QianHai Bay

The most interesting places to live, work and play are areas where things come together. It’s human nature to aspire to be near these areas of confluence. At the heart of this scheme is an understanding that we live on the edges of things, and that by extending those edges, greater economic and ecological opportunities arise.

Located at a key point of the Pearl River estuary, the Qian Hai waterfront is an opportunity to create a city as a filter; a unique blend of architecture and landscape combined as one fabric, diverting the rivers through entire neighborhoods as a series of cleansing waterways. As mixing naturally occurs at the intertidal zone, so too can it occur within the city itself; the city becomes an intertidal zone of not only the natural system but economically as well. Natural intertidal zones are some of the most fertile environments and serve as a nursery grounds for fish, birds and wildlife.

Location
Shenzhen, China

Client
Shenzhen Urban Planning and Land Administration Bureau

Guangzhou Scenery Urban Design Ltd.

SWA Scope
Urban Design Competition
Master Plan

Site
18 km²

Consultant
Guangzhou Scenery Urban Design, Ltd.

Just as the confluence of fresh and salt water mixes to create a unique intertidal exchange, so too will the mix of building forms and uses create a dynamic and superlative physical environment.