

The Town of Halton Hills has launched *Destination Downtown*, a study to develop a vision and new planning framework for Downtown Georgetown. The conclusion of the study will result in a Secondary Plan for Downtown Georgetown, which will guide development over the next 20 years with respect to land use, building height, density, and urban design.

The Preliminary Preferred Alternative was presented at a Public Open House on May 24th, 2018. Following the Open House, the online survey was conducted to gather additional input from the public. The survey was advertised through the Town's social media (Facebook and Twitter) and made available on Let's Talk Halton Hills. There were 251 visitors and 32 survey respondents from approximately August 20 to October 20 when the survey concluded. The majority of the survey respondents, approximately 77 percent, indicated that they did not attend the public open house, allowing for feedback from a different audience. The following is a summary of the survey results (see appendix A and B for a detailed overview of the survey results).

Survey Responses:

The majority of respondents (approximately 82%) supported the following aspects of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative:

- Protecting the existing built heritage character of the Downtown and balancing preservation and integration of key heritage resources.
- A variety of Public gathering spaces including a Downtown Square and a Civic Node
- Pedestrian friendly streets and cyclist connections.
- A combination of underground parking, surface parking and on-street parking.
- A variety of building types and heights, ranging from 2-4 storeys to 8-10 storeys.
- Preserving and enhancing the natural character of Silver Creek with access and views to the valley.
- Providing more parks and greenspace in the Downtown.

How we asked:

Survey distributed via *Let's Talk Halton Hills*.

Meaningful and interactive public engagement and participation will form the foundation of the *Destination Downtown* study.
letstalkhaltonhills.ca

@dtowntown
#destinationdowntown



What the respondents liked:

"It is aesthetically pleasing and heritage is important to hold onto."

"Public spaces are great to get the community out."

"More gathering space is great any way you cut it."

"Love having more seating which allows young and old to walk the streets."

"I think it makes the roads safer for pedestrians."

"I like the combo of residential and commercial in the downtown core."

"Great to have access to natural spaces."

"I think it will be a nice update to an already nice town."

"Will allow public to enjoy the downtown core more"

Investing in downtown and making it visitor friendly is great for the town and local businesses.

What we could improve:

"Have you thought about a section with a spray park? They're refreshing for the whole family not just a child's splash pad. With seating around it's a sure place for people to cool their feet while visiting downtown."

"Bike lanes make everything more hazardous and confusing. I also do not wish to see any public transit in this town's future."

"Bike lanes on Main Street would cause traffic flow issues and they should be confined to secondary streets."

"We need parking spots to access businesses."

"Bike lanes on Main Street would cause traffic flow issues and they should be confined to secondary streets."

"8-10 stories is too much."

"Just please keep parking free!"

"Make it affordable housing for young adults. There is a DESPERATE need for this."

Study Schedule – Next Steps



Next Steps:

The feedback from the Open House, held on May 24, and the survey results will be used to refine the Preliminary Preferred Alternative and finalize the Preferred Downtown Planning Alternative.

Appendix A



PRINCIPLE 1: Ensure new development celebrates and protects the existing built heritage character of the downtown



Key listed heritage buildings and groups of buildings to be considered for preservation and integration with development, to 'Tell Stories'.

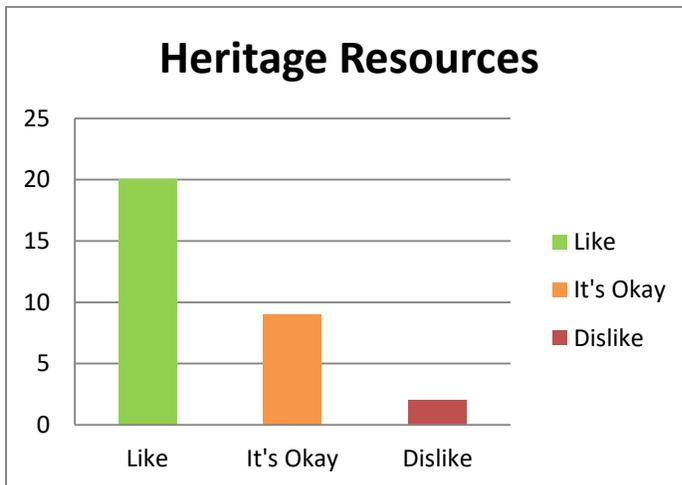
* *Heritage Buildings*



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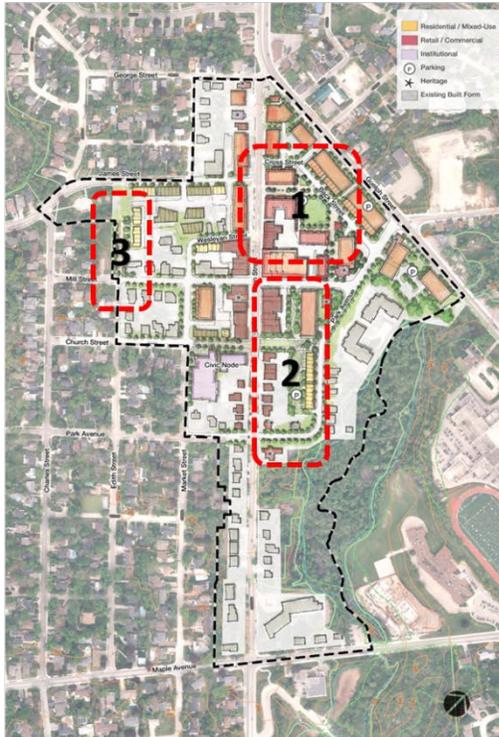
Question: Do you like how the Preliminary Preferred Alternative proposes to protect the existing built heritage character of the Downtown and proposes to balance preservation and integration of key heritage resources (shown with asterisk on the map) with new development?

Responses:





PRINCIPLE 2: Establish a variety of beautiful public gathering spaces to support cultural events, festivals and community life throughout the year



1 Downtown Square



2 Civic Square / Linear Park

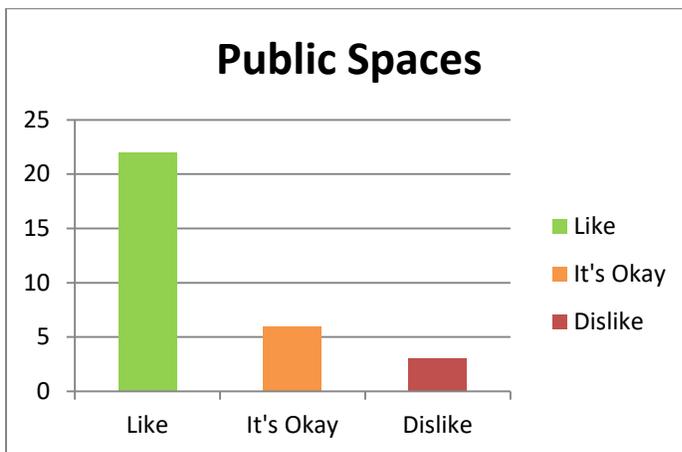


3 Park Link



Question: Do you like the public gathering spaces that have been proposed in the Preliminary Preferred Alternative? These include a Downtown Square (1) between Main Street and Back Street, a Civic Node (2) extending from the Library/Community Centre to Park Street and a park walkway link (3) to connect Downtown to Remembrance Park.

Responses:





PRINCIPLE 3: Create vibrant, safe and comfortable pedestrian-oriented streets that enhance mobility for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers and support existing and future transit



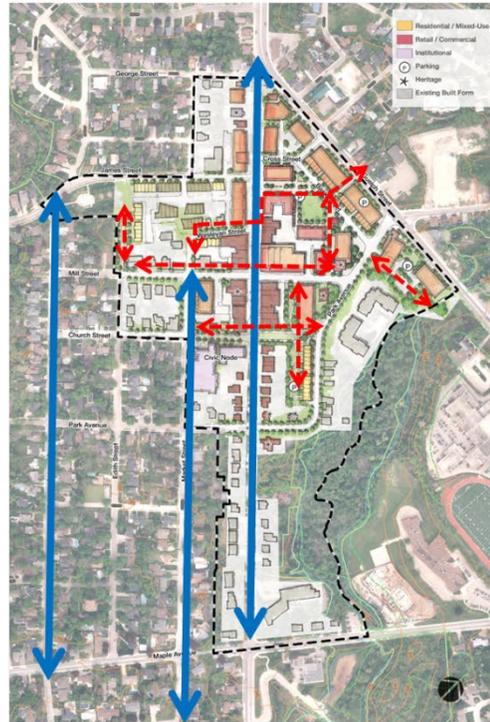
Designated bike routes through Downtown on Main Street and nearby local roads (i.e. Market St and Charles St)



Bicycle parking should be installed at key locations throughout Downtown Georgetown, as seen with the newly-installed bicycle parking on Main Street

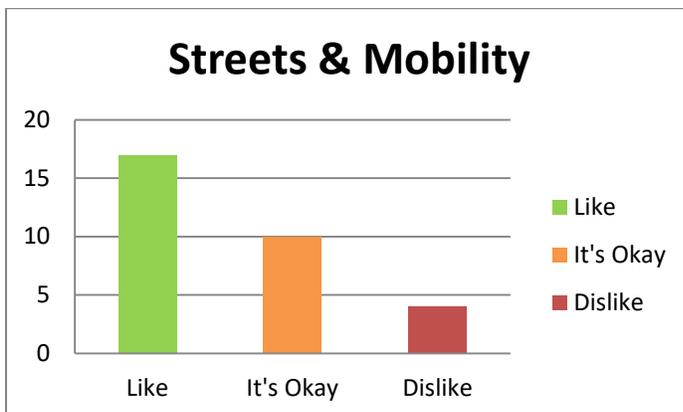


Pedestrian connections to and from public spaces



Question: Do you like the proposed changes to the streets to make them more pedestrian friendly, have more outdoor seating areas and provide cyclist connections? The Preliminary Preferred Alternative includes a pedestrian focused streetscape along Church Street and Main Street and designated bike routes through Downtown on Main Street and nearby local roads such as Market Street.

Responses:





PRINCIPLE 3: Create vibrant, safe and comfortable pedestrian-oriented streets that enhance mobility for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers and support existing and future transit



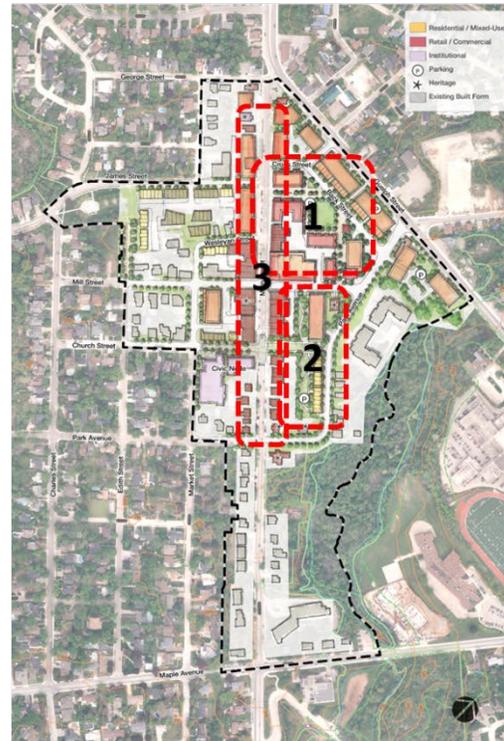
1 Underground / Surface



2 Underground / Surface



3 On street



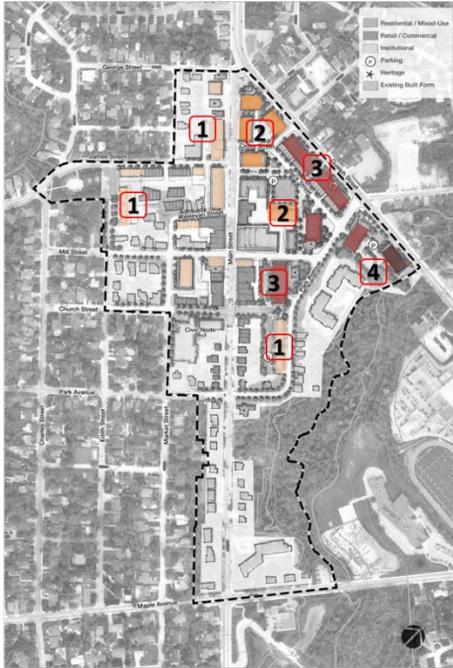
Question: Do you like the parking options being considered? The Preliminary Preferred Alternative proposes a combination of underground parking, surface parking and on street parking. Where the Preliminary Preferred Alternative proposes redevelopment of some municipal parking lots in the Downtown Area, any parking removed would be replaced in structured parking lots (potentially underground). In addition, parking to serve any new commercial and residential uses would also be required.

Responses:





PRINCIPLE 4: Promote a mix of uses in a variety of building forms, including a range of housing types and opportunities for retail, commercial and community uses



1 Townhouses / Commercial Mixed-Use

2-4 storeys



2 Low-rise Mixed-Use Apartments

4-6 storeys



3 Mid-rise Apartments

6-8 storeys

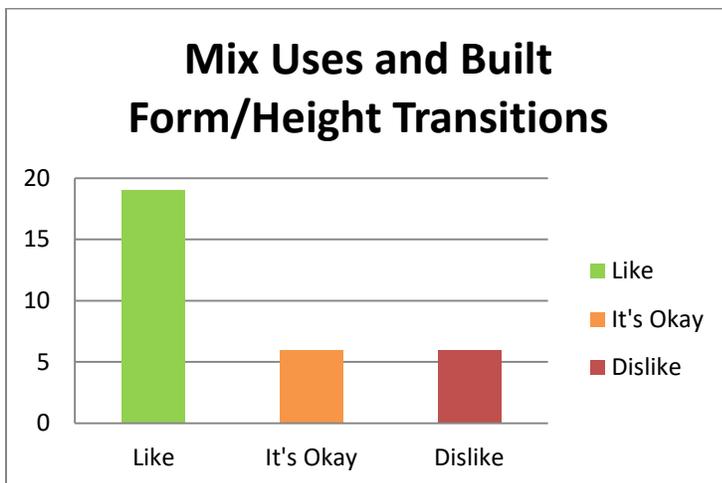


4 Mid-rise Apartments

8-10 storeys

Question: What do you think of the variety of building types, and heights being proposed in the Downtown? These include: 2- 4 storeys west of Main Street, adjacent to the established residential neighbourhoods; 4- 6 storeys on the east side of Main Street; 6-8 storeys along Guelph Street; and 8-10 storeys on the property adjacent to Carpet Barn on Guelph (next to Silver Creek valley).

Responses:





PRINCIPLE 5: Protect and enhance natural features while broadening opportunities for public access, enjoyment, education and stewardship



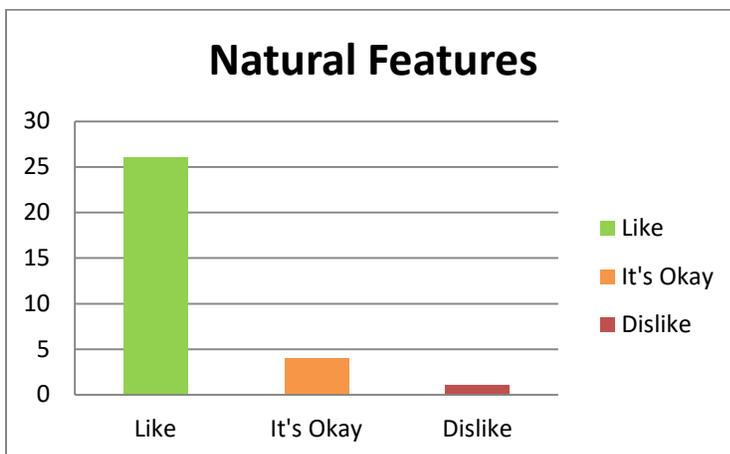
Promote the natural character and context of Downtown and enhance views to Silver Creek

Open up views to valley

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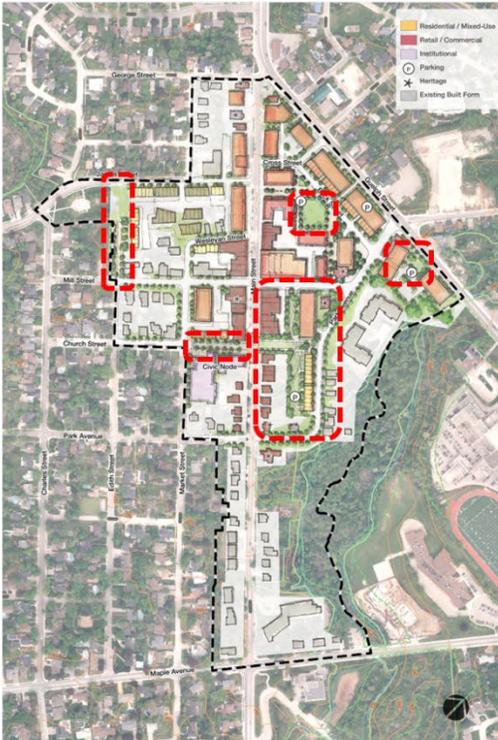
Question: The Preliminary Preferred Alternative proposes to promote the natural character of Silver Creek in the Downtown by providing access and views to the valley. This will be accomplished by providing access at the end of Back Street into the greenlands/Silver Creek valley. Do you like this element of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative?

Responses:





PRINCIPLE 7: Incorporate sustainable development and construction practices to maximize resource conservation

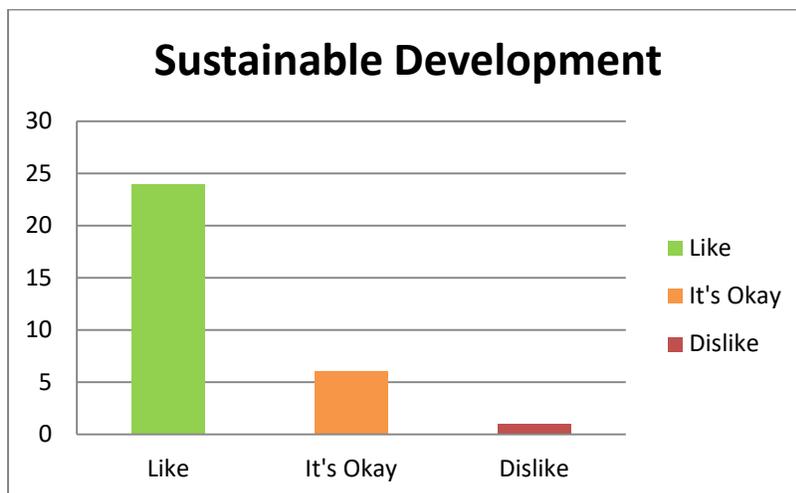


Increase pervious areas and green space to increase infiltration to Silver Creek from groundwater

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Question: Providing more parks and greenspace in the Downtown, will increase groundwater infiltration to Silver Creek. Do you like this element of the Preliminary Preferred Alternative?

Responses:



Appendix B

Destination Downtown Preliminary Preferred Alternative Survey Report (August 26th, 2018)	
FEEDBACK THEME	FEEDBACK CATEGORY
Heritage Resources	
Our heritage buildings bring a lot of sentiment to our residents	Positive
It is important to maintain the history of our community	Positive
Gives Charm	Positive
I like the preservation of heritage character	Positive
I like the preservation of heritage character.	Positive
It is Aesthetically pleasing and heritage is important to hold onto.	Positive
focus less on heritage buildings	Positive
Having a large portion of the town and replaced with a 10 story condo was a mistake	Negative
Public Spaces	
Will be more attractive	Positive
Public spaces are great to get the community out.	Positive
More gathering space is great any way you cut it.	Positive
Have you thought about a section with a spray park? They're refreshing for the whole family not just a child's splash pad. With seating around it's a sure place for people to cool their feet while visiting downtown.	Idea
We have enough parks and outdoor space. These seem useless and I bet no space. These seem useless and I bet no one will use them. They go well in larger cities.	Negative
Streets & Mobility	
Will allow public to enjoy the downtown core more	Positive
I think it makes the roads safer for pedestrians.	Positive
Nobody uses bike lanes on streets - just look at Delrex Rd - I bike on the sidewalk as do the majority of other cyclists.	Negative
Bike lanes make everything more hazardous and confusing. I also do not wish to see any public transit in this town's future.	Negative
I am worried about safety with bikes and cars .Bike traffic is OK but many bikers fail to follow the rules of the road.	Negative
Bike lanes on Main Street would cause traffic flow issues and they should be confined to secondary streets.	Negative
I wish we had some pedestrian only streets	Idea

Love having more seating which allows young and old to walk the streets. Need more shaded seating	Idea
Bike lanes on Main Street would cause traffic flow issues and they should be confined to secondary streets.	Negative
They hold up traffic and cause more accidents than they're worth	Negative
Parking Options	
We need parking spots to access businesses.	Positive
Downtown Georgetown has water running under it. It used to be a lake. Underground will flood and foundations will crack in a matter of time. Don't waste money on this. Do underground in the South end.	Idea
Just please keep parking free!	Idea
Mix Uses and Built Form/Height Transitions	
They are not too high but add modern touches to the area plus brings in more people	Positive
I like the combo of residential and commercial in the downtown core.	Positive
We need more condos in town. Majority of the population are baby boomers who don't want to take care of their 2-story homes let alone property maintenance BUT make them affordable too. Minimum wage employees can't find affordable housing.	Idea
We need more options like these for young people starting out or elderly who don't want a retirement home.	Idea
Make it affordable housing for young adults. There is a DESPERATE need for this	Idea
Main street should be a maximum 4 stories and behind perhaps OK up to six	Idea
8-10 stories is too much.	Negative
Natural Features	
Nature is incorporated	Positive
Why not capitalize on the beauty we have here.	Positive
Great to have access to natural spaces.	Positive
An excellent Idea! Make sure this happens!	Positive
Will encourage more break-ins and graffiti in that area. Too close to the High School!	Negative
Sustainable Development	
Looking out for our environment	Positive
It's responsible	Positive
Preliminary Preferred Alternative	
Milton has kept the old town flavour on Main street and has kept the higher buildings behind.	Idea

Please add more housing and places for seniors to live. They now have to travel over an hour for condos or affordable housing, and have to leave behind family. Family is what this town is all about.	Idea
Other Comments	
Investing in downtown and making it visitor friendly is great for the town and local businesses.	Positive
I think it will be a nice update to an already nice town.	Positive