

November 20, 2023

# Quayside Infrastructure & Public Realm Public Meeting

## Land Acknowledgement

Waterfront Toronto acknowledges that the land upon which we are undertaking our revitalization efforts is part of the traditional territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation and that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation (MCFN).

In addition, Waterfront Toronto acknowledges that Toronto has historically been a gathering place for many Indigenous people, including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnaabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples, and is home to many First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples today.





Shelley Charles, Ojibwe Elder MinoKamik Collective

## Welcome

Ausma Malik, Deputy Mayor, City of Toronto Member of Board of Directors, Waterfront Toronto

## Agenda: Quayside Infrastructure and Public Realm



Time	Item	Presenter
6:00 pm	1. Welcome & Land Acknowledgement	<ul> <li>Pina Mallozzi, Senior Vice President Design, Waterfront Toronto</li> <li>Shelley Charles, Ojibwe Elder, MinoKamik</li> <li>Ausma Malik, Deputy Mayor, City of Toronto</li> <li>Liz McHardy, Partner, LURA</li> </ul>
6:10 pm	2. Quayside in Context	Pina Mallozzi, Waterfront Toronto
6:20 pm	<ul> <li>3. Leading with Ecology – Presentation</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Yvonne Lam, Partner, DTAH</li> <li>Liz McHardy, LURA</li> </ul>
6:55 pm	<ul> <li>4. Mobility and Movement – Presentation</li> <li>• Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Yvonne Lam, DTAH</li> <li>Liz McHardy, LURA</li> </ul>
7:25 pm	<ul> <li>5. Activation and Amenities – Presentation</li> <li>Discussion</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Yvonne Lam, DTAH</li> <li>Liz McHardy, LURA</li> </ul>
7:55 pm	6. Wrap-up and Next Steps	Liz McHardy, LURA

## Context

Pina Mallozzi, Senior Vice President, Design Waterfront Toronto

## Designated Waterfront Area







East Bayfront – Before (circa 2005)

East Bayfront – Now (2021)







**Development Parcels** Blocks 1-5

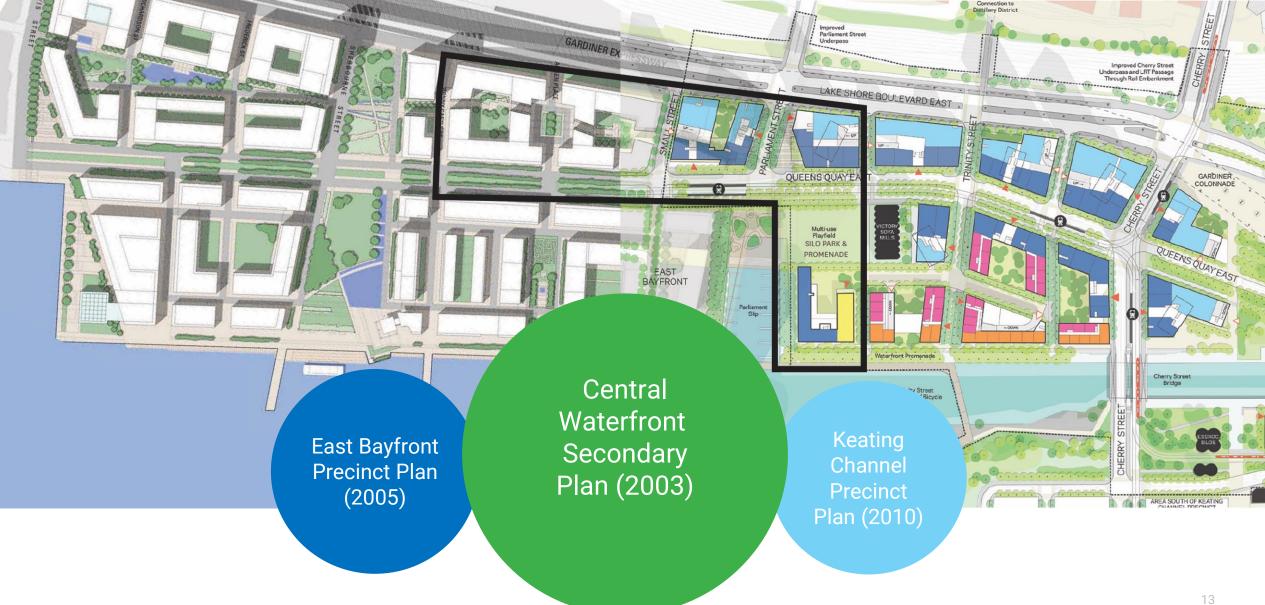
Delivered by Quayside Impact Limited Partnership **Streets and Public Realm** *Queens Quay East, local streets, Water's Edge Promenade, Silo Park* 

Delivered by Waterfront Toronto

Infrastructure Municipal and utility infrastructure to support future density

Delivered by Waterfront Toronto

## Planning Context: Guiding Documents



## **Dynamic**

Year-round streetscape activation, active transportation, public transit

#### **Public Realm Design Principles**

Activation and Engagement: embrace seasonality and encourage year-round use of public spaces.

**Continuity with the broader waterfront**: consistent with the vision and design of the public realm elsewhere in the waterfront, and draw people to the lake.

**Design Excellence**: maintain the standard of design excellence, quality of place, and attention to detail that has been delivered on the waterfront.



## Inclusive

Affordable housing, social equity, public spaces & placemaking

### **Public Realm Design Principles**

**Equity**: celebrate the cultural diversity of Toronto and equitably welcome all users to these spaces.

**Indigenous Placemaking**: respect and celebrate Indigenous place-making and the Indigenous relationship to this land.

Accessibility: beyond compliance with accessibility standards, the waterfront should be inviting and barrier free for users of all abilities and ages.





## Resilient

Climate leadership, healthy spaces

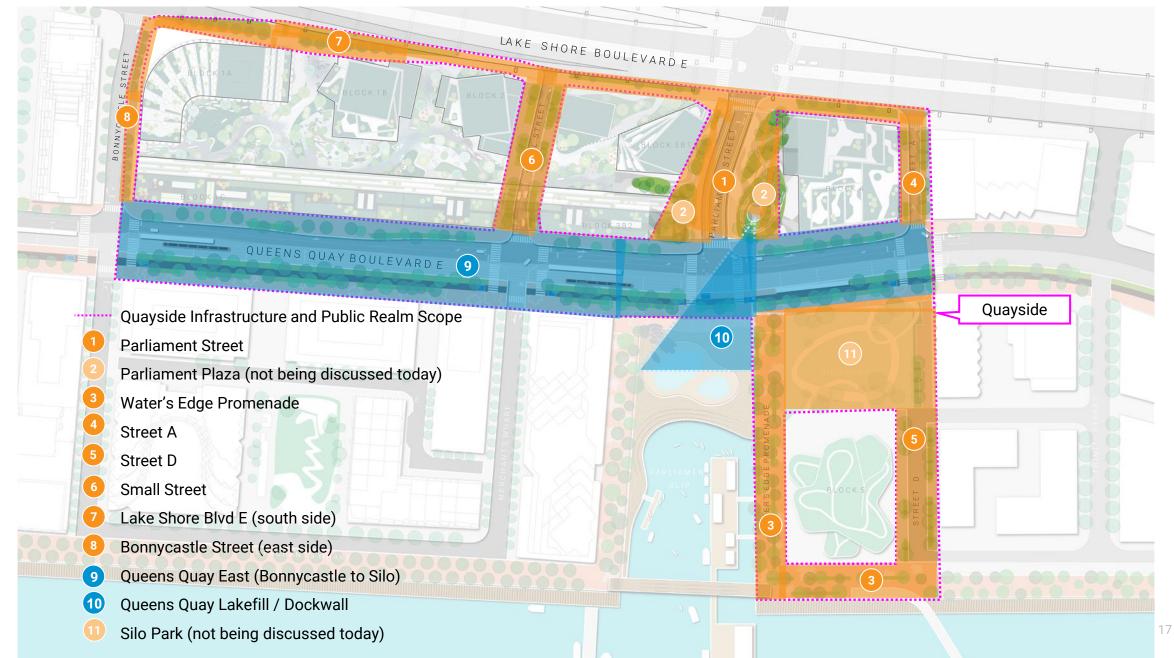
### **Public Realm Design Principles**

**New Standards for Sustainability and Resilience**: green spaces that encourage new innovations, show green infrastructure at work, and improve ecological performance.

Health and Well-being: foster connections between people and nature by maximizing access to greenspace delivered in an integrated way with development.

Indigenous Placemaking: respect and celebrate Indigenous place-making and the Indigenous relationship to this land.

## Scope – Project Components



## What to Expect at Quayside...



Design	Lakefill Construction	Infrastructure/ Internal Streets Construction	Parliament Street / Queens Quay Construction	Water's Edge Promenade Construction	Silo Park Design
Ongoing - September 2024	January 2024	Late 2024	Early 2025	Early 2025	Mid-2020s
TODAY: Public Realm Public Meeting		Creation of Construction Liaison Committee			

\*these dates are preliminary and will be confirmed as design advances

## The Feedback We're Looking For

Does the approach to planting meet our goals? Is there anything missing?

Does this feel like a space that you can easily get around by transit, bike or on foot? Is there anything else we should consider?

Do the suggestions for activation seem appropriate? Are there other amenities we should consider in the designs?



## Quayside Infrastructure & Public Realm

Yvonne Lam, Partner DTAH

# Leading with Ecology



ardiner Expressi

Community Forest

20 26 2

24 24

Parliament Street

Parliament Grove

Parliame Slin

Lake Ontario

to al data

/illiers Island

Keating Channel

### **Public Realm Character Aspirations**

#### Water's Edge Promenade



Bayside, Toronto



ANU Cambri, Acton, Australia



Quartier des Inventeurs, Mantes la Jolie, France

#### **Local Streets**



Bayside, Toronto



Jaktgatan and Lövängsgatan, Stockholm



Queens Quay Boulevard, Toronto

#### **Major Streets**



Lake Shore Boulevard Pilot, Toronto



Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus Streetscape



Penn Street, Philadelphia

### **Applying Green Infrastructure Lessons Learned**



Green Streets Tour with City Staff August  $2023 \rightarrow$  Adjustments to maintenance, planting plans & detailing Queens Quay West Optimizations Pilot → Adjustments to planting plans and confirmation of intersection improvements Edge Detail Precedent Research  $\rightarrow$ Adjustments to edge detail Tree Health & Shallow Groundwater Monitoring confirmed groundwater level fluctuates according to lake level  $\rightarrow$  raised tree planters on QQE for resiliency

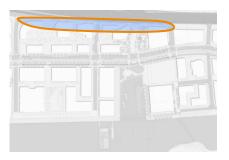
### **Integrate Indigenous Approaches to Design**



Integrated design process with MinoKamik Collective:

- Planting species and material selection
- Creating places for people of all ages
- Prioritizing restoration, healing, and connecting with the urban forest
- Using the savanna as inspiration for landscape structure and resilience
- Connecting urban populations to their natural landscapes
- Natural habitats for indigenous plants and urban forest groves
- Community spaces for social gatherings (i.e., firepits, picnic tables, etc.)
- Arts, language, and cultural heritage (i.e., signage, landscape elements, programming, etc.)

## **Choosing Hardy Species & Implementing Lessons Learned** Lake Shore Boulevard E (south side)



Plant understory denser and use fast-establishing, street-resilient species with vigour and ability to create their own populations as part of planting systems.

Lake Review findings from TRCA monitoring and consider alternative paving surface

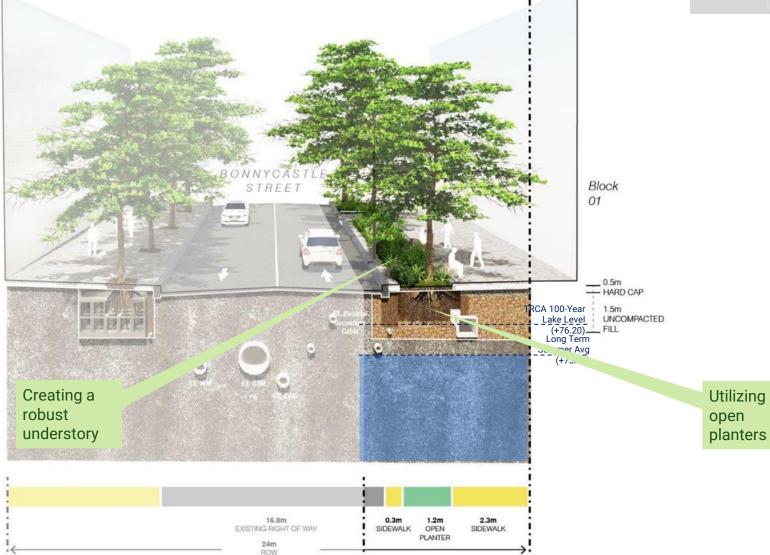




Implement findings from TRCA pilot monitoring

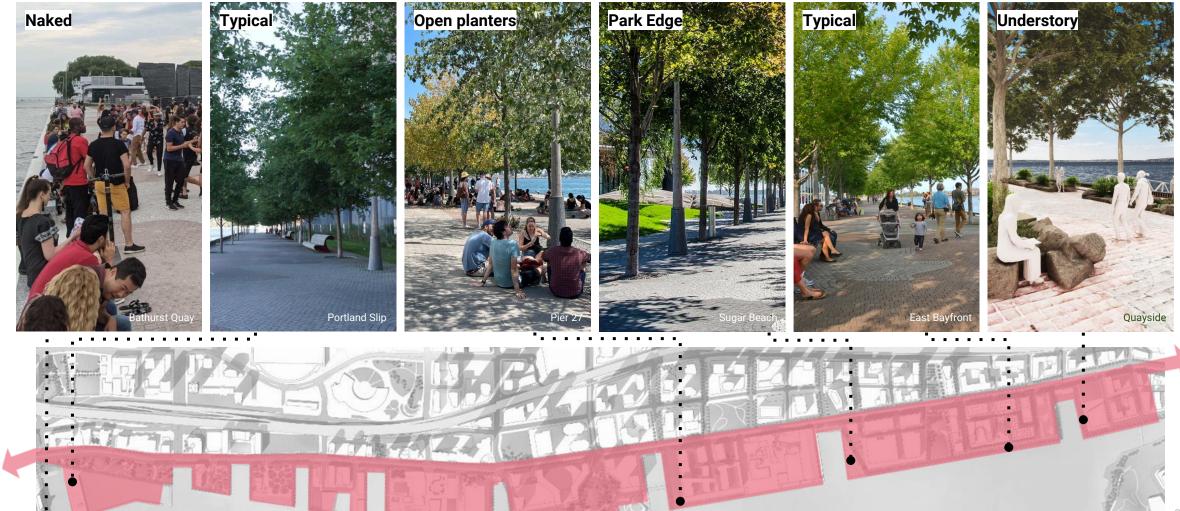
### **Creating Additional Space for Plantings** Bonnycastle Street (east side)





### **Embracing Nature** Water's Edge Promenade Quayside



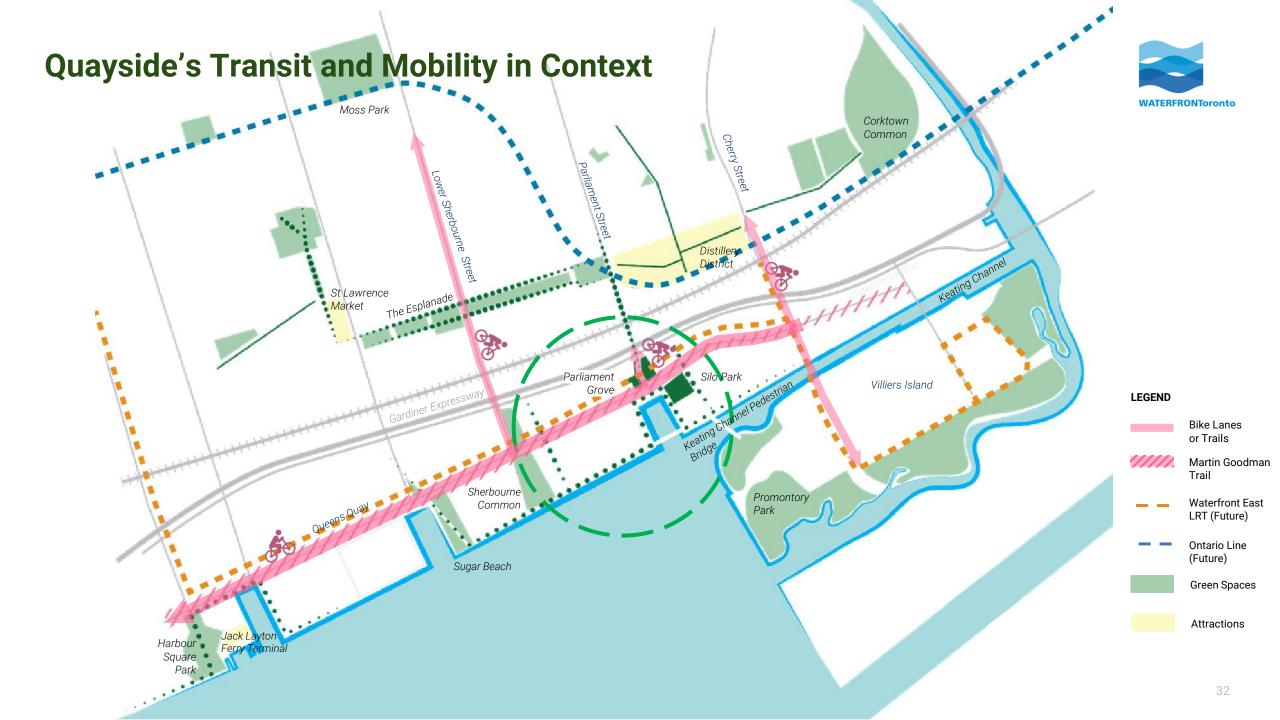


## Poll Questions

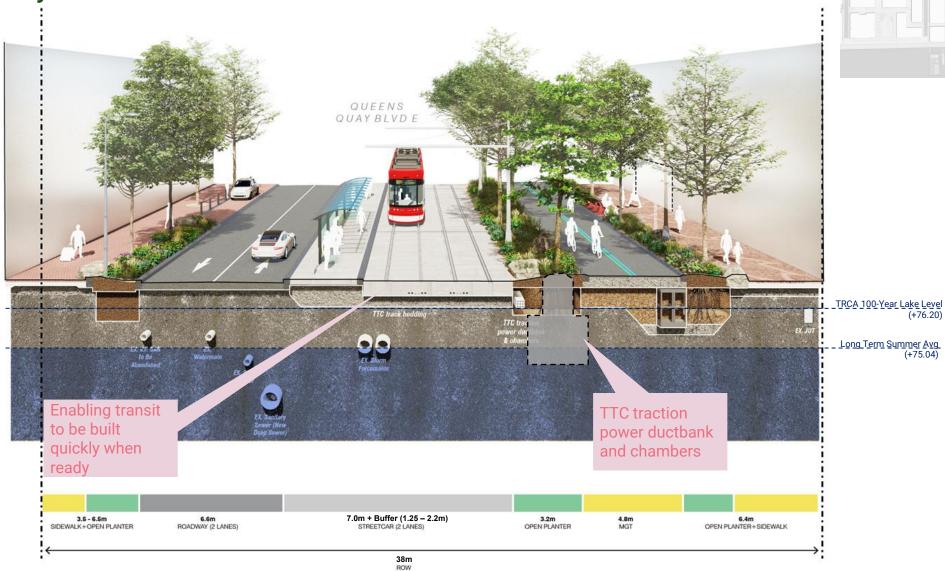
- How important are resilient planting systems and vegetation in the public realm?
- To what extent do you agree this concept of a continuous green edge will create an immersive and welcoming space?

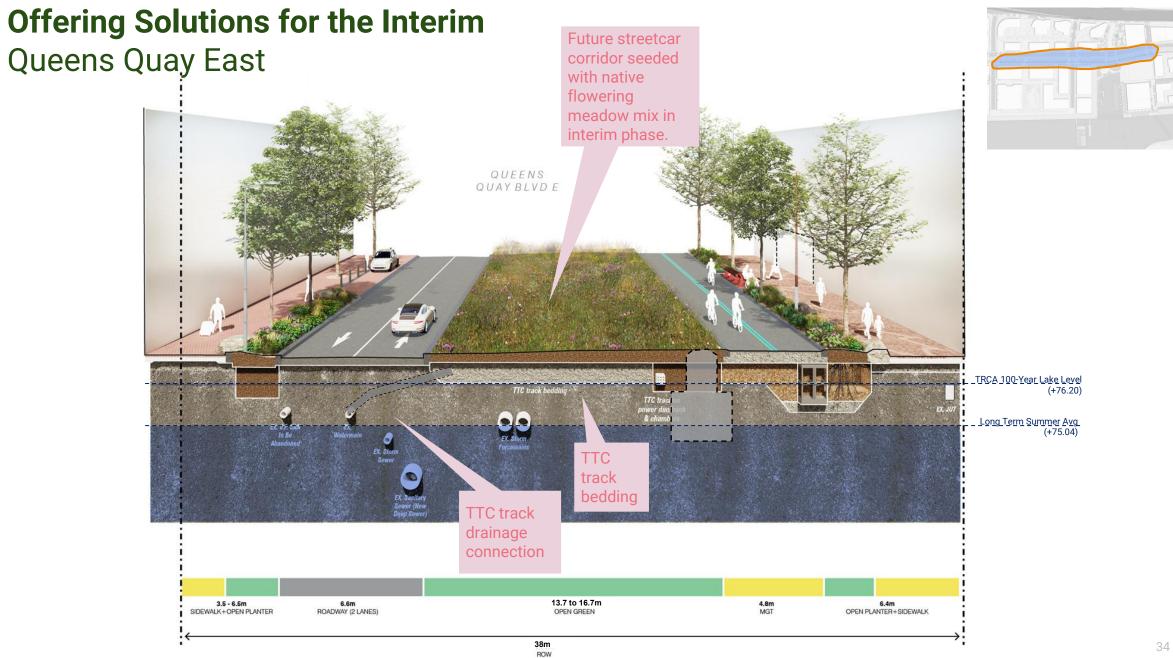
## **Questions and Comments**

## Mobility and Movement

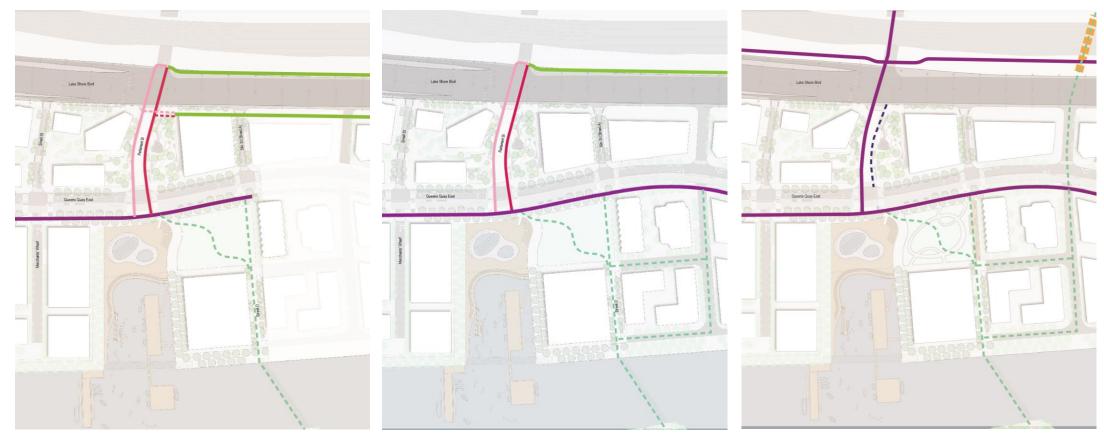


## **Preparing for the Waterfront East LRT** Queens Quay East





### **Creating Bike Lanes & Setting the Stage for Expansion** Parliament Street



#### Day One

#### LEGEND

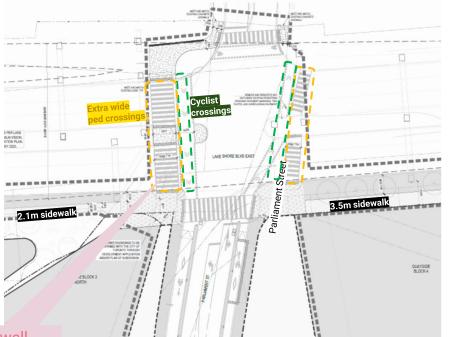
EXISTING - BIDIRECTIONAL
 PROPOSED - UNIDIRECTIONAL NORTH BOUND
 PROPOSED - UNIDIRECTIONAL SOUTH BOUND
 PROPOSED - BIDIRECTIONAL

- **QQE Extension to Cherry St**
- INFORMAL CONNECTION
   EXPANDED PUBLIC REALM
   INTERIM CONNNECTION(WEST BOUND)
   INTERIM CONNNECTION(EAST BOUND)

Lake Shore Public Realm and Parliament North

## **Ensuring Pedestrian Safety & Comfort** Lake Shore Boulevard East at Parliament Street, & Small Street





Wide and well marked pedestrian crossings under the Gardiner



# Poll Questions

- How do you envision moving throughout Quayside?
- What factors contribute to your sense of safety and comfort when walking? Select all that apply.

# **Questions and Comments**

### **Activation and Amenities**

#### **Finding Inspiration in Nature**

Ecological Art, bird houses, moveable furniture...



Integrated geologic and biological processes with potential for artistic interpretation



**Dead wood** Biodiversity hotbed Mycellium feeder



Woody shrubs and hedges With berries and hiding places for songbirds



Rehomed orphaned "erratics" Informal seating and play elements

#### Local Natural Elements Tell the Story of Quayside



Socialites

Encourage social interaction and provide informal seating.



Wayfinding devices that celebrate moments of arrival and transition.



Thoughtfully detailed elements that draw attention to hidden processes like water cycles and soil health in the streetscape.



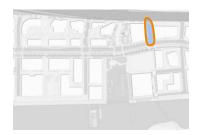
"I always visit the big mossy log with my grandpa to look for bugs"

> Use of recycled and found material tell the geologic story of the Toronto waterfront

"The surface of the stone is smooth from years of visitors resting and navigating by touch"



#### Incorporating "Marker Stones" Street "A" local street



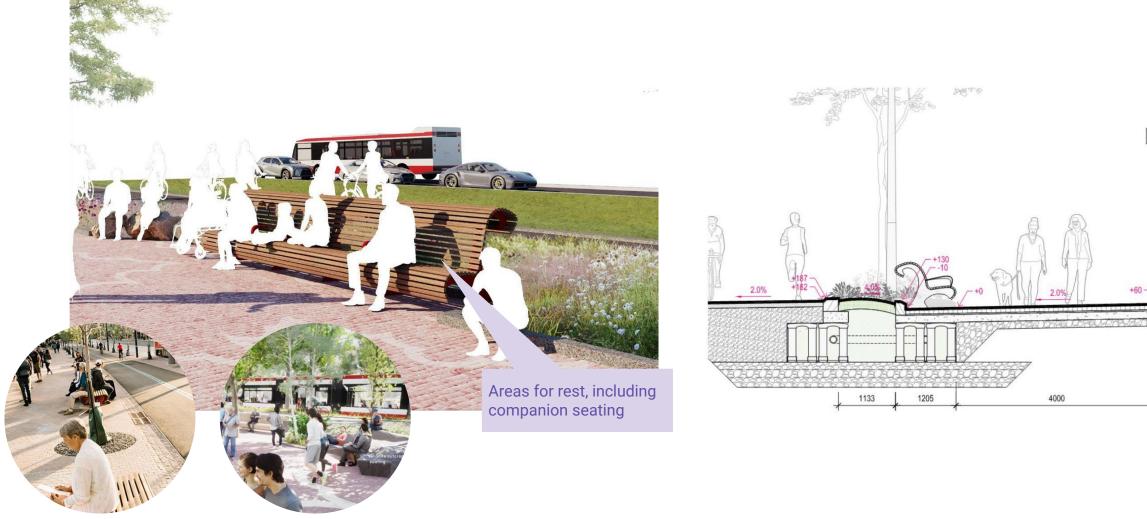




#### Incorporating "Storytelling Stones" & Amenities Water's Edge Promenade Quayside



#### **Seating Pockets with Formal and Informal Furnishings** Queens Quay East



Queens Quay West

Queens Quay East

### **Poll Question**

What special elements and features would be interesting to see on the local streets and Water's Edge Promenade? Select all that apply.

# **Questions and Comments**

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### Thank You!



### a waterfront for everyone

