



Defining the Character, Scale and Use of the Public Space Network on the Central Waterfront.

Central Waterfront Public Space Framework



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Fort York Neighbourhood

Harbourfront Community

Harbourfront Centre

Yonge Street Pier & Ferry Dock

East Bayfront

Don River - West Donlands

Portlands

Don Greenway

Outer Harbour Water Park

Lake Ontario Park

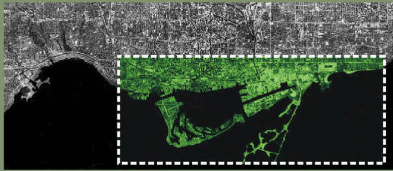
Central Beaches

Eastern Beaches

Tommy Thompson Park



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Realizing Potential

The Waterfront as an Evolving Process:

To garner its full potential, Toronto's central waterfront network of public spaces is best understood in the context of the city-wide, regional and watershed scales. The central waterfront needs to bridge the existing public waterfront from beyond the Humber in the west to Balmy Beach in the east and to connect to our extensive ravine systems. It needs to create this critical link by transforming underutilized land into a series of magnificent and engaging public places - the front door to new and emerging waterfront communities.

The 2000 Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Taskforce concept plan was the first time people from many disciplines and communities came together to collectively endorse and rally behind a revitalized Toronto waterfront. The concept plan from this effort clearly illustrates a strong and compelling vision for a renewed central waterfront premised on the introduction of a generous sequence of public spaces, parks and promenades along the water's edge.

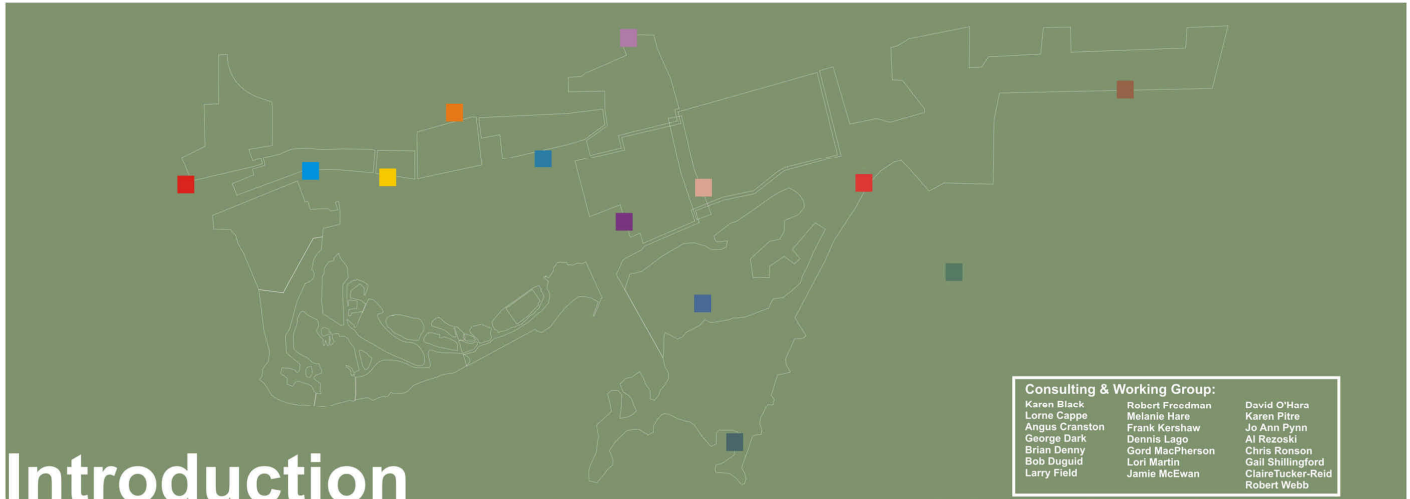
Over the past few years the initial vision has been modified based on more detailed technical review, a process that has led to the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation's (TWRC) Development Plan and Business Strategy and the City's Central Waterfront Secondary Plan. These documents articulate the broad principles, provide the policy framework, and strategic direction in support of waterfront revitalization.

This current initiative builds on the fortitude of the premise of the initial Taskforce concept and the principles of the two recent Plans to come to a more detailed understanding of the nature, character and relationships of public spaces, new and proposed, along the central waterfront. It establishes the public realm as the foundation for the central waterfront's overall revitalization.



TORONTO WATERFRONT
REVITALIZATION CORPORATION

Introduction



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The Central Waterfront Public Space Framework:

Defines the character, scale and use of the network of public spaces.

Builds on past waterfront park initiatives, and the TWRC's Development Plan and the City's Secondary Plan directions with regard to 500 acres of new and improved waterfront public space.

Provides a critical input in upcoming precinct planning and detailed public space design initiatives.

Ensures a thriving and active public realm is seamlessly integrated across the entirety of the waterfront.

Identifies actions for getting started on implementing public spaces.

Recommends strategic allocations for park and public space investment and identifies the mechanisms to realize these public spaces.

Is a working document, a tool that sets the overall context for public space design and will be updated on an ongoing basis as revitalization moves forward.

The Process:

This document was prepared for the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation by Urban Strategies Inc. A working group composed of the City's Parks, Culture, Heritage, Waterfront Secretariat, Planning, Urban Design, Works staff and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority have provided critical input throughout the preparation of the *Public Space Framework*. In addition, input from key stakeholders has been vital to informing the Framework.

A series of 10 principles provide a foundation for the overall central waterfront public space framework. These principles should direct the detailed resolution of the waterfront's public spaces.

- 1 Introduce a continuous, publicly accessible and magnificent water's edge.
- 2 Require design excellence for all waterfront public spaces.
- 3 Provide a diversity of public spaces fostering culture and creativity in our city while taking advantage of heritage and archaeological features.
- 4 Design all public spaces to a high environmental standard.
- 5 Strengthen east/west connections along the waterfront.
- 6 Link existing communities to emerging waterfront communities and spaces .
- 7 Improve the aquatic habitat and water quality along the waterfront and integrate this with river and stream improvements.
- 8 Introduce a palette of waterfront design elements fostering clarity and continuity in all public spaces.
- 9 Coordinate the water usage and supporting land base to maximize the economic, recreational and environmental asset of Lake Ontario.
- 10 Create a network of public spaces that attract and invite both Torontonians and the world to our waterfront.

Principles and Relationships

Defining A New Waterfront



A Series of Key Relationships:

Toronto's waterfront revitalization envisions a public space network that invites the city to the water's edge while connecting new waterfront communities to the existing urban fabric.

A central waterfront public space storyline has emerged. The following nine diagrams illustrate a series of relationships between the city and the waterfront and the role public spaces will play to weave the two together. Known places in the city provide a baseline from which to build a waterfront public space vision where existing and new waterfront public spaces are set in a meaningful context and can create an inspiring catalyst for revitalization.

1



Datum

Recognize Queen Street as a datum line in the city along which major green spaces and north/south streets connect to the waterfront.

2



Legacy: West

Assemble existing public spaces to create a national heritage legacy park linking Fort York to the waterfront.

3



Legacy: East

Complete Lake Ontario Park into a legacy park that introduces a crucial link connecting Toronto's public waterfront from east to west.

4



Waterfront Thread

Develop a clear and recognizable water's edge promenade linking the two legacy parks across the downtown core.

5



'String of Pearls'

A string of public space 'pearls' along the inner harbour provide a myriad of urban rooms for emerging waterfront communities.

6



Ravines

Both legacy parks link to extensive public ravine systems and connect many communities south to the Lake.

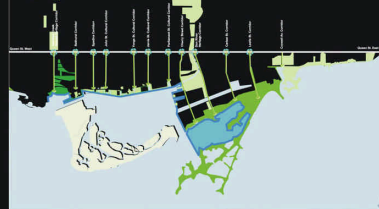
7



Springboards

Symbolically reflect the presence of the lake into the city at key intersections.

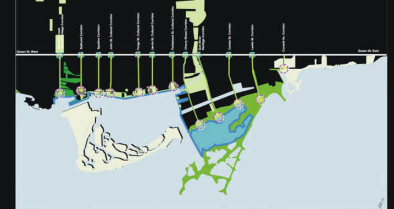
8



Corridors

Strengthen street corridors as connectors to the waterfront.

9



'Foot of Toronto' Places

Anchor the base of street corridors with 'foot of Toronto' places. These are special public places fostering art, culture, and events on the water's edge.

The Framework

Building on past and current initiatives:

- Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant Master Plan
- Beacon to the Ancestors Proposal
- Bringing Back the Don
- Central Waterfront Secondary Plan
- Cherry Beach Improvement Project
- City's Central Waterfront Archaeological Master Plan
- City's Inventory of Central Waterfront Heritage Structures
- Cultural Corridor Master Plan
- East Bayfront Precinct Planning
- Environmental Assessment for the Lower Don
- Fort York Master Plan
- Fort York Neighbourhood Charrette
- Garrison Creek Natural Heritage Corridor
- Greening the Portlands
- Harbourfront Centre Master Plan
- Harbourfront Centre Promenade Improvements
- Harbourfront Parks Design Competition
- National Nautical Centre proposal
- Portlands Sports Complex Feasibility Study
- Rochester Ferry Proposal
- Tommy Thompson Park Master Plan
- Toronto Port Authority Outer Harbour Marina Request for Proposals
- Toronto Waterfront Design Initiative
- Unlocking the Portlands
- TRCA Aquatic Habitat Strategy

Building on Past and Current Initiatives

The waterfront revitalization effort benefits greatly from a long list of past and current initiatives related to public spaces in the central waterfront. A wealth of information about the environmental, cultural, recreational and economic development opportunities exists. Over 20 public space related initiatives have been identified and interpreted as part of the overall Public Space Framework context. In doing so it is possible to build from this valuable base of ideas, to identify synergies between them and to refresh these initiatives within the new context of waterfront revitalization. It is within this overall context that recommendations for next steps in waterfront public space improvements will be made.

A Diversity of Public Spaces

The waterfront public space system should be an inviting and inspiring collection of different kinds of spaces. Within this system, one should be able to enjoy a cappuccino while reading a newspaper, play soccer, swim, walk in a natural setting, cycle, blade and board, sail and skate. Some places will be impressive and large, others intimate, some active and others places of contemplation. All will be designed to the highest environmental and place making qualities.

Within this spectrum of public spaces, in addition to the regional and city-wide parks, two types of local spaces are included as key place making components of neighbourhood building: neighbourhood parks and small urban parkettes. These two types of public spaces are notionally illustrated on the district drawings. Details as to the scale, location and configuration of these spaces will be determined during the Precinct Planning process for specific areas.

The Framework Structure

The public space framework is organized in a sequence of three sections, progressing from an overall approach to the more geographically specific scale. The following page articulates and organizes the broad range of public space types that need to be accommodated within the central waterfront public space system. Secondly, a set of waterfront-wide public space directions that require consideration at the overall central waterfront scale are outlined. Finally, greater detail as to the vision and a set of pertinent actions is provided for 13 distinct areas, called Public Space Districts.

Land Based Public Space			Street as Public Space			Water's Edge Public Space			Water Based Public Space			River Based Public Space								
GENRE	CATEGORY	TYPE	GENRE	CATEGORY	TYPE	GENRE	CATEGORY	TYPE	GENRE	CATEGORY	TYPE	GENRE	CATEGORY	TYPE						
L Land Based Open Space	L11 Foot of Parks	L11A Water's Edge Squares L11B Promenade L11C Corridors	S Street as Open Space	S1 Trails	S1A scenic S1B community S1C recreational S1D interactive	W Water's Edge Public Space	W1 Natural Water's Edge	W1A Environmental Zones W1B Beaches	WB Water Based	WB Commercial Marine	WB1 waterway demarcations WB2 mooring, storage	R River	R1 Flood Protection Area	R1A berm R1B Waste R1C Mall						
	L12 Small Urban Open Space	L12A Corner lot L12B Parcel lot L12C Circulation Islands			S2 Streets			S2A neighbour/hood street S2B connecting streets S2C services S2D covered streets			W2 Shorewall W2B Slips W2C canals W2D shib channel W2E Connectina canals			WB3 Water Based Recreation WB4 Marina (Land Facilities) WB5 Water courses WB6 Beaches	R2 Environmental Area R2B Aquatic Habitat					
	L13 Gardens	L13A Outdoor Interiors L13B Plaza / Squares L13C Festival Parks			S3 Bridges			S3A streets S3B trails S3C highways S3D pathways			W3 Beaches W3B Natural Areas W3C Lock Juts			WB7 Environmental Areas WB8 Habitat zones WB9 Sanctuary/Protected areas WB10 water quality	R3 Access Points R3A Viewing Platform R3B catwalks R3C express / ingress					
	L14 Gathering Places	L14A Heritage Parks L14B Memorial Parks			R4 Walking Edges			R4A Trails and Connections R4B Boardwalks, Piers R4C Boardwalks			W4 Canals / Slips W4B Environmental Zone W4C Shoreline Protection W4D Waterfront Parks W4E Causeway			WB14	R4					
	L15 Active Recreation	L15A Outdoor Sports Park L15B Playgrounds L15C Community Centre														L4C	L4C Heritage Parks	W4	WB14	R4
	L16 Environmental	L16A Storm Water Management L16B Ecological Restoration L16C Urban Forest L16D Habitat Corridors L16E Environmental Laboratories														L4D	L4D Memorial Parks	W5 Lakefill	WB14	R4
	L17 Local Parks	L17A Full Block L17B Adjacent to Institutional L17C Neighbourhood														L4E	L4E Greenways L4F Water's Edge L4G Linking Parks			
	L18 Corridor Parks	L18A Greenways L18B Water's Edge L18C Linking Parks														L4F	L4F Greenways			
	L19 Public Accessible Private Open Space	L19A Forecourts L19B Courtyards L19C Jobbers L19D Entrances L19E														L4G	L4G Linking Parks			



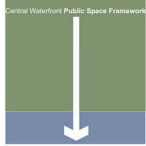
The large variety of public spaces emerging on Toronto's waterfront cannot be conceived and designed all in the same manner. It is important to categorize public spaces by their special geographic qualities, city context and cultural objectives in order to give insight to the possibilities each area holds. This has led to the broad classifications of:

- Land Based Public Space,
- Street as Public Space,
- Water's Edge Public Space,
- Water Based Public Space, and
- River Based Public Space.

Within each of these categories, a wide range of public space types are outlined to demonstrate the diversity of public spaces.

Public Space Typologies





'Foot of Toronto' Places

The Vision: The points at which 16 of Toronto's main north/south streets meet the waterfront create opportunities to introduce a series of distinctive public spaces. The "foot of Toronto" places will be spaces that celebrate the water's edge by utilizing cultural and heritage resources specific in character and design to their corridors. The sequence of "foot of Toronto" places create a string of public space event opportunities to animate the water's edge and are linked by the public water's edge promenade and parkland.



A park and monument at the foot of an avenue



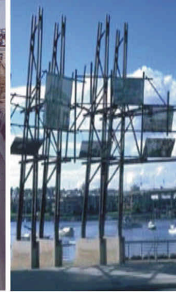
Link park: a room with a view of the water



Create landmarks at the water's edge



Celebrate corridors to the waterfront



Public art installations





Promenades with high quality paved surfaces can incorporate pavilions and public buildings.



Promenades can be cantilevered over various edges and natural habitats.



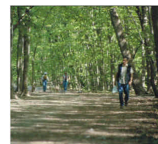
Streets and paths should be conceived as a whole.



Design attention to detail can create high.



Trails can take advantage of industrial infrastructure.

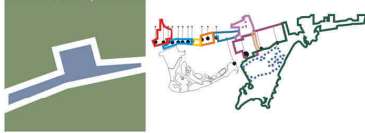


Create cool, canopied spaces along the water.

Martin Goodman Trail

The Vision: Build on the current highly active waterfront trail system to create a high quality, safe, continuous and well signed multi-use trail along the central waterfront. It is recommended to invest in the mature state of this waterfront trail connection through improvements, repair and the introduction of new segments of the trail.





Boating Strategy

The **Vision**: Toronto's harbour hosts a diverse boating community ranging from cargo ships, cruise boats, tour boats, canoeing, rowing, dragon boating and sailing. A comprehensive and coordinated strategy will focus on meeting dockwall and facility needs for marine activity not currently in existence. A boating strategy should be prepared to orchestrate and coordinate the full potential of Lake Ontario as a viable transportation, tourism, economic development and recreational resource. This strategy should address four distinct components of the central waterfront: the Inner Harbour, Outer Harbour, Water Park, Ship Channel and Turning Basin and Ashbridges Bay.



Promote many scales of boating craft



Provide facilities at the water's edge



Provide a range of surfaces and moorings for boating crafts



Celebrate the water's surface as a public space

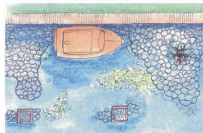




Aquatic Habitat Strategy

The Vision: Improvements to the health of the waterfront ecosystem make for a more sustainable environment, greater amenity at the water's edge and a richer waterfront experience. Toronto's harbour has been experiencing tremendous gains in the aquatic habitat diversity. Species such as pike and walleye have made an impressive reappearance in recent years with the introduction of modest aquatic habitat enhancements.

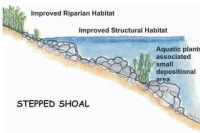
To support this ecological diversity, water's edge projects should include capital contribution for opportunities to improve the aquatic habitat conditions. This can be accomplished with minimal interventions to the Lake floor adjacent to dockwall, promenades or beaches and need not impede navigation. Simple techniques for improving aquatic habitat are illustrated on this panel along with the classification of approach across the central waterfront.



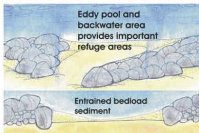
Sheltered Embayment:
Inner Harbour Vertical Sea Wall Restoration - Existing vertical seawall with improved aquatic habitat



Sheltered Embayment:
Inner Harbour Quay Restoration - Inner harbour quay treatments using structural habitat such as anchored logs, floating docks, and rock gravel shoals and reefs



Sheltered Embayment:
Shoreline Restoration - Shoreline shoal treatment using simple placement of a variety of stone forming a terraced slope

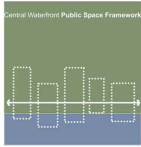


Estuary/Coastal Wetland - Low profile estuary hooks provide improved flows and channel morphology, staging areas for migratory and resident fish, juvenile habitat and areas of enhanced primary production and local pockets of lowland riparian and emergent vegetation



Open Coast - Surcharged Open Coast Groyne The additional substrate provides shoreline stability, and structural habitat associated with offshore shoals and bars would enhance the habitat function of the Open Coast.

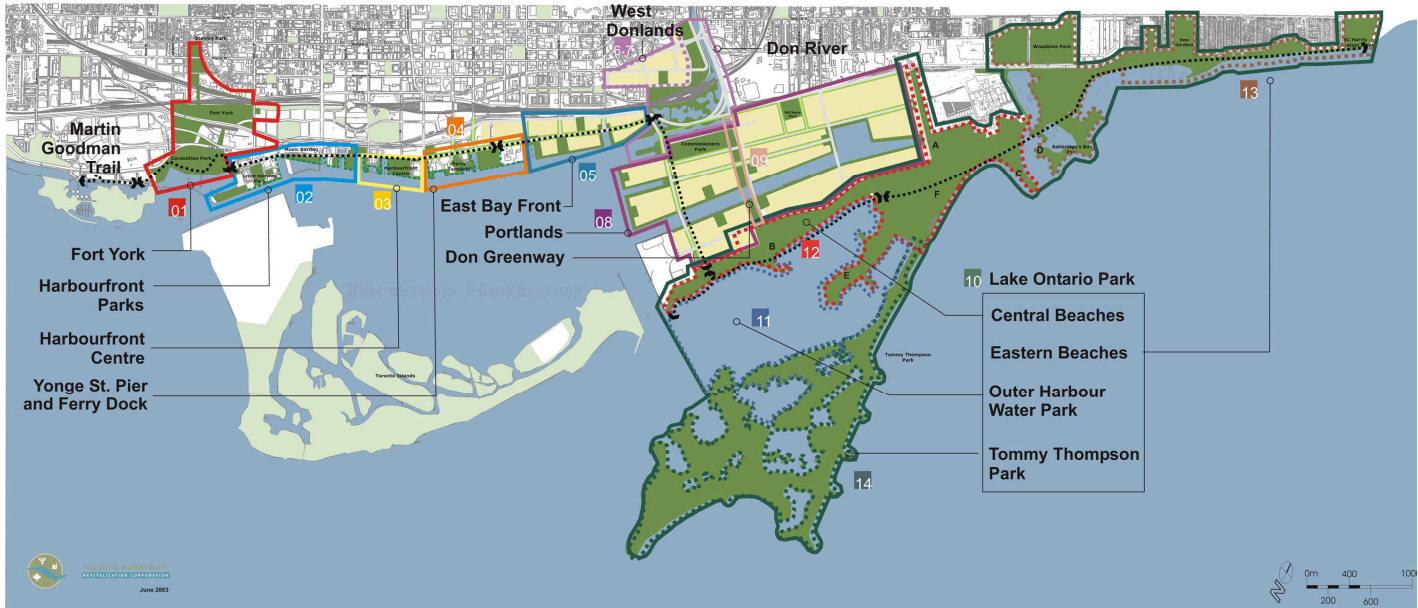


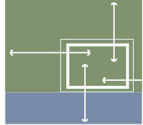


The Public Space Framework used the regional context as a departure point but focused this exercise of detailed definition in the territory between Fort York and Ashbridges Bay, complementing the focus of early stages of waterfront revitalization.

Within this area of focus a series of 13 waterfront public space districts, areas of like places, have been identified. Some of these districts, such as Fort York, focus around unlocking existing resources through investment in public space improvements. Other districts, such as the Central Beaches, rely on the creation of brand new places. The Districts provide a context for individual spaces within a manageable and understandable territory for the purposes of more detailed design and development.

Key Public Space Districts

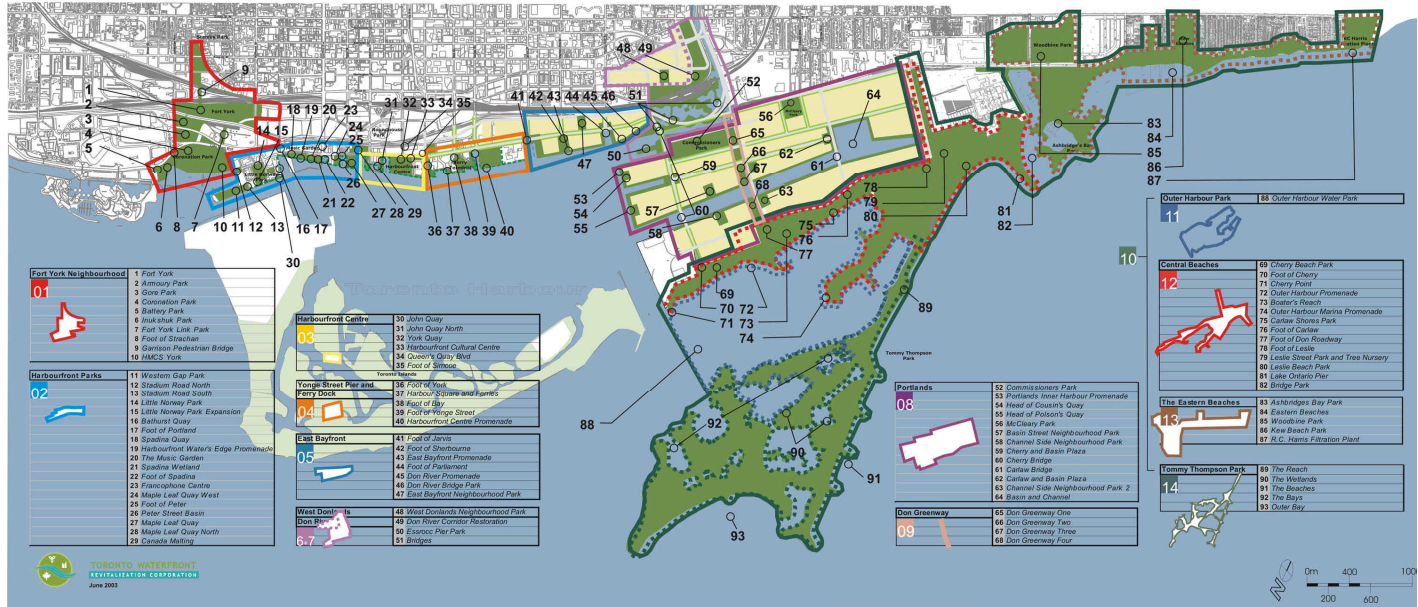




A founding step in the development of the Public Space Framework was to identify existing public places and to introduce the opportunity for additional new public places. A total of 93 public spaces were identified.

Public Places

Within each of the Districts a set of public spaces have been identified and named.





Fort York Neighbourhood

The Vision: The Fort York Public Space District offers an opportunity to create a nationally significant waterfront heritage park ensemble as a prominent gateway to the downtown core by consolidating and integrating historically significant open spaces anchored by Fort York. These improvements will create the centerpiece to one of the City's newest waterfront communities, the Fort York neighborhood while also greatly improving access to the waterfront for communities to the north.



Fort York should have a strong presence both to the city and to the water.

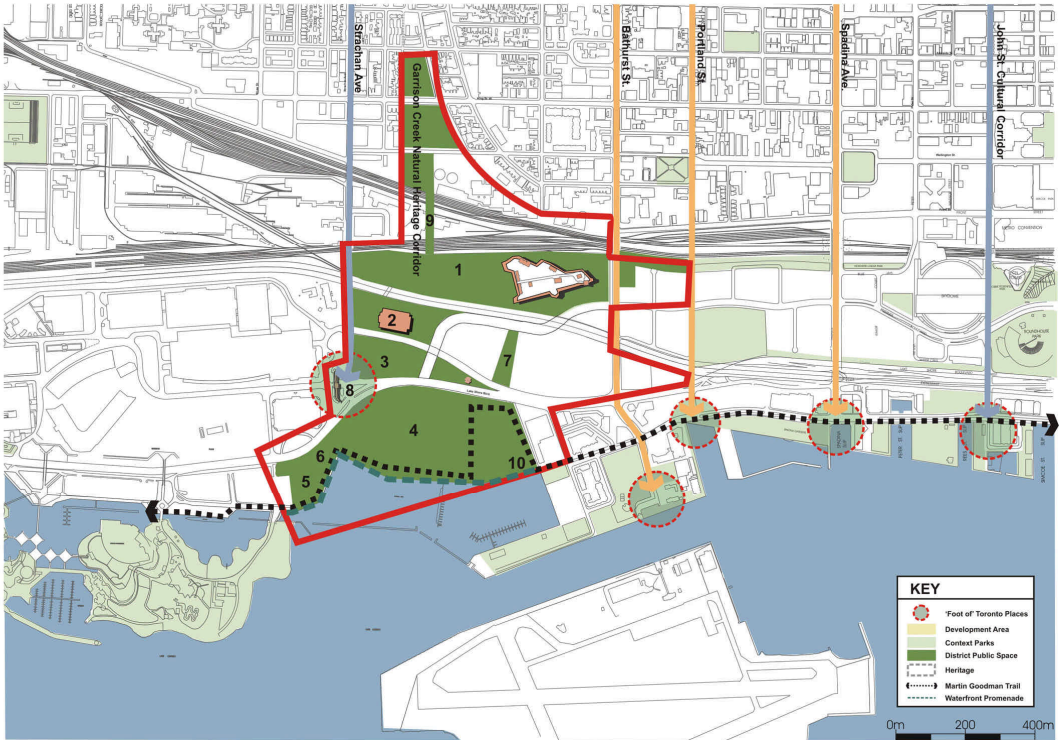
With the relocation of the nursery, the Fort York lawn should be restored to celebrate its heritage.

The mouth of the Garrison Creek should be celebrated as a major public space.

A variety of well designed trails can create strong links within the Fort York Community.

The link park can be a public room with views to the water.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
1	Fort York Grounds	A	Introduce street access from Fort York Blvd into Fort York.
		B	Interpret the archaeological landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. South Rampart ii. Shoreline reconstruction iii. Perimeter fencing
		C	Recreate the Mouth of the Garrison Creek <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Reconstruct batunurst Bridge ii. Landscape restoration iii. Connect to northern Linear Park iv. Design for underside of bridge
		D	Restore Strachan Cemetery
		E	Reinstate Garrison Common
		F	Relocate the City Tree Nursery
2	Armoury Park	A	Prepare design for main Fort grounds
		A	Prepare design for Armoury Park
3	Gore Park	A	Prepare design for Gore Park
		B	Realign Fleet Street
4	Coronation Park	A	Trail improvements, connections on north side linking to City
		B	Upgrade recreational facilities
		C	Dockwall improvements
		D	Reinforce stand of trees through replacement planting
		E	Interpretive signage/programming linked to this site and heritage of the district
		F	Design new Linear Park
5	Battery Park	A	Prepare design for western gateway to the downtown
6	Inukshuk Park	A	Design new Linear Park
7	Fort York Linear Park	A	Design new Linear Park
8	Foot of Strachan	A	Prepare design for western gateway to the downtown
9	Garrison Pedestrian Bridge	A	Commence Environmental Assessment for pedestrian bridge
10	HMCS York	A	Exploit water's edge access opportunities





Harbourfront Community

The Vision: Reinforce the Harbourfront community by implementing the parks and public space component of this rapidly expanding community. The creation of new, and improvements to existing, public space sites will contribute to the enjoyment and quality of living in Toronto's largest existing central waterfront community. An exciting first step in implementing this vision has been the recent Harbourfront Parks Design Competition. The juried competition has resulted in an inspiring design concept for two new waterfront public spaces, which will begin to be built next year.



The Music Garden is an example of the potential diversity of parks and outdoor spaces along the waterfront.



The Harbourfront Parks Design Competition winning scheme will continue the diversity of parks and outdoor rooms at Music Leaf Quay.

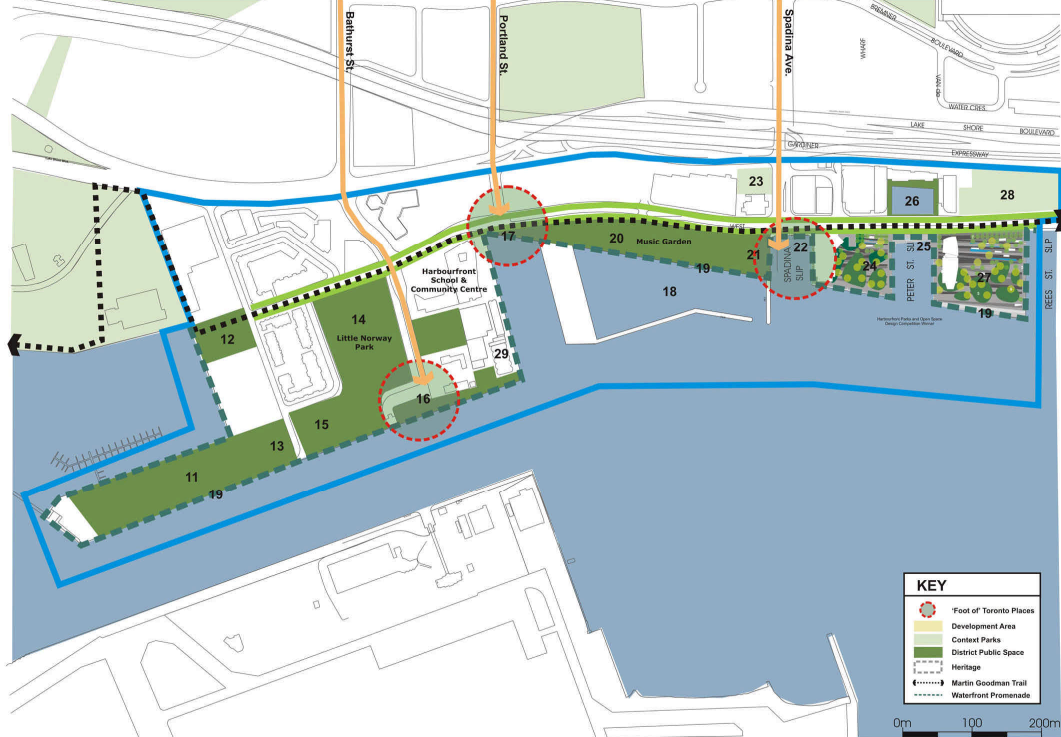


A variety of edge conditions, direct access and views to the water, and a flexible public spaces are vital at the edge of the lake.



Park pavilions of varied use can be incorporated directly into the waterfront promenade experience.

#	Public Space	ID	Action	Priority
11	Western Gap Park	A	Introduce public access along the Western Gap	
		B	Promenade improvements	
12	Stadium Road North	A	Improvements to trail system	
		B	Improve connections to Fort York Concession, TIG Top site	
13	Stadium Road South	A	Create connections to street clubs	
		B	Promenade improvements	
14	Little Norway Park	A	Prepare concept for local park	
15	Little Norway Park Expansion	A	Design bridges between Community center and other quay lands	
16	Balfour Quay	A	Improvements to foot facility	
		C	Introduce public access at southeast corner	
17	Foot of Portland	D	Design and construct Inland Park	
		A	Determine parameters for Portland 'foot of'	
		E	Promenade improvements	
		C	Introduce public access in southeast section (Canada Mailing)	
		D	Integrate the Garrison Creek cultural interpretation and signage regarding Fort York and Garrison Common	
18	Spadina Quay	A	Determine extent and design of new park space	
19	Harbourfront Water's edge Promenade	A	Design and implementation of uniform landscape treatment along promenade	
		B	Promenade improvements	
		C	Feasibility of water activities utilizing shallow and deep sections of water	
20	The Music Garden	A	Improve interpretive programming and signage	
21	Spadina Wetland	A	Determine parameters for Spadina 'foot of'	
22	Foot of Spadina	B	Improve promenade condition on north side of site	
		C	Prepare water's edge boating strategy (Engine Sundry)	
		D	Design for strong pedestrian connections above business	
23	Francophone Centre	A	Feasibility for reuse of the Antique Market	
24	Maple Leaf Quay West	B	Determine parameters for Peter 'foot of'	
25	Foot of Peter	A	Shoreline Restoration (aquatic habitat)	
26	Peter Street Basin	A	Feasibility for extension of theatre programming (Theatrical Centre)	
27	Maple Leaf Quay North	A	Feasibility for underground parking facilities	
28	Canada Mailing	A	Feasibility study for reuse of site for cultural facility and other developments	



Centre Waterfront Public Space Framework

03

Harbourfront Centre




Enhance physical and visual connections to the water, preserving and augmenting key public views and vistas to and from the waterfront that celebrate marine activities.



Ensure development and public amenities at Harbourfront Centre promote season-long and year-round activity, creating a diverse, balanced and animated waterfront.



Promote the development of beautiful, inspiring, meaningful and memorable public spaces at Harbourfront Centre - ensure the public realm is designed, upgraded and maintained to the highest standards.



Continuous public access to the water's edge should be provided, with a variety of distinct opportunities for people to experience the lake.



The Vision: Renew the physical plant of Harbourfront Centre through the implementation of elements of the New Harbourfront Centre Master Plan. The removal of surface parking to create more defined public spaces, improvements to the water's edge promenade and streetscape improvements along Queens Quay will provide Harbourfront with inviting edges and additional program space to create a critical mass of activity and Toronto's preeminent waterfront cultural center.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
30	John Quay	A	Prepare Schematic designs for promenade improvements
		B	Feasibility study for Public Attraction
31	John Quay North		
32	York Quay	A	Improvements to Existing Promenade
		B	new Floating Promenade
		C	Lighting, Bollards and Street Furniture
		D	Landscape program
		E	Schematic Designs for Market and Linear park
33	Harbourfront Centre	A	Performance Square
		B	Square on the Water
		C	Pavilions
		D	Harbourfront Pier
34	Queens Quay Blvd	A	Prepare Streetscape design as a continuation of west end of Queens Quay
35	Foot of Simcoe	A	Define Parameters for Simcoe "Foot of"
		B	Improvements to below Gardiner pedestrian connections



04



Yonge Street Pier & Ferry Dock

The Vision: A magnificent public space that celebrates the site where two fundamental Toronto elements meet - Yonge Street and Lake Ontario. This highly symbolic space has the potential to include a major gathering place, the site of a new cultural center, modernized ferry facilities. It provides an opportunity to add this key hub along the continuous waters edge promenade and into the core of the city.



Provide a clear, well defined waterfront promenade.



Provide public spaces at the water's edge that allow great variety of scale, use and character.



Yonge Street should engage the water with ceremonial significance.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
36	Foot of York	A	Define parameters for York "foot of"
		B	Improvements to pedestrian access along York
37	Harbour Square and Ferries	A	Feasibility study for Ferry terminal redesign and expansion
38	Foot of Bay	A	Define parameters for Bay "foot of"
		B	Improvements to pedestrian access along Bay
39	Foot of Yonge	A	Define parameters for Yonge "foot of"
		B	Feasibility study for major cultural attraction
		C	Design Competition for "Yonge at the Lake" park
		D	Improvements to pedestrian access along Yonge
40	Harbourfront Promenade	A	Promenade development and improvements



05

East Bayfront



Encourage the meeting of varied public uses in confined areas including all forms of traffic: pedestrian, car and boat.



Slips should become intimate water rooms with good connections to streets and public spaces.



Activate industrial heritage by incorporating industrial assets into the public realm design.



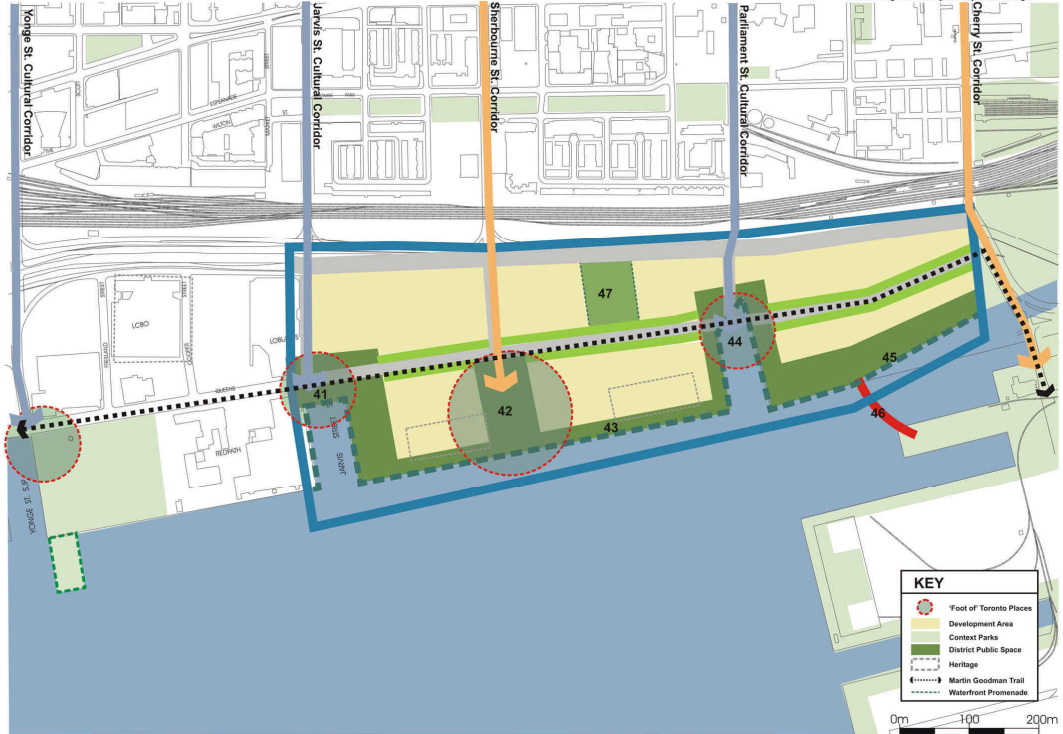
Establish high quality promenade design standards to ensure handsome water's edge spaces.



Bridge the mouth of the Don with a landmark pedestrian bridge. This will provide water's edge continuity and become a significant catalyst and symbol of change.

The Vision: The East Bayfront public space system must create a magnificent front door to the water's edge for this new urban neighborhood. Exciting opportunities for distinctive and remarkable civic space, water's edge promenade and urban parks are created by a series of public spaces at the "foot of" major north/south corridors and with a water's edge punctuated by slips and dockwall.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
41	Foot of Jarvis	A	Prepare detailed design as part of Precinct Plan
42	Foot of Sherbourne	A	Prepare detailed design as part of Precinct Plan
43	East Bayfront Promenade	A	Prepare promenade design parameters
		B	Explore feasibility of reuse of proposed heritage buildings as part of public spaces
44	Foot of Parliament	A	Prepare detailed design as part of Precinct Plan
		B	Prepare Queens Quay bridge design
45	Don River Promenade	A	Prepare detailed design as part of Precinct Plan
46	Don River Bridge Park	A	Host design competition for Bridge design
47	East Bayfront Neighbourhood Park	A	Prepare neighbourhood park design parameters



6+7

Don River - West Donlands

The Vision: Returning the mouth of the Don River to its natural formation is a remarkable opportunity to address flood protection, natural habitat and connectivity issues while demonstrating the contemporary understanding of interdependence between urban revitalization and the quality of our natural environment. The re-naturalized river mouth will connect a series of wetlands with trails along the development edge and provide the opportunity for active recreation in Commissioners Park and within the West Donlands.



Naturalization can improve industrial heritage and can improve connections from the Don to the Waterfront.

Celebrate public accessibility to the Don by introducing trail connections, viewing platforms and bridge design.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
48	West Donlands Neighbourhood Park	A	Identify park parameters for neighbourhood park
49	Don River Corridor Restoration	A	Conduct Environmental Assessment for flood protection
		B	Conduct Technical Phase of EA for naturalization of mouth
		C	Design Competition for Mouth naturalization
		D	Design for playing fields in West Donlands
50	Esrocc Pier Park	A	Design Concept to permit public promenade along water's edge
51	Bridges	A	Design Competitions for interim enhancements
		B	Queens Quay Bridge Design
		C	Railway Bridge Design
		D	Gardiner/Lakeshore Bridge Design





Portlands

The Vision: A diverse range of high quality public spaces that supports new waterfront communities and provides an emerging water's edge context for development along the Quays and in relationship to Lake Ontario Park. This range of public spaces includes new urban plazas, continuous waterfront promenade, recreational playing fields, a regional sport complex, natural and habitat corridors, neighbourhood parks and a network of trails.



Create more opportunities to cross the Ship Channel.



Create an extensive pedestrian and bicycle path system along all water edges.



Accommodate a multitude of public spaces along the Ship Channel.

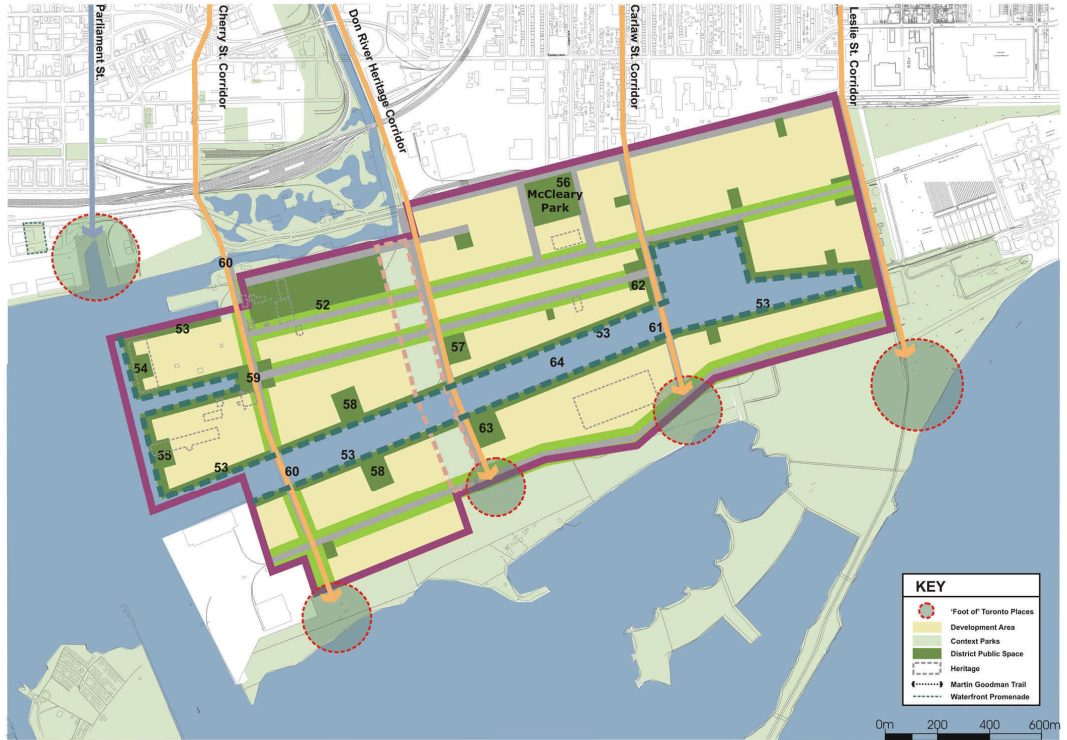


Integrate public promenade with strong building massing at the water's edge.



Provide for a variety of public parks and activity.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
52	Commissioners Park	A	Portlands Sports Complex Feasibility Study
		B	Prepare Commissioners Park Master Plan
		C	Heritage structure strategy (includes Hydro station building, Factory (16 Munro's Street), Bank Building)
53	Portlands Inner Harbour Promenade	A	Prepare Water's Edge Access Strategy
		B	Implement interim promenade conditions on publicly owned land
		C	Prepare design parameters for Inner Harbour Promenade (taking into consideration dockwall constraints)
54	Head of Cousin's Quay	A	Identify design parameters
55	Head of Polson Quay	A	Identify design parameters
56	McCleary Park		
57	Basin Street Neighbourhood Park	A	Identify park parameters for Neighbourhood Park
58	Channel side Neighbourhood Park	A	Identify park parameters for Neighbourhood Park
59	Cherry and Basin Plaza	A	Identify design parameters
60	Cherry bridges	A	Design Competition for bridge across Don mouth
		B	Design Competition for bridge upgrades across Ship Channel
61	Carlaw Bridge	A	Design Competition for pedestrian bridge
62	Carlaw and Basin Plaza	A	Identify design Parameters
63	Channel side Neighbourhood Park 2	A	Identify park parameters for Neighbourhood Park
64	Basin and Channel	A	Prepare Water's Edge Access Strategy
		B	Implement interim promenade conditions on publicly owned land
		C	Prepare design parameters for Basin and Channel Promenade (taking into consideration dockwall constraints)





09 Don Greenway

The Vision: A green spine serving as a connective place making a corridor between the Don Mouth and Lake Ontario Park and as a key structuring element for community space for emerging Portland neighbourhoods and Centre for Innovation and Creativity. The Greenway will be functionally diverse and act as habitat corridor, active and passive recreational space, trailway connector, and as adjunct to community spaces.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
65	Adjunct to the Mouth	A	Define Greenway functional parameters
		B	Prepare Adjunct to the Mouth Design Concept
66	Greenway Core	A	Define Greenway functional parameters
		B	Prepare Greenway Core Concept
67	Greenway at the Channel	A	Define Greenway functional parameters
		B	Create public access at the Channel (where feasible)
68	Foot of the Greenway	A	Define Greenway functional parameters
		B	Prepare Foot of Greenway Concept



The Greenway can be a strong urban corridor serving a range of ecological, active, and storm water functions.

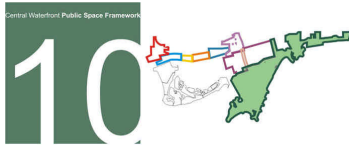


The Greenway can be quite distinct from the surrounding context and defined through a clear delineation of territories.



Sensitive approaches to crossing and occupying space can allow for many uses and ecosystems to coexist.





Lake Ontario Park Composite Plan

The Vision: Create Lake Ontario Park as a 21st century legacy for Toronto by assembling a variety of existing park assets into a unified waterfront public realm. Key to realizing this legacy park is the introduction of the new Central Beaches park. The Central Beaches Park will become the key link between some of Toronto's best waterfront public spaces, bridging the internationally renowned habitat of Tommy Thompson Park, the Outer Harbour Water Park, and the new Woodbine Park with one of Toronto's best loved waterfront experiences - the Eastern Beaches.

Imagine a waterfront walk from Balmy Beach, across a landmark pedestrian bridge over Ashbridges Bay, to the Central Beaches out to the Toronto lighthouse or northward through the Don Greenway to the upper reaches of Sunnybrook Park in the Don River Valley.

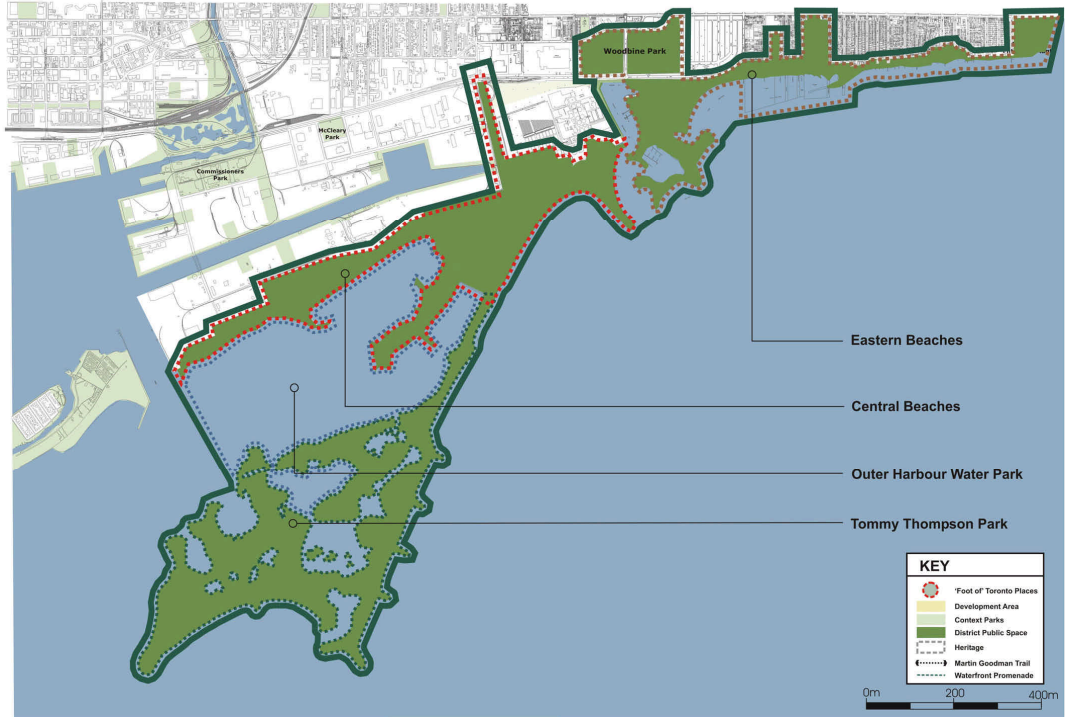
Making it Happen: Together, this waterfront park ensemble is a largely unimproved, publicly owned community asset. In order to unlock the tremendous design potential for this unprecedented waterfront public space opportunity, a Composite Lake Ontario Park Visioning process should be undertaken. To do so, the world's best designers should be engaged to work with stakeholders and the public to define the future for this waterfront legacy park.

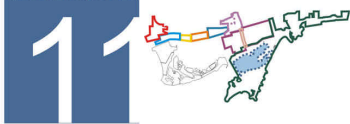
While the focus of the Vision would be Central Beaches, this territory needs to be understood in the context of the future urban form, existing waterfront public spaces to the east and the natural ecology of the territory as well as the unique attributes of Tommy Thompson Park.



The wealth of natural resources in this area provides for a unique and diverse set of waterfront experiences.

The creation of a new legacy park will knit together a series of open spaces and develop a seamlessly connected public realm.





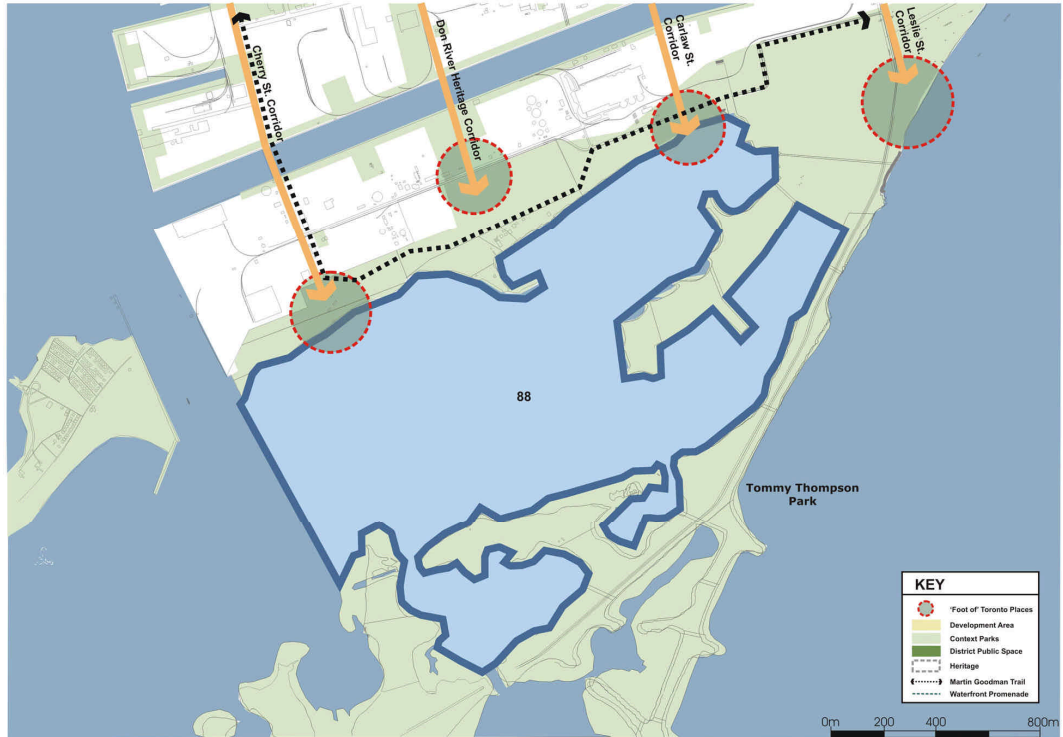
Outer Harbour Water Park

The Vision: A recreational and competitive water park environs that supports a range of non-motorized boating activities through environmental and programmatic enhancements in combination with improvements to land-based facilities. Based on the unique combination of windy yet calm water conditions, build both the learning grounds for family oriented water recreation and the environment for world class competitive courses which in an integrated manner provides for sailing, windsurfing, canoeing, rowing and dragon boating.

Promote the Outer Harbour water sheet as a park. It can be celebrated by addressing how the water park, and all its various activities, meet and engage with edges of land. Creating a public realm infrastructure that directly deals with this interface can be inspiration to a host of public places around the perimeter.

Facility Design should encourage a strong relationship with both the water park uses and surrounding land use within a clear public realm.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
88	Water Park	A	Prepare overall Outer Harbour Boating Strategy
		B	Prepare designs to accommodate public access to Outer Harbour Marina Keach
		C	Prepare designs for community boating facilities with publicly accessible water's edge
		D	Prepare designs for integrated water courses
		E	Feasibility for waterfront revitalization regatta





Central Beaches

The Vision: Complementing the existing western and eastern beaches, Lake Ontario Park will upgrade and connect 300 acres of existing public space to create a new park legacy for Toronto: the Central Beaches. Within this extensive land base a range of public uses including a continuous waters edge promenade, community boating facilities, beach park, recreational playing fields, natural habitat features, trails and public nurseries will be accommodated. The Central Beaches will be an active people place, a waterfront park for the city as a whole, and the waterfront front door for the emerging Portlands community.



The remediated nursery can become the catalyst of change for this area.



Cherry Beach would afford a great outlook back to the city and the skyline.



A variety of strong landscapes should define the character of this legacy park. Strong links should be made to the Eastern Beaches, continuing the active use of the water's edge.



#	Public Space	ID	Action
69	Cherry Beach Park	A	Cherry Beach Infrastructure Improvements
		B	Bascom to the Annexians Feasibility Study
		C	Restoration of change room facilities
70	Foot of Cherry	A	Considered as part of LDP Design competition
71	Cherry Point	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
72	Outer Harbour Promenade	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
73	Builer's Beach	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
74	Outer Harbour Marine Promenade	A	Prepare design concepts for public accessibility
75	Carlaw Shores Park	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
76	Foot of Carlaw	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
77	Foot of Don Roadway	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
78	Foot of Leslie	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
	Leslie Street Park	A	Design Tree Nursery
		B	Leslie Corridor Trail and streetcape improvements
80	Leslie Beach Park	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision
81	Lake Ontario Pier	A	Finalization of EA for Pier
82	Bridge Park	A	Considered as part of LDP Composite Vision



Central Beaches Public Space Promenade

13

Eastern Beaches




The Eastern Beaches supports a great variety of public spaces along the waterfront.



A diversity of park pathways, review footpaths, and beach boardwalks connect the magnificent resources of Lake Ontario shoreline, public parks and gardens, and wooded review parkland.

Vision: The connection of one of Toronto's most loved waterfront public spaces, the Eastern Beaches, to the new and improved Central Beaches would unlock one continuous land base for public enjoyment of the waterfront. The inclusion of the Eastern Beaches within the Lake Ontario Park Composite plan suggests only the need to consider the contextual opportunities provided by this existing and remarkable waterfront amenity immediately to the east of the Central Beaches and the potential this expanded land base offers to consider programmatic relief for the Eastern Beaches. Ashbridges Bay and Park merit consideration for structural retrofit of the original lakefill arm to provide better connections, reduce impact of sedimentation, and improve the conditions for sailing and boating and land-based recreation.



#	Public Space	#D / Action
13	Ashbridges Bay Park	A. Review Ashbridges Area Environmental Assessment
		B. Prepare design concepts for Ashbridges Area redevelopment
		C. Prepare Ashbridges Bay Boating Strategy
		D. Review proposals for soil erosion flow treatment options
14	Eastern Beaches	
15	Woodbine Park	
16	Kew Beach Park	
17	R.C. Harris Filtration Plant	



Tommy Thompson Park

The Vision: A sustainable and balanced natural habitat that builds on the current internationally recognized wildlife habitat and responds to the fully mature state of the park in the context of emerging new communities and redefined park spaces to the north.



A variety of natural habitats are the foundation for one of Toronto's most unique parks.



One of the most significant features of Tommy Thompson Park is the collection of wetlands, meadows and forests that support many threatened and unusual plant species.



Trails connect people to nature and offer opportunities for interpretation of this unique urban wilderness.

#	Public Space	ID	Action
89	The Reach	A	Interpretive Centre Feasibility study
		B	Concept design for Park Gateway (including interpretive signage)
90	The Wetlands (3)	A	Cell 1 capping and Coastal Wetland creation project
		B	Cell 2 capping and Coastal Wetland creation project
		C	Cell 3 capping and Coastal Wetland creation project
91	The Beaches	A	Project
92	The Bays (4)	A	Embayment A wetland creation and shoreline regeneration
		B	Embayment B wetland creation and shoreline regeneration
		C	Embayment D wetland creation and shoreline regeneration
		O	Bird banding Ecological Research Station
93	Outer Bay	A	Terrestrial habitat creation and enhancement



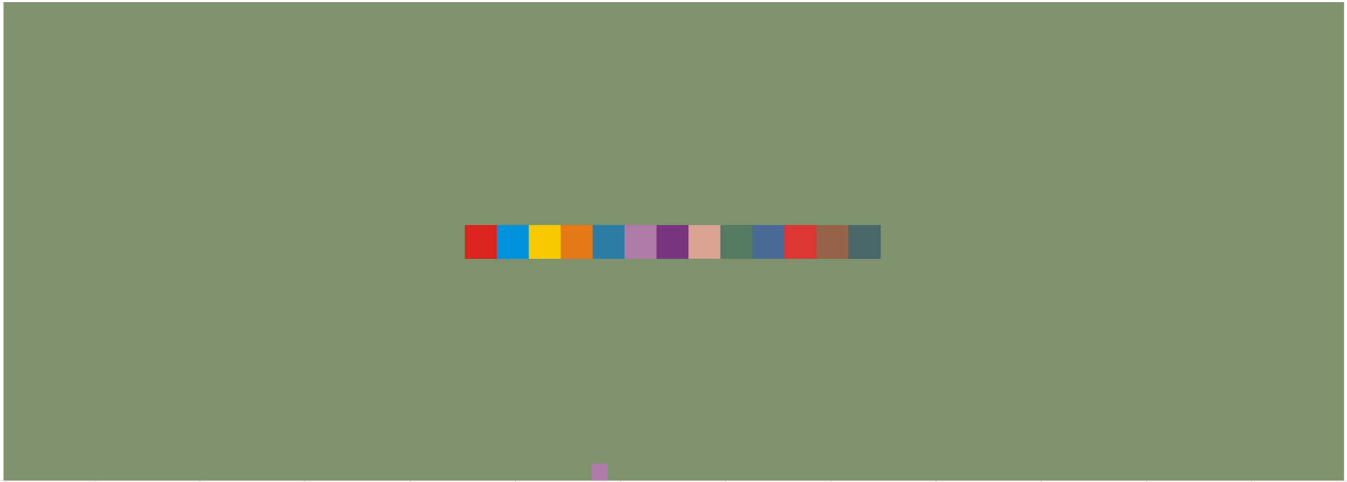


Central Waterfront Public Space Framework



Designed By:
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TORONTO WATERFRONT
REVITALIZATION CORPORATION