

Update on the Downtown Sudbury Master Plan Review

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Report Summary

This report provides information regarding the status of the Downtown Sudbury Master Plan Review.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Climate Action Plans

Strategic Objective 2.4 of Council's 2019-2027 Strategic Plan seeks to revitalize Greater Sudbury's Downtown and Town Centres with public investment that supports private investment. The objective specifically includes updating and implementing the Downtown Sudbury Master Plan.

The proposed review of the Downtown Sudbury Master Plan would help achieve Goal 1 of the CEEP regarding compact, complete communities.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Background

The Downtown Sudbury Master Plan (Master Plan) provides guidance for the revitalization of Downtown Sudbury over the 2012-2022 period and beyond (See Reference 1). The Master Plan was developed over a 20-month period that featured a comprehensive examination of existing opportunities and constraints, a visioning exercise, detailed planning and design work, and the active participation of a community liaison group. The Master Plan was received and endorsed by Council in April of 2012.

In September 2022, staff reported that most of the "25 Year 1 Action Items" and many of the "10-Year Action Strategy Projects" have been completed (See Reference 2). Staff also noted that several initiatives were underway including an update to the Downtown Sudbury Parking Strategy and the Strategic Public Realm Improvements, both related to the then Junction East Project (Library and Art Gallery) and the district south of Brady Street in general (the "South District"). As part of the 2023 Budget Process, Council approved funding of \$250,000 for the update of the Master Plan.

Status

Staff finalized the procurement process for the Master Plan update in late 2023. The City selected a team made up of JLRichards and Associates (Project Lead and Planning, Civil Engineering), Dillon Consulting (Planning and Engagement), Watt Consulting Group (Active and Public Transportation), and N.Barry Lyon Consultants Ltd (Economics). The update is to be undertaken in 4 phases: 1) Initiation and Reconnaissance; 2) Visioning and Strategies; 3) Draft Master Plan Concept; and, 4) Master Plan Update, culminating in late 2025.

The update is currently in Phase 1. It is anticipated that a community event will occur during each phase, with the first one being planned in mid-September. Notwithstanding this, City staff has been engaging with the public at events such as the Cultural Forum, the Business Improvement Area Annual General Meeting, the McEwen School of Architecture, the Greater Sudbury Chamber of Commerce, etc.

The Greater Sudbury Development Corporation (GSDC) sponsored an event held on May 27, 2024 entitled “Urban Transportation: Learning from Rotterdam.” The event featured a keynote presentation by Jan Knikker, Partner and Director of Strategy at MVRDV, who was a part of the urban revitalization of Rotterdam in the Netherlands. As the driving force behind MVRDV’s approach to architecture, urbanism, and computing, Knikker shared key strategies and lessons from Rotterdam’s journey. The event aimed to inspire a collective passion from stakeholders and residents for the future prosperity of Downtown Sudbury and served as a catalyst for ongoing efforts to update the Downtown Sudbury Master Plan.

Staff is currently finalizing the City’s Over-To-You page which will become a hub of information for the Downtown Sudbury Master Plan Update. In addition to these efforts, staff will continue to provide updates to Planning Committee on a regular basis.

Resources Cited

1. Downtown Sudbury Master Plan
<https://www.greatersudbury.ca/play/downtown-sudbury/plans/>
2. “Downtown Master Plan Update”, Manager’s Report presented at the September 26, 2022 Planning Committee Meeting
<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=47509>