



Downtown Plan Progress Update

The Consultant Team, in collaboration with the City of London, is finalizing the Downtown Plan Background Study. The Background Study consolidates four months of research and engagement, highlighting Downtown London's role as the city's economic, social, and cultural hub. It identifies barriers to address and opportunities to pursue in the development of the Downtown Plan.

The Downtown Plan will establish a strategic vision and policy roadmap to guide change in the city's Downtown over the next decade, setting priorities for land use, mobility, economic development, public space, cultural vitality, and environmental resilience. The Background Study provides the foundation for this work through a detailed review of existing conditions, planning frameworks, and best practices, combined with extensive community engagement conducted over the past several months.

What the Background Study Includes

The Background Study draws on a wide range of research, policy analysis, and community input, including:

- Analysis of demographic, economic, land use, mobility, and development trends
- Review of provincial, municipal, and downtown-specific planning documents to ensure alignment with existing policies
- Comparative insights from other cities that have implemented successful downtown revitalization strategies
- Findings from engagement with residents, businesses, community organizations, and institutions through surveys, interviews, focus groups, and public events

The Background Study is organized into seven sections:

1. **Introduction:** Project background, study area boundaries, recent history of downtown planning and investment, regional and city profiles, and the intent of the Downtown Plan
2. **Downtown London Today:** Profile of current conditions, including demographics, economy and vacancies, mobility and transportation, urban form, character areas, arts and culture, landscape and ecology, heritage, public safety, and governance
3. **Planning Context:** Review of the provincial framework, city-wide plans, cultural and public space policies, transportation and infrastructure initiatives, housing and homelessness strategies, and downtown-specific plans



4. **Common Practices Review:** Lessons from other cities in housing, arts and culture, mobility and infrastructure, business vibrancy, environmental sustainability, and governance
5. **Downtown Diagnostic:** An assessment of strengths, barriers, and opportunities that will shape the development of the Downtown Plan
6. **Engagement Findings:** A summary of community input from in-person and virtual sessions, focus groups, one-on-one discussions, public events, and surveys
7. **Preliminary Strategic Directions:** Early directions and priorities for the development of the Downtown Plan, focused on capital investment, programming and vibrancy, and urban governance

The completed Background Study will be available for review on November 12, 2025, on the City's [Council and Committee webpage](#), and presented to the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee on **November 18, 2025**, and to City Council on **November 25, 2025**. The Background Study will also be made available on the [GetInvolved page](#) following its release.

If you require any accommodation to fully participate in the engagement process, or have a comment or question regarding this project, please contact the Downtown Plan project team using the contact information below.

Email: dmp@london.ca

The information collected will be used in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. F.31*. Except for personal information, all comments will become part of the public record.

This notice was issued November 6, 2025.