

Date: Thursday, January 11, 2024

Meeting Type: Virtual

Start time: 6:00 p.m. End Time: 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Objectives:

Introduce the Community Advisory Group (CAG) members to each other and the project team

Receive feedback on the proposed project objectives, existing conditions, potential additional studies to be completed, and issues and opportunities for the area

Meeting Overview:

The meeting was facilitated by Marc Rose from Morrison Hershfield. The meeting began with introductions to the CAG members and the project consultant team from Morrison Hershfield, as well as staff from TRCA and the City of Toronto. Marc Rose reviewed the Terms of Reference, and then Anneliese Grieve of Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions presented an overview of the study background, the Individual Environmental Assessment process, existing conditions of the study area, issues and opportunities that have been identified so far, and next steps. Members had the opportunity to ask questions and comment throughout the presentation.

Discussion

Below is a record of key points, concerns and follow ups from the meeting.

- Suggestions
 - Consider implications of the last proposed objective of cost and cost effectiveness, as this makes saving money a priority, rather than truly meeting goals for the project. Member suggests comparing to the cost of doing nothing.
 - Include objective to connect with the province-wide cycling network to help achieve provincial and national transportation/transport objectives.
 - Incorporate design excellence into the objectives.
 - Include information at upcoming public information session about existing users and issues/opportunities, and add information on interim studies and potential implementation solutions.
- Comments
 - A hybrid trail alignment that runs partly along the shore and partly along the table lands is not a viable option.
 - An increase in beach users has been observed across the study area.

- Concerns about overflow parking and ensuring parks and waterfront areas aren't overused.
- Preference to have a continuous trail that will encourage people to move through the area rather than stop and encourage overuse.
- Need for outreach during consultation process to ensure a diversity of voices and potential users.
- Questions
 - Are we looking into existing uses?
- Staff Responses
 - The cost of doing nothing is considered explicitly in the EA process as it is part of the analysis of alternatives.
 - While the project will strive to develop a high-quality preferred alternative that maximizes the objectives, design level details are outside the scope of an environmental assessment (EA) process. Environmental assessments are about large-scale decisions and what is going to create an impact. Past EA projects considered alternatives that were conceptual, becoming more refined once it moves into the detailed design phase.
 - Existing and future socio-economic conditions, which will include user types, will be part of the study

Attendees

CAG Members:

- Black North Initiative
- Bluffers Park Boating Foundation
- Cliffcrest Scarborough Village SW Residents Association
- Cycle Toronto
- Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities
- Scarborough Greenway Network Project
- Surfing Community
- Toronto Field Naturalists
- Toronto Lakefront Community
- Unbounded
- Waterfront for All
- Waterfront Regeneration Trust
- *Regrets: Swim Drink Fish*

Councillor Offices:

- Linda Salem, Outreach Coordinator, Councillor Brad Bradford's Office
- *Regrets: Councillor Kandavel's Office*

City of Toronto:

- Cadhla Gray, Waterfront Secretariat
- Fred Martin, Waterfront Secretariat
- Katelynn Northam, Public Consultation Unit
- Sung Sim, Parks, Forestry, and Recreation

TRCA:

- Amy Roots, Special Projects
- Corey Wells, Special Projects
- Jet Taylor, Erosion and Risk Management
- John Hunkin, Special Projects
- Whitney Brennan, Erosion and Risk Management

Consultants:

- (Host) Anneliese Grieve, Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions
- (Host) Marc Rose, Morrison Hershfield