Welcome

Urban Territories 1 | Places for People

Stream 3  Revitalizing an Under-Utilized Ecological Asset in the City, the Don River Valley Park
Doug Bennet, Business Development Officer, Partnerships, Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Lisa Ditschun, Director, Programs, Evergreen

This session connects with Urban Territories 2 and 3
Brief History of the Don

History of the Lower Don | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
12,000 Years of Human Presence
“This small urban river played a surprisingly large role in the city’s development… its landscapes conceived by different groups in different periods as verdant wilderness, picturesque countryside, polluted periphery, predestined industrial district, restorative retreat, vital refuge, dangerous underworld.”

- Jennifer Bonnell, Reclaiming the Don, 2014
Picturesque Countryside

[Castle Frank]
Industrial District

History of the Lower Don | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Don Improvement Project

History of the Lower Don | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Polluted Periphery

History of the Lower Don | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Don Valley Brick Works Park

History of the Lower Don | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Ecological Integrity
Under-Utilized

View from the City | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Administrative Frameworks

Legend
- Administrative Boundaries
  - Archaeological Potential
  - Business Improvement Area
  - City Ward (44) – Current
  - City Ward (25) – New
  - City Ward (47) – Ward Boundary Review
  - Community Council Area
  - Local Health Integration Network Boundary
  - Local Health Integration Network Sub Region
  - Neighbourhood
  - Neighbourhood Improvement Area
  - Ravine and Natural Feature Protection By-law
  - TRCA Regulation Limit

- Toronto Maps
  - Community
  - Education
  - Natural Heritage
    - Environmentally Significant Area
    - Natural Heritage System
    - Provincial ANSI
    - Provincially Significant Wetland
  - Public Safety
  - Recreation
  - Transportation
  - Base map - simple

View from the City | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Functional Framework

City Functions
- Maintenance
- Capital Delivery
- City Staffing

Partner Functions
- Programming
- Fundraising
- Partner Staffing

Collaborative Functions
- Communications
- Visitor Experience
- Capital Visioning
Governance Framework

Steering Committee
- Strategic leadership, insight, support, executive championship
- Meets Annually
- Senior level membership, e.g. Director of Parks and Partner Board Chair, may also include Ward Councillor, Partner Officers

Leadership Team
- Oversight on agreement, intervention and conflict resolution, vision and direction
- Meets Quarterly, or as needed
- Manager and Supervisor-level membership, Partner senior staff, approximately six committee members

Working Group
- Coordination of effort, status updates, event coordination, other operations
- Meets Monthly
- Members may include project managers, capital and operations staff, Partner committee chairs and/or staff
“Building relationships of trust takes time. It’s a slow process and the team needs to be patient and have perseverance.”

- Claudia Ceccon, CECIP, Brazil

8-80 Cities - Building Better Cities Report
BE GENUINE, CONFIDENT, HUMBLE, TRUSTWORTHY, POSITIVE, AND FUN
2013 Lower Don Master Plan

Access | Environment | Art

Evergreen & City Partnership | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Authorization to Enter an Agreement with Evergreen regarding Third-Party Fundraising for Lower Don Trail

City Council Decision
City Council on June 10, 11, 12 and 13, 2014, adopted the following:

1. City Council authorize the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to enter into an Agreement with Evergreen to raise third-party funding for capital improvements, temporary art, programming and broader community engagement for the Lower Don Trail, under the proposed title, "The Ribbon Campaign," on terms and conditions satisfactory in form and content to the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation and the City Solicitor, including the donor recognition term.
Don River Valley Park Project

Evergreen & City Partnership | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
VISION: To develop an urban park that demonstrates inclusive urban design, city systems growth and change, demonstrates the importance of greenspace within a city structure, and that park space is essential to creating low carbon flourishing cities of the future.

Stimulate and accelerate a culture of collaboration and community consultation led by not-for-profits and municipalities as partners when redesigning and reconsidering civic spaces.

FRAMEWORK:

- **Infrastructure:**
  - Inclusive
  - Collaborative
  - Equitable
  - Co-designed
  - Integrated

- **Culture:**
  - Public
  - Participation
  - Education
  - Awareness

- **Ecology:**
  - Restoration
  - Rehabilitation
  - Resilience
  - Health

VALUE ALIGNMENT: INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT

The City is announcing the Toronto Ravine Strategy to preserve and improve its ravines and plans to invest $30M in an independently constituted Ravine Trust. Our governments have committed more than $1.4 billion to rebuild the mouth of the Don and Port Lands. The City is also developing a Parkland Strategy to govern all greenspace in the City. Combining and focusing these investments will amplify positive impact on the ravine system.

INCLUSIVE GOVERNANCE:

Indigenous communities are becoming key players and leaders in large infrastructure and city building projects. This represents a shift in focus towards consultation, inclusion and accommodation, and will mean increased need for leadership in community consultation and equity-based practice.

CLIMATE CHANGE:

Climate change is causing more frequent, extreme weather events and increasingly developed urban areas without permeable landscapes intensifies the issue. A healthy natural system can help mitigate the effects of heavy rainfall and flooding. Park space, greenspace and especially our ravine system provide opportunities for restoration of habitat and ecosystems to keep our cities healthy and resilient.

COLLABORATORS:

**GOVERNANCE PARTNERS**

Evergreen

City of Toronto

TRCA

**INTERNAL CONTRIBUTORS**

Art & Design committee

Campaign cabinet

Park Advocate volunteers

**FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS**

Philanthropists

OTT / TAC / TDDEF

**TARGETS**

- Improved relationship with TRCA
  - Determine key person - done
  - Set up initial meeting - done
  - Follow up brainstorm - Q3 2017
  - Grow partnership - Q4 2017

- Establish relationship with Metrolinx
  - Determine key person - done
  - Set up initial meeting - done
  - Follow up brainstorm - Q4 2017
  - Grow relationship - Q1 2018

- Expand areas of work within City
  - Begin discussions re: Park work - done
  - Schedule meeting with Parks & Rec for presentation on Park work - Q4 2017
  - Determine opportunities - Q4 2017+
  - Continue participation in ravine and parkland strategy

- Establish framework for Evergreen’s work in TRC/UNDRIP via MT directive
  - Refine vision, mission, mandate for IWG - Q4 2017
  - Establish relationship with IPC - Q1 2018

**Evergreen & City Partnership | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People**
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<tr>
<th>Quarter</th>
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<th>Program</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Number of participants</th>
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<td>Fat Tire Bike Rides</td>
<td>Trail and Crothers woods</td>
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<td>Sat and Sun</td>
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<td>EBW + Quarry</td>
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<td>Tues and Sun</td>
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City Council Decision

City Council on April 24, 25, 26 and 27, 2018, adopted the following:

1. City Council direct the General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation, to undertake community consultations on naming the collection of parklands surrounding the Lower Don as the "Wonscotonach Parklands" and to report back to Toronto and East York Community Council with a recommendation based on the criteria and process outlined in the Property Naming Policy.
Duane Linklater: Monsters for Beauty, Permanence and Individuality, 2017

Case Studies | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Life of a Craphead: King Edward VII Equestrian Statue Floating Down the Don, 2017
ATTEMPT AT "TOP DOWN" VIEW
OF REEF OF STATUE SUBMERGED IN RIVER
1/2
Will Kwan: A Park for All, 2018

Case Studies | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Case Studies | Urban Territories 1 | Places for People
Beauty and bawdry. Still, quiet, respite waiting, to be savoured whole.
Thank You!
Share your thoughts

eventmobi  @FutureCitiesCA  #FCCSummit2018