

Land Acknowledgement

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Exhibition Place Master Plan

Exhibition Place has had a long tradition as a gathering place. Given its location on the water, this site would have attracted Indigenous populations before recorded history.

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.



Bird's Eye View towards Exhibition Place
Source: <https://theex.com/main/guest-info/>

Why a Master Plan?

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CNE - Source: theex.com

In May 2019, City Council directed City Planning staff to undertake this Master Plan for the site:

Under the guidance of the recently completed Cultural Heritage Landscape Assessment and in collaboration with the Province's Call for Development process for Ontario Place.

The recommended framework for the study includes a review of these interconnected elements:

- Heritage and Archaeology
- Connectivity and Linkages
- Public Realm and Open Space
- Mobility
- Operations
- Resilience
- Built Form
- Stakeholder Engagement

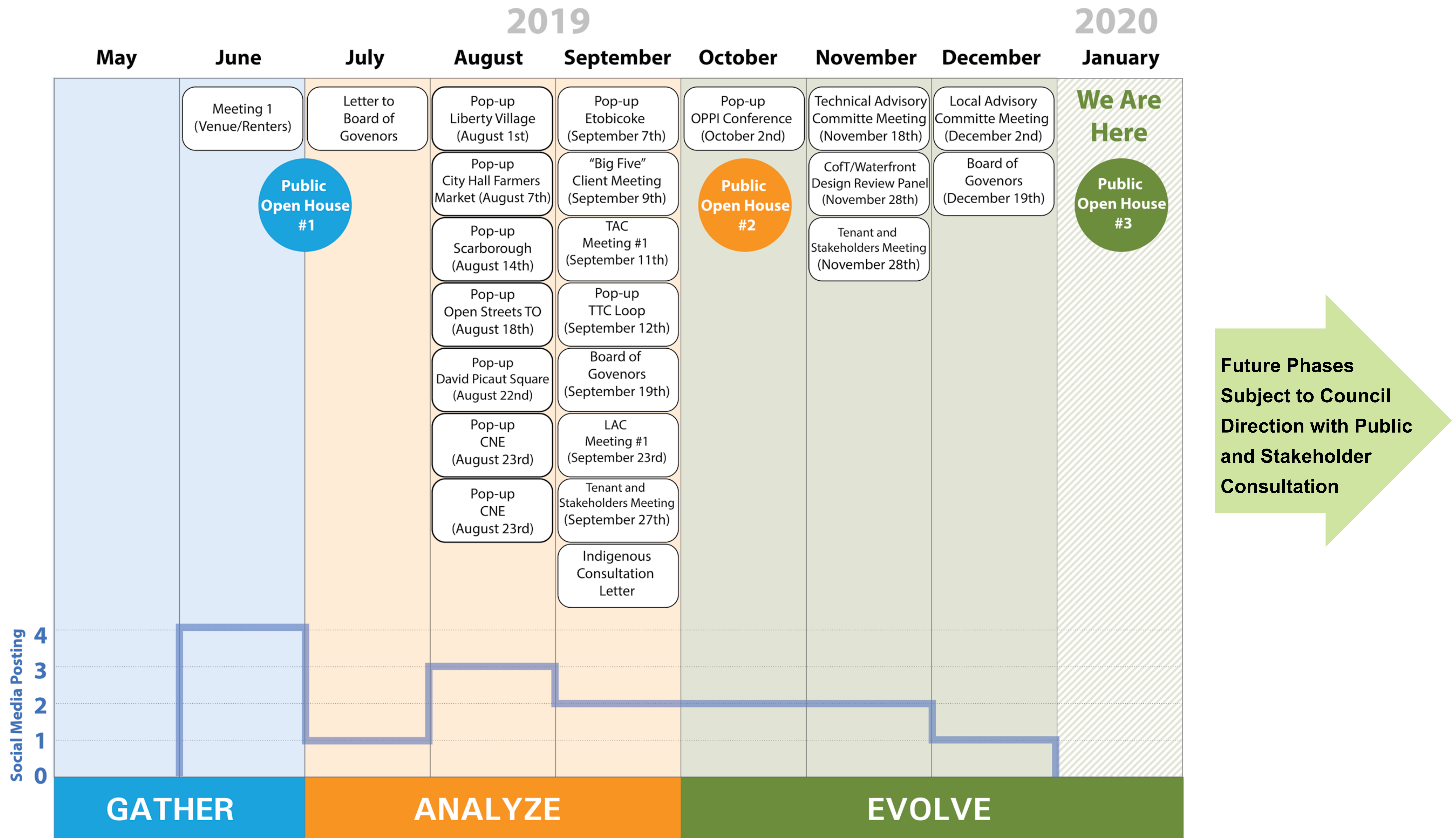
Why We are Here?

This is the third Public open house for the Exhibition Place Master Plan. This open house provides an opportunity for the public to view the emerging recommended strategies and information about potential next steps.

Establishing a Master Plan for Exhibition Place would meet a number of City-building objectives. The purpose of this exercise is to:

- **Develop a long term vision**, to be realized over 20+ years, providing a high-level planning framework to guide future decision-making for the physical development of the site.
- **Support the economic benefit** that Exhibition Place brings to the City, by improving the way it looks, feels and functions to **enhance the visitor experience**.
- **Restore the site's heritage buildings and cultural landscapes** to recognize their significance as a key component of the identity of Exhibition Place.
- **Ensure local and regional transit investments** can be tied in to improve access and connections to the grounds.
- Consider how **Exhibition Place can be coordinated** with the future redevelopment of Ontario Place.

Engagement Timeline

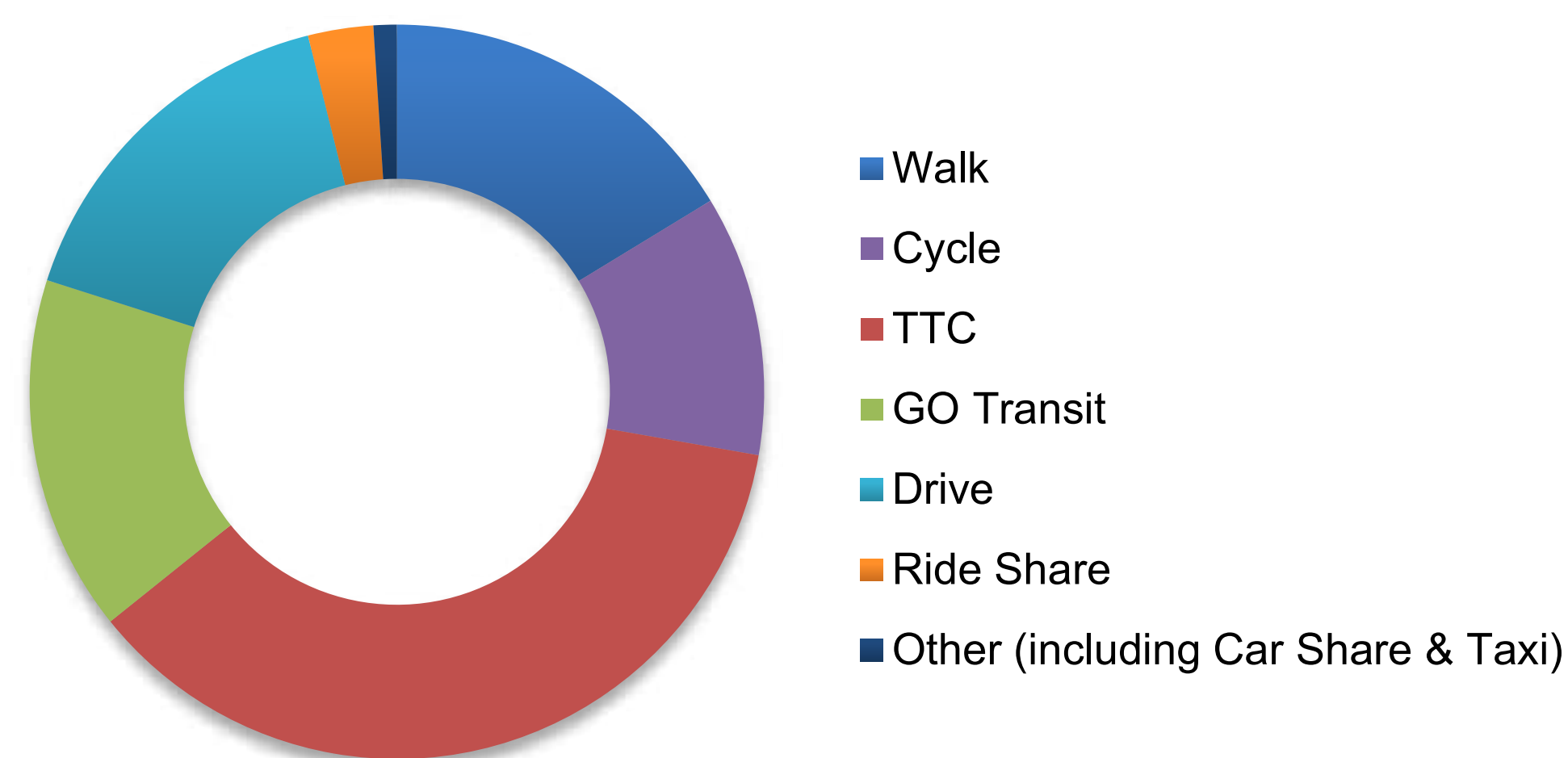


Public Engagement (What we heard)

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How do you typically get to Exhibition Place?



10 Pop-ups held throughout the city

870+ Connections Made

350+ Online Survey Responses

120+ Attended Previous Open Houses

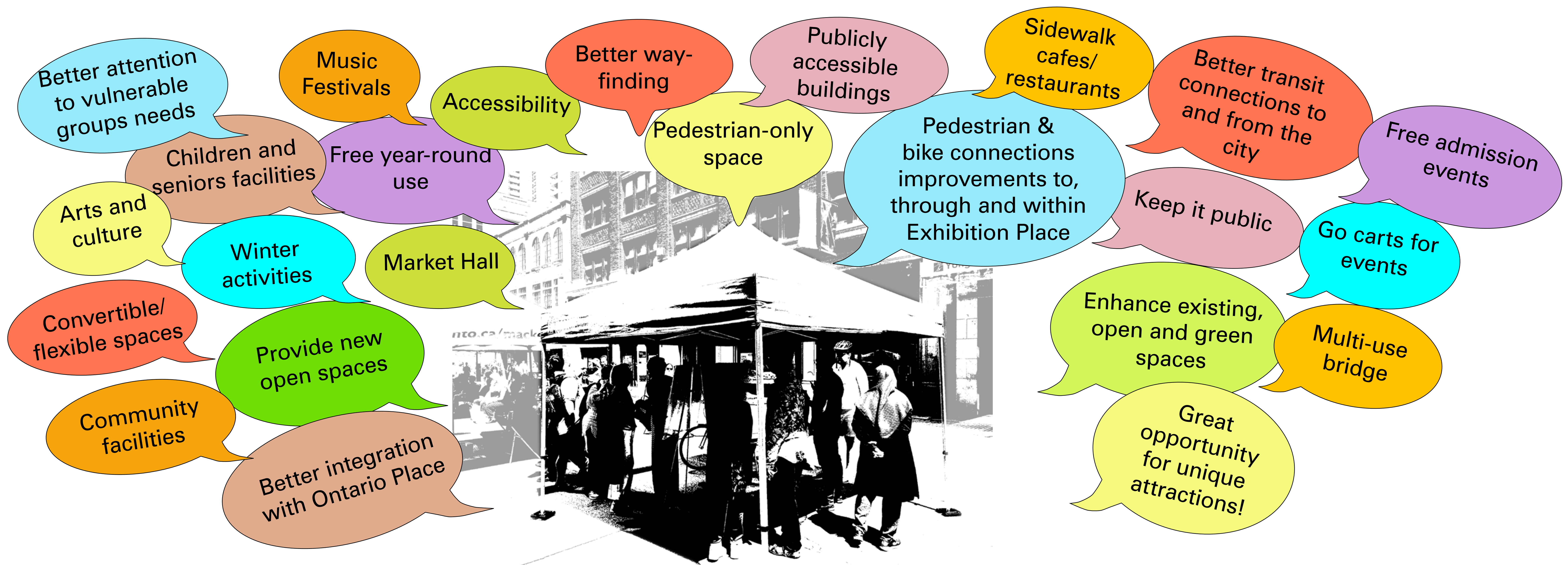
What would bring you back to Exhibition Place more often?

Top 5 Responses: Pop-up Events

- Pedestrian & Bike Connections
- Multi-use Bridge
- Open Air Cinema
- Transit Connections
- Music Festivals

Top 5 Responses: Online Survey

- Green Parks / Open Spaces
- Cultural Activities
- Winter Activities
- Improved Accessibility
- Civic Use



Stakeholder Engagement

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Exhibition Place Tenants and Operators

- **The event experience begins at home:** Travel to and through the site should be convenient for visitors
- Significant concern over ensuring enough supply of **on-site storage and operation/staging space**
- **Loss and/or relocation of parking** will affect business
- Clarify **project timelines**, greater certainty about the process is needed

Technical Advisory Committee

- Exhibition Place is an important **economic engine**
- **Reconfiguring parking** to introduce open space features could be balanced and/or phased with transit improvements
- Better **connections to the broader open space network** could be achieved in the short term
- Leverage transportation investment and **innovation opportunities**
- Ensure **accessible design**

Local Advisory Committee

- Exhibition Place is a **public asset** and should feel like an extension of the City's public realm
- Better activation of the space, and **more reasons to be there** outside of events, are needed
- Highlight the **cultural heritage**, Indigenous and military "stories" of the site
- **Design excellence** is of critical importance; the grounds feel "anti-pedestrian"

City/Waterfront Design Review Panel

- **Bolder ideas** and a clearer inspirational vision is needed to capture people's imagination
- Place greater emphasis on the **Cultural Heritage Landscape Assessment**
- Prioritize "**leading with the landscape**"
- **Support innovations** in sustainability, mobility, and adaptation to climate change
- "**This is a place unlike any other, don't make it like any other place**"

Citizen Planning Review Panel

- Improve the site's **connectivity in all seasons**, for all ages and all levels of ability
- **Improve aesthetic** and physical elements, and highlight the site's heritage and history
- Emphasize **year-round access** and outdoor winter programming and activities
- Create a **complete site** with amenities such as a welcome centre, greater access to food, comfort stations, prayer spaces, shelters
- **Link on-site recreation** to surrounding recreation trails and the water

Master Plan Process Potential Timeline

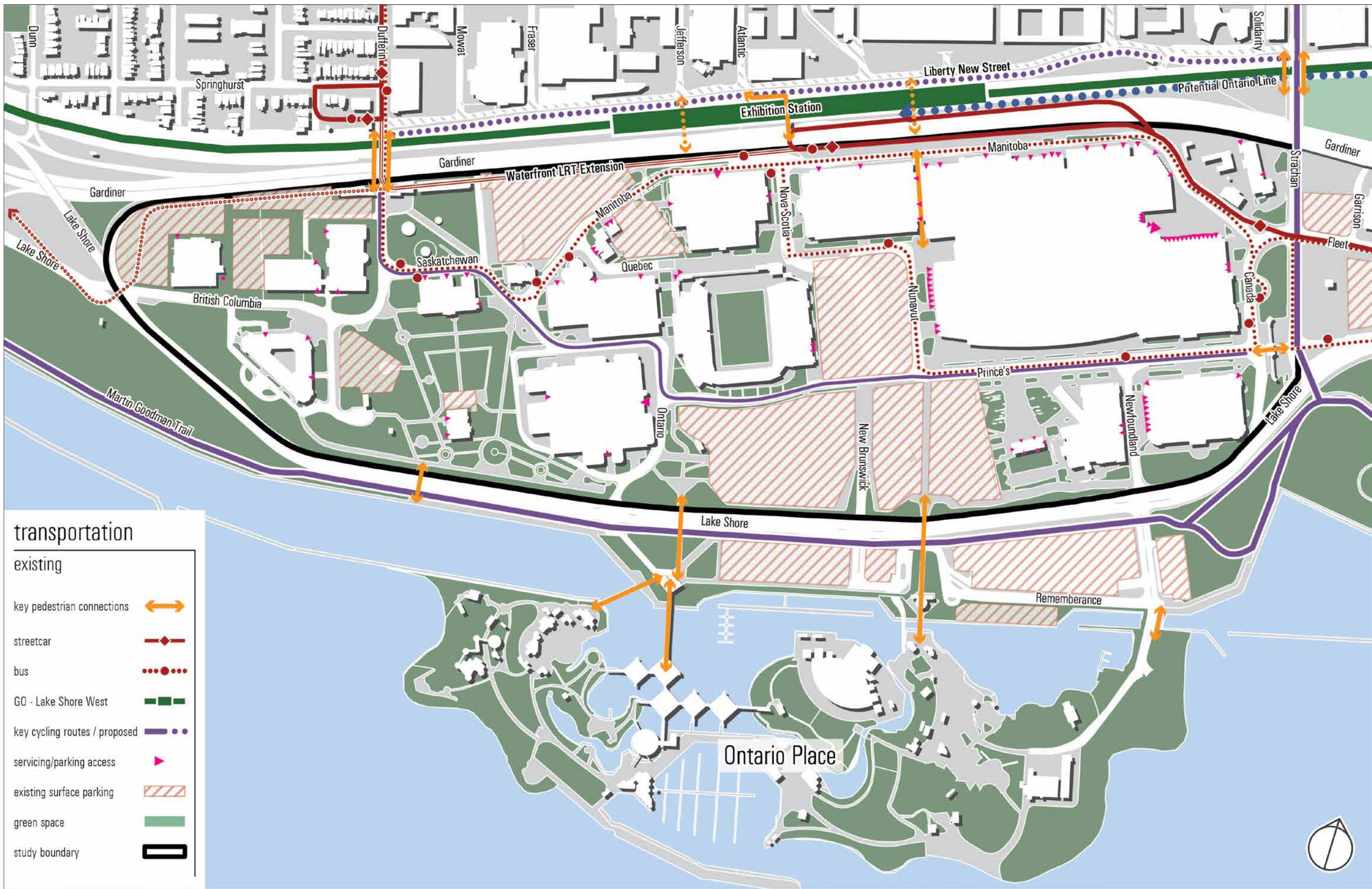
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Transportation

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Major Planned Initiatives

1 - Metrolinx Exhibition GO Station Improvements

- Includes new pedestrian tunnel across rail corridor and improved station facilities

2 - TTC Streetcar Extension from Exhibition Loop to Dufferin Loop

- Extends the Harbourfront LRT to access South Parkdale
- Allows for LRT extension to South Etobicoke as per Waterfront Transit Network Plan (Humber Bay Link)
- Report to Council 2020 on 30% design and next steps for construction

3 - Liberty New Street

4 - Provincial Ontario Line Proposal

- Proposed routing to Exhibition/ Ontario Place
- Early planning and design coordination underway

5 - Future Lake Shore Boulevard Re-Alignment

Opportunities

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The opportunities identified here build upon the 2010 Structure Plan and consider new factors such as transit improvements, future changes to Ontario Place and connecting to surrounding areas. These opportunities can enhance the look, feel and connectivity of Exhibition Place for users and visitors, to benefit the grounds as a whole. These ideas will be studied in more detail as we continue to develop the Master Plan.



The Vision Statement

Exhibition Place is Toronto’s gathering place. Its historic and landmark buildings, landscapes and features provide the foundation for signature events, festivals and activities that bring people together and inspire us. The ongoing evolution of Exhibition Place will build upon this tradition by showcasing innovation and enhancing spaces for all visitors to Relax, Entertain and Exhibit



Public Square, Cleveland, USA
Source: <https://www.politico.com>



Dundas Square
Source: City of Toronto



View towards Liberty Grand
Source: City of Toronto



King St W closure during Toronto Film Festival
Source: City of Toronto



Toronto Ice Festival (Winter Activity)
Source: <https://www.thestar.com> (Feb. 19, 2015)

Guiding Principles (a)

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Prioritize public transit as the primary means to most efficiently move the greatest number of people to and from Exhibition Place



Improved Exhibition GO Station - Source: Metrolinx

Enhance and promote pedestrian and cycling connections to adjacent communities, within, and through the site



Accommodate emerging mobility technologies, innovations and services to complement transit and active transportation



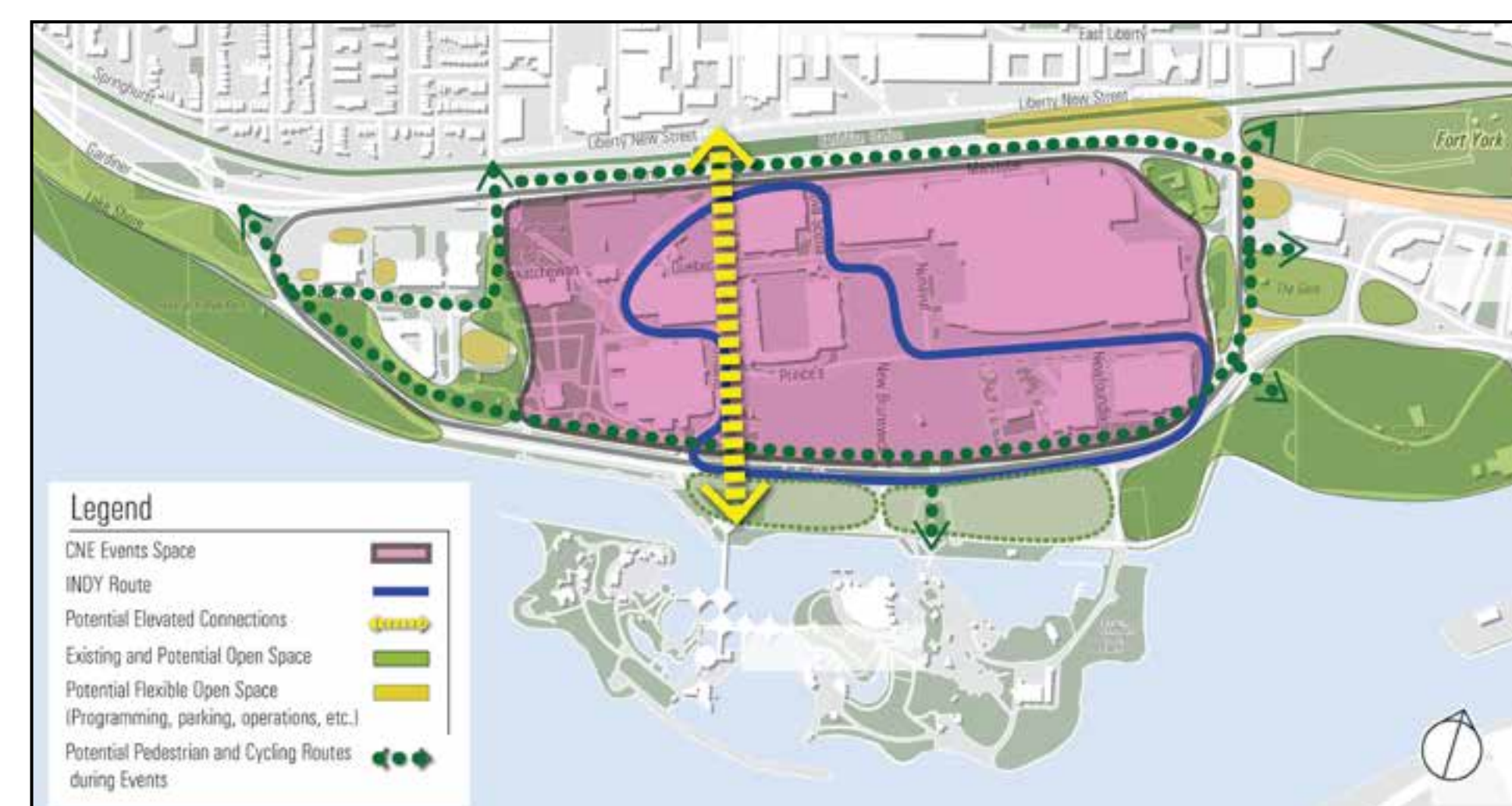
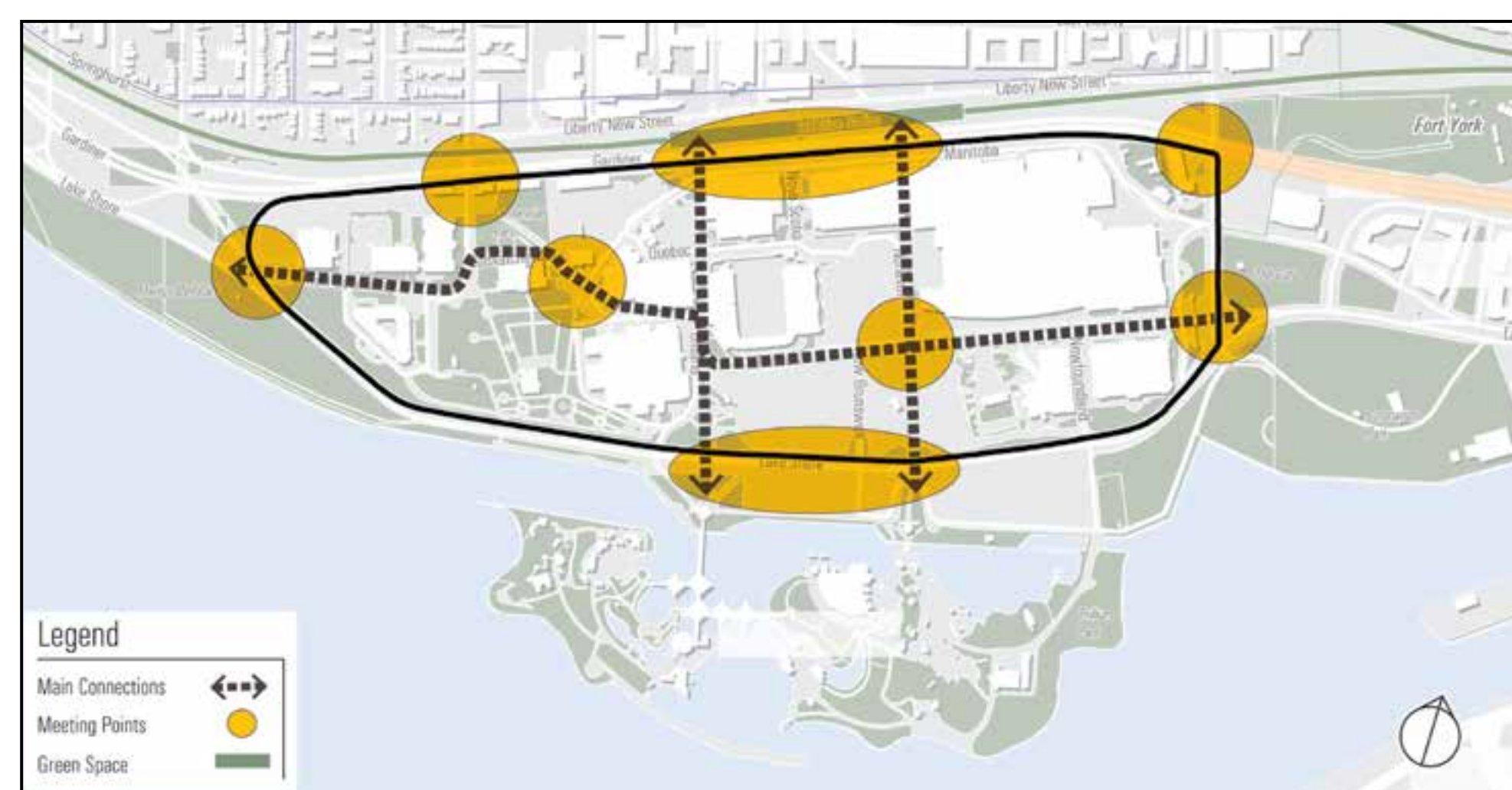
Connect to the adjacent communities and create a better relationship to the rest of the City



Building a Network of Spectacular Waterfront Parks & Public Spaces

Create a continuous green network by enhancing the public realm and maximizing green open space.

- Create better connections and views between existing buildings, landmarks, and destinations
- Reinforce the four-sided nature of buildings
- Ensure flexibility of year-round public uses
- Promote shared space for different modes of transportation



Guiding Principles (b)

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Promoting a Clean & Green Environment

Build in Resilience:

- Implement the Exhibition Place Green Strategy
- Integrate a Low Impact Development practices
- Consolidate/ relocate/ reduce surface parking
- Create flexible and convertible open public spaces and multi-purpose structures

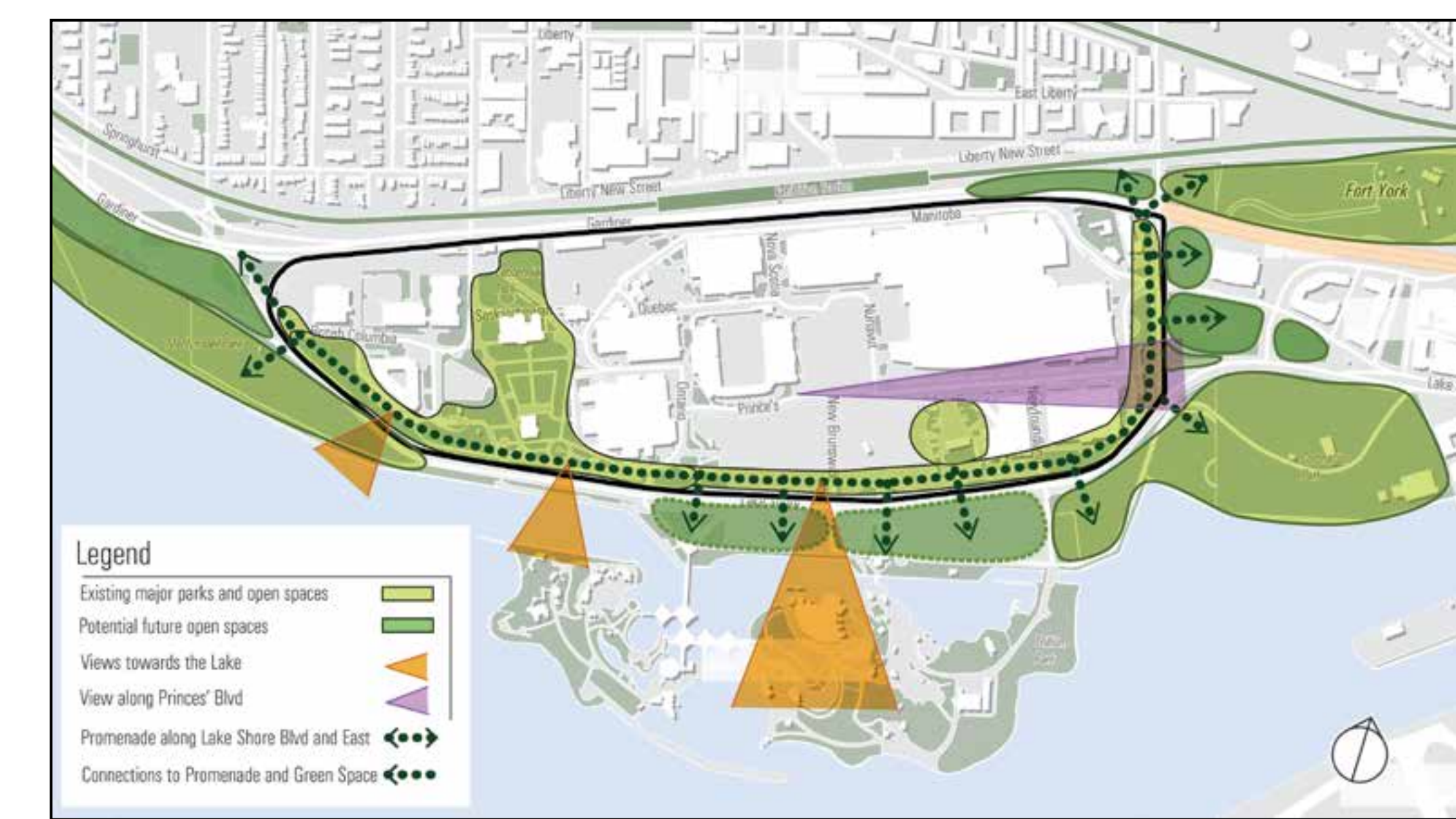


Maximize Efficiency of Site Operations:

- Manage truck infiltration into core site areas
- Explore emerging freight distribution models
- Improve large vehicle access to ensure efficient set-up and tear-down during events



Establish a cohesive network of green open spaces with visual and physical connections to the waterfront



Openness and Transparency/Responsiveness to the Broader Community and Stakeholders

Engage with the Community and Stakeholders Throughout Master Plan Process and Implementation:
Make planning and implementation decisions through fully transparent and consultative public processes.



Guiding Principles (c)

Creating Dynamic & Diverse New Place

Complement built form with programming and open space, reinstating the historical, balanced relationship between building and landscape



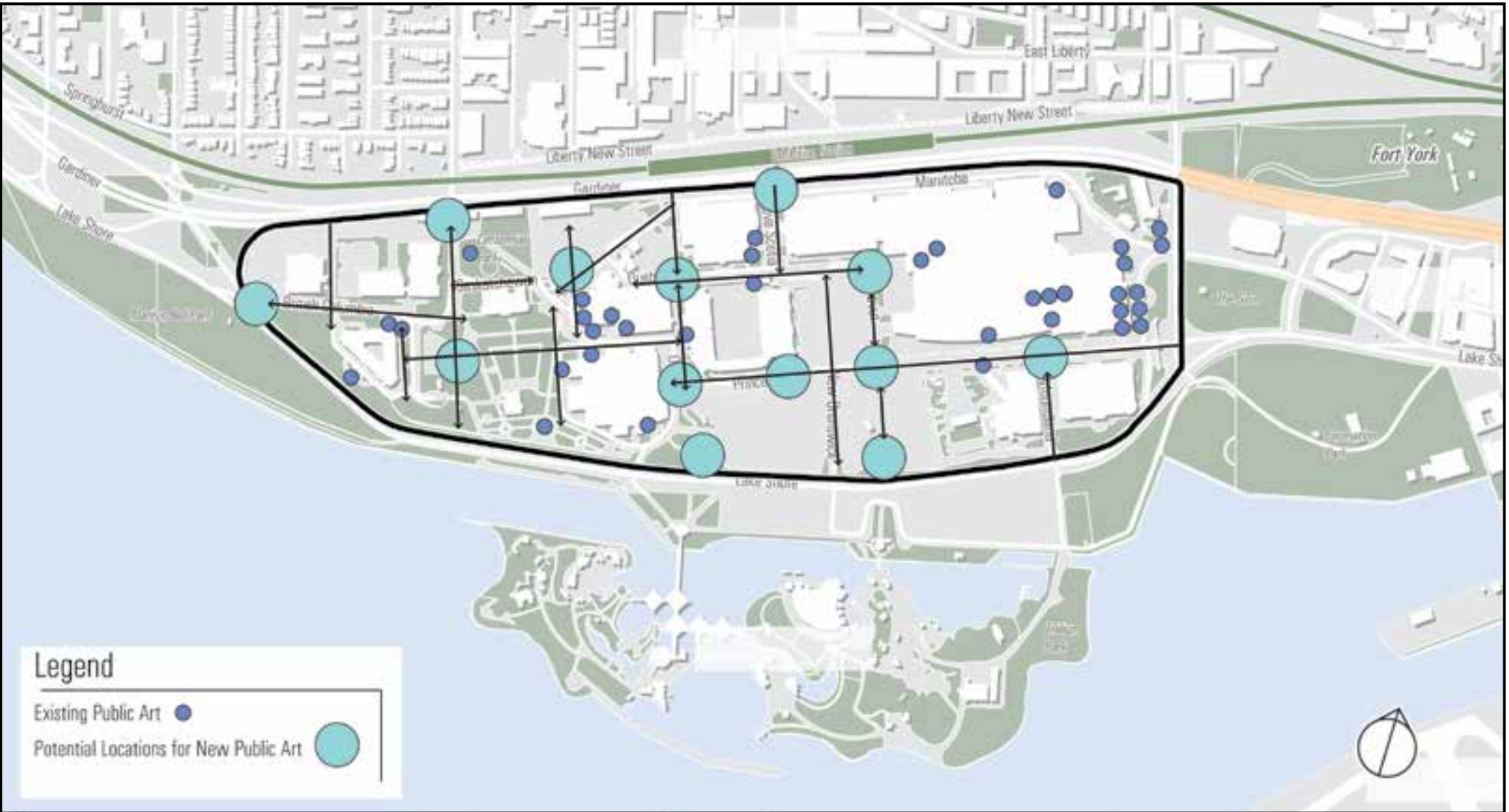
Exhibition Road Show, London
Credit: James Medcraft

Celebrate and conserve the cultural heritage of Exhibition Place



Bandshell Park & Horticulture Building, 1924
Source: Toronto Public Library, Toronto Star Archives, tspa_0112026f

Continue to develop an extensive public art collection



Key Transportation Directions

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Source: The Star

Improve integration and connectivity with adjacent neighbourhoods and Ontario Place.



Source: The Star

Enhanced and expanded local and regional transit will provide opportunities to optimize parking above & below grade.



Source: <http://futuresdx.com/>

Supplement first and last-mile transportation needs with on-site shuttles, enhancing “door-to-door” accessibility and connectivity for site patrons.



Credit: Neal Jennings (Wikipedia)

Preserve adequate durable/hardscaped open space to accommodate event operating and parking needs.

Innovation Zone

- Exhibition Place has a long-standing history of showcasing innovation and future technologies
- Promote the entire site as an Innovation Zone within the City
- Pilot projects to test emerging transportation technology for potential future implementation to improve on-site mobility
- Building on current leadership in sustainability, green infrastructure, Low Impact Development practices
- Developing opportunities in other fields



Delivery Bot
Credit: Starship Technologies, www.govtech.com



Permeable Tiling Parking lots
Source: <http://nacto.org>



Micromobility
Source: City of Calgary



Autonomous Shuttles
Credit: Frank Mignacca, www.cbc.ca



Green Roofs



Convertible Parking Structure
Source: <https://www.world-architects.com/>

Tourism and Economic Impact

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Exhibition Place plays a vital role in Toronto’s tourism sector as a gathering place for local, regional and international visitors.



Photo: letsgototheex on Instagram



5.5 million visitors annually



<https://www.toronto.com/events/9429535-863812-honda-indy-toronto/>



Over 350 events held annually



<https://www.beanfieldcentre.com/planning/venue-details/capacity-charts>



Beanfield Centre and Enercare Centre host some of the nearly 400,000 business delegates visiting Toronto for conferences, contributing to an overall \$858 Million to the city’s economy.

Relax Program Area

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Entertain Program Area

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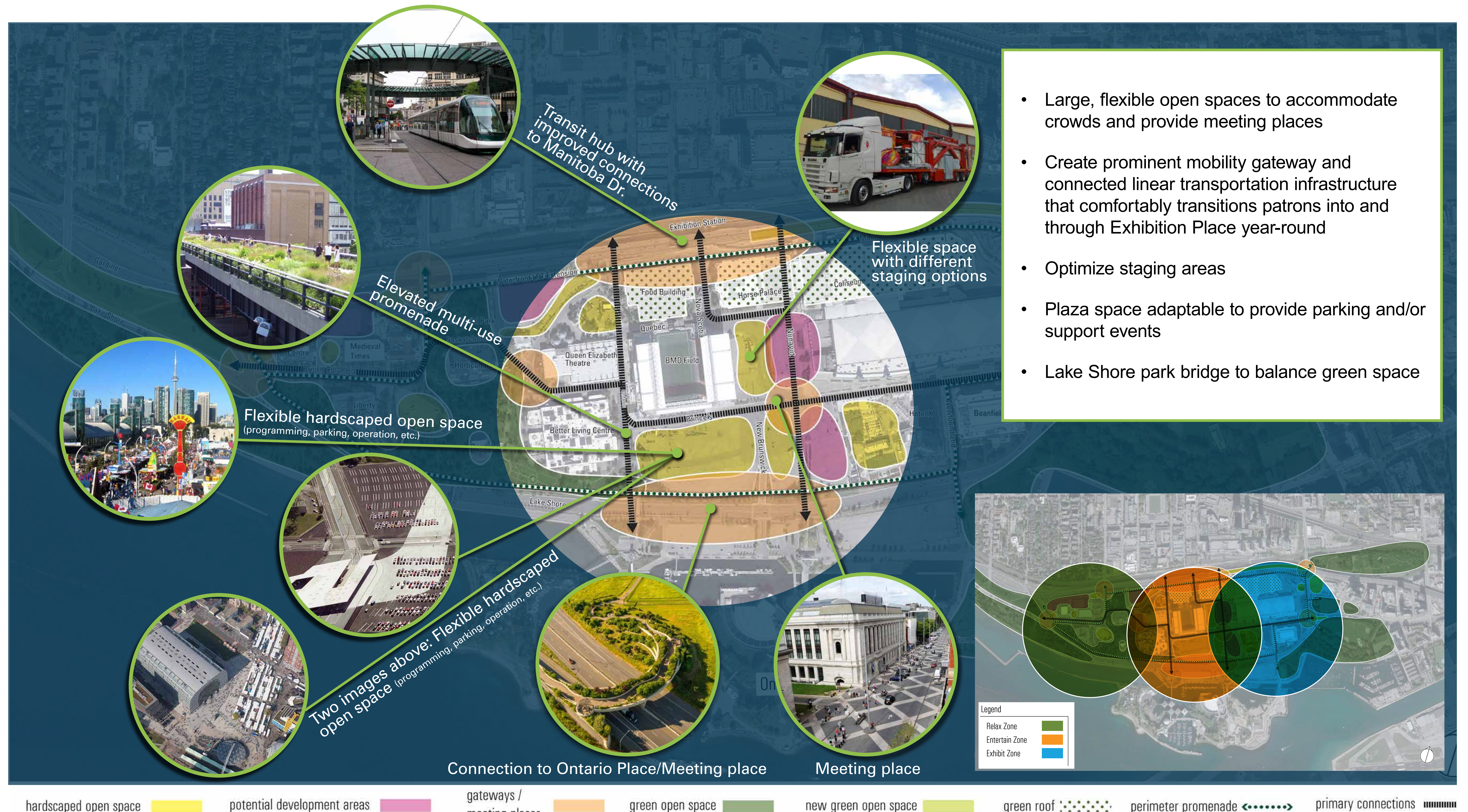


Exhibit Program Area

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- Celebrate prominent axis view
- Balance signature paving and tree planting to create an entry promenade
- Connect to surrounding green open spaces, including Gore Park
- Create a flexible extension of the Bentway that can act as a staging area when needed
- Maximize staging and operations on the north side of the site



Extension of the Bentway for public use



Flexible space under the Gardiner for staging



Accessible green roof



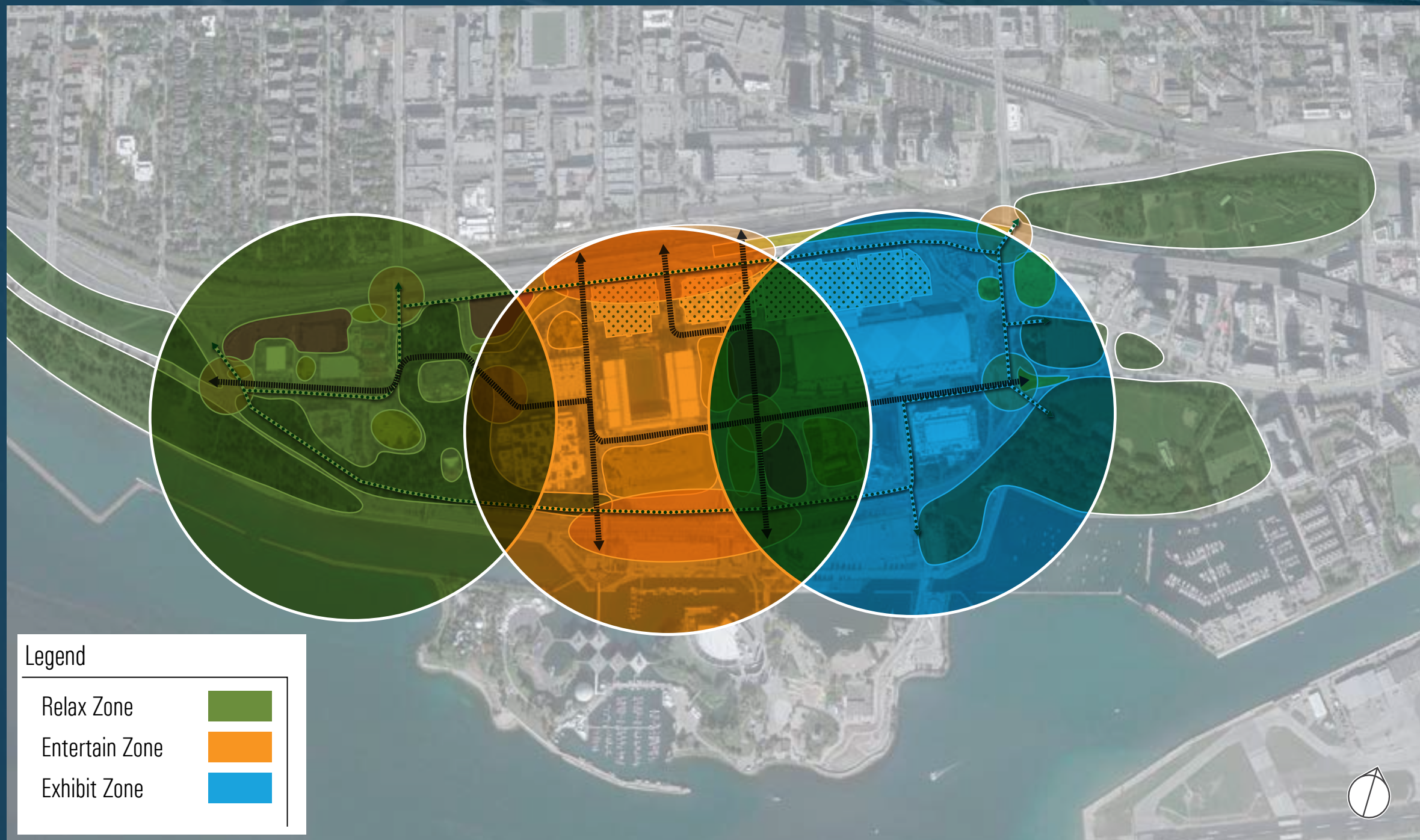
Expansion of Gore Park



Internal mid-block connection



Enhanced Prince's Gate/Meeting Place



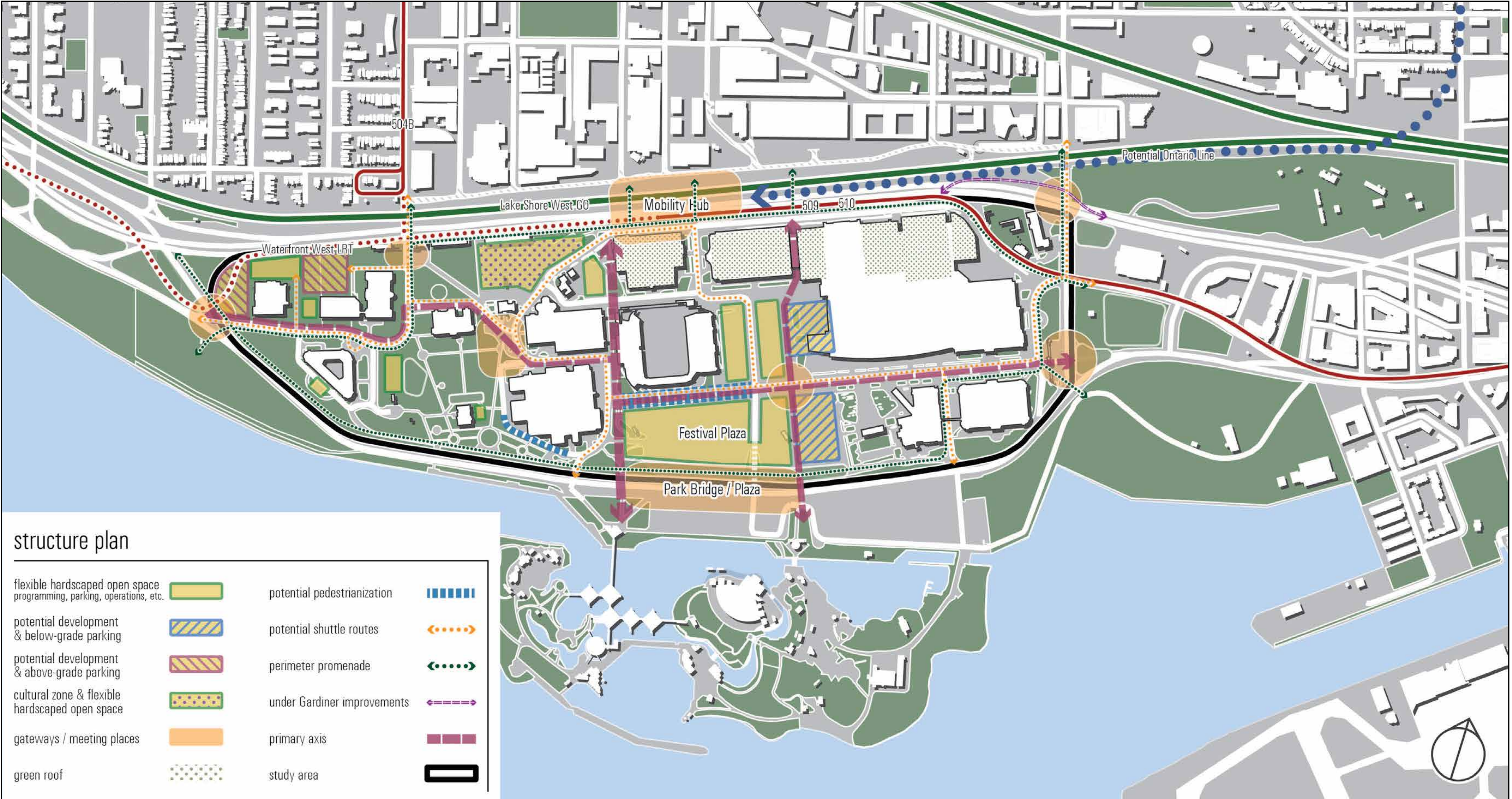
- Legend
- Relax Zone
 - Entertain Zone
 - Exhibit Zone

hardscaped open space potential development areas gateways / meeting places green open space new green open space green roof perimeter promenade primary connections

Emerging Structure Plan

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Draft Plan in Progress, subject to change. As presented to Exhibition Place Board of Governors Dec 19, 2019.