



March 2024

Marine Use Strategy Progress Update

In 2020, Waterfront Toronto, together with the City of Toronto, PortsToronto, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), updated the Marine Use Strategy. The update included practical recommendations to ensure that Toronto's Inner Harbour and its waterfront remain exceptional places to live and play for residents and visitors alike.

Since then, we've been steadily working on implementing the recommendations.

A key step was creating the Marine Coordination Committee (MCC) in February 2022. The MCC includes representatives from Waterfront Toronto, CreateTO, City of Toronto, PortsToronto, Harbourfront Centre, and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Together, we have been advancing the priorities outlined in the Marine Use Strategy Update more efficiently.

The MCC includes representatives from all parties with land and waterlot ownership in the Inner Harbour. The MCC is functioning as a 'first stop' for marine operators allowing them to reach all relevant parties at once. Ahead of the construction in Parliament Slip, the MCC coordinated the relocation of harbour tour-boats that used to moor there. It also completed new dockwall tenants at Yonge Slip.

Some of the recommendations are of an administrative nature. For example, where possible, the MCC is continually updating marine inventory and ownership information. It is also identifying Dockwall States of

Good Repair, to help prioritize which dockwalls need to be reinforced first. The MCC also supported the creation of a working group, led by PortsToronto with partner agencies, to develop a shared strategy to coordinate debris management of the Harbour's waterlots.

In 2023, the MCC kicked off a Water Taxi & Seabus Feasibility Study, which is scheduled to conclude this year. The study will explore the feasibility for expanded water transportation options.

The MCC is also investigating potential sites for Pick-up & Drop-off pilot project (Kiss n' Sail), giving private vessels a location for short-term, day-use docking in the Inner Harbour. Pending full funding, this pilot project could begin in the summer of 2024. This initiative responds to feedback heard during the Marine Use Strategy Update; marine users noted a lack of locations for temporary docking in the Inner Harbour.

Lastly, the MCC is responding to new, emerging, priorities that have presented since the 2020 Update. There's been an increase of recreational boaters using the Inner Harbour since the COVID pandemic. The MCC is, therefore, considering approaches to improve marine safety.

The MCC has also acknowledged the desire for more places to store canoes and kayaks. The MCC is working with the City of Toronto to try to identify future opportunities for public canoe and kayak storage facilities.