

## **APPENDIX B – Public Event Materials**

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# 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:

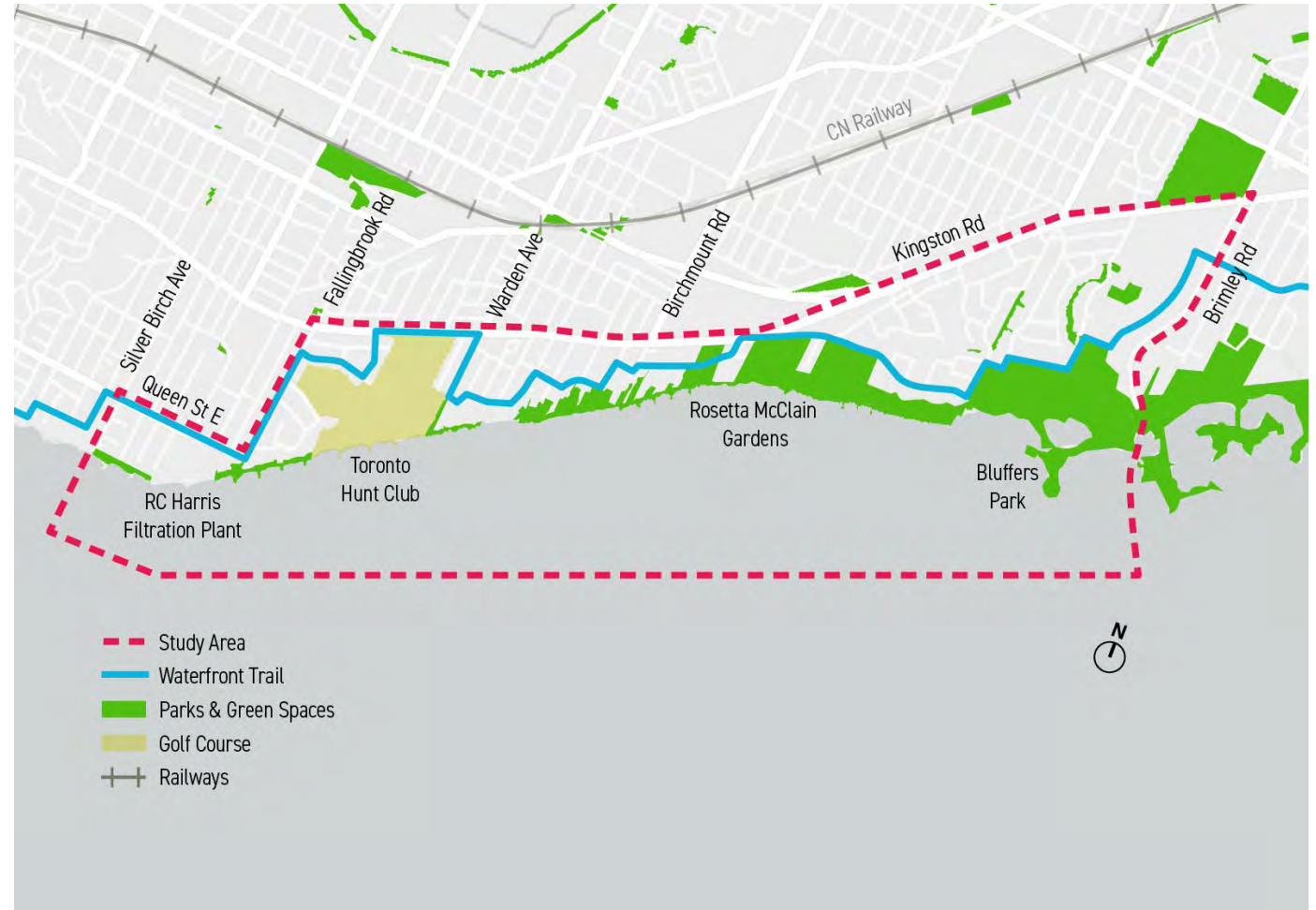
- A desire for new destinations across the wider waterfront;
- Opportunities for Indigenous art, landmarks and signage to share and celebrate Indigenous history, knowledge and values through placekeeping;
- Importance of continuous public access and ownership of the waterfront;
- Maintain and incorporate 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.

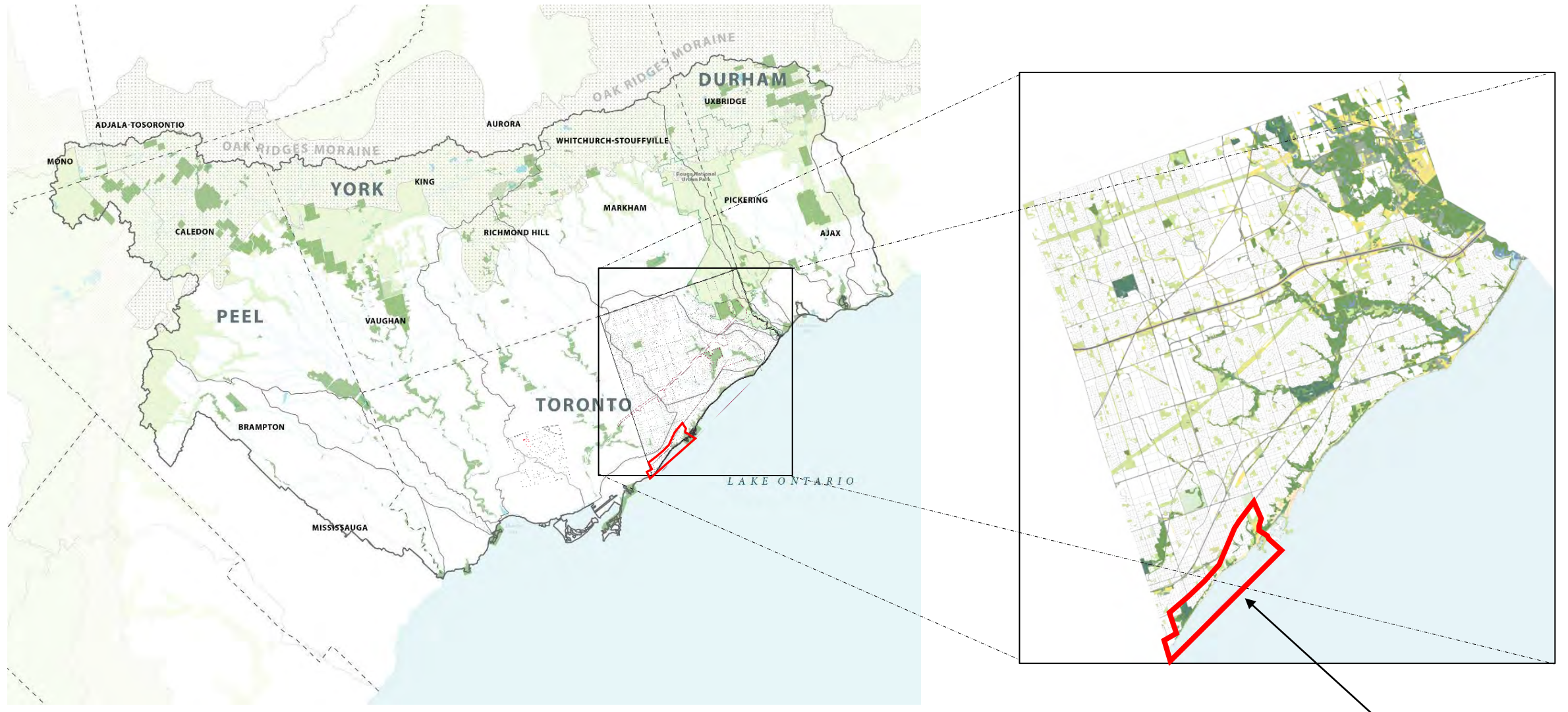


# Project Intent

- 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

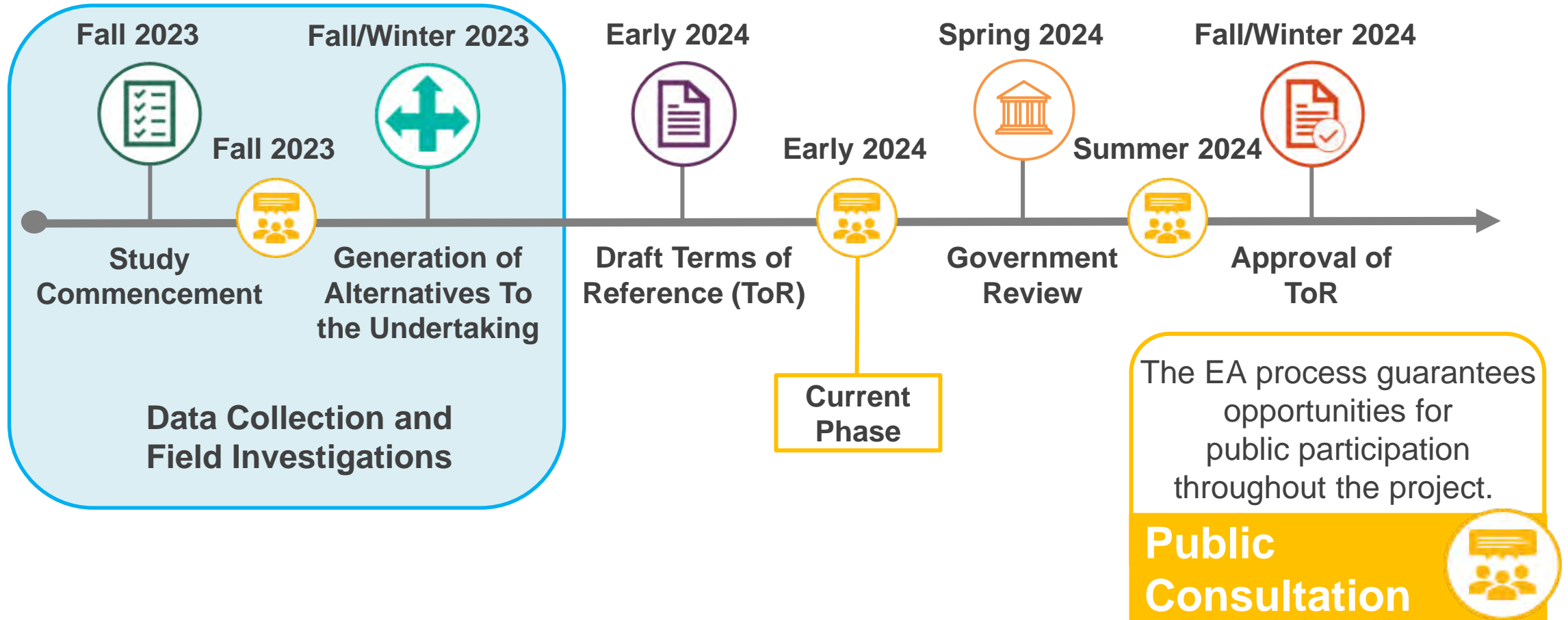
## Phase 2 - EA Preparation

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



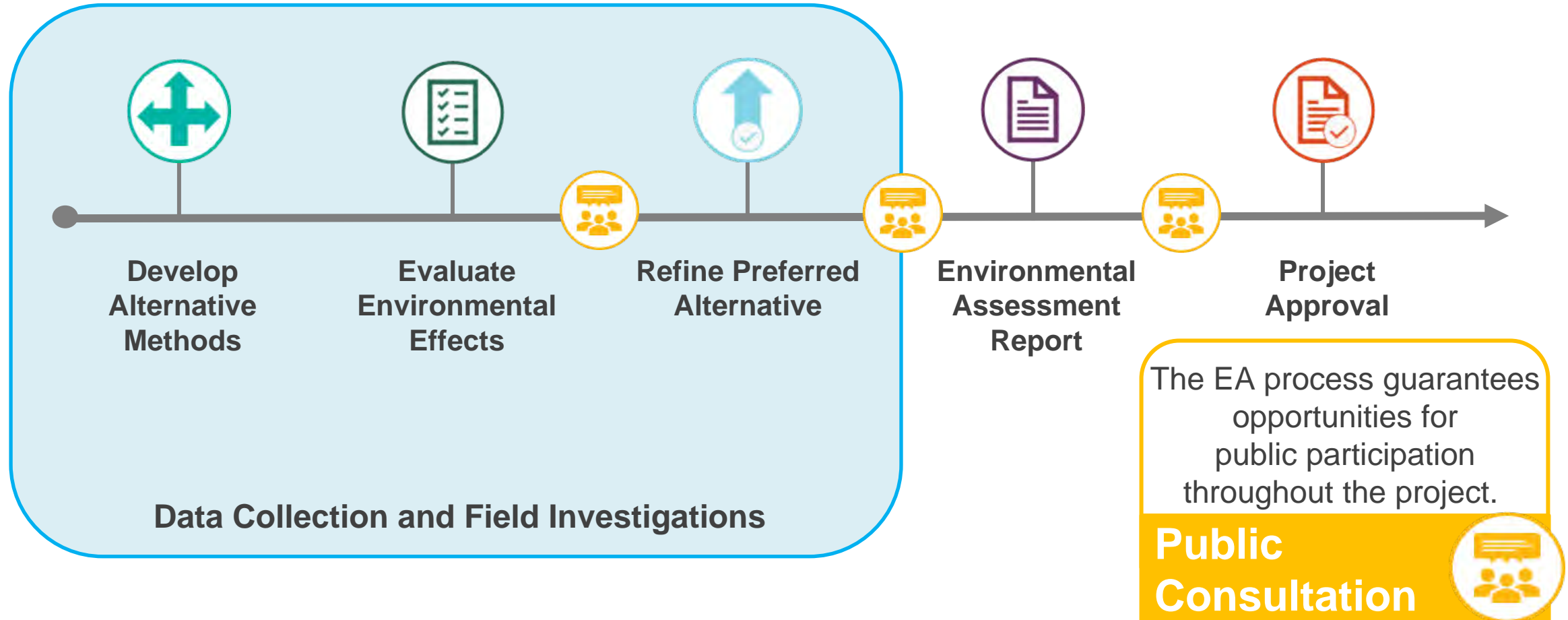
# Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline

## Phase 1 - Terms of Reference



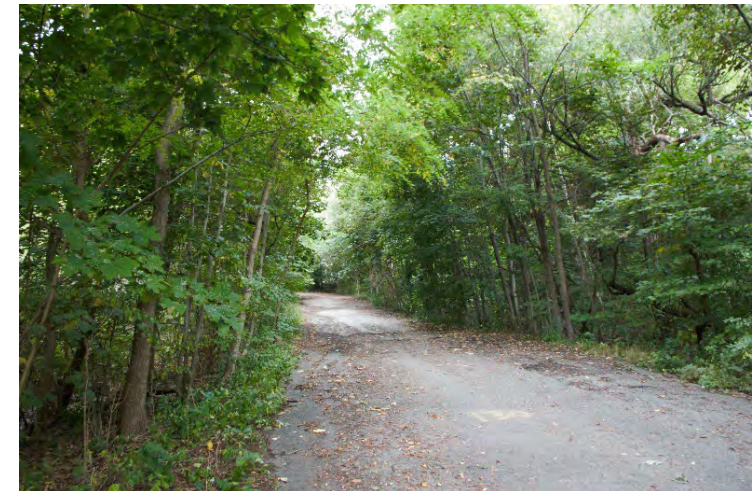
# Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline

## 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



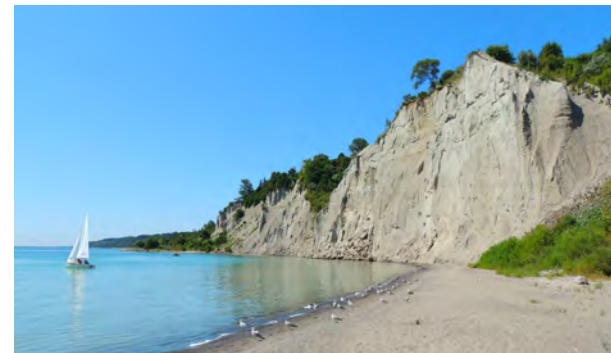
Kayak Ontario, 2018



City of Toronto, 2024



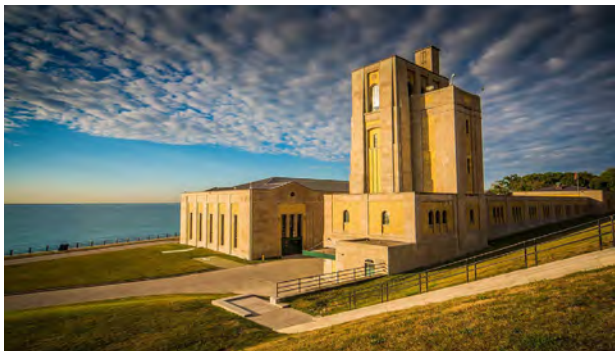
Surf the Greats, 2024



Flickr, 2014



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

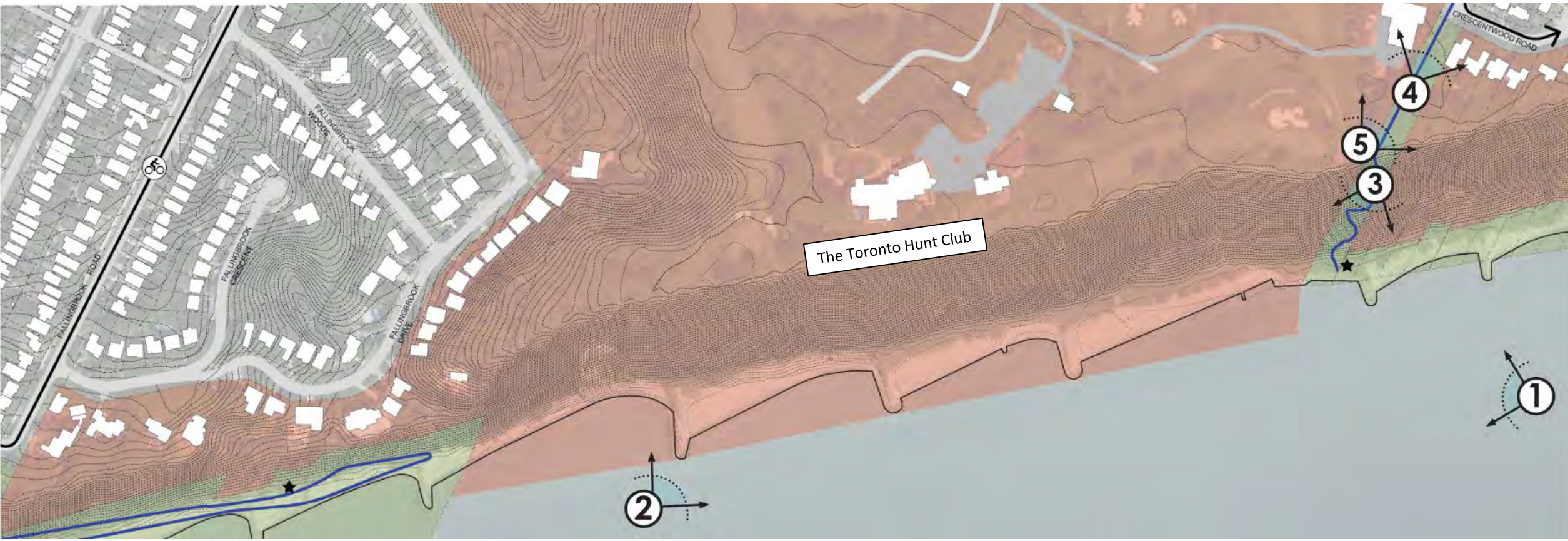


***What else should we be studying?***













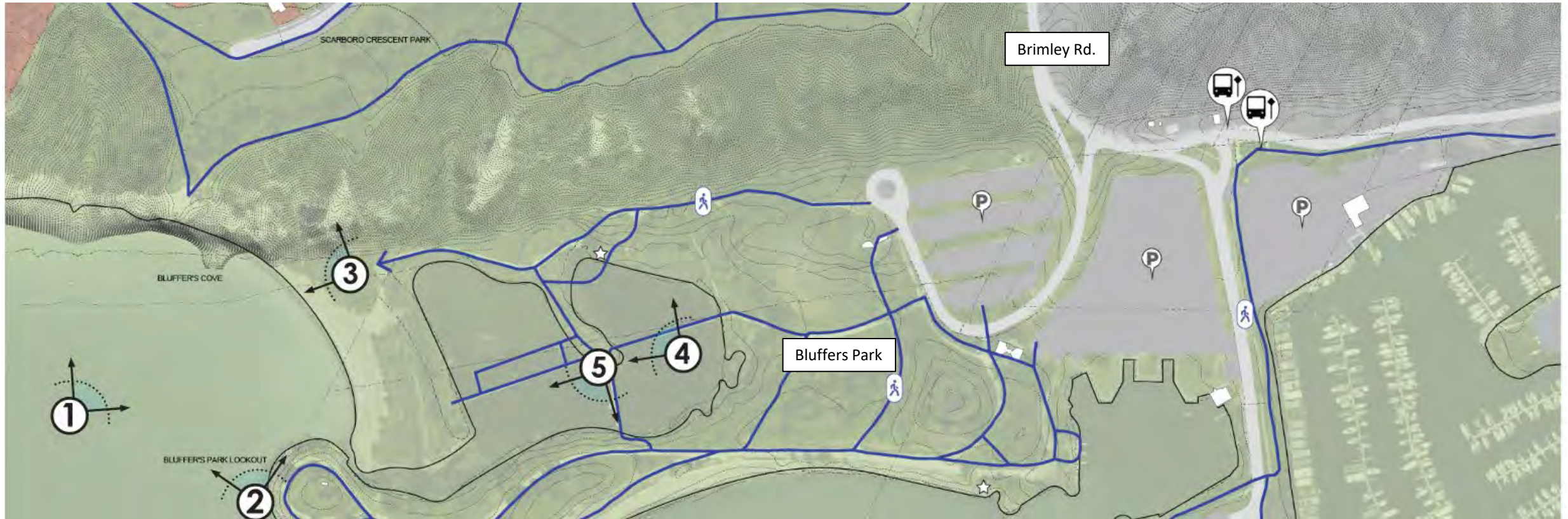














# Generation and Evaluation of Alternatives



## 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

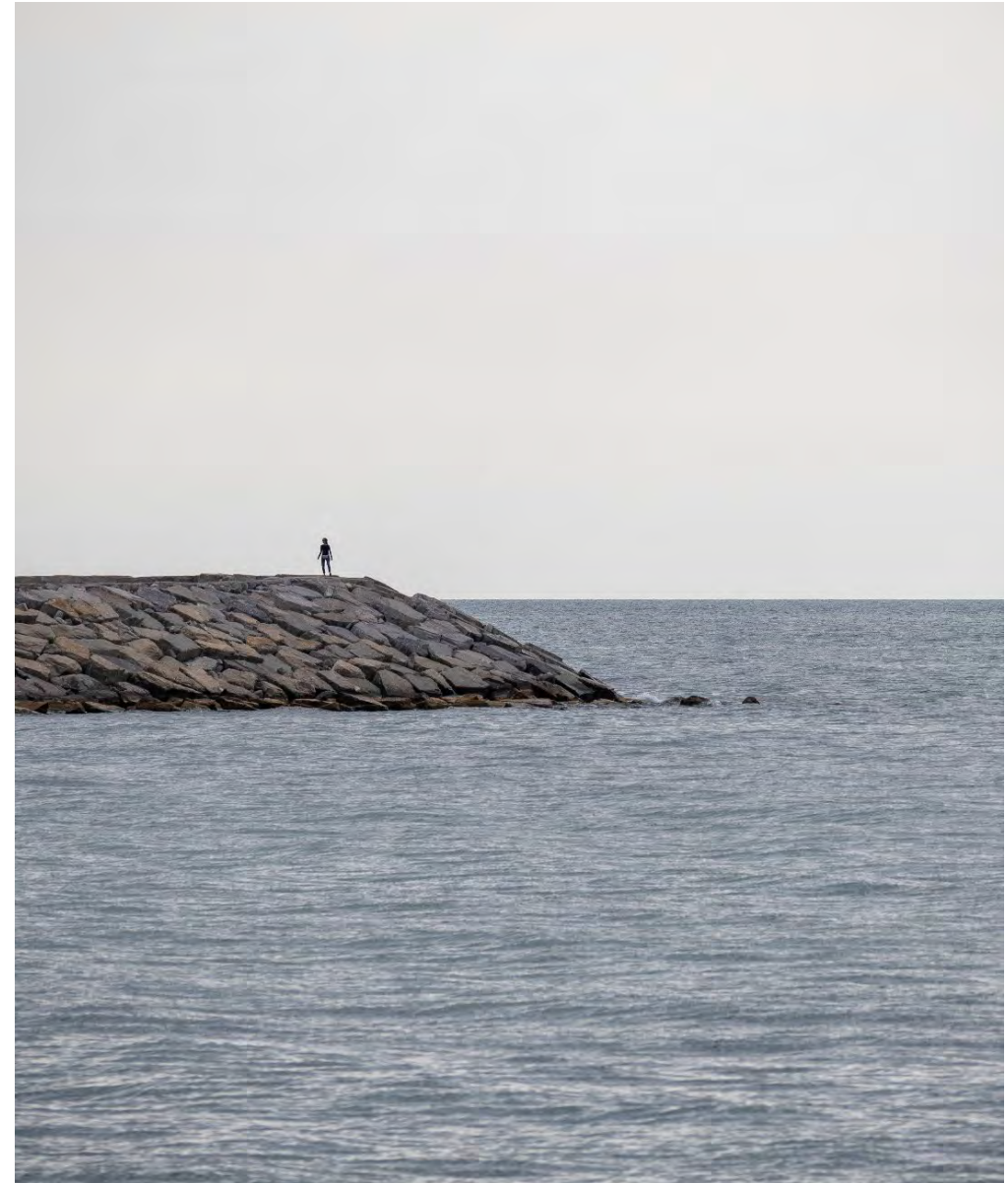
**Purpose of Round One:** To Identify Concerns and Opportunities

## **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





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Virtual Information Session – May 14, 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

- Project History and Project Intent
- Terms of Reference and Environmental Assessment (EA) Process
- Project Study Areas
- Review Problem/Opportunity Assessment
- Project Objectives
- Round 1 Consultation – What We Heard
- Existing Conditions
- Identification and Evaluation of Alternatives
- Evaluation Criteria
- EA Consultation Activities
- Next Steps and Open Discussion





# Project Overview





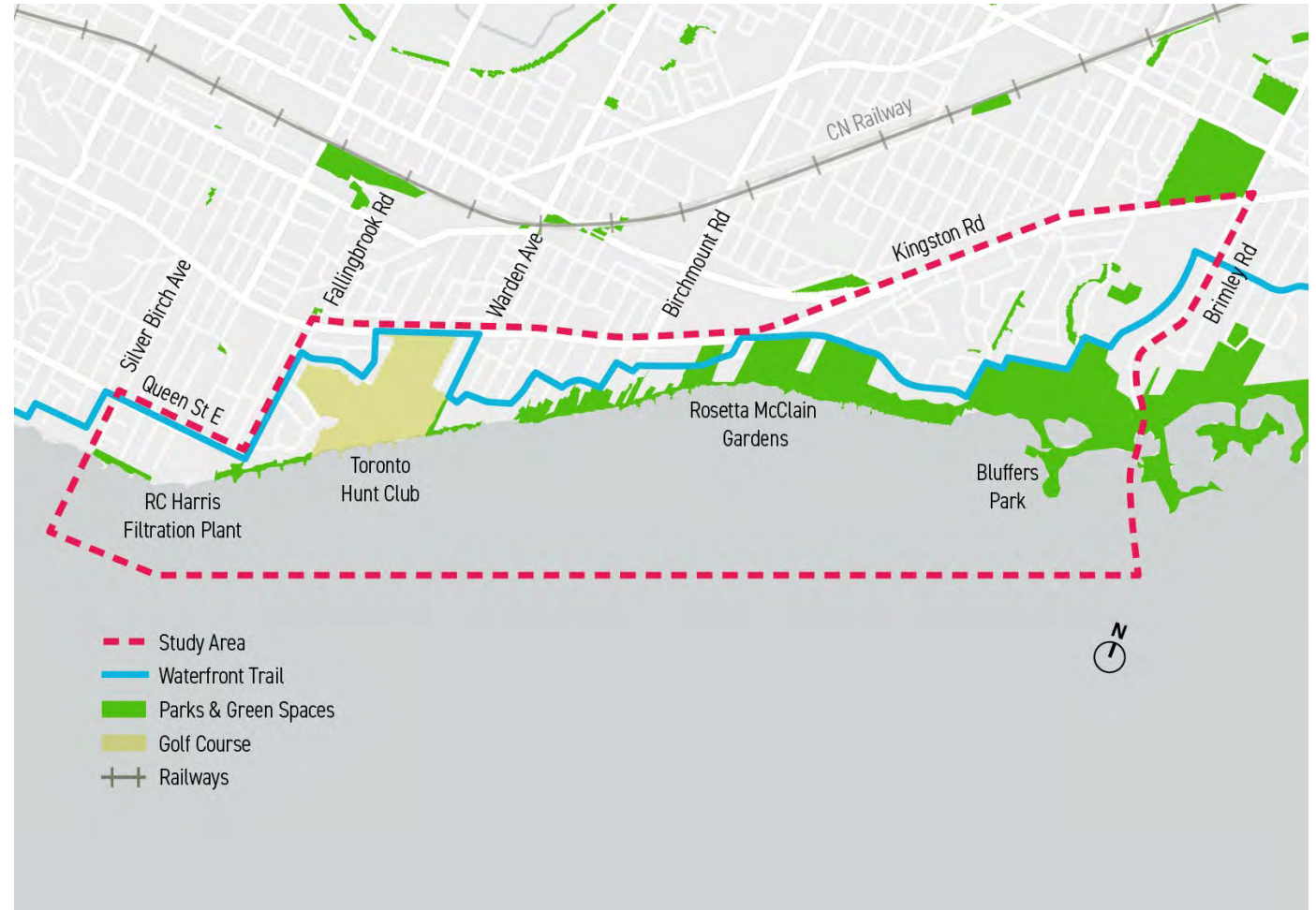
# History of Waterfront Revitalization Plans and Policies

Long history of planning for and policies around Toronto Waterfront Revitalization provides the basis for the Scarborough Bluffs West Revitalization Project. Some key studies are:

- The Waterfront Plan for the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Area, 1967
- Regeneration: Toronto's Waterfront and Sustainable City, 1991
- Integrated Shoreline Management Plan, 1996
- City of Toronto Accessibility Design Guidelines, 2004
- City of Toronto Official Plan (2023 consolidated)
- Toronto Waterfront Aquatic Habitat Restoration Strategy, 2007
- Fish Community Objectives for Lake Ontario, 2013
- The Living City Policies, 2014
- City of Toronto Bikeways Implementation Plan
- Update on the Next Phase of Waterfront Revitalization, 2022

# 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.





# 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) – WE ARE HERE

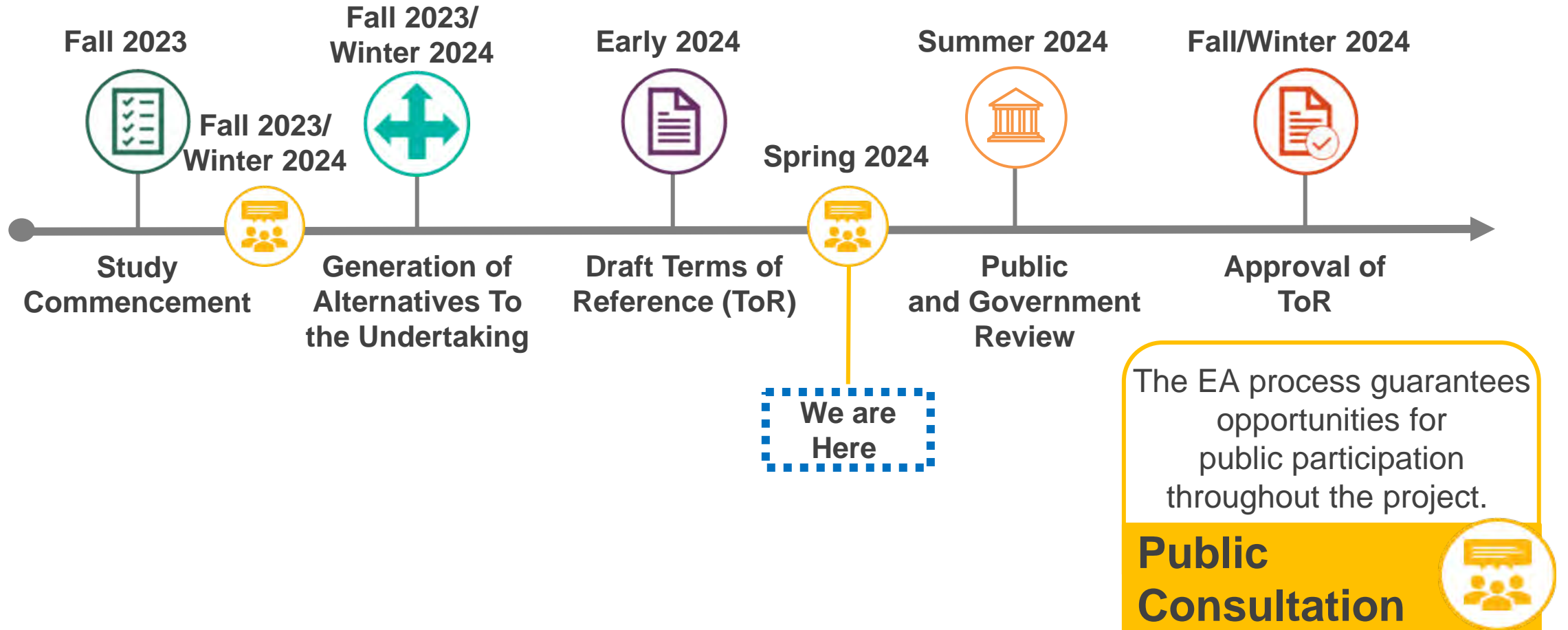
- Provides a roadmap for environmental effects to be examined, consultation to be undertaken, problems and opportunities to be addressed, and how EA will be prepared
- The ToR will describe:
  - Project Purpose;
  - Study Areas and Project Timelines;
  - Problem/Opportunity Assessment;
  - Overview of Existing Environment (Natural and Human);
  - Evaluation of “Alternatives To” – different ways to solve the problem or address the opportunity;
  - Framework for Identification and Evaluation of “Alternative Methods” – different ways to implement the preferred “Alternative to”;
  - Preliminary comparative evaluation criteria; and
  - The consultation plan for the IEA.

## Phase 2 - IEA 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

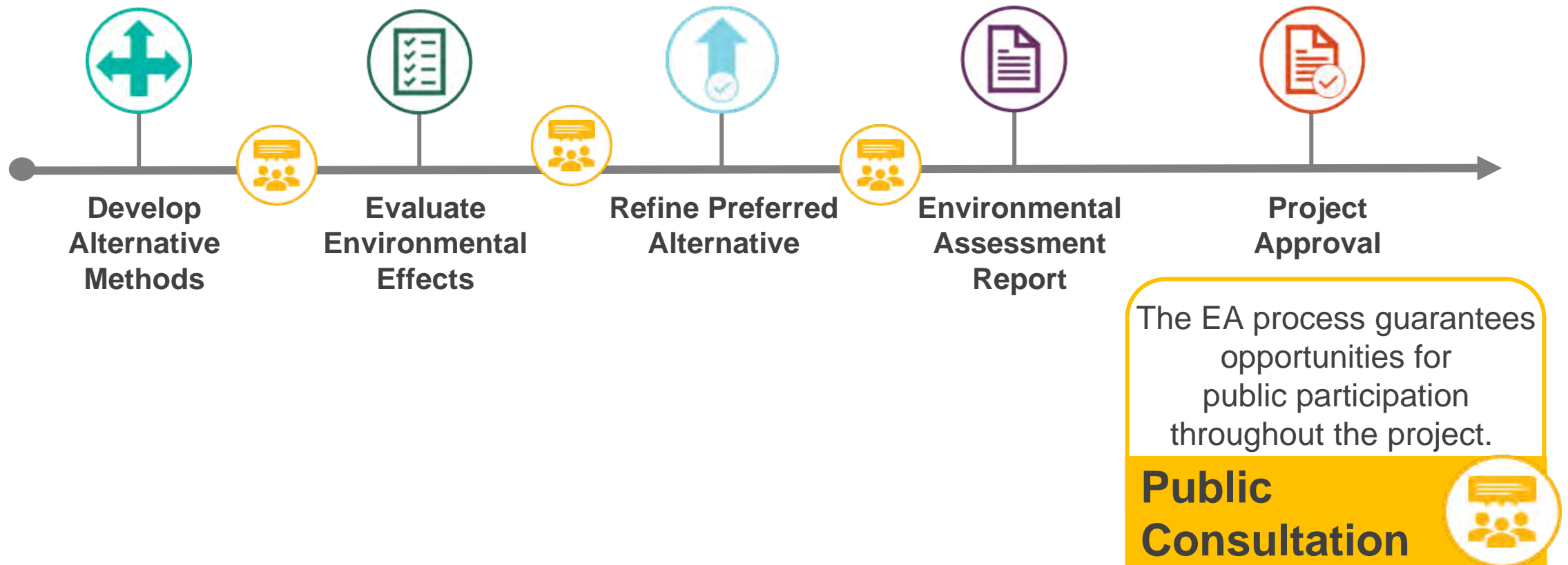
## Phase 1 - Terms of Reference



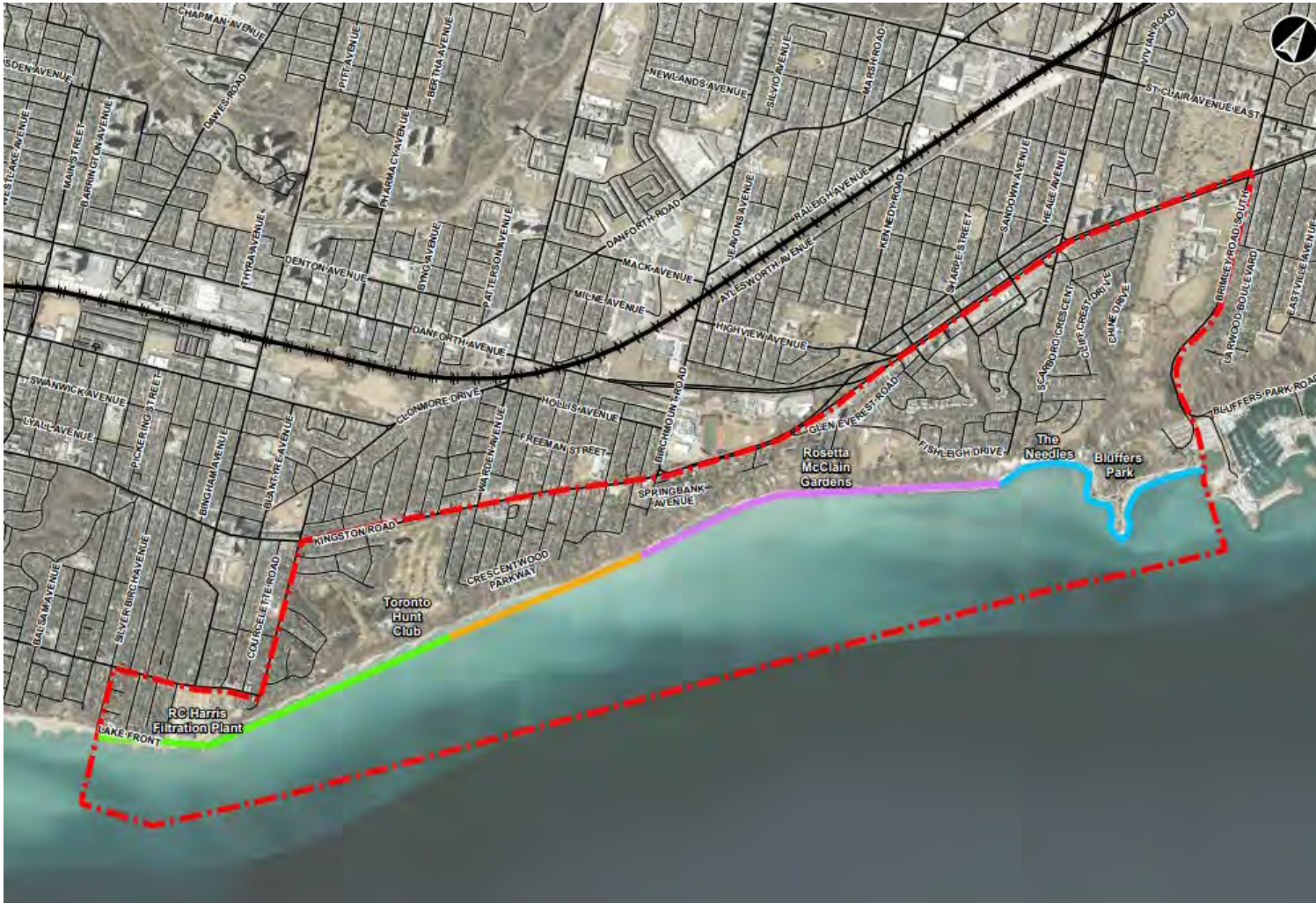


# Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline





## Phase 2 – Environmental Assessment



# Project Study Area - Segments



To facilitate the Alternatives development and evaluation process, the Project Study Area has been divided into **four shoreline segments**:

-  Segment 1 Silver Birch Avenue to Warden Avenue
-  Segment 2 Warden Avenue to Birchmount Road
-  Segment 3 Birchmount Road to the East End of Fishleigh informal access
-  Segment 4 East End of Fishleigh informal access to Bluffers Park (the Needles)



# Draft Terms of Reference Material





# Problems and Opportunities Assessment

Input during Consultation Round 1 refined the problems and opportunities to be addressed:

- Improve how people access, move through and experience the waterfront
- Balance conservation of natural features and habitat with 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





# Project Objectives

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

## **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, manage risks from erosion to users and property, and provide access for emergency services vehicles.

## **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



***Input from the first round of Consultation confirmed these objectives.***

# Consultation Round 1 – What We Heard

Input during Consultation Round 1 was largely focused on the following topics:

- **Access to Shoreline**
- **Erosion**
- **Environmental Conservation**
- **Cost Effectiveness/Project Timeline**



# What We Heard

## Access to Shoreline

- Strong desire for safe and formal access for all abilities to and along the waterfront
- Concerns about the inability for EMS and City workers to access the site
- There are already sufficient areas of the shore that could be accessed, and this area should be left alone





# What We Heard

## Erosion

- Concerns regarding the impacts of climate change and fluctuating lake levels
- Desire for greater erosion protection measures to prevent landslides
- Questions about addressing immediate erosion concerns such as Crescentwood Park and damage to existing shore protection works, as well as erosion on private property



[www.cbc.ca](http://www.cbc.ca)



# What We Heard

## Environmental Conservation

- Strong desire to conserve greenspace, and plant, wildlife, and fish habitat
- Some people have the impression that the area is untouched and would like to keep “wild” and “isolated nature” of the bluffs and shoreline
- Concern regarding increased human use and trash leading to greater stress on the environment





# What We Heard

## Cost Effectiveness/Project Timeline

- Desire to expedite the Terms of Reference and Environmental Assessment process
- Concerns regarding the cost of the project versus other City priorities





# Existing Ecological Conditions – Impacts of Unmanaged Use

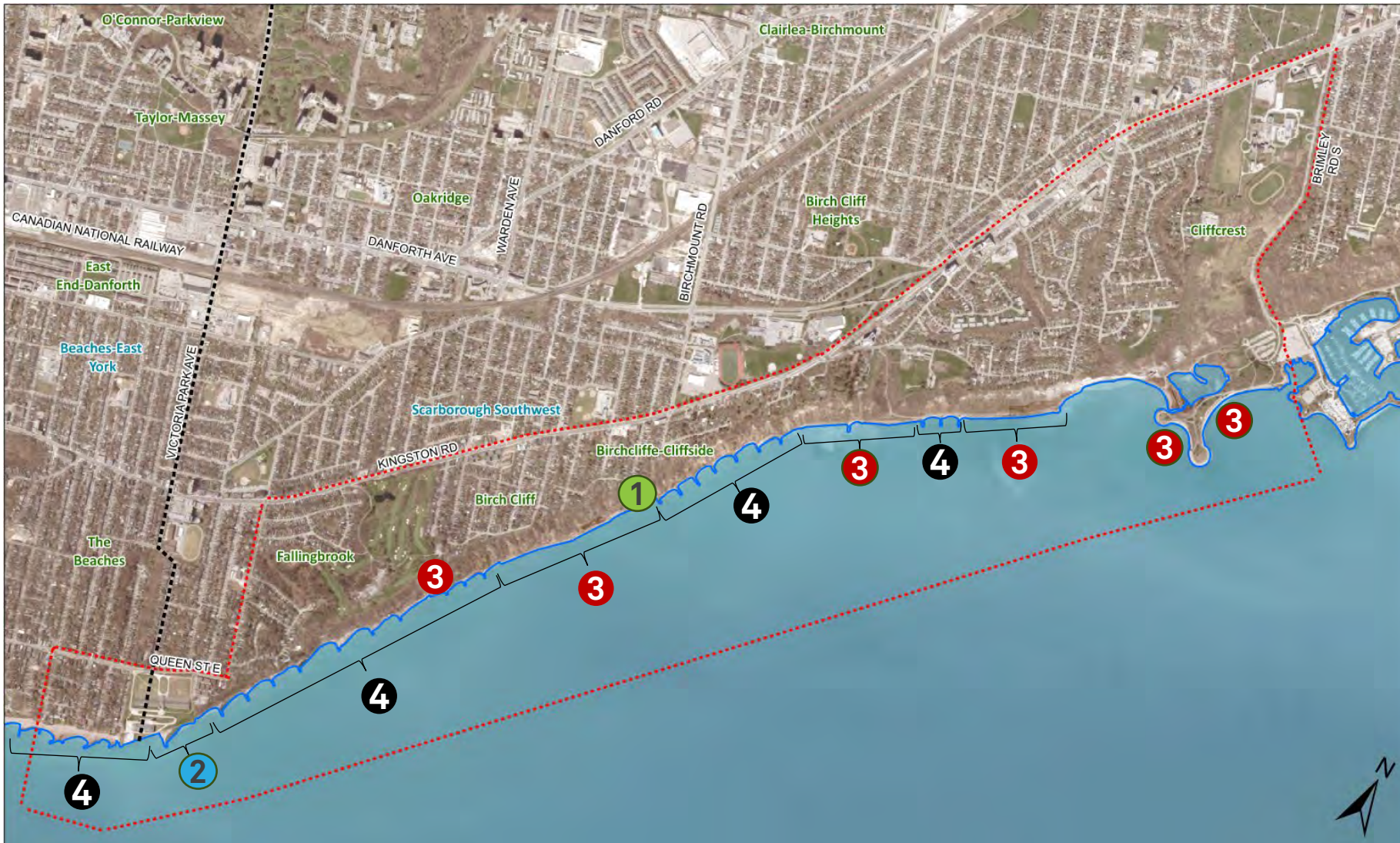
- Study area has been impacted by past and on-going human use
  - Informal trails
  - Unmanaged access
  - Garbage and litter
- Wildlife is generally urban tolerant and present in surrounding neighbourhoods and parks
- Many vegetation communities are dominated by exotic species (e.g., dog strangling vine)
- Fish habitat has been altered by past shoreline works





# Existing Coastal Conditions – Protected Shoreline

Of the existing project area shoreline, 94% is currently protected (modified)



**1** Sheet Pile Wall



**2** Concrete Seawall



**3** Armourstone Revetment



**4** Beach & Groyne System





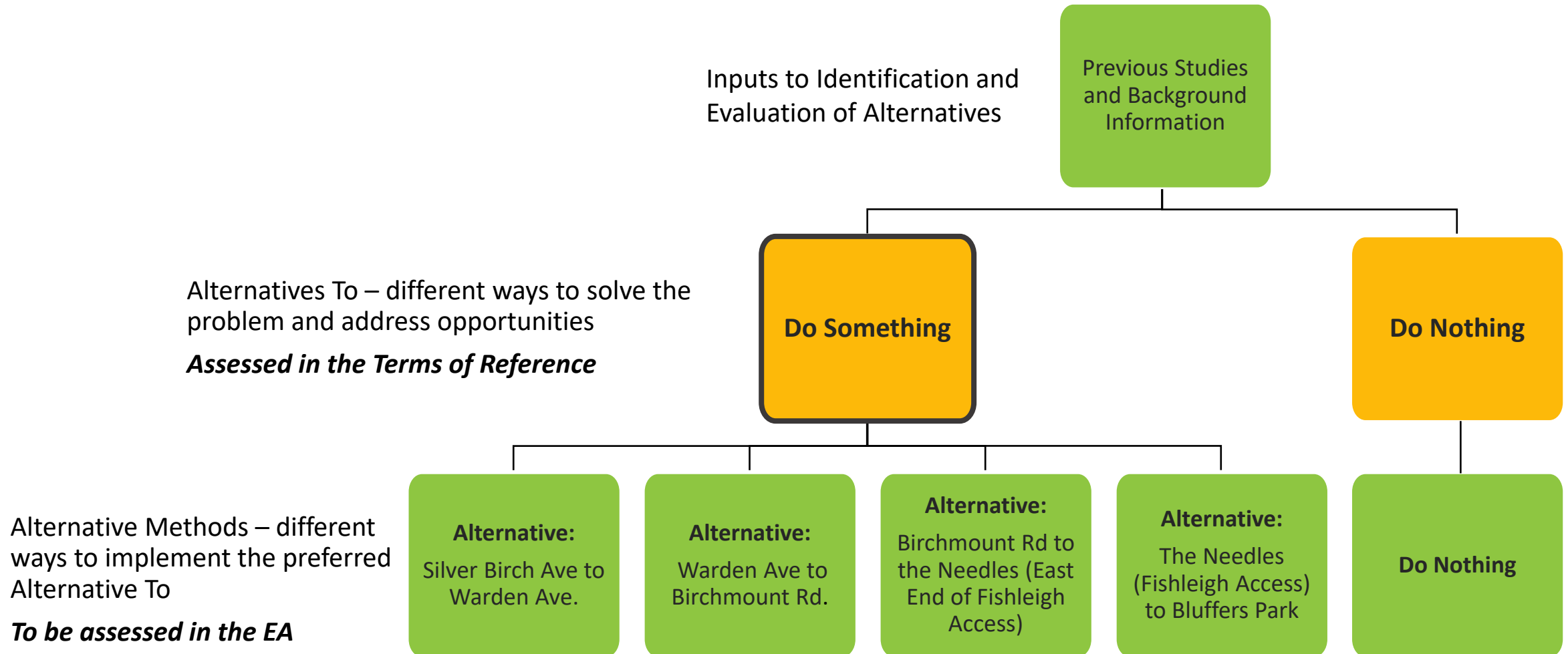
# Existing Conditions Assessment

Terms of Reference will provide a Summary of Existing Conditions. Key points are:

- 94% of the shoreline has some form of protection. The only natural shore is at the Needles on the west side of Bluffers park
- Certain areas along top of Bluffs are at high risk of failure
- The Kingston Road corridor will see intensified use as development occurs
- Denser communities cause more people to rely on parks for recreation and relaxation
- No extensive designated bikeway network through the project site
- There is a lack of formal access to the shoreline that links to transit, active transportation and parking
- Tableland parks have no programming and few facilities
- No marine archaeology sites identified. Land based archaeological studies to be conducted for any ground disturbing activities



# Identification and Evaluation of Alternatives





# Evaluation of Alternatives To The Undertaking

## Two alternatives to Solve the Problem and Address the Opportunity

### 1. Do Nothing

- Avoidance of new construction costs and environmental effects during construction
- No resolution of long-term erosion risk
- No active transportation connection across SBW Project site
- Lack of proper access to the shoreline for EMS, City staff, and the public will remain
- Continued impact to ecological integrity of site due to unmanaged use (e.g., garbage, foot paths, etc.)

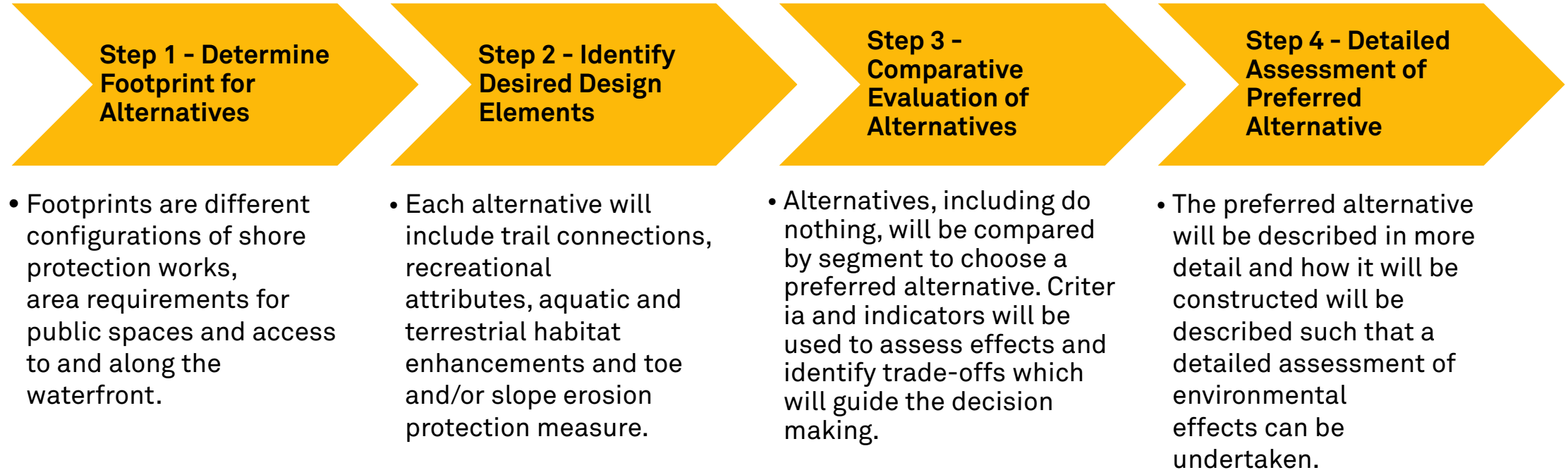
### 2. Do Something

- Consistent with City, TRCA, and Provincial planning and policies with respect to the waterfront and the need to integrate erosion protection works with habitat improvements and improved public access
- Addresses long-term erosion risk
- Addresses unmanaged use along the waterfront and lack of access for EMS, City staff and users
- Additional waterfront parkland and public access
- Opportunity to enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitats

**In summary, the “Do Something” alternative will be carried forward to the development of ‘Alternative Methods’ during the EA.**

# Identification and Evaluation of Alternatives Methods

**Alternative methods** will be identified by segment based on following steps:



**Alternative Methods** are different ways to implement the preferred Alternative To



# Preliminary Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria measure the ability of each alternative to meet the project objectives.

## Naturalization



- Extent of aquatic habitat enhanced or diminished
- Extent of terrestrial habitat created, enhanced, or diminished
- Potential impact on Species at Risk

## Risk



- Ability to minimize public safety risk and property loss as a result of slope and shoreline erosion/failure
- Ability to improve Emergency Services access to the waterfront
- Ability to minimize public safety risk for trails along water's edge

## Access and Experience



- Improve public access to the waterfront
- Potential for changes to the use of the waterfront for recreation
- Ability to integrate within community
- Opportunities for viewsheds or scenic lookouts

## Consistency and Compatibility



- Ability to integrate with City and other agency plans and initiatives
- Ability to protect source water protection areas
- Potential impact on archaeological resources, built heritage resources, and cultural heritage landscapes

## Fiscal Viability



- Estimated capital costs
- Maintenance and operations costs (shoreline works only)

**Are there any other criteria that should be considered when evaluating alternatives during the Environmental Assessment process?**



# Next Steps





# Consultation Activities for the EA

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

# Next Steps

Next Steps	Timeline
Consultation Round 2	April to May 2024
Notice of Draft ToR – Agency, Public, and Indigenous Review	Summer 2024
Issue Notice of Submission – Agency, Public, and Indigenous Review	Fall 2024
Notice of Commencement for EA	Winter 2025



# How to Stay Involved

- Sign up for email list at **[toronto.ca/scarboroughbluffswest](https://toronto.ca/scarboroughbluffswest)**
- Participate in online survey and in-person event in May 2024 (details to follow)
- Submit comments and questions to [scarboroughbluffswest@toronto.ca](mailto:scarboroughbluffswest@toronto.ca) or leave a message at 416-397-7311 (call 416-392-8833 for urgent questions)
- Review the draft Terms of Reference when available and provide your comments
- Review the final Terms of Reference to see how your comments were addressed and to provide additional comments

Residents will be notified when the EA commences and the next round of consultation begins, tentatively planned for early 2025.





Thank You





# WELCOME

## Scarborough Bluffs West Revitalization Study

Public Consultation Event  
May 28, 2024





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Project Intent & Study Area



- Assess opportunities to improve access to and the long-term protection of **4.5 km of shoreline** between the Eastern Beaches (Silver Birch Ave) 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.



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Environmental Assessment (EA) Process

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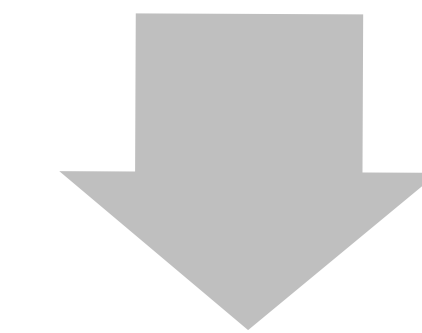
### Phase 1 - Terms of Reference (ToR) (CURRENT PHASE)

- Provides a roadmap for how the EA is to be prepared
- The ToR will describe:
  - Project Purpose, Study Areas and Project Timelines
  - Problem/Opportunity Assessment
  - Existing Environment (Natural and Human)
  - Evaluation of “Alternatives To” – different ways to solve the problem or address the opportunity
  - Framework for Identification and Evaluation of “Alternative Methods” – different ways to implement the preferred “Alternative to”
  - Preliminary comparative evaluation criteria
  - Consultation plan for the EA

### Phase 2 - EA Preparation

- Alternatives are generated that address the problems and opportunities and then evaluated using criteria and indicators which measure environmental effects and how well the alternative meets the project objectives
- EA ensures that governments consider environmental and socio-economic impacts of projects before construction begins.
- EAs identify issues and opportunities in an area, then develop and refine potential alternatives to address them.
- The provincial Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks will ultimately review and approve the ToR and EA.

**Terms of Reference  
(2023-2024)**



**Environmental  
Assessment  
(2025 onward)**



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## History of Waterfront Revitalization Plans and Policies

Long history of planning for and policies around Toronto Waterfront Revitalization provides the basis for the Scarborough Bluffs West Revitalization Project.

Some key studies are:

- The Waterfront Plan for the Metropolitan Toronto Planning Area, 1967
- Regeneration: Toronto's Waterfront and Sustainable City, 1991
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- City of Toronto Official Plan (2023 consolidated)
- Toronto Waterfront Aquatic Habitat Restoration Strategy, 2007
- Fish Community Objectives for Lake Ontario, 2013
- The Living City Policies, 2014
- City of Toronto Bikeway Trails Implementation Plan
- Update on the Next Phase of Waterfront Revitalization, 2022

In summary, many of these reports speak to the need for access to the waterfront for all users and closing the gap in the Waterfront Trail.





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline

### Phase 1 – Terms of Reference

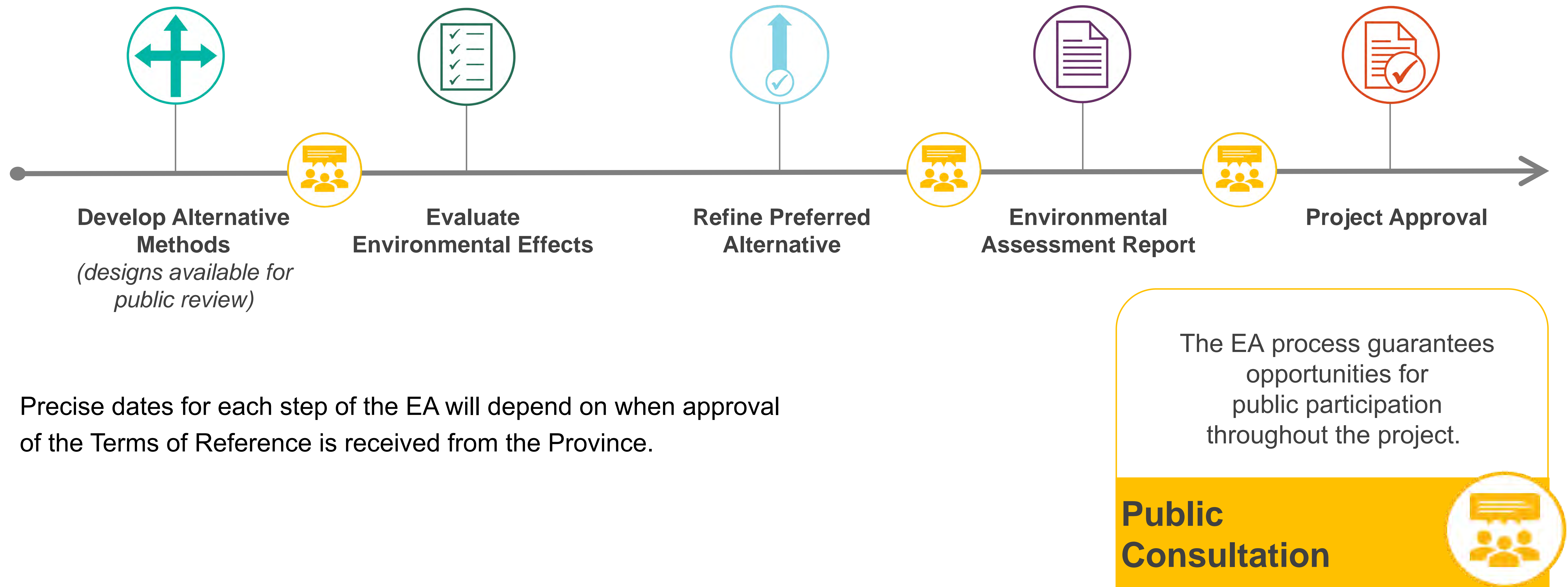




# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Environmental Assessment (EA) Timeline

### Phase 2 – Environmental Assessment



Precise dates for each step of the EA will depend on when approval of the Terms of Reference is received from the Province.



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Project Objectives

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

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

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

### Manage public safety and property risk

- Provide safe access to and along the waterfront, manage risks from erosion to users and property, and provide access for emergency services vehicles.

### 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

Input from the first round of Consultation confirmed these objectives.



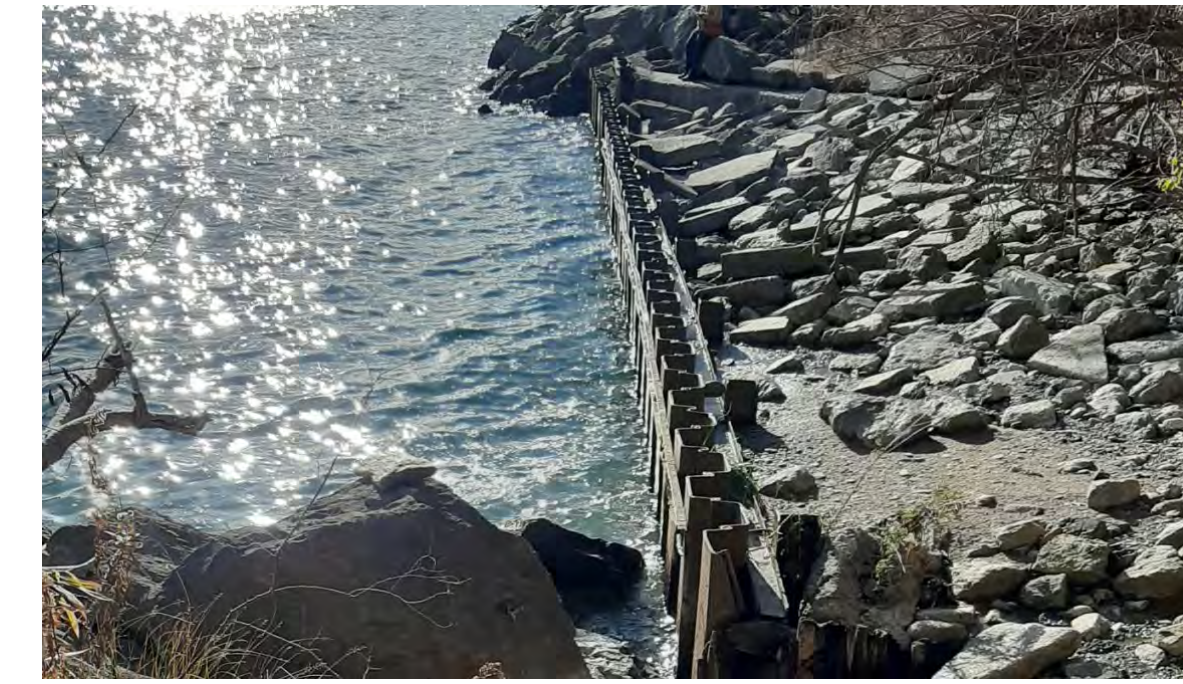


# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Existing Coastal Conditions – Protected Shoreline



### 1 Sheet Pile Wall



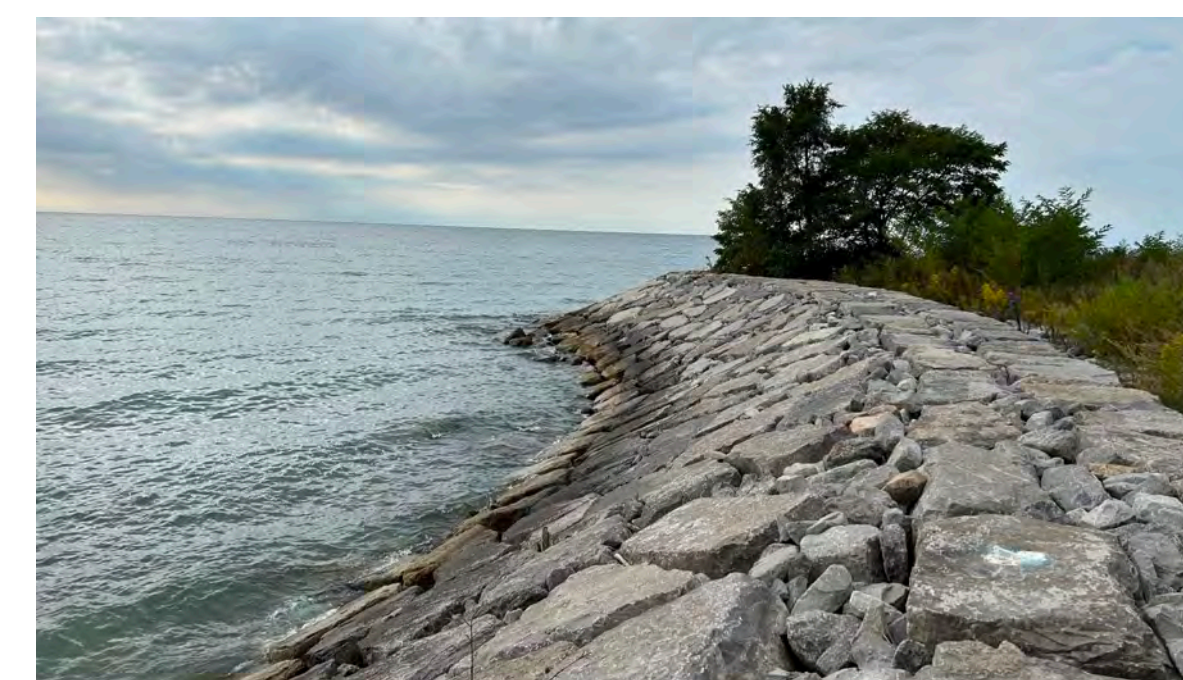
A metal or vinyl structure that use interlocking edges to create a continuous wall parallel to the shore.

### 2 Concrete Seawall



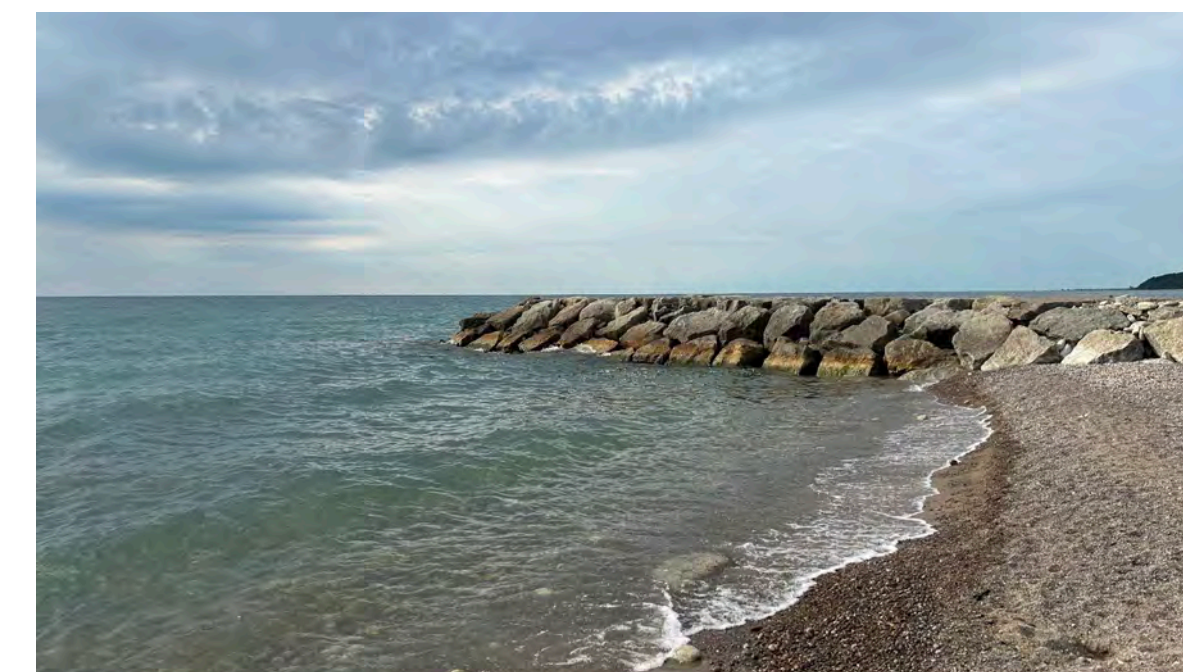
A concrete structure used to protect inland areas from wave action and prevent coastal erosion.

### 3 Armourstone Revetment



Sloped or unsloped structure built parallel to the shore, made of an impact resistant material. Armourstone is broken quarried rock often used in coastal engineering.

### 4 Beach & Groyne System



A low wall of armourstone or other material extending out into the lake. A series of groynes act together to create and protect beaches.



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Erosion

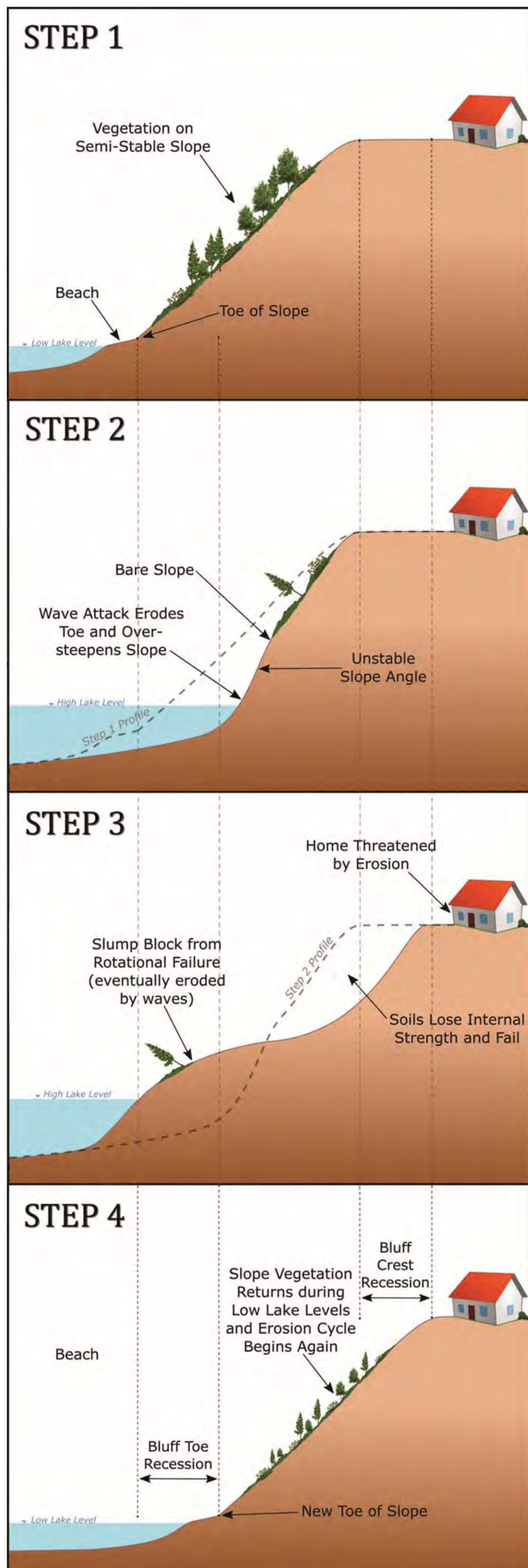


Image from: Maitland Conservation. 2022. Shoreline Bluff Erosion Cycle.

- Erosion refers to the loss of material (soil, rock, etc.) due to wind, water, or other processes.
- The erosion process along the Bluffs is complex and is related to multiple factors, such as: ground water seepage, over land run-off, freeze-thaw cycle, wave conditions and water levels.
- Throughout the study, reference will be made to existing erosion management structures already in place to help manage shoreline erosion along the Bluffs West area.
- TRCA is responsible for installation and monitoring and the maintenance of these shoreline structures.
- Future improvements or additions to these shoreline structures are part of what will be explored in the Environmental Assessment.



## The Bluff Erosion Process



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Existing Conditions

- 94% of the shoreline has some form of protection. The only natural shore is at the Needles on the west side of Bluffers park
- Certain areas along top of Bluffs are at high risk of failure
- The Kingston Road corridor will see intensified use as development occurs
- Denser communities cause more people to rely on parks for recreation and relaxation
- No extensive designated bikeway network through the project site
- There is a lack of formal access to the shoreline that links to transit, active transportation and parking
- Tableland parks have no programming and few facilities
- No marine archaeology sites identified. Land based archaeological studies to be conducted for any ground disturbing activities





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Impacts of Unmanaged Use

- Study area has been impacted by past and on-going human use
  - Informal trails
  - Unmanaged access
  - Garbage and litter
- Wildlife is generally urban tolerant and present in surrounding neighbourhoods and parks
- Many vegetation communities are dominated by exotic species (e.g., dog strangling vine)
- Fish habitat has been altered by past shoreline works





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Problems and Opportunities Assessment

**Input during Consultation Round 1 refined the problems and opportunities to be addressed:**

- Improve how people access, move through and experience the waterfront
- Balance conservation of natural features and habitat with 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





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Public Consultation Round 1: What We Heard

What we heard during consultation with residents and interest groups from November 2023 – February 29, 2024:

### Access to Shoreline

- Strong desire for safe and formal access for all abilities to and along the waterfront
- Concerns about the inability for EMS and City workers to access the site
- There are already sufficient areas of the shore that could be accessed, and this area should be left alone

### Erosion

- Concerns regarding the impacts of climate change and fluctuating lake levels
- Desire for greater erosion protection measures to prevent landslides
- Questions about addressing immediate erosion concerns and damage to existing shore protection works, as well as erosion on private property

### Environmental Conservation

- Strong desire to conserve green space, and plant, wildlife, and fish habitat
- Some people have the impression that the area is untouched and would like to keep “wild” and “isolated nature” of the bluffs and shoreline
- Concern regarding increased human use and trash leading to greater stress on the environment

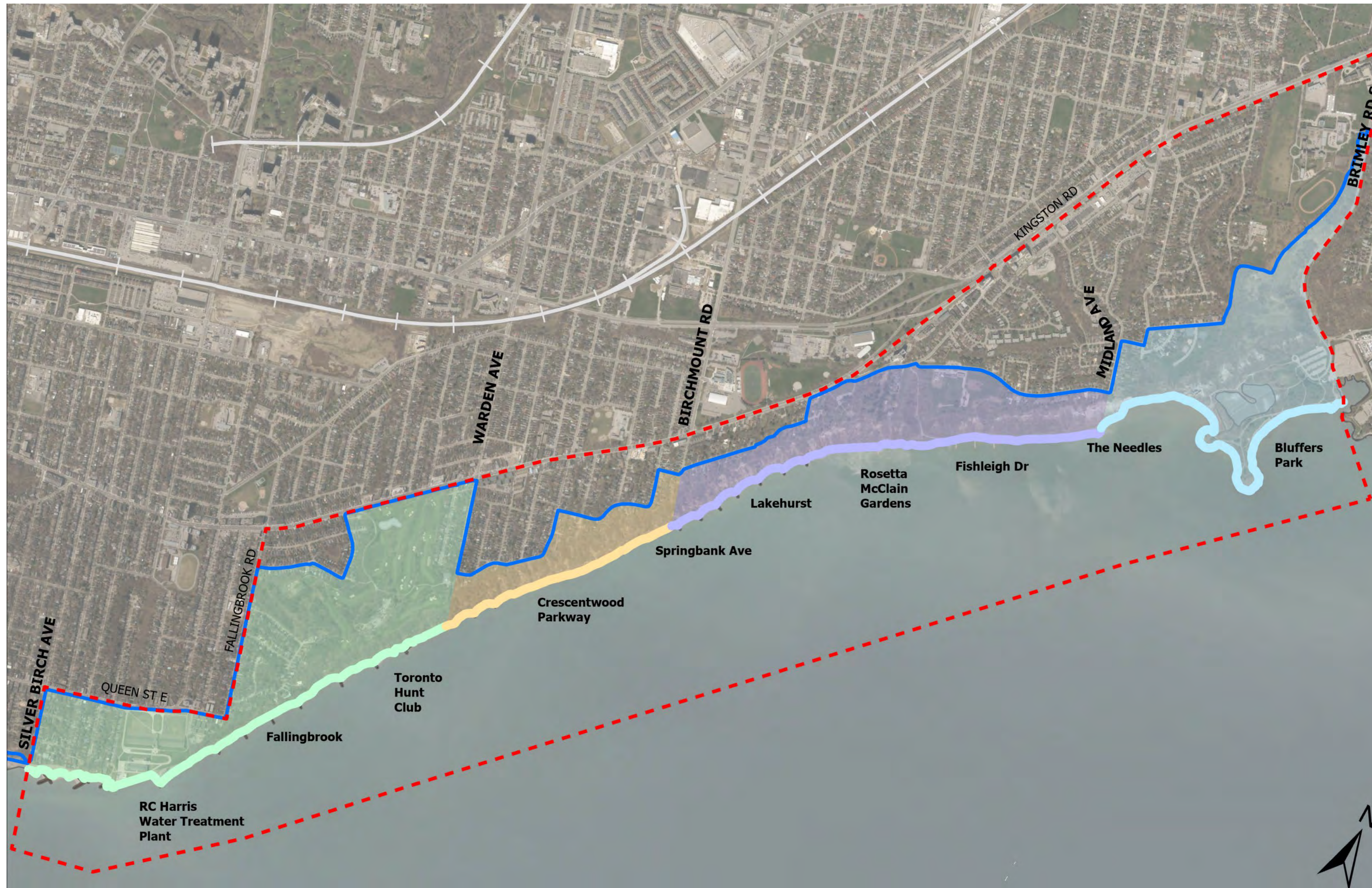
### Cost Effectiveness/Project Timeline

- Desire to expedite the Terms of Reference and Environmental Assessment process
- Concerns regarding the cost of the project versus other City priorities



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Project Study Area – Segments



To facilitate the Alternatives development and evaluation process, the Project Study Area has been divided into **four shoreline segments**:

- Segment 1 — Silver Birch Avenue to Warden Avenue
- Segment 2 — Warden Avenue to Birchmount Road
- Segment 3 — Birchmount Road to the East end of Fishleigh informal access
- Segment 4 — East end of Fishleigh informal access to Bluffers Park (the Needles)

- - - Study Area

— Waterfront Trail

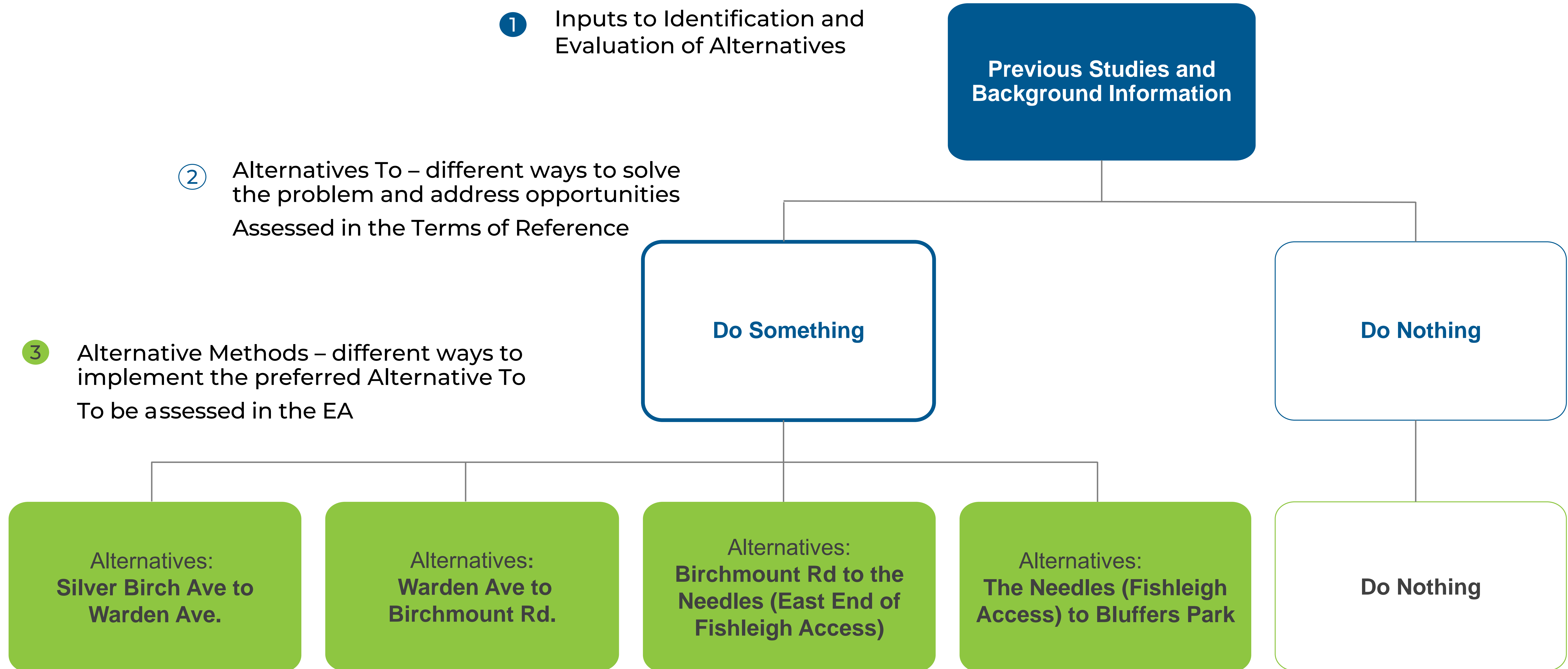
— Railways

0 0.25 0.5 1 km



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Identification and Evaluation of Alternatives





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Evaluation of Alternatives To The Undertaking

### Two Alternatives to solve the Problem and address the Opportunity

#### DO NOTHING

- Avoidance of new construction costs and environmental effects during construction
- No resolution of long-term erosion risk
- No extensive designated bikeway network through the project site
- Lack of proper access to the shoreline for EMS, City staff, and the public will remain
- Continued impact to ecological integrity of site due to unmanaged use (e.g., garbage, foot paths, etc.)

#### DO SOMETHING

- Consistent with City, TRCA, and Provincial planning and policies with respect to the waterfront and the need to integrate erosion protection works with habitat improvements and improved public access
- Addresses long-term erosion risk
- Addresses unmanaged use along the waterfront and lack of access for EMS, City staff and users
- Additional waterfront parkland and public access
- Opportunity to enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitats

In summary, the “Do Something” alternative will be carried forward to the development of ‘Alternative Methods’ during the EA.



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Identification and Evaluation of Alternative Methods

**Alternative methods** will be identified by segment based on following steps:

### Step 1 - Determine Footprint for Alternatives

Footprints are different configurations of shore protection works, area requirements for public spaces and access to and along the waterfront.

### Step 2 - Identify Desired Design Elements

Each alternative will include trail connections, recreational attributes, aquatic and terrestrial habitat enhancements and toe and/or slope erosion protection measure.

### Step 3 - Comparative Evaluation of Alternatives

Alternatives will be compared by segment to choose a preferred alternative. Criteria and indicators will be used to assess effects and identify trade-offs which will guide the decision making.

### Step 4 - Detailed Assessment of Preferred Alternative

The preferred alternative will be described in more detail and how it will be constructed will be described such that a detailed assessment of environmental effects can be undertaken.

**Alternative Methods** are different ways to implement the preferred Alternative To

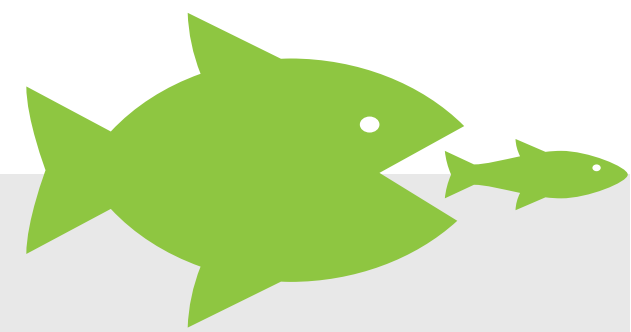


# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Preliminary Evaluation Criteria

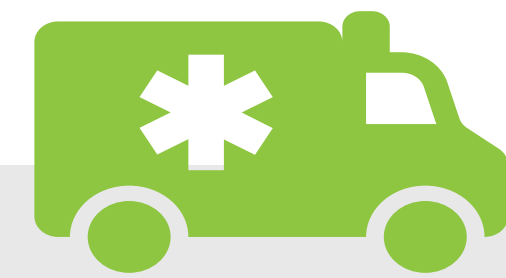
The evaluation criteria measure the ability of each alternative **to meet the project objectives**.

### Naturalization



- Extent of aquatic habitat enhanced or diminished
- Extent of terrestrial habitat created, enhanced, or diminished
- Potential impact on Species at Risk

### Risk



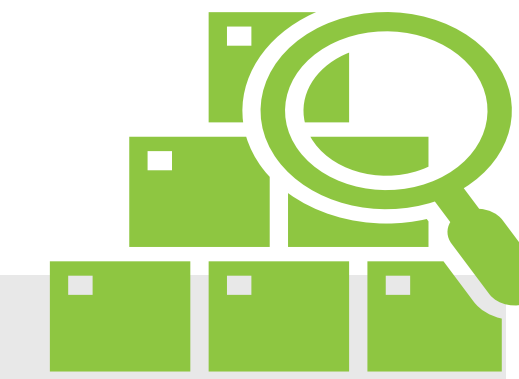
- Ability to minimize public safety risk and property loss as a result of slope and shoreline erosion/failure
- Ability to improve Emergency Services access to the waterfront
- Ability to minimize public safety risk for trails along water's edge

### Access and Experience



- Improve public access to the waterfront
- Potential for changes to the use of the waterfront for recreation
- Ability to integrate within community
- Opportunities for viewsheds or scenic lookouts

### Consistency and Compatibility



- Ability to integrate with City and other agency plans and initiatives
- Ability to protect source water protection areas
- Potential impact on archaeological resources, built heritage resources, and cultural heritage landscapes

### Fiscal Viability



- Estimated capital costs
- Maintenance and operations costs (shoreline works only)



# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

## Next Steps

### Activities

Consultation Round 2

Notice of Draft ToR – Agency,  
Public, and Indigenous Review

Issue Notice of Submission –  
Agency, Public, and  
Indigenous Review

Notice of Commencement for  
EA

### Timeline

April to June 2024

Summer 2024

Fall 2024

Winter 2025





# SCARBOROUGH BLUFFS WEST REVITALIZATION STUDY

**Complete the survey and  
sign up for email  
updates:**

[toronto.ca/ScarboroughBluffsWest](https://toronto.ca/ScarboroughBluffsWest)

Comment Deadline:  
June 11, 2024



**Questions?  
Comments?**



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