

# MARKHAM CENTRE SECONDARY PLAN INTERIM UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Draft Development Concept: Focus on Uptown



Presentation to Development Services Committee, February 22, 2022



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## **Project Update**

## **Vision and Guiding Principles**

## **Big Moves**

## **Focus on Uptown**

General Framework

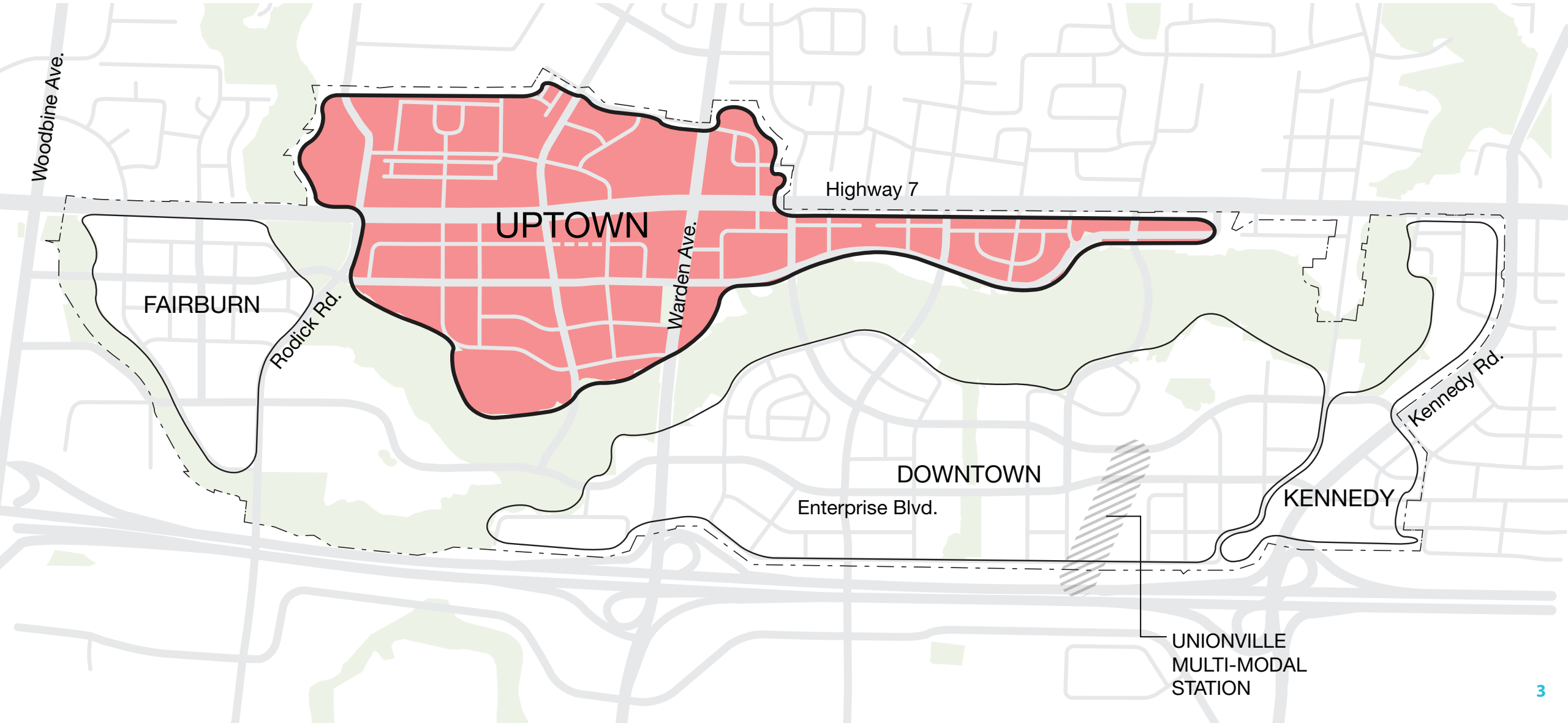
Great Streets

Great Spaces

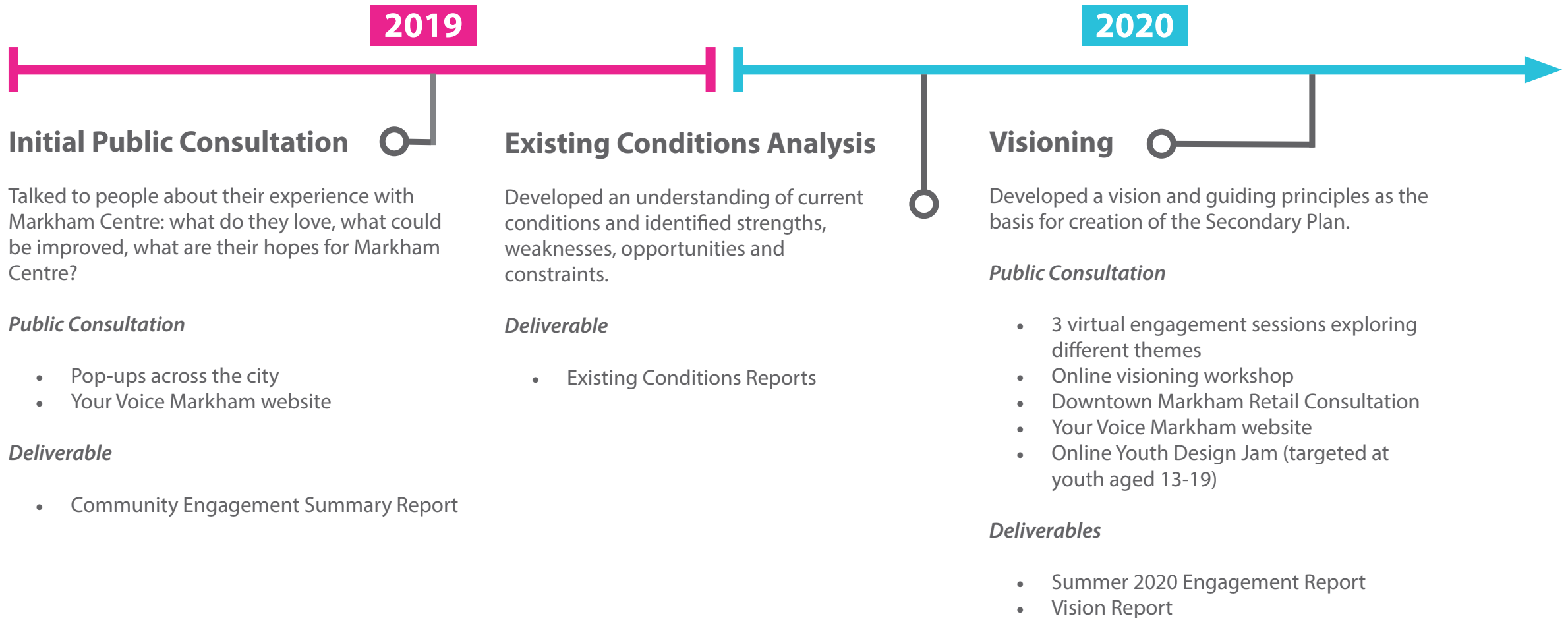
Approach to Development

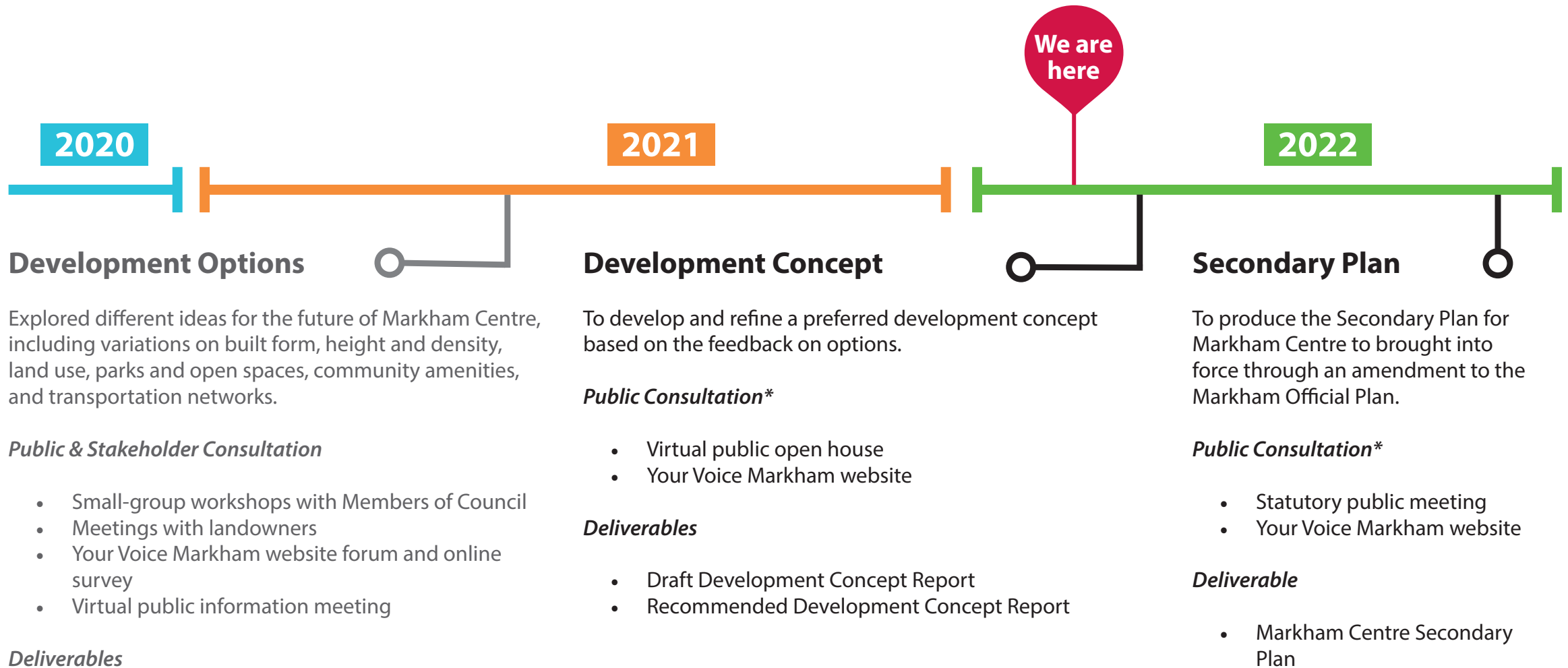


# Study Area - Focus on Uptown



# Project Update





*\*Future public consultation approaches will be determined based on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to use virtual platforms rather than in-person events.*

# **Vision and Guiding Principles**



# Markham Centre is Markham's downtown.

**It is the heart of the city  
and a vibrant, intensive,  
mixed use urban core.**

# Guiding Principles

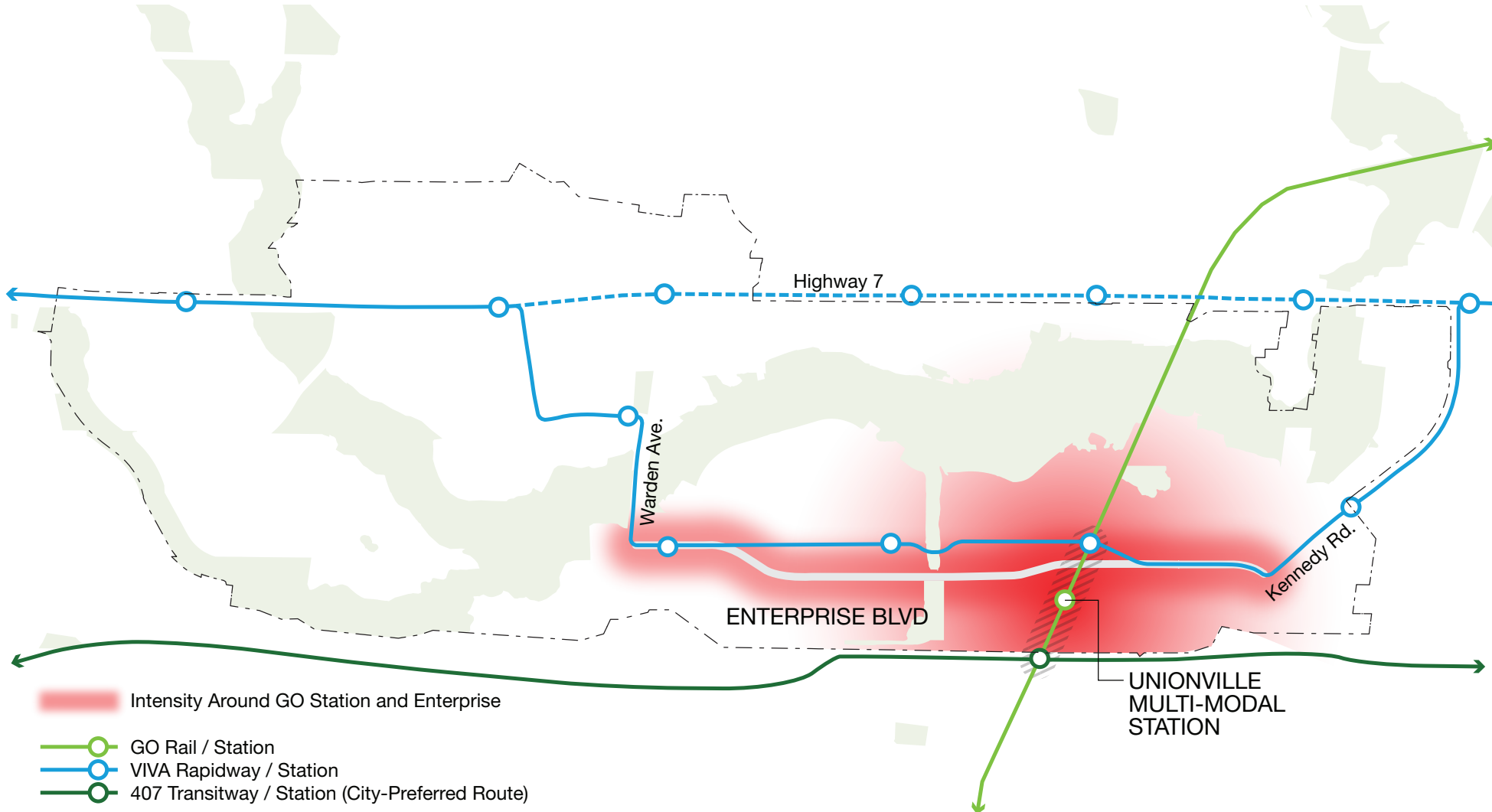


- 1** Create a place that is the heart of Markham
- 2** Support a diverse and prosperous economy
- 3** Support arts, culture, and recreation
- 4** Create an efficient and safe transportation system
- 5** Create a great public realm
- 6** Foster diverse built form
- 7** Build neighbourhoods with access to all the things needed for daily life
- 8** Realize the full potential of the Rouge River Valley as an environmental and placemaking feature
- 9** Champion sustainability and environmental performance
- 10** Plan for inclusive and diverse neighbourhoods
- 11** Transition from suburban to urban

# Big Moves



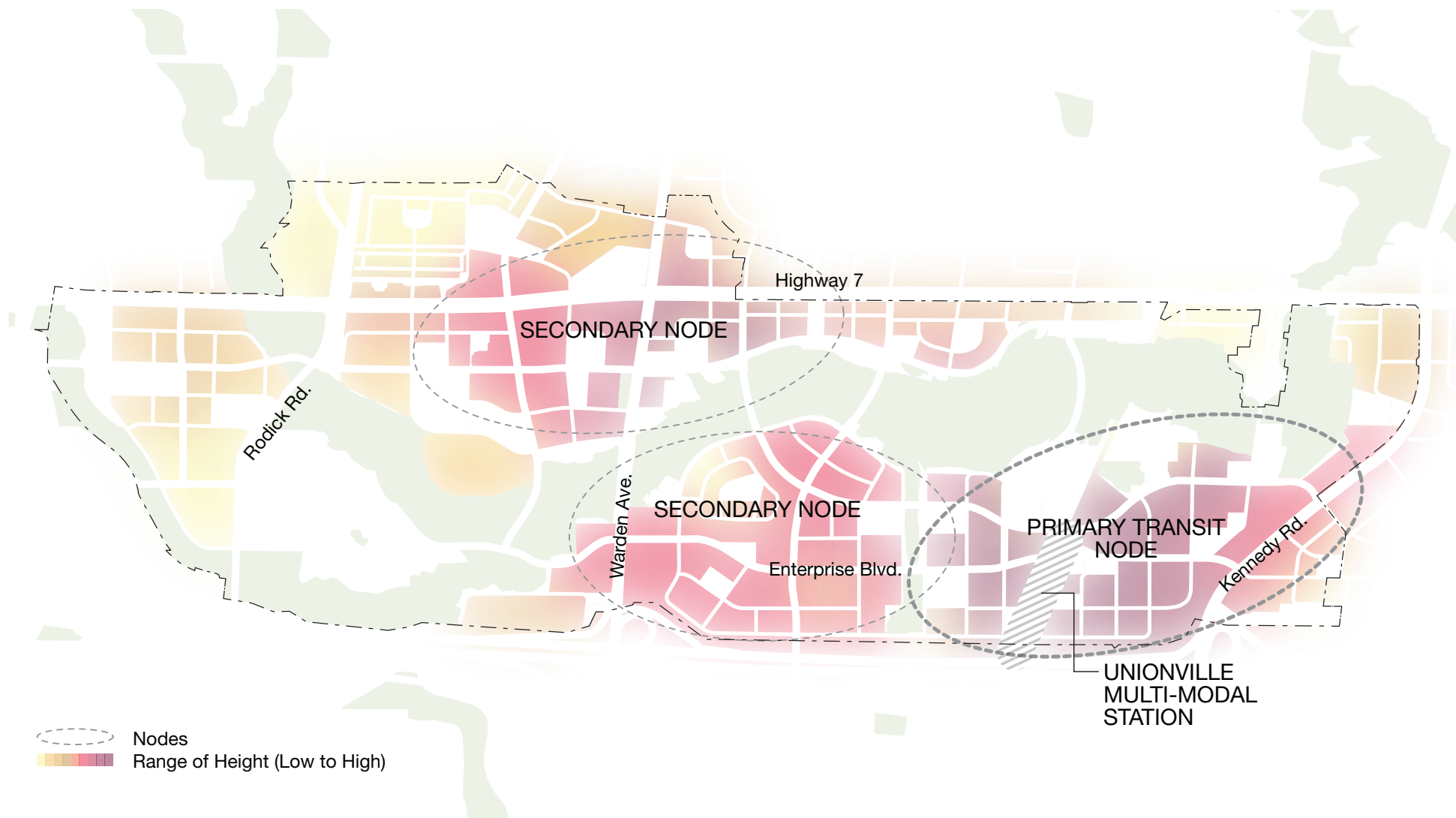
**1 The GO station area and Enterprise Boulevard as the centre of intensity and cornerstone of transit-oriented development.**





2

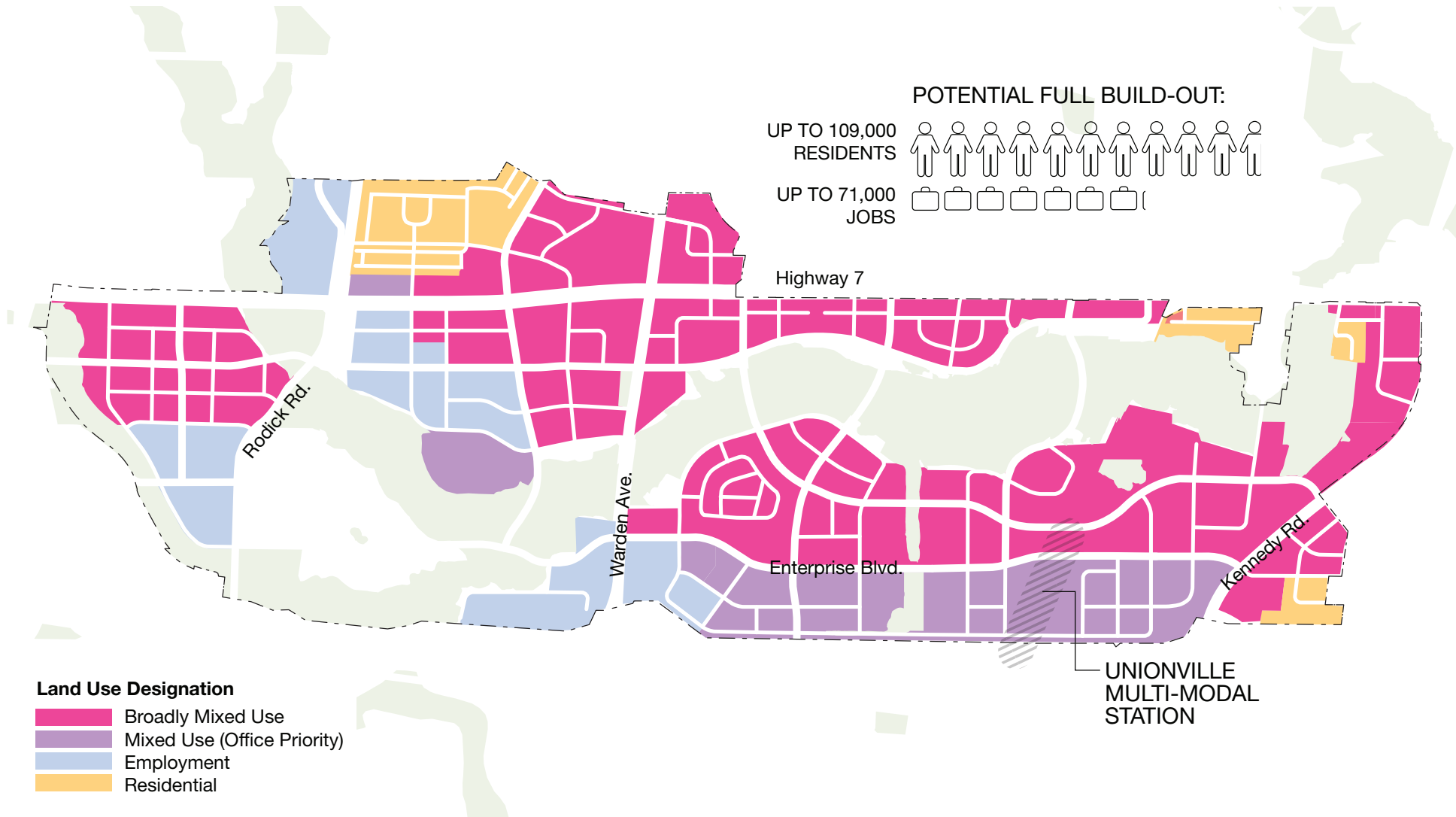
**Variation in built form and height—more intense at particular nodes and less intense in peripheral areas.**





3

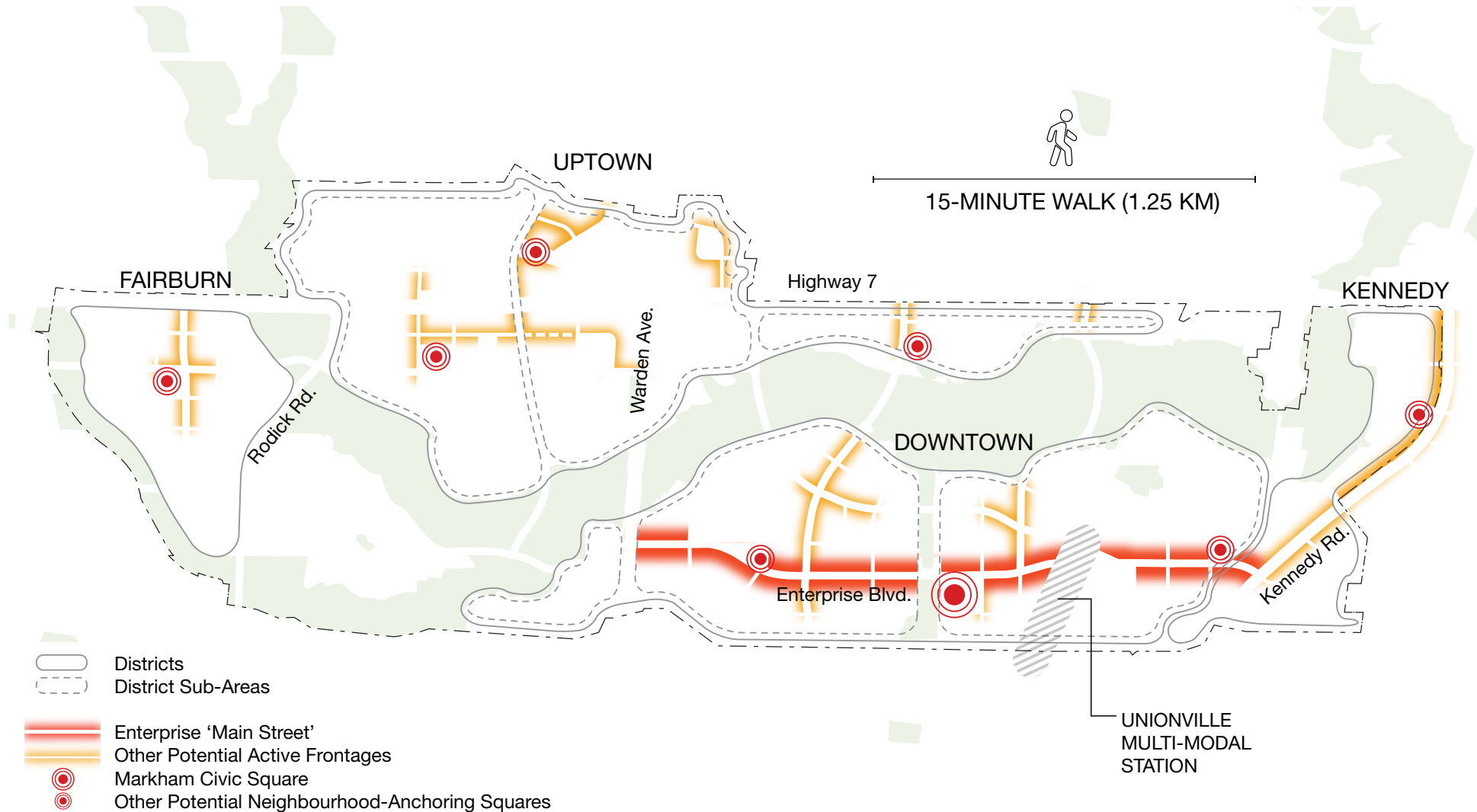
## Balancing employment and residential uses.





4

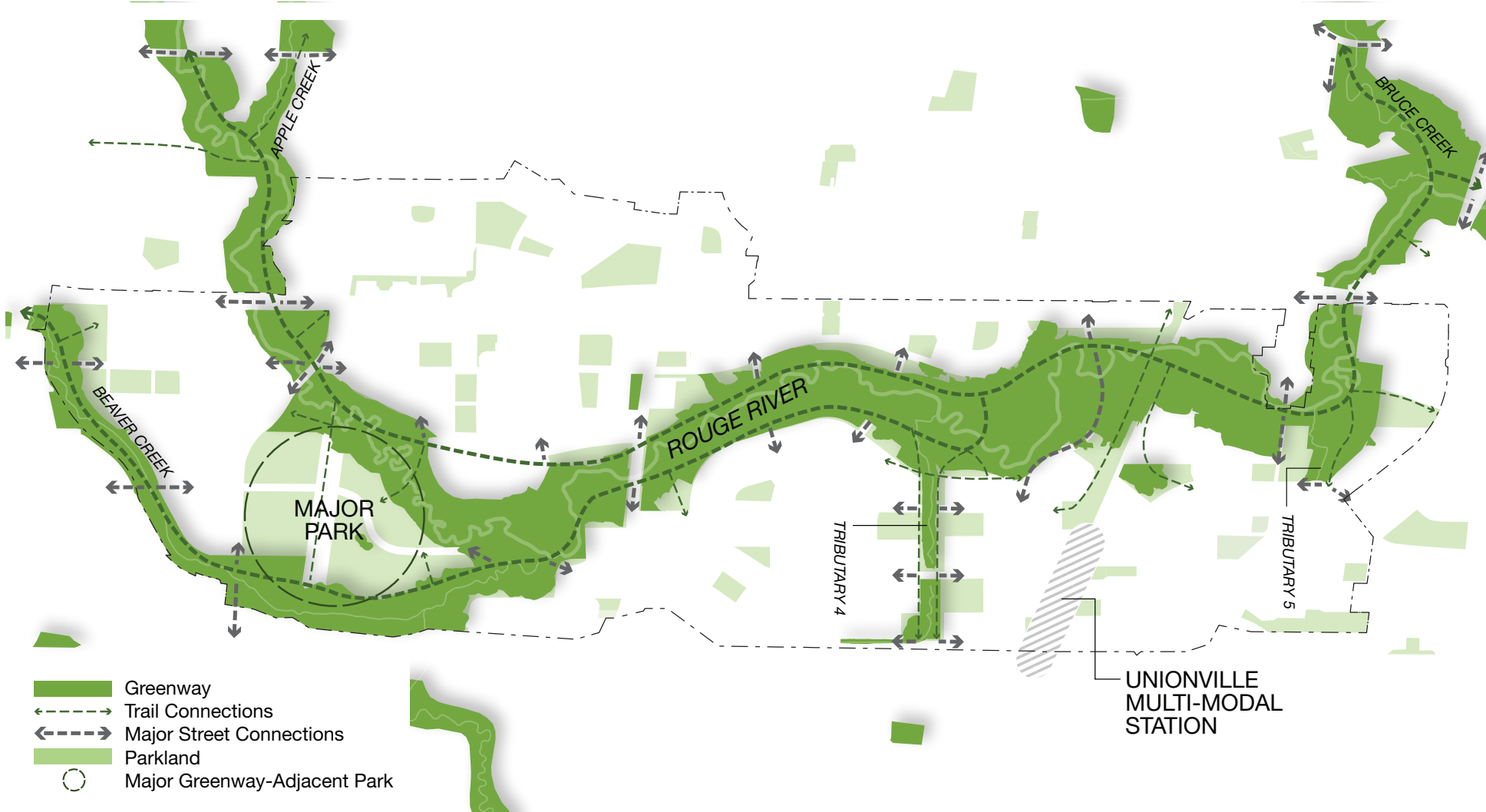
**A network of neighbourhoods, each anchored by an active core.**





5

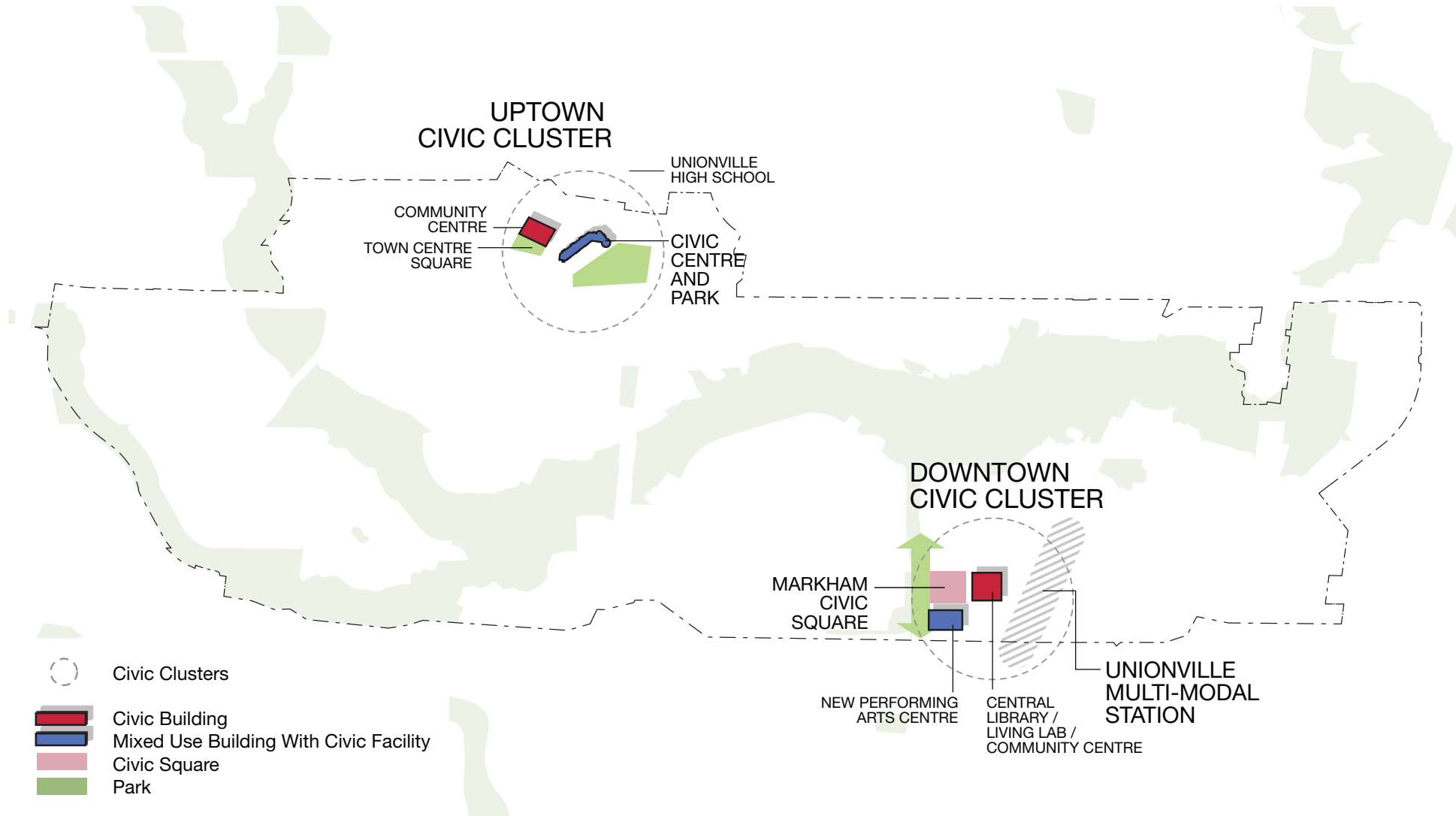
**Focus on the Greenway as the Centre's key identifier and public space.**





6

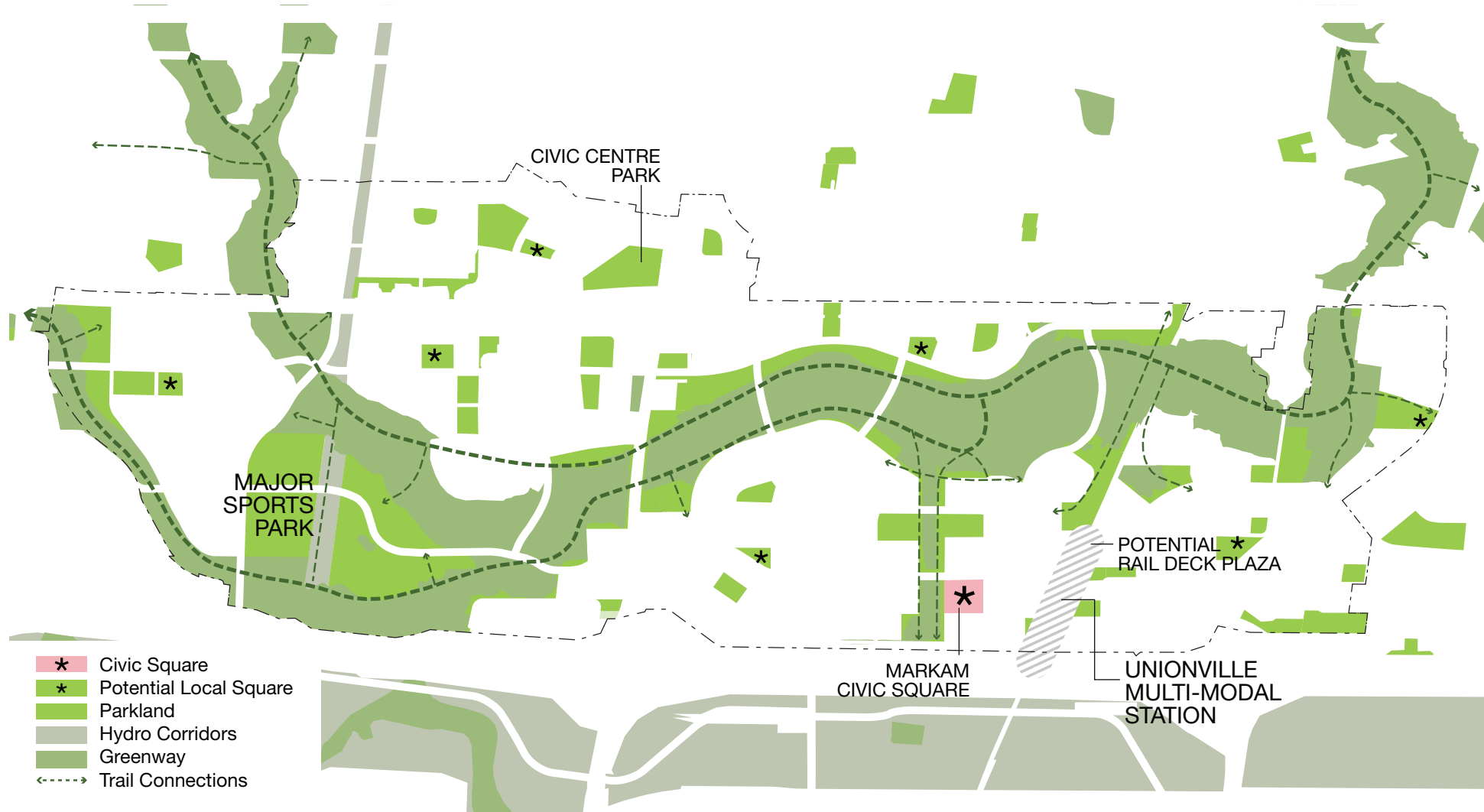
## Creation of a new civic district.





7

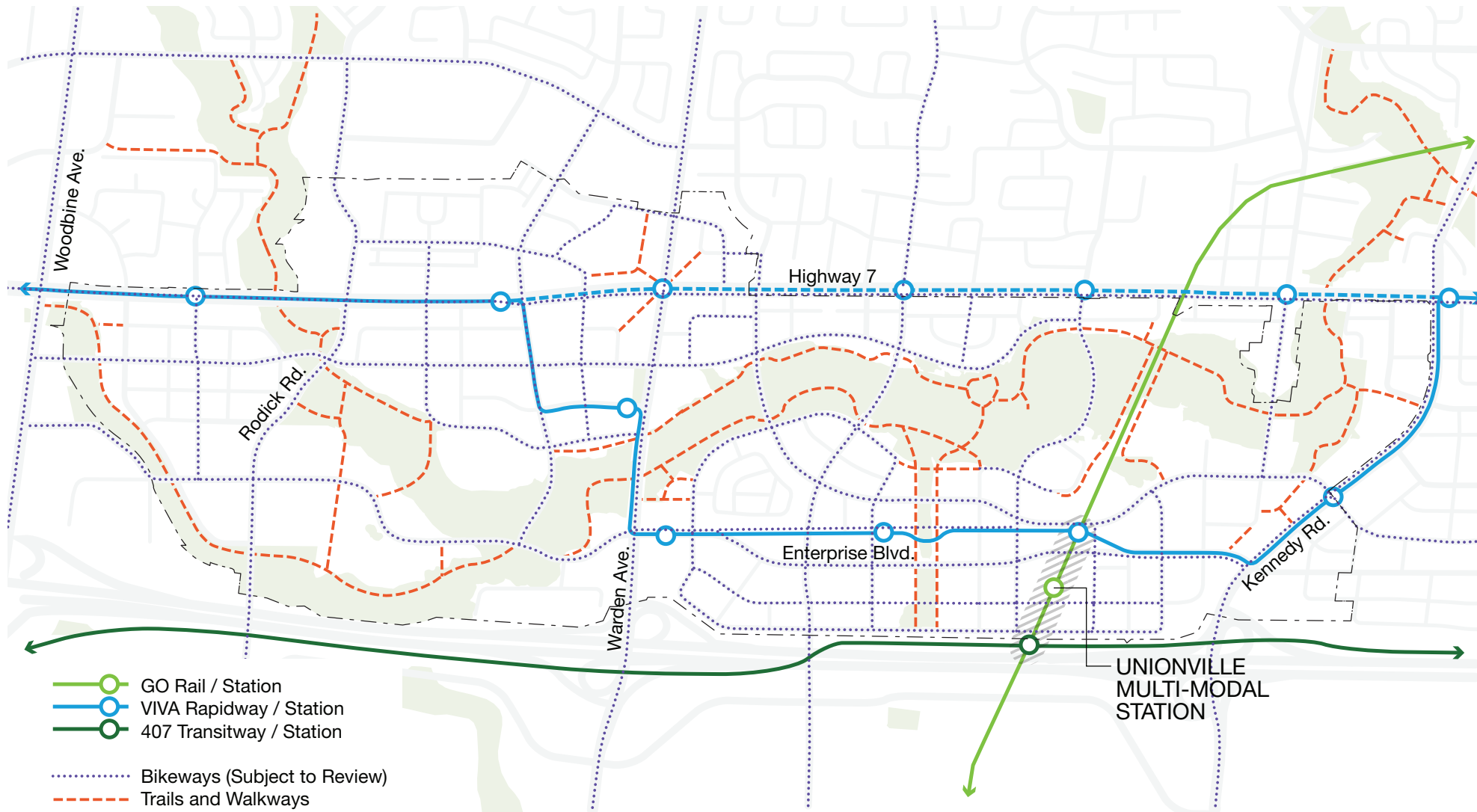
**A parks and open space network, and consideration of the hydro corridors.**





8

**An environment that truly prioritizes walking, cycling and transit.**



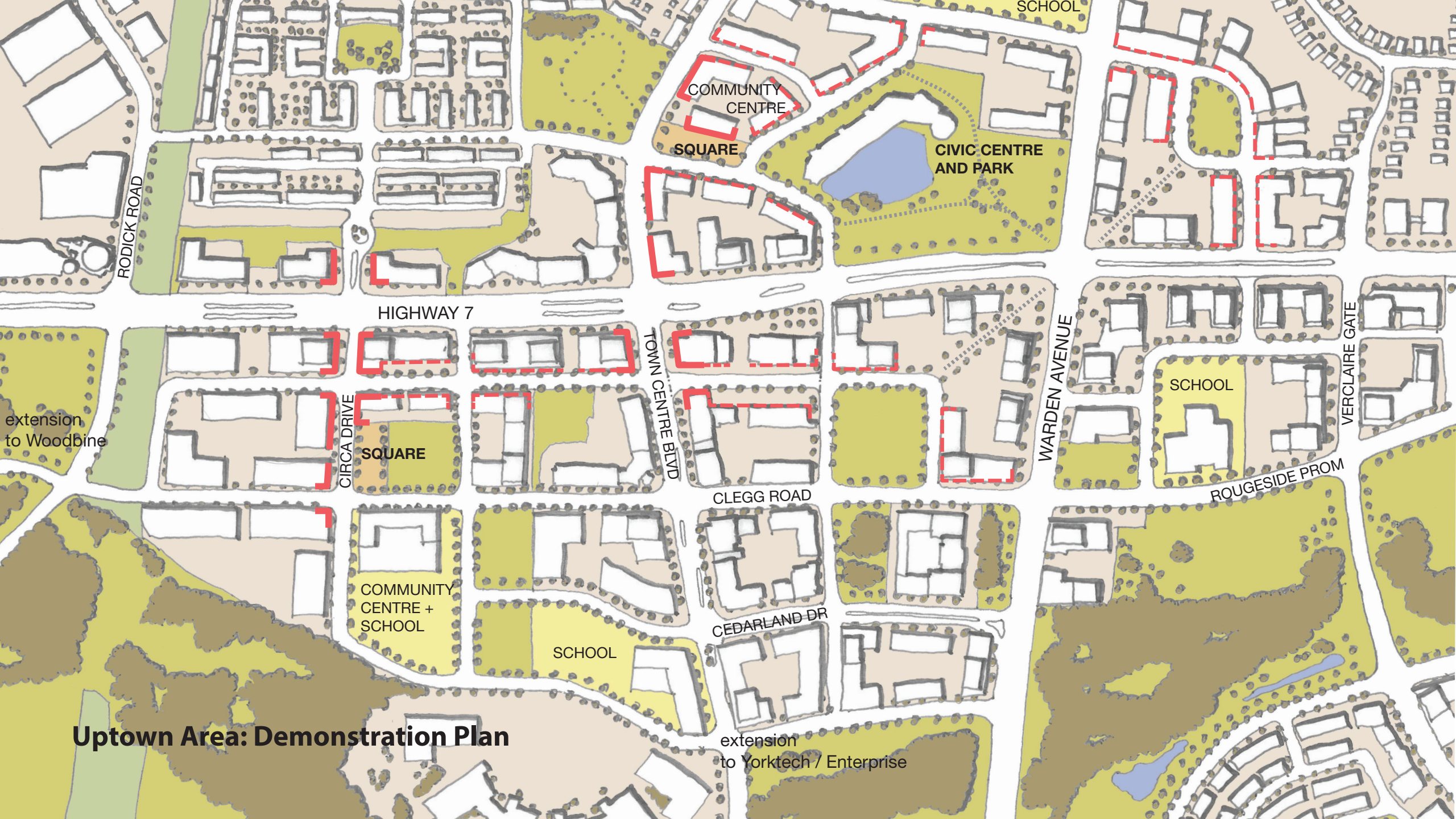
**Focus on Uptown**

UPTOWN (WARDEN AND 7) AREA

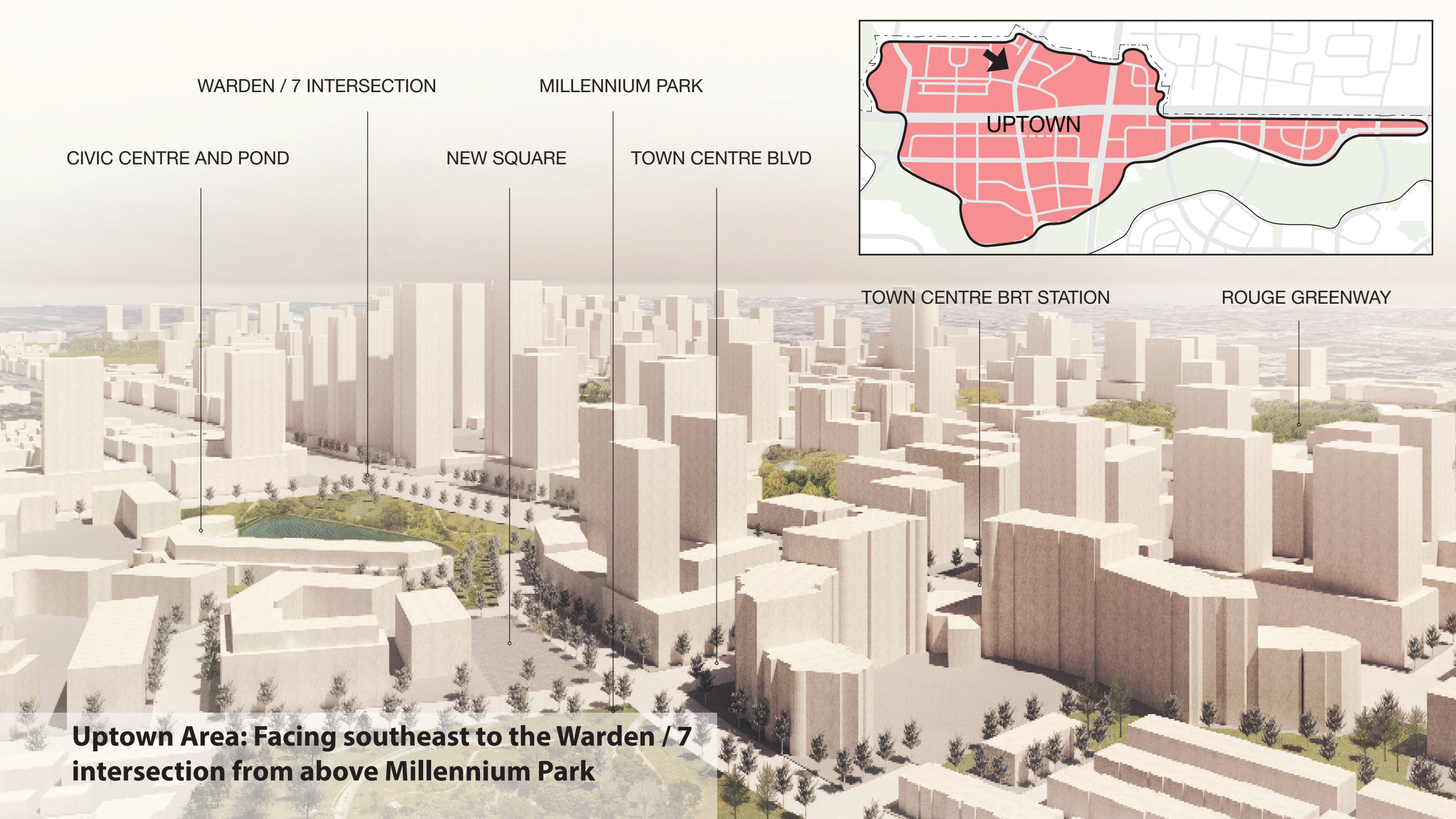
UNIONVILLE  
MULTI-MODAL  
STATION

**Markham Centre: Facing Northwest**





## Uptown Area: Demonstration Plan



WARDEN / 7 INTERSECTION

MILLENNIUM PARK

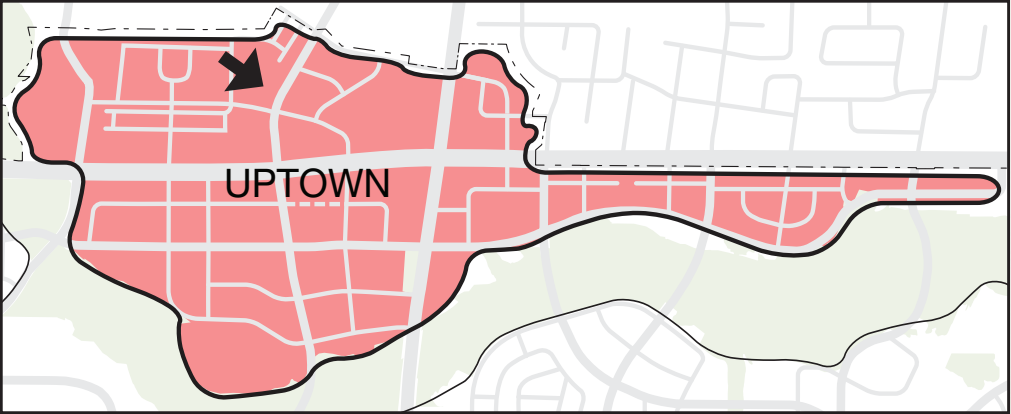
CIVIC CENTRE AND POND

NEW SQUARE

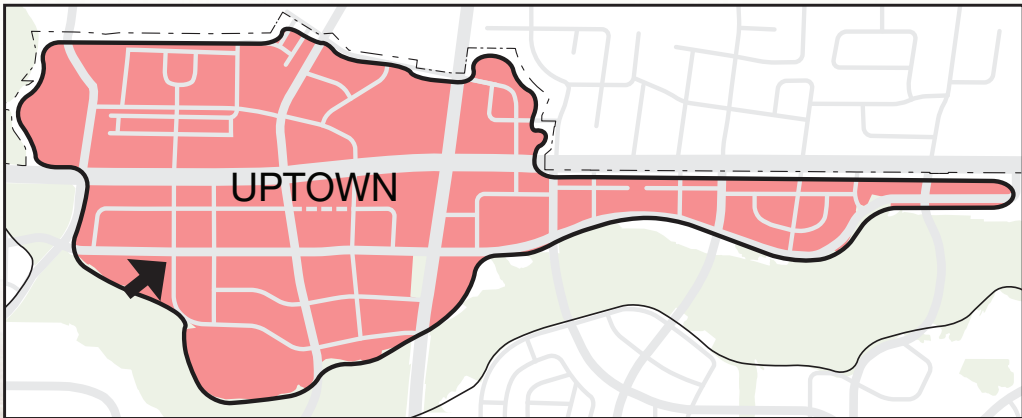
TOWN CENTRE BLVD

TOWN CENTRE BRT STATION

ROUGE GREENWAY



**Uptown Area: Facing southeast to the Warden / 7 intersection from above Millennium Park**



CLEGG / CIRCA INTERSECTION  
WITH POTENTIAL SQUARE

ROUGE GREENWAY

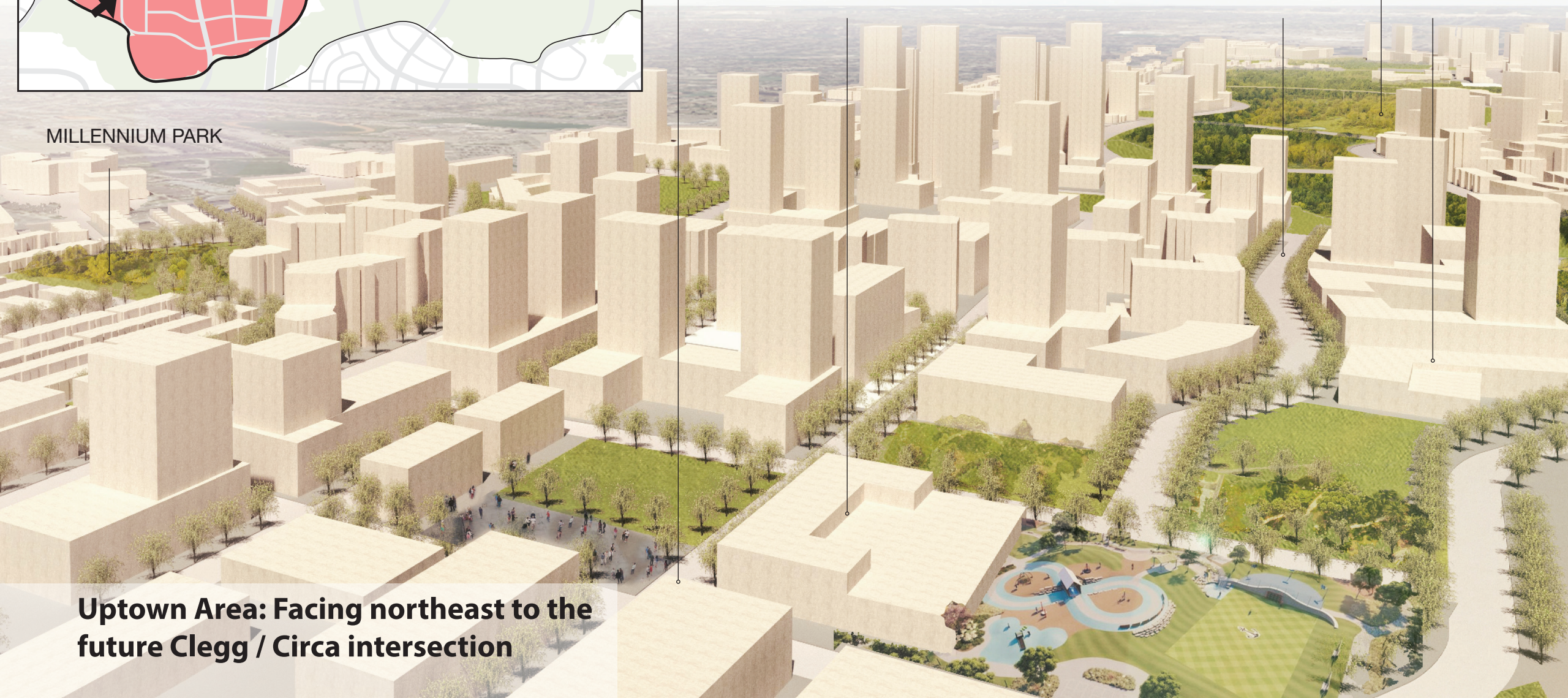
SCHOOL / COMMUNITY CENTRE

CEDARLAND BRT STATION

SCHOOL

MILLENNIUM PARK

**Uptown Area: Facing northeast to the  
future Clegg / Circa intersection**





## Uptown: Markham Centre's Secondary Core

The Uptown District, centred around Highway 7 and Warden Avenue, will become one of the two main poles of Markham Centre.

**It will have a character distinct from Downtown: less intense, but also more varied in nature due to its longer history of development. A number of important civic elements, both existing and new, will contribute to its identity.**

### Integrating the Present and the Future

One of Uptown's unique characteristics is how much of it is already built or approved.

The Plan seeks to integrate this existing fabric with the next generation of development.

### Mixing Civic Use and Private Development

Uptown's Civic Uses include:

- The existing Civic Centre
- Three planned community centres and three planned schools
- A variety of important public spaces

Designing and retrofitting these elements for an increasingly urban future is critical.

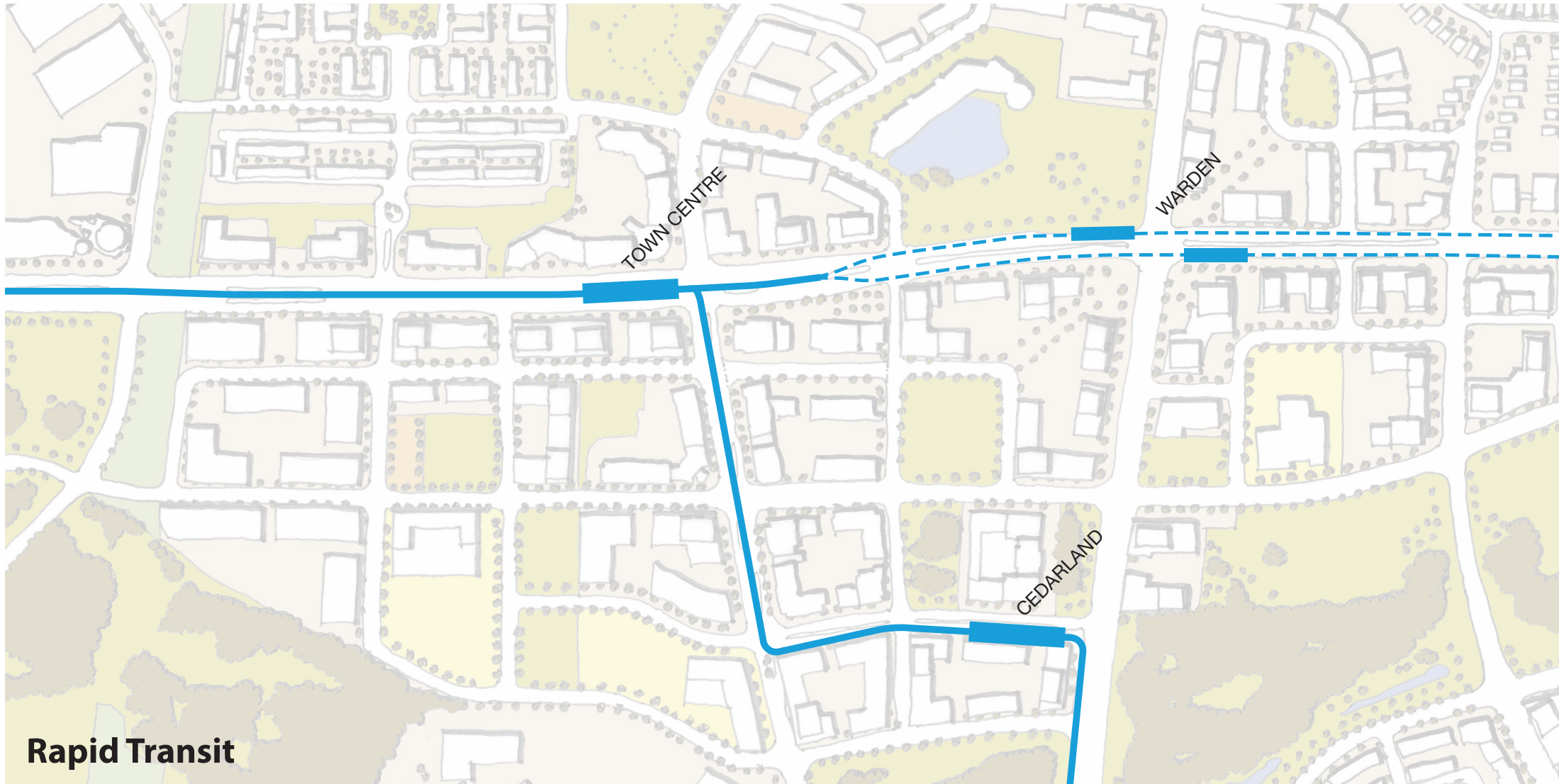


Existing Condition



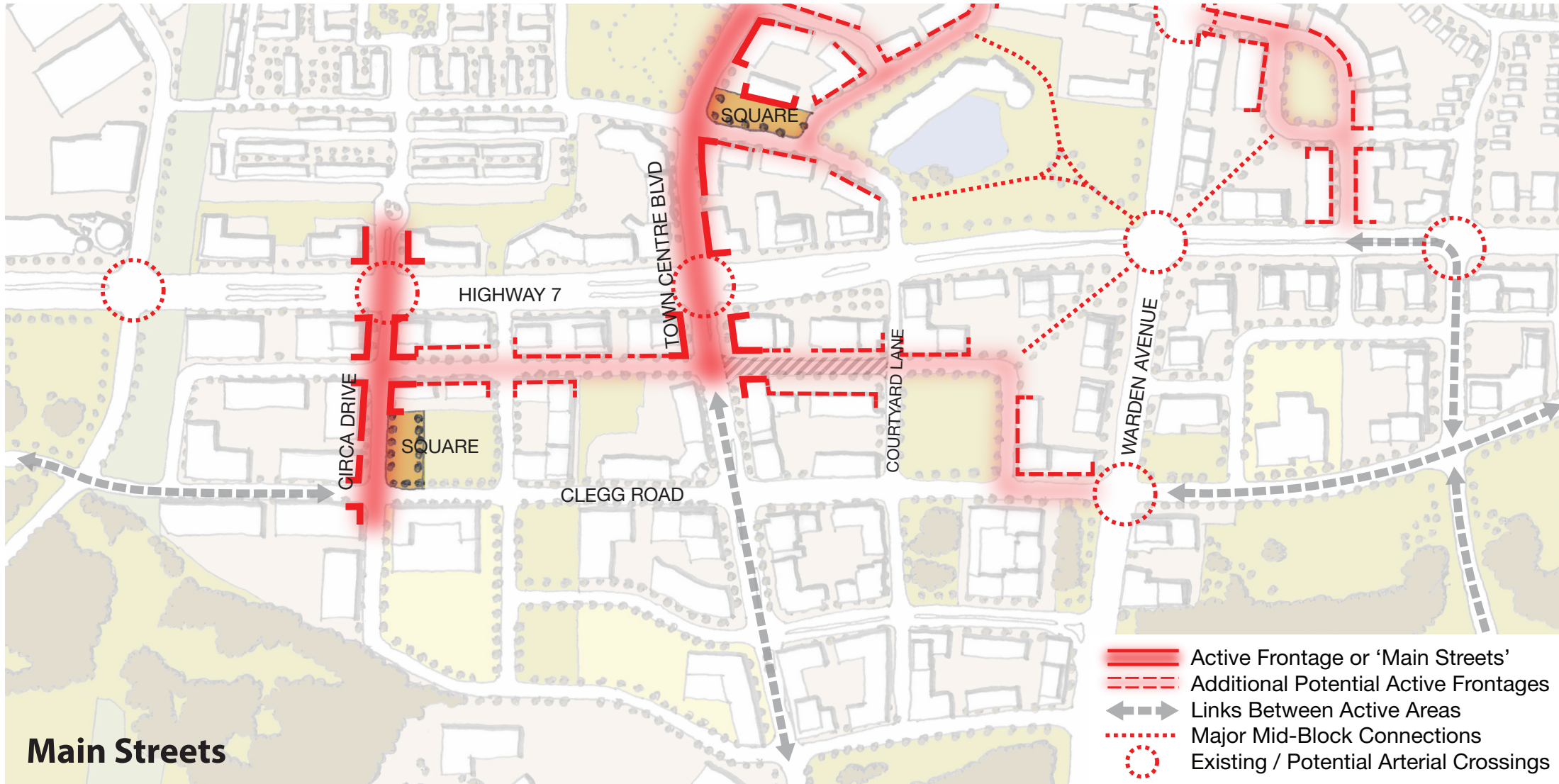
**Uptown Demonstration Plan**

# General Framework



**Rapid Transit**

# General Framework









Civic Spaces





## Dual Role of Great Streets: Mobility and Place

Developing Great Streets in Markham Centre contributes to at least nine of eleven Guiding Principles.

### Mobility

The Secondary Plan will identify what is required to accommodate the future functional needs for the Centre.

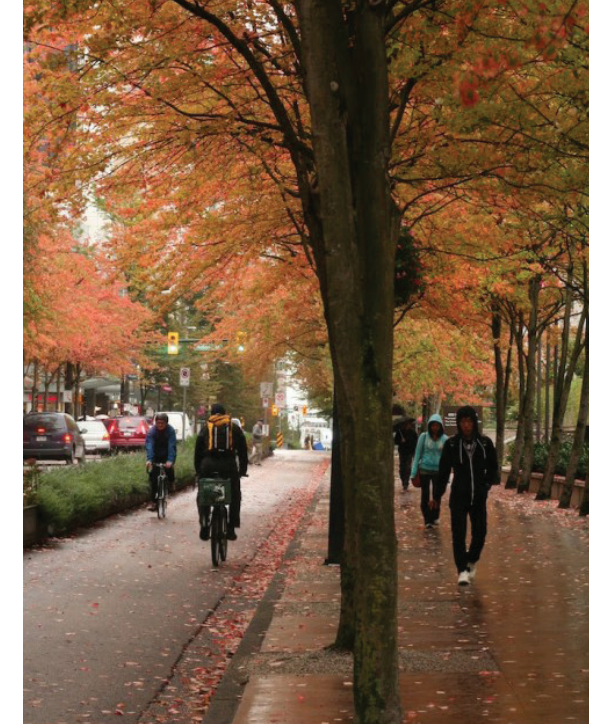
The Plan will recommend complete networks for all users:

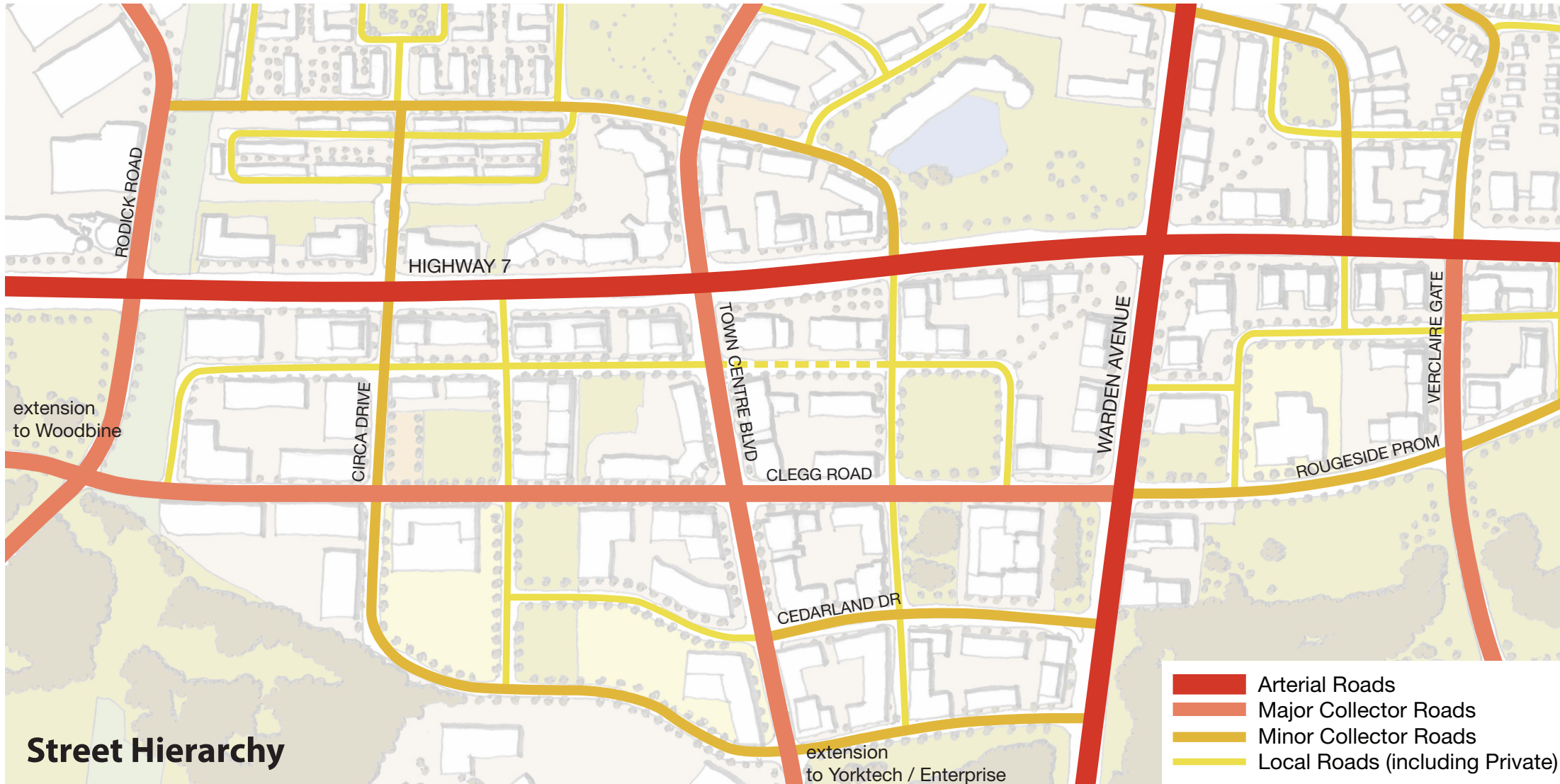
- pedestrians
- bicycles
- transit
- goods movement
- private automobiles

### Place

The Public Realm aspect of streets (the space between buildings) will focus on what is required to support an active, healthy, beautiful and vibrant community.

- Generous sidewalks
- Cycling facilities for all ages and abilities
- Places for outdoor seating
- Large and healthy urban forest
- Green infrastructure

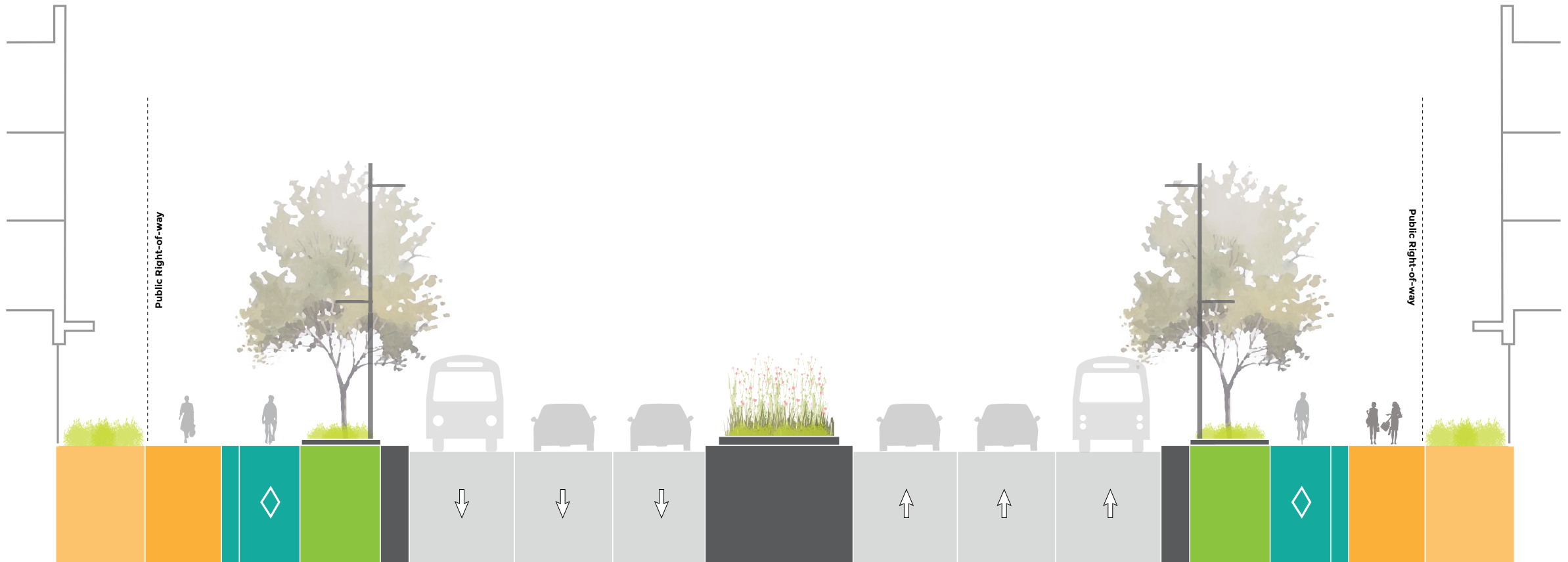






## The Aspiration

### Different Street Types/ Different Responses



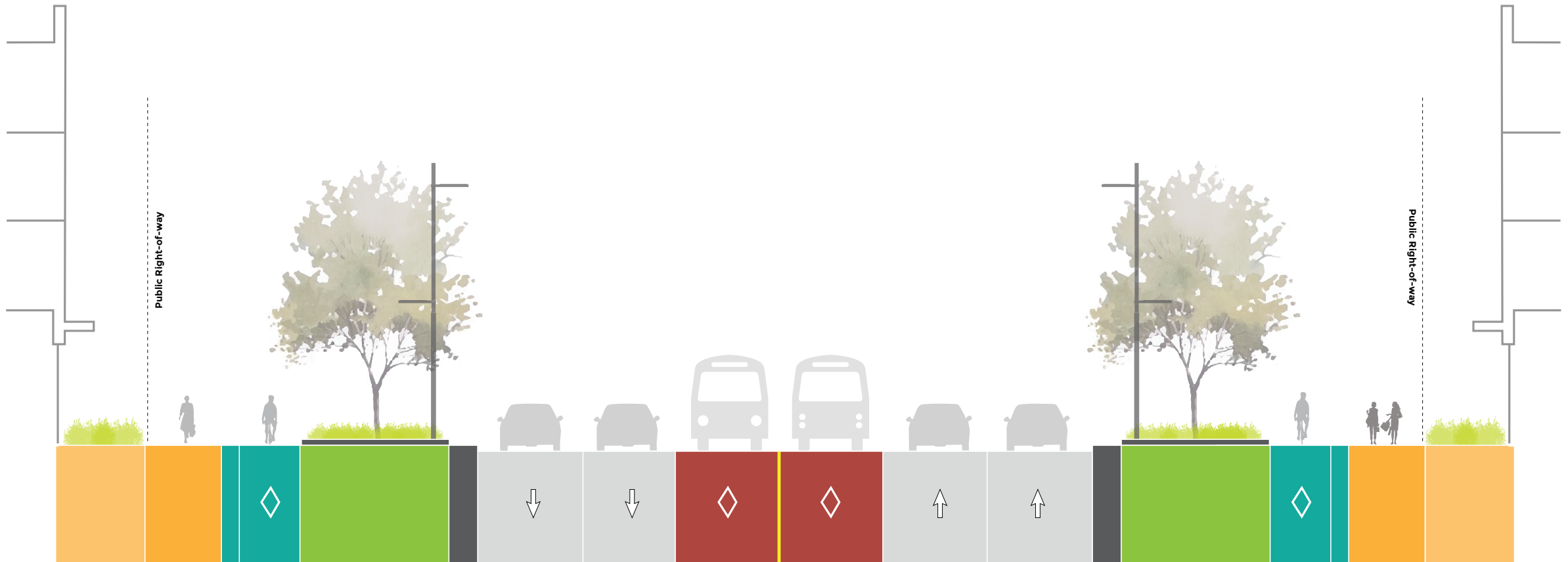
Example: Arterial (43.0m-45.0m ROW)

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY



## The Aspiration

### Different Street Types/ Different Responses



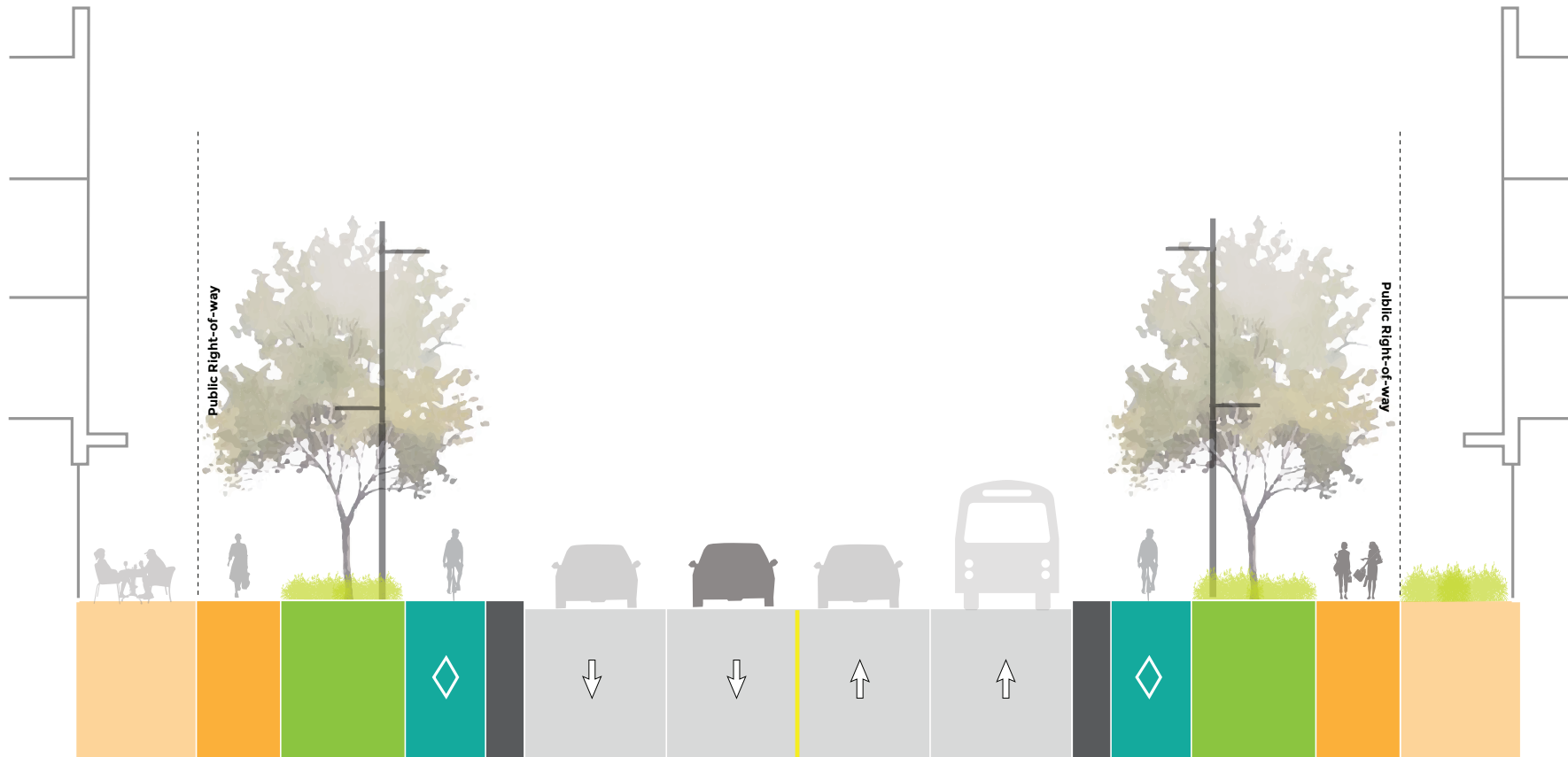
Example: Arterial with Dedicated Transit/HOV (43.0m-45.0m ROW)

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY



## The Aspiration

### Different Street Types/ Different Responses



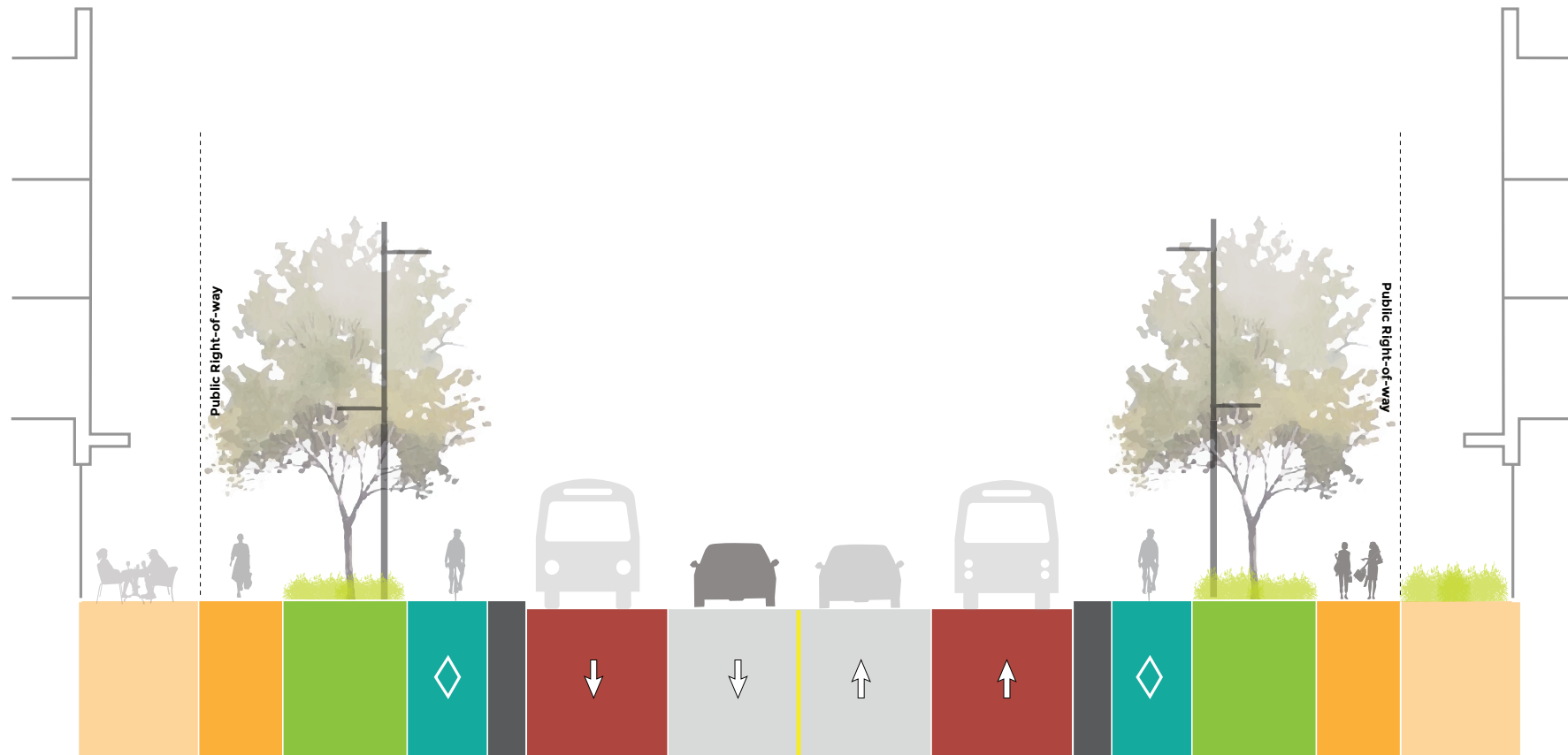
Example: Major Collector (30m ROW)

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY



## The Aspiration

### Different Street Types/ Different Responses



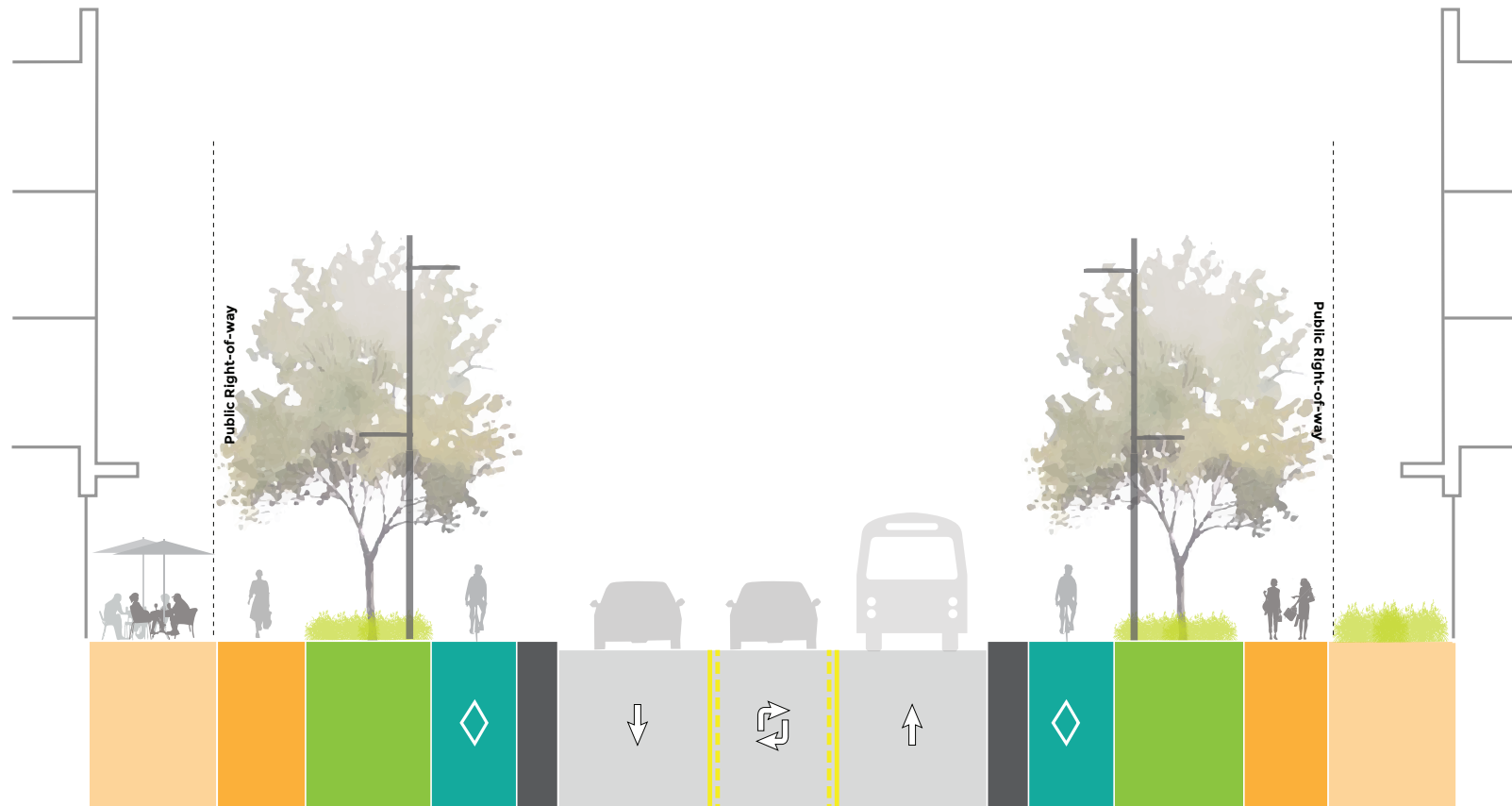
Example: Major Collector with Dedicated Transit/HOV (30m ROW)

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY



## The Aspiration

### Different Street Types/ Different Responses



Example: Minor Collector (26m ROW)

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY



## The Aspiration

### Different Street Types/ Different Responses



Example: Local (18.5m to 20m ROW)

FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY



## Great Spaces: Sustainability, Recreation and Placemaking

Developing Great Spaces in Markham Centre contributes to at least seven of eleven Guiding Principles.

### The Greenway

At the core of Markham Centre is the Rouge Greenway, a unique ecological feature.

It will:

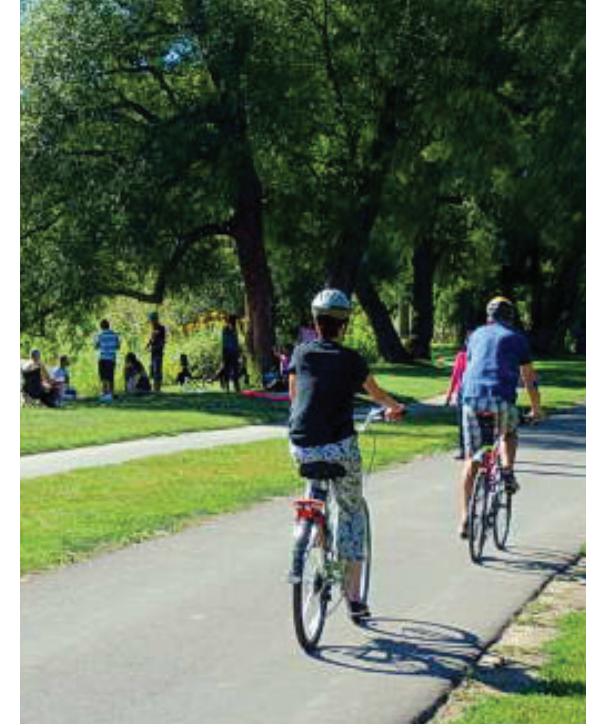
- protect natural habitats in the midst of the city
- help shape Markham Centre's character and identity
- provide limited recreation and movement opportunities through the trails system

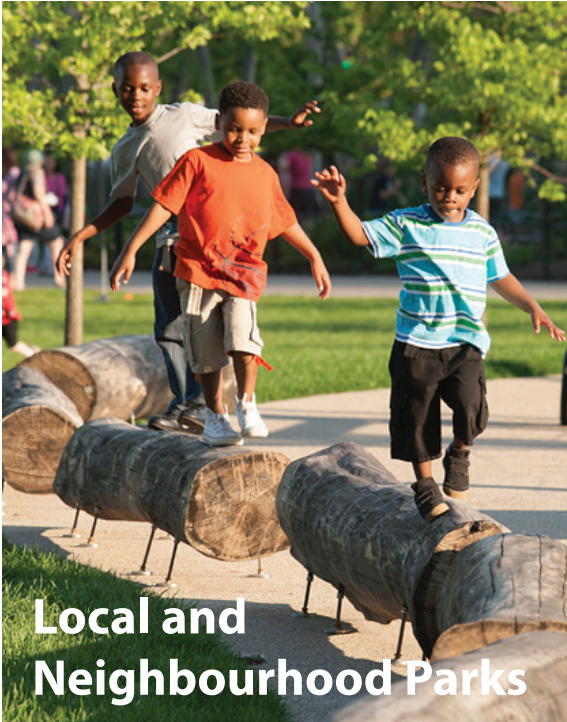
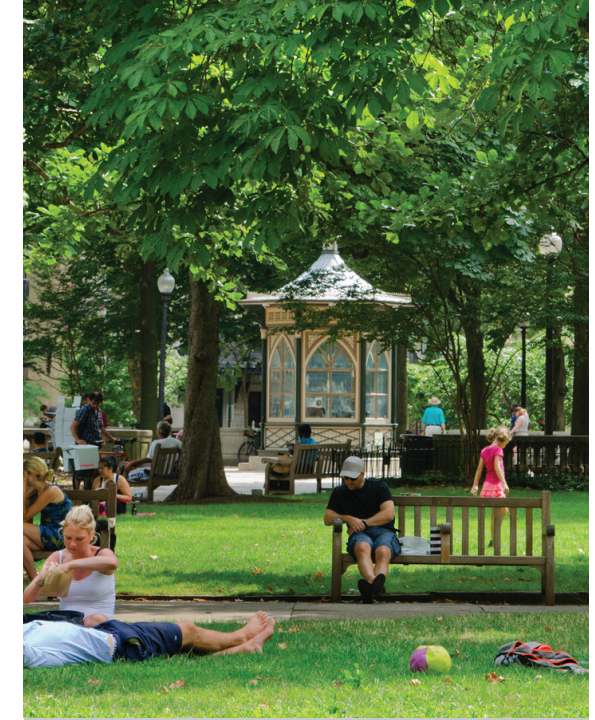
### Other Parks

Markham Centre should have a robust and varied parks system.

It will provide:

- high profile urban squares that anchor Markham Centre's neighbourhoods
- a range of green parks to serve community needs, from small parkettes to large spaces for active recreation
- public art opportunities
- a dual focus on placemaking and functional programming







**Parks and Open Spaces and Trails**



## A More Fine-Grained and Pedestrian-Oriented Approach to Built Form

Achieving a high quality and varied built form contributes to at least six of eleven Guiding Principles.

### Urban Development

Built form in Markham Centre should contribute to intensification, but also to quality of life.

It must:

- appropriately frame streets and open spaces
- engage positively with the public realm, whether through active or passive means
- always prioritize the pedestrian experience, through scale, porosity and ground floor design

### Variety of Forms

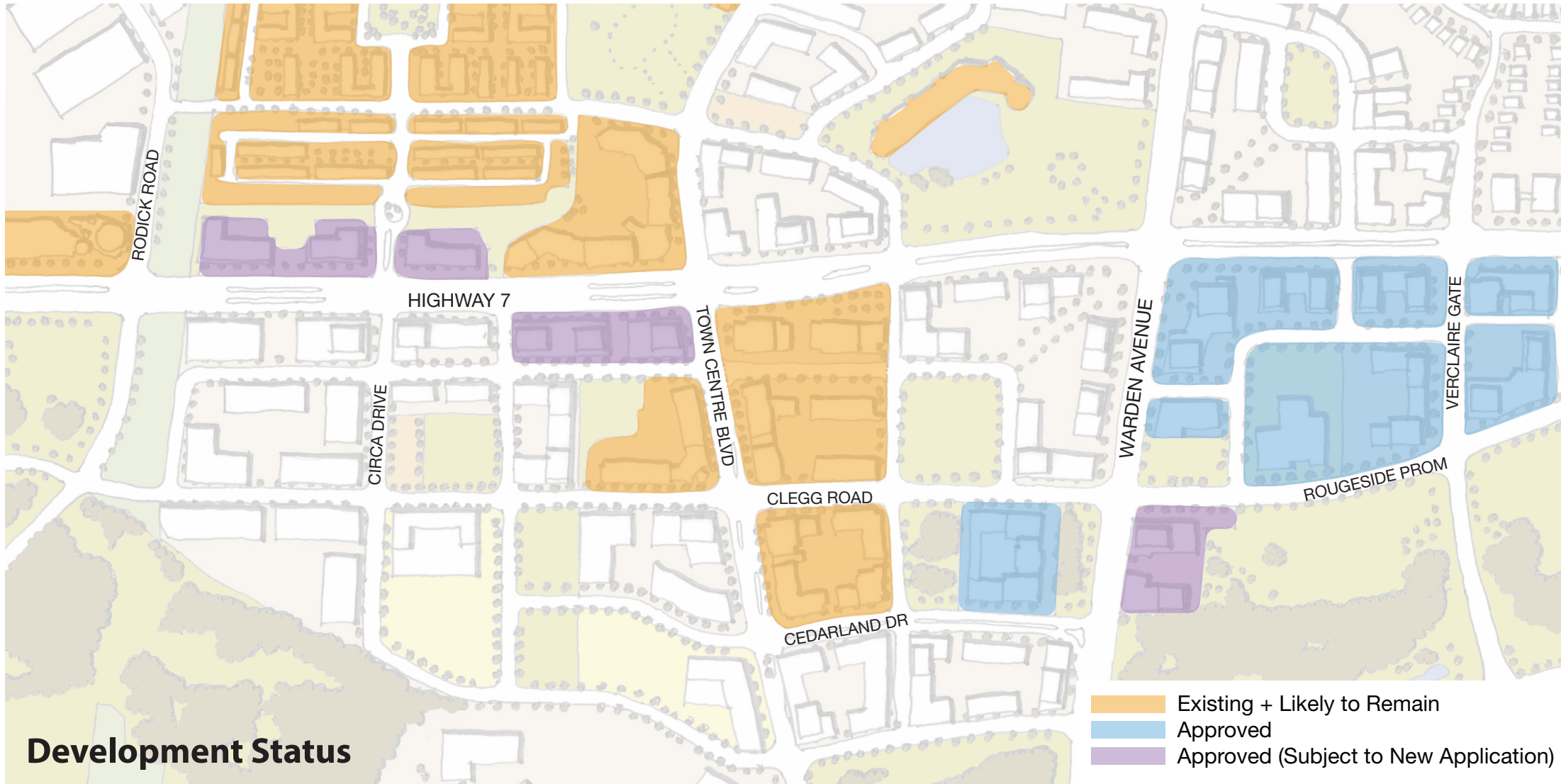
Built form should be varied in nature.

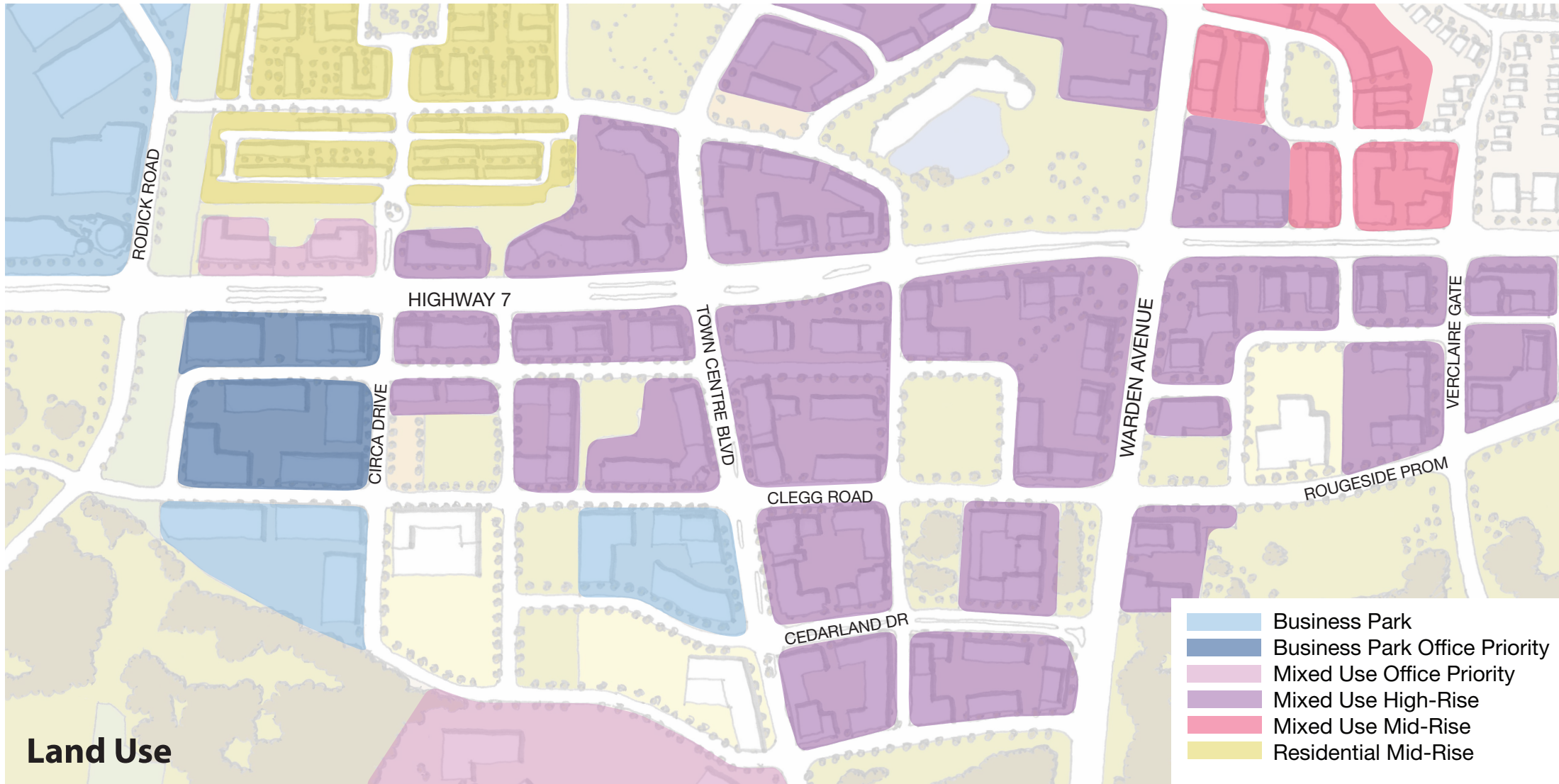
It must:

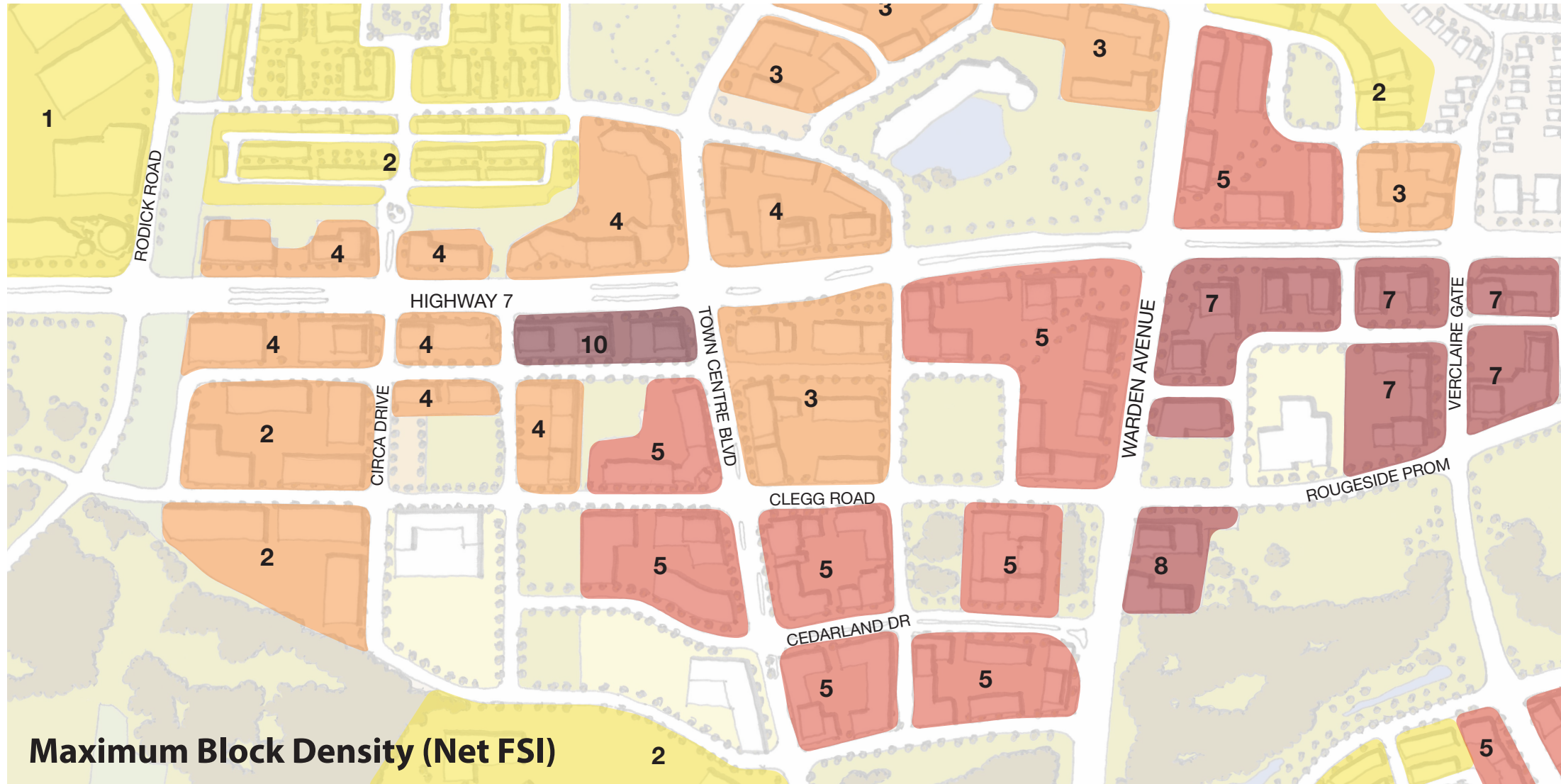
- mix tall and mid-rise typologies on most blocks, while contributing to an overall height strategy
- mix land uses, and associated forms
- provide a wide variety of open spaces, both public and private in accessibility

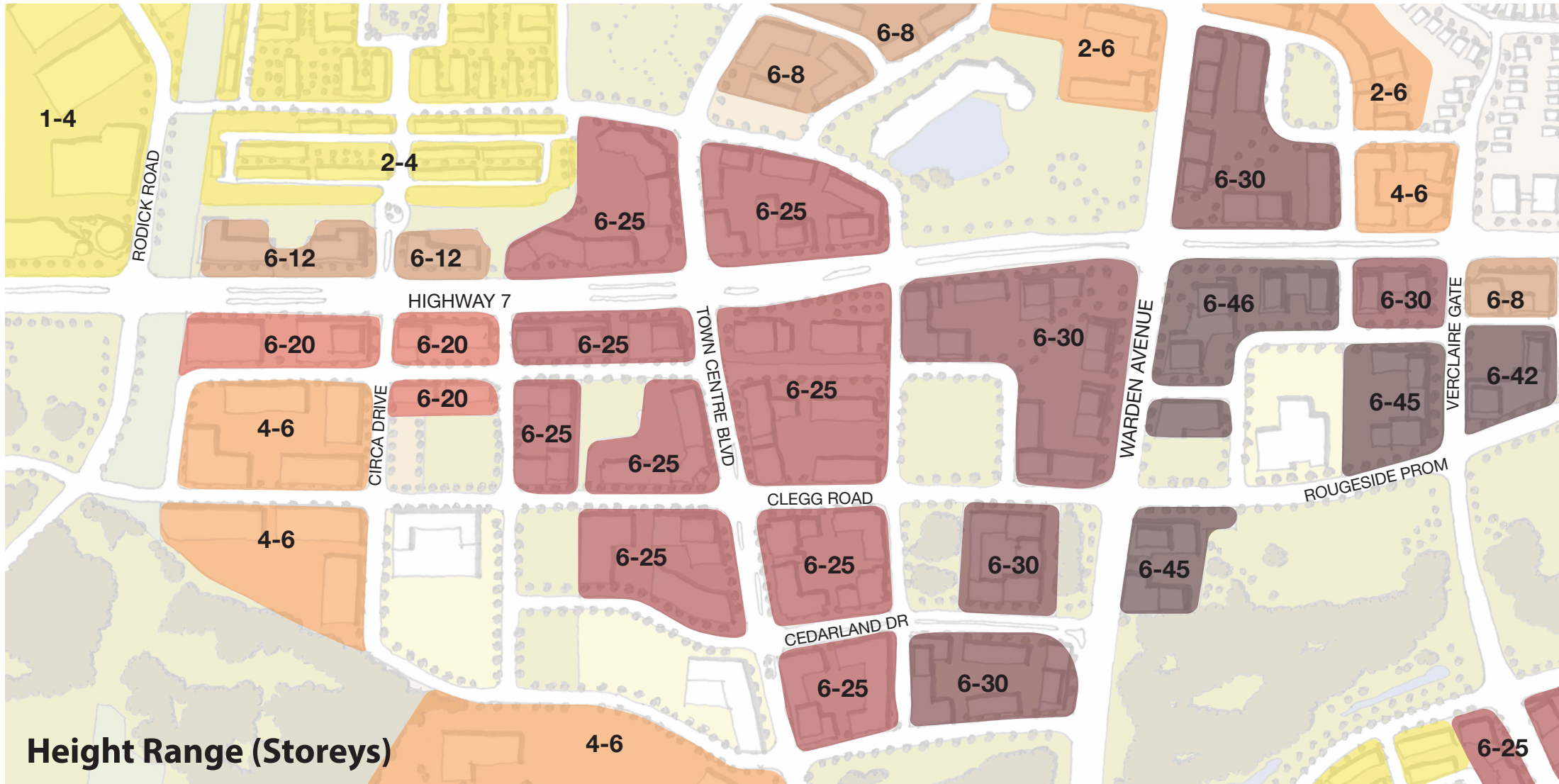




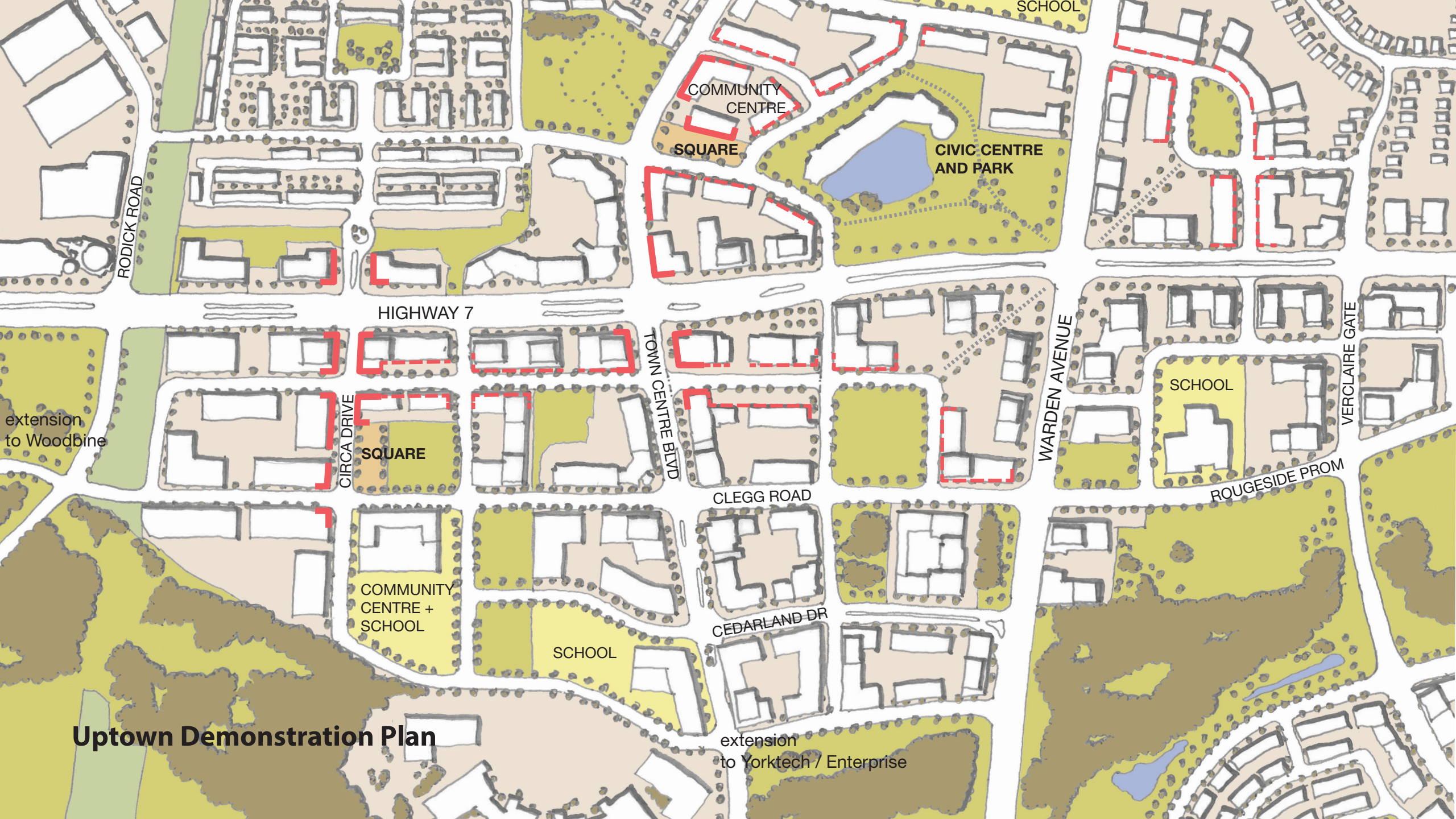








**Thank You**



# Uptown Demonstration Plan

COMMUNITY CENTRE

SQUARE

CIVIC CENTRE AND PARK

HIGHWAY 7

SQUARE

COMMUNITY CENTRE + SCHOOL

SCHOOL

CLEGG ROAD

CEDARLAND DR

SCHOOL

ROUGESIDE PROM

extension to Yorktech / Enterprise

extension to Woodbine