

# York Street and Rees Street Parks Design & Development Community Consultation



Monday January 22, 2018



# Agenda

- Welcome
- Some Words from Councillor Cressy and Councillor Troisi
- What Have We Heard So Far?
- Introduction to the Sites
- Precedent Examples
- Design Competition Process & Guiding Principles
- How We Want to Engage Next
- Q&A
- Breakout for activities

# Councillor Joe Cressy (Ward 20)



# Councillor Lucy Troisi (Ward 28)



# What Have We Heard So Far?



# Past Consultation, Engagement & Feedback

- Rees Street Park (318 Queens Quay West) feedback from City of Toronto Public Consultation
  - October 2016
  - April 2017
- York-Bay-Yonge Construction Liaison Committee Meeting, December 13, 2017
- Waterfront Toronto Design Review Panel, December 20, 2017
- Comments sent to [info@waterfronttoronto.ca](mailto:info@waterfronttoronto.ca)
- Comments on Waterfront Toronto social media accounts

# Rees Street Park

## Priorities from 2016/2017 Consultation:

**A Winter City Park for All  
Season Use**

1

**Create Opportunities  
for Curiosity and  
Experimentation**

3

**Connected And Relevant  
– A Systems Thinking  
Design Approach**

5

**Innovation and  
Sustainability**

4

**Complement rather than  
Compete with Existing  
Context**

2

**Encourage Community  
Stewardship and  
Collaborative  
Partnerships**

6

# Rees Street Park

Year-round  
use &  
washrooms

Public  
Backyard

Places to relax  
in sun + shade

Skate  
park/space for  
older teens

Outdoor heat/  
fire pit

Celebrate  
Diversity

Water feature  
with varied  
effects

Cafe/pop-up  
shops

Seniors &  
young families

Connect with a  
natural setting

Lighting at  
night

Park for all  
users /  
Accessibility



# York Street Park

Dog off-leash area

Keep the trees

Remove the bents!

Connectivity to surrounding buildings

Benches/seating

Focus on history of the site

Public art

Eating/food trucks/tables

Don't forget the workers

Outdoor library

Low maintenance

Water feature

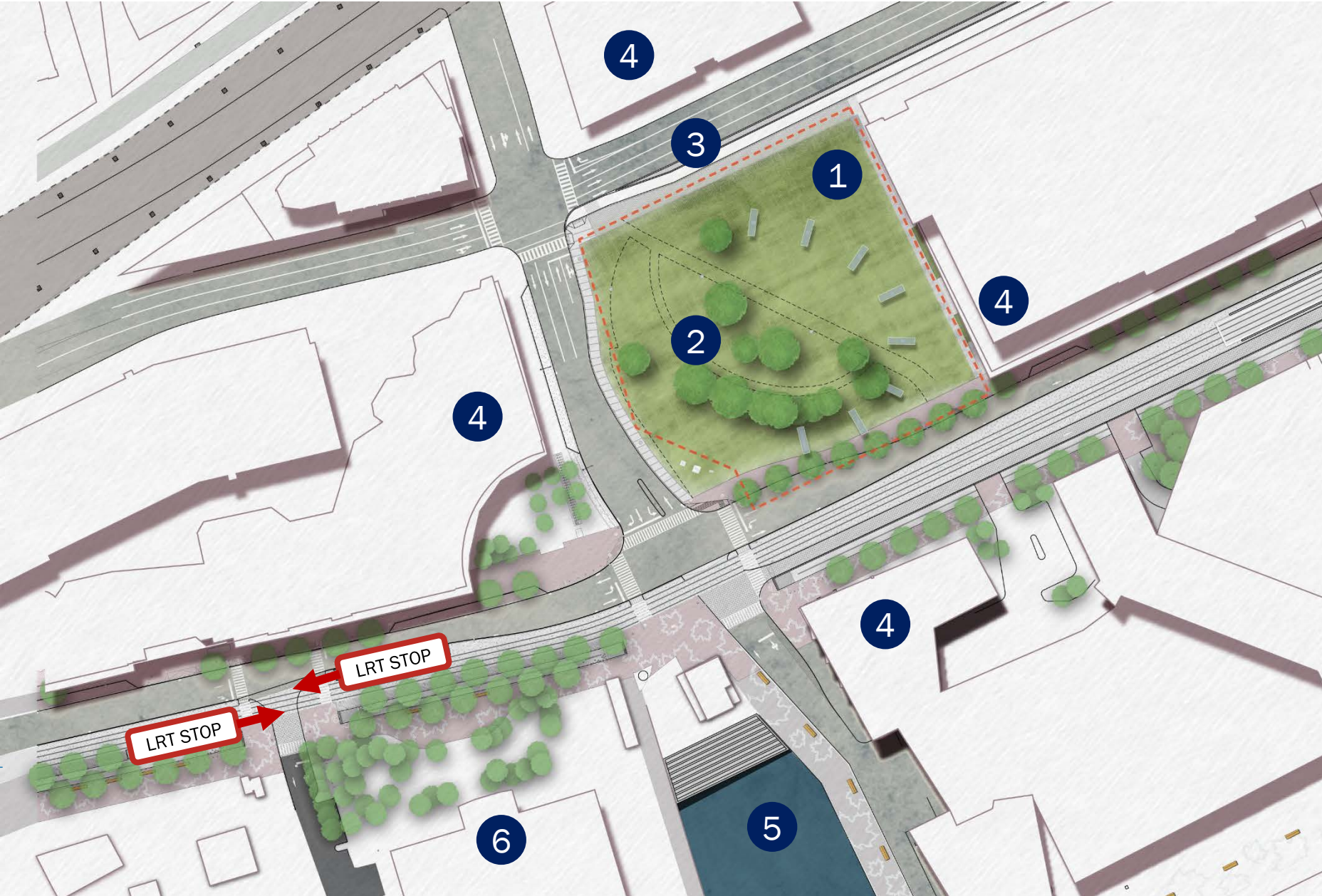
# Introduction to the Sites



# Context Map



# York Street Park – Site Map



- 1 Eight Bents
- 2 Twelve Trees
- 3 Harbour St. Frontage
- 4 Tall Buildings on Four sides
- 5 York Slip
- 6 Queens Quay Terminal

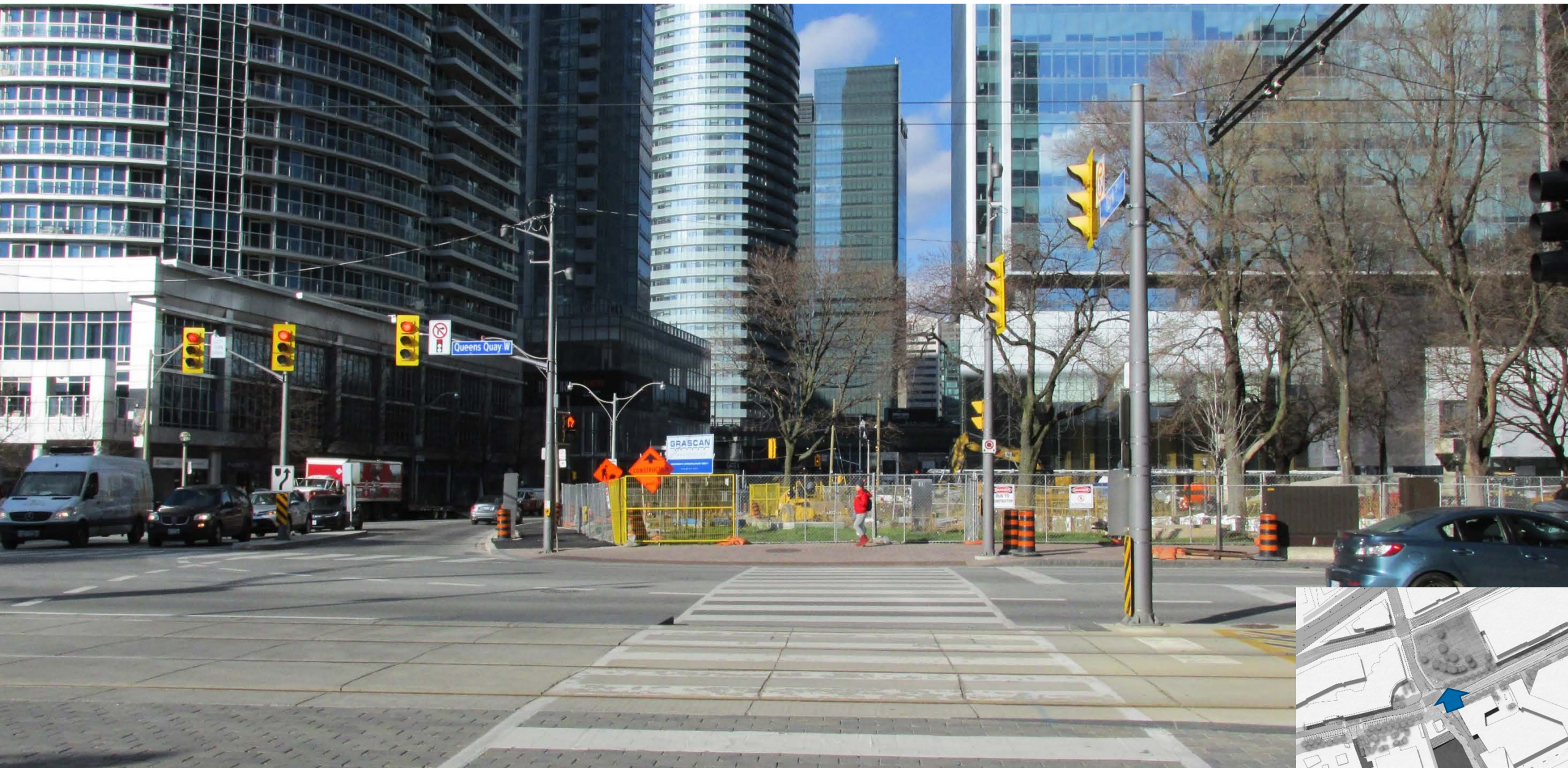
# York Street Park – looking south from One York podium



# York Street Park – looking south from Harbour Street



# York Street Park – looking north from Queens Quay



# Rees Street Park - Site Map



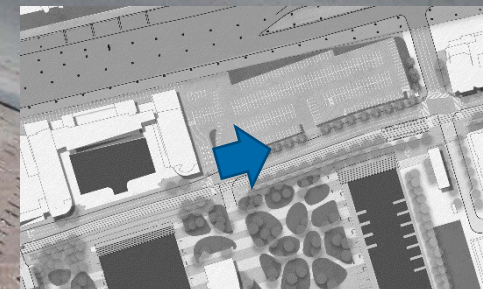
- 1 HTO Park
- 2 Frame of the Gardiner
- 3 Future Toronto Water Stormwater Storage Shaft
- 4 Retail Frontage
- 5 Rees Street Wavedeck
- 6 John Quay Powerboating/Sailing Centre
- 7 Peter Street Basin



# Rees Street Park – looking west from Lake Shore and Rees



# Rees Street Park – looking east from Queens Quay



# Precedent Examples

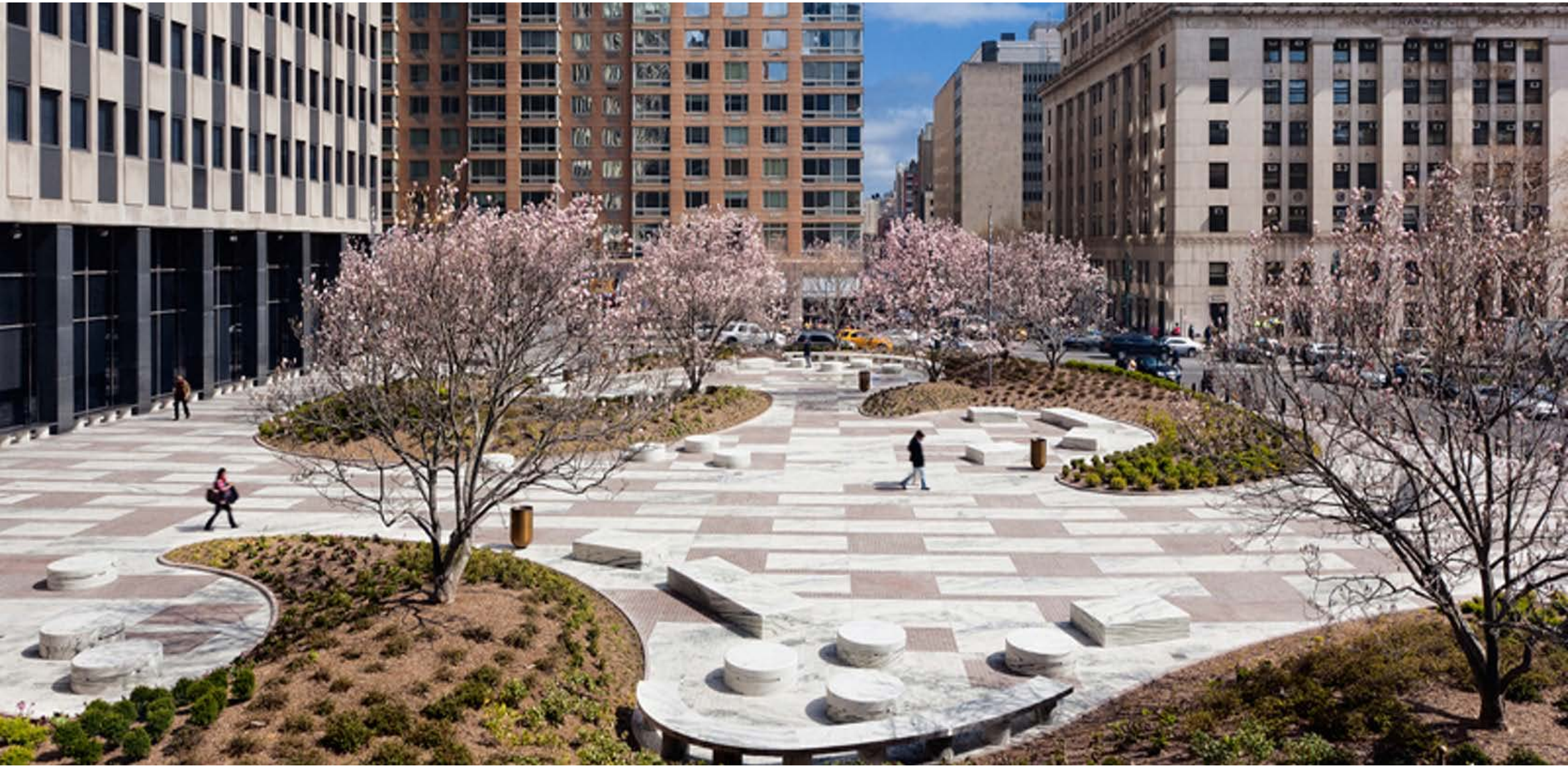


# Bryant Park, New York, NY



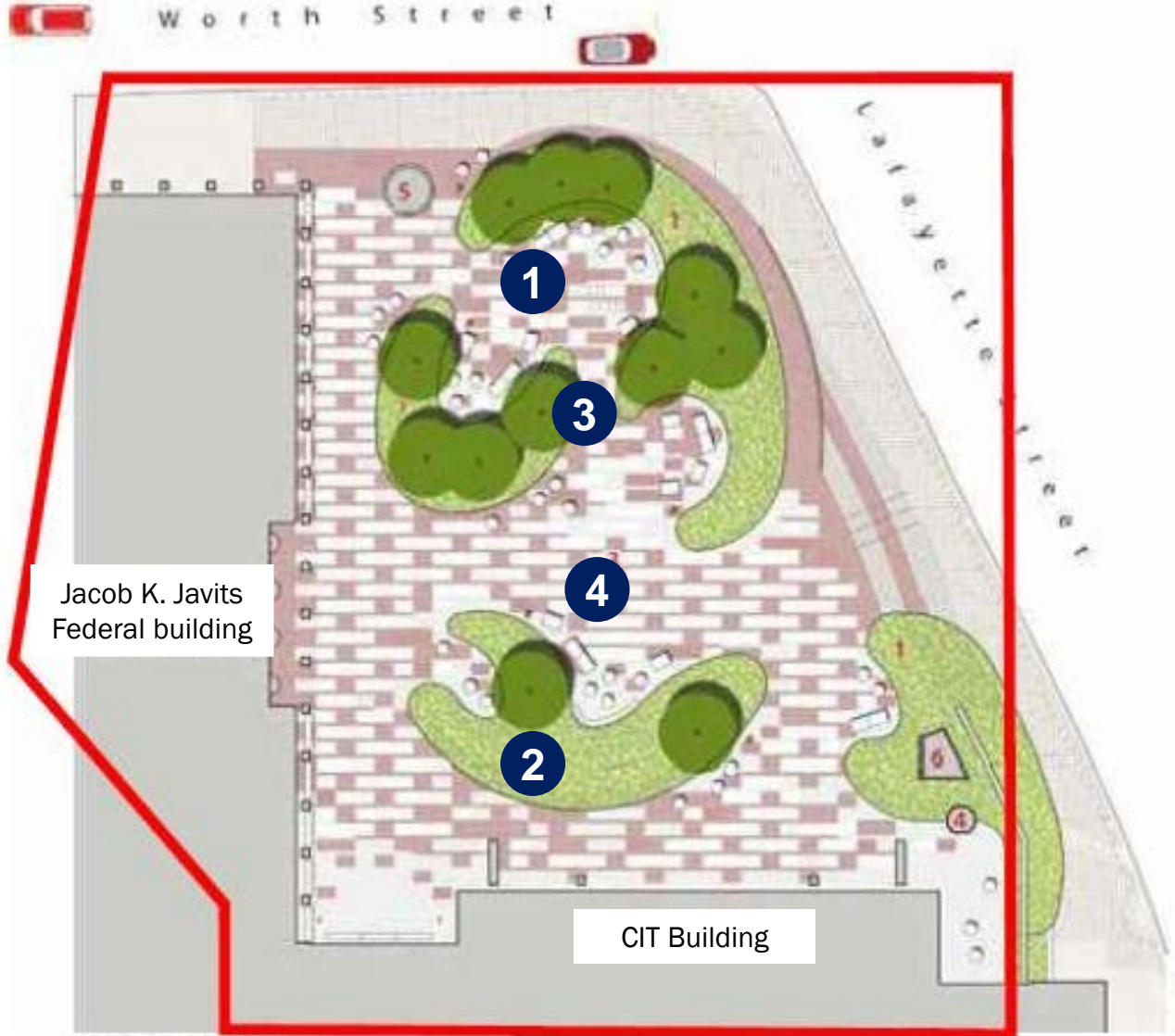


# Jacob Javits Plaza, New York, NY



# Jacob Javits Plaza, New York, NY

Size: ±4,180 square metres



- 1 Seating Area
- 2 Planted Garden
- 3 Water Feature
- 4 Flexible Plaza

# Grange Park, Toronto, ON





# Grange Park, Toronto, ON

Size: 18,000 square metres



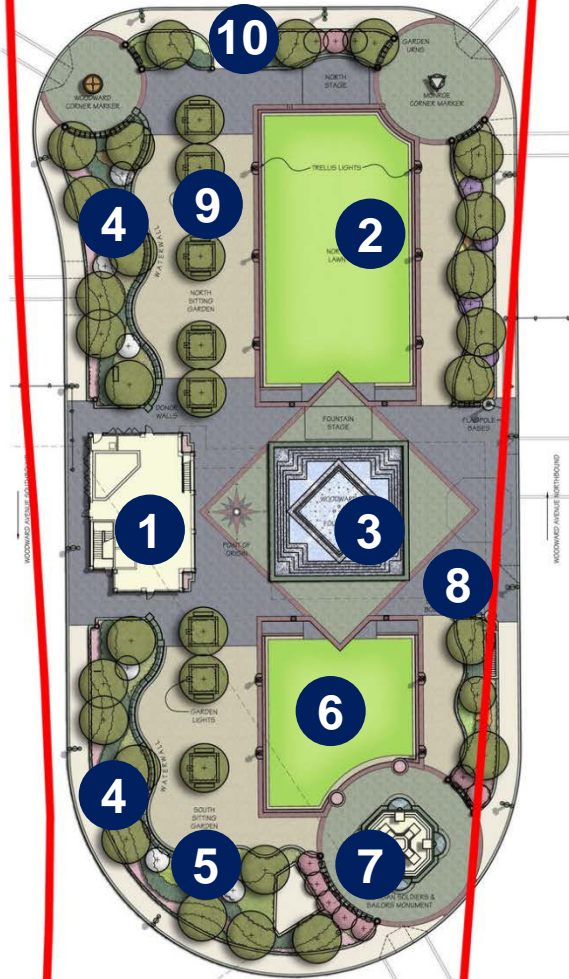
- ① Playground and Water Play
- ② Central Lawn
- ③ Fountain
- ④ Dog Off-leash Area
- ⑤ Public WC

# Campus Martius, Detroit, MI



# Campus Martius, Detroit, MI

Size: 4,900 square metres



Campus Martius Park  
Detroit, Michigan

Final Site Plan  
March 2005



- 1 Cafe
- 2 Event Lawn/ Skating Ring
- 3 Water Feature
- 4 Water Wall
- 5 Sitting Garden
- 6 Flexible Lawn/ Beach
- 7 Monument
- 8 Plaza
- 9 Picnic Tables
- 10 Stage

# Post Office Square, Boston, MA



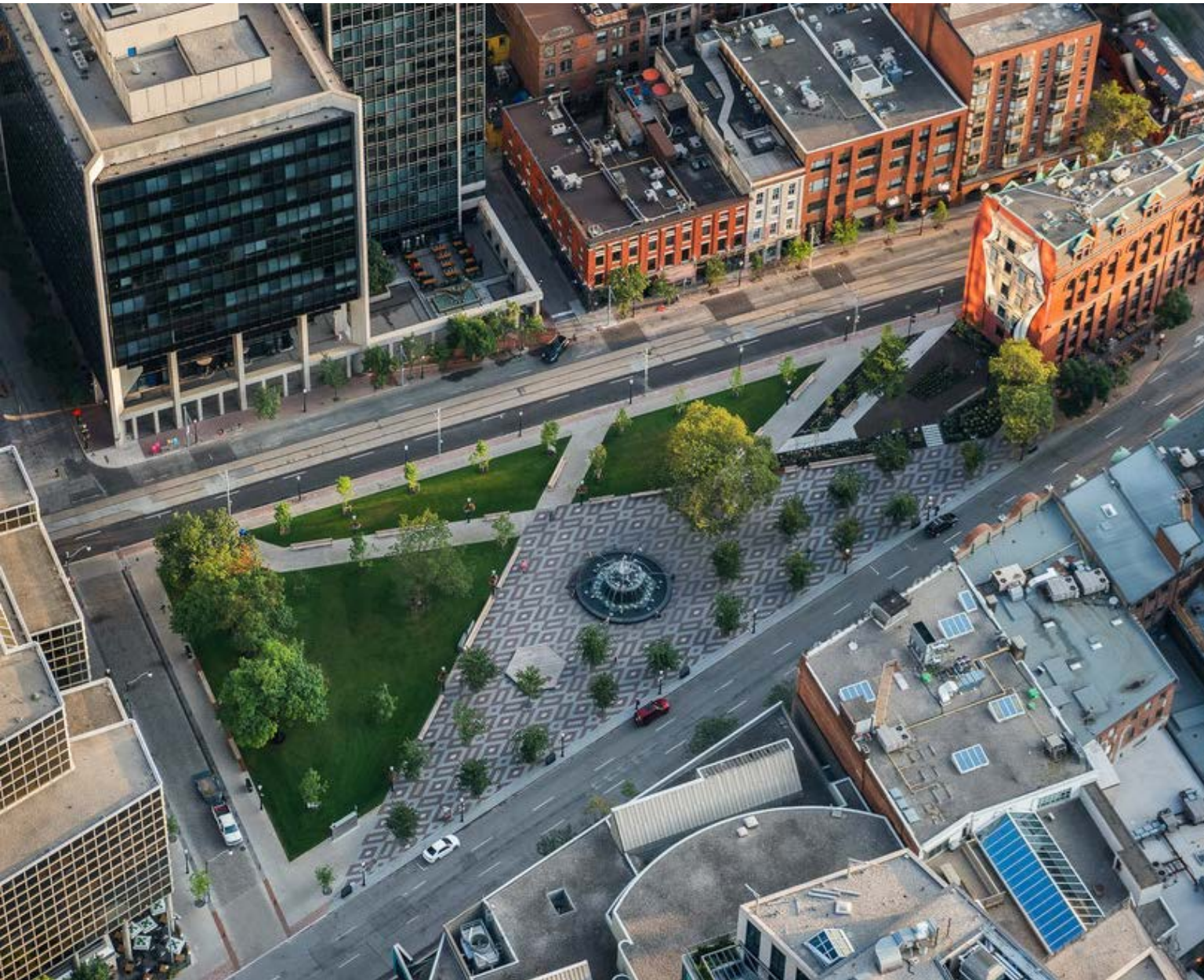
# Post Office Square, Boston, MA

Size: ±6,900 square metres



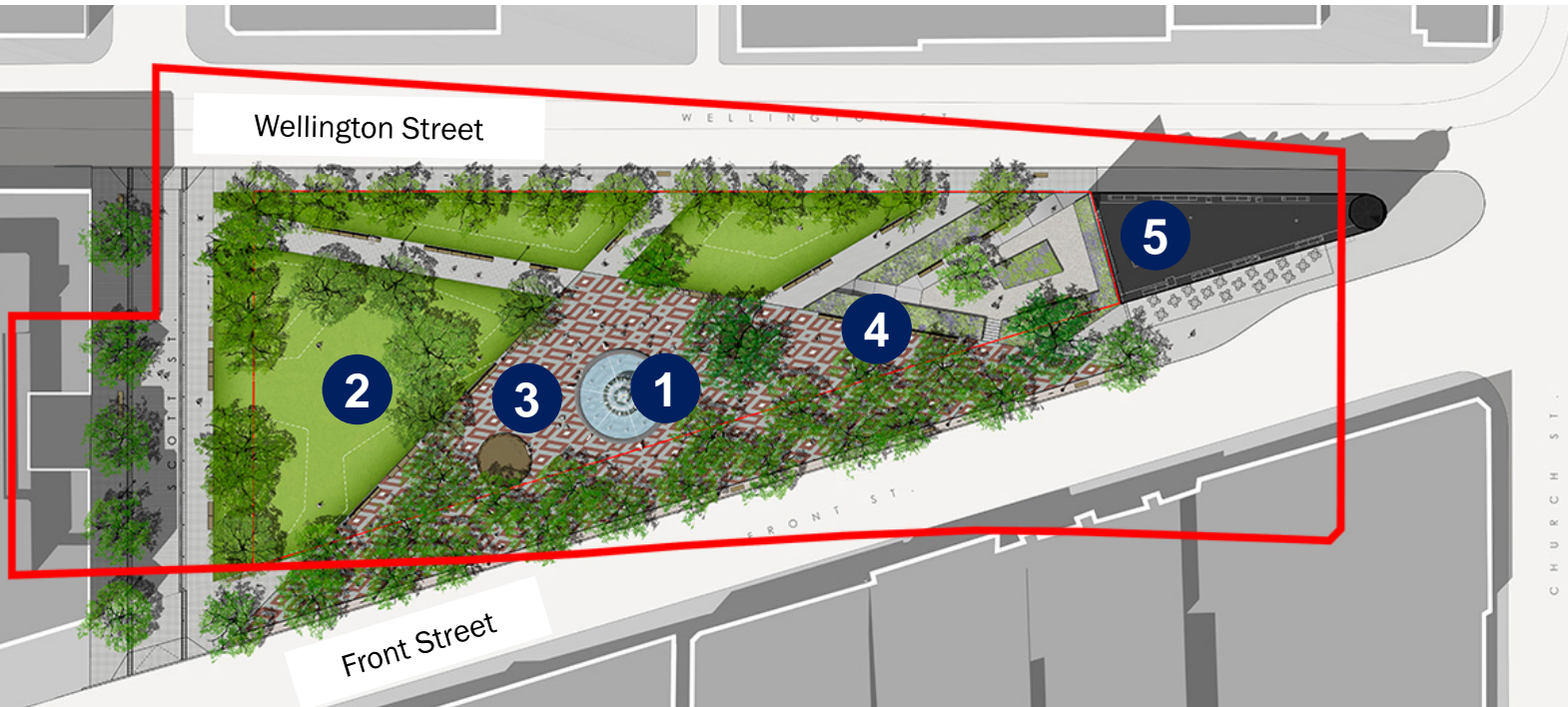
- 1 Great Lawn
- 2 North Plaza and Fountain Sculpture
- 3 South Plaza Fountain Sculpture
- 4 Café
- 5 Access Escalator to Garage
- 6 Access Elevator to Garage
- 7 Air Intake Vent
- 8 Exhaust Vent
- 9 Pergola
- 10 Entrance Ramp to Parking Garage
- 11 Exit Ramp to Parking Garage

# Berczy Park, Toronto, ON



# Berczy Park, Toronto, ON

Size: 3,606 square metres



- 1 Fountain
- 2 Lawn with mature trees
- 3 Flexible Plaza
- 4 Seating Area
- 5 Flatiron Building

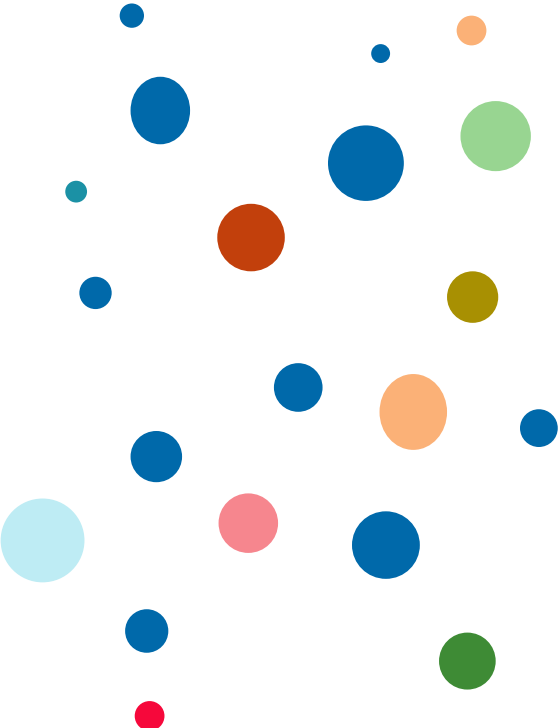
# Design Competition Process & Guiding Principles





# Selection Process and Public Input

## Request for Qualifications



## Design Briefs

REES STREET CONCEPTS



YORK STREET CONCEPTS



## Selected Designs

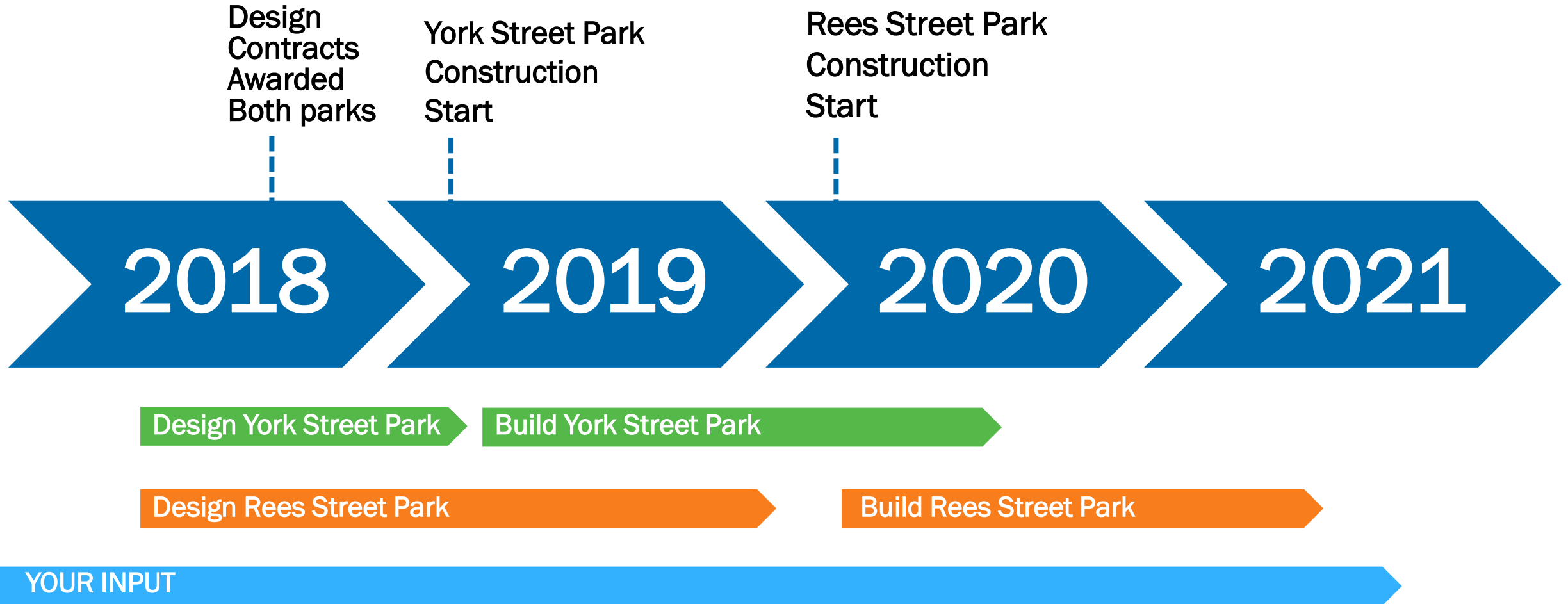
REES STREET DESIGN



YORK STREET DESIGN



# Project Schedule



# Guiding Principles for York Street Park and Rees Street Park



# 1. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Parks



York Street and Rees Street parks should address the issues of a growing city and welcome its diverse residents, workers and visitors.

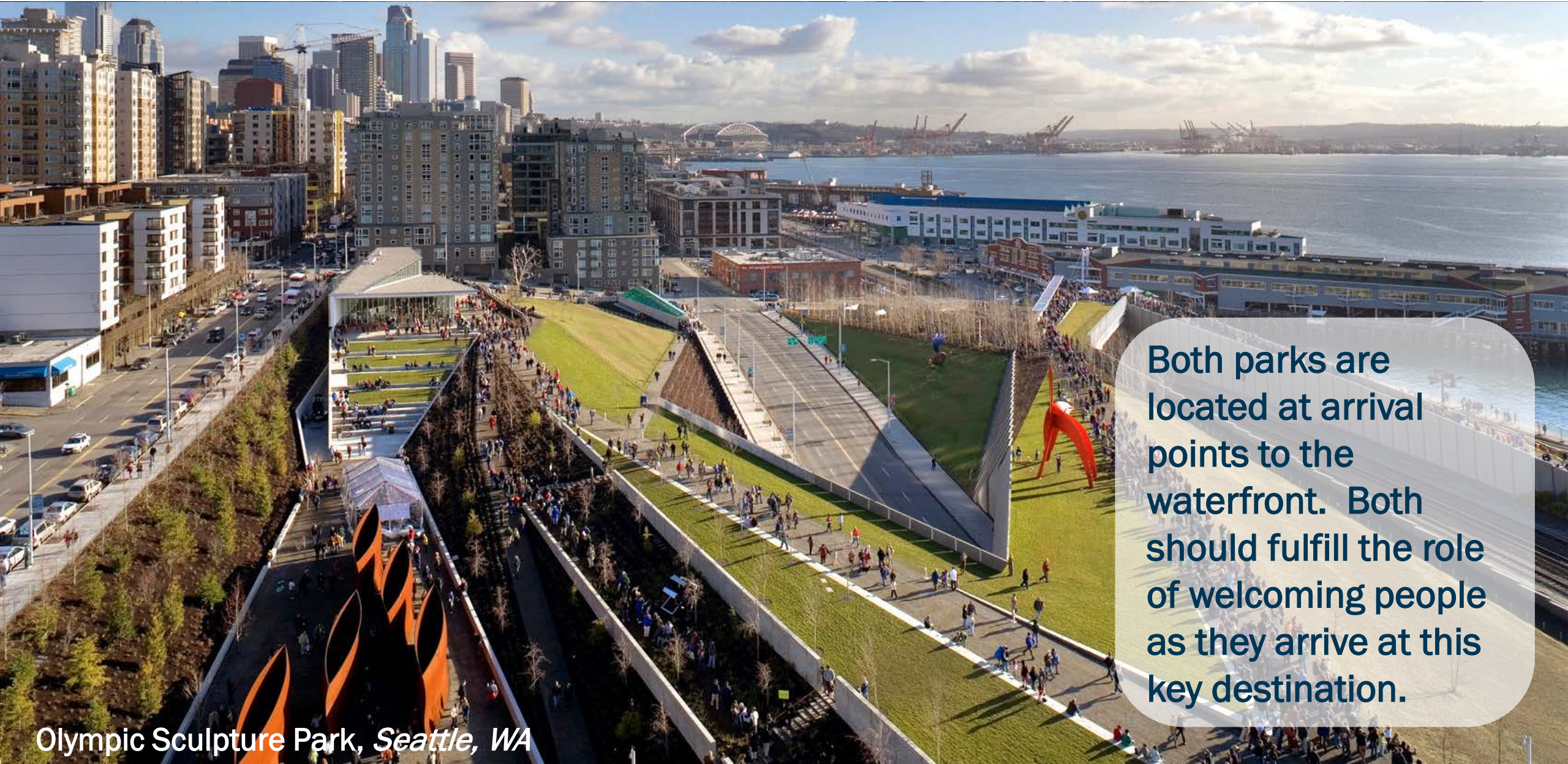
## 2. New Standards for Sustainability



York Street and Rees Street parks should set new standards for sustainability and climate resilience in both park design and operations.

Corktown Common, *Toronto, ON*

### 3. Gateway to the Waterfront



Both parks are located at arrival points to the waterfront. Both should fulfill the role of welcoming people as they arrive at this key destination.

Olympic Sculpture Park, *Seattle, WA*

## 4. Complementary and Contextual



Bryant Park, *New York, NY*

Both parks should complement the existing set of park experiences already provided on the waterfront by proposing new uses, environments, and experiences beyond those already available. Each park should respond to the urban form and users in each area.

## 5. Diverse Community of Users



**Both parks should support animation and social activities by a diversity of local people, agencies and organizations.**



## 6. Design Excellence



Both parks should strive to maintain the standard of design excellence, quality of place, and attention to detail that has been delivered on the waterfront. High-quality, durable materials, innovative technologies and good design should be combined with careful attention to the operating parameters of Parks, Forestry and Recreation.

## 7. Public Art



Madison Square Park, *New York, NY*

Art is a fundamental part of the vision for York Street Park and Rees Street Park. The design, program and use of the parks will be considered with a view to an innovative art program unique to each site.

# How We Want to Engage Next...



## KEY QUESTIONS DURING ENGAGEMENT

What would motivate YOU to visit these two new parks?

What experiences do you feel are missing from our system of waterfront parks?

Who else should be a part of this conversation?

# Upcoming Public Engagement

- Formation of new Stakeholder Advisory Committee (SAC) for the duration of the design competition and throughout construction of both parks
- Thematic workshops/focus groups
- Pop-up engagement activities at various sites in Toronto
- Online survey: "How to Make a Great Park"
- Website for the design competition
- Public feedback on the competition designs (online and in-person)

# Q&A



# Thank you for joining us this evening!

## Stick around for more activities

You can contact us at [info@waterfronttoronto.ca](mailto:info@waterfronttoronto.ca)

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