

HARBOUR LANDING - JACK LAYTON FERRY TERMINAL AND HARBOUR SQUARE PARK

2015 ongoing, Toronto, Canada



KPMB Architects, West 8, and Greenberg Consultants won the Innovative Design Competition for the Jack Layton Ferry Terminal and Harbour Square Park in 2016. Their proposal to the partnership of Waterfront Toronto and the City of Toronto, entitled 'Harbour Landing' was highly appreciated by the jury for its practicality and its "iconic" design, as it fuses the revamped ferry terminal and neighboring park into one special new place.

'Harbour Landing' defies simple categorization – a ferry terminal, an urban park for active water-based activities, a retreat and an oasis for office workers and residents. The park is an urban getaway for people living along the waterfront and an introduction to the waterfront for visitors to Toronto. The design vision re-imagines Harbour Landing as an integral part of a continuous network of renewed public space that envelops the site and provides an animated and dynamic public space for all seasons.

The organic form of the park with rolling hillocks, whose gently sloping topography elevated from street level, offers visitors dramatic harbour views and a panoramic backdrop of the Toronto Islands. The landscape approach is also echoed in the design of the Ferry Terminal, and its undulating rooftop extends the park experience. The terminal's green roof is universally accessible via gently sloping ramps. The public can survey the shoreline from this 'gained park space', which provides an irresistible belvedere. The main walkway will be extended to lead from Queens Quay and Bay Street all the way down to the ticket booths. Soon, visitors can enjoy a wider promenade with a granite mosaic and a new interactive signposting system utilizing giant periscopes when approaching the island gateway.

The new park and ferry terminal will become a central feature of Toronto, a "landing" place where the city meets the lake. 'Harbour Landing' works in 360 degrees, addressing both the landside and waterside and is poised to become a new icon for the city and a counterbalance to the urban life at the Toronto Waterfront. The master plan is designed to be implemented in phases over time as funding becomes available. Construction of Phase 1A started in late October 2017.

Since 2006, West 8 has been involved on multiple occasions in Toronto, most notably with its master plan for the Toronto Waterfront. The Harbour Square Park and the Jack Layton Ferry Terminal will be cohesive with the design concept of the surrounding Toronto Waterfront.

See also the [Toronto Central Waterfront](#) completed in 2015, [Spadina](#), [Simcoe](#) and [Rees](#) Wavedecks completed in 2011, [Queens Quay Boulevard](#) completed in 2015, the [East Bayfront Water's Edge Promenade & Boardwalk](#) completed in 2010 and the installation [Quay to the City](#) in 2006.

client

Waterfront Toronto, City of Toronto

partners

KPMB Architects, Greenberg Consultants

team

Adriaan Geuze, Jelle Therry, Hernando Arrazola, Ela Chojecka, William DiBernardo, Giulia Frittoli, Alberto Gonzalez-Garces, Mary Protsyk, Daniel Vasini, Ben Wegdam