



**LAKE ONTARIO PARK MASTER PLAN
STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING #3
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2007 6:00 TO 8:15 PM**

DRAFT MEETING NOTES

1) Welcome and Introduction

Chris Glaisek, Vice President of Planning and Design for Waterfront Toronto welcomed participants to the third meeting of the Lake Ontario Park Stakeholder Advisory Committee (LOP SAC). He noted the long time since the group had last met and introduced Richard Kennedy, from Field Operations, who is replacing Ellen Neises on the project and James Roche from Waterfront Toronto, who is a new project manager working on Lake Ontario Park. Chris then turned the meeting over to facilitator, Joanna Kidd of Kidd Consulting, who reviewed the purpose of the meeting. She described the purpose as to bring members up to speed on what had happened on the project since January 2007, to provide a preview of and discuss the upcoming Lake Ontario Park Master Plan, and to outline the next steps in the Master Plan process. She then reviewed the agenda (see Appendix A) and asked participants to introduce themselves. The list of attendees is included as Appendix B.

2) Presentation

Richard Kennedy from Field Operations started his presentation by noting that Field Operations had been begun meeting with the LOP Steering Committee in September 2007 to re-start the project and was continuing to meeting with them monthly. He noted that the current schedule includes a future SAC meeting to review the Draft Master Plan, and a public meeting in January 2008. the Implementation of Phase 1 could begin in the spring of 2008. He outlined the contents of the ultimate Master Plan document and showed slides of the January 2007 LOP Concept plan and the November 2007 Draft Master Plan. He noted that the major changes that had taken place centred on:

- the Bar;
- the Marina Peninsula; and
- the Bay.

Richard then presented the current plans for circulation (pedestrian, multi-use, vehicular, parking and connections to the city), passive and active recreation, and habitat. He reviewed the percentage of the park that would be devoted to various land uses (habitat, passive recreation, active recreation and boating).

He then zoomed in to provide more detail on the various areas of the Park:

- the Bar, Cherry Beach and the North Shore;
- the Marina Peninsula;
- Tommy Thompson Park;
- the Base Lands;

- the Bay; and
- the Eastern Beaches.

Richard described the vision and goals for each of the above areas and presented cross-sections and eye-level renderings to give a sense of scale and character. Key changes since the January 2007 Concept Plan include:

- The Don Greenway has been revised to reflect the new design for the Mouth of the Don River.
- Unwin Avenue has been narrowed, with parallel parking added to the southern side of the street.
- The active recreation facilities on the North Shore, which in the Concept Plan were strung along Unwin Avenue, have been clustered, and relocated away from where the Don Greenway will intersect with Lake Ontario Park. Senior soccer fields are now located near the Cherry/Unwin intersection, and mini-soccer fields are located in the Base Lands.
- Proposed fill areas along the Marina Peninsula have been reduced to a minimum or eliminated to reduce impacts on navigation and boating.
- Ashbridge's Bay Park has been redesigned to retain as much of the original landmass as possible. The proposed easterly entrance to ABYC has been moved back to its original location, and a deflector arm has been added to keep sediment away from the entrance.
- Two acres of passive parkland have been added to Ashbridge's Bay Park.
- The bridge and breakwater has been shortened in length to reduce cost and impact on the landmass of Ashbridge's Bay Park.
- The Bay wetland now reflects an alternative in Toronto Water's Coatsworth Cut Sewershed Environmental Assessment.

He noted that CH2M Hill had recently been retained by Waterfront Toronto to carry out a soils investigation, and that the investigation was concentrating on the Phase 1 implementation areas and the Base Lands.

Richard reminded members that the LOP Master Plan is intended to be a strategic framework that provides a vision and goals for the future Park. As such, it provides recommendations on access, circulation, land use, activities and amenities. He described the Master Plan as a flexible organizational tool to guide future design efforts and stressed that the precise configuration, number, location and character of each of the elements would be defined in a later, detail design stage. The detailed design stage will include input from agencies, stakeholders and the public.

Richard finished his presentation by showing the proposed scope of Phase 1 of Implementation. This includes: the Bay wetland; the Ashbridge's bridge, breakwater and boat bays; Ashbridge's Bay Park near Lakeshore Boulevard; and the North Shore up to and including the Bar Transect.

He described these as elements that tie together “the best existing areas of Lake Ontario Park”. He ended by asking for feedback from SAC members by November 19th.

3) Discussion

Much of the discussion centred on the consultation process. Key comments are presented below.

Information Needs

- A member noted that it is difficult for members to give informed feedback and know if issues have been addressed without seeing the detailed drawings.
- There was a general feeling that the Presentation should be made available to SAC members, perhaps by being posted on the Waterfront Toronto Website.
- A number of participants noted that it would have been useful to have the issues table in advance of the meeting.
- A member noted that the one-page plan handed out needed a legend. Richard Kennedy agreed.

Timelines

- Given that 10 months have transpired since the last SAC meeting, a participant suggested that two weeks was insufficient time for members to provide feedback.
- A member suggested that the current timelines to finish the Master Plan and begin implementation were unrealistic.
- A member suggested that he didn't have a problem with taking more time to complete the Master Plan if ended up with a better product.

Communication with Stakeholders

- A number of participants noted that the lack of communication from Waterfront Toronto since the last SAC meeting was a problem.
- A number of participants mentioned that very little feedback had been received on comments and inquiries to date.
- A member suggested that monthly or bi-monthly updates would have been useful, and noted that this was a problem for some other Waterfront Toronto projects as well.
- A member raised a concern about the minutes from SAC #2 not being circulated in a timely manner.
- A member noted that communication is two-way, and the SAC provides a vehicle for Waterfront Toronto to communicate with the greater public.

Resolution of Issues

- A member raised a concern about leaving the resolution of some issues to the detailed design stage.
- A member suggested that he didn't see any changes in the draft Master Plan relating to OHSF concerns.

Stakeholder Consultation Process

- A member suggested that the design team/Waterfront Toronto should meet with individual groups at this point in the process.
- A member noted that the SAC was an awkwardly large group, and suggested that geographic or issue-based breakout groups was a good idea.

- A member suggested that sessions longer than two-hours may be necessary to allow for more detailed presentation and more discussion.
- A member suggested the use of focus groups that would report back to the SAC as a whole.
- A number of members suggested that the interests of the non-boating population was under-represented on the Committee, and that the boating community was over-represented.
- A member suggested that stakeholder organizations should be limited to one representative on the SAC to keep numbers down.
- A member noted that there was a benefit to hearing one another's points of view, in order to understand the interactive impacts.
- A member suggested that meetings should be held farther east, nearer the Park.
- A member suggested that there needed to be more dialogue.
- A member stated that they supported the stakeholder consultation process to date, that Waterfront Toronto had had meetings with individual organizations, and was worried that changing the process would be taking a step backwards.

Miscellaneous

- A member asked if the \$23 million was still available for LOP. Chris Glaisek confirmed that the money, minus what was being spent on the Master Plan development, was still available.
- A member asked whether the intention was to cap over the entire Bar area to address potential soil contamination. Richard Kennedy replied that that was not the proposed approach. Rather, the design team was recommending capping in some areas and preserving existing vegetation, especially the tree canopy, where possible.
- The representative of the cycling community noted that he was happy with the direction of the Master Plan as it related to cycling. He supported the provision of cycling on the bridge/breakwater and suggested that Unwin Avenue needed to have a cycle lane.
- A member suggested that the Master Plan shouldn't be finalized until the soil investigation and tree inventory are done.
- A member asked if the design team had talked to the Board of Education about the proposed Adventure Centre. Joanna Kidd noted that the Adventure Centre was imagined as a City Parks, Recreation and Forestry facility, and that discussions about the precise location, size, amenities and programming would take place in the detailed design stage.
- Councillor Fletcher stressed the need to design the park with operational issues in mind.
- A number of members reiterated support for the overall plan
- A member suggested that the Master Plan needs a budget, and needs to consider where funding will be coming from.
- A member asked for clarification if Coatsworth Cut was being filled in. Richard Kennedy stated that it would not be filled in, that it would remain as water, but would contain a wetland.
- A member asked if the circulating channel was indeed being extended into the Ship Channel from the Outer Harbour. Richard Kennedy noted that the design team had been directed to extend the circulating channel through in the Master Plan, and that it was related to water circulation issues.
- A member noted that in another Waterfront Toronto project the public had been presented options and were able to discuss them.
- A member asked if Waterfront Toronto was acting as a developer building a park. Chris Glaisek answered "no".

Chris Glaisek spoke of Lake Ontario Park as a difficult and complex project. He noted that he agreed with much that had been said and had heard some good suggestions about how to move forward. He suggested that Waterfront Toronto needed to re-cast the process.

Facilitator, Joanna Kidd noted that she was hearing three major concerns. These were that Waterfront Toronto and the design team needed to 1) improve communication with stakeholders, 2) improve the effectiveness of the stakeholder consultation process, and 3) meet stakeholder needs for information so that they can provide informed comment.

Richard Kennedy explained what Field Operations had been retained to do. This includes preparing a Master Plan that includes a vision and goals for Lake Ontario Park, and recommendations on circulation, access, land use and activities that reflect the vision and goals. He stressed that the Master Plan was framework or “bird’s eye” view, and that the level of specificity in the Plan reflected that.

4) Next Steps and Wrap Up

Joanna Kidd stated that Waterfront Toronto would be getting back to the SAC within two weeks with proposals to address the key issues raised (how to improve communication and the effectiveness of the stakeholder consultation process and how to meet stakeholder needs for information).

She thanked members and observers for attending and closed the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Appendix A



**LAKE ONTARIO PARK MASTER PLAN
AGENDA
STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING #3
Tuesday, November 6, 2007
6:00 to 8:00 pm**

Purpose of the Meeting:

- To review events since the January 17, 2007 Public Forum
- To provide a preview of and discuss the Draft Lake Ontario Park Master Plan; and
- To outline the next steps in the Master Plan process.

6:00	Welcome	Chris Glaisek, Waterfront Toronto
	Introduction	Joanna Kidd, Kidd Consulting
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Facilitator's Role• Purpose of the Meeting• Agenda Review• Introductions	
6:10	Presentation	Richard Kennedy, Field Operations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Changes to the LOP Concept Plan of January 2007 and preview of the Draft Lake Ontario Park Master Plan	
6:45	Discussion	Joanna Kidd
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• General response• Specific issues	
7:55	Next Steps and Wrap Up	Richard Kennedy/ Brenda Webster
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Next Stakeholder Meeting December 13, 2007• Comments by November 19, 2007• Public Forum January 2008	

Handouts:

- Lake Ontario Park – Key Public and Stakeholder Issues
- Draft Meeting Notes – SAC #2 January 10, 2007
- One-Pager on Draft Master Plan

Appendix B

Participants Lake Ontario Park Stakeholder Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Members

Ian Whan	Toronto Hydroplane & Sailing Club
Julie Beddoes	West Don Lands Committee
Colin Biggin	ex-Toronto Cycling Committee
John Carley	Friends of the Spit
Ralph Drake	Outer Harbour Sailing Federation
Doug Ferguson	Beaches Lion's Club
Dennis Findlay	Portlands Action Committee
Margaret Kelch	Toronto Ornithological Club
Julie McNeil	R.C. Harris Filtration Plant Public Advisory Committee
Barry Mitchell	Toronto Field Naturalists
Rennie Stobbs	Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club
Bob Stuart	Balmy Beach Canoe Club
Sue Stuart	Balmy Beach Canoe Club
Paul Young	South Riverdale Health Centre
Tobin Young	Council of Commodores

Observers

Len Alksnis	Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club
Keith Begley	Beaches Lion's Club
Andy Buhot	Beaches Lion's Club
Barbara Jones	Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club
Daniel Riley	Friends of the Spit
Garth Riley	Friends of the Spit
Mike Robbins	Outer Harbour Sailing Federation
Paul Scott	Ashbridge's Bay Yacht Club
Steven Staples	Outer Harbour Sailing Federation

City of Toronto

Councillor Paula Fletcher	
Scott Atwood	Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Penelopi Gramatikopoulos	Waterfront Secretariat
Barbara Lachapelle	Public Health
Tom Marjanovich	Public Health

Waterfront Toronto

Chris Glaisek	Vice President of Planning and Design
Brenda Webster	Planning Project Manager
James Roche	Planning Project Manager
Amanda Flude	Communications

Design Team

Richard Kennedy	Field Operations
Michael Flynn	Field Operations
Mark Schollen	Schollen and Company
Joanna Kidd	Kidd Consulting