

recognize
historical, physical, social, and economical significance

engage

stakeholders, advisors, local community groups and the public to envision ideas and provide input

synthesize

ideas into a vision and guiding principles

create

comprehensive plans focusing on high level ideas and integration with the urban fabric

invest

in the public realm, the present and the future



THE RIVERWALK MASTER PLAN:

Final May 2008

destination and a journey...



Table of Contents

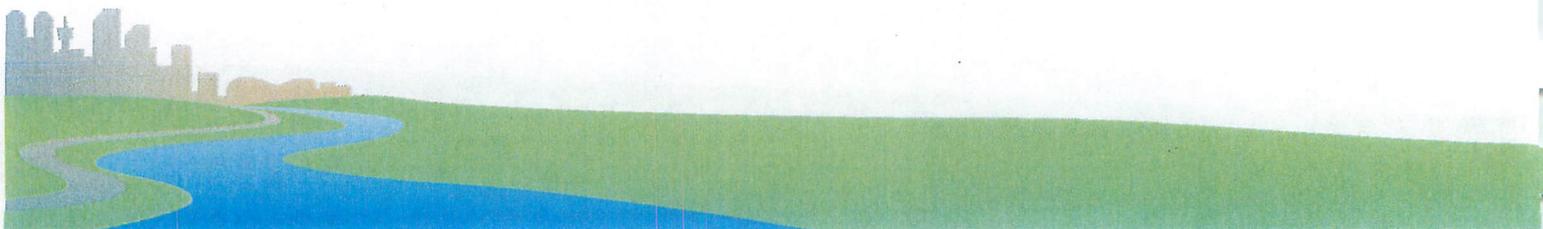
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	1
1.0 INTRODUCTION	2
1.1 Project Overview.....	2
1.2 The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation	4
1.3 What is a Master Plan.....	6
1.4 Approach and Methodology.....	6
2.0 PROJECT CONTEXT	8
2.1 Site Description and History	8
2.2 Planning Context	12
2.3 Planning for Future Needs.....	21
3.0 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT	22
3.1 Advisory Committee	22
3.2 Public Open Houses	24
3.3 Communications	25
4.0 PROJECT VISION – DEFINING VALUES	26
4.1 Vision Statement.....	26
4.2 Guiding Principles	27
4.3 Planning Concept.....	27

5.0	MASTER PLAN CONCEPT: DEFINING A SENSE OF PLACE	32
5.1	Drawing on Experience	32
5.2	Determining Design Drivers.....	34
5.3	Developing the Master Plan Concept	34
5.4	Master Plan Concept – Urban Form.....	55
5.5	Master Plan Concept – Cultural Expression.....	56
6.0	IMPLEMENTATION	57
6.1	Key Considerations	57
6.2	Construction	58
6.3	Use of this Document.....	58
7.0	CONCLUSION	60

APPENDIX A - RIVERWALK MASTER PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

APPENDIX B - DRAWING IN DIALOGUE

APPENDIX C - SYNOPSIS OF COMMENTS RECEIVED DURING PUBLIC OPEN HOUSES



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rivers are special natural places and it is understandable, for people to want to be near them. Throughout Calgary's history, the Bow and Elbow rivers have had a role in our evolving City and they continue to shape form that takes place on the ground resonating cultural expression that influences our daily lives and celebrated sense of community.

The Riverwalk Master Plan provides a comprehensive framework for decision-making to guide the redevelopment of existing pedestrian/bike pathways along the Bow and Elbow rivers in east downtown Calgary. An Advisory Committee, the public and a design team were engaged by the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation to prepare the plan. This document, a product of collaborative planning by the groups will play a significant role in fostering new urban form in Calgary's downtown and promoting a new vitality for the use, enjoyment and protection of the riverfront.

The Master Plan describes a continuous Riverwalk, extending four kilometres through several unique urban precincts located on the Bow and Elbow rivers. Through extensive public dialogue and open houses, it was determined that the Riverwalk is envisioned to be both a destination and a journey; an open space corridor that connects downtown destinations and attracts users from adjacent businesses and downtown and city wide communities. The plan promotes preservation and restoration of our natural river environments while understanding our contemporary culture and recreation and leisure pursuits. The master plan promotes public access; passive, active and programmed activities and recognizes the interpretive potential of our city's historic and incredible future.

The Master Plan process evolved key planning relationships that contributed to the development of a concept plan and overall project vision. The formative principles and future development considerations established during this public process will continue to help to identify priorities and opportunities during development, and influence as a whole, revitalization of Calgary's downtown urban core. Innovation, creativity, quality and collaboration have been encouraged to see through to the vision for a Calgary Riverwalk.

The concept plan for the Riverwalk has been largely influenced by two very distinct landscapes that are represented within the project boundaries. The Bow River landscape is characterized by rushing waters, a wide river valley and an intensely developed urban mixed-use edge. And by contrast, the Elbow River landscape is characterized by slow moving waters, a narrow river valley and urban neighbourhood edge. The concept plan endeavors to reflect and embody the natural and urban context and aesthetics of each of these landscapes, and identify appropriate connection and open space opportunities. The plan further recognizes the importance of the Fort Calgary and Stampede Park sites, and the opportunity for the Riverwalk to be an integral component of the existing and future site development. The Riverwalk will afford a distinctive "address" and experience to these downtown attractions.

Ecological sustainability is also a significant consideration in the planning process. Increased populations and demands on riverside areas for recreation and transportation need to be accommodated while respecting the natural riparian environment. Opportunities to enhance and rejuvenate the environment along the rivers and within the adjacent communities will continue to be a key element of the public ambition as the urban fabric redevelops.

The Riverwalk Master Plan presents a larger vision for the City of Calgary, its citizens and its future. The Riverwalk will contribute to the building of new form; rich and dynamic urban and natural interfaces, and a journey that will connect people, places and new destinations.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Overview

Ideas for a river walk evolved over the past few years emanating from planning documents and considerations surrounding the redevelopment of the eastern portion of Calgary's downtown, including East Village. The Riverwalk is seen as one of the first significant infrastructure investments, intended to 'kick-start' the redevelopment of what has been becoming, a blighted urban area. It is to provide connections both west along the Bow River through Chinatown into the City's core, east through Fort Calgary, and south along the Elbow River, around Stampede Park, to Lindsay Park. Other important destinations connected to the Riverwalk are further recognized and include the Eau Claire / Prince's Island areas, City Hall, Calgary Zoo, the future Telus World of Science site, the historic Inglewood and Victoria Park neighbourhoods, Reader Rock Garden, and the Beltline / Mission neighbourhoods.

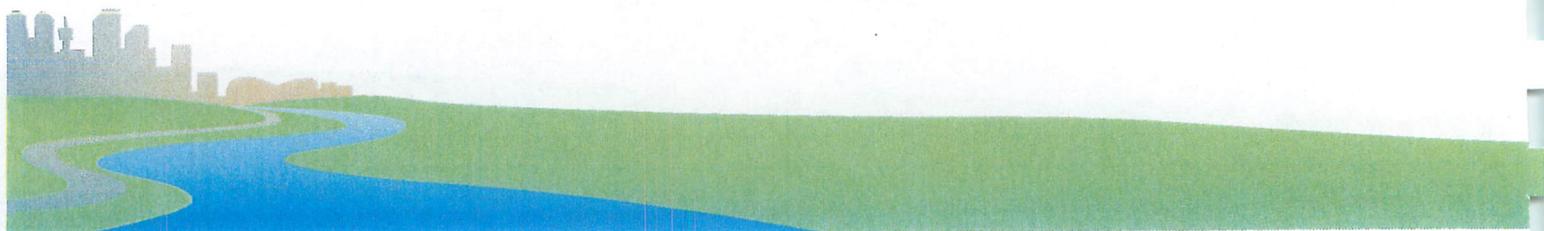
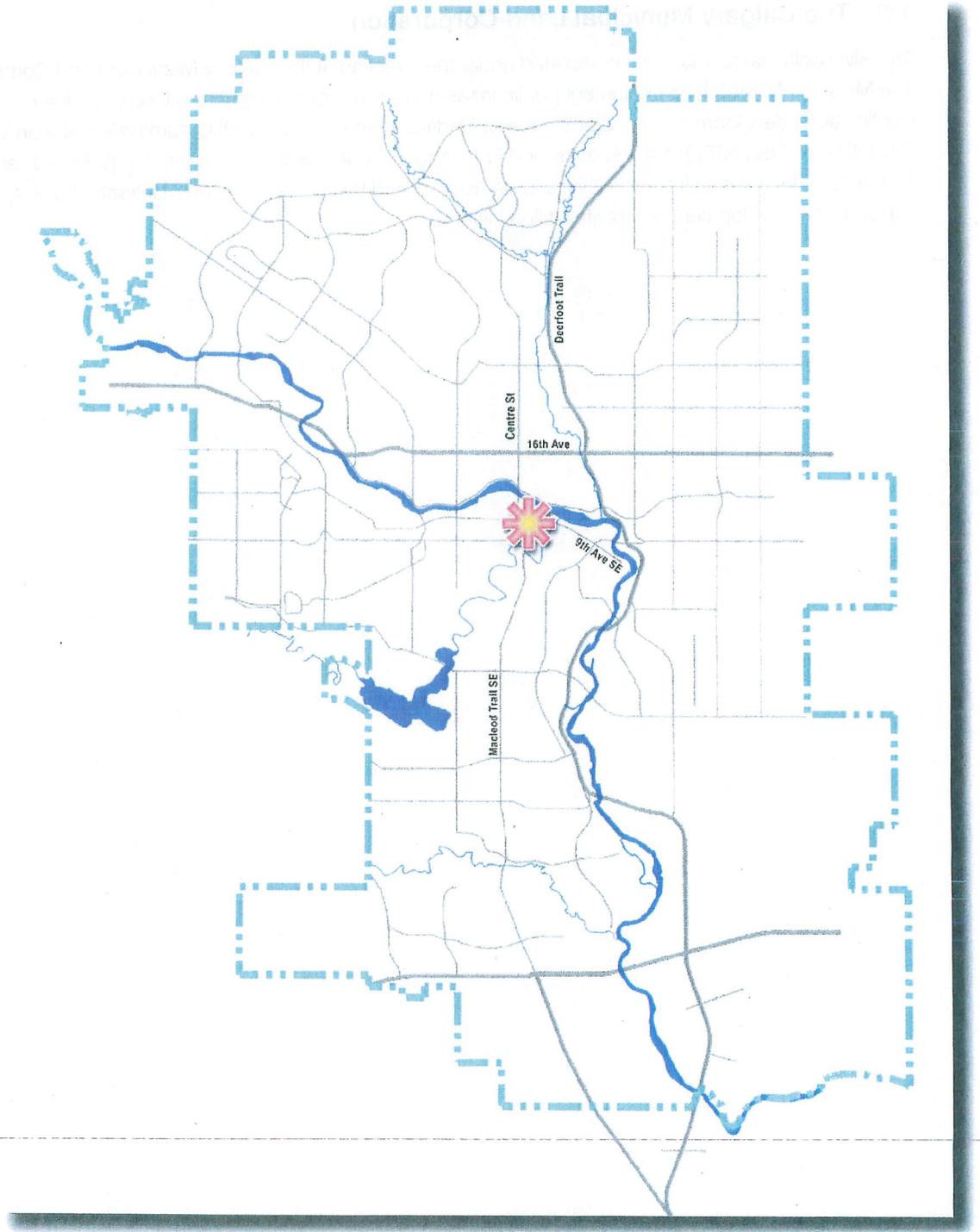


Figure 1.1 locates the Riverwalk in the larger urban context of Calgary.



1.2 The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation

The Riverwalk Master Plan was completed under the direction of the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC). The Mission of CMLC is to implement public infrastructure improvements that will serve as the catalyst for private and public sector development. A major source of funding for the projects CMLC administers is an innovative Community Revitalization Levy (CRL), the first of its kind in Alberta that considers the incremental assessed value of property within the CRL area. The revenue from this levy is to be used toward the implementation of infrastructure, specifically designed to support new development and revitalization initiatives.

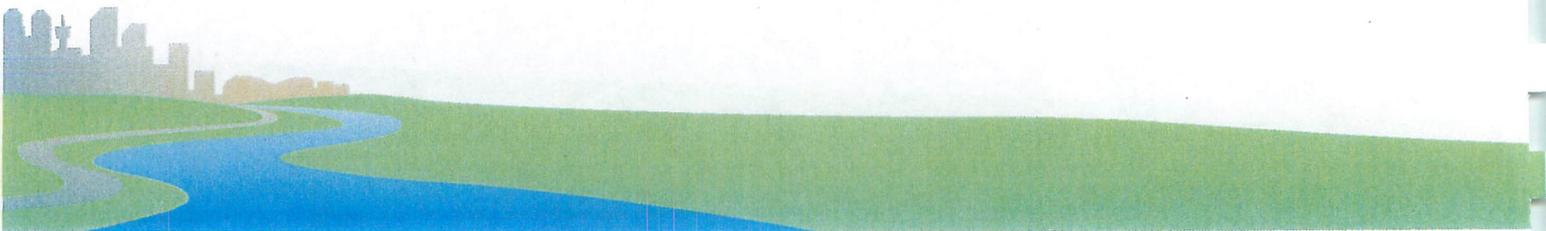


Figure 1.2 indicates the Community Revitalization Levy Area.



1.3 What is a Master Plan ?

A Master Plan is knowing what you want to do, when you get a chance.

A Master Plan responds to a set of articulated needs, and charts a way for the future. A Master Plan must be able to direct communal action. It must provide a Vision; in this case, a vision of the community for the community, both as it provides for its constituent parts (Chinatown, East Village, Beltline, Victoria Park, Inglewood, Fort Calgary, and Stampede Park and other areas) and for the City as a whole. It must provide strength to a common goal, it must engender community pride, it must be malleable, and it must transcend differences, rather than rely on compromise.

This Master Plan intends to create, focus and strengthen a shared vision for this integral and historic piece of Calgary's urban landscape. The vision in this case is the use, enjoyment and protection of two valued civic resources, the Bow and the Elbow Rivers. The goal is to enhance a sense of pride and a sense of ownership: rejuvenating, rebuilding, and re-attending to the public enjoyment of our rivers. The underlying philosophy of this Master Plan is to transform the neglected, disconnected environment of this River area into an opportunity to create a great civic place; to create a destination and a journey for all Calgarians, and for all who might visit and enjoy this place from afar.

1.4 Approach and Methodology

The creation of the Riverwalk Master Plan included two parallel and interconnected work components. One work component was to assemble and synthesize relevant site, background, and planning ideas. The other was to engage, seek input, and test ideas from the public, both directly and through an Advisory Committee. As the process moved along, these two components became inextricably woven together.

Our Planning approach was based on a set of beliefs, as follows:

The Riverwalk Master Plan Directs Civic Action

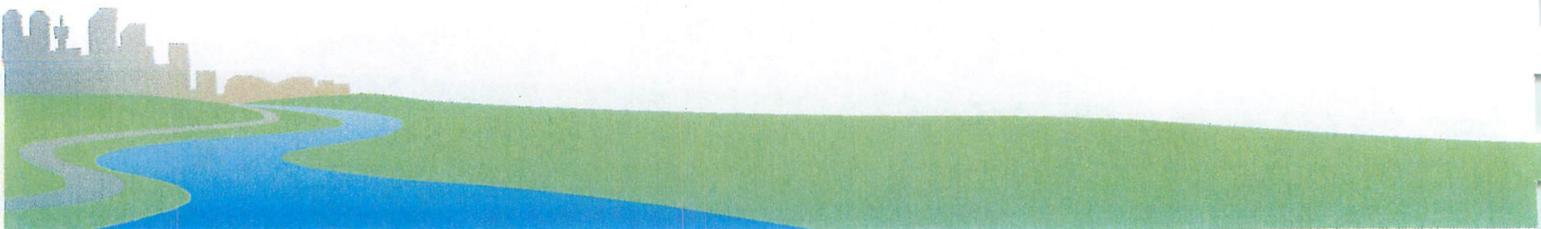
The Riverwalk Plan provides a common thrust that ensures that the physical environment, both built and natural, suits the needs of the communities it serves, enables civic goals and decisions to be realized, provides an enriching experience, and is a delight to visit. We sought common aspirations, but not the lowest, and we continue to seek over-arching principles, transcending differences rather than relying on compromise.

The Riverwalk Master Plan is Civic Property

The Riverwalk Plan should be about our community, by our community and for our community where community is defined as the City of Calgary as a whole. Aiming for this target requires considerable effort in involving as wide a representation as possible, partly to get civic support, but just as importantly to incorporate the wisdom and knowledge of the community into the plan.

The Riverwalk is an Enhancement of the Public Realm

The Master Plan must be a blueprint that provides opportunities for public use, enjoyment and interaction with the rivers; both the Bow and the Elbow. It is most important that the plan illustrates an appropriate active and enjoyable public access to the rivers' edge; to fully capitalize on the aesthetic, educational, and social activities that such a venue sponsors.



The Riverwalk Plan Interacts with Other Plans

The Riverwalk Plan impacts six major community and institutional plans, all with their own sets of criteria, priorities and expectations. This list would include Rivers District Community Revitalization Plan, the Revitalization of the Rivers District in Calgary, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan, Centre City Plan, Stampede Master Plan, and Fort Calgary Master Plan. The structure and direction of these unique plans will influence and shape the Riverwalk Plan as it is developed and implemented. So too, are these plans affected by the Riverwalk Plan; uniting the whole not at the expense of the parts.

The Riverwalk Master Plan is a Vision of the Future

A well considered plan, and one that is beautifully and clearly imagined and illustrated will help engender pride and support within the communities and within the City, and outside. It will nurture an understanding of the civic intention for the public realm.

The Riverwalk Master Plan is a Set of Strategies

It is widely understood that CMLC needs a Master Plan to guide its refurbishment of the Riverwalk in the Rivers District development so that constituent projects work together to form a cohesive whole. The heart of the Riverwalk Plan should be a set of strategies that will last over time, and that are clearly definitive as to intent, but not as to final form. They will however, be supported by the Master Plan that illustrates the kind of built form that follows the Strategies, but is not the only alternative. The Strategies dictate principle: the Master Plan illustrates possible form.

Implementation of the Master Plan Occurs through Constituent Projects

The Riverwalk whole is made up of projects of two types: The communal and the constituent. Communal projects are what might be termed 'the common thread'. They deal with linkages and continuity: integrating landscape, connecting the framework for wayfinding, pathways, and support systems. Constituent projects respond to the specifics of place, but also contribute to the civic whole.

The Philosophy of the Master Plan is Reinforcing the Best, Healing the Worst

The plan is to be founded on the existing conditions, which in turn are a result of history, physical relationship with neighboring communities, and sense of place. We identify what is best about the rivers' edge, what reinforces their presence, and what works against it. We seek to preserve the best and repair the rest – enhance positive aspects, and heal unsatisfactory conditions of being, through strategic intervention and refurbishment.

The Master Plan Must Address Public Interest, Public Participation, Public Accountability

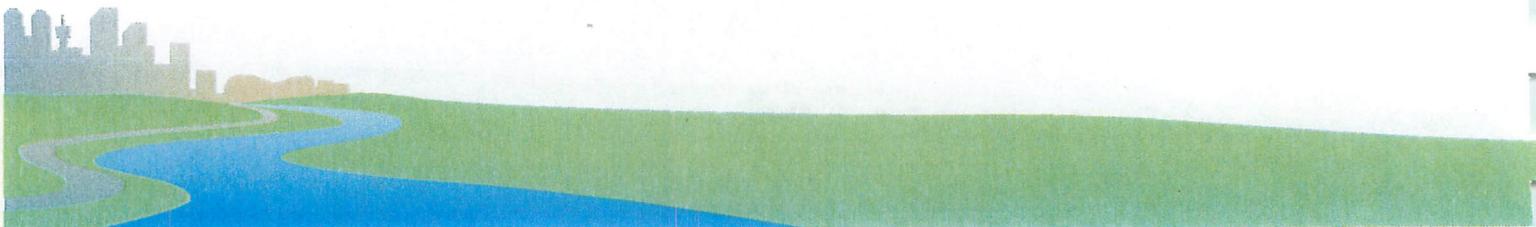
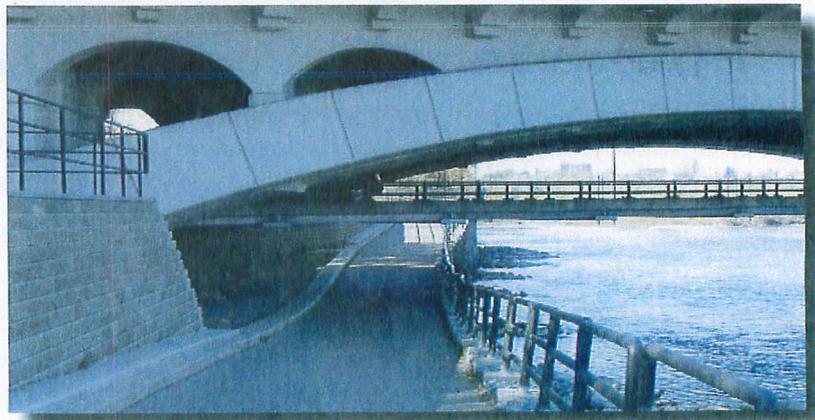
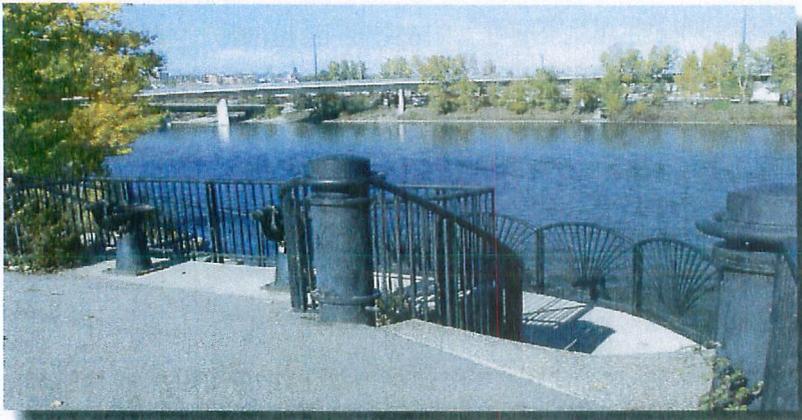
It is important that the plan embrace the interest and knowledge of the community it serves. It is important that the plan act as a catalyst for action, a catalyst for pride and proprietorship. It is thus that the process of planning; of eliciting vision and promise, must be founded on the active contribution of those who the plan must directly benefit. We can do no less.

2.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

2.1 Site Description and History

The Riverwalk is to be located on the south side of the Bow River from the eastern side of downtown to the confluence with the Bow and Elbow Rivers, and along the west side of the Elbow River to Lindsay Park and MacLeod Trail a key transportation route into the downtown. The physical character of the two rivers is quite different. The Bow River is a commanding, broad, fast-moving and clear mountain river cutting boldly through the center of Calgary. The Elbow River is a narrow, more shallow slow-moving and meandering river that takes its less intrusive form from the prairie and foothills landscape.

Today the landscape ecology of the two riverbanks has suffered considerable impacts from human actions. The riverbank along the south side of the Bow River has been significantly altered in many locations by dykes and river bed reinforcement. Some small tributary creeks have been channelized underground to pipes with outfalls. Much of the native riparian vegetation has been lost to weedy, invasive, and domestic ornamental species. The loss of many native habitat types has occurred along with this loss of native vegetation and landform.



The riverbank vegetation and habitat along the Elbow River appear to be more natural than the Bow in many places but evidence of impact caused by human use and erosion can be seen at non-vegetated locations and the lack of successional plant communities in other areas. The historic filling of flood plain areas and riverbank reinforcement is quite evident along the Elbow River. A biophysical overview of the riverbanks (conducted as part of the Master Plan process) denotes the existence of some remnant riparian vegetation and habitat communities indicated by native poplars, willows, shrubs, grasses, and forbs. Non-native vegetation includes Elm, Ash, Colorado Spruce, Manitoba maple, caragana, and lilac, as well as numerous non-native grasses and forbs. Further detailed biophysical impact assessments will be completed during detail design stages.



It is the confluence of these two rivers that has played host to human habitation in this area for centuries and given rise to the urban context of the Riverwalk today. The pre-European contact aboriginal people of the area practiced communal bison hunting using the area at the confluence of the rivers as a gathering place. It is possible that nearby escarpments were used for buffalo jumps and meat processing. With the introduction of the fur trade at the turn of the nineteenth century, the rivers became even more prominent points of contact and gathering in the lives of the new mix of people in the area.

In 1875 the North West Mounted Police established a post at Fort Calgary, located at the confluence of the Bow and Elbow Rivers. Throughout western Canada significant social upheaval occurred through alterations of the aboriginal way of life, the influx of settlers, and the arrival of the railway passing through portions of the current Riverwalk site.

Fort Calgary was demolished in 1914 and a rail yard was built on the site. Much of the adjacent area was developed for industrial, commercial, and residential uses. Around this same time the Calgary Stampede was born to celebrate the traditions and romance of the old west. It quickly established its permanent home at its present location, initially the site of the Agricultural Society, and remains a key icon and tourist destination for Calgary.

In the 1920's, Calgary's Chinatown at the west end of the Riverwalk was born as a socially segregated community. Today it is a compact and vibrant part of the urban fabric. The Fort Calgary site was cleared of industrial uses in 1975 and the current site was created to commemorate the late nineteenth century era in the City's history. From the 1970s to today, the intensity of development in Calgary's downtown is signaled by the number of tall buildings, both commercial and residential, approaching the Riverwalk and East Village Areas.



Historic Photo - Northwest Mounted Police

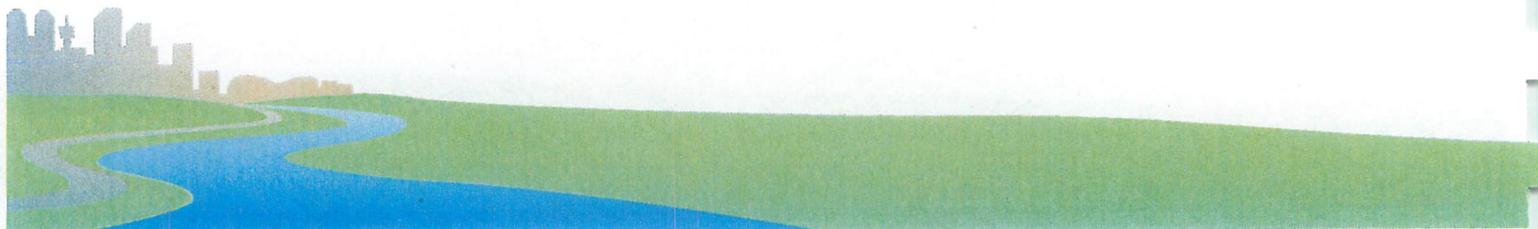
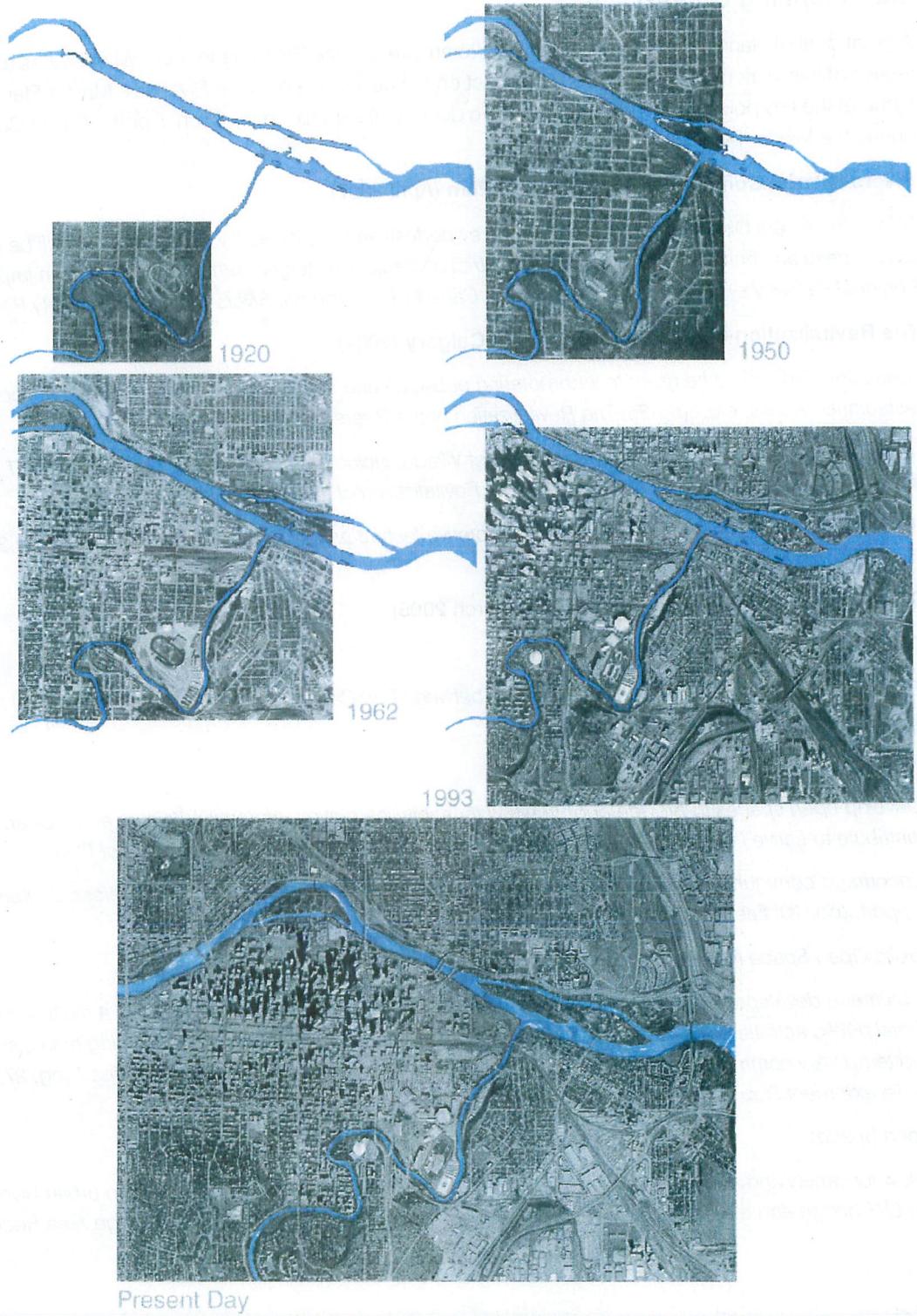


Figure 2.1 shows the transitional changes in land from 1920 to present.



2.2 Planning Context

A great deal of planning has been undertaken to ensure that the East Village area will evolve as a vital inner-city precinct. The results of this work have had a profound impact on the development of the Riverwalk Master Plan. Highlighted below are some of the key points from important planning documents approved by Council or the City of Calgary that were considered during the Master Planning process.

Rivers District Community Revitalization Plan (April 2007)

"Within the Rivers District, the Riverwalk is the key pedestrian / cyclist facility. The Riverwalk will be a destination in itself as well as a pedestrian connector within the Rivers district and adjacent neighbourhoods as well as an important link in the City-wide Regional Pathway system and part of the Trans Canada Trail." (pg.55, Rivers District Community Revitalization Plan)

The Revitalization of the Rivers District in Calgary (2004)

"Consideration should be given to incorporating public art and some complimentary small-scale commercial activities, such as restaurants, kiosks, etc." (pg.36, The Revitalization of the Rivers District in Calgary)

"Developing the Bow River pathway through East Village, including a public plaza between the LRT Bridge and Fort Calgary as envisioned in the East Village ARP." (pg.37, The Revitalization of the Rivers District in Calgary)

"Incorporating public art and the wetlands interpretive feature as part of the Riverwalk design." (pg.37, The Revitalization of the Rivers District in Calgary)

East Village Area Redevelopment Plan (March 2005)

City Wide Planning Context:

"Enhance and support an appropriate interface between Fort Calgary, with linkages to the Zoo and Stampede Park." (pg. 7, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

Vision:

"Develop open spaces to provide opportunities for social interaction, recreation, leisure activities and cultural expressions that contribute to active living and social well being." (pg. 9, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

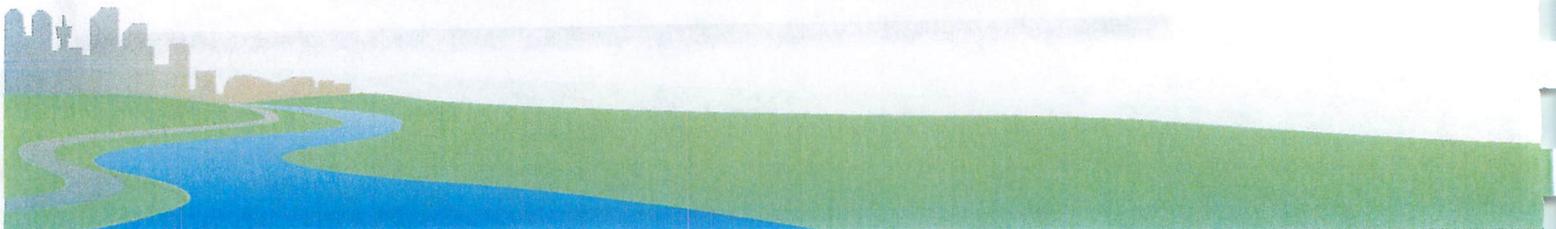
"Encourage community understanding and social conscience toward those in the homeless shelters who need community support. (pg. 10, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

Public Open Space Network:

"A 35 metre development setback from the top of the riverbank allows for the creation of a multi-use plaza for informal and formal public activities. The plaza should accommodate numerous seating areas, planting areas, sculptural elements, and temporary commercial structures (up to three) suitable for small restaurants and cafes." (pg. 27, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

Open Space:

"Allow for variety and contrast in treatment of the river edge in East Village by providing an urban Riverfront Promenade east of the LRT bridge and a more natural river edge west of the LRT bridge." (pg. 55, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)



"Recognize Fort Calgary Provincial Historic Site as a city-wide open space amenity through enhancements to the continuity of the riverbank pathway system and improvements to pedestrian and cyclist access routes through East Village." (pg. 56, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

Transportation:

"Enhance connections between East Village, the Downtown, Fort Calgary, Stampede Park, and the surrounding communities of Victoria Park, Inglewood and Ramsay for all modes of travel." (pg. 58, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

"Provide separate pedestrian and cyclist pathways for safety along the East Village riverfront where pedestrian and cyclist conflicts are expected to be greatest." (pg.60, East Village Area Redevelopment Plan)

Urban Parks Master Plan (March 1994)

Vision: "A continuous integrated river valley park system that reflects the city's unique prairie and foothills setting. The river valley park system will express citizen's commitment to its preservation, use and enjoyment, and will promote understanding of our natural and historic heritage. Envision a river valley park system in which we will all take pride, and in which every citizen will assume responsibility for its protection."

East Village Riverbank:

"In anticipation of the redevelopment of East Village into a medium density inner-city residential community, it is proposed that the riverbank path from Fort Calgary west to Centre Street be upgraded to carry heavier volumes of both commuter and recreational traffic. Separate bicycle and pedestrian pathways should be provided and more seating and rest areas should be installed. The existing Simmons Building should be renovated for a compatible park and community use. Overall, this area should project a more urban image, reflecting the transition from suburban Calgary into the downtown. Proposed improvements include: Construct separate bike and pedestrian pathways, Provide generous parkway linkage into future East Village Development, Renovate Simmons Building for use in accordance with the ARP, Install additional seating areas, Upgrade manicured landscape." (pg. 73, Urban Parks Master Plan)

Stampede Grounds

"a regional pathway is envisioned along the river adjoining the Stampede grounds. The corridor in which the path would be located would vary in width from a minimum of 30m to widen at places according to features on the grounds. The Riverbank and pathway corridor to be planted with riverine trees. The path itself would be a promenade that would accommodate intensive use and could be built of materials consistent with those used in Stampede Park. While provisions for security, and possibly even limitations on access at event times can be anticipated, the path corridor and the adjoining park elements could be integrated and complementary, allowing people on the path to see and enjoy the activities (horse grooming, training, livestock, etc.) in the park along the way. Proposed improvements include: Development of the regional path/promenade, Naturalization of the riverbank open space." (pg. 129, Urban Parks Master Plan)

Centre City Plan (May 2007)

Special Areas:

"Create a comprehensive and connected openspace system that links parks/plazas, the riverfront, and special areas." (pg. 78, Centre City Plan)

Open Space

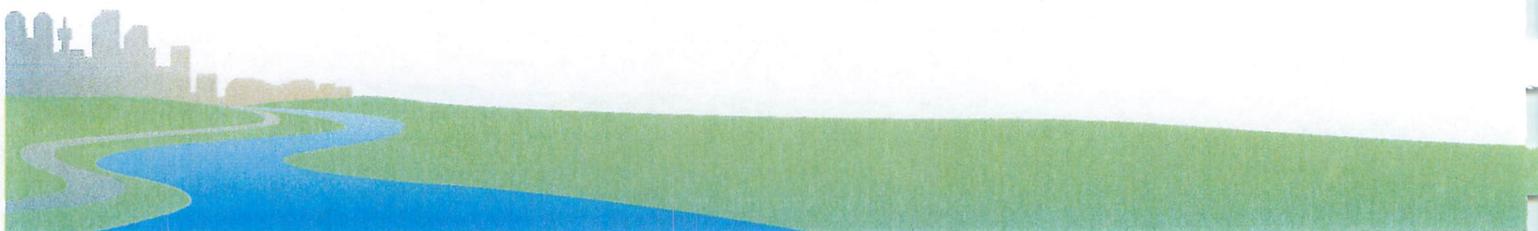
"The pathway system along the Bow and Elbow Rivers or parks such as Prince's Island Park and Central Memorial Park has long been identified as regional recreational amenities rather than local neighbourhood parks." (pg. 78, Centre City Plan)

"Enhance the riverfront as an active, liveable, pedestrian/bicycle-oriented amenity for the Centre City neighbourhoods and the city as a whole." (pg. 78, Centre City Plan)

Riverfront:

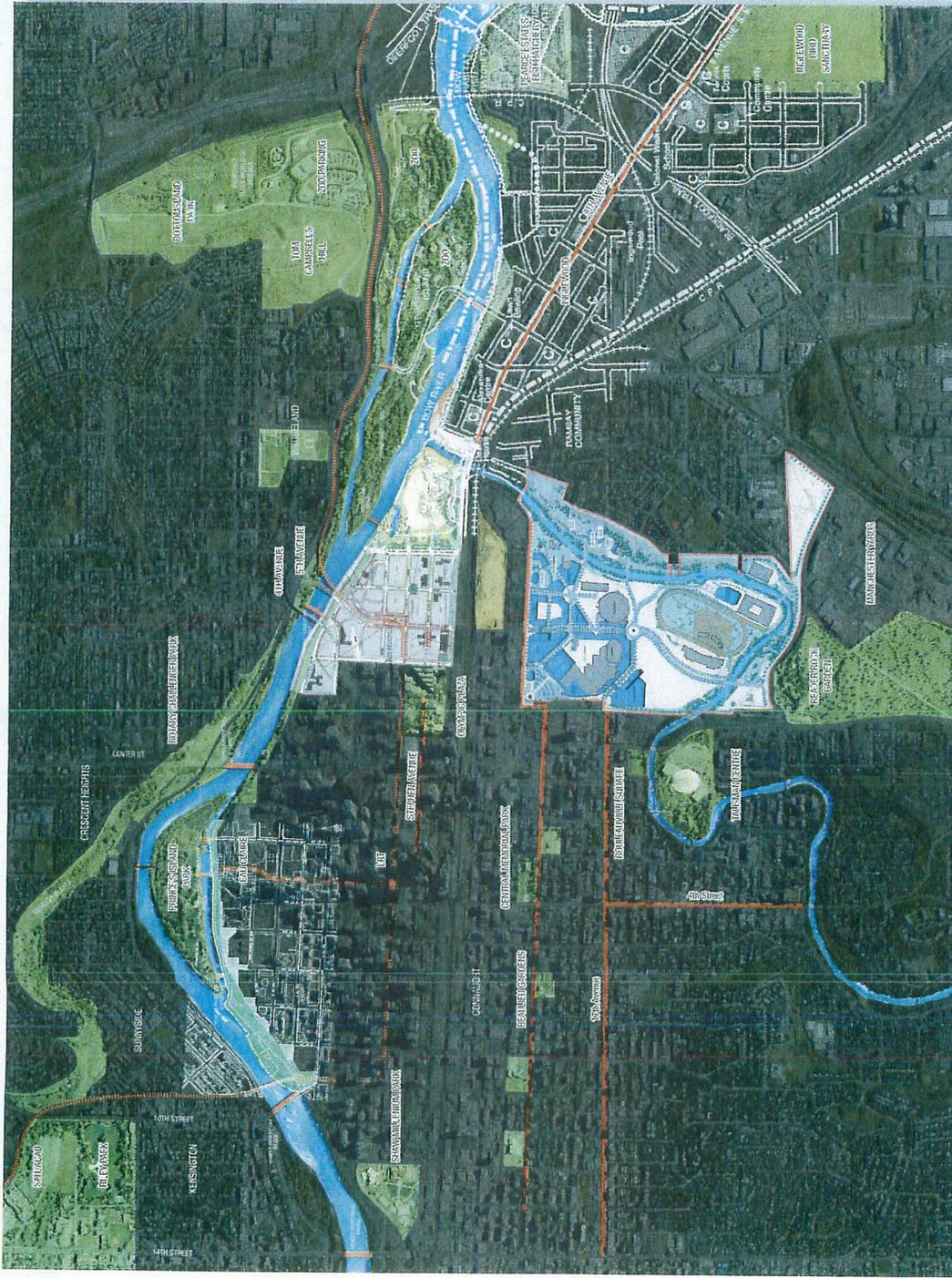
"Explore the separation of pedestrians, bicycles and in-line skaters along the riverfront pathways/promenade to ensure the pathway system remains comfortable and safe for both the pedestrian and cyclist's recreational and commuter needs." (pg. 82, Centre City Plan)

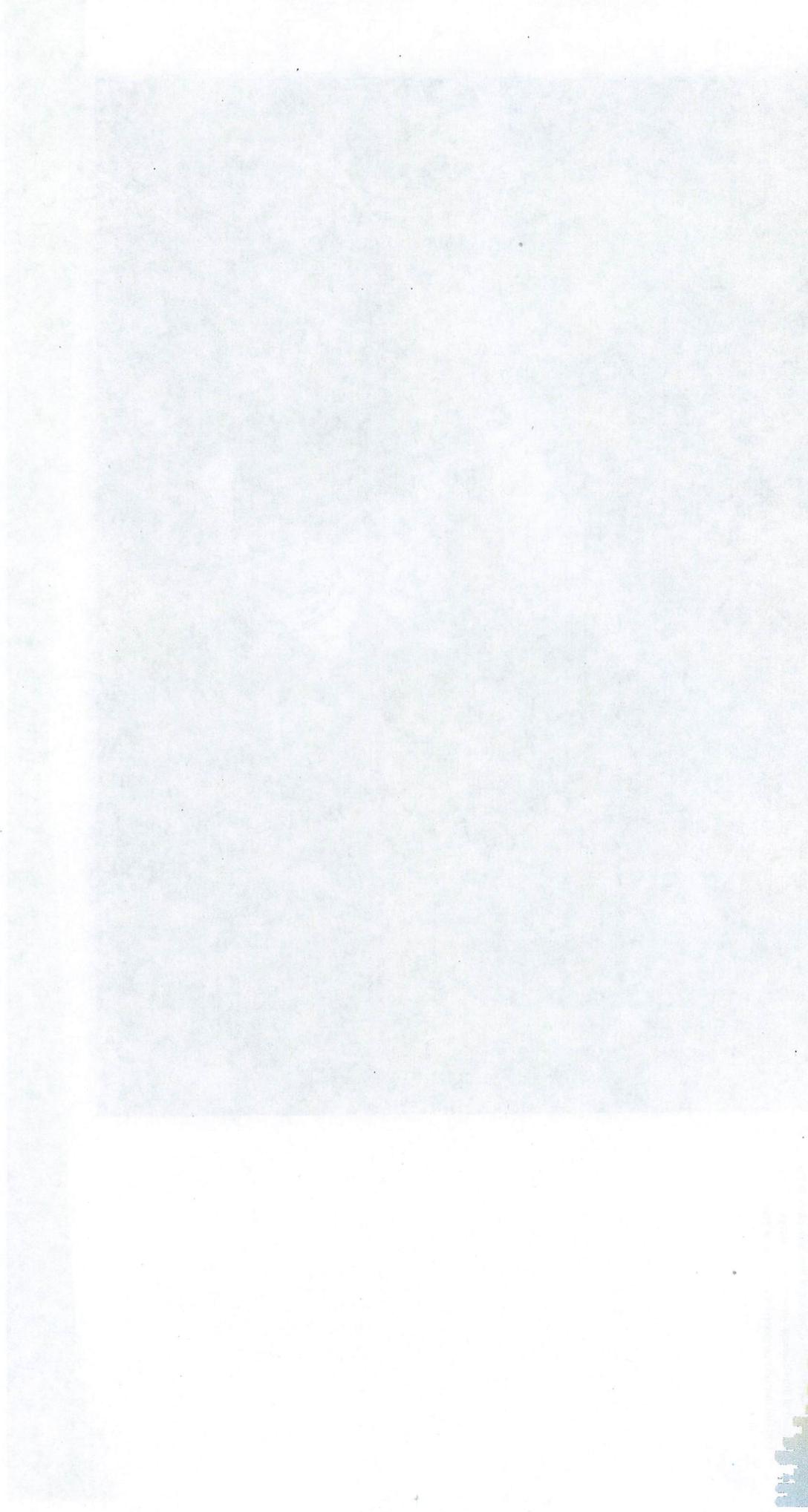
"Prepare and implement a comprehensive promenade design concept with lighting/street furniture and lookout points in the locations that currently do not have such a design (e.g. West Park and West End neighbourhood, East Village between Centre Street and Fort Calgary and along the entire Elbow River). Prioritize the Elbow River pathway extension through Stampede Park due to the flood-prone nature of the east bank pathway." (pg. 84, Centre City Plan)



There are also a number of physical plans that represent current development aspirations in and around the area.

Figure 2.2 presents a collage of available plans in the context of the Riverwalk area such as Stampede Park, Fort Calgary and proposed Telus World of Science location.



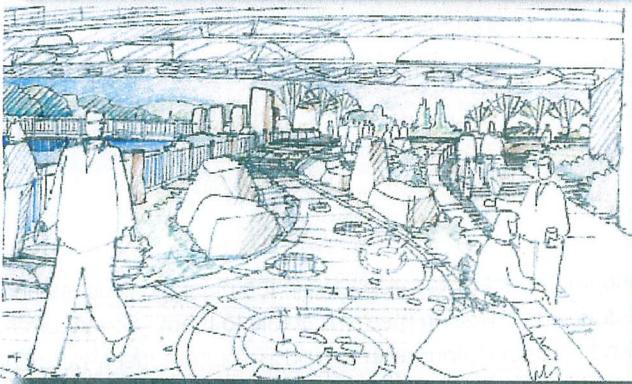


2.3 Planning for Future Needs

The development of the Riverwalk Master Plan takes into consideration the anticipated needs of people for the future in the immediate area, and the larger urban context. East Village, the eastern portions of downtown, and the east end of the Beltline area are expected to redevelop over the next decade or so with a high density of urban residential units. An additional 10,000 residents are planned for in East Village alone. Further development proposed along the riverfront downtown, across the Bow River in areas such as Bridgeland, and in the adjacent Victoria Park and Inglewood communities will continue to add residents to the area seeking alternate modes of transportation and open space opportunities.

Increased densification and higher resident population will create pressure on existing open space and open space opportunities in downtown Calgary. The river-front is becoming a major spine for a network of parks and open spaces and an increasingly important place for visitors and local residents to participate in passive and active outdoor activities. Managing appropriate access, connectivity, and public use of the river-front with the development of the Riverwalk is a forefront consideration when planning for future needs.

Walkability and connectivity to a larger pedestrian and cycling network is a key consideration for planning for the future, to accommodate these residents and others passing through the area from adjacent and outlying communities. The East Village area is also being considered as a significant transportation hub for both a high-speed rail link through the Calgary-Edmonton corridor and the future extension of Calgary's Light Rail Transit system through to the southeast part of the city.



Both of these alternate modes of transportation provide further opportunity for linkages to and along the Riverwalk.

Current plans for the Stampede Park focus on more year-round activities and attracting a broader range of visitors from the community and afar. The Riverwalk will provide a significant and desirable amenity for park users and facilitate a significant linkage for pedestrians and cyclists from adjacent and outlying communities.

Ecological sustainability is also a significant consideration in the planning process. Increased populations and demands on riverside areas for recreation and transportation need to be accommodated while respecting the natural riparian environment. Opportunities to enhance and rejuvenate the environment along the rivers and within the adjacent communities will continue to be a key element of the public ambition as the urban fabric redevelops.

3.0 PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) committed itself to working collaboratively with primary stakeholder groups through the formation and regular consultation with a Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee and citizens in a transparent, inclusive, responsible and accountable process during the development of the Riverwalk Master Plan. CMLC acknowledged that the planning process, informed by key stakeholders represented in part by the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee would improve the Master Plan.

CMLC and the Project Team endeavored to incorporate stakeholder and citizen input to the development of the Riverwalk Master Plan. The following expands on the Riverwalk Master Plan engagement methodology, specific tactics and outcomes.

3.1 Advisory Committee

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee was formed and composed of community and business stakeholders who were primarily affected by the Riverwalk project. Members invited to participate included:

- Beltline Communities of Victoria and Connaught
- Calgary Exhibition & Stampede
- Calgary Pathways & Bikeways Advisory Council
- Calgary Police Service
- City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood Services
- City of Calgary Parks
- Cliff Bungalow/Mission Community Association
- East Village Action Committee
- Erlton Community Association
- Fort Calgary Preservation Society
- Inglewood Community Association
- Ramsay Community Association
- River Valleys Committee
- Sien Lok Society
- Ward 7 Alderman
- Ward 8 Alderman
- Ward 9 Alderman

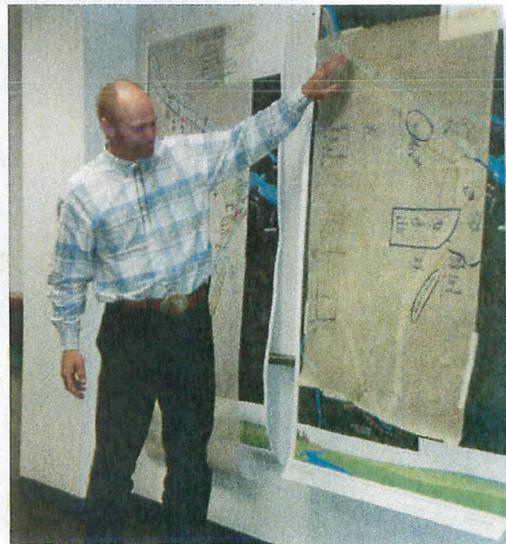
The group was formed in June 2007 for an eight month period and immediately was engaged in the planning process and context, taking full advantage of the range of background and historical information made available to them. Seven formal Advisory Committee meetings plus many informed discussions and feedback along with two public open houses were held over a period of ten months. Participation and attendance were excellent and valuable input and feedback was obtained by CMLC and the Project Team.



Responsibilities of members confirmed at the initial meeting included:

- To review background information, relevant policies and documents to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the project context.
- To gain knowledge of the site by working with the Project Team to review and identify physical inventory and considerations in the project area.
- To assist in the development of a Vision for the project and Guiding Principles to guide the development of a Riverwalk Master Plan that aligns with City Council's vision for the area.
- To provide ideas and feedback to the project team in the development of a Concept Plan and final Master Plan document.
- To review feedback gained from public open houses and together with the Project Team, incorporate that feedback to the greatest extent reasonably possible in the Master Plan development.
- To support the Riverwalk Master Plan as a collaborative effort of the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee and the Project Team prior to submitting to the CMLC for review and approval.

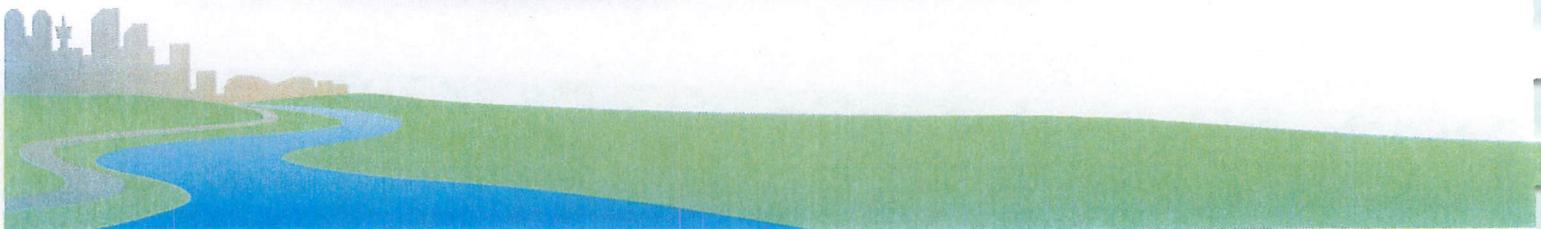
Overall, the role of the Advisory Committee throughout the drafting of the Riverwalk Master Plan was very helpful, and it created the opportunity for meaningful dialogue between CMLC, the Project Team and various primary stakeholder groups. This process complimented CMLC commitment to a transparent, inclusive, responsive and accountable process. A more comprehensive summary of the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee can be found in Appendix A.



3.2 Public Open Houses

Two public Open Houses were held at key milestones during the drafting of the Riverwalk Master Plan. The first Open House was held in September 2007 for public comment on the draft Vision, Guiding Principles, focus areas, character areas and linkages. Generally, strong support was received from the public for all five components.

The second Public Open House was held in December 2007 and displayed all of the information from the first Open House as well as the draft Riverwalk Conceptual Plan. Again, generally strong overall public support was received from a wide audience for the draft Riverwalk Conceptual Plan. A more comprehensive summary of the feedback received at the two Riverwalk Master Plan Public Open Houses can be found in Appendix A.



3.3 Communications

Once established, the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee received regular electronic mail including meeting notices and agenda, project updates, and project newsletters. Advisory Committee meetings and Open Houses were documented through a series of Riverwalk Master Plan newsletters from Volume 1, July 2007 to Volume 6, February 2008. CMLC also kept an updated website that hosted all Riverwalk information as the project progressed so the general public could remain informed and provide feedback throughout the process.

The Open Houses were promoted using various methods which included advertisements in the local papers, public service announcements, public signage, posters, A-frame signs located at three different areas along the existing pathway and the Rev!ve brochure which was distributed to over 12,000 homes near the Community Revitalization Levy area. Copies of the newsletters and the Rev!ve are attached in Appendix A.



4.0 PROJECT VISION – DEFINING VALUES

The vision for the Riverwalk was motivated by the recognition of values and the analysis of opportunities considered for the future. The key values identified for the Riverwalk were:

- Access and Connectivity
- Safety and Security
- Mobility Modes
- Public Amenities
- Environment and Ecology
- History
- Authenticity

These values were the foundation to identify characteristics and opportunities for consideration in developing a vision for the Riverwalk. The key opportunities identified were:

- support a balanced network for movement and activities
- enhance way-finding, focal points, and meeting nodes
- integrate with the urban fabric and the broader City planning context
- focus on comprehensive high-level planning ideas
- recognize history and the historic context
- invest in the public realm

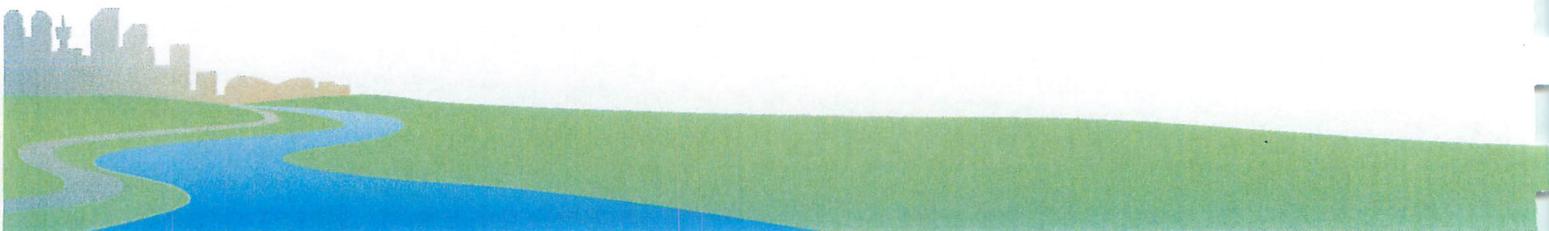
Building on these values and opportunities, a Vision Statement, Guiding Principles and a Planning Concept were prepared as a formative component of the Riverwalk Master Plan.

4.1 Vision Statement

The Master Plan Vision Statement was developed at the September 13, 2007 Advisory Committee roundtable discussion. The following vision statement emerged with collective input from the design team and the Advisory Committee:

The Riverwalk is a Destination and a Journey

heightening experience, human potential, and the contrasting beauty of nature and urban intensity.



4.2 Guiding Principles

The Vision Statement led to the development of high level precepts to guide the Master Plan in order to realize the vision. The Guiding Principles are universal and general, capturing the big ideas.

- Evoke an enduring sense of place.
- Improve connectivity.
- Provide a balanced network for movement.
- Foster public safety.
- Restore and establish the unique ecology in an urban setting.
- Invest in the public realm.
- Broaden the mix of uses.
- Ensure that the Riverwalk Master Plan supports broader city planning goals.
- Build on existing strengths.
- Preserve and enhance cultural and heritage resources and provide educational opportunities.

4.3 Planning Concept

The Advisory Committee drove the planning direction for the Riverwalk through abstract mapping. This engagement technique facilitated the exploration of broad functional relationships and the synthesis of values and opportunities. Based on an analysis of the mapping exercise, three key overlays were proposed. The overlays summarized and highlighted consistent and reoccurring relationships and characteristics. The overlays include: character areas, linkages, and focus areas.

Figure 4.1 Character

Areas these are areas with related physical and contextual qualities. This overlay was further supported by the biophysical analysis.

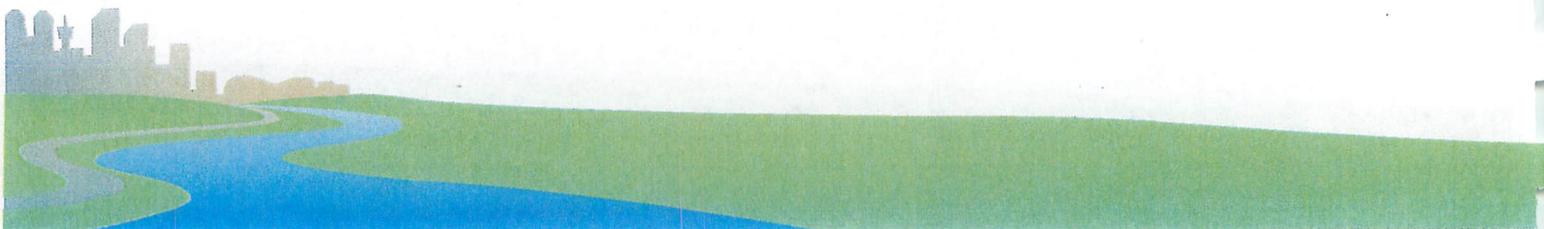


Figure 4.2 Linkages

represents significant and primary access and connectivity and opportunities to and from key destinations. This overlay was further supported by the future and existing planning initiatives.



Figure 4.3 Focus Areas

these are special places along the Riverwalk that require particular attention or provide unique design opportunities.



Figure 4.4 Composite

Overlay An overall planning concept map was then developed from the composite of these key overlays.



This was the first step in visualizing a framework that would further guide the development of appropriate design ideas and the development of the Conceptual Master Plan.

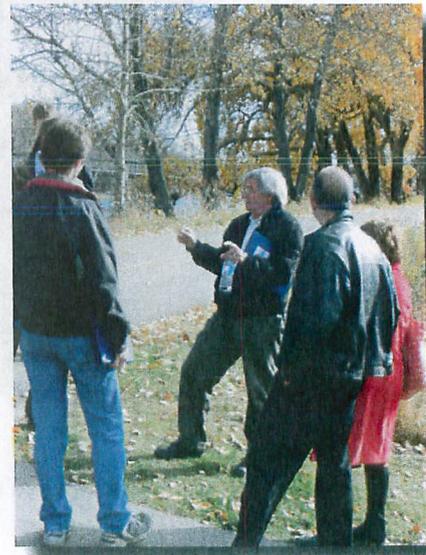
5.0 MASTER PLAN CONCEPT: DEFINING A SENSE OF PLACE

Throughout history, planning and design has been informed by the "Sense of Place". It is through human experience that a sense of place can be defined and formulated.

It is this understanding of a place and identity that guides our vision and decision making.

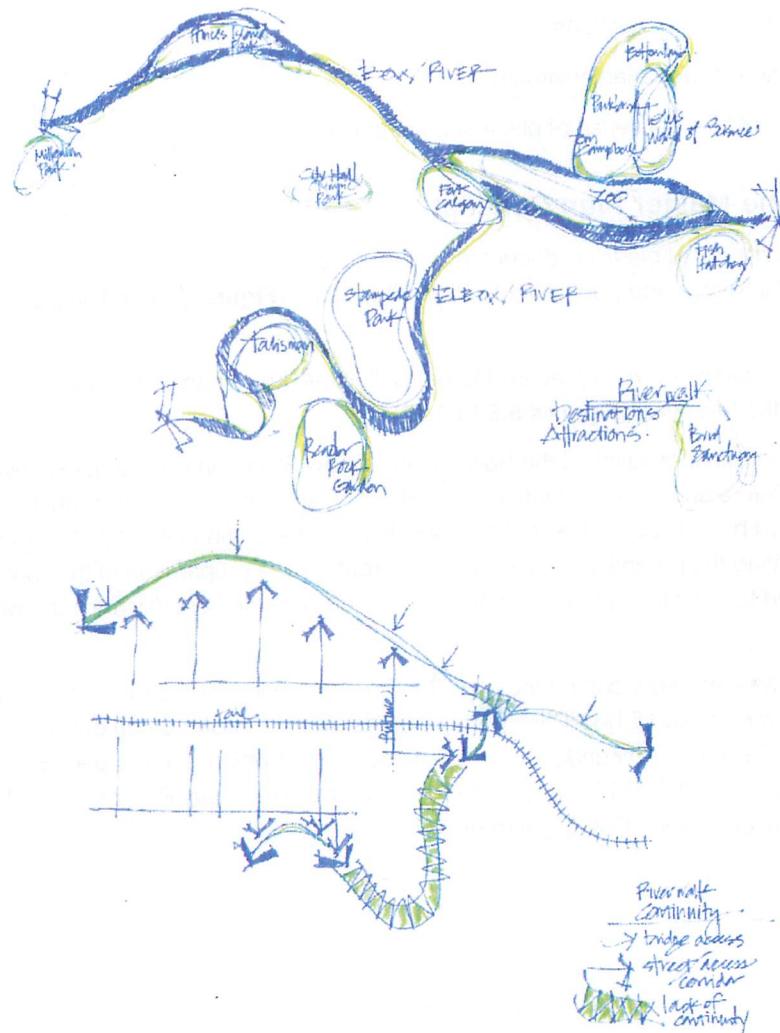
5.1 Drawing on Experience

Consensus from the Advisory Committee with feedback from the public on a planning direction formed the basis from which to focus in on key relationships and evolve ideas through generating "real" experiences. To facilitate obtaining experiential detail to evolve the Master Plan Concept, the Advisory Committee participated in a drawing-in-dialogue session. This technique involves trained artist-facilitators creating perspective sketches at the direction of the participants. The participants first visited key Riverwalk focus areas and then were asked to imagine themselves back on the site (represented by the artist's first drawing of a sole figure) engaged in one of the site's desired activities. Through dialogue with the artist facilitator the participants were further encouraged to describe other features of the scene, who else is in the scene, how close the people are to each other, what they are doing, what surfaces they're walking on, what they smell, what they see in the distance—basically everything they might experience when they picture themselves on the completed site. This engagement technique was used to help encapsulate the kind of environment the stakeholders imagine as ideal for the site and what they want to do there. Participants inherently already know and dream about their environment—its way of life, its history, and its moods. The products of this session are documented in Appendix B.



Upon the analysis of the drawings and "experiences" captured during the drawing-in-dialogue session, essential patterns began to emerge; public spaces, local promenades, major and connecting pathways, activity nodes and civic and natural features. There were degrees of pedestrian density differentiated by the path network and convergence. Throughout history, convergence is the way in which the waters edge, the land, the people and their history come together as a whole to give identity to a landscape. The patterns forming the Riverwalk represented a significant community structure and identity where people go to meet, stroll, pass through and pass the time and engage in both passive and active activities. It is able to attract people city wide and fulfill the need for the public life local community.

Based on the information and input assembled to this point, the Riverwalk will play not only a significant physical role but a significant social role contributing to the urban fabric of the downtown and the vitality of the city's daily life.



Schematic Diagram Illustrating Connections with Urban Fabric

5.2 Determining Design Drivers

Further interpreted from the drawing in dialogue session were emerging design themes. These themes or design drivers resonated within some the principles previously established during the Advisory Committee sessions and reinforced for the Design Team the potentials and key relationships that the Master Plan Concept needed to include. Reoccurring in both the recorded text and drawings were the following:

Riverwalk Design Drivers

- Resonating the ebb and flow of the rivers
- Reconnecting and Revitalizing a cooperative interface with adjacent development
- Recognizing and celebrating a complex of users
- Reaching through bridges and connections
- Revealing and Respecting the Riparian environment
- Relationship to the land's historical sense of place and natural history

5.3 Developing the Master Plan Concept

Building on the Council approved planning documents, information obtained from the drawing-in-dialogue session and subsequent Advisory Committee and public input, a Schematic Plan (**Figure 5.1**) and final Concept Plan (**Figure 5.2**) were developed.

Sections and perspective sketches were prepared to better illustrate key areas of the Plan and envision the potential physical design and qualities of the Riverwalk (**Figures 5.3 to 5.10**).

The Plan recognizes the distinct qualities of the Bow and the Elbow River corridors, adjacent land and land use characteristics and the future and current planning context. It further reinforces the opportunities to develop unique area nodes strongly supported by existing and potential connections to the community and other destinations. Overarching is discovering and celebrating the potential of the rivers' waterfront. In the preparation of the final Master Plan concept the design team endeavored to identify both unique and common qualities and establish a framework to discover order, artful design and naturalism.

It is noted that the Riverwalk Advisory committee and CMLC recommend that the City of Calgary examine the linkages to the west on both the Bow River and Elbow River portions of the Riverwalk. CMLC can only construct works within the Rivers District with Community Revitalization Funds, the western boundary of which is 1st Street SE. It is recommended that the City of Calgary work with the CMLC to fill in any "missing links" around Lindsay Park or Sien Lok, both of which are located outside of the Rivers District in which CMLC operates.



Figure 5.1
Schematic Plan

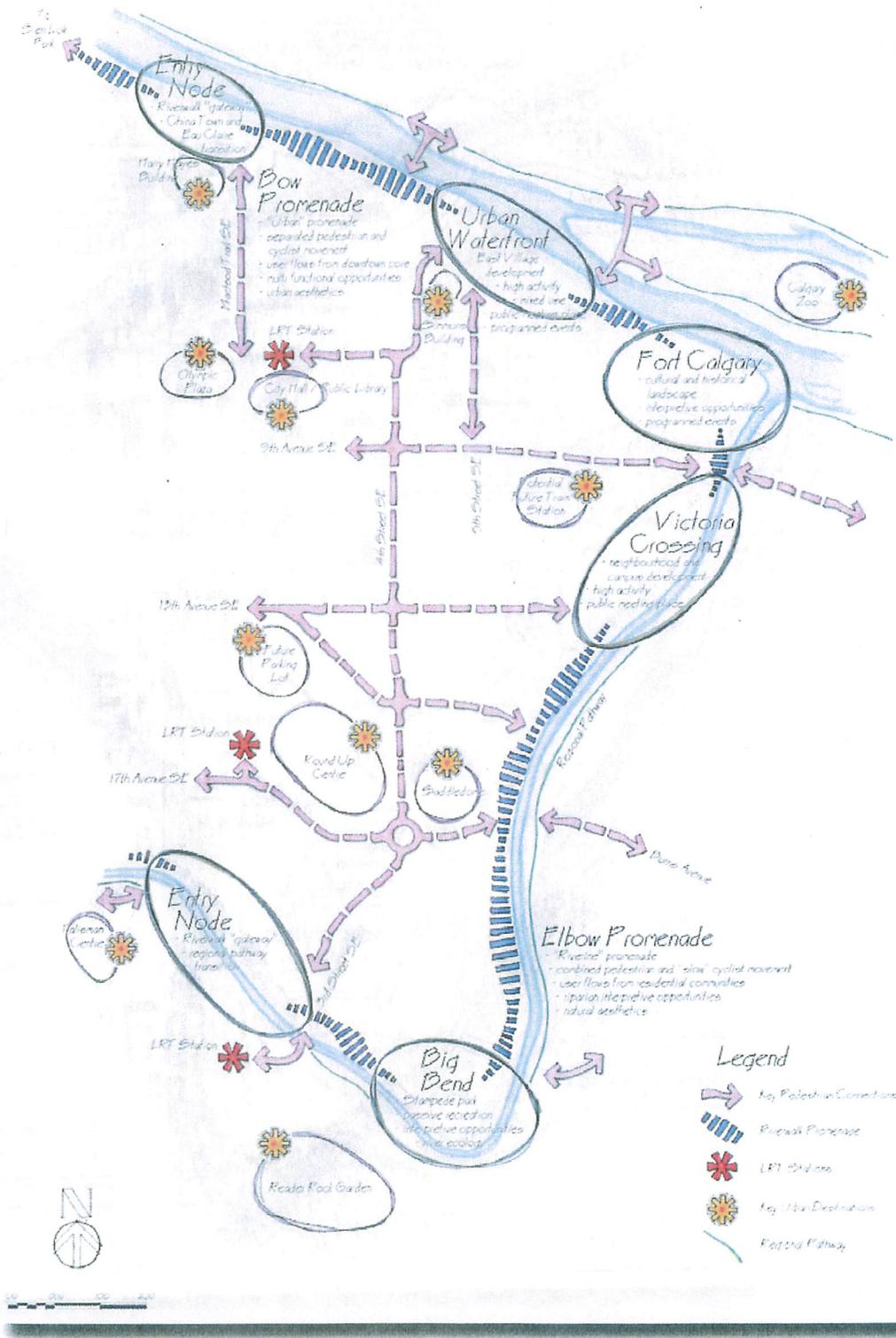
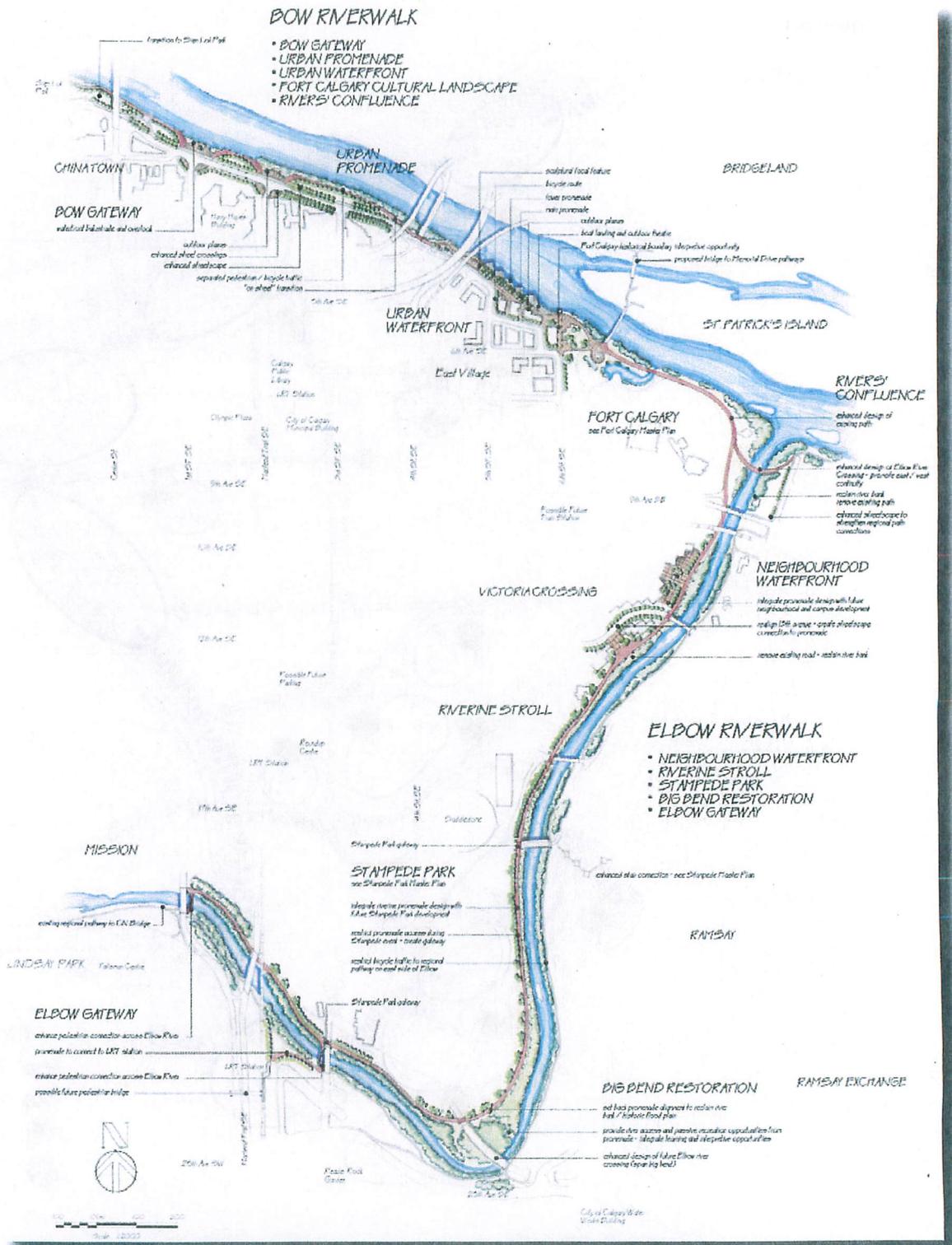
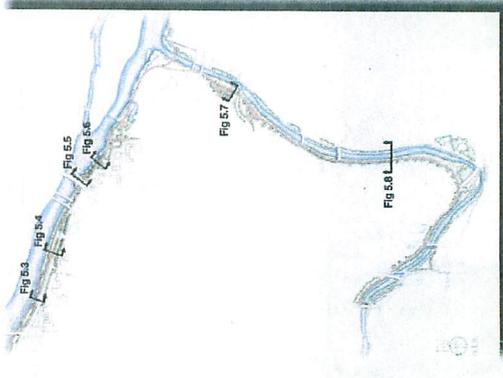
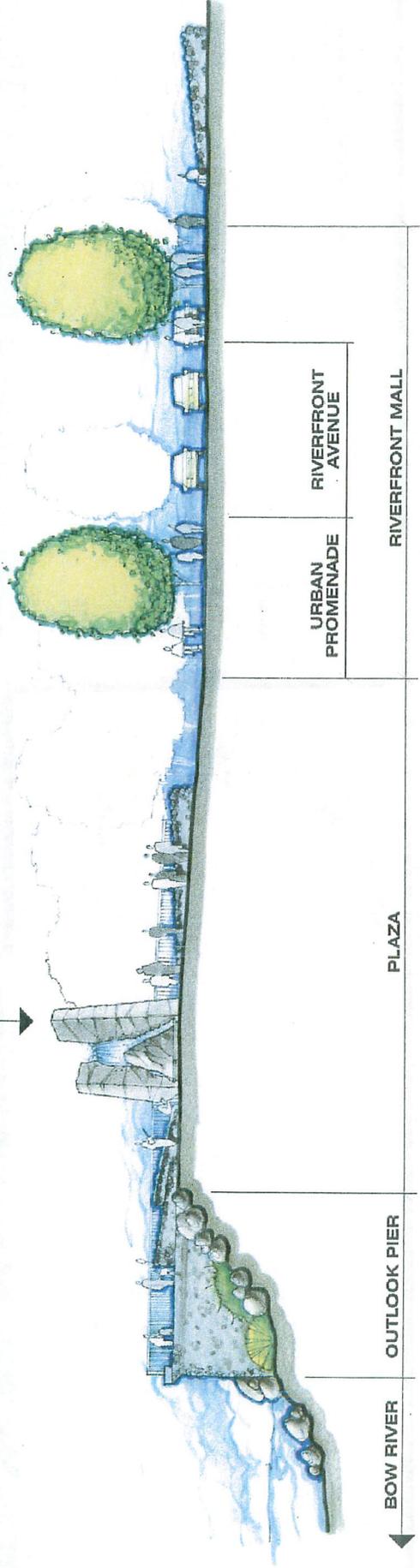


Figure 5.2
Concept Plan

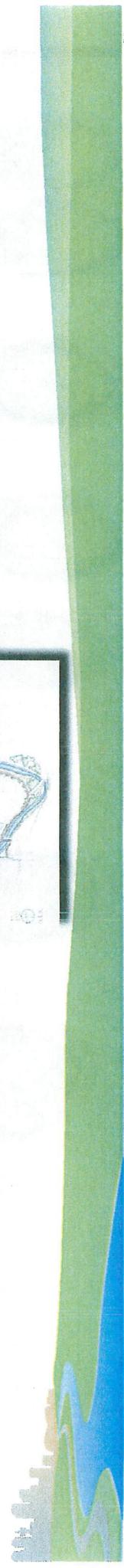


SCULPTURAL
FOCAL POINT



Key Map

Figure 5.3
Schematic Section - China Town Entry



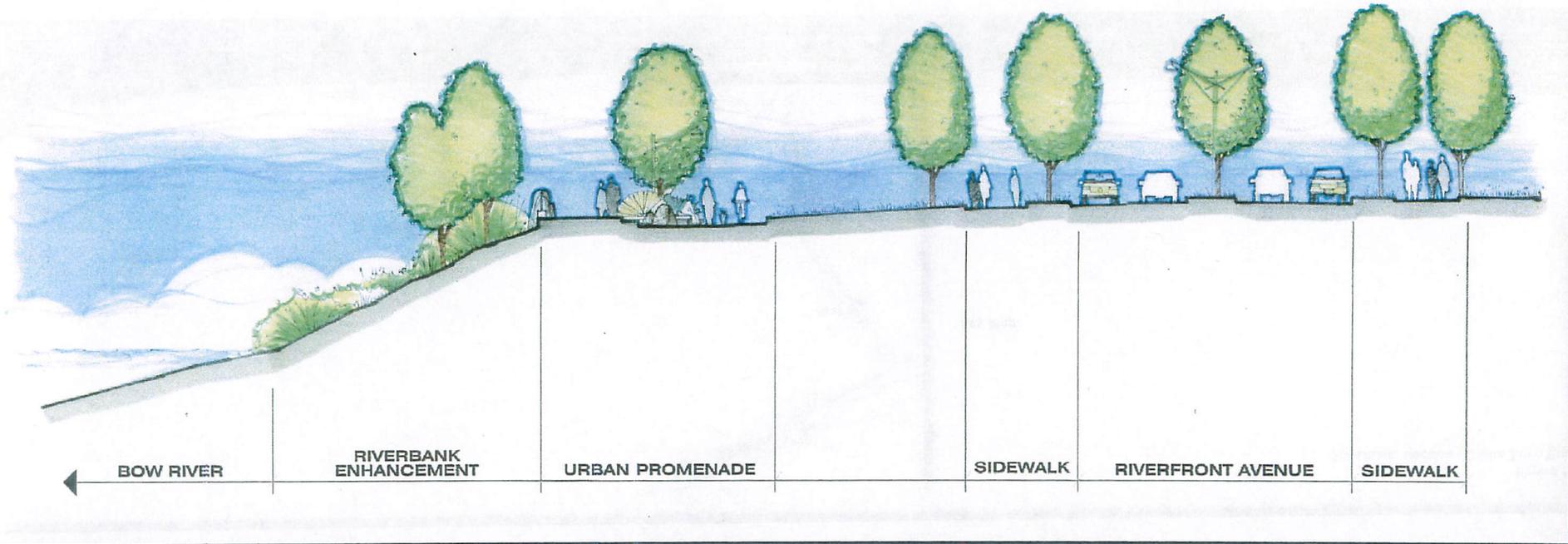
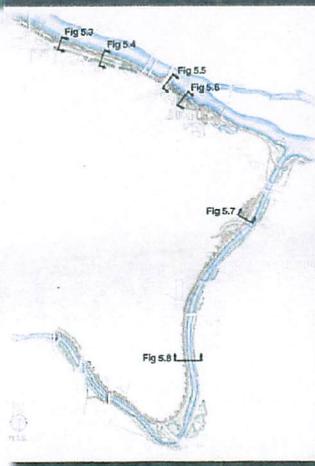
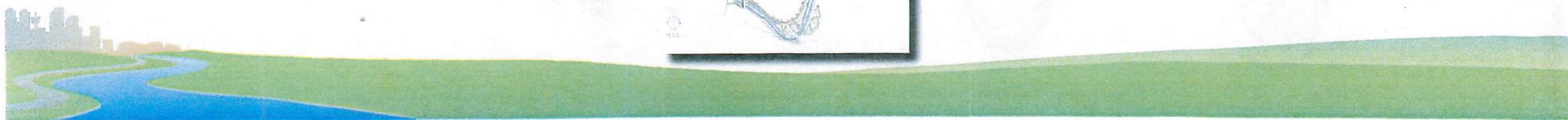


Figure 5.4
Schematic Section - Bow Riverwalk
Urban Promenade



Key Map



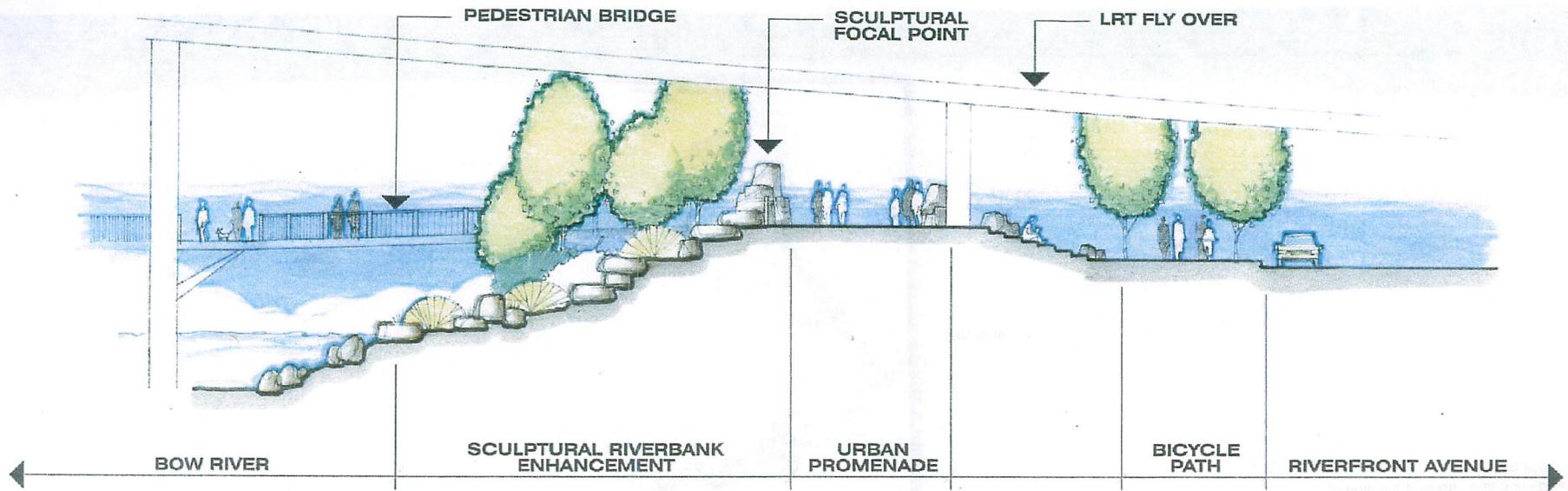
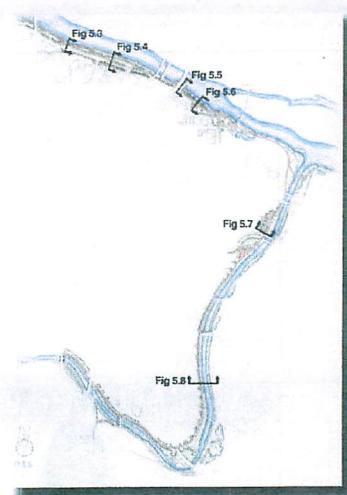


Figure 5.5
Schematic Section - LRT Fly Over
Urban Waterfront



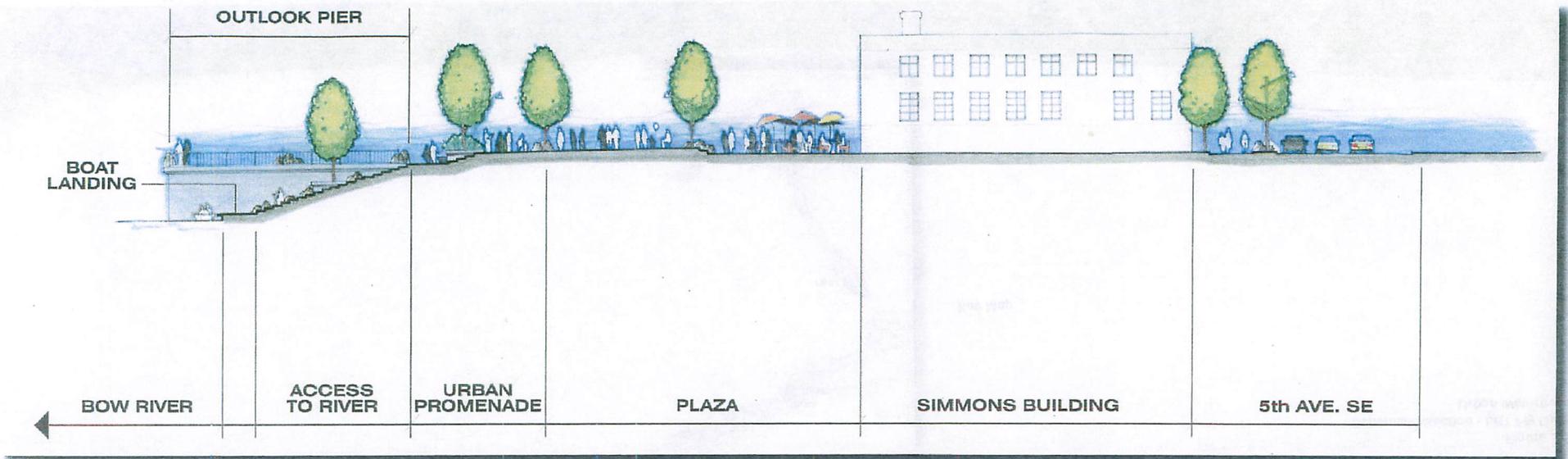
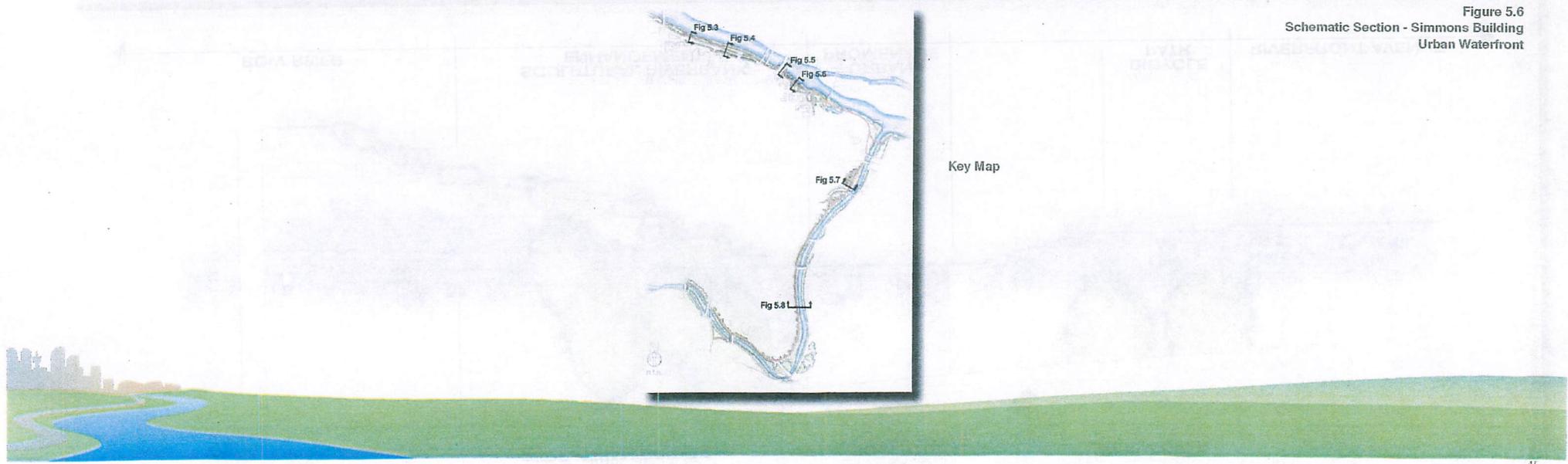


Figure 5.6
Schematic Section - Simmons Building
Urban Waterfront



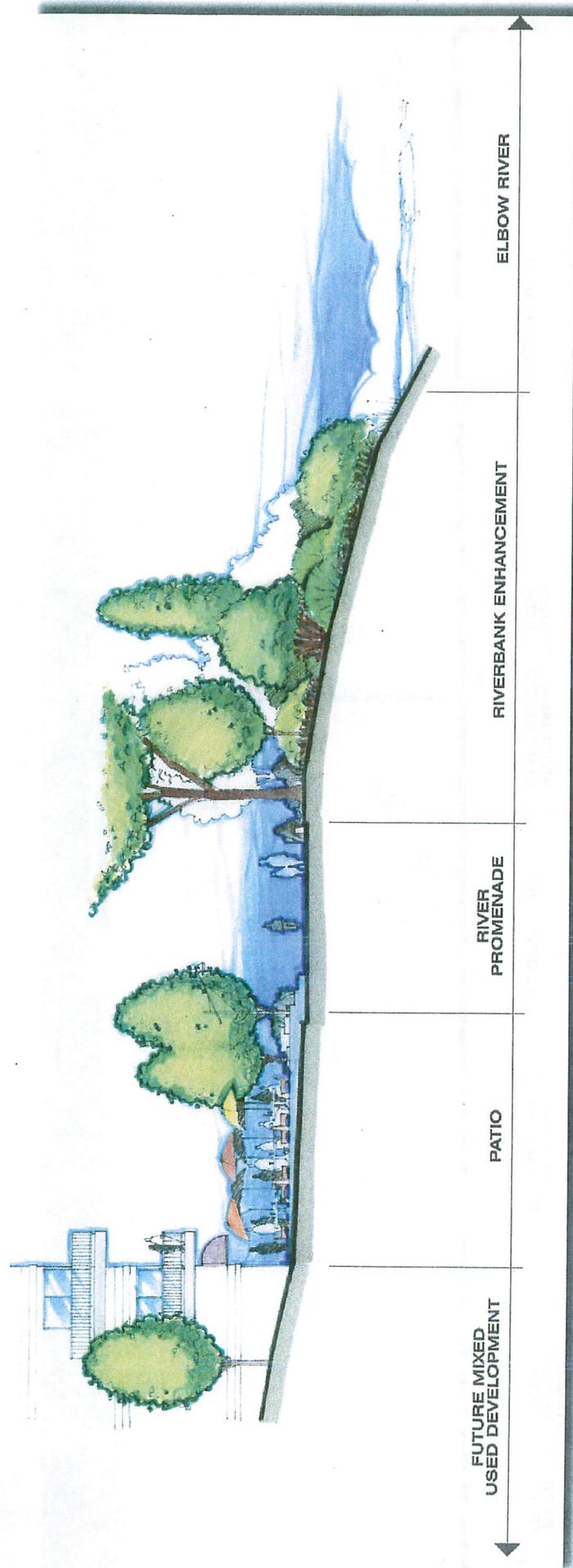
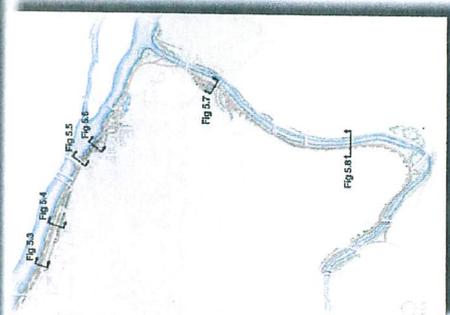


Figure 5.7
Schematic Section - Victoria Crossing
Neighbourhood Waterfront



Key Map

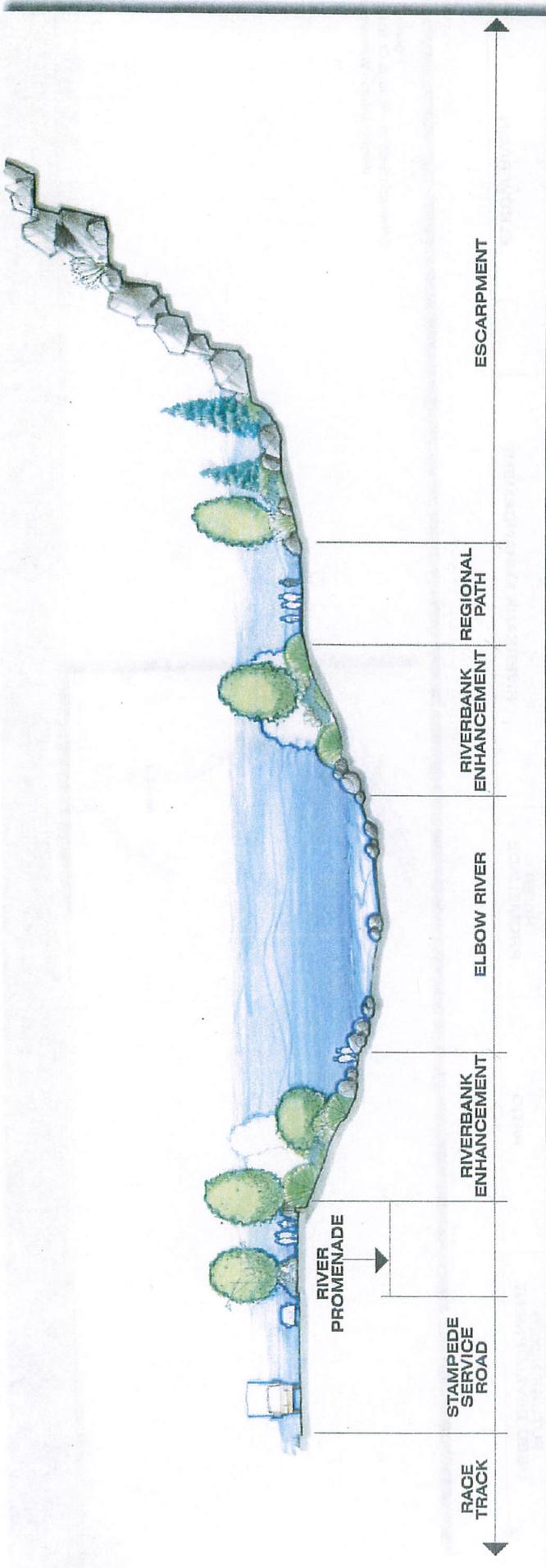
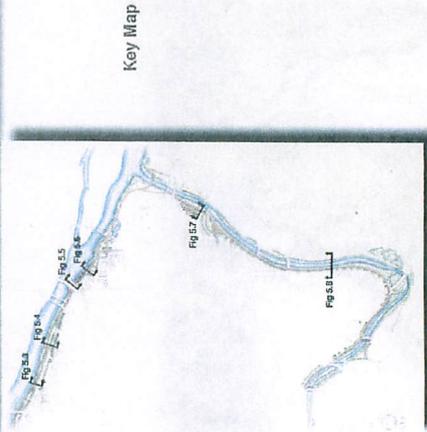


Figure 5.8
Schematic Section - Stampede Park
Elbow Riverwalk Promenade



Key Map





Figure 5.9
Artist Rendering - Chinatown Entry

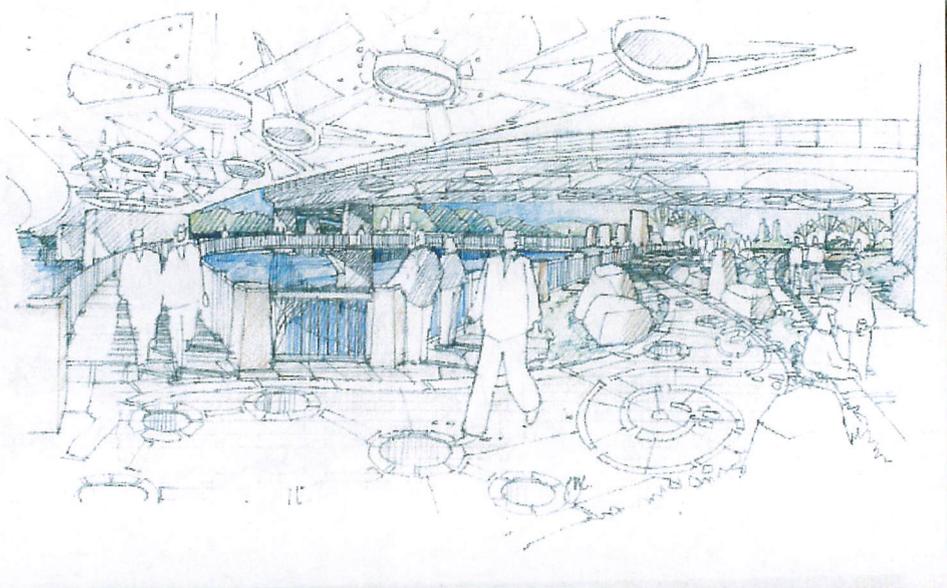
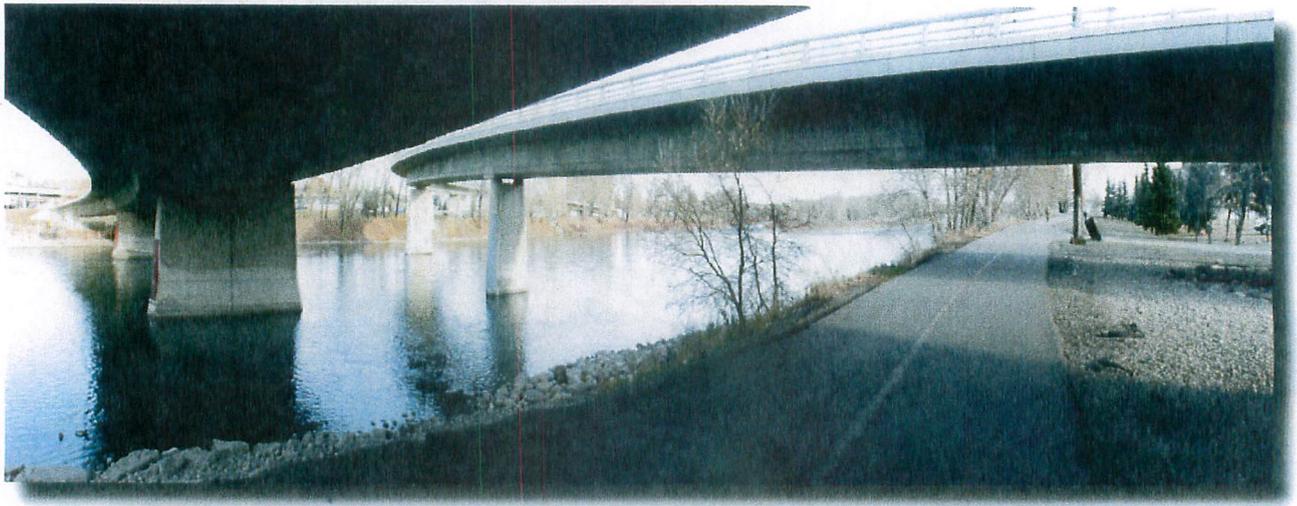


Figure 5.10
Artist Rendering - LRT Fly Over

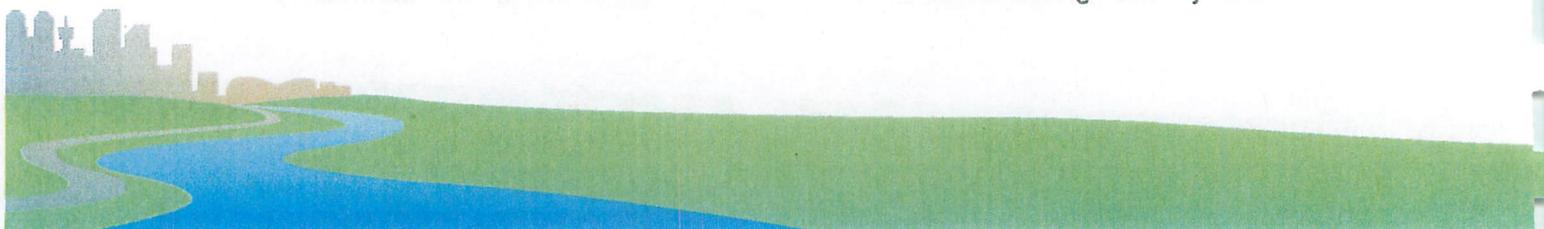
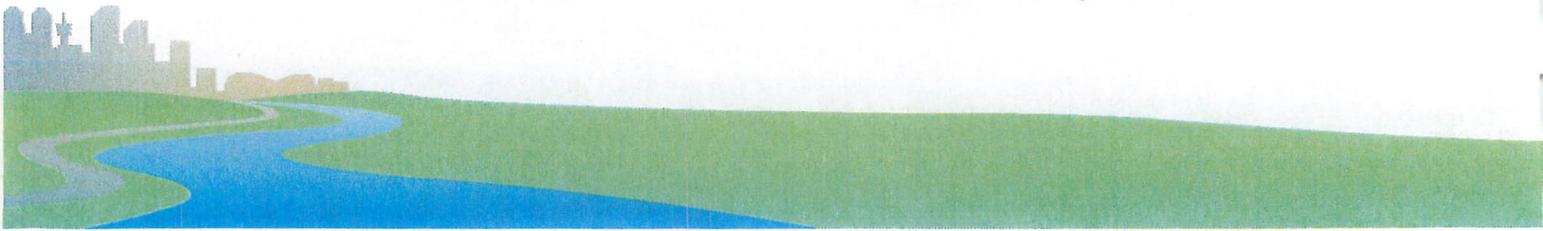




Figure 5.11
Artist Rendering - Waterfront Plaza



Figure 5.12
Artist Rendering - Confluence



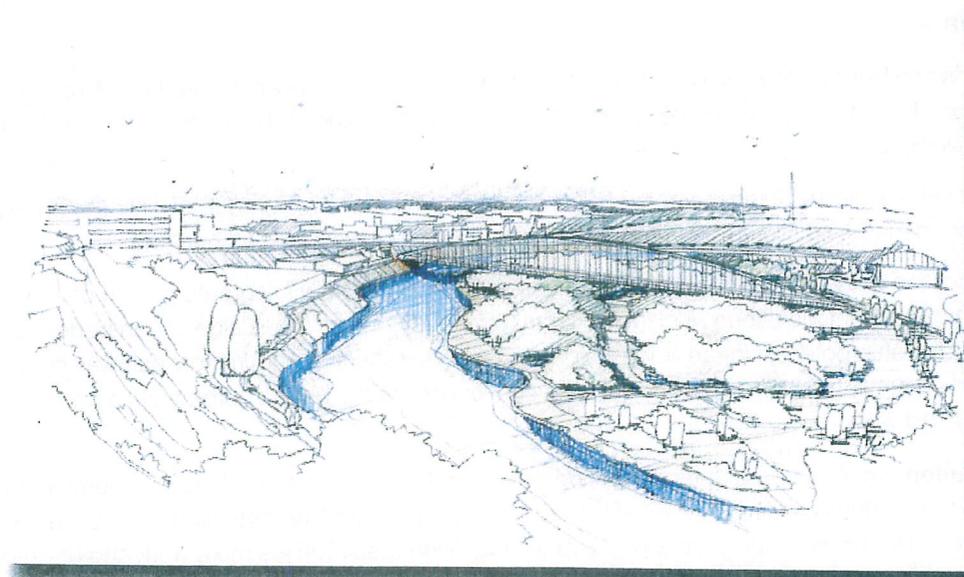


Figure 5.13
Artist Rendering - Big Bend

5.4 Master Plan Concept – Urban Form

From the first General Plan prepared in 1912 (Thomas Mawson) a Bow and Elbow river walk was an important part of the plan for Calgary. Today, almost one hundred years later, our attraction to the waters edge hasn't waned and continues to shape the city's urban form.

The brief descriptions below relate to the various components of the Concept Plan (Figure 5.2)

Bow Riverwalk

Bow Gateway announces the entry to the Riverwalk from downtown and the transition to and from Chinatown. It features a waterfront overlook and prominent entry feature.

Urban Promenade provides an interface between the high density of the adjacent urban development and the river's edge. Formalized allees of trees, integration with the streetscape of Riverfront Avenue, and urban plazas form part of the character of this area.

Urban Waterfront is located in East Village and provides an urban interface with the river with larger outdoor plazas and formalized hard-surface connections to the water's edge. It is an active place with room for public performance, promenade cafes and bars, and more highly programmed.

Fort Calgary reflects a significant point in time in Calgary's cultural history. Within this site, the Riverwalk character is more of an 'enhanced pathway' inviting exploration of Fort Calgary and integrates with this more natural landscape and site-specific programming.

River's Confluence is the physical joining of the two rivers celebrated by an adjacent artful crossing. The Riverwalk steps back from the confluence to recognize the significance of the natural environment while opening a visual window to the area.

Elbow Riverwalk

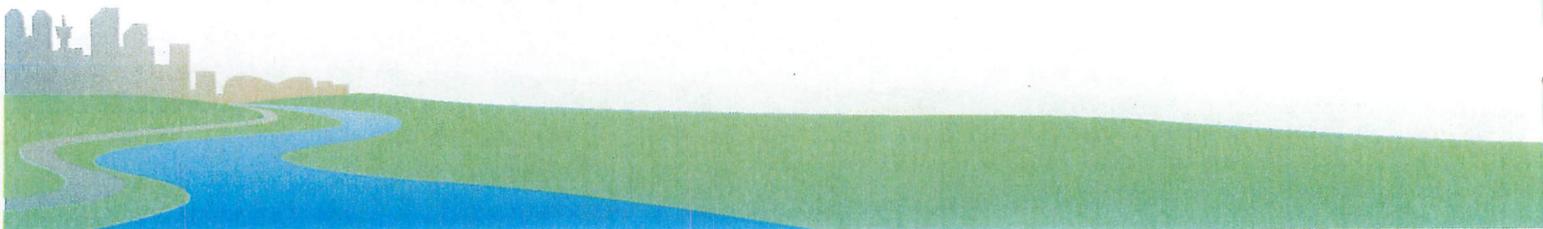
Neighbourhood Waterfront is integrated with the urban design of the adjacent anticipated residential development. The Riverwalk steps back from the river and relates to this development, providing both an urban plaza and a more room for nature along the riverbank.

Riverine Stoll provides a distinct interface between urban development and restored riverbank. It is envisioned as "slow", intimate strolling promenade, smaller in scale reflective of the characteristics of the Elbow River.

Stampede Park portion of the Riverwalk will be most successful when it is fully integrated as part of the Stampede Park Master Plan. Gerry McHugh, Operations Manager, Calgary Stampede notes: "The Calgary Stampede sees tremendous opportunity and partnership potential in providing Calgarian's with an effective and friendly pathway system." There are areas of promenade potential and will provide significant connections to the broader urban fabric and an important interface between the Park and the river.

Big Bend Restoration reclaims part of the original flood plain for the Elbow River and restores some portions of the lost habitat in this area. Opportunities for a quiet interface with nature and related interpretation are presented as the Riverwalk gently turns in direction to the west. It is recognized that the Big Bend area requires more work and discussion with the Calgary Stampede with respect to existing infrastructure and buildings that have a significant lifespan remaining.

Elbow Gateway celebrates the southern entry to the Riverwalk and interface with a key multi-modal entry into the City's downtown. Links to other pathways, light rail stations, and a major roadway make this an important beginning and end to the Riverwalk.



5.5 Master Plan Concept – Cultural Expression

Integral to urban form is cultural expression. The Riverwalk will play a significant social role both in redefining a new balance with nature and contributing to new civic measures for the public realm, for community life and a larger **vision** for the city, a city of the future that boosts a livable urban core, a quality of place for people and renewed respect for our natural environment and nature in the city. The implementation and a common vision for the Riverwalk can help to articulate our transpiring cultural expression for choices, sociability and safety and sustainability but alone will not generate the form nor be able to fulfill the social role necessary to achieve these new measures for our city and for a revitalized urban core. The collateral institutions that will form a vibrant and vital Riverwalk will emerge over time and on their own accord and every act of building large or small needs to take on the responsibility to help shape the larger pattern of the Riverwalk.

6.0 IMPLEMENTATION

6.1 Key Considerations

Through out the development the Riverwalk Master Plan a number of considerations arose through both the engagement and design processes. While these considerations are difficult to capture in the concept plan, the need to be recognized as the Master Plan is implemented. The main considerations are summarized below.

Systems of Movement

The Riverwalk is to be envisioned to accommodate a number of uses and activities while minimizing multi-use conflict. It is recognized that, of certain times of the day, many users of the Riverwalk will be bicycle commuters wanting to travel at a higher rate of speed than other recreational cyclists and pedestrians. This will require the arrangement of the carriageway to be reviewed as it moves through various precincts. Some portions of the Riverwalk may be split into two carriageways, one for 'heels' and one for 'wheels.' Other portions of the Riverwalk may require a single carriageway of greater width. In some localized areas with spatial restrictions, such as under bridges and east of the Langevin Bridge, detailed design and/or routing of commuter uses to mitigate conflicts will likely be required. Other areas of anticipated high use, such as by the Simmons Building (Promenade), design details will also be required to mitigate conflicts, slow higher speed commuter bike travel, and fully integrate users. Special attention is also required at pathway and sidewalk intersections and road crossings. Clearly legible wayfinding and signage are important components to reduce user conflict. All portions of the Riverwalk should be accessible to users of various abilities.

The impact of adjacent uses and linkages to the surrounding urban fabric should also be given consideration at the design stage.

It is important to note that the rivers themselves also provide a system of movement. This is especially evident in the summers when rafters and canoeists are using both the Bow and Elbow Rivers. Currently no formal access points to the rivers are provided within the Riverwalk area and this has resulted in areas of riverbank degradation. Consideration should be given to providing formalized river entry and egress to provide safe and controlled access in areas such as the Promenade in East Village or near the Victoria Park Transit Garage.

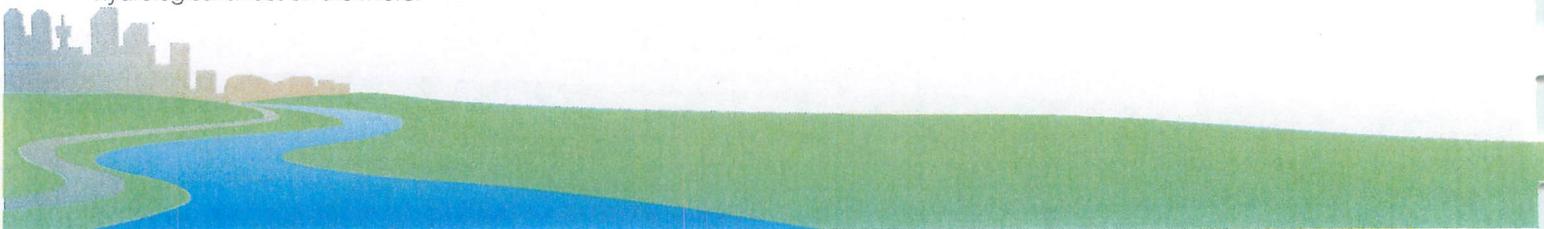
Landscape Ecology and Habitat

The ecological wellbeing of both the rivers and the adjacent riparian environment was a key consideration noted throughout the public engagement process.

One recommendation from the engagement process that is illustrated in some locations on the concept plan is to move the Riverwalk back from the rivers' edge where ever possible with the exception of East Village to allow for a more natural interface. This allows for the possibility of enhanced habitat, opportunities for reclamation, and further protection of water quality.

Rejuvenation of riparian habitat should be considered where ever possible. Many areas of the riverbanks show signs of ecological stress evident through the vegetation. Some areas have lost the natural riparian habitat while other remnants of existing natural riparian habitat show the lack of ability to regenerate by natural means. Wherever possible outside of the urban waterfront and in accordance with adjacent uses, the rejuvenation of natural landforms, soils, and vegetation should be a key criteria.

When opportunities present themselves to protect or enhance the quality of water in the rivers, they should be considered. Adjacent urban run-off should be appropriately re-directed for appropriate treatment. Riverbank reclamation should also consider the hydrological affect on the rivers.



Social Considerations

Throughout the engagement process concerns were raised about the existing social considerations in the areas through which the Riverwalk passes. Much of the Riverwalk route is contained in what is currently a blighted part of Calgary's urban fabric, with a reputation for crime and a location for the homeless. While these considerations are significant, it is important to plan for what the Riverwalk will be in the future and not just for today. For the Riverwalk to be truly successful, no part of society should feel excluded from the area. As the population of East Village and the eastern end of the Beltline swell over the next few years, the number and mix of users in the area will provide a more representative social mix. Residents of nearby social agencies will be incorporated as part of the social fabric of the Riverwalk.

Safety and Security

Feeling safe and secure on the while experiencing the Riverwalk was identified through the engagement process as a key consideration. Through the detailed design, consideration must include thorough reviews of measures to provide a comfortable and safe environment. Sightlines to and along the Riverwalk should be maintained. Areas for 'hiding' should be minimized. Lighting design must provide comfortable light levels without over-lighting or creating area of high contrast or glare. Connections to the surrounding urban fabric must also be integrated into the overall design.

6.2 Construction

This Master Plan recognizes that the Riverwalk will be implemented over a number of years as opportunities present. Each phase of implementation will require further conceptual and design development along with comprehensive construction drawings and appropriate approvals processes. Where there are adjacent lands under development, every effort should be made to integrate construction of the Riverwalk. Biophysical Impact Assessments (BIA) will be done prior to each stage of implementation.

6.3 Use of this Document

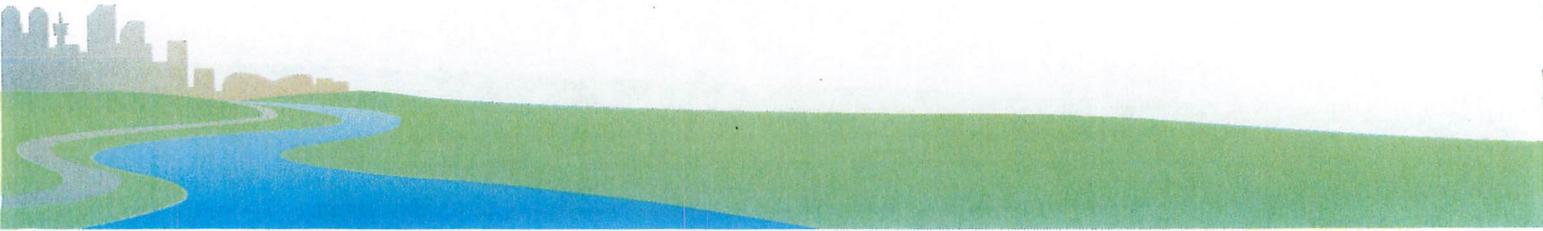
The Master Plan directs the physical development of that part of the rivers' edge along the Bow and Elbow River, now characterized as 'The Riverwalk'. It is to be read in partnership with community and financial plans as they impact development adjacent to and through the Riverwalk corridor. It is called a Riverwalk because of its linear, unifying continuous routing alongside the Rivers' edge. The plan derives from the ambition of the citizens of Calgary, and of the ambitions of the communities it affects and serves.

This plan is intended to be used by three primary audiences:

The first is the Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (the CMLC) and the citizens of Calgary to guide their action in construction and use of the Riverwalk. The second audience is made up of various governmental, municipal and other regulatory and funding agencies. The intention is that it becomes a basis for their review, regulation and funding activities. The third audience is the development industry – financiers, project managers, architects, engineering and other consultants engaged in the design and construction of the physical environment integrated with and integral and adjacent to the Riverwalk. It is intended as a starting point and a guide to their design work as it interfaces with the Riverwalk.

For all three audiences, the Plan is necessarily a synopsis of the City's intentions expressed through approvals of various documents by City Council. Each audience will have different interests in various parts of the report. In addition, the Plan gives clear expression of the City's intentions to Calgarians, Albertans, Canadians and other people interested in The Riverwalk.

The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation has accepted and approved the Riverwalk Master Plan and support the implementation of its contents. It is important to note that a Master Plan is a living document, and with appropriate consultation with stakeholders, any element of the Plan may be debated or changed by CMLC, if appropriate. The Plan is intended to remain relevant in the future, constantly referred to and updated when necessary.



7.0 CONCLUSION

The Riverwalk Master Plan is a significant guiding document, reflecting on the Rivers District Community Revitalization Plan and imparting an enduring vision for our city's downtown riverfront. The Riverwalk will reclaim public spaces, create a vibrant public realm, connect people with places and be a catalyst for private and public sector investment. It will demonstrate leadership in great urban design based on optimizing social, environmental, and economic benefits.

Capturing and contributing to values and expectations of a great and beautiful city, the Riverwalk will realize its potential by:

- Redefining a new balance of interaction with nature and contributing to a new civic measure and a larger **vision for the city**, a city of the future that boasts a liveable urban core, a quality of place for people;
- Contributing to and influencing our city's **investment in the public realm**, precipitating significant economic and social vitality in the heart of downtown Calgary;
- Contributing to and influencing an **enriched urban form**, fabric and mix of uses setting the stage to align zoning, land use, guidelines and policies to make it possible to plan and design with quality of place for people in mind and letting that place be distinctly Calgarian;
- Supporting a more balanced **network for movement**, providing safe and improved routes, access and connections while encouraging more sustainable and healthy modes of mobility, leisure, and recreation;
- Providing the opportunity to reveal and support our **unique ecological resources** promoting improved water quality and natural environments contributing also to the human benefits associated with nature in the city and a healthy environment;
- Providing both **a journey and a destination** by linking significant city attractions including cultural, heritage, and learning opportunities investing in Calgary's future, its people and economic development by stimulating business, tourism and growth.

The master planning process revealed a sense of urgency and window of opportunity to successfully fulfill these expectations in this decade. With our city experiencing unprecedented growth and the increased attention to sustainability and reinvestment, the Riverwalk represents a significant change agent to create a thriving, safe and sustainable inner city community but not in and by itself. There needs to be;

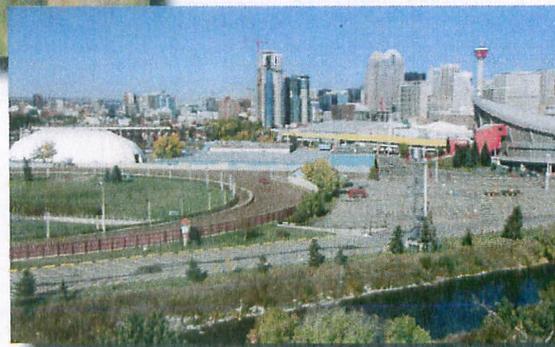
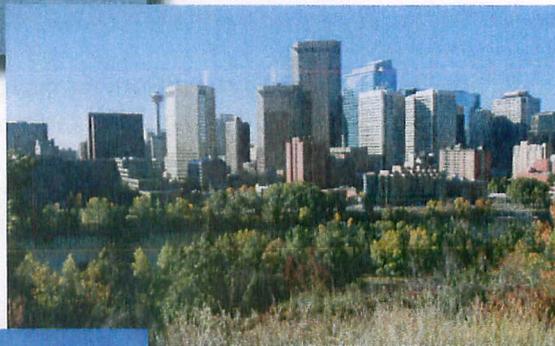
Acknowledgement and recognition of a vision, greater than the sum of its parts to help leverage all opportunities and potential;

A broad mindset of "civic partnerships", cooperation and support and of immediate importance will be the continued dialogue with the Calgary Stampede;

Creative zoning, bylaws and cooperative planning that will support the Master Plan and revitalization;

And the implementation of high standards of urban design and maintenance; recognizing "beauty" and integrating public art and aesthetics into the Riverwalk;

Imagine ... a Calgary Riverwalk in the heart of the city, couples strolling, families biking, teens in conversation, its features a marriage between building, landscape and water's edge, changing and contrasting, responding to the ways of the river and the vitality of the city's daily life. We look forward to building this with you.



APPENDIX A

RIVERWALK MASTER PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

ADVISORY COMMITTEE PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee

Overview

The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation (CMLC) has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) to develop a Master Plan that will provide the framework for an approximate 4 km Riverwalk that will link Eau Claire to the Macleod Trail/Lindsay Park area along the Bow and Elbow Rivers.

The Riverwalk is the first significant infrastructure project that is intended to “kick-start” the redevelopment of the East Village precinct of The Rivers District. The Master Plan process will recognize the district precincts it crosses and the development plans of Stampede Park and Fort Calgary. This Master Plan document will design criteria, preliminary design elements, outline a phasing strategy and provide a preliminary opinion of cost for budgeting purposes.

As part of its commitment to a transparent, inclusive, responsive and accountable process, the CMLC has identified primary stakeholder groups who have an interest in the Riverwalk and wishes to gain their input into the Master Plan process through meaningful dialogue. The CMLC and the project team will endeavor to incorporate stakeholder input to the greatest extent possible in developing the Riverwalk Master Plan. Opportunities for the general public to review and comment on the draft master plan will also be provided throughout the study period.

Approach

Through a review of Council-approved policy and background documents, historic context, the special features within each of the precincts, a physical inventory, and identifying those considerations that will form the basis for opportunities and / or constraints in developing the Riverwalk, the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee will provide feedback and ideas as a basis for discussion with the project team for their consideration in developing both preliminary and final concept plans.

Purpose

To ensure representatives of affected community and business interests in each of the precincts the Riverwalk will cross are fully engaged in the planning process.

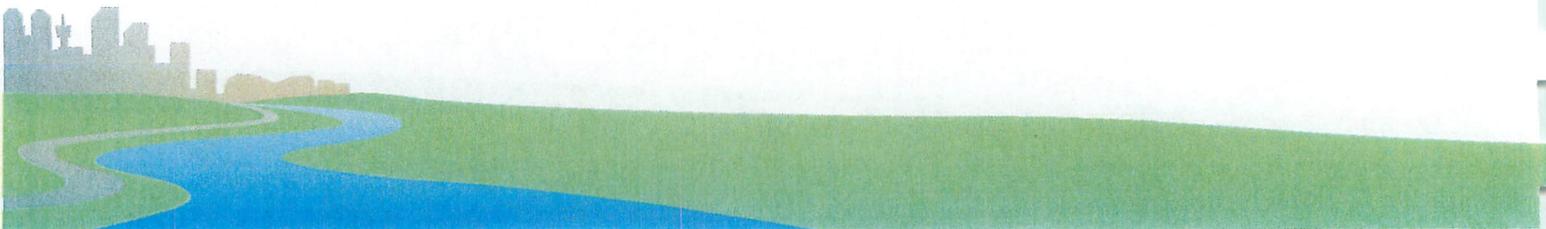
Responsibilities of Members

1. To review background information, relevant policies and documents to obtain a comprehensive understanding of the project context.
2. To gain knowledge of the site by working with the project team to review and identify physical inventory and consideration in the project area.
3. To assist in the development of a vision for the project and principles that will guide the development of a Riverwalk Master Plan that aligns with City Council's vision for the area.
4. To provide ideas and feedback to the project team in the development of a concept plan and final Master Plan document.
5. To review feedback gained from public open houses and together with the project team, incorporate that feedback to the greatest extent possible in the Master Plan development.
6. To support the Riverwalk Master Plan document as a collaborative effort of the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee and the project team prior to submitting to the CMLC for review and approval.

Composition & Authority

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee membership consists of representatives of the following community and business stakeholders who are primarily affected by the proposed Riverwalk Members include

- Sien Lok Societ of Calgary
- East Village Action Committee
- Fort Calgary
- Calgary Exhibition & Stampede
- The Beltline Communities of Victoria & Connaught
- Erlton Community Association
- Ramsay Community Association
- Inglewood Community Association



- Cliff Bungalow / Mission Community Association
- Calgary River Valleys Committee
- Calgary Pathway Advisory Council
- Ward Aldermen Druh Farrell, Joe Ceci and Madeleine King
- Calgary Police Service
- City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood Services
- City of Calgary Parks Planning
- Others as required

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee will report to and advise the CMLC through the CMLC President.

After this work is completed, the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee will be disbanded, however similar committees will likely be struck for other projects in the East Village.

Time frame

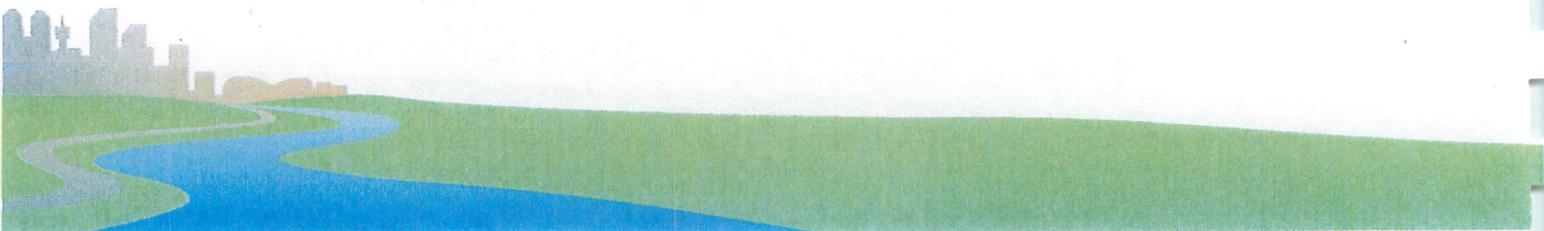
1. The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee will participate in meetings as required in order to assist in the development of a Riverwalk Master Plan document. The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee will approve a meeting schedule in order to complete its work within a project timeline approved by the CMLC.
2. The Riverwalk Master Plan is scheduled to be completed by December 2007.
3. The public will be provided opportunities for feedback to the draft and final Riverwalk Master Plan through a series of Open Houses to be scheduled in Fall 2007.
4. CMLC is scheduled to review and approve the Riverwalk Master Plan in January 2008.

Meetings

1. Stantec will provide detailed agendas in advance of all meetings advising date, location and the nature of discussion for those meetings. Some meetings and collaborations may be conducted via conference call or in the form of electronic responses for time-sensitive items.
2. Stantec will provide all necessary administrative functions related to meeting notes, distribution of agendas and briefing materials, and logistical planning.

Resources

The Stantec project team and the CMLC will be available to the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee members to answer questions and to discuss any issues or concerns raised throughout the Master Plan process.



Riverwalk Master Plan Open House

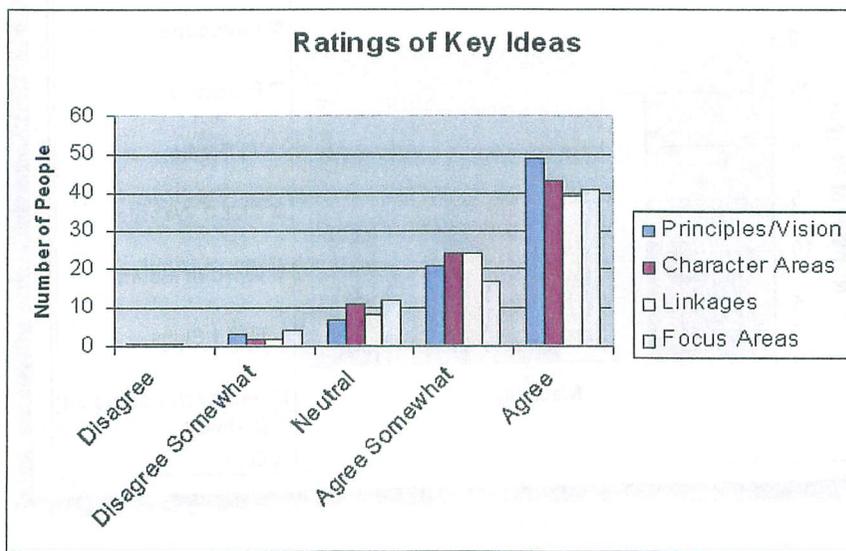
September 24, 2007

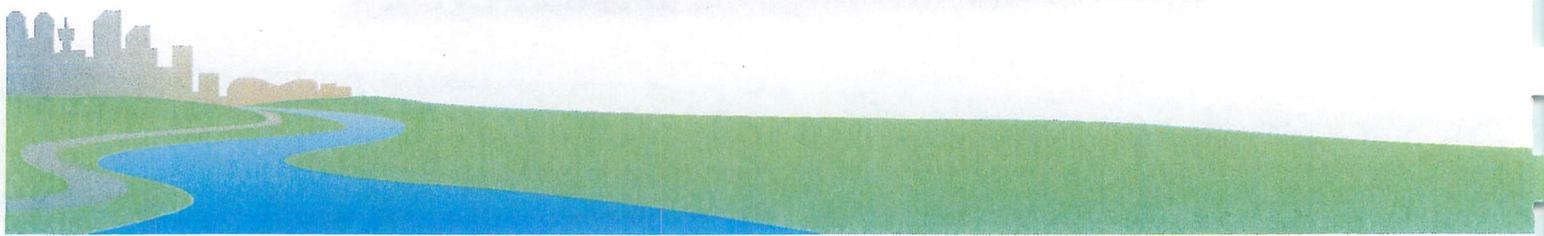
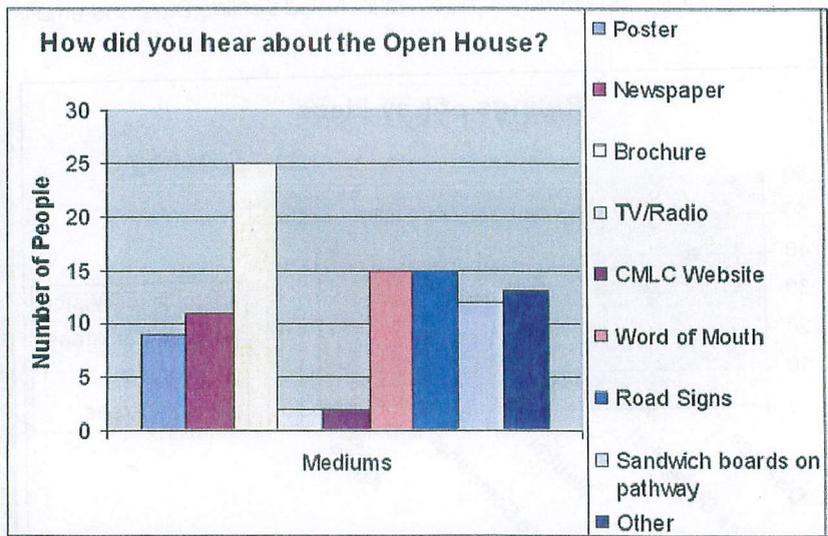
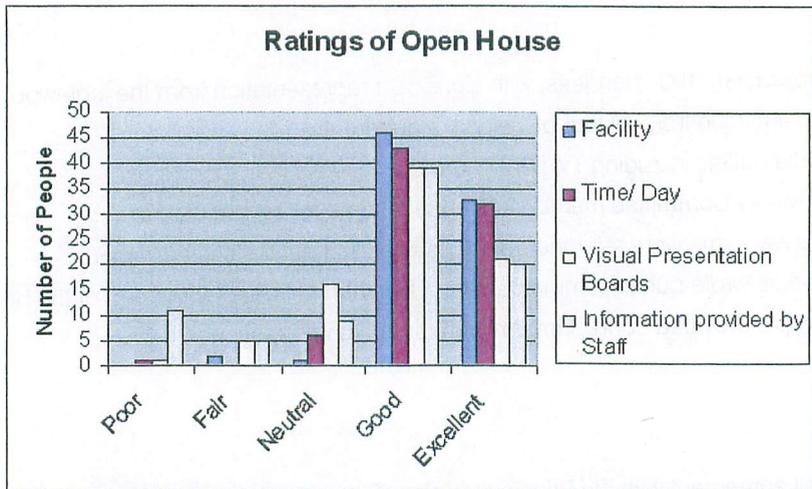
SUMMARY

- Approximately 190 attendees, with significant representation from the Inglewood and Ramsay communities
- Representation from all four of Calgary's quadrants
- 9 media outlets including TV, print and radio covered the Open House
- 14 Advisory Committee members attended, some for several hours
- 87 Survey forms were returned; many people filled out the survey in pairs
- 20 people wrote public comments on the flip chart provided at the end of the boards
- 31 people provided contact information for future information

SURVEY

- Overall agreement with the Principles/Vision, Character Areas, Linkages and Focus Areas
- The Facility and Time ratings were high (Excellent and Good)
- The representation were more varied with regards to the visual presentation, some noted confusion with the boards and the information being conveyed by the boards
- Information provided by Staff was mostly good
- The brochure mail-outs were the most effective at creating awareness of the followed by the road-signs and word-of-mouth
- Other methods for finding out about the event included Beltline Buzz and emails





MAJOR COMMENT THEMES

Out of the 87 completed surveys, there were 180 comments recorded. Comments that included multiple themes were included in each relevant category. The comments were categorized as follows:

Social and Safety

41 comments - and more importantly, 50% of completed surveys - indicated concern about social issues, homelessness, crime and safety. Both in terms of frequency and length of comments, this is the most important issue attendees want the Riverwalk Master Plan to address. Although some social issues may be outside the scope of Riverwalk (homelessness), the success of the project depends on addressing safety.

Support & Confusion

Of the 31 comments received, 22 specifically indicated support, enthusiasm and anticipation for the Master Plan, while 9 people expressed confusion/ lack of sufficient details as a concern. The role of the Open House may not have been clearly understood by all attendees. Most attendees recognize the importance of the Riverwalk to Calgary's future and anticipate more information.

Pathway Specifics & Focus Areas

Specific Pathway Uses and Design also comprised a number of comments. 28 comments referred to specific ideas for the use and design of the pathway, with many people citing multi-use and bike accessibility as a prime concern. Several comments suggested enhancing the cultural and historical importance of the pathway through Chinatown as a focus area.

Environmental & Green Space

Environmental comments were the next major theme, with 24 comments received expressed concern riparian functioning, invasive development and re-naturalizing the river bank. For most people, environmental protection is an important consideration for future development, while several people addressed the need for additional downtown green space.

Linkages and Connections

Of the specific comment areas, linkages and connections was the most important, with 20 comments encouraging careful consideration of linkage and connections to the pathway; particularly from neighboring communities such as Inglewood, Ramsay, Bridgeland, Beltline, Mission and Downtown. Additional cyclist and pedestrian river crossing is desired.

Consultation and Neighbouring Communities

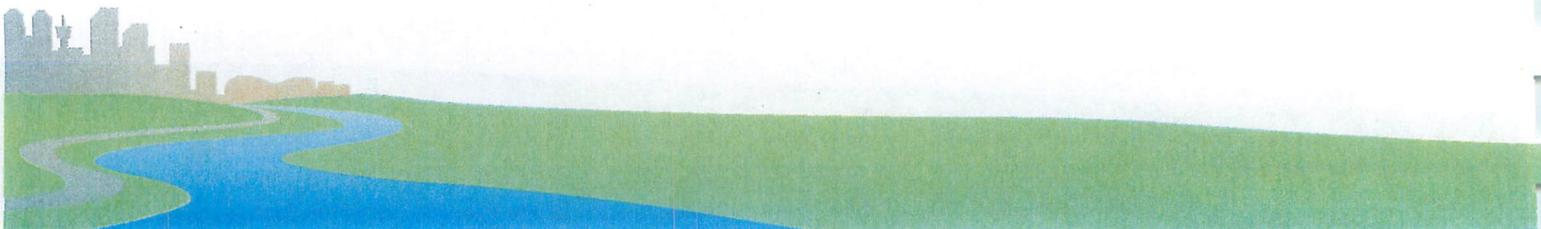
17 comments cited integration and consultation with neighbouring communities as an important consideration. In particular, consultation with Ramsay, Inglewood and Mission is desired, and improving linkages with these communities and downtown is important. Several people did not realize the Community Associations have representatives on the Advisory Committee. At least three respondents recommended less consultation and more action.

Calgary Stampede Lands

Approximately 7 comments included encouraged development of pathway on both sides of the River and general opposition of Stampede development impeding the pathway system.

General & Miscellaneous Comments

The 17 general/miscellaneous comments were difficult to classify under the existing themes and ranged from developing a stronger urban edge, to promoting diverse transportation options to incorporating Mawson's Plan.



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | july 2007: vol 1

The Riverwalk, a 4 kilometer pathway, will link Eau Claire to Lindsay Park through 6 unique urban precincts – eastern Chinatown, the East Village, Fort Calgary, the Beltline/MacDonald Bridge area, Stampede Park, and Macleod Trail/Lindsay Park. The CMLC has retained Stantec Consulting to develop this Master Plan. With their commitment to a transparent, accountable and responsive process, the CMLC has assembled an Advisory Committee, representative of those stakeholders affected by or that have an interest in this project, to provide their input into the master planning process.

CMLC Holds its First Advisory Group Meeting

On June 21, the first meeting of the Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee was held at the Rouge Restaurant. Welcoming the Advisory Committee were Chris Ollenberger, President & CEO of the CMLC and Lyle Edwards, Chairman of the CMLC Board of Directors.

A Briefing Document was provided to participants in advance of the meeting to help them gain an understanding of their role, project timelines, background and project scope. Maps and photographs of the current sites provided a “virtual” walk along the existing pathway and through each of the distinct precincts.

Several background documents are referenced in the Briefing Document. During the meeting, participants suggested that consideration be given to the following additional planning documents when developing the Riverwalk Master Plan:

Beltline ARP

http://www.calgary.ca/DocGallery/BU/planning/pdf/centre_city/beltline/beltline_plan_one.pdf

Chinatown ARP

http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/bu/planning/pdf/chinatown_arp_06.pdf

CMLC - Mission

To implement public infrastructure improvements that will be the catalyst for private and public sector development in the Rivers.

Community Engagement

The CMLC is committed to a community engagement process that is consistent with The City of Calgary's engage! Policy on communication and community engagement. The CMLC is developing a Marketing and Communication Plan to ensure stakeholders are fully aware of the planned development and have the opportunity to provide meaningful input.

Public Consultation Process

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Advisory Committee Meeting 1
June 21, 2007 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 2
Review draft Vision & Guiding Principles
July 25, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 3
Review draft Master Plan Concepts
August, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Open House 1
Early September, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 4
Review Open House feedback & fine-tune drafts
Late September, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 5
Review Final Master Plan
Early October, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Open House 2
Late October, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 6
Review Open House feedback & fine-tune Final Plan
Early October, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 7
Wrap up & Debrief
Late November, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CMLC Releases Riverwalk
Master Plan
Early January, 2008 | <input type="checkbox"/> |



RIVERWALK



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | July 2007: vol 1

Calgary Pathway and Bikeway Plan

http://www.calgary.ca/portal/server.pt/gateway/PTARGS_0_2_780_237_0_43/http%3B/content.calgary.ca/CCA/City+Hall/Business+Units/Transportation+Planning/Transportation+Solutions/Cycling/Pathway+and+Bikeway+Plan.htm

Parks Centre City Management Plan

http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/bu/parks_operations/centre_city_draft.pdf

Open Space Strategy for Established Communities

Final Report: http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/bu/parks_operations/open_space_final.pdf

Background Report: http://www.calgary.ca/docgallery/bu/parks_operations/open_space_background.pdf

Approved Master Plan Summaries

Calgary Exhibition & Stampede

Gerry McHugh of the Calgary Exhibition & Stampede summarized the Stampede's Master Plan with the following notable highlights. Gerry will be providing a more detailed presentation at the next Advisory Committee meeting.

- Agriculture focus
- Long term expansion plans
- Commitment to the environment and protecting the river bank and river valley
- Year round destination
- Western heritage / values
- Increase use and integration
- Olds College Campus facility

Fort Calgary

Sara-Jane Gruetzner of Fort Calgary provided a comprehensive review of the Fort Calgary Master Plan's three priorities which include preserving Calgary's history, creating a major urban park and playing a central role in the development of east Calgary/The Rivers.

Their interpretative story is the NWMP, 1875-1914, and how it shaped Calgary's past, present and future. Their mission is to recreate the historical role of the Fort as the center of the community and raise public awareness of the significance of this site.

Calgary Pathways & Bikeways Advisory Committee

Roger Woodgate provided a brief history of the Calgary Pathways & Bikeways Advisory Committee and noted the following points regarding pathway development in Calgary over the past 20 years.

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee

Rob Taylor
Beltline Communities

Gerry McHugh
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede

Roger Woodgate
Calgary Pathway & Bikeways Advisory Committee

Cst. Blaine Ellerby
Calgary Police Service

Sgt. Dave Louie
Calgary Police Service

Timothy Wild
City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood Services

Kyle Ripley
City of Calgary Parks

Pat Maiani
Cliff Bungalow / Mission Community Association

Bill Naim
East Village Action Committee

Nel Storey
Erlton Community Association

Sara-Jane Gruetzner
Fort Calgary

Gian-Carlo Cerri
Inglewood Community Association

Christina Graco
Ramsay Community Association

Ted Foster
River Valleys Committee

Thomas To
Sien Lok Society

Alderman Druh Farrell
Ward 7

Alderman Madeleine King
Ward 8

Alderman Joe Caci
Ward 9

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | july 2007: vol 1

- Identify missing links and encourage new development to close these gaps
- Pathway loop development
- Universal access for all Calgarians

Roger will provide a more detailed background document for Advisory Committee members for the next meeting.

The Ideas Flowed

Cathy Sears of Stantec provided a visual collage of a few select Riverwalk projects from around the globe. The presentation began with Calgary's first General Plan from 1912 that identified a riverwalk along the Bow and Elbow Rivers as having an important role in the city's development. The presentation highlighted different riverwalk elements, inspiring thoughts of what "could be."

Cathy outlined the components of a Master Plan that include:

- Background, context and considerations
- Vision statement & principles
- Analysis & evaluation
- Concept development
- Public consultation
- Final plan development & implementation strategy
- Formal approval

Overarching activities include technical planning & design, stakeholder participation, and communication.

Next, Fred Valentine of Stantec led a discussion to obtain the Advisory Committee's input related to components of a vision for the Riverwalk. It was discussed that both "hard" and "soft" core elements form that vision. The discussion included:

- History
- Safety & Security
- Mobility Modes
- Public Amenities
- Environment
- Aesthetics (regionalism – cultural & visual)
- Schedule (priorities / phasing)
- Life Cycle

The Rivers

The Rivers embraces the past – a once thriving residential, cultural and commercial neighborhood – and revitalizes the present by offering a dynamic, urban lifestyle, a place where energy, education and vitality join, and where culture and heritage are celebrated.

The vision for a revitalized Rivers District is more than a place to live; it is a lively urban destination.

- Condominiums and apartments are designed to be located close to a downtown campus and local shops, offices, and restaurants.
- A waterfront promenade and river walk system will become one of Calgary's primary destinations.
- The Rivers District will host millions of tourists every year, drawn by attractions like the Stampede, the Zoo, Fort Calgary and a new science centre.



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | july 2007: vol 1



The Issues – and Opportunities

Further consideration relative to these core elements precipitated many ideas for consideration. Here is what the Advisory Committee put forward:

- Context
- 'Relief' between the river & us – achieve a balance between natural and urban
- The 'River' is the subject
- The River Pathway system as:
 - An amenity: Landings, Vending, Historical
 - Recreation: Circulation, Spiritual, Environmental
- The River as an ecosystem
- The perception of being safe
- The natural history
- The River as of value
- Flow
- The River as an image of our natural environment
- Metaphor for the face of Calgary & serve as a catalyst:
 - Collective community space
 - Celebration
 - Art
 - Diversity affirmed
- Instill ownership
- Authenticity:
 - Meeting place
 - A place to bridge
 - Change
- Neighborhood identity
- Unity of design – common theme
- Sanctuary
- Permeability and access – to and through
- A destination or a journey, or both?

What is a Master Plan?

A document that accounts for a range of issues from a variety of perspectives and presents a focused action plan. It focuses on high-level planning ideas rather than detailed resolutions.

“Master Planning is knowing what you want to do when you get the chance to do it.”



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | July 2007: vol 1

What's Next?

Stakeholders were asked to further consult with their constituencies and bring forward any additional feedback to the project team prior to the next Advisory Committee meeting in July.

The project team will synthesize the information captured to date and prepare a Draft Project Vision and Guiding Principles for the Advisory Committee's review at our next meeting, which will lead to discussion on Conceptual Design Development.

Next Advisory Committee Meeting - July 25, 2007

Cathy Sears



With 27 years of professional experience, Cathy is a leader and strategic thinker, with an abiding commitment to the vital role of landscape architecture in our living environments. Since joining Stanec in 1992, Cathy has been a consistent force within the firm, promoting growth, collaboration and professional development and furthering the application of sustainable design practices. She has also been a leader in the integration of planning and landscape architecture services, as well as the integration of these professional services on multi-discipline projects and project teams. Cathy has led several award-winning design teams in practice, most recently earning the CSLA's 2005 highest award for the Memorial Drive visioning project in Calgary, Alberta.

Fred Valentine



As a practicing architect for over 40 years, Fred's work focuses principally on the institutional and corporate sectors and was recently the subject of a retrospective exhibition at the Triangle Gallery in Calgary. Fred has made a significant contribution as an Alberta architect, designing buildings that are an integral part in the fabric of public life. He has authored a diversity of well-recognized projects including corporate office buildings in Calgary for Nexen, TransAlta and the Calgary Herald, the University of Calgary's Scurfield Hall and Rozsa Centre, Studio 'E' – a Composer's Studio at the Leighton Artists' Colony, the refurbishment of the Jubilee Auditoria in Calgary and Edmonton, Canada Olympic Park XV Olympic Winter Games facilities, among many others. He is a Fellow of the

Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, a member of the royal Canadian Academy of Arts, and has been a visiting critic at the Universities of Waterloo, Toronto, Ryerson and Calgary.

Ken Greenberg



As an Architect and Urban Designer, Ken has played a leading role on a broad range of assignments in highly diverse urban settings in North America and Europe. Much of Ken's award-winning work has focused on the rejuvenation of downtowns, waterfronts and neighborhoods, campus master planning, regional growth management and new community planning. His projects include the East River Waterfront in Lower Manhattan, the Fan Pier in Boston, the Southwest & Southeast Waterfronts in Washington, DC, and the implementation of the Harbourfront Master Plan among many others. His work has received recognition and awards from the Canadian Institute of Planners, Progressive Architecture, the City of Toronto, the Canadian Architect, and the American

Planning Association.



Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President & CEO

Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
PO Box 2896, Station M
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3C3
p. 403 718 0300
f. 403 718 0500
e. rivers@calgarymlc.ca

www.calgarymlc.ca



Stanec

Brad Lindeburgh, CSLA, ASLA
Managing Principal

Stanec Consulting
200 - 325 25th Street SE
Calgary, Alberta T2A 7H8
p. 403 716 8219
f. 403 716 8099
e. brad.lindeburgh@stanec.com

www.stanec.com



RIVERWALK



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

Message from President of the CMLC

Chris Ollenberger

On July 25, CMLC held the second Riverwalk Advisory Committee meeting, and we were pleased to see enthusiastic participation in the middle of summer! The session included a presentation from the Calgary Stampede on their plans to date, and Ken Greenberg gave an amazing talk about the possibilities for rejuvenating the Bow and Elbow Rivers through the Riverwalk project based on success stories from other cities. Roger Woodgate, the Calgary Pathways and Bikeways Advisory Council representative, provided a handout of his personal vision for the Riverwalk.

With the ideas from the Stampede and Ken fresh in their minds, the group launched into putting pen to paper by drawing their ideas and visions on large maps of the Riverwalk and surrounding areas. Those drawings are presented here in this newsletter for reference, and they show the exciting possibilities for the Riverwalk. Certainly one theme that was repeated throughout the day was connectivity, as everyone believed that connectivity to surrounding communities and features was an important consideration of the Riverwalk. The ideas generated even went beyond the boundaries of the Rivers district itself, as everyone felt that the Riverwalk project is an important improvement not only for the Rivers district but also for the entire City of Calgary!

The ideas generated were fabulous to see, and CMLC is looking forward to fleshing out the ideas into plans and details with the Advisory Committee as we continue to work with them in the fall.

Thank you to everyone who continues to put their time and energy into providing advice and ideas for the Riverwalk project! If you have any further thoughts you would like to contribute, please don't hesitate to talk to a member of the Stantec team!

Sincerely,

Chris Ollenberger, P.Eng.
President and CEO
Calgary Municipal Land Corporation.

CMLC - Mission

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Community Engagement

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Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

Reference Material

- The Calgary Municipal Land Corporation web site now contains the presentations from the July 25th Riverwalk Advisory Committee meeting and presentations given at the first meeting held in June.
<http://www.calgarymlc.ca/riverwalk.html>
- Several background documents are referenced in the Briefing Document and newsletter #1 that were previously provided to the advisory committee. During our second meeting, participants identified the following additional background information.
 - The **Center City Plan** presents a new vision for the Calgary Centre City. The plan focuses on urban structure, neighbourhood planning, special area policies, open spaces, movement and access systems, urban design, architecture and the public realm, vitality and community building.
 - The Centre City Plan is available on the City of Calgary web site.
<http://www.calgary.ca/centrecity>
 - Improvements to the riverfront on the Elbow River in Cliff Bungalow/Mission on the north side of the Elbow and in Lindsay Park on the south side were mentioned by committee members as projects that may be related to the Riverwalk. More information on these projects will be available in newsletter #3.

Public Consultation Process

Advisory Committee Meeting 1 June 21, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 2 Review draft Vision & Guiding Principles July 25, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 3 Review draft Master Plan Concepts September, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open House 1 September, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 4 Review Open House feedback & fine-tune drafts Late September, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 5 Review Final Master Plan October, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open House 2 October, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 6 Review Open House feedback & fine-tune Final Plan Early November, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 7 Wrap up & Debrief Late November, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
CMLC Receives Riverwalk Master Plan Early January, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/>

Riverwalk Master Plan

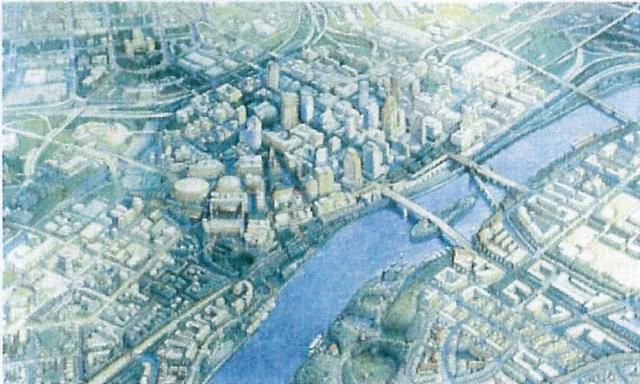
newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

Presentations

Cities to the Water

<http://www.calgarymlc.ca/riverwalk.html>

As a member of our design team, Toronto-based award winning Architect and Urban designer Ken Greenberg shared his experience with five significant waterfront projects in other North American cities. A focus on the water and public spaces helped rejuvenate downtown areas.



The Great River Park, Saint Paul Minnesota

Calgary Stampede's Elbow River Parkway Draft Design Development Plan

<http://www.calgarymlc.ca/riverwalk.html>

As the Calgary Stampede's Operations Manager, Gerry McHugh has Stampede Park expansion on his radar screen daily. This presentation provides some June 2007 options for riverfront designs along the Elbow River.



Elbow River Parkway

The Rivers

The Rivers embraces the past -- a once thriving residential, cultural and commercial neighborhood -- and revitalizes the present by offering a dynamic, urban lifestyle, a place where energy, education and vitality join, and where culture and heritage are celebrated.

The vision for a revitalized Rivers District is more than a place to live; it is a lively urban destination.

- Condominiums and apartments are designed to be located close to a downtown campus and local shops, offices, and restaurants.

- A waterfront promenade and river walk system will become one of Calgary's primary destinations.

- The Rivers District will host millions of tourists every year, drawn by attractions like the Stampede, the Zoo, Fort Calgary and a new science centre.

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

Design Mapping Exercise

The second meeting had an agenda that focused on design ideas. A draft design mapping example was presented by Stantec's Landscape Architecture special advisor Cathy Sears and Architect Fred Valentine that was based on the valuable input received so far and the design team's planning and design ideas. A quick analysis and draft summary of values obtained from the committee's first work session guided the plan. The values combined those envisioned for the future and those that the advisory committee identified be maintained.

Summary of Values

- The river as a metaphor for the City; cultural expression
- The riverwalk is a catalyst
- The river ecosystem
- Sanctuary
- Access and permeability
- Destination and journey
- Authenticity
- Connectivity
- Safety
- Public amenity and recreation

Mapping Characteristics and Opportunities

Working with these values as the foundation to the mapping exercise Cathy and Fred identified some distinct characteristics and potential opportunities for further consideration. The following points were illustrated on the design mapping example.

Characteristics

- **"Big Bend"** - a significant configuration that encompasses the Stampede Grounds. In particular, the point of the bend may lend itself to special attention and consideration .
- **"Rivers' Confluence"** - significant location (historically/morphologically/ecologically) within the project site with potential to warrant special attention and consideration.
- **"The River Flats"** - unique character unlike other locations along the river edge within the project site with potential to warrant special attention and consideration.

What is a Master Plan?

A document that accounts for a range of issues from a variety of perspectives and presents a focused action plan. It focuses on high-level planning ideas rather than detailed resolutions.

"Master Planning is knowing what you want to do when you get the chance to do it."



Cathy Sears presenting the Mapping Characteristics and Opportunities



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

- There is existing parkland, natural, naturalized and urban river edges.
- Pedestrian access, mobility and comfort varies .
- Views along the Elbow differ from views along the Bow (scale and intimacy).
- Transitions exist between urban and natural / historic and present day. Transitional potential is under-utilized.

Opportunities:

- exist to enhance way finding , create meeting nodes and river focal points.
- exist to recognize history/historic context.
- for promenade and commercial development exists in those areas planned for future mixed use.
- to connect with and without bridges were presented such as;
 - communities to the river
 - downtown core to the river
 - "riverfront" buildings to the river; and
 - attractions/destinations to the river

The following images and notes taken at the meeting were scanned and have been copied directly "as is" for your reference. The participants were split into two groups. Please note that the group members are listed at the top of each page of notes.

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee

Rob Taylor
Beltline Communities

Gery McHugh
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede

Roger Woodgate
Calgary Pathway & Bikeways Advisory
Council

Cst. Blaine Ellarby
Calgary Police Service

Sgt. Dave Louie
Calgary Police Service

Timothy Wild
City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood
Services

Kyle Ripley
City of Calgary Parks

Pat Maiani
Cliff Bungalow / Mission Community Association

Elli Hain
East Village Action Committee

Nel Storey
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Alderman Druh Farrell
Ward 7

Alderman Madelaine King
Ward 8

Alderman Joe Ceci
Ward 9

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2



This example combines and documents many of the ideas and thoughts of the advisory committee previously expressed with some new ideas from Startec.

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2



- Alderman Ceci
Eva-Jane Gaudreault
Tea Foster
- Christina Gucc
Chris Wiltonberger
- Green fingers that stretch in streets + green ways - to N. side of Bow
 - Picks up development
 - Rail to Edmonton
 - Waterpark / features
 - Connections to Waukegan
 - Washroom / drinking water
 - Tie to Lindsay Park (expand scope)
 - Formal in/out for river
 - Tie to Olympic Plaza / City Hall
 - Tie to St. Patrick's Island ← develop
 - Notes on paper
 - Build on storm outfall
 - Bridges as art
 - Connection to Reader Rock Garden
 - East Side of Elbow to be included
- "Journey with a whole bunch of destinations"

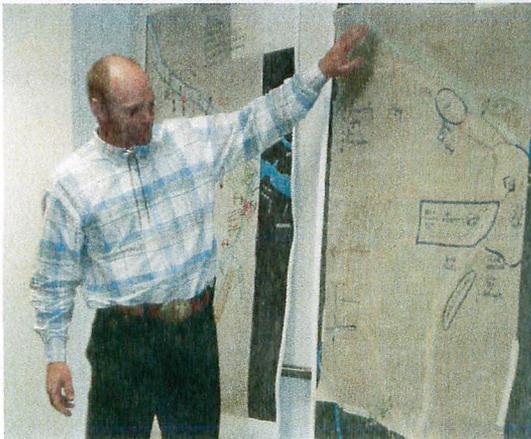
Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

A representative from each group was asked to present their design mapping ideas in front of the advisory committee while Ken Greenberg summarized the ideas and reconciled with his initial thoughts and observations from his site visit to the study area on July 24th. A summary of his comments are provided on this page.



Groups brainstorming before presenting Riverwalk design mapping ideas



Gerry McHugh, Operations Manager of Calgary Stampede presents Riverwalk design mapping ideas

Ken Greenberg

What is unique to Calgary

- Stampede - logistics of operations integrated - both sides of Elbow
- Ecology - not debased & disconnected - great starting point - rest lightly on it - people accessible but protecting what is there
- Conflict of users - range of path types - subtle hierarchy of - on-street bikeways to relieve pressure - ways to do loops
- Use of the water "Rocky Mountain River" - different than other cities - getting into the water - fishing, rafting
- Views & vistas - topography - take advantage of by creating
- Bridges - as beautiful / landmarks / artifacts
- Places adjacent → mapping of existing
- Outfalls - expressing watershed - celebrates
- Urban edge - along river in neighbourhood
- Increased population - affects / impacts - new open spaces within the fabric of river will be over-run
- Safety & social cohesion
- Bridges (under)
- "Big Loop" through heart of City
- Expanded area / scope
- Larger considerations that fall out of the Riverwalk

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | august 2007: vol 2

What's Next?

After a careful review of the notes taken from the second advisory committee meeting, the design team will take into consideration the thoughts and input received from the participants as they move forward with the design process. Research will be undertaken throughout August to review the design mapping ideas and background information discussed at the committee meeting. Research will be conducted to gather additional information discussed in the presentations and ideas session to help the team proceed with planning and design.

The third advisory committee meeting will be pushed back to the first week of September and the Public Open House is scheduled for the third week of September. Members of the advisory committee will be provided with a revised schedule of dates shortly following this newsletter. The third advisory committee meeting will focus on draft design principles and master planning concepts. A collage plan of all the current area redevelopment plans that encompass the Riverwalk site will be created to reference and identify connections and interfaces between proposed land uses. An executive summary briefing document will then be developed for the public open house to outline the master planning context to date.

Stantec is pleased to be working with the Advisory Group on the development of the Riverwalk Master Plan. If you have any questions or comments, or desire more information, please contact Adele Zanutig by phone at (403) 806-1574 or e-mail at adele.zanutig@stantec.com



Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President & CEO

Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
PO Box 2896, Station M
Calgary, Alberta T2P 8C9
p. 403.718.0300
f. 403.718.0500
e. riverwalk@calgarymlc.ca

www.calgarymlc.ca



Stantec

Brad Lindeburgh, CSLA, ASLA
Managing Principal

Stantec Consulting
200 - 325 25th Street SE
Calgary, Alberta T2A 7H8
p. 403.716.6219
f. 403.716.8099
e. brad.lindeburgh@stantec.com

www.stantec.com



RIVERWALK

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007, vol 3

Message from President of the CMLC

The Riverwalk Advisory Committee has been busy since the last newsletter; CMLC held their third Advisory Committee meeting on September 13, 2007 and then hosted our first public Riverwalk Master Plan Open House on September 24, 2007. Our Advisory Committee has continued to be very dedicated to the engagement process by providing feedback, attending the Open House and answering the public's questions, and overall bringing excellent value to the process.

We couldn't be more pleased with the dedication shown and input provided by our Advisory Committee. The Committee has had an excellent attendance record, works extremely well together and continues to exceed our expectations. It has been made very clear throughout this engagement process that the Riverwalk is a project close to all Calgarians hearts.

We were also very pleased with the turnout for the Open House with almost 200 people attending, the positive media coverage given, and the quantity of quality comments received. The input and comments gathered from the public at the Open House are summarized within this newsletter, and it is noted that safety and social issues are a primary concern in regards to the Riverwalk and the whole revitalization of the Rivers District. CMLC and members of the Advisory Committee couldn't agree more, and we are pleased to have the involvement of the Calgary Police Service and many community representatives on our Advisory Committee who provided invaluable input to date.

As always, we welcome your comments and feedback at any time. Please feel free to contact us with your thoughts, or visit our website at www.calgarymlc.ca to watch our progress unfold.

Sincerely,

Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President and CEO
Calgary Municipal Land Corporation

CMLC - Mission

To implement public infrastructure improvements that will be the catalyst for private and public sector development in the Rivers.

Community Engagement

The CMLC is committed to a community engagement process that is consistent with The City of Calgary's engage! Policy on communication and community engagement. The CMLC is developing a Marketing and Communication Plan to ensure stakeholders are fully aware of the planned development and have the opportunity to provide meaningful input.

Public Consultation Process

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Advisory Committee Meeting 1
June 21, 2007 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 2
Review draft Vision & Guiding Principles
July 25, 2007 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 3
Review draft Master Plan Concepts
September 13, 2007 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Open House 1
September 24, 2007 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 4
Review Open House Feedback & Fine-Tune Drafts
October 19, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 5
Review Draft Master Plan
November, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Open House 2
Late November, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 6
Review Open House Feedback & Fine-Tune Final Plan
Early December, 2007 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Advisory Committee Meeting 7
Wrap up & Debrief
January, 2008 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| CMLC Receives Riverwalk
Master Plan
January, 2008 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

Draft Master Plan Concepts

The design team combined advisory input and conceptual resources along with the biophysical background resources which lead to a variety of opportunities and strengths. This all assisted in the drafting of the guiding principles and vision and will also be the basis of the master plan and details moving forward. At the third meeting on September 13th, a Draft Vision Statement and Principles were presented to the Advisory Committee. Also presented were three preliminary maps defining character areas, desirable linkages and areas of focus. It was made clear that the intent of the master plan will be to make the river a place of value and use, and for that to occur, possession must be taken of the river and use fostered. As well, a Draft Biophysical Review of the Riverwalk project area was distributed for information purposes.

Stantec's Cathy Sears and Fred Valentine focused on gathering further input and support from the Advisory Committee on the various ideas to be brought forward as drafts to the public at the September 24, 2007 Open House at Fort Calgary. Based on feedback gathered from the Advisory Committee, two additional presentation boards were prepared for the Open House. These provided a summary of the meeting comments and dialogue that will be further considered by CMLC and Stantec when drafting the Master Plan.



The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee

Rob Taylor
Beltime Communities

Gerry McHugh
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede

Roger Woodgate
Calgary Pathway & Bikeways Advisory Council

Staff Sgt. Barry Balerud
Calgary Police Service

Sgt. Frank Cattoni
Calgary Police Service

Rebecca Labbe
City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood Services

Kyle Ripley
City of Calgary Parks

Pat Maiani
Cliff Bungalow / Mission Community Association

Bill Naim
East Village Action Committee

Nel Storey
Erlton Community Association

Sara-Jane Gruetzner
Fort Calgary

Gian-Carlo Carra
Inglewood Community Association

Christina Greco
Ramsay Community Association

Ted Foster
River Valleys Committee

Thomas Te
Sten Lok Society

Alderman Druh Farrell
Ward 7

Alderman Joe Caci
Ward 9

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

The boards on the following pages were presented at the Public Open House:

the preliminary concept structure

Following the second Advisory Committee meeting on July 26, 2007, the consultant team summarized and reviewed all the design ideas and input obtained from the Advisory meetings.

Building on the **strengths and opportunities** formulated from this synthesis and further analysis, the design team prepared draft **guiding principles**, a draft **vision statement** and a **preliminary concept** for the Riverwalk Master Plan.

The preliminary development concept is a composite of key design concept overlays including:

Character Areas - represent areas with related physical and contextual qualities supported by a biophysical analysis.

Linkages - represent significant and primary access and connectivity opportunities from key destinations and supported by future and existing planning initiatives.

Focus Areas - are special places along the Riverwalk that require particular attention or provide unique design opportunities.

Design concepts illustrate broad ideas with representative symbols and outline. This abstract mapping technique facilitates the further exploration of functional relationships and helps to visualize a framework to guide the development and refinement of design ideas.

The following boards illustrate the process and steps taken to create a concept for the Riverwalk Master Plan.



riverwalk vision and guiding principles

Vision

The Riverwalk is a destination and a journey for all

...heightening experience, human potential, and the contrasting beauty of nature and urban intensity.

Principles

Evoke a (enduring) sense of place.

Improve connectivity.

Restore and establish the unique ecology in an urban setting.

Invest in the public realm.

Broaden the mix of uses.

Ensure that the Riverwalk Master Plan supports broader city planning goals.

Build on existing strengths.

Preserve and enhance cultural and heritage resources and provide educational opportunities.

Provide a balanced network for movement.

Foster public safety.

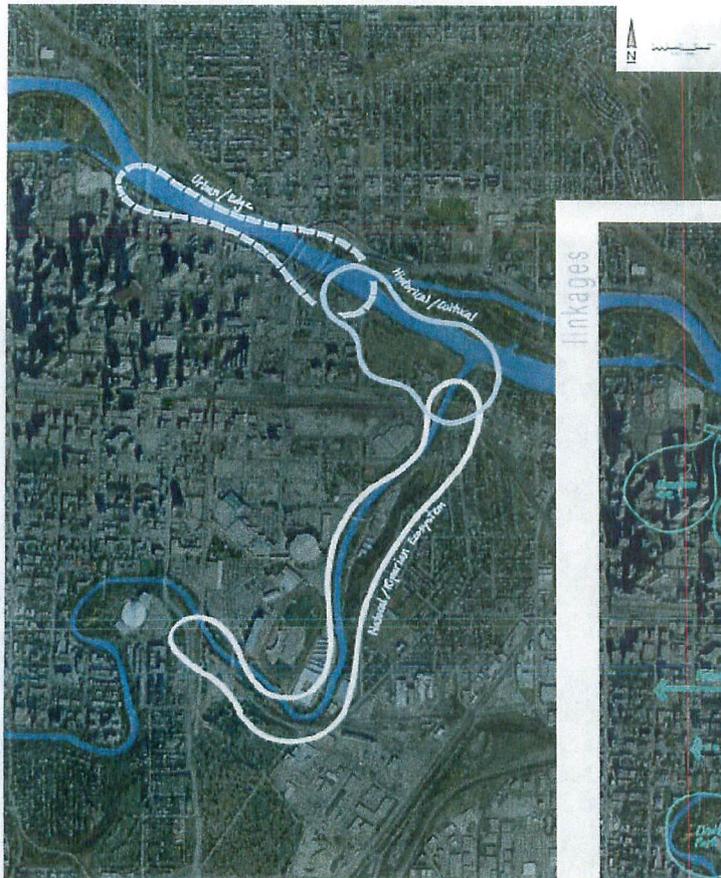


Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3



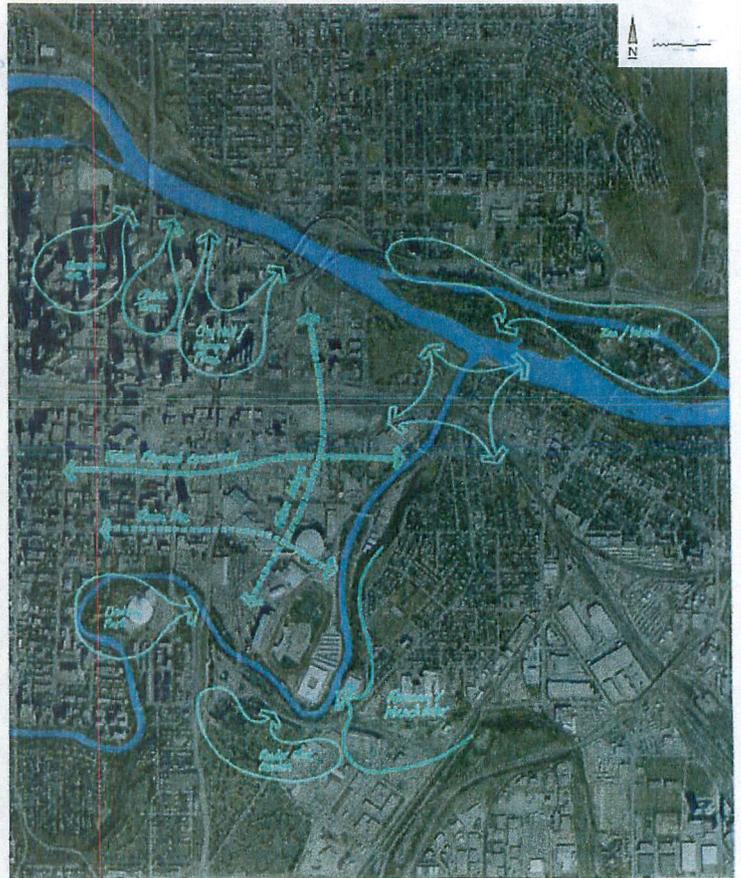
character areas



RIVERWALK

Character Areas - represent areas with related physical and contextual qualities, supported by a biophysical analysis.

linkages



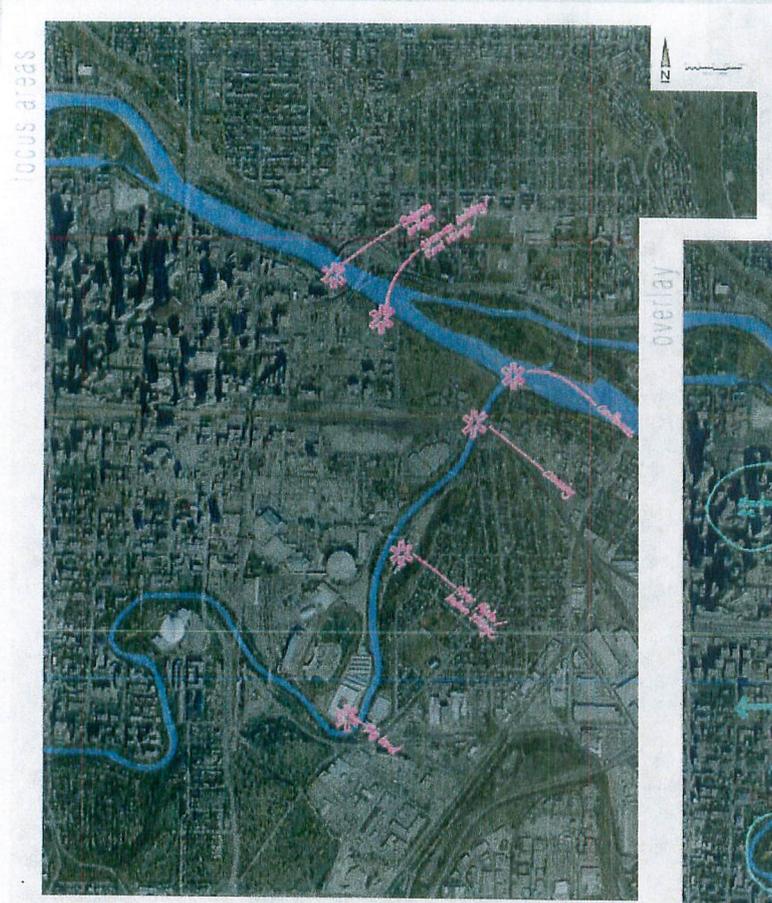
RIVERWALK

Riverwalk Master Plan

Linkages - represent significant and primary access and connectivity opportunities from key destinations and supported by future and existing planning initiatives.

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007; vol 3



RIVERWALK

Focus Areas - are special places along the Riverwalk that require particular attention or provide unique design opportunities.



RIVERWALK

This overlay combines the Character Areas, the Linkages and the Focus Areas into a schematic development concept.

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

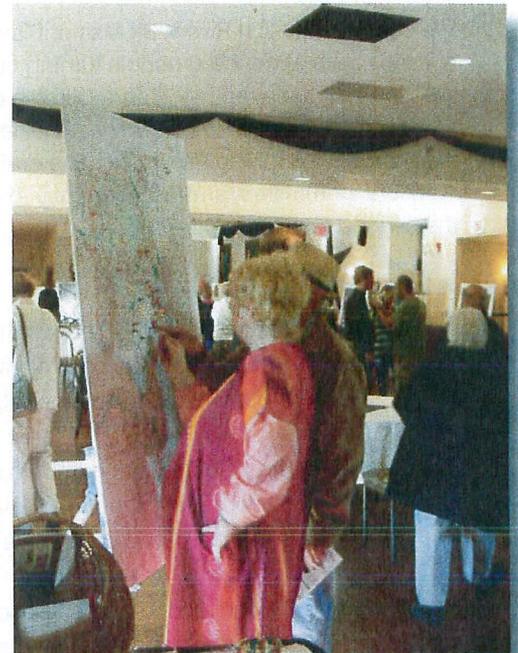
review of the preliminary concept

At the third Advisory Committee meeting on September 13, 2007, the consultant team presented the draft guiding principles, vision statement and design and development concepts to the Advisory Committee.

The consultant team engaged the Advisory Committee in an open discussion to receive feedback and input on the material presented. The major themes of the comments are as follows:

- The principles do not adequately focus on respecting the river and rivers' edge.
- The "Foster public safety" principle is too simple to adequately address social issues
- The Vision Statement needs to include more aspiring description and include "beauty" in its primary text
- Ensure appropriate extension of the historical/cultural area and transitional interface between the character areas.
- Chinatown is a important cultural area and requires better connectivity
- It is important to have public access and connectivity to the Riverwalk as it moves through the Stampede Park
- Recognize the 13 Avenue Greenway as proposed in the Centre City Plan as an important linkage
- Urban concepts which may reside in natural areas in future planning zones require special attention to edge conditions and setbacks
- Future linkages to city destinations is considered vital and important to include in the context of the Riverwalk Master Plan

The concept boards, guiding principles and vision statement presented at today's Open House are intended to be preliminary and will continue to evolve as additional feedback is received from the public and the Advisory Committee.



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

Riverwalk Master Plan Open House

September 24, 2007

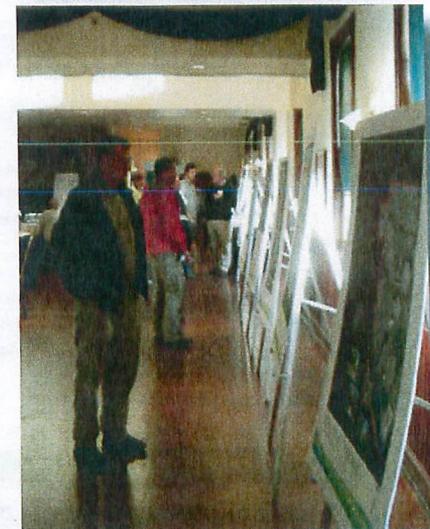
We consider the first Riverwalk Master Plan Open House to have been a huge success, with almost 200 people turning out to provide their feedback. We are very pleased with the attendance and valuable comments made by interested Calgarians. Our consulting team is now reviewing all feedback, and working to begin drafting the master plan for the Riverwalk. The draft master plan will then be presented to the Advisory Committee, and subsequently to the public for their review and feedback at the second Riverwalk Open House.

SUMMARY

- Approximately 190 attendees, with significant representation from the Inglewood and Ramsay communities
- Representation from all four of Calgary's quadrants
- 9 media outlets including TV, print and radio covered the Open House
- 14 Advisory Committee members attended, some for several hours
- 87 Survey forms were returned; many people filled out the survey in pairs
- 20 people wrote public comments on the flip chart provided at the end of the boards
- Some design team members recorded and submitted summary comments following conversations with attendees
- 31 people provided contact information for future information

SURVEY

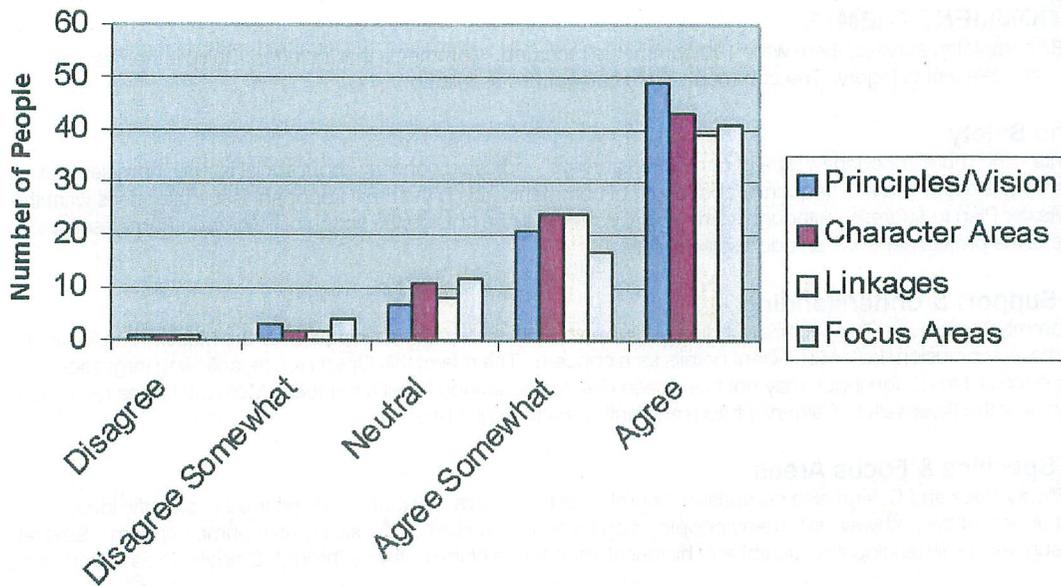
- Overall agreement with the Principles/Vision, Character Areas, Linkages and Focus Areas
- The Facility and Time ratings were high (Excellent and Good)
- The representation were more varied with regards to the visual presentation, some noted confusion with the boards and the information being conveyed by the boards
- Information provided by Staff was mostly good
- The brochure mail-outs were the most effective at creating awareness of the Open House followed by the road-signs and word-of-mouth
- Other methods for finding out about the event included Beltline Buzz and emails



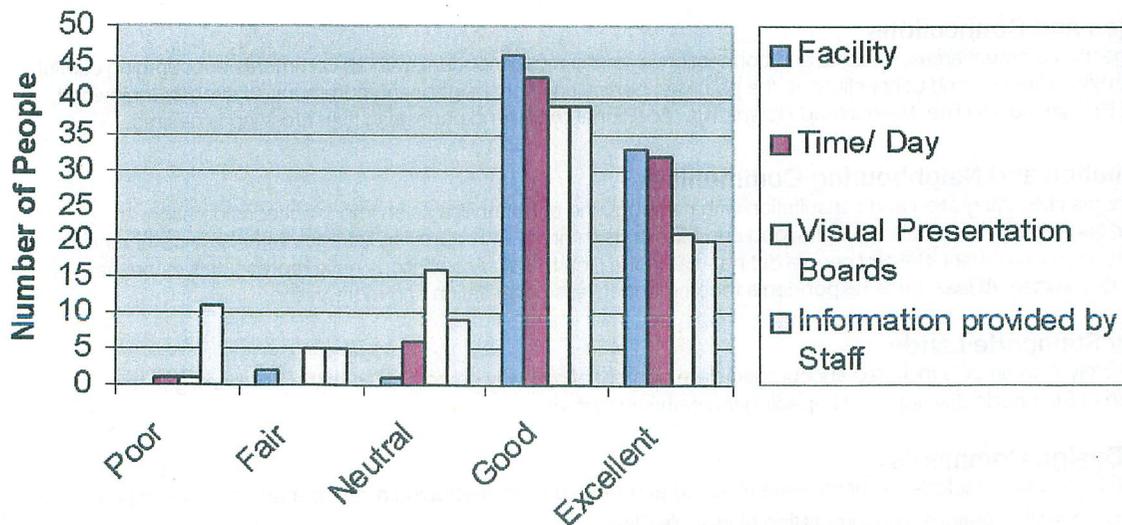
Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

Ratings of Key Ideas



Ratings of Open House





Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

Riverwalk Master Plan Open House

September 24, 2007

MAJOR COMMENT THEMES

Out of the 87 completed surveys, there were 180 comments recorded. Comments that included multiple themes were included in each relevant category. The comments were categorized as follows:

Social and Safety

41 comments - and more importantly, 50% of completed surveys - indicated concern about social issues, homelessness, crime and safety. Both in terms of frequency and length of comments, this is the most important issue attendees want the Riverwalk Master Plan to address. Although some social issues may be outside the scope of Riverwalk (homelessness), the success of the project depends on addressing safety.

Process Support & Understanding

Of the 31 comments received, 22 specifically indicated support, enthusiasm and anticipation for the Master Plan, while 9 people expressed confusion/ lack of sufficient details as a concern. The role of this Open House, soliciting larger scale planning as opposed to design input, may not have been clearly understood by all attendees. Most attendees recognize the importance of the Riverwalk to Calgary's future and anticipate more information.

Pathway Specifics & Focus Areas

Specific Pathway Uses and Design also comprised a number of comments. 28 comments referred to specific ideas for the use and design of the pathway, with many people citing multi-use and bike accessibility as a prime concern. Several comments suggested enhancing the cultural and historical importance of the pathway through Chinatown as a focus area.

Environmental & Green Space

Environmental comments were the next major theme, with 24 comments received expressing concern with regards to the riparian ecosystem, invasive development and re-naturalizing the river bank. For most people, environmental protection is an important consideration for future development, while several people addressed the need for additional downtown green space.

Linkages and Connections

Of the specific comment areas, linkages and connections was the most important, with 20 comments encouraging careful consideration of linkage and connections to the pathway; particularly from neighboring communities such as Inglewood, Ramsay, Bridgeland, Beltline, Mission and Downtown. Additional cyclist and pedestrian river crossing is desired.

Consultation and Neighbouring Communities

17 comments cited integration and consultation with neighbouring communities as an important consideration. In particular, consultation with Ramsay, Inglewood and Mission is desired, and improving linkages with these communities and downtown is important. Several people did not realize the Community Associations have representatives on the Advisory Committee. At least three respondents recommended less consultation and more action.

Calgary Stampede Lands

Approximately 7 comments included encouraged development of pathway on both sides of the River and general opposition of Stampede development impeding the pathway system.

Urban Design Comments

17 other urban design-related comments were received and ranged from developing a stronger urban edge, to promoting diverse transportation options to incorporating Mawson's Plan.

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3

Calgary Police Service Update

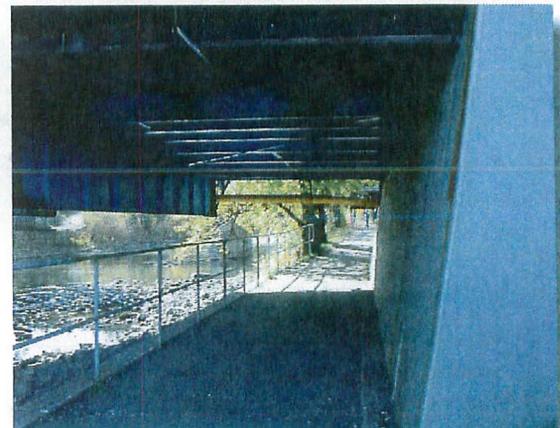
As safety is a major consideration raised in relation to the River District project, it is important to recognize the role of the Calgary Police Service (CPS) on the Riverwalk Advisory Committee. CPS has been involved since the engagement process commenced, and we are fortunate to have two active members serving on the Committee. In addition to their direct involvement and feedback through the advisory process, the Calgary Police Service continues to work with the community on issues of concern throughout the city.

In the downtown core, officers from District 1 have focused on public safety issues in a number of areas, including portions of the downtown river pathway system. These issues affect users of downtown pathway areas in the communities of Chinatown, East Village, Inglewood and Ramsay. Policing efforts in these areas have been designed to strengthen the quality of life for users of the Bow and Elbow River pathway system.

Over the past several months, officers have been conducting "Operation Riverwalk" along downtown pathways. Since beginning the project, police have made 165 arrests, laid 54 criminal charges, executed 259 outstanding warrants and issued 180 summonses related to this operation. Operation Riverwalk continues to be a priority with District 1 personnel.

"While the number of officers used to patrol the pathways will vary according to need, the Calgary Police Service will continue to police this area as long as necessary, in order to ensure the safety of all legitimate users," said Insp. Bob Ritchie of District 1.

Inspector Ritchie added; "The goal of the Calgary Police Service District 1 is to sustain the presence and success we have had in recent months. Our continued partnership with the community serving on the Riverwalk Advisory Committee while consulting with other community-based committees is another component that helps us achieve our shared goals."



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | october 2007: vol 3



What's Next?

With the public's comments from the recent Riverwalk Open House, the Advisory Committee will participate in a Drawing-in-Dialogue session for their fourth meeting. The Committee will divide into three groups, and be accompanied on-site to different locations along the future Riverwalk. With artist-facilitators, there will be discussion about the site and future visions. Once the on-site portion is complete, the groups will then work with their artist-facilitators to develop images of what the Riverwalk will look like, in a creative and interactive session. Once the artist's renderings are complete, each of the three groups will present their ideas to the rest of the Advisory Committee.

All information from the Drawing-in-Dialogue session will then be considered by CMLC and Stantec Consulting and a first draft Riverwalk Master Plan Concept will be prepared. This draft Master Plan will then be presented and discussed further with the Advisory Committee near the end of November and then presented to the public at a second Open House.



Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President & CEO

Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
610 Fifth Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta T2G 0G1
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f. 403.718.0500
e. rivers@calgarymlc.ca

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Stantec

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200 - 325 25th Street SE
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RIVERWALK

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | November 2007: vol 4

Message from President of the CMLC

Our Advisory Committee met for their fourth meeting on October 19, 2007 for a day of inspiration. This was a working session for committee members and included excellent advice and input from Ken Greenberg, mid morning site trips and an afternoon of drawing in dialogue. The work session encouraged all participants to 'think big' and provide their ideas in detail through an interactive drawing process with professional artists.

Most Advisory Committee members were able to attend and we were pleased with the creative ideas and input. The enthusiasm for the Riverwalk resonated in the Committee members' participation and ideas big and small were explored. While all items might not make it to construction in the end, exploring different out-of-the-box ideas adds huge value to the process, and improves the project overall.

We continue to welcome your comments and feedback at any time. Please feel free to contact us with your thoughts, or visit our website at www.calgarymlc.ca to watch our progress unfold.

Sincerely,

Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President and CEO
Calgary Municipal Land Corporation

CMLC - Mission

To implement public infrastructure improvements that will be the catalyst for private and public sector development in the Rivers.

Community Engagement

The CMLC is committed to a community engagement process that is consistent with The City of Calgary's engage! Policy on communication and community engagement. The CMLC is developing a Marketing and Communication Plan to ensure stakeholders are fully aware of the planned development and have the opportunity to provide meaningful input.

Public Consultation Process

Advisory Committee Meeting 1 June 21, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 2 Review draft Vision & Guiding Principles July 25, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 3 Review draft Master Plan Concepts September 13, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Open House 1 September 24, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 4 Review Open House Feedback & Drawing in Dialogue October 19, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 5 Review Draft Master Plan November 20, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Open House 2 December 4, 2007, Simmons Building	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 6 Review Open House Feedback & Fine-Tune Final Plan December, 2007	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 7 Wrap up & Debrief January, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/>
CMLC Receives Riverwalk Master Plan January, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/>



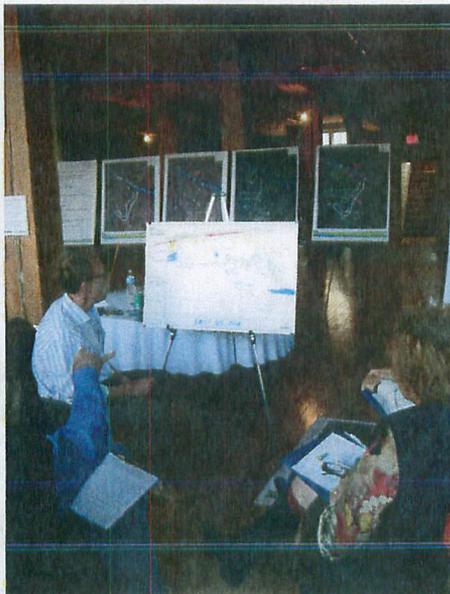
Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | November 2007: vol 4

Inspiration - Drawing in Dialogue

The Advisory Committee was divided into three groups; each group was assigned a specific area of the future Riverwalk to focus on. The areas were: "The Big Bend", "The Confluence" and the East Village. On site each group was accompanied by an artist-facilitator and they discussed ideas, images or words that came to mind to prepare for the drawing session.

In the afternoon, the groups worked with their artist-facilitators to develop images of what they envisioned the Riverwalk will look like. At the end of the day a representative from each group presented their renderings and ideas. The session produced many dynamic drawings that are highlighted in the following pages.



The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee

Rob Taylor
Beltrade Communities

Gerry McHugh
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede

Roger Woodgate
Calgary Pathway & Bikeways Advisory Council

Staff Sgt. Barry Balerud
Calgary Police Service

Sgt. Frank Cattoni
Calgary Police Service

Rebecca Labbe
City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood Services

Kyle Ripley
City of Calgary Parks

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Cliff Bungalow / Mission Community Association

Elli Naim
East Village Action Committee

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Ward 7

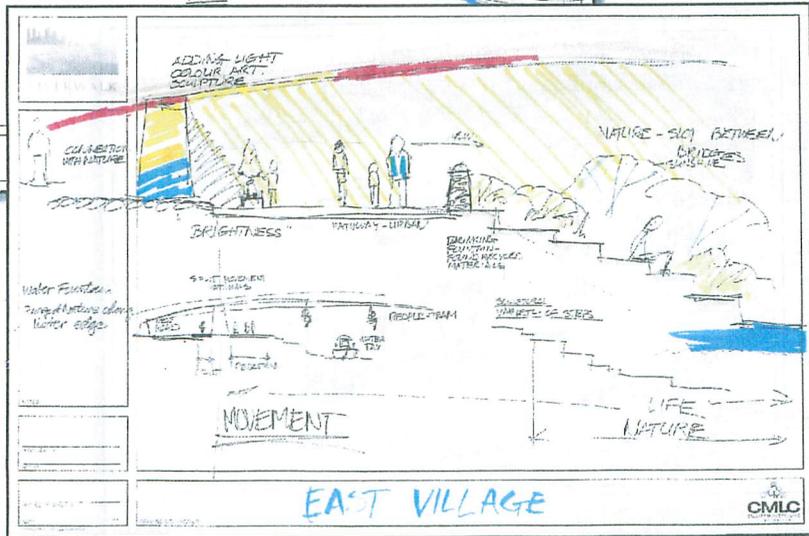
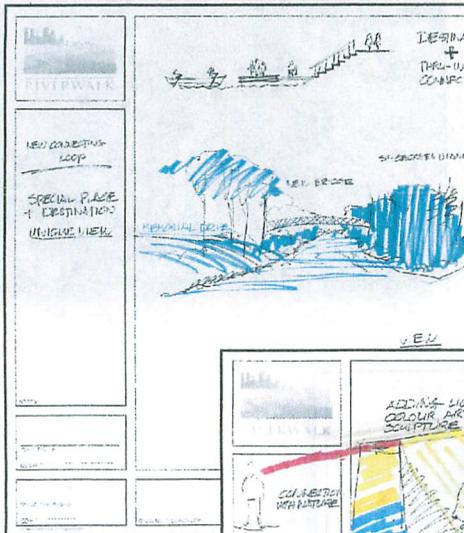
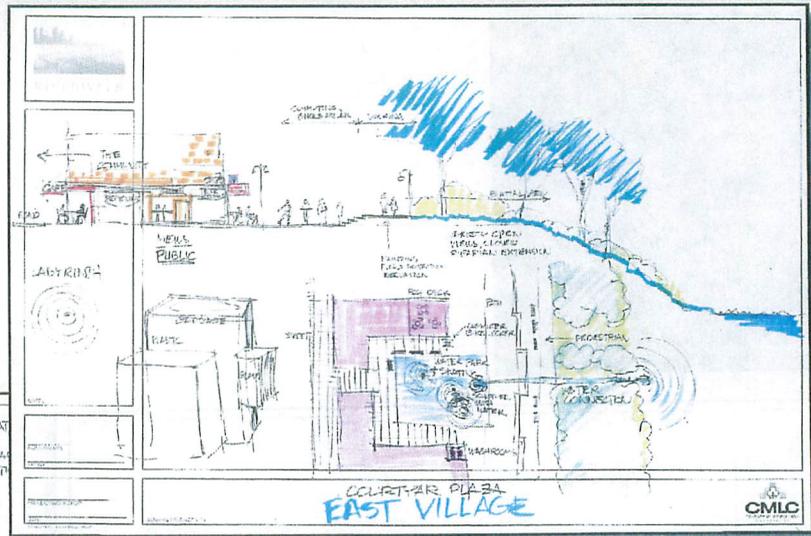
Alderman John Mar
Ward 8

Alderman Joe Ceci
Ward 9

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | November 2007: vol 4

East Village

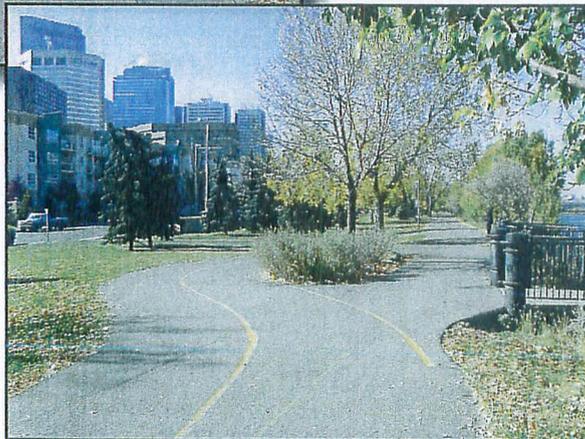


Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | November 2007: vol 4

What's Next?

Ideas from the Drawing-in-Dialogue session are now being reviewed and considered by CMLC and Stantec Consulting as they draft the Riverwalk Master Plan Concept. This draft Master Plan will then be presented and further explored with the Advisory Committee on November 20th. A second Open House is scheduled for December 4, 2007 at the Simmons Building to present the draft Riverwalk Master Plan and provide an opportunity to obtain additional input from the public.



Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President & CEO

Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
610 Fifth Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta T2G 0G1
p. 403.716.0800
f. 403.716.0500
e. rivers@calgarymlc.ca

www.calgarymlc.ca



Stantec

Brad Lindeburgh, CSLA, ASLA
Managing Principal

Stantec Consulting
200 - 825 25th Street SE
Calgary, Alberta, T2A 7H8
p. 403.716.8219
f. 403.716.8088
e. brad.lindeburgh@stantec.com

www.stantec.com



RIVERWALK

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

The Riverwalk Advisory Committee has been busy assisting with the development of a Draft Riverwalk Concept Plan since our last newsletter. In late November, the Committee met to review and comment on the preliminary Draft. This input was considered to further guide the preparation of the Draft Riverwalk Concept Plan presented to the general public at our second Riverwalk Public Open House held on December 4. Similar to our first Public Open House in September, we were very pleased to have so many of the Advisory Committee members in attendance, and an excellent turn out overall. On December 11, the Riverwalk Advisory Committee reconvened to review the comments and input from the December 4th Open House.

Participation by the Advisory Committee has been very good and very consistent throughout the process; we can not thank the Committee members enough for their time and energy! We are also very pleased with the enthusiasm and support shown by the public for the Draft Concept Plan and appreciate that 140 people attended this last open house with many additionally providing us with written feedback. Based on these comments, a synopsis of the general themes was created which is included within the newsletter. All comments from the public and Advisory Committee will be considered equally moving forward and, although they cannot all be addressed within the context of a Riverwalk Concept Plan, the final Master Plan report will be a result of the consideration of all suggestions, recommendations and comments received.

We are now nearing the completion of the masterplanning process for the Riverwalk. Please continue to feel free to contact us with your thoughts and visit our website at www.calgarymlc.ca for new news on all Rivers District projects.

Sincerely,

Chris Ollenberger, P. Eng.
President and CEO
Calgary Municipal Land Corporation

CMLC - Mission

To implement public infrastructure improvements that will be the catalyst for private and public sector development in the Rivers.

Community Engagement

The CMLC is committed to a community engagement process that is consistent with The City of Calgary's engage! Policy on communication and community engagement. The CMLC is developing a Marketing and Communication Plan to ensure stakeholders are fully aware of the planned development and have the opportunity to provide meaningful input.

Public Consultation Process

Advisory Committee Meeting 1 June 21, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 2 Review draft Vision & Guiding Principles July 25, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 3 Review draft Master Plan Concepts September 13, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Open House 1 September 24, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 4 Review Open House Feedback & Drawing in Dialogue October 19, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 5 Review Draft Master Plan November 20, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Open House 2 December 4, 2007, Simmons Building	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 6 Review Open House Feedback & Fine-Tune Final Plan December 11, 2007	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advisory Committee Meeting 7 Wrap up & Debrief January, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/>
CMLC Receives Riverwalk Master Plan January, 2008	<input type="checkbox"/>



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

Advisory Committee Meeting #5

At the fifth Advisory Committee meeting on November 20, 2007, the preliminary Draft Riverwalk Concept Plan was unveiled. The preliminary draft was developed incorporating ideas and input to date, and included input from the drawing in dialogue work session. The discussion that ensued was lively and comprehensive, and boundaries were pushed to ensure that no stone was left unturned in the development of a draft Concept Plan.

The meeting, introduced by Cathy Sears, described her analysis of the “experiences” captured by the drawing in dialogue session and how these were formative to the development of the concept plan. “It is through experiences that a sense of place is formulated”. The **essential pattern** developed for the plan was described as the Riverwalk **promenade**. A schematic diagram was presented that illustrated the successful characteristics of a promenade, which include pedestrian density (connectivity) and destinations and attractions (activity nodes), and how the Riverwalk could support these characteristics. The promenade was further described as playing a significant social role contributing to the very urban fabric and vitality of the city.

Cathy’s analysis of the ideas captured during the drawing in dialogue also summarized seven emerging design themes/drivers that resonated principles previously established during the masterplanning process. The themes, serendipitously referred to as the “seven R’s” were:

Riverwalk

- Resonating the ebb and flow of the rivers
- Revealing and respecting the riparian environment
- Recognizing and celebrating a complex of users
- Reaching through bridges and connections
- Relationship to the land’s historical sense of place and natural history
- Reconnecting and revitalizing a cooperative interface with adjacent development

The Riverwalk Master Plan Advisory Committee

Rob Taylor
Bellline Communities

Gerry McHugh
Calgary Exhibition & Stampede

Roger Woodgate
Calgary Pathways & Bikeways Advisory Council

Staff Sgt. Barry Balerud
Calgary Police Service

Sgt. Frank Cattoni
Calgary Police Service

Rebecca Labbe
City of Calgary Community & Neighborhood Services

Kyle Ripley
City of Calgary Parks

Pat Maiani
Cliff Bungalow / Mission Community Association

Bill Nairn
East Village Action Committee

Nel Storey
Erlton Community Association

Sara-Jane Gruetzner
Fort Calgary

Gian-Carlo Carra
Inglewood Community Association

Christina Greco
Ramsay Community Association

Ted Foster
River Valleys Committee

Thomas To
Sien Lok Society

Alderman Druh Farrell
Ward 7

Alderman John Mar
Ward 8

Alderman Joe Ceci
Ward 9

Riverwalk Master Plan

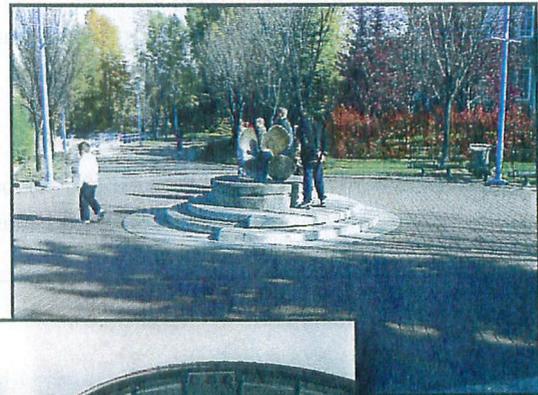
newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

Advisory Committee Meeting #5 (Cont'd)

The preliminary concept plan was then reviewed in detail. Key items discussed with the Committee members for consideration to incorporate into the draft Conceptual Plan to be presented at the December 4 Open House included:

- Acknowledge the transition and connection to Sien Lok Park - don't cut off the "thinking" on the east side of Centre Street.
- Relocate/redesign/rethink the boat basin and launch at the East Village waterfront - too large and infringes into Fort Calgary.
- Acknowledge the historical boundary of Fort Calgary and develop an appropriate interface between the Fort and East Village.
- The bridge at the confluence as located was not acceptable and was too large. The preference was for a bridge as located on Fort Calgary's Master Plan further up river.
- Beltline very happy with "Victoria Crossing", pedestrian bridge and the area south of the train bridge.
- Discussion about Stampede Park's future development; the regional pathway and heritage walk and potential to merge the Stampede Park and Riverwalk Master Plans. There was general optimism that the two plans can be woven together, over time and when it made sense.
- Recommendation that the plan recognize potential connections on the Elbow further west.

The meeting and input from the Advisory members was invaluable as the Project Team went back to the drawing board to develop the final draft version for the Open House.



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

Riverwalk Open House #2

Another successful Open House was held on December 4, 2007 at the new CMLC Office in the historic Simmons Building to present the Draft Riverwalk Concept Plan to the public. Approximately 140 people attended the Open House, including 16 members of the Riverwalk Advisory Committee and 5 Members of City Council, including Aldermen Farrell, Ceci, Mar, Fox-Mellway and Stevenson.

We were encouraged by the positive comments from visitors throughout the evening. There appeared to be strong support for the project overall and many people said they were looking forward to the Riverwalk being built and connecting the many interesting areas along our rivers.

Attendees to the Open House were asked to provide written comments. Many comments were received and all were reviewed by the Project Team. In summary there was considerable support for the plan and many of the comments provided additional suggestions and constructive feedback related to design and connectivity.

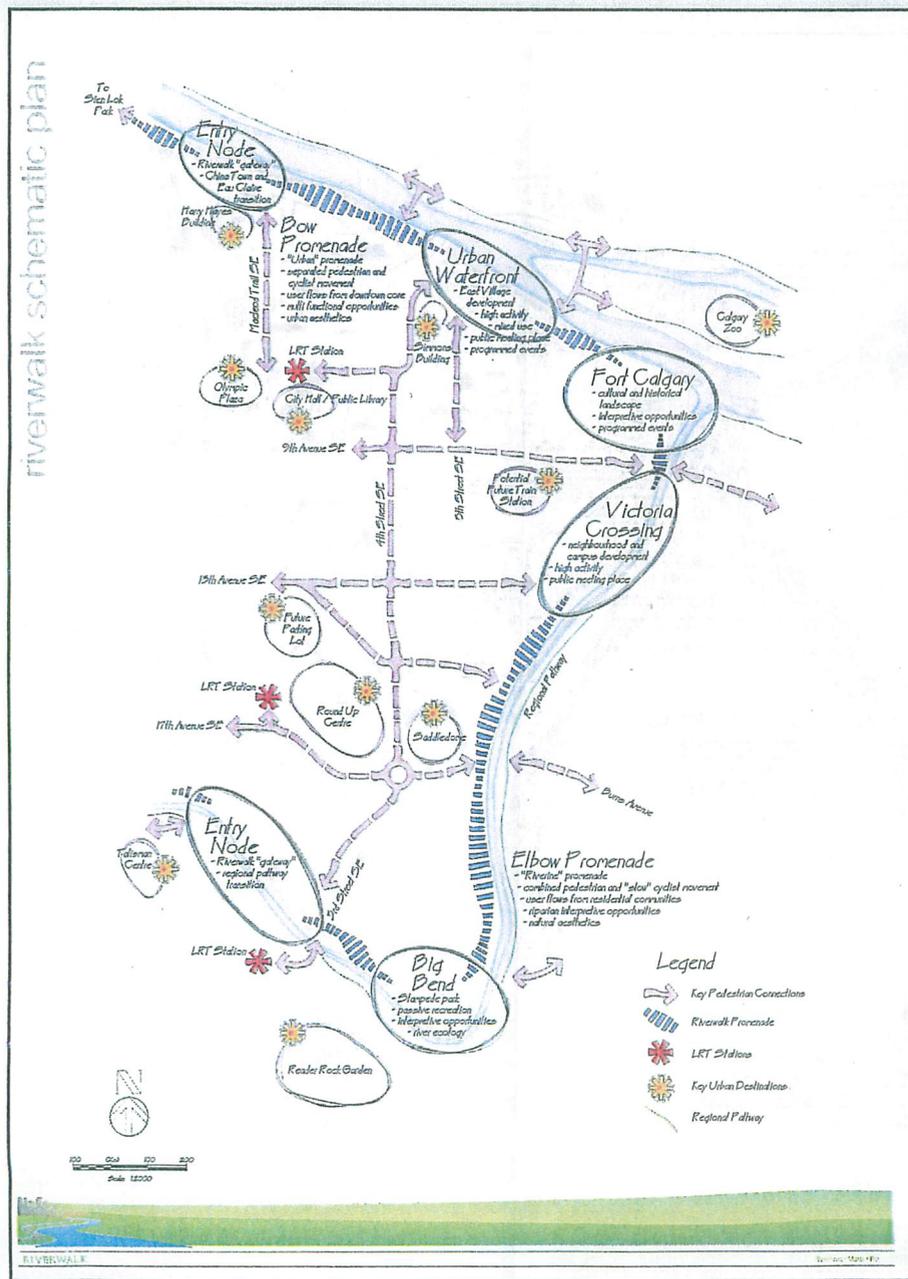
The comments and feedback was greatly appreciated and will be considered further by the Project Team as they develop the Final Riverwalk Master Plan.



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

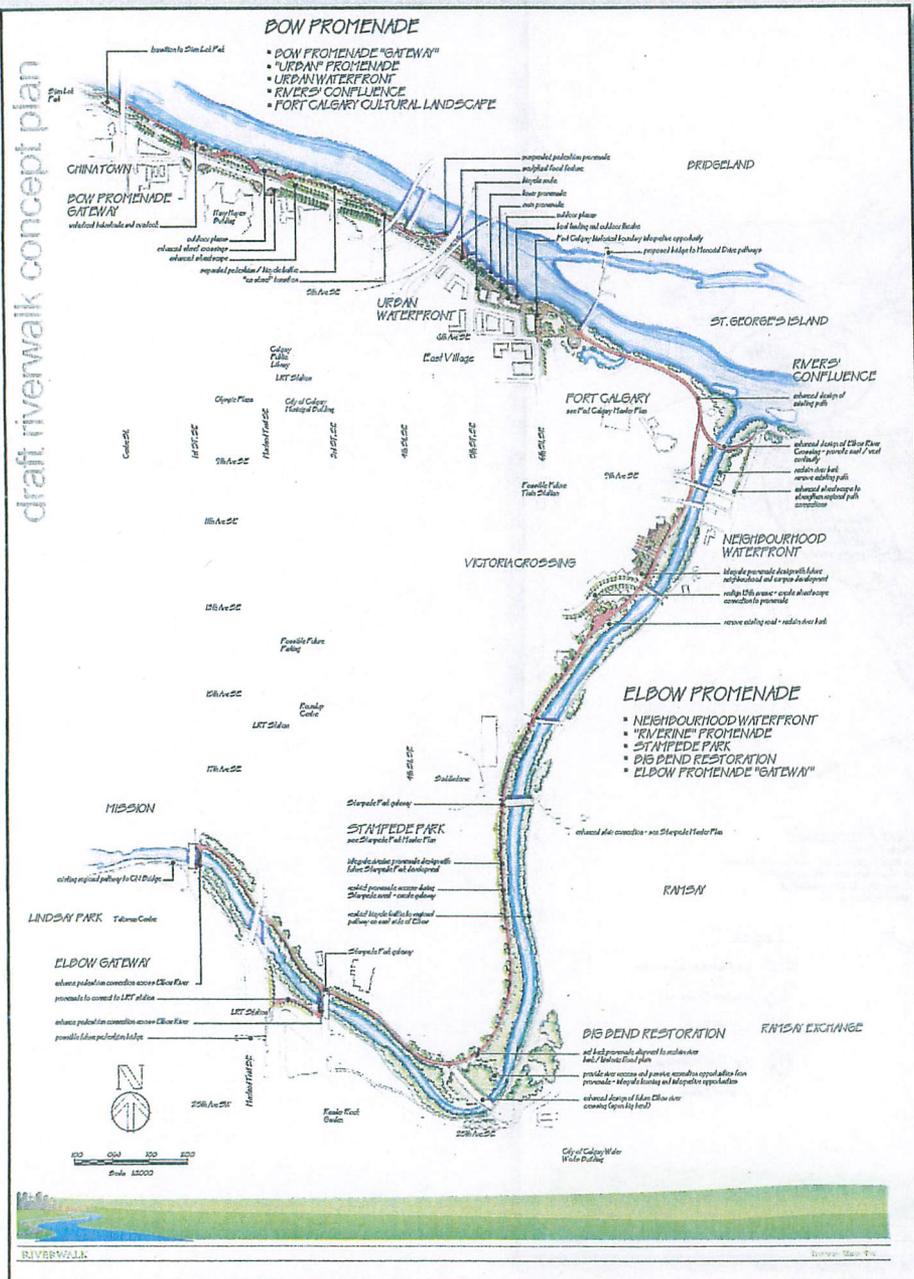
Draft Riverwalk Schematic Plan



Riverwalk Master Plan

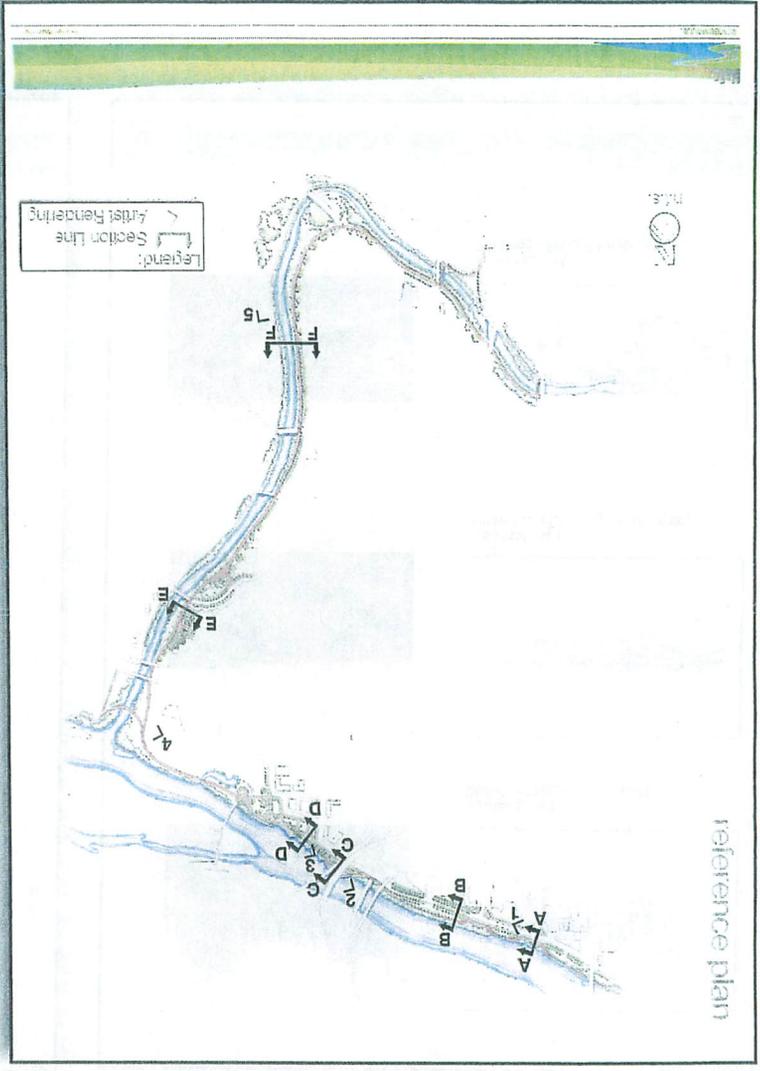
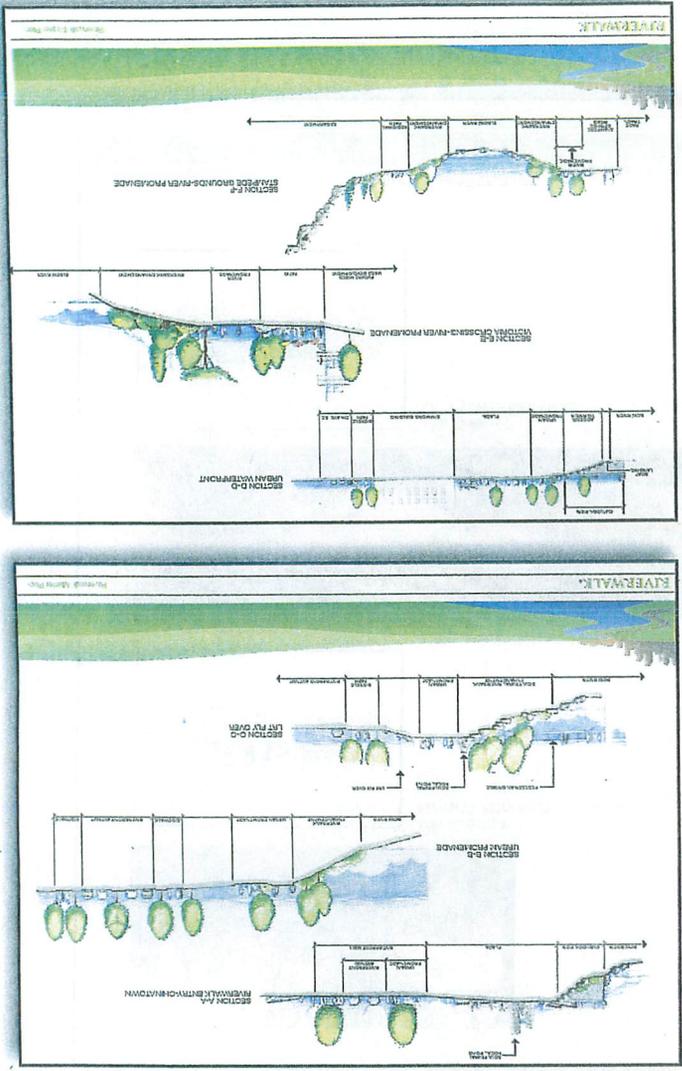
newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

Draft Riverwalk Concept Plan





Potential Riverwalk Sections



Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

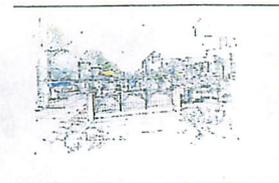
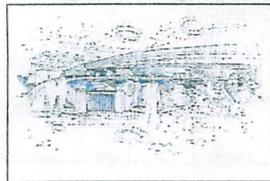
Potential Riverwalk Illustrations



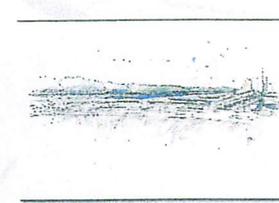
Artist Rendering 1
Riverwalk Entry Node - Chinatown



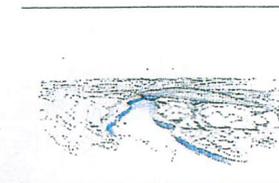
Artist Rendering 2
LRT Flyover - East Village



Artist Rendering 3
Waterfront plaza - East Village



Artist Rendering 4
Elbow River Crossing - Fort Calgary



Artist Rendering 5
Big Bend - Flood Plain Reclamation

Riverwalk Master Plan

newsletter | December 2007: vol 5

Advisory Committee Meeting #6

On December 11, 2007 the Advisory Committee met to review the input and comments received from the public at the second Open House. Each advisory member received a copy of all the comments prior to the meeting. Key themes and associated summaries from an analysis of the comments were presented by the project team to assist in the review. During the advisory meeting, it was suggested that comments specific to ecological environment be a separate theme. Advisory members were also asked for any additional observations. These observations also appeared in the open house comments. Key themes are:

- Amenities and Facilities
- User Accommodation and Riverwalk Routing
- Extent and Connectivity
- Riverwalk/River Interface
- Ecological Environment

During the review, while some comments were discussed in detail, CMLC advised that several comments received are outside the scope of the project and Community Revitalization Levy area. As appropriate, recommendations to address out of scope items may be covered within the Master Plan document or passed on to the City of Calgary for their consideration for the future. CMLC also plans to continue to work closely with Fort Calgary, the City of Calgary and the Calgary Exhibition and Stampede on a go forward basis.

What's Next?

CMLC and Stantec Consulting will work towards developing a final Riverwalk Master Plan early in 2008 that will be presented to the CMLC Board prior to going to the City of Calgary. At this time, it is anticipated a portion of the Riverwalk project in East Village will begin construction in 2008.

The final meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held in January. This meeting is to de-brief and assess the process. The Advisory Committee's input will help CMLC continue to move the Riverwalk project forward and will further benefit future engagement programs for upcoming projects.



Chris Olienberget, P. Eng.
President & CEO

Calgary Municipal Land Corporation
610 Fines Avenue SE
Calgary, Alberta T2C 1J3
t: 403.716.8080
f: 403.716.8080
e: cmli@calgary.ca

www.calgarymlc.ca



Stantec

Brad Lindeburgh, CSLA, ASLA
Managing Director

Stantec Consulting
200 - 625 25th Street SE
Calgary, Alberta T2A 7H6
p: 403.716.8080
f: 403.716.8080
e: brad.lindeburgh@stantec.com

www.stantec.com



RIVERWALK

Riverwalk Master Plan Open House

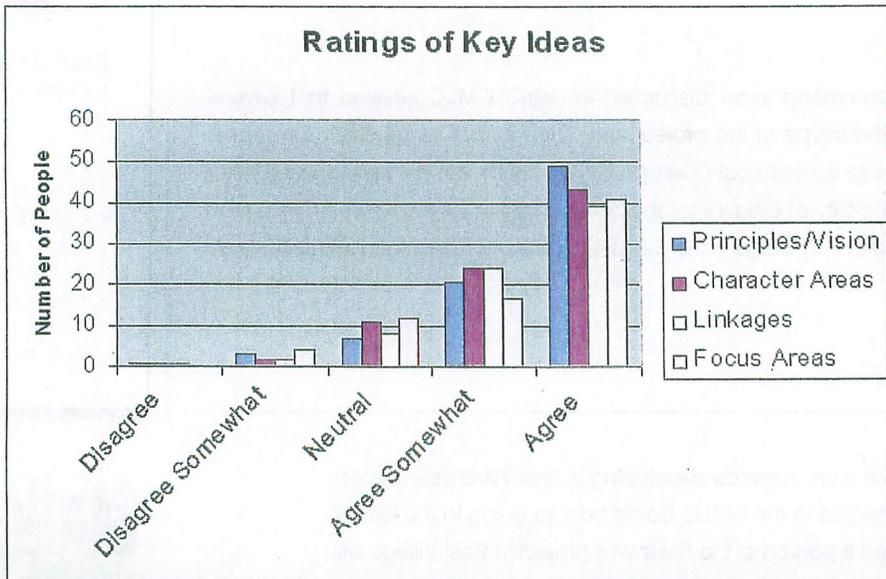
September 24, 2007

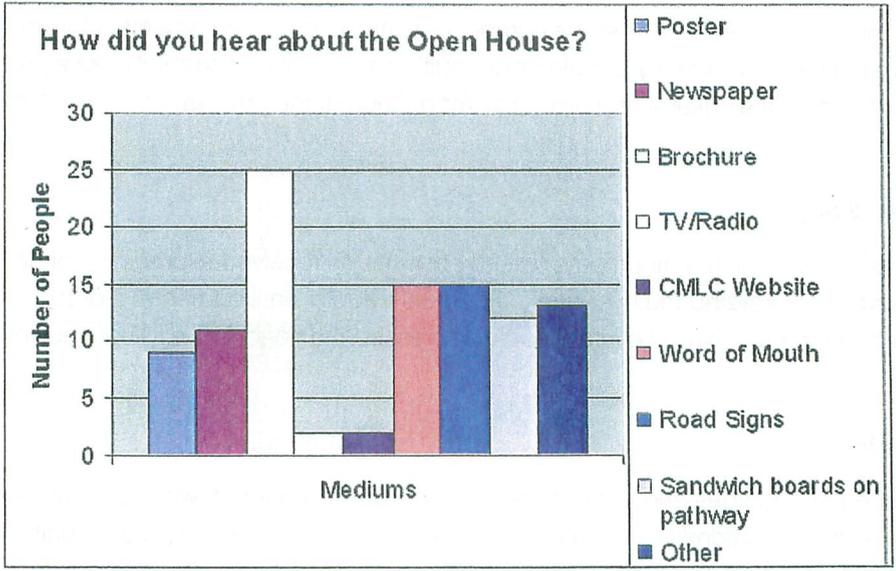
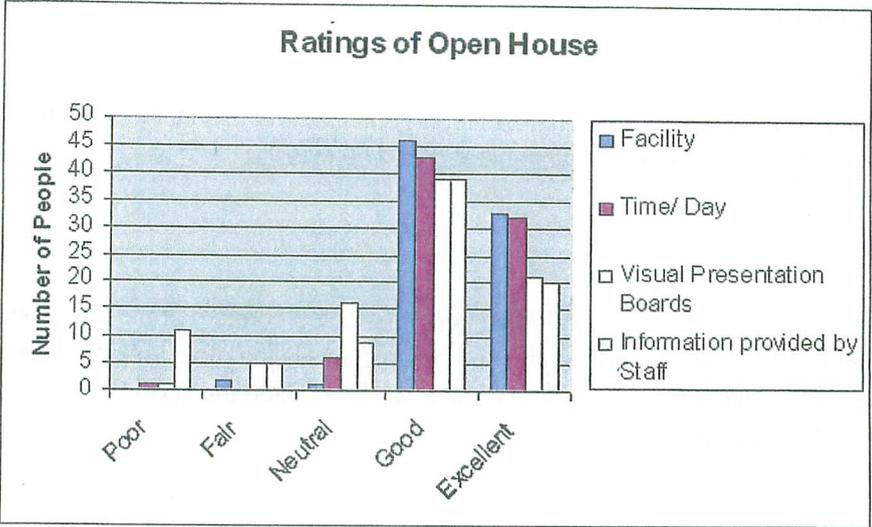
SUMMARY

- Approximately 190 attendees, with significant representation from the Inglewood and Ramsay communities
- Representation from all four of Calgary's quadrants
- 9 media outlets including TV, print and radio covered the Open House
- 14 Advisory Committee members attended, some for several hours
- 87 Survey forms were returned; many people filled out the survey in pairs
- 20 people wrote public comments on the flip chart provided at the end of the boards
- 31 people provided contact information for future information

SURVEY

- Overall agreement with the Principles/Vision, Character Areas, Linkages and Focus Areas
- The Facility and Time ratings were high (Excellent and Good)
- The representation were more varied with regards to the visual presentation, some noted confusion with the boards and the information being conveyed by the boards
- Information provided by Staff was mostly good
- The brochure mail-outs were the most effective at creating awareness of the followed by the road-signs and word-of-mouth
- Other methods for finding out about the event included Beltline Buzz and emails





MAJOR COMMENT THEMES

Out of the 87 completed surveys, there were 180 comments recorded. Comments that included multiple themes were included in each relevant category. The comments were categorized as follows:

Social and Safety

41 comments - and more importantly, 50% of completed surveys - indicated concern about social issues, homelessness, crime and safety. Both in terms of frequency and length of comments, this is the most important issue attendees want the Riverwalk Master Plan to address. Although some social issues may be outside the scope of Riverwalk (homelessness), the success of the project depends on addressing safety.

Support & Confusion

Of the 31 comments received, 22 specifically indicated support, enthusiasm and anticipation for the Master Plan, while 9 people expressed confusion/ lack of sufficient details as a concern. The role of the Open House may not have been clearly understood by all attendees. Most attendees recognize the importance of the Riverwalk to Calgary's future and anticipate more information.

Pathway Specifics & Focus Areas

Specific Pathway Uses and Design also comprised a number of comments. 28 comments referred to specific ideas for the use and design of the pathway, with many people citing multi-use and bike accessibility as a prime concern. Several comments suggested enhancing the cultural and historical importance of the pathway through Chinatown as a focus area.

Environmental & Green Space

Environmental comments were the next major theme, with 24 comments received expressed concern riparian functioning, invasive development and re-naturalizing the river bank. For most people, environmental protection is an important consideration for future development, while several people addressed the need for additional downtown green space.

Linkages and Connections

Of the specific comment areas, linkages and connections was the most important, with 20 comments encouraging careful consideration of linkage and connections to the pathway; particularly from neighboring communities such as Inglewood, Ramsay, Bridgeland, Beltline, Mission and Downtown. Additional cyclist and pedestrian river crossing is desired.

Consultation and Neighbouring Communities

17 comments cited integration and consultation with neighbouring communities as an important consideration. In particular, consultation with Ramsay, Inglewood and Mission is desired, and improving linkages with these communities and downtown is important. Several people did not realize the Community Associations have representatives on the Advisory Committee. At least three respondents recommended less consultation and more action.

Calgary Stampede Lands

Approximately 7 comments included encouraged development of pathway on both sides of the River and general opposition of Stampede development impeding the pathway system.

General & Miscellaneous Comments

The 17 general/miscellaneous comments were difficult to classify under the existing themes and ranged from developing a stronger urban edge, to promoting diverse transportation options to incorporating Mawson's Plan.



Riverwalk Open House #2 – Public Comment Synopsis

PARTICIPATION IN THE OPEN HOUSE AND INTEREST IN THE PROJECT

140 people signed in, including 16 members of the Advisory Committee and 5 Members of City Council, including Aldermen Farrell, Ceci, Mar, Fox-Mellway and Stevenson. We noticed that a higher percentage of people attended this Open House from across the city than the first Open House in September. Still, most attendees live east of the downtown – Ramsay, Inglewood, Beltline and East Village.

Interest in Riverwalk remains quite high and we were encouraged by the positive comments received. There is strong support for the project overall and many people are looking forward to the Riverwalk being built and connecting the many interesting areas along our rivers. There were a few comments criticizing the process and specific aspects of the draft conceptual plan.

THE PUBLIC'S RESPONSE TO QUESTION #2 ON THE OPEN HOUSE EXIT SURVEY: DO YOU FEEL THE DRAFT RIVERWALK CONCEPTUAL PLAN IS LINKED APPROPRIATELY WITH THE RIVERWALK VISION AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES? WHY OR WHY NOT?

A significant large majority of the responses indicated that the draft Conceptual Plan presented December 4 is linked appropriately with the Vision and Guiding Principles that developed in consultation with the Advisory Committee earlier on in the project. A few comments were negative and indicated that the plan had little regard for the riverine ecology and development was too engineered/hard edged. Several people did not specifically answer the question and provided constructive comments about the draft Conceptual Plan instead.

AMENITIES AND FACILITIES

Overall there were positive responses for many of the amenities and facilities shown on the draft plans including lighting, public art and fountains, interpretive signage, programming, viewing outlooks and the suspended promenade. Additional amenities incorporated in the responses suggested including multi-functional waste/recycling bins, bicycle shelters, staging areas for cyclists and rollerbladers, outdoor cafes and patio bars, natural border versus fencing along the Big Bend and washrooms.

There were a few negative responses to the design elements in the East Village Promenade – boat launch, outlooks, outdoor theatre, and general urban edge.

USER ACCOMMODATION AND RIVERWALK ROUTING

Overall there were positive responses to user accommodation and routing as shown on the plan. Responses included additional suggestions to accommodate users including twinning the Fort Calgary promenade and at other potential pinch points, providing staging areas for users, signage and programming, introducing additional lighting and other safety measures such as functional surfacing and clear connections between the new Riverwalk and existing regional pathway.

EXTENT AND CONNECTIVITY

Comments were encouraging and also suggested planning or recommending for appropriate connections west along the Bow River and Elbow Rivers, to the communities and future communities adjacent to the Riverwalk, to Stampede Park, north of East Village to Bridgeland/Riverside, to the areas south of the Elbow River and included several references to a potential historic/cultural loop through downtown Calgary encompassing the riverwalk.

RIVERWALK/RIVER INTERFACE

A few respondents expressed concern with the extent of development proposed, especially along the shore of the Bow River and the negative impact to the wildlife and ecology on the west bank of the Elbow River adjacent to Stampede Park. Some respondents noted they would prefer more natural development mixed in more with the engineered development. Many positive comments were received about the opening up of the west side of the Elbow River to users and the potential for the East Village promenade to become an interesting destination for residents and visitors.



APPENDIX B

DRAWING IN DIALOGUE



NOTES

PARTICIPANTS
John C. ...
 ARTIST

PROJECTWORKSHOP
 DATE

CAMPING ON THE BIG BAND.

FORMING THE FACILITY

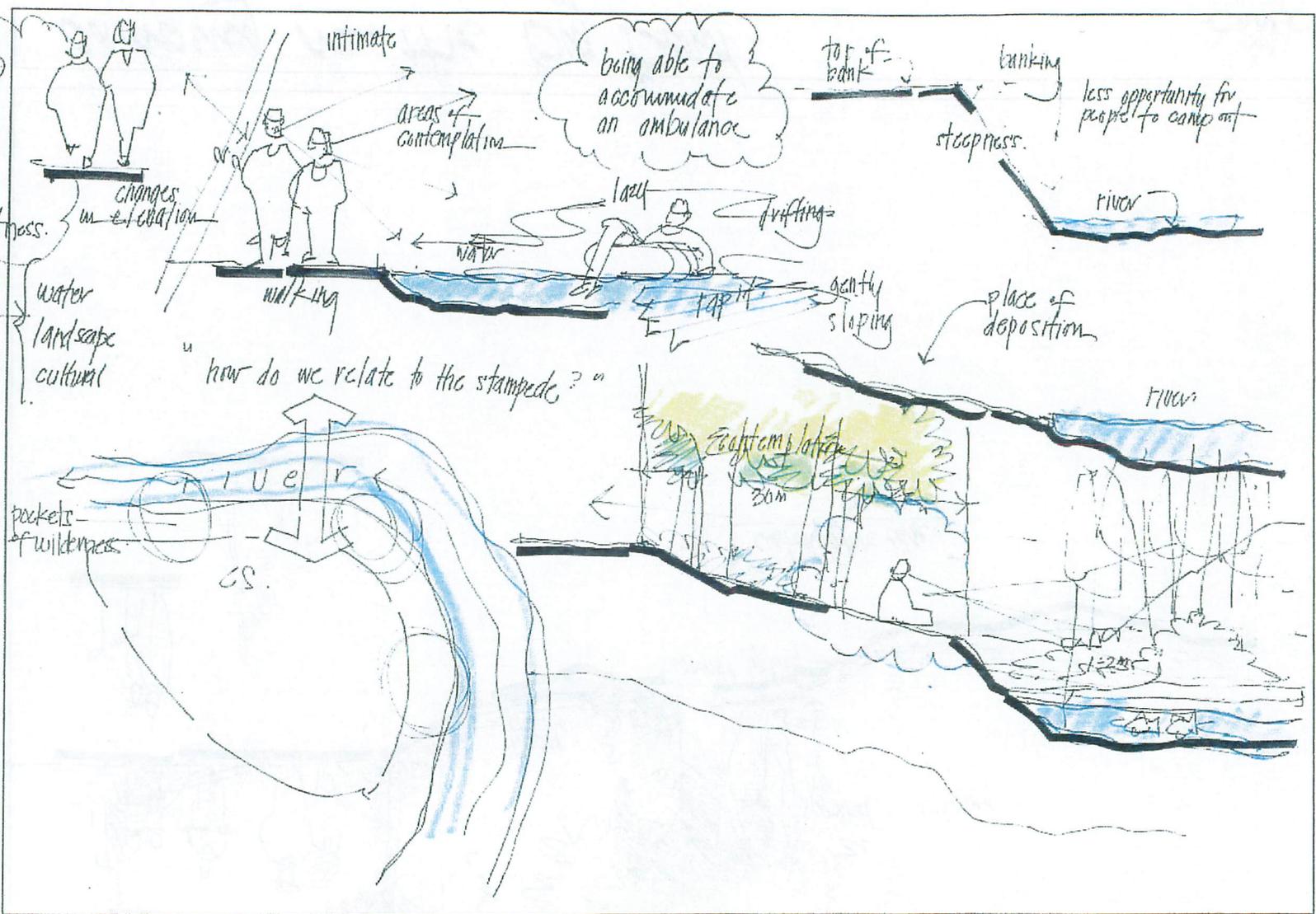


- ☐ tranquility: quiet mass.
- ☐ indigenous - opp. for river
- ☐ enclosure - sense of place
- ☐ relief - respite.
- ☐ dynamic/duality

NOTES

PARTICIPANTS
Donna Cunniff
 ARTIST

PROJECT/WORKSHOP
 DATE



the dynamic Big Bend.

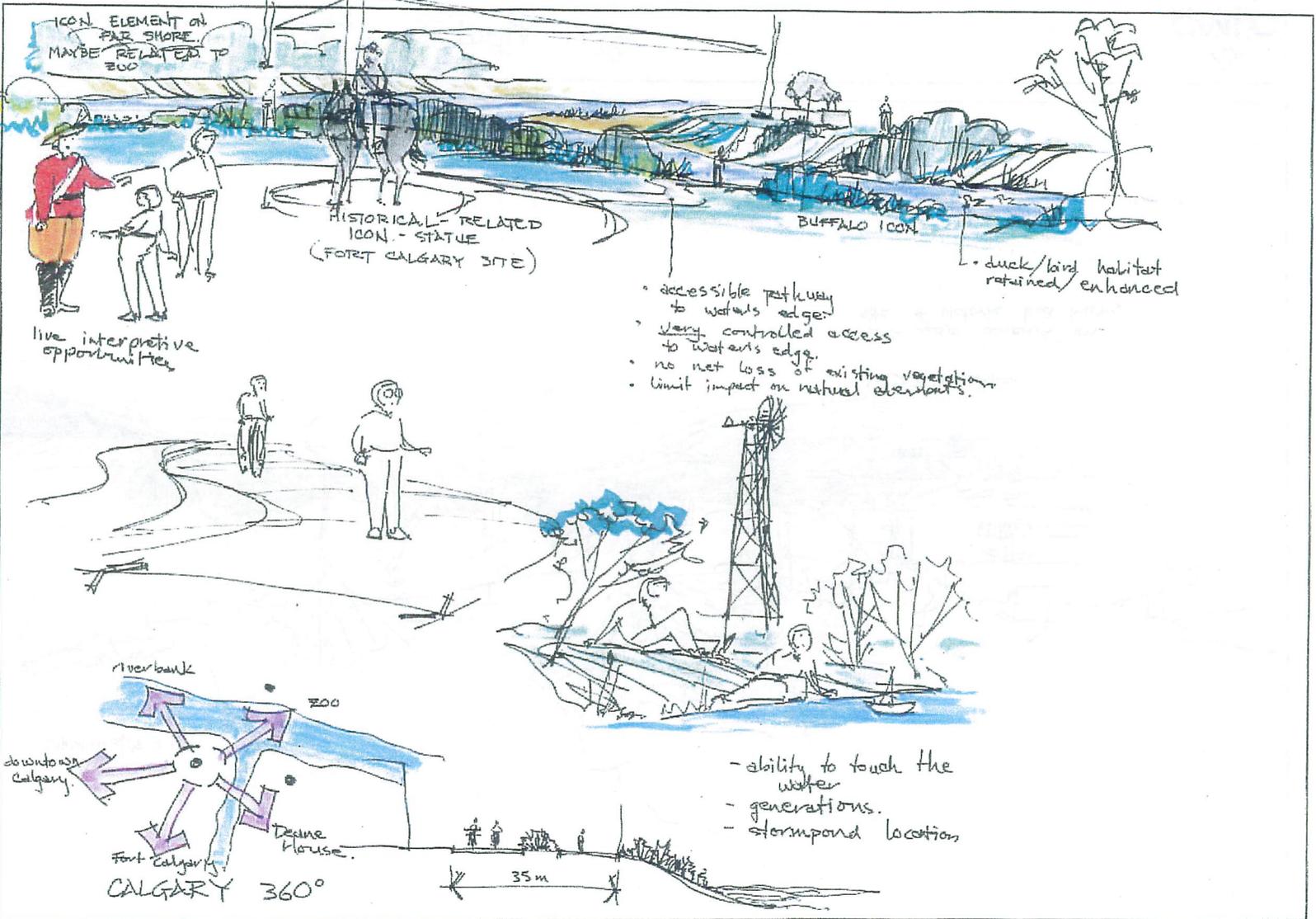
DRAWING THE FACILITY





- visual access to confluence should be enhanced.
- avoid further loss of vegetation.
- confluence = joining
- multiple levels
- layers of history.
- enhance distant view across river incorporate the view across the river.
- consider impacts on natural environment.

NEL ROOPER
 GERRY BILL H. SONAR
 PARTICIPANTS
 DREW F. / DRAD L.
 ARTIST



ICON ELEMENT ON FAR SHORE MAYBE RELATED TO ZOO

HISTORICAL-RELATED ICON - STATUE (FORT CALGARY SITE)

BUFFALO ICON

• duck/land habitat retained/enhanced

live interpretive opportunities

- accessible path/way to water's edge
- very controlled access to water's edge.
- no net loss of existing vegetation
- limit impact on natural elements.

- ability to touch the water
- generations.
- stormpond location

CALGARY 360°

35m

ADVISORY COMMITTEE VISITORS
 PROJECT WORKSHOP
 OCT. 19, 2002
 DATE

THE CONFLUENCE

DRAWING 1111 CINCINNATI





man-made amenity on site of Victoria bus burns.

SCOTTMAN'S HILL

PATHWAY

ELBOW RIVER

VICTORIA LAKE

NOTES

MEL ROSEBY + SONAR PARTICIPANTS
BILL M
DARRYL/D. LINDSEY LEIGH ARTIST

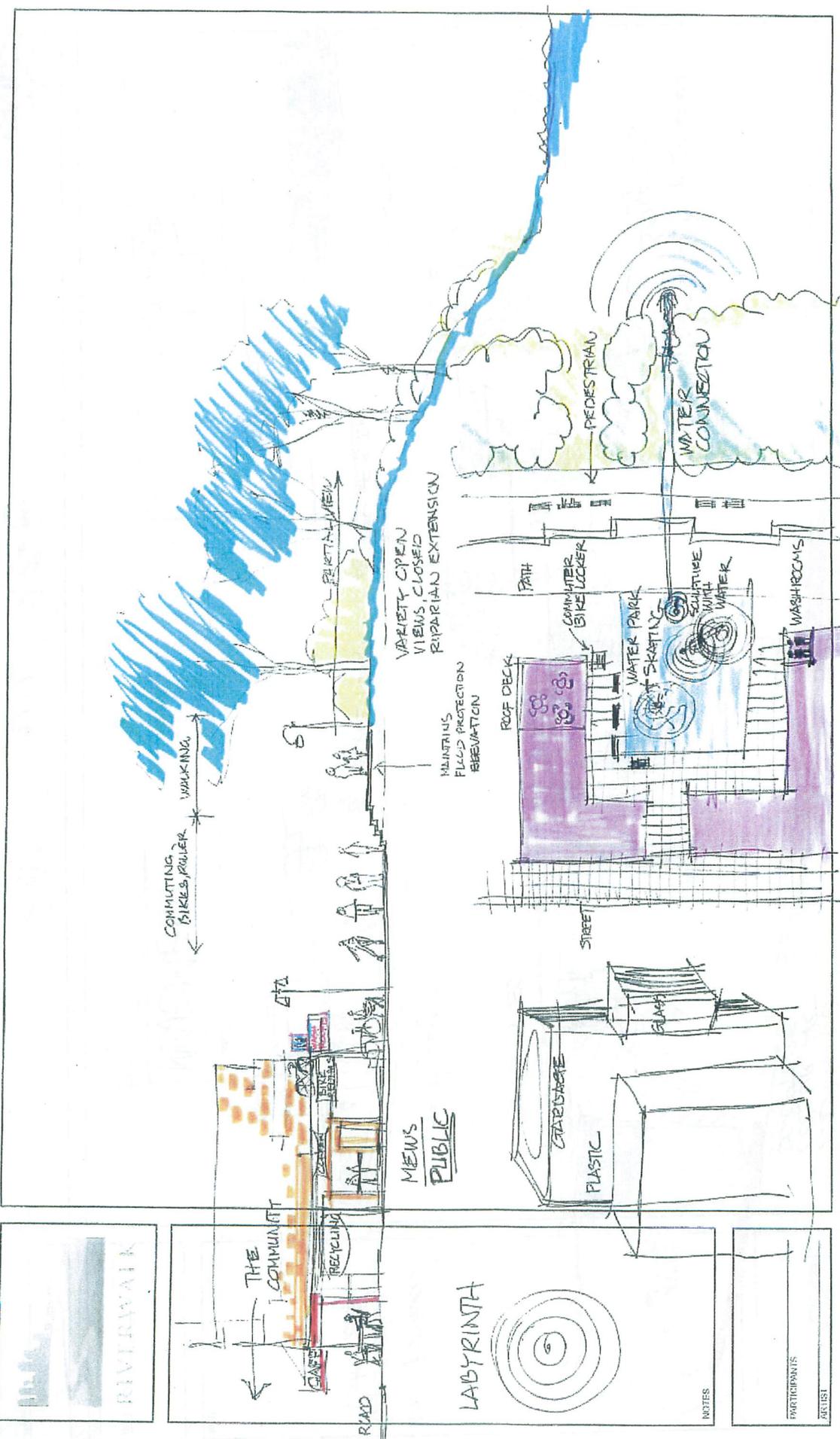
ADVISORY COMMITTEE VISIONING PROJECT WORKSHOP
DATE 19/1/2007

THE CONFLUENCE - VICTORIA LAKE



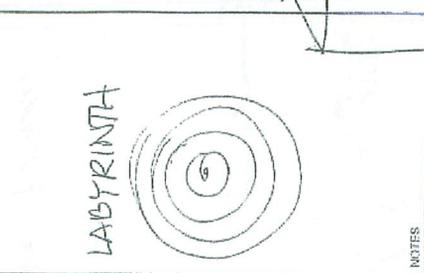
DRAWING TITLE/ACTIVITY

3/1/2007 10:00 AM 10:00 AM



**COURTYARD PLAZA
 EAST VILLAGE**

DEVELOPING THE FACTORY



NOTES

PARTICIPANTS

ARTIST

PROJECT WORKSHOP

DATE

EAST VILLAGE

DRAWING TITLE FACILITY

DATE _____
PROJECT WORKSHOP _____

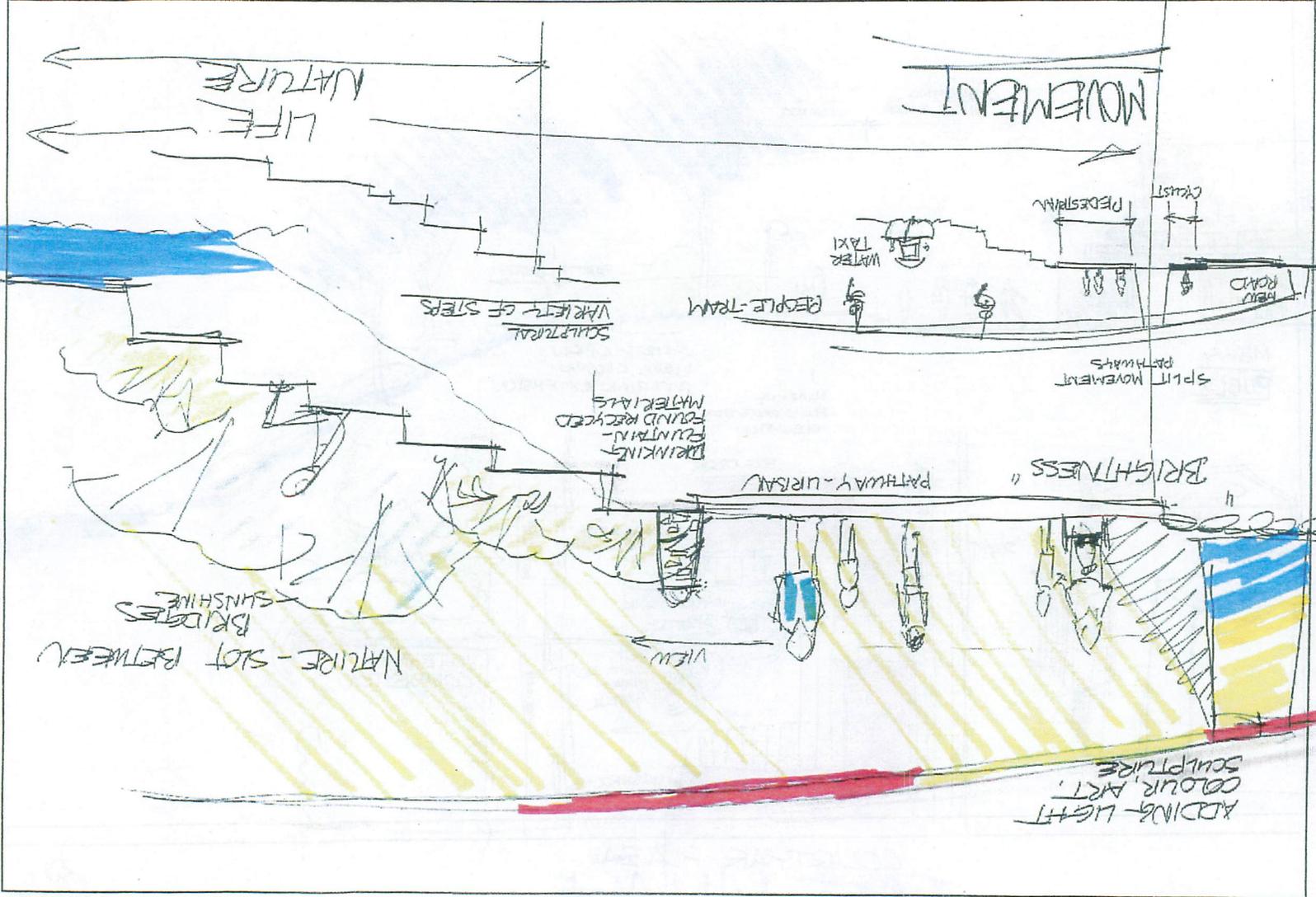
ARTIST _____
PARTICIPANTS _____

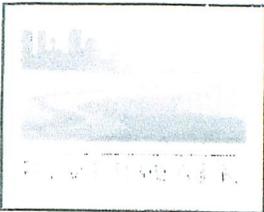
NOTES

Water Fountain
Rugged texture along
water edge



CONNECTION
WITH NATURE

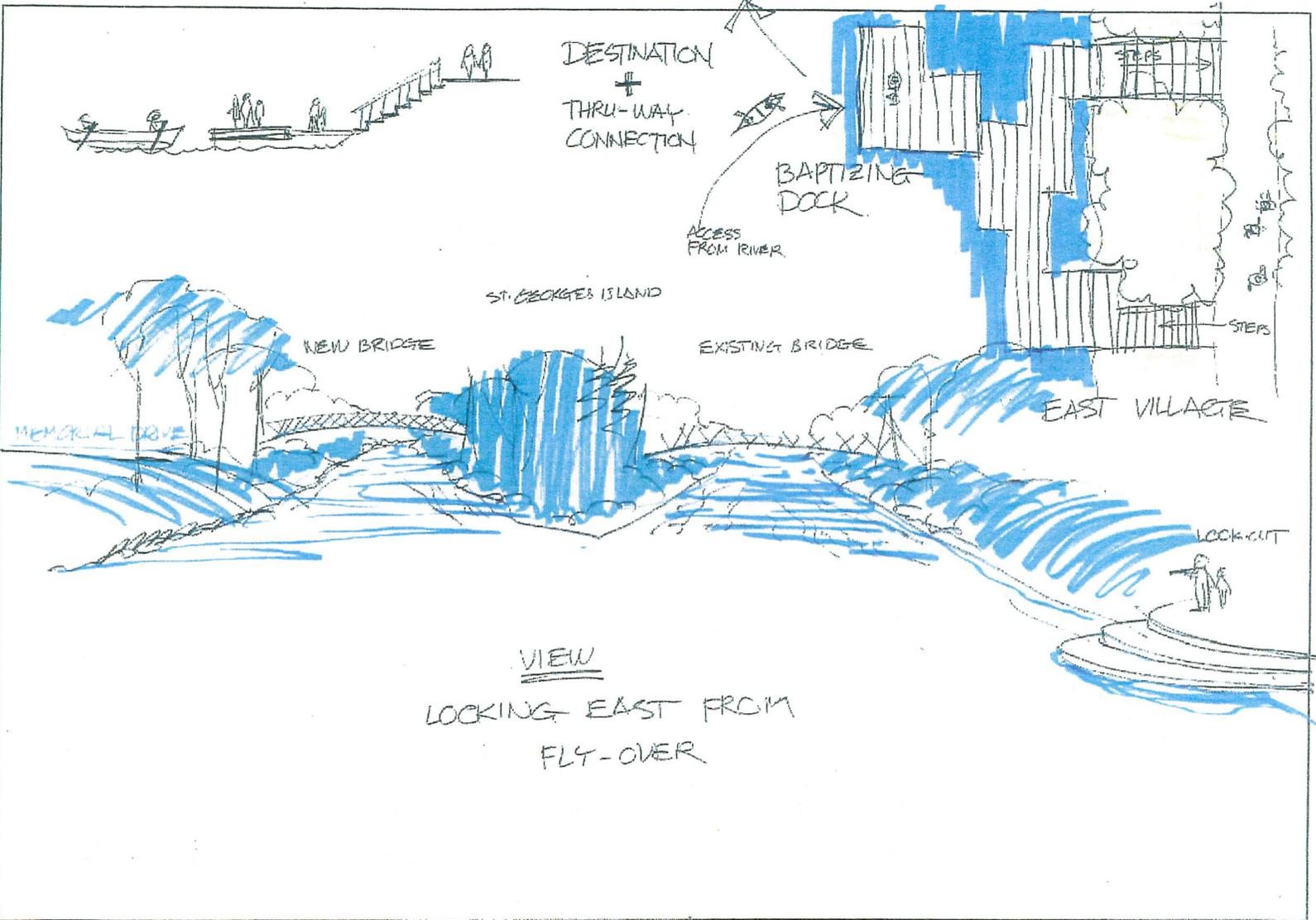




NEW CONNECTING LOOP

SPECIAL PLACE + DESTINATION
UNIQUE VIEW

NOTES



PARTICIPANTS

ARTIST

PROJECT WORKSHOP

DATE

EAST VILLAGE

DRAWING DELIVERABILITY

CMLC
CATHART MEDICAL LEAS