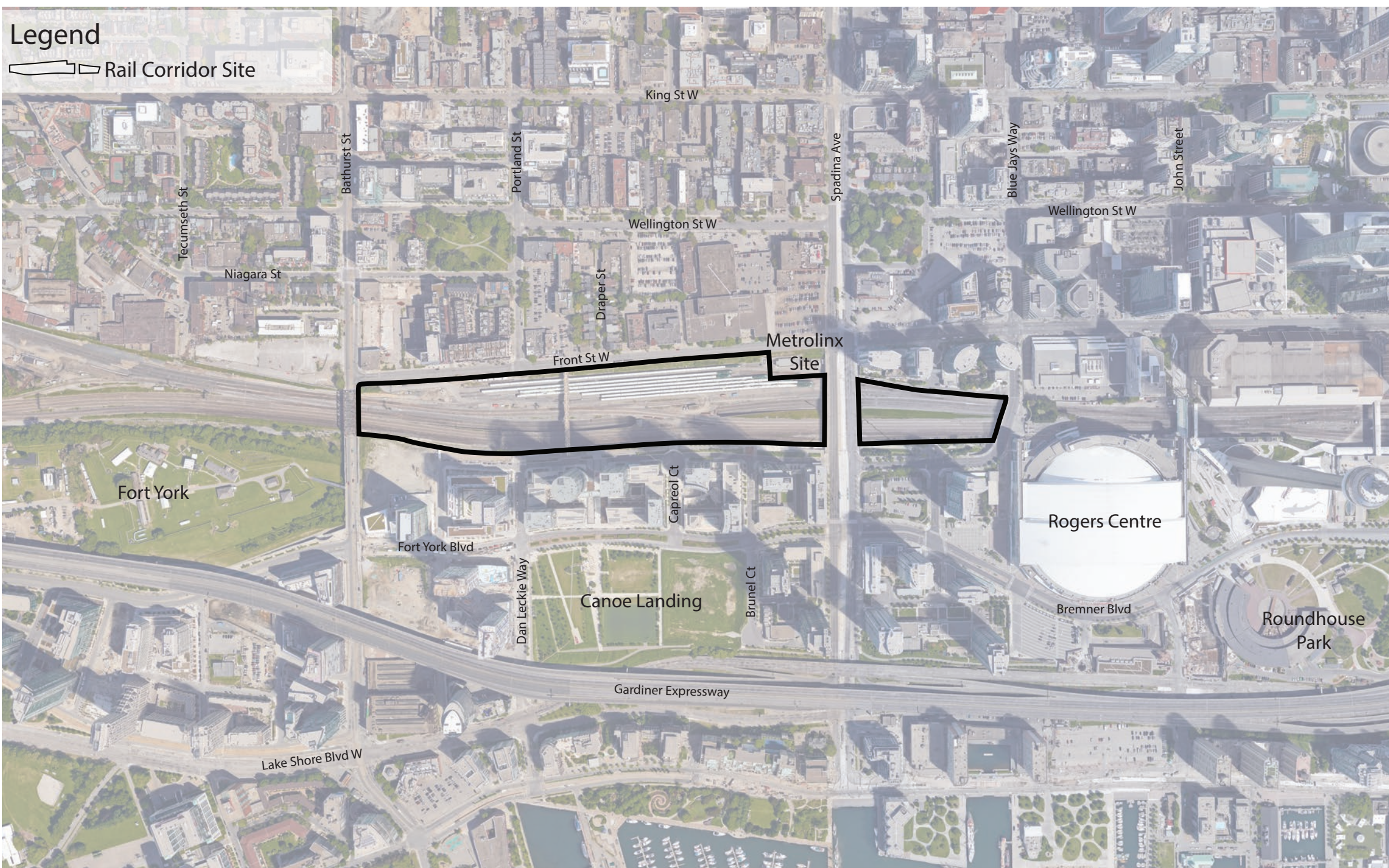


Welcome!

Thank you for coming to the Rail Corridor Land Use Study Public Meeting.

Tonight is an opportunity to learn about the Land Use Study for the Rail Corridor Site. In Fall 2016, Toronto City Council endorsed a proposal for a new major park known as Rail Deck Park, to be built over the rail corridor between Bathurst Street and Blue Jays Way. The first step to move the Rail Deck Park project forward is to review the planning framework and complete a land use analysis of the area.



Rail Corridor Site & Surroundings



Rail Corridor Site, looking west from Bathurst Street

Rail Corridor Land Use Study Overview

The City of Toronto is undertaking a number of related studies for the proposed Rail Deck Park. These studies will come forward to City Council in late 2017.

The **Land Use Study** is to update the planning framework to guide decking, development and land use over the Rail Corridor Site.

The **Implementation Strategy** will address specific design, phasing and costing considerations.



City Evolution

1960s to 2010s

The Railway Lands and the surroundings have transformed from an industrial zone with rail yards, surface parking lots and industrial buildings to thriving mixed-use neighbourhoods.



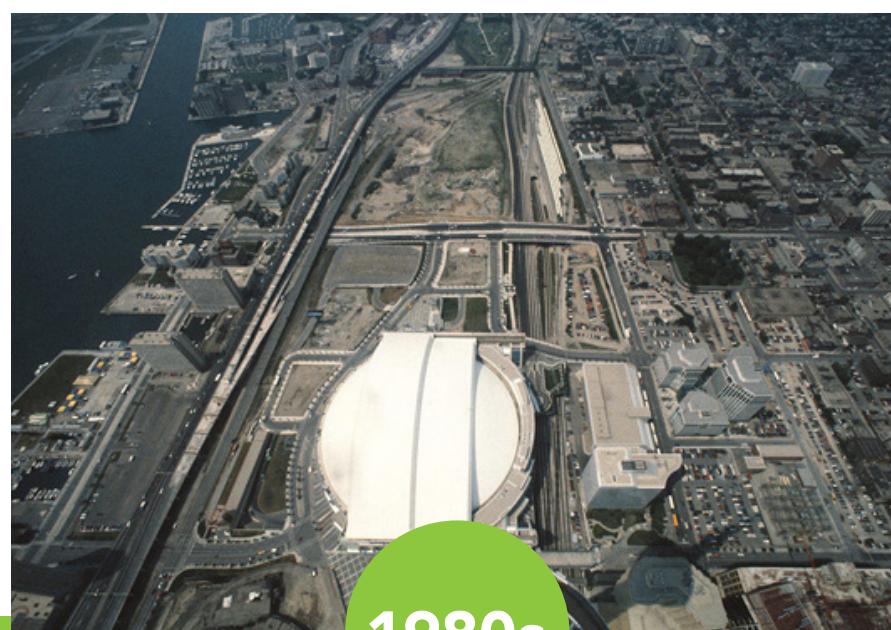
1960s
&
1970s

Planning for the Railway Lands & Downtown

1965 - CN begins to shift its functions from Downtown Toronto to Vaughan, decreasing the demand for rail related activity

1976 - CN Tower opens as tallest freestanding structure in the world

1976 - Central Plan introduces new visionary policy framework to encourage residential development in Downtown. City initiates study for planning framework for Railway Lands



1980s

Major Attractions & More Planning

1985 - Railway Lands Plan adopted by City to guide comprehensive development of the entire Railway Lands from Bathurst Street to Yonge Street, Front Street to the Gardiner Expressway

1989 - Opening of Skydome (Rogers Centre)



1990s

Slow Growth & New Urban Vision

Early 1990s - City pursues bold actions to attract investment in Railway Lands

1994 - Comprehensive updates to Railway Lands planning framework

1996 - King-Spadina Secondary Plan introduces a new flexible planning approach to encourage renewal and redevelopment north of the Railway Lands

1997 - Grand Adex purchases area known as CityPlace with new vision for "Vancouver style" development



2000s

The Rise of New Neighbourhoods

Early 2000s - Construction of first residential towers in CityPlace

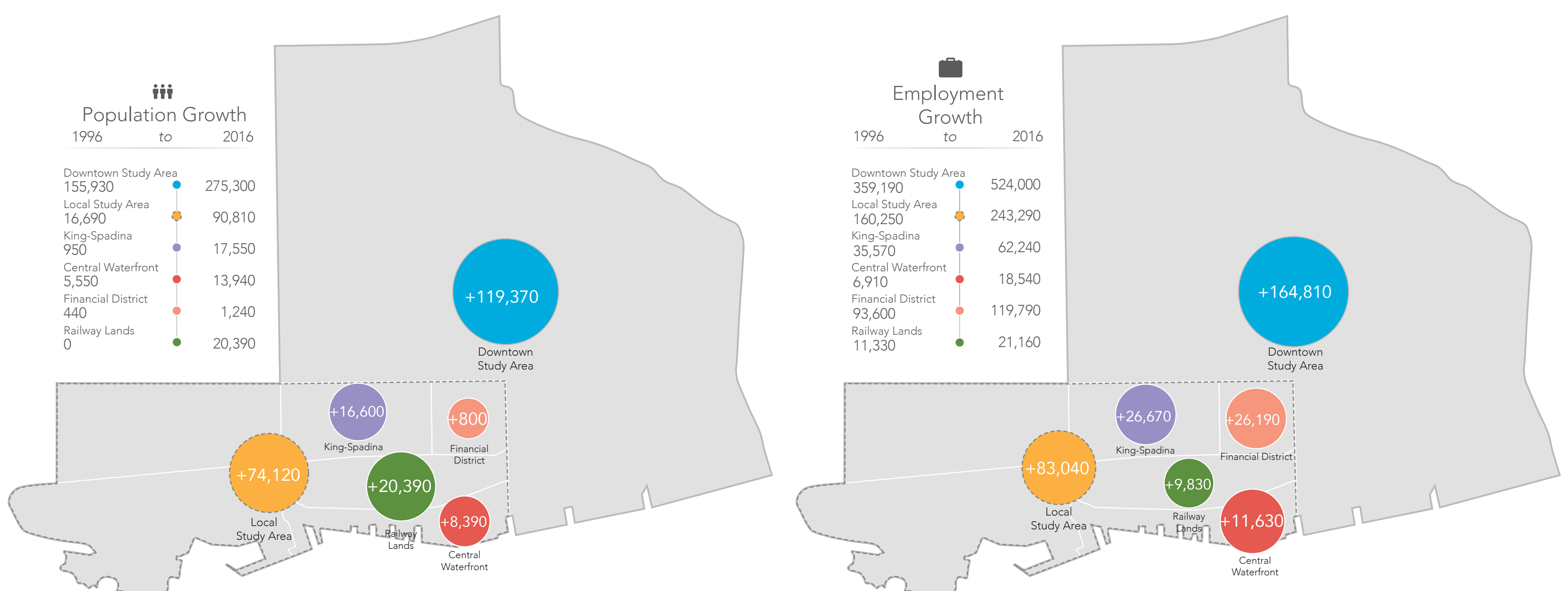
2002 - New City-wide Official Plan introduces new vision for a 21st century city

2003 - Central Waterfront Secondary Plan establishes new framework to guide renewal of waterfront

Becoming a Place to Live & Work

Population & Employment Growth, 1996 - 2016

Over the past 20 years, the Railway Lands and surrounding areas have experienced dramatic increases in population and employment growth.

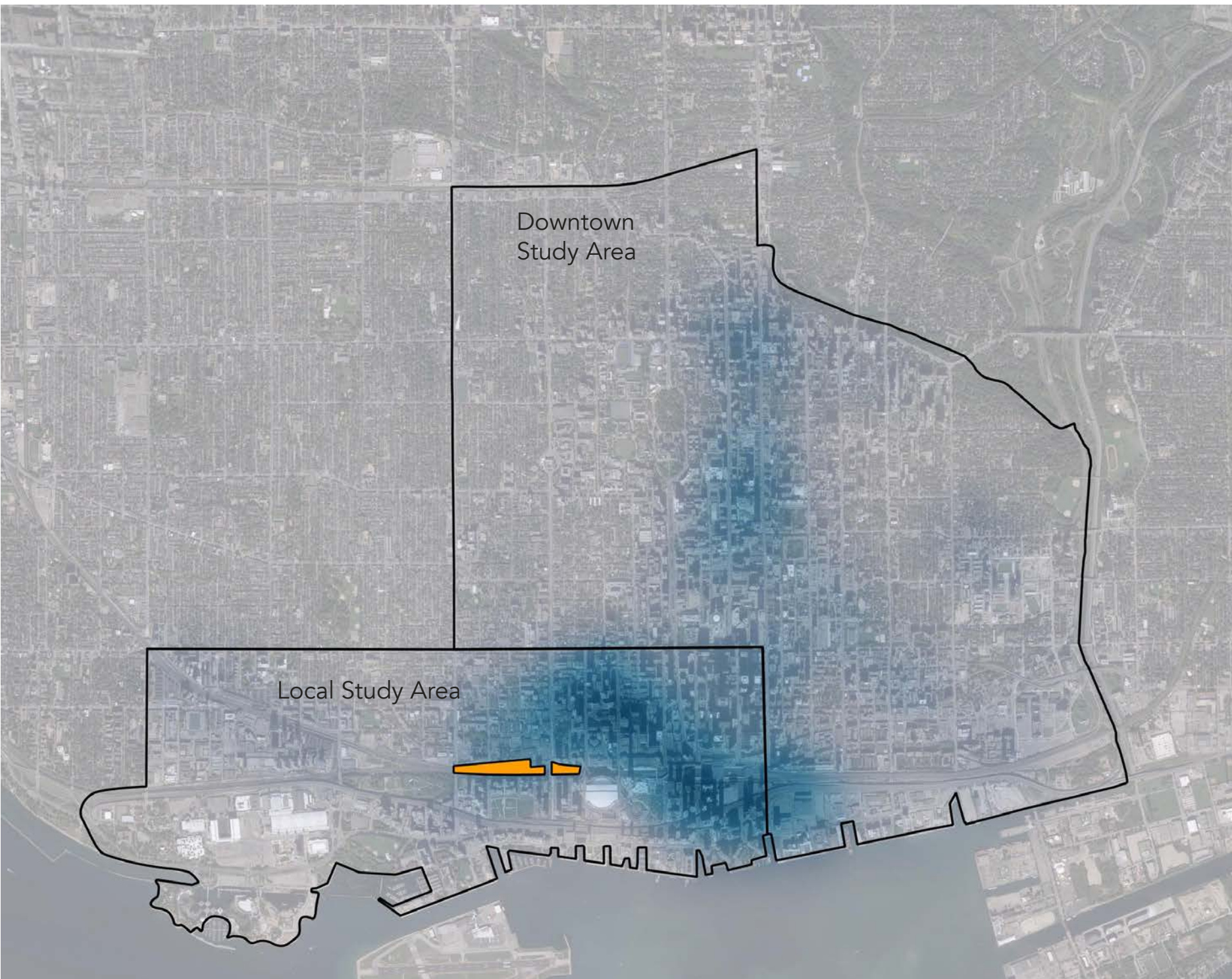


Downtown is Growing

The Rail Corridor Site is surrounded by one of the fastest growing areas in Toronto. Hundreds of thousands of people from across the city and the region travel to and through the area every day to work and visit major destinations. As the area continues to grow, we need to make sure there are community amenities, services and infrastructure to support growth.

Population & Employment Growth, 2017 - 2031

Over the next 15 years, the Downtown Study Area is anticipated to grow to population of over 500,000, with growth concentrated in the King-Spadina area, the Central Waterfront corridor, and the Yonge-Bay corridor.



People + Jobs Growth to 2031

Development Pipeline



Proposed and approved development around the Rail Corridor Site ☐ Site ☒ Approved ☒ Applications submitted (May 2017)

The Need for a Large Park

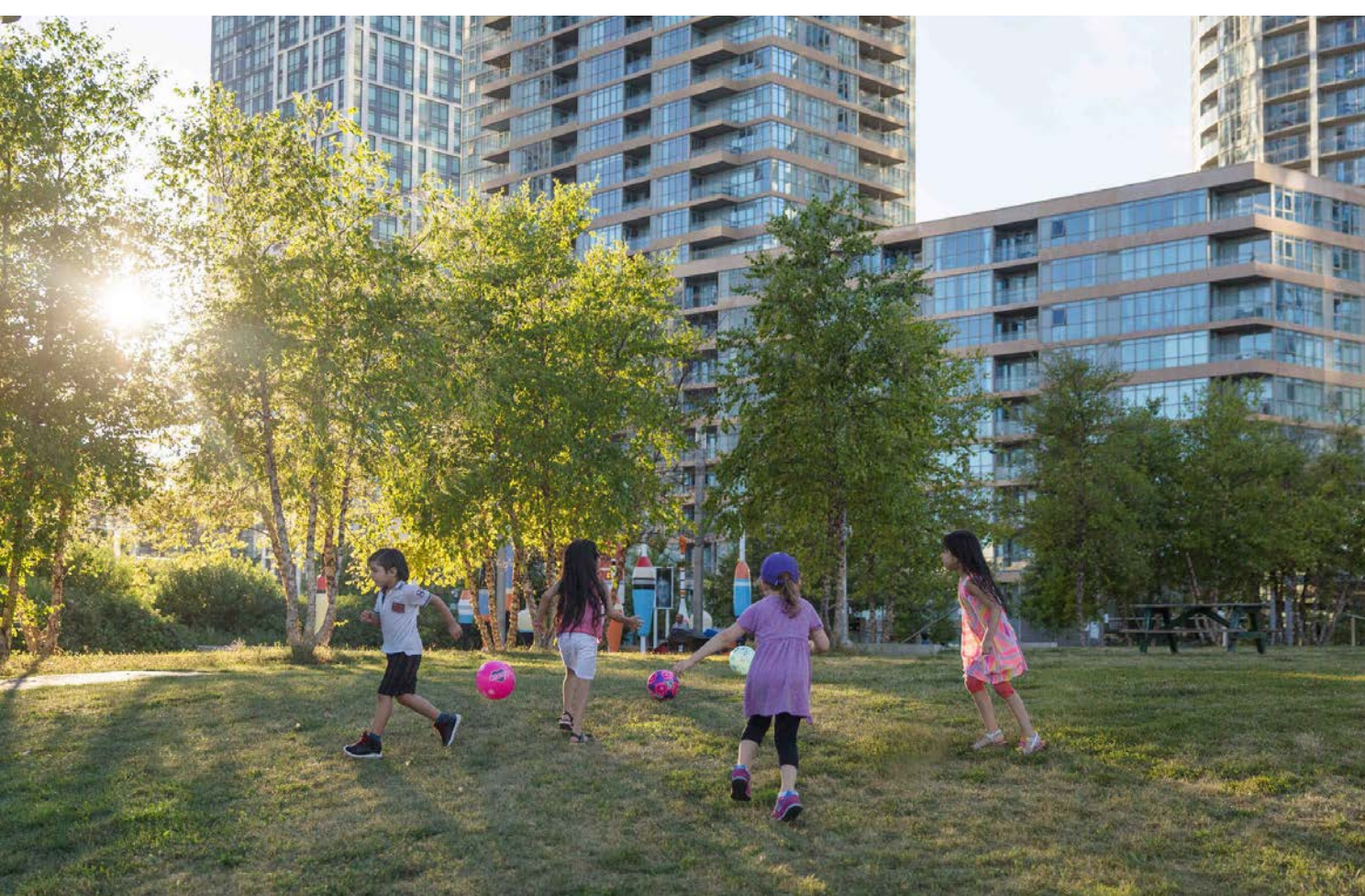
As Downtown has grown, parks have not kept pace. New parkland is urgently required to support a healthy, liveable, and attractive Downtown. Most parks are less than 0.5 hectares and there are limited large parks with space for recreation, sports, and community programming. As the city grows, parks are becoming more important as places for people to play, relax and come together and celebrate.

Parks in the Downtown Study Area



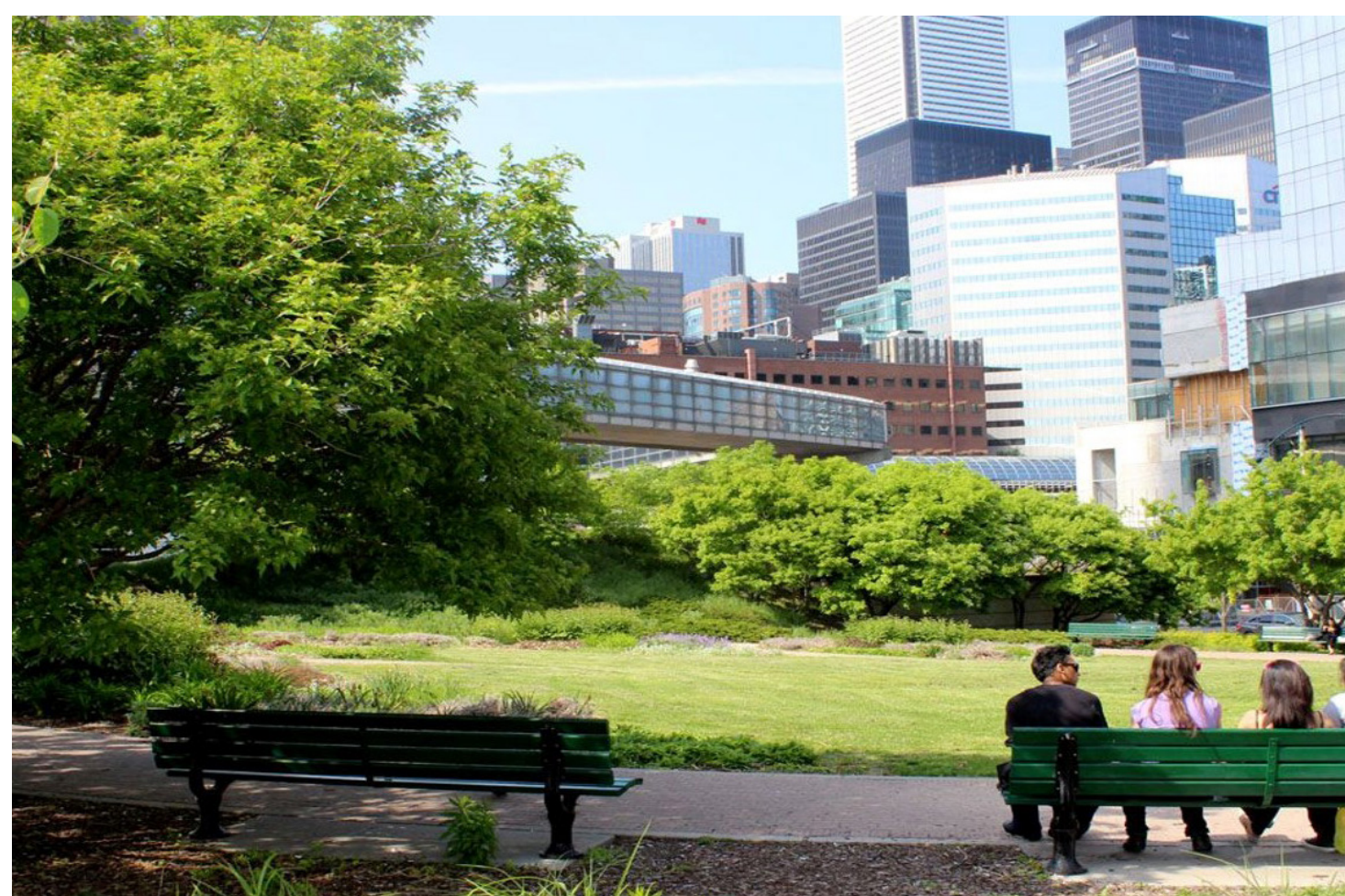
Canoe Landing, 3.2 hectares

CityPlace's community park to serve over 20,000 residents



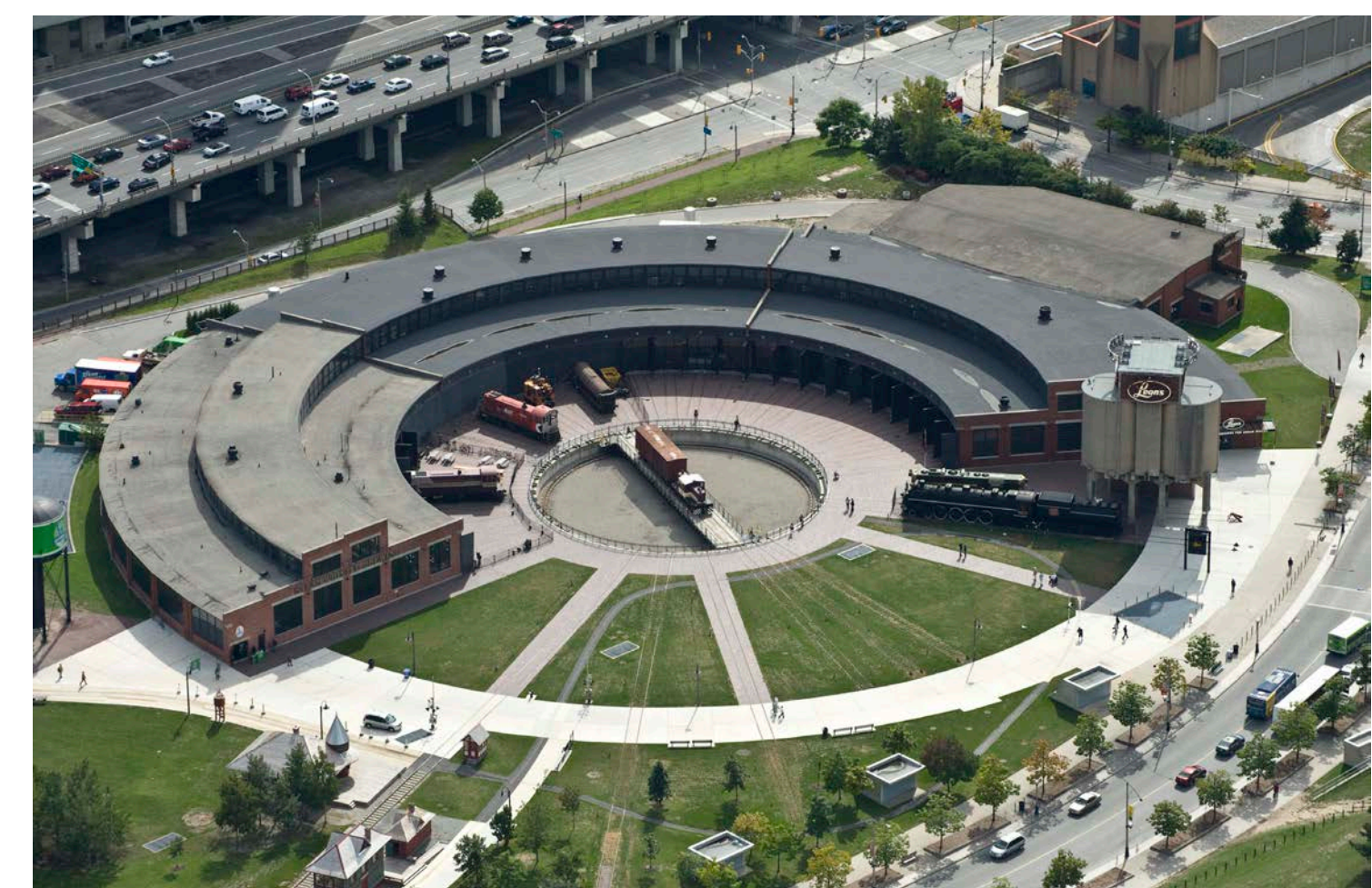
Olympic Park, 0.8 hectares

A small park servicing local residents and Toronto's largest employment district



Roundhouse Park, 4.8 hectares

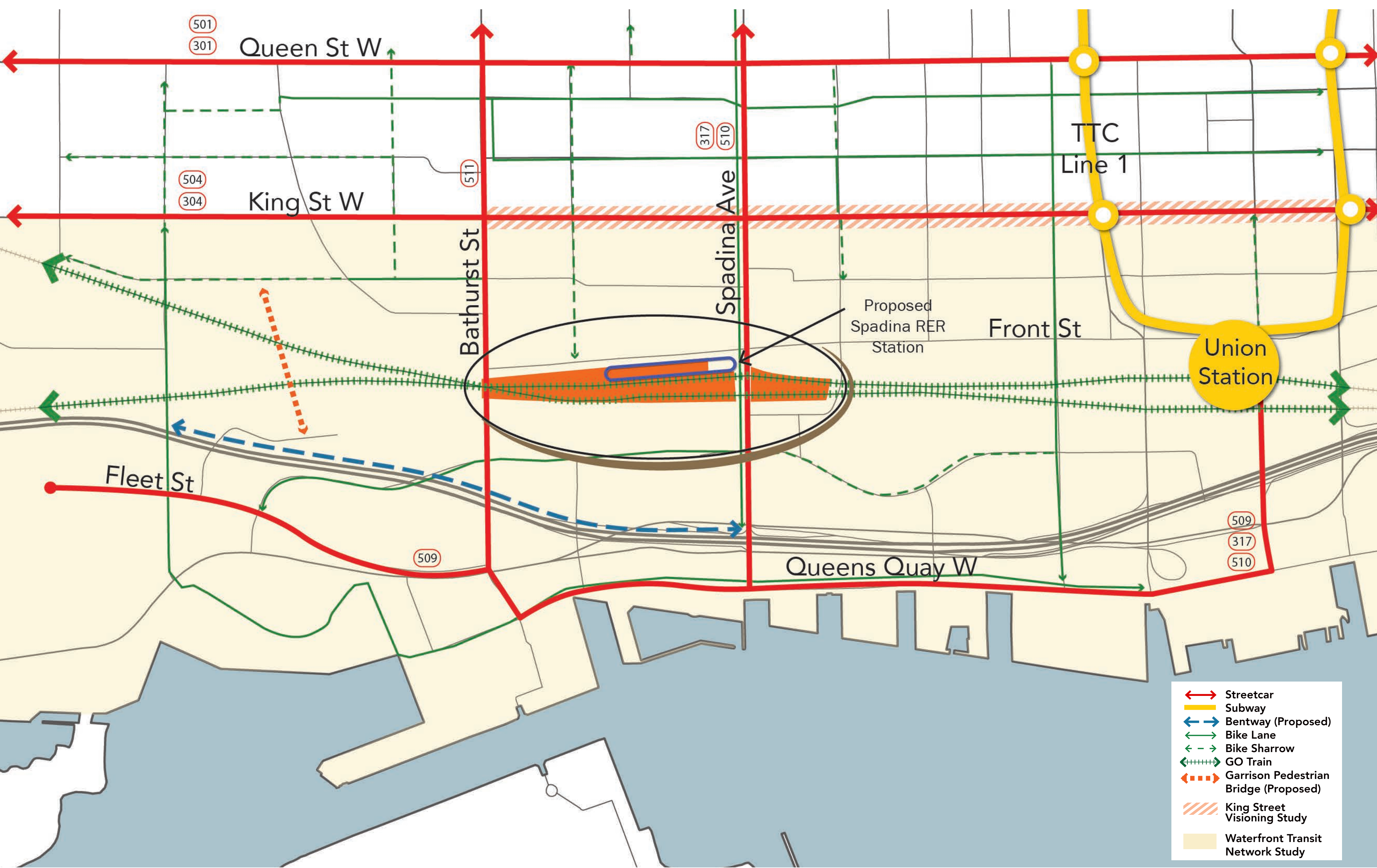
An open space around the Roundhouse building to accommodate visitors



Mobility & Connections

Decking over the Rail Corridor Site presents an opportunity to improve connectivity and fully integrate the Railway Lands into the city fabric. Through decking over the Rail Corridor Site, there is an ability to improve upon and expand existing active transportation routes, support local transit initiatives, and integrate with rail activity in the corridor below.

Metrolinx is planning a new Regional Express Rail (RER) station at Spadina Avenue and Front Street. The City is working with Metrolinx to coordinate these projects.



Planning for regional rail connectivity



Connecting to the city's transportation network



Enhancing pedestrian and cycling connections



Be Inspired!

Both at home and across the globe, cities are creating significant major parks and open spaces in their city centres, with amenities including pavilions, great lawns, play areas, water features, public art, and gardens.

Millennium Park, Chicago, IL 9.9 hectares, Completed, 2004



A large park that was once railway yards and parking lots. Contains open spaces, pavilions, public art, outdoor skating rink, cycle centres, and accessible design.

Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway, Boston, MA 6 hectares, Completed, 2008



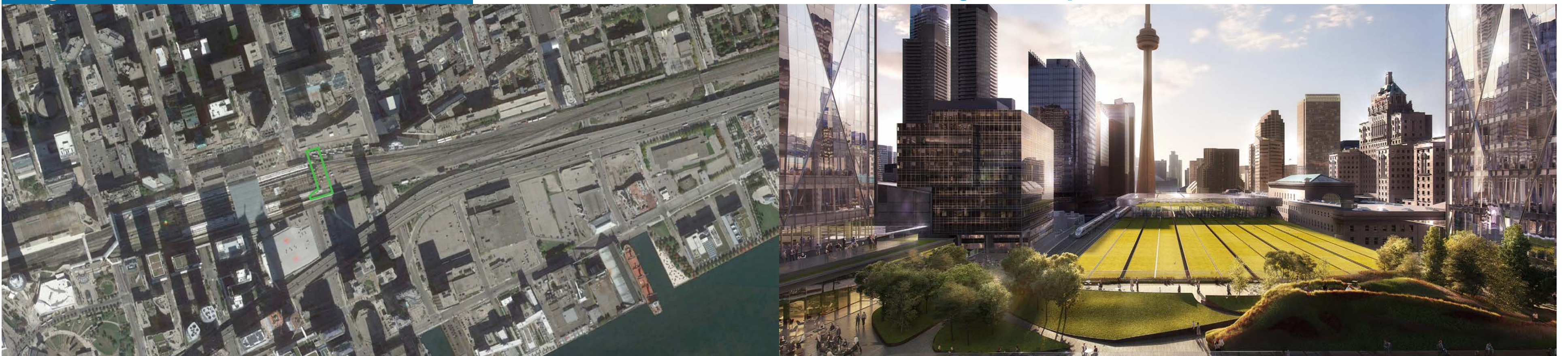
Linear park with landscaped greens, promenades, plazas with vendors, fountains, public art, a carousel, and specialty lighting.

Rives de Seine, Paris, France 10 hectares, Completed, 2017



River embankment park with terraces, sports facilities, educational historic components including 3D back in time binoculars, and phone recharge sports apparatus areas.

Bay Park Centre, Toronto 0.4 hectares, Planned, A nearby local precedent



Planned publicly accessible open space to bridge over the rail corridor in Toronto near Union Station, planned as part of the new office towers at 45 Bay Street.

source: DBOX