



Public Engagement Summary
South Common Community Centre Redevelopment
Virtual Information Session

Date: Tuesday April 25th, 2023

Time: 6 PM – 7:30 PM

Total Residents *Registered* for session = 154

Total Residents *Joined* the Virtual Presentation = 82

Ward 8 residents were invited to participate in a virtual presentation and information session on the upcoming South Common Community Centre & Library Redevelopment Project. Invitations were directly mailed via a postcard to all Ward 8 residents, as well as through e-newsletters, community centre lobby displays, social media posts, and mobile signage around the centre.

Ward 8 Councillor Matt Mahoney, along with City staff from Recreation, Parks & Forestry, Library, and Facilities Property and Management, and Perkins & Will Architects shared the background of the community centre and project, initial schematic designs, and estimated project timelines. A 30 minute question and answer period followed the presentation.

The following summary highlights the key themes that came from residents’ questions and comments from the information session (both verbal and through the live chat feature).

Key Theme	Community Comments
Aquatics Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One resident asked what the design features in the pool will be. Answer: There is currently a diving board and a slide into the deep end in the lap pool Are there plans to provide buffer times in between youth and adult programming? Answer: Yes, we try and do this in all of our pools and so we will consider how to best program this aquatics centre to minimize some of the overlap
Hot Tub - specific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A resident shared concerns that there was no hot tub in the plans and that several residents will be disappointed one is not going to be provided, considering many of them enjoy the tub regularly. Answer: It was explained about the design calling for a

	<p>therapeutic tank that is accessible to more residents, despite providing a lower water temperature. More of this information is also posted on the project website</p>
<p>Aquatics Change Rooms (Universal/Community)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were some questions about the universal change rooms and concerns about interaction with other community members. Answer: There are many benefits to this design, which were outlined by staff, and noted that they are listed on the project site. One resident also commented that many other municipalities have this design and they are not a recipe for harm, but provide greater safety and respect • Comment was made about ensuring the lockers are safe in the aquatics change rooms so that residents don't have to reach over benches to access the lockers. Answer: Staff confirmed this is our preference as well in the design, and will be working to ensure lockers are completely accessible from floor level • Question about the location of the showers Answer: There will be a large bank of showers, which are very visible off the pool deck, as well as private showers. There will also be a couple on-deck showers for quick rinses before going in the pool
<p>Fitness Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One resident asked if there will be 'women sized weights' in the new centre. Answer: Yes, there will be a wide variety of weights provided so the space is functional for all residents
<p>Gymnasium</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will there be windows in the gymnasium, and if so, will there be shades to help manage the light and glare into this space? Answer: Yes, there is glass and window shades/treatments will be included in the design to manage glare concerns • Could there be a better way to manage all the different line colours on the floor marking the various spots (ie. bball, volleyball, badminton, Pickleball). The resident suggested a colour diagram on the wall. Answer: This is a good idea that we will explore, and will investigate colour options that provide the best contrast and visibility

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One resident asked to confirm if it's a single gym, or a double gym. <i>Answer: The design is calling for a double gym</i>
Library	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is there an opportunity to buy additional books when the centre re-opens rather than just the annual allocation? <i>Answer: Yes, the collection will be refreshed upon the re-opening, which is also being planned at the Hazel McCallion Central Library</i> • Has the Library considered temporary space in the South Common Mall during the closure? <i>Answer: Yes, this is something the City is exploring</i> • Will the children's area be separated or designed in the new library to be less noisy to other users? <i>Answer: This is a consideration, and acoustic treatments are being explored to mitigate sound</i> • Will residents with long library holds be informed by email about new location to pick up books? <i>Answer: Yes, notification will be sent for these new locations</i>
Indoor Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will the windows overlooking the woodlot be bird friendly? <i>Answer: Yes, as part of the Green Building Standards with patterned glass treatment</i> • Will Pickleball courts be included in the gymnasium design like at Churchill Meadows CC and Meadowvale CC? <i>Answer: Yes, we have this in the design plans, although South Common CC will be a double gymnasium, whereas Churchill Meadows CC is a triple gym</i>
Outdoor Amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will tennis courts be accessible throughout the construction period and will tennis courts be available year round (ie. indoor bubble)? <i>Answer: Yes, tennis courts will be accessible during construction. No plans for a tennis bubble</i> • Will the green space be less/more or the same as now? <i>Answer: There will be more greenspace as the design team has created new park space to the north which includes preservation and expansion of natural heritage system</i> • Will there be outdoor dedicated Pickleball courts? <i>Answer: This is not part of the program</i>
Parking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were comments from residents about how the site is quite walkable with the connections to the mall, transit

	<p>terminal and all the residential buildings and homes in the community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will there be Electric Vehicle charging stations? Answer: Yes, these are being provided and more details are expected soon on how they are incorporated into the site plan
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will there be an opportunity coordinate this with MiWay transit to improve accessibility with the existing terminal? Answer: Yes, MiWay is providing comments on the site plan and the project team is looking to create visible and accessible pedestrian links to the terminal from the new community centre • One resident commented how she loved the design and that the community has been waiting for this redevelopment, and can't wait! • Will prices increase with the new facility? Answer: Prices are approved by council and do not vary from centre to centre • One resident commented that he was concerned with how expensive this centre will be since it is being completely demolished and rebuilt, and the environmental cost • Could there be overhead shelter parking for bikes, on either side of the building? Answer: We have not yet determined location for bike racks in the design yet, but there will be several included • Will there be a bus that can take residents to other locations for their programming when the facility is closed? Answer: We are looking at various options and locations to relocate programming during the closure, so these details are still to be confirmed, but we are trying to keep it in close proximity to South Common CC. MiWay would be the transportation method, not a dedicated shuttle system as suggested • What will happen to the staff that work at South Common CC during the closure? Answer: These staff will be relocated throughout Library and Recreation, and those discussions will begin with them well before the anticipated closure in 2024