

TORONTO URBAN DESIGN AWARD FOR QUEEN'S QUAY

13-09-2017



On the 13th of September 2017, [Queens Quay Boulevard](#) was awarded a Toronto Urban Design Award of Excellence. West 8 + DTAH's design won in the category Large Spaces and/or Neighborhood Designs.

The biennial awards programme acknowledges the significant contribution that architects, landscape architects, urban designers, artists, design students, and the city builders make to the look and livability of Toronto.

The awards in this category give special credit to efforts that make improvements to the public realm as downtown Toronto continues to densify and develop.

"Design set a new precedent for North American urban design"

The jury expresses its admiration: "The redesign of Queens Quay Boulevard clarifies the multiple modes of transportation that occupy the boulevard. Through a process of condensing and compressing the space used by car traffic, additional space is created for adjacent public and commercial functions, including a streetcar corridor, cycle lanes, and enlarged sidewalks.

The jury continues: "The distinct material palette associated with each mode of movement ensures the clear identity of each zone, and allows for the flattening of the pedestrian plane (via curb less edges) between the adjacent layers of movement. The design's sensitive but robust details draw on a graphic iconography celebrating Canadian and nautical themes, resulting in an unusually coherent multi-layered urban realm. These are just a few aspects of this design that set a new precedent for North American urban design."

A worldclass waterfront

[Queens Quay Boulevard](#) is a redevelopment sub-project of the 2006 award-winning [Toronto Central Waterfront Master Plan](#). The redesign of Queens Quay was guided by sustainable transportation priorities which are manifested in the reduction of vehicular traffic from four to two lanes, introduction of a Light Rail Transit Corridor, widening of the pedestrian sidewalks and planting of 240 new trees along the boulevard. The enhancement of the sidewalks also considers interaction with the north side facades, fostering economic vitality. The space now provides a public realm that is both functional and beautiful; what was once a barrier is now a pedestrian and cyclist-friendly corridor and a grand destination. The designers also extended the Martin Goodman multi-use recreational trail through the site on the south side of the street. This worldclass waterfront design creates a

sustainable civic space that honors, revitalizes and inspires the legacy of Toronto.

The full jury report and overview of all winners are available [here](#).

Credit list:

Project Team

West 8 + DTAH in Joint Venture: Landscape Architects

ARUP: Civil, Municipal, Transportation and Design Engineers

WSP/MMM Group: Site Engineer

TSL Consulting + Design Group Ltd.: Electrical, Streetlighting and Signalization

WSP Global (Parsons Brinckerhoff Halsall Inc.): Structural

James Urban and Associates: Urban Forestry

A.W. Hooker Associates Ltd.: Quantity Surveying

BA Group: Traffic Management Smart Watering Systems Irrigation

DPM Energy Inc.: Utility Coordination

LVM Franz and Golder Associates: Environmental and Geotechnical

Client

City of Toronto Waterfront Toronto

Contractor

Eastern Construction Company Ltd.

more information: [Queens Quay Boulevard](#)