

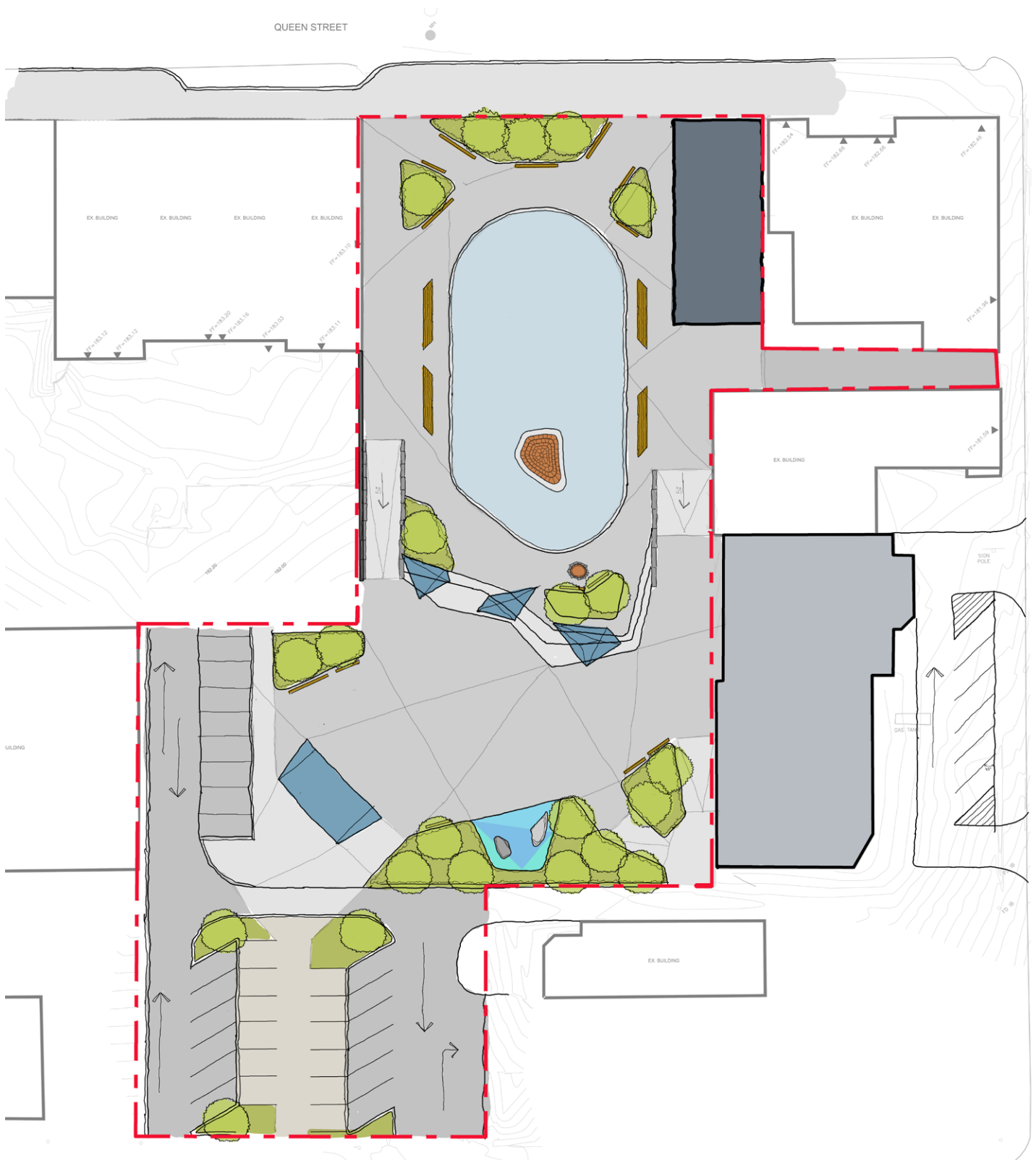
# Sault Ste. Marie Downtown Plaza **Consultation Summary**

November 25, 2020



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Conceptual Design of the Downtown Plaza

## Introduction

The Consultation Summary has been prepared by Brook McIlroy to summarize the feedback received at the consultation events held from September 28th to October 15th, 2020 for the Downtown Plaza project in Sault Ste. Marie.

The purpose of the consultation was to inform Council, the Downtown Association and the public about the Downtown Plaza project and its progress to date. The consultation approach provided an opportunity for the community to offer feedback and share their ideas for the space. The consultation method was to present background analysis, guiding design principles and the proposed conceptual design. Participants were also given the opportunity to pose questions to the design team and City Staff. All forms of engagement were held virtually due to COVID-19.

Four types of engagement occurred in the 2-week period. The Project Team:

1. Presented to Council;
2. Hosted a collaborative meeting with the Downtown Association;
3. Presented at two public meetings via Zoom; and,
4. Hosted an online survey for a two-week period.

Each consultation event has been summarized and are discussed in the following sections:

- A. Council Presentation
- B. Downtown Association
- C. Public Meeting
- D. Online Survey



*Council Presentation on Zoom on September 28, 2020*



*Project Objectives Presented to Council*



## Council Presentation

Colin Berman, Principal and Landscape Architect at Brook McIlroy presented at the Council meeting on September 28th 2020. Colin and Tom Vair, Deputy CAO, Community Development and Enterprise Services, were available post presentation to respond to any questions posed by the Council members.

The Mayor reinforced that this agenda item's purpose was to introduce the concept and provide a status update on the project, but that more consultation with the public and Indigenous groups would be conducted in the coming month.

"If you have a pulse in Sault Ste. Marie, you should be excited about this"— was one of the comments from City Council at the presentation about the design for the upcoming Civic Plaza. All Council members were in full support of the concepts and were excited about the development of the Downtown Plaza. Main concerns and questions posed after the presentation related to additional consultation methods, accessibility, and number of people the plaza can accommodate.

There was a question posed regarding the type of consultation that be held for the public, and what additional stakeholder groups would be involved in the process. Tom Vair clarified that there would be two public meetings held on Thursday October 1st, 2020 (one afternoon session and one evening session) for the public to participate in virtually, with breakout rooms as required for additional group discussions. A public survey was to be launched on October 1st to gain public feedback for two consecutive weeks, concluding on Friday October 16th. All project information as well as the survey link were to be posted on the project page, hosted on the City's website. In addition to general public feedback, meetings and presentations will be held with the Downtown Business Association.

Concerns involving the accessibility of the space were raised with regards to the unit pavers proposed for the majority of the site. Council was concerned with tripping hazards for mobility devices. The Project Team assured Council that the unit pavers chosen for the site will be large in size in order to reduce the number of joints, and that an accessible concrete walkway will be designed to ensure maximum accessibility. Colin Berman also made note that the site will be designed to accommodate accessible movement throughout the entire plaza, and that the ramps proposed will be below Ontario Building Code requirement of 5%.

Clarification on the number of people within the site was addressed. 2,500 people would be accommodated at the Downtown Plaza site, where approximately 4,000 people are able to fit within the Roberta Bondar Pavilion. The skating rink/skim is water can support approximate 200-300 people on a busy day, which is similar to the size and capacity of the Guelph Market Square (a comparable precedent for the project).

The budget for the Downtown Plaza was raised by Council and Tom Vair clarified that previously, the Plaza was budgeted at \$6.6 million. The City has applied for NOHFC and FedNor funding, and though there has not been a response to date, the City is hopeful that we will receive a positive response. In addition to government funding, the City is also looking at undertaking fundraising for the plaza. Both the external fundraising strategy and government funding would determine the final Plaza cost. The City clarified that the Project Team would share the fundraising strategy with Council along with the finalize concept and proposed budget.

A few concerns were raised regarding the safety, security, and possible vandalism within the Plaza. The Project Team explained that certain design elements will host an anti-graffiti coating, and robust materials will be proposed where a coating

cannot be applied. Metal and steel would be used over softer materials. The City responded to the possibility of additional security features (cameras, staffing, etc.) that may be incorporated as we progress through the design process.

The final comment was with regards to public art, and how this would be incorporate into the design. Much of the main public art element in demonstrated through an interactive lighting display. In addition, there are many blank canvases that front the plaza that could act as public. There are also various opportunities to have a standalone public art piece within the plaza, and the Project Team would consult with the City and public on the best procurement method for this piece.

Council and the Mayor are extremely encouraging about the project and expressed excitement about the positive impact the plaza will have for the Sault Ste. Marie community. The Project Team will report back to Council with additional design decisions and an updated budget.



## Downtown Association

The Project Team and City Staff met with the Downtown Association Board on Tuesday September 29th, 2020 via Zoom. Colin Berman of Brook McIlroy presented the design inspiration, background analysis and conceptual design to approximately 7 members.

Similar to the Council meeting, questions concerning safety and vandalism were posed. The Project Team will review methods of security to increase safety (cameras, security staffing, lighting, etc.). The City currently hires staff to patrol the waterfront trail at night, and this plaza could potentially be added to the boundary.

The potential of the unprogrammed space in the lower portion was discussed, and how the City plans to accommodate different events (seating, storage, permanent seating vs modular, etc.) It was discussed that the intent of this space was to be flexible to allow any type of event. The City (or any group) could take over the space and install temporary structures and seating to accommodate a range of activities (markets, yoga, movie nights, etc.).

To have increased users in the plaza, the Downtown Association would like to incorporate wi-fi and feel it would promote activity in the plaza for all ages. The City agreed that this would be an asset, and it is something that the Project Team will investigate for the final design.

Questions regarding the retail space/option of pop-ups was raised. The Downtown Association would like to encourage local shops to use the space and would like the opportunity for Retail Licenses within the plaza. The City agreed that this would be a benefit and highlighted the future Market Retail Shop currently being designed within the new Market Building on site. This would promote local shops and support the community even when the market is not running.

Enthusiasm was expressed for the Downtown plaza and an opinion was expressed that the BIA can and should assist the City in fundraising efforts for the project.

Finally, the Project Team addressed concerns regarding accessibility (drop-off locations, concrete walkways vs unit pavers, parking stalls), site furnishing (will this style match downtown furnishings, or independent), and opportunities for fundraising. These concerns were raised during the Council meeting, and the Project Team provided the same response to the Downtown Association. The City and the Project Team are interested in continuing to work with the Downtown Association on the plaza design and will be reaching out to specific business owners who are located adjacent to the plaza for targeted feedback.



*Conceptual Rendering of Winter Skating*

## Public Meeting

On Thursday October 1st, 2020, the Project Team held two virtual public meetings; the first at 12pm and the second at 7pm with approximately 18 people in attendance.

Generally, the consensus from the public was positive. Many community members spoke highly of the design and comments pertained mainly to more detailed aspects.

At the first public meeting, the Project Team was joined by Mr. Porco, the Machine Shop owner. Mr. Porco expressed his concern with the City spending money on a project very similar to the one he is currently building (skate pad, community hub). Mr. Porco highlighted that these projects should not be competing spaces. The Project Team expressed that both spaces would be an asset to the City and the City assured Tony that they would contact him directly to discuss this concern in more detail.

A community member felt the site would benefit from more greenery and vegetation, and felt the downtown was lacking greenery as a whole. As a part time resident, she always feels tied to nature when residing in the north and would like to see that reflected in the design. She also felt that this space would be ideal for public art. As an Artist, she felt that art was missing from Sault Ste Marie, and this space would be a great canvas for local artists. A suggested idea that the screen could be used to promote local art when not in use for events. “Is there a way we would be able to tie into what people think of when they think of the Soo (steel and hockey)? It would be important to play off the winter theme and promote what the City has to offer in the winter months”.

Another local resident, a member of Fringe North, commented on the possibility for buskers and performances in the space. He enjoyed the idea of an intimate space for performances and felt it would be beneficial to the Project Team to sit down with the Arts and Culture department to discuss specific event requirements in the space.

Many similar concerns were raised with regards to safety, security, lighting, parking, and accessibility. As previously mentioned, these are key design directives that will be incorporated into the final design.



## Sault Ste. Marie Downtown Civic Plaza

The City of Sault Ste. Marie is developing a plan for a Civic Plaza in the downtown core. It will be a four-season destination full of exciting activities for all ages and abilities.

Please review the conceptual design for the plaza on the next page and on the City's project website ([link here](#)), which also includes a video presentation by the design consultant.

Once you have reviewed the design, please complete the short survey and share your thoughts with us.

This bird's eye view of the plaza concept shows the two important elements of the project: the flexible gathering area and the skating rink / water feature next to Queen Street.

OK

0 of 5 answered 

*Online Survey Home Screen*

## Public Survey

The public survey was live for a two-week period, opening on October 1st and closed October 16th 2020. The survey opened with information about the design intent and inspiration for the conceptual design, followed by multiple renderings of the design.

emphasis on safety and security at nighttime. Many issues raised in the survey have been echoed throughout the consultation process, and the Project Team will work with the City to establish effective ways to address each issue.

The survey posed four major questions:

1. What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?
2. What could be improved about the design?
3. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?
4. Share any additional comments about the plaza

Over two hundred responses were received with the majority of the feedback being positive, with minimal concerns with the proposed design. Many respondents were interested in the outdoor concert area, multi-seasonal activities, the gathering and community hub, and general excitement for the investment in the downtown.

A few respondents would like to see additional parking on site and feel that on a busy market day or weekend, the parking lot will not be able to support the number of people wanting to enjoy the space. An emphasis on public parking lots within a 5-minute walking radius of the plaza will be important in promoting events and activity within the plaza.

Respondents also hope to see areas within the plaza for local food vendors, food trucks and retail shops. The design of the future market building will assist in addressing these concerns, as the market building will accommodate indoor seating, a retail shop and market vendors. There will be the opportunity to add movable tables and chairs adjacent to the market building to accommodate additional outdoor accessible seating in the warmer months.

Other areas of improvement include additional fire pits to increase winter activity, incorporation of additional green space and plantings, and an



**Appendix: Survey Responses**



What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
I like a number of the elements. However, for me, I think that the item that will/could have the most impact is the stage area and screen. I have travelled a lot through Europe, where each town/city has a town square or 'piazza'. Where/how I've seen these used the best, is when say there is a major soccer tournament (think World Cup or European Championship) - and then the screen is setup to view the game and thousands of people come to the square to view the game. I think this could be a major driver of people attending and so my only concern is whether (a) the proposed screen is big enough, and (b) whether there is enough space for enough people.	1. I don't really see any space or accommodation for say selling of beer, etc., or other similar type vendors. Depending on the event, this should be considered. 2. I don't think that the 5 (?) washrooms laid out in the building design are enough for large events. A suggestion - I was in Prague, at their 'Old Square' downtown one time during the European Championship for soccer. There was probably 10,000 people. To deal with the washroom issue, they simply brought in an '18-wheeler trailer' that was pre-setup with portable washrooms. One trailer for men and one trailer for women. When the event was done, they were able to quickly move the added capacity washrooms out and the square went back to its 'normal' washroom capacity. Perhaps you could consider having a space somewhere nearby the square - Bay St area? - where such a trailer could be brought in.	I think that having the square fringed by restaurants and cafes would be great. Again, back to the Europe examples - you'll find that lots of the squares there are surrounded by cafes/bars/restaurants. While I realize that you have constraints from the perspective of existing realty being owned by others, perhaps this could be taken into consideration as part of the longer term view to the area and its usage.	While I realize this feedback is supposed to be plaza specific, I didn't really see any real mention about how the plaza fits into the broader design for downtown. It would be good to understand, and communicate, how the plaza design and flow ties into other potential things - i.e. perhaps a pedestrian only area of Queen Street either permanently or temporarily for specific plaza events. Similarly, how does the plaza traffic flow tie into the new Bay Street elements and other waterfront elements, hub trail, etc.	31 to 64 years old
The entire concept The outdoor concert area	Not a thing parking	A place they serves beer a rock climbing wall	Looks good I dont think we need another skating rink. Anything else the city can provide instead?	31 to 64 years old 31 to 64 years old
10 weeks use (weather permitting ) in summer and 8 weeks use ( weather permitting) in winter..... 18 weeks use , 34 weeks empty... not the best design	indoor facility ...use the Sears or Walmart site at Station Mall ...save the mall with an anchor and have 12 month usage..	social gathering ? not thinking ....	Parking .... plaza has very little parking and with the Mill market moving next door there will be inadequate parking . Mill maket alone has 100 spaces where they are , you are looking at maybe 50 for the whole plaza ...?	65 years old or above
-Fountain that is used as a skating rink in winter. -Change rooms				
Right downtown I think a rink would be fun with the proper security in place	More parking spot Location not gret	Snack bar Food	More parking, please! Hope it can be affordable for everyone mainly those on a very tight budget	19 to 30 years old 31 to 64 years old
Roger Brooks is a genius.	More grass space	3 Busker pitches, small concrete circles with power. Picnic tables can sit on when not in use. Example, City of Edmonton downtown accross from City Hall, home to Edmonton Street performers festival, Jazz City, the Works	Lots of green space, picnic tsbled	65 years old or above
Open, modern and multi use. I'm mostly just thrilled with the idea of promoting a more outdoor and social lifestyle in the Soo.	Possibly integrate a small exercise area similar to near the art museum, or perhaps a bouldering (rock climbing) area.	Bouldering (low height rock climbing) or a small creative play area (non stereotypical playground or interactive sculptures)	Happy to see this coming up and hopefully coming to fruition.	31 to 64 years old
The ice rink.	Maybe a little on the large size. Maybe do a couple of phases to make sure the design and use catches on before spending so much.	No	Cost is too high.	31 to 64 years old
Family oriented All season gathering place.	I think there should be spots for food trucks or some sort of food you can buy. Sandwiches. Fries. Burgers. Ice cream. Got chocolate.	Food vendors	Everything looks great! Just my suggestion on possibly having food vendors	31 to 64 years old
Multi use to bring events all times of year	Parking	Outdoor work out equipment similar to clergue park	24 hr security considering additional places for drug use in the most heavily drug related part of town.	19 to 30 years old
Skating rink Looks good. Hope ice is artificially frozen for longer skating period (as in many cities). Glad to see washrooms close to Queen St.	More benches Would have to think about that. Bicycle racks? Hope the sound system is good and make sure lighting is esthically pleasing for all season lighting, especially during Christmas, Easter, Halloween etc.	Nope outdoor heatingunits/shelter i.e. a partially enclosed gazebo taking into consideration that the wind from the river/lake is often brutal	Nothing lights, lights, lights	19 to 30 years old 65 years old or above
I think it is extremely disappointing that the city is funding buildings for the Mill Market and not for the original Farmer's Market.	A waste of money for the downtown. To make the downtown vibrant again you need more businesses and better parking and not gouging for parking.	A waste of money especially with the pandemic going on and so many out of work.	What a waste, we are not in Southern Ontario, someone had a bright idea on how to waste more taxpayers' money. Our city taxes should not be going up almost 3% a year. No one gets a wage increase like that yearly.	Prefer not to say
Providing famy activities on the waterfront	The design duplicates and competes with existing attraction(s) the skating trail at Clergue Park and a private development at the Mill Market. Not ideal location, should be nearer waterfront or Bondar tent. This would be a better location for transit terminal.	Splash pad	Not a good concept, location or use of that space	31 to 64 years old
Connecting bay and queen	Way more shade and trees needed This place can be used as an area for downtown workers to eat their lunch outside but that only happens if there's protection from the sun	"THE SOO" lit up letter feature A single bike repair stand (pump/tool)	The water feature should just be a simple stream fountains. A couple spouts that grow and shrink in size. If the overspray gets in the way of benches and pathways people aren't going to use it on the regular	19 to 30 years old
It's open	Location- downtown needs major clean up	I don't know if people will go because of needles around the bondar pavilion. What will you do for this area? Security personnel?	Security and safety for kids	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
Nothing	You could spend the money where it is more urgently needed	No	How about we make it so our city stops flooding before wasting money on things like this	31 to 64 years old
It's visually pleasing.	More parking.	Somewhere to get warm food/drinks in winter. Cold drinks and icecream in summer.	Just doesn't seem like enough parking. Downtown already has this issue everywhere.	19 to 30 years old
everything, its great Nothing. This is a HUGE waste of money and would be much better spent elsewhere.	Scrap the entire project. Worry about working on fixing the real problems the residents of the Sault face rather than providing a new place to be vandalized and destroyed.	Nothing about this would draw myself or my family there. It's a dilapidated ghost town that is overrun by illegal activity and an overall unsafe place to be.	GET RID OF THIS ASAP!	31 to 64 years old
Its a great idea, A gathering place, but really another rink?	Honestly its hard to support a new project when the city doesn't finish other projects. So many halves. When will you build phase 2 of the skatepark instead of yet another rink?	SKATEPARK as in skateboarding not ice skating.	Again so hard to support this when other projects at a fraction of the cost are left lingering for years, decades!	31 to 64 years old
Looks inviting, open, modern.	More seating, greenspace like trees. Spots for outdoor vendors selling coffee/hot chocolate and food	A stage for various events, connection to hub trail. Bike parking. Public drinking fountains	Space should be eco friendly. Lots of living plants and trees	19 to 30 years old
The idea is community minded	Location	Walking track	Parking?	31 to 64 years old
I think it's good!	Skating.	I don't think so. Maybe a chip stand in the summer.	Can't wait.	19 to 30 years old
I really liked the design aspect of using steps/seating to consider the gradient. This will be a lovely change for our downtown. The spot is currently an underused parking lot.	The staging area looks a little sad and unwelcoming, especially in comparison with the design features/elements in the plaza otherwise	As Councillor Hilsinger mentioned, there is a severe lack of public art in Sault Ste. Marie. Having an art installation, interactive or not, would be a great draw for myself and my family.	It is difficult to see in the photos but the wood seating looked weathered. Can it be treated to further prevent this weathering?	31 to 64 years old
Very nice	Park playground area for kids or splash pad for summer months	Splash pad	Affordable food canteen....and place for pop up stores and vendors	31 to 64 years old
The skating rink.	I'm not sure.	Nothing comes to mind at this time		
outdoor open recreational space + modern design	adding either a heater or firepit and adding a gazebo shelter area	Either a modern art backdrop, neon lights sign, colourful design, or other photo opp.	Love the concept	31 to 64 years old
I like the rapid idea. Perhaps some historical posters taking about the importance of the rapids would add to the importance of the concept.	I like the farmers market. I hope the area that they can set up in will be protected from rain and wind. I have been to winter Christmas markets in Alberta that are half outdoor and half indoor and they are magical. So if we could provide that to vendors it could be a really fun value added experience.	It's pretty similar to what is already at the bondar tent. I think some indoor/outdoor market flex space for special events and markets (winter, Christmas, summer, moonlight, etc) would draw me there. Food will bring me there. Perhaps food truck area or some flex food spaces for locals to showcase their cultural food and or latest food endeavour would definitely get me to return over and over again.	Honestly it's a repeat of what we have already. It seems pretty similar to bondar tent, new rink is going up at Porco's, outdoor skate at library. Anytime I lived in a larger centre (Tokyo, London, Australia, Toronto, Calgary) what got me excited was food, nightlife, art markets, youthful vibe. Let's get some of that going. Families have a million places to go. Where do the people who enjoy being social go?	31 to 64 years old
Will be a nice place to gather.	More indigenous representation in the design and fulfilment given it was their land. Otherwise ensuring there is equal greenery and open space around the area, ie would be gorgeous at the empty harbourfront area where there was an old helipad, but may be over shadowed by the old hospital structure or industrial/aged parking lots and structures.	A dog park/off leash area fenced in by the water would bring a lot of folks and multi-activity outings to the waterfront	Hopefully the other rink downtown will be used as well. A little confused as to why there will be an additional skating rink when we already have the skating path out behind the mall, and another a bit further east, and the Grand Gardens open skating a few blocks away. Happy nonetheless to see progress and investment in downtown, but would much prefer to see investment in shops and restaurants along the harbourfront. Water and pond feature not really necessary when right beside fresh water.	19 to 30 years old
It's a place for a community to go.	I can't think of anything.	No	None	31 to 64 years old
Nothing, waste of money	Fix our roads first! We do not need a rink/ park until roads are fixed.	Where are people suppose to park? There is barely any parking now. Will there be ppl there every hour of every day picking up used needles & other drug paraphernalia?	FIX OUR ROADS FIRST!!!!	31 to 64 years old
I don't like it	Spend the tax payers money on areas of the city that need improvements, instead of building a new space			
Four seasons design	More trees/plants. Hard to get an idea in drawings	No	Looks great	31 to 64 years old
Outside ice rink	More nature	Summer roller rink	None	31 to 64 years old
Everything	Not sure.	No	It would be nice to have it acoustically designed so that concerts/live music can occur later in the evening without affecting the surrounding residences.	31 to 64 years old
Seems like a nice open concept design.	perhaps a bit too cluttered (?)	Canoe rentals? I've been here 2 years and perhaps I am just not aware of where to rent them in town. Most places seem out of town but I may just not know.	This is actually the first I am hearing about it because I moved to the west side so that's exiting!	31 to 64 years old
Nothing	At this point in time scrap it unless you can get rid of the druggies	no	We don't need another outdoor skating rink we need parking	65 years old or above
I don't. I think the money should be used as a deterrent for the excess criminal activity that is occurring in this city. More policing, courts serving harsher sentences.	It should be scrapped. It's not a place I would ever go to. This city is so unsafe in all neighborhoods.	None	Again I feel the money needs to be directed to making this city safer.	31 to 64 years old
Nothin	Where's the parking and where will the police be stationed	Staff that will Actually clean the areas unlike the other city facilities	Who's going to keep out the drug addicts	31 to 64 years old
the design				
Not much	Scale it down- see if people will use it	How about a vibrant downtown core- with cool cafes and local shops	It is too expensive for right now	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
The skating area	All is perfect	Biking	Amazing, I hope see this great project come true	31 to 64 years old
open, accessible, family oriented	outdoor shelter/warming station	quite well laid out	will there be any trendy/fun lighting? like old style bulbs, etc?	31 to 64 years old
Good	Add Heaters or fire pits	Food and drinks	Good	19 to 30 years old
I love how inviting it is. Great place for all to gather.	Shops around. Like a market or pop up stores. Gives people something to look at and spend some money locally.	Shops, food, stores	Love the idea and I think our downtown needs it. Thank you	31 to 64 years old
activities				
Very welcoming and family oriented	N/a	No sounds wonderful	N/a	31 to 64 years old
It's gorgeous - if it actually gets finished. And under budget. Or even at par.	Pare it down. Build it in affordable stages. Or wait until all the other stuff that needs to get done actually gets done.	Yes. Better roads. Crappy low- income homes fixed up. East end water fiasco put to bed. Residential public playgrounds maintained properly. Roads plowed for an entire winter before the money allocated runs out. Proper support in place for the addicted souls in this city that can't get any help getting clean because they aren't clean "long enough" on their own to deserve placement and support.	It's too soon. Our money needs to be spent on other things right now.	31 to 64 years old
Open, vibrant on sunny days.				
All season	Stage	Food and beverages	What equipment is included with the stage? Theatrical lighting? Lighting board installation? What capacity for providing sound amplification for musical acts, bands, theatrical performances and public presentations? What is the stage made of? Suitable for dancers? Is there an indoor area for performers? Private Dressing rooms? Storage?	31 to 64 years old
I like that it is close to the waterfront	Make room for food trucks and vendors!!!!	Food!!!!	Looking forward to a substantial commitment to bring things to the downtown core!!!!????	31 to 64 years old
That it is all season.				
That it is multi seasonal	Parking seems minimal. A lot of residents seem to rely on driving their car everywhere they go. Will this be a problem?	Gardens	Not sure if you have considered this but there needs to be a plan to manage the number of dogs allowed. I would suggest none. Many people are allergic to animals, afraid of animals or are not dog people. I don't want to have to be bothered by others dogs, dog fights or dog droppings. Please don't think that posting a sign saying dogs must be leashed will take care of the problem. It doesn't work in Bellevue Park so don't see why this area would be different. And it's a lot smaller.	31 to 64 years old
I like the idea of having a place where adults and kids can enjoy, also allowing the business to be involve	it could have a food court where the families can eat while enjoying the plaza	a food court and vendors place not and only for farmers market but someplace that includes other kinds of business and products. for example specialty foods, handmade decoration etc.	I cannot wait for having this in the city. we need more spaces to share with the family and the community	31 to 64 years old
Multi seasonal and a water feature	More seating	Room for outdoor games and green grass	I think it is a good. plant material needs to take into consideration the plantings already in the downtown and avoid a mono culture. They also need to be planted at the right spacing to avoid overcrowding. Overcrowding seems to be the architectural trend in the latest plantings downtown. That will not do us any favors in the long run.	31 to 64 years old
Nice design, what's the cost to taxpayers this time. Why not give us a rebate on property taxes instead of this.	Not building it and saving taxpayers money	We have lots of rinks already. Stop squandering tax payers money. No one wants this.	Save the tax revenue and fix a road.	19 to 30 years old
More places for activities	Space looks small, especially after covid we need to ensure people have sufficient space	Honestly I doubt I will use it as crowded areas are not for me. Especially when I can go out of town for the same thing. (Camping) and it doesn't take all of the city's budget	Please don't spend a lot of money on this. It's not worth it when we have an arena to use	19 to 30 years old
Openness	A larger outdoor market space - Covid has shown the importance of outdoor spaces and food accessibility.	Everything is there, assuming the stage can hold the symphony when it is allowed to start up again.	It looks like a great addition to the downtown.	31 to 64 years old
it's open and family friendly	n/a	coffee bar or snack bar of some kind	So nice to see more development downtown, sure hope it is monitored and has some security. I don't feel safe in our downtown lately.	31 to 64 years old
The skating rink	Better outdoor night lightning and "blue light" safety buttons for emergency uses	Accessible and FREE parking	Looks beautiful	19 to 30 years old
It's terrible	Cancel it altogether	No because this is a big waste of money	Quit wasting money. This is so ridiculous	31 to 64 years old
Layout	Hard to tell from pic	Food vendor	Good layout	65 years old or above
Gathering and sitting spot for downtown. Nice to have lunch or meet there.				
Good design				
Seems nice and open, like that it's a pedestrian only concept.	Hopefully the Algoma Farmers' Market is included in this benevolent funding.	Equitable distribution of funding to both farmers' markets that are in the city.	nothing to add	Prefer not to say
The openness of the design.	Maybe push the water/rink a bit farther away from Queen St.	I think the bonfires that were at the rink close to city hall were a hit along with Beaver Tails!	none	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
nothing	maybe money is better spent elsewhere, why dont we look at the HUNDREDS of issues we have in our downtown core, there is no support for local business with this. and if you think THIS will bring business downtown youre sorely mistaken	a plan to assist the businesses downtown. a plan to assist the people downtown with no homes and drug issues	not well thought out AND the machine shop is already doing it.	31 to 64 years old
The design beautifully accommodates the 6' elevation difference from Queen to Bay. A great linkage to waterfront. Very pedestrian friendly.	Bigger access to future Farmers Market.	Some sort of eatery.	Very impressive. Suggest good wayfinding signage to waterfront,CityHall,etc.	31 to 64 years old
To be honest nothing	the location needs to be reconsidered due to current activities that are occurring in that area with drugs use and vandalism	no. All of these ideas are not needed. We have sufficient enough outdoor rinks already in this city. All this other "extra" stuff is completely unnecessary	I believe that the money going to be wasted in this project could be better put to use fixing the issues already in this city. Trying to mask our problem by putting in something new and flashy will not make anything better. This city council needs to re evaluate and look at putting this money into the drug issues in this city as well as the other eye sores that could use work.	31 to 64 years old
Encompasses many ideas for use in one space	Make space for food vendors (perhaps this is part of the farmer's market?). Coffee, hot chocolate etc needs to be available for cold winter skating	Food vendors	NA	31 to 64 years old
I like that there is an integrated stage for performances	If you're going to have a performance stage, please consult with a professional sound design company (locally I'd consult George Ravlich from Crank Sound Distribution) to make sure that a permanent sound system is suitably selected and installed properly.	A regularly scheduled Concert Series, featuring local talent.	If you're going to have a performance stage, please consult with a professional sound design company (locally I'd consult George Ravlich from Crank Sound Distribution) to make sure that a permanent sound system is suitably selected and installed properly.	31 to 64 years old
Looks great.	Not sure	Snowshoe trail or fat bike trail	Design looks great but unless the homeless drug problems are taken care of first they will sleep there at night like on Queen St.	31 to 64 years old
More to do downtown will mean more people, more police presence, less drugs.	Sidewalk space	Affordable snacks and beverages.. The nearby Tim Hortons will be crazy.	Add video surveillance and more police to downtown	31 to 64 years old
I love that there is a rink/water park area	Do we need the metal fence around the entire area?	N/a	Looks great, looking forward to it	19 to 30 years old
Nothing...it is a waste of money. Your down town is full of drugs and thieves. Clean it up first. Everything your building we already have. You build this then those areas will become empty and abandoned. The downtown core is disgusting and needs to be cleaned up before building this. I am new to this city so I am a fresh set of eyes looking in. Which other city/town has a skating rink downtown?? There is a new one going up by the machine shop? And all the fancy lights? What for? To make it look pretty. Do not build this	The downtown area needs to be cleaned up first. Fix the drug and stealing issue first or this will be their new breeding ground or it will get vandalized. Look at Gore street...waste of money...how much money spent and it is ugly and abandoned. Because of the drugs and crime. This city has a huge problem they are ignoring	I would probably go here once with my family and never go back...what happens if it is a warm winter the rink will never open...there are already how many outdoor skating areas in this city...a better rink is being built blocks away?? I get you want people downtown but this is not the solution. Stop the drugs and crime and people will open stores and go downtown. People are afraid and if you think this will change that your wrong. It will be great at first then slowly fade away	It looks nice on paper but the drugs and crime downtown is insane. This is a bandaid fix. It will be nice and busy but it will slowly die. Do you think people will go down skating and spend money in stores? Clean up the downtown. Offer cheap rent to new store owners, better signage, more flowers, sweep the sidewalks. All the stores are closed on weekends? The downtown is not very inviting, lots of vacant shops, its dirty, druggies every where. Fix the small issues first then start to re build	31 to 64 years old
The idea is great but not the location	Location	Snack bar	The concept is great	31 to 64 years old
I think spending money on this would be a waste of taxpayer dollars	Don't so it	You already wasted money on Bay Street. Stop spending money you don't have	The downtown core needs to be cleaned up first before something like this happens	31 to 64 years old
Open concept, welcoming, in a good location	Have a few shelters set up for warmth in the winter...like shelters around the benches	Small shops	Design is good	19 to 30 years old
Available washrooms although with the city's drug problem - not sure how you will keep them safe	Not sure	Maybe food.. otherwise not sure	Free parking! The parking in our city is annoying	31 to 64 years old
Everything				
That is designed to be USED by the public... Not just another space,	not much... it looks like a lot of thought went into it..	pop up vendors?	Glad to see the city is FINALLY investing in the downtown..	31 to 64 years old
It seems like a nice design.	I'm not sure	Food trucks would be a great addition!	A big concern is location as the downtown core is becoming an unsafe area. Who will truly benefit from this plaza? Also, although there will be washrooms will they be open all the time? And what about security for the area? The downtown boardwalk : marina doesn't have the washrooms open for long periods of time, evenings etc so that would be a deterrent as all.	31 to 64 years old
Everything	Think about reducing insurance costs for vendors. No vendors if insurance is high. Also food truck spot and if you have food truck waste disposal program. Charge it in vendor fee. Washrooms for the public and biohazard waste disposal in them for diabetics and addicts.	mural area to feature local artists, and large enough to display movies from a projector.	If available to book for events then don't run events simultaneous at Bondar Pavillion and The Plaza. Also should have public name the plaza. Unless it's named for someone already.	31 to 64 years old
There is space for the market there.	Perhaps considering planting food plants or including natural play items for youngsters outside.	Outdoor book swap. Community building concepts.	Nice work	31 to 64 years old
It will bring life to the area, something to do with the family.	I think an area to feature local artist	Nothing that I can think of	It is a welcome addition to the city.	31 to 64 years old
multiple activities year-round	opportunities for public art could be enhanced	spaces for vendors to set up outside	a great design !	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
Beautiful design. Invites more pedestrian foot traffic into downtown core.	Would love to see opportunities for cafes and retail fronting onto the plaza.	Retail, cafes / lunch markets.	I love that it creates flow between Queen St. And Bay St. Proper lighting should make it inviting for both day and night. Would love to see more spaces like this connecting attractions downtown like the library, bushplane museum, station mall and arena that are pedestrian friendly.	31 to 64 years old
Modern, family friendly	Skate rental, food/drink vender, more green space	Hub trail access	I think this will be great for downtown. Food/drink vendors would help retain people downtown. The restaurants in the current area.. with have poor hours,limited seating,or not family friendly	31 to 64 years old
It's a great idea but not sure how safe it would be.	Nothing	A safe downtown.	Address the issues of downtown.	31 to 64 years old
The intent of bringing people together	Not my expertise	We have a lot of rinks already. This will be #4.	None	31 to 64 years old
I think it's good for kids to have more things to do in the city	I would want it to include more sensory play or educational play elements	Art	I think it's a good idea	19 to 30 years old
It has skating	Queen st is very noisy all year round. I would suggest some kind of sound deadening. Also I think their should be somewhere you can out food down to eat. Even if it's just a picnic table brought over from clergue park.	Beat the taggers to the punch and get some kind of mural up other than John's garage	None	31 to 64 years old
Nothing	Nothing because the money could be better spent in our community	Nope	Why are we spending 6 million on a plaza when it could be better spent in our community. We have huge mental health problems and sre in the middle of a pandemic yet this is what our city thinks is good to spend the money on.	19 to 30 years old
Water play	No skating rink. The one at clergue will be close and it's beautiful on the water front	Market	None	31 to 64 years old
It's a lovely idea overall but seems shortsighted in the face of an opioid epidemic and global pandemic. I.e. as a priority, it seems too high on the list. Could this be rolled out in conjunction with social programs to support addicts and expanded affordable housing?	Could this be rolled out in conjunction with social programs to support addicts and expanded affordable housing?	It sounds well planned as an family/public entertainment concept	Again, lovely concept, but this city should have other priorities. if serious social issues are addressed concurrently, it would really be something worth celebrating- and somewhere to celebrate.	31 to 64 years old
It's great to have more gathering places in the downtown core. Provided that once these spaces have been built, that there be some kind of organization or programming to ensure there is always something going on. Not another dead space.Events bring people downtown, bring customers to local businesses and money into the economy. This could be something great.	Looks good as long as there is enough room for people to walk around as well.	There should be a few spaces dedicated for food vendors as well.	Great concept. Would love to see more of these spaces throughout the community.	19 to 30 years old
Meh				
It looks modern	More washrooms	No	Make sure the parking is big enough for plenty automobiles	31 to 64 years old
Natural elements, fire pit, farmers market, stage				
Aesthetically pleasing	Not sure	Water fountain like in a piazza	It would be great if it connected to the hub trail and boardwalk area easily	31 to 64 years old
The multiple public features, and public washrooms.	Add multiple drinking water fountains and bottle filling stations	Free Drinking water fountains. Also, and area for food trucks to sell items! It would be nice to grab as food and sit and enjoy the new space. But a free water fountain is vital A greenhouse space such as Belleview park would be wonderful. It offers something nice to look at, and a warm inviting space in the winter For the winter, it would be nice to have a warming station and hot chocolate hut.	.	31 to 64 years old
I like that it will be able to be used through all 4 seasons	The seating around the rink	Heating areas to get warm in the winter	I hope this works out. I think it is a great investment for our city!	31 to 64 years old
Central, downtown. Open air, multi-purpose.	More green.	Facilitating food (licensed temporary vendors?). Kiosks for other vendors linked to market.	Great idea. Please make sure there is adequate provision of proper bike racks (like new one on Bay) at the plaza and all down adjacent Queen Street from East to Gore.	31 to 64 years old
Nothing. Who is using this...crack heads	Nothing scrap it	Shopping. We need places to shop..and not expensive local shops no one can afford	Waste of my tax dollars. We need things to bring in tourists and no one is coming to the soo for this. When we were closed it was2 hr wait to get into walmart. We need more places to buy things when we r closed again. Bring big name places to shop	31 to 64 years old
It's design with 4 seasons usage in mind.	The design could use more overhead protection, usage for protection during inclement weather and protection for vendors usage during events held in the square.	I like the idea of screens for stage usage but led screens could also be used for the lighting and focal points with possible advertising revenue during non event times. The new scoreboard at the Gardens shows how far the technology has come and the possible uses on something like a clock tower etc. in the park.	This would be the perfect open space for some civic pride, the photo op for tourists to check in to, that lit sign or wall that says "I'm in Sault Ste. MarieCA"	31 to 64 years old
Creates more pedestrian areas downtown				
Everything	Nothing Everything looks good	Stores multicultural Food vendors	Food vendors and souvenirs store	31 to 64 years old
Not much	A different location	Beer gardens	Not enough people to utilize it properly or enough. Just like the gardens. Will be a slow bleed on the cities money	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
It will bring people to the downtown core, stimulating necessary growth				
I like the community aspects, attractions for all ages. Year-round activities.	There is an existing farmer's market at Bondar pavilion less than 1km away and a skating trail across the street. It seems like a lot of overlap in services.	No. I do like that there are change rooms and possibility of skate rentals though.	There is an existing farmer's market at Bondar pavilion less than 1km away and a skating trail across the street from the proposed plaza site. It seems like a lot of overlap in services. I also have a great deal of concern about the plaza being used as a place to sleep by our growing homeless population, and very concerned about the likelihood of there being drug use on site and substance use paraphernalia left onsite. I struggle to feel confident families will feel safe and comfortable bringing their families here.	31 to 64 years old
Every aspect	Nothing	No	Looking forward to taking my family here!	31 to 64 years old
The outdoor performance space and the skating area	Nothing from what I could see	Perhaps a space for local vendors	Looking good!	31 to 64 years old
All Looks good.	Na			
The rink				
There isn't enough parking downtown already, where are people who use the plaza, going to park? Much of the parking downtown are private lots, with owners already having to write tickets for those illegally parking. Where do you plan to build the new parking lot, as this plaza is taking away downtown parking?	Nothing really, other than you are taking away parking to build it.	I don't think my family will be drawn to this as there is a public ice rink at the arena near my home. I wouldn't drive downtown for this, when my neighbourhood has a rink that's close to my home.	How do you plan to protect this new plaza from crime and vandalism? For example, the "green space" on Gore Street is beautiful, yet is the now the hangout for persons who struggle with addictions. We have 2 methadone clinics on Queen Street. People hang out and vandalize property now. What measures will be put in place to protect this investment?	31 to 64 years old
It is recreation focused, central downtown, and will promote community.	I think there needs to be considerations that ice skating is not an accessible sport. Unless you are going to have a program where underprivileged folks can rent skates for free, this is not an inclusive sport to be the main focus. A basketball court should be included & there should be a recreation activity available that is accessible to folks with disabilities too.	Market type local vendors, mental health and addictions programming that is recreation based, accessible activities/spaces, a basketball net (so badly needed downtown), live music.	I support this initiative but please think about how our vulnerable populations will access the space and programs. Not everyone has the luxury of owning skates and this is a major focus of the design. There needs to be thought that goes into how to make skates accessible to anyone who may want to try - especially those with disabilities and what will be offered to those who may be wheelchair bound.	19 to 30 years old
4 seasons, Canadian elements	music system	food concession	video cameras to limit crime	65 years old or above
everything about the plaza except the skating rink	find something other than a skating rink....the rest is fine	no	honestly I think the site should wait and use these funds for mental health and addiction problems. I love the idea but it is not the time. Just look on the streets. we need more funds funneled into our inner city problems	65 years old or above
everything. This is a great thing for our city and downtown. Very forward thinking and a great way to link the downtown to our beautiful waterfront	an area for evening music performances	no	I like this idea. Maybe adding ponds with small rivers connecting it would be great	31 to 64 years old
Fire pit	Larger space for audience/stage	Farmers market, cafe, tables (in addition to the seating, having places to eat, play a game, meet)	Disappointed to see it shrink in size from the initial proposals	31 to 64 years old
Open and light/ moves from Queen Street to Bay Street	If the Mill Market is moved there then a building at least the size of the current building needs to go there. Very important for the in climate weather and to be available all 4 seasons, otherwise doesn't make sense to close current Mill Market site. Also would need to make sure that there was adequate parking for the market - the current parking lot there is usually over-full. Doesn't look to me from the plan or from the presentation at the last council meeting that there will be adequate space for it. The little bit of space outside is not adequate for what the market has become. A big draw pre-COVID-19.	A proper farmers' market/artisan market as currently exists in the Mill Market.	Looks lovely. Unfortunately that part of town has become quite unsafe especially in the evening and early nighttime hours. Would definitely need to up security and police presence. Not sure that I would want my teens going down there on their own. I do not feel comfortable going down there myself now even though I used to live in that area of Queen Street when I was a young adult - the vibe has definitely changed, and not for the better.	65 years old or above
Has a great flow , multi level , modern , clean lines	We desperately need more green space downtown , more flowers , more grass , trees - needs to have more accessibility , the ramping is nice, but it would be better to have more access all around	Portable seating , standardized hanging for decor and banners , ( eyelits abd wire time hang holiday banners or special event banners ) speaker and sound systems , soft ground space to be used for fitness classes , a play area ( slide swings etc ) for young children	Na	19 to 30 years old
The fact that it connect Queen to Bay and continues on to the river.	Remove the Tim Hortons for more openness.	Hope there are lots of gardens and trees that our talented Parks employees create.	A great city needs a lot of attractive public space. This seems to be gaining traction with our elected and administrative powers that be.	65 years old or above
It is 4 season use and multipurpose	not sure	Does this include the space the city was considering for pop-up markets?	It is wonderful and will be a valuable and well used addition to our downtown	31 to 64 years old
will bring people back downtown safe lighting	nothing	no, as the plan seems quite complete	very professional and well thought out and designed kudos	Prefer not to say
Great thinking--gives a fresh vision that should boost the tired downtown area. Gives a reason to go downtown.	Difficult to tell at this point	A stage. etc., for live music, plays?	Hope the momentum continues.	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
The space can accommodate a variety of activities. Like the fact there will be a market area.	Have some kind of food or coffee outlet and outdoor patio tables and chairs with umbrellas for staying and people watching - like a European square or Lonsdale Quay in North Vancouver - see pic of Tap and Barrel where people can sit outside at a patio table and watch their kids in the play pool. <a href="https://www.instagram.com/p/B9Vd51PB5jh/">https://www.instagram.com/p/B9Vd51PB5jh/</a> Have an enclosed food area for winter gathering to watch the skating. The point is to make it a vibrant people place when no special activities are happening, a craft or art sale/display area - possibly in the market area - not just all vegetables for sale.	food and people watching - outdoor patio area and food court with a glass wall to the outside for winter.	Don't make it too barren and sterile. Make it a place people would like to check out at any time - arts and crafts booths, displays, food	65 years old or above
it would clean up the property	The design reproduces facilities and features which are already available in abundance in our city. Lower cost options and new ideas should be explored.	no	outdoor event space, water play area, outdoor skating - these are all things our city already has. In remembering annually increasing municipal assessments, our city's limited tax dollars should not be used to support this unnecessary development, but rather for maintaining and better utilizing the exceptional features we already have.	31 to 64 years old
It will be a reason to go downtown in the evening. With this maybe some stores will stay open later. The lighting gives it a bright safe space. A public washroom is nice.	Not sure. It seems to have flexibility built into the design for future uses.	Pop up markets, but this is sort of in the plan. Going to other cities they have these arts and crafts vendors on various weekends and they are always very busy.	I like the design. I think it is a good thing for the downtown and the city. When the Bondar tent was constructed I wasn't sure how much it would actually get used, but it is used for a lot of events and it is very recognizable. I think this plaza will be the same.	31 to 64 years old
the overall design and the proposed lighting	not sure at this stage	an area for food trucks	no	31 to 64 years old
Greenery	Remove the splash pad/skating rink - include parking	Parking	if the city wishes to build a white elephant on Queen Street this is probably as good as any design.	65 years old or above
Everything. Cant wait!	not sure	No	Where will security posts be? Going to need it. Especially if OATC remains in its current vacation. As it stands, I would be afraid to go to this plaza with my 2 small children.	31 to 64 years old
Great for families.	I am finding it difficult to visualize. I would need more information about it before I could suggest any improvements.	A few different food courts would be good to have for the families that go there.	I would like to know where between Queen and Bay it would be built? Also, what is the size of the rink? If you build this rink would you still have the outside rink you had near the library still. I believe it was quite popular. Also, what did you mean by a water feature,.....would that be another splash pad? Will there be enough shade for hot summer days and enough seating? Where would people park? Would there be a charge/cost to use it or is it free? It probably would be a good idea to have city buses stop there on both Queen Street and Bay Street. Would this facility have certain hours that it would open or close? After this survey is received, it would be great to have all of the questions answered and put on-line. Have similar plaza's like this been already built in other cities? It would be very helpful for the people of the Soo to see videos of them. That way, you would all receive people's input about what they like and don't like and how to improve it. Thank you.	65 years old or above
I like that the spaces are different in the winter and summer months to account for the changing seasons. I love the theatre space for live events. I like the green trees and vegetation added into the space. I like the location, since I believe our downtown has a lot of potential. I like the market for local produce.	There could be a downtown event board where local businesses can advertise upcoming events downtown. There could be more seating around the bonfire, and more than one bonfire. There could be local cuisine available for purchase.	As mentioned, more bonfire spaces or a larger space for the bonfire would be great. Also, as mentioned, places to purchase local cuisine would be great. I love the idea of live music, or live theatre, poetry readings, and such. Also, live outdoor yoga classes would be great!	I think this will be a great addition to our downtown!	31 to 64 years old
Adding trees to the downtown				
everything	love it all	food beverage vendors	awesome hope it happens	31 to 64 years old
right direction	there is no integration with private sector. no designated commercial space to monetize the area. same issue with the board walk .. tourists can't spend money and contribute economically	buy things, e.g., cafe / hot chocolate.	again the city is failing to partner with private sector to leverage private funds and investment ... or consider linking the different areas to bring together a fractured downtown ... many good investments and efforts downtown (public and private), but it is all fractured in different areas instead of leveraging / building on investments to make the sum greater than the parts. e.g., mill market, splash pad, gore street, skating trail ... no connection and possible competition between everything ... I don't understand this continued disregard to partner / leverage private investors with an overall grand plan ... it all seems very piecemeal acting on individual ideas as they come up.	31 to 64 years old



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It looks nice but in the wrong part of town sorry but the downtown is not somewhere I will go	location	I dont think any activity will be safe in this area	why do we have to waste money on things that I dont feel are well thought out. This area is not safe. I see this will be a nice tenting area for our homeless. I wish you would use this money to first help the homeless. I am not sure why anyone would think this will work. Bad Bad idea sorry	31 to 64 years old
Downtown location/ease of access; contemporary design; reflection of city location elements	What about sound system for music, announcements. Needs to be better than other Civic facilities to be effective/useful/contribute to experience.	There's no reference to community group involvement and programming so difficult to comment - Mini plays? Music events (sound system needs)? Amount of seating (lots?) will dictate budget to hire performing talent. Engagement of those equipped to program the centre/facility and those who can promote it will help ensure success and prevent creating another - under utilized - Bondar Pavillion.	Wind curtains were an after thought at Bondar Pavillion. Design should ensure appropriate shelter features.	65 years old or above
nothing, it's a waste of taxpayer money	scrap it, it's a waste of taxpayer money	nobody will use this white elephant except the drug addicts, it's a waste of taxpayer money	DON'T DO IT	65 years old or above
Outdoor activities	Need safe secure place to lock up bicycles with security cameras. More ppl would bike if they weren't afraid of bike being stolen	Must have a good concert space. We need more live music here. Have to attract big names or we're just wasting money.	Should have lots of natural features and elements. Maybe a special area that attracts birds and butterflies	31 to 64 years old
A positive addition for the downtown area which will help bring people downtown on a more consistent basis	Perhaps some type of food or drink available - although we do have many great restaurants nearby. Maybe hot cocolate/coffee or an ice cream vendor	Some type of food/drink service, like a food truck or ice cream/gelato stand. A small information centre/board highlighting what other businesses and offerings are available in the downtown area close by and within walking distance. Patios nearby and their hours of operation, yoga studios, shopping, special events etc.	Very exciting addition to the downtown!	31 to 64 years old
I love the water feature for children	it might be beneficial to have bike racks for people to park their bikes	chess tables?	it is exciting to be looking forward to a space that will be available to all and inclusive for everyone - great progress	31 to 64 years old
Nothing it is unnecessary	not make it	just stop	you're wasting your time	31 to 64 years old
I like the stage and seating! I like the open flow.	more for those who don't skate	Perhaps a Cafe or space for a food truck! A walking path that winds through and attaches to the rest of the trail system down town! Trees that can be lit in the winter would bring people.	Excited to see downtown revitalized! Hoping the area where the mall is can also be opened up to highlight the beauty of the waterfront.	31 to 64 years old
Rink, even with other rinks in vicinity; use of rink space as dancing space in warm season (think free dance lessons with live music as experienced in other cities!) stage, fire pit, and play space. Also happy to hear that mill mkt plans to relocate close by	Year round food vendor, parking discuss accessibility of site, versatility for events, parking, parking for food trucks or food vendors, flexible space for pop ups, licensed patio/licensed event capability	I think I listed them previously, not knowing I'd have the chance to here! Other things to consider: skate rental/shop, bike rental	I like the design but fail to get a sense for the size of it! I'll look into it further!	31 to 64 years old
The skating rink and public washrooms access, space for entertainment and light business				
That it's downtown. That it will offer year round activities. It will beautify our landscape. It will modernize our community.	n/a	n/a	n/a	31 to 64 years old
Variety of gathering areas	Smaller pond	We already gave a skate park, it would be nice to get different activities down there. Tennis, shuffleboard etc	No skate park + built in seating options	19 to 30 years old
Open	Vendors? Like on the canal in ottawa	Instagram stations/spot for pictures #SSM or something of that nature	.	31 to 64 years old
Looks beautiful if was in a bigger area	Move to Mill Market area	Not safe in downtown core - would not use in evenings	Love the concept, beautiful design but strongly feel wrong location. Bus terminal moving to Mill Market area, mire parking, easier access for those that use transit.	31 to 64 years old
It's a nice idea	Seems like it may be a small area for the amount of ideas being added into the design	A section for local food trucks to add their business for events/gatherings	What a great idea to add to ssm	31 to 64 years old
Looks nice	On the plans.... I wish the other buildings were labeled I had a better idea on exactly where between bay and Queen St e	Some park structures would be great for the active children	None at the moment	31 to 64 years old
Market and modern outdoor space	Get rid of the splash pad	Market	N/a	31 to 64 years old
I like the variety of things going into the plaza	THere doesn't seem to be a barrier (fence) of some type between the drive-thru and the space.	No	none	31 to 64 years old
Love it!				
Skating rink / water feature	More green space	No	What is to stop vandalism and lowlifes from hanging around there	31 to 64 years old
Farmers market	More seating available	Food/refreshment vendor space for events going on	Should be an area for security especially at events	31 to 64 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
That it will allow for activities all year round	Allow more opportunities for artists/vendors to set up ... create a vendors alley	Vendors alley for artists/local artisans to display and sell their work. Food stands should be considered/allowed.	Security needs to be a priority, programming it needs to be a priority, live music, community organizations should be invited to help program it, use it for food festivals, market the heck out of it, love this project! Artisan alley should be a part of it as artisans are starved for venues to sell their work, fitness facilities can help program it ...eg outdoor yoga, circuit classes etc, climbing wall, aerial games make it all ages friendly, food and bar options should be a part of it, regular concerts	31 to 64 years old
The design elements and the fact that the rink is designed for family skate, not hockey.	Parking closer to queen street and the change room building. Some families will be toting bags of equipment across uneven ground to get to the building.	24 hour security on premises. There is a significant safety concern of drug use and paraphernalia left in this area on a regular basis. I have concerns that without 24 hour surveillance the drug use activity will increase in this space. Bodily elements in the splash of, needles in the green spaces/ snow.	I believe the concept is beautiful and design elements will be a welcome addition to the area landscape. But no matter how beautiful something is, if it is not functional...it will fail.	31 to 64 years old
Media Screen, Water feature, access to future market, greenery	there are already too many skating rinks in the downtown area. limited parking (especially when the farmers market is there).	Creative art sculptures, creative benches (not just standard benches)	I would worry about traffic from Tim Hortons drive-thru so ensuring there is some sort of blockade to protect park goers. I imagine much of the parking would be taken up by their customers and the neighbouring businesses customers. So parking would likely be an issue especially if the Mill Market is put there in the future.	31 to 64 years old
I love the location and how central it is to downtown. I can picture skating in the winter and then stopping by a downtown restaurant for something warm to drink afterwards.	There was nothing I could think of to change.	If I bring my kids there in the summer, I would likely bike there. A safe place to park my bike while the kids play would be great.	This is a great investment by the City and I look forward to using it with my family!	31 to 64 years old
love the multifunctional aspect, love the beauty of the design that will entice people to utilize the plaza & come together, a cool place to 'hang out'	Public art! Many may not view the lighting as art. As Ms Hilsinger mentioned there is little public art in the Soo, so adding say a decorative screen or mural would be nice	possible pop up boutiques or people selling their wares	Really proud to see this move forward and would love to contribute if possible with time, funds or work	31 to 64 years old
I think we need to have a skating rink and splashpad in the centre of our downtown business district.	Make it more attractive to senior citizen access and use.	No	Far too complex and costly at this time when the city has many CRITICAL needs such as housing for the homeless more seniors long term care and homecare services and more staffing throughout our healthcare system.	65 years old or above
The concept has a lot of pluses of activity driven family outings	The improvement of design could be enhanced but incorporating small business outside of the farmers market. The downtown needs to be revitalized as it has already started to shape with new roadways and bike paths. A great compliment would be creating space weather in new hub or surrounding area for local businesses so we can build on shop local campaign.	Local business being involved. It's great for activities but would like to see more pop ups. Also where do patrons park my belief is to rid downtown of parking meters. My question I guess would be what if we placed parking meters where major box stores were what would effect be. So why do we take and affect our own small business. This will be a factor.	Parking, incorporate small business pop ups along side farmers market, but design does look promising	31 to 64 years old
It brings together existing ideas in one accessible area.	I think it's best to keep play areas further from business areas for deliberate visits, otherwise some parents might avoid the place altogether. After shopping, most parents are tired and want to go home, which is difficult if the children are refusing because they've already spotted and just begun climbing a play structure.	The plans mentioned a fire pit, and I'd just like to suggest building an arbour around it for days when wind and/or precipitation might be an issue. Sault College and Algoma U, for example, have fire arbours for ceremonial purposes, and store wood under their seating areas.	I like that instead of working to flatten the whole area, designers used some of the already existing elevations to create the two rooms. It means less time tearing up the place!	19 to 30 years old
Nothing	Scrape it	Shopping. We need more places to shop not a skating rink in crack town	Waste of tax payers money. Bring businesses to town. A skating rink won't bring money to our city. We need people to travel here...a skating rink won't bring anyone	31 to 64 years old
Nice idea to have a plaza however wrong location and we already have a splash pad and new downtown ice facility at old St. Marys Paper.	Just make a park/green space there for families. Do not reproduce what we already have. We have the tent theatre, a water park at Bellvue and rink at Esposito park and old St Mary's	Not at that location	Should have a larger facility and multi concept facility at current Station Mall location which includes: A Fur Trade Post recreation, native arts and crafts, mill market, Fish and tackle shop, guided fishing tours, lazy river/canal system around Fur trade post that allows kayak, canoe lessons in the summer and a skating canal in the winter. This would access, tourism, local culture, First Nations Education for all and promote the local fishing activities and produce	31 to 64 years old
The rink is a great idea but why not create an oval rink with the centre area used in the summer for the splash pad activities.	See answer in question 1 of survey.	I'd like to see provisions made for outdoor cafes, restaurants etc.	This has to happen sooner than later as I live close to the downtown area and am seeing a severe deterioration of our downtown core. What ever is built will have to be policed as to keep it safe for all visitors.	65 years old or above
A way to get children back in the downtown core after very poor planning pulled the schools from downtown.	Although the design looks to be appealing. Conceptually the downtown core is still overridden with drug users and dangerous people. I will not bring my kids downtown for this reason.	Biohazard disposal bins	None	19 to 30 years old

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
Open space. The skating rink	Dump the splash pad, which will discourage older people from gathering there. More open space could be useful in the summer for gathering and smaller events, especially those linked to events on Queen Street.	Public spaces in European cities usually have restaurants or cafes. It would be nice to have some food and drink here.	It's hugely over-organized. Too many permanent attractions that greatly reduce the flexibility that would allow multiple and varied uses of parts or all of the stage. For example, it would make a great site for Poutinefest but they'd have to work around water features, a stage and a zamboni garage.	65 years old or above
I like the splash pad/skating rink and the added greenery.	From the design there appears to be few shaded sitting areas that surround the splash pad.	I can not think of any other activities at this time. The skating rink/water feature would be a big draw for my family.	I do not have any additional comments at this time.	19 to 30 years old
Thoughtfulness of design elements mimicking local geological features. Water features are amazing for kids - as is the skating rink.	It looks good to me.	I'm not sure if they're already included but drinking fountains are always a plus and draw me places when I'm out for a walk.	It looks great!	31 to 64 years old
That it is downtown, central and near bus stops.	Don't understand the firepit and why no real seating around it or purpose and safety with people in the plaza. Not sure we need another skating rink to compete with the Mill Market. Is there a stage for entertainment with decent sound system and comfortable seating when needed? Will the Farmer's Market have character and room and parking like the buildings near the Mill Market?	Don't skate so wouldn't draw me there in winter. What foods would be available other than Tim Horton's next door? Maybe some unique cuisine or attraction e. g. the Beaver Tail shop at the Bondar Pavillion.	Looks like too much jammed in a small spot with little parking. I like the Farmer's Market 2 locations as they are both close together. The one at Mill Market has character and fits in with what the Mill Market is doing to promote tourism in the city. Don't need to compete with them with another skating rink.	65 years old or above
the idea	show how the farmers market integrates into the space	places to lock up bicycles	the space could use lots of trees and vegetation	31 to 64 years old
The skating rink looks amazing Lots of seating is important.	For fire pits, is there a place for wood storage or hanging out?	Not that I can think of.	Would the rink be under-cooled? Would be a good idea to extend the season for skating overall.	31 to 64 years old
I love it. Very exciting mix of amenities for all season. Very good human scale and re-purposing a parking lot.	Nothing comes to mind.	Is there a public water fountain planned as well?	I am really supportive of this design.	31 to 64 years old
encourages activity downtown	no overhead wires on Bay St.!! Have an opportunity for small vendors to be able to set up booths on site -think of the Brewery district in Toronto where there are small vendor huts - those huts add something to the experience	3 or 4 outdoor chess tables	Good idea whose time is long overdue.	31 to 64 years old
Not much	Waste of money....nobody goes downtown	No	I think this is a waste of taxpayers money. Did we even get a chance to voice our opinion before the properties were bought?	31 to 64 years old
Rink	Year round ice.	Year round ice skating.	Need security	31 to 64 years old
Concept great. location terrible.	Move it away from the dreaded downtown area.	No	Relocate it to a safer area. Would never visit it.	Prefer not to say
I like the concept of making downtown a more vibrant space. It often seems like a ghost town when I visit the area during evenings and weekends. Late at night it is an area to be avoided.	eliminate the fire pit. eliminate portions which compete with private sector ... market building, farmers market area - private sector players are already providing these. eliminate unit pavers for accessibility/trip hazards. better integration with existing commercial developments. embrace tim hortons ... many plaza patrons will be going there anyway, so build in access instead of making it more difficult. move play area and the future market door away from the tim's drive-through. relocate or adjust the mech/change room building ... it's blocking too much of the plaza frontage - open this up and it will appear much more inviting from Queen Street.	no additional activities	Lighting design is too complex. Make lighting more traditional . no fancy in-ground lighting, keep it simple with post mounted lights and possibly overhead string lighting seasonally. I don't like the concept sketches for the mech/change room building. Vending area blocks view from the ice surface into the change area. washroom layout produces a large blind area/corridor - keep sight lines open - think parents/kids. Understanding that the survey is primarily intended to solicit comments regarding design, a commentary on the impetus for the project may be relevant. Although downtown revitalization is important and needed, the development proposed seems more like a politician's dream of a legacy project and the funds for it can be better spent elsewhere. Private sector players are currently providing and/or developing facilities for many of the proposed plaza activities - and they are paying taxes. Politicians in the meantime are cancelling or scaling back on projects involving more critical infrastructure such as needed McMeeken arena upgrades, roads, upkeep of existing facilities, etc. For some reason, this project appears to be taking on a priority among council and/or staff when they should be concentrating on other existing challenges. The space should be dressed up a bit with a limited budget (less than \$200k)- it could accommodate farmers markets quite easily, as well as a portable bandshell/stage on occasion. The capital budget, as well as the ongoing operations/maintenance costs for the proposed plaza would be more responsibly spent addressing other current needs.	31 to 64 years old
It's spacious and lots of different areas without being too much	Maybe adding a small building/kiosk for summer lemonade sales / winter hot chocolates	Bike parking !	Great job, thrilled with the plan! Go SSM!	31 to 64 years old
Nothing	Not spending a dime	Area looks too small to add much , looks like your going to need much more space than there is	Hoping there's going to be a great turn out doesn't seem to be as many kids around as there use to be , surveillance cameras all over will be a bonus , and security measures added	19 to 30 years old
Open spaces and a variety of activities for all ages; visually appealing	extend further south of Bay St. to bring in the river and marina	live street or stage performances programmed on a regular schedule like what has occurred along Queen Street during street closures; very popular	an excellent addition to a healthy downtown; well worth the effort and expense,	65 years old or above

What do you like about the concept design for the plaza?	What could be improved about the design?	The concept plan includes several elements, including a skating rink/water feature, public washrooms, a skate change room, a flexible gathering/event area, a stage and screen, a play zone, and lots of seating. Are there any additional activities not included in the current plan that would draw you and your family or friends to the plaza?	Please share any additional comments about the plaza design.	Please specify your age group.
It's something different and has a stage for events	Include a misting station to keep people cool in the summer and a water bottle refilling station to reduce waste	Splash pad.	Please include proper PA equipment and. Account for acoustics.	31 to 64 years old
The rink and splash pad sound like a good idea. Downtown needs something pretty and this design is exactly that.	I'm a little worried about parking.	Little eateries and interesting food options. Maybe some different cultures of food coming together. Use our new found diversity to continue the growth of our city as multicultural.	I would like to ensure that there will be security on site. My one concern is that it becomes a meeting ground for the troubled people in the downtown area.	31 to 64 years old
welcoming to tourists and locals	needs more info as to where it will be located beside queen and bay	equipment for seniors or adults to work out, like those seen at some nursing homes	brilliant idea,however downtown needs to be cleaned up, no one will want to use it if it is unsafe due to current downtown issues with drugs and crime	31 to 64 years old
Everything . I think it's fantastic. Always looking for sometime to do with my kids down , as I live right down . So glad I won't have to bus or walk far to do something with them	I don't know anything about design :)	Hopefully there's lots for young toddlers , so they can have fun too	Great idea . Can't wait till it's all ready	31 to 64 years old
seems like a good size and lots of seating for people	i saw one option for a fire pit, would there be more heating spots?	cool lights sculptures (art element)	na	31 to 64 years old
Including outdoor rink and areas for event tents	Consideration of temporary structures. Upgrade to mapping buildings and projectors to eliminate the need for a "movie screen"?	Public Art	Artists or designers should be commissioned at least as consultants for all of these structures. Contractors may be able to pull off the design, but will not be innovative in the layout for foot traffic, events and intervening behaviour.	31 to 64 years old
Stores	Better casino not a tent	More stores	Could be bigger	31 to 64 years old
Variety of program opportunities, green infrastructure, year-round design	What consultation was done in advance of arriving at this concept?	How does this space fit in with the broader facility portfolio of the City? Is there an operations budget associated with the design and build of this project? How can Queen Street businesses feel involved and integrated with this new space?	n/a	19 to 30 years old
Very welcoming to locals and tourists				
All of it. Love the skating rink and the seating.	As Councillor Hollingsworth said, lots of bike parking and a repair facility. Encouraging active transportation to the site.	None	We want to make sure there are integrated measures to prevent vehicles from entering the plaza to prevent any attacks (ex. planters, bollards)	13 to 18 years old
rink and playground and movie screen	make sure the playground part is unique. make it natural. Make it draw for the surrounding regions to bring their families. Maybe make it natural	i would consider a fire pit assuming the skating rink and change rooms are going to be staffed. Whistler has a lovely fire pit in their town square	Make it unique. Don't do cookie cutter. Use old canoes for seating, use cool features in the playground, put solar powered patio lanterns in the trees, provide good secure bike storage	31 to 64 years old
Nothing. It's a waste of money	Don't do it. Invest in a medical detox instead	BUILD A MEDICAL DETOX	It's a waste of MONEY. The BIGGEST WASTE OF MONEY. BUILD A MEDICAL DETOX INSTEAD. OUR PEOPLE ARE STRUGGLING. WE NEED BETTER SUPPORTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY	19 to 30 years old
Everything displayed.				
Public restrooms and how open it is	You should add a roller rink	A roller rink	Please add a roller rink	19 to 30 years old
Skating rink and concert area	Not sure is best location. Need to improve and renovate older buildings surrounding it. Better choice would have been across the street on Bay in front of civic center	Overhead walkway across Bay St. connecting to water front and hub trail	Nice idea..trying to improve downtown	65 years old or above
zcx	Xcz	Czxcc	xcvzc	65 years old or above
sdf	fsdf	df	fgdS	65 years old or above
fhj	df	k.v	bm...	65 years old or above
sadfa	asdfas	asdfas	asdf	65 years old or above
Super duper	Nothing, all good	Food	it's all good	31 to 64 years old
Looks Great	Integrate with adjacent buildings/farmers market building, play equipment	Those are all good features	It looks great	31 to 64 years old

