



# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop

December 2, 2017

# Overview

1. Sustainability – what is it? - Lisa Brideau
2. Environmental City Policies - Lisa Brideau
3. Environmental Sustainability
  1. Ecological Overview of FCS - Nick Page
  2. Rainwater Management - Cameron Owen
4. Social Sustainability - Mark Pickersgill

# SUSTAINA-WHAT?

Lisa Brideau

Sustainability Group

# SUSTAINABILITY

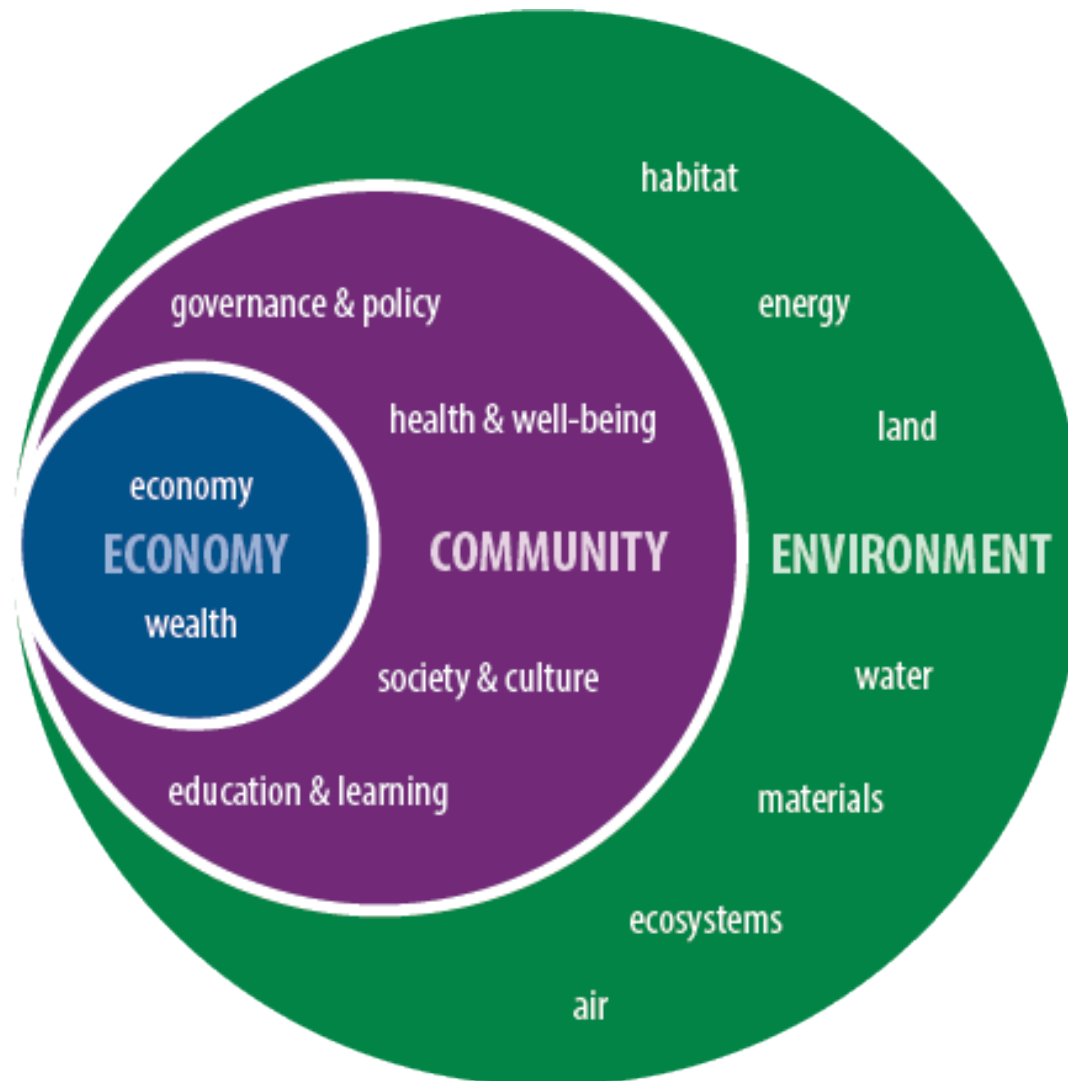


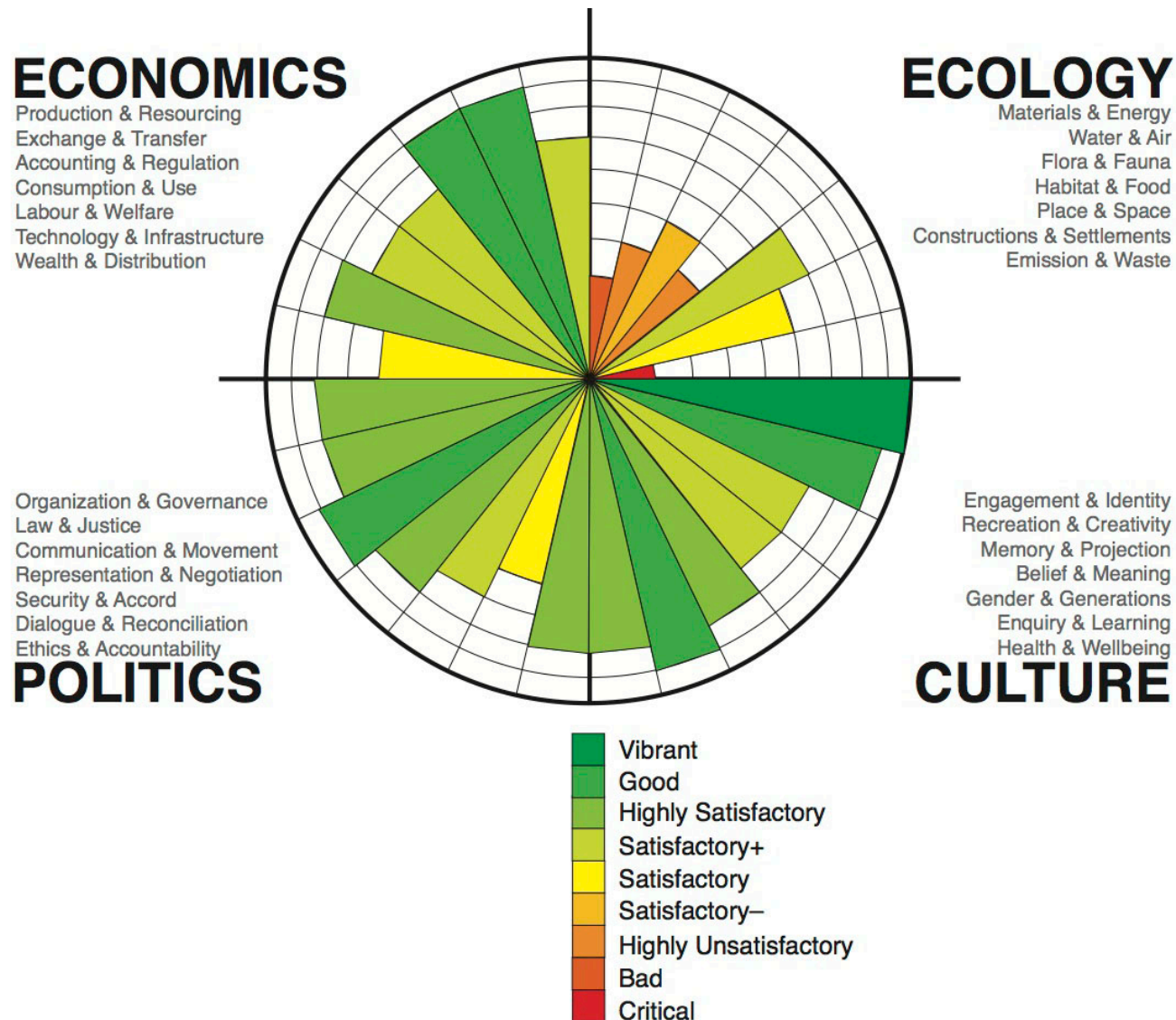
Meeting our needs without  
compromising the ability of future  
generations to meet their own needs.

# Three Legged Stool









## CIRCLES OF SUSTAINABILITY

# Overlapping Policies



# GROUP DISCUSSION

Introduce yourself to your  
table & share:

*What is sustainability to you?*

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# ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Lisa Brideau

Sustainability Group

# GREENEST CITY

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2020 ACTION PLAN  
PART TWO: 2015-2020

3 HIGH-LEVEL  
OBJECTIVES

10 GOAL  
AREAS

17 TARGETS  
TO  
MEASURE



"Vancouver will be the  
greenest city  
in the world by 2020"

# GREENEST CITY FRAMEWORK

ZERO  
CARBON

ZERO  
WASTE

HEALTHY  
ECOSYSTEMS

3 high-level  
objectives

# GREENEST CITY FRAMEWORK

ZERO CARBON	Green Buildings	Climate & Renewables		
	Green Transportation			
ZERO WASTE	Zero Waste		Green Economy	Lighter Footprint
HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS	Access to Nature			
	Clean Water			
	Local Food			
	Clean Air			

3 high-level objectives

10 goal areas

## CLIMATE AND RENEWABLES

**Target:** Reduce community-based greenhouse gas emissions by 33% from 2007 levels.

## GREEN BUILDINGS

**Target 1:** Reduce energy use and GHG emissions in existing buildings by 20% over 2007 levels.

**Target 2:** Require all buildings constructed from 2020 onward to be carbon neutral in operations.

## GREEN TRANSPORTATION

**Target 1:** Make the majority of trips (over 50%) by foot, bicycle and public transit.

**Target 2:** Reduce average distance driven per resident by 20% from 2007 levels.

## ZERO WASTE

**Target:** Reduce total solid waste going to the landfill or incinerator by 50% from 2008 levels.

## ACCESS TO NATURE

**Target 1:** Ensure that every person lives within a five minute walk of a park, greenway or other green space.

**Target 2:** Plant 150,000 additional trees in the city.

**Target 3:** restore or enhance 25ha of natural areas between 2010 and 2020

## CLEAN WATER

**Target 1:** Meet or beat the most stringent of British Columbian, Canadian and appropriate international drinking water quality standards and guidelines.

**Target 2:** Reduce per capita water consumption by 33% from 2006 levels.

## LOCAL FOOD

**Target:** Increase city-wide and neighbourhood food assets by a minimum of 50% over 2010 levels.

## CLEAN AIR

**Target:** Meet or beat the most stringent air quality guidelines from Metro Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, and the World Health Organization.

## GREEN ECONOMY

**Target 1:** Double the number of green jobs over 2010 levels.

**Target 2:** Double the number of companies that are actively engaged in greening their operations over 2011 levels.

## LIGHTER FOOTPRINT

**Target:** Reduce Vancouver's ecological footprint by 33% over 2006 levels.

# TOWARD ZERO CARBON THROUGH: CLIMATE LEADERSHIP

A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of several tall, white industrial smokestacks or chimneys. The stacks are arranged in a slightly curved line, receding into the distance. They are set against a clear, bright blue sky. The perspective creates a sense of height and scale. The image is used as a background for the text overlay.

**GOAL:** Eliminate Vancouver's  
dependence on fossil fuels

**2020 target:**  
Reduce community based greenhouse  
gas emissions 33% from 2007 levels.

# TOWARD ZERO CARBON THROUGH: GREEN TRANSPORTATION

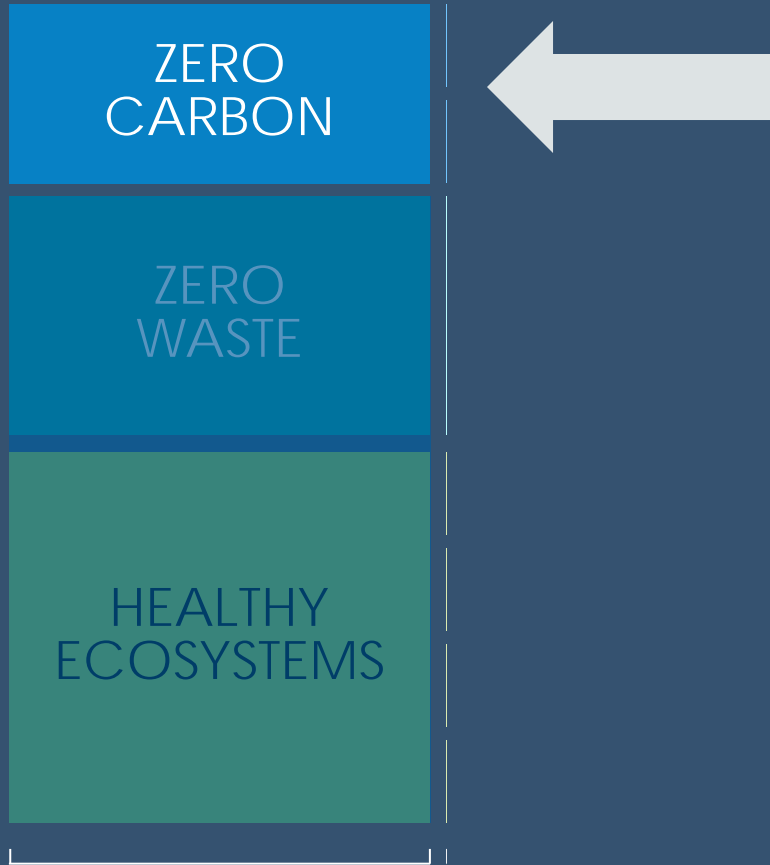
**GOAL:** Make walking, cycling,  
& public transit preferred  
transportation options

## 2020 targets:

- 1) Make the majority of trips (over 50%) on foot, bicycle, and public transit.
- 2) Reduce distance driven per resident by 20% from 2007 levels.



# GREENEST CITY FRAMEWORK



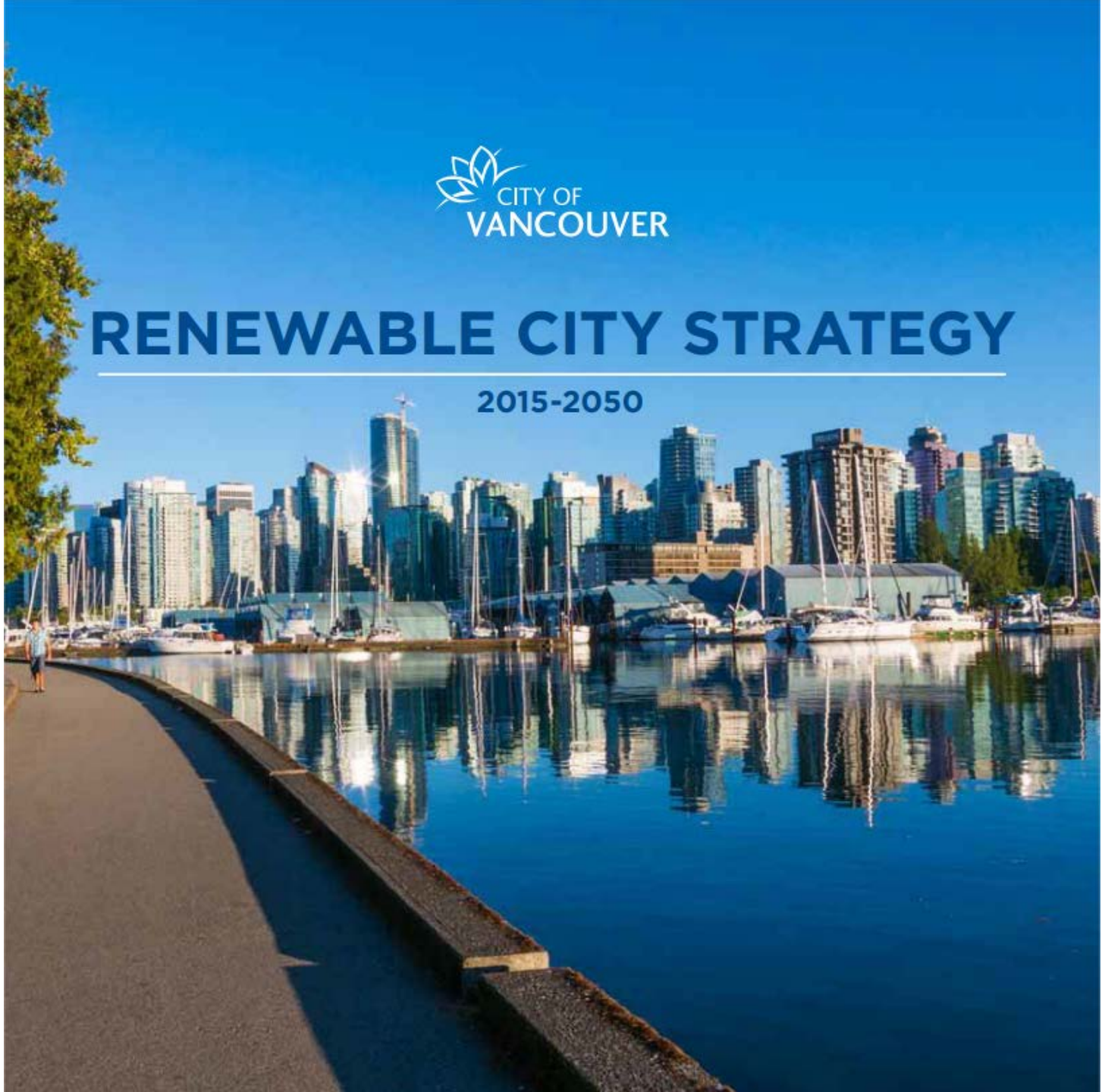
3 high-level objectives



# RENEWABLE CITY STRATEGY

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2015-2050



# AFTER 2020: RENEWABLE CITY

## TARGETS

Derive 100% of the energy used in Vancouver from renewable sources before 2050

Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80% below 2007 levels before 2050



1

IMPROVE  
ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY

2

SWITCH TO  
RENEWABLE  
SOURCES

Our approach to 100% renewable



Zero Emission Buildings Plan



Rezoning Policy Update

## BUILDINGS



Neighbourhood Energy Strategy

54%  
OF VANCOUVER'S  
CARBON POLLUTION



Electric Vehicle Ecosystem Strategy



Transportation 2040

## TRANSPORTATION

41%  
OF VANCOUVER'S  
CARBON POLLUTION





**GREENEST CITY 2020**  
Climate Adaptation

# CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY

# Vancouver adopted its Climate Change Adaptation Strategy in 2012



- Sea level rise
- Hotter, drier summers
- More frequent & more intense storms

# Planning for Sea Level Rise:



1m by 2100

2m by 2200



Coal Harbour

Port

Jericho

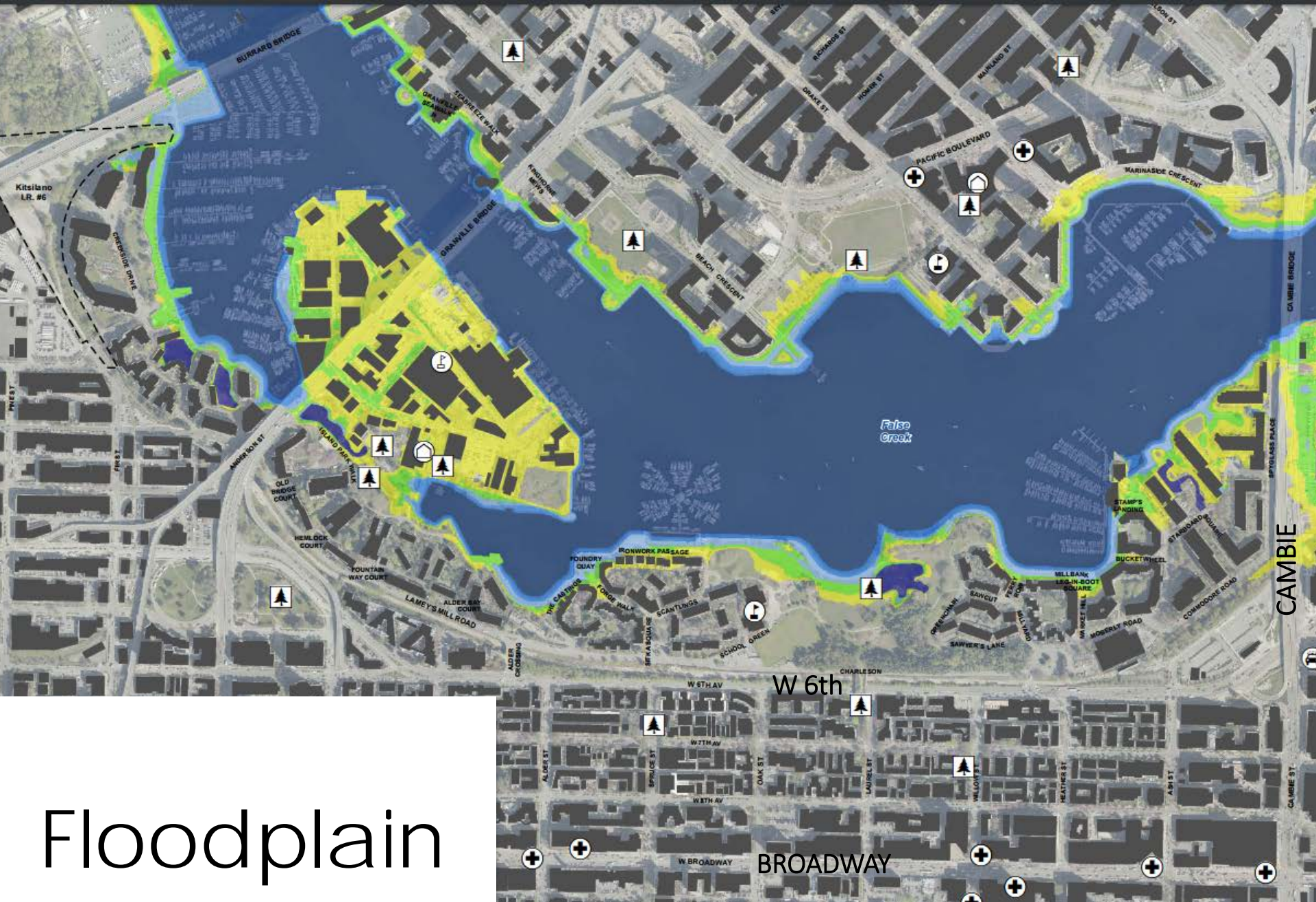
False Creek

Vancouver's Floodplain  
(includes 1m sea level rise)

Southlands

Fraser River

# Floodplain



MODEL of Scenario 3: Year 2100, 1m of sea level rise, 1/500 year storm

(SOURCE: City CFRA, 2014)



Zero Emission Buildings Plan



Neighbourhood Energy Strategy

## A family of strategies



Electric Vehicle Ecosystem Strategy



Transportation 2040 Plan



Healthy City Strategy



Vancouver Food Strategy

## A family of strategies



Rain City Strategy



Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

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# ECOLOGICAL OVERVIEW

Nick Page

Park Board



# Environmental Scan

## False Creek South Sustainability Workshop

Nick Page, Biologist  
Vancouver Park Board  
December 2017



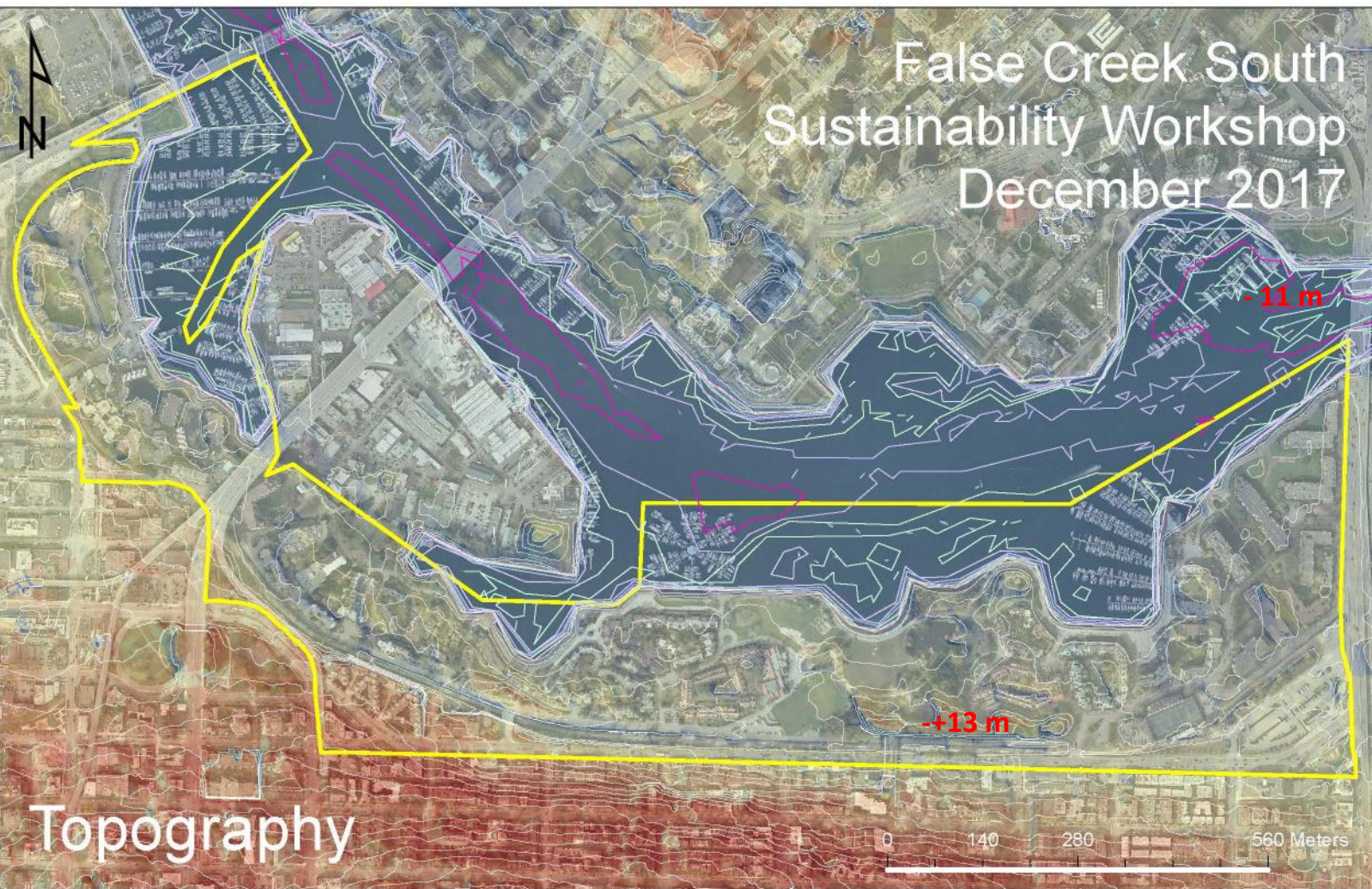
# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017

Marine = 24 ha (30%)  
Terrestrial = 55 ha (70%)

## Marine & Terrestrial Areas

140 280 560 Meters

# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017



# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017

Intertidal Zone

140

280

560 Meters



## Shoreline

- 2.9 km of shoreline
- Heavily modified and structurally simple
- Several docks and marinas
- Very little marine riparian zone
- Shoreline structure limits deposition of organic materials and fine sediment which sustain the food-web



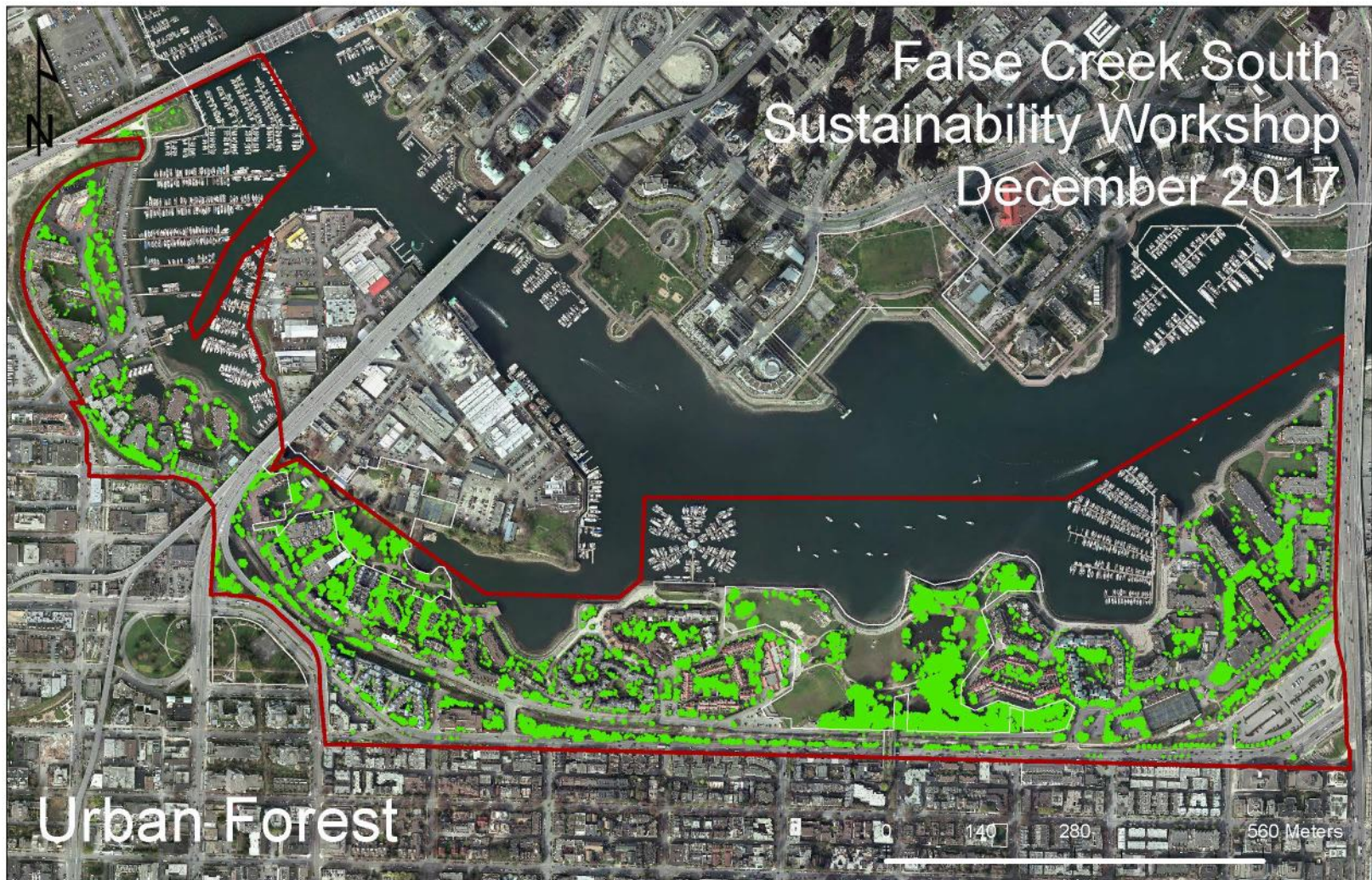
# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017

Urban Forest

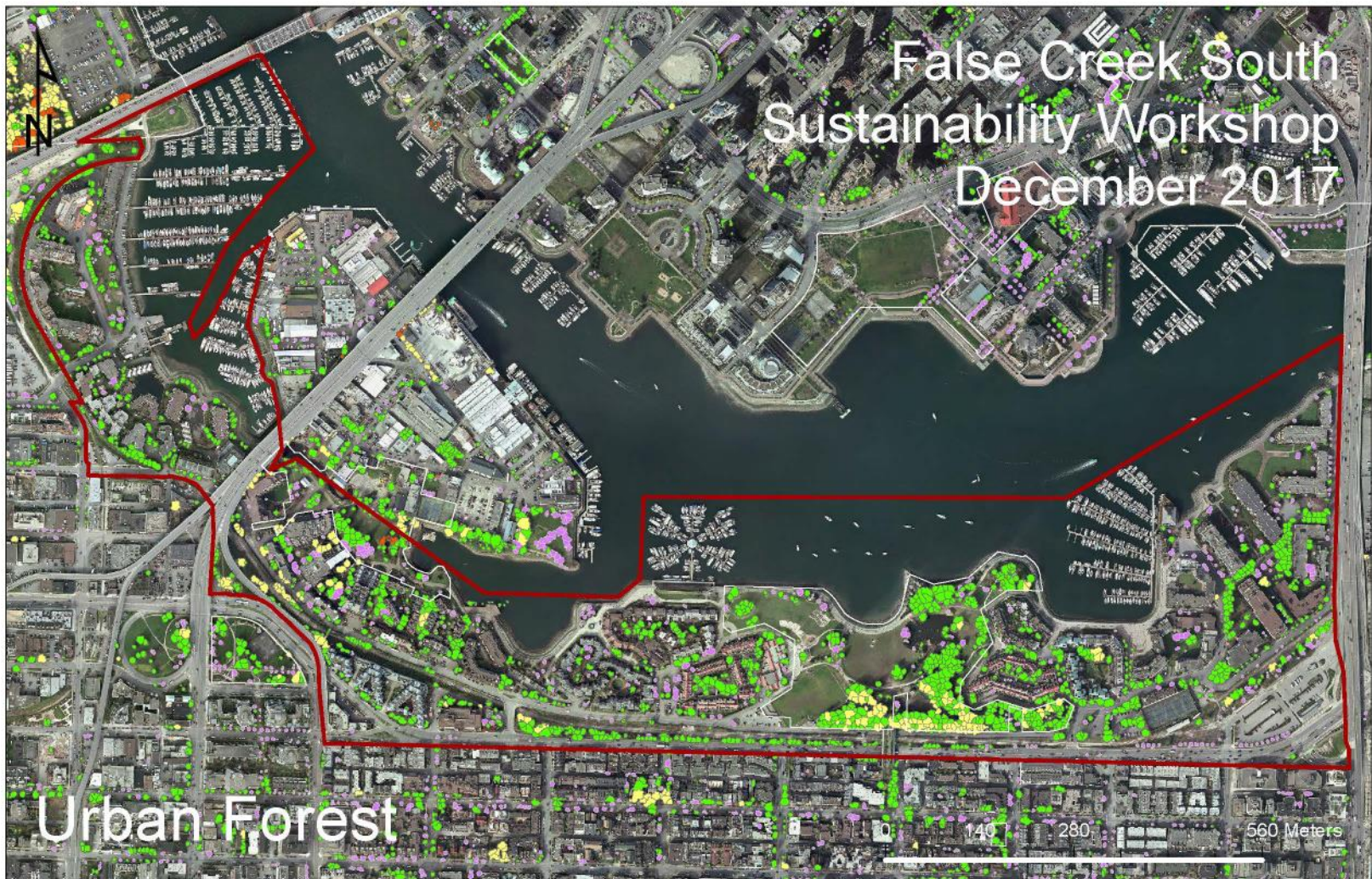
140

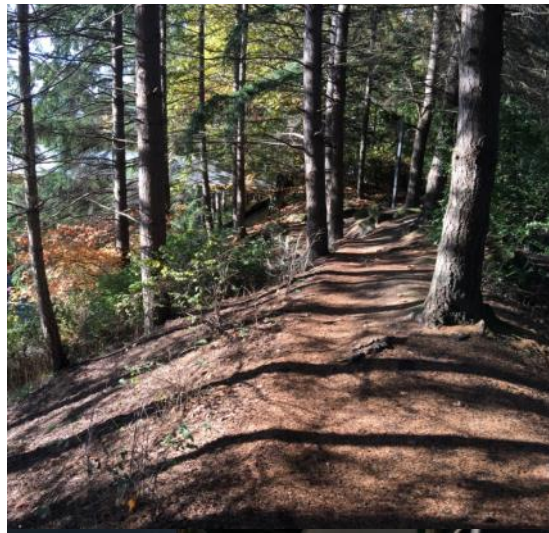
280

560 Meters



# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017

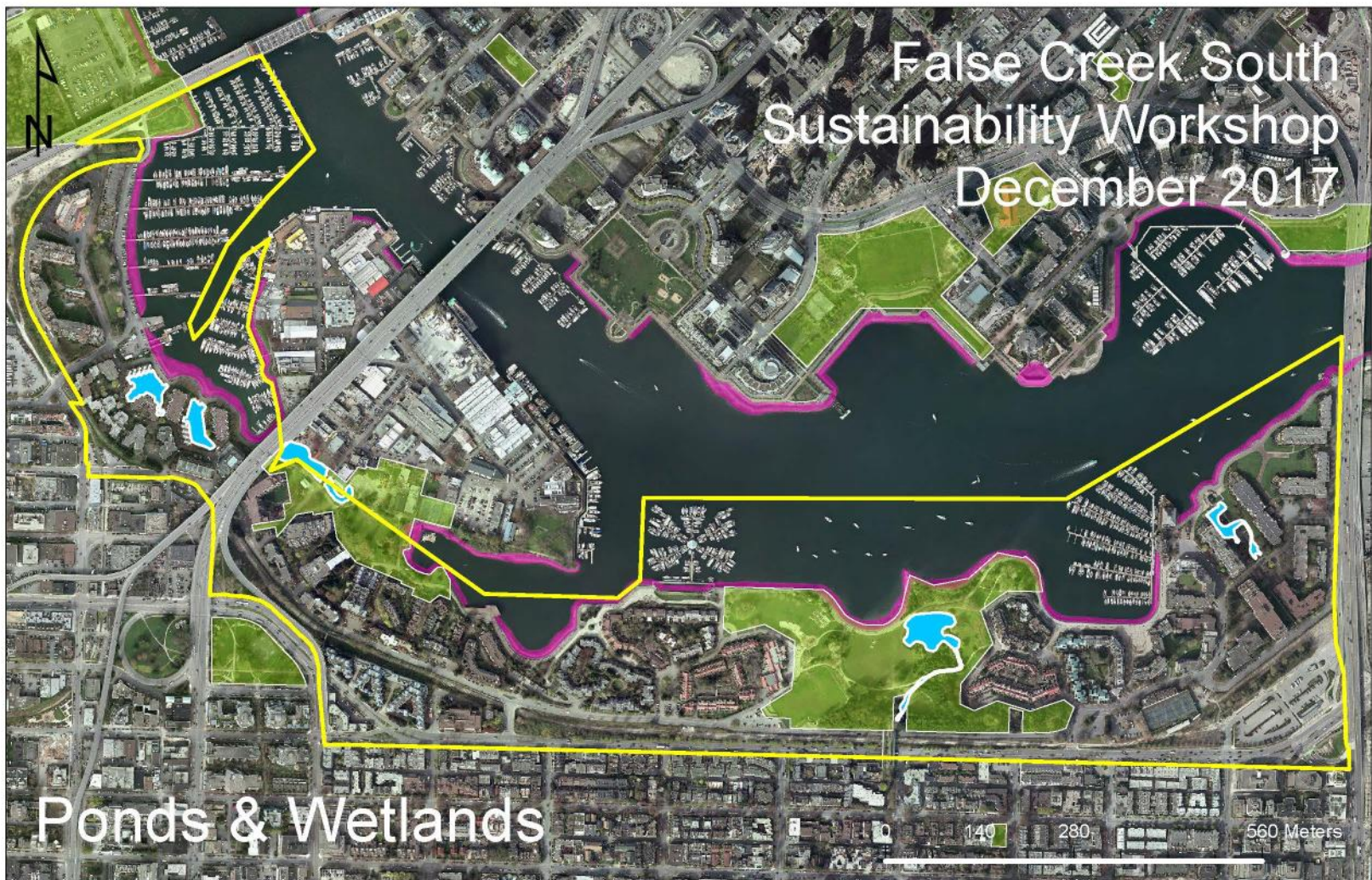




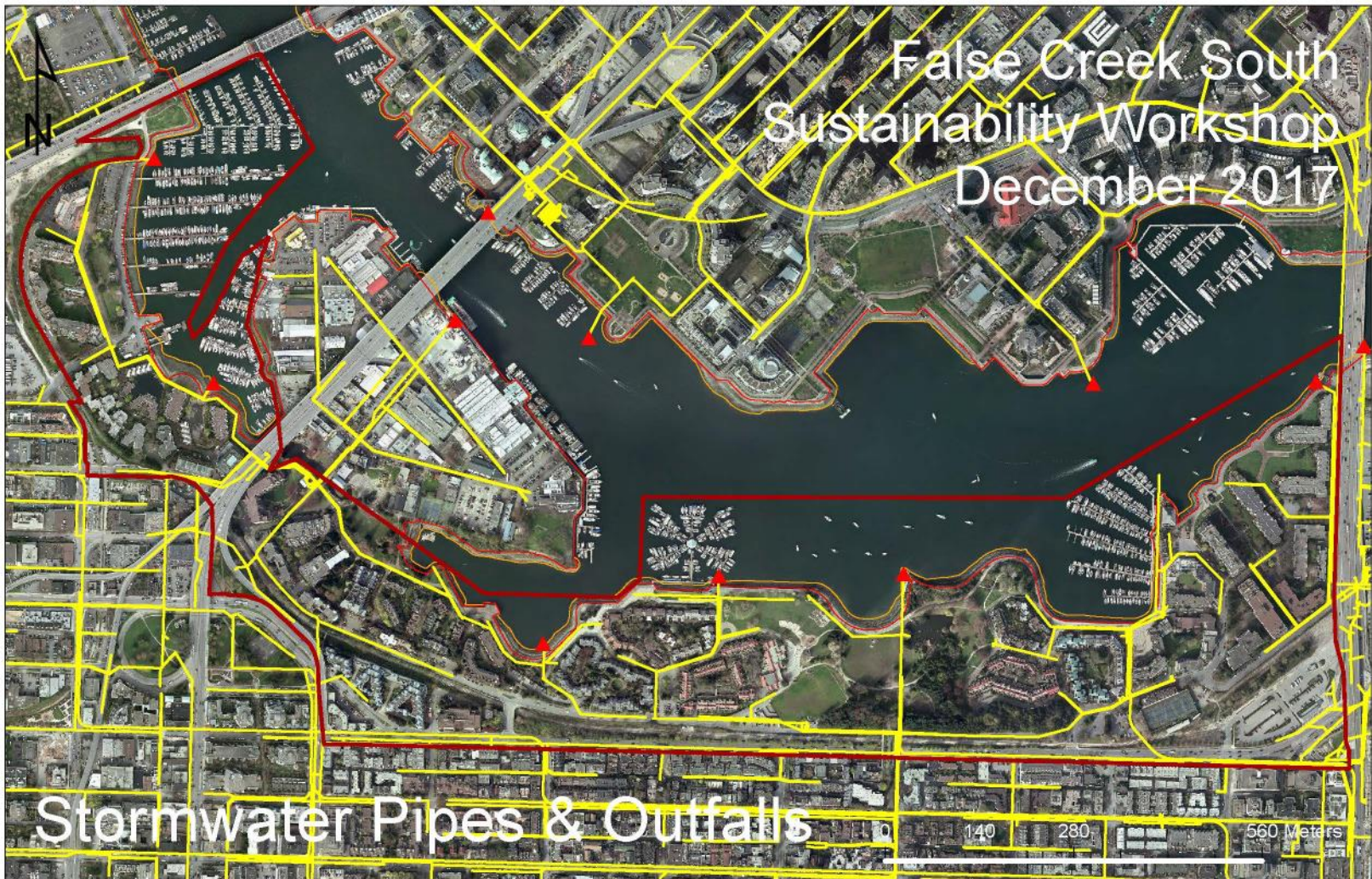
## Urban Forest

- 10.2 ha of forest canopy (13% urban forest canopy in FCS study area compared to 19% city-wide)
- Mostly ornamental park and landscape trees around 40 years old
- Some closed canopy Douglas-fir forest in Charleson Park

# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017



# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017



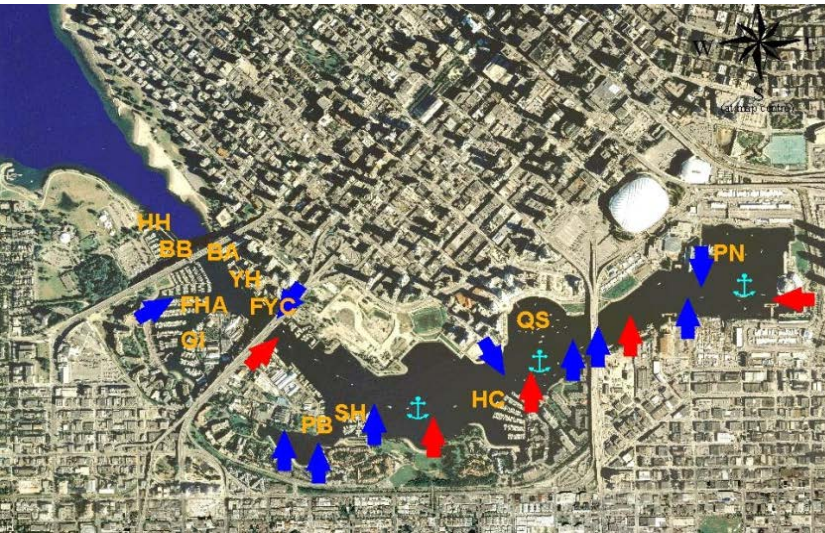
Stormwater Pipes & Outfalls

140 280 560 Meters



# Water

- Small number of ponds and water features which are important for aesthetics and biodiversity
- All are potable water fed (not storm or rainwater)
- Stormwater system is complex: 8 outfalls discharge to False Creek (3 CSOs)

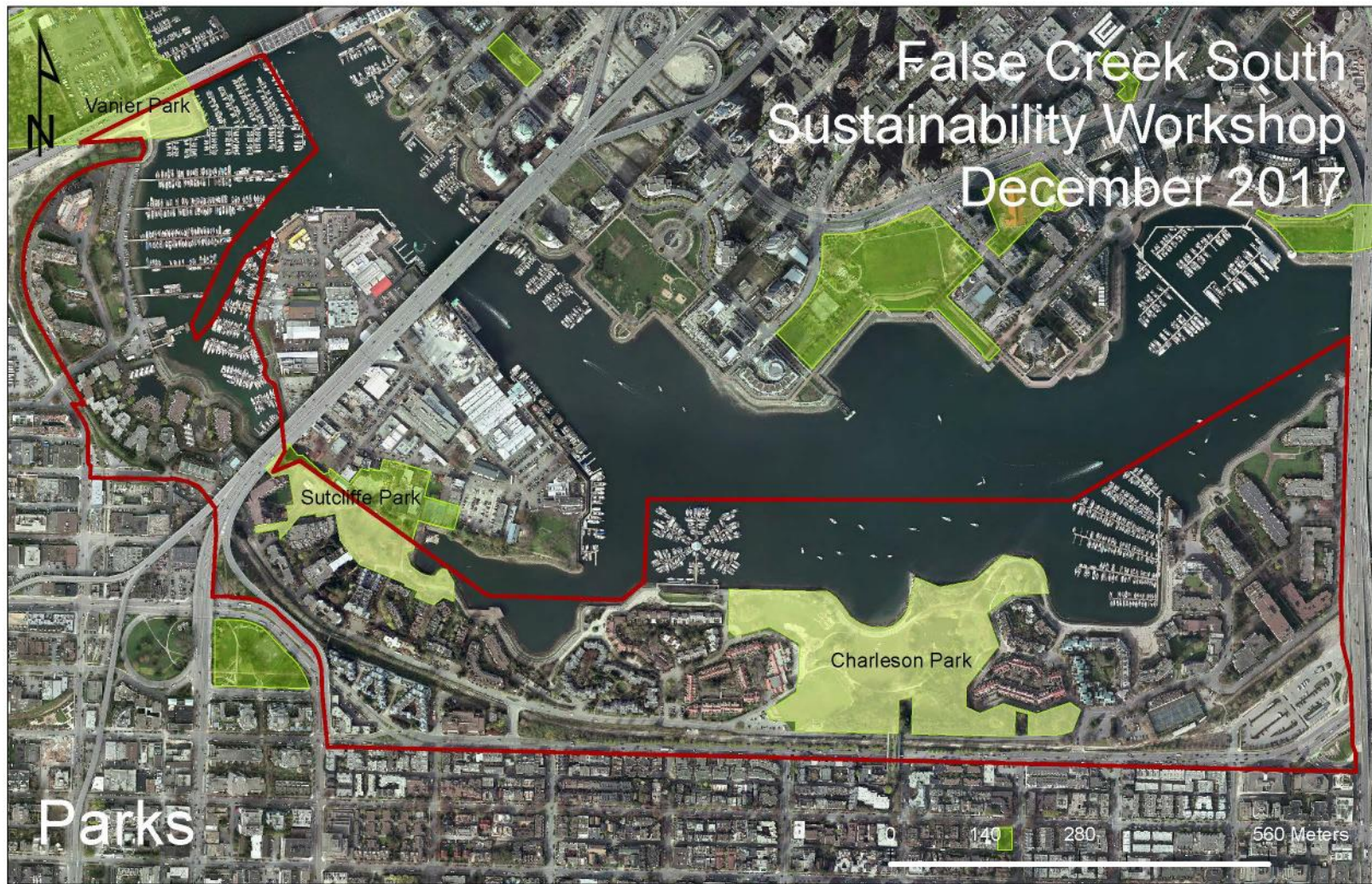


- ➡ Storm Water Outfall
- ➡ Combined Sewer Outfall

## Marinas

- BA - Beach Avenue
- YH - Yacht Harbour
- FYC - False C. Yacht
- QS - Quayside
- PN - Plaza of Nations
- HC - Heather Civic
- SH - Spruce Harbour
- PB - Pelican Bay
- GI - Granville Island
- FHA - False C. Harb. Auth
- BB - Burrard Bridge
- HH - Heritage Harbour

# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017



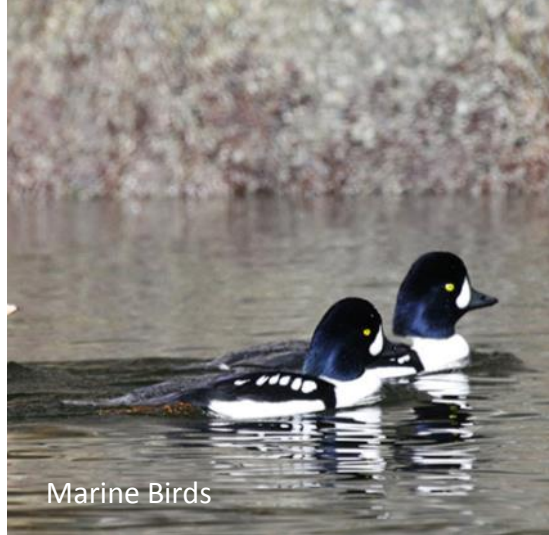
## Parks

- Three parks:  
Charleson (7.4 ha),  
Sutcliffe (1.0 ha), and  
Vanier (0.4 ha)
- Total park area = 8.8 ha
- Greenways and smaller semi-private greenspaces are important but are not defined as parks





Gray whale feeding in False Creek (2010)



Marine Birds



Herring now spawn in shoreline areas of False Creek



Marine Mammals

## Biodiversity

- Improving ecological health supports higher biodiversity
- Key components: intertidal communities, fish (including juvenile salmon), marine birds (ducks, geese, cormorants), marine mammals (seals, otters, occasional whales)

False Creek South  
Sustainability Workshop  
December 2017

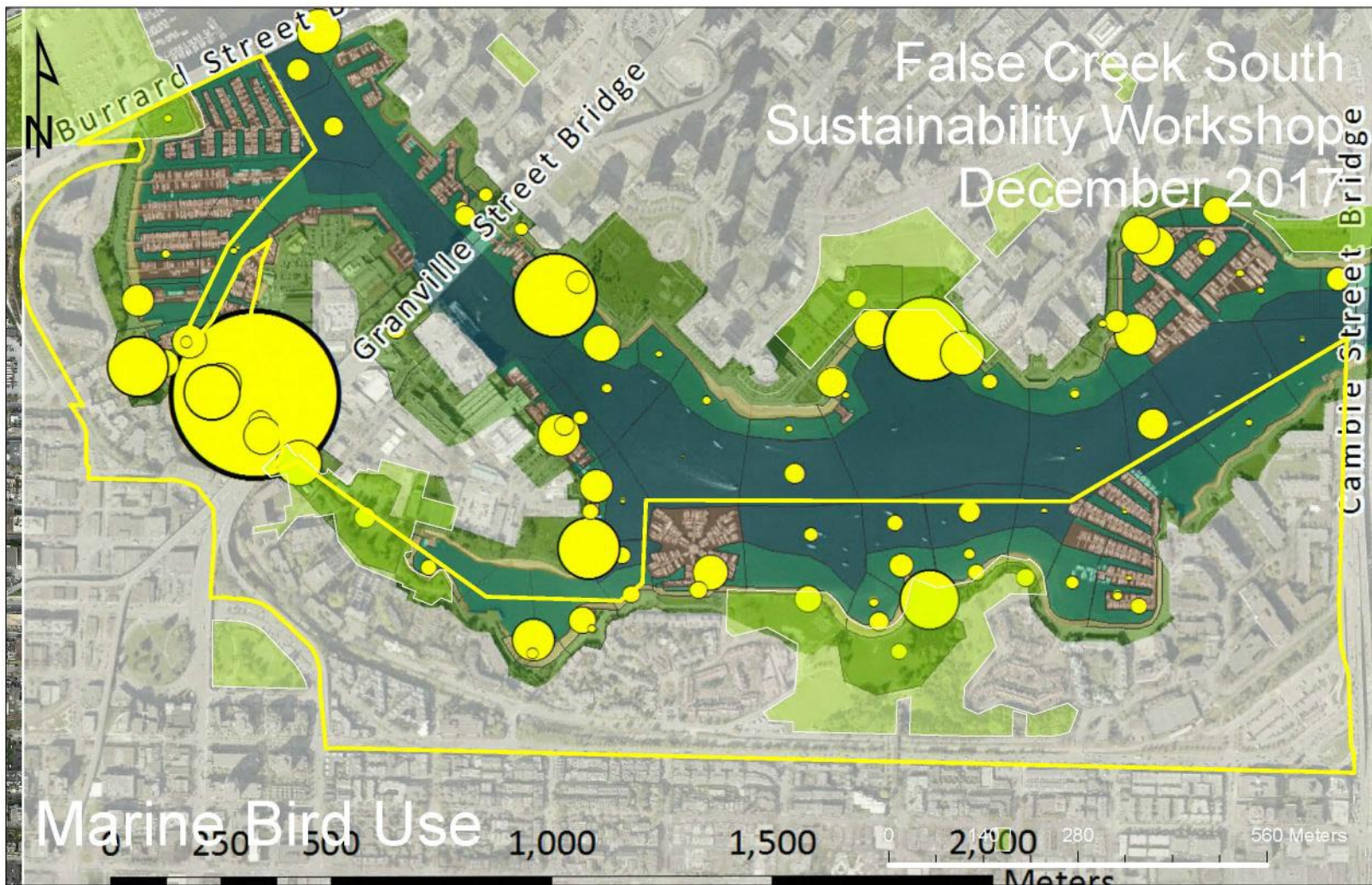
Cambie Street Bridge

Granville Street Bridge

Burrard Street Bridge

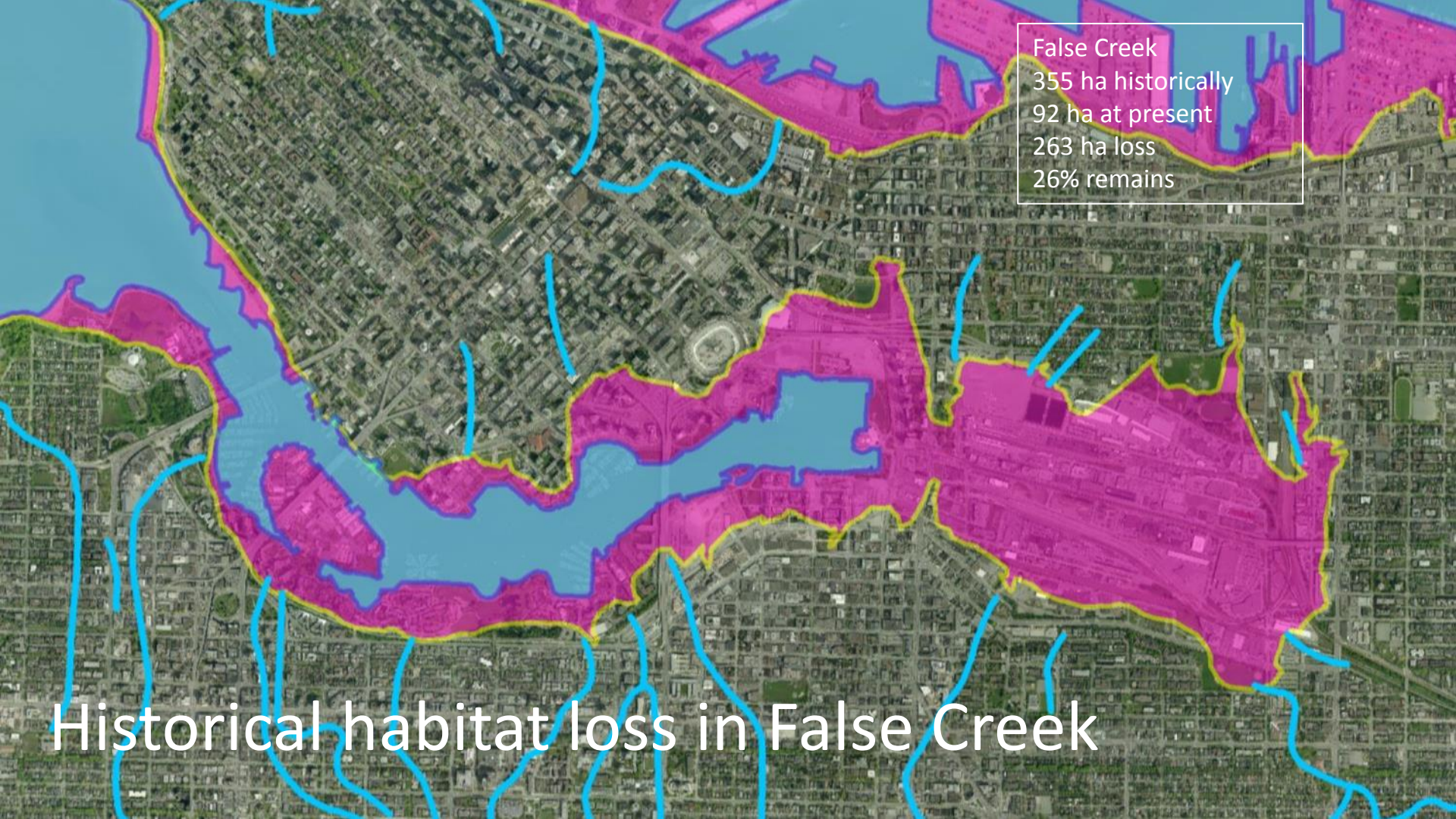
Marine Bird Use

0 250 500 1,000 1,500 2,000 2,500 3,000 Meters





Looking way back...

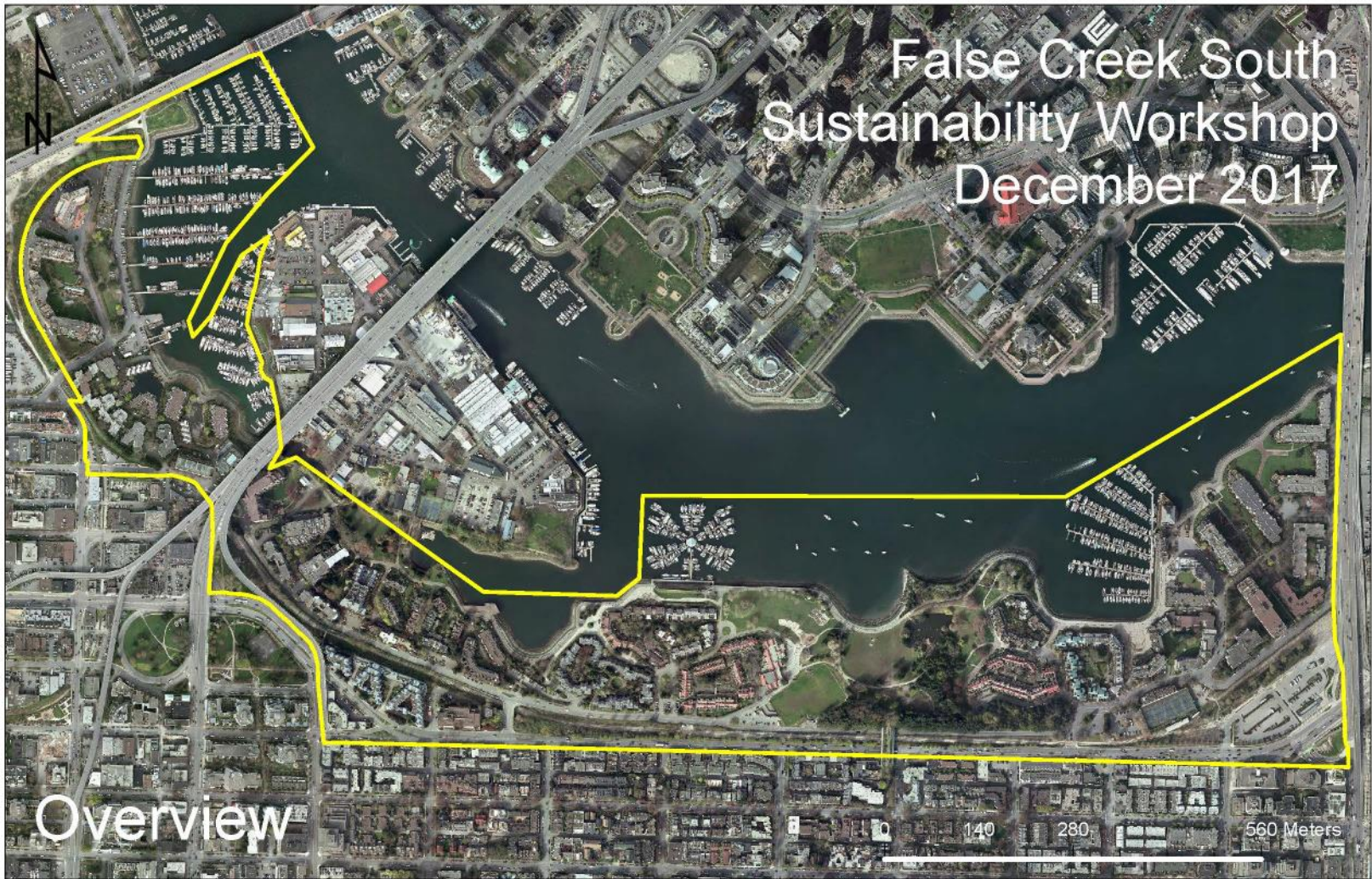


Historical habitat loss in False Creek

# False Creek South Sustainability Workshop December 2017

Overview

140 280 560 Meters





# RAIN MANGEMENT

Cameron Owen

Engineering

# RAIN CITY STRATEGY

a green infrastructure &  
urban rainwater management initiative

BUT A LOT OF THE NATURAL WATERSHEDS HAVE CHANGED...



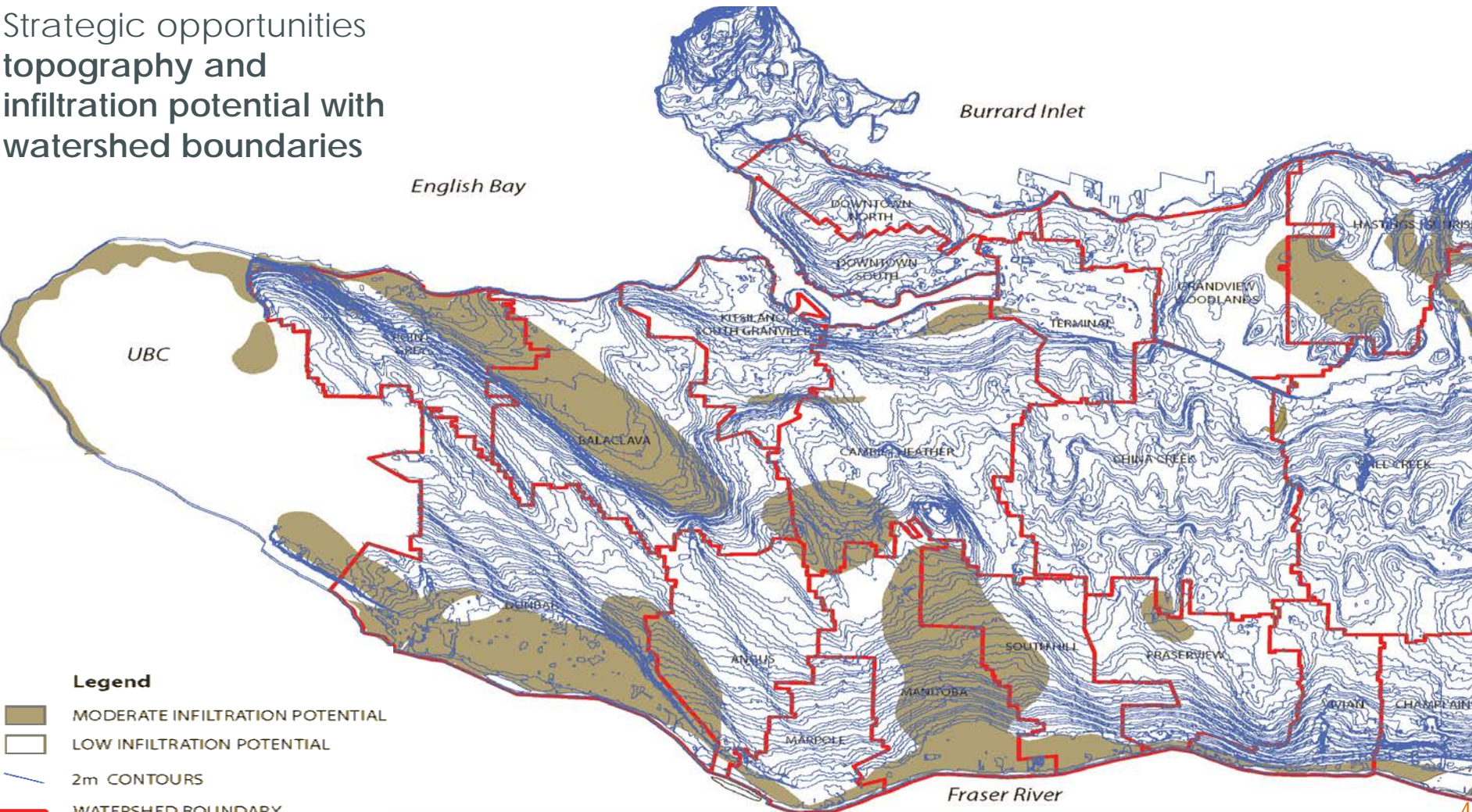
Image: View of Yaletown from Charleson Park in 1893, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: [www.onthisspot.ca](http://www.onthisspot.ca), 10/25/2015

# TO ALLOW RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES TO PROSPER AND GROW



*Image: View of Yaletown from Charleson Park in 2013, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Wendy de Hoog*

Strategic opportunities  
topography and  
infiltration potential with  
watershed boundaries



**Legend**

- MODERATE INFILTRATION POTENTIAL
- LOW INFILTRATION POTENTIAL
- 2m CONTOURS
- WATERSHED BOUNDARY

# WATER QUALITY

1

## Combined sewer overflow



Removing rainwater from sewer pipes will reduce combined sewer overflows. City must eliminate CSOs by 2050.

2

## Urban stormwater pollution



Rainwater carries urban pollutants, such as gasoline, motor oil, heavy metals, sediments, litter, organics & fertilizer



# VANCOUVER'S VISION

Project: Mid Main Park Vancouver  
Photo Credit: HAPA Collaborative

# VISION, GOALS & TARGET

## VISION

*Vancouver's rainwater is embraced as a valued resource for our communities and natural ecosystems*

## TARGET

*Capture and clean 90% of Vancouver's rainfall on both public and private property*

GOAL 1



*Improve and protect  
Vancouver's  
water quality*

GOAL 2



*Increase Vancouver's  
resilience through  
sustainable water  
management*

GOAL 3



*Enhance Vancouver's  
livability by improving  
natural and urban  
ecosystems*



**Well water (4 hr)**



**All 4 fish alive at 24 hr**

**Coho spawners  
before and after  
filtering runoff  
through  
bioretention**

**Unfiltered stormwater (4 hr)**



**0 of 4 fish alive at 24 hr**

**Filtered stormwater (4hr)**



**All 4 fish alive  
at 4 & 24 hr**

## GREY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Necessary but costly
- Less adaptable
- Single purpose
- Limited integration with other City priorities



## GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Cost-effective
- Adaptable
- Multi purpose
- Leverages co-benefits for other City priorities



evapotranspiration



infiltration



harvest & reuse



# ENVISIONING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

*Project: University of British Columbia, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: [www.ubc.ca](http://www.ubc.ca)*



tree well structure



rain garden & infiltration bulge



: Melbourne  
credit: Peter Bennetts

green roof



non-porous  
asphalt

porous  
asphalt



street car



Project: Jellicoe Street, Auckland  
Photo Credit: waal.co.nz

bioswale



rainwater  
harvesting



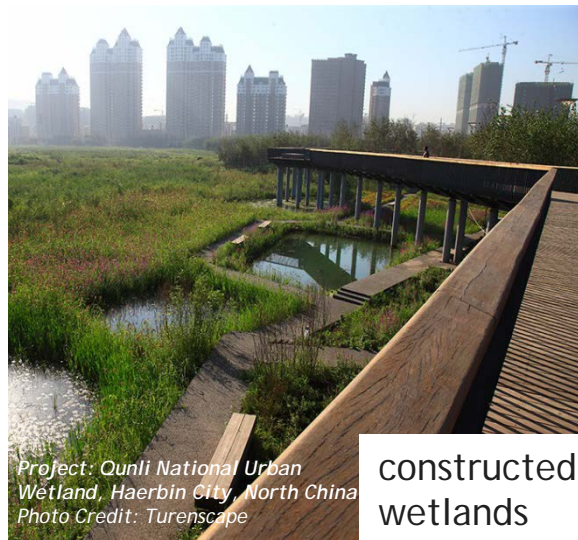
Project: Hastings Creek, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Dan Toulgoet

daylighting  
streams



Project: Rochetaillée banks of  
the Saone, Lyon  
Photo Credit: IN SITU

absorbent  
landscape



Project: Qunli National Urban  
Wetland, Haerbin City, North China  
Photo Credit: Turenscape

constructed  
wetlands



Project: Museumpark garage,  
Rotterdam  
Photo Credit: City of Rotterdam

detention tanks



Project: Vine Street, Seattle  
Photo Credit: Mike Nakamura



*Project: The soul of Nørrebro, Copenhagen*  
*Photo Credit: SLA / Beauty and the Bit*

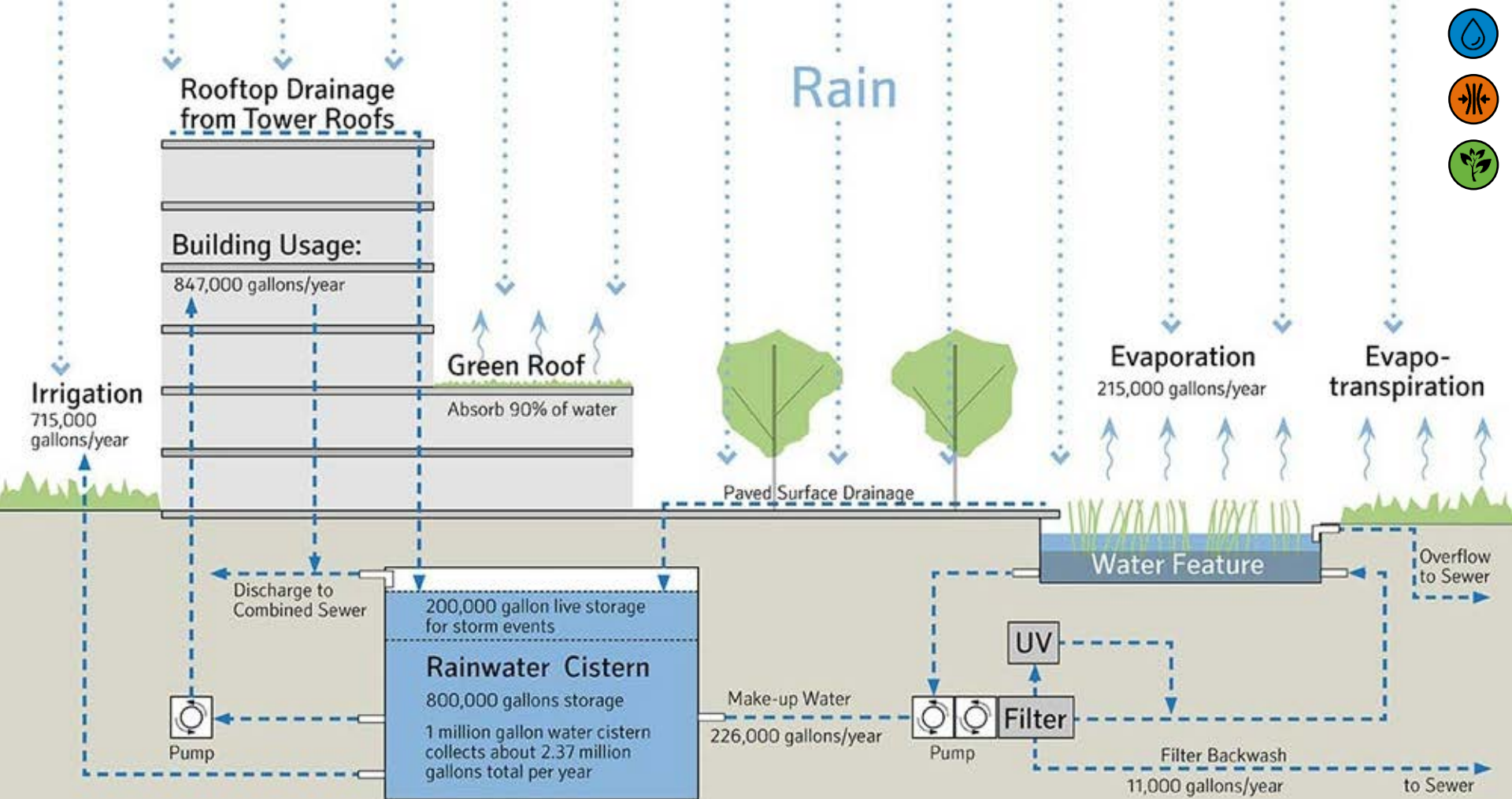


*Project: The soul of Nørrebro, Copenhagen*  
*Photo Credit: SLA / Beauty and the Bit*



Project: Bentham square by De Urbanisten, Rotterdam  
Photo Credit: De Urbanisten





Project: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Campus, Seattle  
Photo Credit: Gustafson Guthrie Nichol

# THANK YOU!

An aerial photograph of a vibrant rooftop garden. The garden is filled with various plants, including tall red stalks, green leafy vegetables, and sunflowers. A central glass-enclosed structure with a white roof is visible, where several people are gathered. String lights are strung across the garden, and a paved path winds through the plants. In the background, a multi-story building is visible.

Cameron Owen | Planning Policy Lead BCSLA CSLA MCIP RPP  
RAIN CITY INITIATIVE | Green Infrastructure Implementation  
City of Vancouver

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# SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Mark Pickersgill

Social Planning

# Overlapping Policies



# Healthy City Strategy

## A Social Sustainability Plan for Health & Well-Being for All





# Social Determinants of Health: What Makes Canadians Healthy?

50%

## YOUR LIFE

INCOME  
EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT  
DISABILITY  
EDUCATION  
SOCIAL EXCLUSION  
SOCIAL SAFETY NET  
GENDER  
EMPLOYMENT/WORKING CONDITIONS  
RACE  
ABORIGINAL STATUS  
SAFE AND NUTRITIOUS FOOD  
HOUSING/HOMELESSNESS  
COMMUNITY BELONGING

25%

## YOUR HEALTH CARE

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE  
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM  
WAIT TIMES

15%

## YOUR BIOLOGY

BIOLOGY  
GENETICS

10%

## YOUR ENVIRONMENT

AIR QUALITY  
CIVIC INFRASTRUCTURE



THESE ARE CANADA'S SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH #SDOH

Canadian Medical Association

# Healthy City Strategy – Focus Areas



# Healthy People



- Access to affordable, quality **childcare**
- Diverse and affordable housing choices
- Access to healthy and affordable food
- Spaces and places that encourage social connection, cultural expression and well-being (**Seniors Centres, Family Places, Youth Centres, Neighbourhood Houses**)



**A Good Start**



**A Home for Everyone**



**Feeding Ourselves Well**



**Cultivating Connections**

# Healthy Communities

- Spaces and places that allow for creativity and personal expression
- Opportunities for learning
- Abundant opportunities to earn a living wage
- Inclusive public spaces
- Opportunities for meaningful participation in civic governance



**Expressing Ourselves**



**Lifelong Learning**



**Making Ends Meet  
and Working Well**



**Being and Feeling  
Safe and Included**



**Collaborative Leadership  
for a Healthy City for All**

# Healthy Environments



- Access to services
- Clean air and water
- Abundant sustainable and active transportation options
- Access to nature



**Healthy Human Services**



**Environments to Thrive In**



**Getting Around**



**Active Living and  
Getting Outside**

# Looking Ahead



