

King/Queen Triangle Public Art Schematic Design January 25, 2023

### King/Queen Triangle Public Art

# Proponent: King Queen Triangle Design Team: Amy Malbeuf & Jordan Bennett, IOTA Studios Inc., Benjamin Matthews

**Review Stage: Schematic Design** 

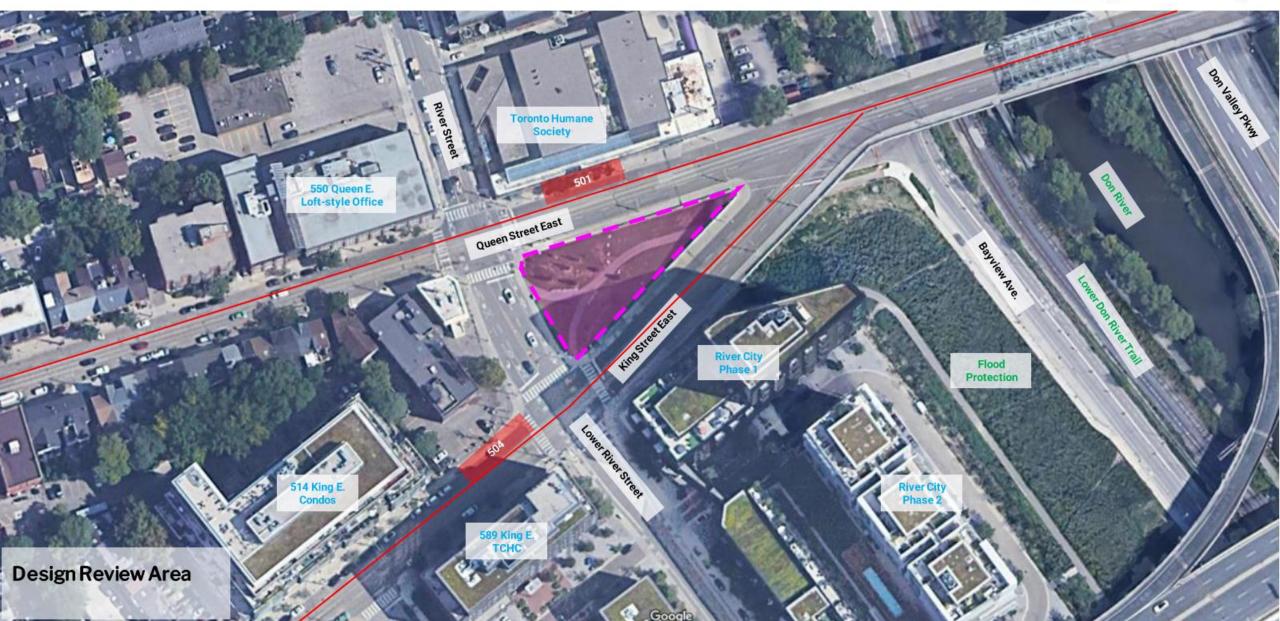
#### **Project Background**

- King Queen Triangle is formed by the intersection of King, Queen and River Streets. The site was identified for permanent public art to create a . gateway feature for Corktown neighbourhood.
- Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was issued July 2021 in collaboration with Indigenous Public Art Curator Ryan Rice to seek Indigenous artists or Indigenous artist-led teams for this site-specific public art commission in the West Don Lands.
- Part of this vision is to transform an undefined, transitory area wedged between high traffic transportation corridors, into a welcoming gathering • space for nearby communities and the public at large.
- The artwork will contribute towards celebrating and acknowledging historical and contemporary Indigenous visual culture as city placemaking. ٠
- The proposal was selected through an open call competition by an Indigenous Evaluation Committee. Teams shortlisted November 2021, ٠ winning team selected May 2022.
- DRP Panel review will focus on ensuring the landscape design supports and reinforces the artistic conception of the project and creates a strong • public space. The sculptural artworks will not be reviewed by the Panel.
- The landscape design is subject to full PFR review and approval, as well as TRCA and Urban Forestry approval and permitting processes. ٠
- The sculptural works are subject to full review and approval by EDC (Culture Division) ٠

## Site Context

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# Site Context – Constraints

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#### LEGEND

Wet side FPL. Within the floodplain area regulated by TRCA. No structures permitted. Plants must be shallowrooted, ecologically appropriate/native species. Minor localized grade changes may be possible.

Crest of the FPL. No structures or grade change permitted.

Dry side FPL. Permanent structures, as well as trees, can be located here here if sufficient cover is provided above the FPL. Minor grade changes related to the overlying soils above the FPL may be possible.

Dry side of FPL with Municipal Servicing. Underground infrastructure in this area may require access in future. Thus, easily removed shallow structures, grasses, berms, simple pathways, shrubs may be possible. No large trees or significant structures/investment recommended.

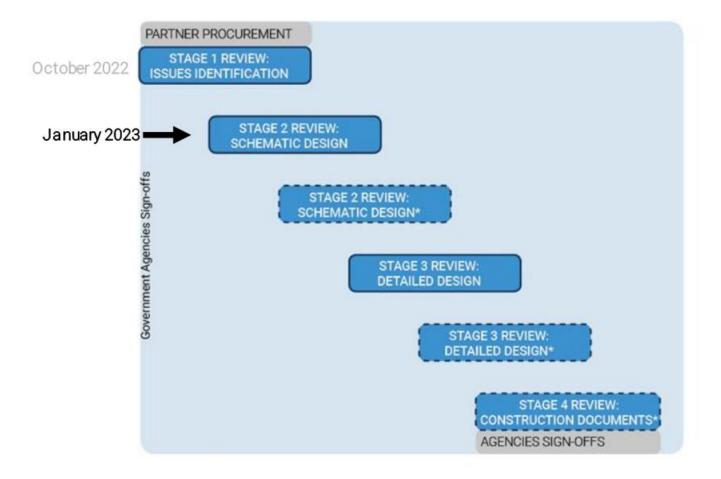
Right-of-Way. No obstructions of traffic or sightlines permitted, nor impacts on infrastructure.

#### FPL = Flood Protection Landform

#### Project Approval Stage DRP Stream 2: Public land

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# **Consensus Comments**

### King/Queen Triangle Public Art

October 2022 WDRP for Issues Identification

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#### General

- Strong support and enthusiasm for the overall project concept.
- Continue to carefully develop the details as the design advances.
- Seek more information from Transportation Services on the existing retaining walls on the north and south end of the site to identify any opportunity for enhancement, such as a mural.
- It is important to envision the **site as a destination** where visitors might come and **discover the art pieces**, rather than as a moment on a liner movement system. Consider an **element of surprise** in the design of the landscape.
- **Consult local community groups** on the existing uses of the site and ensure they are well integrated into the landscape design to create a successful public realm for the community, i.e. potential pet relief area due to proximity with Humane Society.

#### Landscape Design

- Consider how the site fits within the larger mobility network of the neighbourhood and ensure the landscape design supports desired uses such as walking and cycling, and that there is no conflict between pedestrians and cyclists.
- Maximize the planting intensity of the small site to create a powerful experience that is a destination and experientially unique enough to be juxtaposed against the intensity of the vehicular traffic of the area.
- Carefully place the art pieces while refining the landscape design to ensure **strong integration between the elements** and strengthen the reading and appreciation of the project. Consider the height and shapes of the landforms, the density and wildness of the veg etation, key sightlines, and viewpoints.
- Some Panel members felt the existing pathway is not needed, as there are various sidewalks and bike trails nearby, and should be replaced with more planted areas.
- Consider using the landscape to mark the moment where one can see the Don along the crest line of the site to help transition the western side to the eastern flood protected half.
- Suggest referencing the local plant palette along the Don River in the selection of plant species.

#### Areas for Panel Consideration Waterfront Toronto

### King/Queen Triangle Public Art

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- Does the landscape design successfully reinforce the overall artistic vision of the project? Is there strong integration between the landscape and the art sculptures?
- How does the landscape create a successful destination experience with moments of discovery and a gathering space for the public? Does the landscape design make this site more inviting and user-friendly for communities and passers-by?
- Does updated design successfully address existing site conditions and integrate the existing trees and vegetation?
- Does the Panel support the proposed planting plan and species?
- Does the Panel support the updated path material, bench concept, and other details?

#### **RESEARCH QUESTIONS**

What is the history of the Don River?

Who gathered here in the past, who presently gathers here, and who will gather here into the future?

How do we convey a sense of community through the triangle design?



The site will speak to contemporary Indigenous realities, the resilience our communities have in the face of colonization and the constantly changing realities that we face as humans in this time of climate, political, cultural, and socioeconomic change.

## STORM WRACK + DON RIVER DEBRIS NATURAL ACCUMULATION AND THE TELLING OF THE PAST, LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

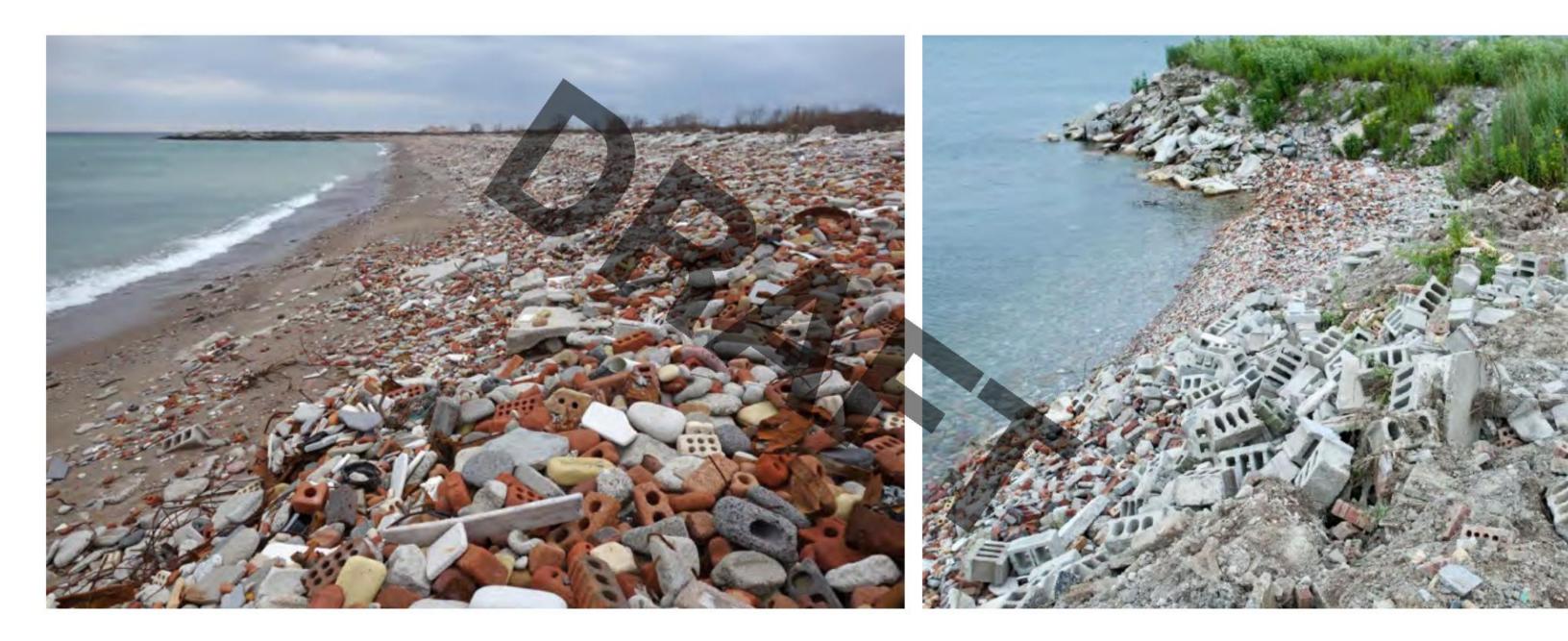
EBBBBBB

ack

MORINE



#### **LESLIE STREET SPIT**



# two and trash accumulation at DOM RIVER booms

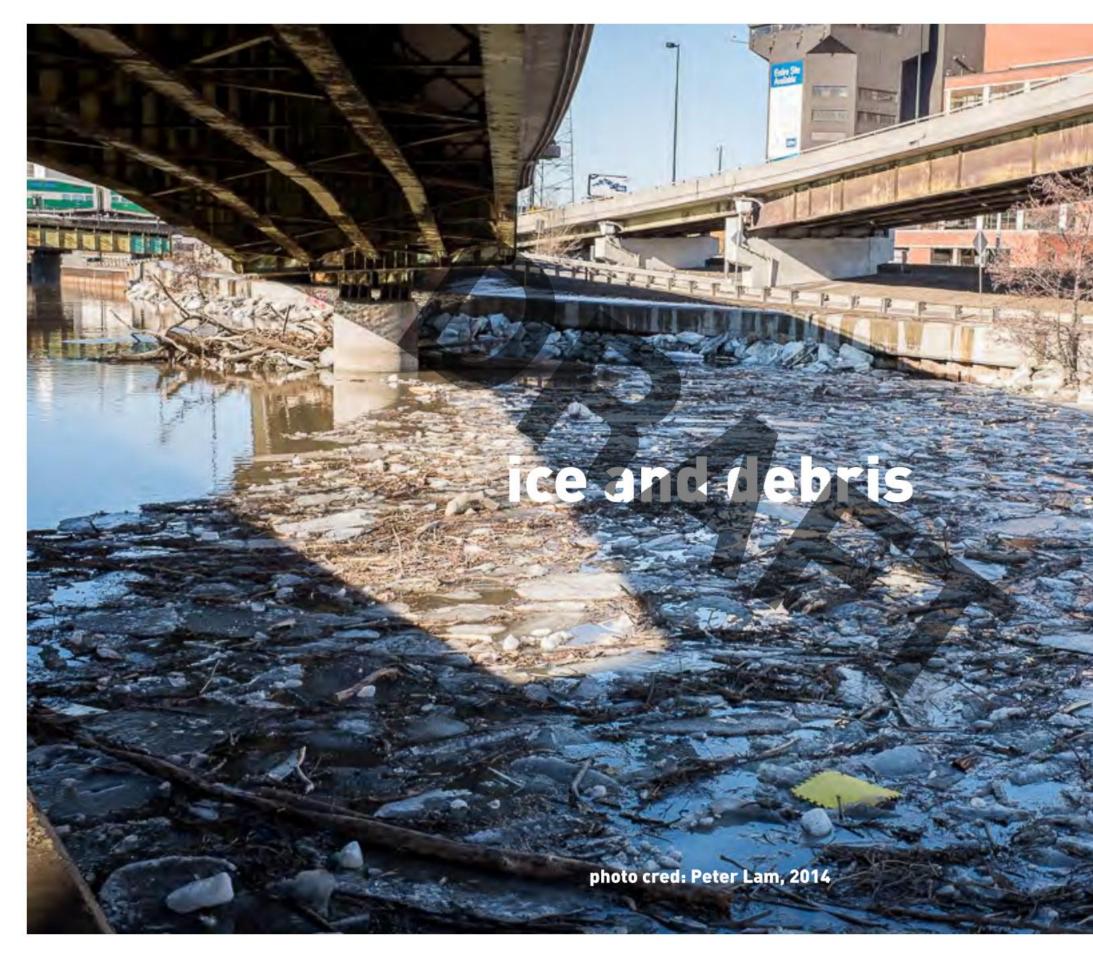
photo cred: Jack Hauen, 2018



# cond and trash accumulation at DON RIVER booms

hoto cred: Jack Hauen, 2018

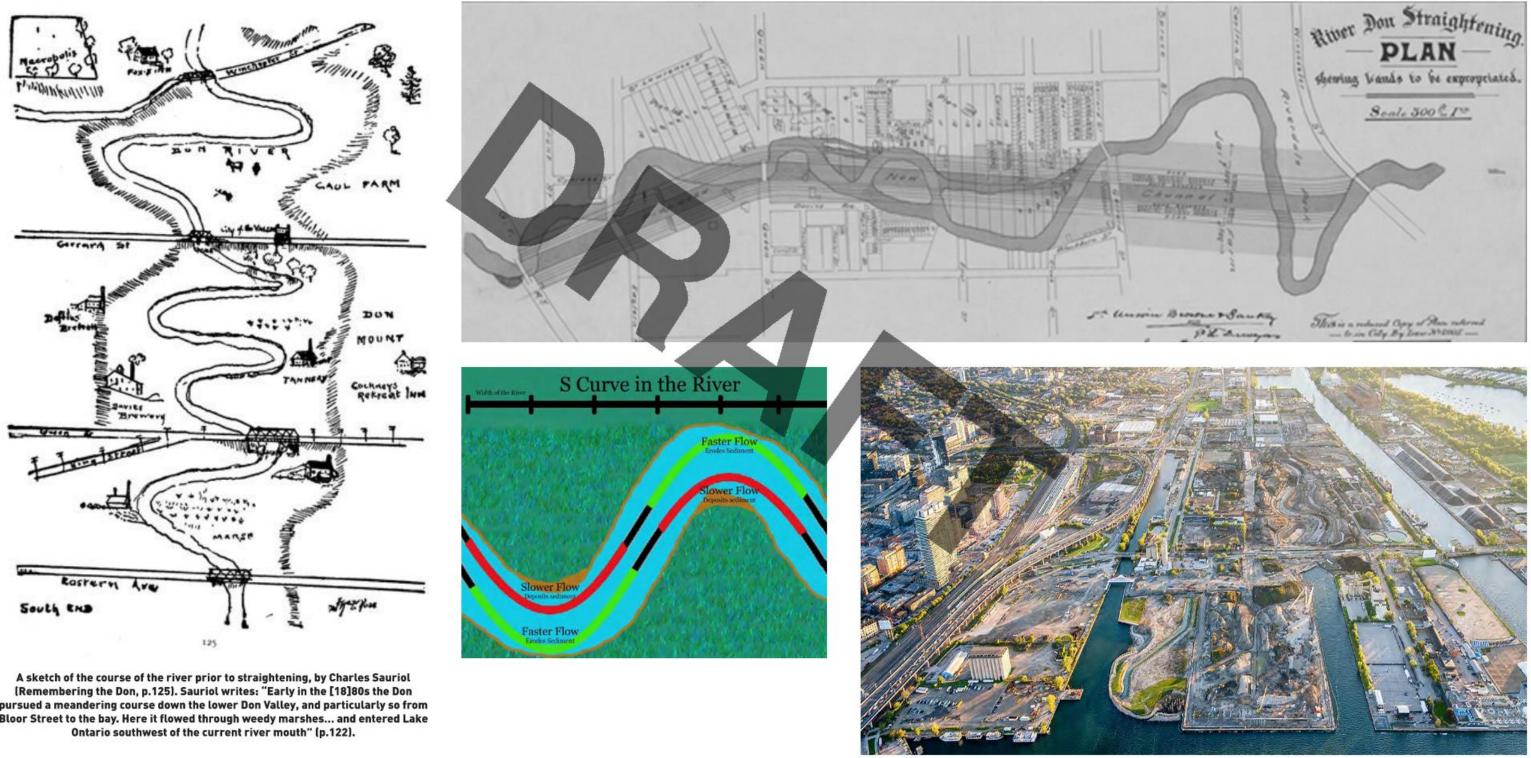






#### NATURAL RIVER MEANDER AND THE STRAIGHTENING OF THE DON

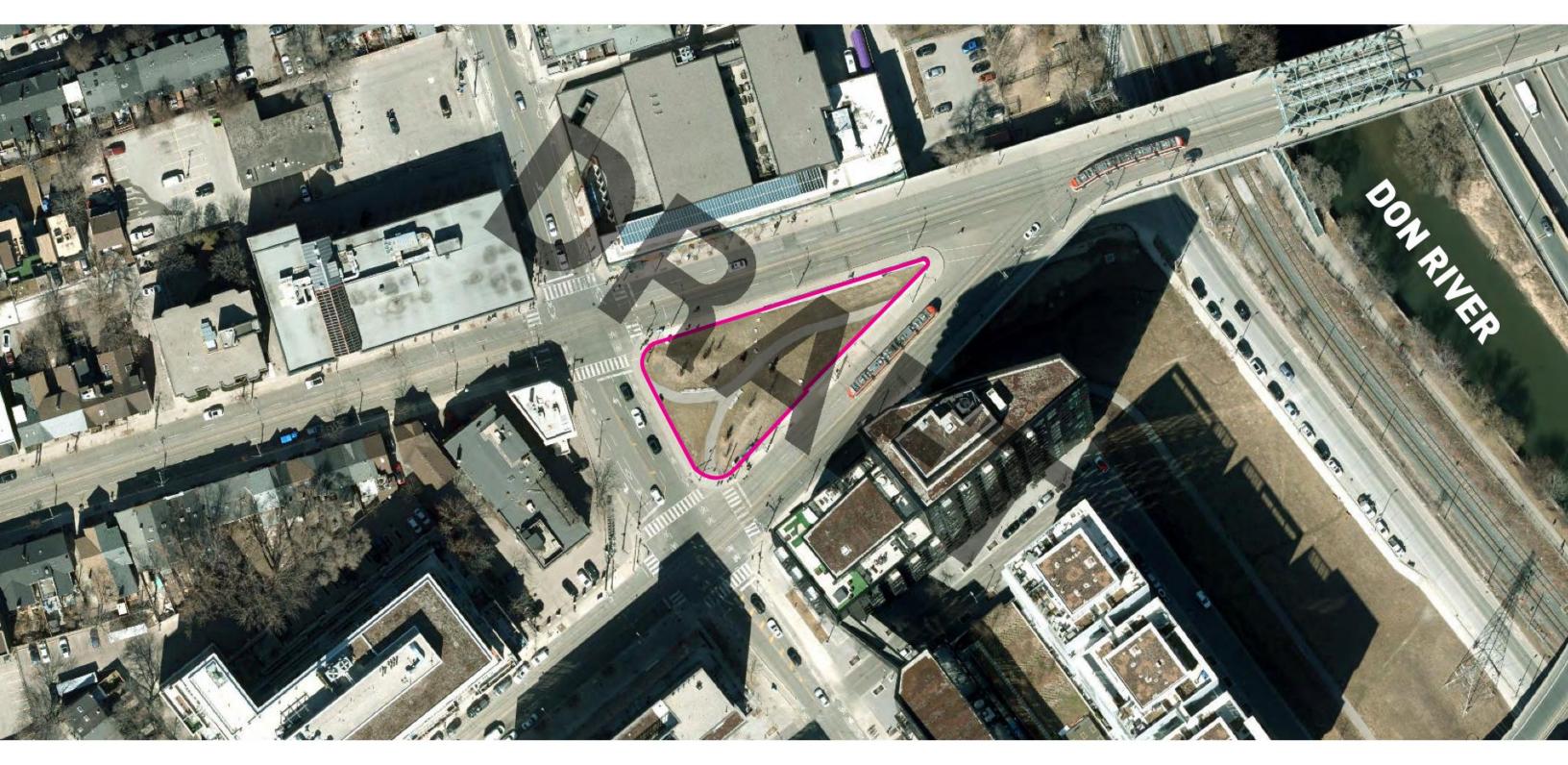
SEDIMENTATION/FLOODING/RE-NATURALIZATION



pursued a meandering course down the lower Don Valley, and particularly so from Bloor Street to the bay. Here it flowed through weedy marshes... and entered Lake











#### **PROGRESS REPORT: COMMUNITY CONSULTATION** AND DESIGN COLLABORATION

#### **COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

#### **West Don Lands Committee**

- Corktown Residents and Business Assoc. (CRBA)
- Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Assoc. (GWNA)
  St Lawrence Neighbourhood Assoc (SLNA)
- St Lawrence Market Neighbourhood BIA (SLMNBIA)
- Distillery Historic District
- Enoch Turner Schoolhouse Foundation
- Little Trinity Anglican Church
- Friends of Corktown Common
- Dixon Hall
- Citizens for the Old Town

#### **Anishnawbe Health Toronto**

- Community Context of Public Art and Indigenous Storytelling
- "Don to Downtown Walking Tour" / "Indigenous Storytelling and Knowledge Along the Lower Don"
- Design and Public Art Precedents

#### MinoKamik - Port Lands Flood Protection Project

 Shelley Mandakwe Charles, Elder, Culture and Language Teacher (Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation), Keeper of Women's Teachings, Ceremony leader, Indigenous Education Specialist at York Region District School Board

Context, History, Plantings

#### **DESIGN COLLABORATION**

- Site visits and collaboration with the Design Team and Engineers
- Site and community context learning
- Workshop visit and collaboration with Fabricator



# SITE PLAN + SCULPTURE LOCATIONS - TREE LAYER

Existing phalt Pa

cramble ar d Clearing

Smudge

NEEN

Canoe

Nati Ianti

Backpack

Tarp

Flamingo

1)

Landscape

Existing Asphalt Pat

Design is subject to full PFR review and approval, as well as TRCA and Urban Forestry approval and permitting processes.



# SITE PLAN SCULPTURE LOCATIONS - GROUND LAYER

STRUM.

NEEN

Canoe

Backpack

Smudge

Tarp

Flamingo

Meadow Landscape

Existing phalt Path

> Meadow Indscape

Existing Asphalt Path

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# PLANTING, FORM + LAYOUT

Maximize the planting intensity of the small site to create a powerful experience that is a destination and experientially unique enough to be juxtaposed against the intensity of the vehicular traffic of the area.

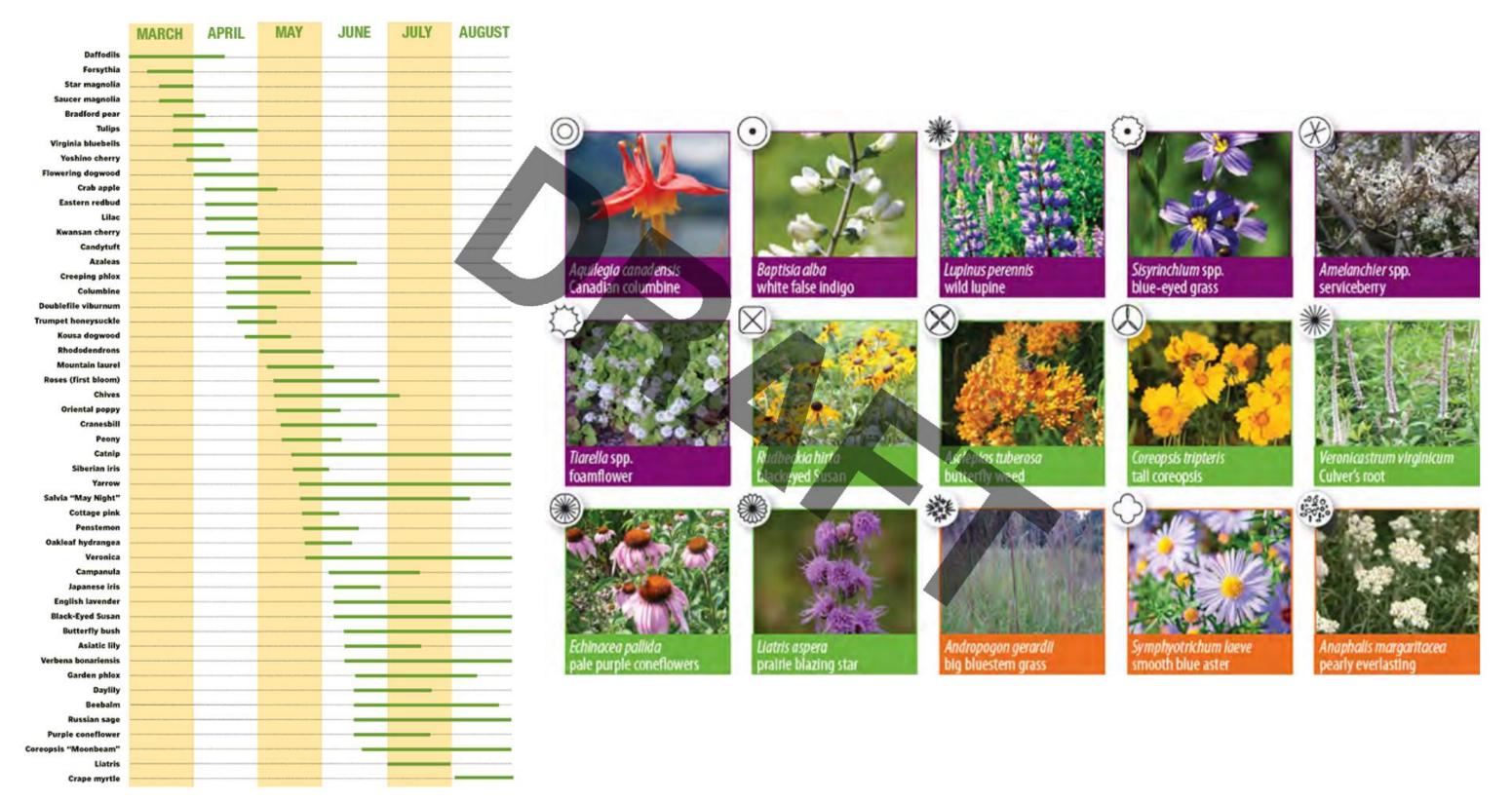
Suggest referencing the local riparian plant palette along the Don River in the selection of plant species.

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Consider using the landscape to mark the moment where one can see the Don along the crest line of the site to help transition the western side to the eastern flood protected half.

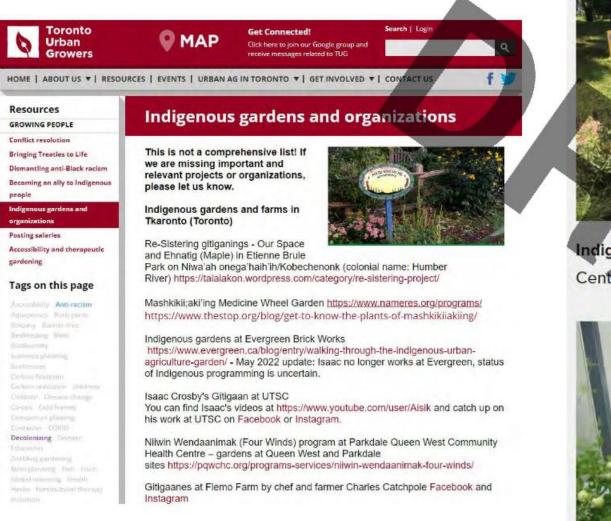


#### **BLOOM CHART**





#### **HOW CAN PLANTING CONTRIBUTE TO THE STORY**





Indigenous Teaching Garden at the Bickford Centre



Indigenous Entryway Garden at Albert Campbell Public Library



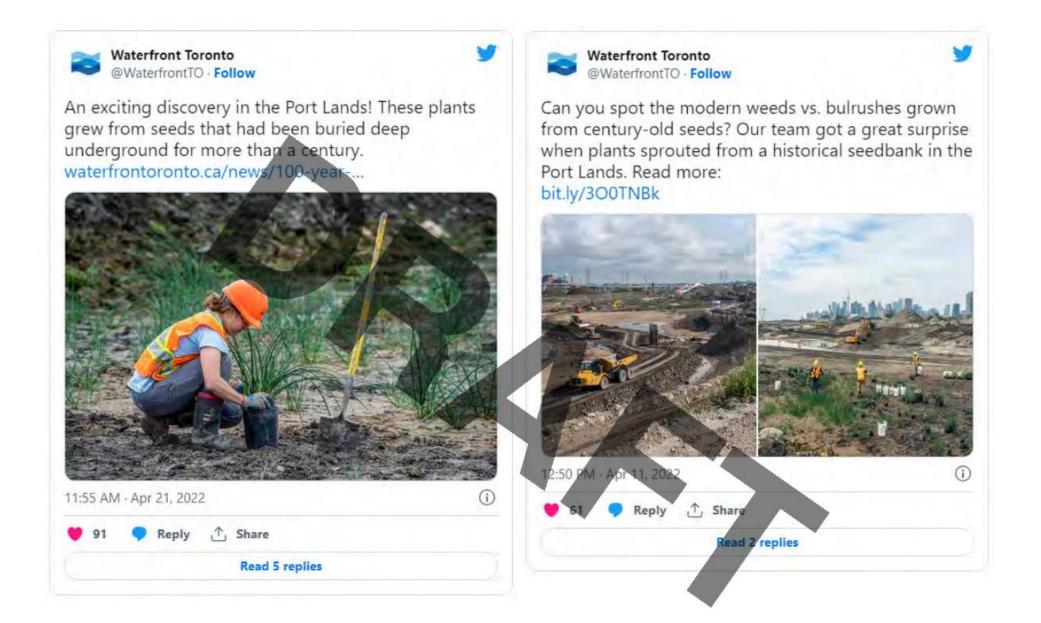
**Container Gardens** 

Living Monument at Country Heritage Park

MIINIKAAN Innovation and Design



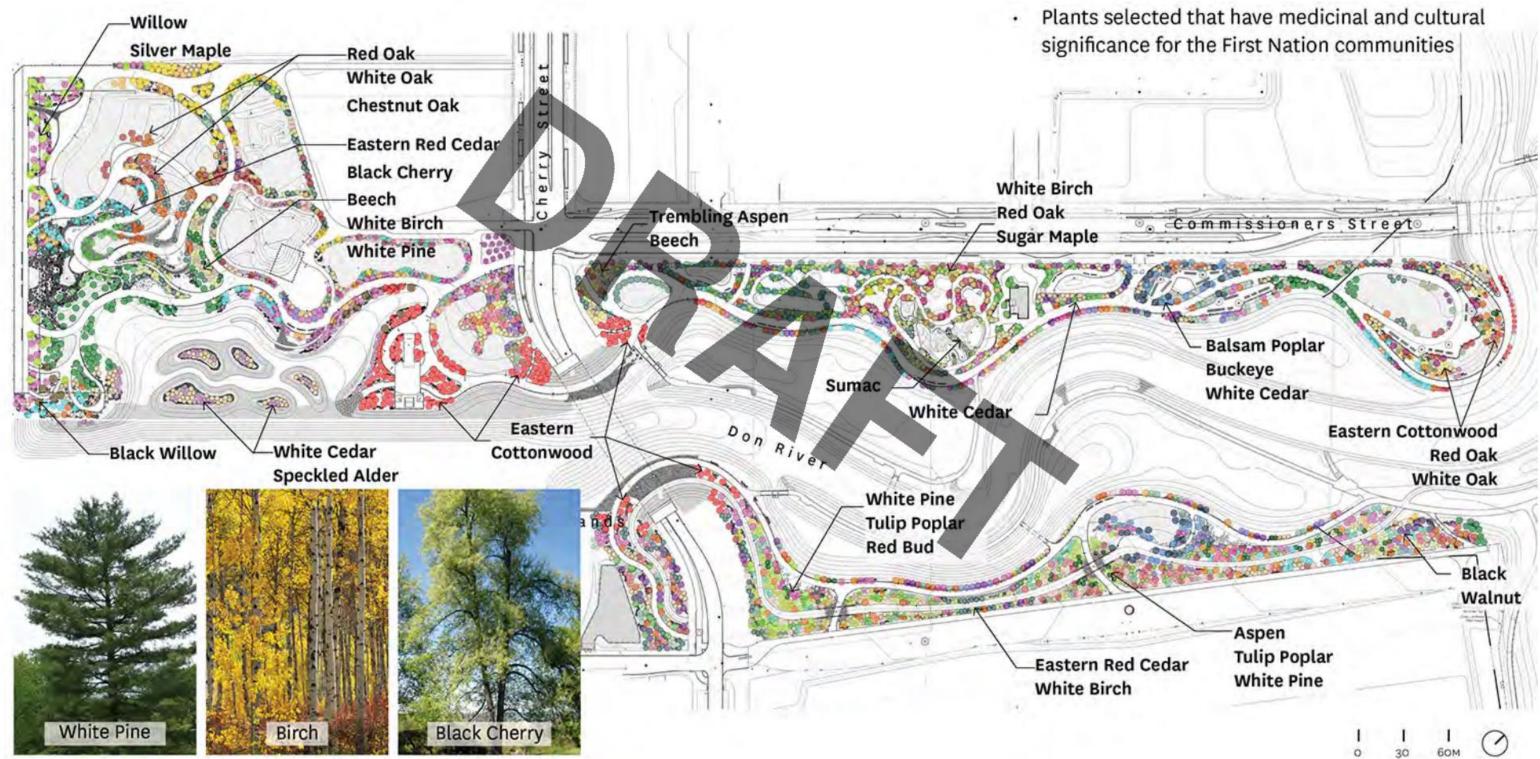
#### **REVEALING PAST HISTORIES**



"We were able to identify at least two species of leafy plants that grew. Hard Stem Bulrush and Cattails were growing well, so we transplanted them to Tommy Thompson Park nearby..."

Two plants researchers grew from samples collected in the Port Lands – a coyote willow and a bulrush – were replanted as part of this gathering and returned to the spot where water that was restricted over 100 years ago will once again flow.

# Minokamik – Plantings of medicinal and cultural significance for First Nations communities



#### **TRCA Arborist Report**

Arborist Report and Tree Preservation Plan - WDLS FPL



Figure 2. Proposed Tree Removals. Source: TRCA, 2022.

#### 7.0 Compensation Requirements

Table 2 summarizes the compensation required based on the City of Toronto'scompensation guidelines.A restoration plan will be developed to ensure appropriatequantity, spacing and site-specific species of planting material.

Impact by Category	Replacement Ratio	Number of Trees	Compensation		
Category 3. Parks by-law ≥10 cm DBH Removal	3:1				
Category 3. Parks by-law < 10 cm DBH - Planted Removal	3:1	14	42		
Dead and previously cut trees	-	3	-		
(Total)					
		Total	42		

Tagged Tree Inventory – 555 Queen St East. Toronto, ON

		Speci	es I.D.				CONDITION		CoT Tree By-Law Category	Impact Assessment				
	Tag #	Common Name	Scientific Name	DBH	TPZ	Injury %TP2	Trunk Integrity	Canopy Structure	Canopy Vigour	(TPPR)	No Conflict	Injure	Remove	Comments
	1301	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	7.5	1.2	10114	Good	Good	Good	3			R	connents
	1302	Columnar white oak CUT	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	2	1.2		Poor	Poor	Good	3			R-D	Previously cut
	1303	Columnar white oak CUT	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	NA	1.2		NA	NA	NA	3			R-D	Previously cut
	1304	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	7.5	1.2		Good	Fair	Fair	3			R	
	1305	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	7	1.2		Good	Fair	Poor	3			R	
	1306	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	6.5	1.2		Poor	Good	Good	3			R	
	1307	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	7	1.2		Fair	Good	Good	3			R	
	1308	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	6	1.2		Fair	fair	Fair	3			R	
	1309	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	6	1.2		Good	Fair	Fair	3			R	
	1310	Columnar white oak	Querous robur 'Fastigiata'	7	1.2		Good	Good	Good	3			R	
	1311	Columnar white oak	Quercus robur 'Fastigiata'	7	1.2		Good	Good	Good	3			R	
NATIVE	1312	Silver maple	Acer saccharinum	3.5	1.2		Good	Good	Good	3			R	
	1313	Columnar white oak	Querait cohur Tasticlato	7	17		Good	Fair	Fair	3			R	
	131.	Black locust	Robinia pseudoacacia	9	1.2		Good	Good	Good	3			R	
	13 5	Black locust	Robinia pseudoacacia	6	1.2		Good	Good	Good	3			R	
	131	Black locust	Robinia pseudoacacia	7	1.2		Good	Good	Good	3			R	
	1317	Dead Unknown deciduous	Dead	3.5	NA		NA	NA	NA	3			P-D	Dead
sation													)	

### NATURALIZED IN ONTARIO (sometimes considered invasive)

# Native (Carolinian) Forest



# Native (Carolinian) Forest Patch





#### **Sea of Native Wildflowers A Home for Pollinators**









orthern mai

















## **Extending Beyond the Figure**



# **Extending Beyond the Figure**





# LEVELS OF INVESTMENT

LOW

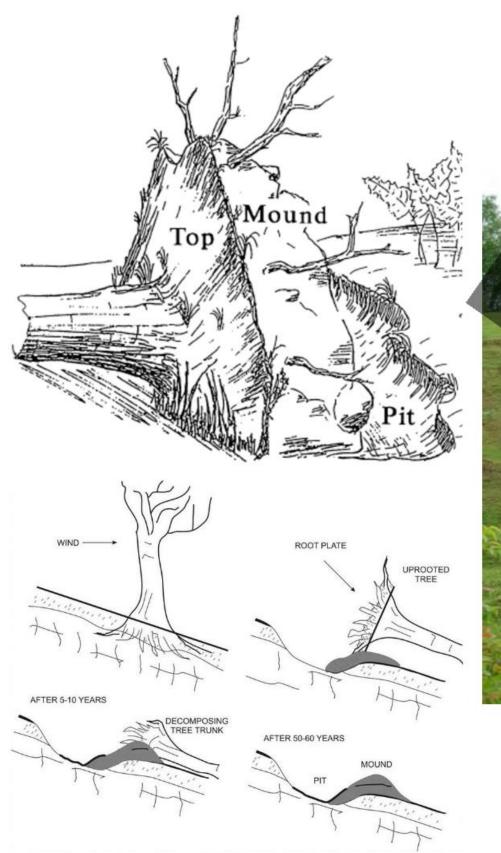
INTERVENTION

PRIMARY

EEN

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#### **PIT/MOUND MICRORELIEF + SEED**





Pit-mound microrelief in forest soils: Review of implications for water retention and hydrologic modelling

Show more V

#### Abstract

Forest ecosystems are known for their capacity to retain and redistribute water. Nevertheless, even in some forested watersheds, prolonged or intense rainfall events often exceed the retention threshold of the system, generating accelerated runoff. Surface microrelief is an important attribute of forest ecosystems that often act to mediate potential runoff. In most natural forests, the soil surface is typically unevenly broken with pit and mound microrelief, formed by both historical and recent tree uprooting events. In managed forests, however, tree uprooting is traditionally seen as undesirable. The systematic repression of this process may lead to gradual loss of microrelief. To date, little attention has been paid to the impacts

Forest Ecology and Management Volume 393, 1 June 2017, Pages 40-51



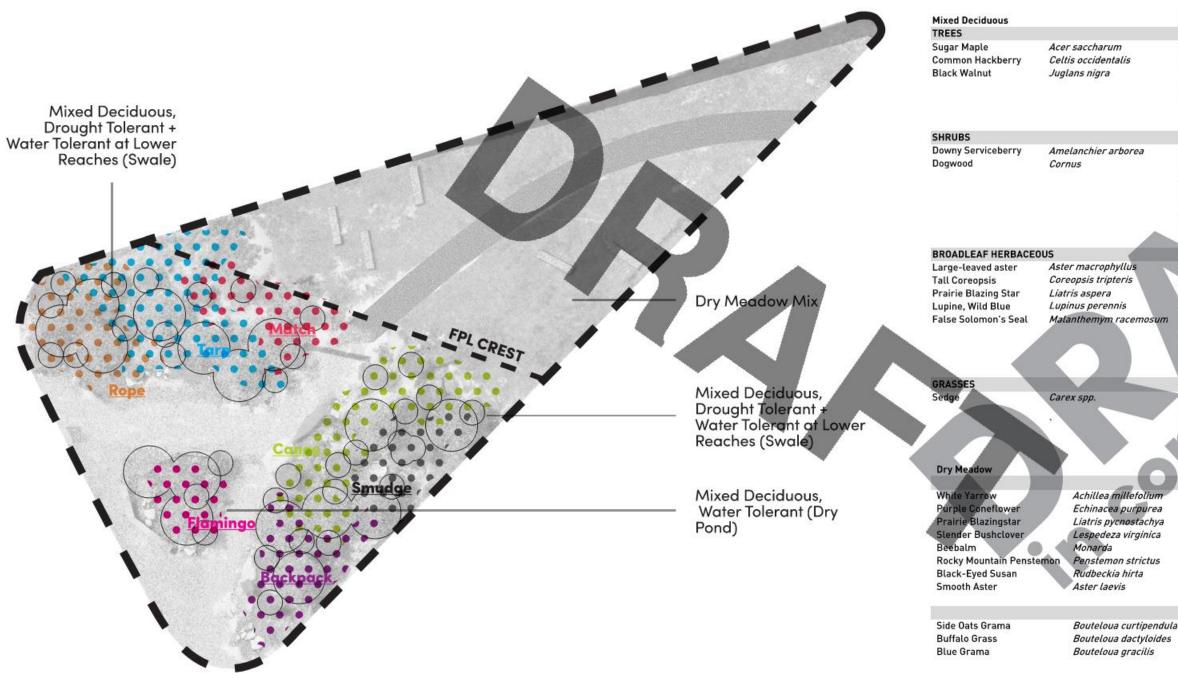
Martin Valtera \* 🙁 🖾, Randall J. Schaetzl b

+ Add to Mendeley 🚓 Share 🤧 Cite

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2017.02.048

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# PLANTING STRATEGY (CONCEPTUAL) SEASONAL BURSTS OF COLOUR EMANATING FROM THE SCULPTURES



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#### **Mixed Deciduous Water Tolerant**

Speckled Alder Paper Birch Balsam Poplar Eastern Cottonwood Trembling Aspen

Alnus incana ssp. rugosa Betula papyrifera Populus balsamifera ssp. balsamifera Populus deltoides Populus tremuloides

Black Chokecherry Eastern Ninebark Staghorn Sumac Swamp Red Current **Common Red Raspberry** Sandbar Willow Common Elderberry

Common Yarrow Canada Anemone Eastern Purple Coneflower Showy tick-trefoil Common Strawberry **Ostrich Fern** Wild Bergamot Bee Balm Black-eyed Susan

Blue Grama Sedge Canada Wild-rve ulrush

Rhus typhina (Rhus hirta) Ribes triste Rubus idaeus ssp. strigosus Salix exigua Sambucus canadensis

Aronia melanocarpa (Photinia melanocarpa)

Physocarpus opulifolius

Achillea mittefoliumssp. Lanulosa Anemone canadensis Echinacea purpurea Desmodium canadense Fragaria virginiana ssp. virginiana Matteucia struthiopteris var pensylvanica Monarda fistulosa Rudbeckia hirta

Bouteloua gracilis Carex Elymus canadensis Schoenoplectus spp

## **TREE ADDITIONS AND REMOVALS**

TREE - EXISTING, TO REMAIN

TREE - EXISTING, ALREADY DEAD

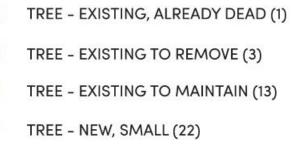
EEN

- FPL CREST 2.5m OFFSET

TREE - EXISTING, TO REMOVE -

- TREE - NEW PLANTINGS

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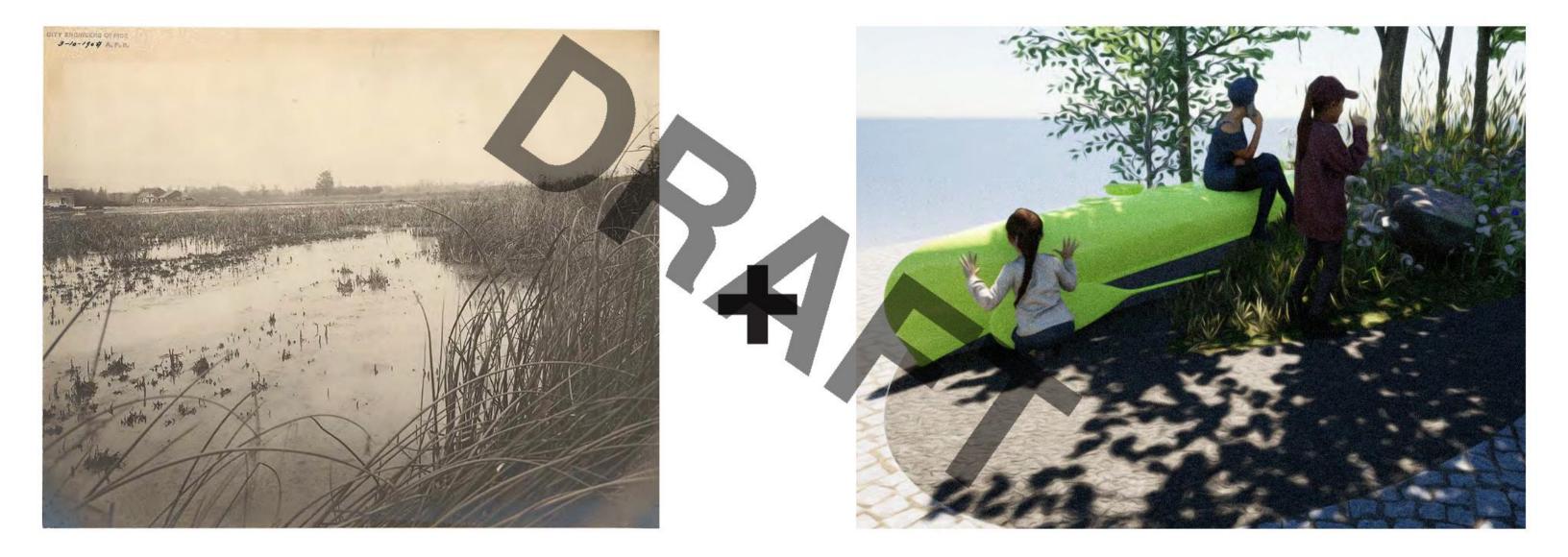


TREE - NEW, LARGE (16)

# OILAMENDMENT + NATURAL SUCCESSION

Soil Amendment Through Decomposition





### **DON RIVER SHOALS AND SHORES**





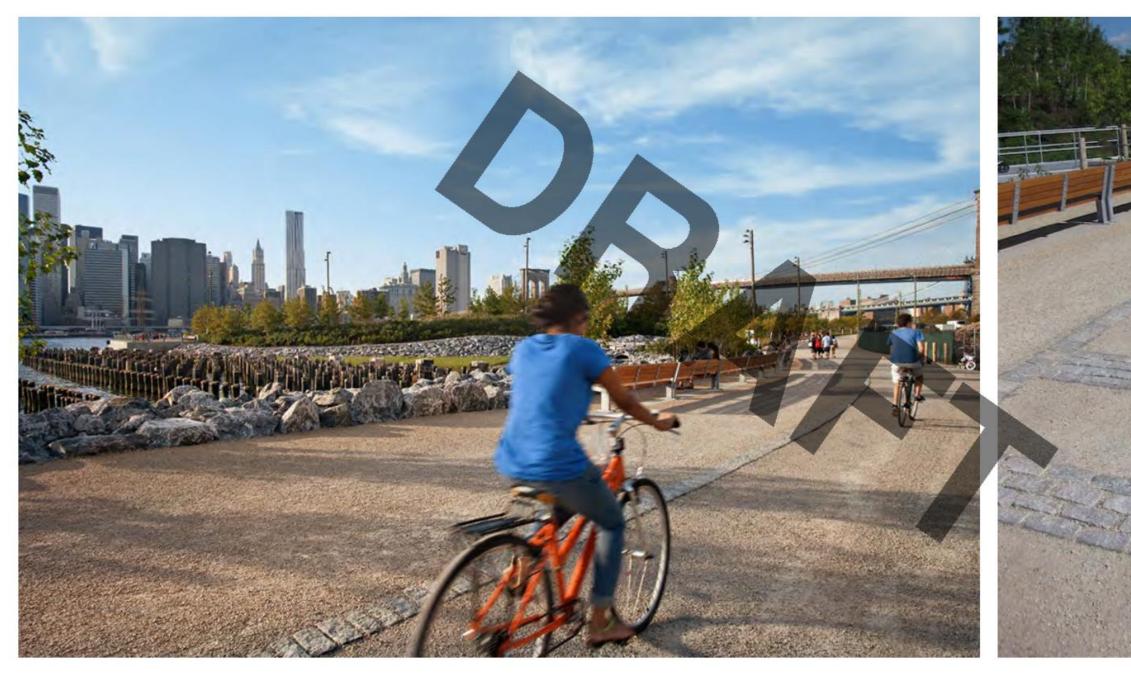






#### BROOKLN BRIDGE PARK BIKEWAY CHIPSEAL AND COBBLE RUMBLE STRIPS

'It isn't deep or loose, but it will definitely add a new element to your ride.'





## **GRADING, DRAINAGE AND STORMWATER**

EEN

+HP 82.19

> +HP 84.00

3:1

**TIVE** 2:1

5:1

+78.50

12% - EXISTING, TO REMAIN

3:1 +HP 3:1 83.50 +80.50

3.7%

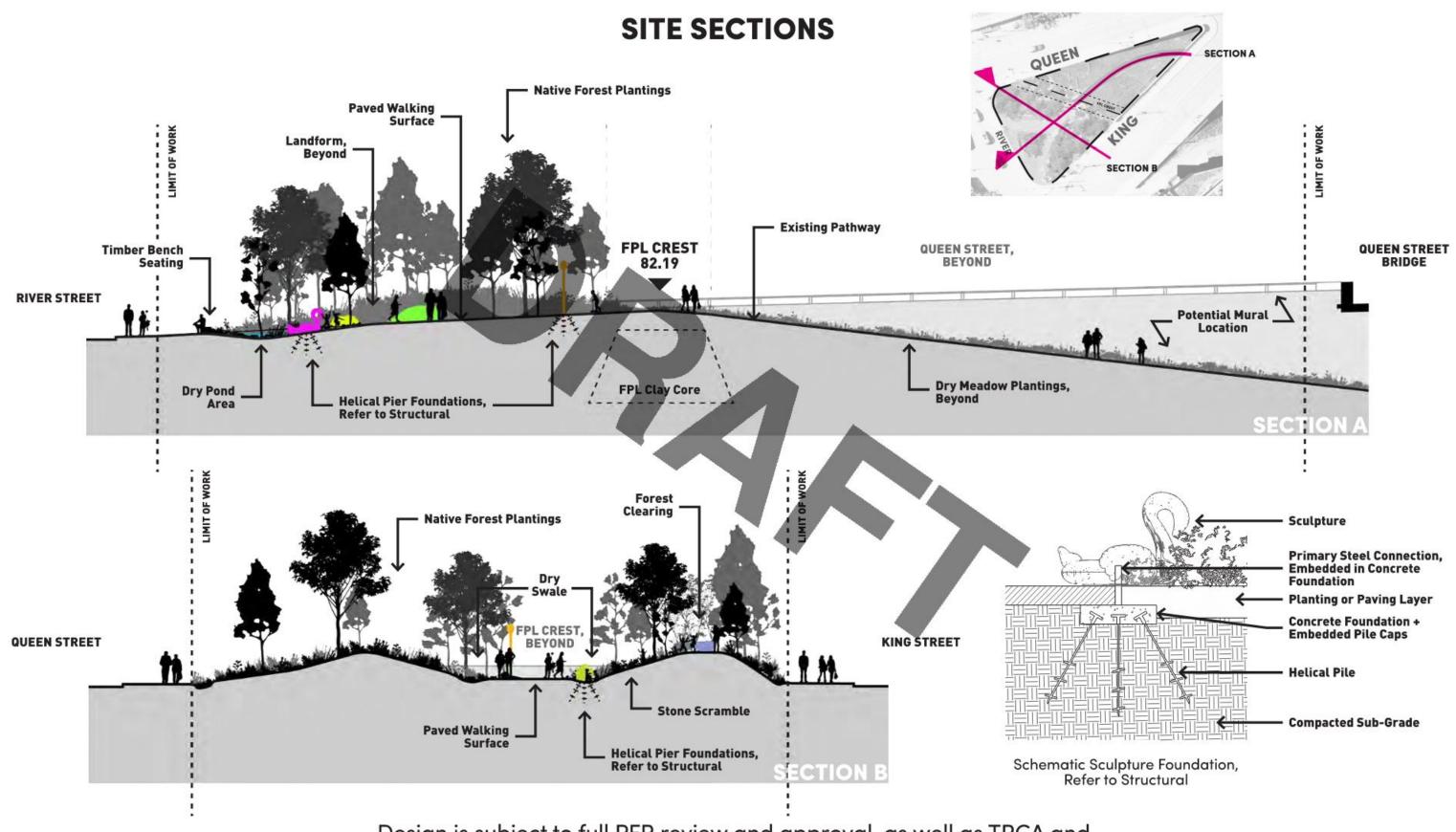
80.00

5.8%

+80.50

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## **CIRCULATION + ACCESSIBILITY**

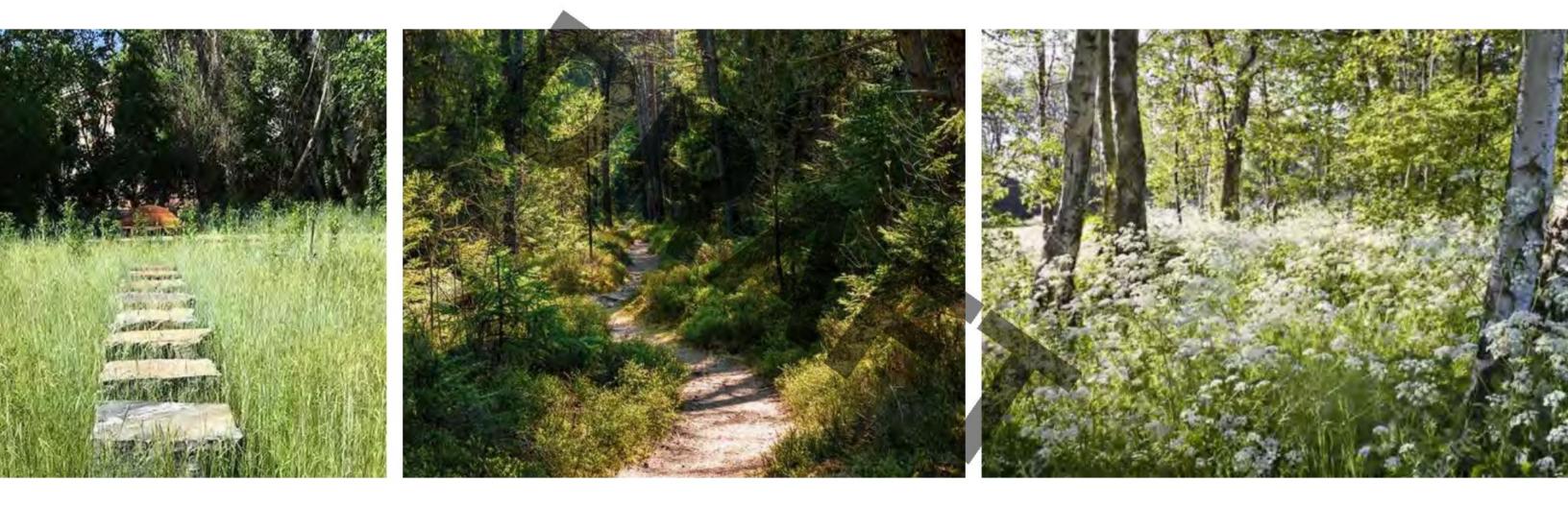
Existing Asphalt Path



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#### EXPLORER PATHS + A FOREST CLEARING A MOMENT OF SURPRISE AND DISCOVERY



# PERFORATIONS AND CREATING OPPORTUNITY FOR LIGHT AND NEW GROWTH WITHIN THE SCULPTURES



#### *'BEE BRICKS* BECOMING PLANNING REQUIREMENT FOR NEW BUILDINGS IN BRIGHTON'



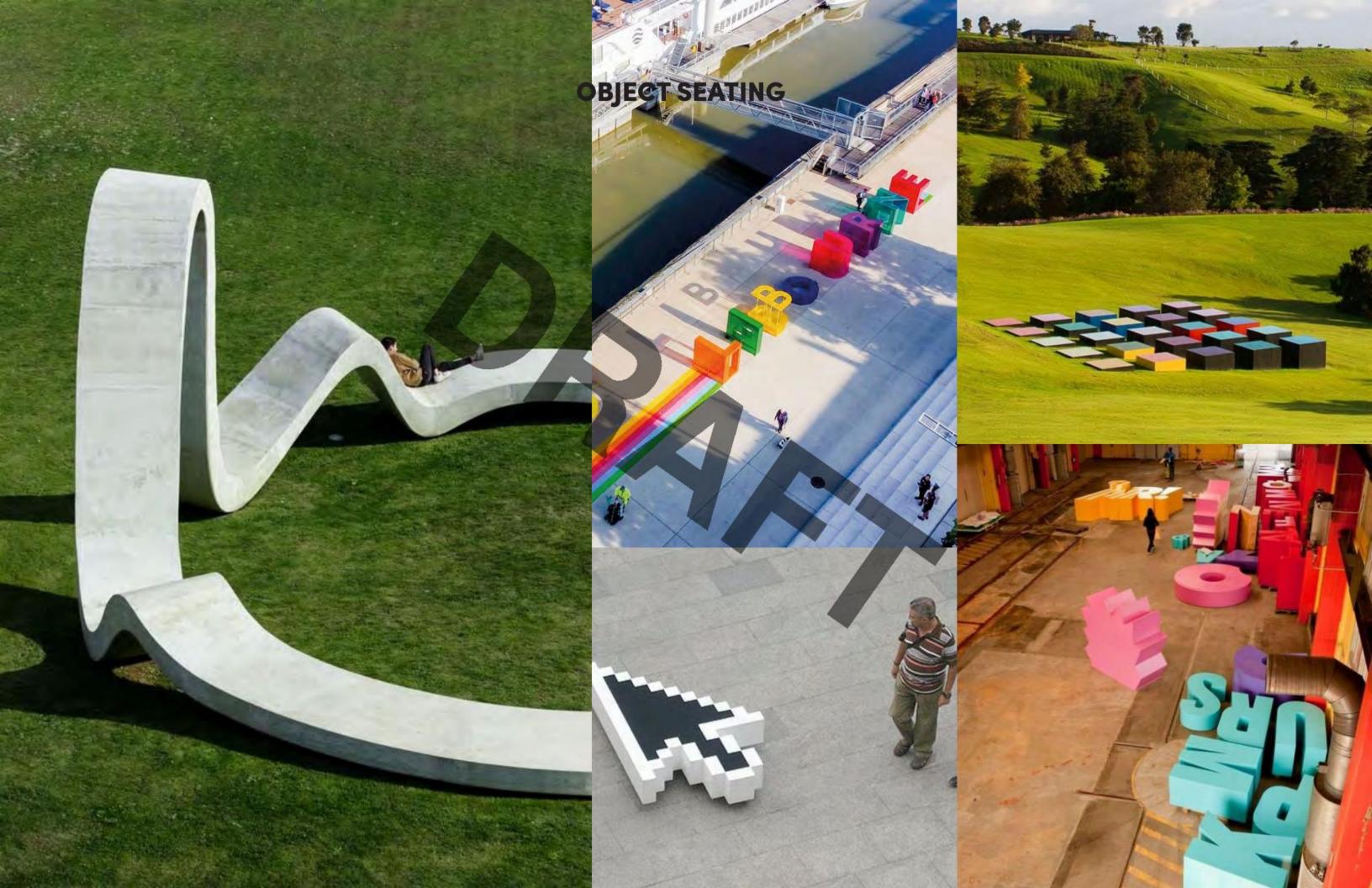
## HIGH LINE







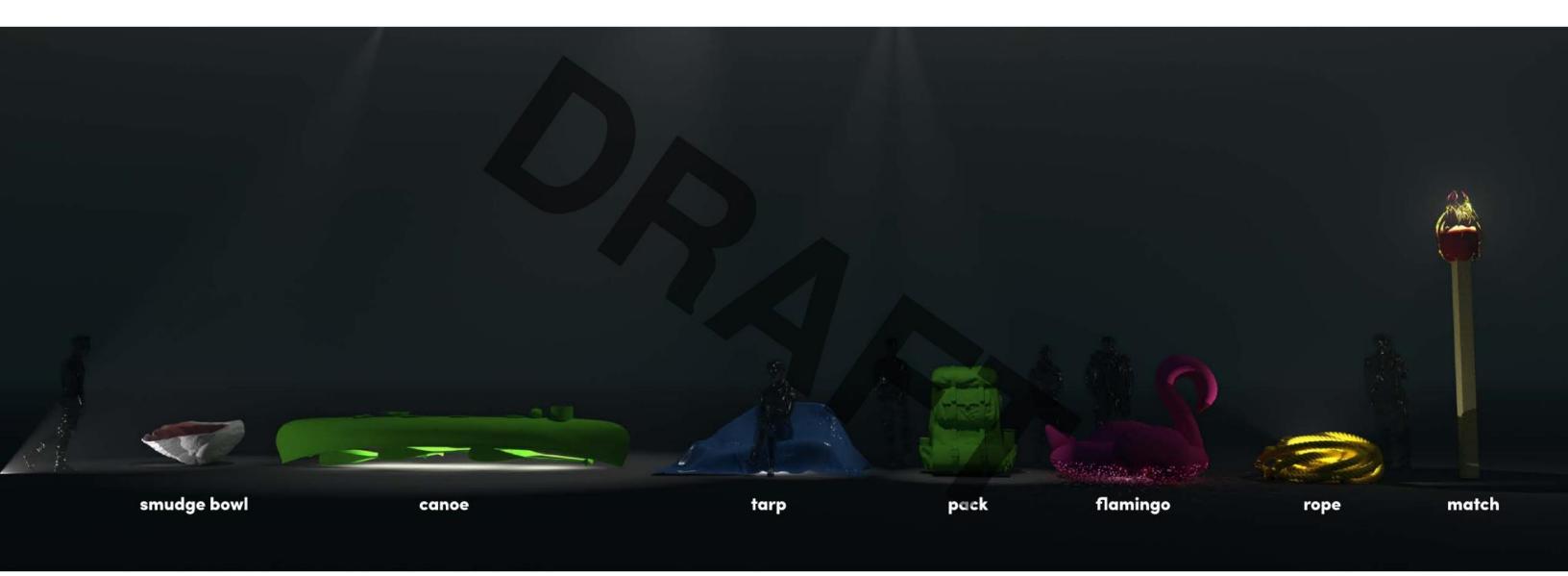




### **SCULPTURES UPDATE**

CANOE	FLAMINGO	ABALONE SHELL	ROPE	MATCH	TARP	BACKPACK
COLOUR: GREEN FINISH: MATTE	COLOUR: HOT PINK FINISH: HIGH GLOSS	COLOUR: MATTE WHITE OUTSIDE/IRIDESCENT INSIDE	COLOUR: YELLOW FINISH: MATTE	COLOUR: FINISH: MATTE	COLOUR: GREEN FINISH: MATTE	COLOUR: GREEN FINISH: MATTE
Pantone 2411CP	Pantone 806U	Pantone 11-4001 TPG	Pantone 107C	Pantone P1-4U	Pantone 2386C	Pantone 2287C
SIZE: 16'-17'	SIZE: 90"L x 90"W x 78"H	SIZE: 5' on longest dimension	SIZE: 3-4' on longest dimension	SIZE: 9'-10' High	SIZE: 9'x12' collapsed	SIZE: 37" at the widest dimension
LIGHTING: Lit from base & Glow from under with perforation	LIGHTING: Lit from base/ glow from under with perforation	LIGHTING: Lit from underneath. Light shines through natural holes and spot lit from above (adjacent structure ie.tree)	LIGHTING: Spotlit from below/within. Light to shine through gaps in rope.	LIGHTING: Flame glowing like torch with light shining down on the 4 sided stick portion.	LIGHTING: Perforated at base, glowing light from base/within.	LIGHTING: Spot lit from ground level.

### **SCULPTURES UPDATE**





match

tarp

## **SCULPTURES UPDATE**













