

NORTHEAST FALSE CREEK PARK DESIGN

EARLY DIRECTIONS + GUIDING PRINCIPLES - SUMMARY REPORT

MARCH 2017

JAMES
CORNER
FIELD
OPERATIONS

PWL
PARTNERSHIP

MODUS

Prepared for: Northeast False Creek Project Office - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation - City of Vancouver

CITY OF
VANCOUVER



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INTRODUCTION

NORTHEAST FALSE CREEK PARK

The objective of the NEFC Park project is to create and renew a diverse combination of parks and open spaces that will connect Vancouver's downtown and historic neighbourhoods to the False Creek waterfront. Drawing energy and excitement from the new Arts and Events District, these new and renewed public spaces will form a stunning destination where residents and visitors will come to play, be active, and enjoy nature and culture.

This project will be uniquely responsive to the specific circumstances of the site context, and more generally to Vancouver's growing and evolving population. It aims to create ecologically rich environments that celebrates the juxtaposition of infrastructure and nature in the city, an engaging and textured waterfront that enhances coastal habitats and biodiversity, as well as healthy and resilient park spaces that address long-term challenges such as climate change and sea-level rise.

This project will be executed to the highest standards of landscape architecture and urban design, and demonstrate excellence in the creation of active urban parks on the waterfront.

Building upon studies that were conducted over the past decades, review of relevant documents and reports, as well as engagement activities held during Phase 1, the Stage 1 Early Directions + Guiding Principles Summary Report provides an overview of the NEFC Park project, and an analysis of the site's context, key components, as well as opportunities and constraints.

Informed by what we heard during Stage 1 engagement activities, the report then outlines a series of Guiding Principles structured under 3 main themes (A Destination Park, Community and Nature in the City), as well as Early Directions that will guide the Park Concept Design.

A summary of Stage 1 engagement is addressed briefly on pages 34-35 and will be provided in a separate report to be released as Part two of this report in spring 2017.



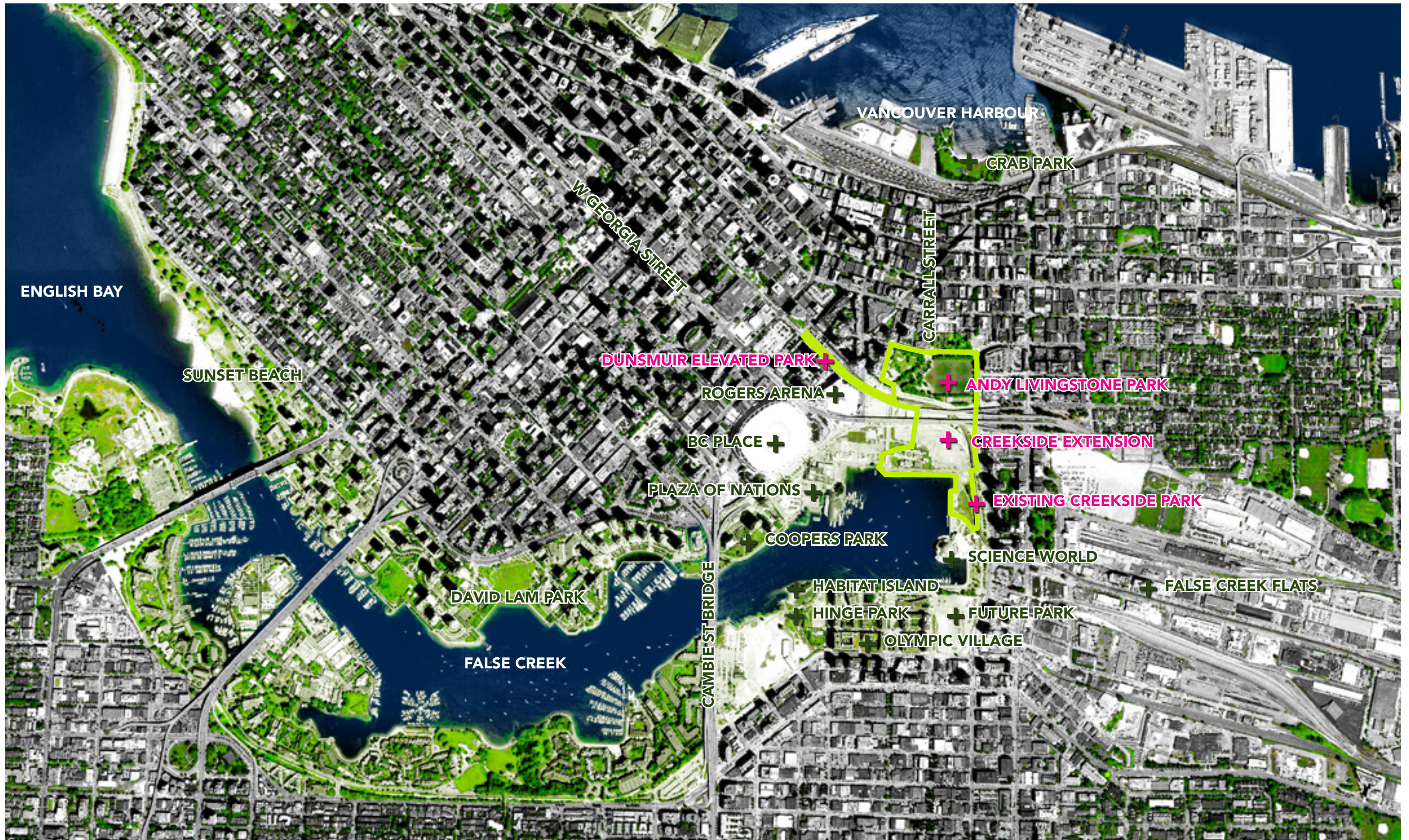
CONTEXT

The idea of creating a new public park in Northeast False Creek emanates from 25 years of policy and foundational background work summarized in the NEFC Waterfront Park Background Study (2016). This idea is in keeping with:

- 11 guiding principles issued by Council (2015)
- 7 key themes that emerged from previous design and policies
- The NEFC Conceptual Plan approved by Council (2015)
- The Park Board Strategic Framework Plan

The NEFC Park Project must be understood within the context of other initiatives that are part of the planning in and around NEFC, subject to Council approvals. These concurrent processes include:

- NEFC Area Planning which will define the framework, density and massing for NEFC as well as the policies around sustainability, arts, culture, transportation, special events and public amenities;
- NEFC Engineering Design and Planning Works for the planned viaducts removal, the possible construction of an elevated structure to create a bike and pedestrian connection across the site, the proposed design and construction of Pacific Boulevard, through the site with all relevant connections and utility work;
- Possible future rezoning and development of private properties in NEFC area, including the Concord Pacific development, the Plaza of Nations development, and the City Lands in Area 6 and Main Street blocks; and
- Continuing work based on the City's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, including increasing the resilience of Vancouver's infrastructure and assets to coastal flooding and erosion.



SITE

The project consists of the design of a group of park and open spaces comprised of four key components:

EXISTING

- **Andy Livingstone Park** – reconfigured road network will trigger the renewal of this park and adjacent Skate Plaza, allowing a re-think of its recreation, social and natural spaces, and renewal as a destination park with sports fields and play areas. The street network redesign will also enable the conversion of a portion of Carrall Street (located between Keefer Street and the new Pacific Boulevard) to Carrall Promenade - an integral part of the park space that will reconnect the east and west sides of Andy Livingstone Park. In addition, the new playground, currently in construction, will be integrated in the renewed Andy Livingstone Park.
- **Creekside Park** – this existing waterfront park, bookended by TELUS Science World™, will be examined within the context of the overall vision of the area, including the connection of paths and bikeways, the reconfiguration of the seawall, and other important elements. The decking just north of TELUS Science

World™, known as the Expo Deck, will be partially replaced. Reconfiguration options, such as a soft and natural shoreline to improve biodiversity and access, are being explored. In addition, the reconfiguration of the existing Creekside Park will need to incorporate the new playground, slated for completion in early 2017. The new playground will remain unchanged in the new park and open spaces concept plan.

NEW

- **Creekside Park Extension** – presently a brownfield site, this new and prominent waterfront park will complete the series of public spaces along the False Creek waterfront, It will be the final link, connecting the seawall as a continuous loop around False Creek, while providing access to and from a number of neighbourhoods such as Downtown, Gastown, Chinatown, Strathcona, Downtown Eastside, CityGate, False Creek Flats, the Olympic Village and future adjacent neighbourhoods in Northeast False Creek;
- **Dunsmuir Connection** - an elevated park that will provide a green link for pedestrians and cyclists between the downtown core and the new park spaces.





SITE (CONTINUED)

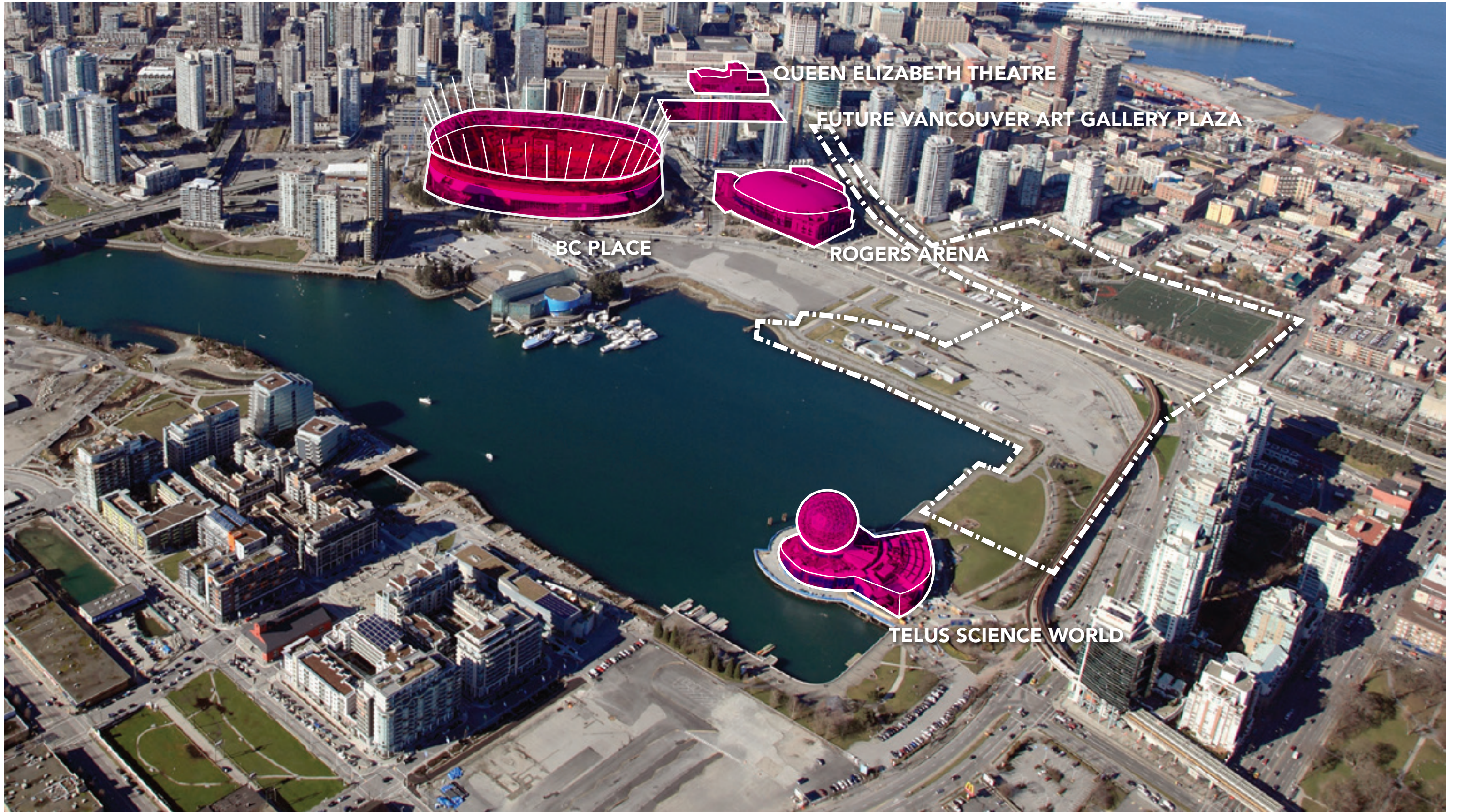
The vision of this project is to create and renew park spaces that blend, extend, expand and connect between the waterfront, new and existing communities, and the downtown area. The park will help bring together Vancouver's core and diverse neighbourhoods, including Downtown, the International Village, the Downtown Eastside, Chinatown and CityGate. In particular, the proximity of the Downtown Eastside will be taken into consideration and will influence the park design in various aspects such as inclusivity, publicness and accessibility.

Drawing energy and excitement from existing large venues such as Rogers Arena, BC Place and Telus Science World™, the park will support community activities and special events in the City's core.

In addition, the Dunsmuir Connection will bridge to the Central Business District, BC's centre of art, culture and commerce, as well as the Queen Elizabeth Theatre and the proposed Vancouver Art Gallery.



10



QUEEN ELIZABETH THEATRE

FUTURE VANCOUVER ART GALLERY PLAZA

BC PLACE

ROGERS ARENA

TELUS SCIENCE WORLD

FIRST NATIONS

Vancouver is situated on the unceded traditional homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. Historically a significant part of the park area was under water with rich mud flats and marsh lands. Records indicate that the waters between Burrard Inlet and False Creek were connected during high tides. False Creek was an abundant place for fishing, harvesting, and hunting by these Nations. City staff will continue to liaise with the three First Nations on the Northeast False Creek project.

Vancouver is also home to other First Nations, Métis and Inuit from across Canada, and to indigenous peoples from around the world. Urban Aboriginal people are important stakeholders for the project. A series of meetings and workshops are being carried out to discuss ideas and ways to celebrate indigenous history and culture, as well as to support the process of reconciliation in NEFC.



Musqueam

Meaning: The People of the River Grass



Squamish

Meaning: The Mother of the Wind / People of the Sacred Water



Tsleil-Waututh

Meaning: The People of the Inlet



HISTORY

INDUSTRIALIZATION + PRESENT WATER USE

Overtime as the city developed, these lands were filled in for industrial use, because of an easy access to the calm waters. Numerous industrial operations occupied the site including coal gasification plants, wood processing, rail yards, foundries, and other similar facilities. As shown, the industrial shoreline had gone through significant changes from the 1890s to the 1950s.

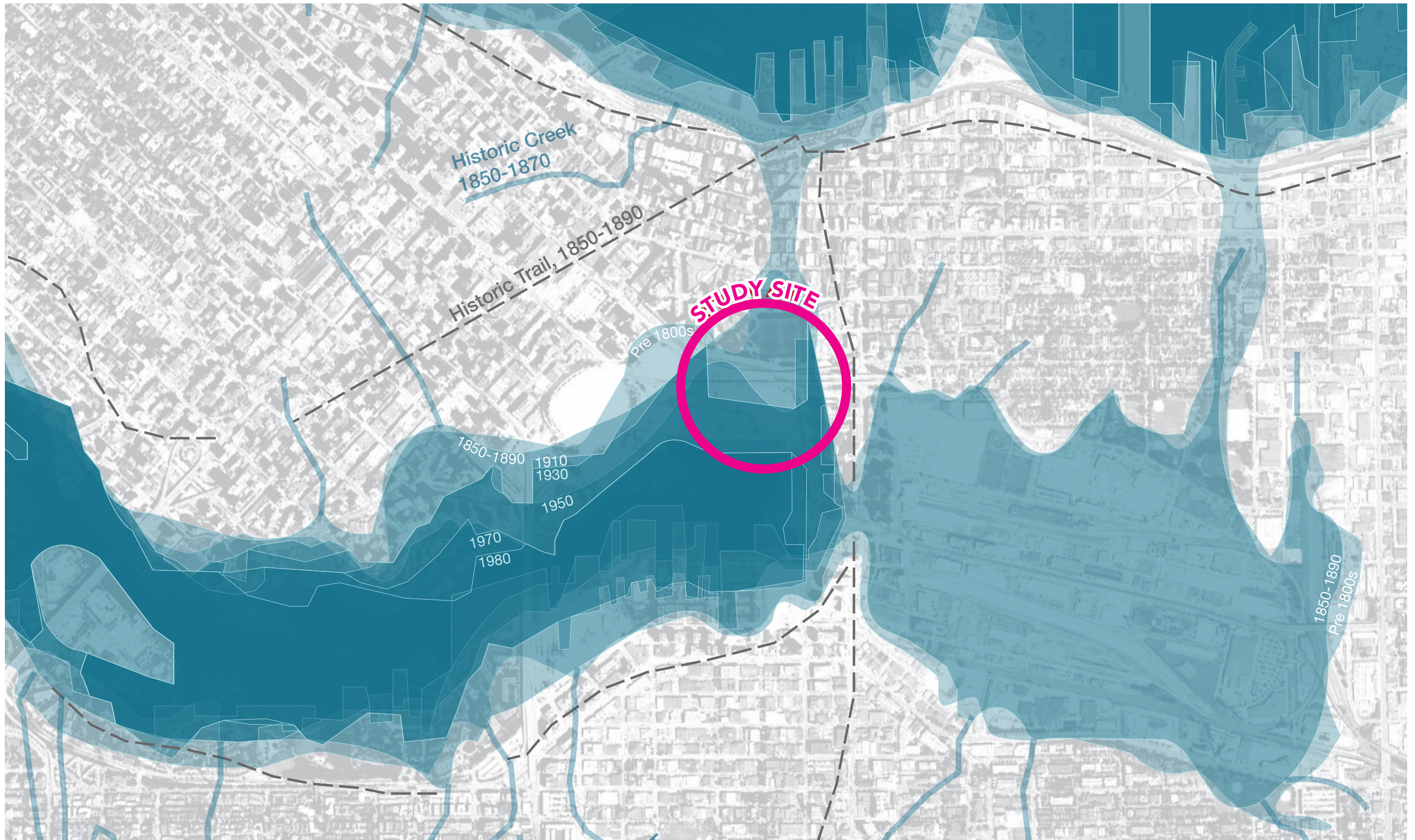
After Expo 86, the Seawall was built around False Creek which now extends a length of 26km connecting False Creek to Stanley Park, and to Vanier Park and Kitsilano to the west. The pedestrian and cycling paths in the study area are currently temporary, they will be reconfigured and connected to the Seaside Greenway on either side.

As the old Expo Lands and surrounding neighbourhoods were redeveloped, False Creek became a very popular boating area for many different activities

including dragon boating, canoeing, kayaking, public ferries, charter ships, and visiting pleasure boats. False Creek has 10 marinas with berths for 1500 watercraft and several paddling clubs or boat rental facilities. Since 1986, the creek has been the venue for the Canadian International Dragon Boat Festival and other paddling events. The water has also become an important transportation corridor for Aqua Buses and Ferries that serve the entire False Creek area.

Several decades following the suspension of industrial activity in the area, a number of shore and seabirds such as cormorants, ducks, herons, kingfishers, owls, geese, crows, and gulls have returned, as well as harbour seals. In an unusual sighting, in May 2010 a grey whale entered False Creek and traversed its length before returning to the open waters of the Strait of Georgia.



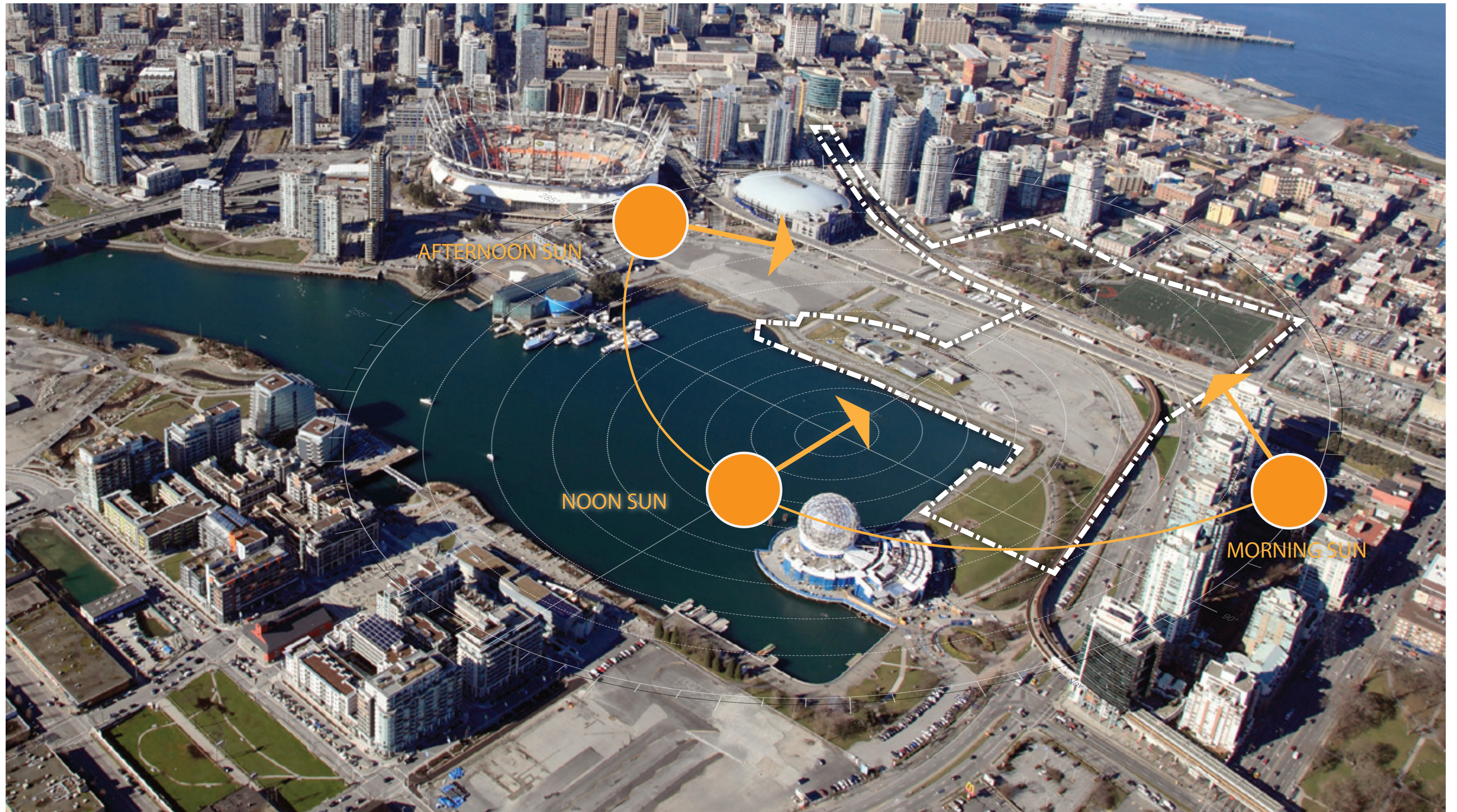


ORIENTATION

The new Northeast False Creek park will be the largest new waterfront park in downtown Vancouver built in a generation. It will have sunny south-facing orientation, as well as spectacular views to the water and the North Shore mountains. As the park design progresses and potential park uses are laid out, significant attention will be given to strategically maximize views and sun exposure.

In addition, the existing Creekside Park offers an ideal location to watch the sunset, with a long view of the entire False Creek.





ADJACENT DEVELOPMENT

The rezoning of the private and public lands adjacent to this site is anticipated to be prepared concurrently with the Area Planning process. These parcels include Area 6b (Canadian Metropolitan Properties / Plaza of Nations), Area 6c (Concord Pacific), as well as the two City-owned blocks located immediately east and west of Main Street (between Prior Street and Union Street). These parcels are currently at different stages of planning and design.

There is an expectation of a high degree of collaboration among staff and designers from the City, Park Board and landowners, with the intent of generating the best overall urban design schemes and simplifying the preparation of well-coordinated designs.

18 The waterfront portion of Parcel 6b and 6c will be designed by the landowners in close collaboration with the park design team. Parcel 6c, parcel 9, and city-owned land will be re-configured as part of the rezoning process resulting in more contiguous park space.

In addition, as the park and open spaces design progress, sun and shadow studies of adjacent developments will be prepared to ensure shadow impact to the park is minimized.



ENVIRONMENTAL + GEOTECHNICAL CONSTRAINTS

In 2016, the City of Vancouver's Contaminated Sites Team (CST) completed an environmental investigation on City-owned lands within the NEFC Project area. This study supplemented and validated numerous previous environmental investigations which identified significant amounts of various contaminants in the fill materials and groundwater.

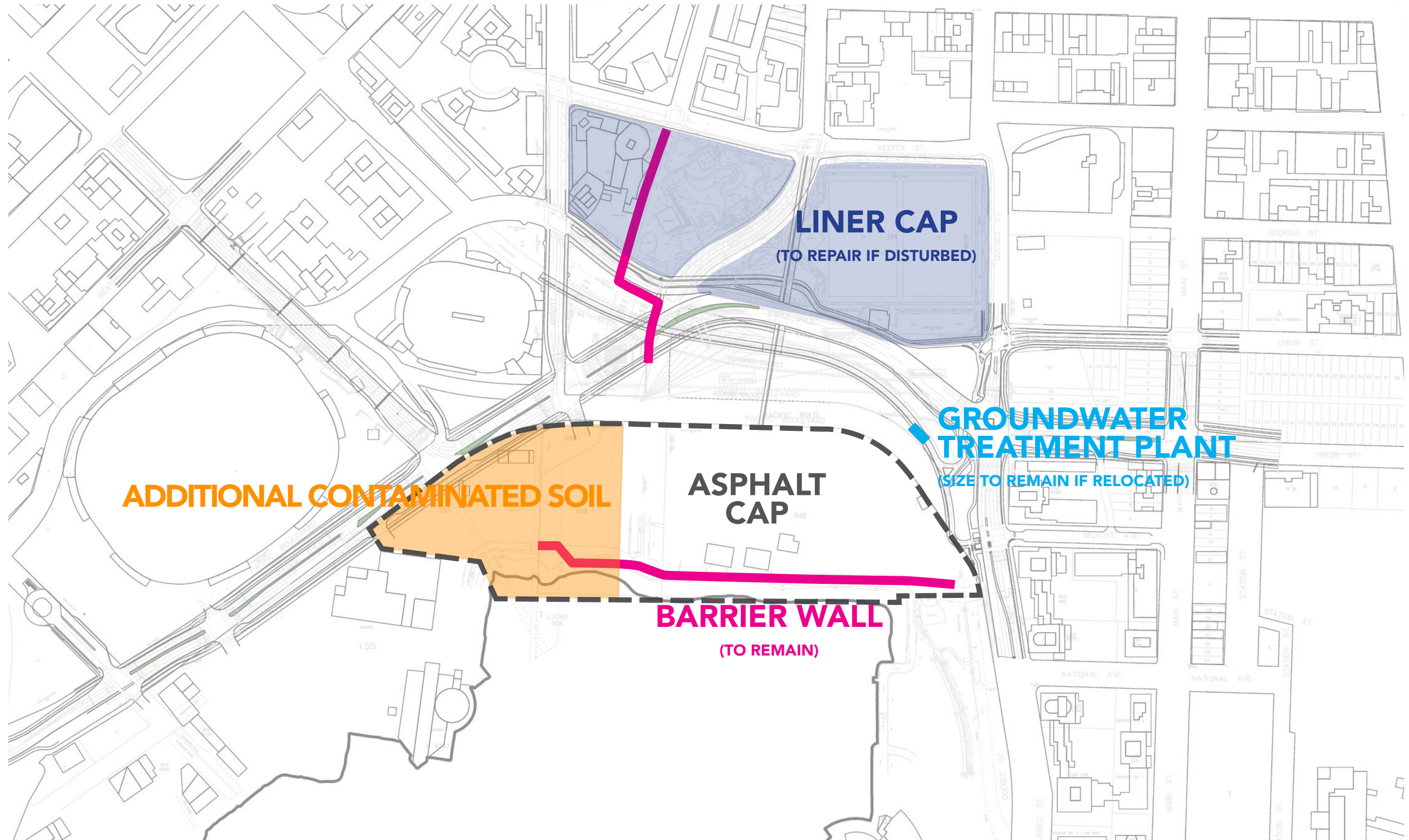
Current mitigation options for consideration include excavation and offsite disposal of contaminated soils or risk managing the contaminants in place. A low permeability membrane was installed in Andy Livingstone Park, two barrier walls and an impermeable asphalt cap were installed in the future Creekside Park Extension to block rain and irrigation water from entering the contaminated area and to eliminate access to the contaminated soils. A groundwater control and treatment system was installed in the 1990s to manage the risk of contaminated groundwater flowing to False Creek and surrounding areas.

Design considerations include:

- The barriers currently in place to manage contamination (i.e. geo-membrane liner, asphalt cap, cut-off walls) must stay intact or, if changes to the barriers are required, then other mitigation measures must be put in place; Stormwater infiltration capacity would be limited within the lined area; therefore alternatives to storm water management should be considered such as rain garden, bioswale etc.

- Soils can be placed on top of the current geo-membrane liner so long as it remains intact. If contaminated soils are placed on top of the liner, then the additional contaminated soils would need to be risk managed such as installation of a liner and placement of soils suitable for park construction (i.e. approximately 1 m of clean fill and rainwater runoff managed appropriately).
- Relocation of the groundwater treatment system is not considered an environmental concern as long as the relocated treatment system meets the current requirements and remains in the same general location.

Existing legal agreements between the Province, the City and Concord require that Creekside Park extension accommodate contaminated soil from the adjacent development parcel 6c and changes to existing parcel boundaries or use be agreed to by all three parties. The contaminated soils relocated



CONNECTION CORRIDORS

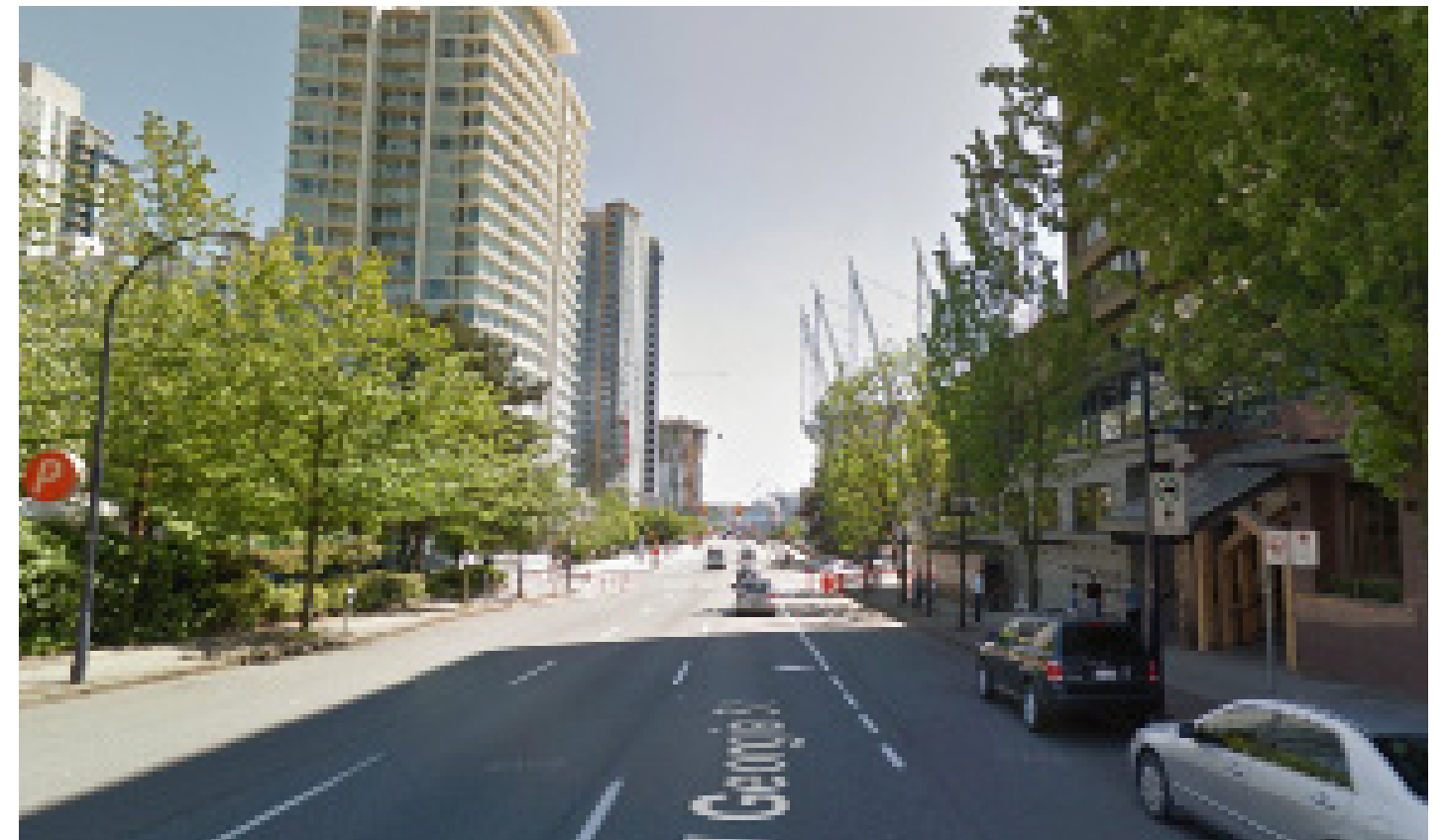
CARRALL PROMENADE

Carrall Street is proposed to be closed to vehicular circulation south of Keefer Street. The new Carrall promenade will be realigned as a more direct north-south pedestrian and bikeway integrated in the new park. The new alignment will become the spine of the new park, celebrating Carrall Street's important role as one of the first streets in historic downtown Vancouver as well as a water-to-water connection (Burrard Inlet / Crab Park to False Creek). With this change, Andy Livingstone Park will also be better experienced as one large green space, rather than two separate and smaller areas.

GEORGIA STREET

Removal of the Georgia viaduct also creates an opportunity to reinstate Georgia Street as a ceremonial street in Vancouver, connecting from water-to-water (Lost Lagoon to False Creek).

Georgia Street will extend and ramp down and connect to Pacific Boulevard, linking some of the most important arts and culture destinations in the city. A public plaza at the terminus of Georgia Street will provide pedestrians with a strong connection to the False Creek waterfront.





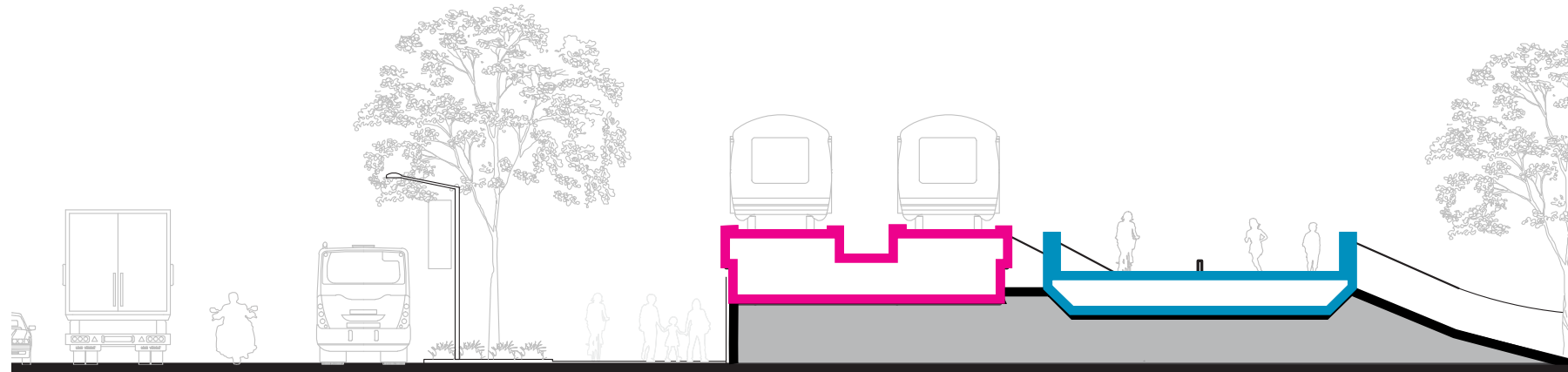
SKYTRAIN

CONSTRAINT

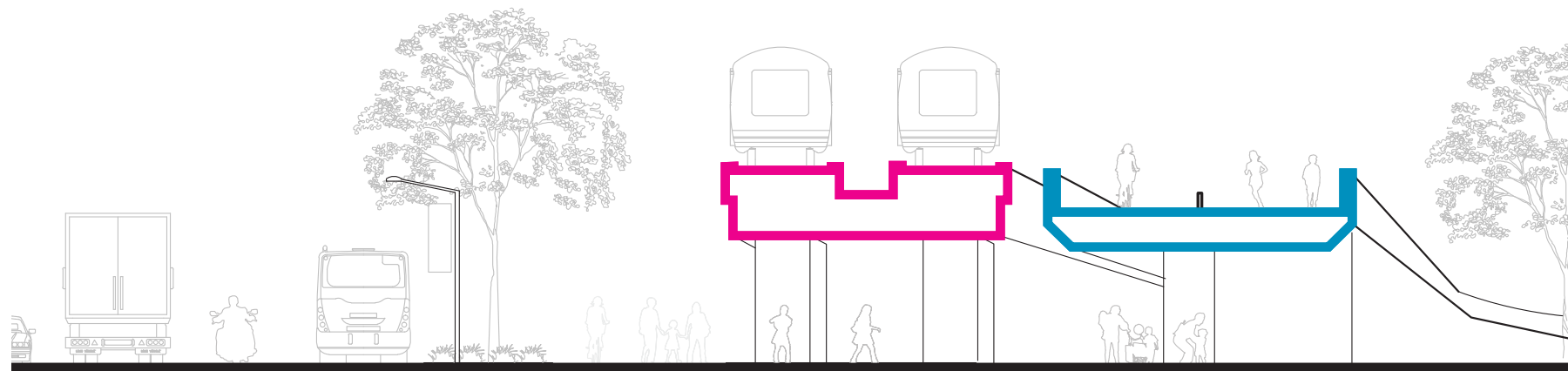
Vancouver's Skytrain is a rapid transit metropolitan rail system that runs through the downtown core, connecting the city to surrounding municipalities. In Northeast False Creek, the Skytrain guideway forms a physical and visual barrier as it dips down under the existing viaducts. As the guideway cannot be lifted due to prohibitive costs and complications with accommodating commuters as it is a heavily used route, the design of the new Carrall Promenade between Andy Livingstone and Creekside Parks will need to work with this physical constraint. The design of the new park will need to propose innovative solutions to mitigate this barrier and to create a grand park entry experience.

OPPORTUNITY

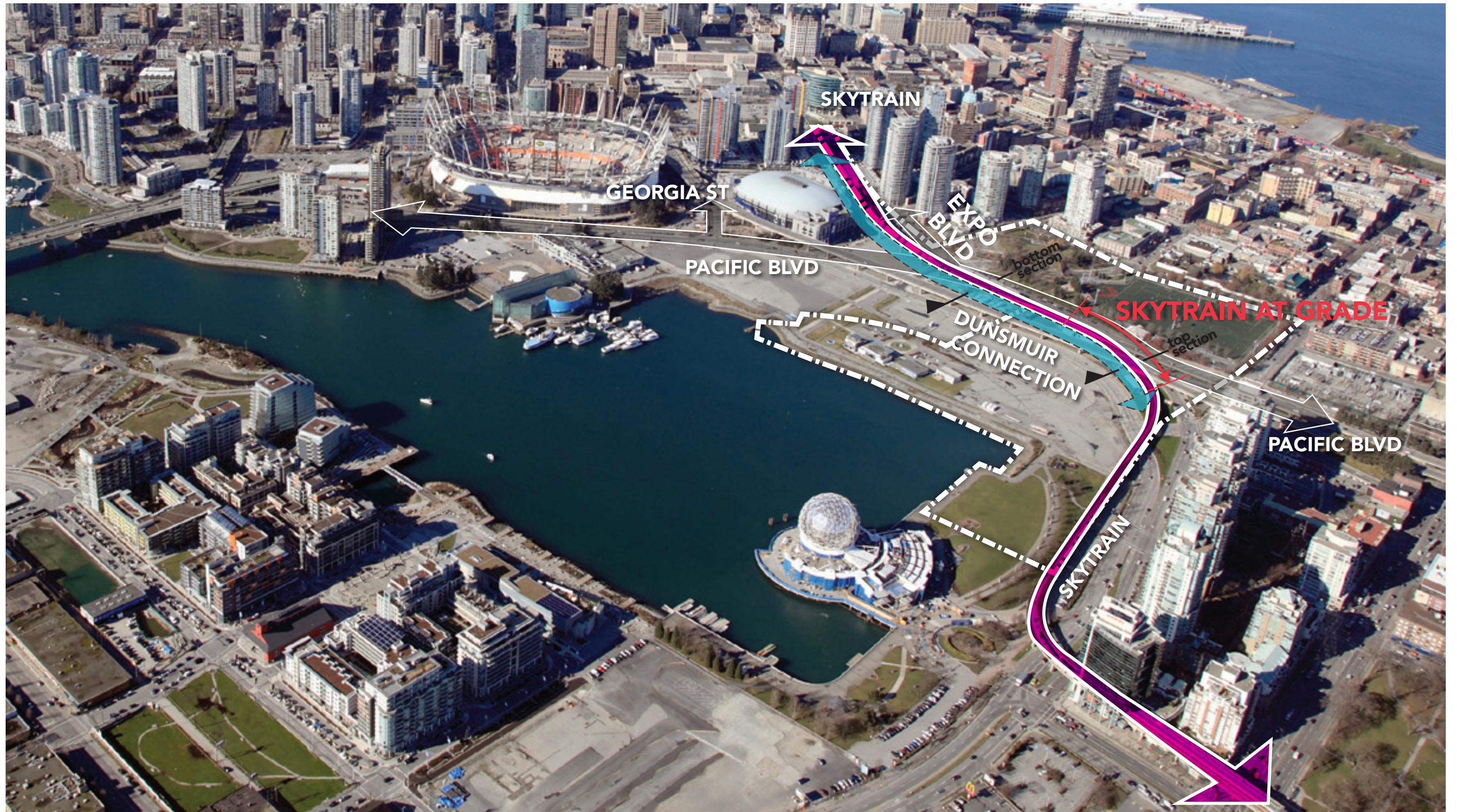
As thousands of passengers travel through the area on the Skytrain each day, views from the Skytrain which were previously blocked by the Viaducts will now open up to the new park and open spaces, waterfront, as well as the surrounding neighbourhoods.



The sky train poses a barrier when it descends and touches grade (top section). When it ascends, there are opportunities to provide connections underneath (bottom section).



SECTION THROUGH PACIFIC BOULEVARD

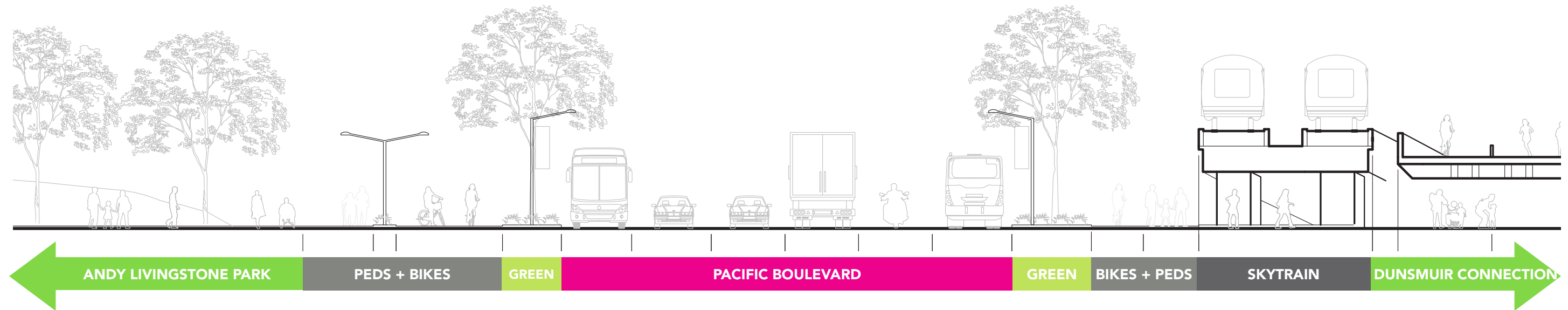


PACIFIC BOULEVARD

The alignment of the new Pacific Boulevard is largely set through a series of physical and property constraints including Skytrain columns (and clearance to the structure), sports fields at Andy Livingstone Park, existing developments and property lines, and future development areas.

A great street environment will be create by: off-street cycling facilities between Cambie Street and Gore Avenue, sidewalks included throughout, and widened boulevard areas to accommodate large trees that can mature to form a broad canopy.

The existing Pacific and Expo Boulevard will be removed between Pat Quinn Way and Quebec Street, and replaced with a new Great Street going through the Arts and Events District.



SECTION THROUGH PACIFIC BOULEVARD AT THE NEW ANTICIPATED CARRALL PROMENADE



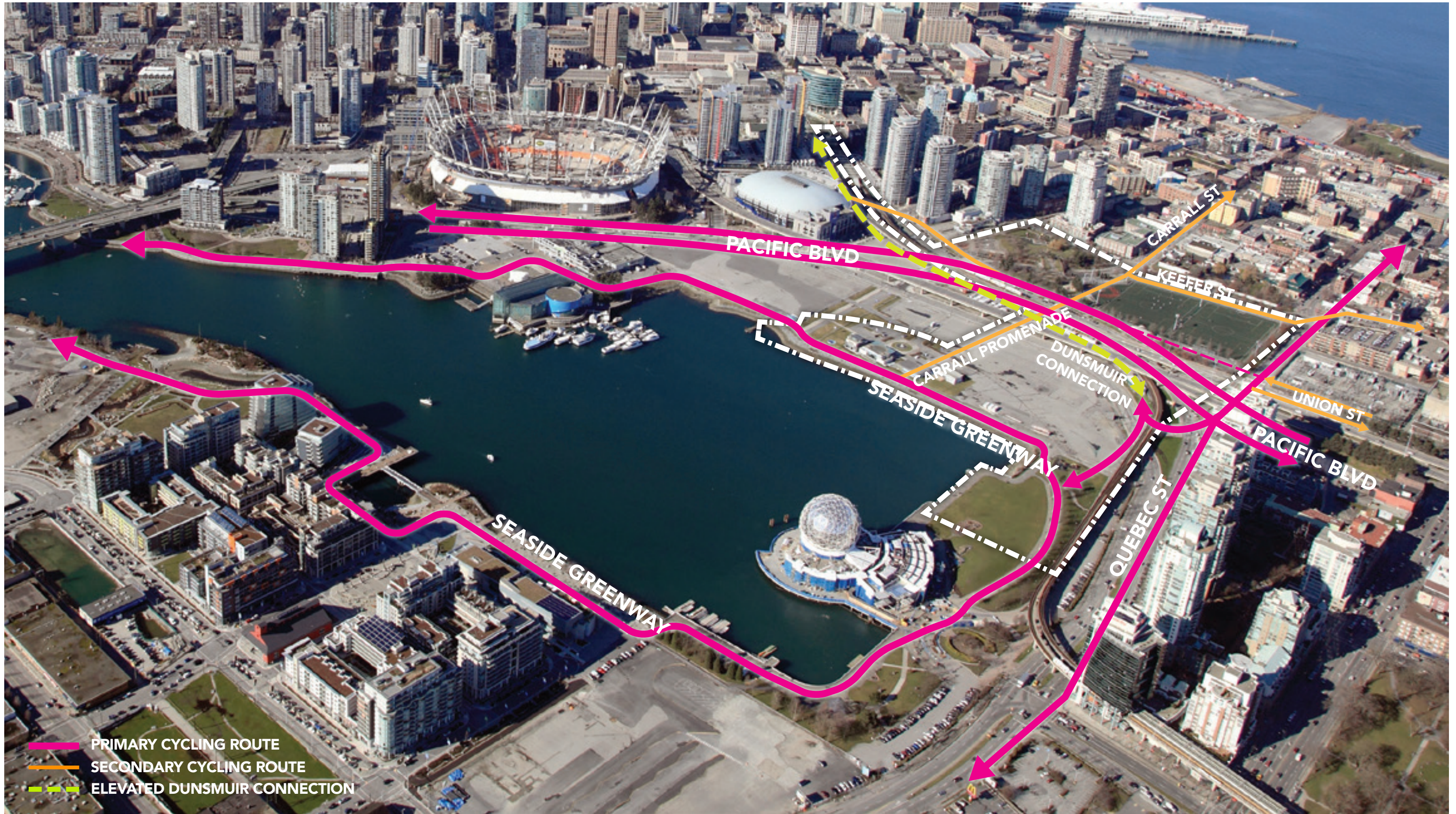
CYCLING ROUTES

An established bikeway/greenway network supports cycling as a way of getting to and through Northeast False Creek. The area hosts the busiest bike route in the city passing right along Science World. In 2015, this segment of the seawall, major tourism destination, accommodated 1.38 million bike trips, with an average of 4,117 bike trips per mid-week day.

Future key cycling routes in Northeast False Creek will include: the Seaside Greenway and Carrall Promenade through the new parks, and the new Dunsmuir Connection which is expected to be used by approximately 10,000 cyclists each day. Cycling facilities will be incorporated in the proposed future street network, including Pacific Boulevard and Quebec Street.

Existing key cycling routes such as Union Street, Beatty Street and Cambie Bridge will remain a critical part of the cycling network.

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EXISTING + PLANNED AMENITIES AND SERVICES IN NEIGHBOURING PARKS AND PUBLIC OPEN SPACES

Existing and local parks were reviewed for the new Northeast False Creek park and open spaces. As highlighted in the diagram below, the potential program element gaps include non-motorized boat launching, seniors oriented activities, nature play, stages/amphitheatres, food services, urban agriculture, seasonal activities, rainwater management, accessible shorelines, and habitat enhancement. Other gaps include sports courts and integration of garden elements. This analysis will be carefully considered when program for the new park and open spaces.

seasonal activities, rainwater management, accessible shorelines, and habitat enhancement. Other gaps include sports courts and integration of garden elements. This analysis will be carefully considered when program for the new park and open spaces.

PARKS INVENTORY			Size (ha)	Size (acre)	PLAY FOR ALL																EVENT SPACES + CULTURE + SOCIAL										ACCESS TO WATER / NATURE		
					SUSTAINABILITY																												
					Sports Field	Sports Court (including tennis court)	Seawall	Internal Walking / Biking Trails	Non-motorized Boat Launching	Field House	Public Washroom	Playground (0-5 years old)	Playground (6-12 years old)	Youth oriented	Seniors oriented	Water Feature	Nature Play	Public art	Garden	Dog Park	Stage / Amphitheatre	Plaza	Open Lawn	Cultural Amenity	Food Services	Urban Agriculture	Seasonal Activities	Rainwater Management	Beach / Accessible Shoreline	Habitat			
WALKING DISTANCE	Neighbourhood Park	N/A																															
	Community Park	Existing Creekside Park	2.53	6.325								1	1 Combined Playground																				
		Andy Livingston Park	4.21	10.525	2 Field Hockey 1 Softball 1 Football 2 Soccer 1 Lighted Field 2 Ultimate Field	1 Basketball 2 Tennis																							Water				
		Thornton Park	1.49	3.725																													
		Coopers Park	1.71	4.275		1 Basketball																											
		Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden + Park	0.12	0.3																									Water				
Destination Park	Southeast False Creek Plaza	0.15	0.375																									Water					
FURTHER AFIELD	Neighbourhood Park	Yaletown Park	0.17	0.425																													
	Community Park	Hinge Park	1.1	2.75																									Water & Nature				
		David Lam Park	4.34	10.85		2 Basketball 2 Tennis																							Water				
		Trillium Park	3.05	7.625	1 Field Hockey 1 Soccer																												
		Strathcona Park	10.07	25.175	3 Softball 1 Running Track 1 Soccer	1 Basketball 4 Tennis																											
		Charleson Park	7.14	17.85	1 Soccer																								Water				
CITY, REGIONAL AND DESTINATION PARKS	Queen Elizabeth Park	52	130	1 Field	4 Basketball 18 Tennis																							Nature					
	Stanley Park	400	1000	2 Cricket Pitches, 2 Softball, 2 Rugby, 1 Golf Course, 3 Field Houses,	21 Tennis																							Water & Nature					
	Hastings Park	11	27.5	1 Baseball, 1 Field House, 1 Horserace Track	1 Basketball 2 Tennis																							Nature					

Source: Northeast False Creek Waterfront Park Background Study (2016)



Source: Northeast False Creek Waterfront Park Background Study (2016)

ENGAGEMENT

ENGAGEMENT

The NEFC Park Design process includes an extensive engagement program specific to the park design which is set within the larger NEFC Area Planning engagement process. The intent of engagement is to provide a wide variety of opportunities for input and ensure a range of input is received. This input will be used to shape the design of the park spaces within this area.

Stage 1 engagement for the park design includes the following events and opportunities for input:

- **Area Planning Process Workshops** – Topic focused workshops were held as part of the engagement for the overall area plan process. These workshops highlighted early thinking for the neighborhood and the quality of park spaces desired and gathered ideas for potential activities that could be facilitated in the spaces.
- **Park Design Advisory Group (PDAG) Meetings** (three held for Stage 1) – The PDAG provided advice to the design team including an understanding of the site, potential identity of the park within the city and stakeholder needs for park spaces overall.
- **Parks & Open Space Workshop** – This workshop was part of the larger Area Planning process for parks and open spaces. A range of stakeholders were invited to explore five different themes for the park and open spaces in NEFC and generate inspiring ideas for each.
- **Healthy Open Space Workshop** – This workshop was focused on to how to create a safe, inclusive and welcoming park for all communities and individuals.
- **Stakeholder Phone Calls** – Identified stakeholders were contacted to gain additional insight, ideas and thoughts on the park space and how to better to engage the range of people and communities who need to have their say in the park design process.
- **Public Online Survey** (January 31-February 15, 2017) – This survey is an opportunity for all interested individuals to provide their ideas and feedback on directions for the Area Plan and Park Design process.
- **Area Planning Public Open House #1** (Parks Day on Feb 3, 2017) – This will be the first open house. The objective of the open house will be to present work completed to date and test and explore early ideas with all interested individuals to obtain their feedback on whether we are headed in the right direction.

Engagement includes the following groups and individuals:

- Area Planning Process Engagement Events
- Park Design Advisory Group
- Identified Stakeholders
- Public
- Subject Matter Experts

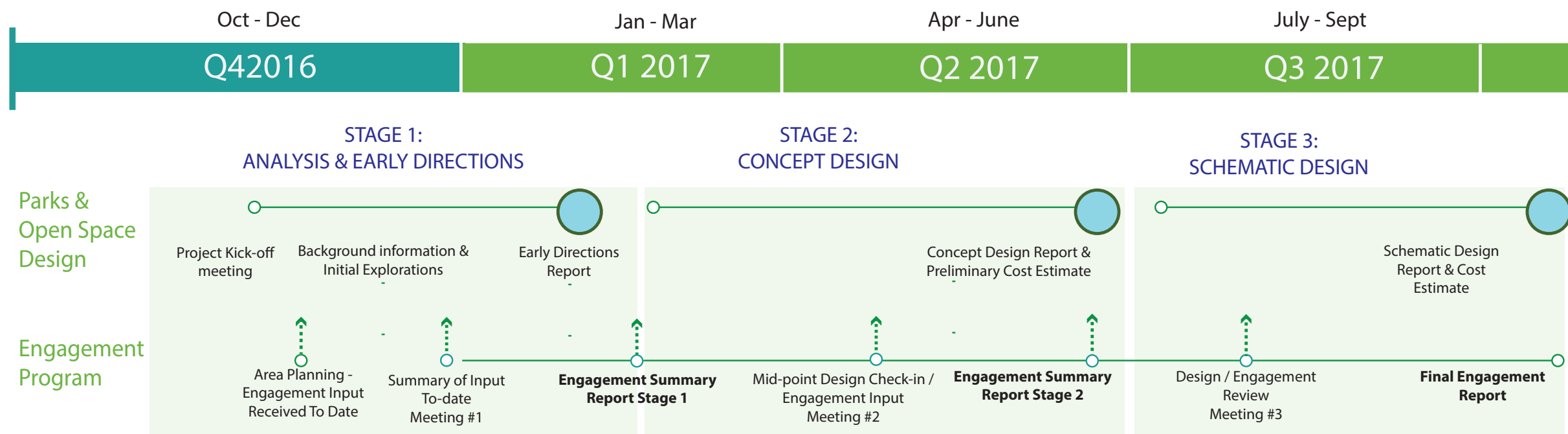
What We Heard

Input received during the Stage 1 engagement events established a framework for early thinking about park uses and initial design exploration. In summary, several common high level themes emerged for the park overall. These include:

- Flexible, multi-use, layered spaces that are welcoming and inclusive for a variety of park users
- Opportunities for rest and for connections to nature and the sun
- A focus on water access and activities
- Park connectivity and variety in gathering spaces for park users
- Opportunities for stewardship in the park and design elements that can be manipulated by park users
- Celebration of the site history (human, ecological and cultural)
- Unique and innovative design elements not offered in other parks within the City
- Celebration spaces in the park that allow for different sized events and gathering types

This input was used to draft the Guiding Principles for the park and considered in development of directions for park design.

DESIGN + ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE SUMMARY



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

A DESTINATION PARK

1. Distinct

- Create a unique identity to bring together the various parts of NEFC park
- Create a common place for all Vancouverites to meet, mingle, and celebrate
- Create a park that provides local amenity and regional destination
- Create a vibrant waterfront destination

2. Authentically Vancouver

- Create casual spaces that allow for informality
- Create intimate spaces
- Maximize the use of natural materials
- Celebrate the diverse history of this part of Vancouver
- Honour First Nations
- Engage with arts and culture
- Celebrate the rain





Flexible Open Space



Cultural Events



Arts Events



Waterfront Leisure

A COMMUNITY PARK

3. Open, Safe And Inclusive Park

- Create strong physical and historical connections to surrounding neighborhoods
- Develop welcoming park edges, entrances & gateways
- Design transitions from park spaces to streets and buildings seamlessly
- Integrate active transportation
- Include active sports and recreation and create a balance with passive park uses
- Design for all ages and abilities

4. Flexible

- Maximize program opportunities
- Allow program to easily change throughout the day and night, over the seasons and over the years
- Minimize single use occupancy of open spaces

5. Stewardship

- Cultivate a feeling of trust, ownership and stewardship from all park users
- Provide robust and durable park elements
- Ensure a high level of on-going care, maintenance and operation of the park
- Ensure safe use of the park and respectful interaction between park users





Community Events



Park Connections



Community Amenities



Community Amenities

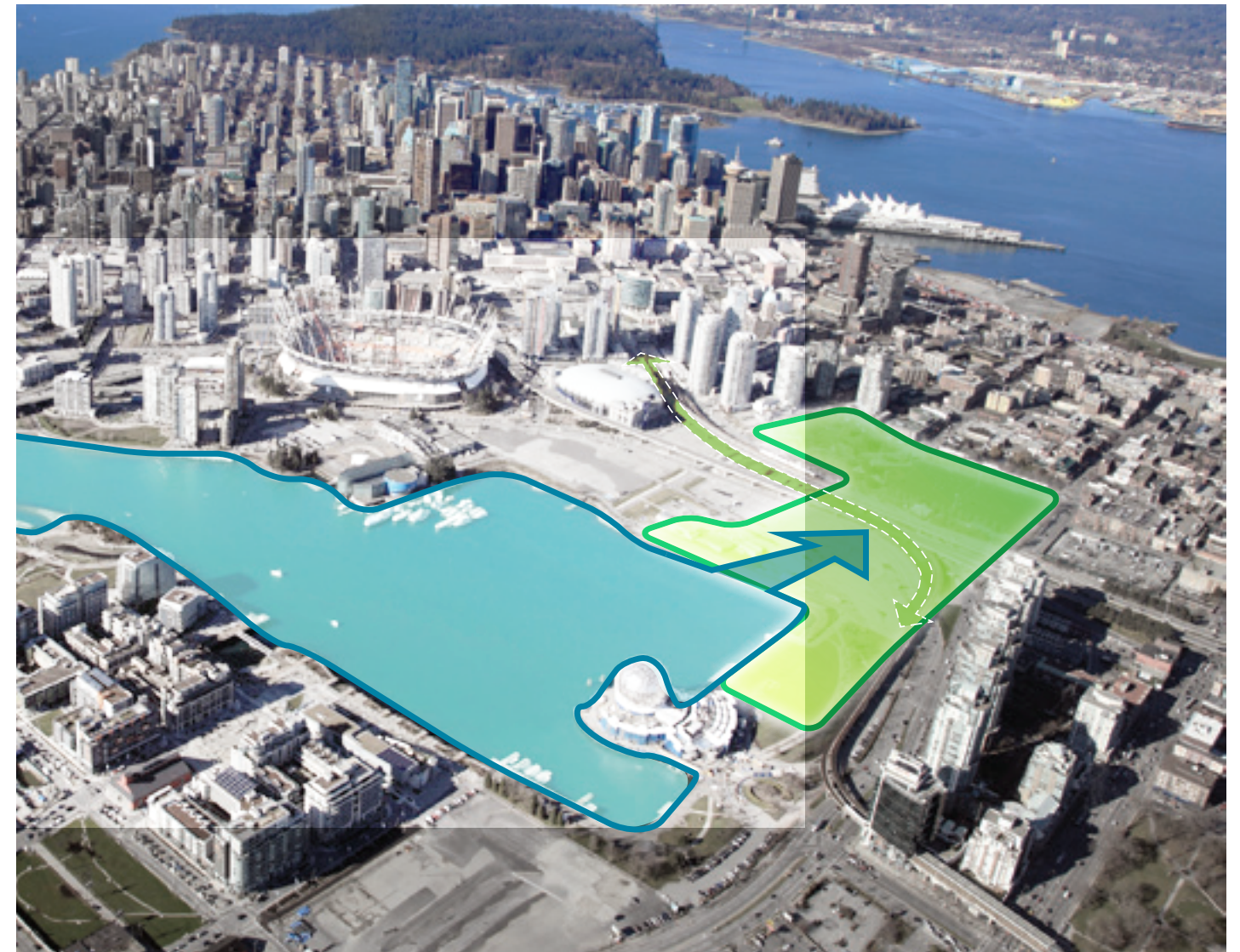
NATURE IN THE CITY

6. A diverse & healthy waterfront

- Maximize opportunities for all people to access the water's edge and enjoy water views
- Celebrate all seasons
- Develop an engaging and textured waterfront
- Enhance the ecological quality of the water's edge
- Plan for sea-level rise and climate change

7. Ecologically rich park spaces

- Maximize planting and enhance the variety of species to create ecologically and visually rich environments
- Represent a coastal ecology that reflects the False Creek Basin
- Maximize views of water, mountains and open spaces
- Orient activities towards the sun

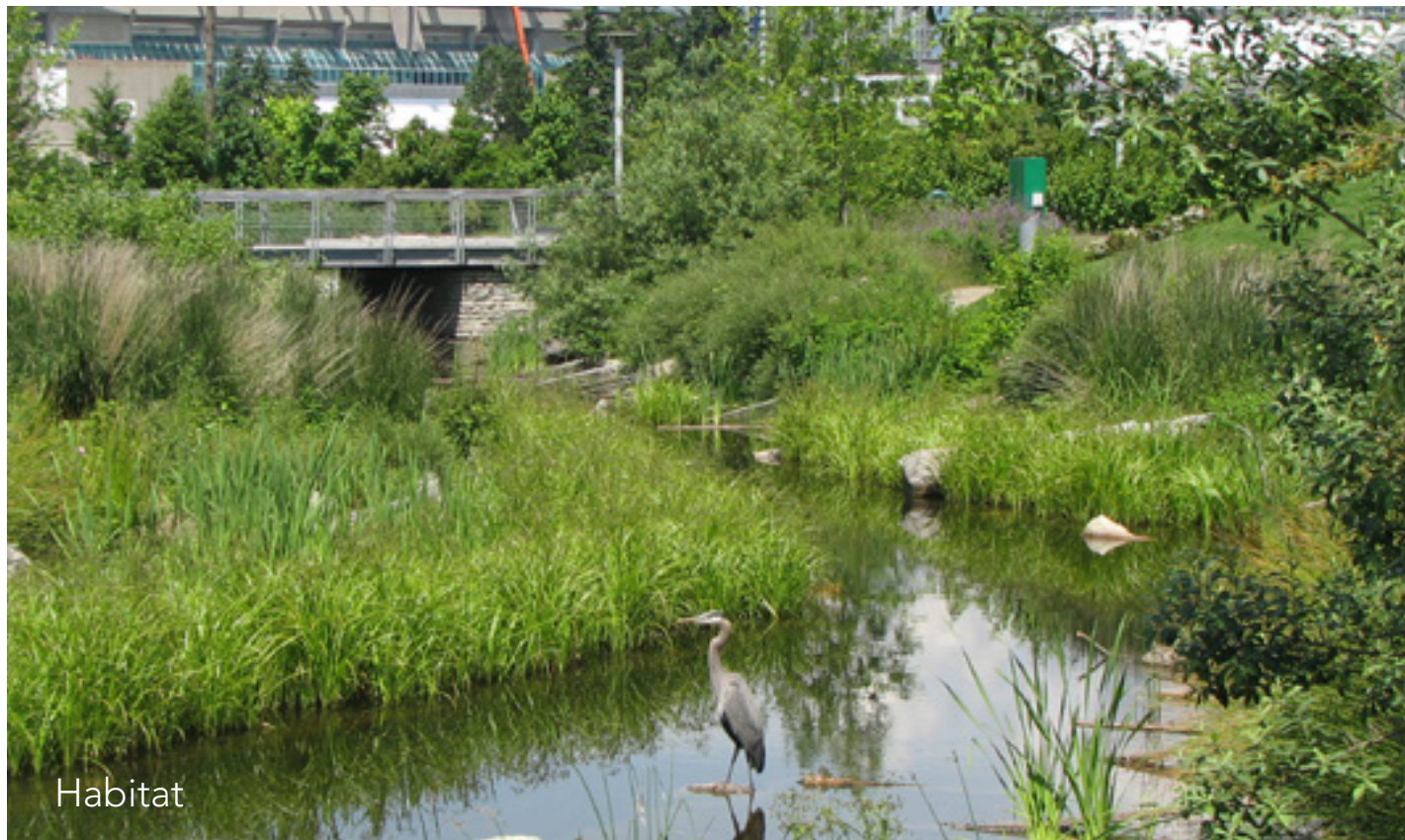




Access to Water



Diverse and local plantings



Habitat



Education

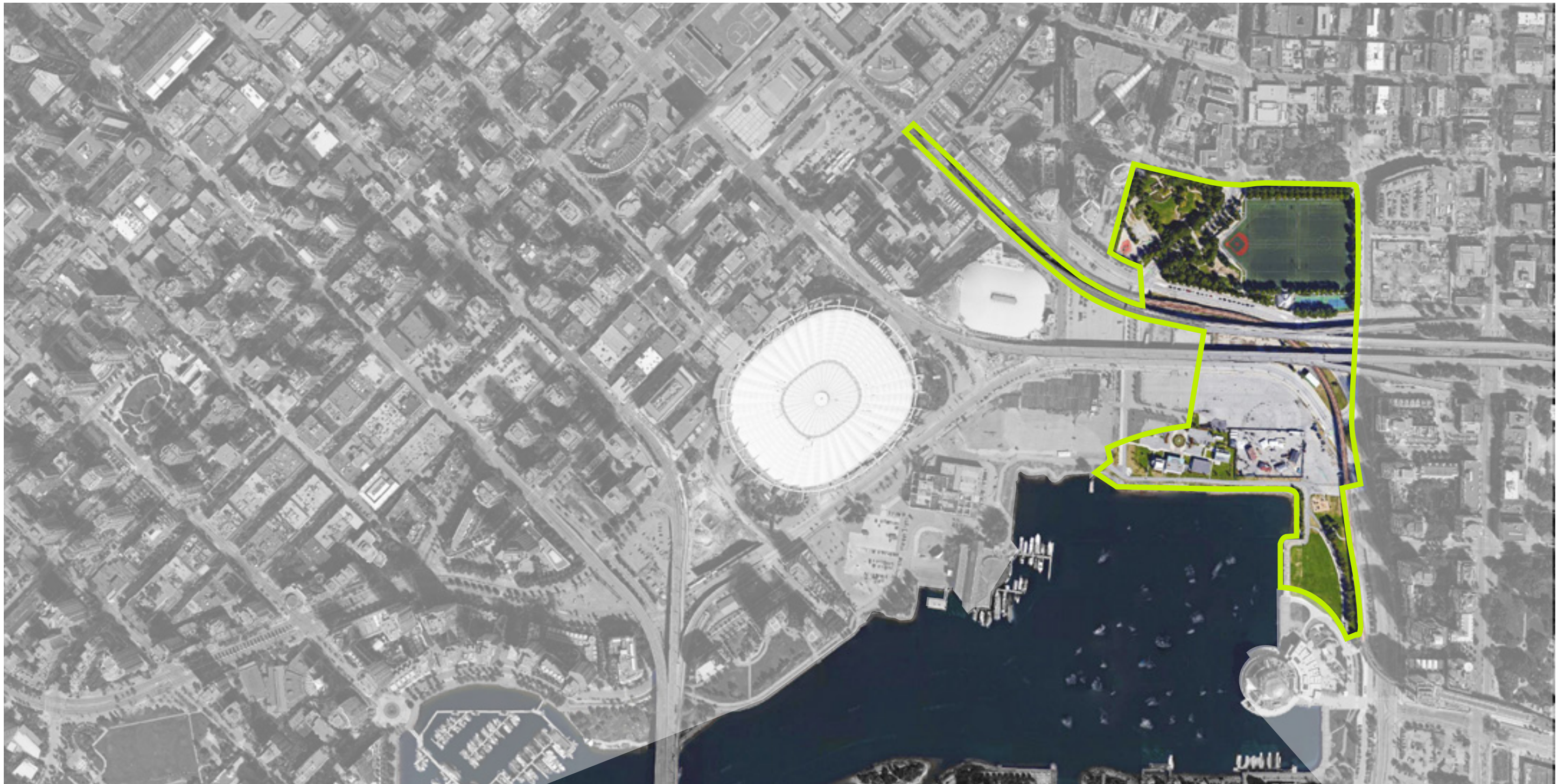
DESTINATION PARK SCALE COMPARISONS

DESTINATION PARK PRECEDENTS

What makes a great destination park? What size and amenities do other destination parks feature? Several contemporary neighborhoods and waterfront parks illustrate the possibility of what a destination park can be.

The NEFC park site is large – made up of several great pieces with a total park area of approximately 22.8 acres / 92,000m². As illustrated by Hinge Park, Millennium Park, Brooklyn Bridge Park, Corktown Commons, and Hunter’s Point Park - 22.8 acres is ample size to create a vibrant and diverse destination park that serves its local community and the region abroad.

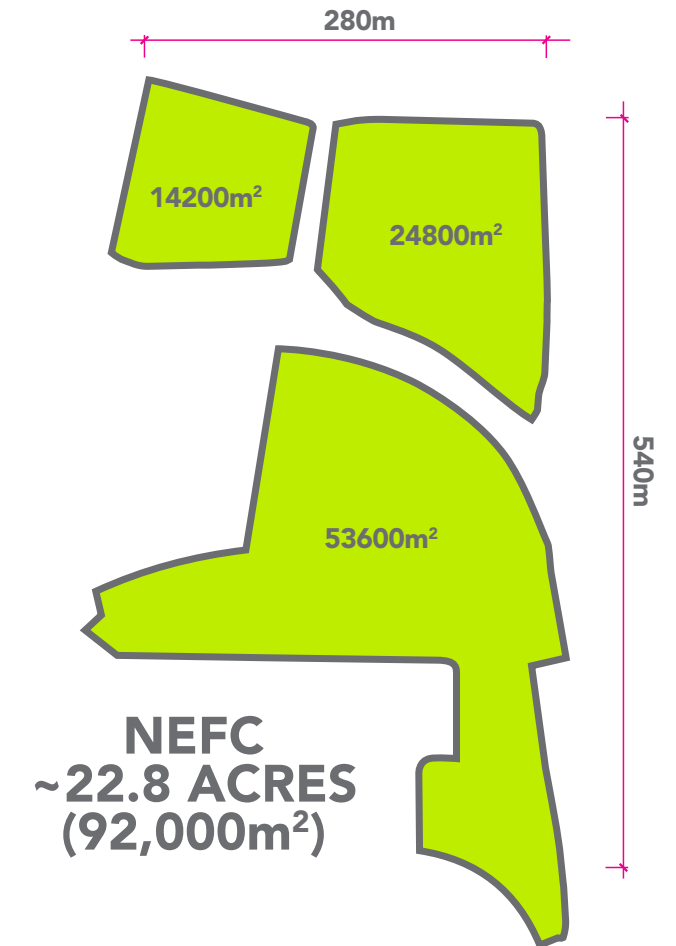




DESTINATION PARK PRECEDENTS

HINGE PARK, VANCOUVER, BC

Hinge Park is the central community park for Southeast False Creek. The park features a naturalized wetland environment, an extended naturalized shoreline, and an island. Neighborhood amenities include a flexible open lawn, interactive playgrounds, and public art.



PASSIVE



ACTIVE



LAWNS



VIEWS



PLAY WITH WATER



PLAY FOR ALL



NATIVE PLANTING



PUBLIC ART



DOG RUN



PLAY FOR ALL



WETLANDS



ACCESS TO WATER



OVERLOOKS

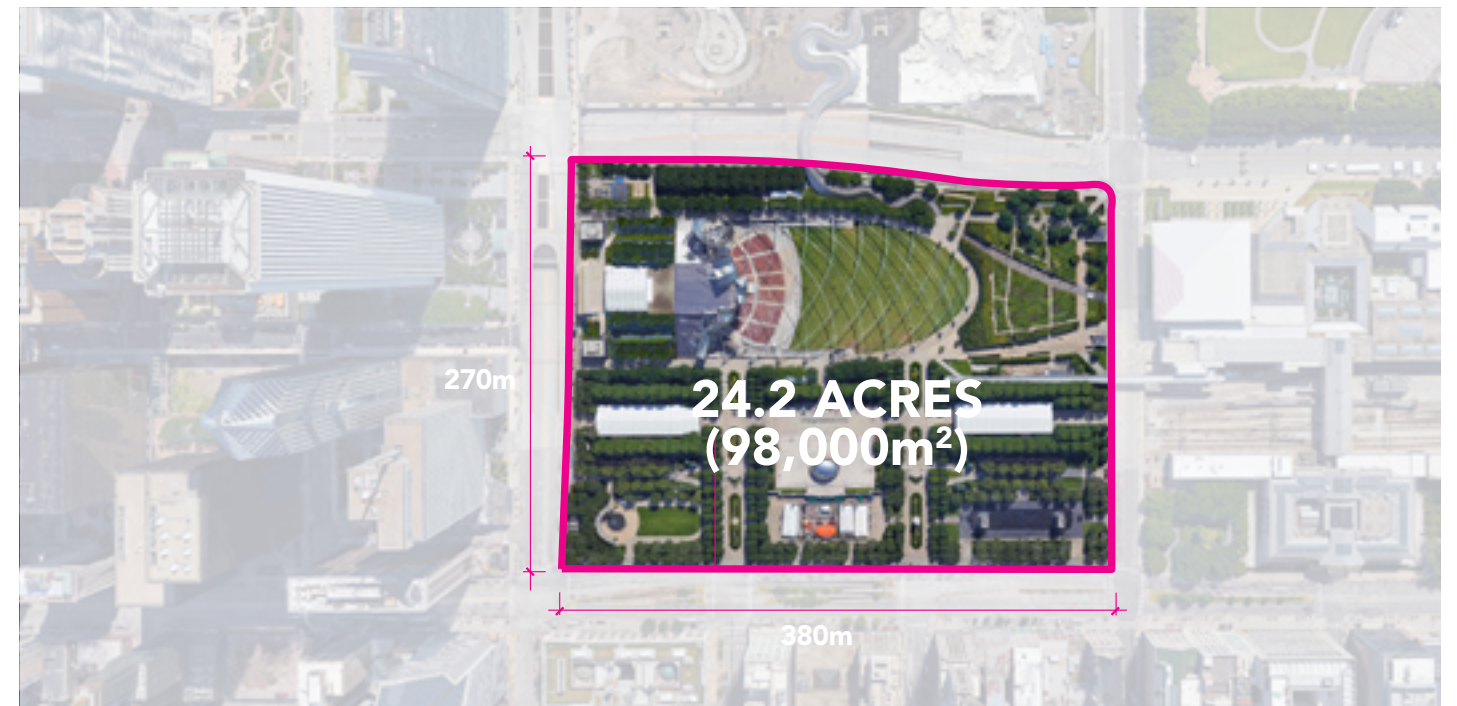
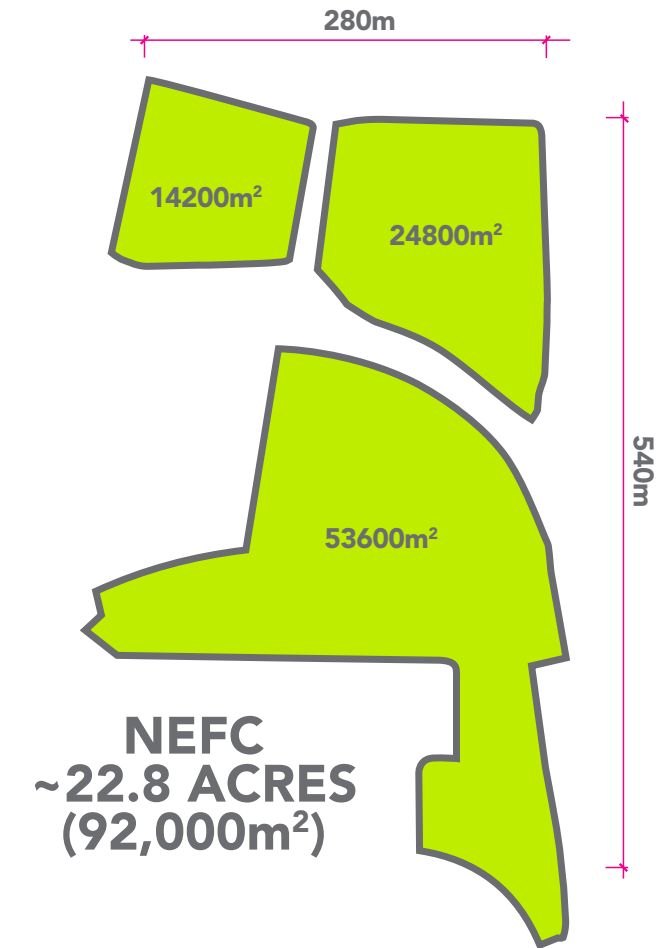
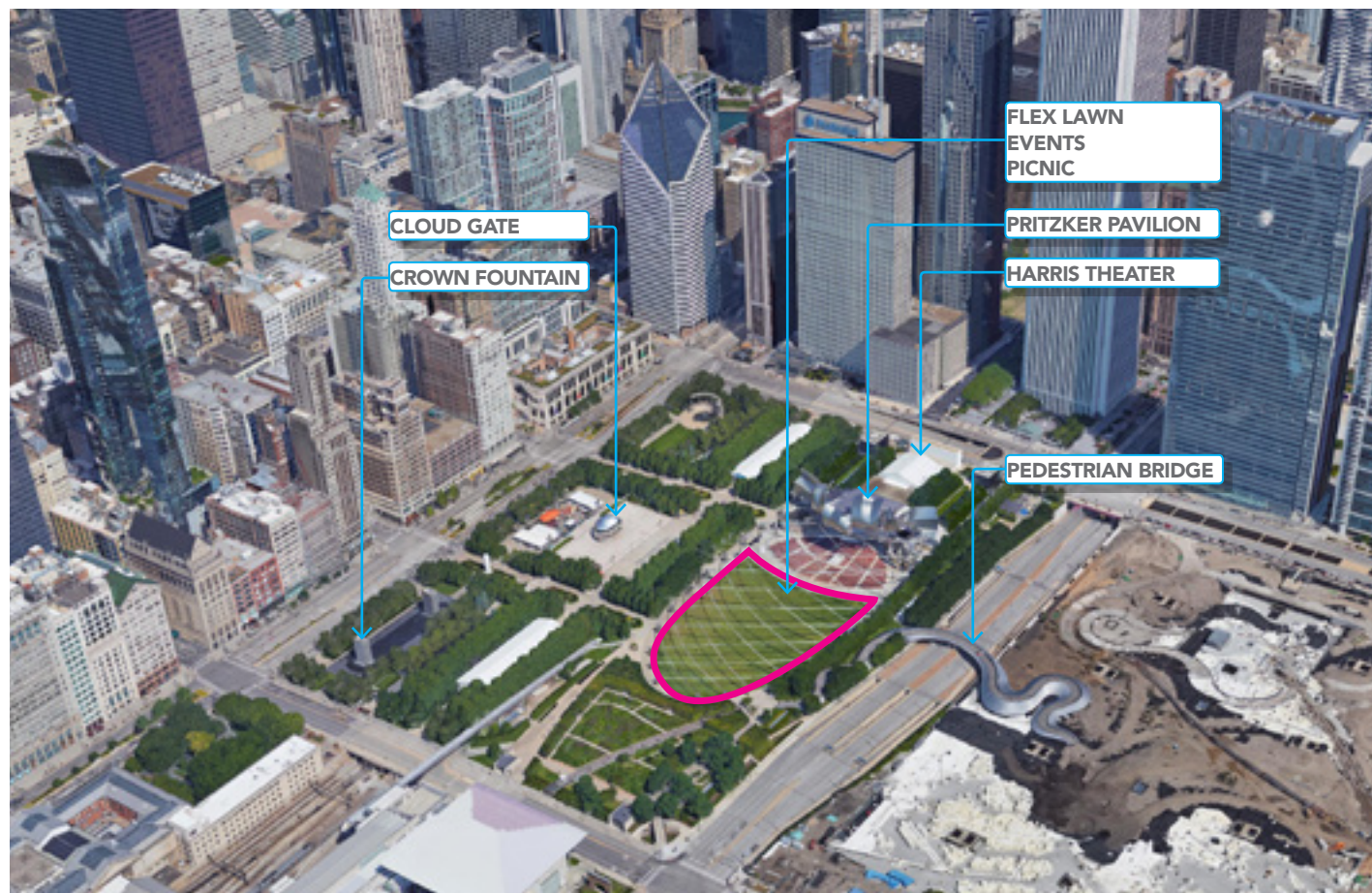


GARDEN WALKS

DESTINATION PARK PRECEDENTS

MILLENNIUM PARK, CHICAGO, IL

Millennium Park sits within Chicago's 24.2 acre Grant Park on the Lake Michigan waterfront. Framed on the north and west by mid to high-rise city fabric, and park and civic space to the south and west, the space is highly used on a daily basis while also hosting a number of concerts, festivals and major events. A sculptural pedestrian bridge connects Millennium to the larger park system.



PASSIVE



ACTIVE



FLEX LAWN



INTERACTIVE ART



ART + PLAY + SPLASH



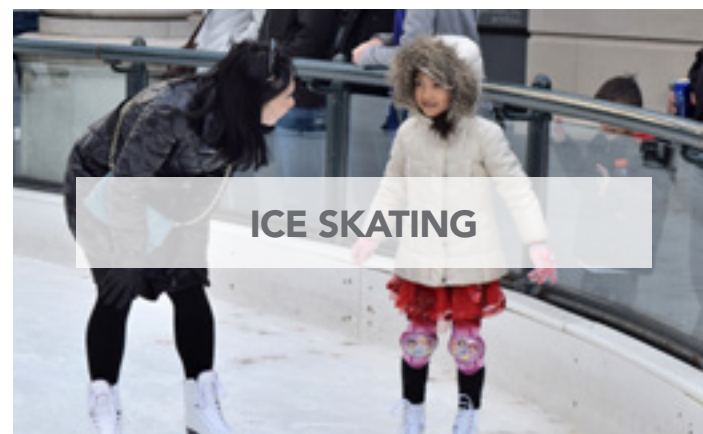
SPLASH GROUND



REFLECTION



OVERLOOKS



ICE SKATING



EVENTS



PRAIRIE GARDENS



BRIDGES



STROLLING

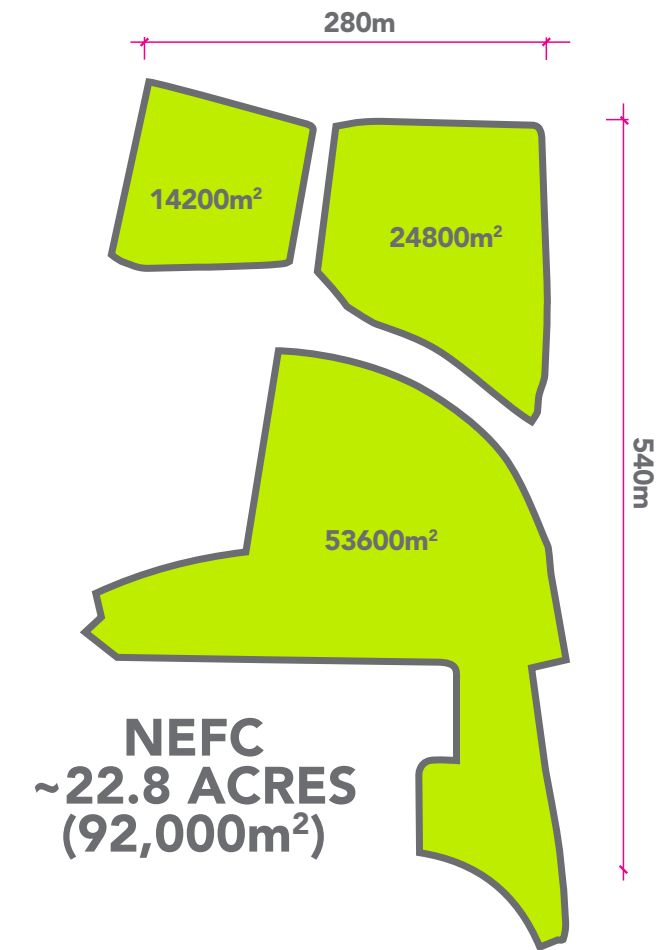


BIKING

DESTINATION PARK PRECEDENTS

BROOKLYN BRIDGE PARK, NEW YORK, NY

Pier 1 of the Brooklyn Bridge Park system features two large lawns, one facing the Brooklyn Bridge and the other with views of the lower Manhattan skyline. On a daily basis, the park is celebrated as a meeting place for those in surrounding neighbourhoods. During holidays or festivals, the pier has ample capacity in the lawns, seating steps and waterfront promenade.



PASSIVE



ACTIVE



FLEX LAWN



OUTDOOR DINING



WATERFRONT BAR



BEACH VOLLEYBALL



SEATING STEPS



CITY VIEWS



PLAY WITH NATURE



KAYAKING



PROMENADE



EVENTS



PLAY WITH WATER

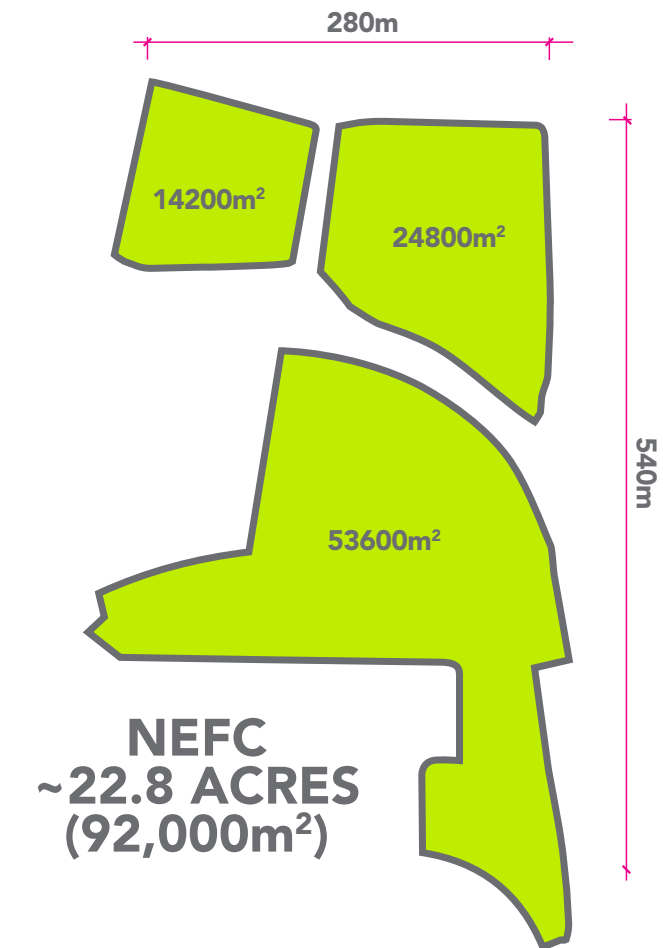
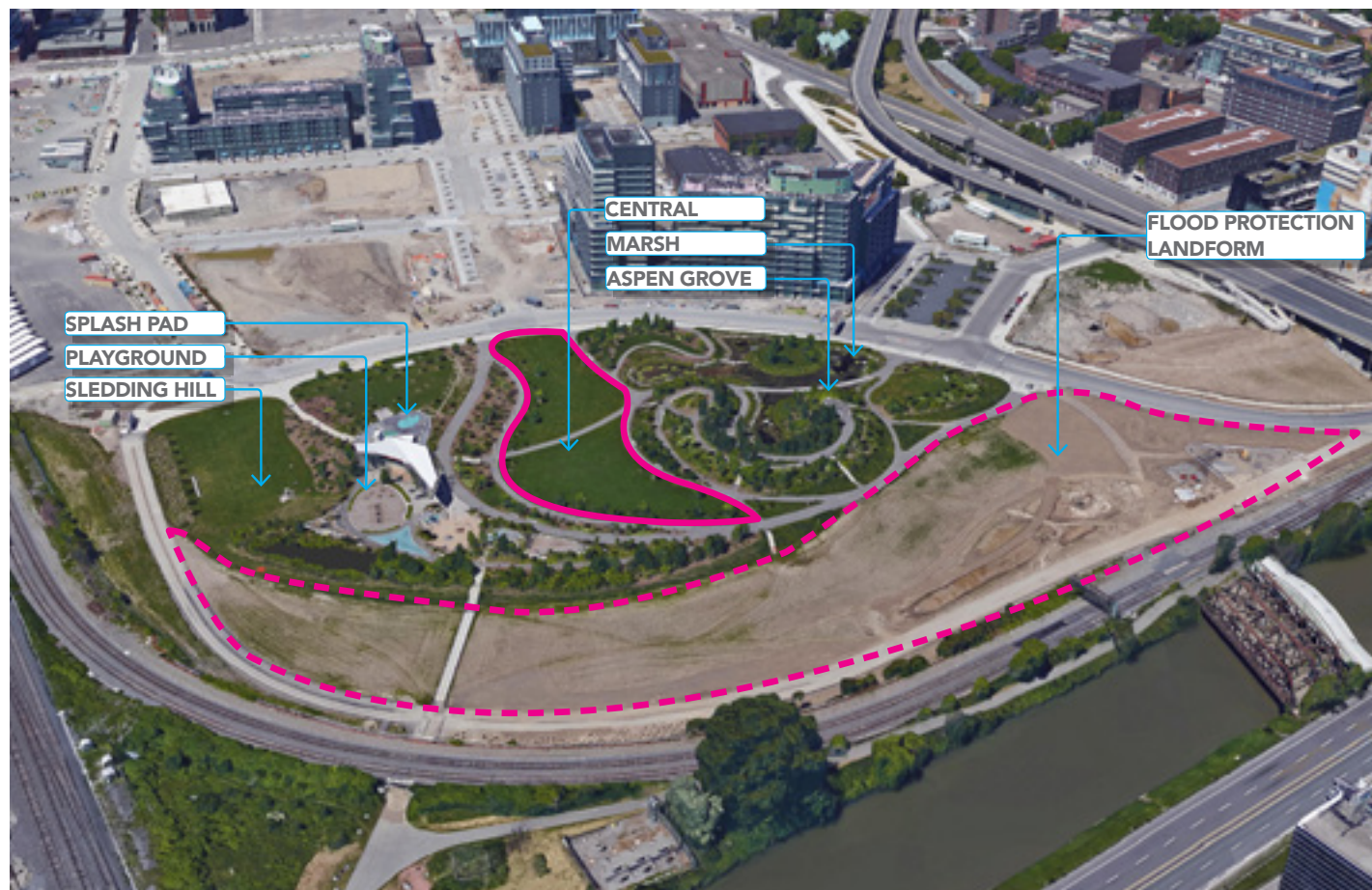


BIKING

DESTINATION PARK PRECEDENTS

CORKTOWN COMMONS, TORONTO, ON

Corktown Commons is a park built in a former industrial land, as an anchor to 6000 units of housing. It serves many neighboring residents with various community amenities, in addition to a large green infrastructure space.



PASSIVE



ACTIVE



FLEX LAWN



HABITAT + BIODIVERSITY



PLAY CENTER



PLAY WITH WATER



WETLAND GARDENS



WETLAND WALK



SLIDES



PLAY WITH SAND



SHADED SEATING



NATURE WALKS



WATER PLAY

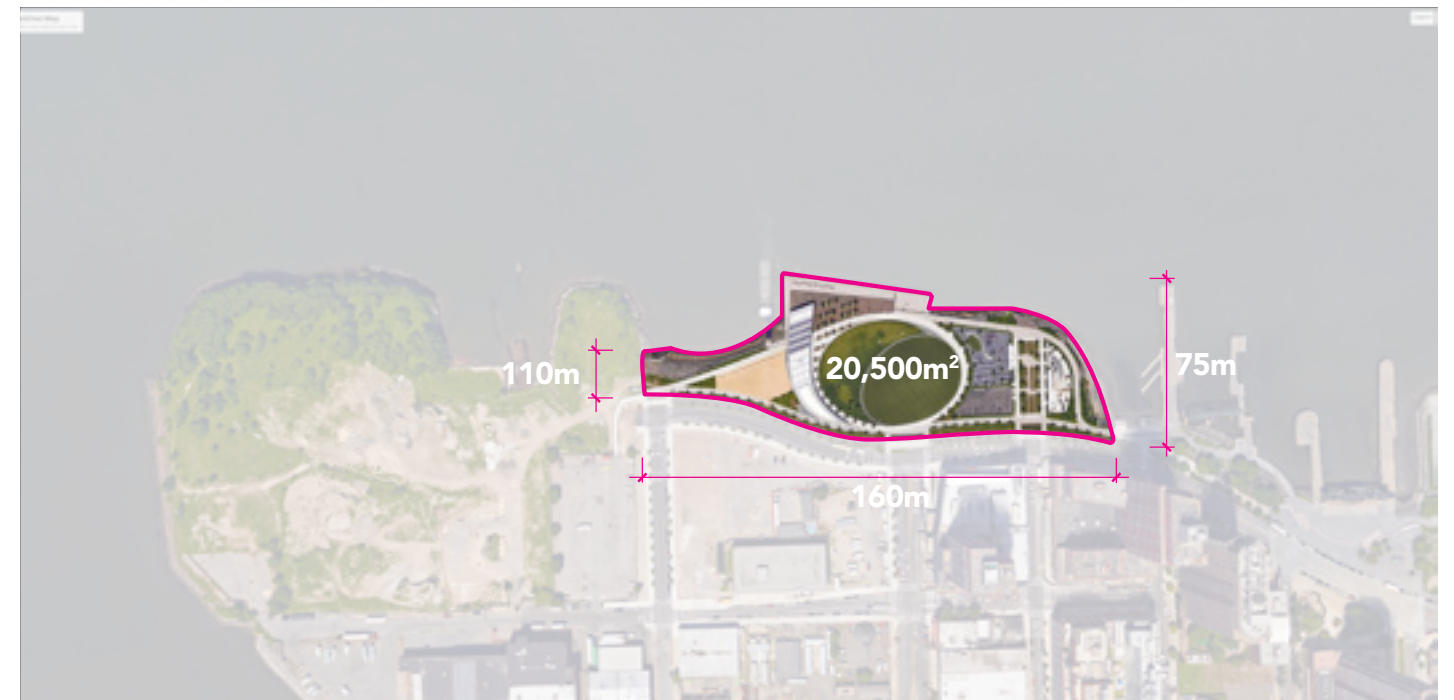
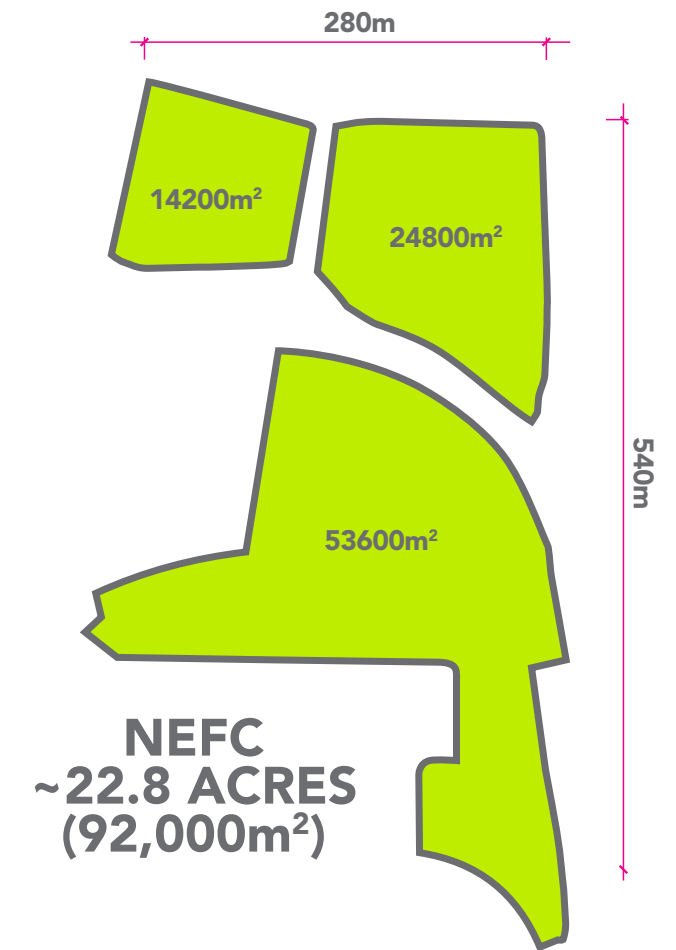


ROCK SCRAMBLE

DESTINATION PARK PRECEDENTS

HUNTER'S POINT SOUTH, QUEENS, NY

Hunter's Point South Park is a large waterfront park built on former industrial land. It features a large pavilion with a roof and a large lawn which hosts both recreational play and community events.



PASSIVE



ACTIVE



FLEX LAWN



VIEWS



PLAYGROUND



SAND PLAY



GARDENS



SHADE STRUCTURE



SPORTS FIELD



SUN BATHING



STROLLING



CYCLING



DINING



EVENT SPACE

EARLY DIRECTIONS

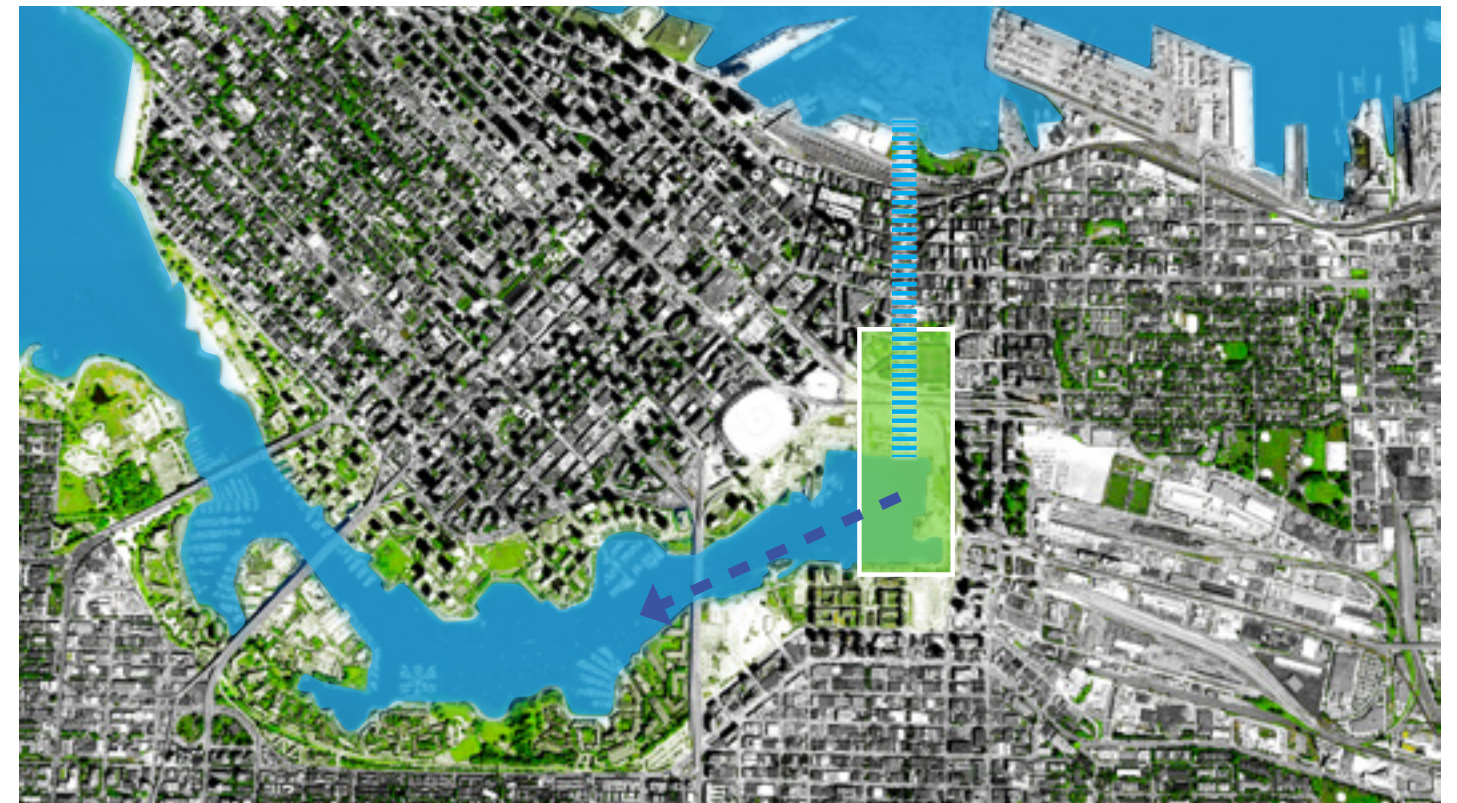
APPROACH

STRENGTHEN NORTH-SOUTH CONNECTION



Recognize, emphasize and reposition importance of Carrall corridor: a connection between Burrard Inlet and False Creek, one of the first streets of Vancouver, and a threshold between the mainland and the peninsula.

"CAPTURE" ALL OPEN SPACE



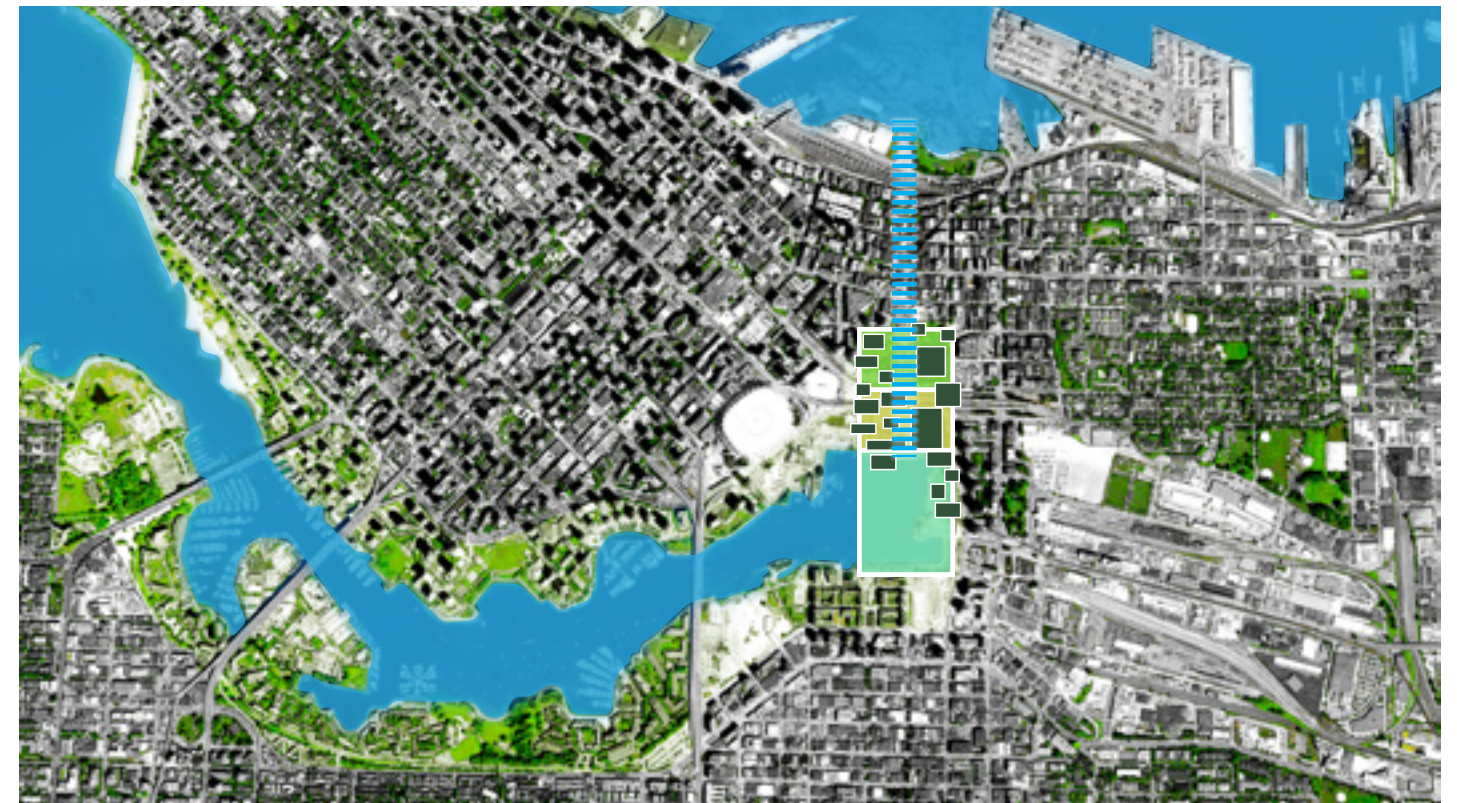
Capture the open spaces of Andy Livingstone Park, Creekside Park, Creekside Park extension, and the False Creek basin as part of the park: capture the view corridor along False Creek

CREATE A HIERARCHY



Create a hierarchy of spaces from north to south; with public and neighborhood uses at the north, civic uses in the middle, and water uses at the south.

LAYER PROGRAM

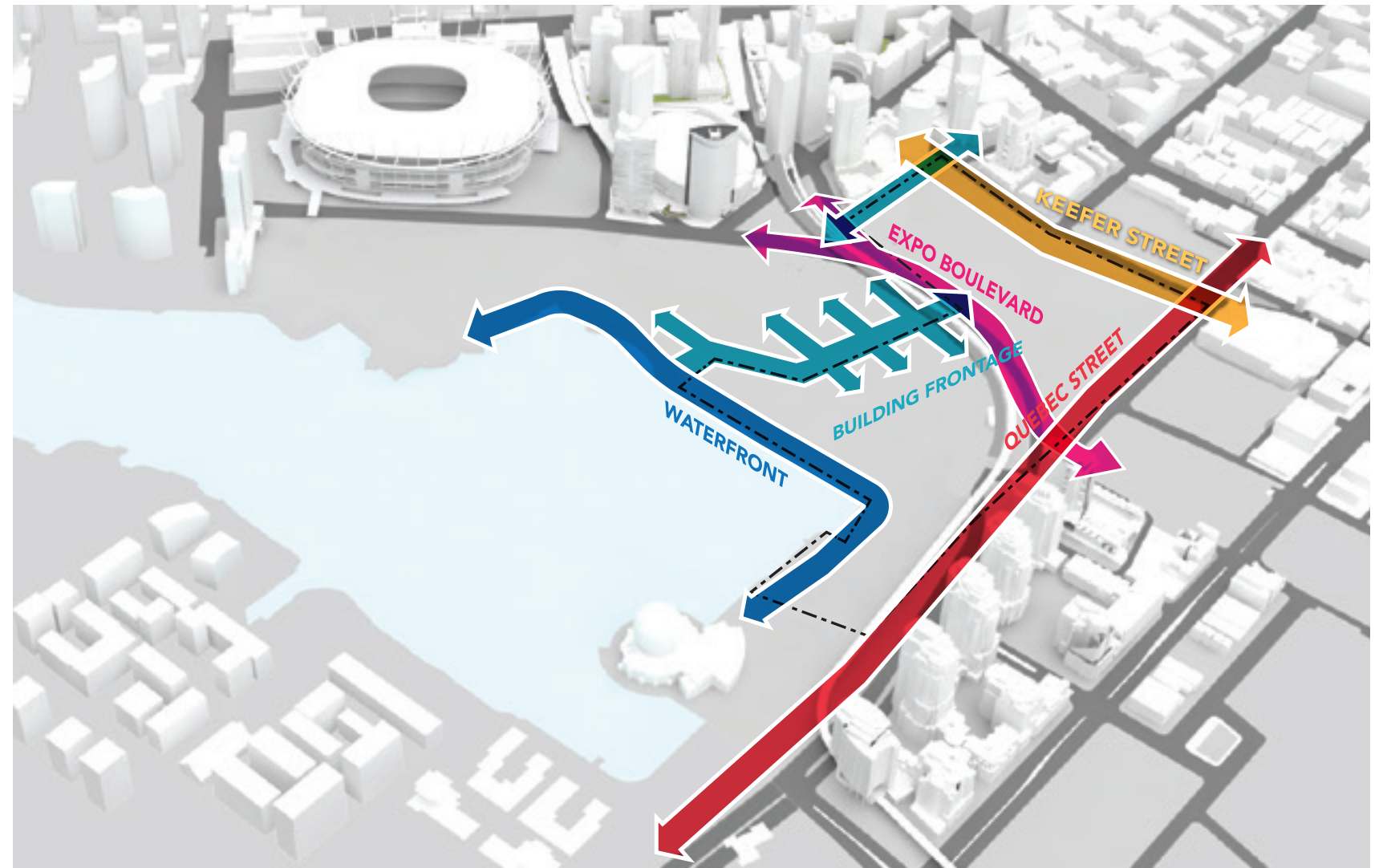


Layer the park in the east-west direction with smaller scale, neighborhood spaces.

PARK EDGES

Connectivity is central to the purpose of the park; connections begin at the edges. The park features a long urban edge, interfacing with many neighborhoods, streets, intersections, and building frontages. The site configuration features a comparatively short shoreline. The park will need to transform these edges carefully to create connections and welcoming park entrances and gateways.

- 900m of street frontage
- 400m of building frontage
- 350m of water frontage





Waterfront



International Village



Keefe Street

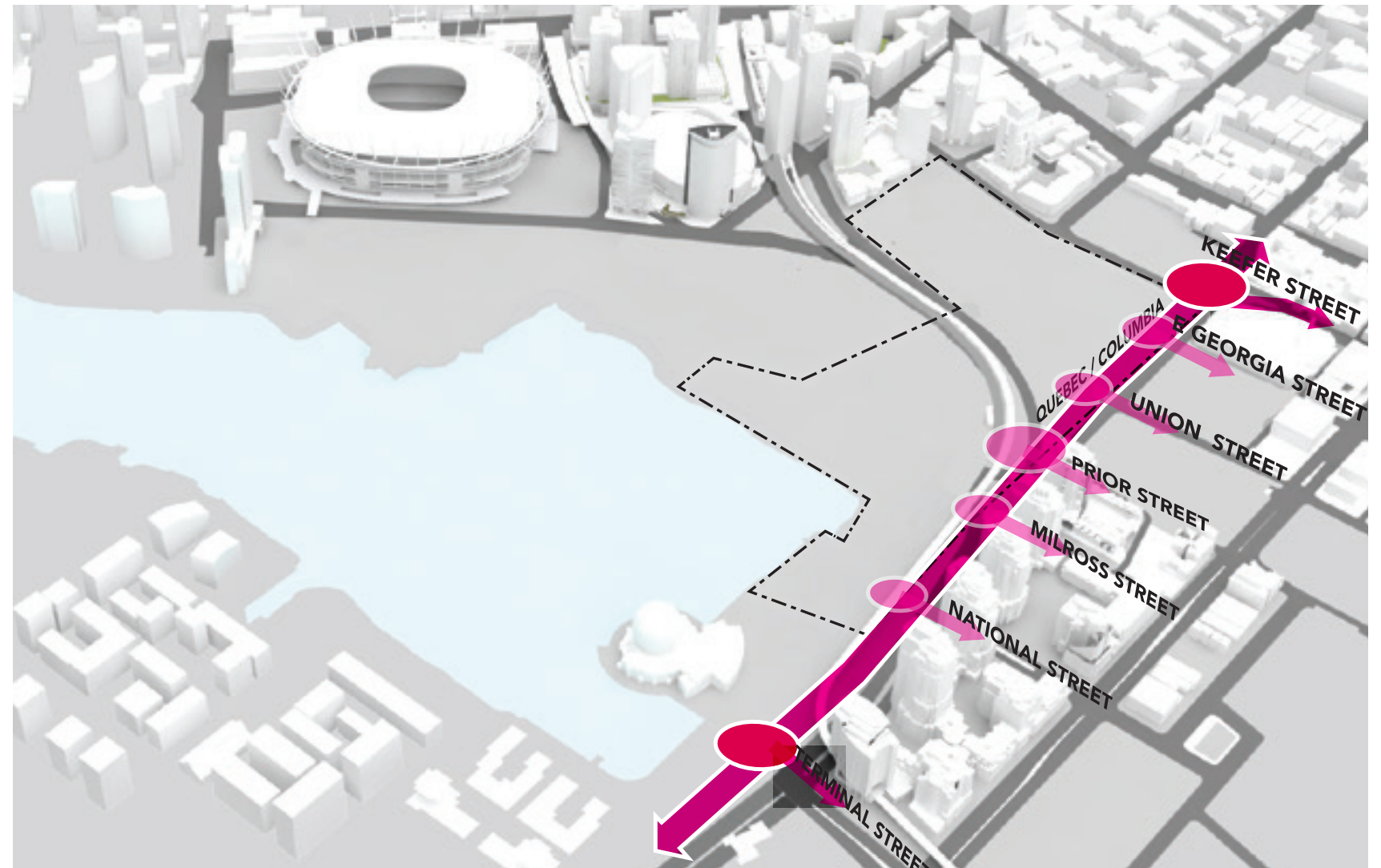


Quebec Street

PARK EDGES

QUEBEC STREET

Quebec runs north - south and acts as a threshold for many neighborhood streets. It has the potential to act as a welcoming threshold between park and city; and also as a park space itself, featuring treed allées, wide sidewalks, seating, and space for various programming such as farmer's markets and events.



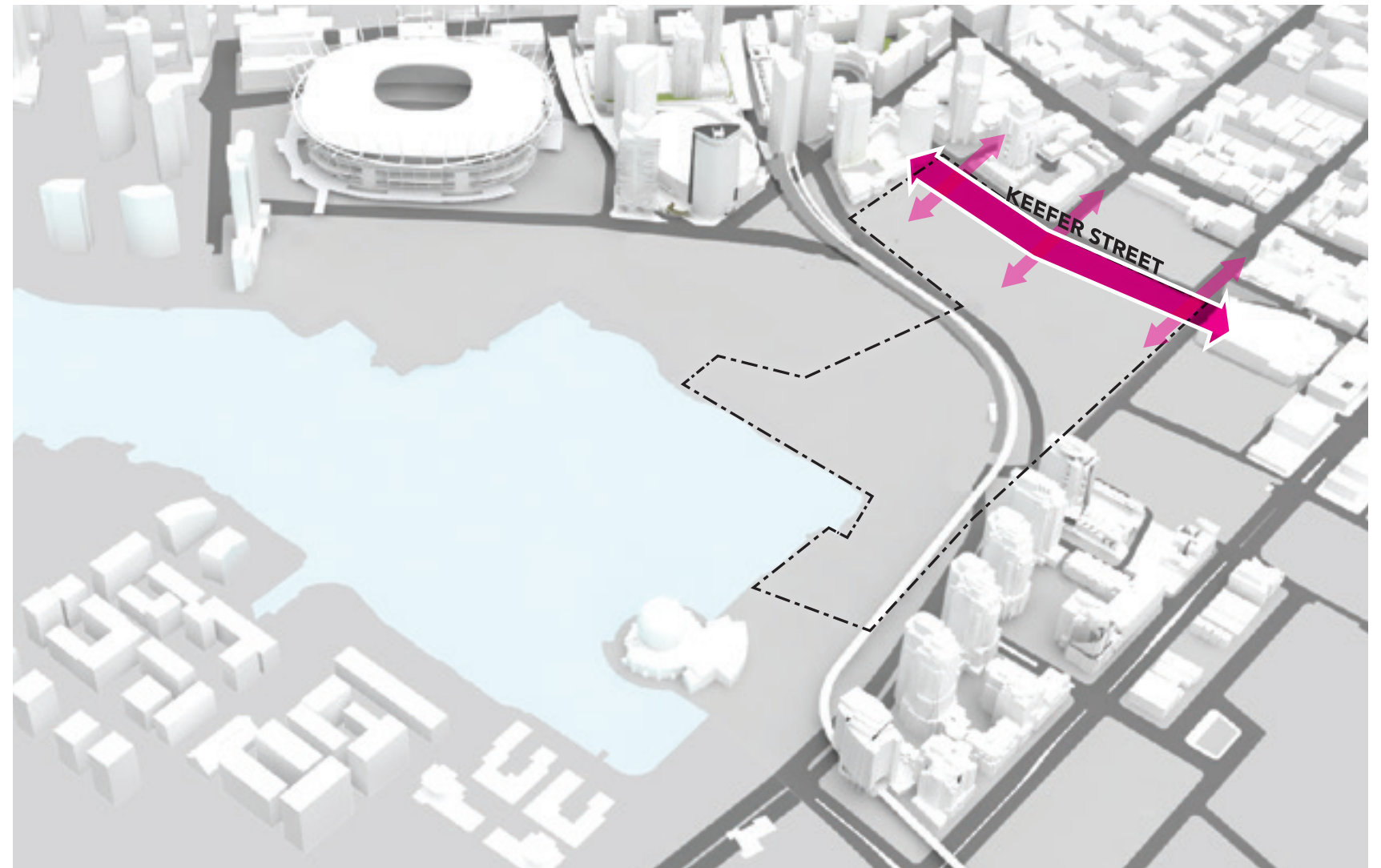


A deep active park threshold: Bryant Park, NYC.

PARK EDGES

KEEFER STREET

The park edge along Keefer Street already features welcoming park elements such as robust trees and open, green edges - the challenge will be to strengthen connections to nearby assets such as the Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden and Public Park. The corner of Keefer and Columbia is an important threshold between Chinatown, Gastown and east side neighborhoods.





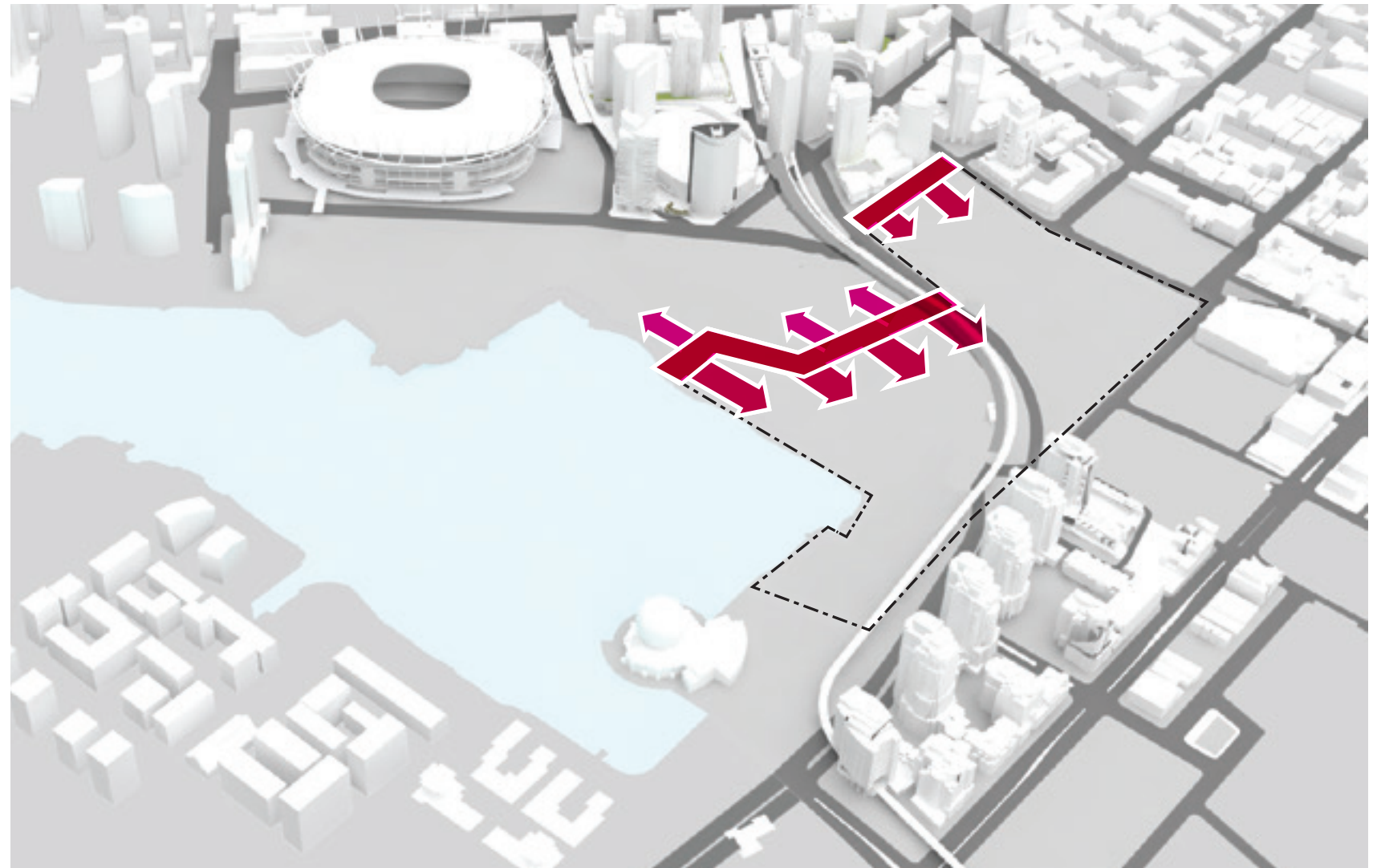
Keefe St today: Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Classical Chinese Garden + Public Park at left



Keefe St today: Andy Livingstone Park at right

PARK EDGES BUILDING FRONTAGE

The park shares an edge with almost 400m of building frontage: the International Village north of Pacific Boulevard, and the future Concord development south of Pacific Boulevard. It is important that the new buildings participate in the public realm, with public and animated ground floor programs. There is an opportunity for this edge to be blurred, with the green space extending into the development.





Public layers at and above grade: Whitney Museum, NYC - Renzo Piano



Covered outdoor space: Sammons Park, Dallas - Norman Foster



Canopy + Event Space: Seattle Sculpture Park - Weiss Manfredi

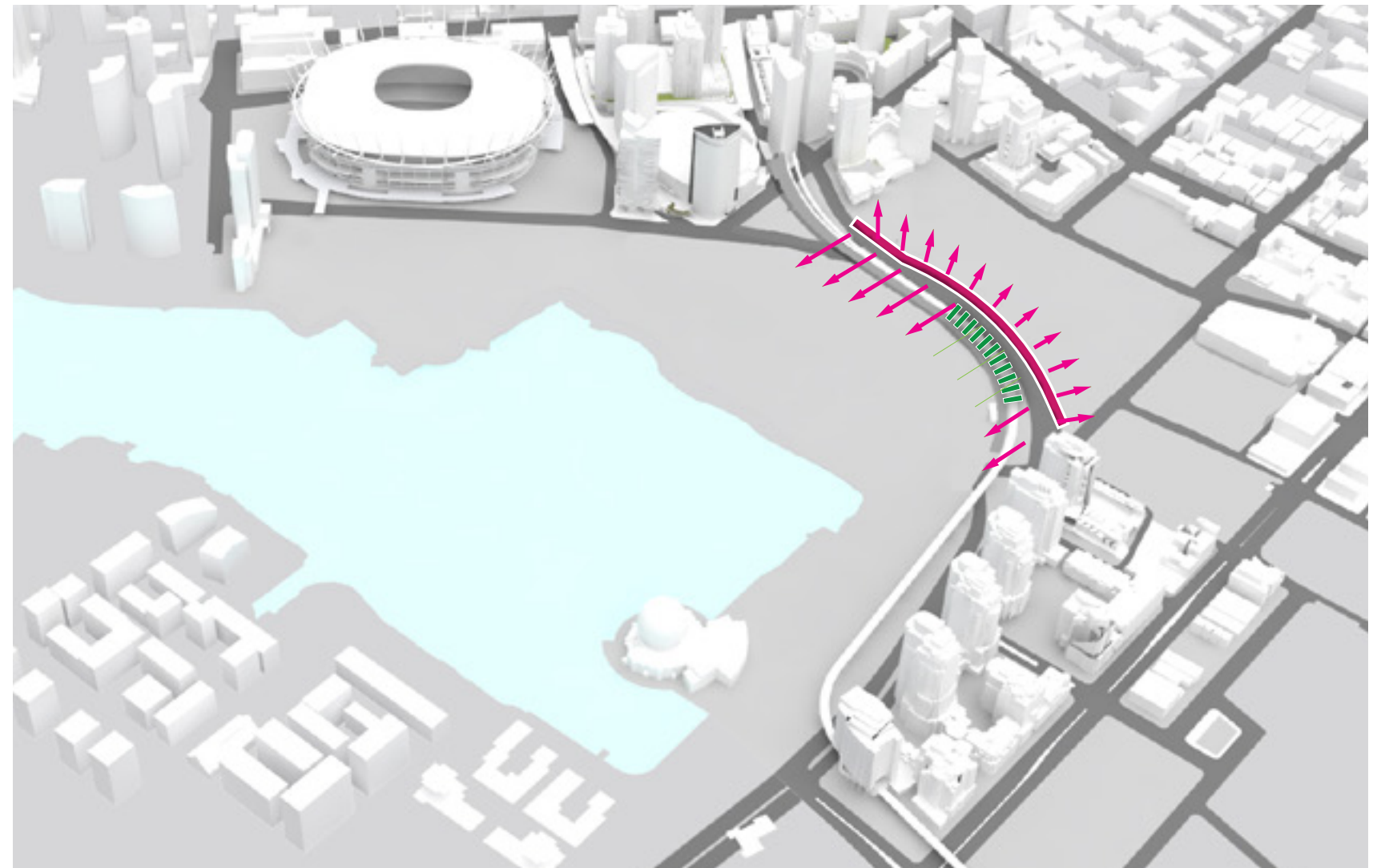


Indoor Event Space - Le Frak Center, NYC - Williams + Tsien

PARK EDGES

PACIFIC BOULEVARD

The park will address Pacific Boulevard on the north side with active, transparent frontages and granular pedestrian scaled spaces. The corridor along the skytrain structure can be enhanced with planting or artful screening.





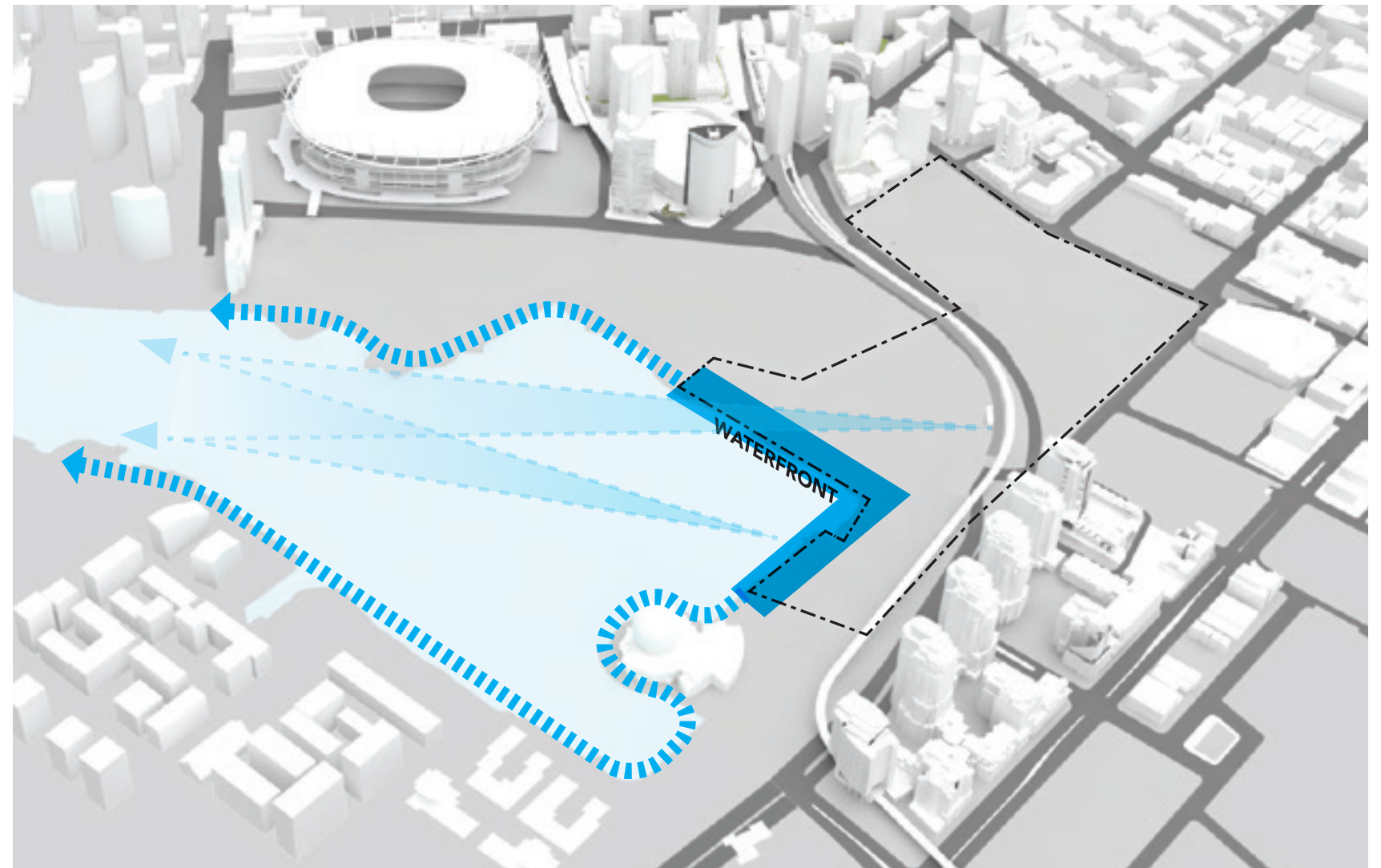
Small scale, pedestrian- oriented park edge: Main St Garden, Thomas Balsley



Canopy + active frontage : Whitney Museum, NYC - Renzo Piano

PARK EDGES WATERFRONT

The waterfront edge is a distinguishing feature for the NEFC park; it will be important to preserve and enhance continuity of the Seaside Greenway, but also connect many nearby neighbourhoods to the water. The waterfront provides access to long vistas looking southwest toward the sunset and False Creek. The edge can be designed to foster urbanity, water's access, nature, or a combination of each.





Urban Esplanade



Crenelated

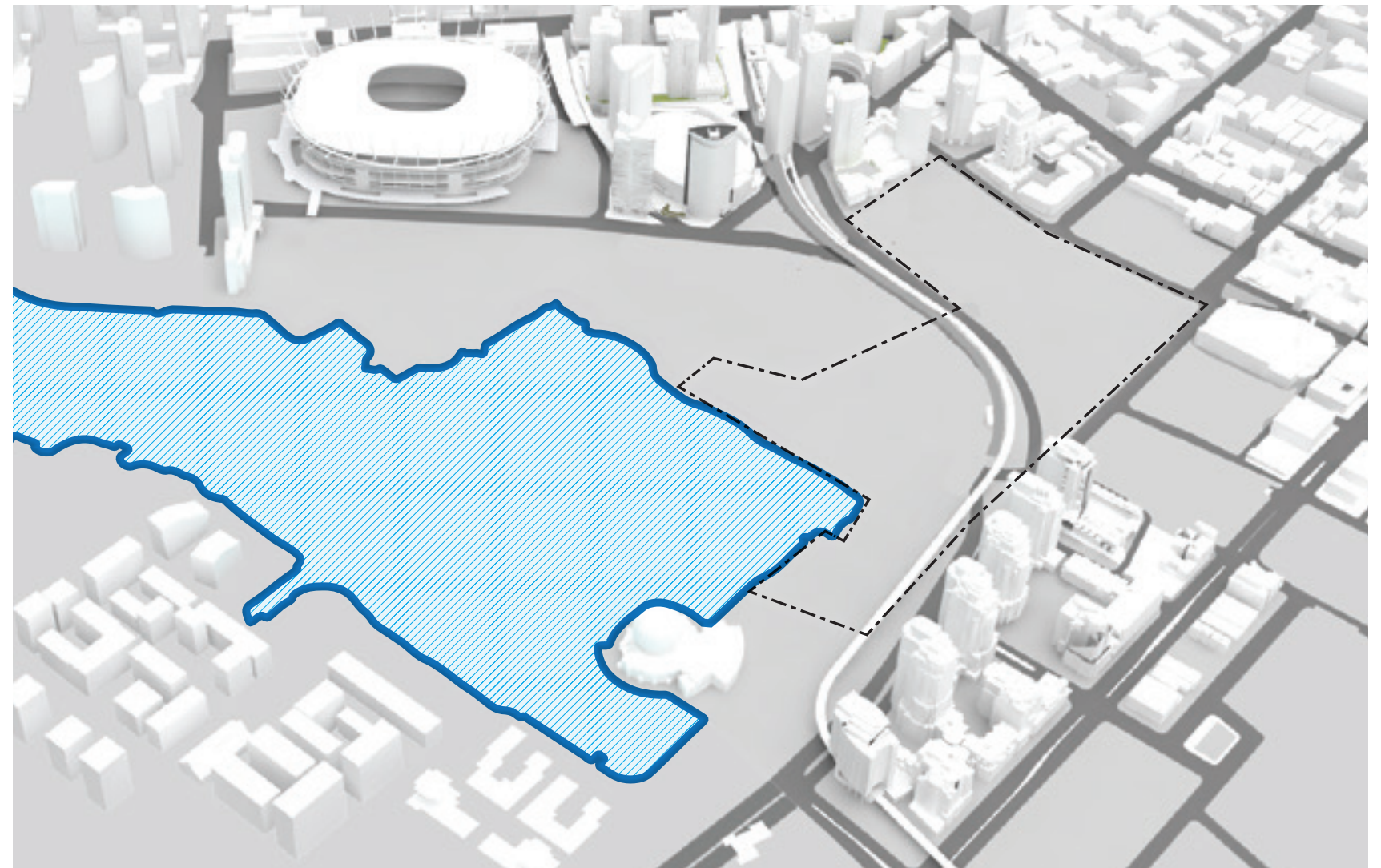


Undulated



WATER HABITAT, RESILIENCE, AND RECREATION

Given the current use and configuration of False Creek and decades of industrial use, the new park design cannot restore the basin to its original natural condition. It can, however, reclaim ecological functions within the creek, establishing habitat for fish while still balancing the needs of Vancouver residents. Active water use - both individual and collective - can connect users to the site in a meaningful way, which can ultimately evolve into a form of park stewardship. The park will capture stormwater runoff and play an important role in sea level rise defense by reducing erosion and flooding through careful adjustment of topography and creation of living shorelines.





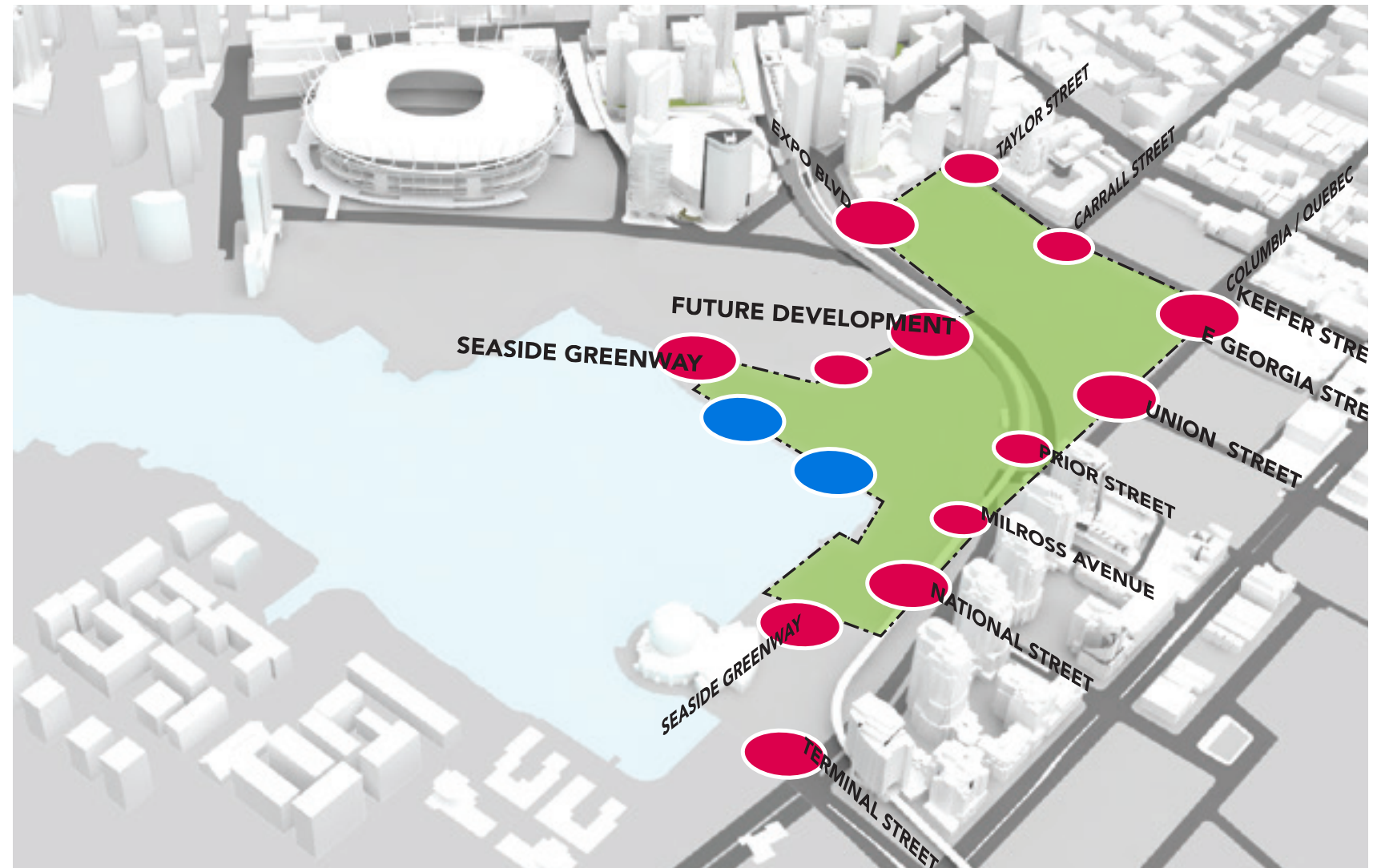
Habitat restoration and living shorelines at SEFC



Active water use and access: Dragon boat Racing

EARLY DIRECTIONS PARK ACCESS POINTS

The park addresses almost a dozen pedestrian intersections - which are natural points of access. The park will need to create distinct spaces to welcome all users from across streets, bike-ways, and along the water. Welcoming access points will encourage users from different socio-economic and cultural backgrounds to enjoy the park in a safe and inclusive manner.





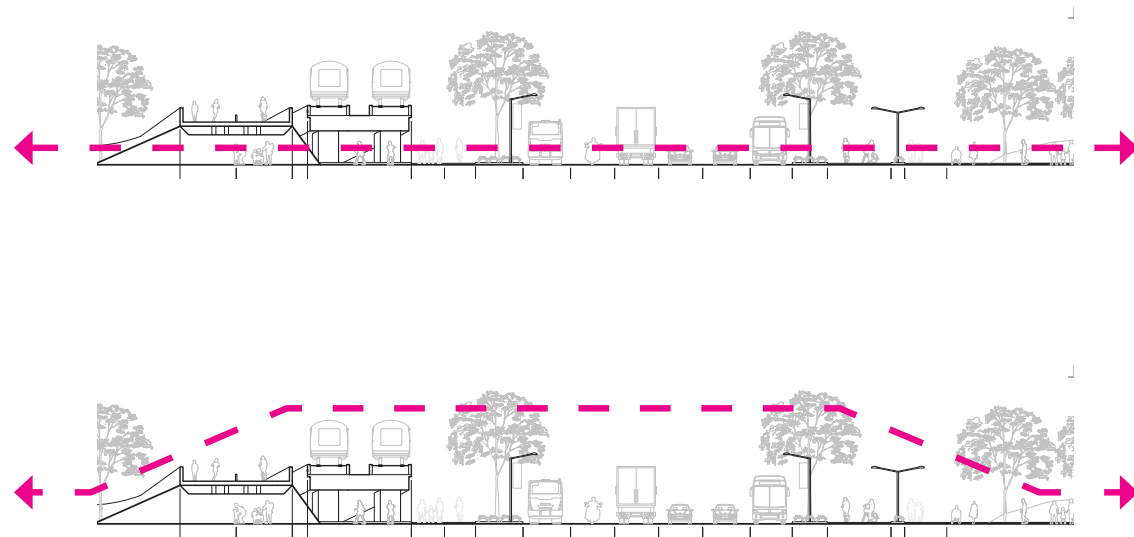
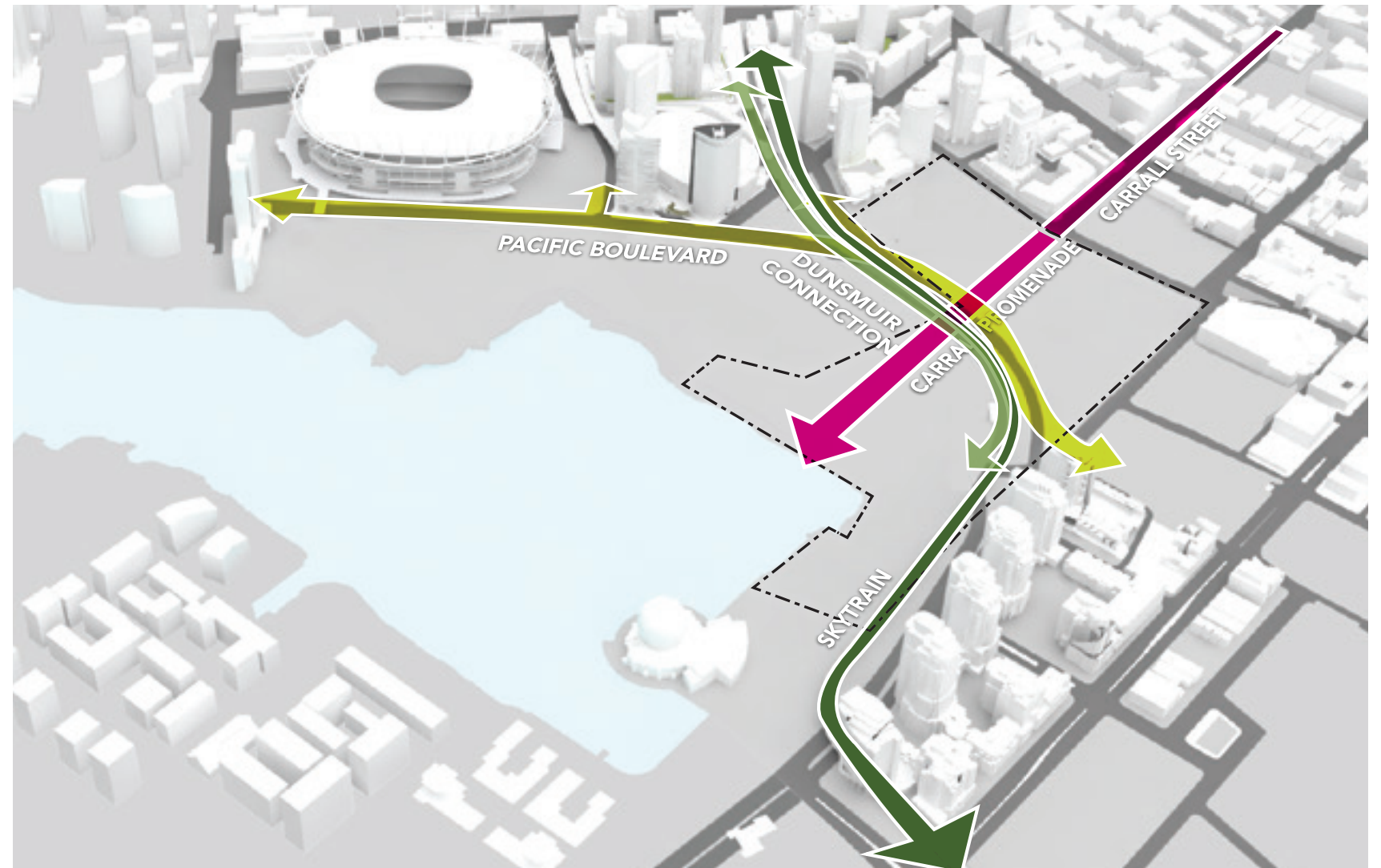
Central Park Entrance @ 59th Street, New York



Bryant Park Entrance @ 41st Street, New York

CONNECTIONS THROUGH THE PARK CARRALL PROMENADE

The Skytrain, Dunsmuir Connection, and the new Pacific Boulevard run in the east-west direction, intersecting the north-south Carrall Street + Carrall Promenade. Two ideas for this intersection feature Carrall going under the Skytrain + Dunsmuir Connection with an at-grade pedestrian crossing; or an elevated pedestrian walkway that overpasses the Boulevard, Skytrain and Dunsmuir Connection.





Artful treatment of infrastructural undersides



Generous Pedestrian Crossings



Overpass: Olympic Sculpture Park - Weiss Manfredi

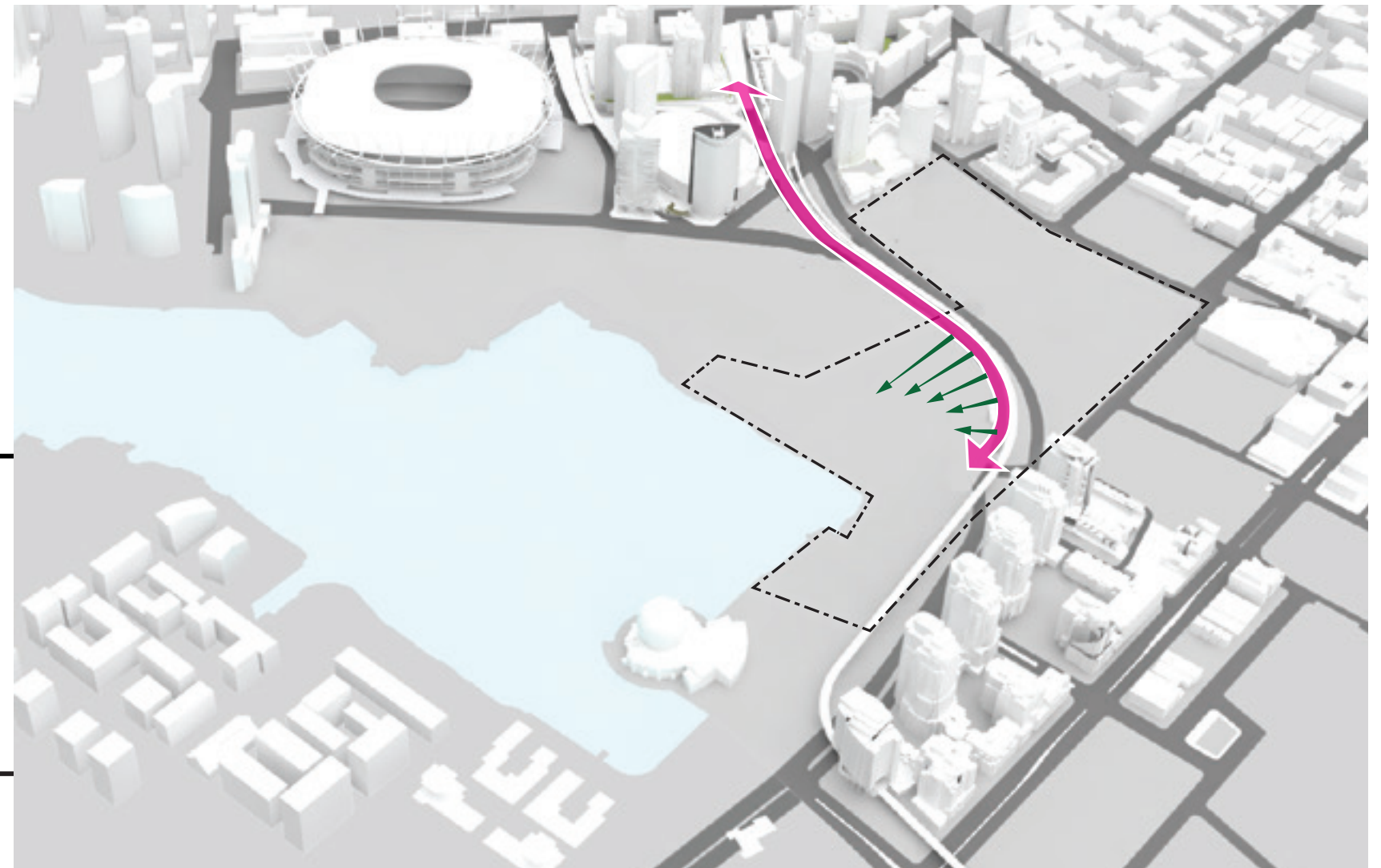


Squibb Bridge, Brooklyn: Ted Zoli

CONNECTIONS THROUGH THE PARK

DUNSMUIR CONNECTION

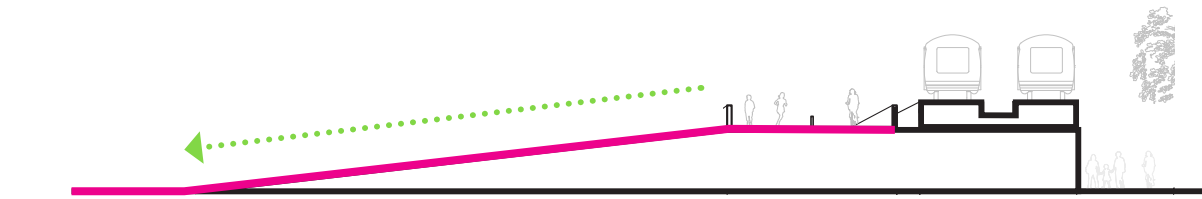
The design will look for ways to integrate portions of the elevated Dunsmuir Connection into the main body of the park: either as a direct connection that cascades down, or as an elevated promontory that supports park programming.



80



Dunsmuir Connection: an elevated linear park



Opportunity to integrate the Dunsmuir connection with the park



Park Amphitheater: Tongva Park, Santa Monica - JCFO



Park Overlook: Cumberland Park - Hargreaves



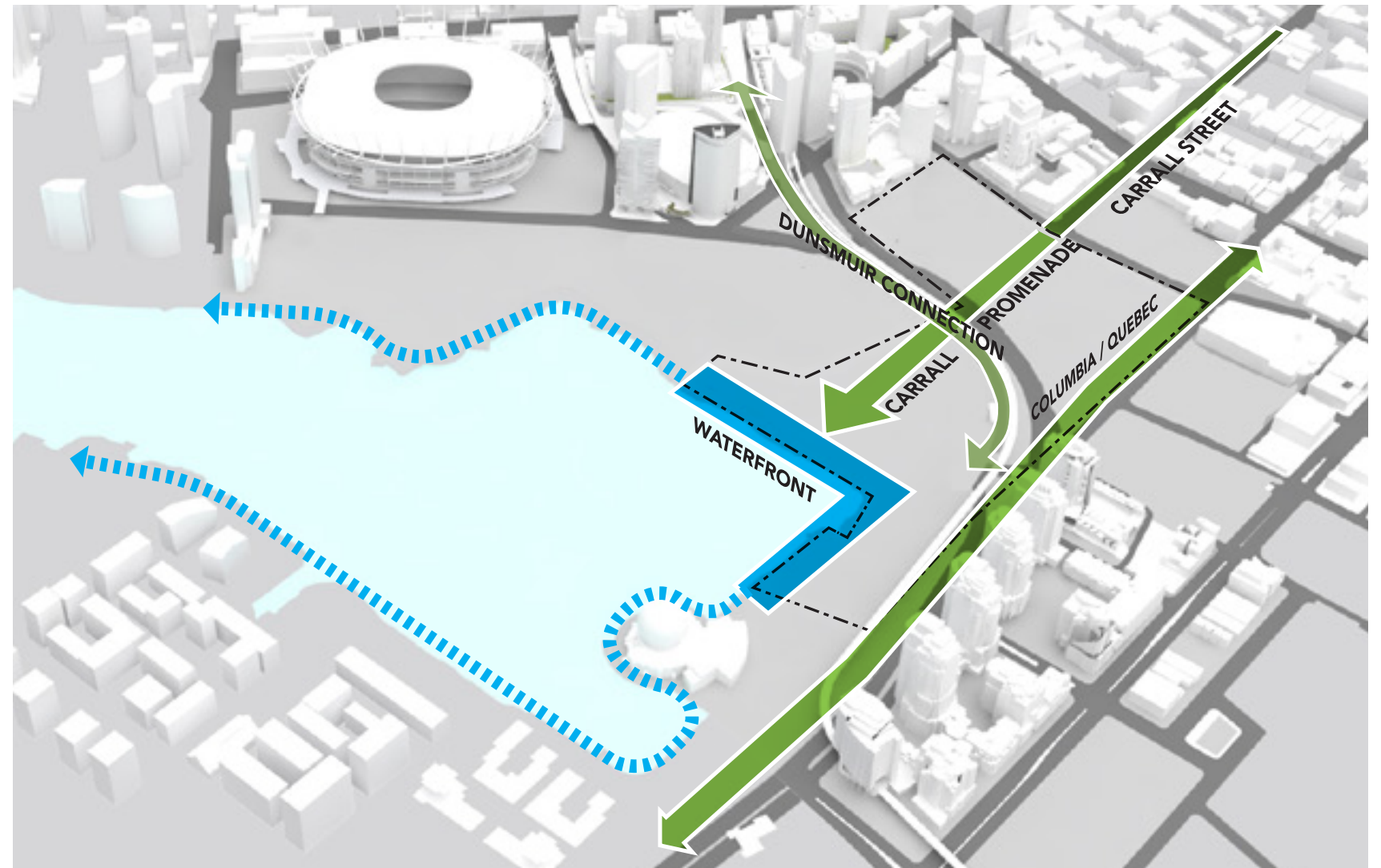
Vertical transition to park: Tongva Park, JCFO



Lawn Amphitheater: Hunters Point South - Weiss Manfredi

PROGRAM LINEAR SPACES

Quebec Street, the Seaside Greenway, and the Carrall Promenade are connections that serve as connective spines of the park. These linear spaces can be designed as park spaces themselves, complete with generous widths, seating, weather protection, robust planting, and programming.





Park promenade: Central Park, NYC



Park Promenade: Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park - JCFO



Park promenade: Klyde Warren Park - James Burnett

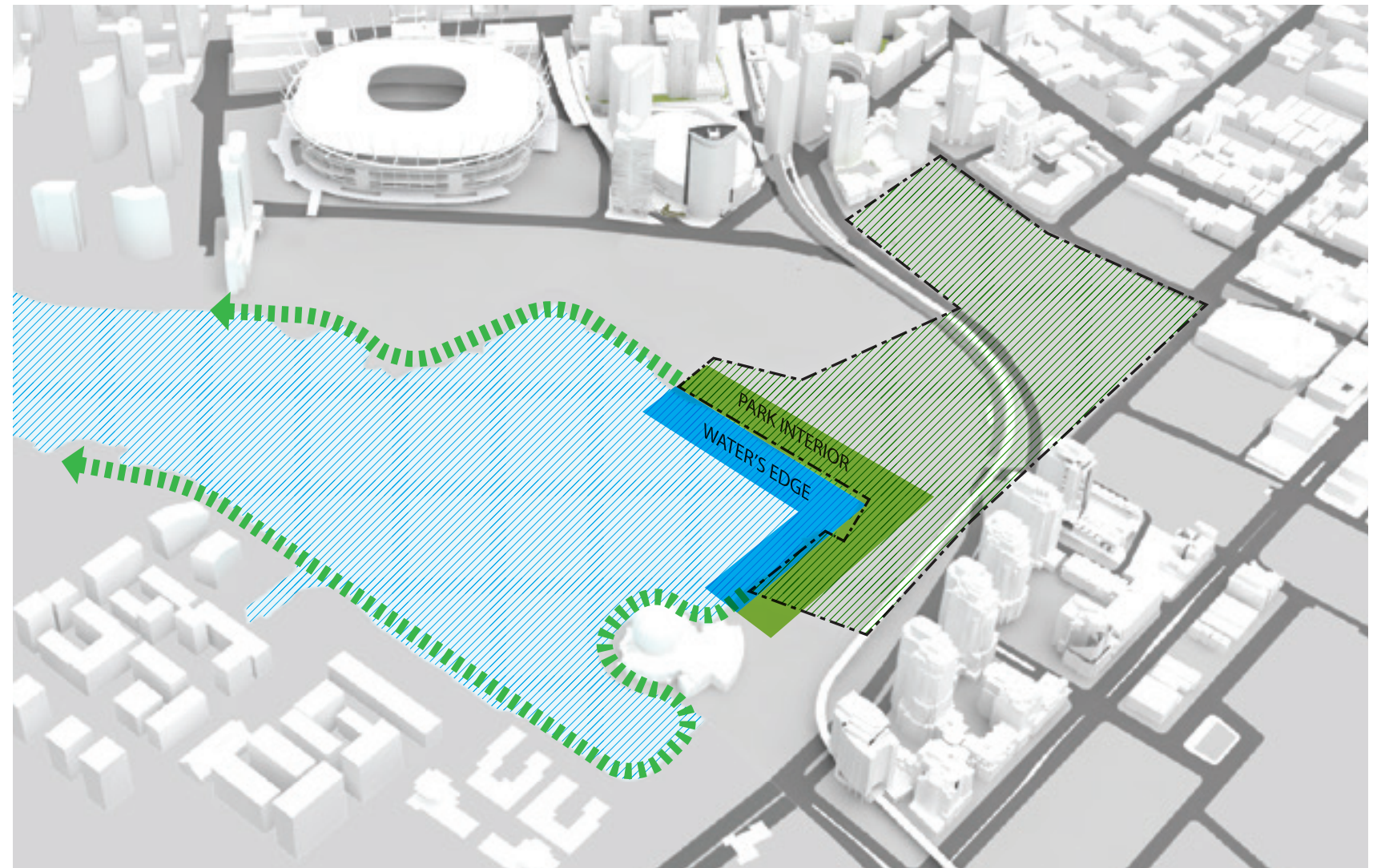


Seaside Promenade: SEFC - PWL Partnership

CONNECTIONS THROUGH THE PARK

SEASIDE GREENWAY

The Seaside Greenway along the study area will be reconfigured and connected to the Seaside Greenways on either side. While the Seaside Greenway is intended to create a fluid park experience, there are a variety of ways to integrate it in the park. It could be by the water's edge or weaving through the interior of the park, the pedestrian and bike paths could be combined or separated, providing a diversity of opportunities to view and access water and nature.





Seaside Greenway by Water's Edge



Seaside Greenway weaving through the Park Interior

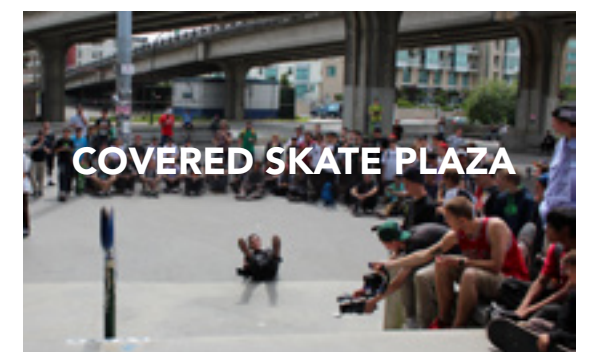
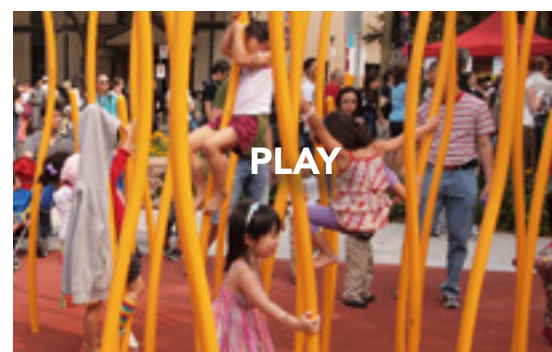
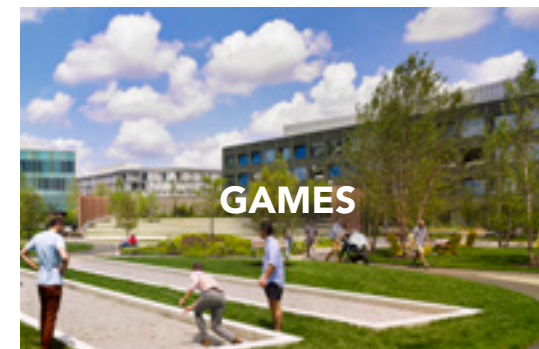
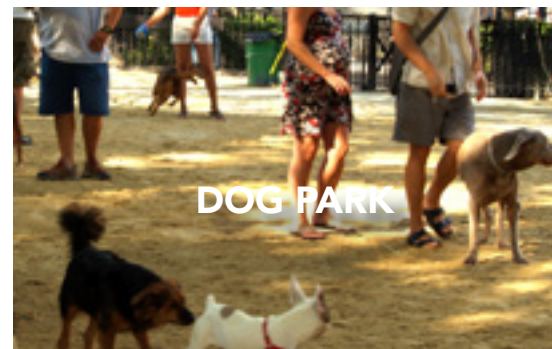


Park Space between Pedestrian and Bike Paths

BALANCED PROGRAM

SINGLE USE SPACES

Single use spaces are effective for park activation and serve as destination features. However, they serve a limited user group; therefore the park will balance single use spaces with other flexible, program-indeterminate spaces to create a park that is flexible in programming and use.



BALANCED PROGRAM FLEXIBLE SPACES

COMMUNITY AMENITY



COMMUNITY EVENT



The park will bring civic programmable spaces that also operate as flexible community amenity spaces. Open lawns, elevated prospects, and promenades can be used in a regular capacity as neighborhood amenities for play, seating, and viewing. Intermittently these same spaces can be programmed to support civic, cultural, and community events.

CHARACTER

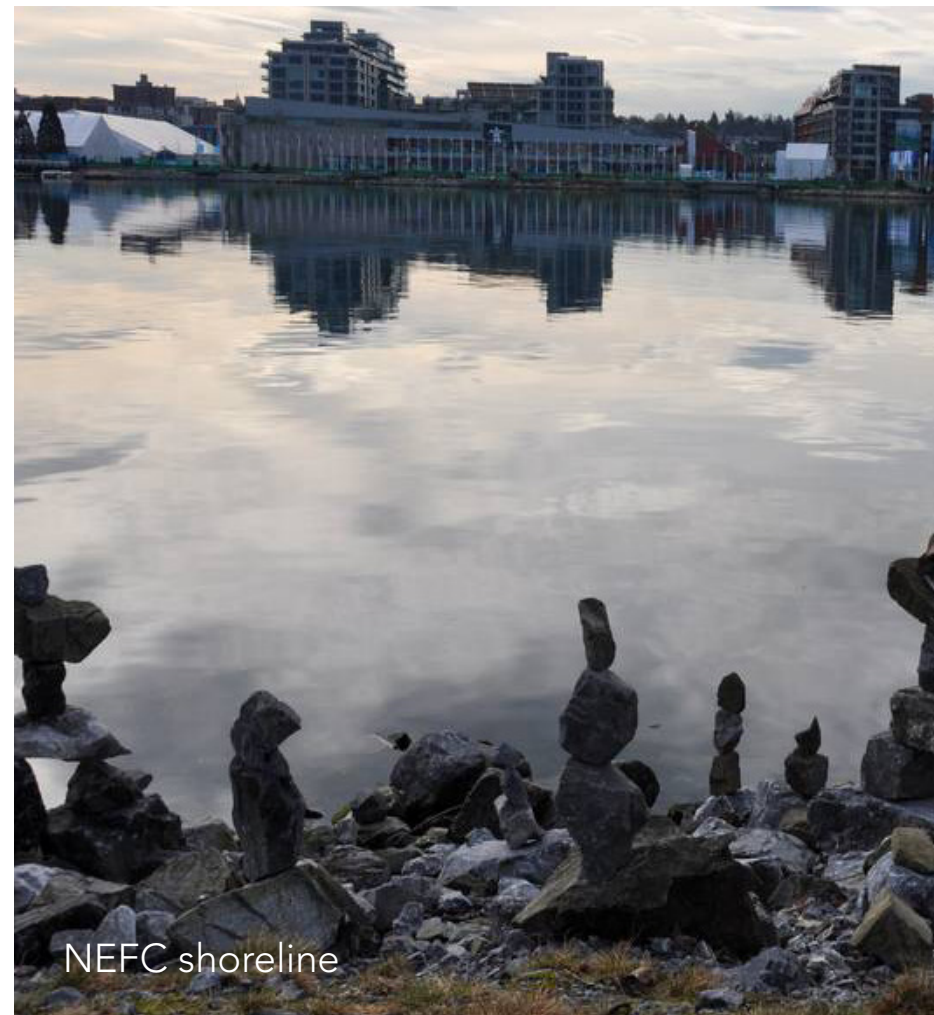
The following six character elements are fundamental to the overall park design.

SETTING



At the large scale, the park will be anchored in its magnificent setting by stressing views to the mountains, the open water, the sunset, the skyline and the surrounding landmarks.

MATERIALS



At the small scale, the materials used in the park will draw on distinct local geology and landscapes. Local stones and plant communities expressive of the Pacific Northwest will be used.

HISTORY



The history of the area will be represented through the cultures that inhabited the area for centuries and up to this day by using materials, techniques and elements that will highlight local culture and communities. Contemporary park programs will be authentic forms of expression for past events.

SUSTAINABILITY



Hinge Park, SEFC: PWL Partnership

Northeast False Creek has the ability, through its central and integrated location, to support the City's effort to be holistically sustainable. The park will create biodiverse open spaces that amplify the experience and performance of nature and city, creating beautiful, self-sustaining ecologies and green systems, coupled with highly social, interactive and theatrical places for people.

INNOVATION



High Line, NYC: JCFO

Innovative design at multiple scales – ecologically, socially, materially – will create a place of extraordinary experience. Creative solutions to address habitat, environmental quality, social life, commerce, programming, circulation, transit, and other urban design issues will help to distinguish the park.

ARTS



Cosimo Cavallaro, Love Your Beans, 2014

Art will play a central role in the park design and programming. The park will be a social anchor, supporting nearby residents and businesses by providing equal access to a healthy waterfront, outdoor spaces for gathering and recreation, and arts and culture.

NEXT STEPS

This report is the first of many design stages for the design of the park. The timeline shows the anticipated park design process in 2017. This timeline is in parallel with many engagement activities: See pages 34-35 for future engagement activities.

Early 2017

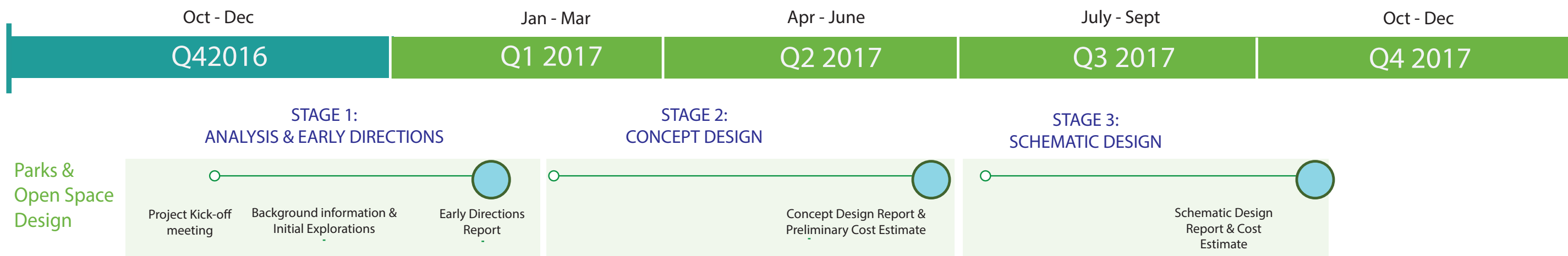
Stage 1: Analysis + Early directions:

Mid-2017

Stage 2: Concept Design:

End 2017:

Stage 3: Schematic Design



Parks & Open Space Design