Consultation Summary

Don Mills Regeneration Area Study

Public Meeting #1 – September 11, 2025

Overview

On Thursday, September 11, 2025, City Planning staff hosted the first Don Mills Regeneration Area Study public meeting at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre, Room 2D from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. This event was promoted through email to area resident groups, the ward Councillor, <u>study website</u>, and by mailing over 15,000 postcards to addresses in the surrounding area.

More than 45 attendees were present at the public meeting. An Open House with information boards was held from 6:00 p.m., followed by a Staff and Consultant presentation at 7:00 p.m. and a Question-and-Answer session. City staff provided information about the study scope and process, and the Consultant team provided information on background review, opportunities, and constraints.

Engagement Summary

This report is not intended to provide a verbatim transcript of the meeting but instead provides a summary of feedback received during the meeting that are relevant to the study area and scope of the study in the form of key themes.

Safe, comfortable, and accessible mobility

Participants expressed a desire for development that is people-first and not carcentric. More specifically, improvements to walkability for seniors, accessibility for mobility-assistive devices, and young families with strollers in a range of weather conditions, including snow. Pedestrian access to Eglinton Avenue, the LRT, and nearby amenities was a recurring priority. Participants also noted concerns about existing traffic levels and LRT capacity, emphasizing the need to ensure that all forms of mobility, vehicular, active, and public transit, remain reliable as the area continued to develop.



Health, safety, and environmental conditions

Participants emphasized the importance of supporting healthy and safe environments. Strategies to mitigate environmental conditions near the rail corridor, both within buildings and outdoors, were indicated as important. Concerns were raised about air quality, especially in relation to outdoor play areas.

Community services and social infrastructure

Participants emphasized the importance of community-supportive and social infrastructure, including schools, community centres, and affordable housing. Specific public amenities raised included swimming pools and playgrounds. Participants also highlighted the importance of local shops, grocery stores, and services that support day-to-day living and contribute to a complete, livable community.

Green character and landscape quality

There was interest in maintaining natural heritage, vibrancy, and human comfort in the area. The retention of mature trees and public realm programming were identified as important.

Parks, open Space, and recreational Connections

Participants identified usable open space at the ground level, improved active mobility connections to areas of focus such as the Sunnybrook Park and LRT stops, and programmed spaces that add vibrancy to the public realm as important. Specific examples raised included recreational amenities such as picnics and dog parks.

Recognition of local landmarks and cultural identity

Participants highlighted the Aga Khan Museum and Park as an important cultural landmark in the area. Some participants questioned the heritage significance of the two buildings identified on the Wynford/Gervais site.

What Happens with the Feedback

The feedback collected will be reviewed and considered as staff begin to draft the policy direction for the Study Area. Feedback will be shared with partner divisions and agencies to support other city-wide initiatives.



The feedback will be considered alongside existing planning policy and directions (including provincial policy), further feedback from the community, stakeholders, and City Divisions and agencies as well as research and technical evaluations.

Next Steps

Staff will use the feedback received at the September 11 meeting to shape future work related to the future policies for the lands, with a focus on land use, parks and open space, phasing, streets, community services and facilities and built form.

Stay Informed

To receive updates related to the Don Mills Regeneration Area Study, including project milestones and opportunities to participate in the process through meetings and events subscribe to the Don Mills Regeneration Area Study Project on the <u>study website</u>.

