



## **ACTION REQUIRED**

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Date: July 11, 2016

Subject: King Street Visioning Study

At the TTC Board meeting on July 11, 2016, Jennifer Keesmaat, Chief Planner and Executive Director of City Planning, City of Toronto will deliver a presentation on King Street Visioning Study.

*Original signed by V. Rodo*

Vincent Rodo  
Chief Financial &  
Administration Officer



## King Street Visioning Study

Jennifer Keesmaat

Chief Planner & Executive Director, City Planning Division

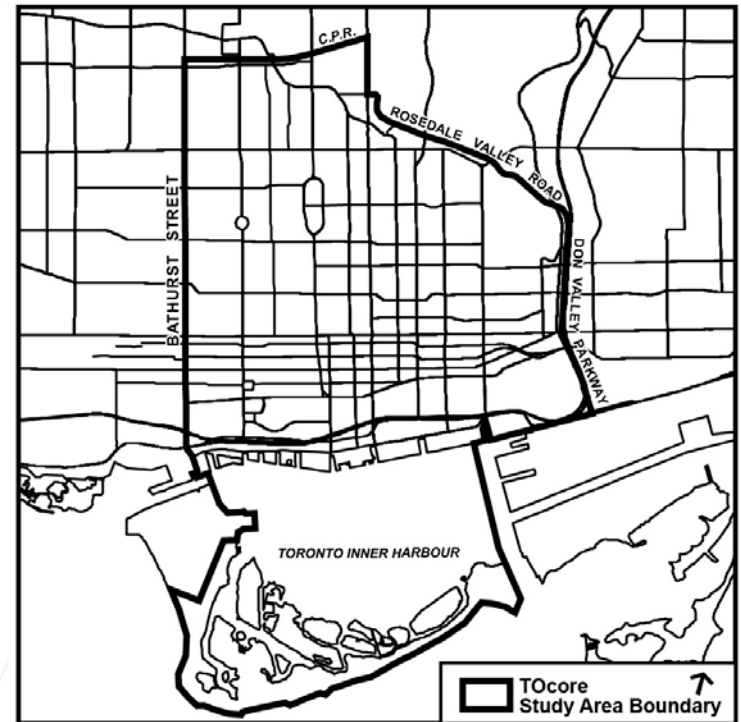
TTC Board Meeting - July 11, 2016

# What is TOcore?

A **comprehensive planning study** to ensure growth contributes positively to Toronto's Downtown as a great place to live, work, learn, play and invest.

## Key Deliverables

- Downtown Secondary Plan
- Supporting Strategies:
  - Economy
  - Parks & Public Spaces
  - Transportation
  - Community Facilities
  - Energy
  - Water



# What is the King Street Visioning Study?

The King Street Visioning Study is about reimagining **bold, transformative ideas** for how to re-allocate space in the right-of-way to create a **iconic street** in the heart of Downtown Toronto in order to:



**MOVE PEOPLE  
MORE EFFICIENTLY**



**IMPROVE THE  
PUBLIC REALM**

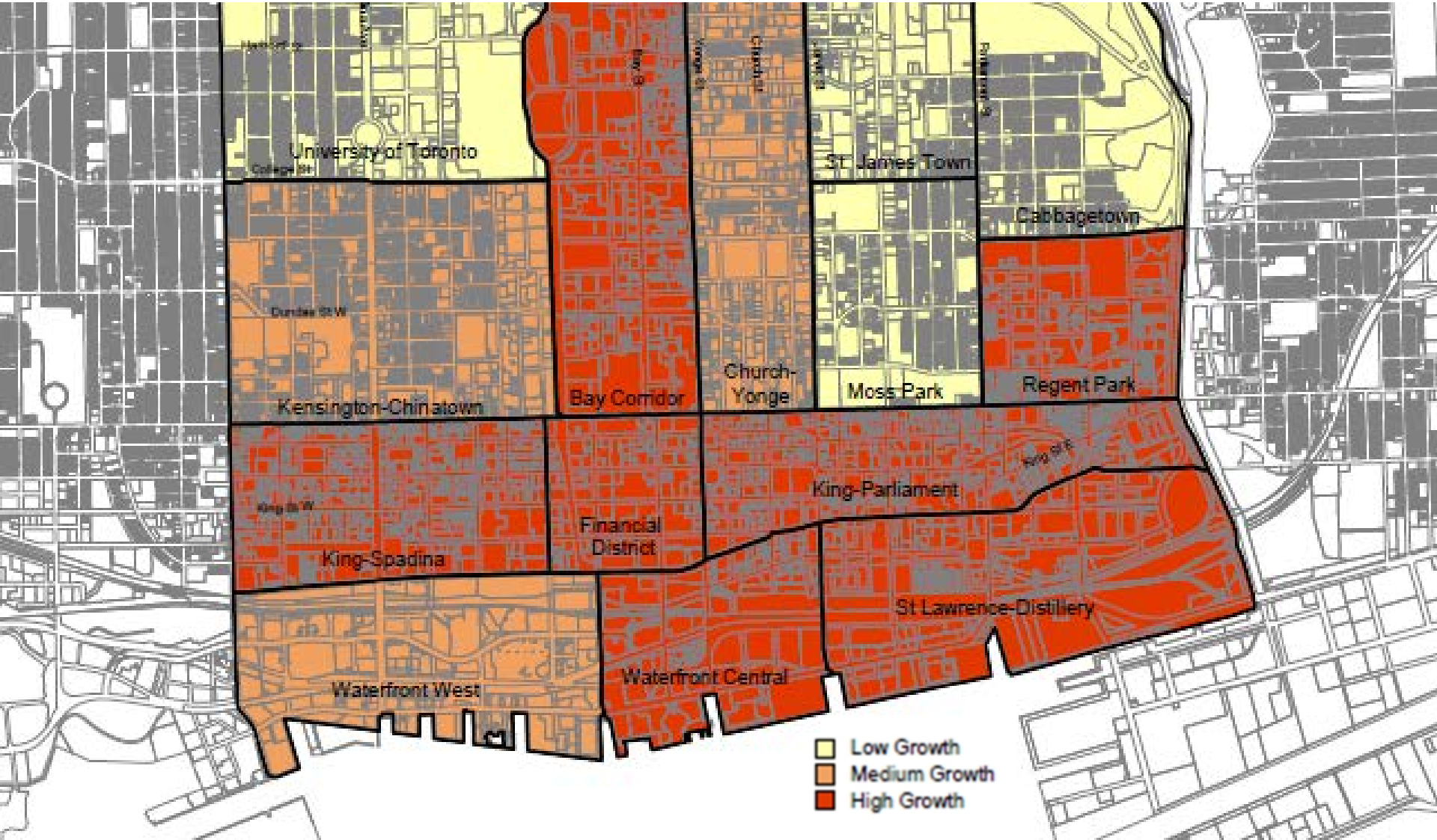


**SUPPORT ECONOMIC  
PROSPERITY**

# Busiest Surface Transit Route in the City



# Growth along Downtown E/W Spine



# BIAs See Value of Better Public Realm



# Operational Improvements Have Limits

- We've been making improvements:
  - Extended turning and parking restrictions
  - Increased fines for "No Stopping"
  - LED 'no left-turn' signs at key locations
  - All-door loading (POP)
  - Consolidated transit stops
  - Adjusted streetcar route running times
  - Added supplemental buses
  - 514 Cherry route with new streetcars
- But there are limits to what can be achieved with operational changes.
- Something bigger is needed to truly unlock the potential of the corridor.





# King Street: 100 Years Ago



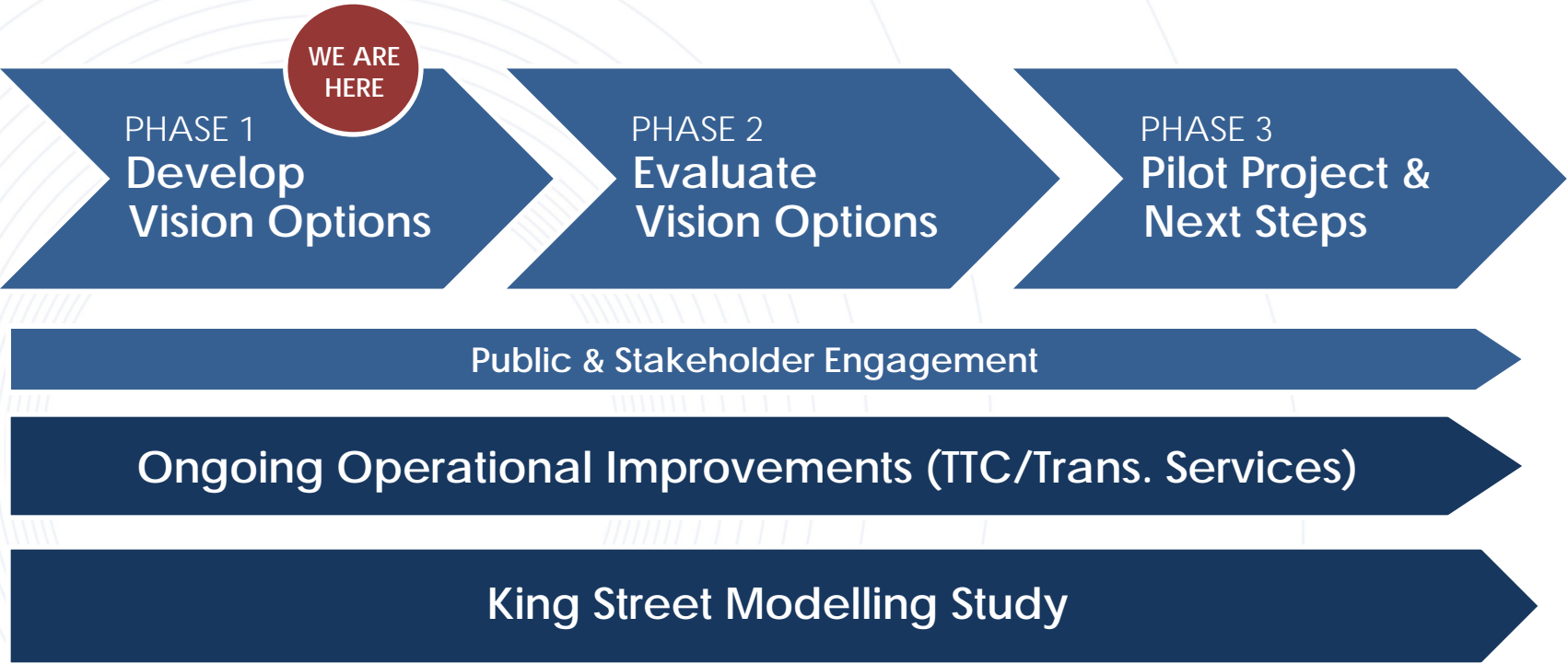
# King Street: Today...Mostly Unchanged



# Study Area



# Co-ordinated Study Approach



# Study Governance

## STEERING COMMITTEE

- Jennifer Keesmaat - City Planning
- Andy Byford - TTC
- Stephen Buckley - Transportation Services
- Janie Romoff - Parks & Forestry
- Lorne Persiko - TPA

## STAFF WORKING GROUP

- ### PARKS & PUBLIC SPACE
- City Planning (Chair)
  - Parks & Forestry
  - Transportation Services

## STAFF WORKING GROUP

- ### TRANSPORTATION
- City Planning (Chair)
  - Transportation Services
  - Toronto Transit Commission
  - Toronto Parking Authority

# Community & Stakeholder Engagement

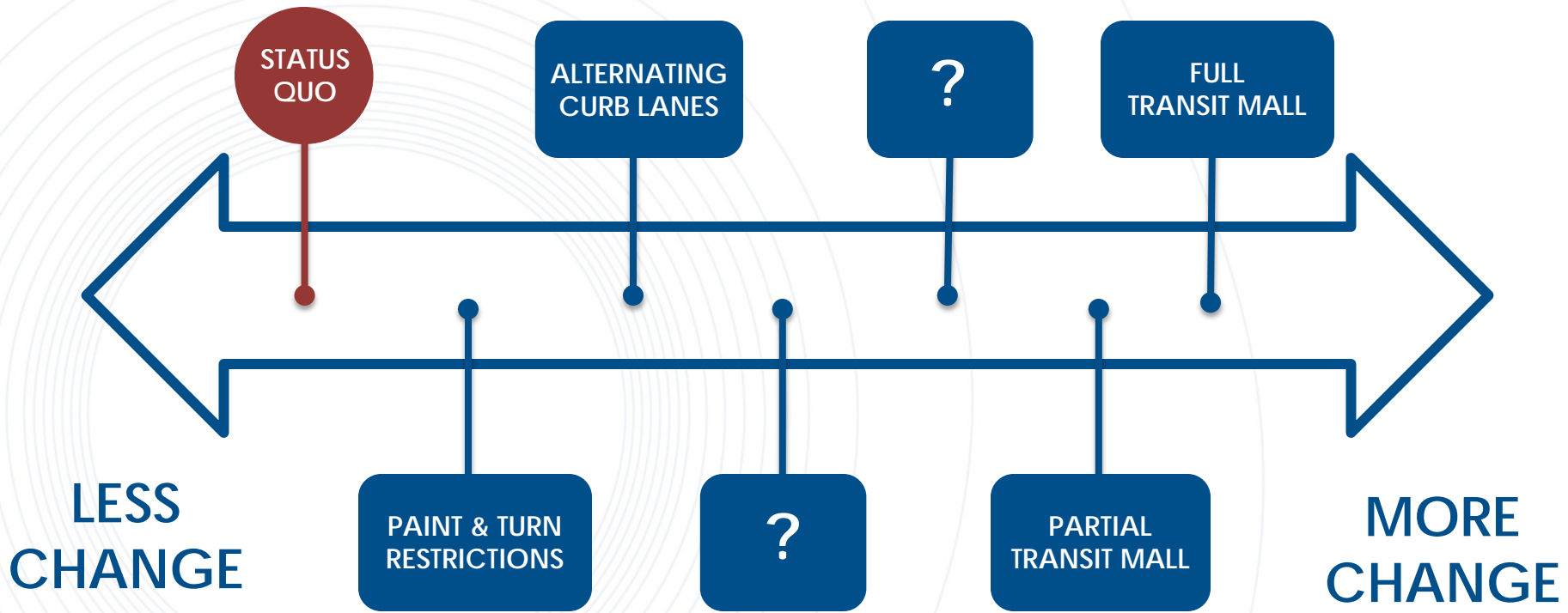
## Who?

- General public
- Neighbourhood resident groups
- Businesses, workers, & BIAs
- Advocacy groups
- Transit riders
- Cyclists
- Pedestrians
- Motorists
- Taxis, couriers & deliveries

## How?

- Online/social media
- Public meetings
- Stakeholder advisory groups
- Interactive 'walkshops'
- Design charrettes
- 'Public Space Public Life' intercept surveys

# Developing a Range of 'Visions'



# Making Evidence-Based Decisions

- Use a more holistic **complete streets approach** to street design, developing metrics, and making evidence-based decisions.
- Need to understand **movement and usage patterns** before, during, and after a **pilot demonstration project**.
- **Build on existing metrics** used by TTC and Transportation Services and **incorporate new metrics used in other cities (ie, public life)**.
- Undertake a **microsimulation modelling study** to better understand **impacts on traffic and transit operations**.



# Learning Lessons from Past Initiatives

## Early 1990s

- Peak period 'streetcar-only' lanes with overhead signs.
- Sections were then removed...resulted in limited success.

## 2001

- TTC recommended dedicated streetcar lanes with no through auto traffic, no left turns on King Street, but allow delivery trucks and widen sidewalks. Project did not proceed.
- 10-week traffic enforcement campaign □not an effective deterrent to motorists making left turns and blocking intersections.

## 2007

- TTC staff recommended a temporary, reserved right-of-way as a demonstration project for 2008. Demonstration project did not proceed.

# Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto (before: 2007)



# Roncesvalles Ave, Toronto (after: 2015)



# Swanston Street, Melbourne (before: 2010)



# Swanston Street, Melbourne (after: 2014)



# Getting to a Pilot Project



# Next Steps

- Study kicked-off on June 16, 2016 with the “Our Future King” public panel discussion event at the University of Toronto.
- Advancing partnerships with various City divisions, TTC and BIA’s
- Public and stakeholder consultation starting Summer 2016
- Begin developing range of vision designs and a decision-making framework.
- Pilot Project targeted for Spring 2017...need to determine scope of capital funding required.
- Reporting to TTC Board and City Council in Q4 2017