

# ByWard Market Public Realm Plan

## As We Heard It #7

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### Public Consultation

October 2019

**BYWARD MARKET**  
Public Realm Plan

**MARCHÉ BY**  
Plan du domaine public

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## Background

The ByWard Market is one of the most well known destinations in Ottawa. This iconic precinct's cultural and heritage assets attract local residents as well as visitors from across Canada and the world. The heritage public market building is at the ByWard Market's symbolic core, but the precinct has a diverse collection of original shops, boutiques, retailers, restaurants and public spaces. Because of its economic and cultural contributions, the City of Ottawa plans to ensure that the Market remains a popular and successful destination in the future.



## Introduction

The ByWard Market Public Realm Plan will provide direction and designs to beautify, organize and connect the ByWard Market's public spaces to make them accessible, inclusive, safe and inviting. Public spaces are defined as city or government-owned, and are open and available to all who choose to be in them. Public assets to be studied in this project include:

- streets,
- sidewalks,
- bike facilities,
- plazas,
- squares,
- parks,
- courtyards,
- open spaces,
- city-owned buildings, and
- city-owned parking lots

## Consultation Overview

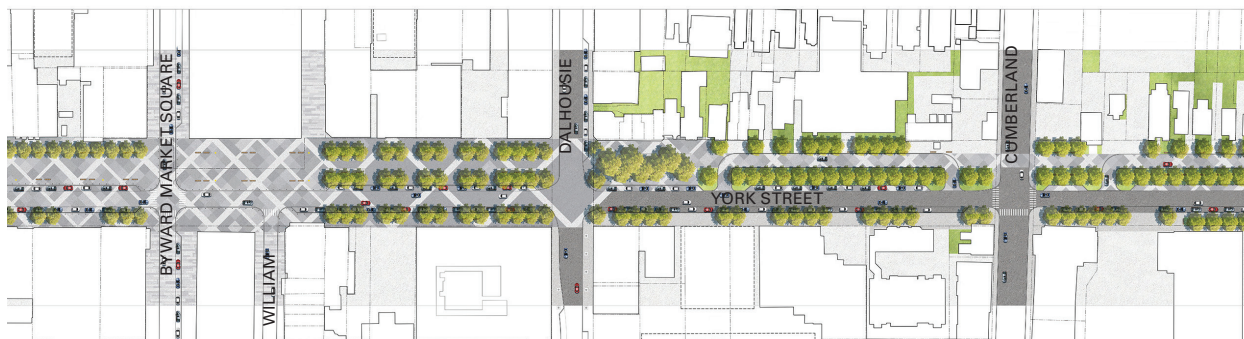
The final public workshop was held for the Public Realm Plan to gather feedback about the final design concepts. Feedback will help guide the project team in finalizing functional designs in the last phase of the study.

Public Workshop #3 was held on October 24th, 2019 at the Courtyard by Marriott Hotel in ByWard Market Hotel in ByWard Market. Approximately 100 members of the public attended one of two sessions, at 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Details of this event were communicated using social media, the project web page, earned media, direct notice to the project distribution list, support from local community groups and e-newsletters.

The design team presented an overview of the Public Realm Plan and input to date, followed by final design concepts for York Street, Clarence Street, George Street and the Market Core in the study area. After the presentation, attendees had table group discussions about the concepts, and recorded their thoughts on feedback sheets specific to each street's concept plan.

This report includes comments gathered on the final design concepts from the Public Workshop and summarizes that input.

## YORK STREET



Do you agree with the final concept for York Street?

### COMMENTS

- Fountain? part of heritage & market
- Remove the destination building and convert it to a park
- Beautiful plans
- Needs to be more open
- Where is a transit strategy? Maybe a bus along the major routes?
- Challenge with Mission plus Salvation Army etc.
- Fact / perception of crime
- Make York Street car free
- Still too many cars
- Why not parking on every street?
- Not one single bike in your images
- Maybe rather than replace parking garage with another building, make it a public space
- Ensure the new building is proportional to the surrounding buildings
- No more 60 story towers
- Like the patios and seating
- Would be good to reduce on street parking even more
- Christmas market is a great idea
- Looking forward to more trees in the market
- Mall needs to be protected from proposed loading facilities for condo/ hotel at 201 Rideau
- Good to simplify intersection at York + ByWard market square

## CLARENCE STREET



Do you agree with the final concept for Clarence Street?

### COMMENTS

- Make the Pedestrian Clearway Zone wide, perhaps one way street east bound
- Wider sidewalks are so necessary
- More patios will be great
- Trees will be welcome
- Private space patios should be clearly defined
- “Spilling” businesses are at risk of consuming more public space (as they already encroach with sandwich boards for instance)



## GEORGE STREET

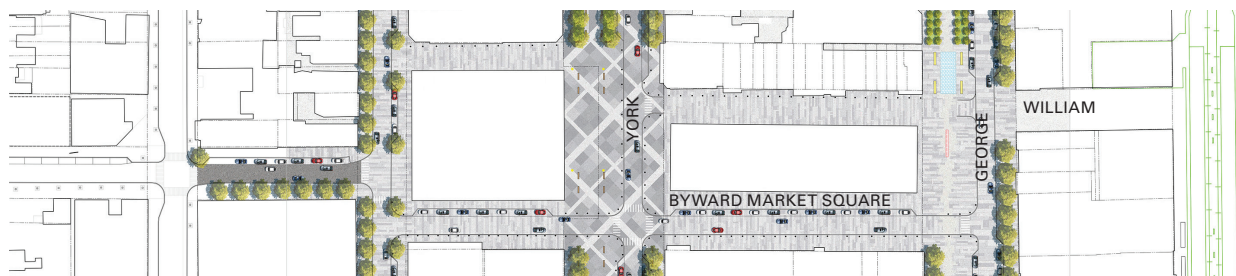


**Do you agree with the final concept for George Street?**

### COMMENTS

- Good start! Thank you, but, climate controlled environments like a complete enclosure over York Street would be welcomed by the disabled people on medication, the elderly. Perhaps a north-south street
- Love the idea of having trees line George Street
- I would like old school wrought iron lamp posts, but the new lamps are pretty too
- Would prefer it if there was less on street parking
- Bike lane on Cumberland is excellent idea
- Murray is treacherous to bike on now, very glad to hear about separated bike lane there
- Trees need to be tall
- “Walk of Fame” George St. between William & Dalhousie St., spoke to Mayor Watson 2 years ago (Lois n’ Frima’s)
- William Street pedestrian walk is a great idea
- Keep the market car friendly
- We need short term parking, loading zones and delivery zones
- Overall nice vision of a family friendly zone but the remaining vehicle accommodation is concerning for safety
- More bathrooms!
- Not much consideration of what might be the actual requirements for a “market”/ to succeed
- To create a successful market the existence of a market is assumed
- What are the true needs of a market and market vendors?
- Public bathrooms not mentioned; people need accessible facilities
- As population grows, more bathrooms will be required
- Maintenance issues – more people require more clean-up, materials and surfaces that can be cleaned appropriately
- Design components easy to maintain, cost friendly,
- Safety not addressed
- Many past city initiatives such as George Street Place, Ottawa 2017 etc. have displaced outdoor market vendors, undermining the vitality of market businesses in favor of promoting the public spaces
- What types of businesses will be there? What will the market look like in the future?
- “Festival Tents” are an important step backwards for market vendors
- The volume of sales has decreased considerably over the years
- Food component has to be questioned; it has to be worthwhile for vendors to set up shop

## MARKET CORE



**Do you agree with the final concept for The Market Core?**

### COMMENTS

- I would like to see a green roof, community garden or a modest/ informal greenhouse located in the New Destination Building zone. This would create a more organic green space with intimate areas for seating and performing. A perfect place to warm up and avoid the harsh winter winds
- Designated area for performers inside and outside (winter)
- Swings for children on York Street near Dalhousie
- Multi-use structures
- Public art
- Mural created by visitors
- Big wire structure and/or creative recycling bins to collect plastic ready for recycling
- “Goby” wire fish is a great precedent for creative recycling initiatives <https://brightvibes.com/1244/en/all-it-took-to-clean-up-this-beach-was-a-fish-sculpture-named-goby>
- Creative solution to clean up cigarette butts and collect them in front of establishments
- I like all your proposals! Any support from the NCC or the federal government? It’s the historic heart of the nation’s capital
- The Market Plaza is still unknown
- York near Sussex: a huge sculpture in the shape of a wreath with elements created by different artists
- Wayfinding elements such as historical panels and destinations through a software application
- More public, event or cultural function for the side of the New Destination Building facing York Plaza + The Market Core – Areas that will be more lively!
- More quiet functioning for the residential “Clarence Street” area
- Need more safety efforts such as more security cameras that police have quick access to
- Green spaces – Excellent!
- Better lighting is a great idea!
- More stable structures for outdoor vendors – great!
- In general I like the lighting idea and display, I am concerned about blocking the view from some locations first or second story or taking away from patio sunshine
- The lighting plan is key since October to April, most activity needs light. Please make it apparent from the beginning
- Washrooms are inadequate; have to have another set +70 Clarence is an unknown
- Clarence Street pop-ups are being pushed by BIA, but not by anyone else. Closing Clarence, even occasionally, congests traffic
- Parking is crucial. If you are giving up parking garage; where will you compensate? Also, how will you encourage shoppers to buy if they can’t easily get to their cars?

- Great Plan. Now, how will you ensure that it is implemented in a cost effective and less disruptive way? How will you ensure that priority projects get implemented first? These recommendations are important and must be stressed.
- Thanks for a great job
- If parking Garage at 70 Clarence is removed, how will the current small businesses be preserved?
- Organic materials for market tents
- Overall good, but requires even more attention to the heritage connection district (guidelines)
- Concept of 'urban village' should be considered as part of the design
- Most design features continue to remain copied from other projects? (ex. Queen Street/ Toronto)
- There needs to be more authenticity vs. spectacle
- There is no connection with the cultural diversity of the area
- Stronger or more clear plan for delivery trucks
- Delivery = goods = sales = thriving businesses
- May seem like a hassle/ nuisance, but essential to market livelihood
- Overall most comprehensive plan for the market to date. Love the greenery, benches, lighting, only concern is actual plans to roll out pilot projects and changes at a whole

## New Destination Building Ideas

### 1. A community garden

- » It is a great way to get food growers involved
- » Can act as a space for food donations
- » Connections to "Just Foods"
- » Experimental farming
- » Farming/ crop education
- » Could be used as an "Earth to Table" system by local restaurants, distributing herbs for freshly made oils etc.

### 2. Organic plaza with green space

- » Large variety of vegetation including edible plants, fragrant flowers, different tree species
- » Meandering paths
- » Small open space for local meetings, festivals and performances
- » Planters with annual flowers and herbs that market ambassador handouts to the public or are given to people meeting city officials

### 3. Greenhouse

- » Glowing greenhouse on the south-east corner of the New Destination Building
- » Visually and physically accessible from York Street/ the new LRT station
- » Warming area for winter months and open during summer months
- » Vibrant greenery to help seasonal depression

### 4. Four Seasons

- » "Garage" type doors open up in Summer

### 5. Public Washrooms

### 6. Tourist hub-info kiosk

### 7. Storage for moveable furniture



## DESIGN VISION

Do you agree with the Design Vision?

WHAT WOULD YOU ADD?

- Food Market in The Market Building – a la – Jean Talon, St Lawrence
- Pedestrians should be able to stroll and meander without the stress of crossing roadways or waiting for signals
- Yes, but we need plenty of accessible, easy to find, public toilet/fountains
- Maybe lounge rooms for winter
- Most of the improvements are lovely, but how do you keep the area from becoming too expensive or gentrified as its desirability goes up?

## GREENING STRATEGY



Do you agree with the greening strategy?

COMMENTS

- Ensure mature trees are planted

## TABLE TOP STRATEGY

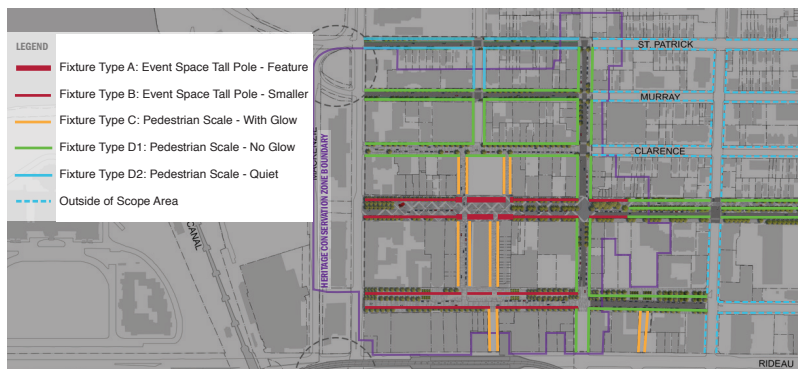


Do you agree with the location of table tops?

### COMMENTS

- Great ideas!
- Vehicle traffic should be one-lane, one-way, otherwise speeds will be high and this will not work
- These surfaces don't contrast – how do partially sighted people know where to walk

## LIGHTING STRATEGY



Do you agree with the lighting strategy?

### COMMENTS

- Lighting looks minimalist and elegant
- Type D1 lighting are terrible
- Like the wood theme for the lighting poles, given the capitals "logging history"
- Yay to fun varying lighting!

## ByWard Market Master Plan



### COMMENTS

- Keep redevelopment of York across King Edward to Nelson + beyond to link with the Lower Town community
- Why not include George, Clarence, Murray & St. Patrick all the way to King?
- New Destination Building – why can't this be a pedestrian square?
- Should remain a public space
- Numerous studies have stressed importance of bringing farmers back
  - » For example Lansdowne + Westboro for well-done markets
- Three courtyards currently create a pleasant walk (pedestrian scale)
- What is your direction for maintaining / accentuating vs. taking the loads off these courtyards?
- Do we want them to be strengthened as a "parallel" connection to Byward Axis / opportunity for a design narrative?
- Thank you for exploring and emphasizing on the opportunity to introduce flexible, quality site furniture
- New York Rockefeller Centre can be one of the interesting (and one can say successful) precedents for combination of seats with planters
- As part of the public realm (freed up spaces) that can be dedicated to green areas, introduction / utilizing local talents and professional landscape designers in articulating the planting and soft scape design (with native species as the backbone) can be an opportunity to add the seasonal colours & environmental gains
- Highly applaud the idea for replacing 70 Clarence with a new Destination Building. Great Move!
- Gateways?
- Leverage the artisans to increase the draw of the market
- As a tourist destination, offer Canadian inspired crafts from across the country. Thus use the artisans as a central face of the attraction versus merely accommodating them



- I like this overall concept and am very impressed with how the committee has absorbed people's viewpoints to develop an outstanding plan
- Trees will be very nice, but they need to be at sidewalk level so they do not impede with traffic
- The current planters along the south side of York Street between William and Dalhousie are an example of what not to do
- Key to ensuring this is a safe family-friendly space is increasing patrols to move 'vagrants' and panhandlers out, obviously integrated with a strategy to combat homelessness
- York and George streets remain barriers to people moving from LRT to Market
- ByWard Market summer plans are good
- Too much parking and emphasis on convenience of drivers
- Very little consideration for cyclists and sustainable transportation
- William street idea is very good
- Light the trees
- Washrooms?!
- More spots for car sharing spots
- Parking lot where the church lot is
- Trees by the Ottawa sign are blocking the York stairs (view of Parliament) Photos are taken there.
- Crosswalk button at Murray and Patrick
- Lots of interactive places built into buildings
- Make the market a SUPERBLOCK - vehicles can go around but not through the market. Local streets are for local access to parking/drop offs only. This will reduce vehicle volumes, creating a safer environment for cyclists and more pleasant for people.
- Heritage signage welcome
- Overall design is pragmatic, sure sustainable, but still less unique