

FREEWAY PARK

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

DRAFT Design Development Presentation

Seattle Design Commission March 2021

- 1. Project Updates**
- 2. Park Wide Improvements**
- 3. Focus Areas**
- 4. Discussion**



**Seattle
Parks & Recreation**
healthy people healthy environment strong communities



WALKER | MACY



PRESERVE & RESTORE REPAIR & RECONSTRUCT ENHANCE

5.2 acres

\$6M construction budget

**Listed on the National Register of Historic Places
(December 2019)**

Design proposals will require review and approval by the Washington State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).


Master Plan / Schematic Design (Fall 2019 - Spring 2020)

- Open House / Halprin Expert Panel
- Stakeholder Outreach
- SDC Presentation
- Presentations to SPR, Project Advisory Group, & DAHP

Value Engineering and Scope Refinements for Design Development (Spring - Fall 2020)

- Online Public Open House and Survey
- Structural Assessment Scoping

Design Development (Fall 2020 - Spring 2021)

-  SDC Presentation
- Presentations to SPR & Project Advisory Group

This project will honor the original design intent for the park.

Freeway Park is a tranquil place with an adventurous spirit.
It should connect the city and bring people together.

- Make the park more welcoming.
- Bring people back to the park.
- Restore its role and reputation as a centerpiece of Seattle's park system and icon of landscape architecture.



ENTRANCES

STRENGTHEN PARK ENTRANCES WITH THE MOST POTENTIAL.

IDENTITY

CLARIFY AND PROMOTE THE PARK'S PRIME AREAS.

PROGRAMMING

INCREASE ACTIVITY THROUGHOUT THE PARK.
ATTRACT KIDS, FAMILIES, AND NEW PARK VISITORS.
PROVIDE BUILDINGS THAT SUPPORT EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

finding freeway park

master plan

schematic design

GOALS &
IDEAS

STRATEGIES

PRIORITIES &
PREFERENCES

Public Meeting 1

Public Meeting 2

Seattle Design Fest booth

Public Meeting 3

Public Open House 1

Panel Discussion & Public
Open House 2

Online Open House 1 /
Survey

Online Open House 2 /
Survey



ONLINE OPEN HOUSE 1

fall 2019

220 survey responses

66% “adult”
24% “senior”
10% “child or young adult”

91% “white”
2% “american indian or alaska native”
3% “asian or asian american”
3% “black, african american, or african”
2% “latina/o or hispanic”

ONLINE OPEN HOUSE 2

summer 2020

530 survey responses
(1400 people visited the online survey)

72% 18 - 59 years old
26% 60 years old and older
1% 17 years old and younger

82% “white or caucasian”
2% “american indian or alaska native”
19% “asian”
4% “black or african american”
3% “hispanic or latinex”

49% from downtown seattle zip codes

THEMES FROM PUBLIC INPUT

STRATEGIES

**repair & restore
activity throughout the park
entrances
improve sense of safety**

PRIORITIES & PREFERENCES

**lighting
irrigation & drainage
entrances**

STAKEHOLDER **ENGAGEMENT**

concept design

schematic design

STRATEGIES

PRIORITIES & PREFERENCES

Freeway Park Advisory Committee Meetings (2)

Seattle Police Department Site Walk

Compass Housing Meeting

Homeland Security Site Walk

WSCC Briefing

Seattle Design Commission Briefing

First Hill Improvement Association Meeting

Green Tree Childcare Meeting

Design Commission Presentation

Freeway Park Advisory
Committee Presentation

Compass Housing Meeting

[illegible]

- Lighting
- Signage / Wayfinding
- Seating
- Planting & Irrigation
- Drainage
- Upper Lawns
- Pigott Corridor
- Convention Center
- 8th Avenue Entrance
- Upper Seneca
- Seneca Plaza
- 6th & Seneca Entrance
- Box Gardens



SD cost estimate

\$ 23M

project budget

\$ 6M

Upper Lawns
north end

8th Avenue Entrance

Upper Seneca Entrance

Seneca Plaza

6th & Seneca Entrance

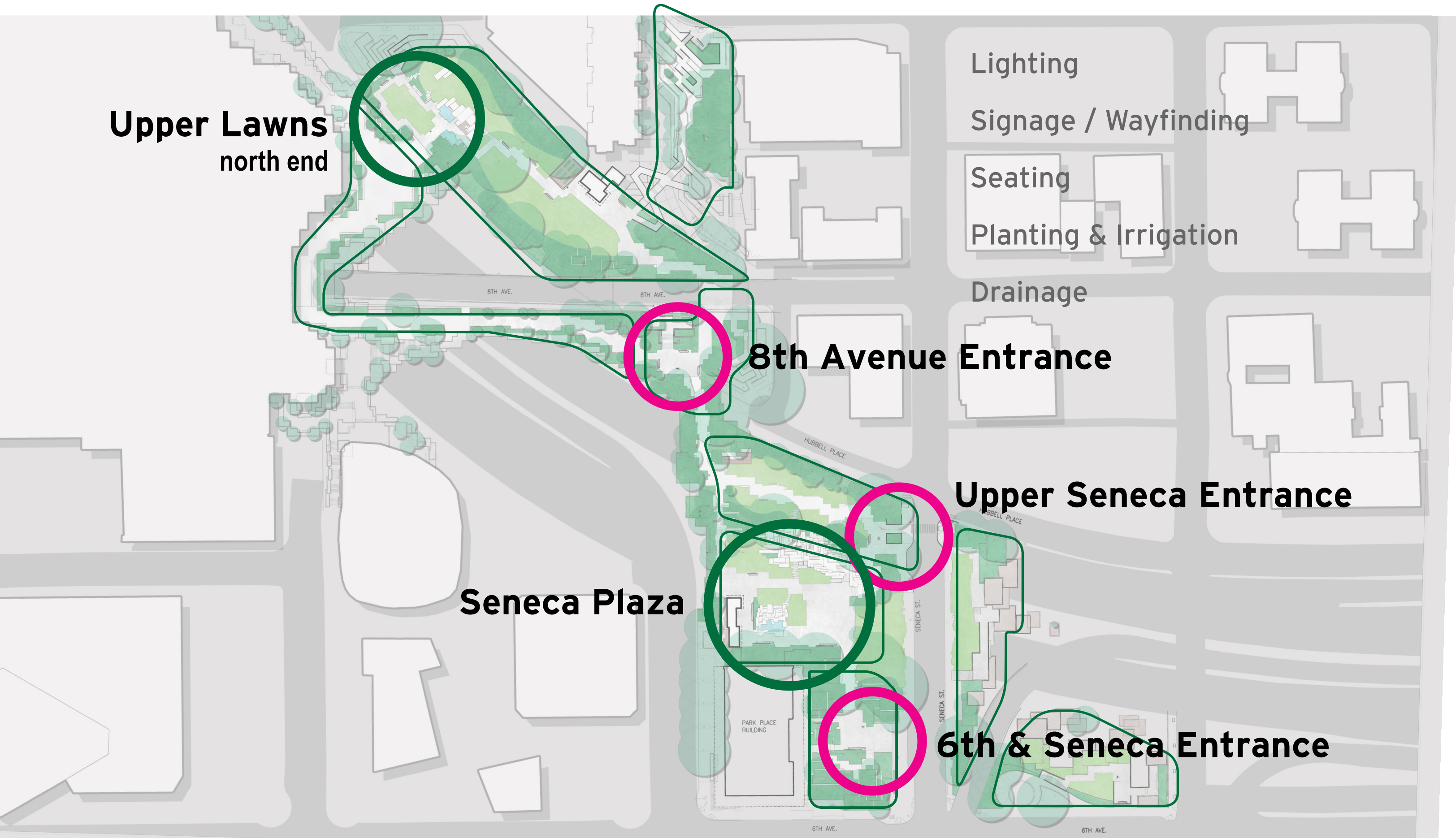
Lighting

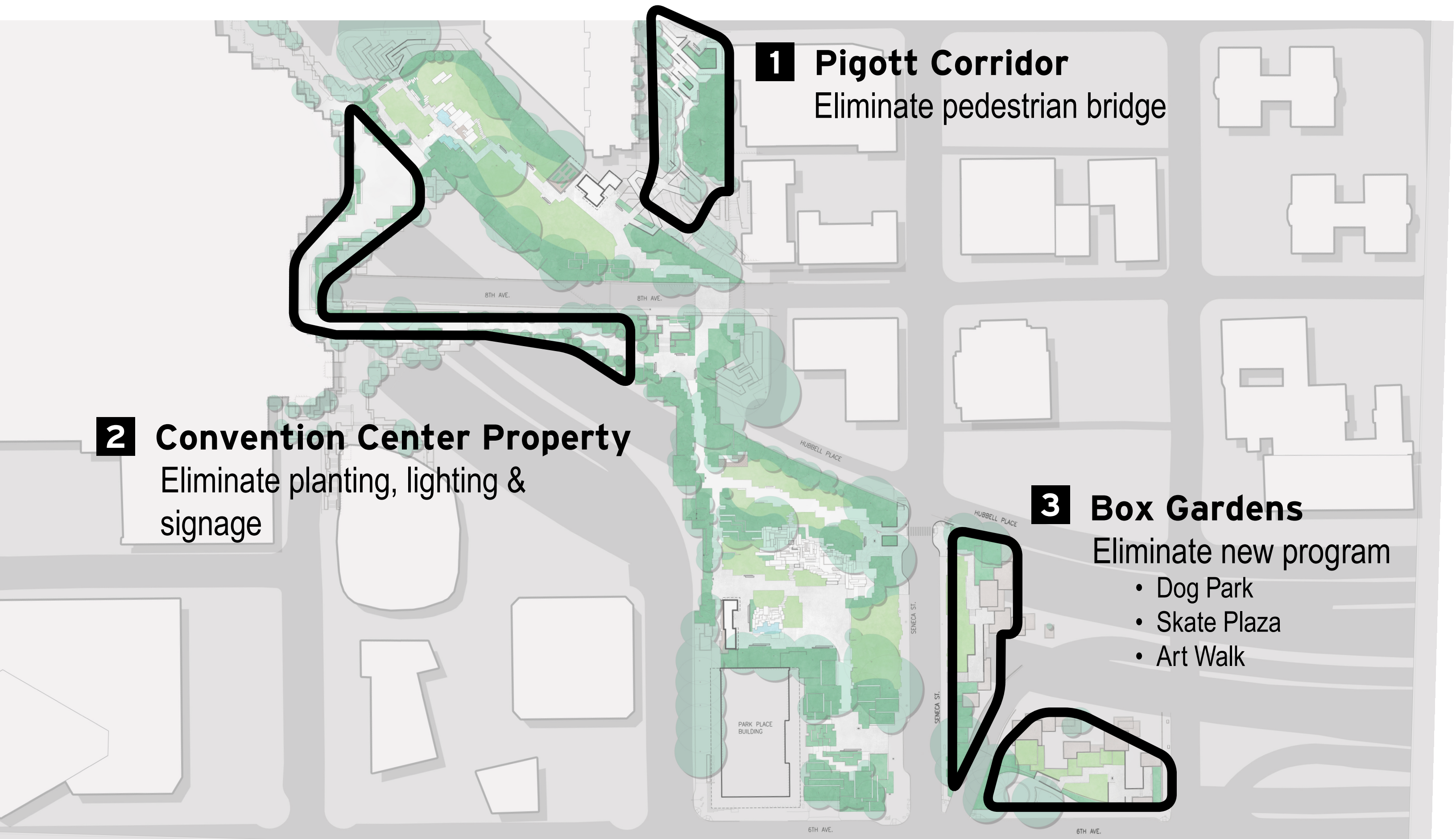
Signage / Wayfinding

Seating

Planting & Irrigation

Drainage





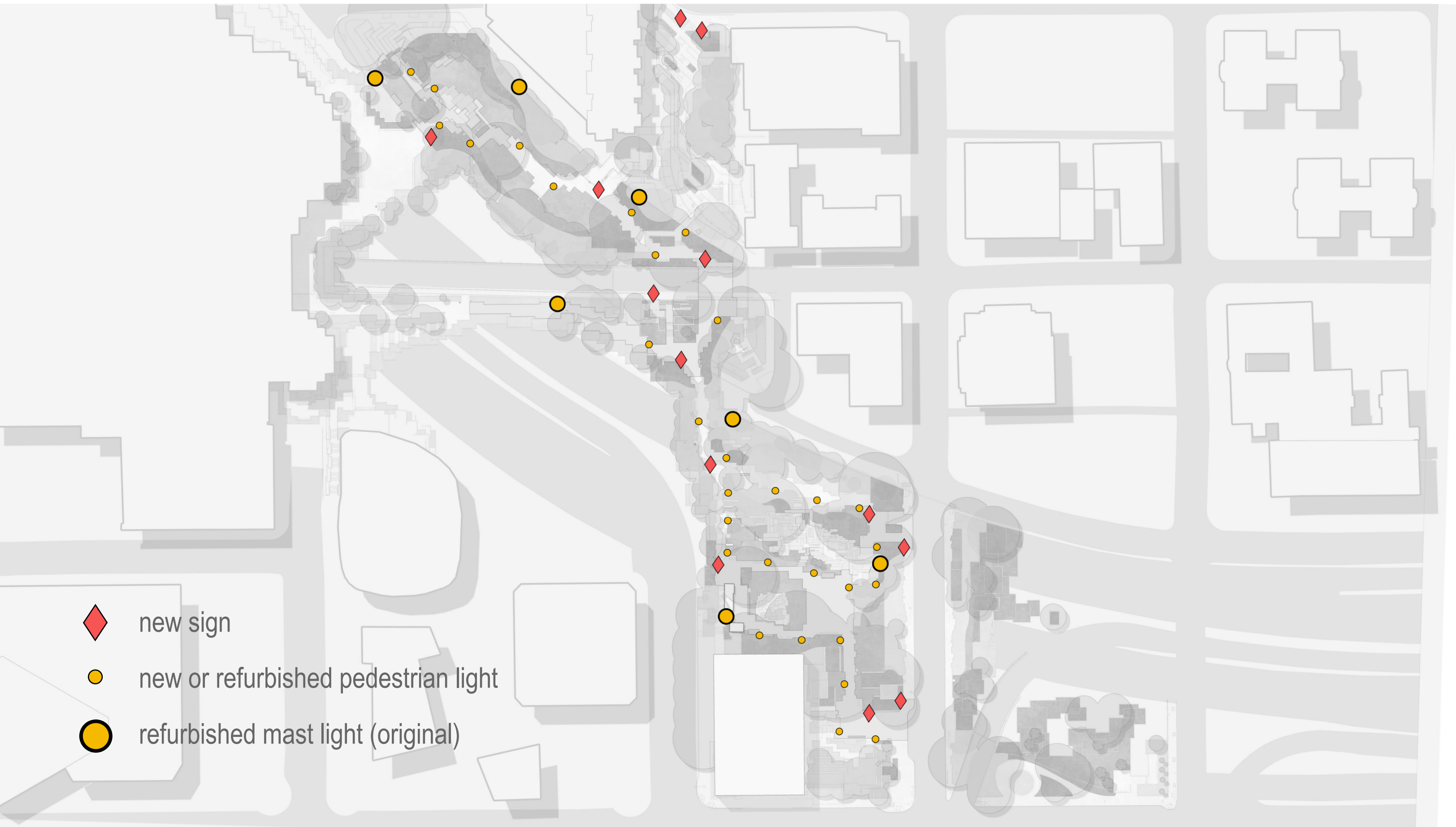
1 Pigott Corridor
Eliminate pedestrian bridge

2 Convention Center Property
Eliminate planting, lighting & signage

3 Box Gardens
Eliminate new program

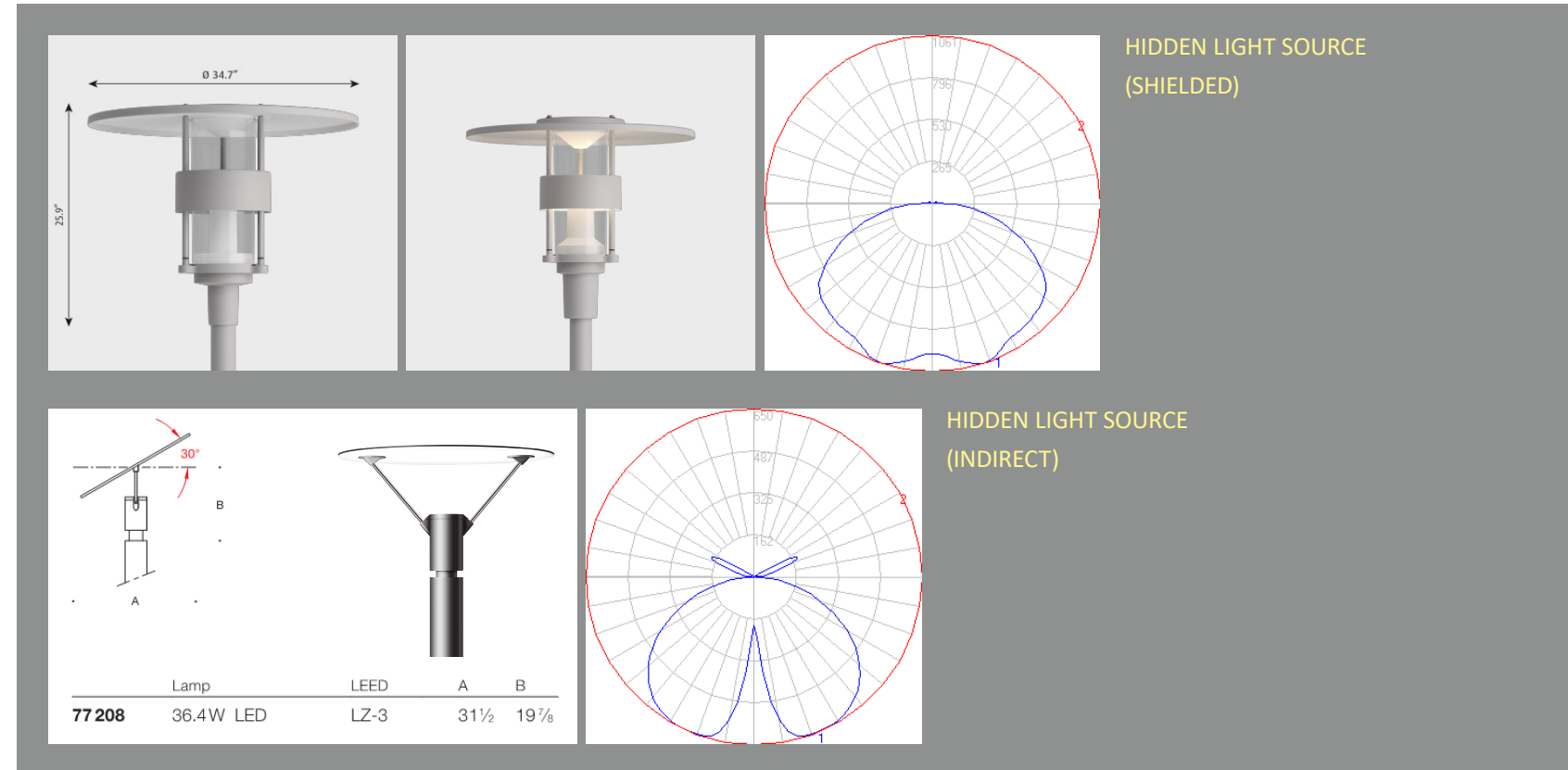
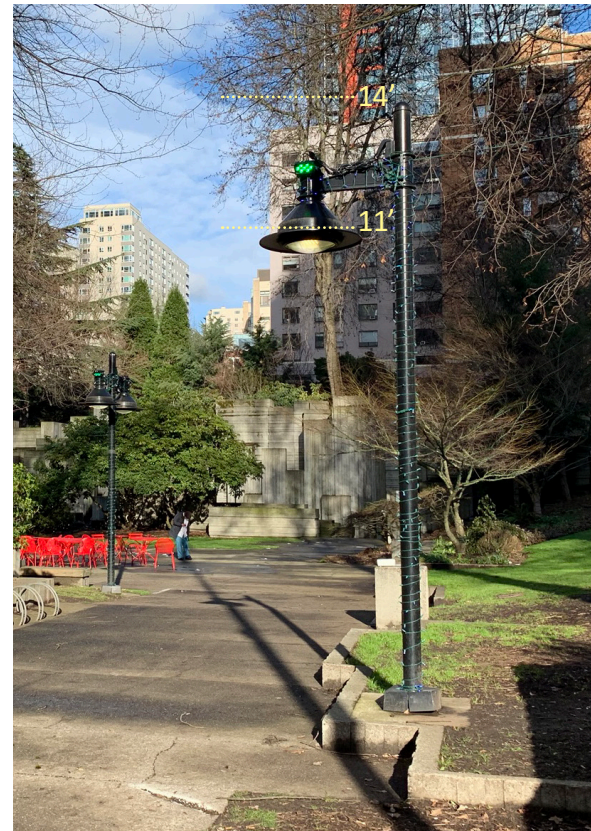
- Dog Park
- Skate Plaza
- Art Walk

PARK WIDE IMPROVEMENTS



1 pedestrian pole lights

retrofit existing poles +
new locations



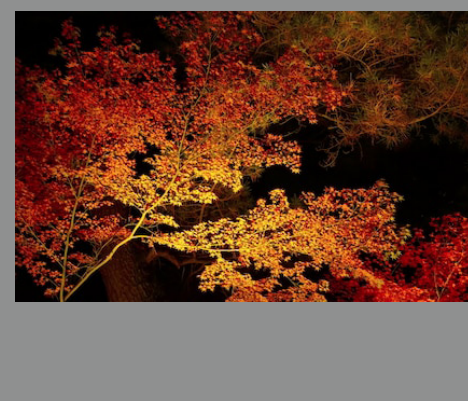
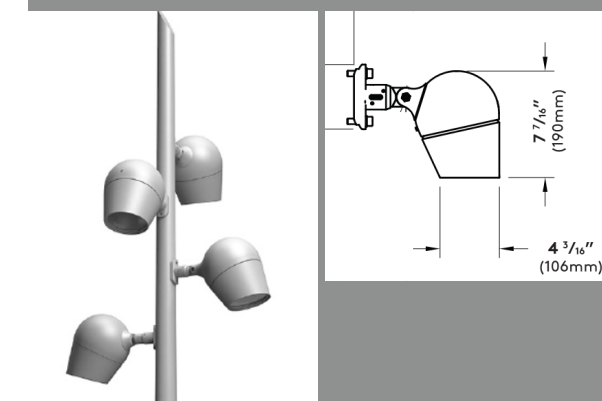
2 tall pole lights

“moonlight” effect,
cool color tone,
large open spaces



3 landscape lighting

seasonal accents
expand visible park
boundaries



LIGHTING ACCENTS

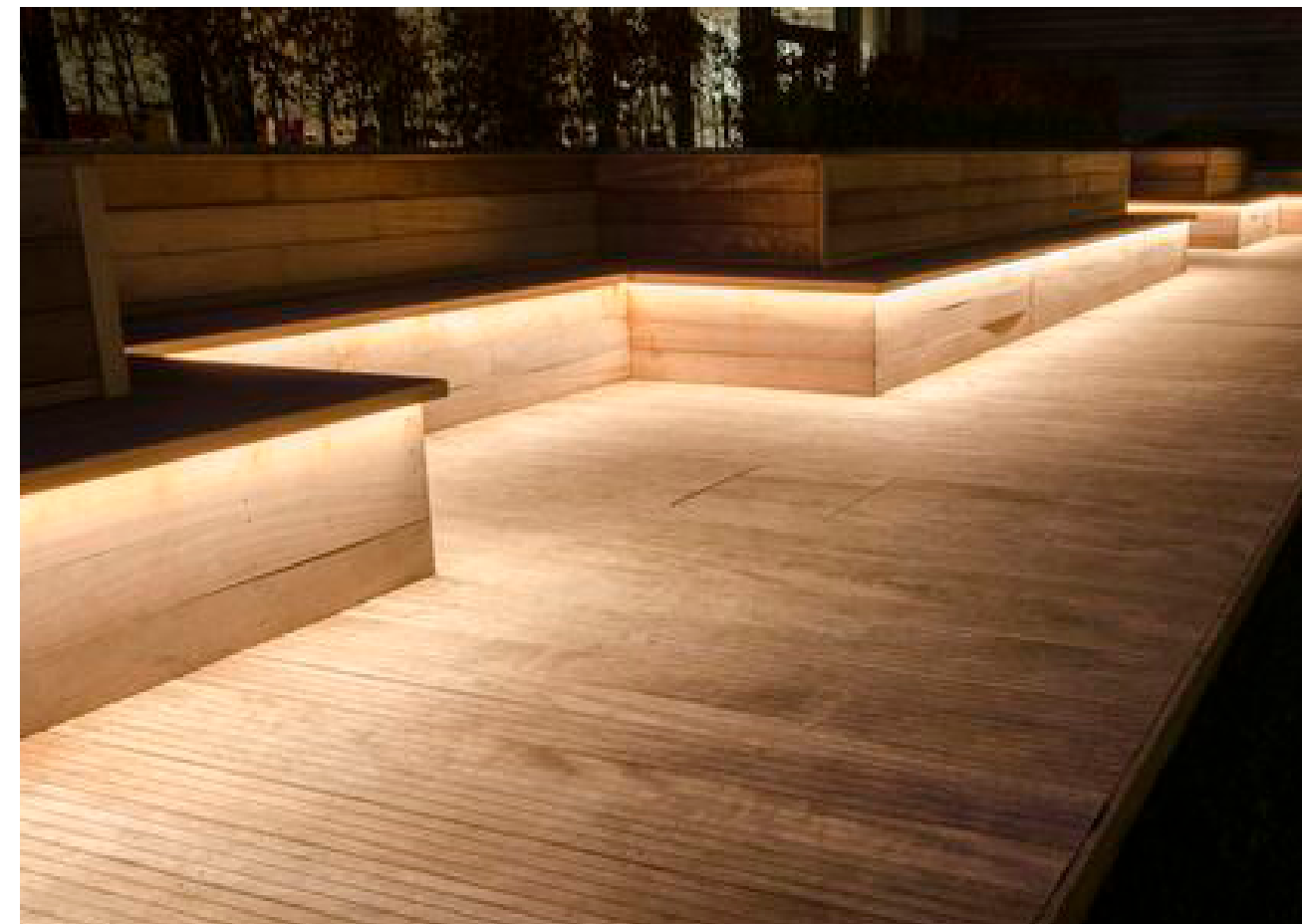


8th avenue underpass

colored light to encourage exploration, memorable wayfinding and

seating elements & stairs

low-height lighting for drama, wayfinding, & circulation



SIGN FAMILY OVERVIEW



B1:
Primary Park
Entrance Marker

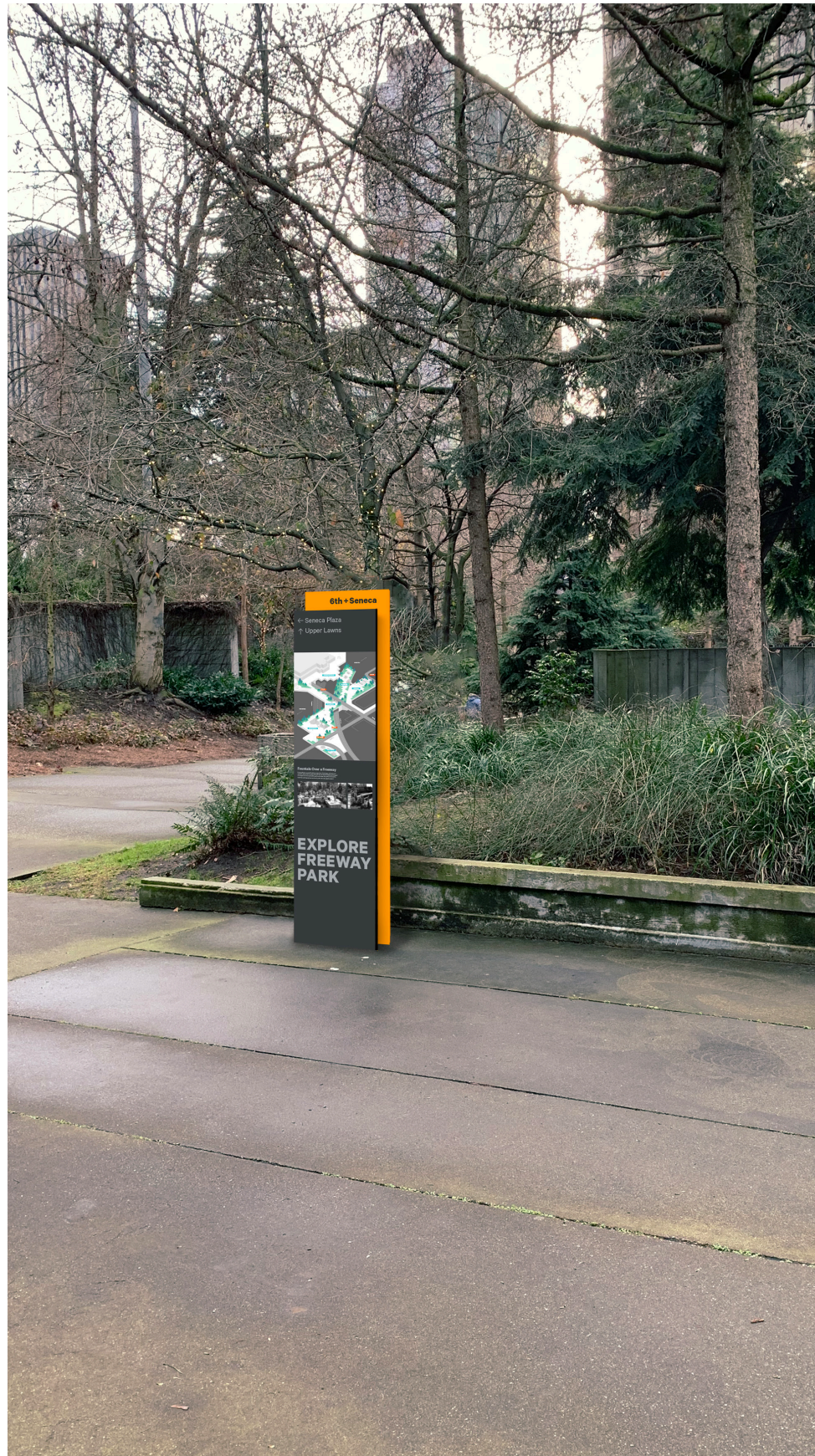
M1:
Park Entrance
Map Monolith

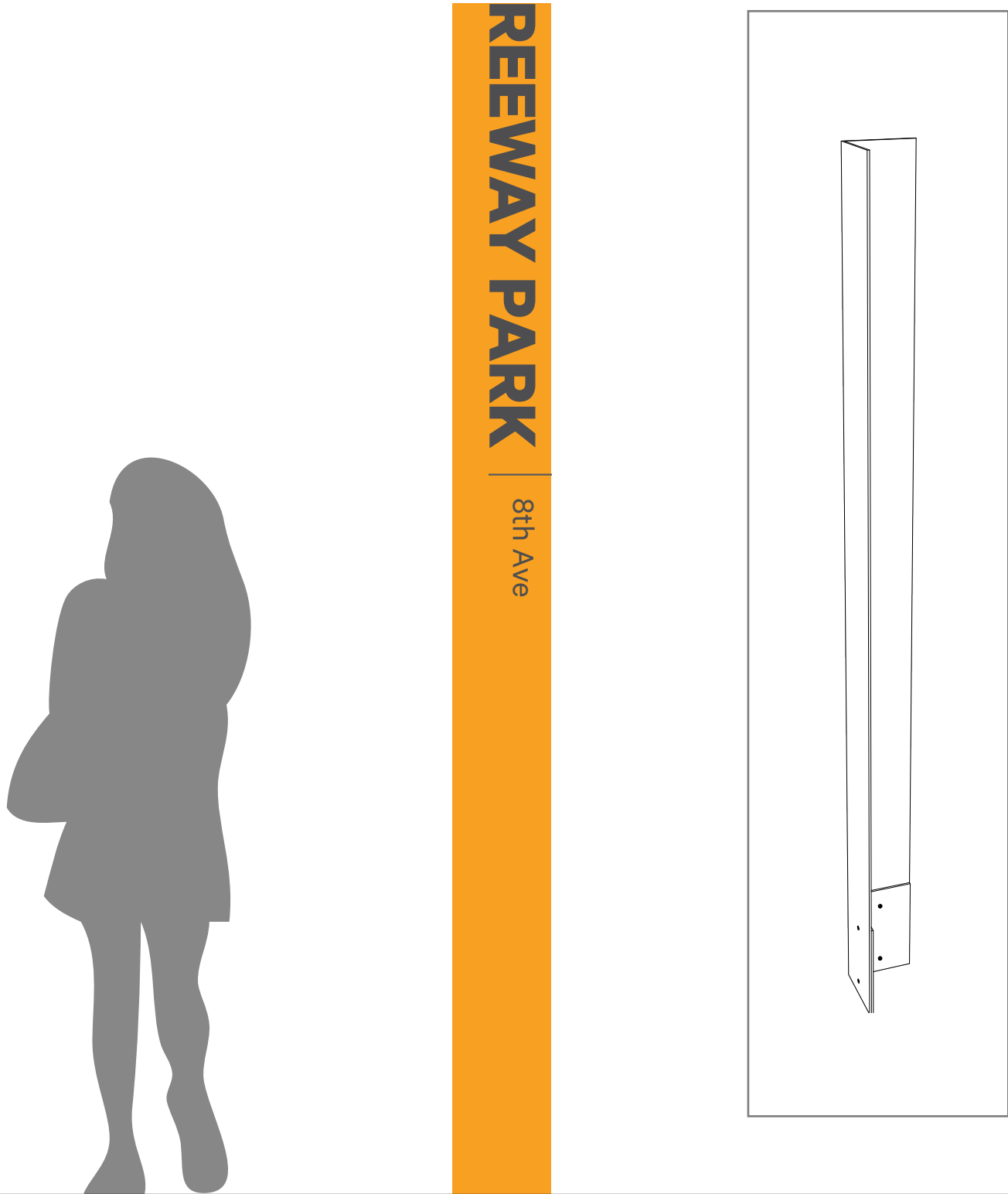
M2:
Park Interior
Map Monolith

P1/P2:
Secondary Wayfinding

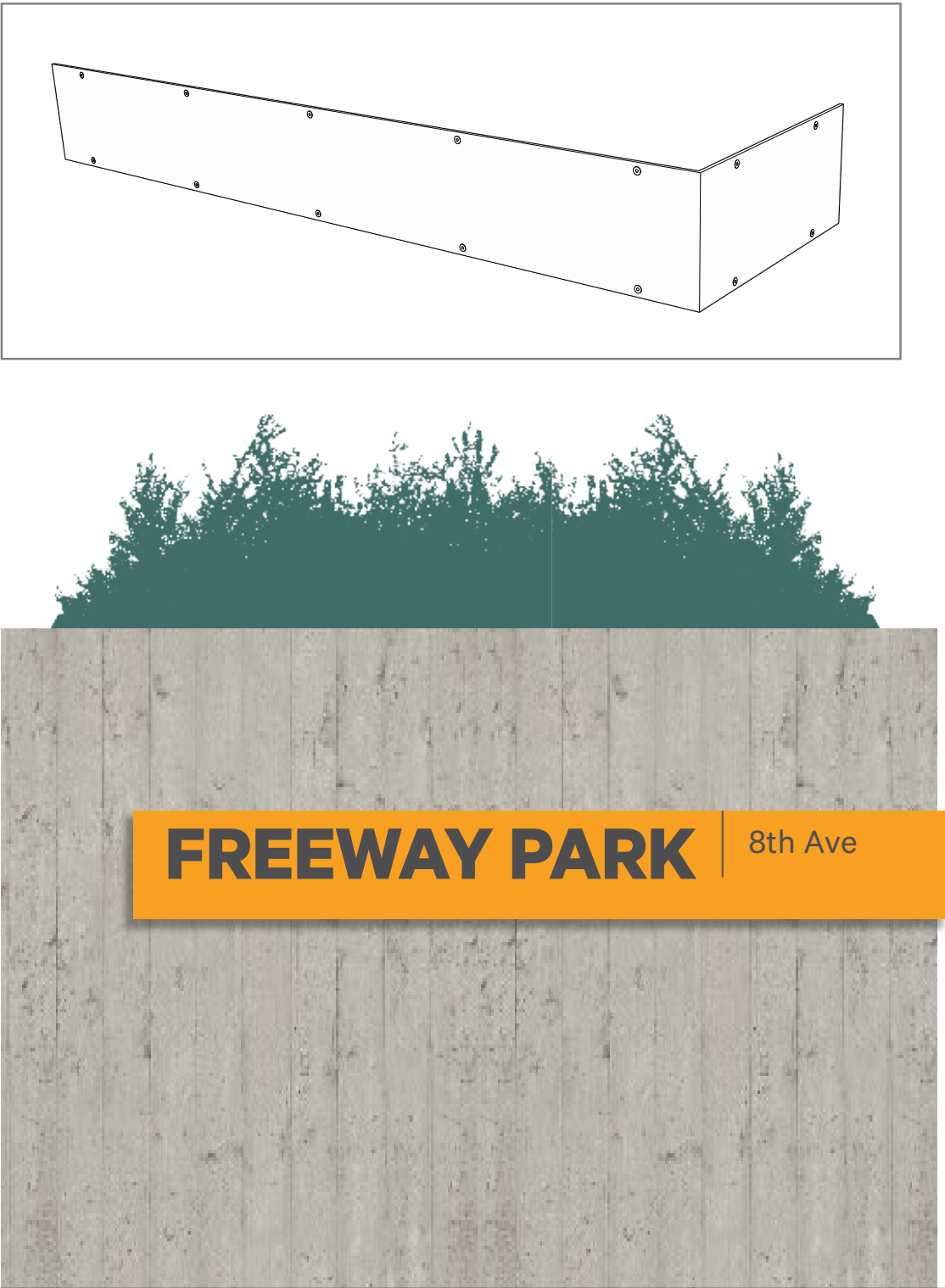
P3:
Interpretation

ON SITE RENDERINGS

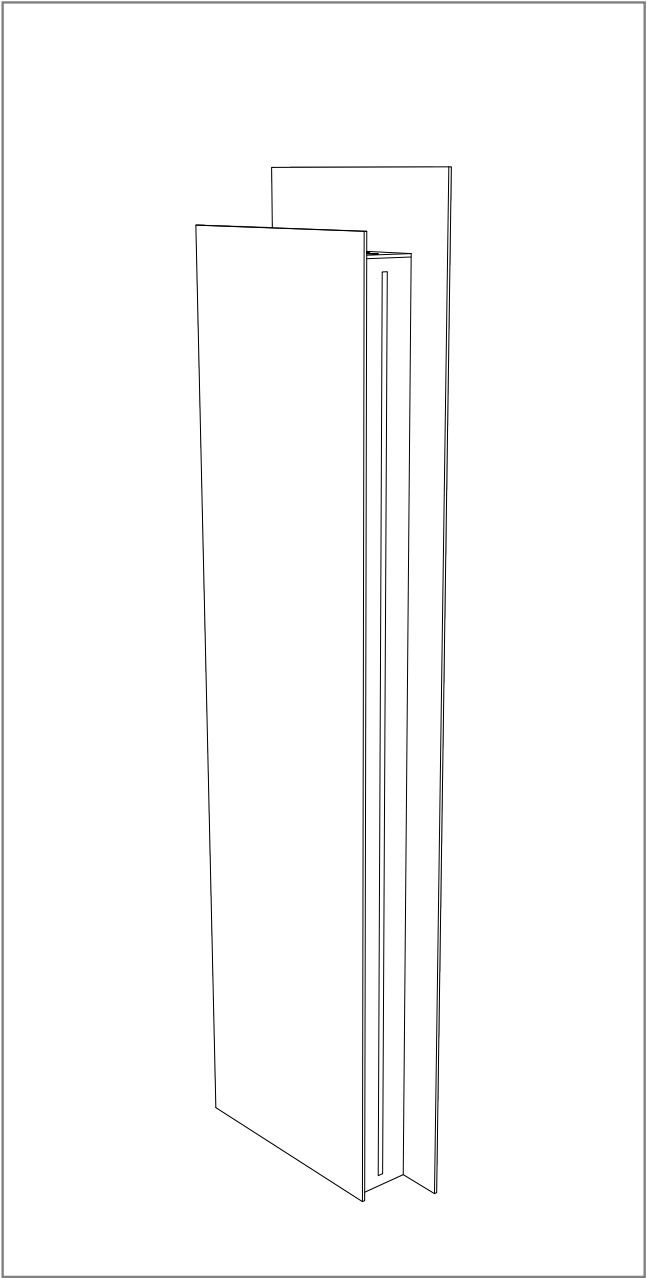
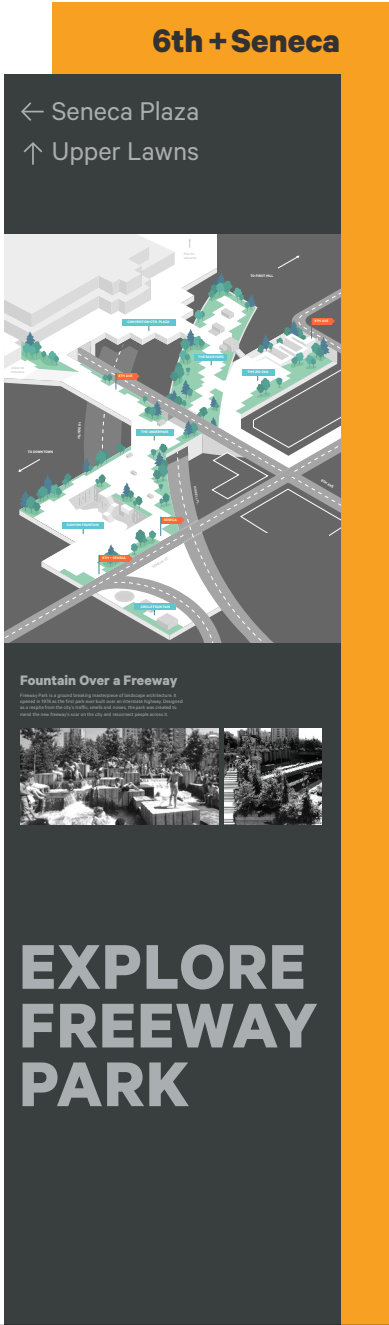
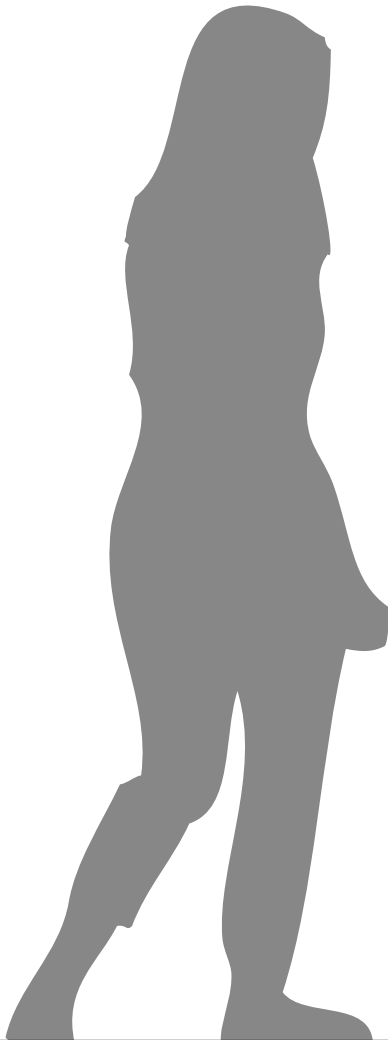




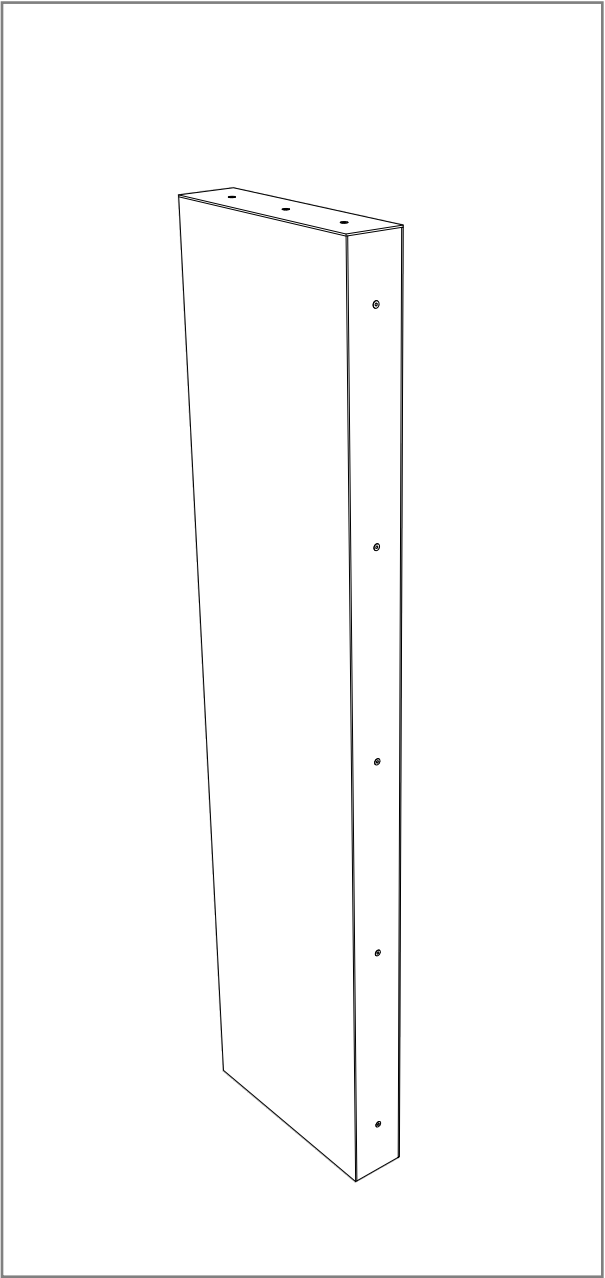
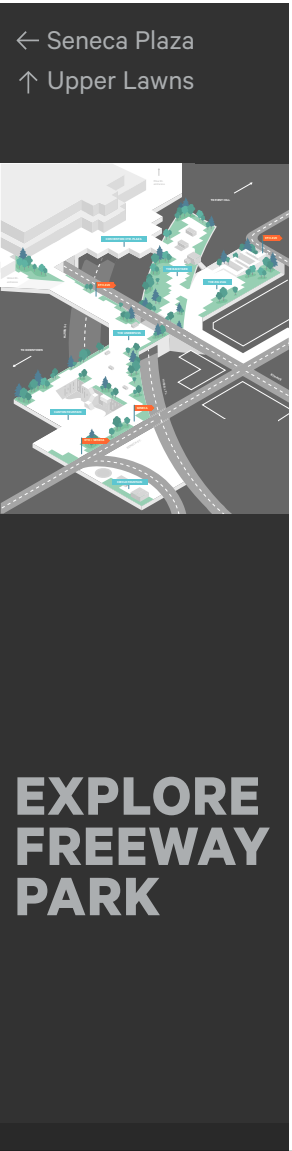
B1: Primary Park Entrance Marker



B2: Primary Park Entrance Marker



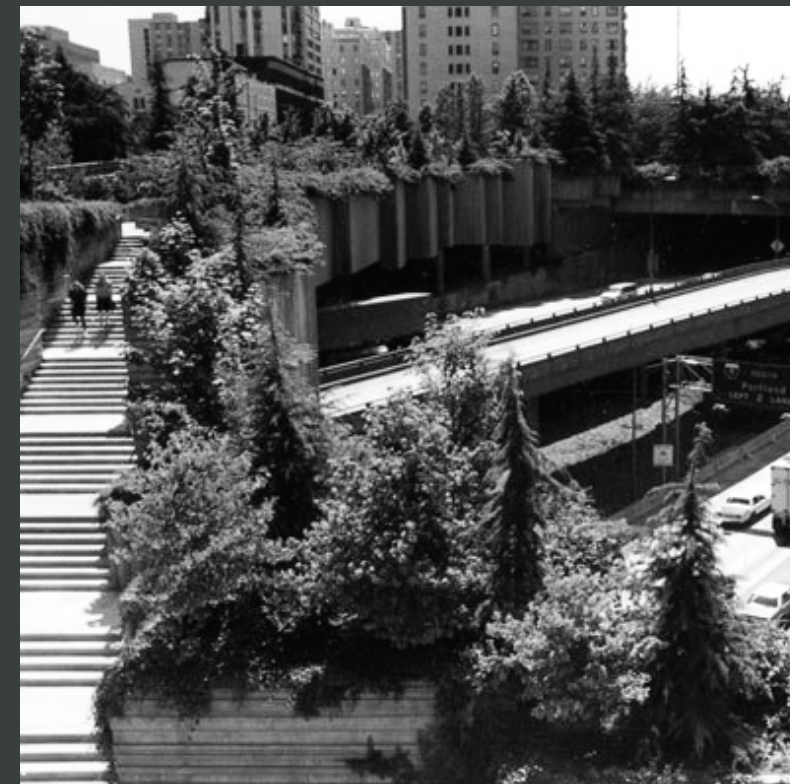
M1: Park Entrance Map Monolith



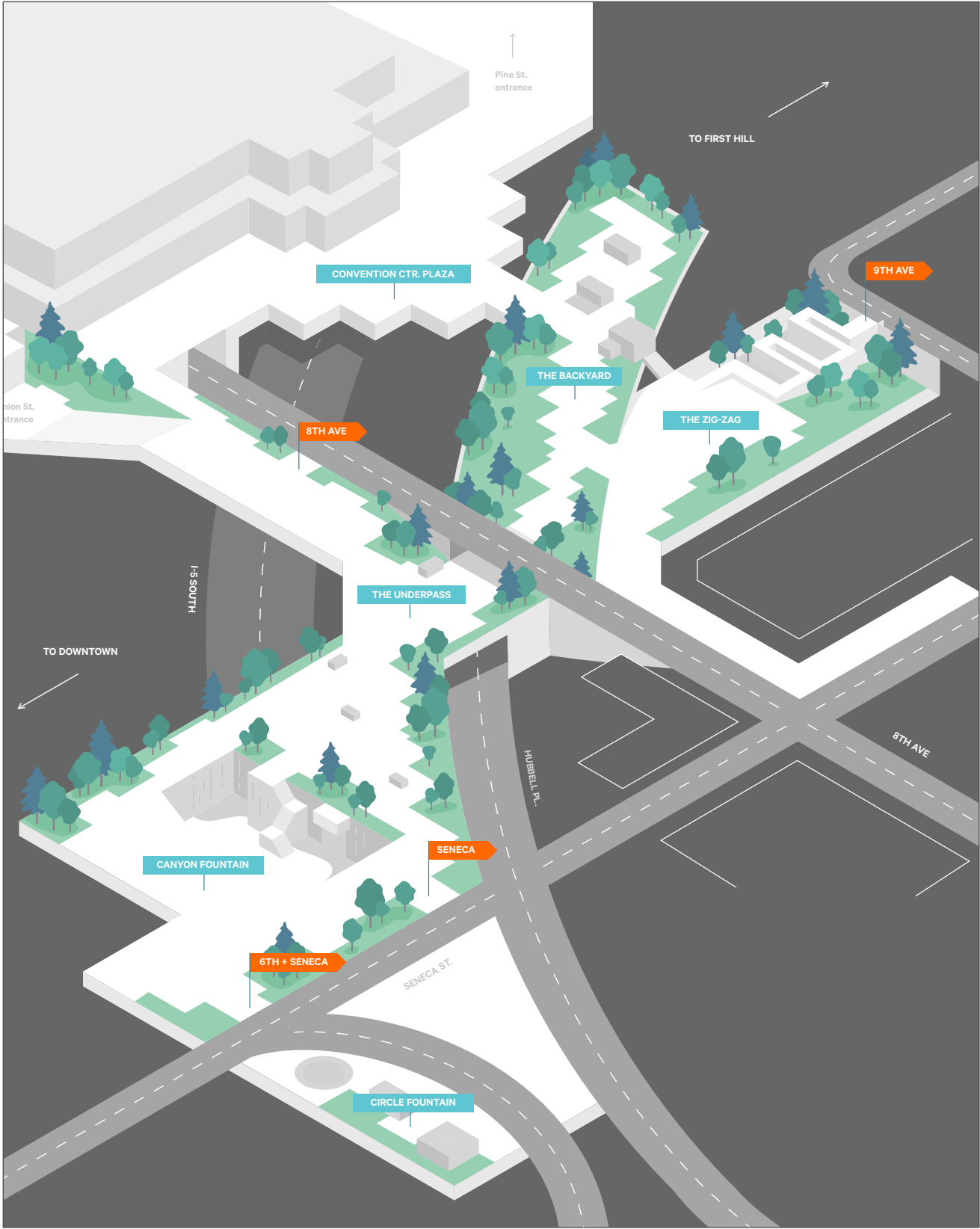
M2: Park Interior Map Monolith

Fountain Over a Freeway

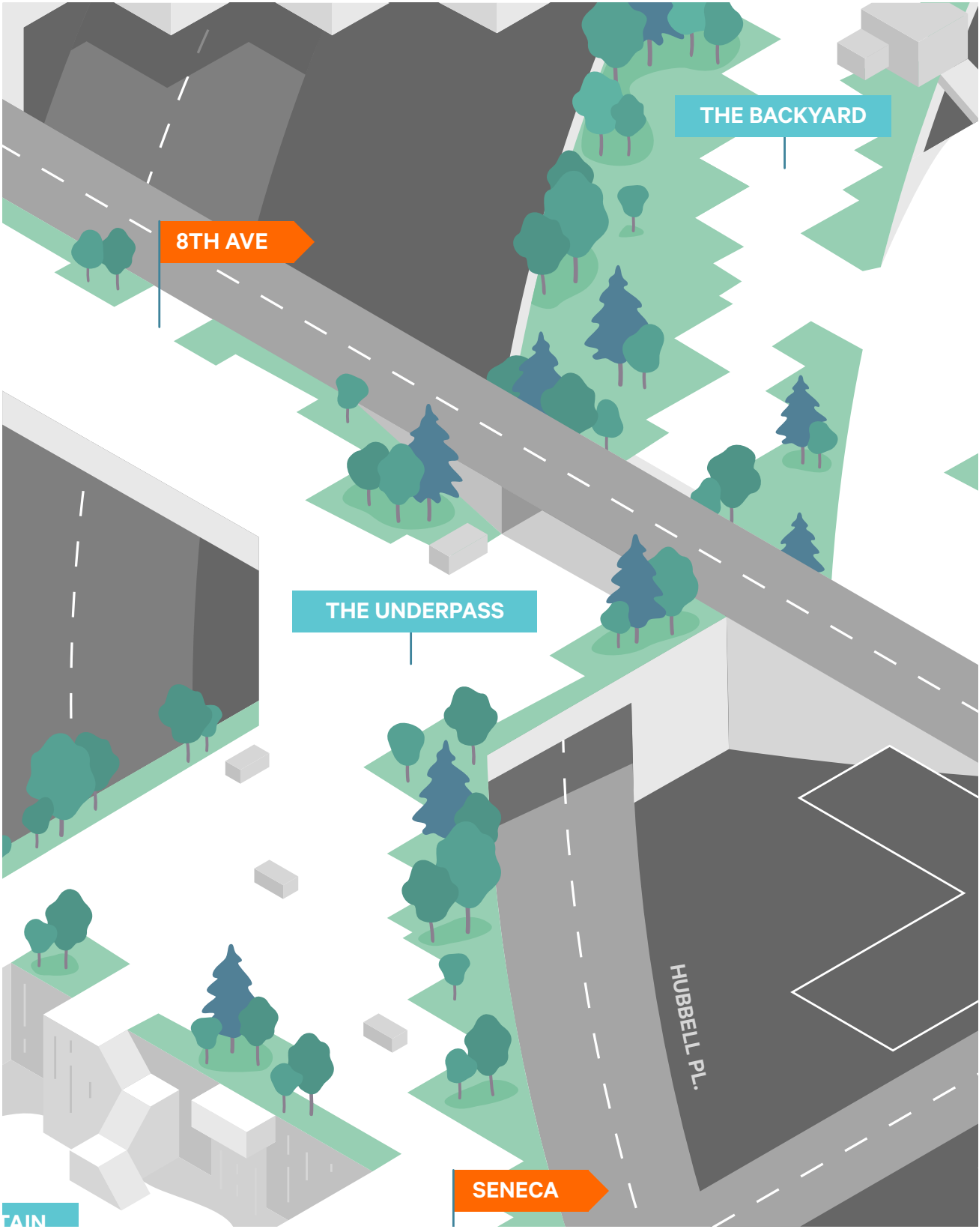
Freeway Park is a ground breaking masterpiece of landscape architecture. It opened in 1976 as the first park ever built over an interstate highway. Designed as a respite from the city's traffic, smells and noises, the park was created to mend the new freeway's scar on the city and reconnect people across it.



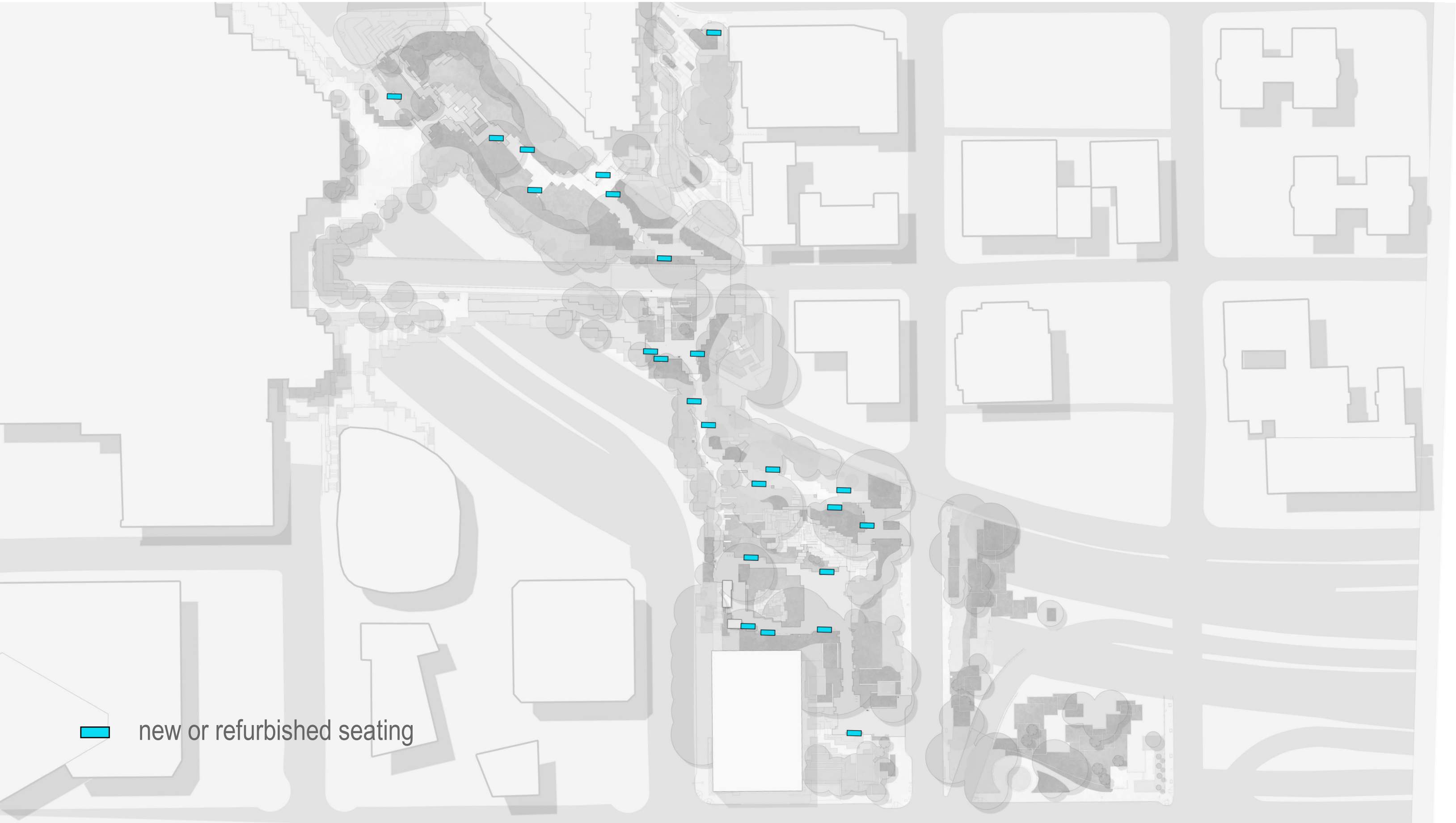
MAP DESIGN EXPLORATION



Map Design



Detail



SEATING: REFURBISHED BENCHES

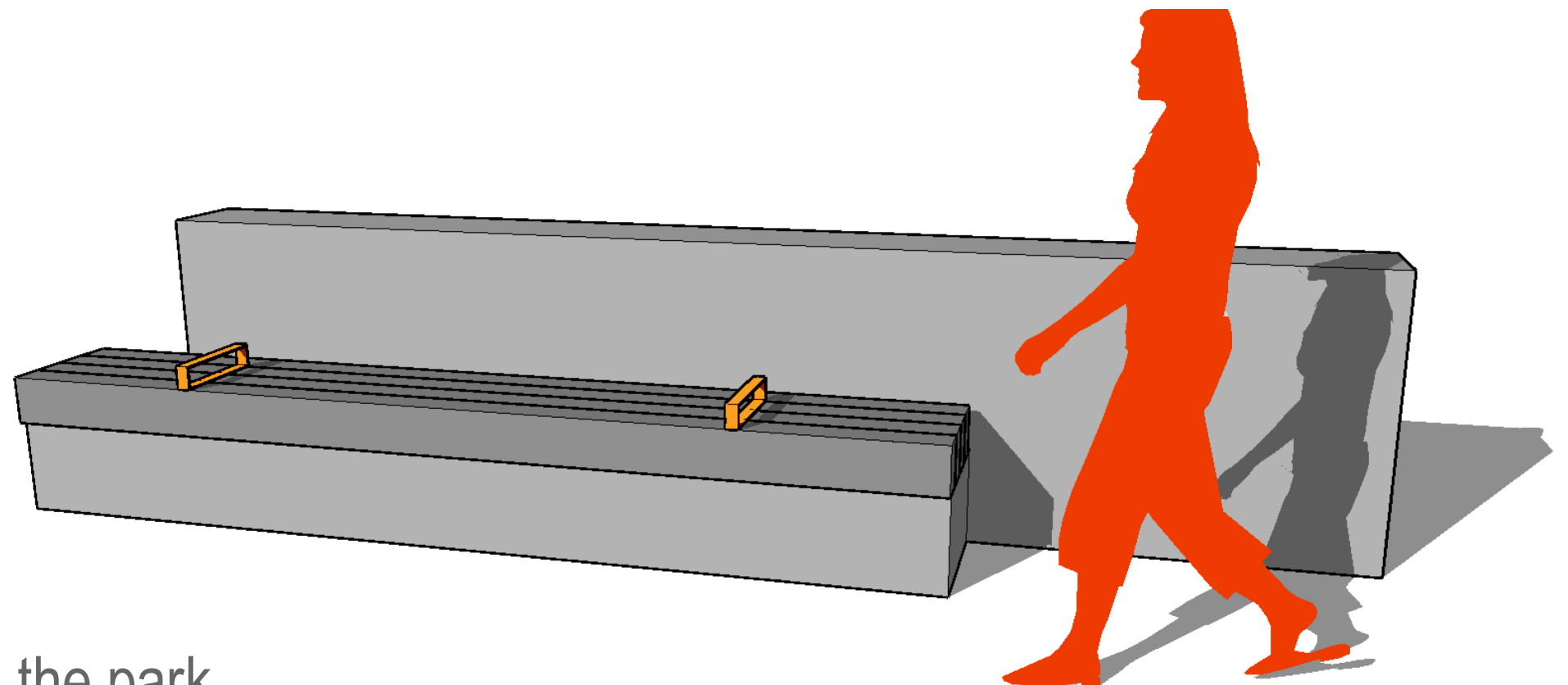


original bench*



refurbished bench

new timber seat
new arm rests / grips



*listed as a character defining feature of the park

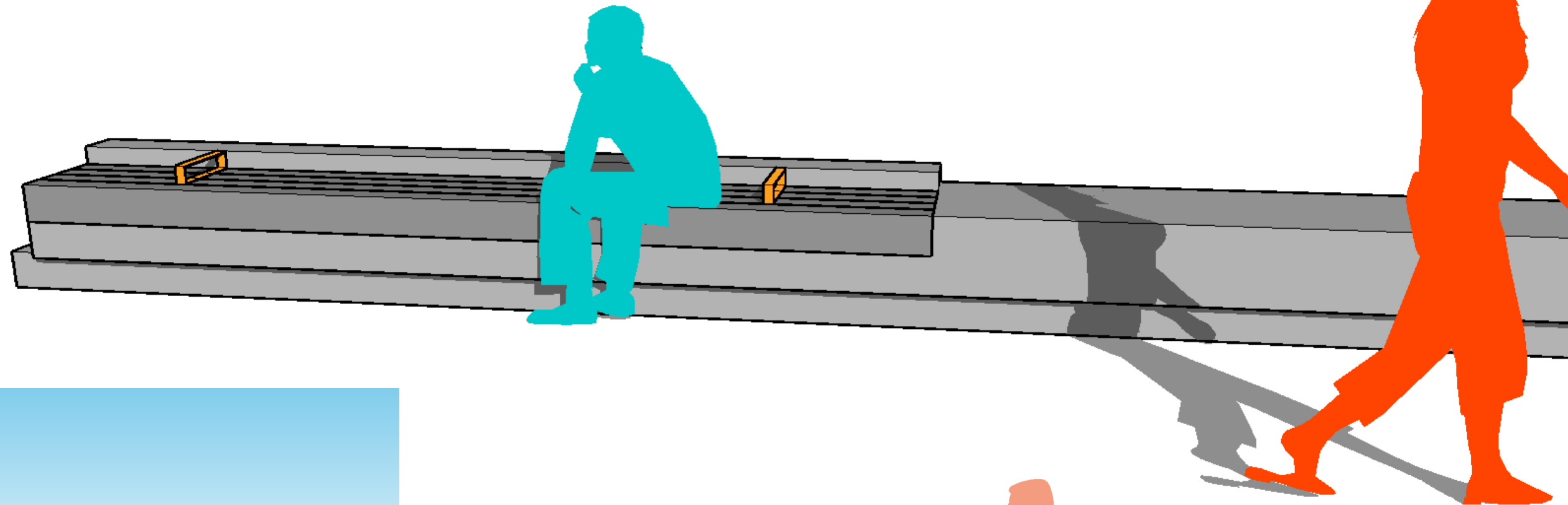
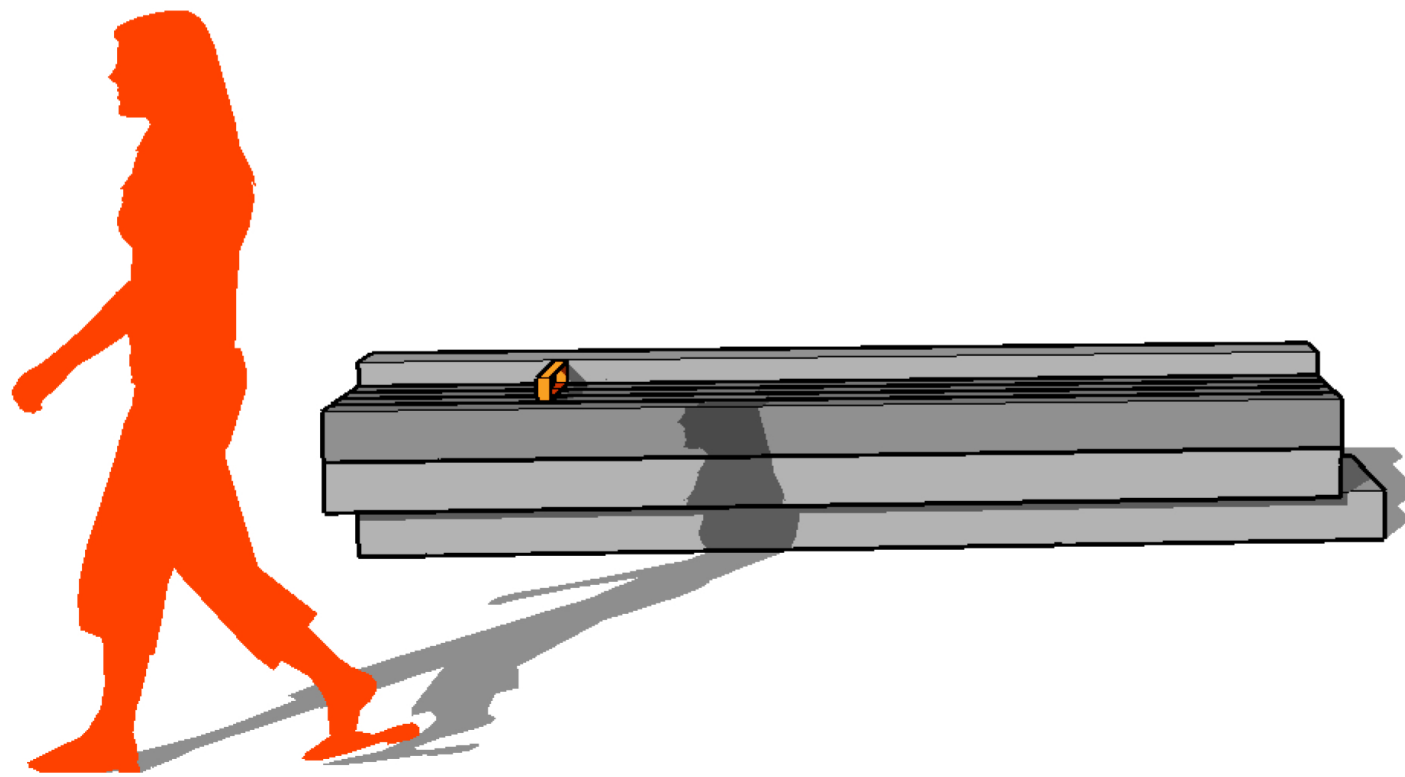
SEATING: NEW BENCHES

new short / long benches

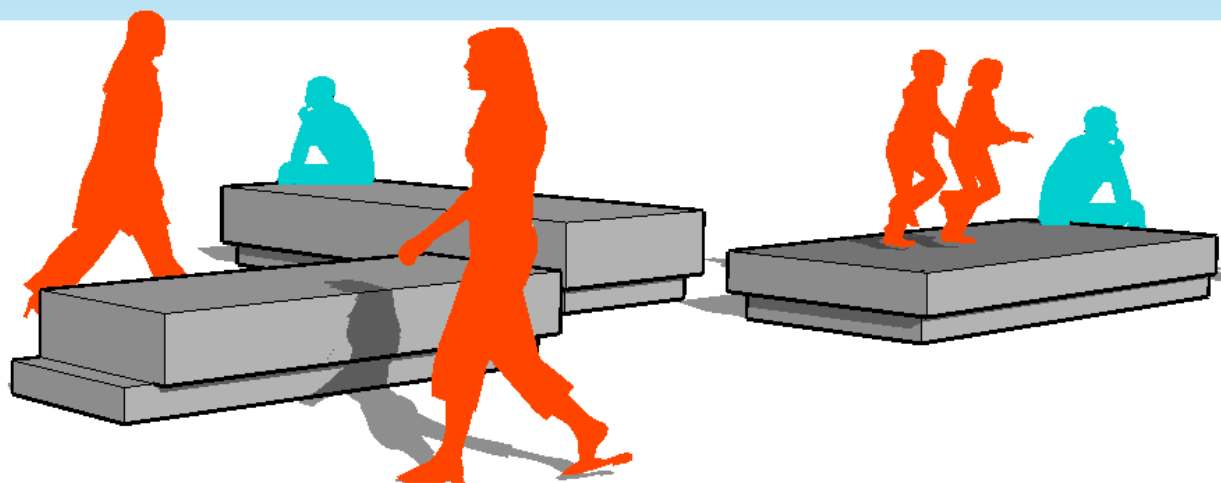
concrete bench

timber seats to match original

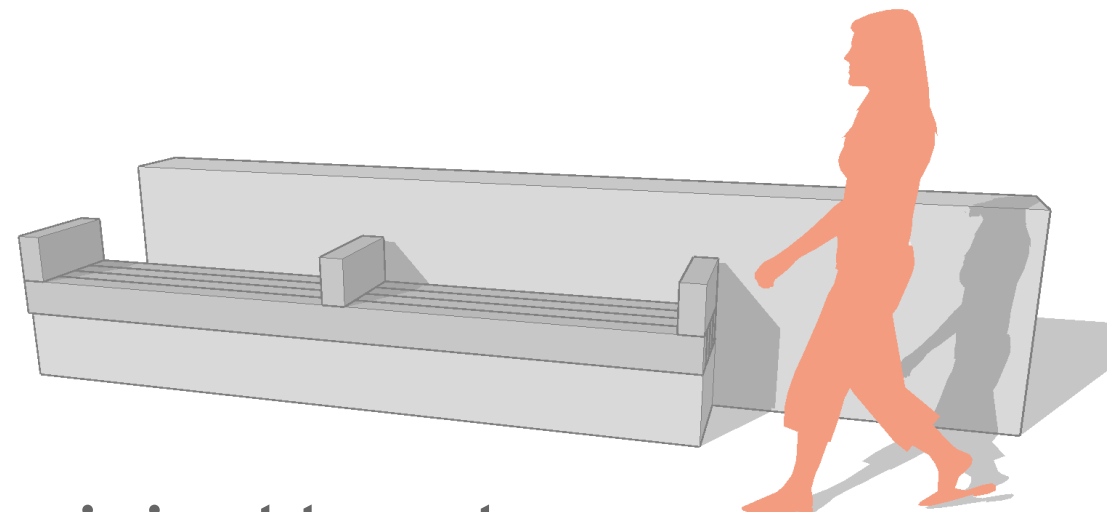
recessed light, some locations



new plinths



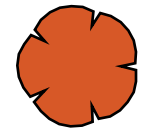
original bench



CANOPY MANAGEMENT PLAN - REMOVALS



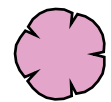
CANOPY MANAGEMENT PLAN - RESTORATION



large deciduous tree -
Sweetgum/Maple



small deciduous tree -
Bitter Cherry/Beaked



flowering trees at entrances
and historic locations -



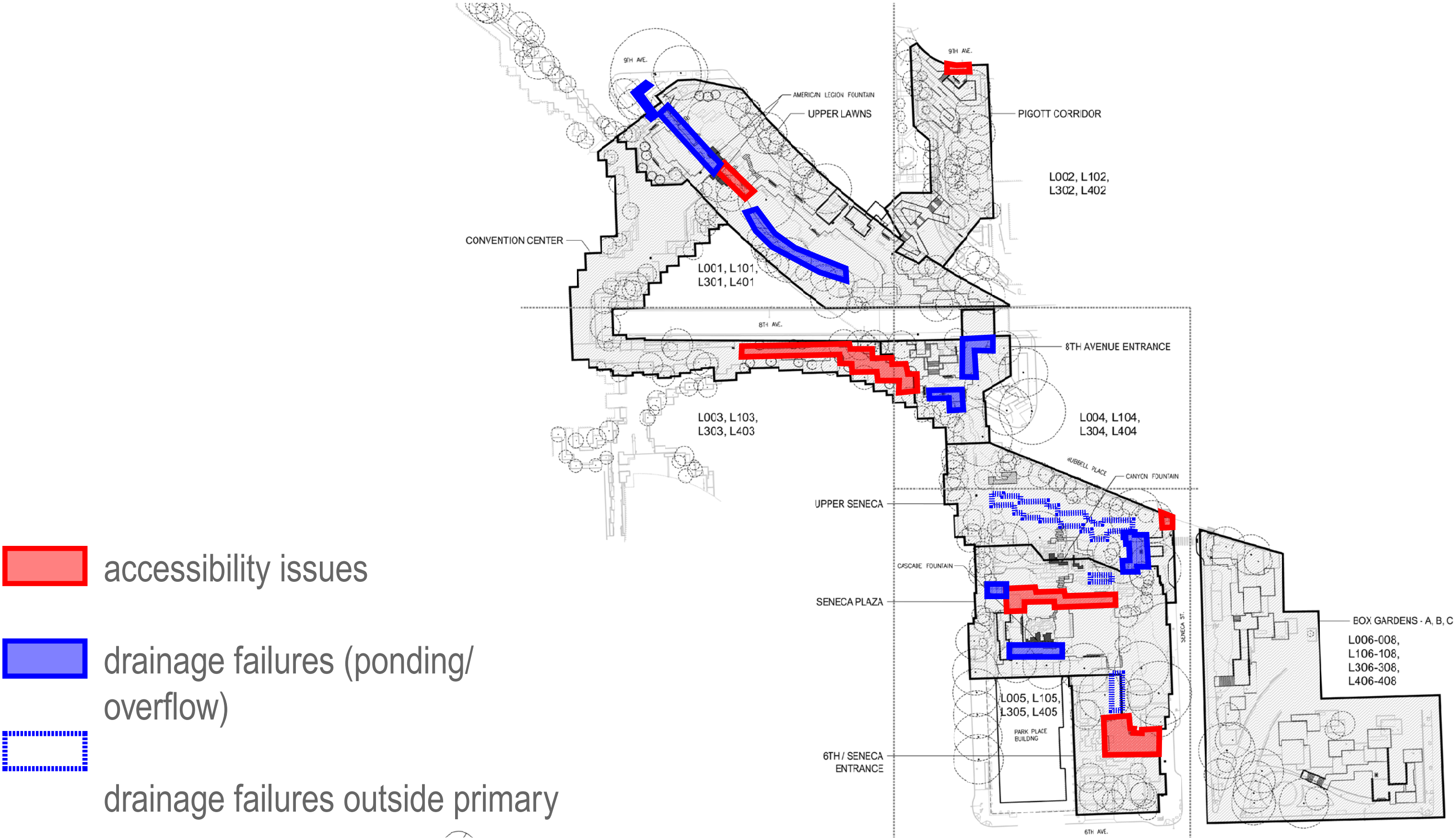
UNDERSTORY PLANTING TYPOLOGIES

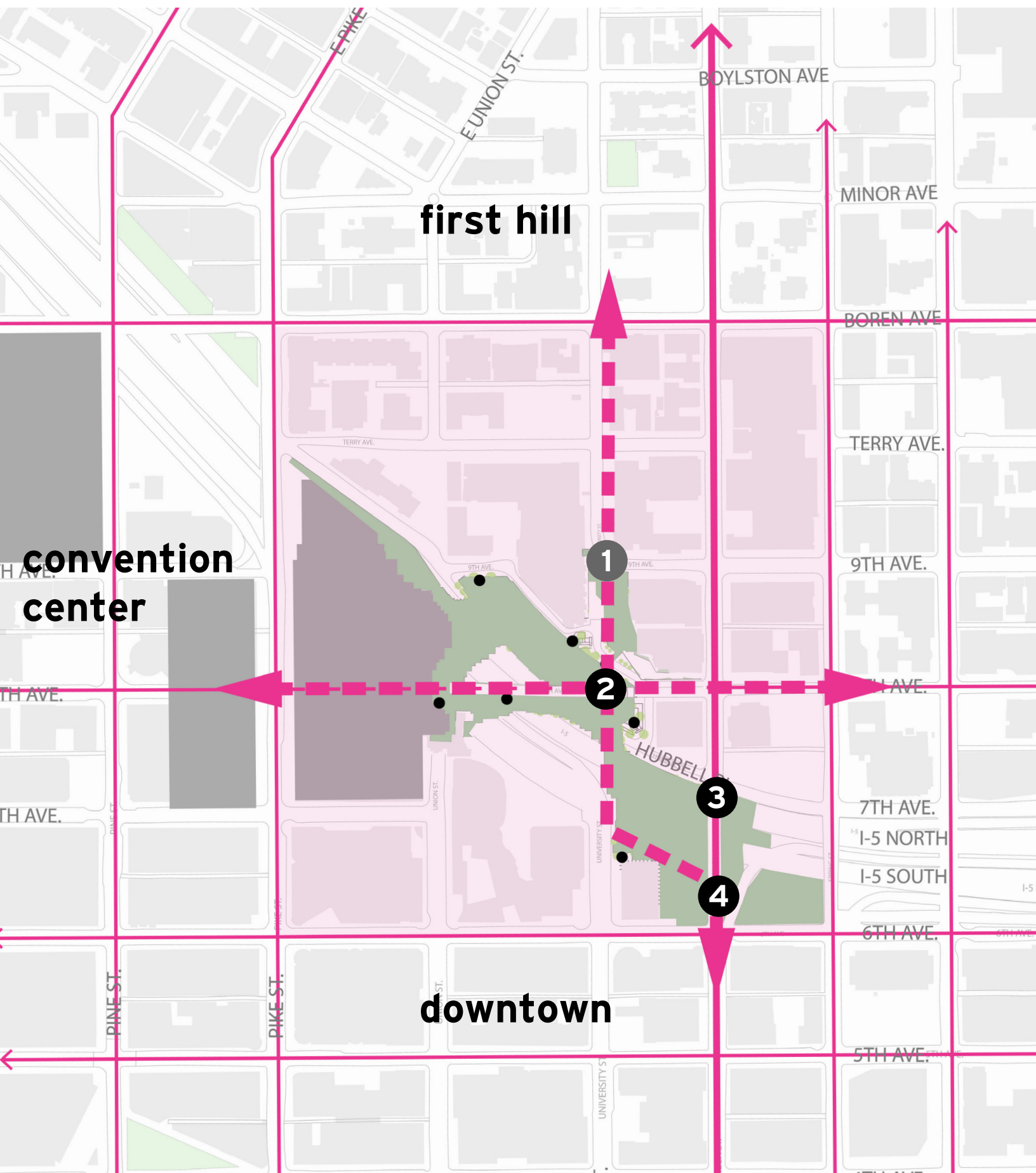


GOALS
 evergreen + native
 proven park species
 low maintenance



ADA & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS





PARK ENTRANCES

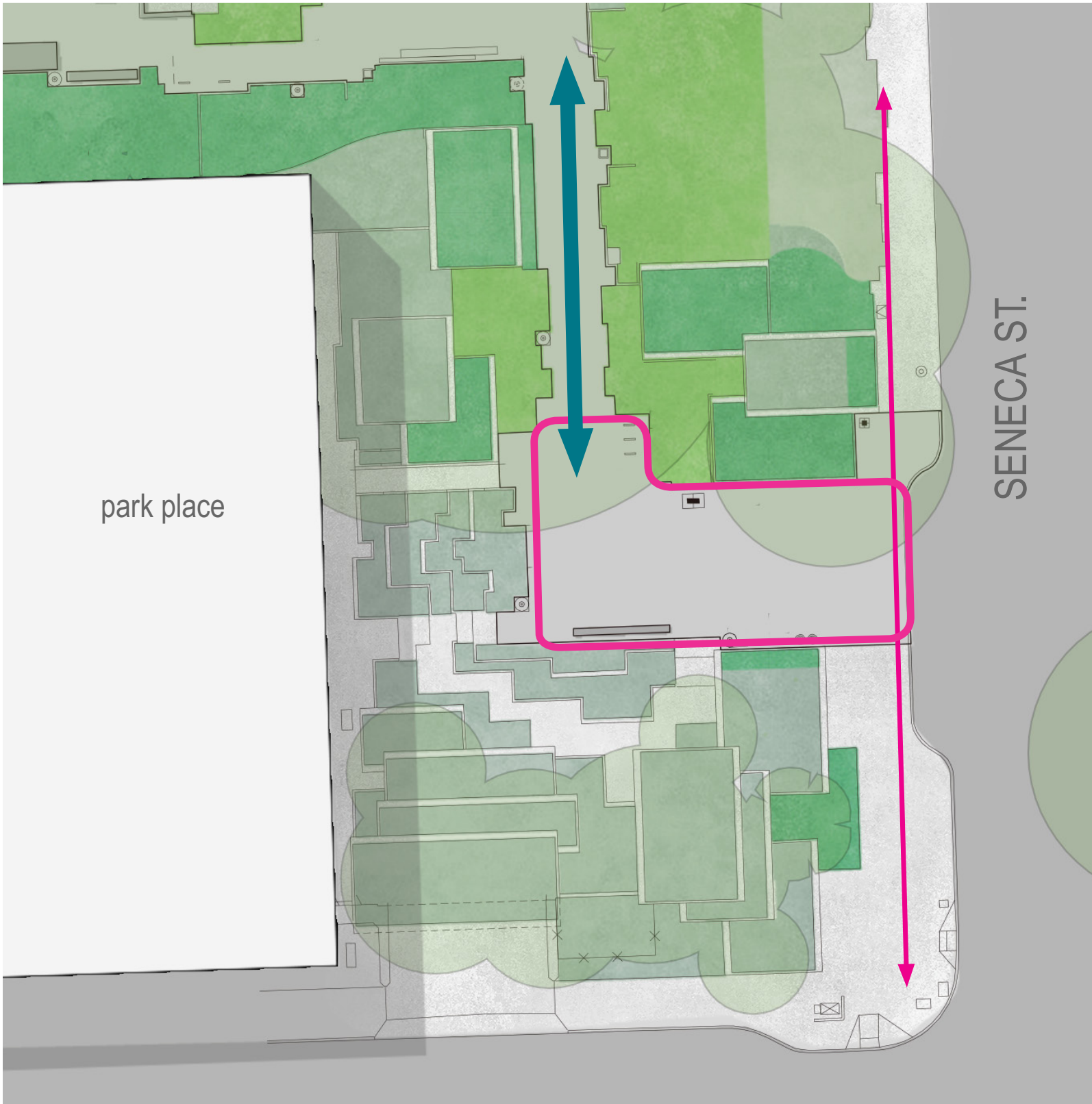
- 1 PIGOTT CORRIDOR
- 2 8th AVENUE ENTRANCE
- 3 UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE
- 4 6th & SENECA ENTRANCE



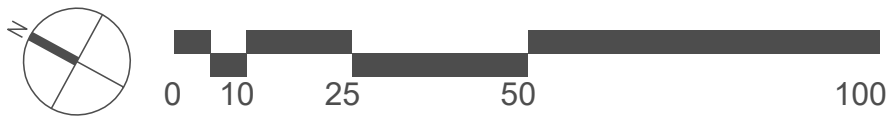
6TH & SENECA ENTRANCE



existing



proposed



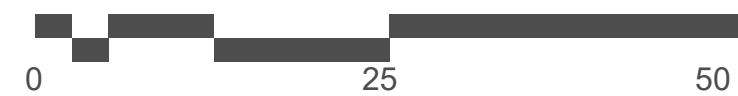
6TH & SENECA ENTRANCE

OVERVIEW

- 1** new plaza paving (ADA improvements)
- 2** new lighting
- 3** new signage
- 4** new seating & furnishings



proposed



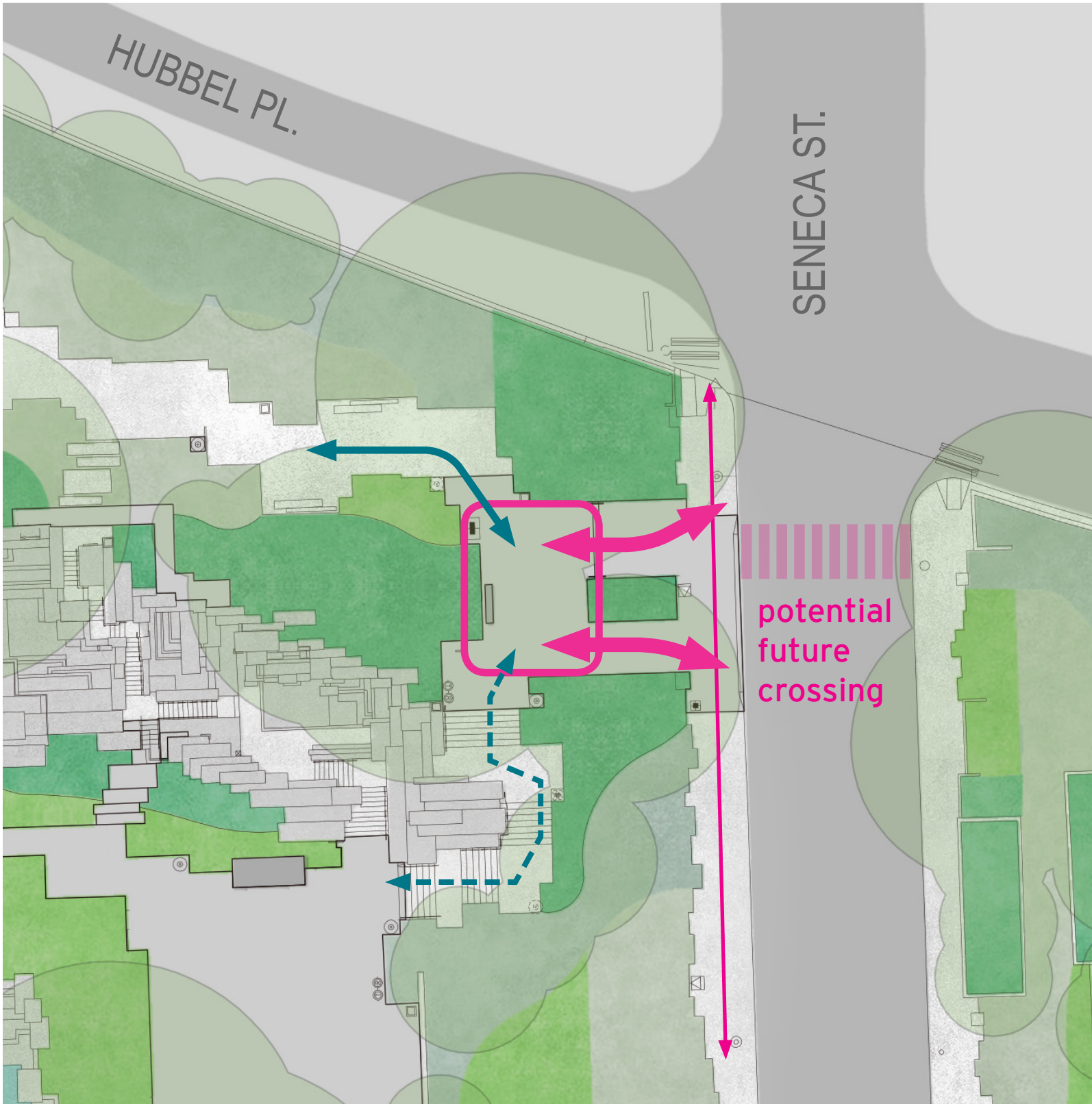


UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE

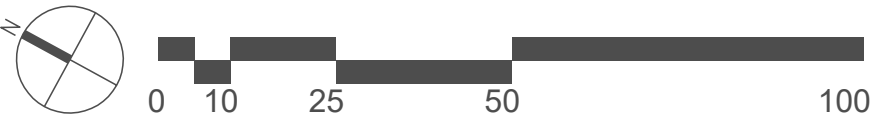
UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE



existing



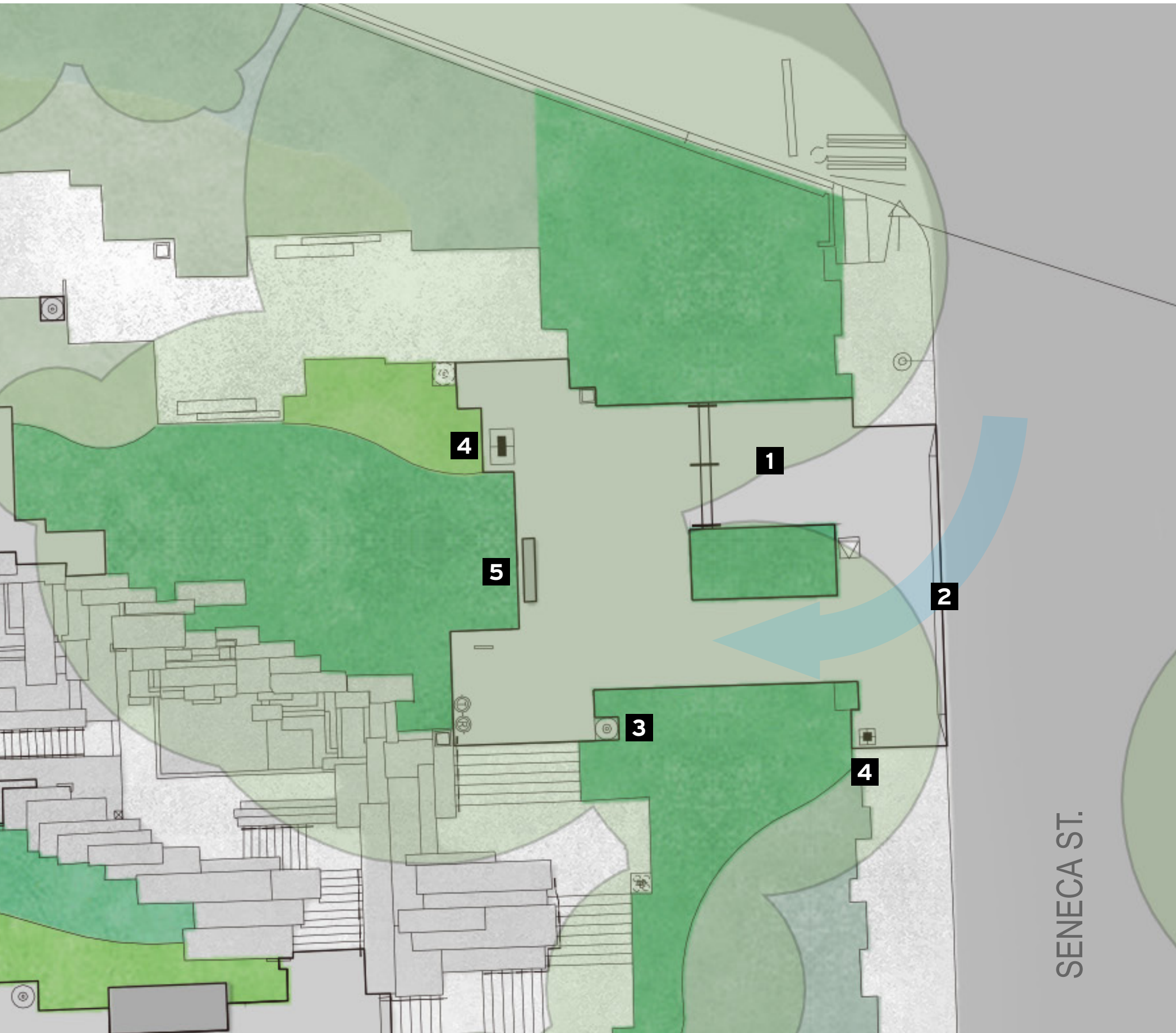
proposed



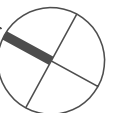
UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE

OVERVIEW

- 1** new plaza paving & stair with direct path
- 2** new maintenance vehicle access
- 3** new lighting
- 4** new signage
- 5** new seating & furnishings



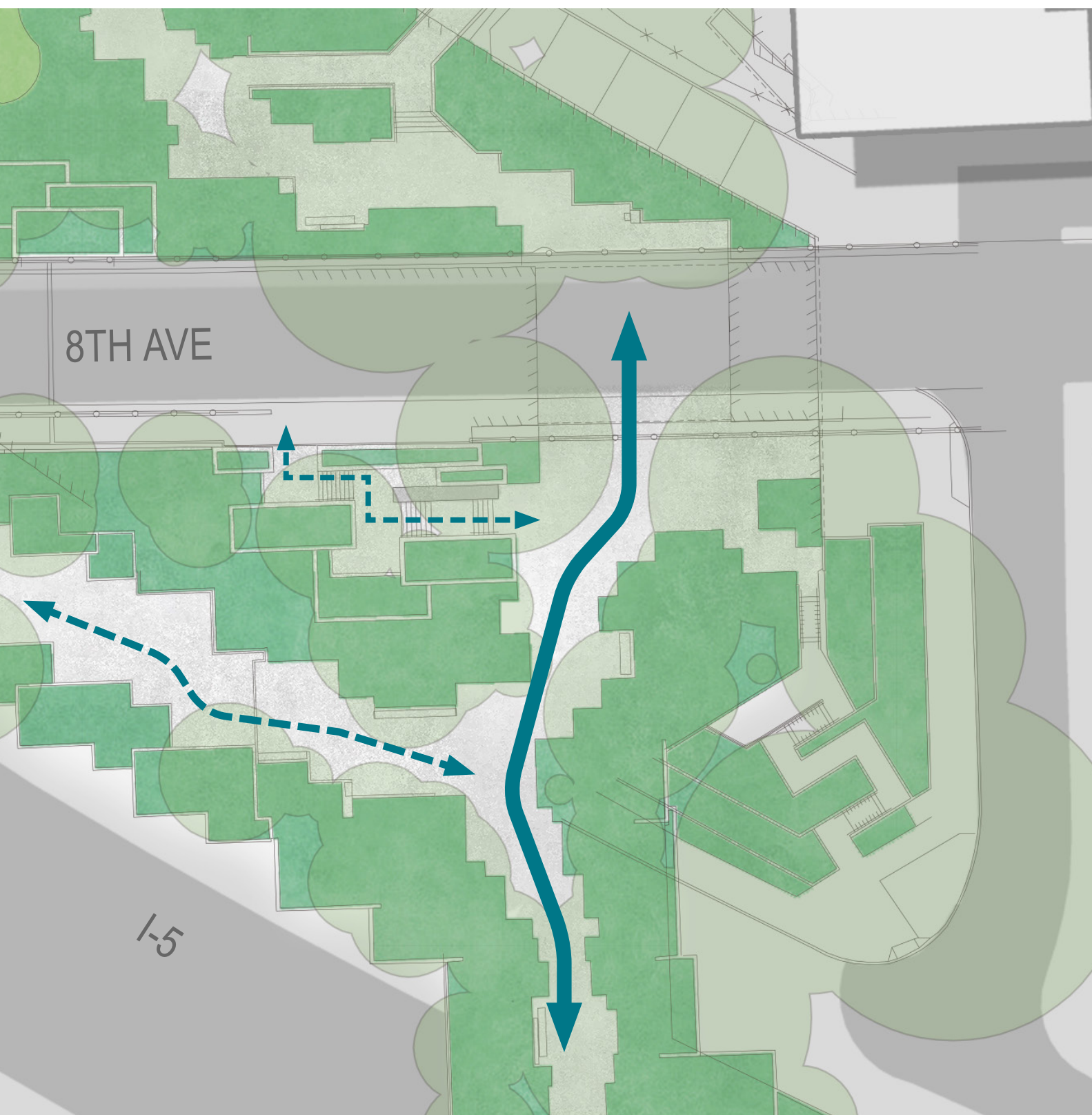
proposed 0 25 50

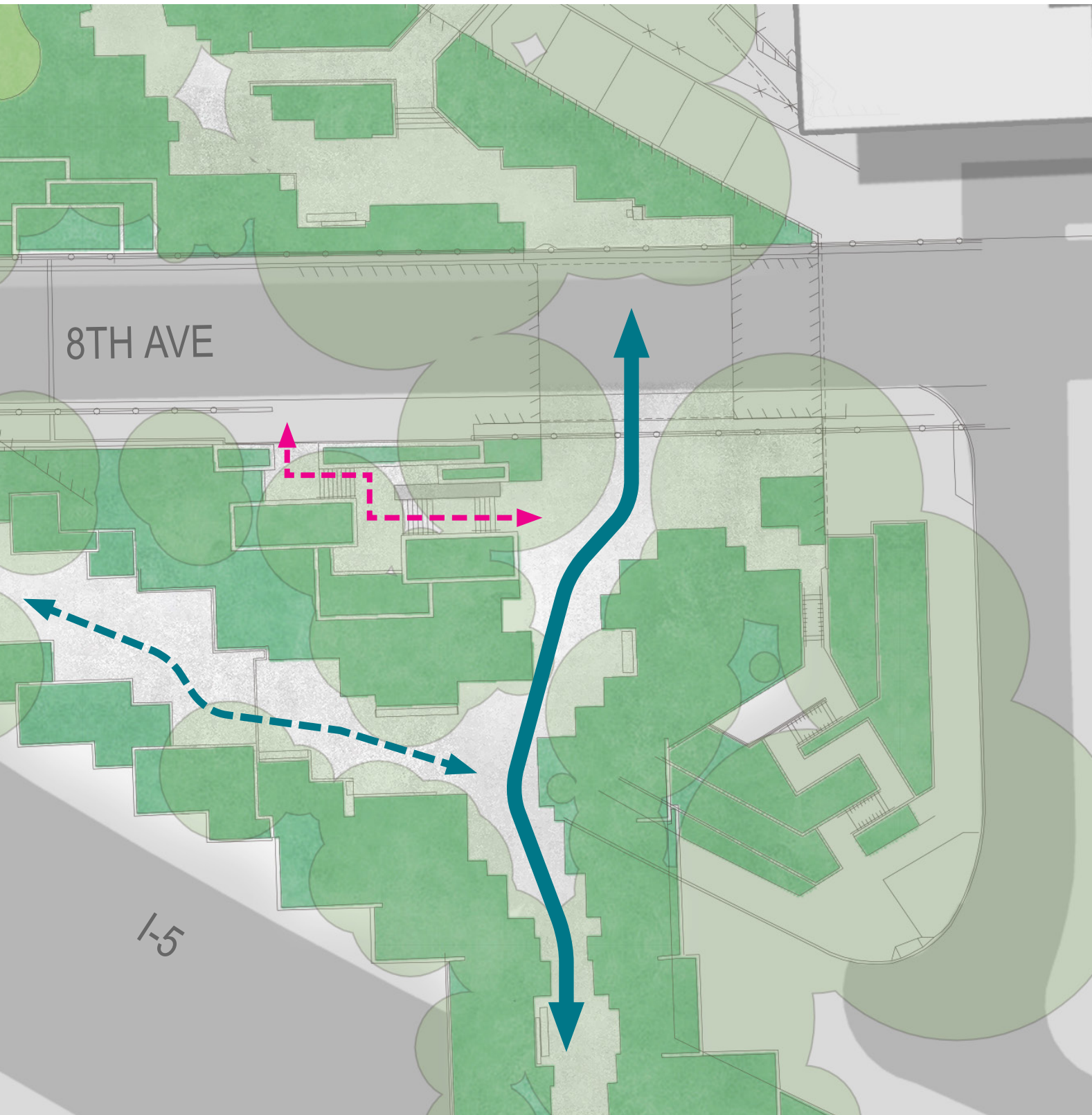




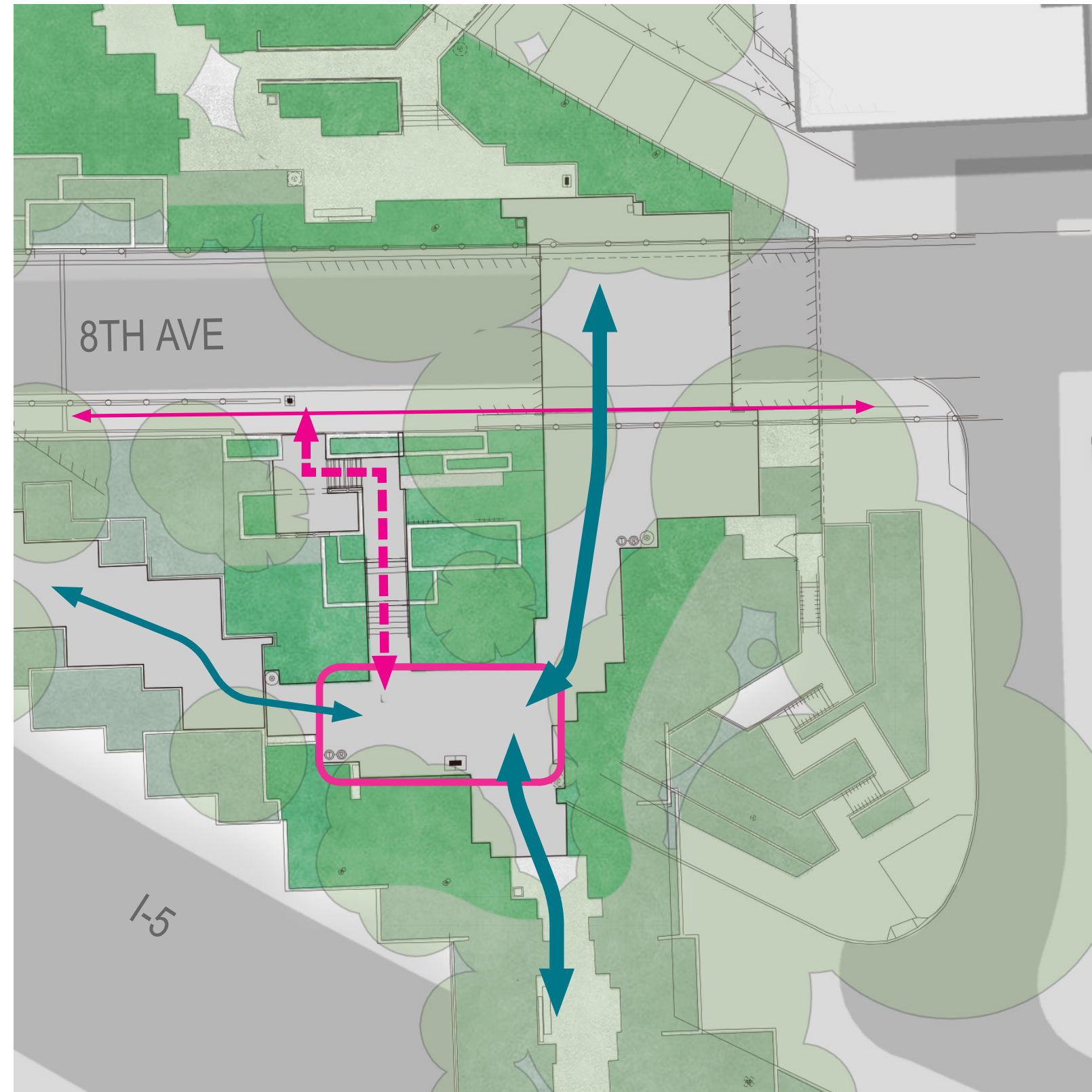
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE

8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE

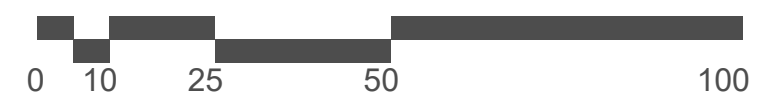
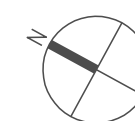




existing



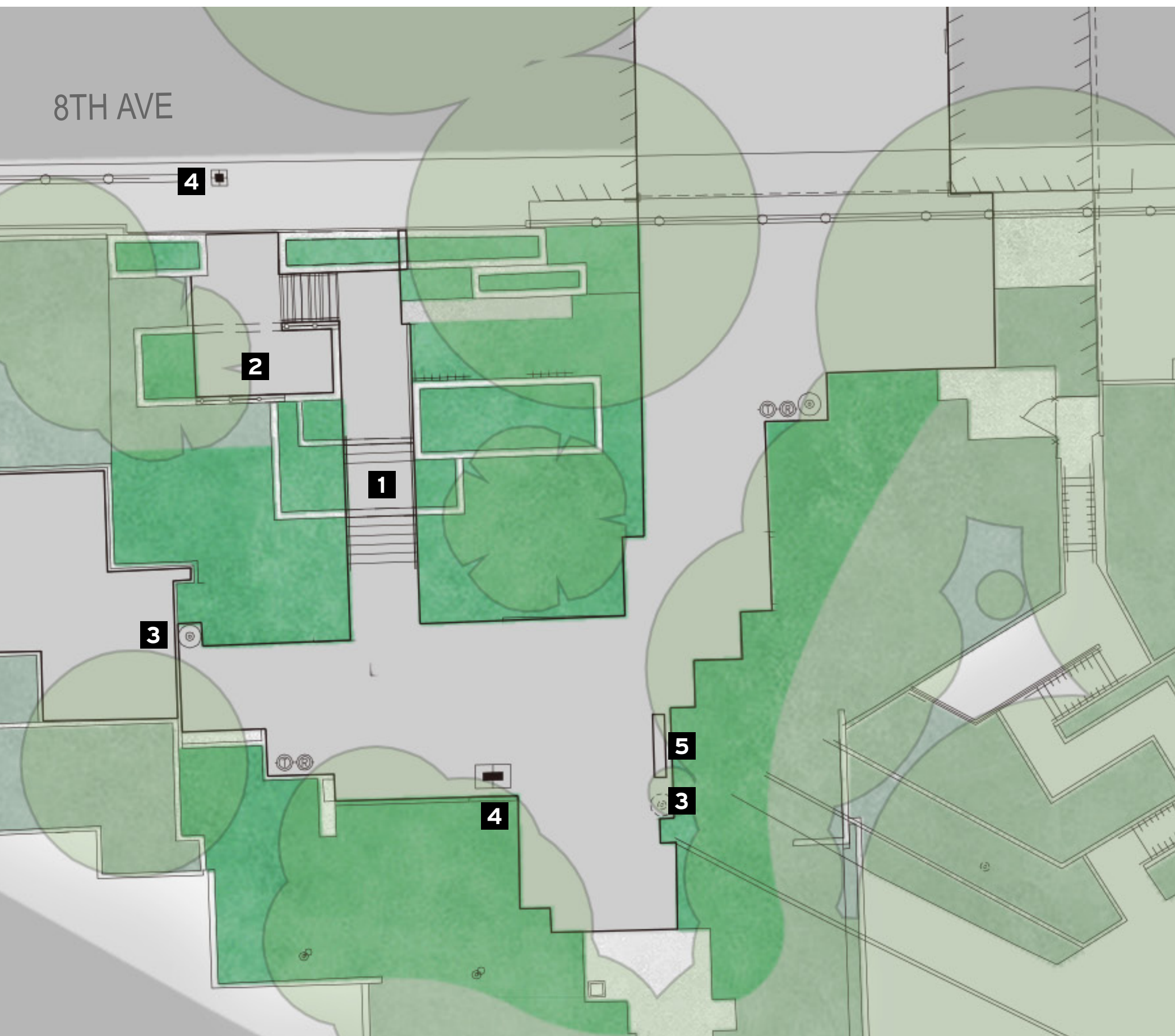
proposed



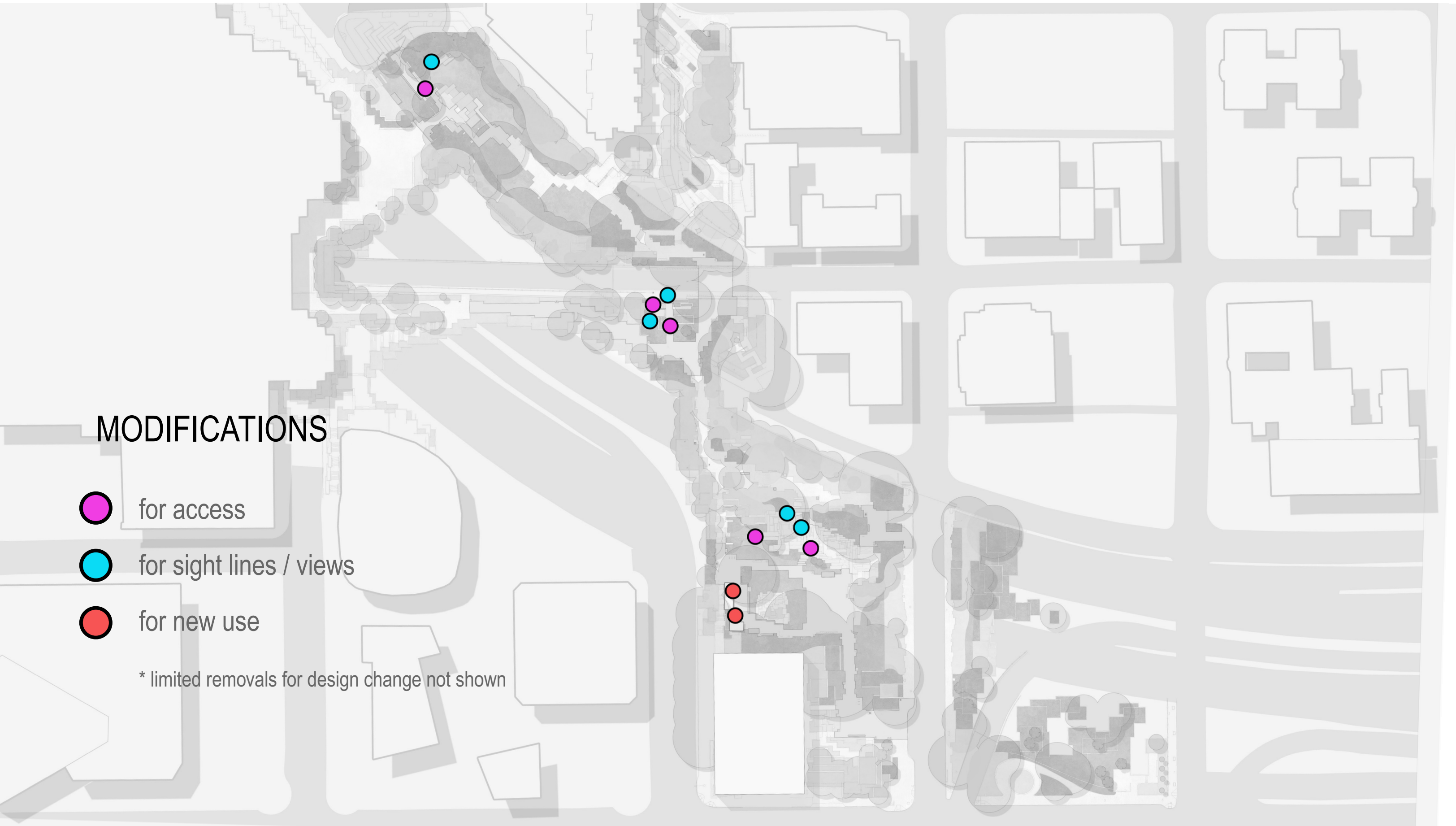
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE

OVERVIEW

- 1** direct stair into entrance plaza
- 2** new overlook
- 3** new lighting
- 4** new signage
- 5** refurbished & new seating & furnishings







VIEW FROM PARK ENTRANCE



proposed



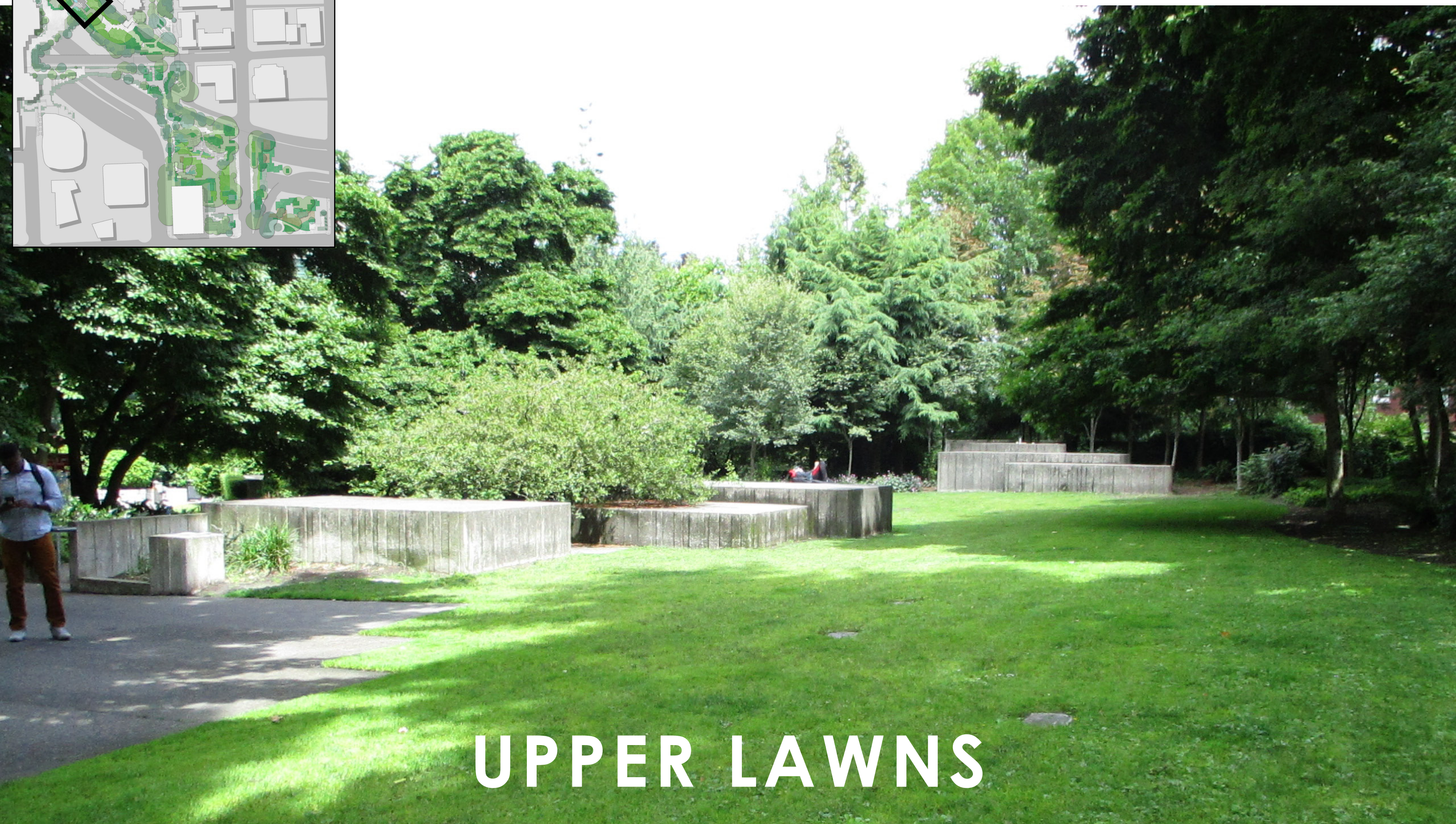


PARK SPACES

UPPER LAWNS

SENECA PLAZA & CANYON





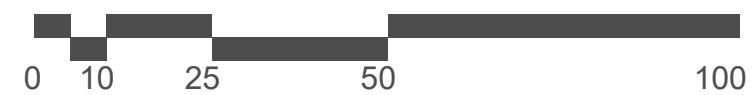
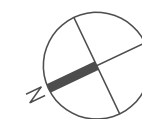
UPPER LAWNS

UPPER LAWNS NORTH



existing

proposed



UPPER LAWNS NORTH

OVERVIEW

- 1** new paving & ADA access
- 2** new lawn with plinth
- 3** new access to original features

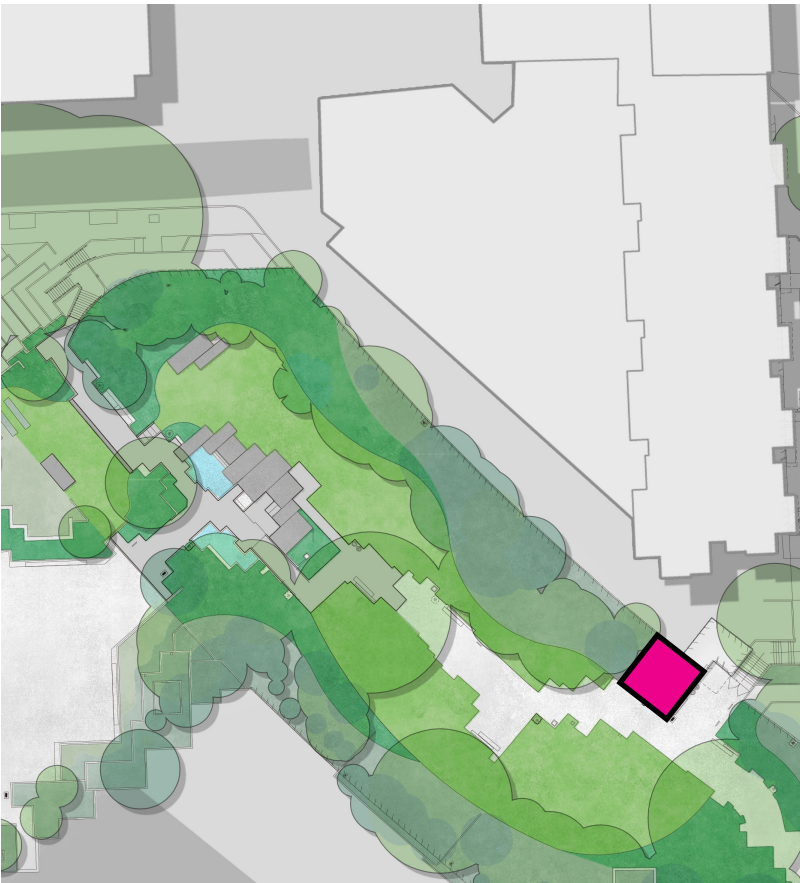


proposed

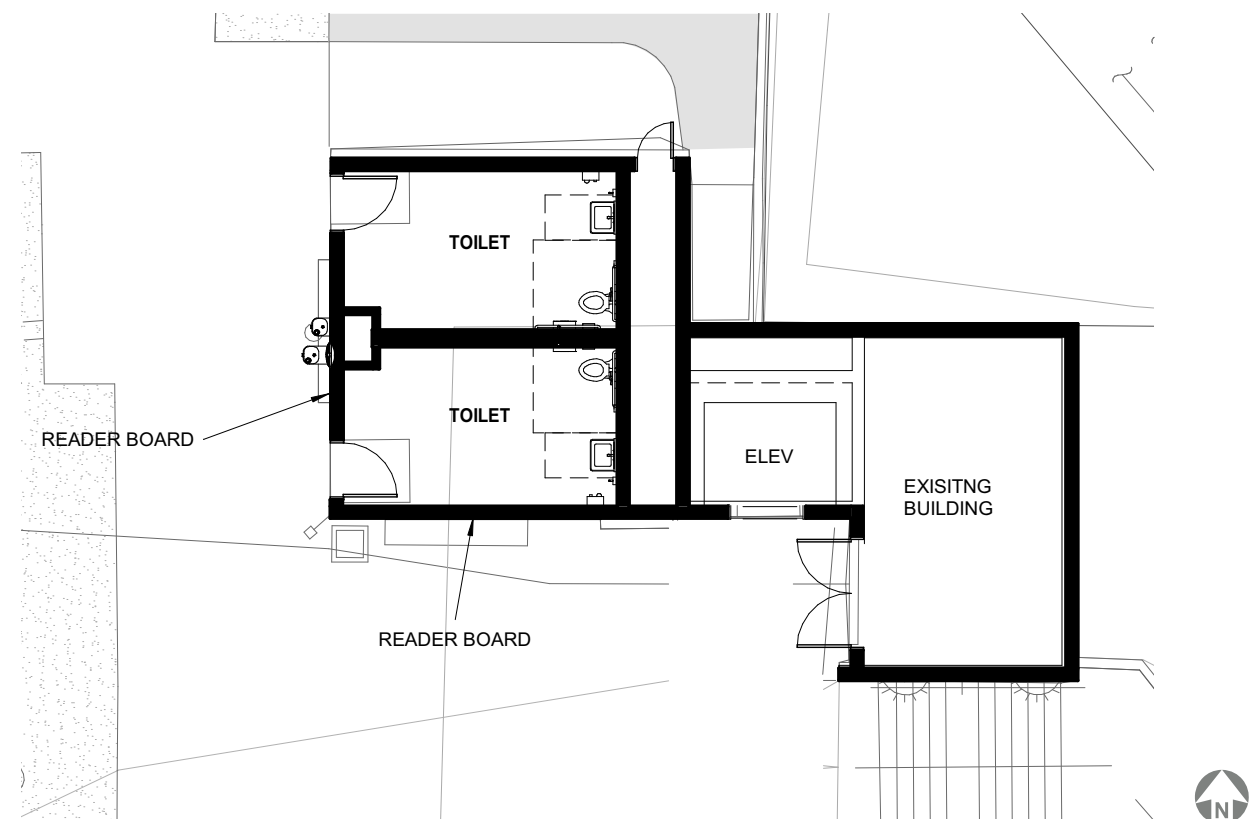




UPPER LAWNS BUILDING RENOVATION



2 gender-neutral, SPR standard comfort stations
community posting boards
drinking fountain





SENECA PLAZA

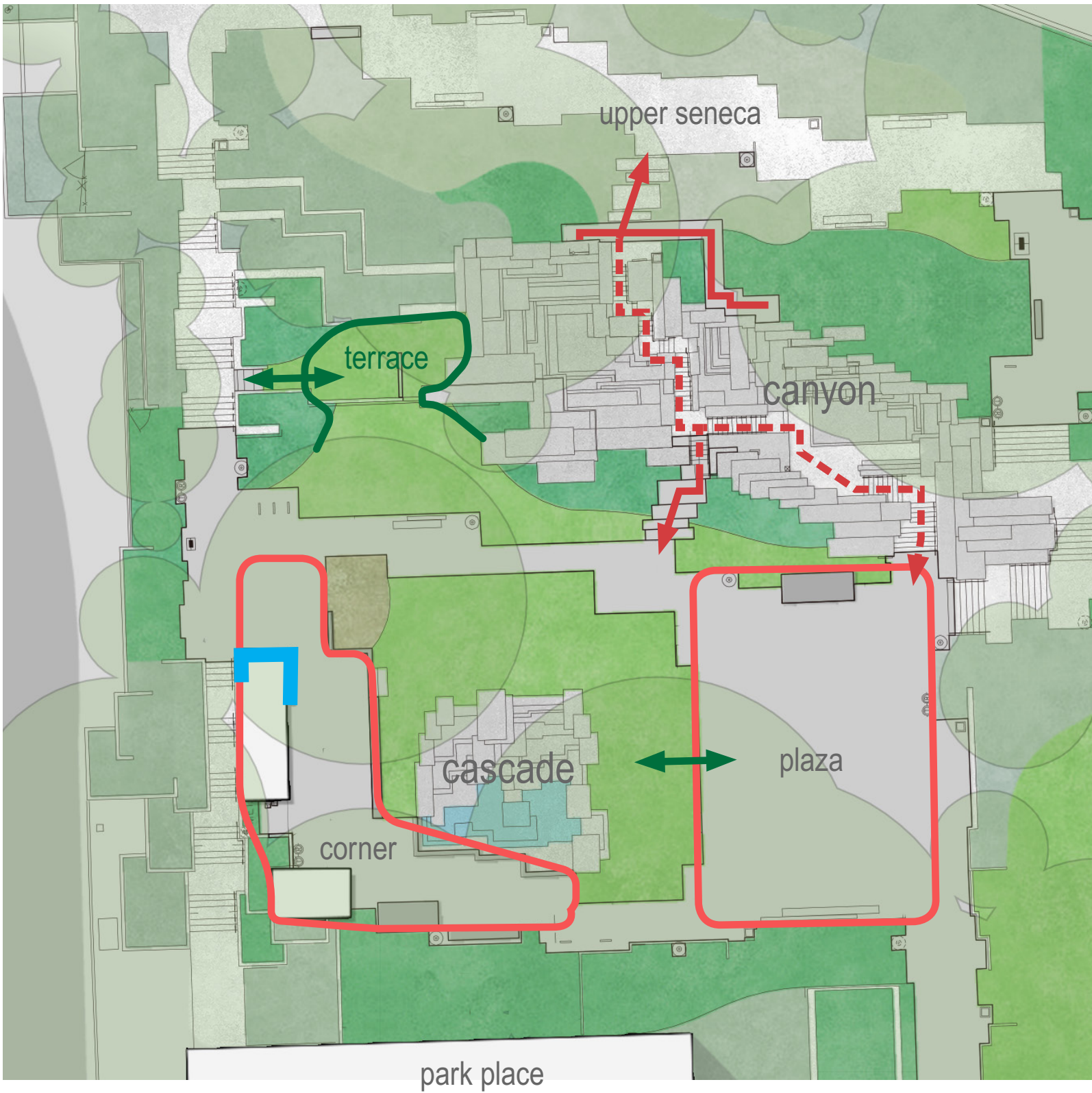




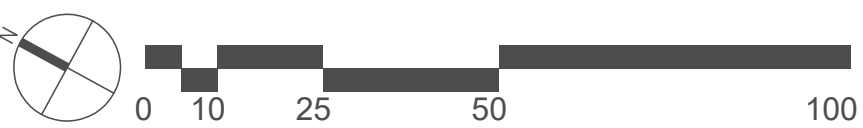
SENECA PLAZA



existing



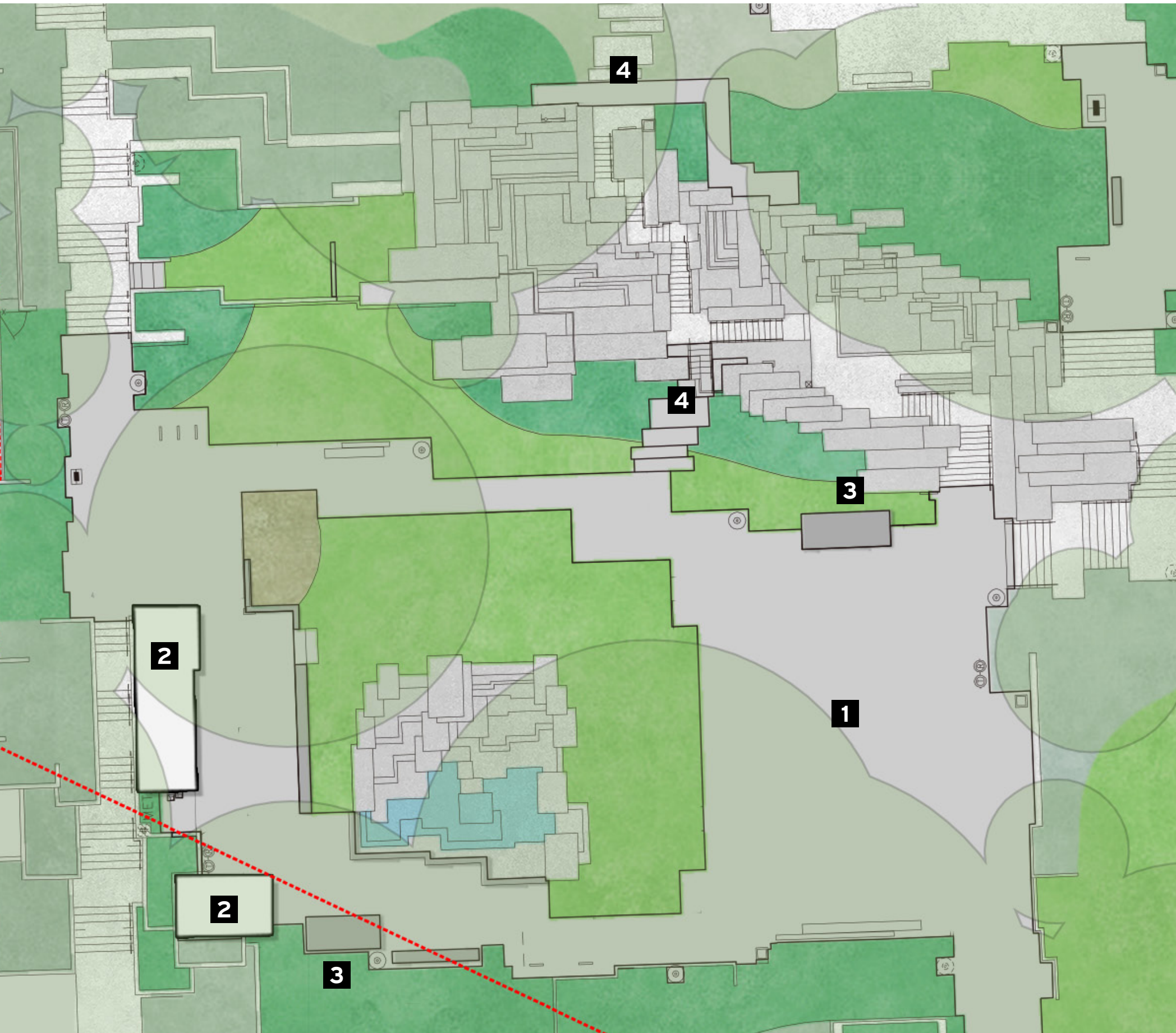
proposed



SENECA PLAZA

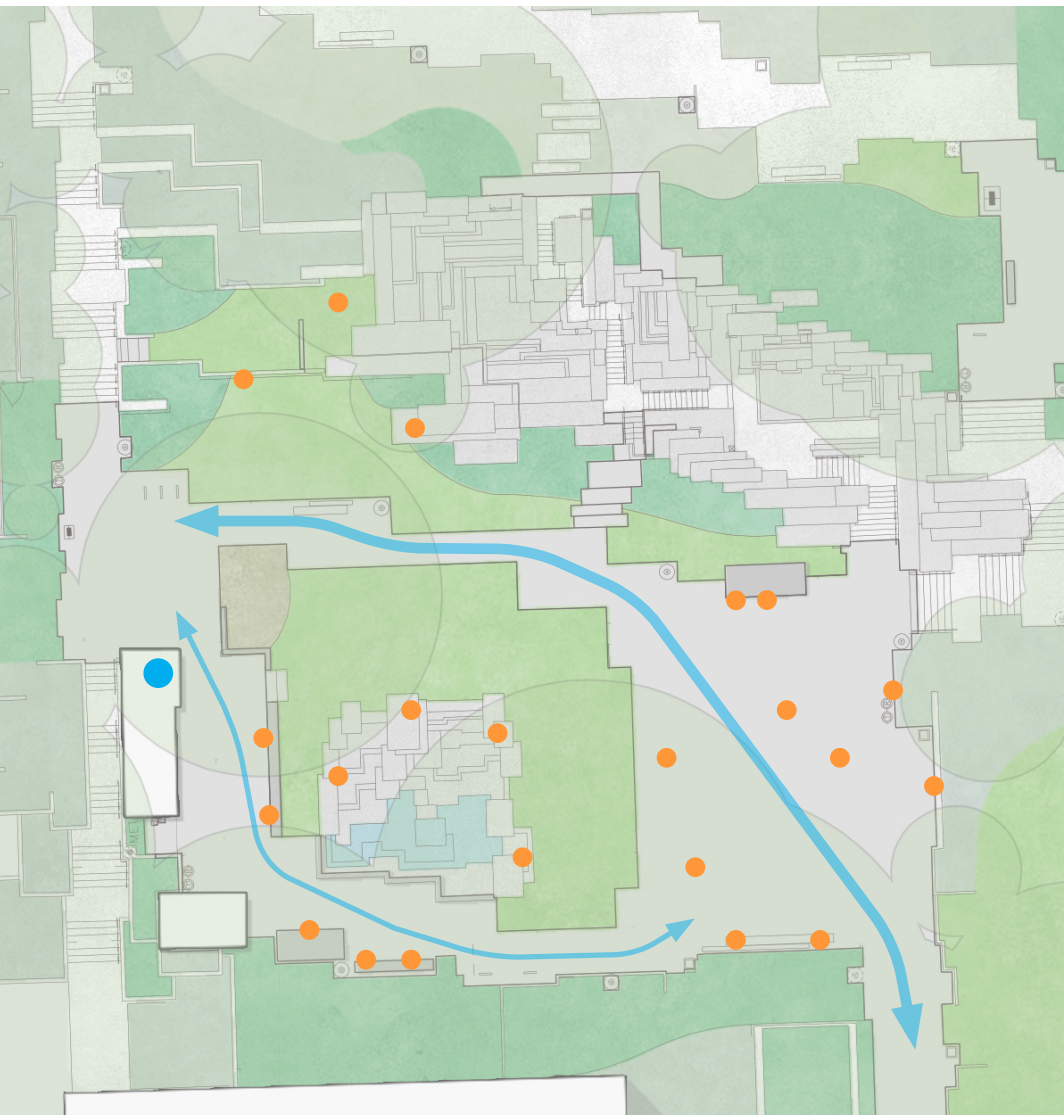
OVERVIEW

- 1** new larger plaza
- 2** new buildings
- 3** new seating edges
- 4** improved canyon access

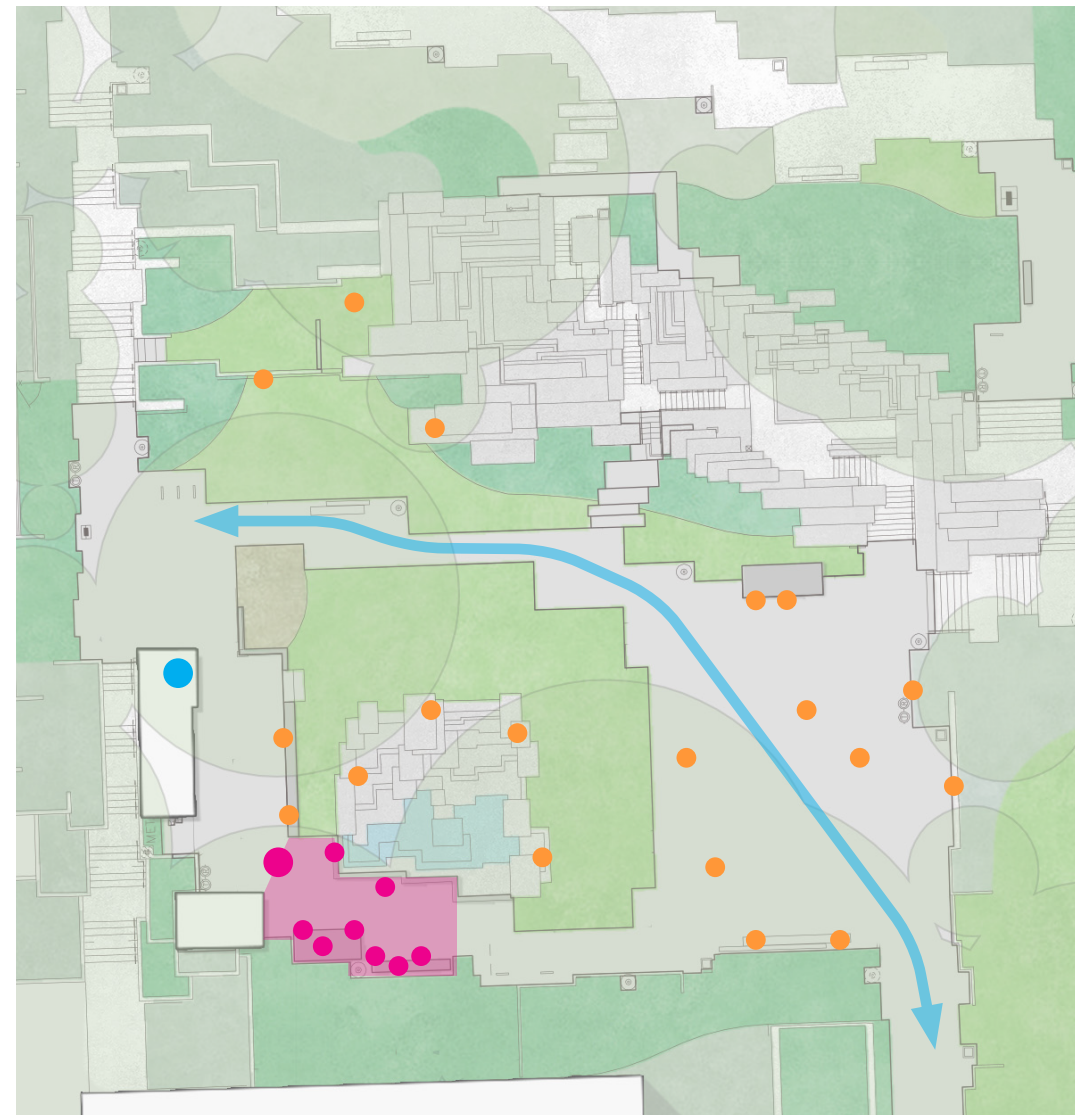


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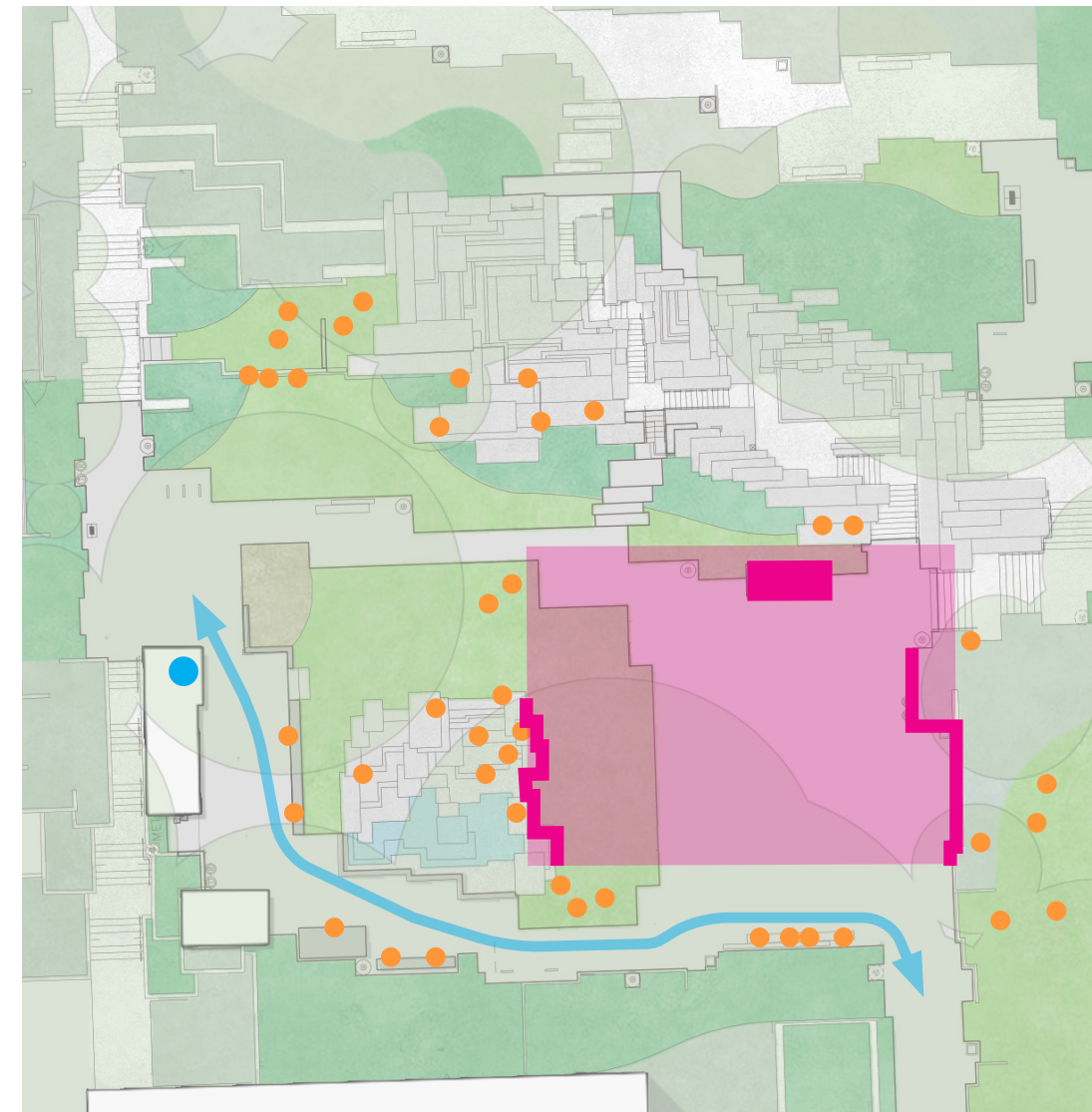




typical afternoon



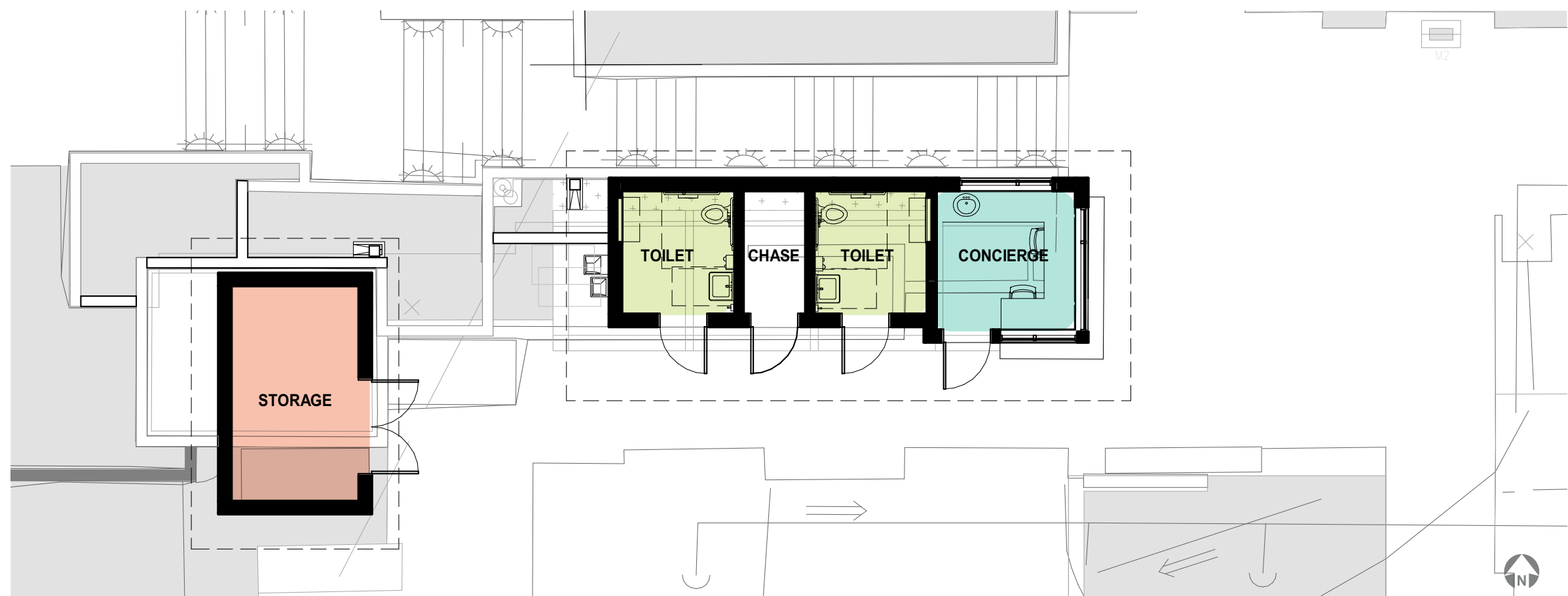
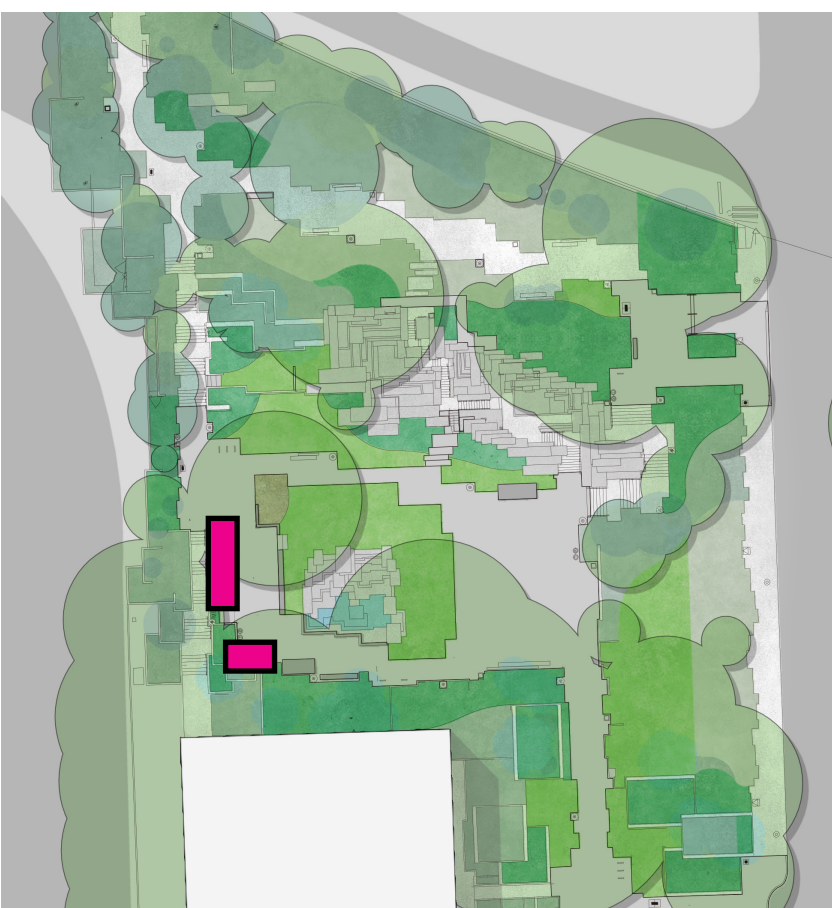
programming / activity



event

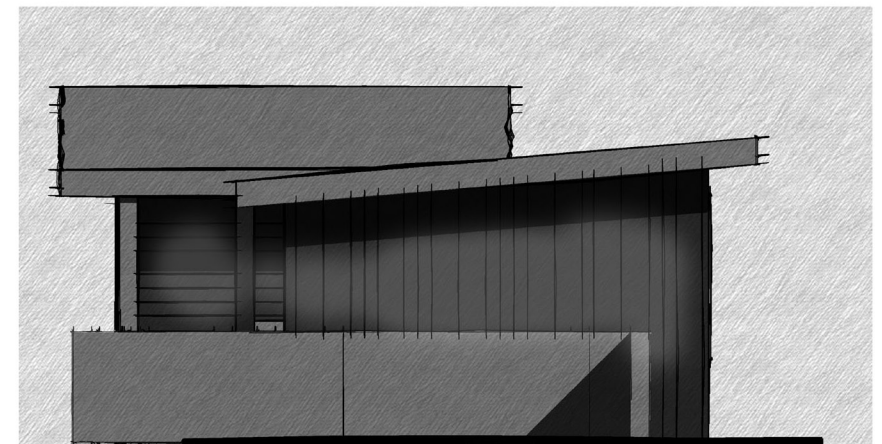
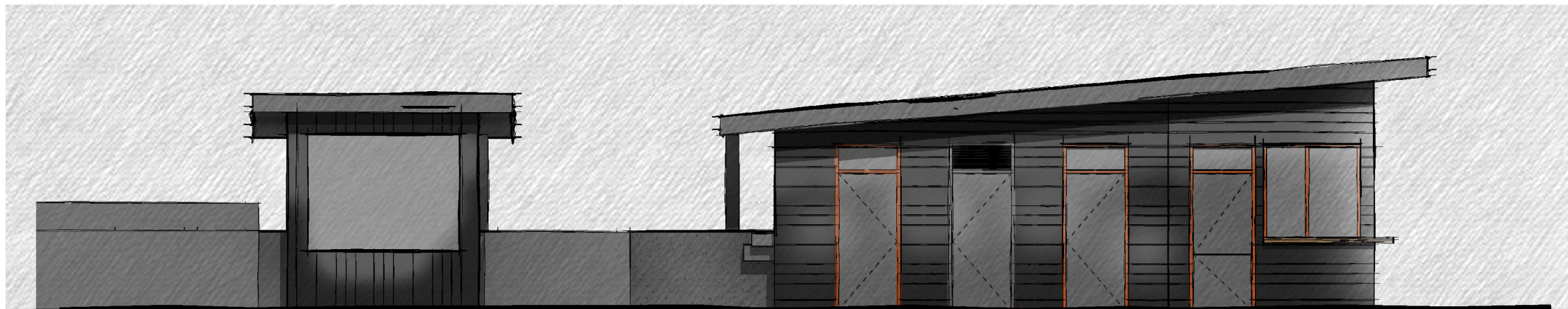


SENECA PLAZA BUILDINGS



2 gender-neutral, SPR standard comfort stations
community posting boards
drinking fountain

storage building (programming supplies/equipment)





board form concrete



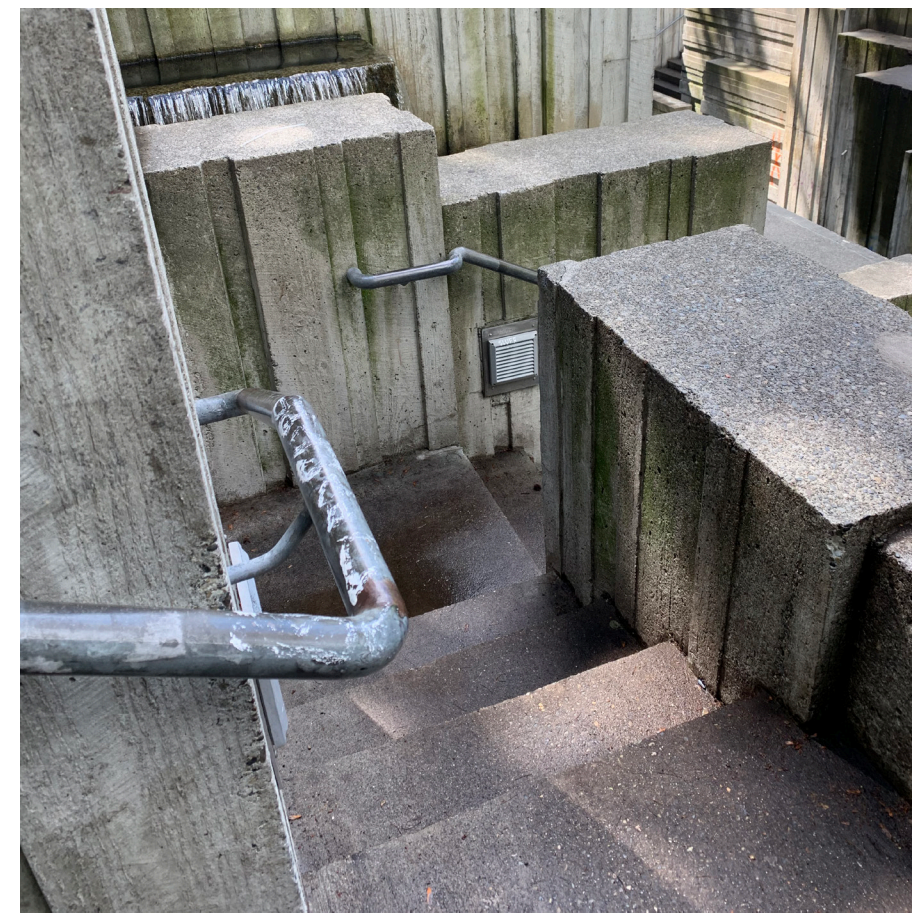
metal panel



metal soffit panel



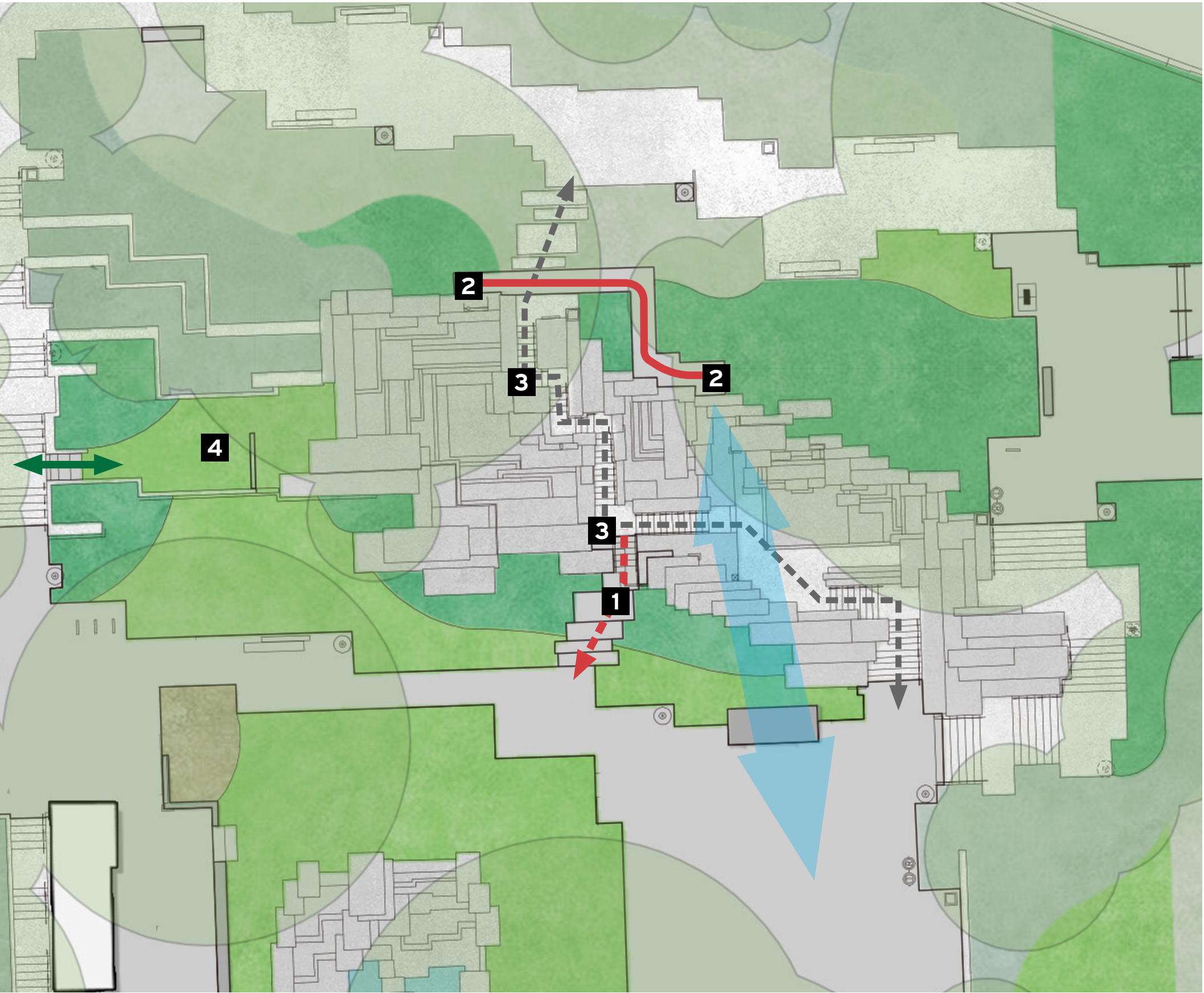
CANYON IMPROVEMENTS



CANYON IMPROVEMENTS

OVERVIEW

- 1** new access
- 2** new overlooks
- 3** modified walls
- 4** new lawn terrace

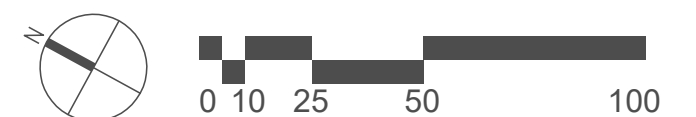


proposed



OVERVIEW

- 1** low maintenance planting in front (mulch and sparse shrubs)
- 2** new trees & restored buffer planting
better sight lines
maintenance tie-offs (fall protection)



DISCUSSION

PROJECT APPROACH

Are we doing the right things to invite new users and create an active and equitable park?

ENTRANCES

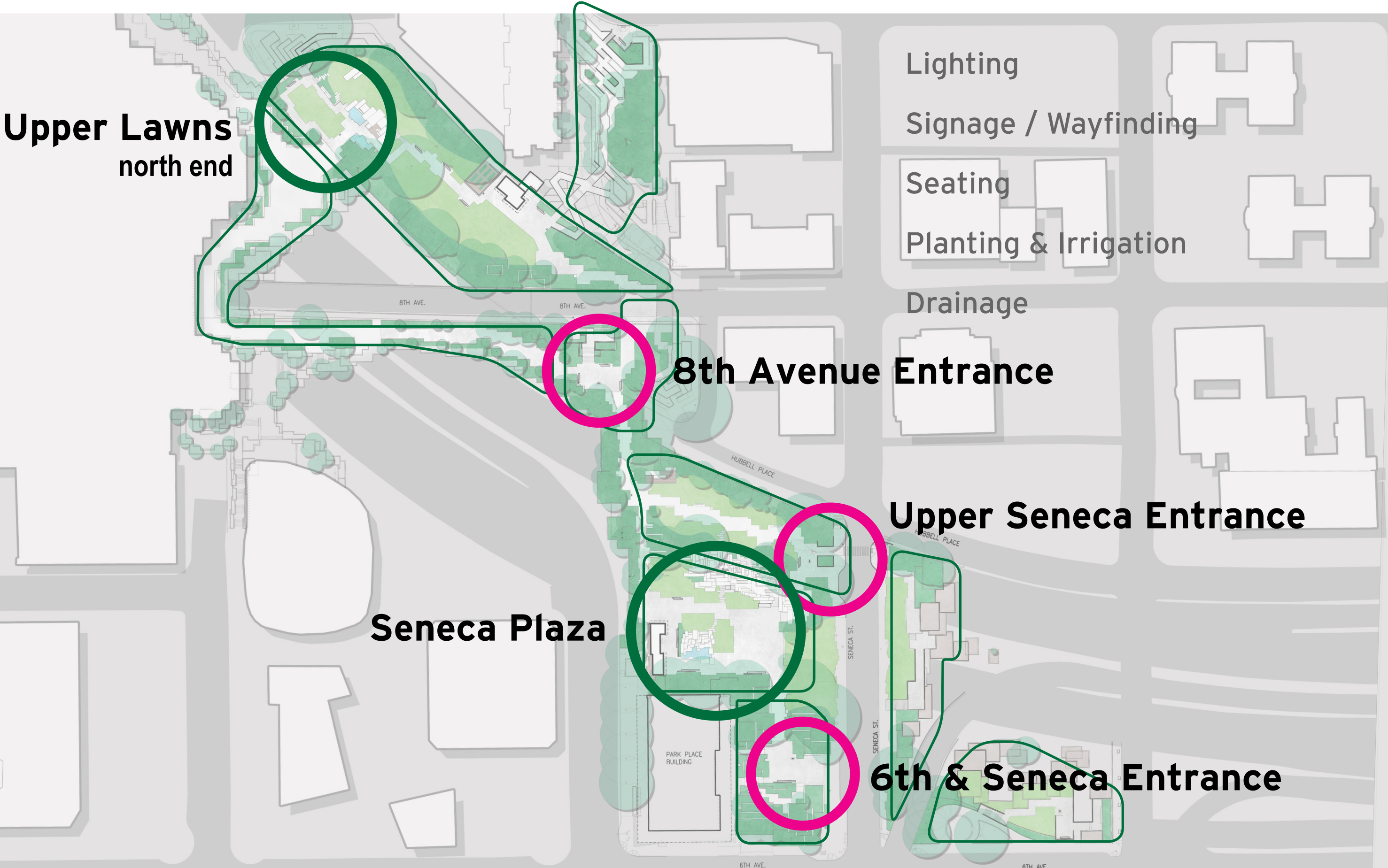
Do the improvements provide an invitation?

TREE CANOPY

Are we taking the right approach to preservation and succession, while making the park more inviting and comfortable?

CHARACTER

Do buildings, new park elements and treatment of original elements feel right: contextual, contemporary & inviting?



[illegible]

