

FREEWAY PARK

IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

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



FREEWAY PARK
ASSOCIATION

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

SUMMARY OF INPUT ON PRIORITIES



SCOPE & BUDGET UPDATE

- 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



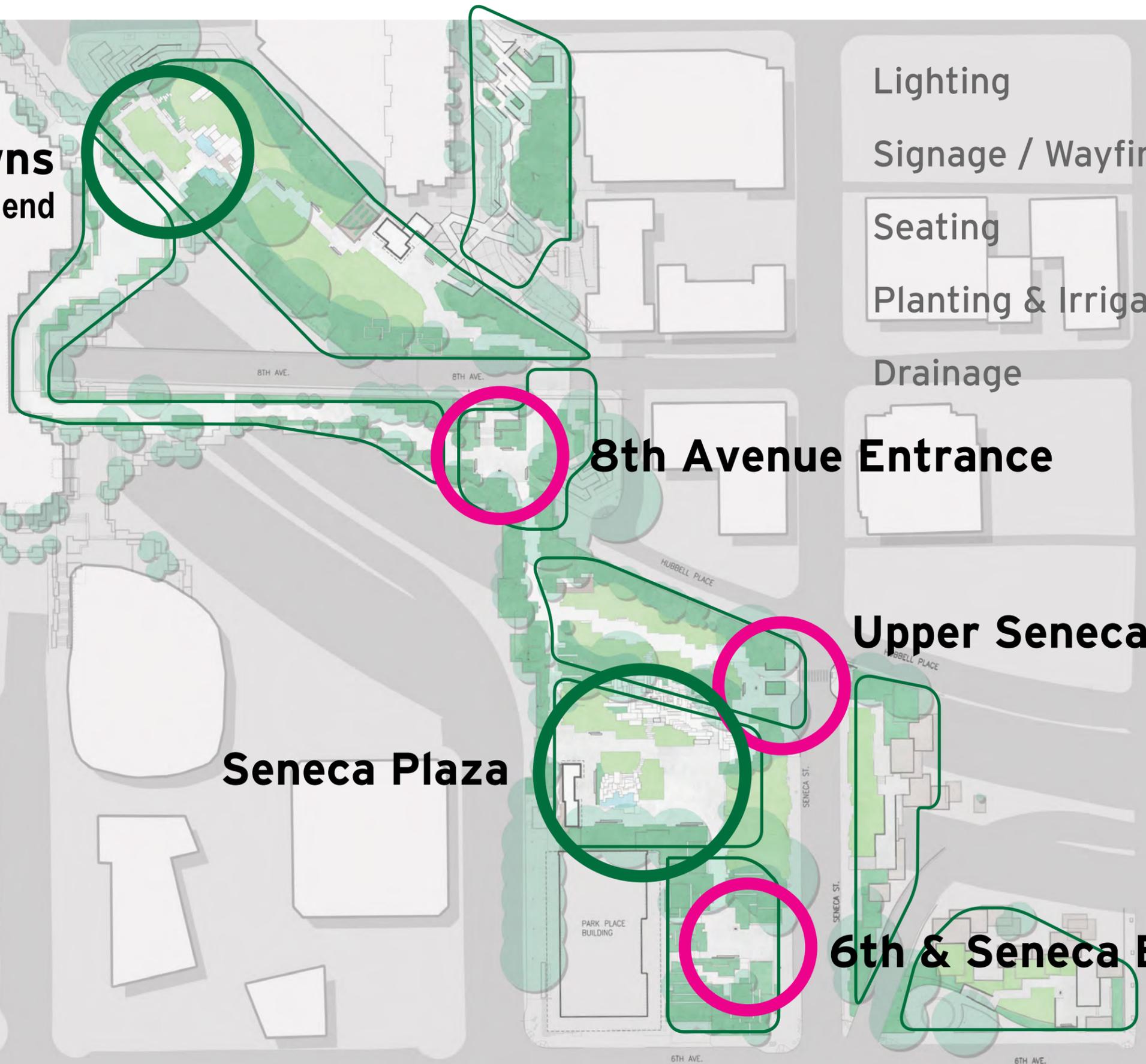
SD cost estimate

\$ 23M

project budget

\$ 6M

Upper Lawns
north end



Lighting
Signage / Wayfinding

Seating
Planting & Irrigation

Drainage

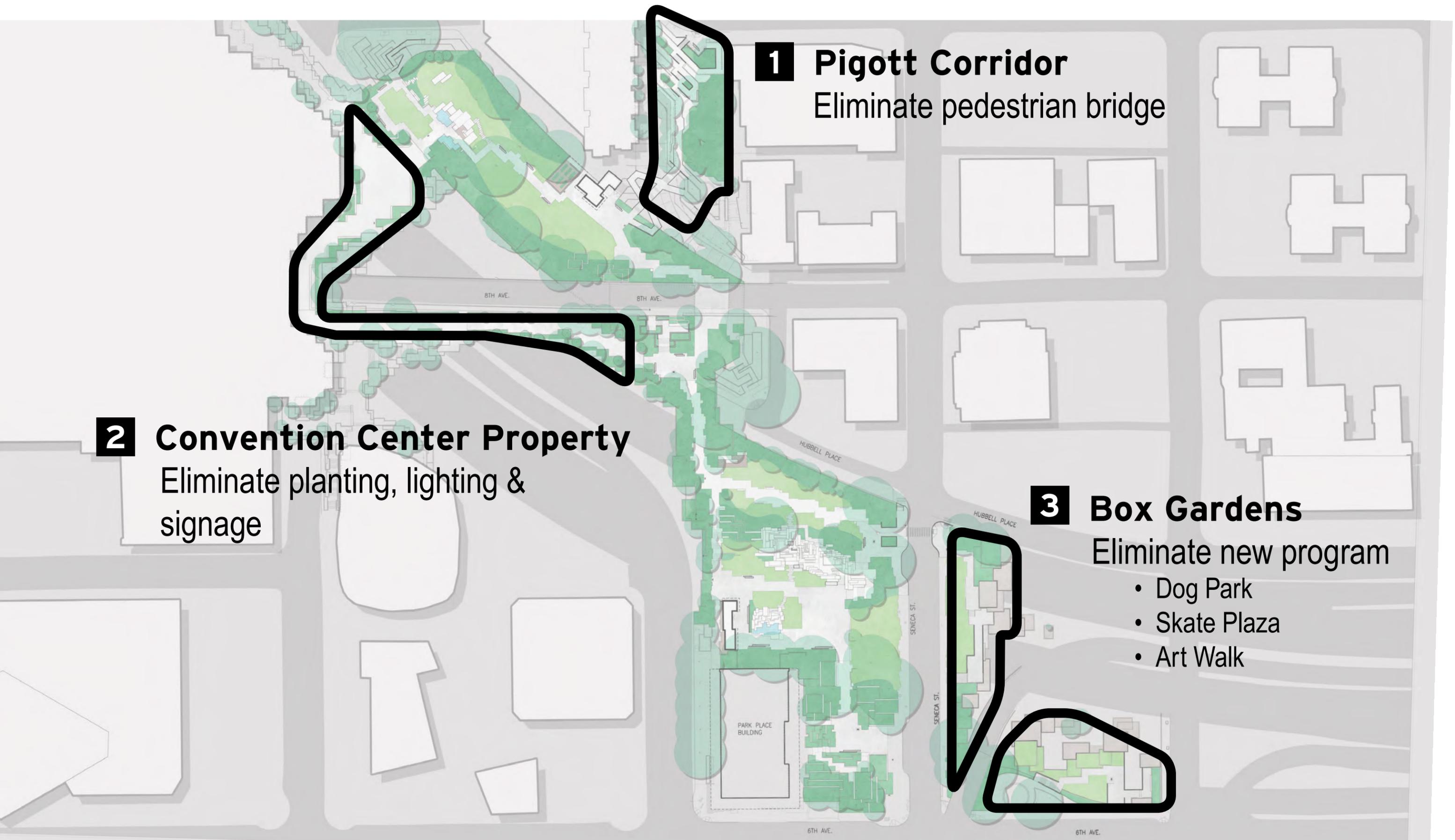
8th Avenue Entrance

Upper Seneca Entrance

Seneca Plaza

6th & Seneca Entrance





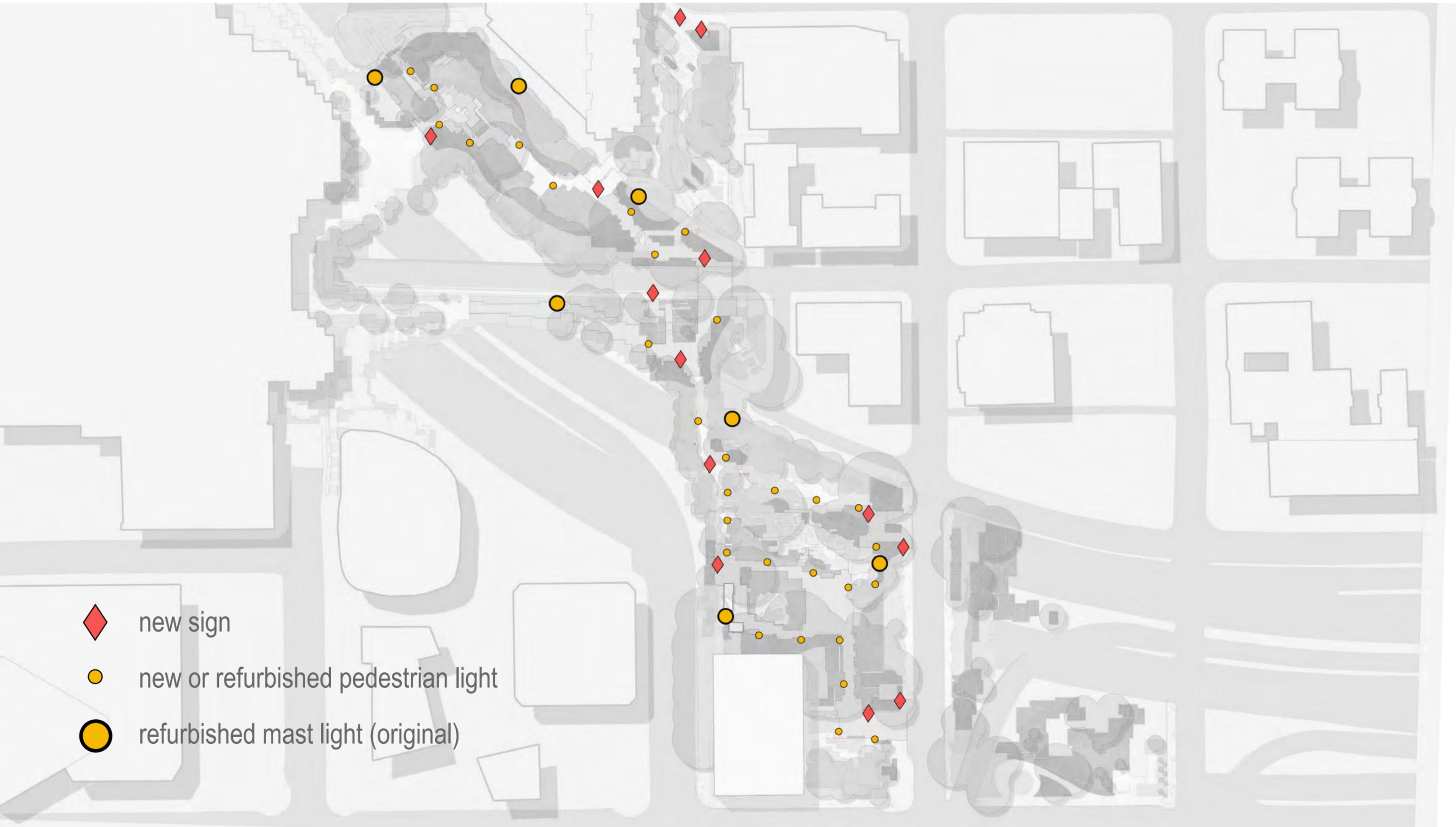
1 Pigott Corridor
Eliminate pedestrian bridge

2 Convention Center Property
Eliminate planting, lighting & signage

3 Box Gardens
Eliminate new program

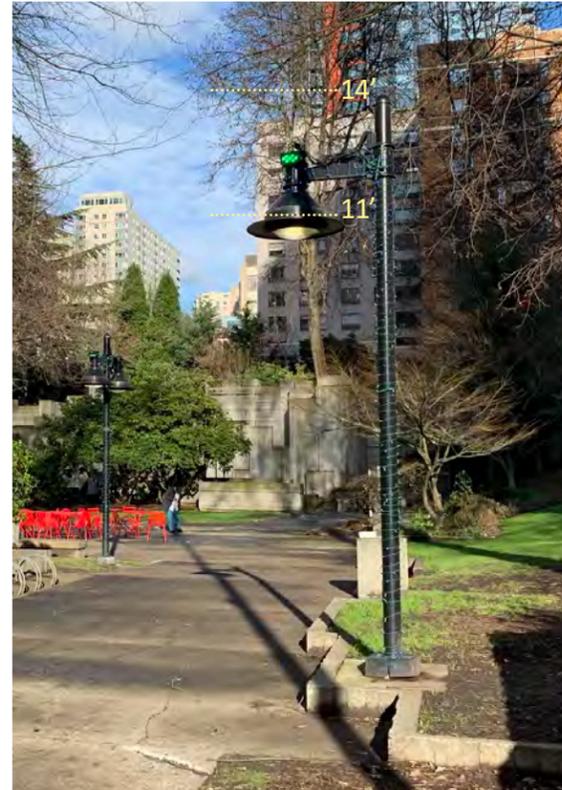
- Dog Park
- Skate Plaza
- Art Walk

PARK WIDE IMPROVEMENTS



1 pedestrian pole lights

retrofit existing poles +
new locations



HIDDEN LIGHT SOURCE (SHIELDED)

HIDDEN LIGHT SOURCE (INDIRECT)

Lamp	LEED	A	B
77 208	36.4W LED	LZ-3	31½ 19⅞

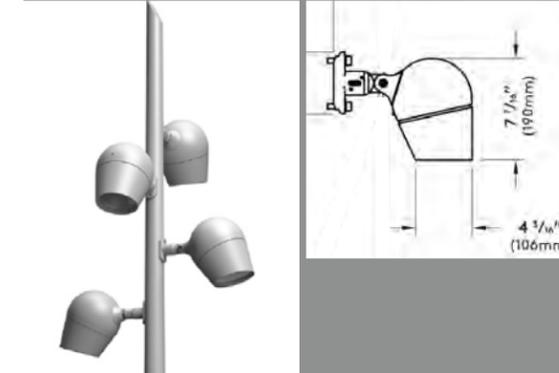
2 tall pole lights

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

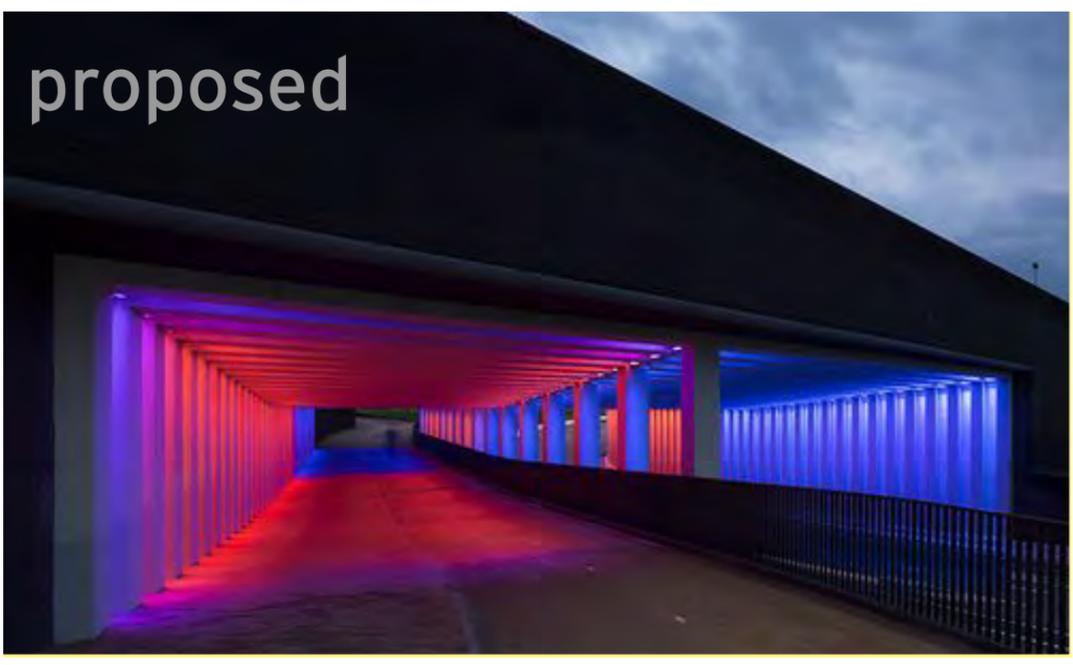


3 landscape lighting

seasonal accents
expand visible park
boundaries



LIGHTING ACCENTS

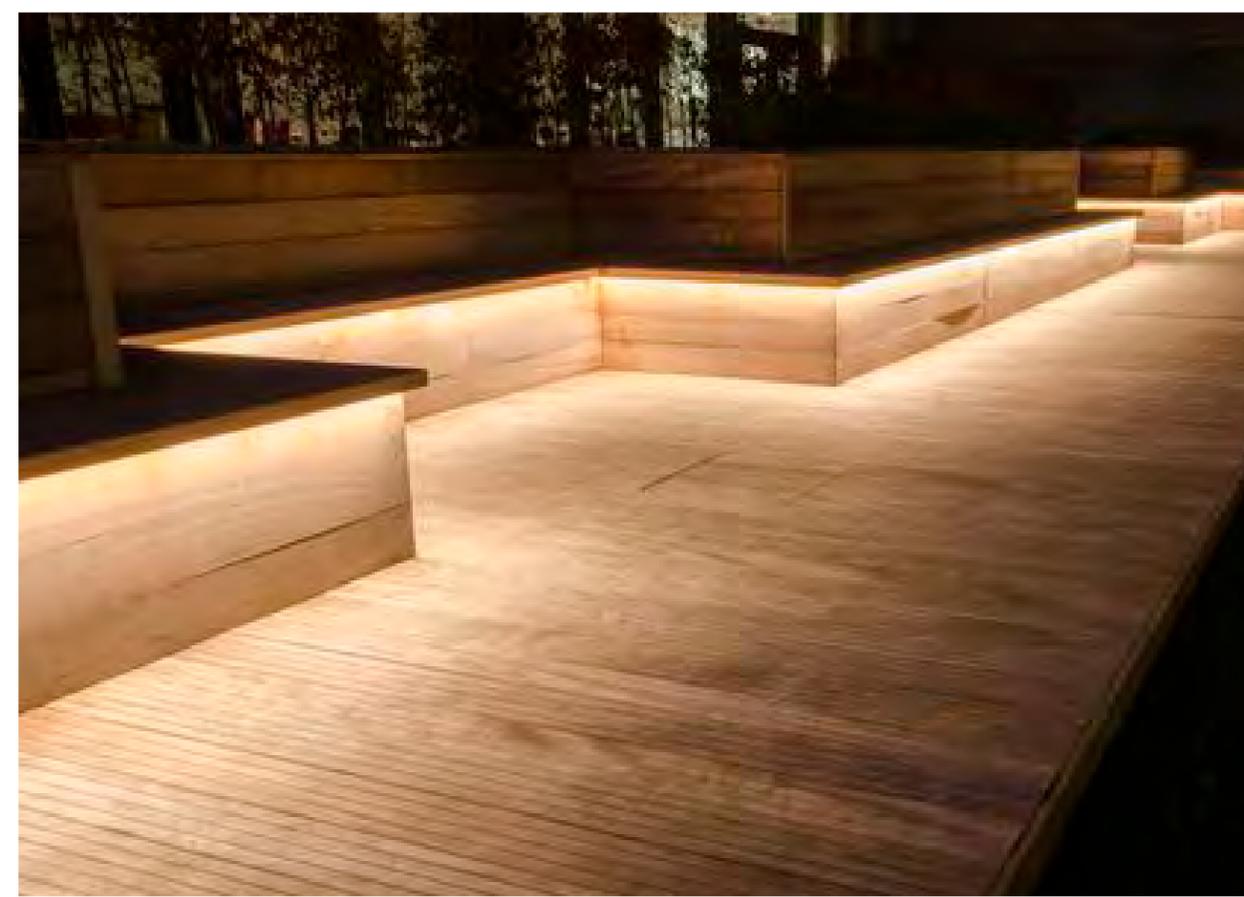


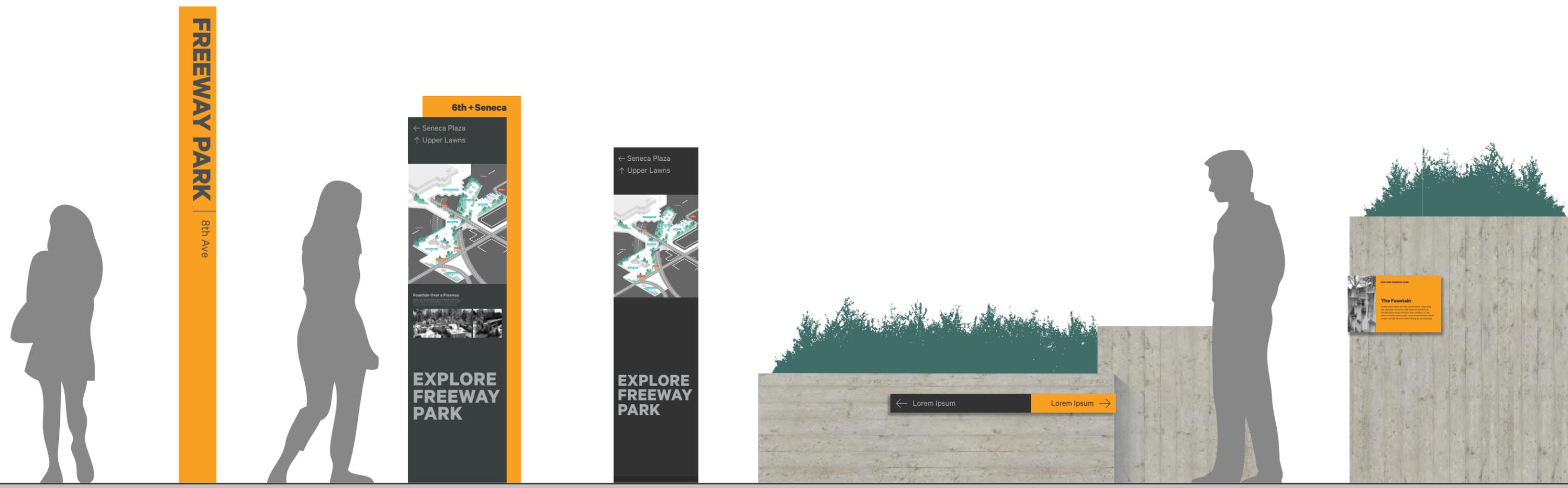
8th avenue underpass

colored light to encourage exploration, memorable wayfinding and

seating elements & stairs

low-height lighting for drama, wayfinding, & circulation





B1:
Primary Park
Entrance Marker

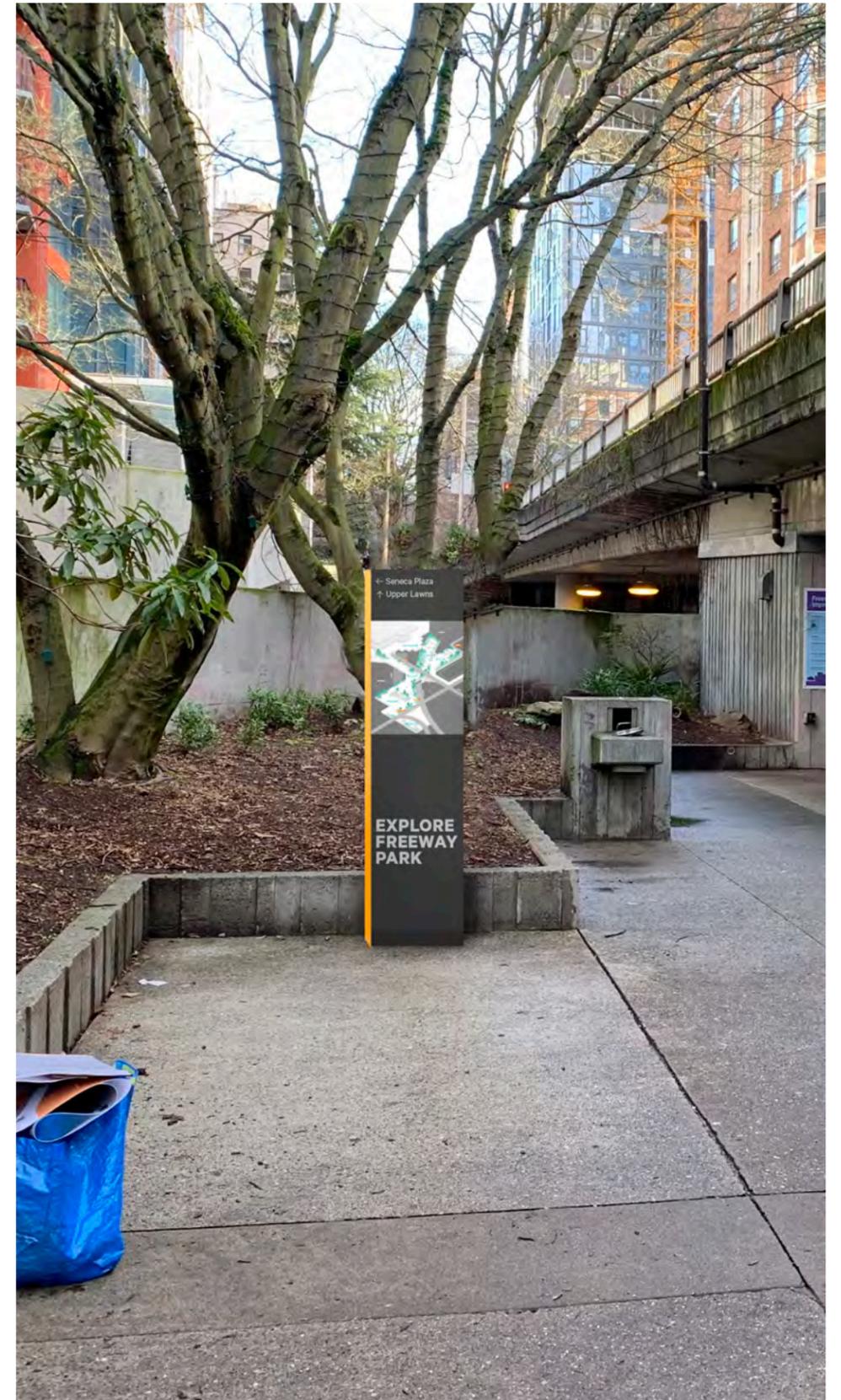
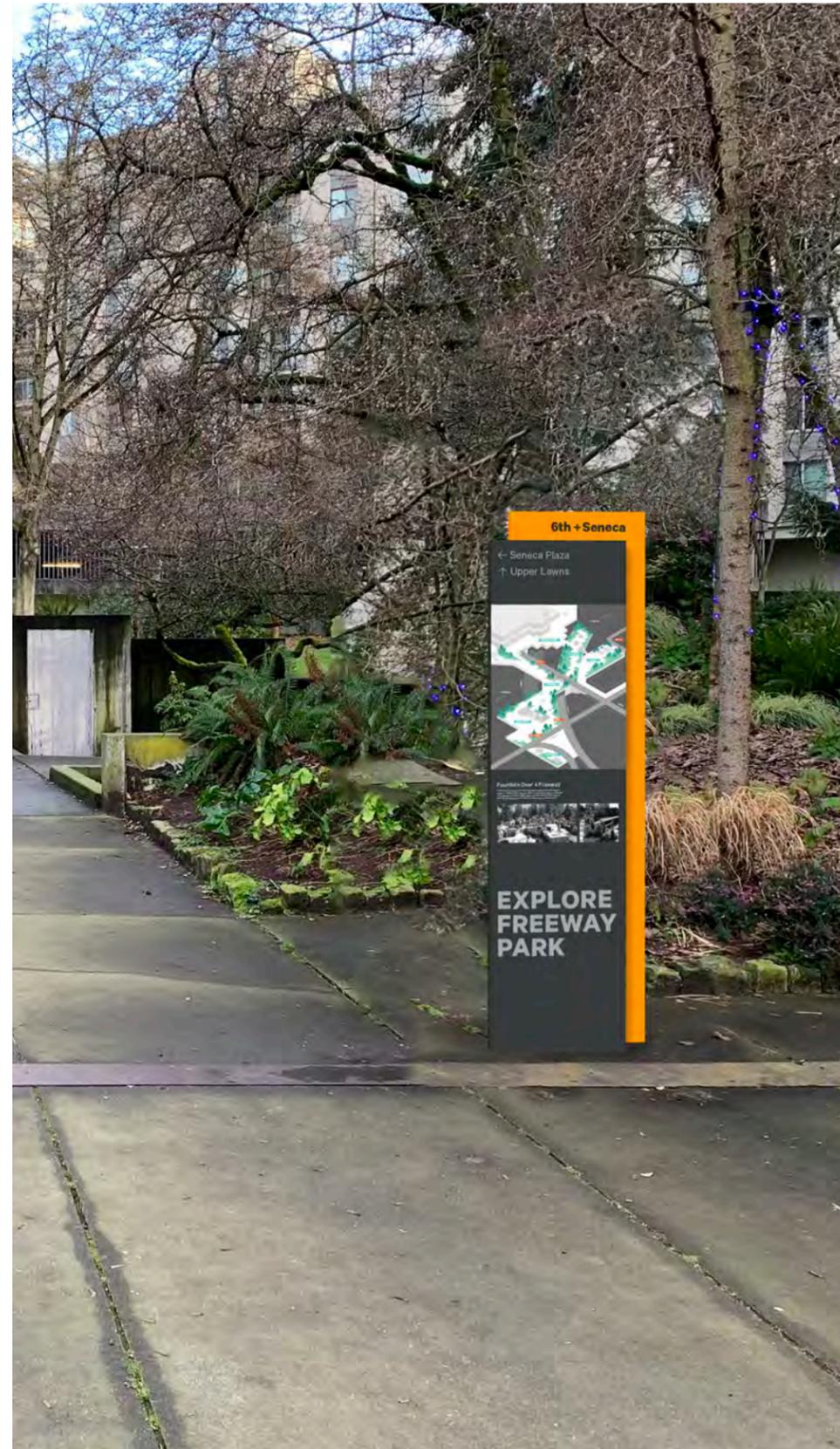
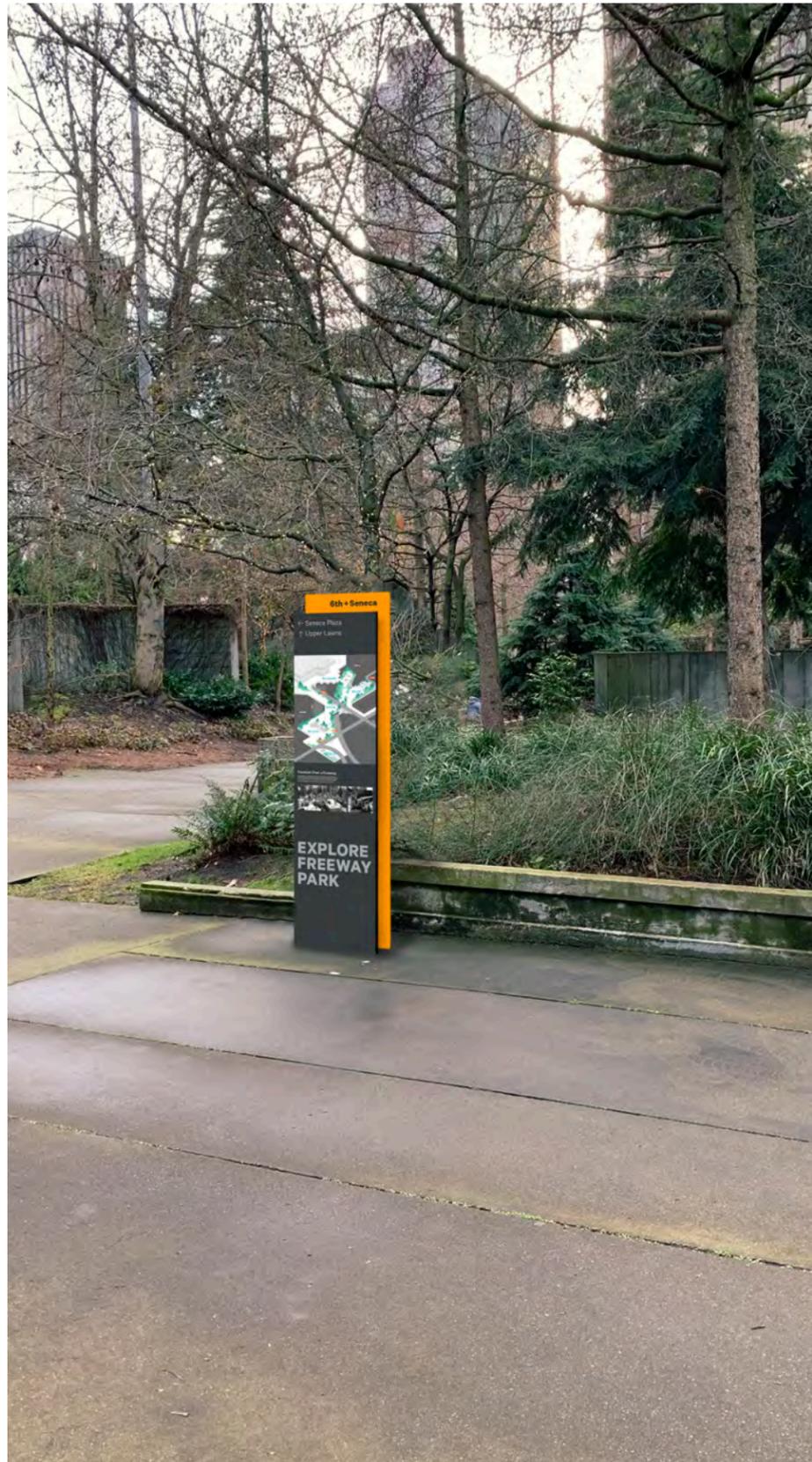
M1:
Park Entrance
Map Monolith

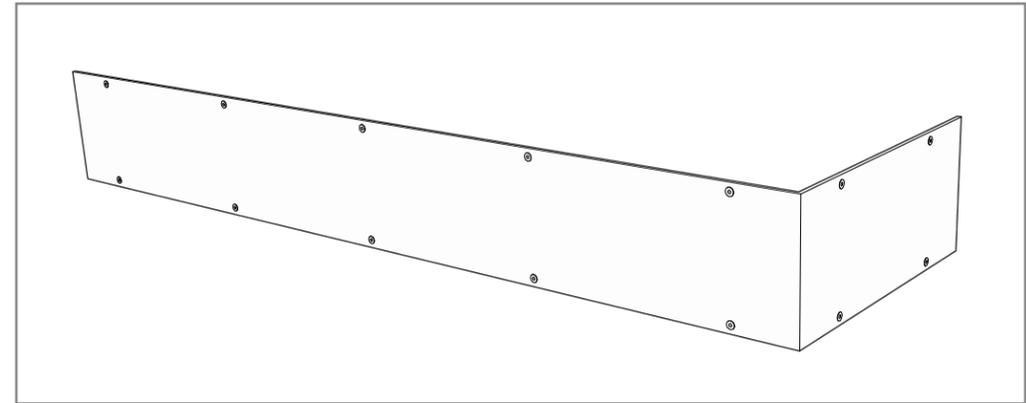
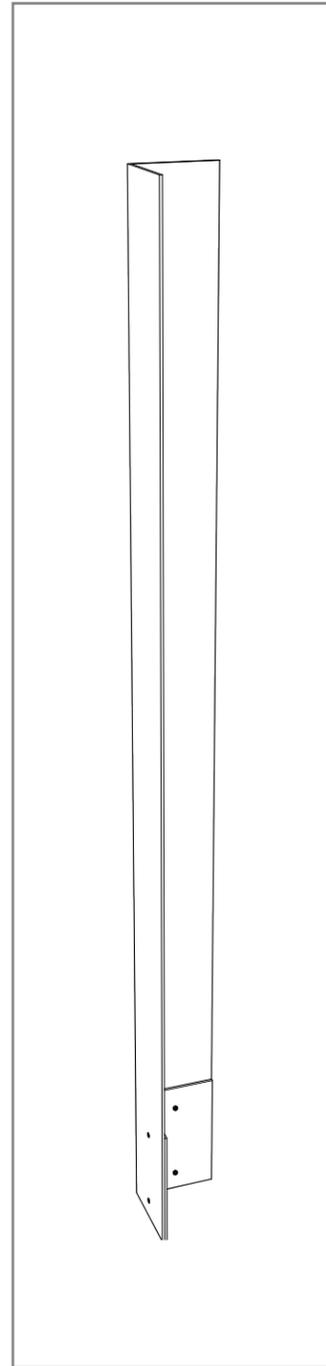
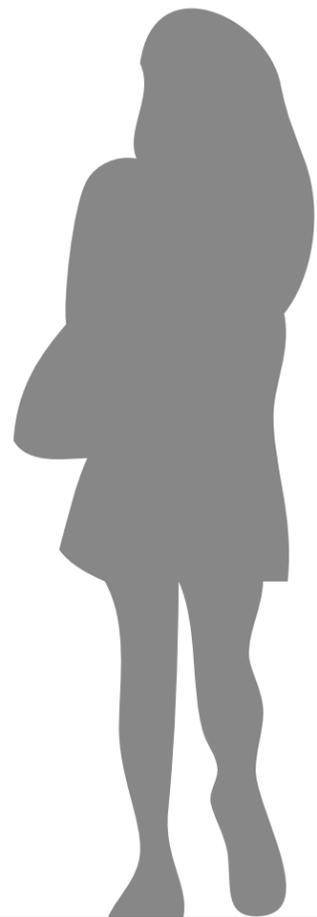
M2:
Park Interior
Map Monolith

P1/P2:
Secondary Wayfinding

P3:
Interpretation

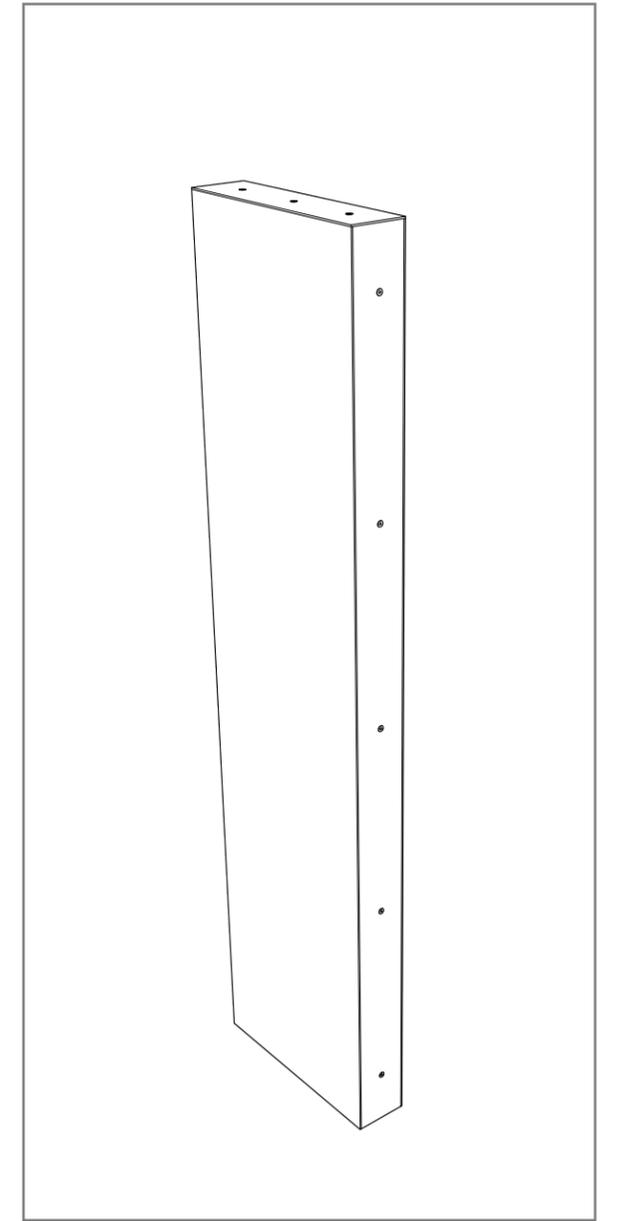
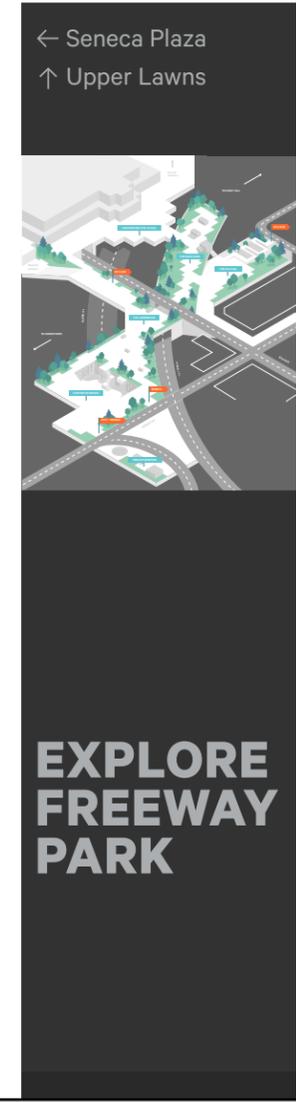
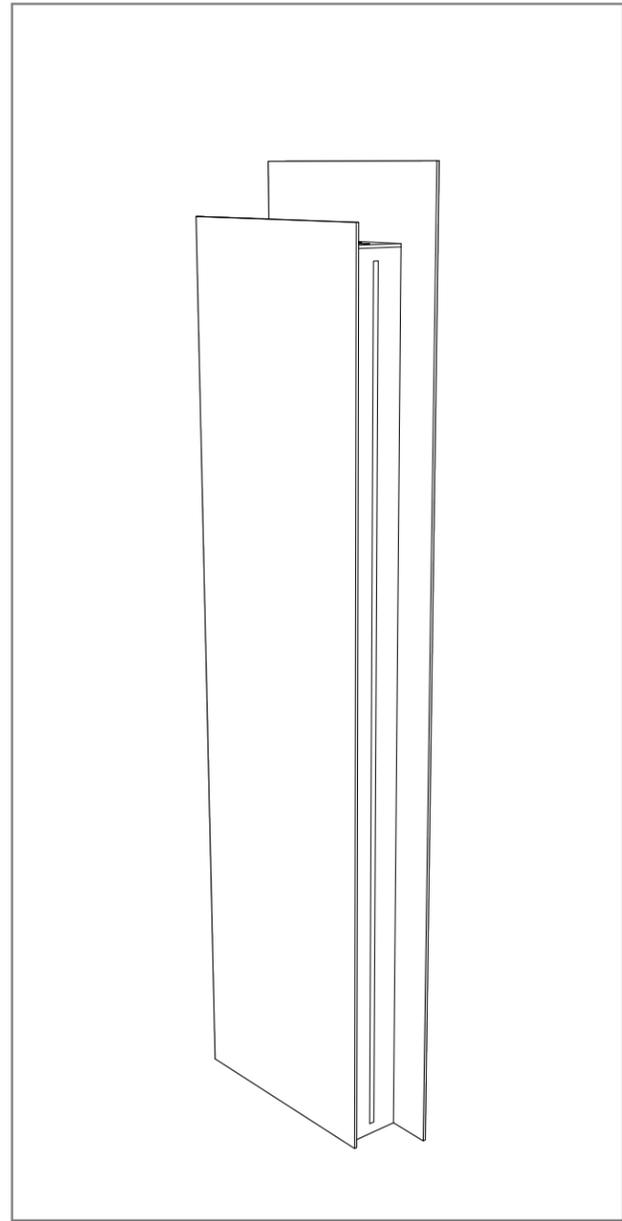
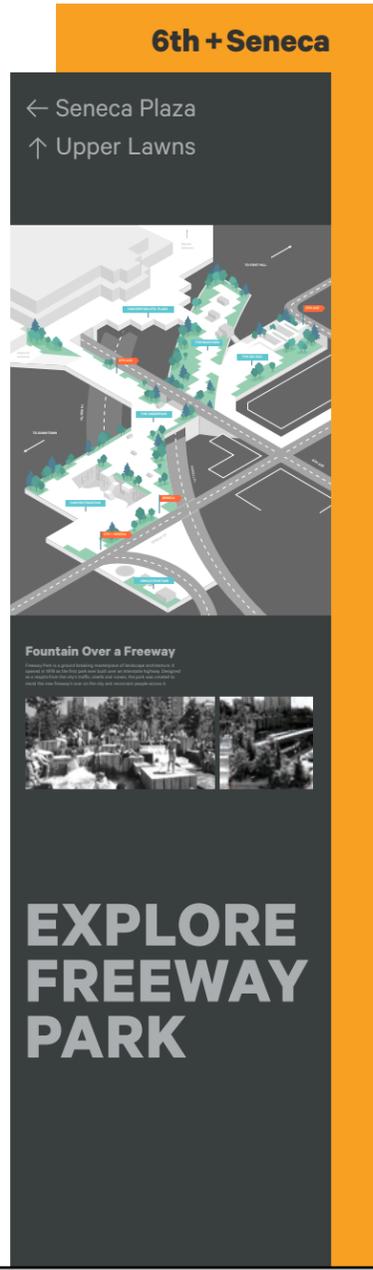
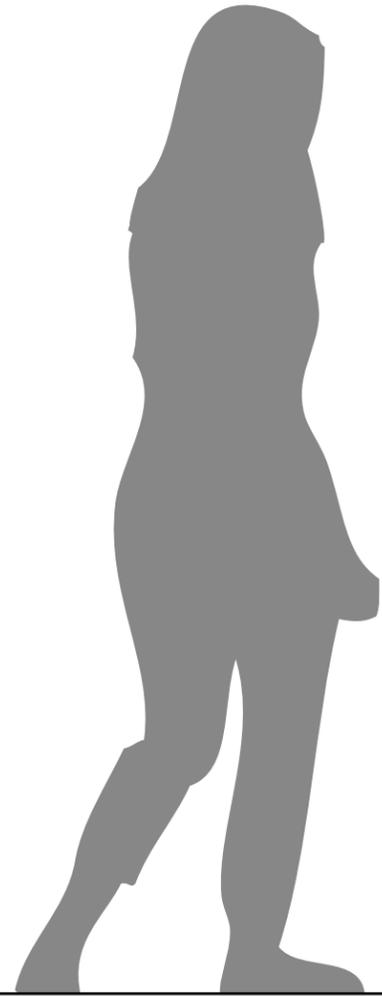
ON SITE RENDERINGS





B1: Primary Park Entrance Marker

B2: Primary Park Entrance Marker



M1: Park Entrance Map Monolith

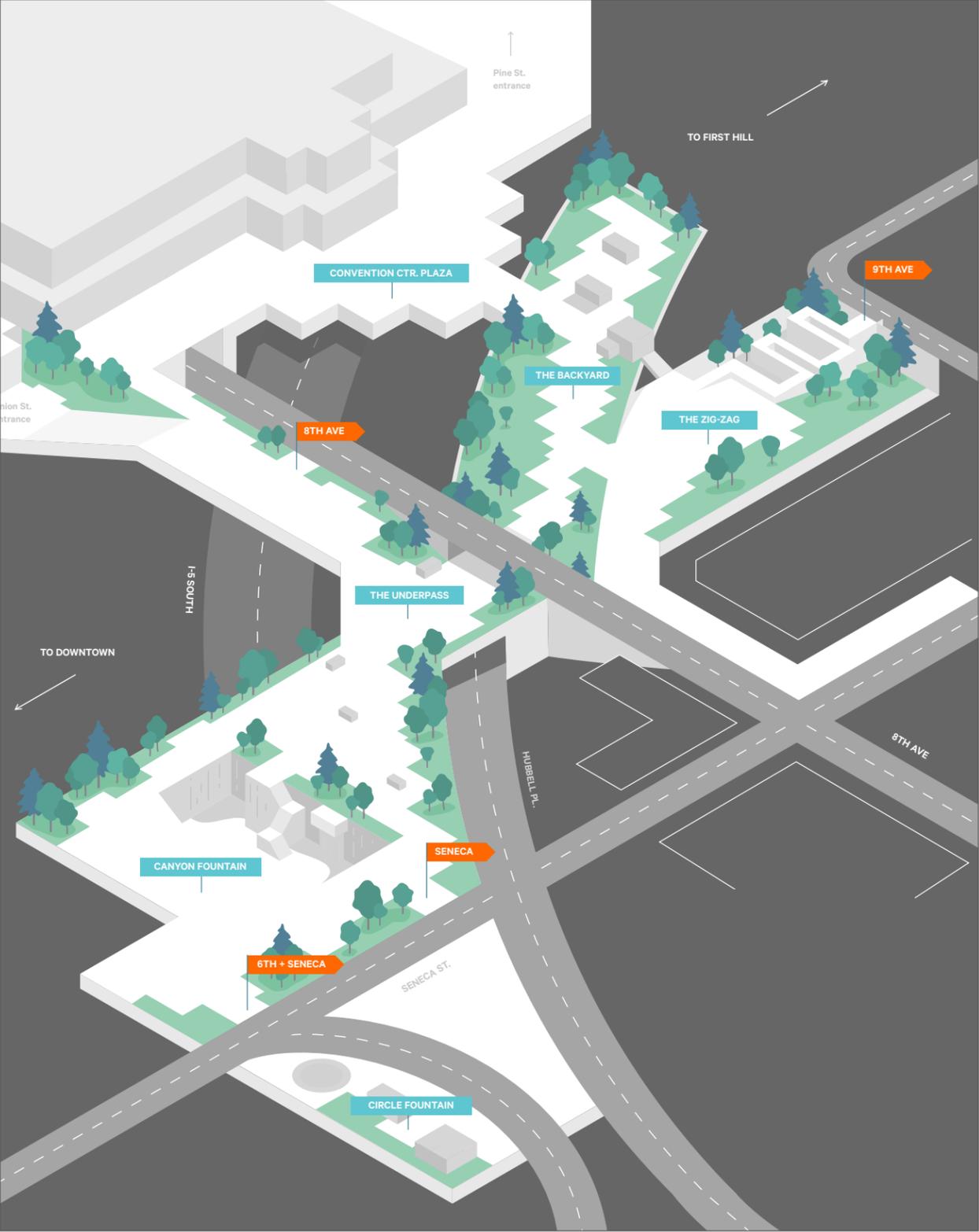
M2: Park Interior Map Monolith

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.



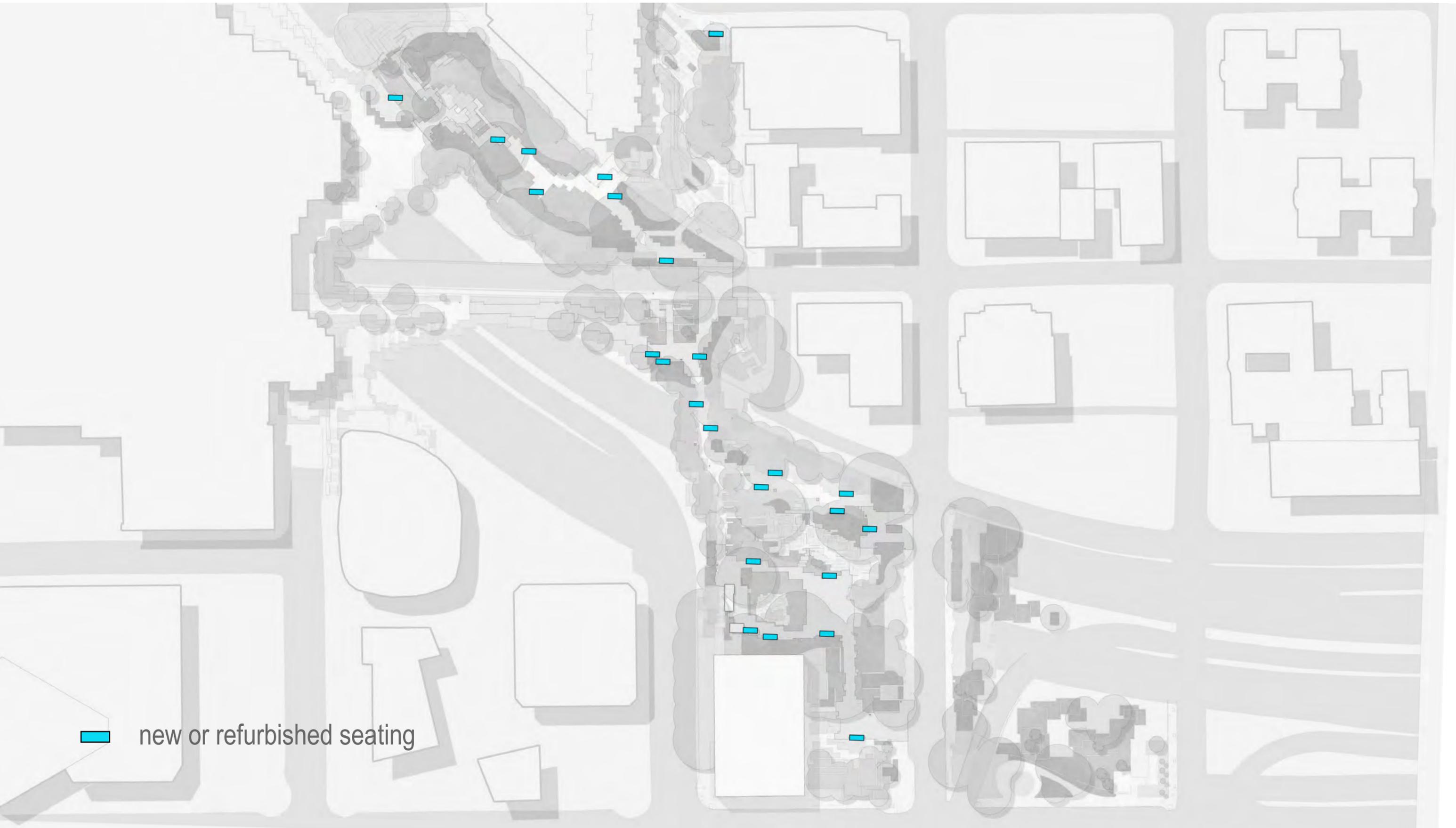
MAP DESIGN EXPLORATION



Map Design



Detail



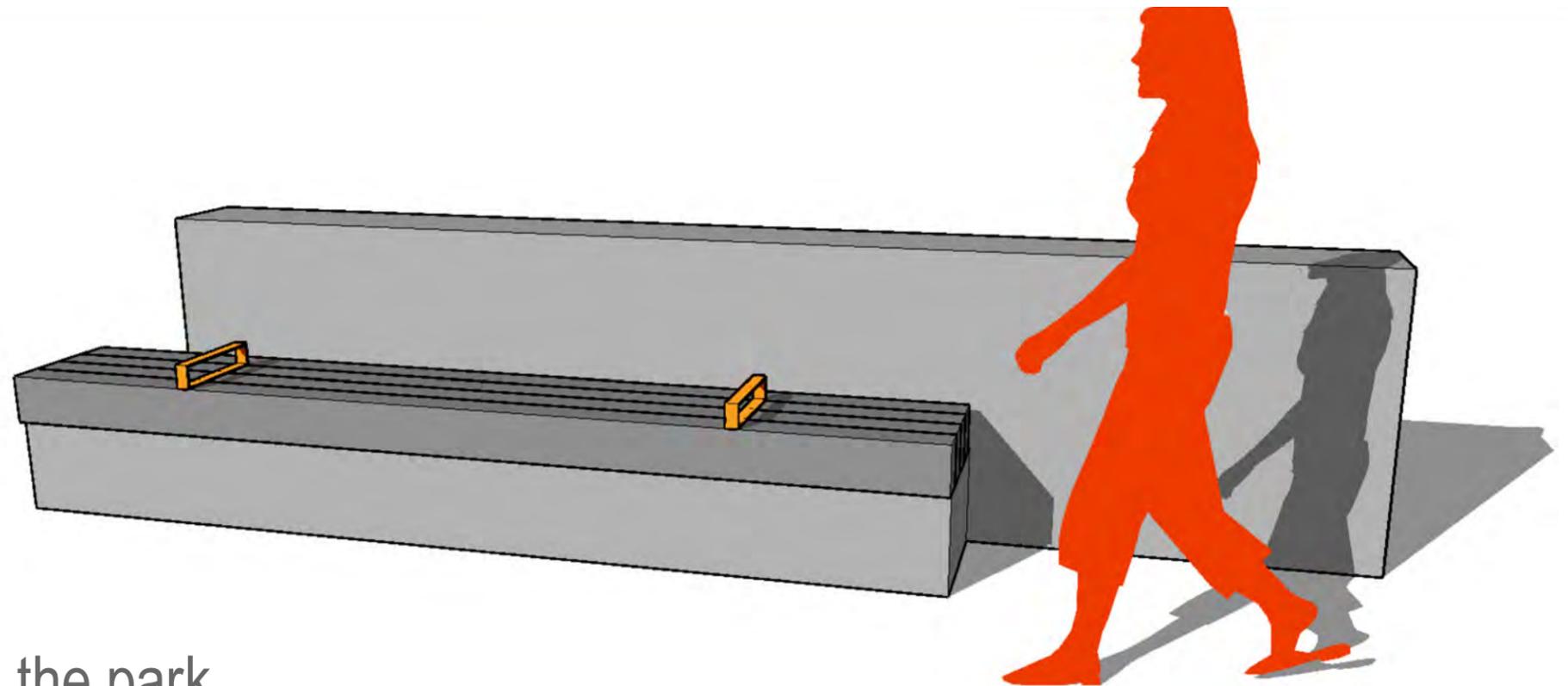
 new or refurbished seating

SEATING: REFURBISHED BENCHES



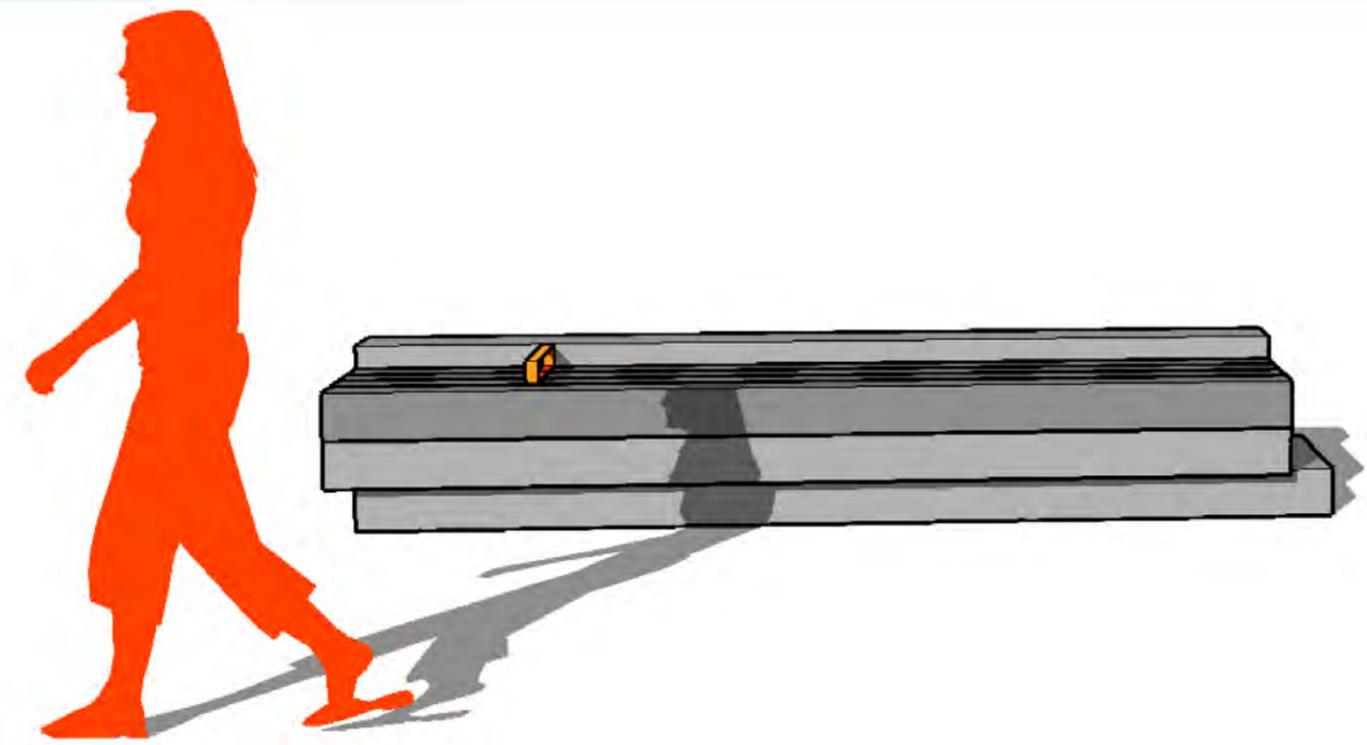
original bench*

refurbished bench
new timber seat
new arm rests / grips



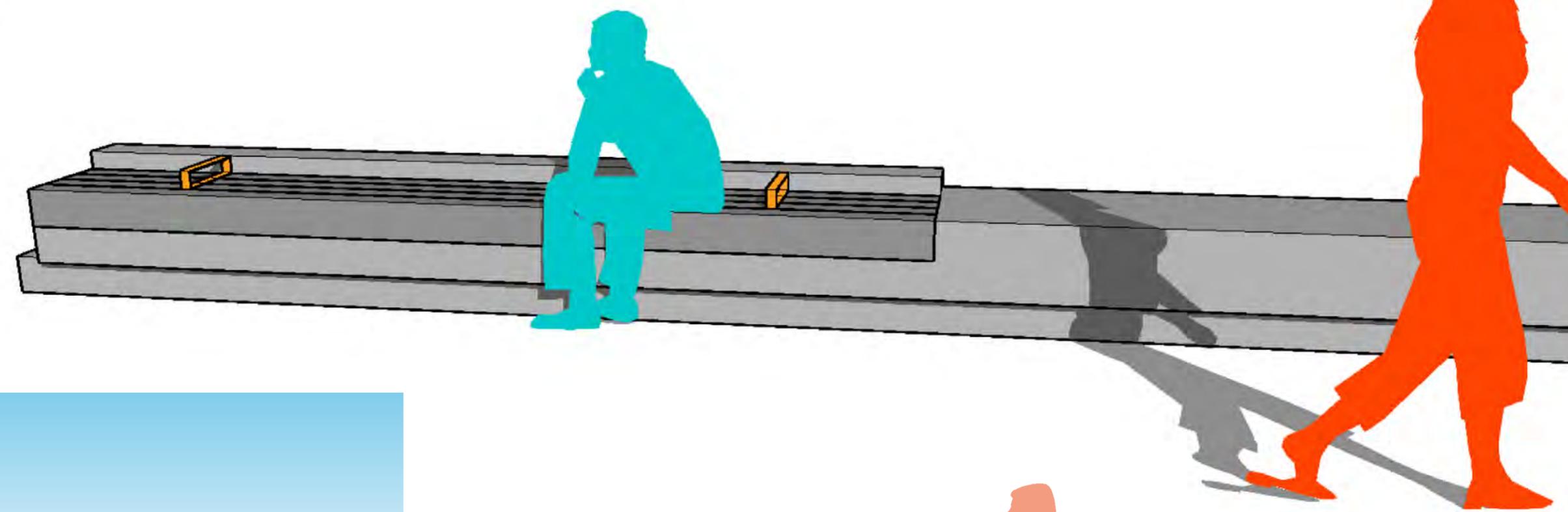
*listed as a character defining feature of the park

SEATING: NEW BENCHES

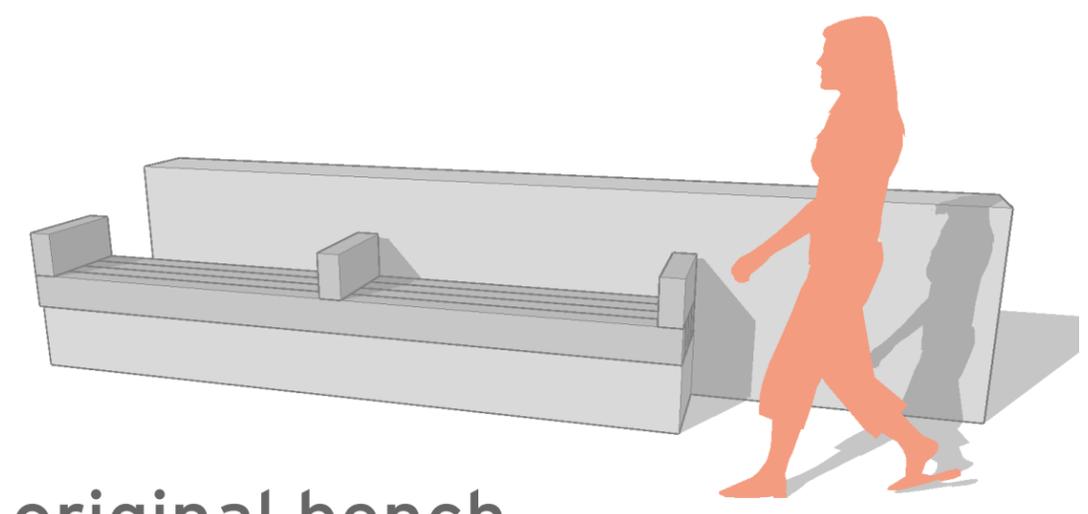
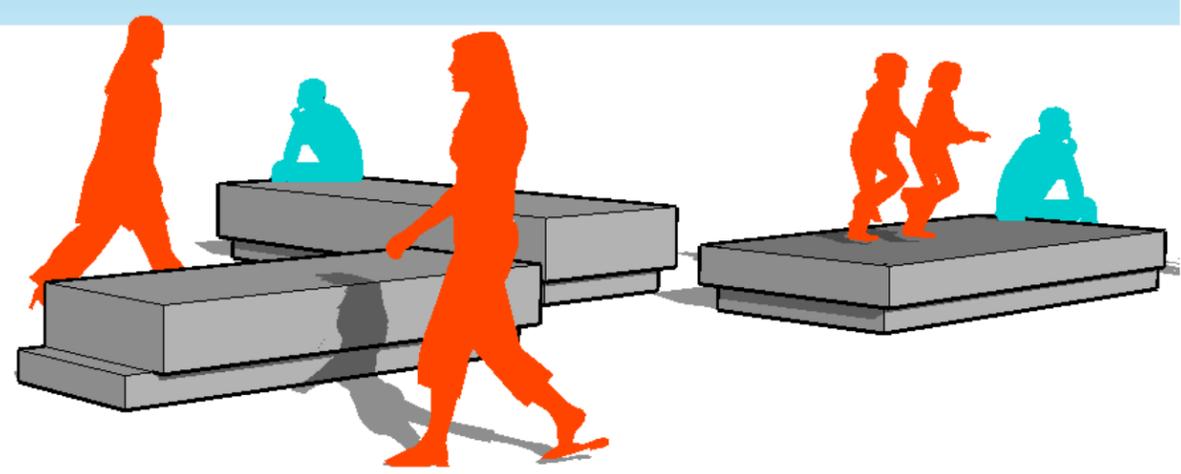


new short / long benches

- concrete bench
- timber seats to match original
- recessed light, some locations

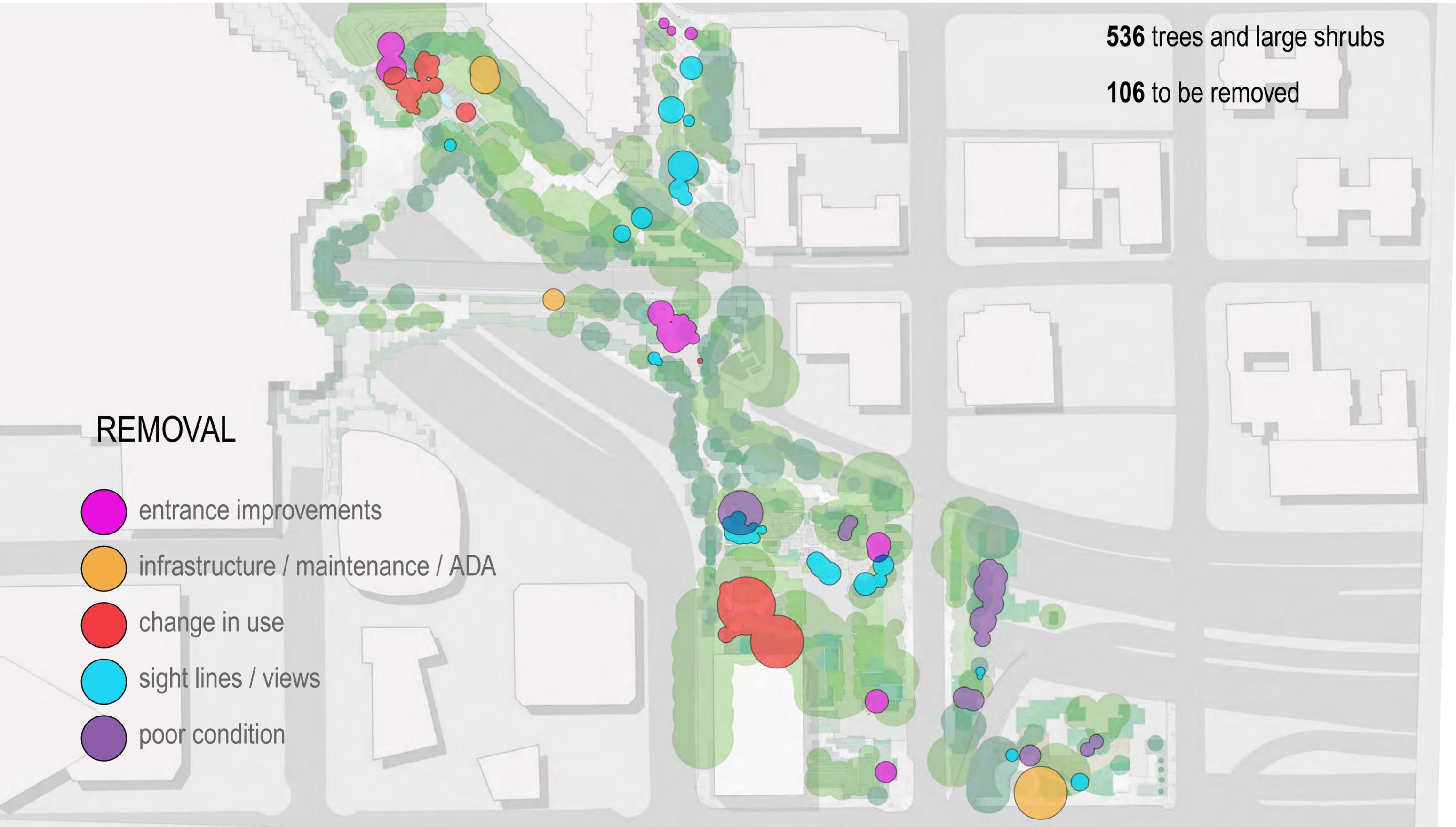


new plinths



original bench

CANOPY MANAGEMENT PLAN - REMOVALS



CANOPY MANAGEMENT PLAN - RESTORATION



large deciduous tree -
Sweetgum/Maple



small deciduous tree -
Bitter Cherry/Beaked



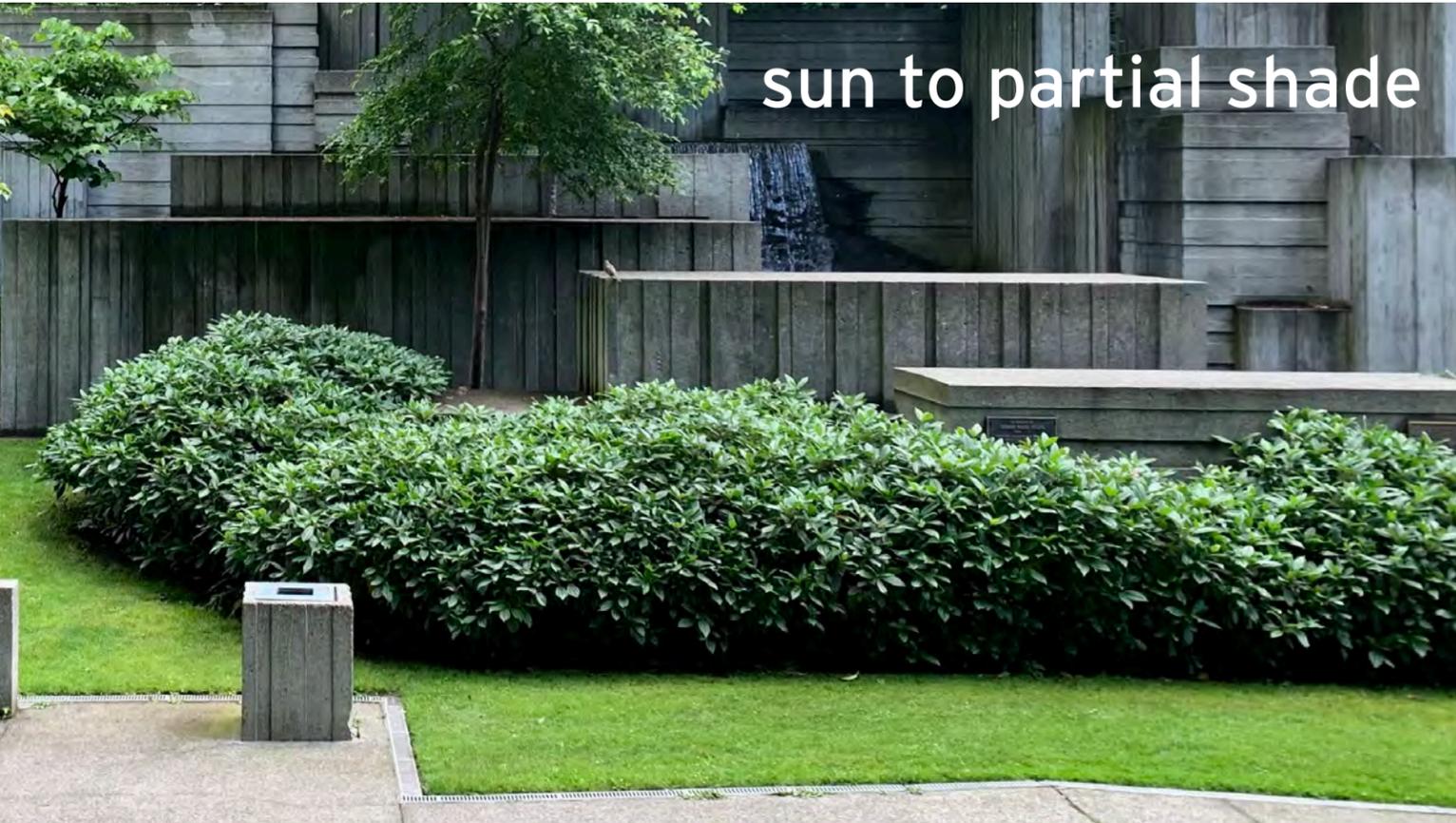
flowering trees at entrances
and historic locations -



24 to be planted in park

additional Box Garden
trees
to be discussed with SPR

UNDERSTORY PLANTING TYPOLOGIES



sun to partial shade



partial shade to full shade



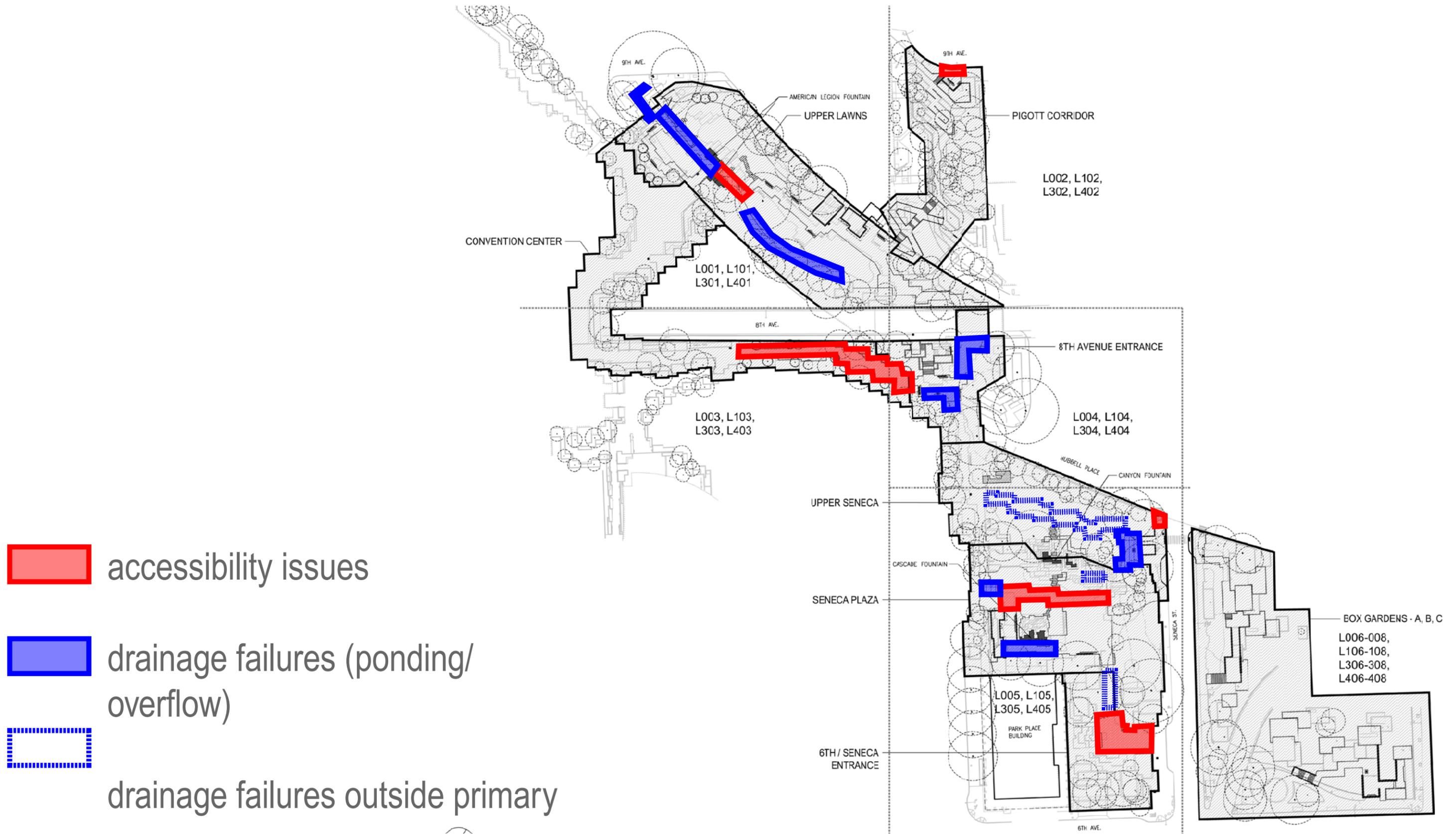
moss gardens

GOALS
 evergreen + native
 proven park species
 low maintenance



box gardens

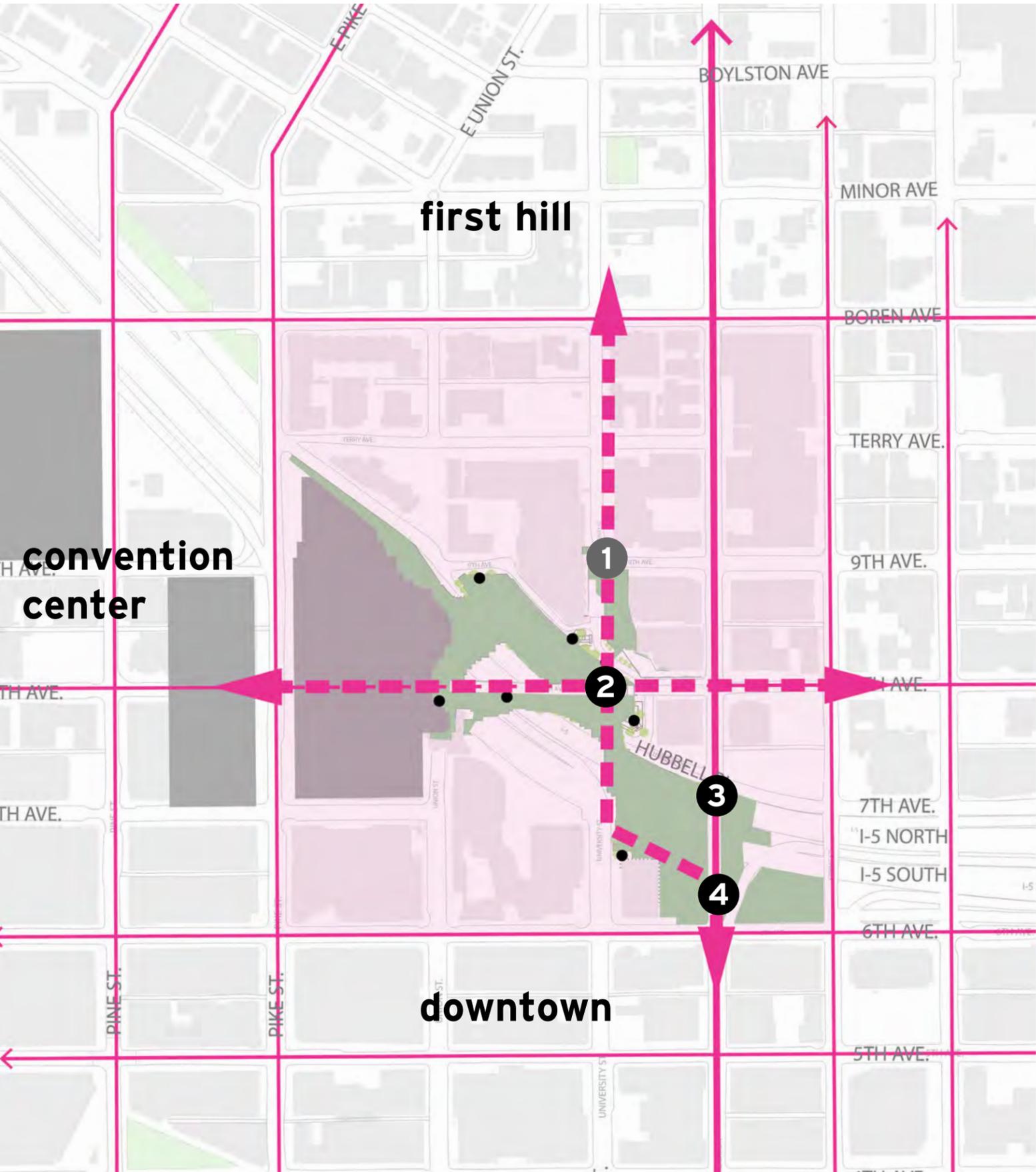
ADA & DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS



 accessibility issues

 drainage failures (ponding/overflow)

 drainage failures outside primary



PARK ENTRANCES

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



6TH & SENECA ENTRANCE



existing



proposed



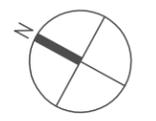
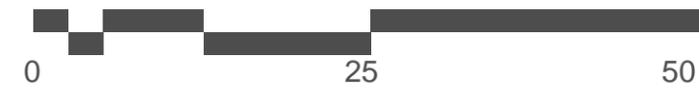
6TH & SENECA ENTRANCE

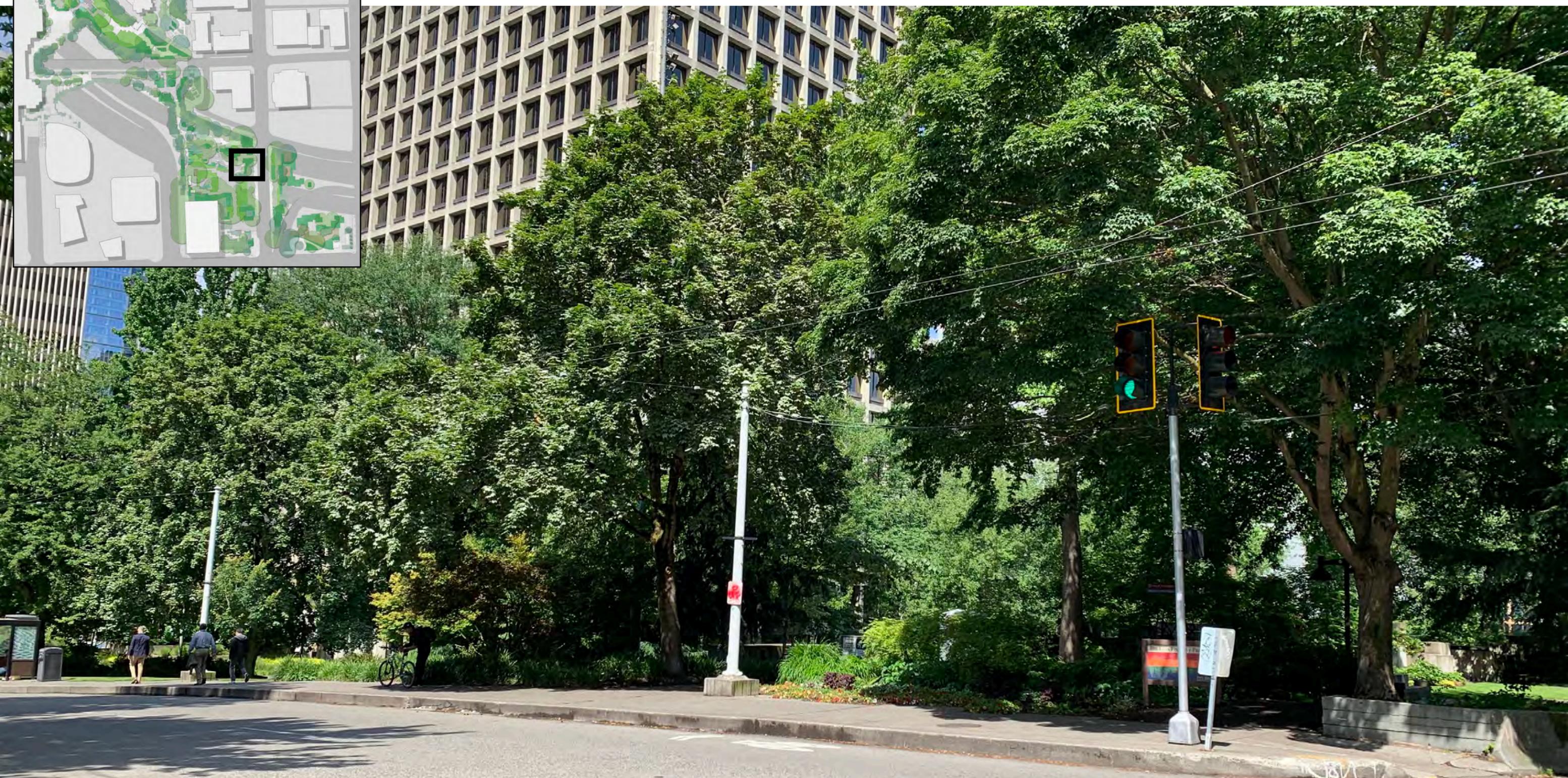
OVERVIEW

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



proposed



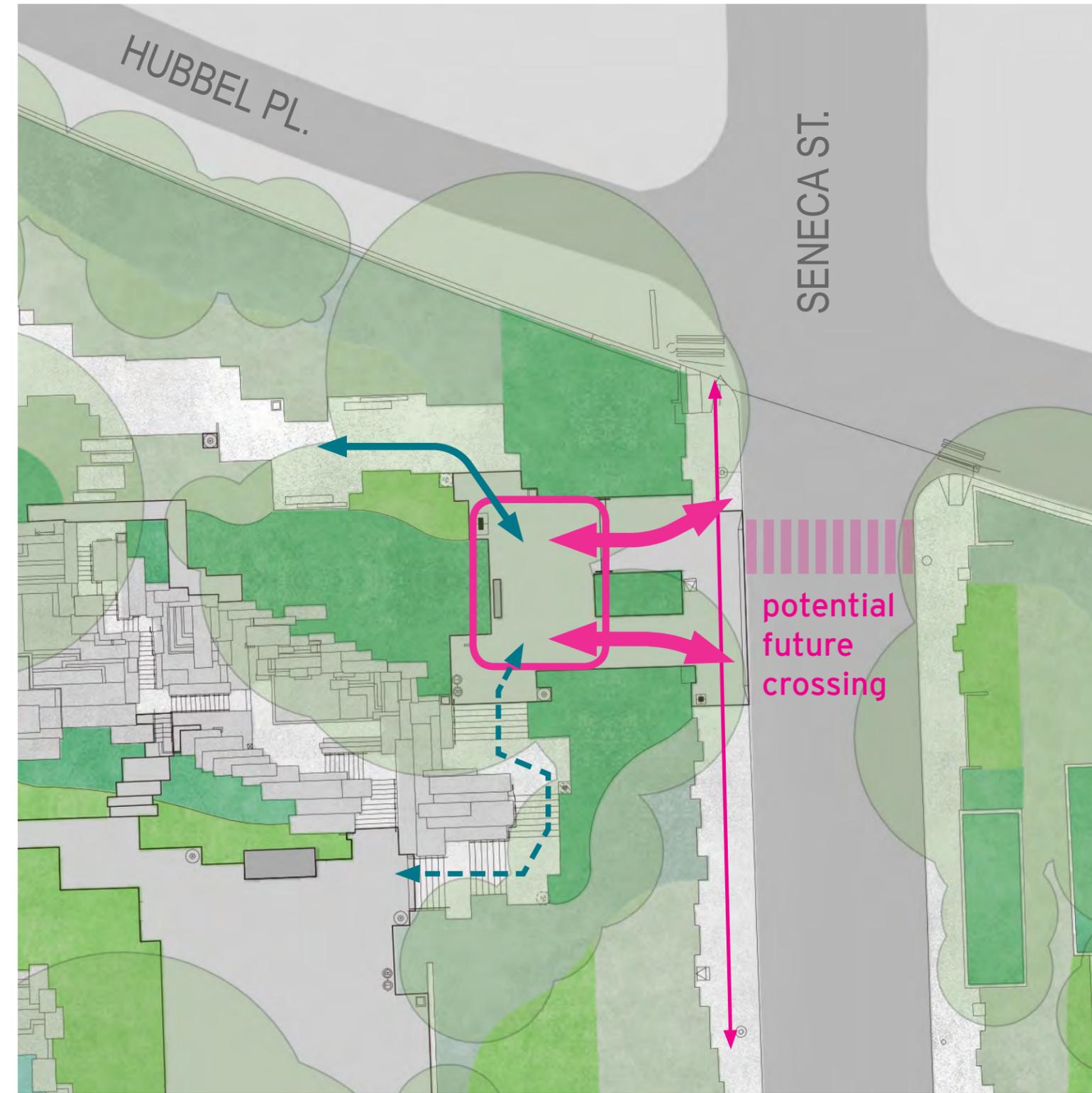


UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE

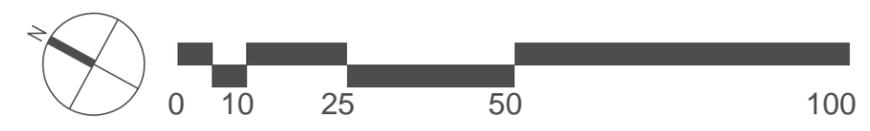
UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE



existing



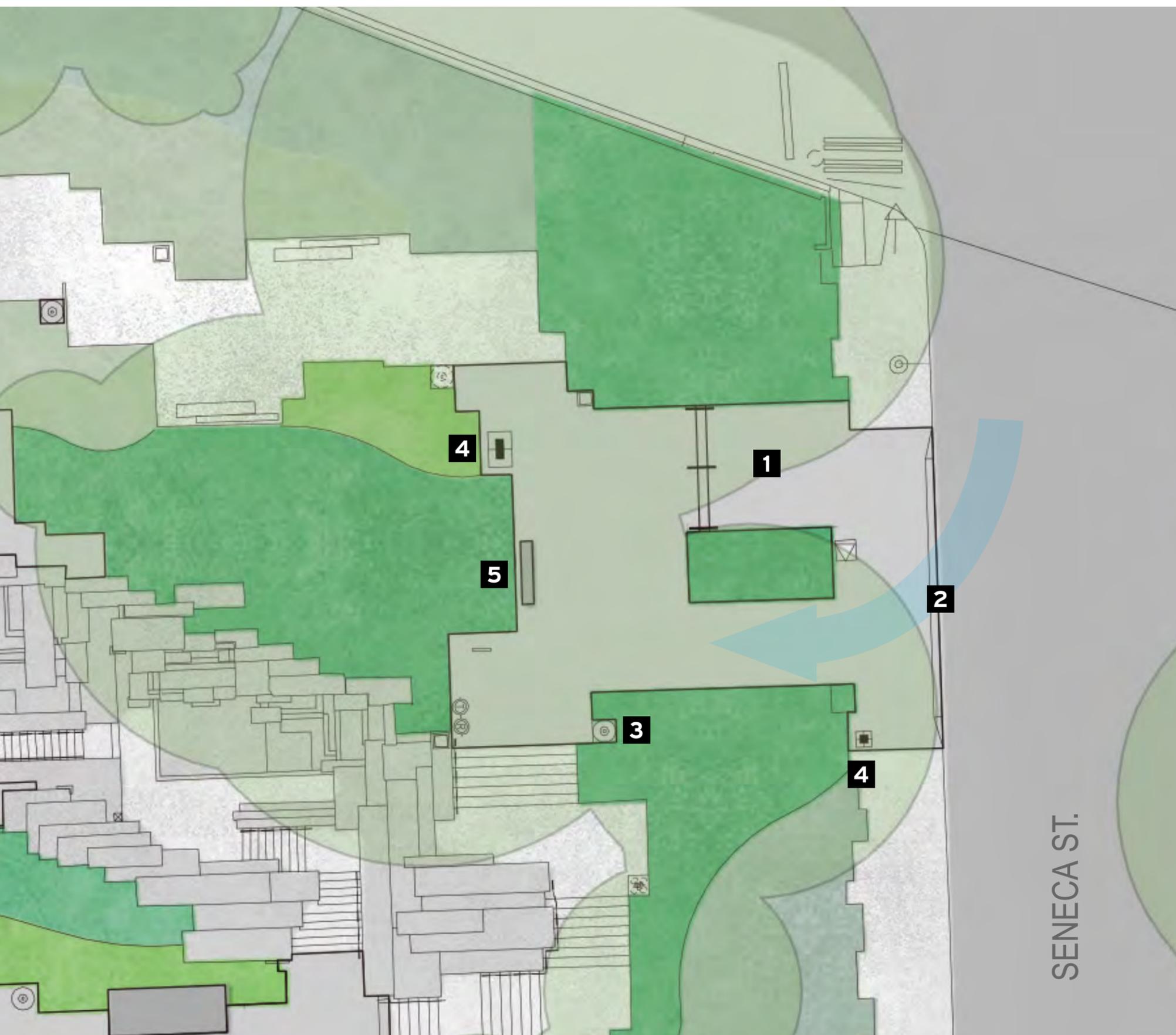
proposed



UPPER SENECA ENTRANCE

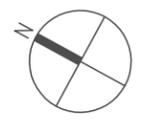
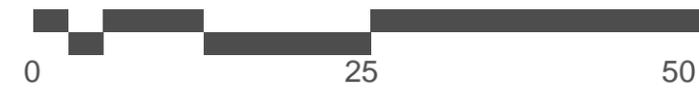
OVERVIEW

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



SENECA ST.

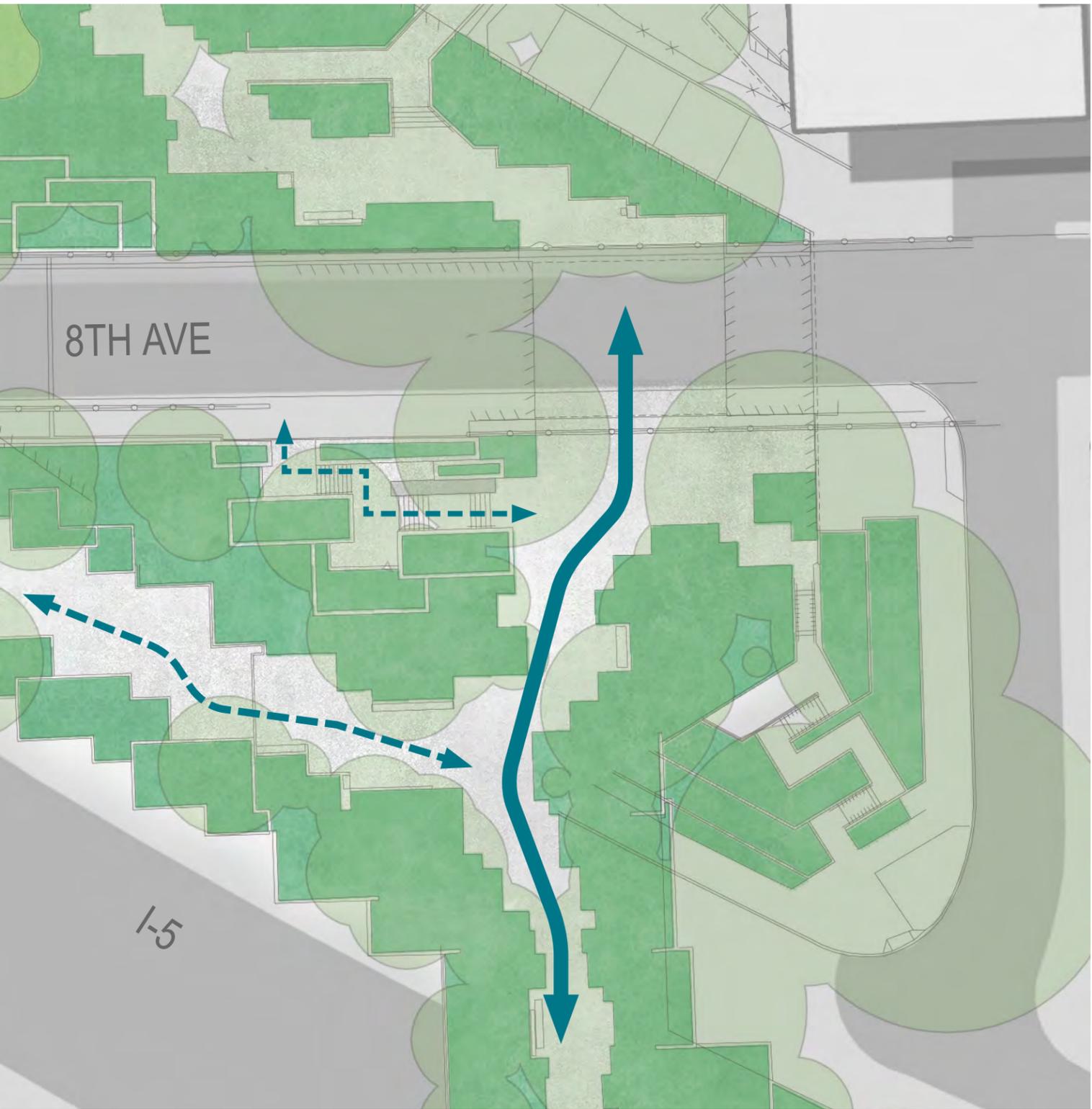
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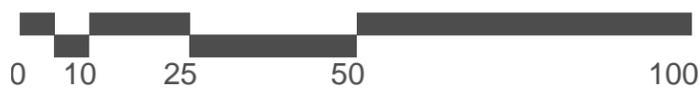
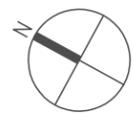


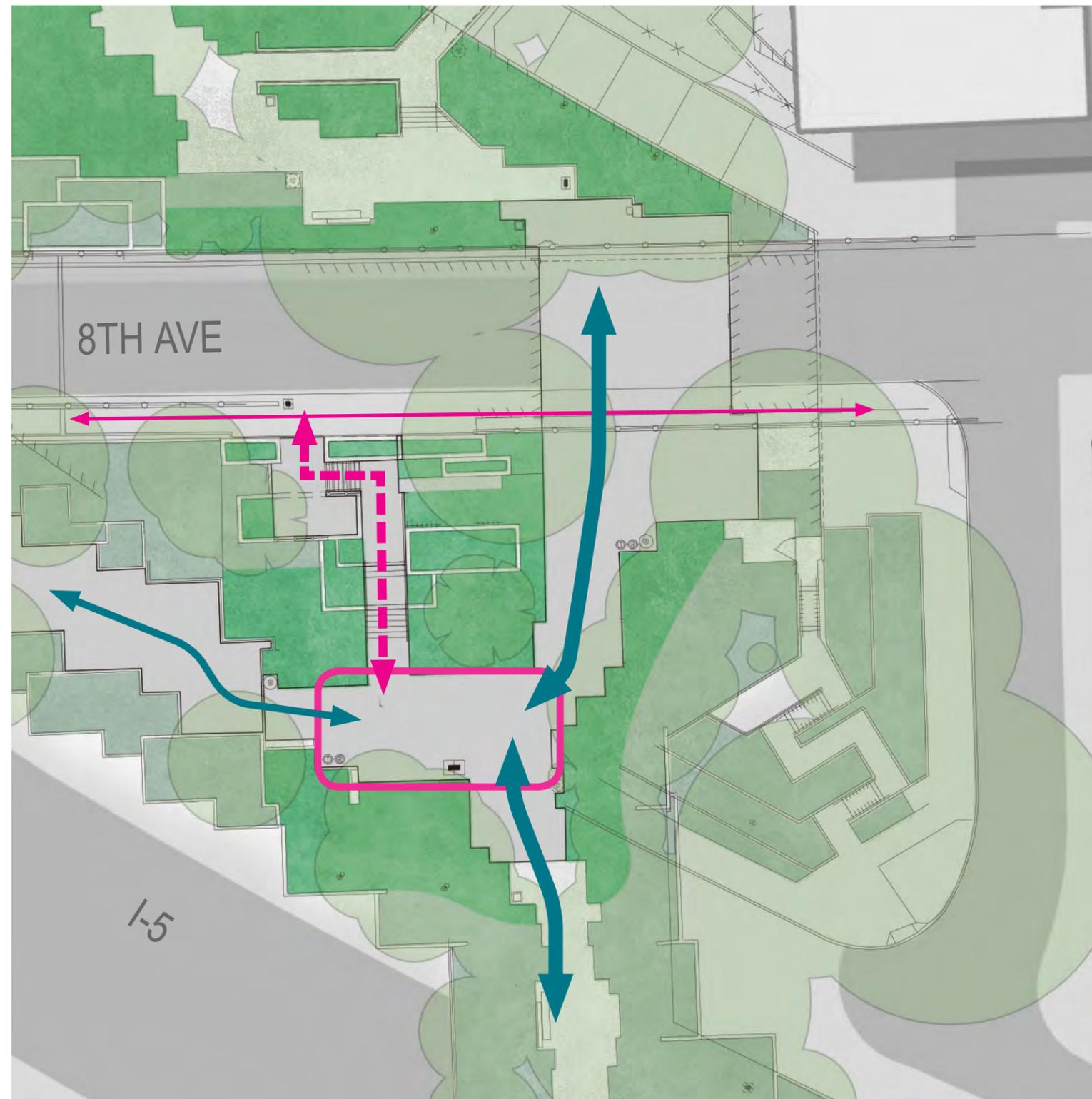
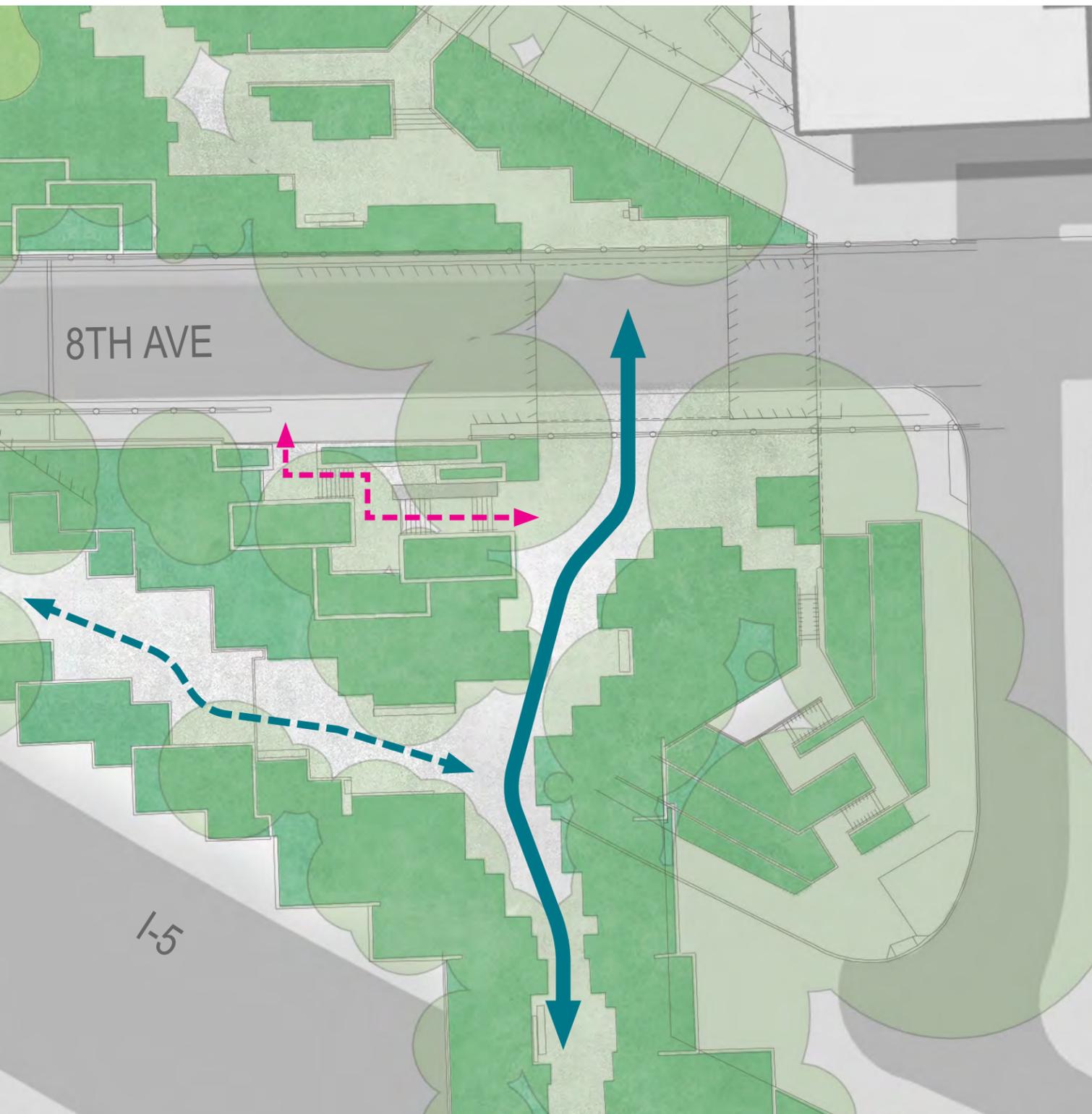
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE

8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



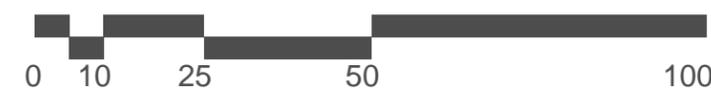
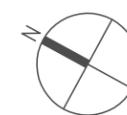
existing





existing

proposed



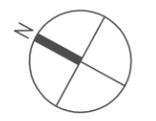
8TH AVENUE ENTRANCE



OVERVIEW

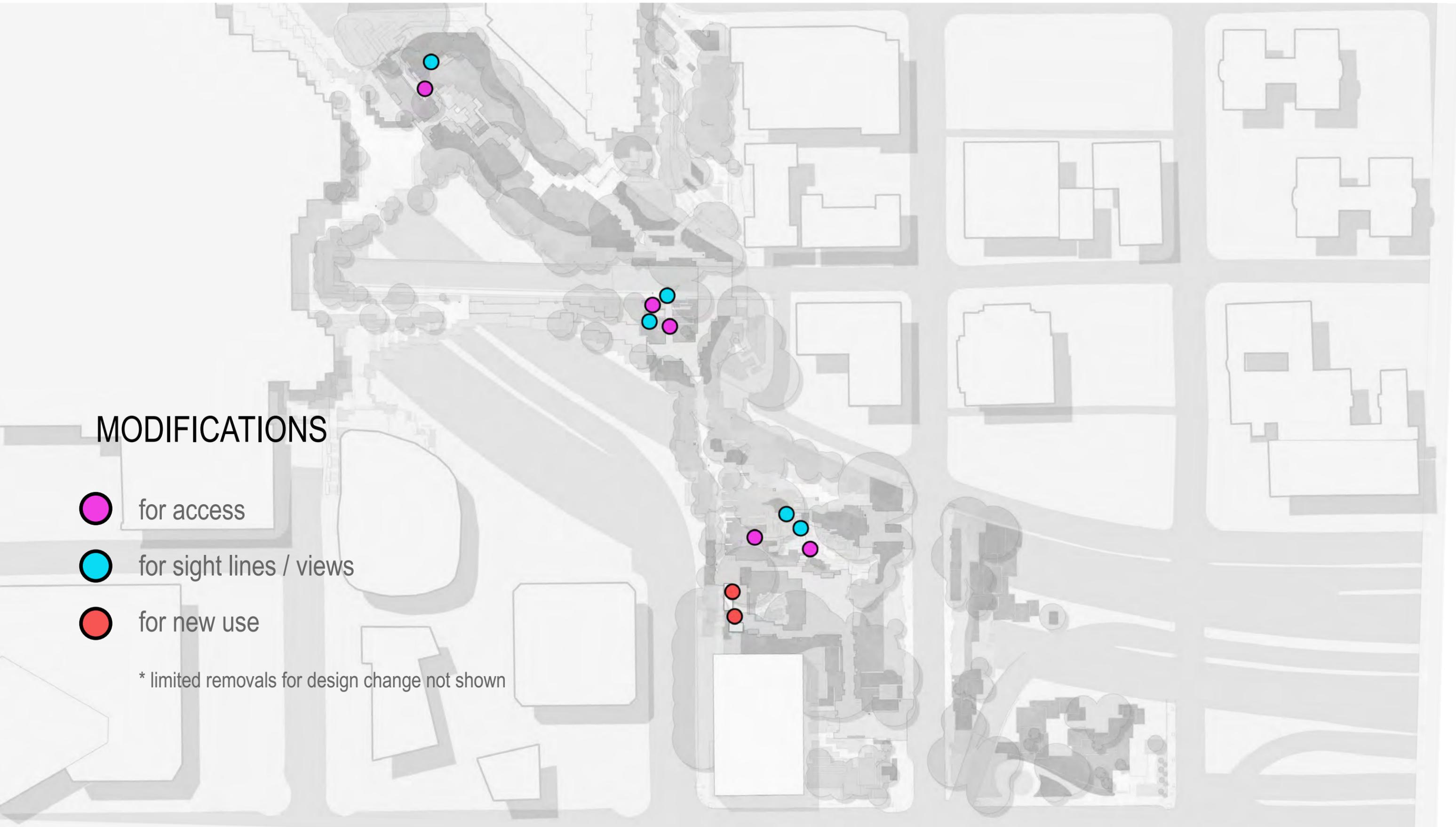
- 1** direct stair into entrance plaza
- 2** new overlook
- 3** new lighting
- 4** new signage
- 5** refurbished & new seating & furnishings

proposed 0 25 50





MODIFICATIONS TO ORIGINAL WALLS



MODIFICATIONS

-  for access
-  for sight lines / views
-  for new use

* limited removals for design change not shown

VIEW FROM PARK ENTRANCE



proposed

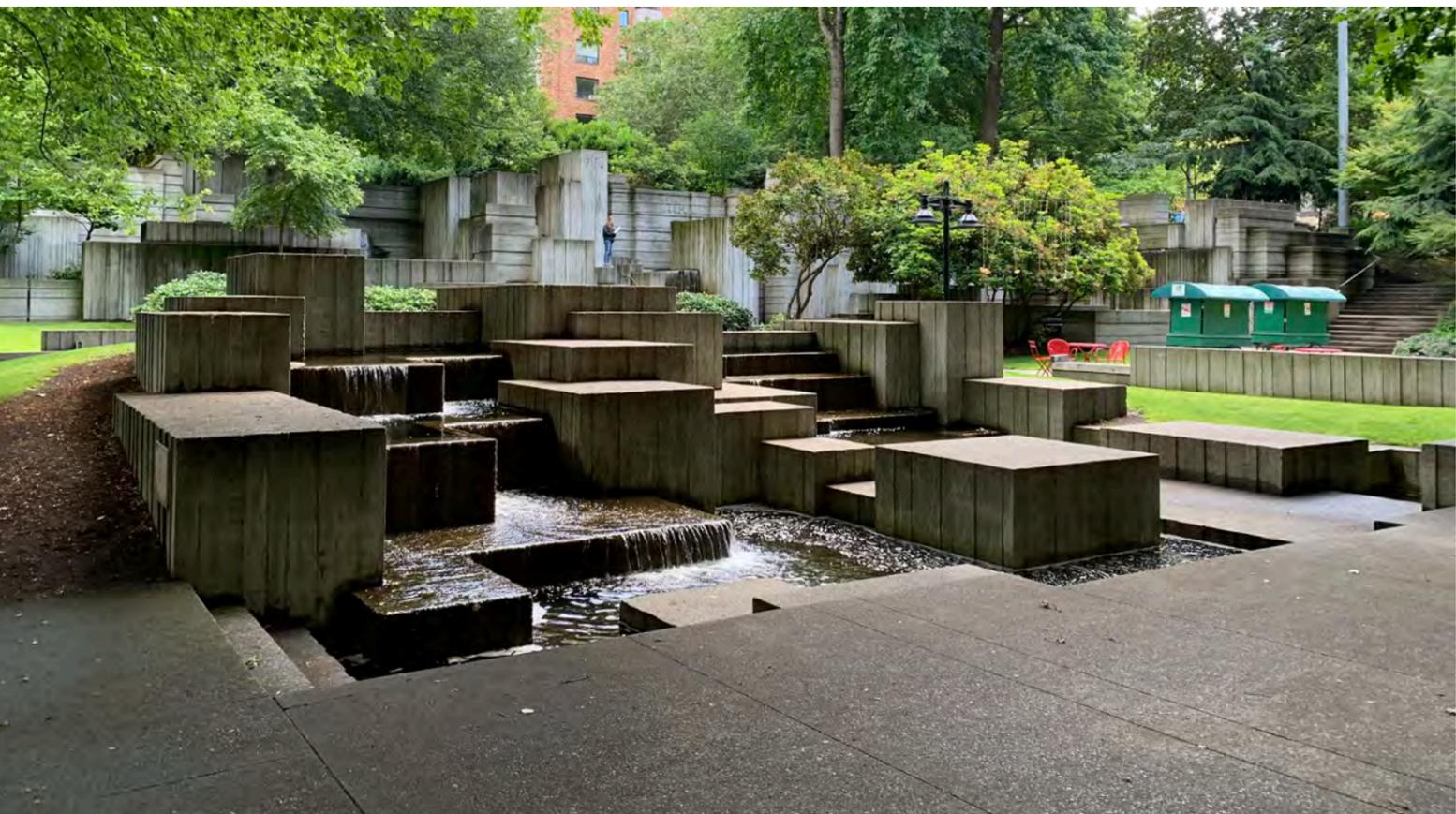


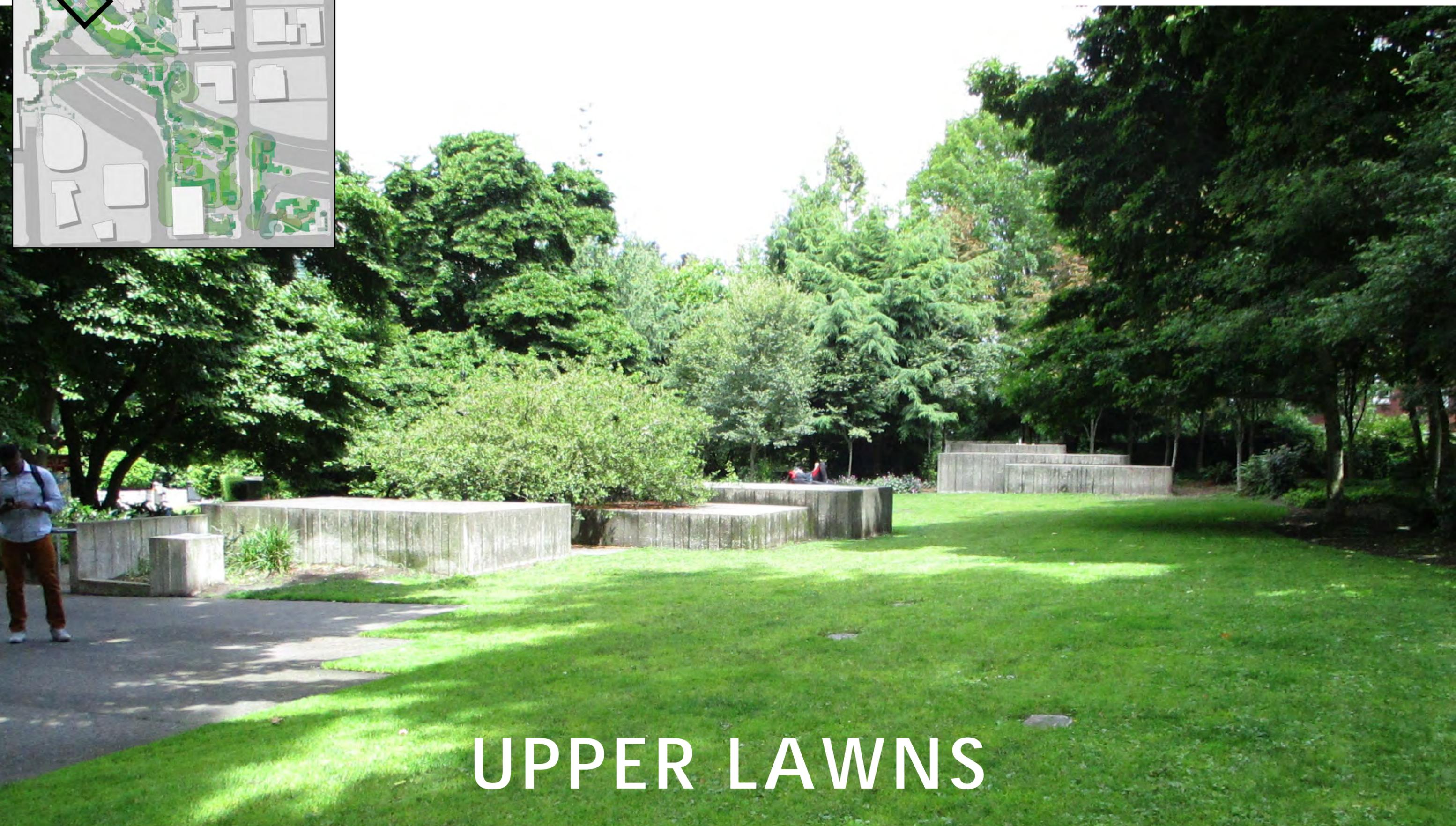


PARK SPACES

UPPER LAWNS

SENECA PLAZA & CANYON





UPPER LAWNS

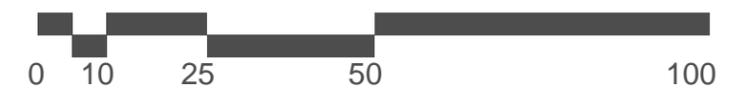
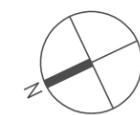
UPPER LAWNS NORTH



existing



proposed



UPPER LAWNS NORTH

OVERVIEW

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

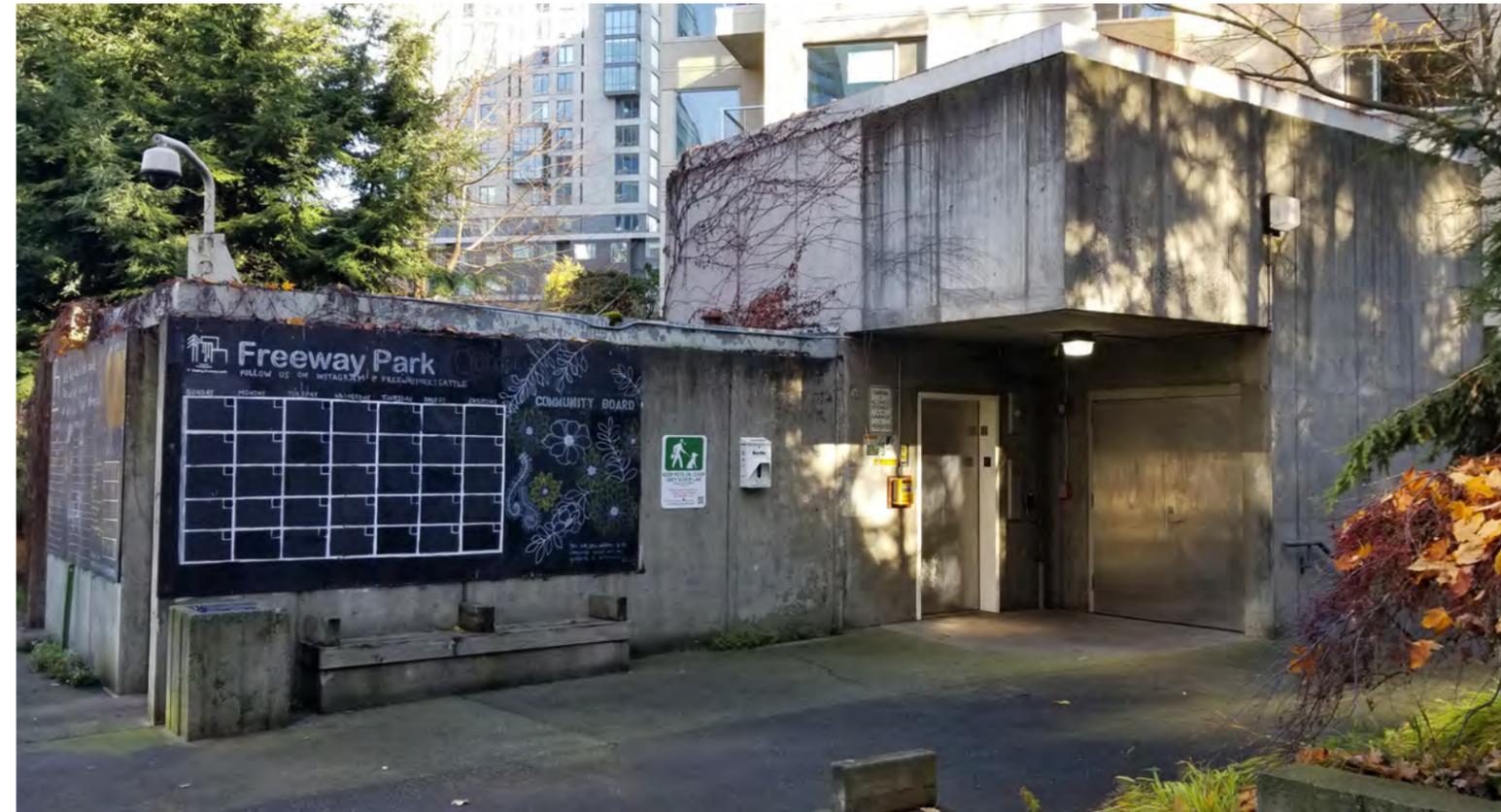
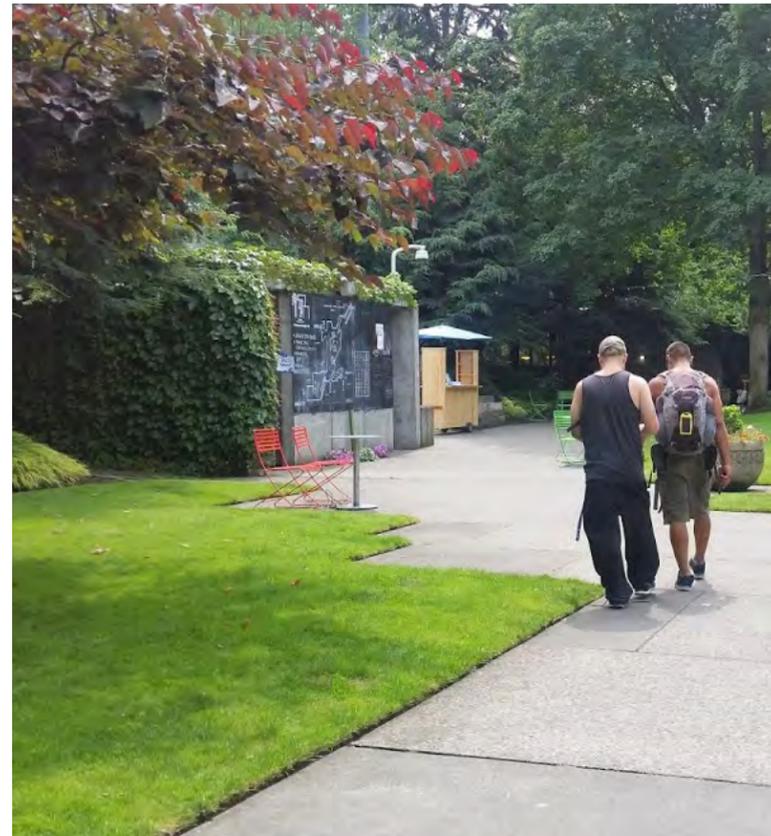


proposed

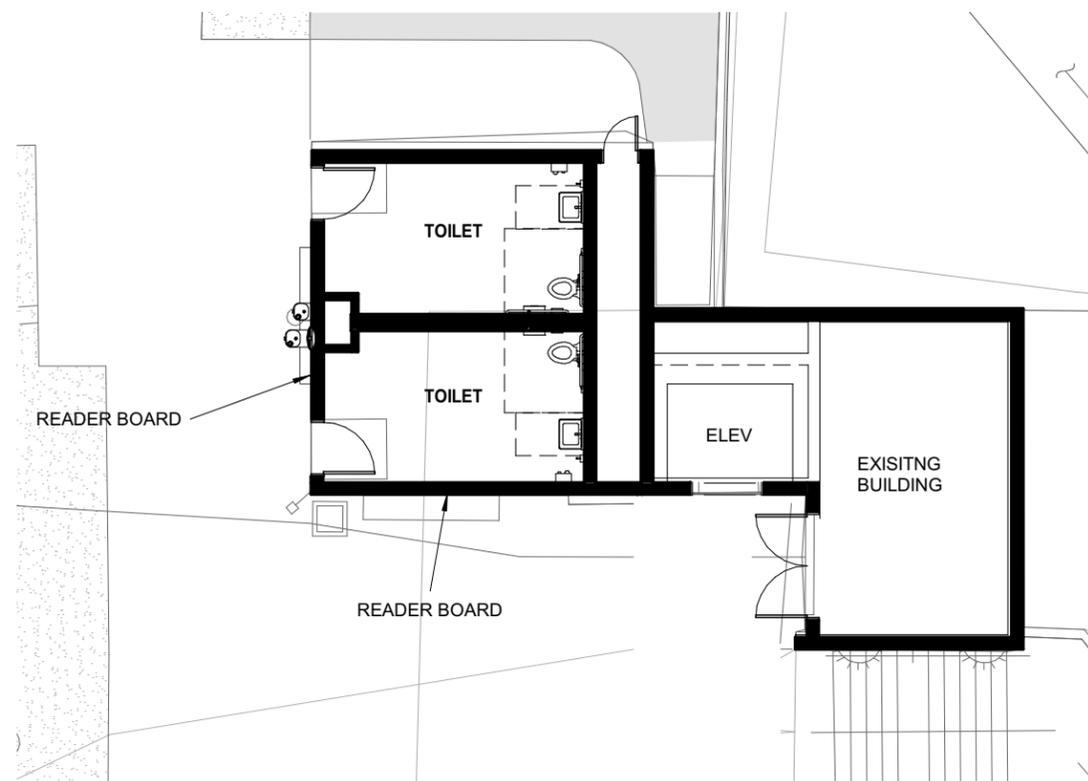




UPPER LAWNS BUILDING RENOVATION



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

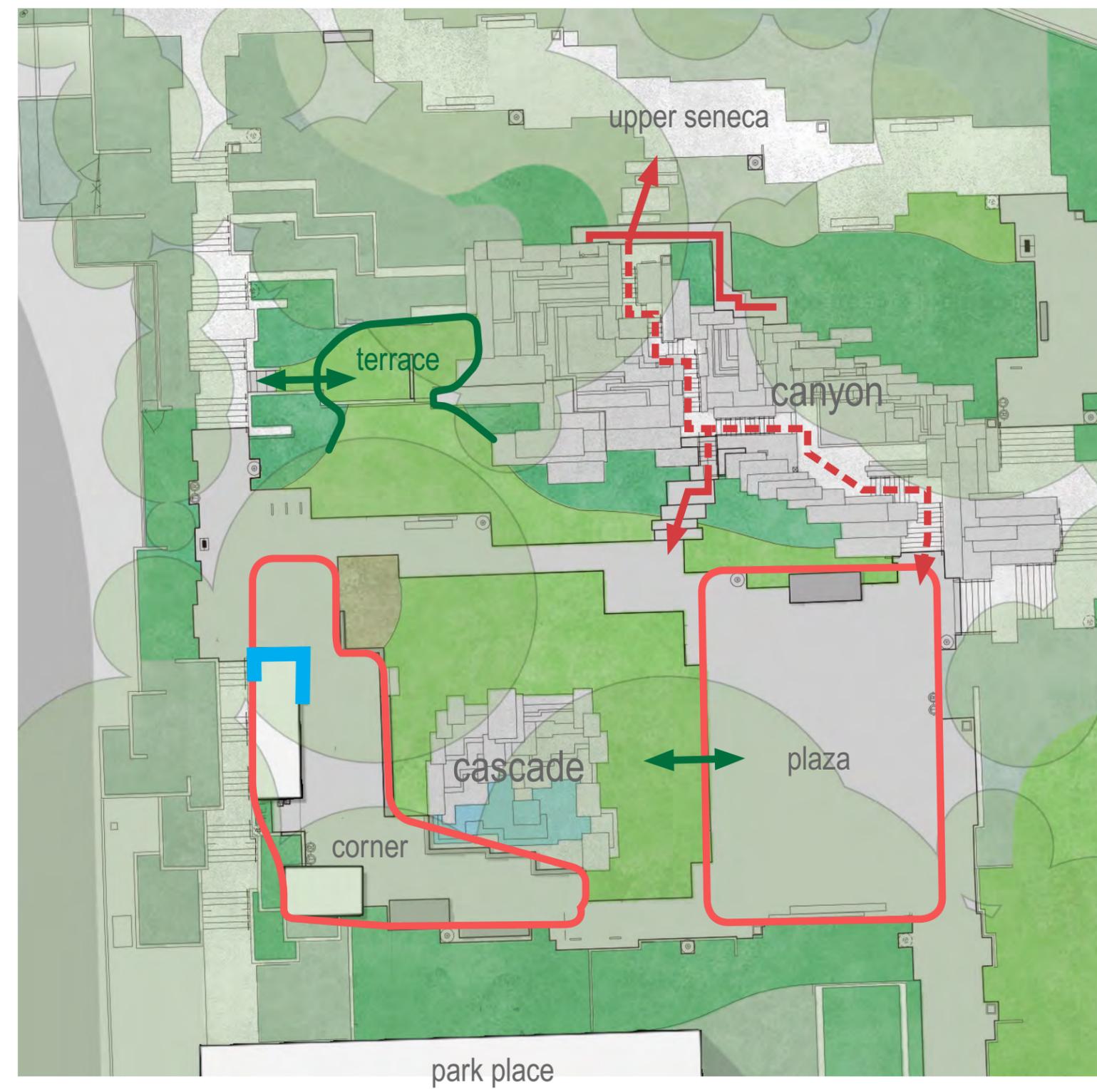
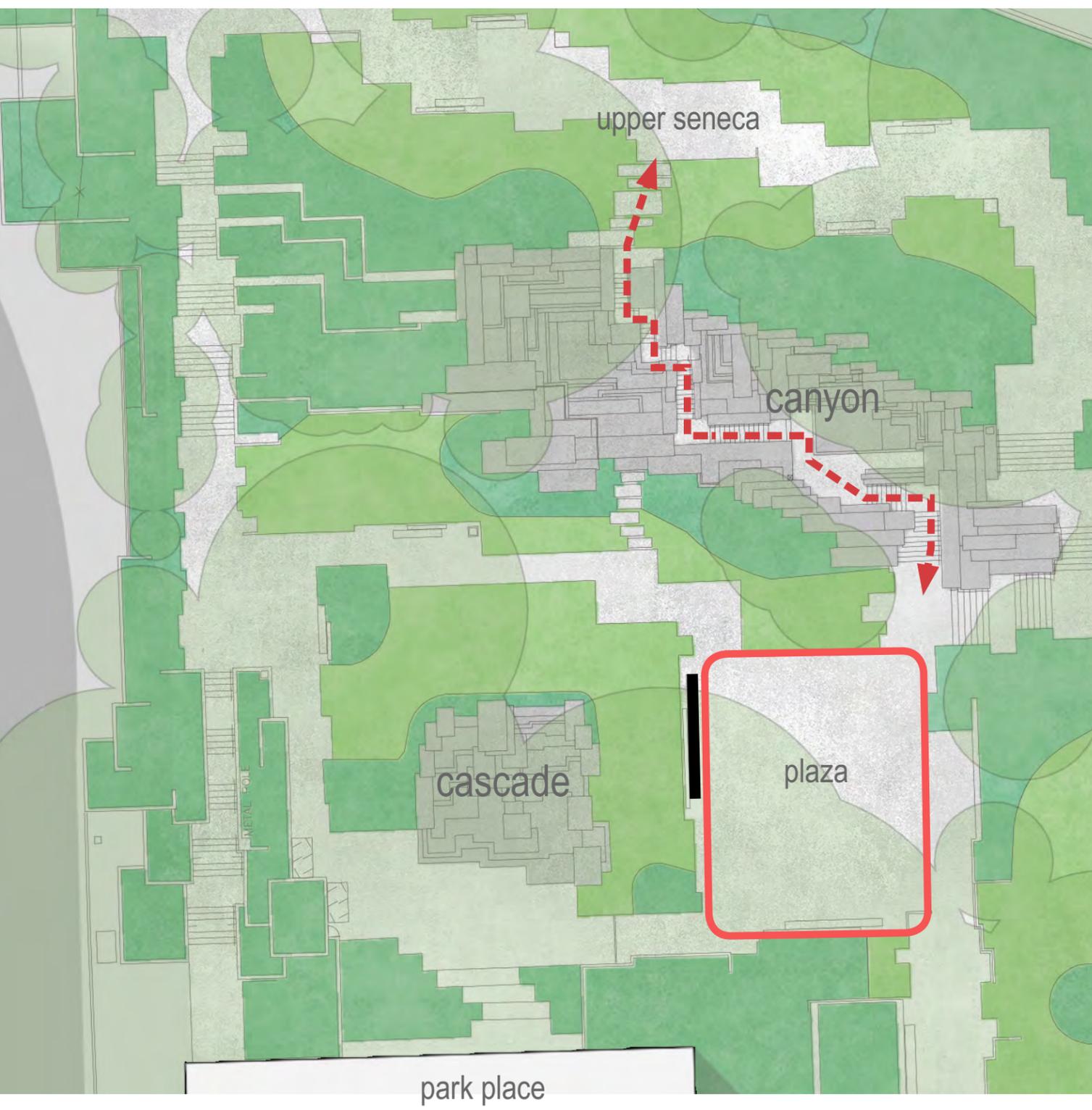




SENECA PLAZA

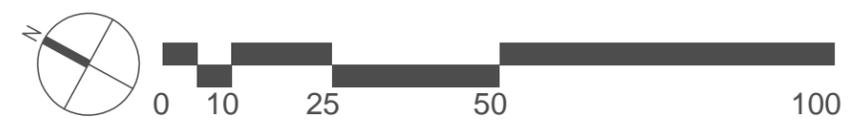




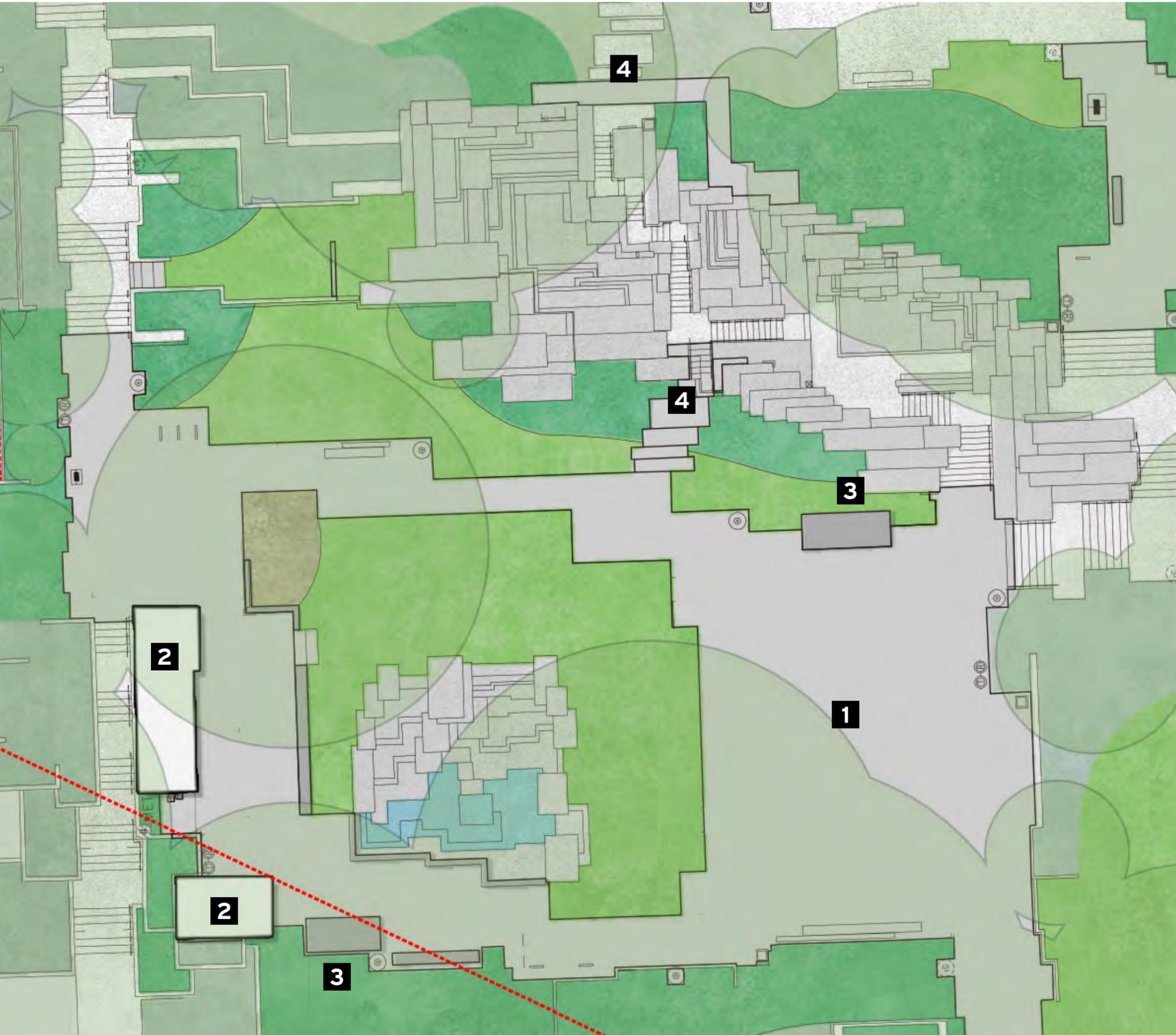


existing

proposed



SENECA PLAZA

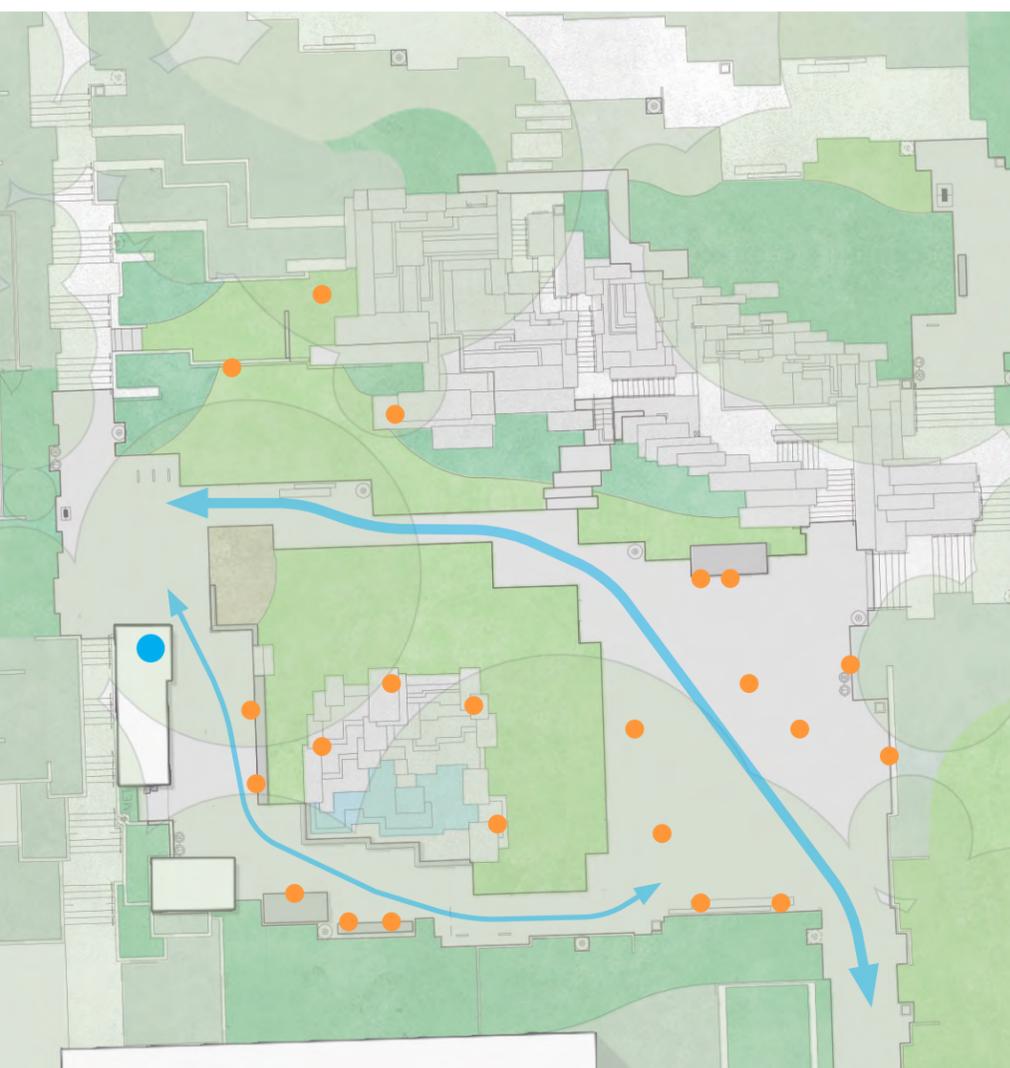


OVERVIEW

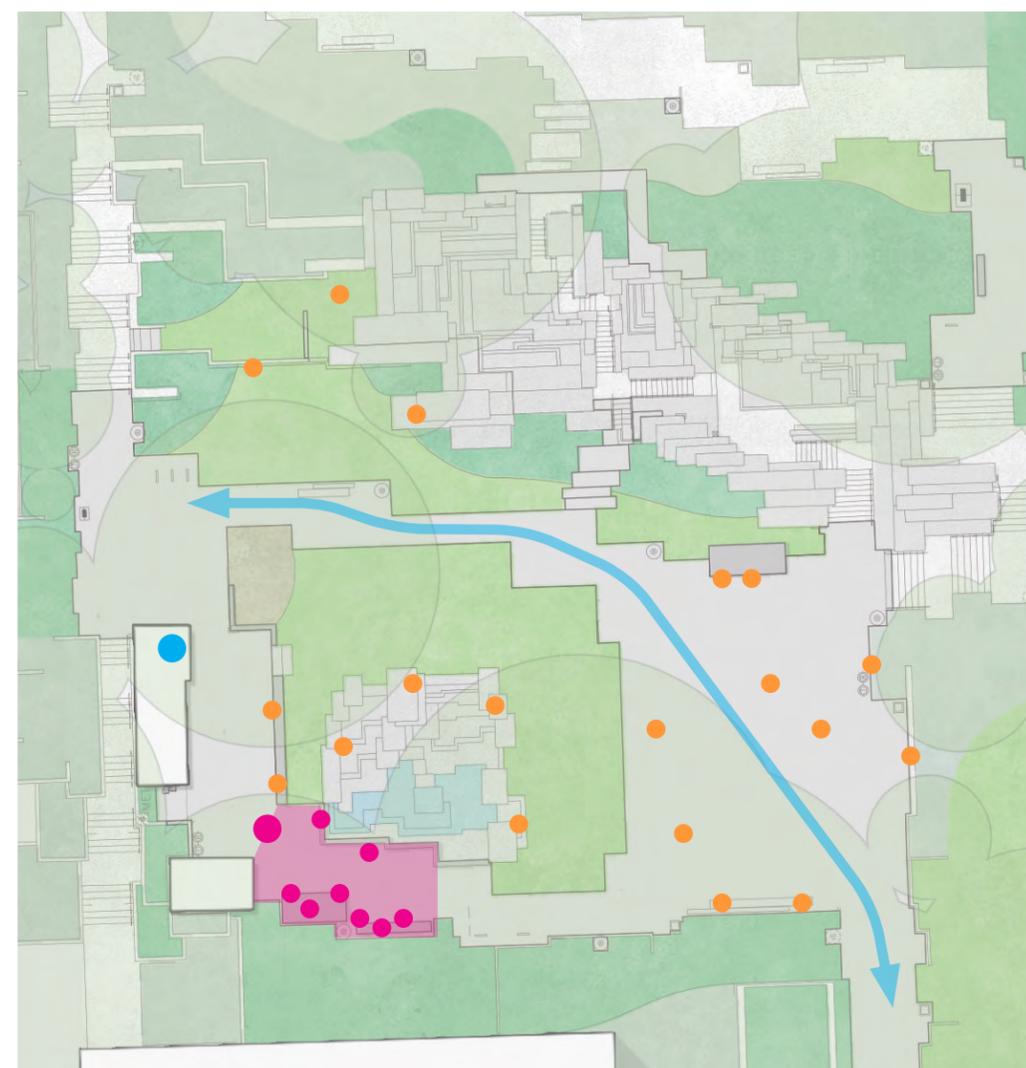
- 1** new larger plaza
- 2** new buildings
- 3** new seating edges
- 4** improved canyon access

proposed

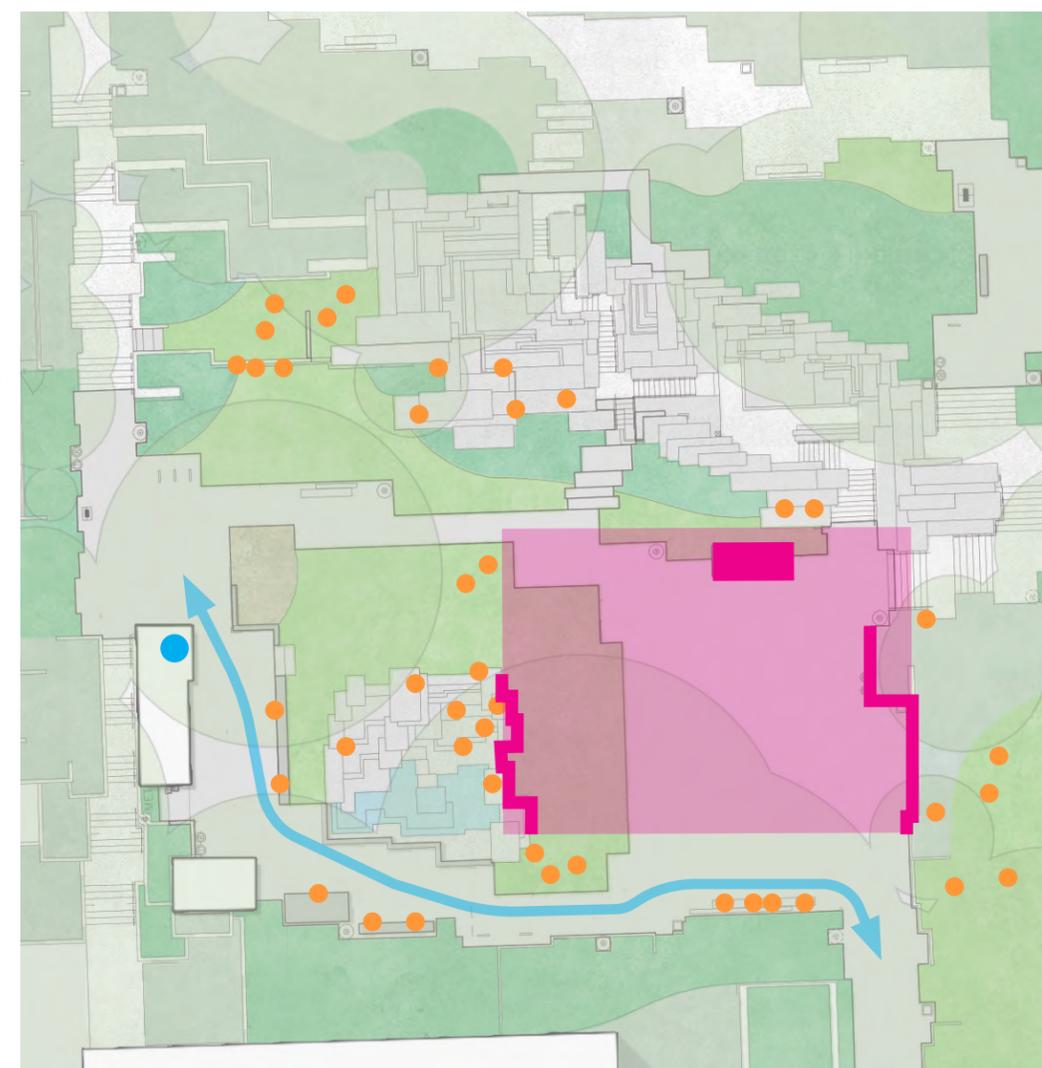




typical afternoon



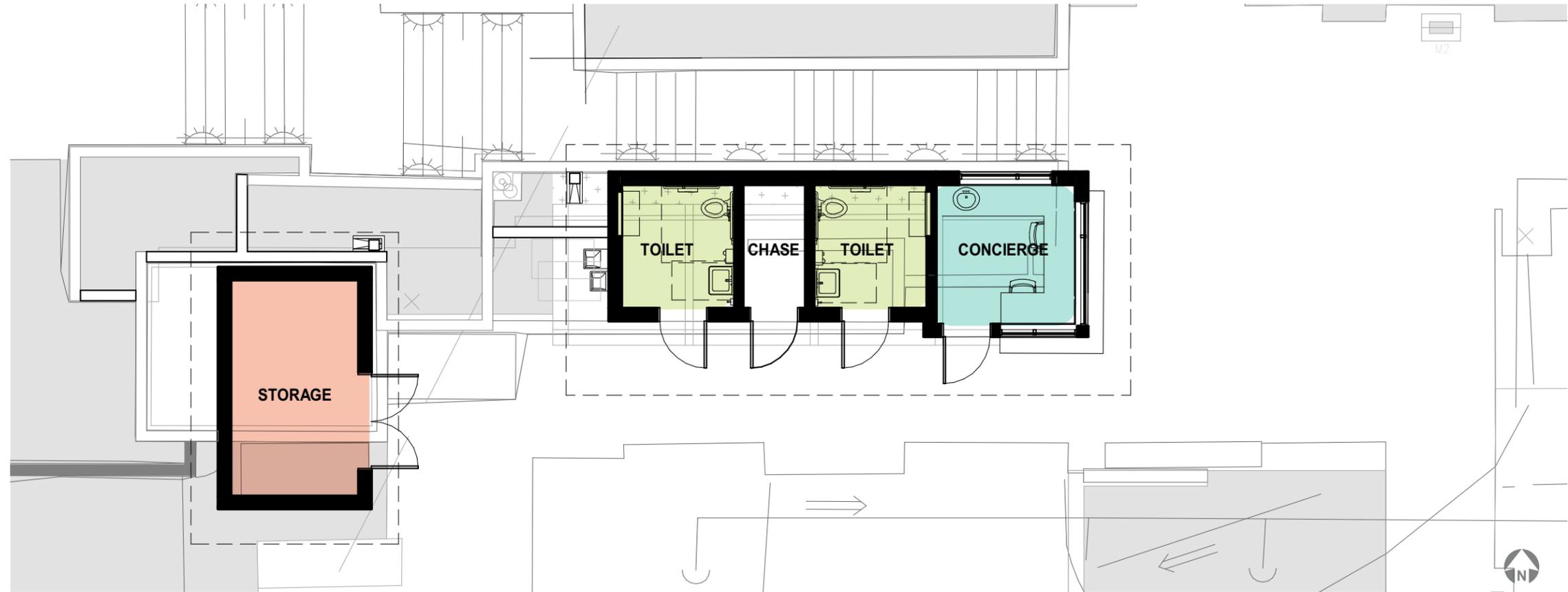
programming / activity



event

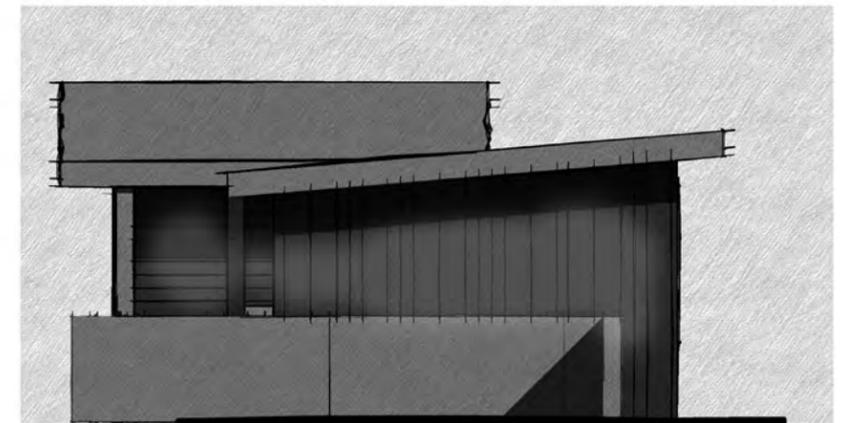


SENECA PLAZA BUILDINGS



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

storage building (programming supplies/equipment)





board form concrete



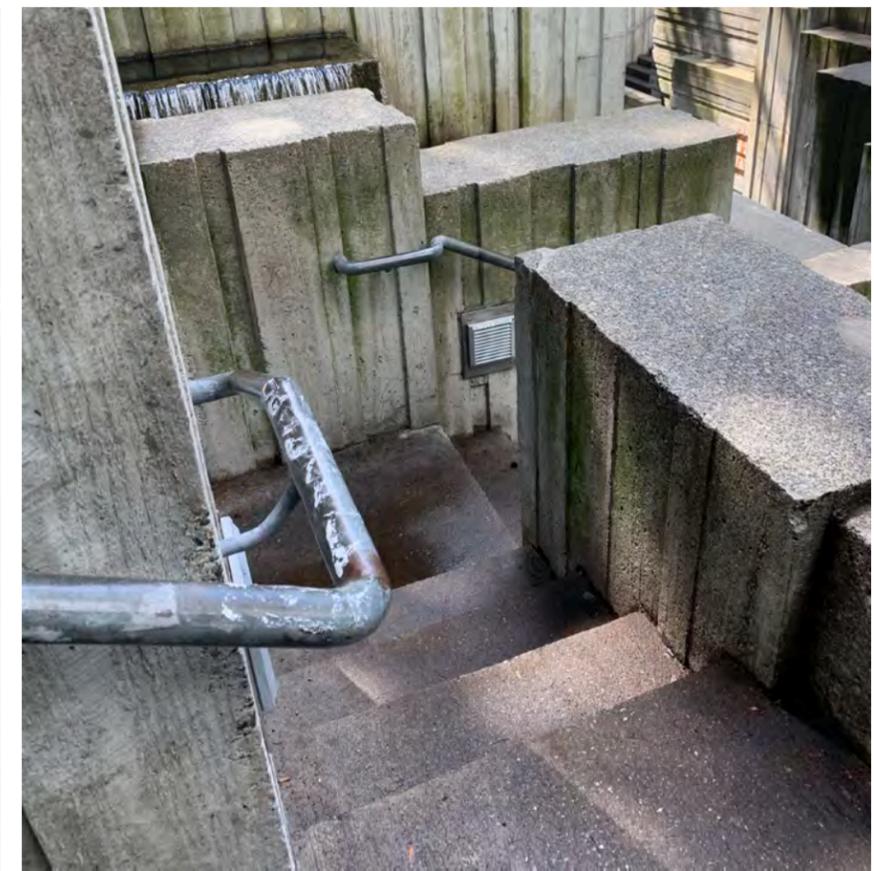
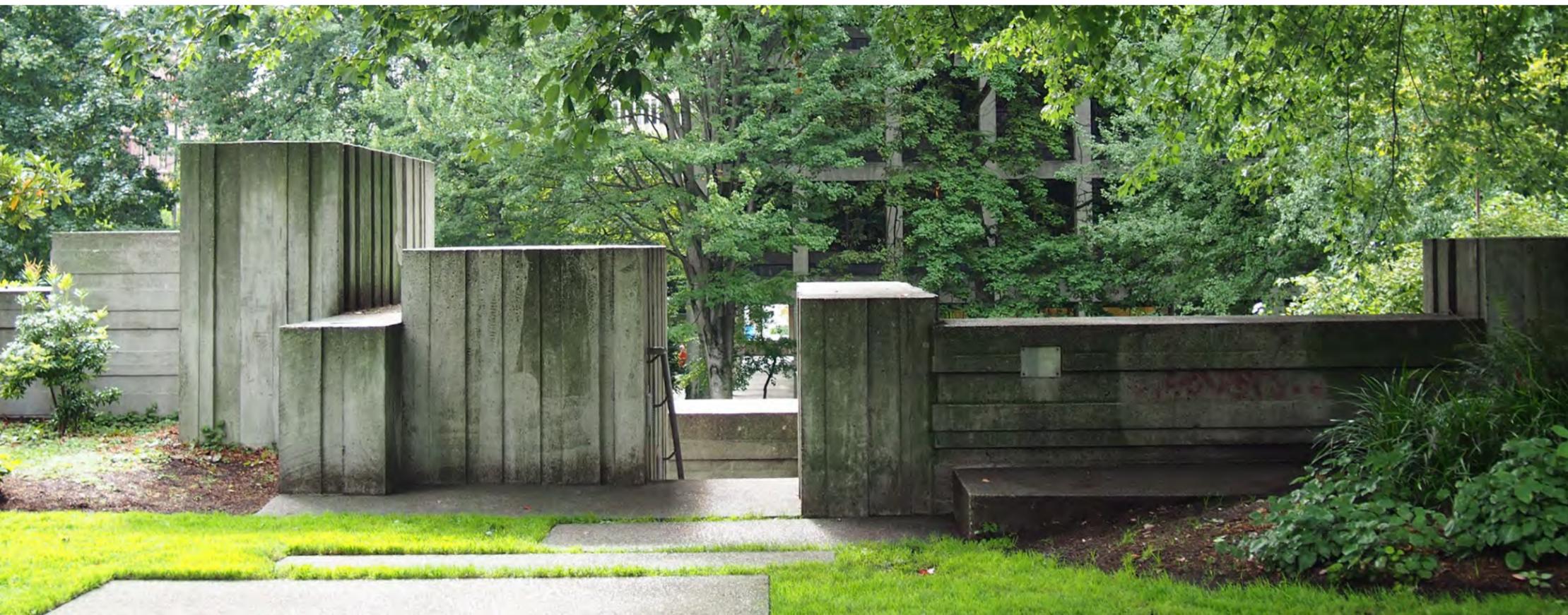
metal panel



metal soffit panel



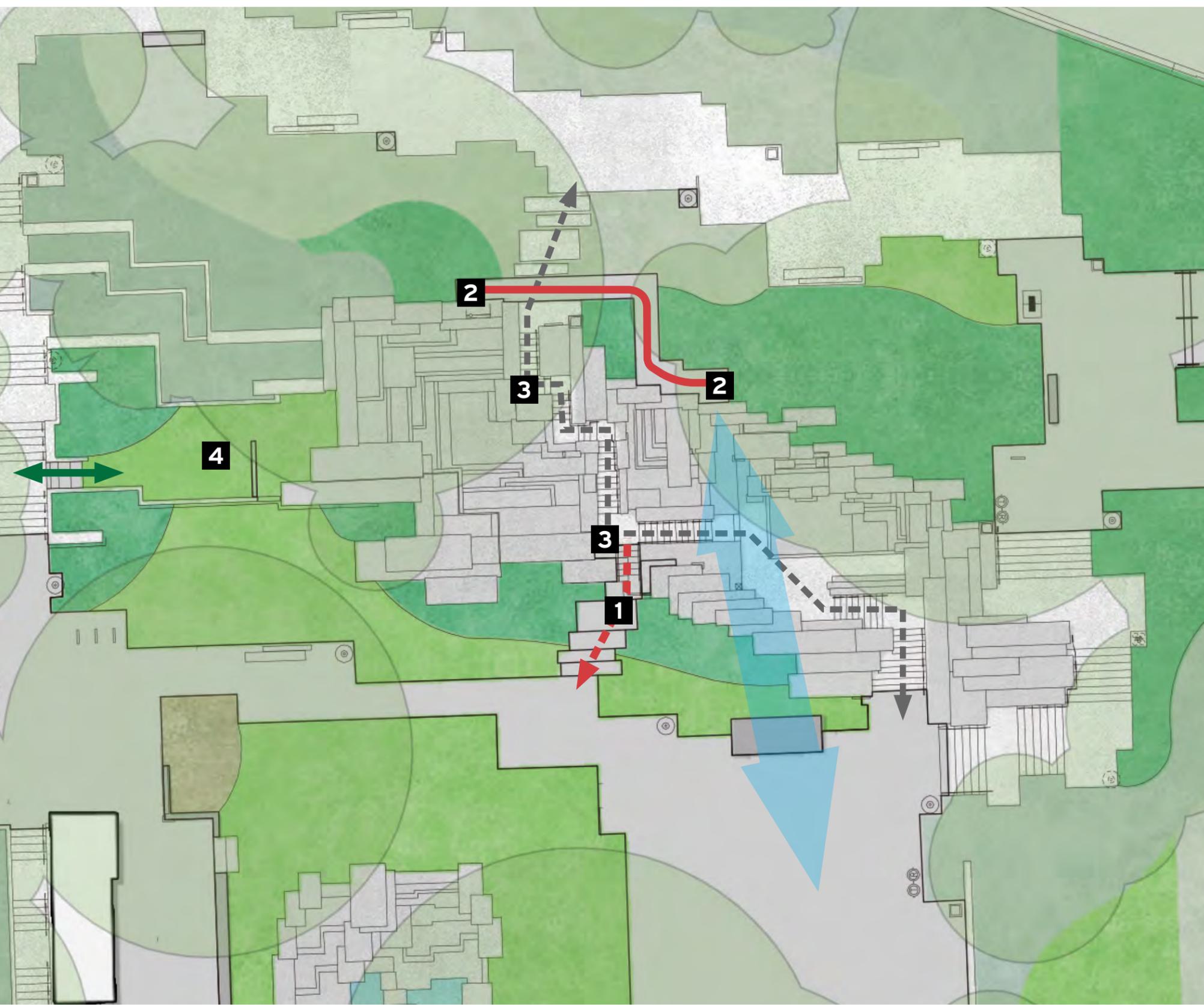
CANYON IMPROVEMENTS



CANYON IMPROVEMENTS

OVERVIEW

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



proposed



BOX GARDENS

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?

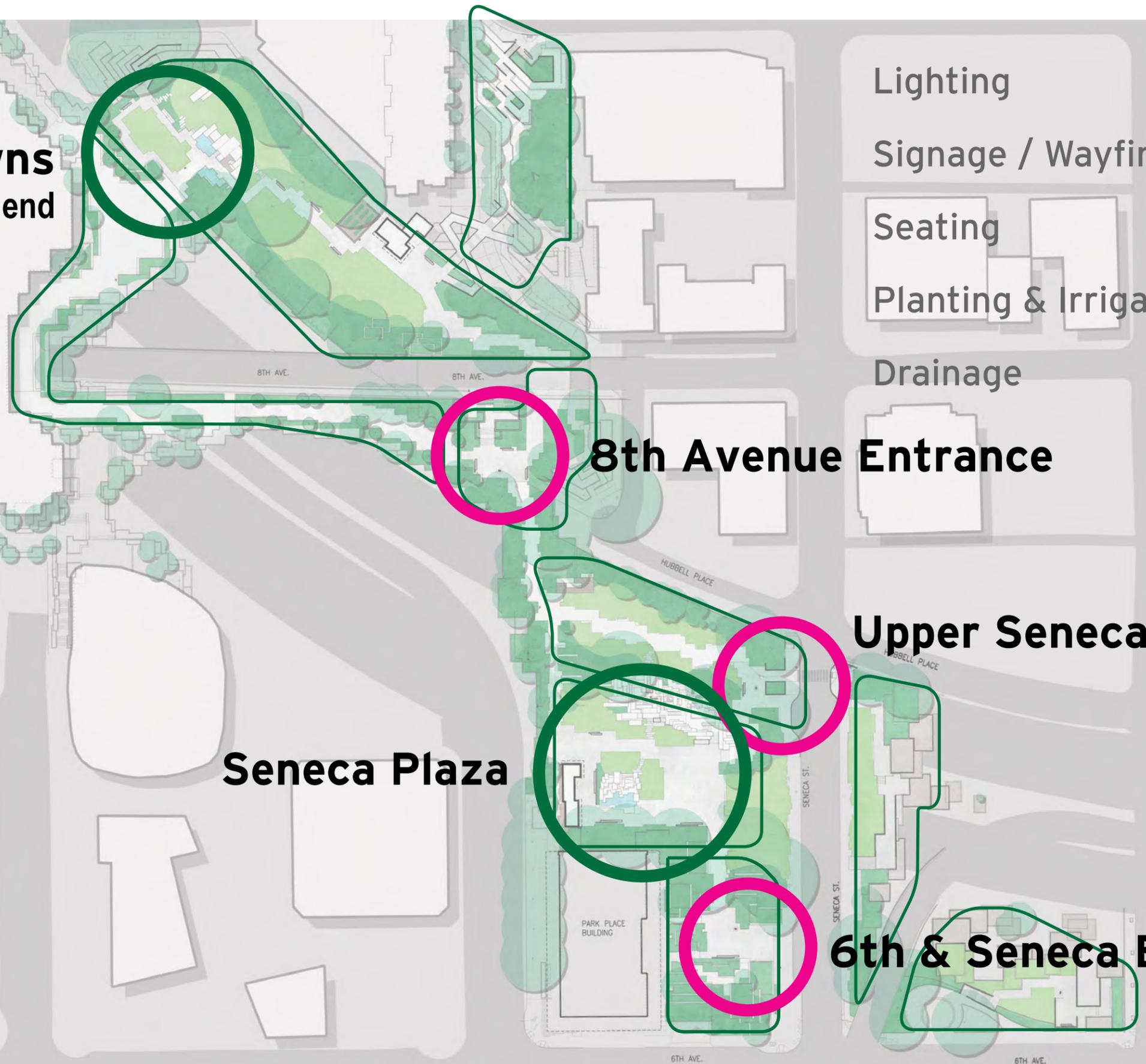
TREE CANOPY

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?

Upper Lawns
north end



Lighting
Signage / Wayfinding

Seating
Planting & Irrigation

Drainage

8th Avenue Entrance

Upper Seneca Entrance

Seneca Plaza

6th & Seneca Entrance

SUMMARY OF INPUT ON PRIORITIES



