



## Sherbourne Common

### Fact Sheet

East of Lower Sherbourne Street from Lake Ontario in the south to Lake Shore Boulevard in the north, on both sides of Queens Quay.

#### DESIGN TEAM

Lead Designer:	Phillips Farevaag Smallerberg
Public Artist:	Jill Anholt, for 'Light Showers'
Pavilion Architect:	Teeple Architects Inc.
Local Consultant:	The Planning Partnership
UV Facility and Pumping Station:	The Municipal Infrastructure Group Ltd.

#### PARK SIZE

Total: 1.5 hectares (3.75 acres)

Sherbourne Common south of Queens Quay: 1 hectare (2.5 acres)

Sherbourne Common north of Queens Quay: 0.5 hectare (1.25 acres)

#### PARK DESCRIPTION

Sherbourne Common is the first park in Canada to incorporate a neighbourhood stormwater management system. Collected storm and lake water is pumped to a UV facility, located in the basement of the park's Pavilion, where it is treated. The treated water is pumped to the north side of the park and discharged from three dramatic towers which are public art features. The water then travels the length of the park along a water channel and is released into the lake.

Those elements, coupled with a wide range of amenities including a unique playground, a splash pad that doubles as a skating rink in the winter, a striking zinc-clad Pavilion, and a stunning water channel with three dramatic art sculptures, ensure that Sherbourne Common is a year-round destination.

#### PARK FEATURES

##### 'Light Showers' Art Sculpture

- The three sculptures, 8.9 metres tall, were made using large fibreglass molds that were reinforced with an epoxy-covered rebar and filled with agila concrete. After the concrete cured, the sculptures were carefully removed from the molds, craned on the site and installed on concrete floorings. The stainless steel mesh scrim the water will travel down was then added to the sculptures. Uplights were set in the raised pool at the base of the scrims to light them in the evening.



## Water Channel

- Location: Runs the length of the park and part of it runs under Queens Quay Blvd.
- Channel length: 238.5 metres (140m on the south and 98.5m on the north)
  - Narrowest: 200mm (where it runs under the Pavillion)
  - Widest: 6.8 metres (at the northern-most end of the park)
- Materials: Concrete with a light sandblasted finish on all exposed surfaces. The bottom of the channel is clad with grey, white and black granite pavers in a mosaic pattern based on an abstraction of sparkling water. The raised pool and biofiltration bed in the channel are concrete with embossed stainless steel cladding.
- Channel Crossings: Five bridges allow pedestrians to cross the channel. Four are located on south portion of the park and one on the north. The bridges are made from lightly sandblasted concrete with black granite bands along the north/south edges.
- Channel lighting: Wall recessed lights located along the eastern edge; plus linear uplights are located under the weirs along the biofiltration bed.

## Children's Play Area

- Location: there are two informal play areas, one on the north side of the park with children's play equipment and a second with water jets in the pond located on the south side of the park. In the north play area, equipment and activities geared toward younger children are located adjacent to the sandbox, while equipment focused for older children and even adults, is located further south in the park. This uniquely designed play equipment from Germany, includes climbers, balance beams, see-saws, swings, slides and spinning equipment. Much of the play equipment has been designed to support children of all ages.

## Trees

- 192 trees were planted on both portions of the park and include a variety of species:
  - 108 Pacific Sunset Maple (in north and south woods)
  - 45 Red Oak (along Sherbourne Promenade)
  - 29 American Beech (along Eastern Walkway)



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### Splash Pad/Skating Rink

- The 920m<sup>2</sup> splash pad/skating rink on the south side of the park is made of sandblasted concrete embedded with cooling tubes. Water jets made of stainless steel are integrated within the rink slab along with custom designed linear diffusers which shed a thin lense of water across the pond surface.

### Pavilion

- The exterior of the pavilion is clad with Rheinzink (alloy of natural metals mainly consisting of zinc) in pre-weathered blue-grey and the underside of the roof is clad with Rheinzink in a bright, rolled finish. The pavilion features washroom facilities, a space for a café, park mechanical operations and UV filtration (in basement).

### Pumping Station and UV Facility

- Location: Basement of the Pavilion
- Basement Size: 83.6m<sup>2</sup> including a sub-grade chamber for maintenance access
- Materials: Stainless steel piping, two UV disinfection units, two scrim wall booster pumps, two irrigation booster pumps and related valving, instruments and controls.
- Pumping Station/Wet Well Size: 45.1m<sup>2</sup> x 5 metres deep (located adjacent to the basement, it includes three different cells to draw and recirculate water)

### Southern Lawn

- On the south side of the park is 0.386 hectares (0.95 acres) open lawn of Kentucky Blue Grass and fescue. The space serves as gathering space for informal events along the water's edge.

### Water's Edge Promenade and Boardwalk

- Along the lake Sherbourne Common is a 900 metres long and 10 metre wide granite boulevard from Lower Jarvis to Parliament. The promenade features a double row of trees (200 total).

### BUDGET AND TIMING



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- Budget: \$28.7 million (including site preparation costs, demolition and soil remediation as well as design and construction costs for the park, Water Channel and the infrastructure required for the UV Facility) plus \$1.9 million for the public art features
- Timing:
  - Construction began: July 2009
  - Completion: September 2010 (south side) and July 2011 (north side)

### ACCESSIBILITY

The park has been designed to be fully accessible for people with disabilities. There are no steps in the park and all of the Water Channel crossings are flush to the ground. In addition, the drinking fountain located along the main path in North Sherbourne is designed specifically for wheelchair access.

A pedestrian crossing will be put in place to allow people to safely access both sides of the park. This will be completed for Spring 2012. When Queens Quay Boulevard is built, a traffic light will be at the intersection of Sherbourne Street and Queens Quay Boulevard.

### PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The park's name — Sherbourne Common — was selected after a month-and-a-half long public naming contest. The contest was designed to give people across Canada an opportunity to become part of the history of the waterfront by submitting a new name for the park or by voting for their favourite online.

During the contest, more than 500 names were submitted and thousands of people voted online. The new name, submitted by Doug Dent, incorporates the park's location at the foot of Lower Sherbourne, with the idea of 'a common' where park spaces belong to the people.

### PARK OPERATIONS

The City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division will provide maintenance and operation of Sherbourne Common including the children's play area, splash pad and winter skating rink. The Parks Department will also maintain the park's water feature. Waterfront Toronto has secured an operator for the water treatment facility.

All new development projects in Toronto are required to set aside one per cent of their gross construction costs for public art. To bring art to the people, Waterfront Toronto is pooling the



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one per cent of its projected gross construction costs and using it to fund a comprehensive plan that will make public art an integral part of each neighbourhood.