Update - Pathway between Rudd Avenue to Serpentine Lane Engagement Summary

Virtual Meeting - November 24, 2020

The City of Kingston hosted a virtual meeting through Zoom with close captioning. The meeting was also streamed live through Youtube, The project background and updated concept for the pathway was presented.



9 participants attended the virtual meeting through Zoom, and 5 additional watched live on Youtube.

Staff presented a summary of how the proposed project was initiated as part of the 2016 Waterfront Master Plan. Feedback received on the project during the summer and fall and changes to the pathway design were presented. A recording of the presentation is available on <u>Youtube</u>.

Current Pathway Design Changes:

- Less change of grades and more mature trees to be retained
- Narrower path surface
- Smaller limestone retaining walls
- No stairs or bench
- More new trees and woody shrubs added for diversity, habitat and aesthetics
- Pedestrian gate added at Rudd Avenue

Questions raised:

- Who is doing the ecological assessment?
 Ecological Services
- Can the City ensure no motorized vehicles can use the path, such as, four wheelers?

A pedestrian gate has been added to the design to help deter such use.

 How widely will the path be publicized or marked in City documents or plans? Who will use the space?

There are no current plans to broadly promote the pathway.

We anticipate that this local route is likely to be known through word of mouth and by local residents. The people who will likely use the new pathway are expected to be the same as those who currently use the dirt footpath.

How will the pathway be maintained in the winter given that it is asphalt?
 Will it be slippery?

The proposed pathway is not proposed to be maintained in the winter. The asphalt pathway surface will be less slippery than current dirt footpath.

- We noticed parking problems and increased traffic in the area, particularly on Serpentine Lane. Where are people going to park to use the pathway?
 It is not anticipated that the pathway will become a destination for people to drive to.
- What is the estimated cost of the project when our road is terrible shape?
 Maybe improvement to the road is more serving to our residents here.
 The current estimate is approximately \$80,000.

We have noted concerns related to the road condition and have shared with our Transportation and Engineering Departments for future considerations.

• The main concerned for most residents is the introduction of additional traffic into the community. Our community really needs so many other improvements, we didn't ask for the pathway improvement.

The pathway improvement will function primarily as a local pedestrian connection and not as a destination feature that would generate traffic.

The pathway upgrade project was identified in the 2016 Waterfront Master Plan as an improved connection opportunity in the local waterfront neighbourhoods.

• Senica and I (Laura) do not want this for our community and feel like we are not being heard. We say no to this path, thank you.

The City understands your concern. The project is approved by City Council. Staff and designers have made many adjustments to the design to make the proposed project more acceptable to local stakeholders based on their feedback.

Results of the evaluation survey from participants attended the meeting

- Most residents felt like they were heard
- All residents felt the presenter was prepared
- Most residents heard about the meeting through email, some through social media and others such as a friend.
- Most residents felt the experience with the technology used for the meeting was good
- Only a few of the participants had used the raise hand tool during the question and answer period
- Most residents felt the information they needed was provided
- All residents thought the moderator was prepared

After the meeting, some residents whom previously had concerns, provided positive feedback towards the new design of the pathway.