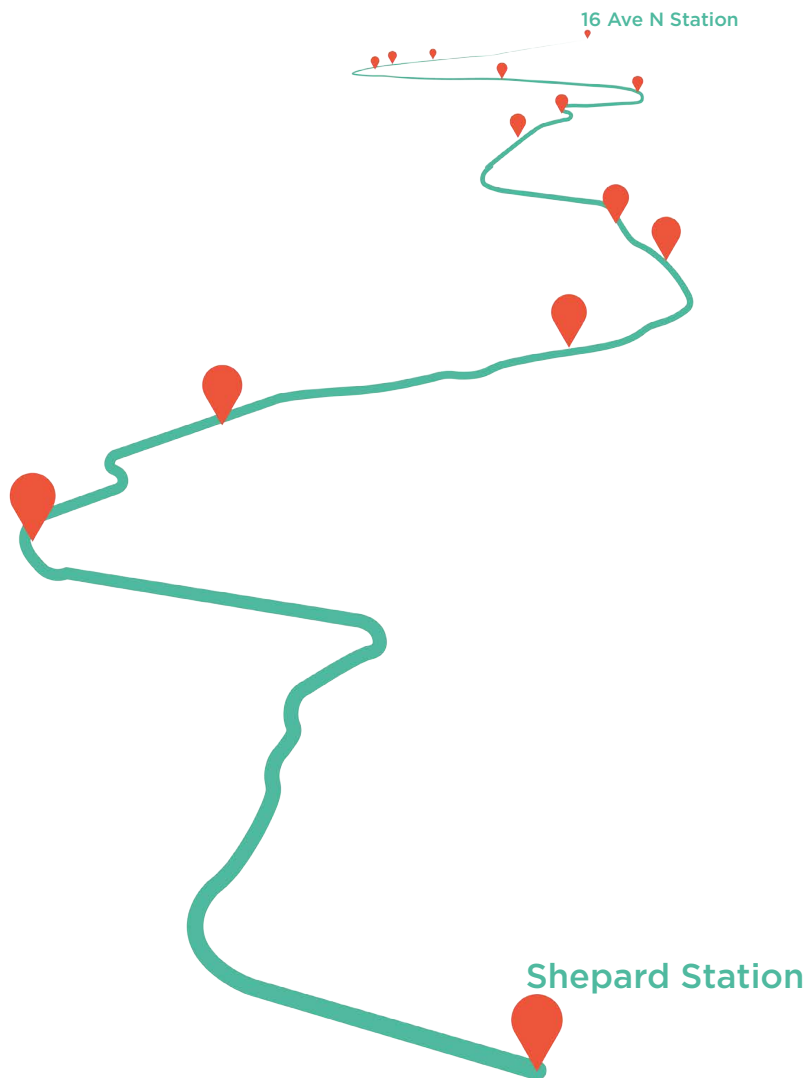
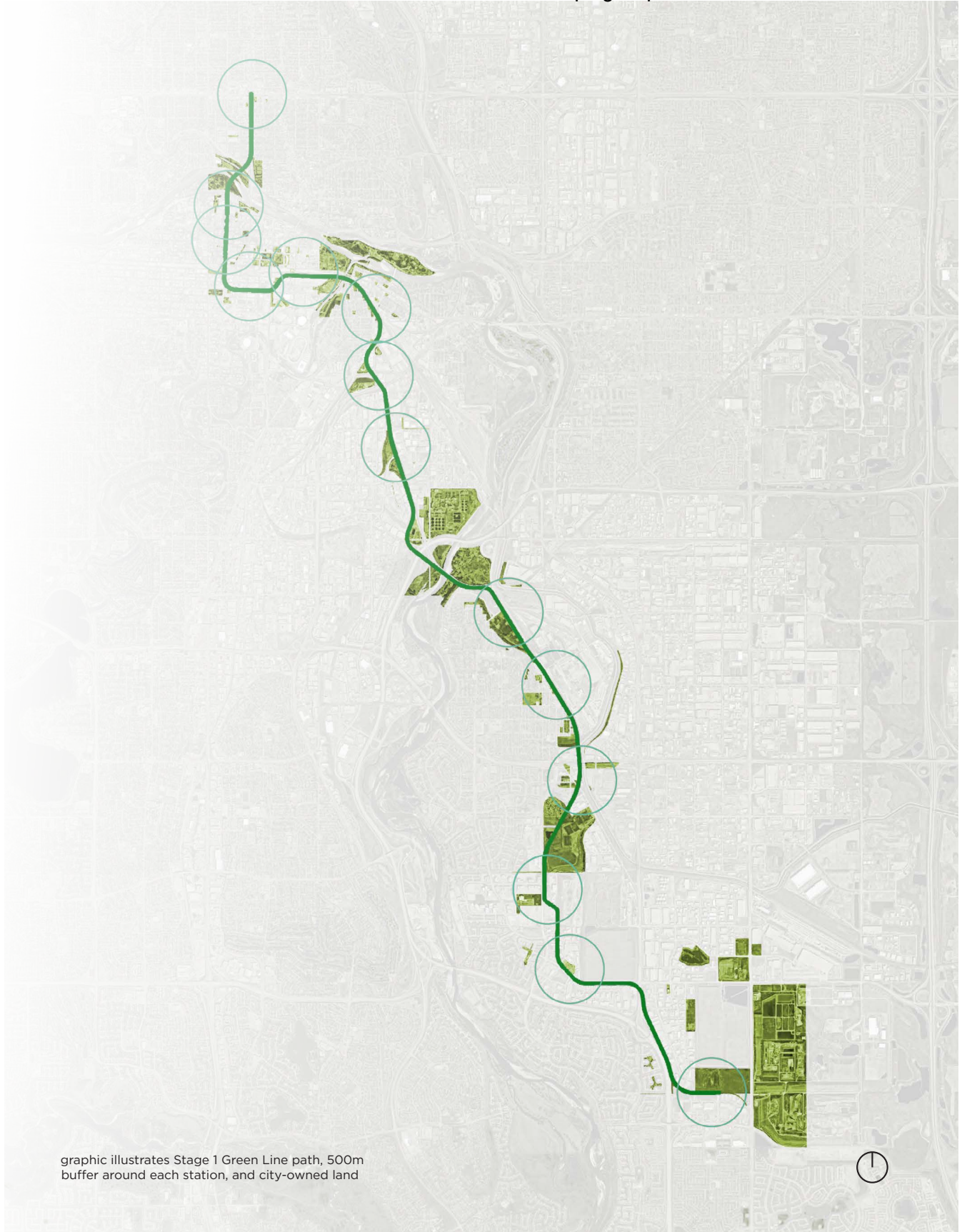


Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



graphic illustrates Stage 1 Green Line path, 500m buffer around each station, and city-owned land

Executive Summary

With each station serving as a hub and gathering space for its surrounding community, Public Gardens can provide year-round Placemaking by improving, promoting and increasing green space.

Through this report, it has been identified that Green Line can pursue alternate revenue generation strategies to offset costs associated with the provision of Public Gardens. The City has invested staff and resources to establish and investigate alternative revenue models. These alternative revenue models can be viable options to collaborate with investors and partners and leverage existing funding in the Green Line.

This Scoping Report introduces the topic of Green Line Public Gardens, identifies opportunities, considers third party investments, looks at budget and risk mitigation, and makes recommendations based on findings. Most importantly, it develops the conclusion that the deeper the investigation goes, the more potential Public Gardens are seen to have.

With the support of The City, Calgarians, and Investors, Public Gardens can deliver on the grand vision of providing unique places for people and programs. A modern approach to placemaking in great quality public space will improve the quality of life for those using The Green Line.

Public Gardens "and public spaces are the verandas of city life. They are where we live amongst each other. They are where we experience our cities. It is our public spaces that make our cities more than just a collection of buildings and spaces in between them – they make them places."

— 880 Cities, Doable City Reader —

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

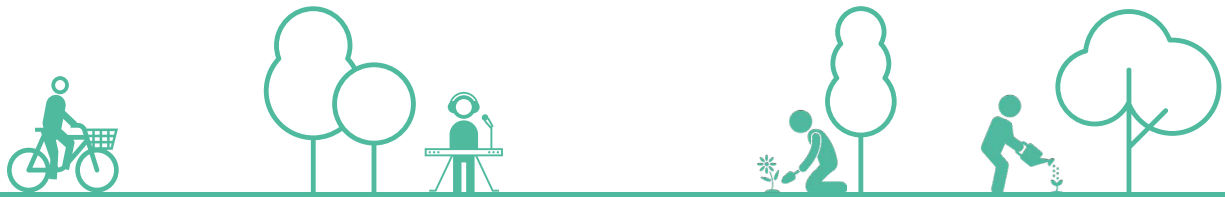


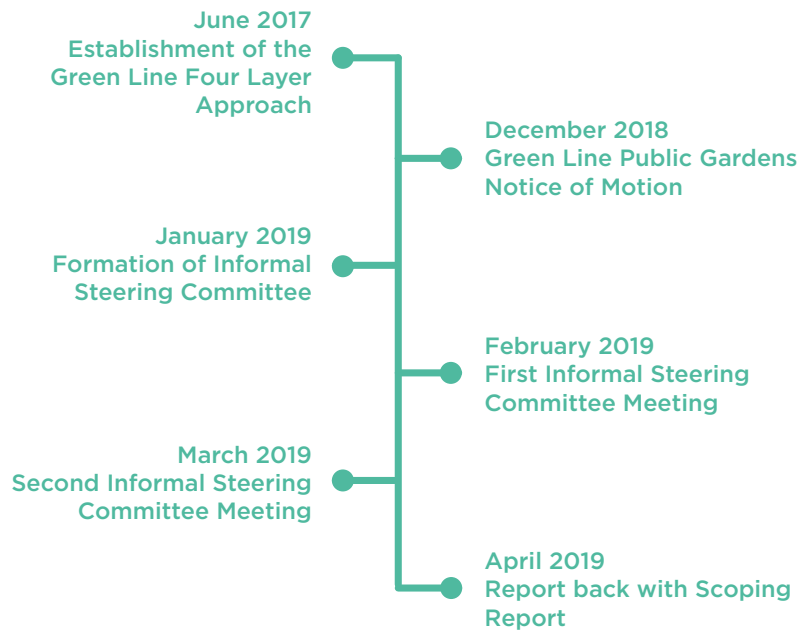
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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

Public Gardens Timeline



1.



Introduction + Background

a. Project Description

The Green Line is a multi-billion-dollar transit investment in Calgary's future that is essential to keep Calgarians moving today and into the future. As the City grows, the Green Line will provide high quality and affordable transit that connects people to the places and programs they care about. This is an unprecedented investment in public transit infrastructure and the largest in Calgary's history.

On June 26 2017 The City approved a four layer approach in how to plan and invest in transit and in the communities along the Green Line. It involved broadening the Green Line's focus to include the social, cultural and economic context of the communities, through the approval of the City Shaping Framework. The foundation of the Framework was an approach that included guiding principles, goals, and strategies that provide the mechanism for investment, partnership and the ability to leverage Green

Line investment to foster healthy, active and affordable lifestyles within a network of vibrant, thriving, inclusive and resilient communities.

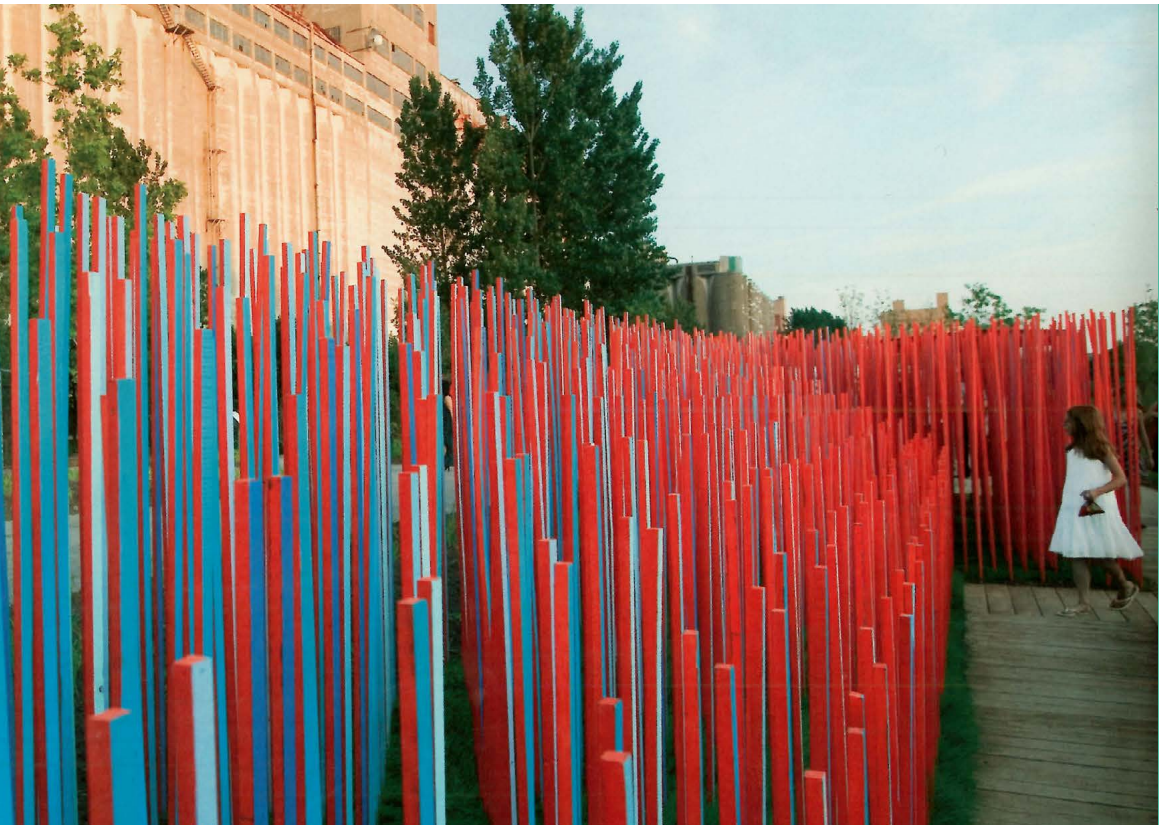
The Green Line Public Garden Notice of Motion (C2018-1445) was brought forward to Council in December of 2018 to align with Green Line's long term vision and City Shaping philosophy. The Notice of Motion (NoM) directed administration to form an Informal Steering Committee (ISC), consisting of members from the Councillor's office, Public Art representation, Parks Foundation Calgary, Calgary Horticultural Society, the Green Line Team and other interested members. Through the NoM, Council also directed administration to report back on April 24, 2019 highlighting the findings in a Scoping Report that include the following:

- Explore the creation of railway gardens along the Green Line. (see section 1)
- Identify methods to modernize the concept of "Railway Garden" for year-round placemaking. (see section 2)
- Identify the ability to leverage private sector investment and sponsorship. (see section 3)
- Explore the feasibility of leveraging the Public Art budget to integrate art as part of potential gardens. (see section 4)
- Identify Alignment/Risks to Green Line Contract. (see section 5)

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



"Hygge House", Liz Taylor. Winnipeg Warming Huts.



Claude Cormier. Blue Sticks, Somerset UK, 2004.

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

Scope and Requirements

The Green Line City Shaping team was tasked with producing the Scoping Report. The expertise of the City Shaping team allows for collaboration between the overall Green Line Team, Other City Business Units, and external interests. A working team of subject matter experts internal to The City was formed to work collaboratively with the Informal Steering Committee (ISC).

The purpose of the ISC was to meet and discuss the ideas highlighted in the Notice of Motion (NoM). As subject matter experts of these topics, ISC members contributed their knowledge and insight to the content of the Scoping Report. Members provided support through research and reporting back with additional information. The ISC served as a forum for discussion, focused on Green Line, Public Art, Green Spaces, Placemaking, and Third Party Investments.

Over the course of two months, the ISC held two meetings to discuss the following topics:

- Big Ideas, Possibilities & Potential
- Report Back, Feasibility & Risks

The ISC's idea generation during the meetings and homework resulted in a list of items which were incorporated into the Scoping Report.

ISC Members identified in addition to those outlined within the NoM were determined in collaboration between the offices of the councilors and administration. The identified members was a cross-section of external and internal experts to provide subject matter expertise specific to the tasks outlined within the NoM. A terms of reference was developed to identify purpose, roles and responsibilities, decision making, report and procedures. Through the process it was identified that additional stakeholder engagement is required as part of the next steps of work.

An Appendix is attached for a summary of "What We Heard" from the meetings and homework.

Informal Steering Committee (ISC)

Members from ...

- Councillors' Office
- City of Calgary Public Art Board
- Calgary Parks Foundation
- Calgary Foundation
- Federation of Calgary Communities
- Calgary Horticultural Society
- Design Talks (d.talks)
- University of Calgary Environmental Design
- Green Line Team
- Public Art Team
- Calgary Parks
- Calgary Parks Sponsorship & Partnership Liaison
- Calgary Transit
- Calgary Recreation Sponsorship Consultant

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b. Defining Public Gardens

The exploration of Public Gardens along the Green Line began within the exploration of Railway Garden Opportunities.

Railway Gardens were historic gardens built at train stations across Canada — developed in order to beautify spaces that were leftover and scarred as a result of railway construction. They were built and maintained by railway staff, were a source of pride for each community, and served as welcoming gateways.

To avoid limiting the potential of Green Line Gardens, the label has been broadened from *Railway Gardens* to *Public Gardens*. The motivation is that the name *Public Gardens* better emphasizes the gardens as contemporary interpretations of *Railway Gardens* as shared spaces that can serve as gathering places and community hubs.



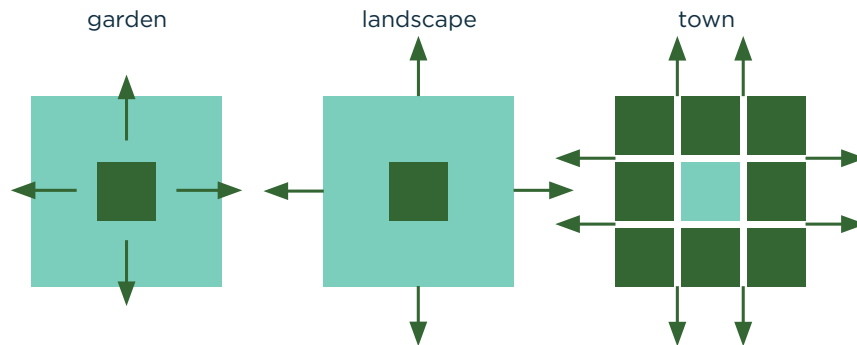


Definition

The Oxford English Dictionary defines gardens as "ornamental grounds laid out for public enjoyment and recreation" and Humphrey Repton, a nineteenth century garden theorist, defines gardens as "a piece of ground fenced off from cattle, and appropriated to the use and pleasure of man: it is, or ought to be, cultivated and enriched by art."

In order to contextualize gardens in a 21st century urban context, and for clarity in this

report, Public Gardens are defined as **a piece of ground appropriated for public enjoyment and recreation, serving as a gathering place for communities — that may be cultivated and ought to be enriched by art.** In line with garden historian Tom Turner's definition of the relationship between garden design, landscape design, and urban design (illustrated to the right), gardens are considered to be specific, intentional, and designed spaces positioned within landscapes.



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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Montreal's International Garden Festival
Paysage Euphonique by MANI



Sole Food Street Farms, Vancouver, BC.



'Drunken Fence', Tanner Springs Park, Portland

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

c. Scope Criteria

The initial scope criteria was to identify ideal parcels of land along the Green Line that present platforms for a successful, resilient and adaptable public realm.

Existing underutilized landscapes along the Green Line are spaces often hidden in plain sight. These provide opportunities to transform the spaces into great places.

This initiative has the potential to create public spaces in unlikely places, providing the City and partners with the ability to transform surplus spaces into well-loved and popular places.



graphic illustrates the four pillars of Green Line's City Shaping Framework



Transform Surplus Land into Vibrant + Thriving Places

Surplus Space refers to the leftover and/or forgotten landscapes along large infrastructure projects. In the case of the Green Line, this includes, but is not limited to, city-owned land within the Green Line right-of-way and its surrounding community context. These are typically the empty spaces along roads, tunnels and bridges. They are commonly designed to be low maintenance, having minimal aesthetic and ecological value. These landscapes when considered for their system potential and viewed through a Public Gardens lens, present an exciting opportunity to create a renewed and resilient ecology for humans to experience.



Using Green Spaces to Encourage Healthy + Active Lifestyles

Calgary's weather fluctuates often, making it unexpected, harsh, and uniquely special. With four seasons to consider, identifying green space with strong micro-climate attributes is essential. Considering solar exposure and wind protection and its ability to improve and promote year-round comfort and use, is critical for discovering spaces with great potential.



Transform Unsafe Spaces into Safe + Resilient Places

Places in need of attention and improvement in safety — places that people avoid because they are perceived unsafe. Underpasses, corridors behind industrial districts and neglected city forests are opportunities to use this project as an example of successful crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) and help ensure its success



Connect Multi-Modal Networks — Equitable + Inclusive

Connection to existing pedestrian corridors and park space is vital for the success of this project. Identifying primary pedestrian links and corridors (i.e. Bow River + Elbow River Pathways, Rotary/Mattamy Greenway) and how Green Line Public Gardens can connect to them will enhance the experience and contribute to people's quality of life.

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Indoor Botanical Gardens.



Novartis Physic Garden, by Thorbjorn Andersson + Sweco.
Basel, Switzerland.

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2.



Opportunities

This Scoping Report focuses on greening the Green Line, art, educating and the opportunities for outstanding public spaces. It uncovers innovative ways to modernize gardens, create a network of green spaces, and provide year-round placemaking opportunities for the Green Line.

a. Scope Inclusions

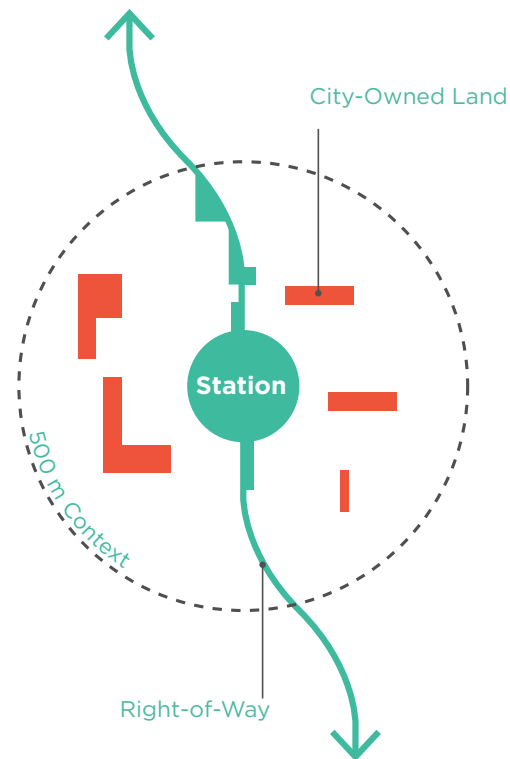
For the purpose of this report, a narrow lens was applied to the opportunity investigation. The following lenses were used to define the scope inclusions.

Right-of-Way

These are the landscapes of varying size, length and character within the Green Line contract boundary. The Green Line Urban Integration document has identified three station typologies — Underground Stations, Above Ground Stations and At-Grade Stations. Each come with its own opportunities and challenges and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis during the next steps (see section 6). The goal is to identify ideal landscapes that will set the stage for the creation of a grand gesture of gardens.

City Owned Land

These are areas of city-owned land within a 500 metre context of each station (see left). Different city-owned lands will present their own unique opportunities. Opportune land will include existing park spaces, outdoor recreational sites, surplus land from construction, utility right of ways, and any other city-owned land with the potential to be transformed into Public Garden space.



500m Context

Establishing a starting point scope was essential in understanding how close ‘along the Green Line’ really is. As public gardens are a way to enhance the pedestrian experience along the Green Line, walking distance was naturally the best method to establish this scope. A 500 metre radius was drawn from the center of each station platform. 500 metres is considered a six minute walk, and while a circle doesn’t accurately represent a walkshed, it does represent a lens in which to view each station’s immediate context and allows a focus on areas directly affected by the Green Line.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

Green Line Construction Stages



Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

b. Scope Exclusions

Limitations and exclusions were identified for the scoping report. These were identified at the outset of the work to ensure all stakeholders were on the same page. The following scope exclusions have been identified:

Outside of Stage 1 Green Line

Green Line Stage 1 extends from 16 Avenue N to 126 Avenue SE, as shown in the graphic on the right. Land outside of Stage 1 is not considered in this scoping report, due to current Green Line project limitations.

Additional scope as part of the Green Line Future Stages work, will need to address the potential for Public Gardens at and around station areas to determine opportunities and risks.

Privately Owned Land

Through this Notice of Motion (NoM), The City only has the mandate to evaluate lands that are or will be owned by The City of Calgary. Private lands, as well as land acquisition is not a consideration of this report. Land acquisition is very costly and private developments near LRT within Transit Oriented Development (TOD) locations are valuable for development and redevelopment opportunities.

While the purpose of this report does exclude the possibility of grand visioning of private land and partnerships (to be included in the Master Plan work) there may be collaborations between private land owners who would like to make their open space available for use by the public. The City-Wide TOD Implementation Strategy proposes an assessment inventory that may lead to council approved work on a TOD Policy. This work could include some policies related to the quasi-public open spaces that may adopt qualities of the Public Gardens.

Land Use Bylaw Evaluation

The ideas generated for modernizing railway gardens and providing year-round placemaking will not be analyzed against the Land Use Bylaw as part of this scoping report. This scoping report assumes that the recommended high-level designs that have been developed can accommodate the requirements of the Bylaw.

Additional review of the Bylaw may be required at a later date; however, individual locations and concepts will be evaluated by the Corporate Planning Applications Group (CPAG) for compliance at the time of application.

Sustainment, Maintenance and Operations

The enhanced amenities of Public Gardens will need an operating budget and support above and beyond what the Green Line Operations and Maintenance minimum requirement is currently priced at. This work is beyond the scope of the report. However, sustainment of the Green Line Public Gardens and the operating and maintenance dollars has been identified as a key piece of work that will need to be looked at, as part of next steps.

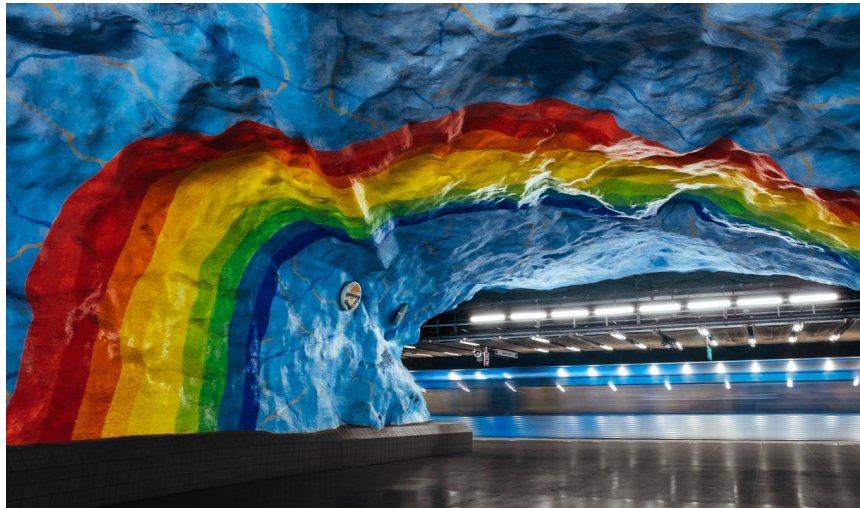
Site Constraints

Site constraints refers to the physical environments that impose potential conflicts with the design and opportunity for Public Gardens. This includes elements such as utility right-of-ways, built infrastructure and environmental factors like contaminated soils, tree canopies and solar and wind exposure. For this scoping report, site constraints have not been considered as they will be recommended for further investigation at a later date (see section 5).

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Payage Euphonique by MANI



Underground station, Stockholm



'Curling' at The Forks, Winnipeg.

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

c. Timing of Land Availability

The completion of Stage 1 of the Green Line project is targeted for 2026. Opportunities for constructing Public Gardens along the Green Line are impacted by the construction timelines and schedule. Three timeframes have been identified to determine the timing of land available along the Green Line corridor for Public Gardens to be built up to 2026 and beyond.

1. Available Immediately

City-owned land adjacent to the Green Line project boundary that is well connected to the community. These lands are not impacted by the Green Line Main Contract but are land valued by the community that could benefit from an infusion of capital funds.

2. Available in Near Future with Constraints

Green Line construction will result in surplus lands. Some of these parcels will not be well suited for Transit Oriented Developments or other corporate priority uses, but are well suited for Public Gardens. Sites with minimal

built structures, minimal utilities, little function, but good landscape value will increase the likelihood of its suitability. These sites may be impacted by ongoing construction, but can likely be handed over by Project Co. (the prime contractor) prior to 2026.

3. Available After 2026

After construction completion of the Green Line, additional city-owned land will be released within the work boundaries that can be considered for Public Gardens. This includes opportunities at transit plazas which could benefit from enhanced landscapes.

Building Public Gardens along the Green Line over the next decade is a way to create and sustain excitement for this initiative for the duration of Green Line construction and beyond. As the project evolves, privately owned lands within and beyond the community context can begin to be studied for potential integration and collaboration with Public Gardens initiative. The outcome is a green ribbon of incredible garden spaces and community gathering places connected by the Green Line.



Shane Homes YMCA at Rocky Ridge

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d. Comparative Analysis

Understanding the purpose and relationship of existing Green Line documents and initiatives is vital to the investigation of this report. The Green Line, being an exciting project for Calgary, and the largest transit infrastructure project in the history of the City, there are many hands and ideas in the mix. The team has studied and analyzed ten existing documents that pertain to the requirements outlined in the Notice of Motion for this Scoping Report.

Reviewing existing data collected and visionary documents ensures that the opportunities, outcomes and next steps speak to what Calgarians want. This research has also helped to identify possible gaps between the documents and the vision identified within the Notice of Motion (NoM). The comparative analysis is intended to provide efficient research and reduce redundancy in work done to date.

For summaries of each document along with further descriptions of gaps and synergies, refer to Appendix B: Comparative Analysis Summary.

Synergies

- Improve the quality of green spaces and promote their use
- Cohesive design in all aspects of the Green Line provides a strong identity and common language between stations
- Look to communities for ideas and community needs through public engagement
- Categorizing common findings into themes helps prioritize the most important ideas
- Identifies best use sites for things like events, programming, Public Art, and gathering places
- Input from a wide range of subject matter experts provides a comprehensive perspective on the opportunities that this exploration has

Gaps

- Lack of a comprehensive study of how the Green Line can better connect pedestrians across the City, through existing and proposed green spaces
- Focuses on immediate station plaza context only - no real study yet on community context
- Missing an umbrella document that ties them altogether



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e. Modernization + Year-Round Activation

Seed Themes

The Informal Steering Committee members spent their first meeting in a collaborative discussion of ideas, possibilities and potentials for the creation of Public Gardens along the Green Line. One of the main tasks of the Notice of Motion (NoM) was to explore the modernization of railway gardens. The term Public Gardens was established as a way to identify innovative green spaces inspired by the philosophy of railway gardens.

Railway gardens were a forward-thinking initiative that picked up tremendous momentum and most importantly, improved the public green spaces surrounding infrastructure projects such as rail lines. In today's fast-moving environments, contemporary design principles are essential for ensuring successful designs.

The City Shaping team and consultant team collected all the data gathered from the first Informal Steering Committee (ISC) meeting and identified six themes. These themes aligned with the goals and visions identified in the comparative analysis and spoke to the success of Public Gardens.

As available lands will vary in size, scalability will play a large factor in creating modernized and year-round spaces. Whether large or small, every proposed public garden will endeavor to present an innovative and grandiose gesture, linking them all together as one connected green ribbon across the City.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



The following are the six Seed Themes that were identified. For further detail on each theme, refer to Appendix A.



Community

Public Gardens can become community hubs and should involve the community at all stages.



Art, Local History + Education

Public Gardens must incorporate art and should incorporate historic and educational elements when appropriate.



Seasonal + Year Round

Public Gardens must be designed for use in all four seasons.



Events

Public Gardens should consider flexible space that allows events when the scale is appropriate.



Wayfinding

Public Gardens should promote Green Line station wayfinding and connect to nearby amenities.



Digital Technology

Public Gardens should consider incorporating digital elements when appropriate to promote awareness, wayfinding, and education.

Design Considerations

Taking into consideration both the Seed Themes gathered from the ISC and the goals and objectives identified in the Comparative Analysis, a set of design considerations was developed to guide conceptualizing Public Gardens.

- Use green as a common thread
- Create Public Gardens that draw people in, and encourage them to stay
- Consider garden scalability — from grandiose to small-scale
- 'Eyes on the Station' - design and program spaces that are visible, open, and safe for everyone
- Freedom to explore different experiences at each station
- Create gardens with strong functional aspects: connection to nature and inclusive gathering spaces
- Always design for all four seasons
- Incorporate educational aspects whenever appropriate
- Revive residual spaces
- Consider how travel paths of transit riders can be improved by Public Gardens
- Consider flexible, temporary and modular designs
- Consider partnerships and economic investment to support long-term sustainment

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

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Attach 1 - Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report - TT2019-0429.pdf
ISC: Unrestricted

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3.



Leveraging Third Party Investments

a. Municipal Context

In 2016 City Council adopted the *Municipal Naming, Sponsorship and Naming Rights* policy supporting alternate revenue generation strategies as a means to offset costs associated with the provision of municipal services. Business units including Calgary Transit, Calgary Parks and Calgary Recreation have invested staff and resources to establish and investigate alternative revenue models including, but not limited to, third party investments in the form of sponsorships and naming rights. Alternative revenue models can be viable options that move unfunded municipal projects forward or help leverage existing public funding.

New municipal infrastructure projects, such as Green Line, present unique opportunities for third party investment. Investors regard such projects as community-building investments that enhance their existing business and marketing platforms. Third party investment can yield a high return on investment and value back to The City and its citizens.



Saputo Mills Park, Calgary.

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



b. Types of Third Party Investments

Generally speaking, third party investments can be grouped into one of four areas:

1. Philanthropic Donations

A voluntary transfer of property without an expectation of return or benefit to the donor. The City is a qualified donor and as such has the capacity to issue tax receipts for philanthropic donations. Donations are generally made by an individuals or families.

Examples: Haskayne Legacy Park; Jumpstart Inclusive Playground at Shouldice Park

2. Sponsorships + Naming Rights

Sponsorships and naming rights are contractual arrangements made between The City and a third party for a defined period where the third party invests in a municipal program, project or service with the intent of acquiring commercial or a business benefit. Naming rights allows for the public display of the third party's name as part of the name of the City Asset.

Sponsorship Examples: Soccer Centre fields (Mattamy Homes); Mills Park (Saputo); Ralph Klein Park natural playground (TD Bank)

Naming Rights Examples: Brookfield Residential YMCA at Seton, Shaw Millennium Park

3. Grants

A financial award given to the City by a charitable foundation (public or private) or government agency. These awards generally support initiatives that align directly with the granting organization's vision, purpose and position in the market; these definitions are not exclusive, and there are variations thereof.

Example: RBC Blue Water (Calgary Parks); Jumpstart Accessibility (Calgary Recreation)

4. Commercial + Vendor Contracts

Opportunities exist to review current commercial and vendor contracts that can leverage additional third-party monies. Work is being conducted to determine the feasibility of such models; a large part of this work is being led by the Calgary Transit and Calgary Recreation revenue generation teams.

Examples: Coca Cola (Pouring Rights contract); Public Wi-Fi (Calgary Transit, Calgary Recreation, Calgary Parks)

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

c. Project Success Stories

It is important to look at both local and international precedents for examples of success stories that clearly demonstrate how visionary concepts can become reality.

Bow To Bluff, 4th Avenue Flyover and Rotary/Mattamy Greenway and the High Line are all examples of projects to draw successes from.

Rotary/Mattamy Greenway

The creation of the Rotary/Mattamy Greenway began with a vision of an inclusive and accessible amenity - a city-wide greenbelt highlighting a connected pedestrian network. This vision established the 138km continuous pathway around the City of Calgary featuring unique amenities including specialty off-leash dog areas, family fitness park, educational wetland interpretive areas and unique play structure. The Greenway has become a year-round destination for cyclists, cross-country skiers, nature lovers and kids of all ages to play outdoors. Connecting 55 communities and over 400,000 Calgarians, the Greenway is the longest urban pathway in the world.

The greenway initiated as a grass roots community project tied to infrastructure development - the east Calgary Ring Road. A

master plan was undertaken which developed a vision for a pathway encircling the City of Calgary, utilizing the Transportation Utility Corridor where possible and linking existing fragments of pathway into the network.

The Greenway leveraged the City's 800km of existing pathway to provide Calgarians with a broader scale of amenities to meet their social and recreational needs, as well as those of their changing and expanding communities. As the outer greenbelt in urbanizing areas, the Greenway facilitates connectivity, supports an active lifestyle and provides valuable social infrastructure.

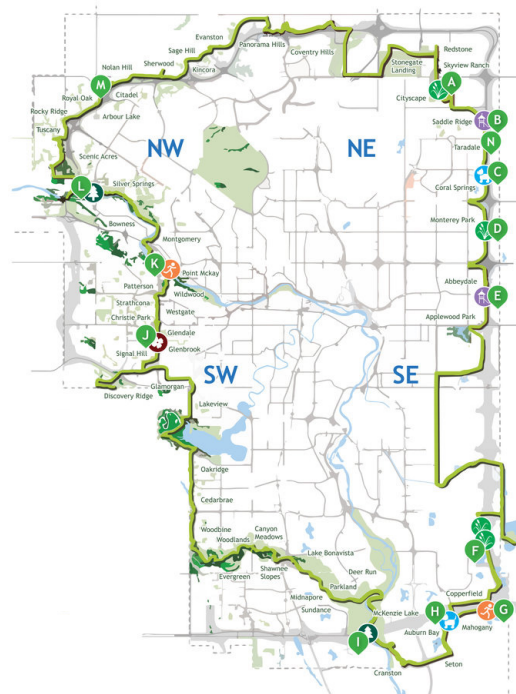
The Greenway was made possible through a partnership between Parks Foundation Calgary and the City of Calgary which included third party investments from private corporate investors and individual investors such as The Rotary Club of Calgary and Mattamy Homes for which the Greenway is now named.

The project also engaged a number of stakeholders and partners in the planning process including citizens, community associations, developers, consultants, City Councillors and various Provincial Ministries.



Greenway amenities made possible through private partnerships

- Manmeet Singh Bhullar Park
- Progress Energy Poppy Memorial
- David Richardson Memorial Disc Golf Course
- CityScape Music Park
- Saddlebrook Playpark
- Arc Resources Interpretive Wetland
- CN Rail Park
- TransCanada Outdoor Fitness Park
- Rotary Nature Park



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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



photo by Iwan Baan

The High Line Park, New York City

The 2.3 km long promenade is a prime example of viewing underused assets in cities differently. The abandoned raised railway gained support from a dedicated community group, governments at all three levels, and investors to create a great public realm. What once was considered an eye-sore in the community was transformed into a space that actively improves the quality of life of the surrounding citizens. Even in one of the most dense cities in the world, people used their imagination in one of the most unlikely places to carve out room for great 'green' public space.

Link to the Green Line:

The High Line Park's \$152M budget is an example of how a community grassroots initiative gathers support at multiple levels of Government, transforming an abandoned railway space into an attraction that gathers over 7 million annual visitors. Learnings from this project around community-led investment can be applied to Green Line Public Gardens.



photo by Ben Hettlinga

4th Avenue Flyover, Calgary

In partnership with many stakeholders, the 4th Avenue Flyover project used feedback from residents and stakeholders, and Landscape Architecture students from the University of Calgary worked with Grade 6 students from Langevin School in a youth-led design process to create concepts for how this space could be reimagined. With support from The City and the Community Association, Tactical Urbanism will provide a collection of low-cost, temporary changes to the built environment. It is intended to improve local neighbourhoods and city gathering places and provides the opportunity to test temporary enhancements to envision long term change. The Province and City are committed to \$2 million of investment, with ongoing support from the Parks Foundation Calgary to gather donations.

Link to the Green Line:

This Calgary example provides support on how small interventions in underutilized spaces can positively impact a community, regardless if it is permanent or temporary. Learnings around partnerships with schools and post secondary institutions can be leveraged and used to inform the engagement plan as part of the next steps.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Bow to Bluff, Calgary

Bow to Bluff is a citizen initiative in partnership with the City to create great public spaces along Calgary's Red Line LRT. The innovative engagement process helped the community re-imagine the public corridor along the LRT line in Sunnyside from the Bow River to McHugh Bluff. The citizen-centered placemaking exercise considers encouraging Calgarians on foot, bicycle, or train to gather in this corridor – rather than just pass through. This includes setting up places that consider the people and programs that can activate them throughout the seasons.

Link to the Green Line:

Detailed design is planned to begin in 2019 for the Bow to Bluff initiative. This work is a great example of how community engagement can be undertaken to optimize surplus lands from transit projects in Calgary. Green Line Public Gardens could take some of the learnings from this project and apply them to the next steps.

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Timur Si-Qin, Forgiveing Change, a High Line Commission.
Photo by Timothy Schenck



Vertical Line Garden, Julia Jamrozik and Coryn Kempster. Montreal's International Garden Festival

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4.



Budget

a. Public Art Budget

Public Art and the Opportunity

Public Gardens along the Green Line provide ideal locations for Public Art to be sited. Public Gardens along the Green Line could be valuable Public Art opportunities as people would walk through these areas and gather in these spaces.

Through this Notice of Motion, and in alignment with the three foundational pillars (accessible, prioritize investment and transparency) of the Public Art Program, opportunities exist to integrate Public Art within Public Gardens.

Additionally, the public engagement done around Public Art on the Green Line was completed in 2015 and included feedback from communities in Southeast Calgary. An opportunity now exists to refresh, validate and build upon this input by involving Calgarians across the city and focusing the conversation on the garden theme.

Feasibility of Using the Green Line Public Art Budget

Capitalizing on Public Gardens funds could provide the opportunity for additional Public Art funding. There are several opportunities associated with this which could include, but not limited to partnerships with local art organizations, providing funding for artist residencies, opportunities for third party investment, and involving the public to generate input on Public Art within the gardens.

b. Green Line Landscape Budget

Feasibility of Using the Green Line Landscape Budget

The Green Line has the potential to partition out funds required for the landscape construction and leverage those funds through grant applications and potential funding scheme. In both scenarios the committed budget amount would match the amount required to do the base requirements for landscaping. In this scenario the risk of not having a complete landscape is low.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Permaculture Garden



Monika Gora. Installation for Chaumont Festival, 1994. 195 fishing rods with climbing plants.

prepared for: City of Calgary | produced by: ground cubed landscape architects

5.

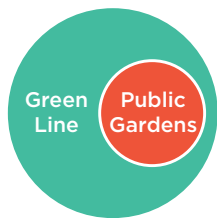


Risk

An analysis of risk was assessed to identify alignment and impacts to the Green Line contract. Impacts to the Green Line contract also included consideration to using the Public Art budget, leveraging Private Investors and Partners. The following risk section identifies the interrelationships and risks of all three considerations.

a. Interface with the Green Line Contract

The implementation of Public Gardens along the Green Line will have various pros and cons for how they interface with the Green Line contract. Three approaches were identified and a high-level risk analysis was conducted to find impacts and issues for each approach. The identified risks are detailed on the following page and are as follows:



Integrated into the Main Contract



Executed Through a Separate Contract After Completion of Green Line



Integrated into a Supplementary Contract

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

Integrated into the Main Contract

The integration of the Public Gardens initiative into the Green Line Main Contract, prior to the Request for Proposal (RFP) going out to market in 2019 Q3, presents multiple risks. A clear vision, scope, conceptual designs, stakeholder engagement, partnerships, a workplan, schedule and a budget would be required and need to be integrated prior to RFP. To include Public Gardens in the Main Contract there would be little time to adjust the technical performance requirements and coordinate design revisions to minimize conflicts with other items in the Main Contract.

The Main Contract for Green Line is a design build contract, in which the design and construction services are contracted by a single contractor, referred to as Project Co. Once the contract goes to market and is awarded there is little to no flexibility for changes to the contract without The City incurring substantial cost implications.

Adding the complexity of Public Gardens to the Main Contract, without a clear scope and vision will present impacts to the budget, timelines and quality, which risks the project of being over budget, delayed or exhibit a lack of meaningful implementation. In the absence of meaningful Stakeholder Engagement, there is a likelihood that the Public Gardens would not be built to the satisfaction of the community and jeopardize potential partner/investor involvement (refer to section 3). Where there is less certainty of outcome, on-going participation by the public, community and other partners would be difficult to manage.

Lastly, by including Public Gardens into the Main Contract, there are risks around leveraging funds due to restrictions within the Green Line Project Agreements and the municipal procurement restrictions by adding to a projects scope from private funding source. Within the Green Line Project Agreements there are eligible and ineligible expenses. When the scope and details for the Public Gardens initiative are defined, The City, through the Green Line Business Unit, will need to ensure that the scope and ability for other organizations, not-for-profits, and Community Associations to leverage the Green Line dollars is possible.

Integrated into a Supplementary Contract

Interface risks exist by integrating Public Gardens into a Supplementary Contract due to having multiple contractors on site. This approach will require upfront planning and coordination to minimize conflicts, and mitigation measures will be required to accommodate construction timelines and related activities. For example, as the Project Co. (the prime contractor) will control the site, areas available to execute on the Public Gardens initiative will be subject to the schedule of Project Co.

Benefits exist by integrating Public Gardens into a Supplementary Contract. This approach will provide more time and flexibility for The City to define the vision, identify scope, undertake public and stakeholder engagement, identify partnerships, a workplan, schedule and budget for Public Gardens along the Green Line. A Supplementary Contract provides greater time to strategize implementation in a staged approach, and deliver on project initiatives simultaneously to the Green Line Main Contract.

The opportunity for staged delivery of the Public Garden projects is a benefit when leveraging partnerships. Delivering on early work projects supports the City as there is a clear demonstration and commitment to delivering on the Public Gardens initiative. An early commitment of this work allows for an evaluation of success, provides the opportunity for strategy refinement, responds to market conditions, and allows for strategized investment and community participation while minimizing project construction fatigue.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

Executed through a Separate Contract after completion of Green Line

A Separate Contract for the delivery of the Public Gardens will require a separate schedule and workplan. This approach will allow for meaningful stakeholder engagement with communities and reduce the interface risks identified with the Main Contract. This approach would provide greater flexibility for The City to work with private investors on funding schemes, detailed designs, and a procurement strategy to build Public Gardens.

While fewer risks exist to impact the Main Contract, there are potential disadvantages to the project due to complexities of governance, unknown cost implications due to long term market price variation, and reputational risks to the City executing on agreements with funding partners. The availability of Green Line budget for landscape is likely reduced or eliminated, as Project Co. used a substantial proportion of the budget to complete works defined in the Main Contract and Supplementary Contracts.

Calgary Transit has a team dedicated to revenue generation and there is an opportunity to leverage their expertise to attract third party investors. Executing Public Gardens through a separate contract increases the risk that the current internal expertise of this team is not utilized. Without Calgary Transit's support on Public Gardens as a transit asset, The City is unlikely to maximize the true revenue potential that is the entirety of the Green Line.

Furthermore, when delivery horizons are long, this may result in lack of interest from partners and investors due to lack of project momentum. To mitigate disinterest, a governance structure well suited for The City and its Partners is needed that ensures the distinct skill sets are available to translate investments from different sources into built Public Gardens.

Coordinating these strategies with the holistic approach outlined above requires extensive coordination and collaboration.

Lastly, there are risks that completed work by Project Co. on the Green Line will require modification when the Public Gardens begin implementation. This may include services, hard landscape areas and soft landscaping. In the scenario of a delay with completion of the Main Contract, the Public Gardens has less opportunity to identify and resolve conflicts that would implicate the scope of works completed in the Separate Contract.



Thompson Family Park - photos by Steve Coutts.

b. Third Party Investments

1. Risks Identified by Administration

Attracting third party investment for municipal projects such as the Public Gardens initiative requires a comprehensive assessment of the current market place - including but not limited to - a thorough understanding of project scope, roles and responsibilities and existing partnerships and funding arrangements.

Coordination with Calgary Transit

Consideration needs to be given to existing City revenue-generation initiatives including Calgary Transit's existing request for proposal on naming rights and sponsorship acquisition, which includes Green Line assets.

Calgary Transit has a team dedicated to revenue generation and there is an opportunity to leverage their expertise attracting third party investment for transit assets for the Public Gardens initiatives.

Integration & Implementation

The coordination of construction and long-term maintenance plans are complex, requiring consideration of various elements including timelines and responsibilities. When third party investments are included within this discussion further consideration needs to be given to the time and resources required to manage these investments including investor expectations. A clear governance structure with vision and master plan are required to give confidence in moving forward with this initiative.

In addition, The Green Line Project is funded by multiple partners and investors that include the Provincial and Federal Government. As the scope of the Public Gardens initiative is defined, City administration will need to consider the impact and any restrictions to third party investment.

2. Risks Identified in the Second ISC Meeting

The second meeting with the Informal Steering Committee (ISC) discussed the feasibility of the Public Gardens initiative and associated risks. The following summarizes the five key risks identified along with potential mitigation measures:

Community Perception & Backlash

There is concern that construction of Public Gardens in certain locations will be criticized in times of an economic downturn, that there will be “have” & “have-not” communities, or that the Public Gardens do not fulfill the needs of the community. These concerns can be alleviated by engaging the public early on at a conceptual level.

Integration & Implementation

Coordination of construction plans and long-term maintenance are complex discussions with regards to timelines and responsibilities. A clear governance structure with vision and masterplan are required to give confidence in moving forward with this initiative.

City Process and Policy

Perception exists that The City processes and policy can be constraining. Administration involved in revenue-generation take a collaborative approach with investors to achieve common goals.

Green Line Contract Coordination

The idea of Public Gardens is questionable as Public Art and late integration with the Green Line Contract can make it seem as an afterthought. Separating this work from Green Line Main Contract can provide the time needed to coordinate and provide clarity on the Public Gardens being an enhanced landscape rather than Public Art.

Economic Viability

With a limited amount of financial assistance available in Calgary's market, there may not be enough support to fully realize the vision of the Public Gardens. There is concern that the Public Gardens initiative will take away valuable resources from the non-profit sector. The City's intent in leveraging third party investment for the Public Gardens project is grounded on working collaboratively with the non-profit and the charitable sector. The City recognizes the valuable contributions of partners and has policies and processes in place to collaborate with a variety of external organizations. To mitigate this concern, The City works towards a partnership model founded on aligned objectives that leverage partner knowledge and expertise and, which mutually help deliver the objectives of the Public Gardens initiative.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

c. Using the Green Line Public Art Budget

Opportunities exist to leverage the Public Art Budget for Green Line, and while consideration is being given to utilizing the Public Art budget towards the Green Line Public Gardens there are risks associated with this approach. The following outlines the risks of using the Green Line Public Art Budget.

Proceeding Without Engagement

The City and the Public Art program have been criticized for making decisions without engaging citizens in a meaningful way. Public Art has been directed to engage the public further and use their input to guide decision making. There is reputational risk to the City and Public Art Program if meaningful Engagement does not precede the implementation of Public Gardens and Public Art.

Expectation Management with Public + Private Investors

Managing expectations with Calgarians living adjacent to Green Line stations will be challenging if private investment is leveraged to implement Public Gardens on the Green Line. This could lead to reputational and funding challenges, as well as delays in implementation without consultation.

Previous engagement from 2015 used examples to demonstrate how Public Art can be embedded into transit infrastructure and how art can improve the experience of taking transit. The Public Art Master Plan relied on guiding principles and station specific data analysis to make recommendations on the theme, type, location and budget amount for Public Art at each station. This initial vision for Public Art may be different than that of Public Art as part of Green Line gardens, resulting in reputational risks for The City.

Equitable Distribution of Art Across the Line

The implementation of gardens on the Green Line is a costly endeavour. There is a risk of stretching the Green Line Public Art budget too thin. This will result in have/have not stations where some communities may be left without art along the line.

Public Art Program Currently on Hold

The Public Art Program remains on hold for 2019 in order to review and implement new processes around governance, communications/engagement, budgeting and procurement. As Green Line is preparing the Contracts in 2019, the Green Line Public Art will not have an opportunity to align with the direction of the new Public Art program when it is launched in 2020.

Green Line Budget for Public Art

The Public Art budget for Green Line has been allocated in principal only. In addition, the funds earmarked for Green Line Public Art will likely only cover initial design, engagement and implementation, but not the long-term maintenance, conservation and community programming required to ensure the lifespan of art on the Green Line.

While it is important to highlight the risks, mitigation measures are equally important and will be identified in the next steps of work.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

d. Using the Green Line Landscape Budget

There is a potential risk that separating landscape work from the Main Contract will result in added costs. By introducing more complexity in the landscape work into smaller contracts, there is less incentive for bid submissions to be as competitively priced. Further to this, there are negligible differences in leveraging the local capacity of Calgary's market. Landscape construction materials and labour are highly likely to be locally sourced regardless of whether Project Co. (the prime contractor) or a smaller landscape construction company is awarded the contract.

There are increased risks between a supplementary contract and the interface with the Main Contract. Mitigation measures can be put in place to mitigate this risk by providing detailed work plans and timelines. Landscape construction is typically the finishing work for an infrastructure project, so the scheduling can be integrated within the Main Contract to provide for this opportunity.

This potential strategy presents additional opportunities and with impacts/risks that can be mitigated. Leveraging Green Line landscape funds reduces the scope of Project Co. while providing the seed money to leverage opportunities with partners and investors. It also provides additional capital to leverage versus solely considering using the Public Art budget. Although Public Art can be clearly separated out, the Green Line landscape funds are not clearly defined. Further work is required to determine an appropriate amount that can be partitioned and leveraged.



Rashid Johnson, Blocks, 2015. A High Line Commission. Photo by Anita Ng.

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



6.



Next Steps

a. Work Plan

To move forward with the Public Garden initiative, a detailed workplan including scope, cost, resources, funding source, engagement and a delivery strategy is required. Cross corporate collaboration is an important component of the workplan to ensure alignment with other corporate initiatives.

b. Public Gardens Master Plan + Six Capital Projects

Great public places evolve from thoughtful, creative, and in-depth master planning. It is the ability to understand and study spaces at all context levels that ensures a successful outcome.

When the full scope of the Green Line is considered (Stage 1 and Future Stages) and the idea of Public Gardens along the route, it becomes evident that a larger Master Plan is necessary.

As described in Section 2 – Opportunities of this report, the scope areas focused directly adjacent to the Green Line route. A 500 metre buffer was used (500m radius from centre of platform) to observe the community context surrounding each station within Stage 1. What was discovered is that for some stations, a 500 metre buffer is large enough to accurately capture the community context.

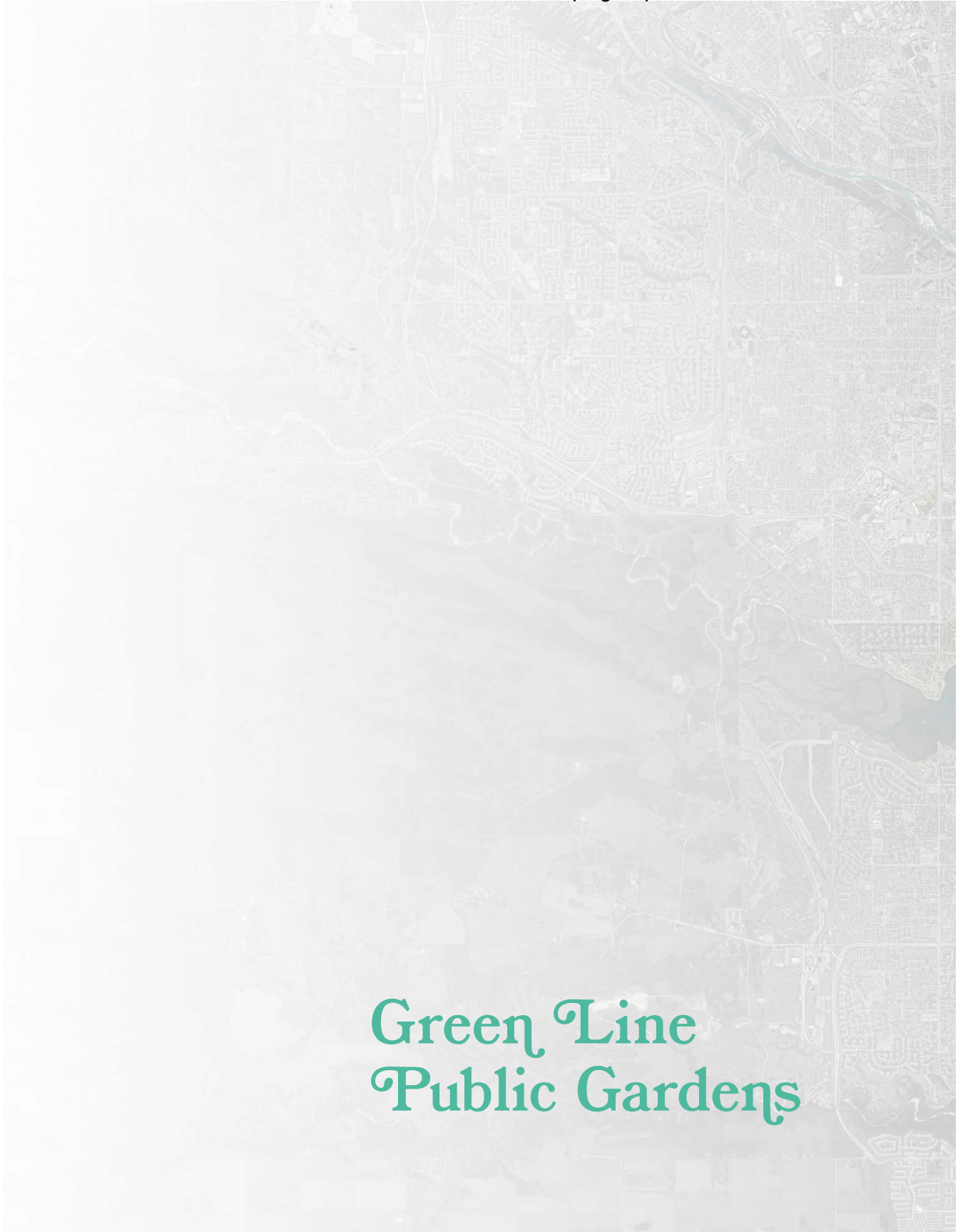
Concurrent with the Master Plan work, six initial Public Garden projects will be identified. By identifying six initial projects, the Public Gardens can be phased incrementally, each building on

the lessons learned from the last. Additionally, conceptualizing more initial Public Gardens rather than less, allows for better equality between stations by making them accessible to more people along the line. By considering the timing of land availability and incorporating the seed themes, the manifestation of Public Gardens will build and sustain excitement for investors over the course of the next decade. The intent of the work is to identify projects, partnership opportunities and align with Green Line opening.

Collaborating with the Real Estate Plan

Timing of land availability for Public Gardens will have a direct link to the Green Line Real Estate Plan. Several corporate objectives and priorities, such as affordable housing and sale for facilitated development, will preclude the development of Public Gardens in those parcels. Other sites will be better suited for the purpose of Public Gardens and the Real Estate Plan can identify these surplus lands.

As part of the next steps in this project, communication and coordination with the Real Estate team must occur simultaneously as the Public Gardens Master Plan is being developed. This collaboration will ensure that corporate objectives for land development are met while identifying available land for development of the Green Line Public Gardens.



Green Line Public Gardens

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report



Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

Appendix A 'What We Heard' Seed Themes from the Informal Steering Committee

The following is based on input gathered from two meetings with the Informal Steering Committee (ISC) — the first in February 2019 and the second in March 2019. It is a collection of ideas and suggestions from industry experts about the potentials of Green Line Public Gardens.

Data was collected from three activities that steering committee experts participating in. First, general ideas captured the imagination of participants. Second, big and bold ideas were compared to small and equitable ideas and how the two may be similar or different. Lastly, sponsorship and private sector investment opportunities were discussed, focusing on ways to attract private investments to help support and bring to fruition the ideas set forth in the scoping report.

To understand the overarching ideas gathered from the ISC, input was sorted into six Seed Themes. The intention is that each of these themes is considered when conceptualizing Public Gardens.



Seed Themes Art + Local History



OBJECTIVES

- Provide public spaces for local artists to present and perform their work
- Use art and plants to tell the story of communities and history
- Showcase the history of railway gardens and Calgary's rail history
- Incorporate Indigenous Art and storytelling
- Using art to create a transit station's identity

OUTCOMES

- Utilizing the built infrastructure as canvas for public gardens and public art
- Bold, bright colours to attract the eye and draw people in
- Rotational or performance-based art within the public gardens
- Projections onto vertical and horizontal surfaces to tell a story or display art

what you said

- Gardens that have art that tell a story of the community history- Done by local artists.
- Incorporate Indigenous Art and storytelling
- Historical into contemporary
- Community spaces - encourage community participation in temporary art displays (hold ice carving or snow sculpture competitions in winter)
- Local expression - artists and community to participate
- Historical vignettes of Calgary rail & gardens
- Bold, bright colored, underground stations similar to Stockholm - would be a massive draw for people wanting that perfect Instagram shot



Seed Themes Community



OBJECTIVES

- Gardens built by the community, provide a sense of ownership
- Reflect the surrounding community's history and culture
- Connect to nearby parks and public spaces
- Encourage local group involvement and partner programs

OUTCOMES

- Multi-functional spaces used as gathering hubs (range of scales of open space)
- Programmable spaces used for education
- Building a sustainable food network

- edge of the community
- Get the local community involved (CA, BIA, Schools)
- People create it - buy in from multiple stakeholders to ensure the sustainment of the vision and the public space/garden
- Partner programs (e.g. horticulture society)
- General Programming at stations (e.g. Campus Calgary/Open Minds). It is about activating space within a fantastic built environment
- Community spaces - encourage community participation in temporary art displays (hold ice carving or snow sculpture competitions in winter)
- Local expression - artists and community to participate
- Gardens need to be specific and reflect the character of that station
- Major parks that the GL connects - Tuxedo Park, Old Refinery, Jefferies Park
- Community gardens - food supply, Food:
 - Building a sustainable food network (i.e. Grow Calgary, Little Pantry Concept)
 - Garden Space should be shared space. Build off the concept of community gardens to see more of an urban garden and victory garden
 - There exists a disconnect between plants and what you eat. Could use the public art money to bring in specialists around how to grow gardens and connect it to the plants/food.
- Temporary themed to sister cities

what you said

- Places not just for transit users - community use
- Community space at each station - it is space that community owns
- Not just a train station, it should be multi-purpose and multi-functional
- As more than just a station on the GL, the community embraces the station. There is a sense of ownership
- The GL Station becomes a focal point in the community versus an asset on the



Seed Themes Events



OBJECTIVES

- Range of scales that accommodate both small events (busking, pop-ups, theatre) and larger events (active sports, markets, festivals)
- Allow for potential retail space within the public gardens
- Allow for semi-permanent retail space

OUTCOMES

- Use design competitions to encourage local ideas and connect people across the city
- Flexible spaces (ie. bookable, semi-permanent, temporary, outdoor classroom)

what you said

- Opportunities for small community events
- Encourage competitions between stations
- Explore creation of competition between stations (e.g. look to Winnipeg with their idea of warming huts)
- Festival spaces (i.e. Exposure to festivals and the winter festivals like Glow festival) are primarily downtown. Could be spread along Green Line and can easily move people from location to location. Create an experience
- E.g. Winnipeg – river skating paths (e.g. Architecture design competition warming huts)
- Areas to change or evolve over time – pop up, temporary, seasonal.
- Pop-up restaurants (Food trucks?)
- Outdoor classroom settings for schools – incorporate science/learning features
- Consider sport or active use of space that also has art elements
- Ice rink that's 24 hours & glows in the dark (turns into a roller rink in the summer)
- Every station has a plaza with space that will allow for retail use
- Music/Multi-use performance
- Incorporate ongoing music or art creation



Seed Themes Seasonal + Year Round



OBJECTIVES

- Always have something ready for when the weather changes (pop-ups)
- Design solutions that consider local climate (ie. chinooks)
- Transform dormant garden spaces into winter placemaking
- Educate people on the importance of four-season interest in Calgary

OUTCOMES

- Connect to nordic ski trails and skating rinks nearby the Green Line
- Creative lighting
- Heaters for People, Greenhouses for Plants
- Creating micro-climates to draw people in and learn
- Warming huts – opportunity to showcase art and design by locals

what you said

- Winter options: Ice sculptures, Snow sculptures, Ice skating paths, Stones
- Winter Gardens
- Heaters for year-round outdoor spaces
- Culture theme - lights on trees in winter, Christmas Trees in stations, etc
- A “light garden” that draws inspiration from the northern lights – they mostly appear in a green
- E.g. Winnipeg – river skating paths (e.g. Architecture design competition warming huts)



Seed Themes Digital Technology



OBJECTIVES

- Use social media to enhance experience and promote Public Gardens
- Opportunity to have rotating art (ie. projections, screens, augmented reality)
- Use technology to connect humans with plants

OUTCOMES

- Technology that educates people on live plant health (ie. Please Water Me, Please Don't Water Me)
- Public gardens with fun + interactive components

what you said

- Interactive and tactile art
- Gardens that are “interactive play”
- Use of social media & technology to connect to sites
- Technology use (screens, touch screens interactive, video, lighting, light shows)
- Interactive window to sister city (web screen)
- Bold, bright colored, underground stations similar to Stockholm - would be a massive draw for people wanting that perfect Instagram shot
- Gardens that have ‘GPS’ items bring people there - “take something leave something”
- Underground station that has spaces for YouTube busking performers broadcasting through video & sound on other stations



Seed Themes Wayfinding



OBJECTIVES

- Green Line stations become gateways to their surrounding community
- Utilizing the existing +15 network as a continued public garden experience
- Connect to nearby parks and public spaces
- Gardens outside of a station's immediate context can lead people to stations

OUTCOMES

- A tactile and sensory wayfinding system that connects LRT riders to public gardens
- Artistic and educational methods used to guide LRT riders around the City
- Embedded elements that provide opportunities for wayfinding
- Dynamic notifications of daily events along and around the Green Line

what you said

- Senses – tactile (e.g. wayfinding signage to the Devonian Gardens)
- Stations become “Front Door” Destinations into the Community with Multiple Uses:
 - The transit plaza is the front door to the community and front door to the GL
 - +15 station garden could be a unique tourist draw. Make them connected somehow (theme) that encourages people to visit each garden
- Play on the station name (i.e. Highfield Station could incorporate native grasses on raised platforms, a literal high field, Quarry Station to incorporate quarry stones, etc)
- Get creative with great wayfinding signs to public gardens within close proximity to the GL (e.g. Bird houses that direct people, footsteps, Incorporate green principles in the wayfinding)

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

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Attach 1 - Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report - TT2019-0429.pdf
ISC: Unrestricted

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Appendix B Comparative Analysis Summary

Ten existing documents related to the requirements outlined in the Notice of Motion for this Scoping Report were studied and analyzed. This research helped identify possible gaps between the documents and the vision identified within the Notice of Motion (NoM). The comparative analysis provides efficient research and reduces redundancy in work done to date.

Green Line City Shaping Framework

The City Shaping Framework provides guiding principles that view the Green Line project through a city-wide development lens, and not just a transit project.

City Shaping fosters healthy and affordable lifestyles within a network of vibrant, inclusive and resilient communities. It focuses on identifying four quality of life indicators that will be used to help shape the design and outcome of public places not only along the Green Line, but across Calgary.

By utilizing a community-based approach, City Shaping can realize something larger than just a way for people to get around.

Takeaways

- The focus of quality of life is a key aspect when thinking about Public Gardens and what they can do for local communities and visitors alike.
- Best practice examples were provided from cities across the continent. These will be used as prime examples when studying areas along the Green Line for potential Public Gardens.

Informal Steering Committee Meetings 1 + 2

The Informal Steering Committee (ISC) is a group of industry experts that met twice to discuss and steer the direction of The Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report. After the first meeting, the consultant team collected the input gathered and developed six Seed Themes. The intention is for these themes to be considered when conceptualizing each Public Garden. For more information on the input from the first ISC meeting and the Seed Themes, see Appendix A.

The second meeting focused on partnership/sponsorship opportunities and potential risks and mitigation strategies. The input collected in this meeting guided this report and in particular the sections on partnerships/sponsorship, budget, and risk.

Takeaways

- Public Garden concepts need to be high quality to generate excitement and willingness to invest
- Use Green as a common theme
- Think of larger system opportunities
- Must consider short/medium/long term
- Too much reliance on relatively small amount of Public Art money
- Needs to be visionary

‘What we heard’ from Green Line Public Engagement

What we heard is a collection of feedback from both online and in person public engagement. The topics that people commented on were station design, station area look and feel, safety and security, and community experience.

Public engagement helped gather input on safety and security, aesthetics and landscaping, and access to stations. This information will then be used to help develop guiding technical documents for construction of Stage 1 Green Line.

In addition to reviewing the feedback collected, we also received a brief that summarized the feedback as it relates to Public Gardens.

Takeaways

- Responding to the concerns and wishes of the community for each of the stations is critical to the success of Public Gardens and the Green Line overall. The feedback summary is helpful in guiding the work broadly, and the more detailed sections of the reports are helpful when understanding specific components
- Station Design Themes and Overall Community Experience Themes were identified. This strengthens the reoccurring idea of themes.

Green Line Long Term Vision

Green Line LRT Long Term Vision looks at the full scope of all Green Line stages, from 160 Ave N all the way down to Seton in the south. It is described as “a holistic guide for future investments towards transforming communities along the Green Line LRT corridor considering people, places, and programs and connected by reliable transit.”

Similar to the Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report, the Long Term Vision document draws a 10 minute walking distance around each proposed LRT station, highlighting all relevant existing and proposed features such as amenities, parks, city buildings and proposed TOD.

Takeaways

The Long Term Vision is intended to keep the project goals on track until it is fully open to the public, focusing on four priority outcomes:

- Providing fast, frequent, and reliable transit
- Identify missing links to help improve pedestrian corridors and public realm
- Identify the most viable stations for TOD over the course of 30 years
- Coordinate investment

The Green Line Public Art Plan

The Green Line Public Art Plan examines how Public Art can better support the goals and objectives of the Green Line and its affected communities. The plan identifies potential sites along the Green Line for artworks, defines the character of each station's context, and serves as a tool to support the City's Public Art program in ensuring that Public Art is context sensitive and appropriate.

Takeaways

- Themes, types and locations (where, what, why) of artworks were identified through public engagement.
- Recommendations for distribution of artworks were made based on extensive data for each station of stage 1.
- Zones and areas of focus were identified in terms of priority, placing Public Artworks around stations and areas along the green line with high impact as the top priority.

The Green Line Event Framework

The Green Line Event Framework explores the placemaking strategy of using transit stations for hosting public events. It analyzes Calgary's existing Blue and Red LRT lines in terms of event hosting at stations, and details reasons for event requests being denied.

It also analyzes current Green Line station designs in terms of capacity for hosting events by looking at adjacent land uses, proximity to community amenities, and identifying available areas as either small, medium, or large.

Takeaways

- The desire for Green Line Public Gardens is to attract people and serve as gathering places. The potential for hosting events will ensure that the designs of the Public Gardens can serve the most people in the best possible way.
- Looking to the successes and mistakes of the Red and Blue lines in terms of event hosting, ensures that Green Line stations can successfully support events and the goals of The Green Line Event Framework.

Green Line Transit-Oriented Development Strategy

Green Line Urban Integration

The goal of the **Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Strategy** is to serve as a framework for advancing TOD through process, policies, financial tools and collaborative efforts. It aims to align city investments to guarantee that the highest impact and best outcomes are realized in the TOD station areas.

The Stage 1 Green Line stations identified as TOD sites are 16 Ave N, Inglewood / Ramsay, 26 Ave SE, Ogden, Lynnwood / Millican and Shepard.

Green Line Urban Integration (GLUI) is a framework that ensures the Green Line is effectively integrated into the urban and community fabric of Calgary.

It establishes four LRT typologies, outlines community principles, and provides a material palette to allow for a coherent design strategy in all aspects of the Green Line.

Takeaways

- Understanding the TOD strategy ensures that Public Gardens contribute to promoting density around appropriate stations.
- Stations that are identified as TOD will have a higher number of residents without access to gardens. Public Gardens here can be great assets.

Takeaways

- Public Garden design decisions that consider material palettes for built components should refer to GLUI when appropriate.
- Public Gardens that are directly along the Green Line should consider a visual connection to the surrounding vernacular, ensuring an immediate relationship to the Green Line.

Green Line Landscape Architecture Vision

The **Green Line Landscape Architecture Vision** is envisioned to move with the cadence of the trains. The planting sequence responds to the train's movement - expanding and contracting along the Green Line. As a train enters the station, an aperture of seasonal foliage greets its riders. As a train departs the station, the landscape areas transition from finer detail to larger and simple planting patterns.

The station plazas are designed in a way to channelize safe pedestrian circulation using raised garden beds and artistic wayfinding. Modular and unscripted seating provide places to rest, cluster and socialize. It is the idea of creating a sense of place by pulling a continuous thread of gestures and design features across the Green Line.

Takeaways

- Green Line station landscape architecture will be the most impacted and relevant components to the Green Line Public Gardens — both within and beyond plaza boundaries.
- Understanding the landscape architecture vision ensures that Public Gardens will align and complement the vision.
- The station plazas have been designed in a way to encourage the incorporation of multiple uses, such as Public Gardens, canvases for Public Art, festival and events spaces, and much more.

Green Line Architectural Concept

The **Green Line Architectural Concept** is the framework that steers the design of all built infrastructure along the Green Line. The architectural concept was inspired by several elements such as local history, local weather patterns and world renown art installations.

Composed of a Kit of Parts, it begins to assign language and form to the architecture of the Green Line. This includes elements such as station head buildings, transit facilities, underground transit, and plaza furniture to name a few. The essence of the architectural concept is to ensure a comprehensive design outcome that showcases the Green Line as a distinct and unique system across Calgary.

Takeaways

- Bold design gestures are seen throughout the Architectural concept, providing inspiration and opportunity for collaboration.
- As continuity and repetition play a key role in the design of all things, a successful outcome is one that binds the collection of varying elements into one cohesive experience.

Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

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Green Line Public Gardens Scoping Report

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Appendix C Bibliography + Image References

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Image References

Pg 8	"Blue Sticks"	Richardson, Tim. Avant Gardeners. Book.
Pg 8	"Hygge House"	ArchDaily, 2019. [https://www.archdaily.com/412014/hygge-house-plain-projects-pike-projects]
Pg 10	CPR Station Gardens	Glenbow Archives
Pg 11	"Skin 2"	aaasarchitecture, 2019. [https://aasarchitecture.com/2012/08/skin-2-by-mehmet-ali-uysal.html]
Pg 12	Garden Landscape Town "Paysage Euphonique" Sole Food Street Farms	Turner, Tom. Garden History. Book. Richardson, Tim. Avant Gardeners. Book. CTV News, 2019. [https://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/the-story-of-a-thriving-urban-farm-in-one-of-canada-s-poorest-neighbourhoods-1.3594064]
Pg 12	Tanner Springs Park Indoor Botanical Garden Novartis Physic Garden	Urban Green-Blue Grids, 2019. [giantmatrix.com] ArchDaily, 2019. [https://www.archdaily.com/784051/novartis-physic-garden-thorbjorn-andersson-plus-sweco-architects]
Pg 12	"Paysage Euphonique" Stockholm Station "Curlinole"	Richardson, Tim. Avant Gardeners. Book. Stockholm, 2019. [visitstockholm] ToDoCanada, 2019. [https://www.todocanada.ca/5-fun-things-winter-winnipeg/]
Pg 19	Shane Homes YMCA	https://dailyhive.com/calgary/calgary-ymca-architecture-photos-opened
Pg 21	"Vertical Line Garden"	Azure Magazine, 2019. [http://www.azuremagazine.com/]
Pg 22	Aktivetspark	Lo:Le Landskap, 2019. [https://www.lolelandskap.no/]
Pg 23	"Virage Vert"	Richardson, Tim. Avant Gardeners. Book.
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Pg 30	"Forgiving Change" "Vertical Line Garden"	The High Line, 2019. [http://www.thehighline.org/] Azure Magazine, 2019. [http://www.azuremagazine.com/]
Pg 32	Permaculture Garden Monika Gora installation	Green News, 2019. [http://greennews.ie/] Richardson, Tim. Avant Gardeners. Book.
Pg 36	Thomson Family Park	Photos by Shane Coutts
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