





LEGEND	
	BUILTFORM
	GREENERY
	WATER FEATURE
	TREE
	CONSERVATORY
	SIDEWALK
	BIKE LANE
	CAR LANE
	STREETCAR LANE
	TRAFFIC FLOW

CONTEXT

Cloud Gardens is a public space in Toronto consisting of the Bay Adelaide Park and the Cloud Gardens Conservatory. It sits between two one-way streets and is surrounded by office towers, residential buildings and a few commercial stores and restaurants. The area of the park is zoned for open space as outlined in chapter 90 of the City of Toronto Zoning By-law 569-2013. The surrounding area is zoned for commercial residential use. The park is covered by the parks section of the official plan and on map 41, the downtown plan in the secondary plan.

STRENGTHS

- + The park is situated in a dense area that lacks open space, so it provides much needed greenery and nature to those that live and work in its surroundings.
- + The site fulfills Whyte's factors of an effective public space considering it is at street level, has ample seating and includes attractive key features.
- + The site is surrounded by various transportation roadways including bike, streetcar, car and pedestrian paths making it easy to access.

WEAKNESSES

- The density of the trees creates dark spots and obstruction which reduces visibility of the space and the activity happening within it from the street. This does not fulfill Whyte's factors of public space and also does not meet Jane Jacob's requirements of "eyes on the street".
- Since most of the nearby buildings are office towers, the park is rarely used outside of the working hours of the day.
- The park has a very small crescent-shaped patch of grass, while the rest of the space is taken up by walking paths and trees and shrubs.

- 1 A two-level greenhouse mimics mountainous ecologies and has a collection of exotic plants. The conservatory has a climate control system and grow lights to combat shading caused by office towers (City of Toronto).
- 2 A waterfall fountain next to the conservatory goes down into a water feature that cuts through the middle of the park.
- 3 Public Art along the east side of the park sits at the top of a multi-story walkway and separates the park from the buildings next to it.
- 4 A monument to Toronto's construction workers designed by Margaret Priest and the Building Trades Union dedicated to each building trade (City of Toronto).
- 5 Workers in the park both from nearby office buildings and construction projects enjoy lunch using the ample seating available.

