Our proposal for Pier 8 is not based on one big idea.

It’s based on lots of small, smart moves that will make Pier 8 one of the most vibrant, diverse and beautiful communities in the world.

HERE ARE 10 OF OUR SMART MOVES

1. Bring like-minded place-makers together to collaborate on our vision.
2. Curate an Urban Commons with institutional partners like the Hamilton Public Library and the YWCA.
3. Weave Hamilton’s natural and man-made elements into the architecture and landscape design.
4. Extend the green network with new north-south green slips inspired by the Harbour.
5. Provide autonomous shuttles and street-side EV chargers to service Pier 8 and the surrounding neighbourhood.
6. Partner on affordable housing with Indwell, YWCA and Cobalt Connects.
7. Train and hire Hamilton-based youth and adults while developing Pier 8.
8. Introduce an Alt Hotel to Hamilton’s waterfront.
9. Tap into the place-making potential of Hamilton’s cutting edge food scene.
10. Pair the site’s already extra-deep caissons with a geothermal system.
Small moves, big result.

Block 1
Condominium Building #1
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 8,000 m²

Block 2
Condominium Building #2
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 10,000 m²

Block 3
Condominium Building #3
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 20,000 m²

Block 4
Condominium Building #4
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 8,000 m²

Block 5
Condominium Building #5
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 7,000 m²

Block 6
Condominium Building #6
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 14,000 m²

Block 7
Condominium Building #7
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 10,000 m²

Block 8
Condominium Building #8
Urban Capital/Core Urban
Total: 20,000 m²

Blocks 9
Urban Grocer
Retail
Total: 1,200 m²

Who:
- Urban Capital
- Core Urban
- Urban Grocer

What:
- Affordable Housing
- Office
- Retail
- Groceries
- Food

Where:
- Ontario, Canada

When:
- Future

Why:
- To create a mixed-use development that will include affordable housing, offices, and retail spaces, as well as a grocery store and food options, to support the local community.
Hamilton is a city of remarkably vivid landscape identities in rare co-existence. In conceptualizing our design for Pier 8, we looked for inspiration to the drama of Hamilton’s two most significant natural features: the Harbour and the Escarpment. Both the physical landscapes themselves as well as their dynamic inter-relationship serve as a unique model to bring the site to life. Ultimately, in this city defined by its topography and the relationship of high ground to water, we envisioned new and more memorable associations between landform, built form and water, woven into the fabric of this sustainable district. These are the essential ingredients of the collective imagination of Hamilton, and the source for a transformed architecture and public realm for Pier 8.

The above forms the basis of the two main elements of our Pier 8 design: first, a network of north-south “green slips” that carve and extend into the Blocks, inspired by the Harbour’s industrial slips; and second, a resultant carved-out built form that echoes the formations of the Niagara Escarpment, with its layering of mineral forms that have been both weathered and polished. Together, these two moves create dynamic built forms and activated courtyard spaces, while breaking down the Blocks into a more intimate scale and inspiring a vibrant community.

Our design for Pier 8 is a direct, contemporary interpretation of Hamilton’s unique geographical setting and industrial heritage, reinterpreting the iconic natural and man-made features of the city and its surrounding area.
The result: something truly unique at Hamilton’s water’s edge

A view of our proposed Pier 8 from Hamilton Harbour, brought to you by the creative minds of Saucier + Perrotte, RAW and Public Work, nationally and internationally renown Canadian architects and landscape architects.

What:
- RAW will collaborate with S+P to bring our design vision to life, expertly navigating studies, plans and guidelines that apply to Pier 8.
- S+P will apply their pure design strength to define Pier 8, weaving Hamilton’s natural and industrial characteristics to create an aesthetic unique to the waterfront.
- Public Work will oversee the design of Pier 8’s Greenway and Green Slips, and assist with other landscape architecture elements within the project.

Who:
- RAW is one of Toronto’s most vibrant and respected architectural and design studios, with an international design sensibility and a wealth of recent local experience.
- Saucier + Perrotte Architects is a multidisciplinary practice internationally renowned for its institutional, cultural, and residential projects.
- Public Work aims to produce transformative works that invigorate the public realm, optimize and enhance the performance of urban and natural systems, and support public life.
New north-south Green Slips

We propose carving the blocks at Pier 8 in such a way as to create Green Slips that intersect with the planned Greenway, creating a larger open space network. These Green Slips, which are inspired by the harbour slips that characterize Pier 8’s industrial surroundings, would support a number of open space functions: public gathering spaces, private amenity spaces, natural oases, harbour viewing platforms and lookouts, mid-block trail connections, and storm water capture and conveyance.

Designing the Greenway

The east-west Greenway serves as a signature central armature of the public realm, a public amenity for the community, and the symbol of a new standard of sustainability in terms of water management and public space design. Inspired by the Escarpment, we envision a chain of large-scale eroded rock fragments materialized in limestone, sandstone, with a shale base to form a mineral that is able to support the canopy of an emerging urban forest. This space will be energized by pedestrian and cycling traffic and will celebrate the seasonal flows of water through the Greenway to the harbour.
A walk through of our Pier 8 will take you by restaurants and retail stores from some of Hamilton’s top entrepreneurs, a Momentum fitness facility and an urban grocer; a Urban Commons consisting of a Hamilton Public Library branch, a YWCA seniors facility and a Cobalt Connects innovation hub, among others; residential townhouses and townhouses; an Alt Hotel, offices and other uses you would find in a true urban village. On this board we show you how it all lays out, in plan • (view from above) and section • (as if we cut a line through it and looked at the cut at eye level).

Legend
- Institutional
- Retail & Restaurants
- Live / Work
- Lobby and Amenity
- Hotel Lobby
- Office Lobby
- Townhouses
- Stacked Townhouses