

## Listening to the People: The Components of the Ideal City

During *Doors Open Toronto* (May 28 and 29), the Martin Prosperity Institute encouraged visitors to “Build Your Ideal City” in our ‘War Room.’ People drew, wrote, and commented on a large whiteboard on which a map of the City of Toronto was projected. Over the course of the weekend, the board was transformed through the ideas of our guests and by a range of ideas — while some seemed to be standard calls for city improvements, others offered provoking imaginings for a better city.



Generally, the directives indicated what participants wanted to see more or less of:

### Adding and Subtracting to Build the Ideal City

Exhibit 1

More	Less
Festivals	Billboards and street advertisements
Trees	Urban sprawl
Bike lanes	Cars
Public parks, Dog parks	Gravy train
Waterfront development and improvement	Tall condos obscuring the waterfront
Subway lines	Gentrification
Recycling, compost	Ugly buildings
Public art	Short-term planning
Innovative design	Bad design
Wind turbines	Inefficient transit
Taxes	Taxes

