

# PARKS AND PUBLIC REALM

DID YOU  
KNOW



In the Yonge-Eglinton Secondary Plan area there are:

- 16 Parks with total area of 26 ha (Eglinton Park is the largest at 9 ha)
- 3 Recently acquired parks under construction (190 Manor Rd, 250 Manor Rd, 79 Keewatin Ave)
- 6 Council approved proposed parks
- 6 POPS (Privately Owned Publicly Accessible Spaces)

Facilities within Midtown parks:

- 10 Outdoor tennis courts
- 7 Playgrounds
- 6 Outdoor rinks and ice pads
- 5 Splash pads and wading pools
- 5 Multipurpose fields
- 5 Baseball diamonds
- 1 Outdoor pool
- 1 Dog Off Leash Area

## Parks Plan and Public Realm Strategies

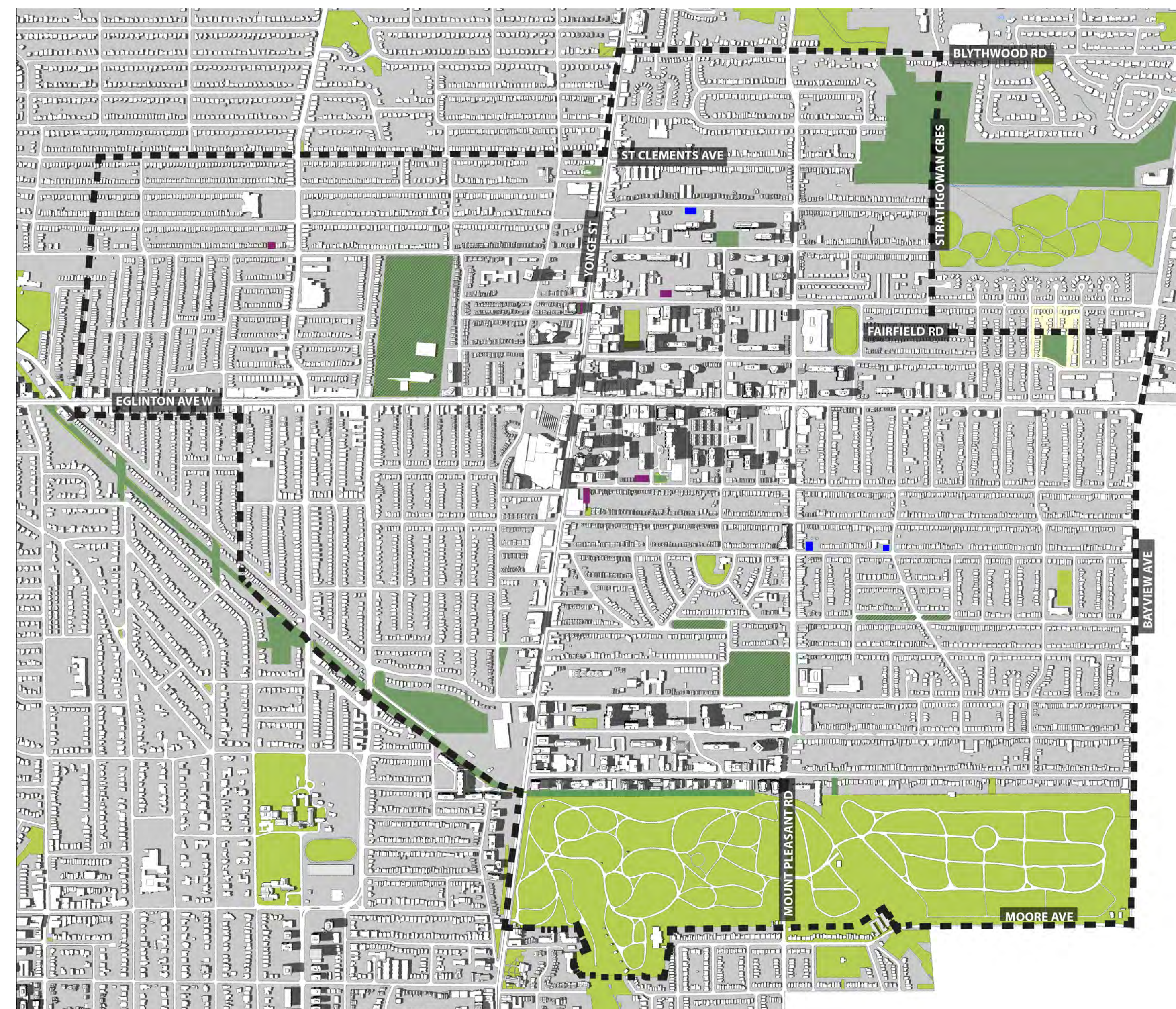
Midtown's parks and public spaces provide breathing space and meeting spaces in a dense, dynamic community. As the area's population grows, the demands on the extent and quality of these spaces become more urgent.

The Midtown in Focus study includes the development of a Parks Plan and related strategies for the area's overall public realm. Together, Midtown in Focus will set out a strategy for the timely acquisition of new park space and the improvement of the function of and access to all parkland across Midtown while also enhancing the role of publicly-accessible open spaces within a network of attractive, safe and comfortable public spaces.

This plan builds on the vision and projects set out in the 2014 Parks, Open Space and Streetscape Plan for Yonge-Eglinton and provides a complementary vision for the public realm in the Davisville area.

The plan will also align with the city-wide 20-year Parkland Strategy. This strategy for the provision of parks city-wide, currently under development, is driven by the following themes:

1. Growth
2. Equitable Access
3. Connections
4. Parks and Recreation Facilities land requirements

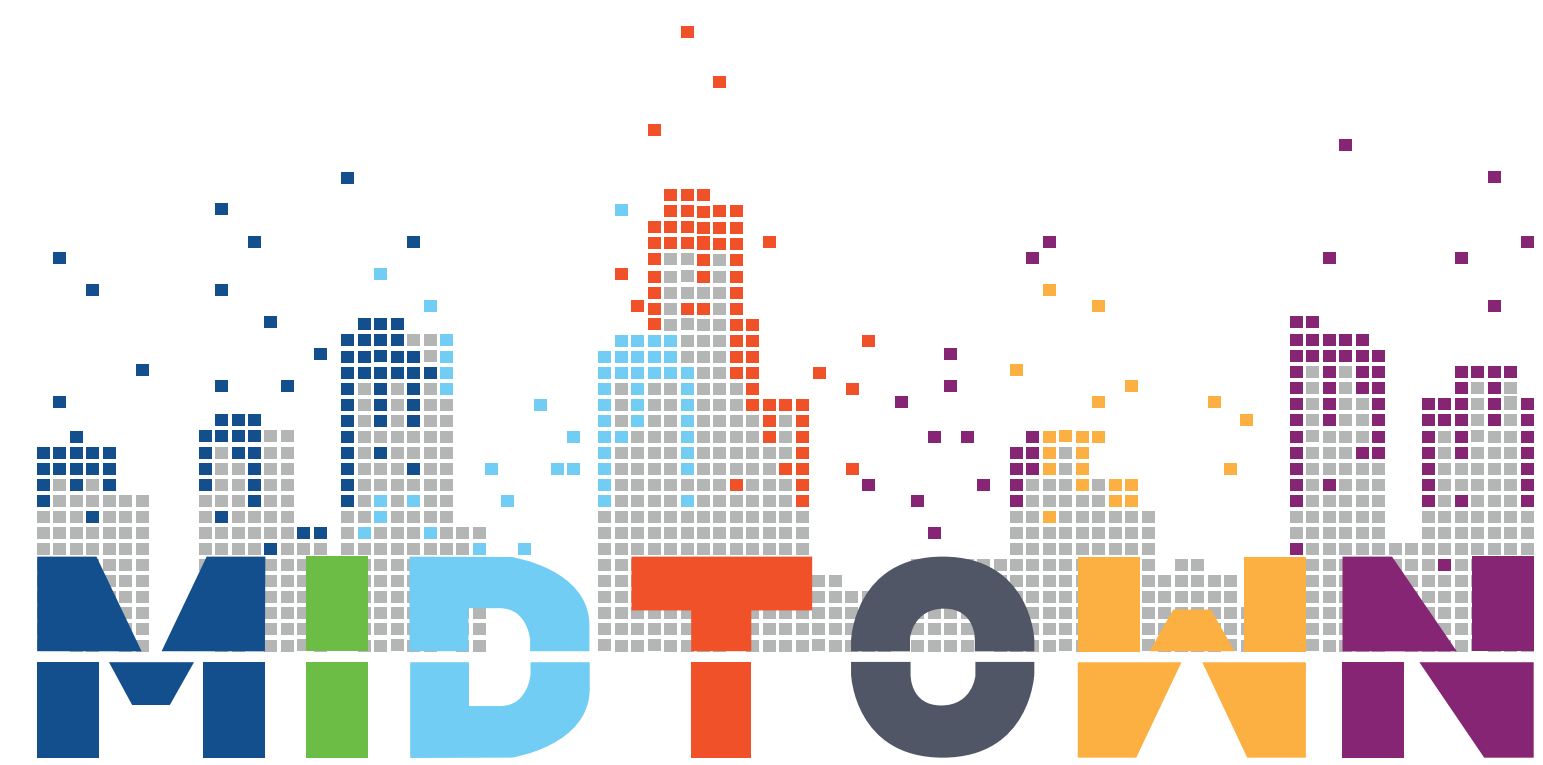


Existing and proposed parks and greenspaces in Midtown

- YONGE EGLINTON SECONDARY PLAN AREA
- EXISTING PARKLAND
- PARKLAND UNDER CONSTRUCTION
- PROPOSED PARKLAND (COUNCIL APPROVED)
- PARK ENHANCEMENTS
- OTHER GREENSPACE



Eglinton Park (left), Sidewalks in Midtown (right)



# PARKS AND PUBLIC REALM

## Yonge-Eglinton Public Realm Plan

THE MIDTOWN IN FOCUS: PARKS, OPEN SPACE & STREETScape PLAN INCLUDES 5 PLACE-MAKING MOVES

- 1 **EGLINTON GREENLINE** – AN ICONIC LINEAR GREEN OPEN SPACE ON THE NORTH SIDE OF EGLINTON
- 2 **YONGE STREET SQUARES** – A SEQUENCE OF SQUARES AT KEY INTERSECTIONS ALONG YONGE
- 3 **PARK STREET LOOP** – A 3 KM MULTI-USE PROMENADE CONNECTING EGLINTON PARK TO ADJACENT NEIGHBOURHOODS
- 4 **MIDTOWN GREENWAYS** – LOCAL STREETS THAT ENHANCE THE AREA'S GENEROUS LANDSCAPING
- 5 **REDPATH REVISITED** – IMPROVEMENT OF A KEY AXIS BOOKENDED BY EXPANDED PARKS

In 2012, the City initiated a study of Yonge-Eglinton's public realm in order to support the area and create a framework for coordinated public realm improvements.

The resulting Parks, Open Space and Streetscape Plan:

- Recognizes the area's distinct quality, consisting of a vibrant mixed use community with an open and green landscaped character;
- Provides a vision for the enhancement of this character; and,
- Identifies strategic improvements to achieve a high-quality, comfortable, connective and usable network of parks, open spaces and streetscapes.

Council approved the Parks, Open Space and Streetscape Plan in 2014. Council adopted amendments to the Yonge-Eglinton Secondary Plan implementing the Plan in 2015.

In 2015, the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects awarded the Plan the National Honours Award, Planning and Analysis.



- Existing Parks
- Yonge Street Squares
- Proposed Parks
- Mid-Block Connections



Proposed Park Street Loop street section



St. Clement's Parkette (left); Midtown Greenway on Dunfield Avenue (right)

# PARKS AND PUBLIC REALM

## Davisville Public Realm Plan

To complement the Yonge-Eglinton Parks, Open Space and Streetscape Plan (2014), the Midtown in Focus plan will include a vision and strategies for the public spaces in Davisville. This vision will inform plans for existing and new parkland, the renewal of streetscapes, improved mobility and transportation infrastructure, and public space improvements as part of private development.

A workshop was held in the fall of 2016 with residents and stakeholders to identify public realm assets and conditions that should be protected and enhanced, as well as areas for improvement. Walking tours of the area and table discussions resulted in five preliminary place-making moves for the Davisville area.

1. Yonge Street Squares - new plazas and open spaces as part of developments to enhance walkability and livability
2. Davisville Community Street - an iconic civic street linking parks, schools, and a future community hub
3. Mount Pleasant Promenade - a landscaped promenade linking Mt Pleasant Village to the greenery of Mt Pleasant Cemetery and the Beltline Trail
4. Moving Midblock - north-south pedestrian and cycling connections to create a cohesive community
5. Green Streets - streets with high quality sidewalks and landscaping to enhance the green character of the neighbourhood

Based on feedback received today and through the summer, the Davisville Public Realm Plan will be incorporated in the draft plan for Midtown and available for further comment in late 2017.



Preliminary place-making moves for the Davisville area

- LEGEND
- YONGE STREET & SQUARES
  - MID-BLOCK CONNECTIONS AND MID-BLOCK NEIGHBOURHOOD WALK
  - GREEN STREETS
  - MOUNT PLEASANT PROMENADE
  - DAVISVILLE COMMUNITY STREET
  - MERTON PLACE

## WHAT WE'VE HEARD

Want to see improved signage and connections to the Beltline

Sidewalks are getting congested - need wider sidewalks and safe pedestrian crossings

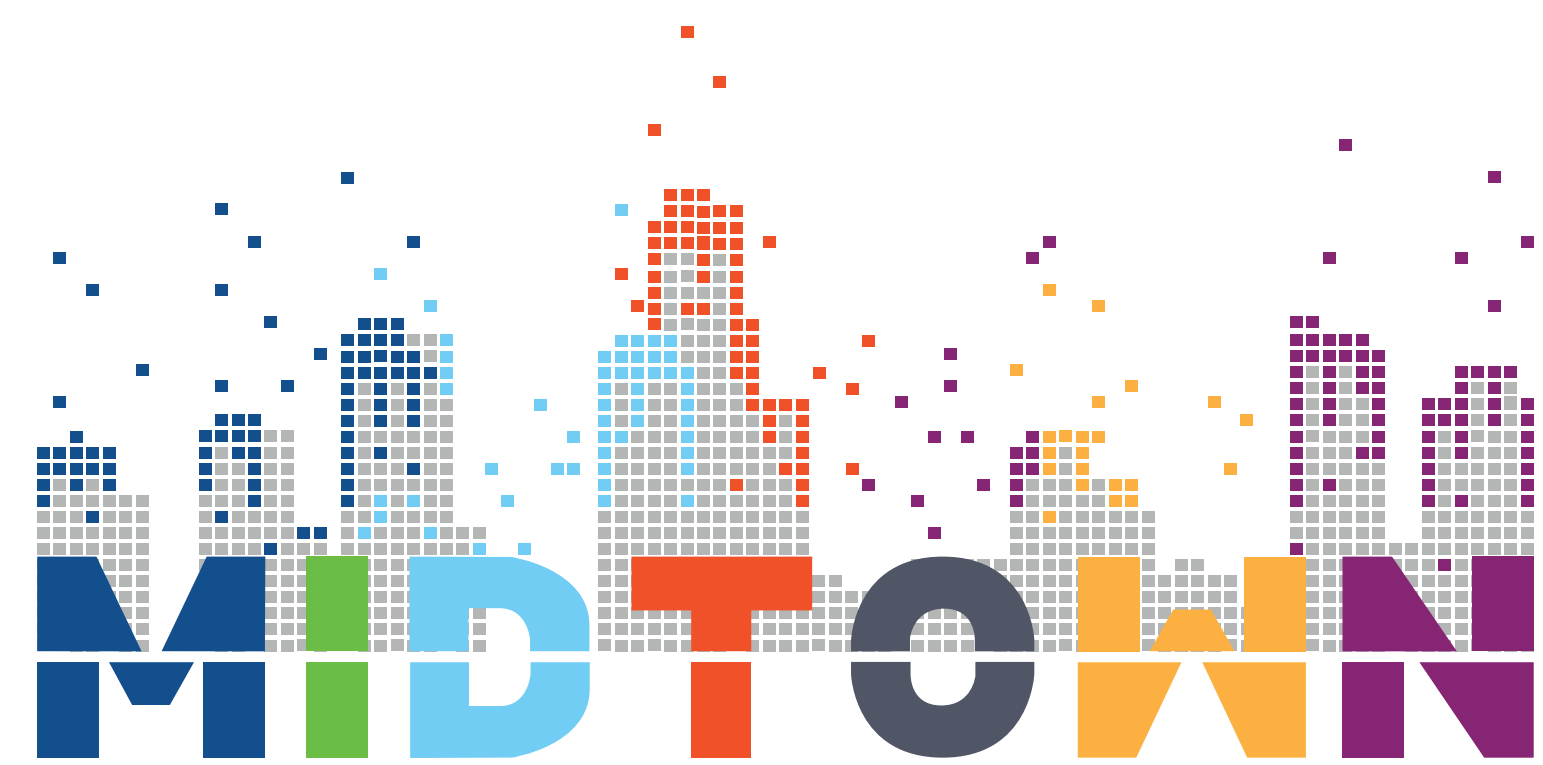
Towers in the Park design allows for respite and green space. More seating is needed for people to take advantage of these spaces

Mt Pleasant Parkette is underutilized and not accessible

Midblock connections would help break up the long blocks



Merton Street (left) and June Rowlands Park (right up and down)



# PARKS AND PUBLIC REALM

## TELL US

1. Think about the current parks and public realm assets in Midtown
2. Use the templates provided - parkette, local park, community park, parkland expansion - to identify potential sites for additional parkland in the Yonge-Eglinton area

Comments:

## Opportunities and challenges for new/expanded parks

