

SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Virtual Public Info Session #1 - February 15, 2024



Land Acknowledgement

The land being studied for this project 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. I also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 signed with the Mississaugas of the Credit, and the Williams Treaties signed with multiple Mississaugas and Chippewa bands.



Agenda

- Introductions
- Introduce the project, objectives, and study area
- Discuss the Terms of Reference and Environmental Assessment (EA) Process
- Review Problem/Opportunity Assessment
- Review existing conditions and additional studies to be completed
- Types of Alternatives to be Considered
- Discuss Consultation Activities
- Next Steps and Open Discussion



Renewed Vision For Waterfront Revitalization

In July 2022, Council approved a renewed vision for the next phase of waterfront revitalization that advances the following priorities across the "wider waterfront" from Etobicoke to Scarborough:

-  • **Strategic and Inclusive Economic Development**
-  • **Truth, Justice and Reconciliation**, including through Indigenous Engagement
-  • **Equity, Inclusion and Access**, including through Housing and Community Benefits
-  • **Climate Resilience and Sustainability**

Renewed Vision For Waterfront Revitalization

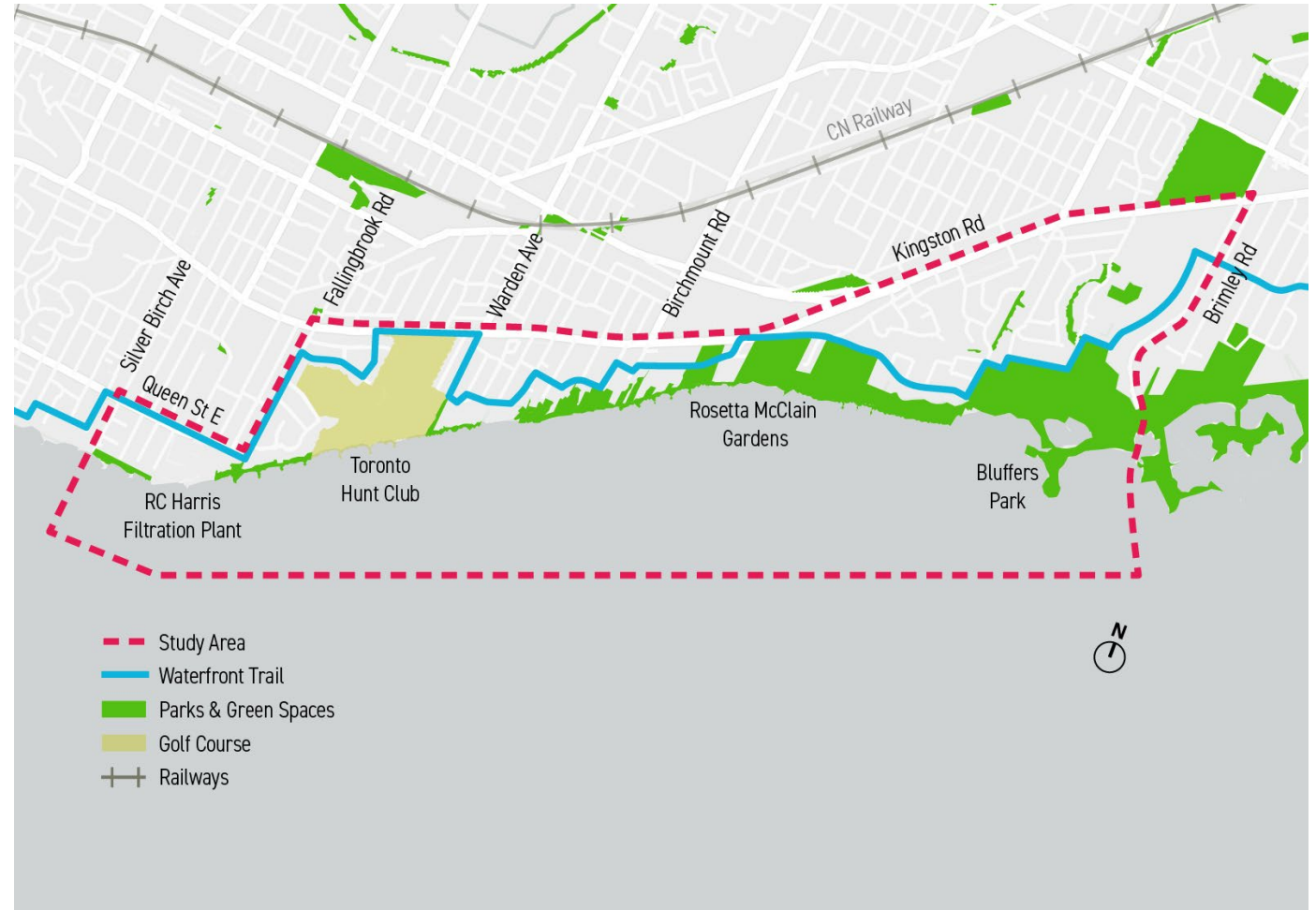
Through the public, stakeholder and Indigenous engagement processes, we heard interest in the following priorities:

- A desire for new destinations across the wider waterfront;
- Opportunities for Indigenous art, landmarks and signage to share and celebrate Indigenous history, knowledge and values through placekeeping;
- Importance of continuous public access and ownership of the waterfront;
- Maintain and incorporate naturalized and quiet green space into designs for improved public access;
- Protect and preserve the environment and natural resources for future generations, including the water, land, local fauna and flora and marine habitats;
- Continuous active transportation connections along the waterfront especially in Etobicoke and Scarborough;
- Add more park and green spaces across the waterfront;
- Support for recreational opportunities (including non-motorized watercraft).

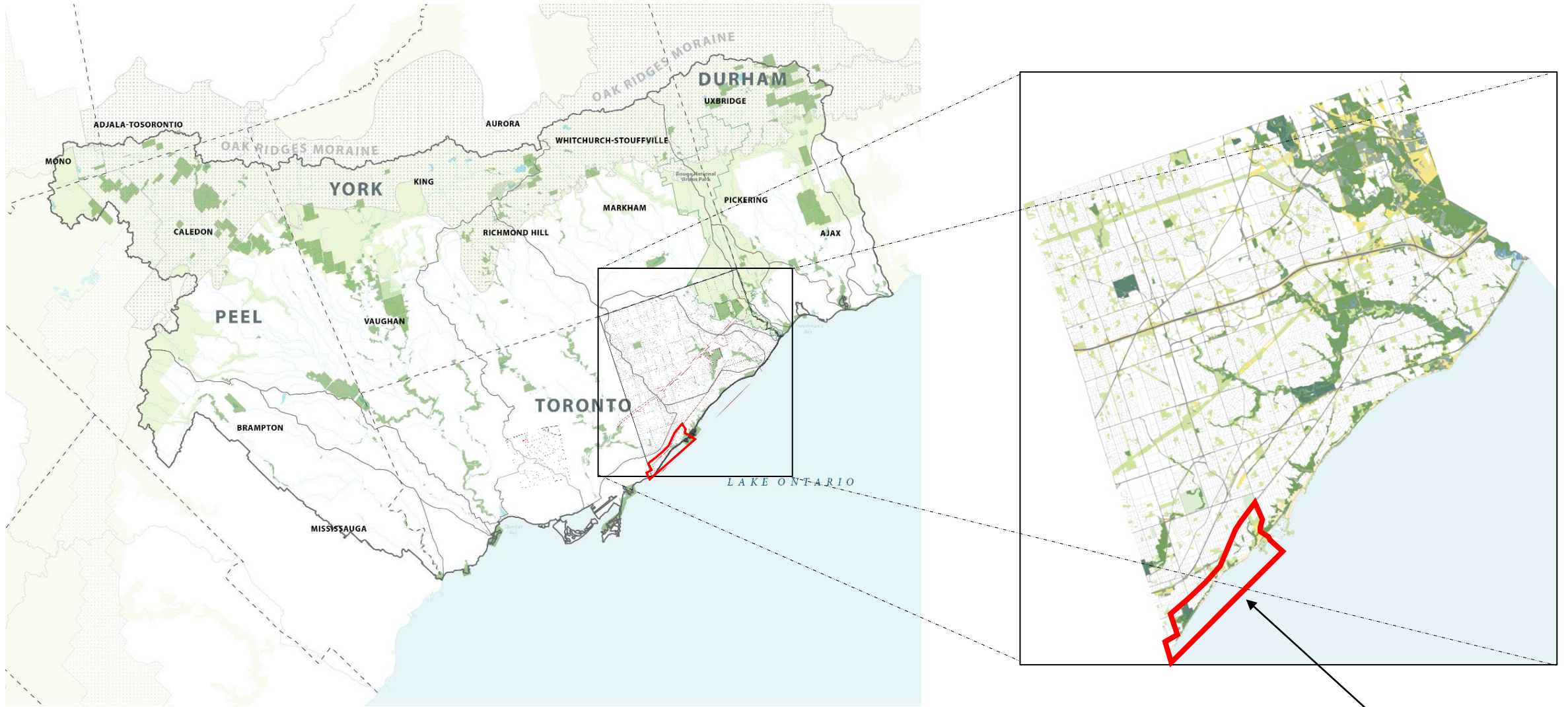
The Scarborough Bluffs West Revitalization Study has the opportunity to advance interests heard through past and other waterfront revitalization engagement processes.

Project Intent

- Assess opportunities to improve access to and the long-term protection of **4.5 km of shoreline** between the Eastern Beaches (Balmy Beach) and Bluffer's Park.
- Focus on opportunities to conserve and enhance natural features and minimize hazards, while improving how the public accesses, moves through, and experiences the waterfront.



Regional Context



Project Study Area

Draft Project Objectives

The draft project objectives listed below will be used to structure the evaluation of alternatives:

Project Objectives:

Conserve and enhance habitats and natural features on land and in the water

- Balance habitat loss with habitat creation and enhancement of existing habitat

Manage public safety and property risk

- Provide safe access to and along the waterfront and manage risks from erosion to users and property

Provide an enjoyable waterfront experience

- Provide trail connections to and along the waterfront along with a diversity of recreational experiences

Consistency and coordination with other initiatives

- Ensure consistency with local, regional, provincial and national plans and policies including climate change policies and on the compatibility with adjacent projects

Achieve value for cost/cost effectiveness

- Ability to deliver value for cost



Discussion: Do these draft objectives align with what the project should achieve? What would you change?

Environmental Assessment (EA) Process

The study is proceeding as an Individual EA (IEA) under the Ontario EA Act for which there are two phases:

Phase 1 - Terms of Reference (ToR) (*current phase*)

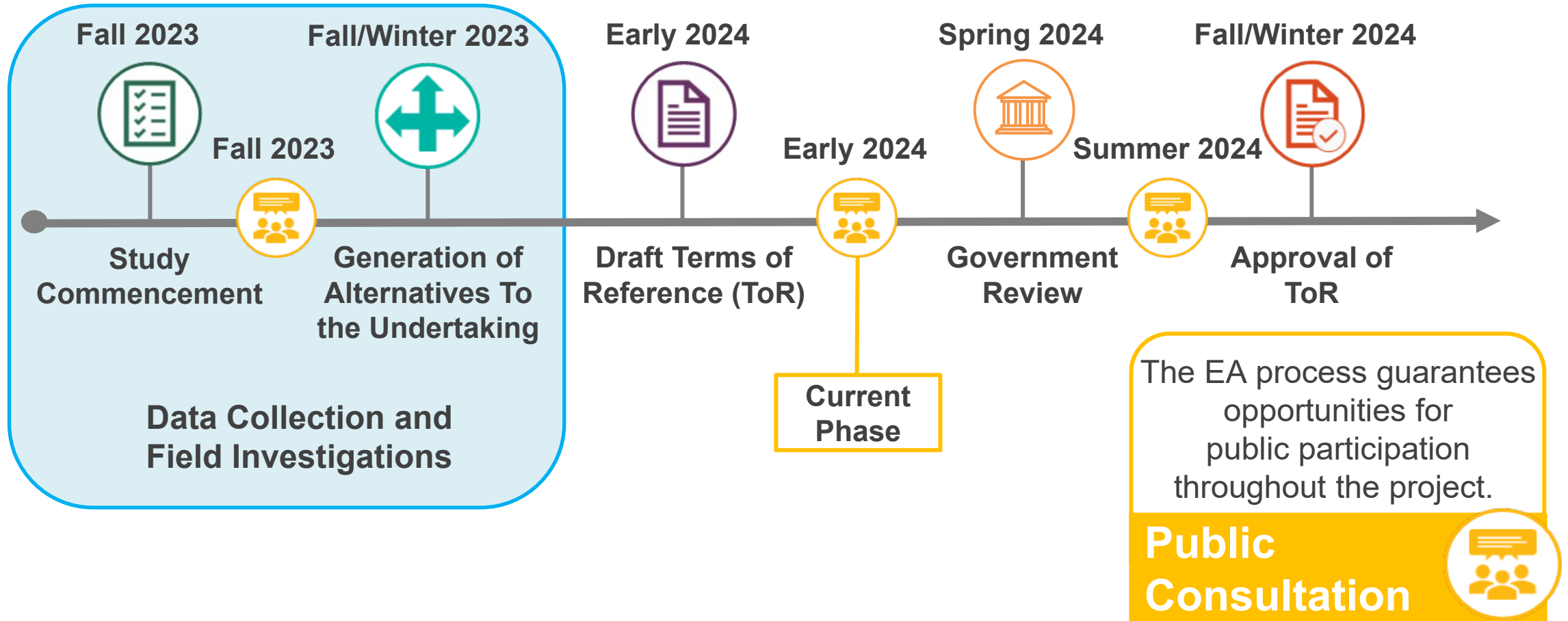
- Provides a roadmap for what environmental effects are to be examined, consultation to be undertaken, the problems and opportunities to be addressed, and how the EA is to be prepared

Phase 2 - EA Preparation

- Alternatives are generated that address the problems and opportunities and then evaluated against the environmental effects identified in the ToR

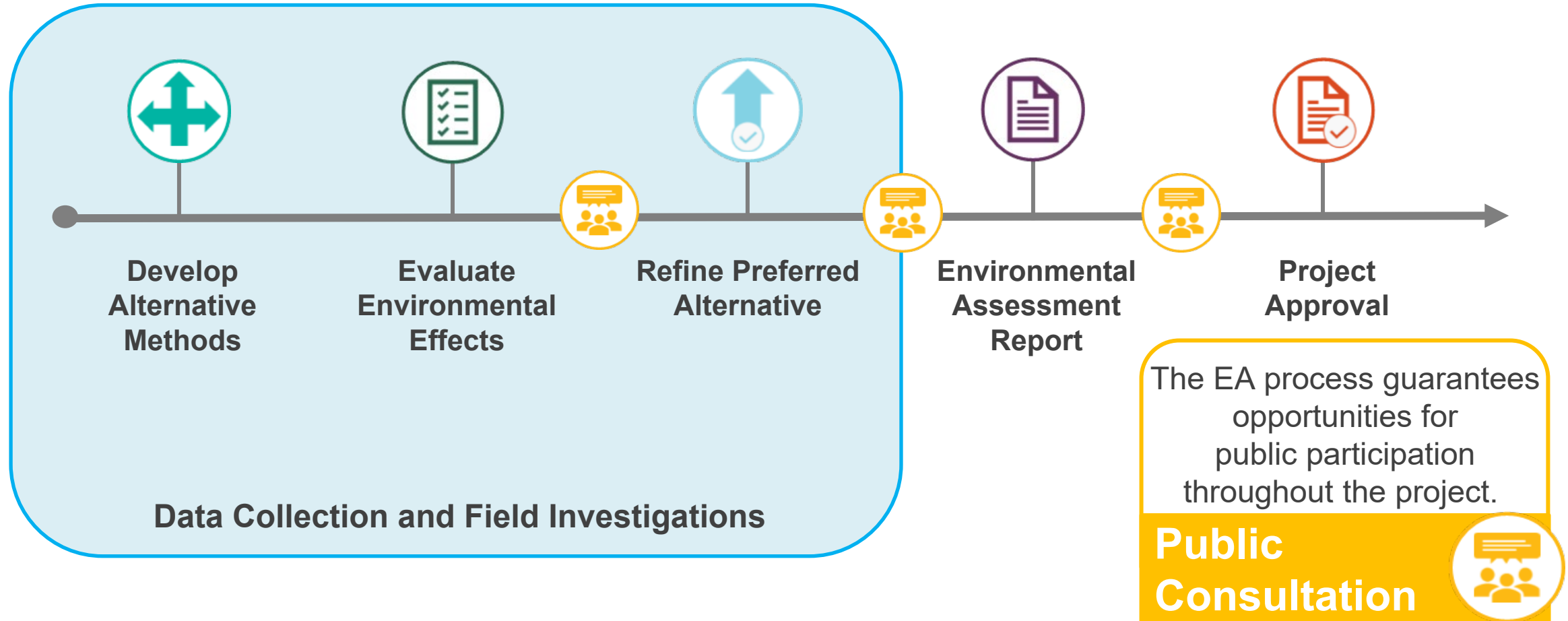
Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline

Phase 1 - Terms of Reference



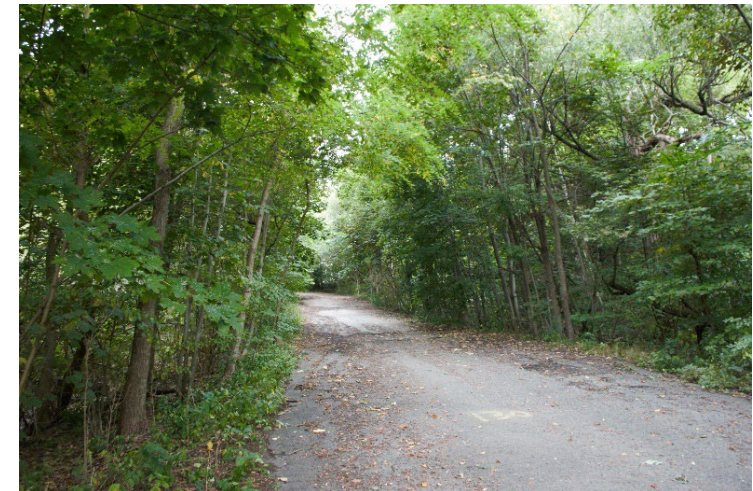
Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline

Phase 2 – Environmental Assessment

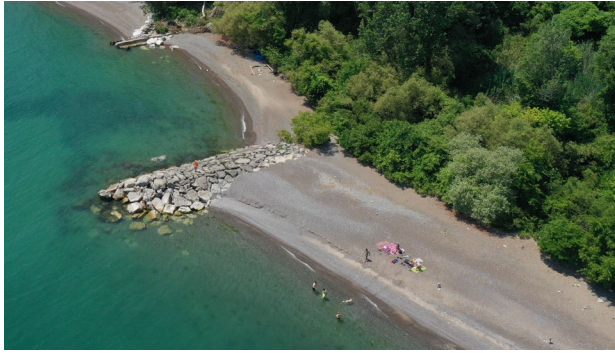


Draft Problems/Opportunities

- Improve how people access, move through and experience the waterfront
- Balance conservation and sensitive revitalization
- Protect Toronto Water infrastructure along the shoreline and ensure outfalls continue to flow unimpeded
- Address shoreline erosion and slope stability
- Explore feasibility of a connected trail along the Lake Ontario shoreline
- Preserve and enhance natural features and habitat minimizing hazards on land and in the water
- Create connected naturalized systems which respect, enhance, and protect the significant natural and cultural features of the Bluffs



Existing Uses along the Shoreline and Tablelands



Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, 2024



Cathedral Bluffs Yacht Club, 2022



City of Toronto, 2024



Kayak Ontario, 2018



City of Toronto, 2024



Surf the Greats, 2024



Flickr, 2024



Wikipedia, 2023



Doors Open Ontario, 2024



Traveling Pari, 2023

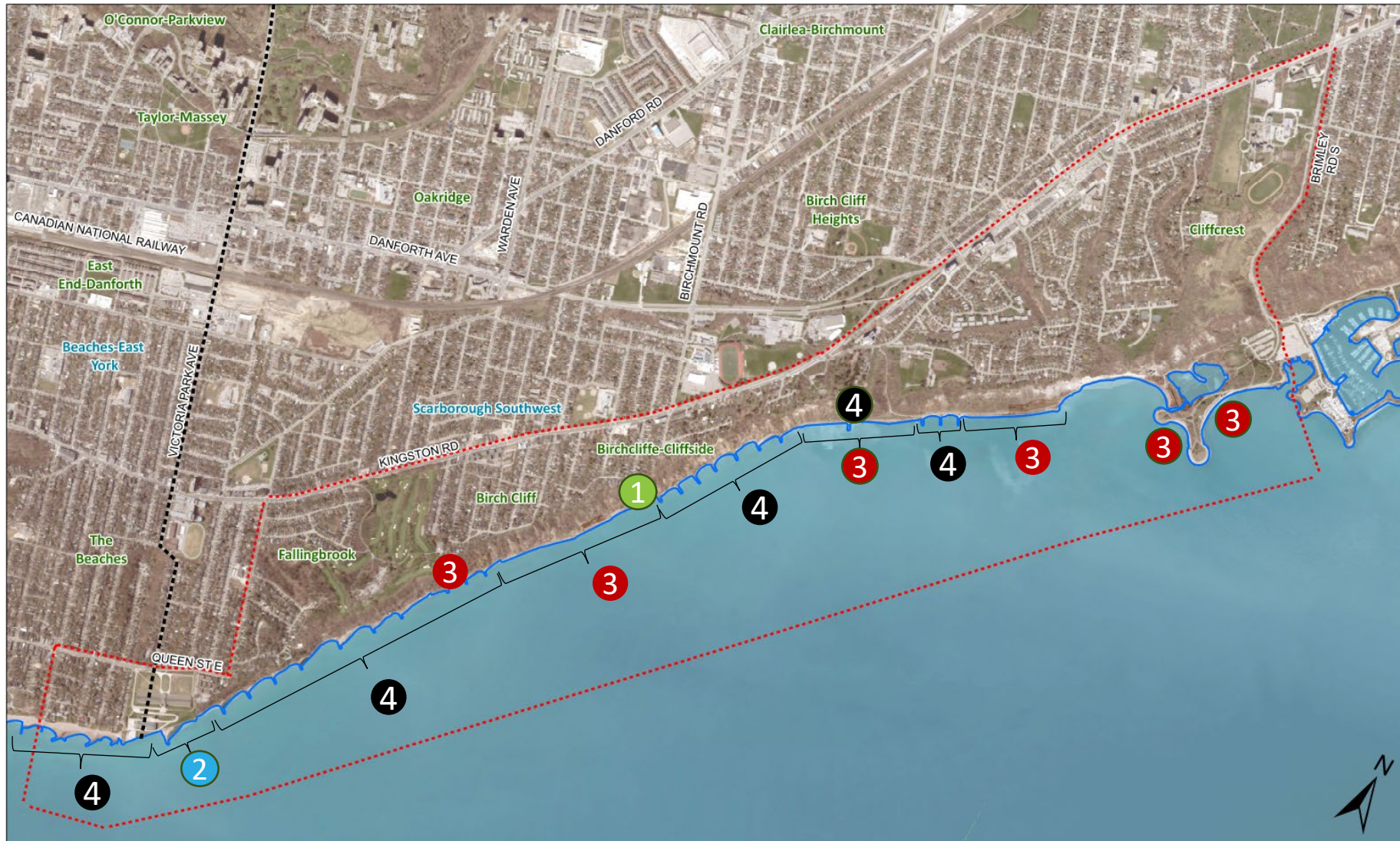


Curiosity Group, 2023

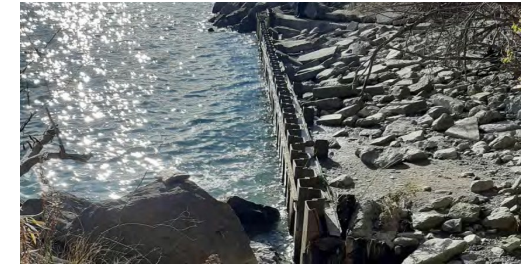


The Toronto Hunt, 2024

Existing Coastal Conditions



1 Sheet Pile Wall



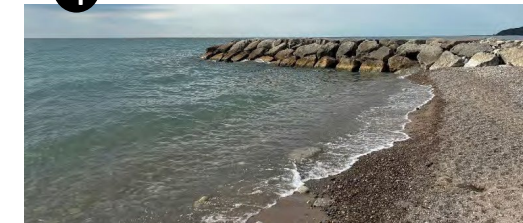
2 Concrete Seawall



3 Armourstone Revetment



4 Beach & Groyne System



Existing Conditions Assessment

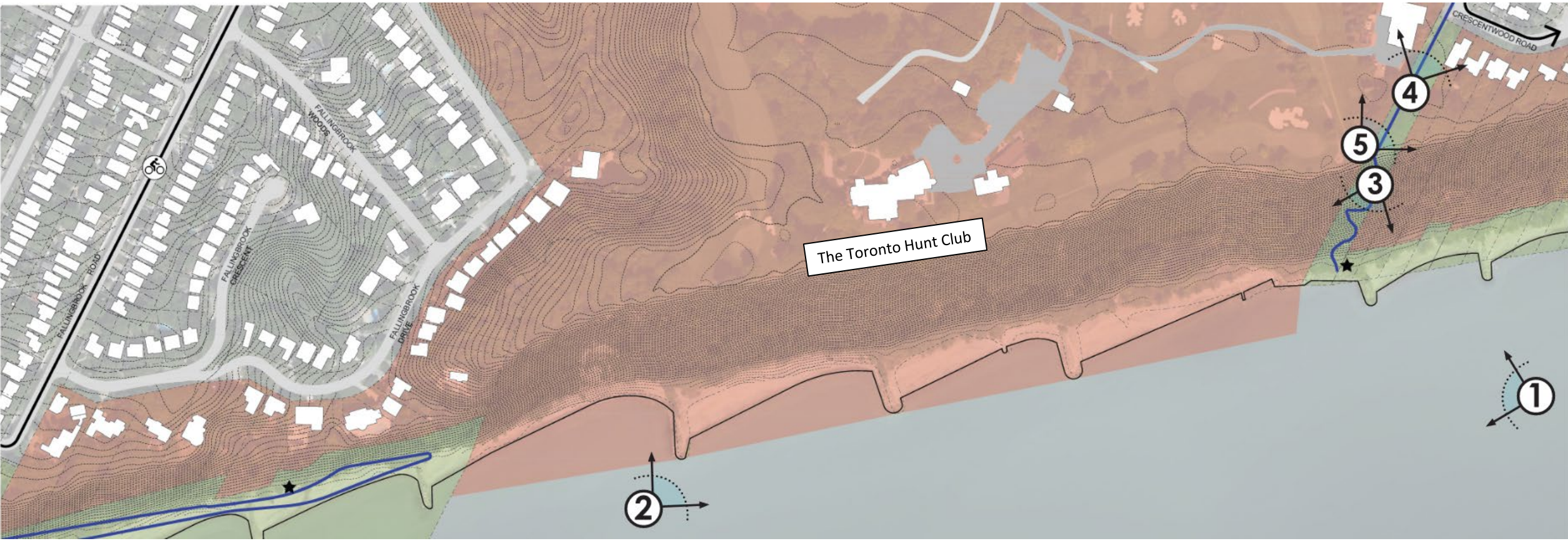
Studies are underway or under review that will establish the existing conditions for the following environmental components:

- Aquatic and terrestrial ecology
- High-risk erosion assessment
- Coastal conditions (incl. water levels, wave heights, sediment transport, and bathymetry)
- Changing land use and park use
- Geotechnical and hydrogeological conditions
- Marine and land-based archaeology
- Cultural Heritage
- Transportation, including active transportation
- Toronto Water Infrastructure conditions, including storm outfalls

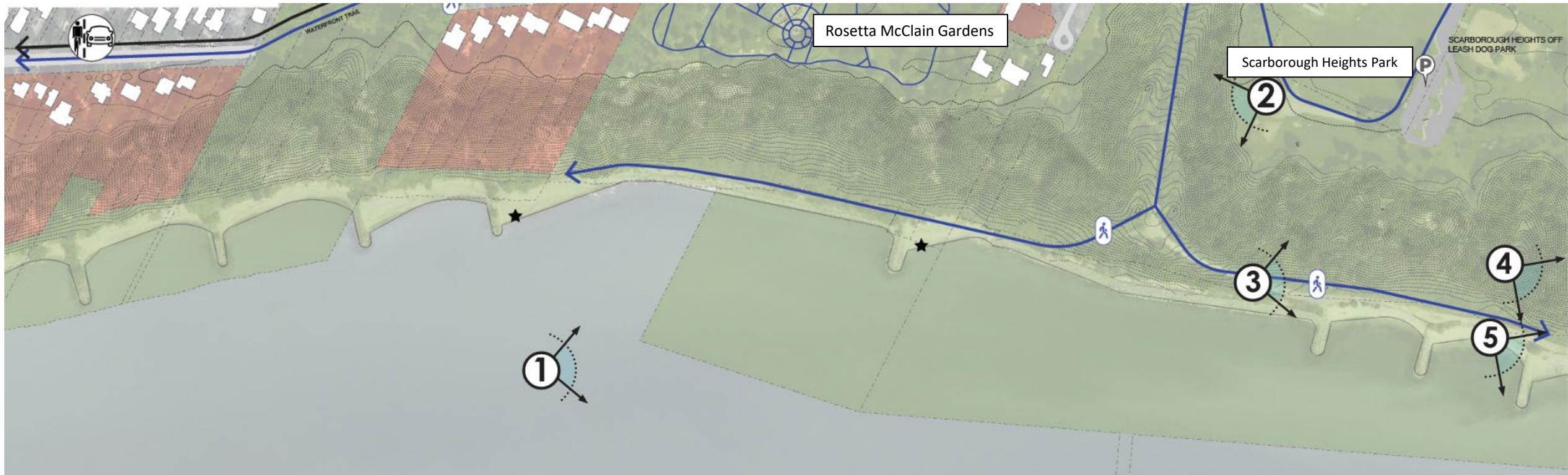


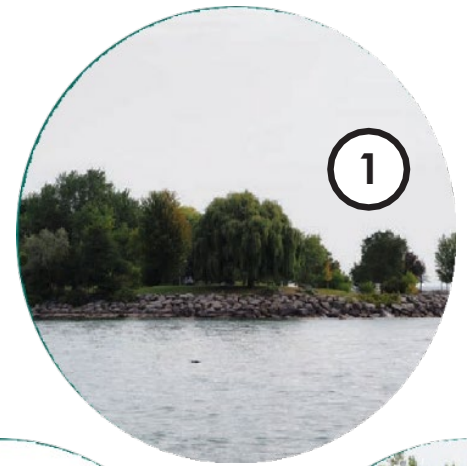
What else should we be studying?

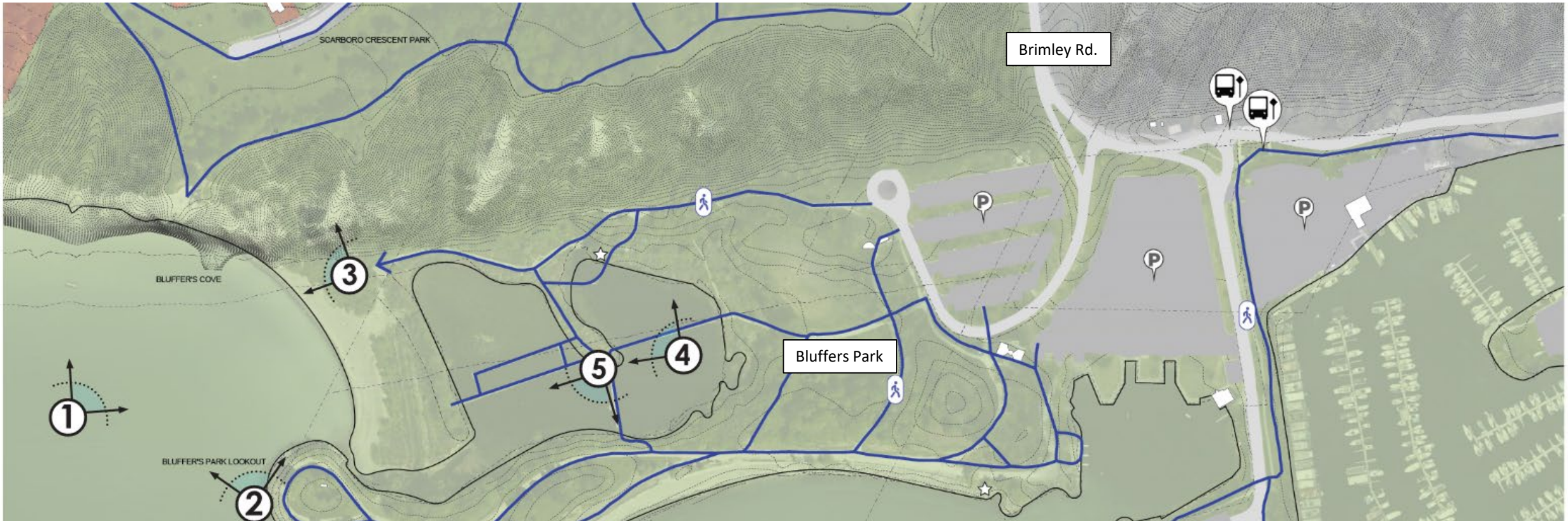












Generation and Evaluation of Alternatives



Terms of Reference (ToR)

- Alternatives To The Undertaking: different ways of addressing the problems and opportunities

Environmental Assessment (EA)

- Alternative Methods: different ways of implementing the preferred alternative to the undertaking
- Evaluated against the criteria to determine the preferred alternative
- This alternative is then refined and, pending EA approval, would be the project that is ultimately constructed

Consultation Activities

Activity	During ToR	During EA*
Community Advisory Group (CAG) Meetings	2	3
Public events	2	3
Property owner meetings	As required/requested	
Indigenous engagement	Throughout entire project	
Public notices/emails/admail	Key Milestones (project start, public events, etc.)	
Project website and social media	Throughout entire project	

Round One of Consultation

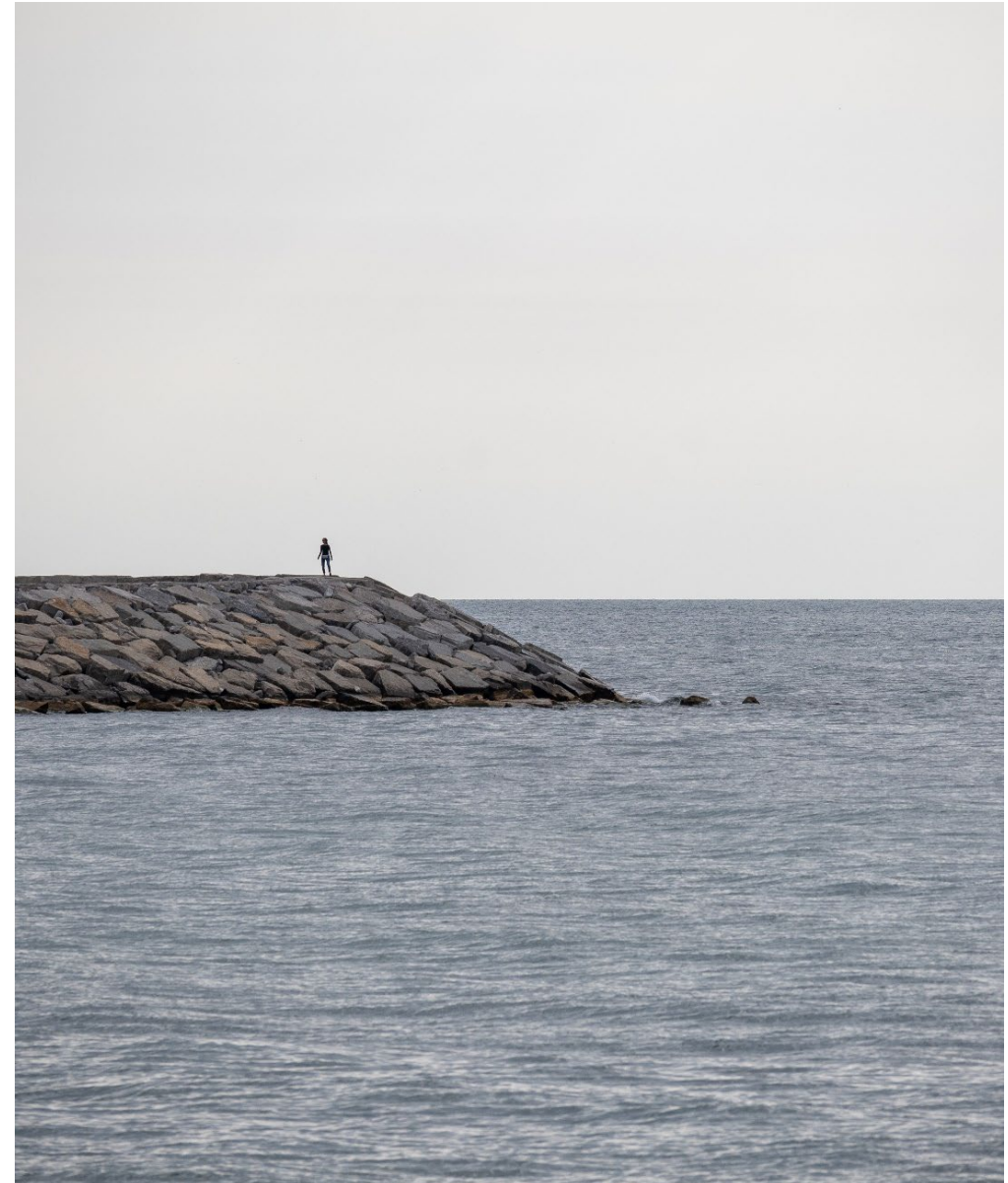
Purpose of Round One: To Identify Concerns and Opportunities

Activities – Fall 2023 / Winter 2024

- Property owner notification and online information meetings
- Community Advisory Group meeting #1 (Jan 11, 2024)
- Interactive map and survey
- Virtual Information Session (February 15, 2024)

Consultation will be promoted via mailed notices, social media, email lists, and outreach to stakeholders.

An Indigenous Engagement Plan is being prepared to provide rights-holders and Urban Indigenous Communities meaningful opportunities to participate in the study.



Next Steps

Next Steps	Timeline
Prepare draft Terms of Reference (ToR)	Fall 2023 to Winter 2024
Consultation Round 2	Spring 2024
Present draft ToR and allow comments	Spring 2024
Submission of ToR to Minister of Environment, Conservation, and Parks (MECP) for review/approval	Summer 2024
Approval of the ToR (future timelines subject to MECP review/approval timelines)	6 months is anticipated for MECP to provide approval

Questions & Discussion

