



Community & Collaboration

A Tour of the Toronto Parking Authority's
Carpark Mural Program, Greening Initiatives
& Community Enhancement Elements





Supporting the vibrancy and livability of the communities we serve

Greening with GreenP+

The GreenP+ Program is a multi-year plan to retrofit, build and operate select parking facilities that meet or exceed the City's development and greening standards for surface parking lots to an even greater extent than the TPA's standard GreenP facilities. These spaces are complimentary to their surrounding communities and include elements that support and enhance the vibrancy and livability of the communities in which the facilities are located:

- Enhanced pedestrian safety and comfort
- Higher quality landscaping and increased shade
- On-site stormwater management
- Sustainable materials usage
- Reduction of the urban heat island effect



“The TPA is committed to retrofitting all existing surface parking lots by 2033” as referenced in the TPA’s Multi-Year Plan for Greening Surface Carparks.

Mural Program & Community Building Initiatives

The Mural Program is a partnership of the Toronto Parking Authority and the City of Toronto Transportation Services Division StreetARToronto (StART) initiative to design and install murals at select GreenP facilities. In addition to providing attractive community focal points, street art also provides social and economic benefits, engages local artists and community partners, and addresses issues of graffiti vandalism that so often occur around carparks.



Working in cooperation with the City's defined interest in the Community Benefit policy through new public art initiatives is another way that GreenP plans to grow its community connections. The carparks and lot walls offer ideal canvases on which to invest in community building "ParkArt".

Incorporating Community Benefits & Bike Share

After 65 years of operations, today's Toronto Parking Authority has evolved into more than just a parking provider. Since 2014, the TPA has owned and managed Bike Share Toronto, expanding its business beyond parking. The TPA aspires to be a model corporate citizen in the neighbourhoods in which it operates, as well as a global leader in municipal parking provision. The adoption of the TPA's policy "Incorporation of Community Benefits in TPA Facilities",



references community benefits as any non-parking based services offered to the community in a TPA facility, such as, but not limited to, bicycle facilities (parking, storage, repair or sharing), community gathering places, community announcement boards, day-care facilities, affordable or other non-market based housing alternatives.

The TPA's core purpose is to support the vibrancy of businesses and the livability of the communities we serve, and in doing so serve our customers with excellence.



The Toronto Parking Authority continues to provide innovation and customer service in support of an exceptional Toronto experience for residents and visitors.

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Carpark 110 – 1612 Danforth Avenue

Coxwell Laneway Mosaic Mural

Positioned along the northern property boundary of the carpark, this mosaic informed by neighbourhood consultations and designed by East End Arts and artist Cristina Delago, was created with the assistance of youth emerging artist trainees and volunteers.

The concept for the mural is renewal, potential, change and heritage. The mosaic mural makes up many distinct components and represents the values of the community as it rediscovers itself and moves into the future.

This project was an approved City of Toronto StreetARToronto project with co-operation and support from the Toronto Parking Authority.

ARTIST
CRISTINA DELAGO
EAST END ARTS





Carpark 17 – 716 Pape Avenue

Greening with GreenP+

The Toronto Parking Authority's Municipal Carpark 17 located at 716 Pape Avenue was renovated in 2015 with "Greening" elements and incorporates various community enhancements. Permeable pavers were installed to facilitate improved stormwater management, while also reducing the urban heat island effect.

In consultation with the local City Councillor, features that were important to the community were incorporated into the project. The parking lot's unique features include:

- Repaving of the carpark with improved pedestrian connectivity, as the carpark now features a walkway through the lot
- Bench seating areas
- Bike parking rings
- Lighting upgrade to LED fixtures
- Permeable pavers to facilitate a sustainable storm water management system
- The installation of greening elements such as landscaping, trees and planter boxes





Bike Share Station – 1014 Queen Street East

Leslieville Guidant Mural

Toronto's StreetARToronto program partnered with the Toronto Parking Authority to support a new mural entitled "Guidant". Unveiled in November of 2017, the new mural is located at the corner of Queen Street East and Boston Avenue.

The Toronto Parking Authority is pleased to support projects such as this, which make an important contribution to the community. This beautiful, bike-themed artwork is located next to a Bike Share Toronto bike station.

Evond Blake is a multidisciplinary visual artist who has worked under the pseudonym 'Mediah'. Mediah is an internationally renowned visual artist who has painted other murals across the City. His work is inspired by avionics, mechanical engineering and schematics. The artist hopes that this colourful and vibrant mural will inspire community members to look at art and life differently and explore new life pathways. The dynamic line work and energetic components are reminiscent of gears, spokes, bike paths and the energy used in pursuit of reaching our destination.

ARTIST
MEDIAH





Carpark 179 – 653 Gerrard Street East

Around the World in East Chinatown Mural

This facility exhibits two murals depicting Machu Picchu and the Taj Mahal featured on the walls of the carpark. The murals are part of a neighbourhood mural initiative, “Around the World in East Chinatown” consisting of seven large-scale murals of the “New 7 Wonders of the World” on the sides of buildings in the City’s East Chinatown.

This project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of StreetARToronto, a City of Toronto initiative, in partnership with Toronto Police Services, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (East Toronto), the Toronto Parking Authority and over 22 of Toronto’s outstanding artists, and property owners in East Chinatown area. This project was, in part, developed as a result of the ongoing Toronto Parking Authority – City of Toronto partnership.





Carpark 146 – 573 Gerrard Street East

Zhong Hua Men Archway

The Toronto Parking Authority's 573 Gerrard Street East carpark was recognized as the International Parking Institute's Awards of Excellence winner at its 2012 Conference & Expo, held in Phoenix, Arizona, as the parking industry's most outstanding parking facility and operations, winning in the Best Design/Implementation of a Surface Parking Lot category – the only recipient from Canada.

Toronto's first traditional Chinese Archway and the official gateway to East Toronto Chinatown, is engraved with messages of goodwill and wisdom and pays tribute to the Chinese Canadians who worked to build Canada's railways.

Through a partnership between the City of Toronto, Toronto Parking Authority and the Chinese community (Chinese Chamber of Commerce – East Toronto), this project was made possible.

International Parking Institute 2012 Award of Excellence Winner for Best Design/Implementation of a Surface Parking Lot





Carpark 219 – 87 Richmond Street East

Stand Together Mural

The Toronto Parking Authority, in collaboration with the property owner of the Fred Victor Centre, the City of Toronto's StreetARToronto program, and the artist Team SpudBomb, installed a mural on the southern edge of Carpark 219 located at 87 Richmond Street East in 2014. The art depicts a diverse collection of hands supporting the City of Toronto.

The center part of the mural is a miniature 3D version of Toronto under a rainbow and also includes a painting of the mural in it!

Municipal Carpark 219 was also the first mural location from TPA and StART partnership, first location where the TPA implemented both mobile payment, and pay-by-plate parking technology.

ARTIST

SPUD1

(SPUDBOMB)





Carpark 414 – 3885 Yonge Street

Green P+ Carpark 414 (Jolly Miller Park) won the IPI 2015 Awards of Excellence Competition.

Originally opened in 1997 as a 262-space surface carpark, the TPA's publically acclaimed new Carpark 414, or Jolly Miller Park, combines 129 spaces with an environmentally rehabilitated public park.

Named after an iconic tavern, it features a miller's cottage to commemorate the grist-mill heritage along the West Don River. In keeping with the look of a ruin, the cottage is built with locally sourced stone and reclaimed lumber, and parking lot surfaces employ local natural flagstone and high-albedo pavers. Modern features of the facility include online credit card and cash payment systems, high-efficiency safety lighting, and electrical panels for future electrical vehicle (EV charging). The visually striking green space incorporates many other sustainable features, including a bioswale to manage stormwater runoff and tree planting to reduce the urban heat-island effect.

International Parking Institute 2015 Award of Excellence Winner for Best Design/Implementation of a Surface Parking Lot



Mural Program & Community Enhancement Elements

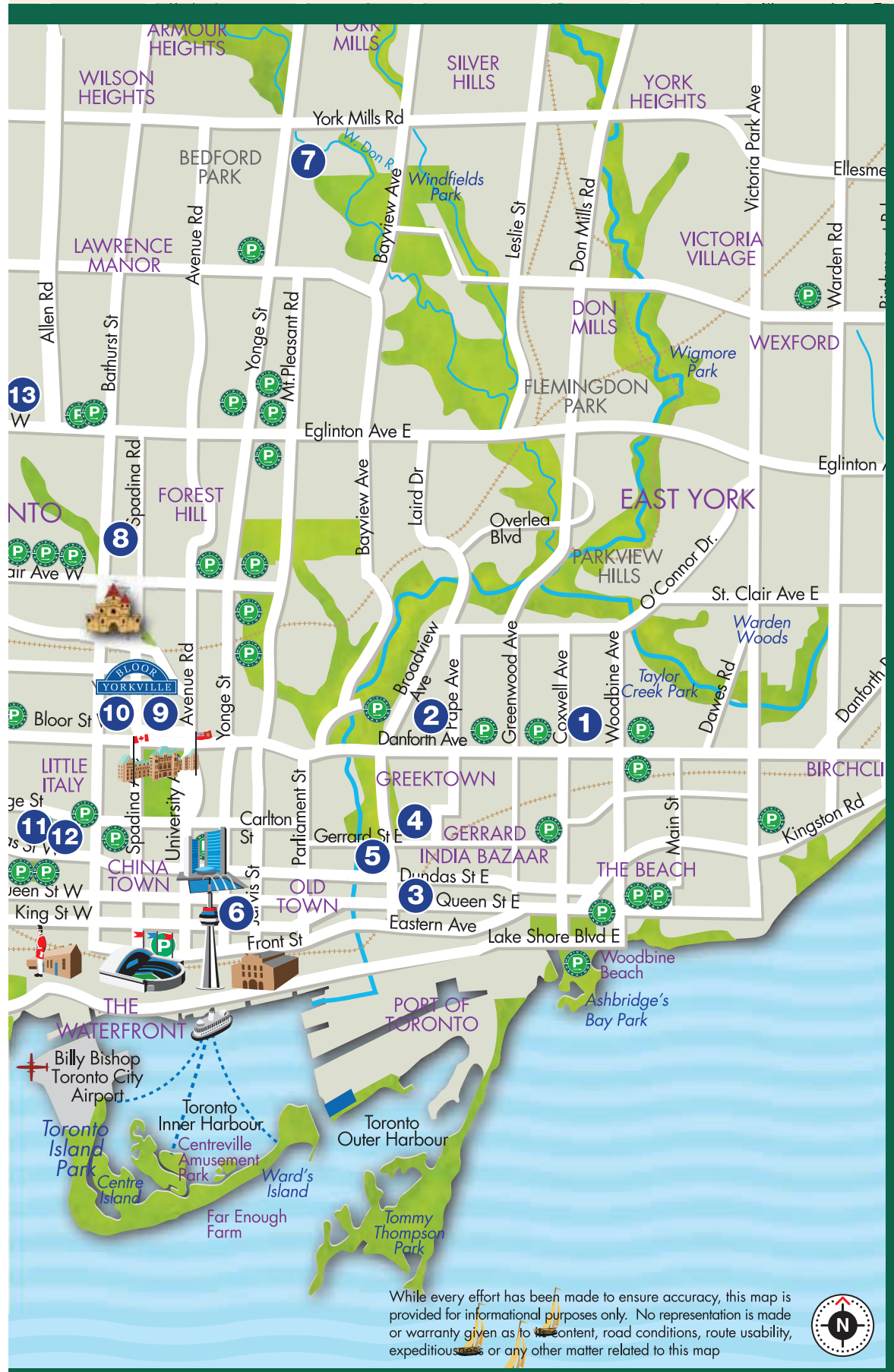
Legend

- 1** **Carpark #110**
1612 Danforth Ave.
- 2** **Carpark #17**
716 Pape Ave.
- 3** **Bike Share Location**
1014 Queen St. E. 
- 4** **Carpark #179**
653 Gerrard St. E
- 5** **Carpark #146**
573 Gerrard St. E
- 6** **Carpark #219**
87 Richmond St. E
- 7** **Carpark #414**
3885 Yonge St.
- 8** **Carpark #164**
453 Spadina Rd.
- 9** **Carpark #58**
9 Bedford Rd.
- 10** **Carpark #288**
292 Brunswick Ave.
- 11** **Carpark #188**
157 Beatrice St.
- 12** **Carpark #251**
201 Claremont St.
- 13** **Carpark #667**
1531 Eglinton Ave. W.
- 14** **Carpark #133**
20 Prescott Ave.
- 15** **Carpark #256**
1624 Queen St. W
-  **Municipal Parking Lots**



Map not to scale.

Enhancement Elements – Locations





International Parking Institute 2016 Award of Excellence Winner for Best Design/Implementation of a Surface Parking Lot



Carpark 164 – 453 Spadina Road

Originally opened in 1987 as a 43-space surface lot, Municipal Carpark 164 was redeveloped, in consultation with the Forest Hill Village BIA who contributed to this project, into a 58-space parking facility with a new public seating area. The redevelopment helped alleviate parking demand from nearby businesses and incorporate some area master plan elements. This project has been met with very high community approval.

The renovation includes a revenue-collection system that allows for online credit card/cash payment and mobile app that allows users to pay, track, and extend parking from their smartphones.

Consideration was given to parking layout, gradient levels, lighting, pedestrian connections, and landscaping to ensure maximum efficiency, sustainability, and aesthetic appeal. A bioswale and permeable pavers facilitate a sustainable storm water management system, and a tree planting layout reduces urban heat-island effect while being drought tolerant.

Low-maintenance plant and construction materials reduce the need for constant upkeep, and tamper-resistant security measures and regular patrols help keep things safe. The community has also embraced the lot's seating area, which has become a natural gathering space.

Parking spaces are marked with alternate-color inset pavers rather than painting and eliminating a curb between the pedestrian right-of-way, and the lot promotes openness and multi-functionality for events and a new seating areas that ties into the nearby park. Canopy trees shade parking and the pedestrian areas are part of the redesign.





Carpark 58 – 9 Bedford Road

Rob Stewart Tribute Mural

Rob Stewart was renowned for his filmmaking and marine conservation work. The Dakuwaqa Project creates murals to honour Rob and his conservation efforts, in partnership with PangeaSeed Foundations' Sea Walls: Artists for Oceans program. Continuing Stewart's life's mission to show the human race that our existence on Earth relies on the health of the ocean, his third movie, *Sharkwater: Extinction*, which premiered at the 2018 Toronto International Film Festival.

Situated on the northern portion of the surface parking facility, this tribute mural honours the memory of Rob Stewart, the late award-winning filmmaker and conservationist. Stewart was well known for his documentary films *Sharkwater* and *Revolution* which aimed to expose unacceptable practices of the sharkhunting industry. This mural is the coordinated effort by the StreetARToronto program and the Toronto Parking Authority with the artwork completed by the Toronto-based artist Birdo and GETSO.

ARTISTS

BIRDO & GETSO





Carpark 288 – 292 Brunswick Avenue

Space in the Community Mural

Carpark 288 at 292 Brunswick Avenue was a portion of the larger neighbourhood improvement project that included the transformation of the David French and Barbara Barrett Laneways as part of a graffiti transformation project coordinated by Team Spudbomb in partnership with StreetARToronto and features 47 original pieces of art.

The mural was created by Toronto Australia New Zealand Club (TRANZAC), in partnership with StreetARToronto and the Toronto Parking Authority in support of TRANZAC'S neighbourhood improvement project. The project was coordinated by artist Jabari "Elicser" Elliott, who worked closely with TRANZAC and the community to create a mural concept relevant to the neighbourhood.

ARTIST

JABARI "ELICSER" ELLIOTT





Carpark 188 – 157 Beatrice Street

A Stroll by Garrison Creek Mural

Completed in September of 2016, this project captures the history of the neighbourhood, specifically the two streets named Grace and Beatrice that run parallel to College Street. The walls of the buildings on the north and east sides were painted with a large mural named 'A Stroll by Garrison Creek'. The Bickford sisters, Grace and Beatrice, namesakes of these streets, are featured in the mural as young children with their mother, Emily Bickford, amidst Garrison Creek's indigenous flora and fauna. Emily Bickford donated some of her family-owned land over to the City of Toronto to be used as parkland.

Designed and painted by Pascal Paquette and Spud1 of Spudbomb, with assistance from Moises Frank (Luvsumone) and Jasmine Wemigwans and youth from the Native Youth Resource Centre.

This mural was developed as a result of a partnership with Toronto Parking Authority, City of Toronto's StreetARToronto, and VIBE Arts.

ARTISTS

**PASCAL PAQUETTE, SPUD1
and ARTCHILD**





International Parking Institute 2014 Award of Excellence Winner for Best Design/Implementation of a Surface Parking Lot

Carpark 251 – 201 Claremont Street

Praised by neighbouring communities for meeting and exceeding the city's development and greening standards for surface parking facilities, this 43-space carpark has created a new green standard for TPA and has inspired other development projects. Designed in consultation with the local community, the lot accommodates existing and future short-term public parking needs while aesthetically improving its neighbourhood.

The parking lot's unique features include:

- A paved area that provides pedestrian connections and seating areas.
- Permeable pavers in drive aisles to facilitate a sustainable storm water management system.
- Lighter colour materials and tree plantings that reduce the urban heat island effect.
- A unique living wall of live willows and raised concrete planting beds to screen the parking area, reduce salt damage, and protect neighbours from pedestrian traffic.
- Native plantings, specifically chosen for seasonal interest and year-round screening.



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Carpark 667 – 1531 Eglinton Avenue West

Reggae Lane Mural

Located in the heart of Toronto’s Little Jamaica neighbourhood and within municipal Carpark 667, the local businesses, residents and BIA worked together with local artist Adrian Hayles to create the Reggae Lane Mural. The design was inspired by the musicians that paved the way for Reggae music in Toronto and abroad. The project includes the mural, a heritage plaque and new street sign, which came about with the help of the Laneway Project and the STEPS initiative.

The project was funded by the City of Toronto’s StreetARToronto program, with support from Metrolinx, TD Canada Trust, the local Councillor’s office, the Macaulay Centre for Child and Youth Development, the York-Eglinton BIA and the Toronto Parking Authority.

ARTIST
ADRIAN HAYLES





Carpark 133 – 20 Prescott Avenue

The Gardens at St. Clair Mural

The Toronto Parking Authority partnered with the City of Toronto's StreetARToronto program to support a new mural entitled the Gardens of St. Clair.

The official unveiling took place on November 17, 2017.

Mike Kennedy provided the concept for the mural and features work by 17 different artists which include Bacon, Kane, Wales, Kwest, Rony, Baker, Tensoe2, Flown, Vinse, Whysper, Smug, Adore, Miles, Ekwil, Braes, Sight and Nick Sweetman. The mural is comprised of graffiti art surrounded by a garden scene created by Mike "Wunder" Kennedy on 10 adjacent properties.





International Parking Institute 2017 Award of Excellence Winner for Best Design/Implementation of a Surface Parking Lot



Carpark 256 – 1624 Queen Street West

Parkdale Solidarity Flag Mural

In 2015, the Toronto Parking Authority opened a new 33-space surface parking lot at 1624 Queen Street West, Carpark 256. This former vacant commercial property was redeveloped with the collaborative efforts of the Parkdale Village Business Improvement Area, the local community, Marton Smith Landscape Architects and the TPA. The redevelopment not only helped alleviate the parking demand generated by the nearby businesses, but tasteful landscaping and the recent addition of the Parkdale Solidarity Flag Mural (Mural) have contributed interest and beauty to the overall Queen Street streetscape.

With TPA’s support, and in partnership with a community based initiative led by the City of Toronto’s StreetArt program (a group that enables local artists to create murals that in turn decrease vandalism and illegal graffiti) the ‘three of the hands-touching-in-front-of-the-sun’ flag Mural located on the Carpark’s western boundary was created. This design is a symbol to help galvanize the community, which proposes proactive strategies and actions, development without displacement, participatory democracy, decent work, food security and shared wealth. The Mural was designed by visual artists Sean Martindale, Alexa Hatanaka, and Patrick Thompson.

The Carpark and all its features has been met with praise by the local community particularly its creative and innovative aspects and has provided inspiration for various other TPA projects in the design phase.





The Toronto Parking Authority exists to provide safe, attractive, self-sustaining, conveniently located and competitively priced off-street and on-street public parking and Bike Share services as integral components of Toronto's transportation and mobility systems.

Environmental Printing Summary

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Sustainable and responsible business is good for the environment and a green economy.

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