

Attachment 2: VOP 2025 Engagement

VOP 2025

Pre-engagement with Indigenous Peoples

Staff pre-engaged Indigenous Peoples at the start of the project and has continued engagement throughout the process of developing the new VOP 2025. The City of Vaughan is within Treaty 13 Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation. The City acknowledges the traditional lands of the William Treaties First Nation, Huron-Wendat First Nation, Six Nations of the Grand River, Haudenosaunee Confederacy Chiefs Council and the Métis Nation.

Pre-engagement with Indigenous Peoples commenced at the launch of the project in January 2020 prior to the project's statutory initiation in October 2021. Pre-engagement meetings with Indigenous Peoples included discussions on the importance of relationship-building and knowledge sharing, and ways to improve communication and land use processes to be inclusive of Indigenous Peoples' interests. Interests discussed included archaeological, cultural, and historical knowledge sharing, economic development, education and awareness, natural heritage, environment and planning processes. Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation provided a document outlining key elements to be considered in the new VOP 2025.

Engagement with Indigenous Peoples – 2021 and onward

Following pre-engagement, Policy Planning staff has circulated project materials and deliverables to Indigenous Peoples for review and comment. Policy Planning staff has offered and delivered presentations and held working sessions on the project. Valuable information and feedback was received to help inform changes to policy and planning processes. The City of Vaughan will continue to engage with Indigenous Peoples throughout the project to achieve mutual knowledge sharing and benefits.

Internal and External Engagement

The draft new VOP 2025 was informed by an extensive public and stakeholder consultation process undertaken throughout the project. Key participants in the consultation process were engaged throughout the different phases of the project, including the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), a Community Working Group (CWG), the Building Industry and Land Development Association – York Chapter (BILD), the Official Plan Update Sub-Committee, in addition to members of the public.

VOP 2025 TAC

A TAC was formed that included staff from many City departments, York Region and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. The TAC was circulated on all major project deliverables for review and comment, and several meetings were held to share information, discuss key matters, and to gather and address feedback. TAC comments have been carefully reviewed and considered in preparation of the draft VOP 2025.

Community Working Group

On Nov. 5, 2021, the CWG was established to collect insight and guidance to help shape the new VOP 2025. Applications from 42 members of the public were carefully

reviewed, and 24 people were selected by the project team using criteria that considered diversity and equity and supported the goal of achieving a CWG that is representative of the Vaughan community.

Four CWG meetings were held at key milestones throughout the project:

- CWG Meeting #1 (Jan. 19, 2022) was held to introduce the project, collaborate to develop the Vision for the VOP 2025, build trust and foster collaboration and identify opportunities for CWG members to get involved throughout the process.
- CWG Meeting #2 (Oct. 12, 2022) was held to provide a project update, discuss and summarize key takeaways from the seven background papers and collect feedback on the background papers to help inform future policies in the new official plan.
- CWG Meeting #3 (June 1, 2023) was held to provide a project update, highlight key messaging heard through engagement completed to date and how feedback has been addressed.
- CWG Meeting #4 (Jan. 25, 2024) was the final CWG meeting that was held to provide a project update, present new/updated draft policies, collect feedback, and close off the CWG portion of community engagement.

BILD – York Chapter

Throughout the life of the project, feedback has been provided by members of the building industry for consideration in the development of the new VOP 2025. The following meetings were held with BILD – York Chapter for the VOP 2025:

- March 21, 2023: A virtual industry meeting was held to provide an update on the project, discuss and receive feedback on the Policy Directions Report. BILD – York Chapter members were also able to submit questions and feedback before and after the meeting.
- July 4, 2024: A virtual meeting was held to present a project update and summary of draft policy work, and allow for discussion, questions, and feedback. BILD – York Chapter members were also able to submit questions and feedback before and after the meeting.

Official Plan Update Sub-Committee

11 Official Plan Update Sub-Committee meetings were held since the Sub-Committee was established and appointed by Council in December 2022. The Sub-Committee's mandate is to make recommendations to Council regarding the proposed policies in the draft VOP 2025. The project team provided regular updates and presentations to the Official Plan Update Sub-Committee through scheduled sessions that were open to the public.

Phase 1 Engagement

Engagement activities for Phase 1 of the project ran from September 2021 to October 2022. A Phase 1 Engagement Summary Report was released in March 2023 and can

be accessed from the 'Document Library' via the project's engagement portal, [Forward Vaughan](#).

A summary of the engagement opportunities held in Phase 1 of the project, as detailed in the Phase 1 Engagement Summary Report, is provided below:

Oct. 13, 2021, Special Committee of the Whole meeting

The meeting publicly launched the project, provided key information for the process of developing the new VOP 2025 and provided the public and the Committee of the Whole an opportunity to provide feedback.

Virtual Vision Workshops

Two vision workshops were held that were open to all members of the public. The purpose of the vision workshops was to introduce the project, identify the project's purpose and collaborate with members of the public to develop a Vision for Vaughan to the year 2051. A total of 64 participants attended the sessions.

Community Vision Survey

A community vision survey was launched online from Feb. 23, 2022, through March 16, 2022. The community vision survey provided an opportunity for the community, including those that could not attend the vision workshops, to provide input on the Vision and Guiding Principles in the draft VOP 2025. The survey had a total of 89 participant responses.

Topic-Based Webinars

Four topic-based webinars were held between April 20, 2022 and May 12, 2022. The topics included: climate change resilience and adaptation, affordable housing, placemaking, and healthy communities. Each webinar featured a presentation from a subject matter expert and an interactive question-and-answer period. A total of 46 participants attended the webinars.

Community Pop-ups

From June to September of 2022, the project team held five pop-up events at local public spaces across Vaughan, including a community kiosk at Vaughan Mills Shopping Centre, a booth at the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre Subway Station, a neighbourhood grocery store and City-led Concerts in the Park locations. Each pop-up event included an information table, poster, a post-card hand-out, and a registration sheet for receiving project updates. Members of the project team were available at all events to collect feedback and answer questions. A total of approximately 65 participants attended the community pop-ups.

Phase 2 Engagement

Engagement activities for Phase 2 of the project ran from October 2022 to July 2023. A Phase 2 Engagement Summary Report was released in September 2023 and can be accessed from the 'Document Library' via the project's engagement portal, [Forward Vaughan](#).

A summary of the engagement opportunities held in Phase 2 of the project, as detailed in the Phase 2 Engagement Summary Report, is provided below:

Virtual Public Open Houses

Three virtual public open houses were held in November 2022 on the following dates:

- November 3, 2022
- November 14, 2022
- November 24, 2022

The purpose of the public open houses was to provide a project update, discuss and summarize the key takeaways from the Policy Directions Report and collect feedback to help inform the policy development phase of the project. All of the public open houses provided the same content but were available on different dates for added flexibility to attend the sessions. There were a total of 98 registrations for the sessions.

Booth at Winterfest

On Feb. 5, 2023, the project team hosted a booth at Winterfest, inviting members of the public to share their feedback regarding the draft new VOP 2025. Approximately 400 individuals participated at the booth.

Booths at Maple Lions Club Pancake Festival

On April 15 and 16, 2023, the project team hosted a booth at Maple Lions Club Pancake Festival. The booths highlighted the main themes from the Policy Directions Report and asked participants which themes they valued most with respect to developing the new VOP 2025. Approximately 300 individuals participated at the booths in total.

Community Centre Pop-ups

In May 2023, the project team hosted five daytime pop-up events at community centres that took place in each ward:

- May 9, 2023: Ward 1 at the Maple Community Centre from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- May 10, 2023: Ward 4 at the North Thornhill Community Centre from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- May 12, 2023: Ward 5 at the Dufferin Clark Community Centre, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 17, 2023: Ward 2 at the Al Palladini Community Centre, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- May 18, 2023: Ward 3 at the Vellore Village Community Centre from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Each community centre pop-up had displays of city-wide and ward-specific mapping from the Vaughan Official Plan 2010 schedules and the project team was available to listen to feedback, answer questions and provide updates on the status of the project. A total of approximately 265 members of the community attended the pop-ups.

Evening Community Sessions

In June 2023, the City hosted five community sessions that took place in each ward:

- June 5, 2023: Ward 2 at Al Palladini Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- June 12, 2023: Ward 4 at North Thornhill Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- June 12, 2023: Ward 5 at Dufferin Clark Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- June 22, 2023: Ward 3 at Vellore Village Community Centre from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- June 26, 2023: Ward 1 at Pierre Berton Heritage Centre from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Each community session commenced with a presentation which included project background, policy directions and next steps. The project team was available to answer any questions and receive feedback. A total of 27 members of the community attended the community sessions.

Oct. 3, 2023 Committee of the Whole (Public Meeting)

The purpose of the Oct. 3, 2023 Committee of the Whole (Public Meeting) was to provide an update on the project and present the draft update to the VOP 2010 (what was known as the Part A Official Plan Amendment to the VOP 2010), and provide an opportunity for the public, stakeholders and Committee of the Whole to provide feedback and ask questions regarding the draft update to the VOP 2010.

Jan. 22, 2025 Committee of the Whole (Working Session)

The purpose of the Jan. 22, 2025 Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting was to provide a project update and presentation on the draft new VOP 2025. The Jan. 22, 2025 Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meeting was open to members of the public.

Non-statutory In-person Public Open Houses

Two non-statutory in-person public open houses were held on Jan. 27, 2025, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Display panels were provided around the Vaughan Room at Vaughan City Hall that presented the schedules and new policies in the draft new VOP 2025. The project team was available to listen to feedback and answer any questions.

Further information on the VOP 2025 public engagement events can be found at [Forward Vaughan](#).

Weston 7 Secondary Plan

The draft Weston 7 Secondary Plan was informed by an extensive public and stakeholder consultation process undertaken throughout the project, as well as engagement with the Indigenous Peoples of Vaughan. Key participants in the consultation process were engaged throughout the different phases of the project,

including the Weston 7 Secondary Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Weston 7 landowners and the Weston 7 Landowners Group Inc. (LOG), in addition to residents and landowners within Weston 7 and surrounding areas.

Indigenous Peoples

The Project Team undertook pre-engagement meetings with four First Nations and the Local Métis Council in 2020. These meetings provided an introduction of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan project and the concurrent Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan. More recently, the draft Weston 7 Secondary Plan was circulated to Indigenous Peoples for review and comment.

Weston 7 TAC

Staff met with the Weston 7 TAC several times throughout the process and circulated different study materials for review and comment. The project team has also conducted focused meetings with Weston 7 TAC members who are subject matter experts in specific areas including, but not limited to, parks, urban design, transportation, and servicing as required.

Walking Tour

Staff led site tours of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and surrounding areas in May 2018 and in July 2020. The tours were organized for members of the Weston 7 TAC to provide an in-depth understanding of the site and surrounding context, including potential opportunities and challenges.

Weston 7 Landowners and the Weston 7 LOG

Staff met with the Weston 7 landowners on an ongoing basis throughout the process and with the Weston 7 LOG since it was formed after the Nov. 1, 2023 Statutory Public Meeting. Staff has engaged with the Weston 7 LOG, which represents more than 50 per cent of the Weston 7 area, to establish a fair and reasonable phasing strategy, and ensure appropriate agreements are in place to fund and develop the required municipal service infrastructure. The LOG also requested to discuss other items related to the draft Secondary Plan, including growth management and built form, as well as items related to land uses, the transportation network and parkland.

Generally, staff met with the Weston 7 LOG on a bi-weekly basis in 2024. A total of 21 meetings were held as summarized below:

- Two preparation meetings on Dec. 14, 2023 and Feb. 2, 2024.
- Nine meetings to discuss Draft #2 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan between Feb. 8, 2024 and May 30, 2024 (except on March 21, 2024).
- Eight meetings to discuss Draft #3 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan between June 13, 2024 and Oct. 31, 2024 (except July 11, 2024, Aug. 8, 2024 and Oct. 3, 2024)
- One meeting to discuss Draft #4 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan on Nov. 28, 2024.
- One meeting to discuss the progress of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan on March 6, 2025.

Meetings with the Weston 7 LOG have included members of the Weston 7 TAC when discussions required the participation of subject matter experts. Staff also participated in focused meetings with individual Weston 7 LOG members when requested and found appropriate. The LOG's feedback on the draft Secondary Plan has been considered and carried forward as appropriate.

Public Forums

A total of 11 non-statutory Public Open Houses, two information sessions, a Committee of the Whole (Public Meeting) and two Committee of the Whole (Working Session) meetings were held during the Weston 7 Secondary Plan project, as detailed below:

- *Phase 1 - Public Open House #1:* The June 27, 2018, Public Open House was an ideas workshop attended by members of the public and development industry representatives. The objective of this workshop was to establish a context for growth and change in the area and to hear the community's ideas for the future.
- *Phase 1 - Public Open House #2:* The Nov. 7, 2018, Public Open House presented the draft vision and guiding principles for Weston 7. The objective of this Open House was to review the overall draft vision for the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and the eight draft guiding principles.
- *Phase 1 - Public Open House #3:* The March 25, 2019, Public Open House presented and received feedback on the three draft emerging conceptual land use scenarios.
- *Committee of the Whole (Working Session):* The June 5, 2019, Working Session meeting provided an opportunity to present and seek input on the results from the background report and supporting studies, study area vision and guiding principles. At the Working Session meeting, Council received a staff report with the results of Phase 1 of the Secondary Planning process, and the recommended steps in proceeding with Phases 2 and 3.
- *Phase 2 - Public Open House #1:* The Nov. 4, 2021, virtual Public Open House was held jointly with the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan Public Information Centre #1. The Open House provided an update on the Secondary Plan Study and introduced the Transportation Master Plan Study. A summary of Phase 1 of the Secondary Plan Study was presented in addition to the structuring elements of the Secondary Plan and potential development yields for the study area.
- *Phase 2 - Public Open House #2:* The Sept. 6, 2023, Public Open House provided the public with an overview of Draft #1 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan. The meeting included a presentation and a question-and-answer period. A commenting period followed the Open House where members of the public could

review the Open House materials, including the draft Secondary Plan, and submit written comments up until Sept. 13, 2023.

- *Committee of the Whole (Public Meeting)*: The Nov. 1, 2023, Weston 7 Secondary Plan Public Meeting provided an opportunity to receive feedback from community members, stakeholders and the Committee of the Whole on Draft #2 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan that was released on Oct. 13, 2023. At the Public Meeting, Council resolved that the Weston 7 Secondary Plan not proceed in advance of transportation and servicing plans for the area being considered by Council.
- *Committee of the Whole (Working Session)*: The June 5, 2024, Working Session meeting provided an opportunity to receive feedback from community members, stakeholders and the Committee of the Whole on Draft #3 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan that was released on June 3, 2024. At the meeting, Council resolved that at least four community meetings are held before a comprehensive technical report is brought to the Committee of the Whole.
- *Phase 2 – Public Open Houses #3 & 4*: The Oct. 16, 2024, Public Open Houses were held jointly with the Transportation Master Plan at the Chancellor Community Centre. The meetings included presentations of Draft #3 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and question-and-answer periods.
- *Phase 2 – Public Open Houses #5 & 6*: The Oct. 23, 2024, Public Open Houses were held jointly with the Transportation Master Plan at the Vellore Village Community Centre. The meetings included presentations of Draft #3 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and question-and-answer periods.
- *Phase 2 – Public Information Sessions #1 & 2*: the sessions were held on Jan. 15 and Jan. 16, 2025, at the Chancellor Community Centre jointly with the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan. The sessions provided opportunities to present and seek feedback on Draft #4 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan and included presentations and question-and-answer periods. More than 70 people attended the open houses.
- *Phase 2 – Public Open Houses #7 & 8*: the Public Open Houses were held on Jan. 22 and Jan. 23, 2025, at the Chancellor Community Centre jointly with the Weston 7 Transportation Master Plan. The Open Houses provided opportunities to seek feedback on Draft #4 of the Weston 7 Secondary Plan. More than 35 people attended the Open Houses.

Further information on the Weston 7 public engagement events can be found at www.vaughan.ca/Weston7.

VMC Secondary Plan

The draft VMC Secondary Plan has been informed by a public and stakeholder consultation process throughout the study process. Key participants in the consultation process were engaged through the different phases of the study and include the VMC Secondary Plan Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the landowners, and the residents within and surrounding the VMC Secondary Plan area.

VMC Secondary Plan TAC

A TAC was formed that included, but not limited to, staff from various City Departments, York Region, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). City Staff met with the New VMC Secondary Plan TAC several times throughout the study process to share information, discuss key matters, and to gather and address feedback. The TAC was circulated various presentation materials and supporting documentation for review and comment. The project team has met with TAC members who are subject matter experts in specific areas including, but not limited to, parks and open spaces, transportation, urban design, stormwater management, servicing, energy, sustainability, and the environment. As part of Phase 4, the project team has conducted focused meetings with New VMC Secondary Plan TAC members such as the TRCA, CN Rail, York Region District School Board, and York Catholic District School Board. TAC comments have been reviewed and considered in preparation of the New VMC Secondary Plan.

The project team has organized and facilitated several TAC meetings throughout the project:

- One external TAC meeting in Phase 1 on Jan. 21, 2021
- Two TAC meetings (internal and external) in Phase 2 on May 16, 2022, and May 18, 2022
- Two TAC meetings (internal and external) in Phase 3 on Aug. 15, 2023, and Aug. 16, 2023
- One TAC meeting in Phase 4 scheduled for May 29, 2025

VMC Secondary Plan Landowners Meetings

City Staff met with the landowners within the VMC and the VMC Expansion Areas on an ongoing basis throughout the study process. In Phase 1, two landowner meetings were organized for landowners west of Jane Street and landowners east of Jane Street. Furthermore, landowner meetings were organized into three sessions for Phases 2 and 3: landowners west of Jane Street, landowners east of Jane Street, and landowners within the potential Expansion Areas. As part of Phase 4, the project team has also met with various landowners in one-on-one meetings regarding specific concerns and a formal landowner meeting, which will include all landowners within the VMC boundary, is currently scheduled for May 29, 2025.

In addition to one-on-one meetings with various VMC landowners, the project team has organized and facilitated several landowner meetings throughout the project:

- Two landowner meetings in Phase 1

- Three landowner meetings in Phase 2
- Three landowner meetings in Phase 3
- One landowner meeting in Phase 4 scheduled for May 29, 2025

VMC Secondary Plan Public Engagement

Public survey

From Nov. 18, 2020, to Jan. 22, 2021, an online public survey was launched on the City of Vaughan website for citizens to share their thoughts and experiences within the VMC and provide ideas about the VMC's future, including travel patterns to and from the VMC and uses for the places and spaces within the downtown core. Over 350 community members shared feedback through this survey.

Online Forums

Online forums were launched on the City's webpage for community members to share their feedback throughout the various stages of the project:

- *Phase 1 – Background and Issues:* From Feb. 25, 2021 to March 25, 2021, an online forum was launched to seek input on the issues, strengths, and opportunities in the VMC. Over 350 members of the public explored the engagement page and 53 people contributed ideas and suggestions through various engagement tools.
- *Phase 2 – Options:* From May 24, 2022 to June 14, 2022, an online forum was launched to receive feedback on the two options developed for the New VMC Secondary Plan. Over 181 community members visited the online forum and over 20 contributors actively engaged through various engagement tools. Contributors left over 52 comments and voted 27 times on comments that they either agreed or disagreed with.
- *Phase 3 – Recommendations:* From Sept. 14 2023 to Sept. 27, 2023, an online forum was launched to receive feedback on the preferred option that was developed for the New VMC Secondary Plan. Over 161 community members viewed the project's webpage and accessed the online forum 171 times. Four contributors actively engaged on the discussion boards. Overall, 32 community members visited the land use discussion board, 24 people visited the mixed-use discussion board, 18 people visited the civic facilities discussion board, 17 people visited the retail discussion board, and 14 people visited the density discussion board.

Virtual Public Open Houses

There were three virtual public open houses that were hosted on the City's website and the City of Vaughan's online engagement platform:

- *Phase 1 – Background and Issues:* On Feb. 25, 2021, a series of three short videos were posted to share more about the New VMC Secondary Plan and its purpose, process, timeline and context and together received nearly 300 views.
- *Phase 2 – Options:* On May 24, 2022, a live, virtual public open house was held using the Zoom platform to seek feedback from citizens and stakeholders on the two options that were developed for the New VMC Secondary Plan. 68 people registered for the meeting and 40 people attended the meeting, representing a variety of people who have an interest in the VMC.

In-Person Public Open House

For *Phase 3 – Recommendations*, an in-person open house was held at the David Braley Vaughan Metropolitan Centre of Community on Sept. 14, 2023. For this meeting, 38 people registered to attend and 50 people attended, representing a variety of people who have an interest in the VMC. The beginning of the meeting included a one-hour open house segment with information boards. City staff and project team members were available at the boards and discussed the preferred option with community members. There was also a 30-minute presentation on the preferred option delivered by Gladki Planning Associates. Following the presentation, community members were invited to visit the information boards and ask City staff and project team members further questions and share thoughts.

An in-person Public Open House is scheduled for May 28, 2025, for phase 4 of the project. At this Public Open House, the draft new VMC Secondary Plan will be presented to the public for feedback.

VMC Sub-Committee

The VMC Sub-Committee has met 14 times throughout the development of the New VMC Secondary Plan to make recommendations that create the municipal framework and policy environment, consistent with Vaughan's broader city-building objectives, which will facilitate significant development of the VMC, including consideration of planning policies, infrastructure implementation principles, requirements related to external approvals, economic development strategy and communications/advocacy. The VMC Sub-Committee is comprised of Members of Vaughan Council and City staff – including the City Manager, the Deputy City Manager of Planning and Growth Management and the VMC program team.

Further information on VMC Secondary Plan public engagement can be found at <http://www.vaughan.ca/vmcplan>.