

Downtown Streetscape Design Guidelines

Planning & Development Committee

July 9, 2019

Background

- Existing Streetscape Standards are based on the Streetscape Design Study for Downtown Burlington in early 1980s
- Update to the Downtown Streetscape Guidelines kicked-off in 2015
- Public Consultation took place in 2015, 2016, and 2018

What we've discovered

- **wider sidewalks** where possible in the downtown
- an **increase** in the number of **pedestrian crossings** to help feel safe when crossing the street
- **more garbage, recycling and compost bins**
- **more benches** to sit and enjoy the downtown
- **more greenery and street trees** on downtown streets
- General agreement with the **defined character areas**, especially agreement with **Lower Brant Street as a "main street"**
- Explore **different colours** outside of Lower Brant Street
- **Heritage style of furnishings** should extend beyond Lower Brant Street, but maintain a specific treatment for Lower Brant Street



Project Scope

Downtown Burlington BIA Boundary (est. 2015)

Design Guidelines

What they are:

- a framework for transformation of the downtown streetscape from old to new
- new streetscape guidelines to ensure a consistent approach to planning, detailed design, implementation, maintenance and repairs

What they are not:

- a detailed design or functional design plan
- new urban design standards
- new maintenance standards / level of service

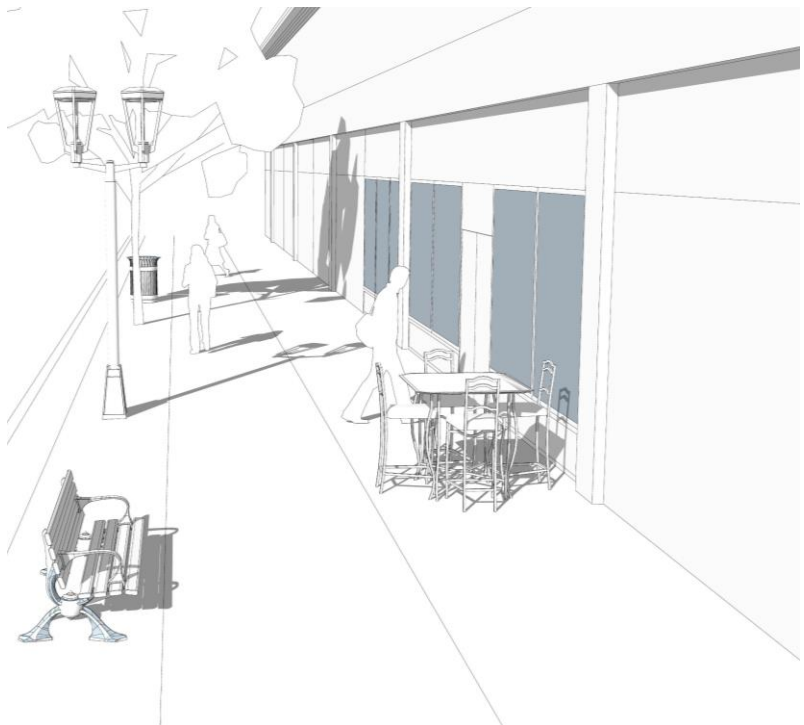


Guiding Principles

1. Pedestrian-First Focus
2. Green & Sustainable
3. Easy to Use & Equitable
4. Long Lasting
5. Connect & Integrate

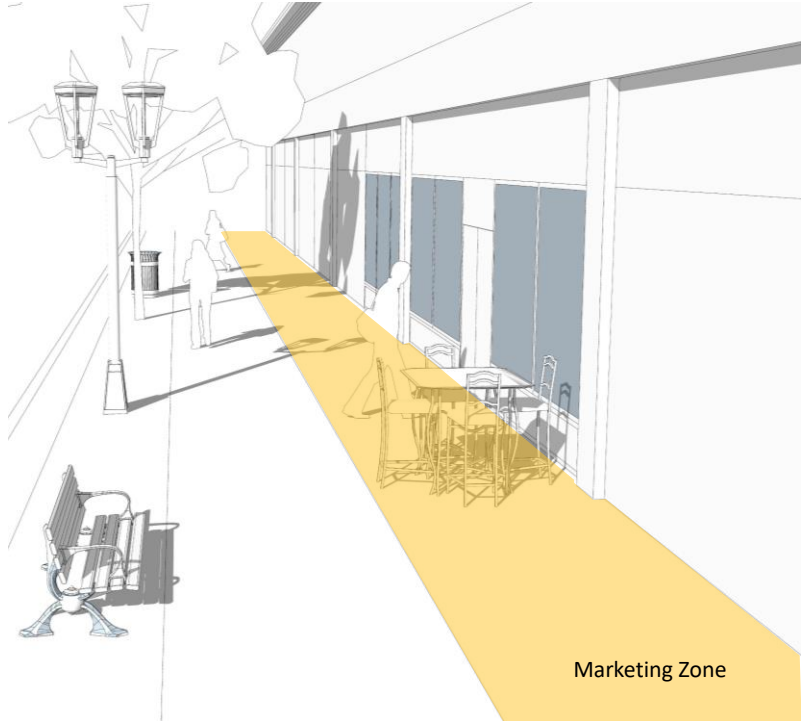


Streetscape Anatomy



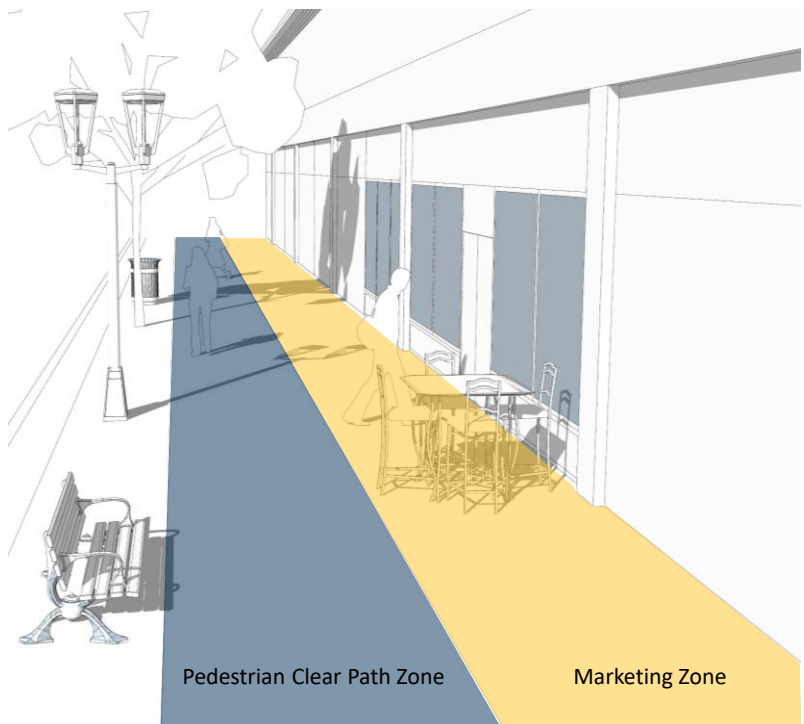
Streetscape Anatomy

- The Marketing Zone
 - Allows for spill-out activities from adjacent building and its uses



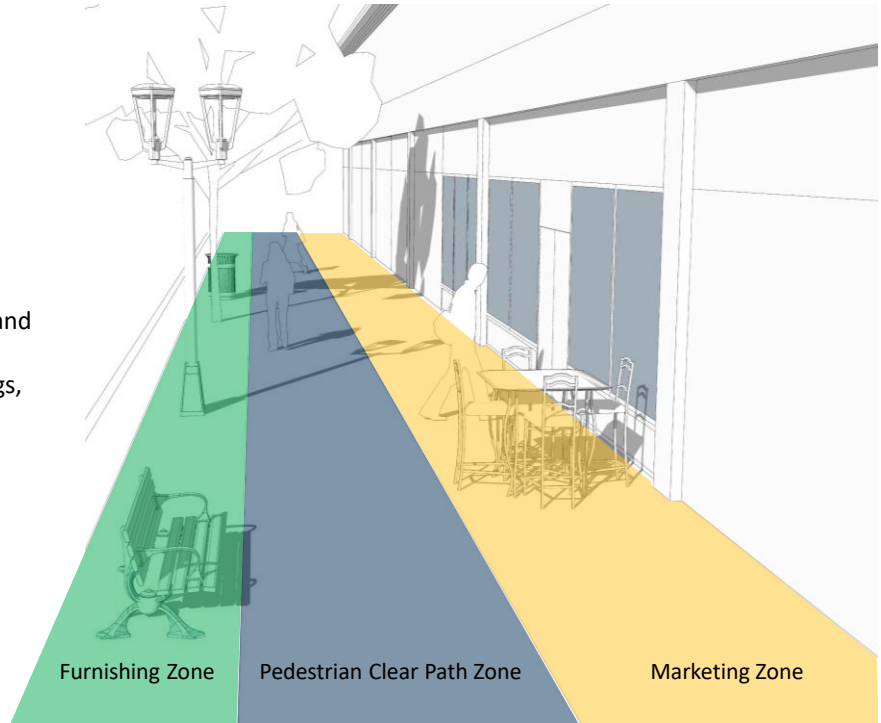
Streetscape Anatomy

- The Clear Path Zone
 - Provides a unobstructed and accessible public path of travel



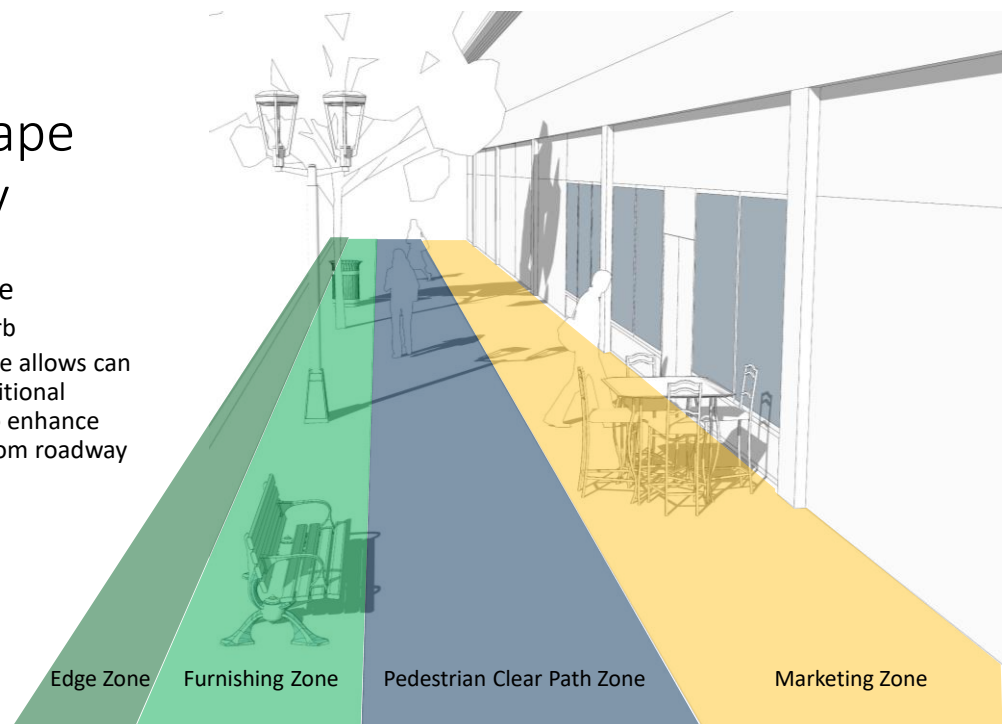
Streetscape Anatomy

- The Furnishing Zone
 - A place for everything and everything in its place
 - Where street furnishings, trees, and utilities are provided

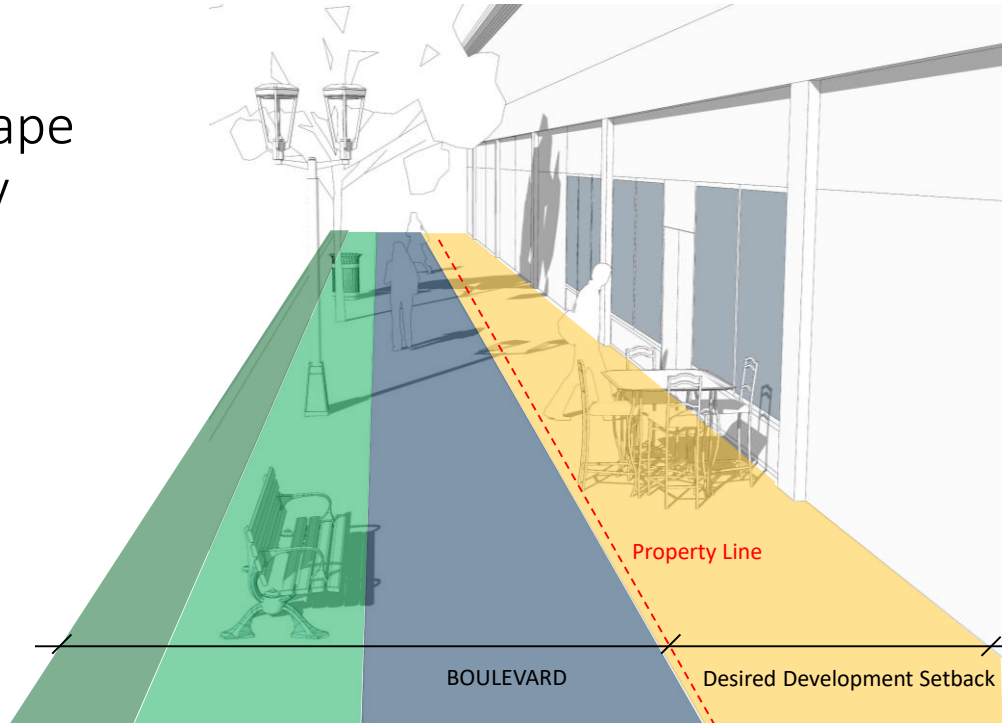


Streetscape Anatomy

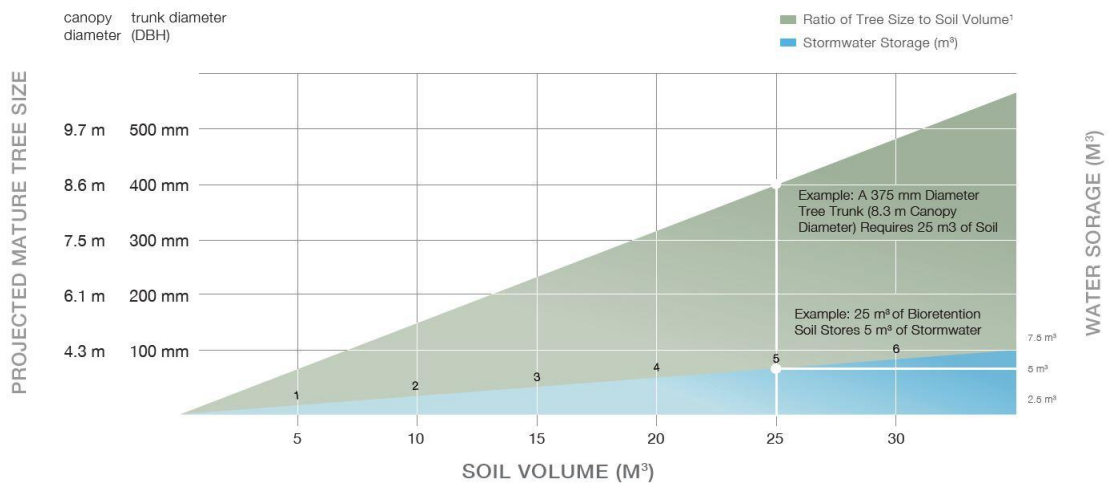
- The Edge Zone
 - Includes curb
 - Where space allows can include additional elements to enhance buffering from roadway



Streetscape Anatomy



HOW MUCH SOIL TO GROW A BIG TREE?



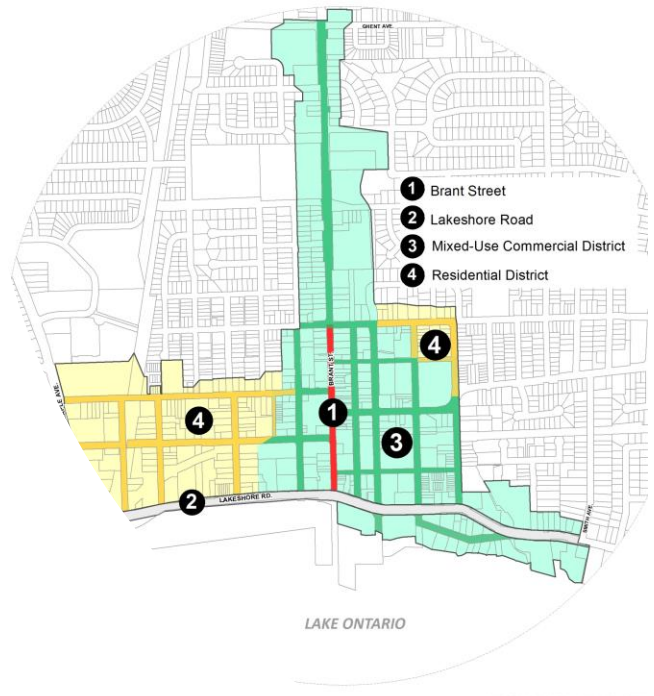
RATIO OF TREE SIZE TO SOIL VOLUME

Simplified Colour Palette



Character Areas

- Place-Keeping
 - A design treatment that reinforces the character of Lower Brant Street
 - Lakeshore should reflect the contemporary character of the waterfront plan and previous investments made already at the western gateway of Lakeshore and Maple; Lakeshore Rd. adjacent to Joseph Brant; & Spencer Smith Park
- Place-Making
 - Important to economic development and quality of life to attracting talent, entrepreneurship and encouraging local businesses.
 - Streetscape improvements can have a significant impact on a community's physical environment and enhance its quality of place.



Lower Brant Street



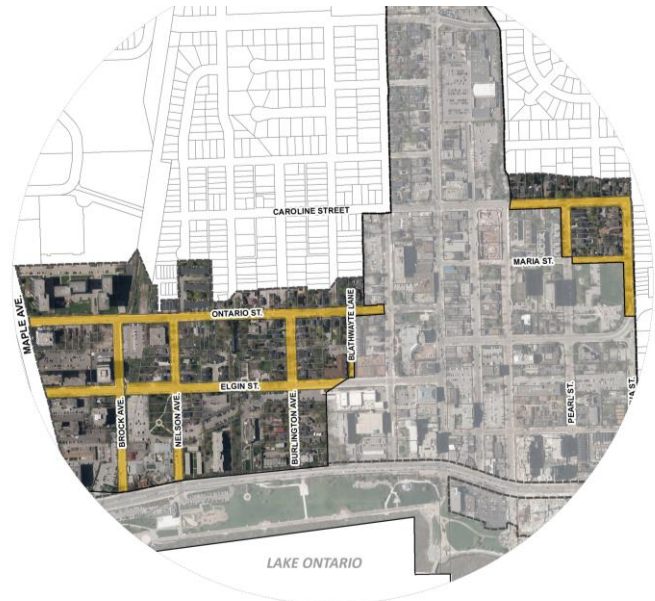
Lakeshore Road





















Mixed-Use Commercial District



Residential Districts



Street Furniture

	Bench	Bollard	Bike Rack	Lighting	Waste
Lower Brant					
Lakeshore Road					
Mixed-Use Commercial					
Residential					



Lower Brant Street

- Recommend a new 'heritage' style of furnishings
- Focus dual luminaires along this key street segment
- Dark grey unit pavers within the furnishing zone and surrounding street trees

Lakeshore Road

- Maintain the 'waterfront' style and use of unique grey colour
- Continues consistent dark grey unit paving within furnishing zones



Mixed-Use Commercial District

- Ties the 'waterfront' to the rest of the downtown core



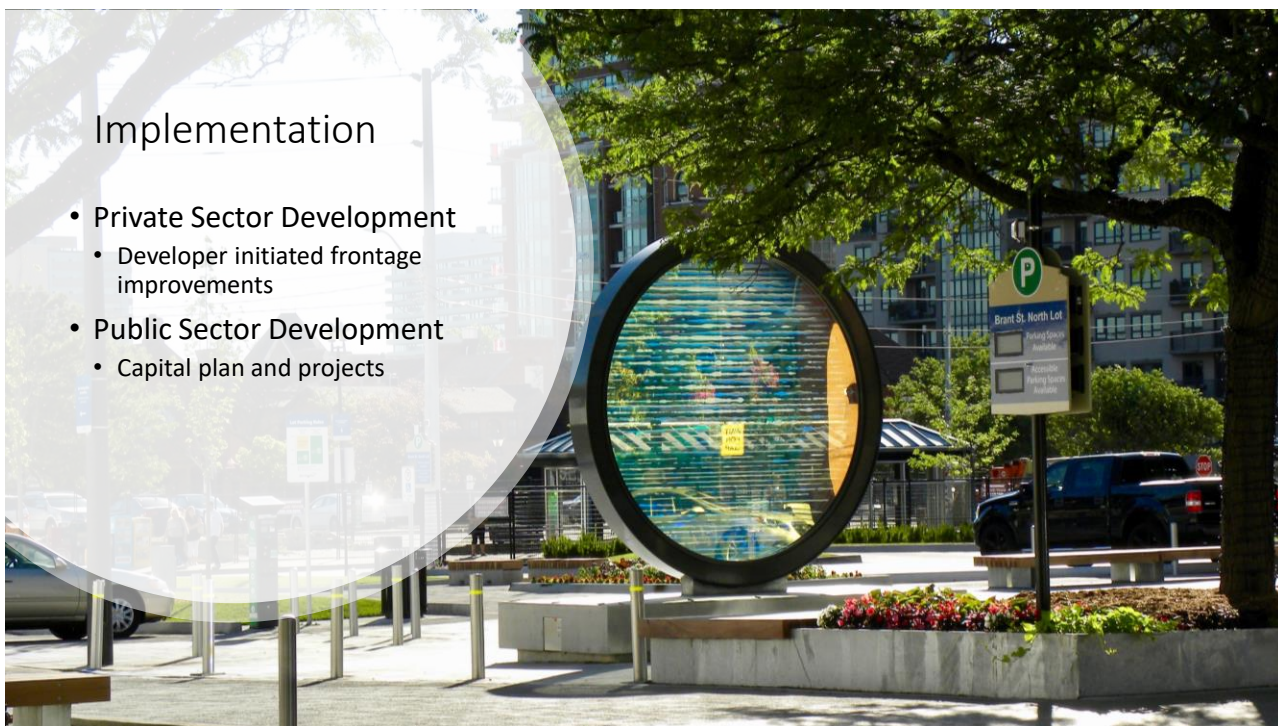
Residential Districts

- Shares pedestrian light design (single luminaire) with Lower Brant Street and Mixed-Use Commercial District



Implementation

- Private Sector Development
 - Developer initiated frontage improvements
- Public Sector Development
 - Capital plan and projects





Next Steps

- Finalize design guidelines
- Develop new engineering / urban design detail standards
- Procurement – purchase and supply