UPDATE: What We Heard Report

The Jessica: 7014-7032 Ogden SE

The Leo: 7820 24 St SE

Ogden, Calgary

November 2023



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Why Public Engagement

Why Is Public Engagement Important?

Public and community engagement provides the opportunity for focused conversations, allowing a structured step-by-step method of leading people through phases of reflection. Public engagement allows residents to be heard, provide feedback and inspiration for projects, and stay informed about what's happening in their community. Through a multi-pronged approach, the engagement strategy offers a variety of ways for residents and stakeholders to get involved.

What Can Participants Take Away?

Public engagement is centred around the idea that those who have the potential to be impacted by an issue or decision should be given the opportunity to be informed and provide feedback. Through engagement, residents and stakeholders can be knowledgeable about a project and follow along with every step of the project journey. If there are concerns surrounding any aspect of the project, engagement allows for participants to have a dialogue with the Project Team and for the project team to be able to understand and respond to adjacent neighbour concerns.

Engagement Summary

QuantumPlace undertook a comprehensive public engagement program for this project. The QuantumPlace Planning team, prior to embarking on engagement, met with the Millican Ogden Community Association (MOCA) and presented a "pre-application" of the proposed land use application for each site. This presentation included an overview of the applications and an engagement strategy for both sites. A website was established at the beginning of the project and will continue to be updated as the development progresses through the municipal planning process. Due to the proximity of the two site locations in the Ogden community, engagement was conducted simultaneously. However, comments are being tracked and responded to individually for each site.

At the MOCA's suggestion, the engagement plan was revised to attend an in-person board meeting to present the applications and answer questions from the public. This meeting took place on November 7, 2023. Attending the MOCA meeting gave the team another in-person opportunity to engage with members of MOCA and the Ogden community, while providing an update on both applications. Approximately 10 board members and 15 members of the public were in attendance. An overview of what we heard, and our responses is included in Appendix A.

- The QuantumPlace team met the board of the MOCA on June 20, 2023;
- The QuantumPlace team has engaged with Councillor Carra (Ward 9 councillor) periodically throughout the course of the application; and
- A virtual open house was held on September 12, 2023.
- The QuantumPlace team presented at the MOCA General Meeting on November 7, 2023.

Summary of promotional materials used:

- Project website launched at the beginning of the project https://qpengage.ca/project/ogden-projects/
- "Hello there" sign placed on the two sites (one for The Jessica and one for The Leo); and
- The projects and open house were advertised via the Millican Ogden Community Association e-Newsletter and Facebook page.





Hi There signs placed on the sites





Example of the materials used to advertise the public engagement events

Open House

10 people registered for the open house and seven people attended. The session ran for approximately one hour and included a presentation from the QuantumPlace team. Afterwards the team fielded questions from the public.

Public Feedback

Below is a summary of the themes of questions and inquiries received from the phone calls, emails, and during the open house.

The themes of the questions for The Jessica and The Leo were:

- The reasons the sites are currently listed for sale;
- The types of units being provided, will the units be affordable, market or seniors housing;
- Discussion regarding how the proposed developments would benefit the whole community; and
- Plans for concurrent development permit applications.

The themes of the questions for The Jessica were:

- The justification and concerns for the proposed height; and
- Concerns regarding the impact of traffic on Ogden Road and parking for the development.

The themes of the questions for The Leo were:

- Parking for the site and how access and egress will be addressed;
- Impacts of traffic on fire response times for the Ogden fire station and the impacts of traffic on 24th Street;
- The soil stability of the site; and
- Discussion regarding the perceived loss of open space.

Ongoing Communication with the MOCA

The QuantumPlace team reached out to MOCA prior to the pre-application process to discuss the project, the team also shared updates with the board. As identified above, the team attended the November 7 General Meeting (the meeting was open to members of the public) which took place in person at St. Bernadette Church to present the projects and respond to questions from the community. The response table below has been updated accordingly.

The team will continue to engage with the MOCA board as the land use redesignation application progresses through the process. When Calgary Planning Commission and Public Hearing dates are determined, these will be shared with the MOCA and posted on our website.

Response to What We Heard throughout the engagement process

Key Theme	Applicant Response
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Rey Theme	
The reasons the sites are listed for sale The types of units being provided Benefits to the community	 Our client UrbanStar is using the listing as an opportunity to explore if there is either a builder who would like to enter a joint venture to develop the property with UrbanStar or would be interested in buying the property outright. If the property does not sell or a development partner is not found, UrbanStar will be moving forward with development. UrbanStar chose to list during the land use application process to be transparent, rather than wait untill after the application process was completed. This has not been determined yet, the landowners will decide later in the planning process. As communities redevelop, it attracts new residents, businesses,
	 and offices that will serve Ogden and the neigbouring communities. More commercial and retail that will serve members of the community. Employment opportunities for residents. The additional density can add people that will use the infrastructure and activate the local businesses and streets. The combination of the future LRT and new developments that come to Ogden will improve the number of services and amenities offered to the community over time.
Plans for a concurrent	- The team is just applying for the land use redesignations at this
development permit	time.
application	
	The Jessica
The justification for the	- The site is located at a prominent location; adjacent to the
proposed height	future Ogden LRT station and within a Transit Oriented
p. opesed me.g.m	Development (TOD) area.
	- The development will create and support direct, safe,
	comfortable linkages to and from the future station and
	contribute to the Ogden Main Street by creating a vibrant
	mixed-use hub.
	- This development can be an important anchor in the future TOD
	area; by going up to 12 storeys, the increased density will
	support high frequency rapid transit service and a vibrant
	station area community. This development will create a mixture
	of residential, employment and supporting commercial/retail
	uses around the LRT station, thereby increasing housing options,
	employment opportunities, and services.
	- The MDP encourages TOD, which promotes the intensity of
	people living or working in areas within walking distance of
	transit or employment nodes like downtown. Transit-oriented
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	development will also provide mobility options for people of all ages. - The site has been identified in the MDP as a "Developed Residential-Inner City Area". This development will intensify an Inner-City Area and increase the population of local commercial that will serve both the residents of Ogden and neighbouring communities.			
Traffic and parking	 The City may require a Mobility Assessment to be completed if a future Development Permit application triggers any concerns regarding potential traffic. The development will provide on-site parking as required by the Land Use Bylaw. 			
	The Leo			
Parking and egress	 The development will provide on-site parking as required by the Land Use Bylaw. Access and egress to the site will be from 24 Street and 78 Avenue SE. There is an access easement agreement registered on title on the adjacent Royal Canadian Legion parcel. 			
Traffic and fire response times	The Ogden Fire Station and the QuantumPlace team will work with The City to ensure all regulations and requirements are adhered to and any traffic concerns are addressed at the Development Permit stage.			
Soil stability	- A Geotechnical Assessment was conducted for the site. The report provided appropriate recommendations for the design of foundations for a multi-residential site.			
Open space	The site is private property. Vacant lots can be perceived as open space but that does not mean that the public has any legal right of access.			

Closing

The QuantumPlace team will continue to work with interested citizens and the MOCA on the two applications. If there are any new engagement themes that emerge, an update to this report will be provided.

Appendix A – Nov. 9 MOCA Meeting What We Heard

Key Theme	Applicant Response
In-person vs. online engagement	- It has become very common to host online open houses for land use redesignations and we find that sometimes we get a larger turnout than in-person open houses.
	The Jessica
Parking	 The minimum number of parking stalls would be 0.75 stalls and 0.1 visitor stalls per unit as per the Land Use Bylaw. The Land Use Bylaw allows for a reduction of parking stalls by 25% for parcels located within 600m of an approved LRT platform. It has not been determined at this time but it is unlikely that a 25% reduction in parking would be pursued.
Number of units	The number is very approximate at this time but we are estimating 100 units. We are pursuing an architectural feasibility study to gather more information.
Alley access	- That has not been determined at this time, but we would like to have this discussion with The City during the Development Permit stage. Our preference would be to allow alley access.
Ownership	- The site is owned by a number company which is owned by the CEO of UrbanStar.
	The Leo
Parking	 The minimum ratio of parking stalls would be 0.625 stalls per unit as per the Land Use Bylaw. It has not been determined at this time but it is unlikely that we would apply for a parking relaxation.

Number of units	- The number is very approximate at this time but we are estimating 60-70 units. We are pursuing an architectural
	feasibility study to gather more information.
Privacy and views	- We have noted concerns regarding potential loss of privacy for
	houses located the top of the escarpment. The Land Use Bylaw
	has stepback requirements that can help to address this
	concern. We will take this into consideration during the
	Development Permit stage.