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NATURAL SYSTEMS & OPEN SPACE

Engagement period: March 29–April 25, 2021.



shapeyourcity.ca/jericho-lands



inspirejericho.ca

NATURAL SYSTEMS & OPEN SPACE

Exploring Emerging Ideas

This is one of a series of four Discussion Guides that will frame Phase 2 public engagement for the ʔəyalməxʷ/Iyálmexw/Jericho Lands site.

The themes covered in the Discussion Guides are:

- **Natural Systems & Open Space**
- **Connections & Mobility**
- **Inclusive Neighbourhood**
- **Sustainability & Resilience**

The Discussion Guides build on the **Jericho Lands Guiding Principles, site analysis, and input received to date**, as well as City of Vancouver policies and objectives, and landowner aspirations.

Each of the Discussion Guides includes background information about the themes, along with reference to precedent projects from elsewhere. Each of the Discussion Guides identifies a set of 'Emerging Ideas' that will be considered during Phase 2 of public engagement. The outcomes of this process will be used to guide site planning and preliminary site concepts for the Jericho Lands.

How can you get involved?

We are looking for your feedback on the Emerging Ideas contained in the Discussion Guides.

A survey link is provided, along with discussion questions. You can also provide feedback by participating in upcoming virtual Design Workshops scheduled in mid-April 2021. The Design Workshops will include presentations and small group discussions focused on the Emerging Ideas.

Join us for a virtual Design Workshop about the Natural Systems and Open Space theme.

You can register to participate at shapeyourcity.ca/jericho-lands.

ʔəyalməxʷ is the place name in the hənq̓əminəm' language spoken by Musqueam and Tsleil-Waututh ancestors.

Iyálmexw is the place name in the Skwxwú7mesh language spoken by Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh ancestors.

Embedding Indigenous Values

ʔəyalməxʷ/Iyálmexw/Jericho Lands (pronounced Ee'yullmough) lies in the unceded traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlílwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) ("MST"). Redevelopment of these lands is an opportunity for the MST to express their deep connection to the land, while bringing forward new opportunities for prosperity for future generations. The stories, traditions and ways of being of the MST provide a cultural foundation that will be embedded through planning and design.

INTRODUCTION

ᑭᐱᙻᐃᓄᐸ^w/ᐱᙻᐃᓄᐸ^w/Jericho Lands is defined in part by the natural systems and features of the site, including their connections to a larger ecological network. These natural systems have the capacity to be ecologically significant at the site, neighbourhood and city scales.

For the MST, natural systems lie at the centre of everything. Stewarding this land for all future generations is of utmost importance. The health of people is interconnected with the environment we all inhabit, and we need to enable a healthy natural world.

Ṭəʔalməx^w/lɪ ʔalməxw/Jericho Lands is a culturally and ecologically significant place of abundance: of biodiversity, trees, topography, water, and green spaces.

Biodiversity and Trees

The Jericho Lands site has been disturbed as it was developed over the years, and most of the original trees on the site were logged following colonial settlement. However, a forested area at the centre of the site, along with several smaller stands of significant trees scattered across the site, provide canopy, habitat and the potential for natural system connectivity on and beyond the site.

Trees, and in particular cedar trees, hold tremendous cultural and spiritual significance for the MST. Cedar is considered to be the tree of life, with every part of the tree offering important resources. Cedar, pine, Douglas fir and spruce are present on the site, and there is a large oak grouping on the west side of the site.

We've heard that the green spaces, natural habitats, mature trees, trails, and other greenery that exist on the Jericho Lands are valued by the community.





Parks and Open Spaces

ʔəʔalməxʷ/Iʔəlməxw/Jericho Lands is located near existing parks and open space, including Jericho Beach Park, West Point Grey (Trimble) Park and Queen Mary Elementary School.

For the MST, an opportunity to be in the land allows for quiet connection with the natural world. It offers moments of peace and prayer, and feelings of happiness and of being at home.

Public feedback has emphasized the importance of natural greenspaces, habitat, and open spaces,

and appreciation for informal recreational uses of the site today. The mature trees, public access and trails, and plantings on the site are highly valued. The naturalization of the landscape, including the planting of native and edible species is considered desirable. Access to the beaches and ocean, as well as to nearby parks and trails, is also highly valued by the community. There is also a desire for a network of pedestrian and bicycle friendly pathways throughout the site, as well as enhanced connections to surrounding parks.

SITE PLANNING EMERGING IDEAS

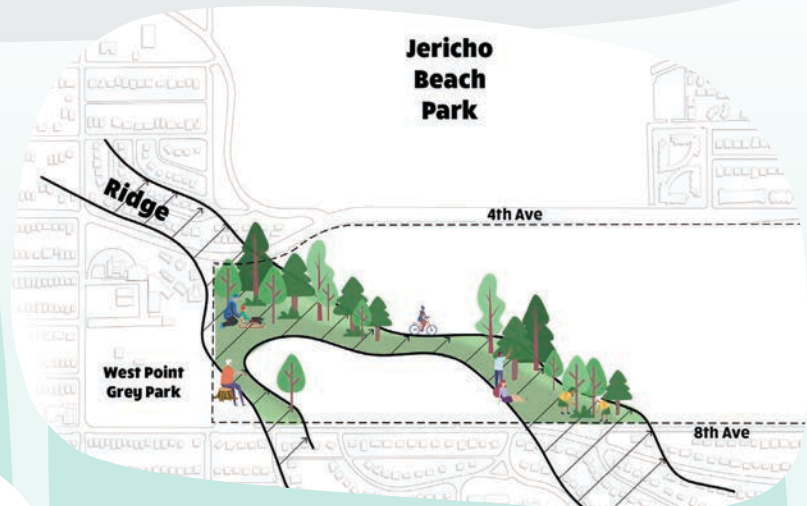
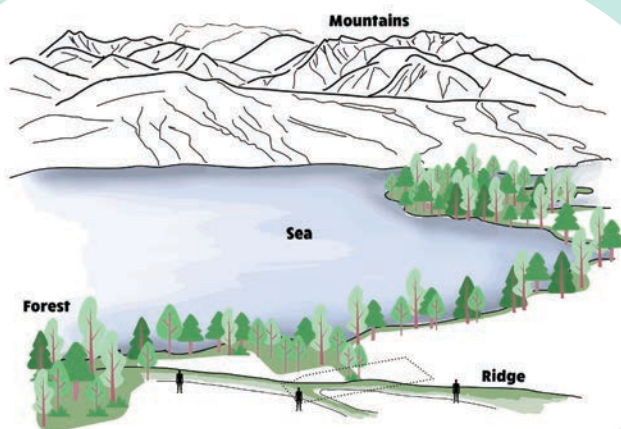
The following Emerging Ideas have been prepared to help us think about how to plan and design the ʔəyálməx^w/Iyálmexw/Jericho Lands site in a way that addresses opportunities and objectives related to Natural Systems and Open Space.

EMBED INDIGENOUS VALUES

- Tangibly express Musqueam, Squamish and Tsleil-Waututh culture and identity in the planning and design of all aspects of the site.

START WITH THE LAND

- Respond to and enhance the site's natural systems. Biodiversity, significant trees, hydrology, ecologically rich open spaces, the dramatic topography of the site and ridge are foundations of the new development.

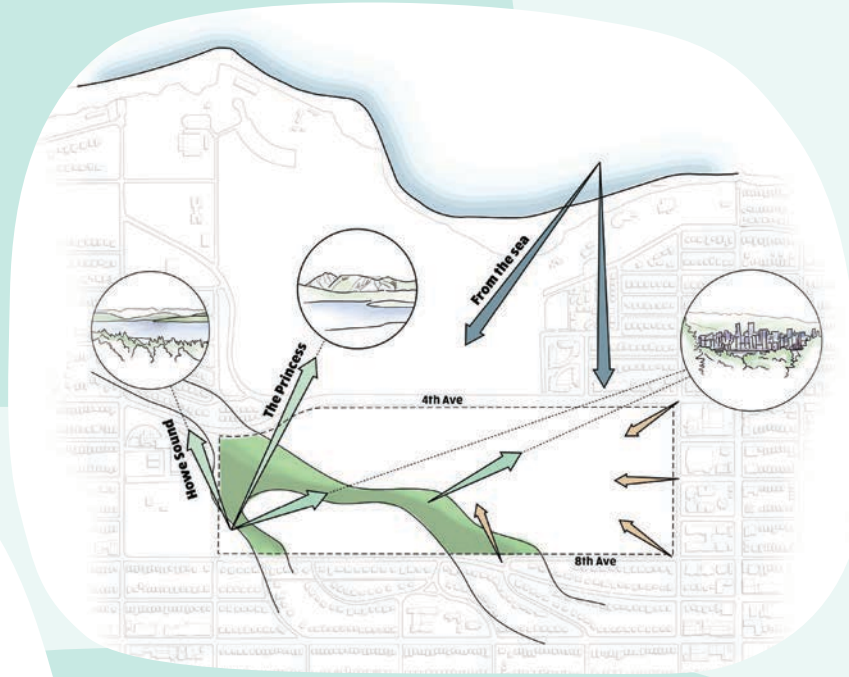


RECOGNIZE THE RIDGE

- Incorporate the ridge as a form shaper. Accentuate the site's topography and the ridge through intentional placement and design of buildings, mobility corridors and open space network.
- Maximize the ridge's ecological value by retaining significant trees and sensitively incorporating gently sloped walking and cycling connections while also maximizing ecological connectivity.

FRAME SIGNIFICANT VIEWS

- Consider the meaning of specific views to mountains and sea. Preserve and emphasize culturally important and locally valued public views of the water, mountains and the city. Define and frame new views within the site to support wayfinding and placemaking.
- Create views into the site from important points of arrival to welcome people to key places in the lands.
- Mark the Jericho Lands as a distinctive space in the larger cityscape, visible from other parts of the city.



CELEBRATE RAINWATER

- Reflect the natural and historic movement of water across the site by incorporating a distributed green infrastructure system.
- Capture, clean and reuse rainwater on site through water sensitive urban design that threads through a range of natural and open spaces, connections, buildings and more urban settings.
- Create a resilient rainwater system that manages water quantity and quality across the site and responds to the impacts of climate change and its impacts over time.



ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY AND ECOLOGICAL CONNECTIONS

- Enhance and integrate ecological connectivity through public, semi-public and private spaces on the site while connecting to the larger network beyond the site.
- Protect significant trees and key habitats that enrich the ecology of the site and provide natural carbon capture and storage.

CONNECT PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

- Provide a connected network of parks and open spaces responding to the site's natural systems and features and the neighbourhood's needs for a series of passive and active spaces to gather, make connections, and recreate.
- Create a hierarchy of welcoming and inviting park, open space, semi-public, and semi-private spaces that are integrated with the site and its built form. These spaces will be programmable to serve a diverse range of needs, ages and abilities.
- Foster intentional connections to adjacent and nearby parks, naturally managed areas, open spaces and cultural significant locations.



IDEAS FROM ELSEWHERE

We are gathering ideas, and learning from local and international urban redevelopment projects. The following projects offer some examples of ideas related to Natural Systems and Open Space.



WESBROOK VILLAGE (UBC)

At the southern end of the UBC campus, Wesbrook Village is a new residential neighbourhood designed to be both vibrant and ecologically sensitive. Water is planned for comprehensively, with green roofs and other opportunities for infiltration. Plants were also selected carefully to reduce watering requirements, and to promote habitat and biodiversity.



DOCKSIDE GREEN (VICTORIA, BC)

The largest development in Victoria, this 30-acre waterfront neighbourhood promotes urban living in an integrated sustainable development. In addition to other sustainability features, stormwater is collected through rain gardens or guided to a local waterway via permeable paving.

Emerging Ideas for Planning the Site

A summary of the Emerging Ideas in the four Discussion Guides is provided below for context. We invite you to provide feedback on each Discussion Guide.

Theme	Site Planning: Emerging Ideas
	Embed Indigenous values
NATURAL SYSTEMS & OPEN SPACE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Start with the landRecognize the ridgeFrame significant viewsCelebrate rainwaterEnhance biodiversity and ecological connectionsConnect parks and open space
CONNECTIONS & MOBILITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Design to be welcoming and inclusivePrioritize walking, rolling and cyclingEncourage transit use through site designEnhance neighbourhood connectionsRe-imagine West 4th AvenueDesign the site to be car-light
INCLUSIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Diverse housing choicesDesign a new neighbourhood with distinct districtsCreate a destination for culture, jobs and shoppingProvide amenities to support the neighbourhoodA unique and vibrant public realmNeighbourhood spaces foster health and well-beingRecognize land as a limited resource
SUSTAINABILITY & RESILIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Plan for a low carbon neighbourhoodDesign with climate change in mindDefine a place that is resilient and adaptableAmplify reconciliation and long-term prosperity

STAY INFORMED

While restrictions on large gatherings and social distancing measures remain in place, we are committed to providing ways for you to continue to engage in the Jericho Lands planning process. In addition to the upcoming engagement activities, there are a variety of ways for you to provide input and stay informed with the process.

**VISIT THE
PROJECT WEB PAGE**

To learn more about the Jericho Lands planning process, the public engagement completed to date, participate in a survey, or ask a City staff member a question, you can visit:

shapeyourcity.ca/jericho-lands

SIGN UP TO THE CITY'S PROJECT EMAIL LIST

The best way to keep up-to-date with the planning process is by signing up to the project email list. You will receive updates from the City's planning team informing you of any upcoming engagement opportunities or project milestones. To sign up, visit the project web page and leave your contact information under "Get updates." Alternatively, you can email the project team and ask to be added to the list.

CONTACT THE CITY'S PROJECT TEAM

If you would like to contact the City's project team, you can email us at jericholands@vancouver.ca, or leave a question on the Q&A section of the project web page. Alternatively, you can send your inquiries via mail by writing to:

**c/o Jericho Lands planning team
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Vancouver, BC
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