## Public Open House\_03: Draft Recommendations

City of Toronto

DTAH

R.E. Millward and Associates

WSP

Dougan and Associates

Swerhun —

Taylor Hazell Architects

JC Williams Group

Bloor West Village Avenue Study\_December 04, 2017

dtah

#### Public Open House\_03: Draft Recommendations\_Agenda

- 1. Introduction and Process Updates
- 2. Station Exercises:

  Draft Recommendations by Subject
- 3. Plenary Discussion
- 4. Next Steps

#### Why this Avenue Study?

- Bloor West Village is changing
- Parallel initiatives underway (eg: Heritage Conservation District Study)
- The area has redevelopment interest (High Park Area, Jane Area, corner sites, etc.)
- The scale of individual re-development projects is increasing
- There is a need to establish a specific framework to guide change
- Bloor West Village was identified by City Council and Staff as a priority for an Avenue Study







#### **Avenue Study in Policy Context**

**High Level Broad Policy** 

Increased Detail

Regional and Provincial Policy

Broad policy directing growth within the Region:

Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe

Provincial Policy Statement City of Toronto Official Plan

Toronto's Vision for growth and change to the year 2031

Mid-Rise
Building
Performance
Standards

City-wide standards for how to intensify with mid-rise buildings along the Avenues

Does not define permissions for specific Avenues Bloor West Village Avenue Study

MILLER

Refined recommendations for this specific Avenue

- Built Form
- Public Realm
- Parks + Open Space
- Transportation
- Community Services and Facilities
- Servicing
- Natural Heritage
- Hydrogeology

City of Toronto Implementation Tools

Following from Avenue Study recommendations

#### Possible Planning Tools:

- Area-specificZoning Amendment
- Official Plan
   Amendment
- Updates to Urban
   Design Guidelines
- Further Studies

1

#### **Project Purpose**

## To Develop a Comprehensive Planning and Urban Design Framework that Addresses:

- » Land Use
- » Community Services + Facilities
- » Built Form + Heritage
- » Streetscape
- » Parks, Open Spaces, and Natural Features
- » Transportation
- » Servicing

#### **Ensure a Clear Direction for the Corridor:**

- » to implement a community and stakeholder supported vision
- » provide guidance to property owners and city staff for evaluating development applications
- » to guide the City with public realm improvement projects
- » to guide servicing infrastructure improvements
- » to support transportation choice and network improvements in this part of the City

#### **Avenue Study Area**

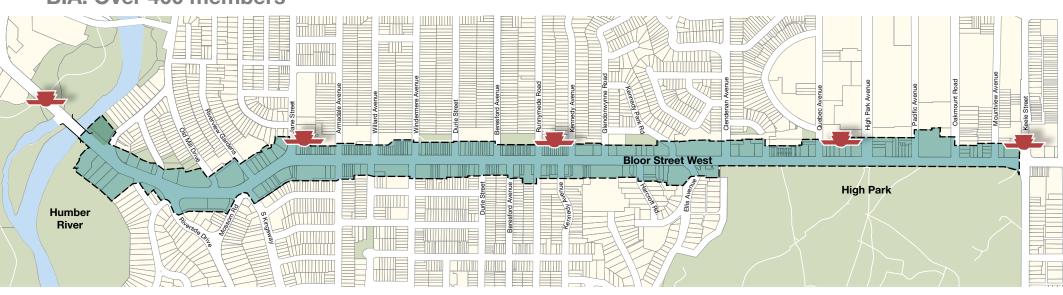
From Humber River to Keele Street: 2.7 kilometres in length

**Over 240 properties that address Bloor Street West** 

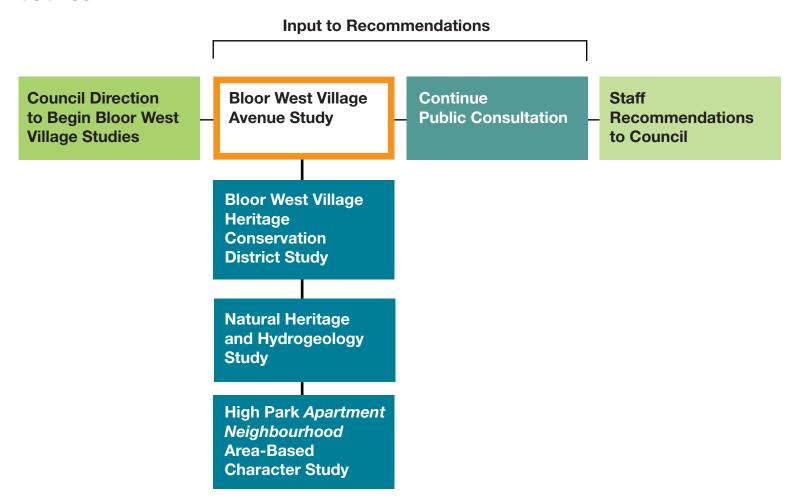
**BIA: Over 400 members** 

5 TTC Stations that serve Study Area (Old Mill, Jane, Runnymede, High Park, Keele)

Study Area slightly revised by City Staff to resolve minor inconsistencies. 20 new properties added.



#### **Parallel Initiatives**



7

#### **Project Schedule**

## Background Opportunities + Constraints

Understand Context and Existing Conditions

City Project Team Meeting (CPMT #2) (Feb 2, 2017)

Councillor Briefing #1 (Feb 6, 2017)

Property Owners Meeting #1 (Feb 8, 2017)

Community Stakeholder Meeting (Feb 9, 2017)

Public Meeting #1 (Feb 27, 2017)

## Future Conditions + Design Alternatives

Design Charrette (April 8, 2017)

Design Review Panel #1 (April 21, 2017)

Evaluate and Test Design Alternatives (April/May 2017)

**CPMT #3** (April 2017)

Local Advisory (LAC) #1 (April 24, 2017)

**CPMT #4** (May 2017)

Identify Preferred Alternative (June 2017)

Councillor Briefing #2 (June 2017)

**LAC #2** (June 2017)

Public Meeting #2 (June 2017)

Supplemental Studies: TOR (July 2017)

Natural Heritage/ Hydrogeology Studies (August 2017)

CPMT #5 (October 2017)

Supplemental Local Advisory (LAC) #3 (October 2017)

Refine Preferred Alternative (October-November 2017)

## Synthesis + Avenue Study Final Report

Avenue Study Recommendations
Draft (November 2017)

CPMT #6

(November 21 2017)

Councillor Briefing #3 (November 24 2017)

Local Advisory (LAC) #4 (November 27 2017)

Public Meeting #3 (December 04 2017)

Design Review Panel #2 (December 12 2017)

Avenue Study Recommendations Final (December 2017/January 2018)

**Community Council Presentation** (Q1, 2018)

#### **How We Have Made Recommendations**

## What We Have Heard

**Public Meetings** 

**Design Review Panel** 

**Design Charrette** 

**Local Advisory Committee** 

**Communications** 

**Discussions with Staff** 

## Professional Expertise

Experience from similar projects in other parts of Toronto and Ontario and an understanding of the local issues and context

Testing and Evaluation of Options

## **Understanding of Policy Context**

Provincial and Regional Policies

**City of Toronto Official Plan** 

**Built Form Policies** 

Transportation and Street Design Policies

**Green Design Policies** 

Natural Heritage and Water Policies

#### **Context Sensitive Design**

## **Existing Context**

**Higher Order Transit** with Five Subway Stations

Village Main Street: Mostly 2- 3 Storeys

**East and West of Main Street: Taller Buildings** 

Road Classification: Arterial

## **Planned Context**

Transit Supportive Intensification

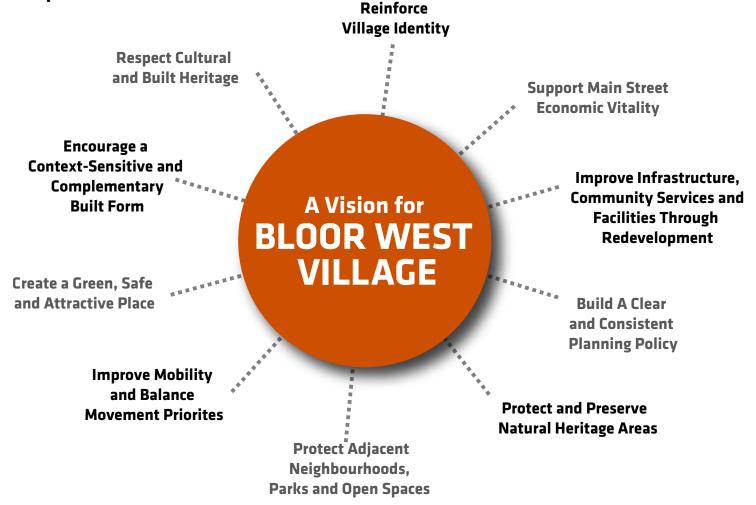
Midrise Buildings and Other Forms of Intensification -- Informed by Avenue Study

**Complete Street Type: Neighbourhood Main Street** 

#### What We Have Heard So Far



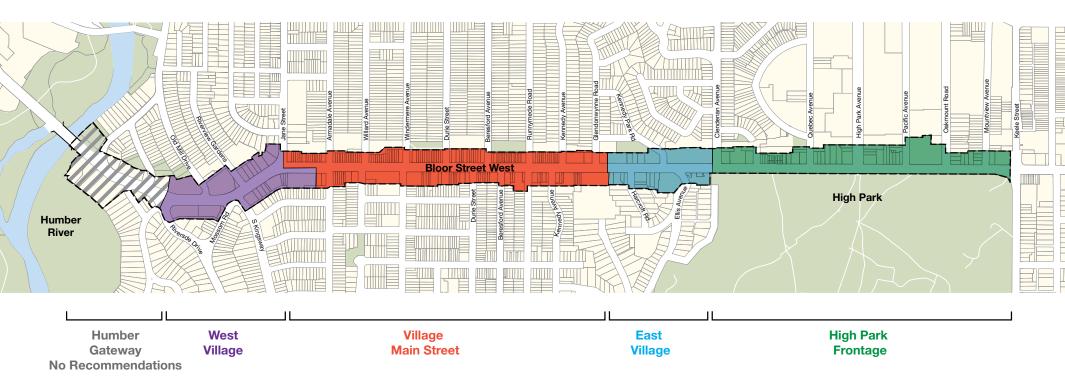
#### **Guiding Principles**



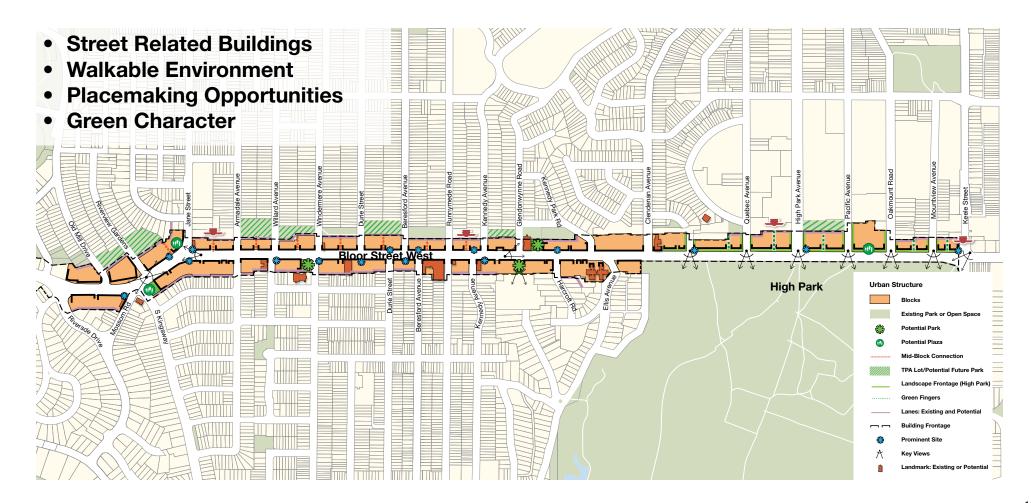
#### **Avenue Study Character Areas\_Revised**

Humber Gateway Character Area removed due to *Neighbourhoods* designation with no anticipated change.

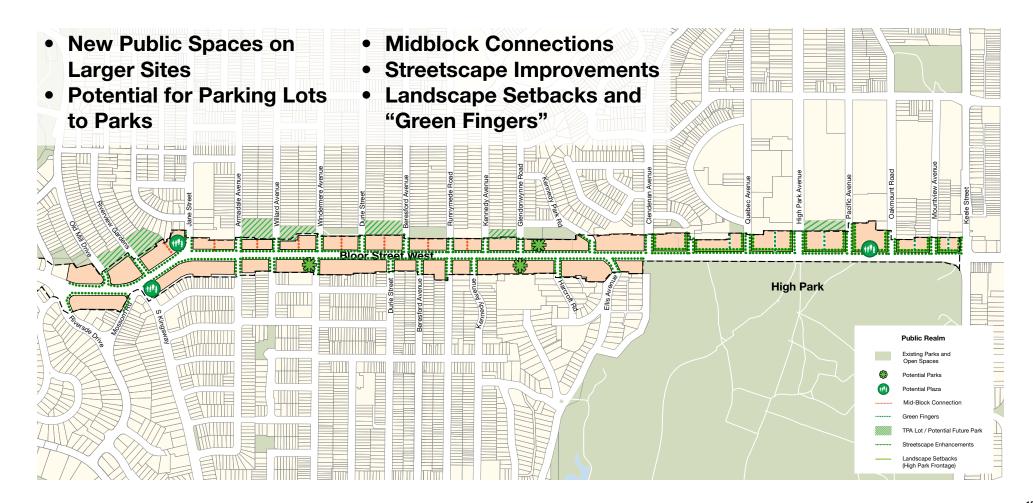
Recommendations for the other four Character Areas: West Village, Village Main Street, East Village, and High Park Frontage.



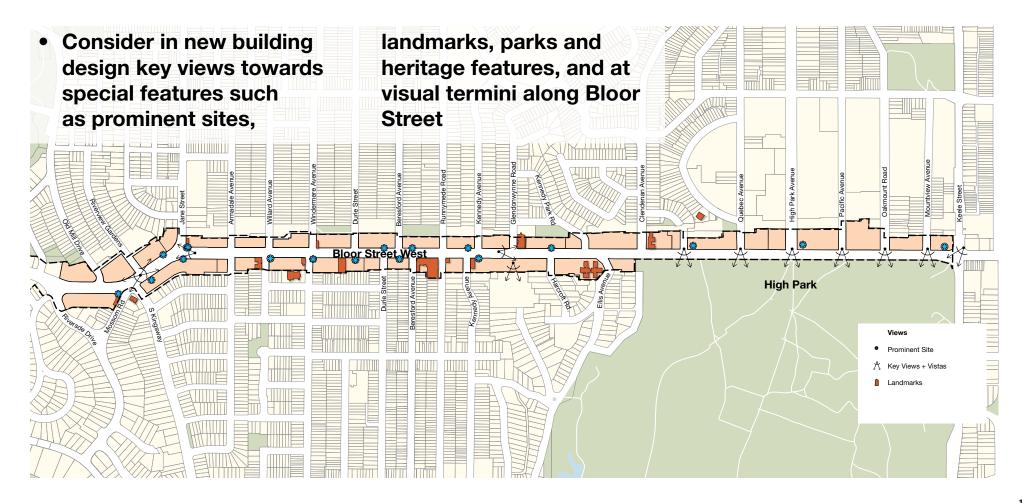
#### Framework: Urban Structure



#### Framework: Public Realm



#### Framework: Views + Vistas



#### **Development in Study Area: Significant Period of Change**

#### **Last 10 Years**

8 Projects (including Humber Cinema Site)

1300+ Units 2500+ People

#### Next 20+ Years

**Estimated Population Increase** based on Demonstrations

400 to 840+ Units 750 to 1600+ People

#### Recommendations

#### **Draft Recommendations for Four Subjects**

- » Built Form
- » Land Use / Community Services + Facilities
- » Street Design + Transportation
- » Natural Heritage + Water

#### **Approach to Recommendations**

- » Make a decision if change was appropriate
- » If changing, then by how much
- » Provide a rationale for why

#### **Summary: Recommendations\_DRAFT**

Built Form	Land Use / CS+F	Street Design + Transportation	Natural Heritage + Water
Change in most of the Study Area	Minor adjustments to reflect current conditions	Suggestions to introduce cycling infrastructure when reconstruction takes place	Suggestions to develop a natural heritage planning and management framework
Consistent with or refinement of existing policy	Suggestions to support Main Street retail and office employment	Suggestions to support safer environment for all users	Suggestions for enhanced site specific requirements for sensitive areas
Different guidelines informed by understanding of local context and testing of options	Suggestions to support soft intensification alongside midrise development	Suggestions for strategies to improve traffic flow and reduce congestion	Suggestions to ensure no impedance on flow of groundwater in aquifer
Modest change in East and West Villages; More direction for High Park Frontage and Village Main Street	Suggestions for process to allow small scale retail along High Park	Suggestions for parking study to inform future conditions	Suggestions to limit the depth of below grade structures

#### **Station Presentations**

One Station for Each Subject: 25 minutes Each

**Presentation: 5-10 minutes** 

- » Overview of Existing Conditions
- » Rationale for Making Decisions
- » Highlight Specific Sites

**Facilitated Discussion: 15-20 minutes** 

**Move to Next Station** 

**Report Back in a Plenary Session Format** 

## Natural Heritage + Water

#### **Purpose\_Supplemental Studies**

Strong interest and concern about future redevelopment and the potential adverse impact on sensitive natural systems, specifically High Park

City of Toronto expanded the scope for this Avenue Study to include a desktop study of the Hydrogeology and Natural Heritage features

Supplemental study recommendations to inform the Avenue Study:

- » Recommendations in Final Report
- » Recommendations for futher work following the Avenue Study

#### **Supplemental Studies**

#### **Generalized Scope of Work July 2017**

- » Background Review
- » Impact Identification and Assessment
- » Mitigation
- » Recommendations

#### **Selected Consultants August 2017**

- » WSP: Hydrogeology
- » Dougan and Associates: Natural Heritage

### Preliminary Findings and Recommendations LAC 03 October 18 2017

» Specific to Supplemental Studies

Surface Water Review by Toronto Water Staff October/November 2017

#### Natural Heritage + Water\_What We've Heard

#### General support for the recommendations and need to see more, including:

- » Support for integration of Natural Heritage, Water and Functional Servicing Studies
- Balance of responsibility between public and private
- » Need strong policies (not guidelines)

#### **Natural Heritage**

- Importance of High Park and concern about degradation
- » Need to ensure prescribed burns continue
- Protection for ChimneySwifts and other threatenedspecies

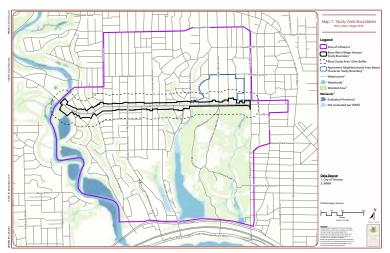
#### Water

- » Concerns about impact of underground development and dewatering on water table and features
- » Impacts of intensification on water courses in High Park
- Need to protect and enhance water courses and Grenadier Pond

## Natural Heritage

#### Characterization\_Overview

- Significant natural heritage resources exist within High Park and the Humber River valley
- Neighbourhood contains additional ESAs and extensive mature urban forest.
- Recorded species of conservation concern likely breed within the High Park and Humber River Valley natural habitats.
- Many other urban tolerant species breed in generalist habitat (i.e. northern end of High Park, treed neighbourhoods, parks/ parkettes, and backyards).
- 100+ years of anthropogenic use / disturbance have led to high degree of fragmentation and disturbance



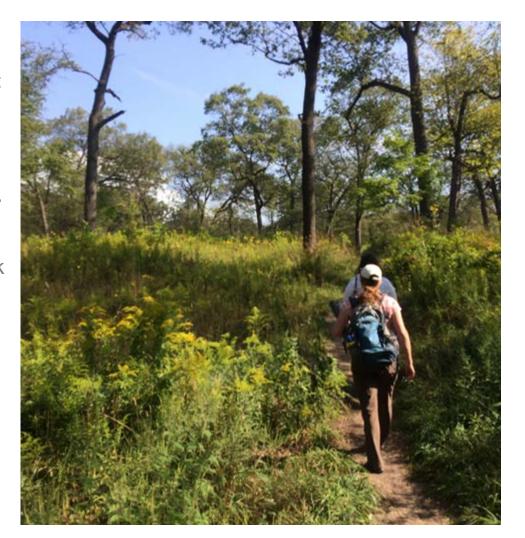
#### **Study Area Boundaries**



**Natural Heritage Policy Classifications** 

#### **Characterization\_High Park**

- Rare habitats (prairie/savannah) are present within the parkland matrix.
- The park provides habitat for Species-at-Risk (SAR), primarily in prairie/savannah and wetland/aquatic habitats and for urbantolerant species:
  - » 64 species of breeding birds recorded in park (includes SAR); highly attractive stopover site for migratory birds
  - » Urban tolerant mammals are present; bats studied on limited basis but SAR bats not likely breeding in High Park
  - » Diversity of amphibians and reptiles low, confined to wetlands, ponds, and surrounding terrestrial interface



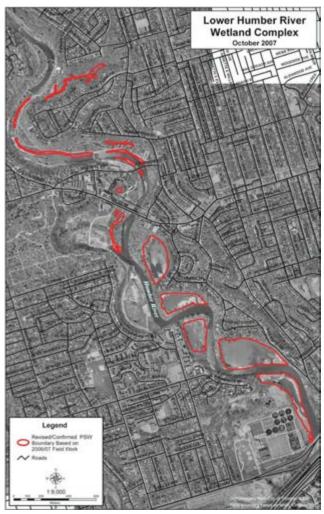
#### Characterization\_High Park (cont'd)

- Restoration measures per High Park
  Woodland & Savannah Management
  Plan (2002) are implemented to improve
  resilience of natural heritage features and
  functions.
- Existing policy protection at Provincial and Municipal level.



#### **Characterization\_Humber Valley**

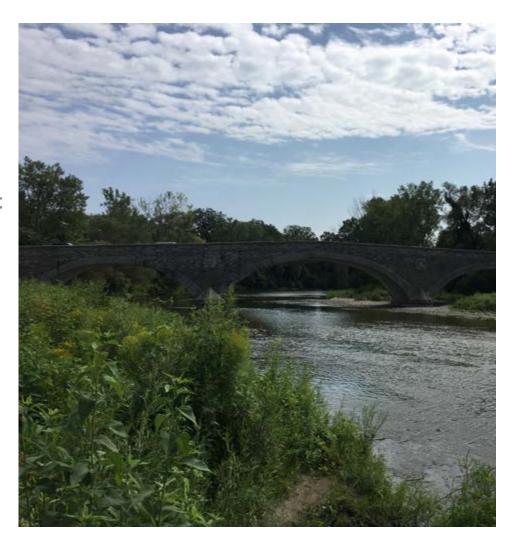
- Steep forested valley slopes with Provincially Significant Wetland complex in bottomlands
- Wetland communities provide important habitat for flora, fauna
  - » 56 species breeding within the Humber River Valley (includes SAR); forested and open water habitats are highly attractive stopover site for migratory birds (along with High Park)
  - » Similar mammal, amphibian, and reptile diversity as High Park in available data, but higher likelihood of some species due to connectivity (i.e. White-tailed deer) and wetland extent (i.e. amphibians)



**Wetland Complex** 

#### Characterization\_Humber Valley (cont'd)

- Ecological connectivity to Lake Ontario waterfront, through City to Oak Ridges Moraine, although fragmented by roads/ bridges
- Additional prairie/savannah habitats present adjacent to Humber corridor (Lambton Shores, Sassafras Woods)
- Existing policy protection at Provincial and Municipal level



#### Characterization\_Area of Influence

- Existing established neighbourhoods with mature urban forest canopy corresponding to complex topography.
- Several ESAs (South Kingsway West Flank, South Kingsway East Flank, Rennie Park).
- Ravine fragment at end of Dacre Crescent/
   No Frills Parking Lot overlooks steep slopes, deciduous swamp, and seepage.
- Ravine fragments north and south of Bloor St., and wetlands provide breeding / migratory habitat for diverse avifauna.
- Municipal policy protection in force, primarily focused on ESAs & ravine features.







Rennie Park



**Bloor West Corridor** 

#### **Potential Development Impacts**

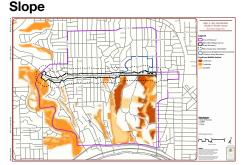
Impacts due to built form are limited within the Bloor West Village Avenue Study area. The potential impacts depend on location and nature of development, and could include:

- » Tree canopy loss
- » Slope impacts
- » Increased hazard of buildings to migratory & breeding birds
- » Removal of habitat for Species at Risk
- » Construction impacts to wildlife (i.e. nest removal, mortality)
- » Changes in downstream water quality and quantity
- » Increased impacts on High Park



Market State State





**Wetland Prairie** 

Wildlife

#### **Impact Mitigation**

Potential Impact	Recommended Mitigation	Existing Policies / Guidelines	Recommended New Policies / Guidelines
Tree canopy loss	Require arborist studies for development sites with trees, minimize tree loss and injury, replant removals with native, site-appropriate trees	Private tree by-law, City tree by-law, Ravine and Natural Features Protection By-law	Consider area-specific "high-value trees" guideline to enhance retention of mature canopy, increasing arborist studies to all trees 10cm DBH and larger
Slope impacts	Require scoped, site specific to determine long-term stable top of slope location for sites including or adjacent to steep slopes	10 m setback from long-term stable top of slope	No additional policies / guidelines required
Increased hazard of buildings to migratory & breeding birds	Require buildings facing High Park to have bird friendly design for entire façade	Toronto Green Standard	Consider enhancing TGS to extend bird friendly treatment to entire façade of any buildings facing High Park
Removal of habitat for Species at Risk	Require scoped studies for SAR that use urban structures (i.e. Chimney Swift, Bats) where buildings proposed for removal to determine presence/absence	Endangered Species Act	No additional policies / guidelines required

#### **Impact Mitigation (cont'd)**

Potential Impact	Recommended Mitigation	Existing Policies / Guidelines	Recommended New Policies / Guidelines
Construction impacts to wildlife	Trees to be removed outside migratory and breeding bird windows; construction sites to be contained with silt fence to minimize accidental mortality	Migratory Birds Convention Act, Erosion and Sediment Control Bylaw	No additional policies / guidelines required
Changes in downstream water quality and quantity**	Improve water quality and reduce "flashiness" of flows through at-source measures	Existing City WWFMG (Wet Weather Flow Management Guidelines)	Consider site specific study SWM requirements, SWM enhancements in Avenues north of High Park (see Water presentation for details)
Increased use on High Park**	Mitigate impacts of increased use through effective park management	High Park Woodland & Savannah Management Plan	City to identify opportunities to improve habitat and increase resilience of High Park, including continuation of High Park Oak Savannah burn and restoration work Consider developing building HVAC standards to prevent smoke intake from burn
Conventional development practises	Create habitat opportunties through biodiverse green roofs and green streets	Green Streets Technical Guidelines Biodiverse Green Roof Guidelines	Require biodiverse green roofs and introduction of green streets

<sup>\*\*</sup>indirect impacts

#### Mitigation and Enhancement Opportunities outside of BWV Avenue Study

#### **New Development**

- » To be bird friendly
- » Incorporate at source measures to improve water quality and reduce peak storm flows
- » No discharge of groundwater
- » Greater protection for high value trees
- Biodiverse Green Roofs, local species and pollinator friendly landscaping

#### City/TRCA

- » Green Streets technology
- » Further study of flora and fauna resources
- » Information/education about values of High Park

# Water: Groundwater + Surface Water

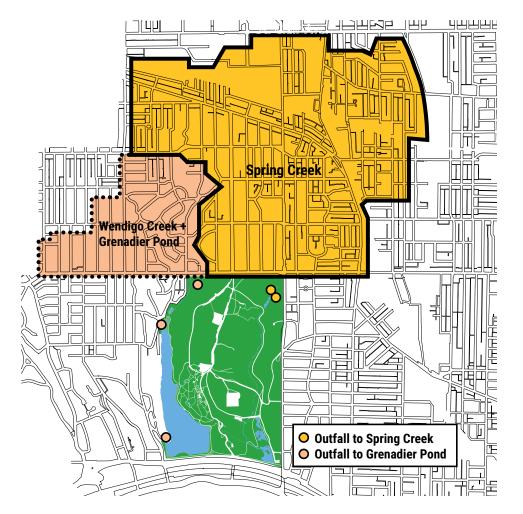
#### **Impacted Sensitive Areas\_Characterization**

## Wendigo Creek (upstream portion of Grenadier Pond)

- Storm Sewer outfall discharges from Total Catchment Area of 120 ha with 56% Impervious cover.
- » Bloor St W Village Study area constitutes 8% of total contributing catchment.

#### **Spring Creek**

- » Outfalls from 2 catchments serviced by SCSO sewers and storm sewers, respectively
- » Total Contributing Catchment ~305 ha (out of which only 5 ha resides in the BMV study area)
- » Total Catchment Imperviousness ~68%



**Stormwater Catchment Areas feeding High Park** 

#### Impacted Sensitive Areas\_Conditions Review

#### **Wendigo Creek**

85% of the Grenadier Pond basin has been developed since 1940.

Increased imperviousness likely decreased groundwater contributions to 50%, with 50% contributed from surface water (i.e., stormwater runoff).

#### **Spring Creek**

Surface water contributions significantly less than artesian based groundwater flow from buried Laurentian Channel aquifer (driven by groundwater regimes from Georgian Bay and the Oak Ridges Moraine)

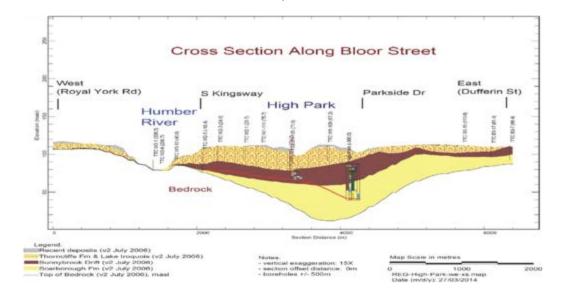
#### **Groundwater and Surface Water\_Key Water Sources**

#### Groundwater

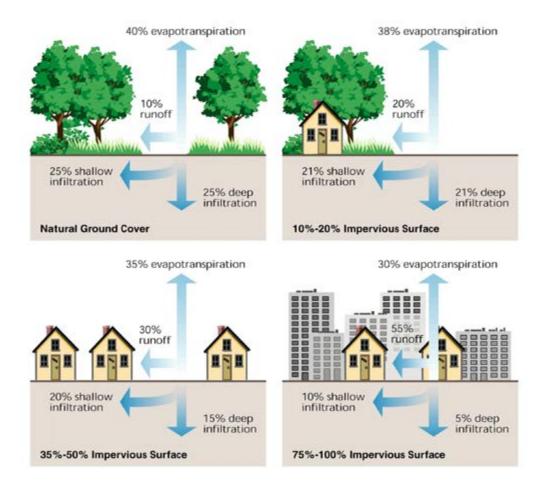
Groundwater sources include shallow groundwater flow regime and perched aquifers and deep aquifers (i.e., buried Laurentian Channel).

#### **Surface Water**

Surface Water sources stormwater runoff from upstream catchment areas flowing overland or captured, conveyed and discharged through City's sewer infrastructure.



#### **Groundwater and Surface Water\_ Development Impact**



#### **Groundwater and Surface Water\_ Recent City Actions**

#### 1998-2008:

Stormwater management projects to improve storm water quality:

- » Spring Creek Ponds
- » Wendigo Pond
- » Catfish Pond
- » Lower Duck Pond

#### Past 2-3 Years:

Cleaning out of:

- » Spring Creek Ponds
- » Wendigo Pond
- » Lower Duck Pond

City has now implemented mandatory downspout disconnection in the High Park catchments

Additional stormwater mitigation will occur as defined in the Wet Weather Flow Management Guidelines for the Bloor West Village study area and surrounding neighbourhoods





#### **Sensitive High Park Water Features**

Impacted Sensitive Features	Wendigo Creek (upstream portion of Grenadier Pond)	Spring Creek
Existing Characterization	Storm Sewer outfall discharges from Total Catchment Area of 120 ha with 56% Impervious cover.  Bloor St W Village Study area constitutes 8% of total contributing catchment.	2 Sewer outfalls (1 SCSO + 1 Storm) discharges from Total Catchment Area of 305 ha with 68% Impervious cover.  Bloor St W Village Study area constitutes <2% of total contributing catchment.
Conditions Review [Gartner Lee 1995] [WSP 2017]	85% of the Grenadier Pond basin had been developed since 1940.  Increased imperviousness likely decreased groundwater contributions to 50%, with 50% contributed from surface water (i.e., stormwater runoff).	Surface water contributions significantly less than artesian based groundwater flow from buried Laurentian Channel aquifer (driven by groundwater regimes from Georgian Bay and the Oak Ridges Moraine)

#### **Development Impacts on Groundwater and Surface Water**

	Groundwater	Surface Water
Key Water Sources	Groundwater sources include shallow groundwater flow regime and perched aquifers and deep acquifers (i.e., buried Laurentian Channel)	Surface Water sources stormwater runoff from upstream catchment areas flowing overland or captured, conveyed and discharged through City's sewer infrastructure.
Development Impact	Increases in imperviousness may inhibit groundwater recharge.  Sub-surface structures (e.g., parking garages) may require the extraction and discharge of groundwater to sewers impacting groundwater flow regimes, sewer capacity and potential for water quality degradation.  Deep sub-surface structures may impede aquitards could cause release of pressurized aquifers.	Increases in imperviousness may result in rapid and increased release of stormwater increasing the risk of water quality degradation and watercourse erosion, as well as raise urban flooding concerns.

#### **Development Impacts on Groundwater and Surface Water (cont'd)**

	Groundwater	Surface Water
Opportunities & City Requirements	Improve groundwater recharge, through on-site prioritization of Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development features as per City's WWFMG, Green Streets Technical Guidelines and upcoming MOECC direction.  Provide site-specific hydrogeological investigation to understand impacts to groundwater and discharge, and meet City requirements for Groundwater Management (upcoming Policy) and By-Laws.	Improve overall stormwater management from existing impervious & uncontrolled conditions using Green Infrastructure/Low Impact Development features to ensure adequate controls for water balance, quality and quantity as per City's WWFMG, Green Streets Technical Guidelines and upcoming MOECC direction.
Recommendations	Investigate enhanced area-specific recharge requirements for sensitive areas.  Limit the maximum depth of sub-surface structures in order to ensure no net impact to the groundwater regime.  Confirm no impedance of aquifer or hydrogeological/ geotechnical impact through monitoring well.	Investigate enhanced area-specific SWM control requirements for sensitive areas.

# **Built Form**

#### **Existing Building Types**



Main Street Mixed Use



Townhouses



Heritage / Landmarks



**Mixed Use Commercial Office** 



Mid-Rise Apartments



**House Forms** 



**Taller Buildings** 



**Low-Rise Apartments** 

#### **Built Form\_What We've Heard**

Encourage context sensitive built form that respects and complements the existing street, adjacent areas and neighbourhoods

Building design and heights should maintain a human scale and the "village" feel in BWV

Protect sunlight and sky view

Clear rationale for height and different transitions

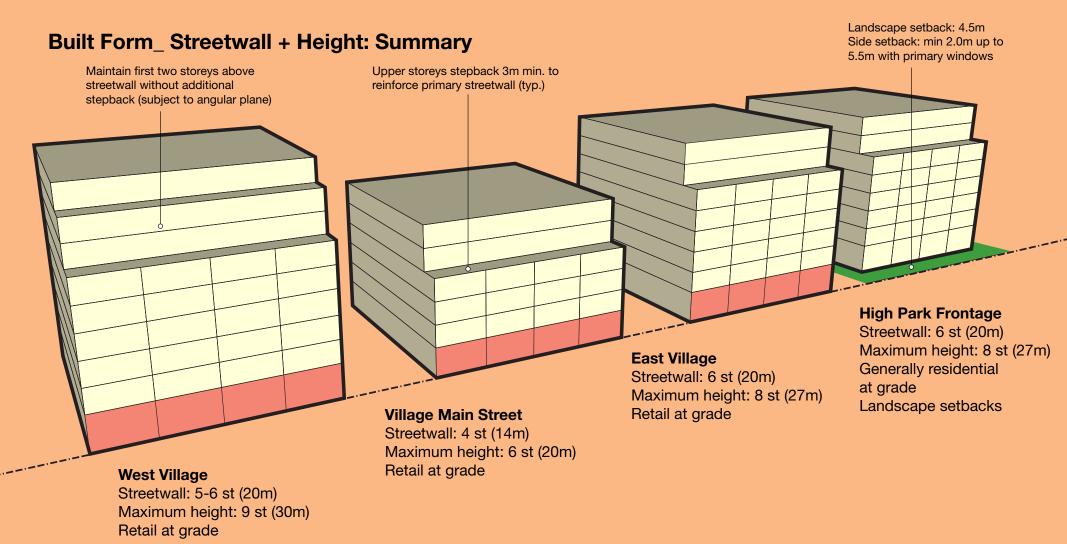
Consider emerging context alongside existing context

Midblock connections and laneways should be safe and comfortable

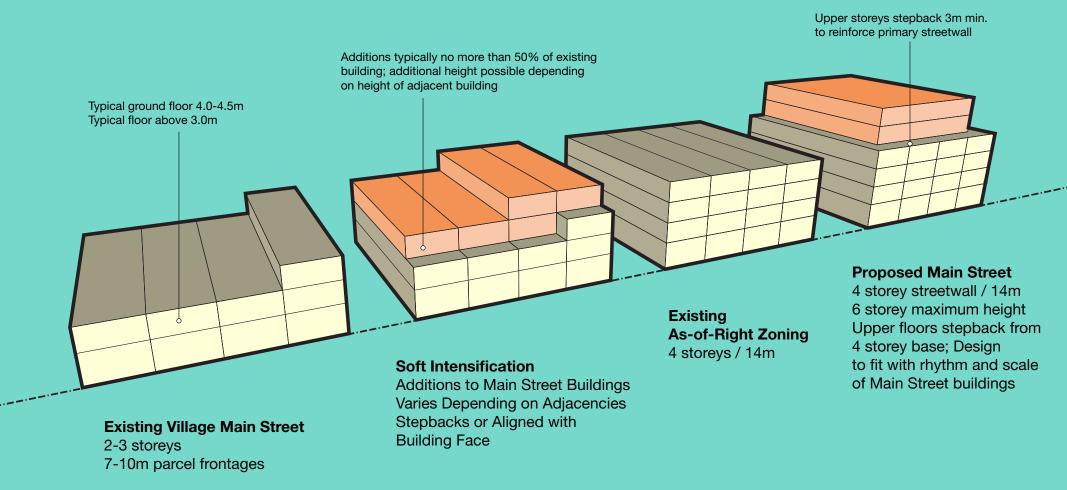
Strong concern with 60° rear angular plane on southside

#### **Built Form\_Key Variables Considered**

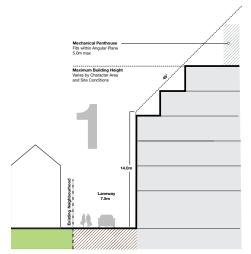
- 1. Character Area
- 2. Streetwall Height/Overall Height
- 3. Transition to Upper Stories
- 4. Different Rear Transition Conditions
  - Typical Neighbourhood/Park/Parking Lot
  - Transit Station
  - Parking Lot to Park
  - Southside
- 5. Between



#### **Built Form\_Village Main Street Concept**



#### **Rear\_Transitions: Summary**



Mechanical Penthouse
Fits within Angular Plane
5.0m max
Maximum Buldring Neight
Varies by Character Area
and Site Conditions

10.5m

Laneway /
Landscape
7.5m

Reighbourhood
7.5m

Or Park

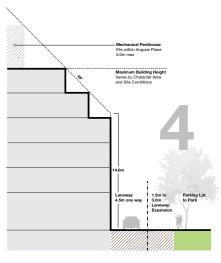
Mechanical Penthouse
File within Angular Plane
5.0m max

Median by Chester Media
and Site Conditions

14.0m

Laneway
7.5m

Station



**Southside: All Character Areas** 



Northside: Neighbourhoods or Parks



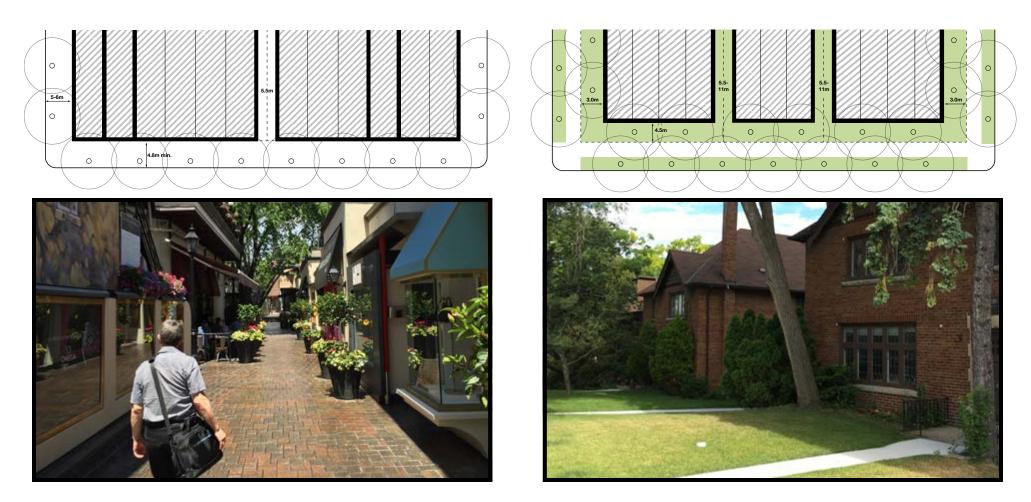
Adjacent to TTC Stations + Corridor



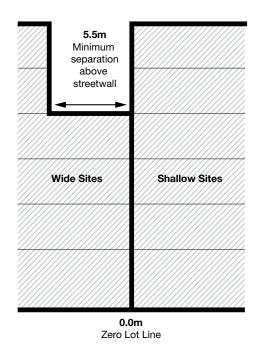
**Adjacent to Parking Lot** 

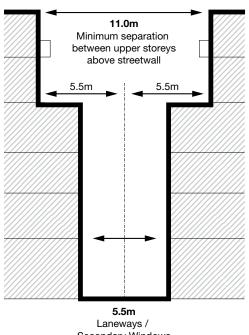


#### Between\_Setbacks + "Green Fingers"



#### Between\_Separation





3.0m min. side stepback above street wall height 5.5m 5.5m 11.0m Primary Windows

Laneways / Secondary Windows Residential + Commercial (i.e. kitchens, bathrooms)

(i.e, living rooms, bedrooms)

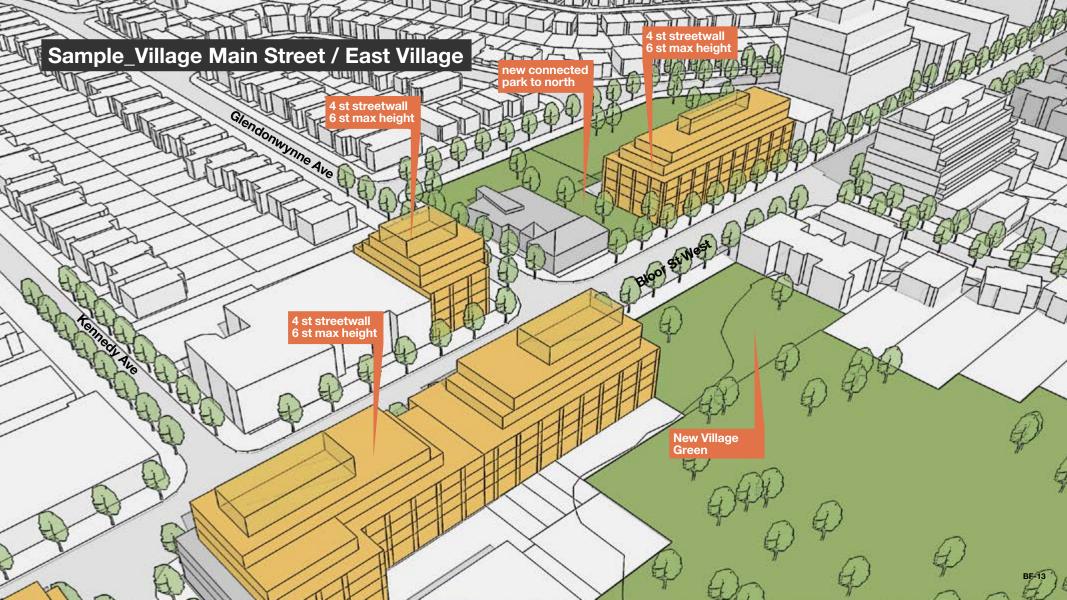
#### **Built Form\_Demonstrations**

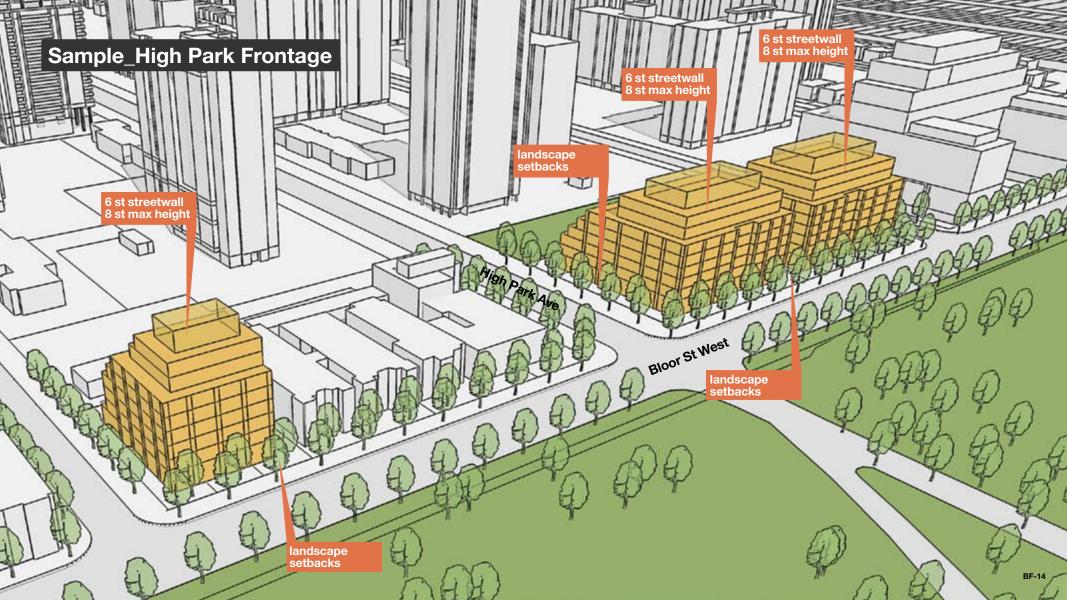
- Demonstrating guidelines on selected sites
- A demonstration on a particular property does not provide any greater permissions that those not tested
- Selected sites in each Character Area
  - » Remaining large sites
  - » Assume consolidation
- Have taken an aggressive approach to not underestimate potential change; not every site will redevelop
- This exercise provides input to assessments for Functional Servicing, Tranportation, and Community Services & Facilities











## Sunlight and Skyview\_Shadow Studies in Village Main Street 7 Hours of Sunlight on North Sidewalk Spring and Autumnal Equinox (March + September 21)



#### **Built Form\_Summary Table**

Character Area	Recommendations	Effect
Village Main Street	Maximum streetwall: 14.0m (4 storeys) Maximum height: 20.0m (6 storeys) Setbacks: to achieve 4.8m min boulevard and 5.0m on side streets	Allows for 4 storey base buildings; aligned with current permissions.  Additional floors above 4 storeys stepback to reinforce streetwall.  Not all sites can accomodate maximum height.
West Village	Maximum streetwall: 20.0m (6 storeys) Maximum height: 30.0m (9 storeys) Setbacks: to achieve 6.0m min boulevard on Bloor Street and 5.0m min on side streets	Allows for 4 to 9 storey buildings. Additional floors above 6 storeys stepback to reinforce streetwall. Relates to emerging context and existing policy. Not all sites can accomodate maximum height.
East Village	Maximum streetwall: 20.0m (5-6 storeys) Maximum height: 27.0m (8 storeys) Setbacks: to achieve 4.8m min boulevard and min 5.0m on side streets	Allows for 5 to 9 storey buildings. Additional floors above 6 storeys stepback to reinforce streetwall. Relates to emerging context and existing policy. Not all sites can accomodate maximum height.
High Park Frontage	Maximum streetwall: 20.0m (6 storeys) Maximum height: 27.0m (8 storeys) Setbacks from property line: 4.5m min for landscape frontage and 3.0m on side streets Separation between buildings	Allows for 6 to 9 storey buildings Relates to both existing and emerging context, and existing policy. Landscape setback and 'green fingers' separating relates to <i>Apartment Neighbourhood</i> and High Park context. Not all sites can accomodate maximum height.

# **Land Use**

#### Land Use\_What We've Heard

Remove *Avenues* designation for areas not appropriate for intensification

Protect the character of Village Main Street by restricting densities and establishing maximum lot sizes, while encouraging the retention of small scale independent retail

Allow larger format retail outside in the West and East Villages

**Protect High Park** 

#### **Decision Making Approach**

Are the existing Official Plan policies and zoning appropriate for each character area?

What policy changes are needed to implement the built form recommendations?

How can the policies be simplified to provide a more clear direction for Bloor West Village?

How can the City respond better to future development applications?

#### Land Use Recommendations\_Humber Gateway

Character Area	Recommendations	Effect
Humber Gateway	Remove <i>Avenues</i> overlay Keep current <i>Neighbourhoods</i> designation	Signal that intensification is not appropriate



#### Land Use Recommendations\_West Village

Character Area	Recommendations	Effect
West Village	Allow buildings up to 9 storeys with 5-6 storey streetwall Restrict the conversion of office uses	Buildings may be redeveloped to relate to existing built form  Office uses would be protected



#### Land Use Recommendations\_Village Main Street

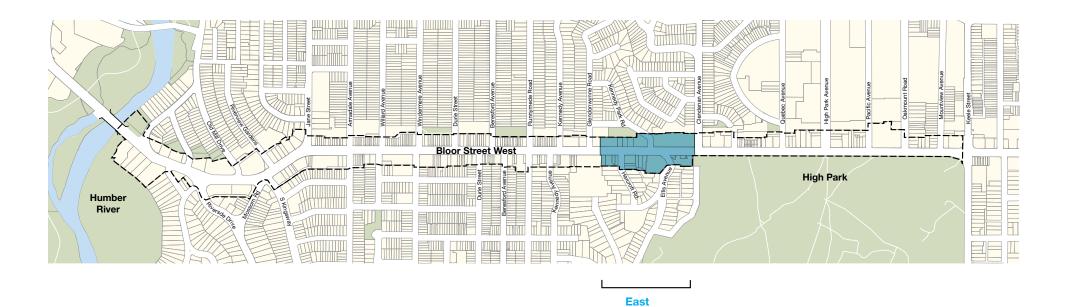
Character Area	Recommendations	Effect
Village Main Street	Restrict retail shop sizes  Allow up to 6 storeys with 50% addition rule  Restrict the conversion of office uses	Retain character of small shops  New buildings would be limited to 6 storeys; existing buildings could grow incrementally



Village Main Street

#### Land Use Recommendations\_East Village

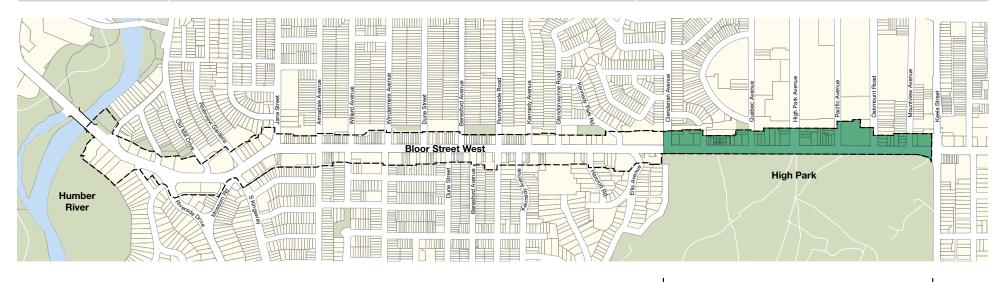
Character Area	Recommendations	Effect
East Village	Allow buildings up to 8 storeys with 5-6 storey streetwall Restrict the conversion of office uses	Buildings may be redeveloped to related to existing built form



Village

#### Land Use Recommendations\_High Park Frontage

Character Area	Recommendations	Effect
High Park Frontage	Remove Avenues overlay from south side (High Park)  Allow buildings up to 8 storeys with 6 storey streetwall and landscape setbacks  Consider allowing some commercial uses on key sites framing the entrance to High Park	Signal that development will not take place in High Park Buildings may be redeveloped but at a scale smaller than recent developments (e.g. Daniel's building)



High Park Frontage

#### Land Use Recommendations\_Proposed Changes Corridor Wide

Character Area	Recommendations	Rationale
	Make the built form rules Official Plan policy - not just guidelines	Official Plan policy are more enforceable than guidelines
All: Corridor Wide	Update the zoning to reflect the final recommended built form	Allowing desired development to proceed as-of-right speeds up the development approvals process making the kind of development we want more economically viable and appealing to developers.
	Conduct a parking study to see how much parking people actually use (in new and old buildings). Explore the potential for reducing or eliminating minimum parking requirements in new buildings	If current parking spaces are underused the City may be able to reduce or eliminate the required number of parking spaces in new buildings. This makes mid-rise buildings more financially viable to build. The area is rich in public transit and provincial policy direction supports reduced parking standards on transit corridors.

# Community Services + Facilities

#### **Community Services + Facilities**

#### **What They Are**

Building blocks of vibrant, strong, and complete communities.

Non-profit, publicly-accessible places such as libraries, child care, and recreation centres where City divisions, schools boards, and community agencies deliver their programs and services.

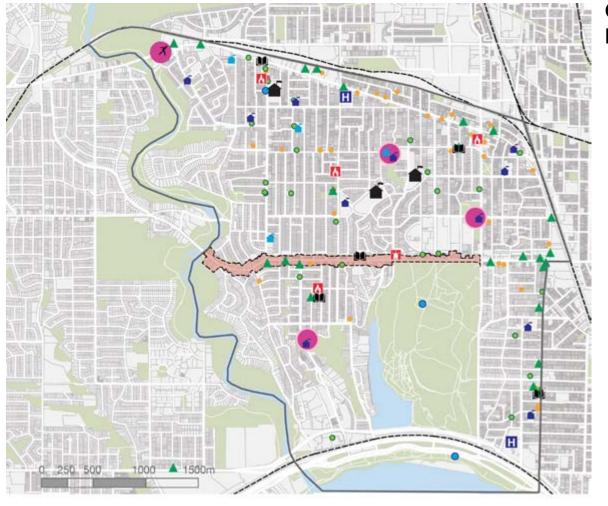
Community facilities act as focal points in neighbourhoods where people can play, learn, work, and socialize.

#### **CS+F Study**

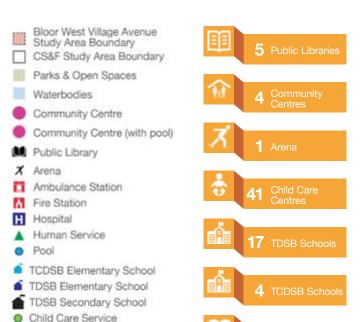
Review of services and facilities currently serving the area.

Considers community demographics, proposed developments, and the potential for growth within the study area.

Help to identify emerging priorities for service improvements and facilities needed to support a growing population.



### **Community Services and Facilities Inventory**



Places of Worship

Human Services Agencies

- 74,484 people live in the CS&F study area, a 5.7% increase from 2011-2016
- Older adults (65+) and Children (0-14) are the fastest-growing age groups
- 59% of families have children
- 34% of area seniors live alone
  - Majority of housing is in apartment buildings, with 25% of dwellings in apartments under 5 storeys and 35% in apartments 5+ storeys
  - 52.7% of homes are owned, 47.3% are rented
  - Average household income (\$102,121) above City of Toronto average (\$87,038)
  - 13.5 % of households considered low-income, versus 19.3% City-wide
  - Three of every ten residents are immigrants. UK, Poland, Ukraine, Europe and the U.S are top countries of origin.

# **Community Services + Facilities\_ Plans and Priorities**

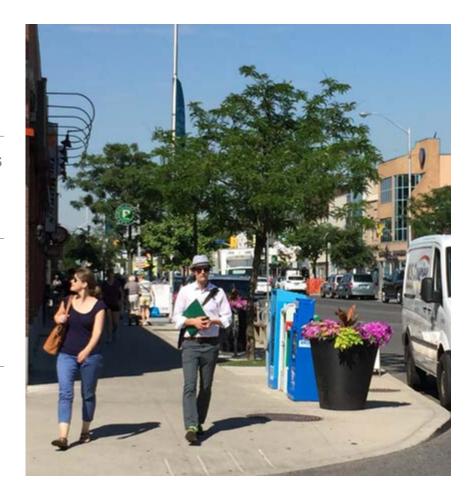
Main areas of concern:

- child care space availability, particularly for infants
- schools with limited capacity to grow

On-site parkland dedication a priority on large sites and where opportunities exist to link or enlarge existing parks

City's Facilities Master Plan recommends funding to maintain and improve existing facilities and playgrounds, as well as for new outdoor basketball and multi-purpose courts as opportunities arise.

Service providers are currently working to provide further input to the Avenue Study.



# Street Design & Transportation

# Street Design and Transportation\_What We Heard

- Maintain / protect for midblock connections, including access through laneways
- General support for cycling infrastructure
- Study the economic impacts, especially on local businesses, of cycling infrastructure
- Develop policies / strategies to enhance pedestrian safety
- Identify strategies to help traffic flow on Bloor St and reduce congestion
- Require new developments to provide adequate on-site parking

# **Purpose**

"...to test the feasibility for introducing safe cycling infrastructure..."

Bloor West Village Avenue Study Terms of Reference No planned or upcoming improvements to Bloor Street West.

No change is anticipated until reconstruction.

# **Cycling Network Existing**



# **Street Design\_Decision Making Framework**

# Policy and Planning Framework

### Official Plan

## **Overlays**

- Avenues
- Character Area
- Business
   Improvement Area

## **Toronto Complete Streets Guidelines**

- Streets for People
- Streets for Places
- Streets for Prosperity

# BWV Project Objectives

### **Improve Safety**

# Improve Overall Mobility

**Increase Choice** 

**Optimize Operations** 

**Support Businesses** 

# Street Context

## Avenues + Neighbourhood Main Street

- Wide sidewalks
- High quality design
- Lingering + activity
- Safe pedestrian + cycling movement
- Frequent pedestrian crossings
- Minimize conflicts
- Healthy trees

# **Transportation Need**

# Major East West Route for All Modes

## Network Connectivity

Future Trips + Modal Split

Surface Transit Connections to Subway Stations

### **Curbside Activities**

- Dropoff/Pickup
- Servicing
- Waste Management
- Accessibility

# What We've Heard

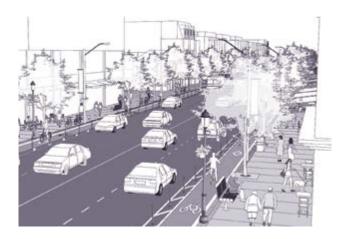
**Public Meetings** 

**Design Charrette** 

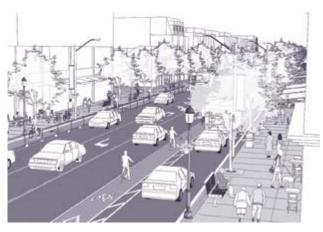
Design Review Panel

**Communications** 

# **Explorations**



Redesign: 01
Two Lanes Peak Hour Each Direction
Off Peak Parking Both Sides
Cycle Tracks
Boulevards: 5.0m+ both sides



Redesign: 02
One Lane Each Direction
Centre Turn Lane
Southside Layby
Northside Midblock Parking
Cycle Track North
Buffered Bike Lane South
Boulevards: 5.0m+ both sides



Redesign: 03
Two Lanes Westbound
One Lane Eastbound
Turn Lane at Key Intersections
Southside Layby
Off-Peak Northside
Cycle Tracks
Boulevards: 5.0m+ both sides

# **Street Design and Transportation\_Recommendations**

- When reconstruction takes place, consider the opportunity to introduce cycling infrastructure
- Further study the economic impacts, especially on local businesses, of cycling infrastructure.
   Build upon methods applied to Bloor Annex Pilot
- Consider policies / strategies to enhance pedestrian safety (e.g., curb radii, lanes widths, improved crossings)
- Adopt strategies to help traffic flow on Bloor St and reduce congestion (e.g., smart signals, TDM, turn restrictions)
- Coordinate with recommended parking study to better understand utilization in buildings and area parking to see if alternative parking rates are possible for new development

# Plenary Discussion

# **Next Steps**

Public Comments due Monday December 18, 2017

**Design Review Panel #2 (December 12 2017)** 

Final Report (December 2017-January 2018)

**Community Council (February 2018-anticipated)** 

# **Further Information and Contacts**

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