

MAYOR'S MILLENNIAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

27 Nov 2017

DELEGATION: Waterfront Hotel Planning Study Update (PB-67-17)

When visitors think of Burlington, they recall the downtown waterfront and the escarpment. Natural heritage features are what has, and will continue to define our community.

We can either enhance our natural heritage features or build monoliths to keep people.

Our focus is one on features, both architectural and public service:

- underground parking, public transit, cycling infrastructure and pedestrian-friendly walkways
- co-working space, library - whether fixed or mobile, daycare, cafés, bars, an natural feature amphitheatre and marina
- we would like to see materials that reflect our local heritage
- a 3-5 story podium with open space design elements similarly to how they were used in the development [Transbay Terminal Park](#)
- green infrastructure – meaning live plants and grass, not glass and concrete.
- sustainable building design certification

Over the past number of years, we've heard about mixed-use development, intensification, and vibrancy. Our mixed-use development should reflect the needs of our community, a community where a quarter of us are between the ages of 18-36 years old. A place where some of us are starting families, and others are starting careers.

Toronto's already done the research on our demographic which reflects in their "[Growing up: Planning for Children in New Vertical Communities](#)" - no need to reinvent the wheel.

Let's be clear - our focus is not on height.

The focus of this development is how we want our Waterfront to look, and how it will support and enhance the vibrancy of Downtown Burlington. This is a unique opportunity to tell developers and city planners what we, as residents want in our neighbourhoods, buildings, and homes.

Look around the world at places where this has been done well; then Grow Bold.

[Our Chief Planner, Mary Lou Tanner, said it best on June 28, 2017:](#)

"Having an Official Plan is more important than ever, with available vacant land shrinking and our population growing. Grow Bold means building up instead of out, adding a mix of high-, mid- and low-rise buildings, offering more housing options and new neighborhoods."

"...[Grow Bold] It means targeting growth in the right areas of the city, with more frequent transit and more options for getting around that don't rely on cars. And it means pleasant streets, beautiful design, green spaces and protected rural and agricultural areas."

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We can all agree that as a city, we value our waterfront.

The base of this development should include a ground level that is open public space, as illustrated in The Transbay Terminal design; a style that can allow for a great transition from Elizabeth, John, and Brant Streets towards the lake for pedestrians.

We believe that the removal of access to the property at the bottom of Brant Street would further give back safety and walkability to the pedestrian.

Be transparent in labeling. Ensure the access road to the underground parking on Elizabeth Street is referred to as a road, not "open space". Cars don't make roads an open space.

We are early in the planning stages for this development. We want citizens to get engaged now. Now is the time for people to speak up with their feedback, so we can plan together as a community. This is our Grow Bold opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Quackenbush

- Delegate assignee (PB-67-17) - Mayor's Millennial Advisory Committee

Related Links

"The Transformation of Transbay Terminal Park" by Ron Nyren - 21 Sep 2015

<https://urbanland.uli.org/development-business/transformation-transbay/>

CMG Landscape Architecture - Transbay Terminal Under Ramp Park

<https://www.cmgsite.com/project/transbay-under-ramp-park/>

InsideHalton - Jun 28, 2017 Burlington Post

Information on city's Grow Bold plan in Burlington Post Thursday print edition

<https://www.insidehalton.com/news-story/7396279-information-on-city-s-grow-bold-plan-in-burlington-post-thursday-print-edition/>

City of Toronto - Growing Up: Planning for Children in New Vertical Communities

<https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/planning-studies-initiatives/growing-up-planning-for-children-in-new-vertical-communities/>