

5.1 Area 1 – West End

The West End Special Streetscape Improvement Area marks the western gateway to the Riverside Drive District. Adjacent to the University of Windsor and spanned by the Canada / United States Ambassador Bridge, the longest suspension bridge at time of construction in 1929, the West End SSIA is not only a Gateway to Riverside Drive but a formal entrance to Canada. The area contains large expanses of open space and formal parks to the north, five in total that include, from west to east, Ambassador Park, Assumption Park, Ernest Atkinson Park, Straith Park and Centennial and an elaborate sculpture garden. With spectacular views to the Detroit skyline this area illustrates the City of Windsor's commitment to a publicly owned waterfront and its investment in the public realm. By contrast the area immediately to the south of Riverside Drive is an established residential neighbourhood.

5.1.1 DESIGN CONCEPT SUMMARY

- Create a distinct linear gateway by building upon the existing sculpture garden and introducing new vertical sculpture elements along Riverside Drive as Gateway elements.
- Identify existing north/ south 'Views to the River' and east/west 'Views along the River, of Ambassador Bridge and across to the Detroit Skyline' and incorporates them into the streetscape design.
- Respects the University Frontage by maintaining and enhancing North/ South visual and physical pedestrian connections from the University across Assumption Park to the River.
- Create a new pedestrian access from Campbell Avenue to Centennial Park that includes a new stair element that has an integrated public art component.

City of Windsor
 Riverside Vista improvement Project
 Streetscape Improvement Guidelines

