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Underpass Park

Posted on March 11, 2010 by [Nina Boccia](#) | 2 Comments

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WITH A \$5.3-MILLION TRANSFORMATION, A FORMERLY FORGOTTEN AREA BENEATH A SERIES OF TORONTO UNDERPASSES WILL BECOME WATER UNDER THE BRIDGE.

Landscape architects Phillips Farevaag Smallerberg (collaborating with [The Planning Partnership](#)) have signed on to transform a seemingly hopeless piece of land under Toronto's Eastern Avenue and the Richmond/Adelaide overpasses into an engaging one-hectare stretch of recreational space, which will be filled with play areas, community space and public art.

Part of a master plan by Waterfront Toronto – a committee involving three layers of Canadian government (municipal, provincial and federal) – to rejuvenate a lakefront bereft of greenspace and waterfront access, the new **Underpass Park** also belongs to the organization's massive redevelopment of West Don Lands, which will include the Athletes' Village for the [2015 Pan American Games](#).



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Underpass Park will boast a slew of sustainable features, including community garden structures made from repurposed granite cobblestone (excavated from Eastern Avenue); basketball court surfaces with recycled rubber; energy-efficient LED lighting; and, for minimal maintenance and irrigation, salt- and shade-tolerant plantings. Toronto architect [Paul Raff](#) will create the art for the park.

Vancouver-based [PFS](#) is also the firm behind Toronto's [Sherbourne Park](#), just west of this project.

Construction on [Underpass Park](#) is expected to begin in May.

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