


TOUCH THE WATER **PROMENADE PROJECT**

Project Information Booklet

OCTOBER 2019

The logo for the City of Edmonton, featuring the word "Edmonton" in white sans-serif font on a dark blue rectangular background.A closer aerial view of the river and surrounding area. A bridge with a white arch is visible, crossing the river. The surrounding area includes green spaces, buildings, and a road. The water is a light greenish-brown color.

edmonton.ca/touchthewater

The City of Edmonton acknowledges that the traditional land on which we are gathered today, is on Treaty 6 Territory. We would like to thank the diverse Indigenous Peoples whose ancestors footsteps have marked this territory for centuries, including the Cree, Dene, Sauleaux, Nakota Sioux and Blackfoot peoples. We also acknowledge this as the Métis' homeland and the home of one of the largest populations of Inuit south of the 60th parallel. It is a welcoming place for all peoples who come from around the world to share Edmonton as a home. Together we call upon all of our collective, honoured traditions and spirits to work in building a great city for today and future generations.

**| SHARE YOUR VOICE
| SHAPE OUR CITY**

Edmonton

INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT

The City of Edmonton values its relationship with Indigenous communities with expressed historical and cultural connections to Edmonton. In October 2019, engagement with 25 Indigenous communities took place through site visits with Elders, knowledge holders, and technicians.

Input shared will be summarized in a report which will be shared back to the Indigenous communities for review. The feedback received throughout all activities will be considered by the project team as the project moves forward.

Indigenous engagement will be ongoing throughout the project with First Nations, Métis, and Urban Indigenous communities and organizations.

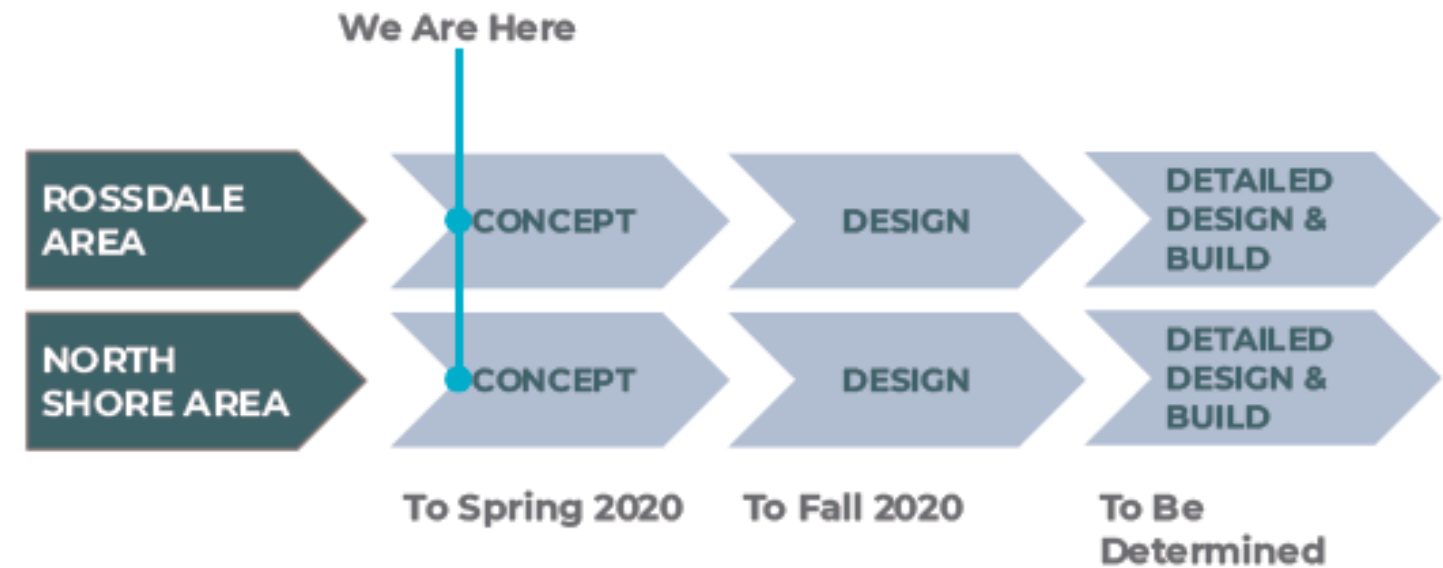


PROJECT DESCRIPTION

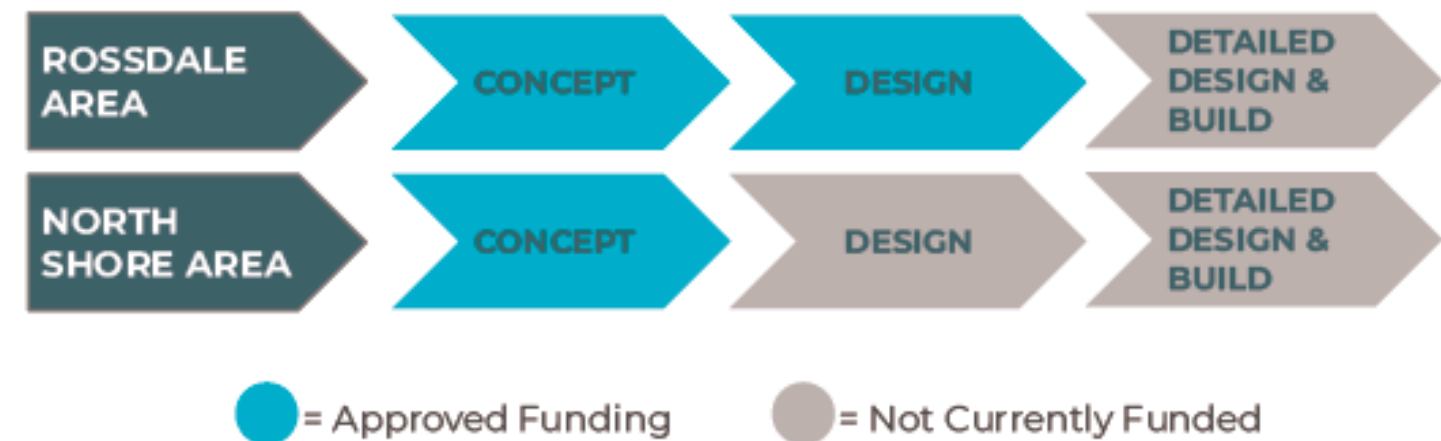
The City of Edmonton is beginning a concept design for a central stretch of the North Saskatchewan River Valley in Edmonton, a project referred to as the Touch the Water Promenade. The design work will align with, and build upon, the policy direction from Breathe: Edmonton's Green Network Strategy, Ribbon of Green, and the City's River Crossing Project.

The goal of this project is to improve access to and within the river valley, create enhanced opportunities for recreation, celebration, heritage interpretation and social gathering. In addition, the ecological condition along the North Saskatchewan River is a key consideration in this project. This project will have two study areas, one adjacent to the Rosssdale neighbourhood and the other upstream on the north shore of the River along River Valley Road. The Promenade is proposed to extend from Rosssdale along the northern bank of the North Saskatchewan River to Government House Park, West of Groat Road Bridge.

Where We Are

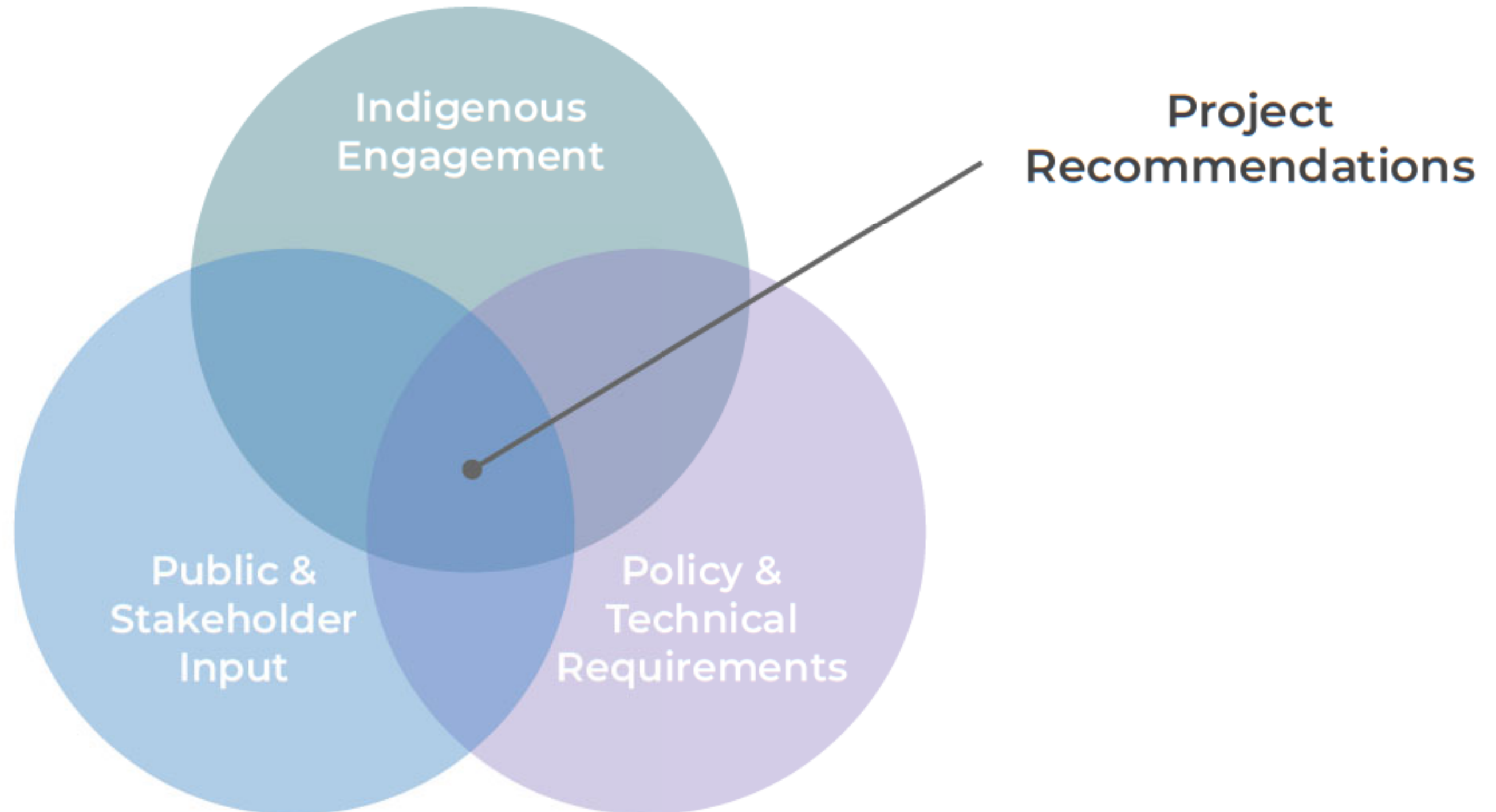


Approved Funding



Information to Make Decisions

Mayor & Council: Key Decisions/Approval

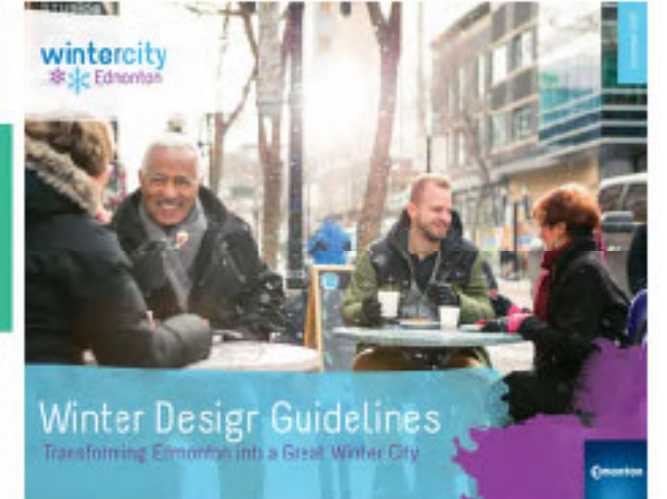
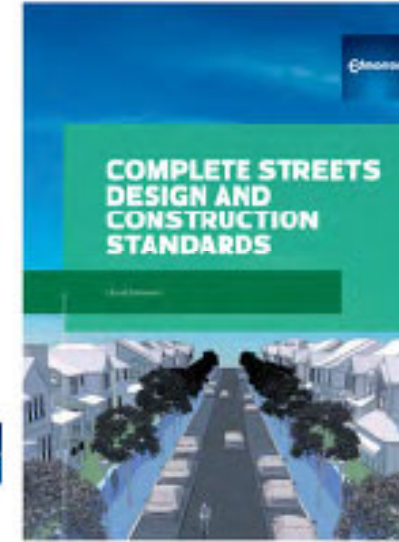
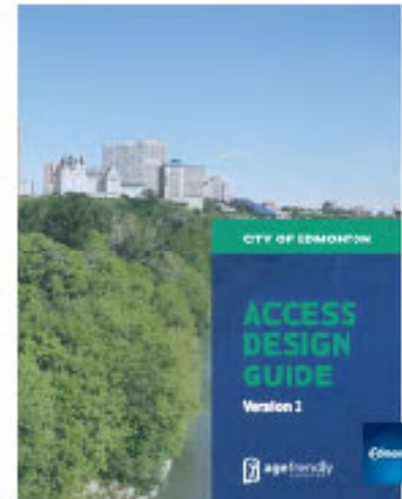
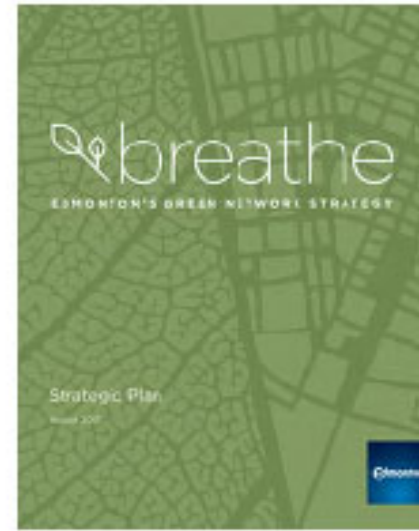


CITY OF EDMONTON PLANS & POLICIES

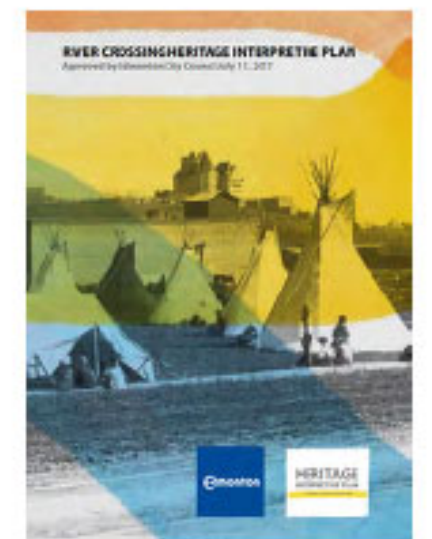
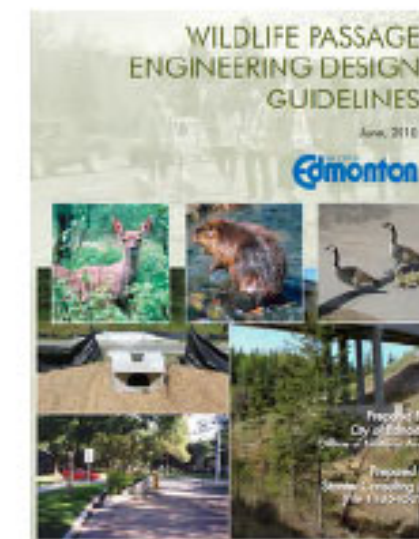
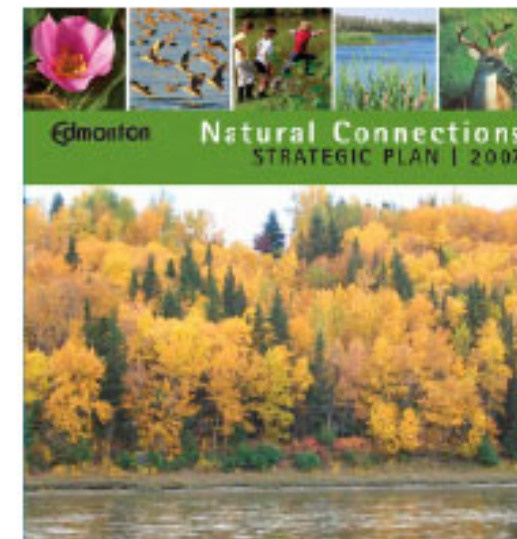
STRATEGY PLANS

FUTURE PROJECTS

EDMONTON DESIGN GUIDELINES



RIVER ACCESS
STRATEGY
GUIDING PRINCIPLES & STRATEGIES



STRATEGY PLANS



STRATEGIC GOALS



HEALTHY CITY



URBAN PLACES



REGIONAL PROSPERITY



CLIMATE RESILIENCE



OPEN SPACE FUNCTIONS



WELLNESS

**recreation
active transportation
mental health + wellbeing
learn + play**



CELEBRATION

**aesthetic value
public safety
destination + tourism
community building
heritage**



ECOLOGY

**water management
biodiversity
waste management
climate regulation
risk mitigation
food production**



VISION

The North Saskatchewan River Valley and Ravine System is a protected, connected landscape that supports ecological resilience and promotes healthy living through opportunities for recreation, active transportation and gathering in the tranquility of nature.



GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- + *Safe + Inclusive*
- + *Public Access + Connectivity*
- + *Linked to the River*
- + *Vibrant + Livable*
- + *Sense of Community*
- + *Green + Sustainable*
- + *Celebration*
- + *Cohesive Public Realm*

TOUCH THE WATER PROMENADE PROJECT LOCATION



JASPER AVENUE

109 STREET

97 AVENUE

94 AVENUE

GROAT ROAD

RIVER VALLEY ROAD

NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER

HIGH LEVEL BRIDGE

WATERDALE BRIDGE

NORTH SHORE AREA

ROSSDALE AREA

Areas of Connection & Influence



North

300 m /
1000 ft

600 m /
2000 ft

900 m /
3000 ft

VEHICULAR AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ACCESS

NORTH AND SOUTH BANK ACCESS



Government House

Government House Park

Victoria Golf Course

Victoria Park

Royal Glenora


Rosedale Remax field


Emily Murphy Park


Visitor Parking University of Alberta

Kinsmen Sports Centre

LEGEND

 Public Parking Lots

 Existing Pedestrian Circulation

 Transit Access

EXISTING AMENITIES AND BUILDINGS

EXISTING AMENITIES & BUILDINGS



Picnic Area



Portable Toilets



Victoria Golf Course
Public Washrooms
Food Service



Victoria Ice Rink
Public Washroom
Skate Changing room



Drinking Fountain

Public Washroom
Picnic



Drinking Fountain



Kinsmen Sports Centre
Sports Field Facilities
Outdoor Pool
Playground
Spraypark
Food Service
Public Washrooms

LEGEND

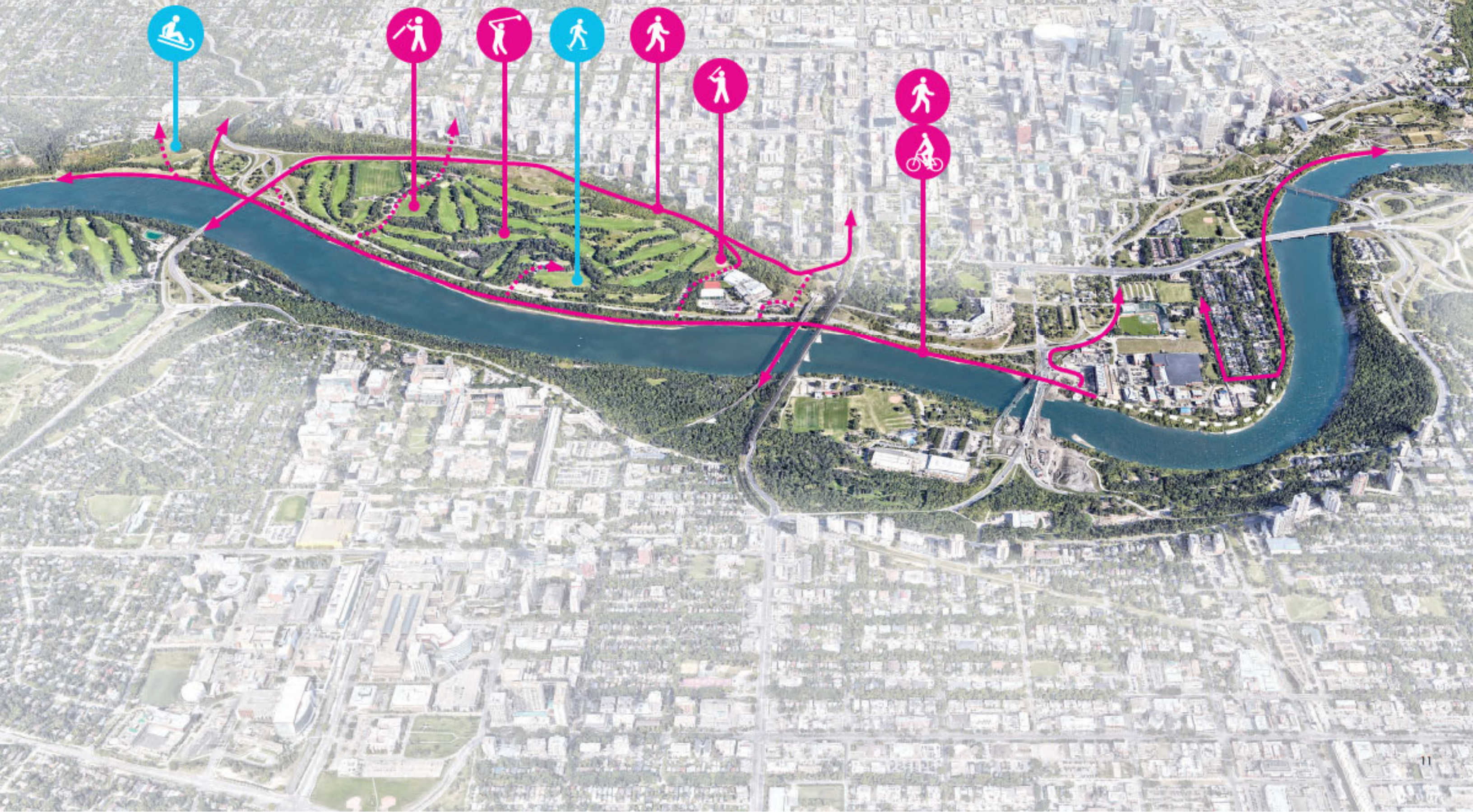


Public Amenities and Building



USES & ACTIVITIES

EXISTING ACTIVE CORRIDOR



CROSSING THE RIVER



Looking down North Saskatchewan River
1886



Cargo and passenger rafting
Early 1900's

CROSSING THE RIVER



High Level Bridge under Construction
1912



Log Transportation on Saskatchewan River
Early 1900's

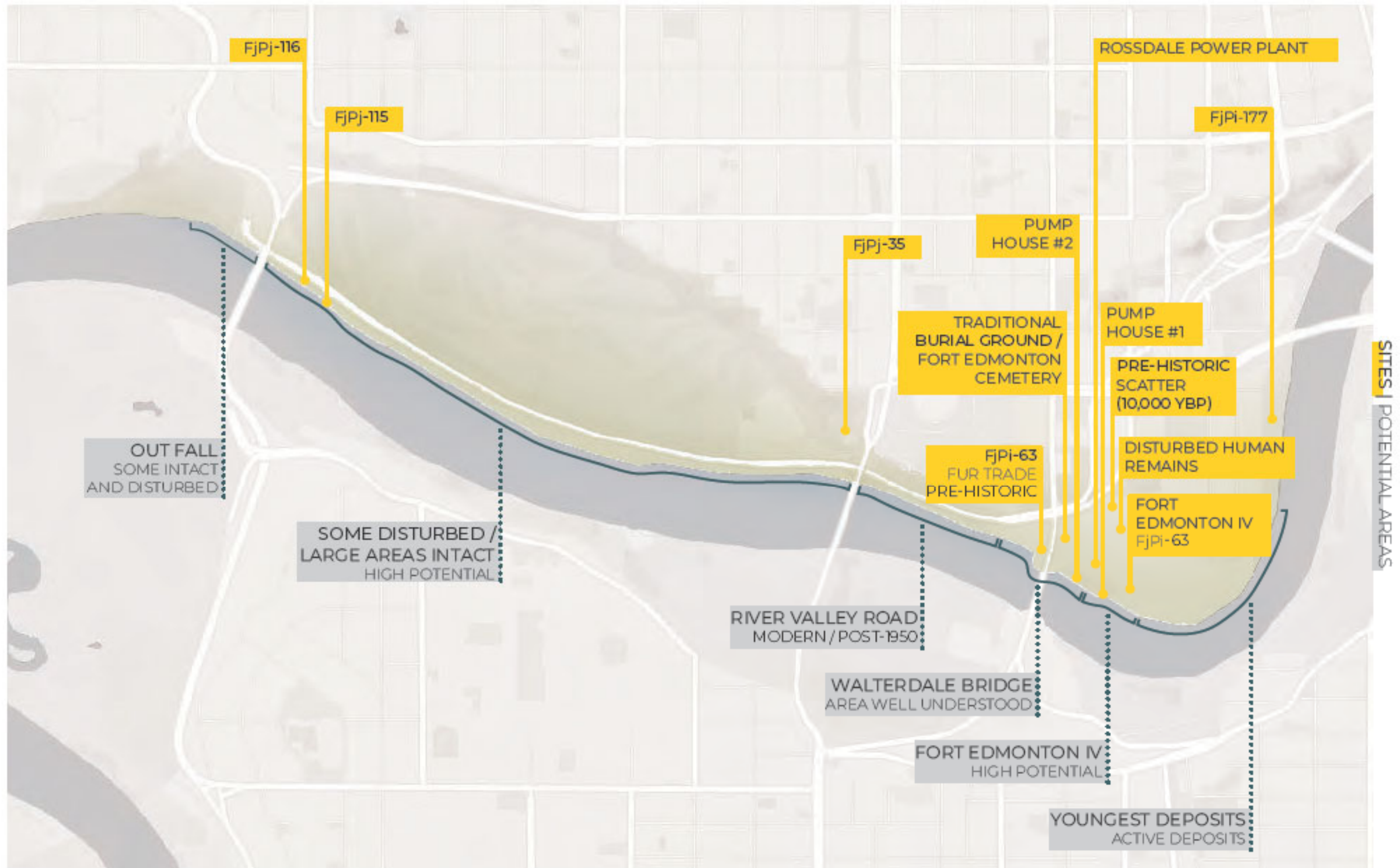
CROSSING THE RIVER



Walterdale Bridge under construction
1913 (replaced 2017)



Edmonton Light Rail Transit (Dudley Menzies Bridge)
1978



MAP OF AREAS WITH ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

CONTINUOUS WILDLIFE CORRIDOR



Bird flyways

Bird flyways

Mammal corridors

Groat Road Ravine

McKinnon Ravine

Hawrelak Park Lake

SPECIES AT RISK



Barn Swallow
Threatened



Bank Swallow
Threatened



Peregrine Falcon
Threatened
Summer Range



Lake Sturgeon
Threatened
North and South Saskatchewan River
Clean, flowing rivers with depth



Long-tailed weasel
May be at Risk provincial category
Habitat : Crop fields, wooded, and suburban areas



Little brown myotis
Endangered SARA Schedule 1

Threatened: a species likely to become endangered if current conditions aren't reversed

RESILIENT ECOLOGIES - DIVERSE AND NATIVE



- SHORT SHRUBLAND
- MAPLE BALSAM POPLAR MODIFIED WOODLAND
- GREEN SPACE
- BALSAM POPLAR WOODLAND
- TALL SHRUBLAND
- NATURALLY WOODED- TREMBLING ASPEN

FORESTED LAND COVER BY SPECIES



WHITE SPRUCE

TREMBLING ASPEN

BALSAM POPLAR

MIXED CONIFEROUS

MIXED DECIDUOUS

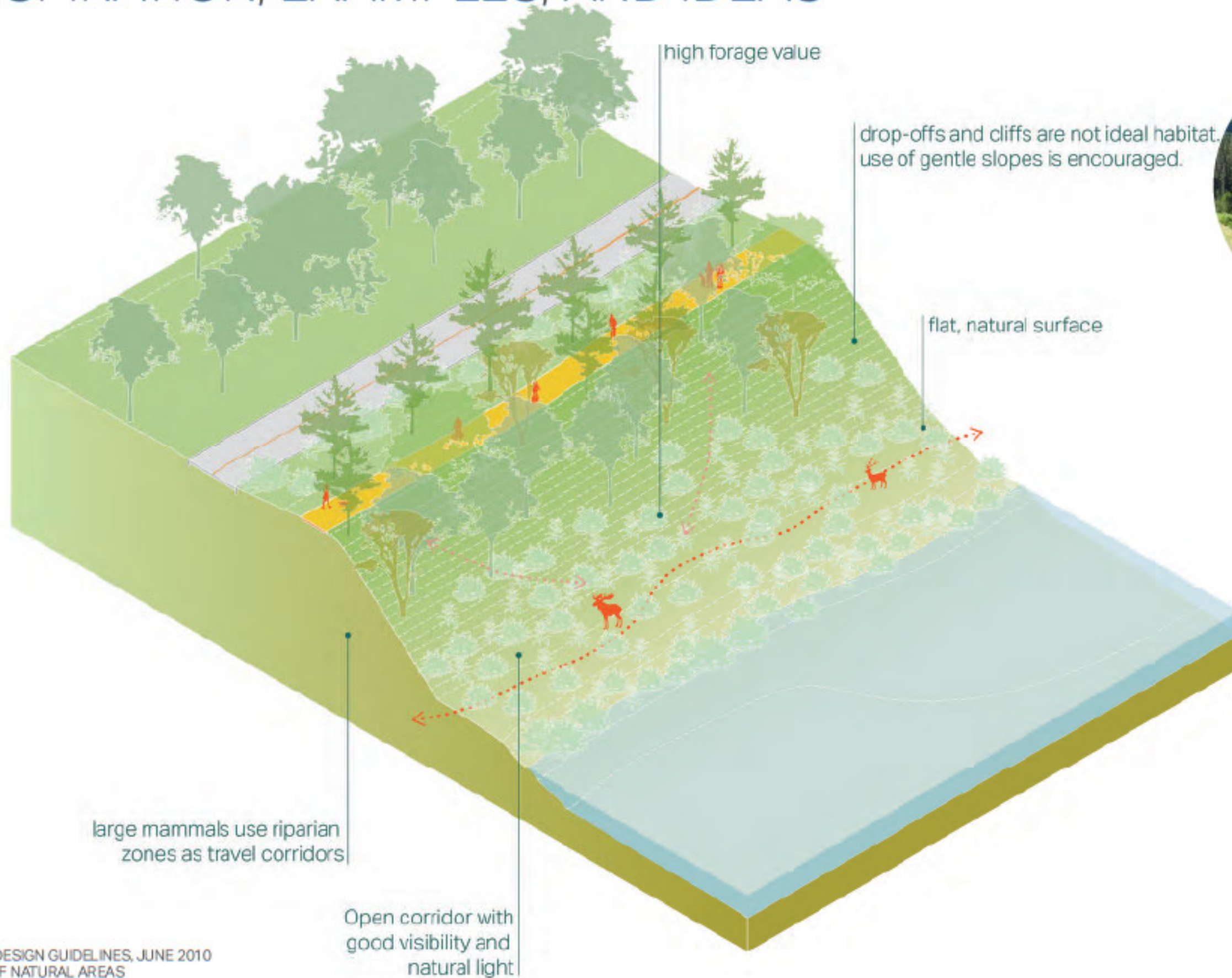
FISH HABITAT & SPECIES DIVERSITY



DESIGN INSPIRATION, EXAMPLES, AND IDEAS



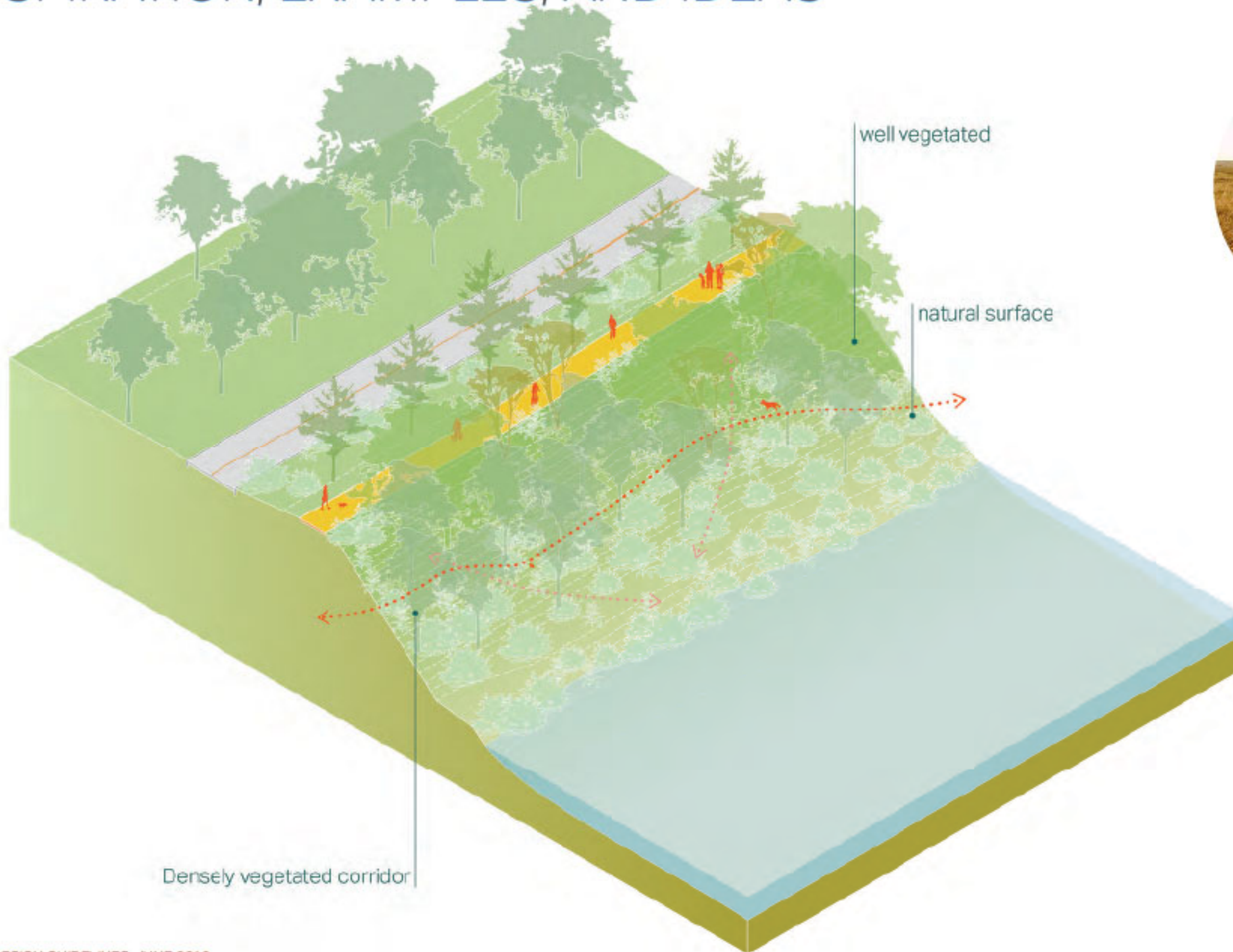
LARGE TERRESTRIAL SPECIES



DESIGN INSPIRATION, EXAMPLES, AND IDEAS



MEDIUM TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

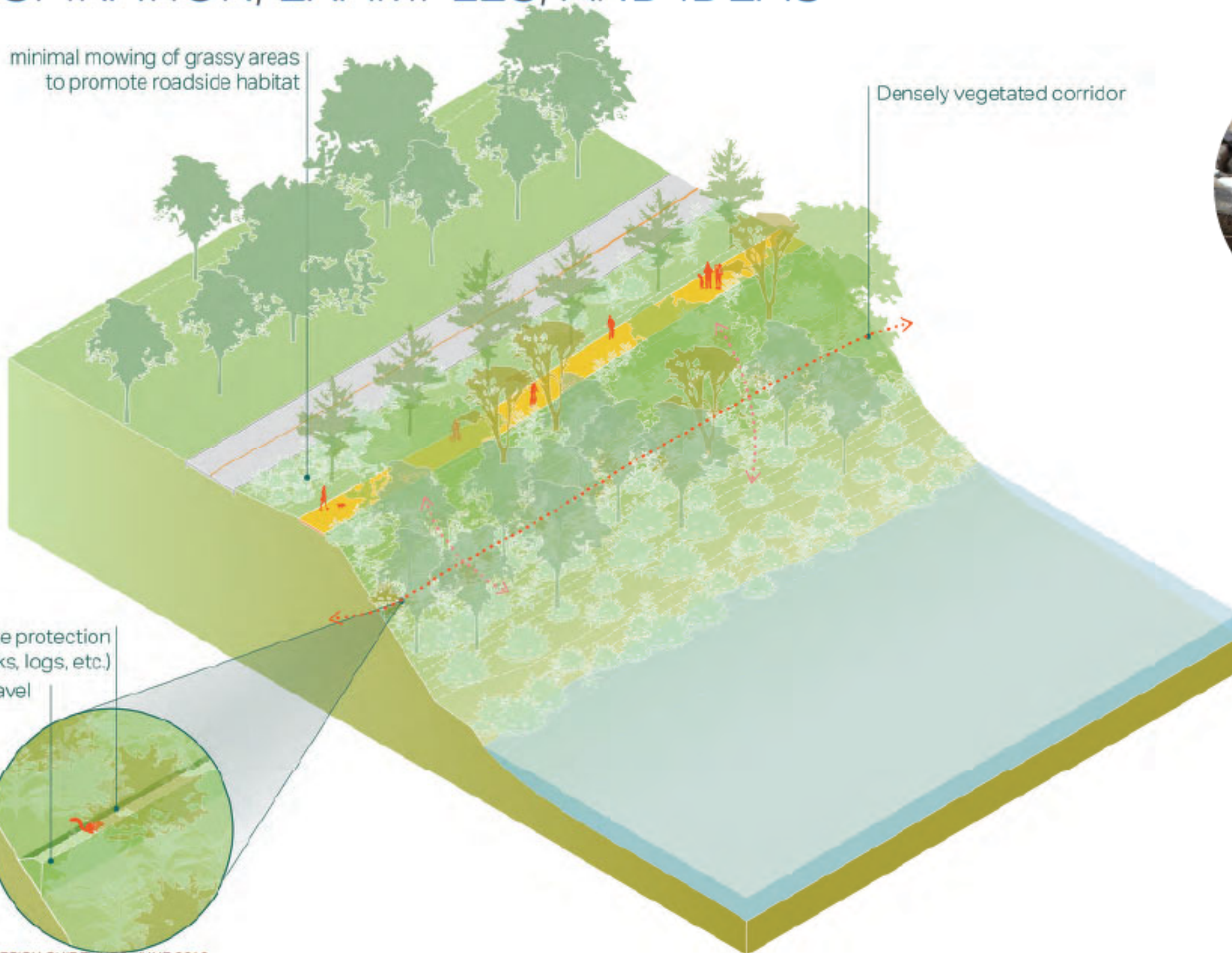


DESIGN INSPIRATION, EXAMPLES, AND IDEAS

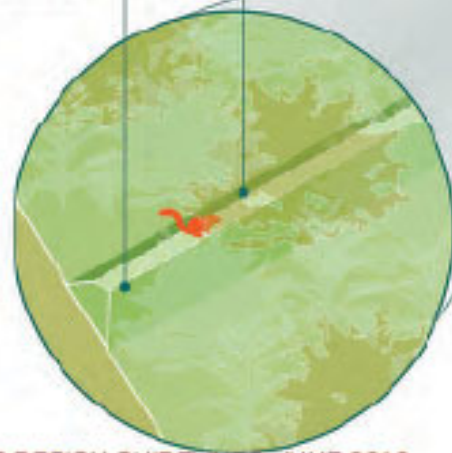


minimal mowing of grassy areas
to promote roadside habitat

Densely vegetated corridor

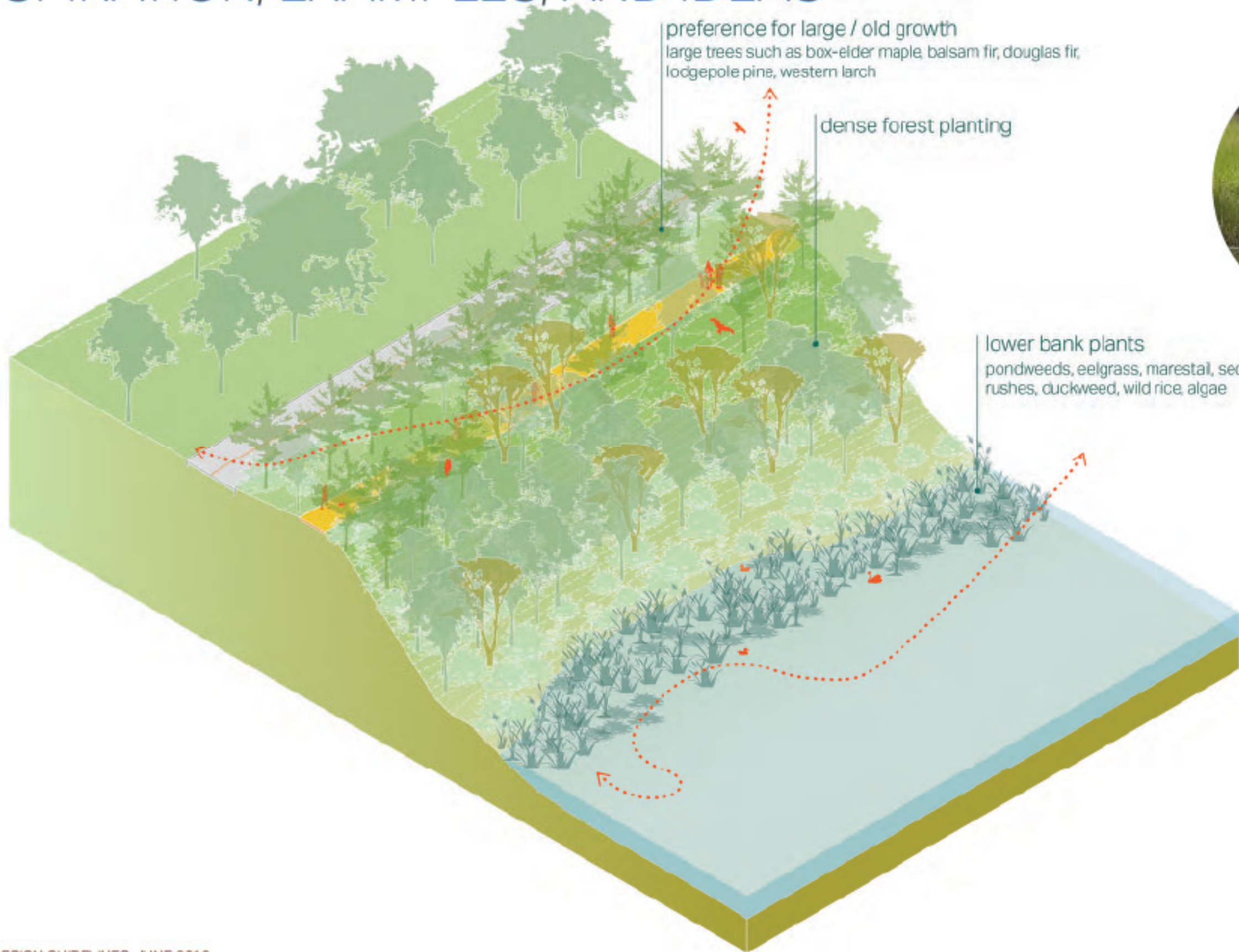


overhead cover to provide protection
(shrubs, rocks, logs, etc.)
small raised pathway for travel



SMALL TERRESTRIAL SPECIES

DESIGN INSPIRATION, EXAMPLES, AND IDEAS

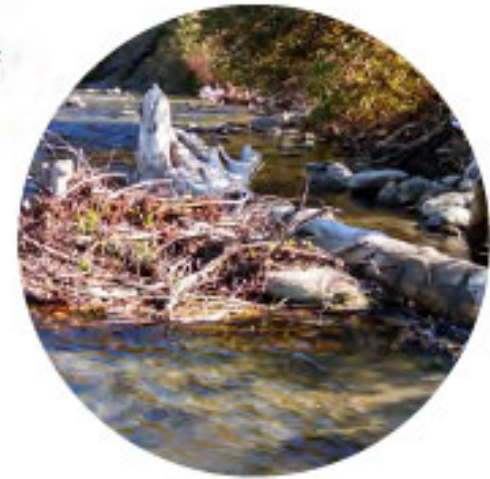
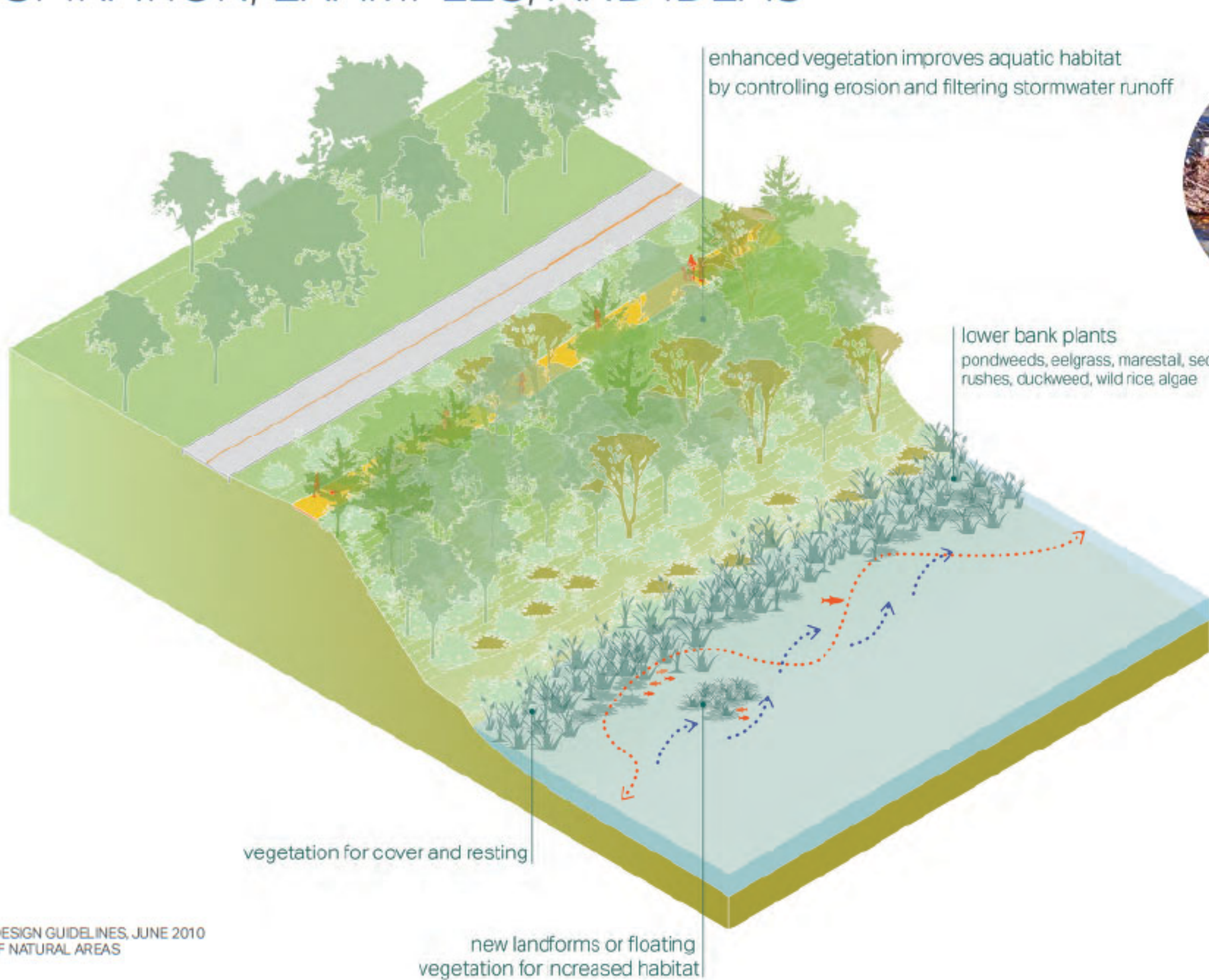


BIRDS

DESIGN INSPIRATION, EXAMPLES, AND IDEAS



FISH



RESILIENT ECOLOGIES - 1) DIVERSE AND NATIVE



Wetlands

water quality enhancement, flood control,
provides habitat for biodiversity.



Riparian

reduces bank erosion, recharge groundwater,
provides habitat for biodiversity.



Grassland

water efficient, provides critical habitat.



Forest

weather protection, provides habitat for
biodiversity.

"Portions of the Study Area are dominated by non-native vegetation and opportunities for reclamation or increased native biodiversity exist in these areas."

Stantec. Touch the Water Biophysical Data Summary 2017.

WELLNESS CORRIDOR - 1) PROMENADE AND POCKETS



Enhanced Cycling and Pedestrian path
Safe and accessible



Design for all speeds
Separation of activities



Climbing paths
Alternative pathway and play



Outdoor Exercise Stations
Stationary flexible workout equipment



Informal Exercise and Play
Play for all ages



Rest Areas
Nodes for resting

WELLNESS CORRIDOR - 2) ACTIVITY SPACES



Yoga Deck
Flexible communal exercise space



Beach volleyball
Recreational Field



Table sports
Exercise and Play



Slides
Play for all ages



Playground
Play for all ages



Climbing structures
Climbing for all ages

WELLNESS CORRIDOR - 3) WINTER USE



Winter Playground
Active play for all ages



Tobogganing
Slopes for all different ages



Winter running and cycling
Connected and safe



Snowshoeing
All season trail exploration



Communal Fireplaces
Outdoor winter gathering



Winter Shelter
Amenity structures

WATER ACCESS CELEBRATION - 1) TOUCH THE WATER'S EDGE



Naturalized Edge



Terraced Erosion Control



Floating Boardwalk



Water Access Nodes



Terraced Promenade



Urban Edge

WATER ACCESS CELEBRATION - 2) EVENT SPACES



Amphitheater
Community events



Water Play
Safe and seasonal



Elevated Beach
Above the High Water Level



Terraced Edge
At the Water's Edge



Water Play at the River's Edge
River water



Low Waterlevel Beach
Naturalized Beach

WATER ACCESS CELEBRATION - 3) IN THE WATER



Fishing
Community water activities



Boat Launch
Vehicular Access



Pool and Spa
Contained pools



Fishing in the Water
Using the Bank



Hand Launch
Pedestrian Access

Heritage & Culture Celebration



"Making and Trading"
Fundy National Park, New Brunswick



"Lived Experience / Territory and Land"
Tribal Canoe Journey / Paddle to Puyallup



"Connecting and Understanding"
First Nations Garden, Montreal Botanical Garden



Native Edible Plants
Ecological Tours



Logging Heritage
Docks Reminiscent of the Logging Industry



Fishing
Spaces for Traditional Fishing Techniques