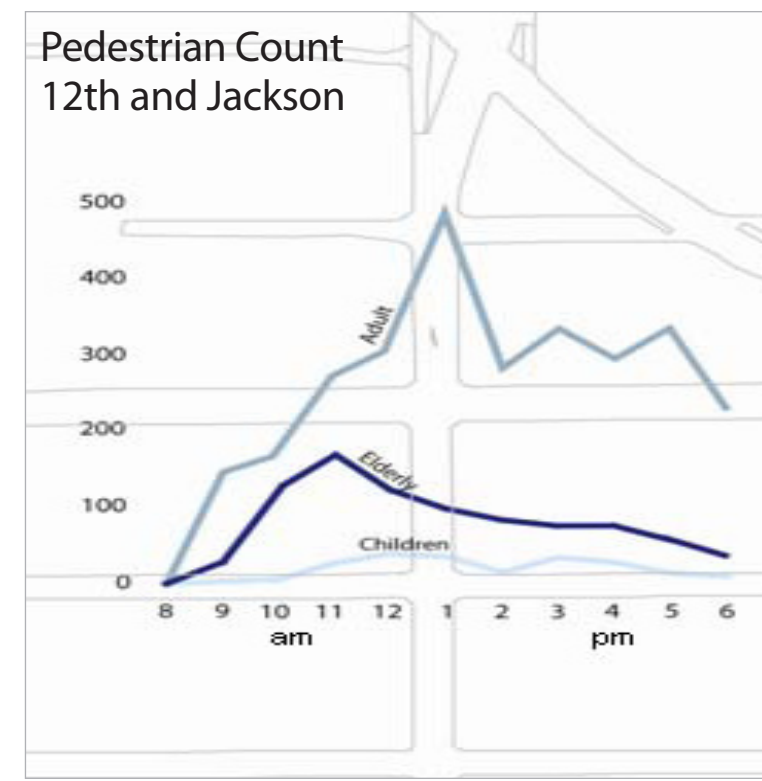
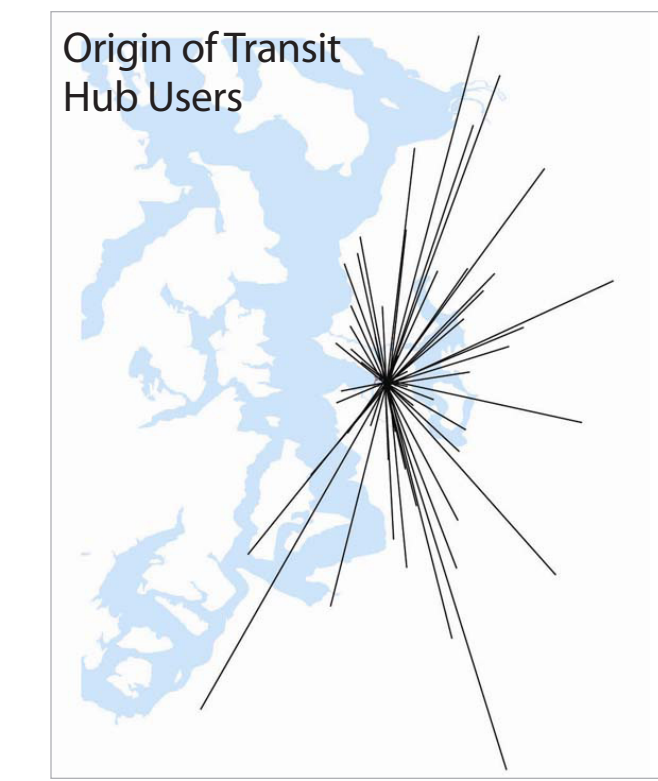


Migration Experience

Flows through the Nature, Social Life and Meaning of South Jackson Street

Betsy Severtsen
 Professional Practice Thesis
 Client: Department of Planning and Development, City of Seattle



Background



Tidelands connection around Transit Hub

Constellation lighting under I-5

Yesler Terrace path and gardens towards Commercial Core

Mid-block throughways from Goodwill Development

Lessons from Place-making research and Case Studies:

Lesson 1: Connect and Re-connect

Changes in zoning and the subsequent development and redevelopment of areas of South Downtown offer an opportunity to remedy through urban design some of the disconnections found in the landscape. In addition to the functional connections between home and the grocery or work and the bus stop, there are also the connections between people and nature, between neighbors and those connections between place and its overall significance and meaning.

Lesson 2: Green interventions for Health

Expanding upon the healthful benefits of the environment by providing greenery and other natural elements is needed within this district. While the beneficial effects on mental health for residents would be felt, the physical benefits to health through the creation of more walkable spaces and the expansion of local food production could also occur. Green strategies should be implemented in the most efficient and economical ways. Finding the opportunities through the landscape and the community that are already present should guide the designer towards this goal.

Lesson 3: Flexible/Hybrid open space for commercial and community use

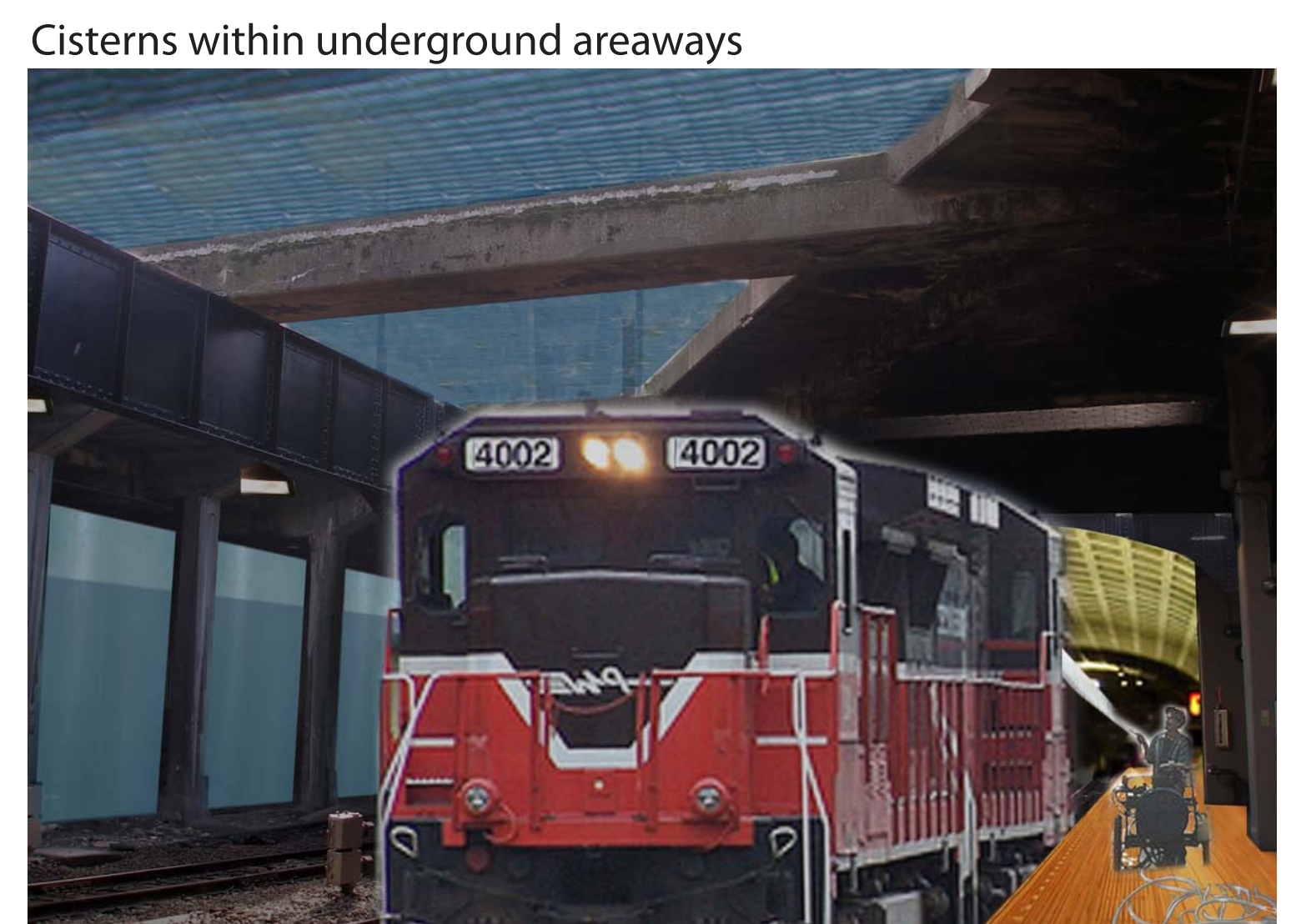
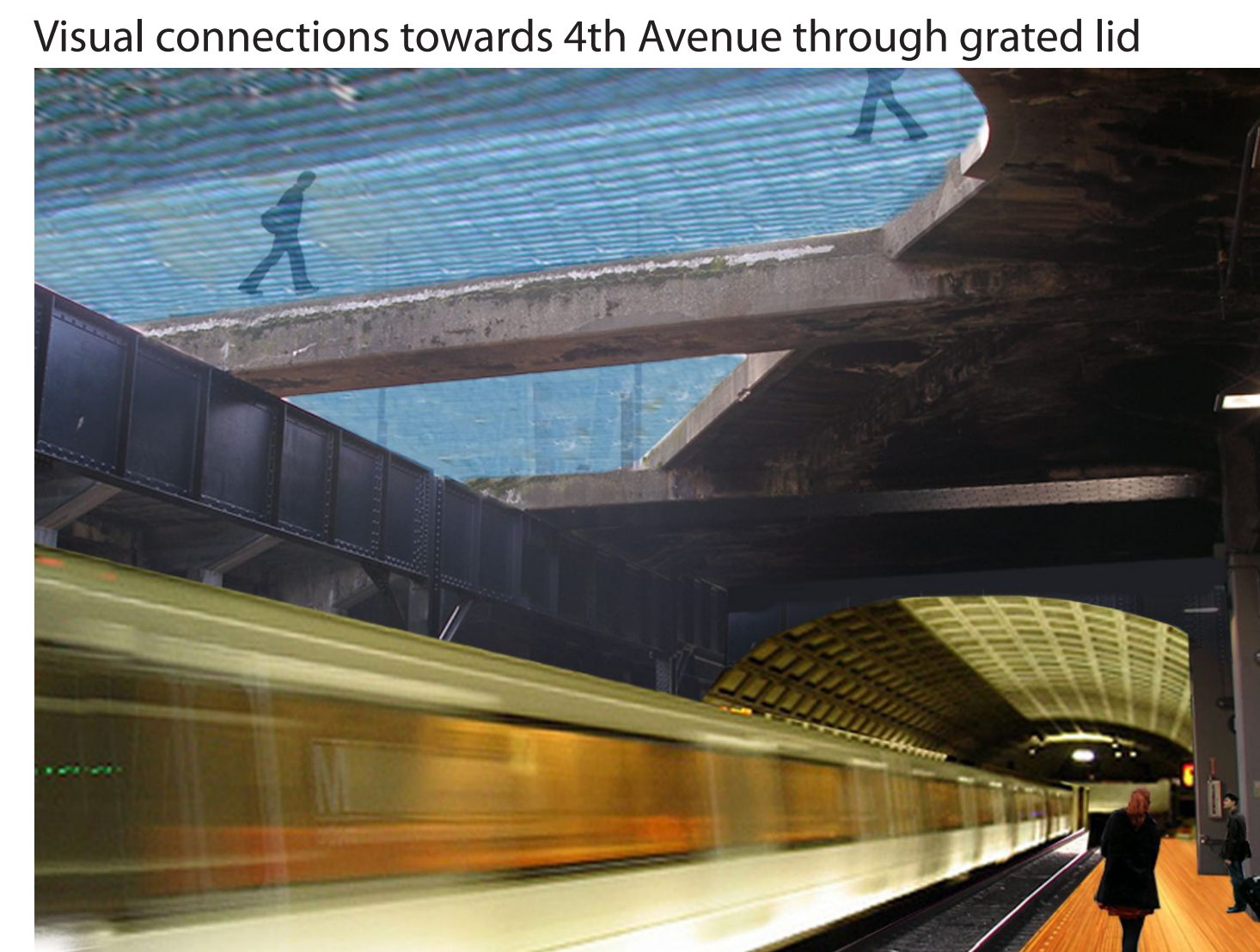
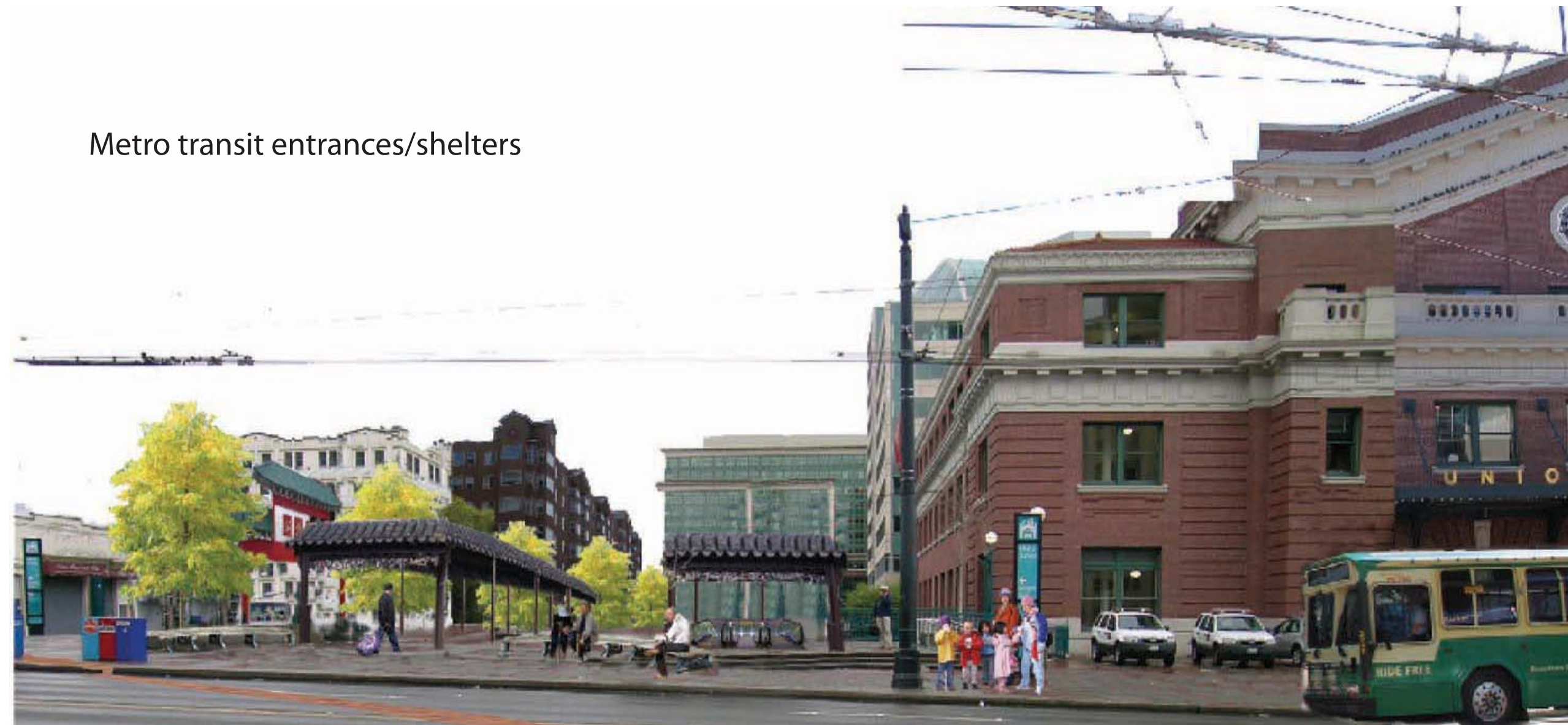
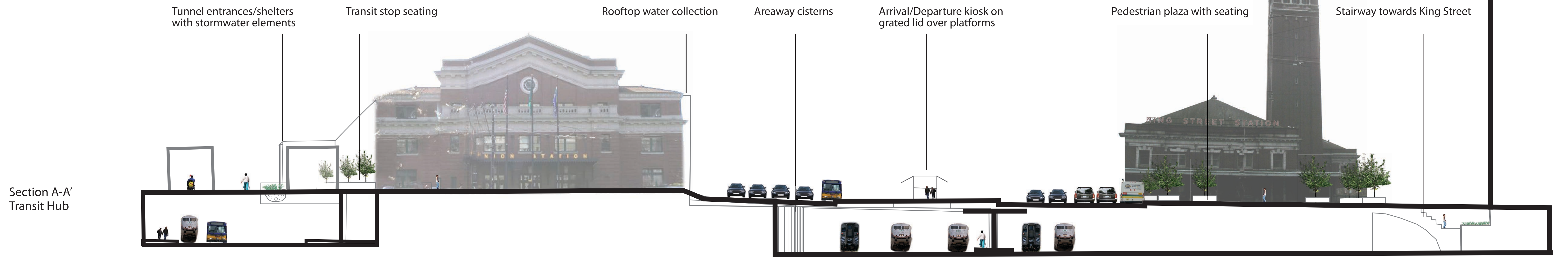
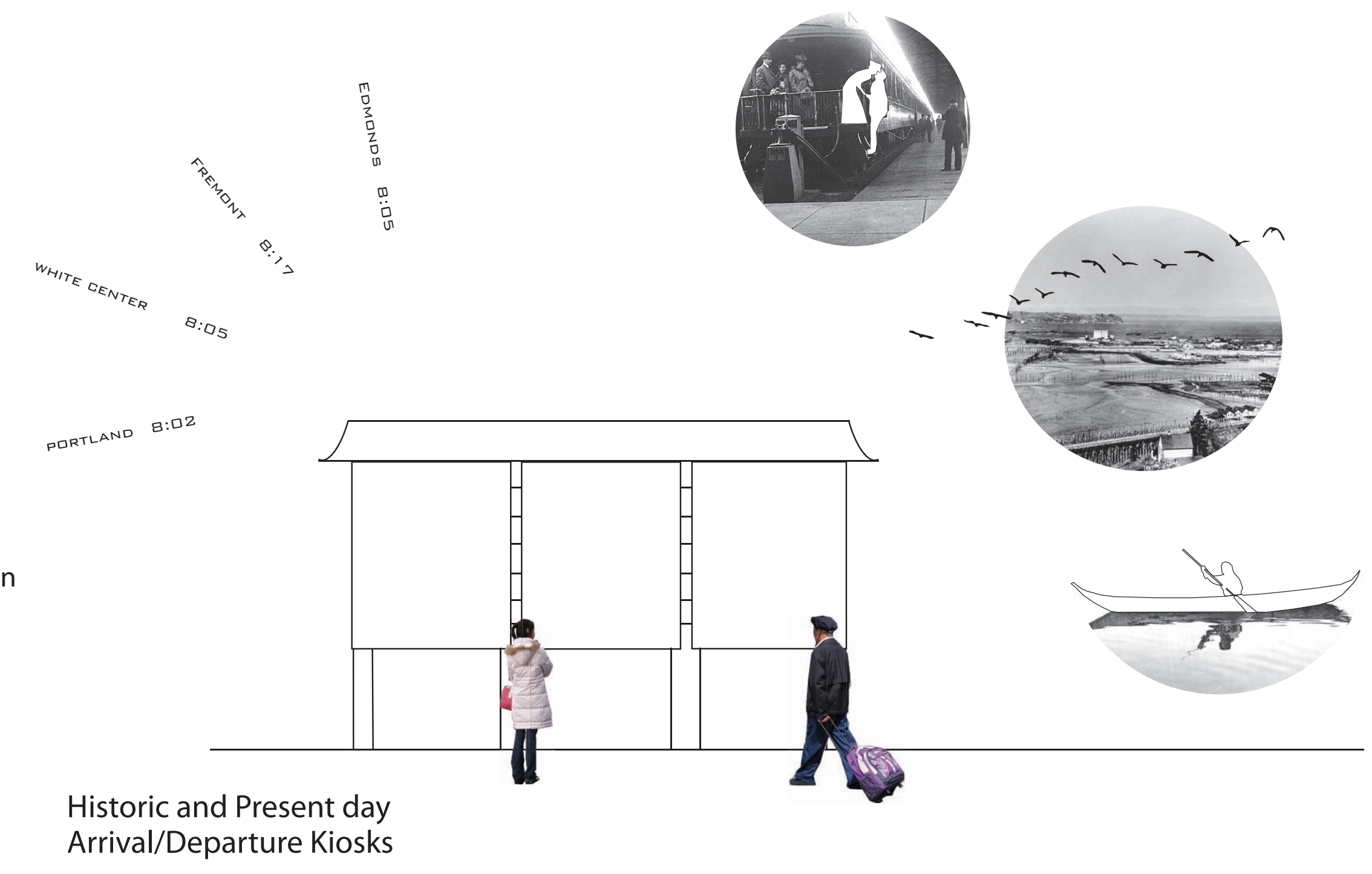
Similar to the diverse and dynamic third place of the Metro bus and bus stop, open space within this urban setting should encourage community use in a flexible, sometimes informal way. Spaces should bring together diverse users so one's view of the city is ever expanding. Large scale master planning efforts can deaden a once lively place through homogeneity and gentrification. Smaller interventions in terms of open space can help preserve the dynamic character of a place, while allowing new and old users to intermingle comfortably.

Lesson 4: Authentic and inclusive historic narrative

History-telling through landscape should aim for the authentic and inclusive narrative. The stories of a place need not look back with rose-colored glasses but they should explain why a place has developed as it has. Design elements should also encourage further discoveries with greater exposure. Through the dialogues and intrigue produced, historic elements should help one better understand the complex realities of a place.



Transit Hub Proposals



I-5 Underpass and Yesler Terrace Proposals

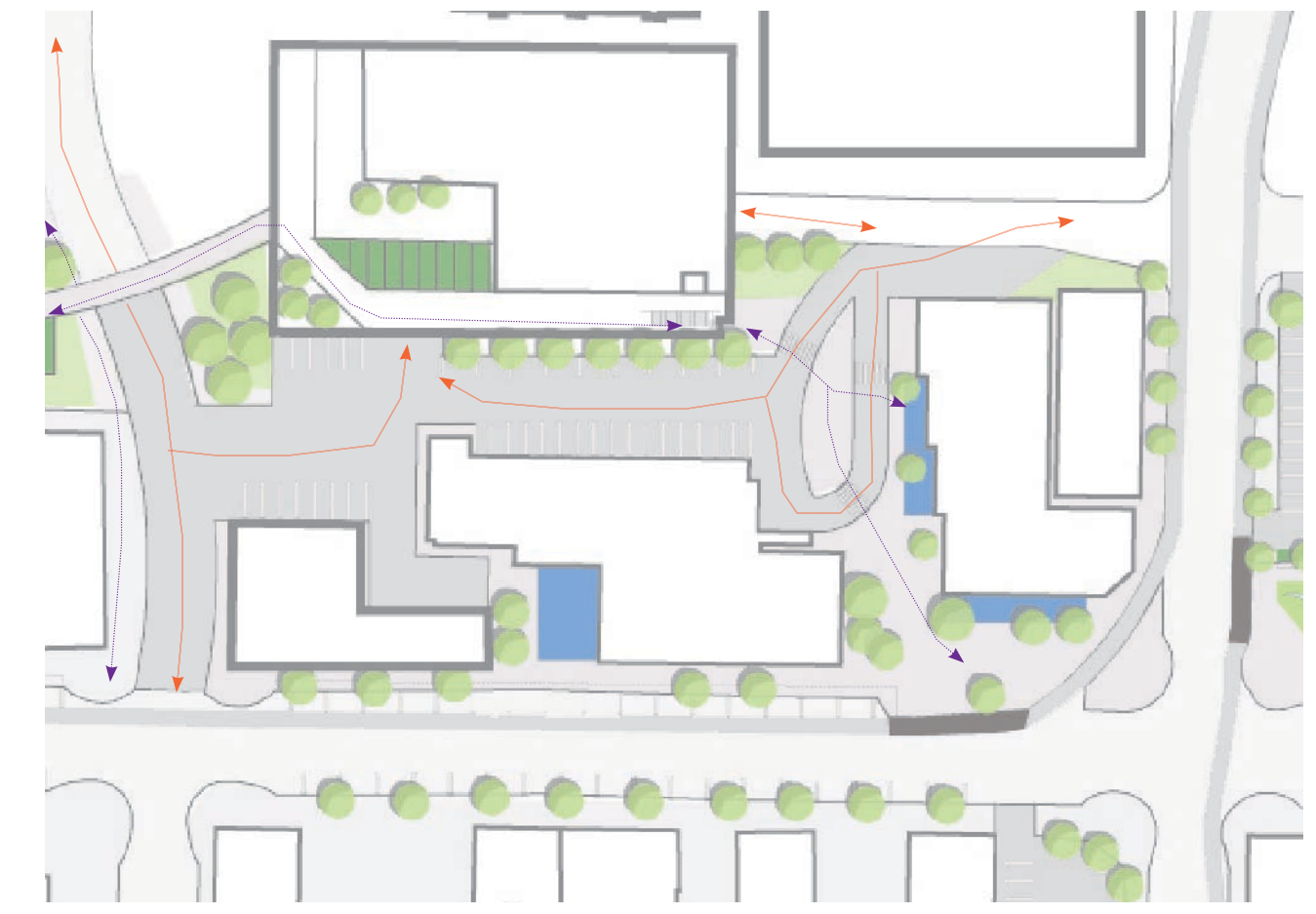


Larger scale trees and stormwater plantings in Little Saigon

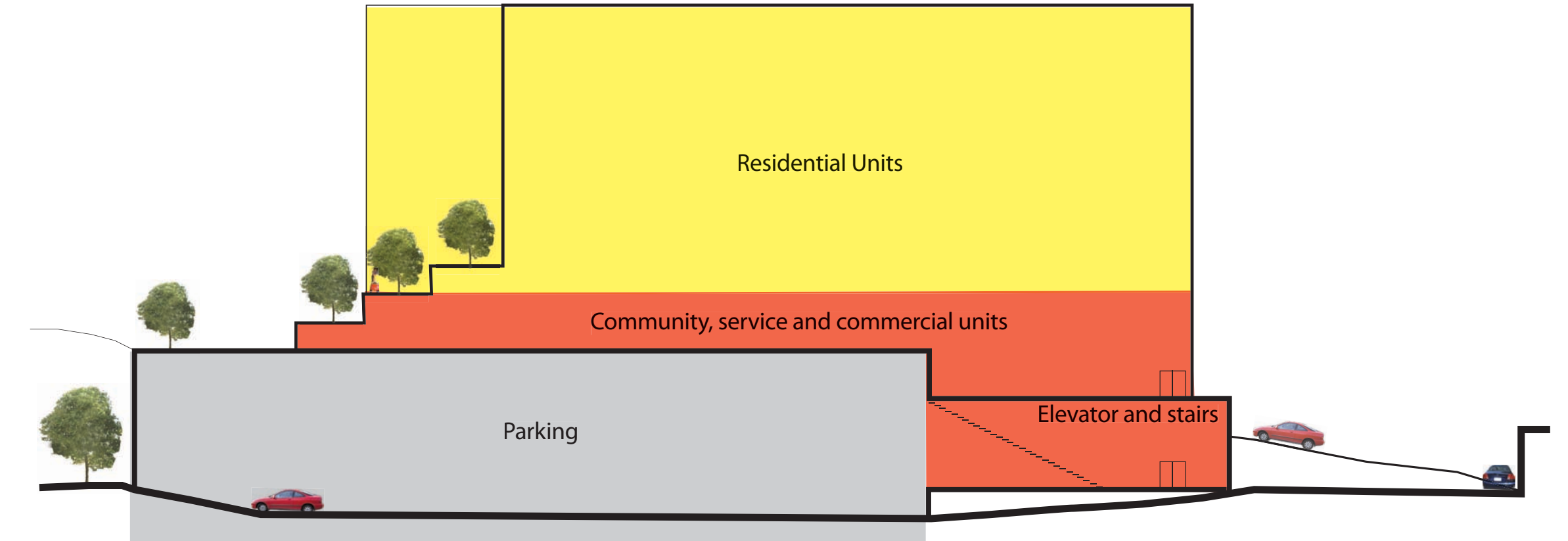


Yesler Terrace pathway towards Commercial Core

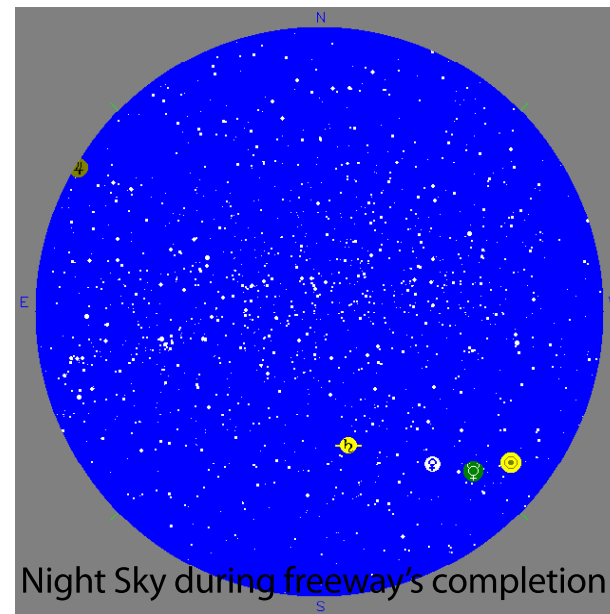
Pedestrian
Vehicular



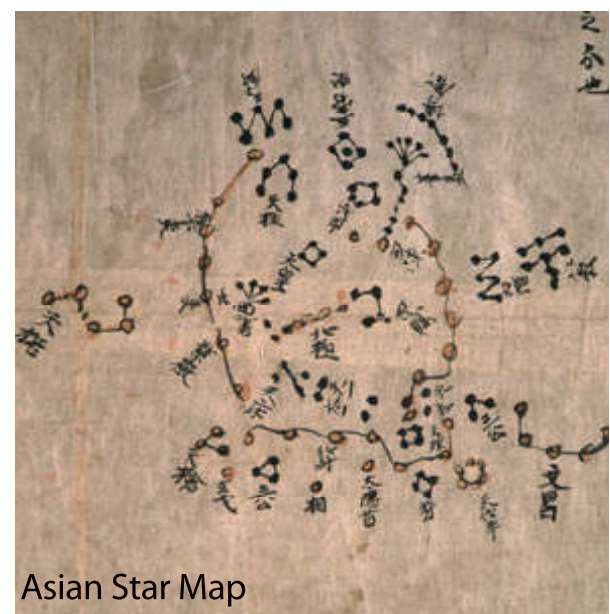
Circulation Diagram



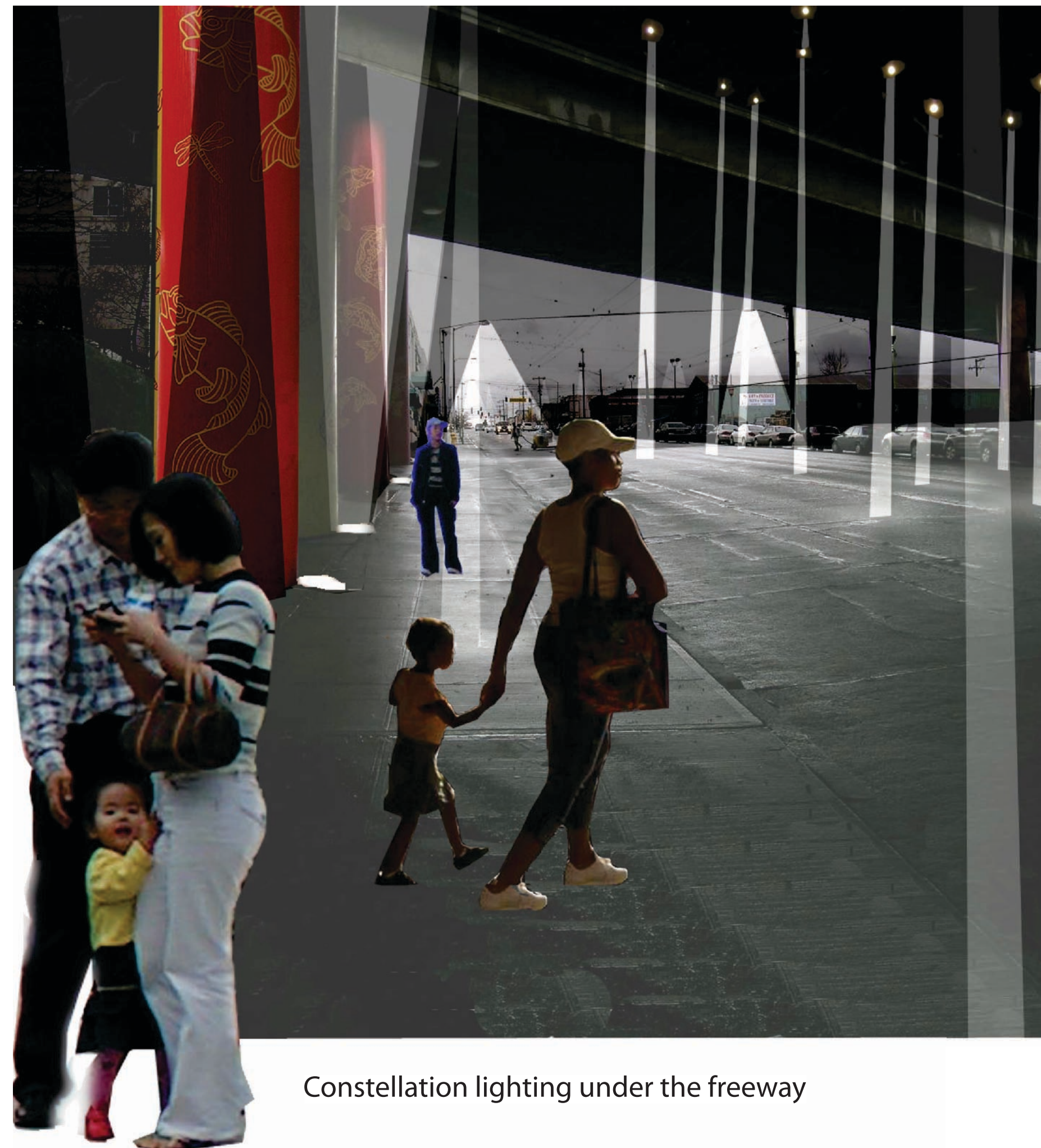
Section B-B': Pedestrian pathway and new development



Night Sky during freeway's completion



Asian Star Map



Constellation lighting under the freeway

Pedestrian path and market gardens

Mixed use development with parking garage, roof gardens and pedestrian pathway

Pick-up/drop-off turn around

Commercial spill-out opportunities

Constellation lighting



Little Saigon Core and Mid-block Throughway Proposals



Some surface parking retained while making more room for pedestrian through Commons Park, spill-out areas and amenity-rich transit stops

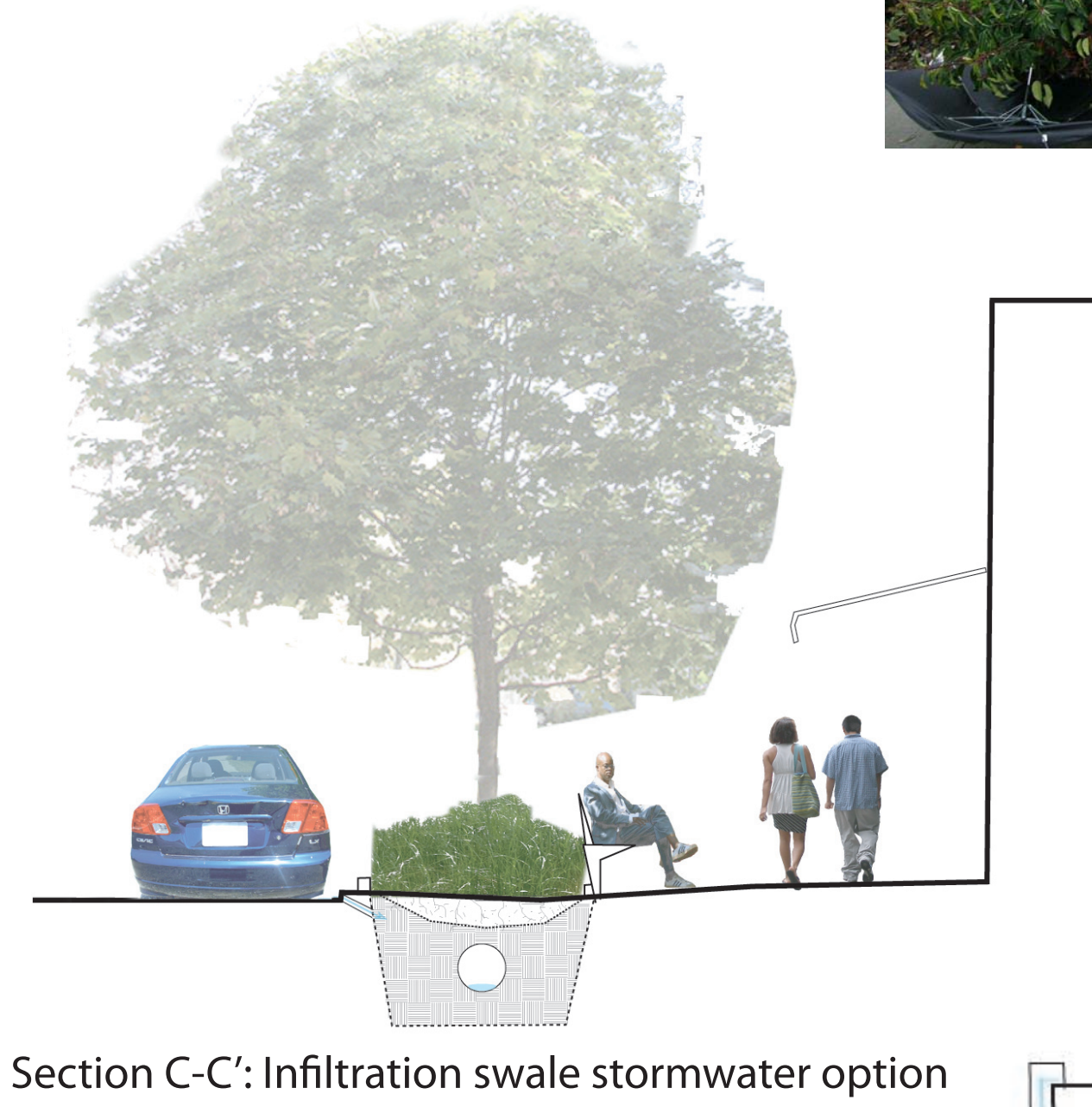
Stepped mid-block throughway

Pedestrian path amongst existing buildings

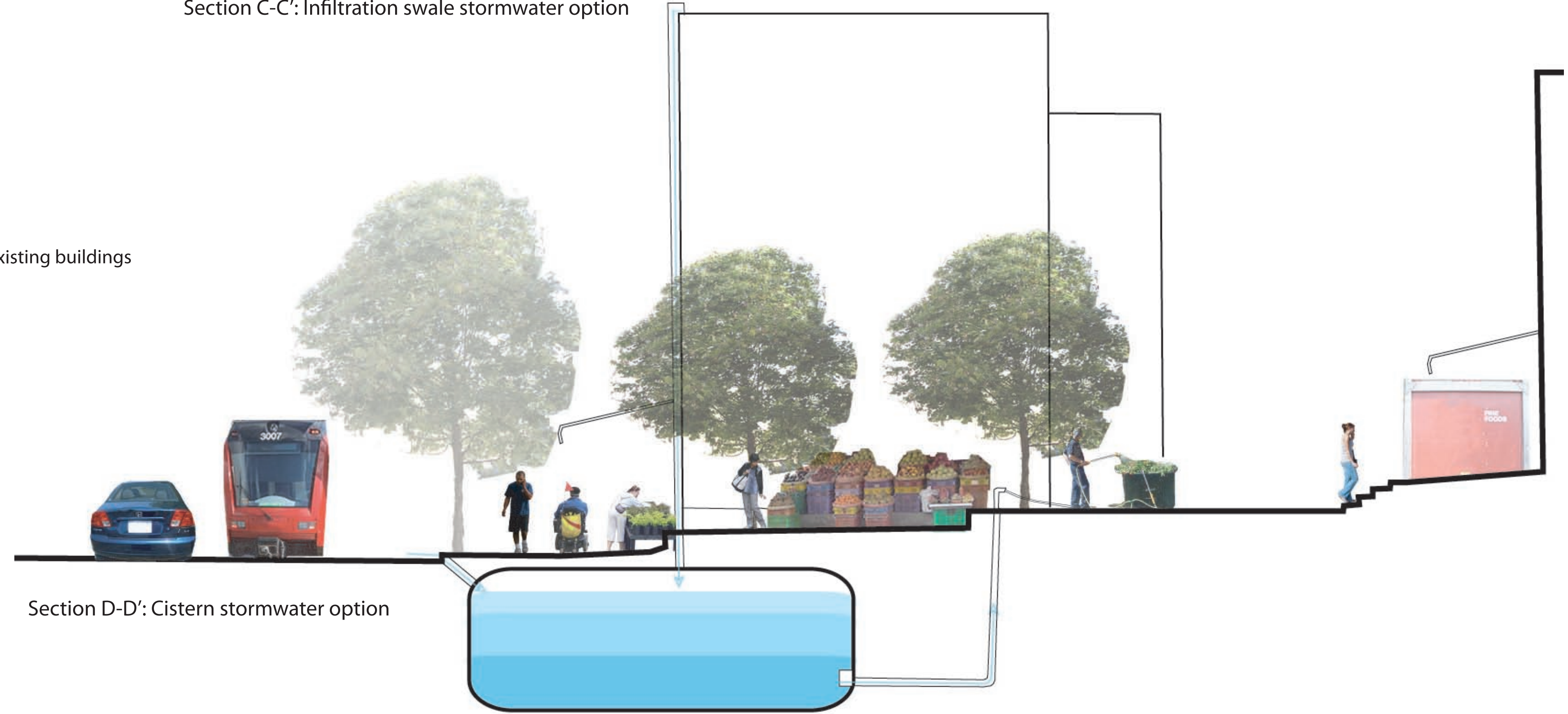
Goodwill Development



Commons pocket park and spill-out area at 12th and Jackson



Section C-C: Infiltration swale stormwater option



Section D-D: Cistern stormwater option



Section E-E: Mid-block throughway between Jackson and King Street



Specimen tree canal planting, Vietnam
Photo: G. Coffman