



A place for

**ART
MUSIC
CULTURE
OUR FUTURE
ALL GENERATIONS**

AURORA'S LIBRARY SQUARE

With two community spaces and unlimited possibilities, Library Square is a place where young and old can come together in all seasons to enjoy art, theatre, music, shopping, community events and activities.

Library Square includes two key spaces – a vibrant outdoor square and a new community facility that will feature a flexible performance hall with seating for up to 250 people and a variety of multi-purpose programming spaces that will bring life and energy to our downtown core. Library Square is a key part of Aurora's exciting downtown revitalization plan.



Amenities and Features

OUTDOOR SPACE

- Concerts and music festivals
- Public art displays
- Water feature
- Outdoor skating rink
- Food truck festivals
- Markets and pop up shows

MULTI-USE PERFORMANCE HALL

- Theatre
- Concerts
- Comedy and variety shows
- Movie screenings, fairs, tradeshow
- Training, conferences and banquets
- Lectures, presentations

PERFORMING ARTS STUDIO

- Dance classes
- Fitness
- Rehearsals
- Drama classes
- Music performances

VISUAL ARTS STUDIO

- Painting and drawing
- Sculpture
- Media arts
- Classes for adults, seniors and children

OUR PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The Library Square design concept is consistent with the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS) and conforms to the Growth Plan. The PPS encourages the wise use and management of heritage resources, which in turn promotes long-term prosperity and social well-being through economic, environmental and social benefits for the community.

The design and the planned programming for the outdoor square and the building addition achieve many of the Town's Official Plan policies and objectives, including helping to build healthy, strong and complete communities designed for all stages of life.

The Library Square revitalization project will be an integral component in encouraging public heritage appreciation and staff will continue to ensure the Library Square final design meets the policy intent of the Aurora Promenade Secondary Plan.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

This exciting project has been developed as a result of extensive consultation with our community. To date, Library Square has included approximately 100 meetings, with around 55 of those being stakeholder meetings, public consultations and Council meetings. The groups consulted in the process include: The Aurora Cultural Centre, Aurora Public Library, Aurora Chamber of Commerce, Cultural Precinct residents, Aurora Farmers' Market and Artisan Fair, Ratepayers Association, Aurora Sports Hall of Fame, Aurora Historical Society, Aurora Studio Tour, Aurora Film Circuit, Trails and Active Transportation Committee, Environmental Advisory Committee, Economic Development Committee, Accessibility Advisory Committee, Heritage Advisory Committee, Society of York Region Artists, Pine Tree Potters Guild, Theatre Aurora, Marquee Theatrical Productions, Aurora Community Band, Music Aurora and the Aurora Seniors' Association.



DESIGN AND HERITAGE

The proposal for the addition to 22 Church Street integrates Aurora’s much-loved Church Street School with landscaped open spaces and a new addition. Through its thoughtful design, which includes a triple height sky-lit atrium, performance spaces flooded with natural light and dynamic exterior architecture, the addition will complement the attached heritage building.

The architecture of the addition is in keeping with key heritage principles from the Province of Ontario and Ontario’s Heritage Trust and does not exceed the height of 22 Church Street to ensure balance between the buildings. Heritage principles are clear in that new work should be distinguishable from old and that new structures or additions should be reflective of their own time and enhance appreciation of heritage properties. It’s important to note that heritage principles do not encourage new buildings to mimic neighbouring heritage assets.

PARKING

The Town recognizes that on-site parking is a concern and numerous short-term and longer-term solutions have been identified to ensure visitors and community members will be able to enjoy the magic of Library Square.

With the proposed short-term solutions the on-site supply should be sufficient to address the non-event day parking demand. The Town will also consider longer term solutions to address the anticipated event day parking demand over the coming months.

	Weekday	Weekend
Existing planned parking spaces	83	83
Gap anticipated during regular programming	25	30
Gap anticipated during theatre events	117	130
Gap after implementing all proposed short-term options (regular)	+1	-4

Proposed short-term solutions include maximizing off-street parking, changing Yonge Street parking restrictions, increase on-street parking on Church Street and Victoria Street and several other methods outlined in Report No. PDS19-018.

Barrier-free parking is, at minimum, double the minimum AODA requirement and represents 10% of all available parking.

TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGET \$38.2 million

Outdoor Square & Parking

\$10,032,100 (including additional parking options)

Addition to Church Street School

\$28,167,100 (including 1% for public art fund)

OPERATING FUNDING STRATEGY \$720,000

Operating budget must be funded from tax levy. An incremental tax levy increase of \$240,000 over three years for a total of \$720,000 will represent a .5% increase per year on the tax levy.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Investing in arts and culture is proven to result in extensive economic benefits. The FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre in St. Catharines has acted as a catalyst for downtown revitalization and is generating \$17 million in economic spin-off annually. A similar centre in the City of Burlington has found that for every dollar invested in their arts centre, they are seeing a return of \$10.

The economic impact of the addition to 22 Church Street has been estimated using the Ontario Tourism Regional Economic Impact Model.

Ontario Tourism Regional Economic Impact Model (TREIM)

Based on \$30,000,000 Investment/Capital Expenditures in an Arts/Cultural Facility



GDP

\$14.7 million



Labour Income

\$10.4 million



Full-time Job
Equivalents

131



Federal
Provincial
Municipal
Tax Revenue

\$4.2 million