

## **Carcross Downtown Core Plan**

### *Summary of Community Consultation Results*

#### **Background**

Community consultations in support of the Carcross Downtown Core Planning Process were held from October 10-15, 2007. A series of “Stop n’ Talk” sessions were scheduled at different venues and times around Carcross with the objective of encouraging as much community input as possible.

The primary consultation tool was a series of story/presentation boards which summarized the range of planning issues and options available in the downtown core. Residents were asked to place a “dot” or sticker next to the planning options they preferred and elaborate further (if desired) through comment sheets that were provided.

#### **Who Participated?**

In total, the Carcross Downtown Core Planning Team spoke with about 85-90 people about the proposed plan. Approximately 73 people participated in the “dot-mocracy” exercise, which required a minimum of 30 minutes to complete. These 73 provided a fairly representative cross-section of the community, with about 43% female and 57% male, and approximately 45% of First Nation descent and 55% of non-First Nation descent.

#### **Which CSIF Project Locations Did Residents Prefer?**

- A majority of respondents (47%) chose the current S.S. Tutshi site as their preferred location for the CTFN carving facility. 27% preferred the current boat launch site, and 26% indicated they preferred another location i.e. off the waterfront.
- A strong majority of respondents (58%) indicated a preference for two signs at each side of the entrance to Carcross. 22% preferred one sign at the northwest corner of the Carcross Road intersection (facing Skagway traffic).
- 51% of respondents chose the jetty located close to the highway bridge for a boat launch and dock. 26% liked the current location of the Phelps dock. 21% chose “other” as their preferred option – primarily “splitting” the boat launch and dock between the two locations i.e. launch at jetty and dock closer to the Phelps location and/or current launch.

#### **Where Did Residents Think Future Land Uses Should Be Located?**

- The most popular site chosen for a future S.S. Tutshi Memorial was the boat’s current site (45%). 30% of respondents thought a memorial should be placed anywhere along the waterfront.
- Most respondents (66%) indicated a preference for Zone 1 for a future public washroom building, followed by Zone 2 (14%). Similarly, 58% of respondents felt that a future Visitor Information Centre belonged in Zone 1 (with Zone 3 as the second most popular choice at 25%).
- Open public space was envisioned as belonging in Zone 1 by 39% of respondents, followed by Zone 4 (37%).

- The preferred location for future CTFN development was in Zone 3 (52%), followed by Zone 1 (30%).
- The zones thought most suitable for commercial use by respondents were Zone 1 (33%), Zone 3 (28%), and Zone 2 (23%).
- An overwhelming majority favoured the creation of historic guidelines for development in the downtown core (85%).

### **What Did Residents Think About Roadways and Parking?**

- An overwhelming majority (92%) of respondents favoured the realignment of the Carcross Road in the vicinity of the Caribou Hotel.
- A waterfront access road option off the Carcross Road was favoured by 85% of respondents. A highway access road option into Zone 4 was also strongly favoured (73%).
- The smaller bus loop option located in Zone 2 away from the waterfront was preferred by 79% of respondents.
- The zones thought most suitable for parking were Zone 2 (30%), Zone 3 (27%), and Zone 4 (19%).
- The option of closing Main Street for pedestrian use only in the summer was favoured by 67% of respondents, followed by the option of a year-round closure (19%).
- The option of extending the waterfront boardwalk was preferred by 94% of respondents.

### **What Other Common Themes Emerged?**

- The majority of residents would like to see the S.S. Tutshi site “cleaned up”. Many people commented that a memorial posed an excellent opportunity to interpret Carcross’ transportation past in a compelling way.
- Buses are a prominent issue. Many people feel strongly that bus parking and routes should be better managed so that negative impacts to local residents are minimized.
- Many people expressed a desire to see downtown Carcross developed in such a way that it maintains its genuine character and doesn’t look like a theme park.
- Space for the community to gather, recreate, and relax in the downtown core was a high priority for many residents.