

FREEWAY PARK

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Schematic Design Presentation
Seattle Design Commission April 2, 2020



Seattle
Parks & Recreation
healthy people healthy environment strong communities



FREEWAY PARK
ASSOCIATION

WALKER | MACY

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OVERVIEW



5.2 acres

\$6M construction budget

Repair and restore, potential enhancements

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).

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GOALS

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.



RESTORATION

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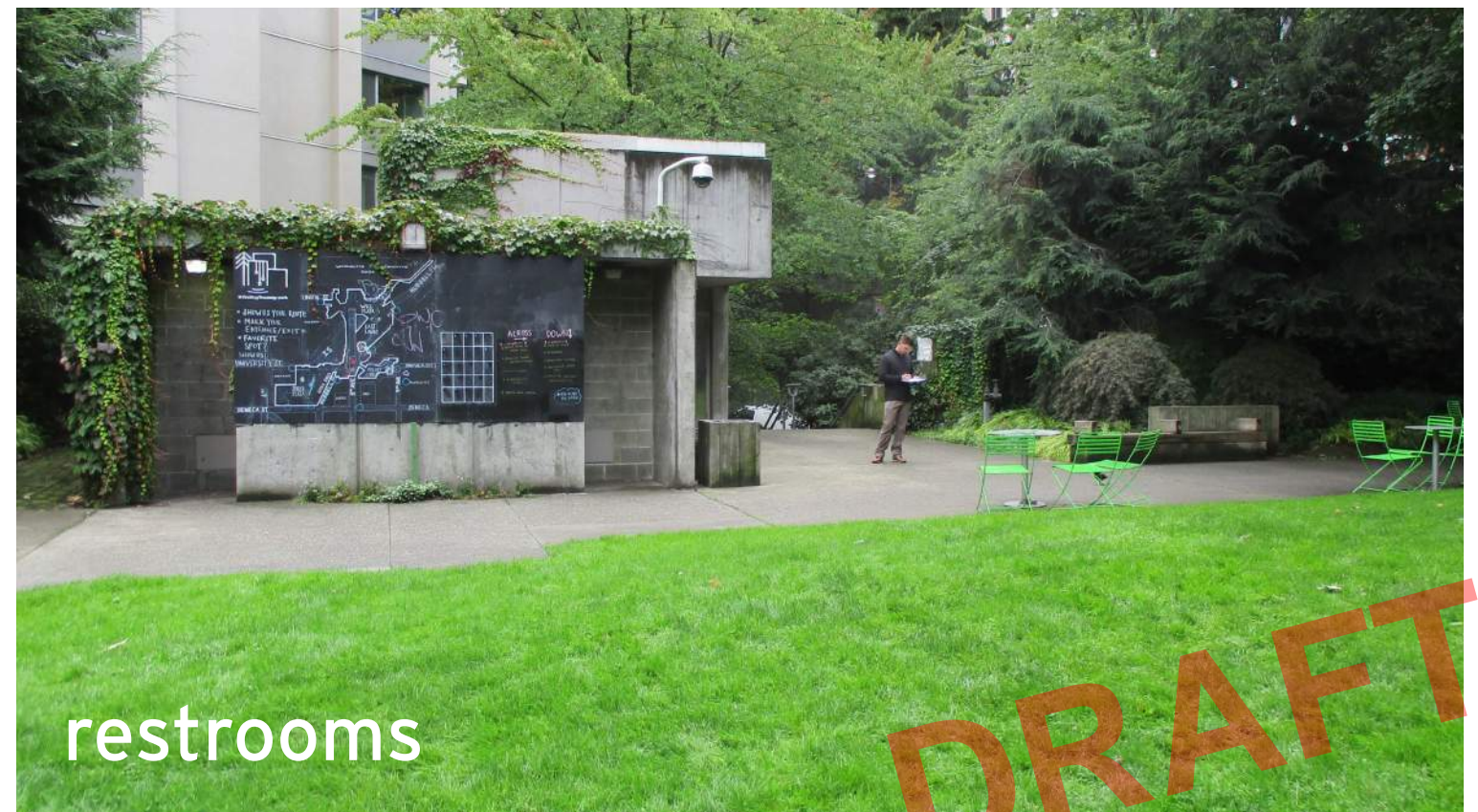
PRESERVE & RESTORE



Make adjustments to meet current code/ standards.
Remove features that detract from the original design

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REPAIR OR RECONSTRUCT



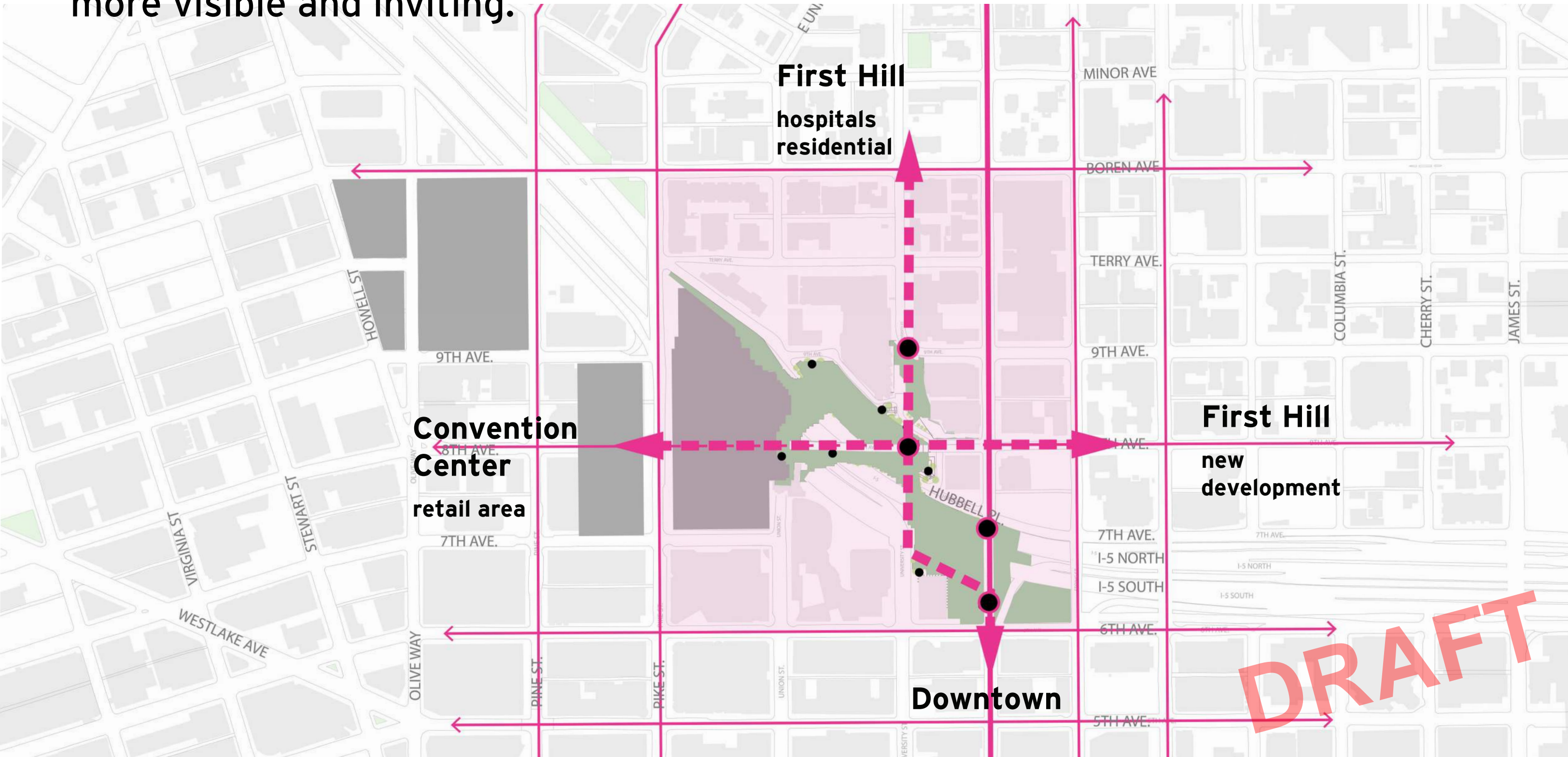
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DESIGN

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KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: ENTRANCES

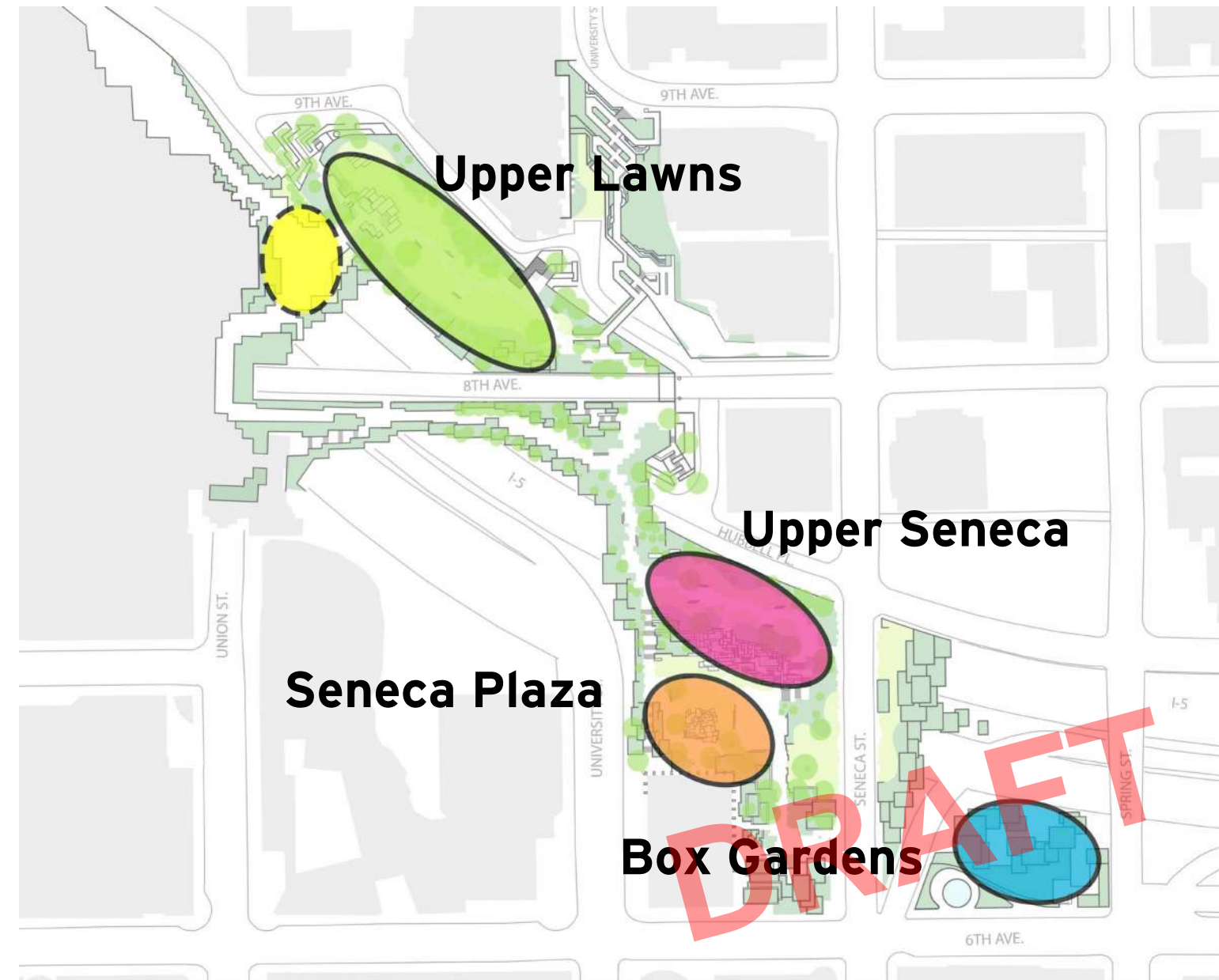
Strengthen the park entrances that have the most potential, based on their location in the city. Make them more visible and inviting.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: IDENTITY

Clarify and promote the park's prime areas by enhancing their distinctive features, uses, and character.

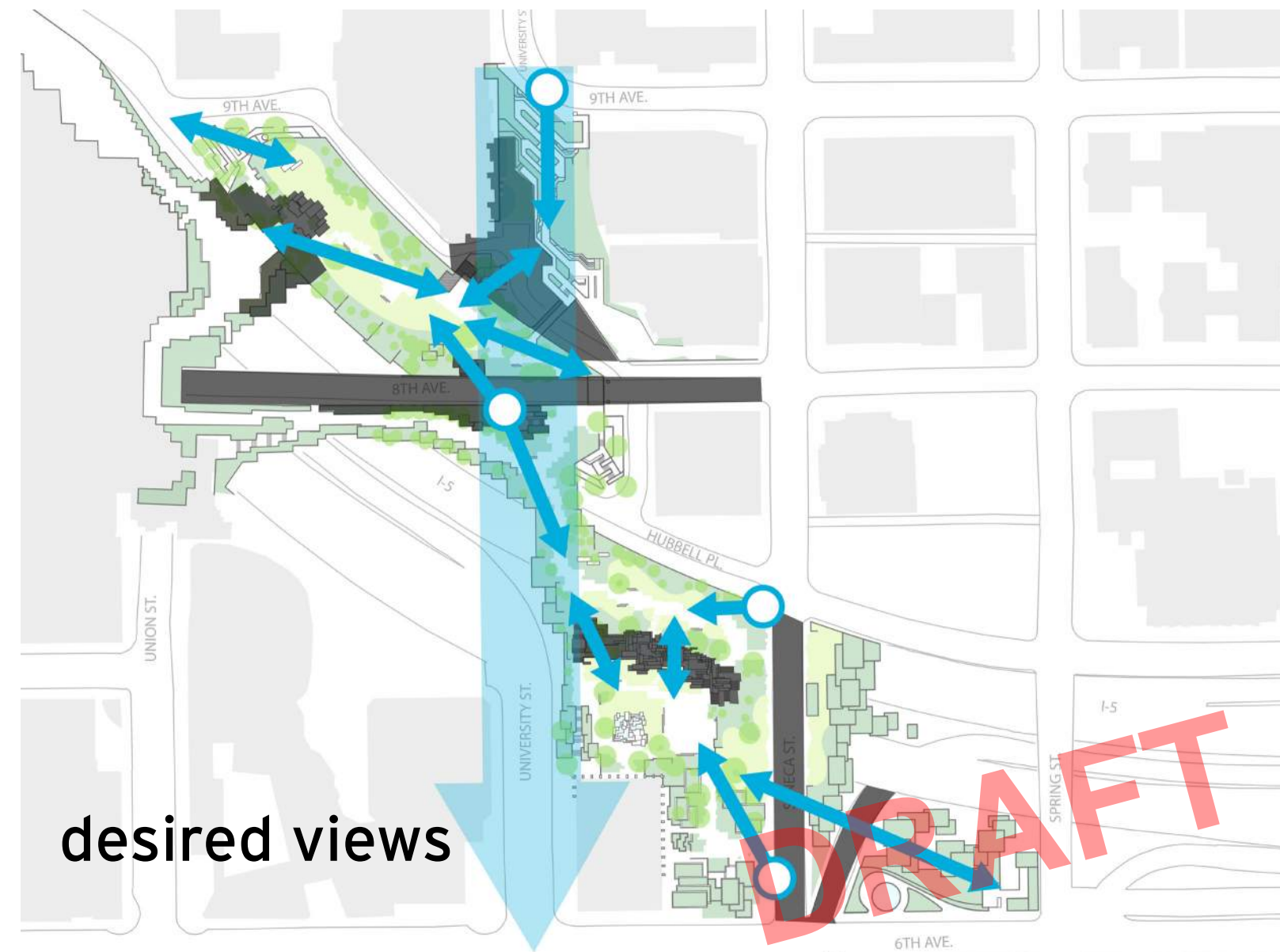
Support new uses in areas that currently have no park function.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: CONNECTIONS

Improve views from one park area to another.

Make circulation areas feel safe and inviting.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: FAMILIES

Make the fountains interactive, safe, and inviting—as they were meant to be.

Improve park spaces and features so they are more inviting and accessible. Encourage exploration and play throughout the park.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: COMFORT

Make the park simpler and easier to maintain so it stays attractive, clean, and safe.

Improve lighting everywhere.

Improve the physical experience, with attention to sun and shade and comfortable seating.

Provide comfort stations in the Upper Lawns and Seneca Plaza.

Eliminate blind corners, hidden spaces, and dense vegetation.



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS: PROGRAMMING

Create larger, more flexible spaces in the Upper Lawns and Seneca Plaza.

Provide buildings at the Upper Lawns and Seneca Plaza, with enclosed concierge space, storage, and comfort stations, to support daily programming and events.



PARK-WIDE IMPROVEMENTS

Lighting

Wayfinding

Planting

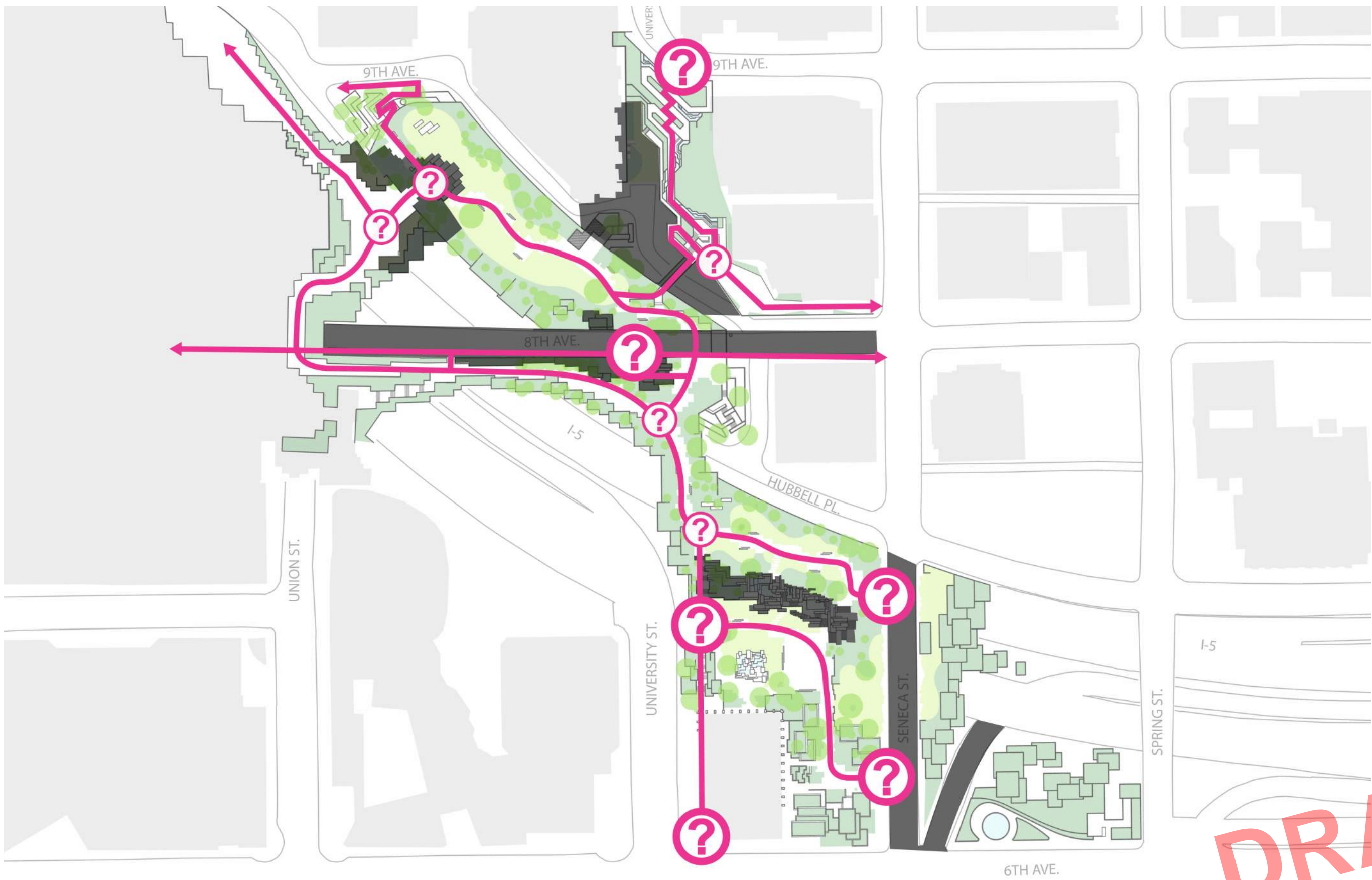
Irrigation

Drainage

Power Supply



WAYFINDING



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WAYFINDING: CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS



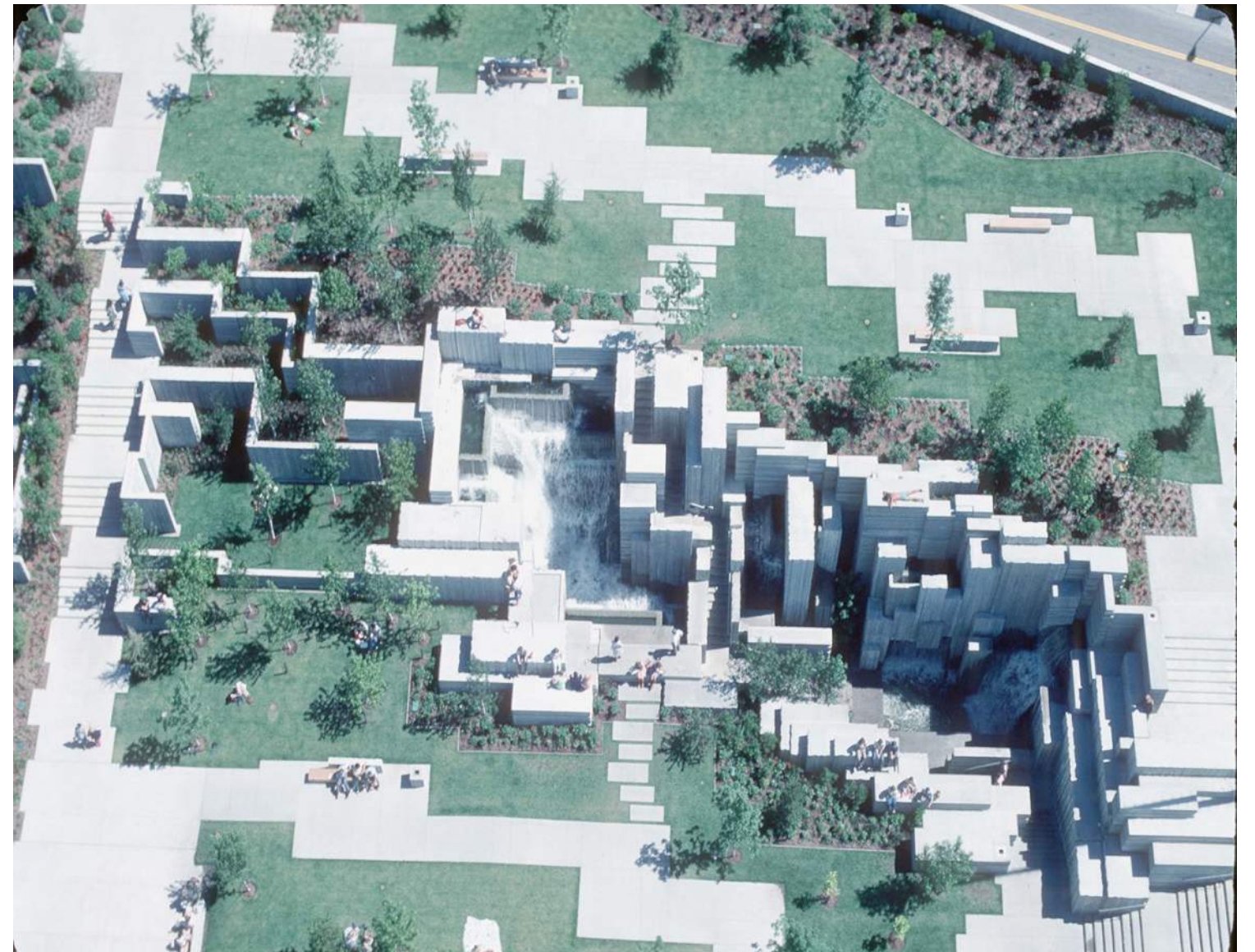
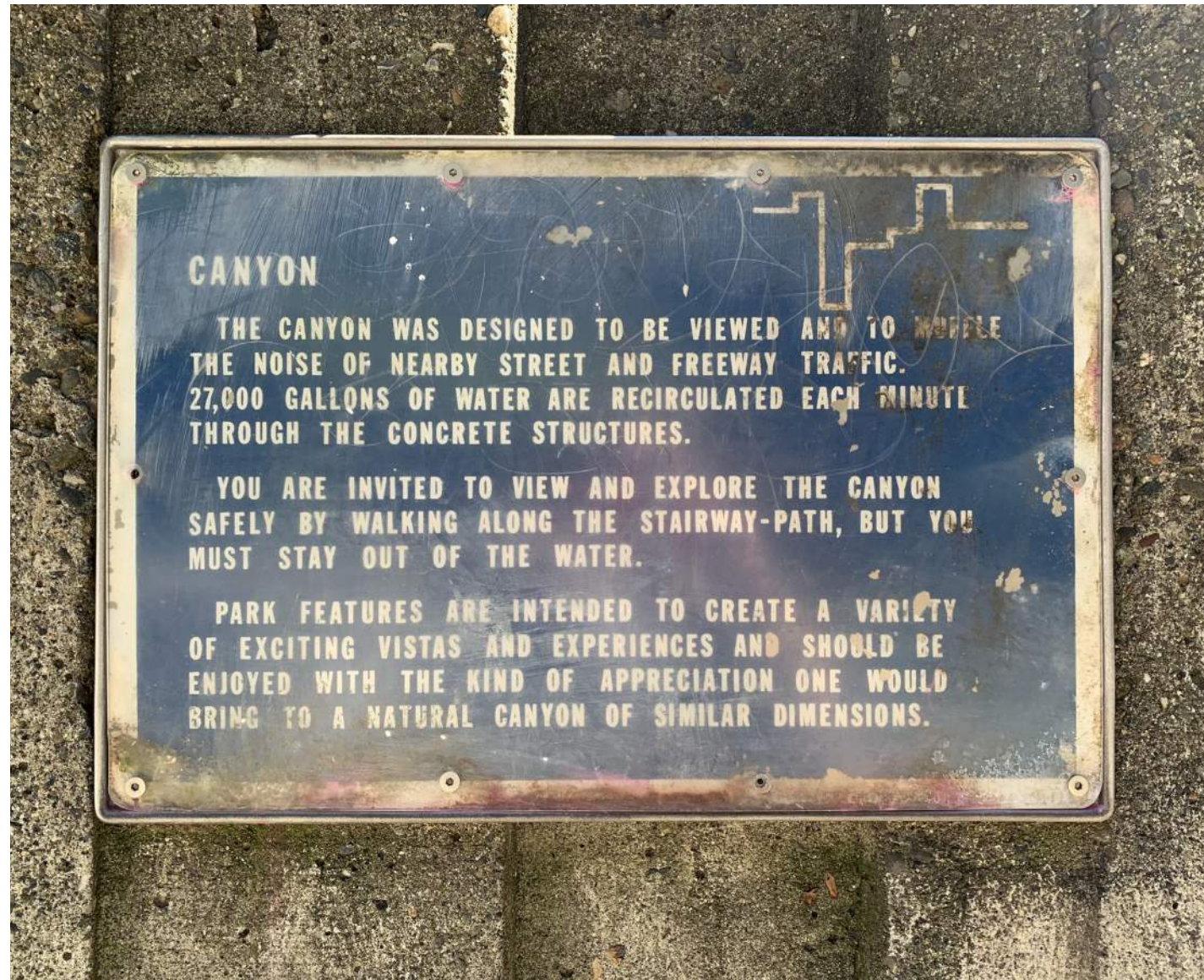
1976



2019

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ORIGINAL INTENT: A PLACE OF EXPLORATION



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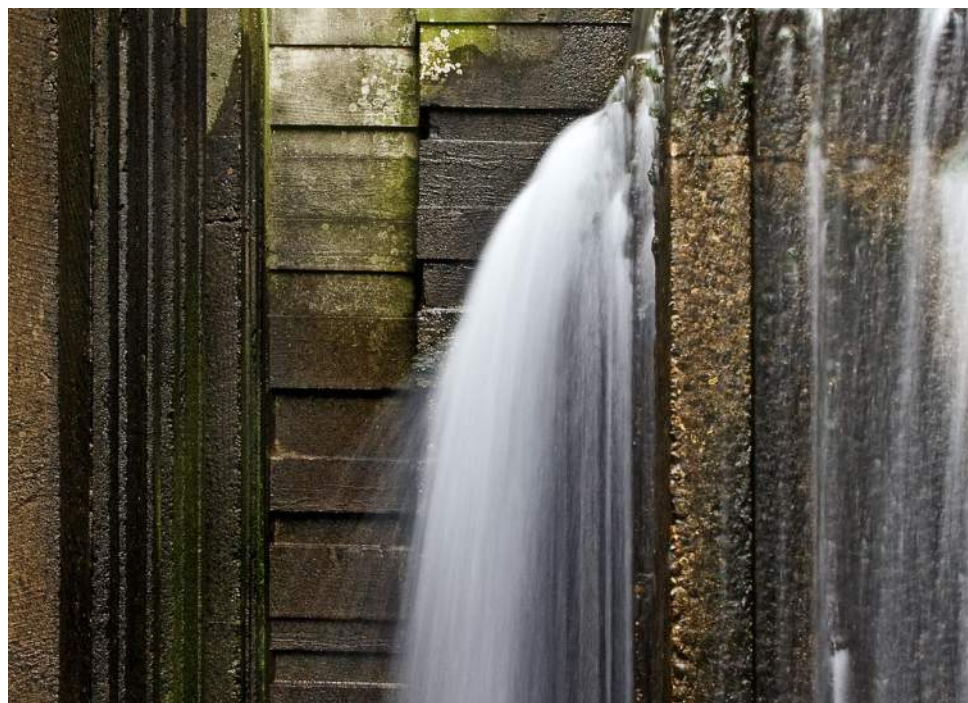
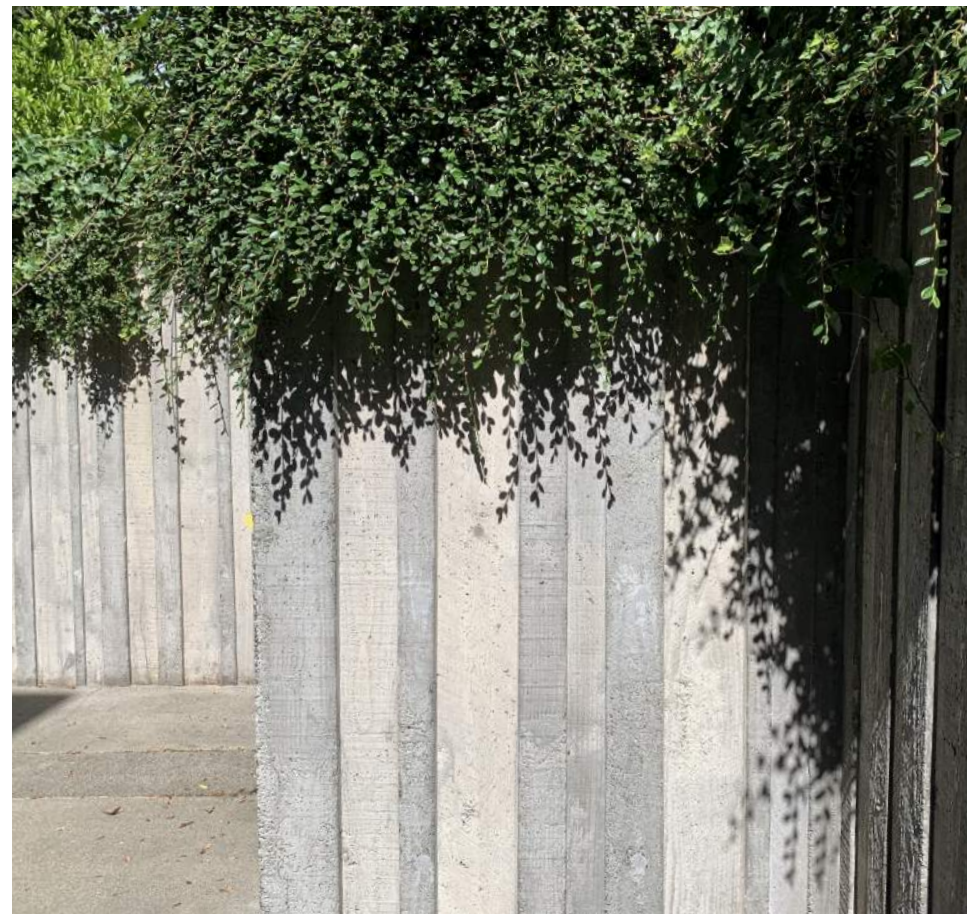
CURRENT SITE



CURRENT SITE



PARK MATERIAL PALETTE



SIGN FAMILY: OVERVIEW



Primary Park
Entrance Marker

Park Entrance
Map Monolith
(Interpretation
on reverse)

Park Interior
Map Monolith

Secondary Wayfinding

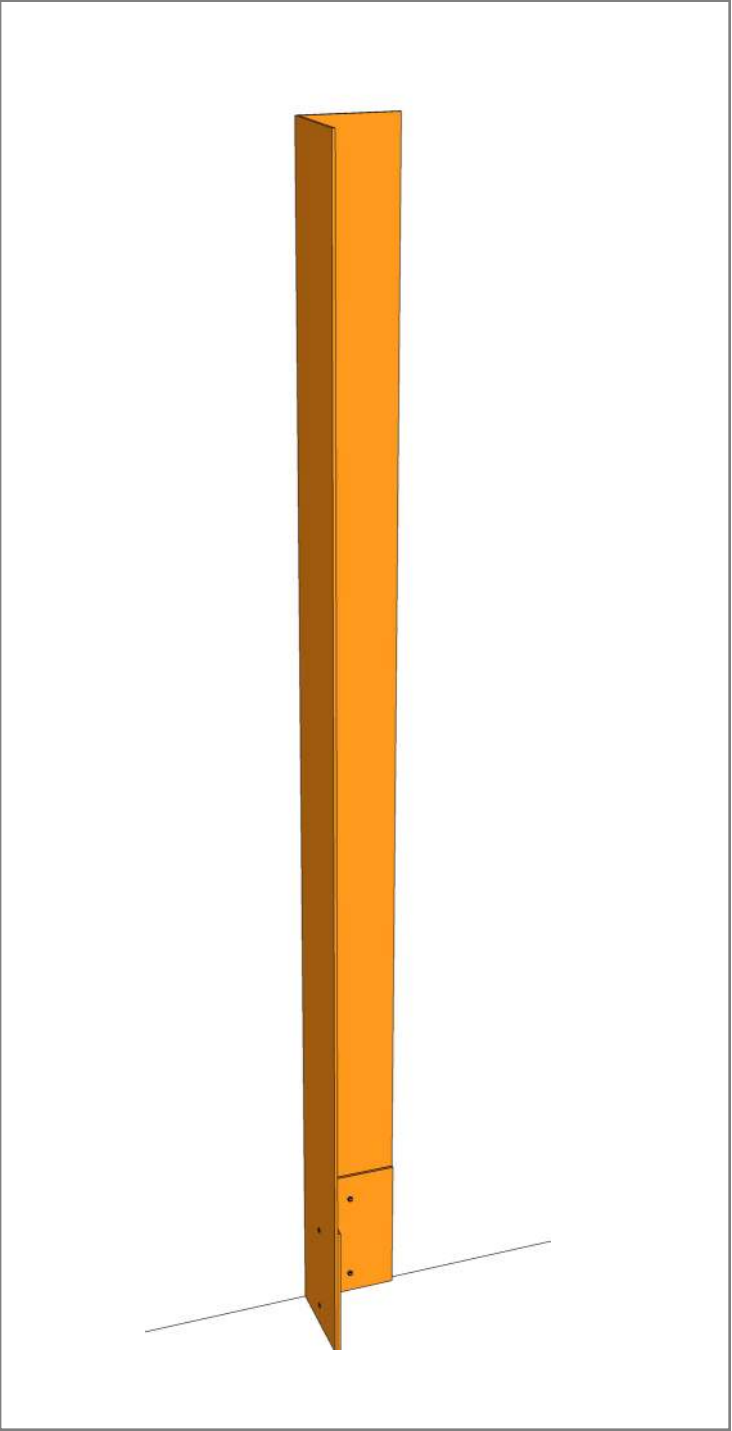
Interpretation

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SIGN FAMILY



Primary Park Entrance Marker



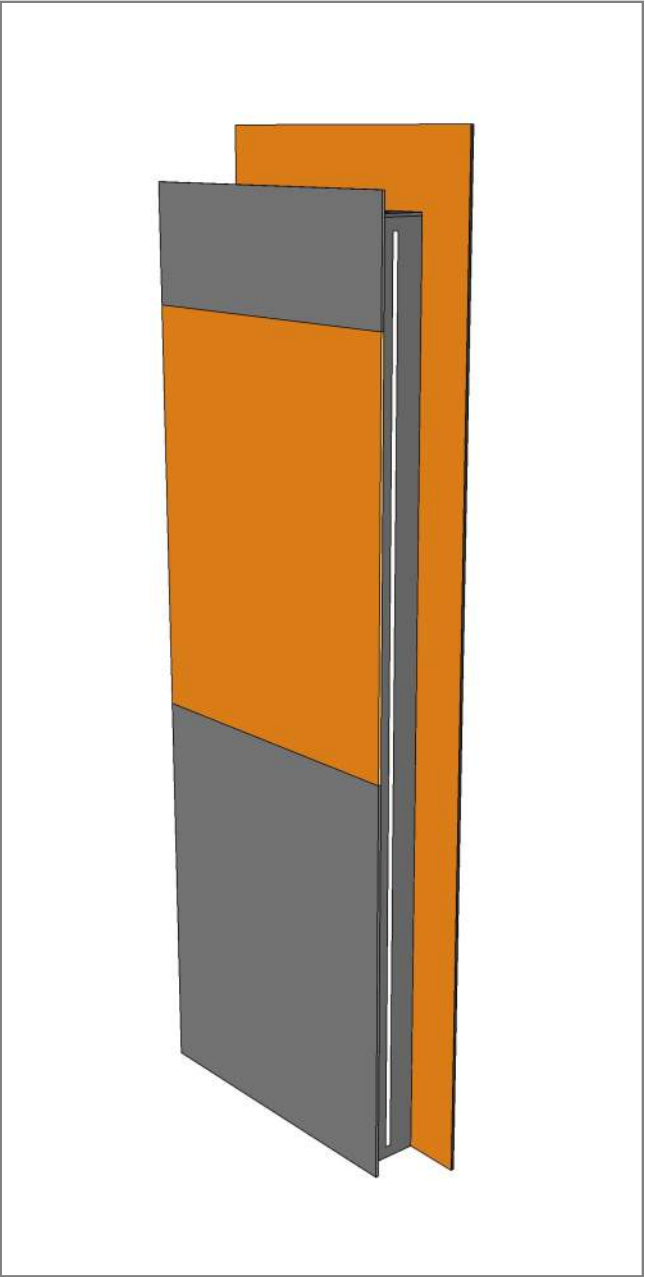
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SIGN FAMILY



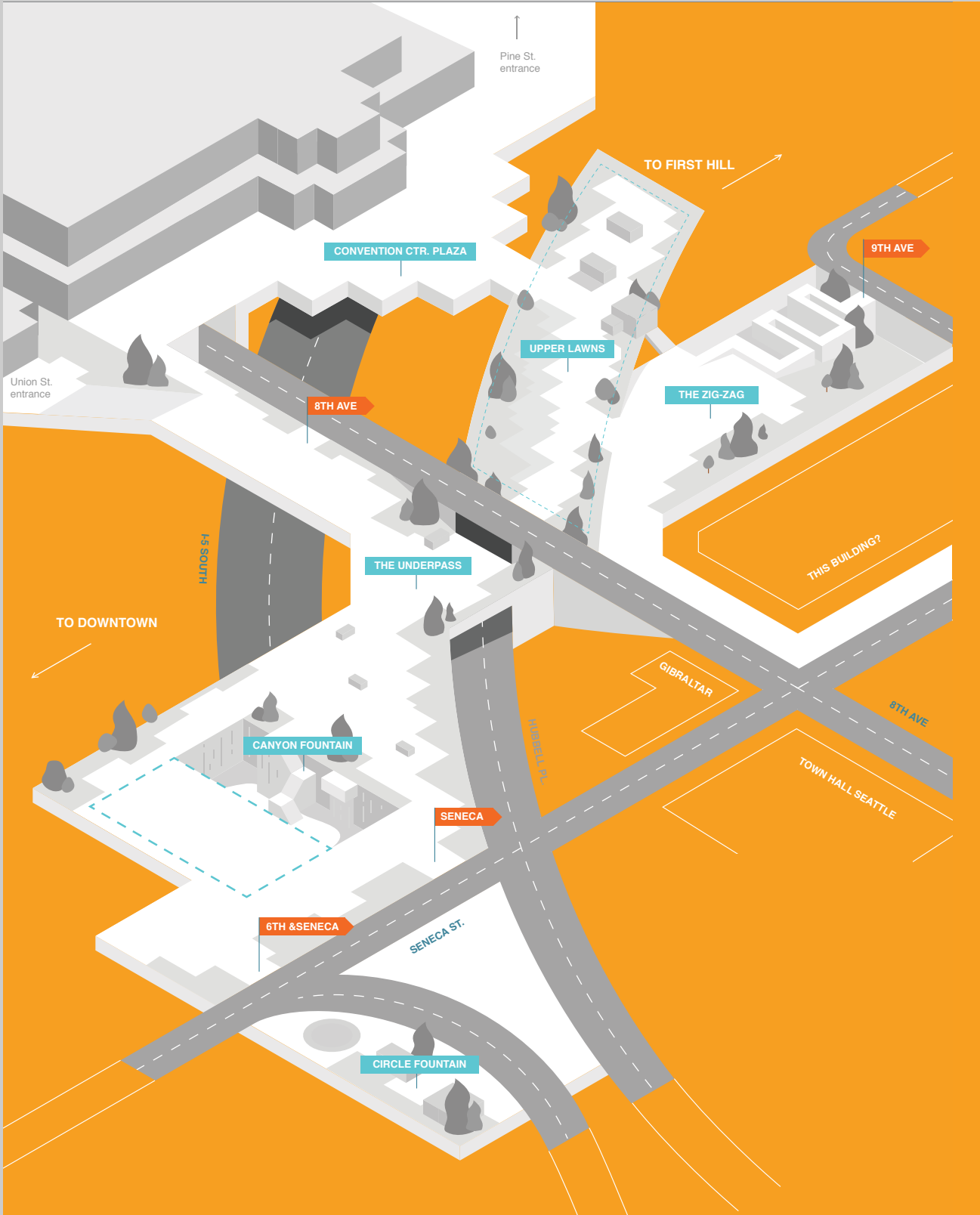
Park Entrance Map Monolith (front)

(reverse side)

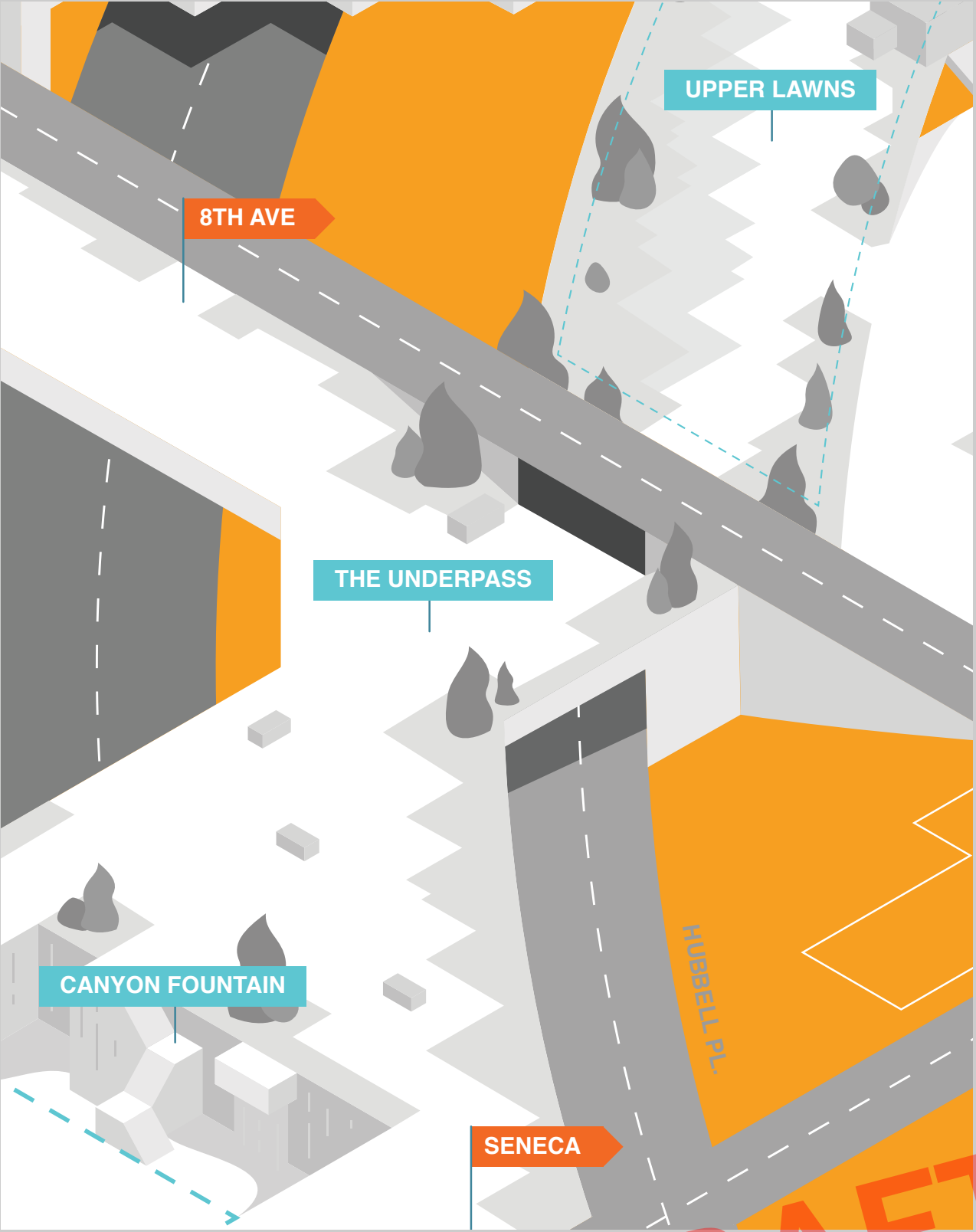


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MAP DESIGN EXPLORATION

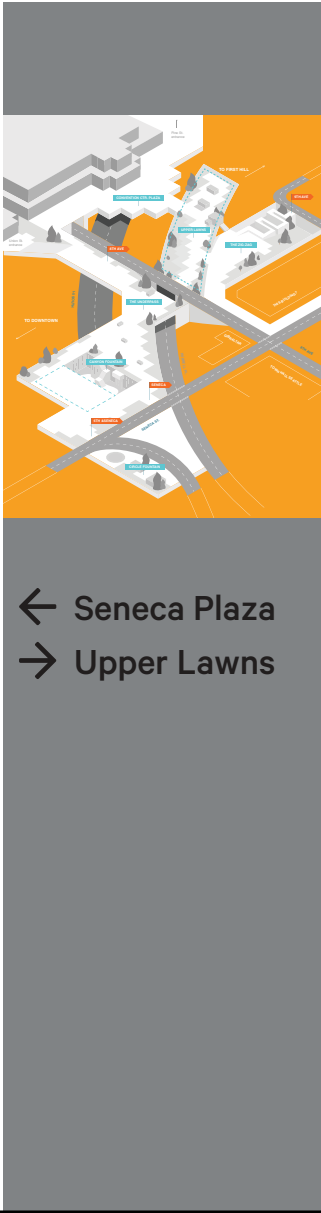
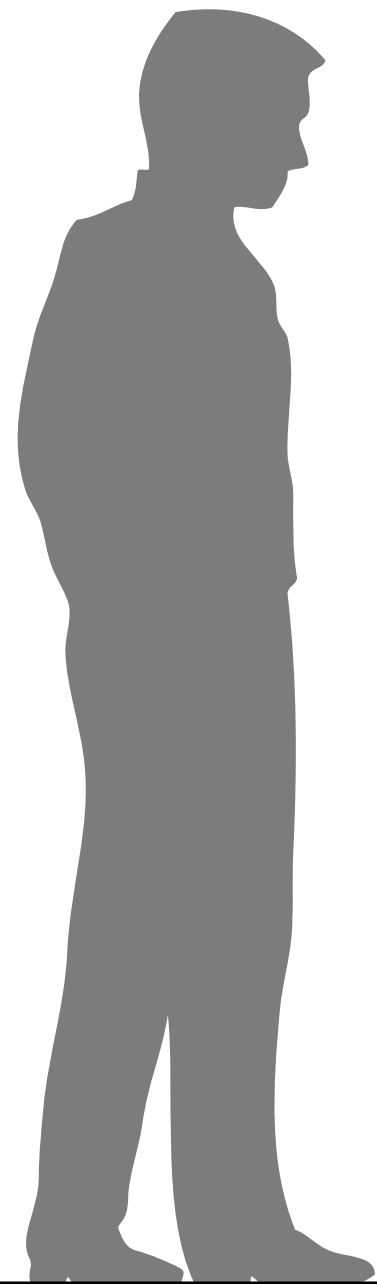


Map Design

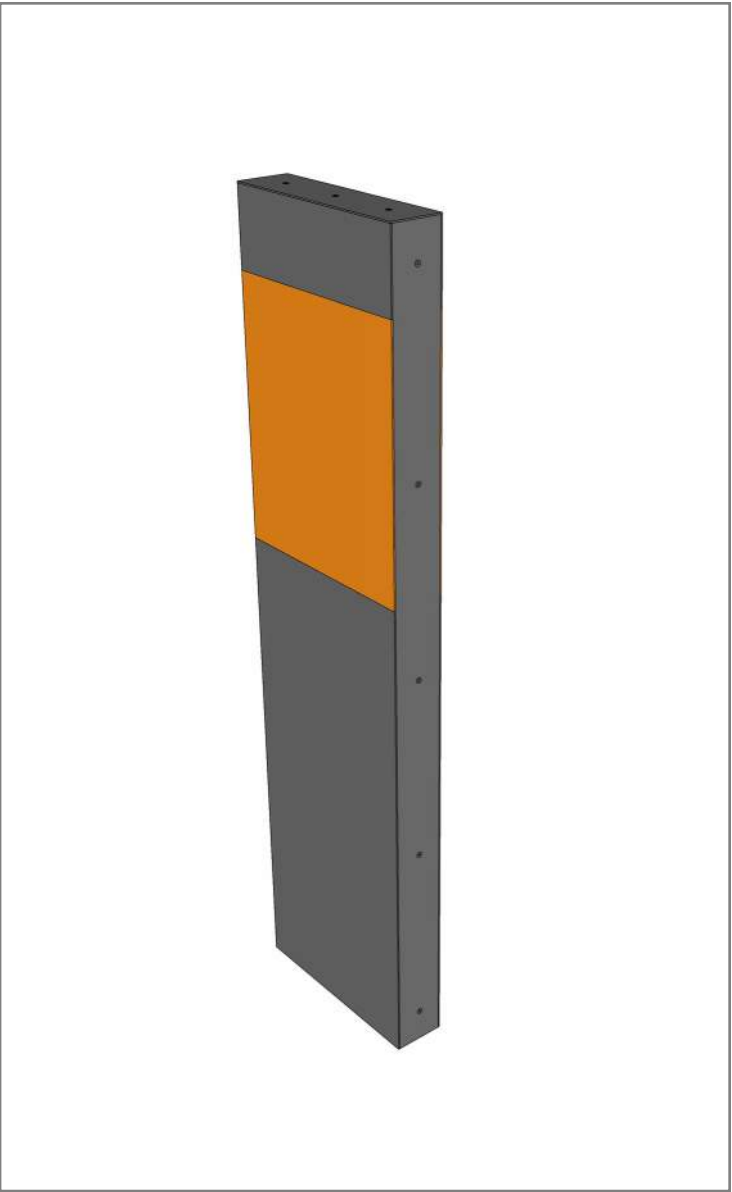


Detail

SIGN FAMILY

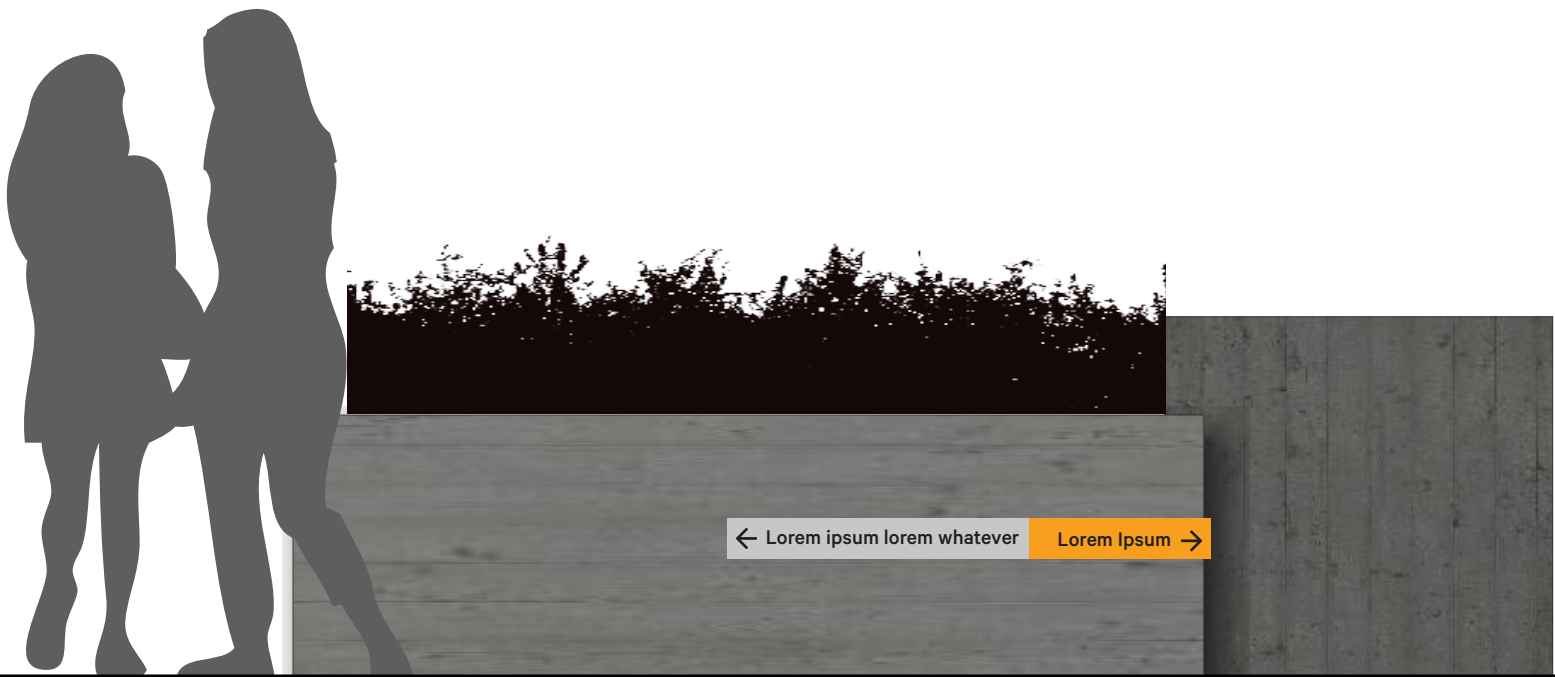


Park Interior Map Monolith



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SIGN FAMILY



Wayfinding Short Panel



Wayfinding Long Panel

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SIGN FAMILY



Interpretation panel, wraps corner

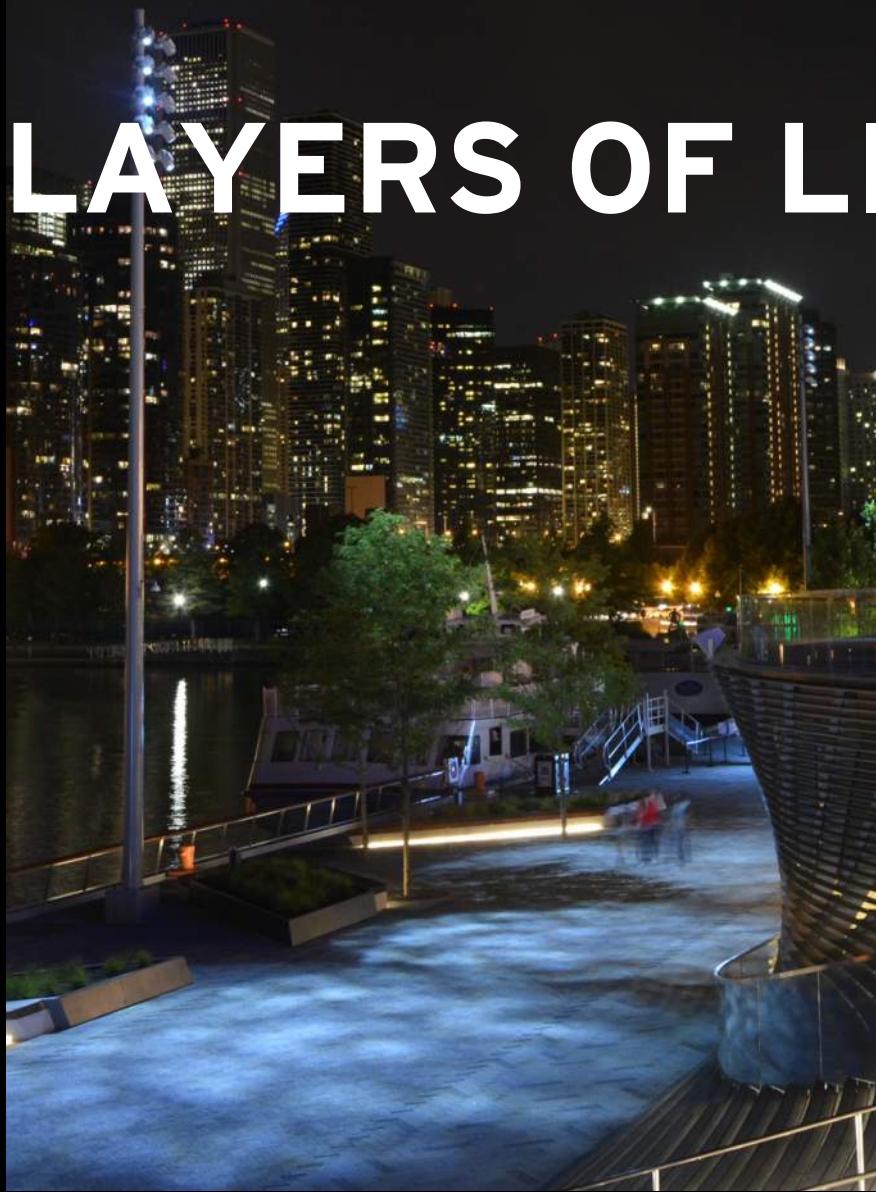
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PARK LIGHTING



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LAYERS OF LIGHT



moonlighting



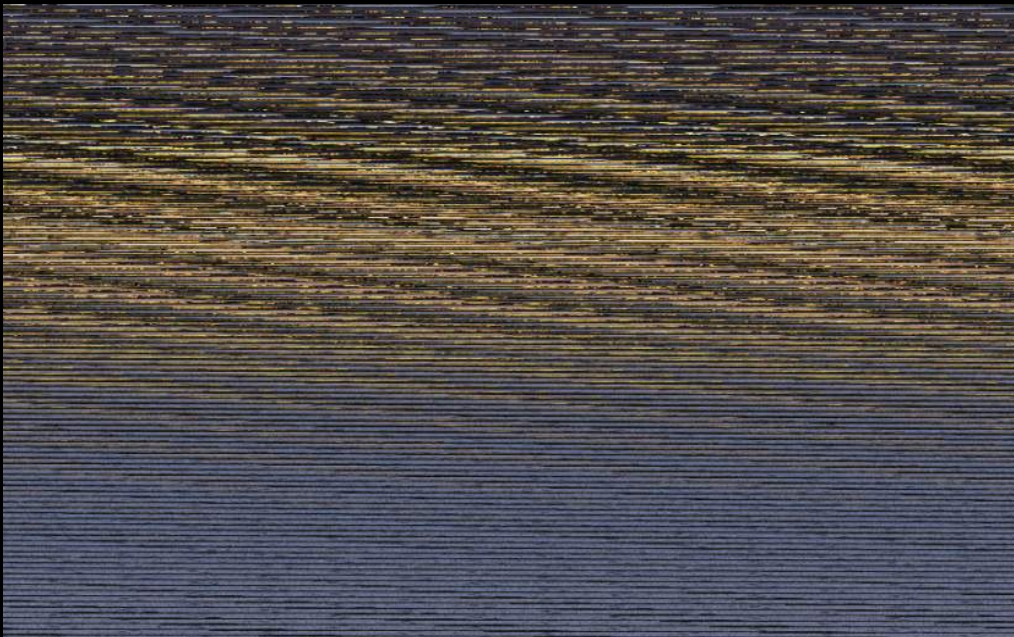
primary circulation



accent



landscape



edges

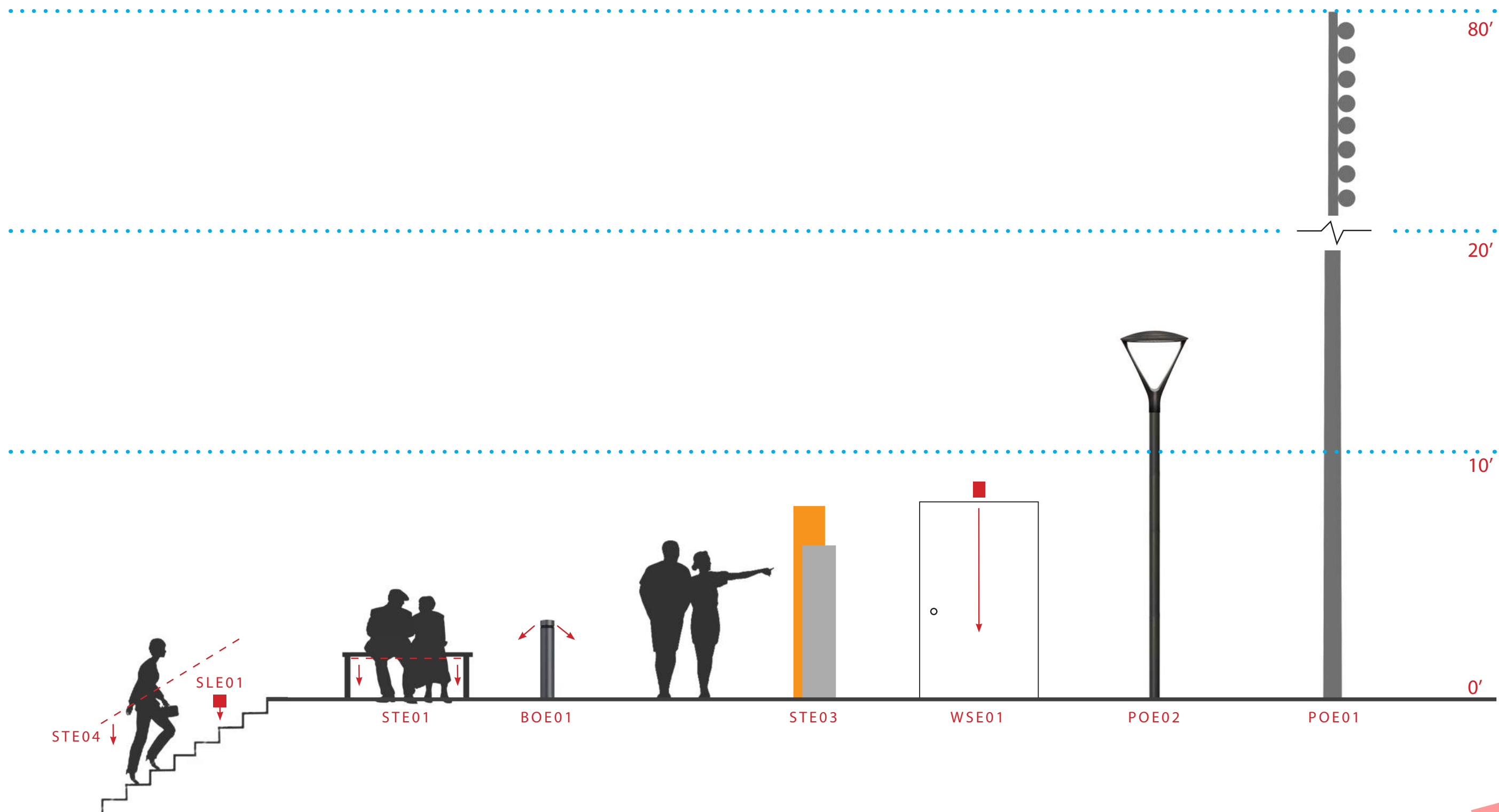


water



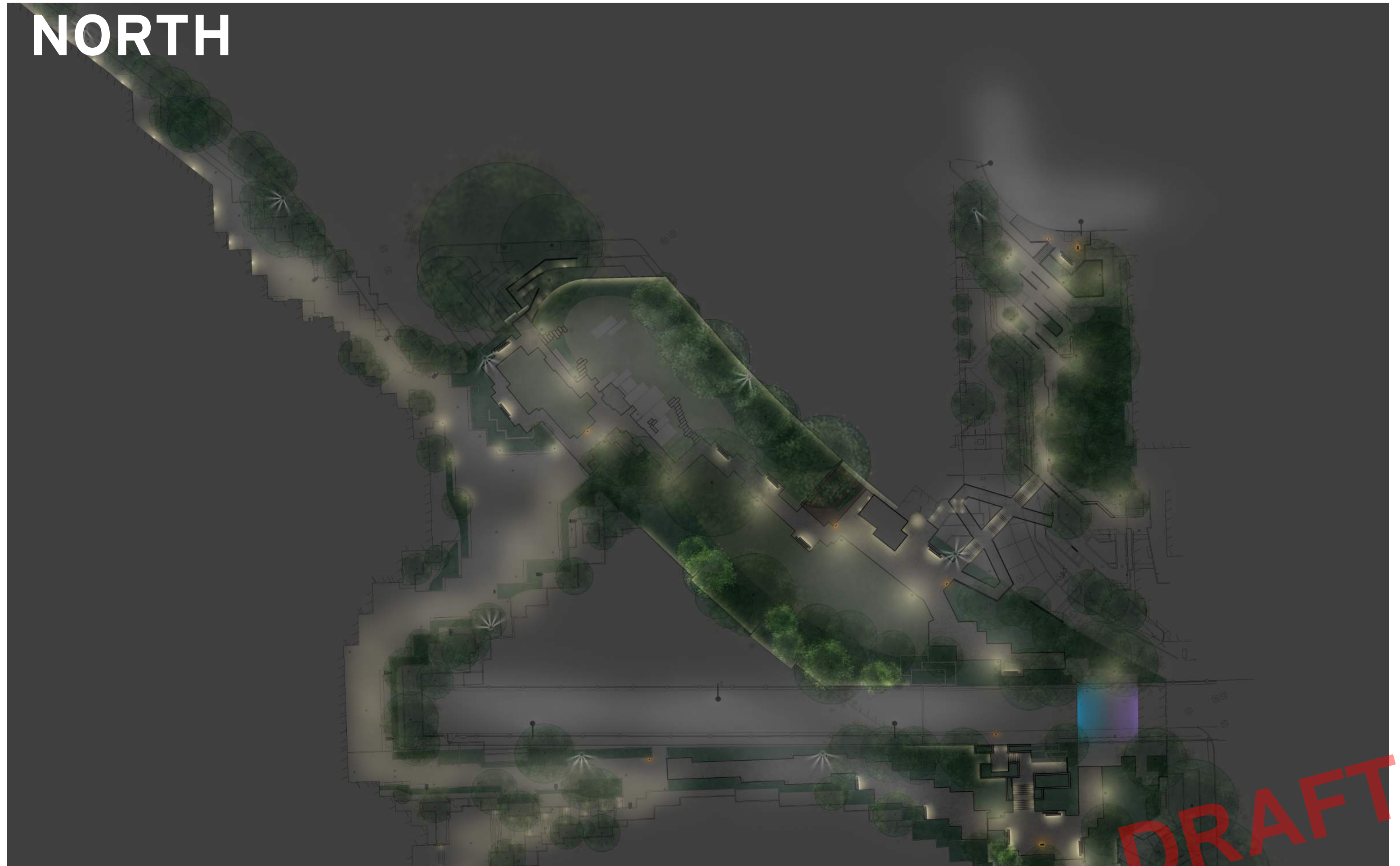
underpasses

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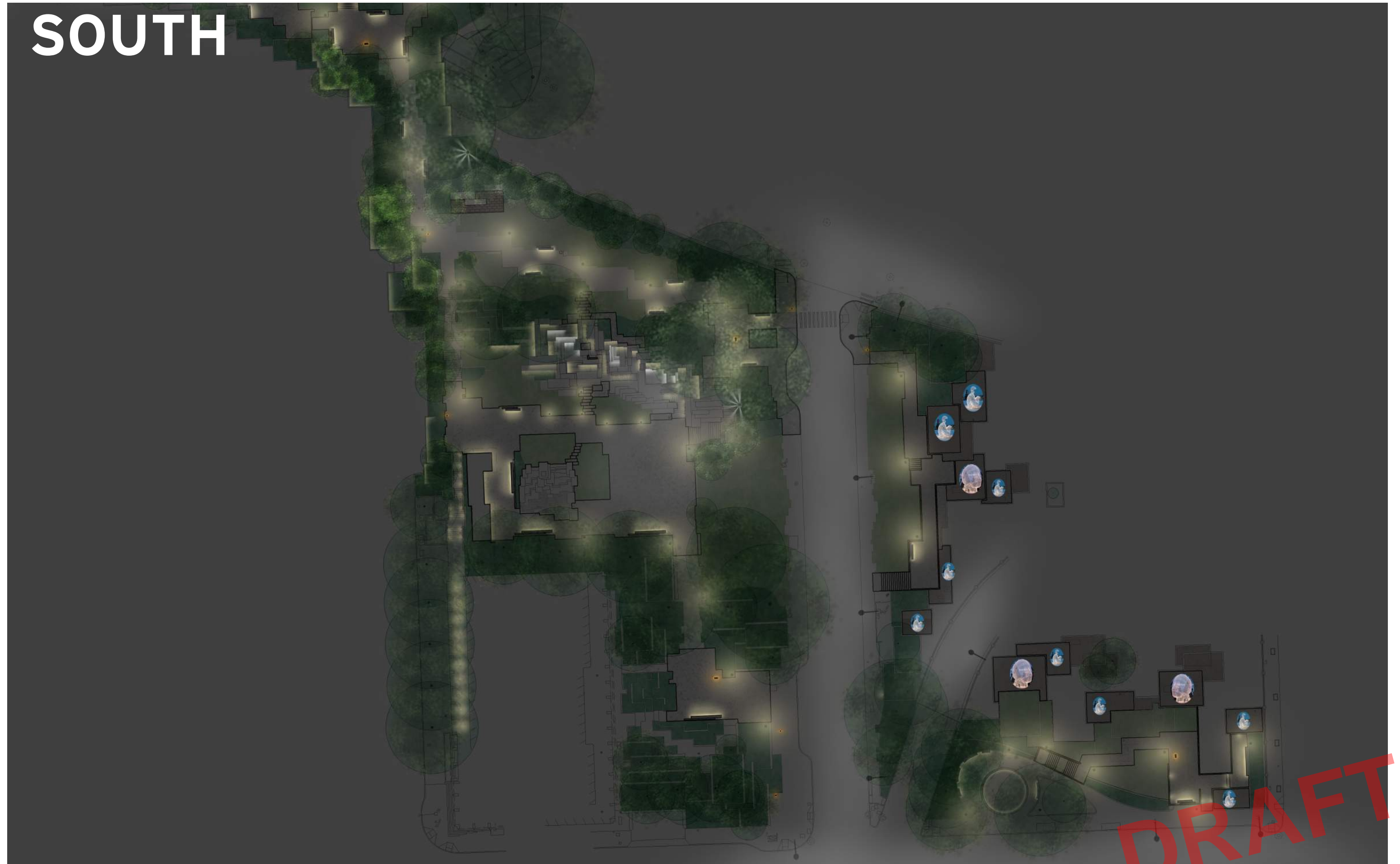
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NORTH



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SOUTH



Upper Lawns

Pigott Corridor*

Convention Center*

**8th Avenue Entrance
(Park Center)**

Upper Seneca

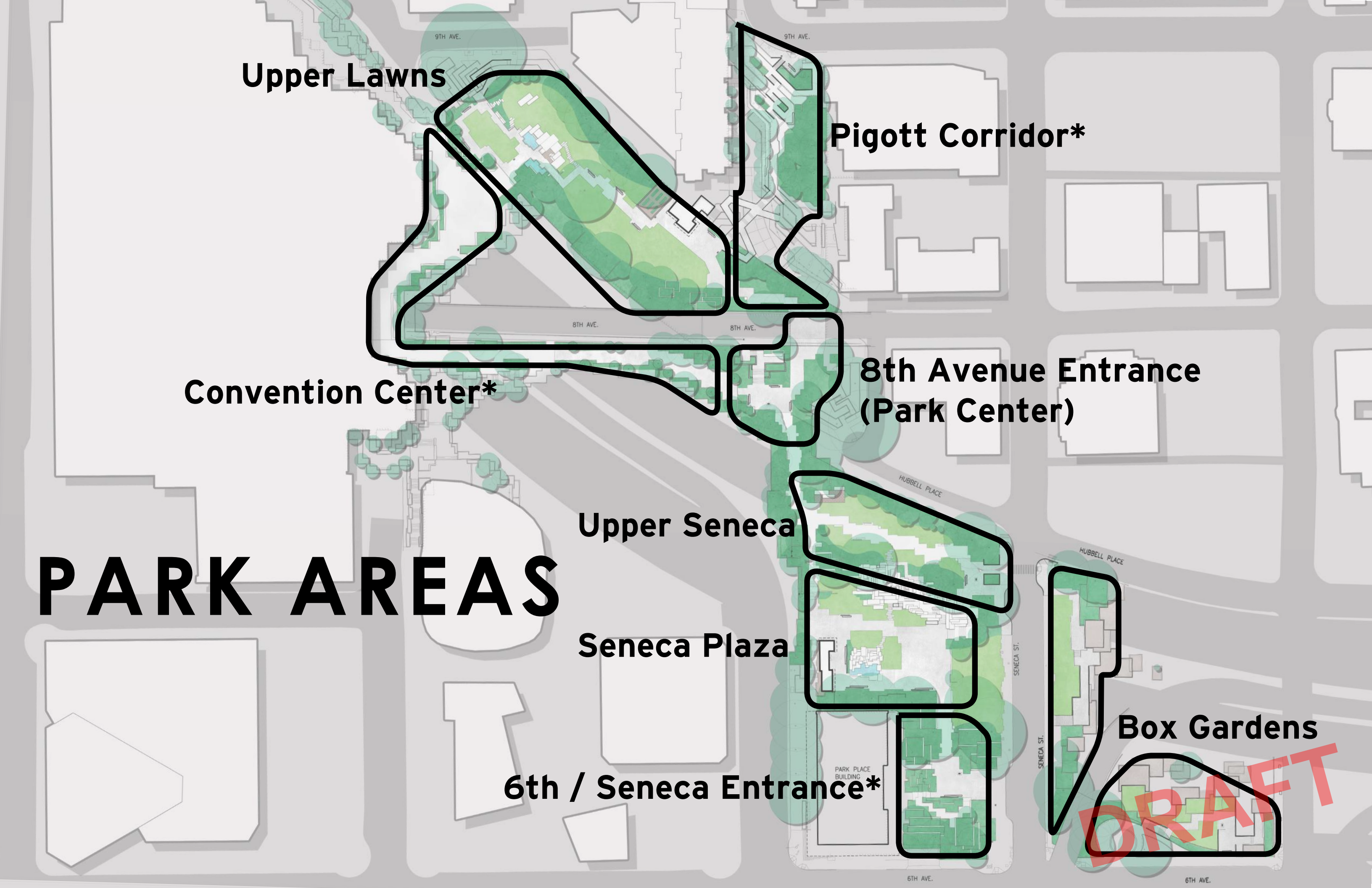
Seneca Plaza

6th / Seneca Entrance*

Box Gardens

PARK AREAS

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UPPER LAWNS



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UPPER LAWNS



UPPER LAWNS

Comfort station & concierge building
Expanded an improved lawns
Active north end (children's area)

8TH AVE.

8TH AVE

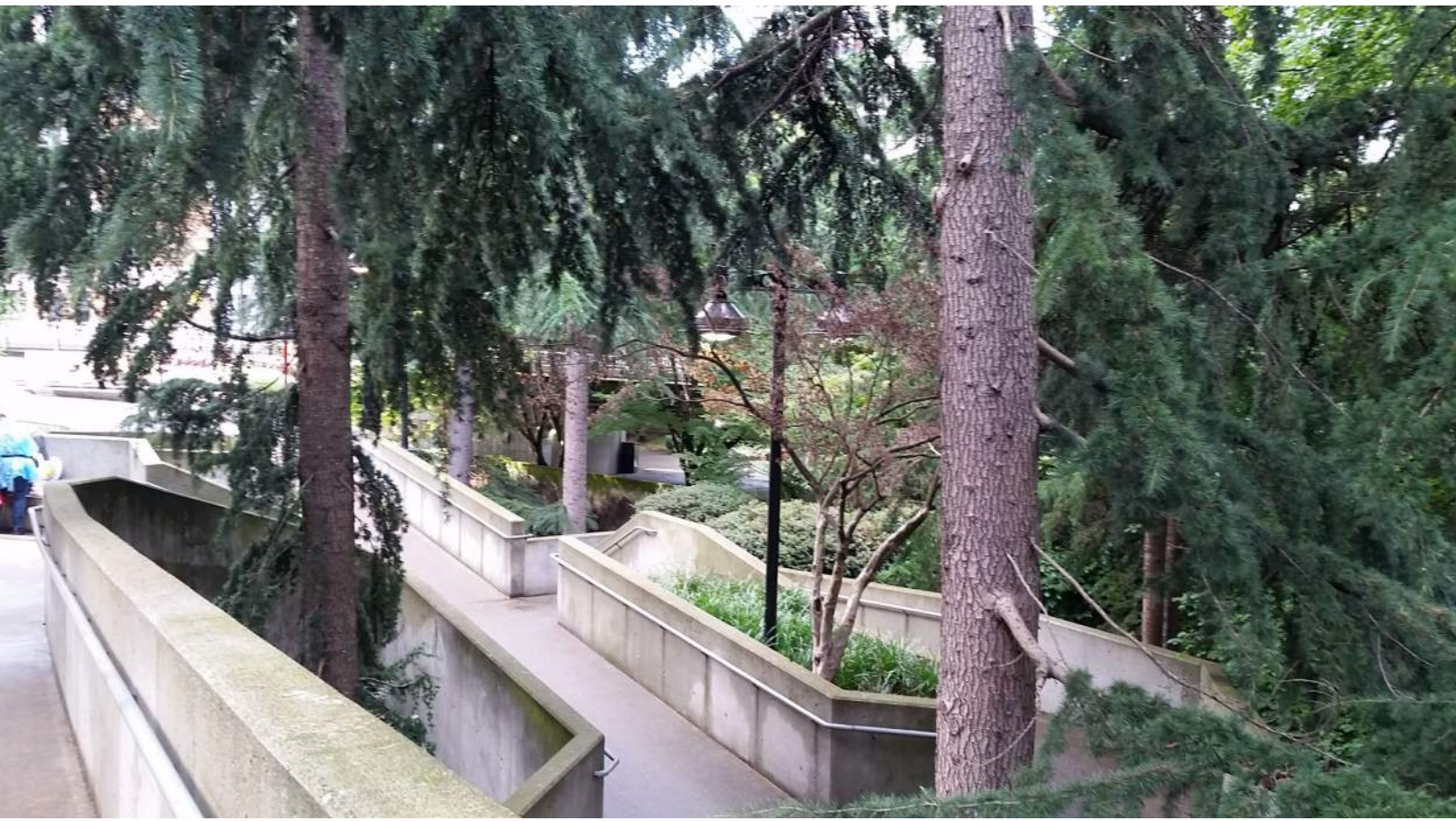
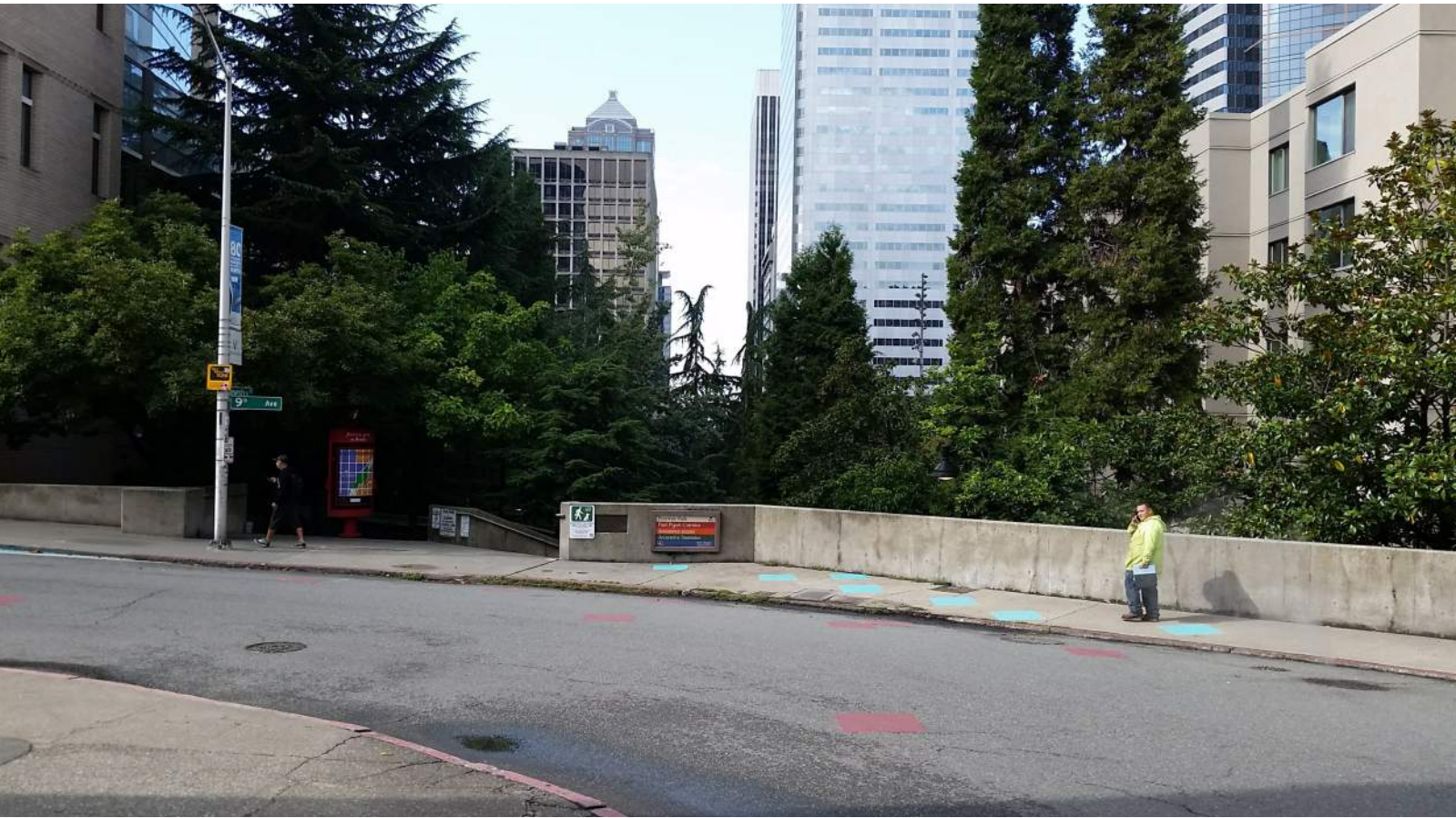
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PIGOTT CORRIDOR

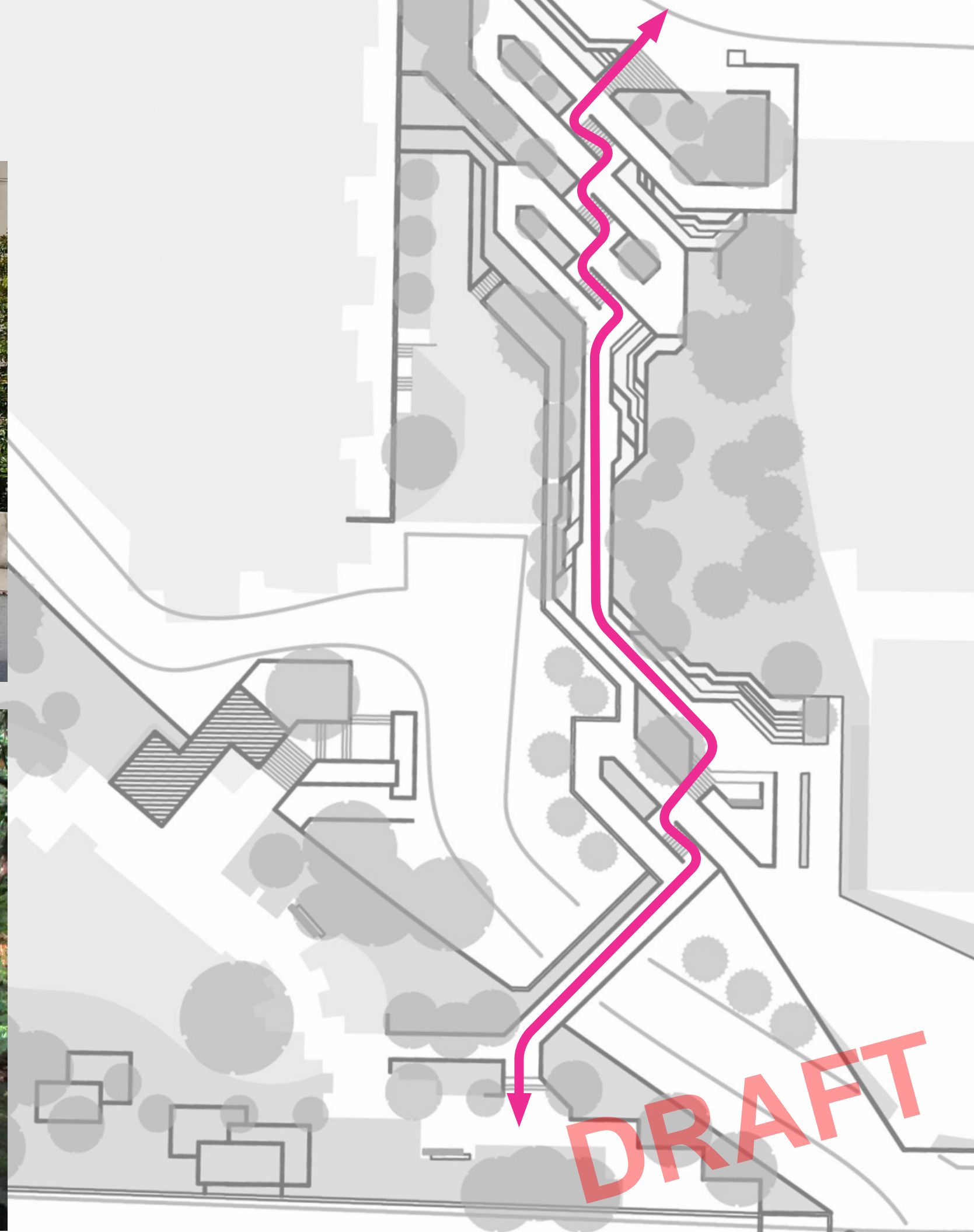
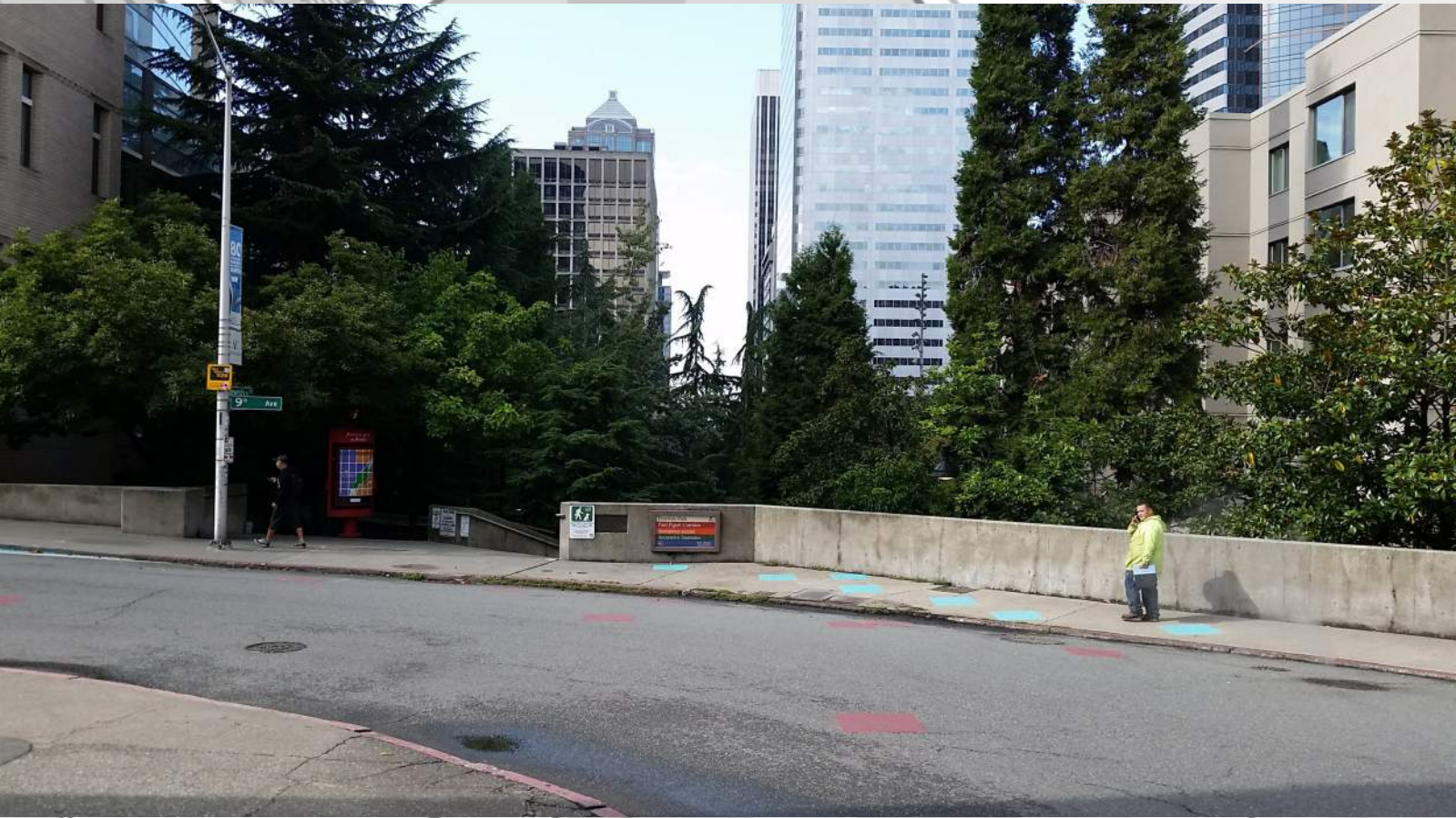


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PIGOTT CORRIDOR



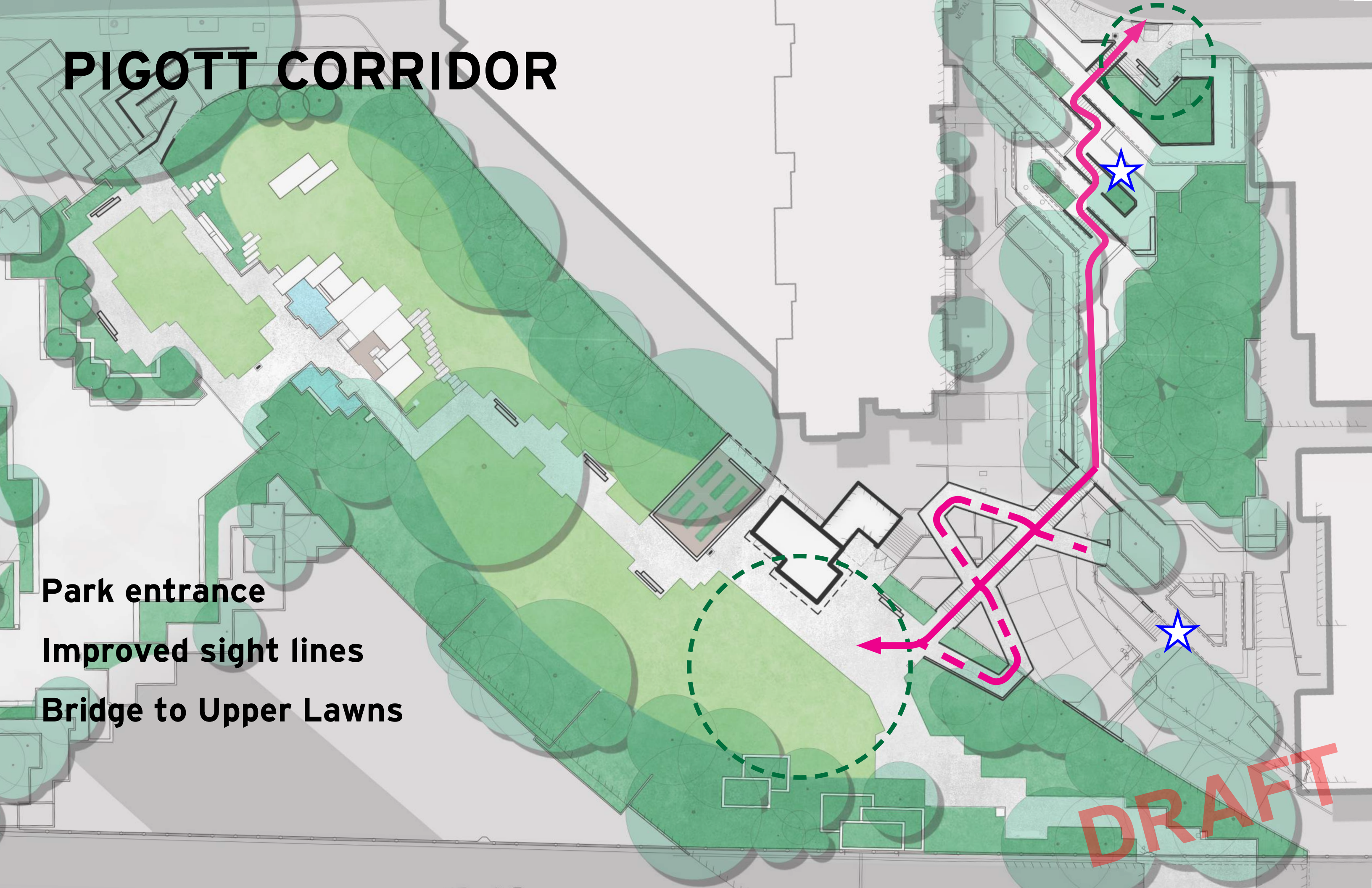
EXISTING



PIGOTT CORRIDOR

Park entrance
Improved sight lines
Bridge to Upper Lawns

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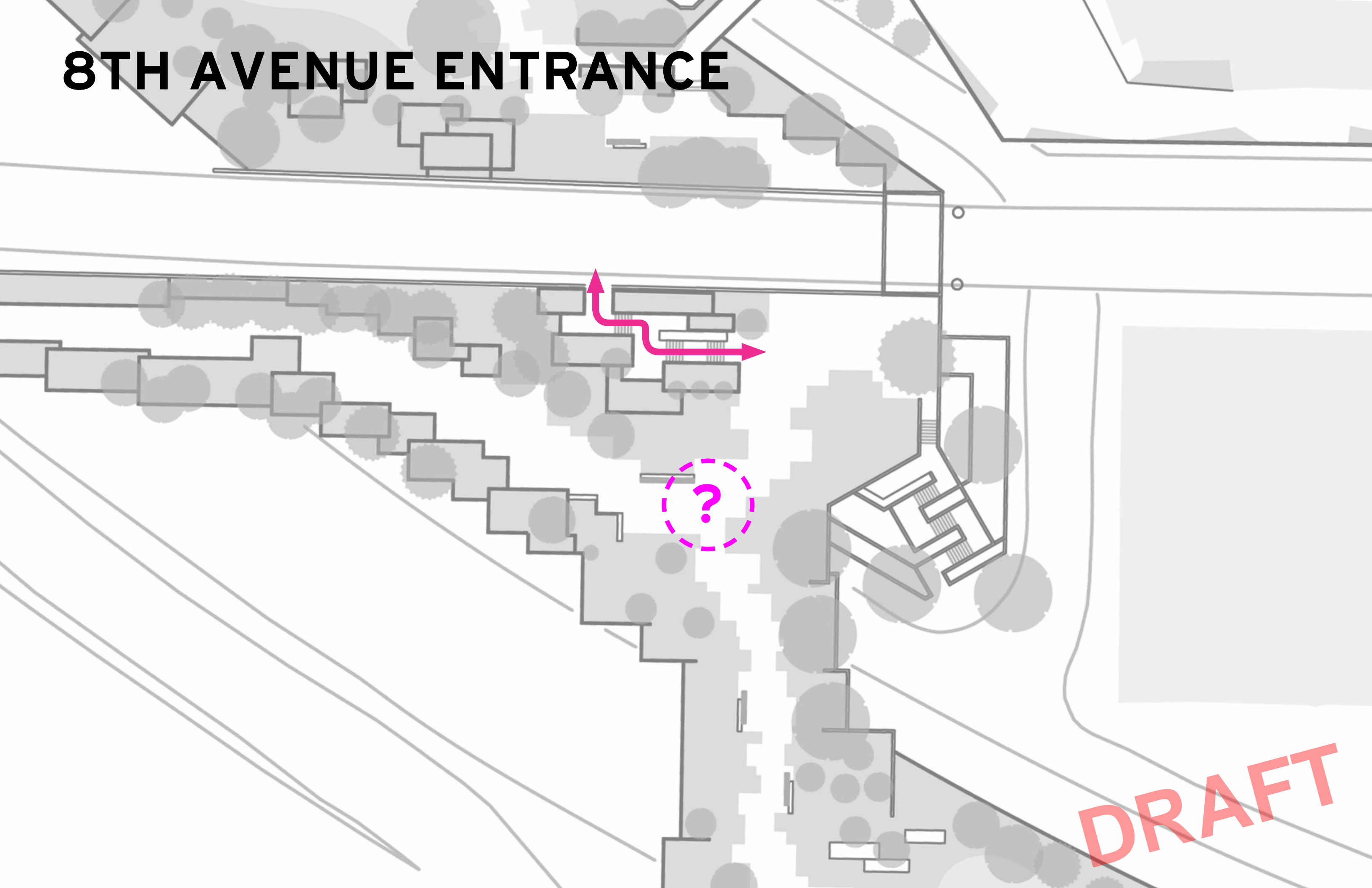
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE

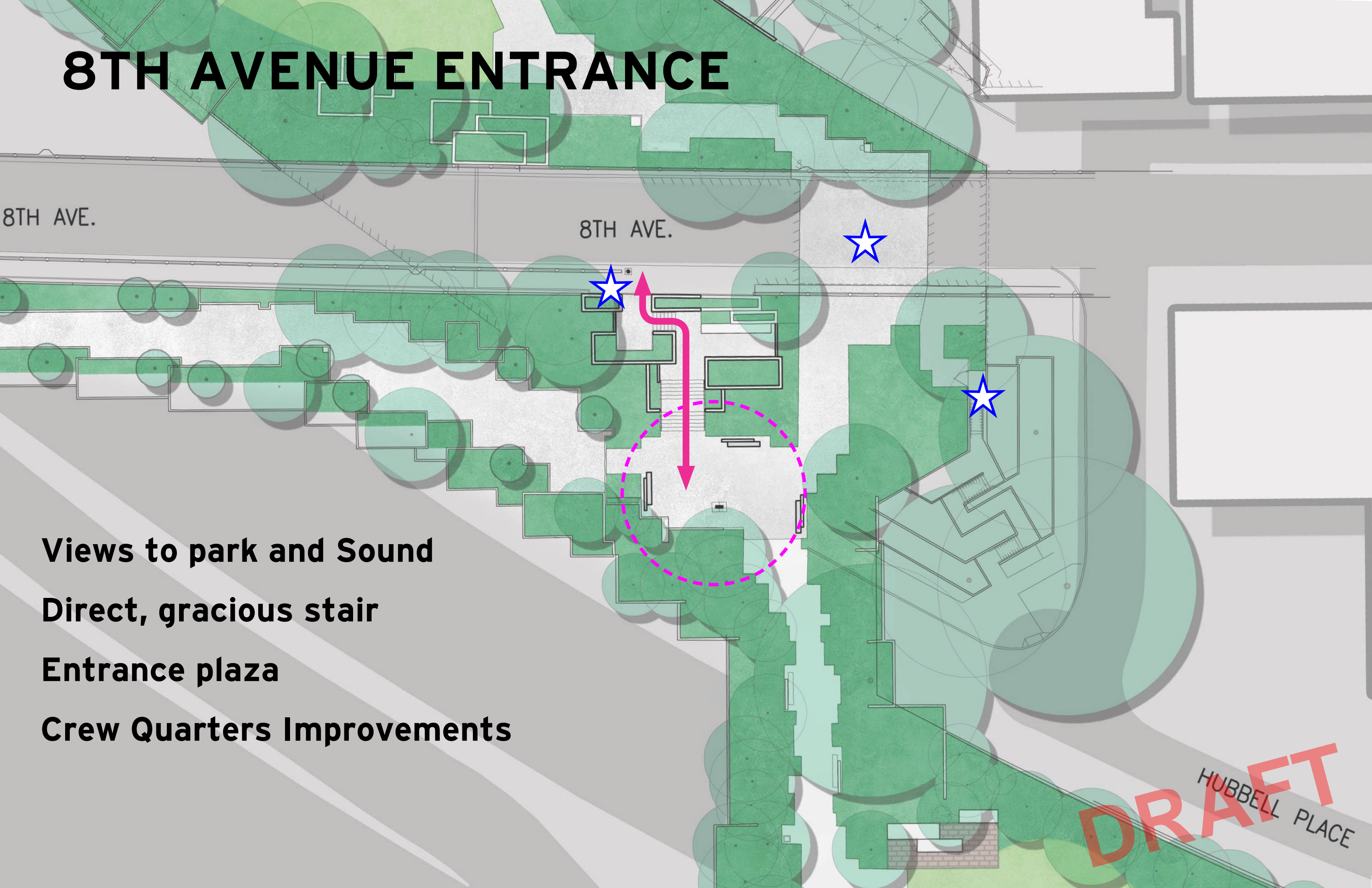


8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



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8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



8TH AVE.

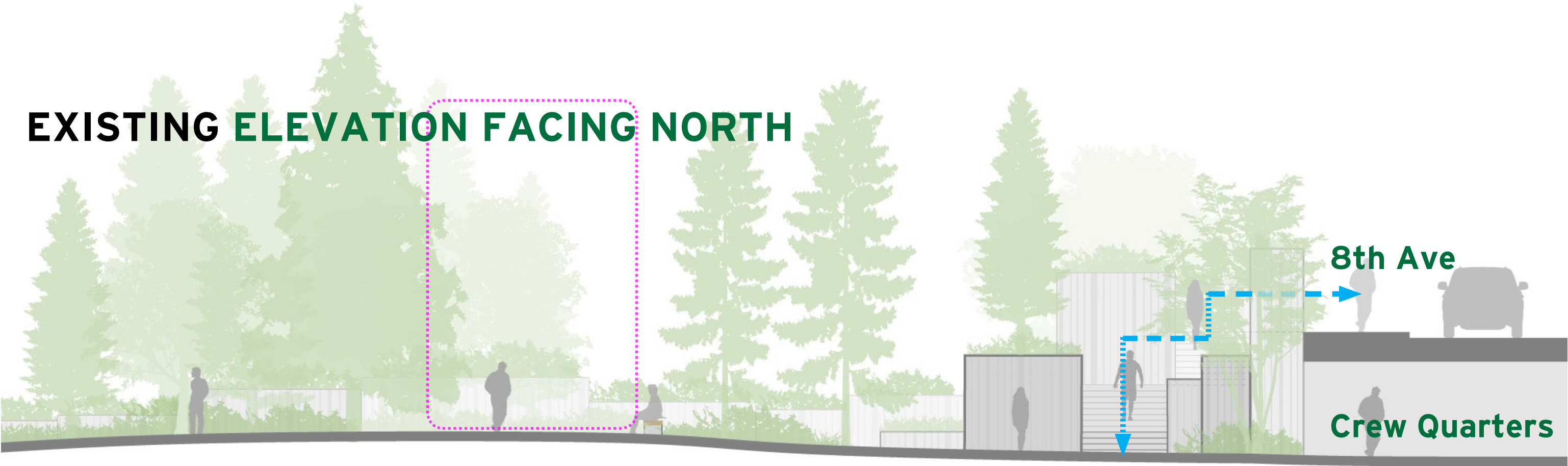
8TH AVE.

HUBBELL PLACE

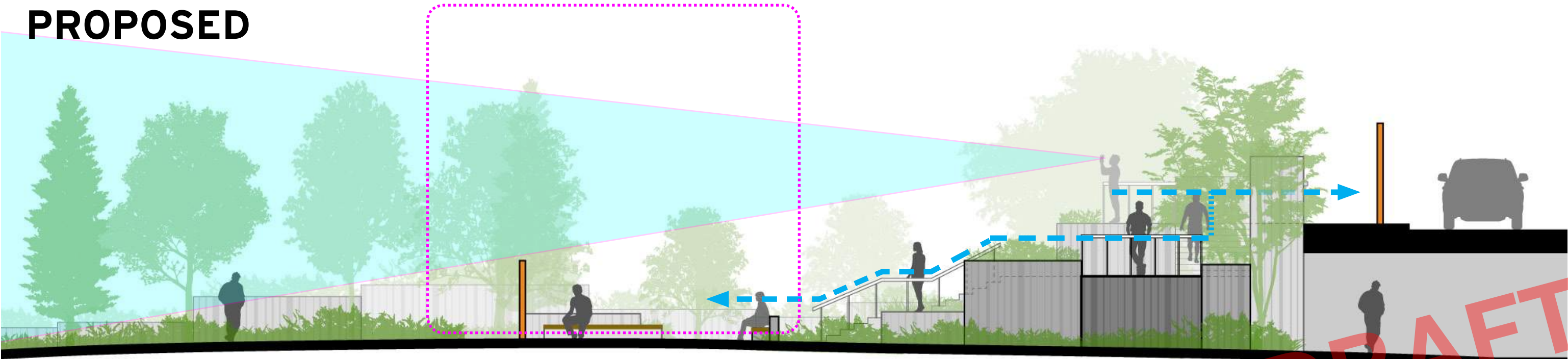
Views to park and Sound
Direct, gracious stair
Entrance plaza
Crew Quarters Improvements

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EXISTING ELEVATION FACING NORTH



PROPOSED

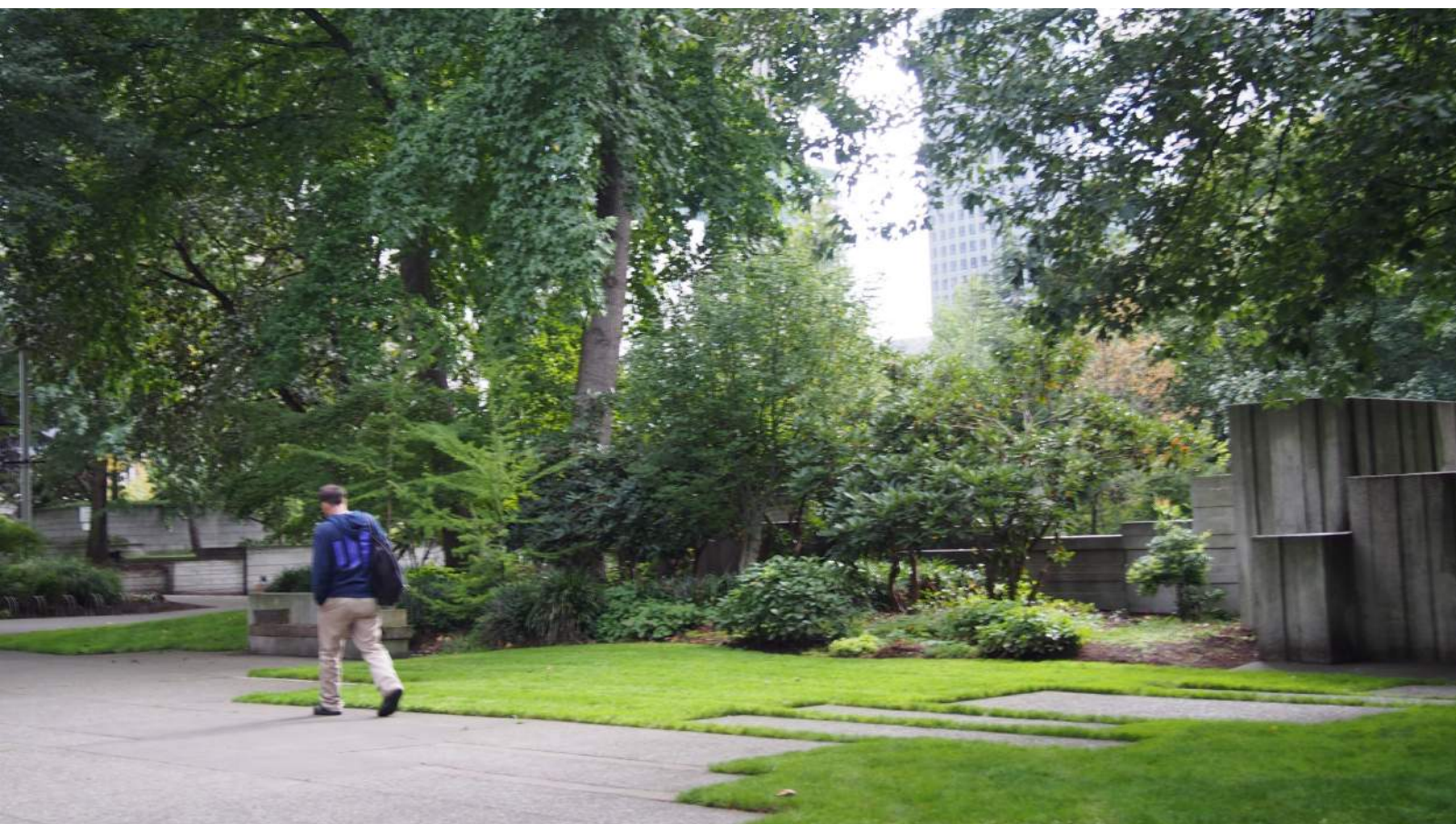
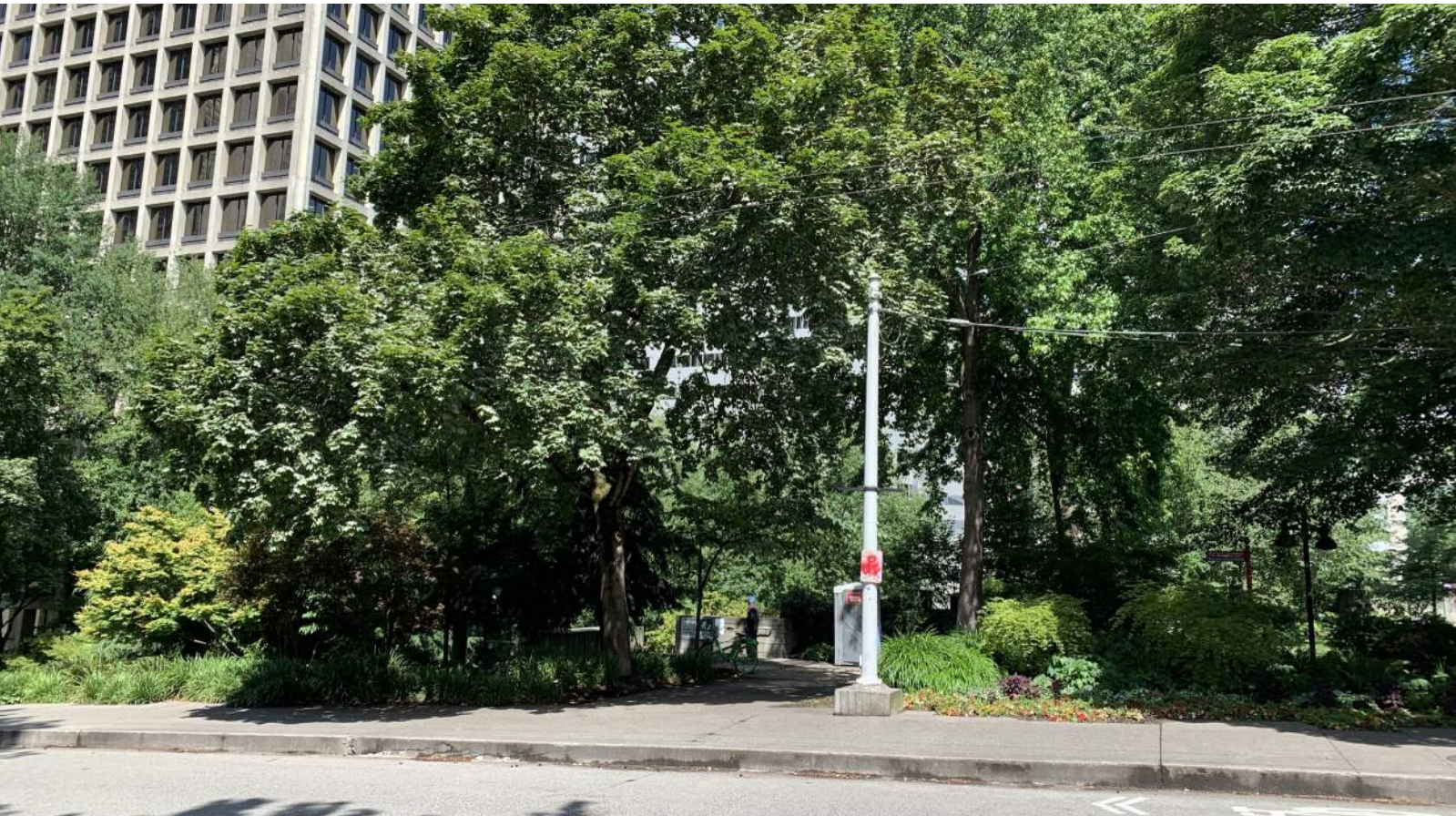


UPPER SENECA



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UPPER SENECA



UPPER SENECA

Improved entrance

Upper Canyon view points

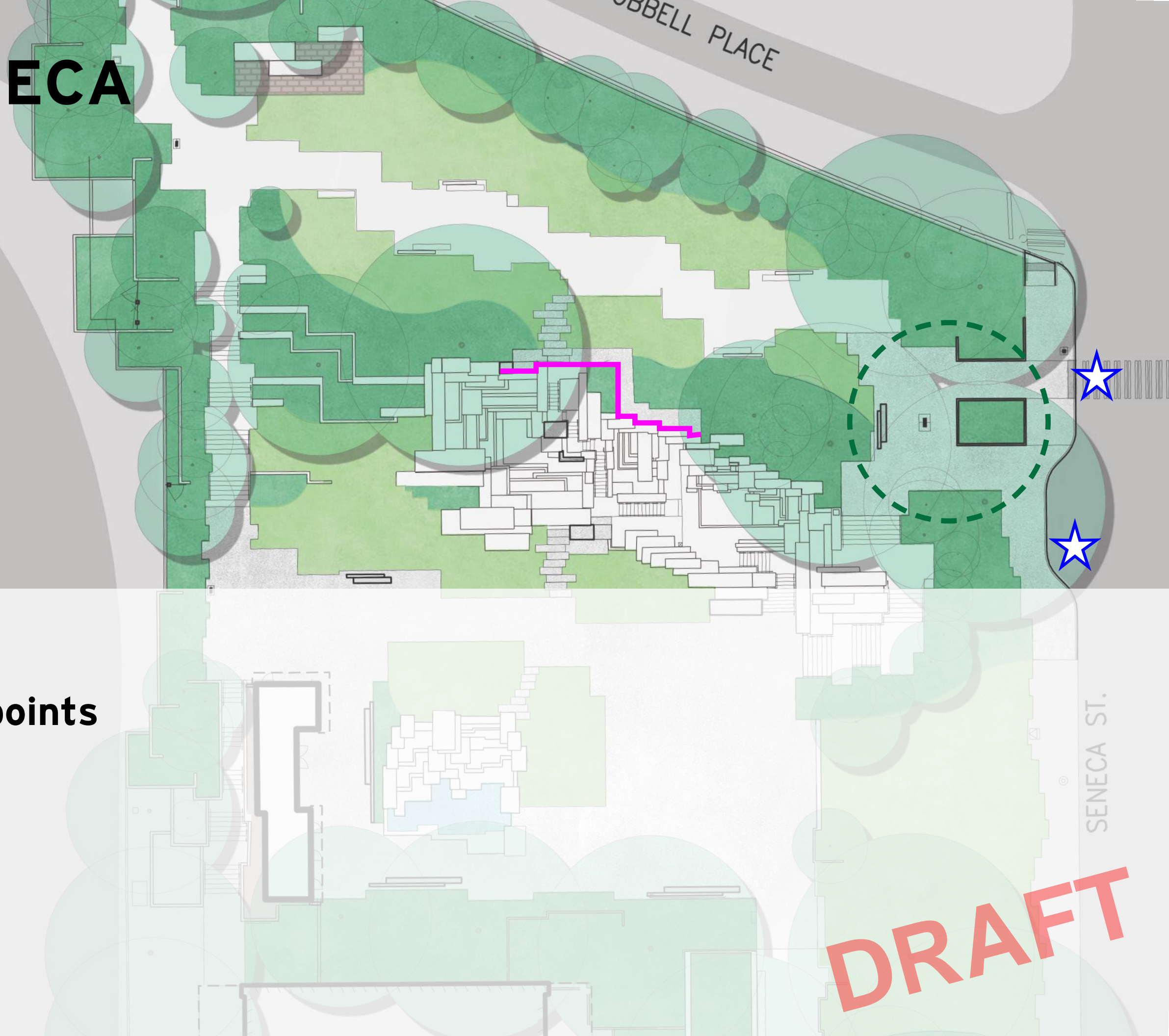
Vehicle access

Loading stall

ABBELL PLACE

SENECA ST.

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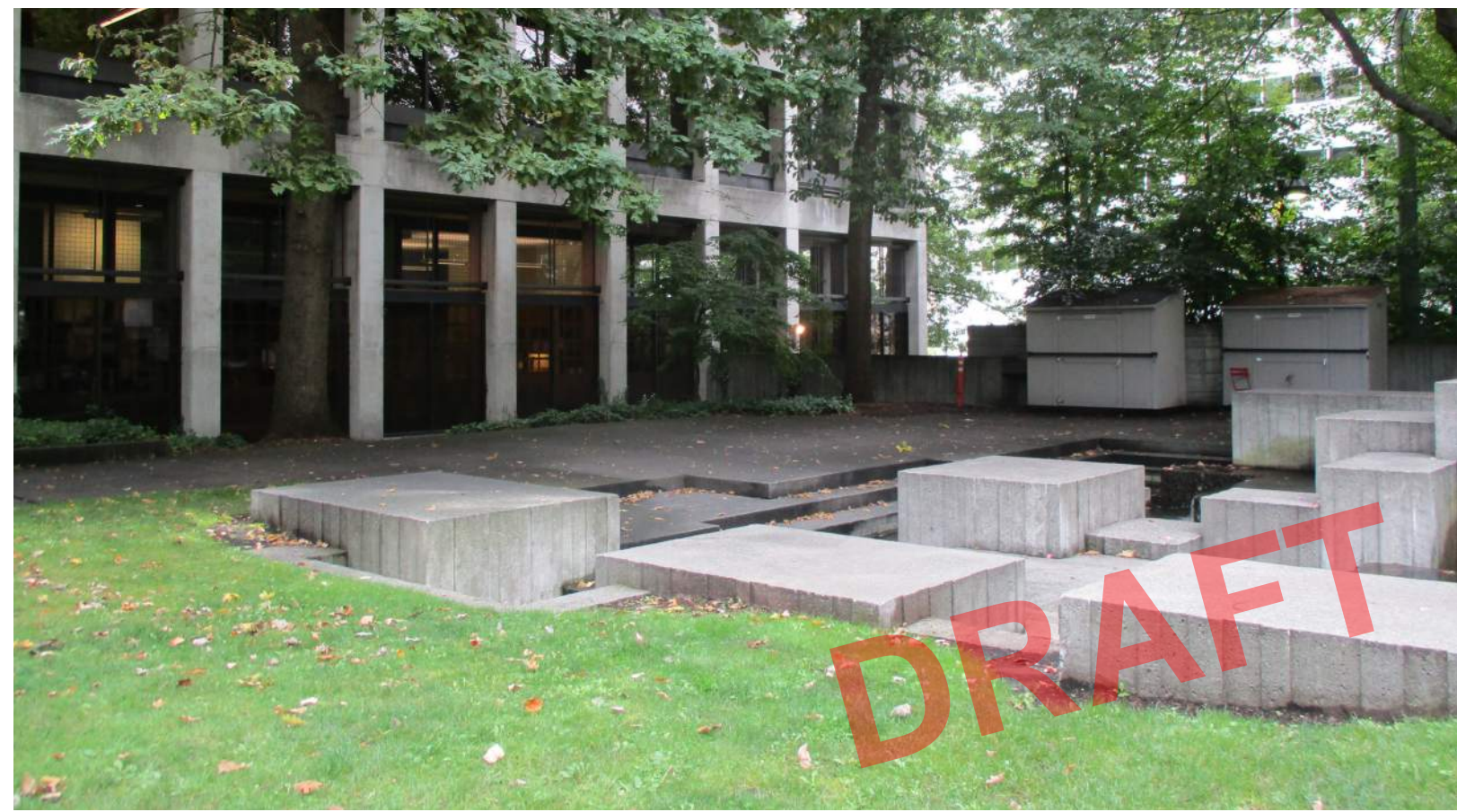


SENECA PLAZA



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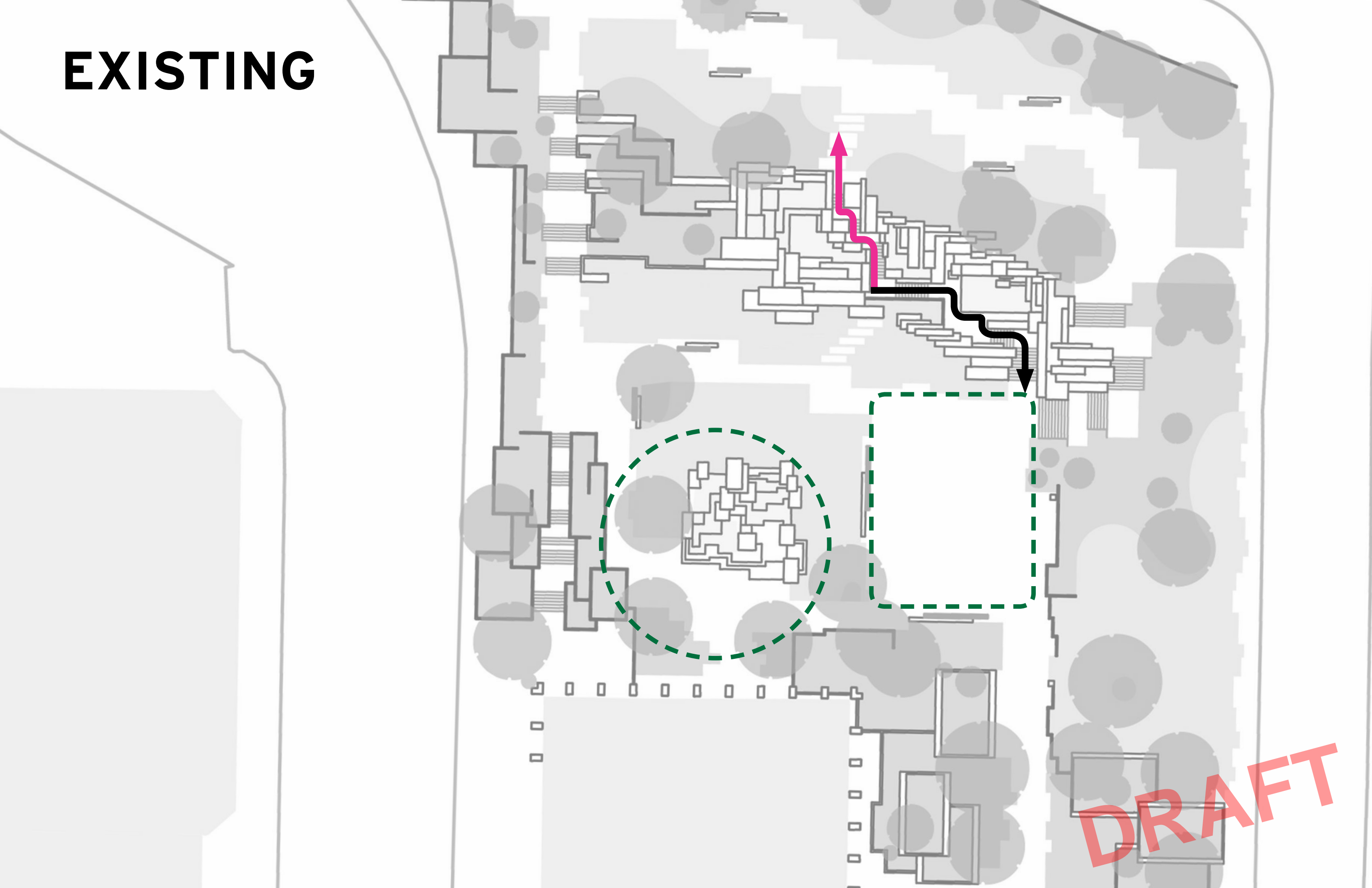
SENECA PLAZA



SENECA PLAZA



EXISTING



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SENECA PLAZA

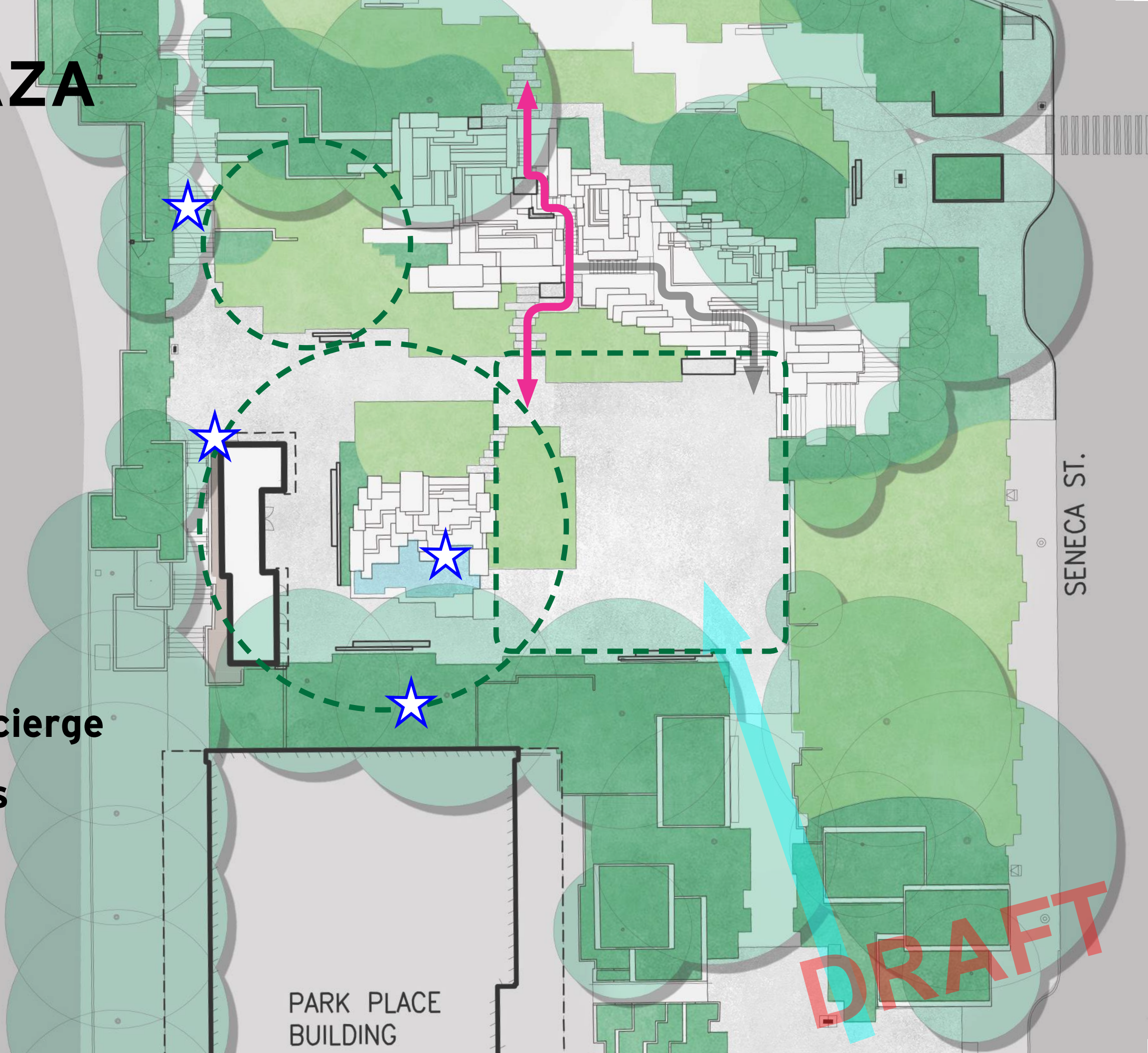
Open plaza

Comfort station & concierge

Cascade improvements

Canyon access & lawn

Sight lines

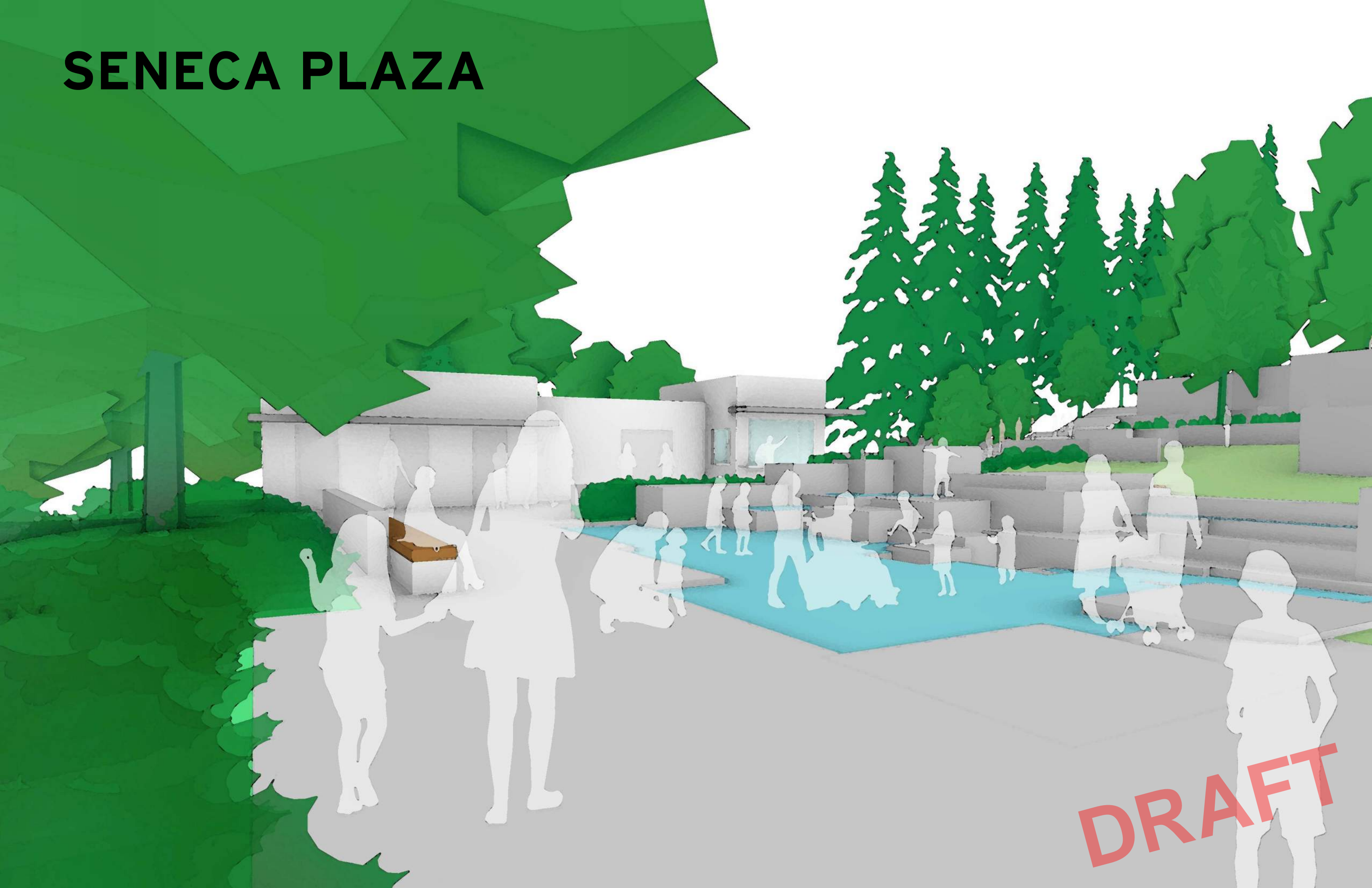


PARK PLACE
BUILDING

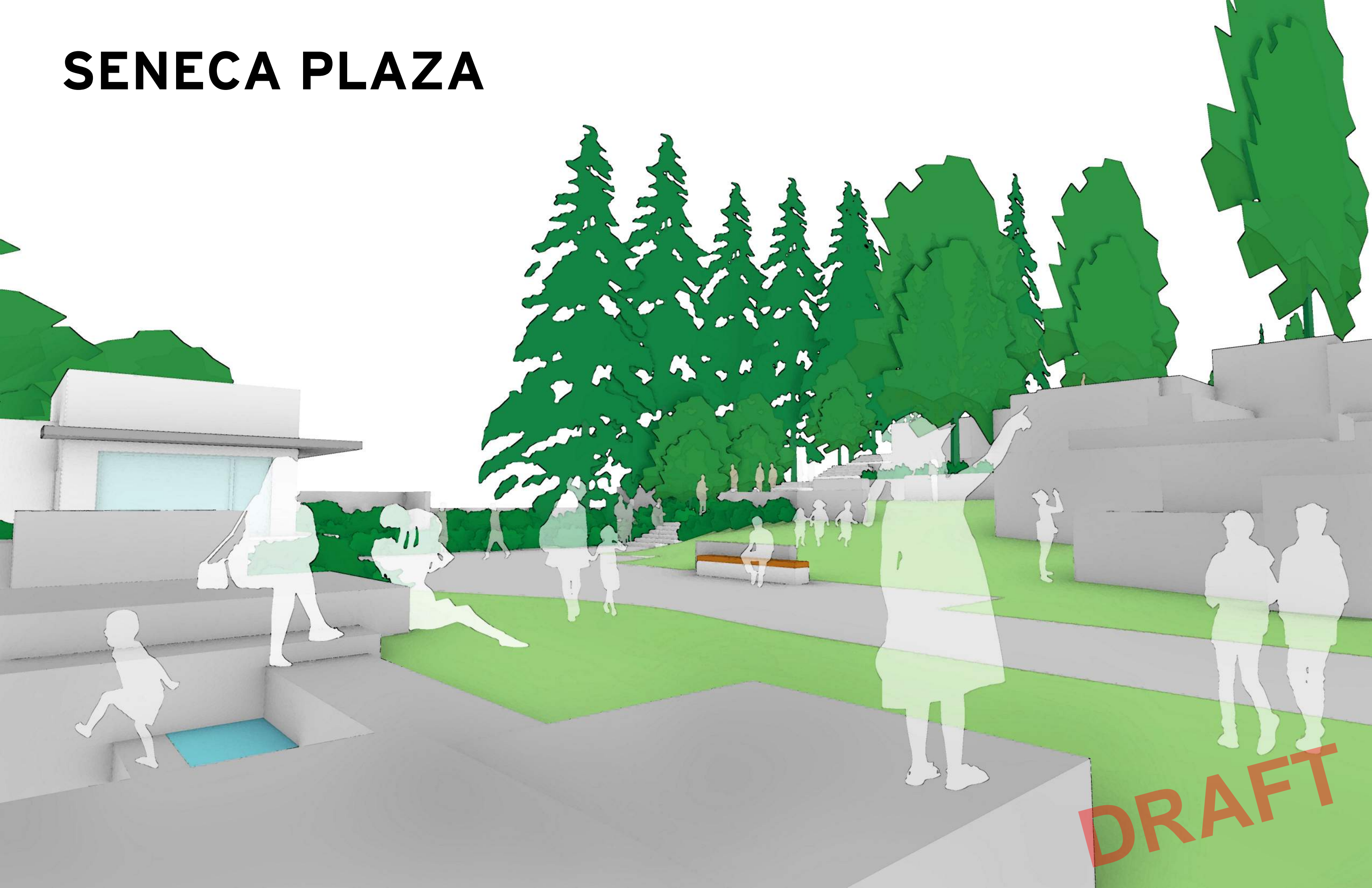
SENECA ST.

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SENECA PLAZA



SENECA PLAZA



DRAFT

BUILDINGS



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PROGRAM

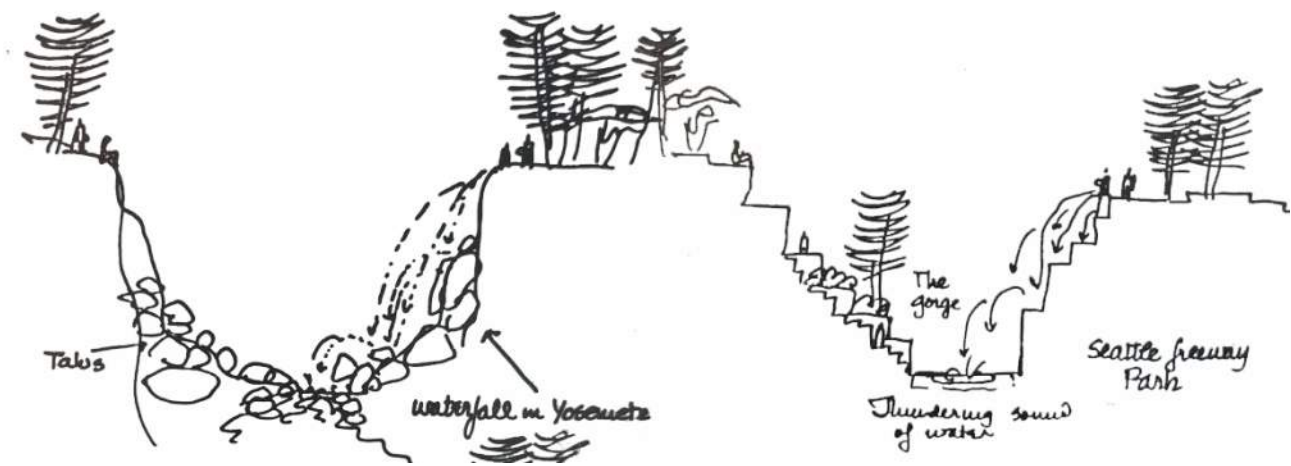
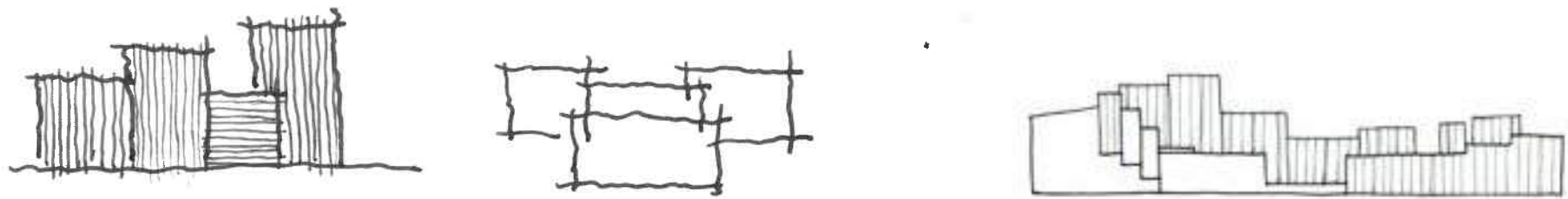
General Design Approach:

The design team hoped to build upon the original park's design, especially picking up on the contrast of "the geometric architectural forms and the softness and lushness of the plant material" (Danadjieva). Using the textures and orientation of the board-formed concrete, heavy timber benches, and stepped forms, the design team looked to Halprin's design for sympathetic forms and materials.

The Design Concepts for Seneca Plaza and Upper Lawns include a new staffed park building with Park Concierge, Public Restrooms and Storage.

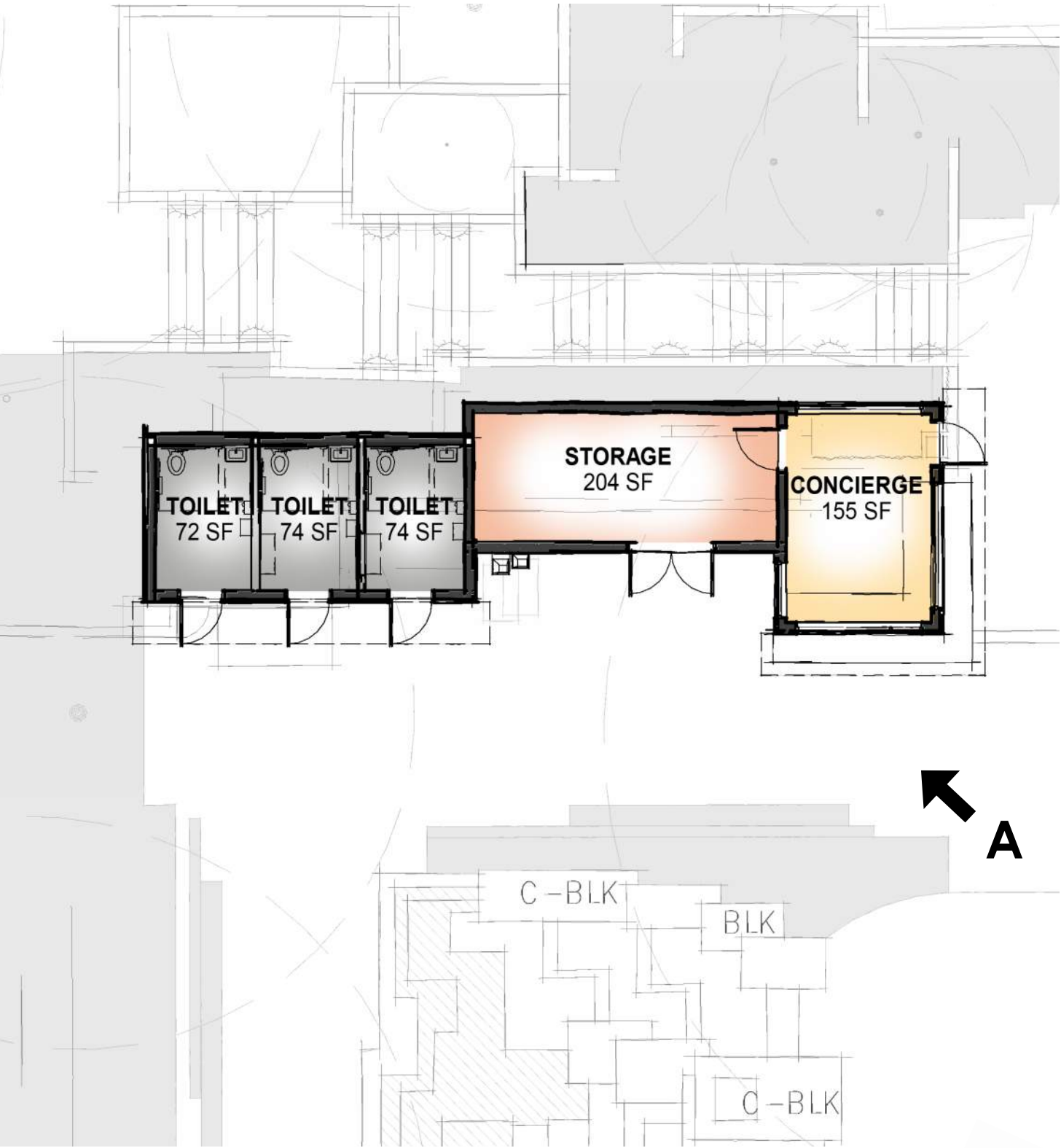
- Concierge space with operable windows for concierge to engage with public
- Storage and counter space for equipment and park information
- Separate table and chair storage for event use
- Two or three separate gender neutral toilet rooms meeting Park Standards and fully ADA accessible

INSPIRATION



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bassetti
architects

DESIGN / SENECA PLAZA OPTION 1



FIRST FLOOR PLAN @ SENECA PLAZA OPTION 1
1'=10'-0"

A



BOARD FORM CONCRETE



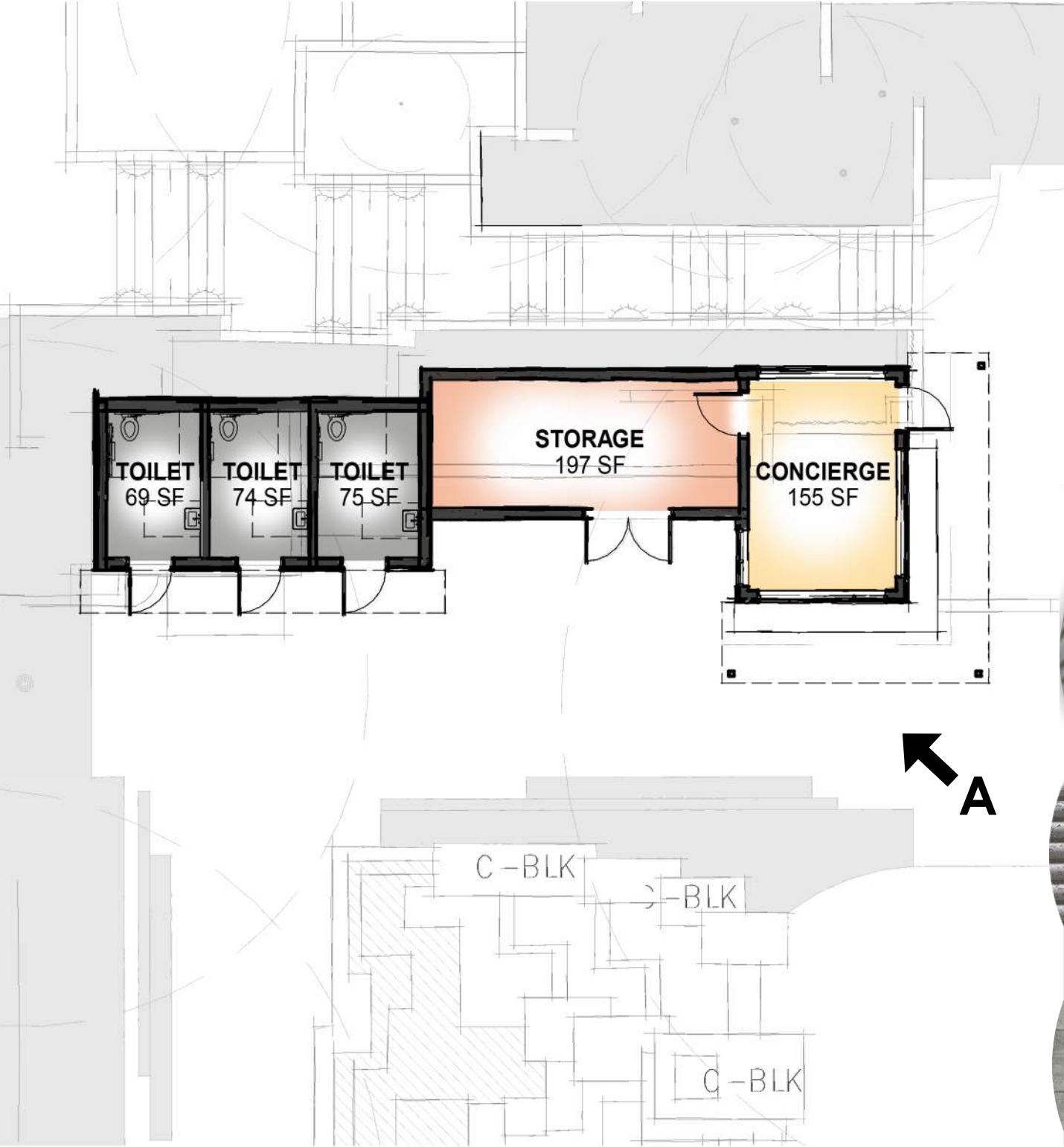
METAL PANEL



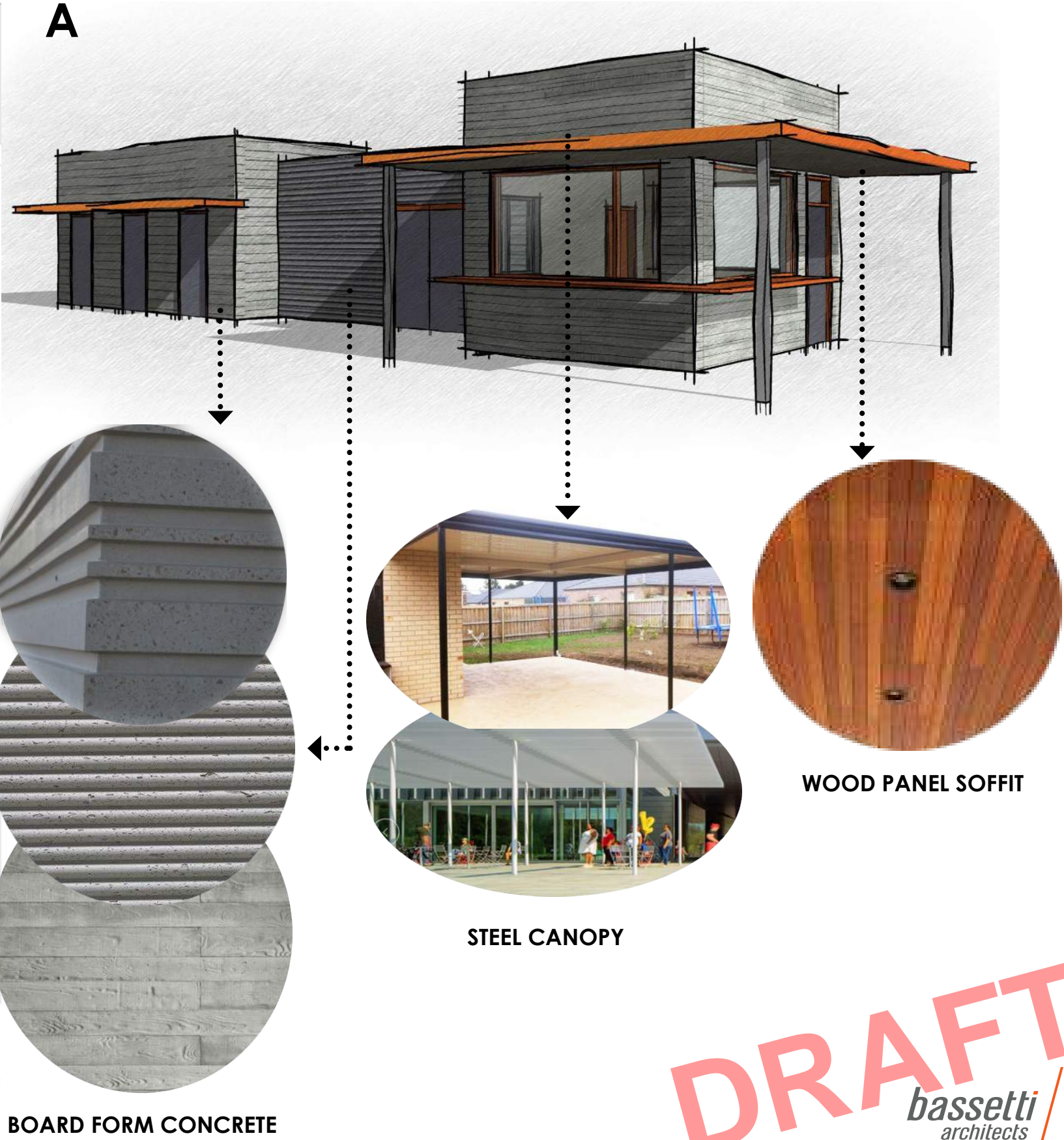
STEEL CANOPY

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DESIGN / SENECA PLAZA OPTION 2

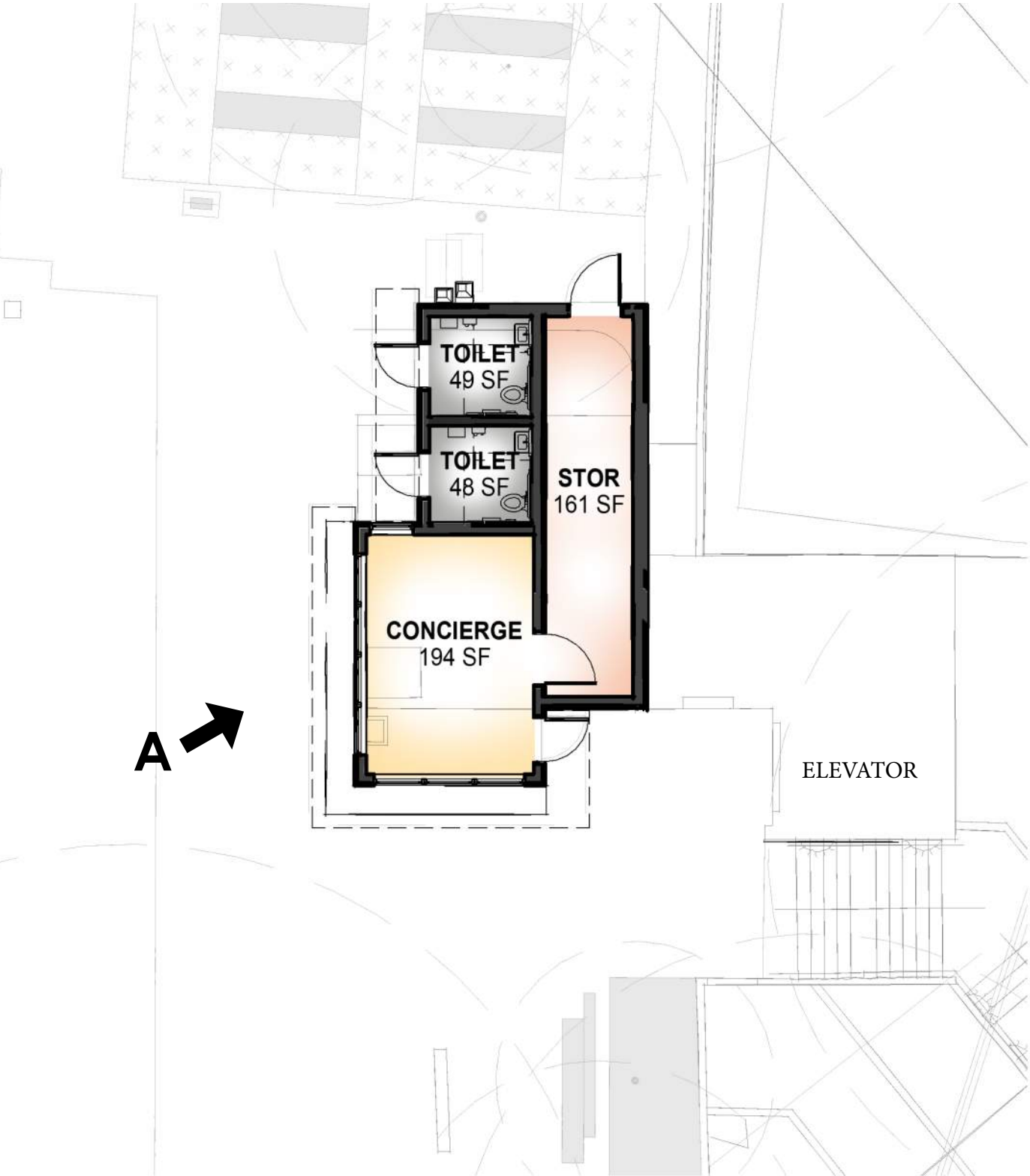


FIRST FLOOR PLAN @ SENECA PLAZA OPTION 2
1"=10'-0"

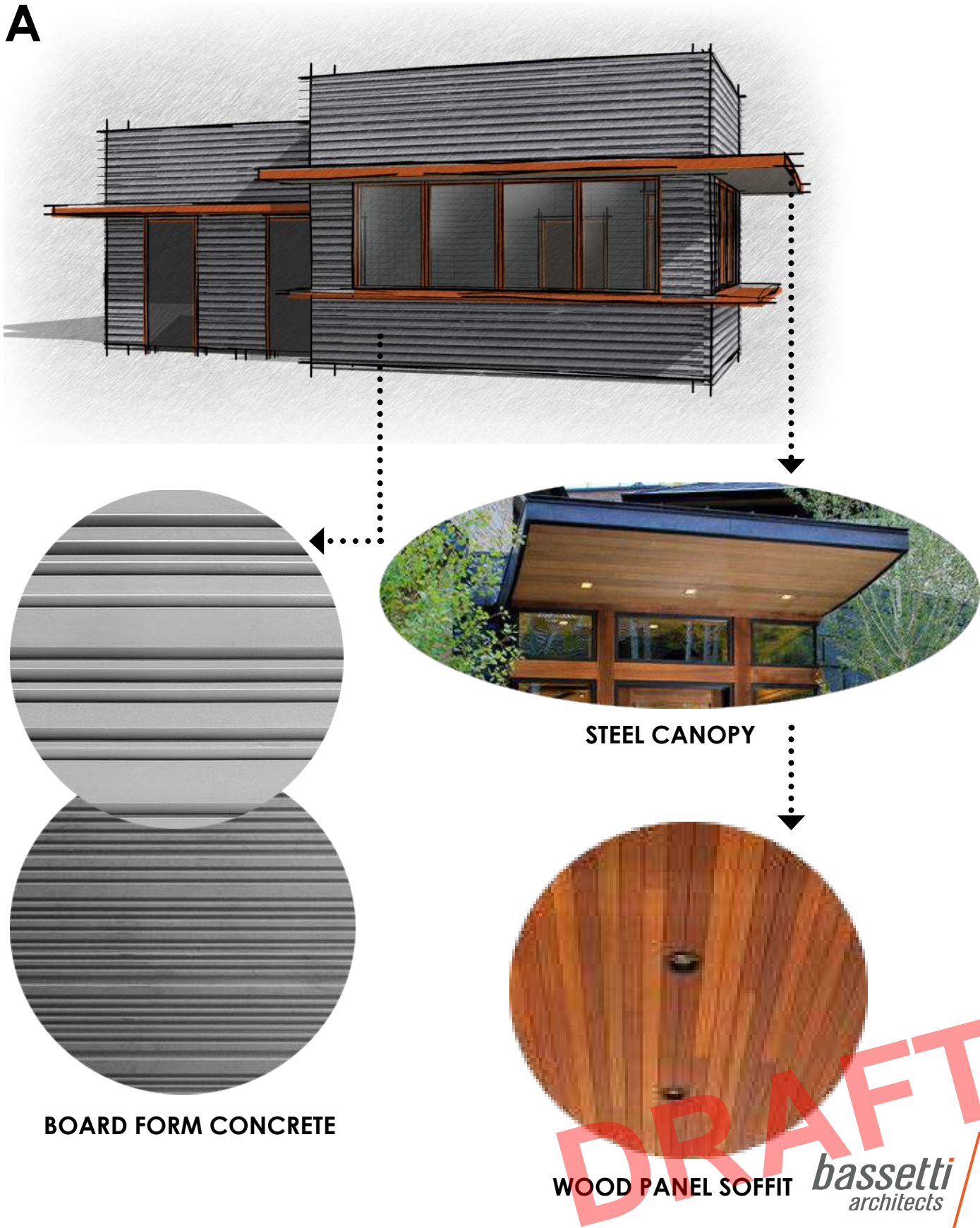
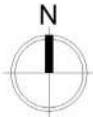


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bassetti
architects

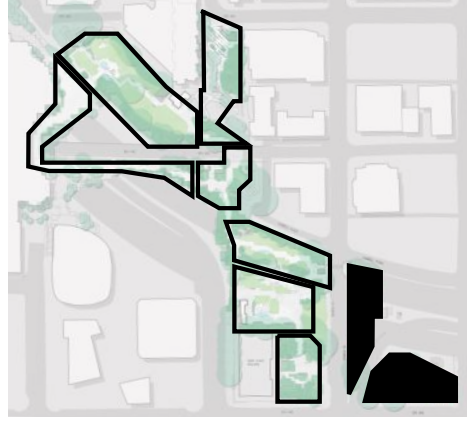
DESIGN / EAST PLAZA



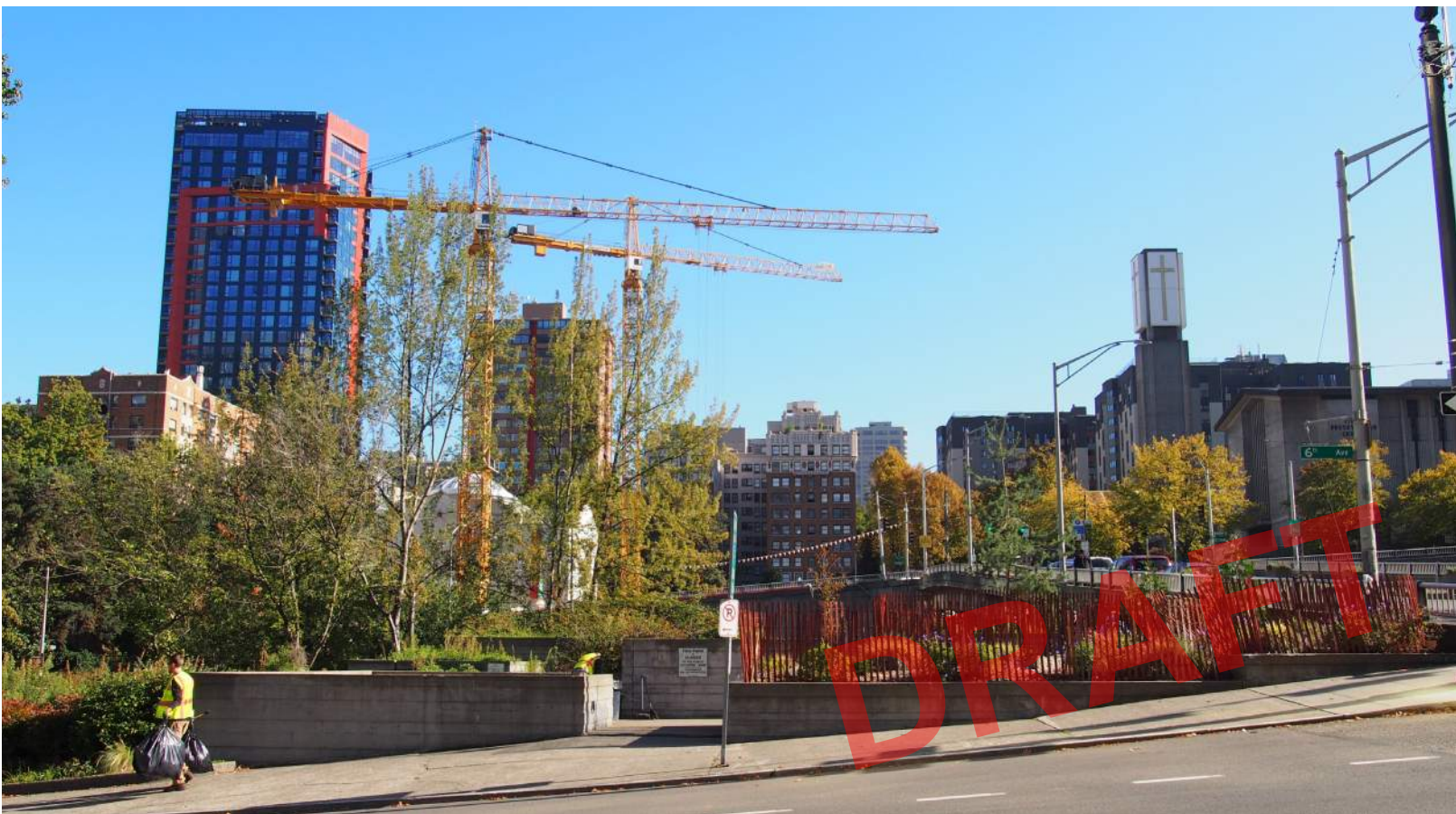
FIRST FLOOR PLAN @ EAST PLAZA
1'=10'-0"



BOX GARDENS



BOX GARDENS

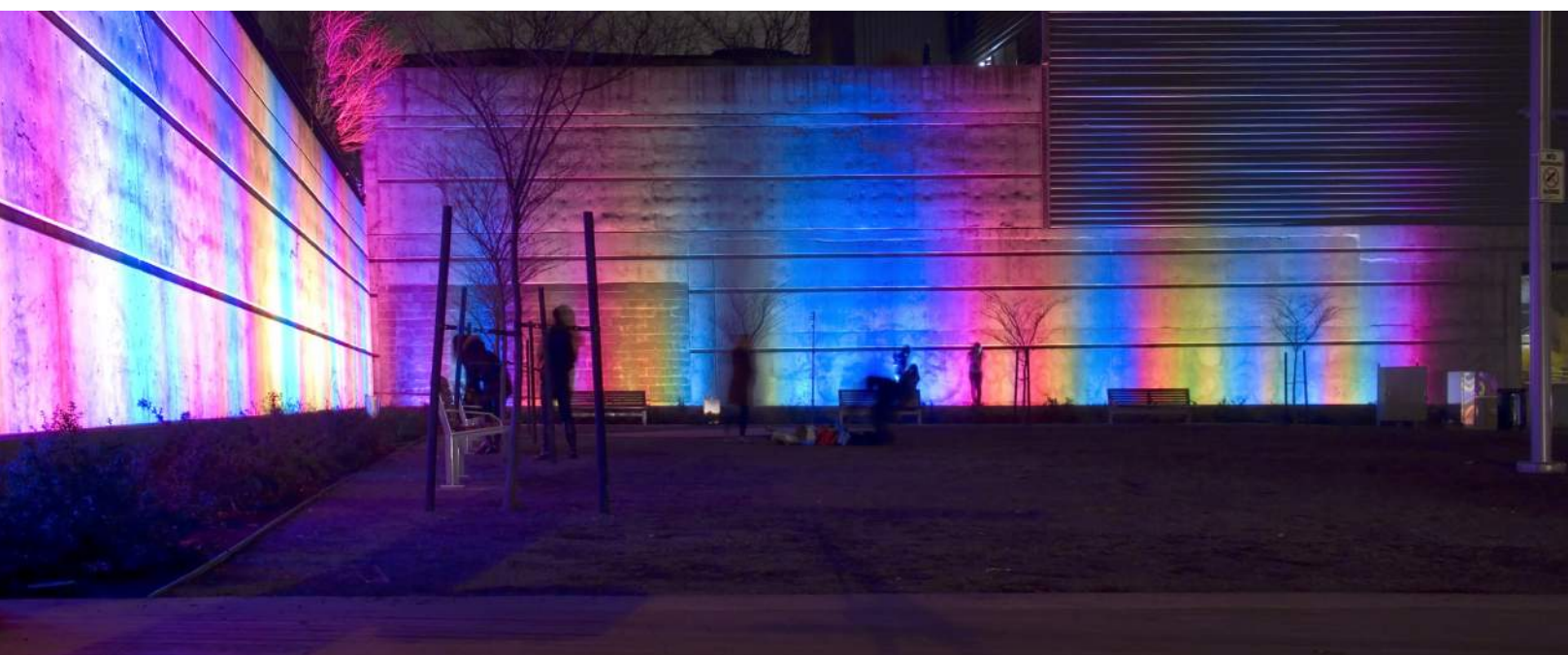


BOX GARDENS

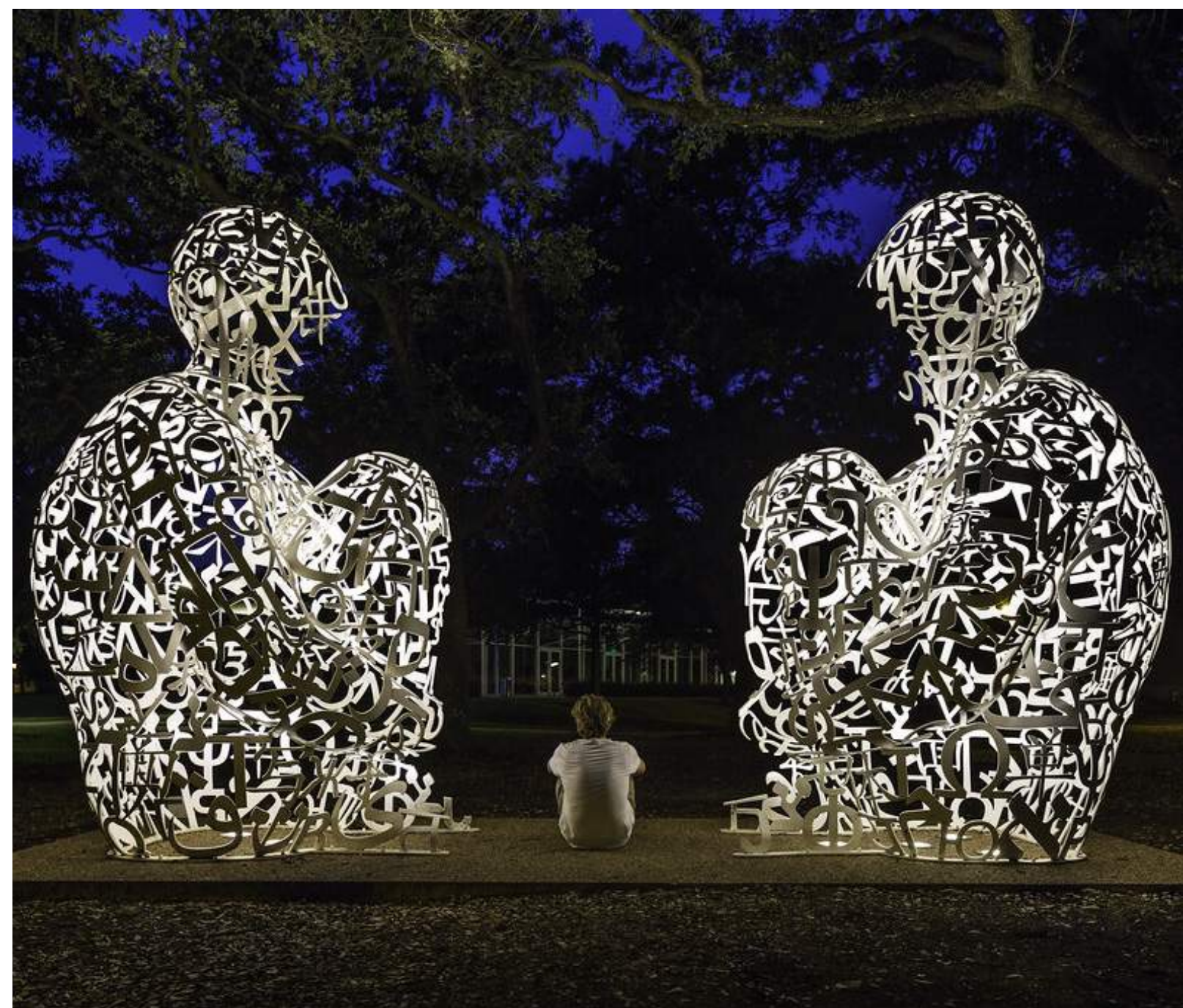


sculpture connecting park and freeway

buffer, not park space



UPDATED ICON



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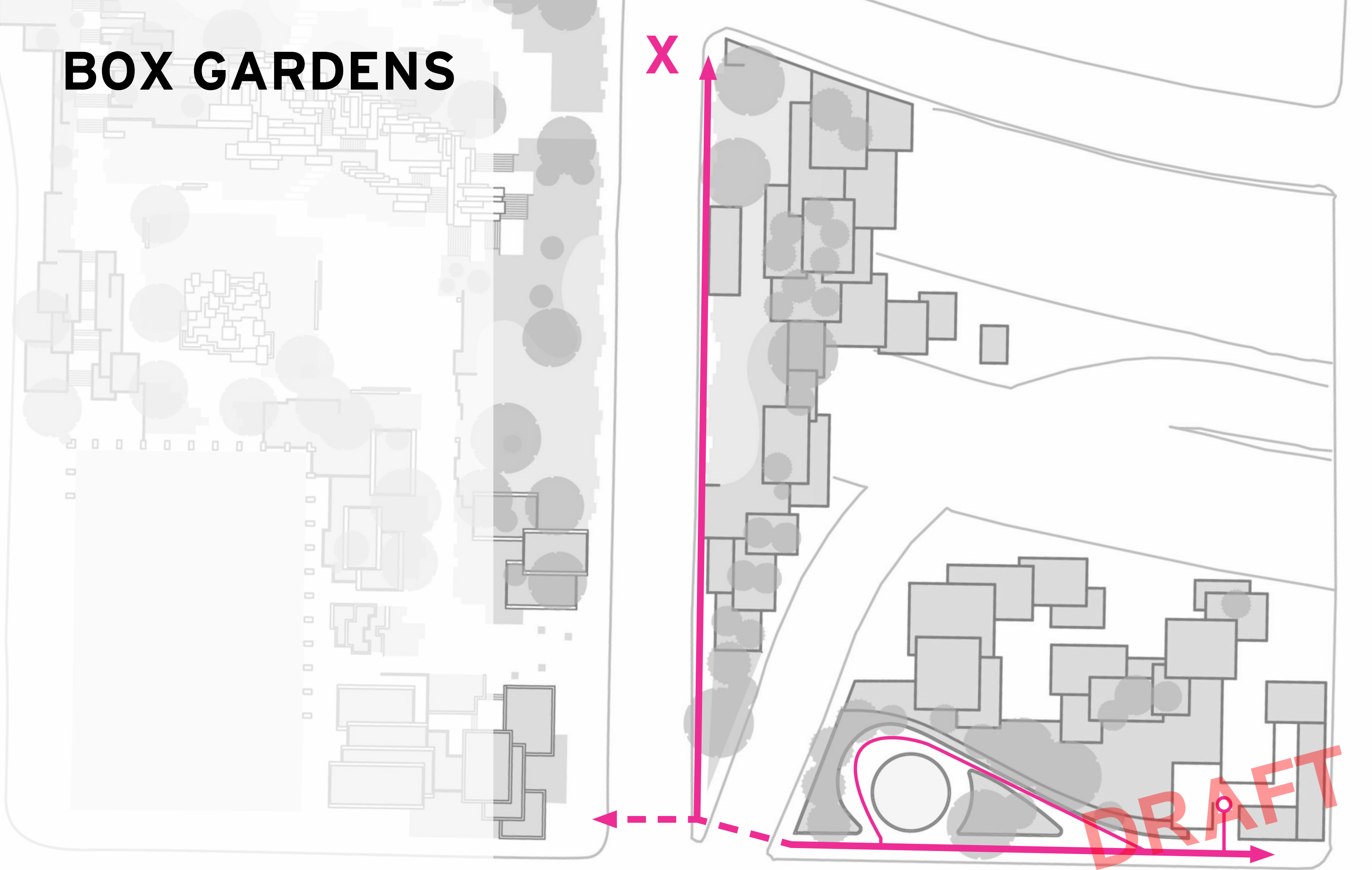


COMMUNITY USE



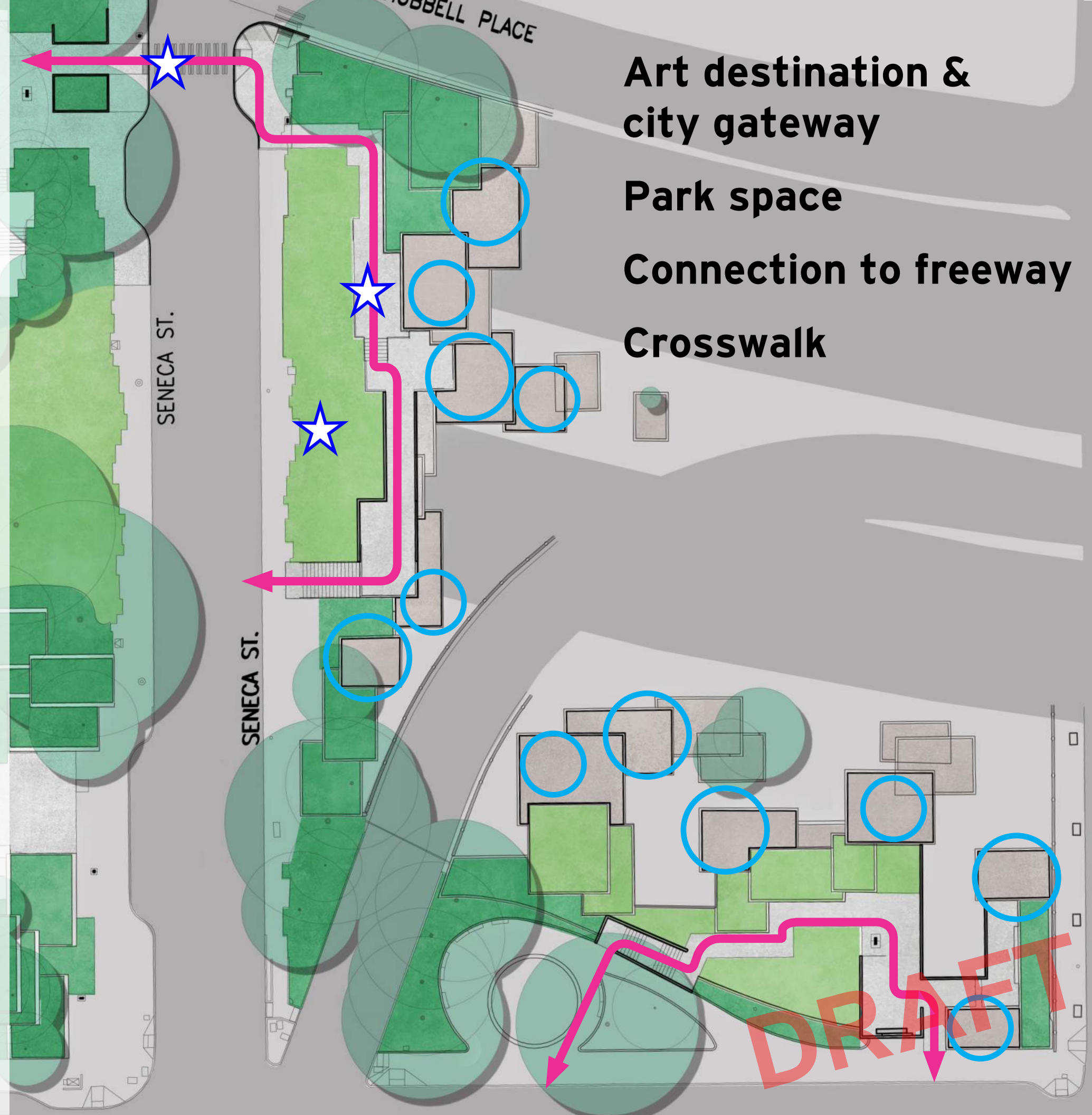
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BOX GARDENS



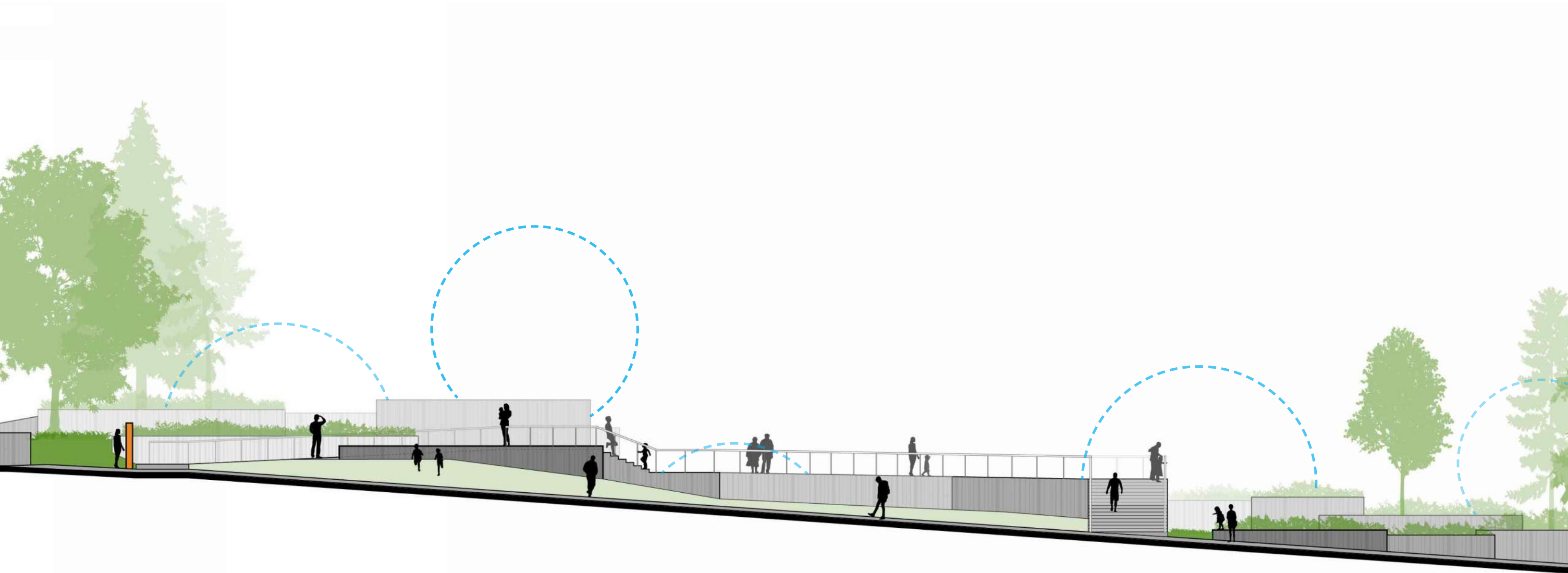
BOX GARDENS

ART WALK





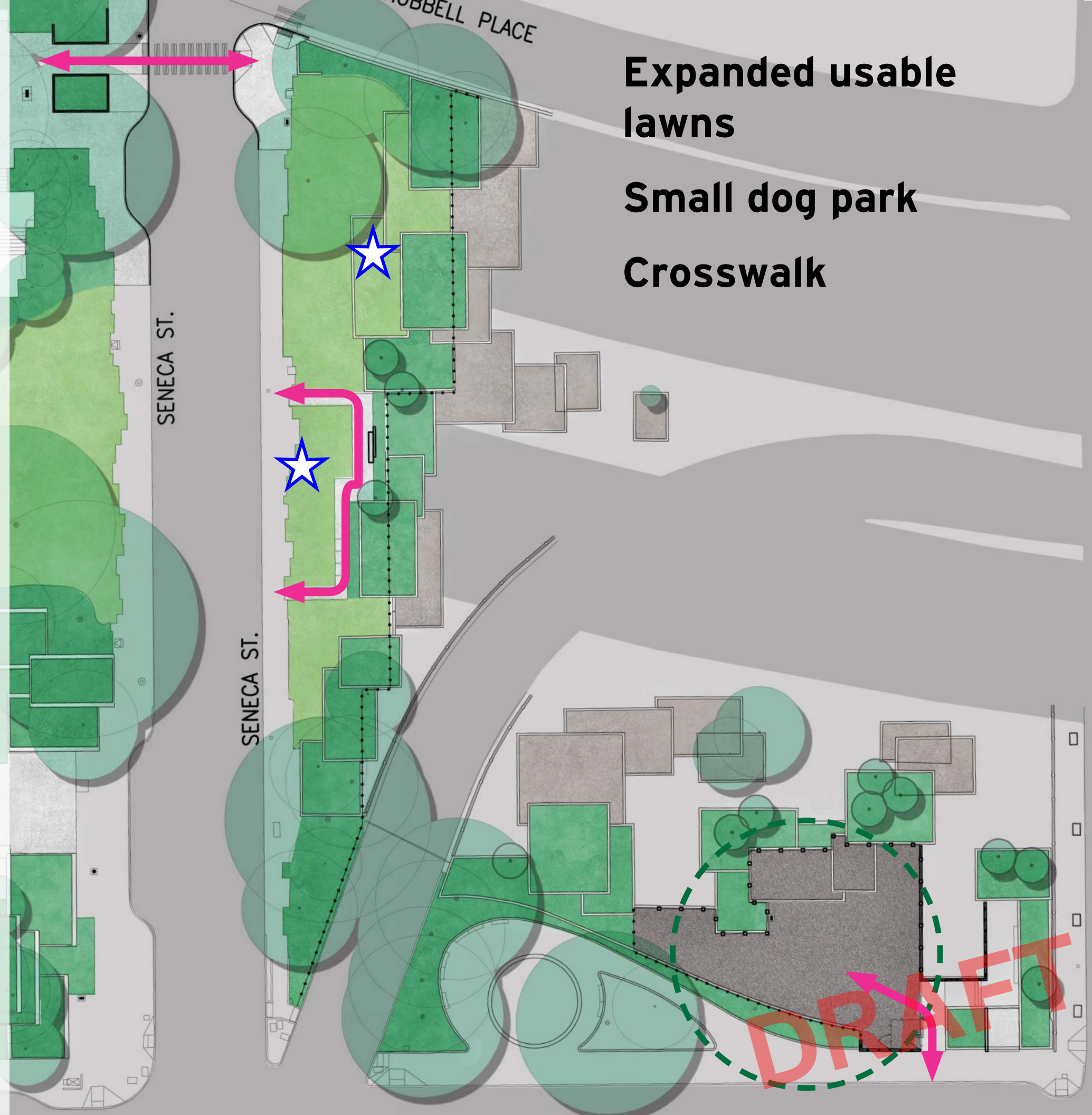
SENECA STREET ELEVATION FACING SOUTH



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BOX GARDENS

DOG PARK



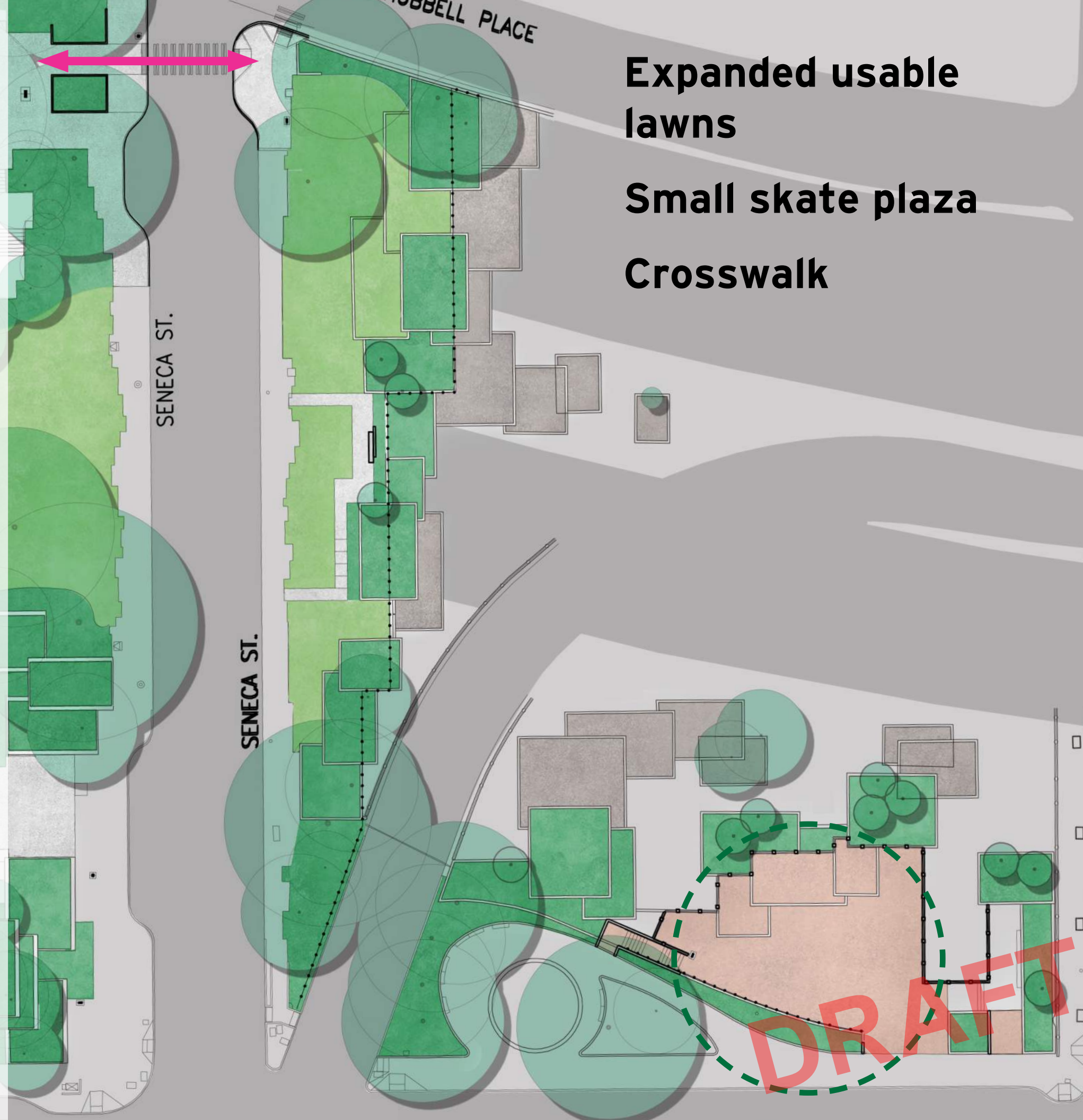
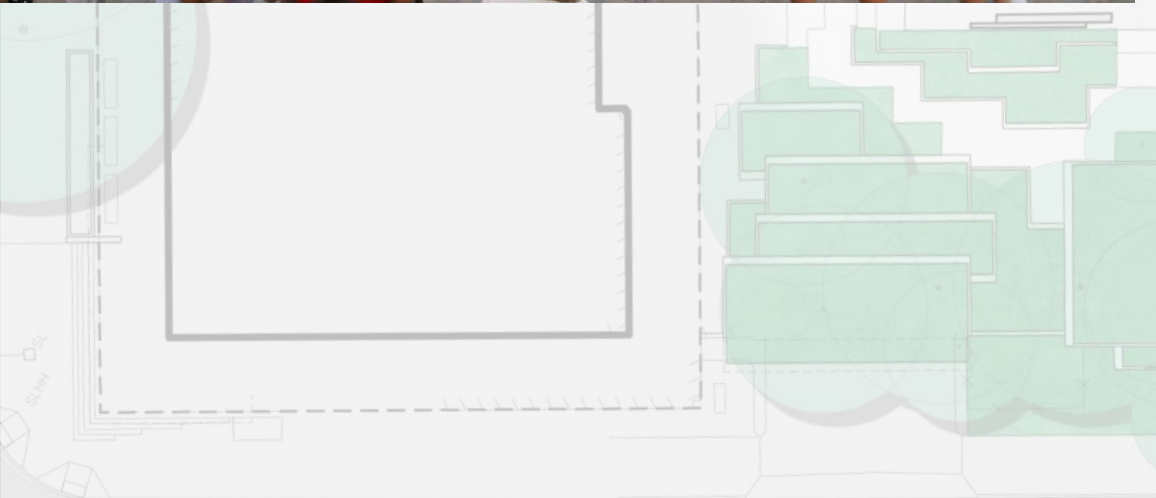
Expanded usable lawns

Small dog park

Crosswalk

BOX GARDENS

SKATE PLAZA



PRIORITIES

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COST REPORT SUMMARY

PARK-WIDE IMPROVEMENTS

\$ 4,896,000

Lighting	\$ 2,222,000
Wayfinding	\$ 410,000
Irrigation	\$ 981,000
Drainage	\$ 1,014,000
Graffiti & clean	\$ 269,000
Art	\$ by owner

SITE DEVELOPMENT

\$ 17,684,000

Upper Lawns	\$ 2,296,000
Convention Center	\$ 625,000
Pigott Corridor	\$ 7,826,000
8th Ave Entrance	\$ 1,108,000
Upper Seneca	\$ 1,108,000
Seneca Plaza	\$ 2,132,000
6th / Seneca	\$ 552,000
Box Gardens (art)	\$ 1,429,000

FOUNTAIN IMPROVEMENTS

\$ 841,000

American Legion (Upper Lawns)	\$ 282,000
Canyon Fountain	\$ 363,000
Cascade Fountain	\$ 467,000

SD Total: \$23M

Budget: \$6M

\$1M max off SPR property

2020 costs do not include escalation

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CONSIDERATIONS

“Expert Panelist” Perspectives (Public Open House October 28, 2019)

Charles Birnbaum, *FASLA, FAAR, President & CEO, The Cultural Landscape Foundation:*
Restore Fountains to their intent.

Randy Gragg, *Executive Director, Portland Parks Foundation:*
Preserve high level of craftsmanship .

Alison Hirsch, *Director of Landscape Architecture and Urbanism at USC School of Architecture:*
Restore stronger connection to Freeway, Canyon Fountain, views.

Kenny Helphand, *FASLA, Professor Emeritus in Landscape Architecture, University of Oregon:*
Restore sense of discovery.

Iain Robertson, *Associate Professor in Landscape Architecture, University of Washington:*
Refresh plantings.

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CONSIDERATIONS

Highlights from public input on Design Concepts (Public Open House & Survey, November 2019)

Where would improvements be most valuable? Park Entrances (29%) and Seneca Plaza (23%)

Upper Lawns priorities: restore restroom (67%) and sunny kid area (62%)

Seneca Plaza priorities: no consensus, slightly weighted toward building, improved stair, cascade fountain. (50 – 59% each)

Pigott Corridor priorities: clear entrance (79%)

Box Gardens: Art / lighting concept (69%)

Other ideas: lighting (78%), enhanced plantings (61%)

Levels of change: focus on *Repair and Maintenance* (70%) and *Design changes in areas that are not well used* (63%). *Primary park areas* lower priority (35%)

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DISCUSSION

Park-wide Improvements vs. Project Areas

Which improvements?

Which areas?

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