

April 10, 2023

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Attention: Katherine Bailey, Senior Planner

Re: **Regent Park Phases 4 & 5, City of Toronto** Public Consultation Strategy  
Report Addendum

### **Purpose**

This Public Consultation Strategy Report Addendum (PCSR) has been prepared by Toronto Community Housing Corporation (TCHC) in order to summarize the public consultation and engagement activities that TCHC and their development partner, Deltera Inc., have undertaken since the start of the project in preparing the rezoning application, as well as the engagement that will occur in the future build out of Phases 4 and 5.

### **Public Consultation of Phases 4 and 5 Revitalization: A Holistic and Continuous Strategy**

Engagement with members of the Regent Park community has played a key role in informing the final design of Phases 4 and 5 of the Revitalization.

The goals of the community engagement process have been three-pronged and correspond to community priorities identified in the Social Development Plan, which include:

1. Building capacity in order to ensure that residents and stakeholders are equipped with information to continuously and meaningfully engage in the development process;
2. Provide opportunities for the community to shape the future development of Phases 4 and 5; and
3. To use a diverse and accessible set of engagement tools in order to ensure that the process is accessible to groups that are harder to reach and/or may not typically engage in the planning process.

### **Methods of Engagement**

When it comes to the Phases 4 and 5 consultation process, the team utilizes a variety of communication and engagement methods to ensure broad, thorough and continuous engagement through the provision of multiple unique opportunities to connect with residents. Some examples of these methods include but are not limited to:

1. Door to door engagement
2. Street intercepts
3. Virtual newsletters
4. Community walks
5. Local Stakeholder and tenant meetings
6. Community meetings
7. Design workshops/pop ins
8. Youth focused events such as Jams and School visits
9. Rezoning update flyers
10. Hosting an information booth with team members at community events
11. Providing virtual alternatives to in-person meetings
12. Creating a website specific to the Phase 4 and 5 revitalization

### **Past Engagement (Aug 2021 – Dec 2022)**

Following the decision to rezone the Phase 4 and 5 lands in the summer of 2021, TCHC, Deltera, and their consultant team set out to engage with the Regent Park community around a new vision for the final two phases of the revitalization. From August 2021 to the second submission of the rezoning application in December 2022, the project team has hosted and undertaken over 40 community consultation events including but not limited to:

#### **Regent Park Engagement Chronology of Events**

- 1) April 2023 – Community Wide Intro Meeting #1
- 2) August 2021 – Meet and Greets (x4)
- 3) Sept 23, 2021 – Reset Presentation to CBC
- 4) Sept 27, 2021 – TCHC Tenant Representatives Meeting #1
- 5) Sept 28, 2021 – Toronto Community Benefits Network (“TCBN”) Learning Series #1
- 6) Oct 1, 2021 – Community Organizations Engagement Session (“COES”) A (AM and PM sessions)
- 7) Oct 4, 2021 – Design Pop Up Event in Big Park
- 8) Oct 7, 2021 – Tridel meets Community Benefits Coalition (“CBC”)
- 9) Oct 16, 2021 - Walking presentation tour (day time Saturday event)
- 10) Oct 20, 2021 –TCBN Learning Series #2
- 11) Oct 21, 2021 – TCHC and Tridel Introduction to Regent Park Neighbourhood Association (“RPNA”), CBC
- 12) Oct 26, 2021 – COES B
- 13) Oct 28, 2021 – Youth COES
- 14) Oct 30, 2021 – In-person Community Wide Drop in #2
- 15) Nov 1, 2021 – Community Services and Facilities (“CSF”) Meeting #1
- 16) Nov 4, 2021 – TCHC Tenant Rep Meeting #2

- 17) Nov 10, 2021 – Virtual Edition of Community Wide Drop in #2
- 18) Nov 16, 2021 – TDSB Lord Dufferin School Visit – World Planning Day
- 19) Nov 16, 2021 – CSF Meeting #2
- 20) Nov 21, 2021 – Youth Engagement Event/Youth Jam
- 21) Nov 23, 2021 – TDSB Nelson Mandela School Visit – World planning Day
- 22) Nov 30, 2021 – COES C
- 23) Dec 8, 2021 – Community Wide Meeting #3
- 24) Dec 13, 2021 – Executive Director Network Presentation
- 25) Dec 14, 2021 – CSF Meeting #3
- 26) Jan. 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 – Youth Design Regent
- 27) Jan 28, 2022 – *Design Review Panel (“DRP”) Presentation #1*
- 28) Feb 2, 2022 – Cabbagetown Neighbourhood Association Meeting
- 29) Feb 4, 2022 – CSF Meeting #4
- 30) Feb 10, 2022 – COES D
- 31) Feb. 16, 2022 - Community Wide Meeting #4
- 32) March 3, 2022 – CSF Meeting # 5
- 33) March 8, 2022 – Toronto Public Library (“TPL”) Info Session
- 34) March 23, 2022 – Regent Park Social Development Plan (“SDP”) Presentation
- 35) *April 14, 2022 – Rezoning submission*
- 36) *May 13, 2022 DRP Presentation #2*
- 37) June 1, 2022 – COES E
- 38) June 4, 2022 – Summer Safety Jam
- 39) June 9, 2022 – Community Consultation Meeting (“CCM”) # 1
- 40) August 14, 2022 – Sunday in the Park
- 41) Nov 28, 2022 – Rezoning Community Update Meeting #1
- 42) *Dec 6, 2022 – Rezoning Submission #2*

With over 2,500 touch points with the community, TCHC and Deltera have undertaken extensive engagement at every step of the rezoning and design process for Phases 4 and 5. The project team first began by hosting a virtual Community Wide Introduction meeting in April 2021 followed by Meet and Greets in August 2021 in order to create an opportunity for staff and residents to familiarize themselves with one another. The project team conducted three separate surveys, one more detailed than the last, determining community priorities and integrating feedback into the plan. Coupled with visuals and working alongside Community Animators (outreach specialists made up of community members) and agencies, the project team engaged with dozens of groups and demographics in Regent Park to ensure all residents had a chance to comment on the plan. The project team also had multiple translators present when documenting feedback and explained the plan in simplified terminology to equip residents with information to engage meaningfully. Further details surrounding the methods and results of the surveys and engagement were reported and published on the [www.rp4and4.ca](http://www.rp4and4.ca) website under ‘Timeline’ to build trust and transparency with the community.

Additionally, to facilitate further collaboration with the community, multiple meetings were hosted for the writing of the Community Services and Facilities report including “office hours” to review and discuss the draft report in greater detail. Tenants, stakeholders and agency representatives attended CSF meetings to inform the writing of the plan. An appendix was included in the final report summarizing current and future space needs of local organizations and small businesses prepared by meeting attendees, including members from the SDP.

In order to engage and share information related to the rezoning application and ongoing community engagement events, the project team developed a Phase 4 and 5 website ([www.rp4and5.ca](http://www.rp4and5.ca)) in the fall of 2021. The website aims to provide residents with an accessible method of connection to the project and its team members at any point in time. The site hosts all relevant information on the Phase 4 and 5 revitalization including documents shared with the City and summaries/results of engagement. Additionally, residents can subscribe to receive regular updates on the progress of the project as well as directly send messages including questions, comments or requests to project staff through the website. This allows tenants to stay informed and engaged with the project as well as ensures transparency between TCHC, Deltera and the community.

### **Interim Engagement to Approval (Dec 2022 – April 2023)**

Following the second submission of the rezoning application, project members have continued to connect with residents on the revitalization on a more informal basis. The project team remains present, engaged and accessible at community leadership tables, in-person at community events, events hosted by the project team and through one-off requests by individuals or resident groups. Including project team members attended meetings of the Employment and Economic Development table of the SDP, film festivals and Ramadan iftars, where they were available to answer any questions related to the Phase 4 and 5 Revitalization in general and the rezoning in particular.

Prior to the rezoning approval, a community consultation meeting will be hosted on April 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 to update residents on the status of the project and address any questions or comments.

### **Future Engagement**

In addition to the project team being available and accessible in various forums on an ongoing basis, we are supporting the outreach for the upcoming community consultation meeting. This support highlights our commitment to keeping residents informed and engaged in the rezoning application process.

Following the community consultation meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>, the project team will schedule subsequent presentations specific to the rezoning with community leaders, members from the Regent Park Social Development Plan tables, Toronto Community Housing Tenant Representatives, Regent Park Community Animators and other stakeholders.

On a broader scale, there are currently and will be additional avenues for resident input into the physical transformation of spaces and the socioeconomic infrastructure of Regent Park. This engagement is occurring through the Community Benefits Agreement engagement (separate to the rezoning) and the engagement that will take place on Regent Park's non-residential space in Phases 4 and 5.

The project team is also exploring the creation of multi-media content to be housed on [www.rp4and5.ca](http://www.rp4and5.ca) to provide another medium for residents to stay informed on the rezoning and other essential information for the Regent Park community.

### **Conclusion**

The overall goal of the community engagement process associated with the Phase 4 and 5 rezoning has been to keep residents apprised of the planning process and integrate their input into developing a new vision for the last phases of the Revitalization. Staying well-informed by creating community feedback loops and maintaining a presence in the community to build trust and transparency will result in the development of future phases that integrate into the neighbourhood's existing framework and create new opportunities for residents to live and thrive.

Engagement throughout the build out of this project will continue and further community consultations will be undertaken to ensure the collective goal and vision of this project is maintained and resident needs are met.