

Appendix C: Site Map Feedback

Using an aerial map of the study area, participants were asked to identify:

- Those parts of the Don Mouth EA study area that they like best (and would like to see protected, if possible, through this project). These characteristics of the study area were identified with a GREEN DOT on the aerial map. Each green dot was assigned a number, and an accompanying description of what each dot referred to was noted on a flip chart.
- Those parts of the Don Mouth EA study area that they like least (and would like to see improved, if possible, through this project). These characteristics of the study area were identified with a RED DOT on the aerial map. Each red dot was assigned a number, and an accompanying description of what each dot referred to was noted on a flip chart.
- Any additional information about the area that participants would like to share with the study team. Each piece of new information was identified with a YELLOW DOT on the aerial map. Each yellow dot was assigned a number, and an accompanying description of what the dot referred to was noted on a flip chart.

Feedback from discussion

As you review the list of feedback below, note for the vast majority of points raised, participants did not express strong agreement or disagreement. In those cases where many participants expressed similar opinions around a point, this is reflected in brackets with the words “many agreed” at the end of the point. Where very different opinions were expressed, this is reflected in brackets with the words “mixed feedback” inserted at the end of the point.

Parts of the Don Mouth EA study area that participants liked best (GREEN DOTS):

1. Protect the water quality (many agreed)
2. Protect the bike trails (many agreed)
3. Preserve the Silos – as an example of the industrial heritage in the area (mixed feedback on this – some want to keep the silos, some don’t)
4. Protect the open undeveloped land – the areas should have natural vegetation not just grass
5. Protect the use of Cherry Beach and the outer harbour sailing clubs (many agreed) – the use of noisy water craft should be restricted/eliminated
6. Increase public access to the area: (6A) Protect the views (sight lines) of the city
7. Protect the trees that line the bike path between Riverdale Park and the Don River Mouth
8. Protect the Bridgeport slope
9. Protect the sailing clubs (many agreed)
10. Increase the access to the trails that go along the Don River (many agreed)
11. Protect the use of outer harbour sailing clubs
12. Recognize the positive aspect of having the Keating Channel, which is it traps and contains polluted sediment
13. Protect the Cherry Street Bridge that goes over the shipping channel (which a participant said was designed by Joseph Strauss, who designed the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco)

Parts of the Don Mouth EA study area that participants would like to see changed (RED DOTS):

- 1 Some participants would like to see a link between the outer harbour and the shipping channel, whereas some participants thought that this link would affect the water quality of the outer harbour. This is because there are storm water outfalls in the turning basin of the ship channels through which polluted storm water would wash into the outer channel. (mixed feedback on this)
- 2 Improve the storm water quality from the out flows
- 3 Put in a link to connect people traveling south on Broadview to get south of Lakeshore (many agreed)
- 4 Remove the concrete off of the waterfront
- 5 Create natural flood areas along the river
- 6 Make to area more accessible to the public (many agreed)
- 7 The naturalization process should create a river delta, which should work like a natural river mouth, and avoiding “prettying up” the area while still dredging (many agreed)
- 8 Fill in the middle ship channel and create a land bridge or bridge to connect the greenway from the river to the outer harbour
- 9 Some recognition of the old river mouth, e.g. a site map or some type of activity that identifies the old mouth. Also recognize the reaches of the river, i.e. “Rolling Hills reach” where ships could dock, load and unload
- 10 Make the connectivity better between the city and the Don Trail (east/west), between Queen St. and Lakeshore
- 11 Improve the functional ecosystem of the area
- 12 Make the water channel easier to navigate for currently it is impossible to get through the Keating mouth. This would make the area more suitable for recreational use i.e. fly fishing and kayaking
- 13* Eliminate the Don Valley Parkway (DVP) from Danforth Avenue south to the lake. There is room for a two-lane road on the east side of the existing DVP from Gerrard St. south with only one building in the way. As cities expropriate for the benefit of the majority this is what must be done and allow the river to meander as much as possible. In fact, the whole of the DVP could easily be eliminated because, as I understand it, during peak hours it is used by only 1.25 occupants per car - approximately 6700 people each hour. An extra 4 GO train carriages would accommodate all the travelers. With such a reduction of cars, this would vastly improve not only the water quality of the Don River, it would provide more breathable air for humans and wildlife alike. The Don River's needs must come first if the majority are to reap the recreational, psychological and physical benefits that being in nature provides. This is a win situation for everybody.
- 14 Some participants want the Eastern Avenue Bridge removed and some want it protected because they saw it as a natural time capsule. Related project – linked to the redesign of this (mixed feedback)
- 15 Improve the aesthetics of the hydro sub station
- 16 Use bioremediation to improve air quality by planting natural plants which also improves the soil quality
- 17 Stop the building of high rises, ensure that a wall of condos is not developed (many agreed)
- 18 Continuous public access to the area around ship channel, (18A) fix the bike path by the off-ramp at the Don Valley Parkway and Lakeshore
- 19 Improve access down Carlaw St
- 20 Pay homage to Ashbridges Bay
- 21 Create an area to be used for ice-skating somewhere south of Gerrard St.
- 22 Put in lights on the bike path so cyclists can see at night

- 23 Fix the stink that emanates from the sewage lines
- 24 Widen the shipping channel to allow for sailing regattas, it is now too narrow
- 25 Place less emphasis on ships, use sailboats
- 26 Extend the naturalization area east of the Don Greenway
- 27 Remove storm water outfalls (this is linked to #1)
- 28 Put the river south from the Don Greenway through Lake Ontario Park and connect the ship channel to the outer harbour
- 29 Make the Don Greenway a spillway

**This feedback includes amendments provided by the participant following distribution of the Summary Notes from the meeting.*

Any additional information about the area that you would like to share with the study team (YELLOW DOTS):

- 1 Remedial Action Plan (RAP) data for water quality of the inner harbour
- 2 Data on the location of the original Don River Mouth
- 3 Data on Bridgepoint Health Centre
- 4 Data on bike path usage
- 5 Data on the activities of sailing and rowing clubs
- 6 Effect of the naturalization process on employment in the area. Would like information on uses that fall outside the study area
- 7 Heritage information, e.g. How Mrs. Simcoe used the area of the peninsula to do horse back riding.
- 8 Statistics on how to get commuters entering Toronto downtown core out of their cars on onto transit especially GO trains. The downtown core has to be made expensive for cars to encourage commuters to use transit. Data collection can include measuring the number of commuters that access the core that would determine the number of trains required to transport them into the downtown. **

** Participant added this point at the end of the session

