WINDSOR CIVIC ESPLANADE FINAL REPORT – VOLUME 2

CONCEPT MASTER PLAN

MAY, 2023







CONCEPT APPROACH

EXISTING SITE



Aerial and Site Photos

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CONCEPT APPROACH

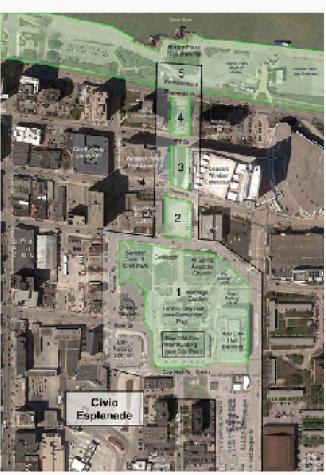
CONCEPT APPROACH

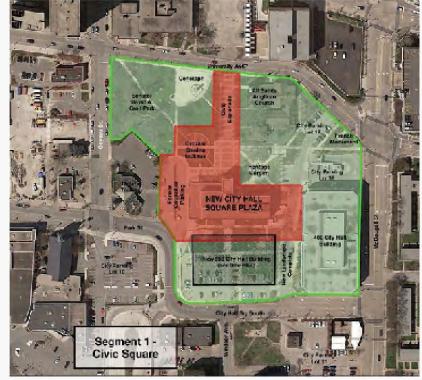
CONCEPT APPROACH CITY OBJECTIVES

The current study provides an updated conceptual design and phasing plan for each segment of the Civic Esplanade as well as refine the program elements and provide conceptual designs for the new City Hall Square Plaza. The goals of the project are to:

Provide a functional, flexible, and programmable outdoor space for public use.

- Create outdoor space for civic ceremonies and announcements
- Incorporate the heritage, cultural and context of the existing plaza
- Increase accessibility and use of the plaza and esplanade
- Increase the connectivity and cultural footprint that the Civic Esplanade and Civic Square segment has on the core of the city.
- Develop design solutions that meet environmental and sustainability objectives
- Provide design solutions that incorporate operating and maintenance objectives
- Reinforce the Civic Campus concept adopted during the design of the new 350 City Hall building
- Connect City Hall to the Civic Esplanade.
- The Light the Path concept brings to light other important aspects of Windsor's history, and provides space for ongoing recognition of the City's vibrant diversity.





City-provided diagrams of the site area

City-provided diagrams of the site area



FORREC VISION A NEW PLACE FOR CIVIC LIFE IN THE CITY

The City Hall Plaza and Civic Esplanade represent **a unique opportunity to bring together Windsor's diverse stories, people, and activities in the creation of a shared place**. The design process begins with research, as we discover the rich and complex history of the site, and the layered stories that give the project a meaningful context through time.

These histories persist, in the lived present day experiences of the people of Windsor. Our conversations with community members suggest **the character of spaces that will support civic life; places of celebration, of refuge, of recreation, of respite, of play.**

The character of these spaces then provides a framework for the evaluation of the activities and programming best suited to support and embody those varied types of civic life.

Taken together, these studies and research define key variables and components, forming a narrative that will help to guide further studies and analysis.



ANALYSIS & STUDIES

- PROJECT BRIEF HISTORY, BACKGROUND AND DIRECTIVES 1.
- 2. PROGRAMMING STUDY
- 3. BENCHMARKING STUDY
- 4. SWOT ANALYSIS (STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES AND THREATS)
- 5. SITE ANALYSIS
- 6. STREETSCAPE STUDY
- 7. WHAT WE HEARD PUBLIC AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT









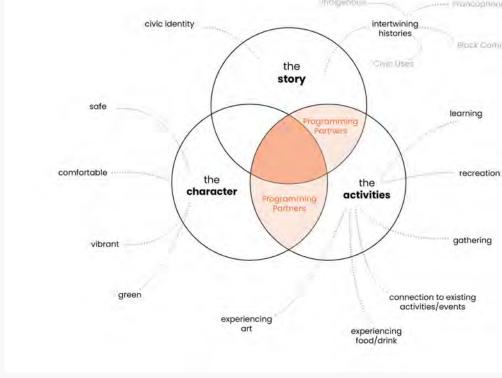
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PUBLIC & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Through an extensive process of engagement led by GLOS Architects, the design team entered into months of conversations and feedback session with a wide spectrum of the Windsor community. The engagement included:

- An interactive, public website with a variety of tools for collecting and sharing information and feedback at www.windsorcivicesplanade.ca.
- A project awareness campaign using Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and the City of Windsor website
- Five (5) City of Windsor Internal Focus Groups including:
 - Parks Development & Operations
 - Information Technology
 - Culture, Recreation & Special Events
 - Environmental Sustainability
 - Facilities
- Fourteen (14) External Focus Groups including:
 - Downtown Windsor Community Collaborative (DWCC)
 - All Saints Church
 - Downtown Windsor Business Improvement Area (DWBIA)
 - Art Gallery of Windsor
 - WindsorEats
 - St. Clair College

- University of Windsor
- Windsor International Film Festival (WIFF)
- Association des Communautés Francophones de l'Ontario Windsor Essex
- Chatham Kent (ACFO WECK)
- Ontario Tourism Windsor
- Walpole Island First Nation
- Black Council Windsor-Essex
- Essex County Black History Research
 Society

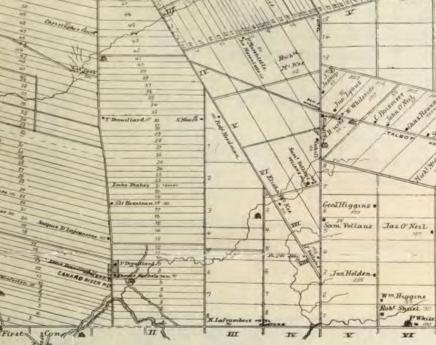


Through our engagement process our team learned that the desire, support and enthusiasm for a connective, meaningful, flexible and useful space in Windsor's downtown is tremendous. We heard businesses, community groups, institutions and individuals overflow with tangible ideas of how the Civic Esplanade could capture all that downtown Windsor is, has been, and could be. We heard immense desire for partnership in keeping this place alive and full of people.

As part of an iterative and interactive process, the design team undertook to craft a concept master plan that integrated this diverse and complex feedback. To create a space that "connects the pieces of our downtown", that provides for small and mid-sized gatherings with more green space and more trees, to "establish a meaningful and Windsor-specific sense of place". We sincerely hope that the result is a vibrant and comfortable space that pulls together a cohesive vision of all that this great City has to be proud of.



SITE HISTORY AND INSPIRATION



TOWNSHIPS

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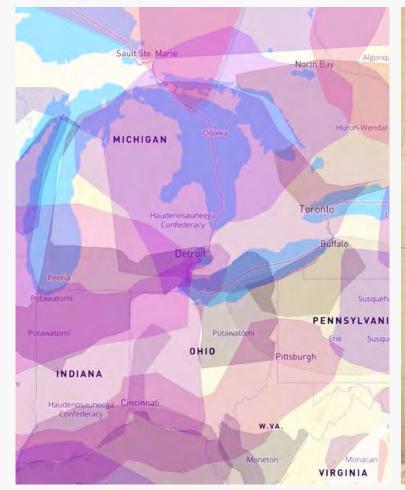
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INDIGENOUS HISTORY

Bkejwanong – the place where the waters divide (the delta islands of Lake St.Clair) has been the homeland of Indigenous peoples for thousands of years. It has even been called the "soul" of Anishinabe territory. Long before Europeans arrived, the Anishinabe occupied territory which includes parts of present-day Ontario, Michigan and Ohio. The resources found there are integral to their way of life and identity. The Anishinabe defended this territory against Haudenosaunee warriors in the 17th Century and its integrity was at the core of the peace treaty they concluded in 1701, a key element of which was Naagan ge bezhig emkwaan, or A Dish with One Spoon – a metaphor for the need to come together peacefully to allow many people groups to share resources from the land.

According to Anishinabe oral tradition the Detroit River was the third stopping place during the time of Second Fire during the Great Migration or Seven Fires/Prophecies journey2. Archaeological studies and Oral History confirm the presence of Anishinabe people and their ancestors on and around the site for thousands of years. Indigenous communities were numerous on both sides of the river throughout pre-colonial times and continued to prosper in the region following French colonization until after the War of 1812. Indigenous people continue to form an important part of Windsor and surrounding communities, contributing to the richness and diversity of the community.

This history, early mapping of Indigenous communities, and insight shared by Walpole Island First Nation provided key inspiration to the Light the Path concept.



- Map Showing Approximate Regions of Pre-Colonial First Nations territories.
- Areas flow and overlap, blending and merging, without hard boundaries in most places – a key inspiration for Light the Path



1707 map showing Indigenous communities on both sides of the Detroit River.

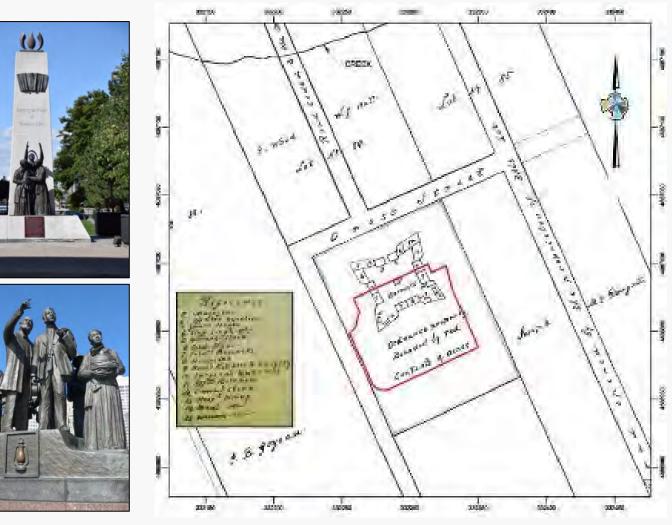
THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

After Canada's Anti-Slavery Law (1793) and the Emancipation Act (1833), abolished slavery, Black refugees fleeing slavery began making their way across the Detroit River. The Windsor/Sandwich area, including the City Hall Square site and Civic Esplanade, became an important terminal on the Underground Railroad.

In the mid nineteenth century, refugees were housed in former military barracks on the City Hall site, until they could find employment and housing, eventually becoming a Refugee Centre in a part of the site referred to as Barracks Square. In 1861 a school was established by a member of the community, as well as a tavern and social club, and several churches, creating a community hub rom 1840 until 1856.

In 1855, the Barracks were tragically destroyed by arson, displacing Black families, and a park was built on the Barracks site. The segregated school on the site remained, and was eventually converted to City Hall.

The Tower of Freedom monument in Riverside Plaza on the Esplanade was created by sculptor Ed Dwight in 2001. It commemorates the history of the Underground Railroad in Windsor and Detroit. The Gateway to Freedom monument in Detroit is visible from the site and, depicts six slaves awaiting transport across the river to Canada. The two monuments are connected by an invisible line running directly between them, as part of the original design. The "Light the Path" concept brings this line to light, and reveals the outline of the original barracks in City Hall Square, celebrating this important part of the history of the site, Windsor and Canada.



Tower of Freedom (top) and Gateway to Freedom in Detroit (bottom)



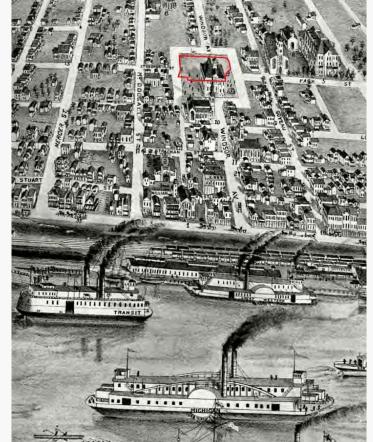
COLONIAL & MILITARY HISTORY

The City Hall Square site has always been an important historical and civic place, with many significant buildings and parks throughout its history. It has seen many changes in use and configuration since Colonial times. The area was likely farmland during French occupation in the mid to late 18th century. At various times, the study area has contained military barracks (1840s and again in the 1860s), a park (1850s), a public school (located to the north of the study area) and auxiliary structures (1870s–1900s), a City Hall located to the north of the study area) and other institutional buildings (from 1902 onwards).

In 1935 Windsor, Sandwich, East Windsor, and Walkerville united to form the present-day City of Windsor. In 1862, Central School, a segregated school for Black children was constructed on the site. In 1905, the school building was converted to City Hall. In 1957, a new City Hall was constructed on the site. In 2000, the Civic Square underwent a significant renovation which included the Civic Esplanade connecting City hall to the riverfront. Over the years, various studies proposed redevelopment of the City Hall Square and the creation of a pedestrian Esplanade connecting City Hall to the river. In 2014, the 1957 City Hall was demolished and replaced on a plot directly behind the original building. A characteristic curved wall from the original façade was saved from demolition to be incorporated into the City Hall Square Plaza planned for its former site.

On the site, the Heritage Garden pays tribute to four eras in the site history including the French Farms, Military Barracks, Central School and City Hall Square.

The Light the Path concept brings to light other important aspects of Windsor's history, and provides space for ongoing recognition of the City's vibrant diversity.



1878 Birds eye view shows the 1873 Windsor City Hall and Esplanade



1873 City Hall – formerly the Central School



1957 City Hall. A portion of the curved wall façade has been preserved and integrated into the new concept.

PRECEDENTS AND INSPIRATION

UNIQUE DESIGN ELEMENTS





SUSTAINABILITY & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE





FOR REC

PRECEDENTS AND INSPIRATION

BEACONS AND SENTINELS



SIGNAGE AND WAYFINDING / STORYTELLING MOMENTS

PUBLIC ART



MURALS

STRUCTURES



INTERACTIVE MEDIA INSTALLATIONS



PRECEDENTS AND INSPIRATION

UNIQUE DESIGN ELEMENTS



CREATIVE SEATING & FURNISHINGS

OUTDOOR WORKSPACE

INNOVATIVE PLAYSCAPES

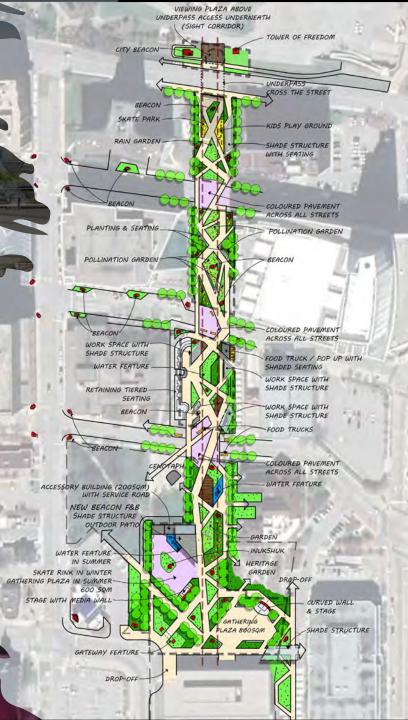


INTERACTIVE WATER FEATURES

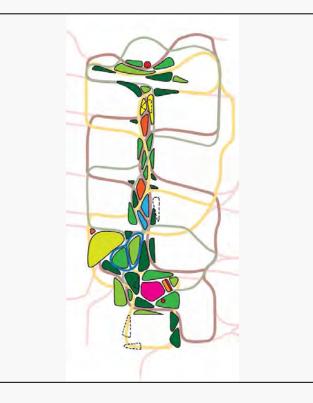
VCE WINDSOR CIVIC ESPLANADE + FOR

POP-UP RETAIL

INITIAL CONCEPT PLAN OPTIONS









OPTION 1 - RIVER FLOW

Water flow is elemental to the historical origins of communities; especially for the City of Windsor. Modeling the flow of water movement, the peoplecentric design offers flexible programmatic experiences in a variety of urban scales that encourage enthusiastic exploration.

- A. Trace flow of crowd movement. **People-centric** design.
- B. Combine **skating rink and skating trail** for winter use.
- C. Both the skating/splash and large gathering space in the City Hall Square Plaza (Segment 1).
- D. Multi-purpose court in combination with skateboard park and adult playground at the Charles Square (Segment 2).
- E. Rain Garden with Art Exhibition at Segment 3.
- F. Street closure allowing flexible use of the esplanade due to events/gathering.

OPTION 2 - MATRIX GARDEN

Conceptually, the Matrix Garden looks to the larger context to consider the civic precinct as a civic park, rather than strictly confined by the axial orientation of the Esplanade. Program, activities, stories and art are woven throughout a hierarchy of paths which tell the story of the land through the people, flora, fauna, ecology and innovation.

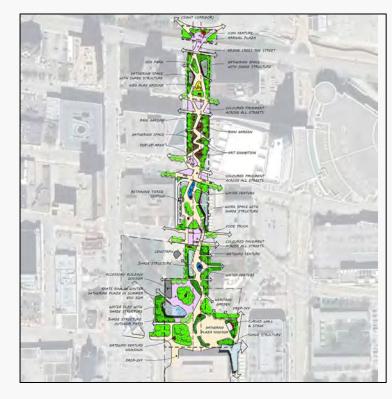
- A. Hierarchy of pathways
- **B. Skating trail** at the City Hall Plaza (Segment 1).
- C. Large gathering space at City Hall Plaza
- D. Dog run and Pollinator Garden at Segment 3.
- E. Maximize green space(tree canopy, planting bed, garden, green roof) overall.
- F. Riverside **Pavilion** at Segment 5.

OPTION 3 - LIGHT THE PATH

The components of an eco-system overlap and fluctuate, expanding and contracting, a complex balance that is never static. Through time in this sentient space, pulsating pathways overlap to gather in shared spaces, defining the communal identity of this truly living place.

- A. Interwoven pedestrian circulation with flexible spaces.
- B. A series of **storytelling moments**, powered by **Beacons and Sentinels**
- C. Two large gathering areas, skating rink and splash pad in the City Hall Square Plaza
- D. Food trucks / pop-up vendors, outdoor offices/classrooms and programmable space at Charles Clark Square
- E. Pedestrian underpass and overlook with City Beacon at the Riverfront
- F. Sequenced spaces and activities along the Esplanade





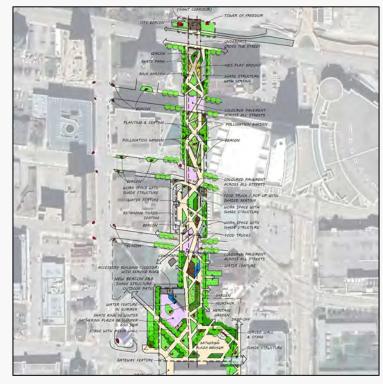
OPTION 1 - RIVER FLOW











OPTION 3 - LIGHT THE PATH PREFERRED CONCEPT







PREFERRED OPTION LIGHT THE PATH

CHATHAM ST

PERFERRED OPTION – LIGHT THE PATH

LIGHT THE PATH

When we meet a new person we say "How are you? Who are you? Where are you from? What have you experienced? Tell me more!"

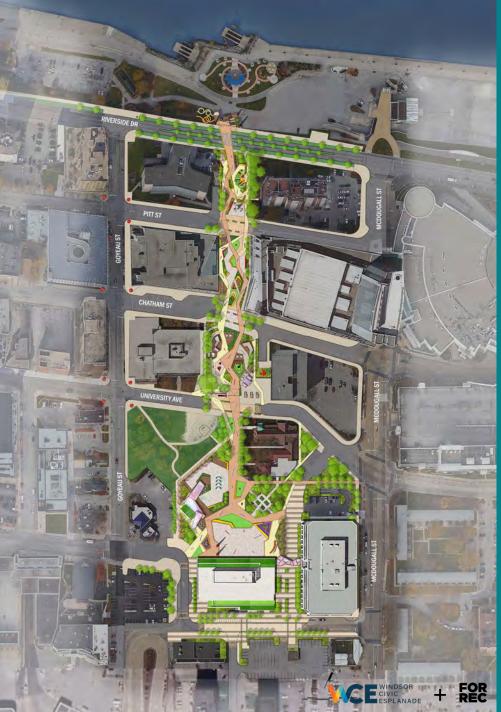
When we hear a person's story, we connect, we identify, we share our stories together. This builds happiness, community, belonging and knowing.

Places have stories too.

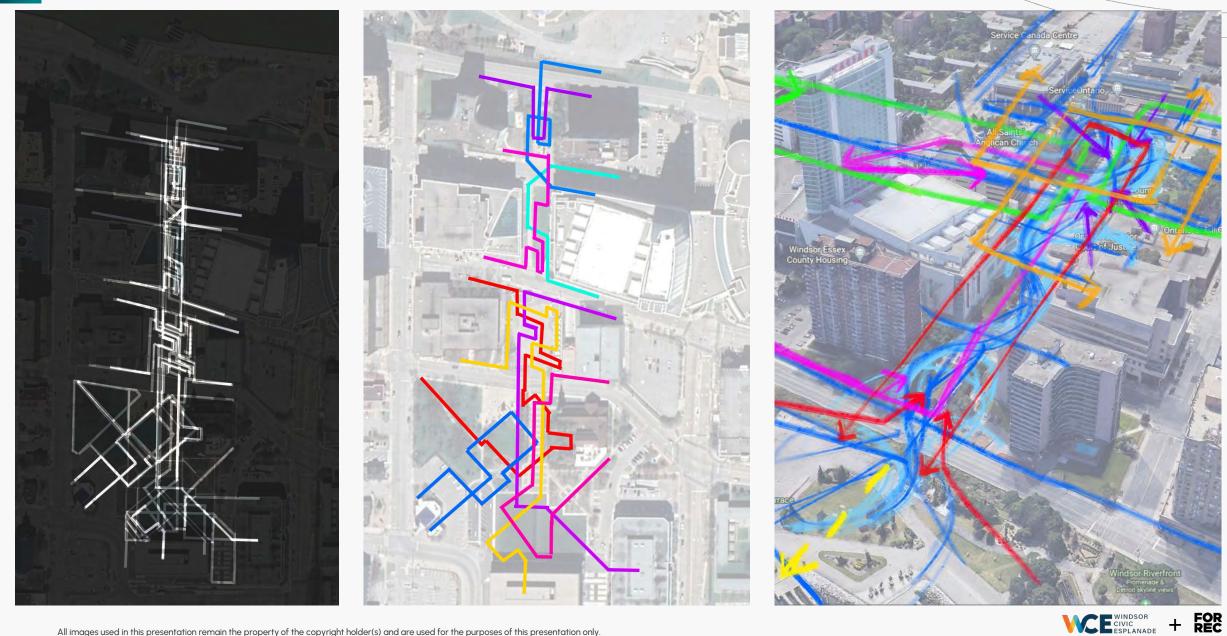
Beneath shifting layers of change, remnants of the past, told in legends, faint traces of memory on yellowed pages. A flickering path tracing its way through our past, present, and future. The ideas, hopes, tragedies and triumphs that define us.

Together with this special place, we bring these stories to light. Beacons of hope, sparks of inspiration, brilliant ideas, glowing revelations, a radiant future.

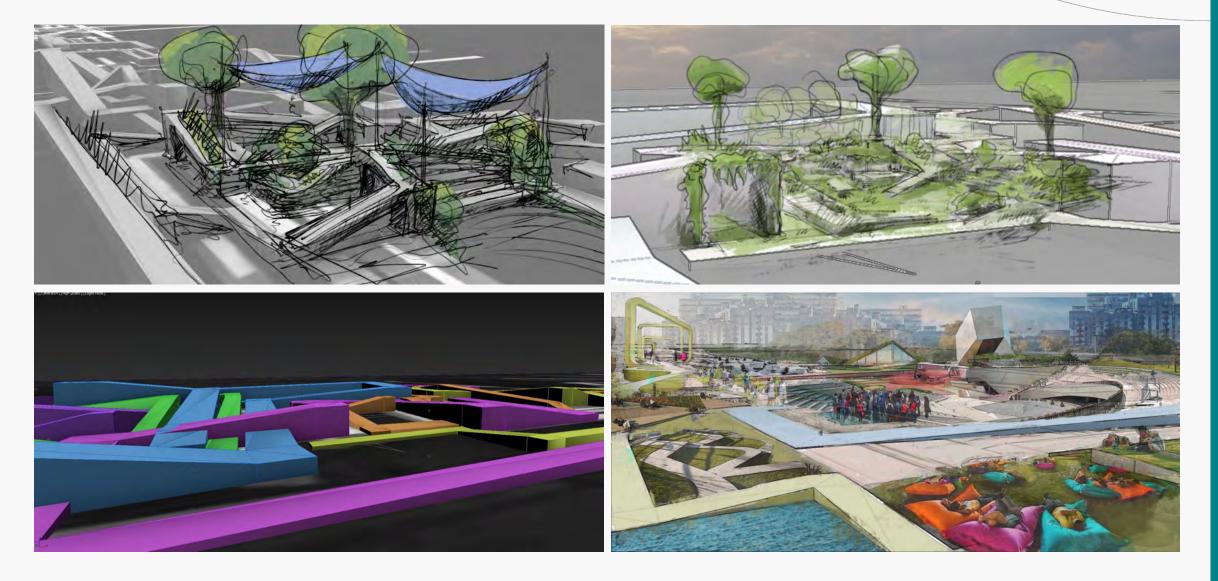
Light the Path.



EARLY IDEAS AND DESIGN SKETCHES



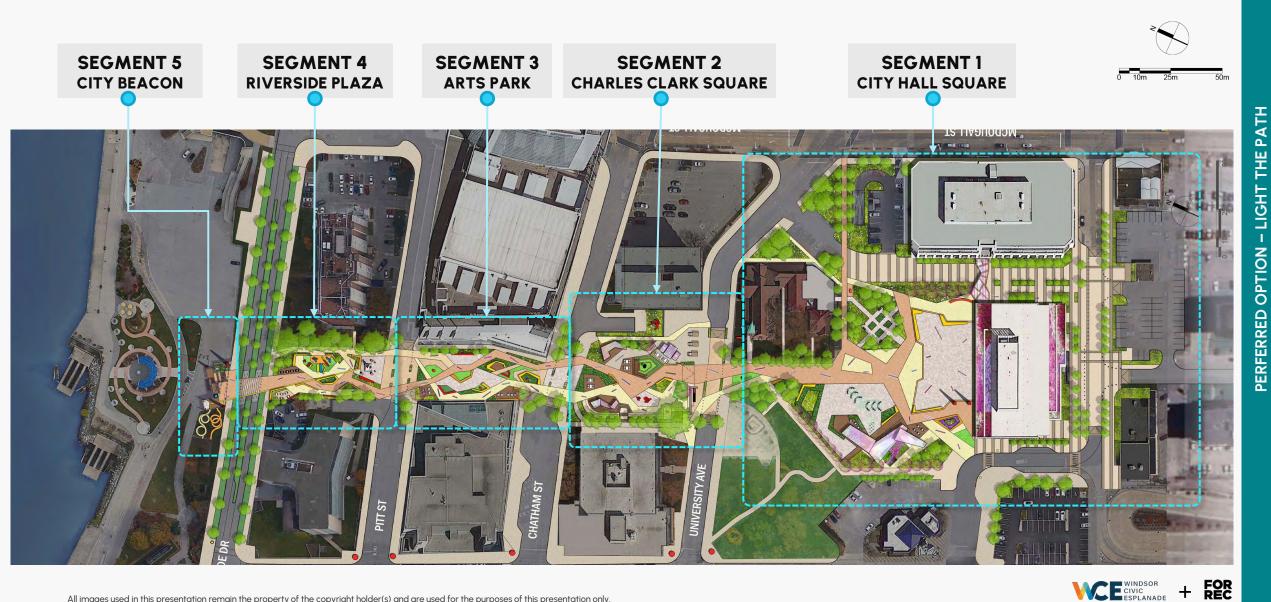
EARLY IDEAS AND DESIGN SKETCHES





OVERALL MASTER PLAN

CONCEPT OVERVIEW



OVERALL MASTER PLAN KEY DESIGN FEATURES

UPDATED CHARLES STREET / BRIDGE GATHERING **TOWER OF** STAGE FOOD TRUCK RELOCATED **CITY HALL PLAZA** SHADE CLARK SQUARE CROSSING AREA FREEDOM VILLAGE FRANCOPHONE STRUCTURE with shade structure On footprint of original MONUMENT **Reimagined** City Beacon with seating, play Underground Railroad With flexible amenity and seating with dining space underground railroad with slides, elevator and features Monument barracks spaces overlook ------0 1 CHATHAM ST 5 FREEDOM LINE RAISED CROSSING ART PLAZA OUTDOOR WORK FLEXIBLE GATHERING PLAZA **NEW WINDSOR** PLAZA COUNCILOR SPACES BEACON **EXTENSION** PARKING Connects the Tower of Freedom Curbless, pedestrian with flexible Workspaces with Interactive water Underground Railroad Memorial priority crossing at plaza installation spaces solar, shade, WIFI, For large and feature & patio seating Exhibit pavilion, food New paving, crossing small gatherings and parking extend with the Gateway to Freedom in level, between all segments and electric vendor, utility space and stage Detroit. the City Hall Campus

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CECIVIC +

SEGMENT 4 & 5 INSPIRATION AND EXAMPLES



CITY BEACON

The Central Riverfront Implementation Plan established several "Beacons" – small buildings crafted to celebrate key moments along the Riverwalk. One of the most important was the City Beacon – a new bridge crossing at Riverside Drive and the Esplanade.

While several of the Beacons have been constructed and are in use, the City Beacon has awaited the development of the Esplanade Master Plan. The two options in the Light the Path concept create a new City Beacon as a bridge and as a grade-level crossing, with a dramatic overlook that enjoys the spectacular view of the river and Detroit skyline.



VIEWING ELEVATOR creates accessibility



"HELLO" Interactive Media Feature

At the City Beacon overlook, a unique feature celebrates the close relationship between Windsor and Detroit. An interactive media wall on both sides of the river allows viewing, group selfies and visual communication with visitors on both sides of the river.





MILLENIUM BRIDGE, DENVER

Similar example of a pedestrian bridge that has become a tourist destination itself. It has a similar grade change toward the Platte River, achieved through dramatic stairs that function as ampitheater seating for events. A bike rail and glass elevators enhance accessibility.

STREET LEVEL CROSSING

RAISED CROSSWALK



Figure 2 - Raised Crosswalk at Intersection Source: nacto.org

Raised crosswalk at an intersection

A raised crosswalk at an intersection is where the intersection crosswalk surface is elevated from the adjacent roadway and usually ties in to the sidewalk **at**, or close to grade.

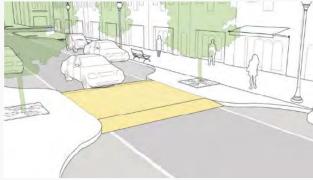


Figure 3 - Raised Crosswalk Mid-Block Source: nacto.org

Raised crosswalk mid-block

A raised crosswalk mid-block is where the surface of a crosswalk located between two intersections is elevated above the grade of the adjacent roadway and usually ties in to the sidewalk at, or close to grade.

Traffic Conditions

Posted speed limit should be less than or equal to 50km/h on roadways with raised treatments. There is no restriction on traffic volumes.

Road Engineering Design Guidelines: Raised Crosswalk And Intersection Guideline City of Toronto Transportation Services



OPTION 1 – WITH MEDIAN PLANTING



OPTION 2 – WITHOUT MEDIAN



SEGMENT 4 & 5 RIVERSIDE PLAZA & CITY BEACON

AT-GRADE CROSSING OPTION

LEGEND

- 1 Grand Overlook Creates New City Beacon
- 2 Viewing Platform with direct alignment to International Underground Railroad Memorial
- 3 Beacon Towers and Cable Support
- 4 "Hello" Interactive Media Feature
- 5 Slides from Street Level to Riverfront
- 6 Elevator
- 7 Pedestrian Street Crossing
- Improved Streetscape with Lane Reduction Planted Median and Offset Sidewalks
- Gathering Area with Seating
- 10 Sculptural / Play Elements
- 11 Bike Path
- 12 Tower of Freedom & Plaza
- 13 Raised Crossing with Plaza Paving Extended
- 14 BOH Area
- Directional Line between Tower of Freedom and International Underground Railroad Memorial





FOR REC





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SEGMENT 4 & 5 RIVERSIDE PLAZA & CITY BEACON

BRIDGE OPTION

In addition to the at-grade crossing, a bridge alternative creates an even more dramatic crossing experience. Featuring an elevated plaza with expansive views, the bridge is accessed by grand stairways and dual glass elevators for a fully accessible route across Riverside Drive. Planters and illuminated towers present a grand gateway to the Esplanade, and from the Esplanade to the Windsor Riverfront Trail, Rotary Park and Festival Plaza. Like the at-grade crossing and overlook, the bridge also creates the City Beacon as imagined in the Riverfront Master Plan.

LEGEND

- 1 Grand Stairs / Amphitheatre
- 2 Viewing Platform
- 3 City Beacon
- 4 Viewing Elevator
- 5 Planting bed W/ Seating
- 6 "Hello" Interactive Media
- **7** Sculptural / Play Elements
- 8 Tower of Freedom & Plaza
- Slides Attraction
- Directional Line between Tower of Freedom and International Underground Railroad Memorial





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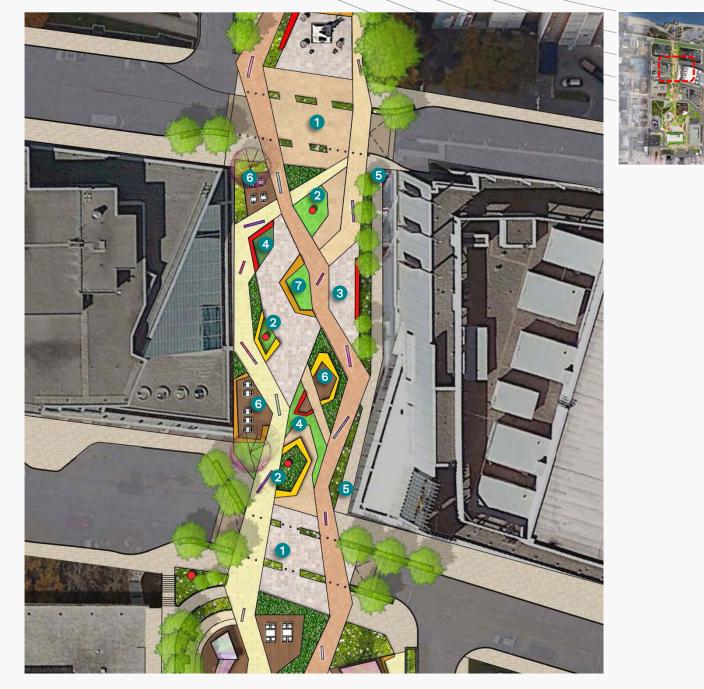
SEGMENT 3 ARTS PARK

Referred to as "Arts Park", Segment 3 offers a series of flexible spaces which can be used individually to display permanent or evolving art installations or combine to serve medium or even larger gatherings and performance. The spaces, paths and plazas are creating by paving colors and patterns with a variety of textures that define spaces without presenting barriers to larger group events. Even the level "turf panels" serve this function, creating green spaces for relaxation that can easily be used as seating for gatherings.

Sculptural seating walls provide a variety of options for sitting, lounging and contemplation, allowing individual enjoyment while inviting socialization and interaction. Interactive signage creates Sentinel Moments, conveying information on the Windsor art scene, history and events. An interactive multimedia wall allows visitors to create their own collaborative art mural, with each individual creating a part of an overall image.

LEGEND

- 1 Raised Crossing with Plaza Paving Extended
- 2 "Sentinel" Interactive / Storytelling Feature
- 3 Media / Mural Installations / Interactive Multimedia Wall
- 4 Art Installation Spaces
- 5 Bike path
- 6 Gathering Area
- Planting Bed with Seating









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SEGMENT 2 CHARLES CLARK SQUARE

Charles Clark Square responds to the highly important priority of a flexible space for larger gatherings, that also serves the community, nearby office workers and City staff, and residents. Like in Arts Park , paving patterns form creative geometric plazas and spaces that function as outdoor rooms, and can combine to host events. A stage with canopy, and tiered planter invite performances while providing sheltered seating. A food truck area features covered seating and café tables. Outdoor workspaces with solar canopies serve employees, entrepreneurs and students alike. The existing distinctive seating walls have been preserved to maintain a connection between the old and new, including new and existing monuments, signage and public art as Sentinels within the space.

LEGEND

- 1 Raised Crossing with Plaza Paving Extended
- 2 Bike path
- 3 Gathering Area
- 4 Planting Bed with Seating
- 5 Outdoor Workspaces
- 6 Stage with Shade Structure
- 7 Art Installation Spaces
- 8 Food Truck Eatery with Seating Area
- Sexisting Time Capsule
- 10 Existing Signage Wall
- 11 Existing Sculpture





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CHARLES CLARK SQUARE RENDERING



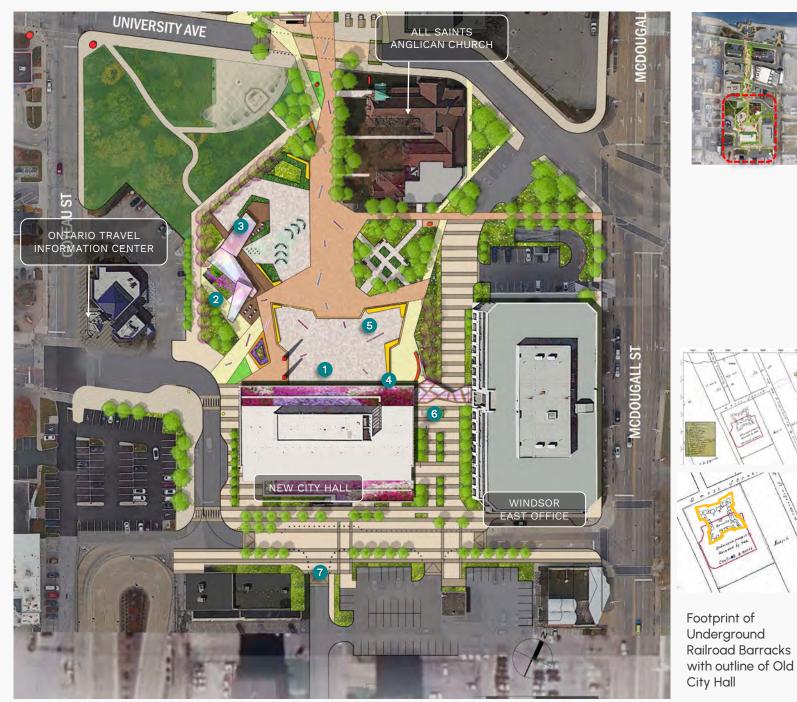
SEGMENT 1 CITY HALL SQUARE

City Hall Square is the heart of the Civic Esplanade, and forms the keynote element of the Master Plan. A new type of civic space, it brings together the bold and nuanced ideas that distinguish the sequence of spaces leading from the Riverfront to City Hall. The primary elements of the plan continue to "light the path" of history, culture and ideas that distinguish Windsor's past, present and future through a variety of Sentinel Moments and an all new "Windsor Beacon".

In the forecourt of City Hall, the outline of the former military barracks and Black Refugee housing continue the story of the Underground Railroad on the site while providing event space. Ana adjacent space features an interactive water feature with cooling jets, misting towers and a variety of seating. A new building, the Windsor Beacon, holds F&B vendors, a pavilion for exhibits and operational spaces. A new gateway, relocated Francophone moment and media screen engage visitors and enliven the experience.

OVERALL LEGEND

- Event Plaza on Footprint of Underground Railroad / Former Military Barracks
- 2 New Beacon Food Vendor Pavilion
- 3 Island Gathering Space with Central Feature
- 4 Curved Feature Wall with Small Stage / Media Screen
- 5 Underground Railroad Sentinel
- 6 Shade Structure
- 7 City Hall Square South



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SEGMENT 1 CITY HALL SQUARE NORTH

DETAILED LEGEND

- 1 Raised Crossing with Plaza Paving Extended
- "Sentinel" Interactive / Storytelling Feature 2
- Existing Cenotaph 3
- Planting Bed with Seating 4
- 5 Small Stage / Warming
- 6 New Fence for All Saints' Anglican Church
- Island Gathering Space with Central Feature 7
- Accessory Building with Green Roof 8
- Water Feature 9
- New Windsor Beacon Pavilion 10
- 1 Underground Railroad Sentinel
- Event Plaza on Footprint of Underground Railroad / 12 Former Military Barracks
- Gateway Feature 13
- Curved Heritage Feature Wall with Small Stage 14
- Media Screen 15
- Shade Structure 16
- Relocated Francophone Monument 17
- 18 Existing Heritage Garden







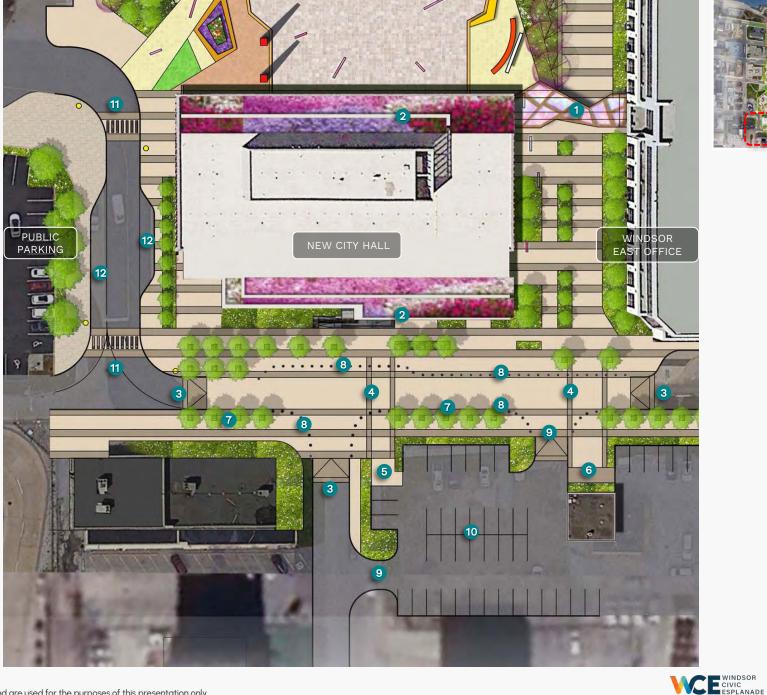


SEGMENT 1 CITY HALL SQUARE SOUTH

LEGEND

- **1** Feature Shade Structure
- 2 City Hall Building Green Roof Canopy
- 3 Shared Street Raised to Curb Height
- 4 Pedestrian Crossing
- 5 Sentinel
- 6 Feature Planting
- **7** Streetscape with Seating Areas
- 8 Bollards with lighting
- 9 Rear Building Entrance
- 10 Councilor Parking
- 1 Pedestrian Crossing
- 12 Drop-Off & Bus Lay-by





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SEGMENT 1 SEASONAL ICE RINK

Key to the success of City Hall Square is the relocation of the Charles Clark Square ice rink. A temporary feature operating during the winter months, the new rink takes advantages of significant advances in ice and rink technology and construction in recent years.

The rink will be in the form of a skate trail, with a center island to discourage hockey and allow for seasonal displays. Portable curbs are frozen in place for stability and fully accommodate a Zamboni. The curbs area stored in the off-season in the nearby pavilion, along with the Zamboni. The curb would need to be stored in off season. Freezing mechanism/rink pipes are encased in concrete below the paving and are indistinguishable during the summer months.

The team explored a variety of alternatives for the rink location and configuration following City input and feedback. These concepts are shown in the subsequent pages, along with the city-preferred concept.



NEW KITCHENER ICE RINK BY CUSTOM ICE



WINDSOR CIVIC ESPLANADE Benchmark – Skating Rinks

COLONEL SAMUEL SMITH PARK Toronto, Ontario

- Popular skating trail in figure-8 shape
- Draws crowds during the winter months
- Includes skate rental and vendor space
- A nice walking trail during the summer





WINDSOR CIVIC ESPLANADE Benchmark – Skating Rinks

MAGGIE DALEY SKATING RIBBON Millenium Park, Chicago, IL

- A unique skating venue with elevated sections, surrounding a playground and climbing wall.
- Has become one of the leading tourist destinations in the state.
- 1/4 mile long with skate rental and vendor space







WINDSOR CIVIC ESPLANADE

Benchmark – Skating Rinks

FUJI-Q HIGHLAND RINK Mount Fuji, Japan

- Dramatic rink on Mt. Fuji features a number of islands creating an interesting skating experience
- Islands are used for seasonal displays
- Lighting and music create a unique experience.





SEASONAL ICE RINK CONCEPT 1

Over the course of the project, a variety of ice rink alternatives were explored. The original alternative placed the rink, configured as a skating trail, in a plaza space adjacent to the main City Hall Square and new Beacon Pavilion. The 1100 sq. m. rink doubled as an interactive water feature and gathering space during the summer months.. A centre island could hold seating and festive outdoor fire pits. Skaters could use the space continuously, without interruption for civic events in the main plaza.

The Zamboni and rink infrastructure are housed in a small building to the north of the rink, adjacent to a maintenance road/path.

LEGEND

- 1 Water Feature / Interactive Fountain
- 2 Outdoor Patio / Shaded Seating Area
- 3 New Windsor Beacon F&B / Pavilion / Exhibit Space
- 4 Washroom
- 5 Zamboni & Storage / Operations
- 6 Temporary Ice Rink (Area = 1100 m2)
- ← → Zamboni Path (L=1 m)







TEMPORARY ICE RINK

SEGMENT 1

Footprint of Underground Railroad Barracks with outline of Old City Hall



SEASONAL ICE RINK CONCEPT 2

The second configuration of the ice rink moved it to the main plaza space directly in front of City Hall. The layout fits within the outline of the Barracks Plaza, allowing its shape to be perceived even during the winter months. The size was similar and could be traversed by the Zamboni. Which was moved into the main Beacon Pavilion.

This option required the removal of some of the planters and landscape within the main City Hall Square, but preserved the majority of plaza layout and greenery.

LEGEND

- 1 Water Feature / Interactive Fountain
- 2 Outdoor Patio / Shaded Seating Area
- 3 New Windsor Beacon F&B / Pavilion / Exhibit Space
- 4 Washroom
- 5 Zamboni & Storage / BOH
- 6 Temporary Ice Rink (Area = 900 m2)
- 7 Featured Curved Wall / Media Screen
- Zamboni Path (L= 26 m)









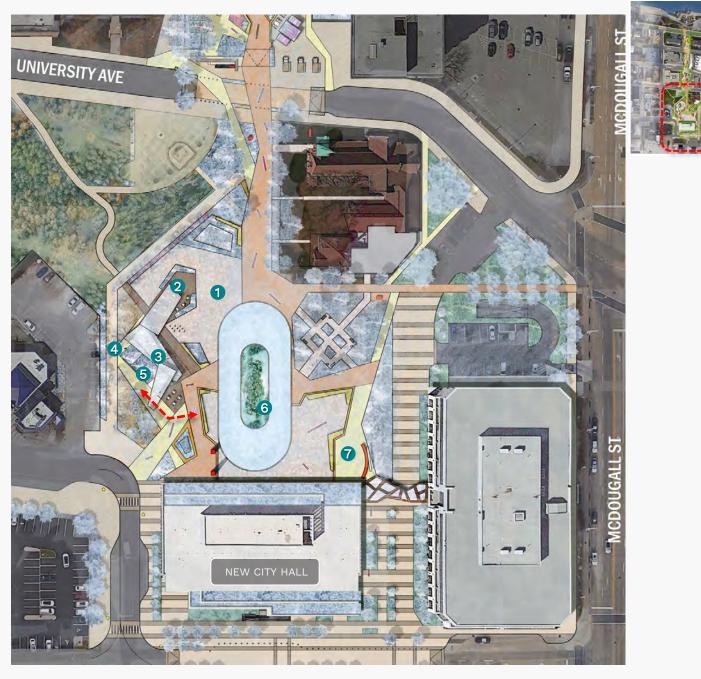
SEASONAL ICE RINK CONCEPT 3 – CITY PREFERRED

After much review and consultation with the City, the configuration of the ice rink was updated to a linear oval, with NHL dimensions, facing north-south. A central island retains the trail configuration and provides space for winter displays.

The plaza was reconfigured to accommodate the oval, with removal or relocation of turf, planters and trees. The Francophone monument was relocated nearby. The outline of the Barracks remains and will be fully visible in the summer.

LEGEND

- 1 Water Feature / Interactive Fountain
- 2 Outdoor Patio / Shaded Seating Area
- **3** F&B / Pavilion / Exhibit
- 4 Washroom
- 5 Zamboni & Storage / BOH (L=8.8M W=7.6M)
- 6 Temporary Ice Rink (Area = 1200 m2)
- Featured Curved Wall / Media Screen
- 🛶 🛶 Zamboni Path (L= 40+ m)





CONCEPT 3 WINTER





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