

CASE STUDY: BAYVIEW GLEN SUSTAINABLE NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION PLAN

Client: Toronto and Region Conservation Authority and City of Markham, Markham, ON

OVERVIEW

The Bayview Glen Sustainable Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) was initiated as one of five pilot projects in the GTA to guide the transformation of a mature, suburban neighbourhood through sustainable retrofits. It is being implemented by the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (TRCA), in collaboration with the City of Markham with support from other partners.

SERVICES

In collaboration with a multi-disciplinary team of consultants, Lura led the development of the integrated sustainability action plan, or SNAP for the Bayview Glen neighbourhood. The SNAP identifies priority actions to improve local sustainability in both the public and private lands of the neighbourhood.

Retrofit concept plans were developed for two parks, one parkette and walkways and streets in the public realm, while a residential retrofit program and new home construction program were created to improve the neighbourhood's privately-owned assets to create a greener and more liveable community. A marketing strategy, featuring community-based social marketing principles, was also prepared to support the launch and delivery of the SNAP.

Characteristic of Lura's projects, the SNAP was prepared using a participatory, community-based approach to promote community awareness and support for the project and ensure the recommended retrofits are in line with residents' needs. The community engagement program included several meaningful opportunities for stakeholders and residents to contribute to the plan's development, including: a homeowner survey, feedback opportunities at local community events, key informant interviews, community meetings and a focus group session. Fun Fairs held at Bayview Glen Public School were a unique feature of the engagement program and were used to increase awareness and obtain input from residents through existing community building efforts.

RESULTS

The Bayview Glen SNAP public realm retrofit concepts received the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects 2016 National Award (New Directions, Conceptual Work). Implementation of the Bayview Glen SNAP will proceed in phases led by the TRCA and City of Markham, as funding becomes available.

