

Advance: September 24/09

Historic neighbourhoods get their say on future

Committee looking for feedback from residents at two drop-in sessions

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Residents of Barrie's older neighbourhoods are being encouraged to speak up and share their thoughts on the future of their community.

The Historic Neighbourhoods Strategy (HNS) is described as an action plan for community change, created by the residents who live there.

A community committee working on the plan is looking for feedback from residents at two drop-in sessions this Sunday.

The finished HNS will look at the future of the city's older neighbourhoods, tackling parks and recreation, roads and pathways, crime and security, as well as culture and heritage preservation.

A name and identity for each of the seven areas will also be created during the process.

"People should get involved because this is a chance to shape their own neighbourhood," said Barrie Coun. Jeff Lehman, chairperson of the committee.

"The strategy will help the city decide what should be the priority in each neighbourhood, whether it's roads, or security, or parks. The plan is designed to last for many years so here's a chance for people to have real control over the future of their

community."

The seven older neighbourhoods names and boundaries are still being confirmed but are currently described as: Berczy Park, Downtown, Queen's Park, Milligan's Pond, Brock Park, Blair Park and Shear Park.

The neighbourhood drop-ins will be held Sunday between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

The drop-in for neighbourhoods around Berczy Park, Queen's Park, Downtown and Milligan's Pond will be held at Victoria Village, while neighbourhoods around Brock Park, Blair Park and Shear park can stop-in at St. George's Anglican Church.

For more information, call 739-4220 ext. 4434 or visit www.hns.barrie.ca.