

B) BUILDING A NETWORK OF SPECTACULAR WATERFRONT PARKS AND PUBLIC SPACES

The second principle of the Plan recognizes the significance of the public realm in transforming the Central Waterfront into a destination for international tourism, national celebration and local enjoyment. The Plan promotes the remaking of the Central Waterfront as a special place imbued with spectacular waterfront parks and plazas and inviting natural settings that please the eye and capture the spirit. The following “Big Moves” will help transform the Central Waterfront into an area renowned for its outstanding waterfront parks and public spaces (see Map C on page 36):

B7_RESERVING THE WATER’S EDGE FOR PUBLIC USE

As renewal takes place, a continuous band of green along the water’s edge, from one end of the Central Waterfront to the other, will be reserved as a public amenity and a legacy for future generations.

B8_THE YONGE STREET PIER

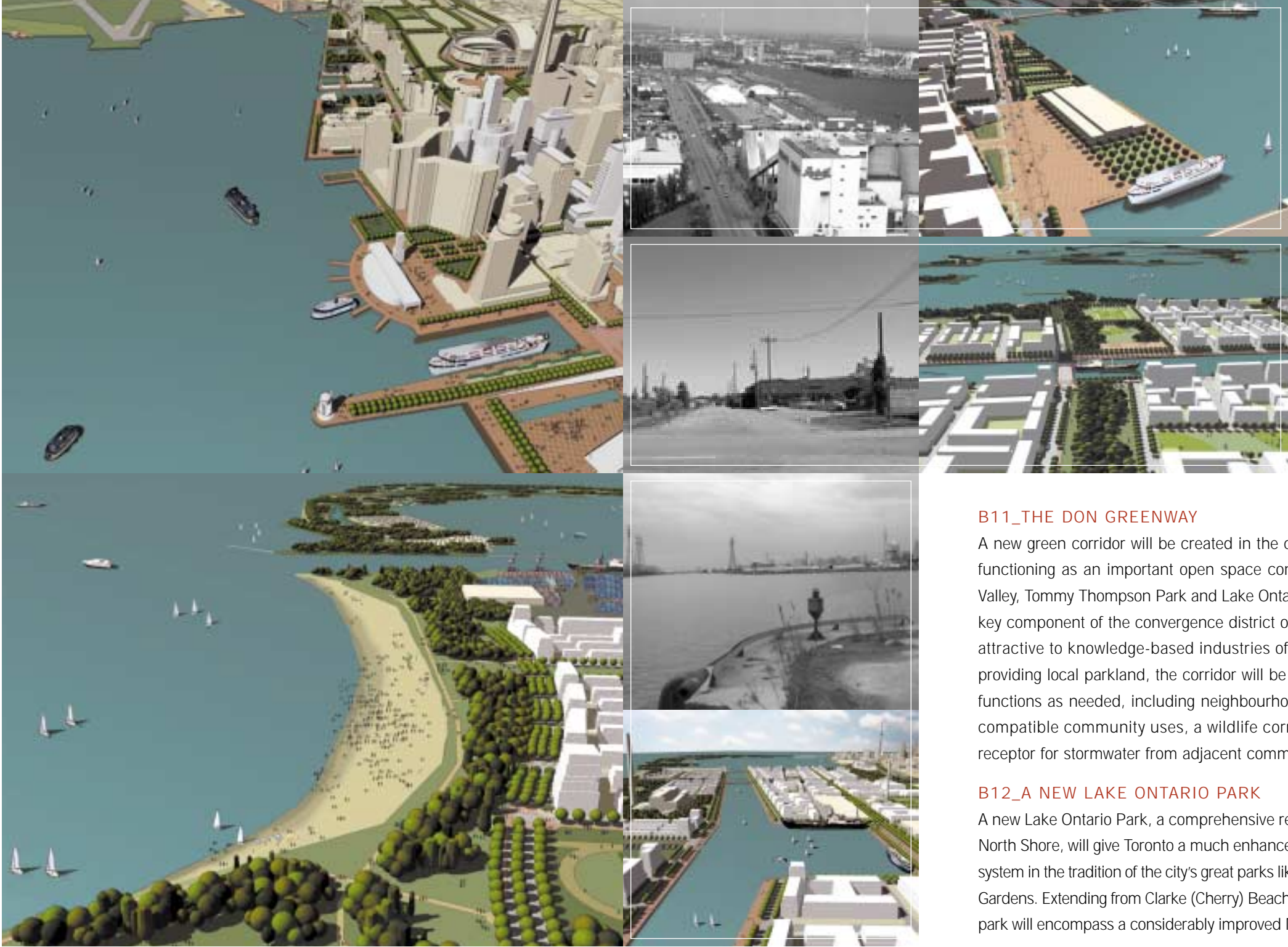
A dramatic new pier will be built at the foot of Toronto's historic main street. It will lead to a public plaza and draw residents, tourists, boaters and cruise ships to the Central Waterfront. The pier will be a waterfront icon, visible from both land and water. The pier and plaza will be a gateway to the city accommodating a major cultural, entertainment and tourist destination of international distinction.

B9_HARBOURFRONT CENTRE, AN EVEN STRONGER DRAW

Harbourfront Centre will continue to be recognized as an area for the arts, for recreation and entertainment in a magnificent waterfront setting. A new public plaza will be created between Queens Quay Terminal and York Quay Centre. An integrated nautical centre for marine activities will be established on John Quay.

B10_CREATING A NEW EAST BAYFRONT PARK

A bold new waterfront park reflecting the industrial heritage of the area and anticipating its extraordinary future will be created between the Jarvis and Parliament Street slips, south of the realigned Queens Quay. The reuse of the existing Marine Terminal building can become a link to the past.



| | | |
|---|----|----|
| 1 | 3A | 3B |
| | 4A | 4B |
| 2 | 5A | 5B |
| | | |

(1) A DRAMATIC PIER AT THE FOOT OF YONGE STREET WILL PROVIDE A GATEWAY TO THE CITY (2) A REVITALIZED CLARKE (CHERRY) BEACH (3A) THE EAST BAYFRONT AS IT LOOKS TODAY (3B) A BOLD NEW WATERFRONT PARK IN THE EAST BAYFRONT (4A) THE DON ROADWAY LOOKING SOUTH TODAY (4B) THE SAME VIEW WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF A GREEN CORRIDOR (5A) THE TURNING BASIN OF THE SHIP CHANNEL TODAY (5B) THE SHIP CHANNEL IN THE REDEVELOPED PORT LANDS

B11_THE DON GREENWAY

A new green corridor will be created in the centre of the Port Lands, functioning as an important open space connection linking the Don Valley, Tommy Thompson Park and Lake Ontario. The corridor will be a key component of the convergence district offering a unique amenity attractive to knowledge-based industries of all types. In addition to providing local parkland, the corridor will be able to fulfill a variety of functions as needed, including neighbourhood recreational facilities, compatible community uses, a wildlife corridor and habitat, and a receptor for stormwater from adjacent communities.

B12_A NEW LAKE ONTARIO PARK

A new Lake Ontario Park, a comprehensive re-think of lands along the North Shore, will give Toronto a much enhanced continuous urban park system in the tradition of the city's great parks like High Park and Edwards Gardens. Extending from Clarke (Cherry) Beach to Balmy Beach, the new park will encompass a considerably improved North Shore Park, Tommy

Thompson Park and the Base Lands, and will incorporate upgrades to the Martin Goodman/Waterfront Trail system in this area.

Through judicious lakefilling, a sizable amount of parkland will be created south of the Ashbridges Bay Sewage Treatment Plant to serve the diverse recreational needs of the emerging waterfront communities. The lakefilling will help stabilize the Lake Ontario shoreline, reduce siltation and establish new aquatic and terrestrial habitats. Recreational boating will continue within the new park system.

B13_THE SHIP CHANNEL

The Ship Channel, which extends from the Inner Harbour to the east end of the Port Lands, will become a powerful focal point around which new mixed-use communities will be built. The needs of existing industries for dockwall space and use of the channel will be balanced with the opportunity to capitalize on the channel as a unique amenity. Lateral canals could expand the use of the channel for activities such as boating and skating.

| | | |
|----------|----|----|
| 1 | 2A | 2B |
| 3A 3B | 4 | 5 |

(1) PLAN OF NEW FORT YORK PARK (2A) FORT YORK TODAY HIDDEN BY ELEVATED EXPRESSWAY (2B) SAME VIEW AFTER THE RECONFIGURATION OF THE ELEVATED EXPRESSWAY (3A + 3B) MARILYN BELL PARK BEFORE, AFTER CONSOLIDATION OF ROAD NETWORK (4) HARBOURFRONT CENTRE, A PEOPLE PLACE (5) PUBLIC ART IN PUBLIC PLACES



B14_A NEW FORT YORK PARK

With the replacement of the elevated Gardiner Expressway, a new park of national prominence (Fort York Park), will emerge. The park will be larger and more visible, regaining the Fort's status as Toronto's most significant heritage resource. The new Fort York Park will be a national, regional and local draw for public events and for the celebration of its military history central to the story of Toronto.

B15_AN EXPANDED MARILYN BELL PARK

Almost three hectares will be added to Marilyn Bell Park by carefully consolidating the road network at the west end of Exhibition Place. This will allow the park to be redesigned and improved as a gateway to the waterfront. The expanded park will be much more accessible to South Parkdale residents as well as to visitors, workers and new residents at Exhibition Place.

B16_ONTARIO PLACE, A WATERFRONT DESTINATION

Ontario Place will be woven into the waterfront park system with better access for the public to enjoy its facilities and paid attractions. A new trail system, with connections to the north, east and west, will bring pedestrians and cyclists to Ontario Place. With improved public access, Ontario Place will be reaffirmed as an important waterfront destination for major festivals and tourism events and for the celebration of innovative architecture and landscape design.

POLICIES

DEFINING THE PUBLIC REALM

(P11) The design of the public realm will be of a standard of excellence characteristic of the great city waterfronts of the world.

(P12) The public realm will be defined by a coherent framework of streets, parks, plazas, buildings, viewing areas, walkways, boardwalks, promenades, piers, bridges

and other public infrastructure and open space elements. Its design will reflect its exceptional waterfront setting and integrate and interpret the rich natural and cultural heritage of Toronto's waterfront, including the historic Lake Ontario Shoreline, Taddle Creek and Garrison Creek alignments.

(P13) Parks and plazas strategically located along the water's edge will become centres of public activity – in effect, windows on the lake.

(P14) A unifying approach to landscaping and wayfinding (e.g., signs, kiosks) that is evocative of the Central Waterfront will tie together its various components.

(P15) There will be a coordinated Central Waterfront public art program for both public and private developments.

PARK DESIGN

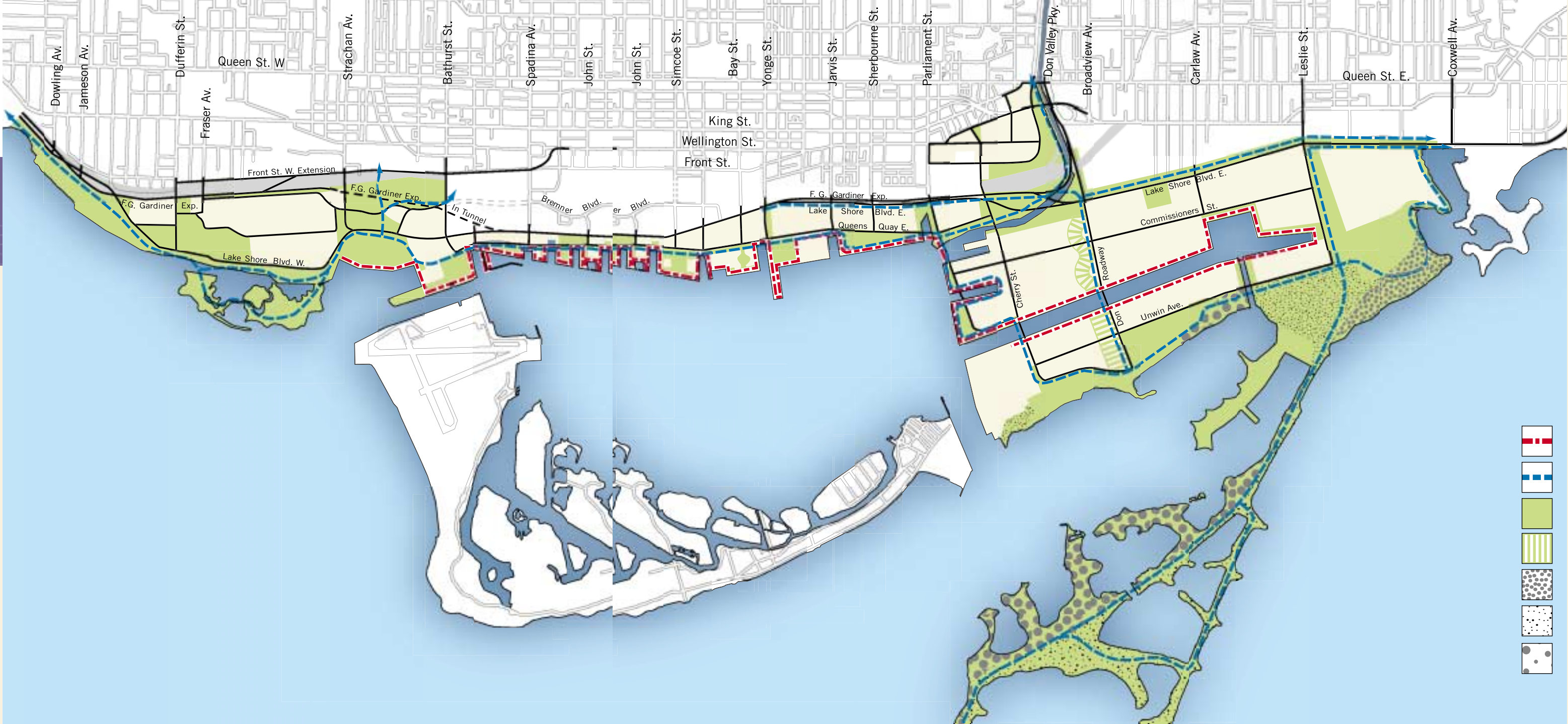
(P16) Parks in the Central Waterfront will be diverse, well maintained, animated and safe, accommodating a full range of recreational experiences from areas for active play, enjoyment of sports and entertainment to areas for quiet solitude and relaxation. These experiences will be provided in a comfortable setting during all seasons of the year.

(P17) Public community, cultural and entertainment facilities will form part of the fabric of the waterfront park system. A limited number of private cultural/entertainment facilities may also be located in the park system provided their associated open spaces remain publicly accessible.

(P18) Sustainable management practices and design and construction techniques that have minimal environmental impacts and return the greatest ecological rewards will be utilized in waterfront parks.

CENTRAL WATERFRONT PART II PLAN PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC USE AREA PLAN

MAP C:



MAP INDEX:

- WATERFRONT PROMENADE
- WATERFRONT TRAIL SYSTEM
- PARKS, OPEN SPACE AND PUBLIC USE AREA
- DON GREENWAY
- POTENTIAL LAKEFILL AREA
- NATURAL AREA
- ENVIRONMENTALLY SIGNIFICANT AREA

NOTES: (1) WATERFRONT TRAIL SYSTEM TO BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH TRAIL SYSTEM ON MAP D (2) LOCAL PARKS ARE NOT DESIGNATED IN THE PLAN. THIS WILL BE DONE AT THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT BY-LAW STAGE

CENTRAL WATERFRONT PART II PLAN
PUBLIC REALM PLAN

MAP FOUR:

