



Frequently Asked Questions from the information sessions

1. Are pieces of land in Sutton Junction and Glen Sutton eligible for projects?

A= Absolutely! Subject to the rules of the game, projects anywhere in the municipality are welcome.

2. Is it possible to make available a list of references to inspire us, ideas of projects that have been presented or realized elsewhere?

A = Many examples are available through an online search. A list has also been posted on www.revons.sutton.ca.

3. Would the installation of a Morris column, used to display information about upcoming events, be an eligible project?

A = In principle yes if it is the purchase of the equipment, which has a life span of more than 3 years and requires little maintenance or time to update it. All the project owner must do is complete the project submission form suggesting the locations where it could be installed. Even if a project is not selected or chosen by the population, submitting a project through the participatory budget process also serves to communicate ideas to Council, which can take them into account during its mandate.

4. When preparing a project's cost estimate, should labour costs be included?

A = No, the Town will realize the selected project(s) and provide the required labour. In some cases, there may be opportunities for citizens to volunteer to help with the development.

5. Can an organization hire or provide the manpower required to maintain a project once it is installed?

A = No, because it must be an investment that requires little or no recurring costs or operating expenses. A project may propose citizen involvement (e.g., plantings) at the installation stage, but must not be dependent on a citizen's contribution for maintenance or conservation.

6. Can a project be proposed by a non-profit organization?

A = Projects must be proposed by citizens of Sutton not by organizations.

7. Once a project is submitted, if accepted, does the project owner hand it over to the Town and lose any right to intervene in its implementation?

A = Project(s) selected for realization "belong(s)" to the Town, which is responsible for implementing them while respecting as much as possible the vision of the project owner. The parties are guided by what was voted on by the citizens. A dialogue between the project owner and the Town should continue.

8. The rules of the game call for the project to be "feasible" by December 2024; how can citizens know this if it is the Town who will be realizing the project?

A = Project owners do not have control over the implementation, but they must be confident that the project is achievable with a year rather than over several years. It is expected that a participatory budget process will be initiated each year. The more interest and participation there are from citizens, the more open Council will be to renewing it.

9. Can a project owner withdraw their idea once it is submitted?

A = Yes, but only prior to the voting period.

10. The rules of the game state that proposed projects must be on Town land or public land. What is "public land"?

A = Property that is not owned by an individual or a private company. The land must be open to the public. The Sutton School and Foyer are examples of "public land" as is land owned by a not-for-profit organization (NPO). The choice of a suitable site for the installation of the project will be made on a case-by-case basis, through collaboration between the Town and the project owner. If the project is to be installed on a site not owned by the Town, it is the responsibility of the project owner to obtain a preliminary written authorization from the organization and to include it with the project submission. The Town will ensure that a more complete and satisfactory agreement is obtained, taking into account legal constraints and Town needs. Failing this, the project will have to be located elsewhere. A project installed on public property belongs to the Town, regardless if it is installed or developed on property that does not belong to the Town.

11. To be eligible, does the Town land on which it is proposed to be located or developed must be located in the Village Core or can it be located elsewhere?

A = It is true that most "Town-owned" land is in the Village Core, but a project can be proposed on any Town-owned land e.g. Glen Sutton, Sutton Junction or the Mountain).

12. What is the amount allocated for this first edition?

R = Total is \$50,000. This amount can be allocated to one or more projects, depending on the value of the project prioritized by the greatest number of citizens.

13. What is the difference between the idea generation (or ideation) workshop and the improvement workshop?

A = The Ideas Generation workshop is used to generate new ideas, to stimulate creativity to lead to project proposals that will eventually be developed and submitted. The Improvement workshop will bring together eligible project owners. They will have the opportunity to present their projects to the public to 1) test the public's interest, 2) receive suggestions from them to improve the projects, if any, or 3) in the event that projects are similar, to bring them together.

14. How to evaluate the costs of a project?

A = Don't worry too much about the cost estimate. Do some research and provide as good an estimate as you can. The Town administration will work with the project owners to produce an accurate estimate. Do not include labour costs as it is the Town who will realize the project. Select sturdy, quality materials as they will be subject to public use.

15. Event-based projects are not eligible. What do we mean by "event-based"? For example, would the acquisition of art objects for an exhibition be eligible?

A = If it's an investment which has at least a three-year life span and it's accessible to the public, it would be eligible (subject to meeting the other rules of the game of course). An event is not eligible because it is a one-time or repeated activity, as opposed to the acquisition of tangible equipment or vegetation.

16. What "groups" can submit a project?

A = A group of Sutton citizens can present a project but not an organization (such as an NPO). If a group presents a project, they must designate a project leader to represent them.

17. Would the museum grounds be a good site for a project?

A = Absolutely! It will be added to the list of eligible lands on the website (www.revons.sutton.ca). There may be other eligible Town-owned that they do not appear on this list as it is not exhaustive.