



# 1.0 Introduction and History

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Artistic rendering of possible Memorial Park West





Jack Darling Park, January 2006



## 1.1 Introduction

Mississauga's shoreline is a phenomenal ecological, historical, and recreational asset that benefits the residents of the city and surrounding communities. Twenty-five parks define the shoreline providing public access to the lake and diverse recreation opportunities. The Mississauga Waterfront Parks represent a significant part of the City's portfolio from a physical land, natural and cultural heritage perspective.

The City is a leader in making the waterfront open, accessible, clean, green, diverse and affordable. Mississauga's Waterfront Parks are a premier destination today and are very popular as evidenced particularly in the summer. On any warm day, the Waterfront Parks are bursting with people of all ages, abilities and cultures out walking, picnicking, swimming, playing in the splash pads, fishing, boating, sight-seeing and dog-walking.

There have been challenges for the City along the waterfront given that it is home to industry, major infrastructure, recreation, commercial, environmentally sensitive areas, historical areas and a range of housing. However, working with three Conservation Authorities, other municipal partners, industry, developers and other stakeholders, the City has achieved much success along the waterfront:

**Waterfront Development:** Through the development approval process, the City has negotiated for development respectful of the waterfront context in terms of design, building heights, views and access. Further, the City has negotiated for waterfront park lands such as St. Lawrence Park on the former St. Lawrence Starch refinery lands in the heart of Port Credit. This new community and waterfront park is an award winning example of successful urban waterfront development;

**Waterfront Park Development:** In the City's early days, the City and the Credit Valley Conservation Authority developed two large Waterfront Parks through land creation (lakefill) in the lake (JC Saddington and Lakefront Promenade) – one of these parks anchors the mouth of the Credit River ever popular for its salmon fishing, while the other forms the eastern gateway to Mississauga's waterway with a well protect harbour and lengthy beach. In more recent years the City has redeveloped existing and new parks to better serve both the immediate and larger community. Of particular note is the City's work at the mouth of the Credit River, fuelled in part through federal government funding.



St. Lawrence Park, on the former St. Lawrence Starch refinery lands in the heart of Port Credit, is an award winning example of successful urban waterfront development.



The Waterfront Parks provide locations for physical access, enriching connections to the Lake.

**Waterfront Trail Development:** The City now boasts a continuous Waterfront Trail from one side of the City to the other travelling along the water's edge over City and private lands, along roads, through industrial lands and the Port Credit Village and is part of the TransCanada Trail system. Of the City's 120 km (75 miles) of trails, the Waterfront Trail comprises 22 km (14 miles) or 18 % of all City trails. In October 2005, the City, in cooperation with Imperial Oil, built another 600 m (2000 ft) of the Waterfront Trail along the shoreline over Imperial Oil's former refinery site;

**Protection of Natural Areas:** The Rattray Marsh lies along the westerly shoreline in the City and is unique in its status as Provincially Significant Wetland, internationally recognized as an important biological area and is the only remaining shingle bar marsh between St. Catharines and Oshawa, and the last remaining waterfront marsh between Toronto and Burlington. The City actively continues its partnership with CVC and other conservation authorities to foster the protection of all natural areas along the lakefront.

**Waterfront Land Securement:** The City has been fortunate over the years to have had the opportunity to secure additional waterfront lands through a range of methods including outright acquisition, use agreements and easements. This has resulted in new waterfront park lands and extension of the Waterfront Trail.

**Waterfront Lands Management and Programming:** The City of Mississauga is distinct among other municipal Lake Ontario communities as it operates two marinas and two sets of public launch ramps; is home to a fleet of charter boats within an urban village; is famous for its role in the Great Ontario Salmon Derby; for over the last 10 years, has undertaken an annual goose management and habitat modification programs to assist in water quality protection.

Looking to the future, the City is committed to connecting green corridors including that which the waterfront provides. The City has initiated the Waterfront Parks Strategy to address short and long term opportunities, operational challenges, and service delivery mandates in the context of sustainability. There are operational pressures, which relate to the significant use of the Waterfront Parks. These pressures are evidenced by crowded facilities, competing user groups and interests, garbage and litter generation, and parking deficiencies.

The Waterfront Parks Strategy will set the stage for the continued development and conservation of the City's waterfront park system as a premier destination City wide and beyond. The concepts in this document propose exciting new ideas for Mississauga Waterfront Park development and conservation including;

- Leading edge sustainable and “green” technologies utilizing renewable energy and environment friendly designs for Lakeside Park as a demonstration project;
- Building partnership opportunities for vibrant, active, all season and complimentary uses in our Credit River Harbour parks and at “Fusion”;
- Recognition of the value of conservation of the shore and land as an invaluable and unique resource. Developing the waterfront as a premier destination is not only about “development” but equally about “conservation”. In fact, the “Fusion” shoreline is one of the very few remaining examples along the north shore of the Lake, of the original Great Lakes original shoreline and therefore is unique with its cobble beach;



Mississauga's Parks provide places of repose, adventure and discovery along its 20 kilometre shoreline.



- Design and landscape strategy to readily identify, visually link the surrounding City roads, neighbourhoods to the waterfront and to establish a consistent marker to announce the entry into the Waterfront Parks;
- Telling the stories of the waterfront park lands through site design, use, programming and interpretative features. Sites such as “Fusion” have much history to offer and lead the overall design in recognition of the hundreds of years of habitation.
- Also of note in the Waterfront Parks Strategy is the Park Land Expansion Strategy wherein criteria have been established to guide future land acquisition and use agreements.

## 1.2 Purpose of Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy

The City of Mississauga plans to continue its successful record of leading for tomorrow through sustainable, creative and resourceful planning, conservation and development of its lakeshore. As the City proceeds into the millennium, one of its goals is to ensure that the waterfront is protected and remains a phenomenally rich resource. For this reason the Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy has been developed to provide a long term vision for Waterfront Parks located along the Lake Ontario and Credit River shoreline. This comprehensive Strategy outlines the framework required to ensure the enhancement, creation and maintenance of sustainable, desirable and unique waterfront recreational opportunities and public spaces in recognition of Lake Ontario as an invaluable natural and cultural resource.

The Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy is a comprehensive long term plan to manage the future development of the Waterfront Parks. The Strategy will set park development priorities, guide park design, recommend programming for each park and identify possible areas for park expansion. Key strategic goals of the Strategy include better integration and connectivity of Waterfront Parks, improved connections to the city at-large, and the introduction of more sustainable elements into the parks. Another primary goal of this Strategy is to promote stronger relationships between the parks and the existing natural systems.

The goal of the Strategy is to:

1. Guide future park planning/design and land-use decisions;
2. Promote a triple bottom line approach in park design which considers environmental, social and economic sustainability;
3. Plan for future park expansions;
4. Identify key park elements which will contribute to year-round enjoyment and greater continuity
5. Inform budgetary decisions;
6. Set park development priorities;
7. Preserve and Enhance existing natural systems; and
8. Provide recommendations for future work.

Implementation of this strategy will enhance the City’s recreational, cultural and community amenities, and will help promote economic and socially sustainable park design thereby achieving Provincial, Regional and local planning objectives.



Mississauga Waterfront Park System

### 1.3 Overview of the Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy

**Section 1.0: Introduction and History** - An overview of the context and background information used in the formulation of this Parks Strategy. This section introduces some of the key concepts and objectives covered in this document.

**Section 2.0: Guiding Principles** - The Guiding Principles section outlines the overall vision, and highlights long term priorities for the Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy.

**Section 3.0: Waterfront Park System Strategies** - An overview of all the design, programming and long term planning strategies that should be considered when planning for the Mississauga Waterfront Parks.

**Section 4.0: Waterfront Parks System Study Area from East to West** - An overview of the 25 existing park conditions are summarized and evaluated and programming recommendations are provided. Parks are also described by context (historical, physical, and cultural) and theme.

**Section 5.0: Priority Park Concepts** - Conceptual Master Plans for the 5 priority parks. This Chapter addresses the priority park concepts, explains how the Park System Strategies were implemented and provides visual representations of the park's conceptual design.

**Section 6.0: Implementation of Overall Park Strategies** - Next steps, timelines and key recommendations are outlined in Chapter 6. This Chapter is to be used as a tool for the City in developing future potential studies, planning new park development/construction, park management and preservation strategies, and park expansion opportunities.



Western Portion of the Waterfront Park System



Mouth of Credit River on Lake Ontario

## 1.4 Overview of the Waterfront Parks

The City's Lake Ontario waterfront consists of 22km (14 miles) of shoreline, of which, the City controls 46% in the form of parks and natural areas. There are 25 Waterfront Parks supporting a range of recreational uses and activities linked by Lakeshore Road and the Waterfront Trail which is 656.3 km long and extends southwest to Niagara-on-the-Lake and east to the Quebec border. The Mississauga Waterfront Park System is centred at the mouth of the Credit River in Port Credit and includes well distributed parks east and west to the municipal boundaries. Each park provides a unique experience of the water by offering a variety of views, environmental and shoreline conditions and access to facilities and activities. Reinforcing and enhancing this diversity is an integral component of the overall strategy and will secure the success of an integrated Waterfront Parks System. From the City's Waterfront Parks survey work conducted since 2004, we know that people will travel up to 7.4 km to visit their preferred Waterfront Parks and that people travel even greater distances to visit our parks. Most people visit our parks to walk and view the scenery. Although the most popular combination of facilities in our Waterfront Parks is playground with a splash pad and trail. During the summer, there are an estimated 60,000 visits per day to our Waterfront Parks and approximately half that during the winter.

The Waterfront Parks covered by this study are listed from East to West. For the



Eastern Edge of Waterfront Park System

purpose of this study, the parks have been grouped by physical location. Please see Section 3.0 for more information on these groupings.

Five Waterfront Parks have been identified as a priority for the development of a Concept Master Plan as their development will alleviate environmental, operational and recreational impacts on other well-used Waterfront Parks. From East to West these are: Port Credit Memorial Park West; Marina Park; J.C. Saddington Park; Lakeside Park; and the as yet unnamed Fusion Property. These priority parks are identified on mapping shown in Section 3.0 of this document.

1. Arsenal Lands (Not Yet Named) - Park 358
2. Lakeview Park - Park 381
3. Douglas Kennedy Park - Park 21
4. Lakefront Promenade - Park 323
5. A.E. Crookes Park - Park 23
6. R.K. McMillan Park - Park 226
7. Adamson Estate - Park 169
8. Hiawatha Park - Park 108
9. Tall Oaks Park - Park 142
10. St. Lawrence Park - Park 435
11. J.J. Plaus Park - Park 109
12. Marina Park - Park 112
13. Port Credit Memorial Park (East and West) - Park 106
14. J.C. Saddington Park - Park 167
15. Imperial Oil Waterfront Trail Extension - Park 486
16. Ben Machree Park - Park 107
17. Rhododendron Gardens - Park 156
18. Richard's Memorial Park - Park 67
19. Jack Darling Memorial Park - Park 12
20. Rattray Marsh (Provincially Significant Wetland) - Park 126
21. Watersedge Park - Park 16
22. Meadowwood Park - Park 6
23. Bradley Museum - Park 406
24. Lakeside Park - Park 37
25. Fusion Property (Not Yet Named) - Park 389

The following pages contain a series of maps which describe the existing elements of the waterfront system.



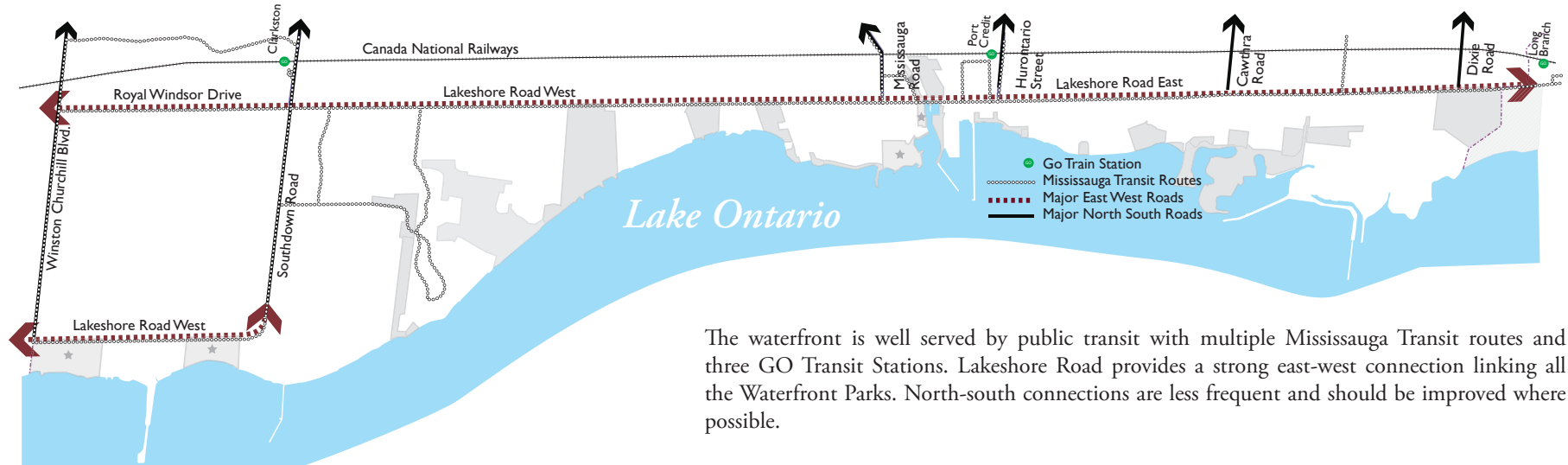
### Existing Heritage Structures and Heritage Inventory Sites



Mississauga’s waterfront includes an extensive inventory of heritage structures and landscapes. Building on the strengths of these existing elements is an important step in achieving a culturally and historically relevant Waterfront Parks system.

Map compiled from material provided by City of Mississauga

### Major Roads, Rail line, GO Transit Stations and Mississauga Transit

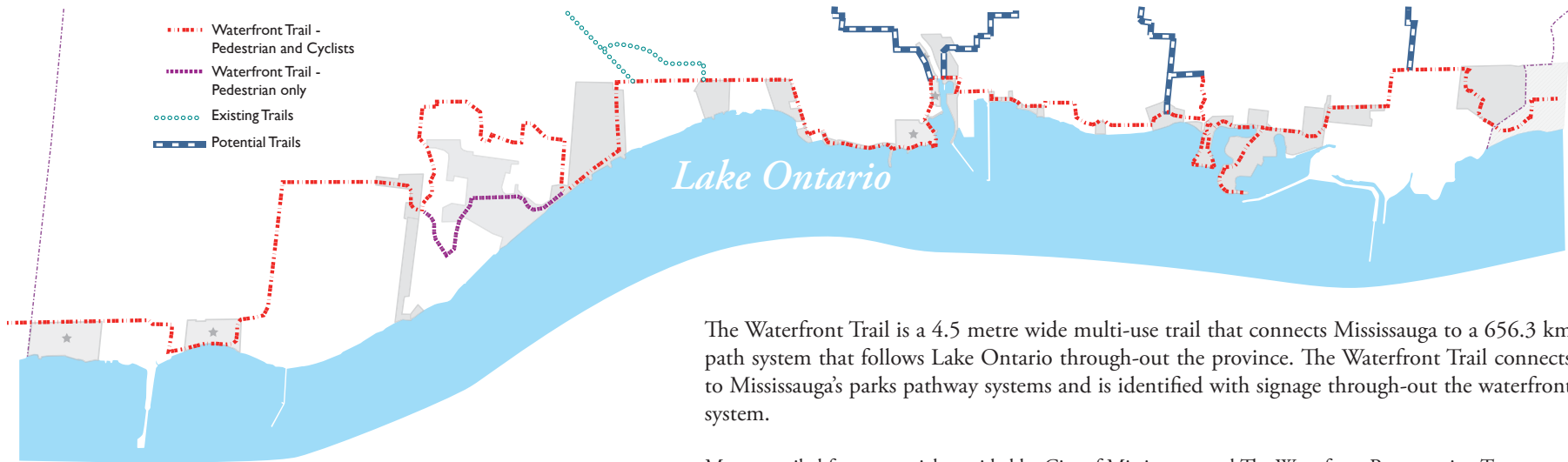


The waterfront is well served by public transit with multiple Mississauga Transit routes and three GO Transit Stations. Lakeshore Road provides a strong east-west connection linking all the Waterfront Parks. North-south connections are less frequent and should be improved where possible.

Map compiled from material provided by City of Mississauga



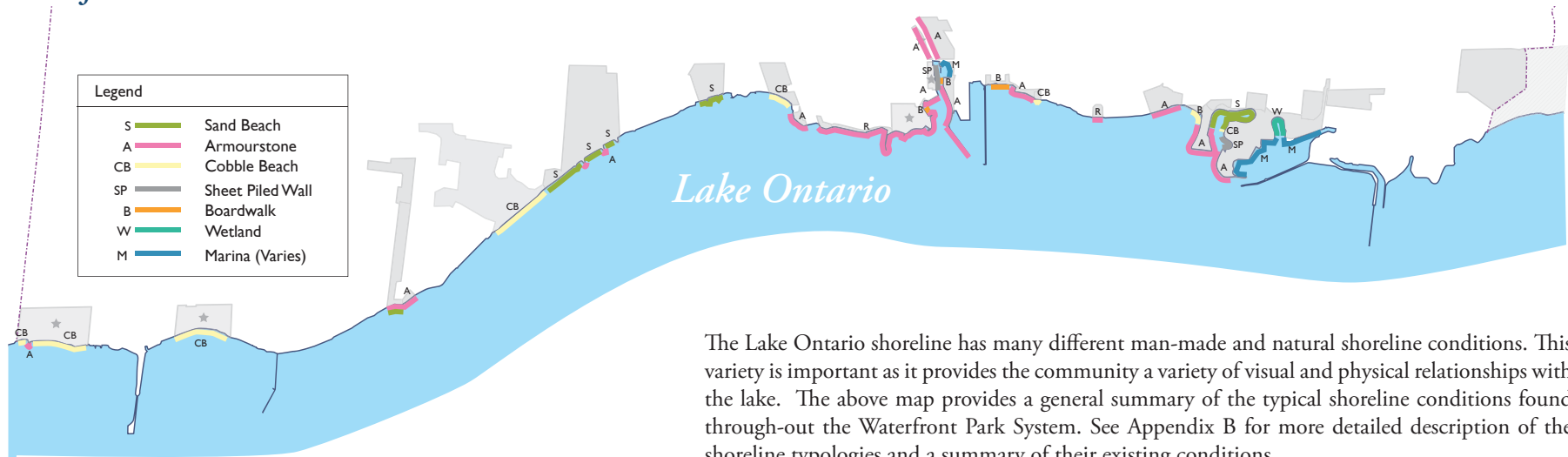
## Existing Waterfront Trail and Proposed/Existing Mississauga Trails



The Waterfront Trail is a 4.5 metre wide multi-use trail that connects Mississauga to a 656.3 km path system that follows Lake Ontario through-out the province. The Waterfront Trail connects to Mississauga's parks pathway systems and is identified with signage through-out the waterfront system.

Map compiled from material provided by City of Mississauga and The Waterfront Regeneration Trust

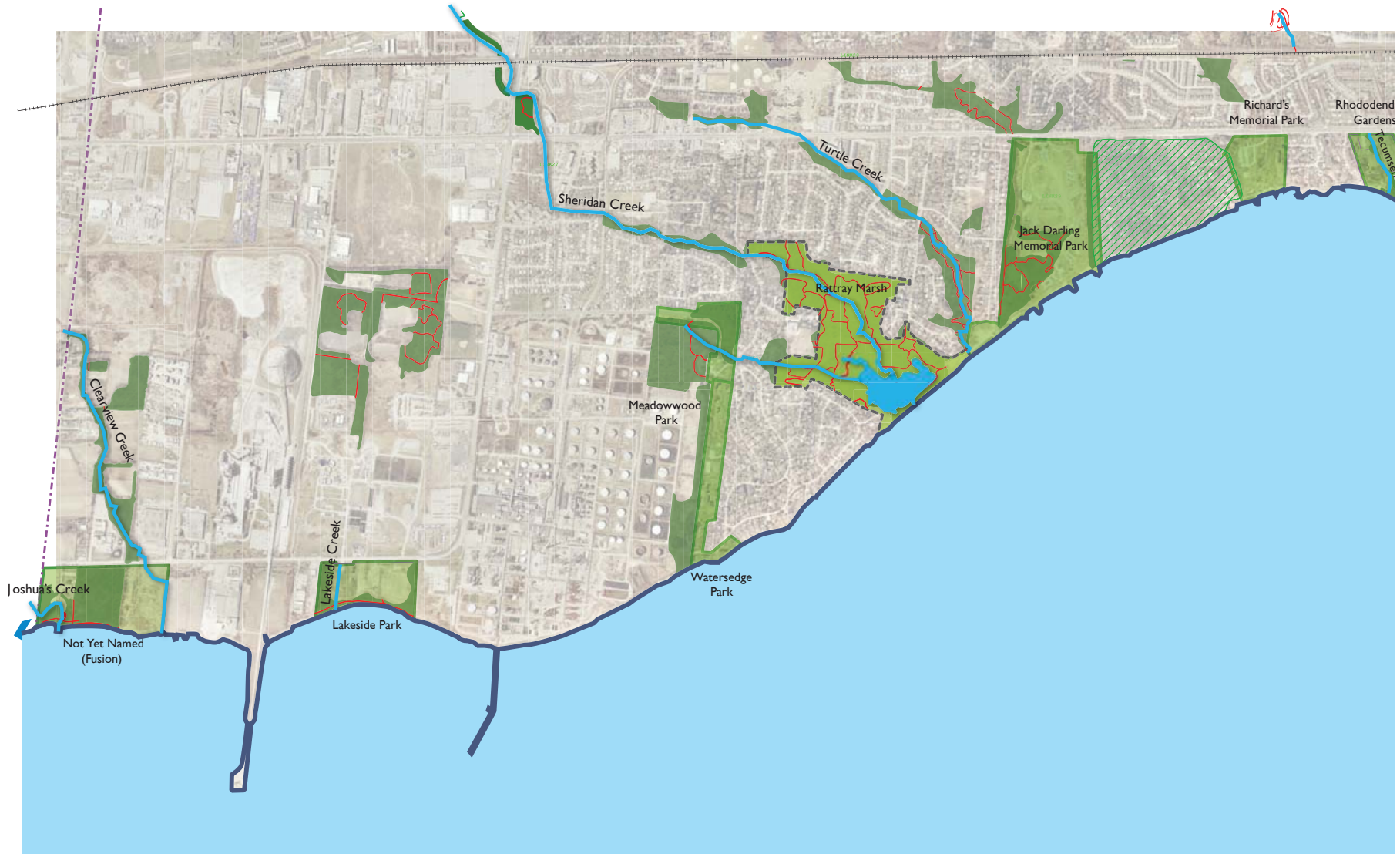
## Waterfront Shoreline Conditions



The Lake Ontario shoreline has many different man-made and natural shoreline conditions. This variety is important as it provides the community a variety of visual and physical relationships with the lake. The above map provides a general summary of the typical shoreline conditions found through-out the Waterfront Park System. See Appendix B for more detailed description of the shoreline typologies and a summary of their existing conditions.

Map compiled based on the Appendix B - Coastal Engineering Overview and a visual survey of the parks

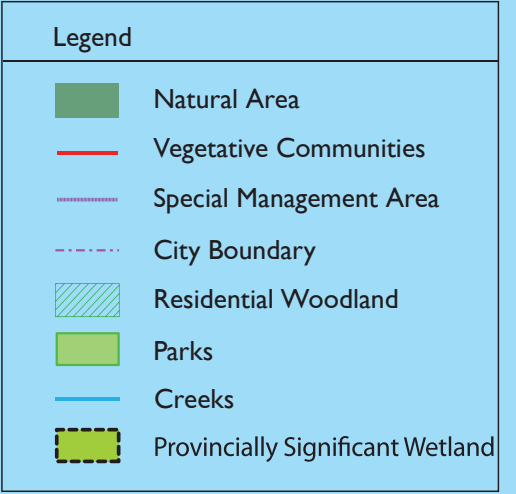
*Green Corridors and Environmental Areas (this page and continued on next)*



A careful consideration of the interconnected environmental networks and areas that surround and encompass the Waterfront Parks is a key recommendation of this strategy. All efforts should be made to retain existing green corridors and to create new ones. This map demonstrates the great extent of existing green corridors that should be protected and enhanced.

Map compiled based on material provided by the City of Mississauga including Natural Areas Survey







Winter activities are becoming more popular.

## 1.5 Overview of Previous Studies and Plans

This section outlines some of the key documents and studies reviewed in the completion of this strategy. For a complete list of resources material see Appendix B.

### 1.5.1 2004 Waterfront Survey

In 2004, the Community Services Department conducted a community survey in regards to the use and vision for the City's waterfront park's. In total, 2372 surveys were received.

#### Key Findings:

- Residents will travel up to 7.4 km (4.6 miles) to get to preferred Waterfront Parks such as Jack Darling. The median distance travelled was 7.0 km (4.3 miles). Most people travel by car (70%) or on foot (26%), and visit the parks with their families (64%) or on their own (20%). People who visit with others will travel further (up to 5.4 km / 3.4 miles) than if they visit on their own (1.7 km / 1.1 miles).

- The primary reasons people visit the parks are to use the park pathways, view the scenery, and walk their dog. These uses are generally consistent by age and gender, though women tend to visit the playgrounds and splash pads with their children more than men.

- Residents are generally satisfied with the level of maintenance in the parks. Concerns were expressed regarding garbage collection, snow removal and washroom condition. Overall satisfaction with the Waterfront Parks is very high.

- Additional special events are less strongly supported by local residents than by City residents as a whole.

- Park preference is determined by proximity, combination of amenities, views, cleanliness, and natural areas. The most popular combination of facilities is a playground with a splash pad and trail.

- 17% of users visit the parks daily year round, and almost 30% visit the waterfront daily during the summer months. Even during the winter, almost 17%

visit daily.

All survey respondents use the parks at some point during the year. During the summer, there are an estimated 60,000 visits per day, with approximately half that during the winter. The closer people live, the more frequently they visit the Waterfront Parks.

- Residents who live south of Lakeshore Road are the dominant regular park users.

- Key areas of concern for planning and design include parking and washroom availability. Specific additional site amenities are requested: water fountains, benches, additional signage, trees for shade, fencing to control access and movement within the site, and access to the lake. While satisfied with the existing facilities, respondents were consistently interested in more parks, trails, beaches, sports and children's facilities, and areas for special events. There is strong interest in increased winter programming.

In light of the survey results, the following propositions should be considered:

- Waterfront park use is likely to shift to a higher proportion of local residents, rather than visitors from elsewhere in the City. Older residents are less likely to travel from other parts of the City, so as the population ages, there will likely be a decreasing willingness to travel to the waterfront on the part of the average resident.

- Waterfront users are more highly educated than the City as a whole, a trend which is likely to continue. This would suggest a greater need for education, interpretive signage, and planning and design approaches which reflect the latest thinking relative to conservation and stewardship (such as use of native plants, low impact design, innovative water management, etc.).

- While dwelling unit profile will change to a higher proportion of apartments, the current use patterns and user profile would suggest that dwelling type is unlikely to influence waterfront park use. This will be reinforced by the growing focus on local residents resulting from the changing age profile: people who live in the south



tend to live in detached homes. This result would further suggest minimal need for high density related park uses.

- The following are likely to be the key activities in the parks in the future: walking, viewing scenery, walking the dog, and passive activities such as reading, meditating, yoga or tai chi.

- Facilities which support an aging population will become more popular, such as benches, water fountains, washrooms, signage, shade areas, shelters, and accessible pathways.

- Bird watching and special events such as music concerts and art-related activities are likely to become more popular over time, and will need to be accommodated.

- Facilities for children in the waterfront will remain important as it is likely that the waterfront area will retain its dominance as a destination location for families with children. Children's facilities will need to be provided in key park locations (Jack Darling, Lakefront Promenade, and J. C. Saddington among others) into the future. It should be noted that while the proportion of young families relative to the City's population as a whole may drop in the future, real numbers will remain relatively constant. Maintenance issues will continue to be a primary concern for residents: snow clearing, garbage removal, and washroom conditions will receive attention. As the population ages, residents will tend to become more involved in prioritization and decision-making especially in terms of maintenance, planning, and design.

- Safety will be of increasing concern, suggesting increasing focus will be placed on design for crime prevention.

Through the survey the public also identified a need for the following additional recreational facilities:

- More seating;
- Additional signage, wayfinding;
- Shade trees;
- Access to the lake;
- Trail connections and use separation;
- Boardwalk along water;
- Sports facilities: beach volleyball, track, basketball;
- Children's facilities, imagination and education;
- Winter facilities: ski trails, skating, cleared trails;
- Exercise stations; and
- Leash free zones with water access.

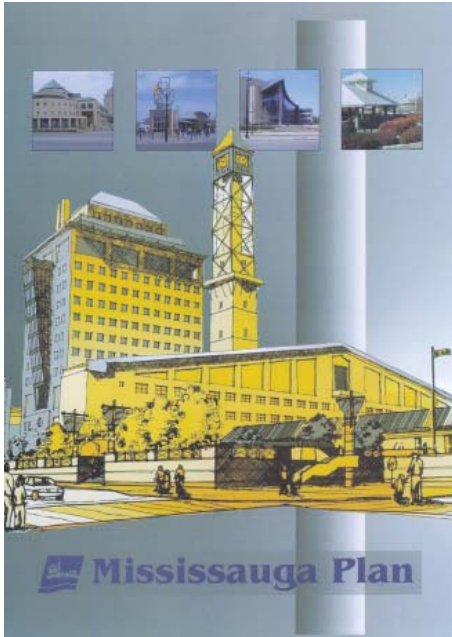
For the development of this strategy the Waterfront Survey provided key information on how the community use and see their Waterfront Parks. This survey shaped many of the park recommendations outlined in this document.



The survey revealed that more facilities for children are desired.



Facilities which support an aging population will become more popular.



Cover image: Mississauga's Official Plan

### 1.5.2 City of Mississauga Waterfront Plan

The 1993 Waterfront Plan examined the entirety of Mississauga's Lake Ontario Waterfront including its Waterfront Parks. The Plan provides an historical overview, summarizes existing conditions and identifies key issues.

A central objective of this plan is to make the waterfront more accessible to the public and more sustainable by creating connections to surrounding urban areas and other Waterfront Parks, expanding existing parks and protecting natural systems.

Much of the background information presented in this study is still relevant to this strategy but due to additional public input, technical innovations, additional land acquisitions and new directions in park and policy planning the 1995 design and policy recommendations have been updated and included as part of the 2006 Waterfront Parks Strategy.

### 1.5.3 Official Plan Waterfront Goals and Objectives

Mississauga's October 2005 Official Plan sets long-term policy goals for the Waterfront. This study has determined that existing policies are still valid, however new policies are required to address protection of natural heritage features. Greater protection for natural heritage will ensure the waterfront is ecologically sustainable and remains the community asset that it is today.

The official plan policies provided a clear starting point for the design and implementation of this strategy. Existing land-uses designations surround that parks and longterm planning strategies informed the park programming and transportation recommendation.

### 1.5.4 2004 Future Directions for Recreation and Parks

The 2004 Future Directions document was commissioned by the City to better understand the evolving recreational needs of residents. An important observation was that needs are changing rapidly due to an increasing and aging population and greater ethnic diversity.

The Future Directions document recommended that many additional and new types of facilities and programs be provided in Mississauga Parks. This waterfront strategy highlights which of the overall recommended amenities are appropriate for the Waterfront Parks. It is the recommendations of this Strategy that unstructured, temporary and/or passive uses including festivals, special event venues, multi-use trails, public gardens, art and heritage features, outdoor ice rinks, picnic areas, playgrounds and spray pads be favoured over highly programmed uses and facilities such as organized sports, arenas, football fields and/or baseball diamonds. It is also recommended that additional leash free areas not be added to the waterfront park system.

The 2004 Future Directions for Recreation and Parks document identifies park programming needs and surpluses for all of Mississauga. Using this document waterfront appropriate park uses were identified.

### 1.5.5 1995 Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy – Waterfront Regeneration Trust

The Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy was prepared by the Waterfront Regeneration Trust in 1995. It recommends integrating existing agencies with responsibilities for the Waterfront into a collaborative process. The excerpt from the Greenway Strategy below further describes the 'Greenway' and the policy goals. The Greenway Strategy provides a foundation for recommendations contained in the current document.

*The study area for the strategy included the Lake Ontario waterfront from Burlington to Trenton and the associated bioregion. The goal of the Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy was to foster commitment to actions to regenerate a healthy and a sustainable waterfront that is clean, green, accessible, connected, open, useable, diverse, affordable, and attractive. The strategy objectives were (1) to protect the physical, natural and cultural attributes associated with the Lake Ontario Greenway, (2) to identify restoration needs and methods and encourage landowners, communities and agencies to undertake regeneration activities, (3) to promote greater awareness, understanding and recreational use of the waterfront, (4) to promote economic activities and*



Cover image: 2004 Future Directions



employment, and (5) to foster cooperation in cost-effective public and private initiatives by reducing jurisdictional gridlock, sharing resources, and coordinating waterfront activities.

This strategy builds on the vision presentation in the Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy.

#### 1.5.6 Green Land Securement Strategy - Credit Valley Conservation Authority

The Credit Valley Conservation Authority has undertaken a Green Land Strategy that provide the criteria for the protection and securement of Green Land Areas. The recommendations from the study influence the prioritization of park expansion areas and identifies the most environmentally sensitive areas.

#### 1.5.7 2001 Mississauga Multi-use Recreational Trail Study

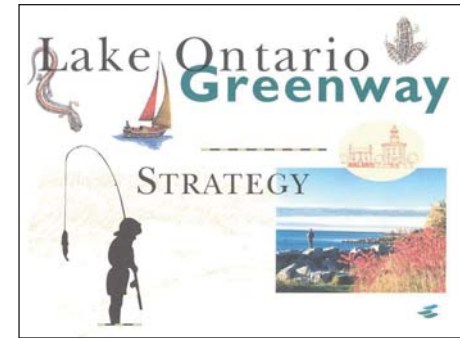
The City of Mississauga is reviewing its 2001 Multi-use Recreational Trail Study in light of recommendations from the 2004 Future Directions document. Increasing trail access is a prime consideration. The current document provides recommended typical and specific trail designs for input into the Trail Study review process. It is recommended in this strategy that all new trails be constructed to City Standards.

#### 1.5.8 Additional Material

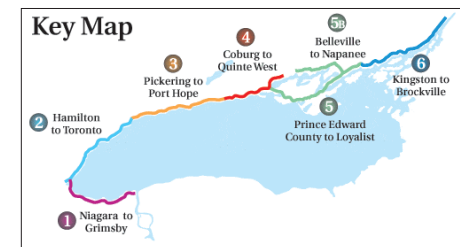
In addition to the previously mentioned studies the following material was reviewed and considered in the completion of this strategy and should be further reviewed as part of the development of the priority parks.

- 1991 Port Credit Harbour Transition Master Plan
- Port Credit Heritage Conservation District Plan
- Lake Ontario Shoreline Hazards prepared for the Credit Valley Conservation by Shoreplan, 2005
- Environmental Inventory and Analysis, 2266 and 2700 Lakeshore Road West (Fusion and Lakeside Park) by Dougan and Associates, 2003
- Lake Ontario Fisheries Management Plan

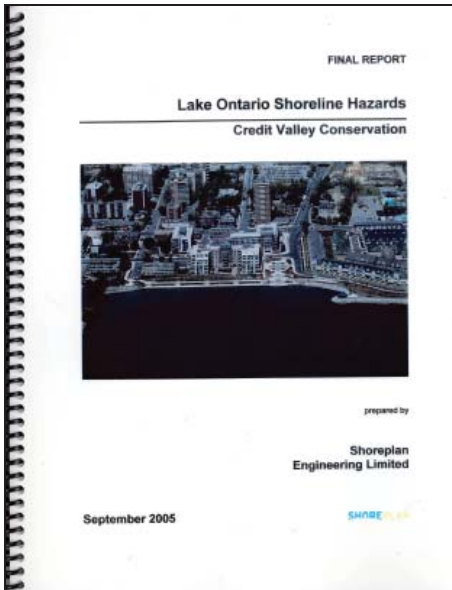
- Opportunities for Regeneration at the Mouth of the Credit River, Credit River Mouth Regeneration Planning Group, 1995
- Port Credit Memorial West Park Redevelopment
- The Waterfront Parks Washroom Study
- Previously Completed Park Master Plans
- City of Mississauga Natural Areas Survey, Update 2005
- City of Mississauga Parking Strategy (On-going) BA Consulting Group



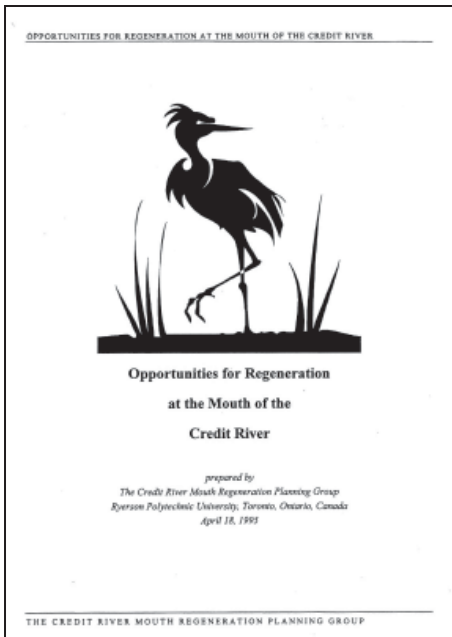
Cover image: Lake Ontario Greenway Strategy



Key Map Connecting the Waterfront Trail from Niagara to the Quebec Border



Cover image: Credit Valley Conservation Lake Ontario Shoreline Hazards, 2005



Cover image: Opportunities for Regeneration at the Mouth of the Credit River, 1995

## 1.6 Public and Stakeholder Consultation

The development of the Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy incorporated input from an extensive public and stakeholder engagement process. The series of public consultation events were as follows:

- February 21 and 23, 2006: Open House and Workshop
- June 28 and 29, 2006: Open House and Workshop
- November 29, 2007: Open House

Copies of the open houses and workshops are enclosed in Appendix B of this document.

The stakeholders identified and consulted include but are not limited to the following:

- Region of Peel
- Credit Valley Conservation Authority
- Halton Region Conservation Authority
- Toronto and Region Conservation Authority
- Ministry of Natural Resources
- Waterfront Regeneration Trust
- Petro Canada
- Don Rowing Club of Mississauga
- Charter Boat Operators
- Port Credit Harbour Marina
- Rivergate Apartments
- Mississauga Canoe Club
- Leash Free Mississauga
- Facility Accessibility Design Committee



## 1.7 Priority Setting

### 1.7.1 *Natural Areas and Linkages*

The protection and enhancement of natural areas along the Lake Ontario shoreline and the creation of linkages between such areas and other natural areas within the City of Mississauga are areas of great concern. The City of Mississauga's waterfront lands are part of an important ecological corridor within Southern Ontario. In terms of significance, this corridor may be considered to be on par with such areas as the Niagara Escarpment, the Oak Ridges Moraine, and the Credit River valley. As such, protection and restoration of what remains of the natural features and areas located along the waterfront and the development and enhancement of linkages between these areas and the broader natural heritage system should be considered a fundamental priority for any planning activities affecting this area.

The Strategy emphasizes a commitment to undertake all necessary studies required prior to detail design commencing for individual parks. As many of the required studies do not yet exist, an Adaptive Approach to Resource Management should be adopted to manage new information and its inclusion within the Strategy through a regular updating schedule. As noted in Section 6.0, the Mississauga Waterfront Parks Strategy is a 'living' document and shall be revised and updated accordingly on a five year cycle.



Natural areas along the Lake Ontario Shoreline are part of a major ecological corridor that should be restored and enhanced at every opportunity.



A balance must be sought between the protection of terrestrial and aquatic natural environments and new development activities.

### 1.7.2 *Relevant On-going and Future Studies*

The following is a list of On-going and Future Studies that will contain information regarding the condition and requirements of the natural setting that will provide valuable information as park development moves forward into detail design:

- Lake Ontario Shoreline Strategy
- Landscape Scale Analysis of the Lake Ontario Watersheds
- Urban Terrestrial Ecosystem Enhancement Model (Urban TEEM)
- Credit River Water Management Strategy Update
- Mississauga Water Quality Strategy Update
- Watershed and Subwatershed Studies
- Rattray Marsh Restoration Strategy
- Park Management Plans
- Environmental Assessments if required
- Required technical documents to be submitted in support of proposed park development.
- Comprehensive Aquatic Habitat Assessment
- Other studies identified through detailed design

This document sets essential priorities for maintaining and improving Mississauga's Waterfront Parks as part of the larger ecological context. The implementation recommendations contained in this document will ensure the parks remain an invaluable community resource while maintaining terrestrial and aquatic natural environments by achieving a balanced approach to new development activities.