

The Management Plan for Guild Park & Gardens reflects the input of the community as well as senior staff from the City of Toronto and TRCA who advised the team with respect to each component of the Plan.

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Prepared on behalf of:

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The **Planning** Partnership

"A park like no other, Guild Park & Gardens is a special place where art and nature meet on the spectacular Scarborough Bluffs."

A VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF GUILD PARK & GARDENS

Guild Park & Gardens is a regionally treasured, destination park with a unique character that needs to be protected, preserved and enhanced. The 36 hectare park has a special combination of features that create a rare park user experience. This combination is comprised of rich cultural heritage resources in a cultural landscape structure flanked by extensive, high quality natural heritage systems. The Park is set on the geologically significant landform of the Scarborough Bluffs. Functioning as the heart of its local community, Guild Park & Gardens is also an important destination for family-friendly, passive recreation and trail use by a broader catchment area. Park management and arts-related programming must protect and celebrate its cultural and natural heritage legacy so that the outstanding park user experience it offers is kept alive and accessible for many generations to come.

The Planning Parntership in conjunction with ERA Architects were retained by the City of Toronto to create a Management Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to provide the City of Toronto with a comprehensive framework to guide the management of the Guild Park & Gardens. The management plan establishes a strategy to help guide the protection, restoration and enhancement of the special character of Guild Park & Gardens. The Park is the subject of a number of intersecting plans and initiatives by the City and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). The Plan takes into account the other plans underway to provide the City with an inclusive management framework that:

- Identifies a guiding vision for the park
- establishes management guidelines
- maps and assesses existing conditions and uses
- identifies key issues within management themes
- maps areas with high, medium and low sensitivity to potential changes
- recommends key initiatives and priority actions
- proposes a phasing and implementation strategy

This comprehensive framework is intended to provide a strong foundation for a potential future Master Plan for Guild Park & Gardens.

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VISION

Guild Park & Gardens is a regionally treasured, destination park with a unique character that needs to be protected, preserved and enhanced. The park has a special combination of features that create a rare park user experience. This combination is comprised of rich cultural heritage resources and public art framed by a cultural heritage landscape structure set within extensive, high quality natural heritage systems. Functioning as the heart of its local community, Guild Park & Gardens is also an important destination for family-friendly, passive recreation and trail use by a broader catchment area. Park management and artsrelated programming must protect and celebrate its cultural and natural heritage legacy so that the outstanding park user experience it offers is kept alive and accessible for many generations to come.

Eight pillars that will support the Vision for Guild Park & Gardens are:

Pillars of the Vision



destination park



family friendly



where art meets nature

STATEMENT





enhance passive recreation



revitalize cultural landscape structure



protect natural heritage systems



conserve cultural heritage resources



tell the story

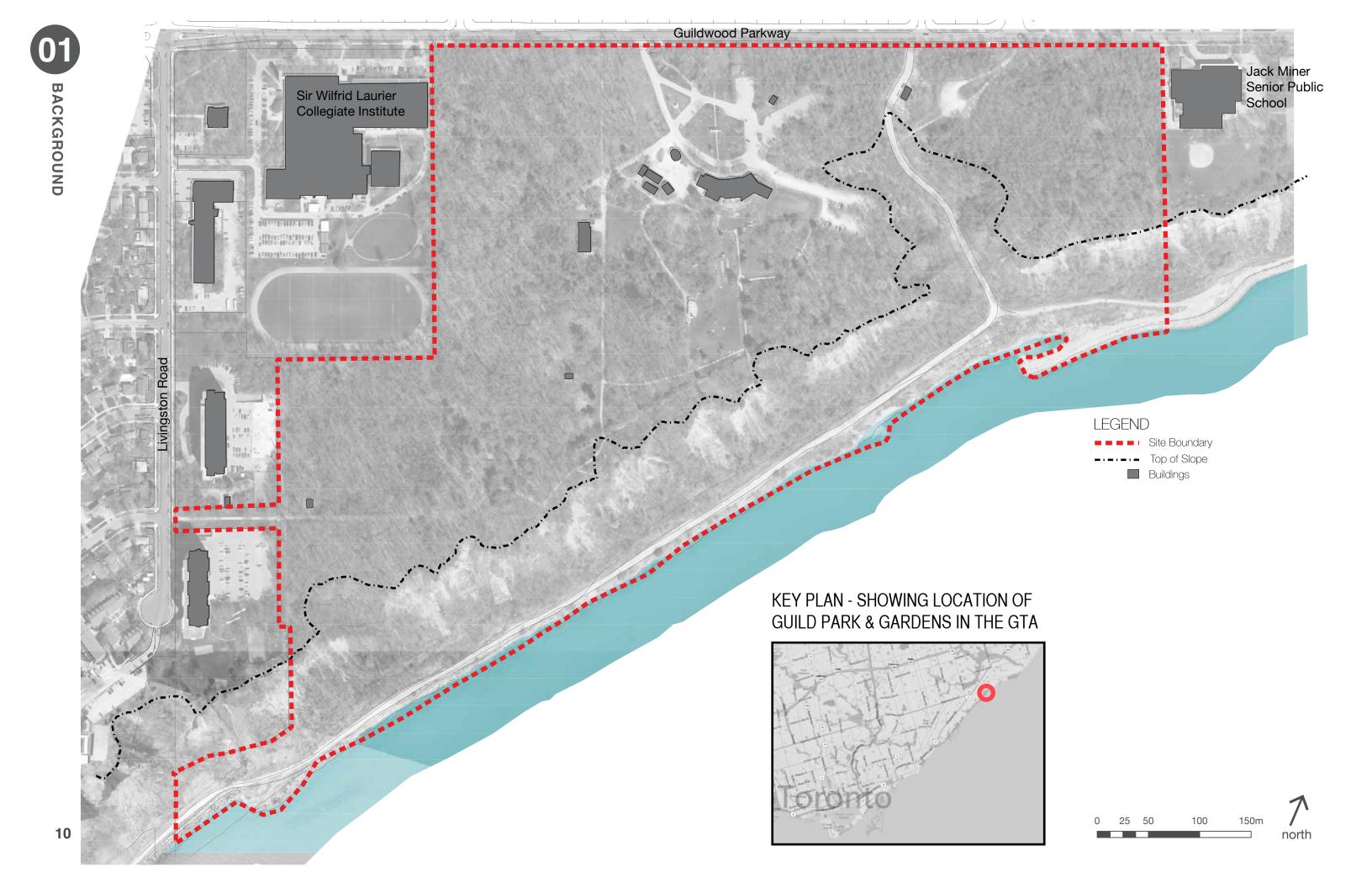


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INTRODUCTION

Plan Purpose

The purpose of the Management Plan is to provide the City of Toronto with a comprehensive framework to guide the management of the Guild Park & Gardens. This 36 hectare park is richly layered with natural heritage systems and cultural heritage resources set on the regionally significant landform of the Scarborough Bluffs. As a destination park within the City's Park Plan, Guild Park & Gardens is a popular attraction for the local Guildwood community and a broader catchment area of park users. The management plan establishes a strategy to help guide the protection, restoration and enhancement of the special character of Guild Park & Gardens. The Park is the subject of a number of intersecting plans and initiatives by the City and Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). The Plan takes into account the other plans underway to provide the City with an inclusive management framework that:

- Identifies a guiding vision for the park
- · establishes management guidelines
- maps and assesses existing conditions and uses
- identifies key issues within management
- maps areas with high, medium and low sensitivity to potential changes
- recommends key initiatives and priority actions
- proposes a phasing and implementation strategy

This comprehensive framework is intended to provide a strong foundation for a potential future Master Plan for Guild Park & Gardens. The function of a Master Plan is described on page 93.

History of the Site

The park site was originally part of land tracts granted to Loyalists who had served in the American Revolutionary War. William Ousterhout was an early owner, associated with the remaining Osterhout Log Cabin on the site. The Guild Log Cabin is one of the four designated heritage buildings on the Park site.



HISTORIC - Guild Inn guests walk along the main walk which provided a physical and visual link between the house and the lake



HISTORIC - 1934 aerial of the site with the main walk as the dominant element

The property changed hands many times in the 19th and early 20th century. In 1914, owner General Bickford created the Ranelagh Park country estate on the site and built the Bickford House as a summer resort. The estate house formed the nucleus for the Guild Inn building. The Guild Inn is a designated cultural heritage building. In 1932 Rosa Hewetson purchased the over 450 acre property, where she married Spencer Clark. The same year, she and Spencer formed the Guild of All Arts. Inspired by the arts and crafts community at Roycroft, New York State, 'The Guild of All Arts' started as a social contribution in the depression years, providing a home and a forum for artists and artisans. where their work was created and collected for the enjoyment of many. There is still a significant public art collection on the site. The Guild of All Arts was active from 1932 until 1942 and. after the war, from 1947 until Spencer Clark's death in the 1980s. During the war the property served as a training base for the Women's Naval Service. During the 1950s, the Clarks sold approximately 400 acres of their property which became the Guildwood Village subdivision.

The Bickford House was sited on its large woodland property with spectacular views of Lake Ontario from the heights of the Scarborough Bluffs. The house was set well back from the Bluffs' edge with formal lawns and gardens on direct axis from the residence to the waterfront view at the Bluffs' edge. Formal lawns and gardens defined the cultivated landscape. The Bickford waterfront estate character established the visual character that park users experience today. Large forested areas flank the Bickford Estate landscape on the east and west sides.

Spencer Clark was an advocate for architectural preservation and heritage. He salvaged important sculptural elements from

19th and early 20th century buildings that were demolished in Toronto and neighboring communities. They were re-erected in the park setting where they now form part of an extensive heritage collection. The estate landscape and its evolution during the Guild of All Arts period comprise its cultural heritage value, as described in the Culture/Heritage section of this Plan.

The Clarks were actively engaged with natural heritage and shoreline protection work during their years at The Guild. Interestingly, their work on shoreline protection, natural heritage preservation and trail construction echoes key issues for Guild Park & Gardens today. Spencer Clark's work on shoreline protection and stabilization using sunken structures filled with ballast as groynes to slow erosion at the bottom of the Bluffs opposite the main building was an early forerunner to work by TRCA. In the 1960s Spencer Clark built a roadway down the ravine to permit access to the beach. The Clarks were aware that their property contained an important and rare tract of Carolinian forest. In 1985 a consulting firm recommended that the forest be preserved as an Environmentally Significant Area.

During the Clarks residency on the property, a number of buildings were constructed in the forested natural heritage areas, adjacent to the manicured park, including Cory Cliff Lodge, Duncan Barn, numerous cottages and administrative buildings, such as Building 191.

Following the death of the Clarks in the 1980s the Guild Inn went into decline and has been shuttered since 2002. TRCA purchased the property in 1978 and the City of Toronto has a long term lease with TRCA to operate the site as a public park.



Roles & Responsibilities

Guild Park & Gardens is owned by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA). The park is managed and maintained by the City of Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division. See page 18 for more information abut the TRCA and City of Toronto Management Agreements..

TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (TRCA)

TRCA is the legal owner of the park. It is responsible for ensuring capital projects conform to their standards and development criteria. It is also the agency responsible for flood and water management activities. Within TRCA, Watershed Trails Planning and Environmental Engineering are engaged in shoreline work at the Park.

TRCA and City of Toronto have a management agreement whereby City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry & Recreation are responsible for the operations and management of all TRCA-owned land within the city.

CITY OF TORONTO

The City of Toronto, under an agreement with the TRCA, manages the park site as a natural environment and manicured park. The City is responsible for implementing capital projects and for maintaining and managing the park. A number of City staff units are responsible for the park's maintenance and operations. The units include Capital Projects; Ravine and Natural Protection; Natural Resource Management; Forest Renewal, Parks Operations; Horticulture within Parks, Forestry and Recreation; Cultural Affairs; and Heritage Preservation Services.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

A number of organizations represent the interests of the surrounding community and other stakeholders. They provide input to the city and TRCA on management related issues. The organizations that are currently active include Guildwood Village Community Association, Guild Renaissance Group, Guild Festival Theatre, Friends of Guild Park & Gardens.

PLAN CONTEXT

Other Plans & Initiatives

THE GUILD CULTURAL PRECINCT PLAN

The Guild Cultural Precinct Report: Facility and Site Plan Development and Management Study was undertaken by Goldsmith, Borgal & Company Ltd Architects with Artscape, MBTW Group, and Novita in 2009. At that time, a proposal was put forward for an environmentally sensitive hotel development on the site. The City of Toronto contracted with a consultant team to conduct a feasibility study for a new cultural heritage precinct on the 36 hectares of the Guild Park that were not part of the proposed hotel development.

The report calls for the creation of a cultural precinct to reestablish The Guild of All Arts as a prominent centre for the arts. The concepts presented in the report included a sculpture park sited in the existing forest landscape, festival gardens, formal gardens, artisan studios, exhibition space, the revitalized Greek Theatre, and a visitor's centre. None of these concepts have been tested against the site management guidelines being reviewed in the management plan. The scope of the culltural precinct will be adjusted in response to The Guild Park & Gardens Management Plan, and in response to the new agreements that are to be formalized with Culture relating to the development proposal for the Guild Inn.

STRATEGIC FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

The City of Toronto's 'Sustaining and Expanding the Urban Forest: Toronto's Strategic Forest Management Plan, 2012-2022' was adopted by Council in 2013. This plan identifies efforts that are necessary for the City to have a healthy, sustainable urban forest with 40% canopy cover. These efforts are largely for Urban Forestry to initiate; however, the cooperation of other City and external agencies, residents, and businesses will be necessary for the plan's success since a large proportion (60%) of the City's trees exist on private land.

The vision for Toronto's urban forest over the next 10 years, expressed in this plan, is one where the forest is "healthy and expanding... incorporating sound urban forestry practices and community partnership". The strategic goals that will realize this vision are: increasing canopy cover, achieving equitable distribution, increasing biodiversity, increasing awareness, promoting stewardship, and improving monitoring.

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A few key challenges for the urban forest include forest health threats (such as Emerald Ash Borer), climate change impacts, recreational pressures, maintenance requirements, and increasing public awareness.

For further information, the full plan is available on the City of Toronto website.

PARKS PLAN 2013-2017

The City of Toronto's 'Parks Plan 2013-2017', by Parks, Forestry & Recreation, is a high-level policy document which will guide the delivery of parks services over the next five years. The four key themes examined in the report include: communicating and connecting with others, preserving and promoting nature, maintaining quality parks, and improving system planning. A number of trends in parks are noted, among them are: increasing competition for limited park space, and high demand for horticulture, community shade, gardens, drinking fountains, washrooms, and community involvement. Another trend of note is the increasing involvement of partners and volunteers in parks.

For further information, the full plan is available on the City of Toronto website.



SWP Study Area - image from the project brief

SCARBOROUGH WATERFRONT PROJECT (SWP)

TRCA has initiated a study under the Environmental Assessment Act to create a system of public spaces along the Lake Ontario shoreline between Bluffer's Park and East Point Park. The preliminary objectives of the Project are: the integration of existing shoreline infrastructure or planned shoreline erosion works; acceleration of priority shoreline erosion control works along the Scarborough Bluffs and; the identification of access routes which will provide multiple benefits for public use and recreation, environmental sustainability and enhanced tourism opportunities. The preliminary vision of the Scarborough Waterfront Project is a system of linked scenic landscapes along the water's edge, providing a safe and accessible waterfront experience with opportunities to actively enjoy the outdoors, to relax and reflect, and to learn about and appreciate the natural and cultural heritage of the bluffs. The shoreline below Guild Park & Gardens is within the project study area. Although there are existing erosion protection works along this section of the shoreline, there are no formal public access points or trail system, items which will be considered in the preparation of the Environmental Assessment (EA). Public consultation on the EA began in Fall 2014; expected completion of the EA in Fall 2016.

For further information on the Scarborough Waterfront Project, please visit the project website at www.trca.on.ca/swp



Crothers Woods trail - image from the report

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT TRAIL STRATEGY

The City of Toronto's 'Natural Environment Trail Strategy', adopted in 2013, guides the planning, design, and management of trails in natural area parkland and ravine systems. The goal of the strategy is to "ensure protection of the City's natural areas while offering safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for all natural environment users by creating a sustainable multi-use trail system". Natural Environment Trails are informal dirt trails, heavily used by hikers, dog walkers, school and camp groups, mountain bikers etc. These trails have developed informally over the years, but cause damage to the urban forest from erosion and compaction of the soil and trampling of the understory. The report is grounded on the philosophy that it is better to plan for strategic recreational uses in natural areas, rather than try to fence off these areas to these active uses. The main strategies in this document are: stewardship and partnership, marketing and education, planning and design, and management.

For further information the report is published on the City's website and can be easily found by searching with the report title.

MULTI-USE TRAIL DESIGN GUIDELINES

The City of Toronto's 'Multi-Use Trail Design Guidelines' document is anticipated to be finalized in the fall 2014.

COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

Parks, Forestry & Recreation (PFR) division's Community Engagement Framework was endorsed by PFR Directors in June 2013. This is an internal PFR document.

PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY

There is a process in place for the Parks, Forestry & Recreation division to partner with advocacy groups. The Partnership Development Unit helps grassroots community groups with their fundraising projects.

ACCESSIBILITY PLANNING

The City of Toronto *Accessibility Guidelines* prepared a decade ago are currently undergoing a revision. There are new protocols for all City documents to be AODA compliant.



Toronto alliance for better parks

Community Engagement Initiatives

FERTILE GROUND FOR NEW
THINKING: IMPROVING TORONTO'S
PARKS

This paper is a reference document written by David Harvey in 2010 for the Metcalf Foundation. 'Fertile Ground for New Thinking: Improving Toronto's Parks', describes several factors affecting progress in Toronto's parks. The recommendations put forth in the report are as follows:

- 1. Put the community first; including, assigning parks maintenance staff to specific parks, assigning a parks animator to each park, encouraging the development of 'Friends Of' groups, implementing adopta-park programs, and increasing park use in the off-season.
- 2. Move from a culture of 'no' to a culture of 'yes;' including, experimenting with pilot projects, ending the insistence on developing a citywide policy for park amenities, overhauling the permit system, and increasing outreach to immigrant communities.

- 3. Capitalize on Creative Funding Ideas; including, reviewing the no-naming policy for corporate donations, allowing the establishment of conservancies and Park Improvement Areas, and reforming the way Section 37 funds are handled.
- 4. Use Food as a Tool to Engage with People in Parks; including, installing more barbeques, benches, picnic tables, and ovens, planting more community gardens, hosting more farmers' markets, allowing more cafes, food stands, bars, and using space in large parks for agriculture.
- 5. Develop a Citywide Voice for Parks; this includes forming an advocacy group to drive a parks agenda.

For further information the full paper is available online and can be easily found by searching with the title.

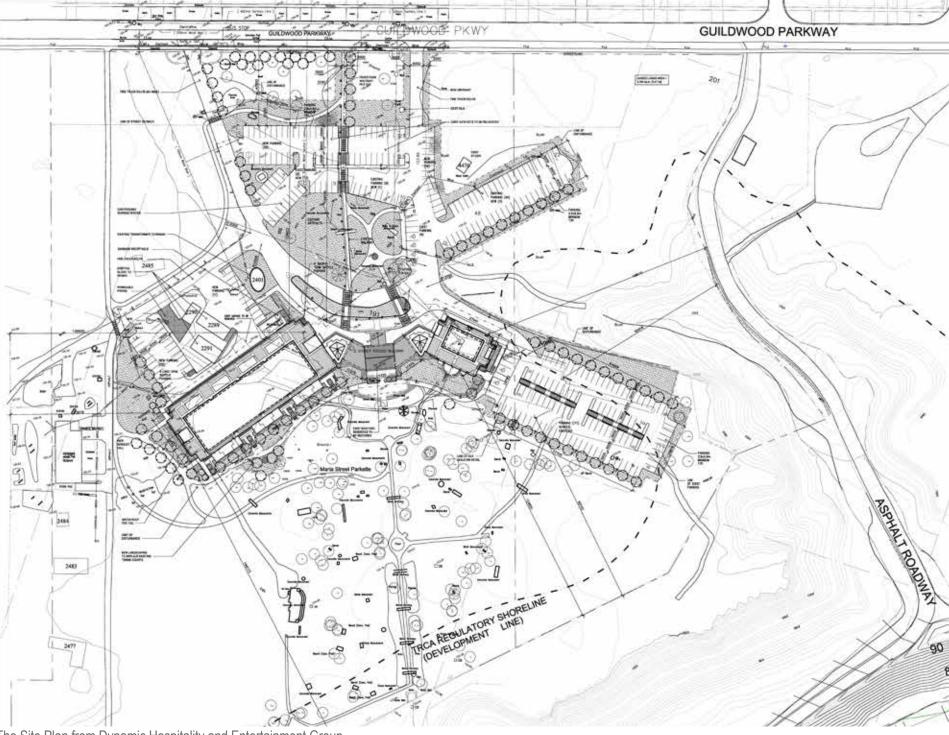


Development

CURRENT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

A development proposal is currently under review by the City's Planning Division. On July 16, 2013, City Council approved the selection of Dynamic Hospitality and Entertainment Group to design, build, finance and operate a new restaurant and banquet/event centre at the Guild Inn site. The development footprint is approximately 4.6 acres of the park site and includes the Guild Inn. It is bounded by Guildwood Parkway on the north and the park on the other sides. The program of the new centre will include banquet hall and facilities, a restaurant, office space, a covered outdoor ceremonial space, outdoor terraces with seating, and meeting rooms that are available for permitted community uses such as public meetings. This management plan does not include an evaluation or analysis of the proposed banquet facility development.

CURRENT SUBMISSION UNDER REVIEW



The Site Plan from Dynamic Hospitality and Entertainment Group

Legislative/Policy Context

PROVINCIAL POLICY STATEMENT 2014

The 'Provincial Policy Statement' issued under Section 3 of the Planning Act "set(s) out the government's land use vision for how we settle our landscape, create our built environment, and manage our land and resources over the long term to achieve livable and resilient communities."

The Provincial Policy statement includes key policies pertaining to heritage. Specifically Provincial Policy Statement 2.6.1 directs that "significant built heritage resources and significant cultural heritage landscapes shall be conserved." Properties included on the City's Inventory of Heritage Properties are considered significant in this context.

In the Provincial Policy Statement 2014, "conserved" is defined as "the identification, protection, use and/or management of built heritage resources in a manner that ensures their cultural heritage value or interest is retained under the Ontario Heritage Act." Guild Park and Gardens is included on the City of Toronto's Inventory of Heritage Properties.

For further information the full policy statement is available online and can be easily found by searching with the title.

OFFICIAL PLAN, 2006 AS AMENDED, CITY OF TORONTO

Toronto's Official Plan (OP) establishes a framework for managing growth and development across the City. Under the current OP, Guild Park and Gardens is recognized as part of the "Green Space System" (Map 2) and "Natural Heritage System" (Map 9), with sections designated "Natural Area" and "Park" (Map 23).

- Under Section 2.3.2, all parts of the Green Space System are to be improved, preserved and enhanced. Particular emphasis is placed on Green Space lands located along the water's edge, which are to be protected for public access and enjoyment.
- While policy 2.3.2.4 of the OP restricts the sale or disposal of publicly owned lands within the Green Space System, Site and Area Specific Policy (SASP) 265 exempts lands in the area of the Guild Inn from that restriction. Notably, Guild Park is part of a well-supplied park planning area where there is 1.57 to 2.99 hectares of park per 1000 people (Map 8B)."
- Although policy 4.3.2 generally prohibits development in designated Parks and Open Space Natural Areas and Other Open Space Areas, it may permit recreational and cultural facilities, conservation projects, cemetery facilities, public transit and essential public works and utilities.
- For sections that form part of the Natural Heritage System, additional requirements for protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural ecosystem are provided under Section 3.4. This section also includes policies for minimizing adverse impacts of any permitted forms of development, particularly with regard to environmentally significant qualities

and features. The requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement, and the role of the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority in managing the natural environment are recognized under Section 3.4.

Additional Site and Area Specific Policies that apply to Guildwood Park include SASP 115 and 305. SASP 115 recognizes the existing combination of public and private uses on the Guild Inn property, which continue to be permitted. Policies under SASP 115 also ensure future development is compatible with its surroundings, improves links to the trail system, ensures public accessibility, preserves historical features, and demonstrates high quality and innovative design. Finally, under SASP 305, the park is identified as a "Potential Heritage Conservation District".

The OP contains policies relating to the conservation of heritage properties.

Policy 3.1.5.2 of the OP states that "Heritage resources on properties listed on the City's Inventory of Heritage Properties will be conserved." The policy also states that "Development adjacent to properties on the City's Inventory will respect the scale, character and form of the heritage buildings and landscapes."

At its meeting of April 3, and 4, 2013, Toronto City Council adopted amendments to the OP heritage policies as City of Toronto By-law 468-2013 that establish additional heritage policies for the conservation of heritage resources.

ZONING BY-LAW 569-2013, CITY OF TORONTO

The majority of the study area is zoned "Open Space – Natural Zone (ON)" under the City of Toronto's new City-wide Zoning By-Law 569-2013, Section 90.20.20. This zone permits a park, agricultural use, public use, transportation use, public utility, ambulance depot, fire hall, and police station. Additional uses that are permitted with conditions include a club, cogeneration energy, education use, entertainment, place of assembly, recreation use, renewable energy, retail store, and stable.

A portion of the study area, including the Guild Inn property, is subject to the Guildwood Community Zoning By-law no. 9676 (former City of Scarborough). Under that by-law, the lands are designated "Major Open Space (O)", with seven performance standard stipulations, including:

- a 40 metre setback from Guildwood Parkway,
- a minimum 30 m setback from the stable top-of-bank,
- a maximum height of 8 storeys,
- a maximum gross floor area for all uses of 18,580 square metres,
- a maximum gross floor area for banquet halls of 2,323 square metres, and
- a minimum building setback of 100 from the streetline.



CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT, O.REG. 166/06

The Conservation Authorities Act, Ontario Regulation 166/06, 'Toronto and Region Conservation Authority: Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses', was approved in 2006. This regulation establishes where interference with wetlands and alterations to shorelines and watercourses may adversely affect environmental features. Areas adjacent to the shoreline of the Great Lakes are part of the Regulated Area. Under this regulation, any development, interference, or alteration within the Regulated Area is prohibited unless a permit is obtained from TRCA.

For further information the full regulation is available online and can be easily found by searching with the title.

RAVINE & NATURAL FEATURE PROTECTION BY-LAW

The purpose of the Ravine and Natural Feature Protection (RNFP) By-law is to promote the management, protection and conservation of ravines and associated natural and woodland areas and to prohibit and regulate the injury and destruction of trees. The By-law also prohibits filling, grading, and dumping in ravine lands that are not subject to the TRCA fill regulation. Schedule A of the By-law identifies the areas to which the By-law applies.

The majority of the Guild Park & Gardens lands is protected under this By-law with the exception of a large section in the part of the site where the existing buildings and formal gardens are located.

The RNFP section of Urban Forestry administers the By-law. Any project or initiative, of any scale, that entails disturbance of a tree or disturbance within the minimum required tree protection zone (TPZ), requires a permit from Urban Forestry. RNFP also ensures that site restoration is implemented in alignment with the principles and guidelines set out in the City's Strategic Forest Management Plan.

For further information the full By-law is available online and can be easily found by searching with the title.

CITY TREE BY-LAW AND PRIVATE TREE BY-LAW

The purpose of the City Tree By-law and the Private Tree By-law is to regulate the removal or injury of trees 30cm in diameter or larger, and to ensure replacement plantings are planned to support the City's urban forest expansion goals.

The Tree Protection and Plan Review (TPPR) section of Urban Forestry is responsible for administering and implementing the City Tree By-law and the Private Tree By-law in areas that are not included under the Ravine and Natural Feature Protection By-law. In Guild Park & Gardens, this applies to the large section in the east part of the site where the existing buildings and formal gardens are located.

Any project or initiative, of any scale, that entails disturbance of a tree(s) or disturbance within the minimum required Tree Protection Zone (TPZ), requires a permit from Urban Forestry.

For further information the full By-law is available online and can be easily found by searching with the title.

TRCA & CITY OF TORONTO MANAGEMENT AGREEMENTS - 1967, 1972

The 'Memorandum of Agreement made this 14th day of June A.D. 1961 between The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto' delineates the responsibilities of the Authority and Metro in acquiring and developing flood plain and conservation lands for park and recreational purposes. Per the agreement, The Authority is to acquire the lands and turn them over to Metro to develop and maintain. No permanent buildings are to be erected without consent from The Authority, and The Authority retains control of river channels, flood control, river protection, erosion control and dams.

The 'Memorandum of Agreement made this 11th day of October, 1972 between The Metropolitan Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and The Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto' delineates the updated responsibilities of The Authority and Metro in acquiring and developing flood plain and conservation lands for park and recreational purposes. The Authority is the designated implementing agency for the Metropolitan Toronto and Region Waterfront Plan, 1970. Per the agreement, The Authority is to acquire the lands and prepare master plans and, when approved by Metro, carry out development. Metro retains the responsibility to maintain the lands for parks, recreation and conservation. Any plans for subsequent development must be approved by The Authority. No permanent buildings are to be erected without consent from The Authority, and The Authority retains control of shoreline management and protection against erosion.

City of Toronto now assumes all management responsibilities outlined for Metropolitan Toronto as part of these agreements.

ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT

The Guild Park and Gardens is protected under provisions of the Ontario Heritage Act. The former City of Scarborough recognized the cultural heritage value of the Osterhaut Cabin and passed By-law No. 19126 designating this structure on July 21, 1980. Toronto City Council enacted By-law No. 266-1999 further enhancing the protection of the property by recognizing the significance of the Guild Inn, and the surrounding architectural fragments and sculpture. In 2005 Council amended this By-law to include the Sculpture Studio and Building 191.

As result of the current redevelopment proposal for the Guild Inn and the Management Plan for the Guild Park and Gardens, Heritage Preservation Services re-evaluated the property under the current Provincial criteria for designation under the Ontario Heritage Act. Through this review staff determined that a number of key views and historic pathways met the criteria for protection under the Act. At the recommendation of City Planning Staff, the existing heritage by-laws have been consolidated into a single by-law that includes all of the heritage attributes on this property. This was approved by Council August 25-28, 2014.

THE STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC PLACES IN CANADA

In 2008 Toronto City Council adopted the Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada as the official document guiding planning, stewardship and conservation approach for all listed and designated heritage resources within the City of Toronto. As the Guild Park and Gardens is designated, decisions relating to its ongoing and long term maintenance should be consistent with the Standards and Guidelines.



PLAN PROCESS

Plan Process

The Management Plan commenced in February 2014. The Plan was commissioned by the City of Toronto's Capital Works, Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division. The plan process involved ongoing coordination with the site's partners – TRCA and the City of Toronto Parks Forestry & Recreation Division, as well as representatives from other participating City departments. Coordination with the site's partners was organized through an Advisory Team led by the City Project Manager which met regularly to review the Plan's development.

The consultant team reviewed and synthesized extensive background research including policies, plans, reports, data, maps and photographs of Guild Park & Gardens. In addition the consultant team conducted a site walk on May 23, 2014.

Development of the management plan was informed by consultation with stakeholders and the public. Public and stakeholder input has been key in developing this Management Plan.

The Management Plan is intended to be an adaptable and living document moving forward.

Consultation

Representatives from a number of community groups including Friends of Guild Park & Gardens and the Guildwood Village Community Association, participated in stakeholders sessions and public workshop meetings. These sessions included:

SFSSION #1

Stakeholder Workshop: April 22, 2014

An evening workshop was held with 13 representatives of key stakeholder groups. Attendees included representatives from Guildwood Village Community Association, Friends of Guild Park & Gardens, Guild Renaissance Group, Guild Festival Theatre, Cedar Ridge Studio Gallery, and Chartwell Retirement Residence as well as a number of City departments including Parks Operations, Parks Capital Projects, Facilities, and Culture. Councillor Paul Ainslie attended. Representatives from Sir Wilfred Laurier Collegiate, Jack Miner Senior Public School, Toronto Police and Toronto Fire Services and TRCA were invited but gave their regrets.

Participants provided feedback on Existing Conditions and Analysis Maps for the four management themes. They also contributed key words from their perspective to help build a Guild Park & Gardens vision statement.

SESSION #2

Public Workshop: April 29, 2014

An evening workshop was held. Close to 200 community members participated in the workshop which began with presentations, followed by break-out table conversations organized around the four management themes. Presentations were made about other related plans, the Cultural Precinct Plan and the proposed development by Dynamic. A presentation about the Management Plan outlined the plan process, schedule, and the purpose and framework of a management plan. A brief outline of Guild Park history and its special cultural and natural heritage character and value was presented. Maps of Existing Conditions and Analysis for each of the four management themes were presented.

Following the presentations, participants engaged in break-out table conversations facilitated by City staff from the Steering Committee. During these sessions participants were invited to provide input and comment on four identified management theme areas. Lively conversation filled the room and the City received numerous positive feedback comments about the public workshop. A summary of the input received was posted on the City's Guild Park & Gardens website.

A series of questions was posed for each of the theme areas including:

Natural Heritage

- How important is it to protect the natural woodlands of Guild Park & Gardens?
- Are you familiar with the Ash Tree forest management program in response to

- Emerald Ash Borer disease in the park woodlands?
- What balance should be struck between natural woodland and manicured park?
- What opportunities are there for volunteers? Are you interested in participating in natural heritage stewardship in the park?
- What types of uses are appropriate in the context of the natural environment?

Culture/Heritage

- What is your experience with the heritage buildings on site? How could it improve?
- What is your experience with the heritage artefacts? How could it improve?
- The City is planning to define and protect heritage views and heritage walkways in a by-law, as shown on the map. How important is it to protect the walkways and views?
- What kinds of usage are appropriate in the context of culture/heritage on the site?e.g. Discovery Walks, interpretive heritage element?

Park/Horticulture

- To what extent should the park be open lawn or manicured garden?
- What character should the garden beds have? Colourful perennial gardens? Historic estate garden? Native plants? Other?
- Are you interested in the City possibly restoring historic garden beds from the

early estate period of the Guild of All Arts?

- What types of uses are appropriate in the context of the manicured park and horticultural bed areas of the site?
- What are the opportunities for community participation in stewardship and maintenance of the park and garden beds? Are you interested in volunteering?

Trails

- Which trails do you use? Who else uses the trails? joggers, students, etc?
- What type of trails should there be? paved? gravel? mown grass? etc?
- How wide should the trails be?
- Are current trails located appropriately?
 Are there places where new trails could be useful?
- Should new links in the trail system be provided to connect with the surrounding community? What connections might be made to adjacent properties such as Sir Wilfred Laurier? Other connections?
- How can we help park users understand the serious risk of trail hazards and encourage them to stay on safe trails?

SESSION #3

Public Workshop: June 19, 2014

A public meeting was held in the evening to present the Draft Management Plan for feedback. Appriximately 60 members of the Guildwood community attended, including representatives from Friends of Guild Park & Gardens, and The Guildwood Village Community Association. A presentation of the Draft Plan by The Planning Partnership focused on the four management themes: Natural Heritage, Culture/Heritage, Horticulture/ Park, and Trails. For each theme a summary of Key Issues, Management Guidelines, Initiatives and Priorities was presented. Following the presentation, participants were actively engaged in discussions at breakout tables on the four themes, plus Events and Communications. Each conversation was facilitated by a City staff member from a related division. Positive comments about the process were received by City staff and the consultation team members. Participant's feedback on the Draft plan were carefully recorded and summarized by the consultant team.

Each consultation session was summarized by the consultant team and published in an AODAcompliant format on the City of Toronto PFR website.



Public workshop help for the project

CONSULTATION SUMMARY

The comments received during the consultation sessions have been incorporated into this document. They have been used to develop the vision statement and guiding principles as well as to identify key initiatives and priority actions.

The key points raised during these sessions include:

- recognition of Guild Park & Gardens as a very special destination park within the city
- strong support for family-friendly passive recreation, high quality horticultural displays and a network of safe, accessible trails
- support for protection and enhancement of natural heritage systems and cultural heritage resources

- support for arts and culture focused park programming that is sustainable
- interest in community stewardship opportunities
- desire for a master plan process to follow the management plan development
- desire for a heritage interpretation plan for the park that encompasses cultural and natural heritage planning
- concern about the impact of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) on the park site and interest in active mitigation measures for the tree removals associated with EAB
- concerns about the development proposal for a banquet facility and restaurant incorporating The Guild Inn in terms of public access, cost, increased parking, potential changes to parks operations
- strong support for the Draft Management Plan and the key issues, guidelines, initiatives and priorities identified in the plan for the four management themes



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Key Issues

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Existing Conditions & Analysis

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natural heritage

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natural heritage

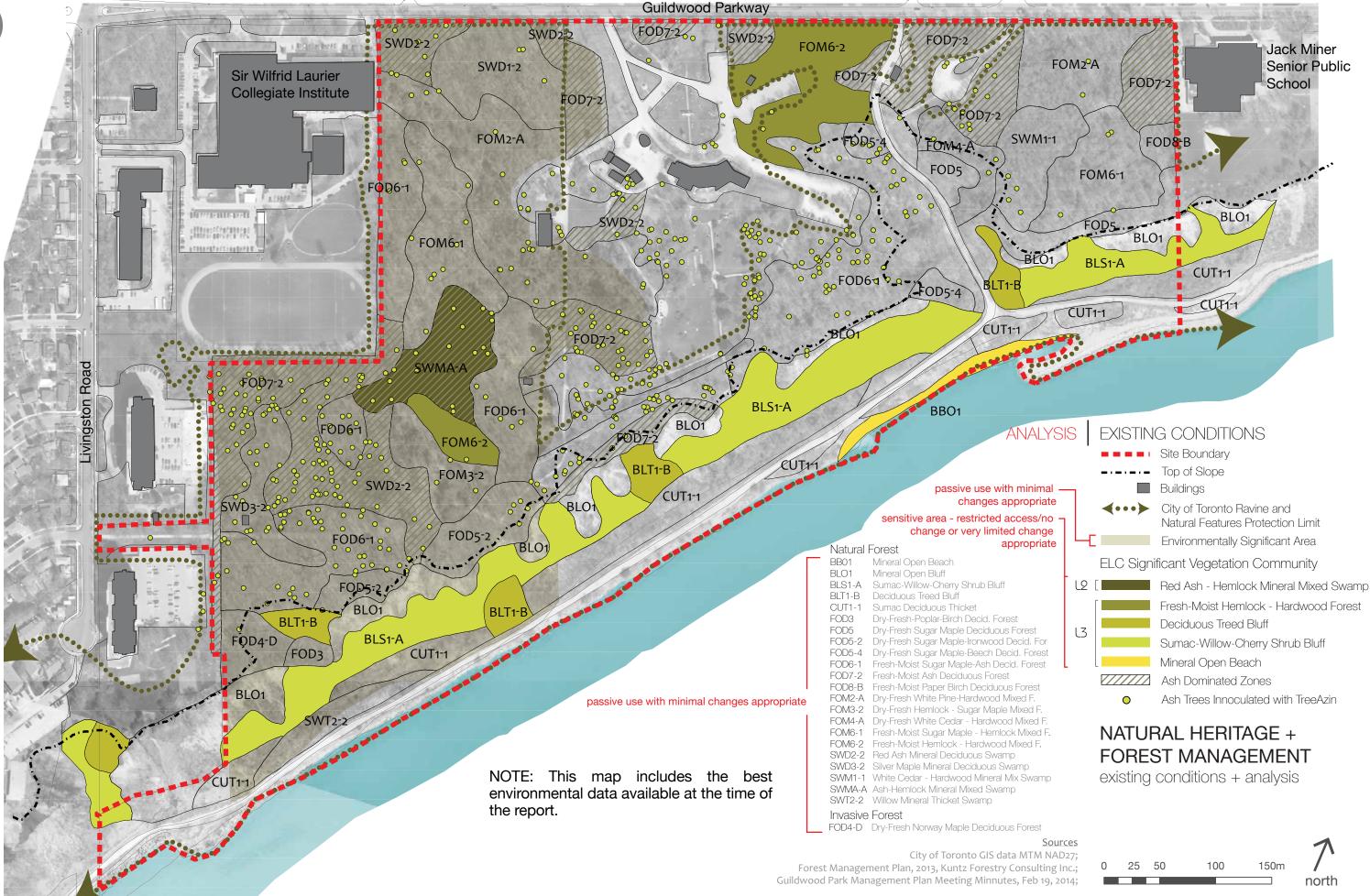
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NATURAL HERITAGE

Existing Conditions & Analysis - Forest Management & Bluffs

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

Guild Park & Gardens is a 36 hectare extensively forested landscape with rare swamp communities. The natural woodland areas are a popular destination for walkers, bird watchers and photographers. Much of the forested area is flat with visible areas of swamp. The majority of the Guild Park & Gardens site is designated in the City of Toronto's Official Plan under Map 9, Natural Heritage.

Environmentally Significant Area

Guild Park & Gardens has been assessed as part of an overall Environmentally Significant Area (ESA) study within the City of Toronto. Guild Park is identified as ESA #35, including tableland with Bluffs along the southern edge. The ESA designation is based on the site's habitat for vulnerable, rare, or threatened species and its vulnerable, rare, threatened, or endangered communities. The area also has "ecological function contributing appreciably to the healthy maintenance of a natural ecosystem

beyond its boundaries" (marsh and swamp communities that provide water storage area of 3.9ha). The park contains 4 significant vegetation communities, 33 significant plants, 22 native plant natural forest communities, and 6 significant animals.

ELC High Quality Sensitive or Rare Plant Communities

The Park contains four regionally significant plant communities as defined by The Toronto and Region Conservation Authority 2011 Vegetation Inventory (Ecological Land Classification) and City Planning 2012 Environmentally Significant Area Study.

In Ontario, the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) defines ecological units on the basis of bedrock, climate (temperature, precipitation), physiography (soils, slope, aspect) and corresponding vegetation. This classification of the landscape enables planners and ecologists to organize ecological information into logical integrated units to enable landscape planning and monitoring.

Woodland Character

Guild Park is located within the transition life zone between the Southern and Great Lake-St. Lawrence Forest systems (TRCA, 2005). This area is characterized by both the coniferous trees of the northern Boreal forest such as white pine, eastern hemlock, and white cedar, mixed with deciduous trees such as sugar and red maples, red oak, basswood, and birch (OMNR,

2012b). The ESA designation is related to the special woodland character. The presence of a red ash and silver maple forest community type has limited distribution in the TRCA region. It also provides habitat for the provincially and regionally rare wood reedgrass (*Cinna arundinacea*). Surrounding urban pressures have resulted in the fragmentation of natural areas.

The ash dominant woodland of Guild Park & Gardens has been affected by Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB has caused ash decline and death. Trees were removed to reduce risk to park users and workers.

Bluffs

The southern portion of the park property forms part of the Scarborough Bluffs, a feature that is recognized globally, provincially, and locally as a significant landform. The Bluffs are an important natural geological feature that is internationally known as one of the most remarkable examples of the Wisconsin glacial stage of the Pleistocene geological era.

The Scarborough Bluffs expose a thick sequence of sediment deposited from the last period of glaciation known as the Wisconsin glacial stage. This stage represents the last time that major continental ice sheets advanced across the North American continent. The Great Lakes are remnants of glacial lakes that bordered the vast continental ice sheets. The uplifting of the Great Lakes following the ice melting resulted in the recession of the shoreline and formation of the Bluffs.

Erosion

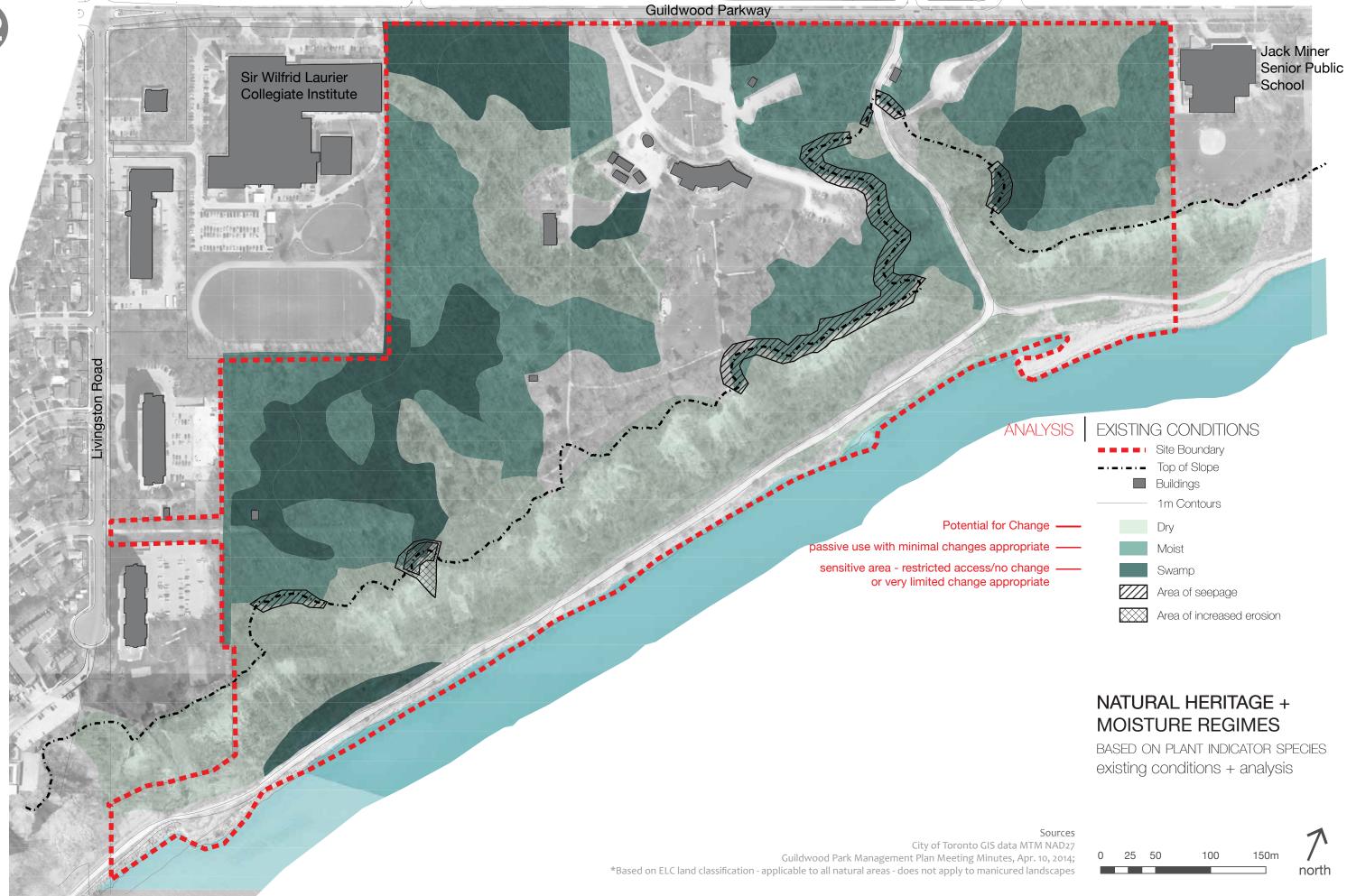
Ongoing erosion of the Bluffs is being managed by TRCA by stabilizing the shoreline of Lake Ontario. The Bluffs' face has developed vegetation that reduces soil erosion but does not stop it. The slope will continue to erode until it reaches a stable angle of repose (the steepest angle to which a material can be piled without slumping).

Erosion of the Bluffs can be accelerated by point source surface water runoff from the top of the Bluffs. Management of such erosion is linked to management of hydrology at the site.

Erosion is also accelerated by water seepage from the Bluffs' face on the surface of exposed clay layers in the soil profile. This water seepage undermines the upper sand layers, resulting in erosion that cannot be controlled by management of surface water.

Disturbance in Guild Forest

Infrastructure such as trails, roads and buildings constructed in forested natural heritage areas have created an impact over time, including fragmentation and disturbance due to maintenance requirements for the infrastructure. Buildings located within forested areas adjacent to the formal gardens include Cory Cliff Lodge, Duncan Barn, a number of cottages and administrative buildings, and designated heritage building Number 191.



Existing Conditions & Analysis - Moisture Regimes By Plant Indicator **Species**

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

This map denotes moisture regimes derived through plant indicator species. The plant indicator species are drawn from data relating to the Ecological Land Classification (ELC) zones. Each zone is analyzed based on the variety of plant species found in the area. From this data, moisture and habitat types are extrapolated based on aggregation of the types of habitat in which each species may be found. For example, the presence of marsh marigold, ash, and hemlock indicate a moist to swampy area whereas the presence of oak, pine, or beech indicate a drier site.

Additionally, the topography of the landscape indicates moisture levels. For example, the steep slopes of the Bluffs are not able to retain water and therefore this feature indicates a dry zone. All zones classified as swamp are expected to be wet at all times of year. Zones labelled as moist can be expected to retain water and be wet during the spring and fall when precipitation is higher as well as after large rainfall events due to summer storms. Dry zones are well draining and can be expected to be moist only during or shortly after large rainfall events or during spring thaw.

The areas of water discharge indicated on the map are the areas where moist to swampy

soils are the result of ground water surface flow. In these seepage areas we can anticipate that there is increased water flowing over the steep edge of the Bluffs and therefore there is an estimated higher potential for erosion.

The area denoted as 'area of increased erosion' was identified by numerous stakeholders as a specific problem site where erosion is occurring more rapidly than in other zones along the edge of the Bluffs.

Soils, Slopes, Hydrology

The subject property is predominantly tableland with a few areas of steep ravine slopes and the severe relief of the Scarborough Bluffs at the southern edge of the property. Drainage in many areas of Guild Park is poor and there are treed swamps throughout with standing water. Surface rockiness is approximately 3% in most areas. Soils maps indicate sandy loams can be expected within this area, and soil augers performed by TRCA staff indicate silty clay loams within this area.

Rare Hydrological Features

Guild Park & Gardens contains upland tableland swamps and meadow-marshes that have formed as a result of water collecting on impermeable substrates. Rare within the City of Toronto, treed swamps and intact emphemeral vernal pools (temporary pools of water, providing habitat) are also found at Guild Park & Gardens.

Hydrological Disturbance

The construction of drainage swales that drain the wetlands have affected hydrology, although their drainage function has been slowed by fallen debris.

Development around Guild Park has also affected natural heritage areas, such as the elevated running track at Sir Wilfred Laurier Collegiate Institute on the west side which drains water into the Guild Forest area of the Park.

	Significant Species:	
;	Anemone acutiloba	sharp-lobed hepatica
; ì	Angelica atropurpurea	great angelica
	Aster umbellatus var.Umbellatus	flat-topped aster
	Bromus ciliatus	fringed brome grass
	Carex intumescens	bladder sedge
	Carex lupulina	hop sedge
	Carex tuckermanii	Tuckerman's sedge
	Carya ovata	shagbark hickory
	Chelone glabra	turtlehead
	Cinna arundinacea	wood reed grass
	Claytonia caroliniana	broad-leaved spring beauty
	Cystopteris tenuis	Mackay's fragile fern
	Fraxinus nigra	black ash
	Gymnocarpium dryopteris	oak fern
	Hamamelis virginiana	witch-hazel
	Helianthus decapetalus	thin-leaved sunflower
	Juglans cinerea	butternut
	Juncus effusus ssp. solutus	soft rush
	Lilium michiganense	Michigan lily
	Lonicera canadensis	fly honeysuckle
	Lonicera dioica	wild honeysuckle
	Pedicularis canadensis	wood-betony
	Picea glauca	white spruce
	Polygonatum pubescens	downy Solomon's seal
	Polystichum acrostichoides	Christmas fern
	Ribes triste	swamp red currant
	Sanicula odorata	clustered sanicle
	Shepherdia canadensis	buffalo-berry
	Solidago arguta var. arguta	stiff goldenrod
	Streptopus roseus	rose twisted-stalk
	Taxus canadensis	yew
	Viburnum acerfolium	maple-leaf viburnum
	Viburnum trilobum	highbush cranberry
į	Accipiter striatus	sharp-shinned hawk
	Dryocopus pileatus	pileated woodpecker
	Geothlypis philadelphia	mourning warbler
٠	Setophaga pinus	pine warbler
	Toxostoma rufum	brown thrasher
	_ , , , , , , , , ,	_

Troglodytes troglodytes



MANAGEMENT THEMES

winter wren



Existing Conditions & Analysis - Wildlife and Forest Management

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

The park is an important site for migratory birds, nesting birds, and mammals such as deer and fox. Wildlife habitat is necessary to sustain wildlife populations in Guild Park.

Forest management is linked to wildlife habitat. Tree cavities are important for cavity nesting birds (eg. screech owls) and small mammals (eg. squirrels). Woody debris benefits wildlife and should be retained where possible. Rotting wood benefits soil structure, increases soil nutrients over time and holds moisture. Brush piles can provide wildlife refuge and may help deter deer predation on new tree plantings where access is more difficult. Small mammals also use brush piles for nesting. Larger logs can act as hosts for regenerating species and can provide breeding locations for keystone species like salamanders.

The presence of wildlife in relation to public risk and safety raises management concerns. The presence of deer, for example, will increase the risk of disturbance to regenerating forest species and the presence of deer ticks that may carry Lyme Disease Wildlife habitat is threatened by forest fragmentation caused by ad-hoc trails, spread of invasive species with little forage value, loss of native biodiversity (wildlife food source,) loss of forest structure (shrubs that provide shelter), and tree removal required to manage public risk.

Existing Conditions & Analysis - Pest Outbreaks

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

The most significant pest outbreak at Guild Park & Gardens at this time is Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB began causing ash tree mortality in 2012 and is expected to kill most of the untreated ash trees in the park by 2017. While over 500 ash trees have been protected using TreeAzin injection, continued

protection will require trees to be injected every 2 years, for an indefinite period of time. Not all injected trees will survive. Removal of infected ash trees to minimize public risk from falling trees has created new openings in the forest canopy which are at risk of changing the plant communities through increased invasive species

Significant Vegetation Communities:

Vegetation Community	TRCA Rank
Red (Green) Ash - Hemlock Mineral Mixed Swamp	L2
Deciduous Treed Bluffs	L3
Fresh-Moist Hemlock - Hardwood Mixed Forest	L3
Willow Shrub Beech	L3

'TRCA Rank' refers to the conservation priority of a vegetation community. The ranking system goes from L1 to L5, with L1 being the highest priority.

The ranks at the Guild Park & Gardens site can be interpreted as follows:

- L2 of regional concern; typically found in high-quality natural areas and under highly specific site conditions; probably at risk in Toronto
- L3 of regional concern; restricted in occurrence and/or requires specific site conditions; generally occurs in natural rather than cultural areas

Existing Conditions & Analysis - Invasive Species

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

The Guild Park property is heavily impacted by non-native, invasive floral species. Invasive species are those that out-compete native species due to developmental opportunism such as rapid plant growth, prolific seed production, vigorous root production, or early leaf flush and late leaf flush. It is due to their particularly opportunistic nature that makes them such a significant threat to native plant communities. The proliferation of invasive species is very difficult to eradicate in large park areas.

Some of these species have spread naturally from wind and animals while others have been introduced through horticulture.

On the tableland, the main invasive species include buckthorn, honeysuckle, dog strangling vine and garlic mustard. These understorey invasive species are found in many naturalized areas of Toronto parks and ravines. Norway maple are invasive within the forest canopy.

Invasive species located on the Bluffs cannot be managed due to access limitations.



common buckthorn - image from invasives.org





Tartarian honeysuckle - image from invasives.org



multiflora rose - image from invasives.org



dog strangling vine - image from weedscanada



Asiatic bittersweet



Norway maple - image from invasives.org



Japanese knotweed - image from Credit Valley CA



periwinkle - image from Hayley Anderson

SOME OF THE PRIORITY INVASIVE SPECIES ON-SITE



Key Issues

KEY ISSUE 1

BIODIVERSITY

Guild Park & Gardens contains a high quality natural area with environmentally significant natural features and native biodiversity that need to be protected and enhanced. A key issue is the risk to biodiversity associated with ash tree mortality, pest outbreaks, invasive species, erosion and trail development.

KEY ISSUE 2

INVASIVE SPECIES

Guild Park & Gardens is subject to the spread of many tree, shrub, vine, and herbaceous species that are invasive. Invasive species threaten native biodiversity and habitat while they alter the special character of the natural heritage areas.

KEY ISSUE 3

PEST OUTBREAKS

Pest outbreaks create ecological disturbance and are a threat to biodiversity and habitat. The most significant pest outbreak at Guild Park at this time is Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Ash is the dominant forest species in the Guild Park forest. Wide spread ash mortality associated with EAB at Guild Park may result in the modification of plant community types. Native ash may be replaced with non-native invasive species. Removal of infected ash trees to minimize public risk from falling trees has created new openings in the forest canopy and highly visible areas of disturbance that also affect park user experience.

West Nile Virus is an avian pathogen that can be transmitted among birds and humans by bird-biting mosquitoes. Toronto Public Health will continue to monitor mosquito populations and when necessary treat manicured areas of Guild Park.

KEY ISSUE 4

HYDROLOGY

With its upland tableland swamps and meadow-marshes, treed swamps and rare, intact ephemeral vernal pools, Guild Park has a unique hydrological character. The impact of necessary tree removals due to Emerald Ash Borer has not been quantified but is anticipated to affect the hydrology of Guild Park & Gardens. The hydrological changes anticipated from tree removals include:

- reduced water evaporation from loss of leaf surface
- increased areas of swamp and duration of wet conditions
- risk to plants that are not adapted to wet conditions
- potential impact on biodiversity from changes to the wetlands

KEY ISSUE 5

EROSION

Ongoing erosion of the Scarborough Bluffs at Guild Park is being managed by TRCA.

Erosion of the Bluffs is part of the public safety concern associated with waterfront vistas as described in the Trails section of the Management Plan (page 76).

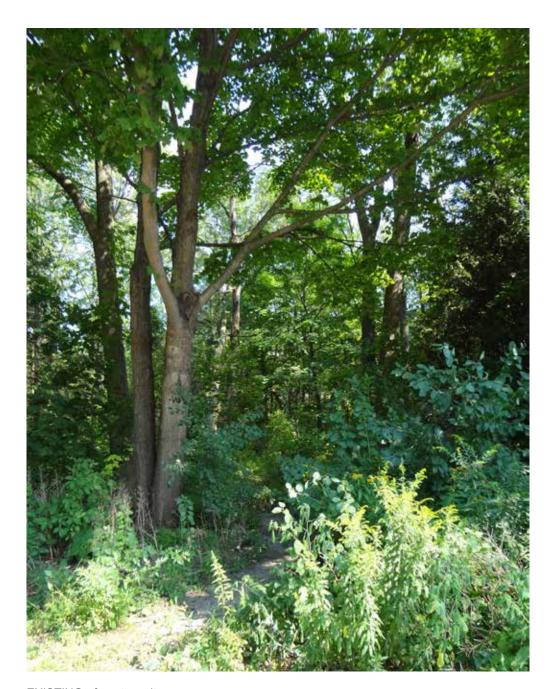
Coordination to continue with TRCA on park management practices of the tableland park areas. Additional erosion control measures are to be considered such as treating stumps near the Bluffs edge, managing groundwater flow over the Bluffs, and planting native species shrubs to buffer the edge and support Bluff soils.

KEY ISSUE 6

MANAGING WILDLIFE

The park is an important site for migratory birds, nesting birds, and mammals such as deer and fox. Wildlife habitat is necessary to sustain wildlife populations in Guild Park.

Wildlife habitat is threatened by forest fragmentation caused by ad-hoc trails, spread of invasive species with little forage value, loss of native biodiversity (food source), loss of forest structure (shrubs that provide shelter), and aggressive tree removal required to manage public risk.



EXISTING - forest on-site



Key Issues

KEY ISSUE 7

EVALUATING INFRASTRUCTURE

There is a need to review existing infrastructure within the forest areas (including buildings, hydro poles and wires, fencing, culverts, swales, trails, and parking lots) to determine what should be protected and what should be removed. A well-planned approach to removing unwanted infrastructure can minimize disturbance to natural heritage and reduce future tree maintenance requirements. Some infrastructure may have heritage value. Any proposal to remove infrastructure needs to be coordinated with Heritage Preservation Services.

KEY ISSUE 8

RISKS AND SAFETY

Forest Management

Hazardous trees affected by Emerald Ash Borer, extreme weather damage, and other factors need to be managed for public safety in natural heritage areas.

Waterfront Vistas

Outstanding waterfront views are a primary draw for park users. The location and character of vista points need to be planned for and managed. Vista points close to the Bluffs are a risk to public safety.

Hazardous Plants

Hazardous plants on site include poison ivy and cow parsnip.

Hazardous Wildlife

Some wildlife bring associated risk to public safety. For example, deer will increase the presence of deer ticks that may carry Lyme Disease.

KEY ISSUE 9

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Public engagement is required to increase public awareness about the Park's valuable natural heritage features and the inter-relationship between key issues.

Public engagement is also key to understanding:

- best management practices of the forested areas
- invasive species management
- negative impacts associated with some forms of recreational use such as cycling and off-leash dog walking
- impact of plant salvage activity of wild leek populations
- public risk and safety issues
- stewardship opportunities



cow parsnip - image from gobotany.newenglandwild.org



poison ivy - image from weedinfo.ca



EXISTING - forest floor on-site



Management Guidelines

GUIDELINE 1

GUIDELINE 2

GUIDELINE 3

RETAIN & PROTECT NATURAL HERITAGE AREAS

Preserve and protect existing natural heritage areas based on the Ecological Land Classification (ELC), Environmentally Signficant Area (ESA) designation and:

- Retain and enhance existing ecological associations by implementing threetiered plantings (canopy, understorey, groundcover), and prioritizing native species that support biodiversity and wildlife habitat.
- Enhance site areas with significant specimen loss due to Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) by aggressive replanting of native species.
- Maintain existing large blocks of habitat and minimize edge effects in areas that have been disturbed. Maximize connectivity between habitats.
- Maintain wildlife habitat that does not conflict with public safety

MANAGE FOR NATURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

Plan and manage the forest areas to protect natural heritage systems. Establish management guidelines to protect natural heritage area:

- Avoid introduction of invasive species by not importing soil to natural areas
- Avoid introduction of invasive plants and control spread of existing invasive plants from horticulture beds to natural areas
- Ensure that planting in natural areas uses stock sourced from local seed sources
- Schedule infrastructure maintenance projects (boardwalk, fencing, culvert maintenance, pathway chip application) when the ground is drier and forest plants can be protected (late summer/early fall OR during early winter).
- Identify vehicular access routes through natural areas and limit to routes that can sustain vehicles during non-frozen ground conditions.
- Ensure park staff are aware of locations of rare plants/species at risk, to protect species when conducting park operations.

- Coordinate forest management with trail management guidelines in Section 4 of this plan, ie restrict bikes to designated paved surfaces, install signage to identify that natural surface trails are not to be used by bikes and implement permeable trail surfaces.
- Map and identify trails to encourage appropriate use. Refer to Trails section of the Plan.
- Protect areas of high quality habitat from heavy recreational use, which, even if passive, can lead to trampling, erosion, trash accumulation, plant collecting.
- Limit removals of trees and shrubs and use the least invasive removal practices to minimize injury to surrounding areas.
- Stewardship / planting plans must be reviewed and approved by Urban Forestry
- Develop an infrastructure management plan

ASSESS CARRYING CAPACITY OF SENSITIVE HABITATS

- 1. Identify sensitive habitats based on prevalence of rare species, potential for breeding populations, and the quality of ecological associations.
- 2. Establish a gradient of sensitivity for a better understanding of how sensitive habitat areas should be preserved by using appropriate tools for minimizing impact.
- 3. Encourage minimal and localized disturbance, such as raised boardwalks to isolate and direct movement by park users.
- 4. Develop specific area management plans to provide additional protection and restoration measures for species of concern / sensitive species.

INVASIVE SPECIES & PEST OUTBREAK

GUIDELINE 4

MANAGEMENT

Employ a spectrum of responses to control invasive species and pest outbreaks, ranging from intense insecticidal control of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) to mechanical control of more localized pest populations, or a case by case approval of spot herbicide applications for established invasive monocultures.

The principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) include a rigorous monitoring programme which will then inform an environmentally sensitive approach to pest control.

A controlled, time sensitive and ecologicallysound pest management strategy is recommended.

GUIDELINE 5

MANAGE PUBLIC SAFETY

Park user safety is a primary concern for the City. Manage natural heritage areas to provide a safer user experience. Safety can be enhanced in the following ways:

- Manage hazard trees near trails, park infrastructure and property boundaries by selective pruning or tree removal. A permit from Urban Forestry may be necessary.
- Maintain safe trail surfaces, remove trail blockages and prune vegetation as required to maintain safe access. Refer to Trails section of the Management Plan.
- Manage hazardous vegetation within buffer zones of trails.
- Interpretation strategies must identify concerns to help the public understand risks associated with off-trail park use, such as ash trees affected by EAB that remain standing when they are located away from trail areas.

COORDINATED INTERPRETATION

STRATEGY

GUIDELINE 6

Engage the public through a natural heritage interpretation strategy that will educate park users about the special character of the natural heritage areas as well as increase awareness of safety and risk issues.

The interpretation strategy should be linked to signage and wayfinding within the natural heritage areas, and be integrated with the signage and wayfinding guidelines within the Trails section of the Management Plan.

HYDROLOGY & BLUFFS EROSION

GUIDELINE 7

Managing hydrology is linked to managing erosion of the Bluffs from surface drainage over the Bluffs' edge.

To manage hydrology:

- Establish/predict a future stable top of slope by conducting a geotechnical evaluation.
- Commission a technical hydrological study.
- Establish a drainage plan that minimizes surface drainage directed to the top of Bluffs to reduce erosion.
- Promote permeable surfaces to decrease or slow surface runoff.



Key Initiatives

KEY INITIATIVE 1 KEY INITIATIVE 2 KEY INITIATIVE 3 KEY INITIATIVE 4

DEVELOP A TRAIL MANAGEMENT PLAN

Develop a trail management plan that considers existing trails and disturbances, forest and tree protection and supporting municipal By-laws, rare plant protection, active erosion areas, protection of cultural heritage, desired use and opportunities for vistas and interpretation.

Coordinate Trail Management Plan with planning initiatives in the Trails section of the Management Plan, which includes a recommendation for a Trails Master Plan.

MAINTAIN/ENHANCE NEW PLANTINGS

Maintain and enhance new tree and shrub plantings to ensure successful replacement of forest canopy lost as a result of Emerald Ash Borer infestation, and to protect biodiversity.

Consider increased plantings of native shrubs such as silky dogwood in forest swamp areas to increase evapotranspiration and reduce area and duration of ponding water. EVALUATE SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE PATTERNS

Commission a technical hydrological study. to evaluate surface water drainage patterns and supportive infrastructure to determine future maintenance requirements, timeline, and potential impacts to plant communities.

Reduce point source erosion at the edge of the Bluffs by reducing conveyance through culverts and swales and increase evaporative water management by implementing shrub planting as a low impact measure to increase evaporation and evapotranspiration on the table lands.

IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Solicit input from community members to determine priorities for staff support. For example:

- Develop walking tours or brochures to support self directed tours
- Design a native plant garden with associated labels and plant community information to identify natural habitat
- Support a resource group to meet with stakeholders
- Plan and implement planting events for public involvement.
- Develop park signage and online information that will educate the public about the impact of off-trail trampling of sensitive natural heritage areas
- Create community engagement opportunities to educate the public about key periods of wildlife activity such as spring songbird migration and fall hawk migration.

KEY INITIATIVE 5

KEY INITIATIVE 6 KEY INITIATIVE 7 KEY INITIATIVE 8

IMPLEMENT INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

Implement invasive species control where it is economically feasible. Prioritize species to be controlled, locations to implement control and best management practices while recognizing that resources may be limited and there are significant challenges.

Prioritize invasive species controls to maintain new plantings and locations of rare or significant plants. Develop a system to evaluate the balance between the associated financial costs and the resulting ecosystem benefit.

IMPLEMENT A COORDINATED INTERPRETATION AND ENGAGEMENT **PLAN**

The complex inter-relationship between key issues and initiatives in the natural heritage areas of Guild Park, as well as the intersection with natural heritage and the three other management themes for Guild Park make a coordinated interpretation and engagement plan a key need.

The engagement plan will include a communications protocol to notify community members about planned forest management activities. Effective communication is needed to foster trust with the park user community following the ash tree removals that were not well understood by the public.

Design a communication strategy that emphasizes accessibility, transparency and accountability.

Design and implement a broad interpretation and engagement strategy that increases awareness about all of the key issues and initiatives, and is coordinated with other management themes.

DEVELOP AN INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Develop an infrastructure management plan starting with a review and inventory of existing infrastructure within natural heritage areas (including buildings, hydro poles and wires, fencing, culverts, swales, trails, and parking lots).

Evaluate what infrastructure needs to be maintained and protected and what infrastructure elements are no longer functional and could be removed.

Plan an approach to removing unnecessary infrastructure using methods that will be least disruptive to trees and natural heritage resources.

For infrastructure that is to remain, develop a maintenance schedule that is timed to limit disturbance to plant communities and wildlife cycles, such as spring songbird migration and fall hawk migration.

Alternative less invasive construction/ maintenance methods and technologies should be explored in order to minimize disturbance to natural heritage areas.

ENHANCE WILDLIFF HABITAT

Enhance wildlife habitat for insects, birds and mammals. For example tree cavities are suited for cavity nesting birds such as screech owls. Bird boxes could be installed to enhance the available habitat. Consult with wildlife experts at TRCA and other local experts to identify all available opportunities for enhancing wildlife habitat through retention of coarse woody debris, snags and wildlife trees, cavity trees and other specific habitat features that are present on site., where these wildlife trees do not pose a public risk.

Deer are prevalent on the site and can be impacted by dogs off leash. More park user education is required to help with this issue.



CONTINUE TO TREAT ASH TREES TO MANAGE EMERALD ASH BORER

Continue to treat ash trees to protect them from Emerald Ash Borer (EAB.) Continue to monitor results to determine whether treatment is effective or should be modified over time.

KEY INITIATIVE 9 KEY INITIATIVE 10

EXPAND NATURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION AND AREAS

Review current Environmentally Significant Area boundaries to include natural habitats throughout the eastern portion of the park that include significant flora and fauna and other significant features.

Re-evaluate transition areas on forest edges adjacent to manicured parkland. Naturalize and expand edges where possible to reduce mowing and reintroduce native ground cover. Some key areas exist along Guildwood Parkway and south-west of the main park entrance. Native ground cover could also be reintroduced to some treed areas south-east of the Inn. Additional areas could be converted to forest at the north end of the park.

Provide additional protection / restoration measures and technologies for species of concern / sensitive species. Coordinate the expansion of natural heritage protection and areas with guidelines for culture / heritage and horticulture / park with respect to clear demarcation of manicured lawn areas.



EXISTING - edge of the Scarbourough Bluffs on-site

Priority Actions

PRIORITY ACTION 1

MANAGE IMPACTS FROM ASH MORTALITY

Fell trees where necessary to manage public risk and reduce future damage to healthy forest trees/shrubs/herbaceous plants and infrastructure; maintain / enhance tree and shrub plantings to restore canopy; control invasive plants in selected areas. Consult with Urban Forestry for permits as required.

PRIORITY ACTION 2

IMPROVE TRAILS

Improve natural heritage area trails to improve visitor experience and limit trampling impacts. Trails in wet areas to be improved by installing raised boardwalks to provide park users with a dry path and prevent creation of new paths. Coordinate with the trails section of the Plan.

PRIORITY ACTION 3

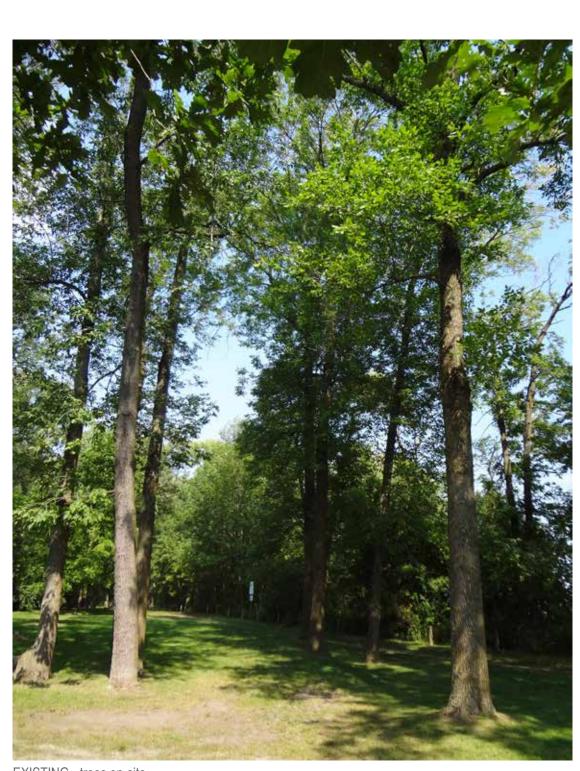
IMPLEMENT A COORDINATED INTERPRETATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Implement an Interpretation Strategy to help people understand all of the key issues, the changes that have occurred and the unique and valuable characteristics of the natural heritage areas in Guild Park. Work with stakeholders to increase interpretation opportunities.

PRIORITY ACTION 4

REVIEW INFRASTRUCTURE INVENTORY

Review infrastructure inventory to recommend a plan for maintenance and replacement as well as for removal of unnecessary infrastructure.



EXISTING - trees on-site

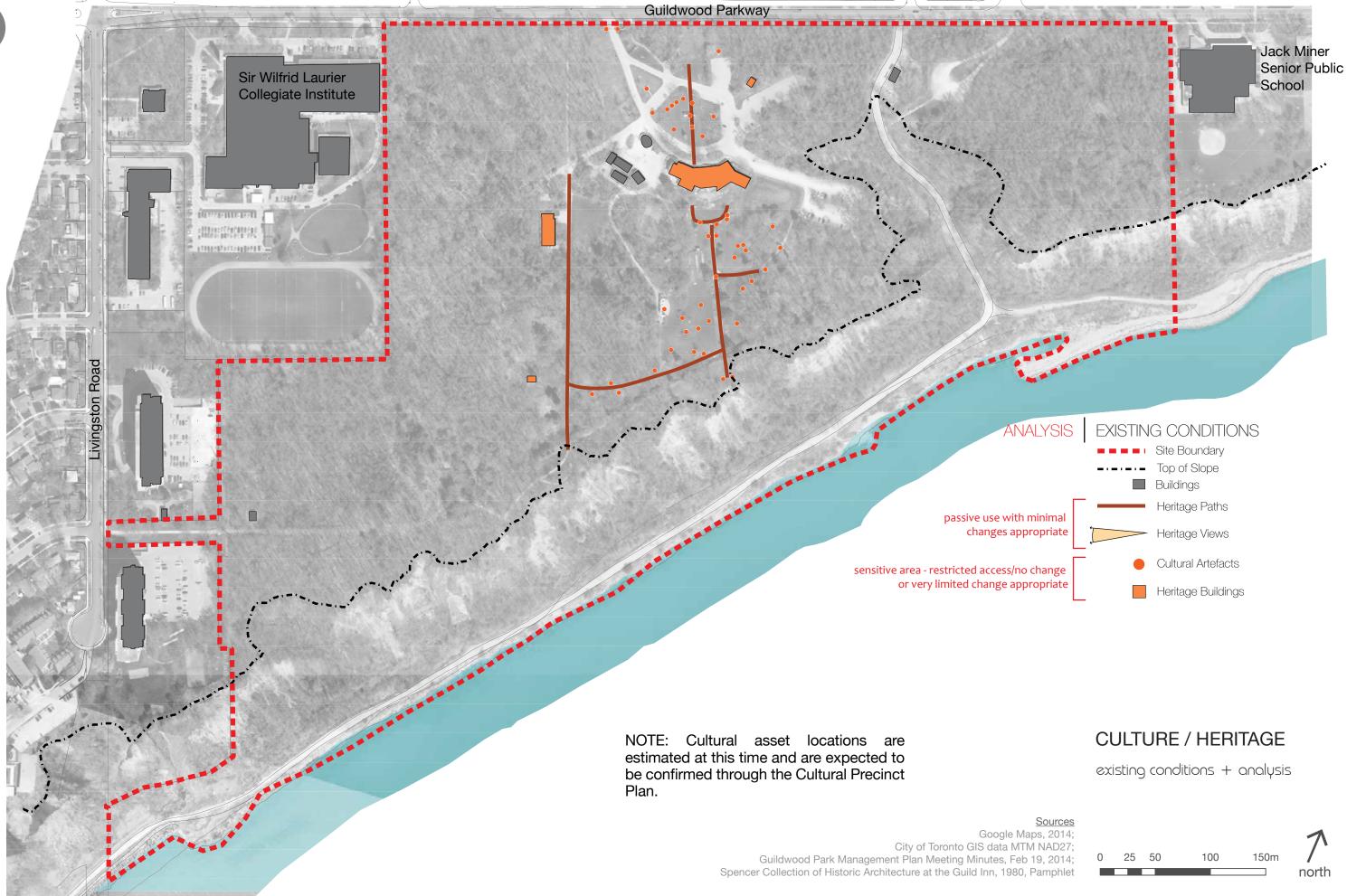


culture/heritage

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CULTURE/ HERITAGE

Existing Conditions & Analysis

The heritage and culture components of Guild Park & Gardens are one of the defining aspects of the park's identity and park user experience. The heritage components are concentrated in the central, manicured park and gardens area of the park. The park includes four heritage buildings, a collection of architectural fragments and sculpture, heritage walkways and heritage views. Many of the features are protected under provision of the Ontario Heritage Act. The sculptures and architectural fragments are part of the City of Toronto's Public Art Collection, known as The Guild Collection.

A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE APPROACH

This section of the report utilizes a 'cultural landscape' framework to describe and understand the site, and to make management recommendations about conserving heritage values.

The 2011 Parks Canada 'Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada' defines a cultural landscape as 'any geographical area that has been modified, influenced, or given special cultural meaning by people'. The document

identifies three possible types of Cultural landscapes: 'designed', 'organically evolved' or 'associative'.

Guild Park & Gardens is both a designed and an organically evolved cultural landscape. A cultural landscape framework is helpful to comprehend and conserve the cultural value of the site, as it allows for an approach that considers the broader context and relationships of important features, rather than only listing the important features themselves. Importantly, a cultural landscape approach considers significant buildings and artefacts, both of which are components of the Guild Park & Gardens site, as components of the cultural landscape. The value of the buildings and of the artefacts cannot therefore be understood or conserved in isolation from an understanding of the landscape in which they are situated.

The Parks Canada document provides a framework for breaking down the component parts of a cultural landscape. These component parts are listed as 'evidence of land use, evidence of traditional practices, land patterns, spatial organization, visual relationships, circulation, ecological features, vegetation, landforms, water features and built features'. This section of the management plan provides a summary of the character defining elements of Guild Park & Gardens, described within the Parks Canada framework for cultural landscapes.

In this section, further description has been devoted to three of the most important

component parts of the site. Within the category of 'built features', buildings and artefacts; within the category of 'land patterns', the designed waterfront estate structure; and finally within the category of 'visual relationships', key views.

SUMMARY OF CHARACTER-DEFINING ELEMENTS

Land Patterns

(designed lakefront estate structure, sculpture courts, Greek Theatre)

• Landforms

(Bluffs and graded terraces at south side of estate house)

Spatial Organization

(entry sequence)

Vegetation

(horticultural elements)

Visual Relationships

(key views)

Circulation

(pathways)

Water Features

(the lake)

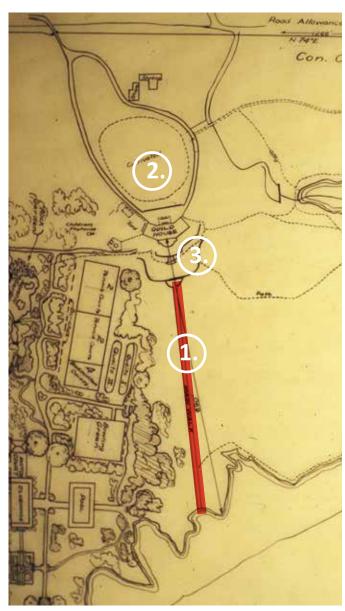
• Ecological Features

(refer to natural features section)

Built Features

(buildings, sculpture and architectural fragments)





HISTORIC - 1934 site plan indicates the 'Main Walk' as a key organizing element for the south lawn; the early designed landscape structure at Guild Park & Gardens consists of:

- 1. Axial view/path and formal lawn and gardens
- 2. Picturesque approach/forecourt



HISTORIC - Pre-war aerial of the site reveals the main walk as the dominant element in the landscape

LAND PATTERNS

A strong landscape structure is present at Guild Park & Gardens; this structure was created during the estate landscape era of the site's history and evolved during the Guild of All Arts period, and underpins the experience of the site to this day. The structure is typical to lakefront estate properties of the early 20th century and few extant examples remain.

While the site has evolved over time and many features have been added, removed or changed, this original landscape structure is critical to understanding and evaluating the cultural heritage value of the individual features of the site, including artefacts, views, structures, and sequences of experience.

The site's landscape structure includes a picturesque lawn to the north of the house and the arrival sequence, the siting of the house with views to the lake, a formal terrace at the south of the house, and a main axial connection from the house to the lake, formalized by a distinct promenade and a large open lawn.

BUILT FEATURES

BUILDINGS

There are four heritage buildings on the site. All four buildings are currently off limits to the public.

The Bickford House (1914) with its 1930s and 1940s wings stands as the centrepiece of the property. It is adjoined to the northeast by the Sculpture Studio (1940) and to the west by Building 191 (1963), which were commissioned for the site and supported the Guild Inn's original role in training artisans and its later function as an important repository for Rosa and Spencer Clark's art collection.

Located at the west end of the site on property acquired by the Clarks in 1934, the building known historically as the Osterhaut Cabin contributed to the evolution of the Guild Inn as an artists' retreat and tourist destination and, while altered over time, remains a rare example of a log cabin in Scarborough and Toronto. Although earlier sources suggest that the cabin dates to the late 18th or early 19th centuries, more recent research indicates that a building was not recorded on the site until 1861 when the decennial census listed members of the Humphreys family as the occupants. Architectural and archaeological investigations to date have not produced a definitive history of the Osterhaut Cabin, but document the alterations and repairs to the building over time.

All four buildings are currently off-limits to the public

ARTEFACTS AND PUBLIC ART

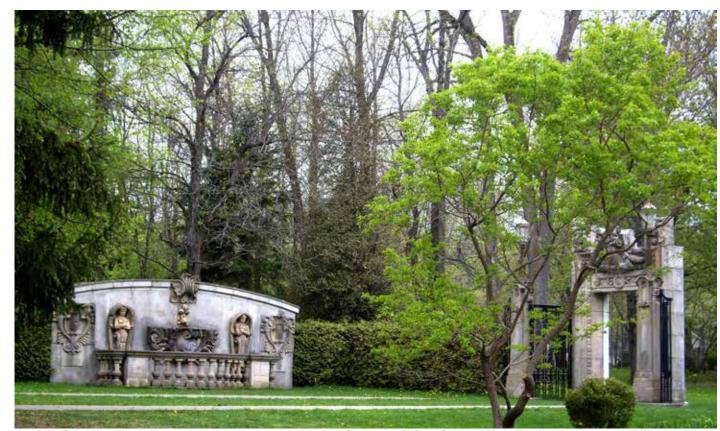
Many of the heriitage artefacts are architectural fragments from large scale 19th and early 20th century city buildings which were salvaged by Spencer Clark and reinstalled during the park's Guild of All Arts period. Some, like the Greek Theatre, have given rise to programming in the park that takes advantage of the unique opportunities presented by heritage architecture in a sculpture park setting. The Guild Festival Theatre, for example, produces an annual theatre festival of classics on the open-air stage of the Greek Theatre.

The collection of architectural artifacts and free-standing sculpture include structures purpose-built for the Guild Inn such as the Brick Kiln and Wishing Well.

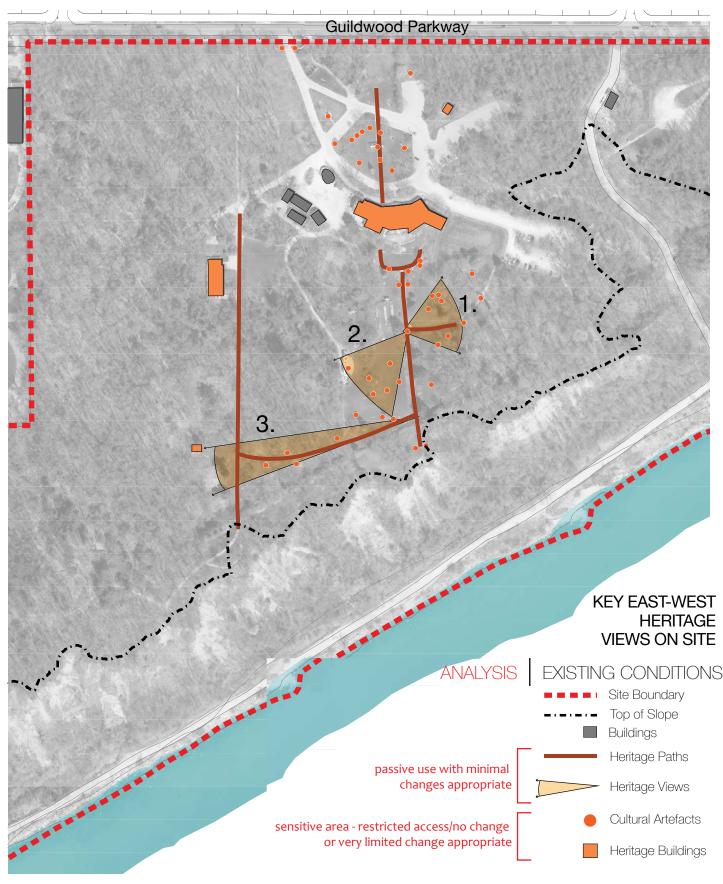
There is a small collection of public art sculptures on site, including the beloved Bear Sculpture by E.B. Cox and Michael Clay (1979).







EXISTING - Architectural fragments and sculpture - clockwise from top left, from fragment from Boldt's, Bear sculpture, fragment from Ontario Travel Secrets, fragment from Gardener's World



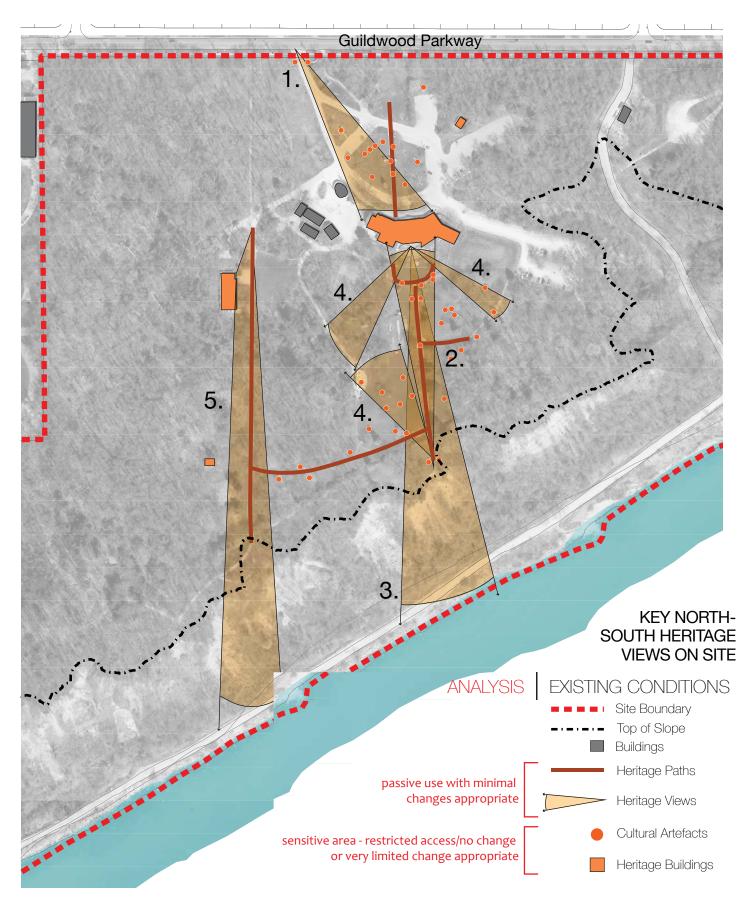
VISUAL RELATIONSHIPS

The key **east-west** views at Guild Park & Gardens are:

- 1. The view east from the fountain (which is placed on the north/south path between Bickford House and the south entrance to the property) across the landscaped open space with the sculpture collection in the southeast garden
- 2. The view west to the Greek Theatre from the main north/south pathway (extending from and to the south terrace of the Bickford House to the south entrance to the property)
- 3. The view west to the Osterhaut Cabin from the south entrance to the property

The key **north-south** views at Guild Park & Gardens are:

- 1. The arrival sequence and views from the north entrance gates to the north façade of the Bickford House, which encompasses the public sculpture inbetween
- 2. The views to and from the south terrace of the Bickford House and the south entrance to the property at the edge of the Scarborough Bluffs, along and adjoining the north/south path
- 3. The views to the lake from the south terrace of the Bickford House, along the main north-south path
- 4. The views to and from the south terrace of the Bickford House, southwest and southeast between the house and the sculpture collections, including the Circle of Columns, which are set in landscaped open space with trees
- 5. The view south from the west entry to the property (west of the main entrance gates) to the Scarborough Bluffs and Lake Ontario that takes in Building 191 on the west side of the pathway



The view to the lake:



EXISTING - Primary view and path to lake - today. View to the lake is partially obstructed by plant material.

The arrival sequence:



EXISTING - View from main entrance gate to Guild Inn building - today. Entry sequence of estate landscape structure has been compromised.



PRECEDENT - Evidence suggests that during the period when it was an estate landscape, the experience of arrival at the Guild Inn site would have been heightened through design. Similar to other lakefront estates of the period, such as the Smye estate in Oakville shown above, the approach would have been characterized by a curving entrance drive through sculpted lawns along which trees and lower plantings would have been strategically placed to offer glimpses, hide, and then reveal the house as one approached. The intent of such a picturesque front lawn was to amplify and dramatize the experience of arriving at the house.



Key Issues

KEY ISSUE 1

UNDERSTANDING GUILD PARK & GARDENS THROUGH A CULTURAL LANDSCAPE LENS

As an overarching framework a cultural landscape approach ensures that the cultural values associated with Guild Park & Gardens are conserved and restored in a balanced manner founded on an understanding of how the component parts work together. As part of this cultural landscape approach, conservation and management decisions focus not only on individual objects or elements but also on the bigger picture consideration of spatial relationships within the park user experience.

The following key issues are intended to be understood within this cultural landscape framework. They draw from the "Understanding" stage of the conservation decision-making process as described in Parks Canada's Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

KEY ISSUE 2

CONSERVATION OF HERITAGE VIEWS

The most significant view on site, from the terrace of the Bickford house through the formal landscape to the lake has deteriorated over time and should be restored.

Today, trees and shrubs planted formally along the length of the path, as well as vegetation at the terminus of the view (at the top of the Bluffs), hem in the view and block the all important visual relationship to Lake Ontario. As a result, the fundamental experience of the site, the grand promenade to the top of the Bluffs where the sublime view is revealed, has been lost.

Several other heritage views have been identified within the site (on pages 46-47); their restoration should also be considered.

KEY ISSUE 3

CONSERVATION OF ARRIVAL SEQUENCE

A number of the cultural heritage elements that give character to the site have deteriorated over time, and should be improved. The quality of the arrival experience has been undermined by the addition of:

- insensitive lighting,
- utility poles and wires,
- a circulation route that has been modified over time to become less curvilinear and graceful
- and a lack of a cohesive planting strategy that could complement the artefacts in this area, while also helping to create a more gardenesque setting, and restore a picturesque arrival sequence.

The arrival experience has been deteriorated through the haphazard placement of parking lots over the years, which should be more formalized in any redevelopment proposal.

KEY ISSUE 4

CONSERVATION OF HERITAGE BUILDINGS

The Bickford house has been unoccupied for a number of years and the specifics of its current condition are unknown, although the building is salvageable. The primary issue facing this building is finding a viable tenant to occupy it with a program suitable to the park, and for appropriate rehabilitation work to be undertaken.

CONSERVATION OF ARTEFACTS & THE PUBLIC ART COLLECTION

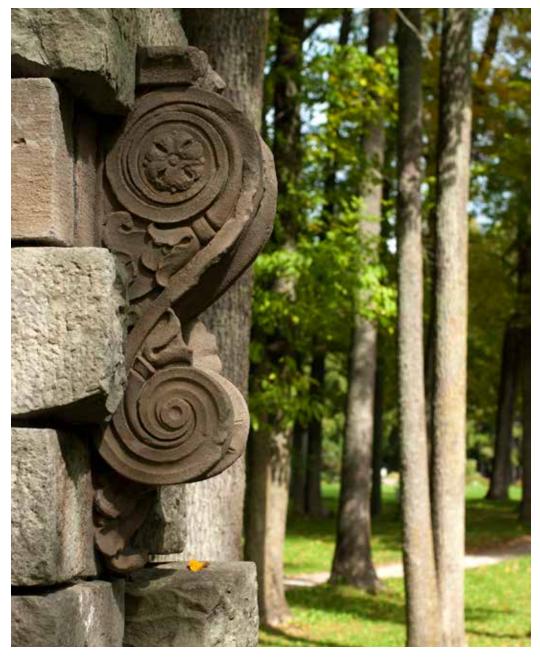
A large collection of artefacts and public art works exists on site in varying conditions, without a formal conservation plan. A comprehensive condition assessment should be undertaken, and management measures outlined, to ensure that all artefacts and art works are structurally stabilized, and that damage from exposure to the elements is mitigated over time. The condition assessment should prioritize the conservation of objects based on need. As well, a response plan is required to address vandalism in a timely manner. Existing artefacts and the public art collection are managed by Cultural Partnerships.

KEY ISSUE 6

NEED FOR CULTURE / HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

Currently, the rich cultural heritage resources on site are underserved by a lack of high quality interpretation.

Cultural heritage themes should be incorporated with natural heritage themes to create a rich overarching interpretation program for the park.



EXISTING - artefact on-site



Management Guidelines

GUIDELINE 1

GUIDELINE 2

GUIDELINE 3

RESTORE AND PROTECT THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

The park's cultural landscape should be visually clarified through the restoration of the site's landscape structure. Guild Park is situated within a unique geographical setting along the Scarborough Bluffs. This setting is integral to the site's landscape structure and provides the foundational principles of the site's spatial organization. The development of this spatial organization is also linked to the Guild of All Arts period. The landscape structure should be clarified through a comprehensive restoration program which prioritizes key cultural heritage features as discussed in the guidelines that follow.

These Guidelines represent the "Planning" stage of the conservation decision-making process as described in Parks Canada's Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

- Maintain or select an appropriate and sustainable use
- Identify project requirements
- Determine the primary treatment
- Review the standards

RESTORE HERITAGE VIEWS

Restore heritage views to make more apparent the organizing landscape structure of the site. Restoration of heritage views can be achieved through the following measures:

Vegetation and Horticulture Management

Develop a phased management plan that identifies key trees and shrubs within heritage views for pruning, selective removal and replacement with appropriate species to ensure clear and open views to the lake over time. Location and species of future tree and shrub planting along axial pathway may need to be different from existing, in order to ensure the conservation of the heritage view. Restoration of the horticultural gardens at the south terrace and along the main axial pathway from the estate house to the lakefront should enhance and not obscure the main axial view, and provide a sensory experience as one walks toward the Bluffs and lake.

New Fencing

New fencing system for safety at the top of the Bluffs at the south end of the main axial view should maintain a clear and unobstructed view to the lake.

RESTORE THE ARRIVAL SEQUENCE

Restore primary cultural landscape features including the picturesque forecourt to the north of the estate house.

Picturesque Forecourt

Restoration of this feature requires a reconfiguration of circulation routes to create a more graceful approach to the house. The new circulation route should enclose an open lawn or forecourt. A horticultural planting scheme should reference the original design intentions of a lakefront estate arrival sequence including carefully designed glimpses of the estate house and artefacts upon the approach that are opened up and then hidden to create a sense of drama. The re-location or burial of power lines, a co-ordinated lighting strategy, and re-location of parking areas are also recommended as part of the restoration of this cultural landscape feature.

GUIDELINE 4

GUIDELINE 5

CONSERVE HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Conserve or rehabilitate the heritage buildings on-site. Future conservation work should conform with heritage best practices.

CONSERVE THE COLLECTION OF PUBLIC ART / ARTEFACTS AND INTEGRATION OF NEW ARTEFACTS

Conserve The Guild Collection of existing public art and artefacts and develop a policy for potential integration of new artefacts. Opportunities for disassembled artefacts stored on site should also be considered.

Conservation of Public Art and Artefacts

A conservation program for existing public art and artefacts should include maintenance and protection strategies.

Opportunities for Disassembled Artifacts

Several disassembled artefacts are being temporarily stored within an enclosed outdoor area behind Building 191. Potential adaptive reuse opportunities for these artefacts should be explored.

New Artefact Policy

Develop and implement a comprehensive new artefact policy. Cultural Partnerships to establish a decision-making matrix for potential location and relocation of any new artefacts on the Park site. Protection of cultural heritage landscape structure defined in Existing Conditions and Analysis summary (page 43-47) is to be applied to matrix.

New Public Art Guidelines

Develop and implement comprehensive new public art guidelines to manage the potential integration of new public art with recognition that there is limited space to add new works. The guidelines should consider opportunities for loans and temporary exhibitions and set guidelines for sculpture location that recognizes the unique geophysical and ecological conditions of the site.



EXISTING - artefact on-site - The Wishing Well



GUIDELINE 6

DEVELOP A CULTURAL HERITAGE INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

Develop an interpretation strategy that clarifies the site's cultural heritage value. The interpretation strategy should reveal the "bigger picture" of the site's cultural heritage and should clarify the relationship between the features that compose this cultural landscape.

Key Cultural heritage themes that could be explored include:

- the origin narrative of the various artefacts (building site and history, artists and architects, story of demolition and salvage etc.) and artworks
- the designed lakefront estate era history of the site
- narratives relating to the Clarks and the Guild of all Arts
- scientific and geological discoveries related to studies of the Scarborough Bluffs

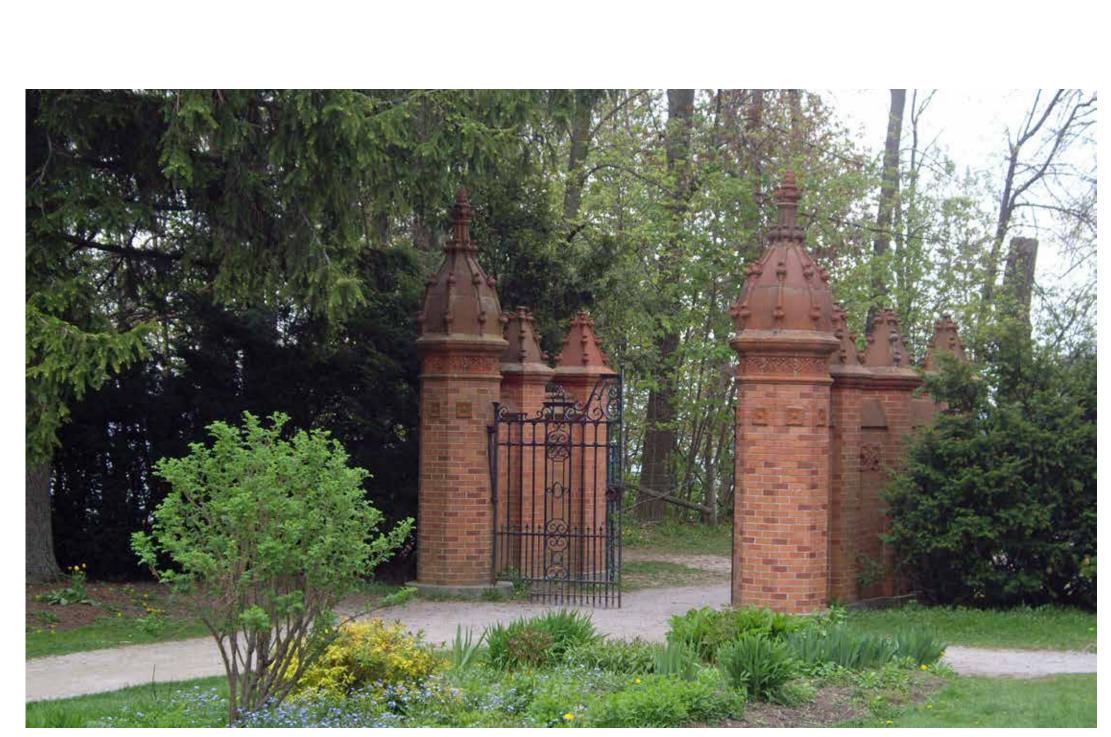
The strategy should be guided by the principles outlined in the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Ename Charter (2007). See adjacent callout box.

7 Principles of International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Ename Charter

The purpose of this charter is to define the basic principles of Interpretation and Presentation as essential components of heritage conservation efforts and as a means of enhancing public appreciation and understanding of cultural heritage sites.

- 1. Access and Understanding: Interpretation and Presentation programs should facilitate physical and intellectual access by the public to cultural heritage sites.
- 2. Information Sources: Interpretation and Presentation should be based on evidence gathered through accepted scientific and scholarly methods as well as from living cultural traditions.
- 3. Context and Setting: The Interpretation and Presentation of cultural heritage sites should relate to their wider social, cultural, historical, and natural contexts and settings.

- 4. Authenticity: The Interpretation and Presentation of cultural heritage sites must respect the basic tenets of authenticity in the spirit of the Nara Document (1994).
- 5. Sustainability: The interpretation plan for a cultural heritage site must be sensitive to its natural and cultural environment, with social, financial, and environmental sustainability among its central goals.
- 6. Inclusiveness: The Interpretation and Presentation of cultural heritage sites must be the result of meaningful collaboration between heritage professionals, host and associated communities, and other stakeholders.
- 7. Research, Training, and Evaluation: Continuing research, training, and evaluation are essential components of the interpretation of a cultural heritage site.



EXISTING - gateway artefact on-site



Key Initiatives

The following Key Initiatives are based on the Guidelines above and represent action items that can serve as first steps towards the conservation and rehabilitation of Guildwood Park. These Key Initiatives represent the "Intervening" stage of the conservation decision-making process as described in Parks Canada's Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places in Canada.

KEY INITIATIVE 1 KEY INITIATIVE 2 KEY INITIATIVE 3 KEY INITIATIVE 4

DEVELOP A HERITAGE INTERPRETATION PLAN

Develop a heritage interpretation plan that could include:

- Signage
- Maps
- Online Content
- Self- guided tours with digital tools
- Walking Tours
- Interpretive Public Art

The interpretation plan could incorporate natural and cultural heritage.

Local heritage groups already facilitating seasonal walking tours on site can be connected to other elements listed above.

RESTORE THE MAIN AXIAL VIEW IN PHASES

Implement a management and replacement program that prioritizes the restoration of the main axial view from the south terrace to the waterfront. Enlist a landscape architect to design and implement the horticultural garden beds along the main axial path, to identify new planting areas for future vegetation, and to design an appropriate fencing strategy for the south end of the site.

Identify key trees and shrubs for selective pruning to restore the main view from the estate house to the lake. Identify key trees and shrubs that currently block key views but, once they die naturally, should not be replanted in the same location that blocks the view. Replacement of the tree or shrub should occur in a designated area away from the view to be restored. This is a long term sequential strategy for restoring heritage views.

Coordination with Parks and Forestry departments and TRCA is necessary for this long term program on-site.

RESTORE THE ARRIVAL SEQUENCE IN PHASES

Enlist a landscape architect to develop and implement a new plan and planting scheme for the picturesque forecourt.

Identify key trees and shrubs for selective pruning to restore the arrival sequence. Identify key trees and shrubs that currently interrupt the arrival sequence and evaluate whether to keep them and, if they are kept, once they die naturally not to replant in the same location. Plant new trees and shrubs in locations dictated by the overall planting plan that complements the design intent of the arrival sequence to be restored. This is a long term sequential strategy for restoring the arrival sequence.

Coordination with Parks and Forestry departments and TRCA is necessary for this long term program on-site.

INTEGRATE LIGHTING STRATEGY WITH PARKS LIGHTING AND INTERPRETIVE STRATEGIES

Develop a cohesive lighting strategy for the park for safety and to enhance park user experience. Examine potential lighting of cultural heritage elements in broader context of heritage interpretive strategy and lighting of park and garden areas. This should also consider ongoing cultural programming that occurs in association with the artefacts and sculpture.

KEY INITIATIVE 5

CO-ORDINATE SITE MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT

Co-ordinate site maintenance and management with Parks, Forestry & Recreation and other related City divisions. Develop strategies with City staff to ensure consistent maintenance of the site's vegetation and horticulture for both short-term and long-term timelines with special consideration given to the retention of heritage views.

Priority Actions

KEY INITIATIVE 6 KEY INITIATIVE 7

L

CO-ORDINATE WITH CULTURAL PRECINCT PLAN

Establish a clear mandate to coordinate the Guild Park & Gardens Management Plan with the Cultural Precinct Plan. Articulate and refine shared visions and objectives to enhance the Guild Park & Gardens as an arts and cultural centre.

KEY INITIATIVE 8

CREATE A SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT VISTA

Initiate the integration of a prominent safe lookout opportunity to enhance the experience of the site's cultural heritage landscape. Consider a design competition to garner a world-class design proposal for the lookout which could position Guild Park & Gardens as a destination park for the city. Identify potential locations for the lookout site with consideration given to emphasis on heritage views, the site's landscape structure as well as safety in relation to the sensitive Bluffs zone.

KET INITIATIVE /

ARTEFACTS & PUBLIC ART POLICY

Create a policy for the management of existing and new public art and artefacts that prioritizes the following initiatives:

- Identify and restore damaged or deteriorated existing public art and artefacts.
- Develop a strategy for existing stored artefacts. It is recommended that the inventory of the existing stored artefacts be expanded to be more user-friendly and to include documentation of where artefacts originated, an evaluation of their heritage value, and an assessment of their potential use on site. Follow City de-accessioning collection policy for artefacts to be removed and disposed of.
- Identify potential locations for new artefacts (to be coordinated with HPS's artefact location decision-making matrix, as per Guideline 4 – New Artefact Policy).
- Adopt a policy for the management of new public art. One significant new public artwork might be considered to celebrate the revitalization of Guild Park & Gardens.

PRIORITY ACTION 1

RESTORE THE MAIN AXIAL VIEW IN PHASES

Restoration and protection of the main axial heritage view will clarify the organizing landscape structure of the site and enhance the user experience.

PRIORITY ACTION 2

RESTORE THE ARRIVAL SEQUENCE IN PHASES

Restoration of the arrival sequence will reveal and enhance the fundamental experience and original design intentions of the site.

PRIORITY ACTION 3

CO-ORDINATE HORTICULTURAL MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT WITH PARKS

Coordination with the appropriate City departments and TRCA for a horticultural management program will be essential to the successful maintenance of the site's cultural landscape in the long term; this priority should be co-ordinated with Priority Actions 1 & 4, which require the management of vegetation to maintain key views. A Working Group to be formed.

PRIORITY ACTION 4

CREATE AN INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

Prepare an integrative interpretive strategy for the park to make more accessible to visitors the site attributes and story.

PRIORITY ACTION 5

CREATE A SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT VISTA

A strategy for a primary viewing/lookout point, that reinforces the main heritage view and the relationship between the estate house and the lake, would greatly enhance the experience of the site and could have the potential to make Guild Park & Gardensa "destination" site for the City. This strategy should be prioritized to allow adequate time for planning and funding processes to occur and should be coordinated with Priority Action 1.

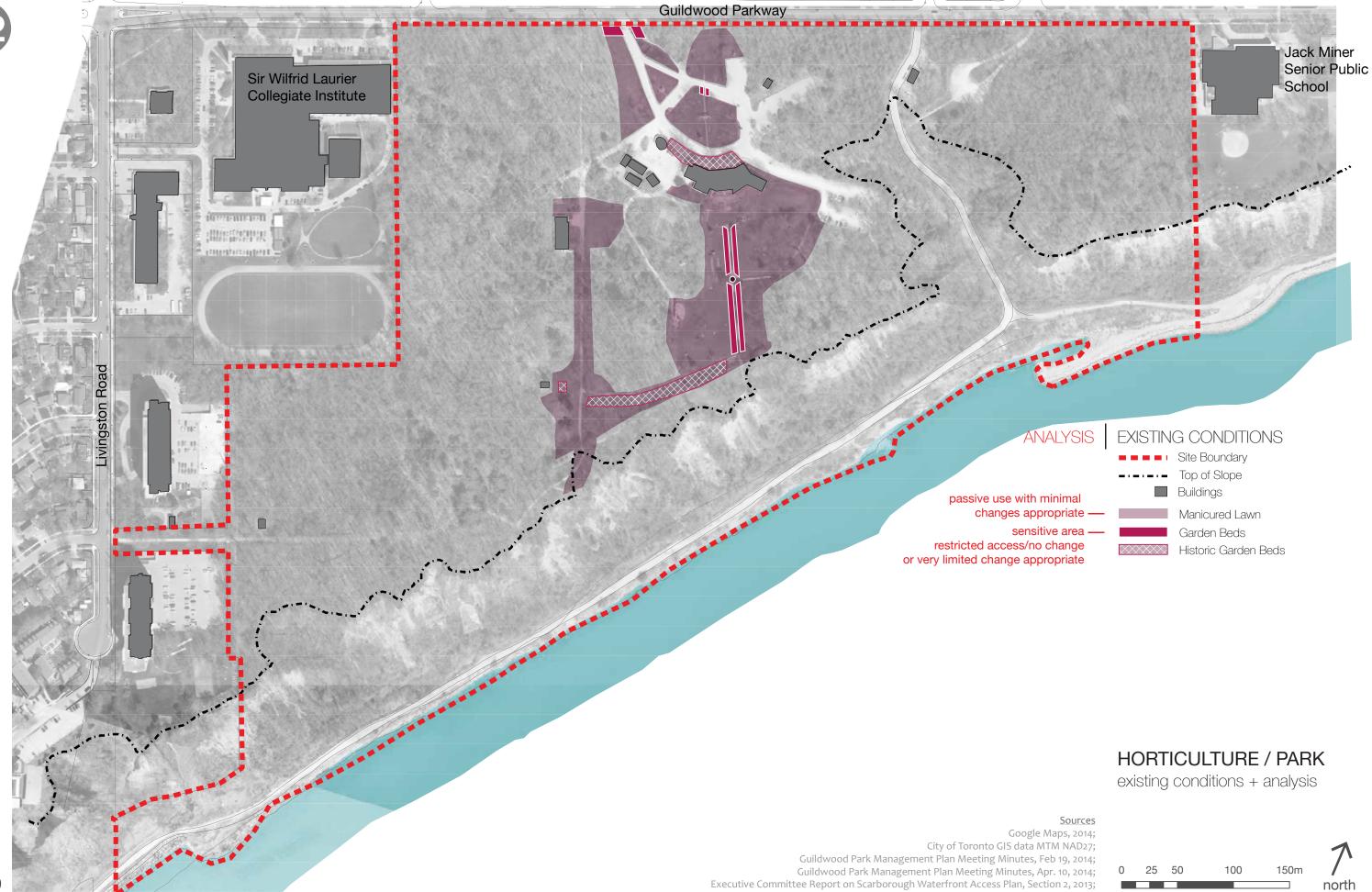


horticulture/park

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HORTICULTURE/ PARK

Existing Conditions & Analysis

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

The manicured park and horticultural display gardens are a key defining feature of the park user experience and identity of the site. Indeed, the name itself speaks to the importance of the Guild Park & Gardens area of the site. The layout of the lawns and gardens originated with the former Bickford Estate and became an integral part of the Guild of All Arts heritage landscape structure. The park and gardens are generally accenting the Guild Inn building and the heritage landscape structure highlights the access to the lake. An arrival sequence of partially concealed views of the Inn through lawns and gardens leads from the heritage entry gates at Guildwood Parkway. Horticultural display beds enhance the entry feature. Open lawn areas in the centrral area north of the Guild Inn provide a ground plane for sculpture and heritage artefacts. A heritage walkway traverses the front lawn and passes under an artefact that frames views looking toward the Guild Inn.

The open lawn area west of the entrance driveway provides a clear view of the cluster of parks operation buildings west of the Inn. This detracts from the arrival sequence associated with the heritage cultural landscape structure discussed in the Culture/Heritage section

The manicured park and gardens south of the original Guild Inn building are a very special feature.

Lining the axial walkway that leads from the Guild Inn rear terrace toward the Bluffs. garden beds are a favorite destination and a draw for both amateur and professional photographers. The manicured park and gardens area is a desired setting for permitted wedding photographs. The manicured park south of the Inn also provides a ground plane for the sculpture park, with artefacts and public art works from the Rosa and Spencer Clark collection sited throughout the park and gardens area. Heritage architectural fragments are employed to frame entrances and views to the areas east and west of the central. north-south axial walkway. As described in the Culture/Heritage section of this plan, this walkway is now a designated heritage path and recognized as part of the cultural heritage structure. The former fountain located midway along the north-south walkway has been repurposed as a planting bed based on water damage to the Swan centrepiece.

The Park/Horticulture map indicates the location of former historic garden beds at the front of the Guild Inn and along the east-west walkway the leads to the second major axial north-south route, which passes designated Heritage Building 191.

The open lawn areas west of the central garden provide open space in relation to Heritage Building 191 and along the second heritage walkway, which runs north-south past Building 191. Some areas of open lawn function as staging areas for parks maintenance operations, such as the lawn near Building 191.

SUMMARY OF EXISTING PROGRAMS IN THE PARK AREAS

The open lawn areas accented by horticultural display beds and interspersed with heritage structures, artefacts and public art works provides the primary setting for programmed events in the park. Programming in the park area includes the following:

- Guildwood Day
- Guild Alive with Culture
- Halloween Event
- Guild Festival Theatre
- Walking Tours
- Christmas Lighting
- Doors Open Toronto walking tour
- Wedding events
- Candy Cane Hunt
- Annual Art Show
- Horticultural Society Plant Sale

Preferred Arts and Culture Programming

The public consultation process identified that favourite programs in the park have an arts and culture focus. The programs that were reported as most popular during the consultation events are Guild Festival Theatre, The Art Show, Guild Alive With Culture, Guildwood Day, Musical evening events, Arts and Craft Shows, and Movies.



Key Issues

KEY ISSUE 1

DESIRED CHARACTER & LIMIT OF MANICURED PARK AREA & HORTICULTURE

The character of the horticulture and the physical limits of the manicured park area are currently lacking definition. These elements are key to establishing and maintaining the character-defining spatial relationship of the park and gardens. The park and gardens are part of the cultural heritage landscape value as described in detail in the Culture/ Heritage section of this Plan. The maniucured park and gardens area are also a signature of the park's identity and the park user experience. The extent and shape of lawns comprise an important aspect of the heritage cultural landscape structure. The limit of the manicured park area is also related to park programming, which is currently held primarily in this area of the park.

KEY ISSUE 2

QUALITY OF HORTICULTURE

As a destination park, a cultural heritage landscape, a programmed space for artistic and community events, and a permitted park for wedding photography, Guild Park & Gardens is recognized for the quality of its horticultural displays. Protecting and improving the horticultural quality is a key issue for the identity and user experience of the park. It is also linked to revenue generating program such as wedding photography permits. Horticultural quality includes providing seasonal interest and a 'show garden' quality.

KEY ISSUE 3

HERITAGE & HORTICULTURE

The special character of Guild Park & Gardens derives from its unique combination of a waterfront estate landscape in an extensive natural heritage woodland setting on the Scarborough Bluffs with spectacular views of Lake Ontario.

The potential for restoration opportunities of horticulture and heritage in the form of garden bed planting design has been identified. Historic photographs are available to provide a source for heritage research. Heritage horticultural design for this site is supported by the Horticulture section of Parks, Forestry and Recreation to further enhance the heritage experience of users while providing high quality gardens.

KEY ISSUE 4

SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable development is "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" (United Nations Brundtland Report, 1987). Relative to parks, sustainability means examining how the park strenghens the social, economic, and environmental landscape, improving quality of life. Sustainability at Guild Park also includes coordination with sustaining the cultural heritage resources.

Sustainability is a priority for the Parks, Forestry & Recreation division; the Parks Plan 2013-2017 describes a Parks Vision for "welcoming, well-maintained, safe & sustainable parks".

TRANSITION AREAS & INVASIVE SPECIES

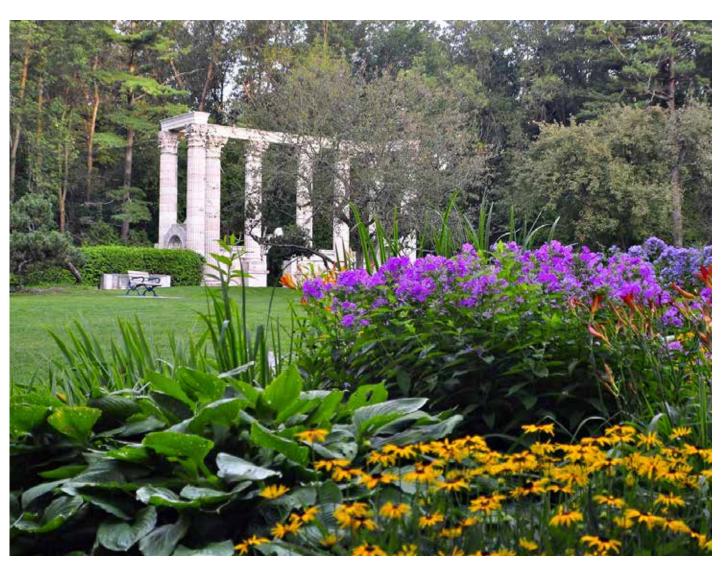
Invasive species that flourish in the moist, natural environment areas tend to migrate into the more open and sunnier aspect of the manicured park and garden area. Invasive species in the park and gardens need to be managed to maintain the quality of the park and gardens.

KEY ISSUE 6

PROGRAMMING IN THE PARK & PERMITTING

There are currently a number of programs that take place in Guild Park & Gardens (See pg 61). These need to be managed and coordinated with other objectives for the Park & Gardens.

Parks Forestry & Recreation division receives applications for wedding photography and program events at Guild Park & Gardens. (Film shoots need to contact the Toronto Film and Television office). The issuance of permits needs to be examined relative to other objectives for the Park & Gardens.



EXISTING - horticultural display coordinated with views to cultural heritage artefact - image from This Randomness Blog



MANAGING VIEWS - CO-ORDINATE WITH CULTURE/HERITAGE

Park and Garden management currently includes planting, pruning and removal of woody species. Pruning has been minimally undertaken to open key views such as to the lake from Bickford House. As described in more detail in the Culture/Heritage section of this document, there are a number of key views that should be restored in phases.

KEY ISSUE 8

ROLE OF COMMEMORATIVE TREES

There is a desire by members of the community to plant commemorative trees in Guild Park & Gardens. These trees currently exist on-site in many areas and the potential for future locations is limited. The ongoing requests for commemorative trees needs to be examined relative to other objectives for the site.

KEY ISSUE 9

EMERGENCY & MAINTENANCE VEHICLE ACCESS

The park and garden area of the park needs to provide clear routes for emergency and maintenance vehicle access. Currently, the maintenance vehicles are too large for the pathways, which results in damage to the adjacent lawn and compaction of the soil.

KEY ISSUE 10

AMENITIES: SEATING & LIGHTING & WALKWAYS

The existing seating in the park is comprised of numerous bench styles placed in various seating arrangements throughout the park.

Lighting is inconsistent in park and gardens area. Walkway materials are inconsistent and not all walkways are AODA compliant.

COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

Engaging and managing community stewardship of the park and garden area has significant potential to build positive relationships between City staff and the community. Volunteer stewardship can add to the management resources for the park. Capitalizing on community interest and building engagement opportunities has many positive benefits.



EXISTING - horticultural display coordinated with views to cultural heritage artefact - image from Panoramio

LANDSCAPE



Management Guidelines

RESTORE & PROTECT CULTURAL

GUIDELINE 1

The coordination of horticultural work that has an impact on heritage views needs to be established between City departments.

Enhance the landscape structure which creates the cultural heritage landscape value of the site. The landscape structural elements to enhance include:

- Land Patterns
 (designed lakefront estate structure)
- Landforms
 (Bluffs and graded terraces at south side of estate house)
- Spatial Organization (entry sequence)
- Vegetation
 (horticultural elements)
- Visual Relationships (views)
- Circulation (pathways)
- Water Features (the lake)

ENHANCE HORTICULTURAL QUALITY

OF DESTINATION PARK

GUIDELINE 2

To support the guiding vision principles for the park, enhance the horticultural quality of this destination park with show-garden quality displays with strong seasonal interest, reflecting research regarding historic cultivars planted at the Guild Inn.

The special relationship of the manicured park and gardens area with the natural heritage woodland context needs to be clearly defined and maintained.

PROTECT PASSIVE RECREATION PRINCIPLE

Protecting the passive recreation principle for the park will maintain the strength and clarity of its very special identity. The extent of park areas protected under policies for natural heritage and cultural heritage preservation also severely limit the opportunity for active recreation to be constructed in the park.

GUIDELINE 3

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR

PARK PROGRAM & PERMITS

GUIDELINE 4

Park Program

The existing program for the site needs to be managed to ensure:

- compatibility with the guiding vision of Guild Park
- sustainability in terms of the user-capacity and management needs of the park
- protection and preservation of heritage resources

Create guidelines to manage the park programming to ensure that programs are sustainable. The guidelines need to:

- Assess park capacity for group program events
- Establish management regime for any required amelioration after programming events
- Define the limit of program areas within the manicured park and garden area

GUIDELINE 5

SUSTAINABILITY

Permits

Permits need to be managed to ensure compatibility of park uses with guiding vision principles and with the protection of natural and cultural heritage resources. Permitted cultural activities should take precedence over other competing uses, should they arise. Priority for permits will be given based on historical permits, and then on a first come, first serve basis for all permit requests that are an appropriate fit for the natural and cultural heritage of the site.

Invasive Species

Removal and management of invasive species in the horticulture/park areas is important to maintain the quality of the open space and horticultural displays.

Management Best Practice

Incorporate management best practices and review on a bi-yearly basis to update with current best practice guidelines.

Environmental Protection

Garden and park maintenance practices need to be environmentally sustainable and reduce the environmental impact of management materials and procedures on the adjacent natural heritage areas and the water table.

Maintenance Resources

The level of maintenance required to manage the gardens and park area to meet Management Plan guidelines needs to be commensurate with City staffing and available resources.

City Horticulture Standards

Management Plan recommendations need to be consistent with City Horticulture Standards.



EXISTING - Floral display at Guild Park & Gardens - image from Flickr user Corrie Gendren

GUIDELINE 6 GUIDELINE 7 GUIDELINE 8 GUIDELINE 9 ROLE OF COMMEMORATIVE TREES **STEWARDSHIP EMERGENCY & MAINTENANCE** INCREASE THE AMOUNT OF SEATING **VEHICLE ACCESS** & IMPROVE QUALITY **Engage Community Stewardship:** Providing a paved or hard surface that can Adding more seating and installing a consistent

The role of commemorative trees in the manicured park and garden areas needs to be coordinated with the guiding vision principles of the site. The location, species and growth patterns of the commemorative trees needs to be compatible with the management plan auidelines.

• Foster connections within a range of community groups and individuals to create positive relationships among City park staff and the public. Support and build on a number of stewardship activities already taking place including shoreline

clean up and park clean up days, and planting events. Coordinate with local councillor's office for communications with community members.

Manage Stewardship:

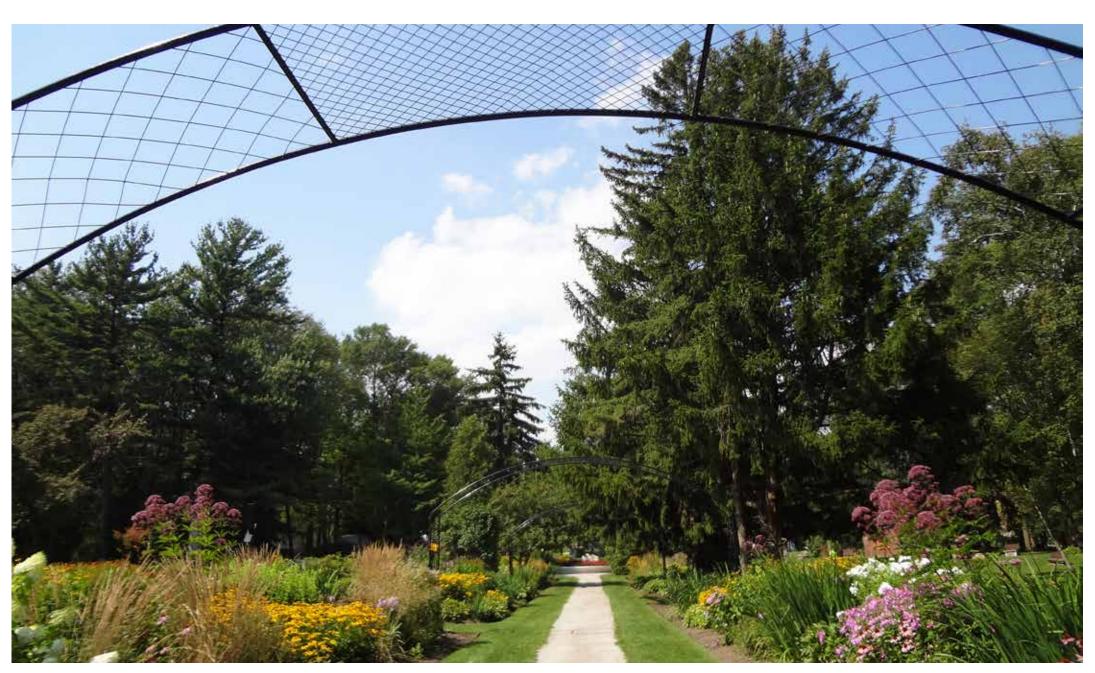
- Managing community stewardship is critical to successful implementation of stewardship opportunities within City management structures. A coordinated effort with common objectives that is led by City parks staff will provide meaningful engagement for volunteers and produce better outcomes.
- Roles of volunteers need to be clearly defined and sensitive to issues of City of Toronto unions and liability concerns.

support vehicular weight and is wide enough to protect the adjacent lawn and potential tree protection zones close to the vehicular routes needs to be accommodated. The management plan recognizes the variance in use levels of vehicular access routes. Maintenance vehicles would require regular access, while emergency vehicles would be much less frequent. Consideration in the design, layout, material and dimensions of the vehicular routes should take these differences into account.

style of seating is desired in the Park.

Park users need safe lighting level on walkways in the programmed area of the park (not on trails in natural environment) including access to entrances and parking areas.

Walkways to be AODA compliant and the quality of the walkways is to be improved.



EXISTING -plantings along pathway to Lake Ontario on-site



Key Initiatives

KEY INITIATIVE 1 KEY INITIATIVE 2 KEY INITIATIVE 4 KEY INITIATIVE 5

ENHANCE CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE STRUCTURE THROUGH **HORTICULTURE**

To restore and protect the cultural landscape, enhance the landscape structure within the park through appropriate siting of additional horticultural beds. The landscape structural elements to enhance in coordination with the Culture/Heritage section of the Plan, include:

- Land Patterns (designed lakefront estate structure) - clearly define limits of manicured lawn at forest edge and planting beds
- Spatial Organization (entry sequence) - restore entry sequence on north side of Guild Inn with planting on both sides of driveway to frame and partially conceal views of building; screen service buildings from view; reduce driveway width to minimum required, reduce views of driveway paving with planting
- Vegetation (horticultural elements) retain and enhance planting beds on heritage paths
- Visual Relationships (views) restore and protect heritage views
- Circulation (pathways) restore and maintain heritage pathways
- Water restore and maintain lake views

ENHANCE HORTICULTURAL QUALITY

the horticultural quality of this Enhance destination park with show-garden quality displays with strong seasonal interest. Create a plan of the existing garden planting beds for review by Horticulture. Draft a planting plan to renovate existing beds with enhanced perennial planting for seasonal display. Review opportunities for additional planting beds at key nodes within the park landscape.

Retain a landscape heritage consultant to research historic cultivars planted at the Guild Inn and reflect the outcome of this research in the landscape of the Guild Park & Gardens.

KEY INITIATIVE 3

ESTABLISH A NATIVE PLANT TEACHING **GARDEN**

Establish a native plant teaching garden within the park and garden area. Native plants to be selected for horticultural display quality combined with hardiness and opportunities for pollinator and habitat species for birds, butterflies and beneficial insects.

ADOPT SEATING GUIDELINES

Adopt seating guidelines that establish a consistent bench style, quality and installation method, as well as guidelines for key location. aspect, clustering and AODA compliance.

KEY GUIDELINES:

- Primary seating to be benches with backs and armrests.
- Benches to meet park design standards (ie. classic bench)
- Bench installation method to be surface mount on concrete pad when located outside of Tree Protection Zones.
- Avoid bench installation within TPZ's
- Seating aspect: provide seating options in both sunny and shaded locations
- Locate seating in relation to desireable views of key features
- Provide opportunities for seating in groups and for individuals or small groups.
- Seating to be AODA compliant including access from firm paved surface where possible.

CREATE A LIGHTING MASTER PLAN

Engage lighting design consultant to create a lighting master plan for the park. Lighting of the manicured park and gardens are a to be integrated within the master plan including heritage considerations.

GUIDELINES FOR LIGHTING PLAN

- Lighting to be LED, non-glare and dark-sky compliant.
- Lighting to focus on walkways, entrances and exits.
- Lighting plan to be coordinated with cultural heritage interpretation strategy.
- Consulting team for lighting plan should have experience with heritage lighting.
- Lighting to be provided with pedestrian height light standards that are not vulnerable to vandalism
- Natural environment trails will not be lit to protect habitat and natural environment character

Priority Actions

KEY INITIATIVE 6

IMPROVE WAI KWAYS

Walkways to be upgraded. Heritage walkways to be protected with respect to location, views, and dimensions. Walkway materials to be made consistent and AODA compliant.

KEY INITIATIVE 8

MANAGE PROGRAMMING IN THE PARK

Adopt and implement guidelines to manage programming in the park based on compatibility with guiding vision and sustainability in relation to protection of cultural heritage resources and natural heritage systems.

A schedule of permits needs to be coordinated with Park management schedules to ensure an optimum park user experience. This schedule will also help to maximize the revenue generating potential of the park while balancing permitted uses with the guidelines regarding protection and preservation of natural heritage and cultural heritage resources.

KEY INITIATIVE 7

IMPLEMENT A COMMEMORATIVE FOREST IN PARTNERSHIP WITH URBAN FORESTRY & COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

A commemorative forest, where the forest is planned and planted by trained Urban Forestry staff can provide on-going commemorative opportunities through features or amenities to be co-ordinated with on-going commemorative programs in place. To be coordinated with natural heritage section of this Plan.

KEY INITIATIVE 9

SUPPORT COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP

Engage & Manage Community Stewardship:

Support and build on a number of stewardship activities already take place including shoreline clean up and park clean up days, and planting events. Coordinate with local councillor's office for communications with community members.

Coordinate community stewardship efforts through existing Parks, Forestry and Recreation stewardship programs organized by Natural Resource Management and Forestry divisions.

PRIORITY ACTION 1

ENHANCE CULTURAL HERITAGE LANDSCAPE STRUCTURE THROUGH HORTICULTURE

The character defining elements of the Park's heritage landscape structure are found primarily in the manicured park and gardens area of Guild Park. & Gardens. Restoring and protecting the landscape structure elements involves a number of initiatives under this overarching priority action, to be coordinated with Culture/Heritage section of this Plan.

PRIORITY ACTION 2

ENHANCE HORTICULTURAL DISPLAY QUALITY

As a destination park Guild Park & Gardens needs to have show-garden quality displays with strong seasonal interest. Reviewing and updating the planting design of beds and consideration for new perennial planting beds at key nodes within the park landscape is a priority action. A Working Group to be formed with Urban Forestry, Horticulture, Heritage, Culture and Park staff.

PRIORITY ACTION 3

IMPROVE AMENITIES: WALKWAYS & SEATING

Passive recreation is one of the guiding pillars of the Vision for Guild Park & Gardens. Amentities for walking and seating are key elements for user experience of passive recreation. Walkways to be coordinated with Culture/Heritage section of this Plan.

PRIORITY ACTION 4

CREATE A LIGHTING MASTER PLAN

Safe and comfortable use of the park after dark is key to park user enjoyment. Lighting also supports arts and culture focused program events, including summer evening performances by Guild Festival Theatre. Lighting to be coordinated with the heritage interpretation plan and the Cultural Precinct Plan.



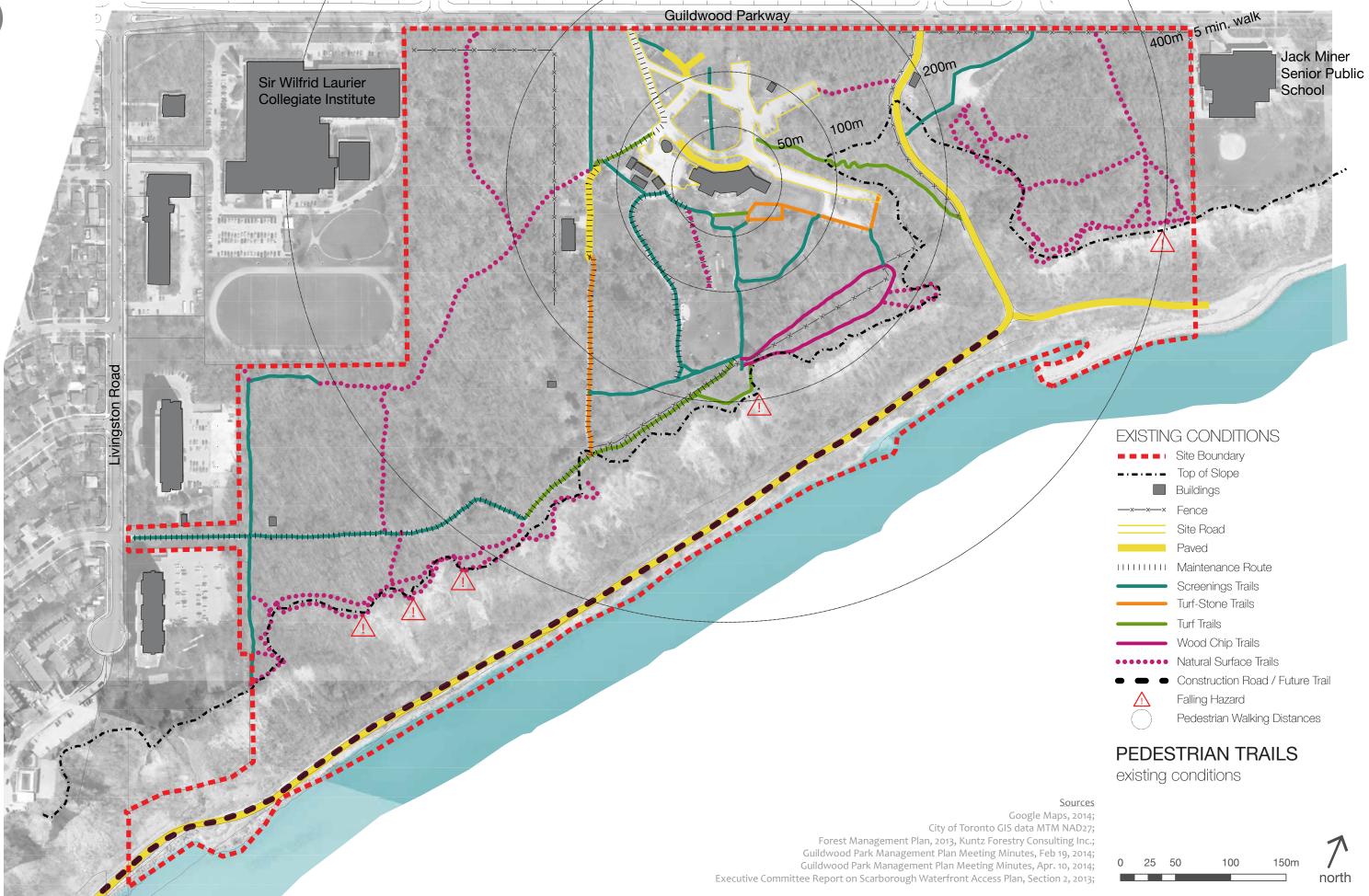
trails

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Priority Actions



TRAILS

Existing Conditions & Analysis

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL FEATURES

The trail network at Guild Park & Gardens is an important part of the user experience and a regular draw for walkers, joggers, bird watchers, people of all ages, families, and to a lesser extent cyclists and dog walkers.

The existing conditions trails map illustrates all trails and walkways on the park site. This includes natural environment trails on the tableland, access trails to the waterfront, and a future waterfront trail, as well as walkways in the manicured park and gardens area of the tableland. This section of the management plan addresses key issues, guidelines and key initiatives for the trails. The walkways in the park and gardens area are addressed in Horticulture/ Park and the Culture/Heritage section of the document.

The existing trails include a range of surface materials including turf, turf stone, screenings, wood chip,natural surface and asphalt paving. Some of the trails have been laid out by City divisions and others have been created over time as 'desire lines' by park users. Trail connectivity to the adjacent neighbourhood has also been created by both City division planning and by park users making breaches in fencing to create a link to the park trails. The south east corner of the property of Sir Wilfred Laurier Secondary

School is a primary example. A park fence is routinely cut to create direct access from the school's sports field to the park.

No masterplan for the trail network has been created to date for the whole Park.

Falling hazards is a key issue for trails in this park. The spectacular views of Lake Ontario from the top of the Scarborough Bluffs is a major draw for park users. The human tendency is to get as close as possiible to the Bluffs' edge to fully experience the vista. This poses a significant safety hazard. For this reason, fences are located along some portions of the top of slope. Park users however do not always stay within the fenced off areas. The sandy soil of the Bluffs and the dynamic nature of the Bluffs' erosion both contribute to the hazardous conditiion for park users.

Some of the natural environment trails are located in wet areas which become impassable in spring or during wet weather. User experience of the natural environment trails provides important opportunities for contact with nature through the seasons.

The key issues for trails include user experience, connectivity, trail safety, trail accessibility, trail amenities, signage and wayfinding, maintenance and vehicle access, and sustainability. These issues are addressed in the following section which outlines key issues, guidelines, key initiatives and priority actions for trails.



EXISTING - natural environment trail on site



Key Issues

KEY ISSUE 1

USER EXPERIENCE

Character of Trails

User experience is a key consideration in the planning and design of trails, and is one that is often overlooked.

Quality of Amenities

The quality of amenities is an important aspect of user experience. Amenities can include seating, signage and wayfinding, garbage and recycling receptacles

Connectivity & Access

Points of connectivity to the trail system from the park and from the adjacent community are a key aspect of user experience. The connection to Sir Wilfred Laurier Secondary School is a key issue for the plan to address, for example. The existing fence is routinely breached to create direct access to the trails. There is also some interest in additional connections to the trail from the property of the apartment buildings on Liviningstone Avenue.

KEY ISSUE 2

TRAIL HAZARDS & SAFETY

Slope Stabiilty

The relationship between trail location and the stable top of slope is a key issue for trail safety. Park users regularly use hazardous lookout points at the top of the Bluffs.

Forest Management

Hazardous trees affected by Emerald Ash Borer, extreme weather such as the ice strom of 2013-2014 and other factors need to be managed to ensure trail safety.

Risk Management

Risk management for both the City and TRCA is a key issue. Understanding and managing the liability of the park owners and operators in relation to trail hazards is important.

Waterfront Vistas

Spectacular waterfront vistas are one

of the primary characteristics of Guild Park & Gardens and a major draw for park users. It is human nature to want to get as close as possible to the vista point. The location and character of the vista points needs to be planned for and managed to protect park users from falling hazards and to minimize risk management for park owners and operators.

Fencing Strategy

Trail safety measures need to include a fencing strategy to direct park users to safe areas and protect them from trail hazards. Fencing is also important to minimize impact on the natural environment from trail use.

Maintenance & Emergency Access

Trails within natural areas provide access for litter removal and medical emergencies.

KEY ISSUE 3

MULTI-USE TRAILS

Accessibility

On January 1, 2013, the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (Ontario Regulation 191/11) of the AODA was amended to include accessibility requirements for the Design of Public Spaces (Accessibility Standards for the Built Environment). Beginning in 2015, public and private sector organizations will have to meet accessibility requirements when constructing and maintaining new or redeveloped elements of public spaces including recreational trails. The City of Toronto Multi-Use Trail Guidelines integrate accessibility requirements.

Trail Network Planning

Trail network planning to accommodate a wide range of trail users, to create a distinct hierarchy of trails, to offer visually clear and well planned connections and entrances is a key issue.

Cycling

The presence of cyclists on natural environment trails indicates the need to address multi-use trails. Evaluation of the impact of cyclists on the natural heritage systems is required. Consideration of potential areas that might accommodate cycling while limiting access for cycling in highly sensitive areas needs to be addressed.

Dogs

On-leash regulations are not always adhered to. This causes concern regarding trail user perceived safety, concerns regarding bird/wildlife population in the natural areas, as well as making bird and wildlife observation more challenging. Dog owners have been reported as either not picking up after their dogs, or of picking up after their dogs but not properly disposing of the bags. User education on self-policing should help in resolving issues. Bylaw officers can also assist.

Winter Use & Maintenance

At this time there is no trail maintenance at Guild Park & Gardens during winter. Trails are difficult to traverse after storm events and in winter. Safety is frequently cited as a concern when using trails in winter. There is an interest in using the trails for snowshoeing or cross country skiing in winter.

KEY ISSUE 4

TRAIL AMENITIES

Seating

There is currently very limited seating in the natural environment trails. The issue of whether to increase seating, and to determine its type, location and character needs to be addressed.

Garbage/Recycling Receptacles

Garbage is a critical concern – from dumping to an inadequate number of trash receptacles. There is currently limited acces to garbage and recycling receptacles close to natural environment trails.

Drinking Fountain

There are currently no drinking fountains close to natural environment trails. Drinking fountains are not installed due to maintenance issues.

Water bottle filling stations can potentially be installed on buildings.

KEY ISSUE 5

SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING

Signage and wayfinding is an important aspect of user experience of the Guild Park & Gardens trails. Signage and wayfinding to increase trail safety, avoid falling hazards, manage risk, communicate trail length, user challenge level, slope/gradient, special features and natural heritage interpretation is a key issue. There is currently very limited signage on the natural environment trails.

Coordinate singnage and wayfinding design and implementation with Trail Master Plan and with Natural Heritage interpretation strategy and plan.



KEY ISSUE 6

SUSTAINABILITY

Trails in Environmentally Sensitive Area

One of the key purposes of the trail system is to protect the natural areas by focusing use through trail design and stewardship. These trails provide opportunities for the public to learn about the function and value of the City's natural environment.

Trails in Tree Protection Zone

Trails located in Tree Protection Zones may adversely impact tree roots.

Raised Trails in Wet Area

Surface trails in wet areas exist in the natural trails at Guild Park & Gardens. These trails become impassable with seasonal wetness or after storm events. Wet trails are not desirable trails for park user experiences and associated use compacts tree root zones.

Surface Materials

The surface materials of natural environment trails are inconsistent. Surface materials that enhance user experience and mitigate impact on natural environment areas need to be considered.

Construction Methods

One of the key purposes of the trail system is to better protect the natural areas through trail design and stewardship. Best practice construction methods are to be used for trails in natural environment areas including within a designated Environmentally Significant Areas.

Archaeology

A Stage 1 and Stage 2 Archaeology Report has been completed for Guild Park & Gardens. Sustainable trail planning and construction needs to adhere to report recommendations.

Maintenance Equipment, Materials Storage

Sustainable trail management requires adequate storage area for maintenance equipment and materials to support the work of City staff units.



EXISTING -trail through forest on-site



Management Guidelines

GUIDELINE 1

MANAGE TRAILS TO REDUCE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

Plan and manage the natural environment trails to protect the ecological systems from harm, using the City's Natural Environment Trail Strategy. Managing trail use and building trails properly results in less environmental degradation than typically arises when users build rogue trails. Sensitively managing trail development can occur in tandem with stewardship efforts, such as ecological monitoring and management of invasive species. Trails can provide a site for active transportation – walking and cycling – which can reduce a community's transportation based emissions.

- Avoid environmentally sensitive and/or significant areas where possible.
- Ensure trail type is consistent with trail use, thereby minimizing trail width requirements.
- Avoid critical habitat of rare or fragile plant species.
- Avoid routes that impact wildlife species.
- Avoid aligning a trail through wet areas such as ponds, marshes and seasonal drainages.

ENHANCE USER EXPERIENCE

Plan and design trails with user experience as a key consideration.

GUIDELINE 2

Trails will provide a safe space in which to recreate and have fun – from intense physical activity, to more passive activities such as nature appreciation or a gentle stroll; as individual pursuits or group outings. They should allow for nature exploration by people of all ages. The trails need to provide a safe space for a wide range of user experiences, activities and skill levels.

ACCESSIBILITY

Thoughtful design will ensure that varied abilities can be accommodated on these trails. People with disabilities are also looking for adventure, exploration and challenge. Providing trails with different levels of difficulty allows individuals to select a trail that meets their needs and skill level.

GUIDELINE 3

Any trail planning, design and construction will follow regulations set out in the Ontario Regulation 191/11. Any future trail planning, design and construction process will include consultation with people who have disabilities and the City of Toronto's PFR Community Disability Steering Committee.

SAFETY

Trail user safety and security is a primary concern for the City. Planning and designing new trails and modifying existing trails with sustainable trail guidelines and construction methods provides a safer user experience. Proper signage and provision of a variety of trail experiences and progression of trail difficulty levels, will result in users being more likely to choose the most appropriate trail for their skill level, lowering the risk of injury, and leading to more enjoyable experiences.

GUIDELINE 4

Safety and security of the trails can be enhanced through:

- Sustainable trail planning, design and construction using best management practices;
- Signage (wayfinding and hazard signs);
- Public education;
- Creation, approval, and implementation of trail maintenance standards, and
- Hazard tree abatement program.
- Fencing, where appropriate.

GUIDELINE 5

GUIDELINE 6

GUIDELINE 7

CONNECTIVITY

- Improve connectivity through the creation of loop trails and improved connections to the eastern portion of the park, surrounding streets and the waterfront
- Formalize connections where there are redundant informal trails.
- Manage informal trails where required.
- Limit and control access points to minimize disturbance.
- Identify areas of high sensitivity to disturbance and plan trail routes accordingly.
- Restrict trail routing that encourages users to take shortcuts where an easier route or interesting feature is visible. If an interesting feature exists, locate the trail to provide the desired access to the trail user. Use landforms or vegetation to block potential shortcut routes.
- Avoid routing the trail too close to another trail section to prevent trail proliferation or shortcuts between trails.

SUSTAINABILITY

- Design for erosion control.
- Design with sensitive areas/habitat in mind.
- Minimize and manage trails located in Tree Protection Zones to reduce the impact on tree roots.
- Raised trails in wet areas need to be established.

CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

- Design, construct and maintain the trail system to the highest standards to ensure the protection of the natural environment while offering safe and enjoyable recreational opportunities for all trail users.
- Adopt the trail construction standards and guidelines developed by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, which offers a range of trail specifications applicable to Toronto's trails.
- Adopt where appropriate City of Toronto Multi-Use Trail Guidelines
- Avoid cutting down trees and unnecessary trampling of vegetation.
- Use the right equipment.
- Provide adequate tree root protection.
- Ensure minimal importation of materials.
- Rescue and relocate plants during construction.
- TRCA permits may be required for construction.



PRECEDENT - raised wood boardwalk protecting the forest floor in Riga, Latvia.



Key Initiatives

KEY INITIATIVE 1 KEY INITIATIVE 2 KEY INITIATIVE 3 KEY INITIATIVE 4

RECOMMEND THAT A TRAIL MASTER PLAN BE CREATED

Engage with Users

The important role of trails in Guild Park & Gardens in park user experience for this destination park and the complex key issues identified above lead to a recommendation that a trail master plan be created. The master plan concept and development should include consultation with trail users. A survey of trail user experience and needs should be part of the consultation process. The trail guidelines of this management plan are to be incorporated into the master plan.

MANAGE HAZARDOUS TRAILS

The management of hazardous trails is a key initiative of this plan. The City recognizes that to effectively close a trail, a better, safer alternative must be provided first and this will be a product of future trail planning and trail user engagement.

Trail safety issues are to be considered in conjunction with natural heritage and forest management priorities.

CONNECT TO FUTURE WATERFRONT **TRAIL**

Park users desire access to the waterfront. Currently, Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA) maintains a construction access road from Guildwood Parkway to the Lake Ontario shoreline; however it is intended only as construction-access. This construction road runs both east and west at the base on the slope to provide TRCA access to existing erosion protection works for the purposes of maintenance and inspection. The public has expressed a desire to connect the Guild Park & Gardens site with a future waterfront trail below the Park. This will be investigated as part of the Scarborough Waterfront Project Environmental Assessment. The purpose of the Scarborough Waterfront Project is to create a system of public spaces along the waterfront from Bluffer's Park to East Point Park (See page 14).

CONNECT TO COMMUNITY

Connections to Sir Wilfred Laurier Collegiate Institute, private properties on Livingston Road, and Jack Miner Senior Public School need to be further investigated.

KEY INITIATIVE 5

CO-ORDINATE BETWEEN TRAIL & FOREST MANAGEMENT, PARKS OPERATIONS, & CULTURAL HERITAGE

Trail management to be coordinated with:

- forest management to address trail blockages, hazard tree abatement, forest restoration projects, natural heritage protection
- risk management (ie. Bluffs stability/ erosion) to be addressed by TRCA
- parks operations to deal with trail safety, fencing/signage requirements, litter/ recycling pickup, ongoing park user and trail condition monitoring
- cultural heritage and natural heritage management and guiding principles for Guild Park & Gardens. Intersecting issues include maintaining cultural heritage landscape sight lines to heritage views and protecting natural heritage resources.

Establish a Working Group comprised of appropriate City staff units to meet regularly and review trail maintenance needs and methods.

KEY INITIATIVE 6 KEY INITIATIVE 7

CREATE SAFE WATERFRONT VISTAS

Provide safe waterfront vistas for park users. Locate vistas with appropriate setback from stable top of slope and in location to maximize views of the water. Trail hazard closures related to vistas enhance the need for safe vistas to manage trail use and allow for positive user experience of highly desired views.



PRECEDENT - Viewing platform precedent, Quai des Cageux from Quebec City, QC

DEVELOP SIGNAGE & WAYFINDING **PROGRAM**

Create a clear, comprehensive, aesthetically fitting and approachable signage and wayfinding program for all managed trail systems that follows Parks Forestry & Recreation and TRCA signage and wayfinding guidelines and standards and is compatible with current City-wide initiatives.

Coordinate signage & wayfinding with the interpretive strategies for natural and cultural heritage.



Priority Actions

PRIORITY ACTION 1

COORDINATION OF TRAIL MANAGEMENT

Coordination with City staff units from Parks Operations, Natural Resource Management, Cultural Partnerships, Heritage Preservation, and Natural Environment & Community Programs is a priority to ensure effective trail management and efficient use of City resources. A Working Group to be formed and a Trail Master Plan developed.

PRIORITY ACTION 2

MANAGEMENT OF HAZARDOUS TRAILS

Need for trail user safety and managing risk for City and TRCA make this a priority action

PRIORITY ACTION 3

CONNECTIVITY TO FUTURE WATERFRONT TRAIL

Waterfront access is a defining element of the Guild Park & Gardens trail system and managed trail access to the future Waterfront Trail is necessary.

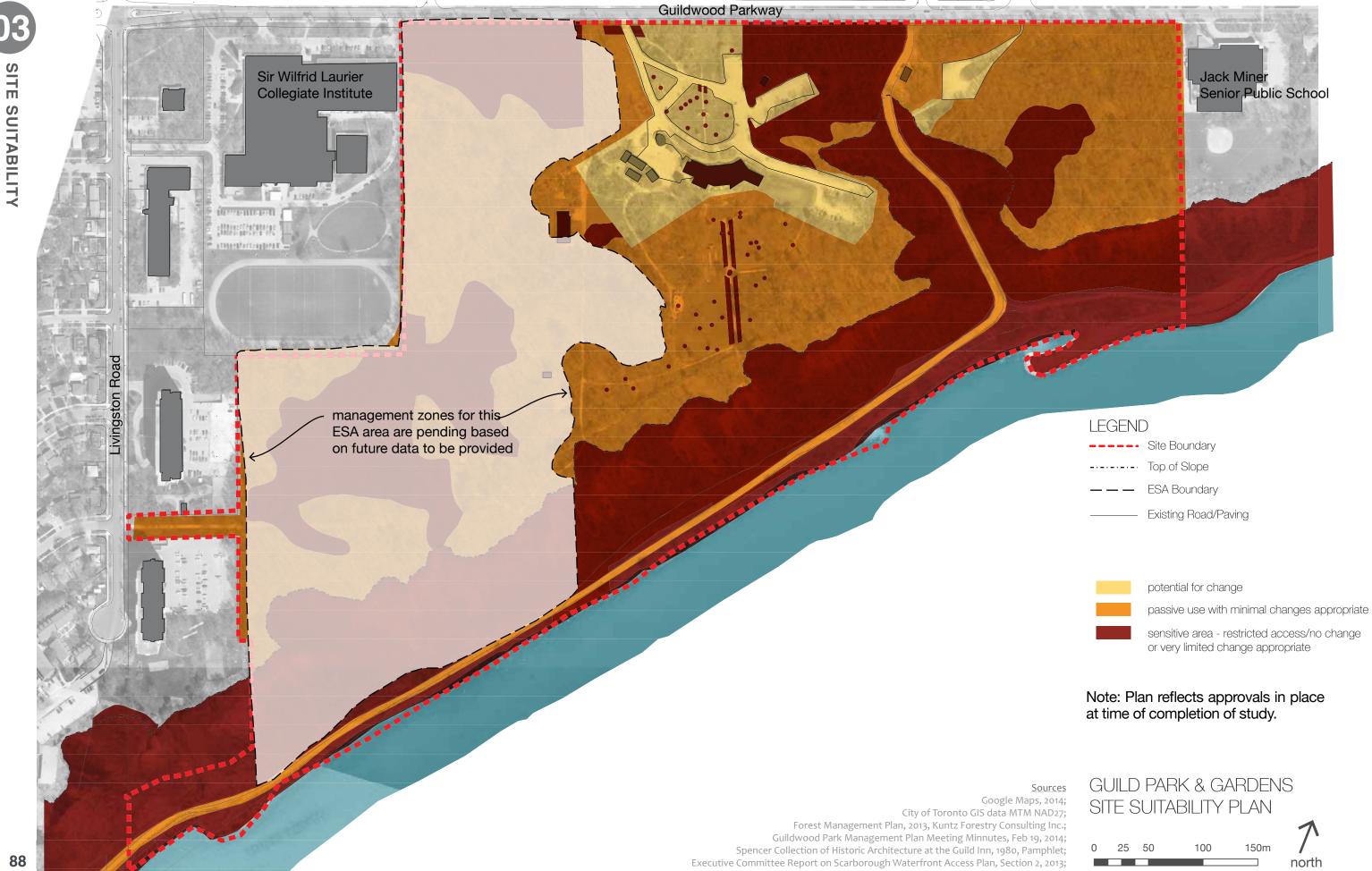
PRIORITY ACTION 4

SAFE WATERFRONT VISTA

Closure of trail hazards requires that safe waterfront vistas are created because park users want to experience the waterfront vistas at Guild Park & Gardens and need managed options.









Summary of Site Suitability Analysis

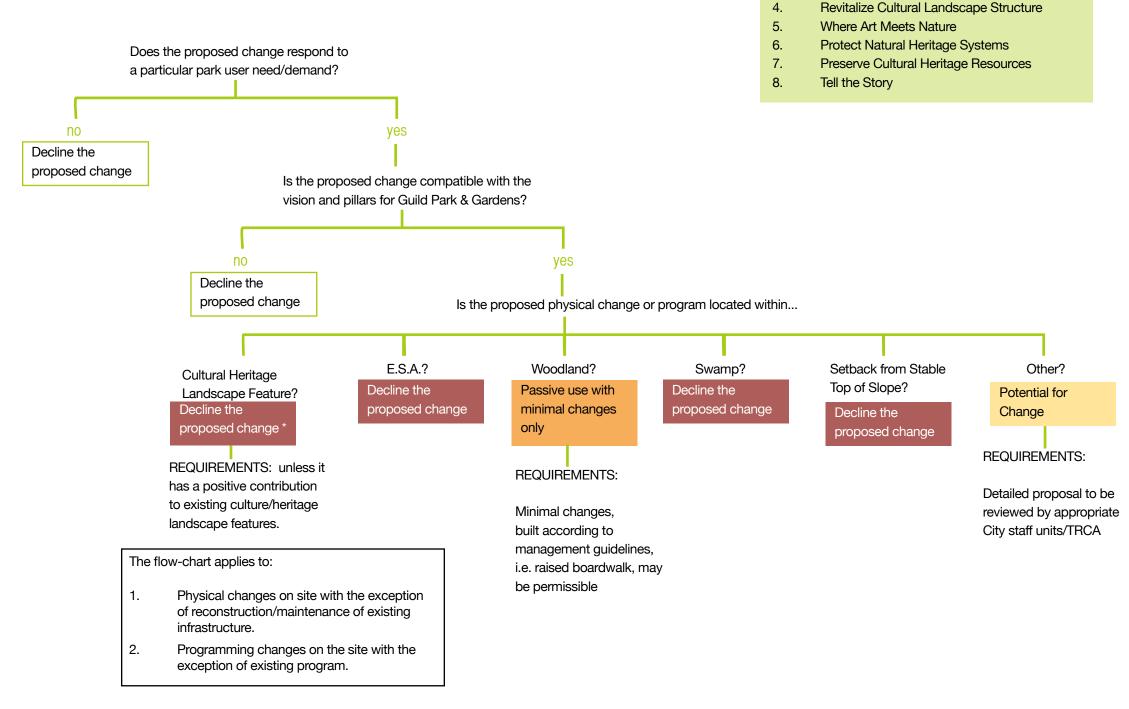
The map on page 88 synthesizes the analysis presented through the maps in the natural heritage, culture/heritage,horticulture / park, and trails sections. The areas with the 'potential for change' are those most suitable for change, while the sensitive areas are the least suitable for change due to the presence of an Environmentally Significant Area, woodlands, steep slopes, wet areas, and/or cultural heritage elements. The areas suitable for 'passive use with minimal changes appropriate' are where an undertaking that is minimally invasive, such as a boadwalk, would be suitable.

Decision Making Flow Chart

The following is a decision-making flow chart, intended to assist City staff in evaluating the suitability of proposed changes to Guild Park & Gardens. The chart at right relates to the Site Suitability map, showing the same categories of suitability with their corresponding colours.

The chart at right is meant to be used to screen proposals for new proposed physical changes and program in the park, rather than for replacing or modifying existing site infrastructure.

This chart is being used to analyze possible uses that are identified through a subsequent master planning process that would also help to identify functional relationships among uses and their integration on the Park site.



Guild Park & Gardens is a regionally treasured,

8 Pillars of the Vision for Guild Park & Gardens:

Enhance Passive Recreation

be protected, preserved and enhanced.

Destination Park

Family Friendly

2.

destination park with a unique character that needs to







CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Summary of Priority Initiaves

The priority initiatives are those that are called out as 'priority actions' at the end of the sections on the 4 themes: natural heritage, culture/heritage, horticulture/park, and trails. These are to be implemented as soon as possible, with a recognition that some require longer lead times to complete.

MASTER PLAN

In addition to the short-term initiatives listed in the table, this plan recommends that an overarching priority initiative be the commissioning of a Master Plan.

The function of a Master Plan is to identify possible uses, analyze uses with respect to vision, analyze uses against the foundation of natural and cultural heritage features, identify appropriate uses, develop options to illustrate the functional relationships among uses and their integration on the site, evaluate the options, and develop the preferred option as the master plan with illustrations of key features. All of this is a public process.

WORKING GROUP

A Working Group should be formed with representatives from TRCA and City Divisions that have a role and responsibility for Guild Park & Gardens management. The Working Group is to meet at regular, biannual intervals or at an agreed upon schedule. The Working Group should include conducting an annual review and priority setting as part of their scope of work.

Natural Heritage	1	Continue to Treat Ash Trees to Manage Emerald Ash Borer
Natural Heritage	2	Develop a Trail Management Plan
Natural Heritage	3	Implement a Coordinated Interpretation and Engagement Plan
Natural Heritage	4	Develop an Infrastructure Management Plan
Culture/Heritage	5	Restore the Main Axial View in Phases
Culture/Heritage	6	Restore the Arrival Sequence in Phases
Culture/Heritage	7	Coordinate Horticultural Maintenance & Management with Parks
Culture/Heritage	8	Create a Spectacular Waterfront Vista
Culture/Heritage	9	Create an Integrated Interpretive Strategy
Horticulture/Park	10	Enhance Cultural Heritage Landscape Structure Through Horticulture
Horticulture/Park	11	Enhance Horticultural Display Quality
Horticulture/Park	12	Improve Amenities: Walkways & Seating
Horticulture/Park	13	Create a Lighting Master Plan
Trails	14	Coordinate Trail Management with Forestry, Parks, Heritage
Trails	15	Manage Hazardous Trails
Trails	16	Connect to Waterfront Trail
Trails	17	Create a Safe Waterfront Vista



Summary of Other Initiatives

The other inititiaves are those that are not called out as 'priority actions' at the end of the sections on the 4 themes: natural heritage, culture/heritage, horticulture/park, and trails. Some of these initiatives could be achieved in the shorter term, while others are longer term undertakings.

Natural Haritago	1	Maintain/Enhance New Plantings
Natural Heritage	1	Maintain/Enhance New Plantings
Natural Heritage	2	Evaluate Surface Water Drainage Patterns
Natural Heritage	3	Identify Opportunities for Effective Community Engagement
Natural Heritage	4	Implement Invasive Species Control
Natural Heritage	5	Enhance Wildlife Habitat
Natural Heritage	6	Expand Natural Heritage Protection and Areas
Culture/Heritage	7	Integrate Lighting Strategy with Parks Lighting and Interpretive Strategies
Culture/Heritage	8	Coordinate with Cultural Precinct Plan
Culture/Heritage	9	Develop an Artefacts & Public Art Policy
Horticulture/Park	10	Establish a Native Plant Teaching Garden
Horticulture/Park	11	Manage Programming in the Park
Horticulture/Park	12	Support Community Stewardship
Trails	13	Recommend that a Trail Master Plan be Created
Trails	14	Connect to Community
Trails	15	Develop Signage & Wayfinding Program

PARTNERSHIPS & FUNDING STRATEGIES

City parks staff or community stewardship groups are increasingly becoming involved in seeking alternatives sources of funding, due to limitations. Other government sources, corporations, and foundations are all potential funding sources.

The Park People is one organization that can be contacted in order to begin developing funding strategies. Some potential park funding opportunities that Park People connect with include:

- The Weston Family Parks Challenge \$5
 million, in aggregate over three years, to
 enhance Toronto's green spaces while
 encouraging private-public partnership
 for the long-term sustainability of
 Toronto's parks.
- Evergreen Grant Program Evergreen provides funding for community stewardship initiatives in partnership with Walmart (for parks and community groups).
- Home Depot Canada Foundation
 Grants for playground and park improvements.
- Live Green Toronto Grants -

Live Green Toronto Community Investment Program (CIP): Up to \$25,000 for community projects on greening or improving sustainability.

Live Green Toronto Capital Projects Fund (CPF): \$25,000-250,000 for larger scale projects involving physical construction and structures --new or retrofits

- Ontario Trillium Foundation Operating and capital grants to support community work and park improvements.
- TD Bank Friends of the Environment Fund -
- Up to \$5,000 for projects within these areas of focus: Protecting and preserving the Canadian Environment; assisting young Canadians in understanding and participating in Environmental activities; supporting urban renewal such as environmental projects to rejuvenate smaller or at-risk neighbourhoods and "main streets"; enhancing cooperation among environmental organizations
- Toronto Parks & Trees Foundation -Small grants for park-based projects that sustain and enhance Toronto's parkland.

Other mechanisms exist to support park funding strategies, including, but not limited to: Toronto Office of Partnerships, Parks Forestry & Recreation Partnerships Office and the Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation.



ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

City of Toronto

- Daily management and maintenance of the site
- Provide adequate funding to facilitate the implementation of recommended initiatives
- Oversee park improvements through Parks Forestry & Recreation Division's capital budget
- Coordinate and focus efforts of groups interested in helping to improve the park
- Enforce municipal by-laws
- Monitor the status of the natural heritage system
- Protect Environmentally Significant Areas and natural heritage through City Planning

TRCA

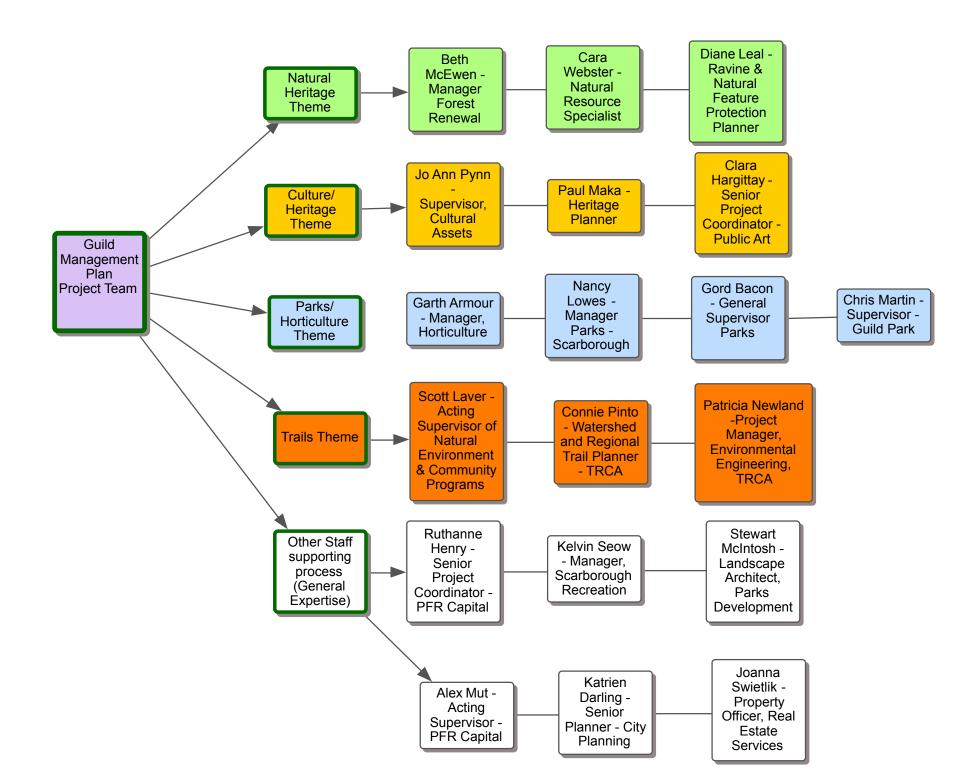
- Shoreline management and protection against erosion
- Monitor water levels and issue flood warnings
- Monitor terrestrial and aquatic habitat within its jurisdiction

Community Stewardship Groups & Other Stakeholders

- 1. Community liaison;
- 2. Coordinate existing successful cultural programming;
- 3. Participate in park management and monitoring through coordinating with Parks staff;
- 4. Provide input on park proposals;
- 5. Organize fundraising activities for recommended priority actions.

The organizational chart on page 94 shows TRCA and City staff members who have contributed to the development of the Guild Park & Gardens management report. Most of the staff have been involved with the development of one of the report's themes; however, a handful of supporting staff have been involved with all aspects of the report.

These individuals will continue to be involved in the Working Group being recommended in this management plan moving forward. It is vital that TRCA and the City continue to work together to effectively manage this site.



Refer to the City of Toronto's webpage for an explanation of each division's role and an explanation of roles within the divisions.

