

FORUM JUNE 11 AND 12, 2025

PARTICIPATION REPORT

Dieppe



CONTEXT

Dieppe is a city on the move. As our population grows rapidly, development must reflect the needs and values of all residents.

This growth is reshaping not only the city's linguistic and cultural landscape, but also its infrastructure.

On June 11 and 12, 2025, the City of Dieppe hosted its first municipal forum to explore the opportunities and challenges that come with this evolution.

Held under the theme "Growing together" the forum welcomed over 400 participants who came to meet municipal staff and elected officials and to learn more about a range of local initiatives.

It was an opportunity for residents to share their ideas and aspirations for a more inclusive and sustainable community. Their input will help guide City Council and municipal administration as they work to build a Dieppe that reflects its people, with the ultimate view of creating a city that is welcoming, dynamic and a great place to live.

Number of forum participants

June 11



26 students



160 residents

June 12



78 students



144 residents

Total



104 students



304 residents

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Public participation in decision-making can enhance administrative efficiency, improve the quality of decisions and tap into the problem-solving skills of residents.

At the forum, participants shared their preferred ways of getting involved in civic matters.



How will the information be used?

By the end of 2025, the City of Dieppe will begin a review of its public participation policy. The input collected during the forum will help shape recommendations to guide that review.



Face-to-face meetings

Workshops, forums, open houses and kiosks in public spaces

**110
votes**



Online surveys

**64
votes**



Virtual meetings

Zoom, Teams, etc.

**3
votes**

INFORMATION

The City of Dieppe uses a variety of communication tools to share information about municipal initiatives, projects and activities. Forum participants were asked to indicate which of the most commonly used tools is their preferred method of receiving information.

How will the information be used?

We regularly evaluate the effectiveness and relevance of our communication methods. Forum results confirm that our current tools remain both useful and well-received and they will continue to be used moving forward.



If you could choose just one way to receive information from the City, what would it be?



DieppeMAG
32 residents



Newsletter
30 residents



Website
42 residents



Social Media
73 residents

Total: 177 votes

FRANCOPHONIE

Data from the 2021 Census show a decline in the demographic weight of francophones in Dieppe and across the country.

The trend becomes even more concerning when comparing figures from 2001 to 2021. Regardless of the variable used, French is in decline.

In response, Dieppe City Council has made the vitality of the francophone community a priority in its 2025–2029 municipal strategic plan.



How will the information be used?

A strategy to promote an environment that supports the vitality of the French language is currently in development and will be released in fall 2025. Feedback gathered during the forum will contribute to the analysis and may inform the recommendations in the final report and action plan.

Number of respondents:

42

What does it mean to be francophone?

To learn more about French culture and to be happy. :) Speak French

I would love to learn French, a centre for learning should be made available in Dieppe for easy access. Thanks!

I would like to learn French in a pleasant environment.

Free French classes please!!!

Learning more about French culture :)

Speak in French and also be inclusive of the other cultures around us. Thank you.



Summary of feedback



Importance of language and culture

- French is seen as a source of cultural and historical pride, closely tied to Acadian identity.
- Respondents expressed a desire to preserve and promote both the language and the culture and traditions associated with it.
- French is also viewed as a unifying force that strengthens community identity and cohesion.

Accessibility and education

- A number of participants highlighted the need to expand access to French-language learning. Suggestions included the creation of educational centres in Dieppe.
- Learning about French culture was seen as both personally enriching and beneficial to the broader community.



Bilingualism and inclusion

- While French remains the central focus, many respondents also called for openness to other cultures.
- Bilingualism is highly valued, with respondents stressing the importance of being able to communicate in both French and English.

Services in French

- Access to French-language services—especially in a minority context—is seen as a fundamental linguistic right.
- Respondents emphasized the importance of receiving services in French, particularly from local businesses.



Daily life in French

- There is a strong aspiration to live fully in French, whether at home, in social settings or in public institutions.
- Respondents encouraged the consistent use of French in everyday contexts, such as stores and medical offices.

Community involvement

- Participation in francophone cultural life, including events and literature, was seen as essential to sustaining the language.
- Being francophone also means advocating for the language in a minority setting.



SCHOOL VISITS

The next generation also took part in this event. Three Grade 4 classes from Sainte-Thérèse School, as well as a Grade 6 class from Carrefour de l'Acadie School, came to visit the Forum. They had the chance to share their comments and suggestions for the Dieppe of tomorrow.

If the City were to host a major francophone music event, which artists would you like to see perform?



Soprano
Rap, Pop



Les Hay Babies
Folk, Indie



Gims
Rap, Pop



Lisa LeBlanc
Folk, Rock



Bleu Jeans Bleu
Rock, Pop



La Famille LeBlanc
Traditional



Bigflo et Oli
Rap

What is your favorite activity in French?

The students shared their answers with drawings. Here they are in order of priority.



Listening to music in French



Reading



Going to the Wednesday Show



Writing



Speaking in French



Cooking



Watching movies in French

DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTHERN DIEPPE AND THE DIEPPE BOULEVARD EXTENSION

With construction of the Dieppe Boulevard extension underway, it's time to look ahead to the future of the south part of the city. To guide this development, a secondary plan will be created to establish a clear vision and ensure consistency with the municipal development plan.

How will the information be used?

Feedback gathered during the forum will inform the analysis used to finalize the secondary plan. It will also be shared with City Council to support their decision-making on its adoption.



What should the new neighbourhoods look like? What types of businesses should be located there? How will the natural ecosystem be enhanced?

Number of comments received:

122

Outdoor public
swimming pools

Dog parks

Stores

Playgrounds designed
for both children and
their parents (e.g., a
playground near a café-
style restaurant, so that
parents can enjoy some
downtime while keeping
an eye on their children)

Restaurants

A strong presence of
nature: trees, forests
and even tree-to-tree
adventure courses

Community garden
and/or encourage
people to garden!;
wheelchair-
accessible space;
fence to protect our
wildlife

Summary of feedback

Development of bicycle paths and sidewalks

- Strong demand for paved, accessible bike paths
- Calls for physically separated lanes to improve safety
- Widened sidewalks on both sides of the street for safety
- Some participants recommended narrowing street widths

Residential density and development

- Preference for low to medium density with parks
- Densification along major arteries to improve public transit
- Giving preference to single-family homes over apartment buildings

Green and natural spaces

- Strong desire to preserve forests and green space
- Emphasis on planting and protecting trees
- Calls for more accessible parks and natural areas

Infrastructure

- Requests for new schools, swimming pools and sports fields (e.g., baseball, pickleball)
- Interest in a sports dome and other recreational infrastructure

Community spaces

- Suggestions for community gardens and urban gardening
- Interest in pedestrian-friendly zones and local shopping to encourage social interaction

Active and public transportation

- Desire for cycling and walking paths connected to the community
- Improved public transit to meet the needs of a growing population
- Intersection designs that accommodate large vehicles like school buses

Environmental protection

- Calls to prioritize preservation of trees and natural ecosystems
- Support for creating green spaces without triggering intense real estate development

Note

While many residents knew about the Dieppe Boulevard extension, few were aware of the planned route or the new water tower. Questions focused on technical details such as intersections, lanes, tower placement, and traffic flow. For future development in the south, residents highlighted protecting green spaces, adding parks, trails, bike paths, and shops. Opinions on housing density were mixed, and suggestions included new municipal facilities like pools, sports complexes, or a library. The '15-minute city' model was also raised as an idea to consider.

Here's what participants would like to see in this area:



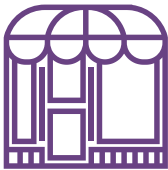
Preservation of green spaces and trees



New parks



Trails, bike paths, and pedestrian areas



Addition of new stores



New municipal facilities (pools, sports halls or fields, or a library)



15-minute city

School Visits

Student comments

Visiting classes were invited to imagine the Dieppe of tomorrow and to illustrate their ideas on a map of the area. Asked what they'd like to see along Dieppe Boulevard today and 10–20 years from now, students offered creative, thoughtful input that will help inspire future planning.

Outdoor public pools

New restaurants

Playgrounds designed for both children and their parents (for example, a park near a café-style restaurant so parents can enjoy it while keeping an eye on their children)

New stores

A strong presence of natural elements such as trees, forests, and even tree-to-tree courses.

Dog parks! :)

As in many parts of the country, housing is becoming harder to find—and more expensive.

One proposed solution is gentle densification: adding more housing units within existing neighbourhoods.

For example, allowing homeowners to convert a single-family home into a multi-generational dwelling with up to four units, provided the lot size allows.

Residents were shown a range of gentle densification scenarios and asked to vote for their favourites.



How will the information be used?

A proposed zoning bylaw to guide gentle densification will be presented to City Council in fall 2025. Feedback gathered during the forum will help shape the provisions in the proposed bylaw.

1. What type of building do you prefer?

120 respondents



A 41 votes



B 79 votes

Note:

Most respondents preferred option B.

3. Balcony on 2nd floor?

118 respondents



✓ 86 votes

X 32 votes

Note:

Most respondents agreed with the proposed option.

2. Which front-facing door option do you prefer?

120 respondents



A 32 votes



B 88 votes

Note:

Most respondents preferred option B.

4. Garden suite allowed in side yard?

134 respondents



✓ 105 votes

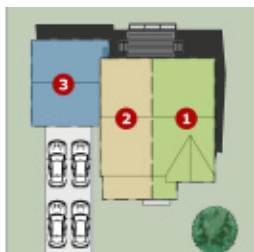
X 29 votes

Note:

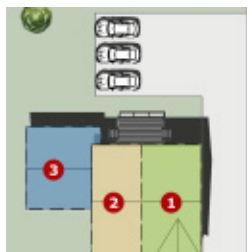
Most respondents agreed with the proposed option.

5. Which parking configuration do you prefer?

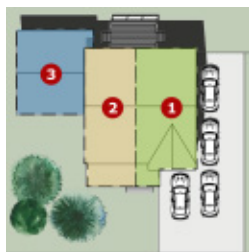
137 respondents



A 31 votes



B 75 votes



C 31 votes

Note:

Most respondents preferred option B.

6. Do you prefer a paved driveway?

124 respondents



✓ 27 votes



X 97 votes

Note:

Most respondents preferred a paved driveway.

7. Fence around rear parking area?

119 respondents



✓ 78 votes

X 41 votes

Constat :

Most respondents preferred a fence around rear parking area.

Summary of feedback

Accessibility and community

- Emphasis on the importance of universal accessibility
- Positive feedback on current initiatives, with appreciation expressed for the work done and the consideration shown to the community

Environment and green spaces

- Desire to prioritize trees in new construction projects
- Calls for more green space around residential units
- Support for setting parking back from residential areas to encourage pedestrian-friendly environments
- Requests for wildlife corridors and a limit on large residential developments (e.g., 12-unit maximum)
- Wooded pathways and parks viewed as essential for quality of life

Densification and housing

- Preference for medium-density housing types such as triplexes and quadruplexes in future developments
- Concerns about high-density projects, particularly in relation to traffic, water usage and environmental impact
- Accessory dwelling units generally viewed positively but seen as requiring joint agreements between adjoining property owners

Infrastructure and urban planning

- Importance of balanced traffic management in relation to densification
- Preservation of current character of established neighbourhoods, with new housing models introduced primarily in future development areas

Criticism and concerns

- Some disagreement with the level of proposed densification, seen by some as excessive; concerns include traffic, pollution and safety
- Desired restrictions on the size of residential complexes and their impact on biodiversity

Note

Residents showed strong interest in the challenges of urban growth, and the City's approach was clearly presented. Most comments were constructive, though concerns arose around parking, tree removal, increased density, and preserving neighborhood character. Opinions varied, sparking lively yet respectful discussions. A key takeaway is that residents understand the pressures of urban expansion, especially rising property prices and rents, and broadly agree on the need for thoughtful responses that respect existing neighborhoods.



ENVIRONMENT

The City is currently developing an urban forestry management plan. The document will guide the work of the environmental department by outlining actions to preserve and expand tree cover, particularly by increasing the number of trees on public land. It will also address key issues raised by residents, such as tree planting priorities and broader concerns about urban forest management.

How will the information be used?

Tree planting opportunities will be evaluated in conjunction with climate risk analyses (e.g., urban heat) and the socio-economic vulnerability index. Feedback collected at the forum will contribute to the overall analysis and help shape the recommendations to be presented to City Council in Fall 2025 / Winter 2026.



Where would you like to see more planting?

Number of
respondents:

59

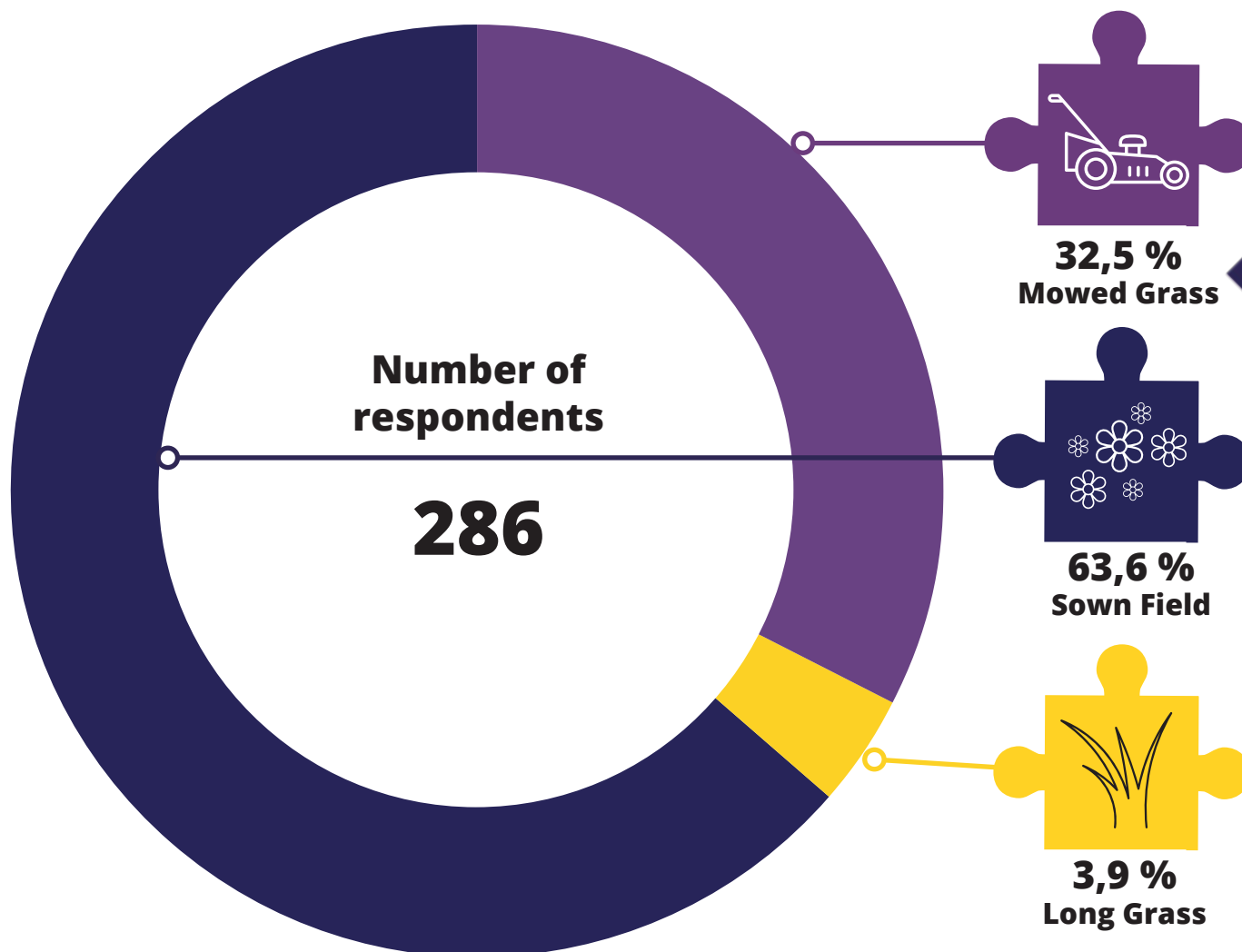




How will the information be used?

This question aimed to assess public support for the Make Way for Flowers initiative and help determine whether it should be continued. Results show strong interest in naturalized areas; however, many respondents still prefer mowed grass. If additional wildflower sites are to be introduced, the focus will should be on under-used public plots.

What type of landscaping do you prefer in designated public spaces?



Comments:

Many children voted in favour of **mowed grass**, citing mosquitoes and ticks as the reason.



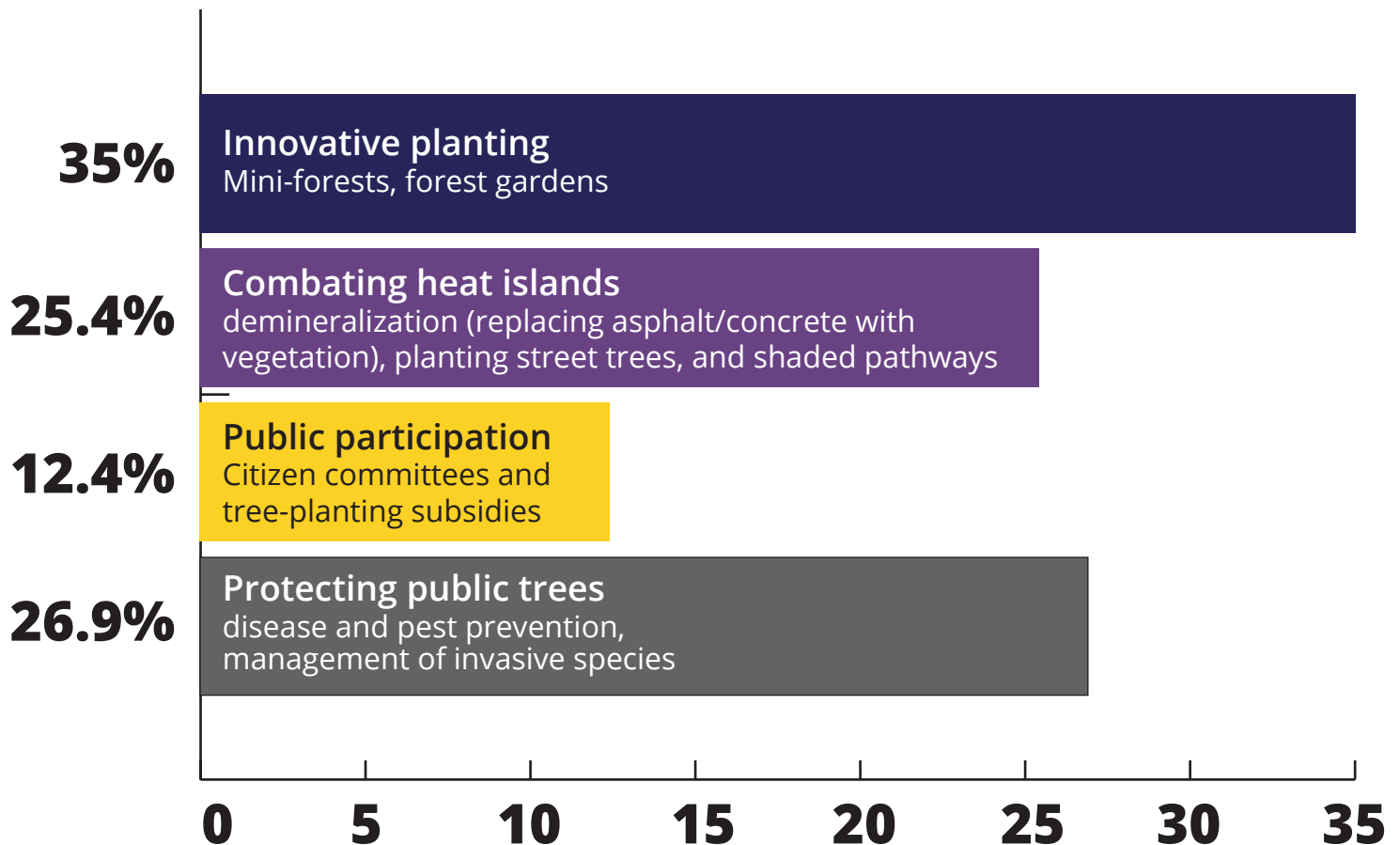
How will the information be used?

The responses will inform the development of the urban forestry management plan. They also help identify topics that may require focused public communication and outreach efforts.



What aspects of urban tree management would you like to see included in the plan?

Number of respondents:
193



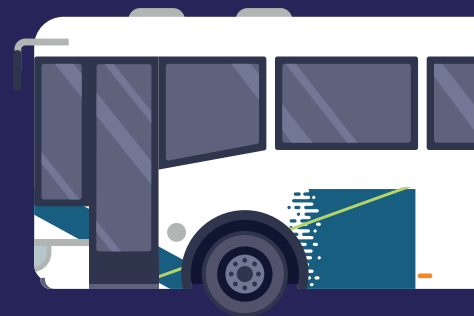
Comments:

- Many participants said that they would have liked the option to vote for all four themes.
- Tree conservation on private property was also a recurring concern.



Growing Together

PUBLIC TRANSIT



Dieppe's ongoing growth is placing increased pressure on its public transit system, with a significant rise in bus ridership already observed. In fall 2024, the City held a public consultation to better understand residents' expectations. Two key priorities emerged: improving service frequency and expanding coverage.

The first phase of service enhancements, presented at the forum, is already underway. Attendees were invited to provide feedback on proposed new routes.

How will the information be used?

The input collected will verify support for the proposed network and routes, guide final adjustments and complete the planning process. This will set the stage for implementing the first phase of the enhanced transit service, scheduled for launch in winter 2026.



On a scale of 1 to 5 (1 = very dissatisfied, 5 = very satisfied), how satisfied are you with the proposed routes?

Route 93 Champlain 39 respondents



Note:

The vast majority of respondents (**79.5%**) indicated they were satisfied with the proposed route.

Route 94 A Centrale 37 respondents



Note:

The vast majority of respondents (**89.1%**) indicated they were satisfied with the proposed route.

Route 94 B Centrale

35 respondents



Note:

The vast majority of respondents (**82.9%**) indicated they were satisfied with the proposed route.

Route 96 A orange

34 respondents



Note:

The vast majority of respondents (**82.4%**) indicated they were satisfied with the proposed route.

Route 98 Chartersville

35 respondents



Note:

The vast majority of respondents (**80%**) indicated they were satisfied with the proposed route.

Carte du réseau

38 respondents



Note:

The vast majority of respondents (**82.9%**) were satisfied with the proposed network map.



Summary of Feedback

Improved routes and frequency

- Increase bus frequency, especially during peak hours.
- Add more routes along Dieppe Boulevard, with direct connections to Moncton North and key destinations such as the Université de Moncton and the Georges Dumont Hospital.
- Improve transit access to the airport.

Accessibility and inclusion

- Enhance transportation options for people with reduced mobility, including wheelchair users.
- Introduce a shuttle service for seniors participating in seniors' committee activities.
- Offer free transit services to vulnerable groups, such as newcomers and seniors.

Interconnectivity

- Improve transit links between Dieppe and neighbouring municipalities.
- Establish direct routes to major employment centres and essential services.
- Encourage the use of lighter or on-demand transport options, such as smaller buses.

User experience and infrastructure

- Improve urban planning to reduce walking distances to bus stops.
- Install more bus shelters and clearer signage.
- Implement fixed schedules to improve reliability.

Innovative proposals and strategies

- Align public transit with the strategic plan for the francophone community.
- Use transit services as a tool to attract and retain francophones.
- Rethink the overall structure of the transit system to enhance Dieppe's appeal.

The City's municipal immigration strategy is currently being revised to better meet the needs of newcomers and the host community. A booth was set up at the forum to gather feedback directly from residents and partners about their experiences, ideas and priorities related to immigration and inclusion.

How will the information be used?

Feedback collected during the forum will help shape the updated municipal immigration strategy and inform specific recommendations. The new strategy is scheduled for release in late fall 2025.



Summary of Feedback

What do you think is an obstacle for a newcomer?

Number of respondents:
54

Employment

- Difficulty finding work due to language requirements, especially the need for advanced English
- Lack of recognition of prior learning and limited professional networks
- Limited job opportunities in French

Language barriers

- Widespread language challenges impact employment, social integration and access to essential services.
- Better access to French and English language courses is seen as key to successful integration.

Integration and social isolation

- Newcomers often experience loneliness and difficulty forming social connections.
- Suggestions included organizing cultural exchanges and events that bring newcomers and employers together.

Culture and culture shock

- Challenges adapting to local customs and culture. Proposals included creating a targeted welcome guide or newsletter.

Housing and transportation

- Access to affordable housing and reliable public transportation were also noted as important concerns.

Prejudice and discrimination

- Newcomers face prejudice, racism and a general lack of acceptance.

Share your ideas and projects to promote the inclusion of newcomers and residents.

Number of respondents:
38

Summary of Feedback

Community and cultural activities

- Organize events such as cultural festivals, international performances, cooking workshops and Mosaïq Festival-style gatherings to foster cultural understanding and social cohesion.
- Hold initiatives like a “Welcome Wagon,” informal coffee chats and community twinning programs with Dieppe residents to help newcomers feel welcome.

Networking and mentorship

- Organize group activities and informal events that encourage social and cultural exchange and foster networking opportunities
- Offer mentorship programs for teens, parents and job seekers to support both professional and social integration

Education and training

- Promote short language courses in French and English and mandate orientation sessions on Canadian cultural values
- Raise employer awareness about the importance of bilingualism and provide targeted workplace training for newcomers to allow for quick integration into the job market

Support for newcomers

- Provide information sessions on local services, rights, health care, education and employment to help newcomers adapt to life in Dieppe
- Distribute clear, accessible information on practical matters such as recycling, waste collection and navigating the social assistance and healthcare system

Creating a lasting social bonds

- Encourage newcomer participation in local events and activities to reduce social isolation
- Support inclusive spaces and shared experiences that help build a welcoming, inclusive community

HERITAGE

A heritage exhibition focused on the downtown area was also offered to forum participants. People especially enjoyed comparing past and present views of familiar buildings, such as Dieppe City Hall and the Dieppe Market.

Students attending the forum were particularly impressed by the display of old objects, including telephones, many of which they had never seen before and didn't know how to use.

This activity generated a great deal of positive feedback and is certainly worth repeating.



The City of Dieppe's human resources department was also present at the forum. Many curious onlookers stopped by their booth and were surprised by the variety of positions held by City staff.

The most frequently asked questions dealt with the recruitment process, job availability and student positions.

Although very few jobs were available at the time, people appreciated learning how to apply for future openings and left with a clearer understanding of employment opportunities at the City of Dieppe.

HUMAN RESOURCES

General Comments

A comment box was available for those who did not get a chance to share their ideas or who had comments unrelated to the forum booths. (Some of the comments have been slightly edited for clarity.)

- We've been wanting a seniors' centre for years. When are we going to get one? Our patience has limits!
- The people in charge of parks and green spaces should have been here.
- Suggestion: An outdoor swimming pool. I'm sure it would be well used. Designated times could be set aside for different age groups, such as seniors or young children.
- Please bring back the inclusion committee to support individuals with both visible and invisible needs. Thank you. :)
- Consultation should begin with an online survey, followed by a face-to-face or virtual session as the next step.
- French: As most residents are French-speaking, French should take precedence in all communications.
- More attention given to seniors.
- Keep the TikTok guy. He's great!
- Invite residents to contribute articles on topics they care about or are following closely
- DieppeMAG: section showing the monthly number of police and fire calls
- Would like to see a "Keeping Dieppe clean" awareness campaign. Electronic billboards, DieppeMAG, City website, signage at entrances to the city
- Stop raising taxes. Twice in just four years. Where is this headed? If it continues, we'll be forced to leave Dieppe. :)
- Noise from motorcycles and cars
- Speeding is a problem on Acadie Avenue and Dieppe Boulevard in general.
- Neighbourhood services: Convenience store, pharmacy
- No more tree-cutting
- Issues with bicycles on the marsh trail
- Line painting on main roads should be done in early spring
- The June 11 and 12 open house was fantastic. Congratulations on encouraging people to come forward and share their input. I loved it. On the second day, I even brought some neighbours so they could voice their opinions too. A big thank you for organizing the event. Well done!
- I briefly took part in the 'Together We Grow' forum organized by the municipality, and it was an excellent event. Makes you want to move to Dieppe!
- It was so good. It's also nice to be asked for input, to be asked what you want in your city. Nowhere else I've lived has ever asked me that. Dieppe is a very young city too. Keep travelling to get new ideas.
- In my 30+ years in Dieppe, I'd like to highlight that over the past 15 to 20 years, the municipal employees have been a pleasure to work with. In my various dealings with the City, I've always found the young employees to be open and honest in our conversations.

- Dieppe Boulevard: I think the plan to install several traffic circles along Dieppe Boulevard is ideal. It's a more environmentally friendly approach. Instead of idling alone at a red light and burning gas for no reason, vehicles keep moving. I was disappointed that the City didn't see fit to install a roundabout at Centrale and Norbert. I'm a big fan of the two already in place on Gauvin.
- I hope the City continues to build large apartment complexes along the entire length of Dieppe Boulevard, rather than in residential subdivisions. Placing housing directly on the Boulevard increases the potential for public transit use. I'd love to see Dieppe Boulevard extended in a way similar to Cambie or Granville Street in Vancouver.
- Public transit: The basic transit system works well. The main challenge is the "last mile"—ensuring people can access a bus stop within a reasonable walking distance. Buses shouldn't be routed through areas with single-family homes; they should only run along main arteries where there is medium- or high-density housing.
- Ideally, the City of Dieppe should aim for a walkability index of 90% or higher. As it stands, I believe only two areas meet this threshold: 700 Sunset and the Coop area. There's real potential to improve walkability with the extension of Dieppe Boulevard. But this requires a clear understanding of the concept and developers who both know it and are willing to apply it. The idea is simple; the execution is not.
- Considering all the energy the City puts into tree planting, it's frustrating that a developer can submit a plan that includes trees, then pay a fee near the end of the project to be exempt from that requirement. The City then uses that money to plant trees elsewhere—or along roads where we can "see" them. But a tree in a backyard offers the same [environmental] benefits as one on the street.
- I'm a bit disappointed that many recent housing proposals seem rooted in the single-family model. What we need now is medium- and high-density housing to support the next generation. As boomers, we've largely failed to make the housing transition needed for younger people. This is evident when you see four cars parked at a two- or three-bedroom unit. It's often the only way two couples can afford to share housing.

