

Applicant Outreach Summary

2025 February 24



Community Outreach on Planning & Development Applicant-led Outreach Summary

Please complete this form and include with your application submission.

Project name: Harvest Child Care

Did you conduct community outreach on your application? ☒ YES or ☐ NO

If no, please provide your rationale for why you did not conduct outreach.

Outreach Strategy

Provide an overview of your outreach strategy, summary of tactics and techniques you undertook (Include dates, locations, # of participants and any other relevant details)

December 9, 2024, Location: Neighbors of my house. My team bring out Community Surveys reach out my neighbours regarding to create a new daycare in our community. We spoke to the neighbours within a one block radius and applied a Google map pin to the search engine for the daycare location. A total of twenty families were contacted and inquired as what we were offering for Child Care. The majority of the twenty families were from within my area. The overview of this strategy addresses the positive impact and to become aware of any concerns of negative reactions of having the child care at this location. As they have been no significant negative responses other than noise and traffic concern.

On February 10, 19 and 21, 2025, the daycare team conducted a second time round of neighbors visits. They knocked on doors to engage in face to face discussions with neighbors, address any questions or concerns and provides daycare operation details. 7 families participants.

Affected Parties

Who did you connect with in your outreach program? List all groups you connected with. (Please do not include individual names)

We connected with Community center, Neighbours, and Community Elementary School,

In first outreach, we connected with a great many parents from my immediate neighbourhood and any direct neighbours adjacent and within a one block radius.

For second outreach, we connected the neighbors who next door to the daycare, as well as adjacent neighbors,

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What did you hear?

Provide a summary of main issues and ideas that were raised by participants in your outreach.

In the first time outreach, 18 households don't have any questions. 2 Families questioned about noise and traffic. Main issues for most of the families is whether I can accommodate subsidies and if my hours will allow late arrival of the parents for their children without any late fees. In second time outreach, The neighbours expressed concerned about noise, traffic and safety. They are worried about people parking in front of their homes, disruption to their sleeping schedules and noise affecting their enjoyment of outdoor afternoon time. Some neighbours are concerned about safety of the daycare children and the increased traffic volume. Even the daycare located on 30KM/H zone, but many drivers still speed through the area. Families with young children appreciate having a conveniently located daycare that is easy to access. However, families older children often don't understand the need for a daycare in community. They feel that the establishment of the daycare has disrupted their daily lives.

How did input influence decisions?

Provide a summary of how the issues and ideas summarized above influenced project decisions. If they did not, provide a response for why.

Regarding noise concerns, based on our experience, our outdoor time limited to about 1 hours in morning and afternoon. Also, daycare is a place where children are encouraged to explore nature, learn manners and gain knowledge. Children in daycare not for screaming and shouting. For the traffic: Daycare will provide 8 parking lots and plus 3 potential parking lots for staff and parents' pickup and drop-off time to use. Parents won't need more than 2 mins for drop off or pickup. Also, we are offering job opportunity to our community and will monitor traffic volume. Daycare consider offering later pick-up hours to those parents who work late. The safety of children is a top priority. If children are off-site, the daycare will strictly follow the Child Care Regulation Policy, ensuring safety and taking parents' consideration into account

How did you close the loop ?

Provide a summary of how you shared outreach outcomes and final project decisions with those who participated in your outreach. (Please include any reports or supplementary materials as attachments)

1. Social Media and Public Updates: we posted the outcomes and key decisions on social media platforms, ensuring that participants who may not have direct contact with us were still informed.
2. Feedback Forms: After sharing the final decisions, we encouraged participants to fill out a feedback form to gauge their satisfaction with the process and gather additional insights. This ensured that participants felt their opinions were valued and helped inform any future outreach efforts.
3. The daycare asked neighbours to address any question or concern by write a letter and placing it in the front door mail box or by sending text message to the owner.

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Clarification Regarding Daycare Proposal and Community Concerns in 108 Harvest Hills DR

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to provide further clarification regarding the proposed daycare facility in Harvest Hills, as well as to address concerns raised by a neighbor, who resident on 11 Harvest Wood Way NE, which I believe warrant additional context and explanation.

Initial Survey and Community Support

On December 9, we conducted a survey of approximately 20 neighbors within the community. At that time, all responses were overwhelmingly positive, with no indication of opposition to the daycare proposal. Many young families in the neighborhood expressed a strong need for childcare services, as Harvest Hills community currently lacks any daycare or preschool facilities nearby. The proposed daycare would not only address this critical gap but also provide a safe, nurturing, and educational environment for children while creating approximately 10 local job opportunities. To further gauge community sentiment, we reached out to the local community school, which expressed understanding and support for the project. This feedback reinforced our belief that the daycare would be a valuable addition to the neighborhood, benefiting families and the broader community alike.

Neighbors' Concerns and Petition

Following the initial survey, a neighbor, who resident on 11 Harvest Wood Way NE, raised concerns about parking and potential traffic congestion. Since then, he has organized a petition encouraging other neighbors to oppose the daycare. However, upon conducting a second round of informal surveys, we discovered that several neighbors who signed the petition had initially supported the daycare but were influenced by the neighbor's concerns. This suggests that the objections may not reflect the majority sentiment of the community but rather the efforts of a small group of individuals.

Parking and Traffic Management

We have carefully designed the daycare's parking logistics to minimize disruption to the neighborhood. The facility will have a total of 11 parking spaces—8 at the back and 3 in the front of the building. The front of the daycare faces the community playground, ensuring that operations will not interfere with residential areas. To further mitigate traffic concerns, we have implemented staggered drop-off and pick-up times between 7:00 AM and 10:00 AM. This approach will allow parents to arrive at different times, preventing overcrowding and ensuring that parking spaces are not occupied for extended periods. Additionally, our staff will actively manage the flow of vehicles during peak times to maintain order and minimize any inconvenience to neighbors.

Clarification Regarding Location and Operations

We respect the neighbor's desire for a quiet living environment and understand his concerns. However, it's important to clarify that daycare operations are inherently low-impact. The children attending will be under the age of 5, and their outdoor playtime will be limited to two

45-minute sessions per day—one in the morning and one in the afternoon. The remainder of their time will be spent indoors engaged in structured learning activities. As such, the daycare's impact on noise levels and traffic will be minimal.

Addressing Misinformation and Building Consensus

We acknowledge the neighbor's right to express his concerns and appreciate his engagement in the process. However, we believe that the petition he organized may have inadvertently led to some misunderstandings about the daycare's operations and its potential impact on the neighborhood. Several neighbors who initially supported the project have since shared that they were not fully informed about the daycare's design and the measures in place to address parking and traffic concerns. Our goal is to ensure that all neighbors have a clear understanding of the daycare's operations and the benefits it will bring to the community.

Moving Forward

We remain confident that the daycare will not only meet the needs of local families but also contribute positively to the community and the local economy. With careful planning and the support of the majority of the neighborhood, we believe the daycare can coexist harmoniously with the surrounding environment. We are committed to working collaboratively with the neighbors to address specific worries and ensure the daycare operates with respect for the community. Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you to resolve these concerns and move forward with the establishment of the daycare in Harvest Hills community.

Sincerely,

Bei Li (Owner)
Jessica Zhang