

## **HVRA – Brunswick-College Parkette Design Competition**

### ***Judge's Comments***

#### ***Michelle Reid, Supervisor Parks Operations (Horticulture)***

*Toronto East York, Wards 20 & 27*

##### **The Brunswick Bend (entry 4)**

Overall this was my favorite submission. It is simple in design, meets the majority of the criteria and is maintainable. The seating plan maximizes space so that small gatherings could take place. In addition the seating does not encourage skate boarding or sleeping. The lighting is well thought-out and is an attractive feature. The planting plan is reasonably drought tolerant and low maintenance.

##### **For Your Life (entry 10)**

This is my second favorite design. I am drawn to the clean, modern lines and the natural canopy created by the trees. The seating alcoves are intimate and inviting. There are some function problems with the design that do need to be addressed. The seating is very attractive to loitering and sleeping and the sunken tree wells and planting areas represent a trip and fall hazard. I do not recommend installing "decking" as a paving element is not recommended as a paving material due to maintainability and safety issues.

##### **Kensington Common (entry 17)**

This entry was also good. It met the majority of the design criteria very well. Unfortunately the design incorporates far too many elements for the space. If it was paired down somewhat it would make a good entry. In particular I like the grid-like paving pattern, the "art" inspired ventilation cover and the grey water recycling elements. His use of environmentally friendly materials is admirable as well. The seating is nice but a little impractical for the space.

## Michelle Reid: General Comments, other entries (in alphabetical order)

Entry 1: **All the World Is a Stage** - Nice open shallow steps to health centre, public information board a great idea (although it creates a hiding spot), stage a very nice idea

Entry 2: **Bricks** - Dangerous

Entry 3: **Bring Back the Boulevards** - They have a point, if you live in the area.

Entry 5: **Campo di Ricordi** - Seating and lighting well done but encourages sleeping and hiding

Entry 6: **Canopy Park** – I like the planting and accessibility

Entry 7: **Circle of Leaf** - Nothing of note. Did not meet criteria

Entry 8: **Flow: People, Light and Air** - Ventilation cover excellent, overall layout open with wide shallow steps.

Entry 9: **Flowing Garden** - Way too much stuff, lots of hiding areas. Pavilion is a nice element.

Entry 11: **Four Leaf Clovers** - Nice and open with mixed use. Unsafe in this location for children to play. Way too much stuff.

Entry 12: **Games Room** - Functional and maintainable as well as nice and open but a draw for sleeping and skateboarding.

Entry 13: **Green Weaver** - The flow is nice, as are the benches. Area next to the health centre a little closed in. Benches without dividers will attract sleepers and skate boarders. Planting areas are indicated but no listing of plant material.

Entry 14: **I Cuori di Brunswick** - Silly

Entry 15: **Ingrained: Brunswick-College Parkette** - Nice planting ideas, but impractical. Creates a serious visual barrier.

Entry 16: **Intersections** - I like the looks of the plant material but there is way too much for that space. Like also that they have removed all the visual barriers. Wooden board walk - not a good idea. Really like the green wall.

Entry 18: **Kensington Square** - Nice and open with very graphic paving.

Entry 19: **Laetitia Urbis** - Like the paving but design very busy with many hiding spots and trip hazards.

Entry 20: **Magic Carpet** - Undulating grassy berm nice. Good visual interest but impractical for space and maintenance.

Entry 21: **Portugal Influences Brunswick** - Nice and open. Functional areas well separated.

Entry 22: **Red Tree Parkette** - Nice and open. Good use of hard-scaping.

Entry 23: **Slow Motion** - I quite like this one in terms of space and flow. The benches are nice and less attractive to skate boarders in this configuration. Not sure how the plant materials would work in those angled beds but it has an artsy feel overall.

Entry 24: **Sunken Garden** - Like the topography but don't recommend maintaining all that grass.

Entry 25: **Three Steps to One New Parkette** - Like the lighting and bike rack

Entry 26: **Trillium Corner** - Topography nice but impractical

Entry 27: **Urban Constellation** - Meets most criteria, good permeable groundcover, lovely lighting design