



Brentwood Commons Community Engagement Results

Summary

The Brentwood Commons Community Engagement Strategy has been in progress from July to September. Two primary tactics have been employed by Quarry Bay Investments (QBI) to engage the general public in the Brentwood area. The first, in-store information kiosks, showcased the project at the Brentwood Co-op grocery store over the course of July and August in order to socialize the details with members prior to public meetings in September. The second tactic were the two open house public meetings, held the evening of Thursday, September 15 and the afternoon of Sunday, September 18 at two different locations in the community of Brentwood.

Both these engagement exercises allowed QBI to display project designs, collect feedback, answer questions and have conversations with local area residents. In total through both activities, we had the opportunity to speak to over 500 residents about the proposed mixed-use development.

It was our finding over the course of these activities that a majority of Brentwood area residents support the re-development project overall.

What they said:

Do you support the Brentwood Commons Co-op re-development?

Yes: 60%

No: 6%

Undecided: 34%



In-store Kiosks

It is estimated that we engaged with approximately 300 members during our visits to the Brentwood Co-op store. The members we spoke to ranged in age from students to seniors. It is important to note over 85% of Brentwood residents are Co-op members. Many shoppers expressed they had lived in the area for more than 30 years and that this was “their store”. We had return visits from about a dozen members who had additional follow up comments and questions. The majority of people we spoke with were in favour of the re-development. Those who initially were undecided left with a more positive outlook after some discussion. The two most common concerns were building height of the larger tower and traffic. Both concerns generally seemed to be alleviated by explaining the shadow studies, design and building placement strategies, density requirements and a proposed traffic light addition.

The in-store kiosks were a positive way to socialize the initial idea and details of re-development, giving many long-time residents time to think about the changes it may bring and come back with questions, both in-store and at the public meetings.

Open House Events

Two open house meetings were held – the first on September 15 in the Brentwood Co-op auditorium from 6-9 PM. The second was held at the Brentwood Community Association building on Sunday September 19 from 12-3 PM. In total, we had over 200 area residents attend. Attendees had conversations and reviewed designs with the project developers, architects and consultants (landscaping, traffic) as well as a city planning representative. Comment cards were also available to capture both support for the project (yes, no, undecided) and feedback.

Did you know?

85% of Brentwood area residents are Co-op members.



Did you know?

93% of survey respondents at the public open house events were Co-op members.



What They Said:

Participants were asked to share what they liked about the development, and what they would change and were also given the opportunity to share additional comments.

“This is a great space for people in the area looking to downsize – nice design and I wouldn’t change a thing.”

“I absolutely support this good redevelopment and higher density that is a win-win for Co-op AND Brentwood.”

“This will be much more pedestrian friendly and much safer. Great addition of residential options for the area.”

Project website:

Brentwoodcommons.ca

questions@brentwoodcommons.ca

The Feedback:

“I like the new Co-op store and the addition of more commercial and retail Everything will be new – I wouldn’t change a thing.”

“I’m concerned about potential traffic issues.”

“The tall residential buildings are not appropriate for a residential area.”

“Love the green spaces and better connection to the park and the LRT.”

“I like the new store and that the gas bar will be new. I’m worried about pollution in the area with more people.”

“I like how this is a good transit oriented development – I support that.”

“This modernizes the area for sure. You should get rid of the bike lanes.”

“Happy all the Co-op services will stay open until they are replaced. I’m not sure about the big building height but feel better about it after talking to the designers about it.”

I’m worried it will make the LRT more congested but I’m really happy that this will better connect the park.”

“I’d add more office so site is busier during the day.”

“Brentwood should be widened and bike lanes gone. I like the improved Co-op and other plans though.”

“This provides us with a better housing option as we grow older. Thank you!”

“It’s a much better utilization of the area.”

“I want to buy a 1 or 2 bedroom.”

“I appreciate how the buildings are planned to reduce shadows.”

“I like everything and would change nothing.”

“The tall building might be too tall. I am not sure.”

“Love the connection with the park and how things were thought out. Excited to see this happen.”

