

Harbour Vitality Principles



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Harbour Vitality Principles

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1. Introduction

The Inner Harbour today is one of Victoria's key gateways for commerce and tourism. It is steeped in "First Nations and maritime history" and continues to thrive today in its capacity as a working harbour. This, in balance with its natural beauty and iconic downtown backdrop, provides a spectacular setting for recreation, leisure, culture, tourism and special events.

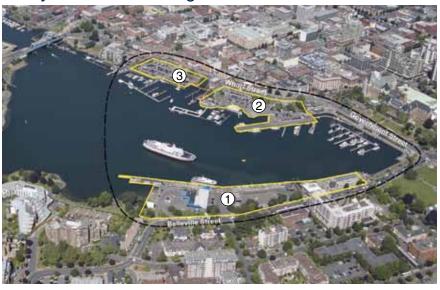
Interest in the Inner Harbour remains strong as evidenced through the recent rehabilitation and re-use of several waterfront heritage buildings, renewed investment in the surrounding infrastructure, public realm enhancements and private investment. The continued revitalization of the Inner Harbour is imperative to strengthening the economic, social and environmental health and resiliency of Victoria as the provincial capital and the primary gateway to the region and the Island.

The Harbour Vitality Principles provide a strengthened policy framework to help guide the ongoing revitalization of Victoria's Inner Harbour with a specific focus on opportunities for three strategic sites: Belleville Terminal site, Ship Point site and Lower Wharf Street site. These Principles and supporting conceptual illustrations have been developed to reflect and align with the key themes and directions that were derived through the Harbour Dialogue public engagement process (SEE APPENDIX FOR A SUMMARY OF THE HARBOUR DIALOGUE PROCESS) as well as with existing Councilapproved policies, regulations and related technical studies.

These Guiding Principles will:

- 1. advance and support opportunities for the further revitalization of the Inner Harbour with a specific focus on three strategic sites;
- 2. be used in conjunction with other related policies and regulations to consider and evaluate future development and public realm enhancements within the Inner Harbour; and
- 3. better position the City of Victoria and other Inner Harbour land owners for potential capital funding, grants and development opportunities that may arise.

Study Area and Strategic Sites



- 1 Belleville Terminal Site
- (2) Ship Point Site
- 3 Lower Wharf Street Site

---- General Inner Harbour Study Area

2. Background

2.1 Policy Direction

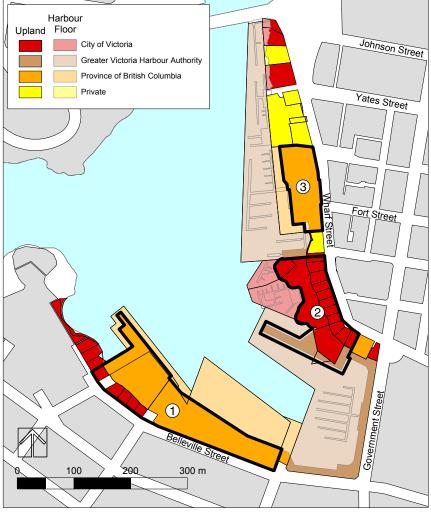
The need to provide more detailed guidance and to identify specific opportunities for advancing further revitalization of the Inner Harbour is a key implementation priority of several Council-approved policy plans including the *Victoria Strategic Plan* (2013), *Official Community Plan* (2012), *Downtown Core Area Plan* (2011), *Victoria Economic Development Strategy* (2011), *Victoria Harbour Pathway Plan* (2008), *Victoria Harbour Plan* (2001) and the *James Bay Neighbourhood Plan* (1993). These policy plans share common objectives for the Inner Harbour which generally aim to:

- support waterfront and harbour revitalization;
- enhance tourism;
- ensure sensitivity to the surrounding waterfront context;
- respect and acknowledge the local First Nations history and culture;
- maintain a working harbour and recognize the important relationship between activities on land and water;
- complete the Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way);
- maintain and enhance the Harbour's important role for transportation and as a gateway to the city, region and Vancouver Island; and
- provide well-designed and appropriate public realm improvements.

2.2 Strategic Sites

The Belleville Terminal, Ship Point and Lower Wharf Street sites are the primary focus of the *Harbour Vitality Principles* based on their strategic significance in terms of their potential to support and enhance transportation and tourism, foster Downtown vitality and economic development and contribute to Victoria's distinctive image and identity. These sites are also currently underutilized and have potential for expanded use and activity. The following section outlines the existing context and a summary of guiding considerations for each site. This information along with various technical studies (e.g. Geotechnical and Environmental) and other related information provided a foundation for the public and stakeholder consultation, technical workshop and the generation of the guiding Principles.

Property Ownership



- 1 Belleville Terminal Site
- 2 Ship Point Site
- 3 Lower Wharf Street Site

Belleville Terminal Site: Existing Context



Belleville Terminal Site: Guiding Considerations

Ownership

- Province of British Columbia
- City of Victoria (Belleville Street Green)

On-Site Uses and Activities

- Clipper Vacations Passenger ferry to Seattle
- Black Ball Ferry Line Passenger and vehicle ferry to Port Angeles
- US Customs and Border Protection
- Canada Border Services Agency
- · Offices, art gallery, restaurant and coffee shop
- Belleville Street Green open space

Historic Places

- Located within the traditional territory of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
- CPR Steamship Terminal: 396 Belleville Street 1924 (Heritage-Registered)
- Stores Building: 254 Belleville St. 1912 (Heritage-Designated)

Adjacent Uses and Activities

- Hotels and restaurants
- · Centennial Park, Quadra Park, and Confederation Plaza
- Provincial Parliament Buildings (Heritage-Registered)

Access

- Vehicle access from three separate points on Belleville Street
- Pedestrian paths connect to the site along the water at both ends (including an access ramp adjacent to the CPR Steamship Terminal)

Physical Site Conditions

- Mostly level, rising about 3 m north to south towards Belleville Street
- Underlying bedrock steeply slopes toward water
- Granular fill sits on native marine clay which is on irregular bedrock
- Bedrock depth varies (maximum depth of approximately 14 m)
- Highly variable composition and quality of fill materials has resulted in settlement of the parking areas and distress to the pavement in some areas



Belleville Terminal Site parcel boundaries

Ship Point Site: Existing Context



Ship Point Site: Guiding Considerations

Ownership

- · City of Victoria
- · Greater Victoria Harbour Authority (wharf)

On-Site Uses and Activities

- Special Events and Festivals
- Parking
- Access to sea plane terminal, boat charters, boat rentals, kayak rentals and a floating restaurant
- · Private vessel and commercial vessel moorage

Note: City Council has approved a long-term lease for the City-owned water lot area adjacent to Ship Point (950 and 1000 Wharf Street) for a floating sea plane terminal building. Early termination of the lease agreement can be triggered by the City if the City proceeds to develop the upland portion of the site and the float plane terminal is not compatible with the development.

Historic Places

 Located within the traditional territory of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations

Adjacent Uses and Activities

- Multi-residential
- · Offices and restaurants
- Heritage buildings in Old Town Area (Registered and Designated)

Access

- Vehicle access in two locations at the north and south ends from Wharf Street
- Pedestrian paths connect to the site along the water at both ends

Physical Site Conditions

- Mostly level with some steep inclines and a 6 m retaining wall below Wharf Street on a portion of the site
- Subsurface materials contain loose fill which varies from approximately
 1 m thickness on the eastern portion of the site to over 8 m thickness on the western portion
- Soil in the southwest portion of the site contains forms of oil and oil-based contamination commonly found in many sites within the Inner Harbour.
 The distribution of contamination, however, is not extensive and where

- it does exist, it is generally deeply buried at approximately 6 m below the surface
- Seawall around the southwestern portion of the northern parking lot is cracking and distorting
- Environmental and geotechnical analysis determined that the eastern portion of the site is generally better suited for redevelopment than the western portion of the site



Ship Point Site parcel boundaries

Lower Wharf Street Site: Existing Context



Existing Pathway Conditions



Boat Moorage



Future David Foster Way Special Place (Note: Conceptual drawing is for illustrative purposes only)



Parking Lot and Historic Retaining Wall





Hyack Floatplane Terminal, BC Whale Watching Tours



Pedestrian Access (stairs)



Wharf Street Sidewalk and Parking Lot



Existing Pathway Conditions

Lower Wharf Street Site: Guiding Considerations

Ownership

· Province of British Columbia

On-Site Uses and Activities

- Parking
- Access to boat moorage on the adjacent docks

Historic Places

- Located within the traditional territory of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations
- Fort Victoria National Historic Site, includes the footprint of Fort Victoria, palisade, bastions, the three nodes formed by the three remaining mooring rings, and the viewscapes from the Fort site and mooring rings to Victoria Harbour

Adjacent Uses and Activities

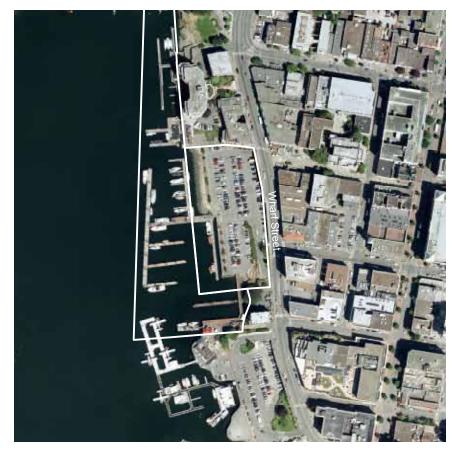
- · Offices and restaurants
- Heritage buildings in Old Town Area (Registered and Designated)

Access

- Vehicle access at the south end from Wharf Street
- Pedestrian access from Wharf Street on two staircases
- Pedestrian paths connect to the site along the water at both ends

Physical Site Conditions

- Mostly level with steep inclines and a 6 m retaining wall below Wharf Street
- Subsurface materials contain variable loose fill over highly irregular bedrock
- Seawall around the southwestern portion of the northern parking lot is cracking and distorting



Lower Wharf Street Site parcel boundaries

3. Guiding Principles

The Guiding Principles for Inner Harbour Revitalization are divided into:

- Overarching Guiding Principles that apply to the three sites and the areas connecting the three sites within the general Inner Harbour Study Area (p. 2). They provide overarching expectations and a framework that affects the Inner Harbour as a whole.
- Site-Specific Guiding Principles that apply to the Belleville Terminal site, Ship Point site, and Lower Wharf Street site, including the land and adjacent water areas.

They integrate a number of ideas, themes and opportunities for revitalizing the Inner Harbour which were derived through the public engagement process and which resonated with people during the consultation discussions.

The Guiding Principles are supplemented with conceptual drawings that were developed by the Harbour Dialogue Technical Workshop for each site. (SEE APPENDIX FOR A SUMMARY OF THIS PROCESS AND TO VIEW THE CONCEPTUAL DRAWINGS).

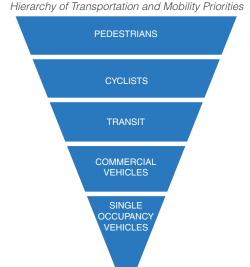
The conceptual drawings are intended to illustrate and help envision how the respective Guiding Principles can be incorporated into the potential development and enhancement of each site.

These drawings are conceptual only and are not intended to reflect preferred design solutions.

4. Overarching Guiding Principles

4.1 Promote access and connectivity to and along the Inner Harbour

- The provision and enhancement of pedestrian access both to and along the waterfront should be promoted, including the creation of Special Places along the David Foster Way and other nodes, spaces and places that enhance walkability, legibility, views and provide direct engagement with the waterfront where appropriate.
- Wayfinding is important to identify and connect places on and near the Inner Harbour and should be improved with elements such as continuous signage, distinguishing features and pathway surface treatments.
- The Harbour Pathway should be developed as the primary access to and connector along the waterfront, linking the Belleville Terminal site to the Lower Wharf Street site and beyond.
- Physical links between the city and the Inner Harbour should be improved by completing the Harbour Pathway and connecting to existing streets. Pedestrian friendly access that connects the downtown and surrounding neighbourhoods to the waterfront should be a priority.
- The Upper and Lower Causeways form an important pedestrian connection between the Ship Point site and Belleville Terminal site and should be maintained and improved where appropriate.
- The role of Victoria as an international gateway to Canada, particularly Vancouver Island, should be recognized and celebrated at key gateway points by promoting high quality urban design achieving a strong sense of entry and welcome.
- Multi-modal forms of connectivity between land and sea as well as
 the uses they support, should continue to be promoted, so that the
 character of the Inner Harbour is maintained as a vibrant and active
 area with multiple points of connection.
- The Hierarchy of Transportation and Mobility Priorities, illustrated in the following diagram, should be used as a conceptual framework where pedestrians, cyclists, transit, commercial vehicles, and single occupancy vehicles are ranked in descending order of priority.



4.2 Promote ecological well-being within the Inner Harbour

- On-shore and off-shore waterfront areas and their interfaces should be managed so that environmental restoration is undertaken where possible.
- Future planning, design and development should respond to rising sea levels so that the waterfront becomes an example of advanced adaptation to climate change.
- Sustainable rainwater management practices such as rain gardens, green roofs, and permeable paving should be used, where appropriate, to reduce impacts from stormwater run-off.

4.3 Support a Working Harbour

- The role of the Inner Harbour helps to shape the character and fabric of the city. The concept of a working harbour (e.g. marine-dependent industries and sea transportation such as ferries and seaplanes) should be maintained, where economically, environmentally and socially feasible, by supporting existing uses and anticipating and providing for future complementary uses in City of Victoria bylaws, policies and plans.
- Where possible, activities that support the working harbour should be enhanced to better promote the functionality, overall appearance and economic vitality of the harbour.

- The vibrancy and energy of the working harbour, which is attractive to citizens and visitors who engage with the harbour, should be supported.
- The connectivity between land, water and commerce should continue to promote and support existing water-based activity and the public's engagement with the waterfront.

4.4 Promote complementary land use and high quality urban design

- · Complementary land uses and coherent urban design should be encouraged throughout the Inner Harbour to promote a sense of cohesion within and between sites.
- Pedestrians should take precedence over vehicle traffic, except where transportation hubs require special access and parking, such as for float plane and ferry terminals.
- High quality, enduring, carefully articulated, and authentic urban design that celebrates the Inner Harbour, its connections to the city and that respects waterside and landside uses and activities should guide all development decisions.
- · Land uses, overall planning and development should incorporate a holistic perspective that recognizes the important interface between landside activities and waterside activities irrespective of ownership.
- Land use and development along the Inner Harbour should be principally framed by a celebration of the Inner Harbour's characteristics, and ability to promote public access, views and engagement with the water.
- Parking areas should be designed and landscaped to enhance pedestrian safety and comfort, increase attractiveness, encourage on-site stormwater management, and promote the use of sustainable materials and technologies.
- Land use planning within the Inner Harbour should consider the physical, ecological and social attributes of both the land and water.

4.5 Embed cultural and social considerations in future decisions

- Appropriate development, public realm improvements and programming should be supported to recognize and promote the cultural significance and importance of the waterfront as traditional territories of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations.
- The cultural and historic significance of the waterfront should be recognized through elements such as public art, place name designations and open space locations.

- The rehabilitation and adaptive re-use of historic places, including heritage buildings, should be encouraged and supported.
- Public waterfront access and engaging public spaces that celebrate Victoria's heritage and water-based history should be integrated into land use planning and development.
- The unique character of the Inner Harbour should be celebrated by continuing to promote a diversity of complementary activities that support festivals and events that draw people to the harbour.

4.6 Promote public activity, use and enjoyment of the Inner Harbour

- The remaining undeveloped portions of the Inner Harbour should promote activities and uses that support the passive and active enjoyment of the Inner Harbour by the public on land and water, including services and amenities such as recreation activity support. and strategically placed eating venues.
- Encourage activities for people of all ages, incomes, abilities, backgrounds and lifestyles.

4.7 Enhance the visual experience from the water

 The visual experience from the water and the opposite shores should be considered and enhanced where possible through careful design, material selection, building siting, and programming.

4.8 Celebrate the role of Victoria as the provincial capital

 Victoria has a strong image largely defined by its role as the Capital of British Columbia and the Provincial Parliament Buildings located on the Inner Harbour. Future planning, design and development on the Inner Harbour should connect the Capital with residents and vistors and reflect and celebrate this unique role.

4.9 Recognize importance of First Nations in Harbour Planning

• In any planning vision for Victoria Harbour, special attention has to be paid to the special role of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations in the development of any vision for the Harbour. This requires an openness to revisiting this vision in light of evolving First Nations' interests, visions and plans. Further, the City of Victoria acknowledges that the ongoing treaty negotiations may alter the jurisdictional roles and responsibilities of all levels of government and may require the reconsideration of existing plans and visions that were developed before the completion of that process.

5. Belleville Terminal Site

Key Opportunities

The key opportunities for the Belleville Terminal Site that were derived from the public consultation included: supporting functional efficiency through site design, providing enhanced infrastructure to support the ferry operations, strengthening the pedestrian connectivity within the site as well as to adjacent sites, and acknowledging Belleville Terminal as an international gateway through improvements to the overall aesthetics and quality of the site and the public realm along Belleville Street.

Guiding Principles

5.1 Strengthen key role as a transportation hub

- The primary activity of Belleville Terminal as a transportation hub should be maintained and its functional and aesthetic aspects should be improved where possible. Future transportation needs should also be considered and anticipated where possible.
- As a key gateway to the country, Vancouver Island, and the city, Belleville Terminal should display high quality gateway features, including the appropriate landside and waterside characteristics of an international transportation facility.
- Support and maintain the Belleville Terminal's function as a transportation hub and focal point through consideration of the important relationship and connectivity between complementary activities and uses on both the land and adjacent water-based parcels.

5.2 Integrate high quality design with form and function

- Potential redevelopment of the site should include considerations for user comfort, thematic considerations for design elements, public art and spaces, viewpoints and well-defined gateways.
- As existing facilities need replacement, future buildings should be designed in a way that considers amalgamation of uses, including international border services. Such redevelopment should carefully consider the relationship to adjacent land uses, including view corridors, Belleville Street, waterside views to the site and design elements.
- While the Belleville Terminal requires a secure setting, such security should be designed to be as visually attractive as possible.

5.3 Provide enhanced public access

- Where possible, public access to the waterfront should be encouraged at the edges of the Belleville Terminal outside of the security zone.
- A continuous pedestrian connection between the Lower Causeway to the east and Centennial Park to west should follow the waterfront and/ or Belleville Street, where appropriate, with an emphasis on pedestrian comfort, safety, and wayfinding.

5.4 Create a welcoming gateway environment

- Belleville Street should be recognized as a principal gateway into the downtown with gateway features located at entry points into and out of the Belleville Terminal. A widened, pedestrian-oriented sidewalk should be provided with hard and soft landscaping, viewpoints and rest points along the way.
- Belleville Street should be "street-calmed" through the use of materials and landscaping that slows traffic and enhances pedestrian movement.
 Intersections at Pendray St., Oswego St. and Menzies St. should be considered for enhanced pedestrian environments.
- The CPR Steamship Terminal Building should be supported as a key landmark feature and wayfinding element for the Belleville Terminal site.

5.5 Promote economic vitality

 Support economic vitality for the site by encouraging a mix of complementary uses.

6. Ship Point Site

Key Opportunities

The key opportunities for the Ship Point site that were derived from the public consultation included: providing a site design and infrastructure to support the location of year-round special events and festivals, strengthening pedestrian connectivity within the site and to adjacent sites, providing limited parking and improving the overall aesthetics and quality of the site to provide a more inviting public space.

Note: City Council has approved a long-term lease for the City-owned water lot area adjacent to Ship Point (950 and 1000 Wharf Street) for a floating sea plane terminal building. Early termination of the lease agreement can be triggered by the City if the City proceeds to develop the upland portion of the site and the float plane terminal is not compatible with the development.

Guiding Principles

6.1 Incorporate site design that supports a range of active uses

- Ship Point should continue to be a primary destination for festivals and events of various sizes and activities, including the provision of small "intimate" spaces and larger venues for large crowds.
- Where possible, site parking should be reduced and/or reconfigured to support festival and event activity, including the potential to create a permanent festival site that permits parking during non-event times.
- Parking areas should be designed and landscaped to be safe. attractive, and environmentally responsible to enhance a people centred experience of the harbour.
- Site flexibility should be a key design consideration, so that future uses can be accommodated with minimal site disruption.
- Site parking should be retained to accommodate the seaplane terminal needs, including a pick-up/drop-off area, taxi, and bus spaces.

6.2 Integrate strong connectivity and access

- A seamless transition of the Harbour Pathway between Lower Wharf Street and Ship Point should be a design and development priority.
- The Harbour Pathway should be a key design consideration in site development, acting as a primary connector between Ship Point and the adjacent sites as well as direct connections to Wharf Street.

- The Harbour Pathway, as a key connection, should be identified through the use of high quality hard and soft landscaping.
- Wharf Street should be considered an important linear corridor for views out onto the Inner Harbour and down onto the festival site and animated areas. Viewpoints and sitting areas should be incorporated into site design accordingly.
- Strong entry points off Wharf Street should be created to strengthen the sense of place.

6.3 Enhance Ship Point as an inviting year-round destination

- Where possible, the Ship Point waterfront should be open to public access and views.
- The site should be designed to support animation and programming, particularly in the evening and night to provide a venue for visitor and citizen engagement, such as light shows, fountains, plaza space and music.
- A broad range of infrastructure for special events and vendors is encouraged including electrical, water, washrooms, lighting, and equipment storage.
- Site design should include comfortable public open space, such as a plaza or green space, when no special events are occurring.

6.4 Encourage vitality through high quality design

- The Ship Point site should be designed as a public destination where visitors and citizens of all ages come to view and celebrate the waterfront and the "ballet of activity" that enlivens the Inner Harbour.
- · Encourage high quality and architecturally distinct forms of development and site design that are appropriate for the site's prominent waterfront location.
- Passive and active spaces and places should be incorporated into the design of the site with a mix of uses that support a diversity of activities that are promoted and celebrated.

7. Lower Wharf Street Site

Key Opportunities

The key opportunities for the Lower Wharf Street site that were derived from the public consultation included: strengthening the pedestrian connectivity with Bastion Square and to Ship Point, improving opportunities for inviting public access to the water, potential uses to anchor the site as an Inner Harbour destination, supporting economic vitality opportunities for First Nations as well as greater year-round animation of the site.

Guiding Principles

7.1 Integrate strong connectivity and access

- The Lower Wharf Street site should be considered as a key link between the Old Town Area and the waterfront by encouraging a direct link from Bastion Square to the edge of the water. This could include the creation of a "beach" and kayak access/landing.
- Access from Wharf Street should be a stepped, mixed use transition from street to waterfront, including capacity and capability to provide access for everyone including people with mobility needs.
- The Wharf Street pedestrian crossing at Bastion Square should incorporate features to improve pedestrian comfort and safety.
- Consideration should be given to the potential to increase the vibrancy and ambiance of the waterfront activities, including direct access to the water's edge.
- The Harbour Pathway should be given precedence as a key site development determinant that provides a central link to other waterfront areas
- Views of the water should be preserved from Bastion Square and Fort Street.

7.2 Create a pedestrian-friendly environment

- Pedestrian activity along Wharf Street should be enhanced to promote views, sitting areas and opportunity to provide for increased numbers of pedestrians using the sidewalk in a safe manner.
- Vehicle access, principally to support site activities, and site parking should be limited and, where they occur, secondary to pedestrian activity.
- Parking areas, where provided, should be designed and landscaped to be safe, attractive, environmentally responsible, and flexible to allow for other activities such as special events.

7.3 Encourage vitality through high quality design

- The Lower Wharf Street site should be designed as a public destination where visitors and citizens of all ages come to view and celebrate the waterfront and the "ballet of activity" that enlivens the Inner Harbour.
- Encourage high-quality and architecturally distinct forms of development and site design that is appropriate for the site's prominent waterfront location.
- Passive and active spaces and places should be incorporated into the design of the site with a mix of uses that support a diversity of activities that are promoted and celebrated.
- Where possible, the design of the Lower Wharf Street site should complement existing uses, such as restaurants and boat moorage, so that the site has a seamless and integrated transition from existing to new.

7.4 Reflect the area's cultural and historic significance

- Design elements for the site should reference and celebrate local cultural heritage.
- Opportunities to enhance and highlight the presence of First Nations people should be considered through appropriate forms of culturebased development, programming, and design.

7.5 Enhance the site as a landmark location

 Opportunities to enhance the Lower Wharf Street site as a key landmark/destination should be considered through uses that attract people year-round and are complementary to the Inner Harbour.

7.6 Create opportunities for economic development

 Consider opportunities for the integration of appropriate forms of commercial development that support economic opportunities particularly for First Nations, in a manner consistent with the surrounding environment and that complement the downtown and waterfront context.

Appendix

Harbour Vitality Principles

Public Engagement Summary

1A. Introduction

During May and June 2014, the City of Victoria engaged with the community as part of the Harbour Dialogue process to solicit ideas and feedback on revitalization opportunities for three strategic sites along the Inner Harbour: Belleville Terminal site, Ship Point site and the Lower Wharf Street site. This report provides an overview of the public outreach and summarizes feedback collected through all engagement channels.

2A. Engagement Objectives

The goal of the engagement process was to:

- Seek input from the public and key stakeholders on opportunities for Inner Harbour revitalization
- Foster shared ownership of revitalization opportunities
- Provide accessible and clear project information
- Facilitate a meaningful engagement process
- Increase awareness of existing policies and plans relating to the Inner Harbour



- (1) Belleville Terminal Site
- 2 Ship Point Site
- 3 Lower Wharf Street Site

3A. How We Engaged the Community

Throughout the month of May two separate events (Open House and Ideas Forum) were held to inform and solicit feedback from the public and key stakeholders. A public survey was also made available during the month of May. In June, the feedback received through the public engagement process including key themes from the public survey were advanced by local experts through a Technical Workshop (see sections 5A and 6A below for details on the Technical Workshop).

Additional engagement details include:

- Project and event details provided on project website: www.victoria.ca/harbourdialogue
- Advertisements for Open House and Ideas Forum placed multiple times in Times Colonist and Vic News
- Electronic evite sent to key land owners, open house participants, Inner Harbour businesses, community associations, development industry, federal agencies, First Nations, CRD, Province of British Columbia, special event and festival groups, Inner Harbour recreational user groups and local MLAs and MPs
- Newsletter articles submitted to greater Victoria Harbour Authority, Urban Development Institute, Downtown Victoria Business Association, Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition and Tourism Victoria for inclusion in their digital and print newsletters
- Direct mail out sent to over 800 property owners, residents and tenants located within a 100m radius of the Inner Harbour
- Several posts made on City of Victoria social media including Facebook and Twitter
- Project and events received media coverage through Times Colonist,
 Vic News and Vibrant Victoria
- Presentations made to James Bay Neighbourhood Association and Victoria Esquimalt Harbour Society to explain the project, promote the public events and the survey and to communicate the various outcomes of each event.

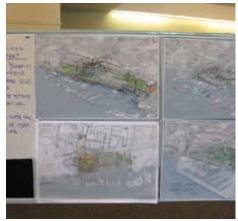


Open House











Ideas Forum

Technical Workshop Open House

Open House: May 9, 2014

Over 400 people representing residents, businesses, tourism, the development industry, marine recreational groups and government attended the Open House held at the Ship Point site. This event included City of Victoria staff as well as representatives from the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, Royal BC Museum, Downtown Victoria Business Association and Tourism Victoria. Attendees were invited to view display boards, speak with staff and provide feedback through a "vision board" and survey.

Ideas Forum: May 10, 2014

Over 100 people attended the Ideas Forum at the Victoria Conference Centre. The Ideas Forum sessions allowed participants to move from table to table every 15 minutes and discuss various topics related to the Inner Harbour including Transportation and Connectivity, Public Realm, Working Harbour and Tourism.

Public Surveys: May 8 to May 26, 2014

Throughout the engagement process, the public was invited to provide their ideas and feedback through a hard copy survey that was made available at the Open House and Ideas Forum or through the electronic version that was available on the project website. 166 surveys (94 online and 72 hard copy) were completed.

Technical Workshop Open House: June 6, 2014

Following the completion of the Technical Workshop, the public was invited to an open house at the Victoria Conference Centre where they could view the development concepts created by the local experts, provide general comments and speak to City of Victoria staff. See sections 5A and 6A below for details on the Technical Workshop.

4A. Summary of Public **Engagement Comments**

Outlined below is a summary of the key ideas and themes that the public identified for each site through the Harbour Dialogue Open House, Ideas Forum and public surveys.

Belleville Terminal Site

Belleville Terminal is valued as a key transportation hub and the connectivity it provides to the United States. Its proximity to the downtown core for both incoming tourists and locals using the ferry terminal is seen as a valued convenience. The terminal's role in supporting the local economy by bringing tourists to the Inner Harbour, the surrounding views and the CPR Steamship Terminal were also valued.

The need for an aesthetic upgrade was the most common improvement mentioned. The completion of a waterfront pathway connecting the terminal to the rest of the Inner Harbour, more green space, the consolidation of the Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line and Clipper Vactions terminals, improving the functionality with more services to attract both tourist and locals such as restaurants and cafés, widening and revitalizing the sidewalk were the most commonly referred to improvements the public would like to see made to the site.

Ship Point Site

Its use as a special event site, the views and the site's location in the heart of downtown and along the Inner Harbour are what people value the most about Ship Point. The most common improvement the public would like to see made is the reduction of space currently allocated to parking. Consistent suggestions on how best to use the space include introducing a permanent, weather-protected event site for small to large scale events (public market, festivals, concerts, etc.), more green space and seating areas, an amphitheatre and a covered parking lot offering space for mixed use above.

Lower Wharf Street Site

Public access to the harbour, its downtown location and marine-related activities are highly valued attributes of this site. Parking on the site was mainly unsupported. Most frequent suggestions received were to remove parking completely; reduce the amount of current spaces or to cover the parking lot to allow for secondary uses on the upper level. An improved walkway and more services such as cafés, food kiosks and restaurants were also strongly supported. Several Ideas Forum participants suggested a "Spanish Steps" structure to connect Bastion Square to the water and create a space for informal gatherings.

Overall

The most common factors the public mentioned that should be considered in planning for the Inner Harbour are:

- Design a harbour that will attract locals and tourists
- Maintain a working harbour while ensuring it is appealing for visitors
- Develop a continuous walkway along the harbour that will also ensure public access to the waterfront
- Improve the public realm and pedestrian experience

When asked what waterfronts could serve as an inspiration for planning the Inner Harbour, Vancouver's continuous walkway for pedestrians and cyclists (Seawall), Sydney, Australia and Seattle's market and commercial space (Pike Place Market) were most referenced.

5A. Technical Workshop June 5-6, 2014

36 local experts from various organizations and businesses participated in a two-day intensive Charrette-style process. Participants were organized into three teams for the purpose of actively discussing, analyzing and illustrating potential development concepts/opportunities for improving the Inner Harbour with a specific focus on the Belleville Terminal site, Ship Point site and Lower Wharf Street site. The Technical Workshop was informed by the participants' technical knowledge and expertise while also building on the key findings from the Harbour Dialogue public engagement process, existing Council-approved policy plans and supporting background and technical studies.

Participants at the Technical Workshop included representatives from the following organizations/businesses:

- Architectural Institute of British Columbia
- Black Ball Ferry Line
- British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects
- City of Victoria Parks, Recreation and Culture
- City of Victoria Sustainable Planning and Community Development
- Clipper Vacations
- Downtown Victoria Business Association
- Greater Victoria Harbour Authority
- Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce
- Harbour Air Seaplanes
- Province of British Columbia Ministry of Transportation
- Province of British Columbia Shared Services
- Songhees First Nations
- Urban Development Institute Capital Region
- Victoria Esquimalt Harbour Society
- Victoria Real Estate Board

The Technical Workshop participants provided expertise and working knowledge related to:

- architecture
- coastal planning
- commercial development
- economic development
- First Nations
- land management
- · landscape architecture/site design
- marine operations
- natural resource ecology
- · parks and open space planning
- · special events and festivals
- tourism
- transportation (marine/air)
- urban design
- urban planning

The Technical Workshop began with a morning walking tour/visit to each site where participants received a site briefing including information related to land ownership, existing uses and activities, infrastructure, operations as well as geotechnical and environmental site conditions. The balance of the two-day process was structured with each team undertaking a contextual analysis of the entire Harbour and the three sites as the basis for identifying character-defining elements, existing conditions, areas for improvement, potential opportunities and related barriers/issues. Each team also had the opportunity to report out to the group using their illustrations to explain their approach, rationale and desired outcomes for revitalization opportunities.



Technical Workshop

6A. Technical Workshop Conceptual Illustrations

The Belleville Terminal, Ship Point and Lower Wharf Street conceptual illustrations on the following pages were developed as part of the Harbour Dialogue Technical Workshop and were used to help formulate the site specific Guiding Principles for each site. These conceptual illustrations are included to help envision how the respective Guiding Principles could be achieved through the potential development and enhancement of each site.

These conceptual illustrations do not reflect preferred design solutions, however there are a range of key characteristics for each site that are shared by the illustrations developed by each team:

Belleville Terminal - Common Characteristics

- New combined Ferry Terminal Building
- New or upgraded docks and wharf structures
- · Enhanced onsite landscaping and amenities throughout site
- Improved public access to water
- Retention and re-use of CPR Steamship Terminal as a key anchor and landmark
- Completion of Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way)
- Improved public realm interface along Belleville street with attractive pedestrian oriented streetscaping and landscaping

Ship Point - Common Characteristics

- Enhanced landscaping and site redesign to express Ship Point as a year-round plaza space
- Unique design elements such as lighting or water features
- Improved access from Wharf Street and from the Lower Causeway
- Completion of Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way) including a Special Places plaza space
- Infrastructure to support special events and festivals (e.g. power, lighting, water, storage)
- Wharf Street retaining wall as a unique feature through lighting and public art
- Widened sidewalk along Wharf Street
- Boat moorage

Lower Wharf Street - Common Characteristics

- Widened stairway from Wharf Street
- Strengthened presence and development opportunities for First Nations
- · Reduced parking with enhanced soft and hard landscaping
- · Commercial/cultural development as an anchor for the site
- · Boat moorage
- Completion of Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way)
- · Improved lighting
- · Widened sidewalk and viewing spaces along Wharf Street

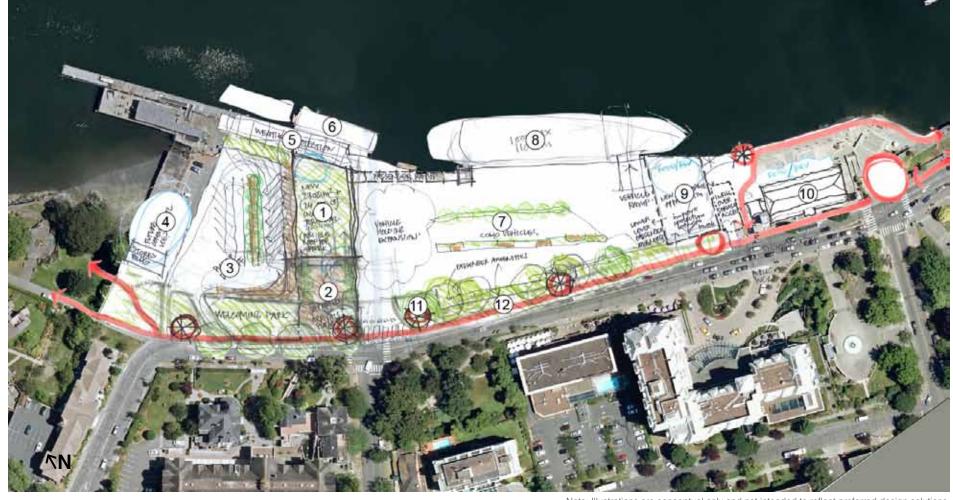


Technical Workshop

Belleville Terminal Site

Conceptual Illustrations

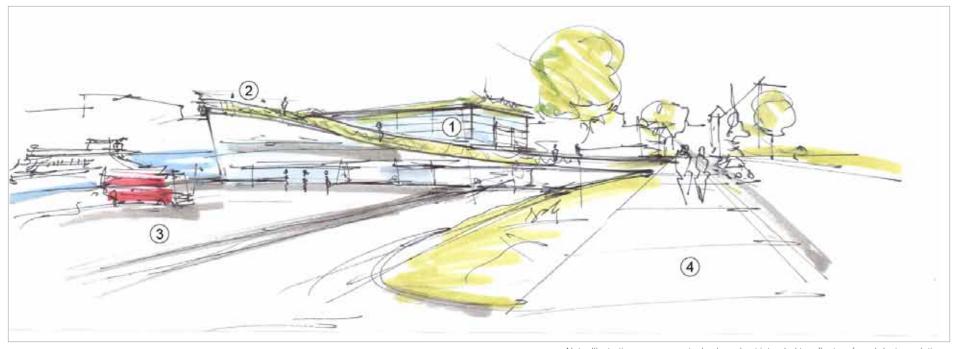
Team 1: Belleville Terminal Concept – Plan



- 1. Combined terminal building with rooftop park/plaza
- 2. Attractive plaza space connecting to Belleville Street
- 3. Redesigned parking and passenger pick up/drop off
- 4. Rehabilitated heritage building (Stores Building) for new active commercial use
- 5. Weather protection for foot passengers
- 6. Victoria Clipper Ferries

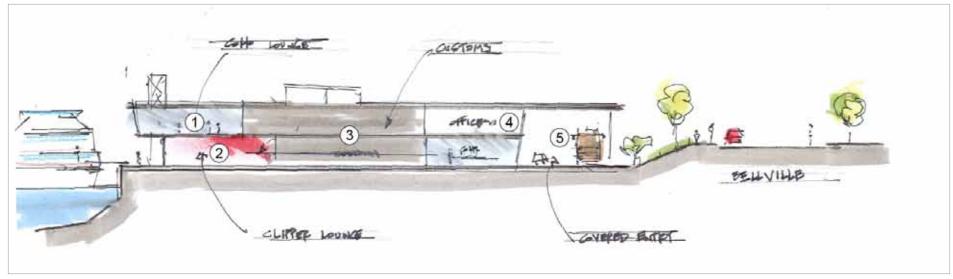
- 7. Improved landscaping and amenities in vehicle holding/staging area (e.g. Outdoor seating, dog run, play area)
- 8. Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line
- 9. Redevelop/re-use Black Ball Ferry Line office for active commercial use and improved pedestrian connections to Harbour Pathway
- 10. CPR Steamship Terminal
- 11. High quality public plaza as key node for Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way Special Place)
- 12. Enhanced streetscape with widened sidewalks, plazas and public outlooks with views to harbour

Team 1: Belleville Terminal Concept – Perspective View (looking east along Belleville St.)



- 1. Combined Terminal Building
- 2. Rooftop park/plaza
- 3. Parking and pick up/drop off
- 4. Enhanced pedestrian experience on Belleville St.

Team 1: Belleville Terminal Concept – Perspective View (looking east along Belleville St.)



- 1. Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line Lounge
- 2. Clipper Vacations Ferry Lounge
- 3. Customs
- 4. Offices
- 5. Covered entry

Team 2: Belleville Terminal Concept – Plan



- Combined Terminal Building with new docks and potential hotel on upper floors
- 2. Passenger drop off/pick up lane
- 3. Tour bus and public parking
- 4. Public park on west end of site with kayak/small watercraft launch
- 5. Victoria Clipper Ferry Line

- 6. Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line
- 7. Vehicle holding/staging area
- 8. Redevelop Blackball Ferries building into a children's pocket park
- Enhanced pedestrian connections to Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way)
- 10. CPR Steamship Terminal

- 11. Enhanced plaza space as a visual landmark at terminus of Menzies Street
- 12. David Foster Way Special Place
- 13. Improved pedestrian crossings at strategic locations
- Attractive paving materials with enhanced landscaping along Belleville Street

Team 3: Belleville Terminal Concept – Plan



Note: Illustrations are conceptual only and not intended to reflect preferred design solutions.

- 1. Combined Terminal Building with new floating docks
- 2. Landscaped area with footbridge connecting Belleville 6. Landscaped vehicle holding/staging area with Street and Terminal
- 3. Landscaped parking area/passenger drop off/pick up
- 4. Victoria Clipper Ferries

- 5. Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line
- additional amenities
- 7. Re-use Black Ball Ferry Line building for active commercial use
- 8. CPR Steamship Terminal

- 9. Enhanced landscaping along Belleville Street with widened sidewalk, public viewpoints/outlooks and marine-themed public art
- 10. David Foster Way special place
- 11. Passenger drop off/pick up lane
- 12. Public boardwalk

Team 3: Belleville Terminal Concept – Aerial View

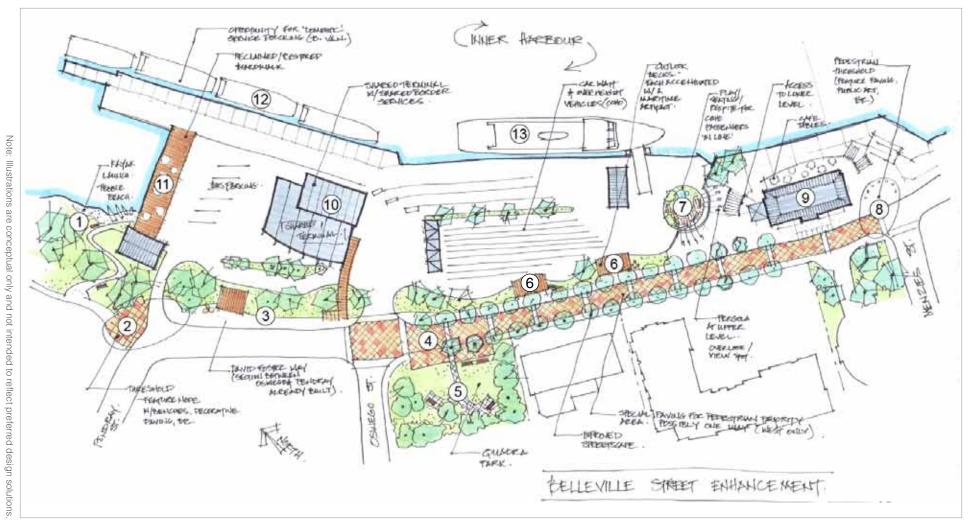


- 1. Combined Terminal Building with new floating docks
- 2. Landscaped area with footbridge connecting Belleville 6. Landscaped vehicle holding/staging area Street and Terminal
- 3. Landscaped parking area/passenger drop off/pick up
- 4. Victoria Clipper Ferries

- 5. Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line
- with additional amenities
- 7. Re-use Black Ball Ferry Line building for active commercial use
- 8. CPR Steamship Terminal

9. Enhanced landscaping along Belleville Street with widened sidewalk, public view points/outlooks and marine-themed public art (see inset for conceptual rendering)

Special Breakout Group: Belleville Street Enhancement Concept – Plan



- 1. Kayak/small watercraft launch and beach
- 2. Threshold: feature node with benches, decorative paving, etc.
- 3. David Foster Way (section between Oswego St. and Pendray St. already built)
- 4. Improved streetscape for pedestrian priority area including special paving

- 5. Connection to existing Quadra Park
- 6. Outlook decks: each accented with a maritime artifact
- 7. Play/seating/respite for Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line passengers
- 8. Pedestrian threshold (feature paving, public art, etc.)
- 9. CPR Steamship Terminal

- 10. Combined Terminal Building
- 11. Reclaimed/restored boardwalk
- 12. Victoria Clipper Ferries
- 13. Black Ball (MV Coho) Ferry Line

Ship Point Site

Conceptual Illustrations

Team 1: Ship Point Concept - Plan



- 1. Room of Light: Special event space with canopy of lights suspended above enhanced paving treatment
- 2. Concessions and public toilets
- 3. Cantilevered sidewalk with viewpoints
- 4. Stage area with storage and servicing behind
- 5. Identify entry points at access ramps

- 6. Identify entry points along Harbour Pathway
- 7. Seaplane plaza
- 8. Future floating seaplane terminal building
- 9. Marine-related businesses and restaurants
- 10. Parking, drop-off, taxi, coach

- 11. David Foster Way special place: stage area for small casual performers
- 12. Large vessel dock
- 13. Amphitheatre for temporary special events
- 14. Homecoming Plaza

Team 1: Ship Point Concept – Aerial View



Note: Illustrations are conceptual only and not intended to reflect preferred design solutions.

- 1. Room of Light: Special event space with canopy of lights suspended above enhanced paving treatment
- 2. Concessions and public toilet
- 3. Cantilevered sidewalk with viewpoints
- 4. Stage area with storage and servicing behind
- 5. Identify entry points at access ramps

- 6. Identify entry points along Harbour Pathway
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- 14. Homecoming Plaza

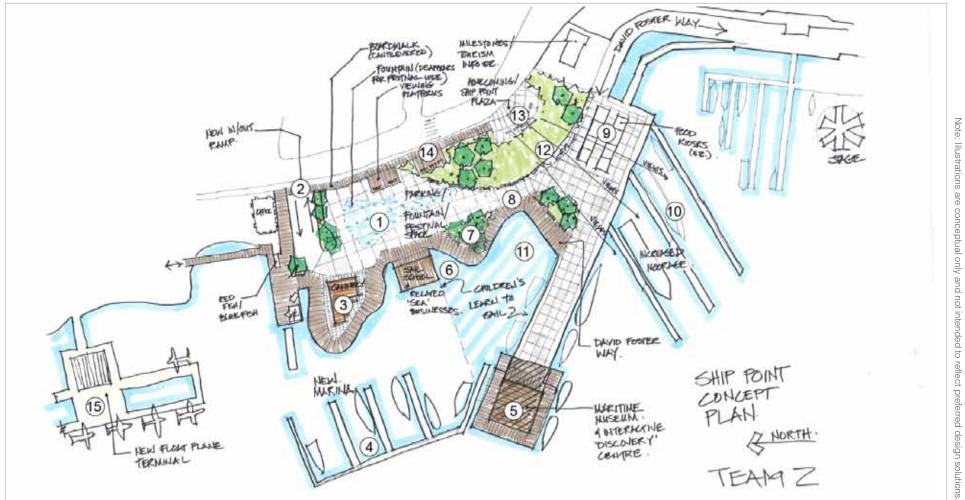
Team 1: Ship Point Concept – Perspective View



- 1. David Foster Way along water
- 2. Poles with suspended lights and electrical access for vendors
- 3. Plaza space enhanced with pavers

- 4. Temporary kiosks/market
- 5. Performance stage
- 6. Illuminated wall

Team 2: Ship Point Concept – Plan

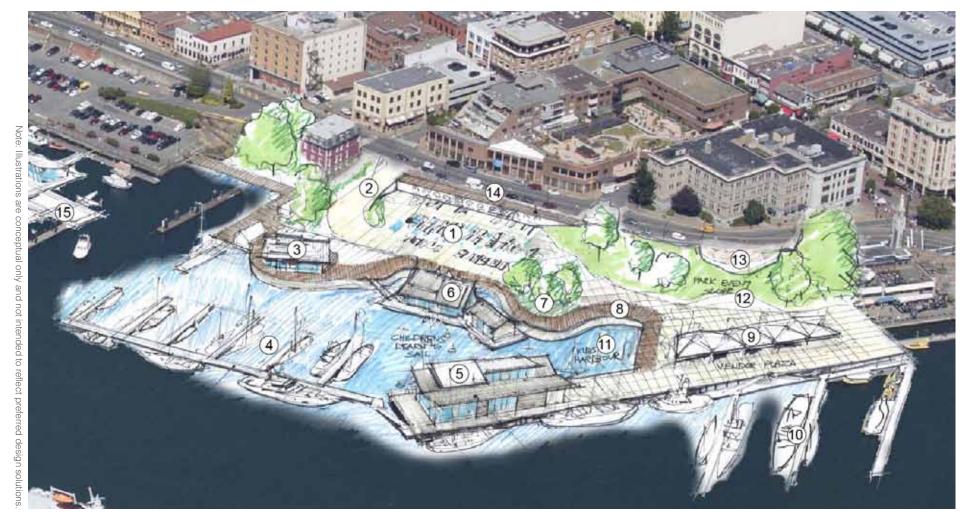


- 1. Flexible special event space and parking (with integrated fountain)
- 2. Widened ramp for two-way traffic
- 3. The Cannery (marine-related cultural space)
- 4. Boat moorage relocated from Lower Wharf Street site
- 5. Maritime Museum, interactive discovery centre and historic boat display docks
- 6. Sailing school and marine-related businesses

- 7. David Foster Way Special Place: plaza/greenspace for people to gather
- 8. Continuous Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way) along water
- 9. Vendor plaza (food, kiosks, etc.)
- 10. Increased moorage space
- 11. Kids' harbour: safe place for children to learn how to sail

- 12. Sloped grass for performance seating
- 13. Homecoming Plaza
- 14. Cantilevered boardwalk and viewing platforms
- 15. Seaplane terminal relocated to Lower Wharf site

Team 2: Ship Point Concept – Aerial View

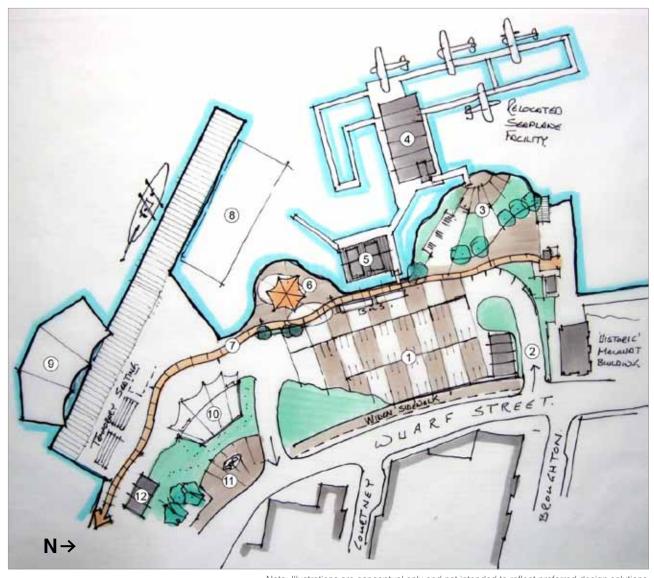


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- 10. Increased moorage space

- 11. Kids' harbour: safe place for children to learn how to sail
- 12. Sloped grass for performance seating
- 13. Homecoming Plaza
- 14. Cantilevered boardwalk and viewing platforms
- 15. Seaplane terminal relocated to Lower Wharf site

Team 3: Ship Point Concept – Plan



Note: Illustrations are conceptual only and not intended to reflect preferred design solutions.

- 1. Flexible special event space (with sculpture and lighting in recessed arches in adjacent wall) and parking with enhanced paving
- 2. Viewpoint at top of access ramp with washrooms and special event storage below
- 3. Seaplane terminal plaza
- 4. Future floating seaplane terminal building
- 5. Marine-related businesses and restaurants
- 6. David Foster Way Special Place: plaza/green space for people to gather
- 7. Continuous Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way) along water
- 8. Alternate floating stage location
- 9. Movable floating stage for special events
- 10. Amphitheatre for temporary special events
- 11. Homecoming Plaza
- 12. Washrooms and special event storage

Team 3: Ship Point Concept – Aerial View



- 1. Flexible special event space (with sculpture and lighting in recessed arches in adjacent wall) and parking with enhanced paving
- 2. Viewpoint at top of access ramp with washrooms and special event storage below
- 3. Seaplane terminal plaza

- 4. Future floating seaplane terminal building
- 5. Marine-related businesses and restaurants
- 6. David Foster Way Special Place: plaza/greenspace for people to gather
- 7. Continuous Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way) along water
- 8. Alternate floating stage location
- 9. Movable floating stage for special events
- 10. Amphitheatre for temporary special events
- 11. Homecoming Plaza
- 12. Washrooms and special event storage

Lower Wharf Street Site

Conceptual Illustrations

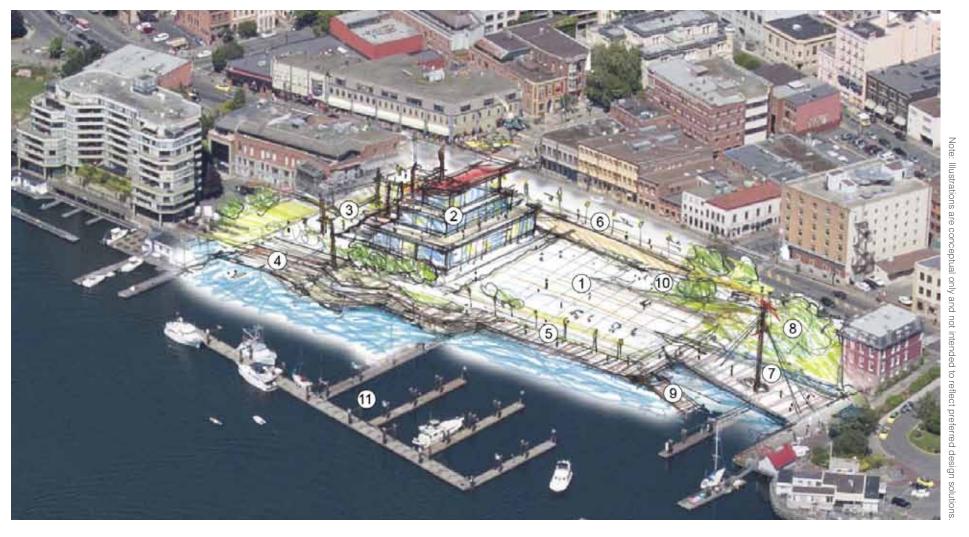
Team 1: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Plan



- 1. Plaza/parking area with paving stones
- 2. First Nations Cultural Centre as key attraction with offices and commercial space
- 3. Widened stairway (e.g. Spanish Steps) connecting Bastion Square to waterfront. Includes landings with access to upper floors of adjacent buildings
- 4. Naturalized beach area with native plants, kayak launch and connections to Harbour Pathway
- 5. Completion of Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way)
- 6. Pedestrian-scaled lighting and streetscape improvements along Wharf Street
- 7. Widened pedestrian bridge with no abrupt grade change and decorative mast as iconic landmark

- 8. Restored/preserved natural area
- 9. Kayak launch/ramp
- 10. Vehicle access ramp with historic retaining wall in background
- 11. Boat moorage

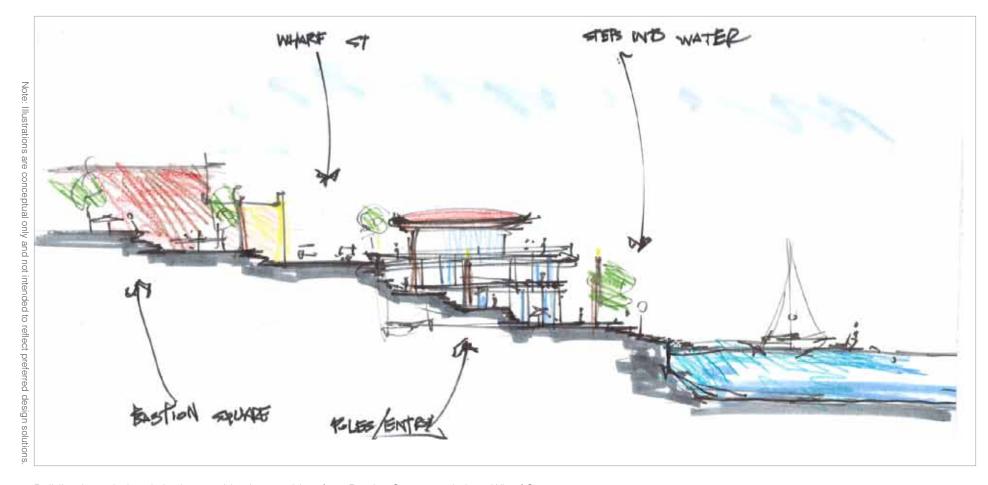
Team 1: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Aerial View



- 1. Plaza/parking area with paving stones
- 2. First Nations Cultural Centre as key attraction with offices and commercial space
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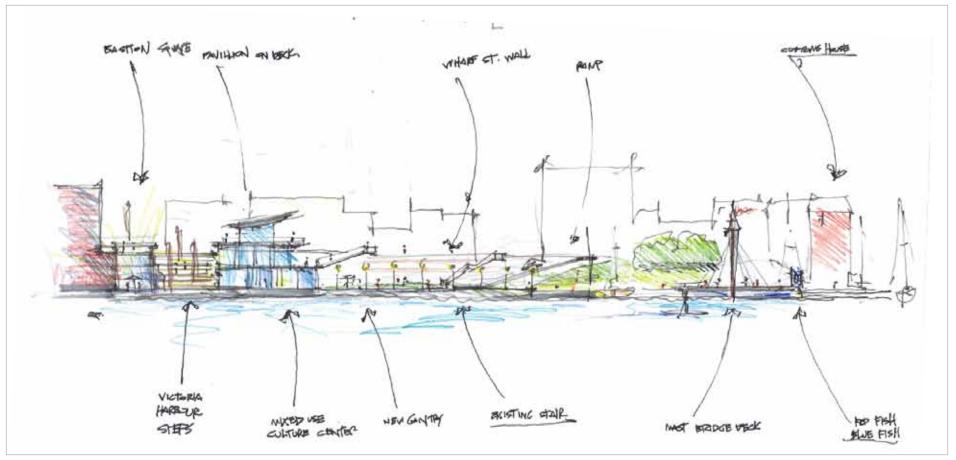
- 8. Restored/preserved natural area
- 9. Kayak launch/ramp
- 10. Vehicle access ramp with historic retaining wall in background
- 11. Boat moorage (including for small boats)

Team 1: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Section



Building is scaled and sited to provide view corridors from Bastion Square and along Wharf Street.

Team 1: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Perspective from Water



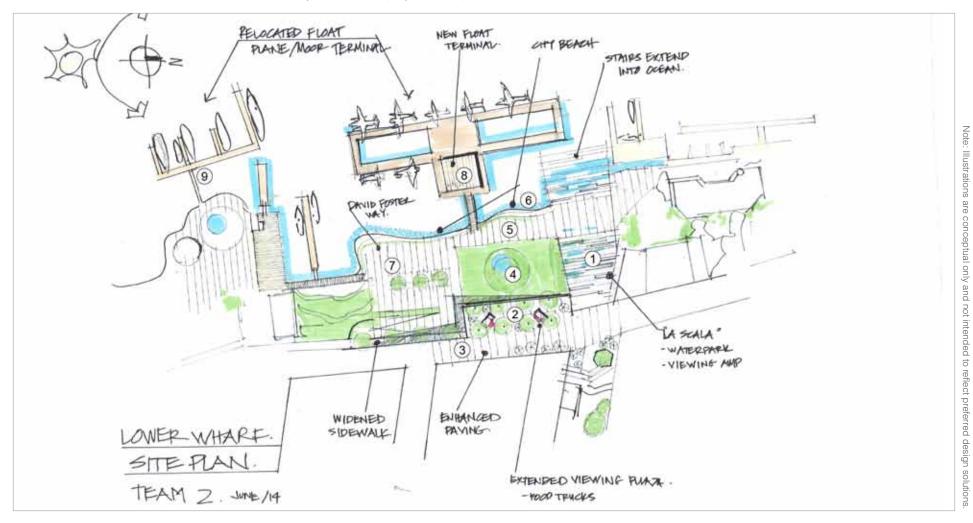
Note: Illustrations are conceptual only and not intended to reflect preferred design solutions.

Team 2: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Aerial View (Option 1)



- 1. Widened stairway (e.g. La Scala) connecting Bastion Square to waterfront. Includes improved pedestrian street crossing and wide landings for gathering, food kiosks, buskers, etc.
- 2. First Nations cultural centre with rooftop public plaza/ green space extending from Wharf Street
- 3. Remove on-street parking and resurface roadway with attractive paving materials that extend to rooftop plaza space
- 4. Park/green space with First Nations themed public art
- 5. Open plaza/event space includes connection to David Foster Way
- 6. Pebble beach
- 7. Reduced parking area with high quality landscaping throughout area
- 8. Boat moorage (including for small boats)

Team 2: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Plan (Option 2)



- 1. Widened stairway (e.g. La Scala) connecting Bastion Square to waterfront. Includes improved pedestrian street crossing and wide landings for gathering, food kiosks, buskers, etc.
- 2. First Nations cultural centre with rooftop public plaza/ green space extending from Wharf Street
- 3. Enhanced paving surface on Wharf Street extending to rooftop plaza space

- 4. Sloped park/green space
- 5. Open plaza/event space includes connection to David Foster Way
- 6. Pebble beach
- 7. Limited number of parking stalls for float plane operation with high quality landscaping throughout area
- 8. Float plane terminal relocated from Ship Point to Lower Wharf Street site
- 9. Boat moorage connecting to plaza space

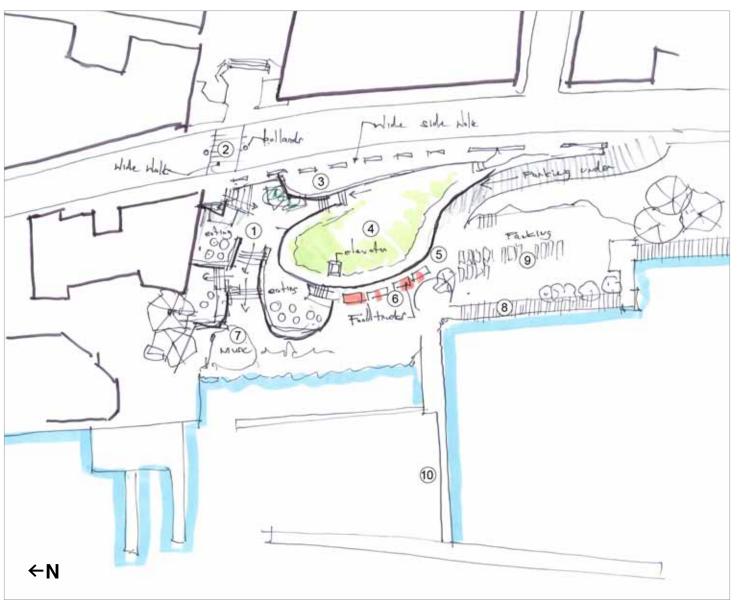
Team 2: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Aerial View (Option 2)



- Widened stairway (e.g. La Scala) connecting Bastion Square to waterfront. Includes improved pedestrian street crossing and wide landings for gathering, food kiosks, buskers, etc.
- 2. First Nations cultural centre with rooftop public plaza/ green space extending from Wharf Street
- 3. Enhanced paving surface on Wharf Street extending to rooftop plaza space
- 4. Sloped park/green space
- 5. Open plaza/event space includes connection to David Foster Way
- 6. Pebble beach
- 7. Limited number of parking stalls for float plane

- operation with high quality landscaping throughout area
- 8. Float plane terminal relocated from Ship Point to Lower Wharf Street site
- 9. Boat moorage connecting to plaza space

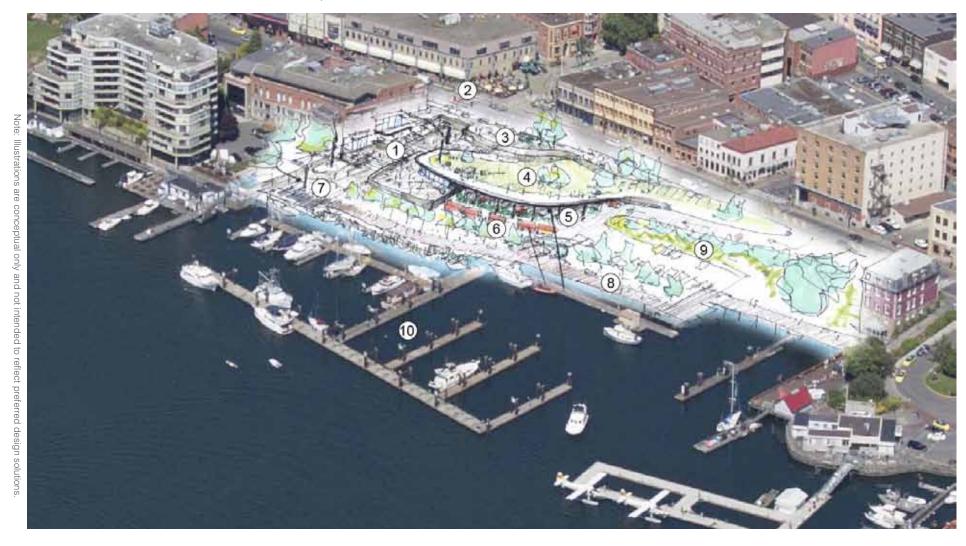
Team 3: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Plan



Note: Illustrations are conceptual only and not intended to reflect preferred design solutions.

- Widened stairway (e.g. Spanish Steps) connecting Wharf Street to waterfront including public art to enhance viewscape from Bastion Square
- Improved pedestrian street crossing with distinctive paving materials and bollards
- 3. Lookout area along Wharf Street sidewalk
- 4. Building structure on eastern portion of site with rooftop green space (accessible to public) sloped down from Wharf Street
- 5. Limited public parking stalls located inside new building not visible from outside
- Building edge animated with small commercial space for retail/food kiosks or food trucks
- 7. Public event/performance space to provide animation along Harbour Pathway
- 8. Completed Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way)
- Limited number of surface parking stalls with high quality landscaping throughout area
- 10. Boat moorage (including for small personal boats)

Team 3: Lower Wharf Street Concept – Aerial View



- 1. Widened stairway (e.g. Spanish Steps) connecting Wharf Street to waterfront including public art to enhance viewscape from Bastion Square
- 2. Improved pedestrian street crossing with distinctive paving materials and bollards
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- 8. Completed Harbour Pathway (David Foster Way)
- 9. Limited number of surface parking stalls with high quality landscaping throughout area
- 10. Boat moorage (including for small personal boats)

7A. Conclusion

The Inner Harbour is a highly valued public amenity validated by the participation and enthusiasm experienced throughout the engagement process. The opportunity to provide valuable input that will be used to shape the future of the three sites was far-reaching as residents, businesses and organizations from the Inner Harbour, Victoria, and beyond shared their views on what factors contribute to the vitality of a harbour. The beauty of the harbour, its role as a key transportation hub, and the economic and cultural activity it provides were consistently stated as what people value. A multitude of suggestions were provided on how to enhance the three sites; however, the most dominant themes to realize the Inner Harbour's full potential were the need to create opportunities to attract both tourists and locals while maintaining a working harbour.

The public feedback collected throughout May and the conceptual illustrations generated at the Technical Workshop were used by staff and the project consultant to create overarching guiding principles for the Inner Harbour and for each strategic site. The resulting *Harbour Vitality Principles* will help to better position the City of Victoria and other Inner Harbour land owners for potential capital funding, grants and development opportunities.



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