

Western Beaches Master Plan Public Meeting

Monday, July 24, 2006
Grenadier Café and Teahouse
High Park



The Western Waterfront needs a Plan

Need is reflected in:

- Strong message from the community
- Clear direction from Council

**City's Waterfront Secretariat has been asked to
coordinate the development of a
Western Waterfront Master Plan**

Strong civic engagement process is critical

Needs to be collaborative effort

*Including the community, key stakeholders, City staff,
other agencies and interests*

City of Toronto

Waterfront Secretariat
Planning
Water
Parks, Forestry & Recreation
Transportation
Culture
Public Health
Tourism
Economic Development

Other Agencies

Toronto and Region Conservation
Toronto Waterfront Revitalization
Corporation (TWRC)
Waterfront Regeneration Trust
Toronto Port Authority
TTC
Other levels of government

and many others...

History and Context

- Water quality is poor, which impacts beach quality
- Short term engineering solutions do not make sense without addressing 2 major challenges:
 - 1. Humber River is dominant pollution source**
 - 2. Competing end uses**

Examples of competing uses

- Large number of gulls and waterfowl are at odds with a beach acceptable for swimming
- Breakwall provides shelter for swimmers, but also may contribute to nuisance algal growth

There are a number of other potential uses for the Western Waterfront area. We need to develop an overall plan that identifies compatible uses that meet the needs of a range of stakeholders and interests.

Specifically, the Plan should:

- Identify **parks infrastructure requirements** to support present and future recreational uses
- Assess current approaches to and levels of **beach maintenance**
- Review the appropriateness of existing **beach designations**
- Recommend, where appropriate, **siting of new beaches**

Master Plan should also address:

- Aquatic habitat
- Breakwall
- Beach erosion
- Pedestrian and trail development
- Compatible commercial uses
- Transit, parking and transportation
- Public realm
- Access and connections
- Diverse marine uses and land-side infrastructure

Need to develop Civic Engagement Strategy:

- Strong community and stakeholder engagement is essential to successful development of the Master Plan
- Civic engagement strategy will be modelled after TWRC Public Consultation Strategy
- It needs to be customized to meet the specific needs of the Western Waterfront Master Planning process and its stakeholders
- Development of the Civic Engagement Strategy is a critical early step in the Master Planning process

End result?

Master Plan for the area, including:


- List of actions required
- Capital and operating cost implications
- Implementation schedule



Principles

Master Plan will be guided by principles that are consistent with many efforts underway:

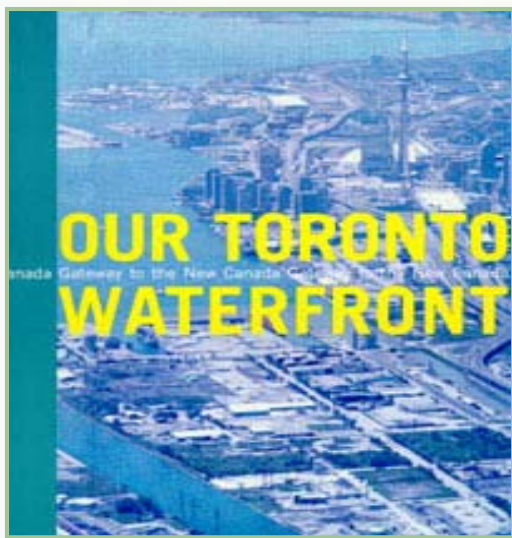
- Inclusive approach
- Sustainable
- Environmental and ecological stewardship
- Captivating
- Creating a unique sense of place through heritage and culture
- Pedestrian, cyclist and transit friendly
- Connected
- Innovative public spaces and programming



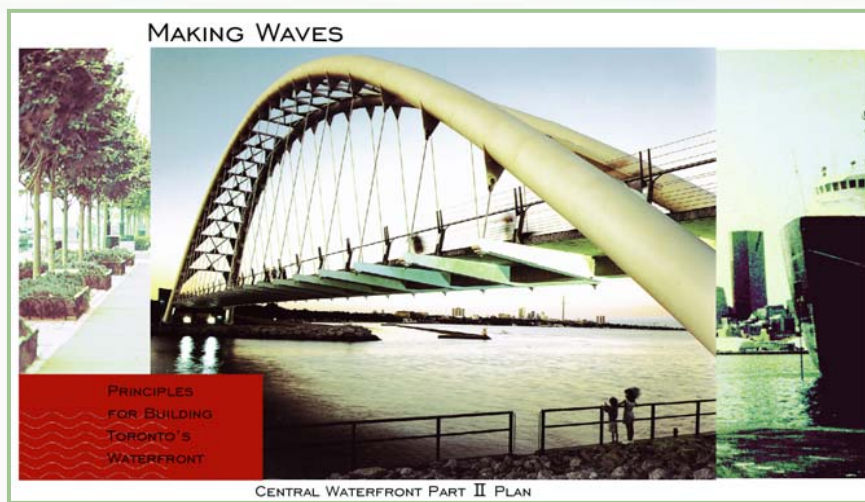
A lot of work has been and is
being done already

It needs to be tied together

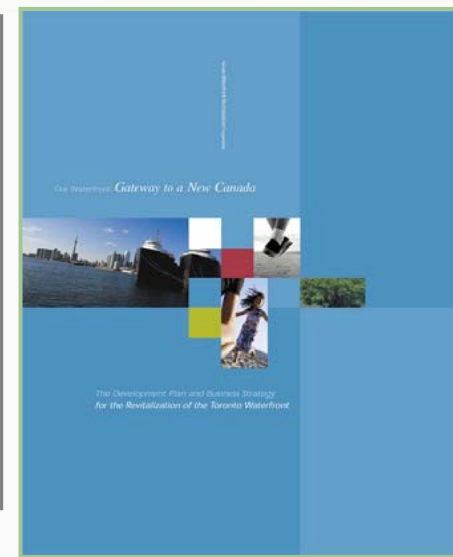
Needs to build on work to date



Task Force Report
(March 2000)



Making Waves (October 2001)



TWRC Business
Strategy and
Development Plan
(October 2002)

Reports to inform the process

City of Toronto Official Plan

The Humber River/High Park/Western Beaches Civic Design Study

Wet Weather Flow Management Master Plan

TRCA – Integrated Shoreline Management Plan

TRCA – A Call to Action: Strategy for a Healthy Humber

Dragon Boat Course Feasibility Study

Our Common Grounds

Western Beaches Backgrounder

Tourism Action Plan

Recreation Facilities Report

TWRC Sustainability Framework

TWRC Public Consultation Strategy

.....and many more

Needs to connect to what's already happening

- Multi-sport watercourse
- BMX Park (Marilyn Bell Park)
- Improvements to Martin Goodman Trail
- Mimico Linear Park
- Toronto Waterfront Aquatic Habitat Restoration Strategy
- Palais Royale restoration, parking, traffic signalization
- Stormwater management
- Reconstruction of the Queensway

Needs to address community issues

- Access
- Water quality
- Leasing arrangements
- Crumbling breakwall
- Explore all options before action is taken
- Avoid “patchwork planning”
- Need meaningful community involvement

Next Steps

- Notes from this meeting sent in draft for your review
- Staff report to Policy & Finance Committee (Sept 18, 2006) and then City Council
- Council consideration of the recommended approach to development of the Master Plan, and the resources required to develop it (2007)

Looking forward to hearing from you

www.toronto.ca/waterfront/

Email: wps@toronto.ca

Ph: 416-397-4821

