

MAKE A PLACE FOR PEOPLE

The Importance of Community Engagement in Public Space Planning



Emily Munroe

Program Director, 8-80 Cities
Toronto, Canada



MAKE A PLACE FOR PEOPLE

OUR GOALS

Highlight the need
for better public
engagement

Develop simple,
replicable tools

Create better parks
and public spaces
for all

We know public engagement is important.
But...



We also know public engagement
doesn't always look like this.



It can be difficult.



And frustrating.



And take a long time.



And, don't you end up with the same thing anyway?



mezzanine and public terrace with integral stairs, cantilever, stage roof & lighting grid

viewing balcony with ramp to Peace Garden

new loading access lane via Chestnut Street

peace garden in birch grove with reflecting pool

public roof terrace on service back bar pavilion with link to walkway

treehouse restaurant with elevator access to walkways and public roof terrace

stone benches

elevator + ramp

the civic boulevard new free canopy and sidewalk along Bay Street with new trees to square

wood decked walkways with integral seating and light wells

new glass entry pavilion with tourist information kiosk and elevator to bike and car parking and the walkways

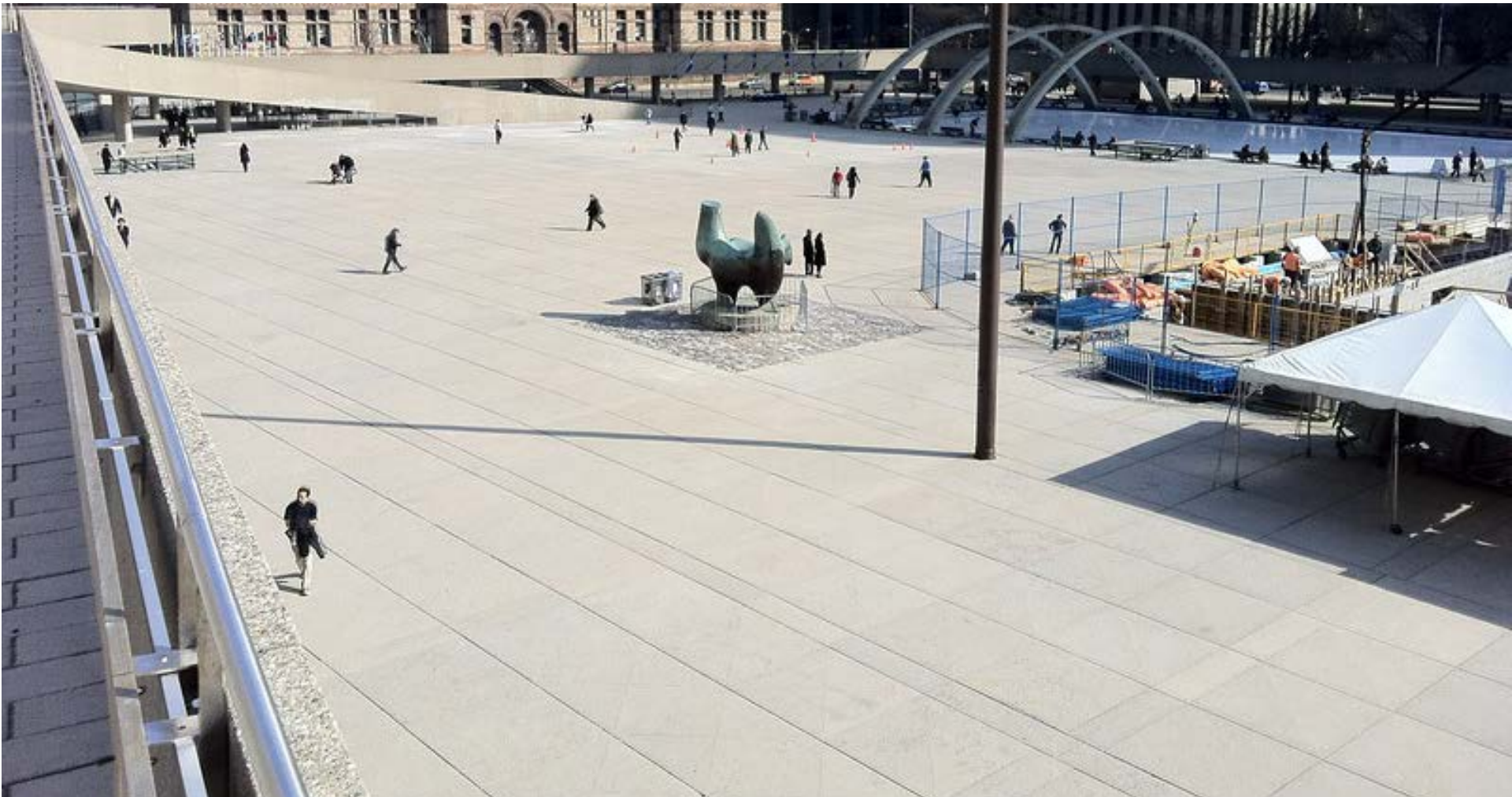
"beacon" benches frosted glass surrounds to parking stairs, with integral benches for resting and reading

new entry to path enlarged and reoriented to address City Hall

"daylights" connecting the square

queen street forecourt new and densified trees with paving running from Queen to the Square under the trees, integrated seating and new

If you talk to people,
you won't end up with this.



Or this.





public spaces
are our
symbols of
**democracy &
social equality**

**PUBLIC SPACE =
open and accessible to everyone**

Public space management, programming and design should reflect this philosophy



But, if our public meetings
look like this...



We can't expect our public spaces
to look like this...





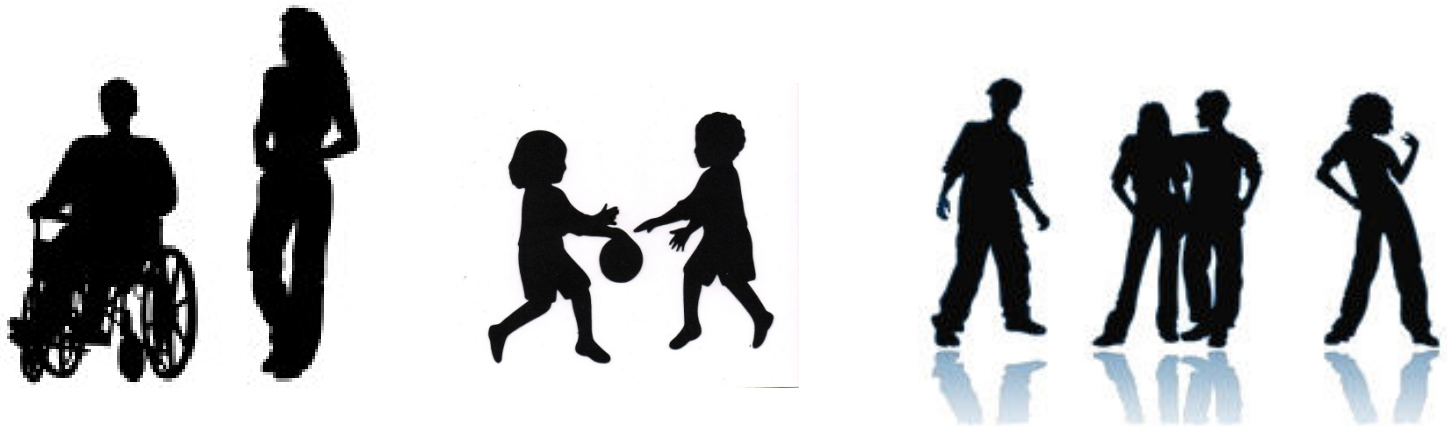
Why?

Problems with traditional consultation:



Inaccessible, un-attractive and intimidating.

The people who have the most to gain are the most removed from the decision making process.



How can we
change it?

Simple and effective ways to
engage the community.



Dundonald Park, Ottawa

Difficult to
engage
communities.





Go to
Them?

Under used. Bad Reputation.



Dundonald Park, Ottawa

Good, Cheap
Fun.

PARC
DUNDONALD
PARK





Magic Makers



Hula-Hoops











Free Treats





FREE
COOKIES

Put Your
Survey Here +
Share an Idea
Cards.



KFL&A
Public Health

FREE
Cookies







Fort William Historical Park

Fort William Historical Park
1000 St. Lawrence St. S.
Fort William, Ontario N6K 1Y1

KISS



Please rate yourself on how trustful you are.

Much more than the average person	More than the average person	Like the average person	Less than the average person	Much less than the average person
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I had fun playing the game.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

You can rely on most people to do what they say they will do.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I did not get along well with the other player.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Me and the other player made plans to meet each other again.

Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you play any team-sports?

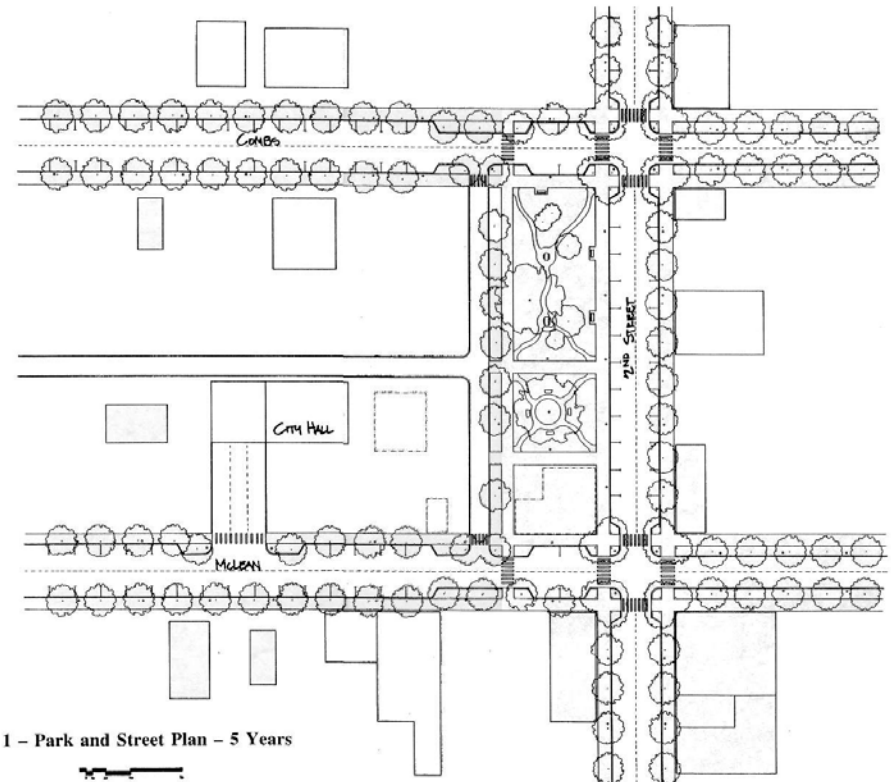
Four or more times a week	Two or three times a week	Once a week	Once per month	Less than once per month or never
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I did not play the best I could in the game.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The other player did not seem to be interested in having a conversation.

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Option 1 – Park and Street Plan – 5 Years

SHARE AN

SHARE AN IDEA...

Share an idea...

SHARE AN IDEA...

SHARE AN IDEA...

Share an idea...

SHARE AN IDEA



SHARE AN
IDEA!
★ ↓↓

SHARE AN
IDEA!
★ ↓↓

SHARE AN
IDEA!
★ ↓↓



My wish...

HAVE SOMEONE
CLEAN UP EVERY
MORNING.

MURDER SECURITY

2

My wish
more
of our
name
of 2.



AT MAKES PHYSICAL ACTIVITY HARD TO DO IN RIDEAU HEIGHTS

WALK

SHARE
AN
IDEA...

BUS

SHARE
AN
IDEA...

BIKE

SHARE
AN
IDEA..

PARK

SHARE
AN
IDEA...

OTHER

Why?



To get people talking.





To bring people together.



To make people feel like
they matter.





Parks and public spaces are
our symbols of democracy
and equality.

If we do better,
we will get better places.



Thank-you!

