

# RAILSIDE PROMENADE

## Ideas Competition

To transform Israel Asper Way into a beautifully landscaped, pedestrian-oriented promenade



**RAILSIDE**  
AT THE FORKS



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# 1.0 INVITATION FOR IDEAS

The Forks North Portage Partnership (FNPP) invites designers to submit visionary proposals to transform Israel Asper Way from a four-lane roadway into a unique public space, commensurate with the new Railside development plan. Railside is planned to become a vibrant mixed-use residential development located at The Forks in Winnipeg, Manitoba. This new public space will be known as the Railside Promenade. The goal of this competition is to incite innovative ideas and practical solutions for the urban design of the pedestrian promenade to be showcased to the public to generate support and enthusiasm for what is possible along Israel Asper Way.

## 1.1 Deadline for Submission

The deadline for submission to the Railside Promenade Ideas Competition:

**Tuesday, September 12, 2017**

For submission details, see **Competition Details**.

Further Information:

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## 2.0 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 The Forks

Located on Treaty 1 Lands, at the junction of the Assiniboine and Red rivers, The Forks has been a meeting place for over 6,000 years. Beginning as a trading location and campsite for early Indigenous peoples, The Forks has remained a locus of activity for European fur traders, Métis buffalo hunters, Scottish settlers, riverboat workers, railway pioneers and tens of thousands of immigrants, over the centuries. Today, The Forks is a vibrant public destination where people gather for celebrations, recreation and to meet one another. The site encompasses some of the City's and Nation's best public open spaces, world-class programming and site management, and a number of major recreational and cultural amenities.

*"...The Forks shall be developed as a 'Meeting Place,' a special and distinct, all-season gathering and recreational place at the junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, through a mixed-use approach including recreation, historical and cultural, residential and institutional and supportive commercial uses."*

— Excerpt from The Forks Renewal Corporation's Mission Statement (1987)







## 2.2 Railside at The Forks

Railside at The Forks will be a new kind of development and a major step in the evolution of The Forks. Railside represents the first ever opportunity for residential development at the site, including a 20-year strategy to turn three bleak surface parking lots into a dynamic mixed-use neighbourhood and to transform Israel Asper Way into an engaging pedestrian promenade. Remaining true to The Forks' founding vision, this significant mixed-use residential project will build on the site's abundant cultural and recreational assets, elevating this historic "meeting place" into Winnipeg's most iconic neighbourhood. Further to this, the pedestrian promenade at Israel Asper Way will become a welcoming place and gateway into a diverse and resilient neighbourhood, Railside at The Forks. It will become known as 'Railside Promenade'.

Learn more about Railside by referring to the Railside Development Framework attached to the additional resources package. This ideas competition for Railside Promenade is about 'Idea 6' in the Ten Big Ideas of the development plan.



## 3.0 DESIGN VISION

The vision of Railside Promenade is to transform Israel Asper Way into a beautifully landscaped, pedestrian-oriented promenade. Public engagement carried out by The Forks over many years clearly emphasizes the value placed on quality public spaces at The Forks. The ideas competition will focus largely on bold ideas for public space urban design for Railside Promenade, to become a destination in itself, as well as the front door to the emerging Railside village.



### 3.1 Design Goals

- Inspirational and innovative urban design
- Designed for Winnipeg's varied climatic conditions and all-season use
- Creation of a people-oriented place
- Artistic approach
- Promotes active living
- Livable and executable idea
- Aligns with the Railside Development Framework
  - See Additional Resources on page 9
- Practical and budget-aware

## 3.2 Functional Requirements

- Reduce Israel Asper Way from four lanes to two lanes, one lane in each direction, between York Avenue to Forks Market Road.
- Provide bus access and drop-off to the Canadian Museum for Human Rights (to be included in site plan as a third lane bump out or another design approach).

## 4.0 SITE

Located in the heart of Winnipeg, Manitoba, Israel Asper Way is the main vehicular access to The Forks and will become the gateway to Railside at The Forks. The roadway will be reduced from four lanes to two lanes of traffic to make way for a wide pedestrian promenade, approximately 300 metres long between York Avenue and Forks Market Road.

Refer to the CAD file attached to the additional resources package for further site information.

To learn more about The Forks site, refer to The Forks Welcome Map in 6.0 Additional Resources.





# 5.0 COMPETITION DETAILS

## 5.1 Prize

**Up to 3 winners will be awarded \$10,000 each to further develop their idea.**

Following the selection of up to 3 top submissions, each will develop their idea in collaboration with the FNPP and Railside team. These designs will be illustrated with a plan graphic to be accompanied with appropriate cross sections, elevations, and perspectives to clearly communicate the design intent.

**In addition, select illustrations from the top submissions will be:**

- Published online,
- Submitted to professional journals for publication, and
- Presented to local media in a press release.

**Note:** By taking part in this call for proposals, entrants authorize The FNPP to make public, exhibit and disseminate their proposals, while the designer(s) retain authorship of their proprietary designs. The FNPP is not committed to develop or implement any of the ideas submitted, however should future development move any of the ideas forward, the FNPP intends to include designers in the process.





## 5.2 Eligibility

This call for entries is open to individuals or teams of professional designers (or teams of designers) who have a proven portfolio of design work. Each entrant or design team must include a member of a recognized architectural, landscape architectural or planning association. Submissions by multi-disciplinary teams are encouraged.

## 5.3 Submission Requirements

Entrants are asked to login into the competition site at:

**<http://www.railsideattheforks.com/promenade>**

Entries must be sent electronically as two separate PDF files, not exceeding 5MB each. Entries must contain (in this order) the following documents, written in English:

### **Team Information Document:**

**Four (4) page maximum, (8.5"x11" or A4)**

- Name of the project followed by your unique registration number (this number must also appear on each Design Proposal Sheet),
- Design team member names with brief CV, including name of Professional Association to which the architect, landscape architect or planner is registered,
- Name of contact person, including contact coordinates,
- A 100-word (maximum) description of the team, highlighting the strength of this multidisciplinary association,

### **Design Proposal Document:**

**Four (4) page maximum, (11"x17")**

- 150-word (maximum) narrative describing the proposed concept design
- Site Plan of the proposed design for the complete promenade
- Sections, elevations, sketches, 3D renderings and/or photographs to illustrate the proposal



## 5.4 Selection Process

The jury will review each submission and through a process of elimination, will select the top ideas and winners. Team information is not provided to the jury until after the projects are ranked; this is referred to as a “blind” jury.

Idea submissions will be reviewed based on the following criteria:

- Meets functional requirements
- Demonstrates understanding of design goals

## 5.5 Schedule

**July 14, 2017: Competition Launch**

**September 12, 2017: Deadline for Submissions (5:00 p.m. CST)**

September 18, 2017: Jury of Competition

October 4, 2017: Winner Announcement





## 6.0 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Links to helpful resources/files

- Railside at the Forks: [www.railsideattheforks.com](http://www.railsideattheforks.com)
- The Forks: [www.theforks.com](http://www.theforks.com)
- Target Zero: [www.theforks.com/target-zero](http://www.theforks.com/target-zero)
- Heritage Research: [www.theforks.com/about/history/heritage-research](http://www.theforks.com/about/history/heritage-research)
- Railside Development Framework: [www.railsideattheforks.com/uploads/ck/files/Railside\\_Planning/Railside\\_Big\\_Ideas.pdf](http://www.railsideattheforks.com/uploads/ck/files/Railside_Planning/Railside_Big_Ideas.pdf)
- City of Winnipeg: [www.winnipeg.ca](http://www.winnipeg.ca)
- Tourism Winnipeg: [www.tourismwinnipeg.com/plan/about-winnipeg](http://www.tourismwinnipeg.com/plan/about-winnipeg)
- The Forks Welcome Map: [www.theforks.com/uploads/ck/files/ForksFoldingMap\\_download.pdf](http://www.theforks.com/uploads/ck/files/ForksFoldingMap_download.pdf)