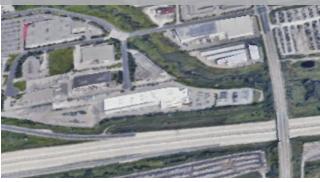
MARKHAM CENTRE SECONDARY PLAN UPDATE

Development Options Engagement Summary



June 21, 2021



gladki planning associates



Greenberg Consultants Inc.









Vision and Guiding Principles

Development Options

What We Heard

Workshops with Members of Council

Meetings with Landowners

Your Voice Markham Website

Virtual Public Information Meeting

Next Steps









Initial Public Consultation

Talked to people about their experience with Markham Centre: what do they love, what could be improved, what are their hopes for Markham Centre?

Public Consultation

- Pop-ups across the city
- Your Voice Markham website

Deliverable

Community Engagement Summary Report

Existing Conditions Analysis

Developed an understanding of current conditions and identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and constraints.

Deliverable

2019

• Existing Conditions Reports

Visioning

Developed a vision and guiding principles as the basis for creation of the Secondary Plan.

Public Consultation

- 3 virtual engagement sessions exploring different themes
- Online visioning workshop

2020

- Downtown Markham Retail Consultation
- Your Voice Markham website
- Online Youth Design Jam (targeted at youth aged 13-19)

Deliverables

- Summer 2020 Engagement Report
- Vision Report





Markham Centre is Markham's downtown.

It is the heart of the city and a vibrant, intensive, mixed use urban core.



Guiding Principles





Create a place that is the heart of Markham



Create a great public realm



Champion sustainability and environmental performance



Support a diverse and prosperous economy



Foster diverse built form



Plan for inclusive and diverse neighbourhoods

3

Support arts, culture, and recreation



Build neighbourhoods with access to all the things needed for daily life



Transition from suburban to urban



Create an efficient and safe transportation system



Realize the full potential of the Rouge River Valley as an environmental and placemaking feature







What will the Vision and Guiding Principles look like in practice?

Option 1: Business as Usual

Demonstrates the implications of how Markham Centre will evolve based on its current trajectory

Option 2: Preliminary Concept

Tests out an alternative trajectory for Markham Centre based on 8 big moves



Consultation Activities





3 half-day workshops with small groups of Council Members



13 one-on-one meetings with Markham Centre landowners



30+ survey & forum responses on Your Voice Markham Website



Virtual public meeting with 53 participants in smallgroup discussions

What We Heard

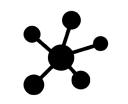


Key Areas of Feedback





Building forms and heights



Connected neighbourhoods



Forming a civic district



Parks and open spaces



Transit, walking, and cycling



C E N T R E

Building forms and heights





Members

Mix of building forms and heights



- Transitions from tall and mid-rise buildings to adjacent low-rise areas
- Concentrate density at the transit node, with secondary node at Highway 7 and Warden Ave



- Proposed heights and densities are too low
- Landowners
- Tallest buildings should be located close to higher-order transit infrastructure
- Majority agree with transit node as primary area for development intensity; some preference for Highway 7 and Warden Ave as primary node



Majority against excessively tall building heights



- Transitions from tall and mid-rise buildings to adjacent low-rise areas
- Concentrate density at the transit node
- Some opposition to intensity at Highway 7 and Warden Ave



Majority against excessively tall building heights



- Transitions from tall and mid-rise buildings to adjacent low-rise areas
- Concentrate density at the transit node

C E N T R E

Forming a civic district





Civic district near the transit node

Council Members

- Anchored by civic facilities (e.g., public square, central library, community centre, museum, performing arts centre), retail, and public art
- Mixed thoughts on maintaining, repurposing, or relocating the Civic Centre

Civic district near the transit node



 $\overline{\mathbf{N}}$

- Anchored by civic facilities (e.g., public square, central library, community centre, museum, performing arts centre)
- Mixed thoughts on maintaining, repurposing, or relocating the Civic Centre



Some opposition to relocating the Civic Centre from Highway 7 and Warden Ave

Landowners



Civic district near the transit node

- Virtual Meeting
- Anchored by civic facilities (e.g., public square, central library, community centre, museum, performing arts centre), employment, office, and retail uses
 - Mixed thoughts on maintaining, repurposing, or relocating the Civic Centre

MARKHAM Transit, walking, and cycling





World-class rail station and area



- 407 Transitway and Viva Rapidway alignments should be finalized ASAP
- Safe crossings across tracks, Warden Ave, Hwy 7, separated bike lanes, and well-connected trail network through Markham Centre and beyond
- MII-season maintenance and accessibility



More local bus service

Your Voice Markham

Safe track crossings, separated bike lanes, and well-connected trail network through Markham Centre and beyond





407 Transitway and Viva Rapidway alignments should be finalized ASAP

Landowners



GO, Viva, and 407 stops close together to facilitate easy transfers

Virtual	[
Meeting	

- More frequent bus service
- Safe track crossings, separated bike lanes, and well-connected trail network through Markham Centre and beyond

MARKHAM Connected neighbourhoods





Sense of place in each neighbourhood



- Pedestrian-friendly, street-level retail (e.g., small- and large-scale stores, restaurants)
- Balance of people (residential uses) and jobs (employment/office uses)
- □ Consider Cornell as a cautionary tale



Pedestrian-friendly, street-level retail (e.g., small- and large-scale stores, restaurants)

Your Voice Markham

- Network of paths and public squares
- Local schools needed



Landowners

- Some landowners would like their sites to be prominent landmarks/gateways in each neighbourhood
- Schools, child care, and community amenities to support future residents
- Mixed thoughts on feasibility of certain uses (e.g., office), based on market interest



- Pedestrian-friendly, street-level retail (e.g., small- and large-scale stores, restaurants)
- Virtual Meeting
- Network of paths and public squares
- Local schools and child care facilities needed

C E N T R E

Parks and open spaces





- More parkland and sports facilities needed
- Accessible through all modes of transportation



Council

- All-season programming and maintenance
- Protect the naturalized Greenway



- Landowners
- Management of Tributaries 4 and 5 should be finalized as soon as possible
- Variety of parks, open spaces, and trails needed to support future neighbourhoods
- Some concern with pedestrian pathways on private lands



More parkland and all-ages play/sports facilities needed



- Accessible through all modes of transportation
- All-season programming and maintenance
- Protect the naturalized Greenway



- Virtual Meeting
- More parkland and all-ages play/sports facilities needed
- Accessible through all modes of transportation
- All-season programming and maintenance
- Protect the naturalized Greenway









Centre, including variations on built form, height and density, land use, parks and open spaces, community amenities, and transportation networks.

Public & Stakeholder Consultation

- Small-group workshops with Members of Council
- Meetings with landowners
- Your Voice Markham website forum and online survey
- Virtual public information meeting

Deliverables

- Development Options
- Development Options Consultation Summary

To develop and refine a preferred development concept based on the feedback on options.

Public Consultation*

- Public open house
- Your Voice Markham website

Deliverables

- Draft Development Concept Report
- Recommended Development Concept Report

To produce the Secondary Plan for Markham Centre to brought into force through an amendment to the Markham Official Plan.

Public Consultation*

- Statutory public meeting
- Your Voice Markham website

Deliverable

Markham Centre Secondary
Plan

*Future public consultation approaches will be determined based on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to use virtual platforms rather than in-person events.





Thank you!

john@gladkiplanning.com

gladki planning associates