

RAILSIDE AT THE FORKS - CONCEPT PLAN - SUMMARY



RAILSIDE AT THE FORKS

This document provides a summary of the Railside at The Forks Concept Plan and its most salient components. For further details, please read the complete Concept Plan document available at www.railsideattheforks.com



+ *"THE FORKS SHALL BE DEVELOPED AS A 'MEETING PLACE,' A SPECIAL AND DISTINCT, ALL-SEASON GATHERING AND RECREATIONAL PLACE AT THE JUNCTION OF THE RED AND ASSINIBOINE RIVERS, THROUGH A MIXED-USE APPROACH INCLUDING RECREATIONAL, HISTORICAL CULTURAL, RESIDENTIAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND SUPPORTIVE COMMERCIAL USES."*

Excerpt from The Forks Renewal Corporation's Mission Statement (1987)

INTRODUCTION

The Railside at The Forks Concept Plan articulates the long-term vision, core principles and sustainability blueprint that will guide the development of the Railside lands over the next twenty years. All aspects of the Concept Plan are based on feedback from three successful phases of community consultation and collaborative input from the Forks Renewal Corporation's (FRC) Federal, Provincial and Municipal shareholders.

Citizen and stakeholder input has been central to the Railside planning process. FRC is committed to ongoing public engagement as plans for Railside at The Forks advance.



THE VISION

Aligned with The Forks' founding mandate of 'creating a welcoming place', the principal goal of the Railside at The Forks development is to establish a dynamic mixed-use neighbourhood that complements and builds on The Forks' existing character and amenities.

Envisioned as a model urban community that is seamlessly integrated into The Forks site, Railside at The Forks will support a diversity of housing types, showcase great public spaces, demonstrate design excellence, enhance connectivity with the broader City and adhere to The Forks Renewal Corporation's ambitious sustainable development goals.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1_** Ensure accessibility to the public at-large, future residents, entrepreneurs and businesses and a diversity of development interests
- 2_** Encourage a mix of uses including high quality public spaces, retail, commercial, live/work, condominium, co-op and rental residential;
- 3_** Implement a green approach to development and operations, based on The Forks' Target Zero Policy;
- 4_** Design for Winnipeg's four seasons – including buildings that are highly energy efficient and public spaces that are comfortable in all weather conditions.
- 5_** Demonstrate innovation and design excellence – in all areas of the Railside development, including architecture, urban design, sustainability, brownfield redevelopment and public/private collaboration.
- 6_** Strengthen connections to the city – create and enhance physical linkages into The Forks for all transportation modes.



WHERE IS RAILSIDE AT THE FORKS?

The Railside at The Forks lands are comprised of two of the largest surface parking lots in downtown Winnipeg. The two sites – Railside South and Railside North – are located immediately across from the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Totalling nearly 12 acres, the Railside lands have remained undeveloped since the initial reclamation of the CNR East Yards, and represent a significant opportunity to essentially complete the redevelopment of The Forks as it was initially conceived more than 30 years ago.



- 1_ The Forks Market
- 2_ The Johnson Terminal
- 3_ The Canadian Museum for Human Rights
*The first and only National Museum outside of Ottawa
- 4_ Red River Mutual Skating Trail
- 5_ The River Walk
- 6_ Variety Heritage Adventure Playground
- 7_ The Plaza
*Canada's best and largest urban skateboard park
- 8_ The Children's Museum
- 9_ Manitoba Theatre for Young People
- 10_ The Forks National Historic Site
- 11_ The Winnipeg Railway Museum
- 12_ The Forks Boat Basin
- 13_ The Canopy Plaza



RAILSIDE
NORTH

RAILSIDE
SOUTH

11

3

5

7

9

10

1

2

8

13

4

12

BIG IDEAS

As a direct result of public input, the following 'big ideas' have emerged through the planning process to inform the overall development strategy for the Railside at The Forks lands.

IDEA _1

Residential Village at The Forks

To create a mid-rise (4 to 6 storey), medium density residential village with interesting public spaces, high quality urban design and closely spaced storefronts at ground level; a place where pedestrians are prioritized.

IDEA _2

Public Plazas

Designed in collaboration with Winnipeg artists To provide opportunities for the integration of public art throughout the development, including public plazas designed by Winnipeg artists.

IDEA _3

Production Spaces

To create affordable spaces for artists and makers to produce and sell their products and creatively activate underutilized spaces under and along the rail line. The strategy is to lease and convert underutilized storage spaces under the CN main line into basic, low-rent production/studio spaces.

IDEA _4

Union Station – Gateway to The Forks

To support the transformation of Union Station as a gateway into The Forks and enhancing its future potential as a Rapid Transit Hub.

IDEA _5

Elevated Pedestrian Corridor

To develop a second floor 'highline' adjacent to the existing rail line that creates a unique elevated open space, provides additional pedestrian connectivity between the Railside North and Railside South parcels as well as potential new linkages to Main Street.





IDEA _6

Pedestrian Promenade

To transform Israel Asper Way into a beautifully landscaped, pedestrian-oriented promenade that includes a reduced number of vehicular lanes, widened pedestrian zone and a variety of all-weather active transportation and fitness-related amenities.



IDEA _7

Target Zero

To achieve our Target Zero goals and reduce The Forks' overall environmental impact. Key sustainability measures will include the development of a District Utility for The Forks to heat and cool buildings, geothermally heated sidewalks to clear snow and keep pedestrians comfortable and safe, and on-site biocomposting, among a host of other innovations to divert garbage, reduce water waste, retain stormwater and curtail carbon emissions.

IDEA _8

Community Facilities

To facilitate the integration of new community facilities into the development, including a potential community centre, arts and cultural facilities, and educational spaces – to support the burgeoning downtown neighbourhood.



IDEA _9

Best in Local and Independent Retail

To animate ground floor storefront spaces by strategically targeting and attracting the best local retail and restaurant operators/entrepreneurs.

IDEA _10

More of The Forks

To ensure that the future development of the Railside and Parcel 4 lands becomes an extension of The Forks in every way – being open and accessible to everyone and benefiting from world class site operations and programming.

WHAT IS THE PLAN?

The Railside at The forks is a major step in the evolution of The Forks. Emphasizing environmental, economic and social sustainability, the plan will integrate a complete mix of uses that build on and celebrate the site's abundant cultural, historic and recreational assets, while maintaining access to every citizen and visitor alike.

A SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD

The intent of the Railside at The Forks development is to set and achieve relatively broad and bold environmental, social, and economic objectives for the long-range development of these important downtown lands.

The Plan represents an unprecedented opportunity and desire to build on The Forks' current sustainability initiatives – namely the Target Zero initiative – and showcase innovative and holistic approaches to sustainability on a neighbourhood scale.

Ultimately, the aim is to build a resilient and thriving mixed use community that is inclusive and diverse, supports active and healthy lifestyles, promotes innovation and prosperity, and is pioneering in its efforts to be environmentally sustainable and responsive to climate change.



+ *THE RAILSIDE AT THE FORKS CONCEPT PLAN IS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN A VILLAGE AND HISTORIC DOWNTOWN, ATTUNED TO WINNIPEG'S INCREMENTAL GROWTH AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT.*

GREAT PUBLIC SPACES FOR EVERYONE

The Forks is consistently regarded among the top public spaces in North America. Accordingly, expectations are high when it comes to the quality of public space.

Creating and maintaining high quality public spaces, that are animated year-round, is central to the vision for Railside at The Forks. Beyond integration with the broader Forks site, the Concept Plan is mindful of the importance of ensuring that new public spaces not only meet the needs of future residents living at Railside at The Forks, but all visitors to the Forks.

The Railside at The Forks plan is premised on a series of central urban squares, connected via a network of short streets and alleys. The intent of the design is to create an inviting village atmosphere that draws people in and encourages them to explore and discover.

COURTYARDS AND ALLEYWAYS



- Village Atmosphere
(narrow streets and alleyways)
- 'Woonerfs'
(streets designed with pedestrian priority)
- Themed Central Courtyards
(each development stage will be centred around a public courtyard)
- Public Art, Outdoor Café's, Play, Entertainment, Water
(Programmed by Forks and Main floor Tenants)

CENTRAL FORKS PROMENADE



- Transformation of Israel Asper Way to Linear Park
- All-weather active transportation
- Plazas, Play, Parks and Pop-up Attractions lining the street

BOXCAR ALLEY



- 'Production Promenade' Proposed under the Rail Line
- Affordable Production spaces for artists and makers
- Artisans Market as a City-wide attraction

WHEN WILL ALL THIS HAPPEN?

Railside at The Forks is planned to be developed in two primary phases over an estimated 20-year period, commencing in 2019. Phase 1 encompasses the entire Railside South parcel and Phase 2 the Railside North parcel. Each phase is subsequently divided into a series of stages – three stages in Phase 1 and two stages in Phase 2 – for a total of five stages. The build-out of each stage is estimated to range between 3 to 5 years.

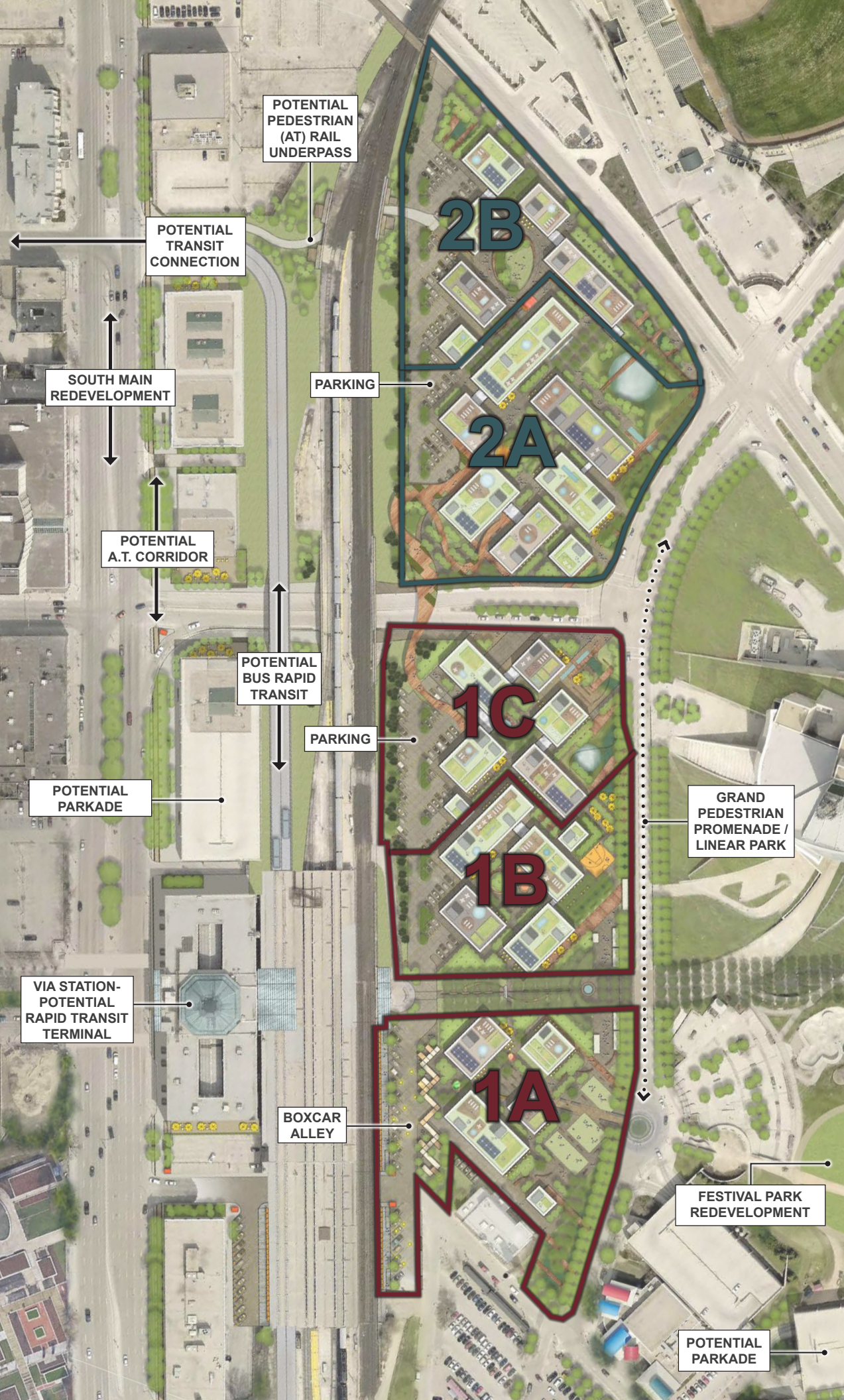


RAILSIDE SOUTH - PHASE 1

STAGE A	2019 - 2022
STAGE B	2022 - 2026
STAGE C	2026 - 2030

RAILSIDE NORTH - PHASE 2

STAGE A	2030 - 2035
STAGE B	2035 - 2040



POTENTIAL
PEDESTRIAN
(AT) RAIL
UNDERPASS

POTENTIAL
TRANSIT
CONNECTION

SOUTH MAIN
REDEVELOPMENT

POTENTIAL
A.T. CORRIDOR

POTENTIAL
BUS RAPID
TRANSIT

POTENTIAL
PARKADE

VIA STATION-
POTENTIAL
RAPID TRANSIT
TERMINAL

BOXCAR
ALLEY

GRAND
PEDESTRIAN
PROMENADE /
LINEAR PARK

FESTIVAL PARK
REDEVELOPMENT

POTENTIAL
PARKADE



SCATLIFF + MILLER + MURRAY
visionary urban design + landscapes

