



Water Street

Montgomery Square

REIMAGINING CANARY WHARF

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET

INTRODUCTION

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET

Canary Wharf Group (CWG) is bringing forward proposals to improve and enhance two key spaces within Canary Wharf; **Montgomery Square and Water Street**, as part of a wider strategy to reimagine the public spaces and waterways across Canary Wharf.

The strategy will introduce new and enhanced public spaces, extensive planting, biodiversity initiatives, and water activation, aimed at enhancing the way people experience Canary Wharf.

The first step towards delivering this ambition for the Wharf was achieving planning permission for new terraces, floating pontoon structures, planting and leisure and event spaces within Middle Dock. It is expected that these spaces will be complete and available to use by Summer/ Autumn 2024, with the new bridge connection opening in mid-2025.

YOUR FEEDBACK

This exhibition material presents an overview of our emerging proposals and ideas for Montgomery Square and Water Street ahead of making a planning application to Tower Hamlets Council.

Please read through the material. We would welcome your thoughts via our online survey.



MONTGOMERY SQUARE

Montgomery Square is located at one of the busiest intersections within the Wharf, well served by the transport node of Canary Wharf and a key link between the business centre to the west and the emerging residential quarter to the east in Wood Wharf. It includes the arrival point for the smaller Jubilee Line entrance/exit.

The square is framed by glazed façades to the north and south, waterfront to the east and the dense green canopy of Jubilee Park to the west.



WATER STREET

Water Street is the bridge link providing pedestrian and vehicle access between Montgomery Street (Canary Wharf) and Park Drive / Charter Street (Wood Wharf).

The south side of the street provides retail and access to residential buildings, while the north side has access to two floating restaurant pavilions.

OUR AMBITION

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET



CREATING A UNIFIED GREEN AXIS

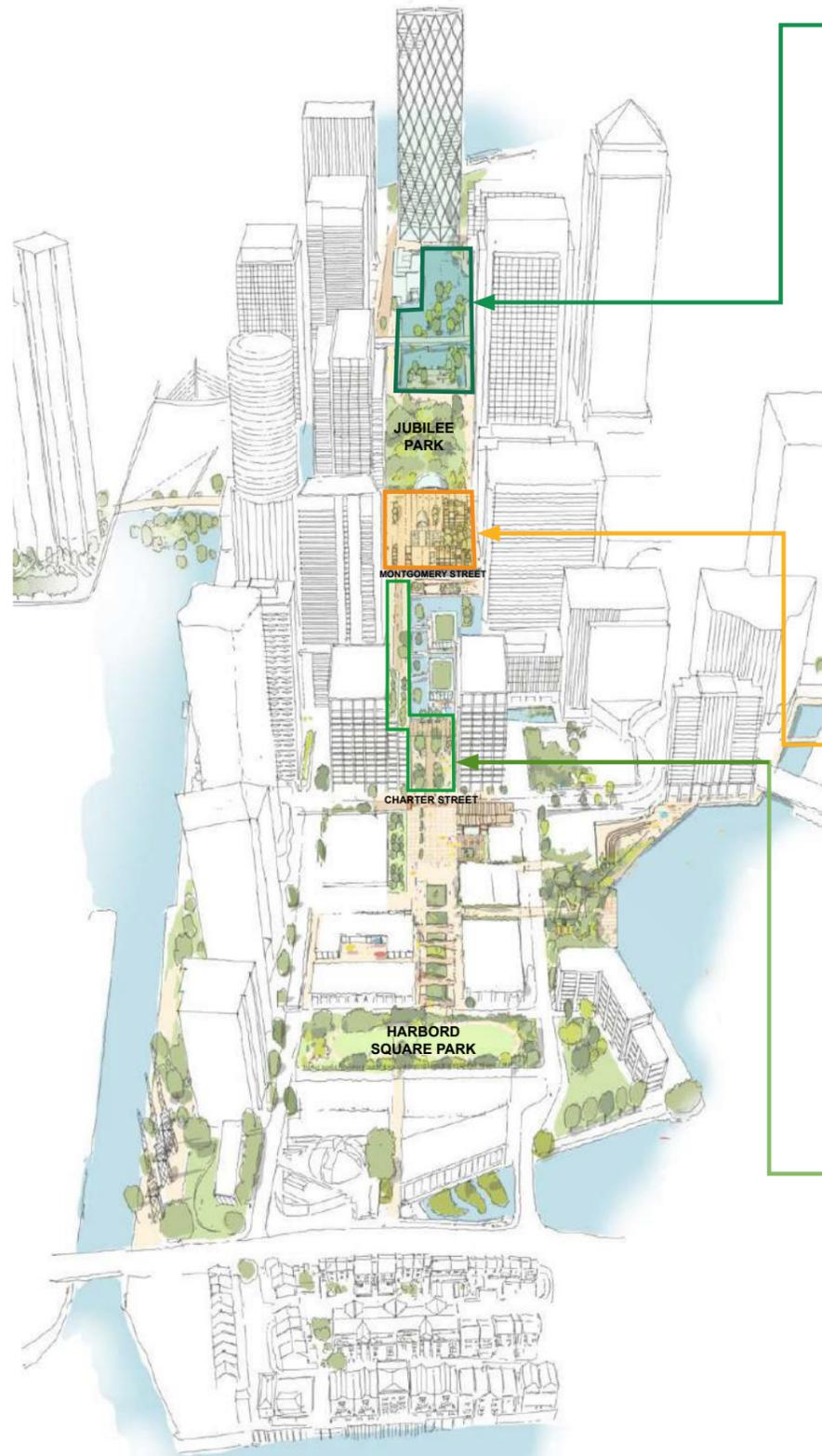
While the Wharf already benefits from a variety of popular individual green spaces, the overarching ambition is to create a more cohesive ‘green spine’ through the centre of the Estate providing additional green public realm, parks and gardens, waterside access and performance spaces, to connect existing and proposed green spaces across the whole of Canary Wharf and create a more considered and unified offering.

ENHANCING NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY

The Montgomery Square and Water Street upgrades will complement the Canary Wharf Group People and Nature strategy. These two schemes will support biodiversity, climate resilience and nature-based solutions across the estate. The proposal will contribute to an improved environment, better air quality and boost local biodiversity.

PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

A key objective for CWG is promoting and enhancing community wellbeing, diversity, inclusion, education, and culture across Canary Wharf. Improving the public spaces across the Wharf will create a more natural environment for people to experience, encourage people to spend time outdoors, offer a variety of spaces and activities that invite people in and allow people to experience the Wharf in different ways.



Illustrated view of Canary Wharf looking east to west from Coldharbour (bottom) to Newfoundland (top).

Middle Dock Proposals (already consented 2023)



Montgomery Square Opportunity



Garden areas



Markets and events

Water Street Opportunity



Greenery and planting



Pedestrian friendly

MONTGOMERY SQUARE PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET

OPPORTUNITIES

Montgomery Square is a mostly hard-landscaped public square, offering a large amount of versatile, but underutilised, space, and provides access to Canary Wharf tube station. The intention is to transform this generous space into a more attractive space that supports multiple uses and functions, enabling it to be enjoyed 365 days a year.

- New garden spaces and planting will create a more natural environment including an intimate sequence of gardens to provide opportunities to relax and engage underneath green tree canopies.
- In order to accommodate a variety of events, from markets and exhibitions to cultural performances, a large portion of the current event space will be retained. The approach will allow for the seamless transformation of the space for different daytime and night-time occasions.
- Native plants and trees, as well as wildlife habitats, will be introduced into the landscape, contributing to a significant increase in local biodiversity.
- The more natural design approach will support the health and wellbeing of visitors and residents through the inclusion of seating areas, and spaces for relaxation, fostering physical and mental wellness.



Montgomery Square as it is now



FUTURE PROPOSALS



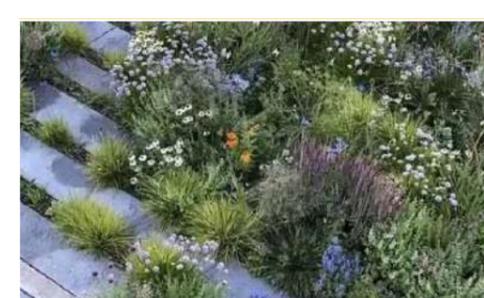
A safer and a more welcoming entrance to the square from Upper Bank Street.



Restaurants and kiosks to make the square somewhere to visit rather than pass through.



Intimate green spaces, gardens and planted areas to unwind and relax.



Increasing local biodiversity through increased and varied planting.



A flexible public square that is perfect for events and markets.



Promoting health and wellbeing for visitors by creating opportunities to engage with nature.

MONTGOMERY SQUARE PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET



The proposals for Montgomery Square include the following key interventions to support the overall ambition.

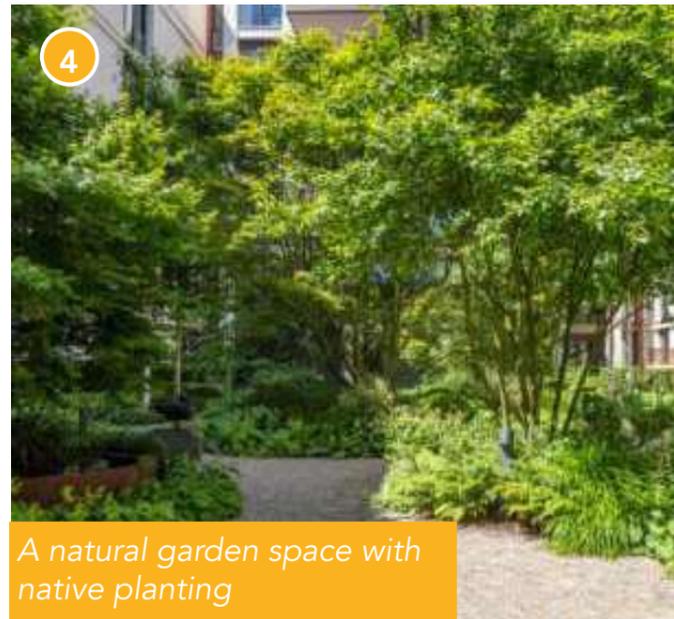
- 1 Enhanced experience for pedestrians in front of the main Jubilee entrance, removing railings and introducing planting.
- 2 New planting and seating areas providing quieter spaces to relax and unwind.
- 3 A new pavilion, cafe and planting areas activating the square and providing informal dining opportunities.
- 4 A natural garden space, consisting of small 'rooms' with native planting, seating areas and sculptures.
- 5 The existing event space will be retained as an important flexible area maintaining access to the Jubilee Line entrance.
- 6 Existing South Road to be extended to create a pedestrian friendly environment and allow space for markets.
- 7 Traffic clutter to be removed and number of traffic lanes reduced from 4 to 2 on Montgomery Street to create a more seamless and safer pedestrian experience.



Montgomery Square concept plan



New intimate planting and seating areas



A natural garden space with native planting



Retention of the event space for programmed activities



A pedestrian friendly 'boulevard' with space for markets

Example images only

MONTGOMERY SQUARE PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET

THE GARDEN

The proposals include a generous new garden space in the northern section of Montgomery Square to create an enclosed green oasis consisting of small 'garden rooms' where users can enjoy a break under tree canopies.

The garden is permeable from all four sides, allowing free movement in each direction.

Native plants and trees will be introduced as well as wildlife habitats, contributing to a significant uplift in local biodiversity.



Enhanced planting



Garden rooms



Proposed view of Montgomery Square showing new pavilion and garden area (left)

EXTENDING THE SQUARE

The existing South Road that bounds Montgomery Square is infrequently used and presents an opportunity to transform the existing route into new open space, extending the Square, increasing the amount of greenery and planting, and creating a more enjoyable pedestrian experience.

Prioritising pedestrian access and movement creates the opportunity to integrate the public realm with Water Street and enhance connections east to west across Canary Wharf to Wood Wharf.



Space for markets



Destination events



Proposed view looking east along Montgomery Square from Upper Bank Street

MONTGOMERY SQUARE PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET

NEW PAVILION AND CAFE

Central to revitalising Montgomery Square is the proposal to introduce a new pavilion and kiosk to the space to bring this area to life in the daytime and evening.

A three-storey pavilion is proposed to the north-west of the square that will complement the central event space by provide food and dining opportunities later in the day and evening and encourage people to spend time in the square. The pavilion will be a timber structure, incorporating greenery on the facade to respond to the materiality of the Square.

A smaller cafe is proposed on the east of the square where the Marketing Suite is currently located. This would include a toilet facility, simple counter service for a use akin to a coffee and pastry offer, as well as seating inside. The cafe would replace the Marketing Suite, which is a temporary structure that will be removed in the next few years.



Proposed birdseye view of Montgomery Square showing locations of the new pavilion and cafe (looking north-west)



Montgomery Square as it is now (illustration)



Proposed CGI view of the new pavilion



Precedent photo of how the cafe amenity could look

WATER STREET PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET



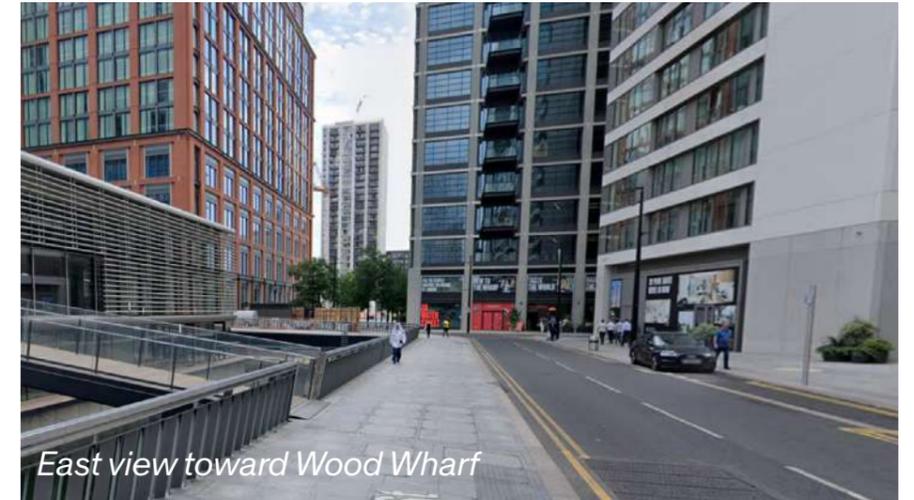
OPPORTUNITIES

As part of the proposals we are considering transforming Water Street into a pedestrian friendly street, with limited access to vehicles, blending the public realm with retail and dining activities.

- Eye-catching furniture and seating will invite passersby to pause, relax, and engage in social interactions, while colourful planting and generous width footways will further enhance the streetscape.
- Prioritising pedestrian and cycle movement over vehicular traffic will transform Water Street into a linear plaza, embracing its potential as a more active route and public space, and creating a seamless transition from a vehicle dominated to a pedestrian-focused environment. Coupled with retail spill-out, this will maintain Water Street's commercial character while enhancing its setting.
- Integration with Wood Wharf will create a cohesive and interconnected neighbourhood, strengthening the overall, more residential, identity of the area.



West view toward Canary Wharf



East view toward Wood Wharf

Water Street as it is now

FUTURE PROPOSALS



Linear plaza as transition
Space for retail spill-out.



Colourful planting alongside
generous footways for pedestrians.



Pocket gardens and seating to
celebrate the waterfront.



Eye-catching furniture
and seating to bring vibrancy.



Promoting health and wellbeing for
visitors.



Significant increase in
local biodiversity

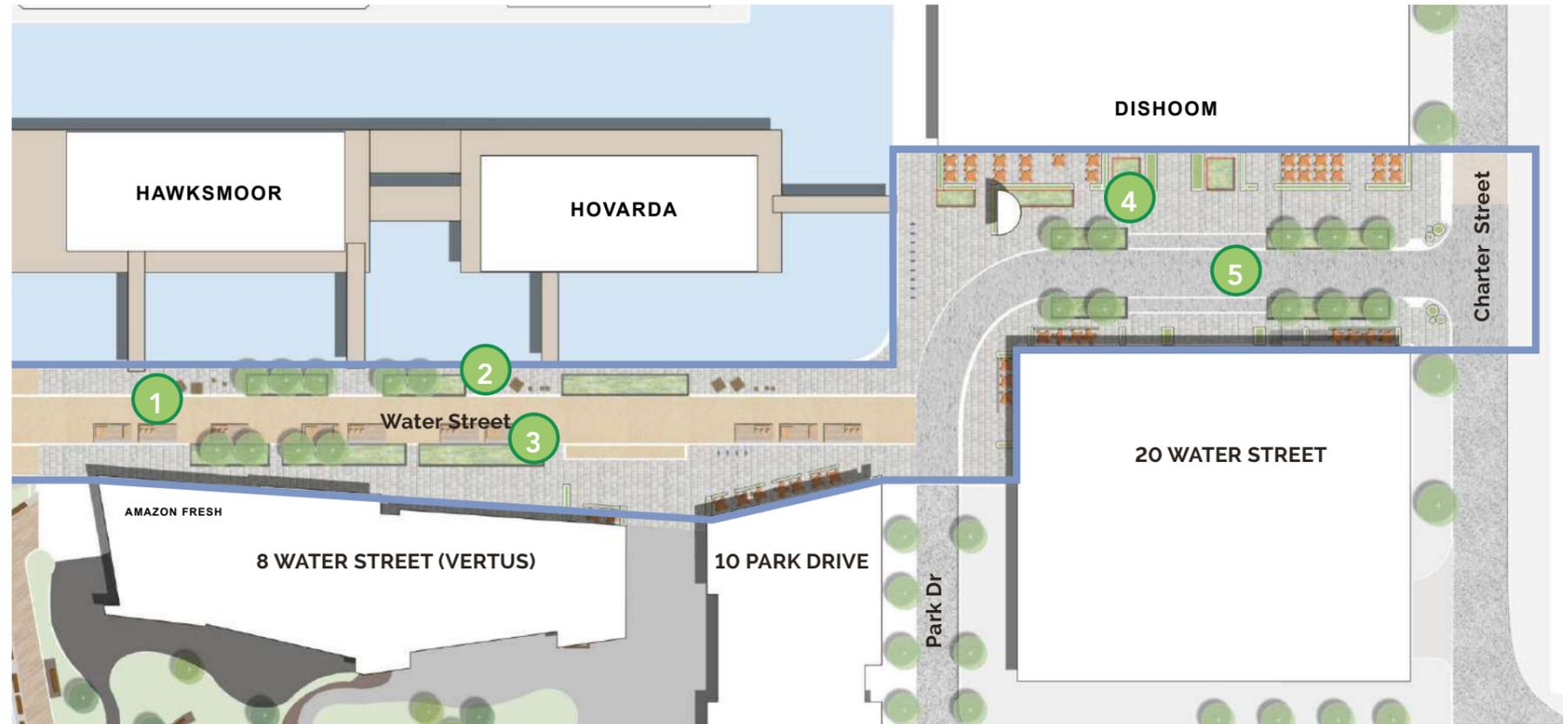
WATER STREET PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET



The proposals for Water Street include the following key interventions to support the overall ambition.

- 1 New surface treatment prioritising pedestrian and cycle movement with access for emergency vehicles and refuse access only.
- 2 Planting to be enhanced and extended to provide a greener, more tactile, street environment next to the water.
- 3 Parklet modules and lounges to bring the street to life and provide places to sit and relax.
- 4 Introduction of seating and spill out areas to create a vibrant setting.
- 5 Extension of the existing the granite sett carriageway to create a more cohesive and harmonious route.



Water Street concept plan



New shared surface prioritising pedestrians and cyclists



New planting to create a green route



Parklet seating and plant modules



Spill out areas activating the street side

Example images only

WATER STREET PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET

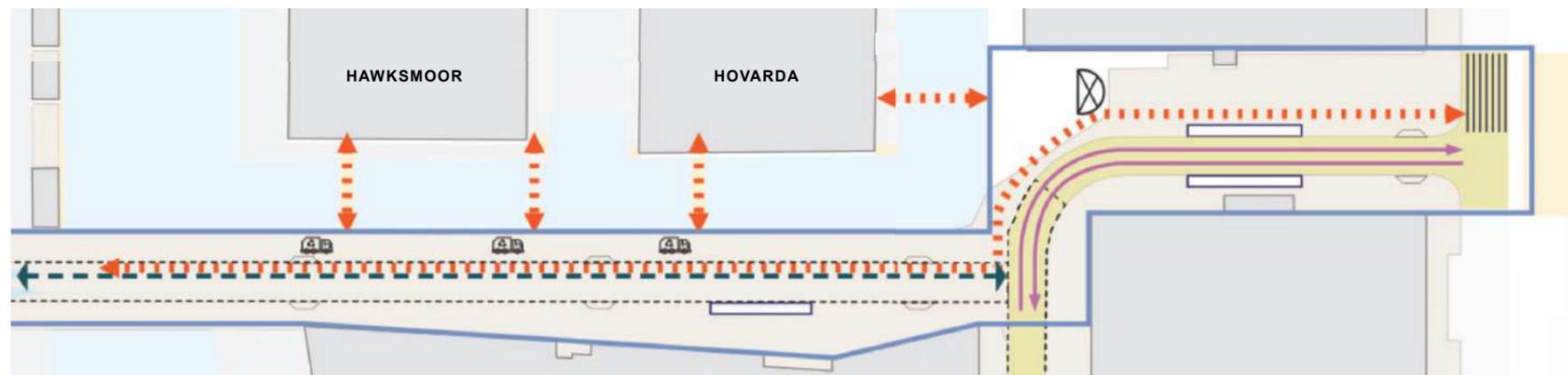


TRAFFIC AND ACCESS

Currently, Water Street is predominantly used for servicing and deliveries. The proposals seek to transform Water Street into a more pedestrian friendly route between Canary Wharf and Wood Wharf.

Although it will remain a vehicle route, it will be restricted to servicing only and will prioritise pedestrian and cycle use, as well as access for emergency vehicles.

Existing residents within Wood Wharf will still have access via use of the two primary access routes: Cartier Circle and Preston's Road.



Proposed traffic management plan for Water Street

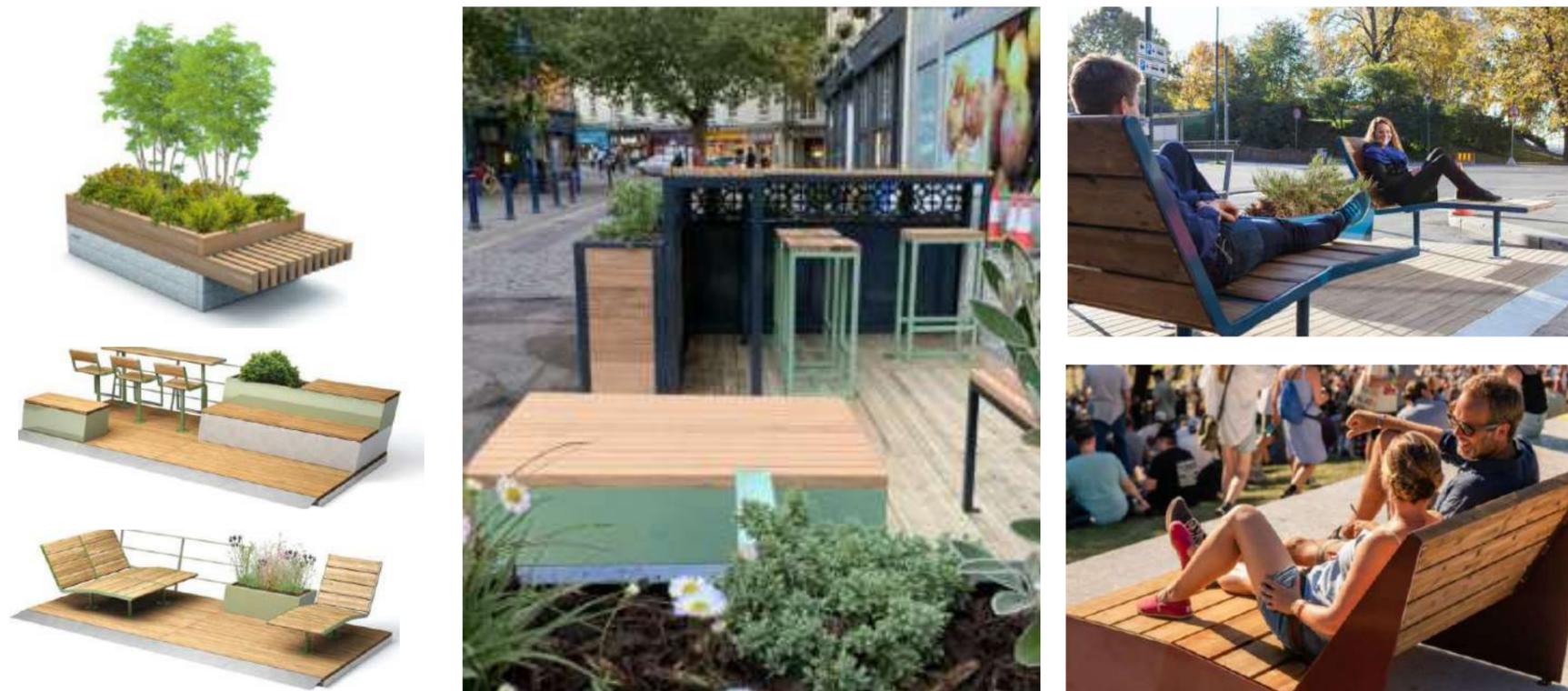
| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Key | | |
| Site boundary | Emergency/service single lane | Existing granite setts to be retained |
| Enhanced pedestrian flow | Enhanced crossing point | Extended granite setts |
| Vehicle lanes | Drop kerbs to be retained | Accessible bay & drop off to be kept |
| | New surface treatment | Proposed raised table |
| | | Enhanced refuse strategy (to be agreed) |

STREET FURNITURE

Movable street furniture will be used to create an inviting environment for people rather than cars and other vehicles. This approach provides flexibility in how the street is used, bringing it to life, and providing opportunities to introduce new greenery.

Proposed furniture elements include:

- Freestanding planters
- Seating and tables
- Cycle stands
- Edging/barriers
- Lighting
- Shade structures/pergolas



Example 'parklet' module street furniture

WATER STREET PROPOSALS

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET



Illustration showing proposed improvements to the Water Street pedestrian environment

NEXT STEPS & YOUR FEEDBACK

MONTGOMERY SQUARE & WATER STREET



We are currently working towards a planning application that will be submitted to Tower Hamlets for consideration. Subject to receiving planning permission, we aim to have the improvements completed by the end of 2025.

INDICATIVE TIMESCALES

APRIL 2024

Consultation on the proposals for Montgomery Square and Water Street with the community.

SPRING 2024

Submission of a planning application for consideration by Tower Hamlets.

AUTUMN 2024

Construction starts subject to receiving planning permission.

SPRING 2025

Earliest completion date for the landscaping for both Montgomery Square and Water Street.

AUTUMN/WINTER 2025

Target date to finish construction of the pavilions in Montgomery Square.



Proposed view of Montgomery Square including the new pavilion

LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS

Our consultation period on these proposals is open until **26th April 2024**.

It is important to us that our proposals benefit the communities that use Canary Wharf as much as possible.

We are particularly keen to hear the views of people who are living or working at or near to Canary Wharf, as well as those who frequently visit the area, and invite you take part by sharing your thoughts and suggestions about the proposals for Montgomery Square and Water Street via our online survey.

Click the link below to go straight to our feedback survey.

GO TO SURVEY 