

Online Engagement Survey Summary Report

On February 29th, 2016 an online survey was posted as a link from the CRD project website for The Summit at Quadra Village. The goal was to connect with community members, Island Health staff, and neighbours of the 955 Hillside Avenue property and get a better understanding of how they would like the common spaces to be laid out in the design. There were 24 total responses for The Summit Engagement Survey.

The full results can be found at www.summitatquadravillage.ca.

Demographics

- 44% are 36-55 years of age
- 26% are 56-70 years of age
- 22% are 18-35 years of age
- 7% work for Island Health
- 96% do not have a family member at Oak Bay Lodge or Mount Tolmie Hospital
- 75% have a family member or close friend who is over the age of 75 or who has experience in residential care

Common Spaces

The survey respondents' top three priorities for The Summit's common spaces are:

- 1) Native Plants
- 2) Natural Play Area
- 3) Community Gardens

South-side Common Space – Current plan includes space for a community garden

- 77% like the community gardens in this location
- Top 3 preferences for the location: community gardens, native plants, and a natural play area
- Other activities/program suggestions for the space include:
 - Multi-use hardtop, permanent mini-skatepark, waterpark, micro soccer field, walking trails, gazebos, wheelchair accessible picnic area, rain gardens, community plaza (in collaboration with next door), redesign building to make it higher for more common space, concern about the scaling of the image
- 71% believe there is an interest in the community for developing a non-profit society to establish and run a community garden.

- Existing non-profit suggestions: Quadra Village Community Centre in partnership with Hillside Urban Farmers (HUFFS), gardening sub-committee of Downtown Blanshard Advisory Committee

South-side West Common Space – Current plan includes room for a play area

- 72% like the play area in the location
- Top 3 preferences for the location: natural play area, structured play area, native plants
- Other activities/program suggestions for the space include:
 - Multi-use hardtop, waterpark, grassy area (large enough for sports), paved area for skateboarding, public & climb-able art (i.e. cadborosaurus, adult play area, organized urban agriculture, switch natural play area with west-side lawn area, switch this area with community garden space for better resident viewing, concern about the scaling of the image, lighting, native trees only
- 90% prefer an unstructured play area
- Agencies or partners identified by respondents for this playground: Quadra Village Community Centre & City of Victoria, Victoria Foundation, Home Depot, other corporate sponsors, Mayor Lisa Helps, residents of Evergreen/BC Housing, Community centre groups, Quadra Elementary children and parents, CRHD

West-side Common Space – Current plan includes space for a lawn area

- 68% like the lawn area in the location
- Top 3 preferences for the location: grass lawn, native plants, and urban meadow
- Other activities/program suggestions for the space include:
 - Activities for tweens and teens, grassy area must be large enough for sports games to be played, multi-use hardtop, mini-permanent skatepark, water park, expand green space with collaboration with BC Housing, raised beds

Additional common space responses:

- 43% agree there is enough lawn/grass in the renderings
- 66% believe there is a sufficient amount of new trees currently on the site
- 35% believe there is an inadequate amount of new trees
- 74% believe there should be no off leash location, but dogs should be allowed on-site
- 15% believe dogs should be allowed on site but restricted from certain areas

Hillside Boulevard Entrance comment samples:

- “Please maintain as many existing trees and possible.”
- “Moving the sidewalk away from the street is a great idea. A bike lane along Hillside is a good idea too, especially if it slows traffic. I have some concern about congestion with a single access opening.”
- “Please ensure the Hillside Avenue entrance does not conflict with the existing condos across the street and with the turn onto Wark Street.”

Lane and driveway comment samples:

- “ANY changes will be an improvement and an asset to the community...The Living Street option is great as is the Laneway Greening. These options will encourage people-focused activities and better connect The Summit with Quadra Village. We want this connection.”
- “Reliant on the re-development of the Quadra St. side buildings. City should encourage community alley/living concept here...”
- “The lane is absolutely a great opportunity for activation and improvement as a human-scaled thoroughfare and place. Understanding it is beyond the project’s scope, anything you can do to make the Summit’s East edge helpful to making the lane better would be appreciated...”

Other areas of interest or concerns:

Themes include:

- *Parking*: concerns, re: underground parking capacity & size of delivery vehicles
- *Landscaping*: CRHD should double landscaping budget, provide more outdoor space for residents, move residents’ outdoor space to roof to open up more common areas, landscape for pollution, light and noise from residents and building
- *Other amenities*: GVPL mini branch, multi-purpose room, multi-use blacktop, more CRHD budgeting for community amenities
- *Project*: Development too large for community, campus/community care alternative model, thanks for investing in neighbourhood, commit to being more open and creative with budget, what is long-term plan for second property
- *Residents*: must have opportunity to engage with community, inadequate outdoor space for residents, consider concerns of wandering residents in high traffic area

Conclusion

Most respondents agreed with the architectural renderings of common areas. The south-side community gardens received the most support (77%) and were also included in the top 3 preferences for the property as a whole, alongside native plants and a natural play area. The most common themes of concern were around parking and transportation, a lack of young adult activities, parking limitations and more engagement opportunities with the community on the project.