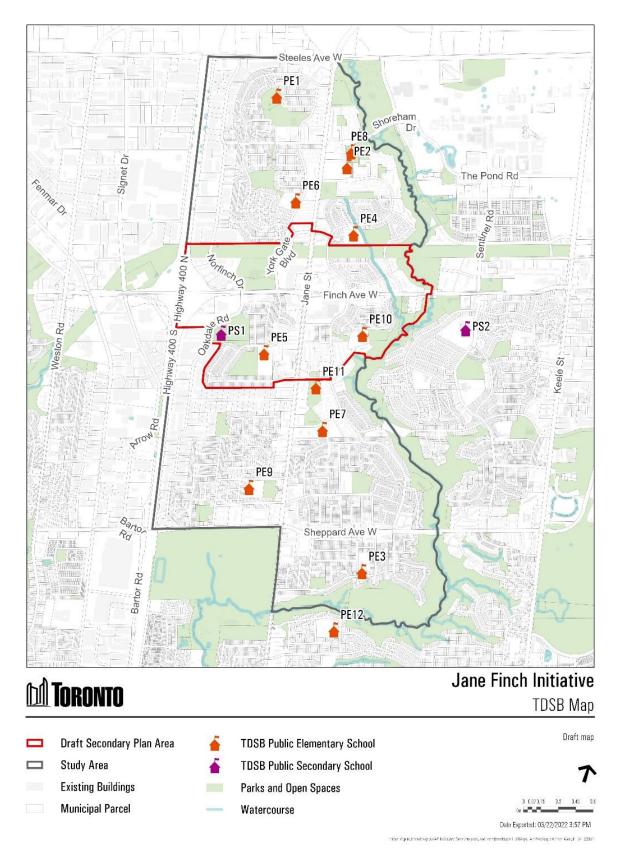
## Existing Context of Schools in the Study Area

The school data in Table 1 and Table 2 indicates that all of the TDSB schools in the Study Area are operating under capacity, and that there is capacity to accommodate additional students. The school data in Table 1 and Table 2 is a current description of schools in the area and is expected to change over time.

The TDSB's projected utilization rates indicate that elementary school utilization in the Study Area is expected to slightly increase from 61% in 2021 (actual) to approximately 65% in 2030 (projection). Secondary school utilization is expected to slightly increase from 65% in 2021 (actual) to 68% in 2030 (projection).

The 2030 projections are based on active development applications and activity in the development pipeline, known to the TDSB as of August 2020. The projections do not consider the additional growth anticipated in the area, as the amount and timing of this additional growth is unknown. TLC and TDSB staff will continue to monitor residential development in this community to understand the cumulative impact on local schools and to provide updates as necessary to City staff on any changes to local area school needs.

Some of the schools in the Draft Secondary Plan and Study Areas provide specialized programs that serve this community. The TDSB is also currently engaged in a comprehensive Secondary Program Review of all secondary schools which will consider opportunities to reorganize some of these specialized programs so they are more fairly distributed and available to students across the Board.



Map 3: TDSB Schools in the Study Area

#### Table 1: TDSB Elementary School Data, October 2021

	Elementary Schools with Local Boundaries	Grade Range	Capacity <sup>1</sup>	Enrolme nt (Oct 2021) <sup>2</sup>	Utilization Rate (Oct 2021) <sup>3</sup>	Notes	
	Schools located within and serve part of the Draft Secondary Plan Area.						
PE2	Brookview Middle School	6-8	499	410	82%		
PE4	Driftwood Public School	JK-5	459	324	71%		
PE5	Firgrove Public School	JK-5	640	342	53%		
PE10	Topcliff Public School	JK-5	505	293	58%		
	Schools not	located wi	ithin but serve	e part of Dra	aft Secondary Plai	n Area.	
PE6	Gosford Public School	JK-5	349	225	64%		
PE7	Oakdale Park Middle School	6-8	637	417	65%		
5	Schools located with	nin the Stu	udy Area but o	lo not serve	the Draft Second	lary Plan Area.	
PE1	Blacksmith Public School	JK-5	326	184	56%		
PE3	Calico Public School	JK-5	440	233	53%		
PE8	Shoreham Public Sports and Wellness Academy	JK-5	569	217	38%	Shoreham offers a specialized Sports & Wellness program promoting the development of healthy and active lifestyles. This program is offered to students in the local attendance area and outside, if space is available.	
PE9	Stanley Public School	JK-5	386	254	66%		
PE11	Yorkwoods Public School	JK-5	532	284	53%		
School		Study Area	or Draft Seco	ondary Plan	Area but serve pa	art of the Study Area.	
PE12	Beverley Heights Middle School	6-8	556	415	75%		
	TOTAL/Average		5,898	3,598	61%		

#### Table 2: TDSB Secondary School Data, October 2021

	Secondary Schools with Local Boundaries	Grade Range	Capacity <sup>1</sup>	Enrolmen t (Oct 2021) <sup>2</sup>	Utilization Rate (Oct 2021) <sup>3</sup>		
	School located within and serve part of the Draft Secondary Plan Area.						
PS1	Westview Centennial Secondary School	9-12	1,581	835	53%	Westview offers the Law in Action Within Schools (LAWS) program, which is a partnership between University of Toronto Faculty of Law, Osgoode Hall Law School and the TDSB to learn about law, the legal system and careers within the justice sector. This program is offered to students in the local attendance area and to students outside, if space is available.	
School	not located in the S	Study Area	or Draft Seco	ondary Plan	Area but serve	e part of the Study Area.	
PS2	CW Jefferys Collegiate Institute	9-12	984	832	85%	CW Jefferys offers a Board-wide, specialized program for Science, Technology, Mathematics and Arts (ESTe2M).	
	TOTAL		2,565	1,667	65%	· · · /	

<sup>1</sup> **Capacity:** Schools are designed to accommodate a certain number of students. Student enrolment may vary in a community over time so that a school may end up having more or fewer students than the building can accommodate – that is, the school may be over capacity or under capacity. The capacity of school buildings is measured using a set of rules for optimal use of rooms defined by the Ministry of Education. This capacity is referred to as the Ministry-Rated Capacity.

<sup>2</sup> Enrolment: October 31, 2020 enrolment has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is anticipated that impact on enrolment is short-term and that enrolments are likely to recover in near future. Note that enrolments are subject to change from year to year and these changes may be greater in the coming years due to the impact of the pandemic.

<sup>3</sup> Utilization Rate: A school's utilization rate is calculated by dividing the enrolment by the school's capacity. Note that a school's enrolment and/or capacity may change from year to year, which may affect the projected utilization rate(s). Program changes, classroom additions and/or replacement of some or all of a school building may impact the capacity of a school.

<sup>4</sup> Elementary and Secondary Schools with City Wide Boundaries: Alternative schools that do not have local attendance areas serving residential addresses. Admission is granted through an application process and spaces are limited.

## Learning Opportunities Index

The TDSB's Learning Opportunities Index (LOI) ranks each school based on measures of external challenges affecting student success. The school with the greatest level of external challenges is ranked number one and is described as highest on the index. It is important to acknowledge that students in all schools have some external challenges, even those schools that are ranked very low on the LOI.

According to the 2020 LOI, some schools in the Study Area are ranked near the top of the list of the total 473 elementary schools and 105 secondary schools, indicating a greater presence of external challenges affecting student success. Shoreham Public Sports and Wellness Academy (1), Yorkwoods Public School (2), Firgrove Public School (3) and Driftwood Public School (8) are among the 10 highest ranked elementary schools. Westview Centennial Secondary School (2) is the second highest ranked secondary school in the city.

All of the elementary schools are part of the TDSB Model Schools for Inner Cities initiative which seeks to collaborate with students, teachers, families and communities in spurring positive change, student achievement and well-being in the community.

### **TDSB System-Wide Reviews**

The TDSB has a number of tools it uses to address pupil accommodation pressures and balance enrolment. These include operational changes such as closing optional attendance and placing portables on site. The TDSB also has an annual Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy (LTPAS) which identifies studies that could lead to new programs, program relocations, school closures, boundary changes, and grade reorganizations.

The Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy 2019-2028 identifies several studies planned for the Study Area including pupil accommodation review, boundary change studies and a development redirection study. Table 3 outlines the planned studies.

The Board's Long-Term Program and Accommodation Strategy is refreshed and updated each year. In light of this, planned studies are subject to change. Some studies may be undertaken sooner, some deferred to a later date or removed from the document entirely. New studies are also added each year to reflect changing conditions and emerging issues throughout the City of Toronto.

#### Secondary Program Review:

The TDSB is currently undertaking a comprehensive review that, for the first time ever, looks at all its secondary schools at once with a vision to ensure all students have equitable access to programs and opportunities. Clustered into ten groupings of schools, reviews of the Board's 111 secondary schools are expected to take place over the next eight to ten years, with a common aim to reduce excess capacity and 'right-size' TDSB's network of secondary schools. The current review is expected to provide the framework for the subsequent group reviews. These subsequent group reviews may result in the closure of some TDSB secondary schools or changes to some of the current secondary school boundaries. In addition, changes to the provision of some secondary programs, such as French as a Second Language-related programs, may be impacted as a result of the group reviews. The Secondary Program Review Final Report was approved by the TDSB Board of Trustees in November 2020. Completion of Phase 1 of the Review is anticipated for June 2024.

Additional information regarding the Secondary Program Review can be found at: <u>https://www.tdsb.on.ca/High-</u> <u>Schools/Secondary-Program-Review/Interim-Report-2020</u>.

#### French-as-Second Language Review:

In June 2019, the TDSB's Board of Trustees approved the changes to the Board's Intensive French-as-a-Second Language (FSL) programs. This system-wide change restructures the Board's intensive FSL programs into a single program model (French Immersion) with two entry points, Junior Kindergarten and Grade 4. The changes eliminate all other entry points and phases out the Board's Extended French program. Initially, all schools with Junior Extended French programs will transition to providing new Grade 4 entries into French Immersion. As the transition progresses, however, changes to Junior Kindergarten and Grade 4 French Immersion entry sites and pathways may change, in accordance with Board procedures. Consideration for program locations or potential redistribution, pathways and secondary school sites are all under review within the FSL Implementation phase of the Secondary Program Review.

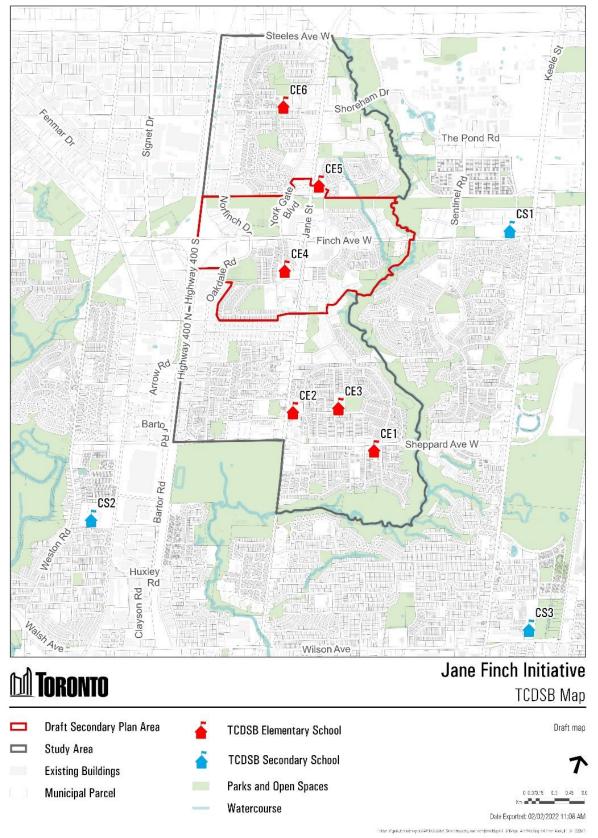
Additional information regarding the FSL can be found at: <u>https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/School-</u><u>Choices/French-Programs/FSL-Review-Recommendations-and-Implementation-Plans</u>.

#### Table 3: TDSB Planned Studies for Study Area

Year	Study Type	Study Description
2024-25	Pupil Accommodation Review	Explore a review of Brookview Middle School and its feeder schools to address projected under and overutilization in the area.
2024-25	Boundary Change Study	Explore a review of the shared attendance area that is currently directed to either Driftwood Public School or Topcliff Public School to determine a single home school.
2024-25	Pupil Accommodation Review	Explore a review of Downsview Secondary School, Westview Centennial Secondary School, William Lyon Mackenzie Collegiate Institute and CW Jefferys CI to address underutilization and program viability within this cluster of schools.
2025-26	Boundary Change Study	Explore a boundary change between Topcliff Public School and Yorkwoods Public School to balance enrolment between the two schools, and to determine an appropriate location to accommodate proposed residential development nearby.
2028-29	Boundary Change Study	Explore a review of the shared attendance area between Stanley Public School and Calico Public School to determine a single home school.

## Toronto Catholic District School Board

The Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) operates six elementary schools in the Study Area. The total capacity of these elementary schools is 2,993. The six schools have a 2021/2022 enrolment of 2,609. While there are no TCDSB secondary schools in the Study Area, the student population is served by James Cardinal McGuigan located at Keele Street and Finch Avenue West, as well as St Basil the Great located near Weston Road and Sheppard Avenue West. Madonna Secondary School is a female single-gender school located at Wilson Avenue and Keele Street also serves secondary students in the Study Area. The three secondary schools have a 2021/2022 enrolment of 2,779.





### Existing Context of Schools in the Study Area

According to the TCDSB's framework to assess school capacity, utilization rates that exceed 100% are considered to be overcapacity. Currently, all TCDSB schools, both elementary and secondary are operating within acceptable capacity.

It is anticipated that enrolment pressures can be addressed through the Long-Term Accommodation Plan process, which could identify operational changes such as adding portables or undertaking boundary change studies.

### Long-Term Accommodation Plan

The TCDSB utilizes several methods to manage enrolment throughout the system. These include boundary alignment, portable classrooms, interior retrofits, additions, school consolidations and new schools. In addition, the TCDSB conducts a board wide review of all school facilities every five years resulting in a Long-Term Accommodation Plan (LTAP) with a report being published at the final stages of the review. During the LTAP review, the TCDSB's Planning and Real Estate departments identify areas throughout the city where enrolment pressures or decline exist that require one of the solutions mentioned above. School consolidations or closures may be required in certain areas where student enrolment is declining, or the facility condition is poor to optimize use of available space in TCDSB facilities.

The current LTAP does not identify any immediate plans for the Jane Finch Study Area. The figures in Table 4 and Table 5 reflect the current and Board approved enrolment projections for the schools within the Study Area. The TCDSB continues to review needs for student accommodation in line with future development and demographic changes.

## Planned Capital Projects

There are no capital projects planned in the Study Area at this time. Recently, significant capital work was completed at St. Augustine to add a child care facility and four kindergarten classrooms (2015) and to add a new gym and 5 additional regular classrooms (2019).

Map Number	Name	Туре	Capacity (2021/2022)	Enrolment (2021/2022)	Utilization Rate (2021/2022)	Projected Enrolment (2022/2023)
CE1	St Martha	Elementary	263	223	85%	232
CE2	St Jane Frances	Elementary	715	681	95%	662
CE3	Blessed Margherita of Citta Di Castello	Elementary	332	323	97%	335
CE4	St Francis De Sales	Elementary	490	404	84%	464
CE5	St Charles Garnier	Elementary	571	430	75%	481
CE6	St Augustine of Canterbury	Elementary	622	548	88%	595
	Total		2,993	2,609		2,769

#### Table 4: TCDSB Elementary Schools in the Study Area

#### Table 5: TCDSB Secondary Schools Serving the Study Area

Map Number	Name	Туре	Capacity (2021/2022)	Enrolment (2021/2022)	Utilization Rate (2021/2022)	Projected Enrolment (2022/2023)
CS1	James Cardinal McGuigan	Secondary	987	963	98%	1,025
CS2	St Basil the Great	Secondary	1,176	1,184	101%	1,113
CS3	Madonna	Secondary (Female single gender)	690	632	92%	621
	Total		2,853	2,779		2,759

## Libraries

## A Community Space

The Toronto Public Library (TPL) provides vital space, resources, and services across Toronto's communities that enrich learning and skills development. TPL has 100 branches; a system that comprises 81 neighbourhood branches, 17 district branches and two Research/Reference libraries and service centres.

The Toronto Public Library Service Delivery Model states that libraries' service standards are aimed at building vibrant community hubs that provide neutral, convenient space to residents of all ages and backgrounds.<sup>1</sup>

There are two public libraries located in the Jane Finch Study Area. These are the York Woods District Library and Jane/Sheppard Neighbourhood Library.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Toronto Public Library. (2017). Staff Report: Service Delivery Model. Retrieved from <u>https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/content/about-the-</u> <u>library/pdfs/board/meetings/2017/jun19/17-service-delivery-model-combined.pdf</u>





#### Service Delivery Model

The Toronto Public Library's (TPL) service delivery model defines three tiers of branch service; neighbourhood branches, district branches and research and reference libraries. The first tier is neighbourhood branches, which provide general informational and recreational collections and services for adults and children in areas with populations ranging from 25,000 to 50,000. The primary service area of neighbourhood branches is within a 1.6-kilometre radius. Neighbourhood branches are designed to be 10,000 to 20,000 square feet as appropriate to the collection size and ancillary services.

District libraries play a vital role in delivering comprehensive recreational and informational collections, reference, and a broad range of community programs and services to diverse populations. Libraries classified as Tier 2 service an area of 2.5 kilometers and a minimum of 100,000 people. Many residents in the surrounding catchment area travel to York Woods to use its larger collections and services. District branches target a minimum size of 25,000 square feet.

The Jane Finch Study Area has one neighbourhood branch (Jane/Sheppard) and one district branch (York Woods). The Jane/Sheppard branch is currently below the ideal size for a neighbourhood branch at 7,000 square feet.

### **Branch Descriptions**

The York Woods library, located west of Sentinel Road along Finch Avenue West, is a two storey, 42,176 square foot facility that includes a 13,625 square foot theatre. The branch plays a vital role in the community by providing multipurpose space for various uses, such as programming, studying, multilingual services, and cultural or arts events. It is also home to a youth hub.

The Jane/Sheppard Branch is a one-storey, 7,000 square foot facility that contains a meeting room, a study room and offers a variety of programs. The branch was relocated from the Jane and Sheppard Mall to its current location on Sheppard Avenue West just east of Jane Street in 2009.

## Capital Plans and Future Growth

TPL undertook a Facilities Master Plan (FMP) to assist with effective management and planning of capital projects. Approved by City Council and released in 2019, the FMP identifies and prioritizes investments in library facilities over the short, medium and long-term, providing the organization with a planning framework that may be employed on an on-going basis to determine investment priorities over time. The investment decisions made by TPL are shaped by the results of the planning exercise undertaken in developing the FMP for both owned and managed facilities.

The Plan establishes a Prioritization Framework for investment to support evidence-based decision-making that considers operational factors and investment requirements to achieve a balance between maintenance and growth-related capital projects. Flexibility was also considered in developing the Plan to ensure that decisions can be made to adapt to unique opportunities that present themselves across the City in this high-growth environment.

## York Woods Library Capital Project

The TPL's FMP prioritized the York Woods district branch for improvements. The library is now closed to accommodate the renovation. The branch is identified in the FMP as being in poor condition. The \$11.75 million renovation will include an interior redesign and renovation of the ground and second floors, as well as upgrades to the theatre. The emphasis of the work will focus on the revitalization of the interior space, and reprogramming to support and enhance service delivery needs. The redesign will maximize opportunities for flexible or adaptable spaces, and will include a Digital Innovation Hub, Kids Stop, and Discovery Zone. State of good repair issues related to retrofitting, as well as building and infrastructure upgrades will also be addressed. The renovation will also provide a new multipurpose program space for newcomer services, co-sponsored programs, and partnerships.

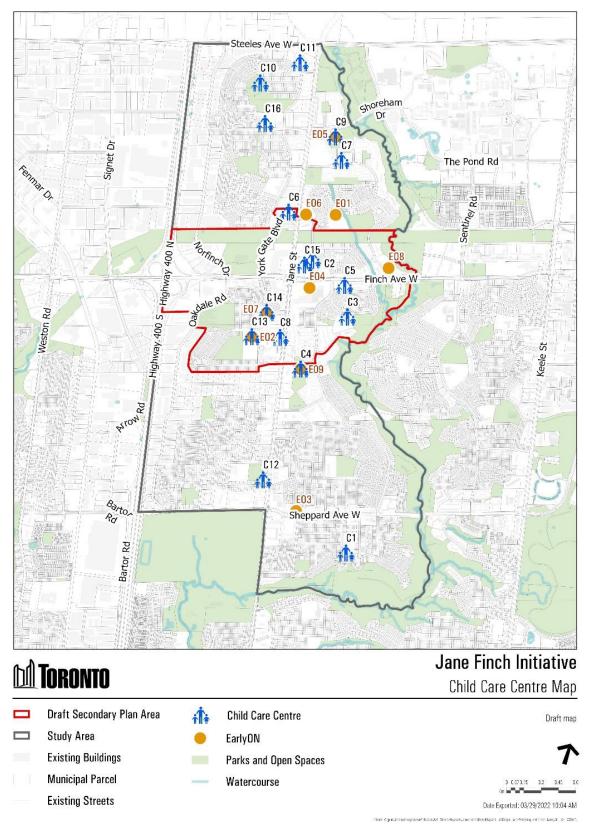
During the branch closure, the TPL is providing services in a 3,000 square-foot space in the concourse level of the Yorkgate Mall at the northwest corner of Jane and Finch. The Yorkgate Mall currently houses many institutional/community service tenants. There are also plans to embed librarians within the community at various locations. The Yorkgate Mall pop-up services will remain open until the new branch opening.

## Jane/Sheppard Branch

The Jane-Sheppard branch is identified in the FMP as a relatively new neighbourhood branch in good condition. There are currently no plans for the renovation, relocation or expansion of this branch. The branch will be held in a good state of repair.

## Child Care

There are sixteen child care centres located in the Study Area, providing a total of 1,430 spaces. The largest proportion of these spaces is for school age (31%) and preschool (27%) children, followed by kindergarten (23%), toddlers (12%) and infants (7%). Forty-nine new child care spaces opened at St. Augustine Catholic School in 2020, providing spaces for 10 infants, 15 toddlers and 24 preschoolers. See Table 6 and Map 6 for detailed information.



Map 6: Child Care and EarlyON Facilities in the Study Area

#### Table 6: Child Care Facilities in the Study Area

Map Number	Child Care Centre	Auspice	Address	Total Spaces	Subsidy Available
C1	Calico Saints Child Care Centre	Non Profit Agency	35 Calico Dr.	174	Yes
C2	Palisades Centre For Early Learning	Commercial Agency	15 San Romanoway	137	Yes
C3	Topcliff Community Child Care	Non Profit Agency	65 Topcliffe Ave.	87	Yes
C4	Tot World Child Care Centre	Non Profit Agency	25 Yorkwoods Gate	146	Yes
C5	Sandalwood Centre For Early Learning (Centres For Early Learning Inc.)	Commercial Agency	1825 Finch Ave. W.	145	Yes
C6	Seafield Day Nursery	Commercial Agency	100 York Gate Blvd.	119	Yes
C7	Edgeley Early Learning & Child Care Centre	Public (City Operated) Agency	405 Driftwood Ave.	57	Yes
C8	Firgrove Early Learning & Child Care Centre	Public (City Operated) Agency	4 Cane Grassway	46	Yes
C9	Shoreham Satellite Early Learning & Child Care Centre	Public (City Operated) Agency	31 Shoreham Dr.	50	Yes
C10	Blacksmith Child Care Centre	Non Profit Agency	45 Blacksmith Cres.	82	Yes
C11	Antica Village Children's Day Care Centre	Commercial Agency	360 Hullmarr Dr.	31	Yes
C12	Sisters Of Our Lady Of Mount Carmel	Non Profit Agency	2700 Jane St.	95	No
C13	Firgrove Satellite Early Learning & Child Care Centre	Public (City Operated) Agency	270 Firgrove Cres.	24	Yes
C14	St. Francis De Sales Jr Y	Non Profit Agency	333 Firgrove Cres.	97	Yes
C15	San Romanoway Boys & Girls Club	Non Profit Agency	10 San Romanoway	35	No
C16	YMCA Of Greater Toronto - St Augustine	Non Profit Agency	98 Shoreham Dr.	105	Yes
			Total	1430	

## EarlyON

EarlyON Child and Family Centres offer free programs to parents/caregivers and their children from birth to six years of age. These centres welcome all families to participate in quality programs that:

- help strengthen adult-child relationships,
- support parent education, and
- foster healthy child development.

Qualified professionals can help families and caregivers find support, get advice, make personal connections and access a network of resources.

These Centres were previously known under four different names: Ontario Early Years Centres, Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, Better Beginnings Better Futures Programs and family resource programs.

There are nine EarlyON Child and Family Centres in the Study Area. Program capacities vary among the sites, with a few large community based programs and a number of medium and small size programs supporting families and children in this community.

	Program	Address	Agency
E1	Tobermory EarlyON Child and Family Centre	15 Tobermory Dr	Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre
E2	Shoreham EarlyON Child and Family Centre	31 Shoreham Dr.	TDSB
E3	St. Francis De Sales EarlyON Child and Family Centre	333 Firgrove Cres.	TCDSB
E4	St. Charles Garnier EarlyON Child and Family Centre	20 Stong Ct.	TCDSB
E5	Jane Finch Mall EarlyON Child and Family Centre	1911 Finch Ave. W.	Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre

#### Table 7: EarlyON Locations in the Study Area

	Program	Address	Agency
E6	Yorkwoods EarlyON Child and Family Centre	25 Yorkwoods Gate	TDSB
E7	Firgrove EarlyON Child and Family Centre	270 Firgrove Cres.	TDSB
E8	Driftwood EarlyON Child and Family Centre	265 Driftwood Ave.	TDSB
E9	Jane and Sheppard Library EarlyON Child and Family Centre	1906 Sheppard Ave. W.	Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre

## Planned Capital Projects

There are two planned capital projects in the Study Area; Stanley Public School and Firgrove Early Learning & Child Care Centre. Located at 75 Stanley Road, the child care centre at Stanley Public school will have a total of sixty-two spaces and is expected to open in 2022. The Firgrove Early Learning & Child Care Centre will be replaced as part of the Firgrove Grassways community revitalization project by TCHC. The facility will be expanded with sixteen new pre-school spaces to a total of 62 spaces. The expected completion date is 2024.

## Program Spaces – Determining Child Care Demand and Growth

Toronto's Licensed Child Care Growth Strategy 2017-2026 aims to provide enough licensed spaces to serve 50% of children aged 0 to 4 by 2026. In order to achieve this target, the Study Area will require additional child care spaces. The Study Area includes two Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIA) with high rates of family poverty and low income which underscore the need for affordable child care services.

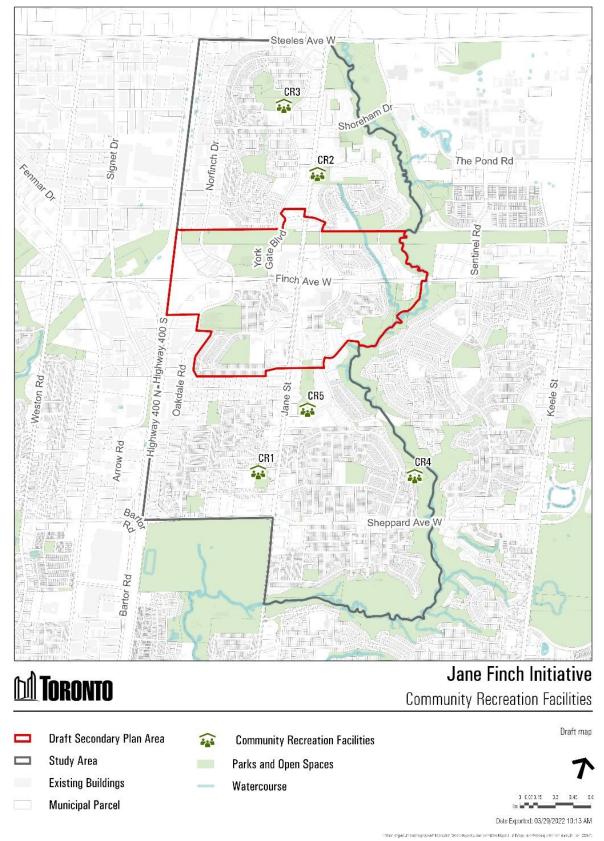
The Black Creek and Glenfield-Jane Heights neighbourhoods are both identified by Children's Services as a high priority for child care expansion with enough licensed spaces to serve 20-29% of children aged 0 to 4. Additional resources will be required to meet the target of serving 50% of children 0 to 4 as outlined in the Licensed Care Growth Strategy.

## **Community Recreation**

The City of Toronto's community recreation centres (CRCs) are important destinations within communities. They offer a variety of registered and drop-in City programs as well as spaces that are available to communities for spontaneous use and bookings, permits and events that reflect the specific needs of area residents. Access to space in these public facilities supports community engagement, health and fitness. Community recreation centres also play a critical role in supporting poverty reduction and building strong neighbourhoods. Thirty-eight centres offer free programming, as well as some free permitting for non-profit groups.<sup>2</sup>

There are four community recreation centres (CRCs) and one arena in the Study Area. All of the CRCs contain gymnasiums and outdoor swimming facilities, and three of the CRCs contain multipurpose room space. The centres also offer a variety of registered and drop-in programs for the community. All of the centres in the Study Area are mid-size Community Recreation Centres with a service radius of approximately two kilometres.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> City of Toronto, *Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan* (2019-2038) (2017),
23.



Map 7: Community Recreation Facilities in the Study Area

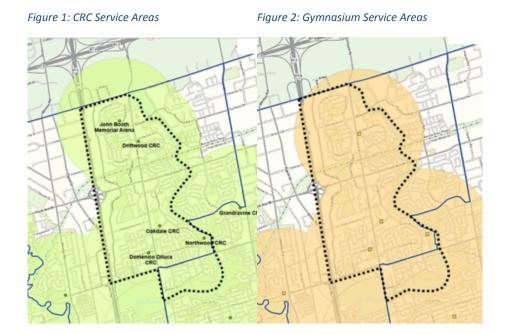
Additional outdoor recreation facilities are located within the Study Area, including tennis courts, outdoor bocce courts, a community garden and a cricket pitch field. The majority of existing parks in the area also contain ecological features such as ravines and trails. Planning for improving and expanding outdoor recreation facilities is addressed in the parks and public realm component of the Planning Framework Study.

Map Label	Community Recreation Facilities	Size (ft²)	Amenities	Notes
CR1	<b>Domenico Diluca</b> <b>Community</b> <b>Recreation Centre</b> 25 Stanley Road	12,896	<ul> <li>Gymnasium</li> <li>Outdoor pool</li> <li>3 meeting rooms</li> <li>Kitchen</li> </ul>	Offers a variety of recreational programming for everyone from preschool to older adults to enjoy. Domenico Diluca CRC is located in Stanley Park, which also includes a baseball diamond and tennis courts.
CR2	Driftwood Community Recreation Centre 4401 Jane Street	24,994	<ul> <li>Gymnasium</li> <li>Outdoor pool</li> <li>7 multipurpose rooms</li> <li>Kitchen</li> </ul>	This is a free centre. This location has some <u>youth-</u> <u>specific programming</u> . Offers drop-in and registered programs. The Driftwood CRC grounds include a basketball court and playground.
CR3	John Booth Memorial Arena 230 Gosford Boulevard	30,591	<ul> <li>Indoor ice pad</li> <li>3 multipurpose rooms</li> </ul>	Features a skate pad with a ticket booth, two meeting rooms, washrooms and a parking lot. Elm Park soccer field is located next to John Booth Memorial Arena.
CR4	Northwood Community Centre 15 Clubhouse Court	36,200	<ul> <li>Gymnasium</li> <li>5 multipurpose rooms</li> <li>3 kitchens</li> <li>Weight room</li> <li>Outdoor pool</li> <li>Lounge</li> <li>Meeting room</li> </ul>	Offers registered and drop-in programs and is a popular site for meetings, banquets and recreation programs. The Northwood CC grounds include a playground and back onto Northwood Park.
CR5	Oakdale Community Centre 350 Grandravine Drive	10,000	<ul> <li>Gymnasium</li> <li>Outdoor pool</li> <li>2 multipurpose rooms</li> <li>Kitchen</li> <li>Preschool</li> </ul>	Offers registered and drop-in programs <u>This is a free centre</u> . This location has some <u>youth-</u> <u>specific programming</u> . Oakdale CRC is located in Oakdale Park, which also includes a basketball court and playground.

#### Table 8: Community Recreation Facilities in the Study Area

### **Recreation Facility Provision**

Based on a geographic gap analysis, the area is currently wellserved by CRCs, gymnasia and outdoor pools. (Refer to Figures 2, 3 and 4 for service areas of existing facilities.) Comments from the community during public consultation events has emphasized the important role that these local facilities play in the community, providing opportunities for physical activity, socializing and community building. Driftwood CRC was mentioned repeatedly as an important community asset where residents could go to meet friends, learn new skills and participate in programs and activities.



#### Figure 3: Outdoor Pools Service Areas

#### Figure 4: Outdoor Ice Pads Service Areas





Figure 5: Indoor Pools Service Areas



There are no indoor pools or outdoor ice pads currently located within the Study Area. Based on a geographic gap analysis, the Jane Finch Study Area is not well-served by outdoor ice pads (refer to Figures 5 and 6 for service areas). The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan recommends construction of a new outdoor ice pad in Humber River-Black Creek (Ward 7) to address this gap, targeted for development in 2022-2024. The geographic gaps related to indoor pools and outdoor ice pads are consistent with comments raised by members of the community who indicated that residents typically have to travel outside of the community to access such facilities.

## Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan

The City of Toronto <u>Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan</u> <u>2019-2038</u> (FMP), adopted by City Council in November 2017, is a 20-year plan for investment in new and improved recreation facilities across the city. The FMP is guided by the principles of quality, sustainability, innovation, and equity.

The FMP seeks to address three major goals:

- Renew and upgrade existing facilities
- Address gaps and growth-related needs (identify current and future facility gaps based on existing and projected population, and create new facilities where needed); and
- Work with others to maximize opportunities for partnerships and leverage investments.

The Implementation Strategy for the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan, adopted by City Council in October 2019, identifies specific types of recreation facilities required by geography (ward, district, or citywide) and time period: short term (2019-2023), medium term (2024-2028), and long term (2029-2038), in order to address recreation service level gaps throughout the city.

### Future Recommended Recreation Facilities

The FMP identifies the Western North York Community Recreation Centre as a planned community recreation centre (CRC). It will be located at 60 Starview Lane, adjacent to St. Basil the Great College. This new CRC project is currently in the design stage and is estimated to be completed in 2025. The facility will be approximately 77,000 square feet in size and may include an aquatic centre (pool), multipurpose space, a gymnasium, and licensed child care facility. It will provide service to the southwest corner of the Study Area, around the intersection of Sheppard Ave. W. and Highway 400.

The FMP also identifies evaluating the Northwood Community Centre outdoor pool and the Oakdale Community Centre outdoor pool as potential candidates for repurposing into other community uses. Further assessment on utilization of these facilities, the impacts of repurposing and the demand of alternate uses is required. No timing or funding is associated with the evaluation of these pools at this time. The Downsview CRC is a new growth-related facility identified in the FMP. The timing for this facility is estimated to be between 2030 and 2034. The facility will be a large multi-purpose CRC with a multi-tank indoor pool, gymnasium and other activity/support spaces. Staff have initiated preliminary planning to identify an appropriate location; its 2.5 kilometre service area may serve the southeastern portion of the Study Area.

More detail regarding outdoor recreation facilities is included in the parks and public realm component of the Planning Framework Study.

### PF&R 10-Year Capital Plan

All of the indoor recreation facilities in the Study Area have capital improvements planned in the 2021-2030 PF&R Capital Budget and Plan or have undergone improvements in recent years (e.g. Northwood CC). The following projects are underway or planned within the Study Area:

#### Table 9: Study Area PF&R Projects

PF&R 10-Year Capital Plan					
Project Year					
Domenico Diluca SOGR Rehabilitation	2027				
John Booth Memorial Arena - Mechanical, Electrical	2019-2021				
Planned Western North York New CC Design and Construction	2021-2025				
Oakdale Community Centre - Control Joints, Steel Structure	2022-2023				
Driftwood Community Centre SOGR Rehabilitation	2028				

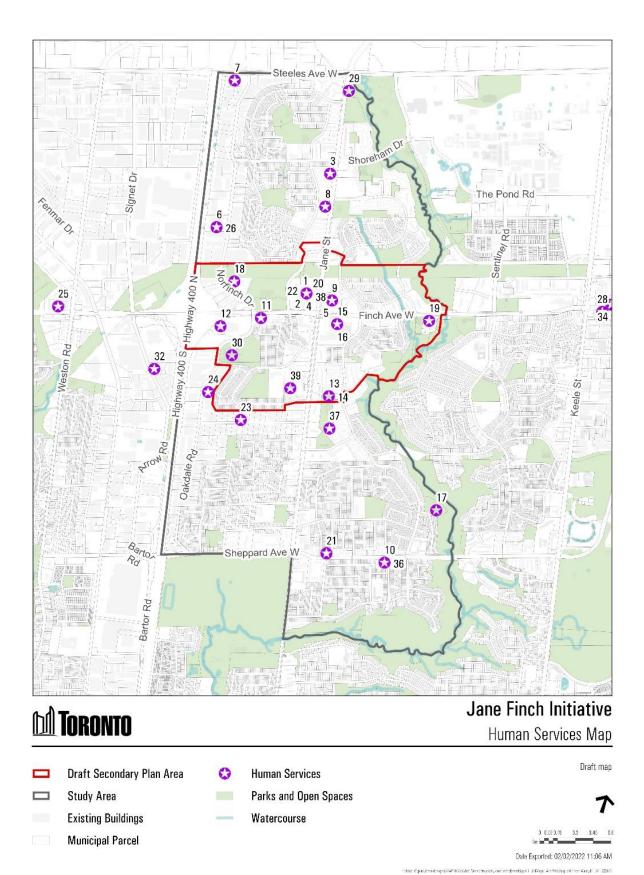
# Human Services and Community Agencies

Human Services contribute to the health, social, and economic wellbeing of Toronto's communities. They are broadly categorized into the following sectors: housing, homeless services; health promotion; food banks, multi-service organizations, employment services and skills training; youth services; settlement services; community development; and information and referral.

Human Services are often delivered by non-profit communitybased organizations and form an important part of the network of community services and facilities that serve the Study Area. These agencies work in partnership with local residents groups, various City divisions and government agencies including Toronto Public Health, Toronto Employment and Social Services, Toronto Public Library, public school boards as well Social Development, Finance and Administration. Locally-based agencies play an important role in identifying community services and facility needs, information sharing and delivering needed assistance to individual, families and vulnerable populations to the local community. They form an important part of the network of community services and facilities that serve the Study Area.

# Community Agencies

There are approximately forty human service agencies and/or programs located in and close to the Study Area serving residents both locally and city-wide. Some agencies offer multiple programs; and in some cases multiple agencies or programs are delivered in one location (see Table 10 for detailed information). The programs and services within the Jane Finch area include newcomer settlement and language services, supports for persons with disabilities, senior services, family and counselling services, food banks, youth services, and many others. In addition to the human service agencies listed here, there are a number of health clinics, long-term care facilities and supportive housing services located in the area. The York/Humber Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS) office is also located at Yorkgate Mall.





A survey of local agencies shows that many of these agencies operate out of rented office space, and many of these spaces are aging or not optimally accessible. They deliver programs onsite as well in local schools, community centres, places of worship and libraries. Some agencies surveyed commented that there are challenges to accessing some existing spaces such as local schools and post-secondary institutions. Several agencies indicated that there has been a steady increase in demand for their programs and services and some reported that programming space is fully utilized and they may face space challenges in the future as demand for programs and services continues to grow.

Agencies of all types indicate that rising rent costs and the risk of displacement are ongoing challenges faced by both agencies and residents in the Jane Finch area. Stabilizing service providers through permanent locations and consistent funding streams were seen as potential mitigation measures. There was interest in community-owned and community-run space(s) to ensure more stability for agencies.

Agencies were also interested in the idea of sharing spaces with other non-profit organizations to integrate service delivery and reduce costs. Participants of an agency-focused discussion referenced that the Covid-19 pandemic has illustrated that many critical services (especially those related to health) were provided by outside groups who did not necessarily have space to access in the community. The key message from agencies is that more space is needed to deliver programs and services as well as for the community to gather and hold events. Spaces for youth and seniors were mentioned as particular needs.

Мар #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
1,2, 4	Black Creek Community Health Centre	Health promotion and services	Yorkgate Mall, 1 York Gate Blvd	<ul> <li>Diabetes education</li> <li>Francophone health services navigation</li> <li>sexual health clinic</li> <li>other health services</li> </ul>
3	Out of Bounds, Grief Support	Health promotion and services	79 Gosford Blvd.	Grief support

#### Table 10: Human Services Agencies in the Study Area

Мар #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
5	Delore Quality Health Care Services	Health promotion and services	10 San Romano Way	<ul> <li>daily living needs, routine personal care</li> <li>perform light housekeeping and cleaning duties</li> <li>coordination of care</li> <li>transportation</li> </ul>
6	Ontario Learning Development Foundation	Multi-service organization	120 Norfinch Drive, Unit 39	<ul> <li>newcomer services</li> <li>children and youth programs</li> <li>violence prevention</li> <li>student examination supervision</li> <li>room rentals</li> </ul>
7	ANIDA	Food bank	4401 Steeles Ave. W.	Food bank
8	Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre	Community development	4400 Jane St., Suite 108	<ul> <li>community engagement and collaboration</li> <li>strengthen community leadership</li> <li>support positive social change from an anti-poverty social justice perspective</li> </ul>
9	San Romanoway Revitalization Association	Community development	10 San Romano Way, Ground Flr.	<ul> <li>individual and group counselling</li> <li>counselling for assaulted women</li> <li>recreation programs for seniors</li> <li>recreation programs for youth including boys and girls club breakfast and after school program for children 4-13 years</li> <li>homework assistance</li> </ul>

Map #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
10	Manantial Neighbourhood Services	Information and referral	Emmanuel Church of the Nazarene 1875 Sheppard Ave W, Lower Level	<ul> <li>individual and family counselling</li> <li>counselling and advocacy for abused women</li> <li>crisis intervention</li> <li>parenting support</li> <li>settlement services</li> <li>assistance with housing</li> <li>clothing bank</li> <li>information and referral</li> <li>programs for youth, seniors</li> </ul>
11	Working Women Community Centre, North York West Centre	Settlement services; Information and referral	2065 Finch Ave W, Suite 106	<ul> <li>information and referral, orientation, interpretation, counselling, form- filling including documentation or social assistance applications</li> <li>counselling and support groups for assaulted women and their families</li> <li>workshops</li> </ul>
12	LOFT Community Services, South Team, Behavioural Support Services Mobile Support Teams	Health promotion and services; Information and referral	2115 Finch Ave W, Suite 205	<ul> <li>short-term support serving people wherever they live</li> <li>referrals to other appropriate services</li> </ul>
13	Salvation Army, Immigrant and Refugee Services, North York Satellite Office	Settlement services; Information and referral	Yorkwoods Community Church, 20 Yorkwoods Gate	<ul> <li>information and referral for many areas including immigration, food banks or vouchers and furniture and clothing banks, orientation with information such as Ontario driver's licence or the public library system</li> </ul>

Map #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
14	Salvation Army, Yorkwoods Community Church	Food bank	Yorkwoods Community Church, 20 Yorkwoods Gate SE	<ul> <li>emergency food</li> <li>homework/after school club</li> <li>Learning Together with Family program</li> <li>Christmas assistance program</li> <li>residential summer camp for children</li> </ul>
15	JVS Toronto, Employment Source Jane Finch, Youth Employment Services	Employment services and skills training; Youth services	Jane Finch Mall 1911 Finch Ave W., Unit 3	Toronto Youth Job Corps for unemployed youth 16-29 years, not currently attending school and not receiving EI • full time program of 5 weeks paid pre- employment including employment counselling, job readiness skills, resume and cover letter
16	JVS Toronto, Ontario Employment Services	Employment services and skills training	Jane Finch Mall 1911 Finch Ave W., Unit 3	Self-service information and resources related to job search and training.
17	Lumacare Services, Northwood Community Centre, BOOST Adult Day Program	Health promotion and services	15 Clubhouse Court	<ul> <li>Building On Our Strengths Together (BOOST)</li> <li>respite care for stroke survivors and other neurological impairments</li> <li>day program</li> <li>social, recreational and therapeutic activities</li> <li>physiotherapy program</li> </ul>
18	Toronto Catholic District School Board, Norfinch Adult Education Centre, Adult High School Diploma Program	Employment services and skills training	45 Norfinch Dr, 3rd Flr.	Courses designed for adult learners who want to complete their high school diploma

Map #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
19	Canadian Human Rights International Organization	Settlement services	1725 Finch Ave. W.	Settlement services for immigrants and refugees interpretation and translation orientation form filling, assistance with refugee claims and landing documents, work permits, sponsorships
20	York University, TD Community Engagement Centre	Employment services and skills training	Yorkgate Mall, 1 York Gate Blvd, Suite 232	<ul> <li>Teaching, research and resource centre fostering community partnerships</li> <li>education and business programs</li> <li>seasonal income tax clinic</li> <li>information and referral</li> <li>workshops</li> </ul>
21	Humewood House Association, Young Parent Resource Centre	Multi-service organization	1900 Sheppard Ave. W.	<ul> <li>food bank and donations room</li> <li>children's play area</li> <li>parent and child programs</li> <li>life skills</li> <li>access to Internet and telephone assistance with school, employment and child care</li> <li>healthy cooking workshops</li> </ul>
22	Seneca College, Yorkgate Campus, Academic Upgrading/Literacy and Basic Skills	Employment services and skills training	Yorkgate Mall, 1 York Gate Blvd, 2nd Fl	Literacy and basic skills training, including numeracy, digital, communication and interpersonal skills. Helps learners prepare for employment, apprenticeship, secondary-school credit, post-secondary education and greater independence.

Map #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
23	Society for the Living, Food Bank	Food bank	Apostles Revelation Church, 274 Eddystone Ave	Food Bank
24	Sickle Cell Awareness Group of Ontario	Health promotion and services	415 Oakdale Rd, Suite 235	<ul> <li>Public education on sickle cell anemia and genotype testing</li> <li>administers emergency grant for sickle cell patients and their families in dire need</li> <li>administers scholarship fund to help youth living with sickle cell anemia</li> </ul>
25	Elspeth Heyworth Centre for Women	Settlement services	2350 Finch Ave W Unit D	<ul> <li>employment programs</li> <li>counselling services</li> <li>clothing, food bank</li> </ul>
26	Belka Enrichment Centre	Youth services	120 Norfinch Drive	Develops the academic and social potential of children living in high- risk areas in and around inner city of Toronto.
27	Mennonite New Life Centre of Toronto	Settlement Services	2737 Keele St Unit 9; 1122 Finch Ave W.	<ul> <li>immigration counselling</li> <li>assistance with sponsorship applications</li> <li>translation and interpretation</li> <li>legal referral</li> <li>Newcomer Skills at Work employment mentoring</li> <li>training in leadership and civic engagement</li> </ul>
28	Jane Finch Community Legal Services	Information and referral	1315 Finch Avenue West, Suite 409	Community legal clinic

Map #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
29	Black Creek Community Farm	Community development	4929 Jane Street	<ul> <li>healthy food, hands-on training and learning experiences</li> <li>providing leadership in food justice, and supporting diverse natural and social ecosystems</li> </ul>
30	Success Beyond Limits	Youth services	755 Oakdale Road	A collaborative, youth- led, community based movement that provides youth with holistic supports to complete their education and experience success in their lives.
31	Northwood Neighbourhood Services	Multi-service organization	1860 Wilson Ave, Suite 400	Provides programs and services within the community that will empower individuals, families and groups to achieve, maintain and enhance a state of physical, mental and social well-being.
32	CAFCAN (Caribbean African Canadian Social Services)	Multi-service organization	995 Arrow Road	Primary focus is on building and strengthening the service framework for African Canadian children, youth and families through culturally safe individual and group counselling supports, case management services, employment services, youth mentorship, and youth outreach programs.
33	Albion Neighbourhood Services	Information and referral	21 Panorama Court, Suite 14	<ul> <li>assistance with filling out forms, document replacement,</li> <li>income tax clinic</li> <li>advocacy</li> <li>community development</li> </ul>

Map #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
34	Hispanic Development Council	Multi-service organization	1280 Finch Ave. W.	<ul> <li>60 member agencies</li> <li>identifies problems and gaps in services</li> <li>research, public education, planning and policy analysis on issues affecting the local and international community</li> <li>advocacy</li> <li>consultation, professional development, training for members</li> <li>seminars, workshops, conferences, resources</li> </ul>
35	Delta Family Resource Centre - young parent resource centre	Multi-service organization	2291 Kipling Ave - head office	<ul> <li>community development and capacity building services for children and families</li> <li>settlement and legal resources</li> <li>programs for youth and seniors</li> <li>food pantry</li> <li>family resource programs</li> </ul>
36	Ephraim's Place Community Centre	Youth services	1875 Sheppard Ave W.	Programs and services for children, youth and families
37	Jane & Finch Boys' & Girls' Club (St. Alban's)	Youth services	300 Grandravine Drive, Unit 176A	Safe place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life.

Мар #	Agency/Program	Туре	Address	Description/Services Offered
38	Jane Finch Centre - The Spot Youth Centre	Youth services	Yorkgate Mall, 1 York Gate Blvd.	The youth satellite of the Jane/Finch Community and Family Centre; offers programs and services for youth between the ages of 13-29 years of age.
39	Firgrove Learning and Innovation Centre (FLICC)	Community development	11 Blue Grassway (Firgrove Community)	A non-profit community centre serving the educational needs of the Firgrove Crescent Community.

## **Employment Supports**

Toronto Employment and Social Services (TESS) provides employment supports, financial benefits through Ontario Works and social supports to people living in the City. There is one TESS office in the Study Area; the Yorkgate Employment and Social Services office located in the Yorkgate Mall at 1 York Gate Boulevard. This office relocated from 1117 Finch Avenue West in 2018. The Yorkgate office is approximately 44,000 square feet and is shared with the Ontario Disability Support Program, offering a dual delivery site and serves clients in the M9L, M9M, M3J, and M3N postal codes.

JVS Toronto, Employment Source Jane Finch, is a non-profit organization offering employment and training services at the Jane Finch Mall located at 1911 Finch Avenue West. Two programs are offered here; Youth Employment Services and Ontario Employment Services, providing comprehensive employment and job search services including assessments, resume preparation and training opportunities.

## Social Development

Social Development, Finance and Administration (SDFA) is a City division that supports the development and implementation of a social inclusion and community safety agenda for the city, fostering safe and strong neighbourhoods and communities, promoting community engagement and advancing life skill opportunities for youth. As the Study Area includes two Neighbourhood Improvement Areas (NIAs), SDFA is involved in implementing the goals and objectives of the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy 2020 (TSNS) within the Study Area. The TSNS seeks to leverage investment in community services and facilities for social benefit and to improve the everyday lives of existing residents. The TSNS Equity Score Card for the Black Creek NIA and Glenfield - Jane Heights NIAs have Neighbourhood Equity Scores of 21.4 and 24.4 respectively, ranking them as numbers 1 and 2 in the city in terms of neighbourhoods below the City's equity benchmarks. Both NIAs are assessed as being below the benchmark in terms of unemployment, low income, social assistance, high school graduation, marginalization, post-secondary completion, mental health, hospitalization and diabetes. The report also indicates that the average number of community spaces for meetings within a 10 minute walking distance from each residential block in the Study Area does not meet the average equity target. In addition, the report notes a walkability scores of 61 and 62 for the areas (0 is not very walkable and 100 is very walkable) indicating a need to improve pedestrian connections.

SDFA also facilitates the development of Neighbourhood Planning Tables in NIAs. Neighbourhood Planning Tables are a place-based planning approach that involves residents, community agencies, local businesses, City Councillors and City staff who work in the 31 <u>Neighbourhood Improvement</u> <u>Areas</u> (NIAs), meeting regularly to identify local priorities, plan solutions, and create partnerships for a strong neighbourhood. Many Tables have developed Neighbourhood Action Plans.

The Jane Finch TSNS Resident Engagement Planning Table identifies priority issues, prioritizes actions according to the need of the community and identifies resources necessary to complete the actions.

SDFA is also the lead in the City's Tower and Neighbourhood Revitalization initiatives. These initiatives aim to drive broad environmental, social, economic, and cultural change by improving Toronto's concrete apartment towers and the neighbourhoods that surround them. The Study Area contains over thirty tower renewal properties; most of which have been approved for the Residential Apartment Commercial (RAC) zoning by-law through the Tower Renewal initiative. RAC zoning allows for a number of small-scale nonresidential uses, such as retail stores, services and community facilities to take place either outdoors or on the ground floor of certain sites containing apartment buildings.

# Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

The City's Shelter, Support & Housing Administration (SSHA) Division is the service manager for housing and homelessness services in Toronto.

The Division's top priority is to ensure that vulnerable people can access temporary accommodation when they need it, and that permanent housing options are available, accessible and sustainable. The largest part of the Division's portfolio is the funding and oversight of social housing in Toronto which includes direct management of access to subsidized housing through a centralized waiting list. The Division also directly operates emergency and transitional shelter and 24-hour respite programs; provides street outreach in the downtown core and helps people avoid eviction through case management and housing assistance.

#### Street Needs Assessment

The City of Toronto conducted its fifth Street Needs Assessment (SNA) in April, 2021. The Street Needs Assessment (SNA) is a needs assessment survey and point-in-time count of people experiencing homelessness in Toronto led by SSHA, in collaboration with community partners in the homelessness sector. The 2021 SNA reveals that people experience homelessness in all areas of Toronto. Etobicoke York represents 15% of the total number; 14% of those in shelters and 24% of those living outdoors.<sup>3</sup>

There are no shelters located in the Jane Finch Study Area. However, there are programs located nearby including Downsview Dells, located at 1651 Sheppard Avenue West, which is a shelter for men experiencing homelessness or men who are at risk of losing their housing, and who wish to abstain from the use of drugs and alcohol. There is also one temporary shelter located in the Study Area activated to support physical distancing in response to COVID-19.

#### Homelessness Solutions Services Plan

Based on the results of the SNA, as well as extensive engagement and feedback with frontline staff, service providers, sector partners and people with lived experience of homelessness, the Homelessness Solutions Service Plan identifies the implementation priorities to guide SSHA and their partners in the homelessness service system in Toronto over

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>Attachment 2 - Homelessness Solutions Service Plan (September 2021)</u> (toronto.ca), p. 21

the next three years. The plan supports ongoing efforts to build and strengthen a responsive homelessness service delivery system which uses an integrated and person-centred approach to address homelessness.

#### Capital infrastructure Strategy

SSHA will develop a three year Capital Infrastructure Strategy (2022-2024) for both City-owned and agency-owned sites with City funded programs/services for people experiencing homelessness. A longer-term capital infrastructure strategy will enable the division to identify key service gaps across the city, align capital planning with the City's long-term housing and homelessness plan, initiate conversations with Councillors around shelter capital planning, and focus efforts for targeted, proactive engagement in relevant neighbourhoods.

City Planning will be involved in SSHA's first Capital Infrastructure Strategy that will guide shelter infrastructure planning going forward, including within the Jane Finch area.

# Summary of Findings and Emerging Priorities

Addressing CS&F needs and priorities as growth and change occurs in the Study Area will be important to successful city building in the Jane Finch area. Analysis of recent demographic trends and review of current conditions identified the following key findings about CS&F in the Study Area:

- Existing community facilities in the Study Area are valued and enjoyed by the community and provide critical opportunities for gathering, learning and playing.
- There is a high proportion of children and youth in the area and a demand for programs, services and spaces that meet their needs.
- There is a limited supply of flexible multi-purpose spaces that are affordable, accessible and available for use by local organizations and the community.
- There is a need to maintain and enhance the existing spaces and create new, accessible and engaging community spaces.

## **Emerging Priorities and Opportunities**

Based on the analysis above, the following emerging priorities and opportunities have been identified. Additional needs and priorities are likely to emerge over the course of the Jane Finch Initiative.

# 1. Maintain and enhance existing community service facilities to meet evolving needs

- Work collaboratively with Toronto Public Library capital planning staff to inform the upcoming iteration of TPL's Facilities Master Plan. Identified opportunities include:
  - Improvements to York Woods district library branch, which are currently underway. These entail a major renovation including an interior redesign, upgrades to the theatre and reprogramming to meet current needs.
- Work with Children's Services Division to identify opportunities to expand the number of non-profit licensed child care spaces to meet current needs and accommodate future growth in the study area. Identified opportunities include:
  - Two planned child care capital projects in the Study Area that will replace and expand the number of child care spaces in the area.

# 2. Create new community service facilities to meet existing needs and accommodate growth

- Work to ensure plans for new community facilities are informed by community needs and interests. Community space priorities for the Jane Finch area include:
  - more affordable multi-purpose space for non-profit agencies;
  - · accessible and welcoming spaces for youth;
  - · gathering spaces for seniors; and
  - affordable space for artists.
- Expand the number of non-profit licensed child care spaces to meet current needs and accommodate future growth in the Study Area.

- Work closely with Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to further examine community recreation facilities needs and identify investments. Identified opportunities include:
  - The Western North York Community Recreation Centre is a planned community recreation centre, identified in the PF&R Facilities Master Plan (PFR FMP). Estimated to be complete in 2025, it will provide service to the southwest corner of the Study Area, around the intersection of Sheppard Ave. W. and Highway 400.
- 3. Seek opportunities to introduce new active recreation facilities that are needed in this area in either new or existing parks within or close to the Study Area.
- Work closely with Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division to further examine community recreation facilities needs and identify investments needed to address existing gaps and anticipated growth pressures. Identified opportunities include:
  - The Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan 2019-2038 (PFR FMP) recommends construction of a new outdoor ice pad in Humber River-Black Creek (Ward 7) to address a geographic gap, targeted for development in 2022-2024.
  - The PFR FMP also identifies the Northwood Community Centre outdoor pool and the Oakdale Community Centre outdoor pool as potential candidates for repurposing into other community uses over time.

# 4. Leverage development to achieve community benefits

- Development can contribute to new and improved on- and off-site facilities. While the secondary plan is being developed, work with applicants to inform the development of the plan to leverage investment in CS&F that meet identified emerging priorities.
- New CS&F should be supported by a well-designed public realm and located in highly visible and accessible locations with strong pedestrian, cycling and transit connections.

- Ensure that existing non-profit community service facilities are maintained or replaced if displaced through new development, with no net loss of space.
- For development that is phased, require, wherever possible, the construction of community service facilities as part of the first phase of development.

# 5. Encourage partnerships and co-location opportunities between the public, private and non-profit sectors.

- Support co-location opportunities for non-profit community agencies to integrate service delivery, increase collaboration and make efficient use of resources.
- Explore potential space partnerships or models to access space between local schools and community agencies.

# Next Steps: Directions for Phase 2

Phase 2 of the overall Jane Finch Initiative, *Options,* will identify planning and design alternatives, land use policy directions and quick start projects. As part of that work, there are a number of steps that will be undertaken as part of the CS&F Study:

- Engage with representatives from various City divisions, agencies and boards to understand the impact of anticipated growth on their current community service facilities and capital plans.
- Develop a comprehensive CS&F strategy for Jane Finch to address unmet needs of existing residents and to support future growth.
- Identify and confirm CS&F draft policy directions.
- Continue to work to align and integrate ideas and directions with the Community Development Plan stream of work.

# Appendix

# Community Feedback

Through public engagement activities conducted to date, Jane Finch community members have frequently noted the importance of the Study Area's existing community facilities and gathering places and the significant role that local libraries, recreation facilities and outdoor spaces play in fostering a sense of community. The sense of belonging these spaces and places create for the community is clear and reinforces the need for them to be maintained, enhanced and replaced when necessary.

They key priorities and ideas suggested by the community related to community facilities have been summarized and categorized here for ease of reference:

Existing spaces and places:

- There are many community facilities in the Jane Finch area that residents enjoy, want to preserve and want to see more of in the future. Some examples mentioned include the Driftwood Community Recreation Centre, Black Creek Community Health Centre, Black Creek Community Farm, libraries, and the Jane Finch Family Centre's "The Spot" Program. They were described as being walkable and providing informal gathering spaces.
- Driftwood Community Centre was described as the place where you go to meet friends, learn new skills (e.g. through the photography program) and participate in sports activities. One participant described it as a place where you could drop in anytime and something/a program was always taking place.
- Malls (Jane Finch and Yorkgate) are central community spaces with squares for community to gather at the corner of Jane and Finch. Their location in the community, access to affordable food, clothing and other services, as well as providing a space where young people could hang out were considered important aspects of these spaces.
- The Community theatre at York Woods library is an important space.
- Maintain the existing atmosphere of the community.

Activities and recreation<sup>4</sup>:

- More active recreation facilities, such as outdoor gyms and fitness equipment, skateboard parks, skating rinks, splash pads and swimming pools, playgrounds, and basketball courts for all ages and abilities (for instance, some youth and adult residents use outdoor recreation facilities at York University, such as the basketball courts, because the local courts in the community accommodate mostly younger children)
- More community centres and update community recreation centre equipment for all ages
- More spaces for outdoor sports activities such as outdoor soccer, beach volleyball, etc.
- Indoor or outdoor lane swim
- Accessible recreation opportunities for school-aged children with a variety of options, outside of sports like music and martial arts which is not currently offered
- Mural walls (for artists to practice on)

Outdoor and community gathering spaces:

- More access to outdoor and indoor public spaces in general, including spaces for both community gathering and diverse activities, which can accommodate different age groups, particularly youth and seniors
- More flexible open spaces that can accommodate community gathering and events, such as piazzas and squares
- Minimize barriers to public space POPS should be clearly identified as public spaces and not inside/behind doors and unwelcoming fences
- More community garden programs
- Make the corner of the Jane Finch Mall parking lot in the southeast corner of intersection into a parkette with furniture and place for 'speaker's corner'
- Accessible spaces for grassroots groups to use within the community
- Community arts centre and/or spaces for all ages
- 2SLGBTQ+ Centre for all ages
- Fair/festival grounds
- Gathering places for seniors. Make spaces where they are welcome and accessible.
- A place to hold community concerts and performances
- Need space for community services that isn't tucked away in hard to get places

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Parks-based recreation facilities such as splash pads and playgrounds are addressed in the Parks and Public Realm component of the land use planning framework. They have been included here to reflect comments heard.

Other ideas, concerns and comments:

- Some comments reflected a sense that the community's needs are not fully met in terms of access to services and physical spaces
- Affordable space that artists can use for creating art is essential to ensuring that local artist feel supported as many have to move out in order to afford practicing their craft
- Bike repair shops
- Places and spaces should be accessible and welcoming to people of all ages and mobility levels
- Spaces need to be more child friendly, and offer opportunities for learning and hands on exploration for different learning styles, in relative safety from cars
- More options for study spaces
- Affordable child care programs
- Support for people to know how to access and book community/public spaces
- Implement both short and long term solutions (e.g. don't wait until the Hub is developed).

In addition to comments related to space, a number of comments related to programming and service needs emerged. These areas will not necessarily be addressed through the land use planning framework, however, they are highlighted here to ensure they are acknowledged and considered as part of the overall JFI and addressed as part of the Community Development Plan, where appropriate. They have been summarized and categorized here for ease of reference.

Local business supports:

- Space, programs and resources for economic incubators (especially if it is a co-operative model)
- More investment that will benefit local residents
- Local business supports to nurture local ideas
- Importance of small businesses such as local convenience stores and restaurants were mentioned as memorable places the participants grew up around. An example is "Yummy's" restaurant.

Seniors supports:

- Adopt a seniors program connecting young people and children who don't have grandparents with seniors
- Plan for addressing senior isolation and increase safety from abuse
- Recognize threats to seniors abuse, isolation.
- Support seniors with low income backgrounds
- Better prepare seniors for retirement improved quality of life

Child and youth supports:

- The community should provide opportunities for the growing ambition of the youth of Jane Finch.
- Youth entrepreneurship opportunities
- Mentorship programs to ensure the youth of the community feel represented.
- Before- and after-school programs
- Tutoring and youth programs
- Updated technology and tools in schools
- Programs that promote student leadership and mentorship within schools
- Social and community programs that help at-risk youth

Health and mental health supports:

- More mental health supports and workshops
- More affordable counselling and mental health services
- Doctors and staff that communicate in the same language as the residents
- Improve the healthcare system and hospitals (post-Covid)

Arts, culture and sports:

- Importance of community arts
- Participants mentioned feeling limited in the services and hobbies they could access so they would also like to have more creative workshops that include creative writing, poetry and promotion of these skills.
- More sports sponsorships and partnerships that support upcoming athletes for gym facilities in schools and community centres
- The Jane Finch Hub and Centre for the Arts is one resource to further the community's goals as long as it is designed and led by and for the community, reflective of Jane Finch's history, and accessible for all residents, especially the more vulnerable members.
- More programs in general that expose the community to different hobbies and interests aside from sports, such as yoga classes, robotics, and coding.

Other community ideas/supports:

- The community should be complete, inclusive, accessible, affordable and prioritizing its current residents
- Study cafés with access to high-speed internet
- Residents want to preserve and improve existing local services through more core funding and better advertising of what is offered so residents are aware of what services they can access within the community.
- Financial literacy programs that focus on taxes, investing in stocks, and cryptocurrency education.
- Policies that promote Anti-racism in public spaces
- Addressing gun violence, drugs and gangs within the community.

- Address policing and profiling
- Affordable healthier food options
- Jane and Finch shopping area on world tourism map
- Technology (smart tech) that helps with accessibility
- Have language interpreters that help residents
- One clear easy way to access services/supports
- Community members should be prioritized and engaged at every stage of processes such as the Jane Finch Initiative as well as any development projects such as the Jane Finch Hub and Centre for the Arts (The Hub).