

INTRODUCTION TO THE DESIGN APPROACHES

We are planning for the next 30 years of the West End waterfront area, commonly known as English Bay, Sunset Beach Park, Morton Park, Alexandra Park, and Beach Avenue.

The project team has prepared three approaches to help guide the plan. All three approaches explore different ways to achieve the same goals, and elements from each one can be combined. For example, all approaches include elements to make the area resilient to future sea level rise. These concepts are a work in progress and will continue to be developed to get to one conceptual design for the area.

- **Weave** emphasizes and celebrates park activation, public life, and the movement of people by weaving diverse activities throughout the length of the park.
- **Carve** focusses on the dynamic qualities of water, by integrating ways for people to experience fresh and salt water throughout the site.
- **Seed** prioritizes ecology and biodiversity and is influenced by the forests of Stanley Park and the historic salt marsh of False Creek.

Common elements across all approaches are being explored, such as:

- An All Ages and Abilities (AAA) bike path on Beach Avenue and Pacific Avenue.
- Changing the street configuration at Morton Park to create public space.
- Changing aspects of Beach Avenue east of Jarvis Street with local access maintained.
- Transit route 23 would continue to use Bidwell Street with route ending on Davie Street.
- Connecting transit into Stanley Park.
- Raising and extending the higher ground at English Bay and Sunset Beaches.
- Specific locations for parking (both on- and off-street, including accessible parking stalls and current parking at the Vancouver Aquatic Centre) will be determined in the next phases of planning.



WEAVE



'Weave' emphasizes and celebrates park activation, public life, and the movement of people by weaving diverse activities throughout the length of the park.

Weave: Highlights

- Design allows for diverse activities that are distributed throughout the park.
- Natural, green areas with diverse native plants are combined with treed lawns and paved areas.
- A new lawn replaces part of the beach at Sunset Beach meant for events and festivals.
- The sea wall is raised, with steps or terraces for seating, beaches, and water access; new gathering spaces are added.
- A new Welcome Centre (a multi-purpose building with community spaces) and concession/café building are added, along with more space for food carts and trucks.
- A designated bike path runs through part of the park between Burrard and Cardero Streets (1/2 the length of the park).
- Transit route 23 stays on Pacific Street east of Jarvis Street.
- Beach Avenue at Morton Park will connect with the intersection of Davie Street and Denman Street; it will be a two-way street west of Denman Street, and one-way east of Jarvis Street.

CARVE



'Carve' emphasizes and celebrates the dynamic qualities of water, driven by the impacts of sea level rise and climate change, by integrating a variety of ways to experience fresh and salt water throughout the site.

Carve: Highlights

- Opportunities to experience water are offered, including rainwater, freshwater and the ocean.
- Different levels of land onshore and larger intertidal areas (areas between the ocean and the beach) manage changing tides and sea level rise, with dedicated spaces to monitor sea level rise.
- Rainwater gardens collect rain and stormwater and replenish the soil.
- A new bath house is built on the western edge of English Bay Beach; the walls of the existing bath house are maintained to create different zones for outdoor programming and gardens.
- A new concession building is added, along with more space for food carts and trucks.
- The sea wall is not raised; elevated paths are added over the ocean for pedestrians and cyclists.
- A designated bike path runs through part of the park between Burrard and Bute Streets (1/3 the length of the park).
- Transit route 23 will be split between Beach Avenue and Pacific Street running one direction on each street.
- Beach Avenue at Morton Park will connect with the intersection of Davie Street and Denman Street; it will be two-way west of Denman Street, and one-way between Jervis Street and Thurlow Street.



‘Seed’ emphasizes and celebrates ecology and biodiversity and is influenced by the forests of Stanley Park and the historic salt marsh of False Creek. Before colonization, False Creek was an ecologically rich area, with wildlife and vibrant aquatic life, and connection to Burrard Inlet.

Seed: Highlights

- Ecological restoration and biodiversity are highlighted, with more space for certain ecologies, including forest, riparian, salt marsh, and camas meadow.
- Gathering spaces are concentrated at English Bay and Sunset Beach.
- Habitat islands are created in the bay to protect the shoreline from big waves and King Tides and reduce erosion along the waterfront.
- The sea wall is completely buried, underneath a sloping landscape that reconnects higher and lower ground. These gentler slopes into the sea will help manage future sea level rise.
- The bath house is raised and renovated.
- A new concession building is added, along with more space for food carts and trucks.
- There is no bike path in the park.
- Transit route 23 stays on Pacific Street east of Jervis Street.
- Beach Avenue will be one-way west of Denman Street and will intersect with Denman Street just north of Davie Street; between Jervis Street and Thurlow Street, it will be one-way with localized traffic calming