

Commerce a concern in Lansdowne plans, survey finds

BY JOANNE CHIANELLO, THE OTTAWA CITIZEN JUNE 17, 2010 11:03 AM



Frank Clair Stadium and the Aberdeen Pavilion are reflected in a puddle at Lansdowne Park.

Photograph by: Wayne Cuddington, The Ottawa Citizen

OTTAWA — Ottawa residents who answered an online questionnaire are divided over the proposed plans for Lansdowne Park with many saying the project leans too heavily toward commerce, according to public comments on the city's website from June 1 to June 13.

The results of the voluntary online questionnaire were compiled by Nanos Research. They were based on a single, open-ended question provided by the city asking respondents to provide comments on the design for the mixed-use redevelopment plan for Lansdowne.

Almost half — 47 per cent — of 222 respondents expressed some version of the idea that the plan unveiled by the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group last month was "too commercial." They said the site plan included too many buildings and that they were too tall.

Almost 26 per cent thought the design was "great," indicating they "loved it."

More than a quarter of respondents were concerned about potential traffic programs the redevelopment might cause.