

Northeast False Creek : Past, Present and Future

Presentation to The Mortgage Investment Association of BC

Reclaiming and Reimagining Vancouver's Waterfront



1982



2012



1979



2003



2011

Vancouver's Approach and Urbanism Principles



- **Public** waterfront with seawall Linkages
- Extend the existing city grid, with open street ends
- “Places and Spaces” first, then built form
- Street activation, avoiding blank walls
- Mixed use, with retail high streets
- Carefully spaced towers for sunlight and privacy
- Thin towers with residential podiums and townhouses at grade
- Stepped down built form to a human scale waterfront
- Sustainable and resilient parks and open spaces
- Integrated affordable housing
- Community amenities funded through development



What's next?

False Creek Indigenous Homelands

Musqueam, Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh

Vancouver is situated on the unceded traditional homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations. The False Creek area was an abundant area for fishing, harvesting, and hunting for these Nations, each who had their own relationship to the area, with place names and usages for the lands and resources there.

Vancouver is also home to First Nations, Métis and Inuit from across Canada, and Indigenous peoples from around the world.



First Nations canoe race in Burrard Inlet, 1880

False Creek (1890s)



False Creek at the Turn of the Century



The First NEFC/Viaducts Planning Team on False Creek

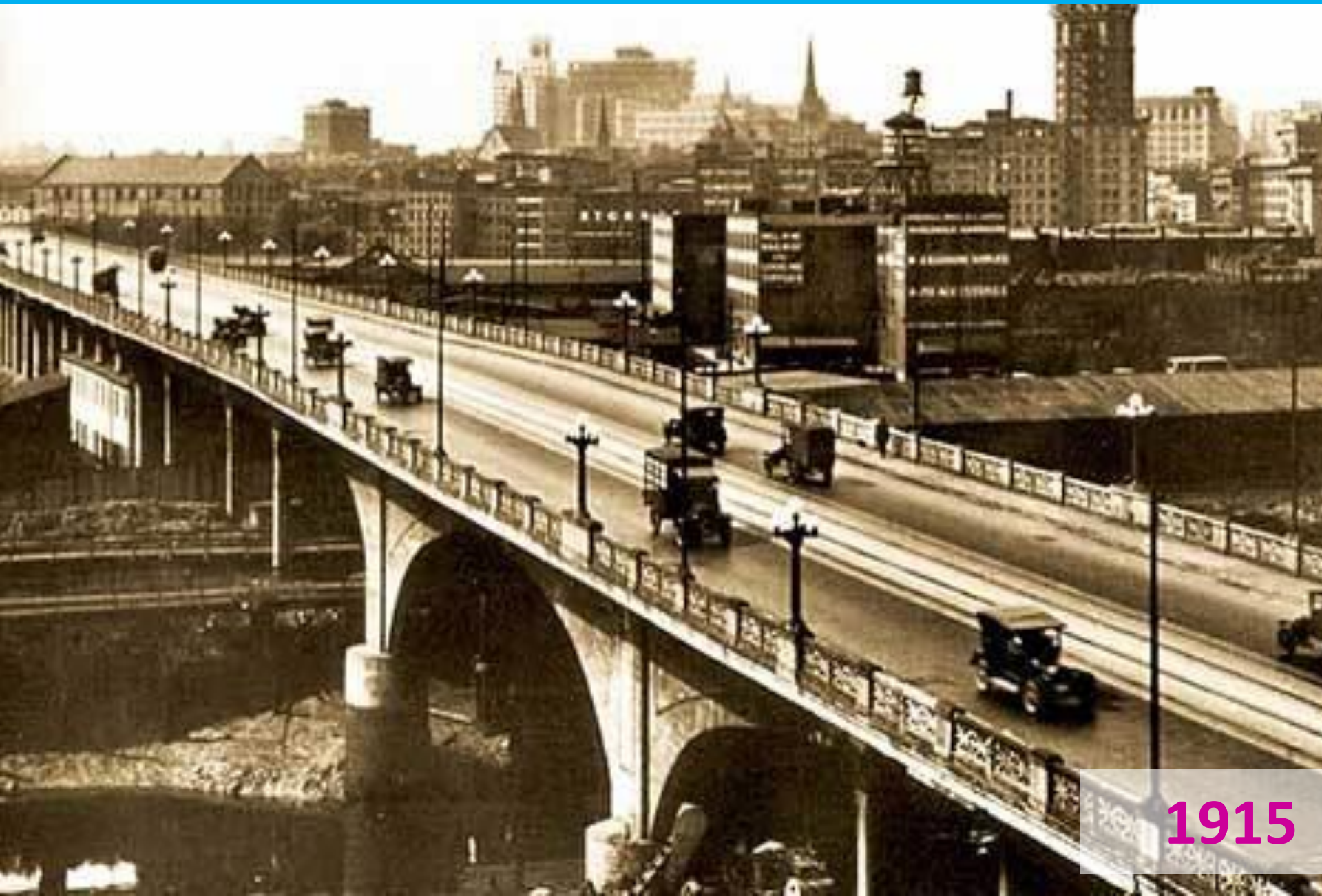


The Arrival of the First Viaduct



1915

The Arrival of the First Viaduct



1915

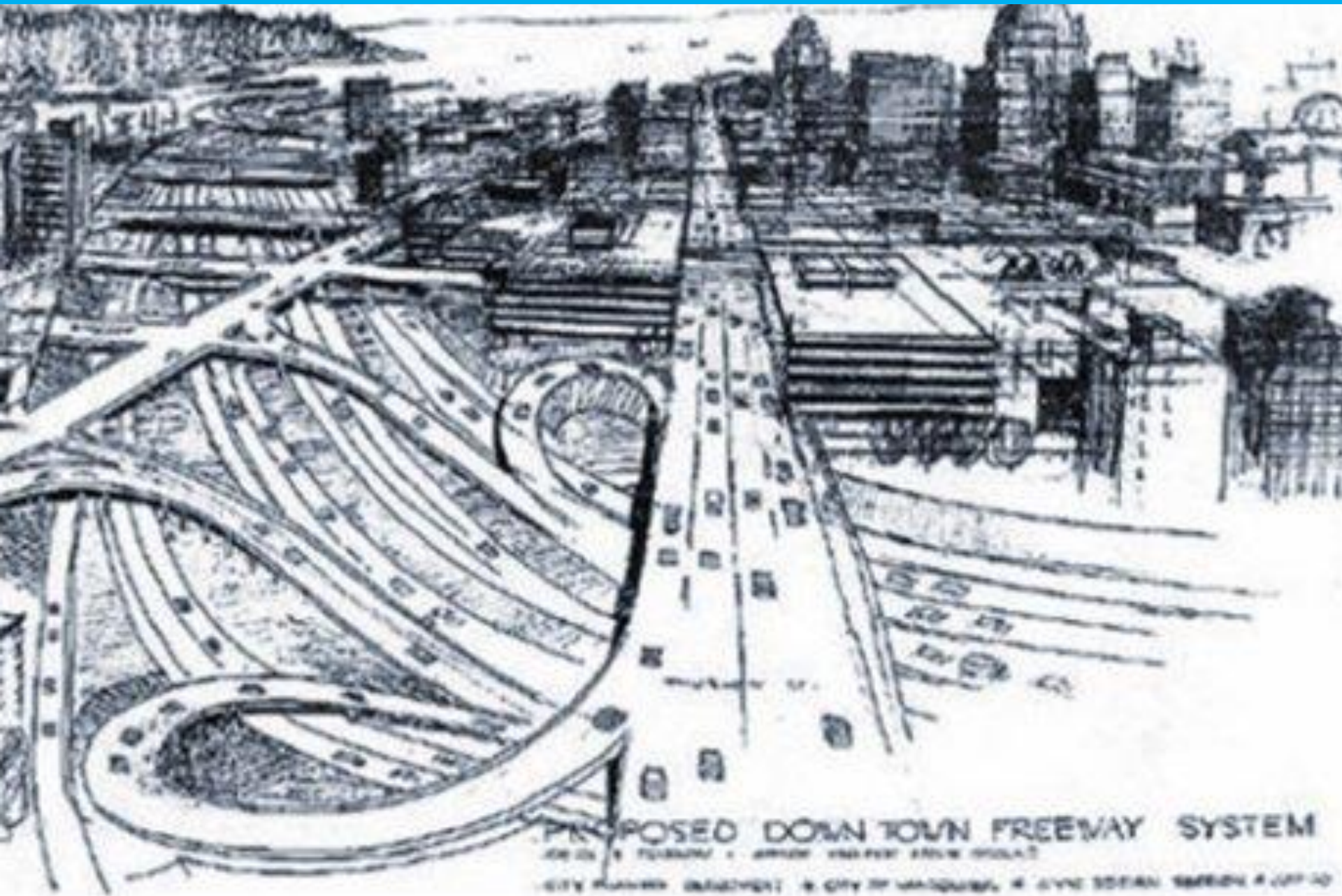
The Industrial Era (1920s to 1950s)



The Second NEFC/Viaducts Planning Team



The Freeway Era (1960s-70s)



PROPOSED DOWNTOWN FREEWAY SYSTEM

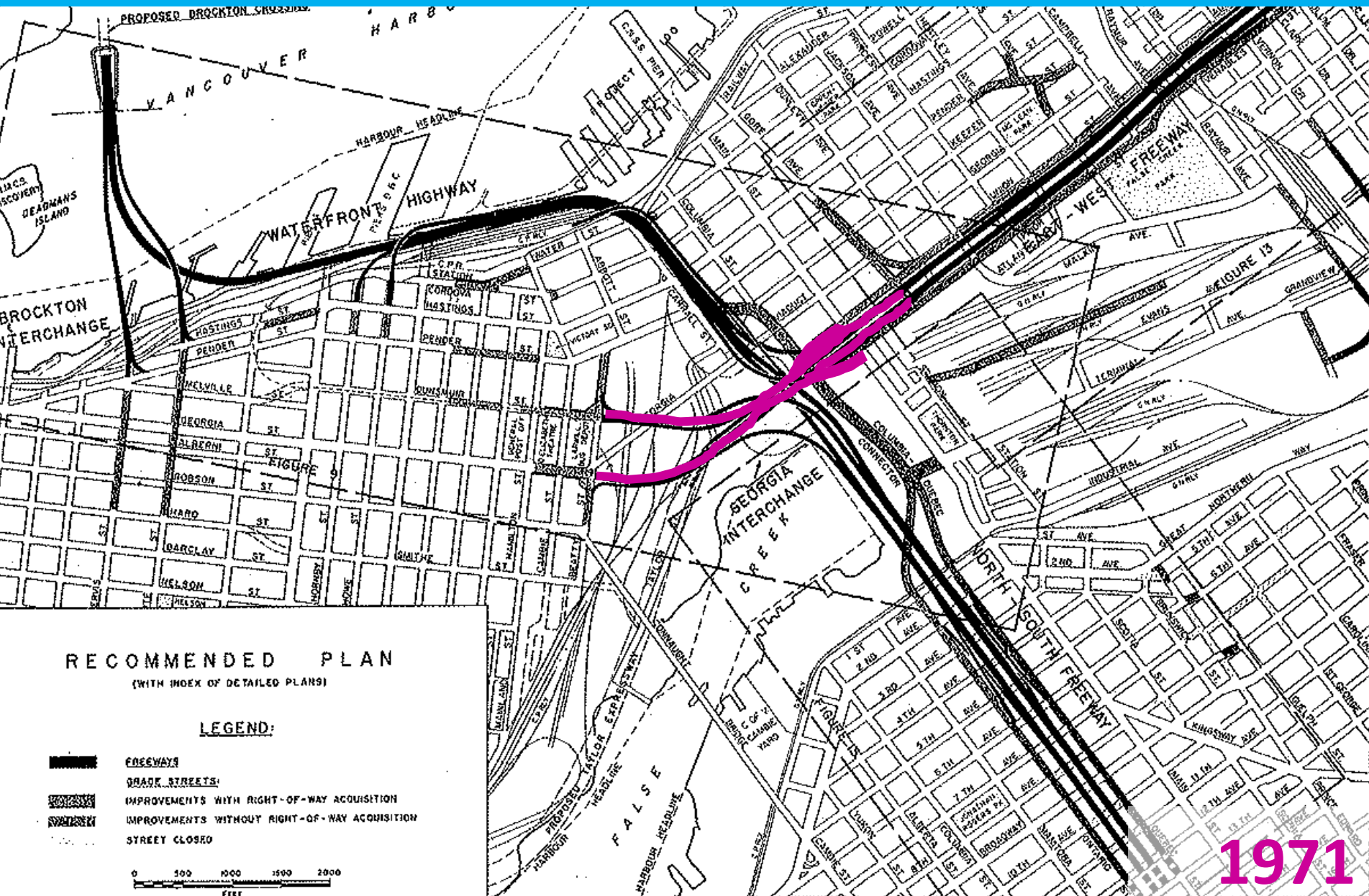
DESIGN BY TURNER & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT & CITY OF WASHINGTON, W. W. & ASSOCIATES, INC. JULY 1960

The Freeway Era Cut Short (1960s-70s)



Vancouver's Only Downtown Freeway Experiment



The First and Only Section



1971

VALUES
NOT THIS!



**VALUES
THIS!**



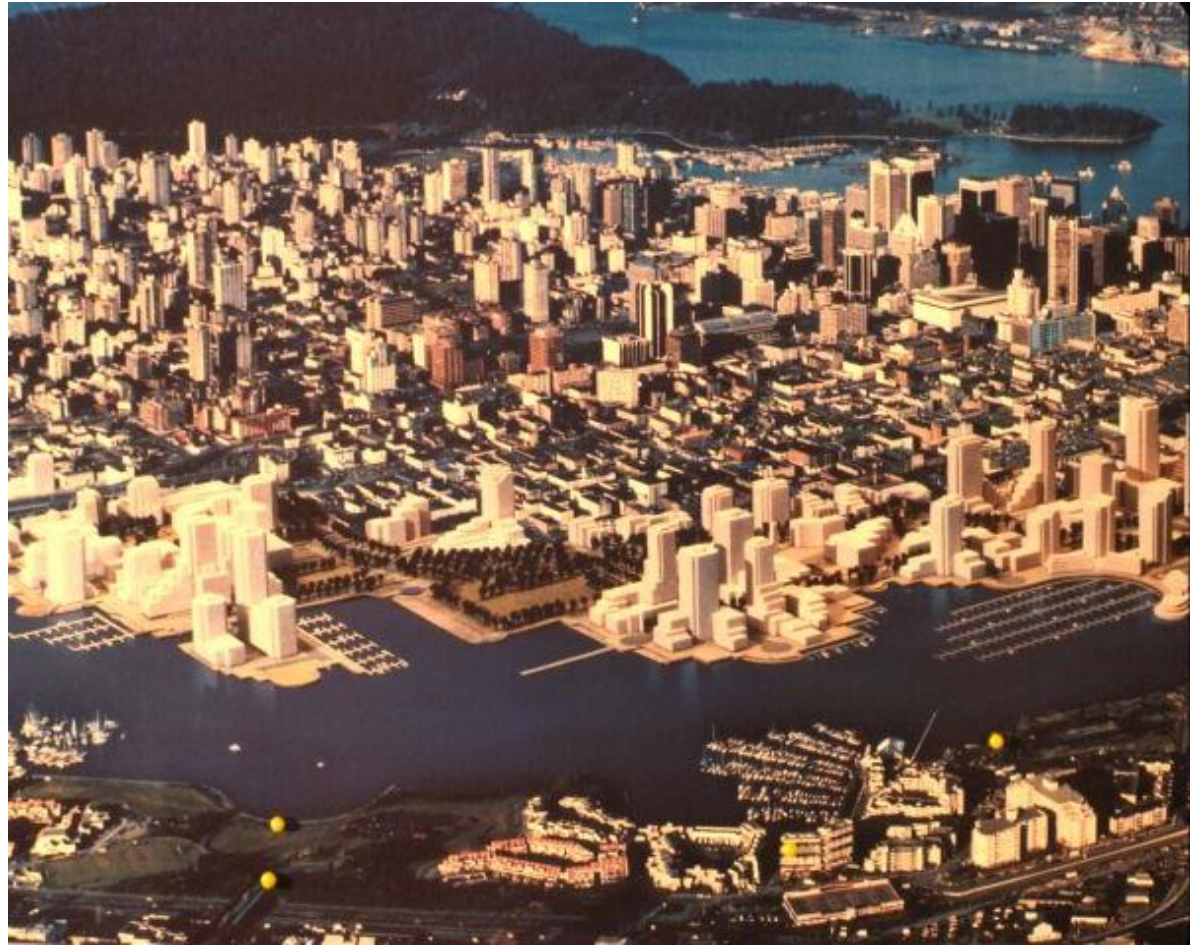
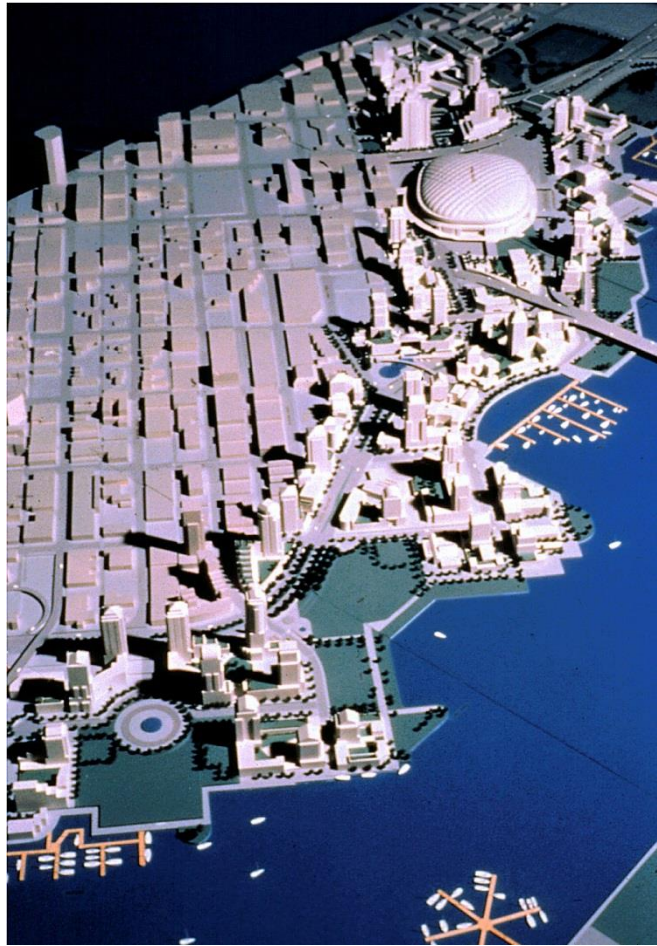
Pre-Expo 86 (early 1980s)



Expo 86



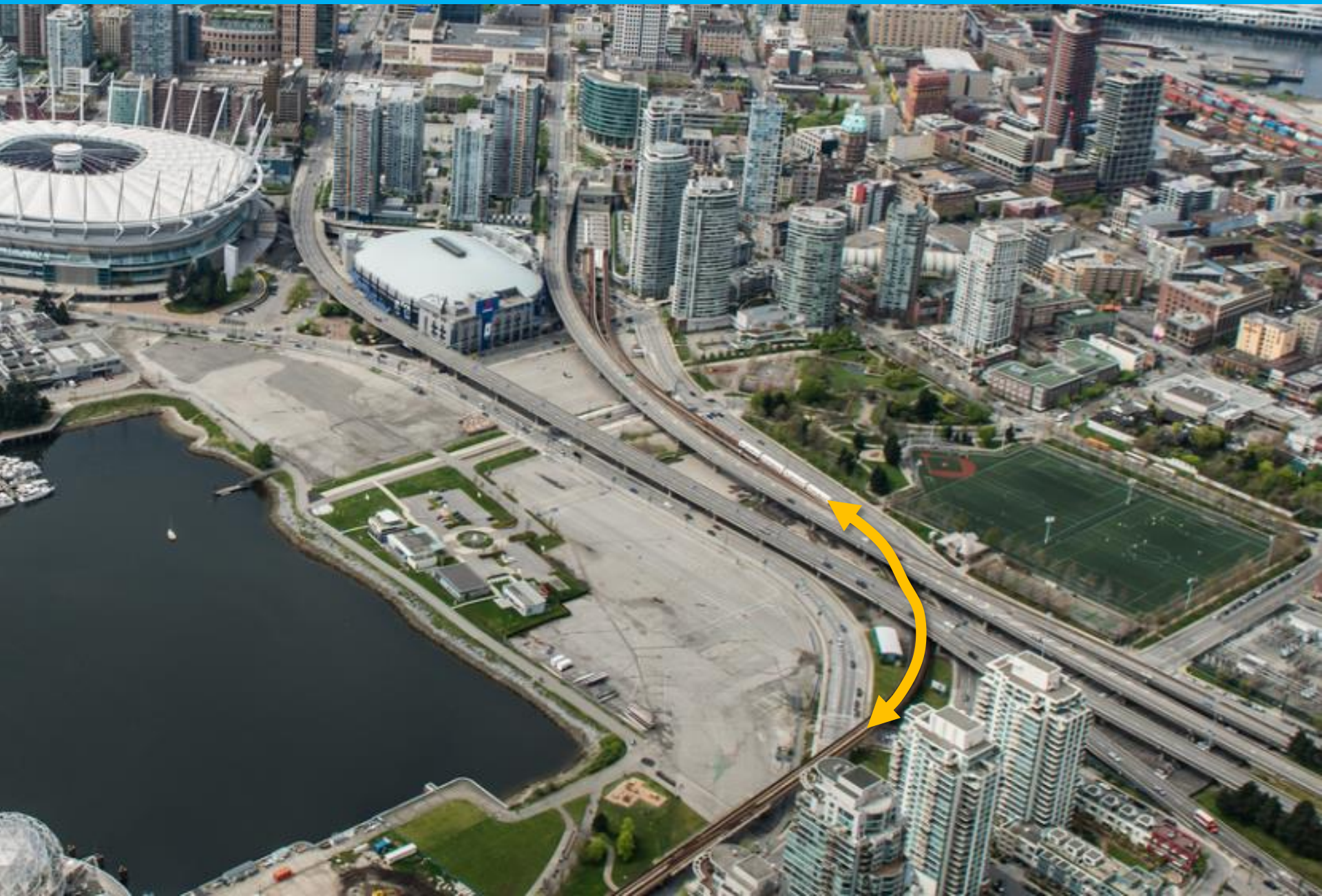
False Creek North ODP and Concord Pacific (1990s to now)



NEFC Today: An Important Opportunity in Time



NEFC Today: An Important Opportunity in Time

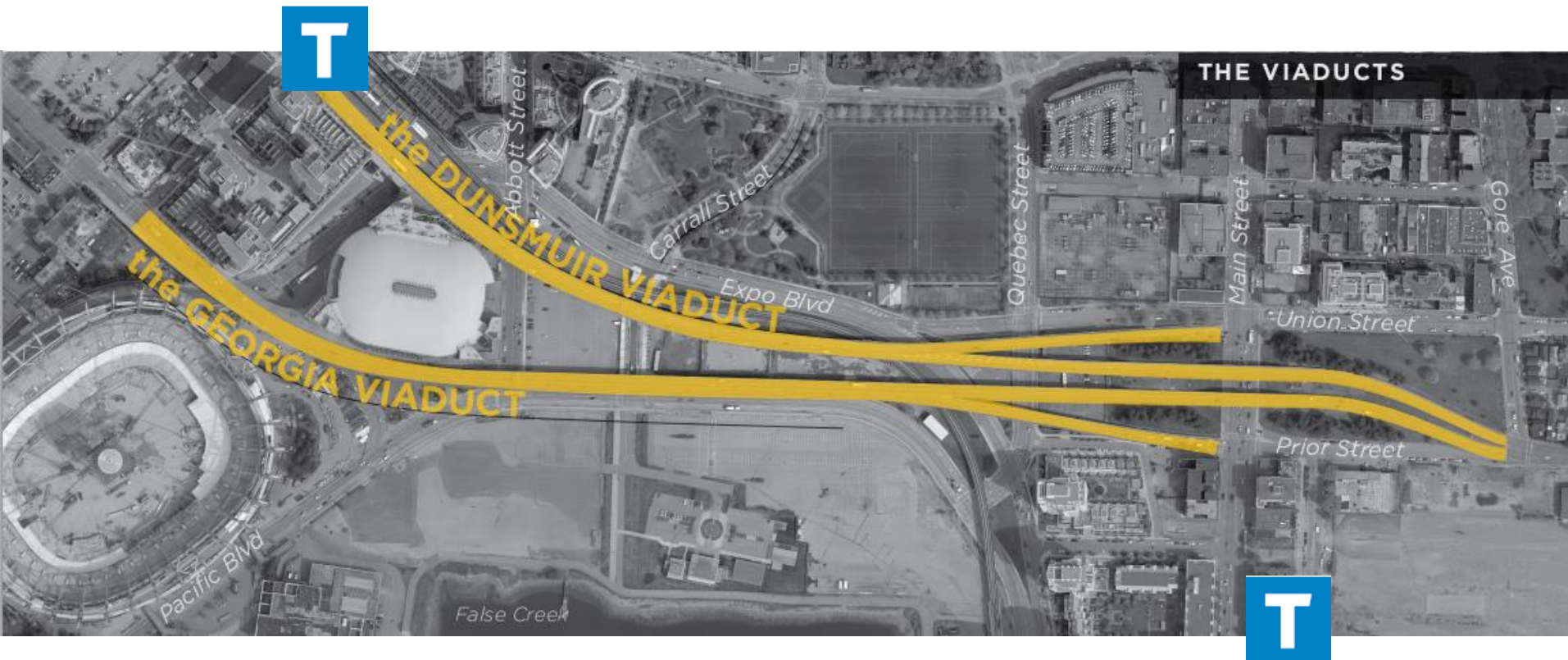


Viaducts - Barrier for The Community



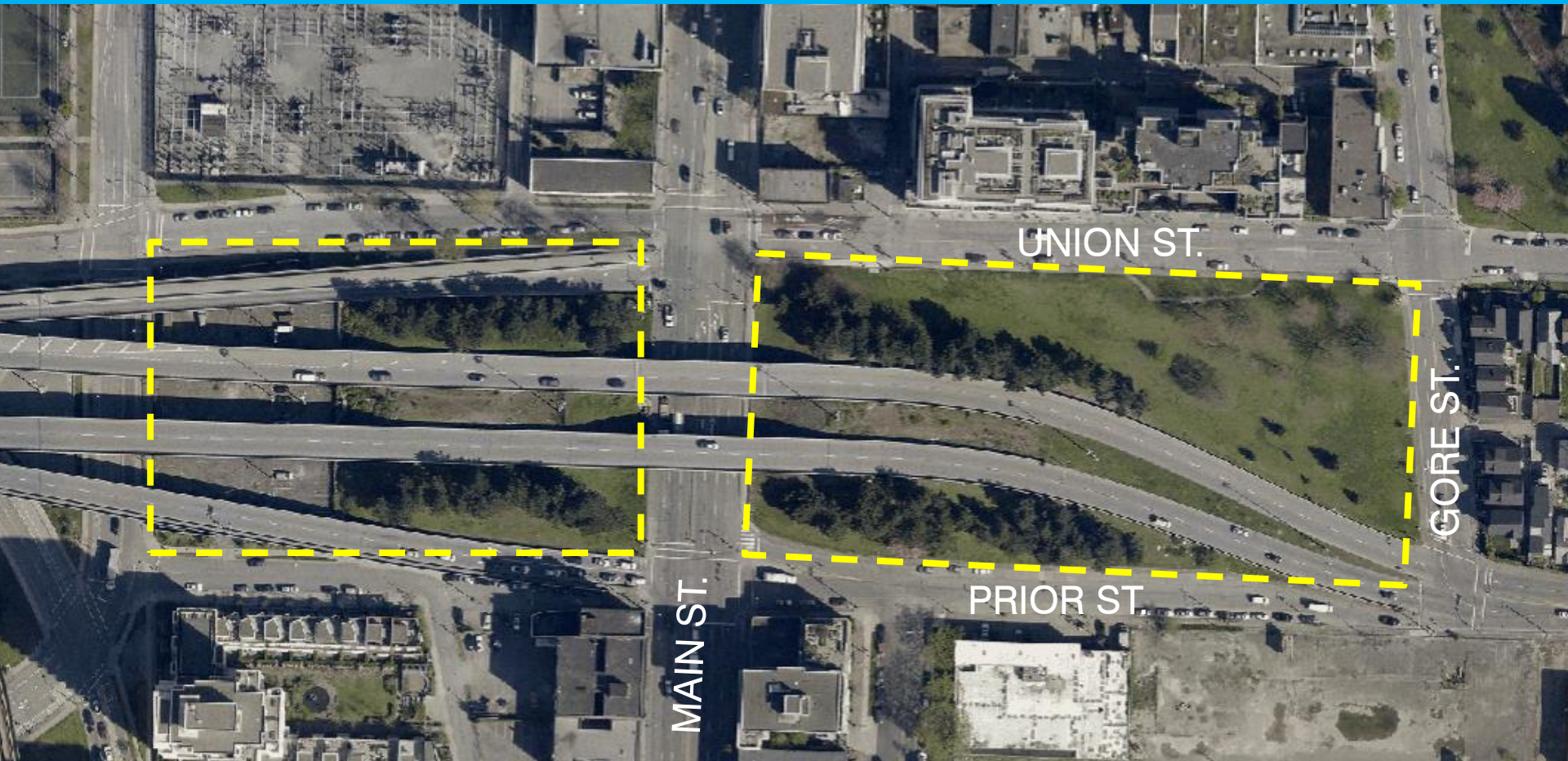
Separate historic communities from the water
The space between and beneath the viaducts is largely inaccessible and unused

Viaducts - Underutilized Infrastructure



With capacity to carry upwards of 1,800 vehicles per lane per hour, the Georgia and Dunsmuir Viaducts carry only 750 vehicles per lane per hour during their busiest hours, less than half of their designed capacity.

Viaducts - Land Intensive



2 full city blocks are used for the down-ramps from the viaducts

**Disconnects Main Street
Honouring Hogan's Alley**

Viaducts - Expensive

5 –10X COST

vs. at-grade street



\$8-10M IN 15 YEARS

to maintain

\$60-80M

to upgrade seismically

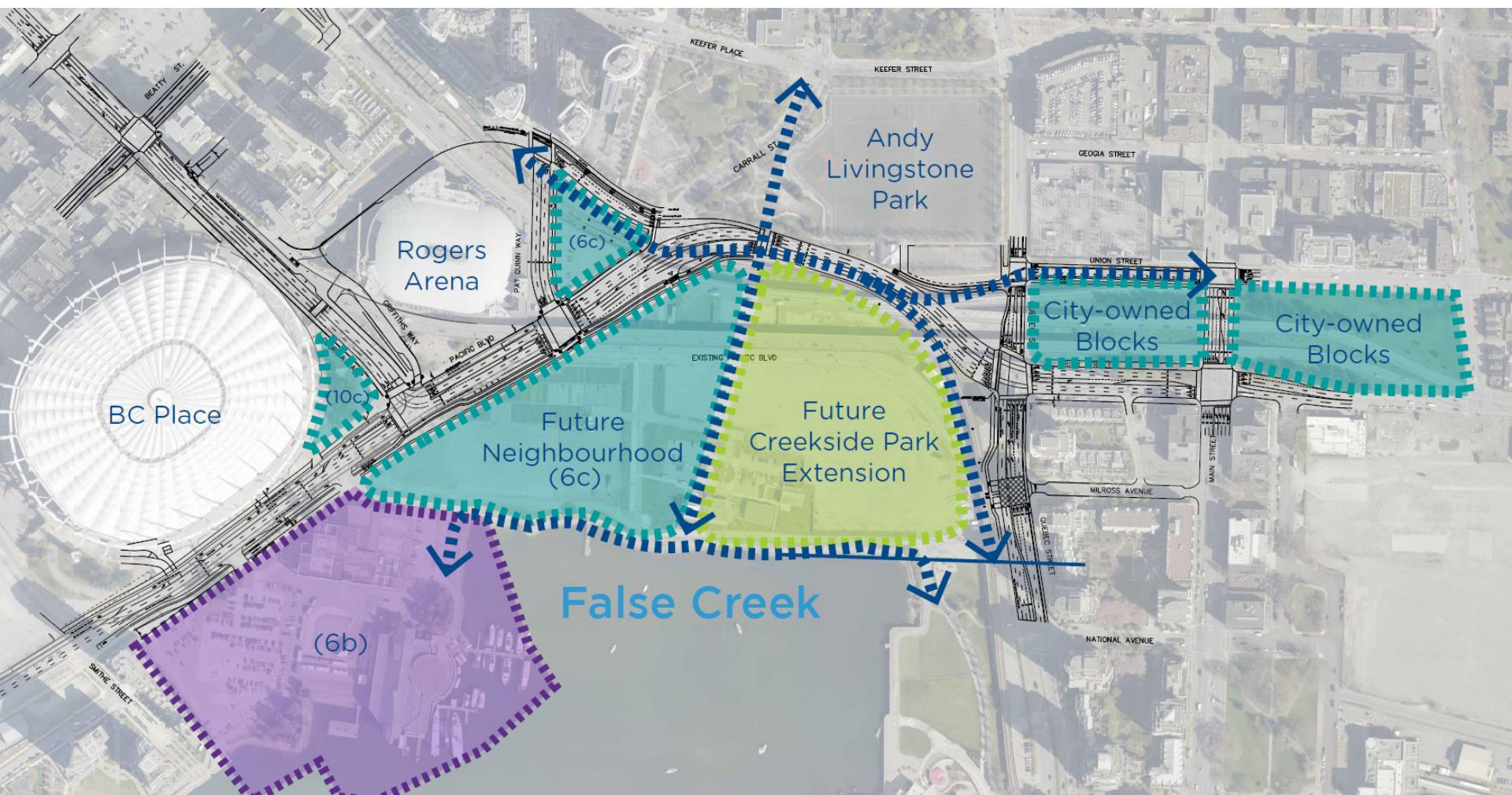
An Important Opportunity in Time



False Creek North Boundary

New Major Streets

Council Direction - A Guiding Framework



Council Direction – A New Transportation Network



Council Direction - A Guiding Framework



Council Direction - A Guiding Framework

Perspective sketch showing potential 20 year build out of Northeast False Creek



6,000 –
8,000 new
jobs

Targeting
1.8M sq.ft. of
job space

~1,800
social
housing
units

10,000 -
12,000 new
residents

\$1.5B total
public
benefit value

~18 acres of
new parks
and open
space



Community Values Consultation

Community Consultation



Since the project launch in September 2016:

14,000+ people

have participated in over

70 different public events

open houses, workshops, online surveys and
online engagement tools



Community Consultation

Overall Feedback



Affordability



Vibrancy



**Accessibility
+ Inclusion**



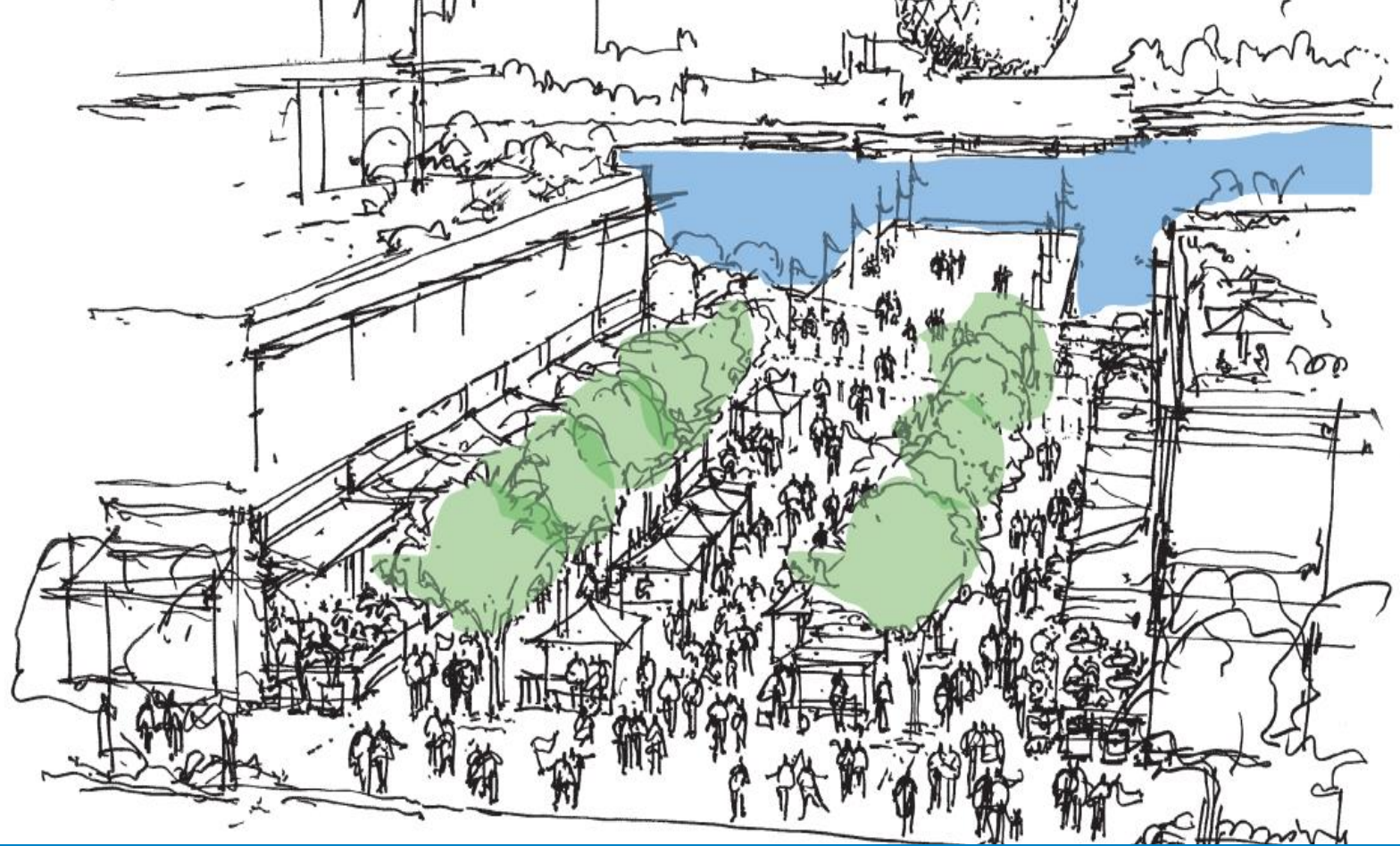
**Honouring
History**



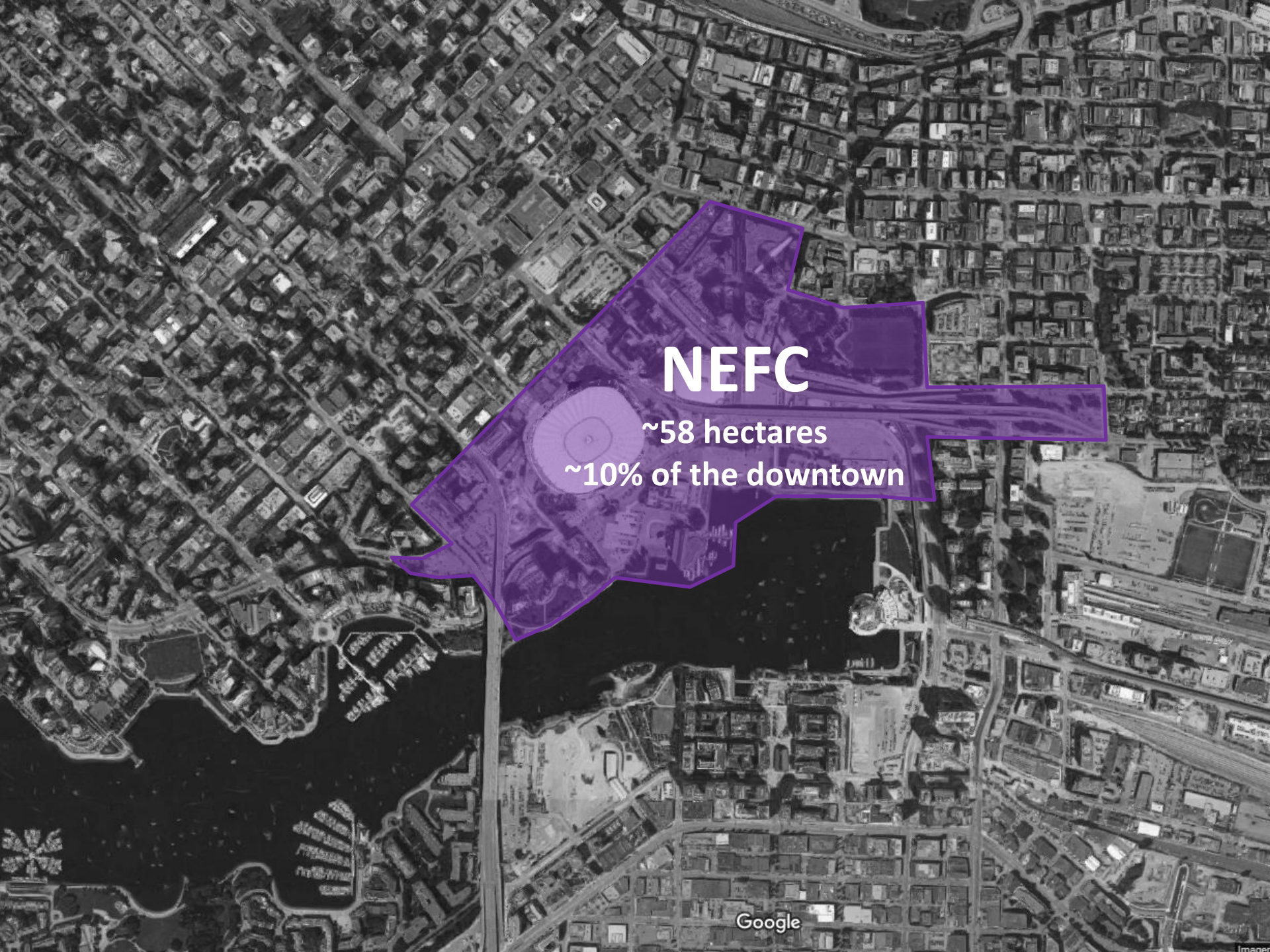
Connectivity



**Creativity in
Design**



Urban Design Principles



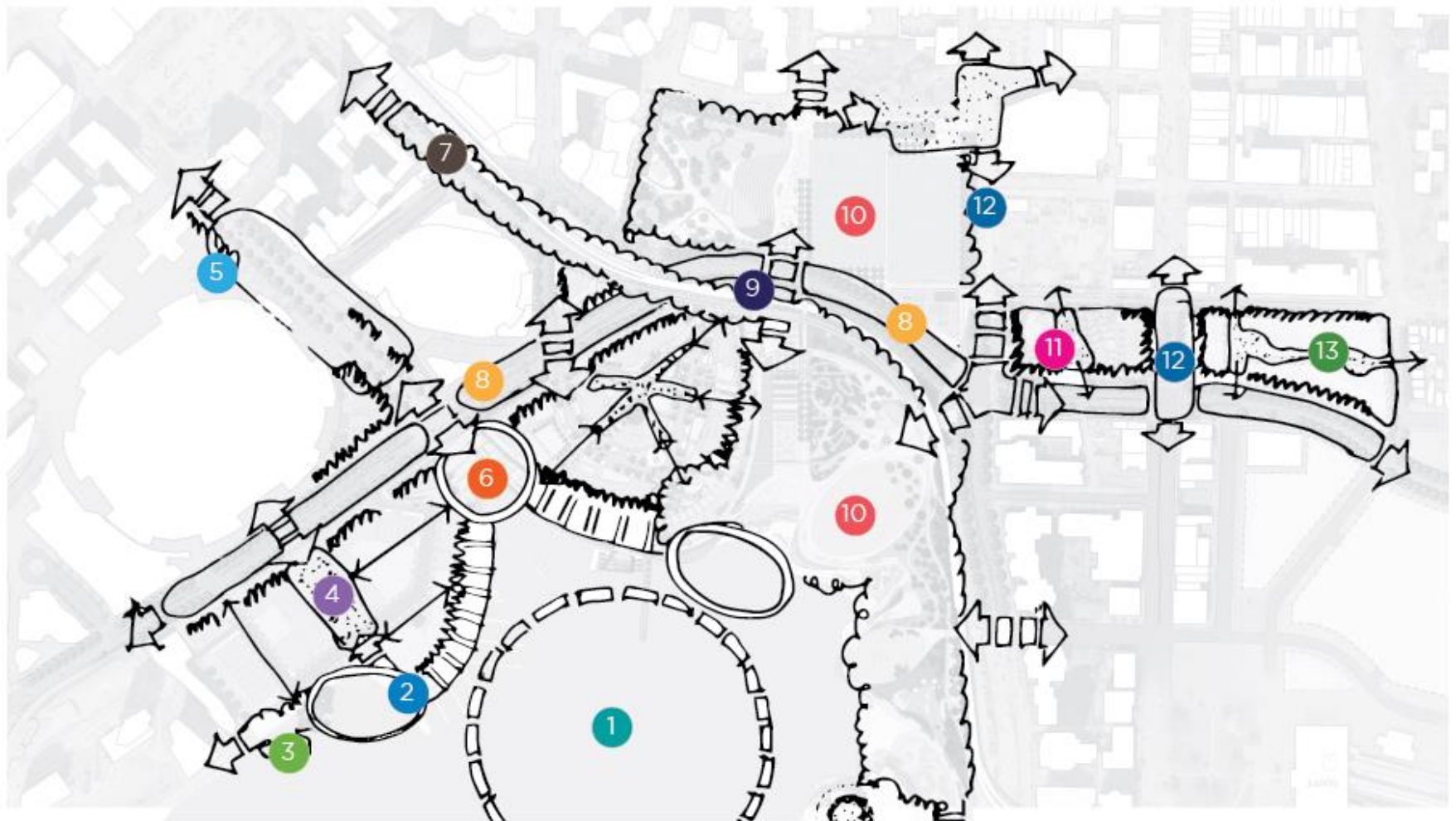
NEFC

~58 hectares
~10% of the downtown

Three Distinct Districts

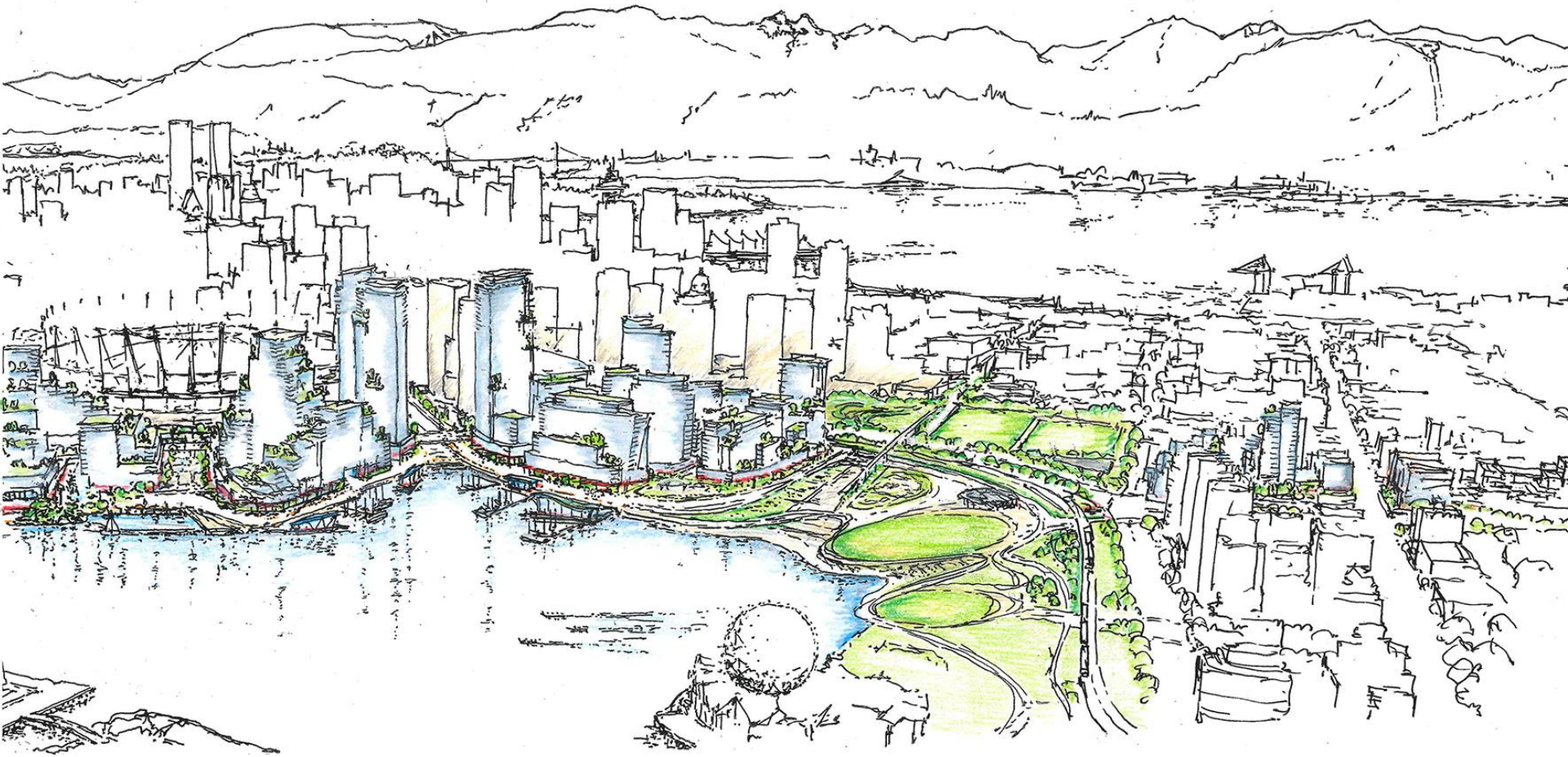


Places for Public Life



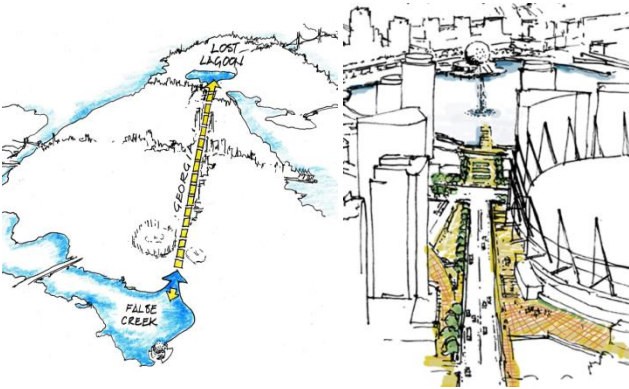
- | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|
| 1 False Creek Public Basin | 2 Arts Pavilion and Plaza | 3 Habitat Water's Edge | 4 Plaza of Nations | 5 Georgia Street |
| 6 Georgia Landing | 7 Dunsmuir Connection | 8 Pacific Boulevard | 9 Carrall Plaza | 10 Creekside and Andy Livingstone Park |
| 11 Historic Shoreline | 12 Reconnecting Chinatown | 13 Hogan's Alley | | |

Urban Design Principles

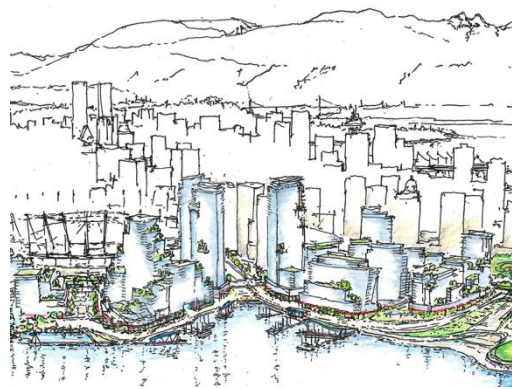


Urban Design Principles

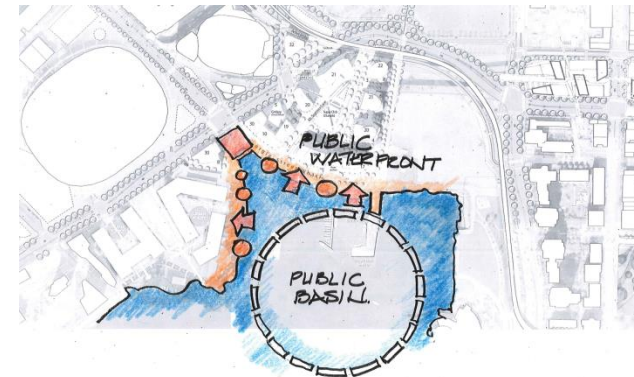
Water to Water



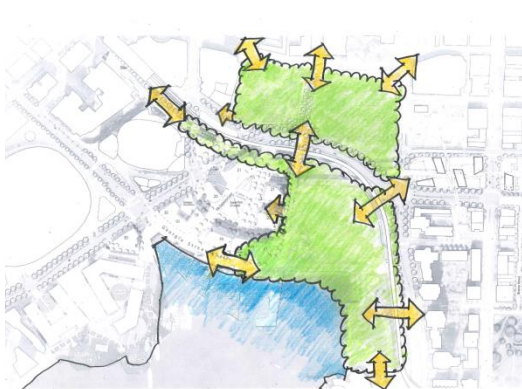
Georgia Gateway



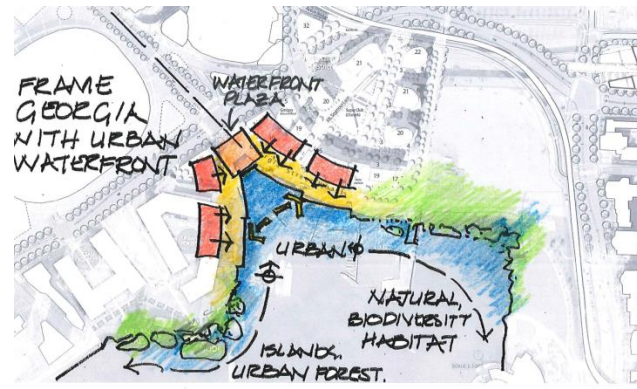
False Creek Public Basin and Waterfront



Connected and Prominent Park



Bring the Water to Georgia Street



An Urban Waterfront for Pedestrians



Urban Design Principles

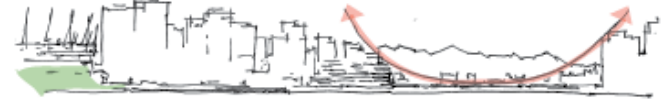
Engaged Park / Pacific
/ Skytrain Interface



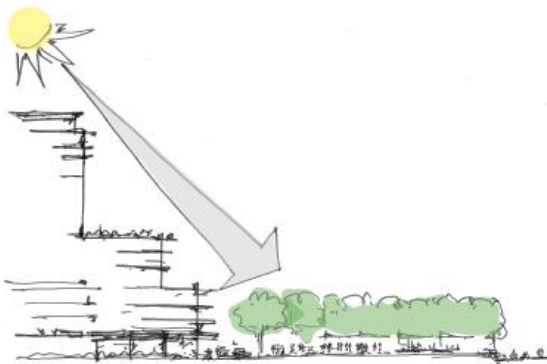
Pacific Boulevard Great Street



Water/Park/Mountain View



Sunlight on Public
Places



Celebrate B.C. Place



Public Life and Public Places



A unique place and a new building typology for Vancouver

Evolve new building typologies beyond the tower and podium of Vancouverism.

Grow the new typology from:

- Exploration of fine grain fabric and high density forms to create a human scale
- 'Sticky edges' to linger, enjoy, socialize and engage
- Greater mix of uses
- Living spaces that offer a sense of ground, green and garden on upper building levels





Park Design Concepts

NEFC Park



Dunsmuir
Connection

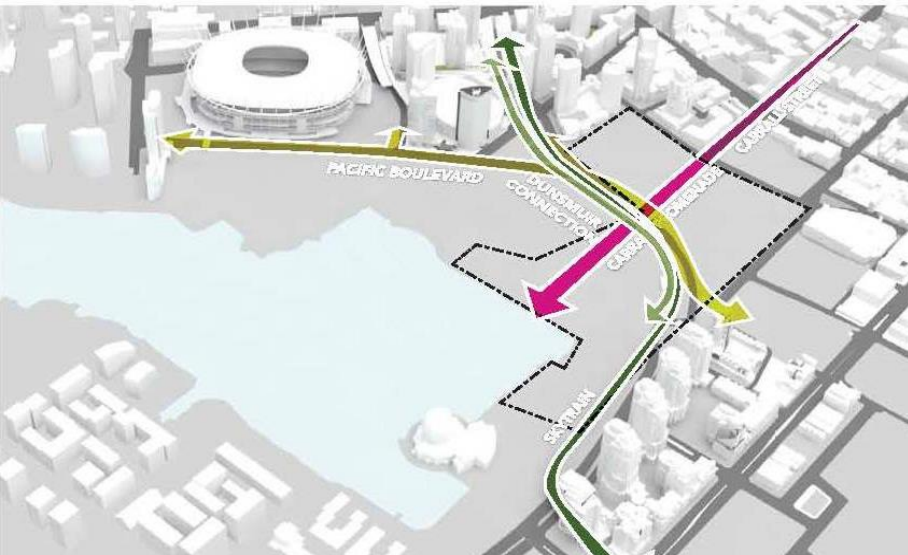
Andy
Livingstone Park

Creekside Park
Extension

Creekside
Park

>13.75 acres of new parks and open spaces

Carrall Promenade and Connectivity



Treed Promenade

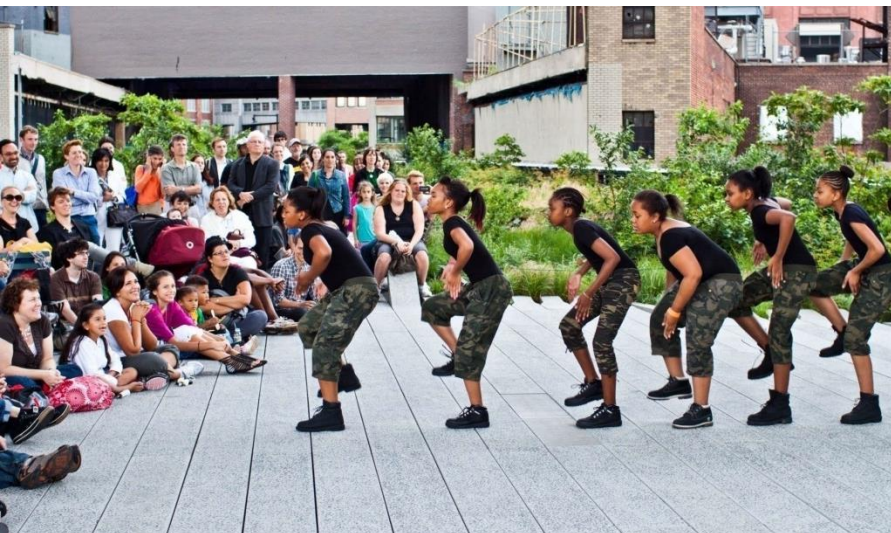
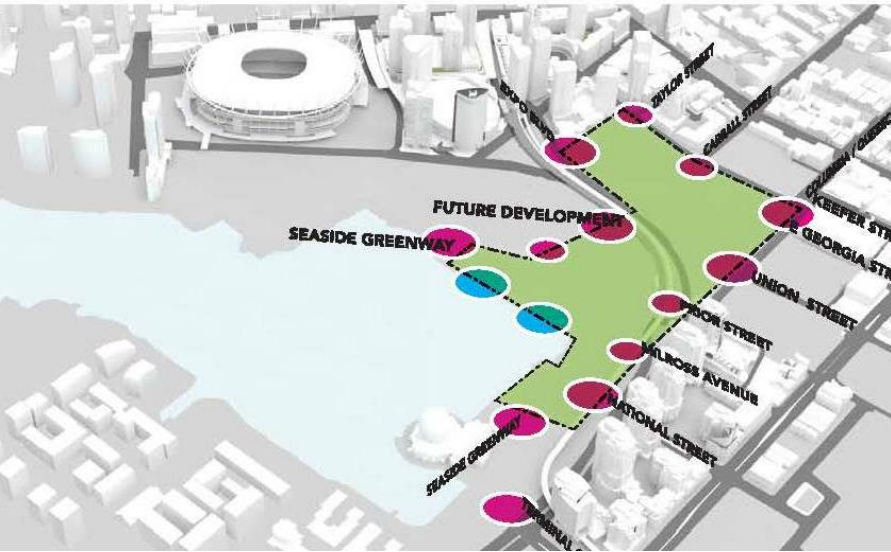


Green park edges

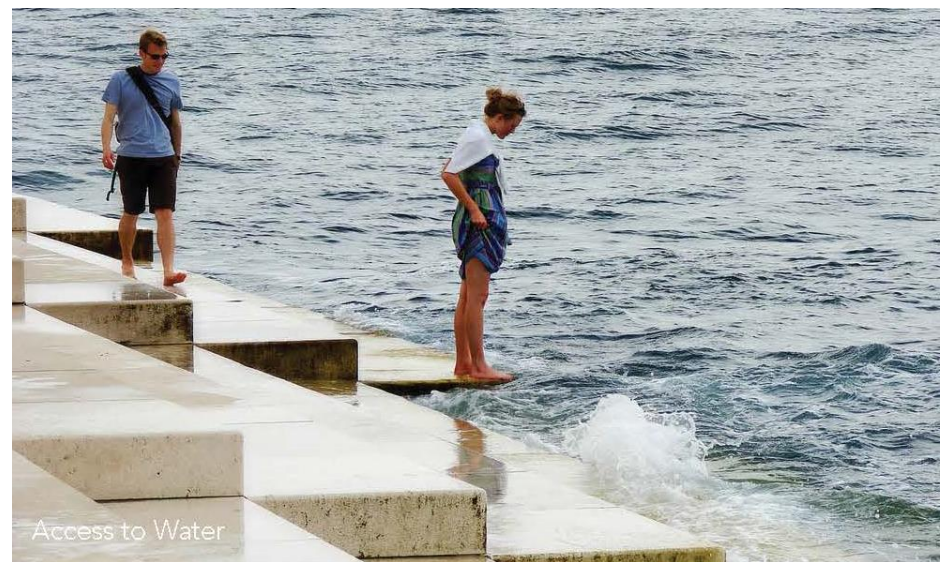
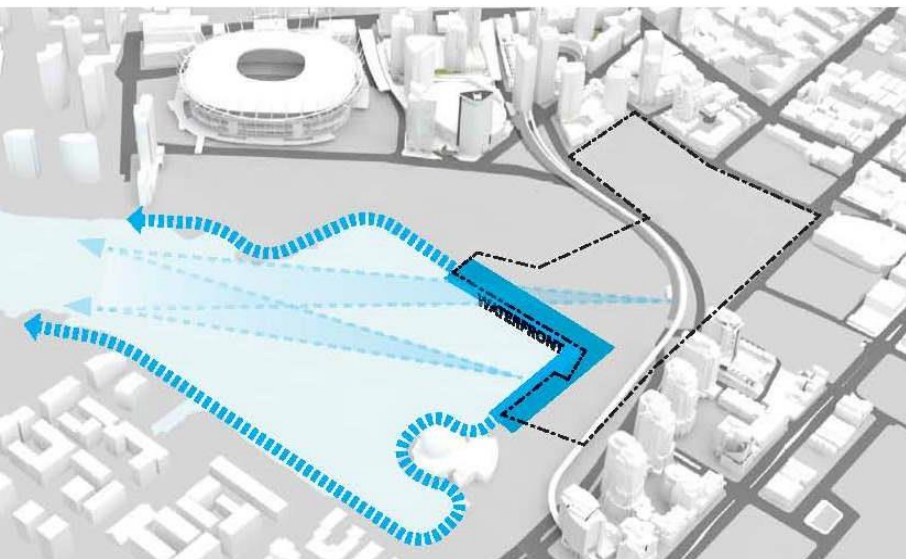


Look out

Access Points, Amenities and Frontage



Waterfront Views



Access to Water

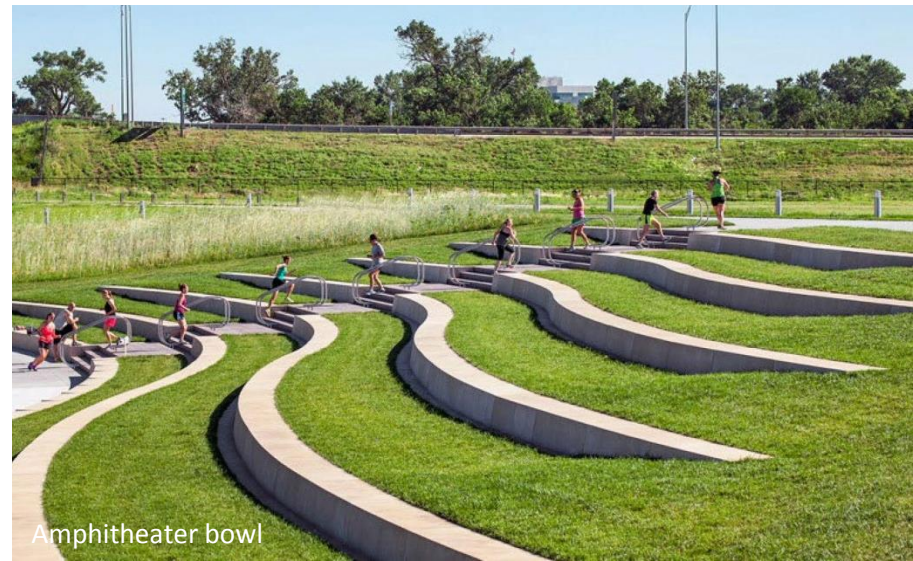
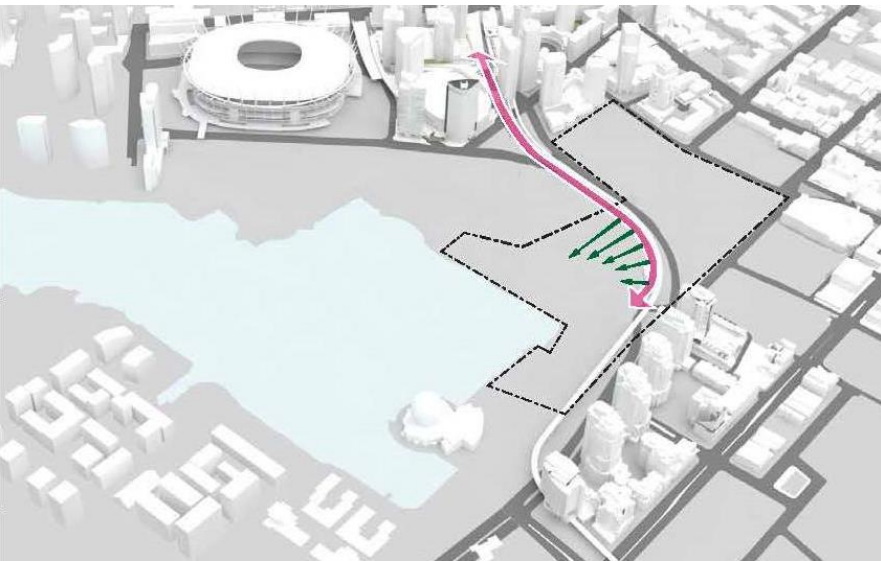


Habitat restoration and living shorelines at SEFC



Park Overlook: Cumberland Park - Hargreaves

Dunsmuir Bicycle/Pedestrian Connection



Amphitheater bowl



Elevated park



Biking connection

Balanced Program

PASSIVE ← → ACTIVE



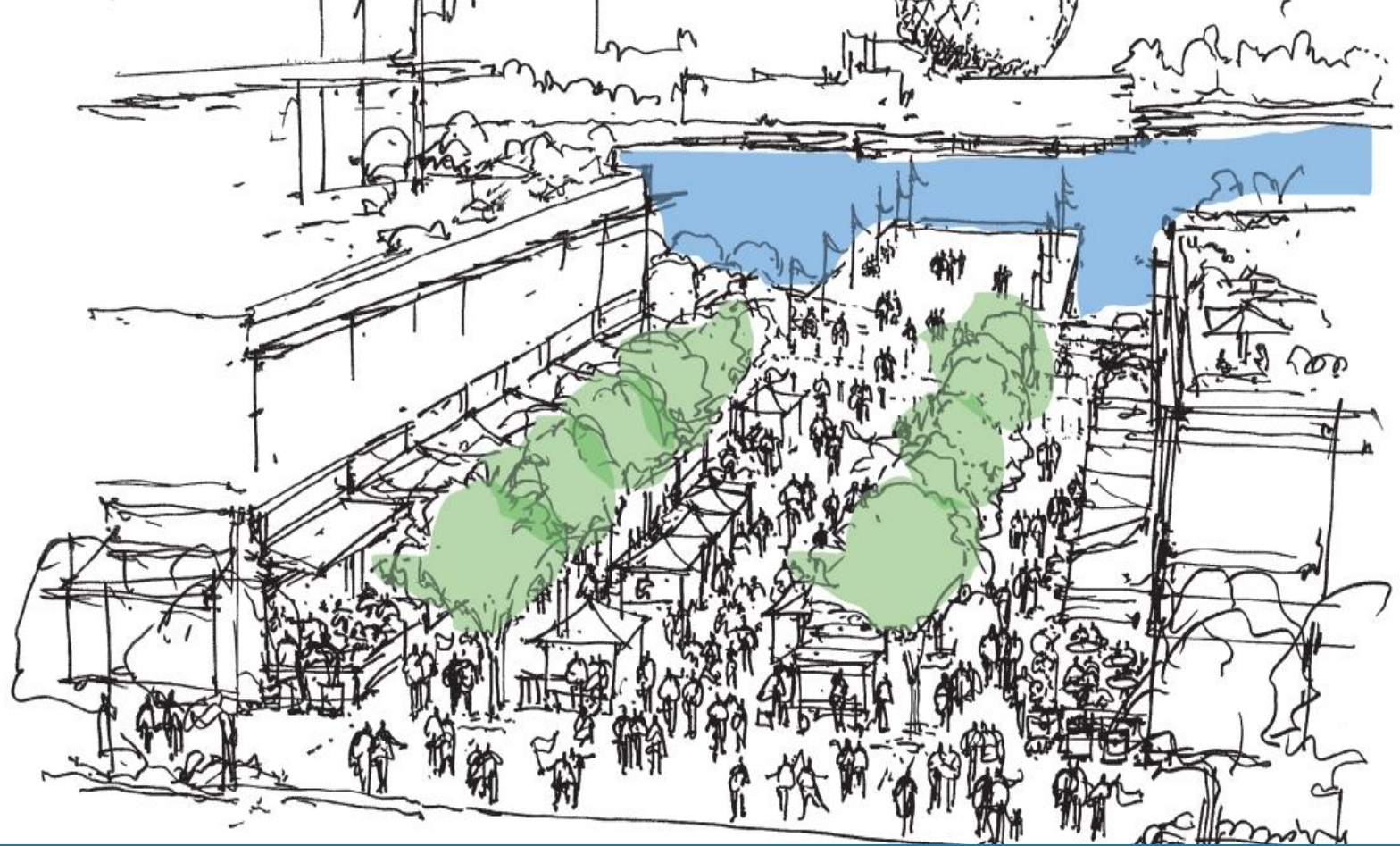
Flexible spaces for events + community

CONCEPT PLAN



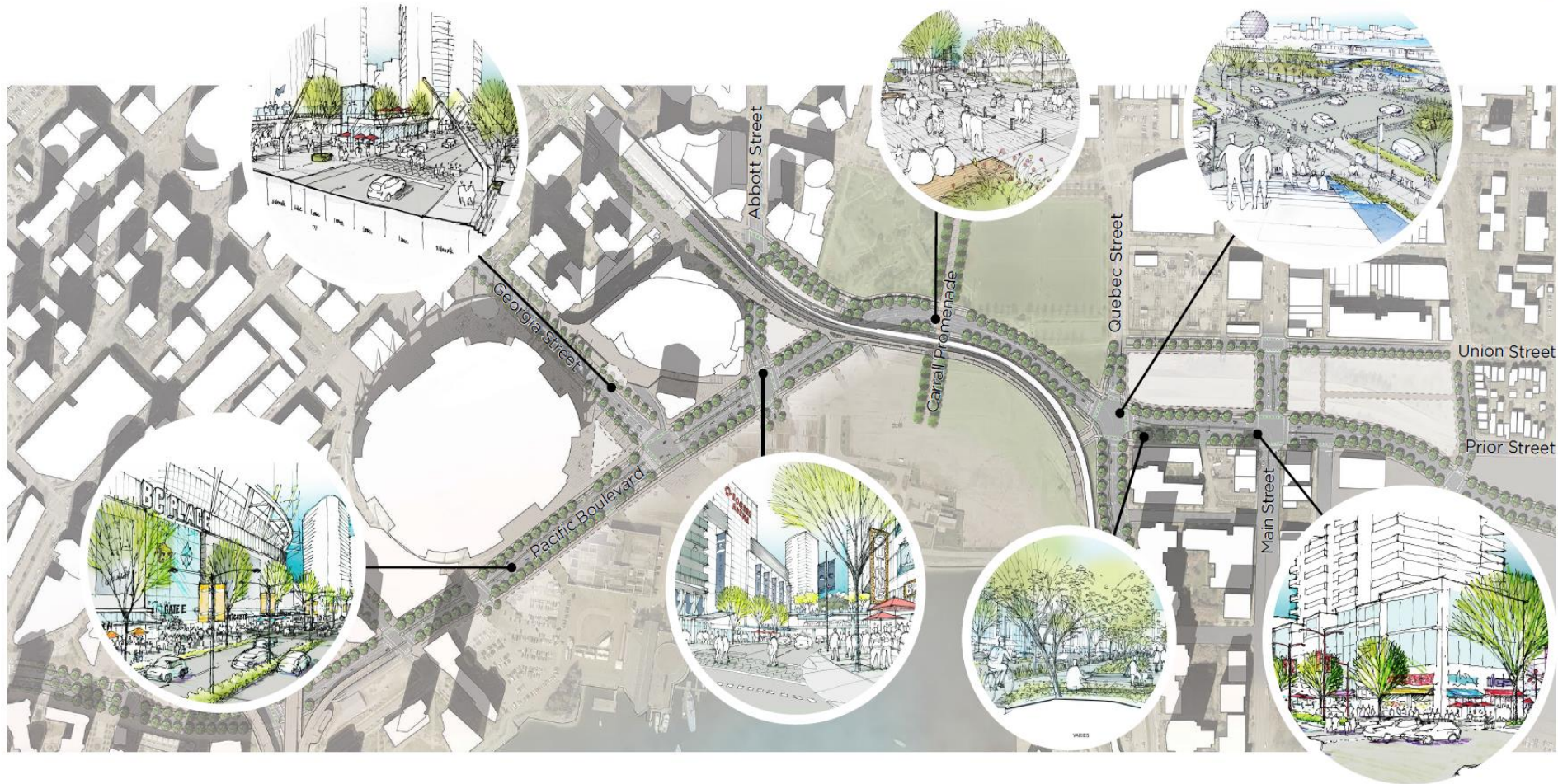






Great Streets Design

PROPOSED FUTURE STREET NETWORK



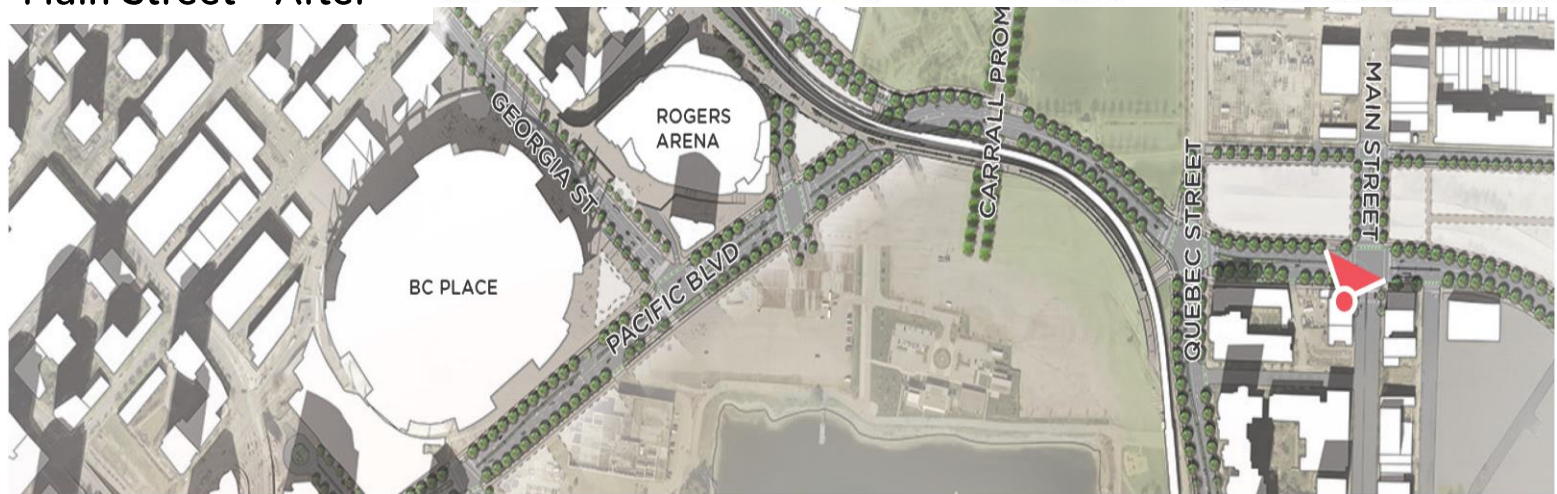


Main Street - Before



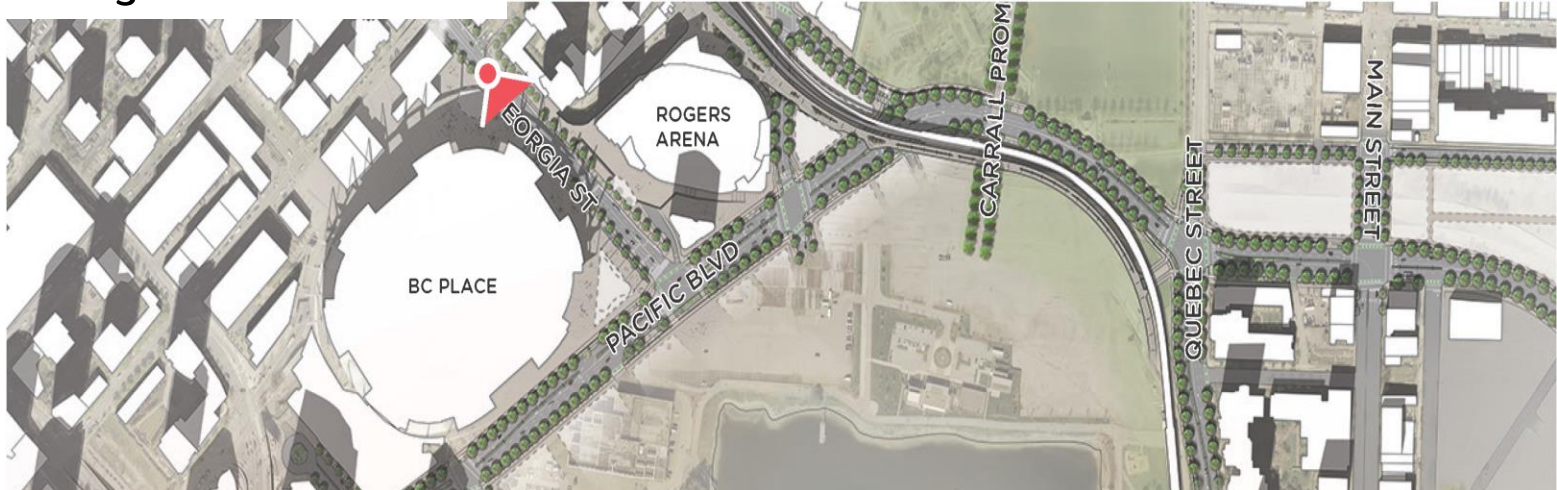


Main Street - After



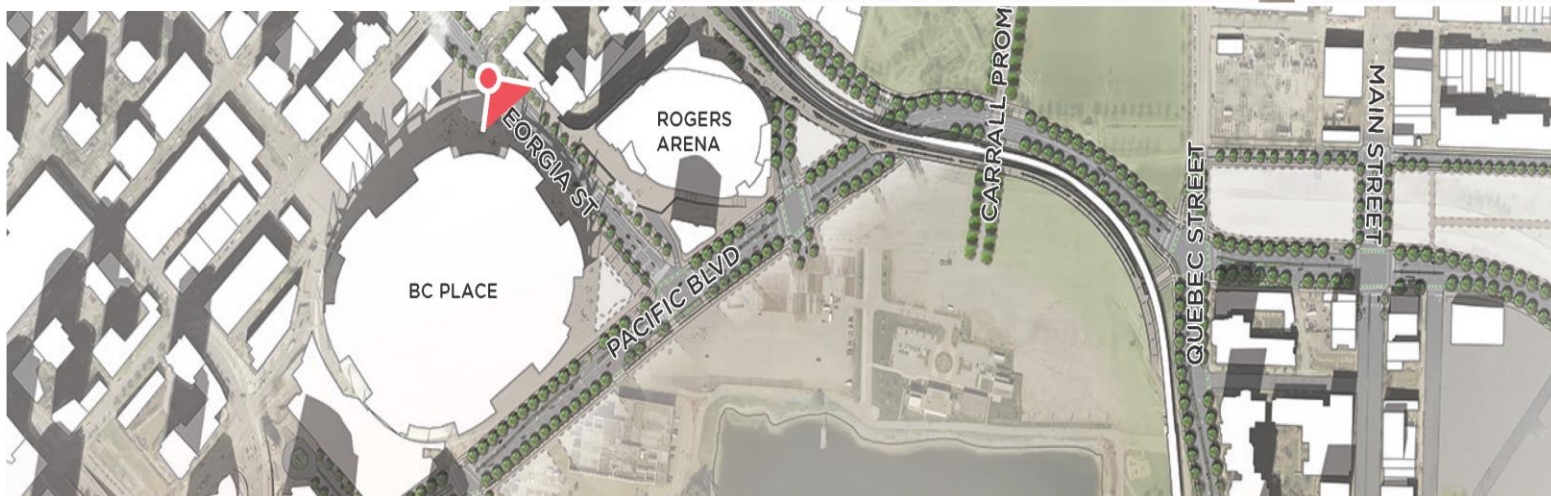


Georgia Street - Before





Georgia Street - After





Pacific Blvd - Before





Pacific Blvd - After

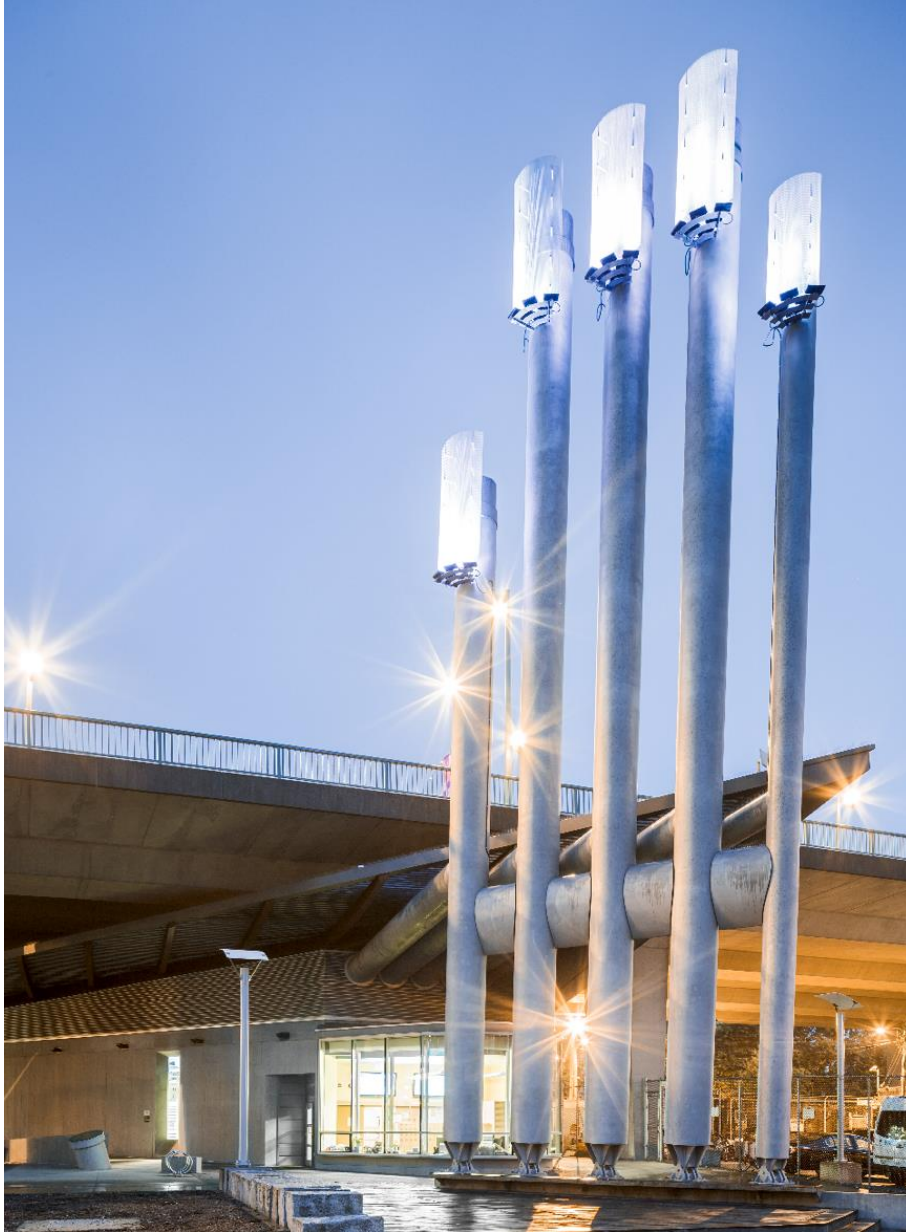




JAMES
CORNER
FIELD
OPERATIONS

Sustainability and Resiliency

Low Carbon Neighbourhood Energy Systems (NES)



- Neighbourhood Energy connections
- Near Zero Emissions Buildings
- Passive House standard or LEED gold +
- Integration of water conservation and grey water recycling



Biodiversity and Habitat Restoration



- Forest canopy increase
- Quality habitat
- Encourage species of bird, fish and pollinators



Green Mobility



100% access to EV charging in the future
on the private side

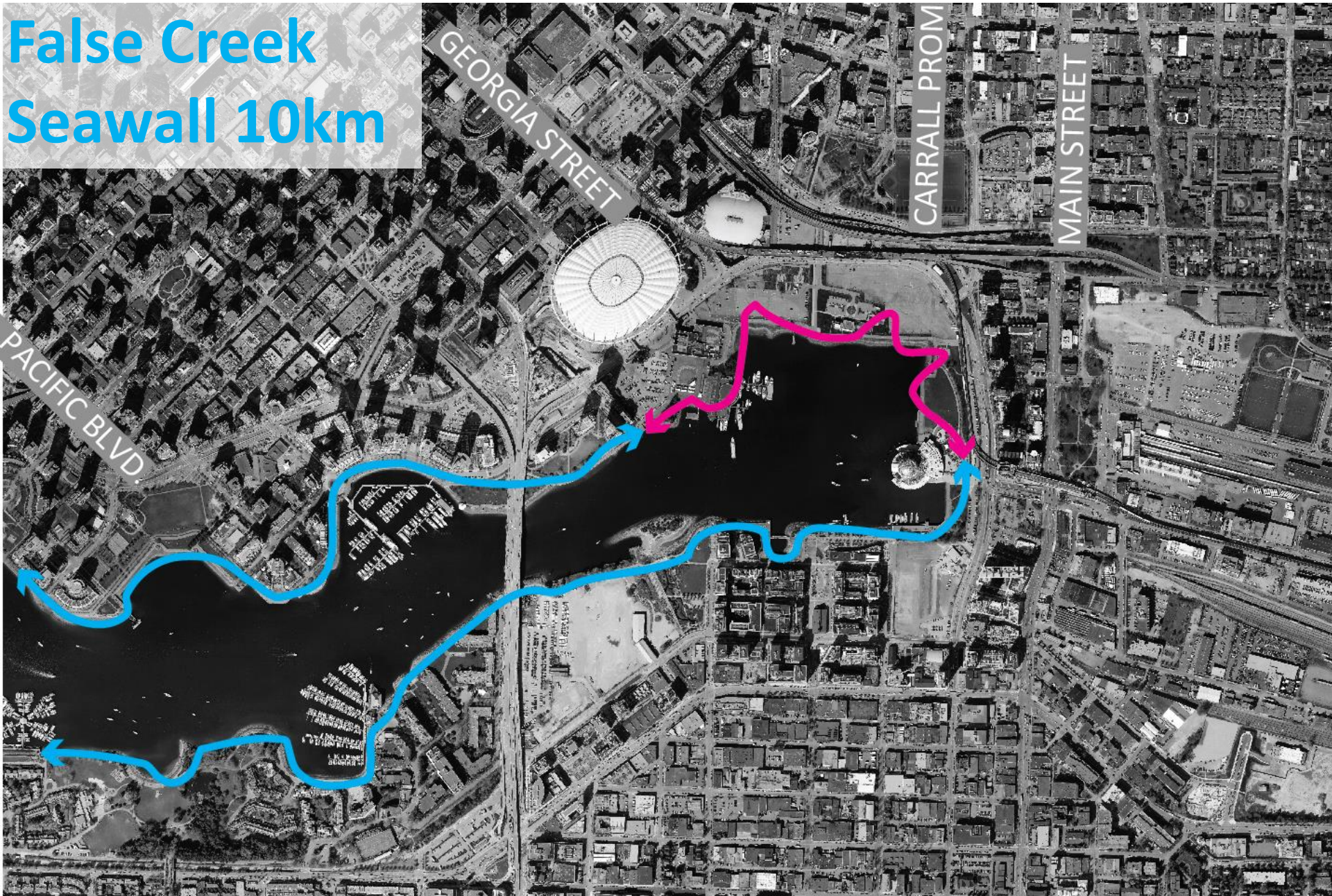
Public access in key places for short
charging opportunities

Avoid use of generators by providing
public hook-ups



Sea level rise and flood protection

False Creek
Seawall 10km



Sea level rise and flood protection

“The Ribbon”

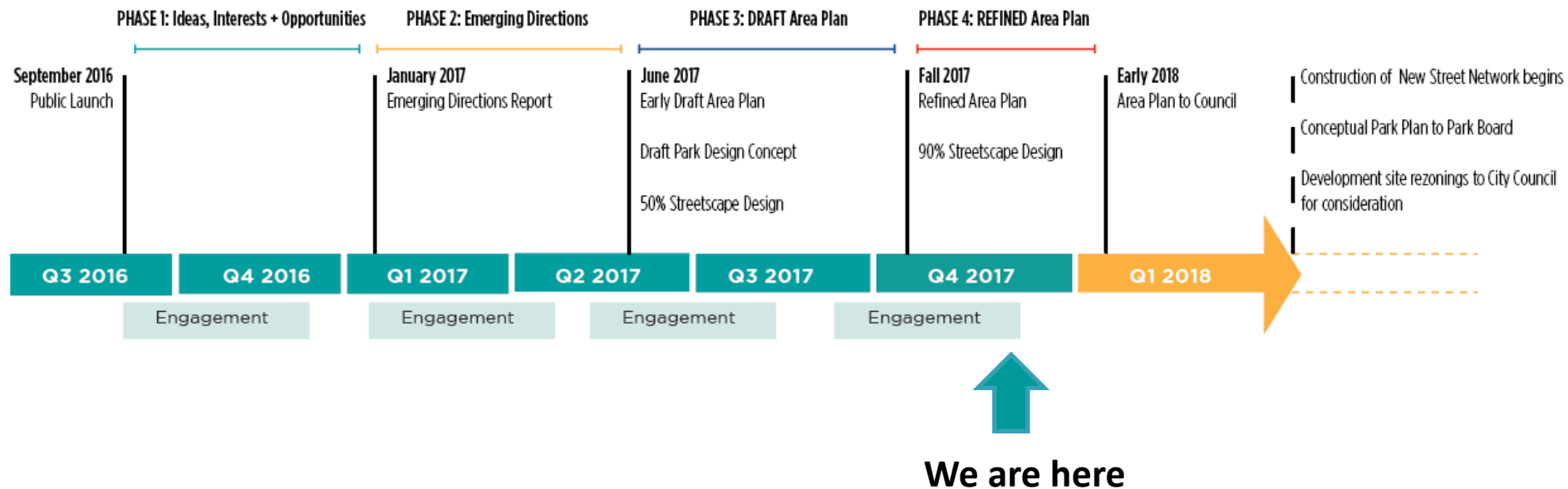
- Flexible and resilient
- Connected to habitat and urban fabric
- Multifunctional – walking, cycling, patios, plantings, etc.



Future Northeast False Creek



Next Steps: Project Timeline



Engagement

POP-UP STOREFRONT

511 W Broadway (at Cambie)

- Saturday, Nov 18, 11 am–5 pm
- Monday, Nov 20, 11 am–5 pm
- Tuesday, Nov 21, 11 am–5 pm
- Wednesday, Nov 22, 3–9 pm

OPEN HOUSE AT CHINATOWN PLAZA

180 Keefer Street

- Thursday, Nov 23, 2pm–6 pm

ONLINE

vancouver.ca/nefc



Thank You!

