

Shipyard Park Redevelopment

Project Background

In 2007, the Town of Oakville identified that Oakville Harbour’s west shore area shorelines and park spaces were in need of rehabilitation. A master plan was developed together with stakeholders and residents that was approved by Council in 2009. The master plan covered a large portion of the waterfront area and included recommendations for Tannery Park, Shipyard Park, Oyster Bay, Shoreline Promenade, Walker Street Promenade and Waterworks Park.

What has been happening?

Rehabilitation work began in 2010 and has continued through to 2024. Check out our Project Timeline panel for more detail on the work that has been completed.

What is next?

Shipyard Park is the fourth and final phase of the Oakville Harbour West Shore Rehabilitation Project. Detailed design is currently underway. Construction, which will occur in two phases, is expected to start in Fall 2025 and end in 2026.

Please review our plans and learn more about the proposed upcoming improvements. Town staff and representatives from the consultant team are present to answer your questions.

You may also submit questions and comments using the below project-specific email:

oakvilleharbour-ph4@oakville.ca



Project Timeline

Completed

2009

• Master Plan Approved

Completed

2010

• New Washroom Building

Completed

2011

• West Bank Shoreline Improvements & Staircase at 3 Lakeshore Road

Completed

2012

• Rehabilitation of East Pier

Completed

2014

• **PHASE 1 Construction:** Lyon's Log Cabin & Oyster Bay Landscape

Completed

2014-2015

• Rehabilitation of East Pier

Completed

2016

• **PHASE 2 Construction:** Tannery Hill Observation Deck

Completed

2019

• **PHASE 3 Construction:** Lake Ontario Shoreline Works, Shoreline Promenade, Walker Street Promenade & Waterworks Park.

Completed

2023-2024

• Shipyards Park West Seawall Improvements & Burnet Street Stair Access

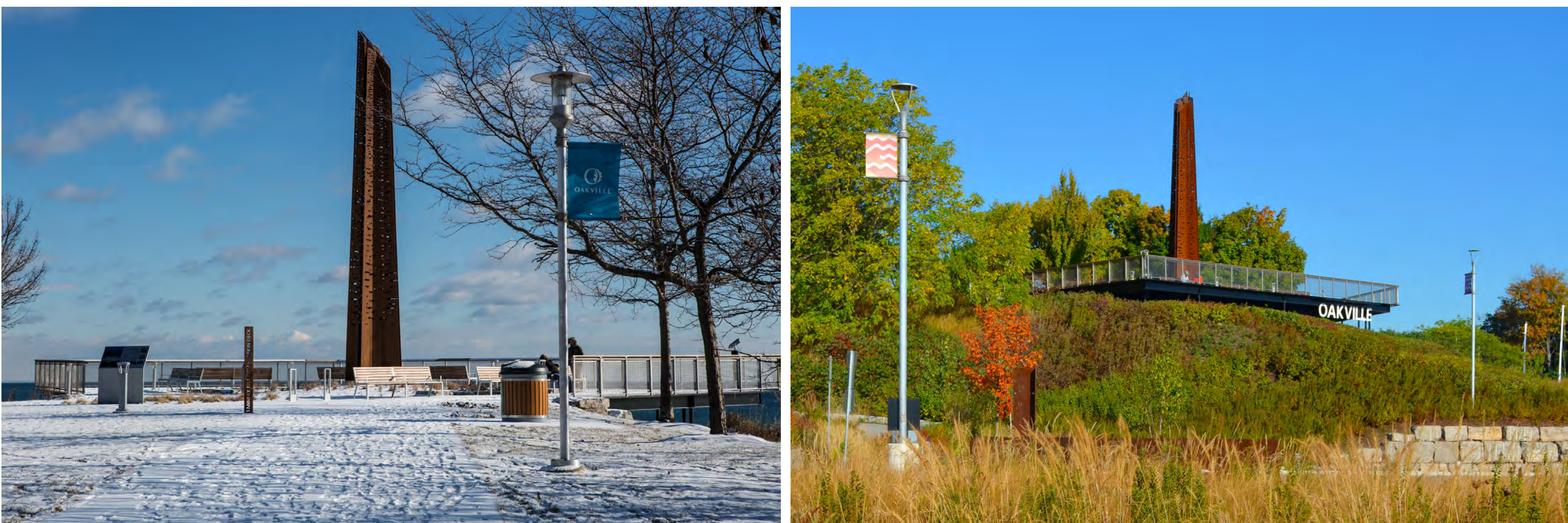
2024

• **PHASE 4 Detailed Design:** Shipyard Park South Shoreline, Parking, Access Drive & Landscape Improvements

PHASE 1: Oyster Bay and Lyon's Log Cabin Relocation



PHASE 2: Tannery Hill Observatory Deck



PHASE 3: Shoreline Promenade and Waterworks Park





Drawing Not to Scale

Legend

- A Oakville Yacht Squadron (OYS)
- B OYS Sailing School
- C Asphalt Parking Lot
- D Boardwalk
- E Boat Launch Ramp
- F New Seawall
- G Temporary Asphalt Walkway
- H Relocated Lyon's Log Cabin
- I Gravel Parking Area
- J Burnet Street Stairs
- K Information Kiosk
- L OYS Mast Storage
- M Access Drive
- N Washroom Building
- O Phase 1 Walkway



Forsythe and Francis Street Intersection



Bottom of Francis Street



Existing Asphalt Parking Lot



Burnet Street Stairs



Boat Launch Ramp



New Seawall and Open Area



Lyon's Log Cabin



Existing Boardwalk



Oakville Yacht Squadron



South Seawall Area



OYS Sailing School and Gravel Parking Area



Legend

- A** Oakville Yacht Squadron (OYS)
- B** OYS New Sailing School
(See OYS for more information)
- C** Renovated Parking Lot
- D** Boardwalk Replacement
- E** Existing Boat Launch Ramp
- F** Landscape Improvements
- G** New Sidewalk
- H** Lyon`s Log Cabin
- I** New Parking Areas
- J** Burnet Street Stairs
- K** Information Kiosk
- L** Public Walkway
- M** Crosswalks
- N** Underground Railroad Feature
- O** Stair Access Improvements
- P** Rehabilitated Access Road
- Q** Park Gateway Feature
- R** South Seawall Works
- S** Seating Feature
- T** Slope Improvements
- U** OYS Mast Storage Area
- V** Connection to Phase 1
- W** Retaining Wall
- X** Multi-Use Area

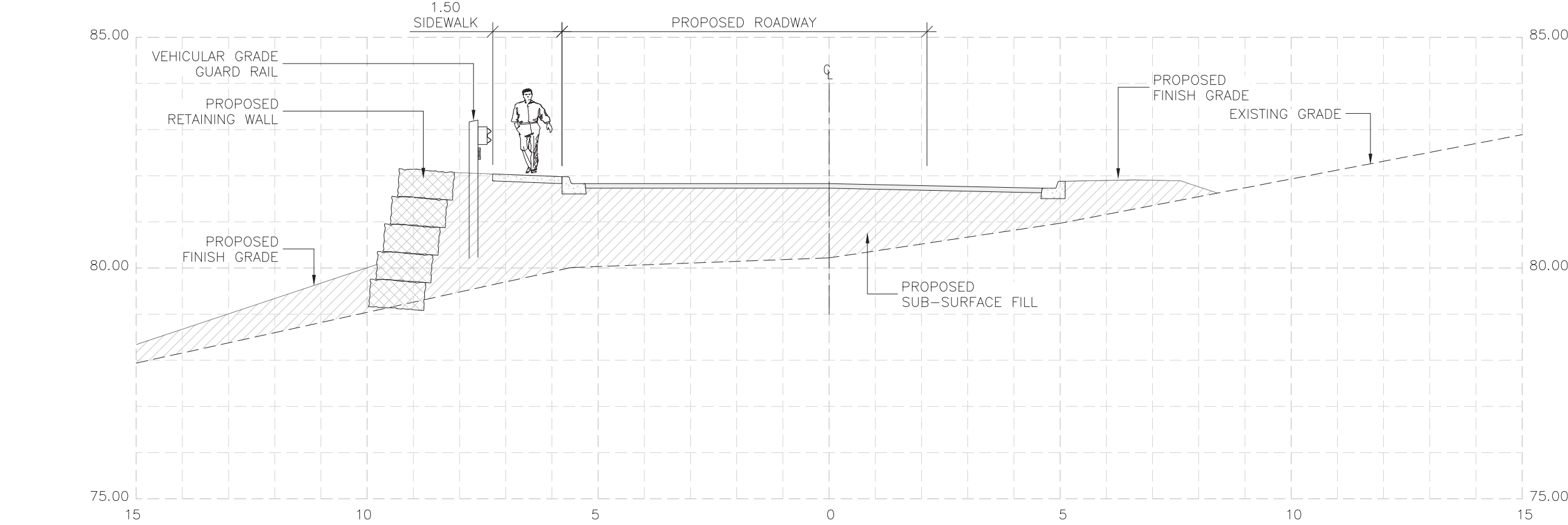


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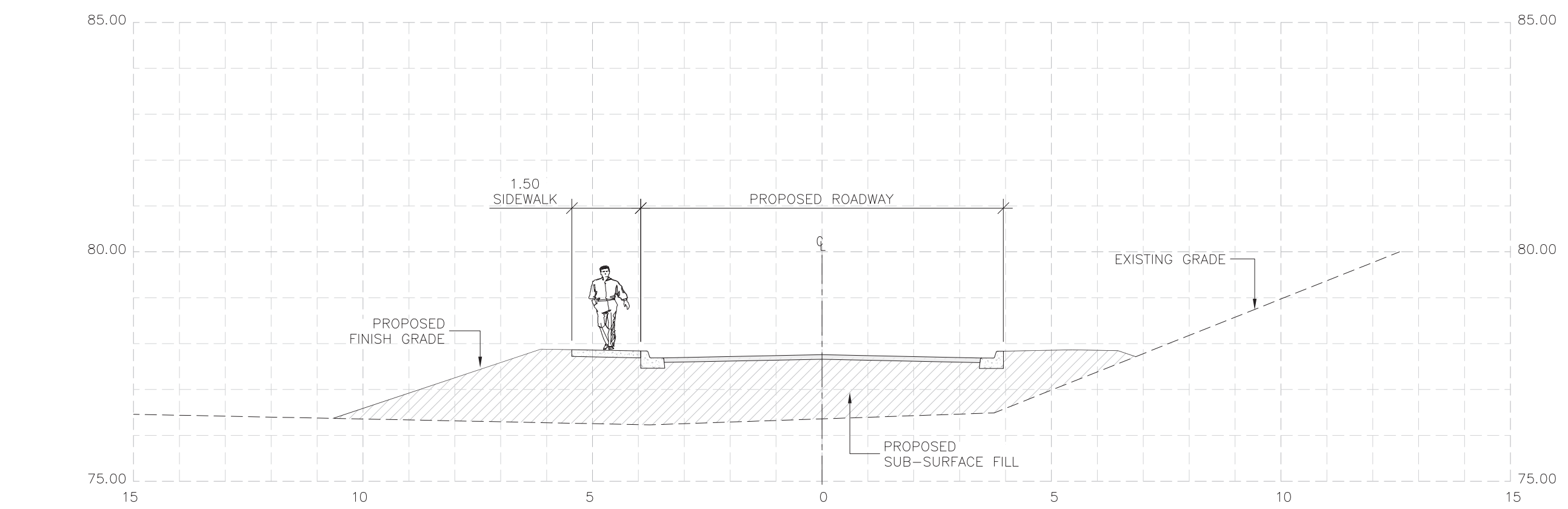
Francis Street Improvements

Francis Street is the only vehicle access and fire route to Shipyard Park. Improvements are needed to address safety and accessibility concerns related to the steep grades and the lack of pedestrian sidewalk.

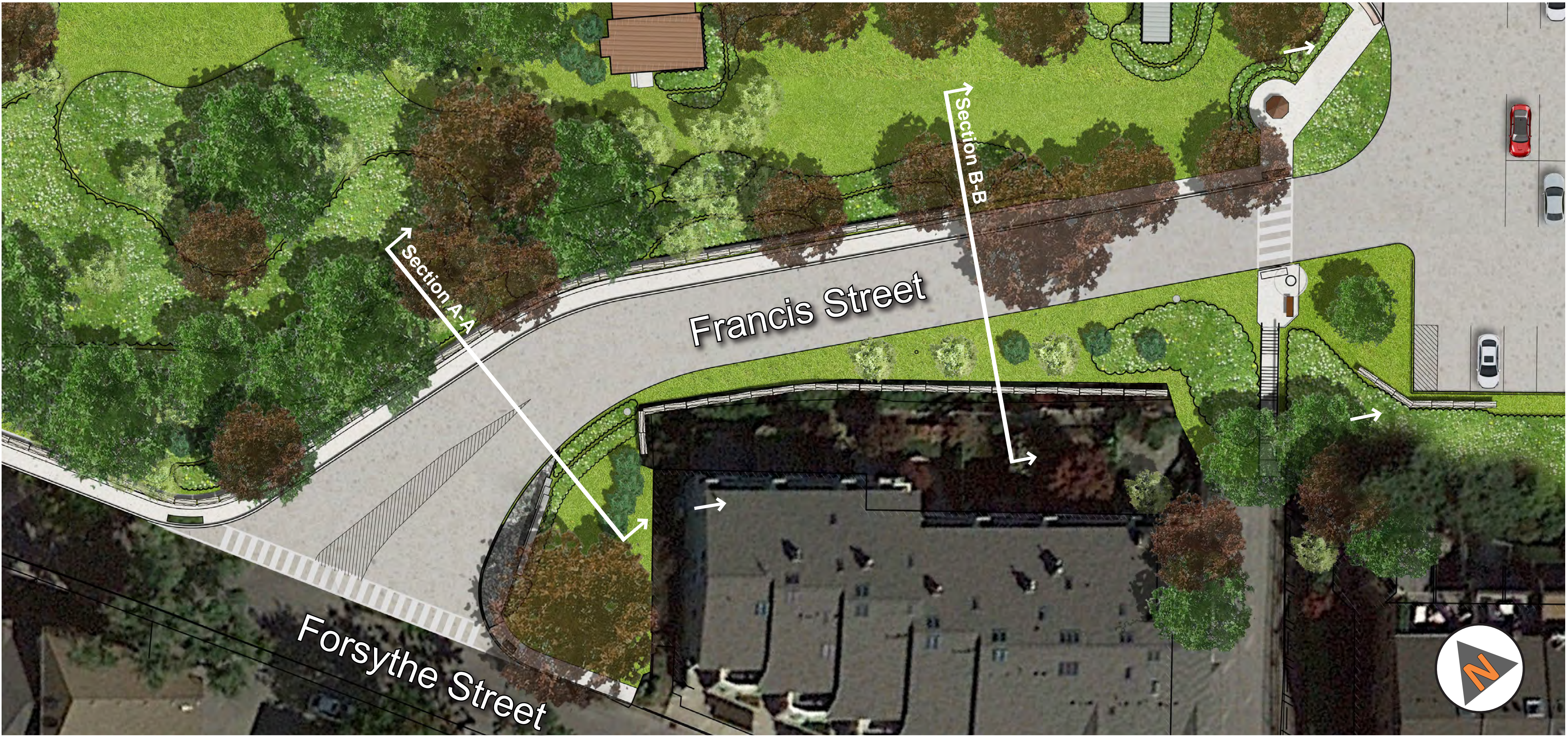
- Key improvements for Francis Street include:
- Regrading to reduce longitudinal slopes;
 - Revised geometry at the Forsythe Street intersection;
 - Inclusion of a pedestrian sidewalk;
 - Slope stability improvements; and
 - Creation of a park Gateway sign



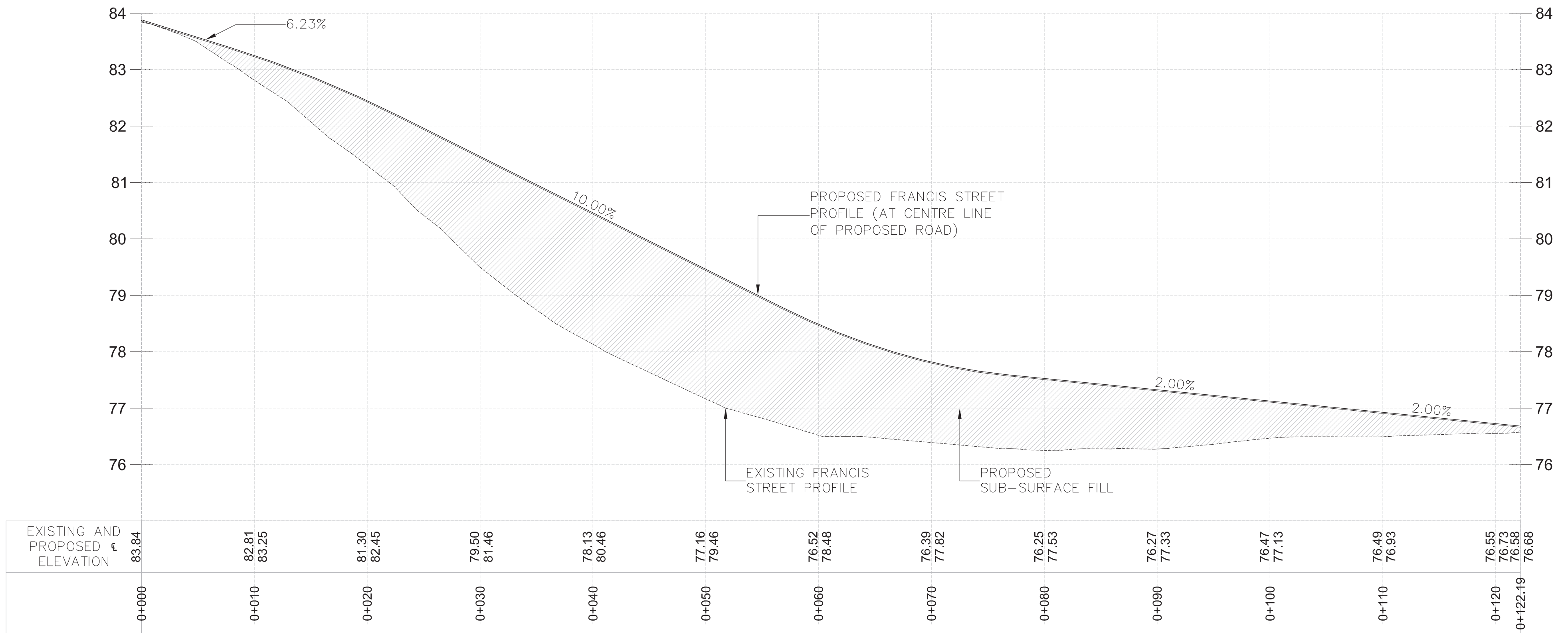
Section A-A



Section B-B



Plan View (Not to Scale)



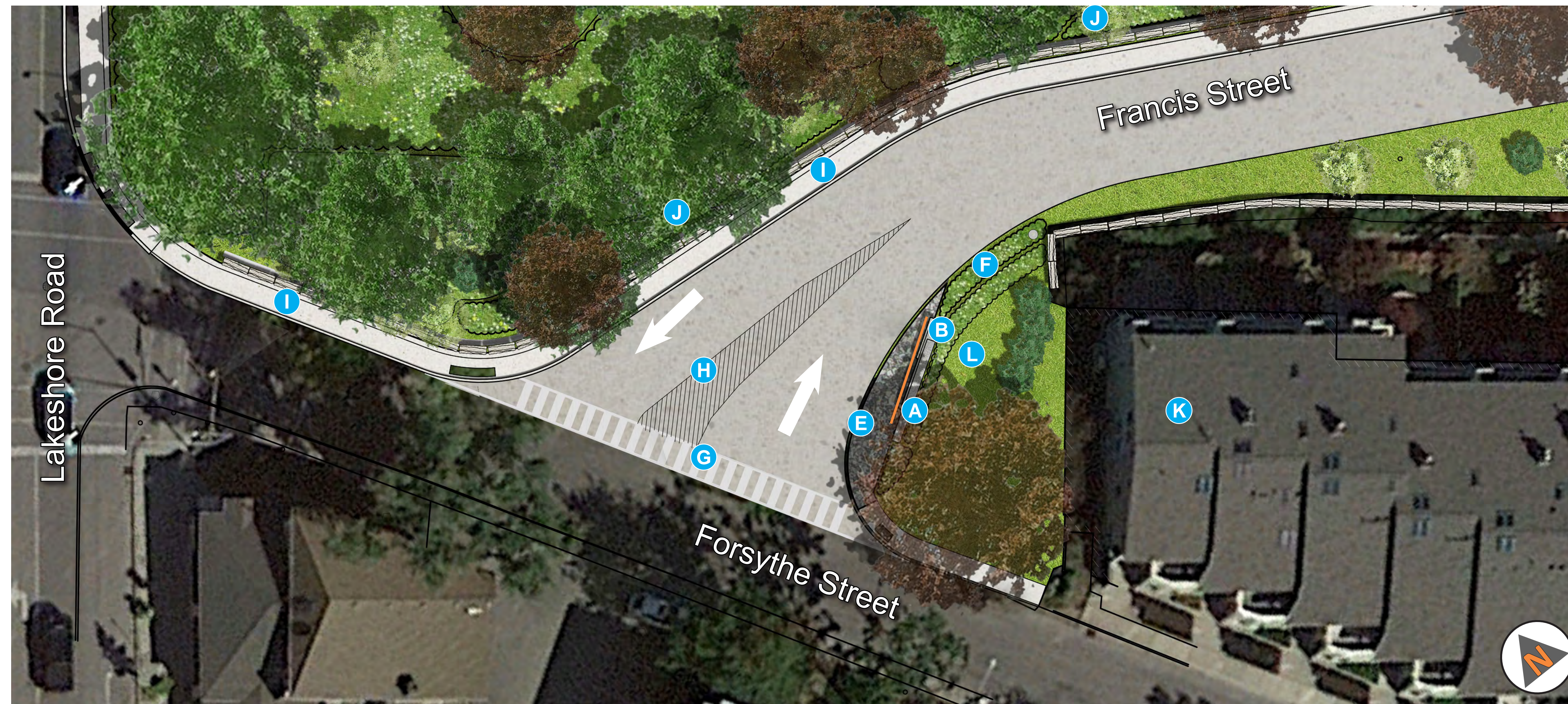
Centreline Profile

Legend

- A** Gateway Feature Top View
- B** Armourstone Base
- C** Corten Steel Sign Panel
- D** Marine Bollard
- E** Stone Groundcover
- F** Soft Landscaping
- G** Painted Crosswalk
- H** Painted Pavement Island
- I** Concrete Sidewalk
- J** Retaining Wall
- K** Existing Townhomes
- L** Existing Lawn Area



Front View Elevation (Not to Scale)



Plan View (Not to Scale)

Project Background

A new seating and gathering area is proposed to be constructed as part of the Phase 4 Shipyard Park redevelopment project.

The Town of Oakville, along with the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton, Town of Oakville Museum, an expert archaeologist/historian and a team of landscape architects, engineers and metal fabricators, together explored the idea of designing a commemorative feature that would focus on Oakville as a major port of entry for the Underground Railroad.

Design Concept

Thousands of enslaved African Americans followed the North Star’s light on their quest for freedom. The North Star symbolizes the role of Oakville harbour as a gateway and a terminus for the Underground Railroad.

The points radiating from the North Star symbolize the fact that men, women and children of African descent actually came to Oakville from all four points of the compass. Some freedom seekers had settled elsewhere in Canada before moving to this area, while others intermarried with Oakville families and so made their homes here.

The circular seating node, oriented to the cardinal directions, is anchored by four circular benches and a semi-circular shade canopy.

Bronze inserts in the seating node paving will outline the North Star and the Big and Little Dipper constellations. This is a key component of the feature as these constellations guided the ships bearing freedom seekers from American ports to Oakville.

A custom canopy will be engraved with the known surnames of the people and families who made their way to Oakville in their quest for freedom.

The seating node will include lighting, interpretive panels and a nearby picnic area. Detailed design is currently underway.



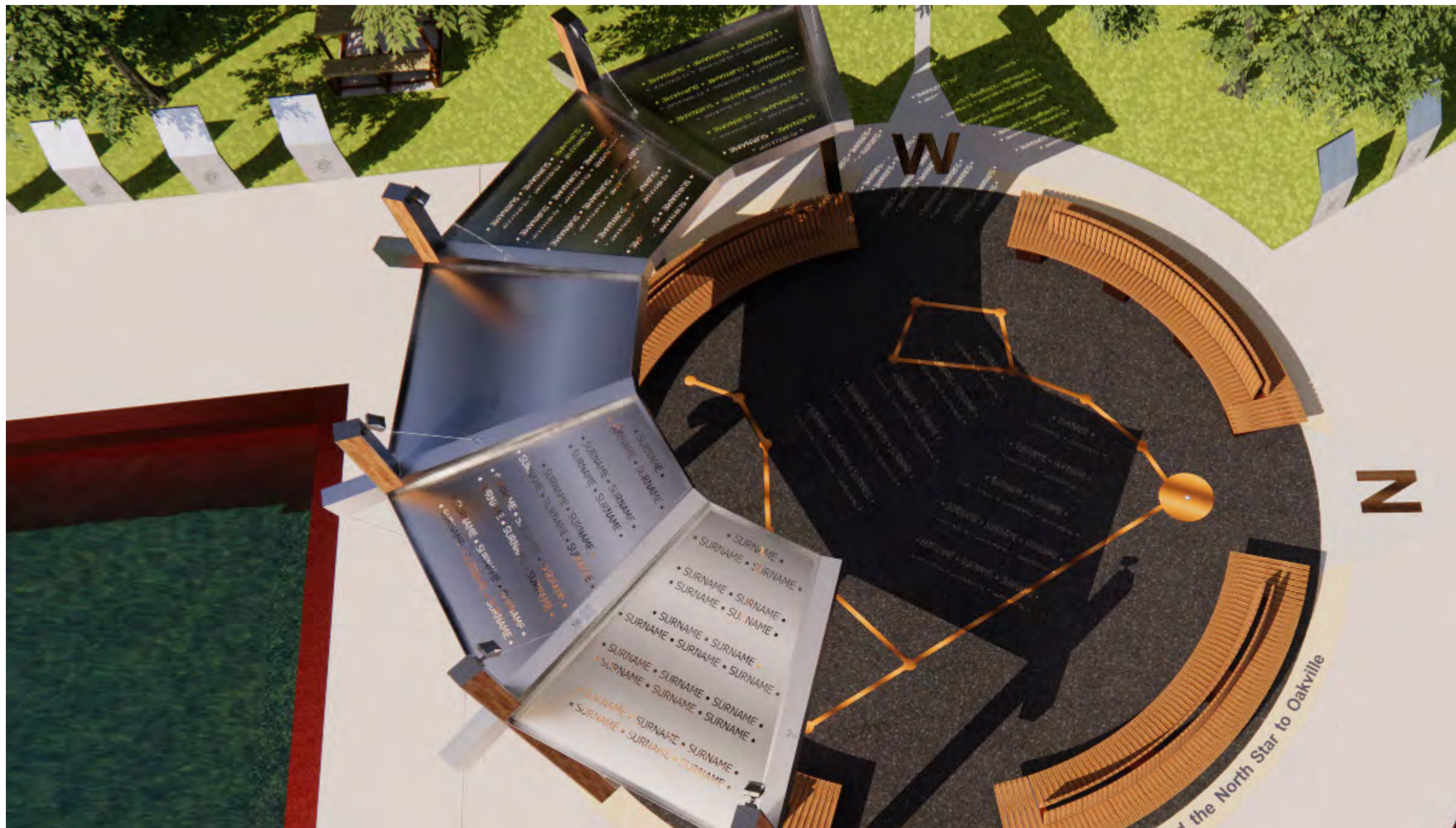
Design Process

Town Staff worked with Dr. Karolyn Smardz Frost who is an Archaeologist and Historian Specializing in the history of the Underground Railroad. Her research, along with input from the Canadian Caribbean Association of Halton, the Town of Oakville Museum and a team of landscape architects, engineers and metal fabricators together shaped the design of the seating node.

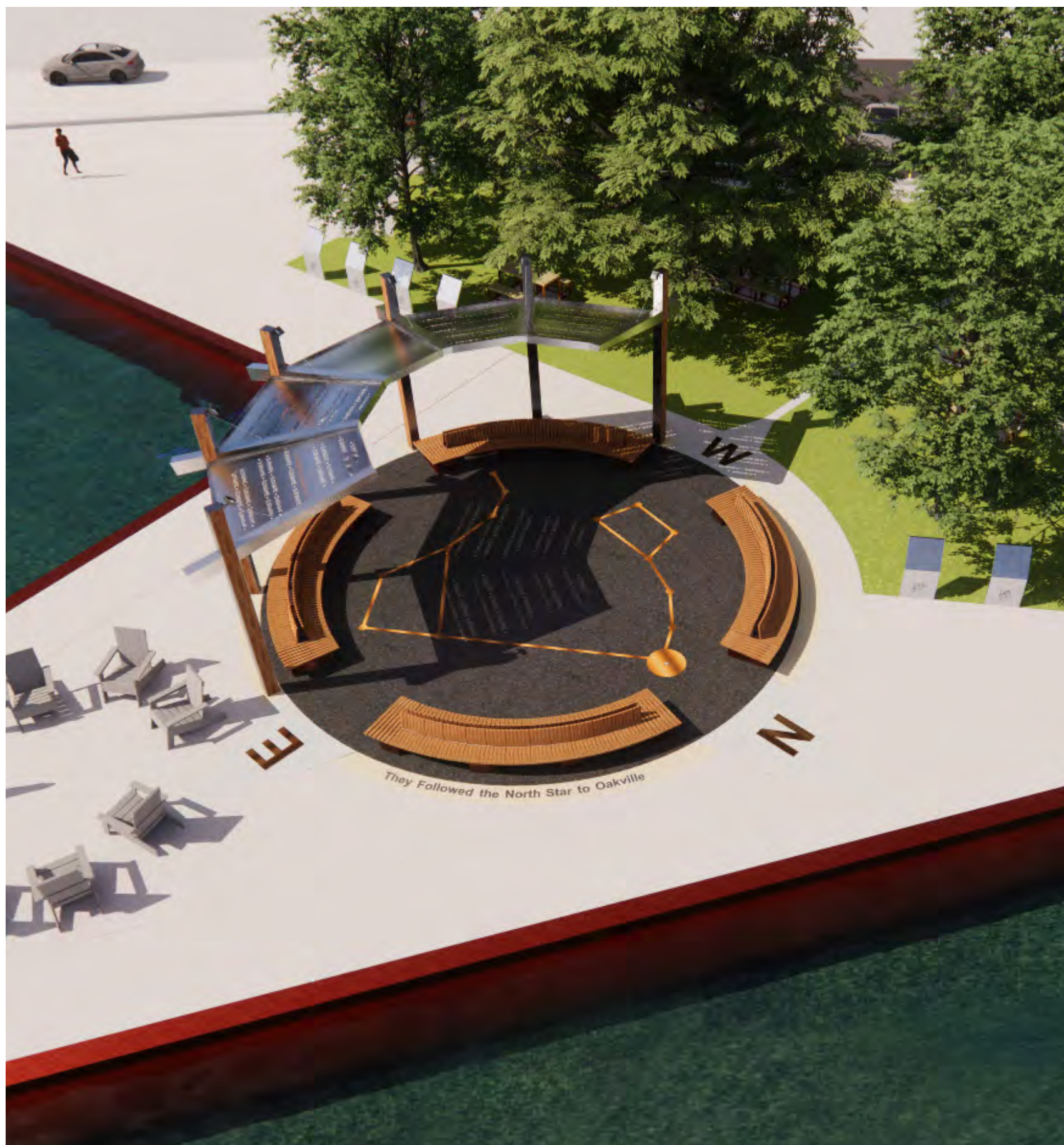
Legend

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| A Custom Shade Canopy | G Interpretive Panels |
| B Circular Benches | H Concrete Paving |
| C Cardinal Direction Markers | I Informal Seating |
| D Big and Little Dipper Constellation | J Picnic Area |
| E North Star | K New Tree Planting |
| F Enhanced Paving Area | L Bike Parking |

Plan View (Not to Scale)



Top view of feature looking west.



Top view of feature looking south-west.



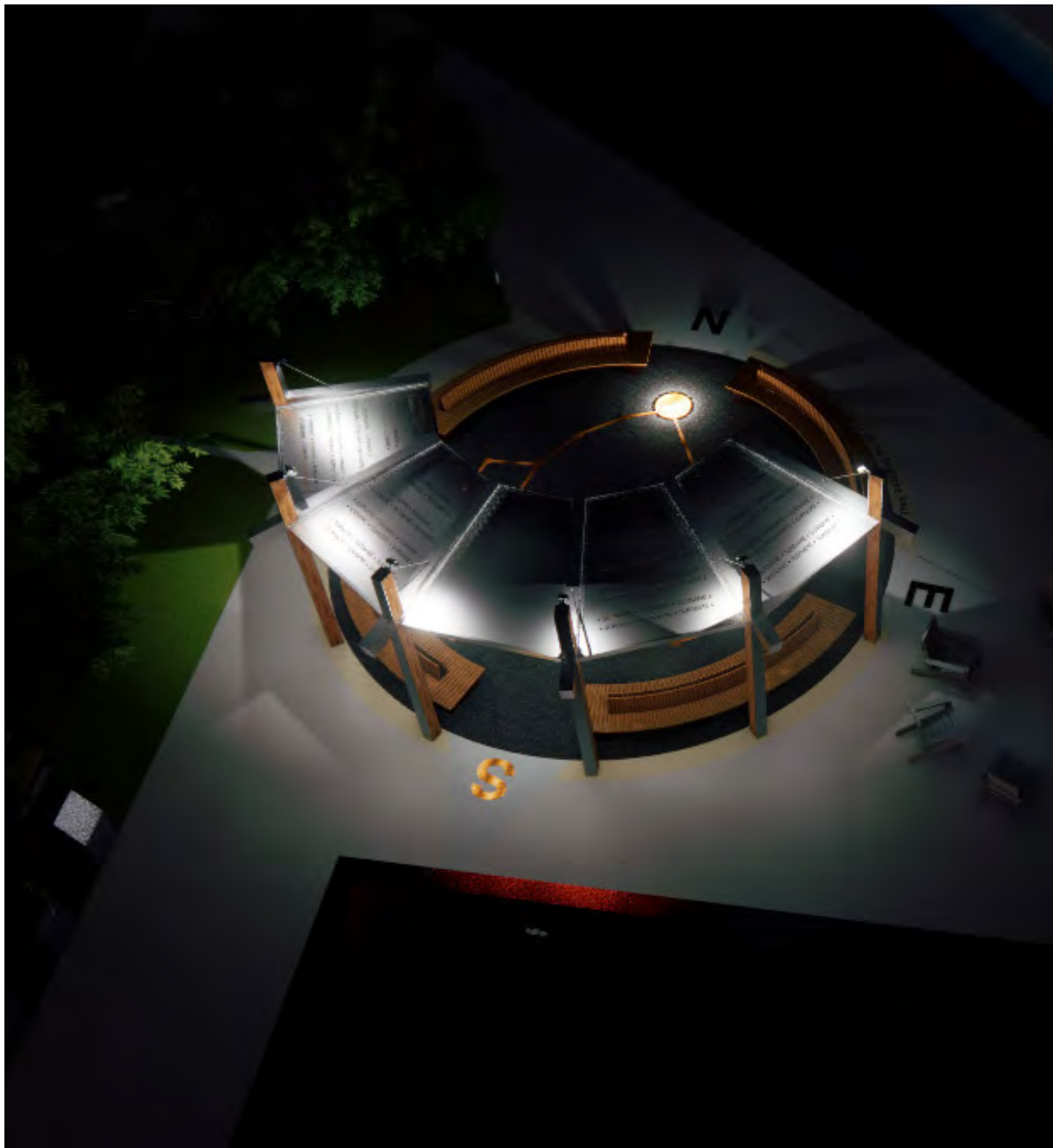
Top view of feature looking north.



View of feature looking south-west.



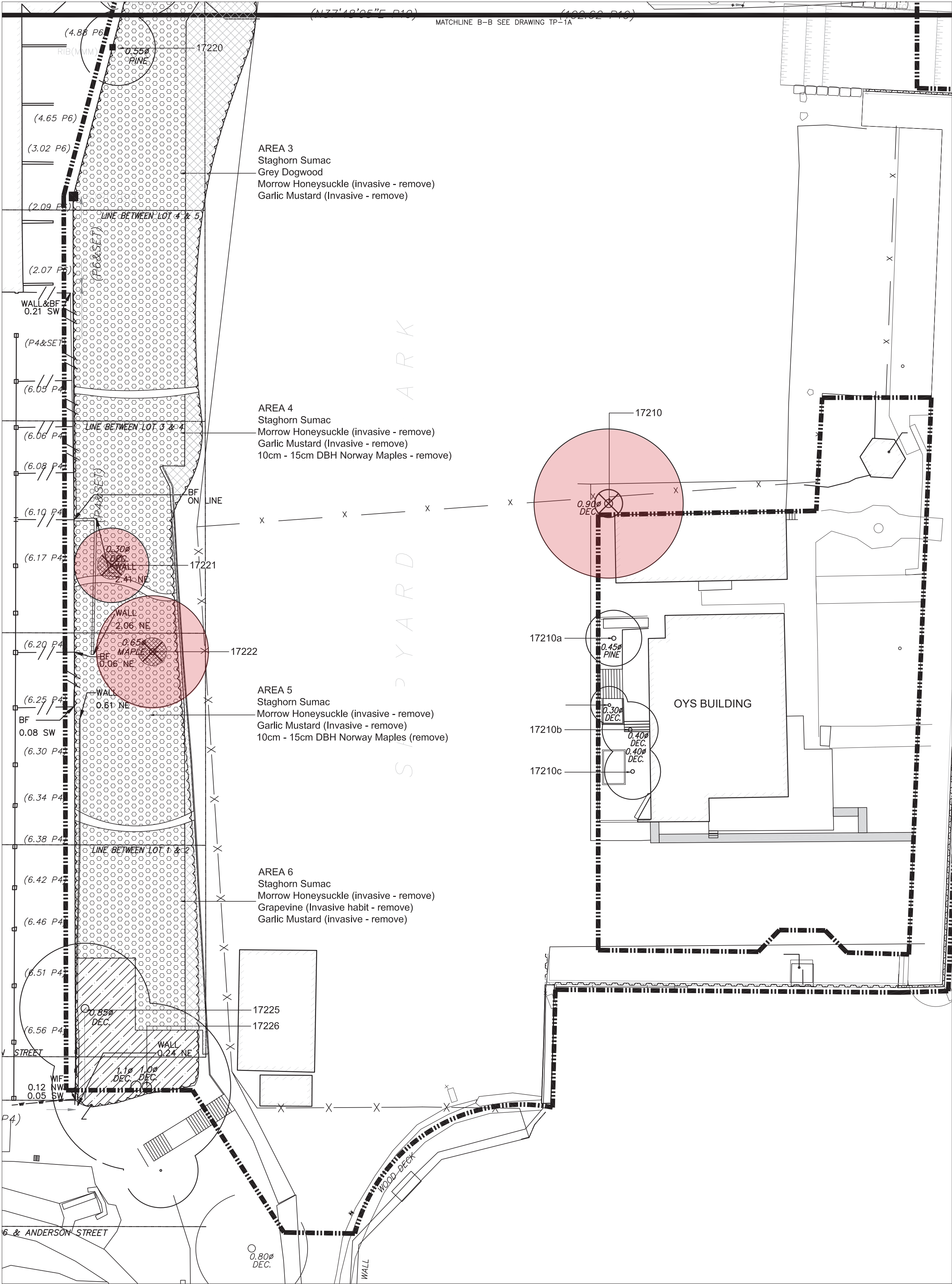
Night view of feature looking south-west.



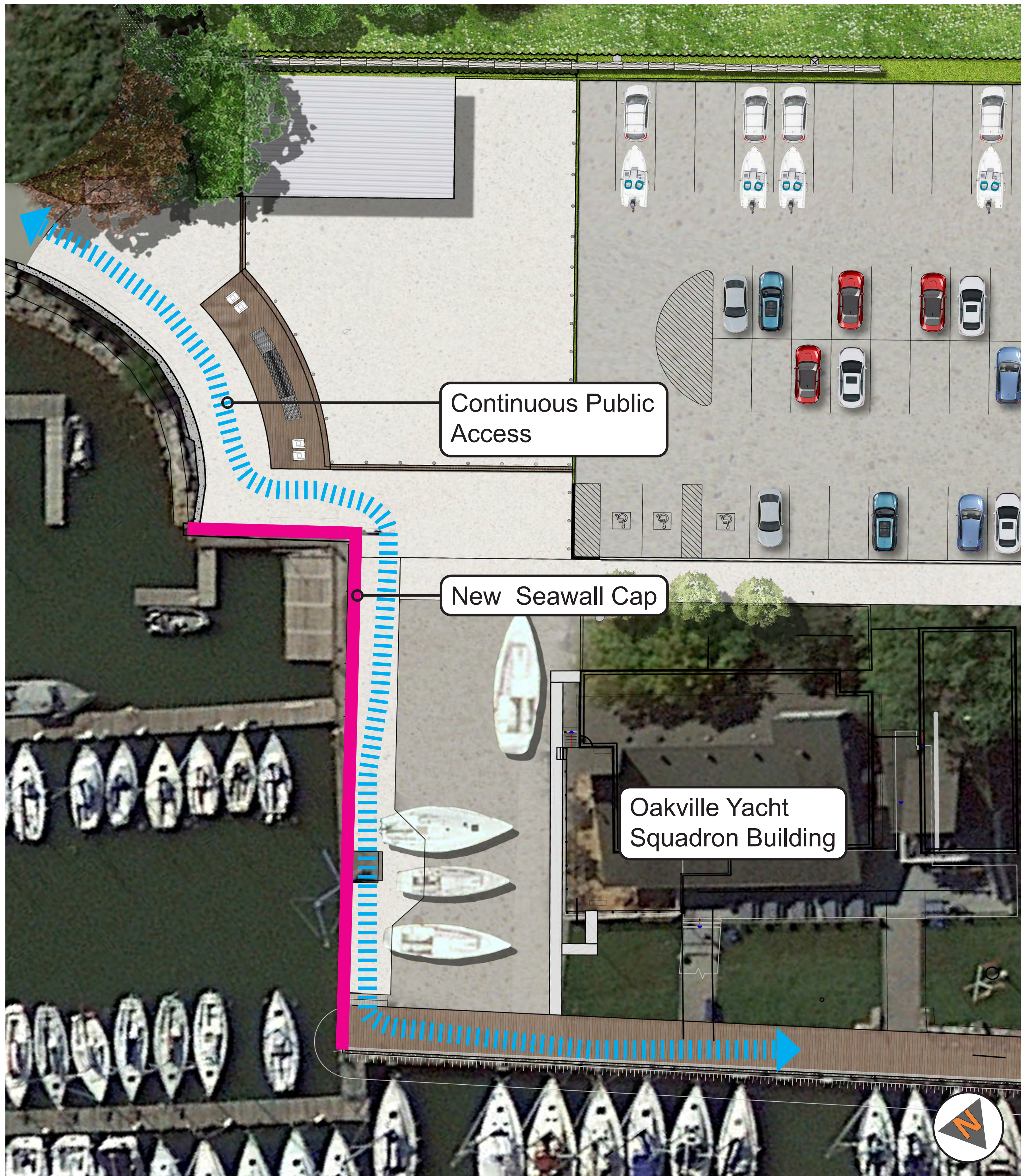
Night view of feature looking north.



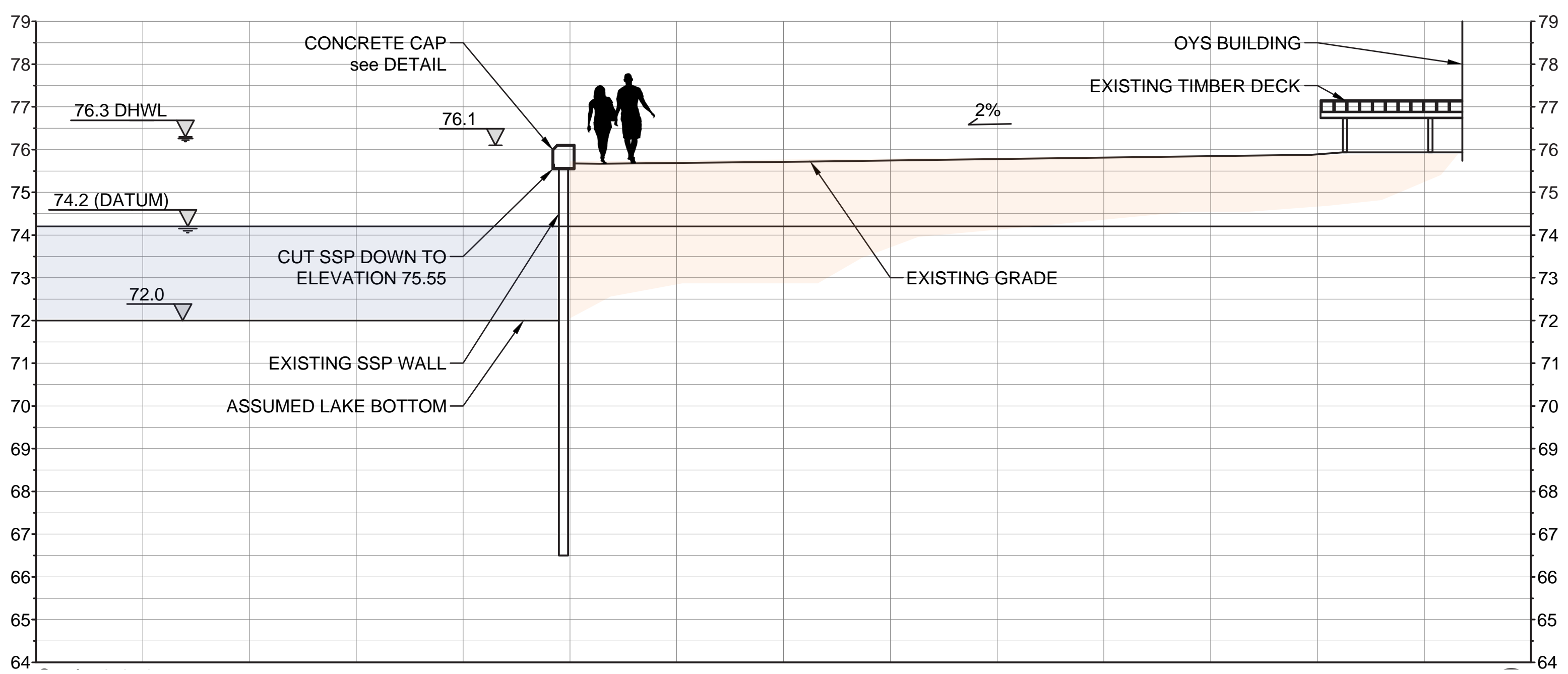
- Legend
- LIMIT OF WORK
 - EXISTING TREES
 - DENOTES EXISTING TREE TO BE REMOVED DUE TO CONFLICT WITH PROPOSED DESIGN OR PER ORIGINAL 2008 REPORT
 - DENOTES EXISTING TREE TO BE RELOCATED DUE TO CONFLICT WITH PROPOSED DESIGN
 - DENOTES EXISTING UNDER-STORY / PLANTING BEDS TO BE REMOVED DUE TO CONFLICT WITH PROPOSED DESIGN
 - 17209 TREE TAG PER JULY 2008 REPORT (REFER TO DRAWING TP-1B)
 - 322 DENOTES SUPPLEMENTAL TREE IDENTIFICATION TAG BY MBTW MAY 14, 2014. (REFER TO DRAWING TP-1B)
 - DENOTES EXISTING UNDER-STORY / PLANTING BEDS - SELECTIVELY REMOVE INVASIVE SPECIES OR AS IT CONFLICTS WITH THE PROPOSED DESIGN WORK.
 - DENOTES EXISTING UNDER-STORY / PLANTING BEDS WITHIN TPZ ZONES TO BE REMOVED DUE TO CONFLICT WITH PROPOSED DESIGN (SEE NOTES ON TP-1B)



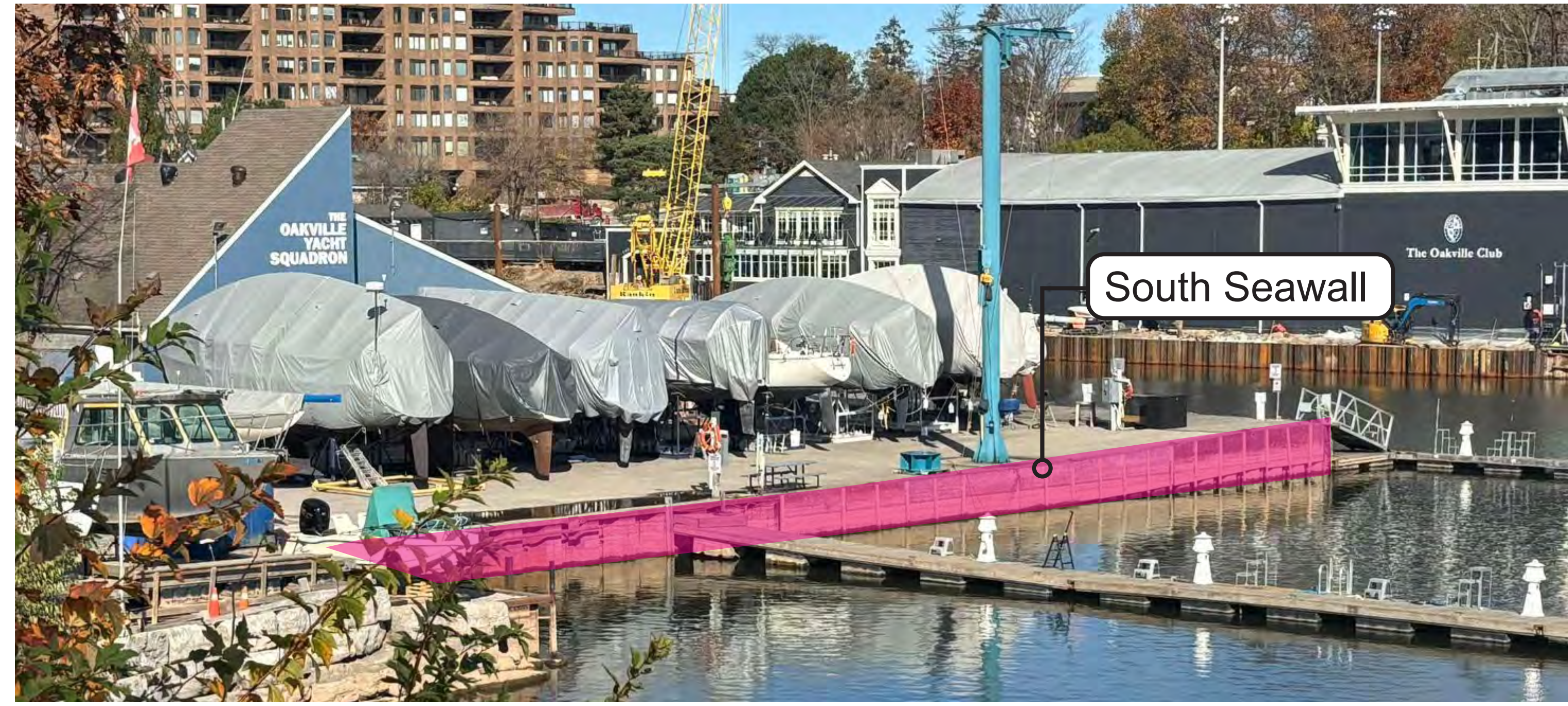
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South Seawall Site Plan



South Seawall Section A



South Seawall Improvements

Highwater levels in 2017 and 2019 impacted OYS operations. A new cap is being constructed on top of the south seawall to raise the height to elevation 76.1m. The raised crest height will lower the potential for the backshore flooding.

The area between the seawall and the OYS building will be regraded and will provide a continuous public access connection to the existing waterfront trail.



Note: Phasing may be subject to change as construction progresses.

PHASE 1

- Parking lot reconstruction;
- Civil infrastructure (catch basins, storm lines, water lines);
- Asphalt Paving (parking lot);
- Concrete paving (side walks);
- Retaining walls;
- Parking lot lighting and boat pedestals;
- South seawall works; and
- Boardwalk reconstruction.

PHASE 2A

- Initial Francis Street Road improvements;
- Francis Street / Forsythe Street intersection improvements;
- Civil infrastructure (catch basins, storm lines, water lines);
- Asphalt Paving (parking lot);
- Concrete paving (side walks);
- Retaining walls;
- Parking lot lighting and boat pedestals; and
- Grading improvements.

PHASE 2B

- Remaining Francis Street Road Improvements;
- Soft landscape works;
- Tree replanting;
- Site furnishing installation (benches, seating, bollards, trash receptacles, picnic tables, bike racks)
- Underground Railroad feature;
- Signage;
- Topcoat, asphalt all areas; and
- Line painting.

Shipyard Park Redevelopment

Summary of Next Steps:

- Comments collected and considered.
- Construction drawings to be finalized.
- Required permits to be obtained.
- Contractor pre-qualification process to be completed.
- Project ready to tender in early 2025.
- Construction start Phase 1 fall 2025.
- Construction start Phase 2 early 2026.
- Both phases complete end of 2026.

Note: Park access, parking and launch ramp will be open for limited uses and may be closed at times due to construction sequencing.



Have more questions or comments?
Please send an email to:
oakvilleharbour-ph4@oakville.ca