

Appendix A: In-Person Public Information Centre

On November 27, 2024, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., members of the project team hosted an in-person Public Information Centre at the Chestnut Hill Developments Recreation Complex (1867 Valley Farm Road). Approximately 20 people attended the event. At the start of the event, City staff delivered a brief presentation discussing Pickering's growth management and urban structure, including how many people and jobs are projected to be accommodated in the future, the provincial and regional rules that the City must follow, as well as the importance of imagining how, where and in what form the growth will occur within the city in the future. Additionally, the presentation spoke to strategic growth areas, current and developing greenfield communities, future greenfield development, existing neighbourhoods, employment land areas, and urban design.

Question and Answer

Following the presentation, attendees were given the opportunity to ask questions of clarification. These are summarized below, with questions noted with a 'Q' and answers noted with an 'A'.

- **Q.** With rising intensification and climate change, how is stormwater management in existing areas being addressed? What measures are in place for new developments?
 - **A.** The next Public Information Centre (PIC) will focus on Natural Hazards and Sustainability, examining how development aligns with these issues. A future PIC will address infrastructure and utilities, gathering public input. Guidelines are applied to new developments, and the Official Plan helps guide policies to mitigate these concerns. On-site property standards are also managed through by-laws that align with the Official Plan.
- **Q.** What input do residents have on the growth target numbers that have been assigned to Pickering?
 - **A.** The province sets 30-year growth projections, and while municipalities such as Pickering have no say in the overall growth target, they can negotiate their distribution within the region. The previous Growth Plan, which guided this process, was repealed in October 2024.
- **Q.** How does the Official Plan address urban structure, particularly regarding parkland provision? Can the provision of parkland in northeast Pickering be improved?


- **A.** The province sets parkland dedication requirements for developers under the Planning Act, and municipalities cannot exceed these limits. However, the City can optimize parkland through better designations to improve connections and design, guided by the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and secondary plans. The Official Plan focuses on protecting natural heritage and parkland areas.
- **Q.** Have parkland allocation standards changed recently?
 - **A.** Two years ago, provincial changes reduced parkland dedication requirements by 50%.

Following the question-and-answer portion of the event, small groups were formed to undergo a hands-on exercise designed to allow community members to strategize and discuss the ways in which they envision accommodating different heights and uses. Attendees were split into four tables of approximately five to six participants each, with an assigned City staff facilitator and note-taker to help guide attendees through the activity. The discussions were centred around envisioning where various densities might best fit to support the City’s future needs. Each table had one map and various blocks of different colours, asking attendees to place all blocks on the map with some rules outlining where they may go. Instructions displayed to attendees are outlined below.

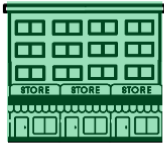
Blocks

- Each block reflects 4-storeys
- Blue blocks = Townhouses and multiplexes
- Yellow, orange, and red blocks = Apartments
- Green blocks = Mixed-use (apartments above businesses)
- Park and Self-storage tiles

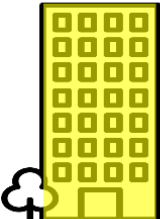
Townhouses and multiplexes



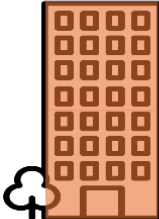
Mixed-use
(Apartments above businesses)



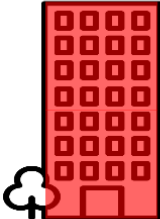
Apartments




Apartments



Apartments



Self Storage



Park


Figure 1 – Slideshow presentation shown to attendees delineating the block colours.



Rules

- You must place all blocks, and storage unit tile, on the map.
- Park squares are optional (use as many or little as you want).
- Blocks can be placed on the white and yellow areas of the map. **They cannot be placed on roads, schools, community centres and parks.**
- Blue blocks cannot be stacked (not on top or below).
- Yellow, orange, red and green blocks may be stacked.
- Green blocks must always be on the bottom (Cannot stack green on top of green).

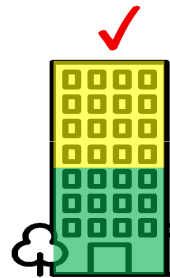


Figure 2 – Slideshow presentation shown to attendees outlining the activity rules.