
EXHIBITION PLACE

Development in the Exhibition Place lands will be consistent with the following urban design guidelines. They provide a framework for new development of the lands and are to be read in conjunction with the urban design policies in the Official Plan.

LOCATION:

Exhibition Place is located south of the Queen Elizabeth Way, north of Lakeshore Boulevard, between Dufferin Street and Strachan Avenue.

GUIDELINES

OBJECTIVES

- Exhibition Place will preserve and enhance public access to the grounds.
- Exhibition Place will improve access to, and integration of the grounds with the surrounding urban community.
- Exhibition Place will ensure that adequate infrastructure (such as transit, roads, parking and services) is in place to support existing and future developments.
- Exhibition Place will encourage the conservation and re-use of existing buildings and the development of new buildings in a manner that respects the high quality image and historical characteristics of the grounds.
- Exhibition Place will improve, integrate and encourage the use of existing and proposed public open space.

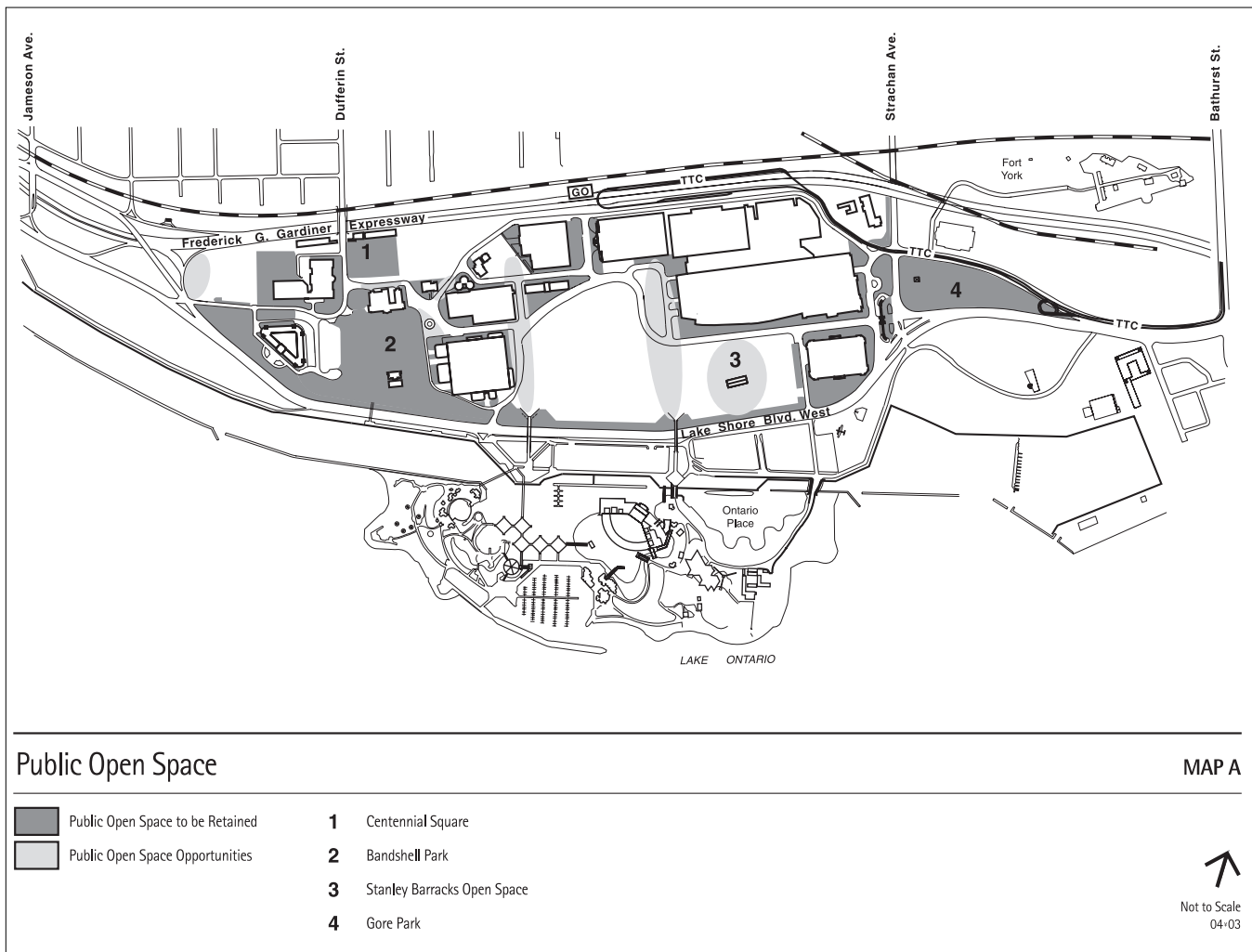
Structure Plan

The physical environment of Exhibition Place is characterized by three relatively distinct areas: the west end with its park and landscape quality and pavilion type buildings; the interior, with its large under-utilized entertainment and sport structures; and the east end with its major trade and exposition buildings. Together, these areas comprise a unique urban structure which distinguishes Exhibition Place from the rest of the city.

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The following text and Maps A, B, C, D and E constitute a "Structure Plan" which sets out the most important aspects of the built and open space environment in Exhibition Place that should be preserved, protected, and enhanced. The maps also show opportunities to improve public access to and within the grounds, to integrate the grounds with the surrounding urban community, and to enhance the overall image and identity of Exhibition Place as an important public destination.

Regard will be given to each of the following structuring elements in the undertaking of any new developments or capital improvements in Exhibition Place.



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PUBLIC OPEN SPACE SYSTEM

A public open space system comprising open spaces linked to a network of pedestrian routes and public streets will be established and enhanced to provide clarity to the physical organization of Exhibition Place, provide a landscape setting for buildings on the site, and convey a strong and consistent image of Exhibition Place. This open space system will be of the highest quality to reflect the important public role and function of Exhibition Place in the City.

Open Space

The open space shown on Map A will be preserved, enhanced and/or developed as part of a clearly defined public open space system in Exhibition Place. Particular regard will be given to the following.

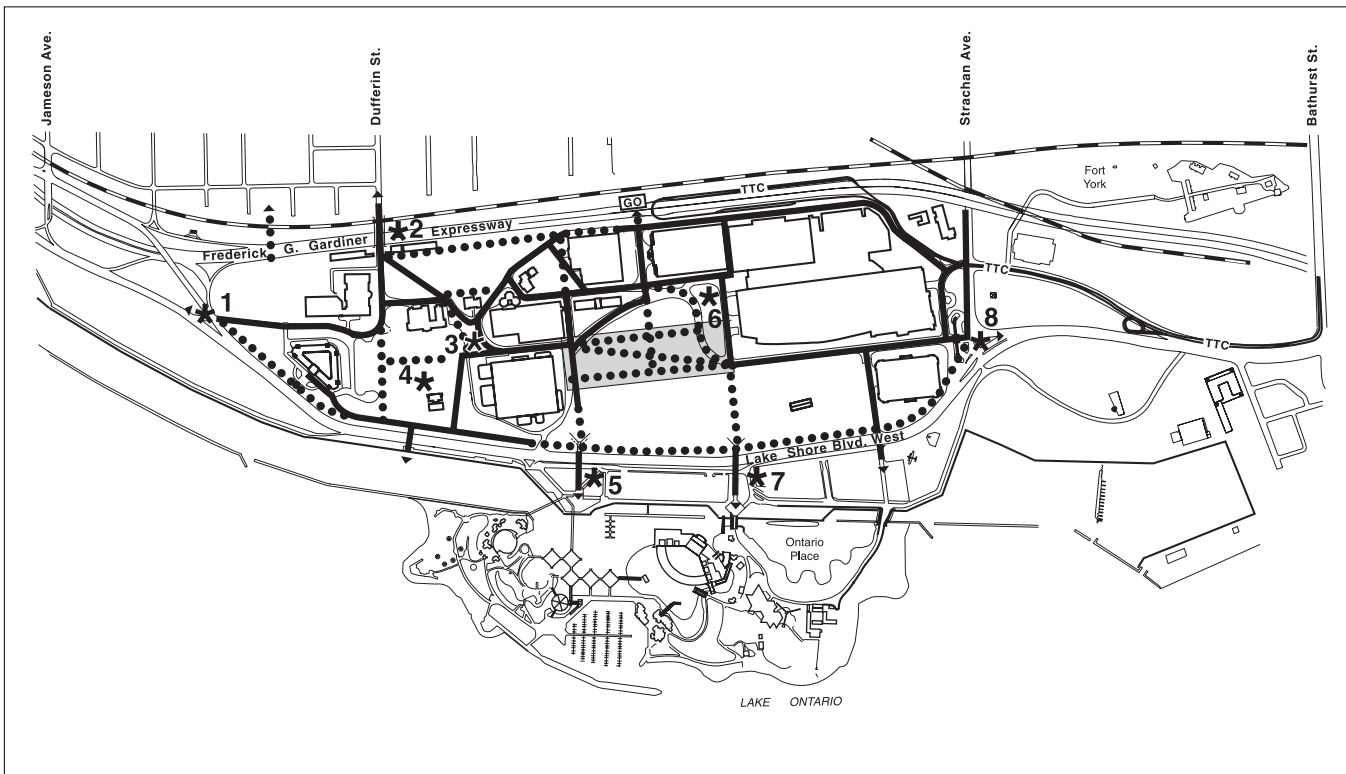
- Centennial Square will provide adequate space and amenity for public assembly at the Dufferin Gate.
- Bandshell Park will provide passive recreational space and respite from the more active areas of the site, enhance visual connections to the waterfront, and provide an appropriate landscape context for the heritage buildings in its vicinity.
- Stanley Barracks open space, will be developed to provide a significant public open space amenity area for the east end of the grounds, relating both to the heritage of this site and to the pedestrian activity generated by existing and new facilities adjacent to it.
- Gore Park will be improved to provide space for public assembly, an extension of the urban park quality of the west end of the grounds, the commemoration of the history of the park and its association with Exhibition Place, the elimination of surface parking, the preservation of views to the Princes' Gates from Lake Shore Boulevard, and the possible extension of Fort York Boulevard to Lake Shore Boulevard.

Additional public open space opportunities as shown on Map A, will be developed to achieve improved pedestrian connections, a balanced distribution of public open space, and a greening of the site.

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Pedestrian Connections

Map B illustrates pedestrian connections that will be enhanced and/or established in Exhibition Place. Coordinated high quality streetscape and open space improvements are important to provide safe, convenient, understandable, and well-connected public access to all facilities within the grounds.



Pedestrian Connections

MAP B

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Existing Pedestrian Connections | Proposed Pedestrian Improvement Areas | |
| Proposed Pedestrian Connections | | |
| Princes' Blvd. Alignment Options | | |
| | 1 Dominion Gate | 5 West Pedestrian Bridge |
| | 2 Dufferin Gate / Centennial Square | 6 West Urban Plaza |
| | 3 Princess Margaret Fountain and area | 7 East Pedestrian Bridge |
| | 4 Band Shell Park | 8 Princes' Gates East Side |

Not to Scale
04-03

East-West Connections

- Princes' Boulevard will be extended to provide an east-west connection for pedestrians through the central area of the site. This will provide pedestrians with a direct and convenient connection that links the east and west ends of the site both physically and perceptually.
- Manitoba Drive will provide a comfortable environment for GO and TTC patrons including large crowds associated with special events.
- Saskatchewan Road will continue to connect with Manitoba Drive and Princes' Boulevard to complete east-west linkages across the site.
- The Lake Shore Boulevard top of bank promenade will be extended and improved to provide a pedestrian access route along the entire southern edge of Exhibition Place, to improve visual and physical linkages to Ontario Place and the waterfront, and to support the development of a prominent public face for Exhibition Place along Lake Shore Boulevard.

North-South Connections

- Dufferin Street will be extended southward as a pedestrian right-of-way to provide a visual and physical pedestrian connection to the waterfront which links Exhibition Place and the neighbourhoods north of the site.
- Ontario Drive will be realigned south of Princes' Boulevard and extended north from Quebec Street to Manitoba Drive as a pedestrian right-of-way, to provide a continuous pedestrian connection between transit facilities on Manitoba Drive and the west pedestrian bridge linking Exhibition Place to Ontario Place.
- New Brunswick Way will be extended south from Princes' Boulevard as a pedestrian right-of-way to provide a continuous pedestrian connection between transit facilities on Manitoba Drive and the east pedestrian bridge linking Exhibition Place to Ontario Place.
- Bridging over Lake Shore Boulevard will provide the space and amenity to create seamless pedestrian linkages between Exhibition Place and Ontario Place.

- Nova Scotia Avenue will provide a pedestrian connection from GO Transit and TTC facilities to the interior of the site. A pedestrian connection will also be established north of the GO station crossing the rail corridor to link Exhibition Place to the Garrison Common North neighbourhood.
- Newfoundland Road will provide a visual connection and a direct pedestrian at-grade connection between the National Trade Centre, Ontario Place and the waterfront.

Pedestrian Improvement Areas

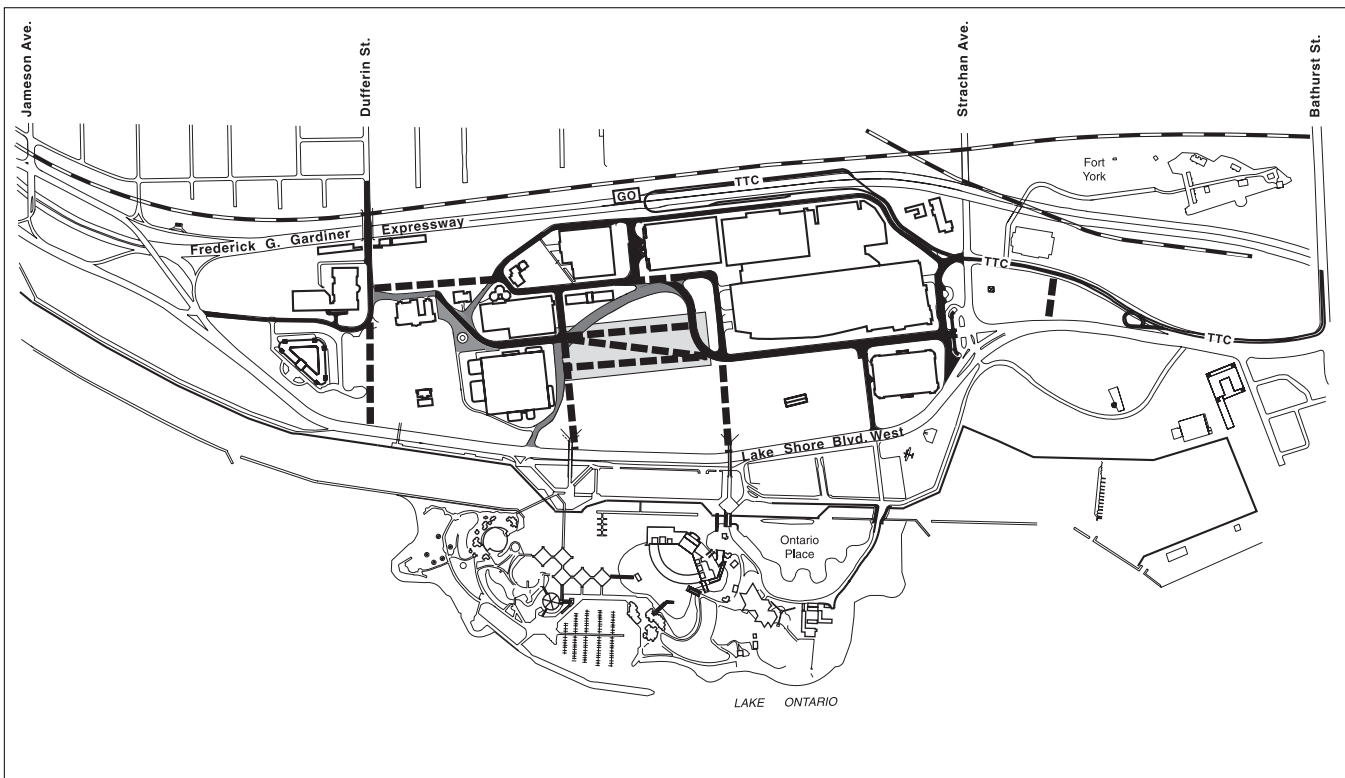
Map B identifies "Improvement Areas" that provide important focal points for pedestrian activity in Exhibition Place. These areas will be enhanced and/or developed to promote accessibility, safety, and amenity for the public. In addition to providing a variety of open space experiences, a coordinated design approach will ensure that a connected system of public open space is achieved.

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Streets

Regard will be given to the role and function of each of the streets in Exhibition Place as shown on Map C. Particular regard will be given to the following streets:

- Princes' Boulevard, Dufferin Street and British Columbia Drive, will provide public entrance to the grounds through each of the major historic gateways of Exhibition Place.
- Princes' Boulevard will act as the ceremonial route in Exhibition Place. The connection of Princes' Boulevard through the centre of the site will support the use of this route for special events including parades and motorcades.
- Manitoba Drive will function as the primary transit corridor and a servicing route for the National Trade Centre.



Streets

MAP C

- Existing Streets
- - - Potential Streets
- Potential Streets to Remove
- ▬ Princes' Blvd. Alignment Options



Not to Scale
04-03

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- Ontario Drive and Newfoundland Road will provide important north-south connections within Exhibition Place and vehicle access to the site from Lake Shore Boulevard.
- The extension of New Brunswick Way south to Lake Shore Boulevard will be developed to provide a third access route for vehicles from Lake Shore Boulevard, if this is required to support new development in Exhibition Place.
- The extension of Dufferin Street south to Lake Shore Boulevard could be considered in the context of proposed development, taking into account the impact of the extension on the west end open space, heritage buildings and elements, views, pedestrian connections and accessibility, adjacent neighbourhoods and overall traffic impact.

Consideration will also be given to the removal of streets and the creation of new streets as shown on Map C to improve accessibility within the site and to give clarity to the physical organization of Exhibition Place.

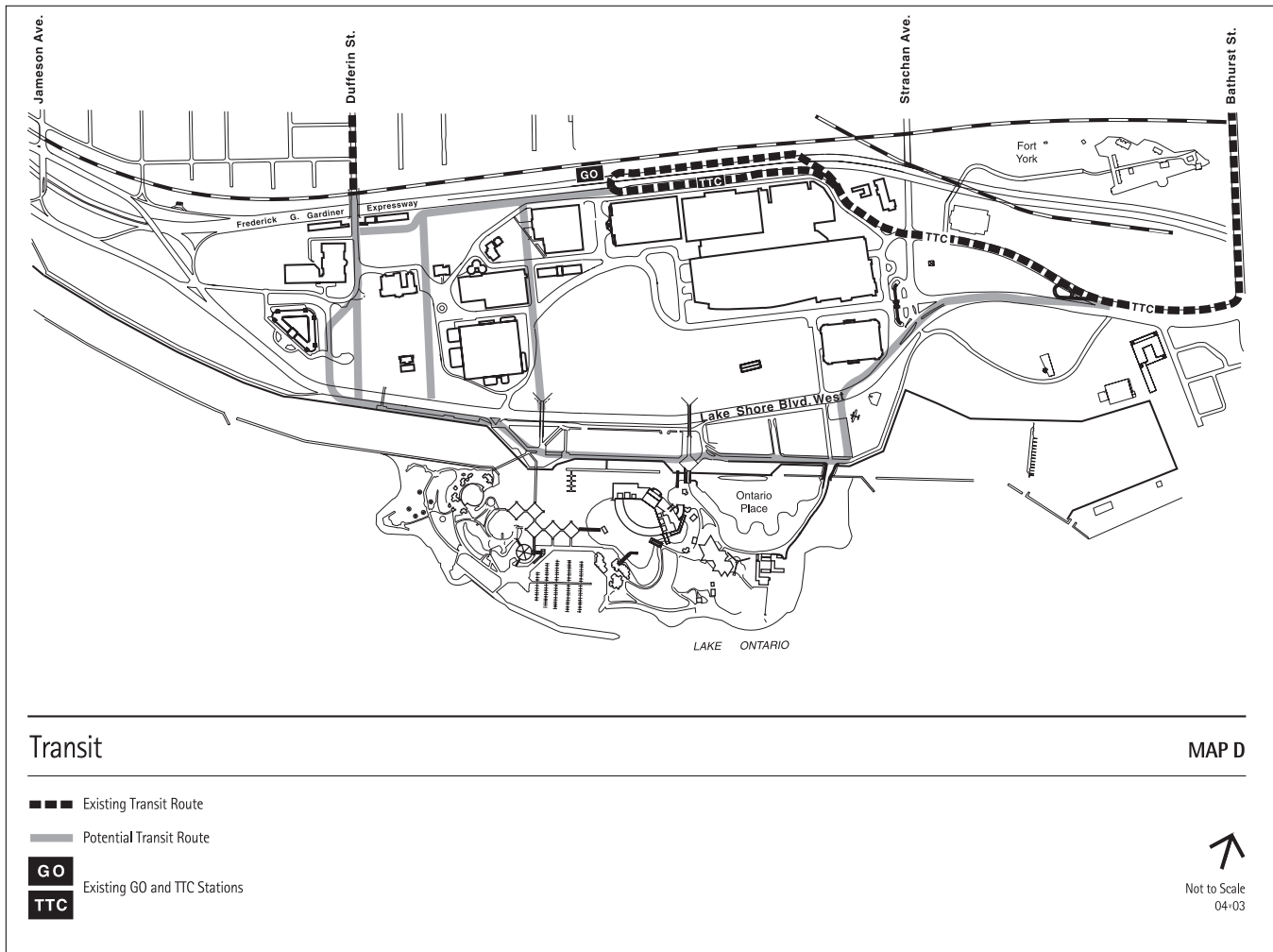
The configuration of the Lake Shore Boulevard–Strachan Avenue intersection and its relationship to the Princes' Gates and Gore Park will be the subject of a comprehensive urban design analysis. This analysis will include consideration of vehicle access through the Gates, the ceremonial function of Princes' Boulevard, future transit improvements, and the enlargement of the public open space on the east side of the Gates.

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Bicycle Access

Bicycle access through Exhibition Place provides important connections to the waterfront and to the Martin Goodman Trail. To support bicycle access, regard will be given to the following:

- A network of on-street bicycle routes will be provided in Exhibition Place to provide primary connections within the grounds between Dufferin Street and Strachan Avenue, and between the GO Transit station on Manitoba Drive and Lake Shore Boulevard.
- Bicycle access will be provided across Lake Shore Boulevard in conjunction with the redesign or replacement of the pedestrian bridges linking Exhibition Place to Ontario Place.
- Bicycle parking facilities will be provided throughout the site, and outside each of the three major gateways to Exhibition Place for use during special events.



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Transit

Improving transit service along the waterfront and in particular, to Exhibition Place and Ontario Place, is an important objective. To allow for the potential extension of transit service within Exhibition Place the potential alignments shown on Map D will be protected.

The public open space system in Exhibition Place will support convenient public access to and from TTC and GO transit facilities, as in the case of transit users arriving at Exhibition Place and destined for Ontario Place or the waterfront.

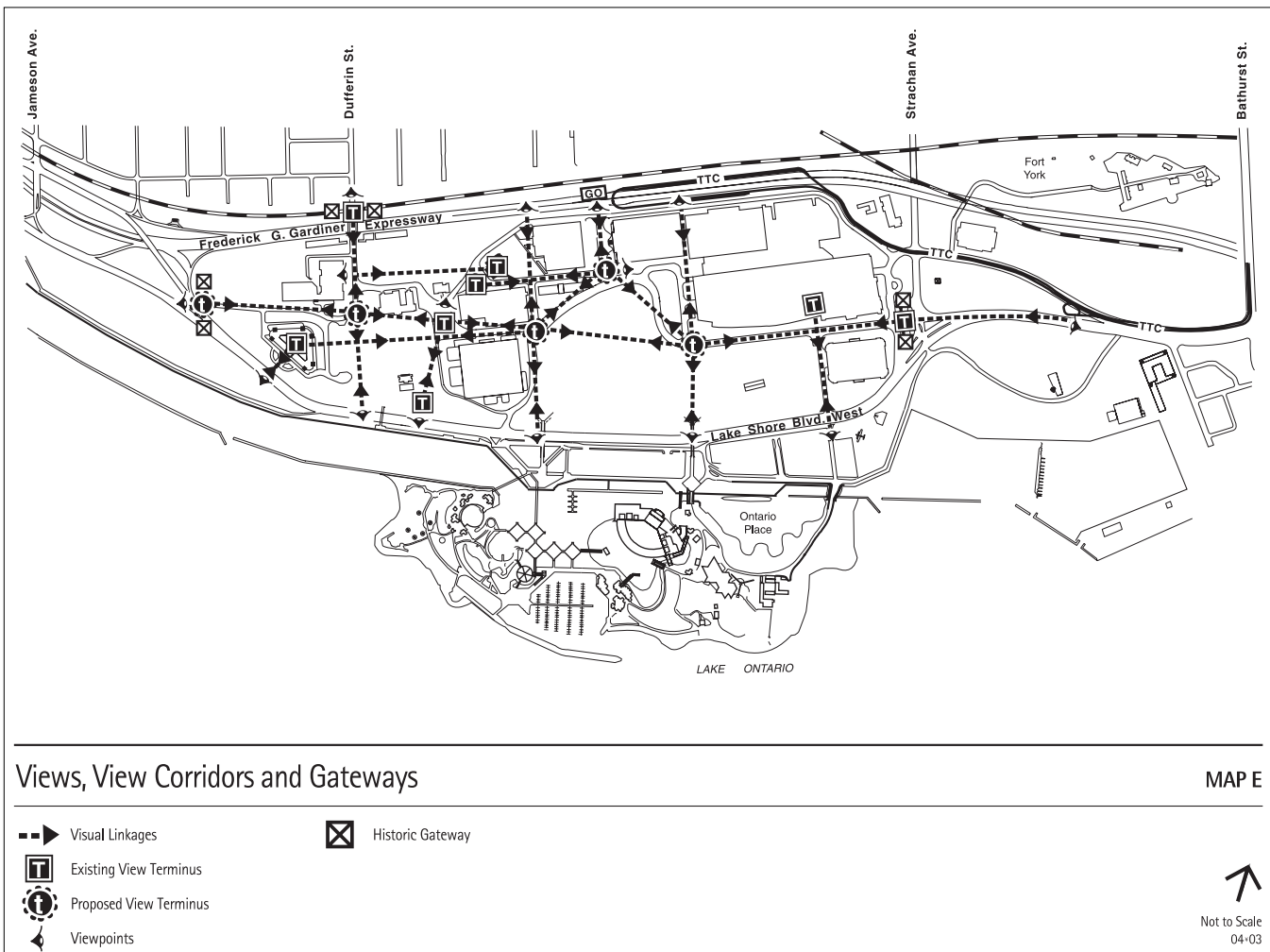
Efforts will be taken to avoid and reduce conflicts between pedestrians and vehicle traffic. Opportunities to integrate transit-related facilities with new development and to reduce the parking requirements of existing and proposed uses will be pursued.

EXHIBITION PLACE

VIEWS, VIEW CORRIDORS AND GATEWAYS

Regard will be given to the protection, enhancement and creation of the views and view corridors illustrated on Map E which support public orientation through the site, contribute to its visual identity, and reinforce the strategic location of heritage buildings and elements on the grounds. Through appropriate built form and the design of the public open space system in Exhibition Place, view termination points will be established in the locations identified. These may be associated with the facades of new buildings, or specific open space elements.

Regard will also be given to the protection, enhancement and definition of the three historic gateways to Exhibition Place identified on Map E. Appropriate space and amenity will be provided around the gateways for public entrance and assembly, and to reduce potential conflicts between pedestrians and vehicles. New entrances to Exhibition Place will be sensitive to the significance of these historic gateways.



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BUILT FORM

The Structure Plan for Exhibition Place will inform decisions regarding the relationship of new buildings and the public open space system of the grounds. The built form of new developments in Exhibition Place will demonstrate a high quality of urban design and a harmonious relationship with the existing built and open space context of the site.

New Development

The design of new buildings in Exhibition Place will be guided by the following built form principles.

- New buildings will be sited in a manner that clearly defines and gives form to the edges of streets, open spaces and pedestrian routes.
- The height and mass of new buildings will achieve the appropriate relationship to the scale of adjacent streets and open spaces ensuring access to sunlight and skyview and shelter from prevailing winds.
- New buildings will achieve a harmonious relationship to their built form and heritage context through consideration of such matters as, but not limited to, the building massing and setbacks, roof line and profile, scale, texture, architectural detail and expression, including fenestration and building materials.
- Special attention will be paid to the relationship between the lower level of buildings and public open space by:
 - a) encouraging the provision of public uses which are directly accessible from grade level
 - b) ensuring that the building organization and uses promote the publicness of the streets, open spaces and pedestrian routes.

Heritage

Heritage buildings and elements, contribute to the unique identity and character of Exhibition Place. To protect and enhance the heritage significance of Exhibition Place, regard will be given to the following:

- The scale, character, and physical settings of existing heritage resources will be enhanced

- Rehabilitation and the adaptive reuse of heritage buildings will be incorporated where feasible
- Existing views of significant heritage resources in Exhibition Place will be preserved
- Archeological resources associated with Stanley Barracks, Scadding Cabin and the Fort Rouille site will be protected.

Parking

To ensure sufficient parking is available and to reduce the impact of parking on the image of the grounds, regard will be given to the following:

- The amount of land dedicated to surface parking in Exhibition Place will be reduced, recognizing short-term phasing requirements
- New or replacement parking will be provided below grade, where feasible
- The development of enclosed above-grade parking structures will be discouraged. If above-grade parking is required, the structures will be limited to locations that have the least visual impact on the site, and will be faced with grade related uses as appropriate to the location on the site.

URBAN DESIGN EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Exhibition Place will preserve and enhance public access to the grounds.

New developments will not interfere with the public's year round access to outdoor areas. The proposed development will contribute to the achievement of the overall Structure Plan for Exhibition Place.

2. Exhibition Place will improve access to, and integration of the grounds with, the surrounding urban community.

New development will contribute to improved access to and within Exhibition Place in accordance with the Structure Plan. Proponents will be sensitive to the surrounding community.

3. Exhibition Place will encourage the conservation and reuse of existing buildings and the development of new buildings in a manner that respects the high quality and historical characteristics of the grounds.

Proponents will be committed to conserving and strengthening the heritage significance of Exhibition Place. Proponents will incorporate the rehabilitation and adaptive reuse of heritage buildings. Only uses which are sensitive to the architecture and which will not require extensive altering of the historic buildings will be considered, where feasible.

4. Exhibition Place will improve, integrate and encourage the use of existing and proposed public open space.

Proponents are encouraged to incorporate uses which animate the public spaces and create an attractive environment.

Landscaping and exterior improvements will be of an appropriate level of quality, reinforce the park like nature of the site and contribute to the achievement of the overall Structure Plan.

The amount of public open space will not be reduced.