



Dundas Works Community Meeting

WENTWORTH LODGE SURPLUS PUBLIC LAND

Tuesday, November 12th, 2019 Salvation Army

Followup to Roundtable #9 Wentworth Lodge Surplus Public Land held Oct 29, 2019

Draft Rev.0 - Nov 17th, 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Dundas Works held a mini roundtable to develop key talking points from the previous roundtable regarding Wentworth Lodge Land, in preparation for the public presentation by the City. We had 9 people in attendance. Local homeowners shared updates and as a group we came up with nine questions for the City meeting on Nov 18th. There is an urgent need by the community to understand what issues the City wishes to address by repurposing this land, public consultation in the decision making and the timeline involved.

Present: Woodward Ave Homeowners Deborah Boyd & James Chase, Greater Dundas Residents Jeanne Norris & Scott Munro. DW Facilitators: Bob James, Tim Leslie, Margot Carnahan, Michelle Chin, Jim Sweetman.

Updates Since RT#9 Meeting:

- Deb shared with the group discussions at a neighbourhood meeting held at Wendy Duque's with Edward Johns, the City's Director of Housing
- James shared informal discussions with Edward Johns regarding perception that neighbours welcomed senior-oriented development, and a proposal by a non-profit seniors developer Stillbrook Homes
- Deb also shared that a neighbour had contacted Mayor Eisenberger questioning the consultation process for this piece of public land

Dundas Community Council Meeting on Wentworth Lodge Surplus Land booked for Nov 18, 2019

- we are uncertain of what the DCC meeting presentation will be, possibly the same proposal as was presented at the 400 ft meeting on Oct 24, 2019?, therefore difficult to plan a response
- we hope to have an opportunity to provide input and ask questions, some discussion included:
- role of DW to support local neighbours
- public land should stay in public hands, and benefit whole community
- caution not to argue aspects of proposal presented at 400 ft mtg on Oct 24 (i.e. 3 story versus 4 story), as this suggests acceptance of a this proposal
- is objective of city to raise money
- DW Vision pamphlet articulates desires for future of community which include diversity, socially and environmentally sustainable, to name a few
- future of property needs to be a win/win for neighbourhood and community
- question: Has the City already determined the outcome of the land, or is it still open for discussion?

- affordable housing is definitely a need, but development cannot trump needs of existing neighbourhood, i.e. road safety, parking aesthetics, neighbourhood character
- what is the problem we are trying to solve with this land, need to define problem, then look at process to solve problem, then discuss details
- problem with the process
- we could say "no" that we don't accept proposal presented, this is our (public) land

Possible Questions for DCC Meeting on WL booked for Nov 18:

- How do you assess community needs for this surplus piece of public land?
- Why is surplus land a problem?
- In what way will the climate change emergency, declared by the City, influence the planning process for this property?
- What are the problems or issues that the City is trying to address with this proposal?
- Is the proposal for a multi-level seniors home firm or are other options still possible?
- What is the timing on the decisions for this land?
- Why does the process seem to be covert?
- Do you see a need to consult beyond the 400 ft radius when the land is a public piece of property?
- When will a public meeting be planned to discuss the future for this property?