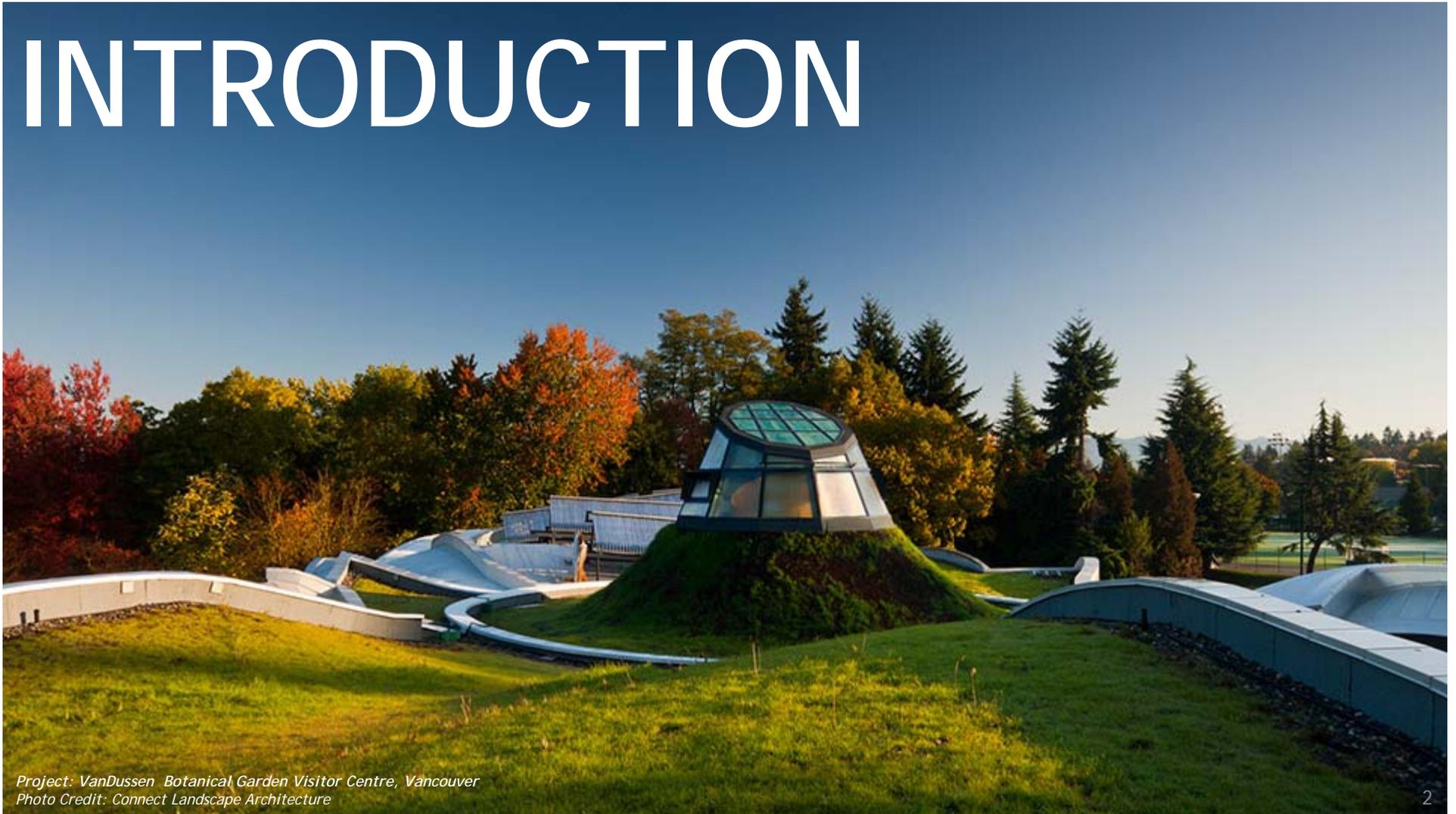


# RAIN CITY STRATEGY

green infrastructure | sustainable urban rainwater management  
Metro Vancouver RPAC-ENV - Feb 15, 2018

*Photo Credit: Wendy de Hoog*

# INTRODUCTION



*Project: VanDussen Botanical Garden Visitor Centre, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Connect Landscape Architecture*

# VANCOUVER IS A CITY SURROUNDED BY WATER



Image: Overview of Vancouver  
Photo Credit: [www.fiercebiotech.com](http://www.fiercebiotech.com) 01/25/2017

THE WATER IS WHERE WE PLAY AND ENJOY NATURE...



*Image: Hadden Park, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Wendy de Hoog*

BUT A LOT OF THE NATURAL WATERSHEDS HAVE CHANGED...



*Image: View of Yaletown from Charleson Park in 1893, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: [www.onthisspot.ca](http://www.onthisspot.ca), 10/25/2015*

# TO ALLOW RESIDENTS AND BUSINESSES TO PROSPER AND GROW



*Image: View of Yaletown from Charleson Park in 2013, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Wendy de Hoog*

# HOT OFF THE PRESS... EVERY DAY, A NEW STORY

CBCnews | Canada

Home Opinion World **Canada** Politics Business Health Entertainment Technology & Science Video  
Canada Photo Galleries Indigenous Editor's Blog CBC SecureDrop

## 'Where's that money going to come from': Insurers, government back away from disaster relief

Larger and more intense weather events estimated to cost federal government close to \$1B annually

By Mark Gollom, CBC News Posted: Sep 10, 2017 5:00 AM ET | Last Updated: Sep 10, 2017 5:00 AM ET



Flooding across Alberta in 2013 cost roughly \$5 billion in damages (Cameron MacIntosh/CBC)

CBCnews | Politics

Home Opinion World Canada **Politics** Business Health Entertainment Technology & Science Video  
Politics Power & Politics CBC SecureDrop

## ANALYSIS | 'We are not well prepared': An expert's view of climate change and the next big storm

The federal government has struck an expert panel to consider adaptation

By Aaron Wherry, CBC News Posted: Sep 03, 2017 5:00 AM ET | Last Updated: Sep 03, 2017 5:00 AM ET



A woman gets out of her car to check it in floodwater in Toronto back in 2013. (Frank Gunn/Canadian Press)

WEATHER August 30, 2017 10:39 am

## Vancouver breaks 50-year-old temperature record and hot weather will return for long weekend



By Amy Judd

Online News Producer Global News

Comments 7 Facebook 1.8k Twitter Email Print ...



## ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CONDITIONS IN 2050:

'Coastal Cities at Risk' project ranked Metro Vancouver **11<sup>th</sup>** most vulnerable in the world for exposed assets

*Image: Kitsilano Public Pool during 'king tide' in 2012*

# MODELS PREDICT: Decrease in snowpack in drinking watersheds



Image: Capilano Lake, North Vancouver  
Photo credit: Wendy de Hoog

## WARMER WINTERS

 **58%**  
decrease in  
snowpack

WBC-1 MEANS

Increased  
risk of  
summer  
drought 

minimum  
temp goes  
up by  
**4.8°** 

 **29%**  
reduction  
in home  
heating  
needs

increased risk  
of coastal flooding  
  
because of king tides  
and stormy weather

**MODELS PREDICT:**  
Sea level rise of 1 meter by 2100, 2 meter by 2200

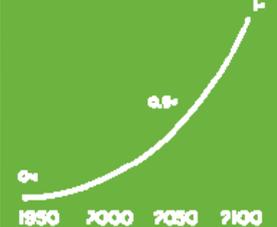


Project: public art project showcasing sea level rise underneath Cambie Bridge, Vancouver

Flood plain 2100 (1m sea level rise) as well as 1/500 yr storm

## HIGHER SEA LEVELS

Sea levels may rise 0.5 metres by 2050



Sea level rise contributes to increased flood risk



Coastal habitat for birds and fish may shrink



# MODELS PREDICT: More intense rain storms



Image: Flooding at Cambie St & W Broadway, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Alexandra Coulliard

## WETTER AUTUMNS

heavy  
rain  
events  
**35%**  
more  
intense



**21%**  
more  
rain  
on the  
wettest days



WBCI PTANE

a  
higher  
flood  
risk



# MODELS PREDICT: More extreme heat

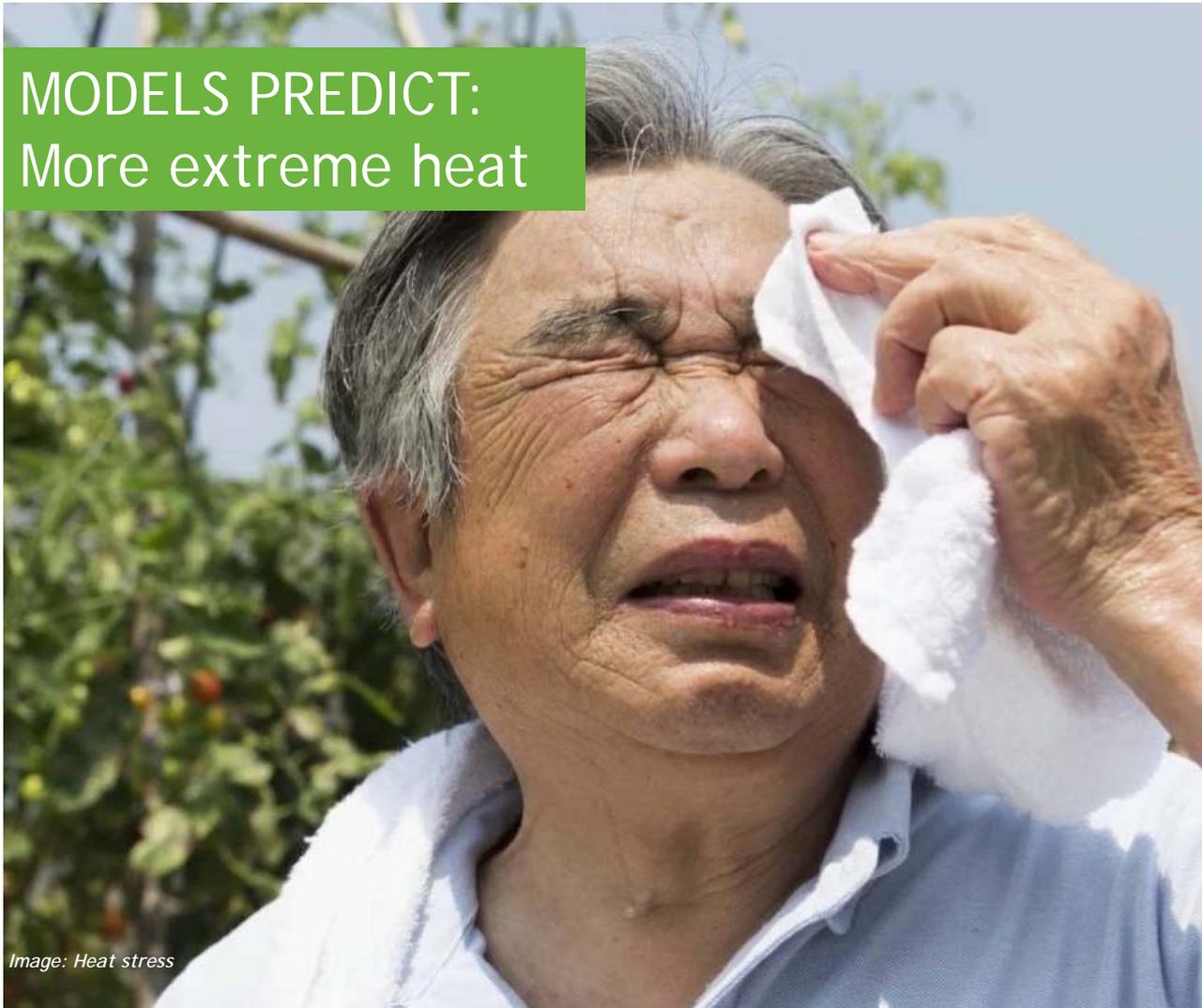


Image: Heat stress

## WARMER SPRINGS

15% longer growing season



72% decrease in frost days



snow melts earlier



20% increase in April showers



## HOTTER SUMMERS



more frequent heat waves

hottest days even hotter



18 to 43 twice as many days above 25°C



increased health risks to vulnerable people



20% less rain

Increased water restrictions





# SPONGE CITIES



# VANCOUVER'S VISION

*Project: Mid Main Park Vancouver  
Photo Credit: HAPA Collaborative*

# VISION, GOALS & TARGET

## VISION

*Vancouver's rainwater is embraced as a valued resource for our communities and natural ecosystems*

## TARGET

*Capture and clean 90% of Vancouver's rainfall on both public and private property*

GOAL 1



GOAL 1: Improve and protect Vancouver's water quality. The graphic features a blue circular background with a water droplet falling into a pool of water, creating ripples. A blue water drop icon is positioned at the top right of the circle.

GOAL 2



GOAL 2: Increase Vancouver's resilience through sustainable water management. The graphic features a grey circular background with a textured, stone-like pattern. An orange icon with a stylized water drop and arrows is positioned at the top right of the circle.

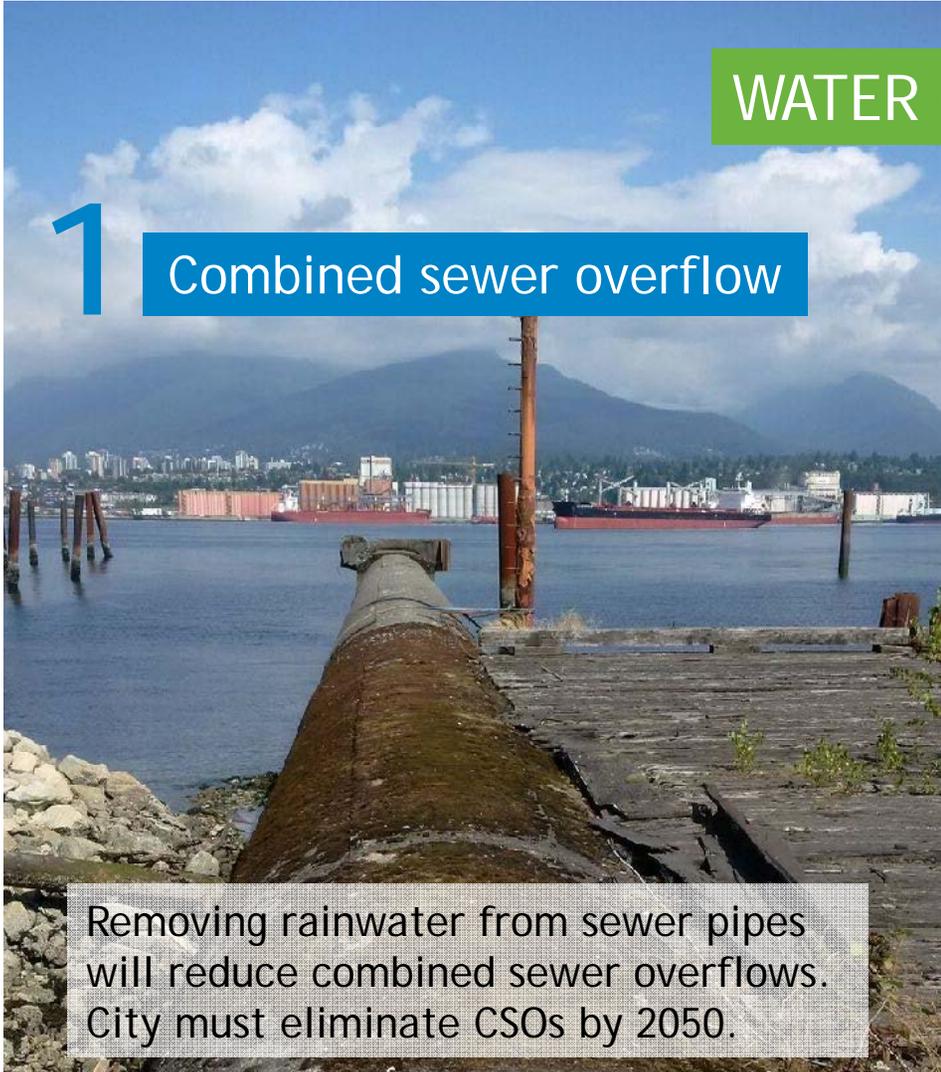
GOAL 3



GOAL 3: Enhance Vancouver's livability by improving natural and urban ecosystems. The graphic features a circular background with a grid pattern overlaid on a photograph of a city street with tall buildings. A green leaf icon is positioned at the bottom right of the circle.

## WATER QUALITY

### 1 Combined sewer overflow



Removing rainwater from sewer pipes will reduce combined sewer overflows. City must eliminate CSOs by 2050.

### 2 Urban stormwater pollution



Rainwater carries urban pollutants, such as gasoline, motor oil, heavy metals, sediments, litter, organics & fertilizer

## GREY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Necessary but costly
- Less adaptable
- Single purpose
- Limited integration with other City priorities

## GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

- Cost-effective
- Adaptable
- Multi purpose
- Leverages co-benefits for other City priorities



evapotranspiration

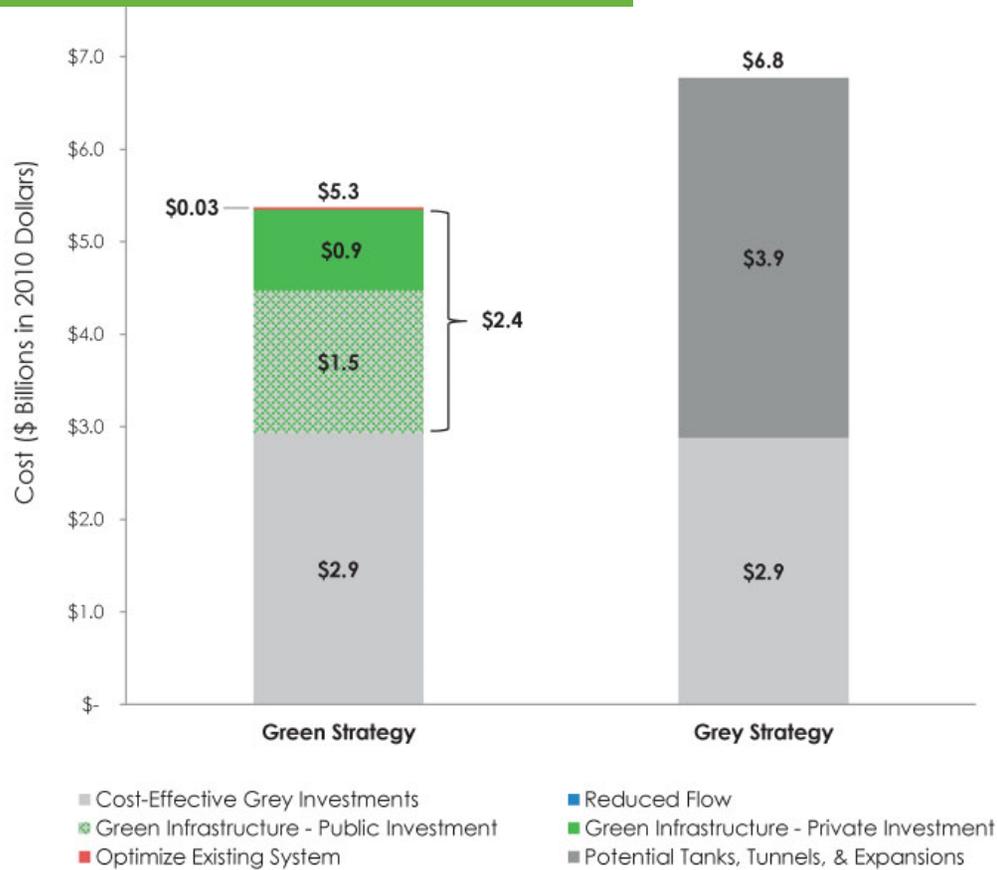


infiltration



harvest & reuse

# COSTS: GREEN VS. GREY (NEW YORK CITY EXAMPLE)



# VANCOUVER'S APPROACH

*Project: Bosco Verticale, Milan  
Photo Credit: Paolo Rosselli*

# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE INTERSECTS WITH A GREAT NUMBER OF CITY INITIATIVES

## Greenest City Goals:

- Green economy
- Green buildings
- Green transportation
- Access to nature
- Clean water

Urban Forest Strategy

Comprehensive City Building & Capital Planning Framework:  
30 yr Strategic outlook

Resilience Strategy

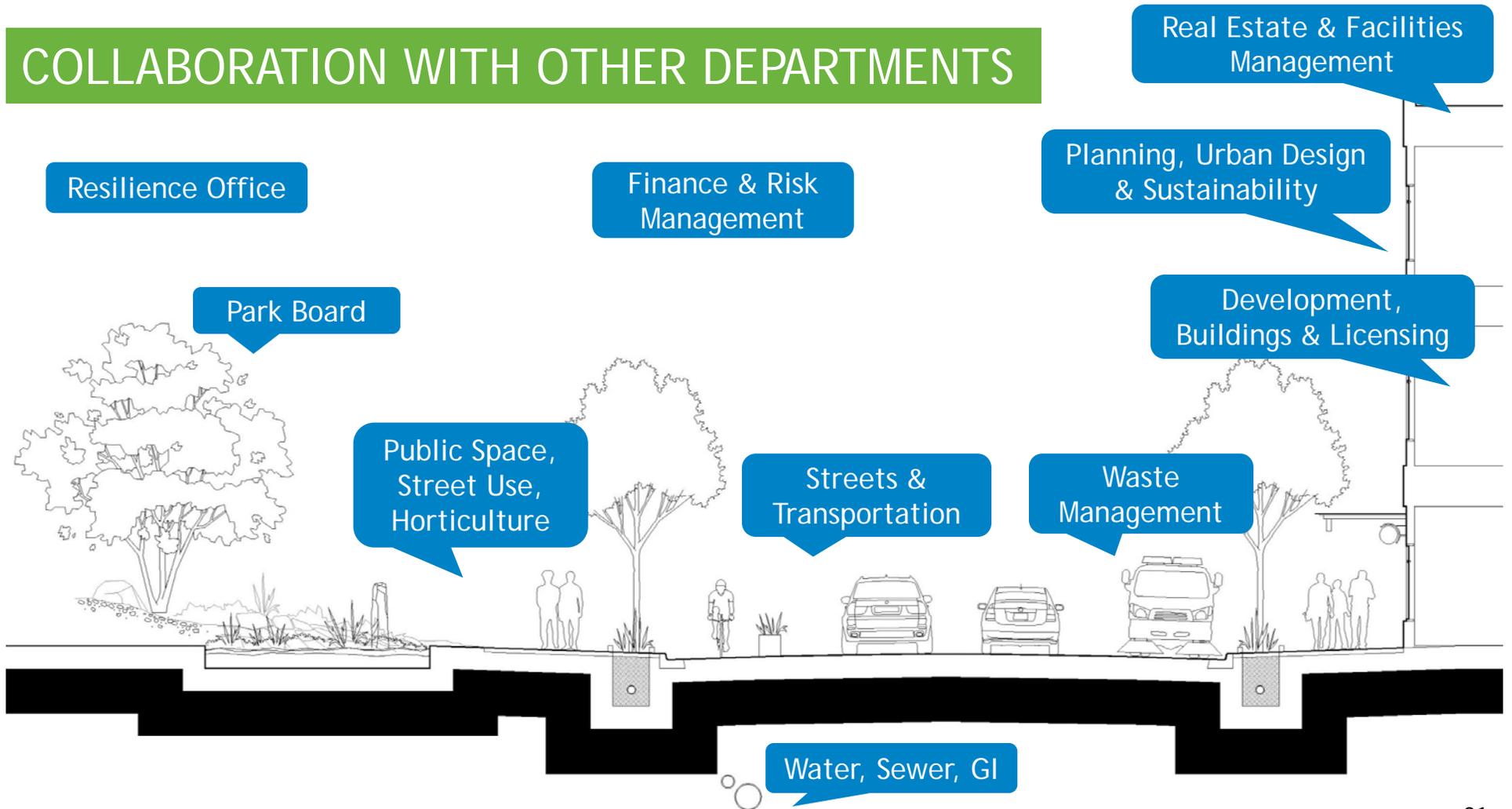
Habitat & Biodiversity Strategy

Climate Adaptation Strategy

Healthy City Strategy

Water Conservation Strategy

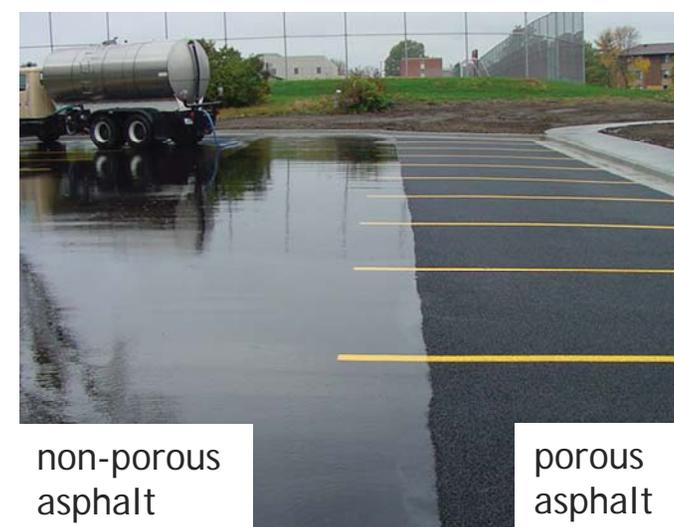
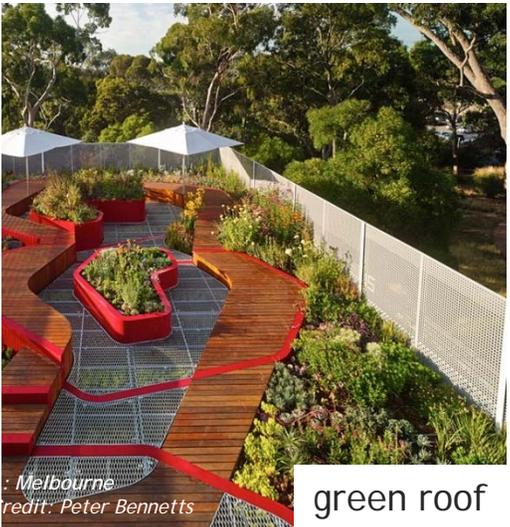
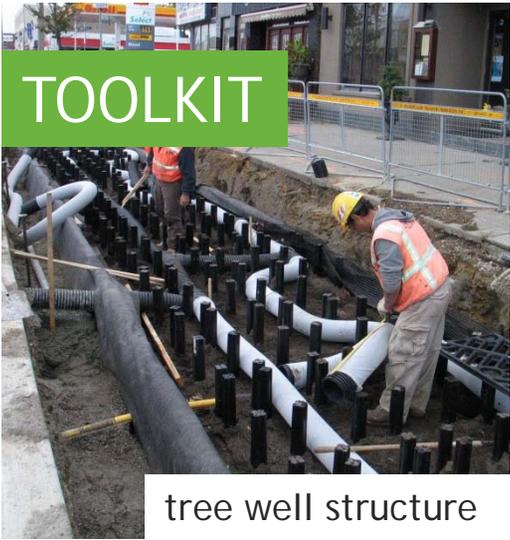
# COLLABORATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS





# ENVISIONING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

*Project: University of British Columbia, Vancouver*  
*Photo Credit: www.ubc.ca*





# TOOLKIT

Project: Jellicoe Street, Auckland  
Photo Credit: waal.co.nz

bioswale



rainwater harvesting



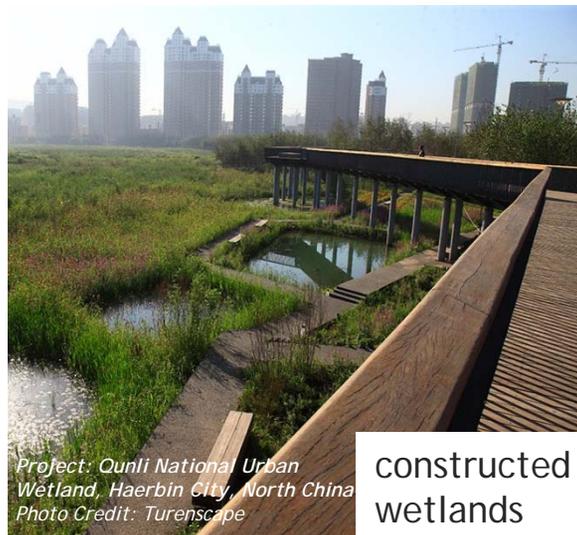
Project: Hastings Creek, Vancouver  
Photo Credit: Dan Toulgoet

daylighting streams



Project: Rochetaillée banks of the Saone, Lyon  
Photo Credit: IN SITU

absorbent landscape



Project: Qunli National Urban Wetland, Haerbin City, North China  
Photo Credit: Turenscape

constructed wetlands



Project: Museumpark garage, Rotterdam  
Photo Credit: City of Rotterdam

detention tanks



*Project: The soul of Nørrebro, Copenhagen  
Photo Credit: SLA / Beauty and the Bit*



*Project: The soul of Nørrebro, Copenhagen  
Photo Credit: SLA / Beauty and the Bit*



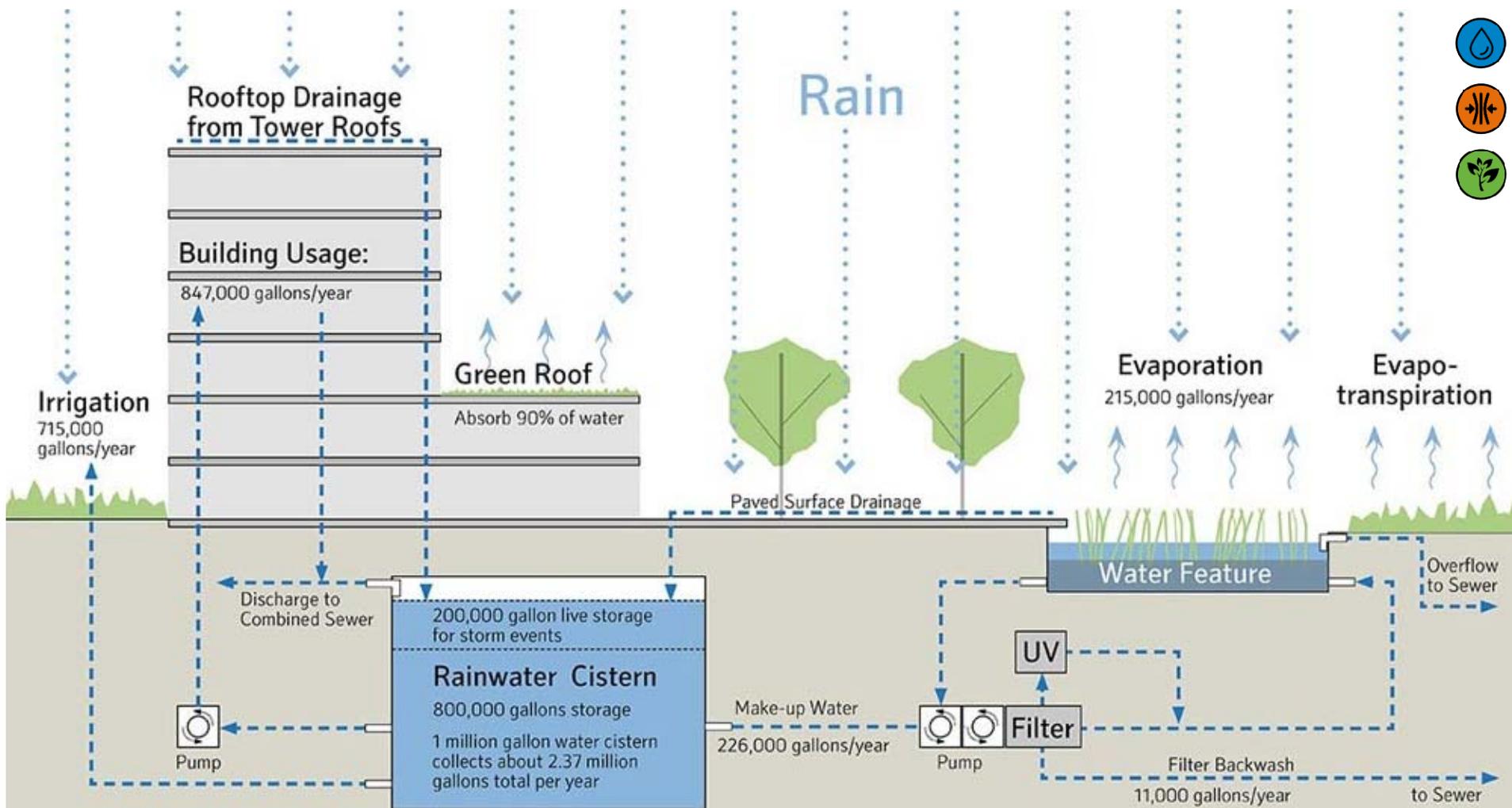
Project: Millennium Park, Chicago  
Photo Credit: <http://www.chicagoculturalmile.org/venue/millennium-park/>



Project: Millennium Park, Chicago  
Photo Credit: <http://www.chicagoculturalmile.org/venue/millennium-park/>



*Project: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Campus, Seattle  
Photo Credit: Timothy Hursley*



Project: Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation Campus, Seattle  
 Photo Credit: Gustafson Guthrie Nichol



*Project: Ontario Street Bioswale  
Photo Credit: Wendy de Hoog*



## SCOPING THE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

- What tools should be applied:
  - Why (rationale/business case)
  - Where
  - To what extent
  - When in next 30 yrs
- Who will take lead to deliver
- What resources will be needed

## MECHANISMS

- Policy
- Regulation
- Design standards
- Operating procedures
- Retrofit & enabling programs
- Incentives
- Community partnerships

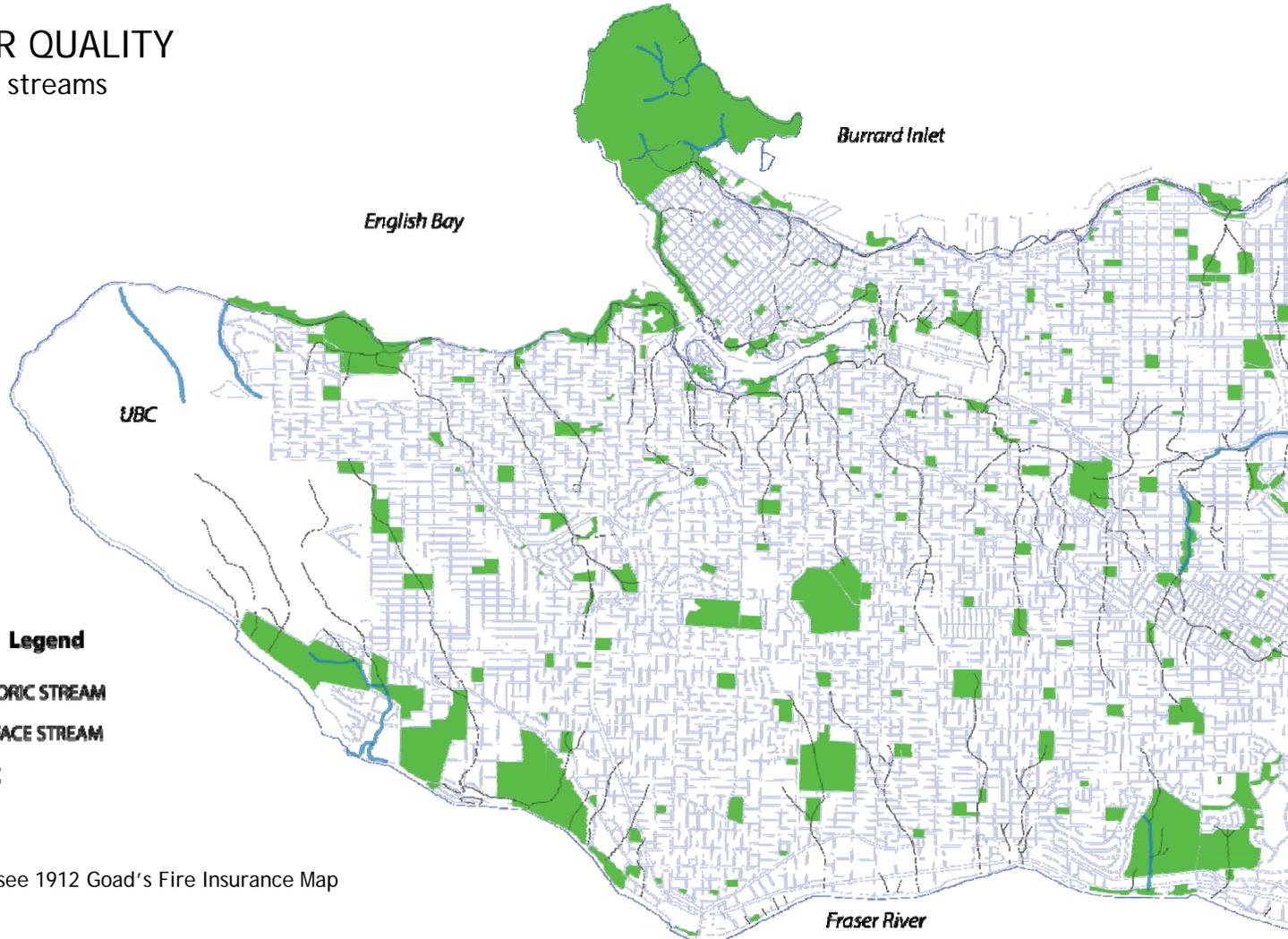


# WATER QUALITY



# WATER QUALITY

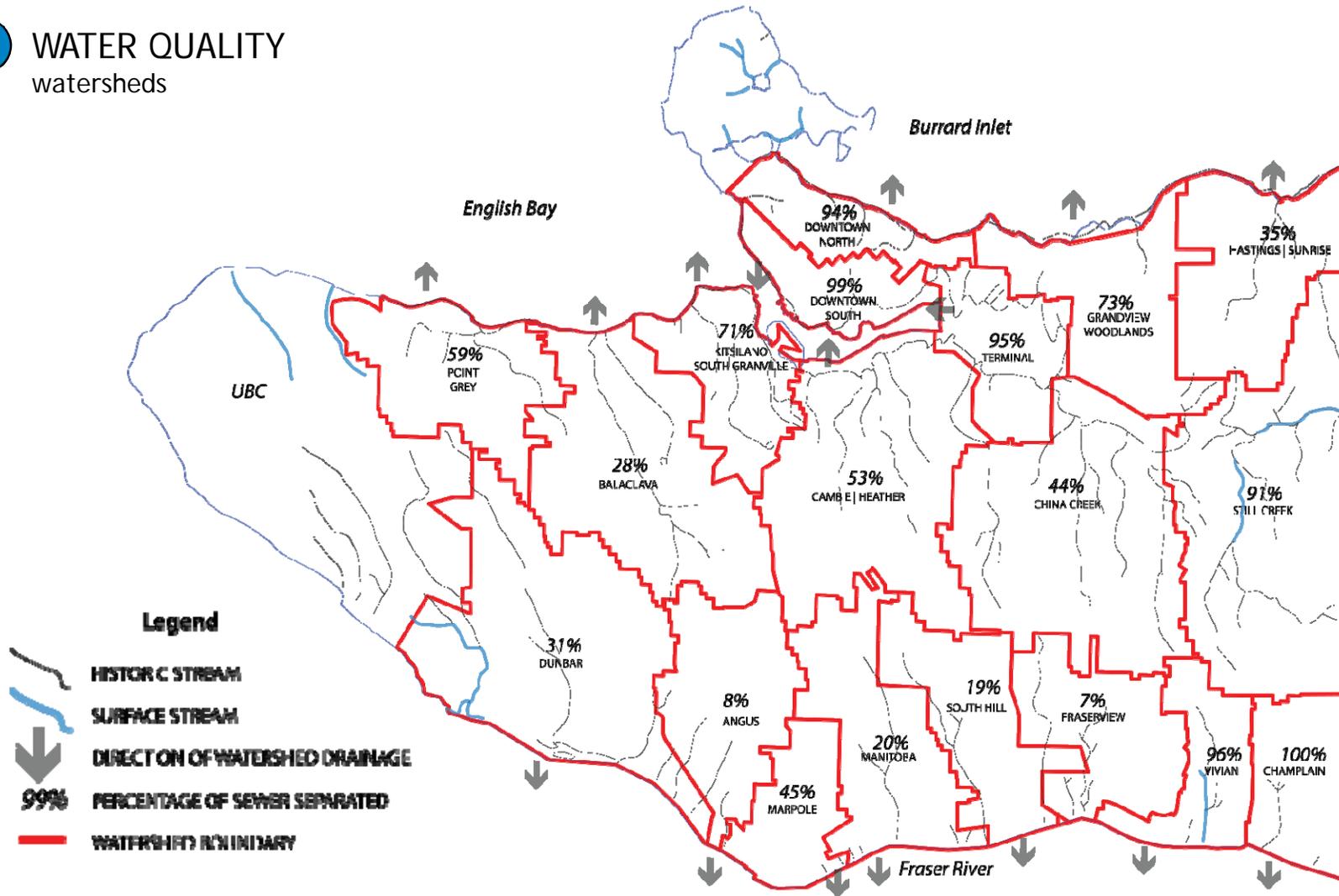
historic streams



Note: Also see 1912 Goad's Fire Insurance Map



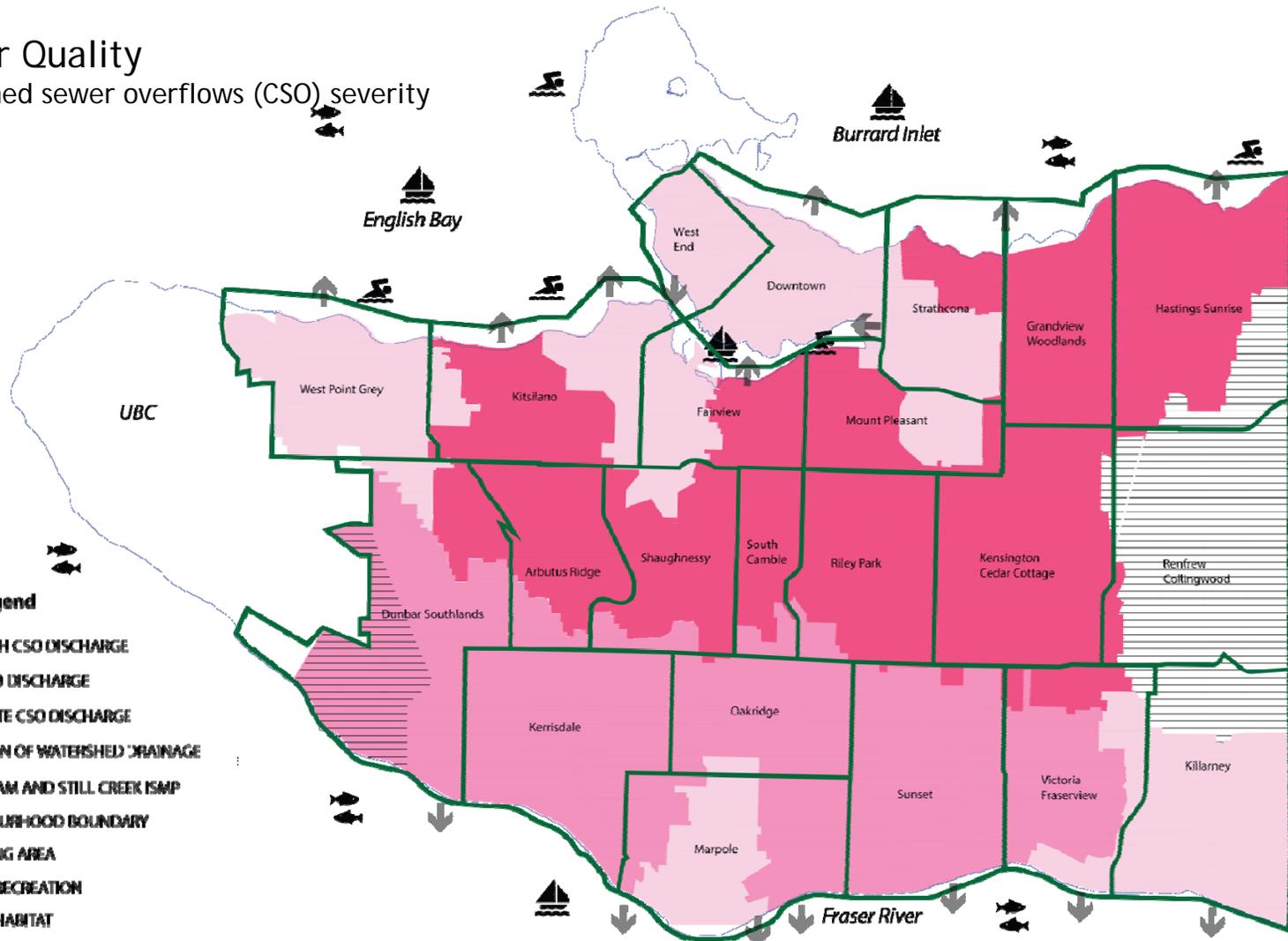
# WATER QUALITY watersheds





# Water Quality

combined sewer overflows (CSO) severity



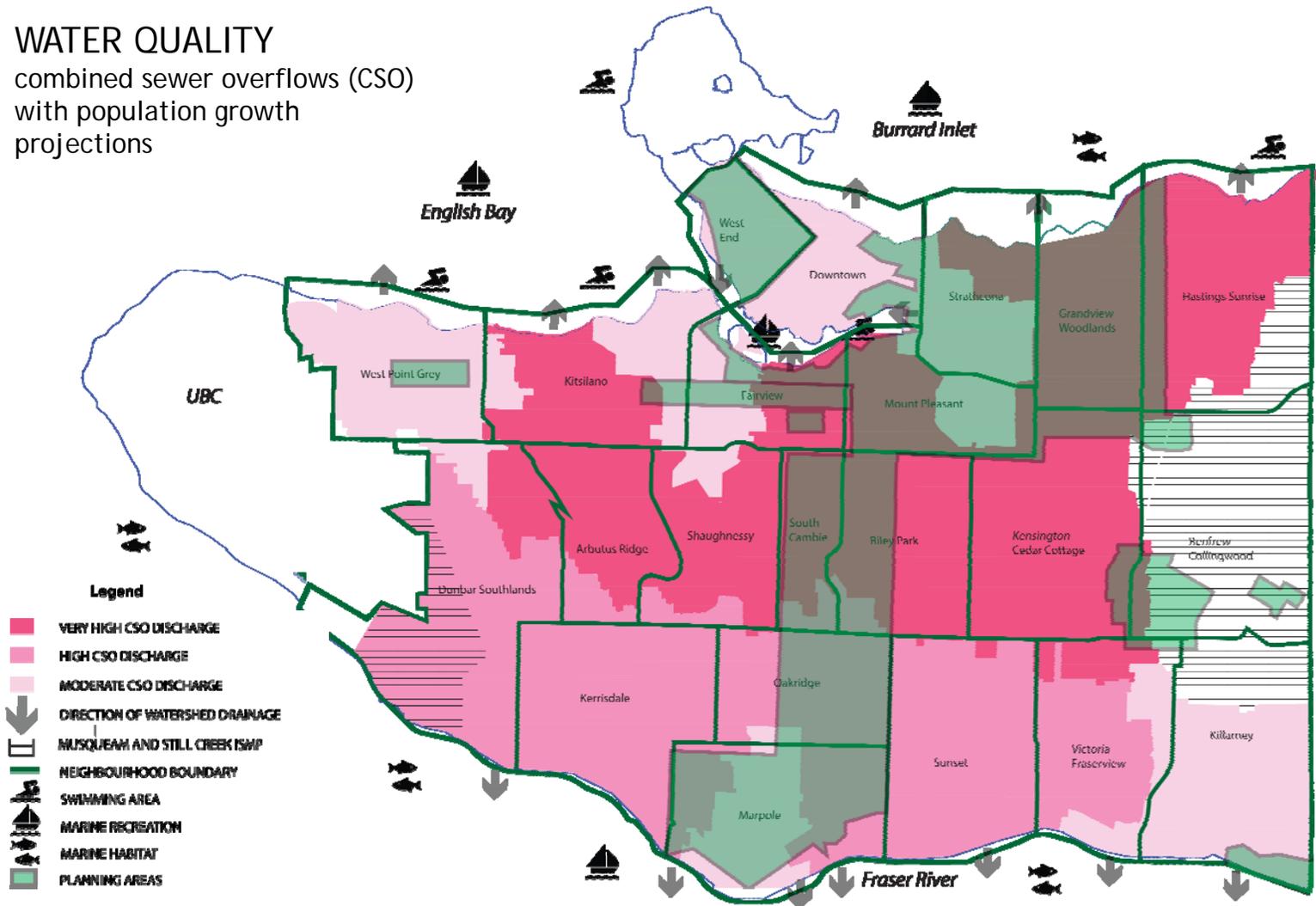
### Legend

- VERY HIGH CSO DISCHARGE
- HIGH CSO DISCHARGE
- MODERATE CSO DISCHARGE
- DIRECTION OF WATERSHED DRAINAGE
- MUSQUEAM AND STILL CREEK ISMP
- NEIGHBOURHOOD BOUNDARY
- SWIMMING AREA
- MARINE RECREATION
- MARINE HABITAT



# WATER QUALITY

combined sewer overflows (CSO)  
with population growth  
projections



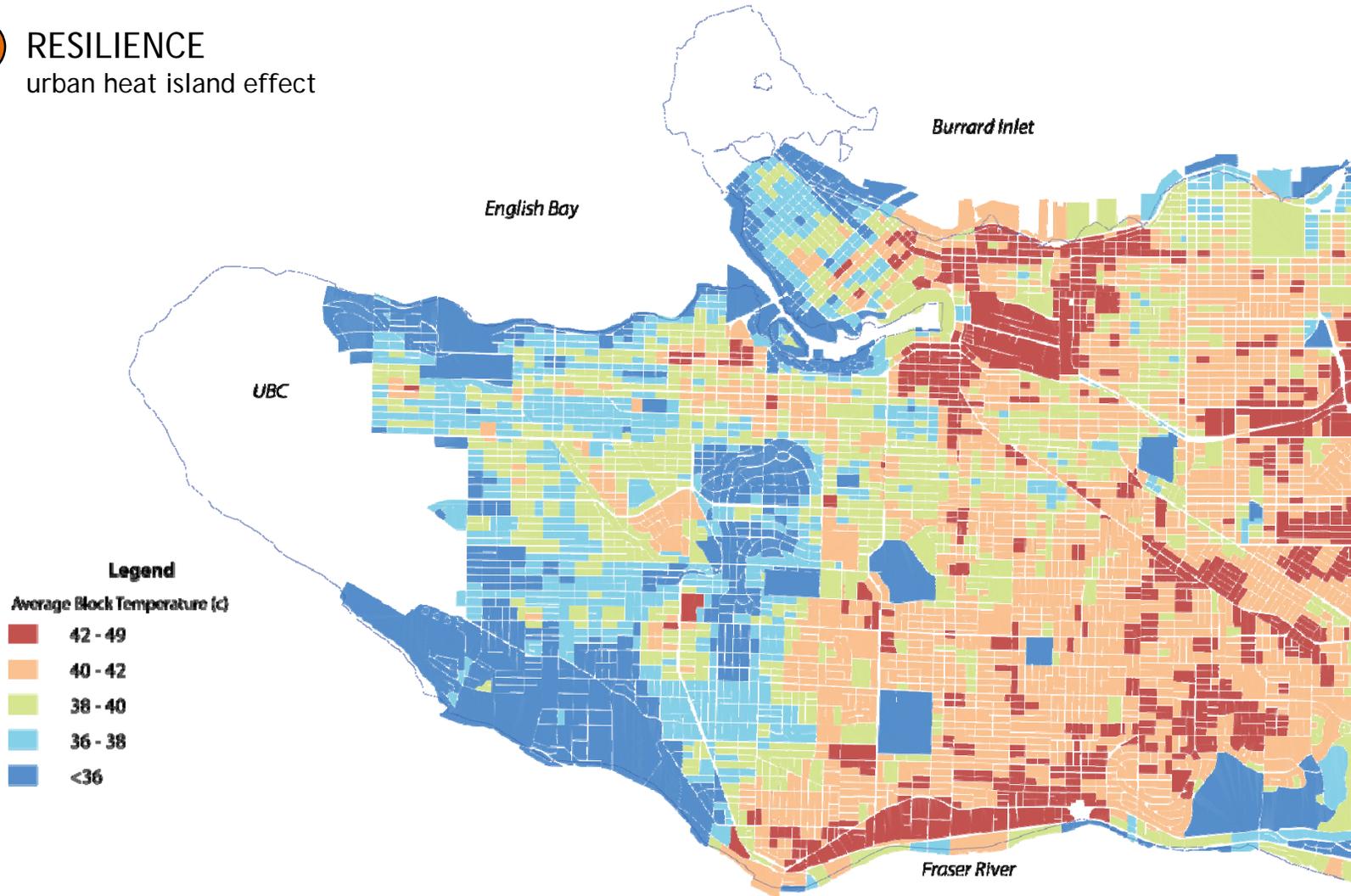


# RESILIENCE



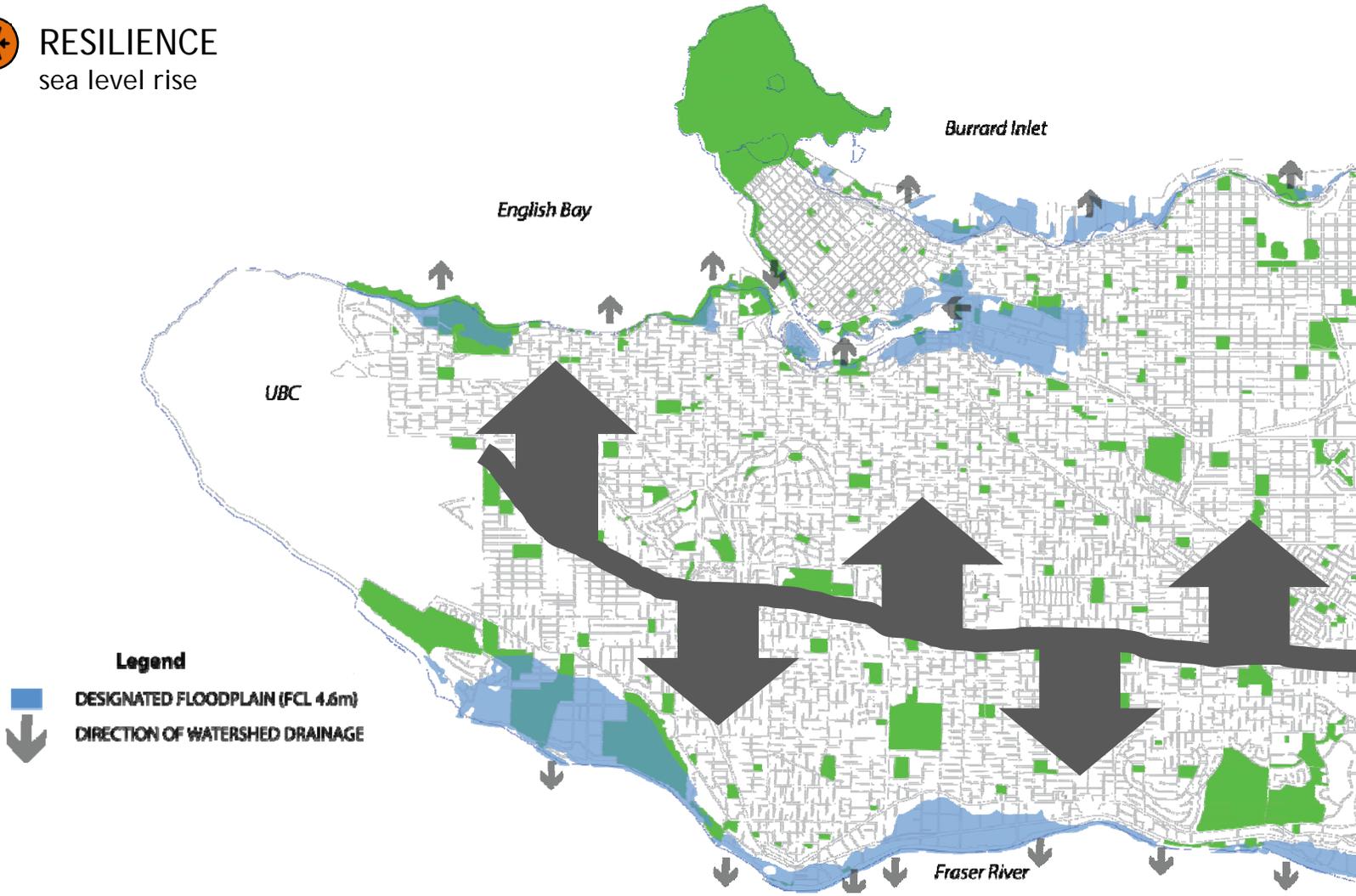
# RESILIENCE

urban heat island effect





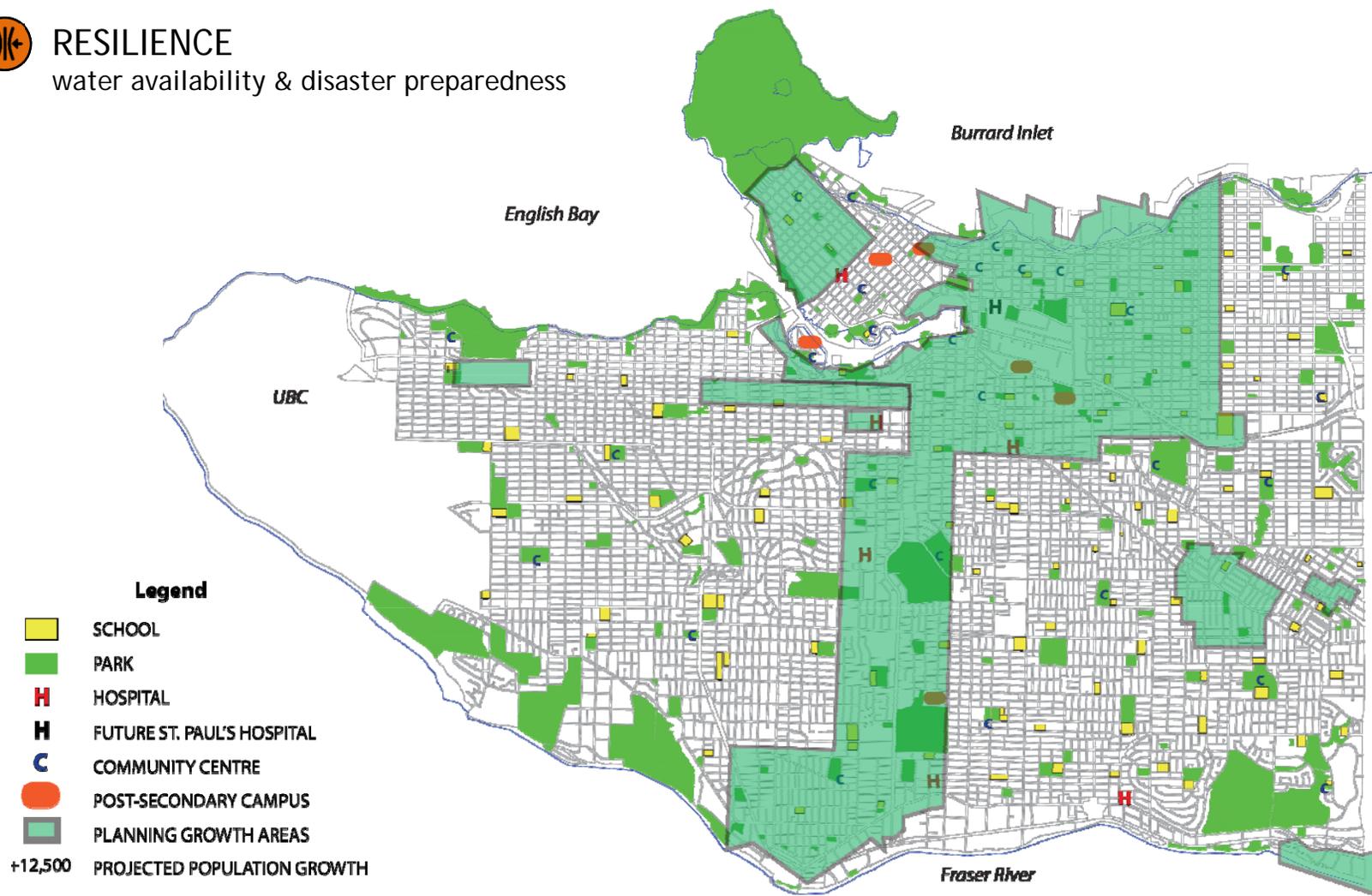
**RESILIENCE**  
sea level rise





# RESILIENCE

water availability & disaster preparedness



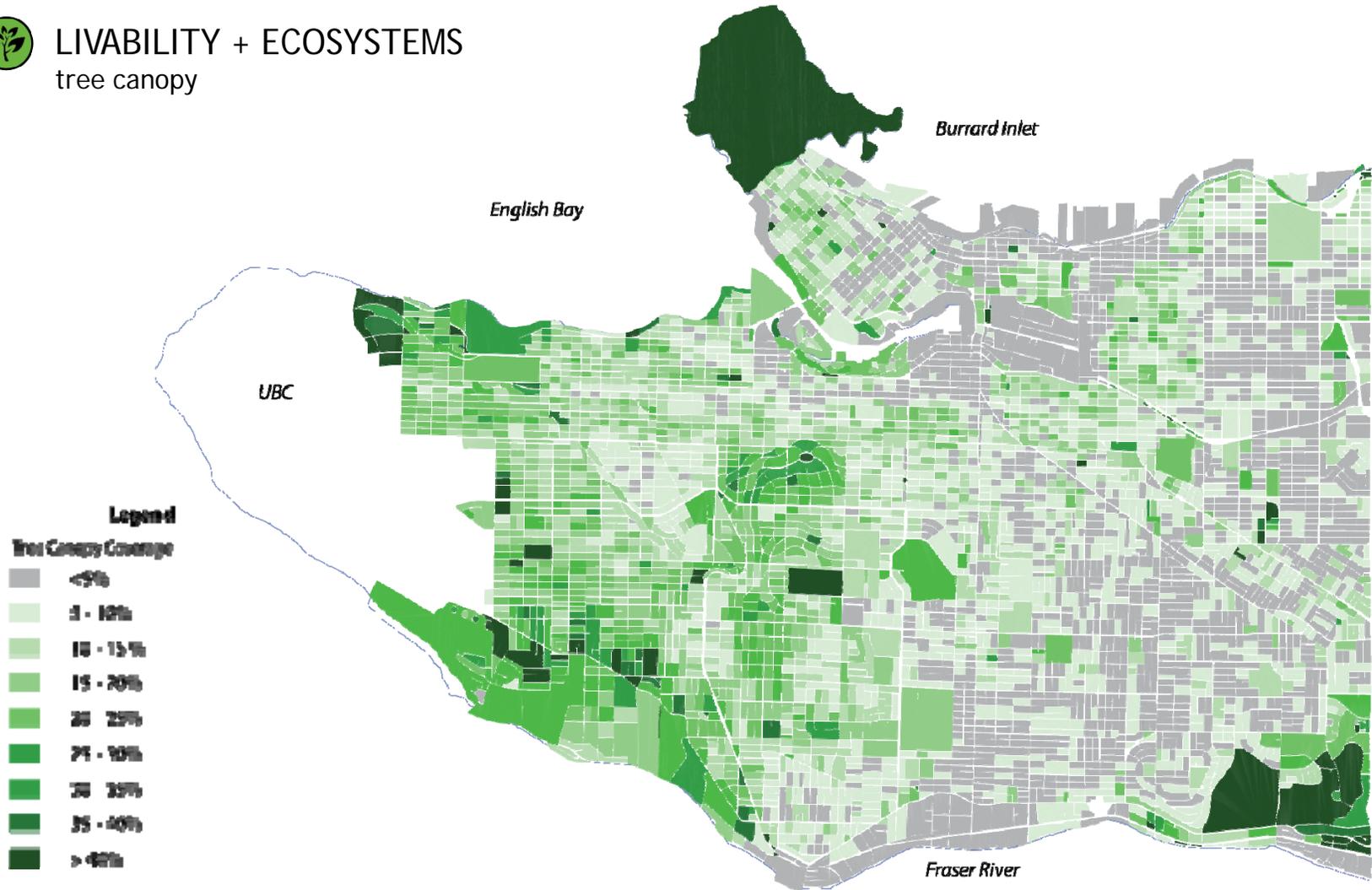


# LIVABILITY + ECOSYSTEMS



# LIVABILITY + ECOSYSTEMS

tree canopy

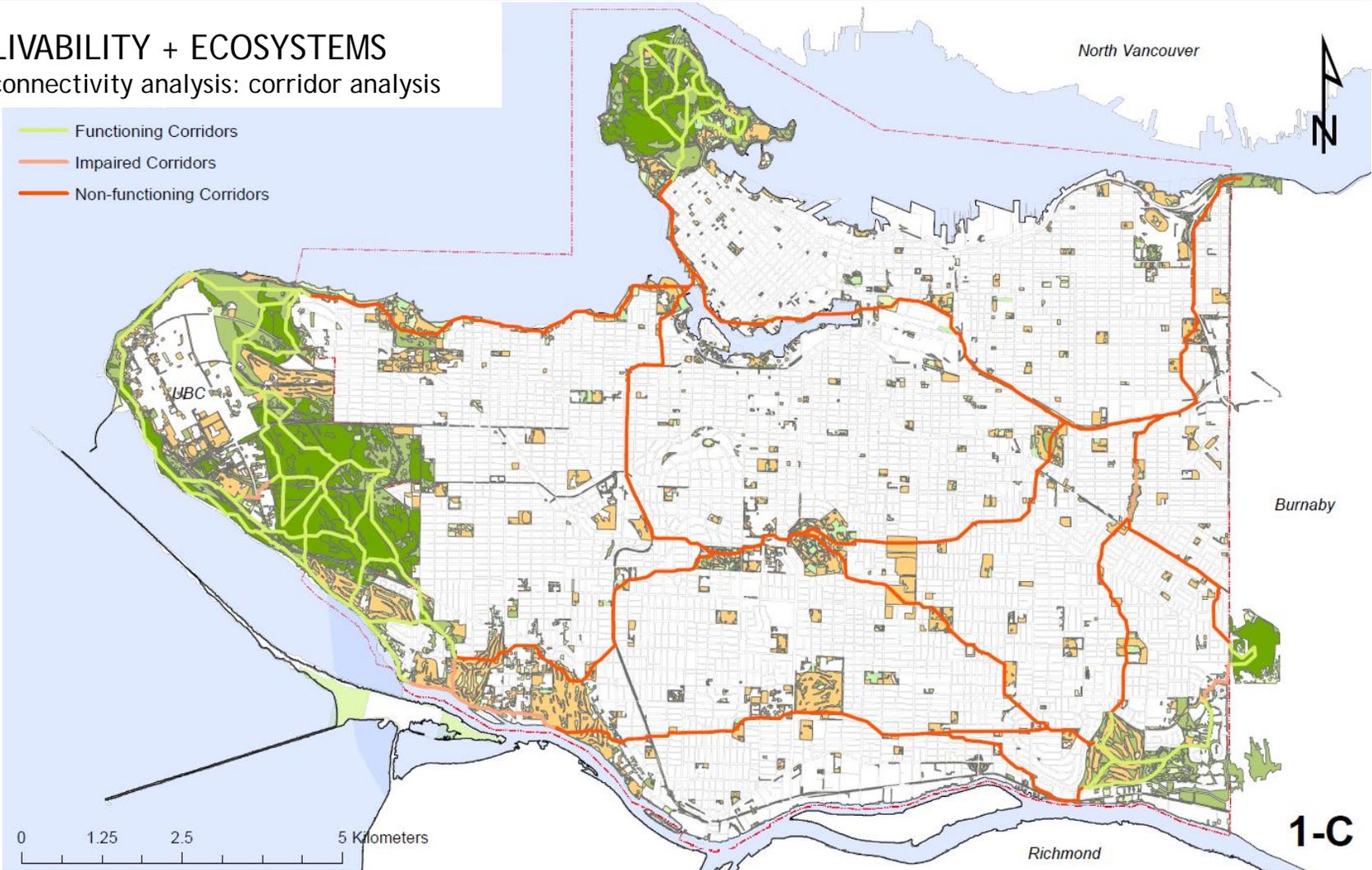




# LIVABILITY + ECOSYSTEMS

connectivity analysis: corridor analysis

- Functioning Corridors
- Impaired Corridors
- Non-functioning Corridors



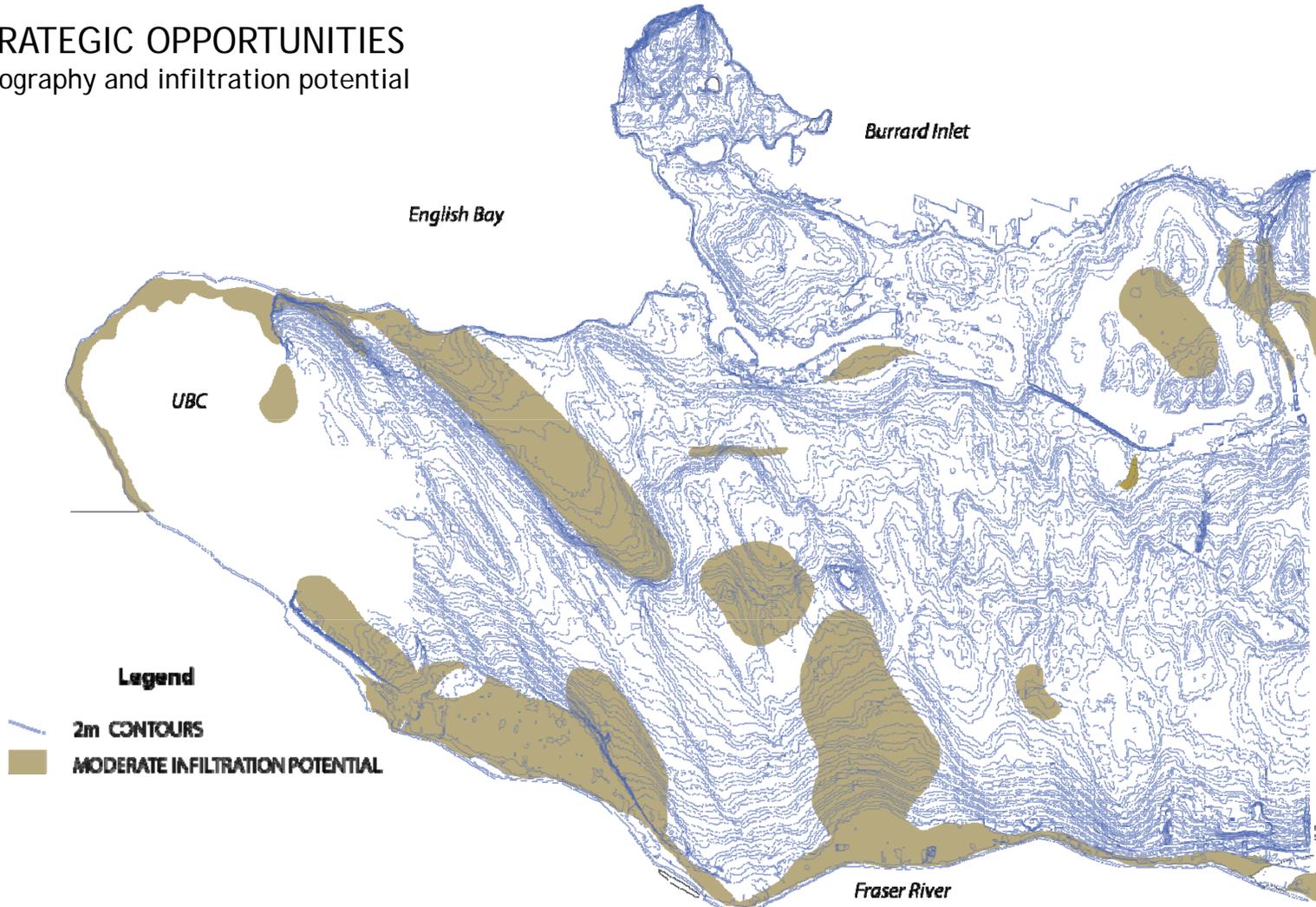


# STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES



# STRATEGIC OPPORTUNITIES

topography and infiltration potential



# THANK YOU!

Melina Scholefield, P. Eng., Manager  
Green Infrastructure Implementation, City of Vancouver  
melina.scholefield@vancouver.ca 604-296-2972



*Project: Waterlicht by Studio Roosegaarde showing sea level rise, Amsterdam  
Photo Credit: Studio Roosegaarde*