

YELLOW MILL CHANNEL

and the Bridgeport Waterfront Trail

LAND 4450 - CAPSTONE - DESIGN V SPRING 2023

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Project Partners: National Park Service Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program
The Trust for Public Land
Groundworks Bridgeport
City of Bridgeport
CTASLA

DESIGN CHALLENGE

To create short term activations and long-term design proposals for select sites along the Yellow Mill Corridor. Proposals should provide connectivity for the Bridgeport Waterfront Pathway; heal and protect the shoreline using nature-based solutions; and create a place for all Bridgeport community members to relax and enjoy the waterfront.



Bridgeport Waterfront Pathway	Current project
Existing access/pathway route	Town boundary
Planned/upcoming pathway route	USFWS approved boundary
Future pathway route	Parks and open space

TPL



Biohabitats identified three locations that are conducive to strong greenway trail design along the Yellow Mill Channel. These sites are owned by the City of Bridgeport and offer opportunities to connect the public to the water and ecology of the site, and implement programming identified by the community during the December 2022 Waterfront Advisory Board meeting such as gazebos, plazas, and food vendors. While these elements are not the focus of this report, it is important to consider them as future context with the proposed green infrastructure interventions.



Figure 13: The three city owned parcels that will be used as priority concept sites.



SITE VISIT MARCH 25: SITE 01



SITE VISIT MARCH 25: SITE 02



SITE VISIT MARCH 25: SITE 03



DESIGN CHARRETTE MARCH 31



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DESIGN CHARRETTE MARCH 31



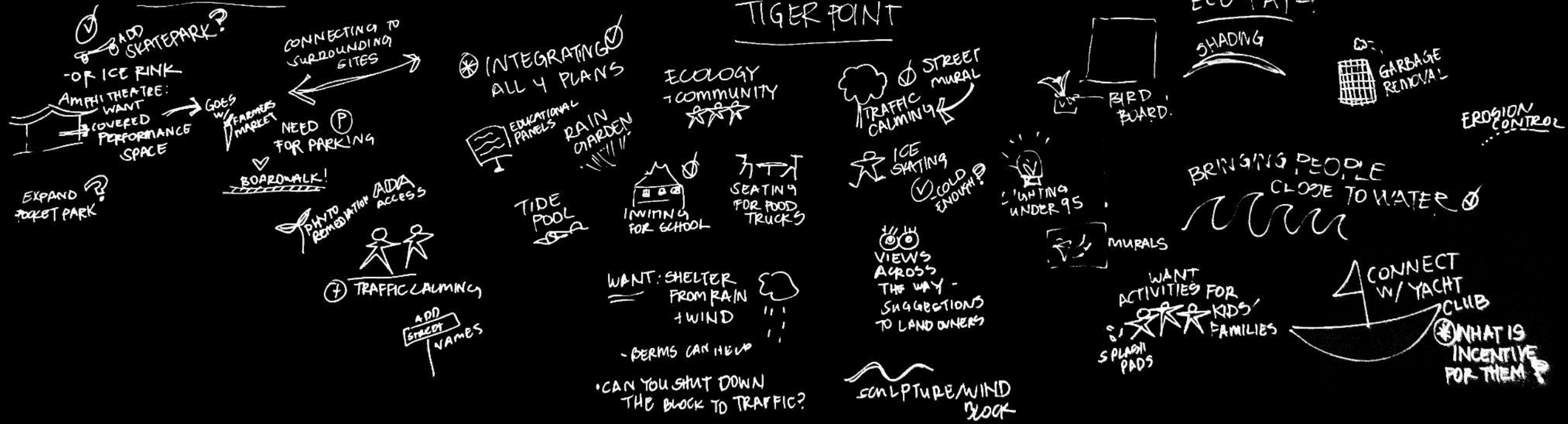
BRIDGEPORT WATERFRONT

1 PATHWAY - YELLOW MILL!

TIGER POINT

SHORELINE

ECC-PATH



PUBLIC PRESENTATION MAY 02

NETWORK

SITE 3: SHORELINE PARK

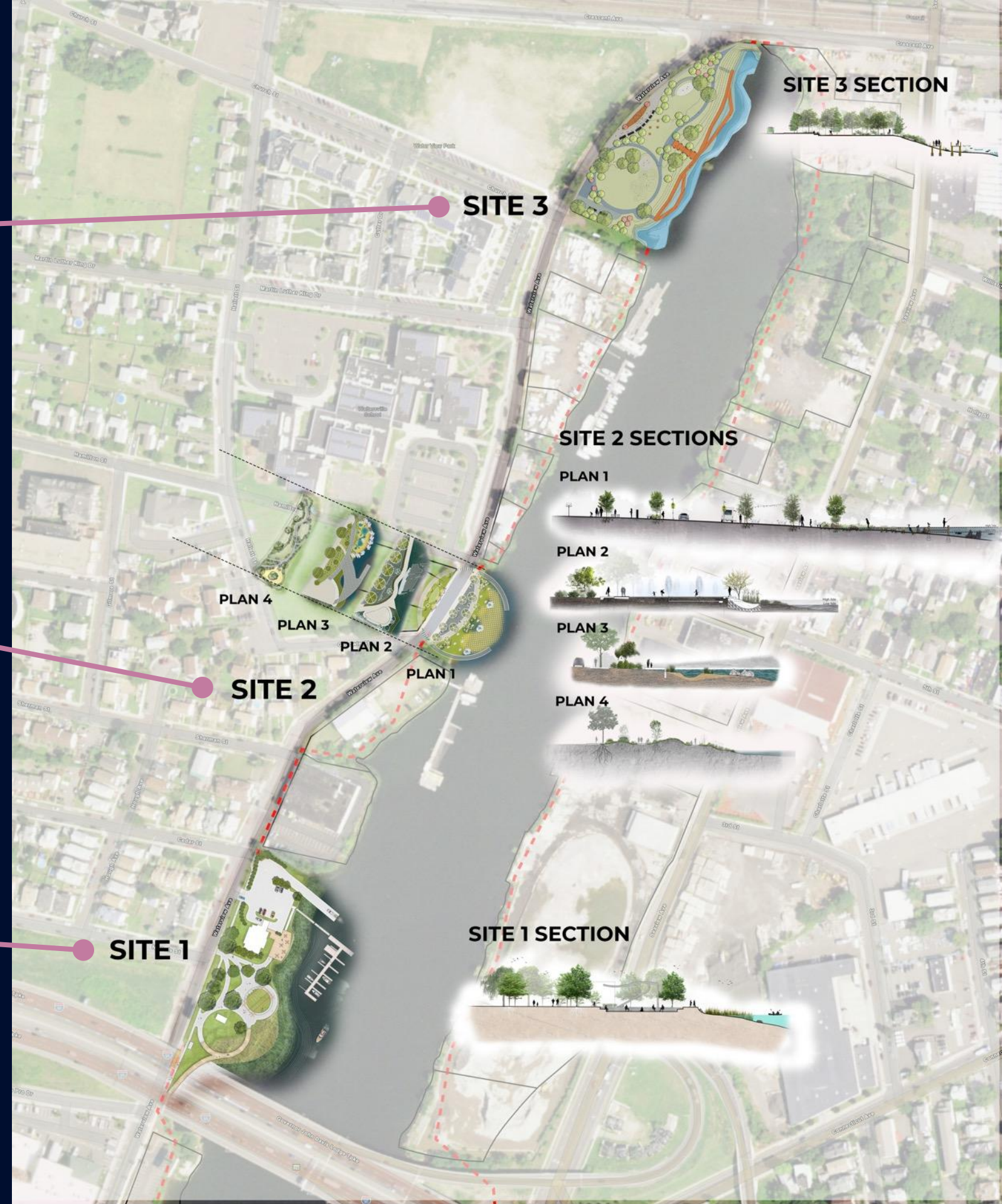
- Erosion Control
- Shoreline Restoration
- Accessible Water Access
- Community Connections
- Site Activation/Family Activities
- Larger Programs: Concerts, Farmer's Market, Fitness

SITE 2: TIGER POINT

- Flood Mitigation
- Engaging Tidal Variation
- Safe Crossings
- Social Activation
- Educational Programming

SITE 1: ECO PATH

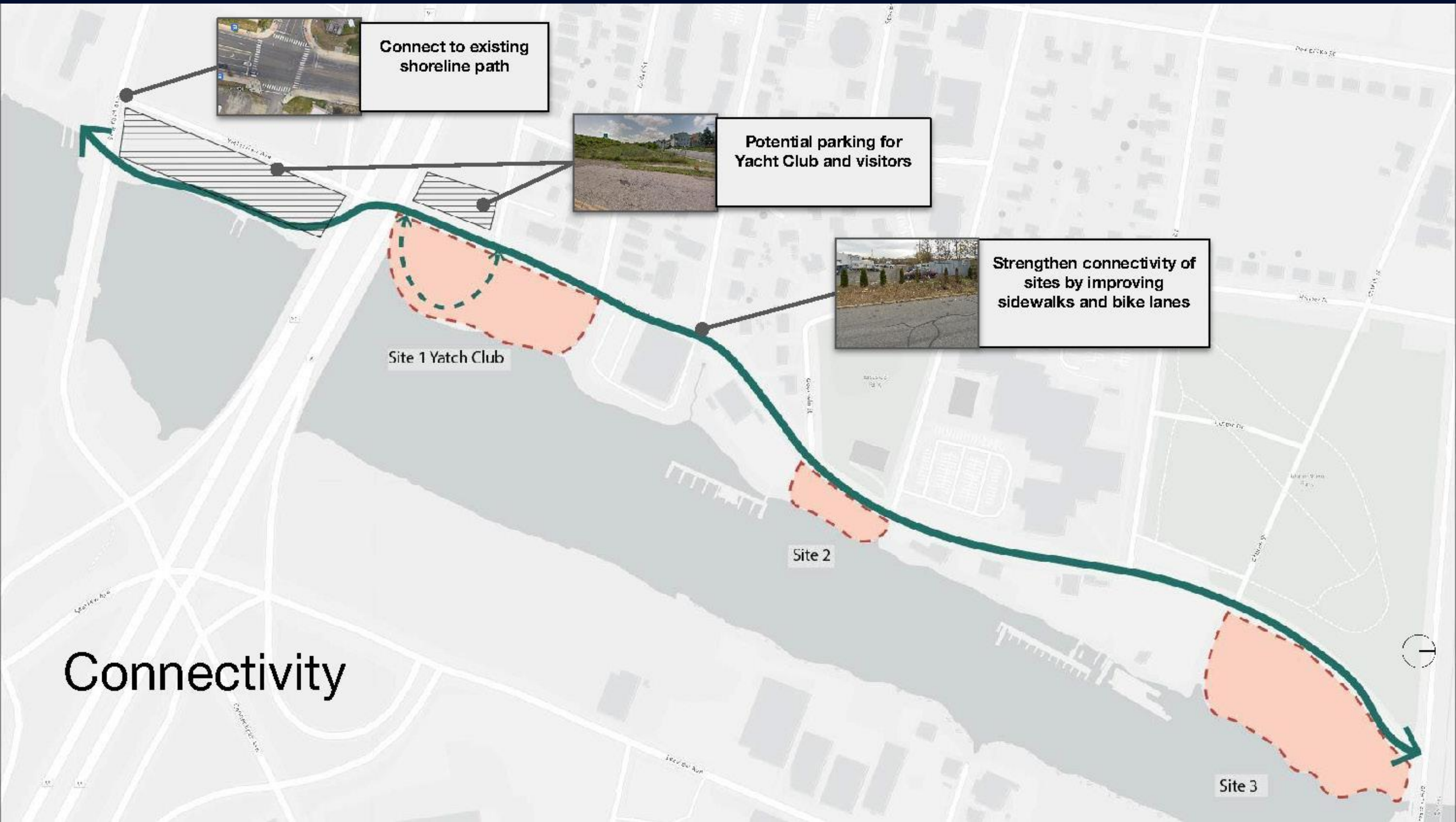
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- Create Connections
- Marina (keep MOVE Yacht Club Activities)
- Relocate Parking Away from the Water's Edge
- Art Installations (Address the Overpass and Billboard)



ECO PATH



Geneva, Marco, Tony, Travis



Connect to existing shoreline path



Potential parking for Yacht Club and visitors



Strengthen connectivity of sites by improving sidewalks and bike lanes

Site 1 Yatch Club

Site 2

Site 3

Connectivity

Vision Statement

Create a safe and sustainable waterfront community space that supports the well-being of locals and nearby ecosystems without displacing the MOVE Yacht Club.









One site, shared uses

Legend

- 1 Upper Marsh
- 2 Lower Marsh
- 3 Shaded Seating Area
- 4 Move Yatch Club
- 5 Move Yatch Club parking
- 6 Proposed Dining Deck
- 7 New Boat Location
- 8 New Dock Location
- 9 Proposed Bus Stop



NETWORK

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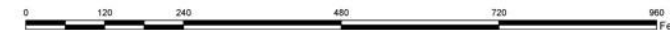
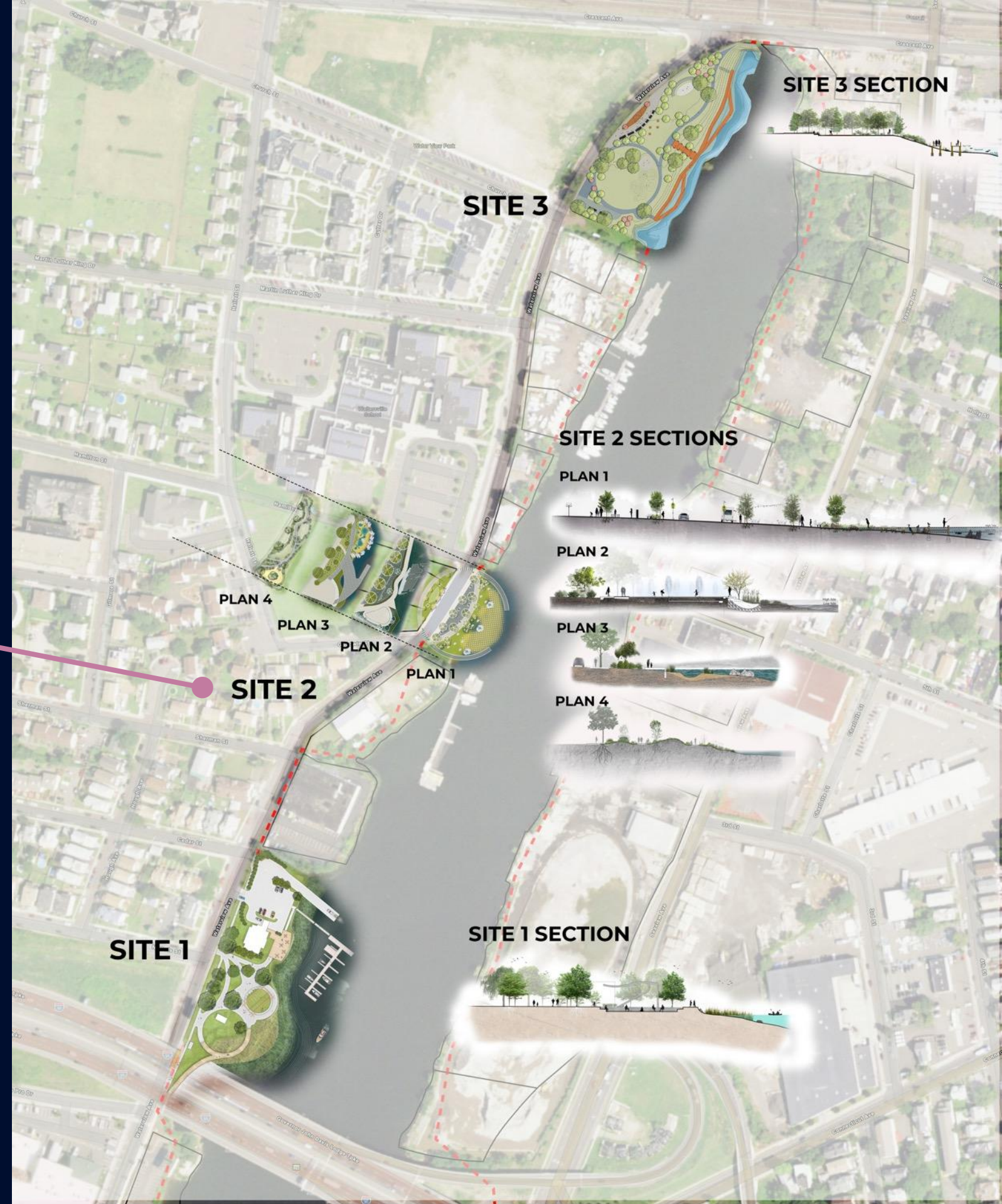
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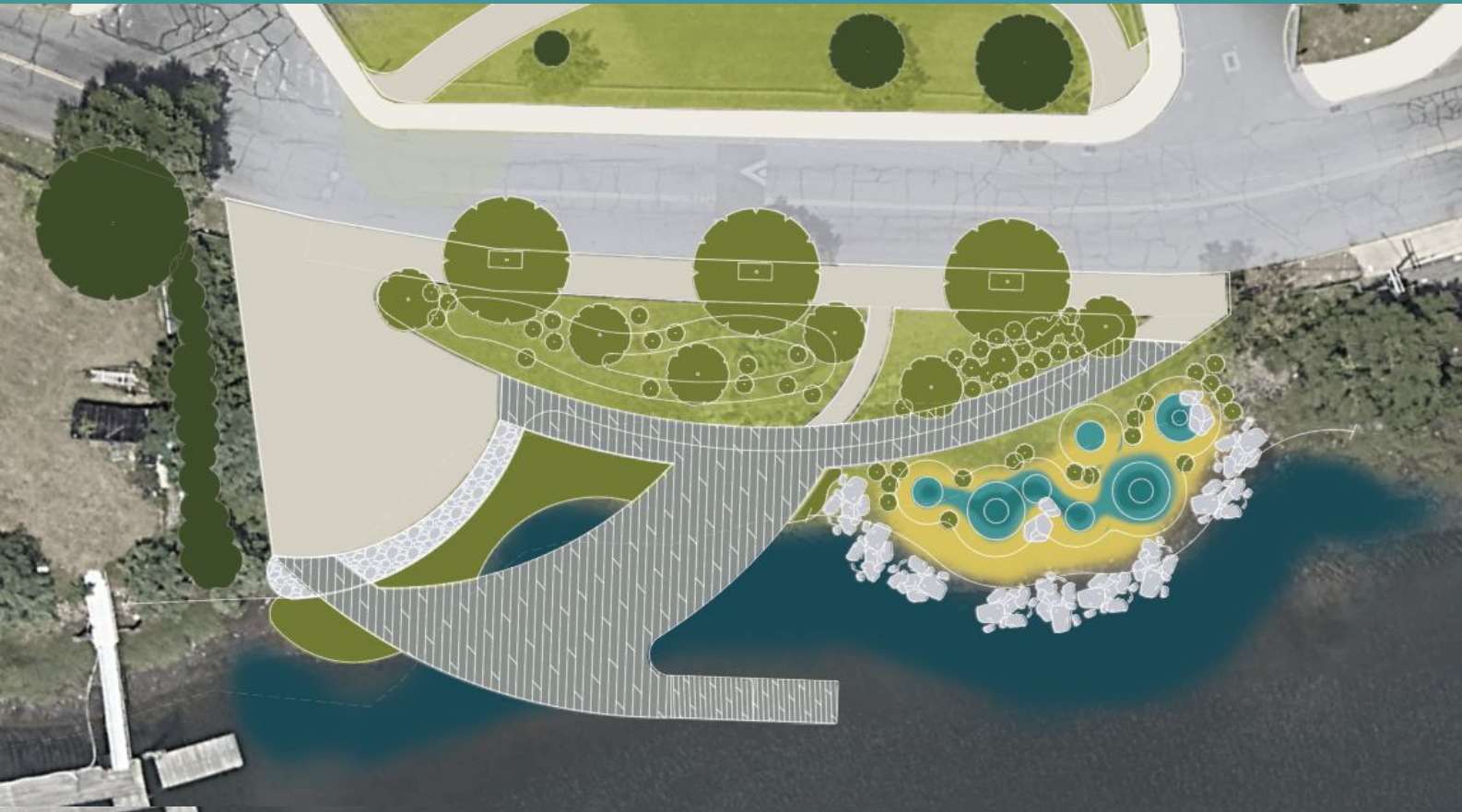
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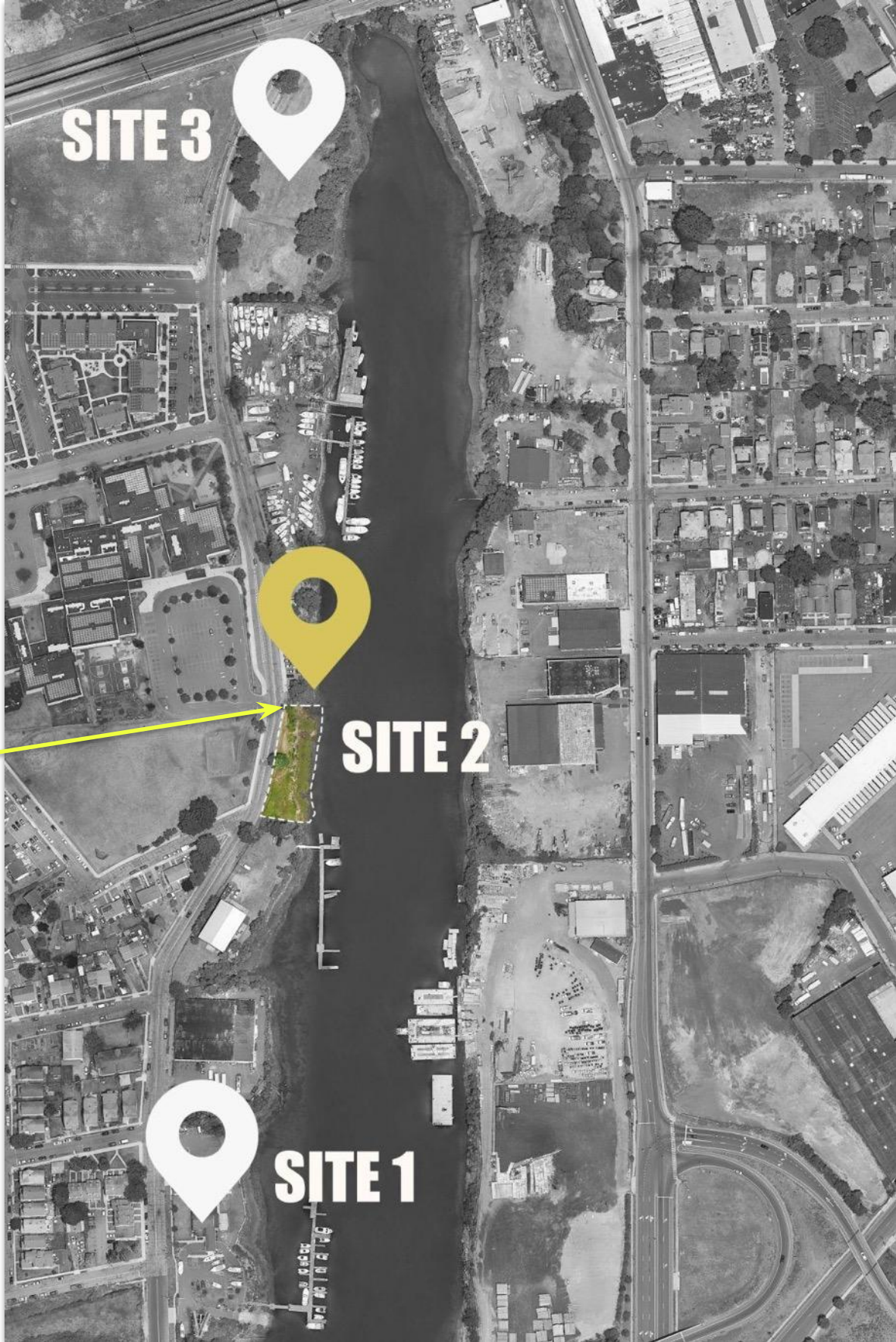


TIGER POINT



Introduction

- A small point in the Yellow Mill Channel
- Exists between the two sites
- in Close proximity to an Elementary and Middle school
 - 587 students, 43 full-time teachers, 78% economically disadvantaged
- Site has no primary function



Existing Conditions



Mission Statements

To serve the community around the channel and create a space, a “hidden gem”, to be enjoyed by people of all ages and backgrounds

To give the channel back to the community. By creating better access, ecology services, and recreation opportunities.

To make Tiger point a destination and not just a remnant.



Design

Toolkit

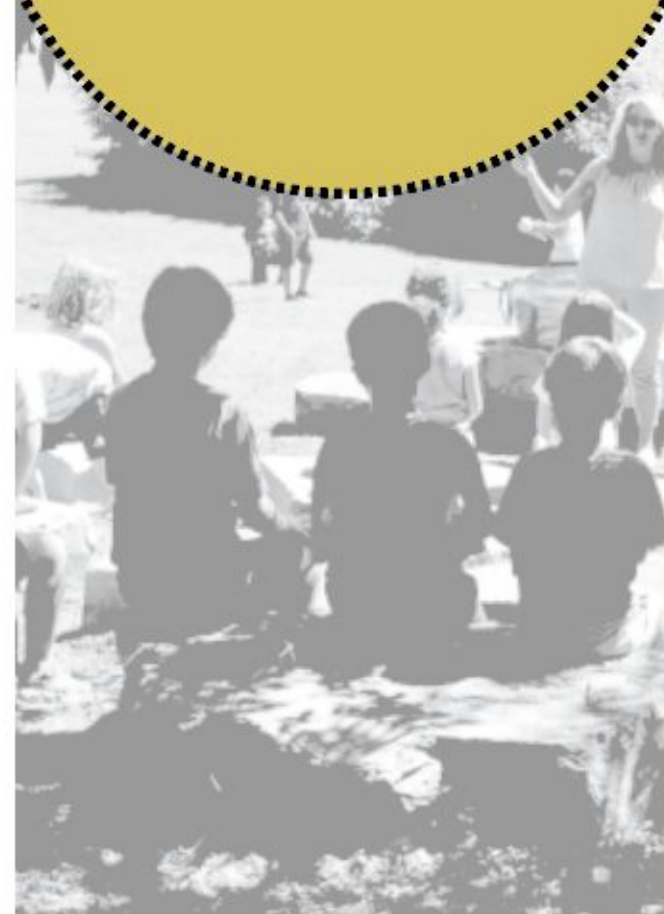
Community

Flex Plaza
Tactical Urbanism



Education

Tidal Pool
Outdoor Classroom



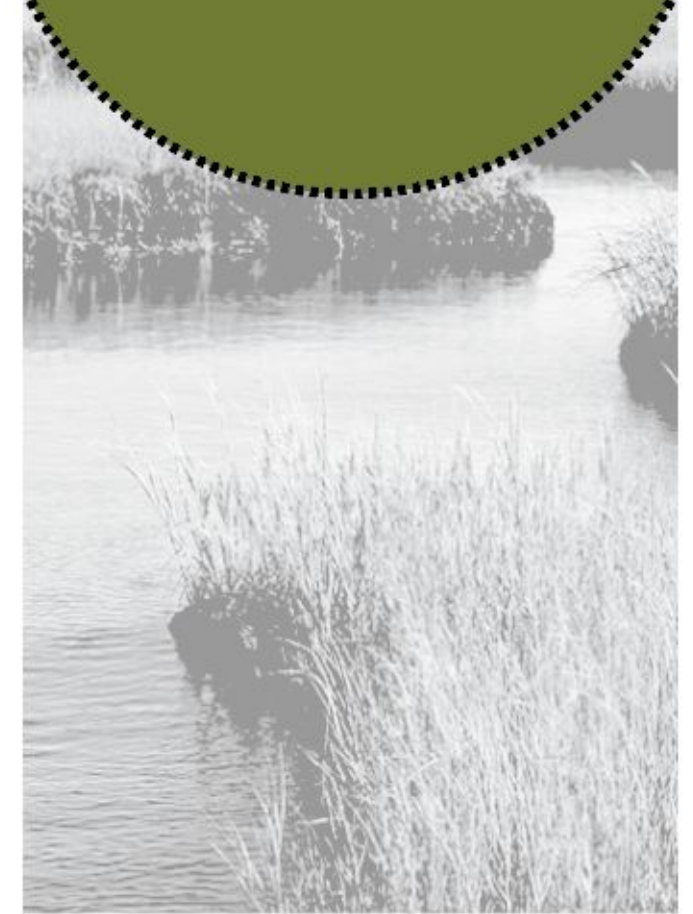
Play

Floodable Island
Kayak Launch
Splash Pad



Nature

Marsh Buffer
Garden Space



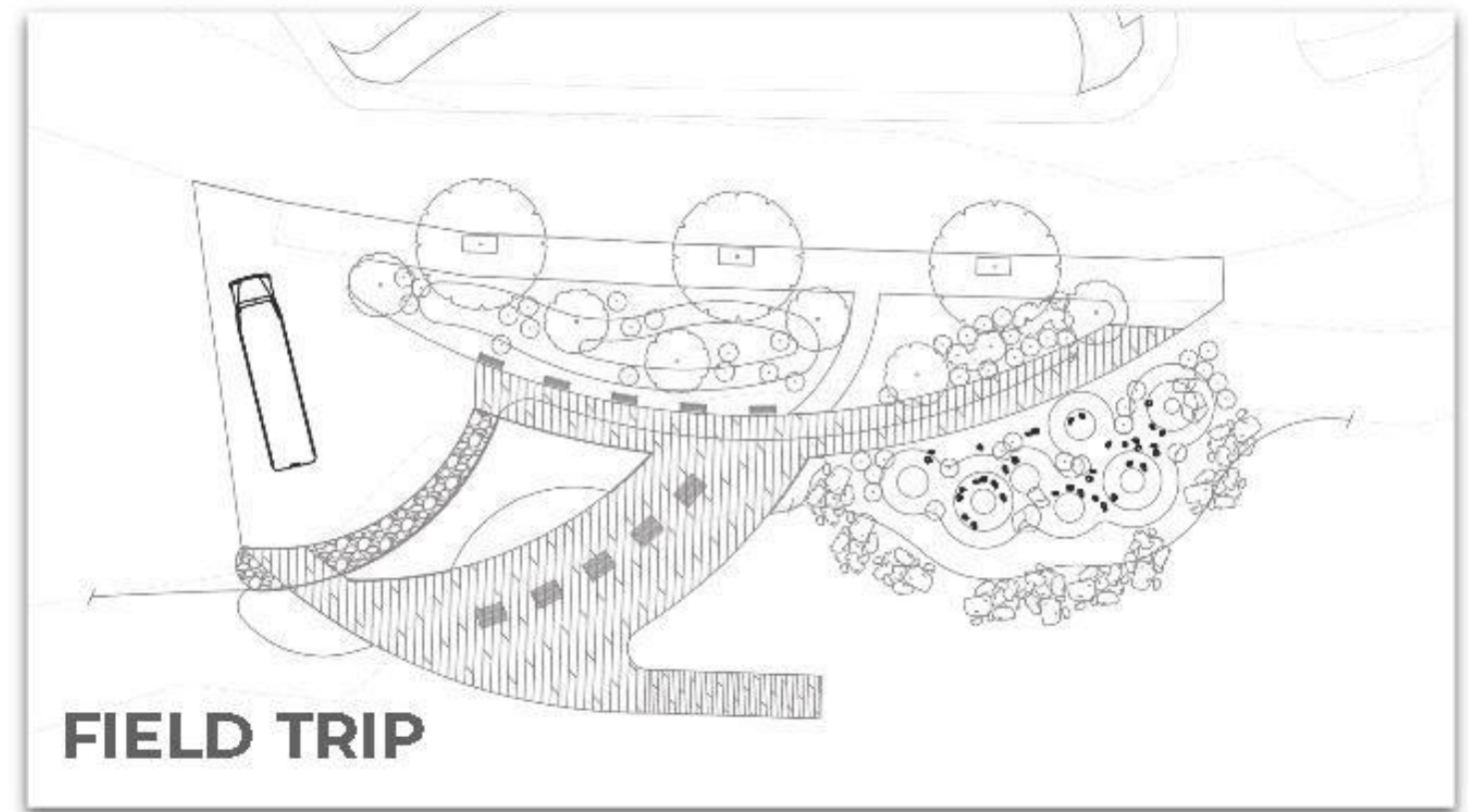
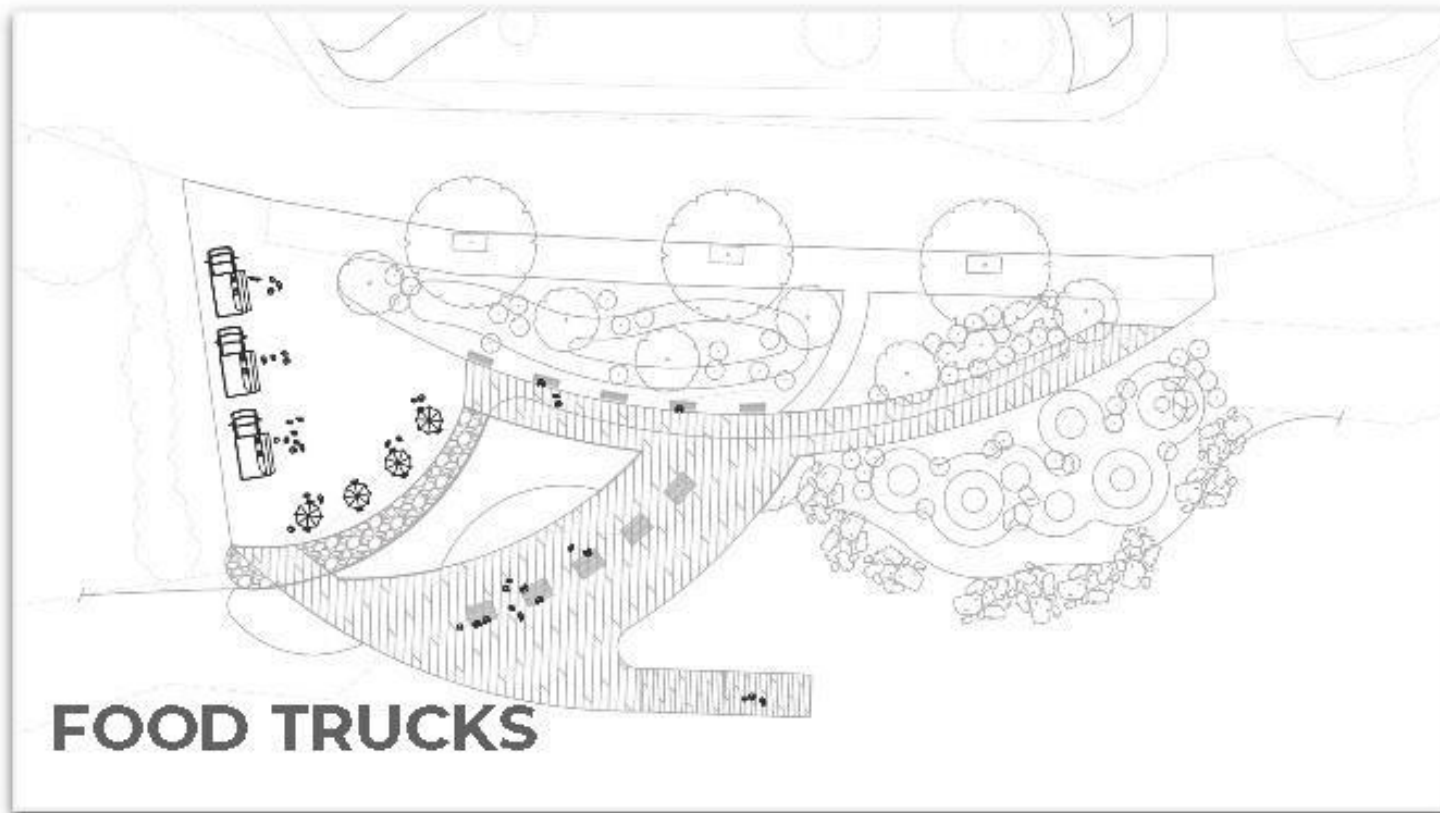
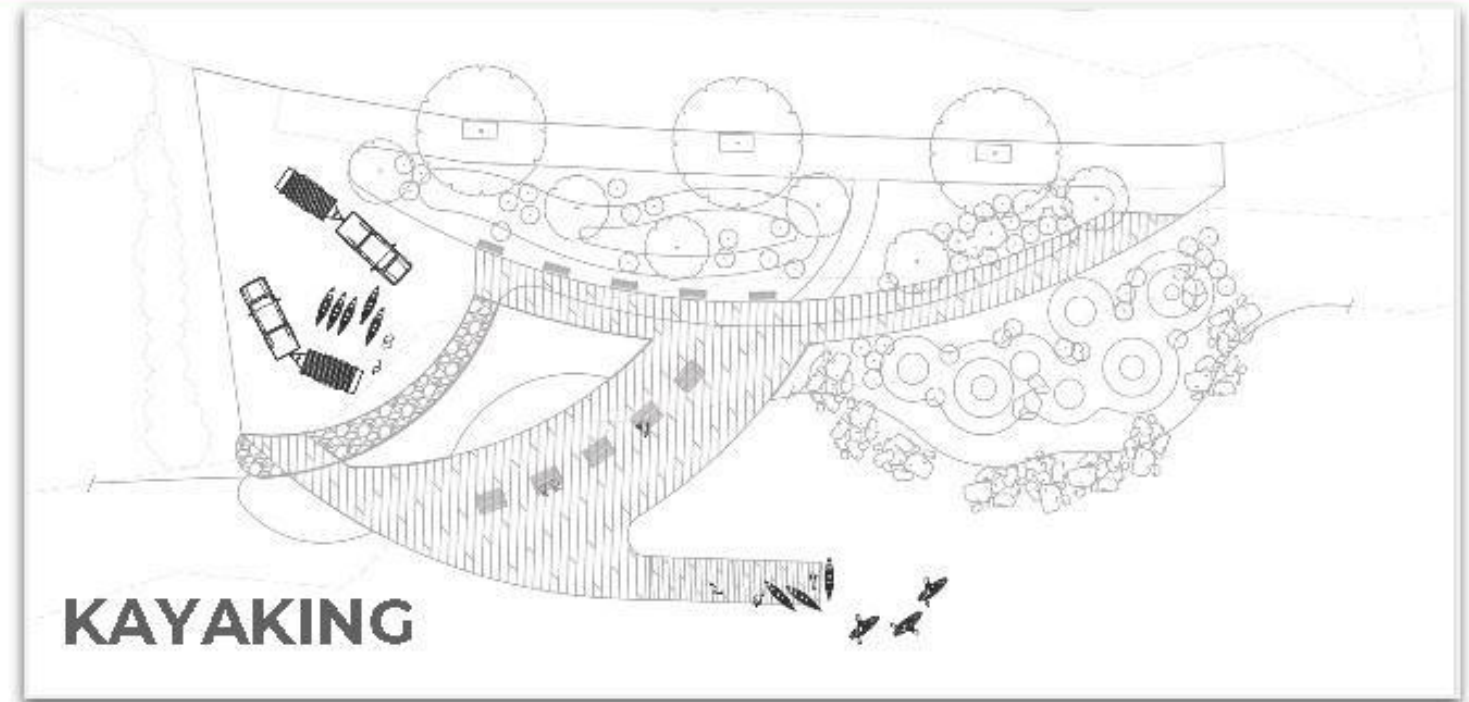
COMMUNITY PARK



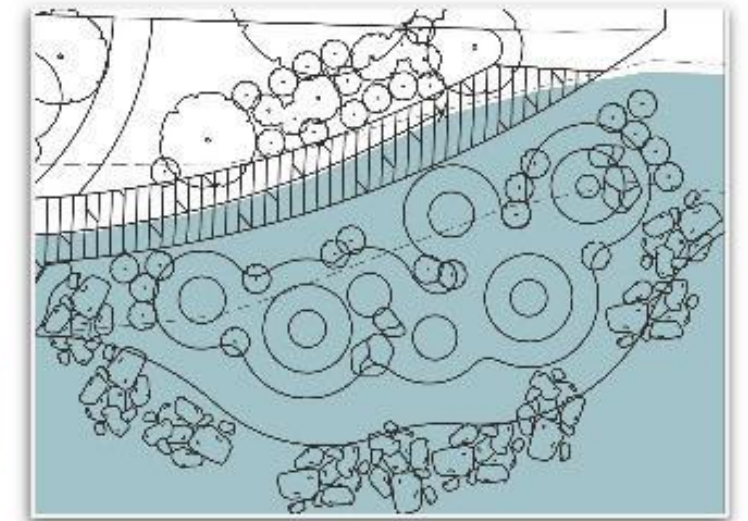
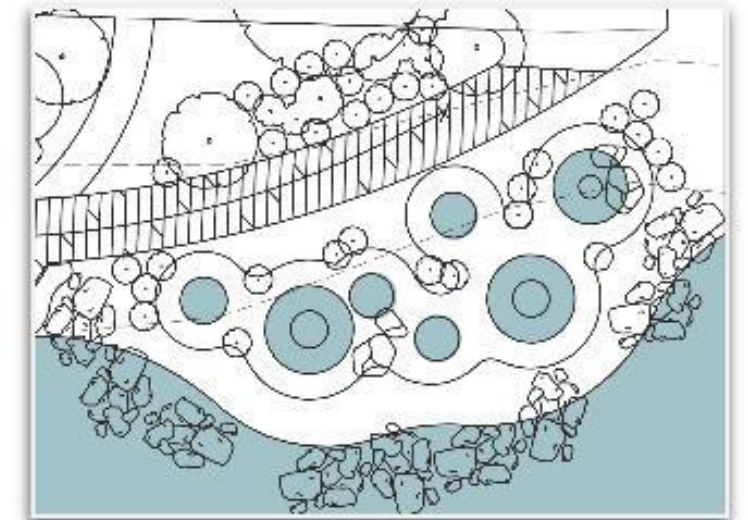
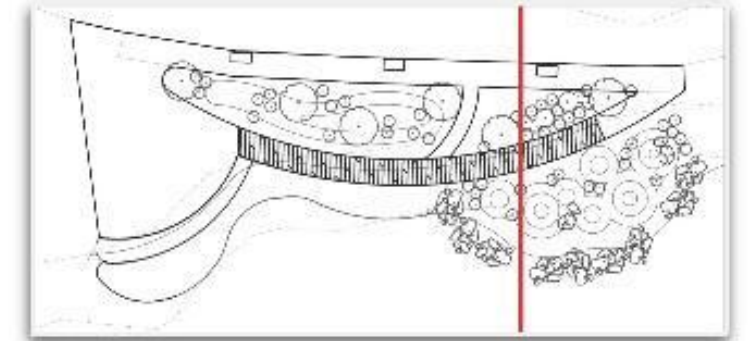
COMMUNITY PARK

Multi-Use Flexibility

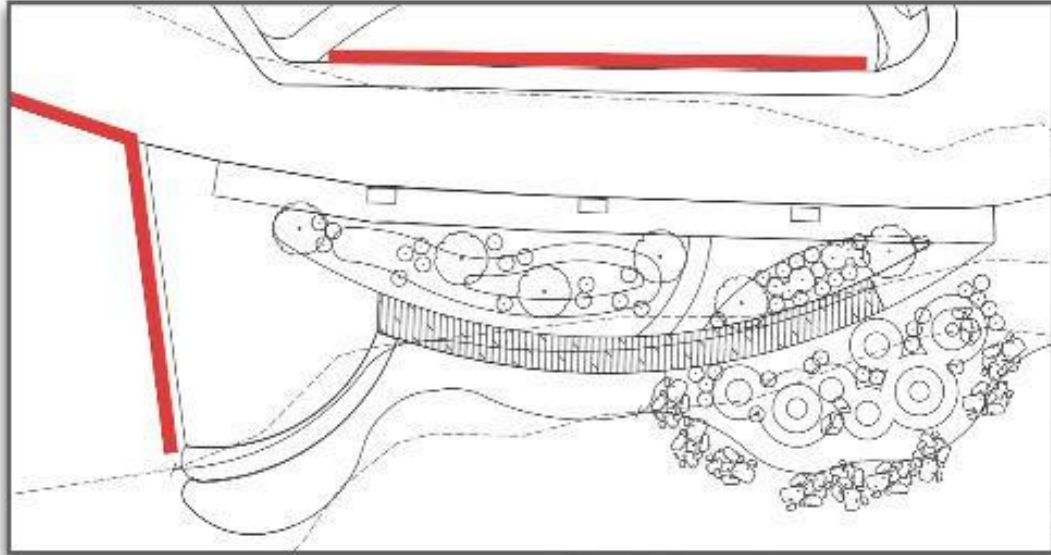
- The "Flex Plaza", to the South of the site, will be a hub for community activities
- The deck, extending into the channel, will provide residents access to the water
- Create a sense of "ownership"



SECTIONS

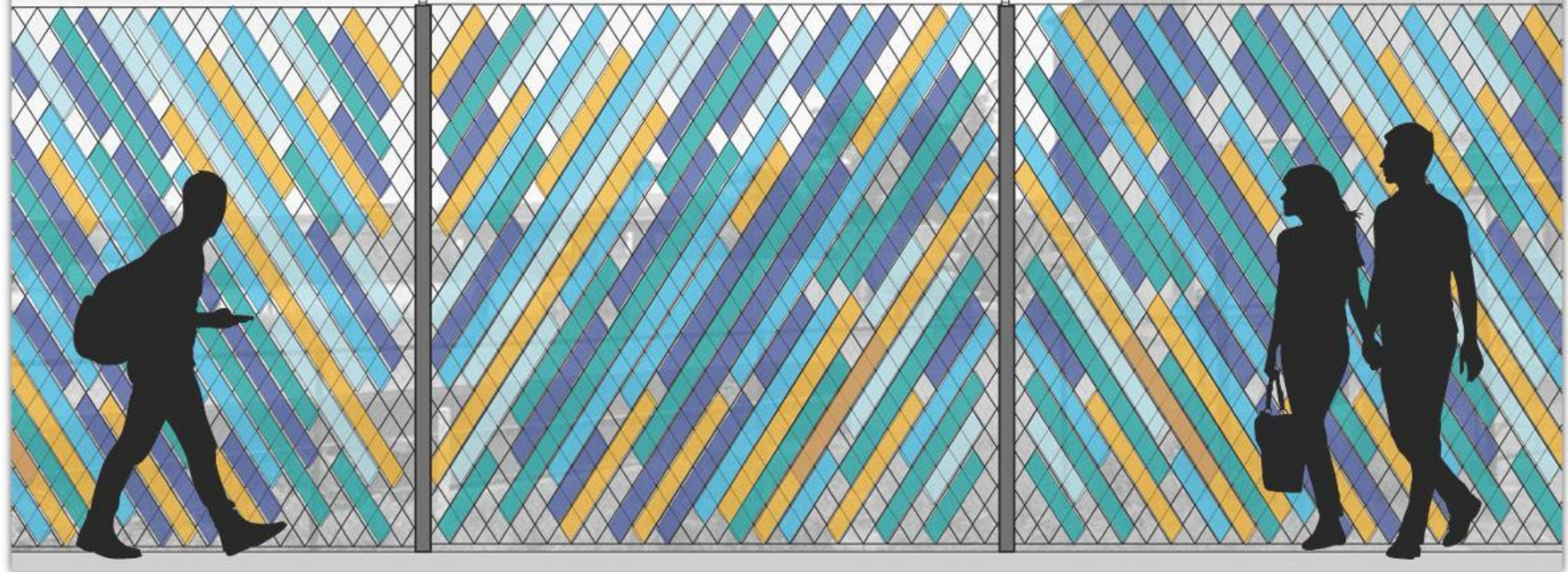


COMMUNITY PROJECT: FENCE CAMOUFLAGE

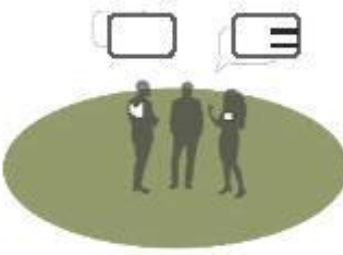
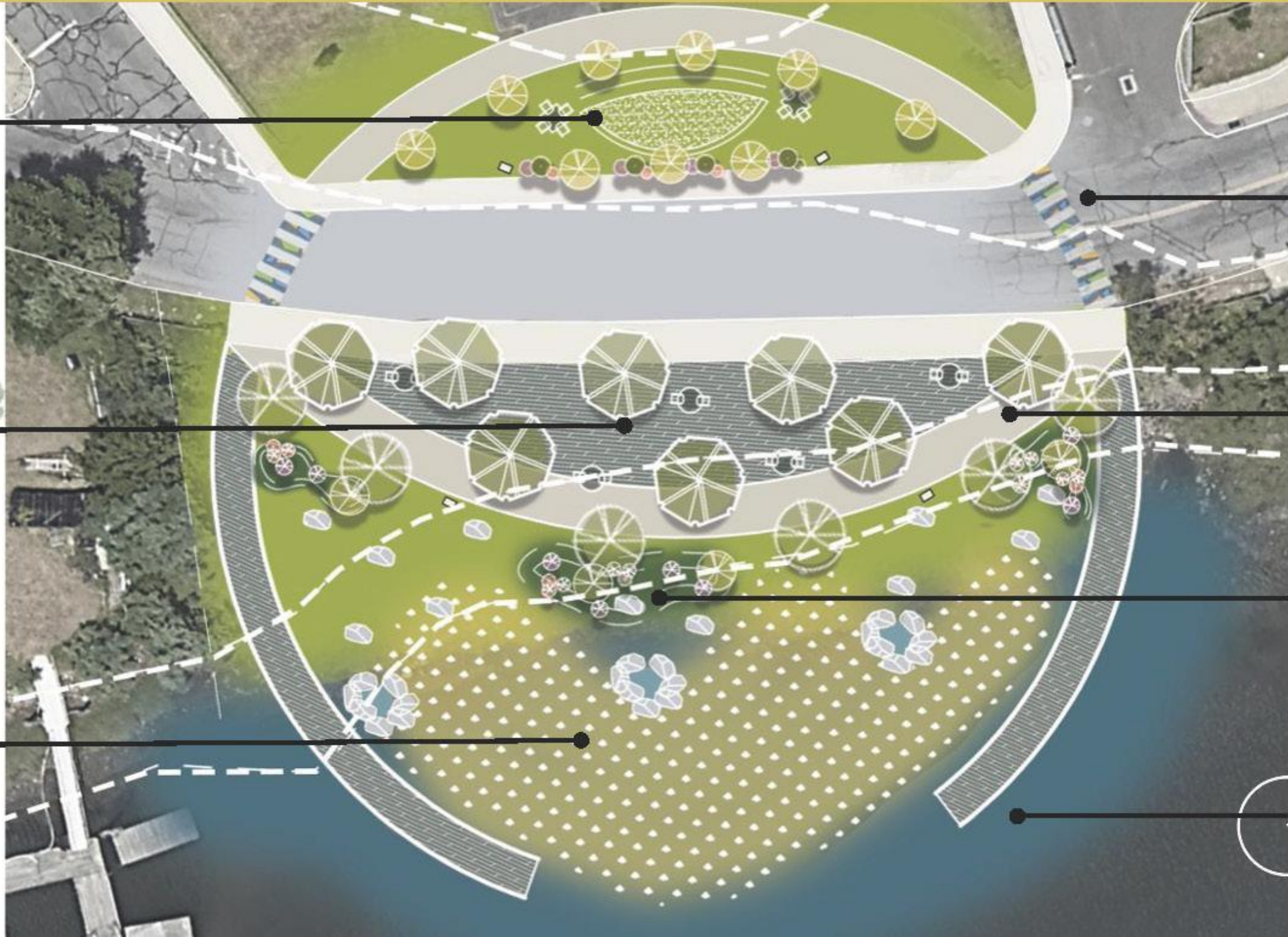


Existing chain link
fencing on adjacent
property

Cannot be removed,
but possibly can be
improved



EDUCATIONAL



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM



SOCIAL DECK



MARSH BUFFER



COLORFUL CROSSWALK



RECREATIONAL PATH

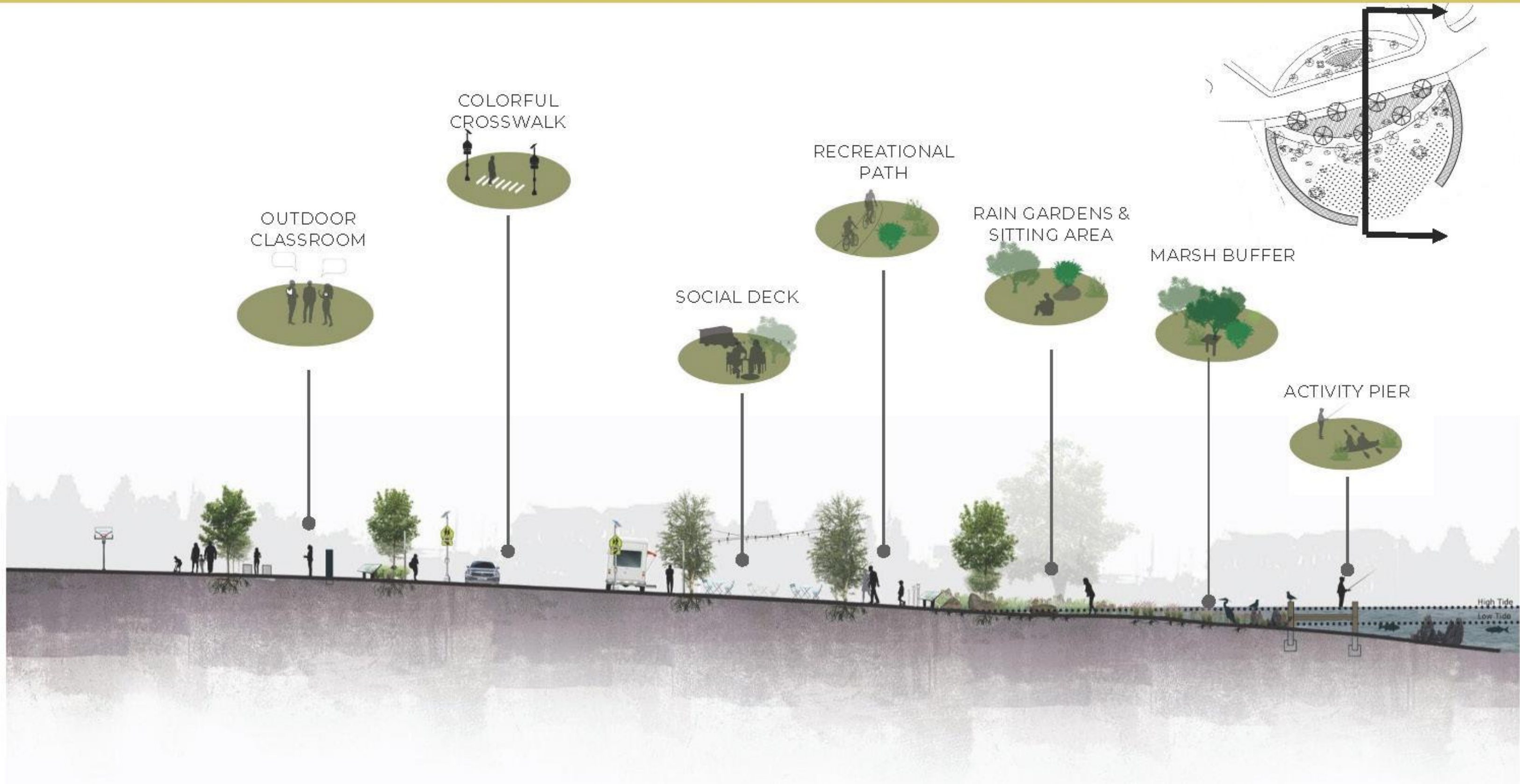


RAIN GARDENS & SITTING AREA

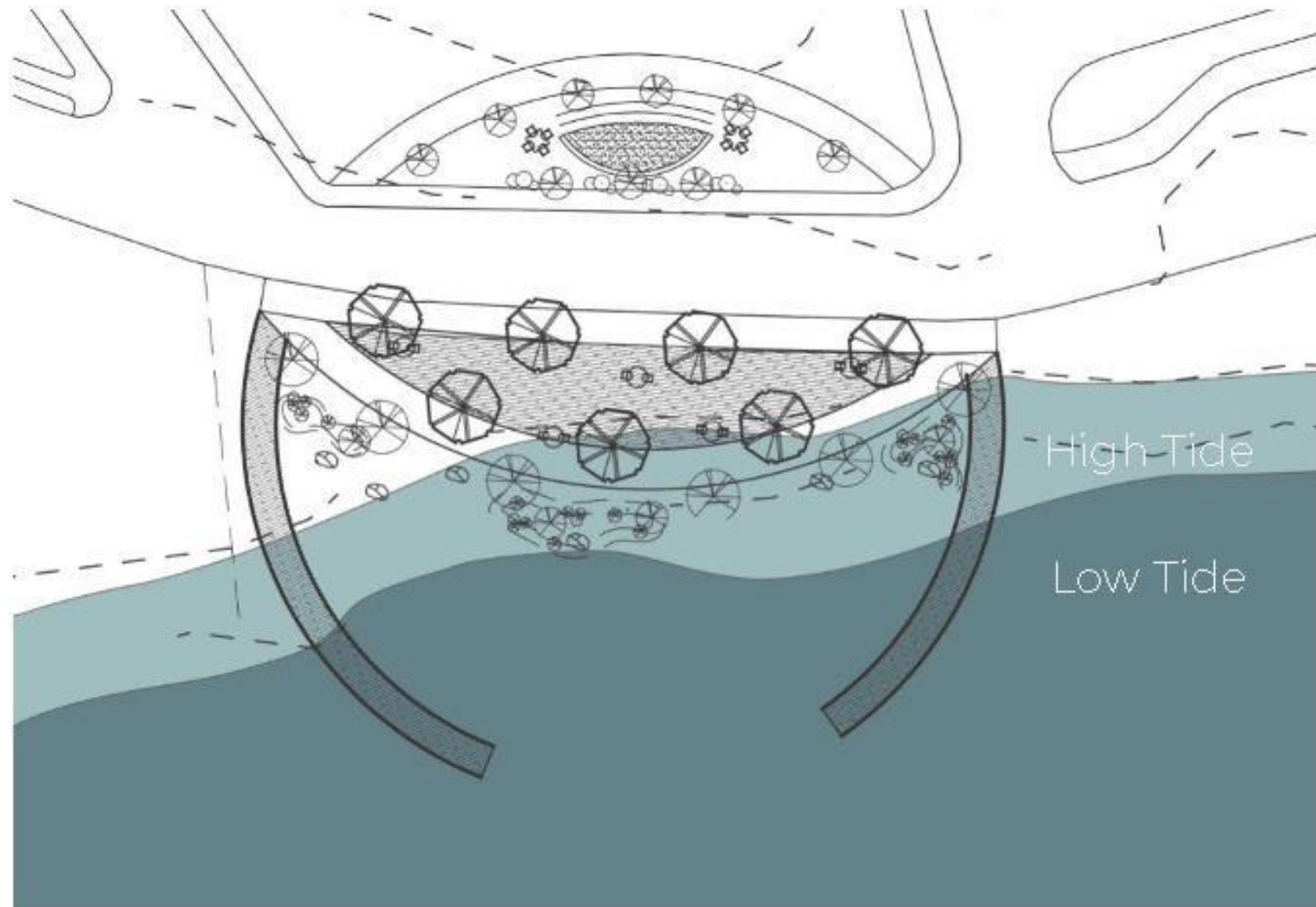


ACTIVITY PIER

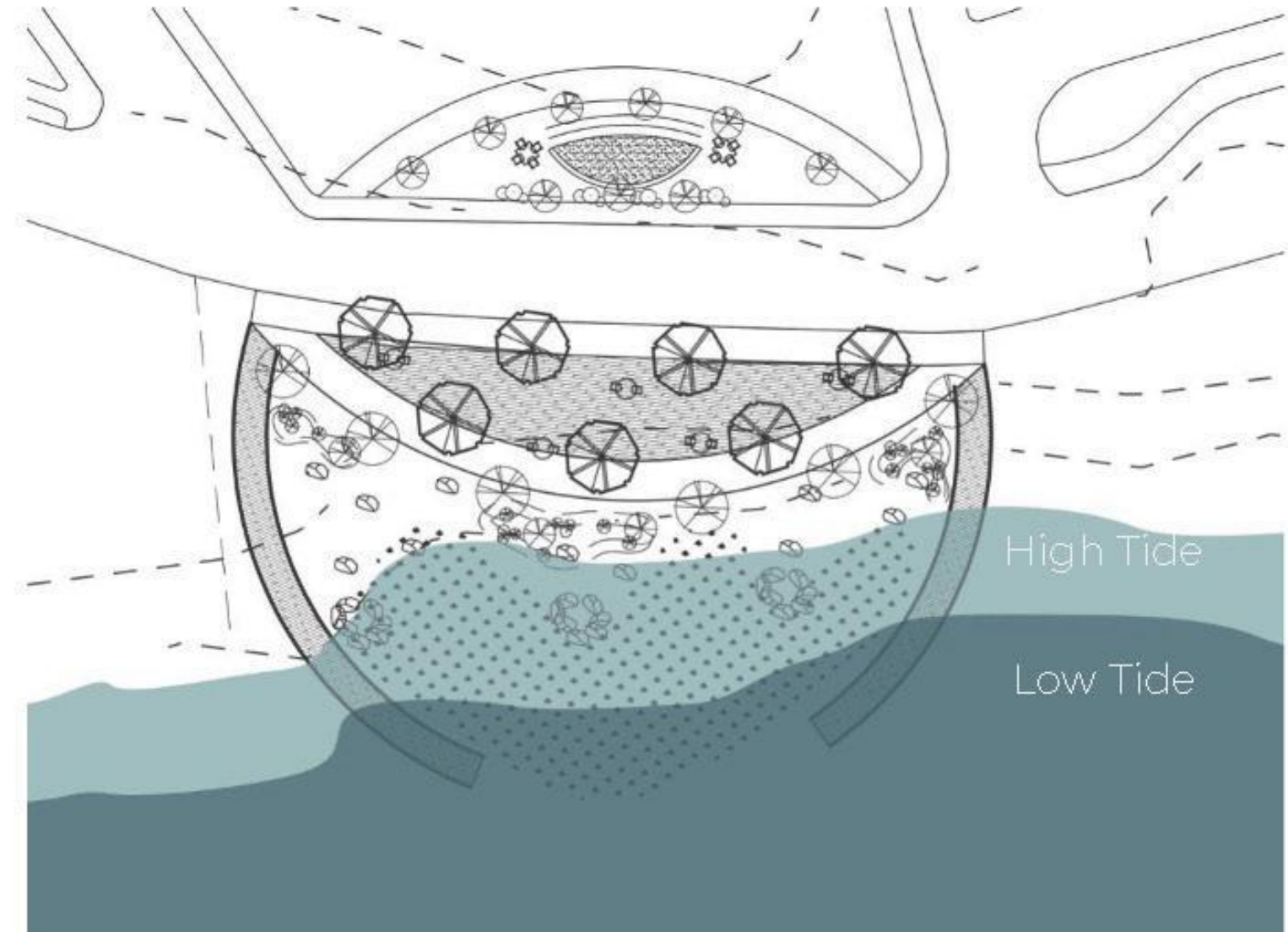
SECTION



TIDES WITHOUT BUFFER MARSH



TIDES WITH BUFFER MARSH



PERSPECTIVE



PLAN



STAGING



<https://landezine-award.com/melk/>



1 : 00 PM
Food Truck Event



<https://landezine-award.com/melk/>



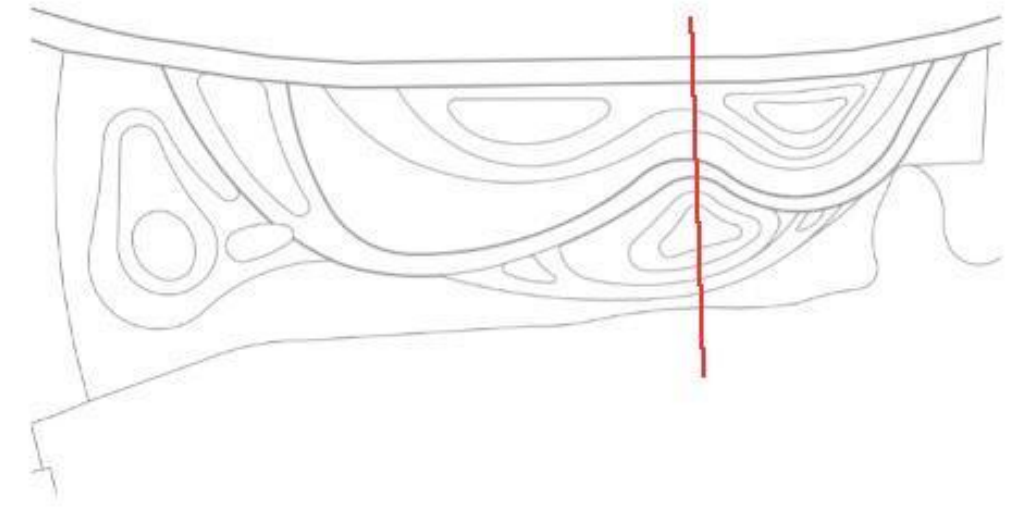
3 : 30 PM
Moms waiting
for their children
getting out of
classes



PLAN



SECTION 03



NETWORK

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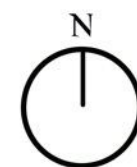
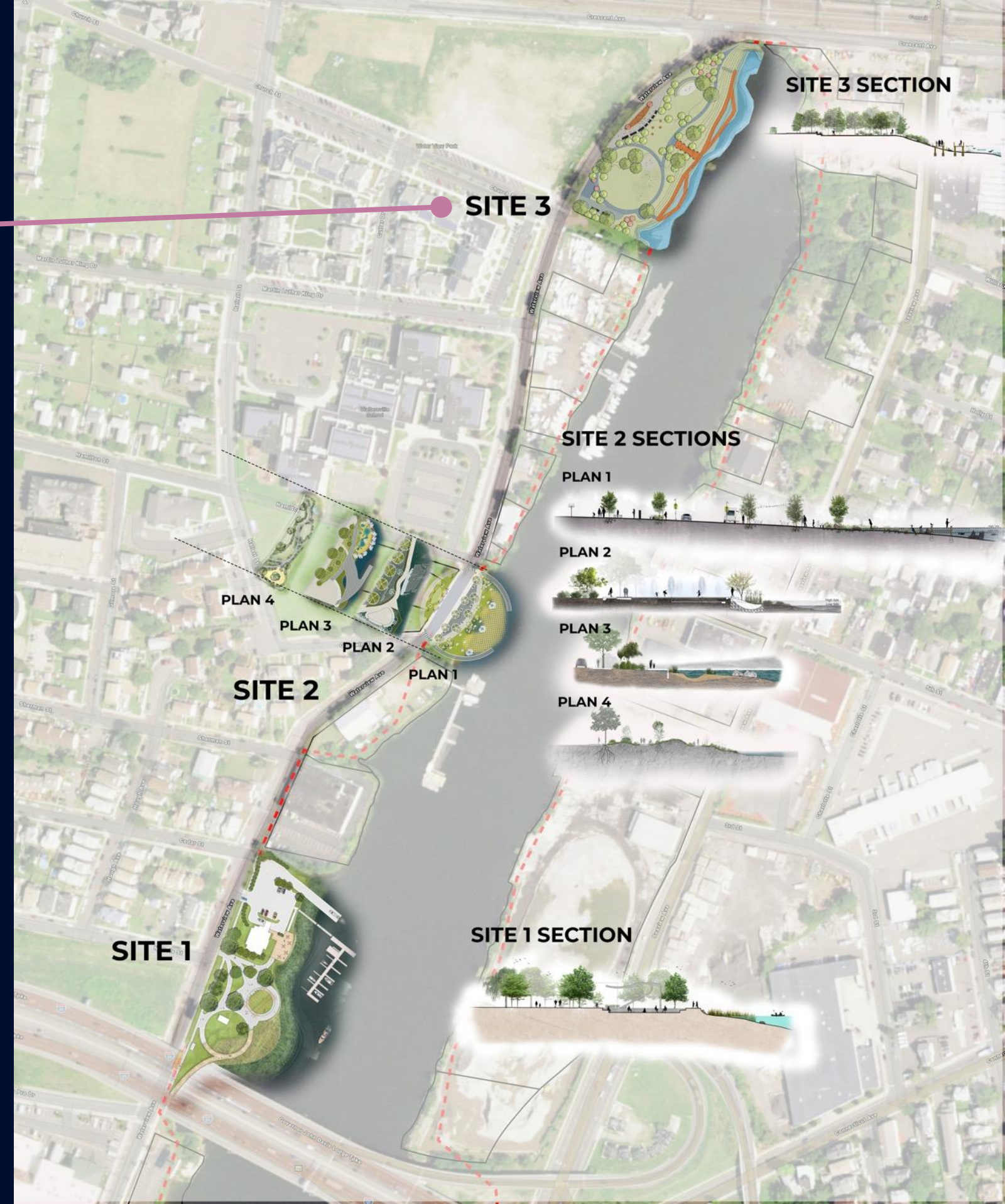
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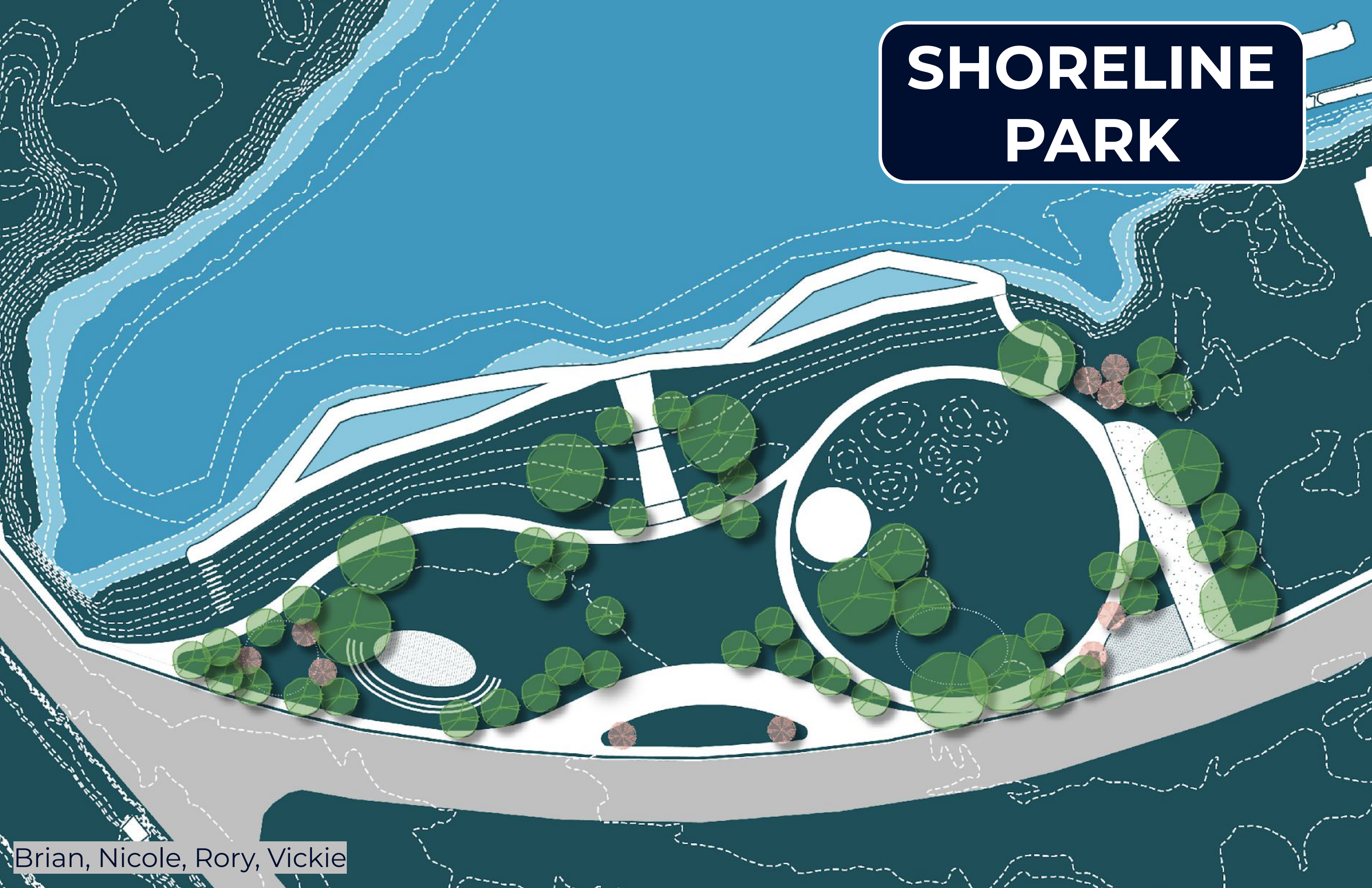
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SHORELINE PARK

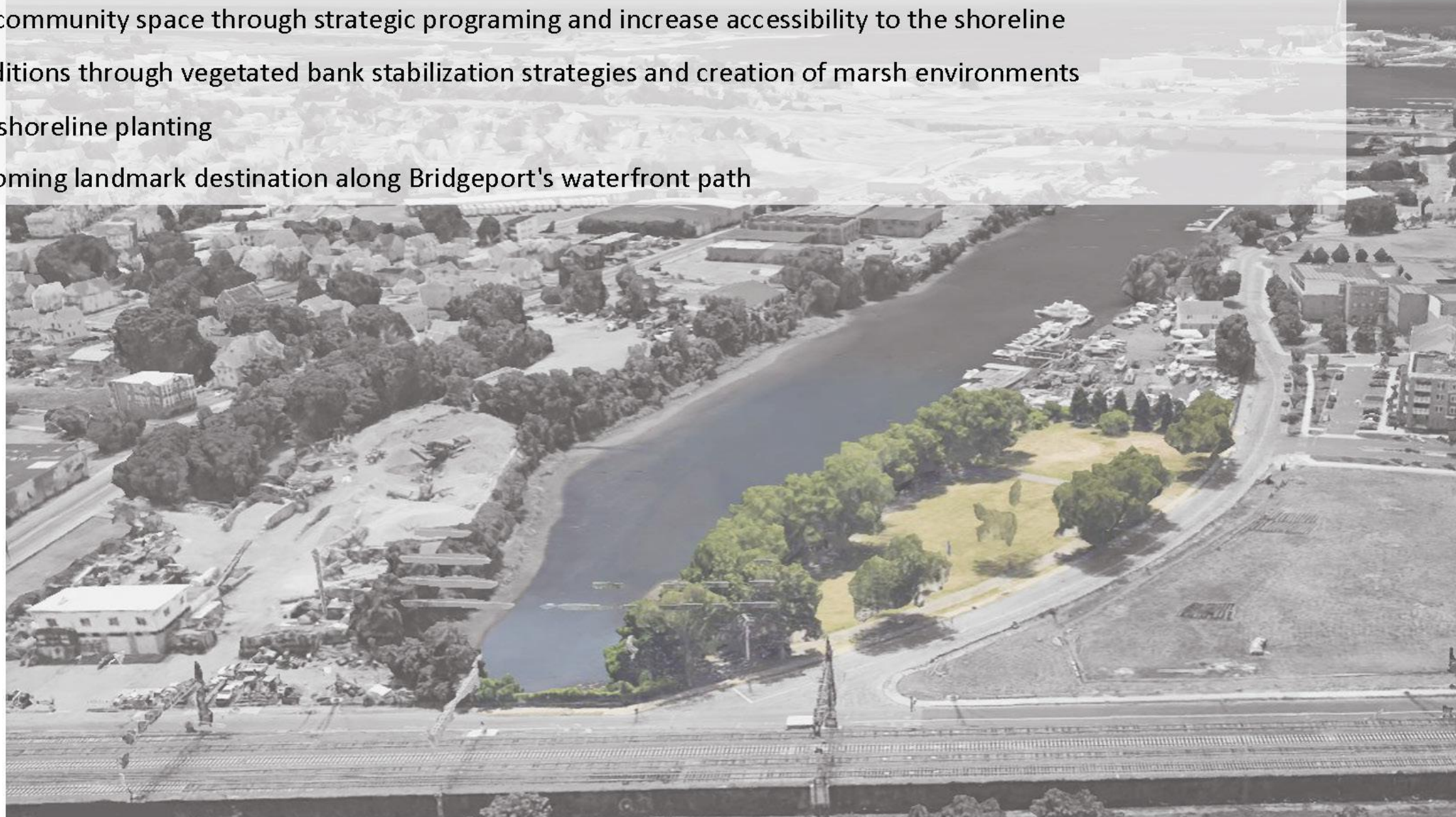


Brian, Nicole, Rory, Vickie

VISION STATEMENT & PROJECT GOALS

In this design we aim to:

- Improve the functionality of community space through strategic programming and increase accessibility to the shoreline
- Address the eroding soil conditions through vegetated bank stabilization strategies and creation of marsh environments
- Increase biodiversity through shoreline planting
- Create a significant and welcoming landmark destination along Bridgeport's waterfront path



PROPOSED DESIGN: LOW TIDE



Nicole



SECTION I: Pocket Park to Shoreline Path



POCKET PARK



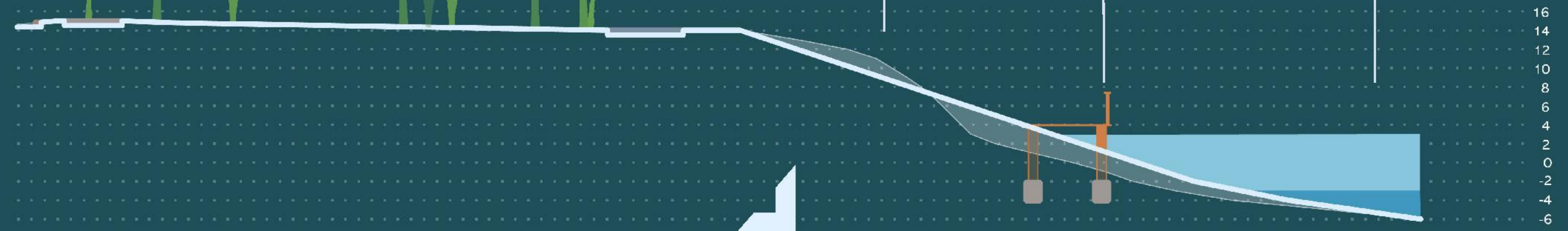
BANK STABILIZATION



BOARDWALK PATH



MARSH CREATION



SECTION I: Pocket Park to Shoreline Path

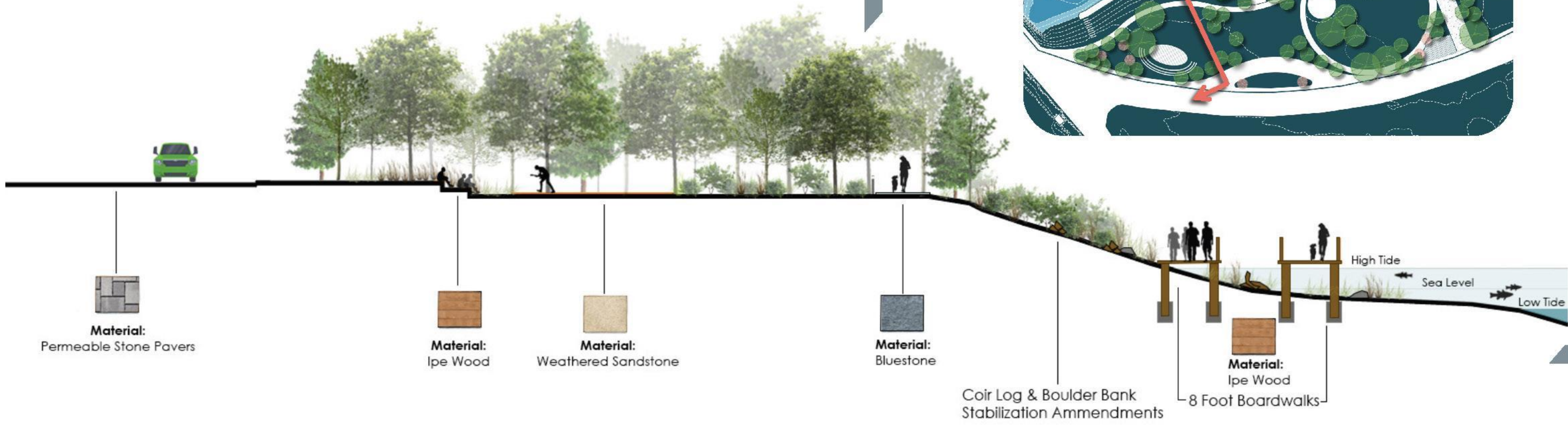


ADA Compliancy

Create an intimate setting within the larger park area
More dense vegetation to block sound and create sense of enclosure



SECTION II: Amphitheater to Shoreline



Pedestrian Plaza
Community Food Truck Area
Permeable Pavers



Amphitheater
Wooden Seating + Stage
2ft Grade Change

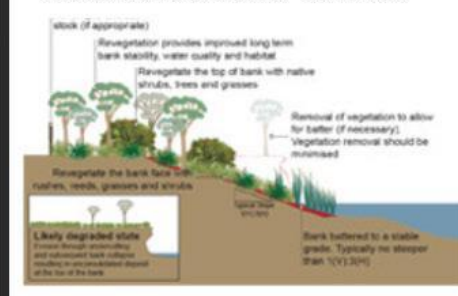


Open Area
Deciduous Tree + Shrubs
Evergreen Trees + Shrubs



Path
8ft
Highland
Pathway

Upland – Low Marsh
Bank Stabilization
Native Marsh Shrubs + Grasses



Subtidal Zone
Aquatic + Subaquatic Plants
Boulder Features



SECTION III: Accessibility to the Waterfront



ADA Compliancy



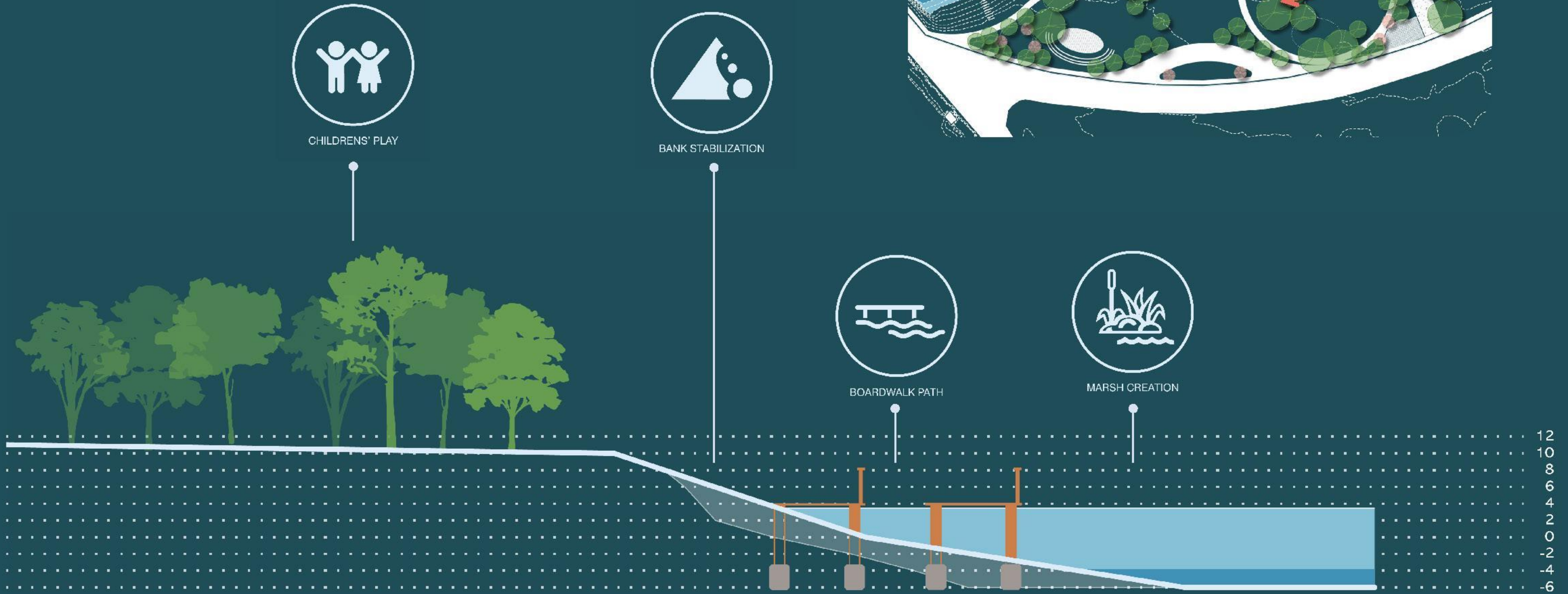
Low Marsh Zone



Subtidal Zone



SECTION IV: Playground & Shoreline Path



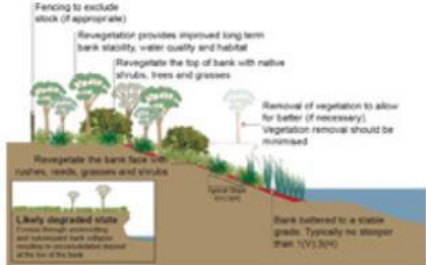
SECTION IV: Playground & Shoreline Path



Natural Playground



**Upland – Low Marsh
Bank Stabilization
Native Marsh Shrubs + Grasses**



Subtidal Zone

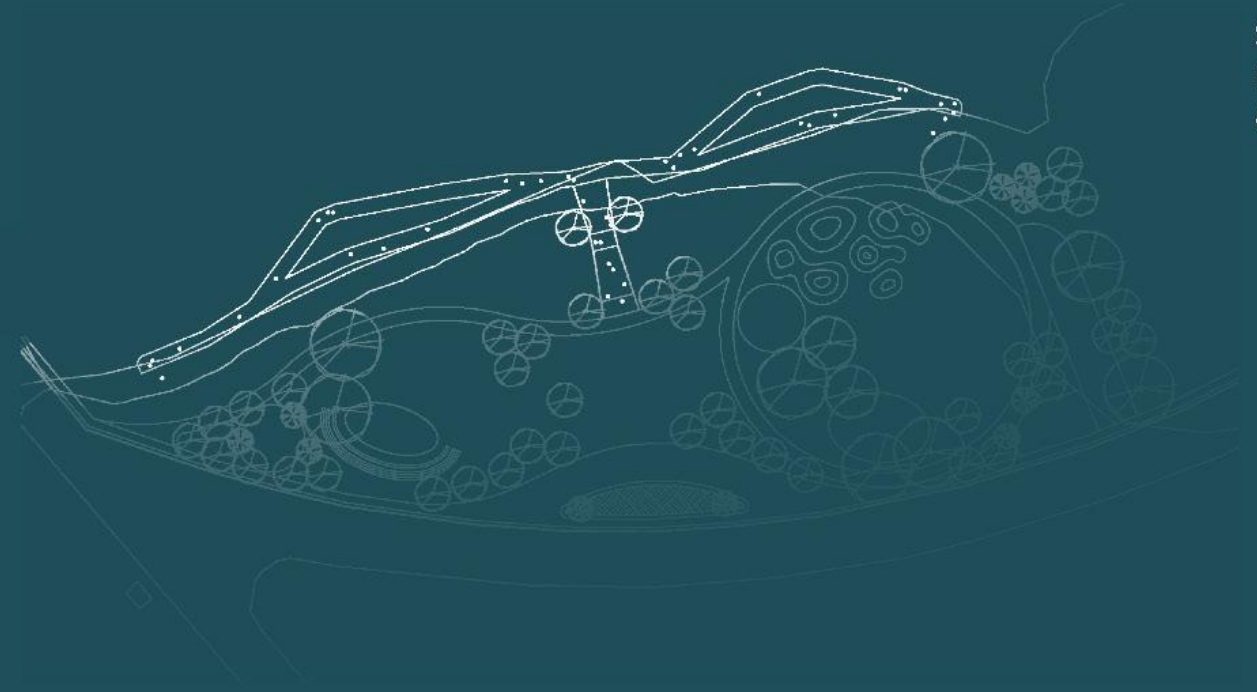


PROGRAMING: Activities for the Community

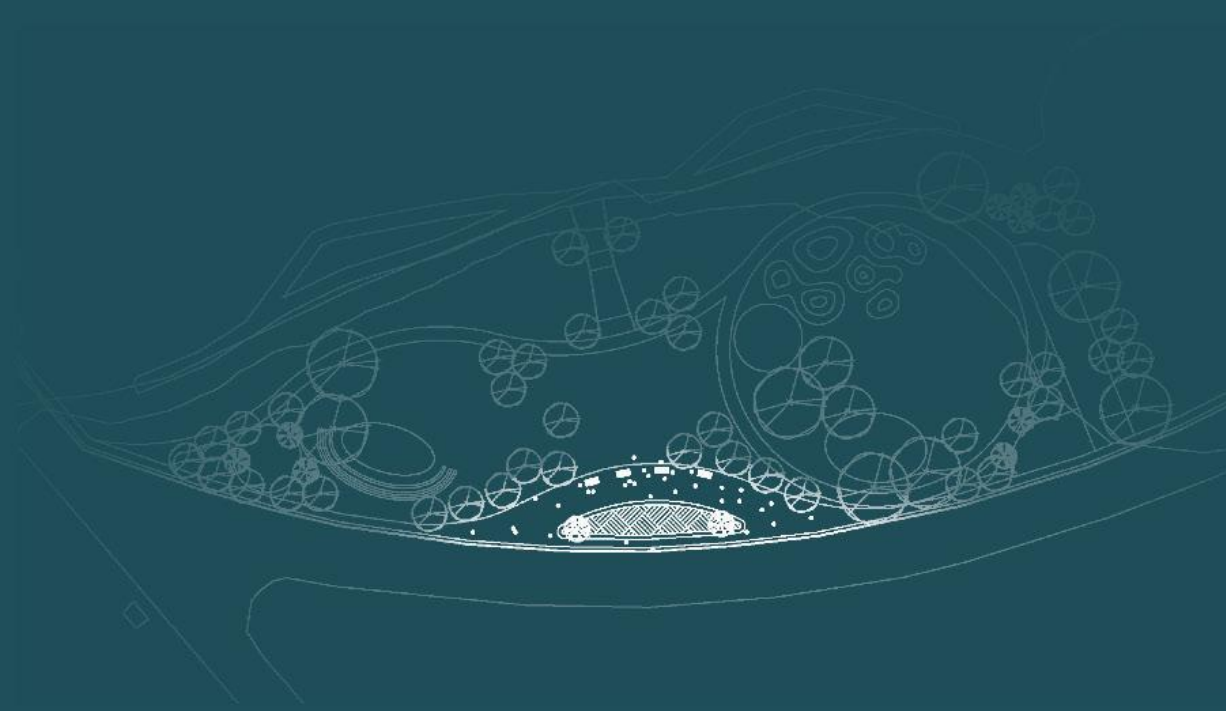
Amphitheater:
Performances
Big and Small



Shoreline:
Fishing
& Kayaking



Plaza:
Farmers Market
& Food Trucks



Active Zone:
Playground,
Splash Pad,
Outdoor Fitness Area



PROGRAMING: Activities for the Community





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PLANT SCIENCE AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE