

Summary of What We Heard from the Ogden Point Community Conversation

Date: November 19, 2015

Location: Pier B, Ogden Point

Total Surveys Received: 78

Total responses on MindMixer: 23

Purpose of Engagement:

We asked participants to share their thoughts on the two proposed scenarios for the Functional and Facilities Plan for the Ogden Point Master Plan. In particular, we asked participants to share their thoughts on the proposed mix of potential uses for each scenario and where they would like to see more or less of each potential use. Table 1 summarizes the results.

Table 1 Summary of Potential Uses for the Functional and Facilities Plan Scenarios (Community Conversation)

Potential Uses	People who want more	People who want less	People who think the amount does not need to change	Blanks or People with no opinion	People who want NONE
Marine Services	39	11	2	26	0
Marine Tech	39	10	3	26	0
Office	14	38	2	24	0
Retail	36	21	3	18	0
Hotel	17	37	2	18	4
Amenity Space	55	2	0	21	0

We posed the same question on MindMixer to give the public an opportunity to respond. Table 2 summarizes the results. Note: additional columns were created for Table 1 to more accurately summarize how people felt. Table 2 only presents the two options “more” and “less” as more options were not added on MindMixer due to the challenge of adding new response options after the question was launched.

Table 2 Summary of Potential Uses for the Functional and Facilities Plan Scenarios (MindMixer)

Potential Uses	People who want more	People who want less
Marine Services	13	6
Marine Tech	11	5
Office	6	11
Retail	15	6
Hotel	5	14
Amenity Space	14	4

We also received qualitative input on the two different scenarios. Participants, both at the workshop and on MindMixer, shared their thoughts on what they liked and did not like about the two scenarios. The ultimate objective of asking for qualitative input was to understand whether we missed anything. Below is a summary of the common themes we observed.

Maritime Museum as a Top Attraction

- A number of participants shared their support for re-locating the Maritime Museum of BC to Ogden Point. Some explained how it could be the cultural centerpiece of Ogden Point; others explained how it can be an interactive place where tourists and locals can meet
- Some explained how the Maritime Museum can be a cultural and educational centre for Ogden Point and would be valuable for tourists and locals alike
- A Maritime Museum would help to highlight Ogden Point's true purpose serving as a port

No Hotel

- As demonstrated in the tables above, there was less support for having hotel(s) at Ogden Point
- Participants explained that there are already hotels in proximity to Ogden Point and that it would be futile to compete with them
- Other concerns about adding hotels were that traffic could increase, which could exacerbate the problem

Green Space is Needed

- There was a large amount of support expressed for increased green space on the site. Some felt that both scenarios do not adequately plan for increased green space
- Green space could replace the large swaths of land currently dedicated to surface parking lots
- Green spaces – with grass, trees, flowers and benches – could also serve as children play areas which is desperately needed on the site
- Green space can help beautify the site and make it more attractive

Retail That Reflects Community/Tourists Needs

- As shown in the tables above, there was more support for retail than less. However, some participants do not want typical retail/commercial outlets (e.g., cafés, restaurants) but something more unique. One participant recommended a “Granville Island” style of market with shopping, specialty foods and an artisan bakery
- A fish market could also be a popular attraction

Re-Thinking Parking

- There was general consensus that any new parking needs to be underground. The open space on Ogden Point needs to be preserved for green areas, pedestrian space, etc.

Amenity Spaces

- There were not any identifiable themes regarding amenities on the site. However, some explained simple amenities are needed on the site including clean public washrooms, playgrounds for children, performance areas, etc.

Other

- Some participants felt that the two scenarios are too similar. Greater differentiation is needed
- Questions were asked about whether the scenarios are considering arts, cultural and educational uses. Some explained how a greater emphasis on First Nations art and culture could be featured, along with the University of Victoria's oceanography program

- Whatever uses are brought to the site, traffic congestion and noise must be addressed
- Pedestrian connectivity and overall walkability must be an important consideration in any planning or development proposal on the site
- While there was less support for office uses on the site, there were not many qualitative responses. Some explained that any office uses should not exceed three stories so as not to compromise the views of residents in James Bay