

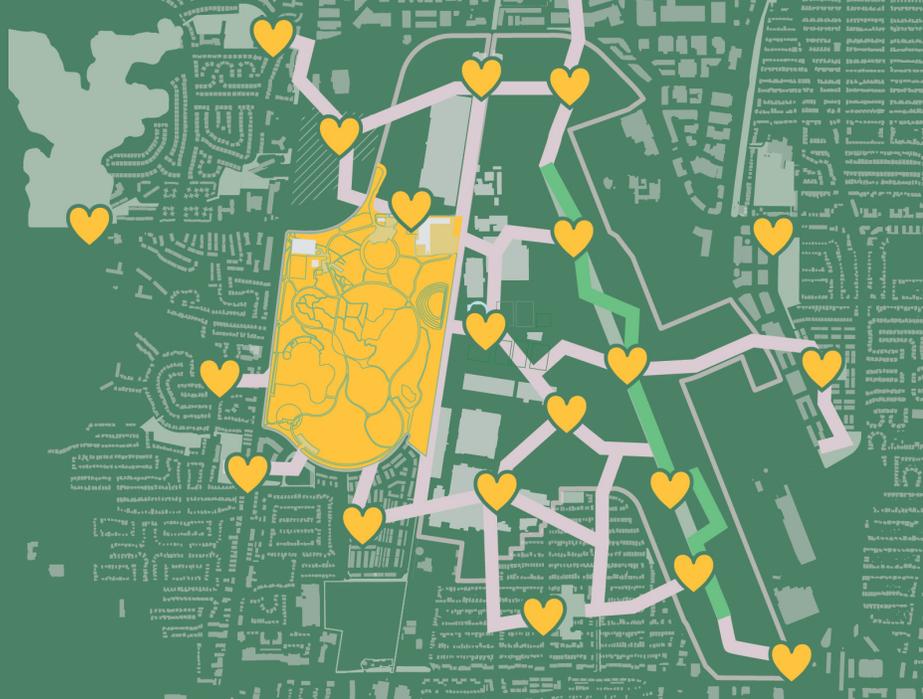
Parks & Nature

Round 2 Discussion Guide
September/October 2020

Northcrest



Canada Lands Company
Société immobilière du Canada



EMERGING IDEA CITY NATURE

We can do great things with parks, nature, and green space in the 520 acres that are the focus of id8 Downsview. We see an incredible opportunity to leverage both Downsview Park and the runway to create and connect open spaces, link communities, provide habitat, support sustainability, and help shape the future identity of Downsview.

We propose that the new communities at Downsview include open spaces in parks, natural areas, along streets and even on buildings—combining nature with urban areas in a concept we call **City Nature**. This integrated approach supports biodiversity, manages stormwater using natural systems, and offers a range of outdoor experiences for those who live, work and play in and around Downsview. It will also provide space for people to walk and cycle, as we are prioritizing people and not only cars. The drawing below shows how a City Nature network can help all the things that live here – plants, animals, birds, insects, people – thrive!



VIRTUAL PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Join us on Tuesday, October 6 from 4-6 pm for a Virtual Public Workshop focused on Parks & Nature, including a live presentation and small group discussions seeking public feedback. Register to participate at id8downsview.ca.

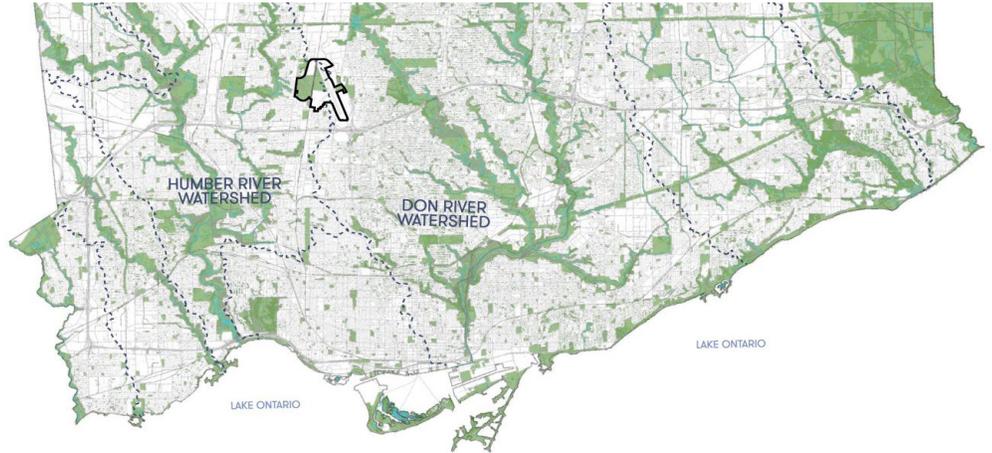
Can't attend the Workshop?
There are many ways to participate.

Complete our online feedback form at id8downsview.ca or give us a call (+1 647 245-3399), send us an email (info@id8downsview.ca), or mail us your thoughts to 70 Canuck Avenue, North York, M3K 2C5. All feedback received by the end of October will be summarized and posted online in November.

THE POWER OF DOWNSVIEW'S LOCATION

Downsview is an important part of Toronto's ecology. It sits at a high point in the city, about halfway between the Oak Ridges Moraine and Lake Ontario. It also connects the Humber and Don River watersheds, which is important because it tells us a lot about the urban ecosystem and how water flows. The location of Downsview Park – right beside these 520 acres – is another great opportunity.

The id8 Downsview team is committed to leveraging best practices in green infrastructure which is already happening in the Park with rain water management. We're working closely with hydrological engineers, stormwater management experts, and municipal infrastructure planners to understand how to best plan the future in a way that works with, rather than against, the power of water.



FEEDBACK DURING CONSULTATION ROUND ONE

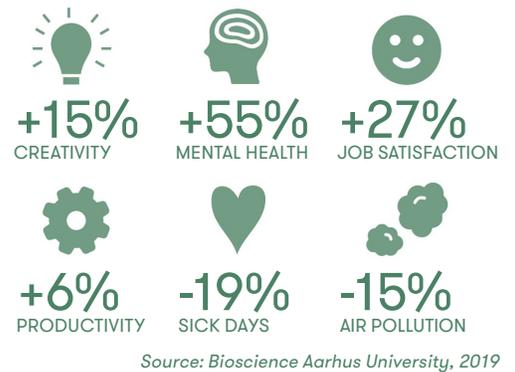
In Round One of the consultation process people told us, almost universally, that they love Downsview Park. They like it because it's green, lush and they can walk, cycle, play sports, and just have a place to disconnect from the intensity of everyday life in the city. People also told us that:

- parks have been an important COVID-19 refuge, with many people finding new ways to use parks;
- expanding and improving access to new, accessible green spaces should be a priority;
- birds and wildlife rely on the habitat in the area, and bees and other insects thrive here – showing leadership by minimizing the impacts of new development is key;
- open spaces can also support future bike networks;
- having access to lands to grow and preserve food—like community gardens—helps make the area beautiful and also supports food security (which has been an issue during the pandemic); and
- the area needs four-season parks.

Tell us what opportunities you would like to see explored as part of this project? *I have seen Deer in Area of Park*
Would like to see a area that teaches kids about wild life that lives in the Park like Deer, small animals foxes, Rabbits, and other that teach them that we need them as much as they need us. also area's that people with sea advantage can walk and sit down when we need to Senior's, walk way's that help disavady kids and all. thank you very much letters us tell you what we need.

As much green space as possible. Dog Park. Low impact green building practise's. Up grade as much of surrounding sewers & water basin as possible.

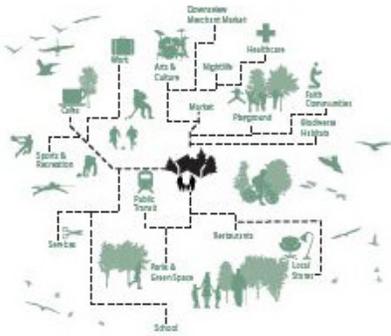
A new school, community centre, outdoor gym/exercise area, nets, soccer field, children's playground



BENEFITS OF CITY NATURE

Research shows that access to nature and open space near your home or workplace brings great benefits. In 2019, the Bioscience team at Aarhus University in Denmark reported that nature improves mental and physical health and increases social activity. Walking and biking through a natural environment gives your day a good start, and being able to take a break in nature gives you energy and clears your brain. Also having good places to run and exercise increases your physical and mental wellness. During the Covid-19 pandemic we have heard about and seen the needs and benefits of access to open spaces.

Our vision for the future includes a rich network of parks and green spaces that provide & support all eight of the aspirations shown here:



15 minute neighbourhoods

where people live, work, shop, and play within a 15-min walk or bike ride



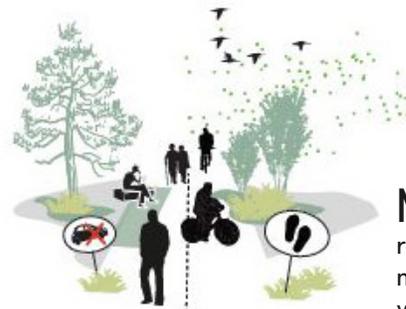
Biodiversity

by creating habitat that supports a wide range of native plants, insects, birds, and other wildlife



Social Infrastructure

providing places for people to connect, share and enjoy each other and nature



Micromobility

routes that make it easy to move around Downsview without a car



Stormwater balance

that increases the amount of water absorbed by the ground (rather than piped off-site), improves water quality & reduces erosion



Microclimate regulation

to best manage the affects of sun, rain, wind and snow and improve year round comfort both indoors and outdoors



Health benefits

associated with fresh air, time in nature, views to green space, recreation, and other outdoor activities



Liveability

supported by the built & natural environments, economic prosperity, social stability, equity, education, culture, connection to our history and cultural heritage, and recreation possibilities

ROOM TO WELCOME ALL USES AND USERS

Below are examples of the wide range of uses and users that could be part of the future of the parks and green spaces on these 520 acres of Downsview.



Sports & Physical Activities



Urban Farming



Playgrounds & Recreation



Activities



Events



A Walk in the Park

The Virtual Public Workshop for Parks & Nature will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 from 4-6pm. This is just one of five different meetings we're holding as part of the Round Two consultation. Live presentations will be delivered at all meetings, along with opportunities to ask questions and participate in facilitated discussion. To register for one or more of these meetings visit id8downsview.eventbrite.com. Can't attend the Workshop? There are many ways to participate. Complete our online feedback form at id8downsview.ca or give us a call [+1 647 245-3399], send us an email [info@id8downsview.ca], or mail us your thoughts to 70 Canuck Avenue, North York, M3K 2C5. All feedback received by the end of October will be summarized and posted online in November.

FEEDBACK WE NEED FROM YOU

1. If you could have the best park you could dream of, what would be included in it? What could you do there?
2. Besides Downsview Park, what are the best existing neighbourhood parks?
3. What do you think of the emerging ideas for parks, nature, and green space? Are there any you especially like or don't like, and why?
4. How do you see yourself, your kids, or grandkids, and/or people from other communities using the future parks, natural areas, and green spaces in these 520 acres? Some of this feedback will directly inform the Framework Plan and some of it will likely help inform more detailed District Planning and Site Planning work that will happen later.
5. The implementation will take decades, are there some ideas or areas that should be prioritized over others? If so, which ones and why?
6. Are there any other ideas that the id8 Downsview team should consider and/or additional comments or feedback?

Join the conversation on www.id8downsview.ca

Contact us at +1 647 245-3399
Downsview Hub, 70 Canuck Ave.
North York, ON M3K 2C5

Share your own Downsview story at id8downsview.ca/stories