



Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

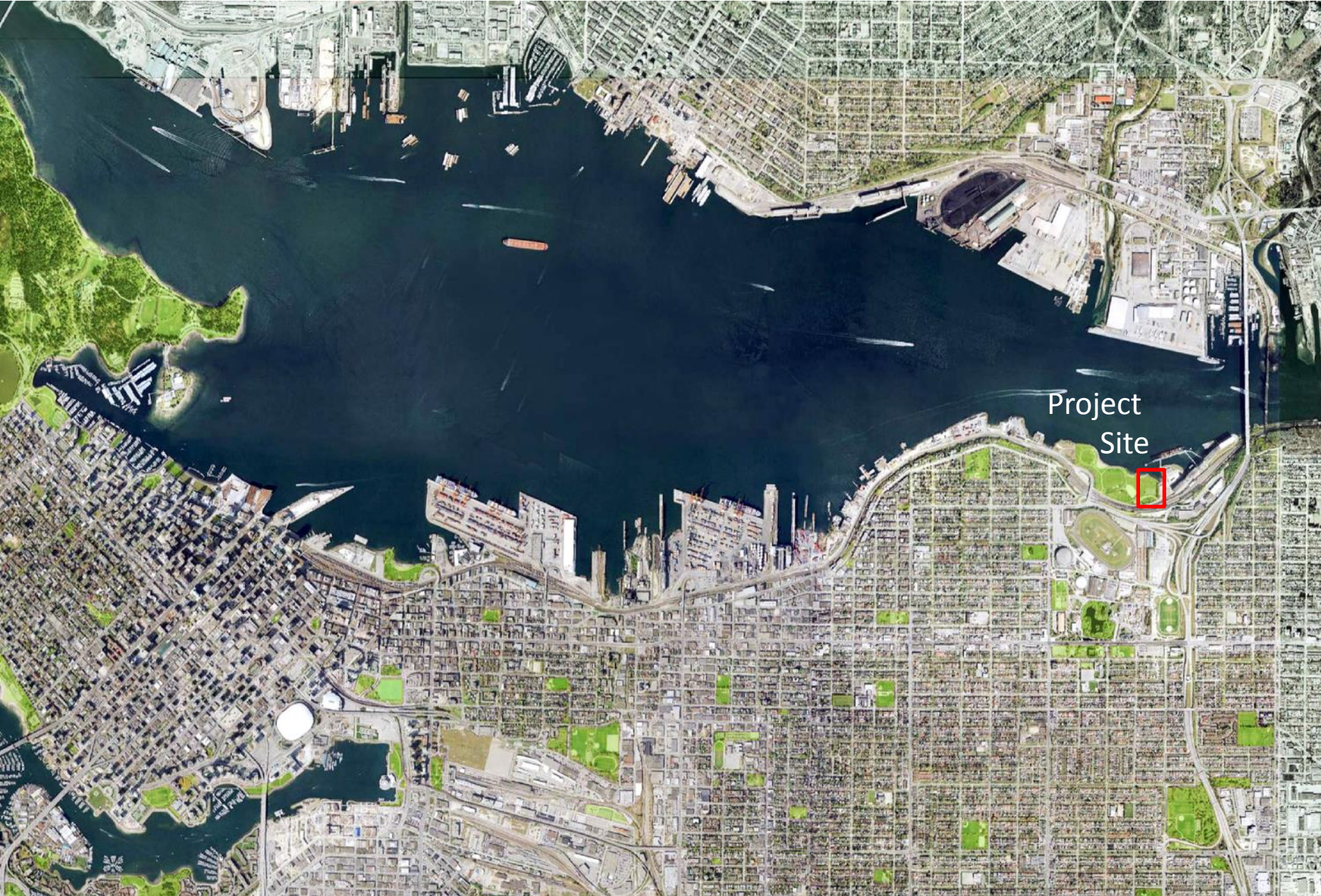
New Brighton Saltmarsh Project

May 11, 2015

Visit the Park Board website at: vancouverparks.ca

THAT the Board support a design and public consultation process for a habitat enhancement project in New Brighton Park in cooperation with Port Metro Vancouver; and

FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Board following the public consultation and seek Board approval of the preferred concept plan before proceeding to detailed design.



Project Location

- The Park Board's Strategic Plan supports the creation of healthy ecosystems in parks to enhance biodiversity and create more vibrant and interesting parks.
- The 2010 Hastings Park / PNE Master Plan and the 1997 New Brighton Park Master Plan included the creation of a saltmarsh on the eastern side of New Brighton Park as the outlet of a restored stream.
- There has been public interest in restoring habitat in New Brighton Park including a presentation by the Hastings Park Conservancy in 2010, and support from the BCIT Rivers Institute.

Renfrew Creek Overview



5. Saltmarsh Creation in New Brighton Park (Area of Interest)

4. Creekway Park (completed 2013)

3. Renfrew Creek Corridor (by 2020?)

2. Sanctuary Pond (completed 1999)

1. Separated Catchment (ongoing)



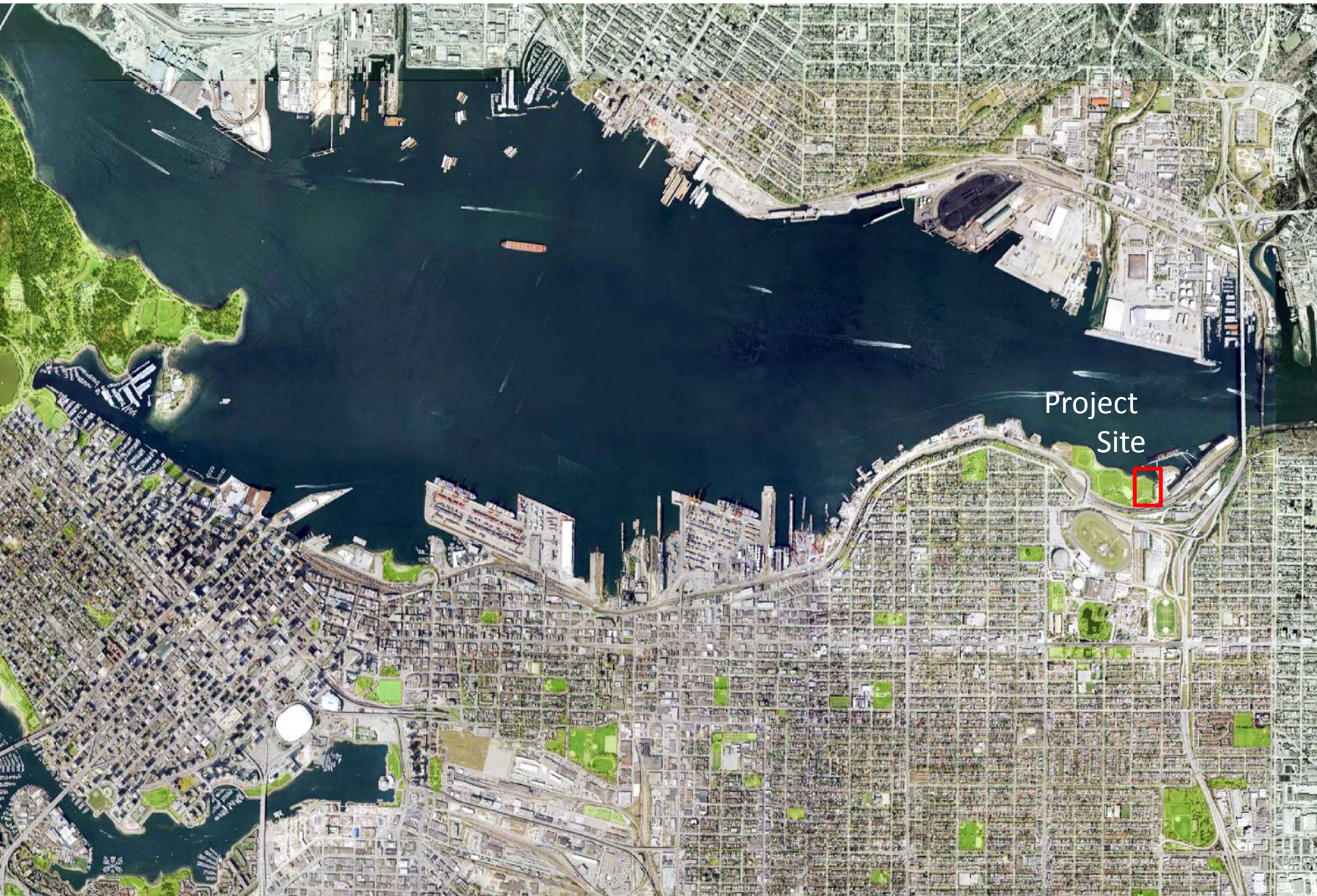
Hastings Park / PNE Master Plan (2010)

New Brighton Park June 1961



Extensive intertidal zone

Approximate Park Boundary



Burrard Inlet Shoreline Condition



Port Metro Vancouver's Habitat Bank

- Port Metro Vancouver (PMV) manages a Habitat Enhancement Program that focuses on creating and enhancing habitat to benefit fish and wildlife in the region.
- One aspect of the Program is a habitat bank. Enhancement projects are advanced in partnership with Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
- Most proposed enhancement projects are on the Fraser River delta and PMV is actively looking for suitable sites for potential projects in Burrard Inlet.



City-wide Review Process

- PMV and PB staff identified 9 potential sites for shoreline habitat restoration in the city.
- Four were considered higher priority: (1) New Brighton Park saltmarsh, (2) creek daylighting in Spanish Bank Park, (3) estuary and stream restoration on Beaver Creek, (4) habitat islands in False Creek.
- Port Metro Vancouver has undertaken surveys, concept design, and high-level costing to review feasibility.
- New Brighton Park was selected because of compatibility with park master plans, value for fish and wildlife, and location on Burrard Inlet.

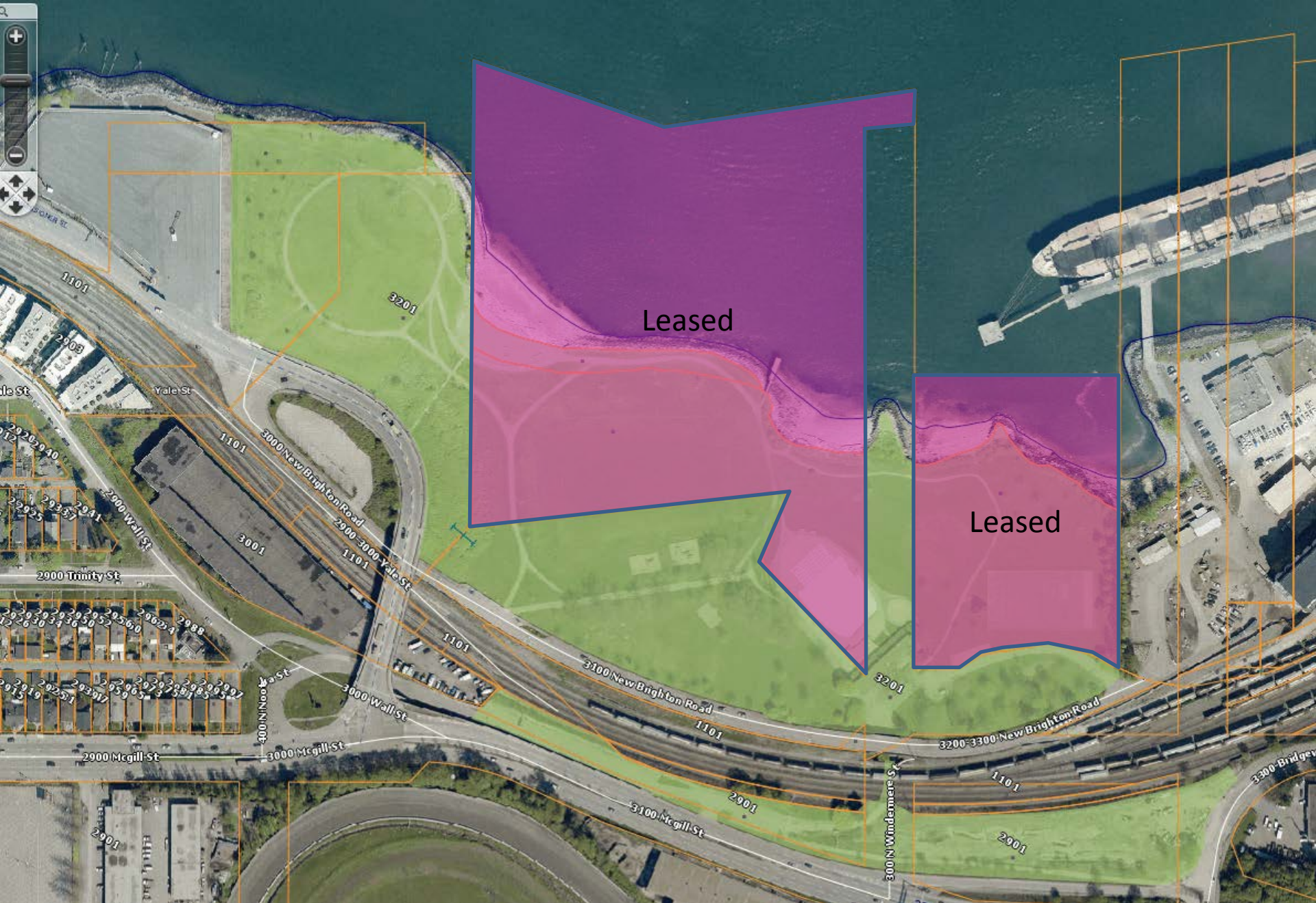
Possible Habitat Creation Projects: New Brighton Park

Preliminary Design Ideas

January 2014



New Brighton Saltmarsh Concept



Ownership



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Existing Park Use



Process to Date

- Public engagement has not yet been undertaken other than the extensive process for the 2010 Hastings Park / PNE Master Plan.
- First Nations consultation will be undertaken as part of preliminary assessment and further project development.
- PMV executive team has expressed support for the preliminary design phase of the project.
- PB staff and PMV have developed a preliminary project plan and proposed schedule.

- Develop a public engagement plan to be led by PB staff and supported by PMV. An advisory committee will be established in May 2015.
- PMV will undertake further site assessments (intertidal habitat, topographic survey, contaminated soils).
- PMV will initiate First Nations engagement.
- PMV will retain a design team consisting of a coastal engineer, landscape architect, and biologist.
- Park Board will review the preferred design concept in fall 2015.
- Proposed enhancement work will begin winter 2015/16.



Recommendation

THAT the Board support a design and public consultation process for a habitat enhancement project in New Brighton Park in cooperation with Port Metro Vancouver; and

FURTHER THAT staff report back to the Board following the public consultation and seek Board approval of the preferred concept plan before proceeding to detailed design.

