

# Heron Gate Secondary Plan: Community Visioning Session Summary

## Date of Event: Feb 24, 2018

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March 2018



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## HERON GATE VISIONING WORKSHOP EVENT CONSULTATION SUMMARY

**Date: February 24th, 2018, 9am-12pm**

**Location: Featherstone Public School, Ottawa**

As part of the Heron Gate Secondary Plan process, City of Ottawa Councillor Jean Cloutier hosted a Public Visioning Session on February 24, 2018 to provide an opportunity to members of the public to learn more about the project and contribute their thoughts and ideas to help inform design directions for the Secondary plan. This session, one of many public engagement sessions to be held for the project, followed an earlier public Open House information session held on January 23rd, 2018.

The Visioning Session was moderated by Andrea Flowers, Program Manager, Consultation with the City of Ottawa. Introductions to the project were made by Councillor Cloutier, and Greg Rogers, a representative from the landowner Timbercreek Asset Management. In addition, a brief presentation and overview of the Secondary Plan process was provided by City of Ottawa Planner, Melanie Gervais.

This was followed by a series of table discussions, organized by topic areas. The topics at each table included:

- 1) Land Use;
- 2) Built Form;
- 3) Parks and Open Space;

- 4) Pedestrian and Cycling Connections;
- 5) Traffic, Vehicular Circulation & Parking;
- 6) Transit and Transit Stations; and,
- 7) Community Issues.

Each discussion session lasted 20 minutes, then groups rotated to a new topic table. In addition, information panels were set up and handouts were provided in English and French with information about the Secondary Plan process, objectives of the Plan, and background details about the site and area. Materials related to a community wellbeing framework, to be explored during the future design process, were also made available at all tables.

The following summarizes the emerging themes from the table discussions. It should be noted that this is not a verbatim recording of the comments expressed, but reflects the common ideas and recurring comments which were shared during the discussions.

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## LAND USE

- There should be a mix of residential, not all condo – some freehold
- Commercial (retail, services) on ground floor with apartments above is a good idea
- Need to provide for a range of housing options and affordability
- New community facilities in Heatherington should be accessible and relate to Heron Gate
- Would be nice to have some commercial along Heron Road as well as Walkley Road, but not a mall
- More height is ok, but should be varied and balanced
- Densities across the site should be mixed – not all high density
- Some commercial could be integrated internal to the community (off Walkley Road or Heron Road)
- Would be nice to see a community hub/public space with opportunities for events/markets/festivals/etc.
- Lower heights along Heron Road
- More Greenspace should be provided
- Create more appealing and safe public spaces
- Walkability should be increased through design, less emphasis on car use
- Increase barrier-free accessibility
- Should be supportive of multiple generations - provide facilities and accommodation for seniors
- Create more, safer spaces for kids to play

## BUILT FORM

- Consider maintenance and repairs over the long term
- Mixed ownership and mixed-use important to balance interests of the community
- Provide a mix of dwelling types (for families, couples, singles)
- Provide better linkages between the north and south of Heron Gate
- Create comfortable walking conditions – no wind tunnels
- Have a plan for existing residents during redevelopment
- Encourage a sense of ownership
- Existing layout is too car centric. Improve walkability
- Ensure eyes on the street, good lighting, and sight lines to support CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design)
- Provide transitions from height to lower areas
- There are enough high-rises
- Provide uses and places for people to meet
- Consider adjacent development plans (e.g. Canada Lands)

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## PARKS AND OPEN SPACE

- Parks and paths need to be well lit
- Provide space for variety of outdoor activities – biking, basketball, soccer, skateboarding, etc.
- Provide spaces for events, music, arts, culture
- Support outdoor winter activities
- Create dedicated cycle paths
- Provide area for dogs / dog walkers
- Provide barrier-free outdoor spaces
- Provide programmed activities in parks
- Parks should be high quality
- Community should be built to provide eyes on the park

## PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING CONNECTIONS

- Green space between Heron Road & Kilborn Avenue only lightly used
- Make endpoints of Heron-Walkley Park more obvious
- Need better salting of sidewalks, roads (road widths are narrowed by snow)
- Timbercreek Community Centre has inaccessible paths/entrances
- Most people avoid driving on Sandalwood due to garbage bins on road (obstructions)
- Current visibility to existing parks is an issue
- Good amenities are needed within community to attract people from outside it
- Parked cars linking roads within Heron Gate are an issue for cyclists
- Need connection north to Kilborn Park & Pleasant Park (for future bike lanes on Kilborn Avenue)
- Cars pulling out from behind parked in this community's street are a hazard to street cycling
- Area not safe at night, need lighting (especially in wooded area behind C.H. Hulse Public School)
- New cycle track facility is dangerous to use where it crosses Sandalwood Drive
- North-south walking linkages between Heron Road and Walkley Road should be added that tie to wider community, to north and south
- Reduce Heron Road and Walkley Road lane widths to calm traffic – make it more pleasant for cycling and walking
- Crossing major streets can be difficult/feels unsafe for cyclists and pedestrians

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## TRAFFIC, VEHICULAR CIRCULATION & PARKING

- Parking lots need to be safe
- Concerns about increased traffic in/out of Heron Gate
- Transportation Demand Management measures should be used
- Cars use the neighbourhood as a cut-through from Heron to Walkley and on to areas further south
- Existing parking is in high demand
- Use traffic calming
- Provide car share spaces and plug-in spots for electric vehicles
- Current area residents too dependent on cars
- Use paid parking on streets
- Danger with kids running out between parked cars
- Heron Road/Walkley Road unpleasant for pedestrians/cyclists
- Traffic planning should prioritize residents, not through traffic
- Ensure enough parking for new units

## TRANSIT AND TRANSIT STATIONS

- Current transit is ok for going downtown, but could be better for other destinations in the city
- Concerns about impacts to service with additional residents
- Concern BRT will make Heron Road traffic worse/less pedestrian friendly
- Need better lighting/shelters/seating along routes
- Could there be a transit node in the neighbourhood?
- Some reliability concerns with existing service
- More frequent service during rush hour
- Improved pedestrian crossings on Baycrest Drive
- Better/same day Para Transpo service
- Better integration between transit and cycling
- Bike share program?

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## COMMUNITY ISSUES

- Garbage is strewn on roads and creates mess/litter
- Fire damage not repaired/demolished
- Concerns with crime
- Don't let existing community/buildings decline during redevelopment
- Existing units are lower priced and more affordable. Concern neighbourhood will become unaffordable after redevelopment
- Concerns about evictions
- Concerns about existing buildings not being repaired
- Explore ways to encourage existing residents to attend meetings (locate meeting in community, provide child care, language assistance)

## NEXT STEPS

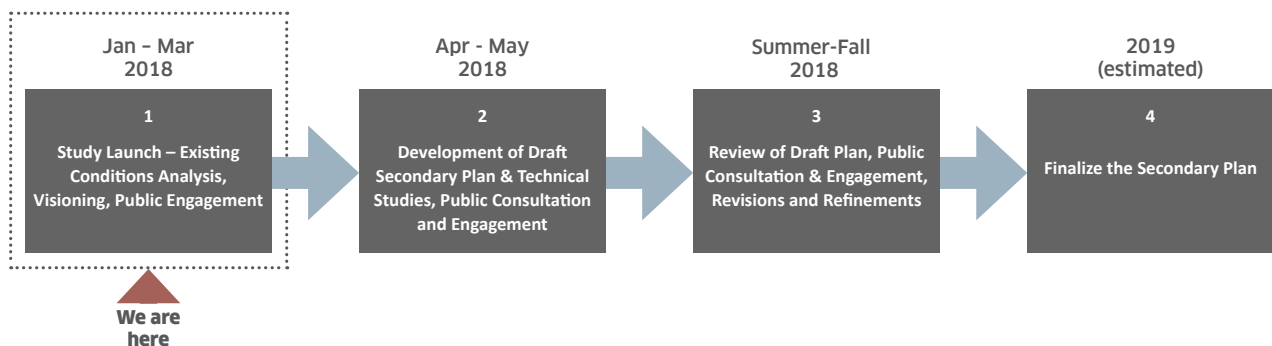
Be sure to attend the next Visioning Workshop:

**Where:** Heron Road Community Centre, 1480 Heron Road

**When:** April 7, 2018, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Additional workshop information and registration details to follow.

## SECONDARY PLAN PROCESS





## TABLE DISCUSSION PIN-UP NOTES

### TRANSIT NETWORK RÉSEAU DE TRANSPORT

Add your comments on sticky notes.

Ajoutez vos suggestions sur des notes auto-adhésives.

Add your comments!  
Ajoutez vos suggestions

118 runs all  
the way to St  
Lawrence!

• connect traffic

More Parkade

### LAND USE UTILISATION DU TERRAIN

Add your comments on sticky notes.

Ajoutez vos suggestions sur des notes auto-adhésives.

Add your comments!  
Ajoutez vos suggestions

Maintain  
historical  
character

Would be nice  
to see a mix of  
land uses  
& the maintenance  
of affordable  
rental housing

10 high  
rise on  
Hudson

Commercial  
within area

More  
trees &  
greenery  
needed

4 to 6 story  
buildings  
commercial  
- safe access  
- good lighting  
- good security  
- good parking  
- good view  
- good sound

Retirement  
residence

Each apartment  
should have  
its own parking  
space

Mixed income  
- income  
- lower cost  
- higher cost

It would be nice  
to have some  
greenery  
around the  
building  
and some  
parking  
spaces

Would have  
more access  
to the  
commercial  
along walking

Crucial  
- safe access, multi mode  
- access to adjacent comm  
- walk, bike, car, light

Pool  
Sports  
Village  
Plex

## TABLE DISCUSSION PIN-UP NOTES

# PARKS, OPEN SPACE & STREETSCAPES PARCS, ESPACES OUVERTS & PAYSAGES DE RUE

Add your comments on sticky notes.  
Ajoutez vos suggestions sur des notes auto-adhésives.

Add your comments  
Ajoutez vos suggestions

**Park**  
- Zipline  
- introduce water park/river canal adjacent  
- Swing closer to park

**Bringing Community together thru sports and leisure**  
- bring them together thru bytown/daily dealer

**Park**  
- Bell St, pond  
- benches, trees, flowers  
- Duffer  
- on hillside (hill) (green)

**ideas**  
- skateboard park  
- valley hill  
- hockey rink  
- multi-use facilities  
- basketball, tennis, volleyball, handball

**Central Green space**

**Zip line**  
- to the river

**Trees & lights along Sanikiluaq park**

**another sports field**

**Lighting**  
- LIGHT POLLUTION  
- avoid shadows

**Old Market building**  
- Cultural CC  
- ADA compliant

**Sports**  
- fields should be lit at night for night play

**Cherry Hill**  
- Consider pond / Sunlight  
- Wind tunnel protection

**Enclosed dog park**

**Play play (cultural garden park)**

**Jump to, covered, not water, enough**

**Improved 4th floor play opportunities**  
- like the Bower Park

**Water, drive, sitting, eating**

**Alternative first cover for**  
- streetcar  
- streetcar stops  
- streetcar

**Adaptive Garden**  
- Winter Opportunities  
- ramps  
- bologan

**Programmable Art / Space Cultural**  
- gathering space

**Dog Park (close to park)**  
- play streetcar

**Eyes on the Park**  
- improve garden area

**Subtitles**

**Pathways, street, fronted eyes on the park**  
- for  
- for  
- for  
- for

**Market Services**  
- Guide

**Park**  
- Streetcar  
- 1st floor  
- 1st floor  
- 1st floor

**Old Market**  
- 1st floor  
- 1st floor  
- 1st floor

**Passing / Walking track**

**People built House Village**  
- the people building

**Improved community center**  
- public meeting space  
- for  
- for

**This will be Bower Park**  
- should have the water & water community especially kids

## BUILT FORM FORME BÂTIE

**Add comments**  
- Add your comments  
- Add your comments

**Public transportation**  
- Add your comments  
- Add your comments

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- Add your comments  
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Add your comments  
Ajoutez vos suggestions

**MAINTENANCE**

- existing need!  
- new design for longevity and ease of maintenance

**COMPLETE COMMUNITY**

services and amenities within walking distance

**MIX**

- of use  
- unit type  
- income  
- ownership

**WALKABLE**

the scale and design should be for walking, not driving

**EYES ON THE STREET**

- doors, windows, porches,...

**HEIGHT**

mitigate shadows, views, wind

**DENSITY**

- need a critical mass that corresponds to amenities and services



## PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND STREETSCAPES - SKETCH DIAGRAMS



## PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING CONNECTIONS - SKETCH DIAGRAMS

