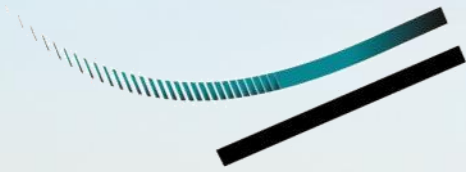


Mountain Brow Vista Study & Management Plan

Stakeholder Meeting # 2 (Wards 6 & 7)



Hamilton



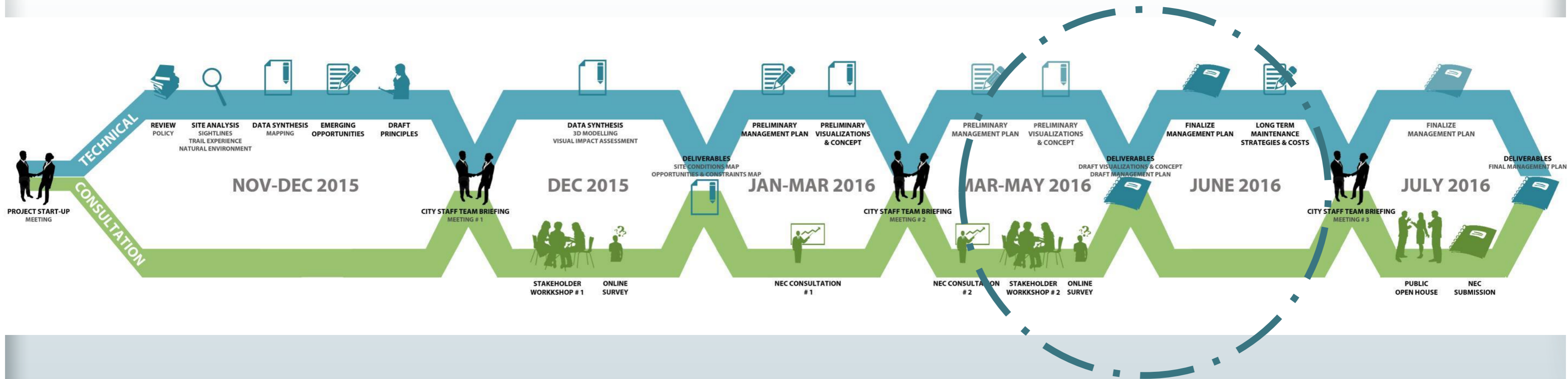
DILLON
CONSULTING

June 13, 2016

Agenda

- **Welcome** (Ward 6 Councillor Jackson & Ward 7 Councillor Skelly)
- **Project Overview**
- **Site Conditions Review**
- **Analysis & Vista Evaluation**
- **Draft Concept Plan**
- **Draft Management Plan**
- **Next Steps**

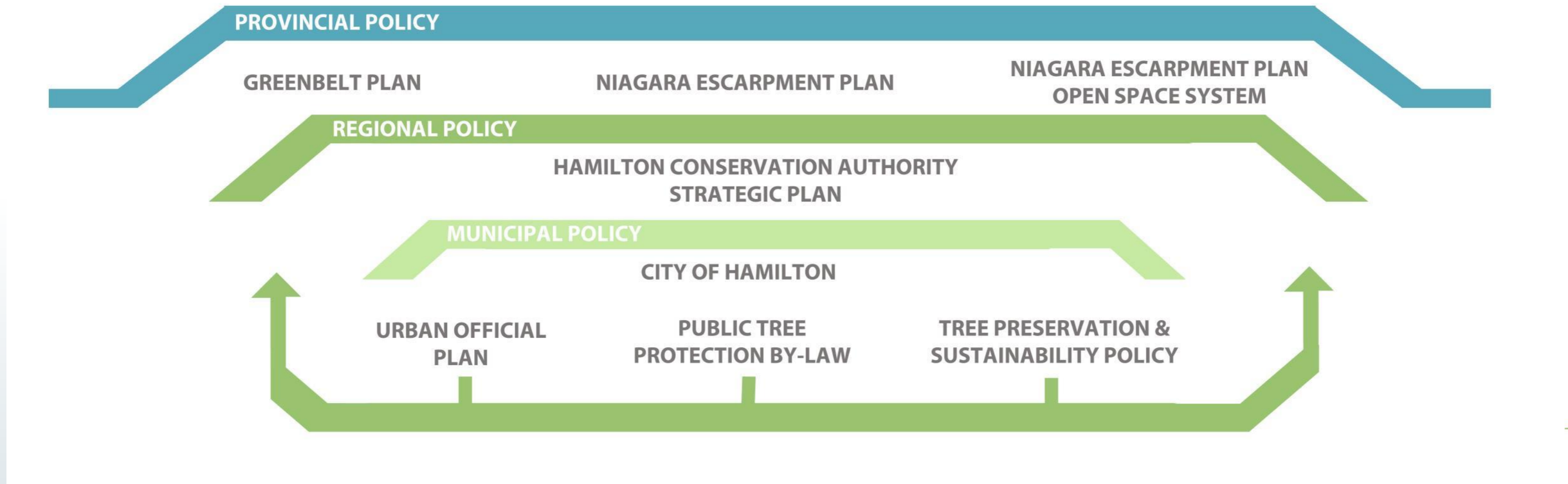
Project Overview Scope & Outcomes



Project Overview

Principles

- **Protect and enhance the natural features (slopes, forest, habitats) in the Niagara Escarpment Plan lands.**
- **Improve the urban forest in the Niagara Escarpment Plan lands.**
- **Minimize the impact and further encroachment of urban development on the Escarpment environment.**
- **Ensure that further visual intrusion of the urban area on the Escarpment is minimized.**



Project Overview

Policy Framework



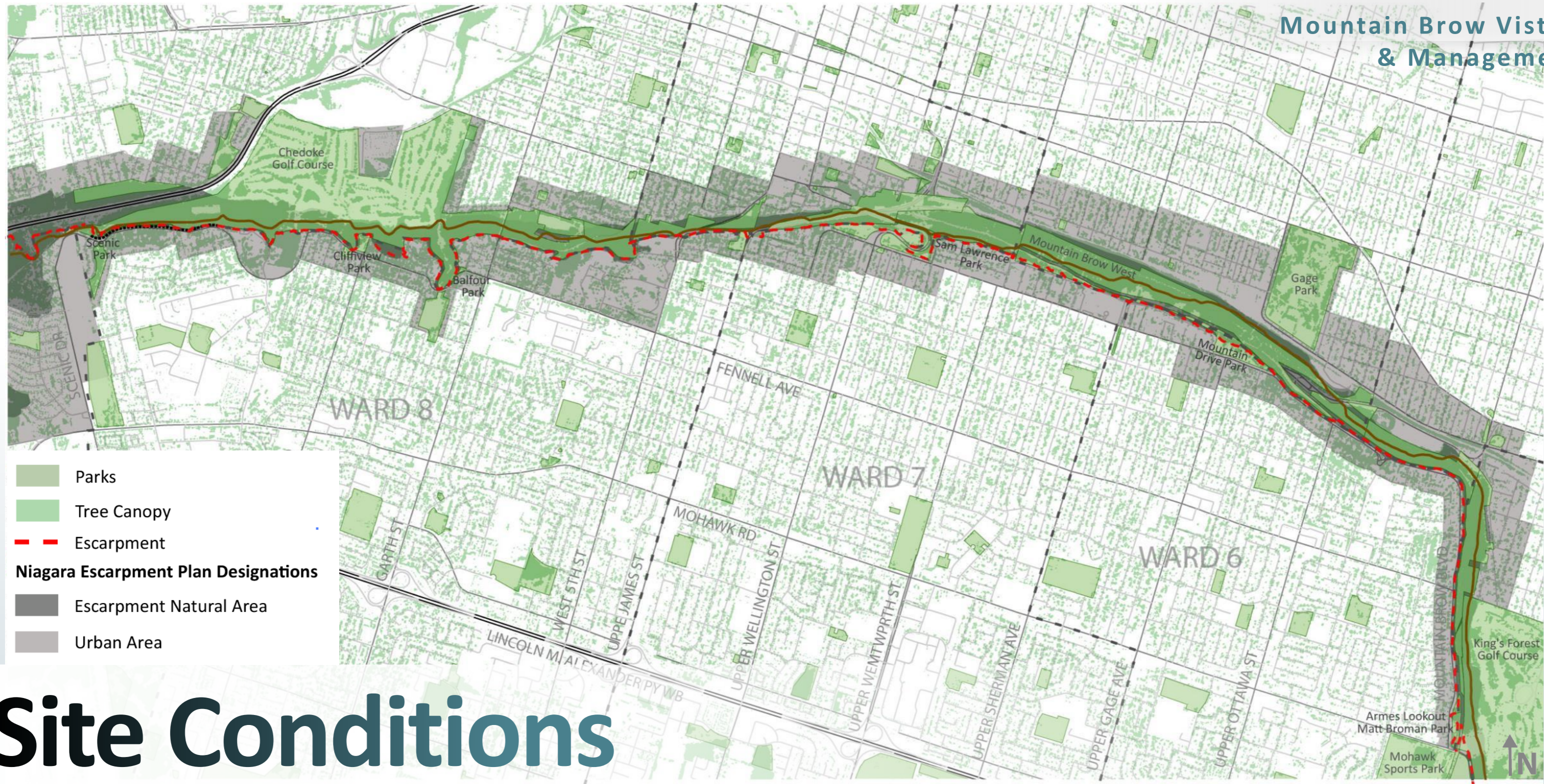
Site Conditions

Public vs. Private Access and Vistas



Site Conditions

NEC Landscape Evaluation Study – Scenic Value



Site Conditions

Natural Heritage, Open Space & Urban Forest



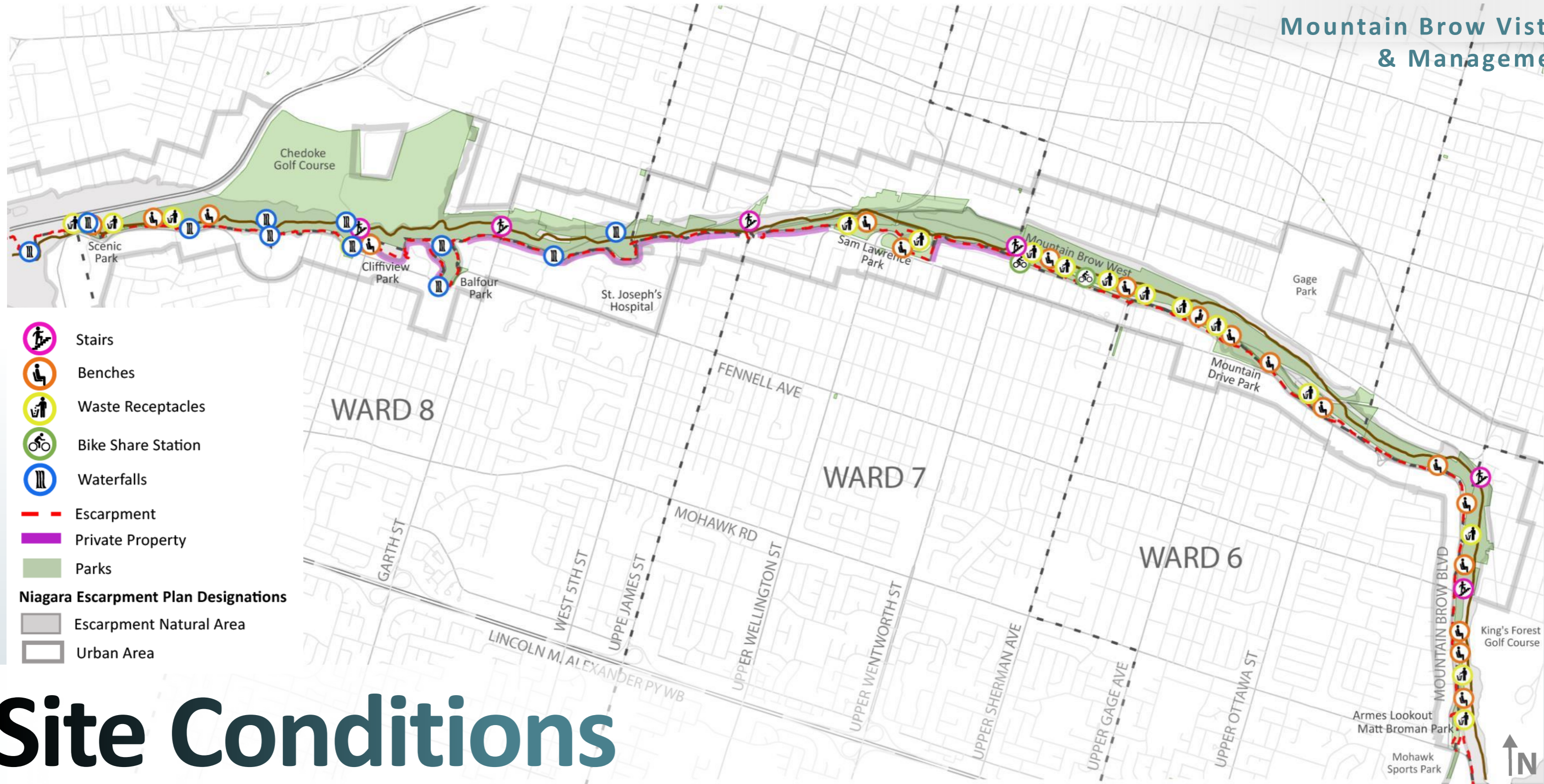
Site Conditions

Urban Footprint



Site Conditions

Cultural Heritage Features



Site Conditions

Amenities



Hamilton
Recreational Trails Master Plan

LEGEND

- Municipal Park
 - Green/Open Space
 - Institution/Cultural Attraction
 - Railway Line
-
- EXISTING TRAILS**
- On-Street Bike Route
 - Existing Trail
 - Greenbelt Route
 - Trans Canada Trail
 - Lake Ontario Waterfront Trail
 - Bruce Trail (Existing Footpath)
 - Red Hill Valley Rec Trail
-
- PROPOSED TRAILS AND INITIATIVES**
- Multi-use Rec Trail
 - Trail Initiative
-
- TRAIL AMENITIES AND SPECIAL FEATURES**
- * Trail Head Sign Location
 - P Staging Area (Parking)
 - Staircase with Bike Access
 - Staircase
 - Conservation Area
 - Waterfall Location
 - F Urban Fitness Trail Location
 - ||||| Railway Line

Site Conditions

Recreation & Trails Master Plan

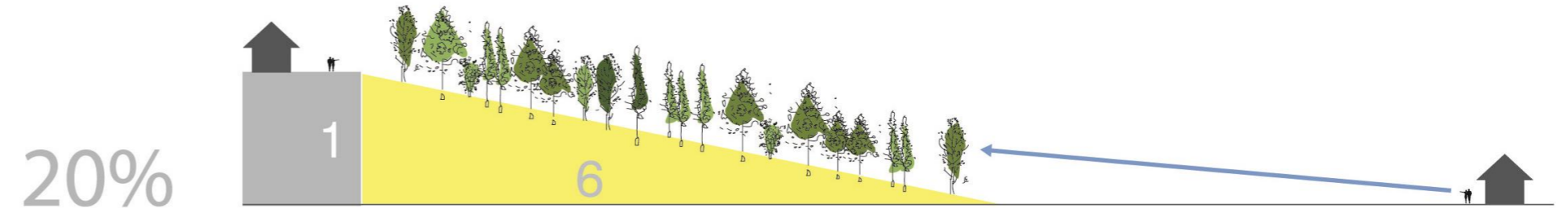
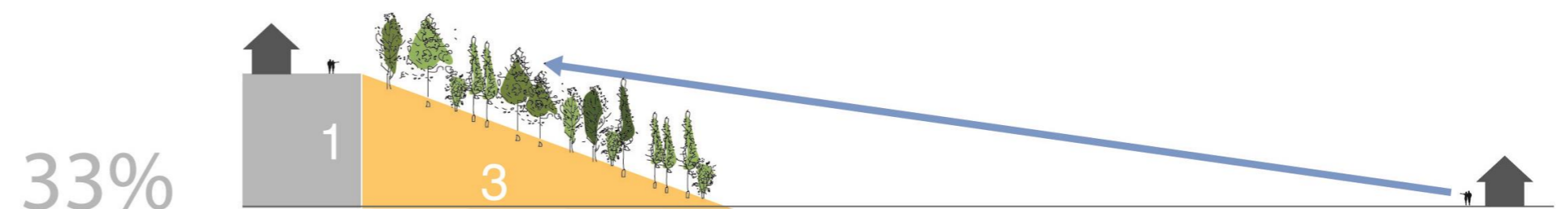
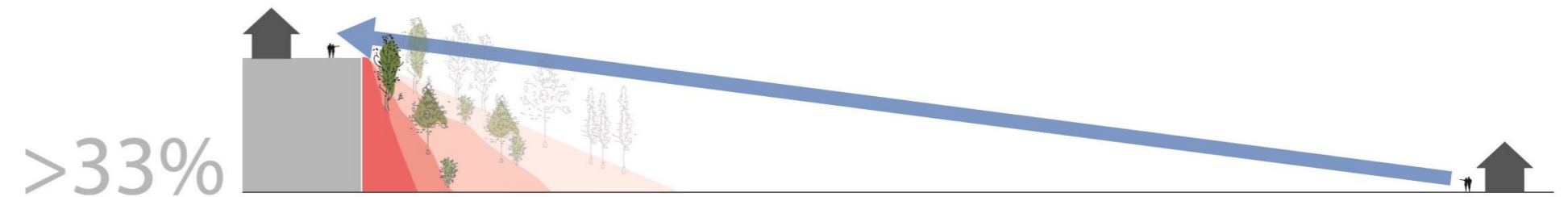
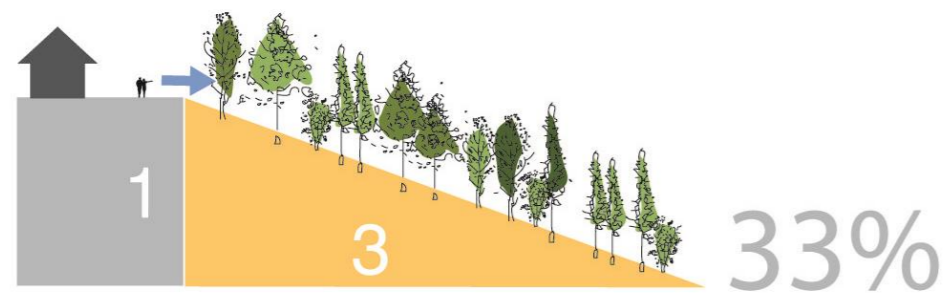


Site Conditions

Slope Analysis

Site Conditions

Slope Analysis



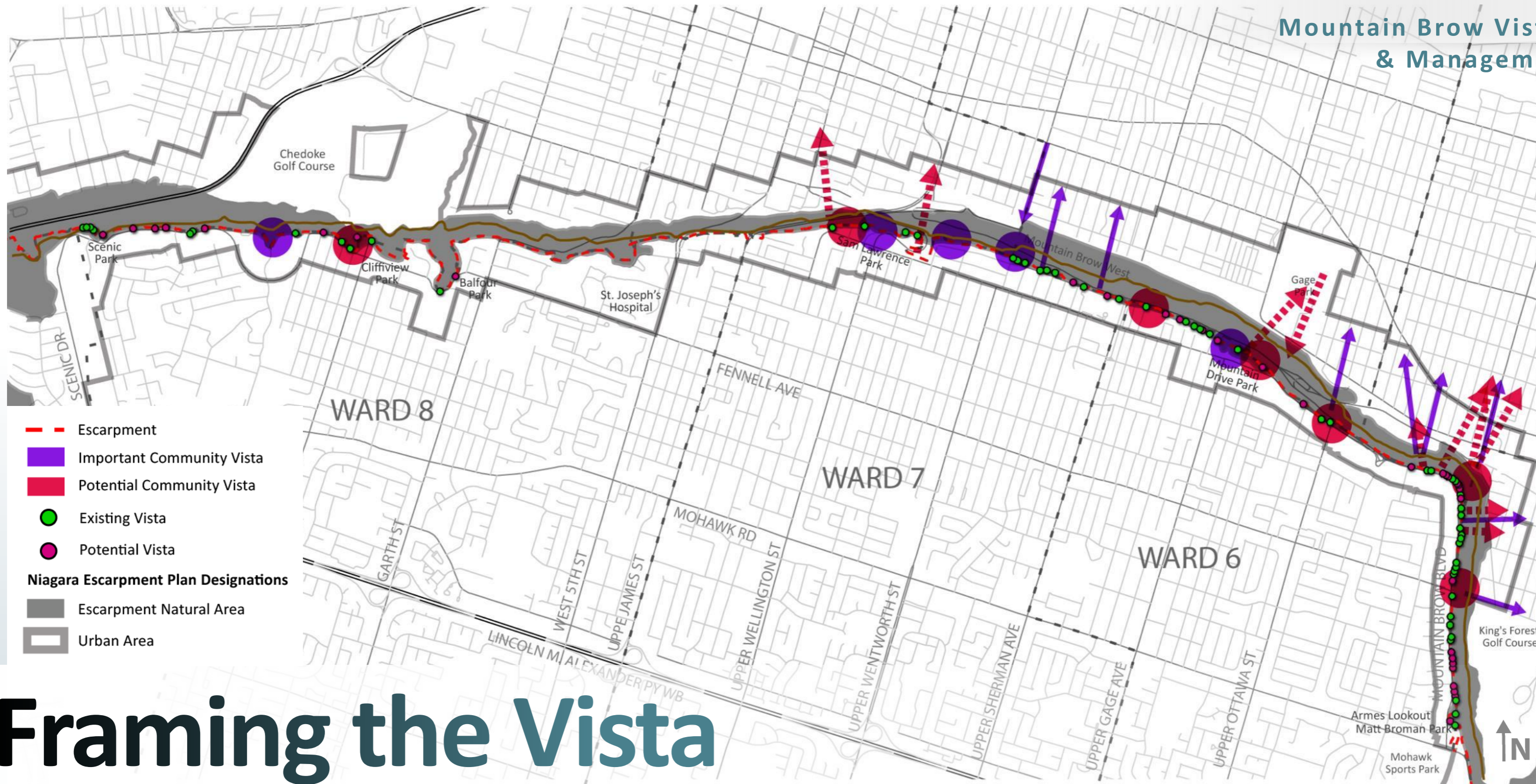


Analysis & Evaluation

Existing & Potential Vista Locations

Stakeholder Workshop (Wards 6, 7 & 8)

- Escarpment and urban forest valued
- Less concern with new vistas, but more over protection of the ecosystem/local ecology
- Maintaining existing vistas; trimming & native species selection
- Most important selection criteria for new vistas: protection of ecological integrity and slope stability
- Other concerns regarding parking, accessibility, connectivity, lighting, waterfall views and effects of climate change



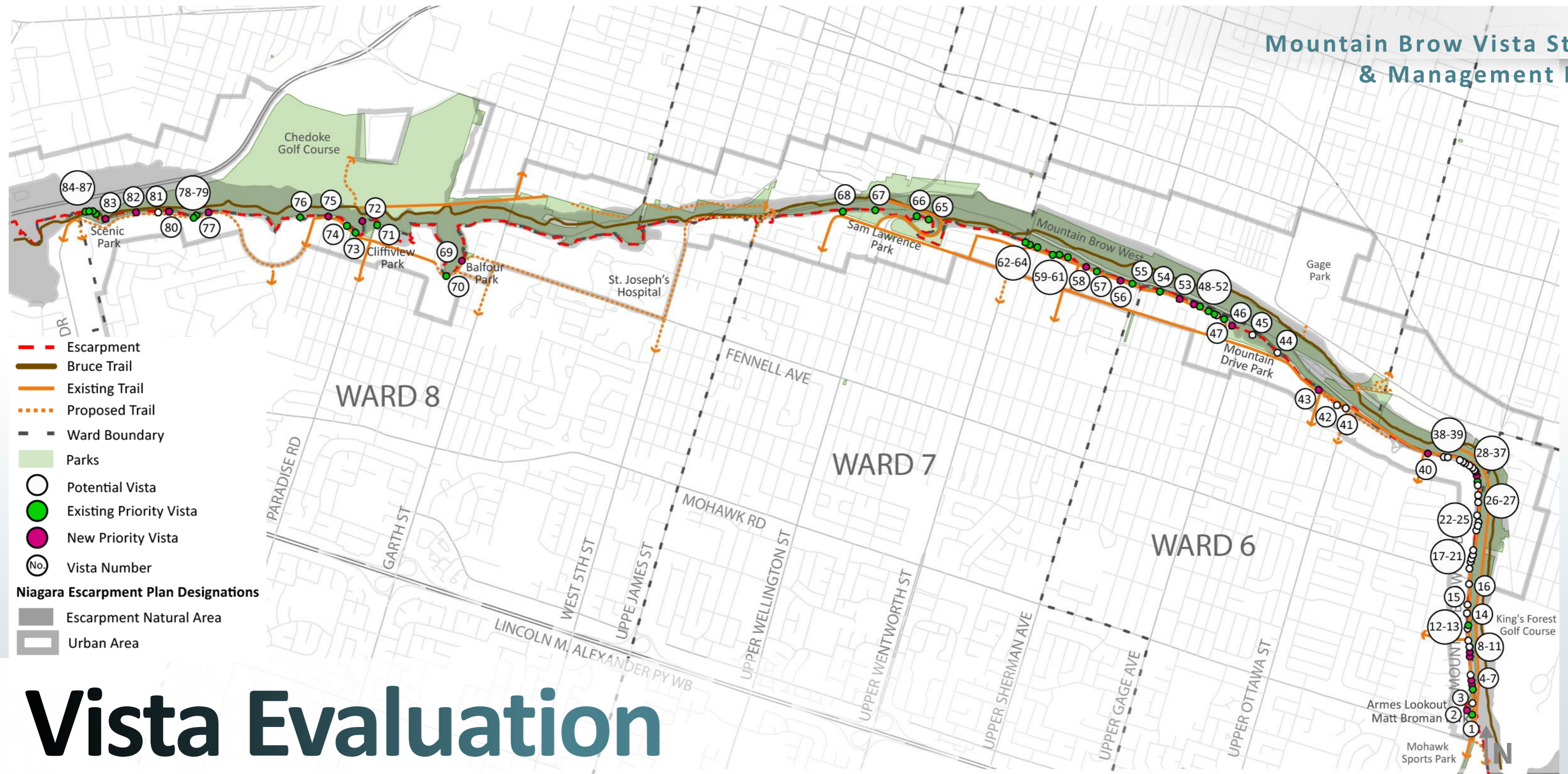
Framing the Vista

Community Input & Technical Analysis

Vista Evaluation

Mountain Brow Vista Study & Management Plan
Draft Vista Evaluation (June 2016)

Ward	Vista Type	Vista #	Natural Heritage Quality Assessment	Slope Analysis*	Slope Percentage	Cultural Heritage Feature	Tree Offset Planting Potential	Scenic View		Overall Score (15 max)	Community Comments
			1. Good - to be protected	1. 10-20% (gentle)		1. No Features	1. No Adjacent Planting Space	1. Obscured	Observations		
			2. Average- some removal potential	2. 20-33% (moderate)		2. Adjacent to Feature	2. Minimal Adjacent Planting Space	2. Average			
			3. Poor - removal potential	3. 33% (steep)		3. Feature	3. Optimal Adjacent Planting Space	3. Excellent			





Vista Evaluation

Technical Assessment

Vista Evaluation

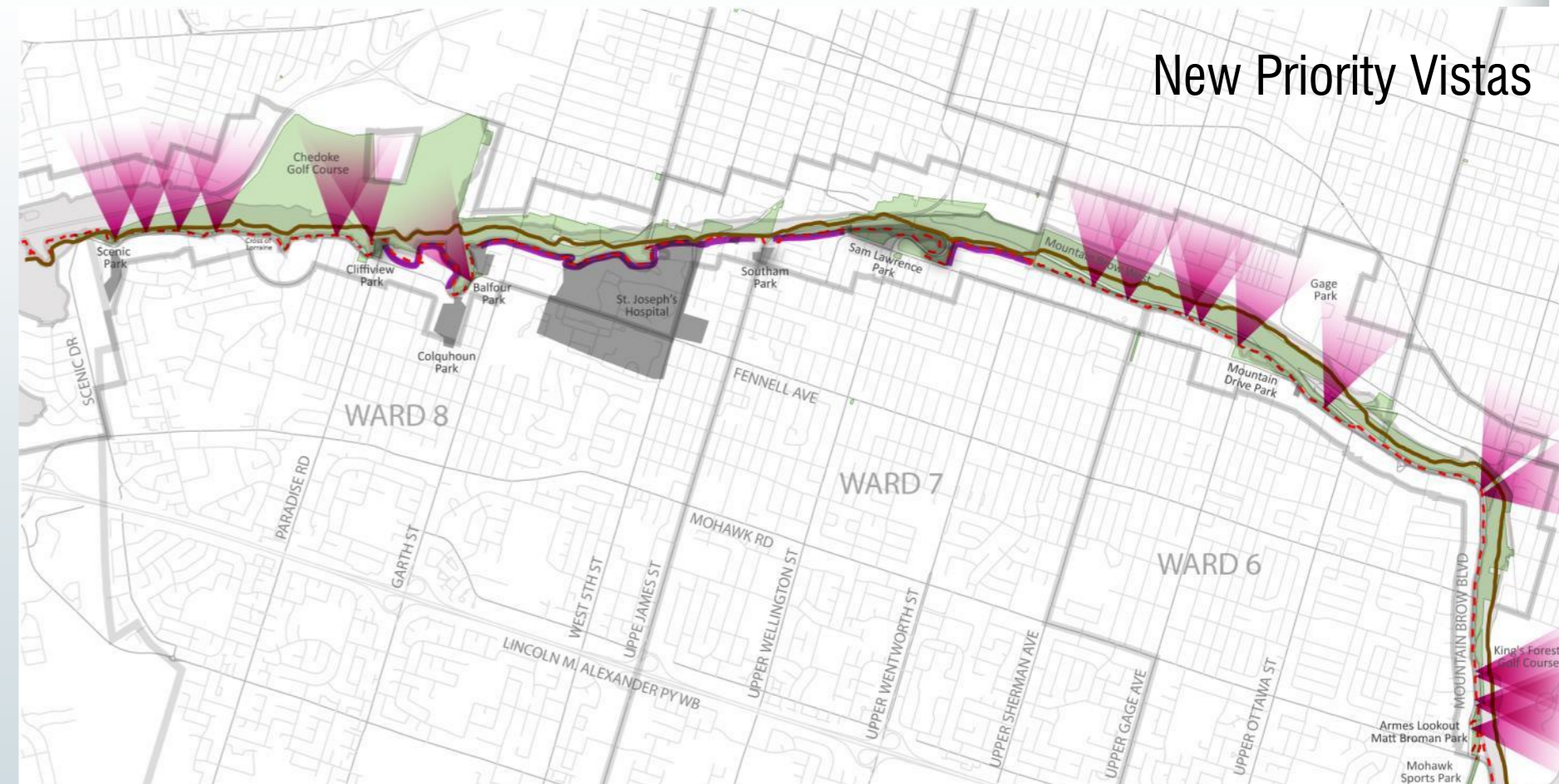
-  Escarpment
-  Bruce Trail
-  Private Property
-  Ward Boundary
-  Cultural Heritage Feature
-  Existing Priority Views
-  New Priority Views

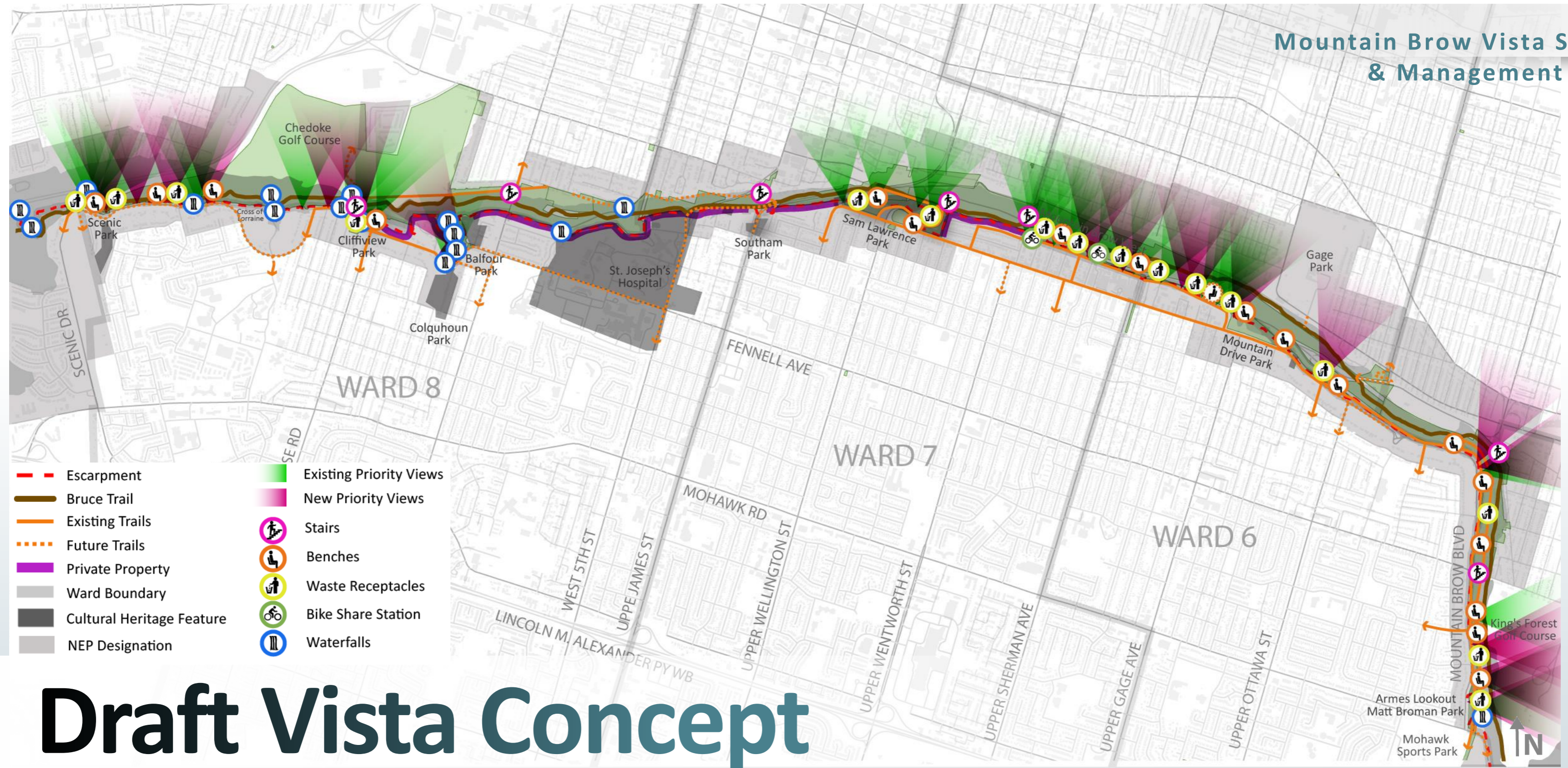
- Niagara Escarpment Plan Designations**
-  Escarpment Natural Area
 -  Urban Area

Existing Priority Vistas



New Priority Vistas



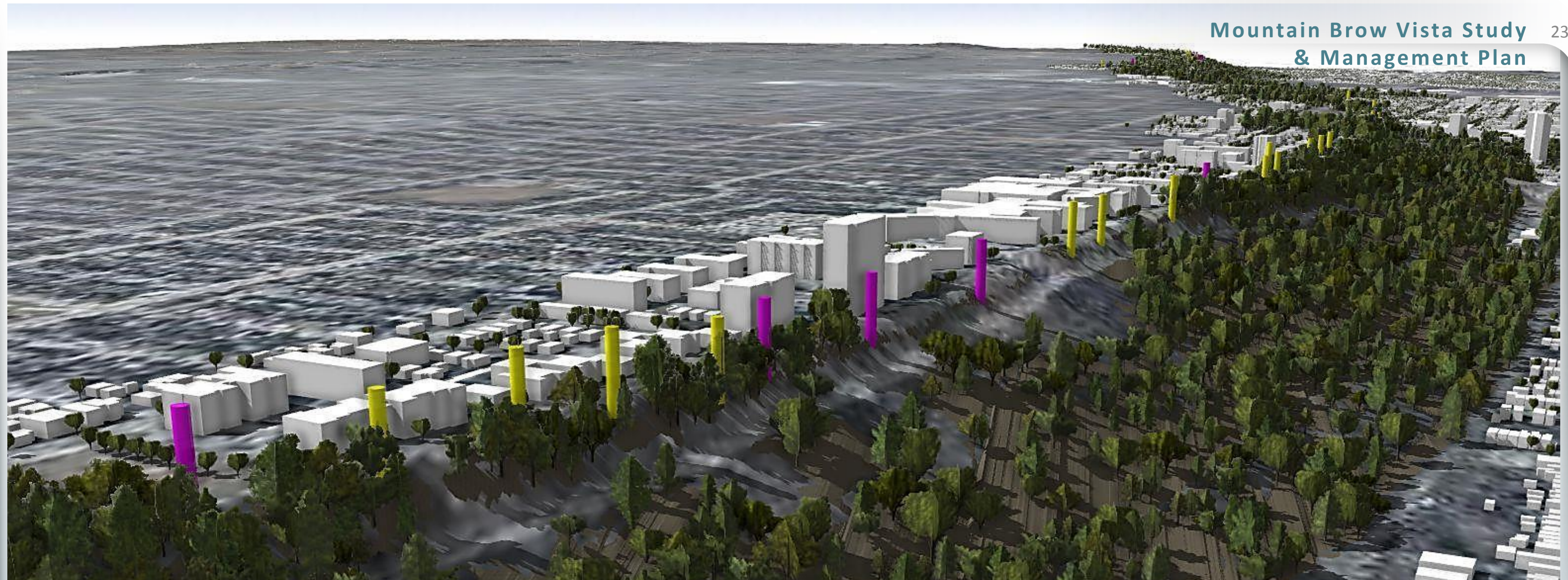


Draft Vista Concept

Mountain Brow Vista Study



Vista Locations – Ward 6



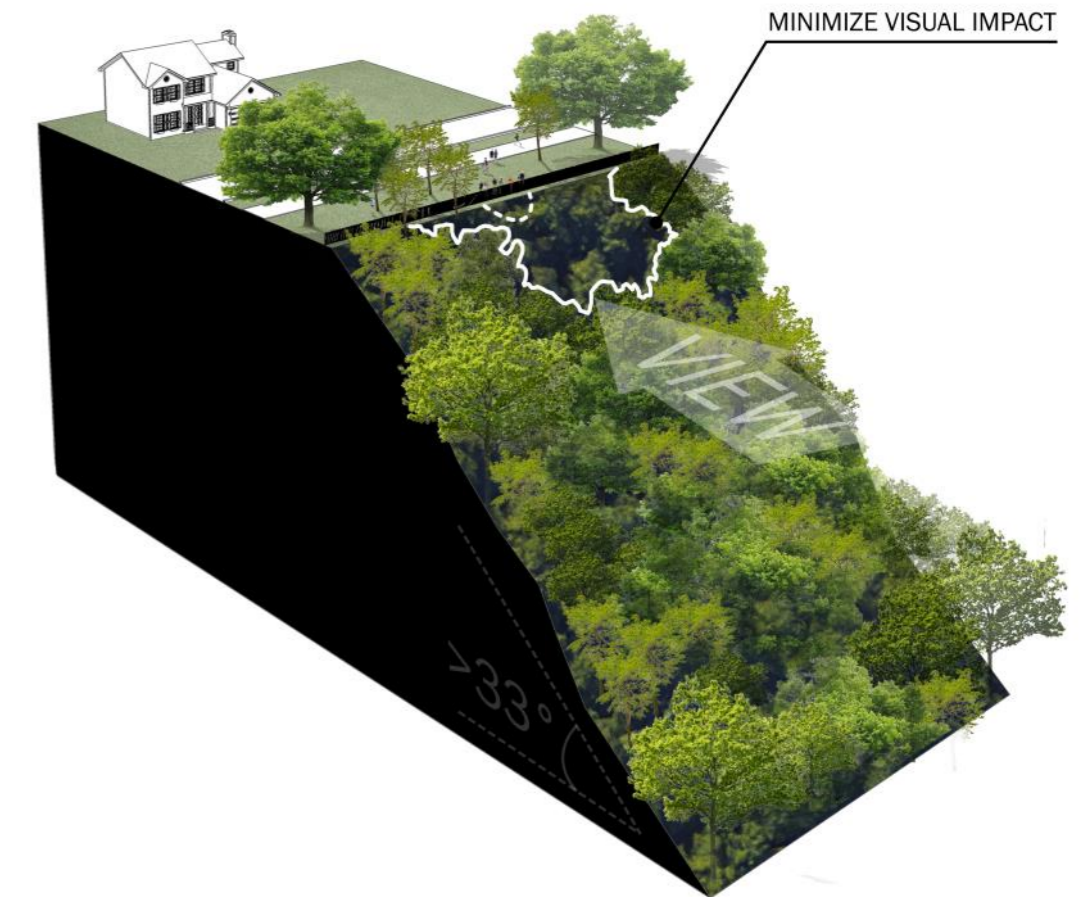
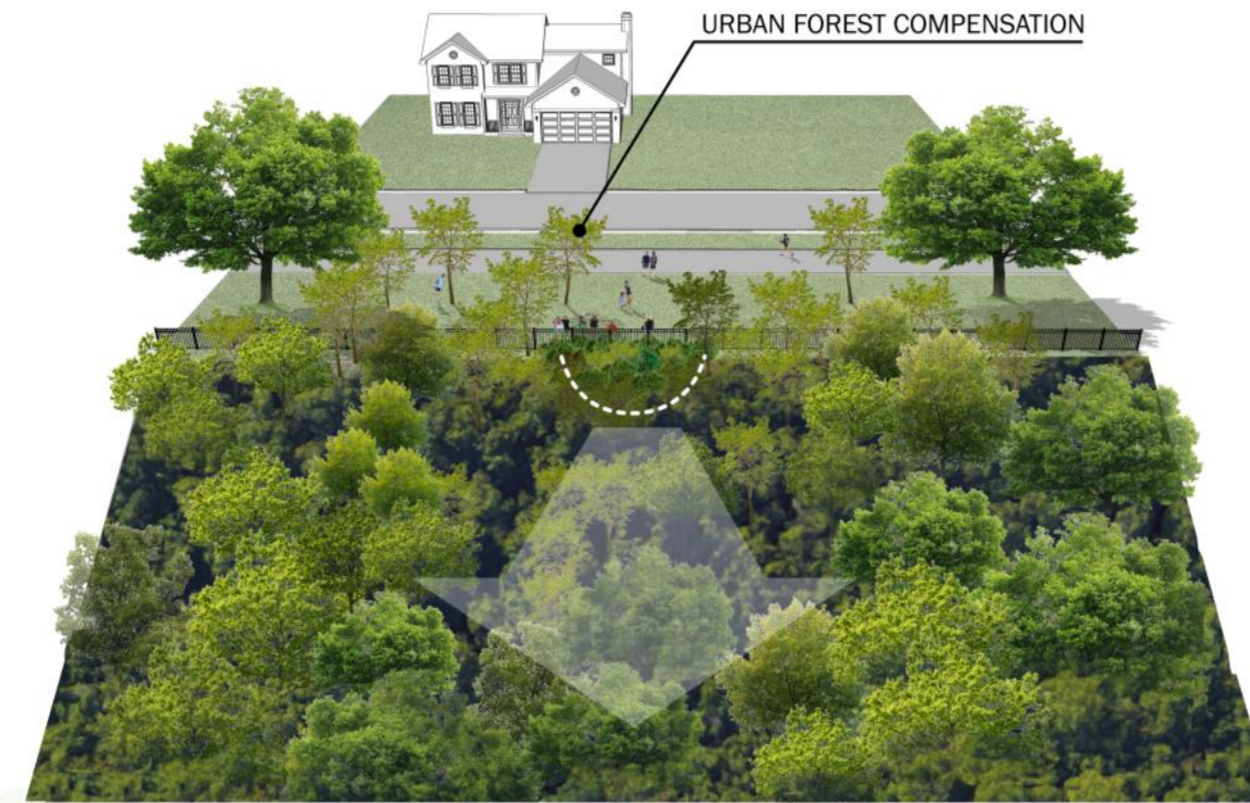
Vista Locations – Ward 7

Visual Impact Assessment

- Prepared technical visibility modeling for opening views
- Included before and after simulations
- Very limited visual impact
- Urban forest enhancements on the Escarpment brow reduce visual impacts
- Aligned with NEC objectives for protecting the Escarpment

Draft Vista Management Recommendations

- Maintain **Existing Priority Vistas** along the Escarpment brow
- Create **New Priority Vistas** along the Escarpment brow
- Allow natural succession in non-priority area
- Recover the **potential urban forest** canopy loss by replanting native large-stature trees in open areas in close proximity to the vista openings
- Establish site-specific recommendations for landscape management zones (removals and restoration)



Mountain Brow Vista



Vista Extent & Management

Draft Vista Management Recommendations

- Develop a **maintenance plan** with corresponding schedule and budget, giving priority to views in public parks and lookouts (i.e. vista openings in Sam Lawrence to be maintained every 2 years, and all others every 3 years)
- **Plant native shrubs and other understory plants** within the 3 to 5 metre landscape management zone to establish native low-lying vegetative cover

Other Management Recommendations (Future)

- Improve **recreational infrastructure** (i.e. trails, lighting, parking, etc.) to support the user and visitor demands
- Enhance the experience along the Escarpment brow with interpretative signage, trailheads and UNESCO World Biosphere Reserve information.
- Evaluate undertaking a Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System (**NEPOSS**) **management plan** that includes all of the public recreation facilities in the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area

Questions?

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Online survey: www.hamilton.ca/MountainBrowVistaStudy