

Design Charrette

70 Croatia St Park

April 23rd, 2024

Land Acknowledgement

I'd like to begin by honouring the land that I'm on. If you are not currently in Toronto, I encourage you to learn about the lands you're on.

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.



First Meeting:



Welcome and introductions



Overview of the process, project, and context



Share what we heard so far



Design Charette: brainstorm park ideas in groups



Share group concepts



Next steps and adjourn at 8:30 p.m.



Project Team

City of Toronto

Parks, Forestry
and Recreation

Helen Luu – Senior Public Consultation Coordinator

Andrey Pravosoudov – Project Coordinator Landscape Architect

William Skura – Senior Public Consultation Coordinator (Indigenous)

Landscape
Architect

STUDIO tla

Yvonne Battista – Principal, Landscape Architect

Indigenous Design
Advisor

Trophic Design

Agata Mrozowski – Landscape Designer

Engagement
Specialist

StrategyCorp Inc

Roxanne D’Onofrio – Senior Consultant

Developer

Hazelview Investments

Chloé Valcin-Wright – Associate, Planning & Real Estate Development

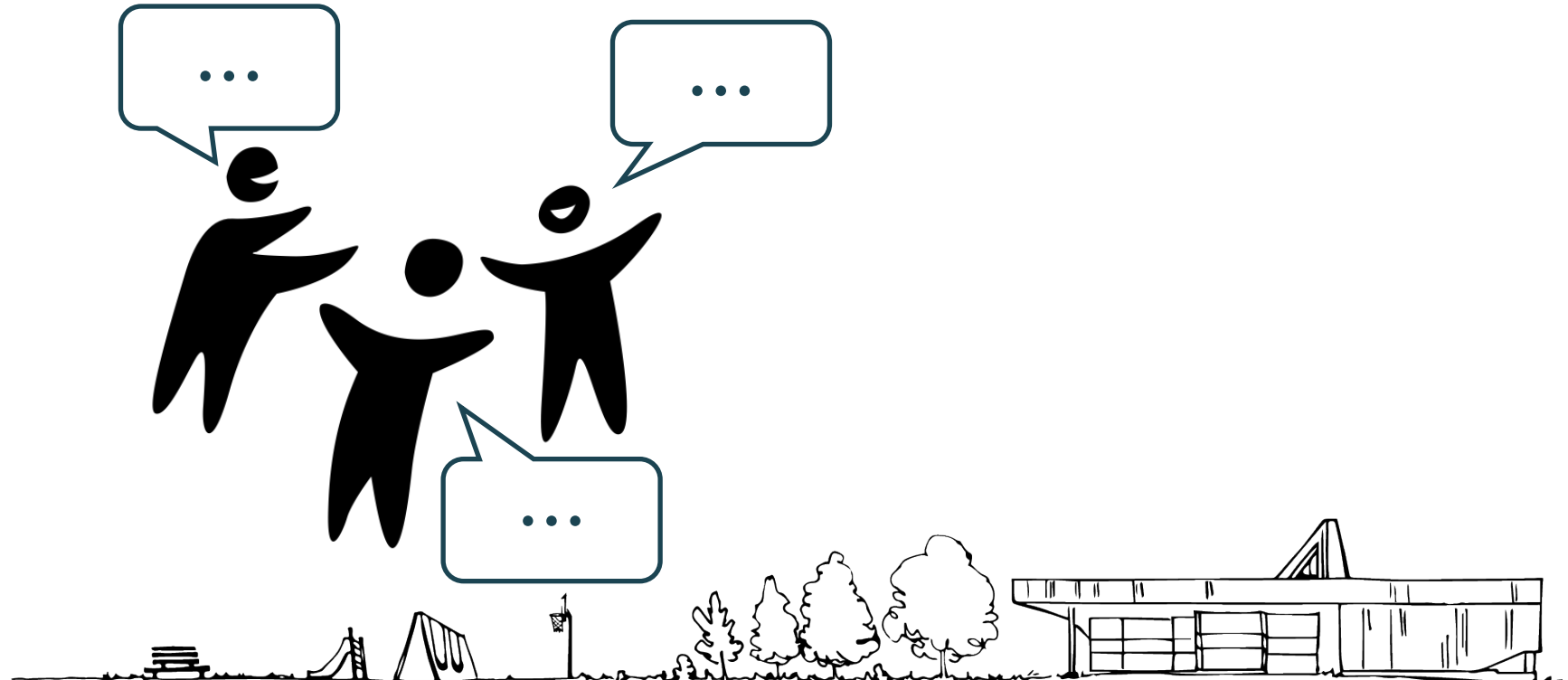


Purpose of Meeting

Help us shape the park design through a charrette!

This meeting will introduce the project, share preliminary inspirations based on feedback from previous engagement efforts, and ask your design ideas for the new park through a charrette!

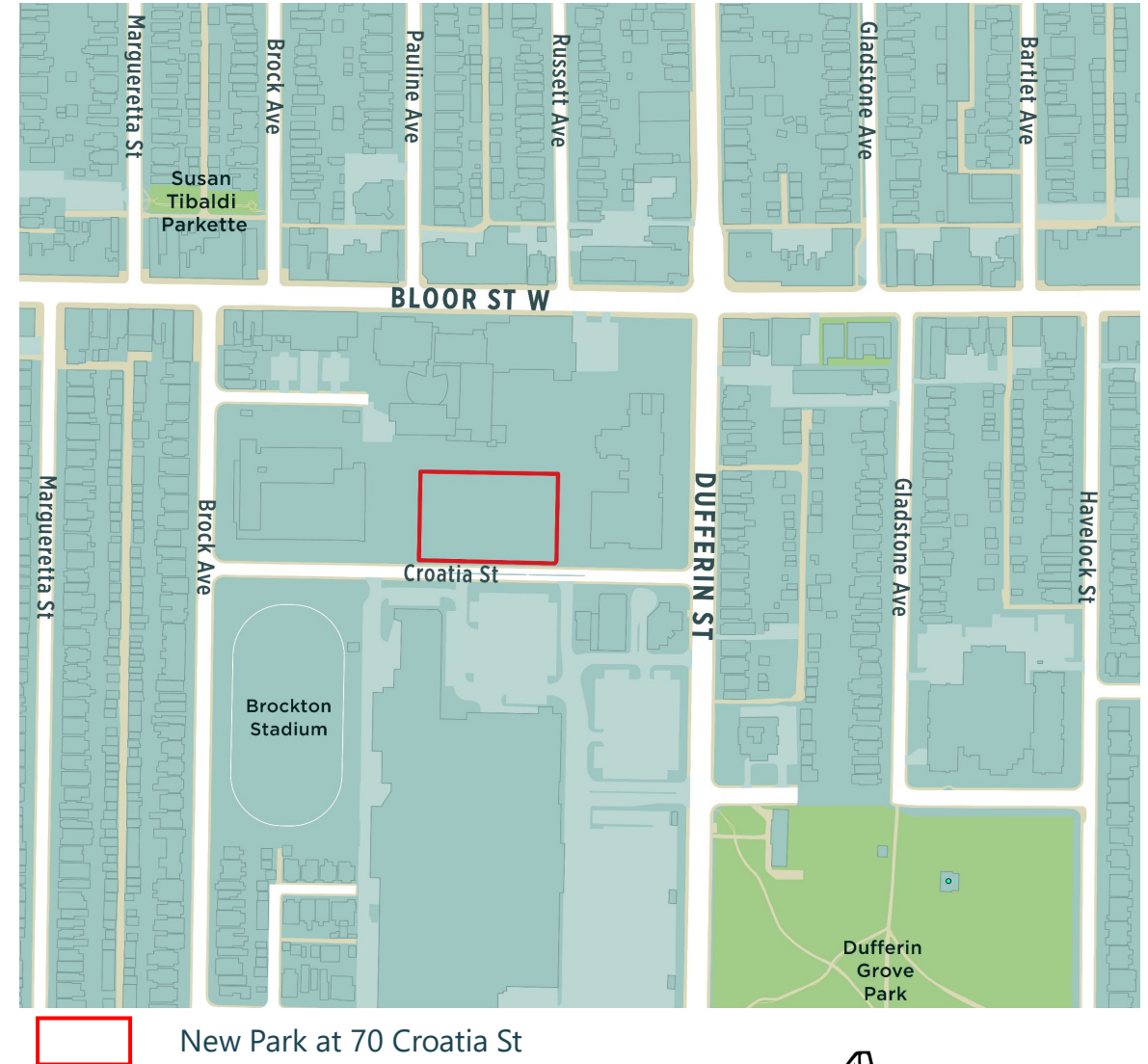
The feedback received will guide the development of design options for the park which will be available for the people to comment and determine which one would move forward!



Project Introduction

A new 3,580m² (about the size of a baseball field) park is coming to 70 Croatia St. as a result of a broader residential development project at Bloor Street West and Dufferin Street.

The park will be located on Croatia Street and will be bordered by a residential development to the north, a new street public street to the west, and a new private street to the east.



Project Introduction

How is this new park being created?

- For the City to approve the residential development at Bloor Street West and Dufferin Street, the developer was required to provide the City with new parkland
- Hazelview Investments will work with Parks, Forestry & Recreation to design and build the new park
- Parks, Forestry & Recreation leads the engagement and design process alongside the landscape architect and engagement consultants
- Hazelview Investments then constructs the park with oversight and involvement from Parks, Forestry & Recreation

How will the park construction be funded?

- Funding will come from Hazelview Investments and Fitzrovia Real Estate, through the Parks, Forestry & Recreation component of the Development Charges that Hazelview Investments and Fitzrovia Real Estate are required to pay to the City

How will the park be maintained?

- When the park is complete, ownership and maintenance of the park will be transferred to Parks, Forestry & Recreation

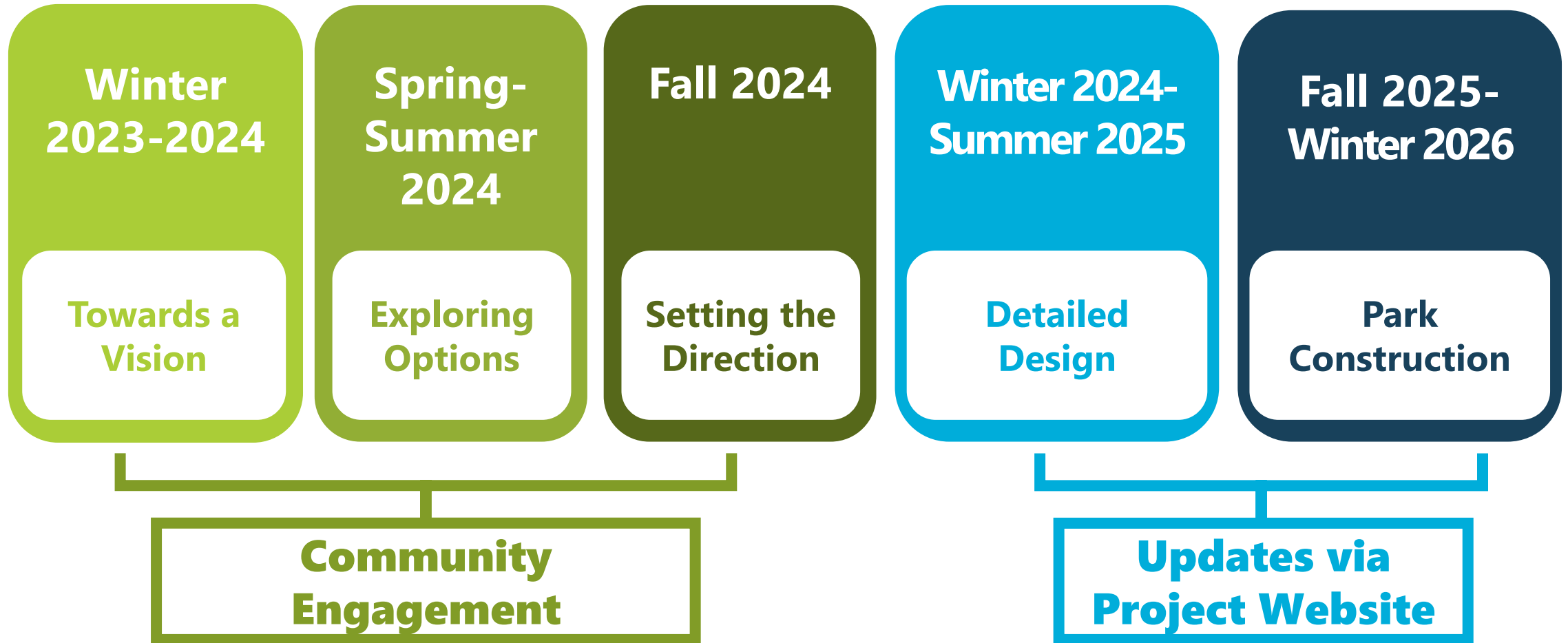


Overall residential development



Project Schedule*

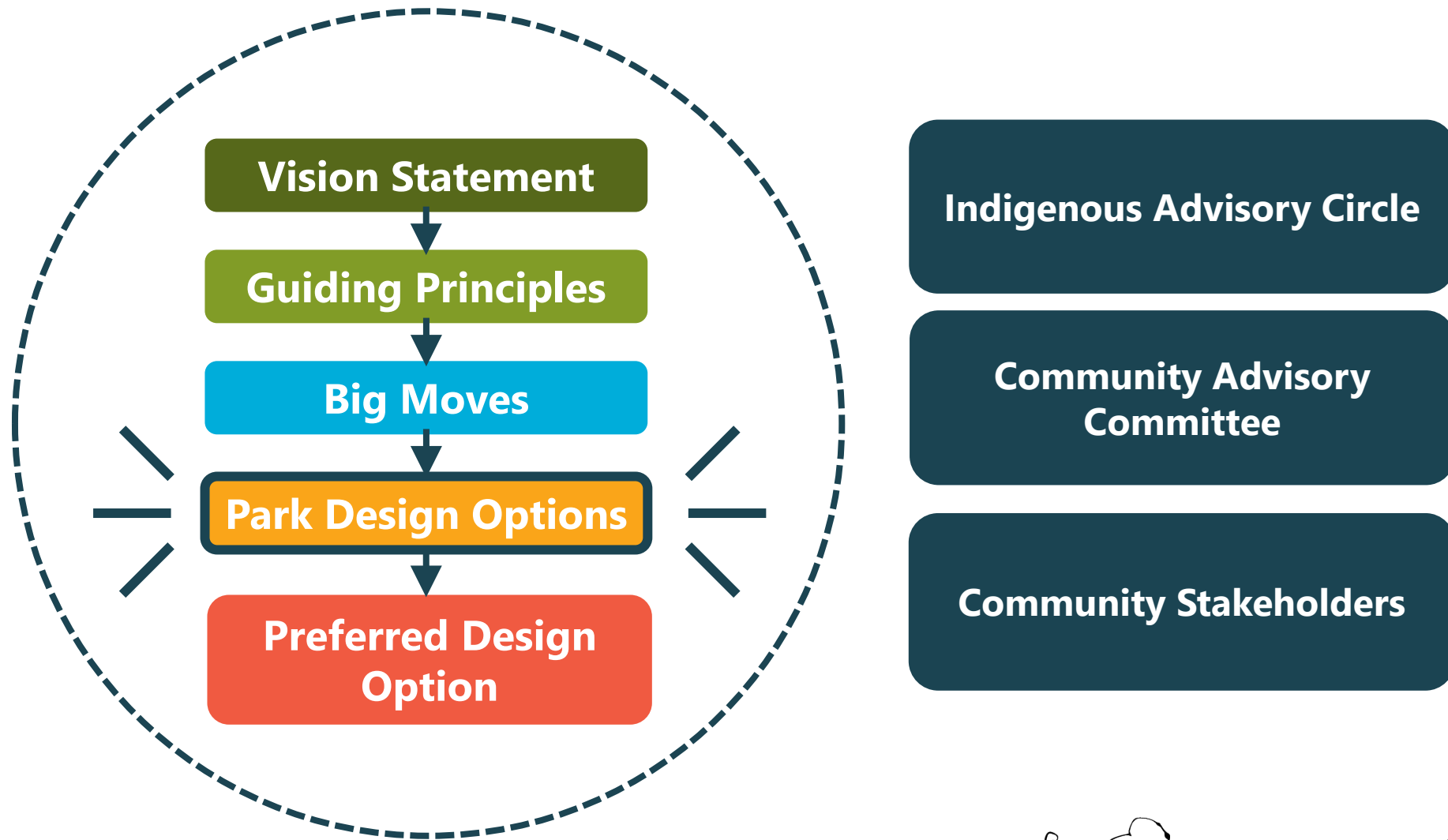
We are here



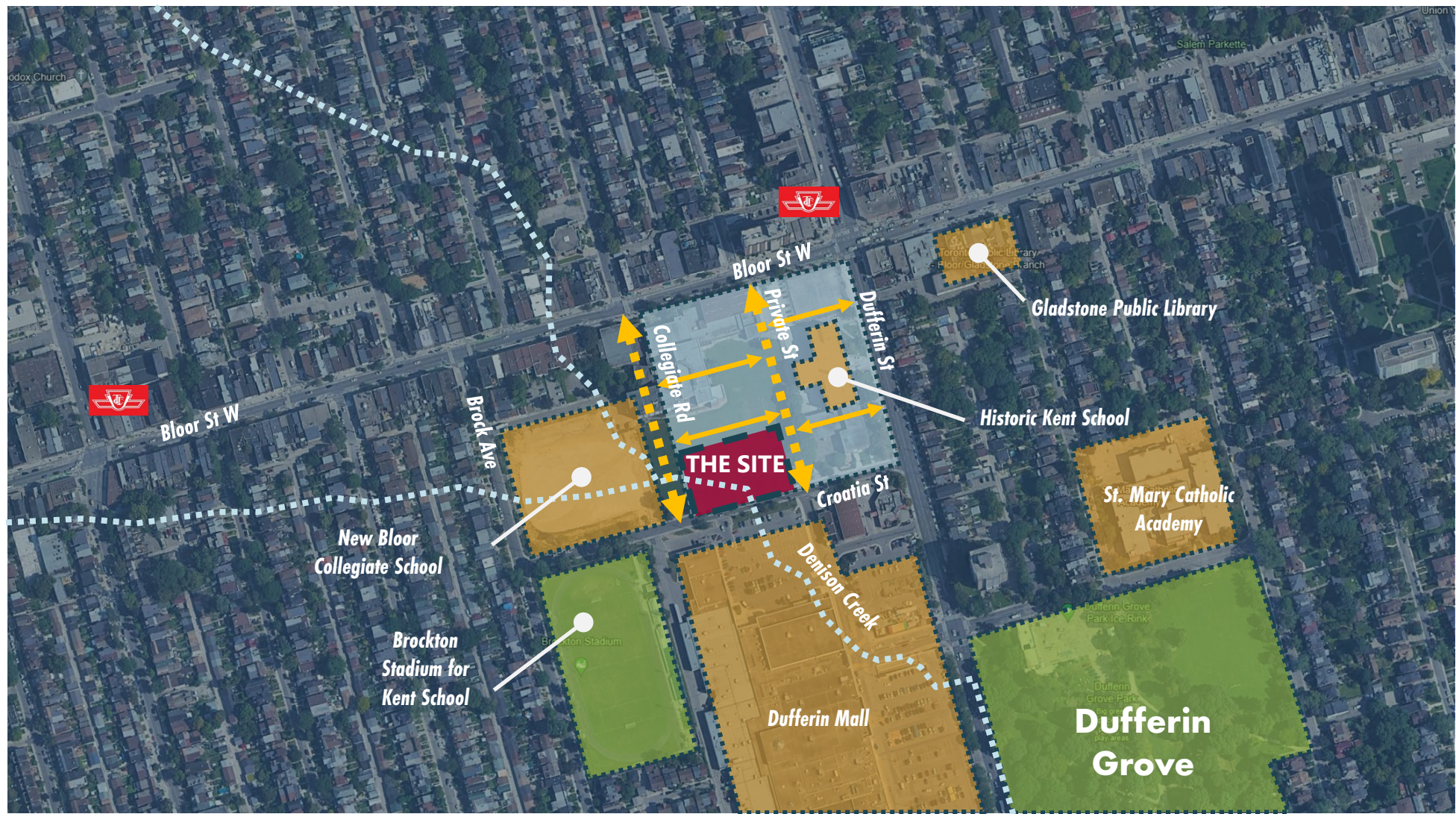
*The timeline is subject to change.



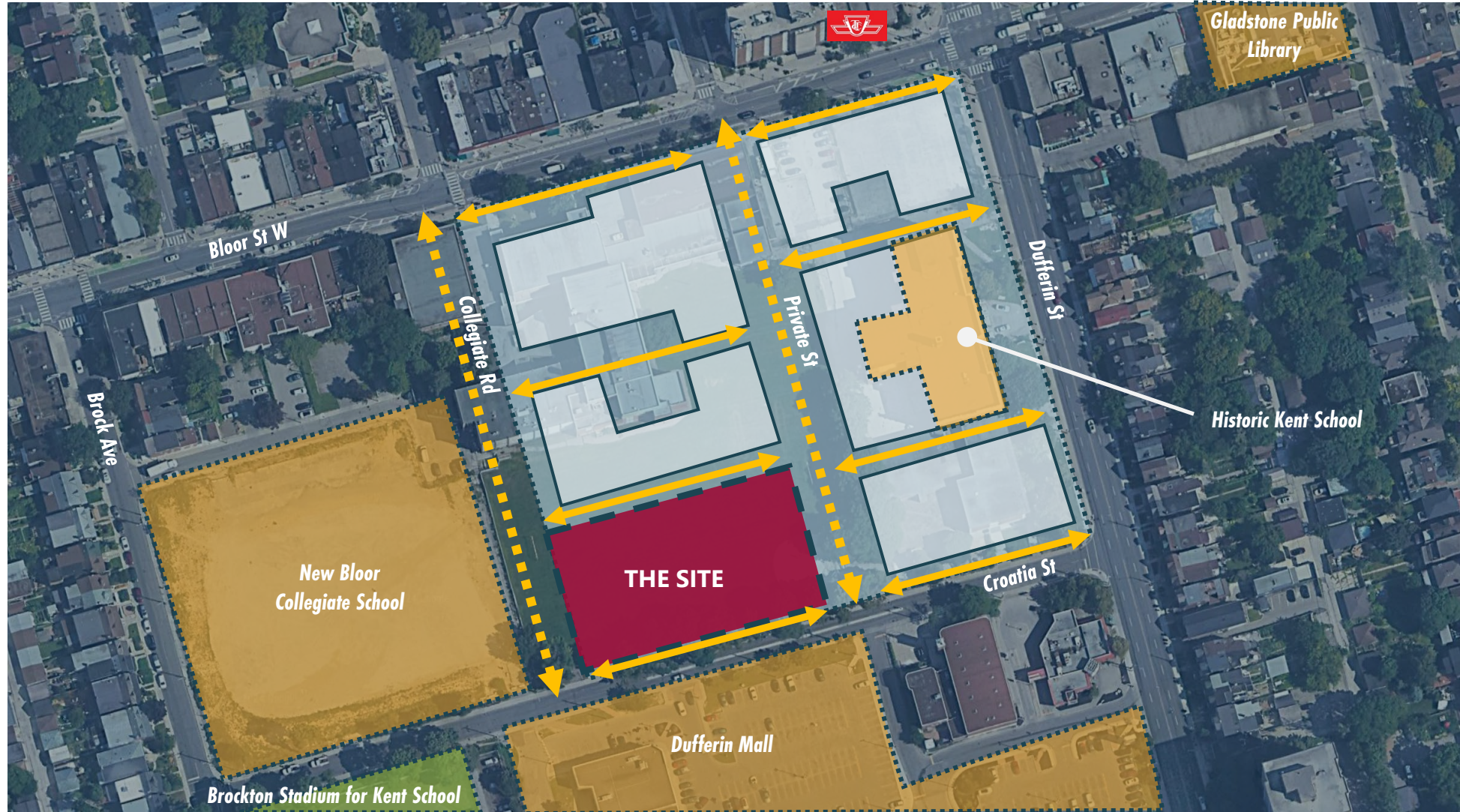
Design Development and Engagement



Surrounding Context



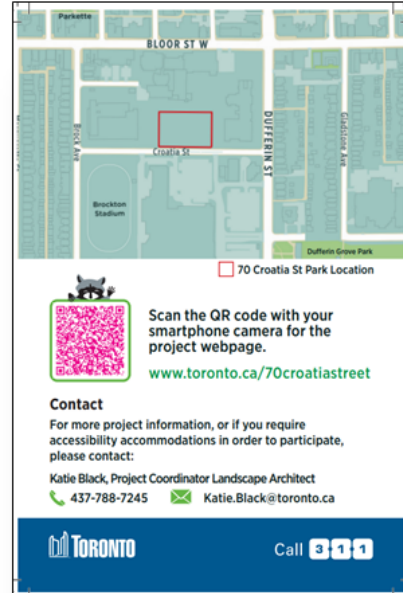
Surrounding Context



How We Reached People:

Community Mail Outs (Postcards)

- **6,100 postcards** advertising the project webpage, online conversation, community popups, and how to join the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and Indigenous Advisory Circle (IAC) were delivered to all addresses in the neighbourhood within 500 meters of the park site. The postcard included specific dates and locations of engagement activities:



Digital Flyer

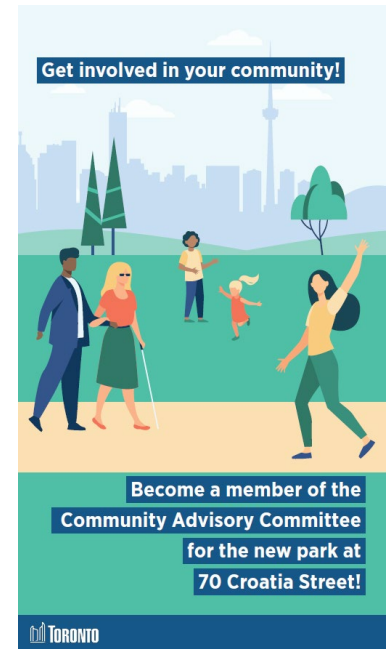
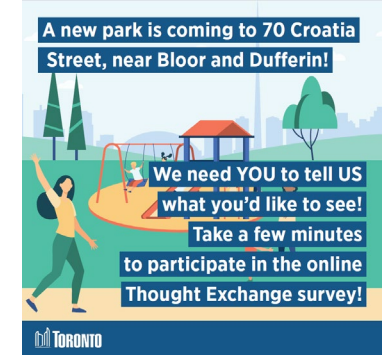
A digital flyer was circulated to community groups and the local Councilor's Office for additional distribution.

Social Media and Digital Ads

The City of Toronto used its Facebook and Instagram accounts to promote the engagement activities through paid advertisements and organic posts.

Project Webpage

A webpage was set up to act as a communications portal to inform the public about the new park project. The webpage hosts all up to date information regarding the project, including a sign-up button for e-updates.



What We Have Heard So Far - Summary of All Comments

Gardens with
native species
and Indigenous
medicines
plants

Social space where
people can gather,
play, and host
community events

+300



Restful space
with
greenspace

Indigenous
educational
signage and
language
revitalization

Consensus that
the space
should not be a
dog park

children many
play meet important street
connect relax nature owners
area
kids park live feel trees green safe
city
place live events welcome gather
dogs outdoor access
music social everyone people
dufferin enjoy mental health grove
dance neighbourhood space
community leash



Vision Statement

The new park at 70 Croatia Street will be a welcoming, accessible, and flexible space for all ages in the Bloor-Dufferin community. The park will be a sustainable, green oasis with a mix of peaceful spaces to rest, areas to gather and socialize, and space for play.



Design Principles



Safety & Belonging



Ecology & Resilience



Consider Existing & Future Neighbours



Indigenous Placekeeping



Balance Active & Passive



Play & Education



Draft Big Moves

Integrate shade features with inclusive seating options.

Create a flexible space for small, local, outdoor events such as

Ensure there are areas suitable for rest/relaxation.

Include plants that are significant to Indigenous communities and honour Indigenous traditions.

Include a thematic play structure.

Investigate the technical feasibility of a washroom and drinking water feature.

community markets

farmers markets

outdoor movie nights

performances

that can change based on community needs.

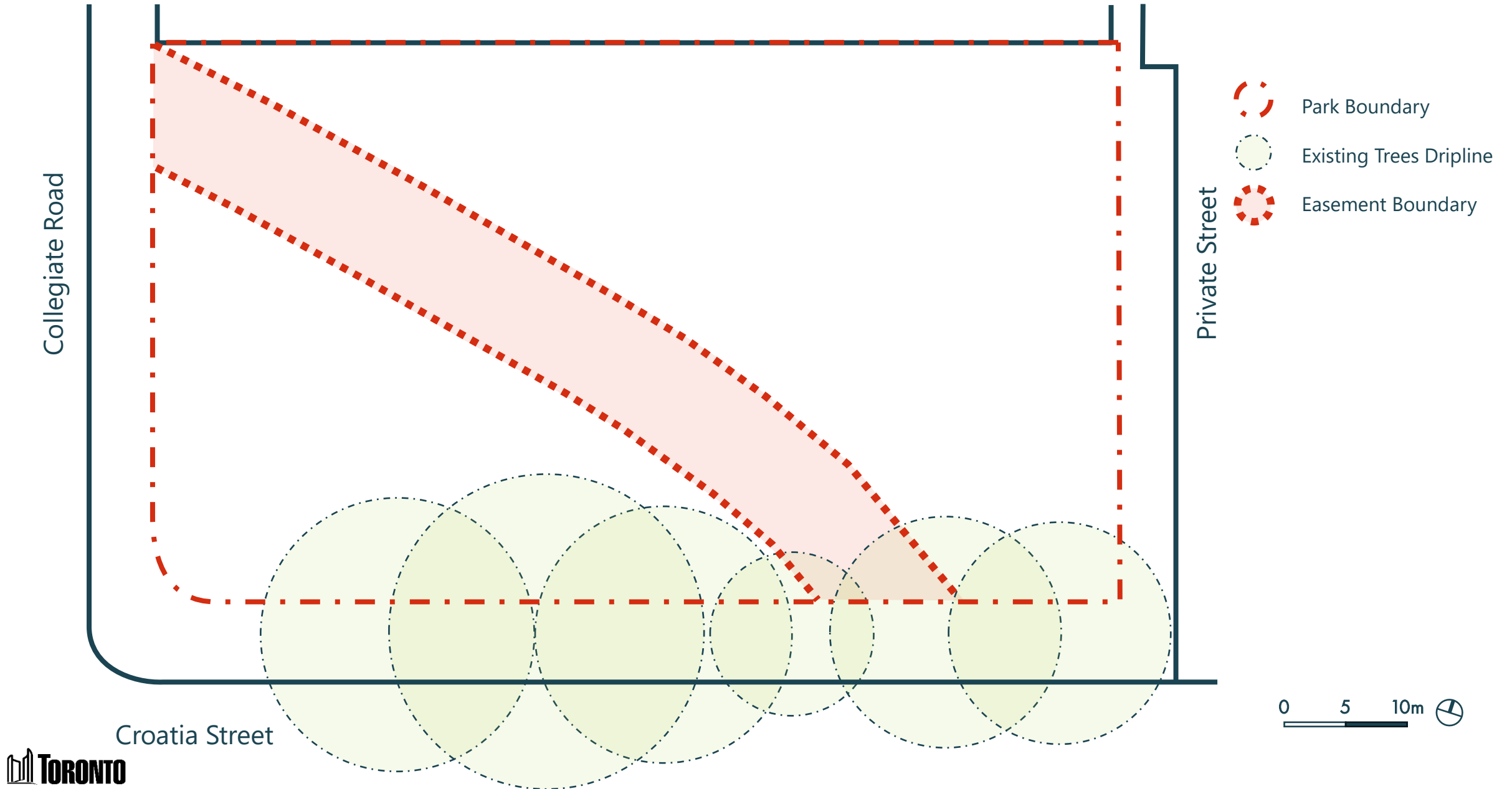
Ensure there is a flexible, open green space.

Include planting areas that will attract pollinators and focus on incorporating native plant species.

Incorporate and highlight Indigenous languages throughout the site.



Understanding the Site



Design Charette Activity!

1. The Project Team will present:
 - i. (2) design inspirations
 - ii. (2) park layouts
 - iii. precedents for look and feel
2. Design Charette: Share your thoughts on the above ideas and create your own park design. (1 hour 15 minutes)
3. Each table will share their park design with the group. (30 minutes)
4. Discuss next steps.

Braid Park: Water & Reeds

Historic Creek

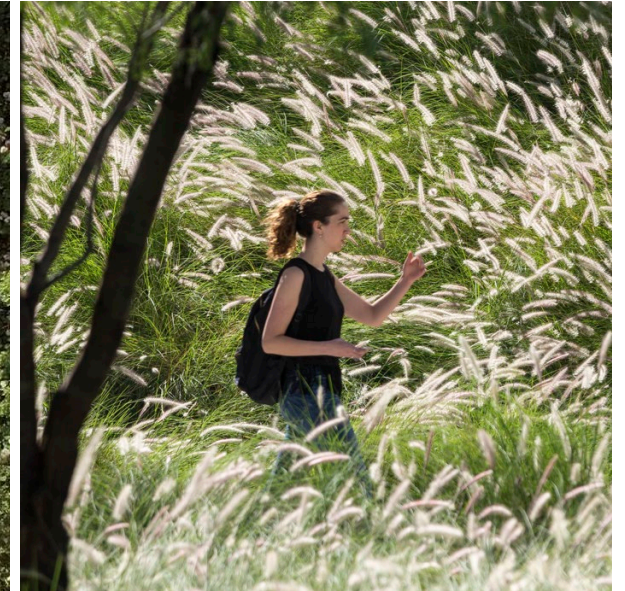
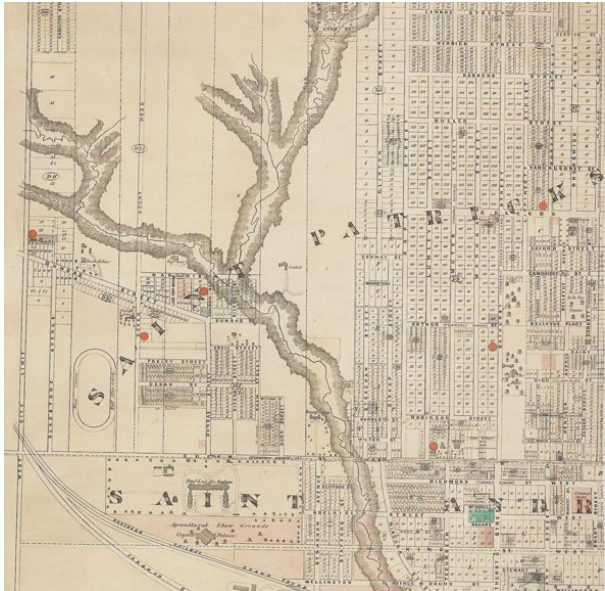
- Historic water movement through the park
- Water provided nourishment and means of travel

Braid

- Weaving together: past + present + future
- 'Wet feet' plant material in bioswales including scouring-rush horsetail and sweetgrass and use of natural material such as stone

Biskaabiiyang – returning to ourselves

- Share plant material and placekeeping knowledge in Anishinaabe and English written language
- **Past** – reflected in vegetation and water
- **Present** – reflected in play and current park use
- **Future** – reflected in cultural interpretation, language and storytelling



Moon Park: Cycles & Stories

Moon + Sun Cycles

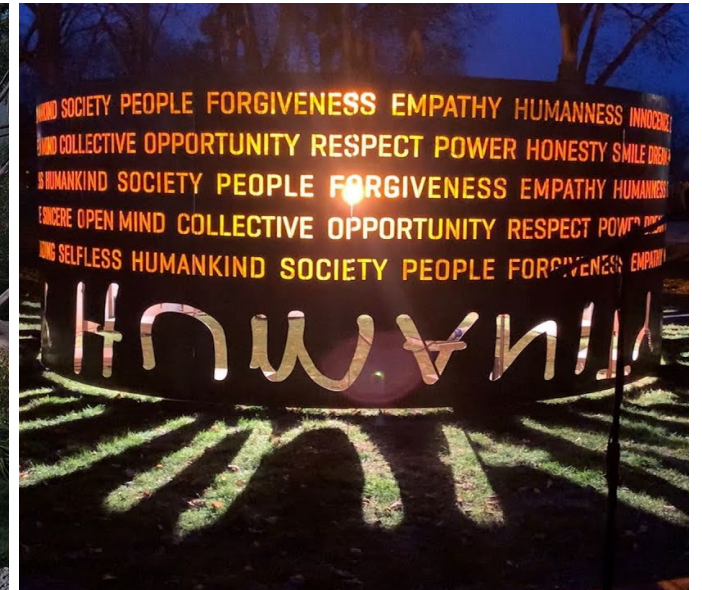
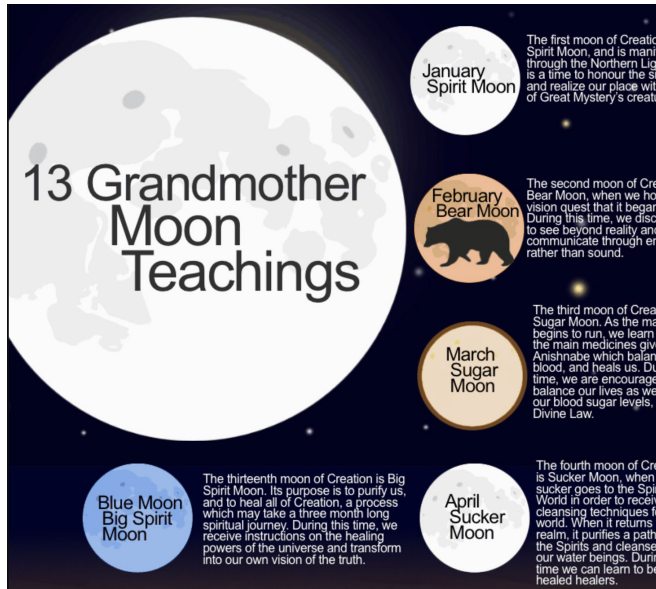
- Star teaching
- Connection to earth, seasons and natural plant and animal systems
- Journey of balance for the 'good life'

Language

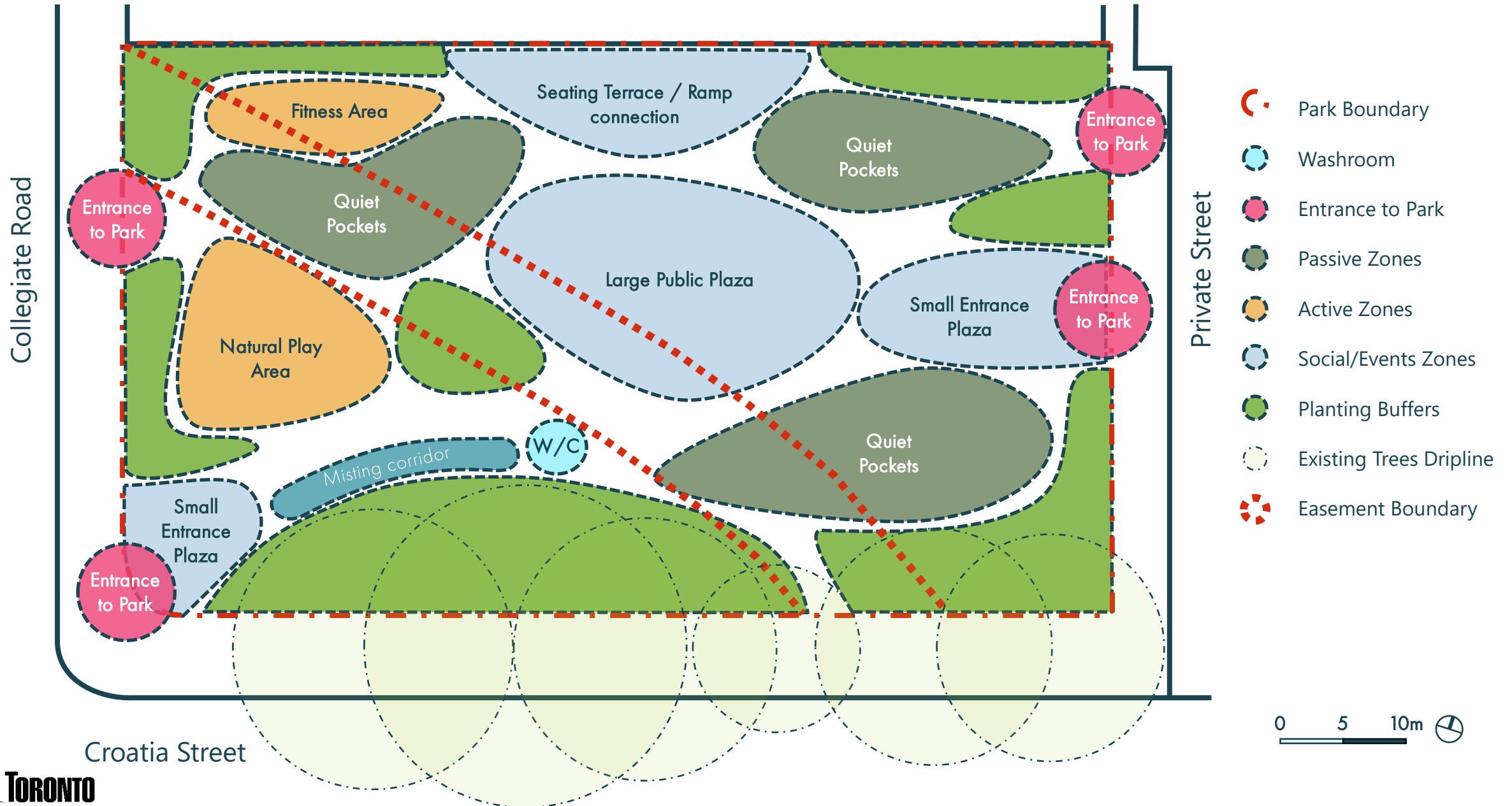
- Anishinaabe and English written language that shares star teachings, seasonal changes, and plant material

Story Telling

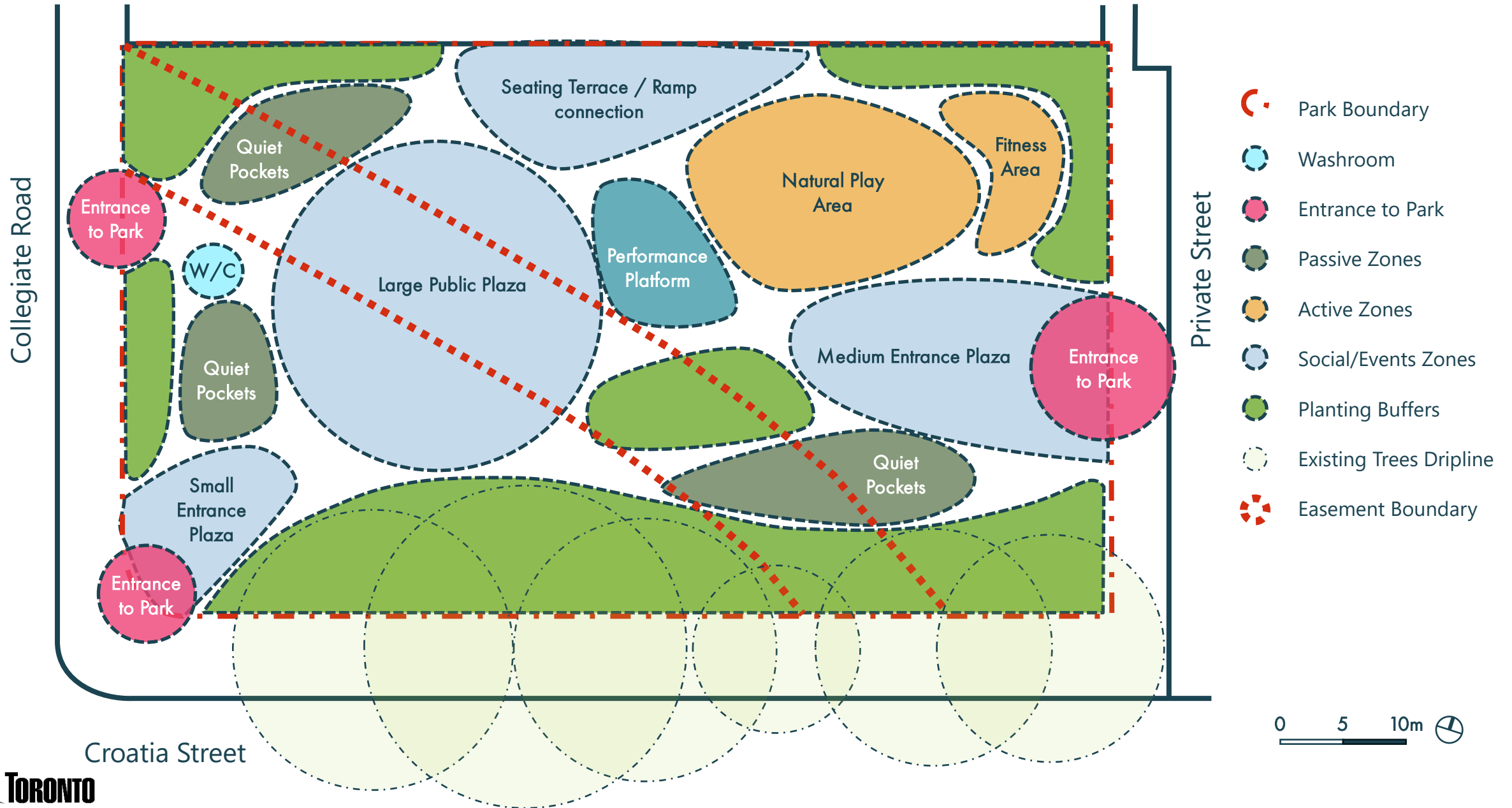
- A story could be told through a series of moments on an internal path in the park. A possible story is a mother bear sheading mud from her coat in the spring.
- Story telling expressed through language, symbols and colour
- Possibility of connecting to more stories and parks



Park Layout 1



Park Layout 2



Design Charette Activity!

Share your thoughts on the above ideas at your table and create your own park design! (1 hour 15 minutes)

Each table will share their park design with the group.
(30 minutes)

Next Steps

Stay informed! Sign up for email updates on the project webpage below:

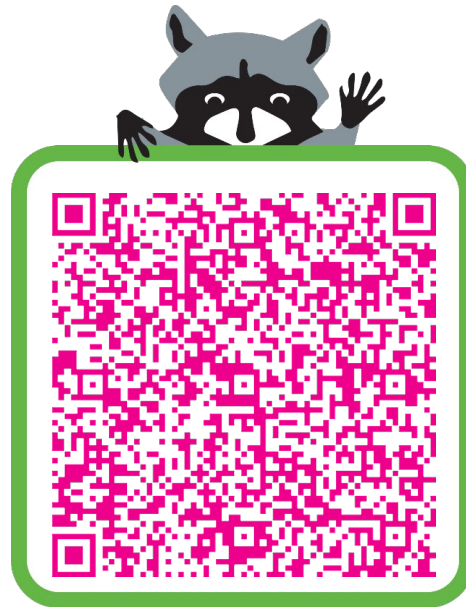
www.toronto.ca/70croatiastreet



Next Steps - Park Naming

If you would like to submit a suggestion for the park name, please review the City's guiding principles and naming form here:

<https://www.toronto.ca/business-economy/partnerships-sponsorships-donations/partner-2/partnership-guidelines-policies/city-of-toronto-property-naming-policy/>



Thank you for participating!

**Stay informed and visit the Project
Webpage:**

www.toronto.ca/70croatiastreet

Or scan the QR code below for access!



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