



JOURNEY *to* *the* **DISTRICT**

EVENT CENTRE/ARENA • CONVENTION CENTRE • BRT

As we work together on this city-building project, we acknowledge our ancestors and future generations. We honour Treaty 6 Territory and the Homeland of the Métis, by sharing this land under Treaty with the Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Métis, Dene and Non-Indigenous peoples. We commit to Truth and Reconciliation and the Calls to Action.

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Presentation about the Downtown Event and Entertainment District
3. Current conditions of Downtown
4. Challenges & Opportunities Discussion
5. Summary and Next Steps

Downtown Event & Entertainment District

An event and entertainment district is a welcoming shared public space where everyone has a sense of belonging. The vision for Saskatoon's Downtown Event & Entertainment District (District) is anchored around a new event centre/arena and convention centre with an outdoor gathering space, and made more accessible to everyone through the future Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system. The District will be developed sustainably with a focus on Indigenous placemaking/placekeeping. By offering residents and visitors a gathering place for entertainment and events, with a variety of restaurants, venues, shopping, services, cultural spaces and nightlife, Saskatoon's Downtown will become an economic driver for the city and province.

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Decision Making & Engagement

Our Engagement Process

In November 2018, City Council directed the Administration to plan for a Downtown event centre/arena as part of a Downtown Event and Entertainment District (District).

In November 2022, City Council approved the purchase of the Midtown Shopping Centre North Parking Lot as the site for the future Downtown event centre/arena.

In April and May, 2023, engagement opportunities existed for input and feedback for initial ideas and considerations for the Downtown Event and Entertainment District.

Feedback from the community will be considered in the development of the District Plan.

Project Information

Vision and Guiding Principles

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VISION STATEMENT

A safe and vibrant Downtown is a welcoming and inclusive place for all people to come together in cooperative spirit. The District supports a strong economy, strengthens our diverse community, and attracts people to live, work, play and learn in the Downtown.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Reconciliation by honouring Indigenous Peoples, histories, languages and culture:

Establish inclusive, respectful and reciprocal processes throughout the District planning process that align with and support the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action and United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

A distinctive identity through placemaking/ placekeeping:

Recognize and enhance a District that celebrates the land's heritage, city's history, community's culture and embraces our winter city to foster a year-round hub for culture and entertainment.

Architectural and public realm design excellence:

Inspire a sense of place through high quality facility design, the use of environmental design principles in buildings and public spaces and embracing all-season design.

Reliable and efficient transportation options:

Enhance accessibility and connectivity of all modes of transportation to allow for enjoyable, safe and cost-effective movement of people in, to, and around the District and adjacent neighbourhoods.

Downtown density with a focus on housing:

Plan and encourage a mix of housing choices in the District to attract a diversity of community members.

Leadership in sustainability and resiliency:

Demonstrate and exemplify leadership in sustainability through urban infill choices, economic development, climate resiliency and green infrastructure.

A robust and diverse economy:

Preserve the Downtown as the cultural, social and employment centre of the community, while encouraging a thriving, diverse economy that attracts local, regional and global employers that generate quality jobs throughout the Downtown and city.






A healthy and safe community:

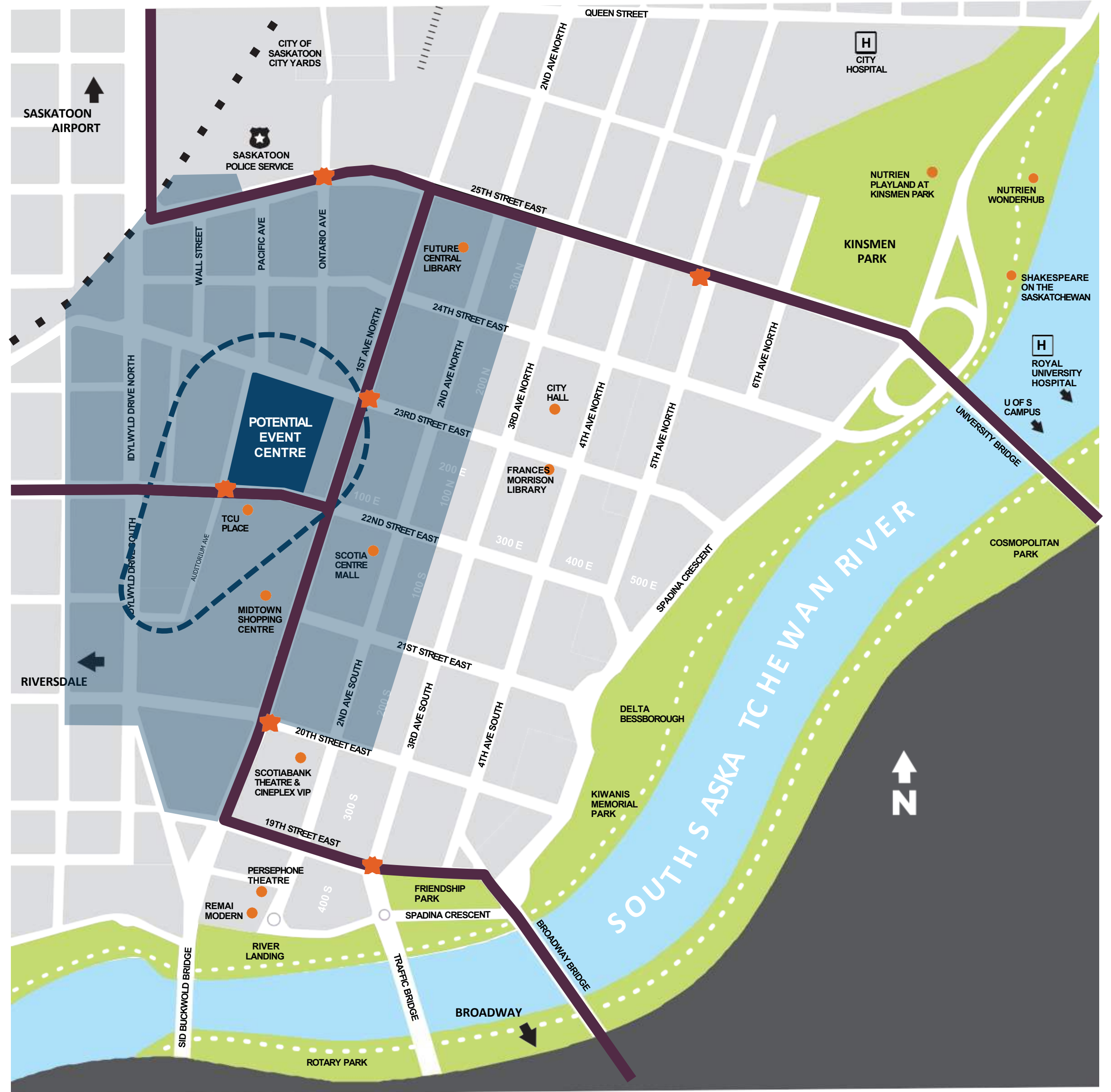
Support an authentic and welcoming community that promotes equitable opportunities for all to participate, fosters a safe and inclusive environment and cultivates a strong sense of belonging.

Project Information

District Plan Study Area Map

LEGEND

-  DISTRICT CORE AREA
-  DOWNTOWN EVENT & ENTERTAINMENT DISTRICT STUDY PLAN AREA
-  HIGH FREQUENCY TRANSIT CORRIDOR
-  FUTURE BRT TRANSIT STATIONS
-  PLACES OF INTEREST



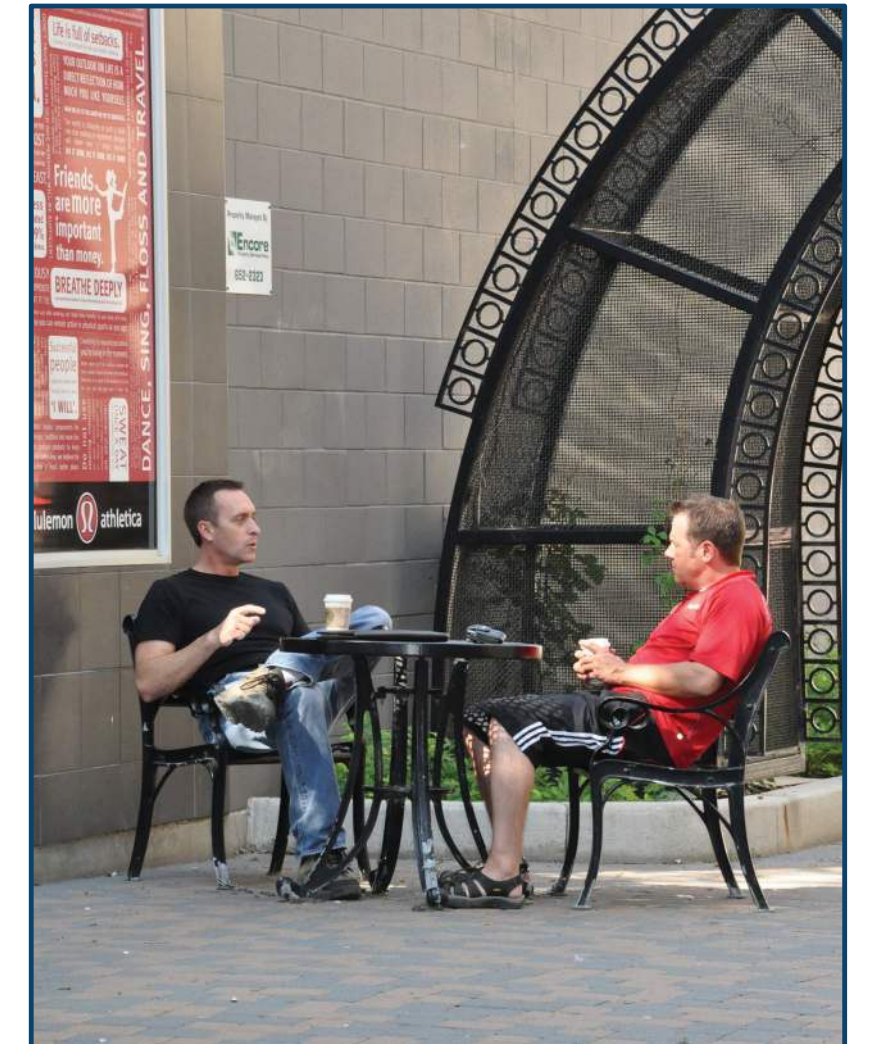
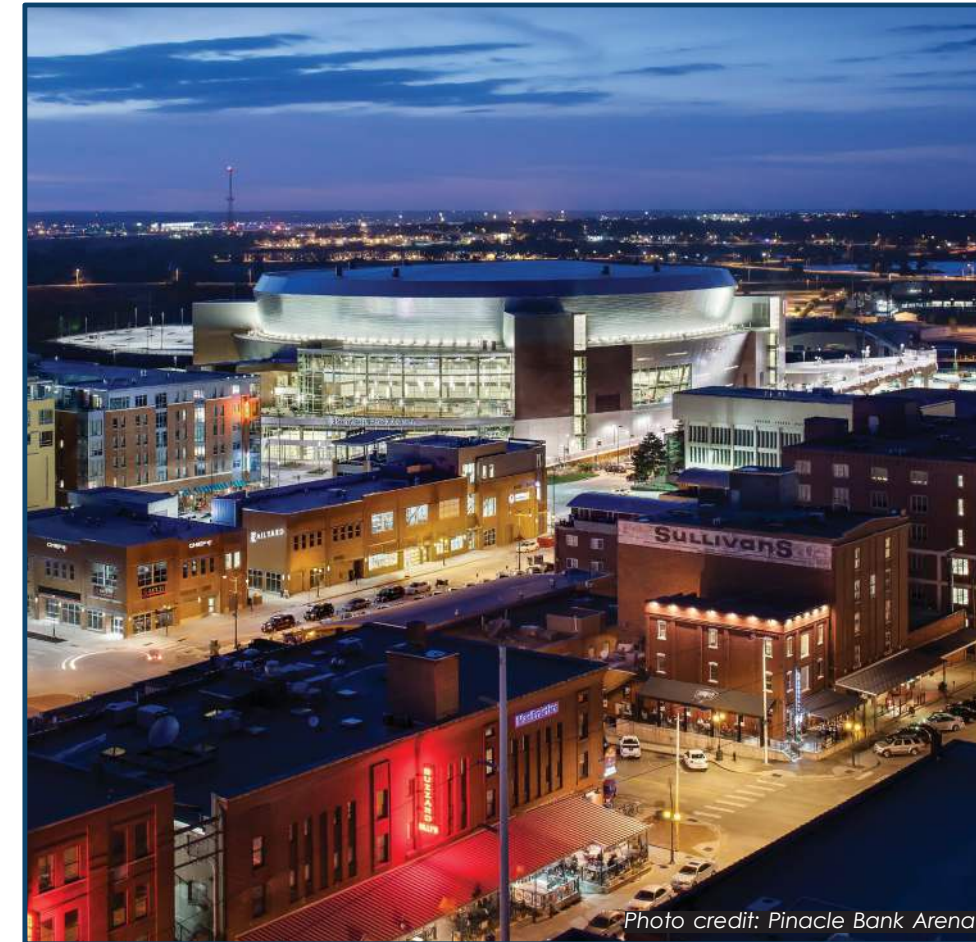
Project Information

What is the District Plan?

The District Plan aims to achieve future growth, investment, amenities, connectivity and livability in the Downtown. The Plan will provide a framework and outline the steps needed to make the vision of a Downtown Event and Entertainment District a reality.

By taking a holistic approach, the District Plan aims to create a vibrant and distinctive urban community that reflects Saskatoon's identity and strengthens its sense of community.

The District Plan will guide public realm design for streets, parks, and other public spaces. It will develop a complimentary land use plan for surrounding properties, a plan for transportation network components and facilities, and a plan for any required underground and surface utilities or upgrades.



Project Information

Key District Plan Components

Connections
and Mobility



Parks, Open Space,
Recreation



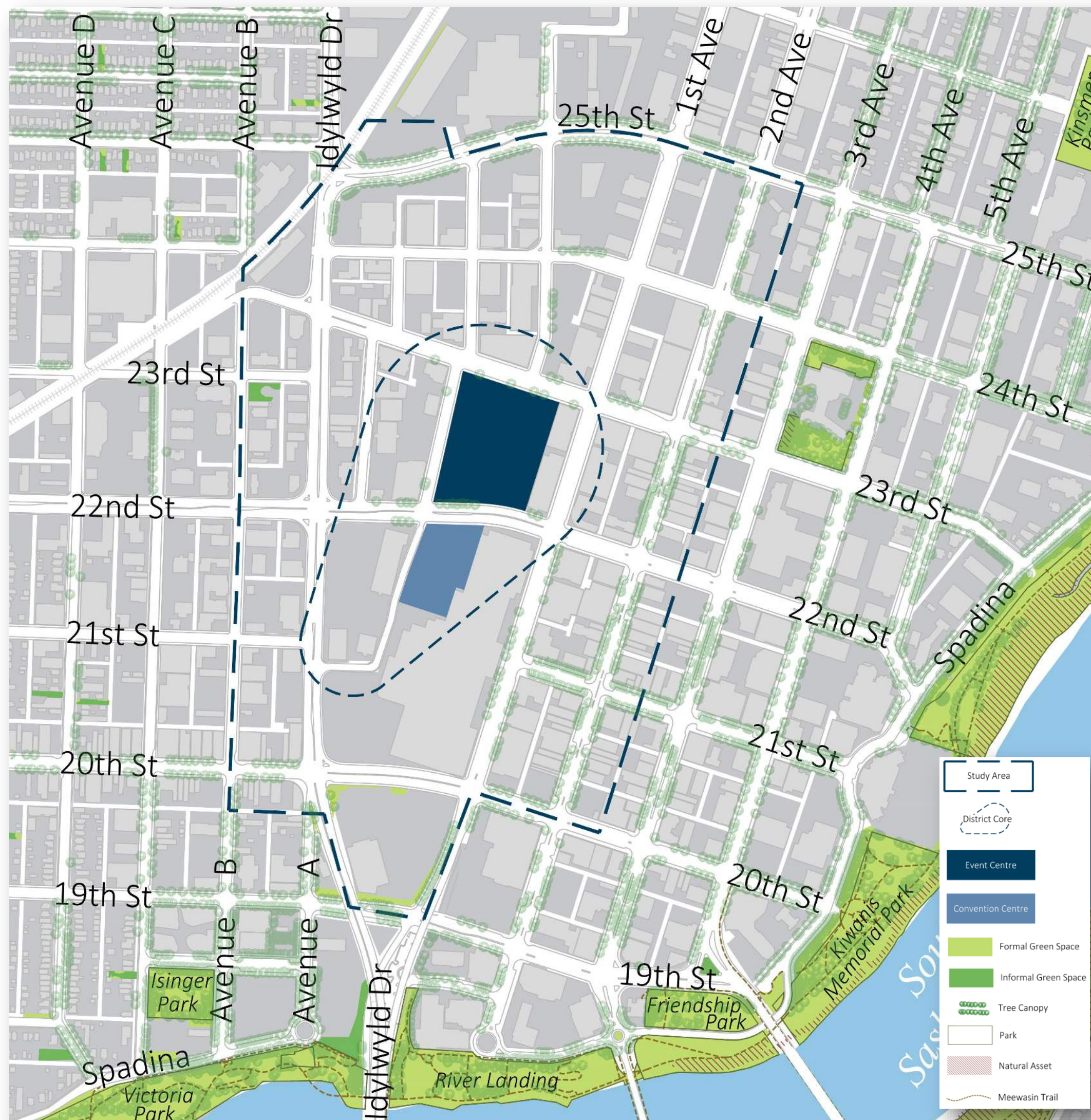
Amenities



Development/
Building Forms



Green Space & Open Space in the District



• Existing Spaces:

- City Hall Square
- River Landing
- Meewasin Trail and Riverbank

• Challenges:

- ✓ Few urban parks and plazas
- ✓ No Public playgrounds
- ✓ Lack of tree canopy in the study area

Green Space & Open Space in the District



• Opportunities:

- ✓ Connections for a network
- ✓ Formal and informal spaces for new residents
- ✓ Lots of space to add to canopy in the study area

Ideas for types of spaces

active or interactive play space



community plaza



community park



pocket or linear park



community garden



sports fields or courts



children's playground



skating rink or trail



naturalized areas



Ideas for types of improvements

pedestrian & cycling facilities



improved signage & wayfinding



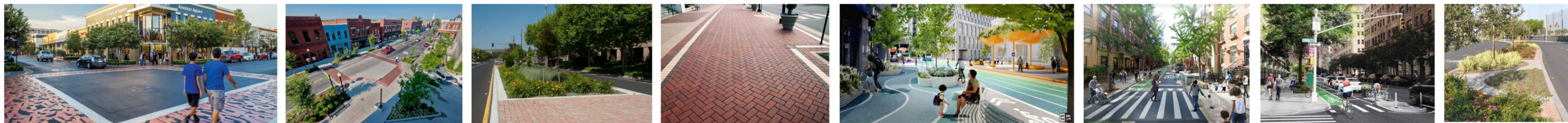
patio spaces



street trees or clustered landscaping



streetscape & intersection improvements (boulevard & median plantings, decorative paving)



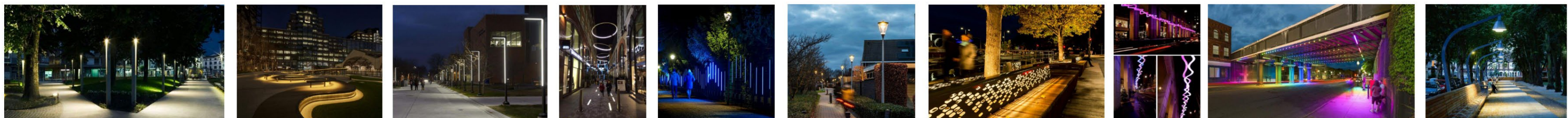
gateway features



public art (sculpture, mural, interpretive, etc.)

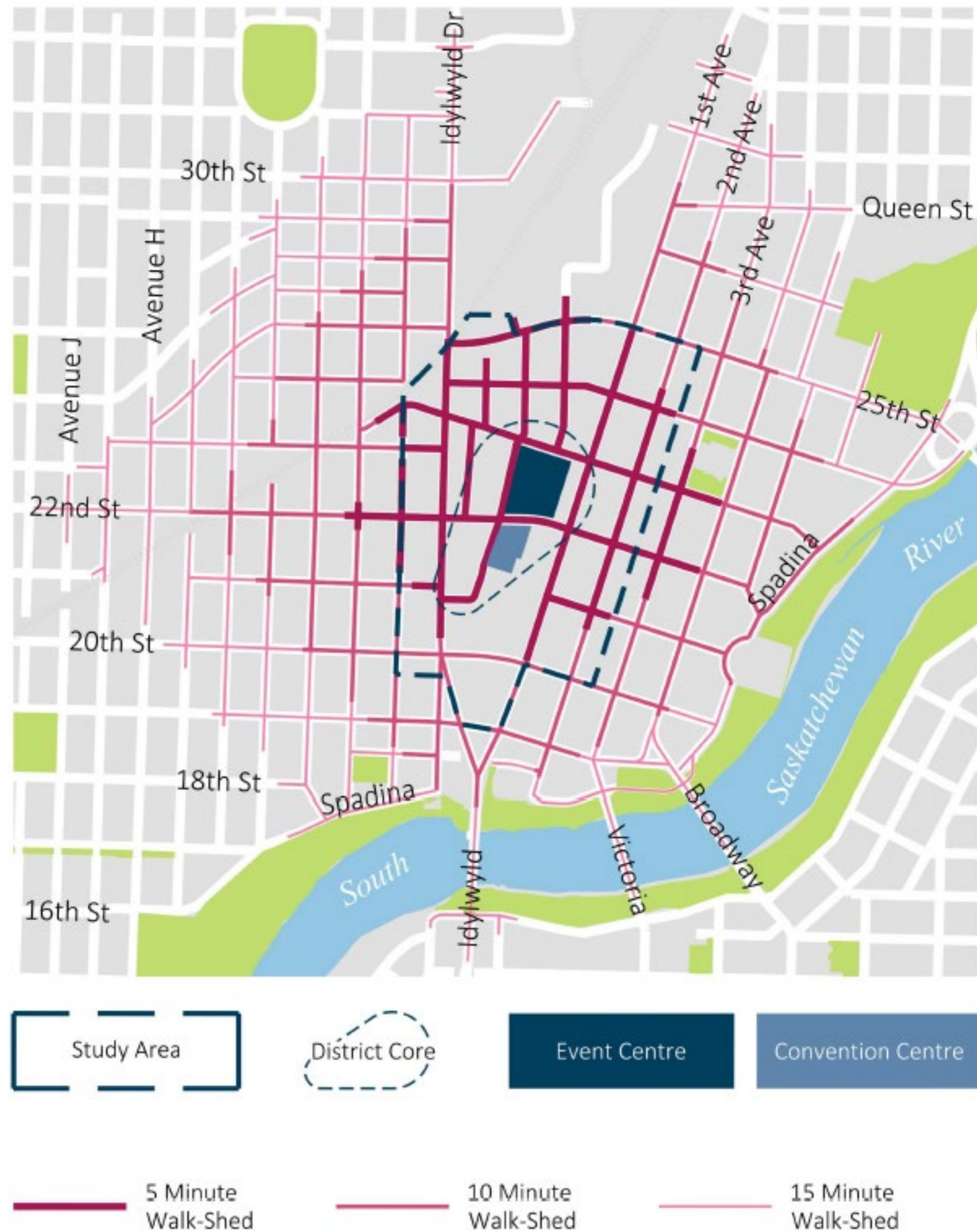


enhanced lighting



Connectivity and Mobility in the District

15 MINUTE WALK-SHED

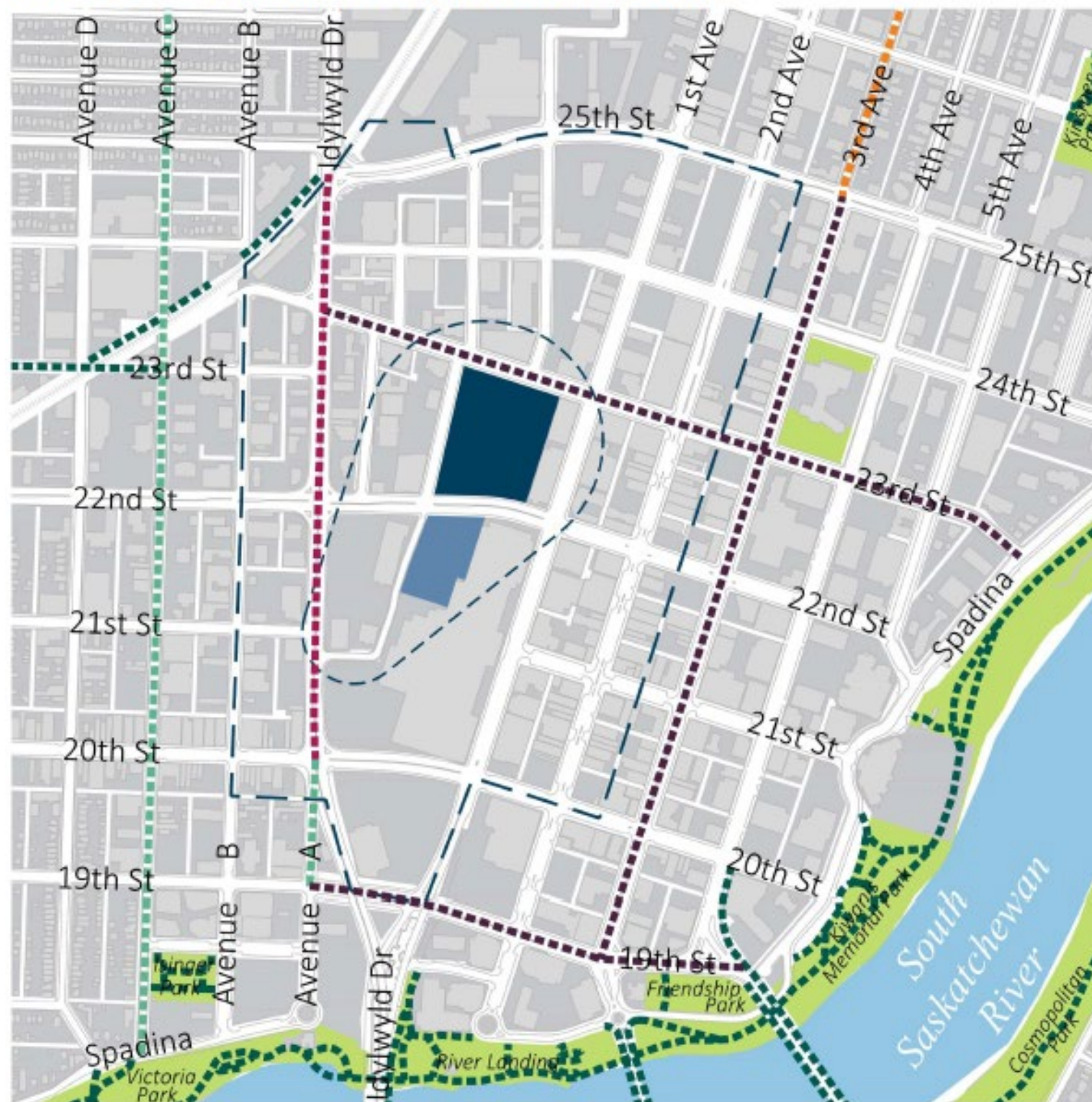


Key Characteristics:

- Grid pattern
- Rear lanes
- Bridges
- District area is within 5-10 minute walk of future event centre

Connectivity and Mobility in the District

ALL AGES & ABILITIES (AAA) NETWORK



Existing Amenities:

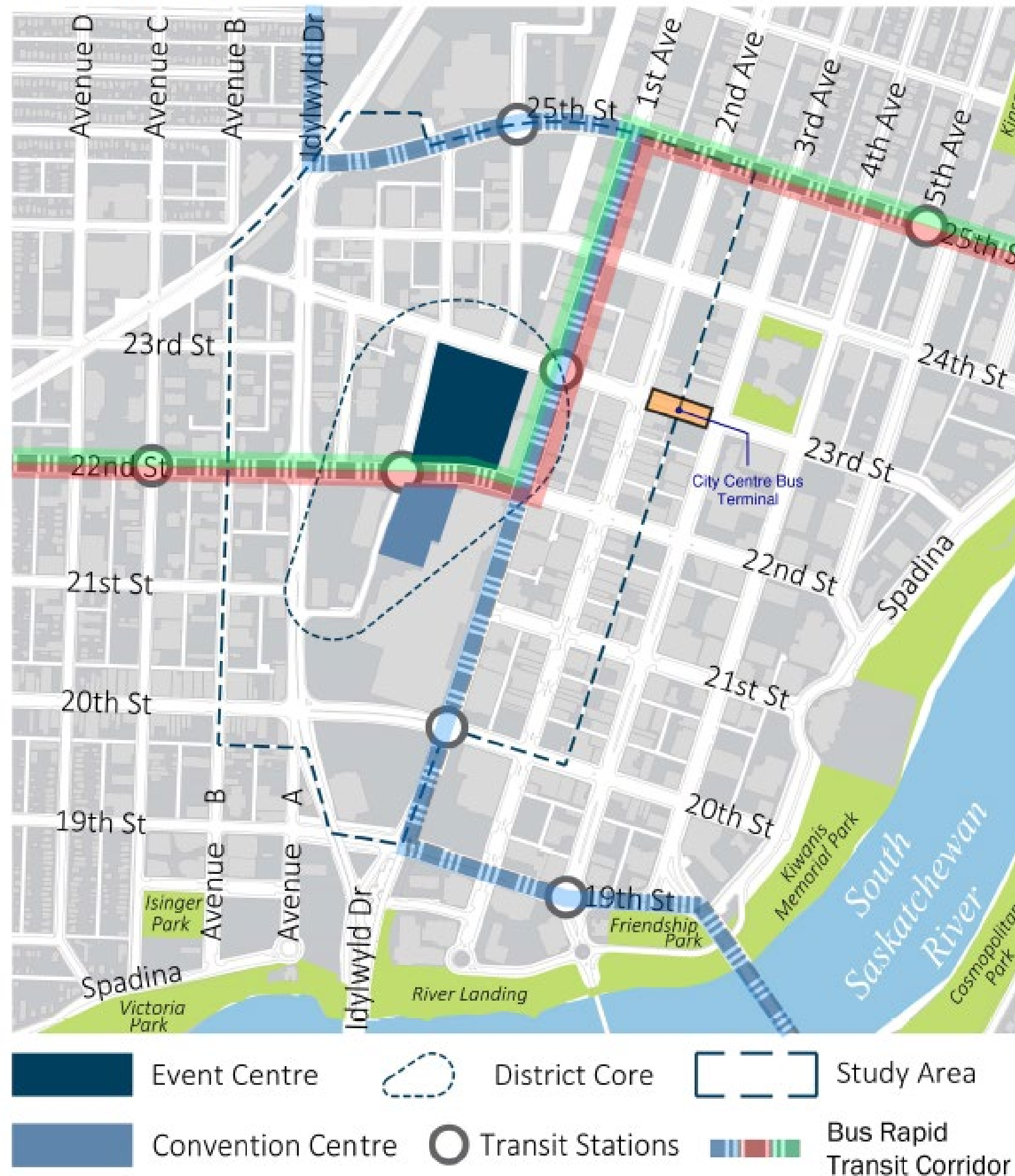
- Meewasin Trail and Riverbank
- 23rd St East Active Transportation Network (bike lanes)

Future Amenities:

- Avenue C South
- Avenue A South/Idylwyld Drive
- 3rd Avenue
- 23rd Street East
- 19th Street East

Connectivity and Mobility in the District

TRANSIT NETWORK



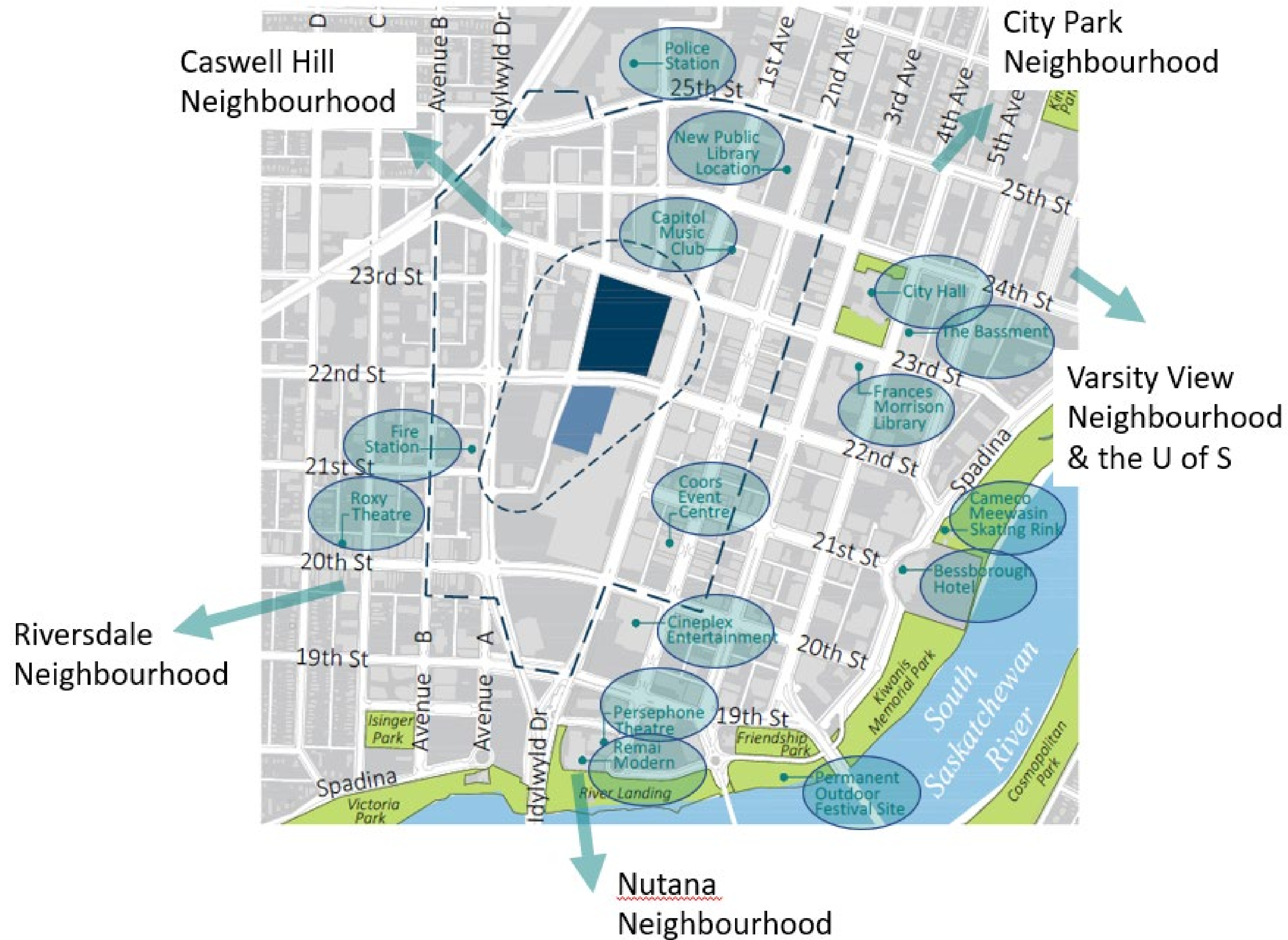
Existing Amenities:

- City Centre Bus Terminal
- 30 minute daytime and 1 hour evening bus service

Future Amenities:

- RED line is Blairmore Urban Centre – Briarwood
- GREEN line is Confederation Mall – University Heights Square
- BLUE line is Lawson Heights Urban Centre – Stonebridge
- BRT stations throughout downtown

Landmarks and Neighbourhoods



Ideas for changing how we move



Scramble crosswalk – Edmonton, AB



Protected bike lanes – Ottawa, ON



Snow cleared bike lanes – Montreal, QC



Raised crosswalk – Abbotsford, BC



Bulb corners – Toronto, ON

- We will share the feedback and ideas from our meeting with the project teams.
- Information Reports to Governance & Priorities Committee (GPC) in early 2024 will include our Engagement Reports.
- Phase 2 Engagement on conceptual design of the project, including facilities such as the event centre and convention centre to occur in Spring 2024.

To stay updated, subscribe to our mailing list:

saskatoon.ca/eventdistrict
eventdistrict@saskatoon.ca

Questions related specific to District Plan:

Ian Williamson
306-657-8640
Ian.Williamson@saskatoon.ca