

5.5 Lakeside Park

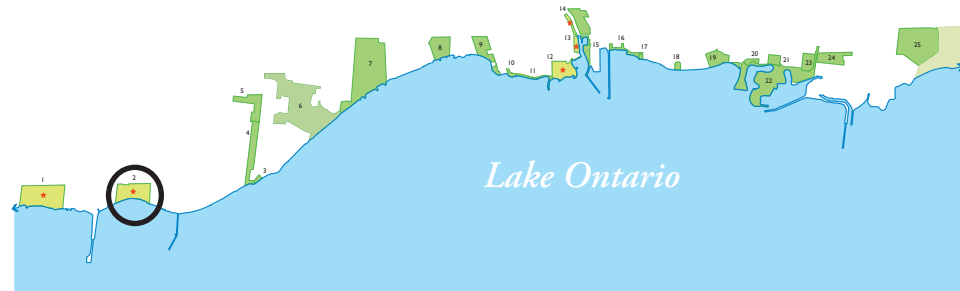
5.5.1 Site Opportunities and Constraints

Location and Significance

Located towards the western boundary of the study area, Lakeside Park is one of the larger park areas available for public use. Previous land uses have shaped the property both above and below the ground to produce a site with a unique combination of topography, vegetation, neighbouring views and shoreline conditions. The relative remoteness of the park creates an opportunity to develop a ‘destination’ within the waterfront park system.

Opportunities and Constraints:

- Surrounded by heavy industrial uses, the park is located in a highly diverse visual landscape. This siting provides an opportunity to make a strong statement in the landscape to balance and respond to the surroundings.
- Site is a significant rest-stop for migratory birds and provides habitat for songbirds and waterfowl. Preserve, enhance and manage existing plant material to improve environment for birds. Construction schedules should coordinate with nesting sites and seasons.
- Site is designated a special management area (#150) and is located in close proximity to significant natural areas 1,2,3 and 4 as defined in the City of Mississauga Natural Areas Survey, 2005 update.
- Site is large, may provide space for much needed program elements like picnic areas and an open air concert venue.
- Site is easily accessible from Lakeshore Road.
- Site also has excellent opportunities for interpretation: interesting geological history, previous site uses, clay pipe crushing, farmstead etc.
- Shoreline has a unique eroded clay tile shingle beach composition with an actively eroding bank. Protecting bank from further erosion will eliminate the supply of clay tile for beach material. This element will eventually disappear over time if the bank is stabilized and protected from erosion. Look at options for shoreline protection that may



Waterfront Parks key map highlighting Lakeside Park.



The Lakeside shoreline has a unique clay tile erosion feature.



Lakeside Park, April 2006.



Alternate energy sources are recommended for Lakeside Park.



Surrounding area provides unique context.

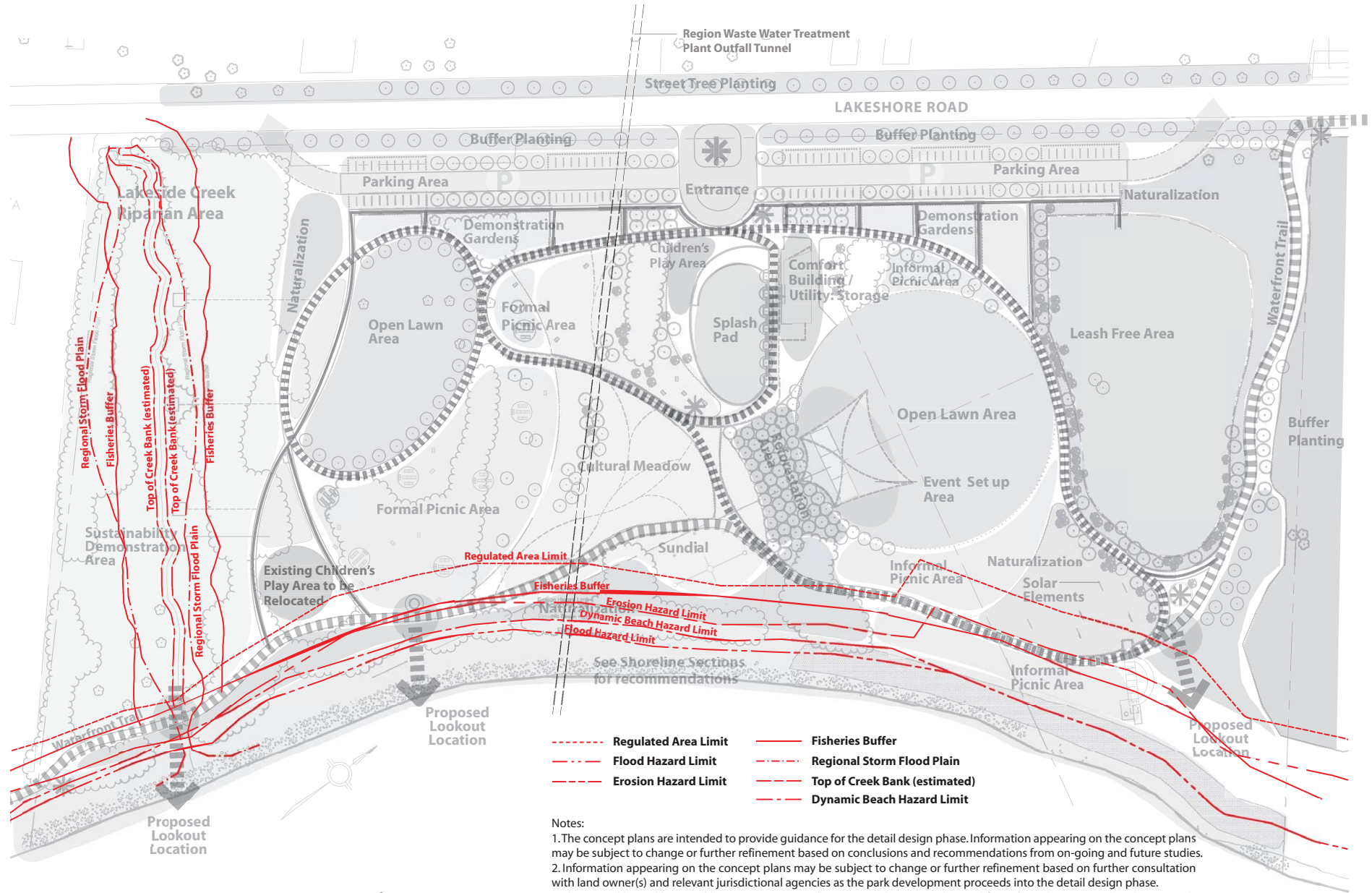


The Splash Pad is central to the parks design.



Picnicking Area with views and access to the water are proposed.

- preserve this feature. Bank is as much as 6 metres high; access for public may not be feasible in that area of site.
- Existing vegetation on site provides many opportunities for enhancement, opportunity to restore portion of historic dry-forest / savanna, cultural meadow, cultural woodlands area (former farmstead planting) offers diverse experiences: forest, open field, reclaimed meadow.
- West portion of site should remain as a picnic and playground area. The playground needs to be inventoried and upgraded, opportunity to include a variety of non-obtrusive, imagination play opportunities such as sand and water play with shade structure, tricycle circuit, balance beam, stone garden etc. should be explored.
- Existing picnic area to be improved with organized table configuration that includes large and small groupings. Parking area should be reconfigured and linked to the picnic areas with a formal, internal walkway system.
- A multiuse flexible space is proposed on the eastern side of the park for informal picnicking, festivals and events.
- Lakeside Creek riparian zone could provide habitat and potentially improve water quality.
- Park does not have cohesive presence along Lakeshore Road, parking areas are not consolidated or consistently designed.
- Other than leash-free, the park does not have significant draw today for park visitors.
- Few noise restrictions.
- Leash free area is well established and valued, users of the leash free area contribute to the safety of the park as they are constantly using and monitoring the park area. As this park is isolated from surrounding residential areas this is a key reason to retain the use.
- The waterfront trail exists within Lakeside Park. Expansion of the Waterfront trail to Watersedge Park through the Petro Canada lands should be pursued.
- The existing recycling centre across Lakeshore Road presents some conflicts from a traffic perspective.
- Heavy transport traffic on Lakeshore Road creates noise pollution and potentially hazardous traffic conditions.
- No infrastructure on site for new comfort buildings.
- No formal internal walkways.
- The Region of Peel Wastewater Treatment outfall pipe crosses the park underground between Lakeshore Road and Lake Ontario.

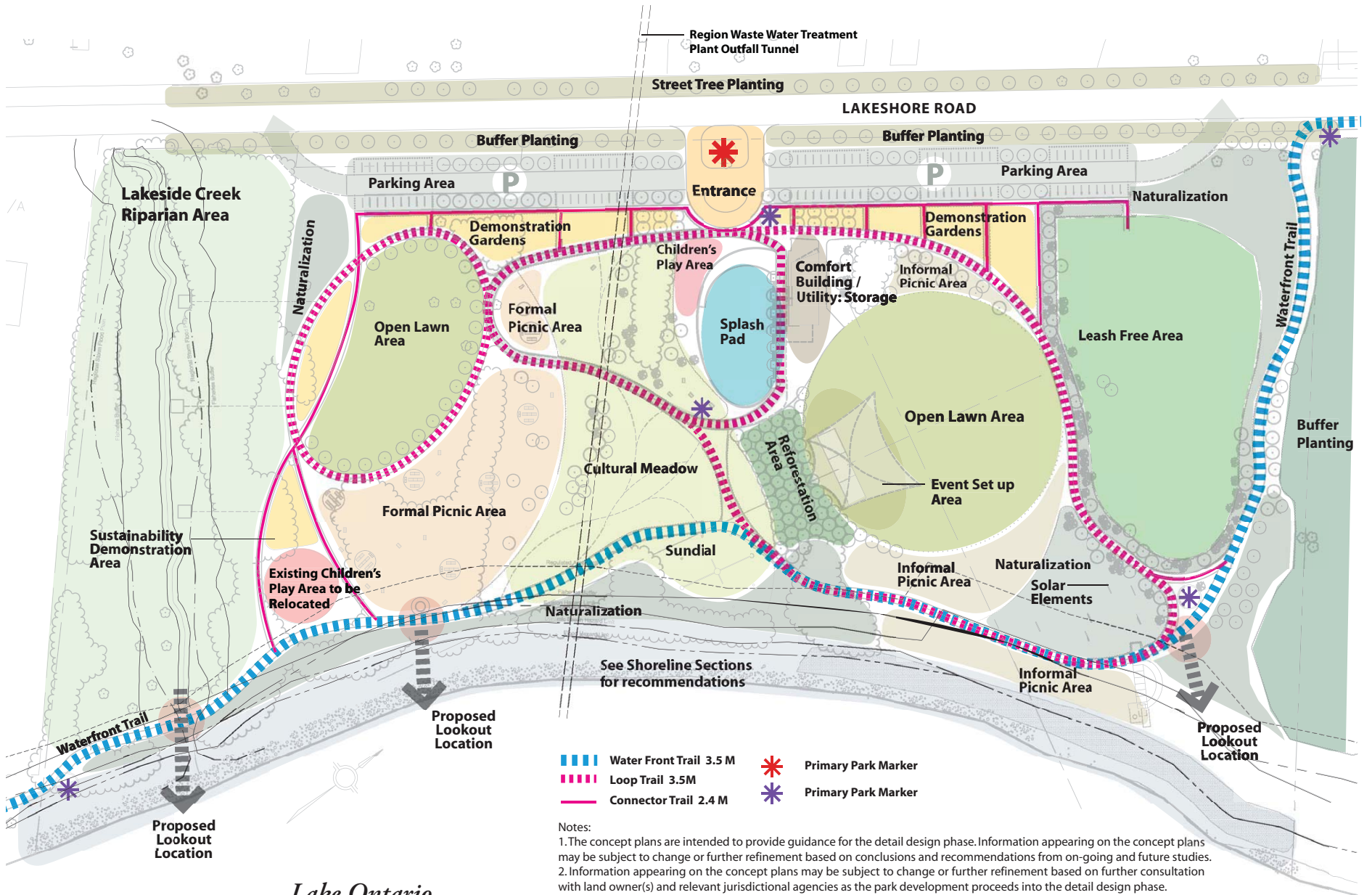


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|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ----- Regulated Area Limit | ----- Fisheries Buffer |
| ----- Flood Hazard Limit | ----- Regional Storm Flood Plain |
| ----- Erosion Hazard Limit | ----- Top of Creek Bank (estimated) |
| | ----- Dynamic Beach Hazard Limit |

Notes:

1. The concept plans are intended to provide guidance for the detail design phase. Information appearing on the concept plans may be subject to change or further refinement based on conclusions and recommendations from on-going and future studies.
2. Information appearing on the concept plans may be subject to change or further refinement based on further consultation with land owner(s) and relevant jurisdictional agencies as the park development proceeds into the detail design phase.
3. The natural hazard lines and limits appearing on the concept plans were obtained from the 'Lake Ontario Shoreline Hazards CVC Report prepared by Shoreplan, September 2005. Regional storm flood plain, fisheries buffers and top of bank lines were interpolated from information provided by the CVC. The locations of the lines, limits and buffers are required to be confirmed on site with the relevant conservation authorities, prior to commencement of detail design.

Lake Ontario



- Water Front Trail 3.5 M
- Loop Trail 3.5M
- Connector Trail 2.4 M
- Primary Park Marker
- Primary Park Marker

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Lake Ontario

Concept Master Plan: Lakeside Park
Note: Image not to scale



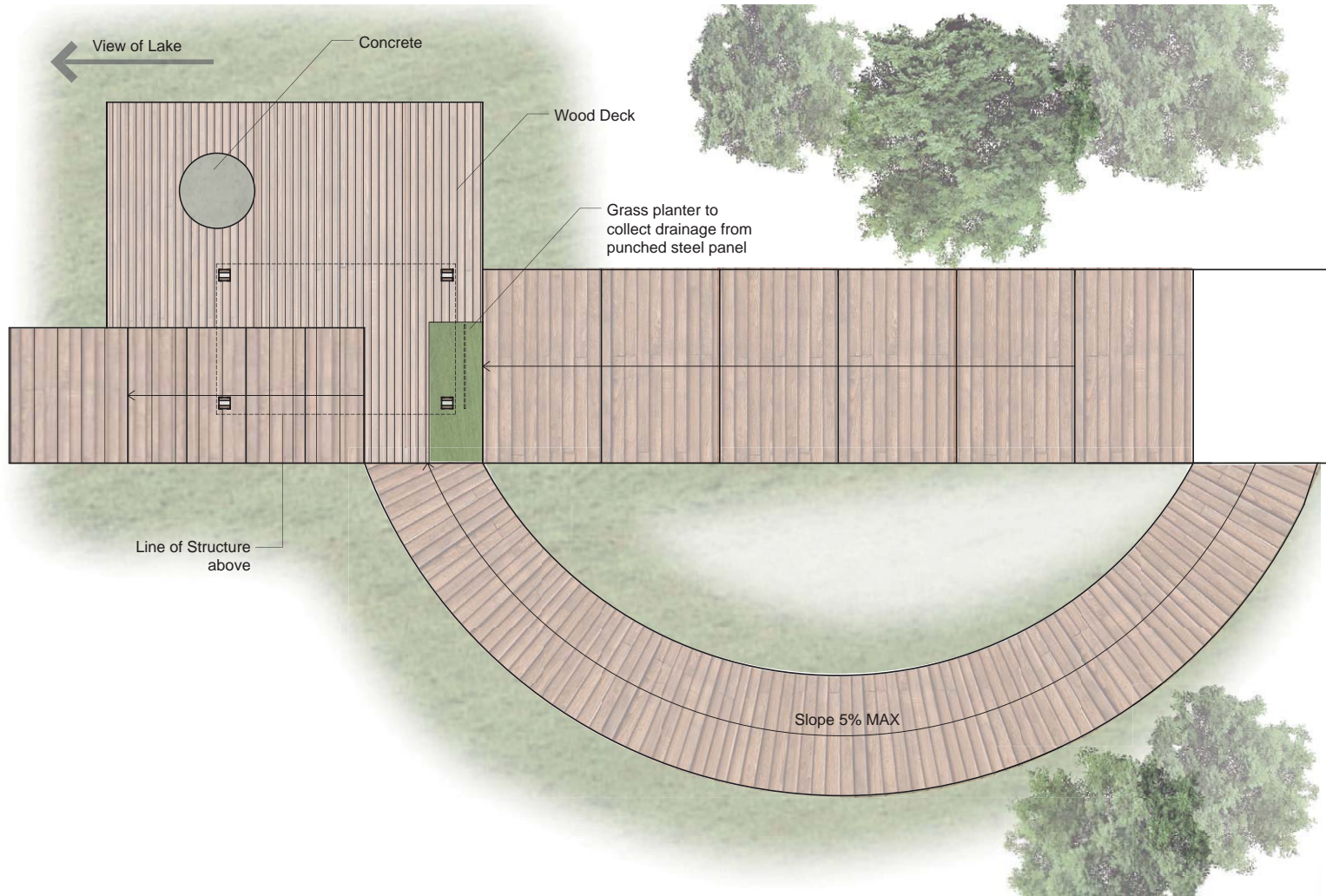
Artistic rendering of the possible entrance and parking area in Lakeside Park.



Artistic rendering of possible splash pad area in Lakeside Park.

Promontory

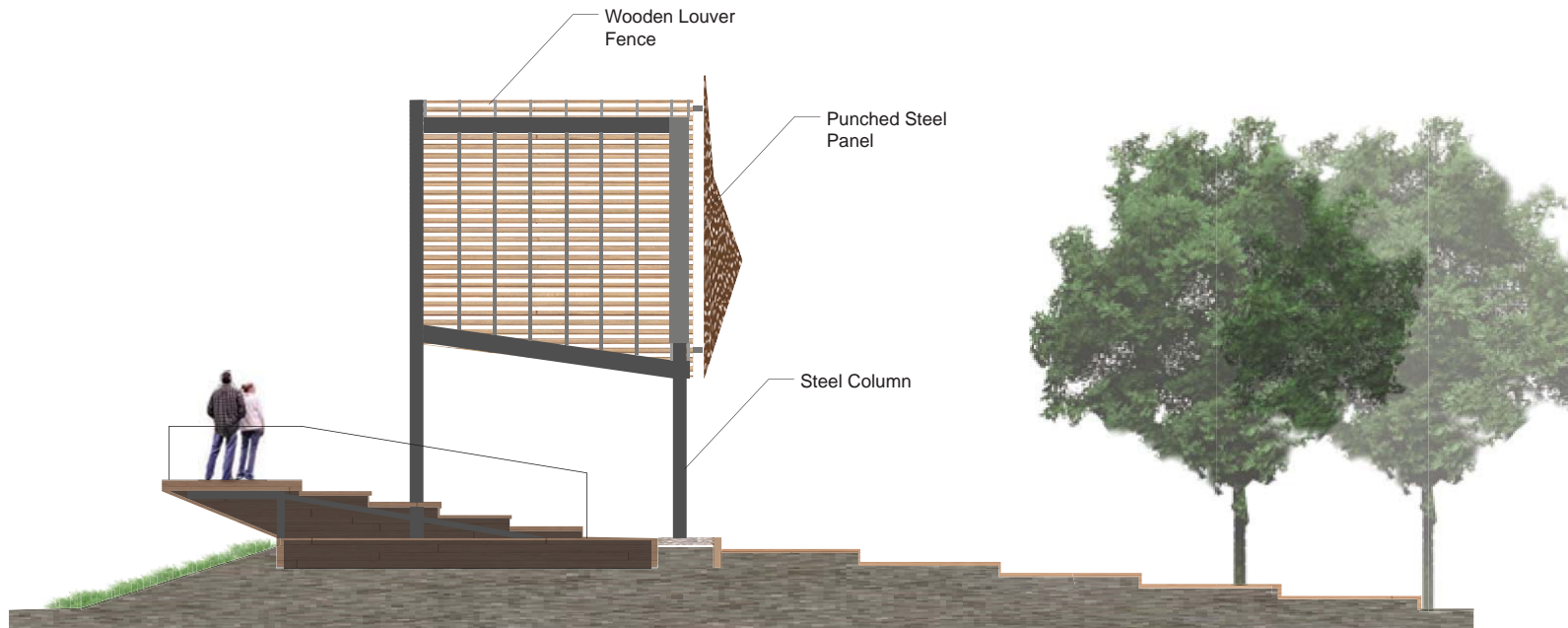
The creation of a new city park at Lakeside is one of the primary recommendations of this Waterfront Park Strategy. The following demonstration designs articulate a combination of layered materials and uses such as benches, steps and ramps that are intended to invite visitors to investigate this new landmark structure. The demonstration design celebrates the expansive waterfront views that are typical for Lakeside Park. The design also lifts park visitors to a higher viewing platform directed towards the lake. Constructed of stone, concrete, corrugated steel, wood and custom punched steel panels, the diversity of materials respond to the diversity of the site and weather conditions. Folds are created in the punched metal screen that are reminiscent of wind while the light frame platform is anchored with heavy concrete or stone benches that give the feeling that the structure itself is about to take flight out over the water. The promontory is oriented to sunrise on the winter solstice and provided directed views to the water. The vertical nature of the structure complements the horizontal line of Lake Ontario and gives the vastness of the water a human and occupiable scale.



Demonstration Designs: Promontory, plan view



Demonstration Designs: Promontory, elevation from the lake looking towards the park



Demonstration Designs: Promontory, side elevation

5.5.2 Design Concept

Lakeside Park will be themed as a demonstration area for green technologies; a commentary landscape focusing on the contrast between industrial and waterfront landscapes.

5.5.3 Park Recommendations

5.5.3.1 Park Activities and Uses

- 2 Children's Play Areas with 1 Splash Pad
- Comfort Station with Washrooms
- Leash-free area
- Flexible Open Space with Designated Stage Area for events
- Multi-Use Trails
- Erosion Education Elements
- Water Access from Beach
- Open Lawn Area
- Naturalized Meadow and Restoration Areas
- Demonstration Gardens
- Picnicking

5.5.3.2 Park Elements

Vehicle Access and Parking

Entrance Area: Centralized entry loop supports more cohesive park presence along the Lakeshore Road frontage. Loop geometry supports bus turning function for drop off and pick-up of large groups. Contains primary entrance marker for park identification. Main access to parking areas.

Parking: Situated as close to Lakeshore Road as possible while incorporating a landscape buffer. Approximately 100 parking spaces are proposed as a part of this park concept plan. Materials to transition from hard paving of entry loop to "green paving" solution of the parking stalls. Parking area to be de-emphasized visually. Demonstration garden area could include storm water infiltration areas. Parking stall areas to be interspersed with tree and shrub planting.

Overflow Parking: May be possible to provide parallel parking spaces long Lakeshore Road. The existing speed limit in this area and the heavy truck traffic can be a constraint for parking along the boulevard but typically the high traffic time periods will not correspond with high volume park activities.

Internal Vehicle Access: Some internal vehicle access required to provide access to event area, splash pad and picnic areas.



Green paving solution for parking.



Existing waterfront trail will continue through the park.



Nature trail through meadow.



Open air concert facilities.



Splash/spray area.



Sustainability interpretation: Water Play

Access to be shared with the multi-use trail loop. Pavement to be designed to accommodate vehicular use.

Circulation

Waterfront Trail: The Waterfront Trail will continue through Lakeside Park in its present location. Improvements should be made to the trail on an as-needed basis.

Multi-Use Recreation Trail: Internal loops of the multi-use recreational trail will provide pedestrian and wheeled access through the main part of the park. It will link the main entrance, picnic, play areas and open lawn areas to the waterfront trail.

Connector Trails: Connects park entrance feature and parking to Multi-Use Recreation Trail and other park elements.

Nature Trails: The new naturalized areas to the western side of the park provide multiple opportunities for nature trails with coordinated educational material.

Streetscape: The boulevard along Lakeshore Road will be improved with buffer planting and street trees, where ever possible the existing views to the lake should be preserved.

Sustainability Interpretation

Alternate energy sources: Many features through the park to demonstrate the functionality of solar and wind energy. Power site lighting, comfort building, splash pad, etc.

Demonstration Gardens: Drought tolerant plants, storm water infiltration, butterfly garden, pumpkin patch, sensory garden.

Kinetic Sculpture: Incorporate interactive movement features to educate on the physics of movement. Sculptures could incorporate wind elements.

Water play: “Watershed experiments”, interpretation elements incorporating water and movement, located near the existing children’s play area adjacent to Lakeside Creek. Interpretative elements could reference the creek and its function while appropriately located planting can limit access to the sensitive natural areas.

Splash Pad

Centrally located near comfort building, parking, play area, picnic areas and open lawn. Splash pad adjacent to the comfort building, to be designed for imagination play, ‘catalogue’ order splash features to be avoided. No pooling water. Spray and splash features to be designed so that the space could be used for other uses such as sculpture gardens or display area.

Open Lawn Area/Open Air Concert Venue

Open lawn area approximately 6500 square meters, could contain 1600 people sitting in lawn chairs (4sq.m per person). No permanent structures proposed, enhances flexibility of site. Stage proposed to be portable with portable shade/canopy structure. Open lawn oriented to provide open views to the lake. Stage oriented to face north.

Picnic Areas

Formal: Provided in key locations, include paved surface and BBQ pits. Located near paved walkways, some near potential vehicle access loop. Size and configuration to allow for groups of 75 people.

Informal: Provided for smaller groups, single picnic table with or without paving underneath, secured in place, non-flammable materials

Children’s Play Areas

Existing play area on the west side of the site to be inventoried and potentially improved with variety of non-obtrusive, imagination play opportunities: sand and water play with shade structure, tricycle circuit, balance beam, stone garden, etc. Tie theme of new elements into sustainability concept for park. All new children’s play areas in Lakeside park should be fully accessible.

Leash-Free

The Leash-free areas provide recreational opportunities for dogs, a safe location for pets to run free, a place for pet owners to socialize, and containment of sanitary issues generated by owners who fail to clean-up after their dog. This leash-free zone is also critical towards maintaining a constant user presence in the park. The leash free area is recommended to be two acres in size.

Lakeside Creek

The City should coordinate with the CVC to restore and enhance riparian floodplain of the creek. Apply bank stabilization where

required, provide nature trails and viewing platforms for access to wildlife and nature viewing. Bank improvements and planting potentially improve water quality.

Winter Warming

Provide opportunities for shelter and warming in the cooler weather. Landscape buffering and microclimate, comfort building open all year round and one fire pit location.

Planting and Landscaping

Existing plant material is to remain in place and enhanced with additional planting. To reduce the maintenance in the park and to enhance wildlife habitat and foraging, some areas have been indicated for naturalization and reforestation. Planting is to be simple, massed, preserve clear views to the lake, be low maintenance and unappealing to geese.



Imagination play feature.

5.5.3.3 Shoreline

Two shoreline sections are proposed as indicated in the following sections.

Section A. Lakeside Park at Existing Beach

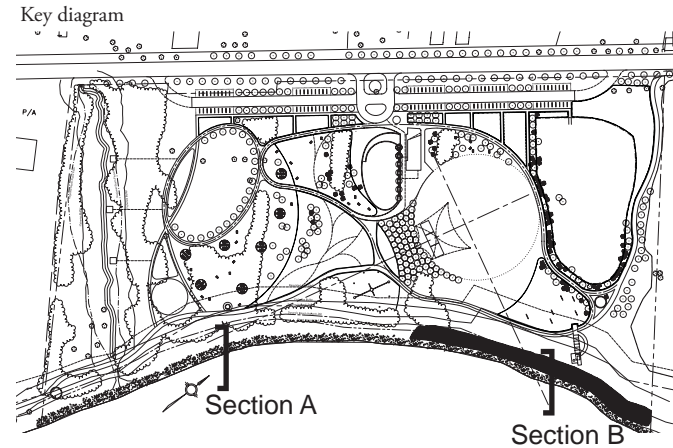


The shoreline at the west end of the park is a low bank with a clay and shale shingle beach. The beach composition is fairly unique in this area, and is the product of clay pipes dumped along the shoreline, that have broken down under wave action, forming a shingle beach. (Baird + Associates, March 2006)

Section B. Lakeside Park at Existing Bluff



The shoreline at the east end of the park is an eroding bank, approximately 6 m in height. The Clay pipes become exposed as the shoreline erodes. If the shoreline is not protected, it will continue to erode. It is important however to recognize, that the clay shingle that makes up a large proportion of the beach, is a product of the eroding shoreline. If the shoreline is protected, this source of beach material will no longer exist and the composition of the beach will change as the clay is abraded by wave action. (Baird + Associates, March 2006)



Recommendations for section A - Lakeside Park:

- Preserve and enhance natural vegetation adjacent to shoreline to boost upper bank stabilization
- Monitor bank condition
- Allow access to lake only through areas that are stable

Recommendations for section B - Lakeside Park:

- Determine the rate and nature of erosion
- Allow nature to take its course and let bluff formation continue to recede
- Allow public access to top of bank, setback to a point deemed stable and safe
- Develop educational opportunities with themes focusing on erosion
- Preserve and enhance natural vegetation adjacent to top of bank to boost bank stabilization
- Do not develop formal access points to cobble beach