

Jane Finch Initiative



Ideas Booklet:

Resources, Partnerships, and Governance

This is one of 12 booklets that summarizes the Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report. Booklet topics:



- Arts & Culture
- Climate action
- Community service facilities
- Heritage
- Housing
- Inclusive employment opportunities
- Inclusive entrepreneurship opportunities
- Land use, built form, and urban design
- Mobility - getting around
- Parks & public spaces
- Resources, partnerships and governance
- Social development

The Jane Finch Initiative is a resident-informed project to plan for the future of the area so that residents, local groups and businesses are supported as the area changes over time with the opening of the Finch West Light Rail Transit.

Resources, Partnerships and Governance -

Vision: Jane Finch Initiative policy ideas are developed and implemented with adequate resources and build on partnerships between the City of Toronto, community members, community agencies, institutions, and private sector and collaborative decision making that prioritizes community members.

The Jane Finch Initiative will result in an updated land use plan and a Community Development Plan. Any new policies or programs to be introduced through the Community Development Plan will require a corresponding resource commitment and plan.

The Community Development Plan will be a living plan that consistently evaluates and updates work in the neighbourhood to foster economic and social opportunities, and will require an ongoing commitment in terms of resources for staff and program funding. City Council has endorsed the comprehensive approach and important goals of the Jane Finch Initiative and staff anticipate that City Council will be supportive of corresponding resource requirements. Outlined below are key areas of resourcing needed to advance the Community Development Plan.

1. Develop an evaluation matrix for community actions and funding and advance a community-based research agenda.

Funding is needed to provide supports for communities addressing critical issues in Jane and Finch. To ensure that community development actions, partnerships, and funding actually make strong contributions to change it is important that the City, in partnership with community actors, define new ways to monitor, evaluate, and learn from the Community Development Plan implementation process. The Community Development Plan can also align with community and academic partners committed to pursuing community-based research agendas exploring the long term impacts of land use and community development on Indigenous, Black, and equity deserving groups in Jane and Finch.

Ideas

- Explore best practices and co-lead with community partners the creation of a shared monitoring, evaluation, and learning framework that can support both City and community partner learning needs.
- Explore the creation of annual learning symposiums that foster collaborative analysis of evaluation findings and shared learning opportunities between the City, community partners, and residents.
- Establish key metrics of inclusive economic development in Jane and Finch and develop a research agenda to track changes over time.
- Explore opportunities to support and/or leverage community partner and research partners' research focused on the Jane and Finch area.

For more on this topic, read the full Jane Finch Initiative Ideas Report at www.toronto.ca/janefinch

Ideas

- Identify opportunities to co-develop new research initiatives that align with the community development plan monitoring and evaluation framework.

2. Prioritize community decision-making and collaborative structures.

An important point that has been raised through phase 1 consultations is that many of the possible policy directions or support programs have already been studied and advanced by community-based organizations. Rather than implementing new City of Toronto initiatives, community members have strongly suggested engaging with and supporting existing organizations and programs. Residents and groups also spoke about the need for collaborative decision making structures that ensure that Jane Finch Initiative plans and their advancement aligns with the residents' ongoing work and vision for the neighbourhood.

Ideas

- Conduct internal City environmental scan of community participation and accountability mechanisms to identify best practices.
- Leverage City policy and strategies to foster increased collaboration between residents, resident led groups, and community organizations and private developers leading development in the area.

3. Prioritize a strategically-aligned resource strategy.

The impact of the Community Development Plan depends on the resources dedicated to supporting this unique and new model. The City will explore opportunities to provide resources to the Community Development Plan while also identifying collaborative funding opportunities that can complement new and existing City actions and engagements in the area.

Ideas

- Develop a Jane Finch Initiative Community Development Plan resource commitment aligned with the plan's policies and recommended actions.
- Consider the creation of a standing community funders table for the community sector.
- Explore the creation of a long-term City and City funding partner resourcing strategy for Jane and Finch and consult with potential partners and funders on resourcing promising short- and medium-term initiatives.

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We want to hear what you think of these ideas. Are we on the right track? What's missing? What could be better?



Send us an email us at janeфинч@toronto.ca



Find out more about the Jane Finch Initiative at toronto.ca/janeфинч, or scan the QR code below.



Give us a call at 416-338-0775.

