

**New Communities Workshop
November 22, 2006, Glenway Country Club
General Feedback Comments**

4. Do you have any suggestions for how this/future workshops can be improved?

"Continued engagement of the group - collaborative website and regular (annual or semi-annual) group meetings"

"It would be good to hear from business leaders about what they need to be competitive in the global market place."

"More real-life case studies."

"Smaller discussion groups. Invite developers to show their interest and commitment to sustainable future developments. Involve children, since we are talking about their future."

"Consider all systems in questions not just focusing on infrastructure and natural heritage."

"Transit-supported location! Ensure food security on Class 1 farmland is put on a Master Plan somewhere. E.g. Black Creek event on Food Business this Saturday! They are using local food and we are car-pooling!"

"Transit - LRT --> Train down 404-DVP to alleviate traffic congestion. Partnering with malls/shops for parking for transit users that will shop there at the end of day."

"Include comments/presentation from other stakeholders attending workshop to give their perspectives on the overall initiatives. Include politicians more often."

"Good format. Diverse representation. Involve students/youth, seniors, disabled/health professions."

"Excellent!"

"Specific focus groups, facilitated by someone who can keep to holistic issues in perspective for the focus group."

"Keep holding them so it stays fresh in people's minds."

"More presentations of examples or case studies of real implementations elsewhere in the world, showcasing what can be achieved, etc."

"Perhaps some background materials being distributed prior to workshop so some solution/discussion points could be prepared ahead. Glossary of terms would have helped too."

"More public input."

"More breakout time. Better task for us for breakouts."

"Get even more representation from health sector, voluntary sector, school board, conservation groups, developers & economic development forums, health providers."

5. What would you like to see done with the results of today's discussion – what next steps should the Region be taking?

"Build consensus for broader consultation with local municipal partners and council."

"Let's use Dan Leeming's "eco-tech" village as a model to test the natural heritage system for a sector of the vanilla lands. Build working sessions around a creative conceptual growth planning exercise."

"Do some community design charettes with Vaughan or Markham to see how good it could be; i.e. don't wait for the developer to do it."

"Obtaining input from other knowledgeable professions - health, owners of greyfields, a diversity of groups."

"Public results - make available to all. Partner with other groups e.g. pollution prevention, brownfields, environmental, ratepayers, developers, councillors."

"The premise of creating new communities in the "whitebelt" needs to be prefaced by first sustainable development in "pinkbelt." We should look at the social, environmental, and economic costs relative to each area, we should not be building additional infrastructure without fully utilizing the existing infrastructure in "pink." A careful costing should be done on "White vs. Pink.""

"Need to publish the main points and advise the province."

"Publish on webpage for all to look up. Go home and live what we talk."

"Compile results and email to all participants. Provide additional issue specific workshops. Continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders."

"Educate your Transportation Department about "peak oil" and climate change. Thanks so much for bringing these issues forward. Educate the public now! :)"

"Cost/benefits analysis should be factored into the plan."

"How is information distilled to local municipalities/councils."

"Email summary to participants."

"Summary report. Good input. Model of workshops/public consult - can be applied also at local venues, jointly with municipalities."

"Organized project management approach would be valuable in developing a meaningful project plan for implementation of the remainder of this (i.e. Next steps developed with key stakeholders and development Gantt chart schedule of tasks/milestones/etc.)"

"Taken as part of a larger education program."

"Perhaps engage in a design charette on a whitebelt community to work on implementation."

"Get this out to the public - suggestions would be to engage the public through school projects i.e. getting kids to inform the parents."

"Prepare a summary report for all participants and the regional politicians."

"Specific action items developed & feedback to participants as to what was done - i.e. report card "you said this...we did this.""

"Identifying an objective or vision of the communities we want to build."

"Promoted out to staff at municipal and regional level."

"Hopefully summary of workshop distributed to participants - Yes you are thanks! Formation of some cross sectorial workgroups to start plans for communication and other ID issues. Issues need to be prioritized."

"Market research into public perceptions, opinions, needs on sustainable communities. Not just open houses."

"How to similarly involve this group in the community design level."

"Synthesize the thoughts and start to develop a communication strategy for the public & politicians. Start now!"

"Use to educate stakeholders, public, schools, politicians, etc..."

"There were so many good ideas and issues discussed at the breakout sessions --> could each group facilitator produce a summary of the groups' notes. Or next time have a laptop available and nominate a group member to type notes for circulation via email. Or (with consent) record the group presentations to be transcribed. (Ok, all of this will be done)."

"Distribute summary of highlights. Development of education - York Region staff, local area municipality staff & public."

"Distribution of meeting notes. Possible follow-up sessions when growth alternatives are prepared."