Imagine West End Waterfront

Community Conversations
Fall 2021



Coast Salish codex designs by Sky Spirit Consulting

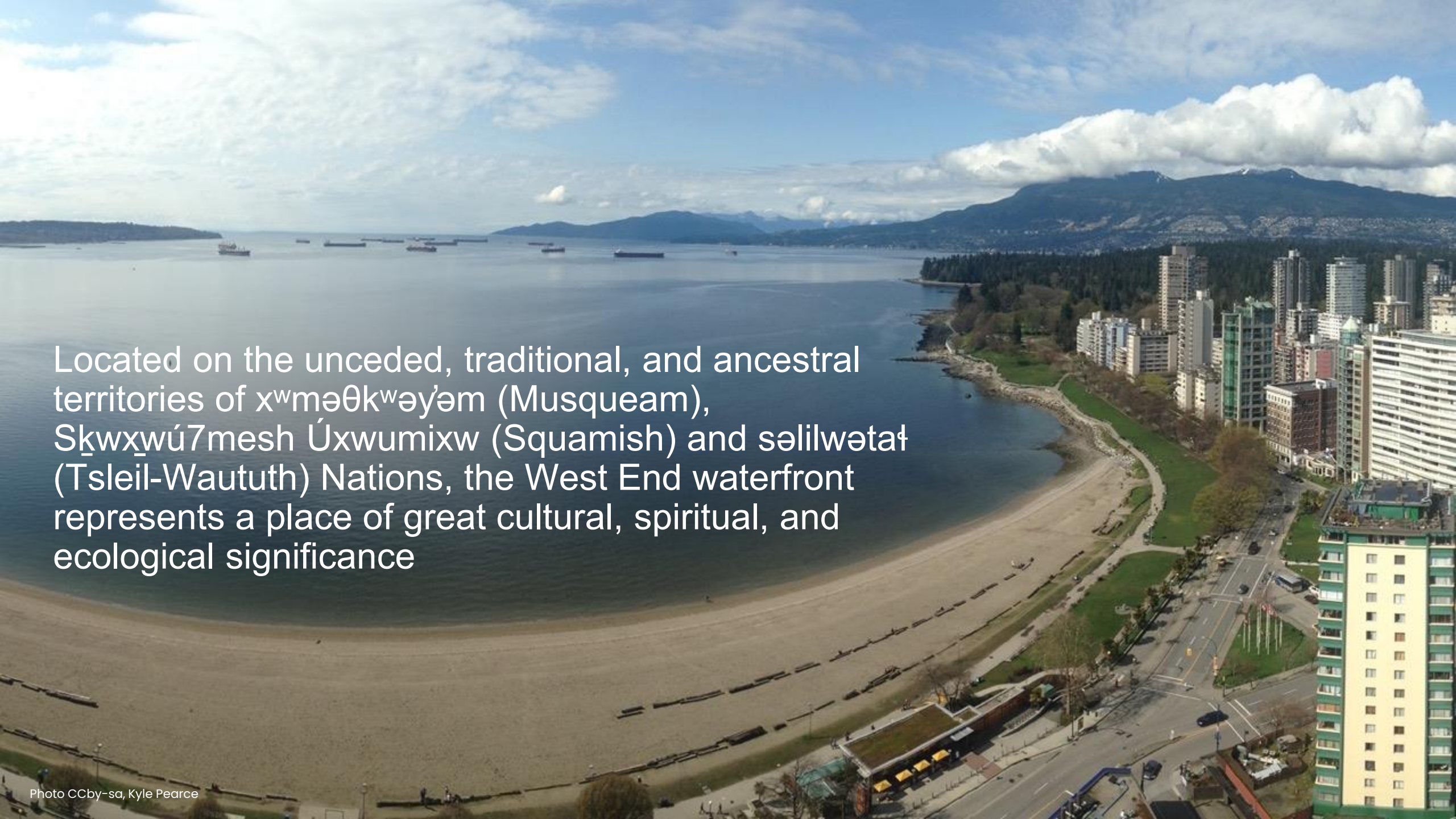


Photo CCby-sa, Kyle Pearce

Decolonization

“Decolonizing is a lot like the word healing, it is different for everybody everyday, and it’s not easy. Nobody knows exactly what it looks like but that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t work towards achieving it.”

Ta7talíya Michelle Nahanee, Skwxwú7mesh decolonial facilitator and strategist
(Equity Reference Guide: Integrating Equity in City Processes)



Photo CCby-nd, Antrell Williams

Reconciliation



“As a City of Reconciliation we are working to form sustained relationships with local First Nations and urban Indigenous communities, incorporate Indigenous perspectives into our work, and provide services that benefit these communities.” – City of Vancouver

Today’s Goals

Introduce Imagine West End Waterfront project

Learn about the project area

Begin exploring community values – what matters?

Learn about future project phases



Photo CCby-sa, Kyle Pearce

Introductions



- What's your first memory of the West End waterfront?

Project Overview



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Where?



Private buildings and spaces are not part of the project scope

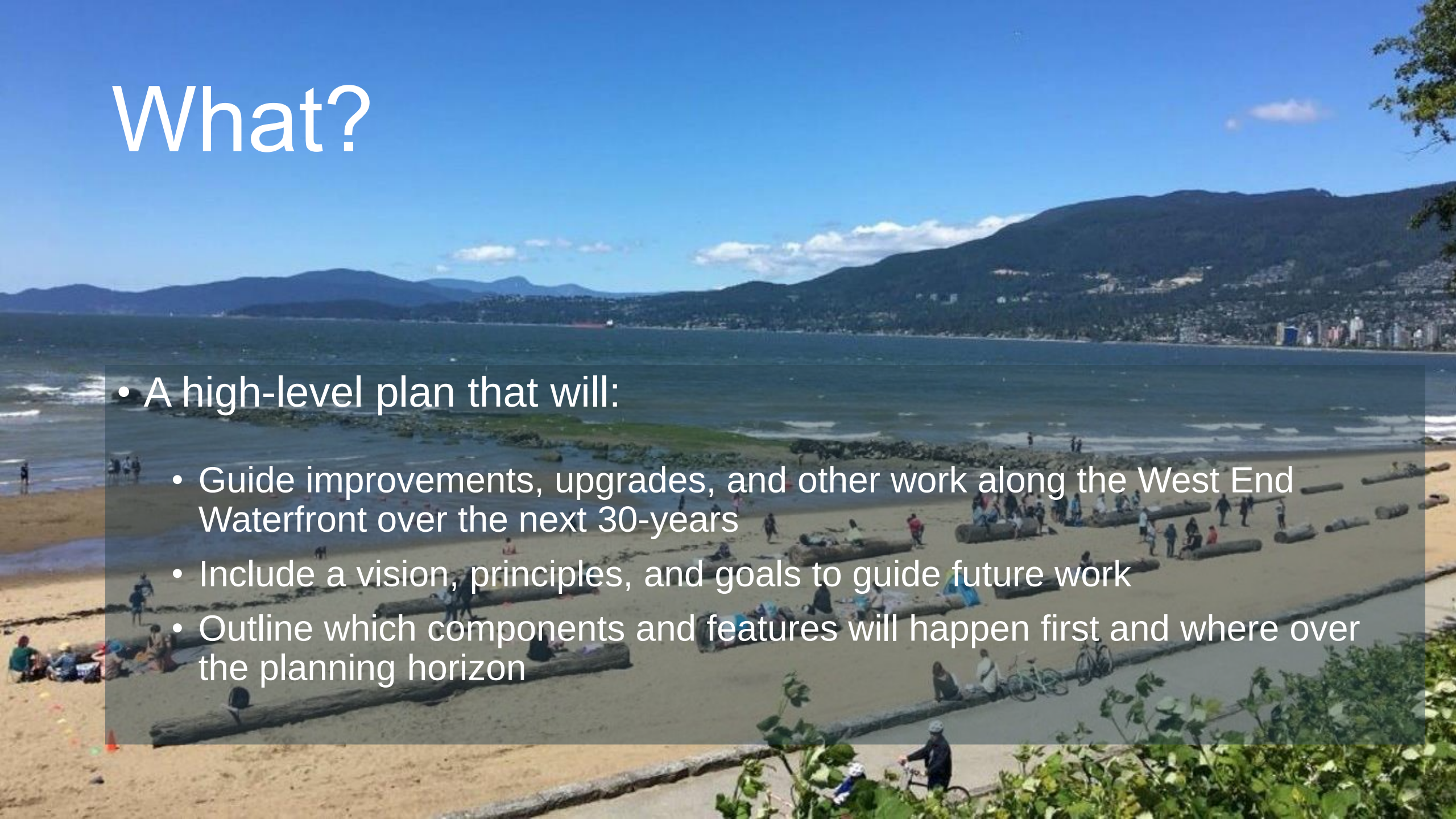
Where?

PARKS + TRANSPORTATION NETWORK



Private buildings and spaces are not part of the project scope

What?



- A high-level plan that will:
  - Guide improvements, upgrades, and other work along the West End Waterfront over the next 30-years
  - Include a vision, principles, and goals to guide future work
  - Outline which components and features will happen first and where over the planning horizon

What?

- The final plan will also:
  - Support Vancouver's commitment to reconciliation and decolonization
  - Improve neighbourhood connectivity and access
  - Upgrade services, facilities, and infrastructure to accommodate anticipated population growth
  - Restore and revitalize the shoreline environment and upland habitat areas
  - Address climate change, sea level rise, and improves the resilience of the area

Why?



- Identified in West End Community Plan
- Aging facilities and services needing upgrades or replacement
- Growing population and increasing use and service demands
- Climate change and sea level rise already starting to impact area



Who?

- **Park Board and City**
- PFS Studio
- Snøhetta
- Bunt & Associates
- EcoPlan
- Sky Spirit Design Studio

- **Kerr Wood Leidal**
- **Northwest Hydraulics**
- **Archipelago Marine Research**
- **Diamond Head Consulting**
- **Inlailawatash**
- **Jill Anholt Studio**
- **ARUP**
- **UBC Coastal Adaptation Lab**
- **BTY Group**

You!

When?



LISTEN & LEARN
Aug – Oct 2021

VISION DEVELOPMENT
Oct – Dec 2021

INITIAL CONCEPTS & IDEAS
Jan – May 2022

FINAL CONCEPT & DRAFT PLAN
Jun 2022 – Jan 2023

FINAL PLAN
Feb – May 2023

How?



- **West End focused** – but recognizes people from across Vancouver and beyond visit, work, and play in area
- **Equity-infused** – working to engage the traditionally underrepresented and vulnerable communities
- **Place-based and joyful** – taking advantage of site and making it playful
- **Informing** – letting people know about the place and the big issues it will be considering (e.g., reconciliation, sea level rise and climate change)

How?

- **Integrated**– Coordinated with other West End project



West End Waterfront

Past, present, future



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A place of meeting, gathering, and abundance









FIRST NATIONS OCCUPATION

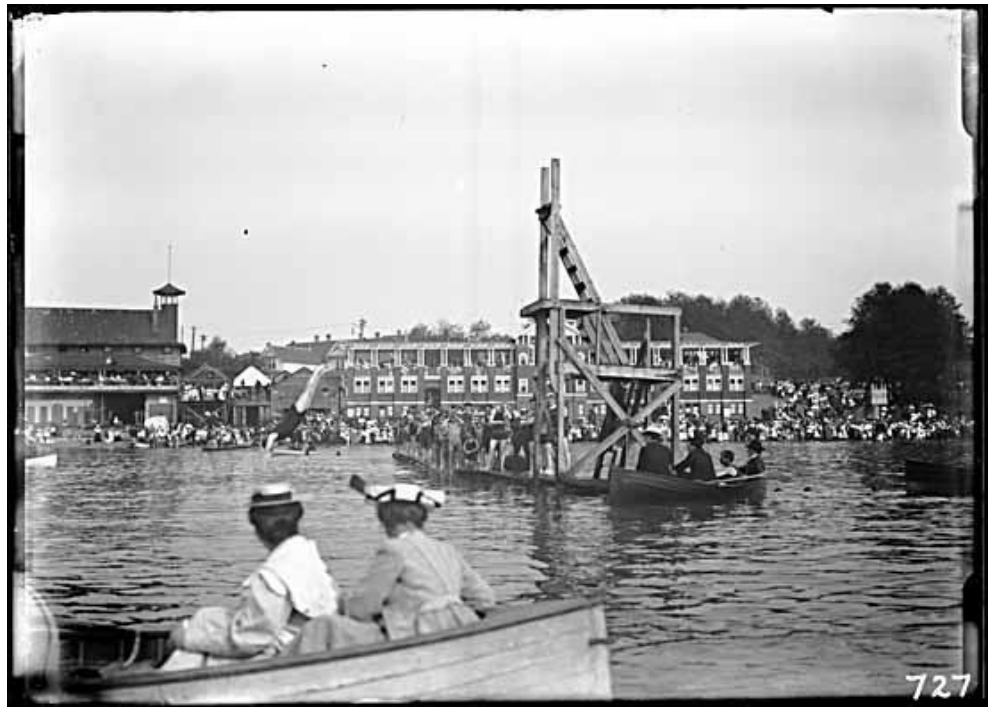
COLONIAL OCCUPATION

c. 6000 B.C.

* For illustrative purposes only: dates approximate

PRESENT





1898

early 1900s





1913

1919





1970s 2000s

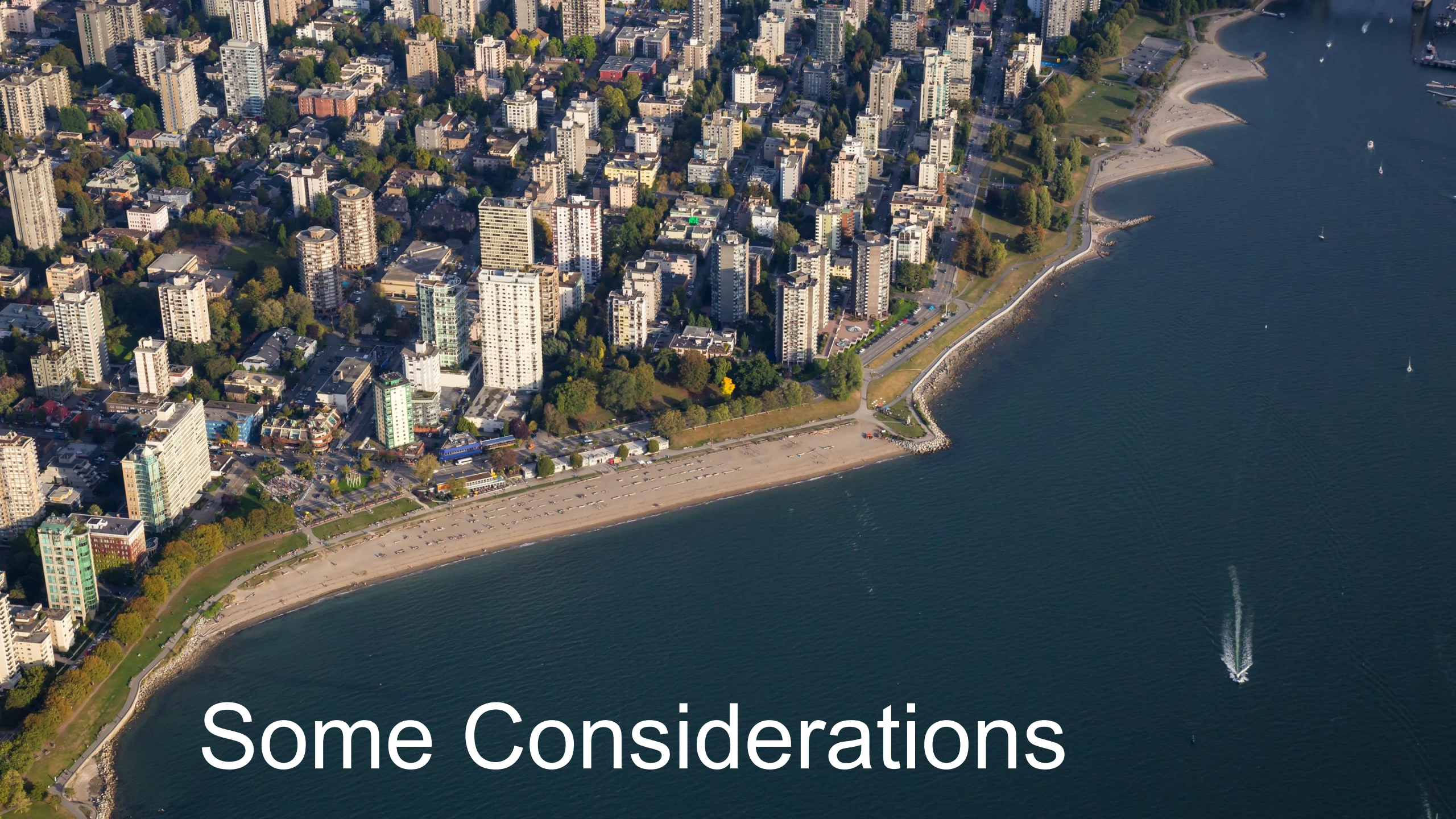

A place of meeting, gathering, and abundance

Project Area Considerations

- From Site Assessment and Analysis



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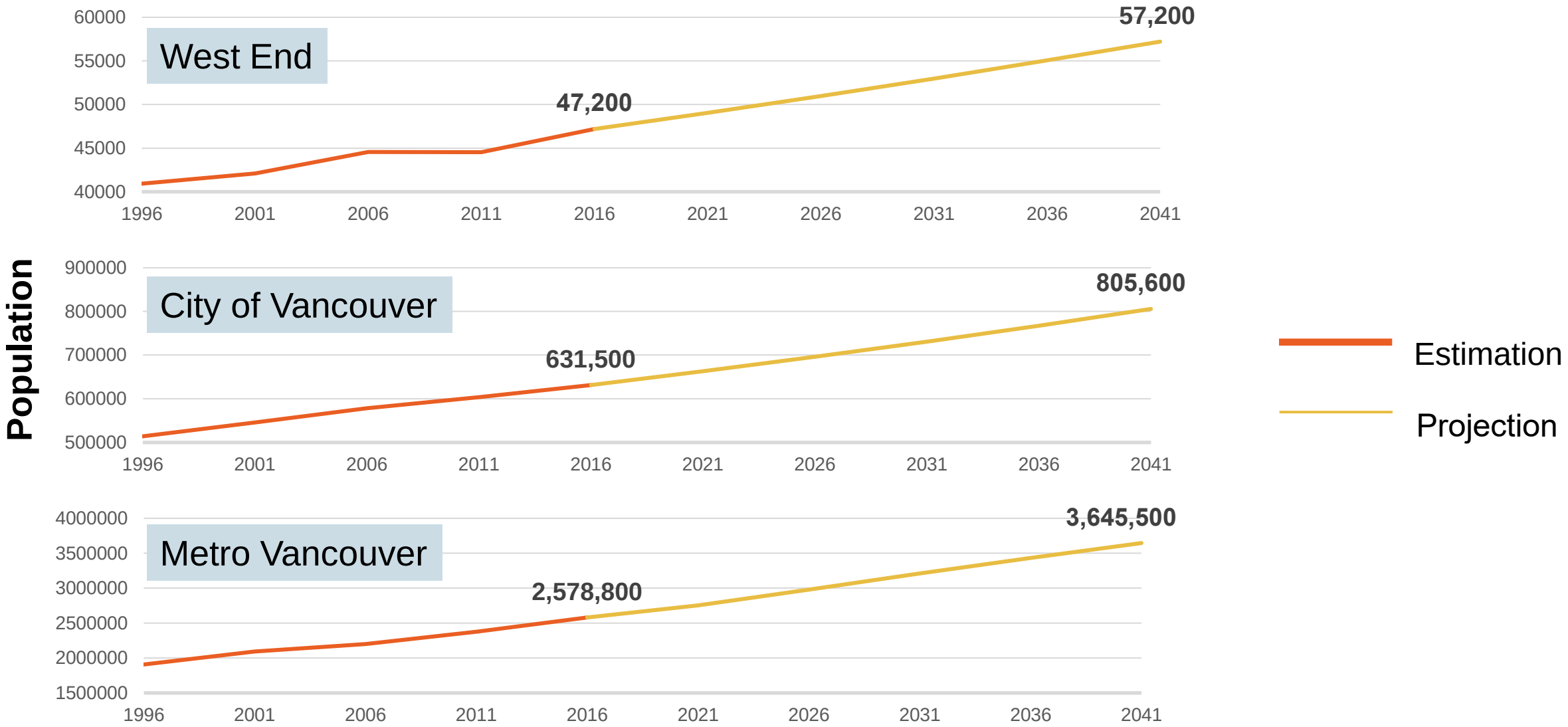


Some Considerations



Population and Demographics

Population - more residents and visitors



Demographics

- A diversity of people and ethnicities
- A “landing pad” for many newcomers
- Home to Western Canada’s largest 2SLGBTQ+ community
- 80% renters versus 54% for Vancouver-wide





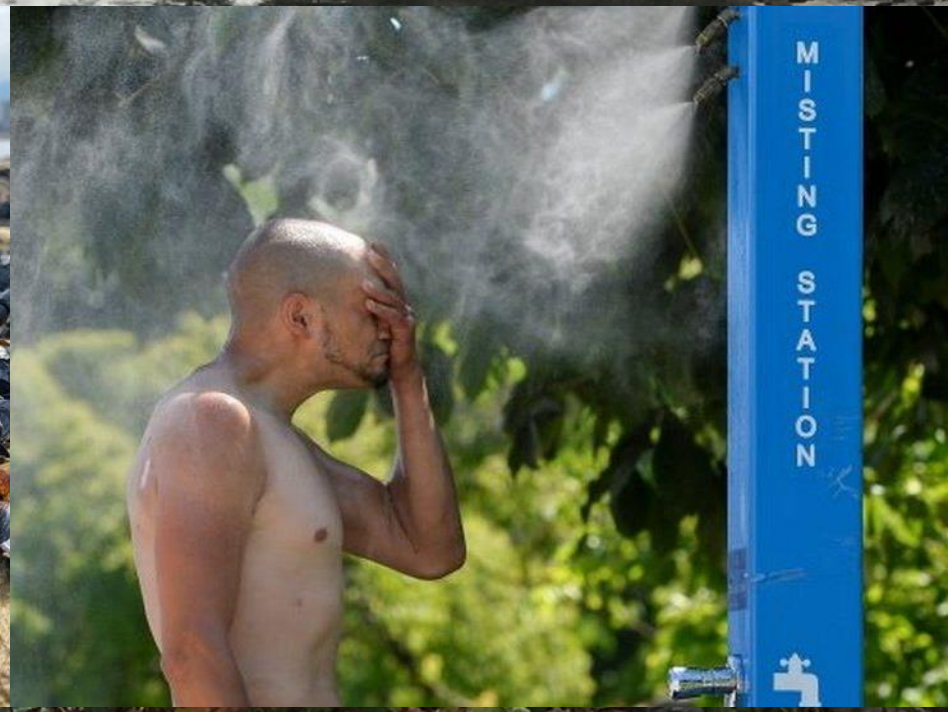


Climate Change and Sea Level Rise

A summer like no other…

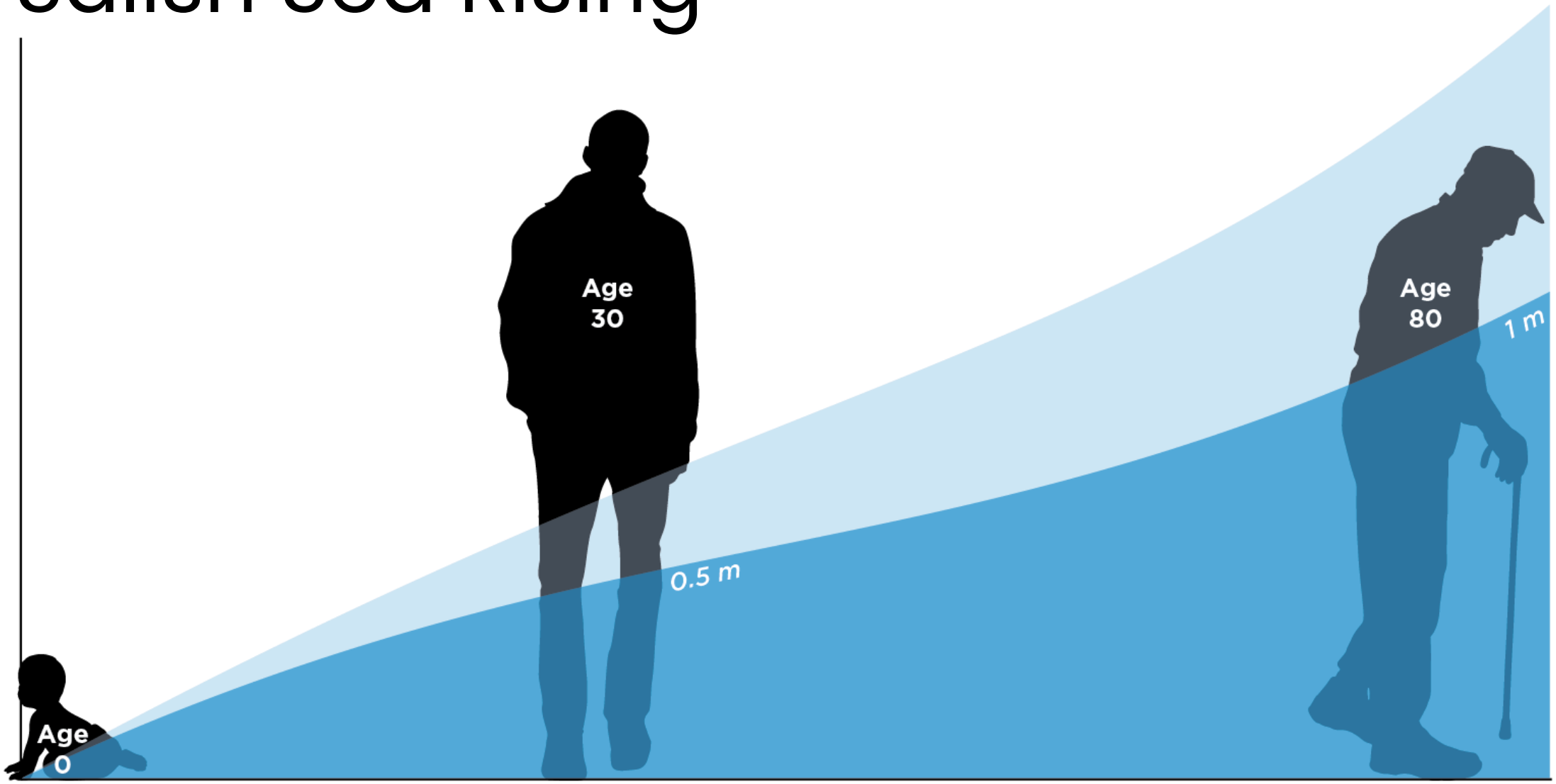






and sign of more to come…

Salish Sea Rising





Environment & Ecology


Upland
Foreshore

Issues

- Heavily modified and disturbed area
- Some native vegetation, but also lots of non-native and invasive species
- Limited natural habitat areas and biodiversity
- Limited tree canopy and some tree damage/health concerns



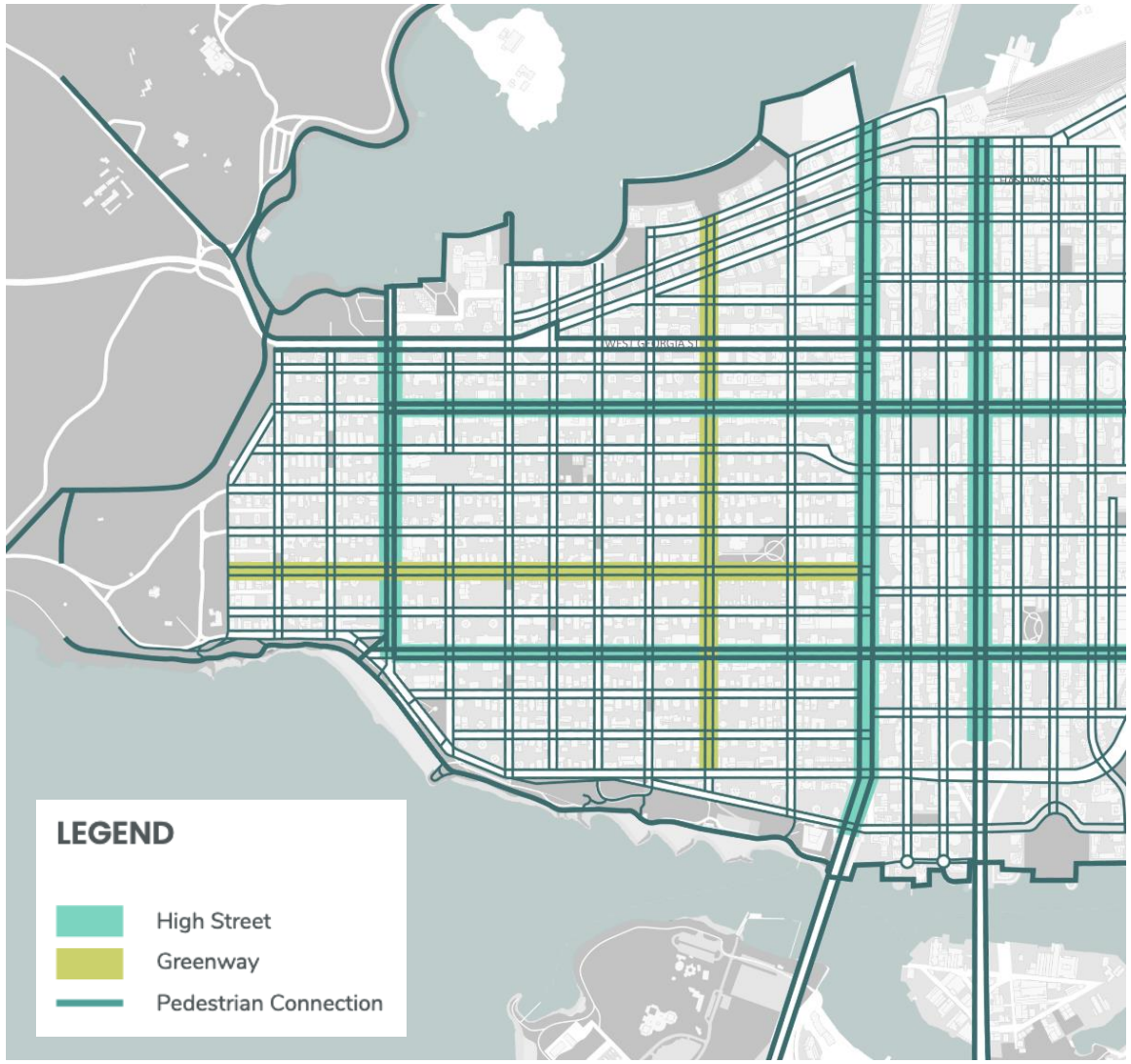




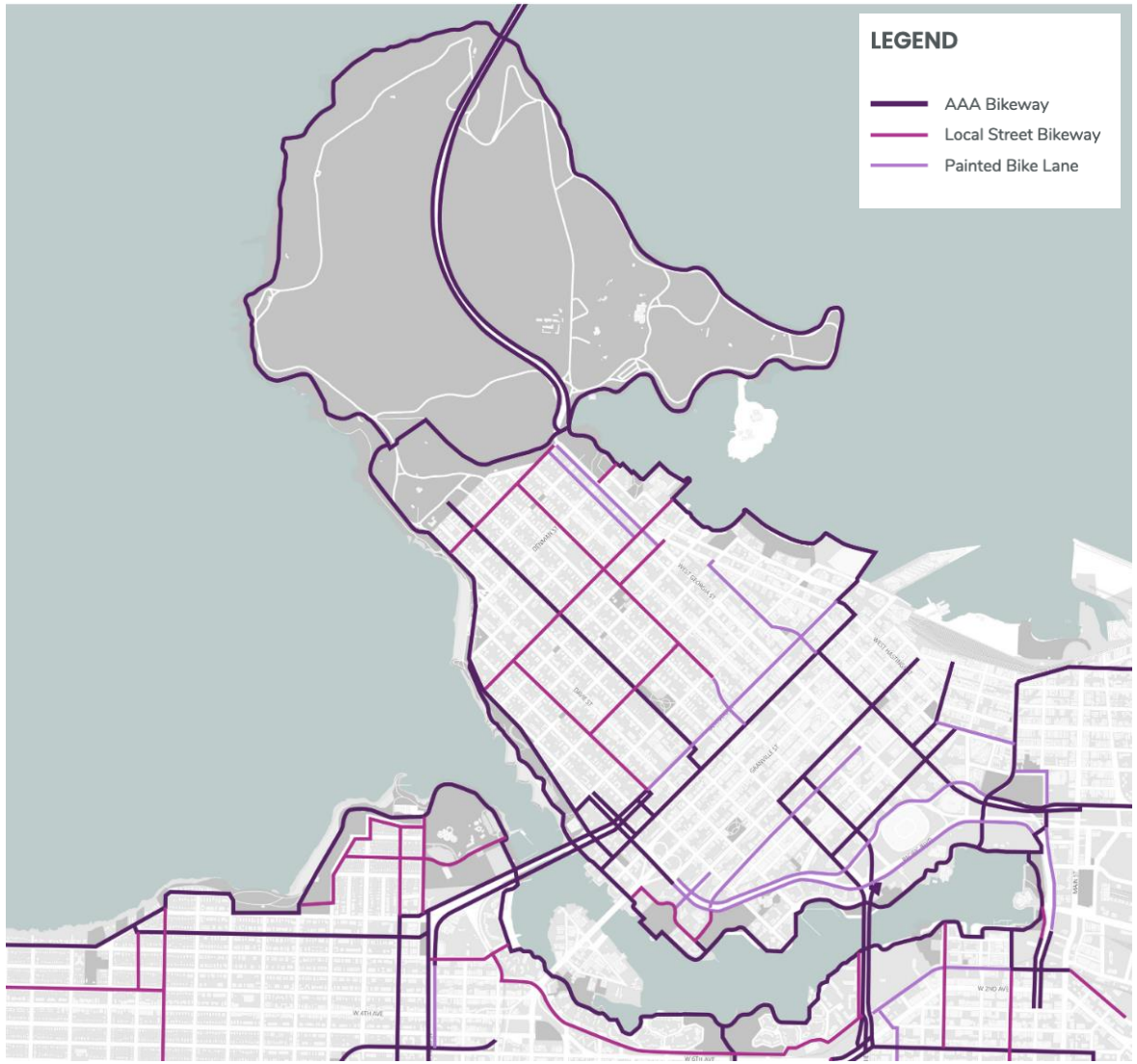
Transportation, Mobility, and Access

Transportation, Mobility, Access

- A dense, active area
- 70%+ use non-automobile modes to get to work (40% walk)
- High pedestrian, bicycle, car, and delivery truck volumes
- New interim bike lane on Beach Avenue (over 10,000 trips/day)



Active Transportation



Public Transportation



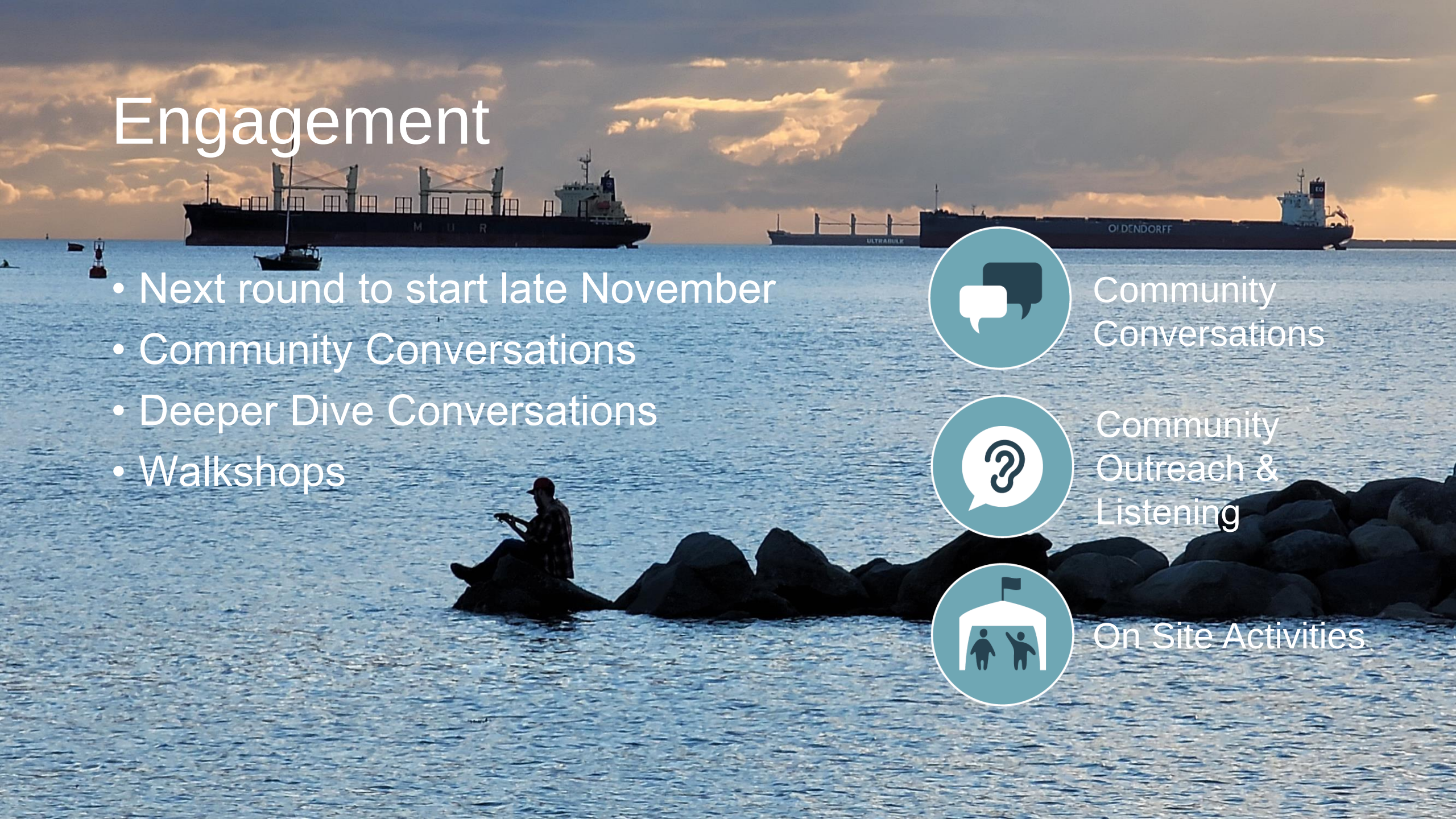
What’s Next



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Engagement

- Next round to start late November
- Community Conversations
- Deeper Dive Conversations
- Walkshops



Community Conversations

Community Outreach & Listening

On Site Activities


Thank you!
Stay in touch and keep involved
Survey is Live!
www.shapeyourcity.ca/west-end-waterfront
www.vancouver.ca/westendwaterfront
westendwaterfront@Vancouver.ca

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