

# AQUEDUCT

*Reimagined*



**Public Workshop #2**  
**July 21, 2022**

**ROC THE RIVERWAY**  
BUILDING BRIDGES TO THE FUTURE



City of Rochester, NY  
Malik D. Evans, Mayor  
Rochester City Council

Richard Perrin, AICP, DES Commissioner  
Holly E. Barrett, P.E., City Engineer  
Kamal L. Crues, P.E., Project Manager

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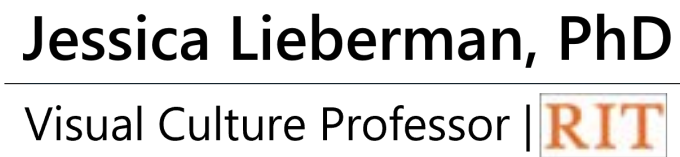
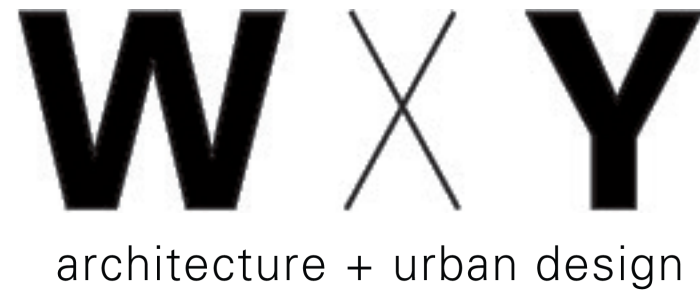
1. Introductions
2. Scope & Design Parameters
3. Engagement
4. Design Principles
5. Public Realm Analysis & Improvements
6. Design Analysis & Approach
7. Interactive Exercise



# Who's in The Room

- Team Introductions
- Community Advisory Committee

Team  
Introductions





# Scope & Design Parameters

# The Site Today



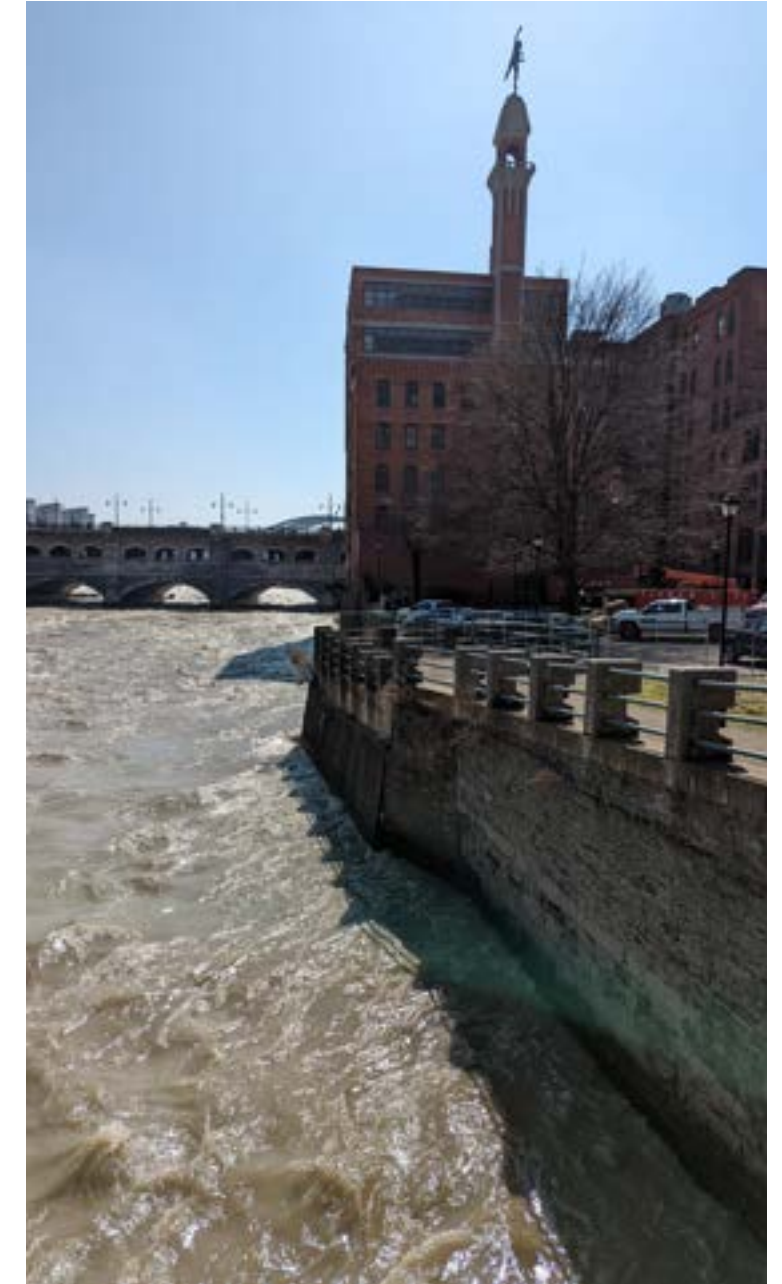
Aqueduct from War Memorial



Subway Tunnel



Childs Basin Mural from War Memorial



Aqueduct Building from Main Street Bridge



# Project Scope



- Street Improvements (City Funded)

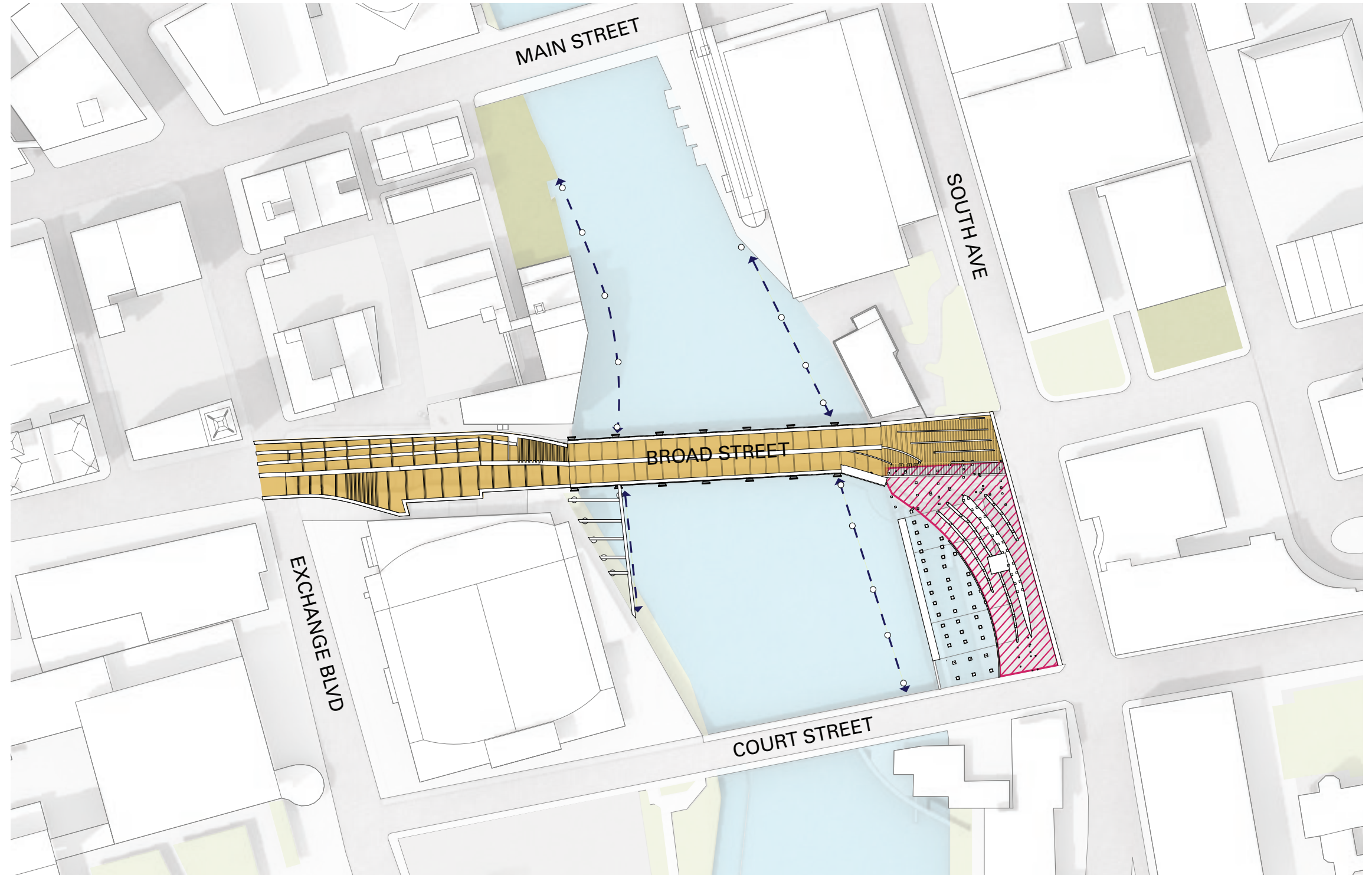
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- Riverfront Promenades
- Adjacent Building Modifications
- Vehicular Deck Removal, Structural Repairs & Creation of Public Space
- Utilities Consolidation

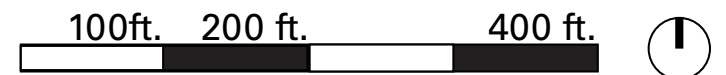


# Promenades & Programmatic Areas

What clearances from the four corner buildings do promenades need to meet?

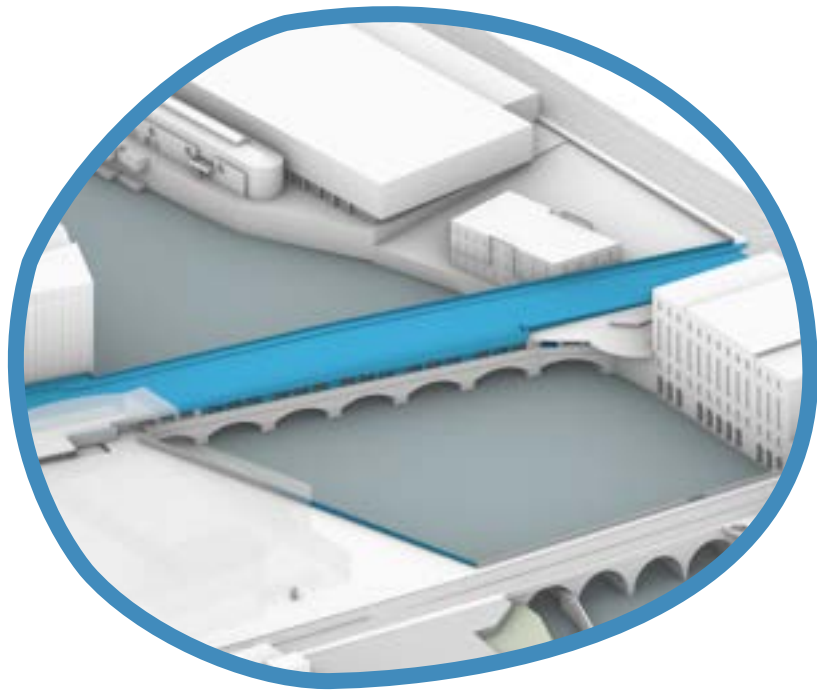


- Promenades (22K SF)
- Leasable Area (38K SF)
- Gross Aqueduct Area (83K SF)

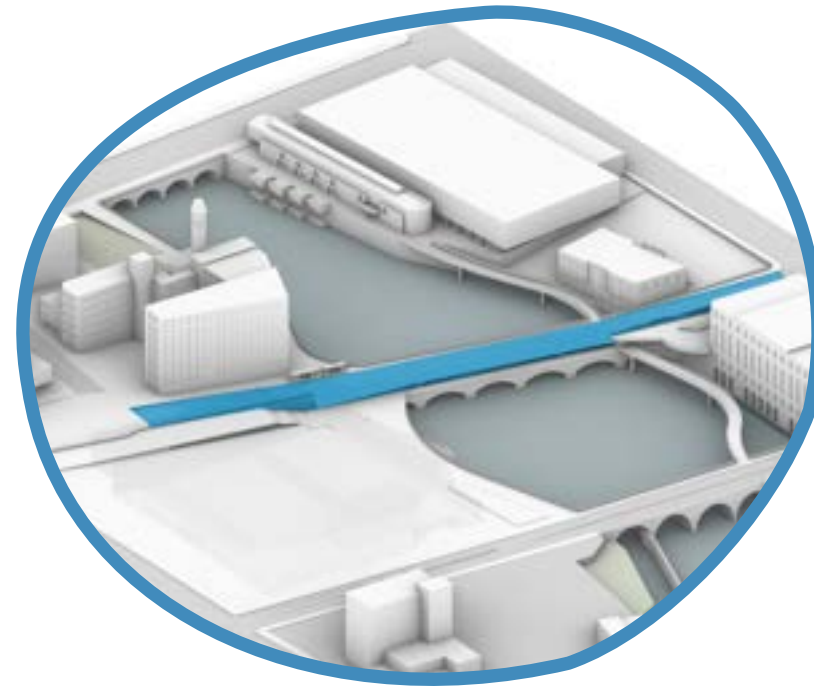




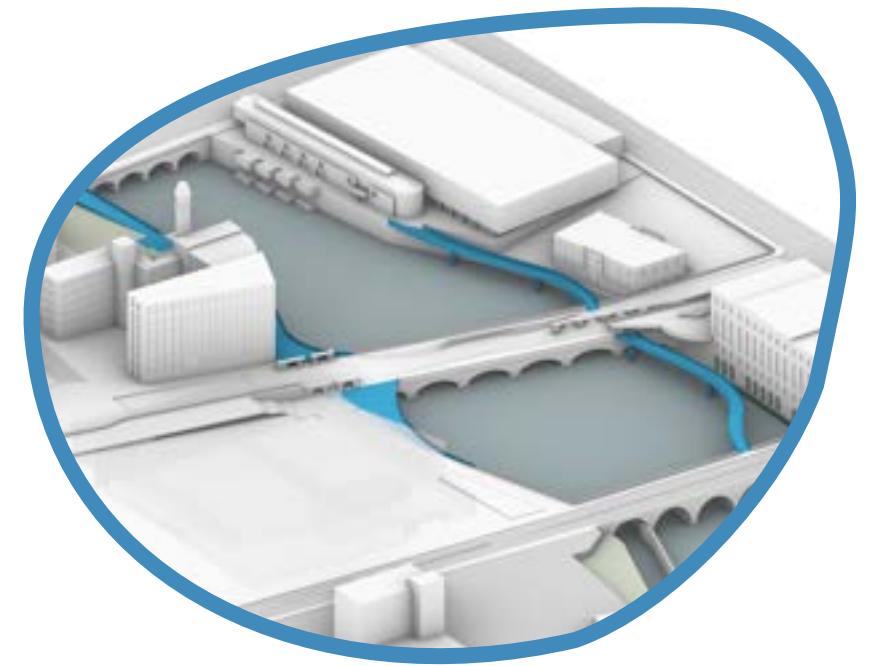
# Project Objectives



**Revealing the  
Aqueduct / Broad  
Street Bridge Removal**



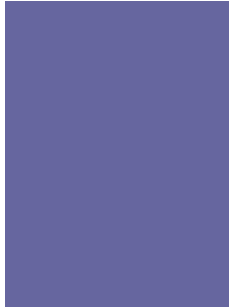


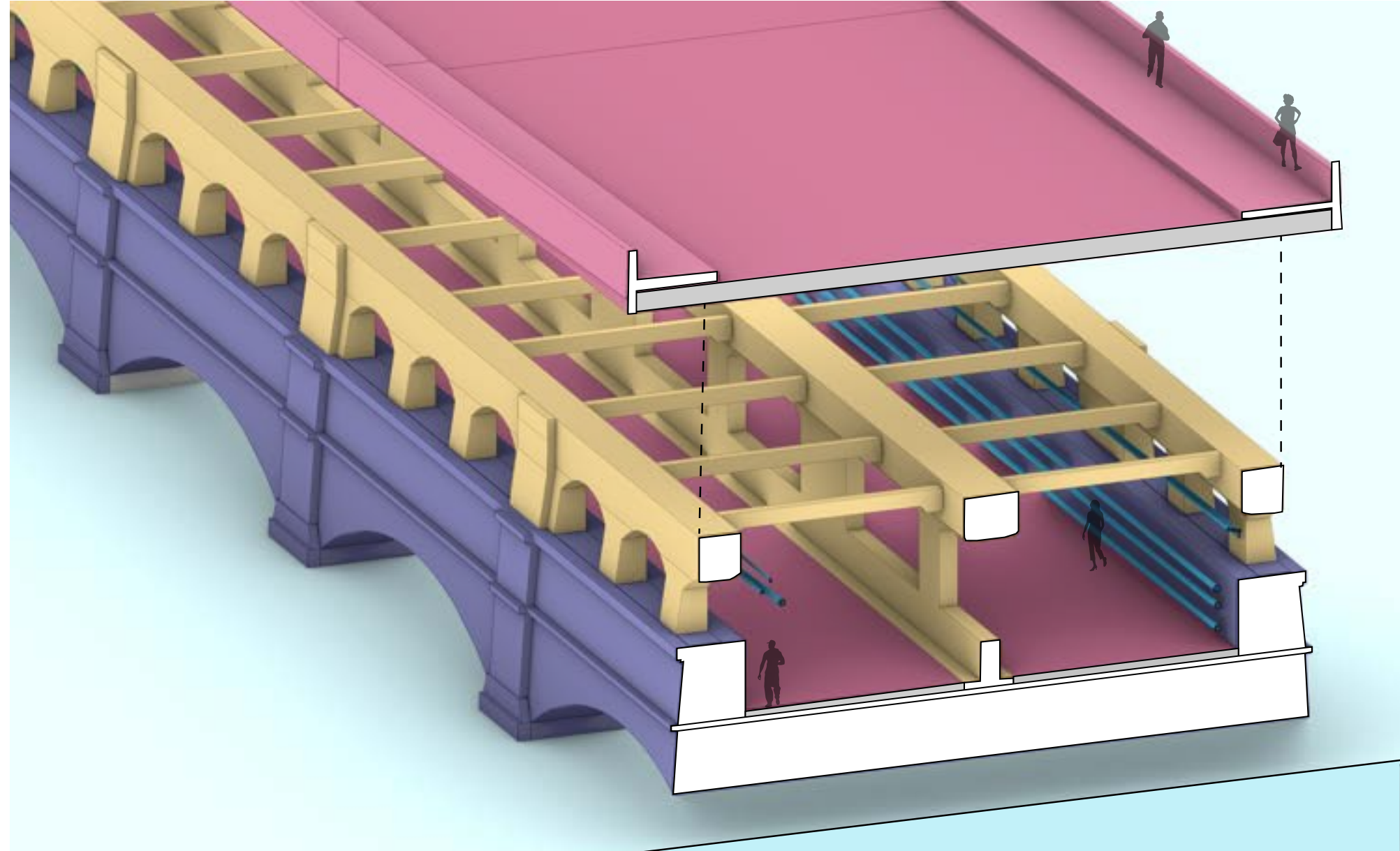
**Aqueduct  
Reconfiguration**



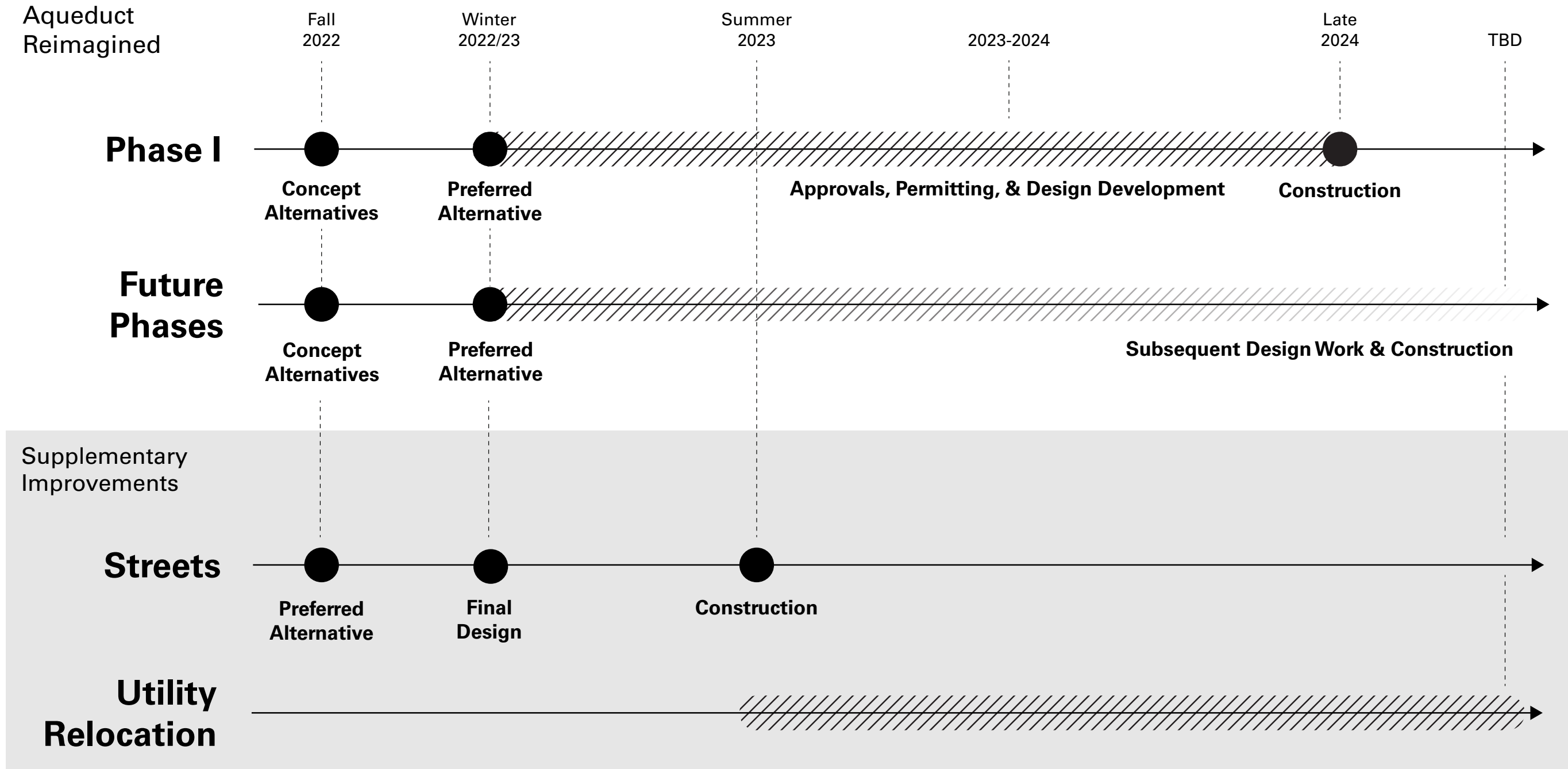
**Riverfront  
Promenades**

# Project Elements

-  Removal
-  Partial  
Removal &  
Preservation
-  Preservation



# Updated Project Timeline

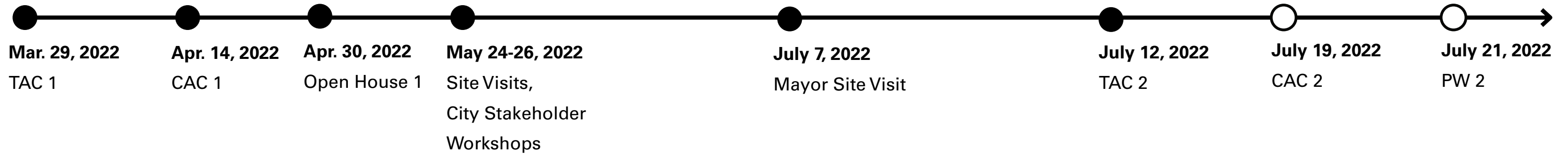


# Engagement

- Engagement Updates
- What We Heard



# What Has Happened to Date



- TAC/CAC/Public Workshops
- Structural Survey
- Scope Clarification
- Design Consideration Development

# Summary of Key Engagement

## **Public Meetings:**

Public Open House - 4/30

City Hall Open House - 5/26

## **Stakeholder Engagement:**

Youth Engagement at Central Library - 4/27

Erie Canalways Council Meeting - 6/15

Wall\Therapy Meeting - 6/27

Subway Tour with Mayor Evans - 7/7

## **Pop-Ups:**

Jazz Festival - 6/23

Party in the Park - 7/7

Corn Hill - 7/9

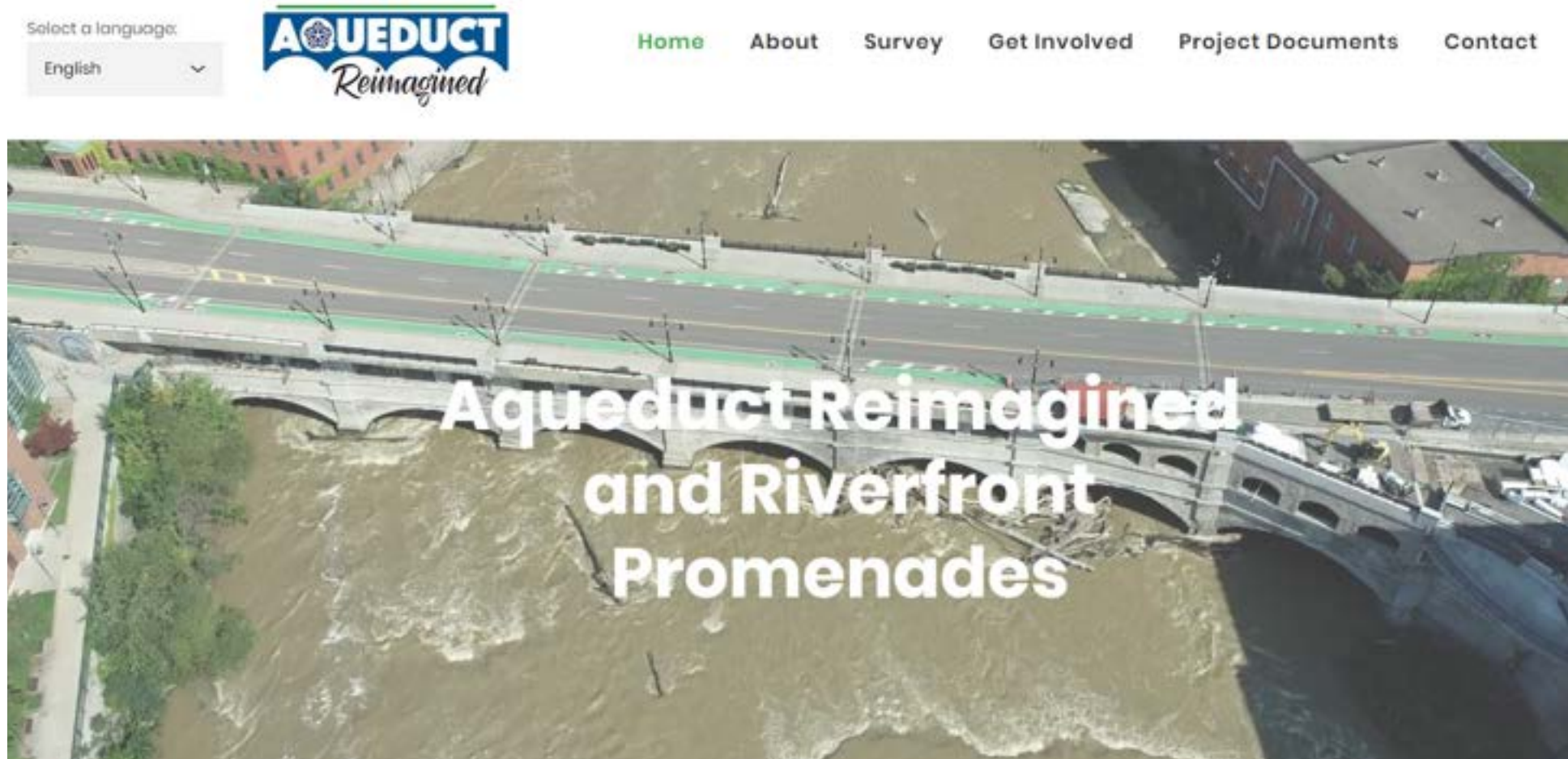
Pride Festival - 7/10

Midday Lunch Bash - 7/14

## **Online Engagement:**

Project Website ([www.ROCtheAqueduct.com](http://www.ROCtheAqueduct.com))

# Online Engagement



ROCtheAqueduct.com

## Aqueduct Reimagined Online Survey

You are invited to participate in a short survey that will help the project team gain a better understanding of the challenges and opportunities within the Aqueduct Reimagined project area. Thank you for sharing your thoughts!

¿Es el español su idioma preferido? Haga clic en el botón de abajo para acceder a la encuesta en español.

[Español](#)

Note: If you are on a mobile device, please [click here](#) to complete the survey

Aqueduct Reimagined Survey #1

Name\*

Email\*

Where do you live?\*

ROCtheAqueduct.com/online-survey

# Upcoming Engagement

## Public Meetings:

**Thursday, July 21st @ Blue Cross Arena**

Open House: 1 PM - 4 PM

Public Design Workshop: 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

**Sunday, October 2nd @ Broad Street Bridge**

1 PM - 4 PM

## Pop-Ups:

Skateboard Park - 7/20 at 2 PM

Midday Lunch Bash - 8/11; 9/7

Puerto Rican Festival - 8/4

Others - TBD

## Online Engagement:

Survey



# Open House - April 30

200+ Attendees







# Who Are We Designing For?



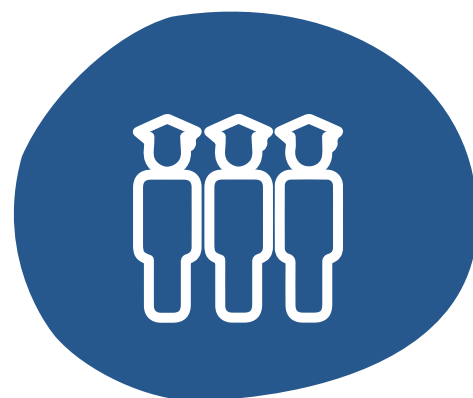
**Seniors**



**ADA**



**Homeless & Displaced Families**



**Students**



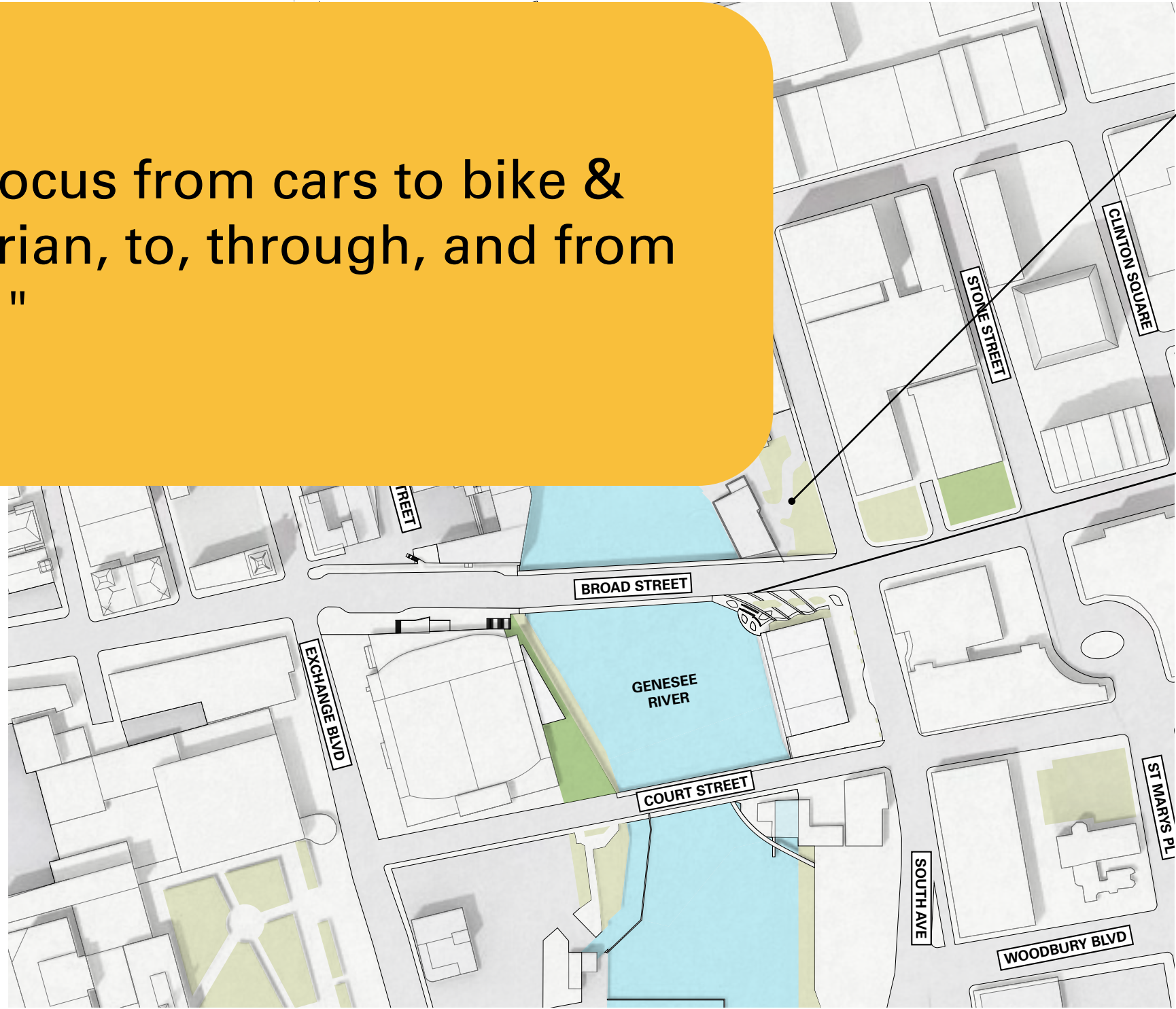
**Residents & Neighborhoods**



**Low Income Neighbors**

# What We Heard - Themes

"Shift focus from cars to bike & pedestrian, to, through, and from places!"



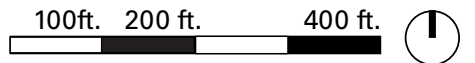
"Provide water-level river access & paths."

"Make Rochester's downtown more attractive as a tourist destination - bring businesses"

"More use for local vendors & residents"

"Rochester is known for its art/graffiti so provide spaces for it and welcome it"

"We have the Erie Canal!"





# What We Heard - Design Considerations

"Use for all seasons and different times of day"

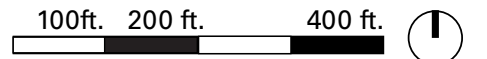
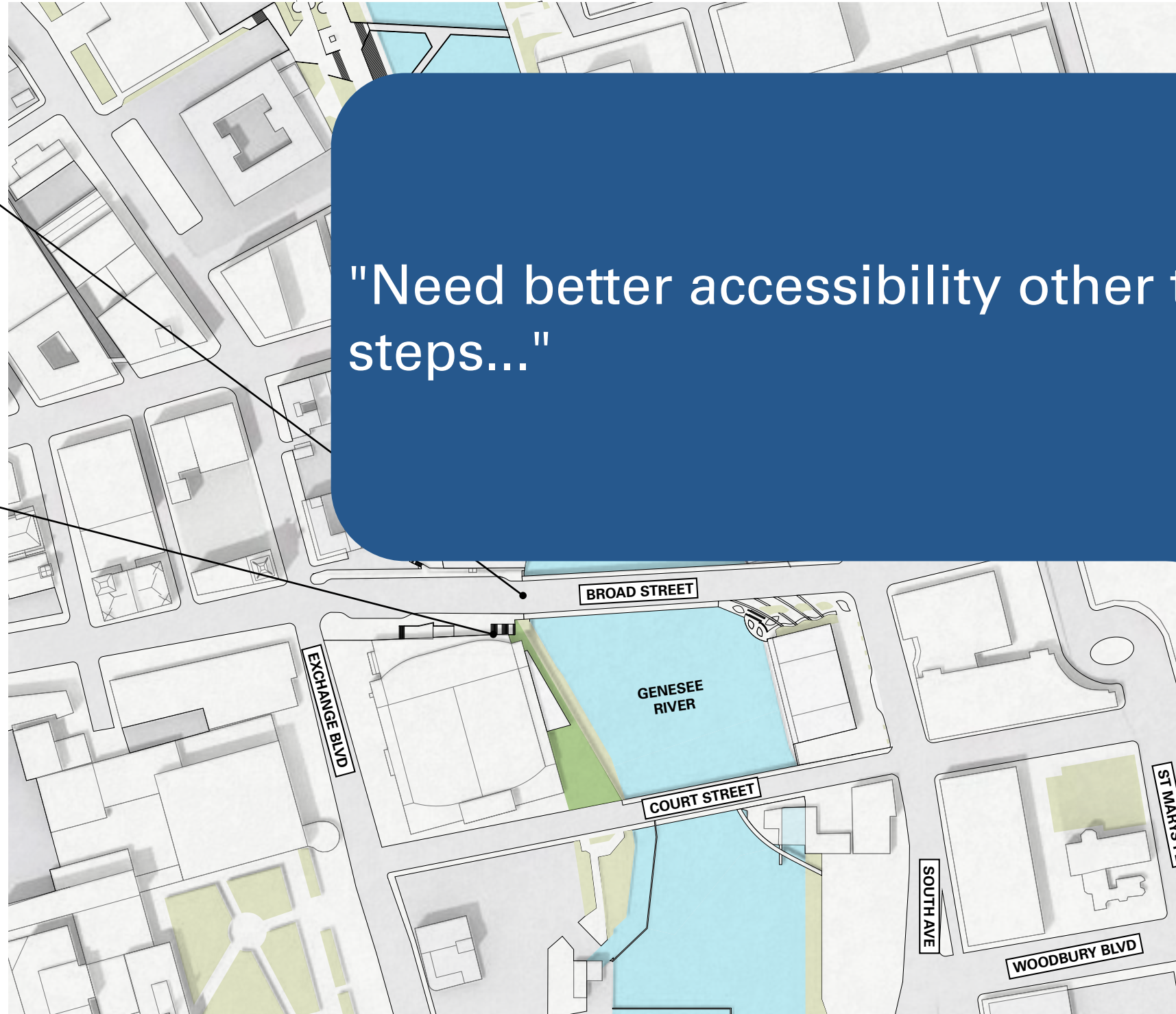
"Need better accessibility other than steps..."

"Well lit at all times, no "hiding" places"

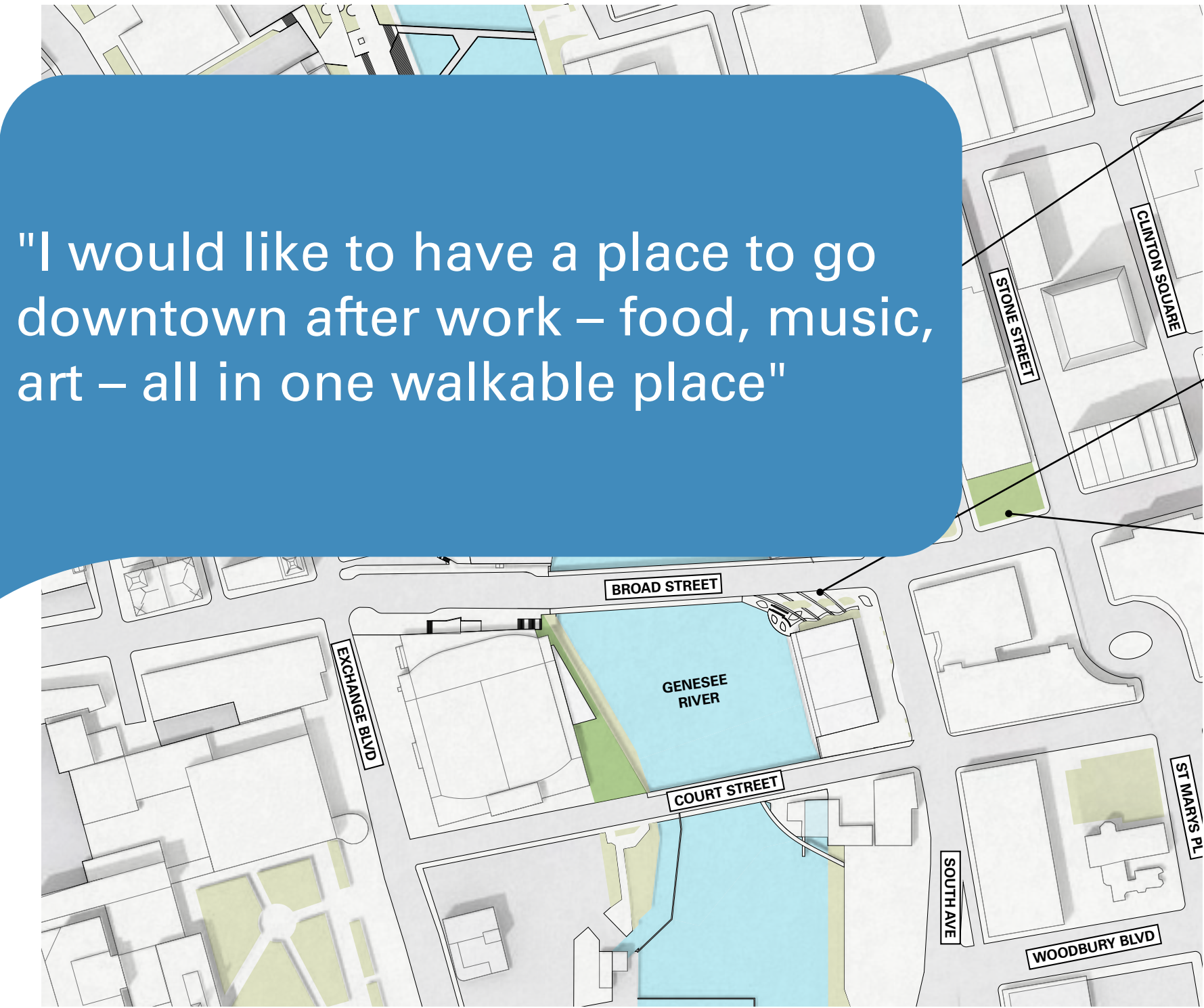
"Questions like snow removal and is anyone going to use it when it is 12 degrees are very important to this location. Weather is a huge constraining factor."

"Water access that is family friendly"

"Need better accessibility other than steps..."



# What We Heard - Programs



"I would like to have a place to go downtown after work – food, music, art – all in one walkable place"



"Boat rides, water sports, concerts, public events, art spaces, retail shops."

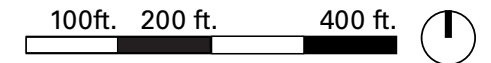
"Educational spaces for kids & adults"

"Allow people to just exist! Let them play soccer, frisbee or just sit"

"Theater space (black box) all season."

"Multiuse & community gathering space"

"Include space for new/rotating murals & street art"



# Design Principles



# Design Principles



**Community**



**Place**

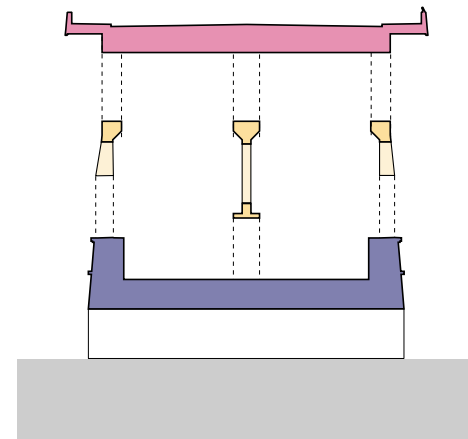


**Economy**

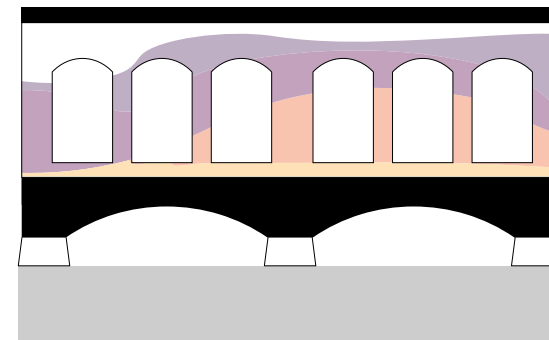
# Community



**Reclaim the Aqueduct for People**



**Reveal & Preserve the Historic Aqueduct**



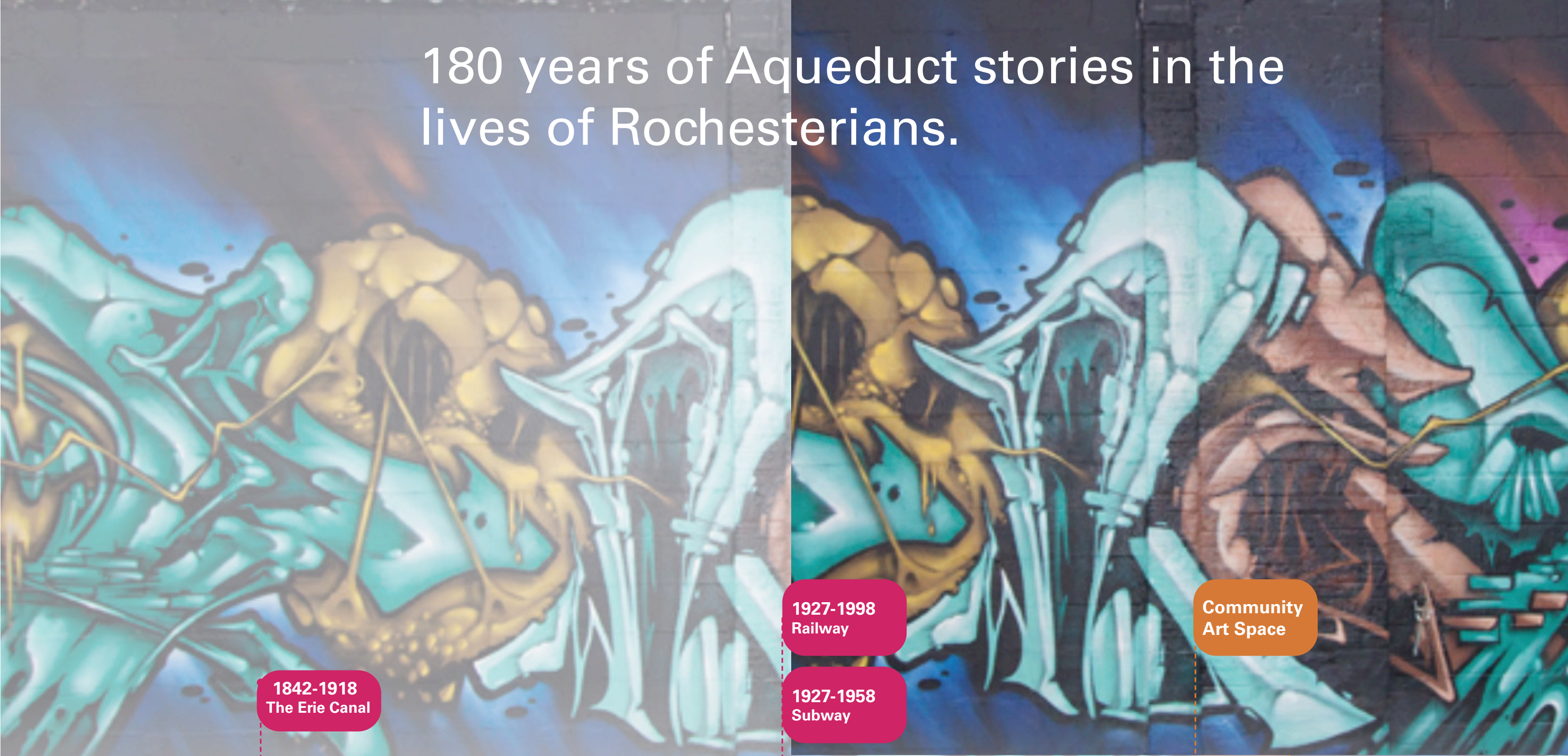
**Reveal Graffiti Art on the Historic Upper Arches**



**Represent Rochester's Diverse Populations, Identities, and Traditions**



# 180 years of Aqueduct stories in the lives of Rochesterians.



1842-1918  
The Erie Canal

1927-1998  
Railway

1927-1958  
Subway

Community  
Art Space

1800

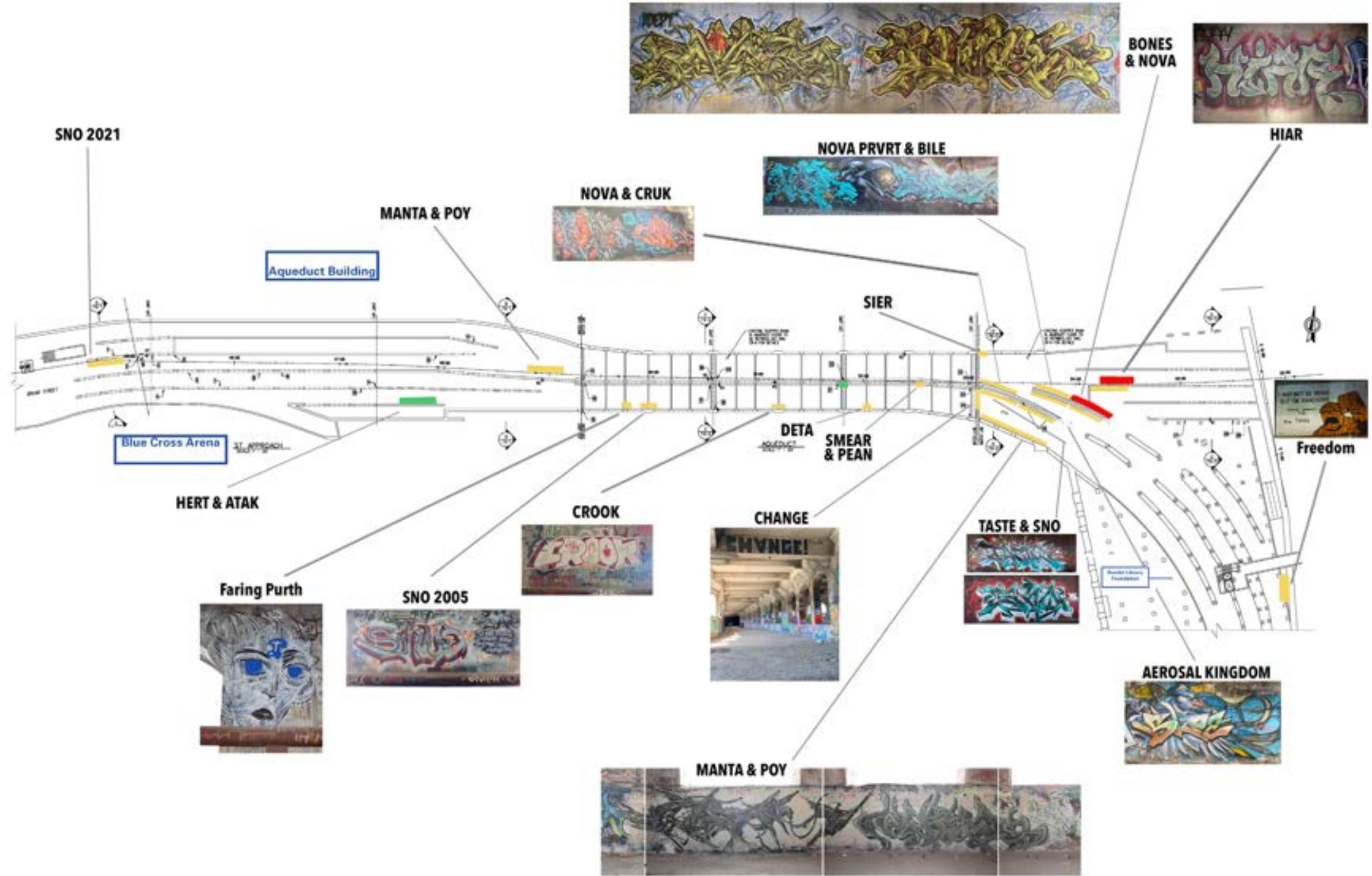
1900

2000

2022  
● Aqueduct Reimagined

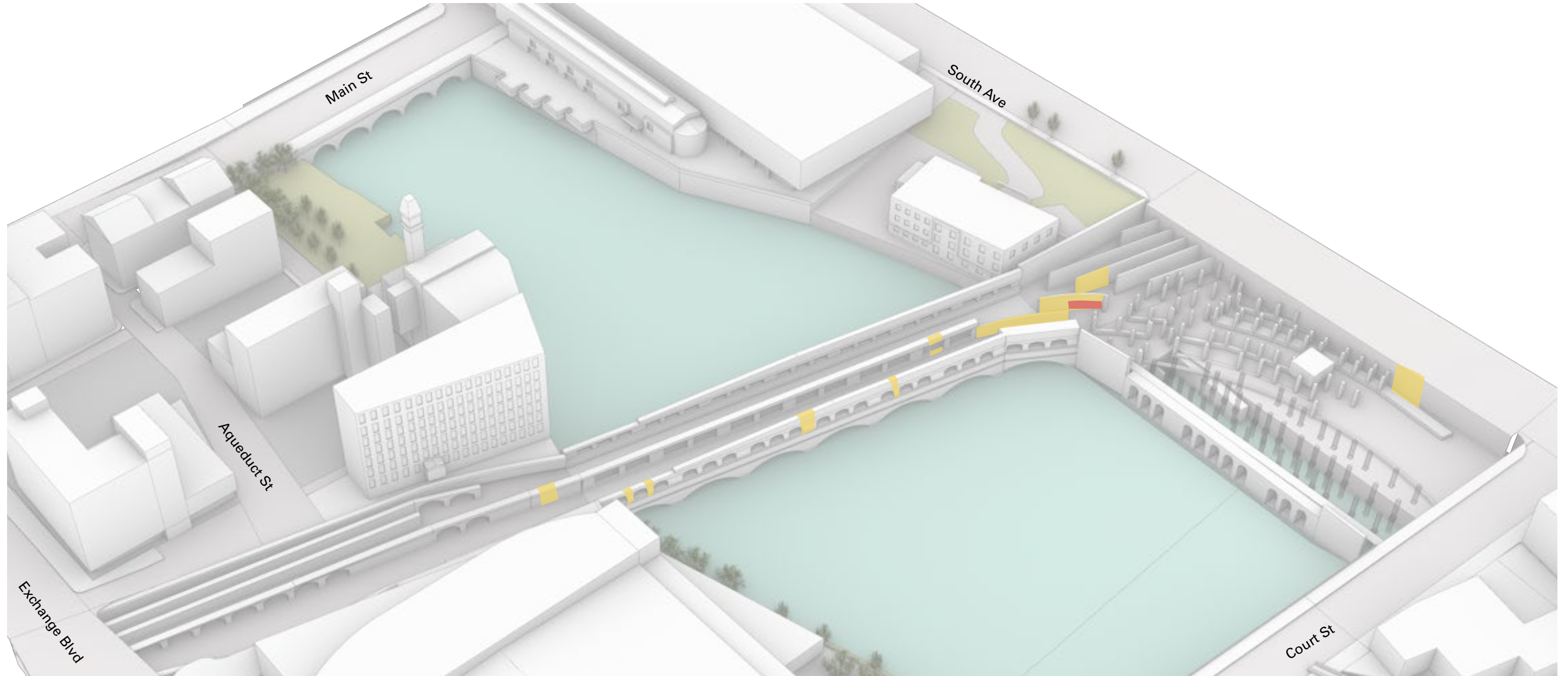


# Graffiti Art Preservation Priorities

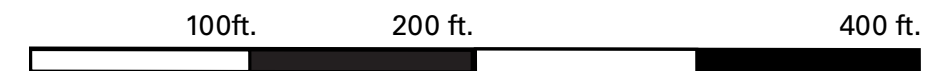


- High Significance
- Neutral
- Low Significance

# Graffiti Art Preservation Priorities

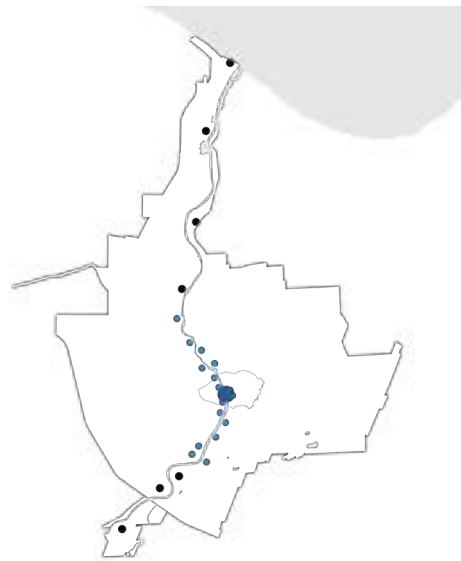


- High Significance
- Neutral
- Low Significance

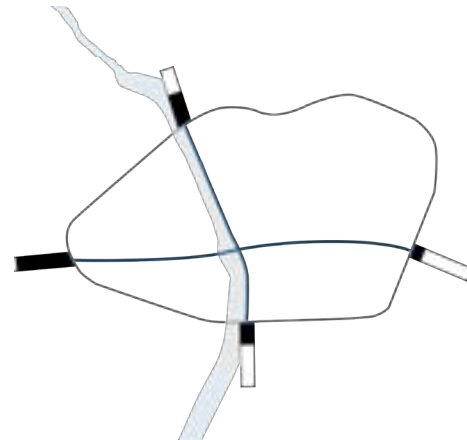




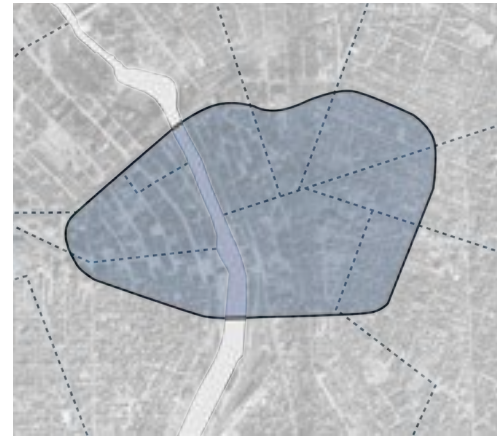
## Regional / Genesee River Scale



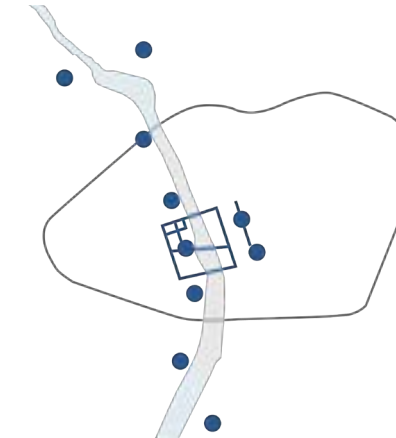
**Complete Regional System**  
Complete the Genesee Riverway Trail System



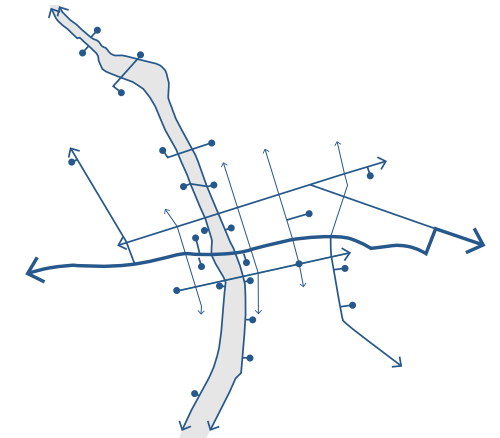
**Bridge Divides**  
Connect Across Racial Divides at the Heart of the City



**Repair Harm**  
Celebrate and Amplify Histories Lost to Urban Renewal



**Complete Existing Trail Networks**  
Complete and Connect ROC the Riverway



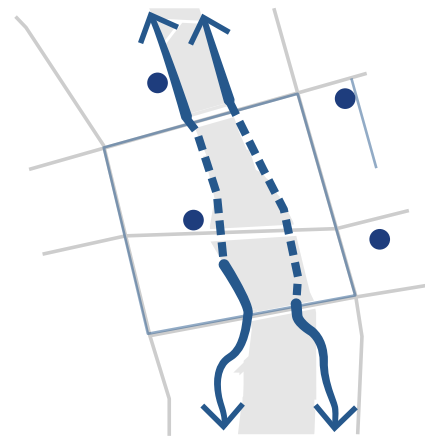
**Complement Other Programs**  
Create a Network of Inner Loop Cultural Community Destinations

# Place

## Aqueduct District Scale

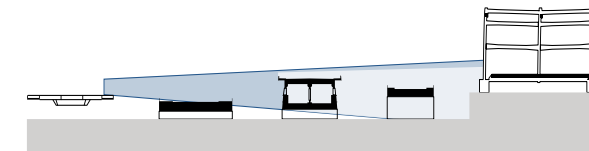


**Create a Local Destination**  
community event space to celebrate aspects of the city's history, present & future



**Complete The Genesee Riverway Network**  
Complete existing cultural and riverway trails on both the east and west of the river

## Aqueduct Scale



**Restore Viewsheds**  
Create a visual tunnel along the Genesee river



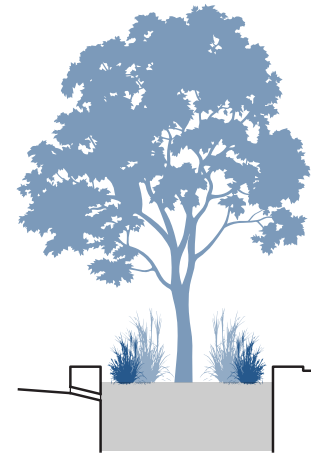
# Streets



**Pedestrian Priority Streets**  
Support multi-modal street network connectivity in the greater downtown area that focuses on pedestrians



**Flexible Street Space**  
Plan for flexible use of spaces in different seasons and occasions



**Encouraging Green Streets**  
Maximize green space and stormwater management techniques



**Cohesive Identity**  
Create a recognizable Aqueduct District that ties into existing public realm identities

# Economy



**Support and Grow Local Businesses through Programming**



**Design and Program a Destination for Rochesterians and Visitors**

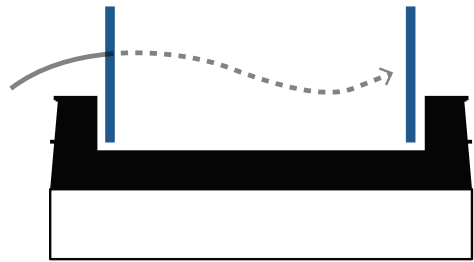


**Design with Long Term Maintenance and Stewardship in Mind**



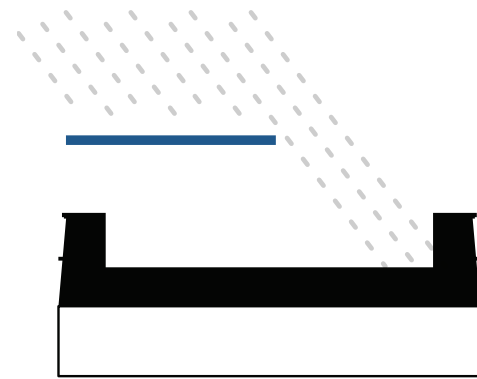
**Support Inclusive Development and Population Growth without Displacement**

# Comfort & Climate Control: Year Round Design



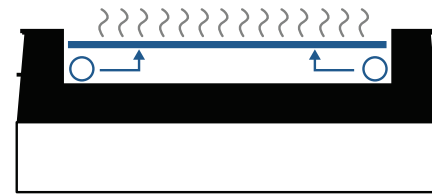
## Wind Protection

Providing protection from the wind, particularly for winter months. Potentially using existing structures and toe path height to our advantage.



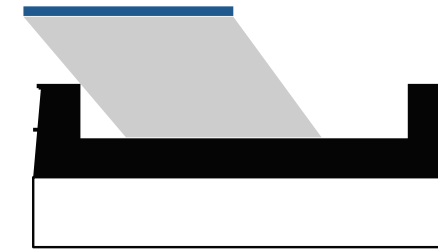
## Rain/Snow Protection

Providing some form of protection from rain and snow so as to have parts of the bridge usable throughout the year. This could be achieved by a combination of new and existing structures.



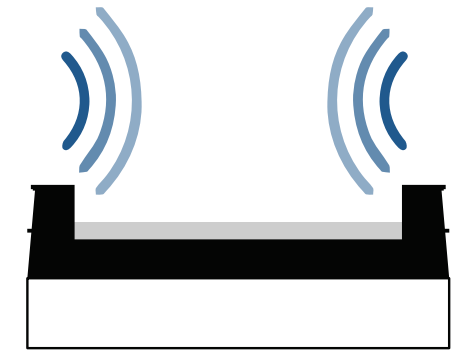
## Thermal Comfort

Achieving thermal comfort through the year, including winter. If possible utilizing the utilities like steam pipes that run through the bridge to our advantage for heating.



## Light / Shade

Sun shade for hot summer months and sun access for winter months.



## Sound Scape

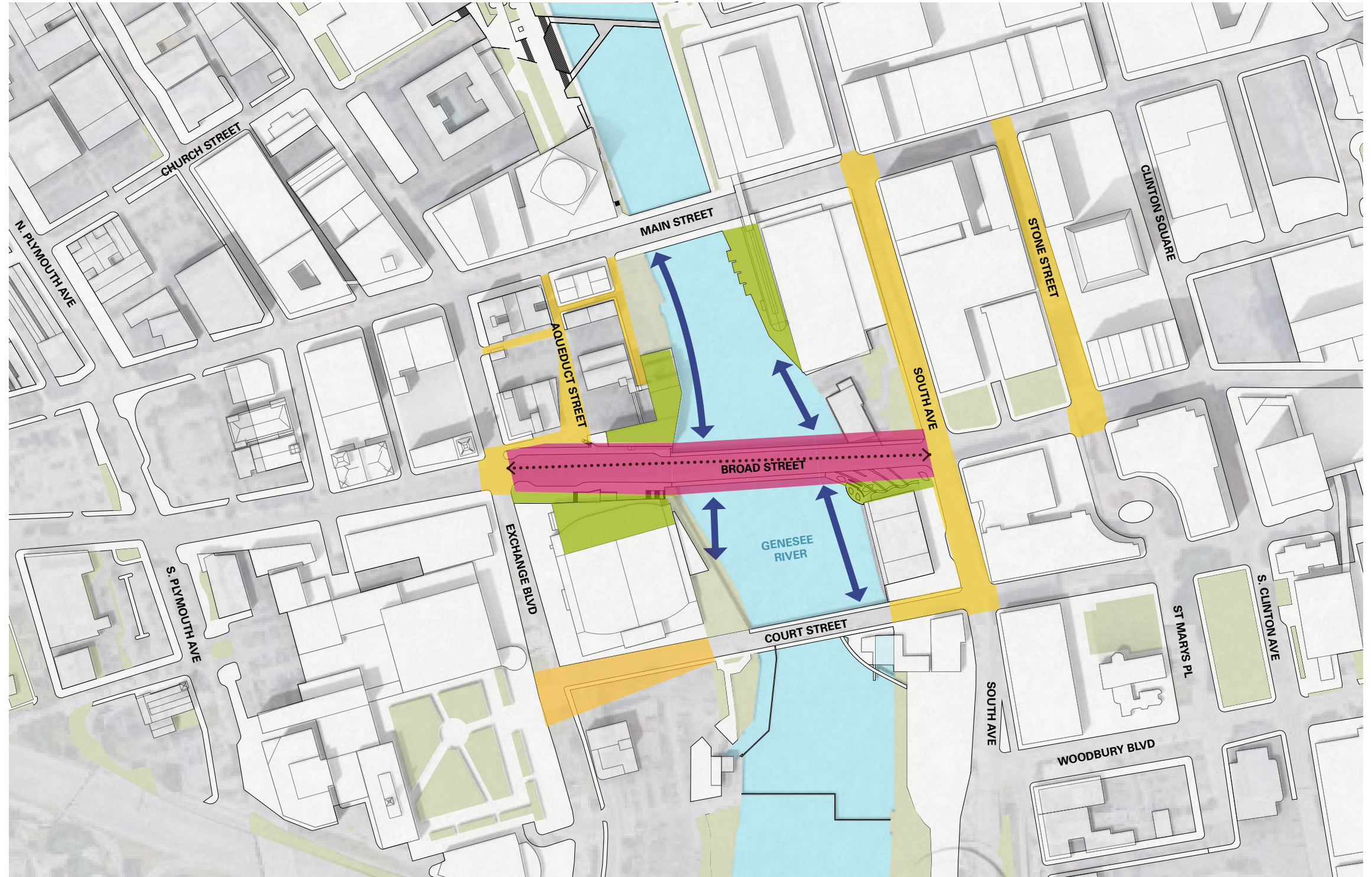
The Genesee River can be heard well which offers the design opportunity to curate an audio relationship to the river.



# Public Realm Analysis & Improvements

- Aqueduct Reimagined District Streets
- Inner Loop Public Spaces

# Aqueduct Reimagined District Streets Scope



- Street Improvements (City Funded)

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- Riverfront Promenades
- Adjacent Building Modifications
- Vehicular Deck Removal, Structural Repairs & Creation of Public Space
- Utilities Consolidation



Public Realm Analysis  
& Improvements:  
Aqueduct District  
Streets

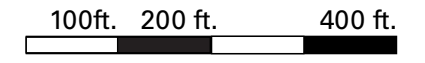
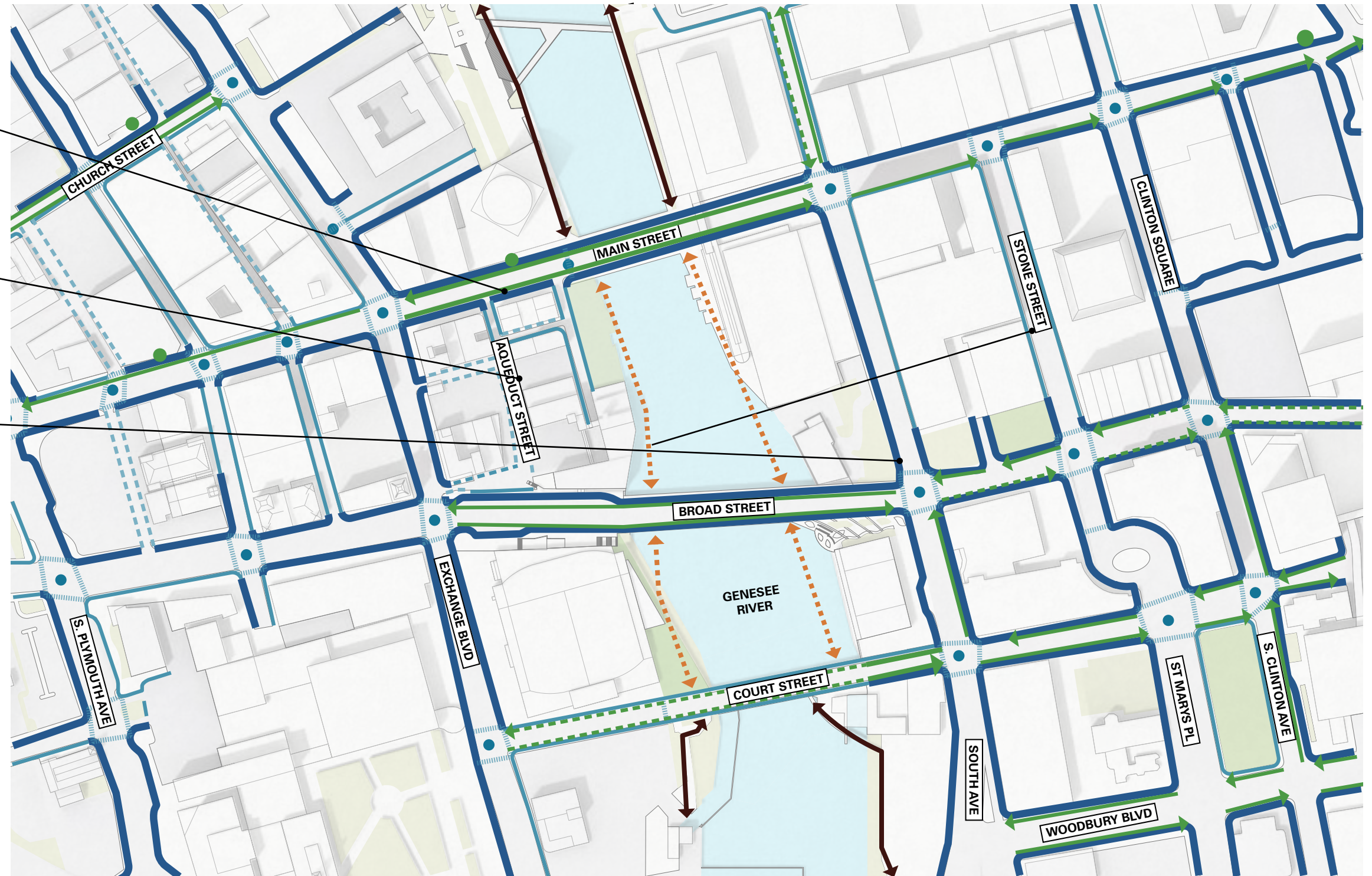
# Prioritizing Bike & Pedestrian Connectivity

Main Street Bridge is incorporating bike lanes in both directions of traffic

Aqueduct Street will be redesigned for shared and flexible use

South Ave & Stone Street will accommodate bikes

- Future Bike Connection
- Bike Share Station
- Shared Bike Use
- Bike Lane
- Heritage & Genesee Riverway Trails
- Sidewalk <5'
- Sidewalk 5-12'
- Sidewalk > 12'
- Crosswalk
- Signaled Intersections





# Aqueduct Reimagined District Streets - Prioritizing People over Cars

Aqueduct District streets will have balanced zones that support multi-modal connectivity and prioritize pedestrians



Source:  
City of Rochester  
Street Design Guide  
April 2019



# Aqueduct Reimagined District Streets Precedents

**Travel  
Zone**



**Static  
Zone**



**Pedestrian  
Zone**





# Rochester's Current Public Realm Identities



**Natural  
Features**

**Crossings**

**Railings**

**Paving**

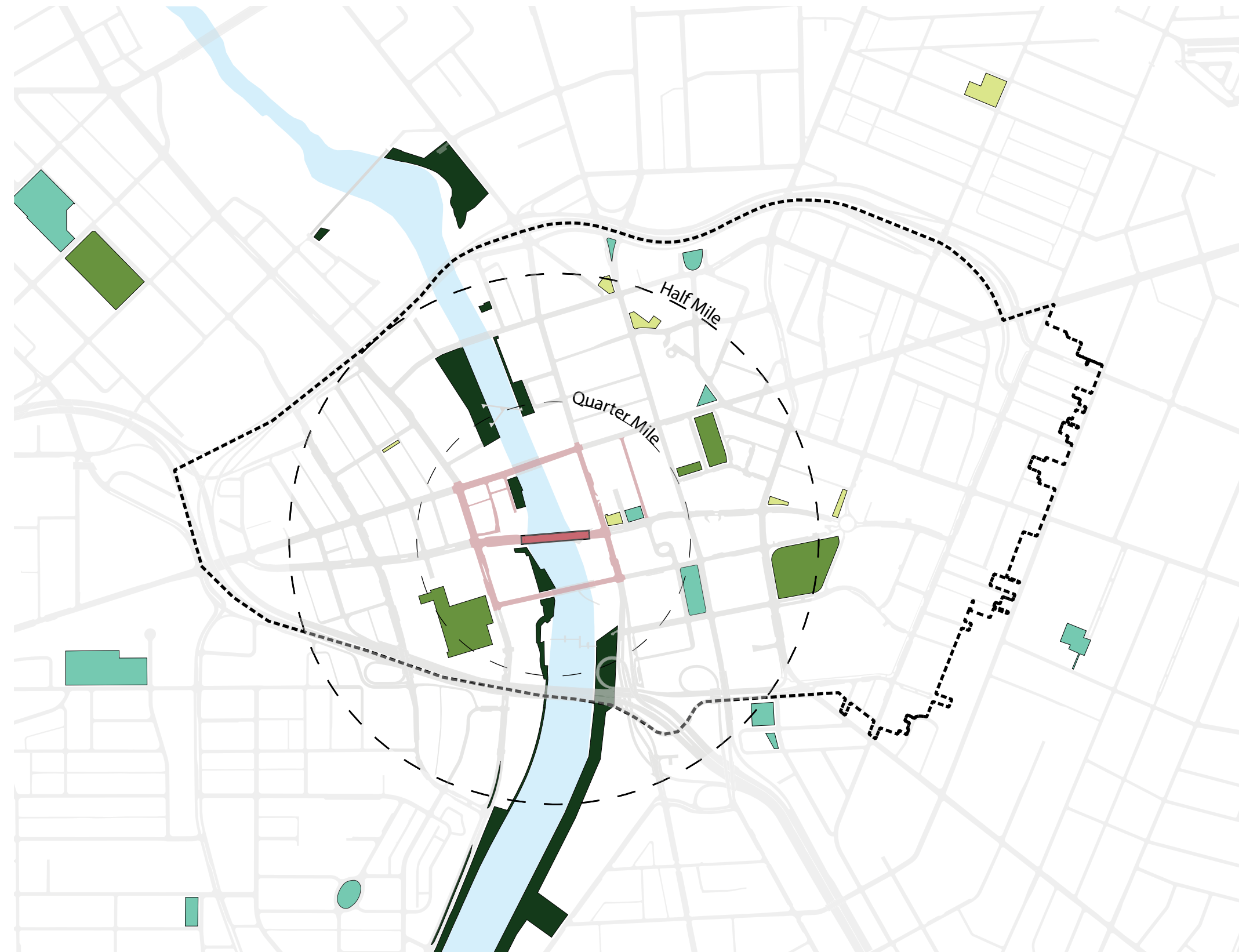
**Furnishings**

**Lighting**



# Existing Public Spaces Typologies

Inner Loop residents and visitors currently have access to more than 20 existing public spaces



- Aqueduct District
- Aqueduct
- Destination Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Riverfront Connection Park
- Privately Owned Public Space



Public Realm Analysis  
& Improvements:  
Public Spaces

# Existing Public Space Typologies

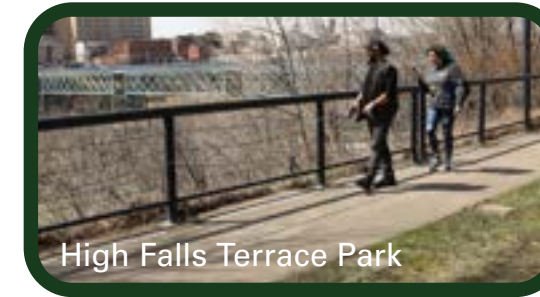
There are different types of public spaces in the Inner Loop



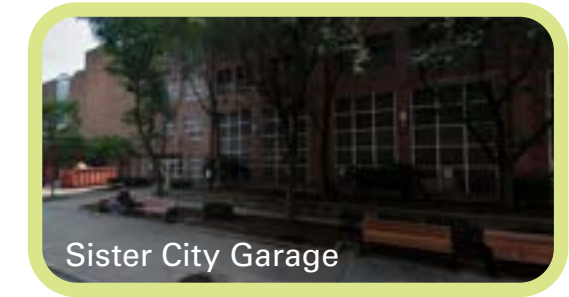
Brown Square Park



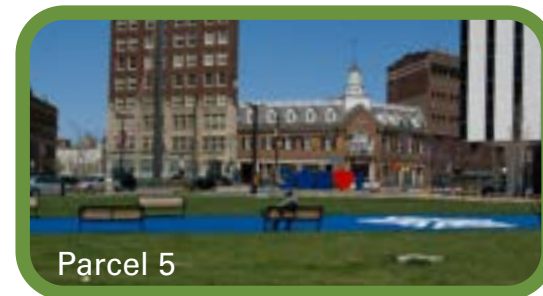
Wadsworth Square Park



High Falls Terrace Park



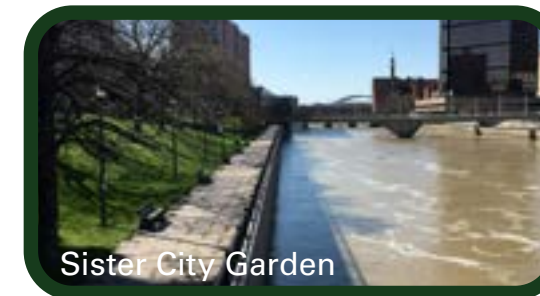
Sister City Garage



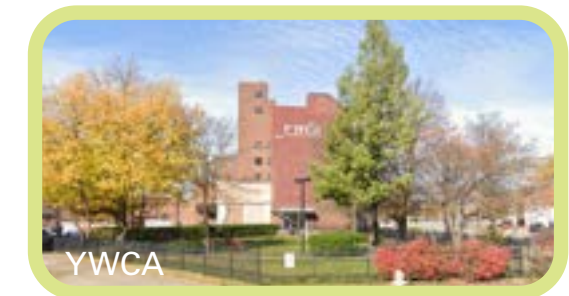
Parcel 5



Liberty Pole Way



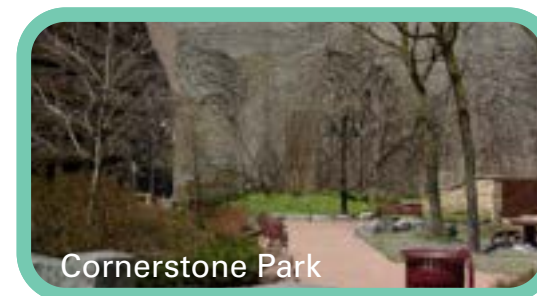
Sister City Garden



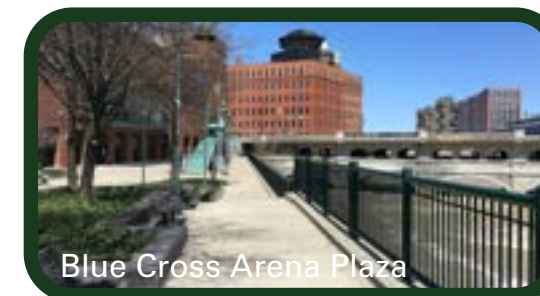
YWCA



Civic Center Plaza



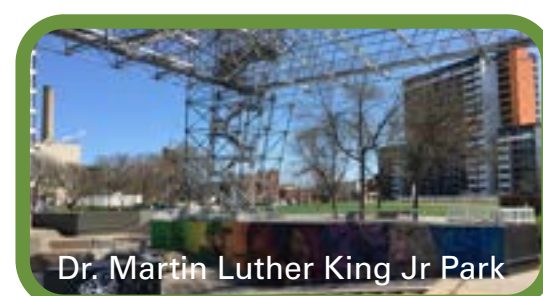
Cornerstone Park



Blue Cross Arena Plaza



St. Joseph's Park



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Park



Washington Square Park



Genesee Gateway Park



Broad Street & South Avenue

- Destination Park
- Neighborhood Park
- Riverfront Connection Park
- Privately Owned Public

## Destination Park

## Neighborhood Park

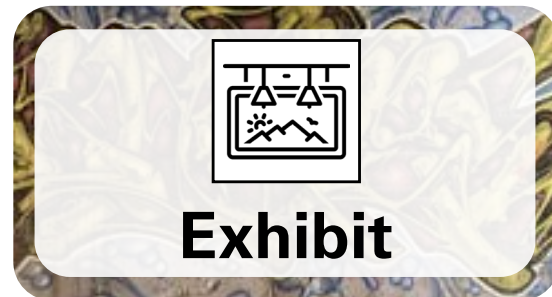
## Riverfront Connection Park

## Privately Owned Public Space



# Existing Capacity to Support Activities

Inner Loop public spaces support different types of activities





Public Realm Analysis  
& Improvements:  
Public Spaces

# Existing Capacity to Support Activities

Inner Loop public spaces have different capacities to support these activities

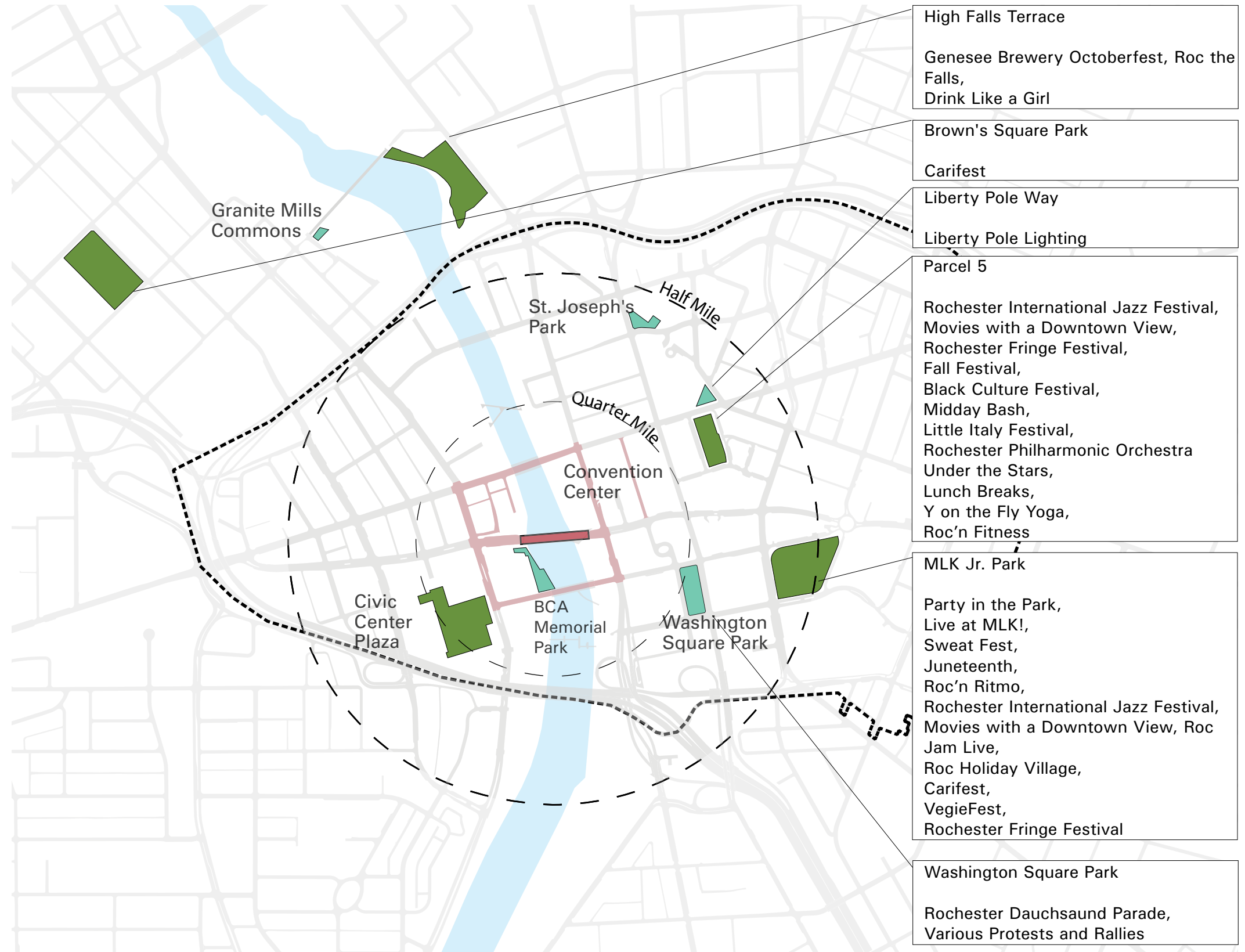
For example, most have places to rest but only a few have places to exhibit art



Public Realm Analysis  
& Improvements:  
Public Spaces

# Existing Public Space Events

Public spaces a short walking distance from the Aqueduct already host many annual events





Public Realm Analysis  
& Improvements:  
Public Spaces

Inner Loop public spaces host different scales of programs & events

Only a few host large-scale programs & events, most are unprogrammed

These spaces also have different infrastructure capacities to support programs & events

# Public Space Gathering & Infrastructure Capacities

**Large-scale programs & events**


**FEW**  
existing public spaces have these

**Medium- to small programs & events**


**SOME**  
existing public spaces have these

**Unplanned (Spontaneous)**

**MOST**  
existing public spaces have these

  
**Power**

**SOME**  
existing public spaces have power infrastructure

  
**Water**

**FEW**  
existing public spaces have water infrastructure

  
**Accessibility**

**MOST**  
existing public spaces are ADA accessible



# Aqueduct Reimagined

Consider the following as you think about how the Aqueduct project can complement existing Inner Loop public spaces...

- What streetscape elements should be a part of the Aqueduct Reimagined District?
- What public space typology do we have too much of? Too little of?
- What activities, events, programs are missing downtown?

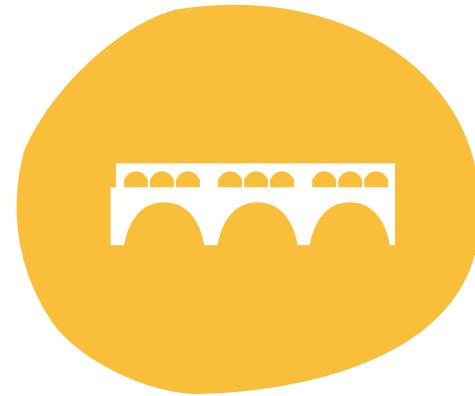


# Design Analysis & Concepts



# Community Priorities

Based on what we heard was important to you, we identified six key priorities that will inform design concepts



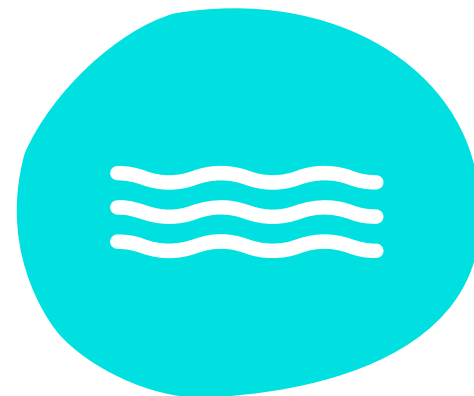
**History**



**Art**



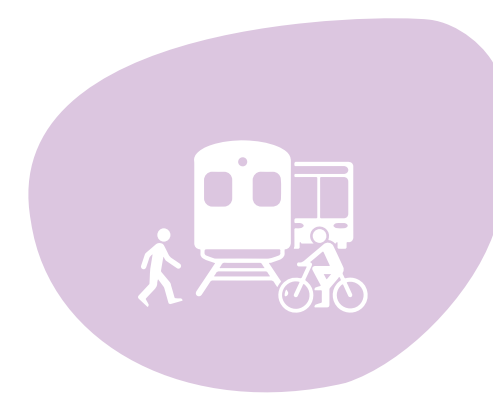
**Landscape**



**Water**



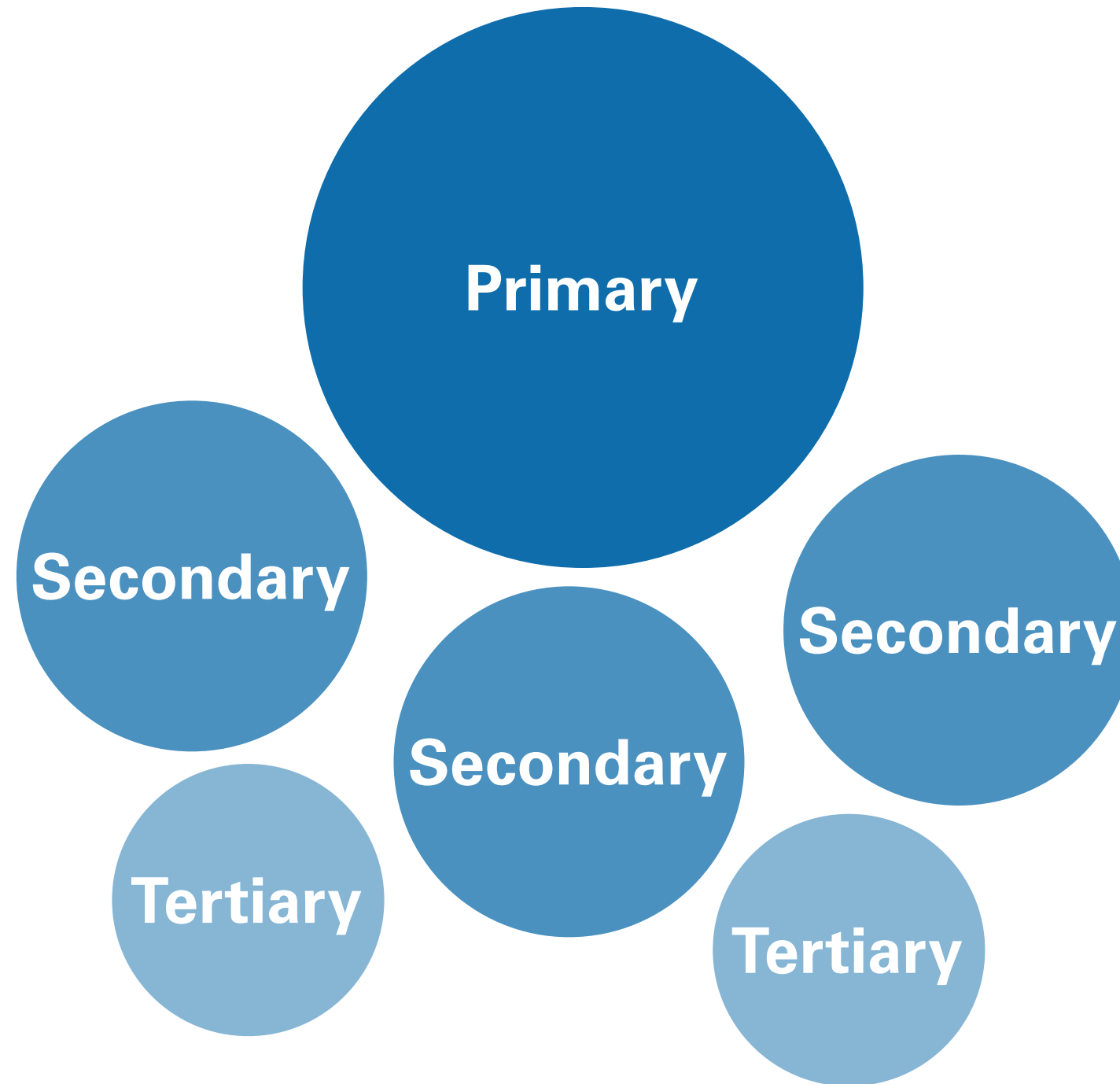
**Destination/  
Attraction**



**Mobility**

# Hierarchy of Priorities

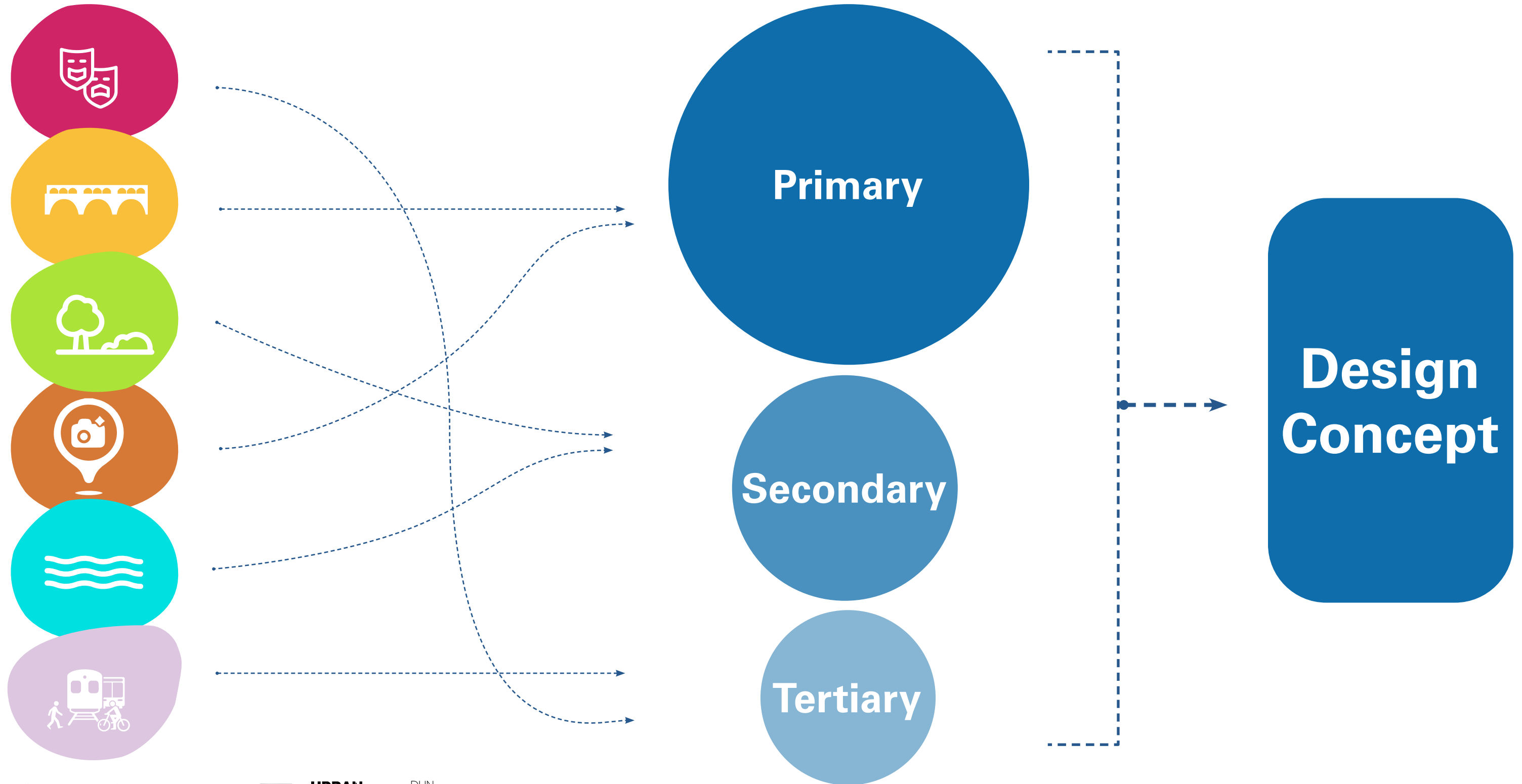
Each concept can have all the priorities within them, to varying degrees of importance to all.





# Making a Design Concept

The way priorities are organized and weighted determines the final outcome both in terms of physical and programmatic design.



# Six Design Concepts

Cultural Histories

The Everyday

Connector

The Destination

Creative Arts

Green  
River Ecology



# Six Design Concepts

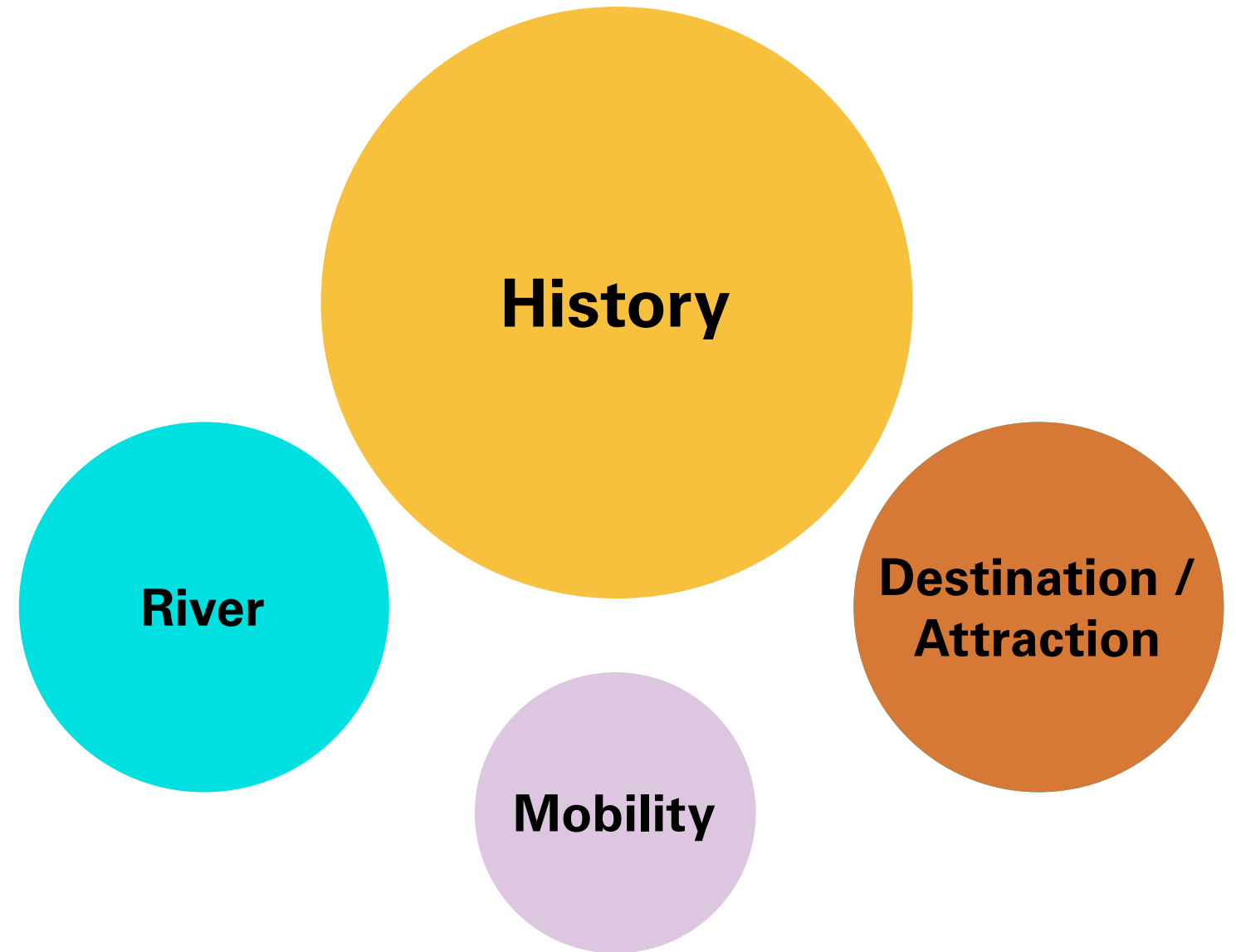
## Cultural Histories

The Layered History of Rochester,  
its People, and its River.

# Cultural Histories: A Precedent



Rialto Bridge, Venice

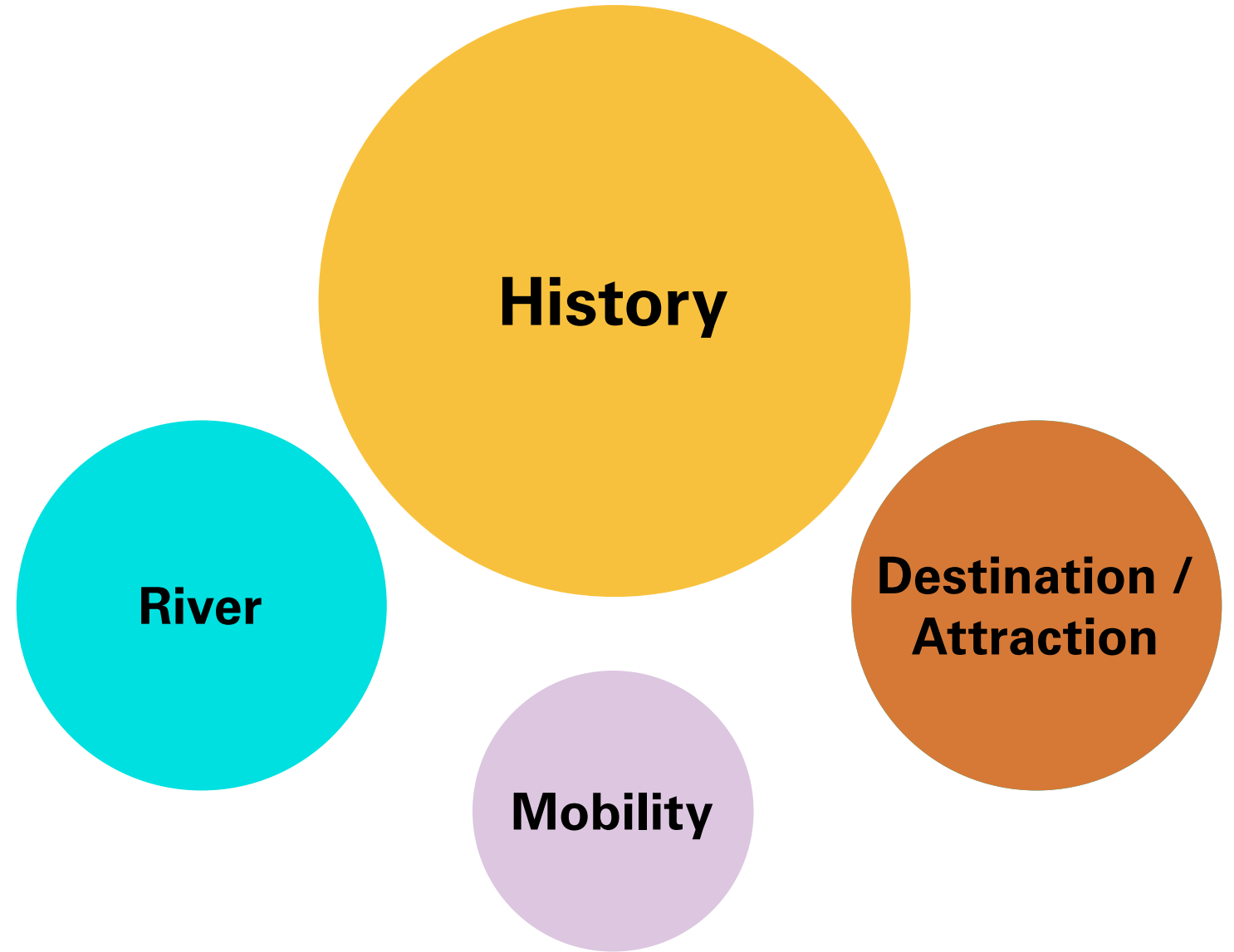




# Cultural Histories: A Precedent



Rialto Bridge, Venice





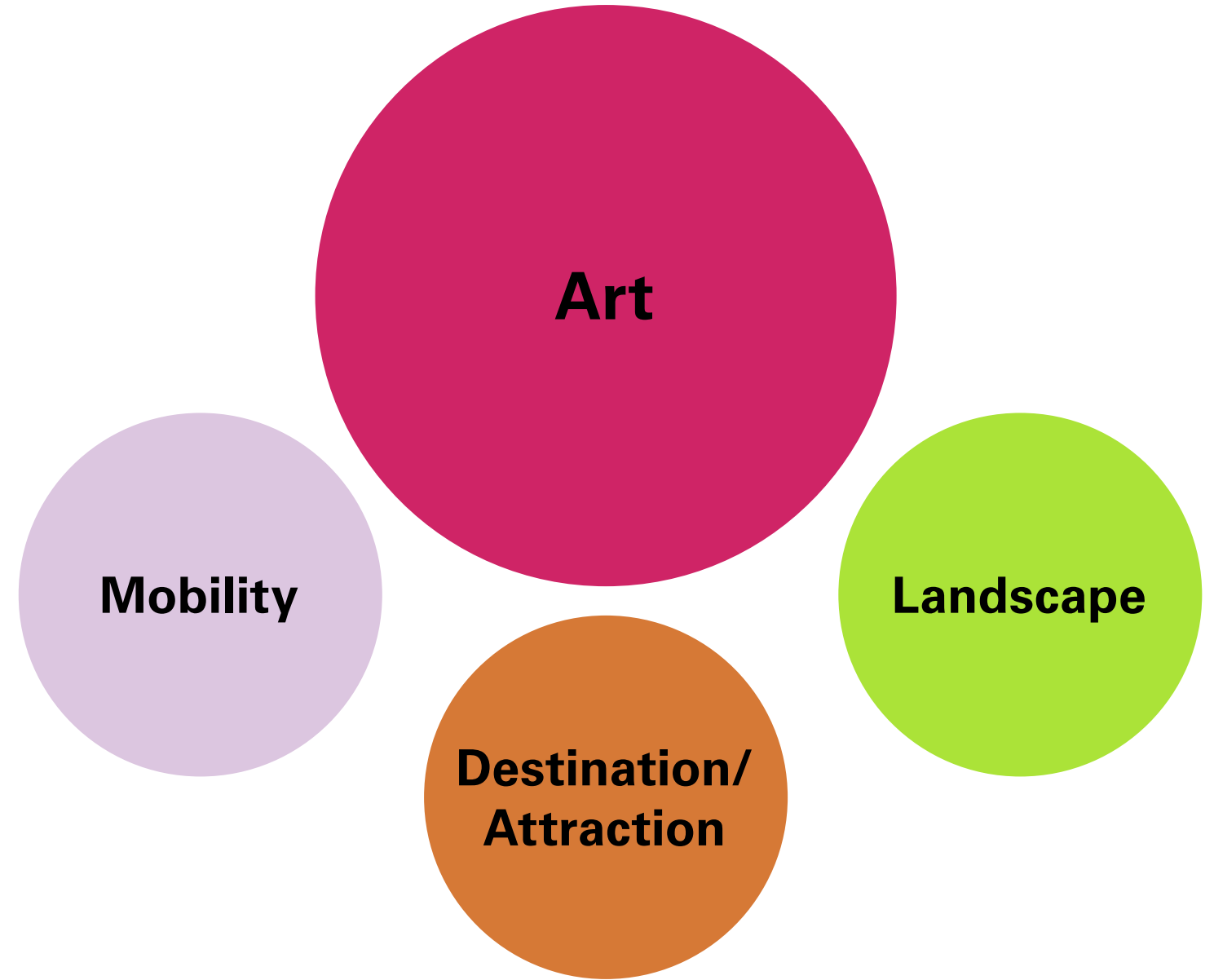
# Six Design Concepts

**Creative Arts**

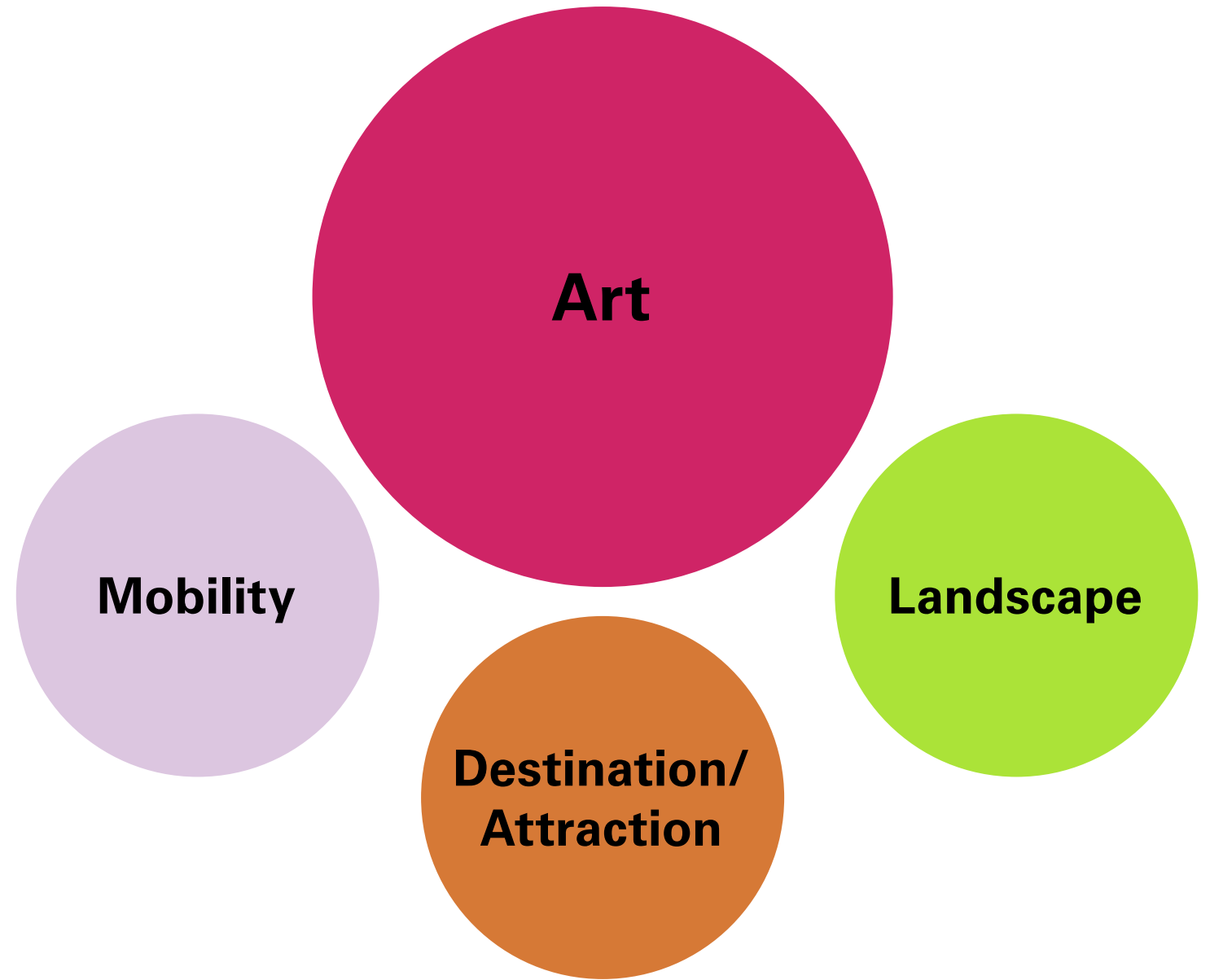
A Living Museum to Create, Display,  
and Perform



# Creative Arts: A Precedent



# Creative Arts: A Precedent





# Six Design Concepts

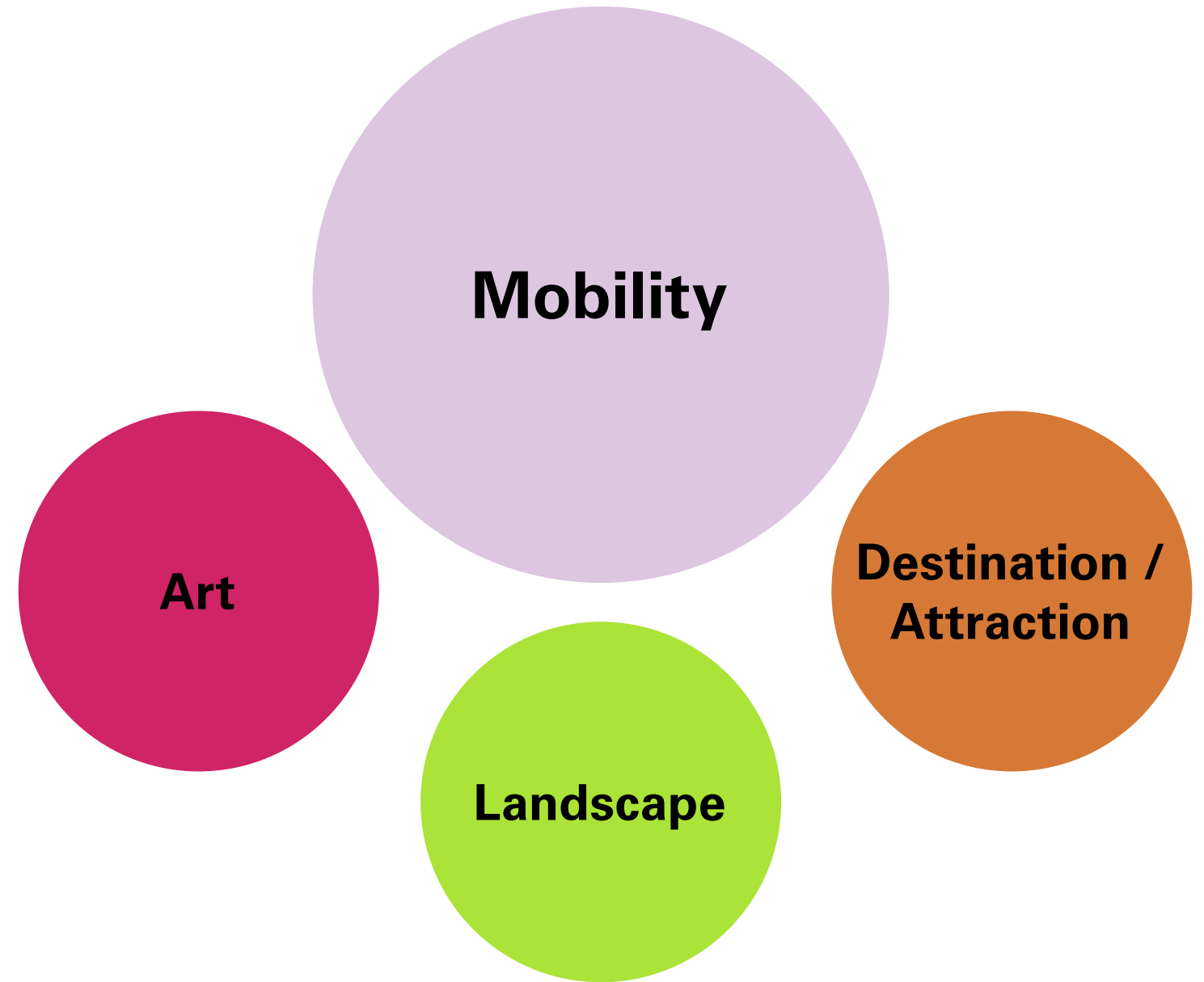
Connector

Connecting People,  
Neighborhoods, and Destinations

# Connector: A Precedent

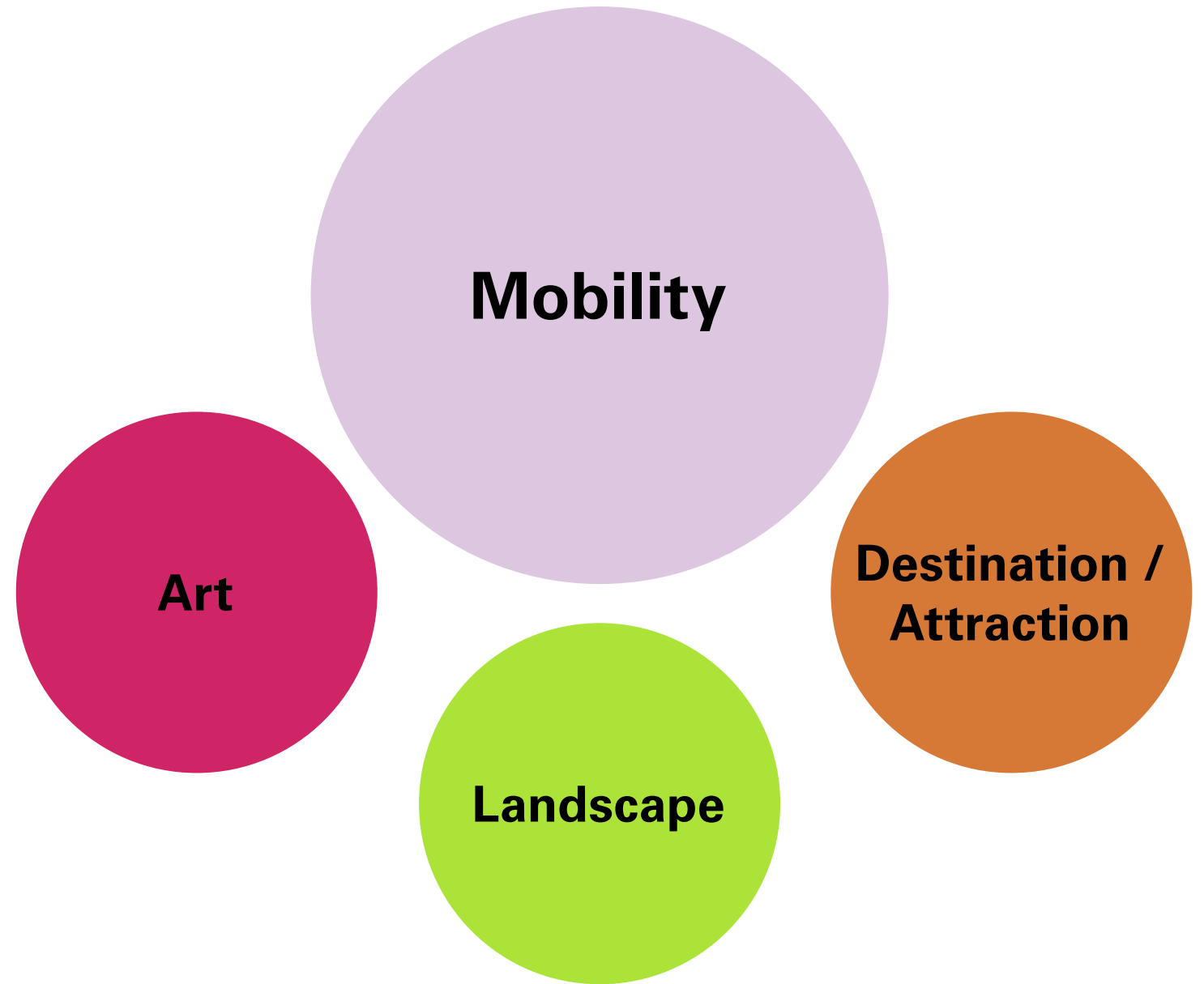


The 606, Chicago





# Connector: A Precedent





# Six Design Concepts

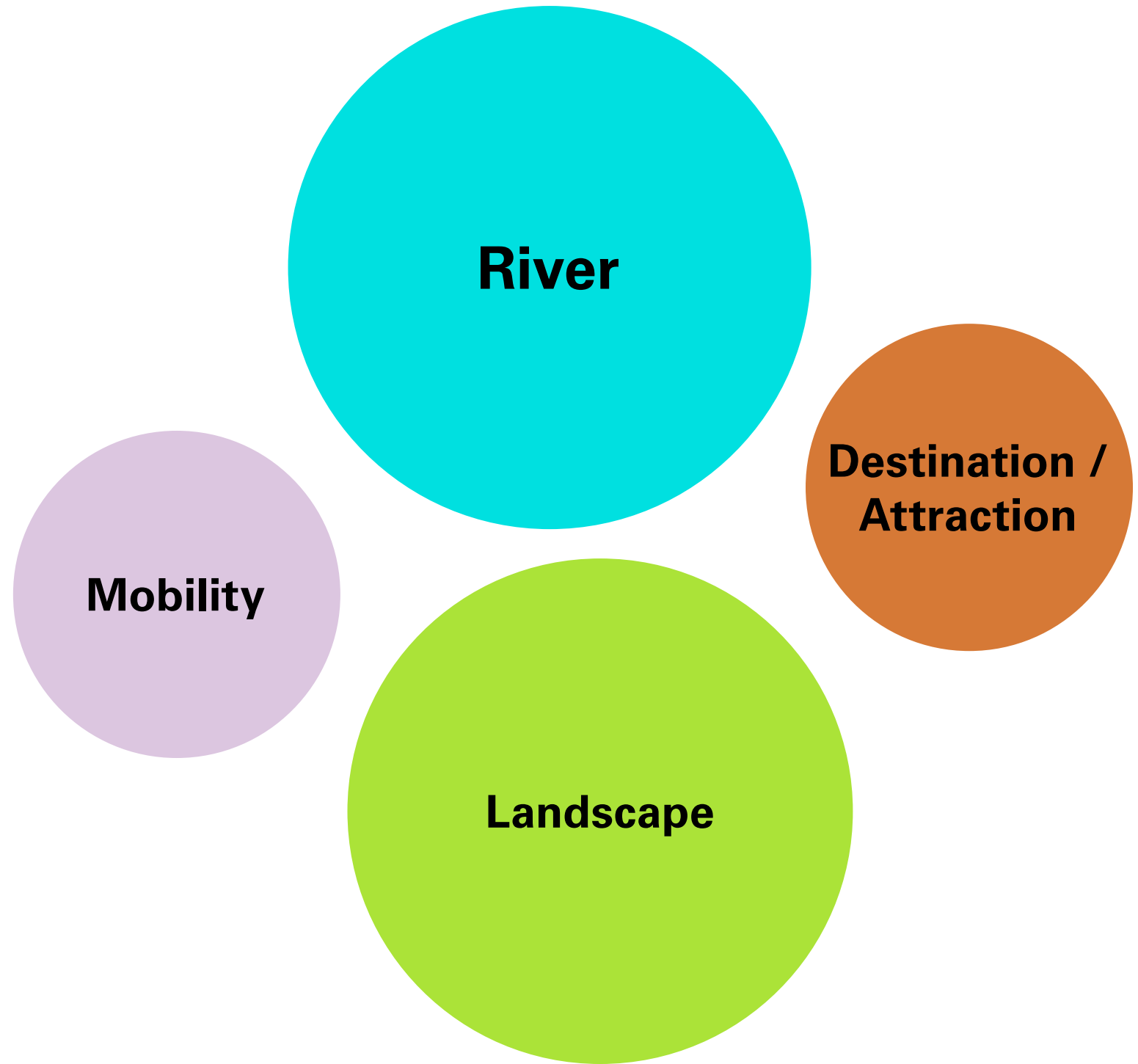
**Green  
River Ecology**

**Aqueduct As A Green River  
Ecology Park**

# River Ecology: A Precedent

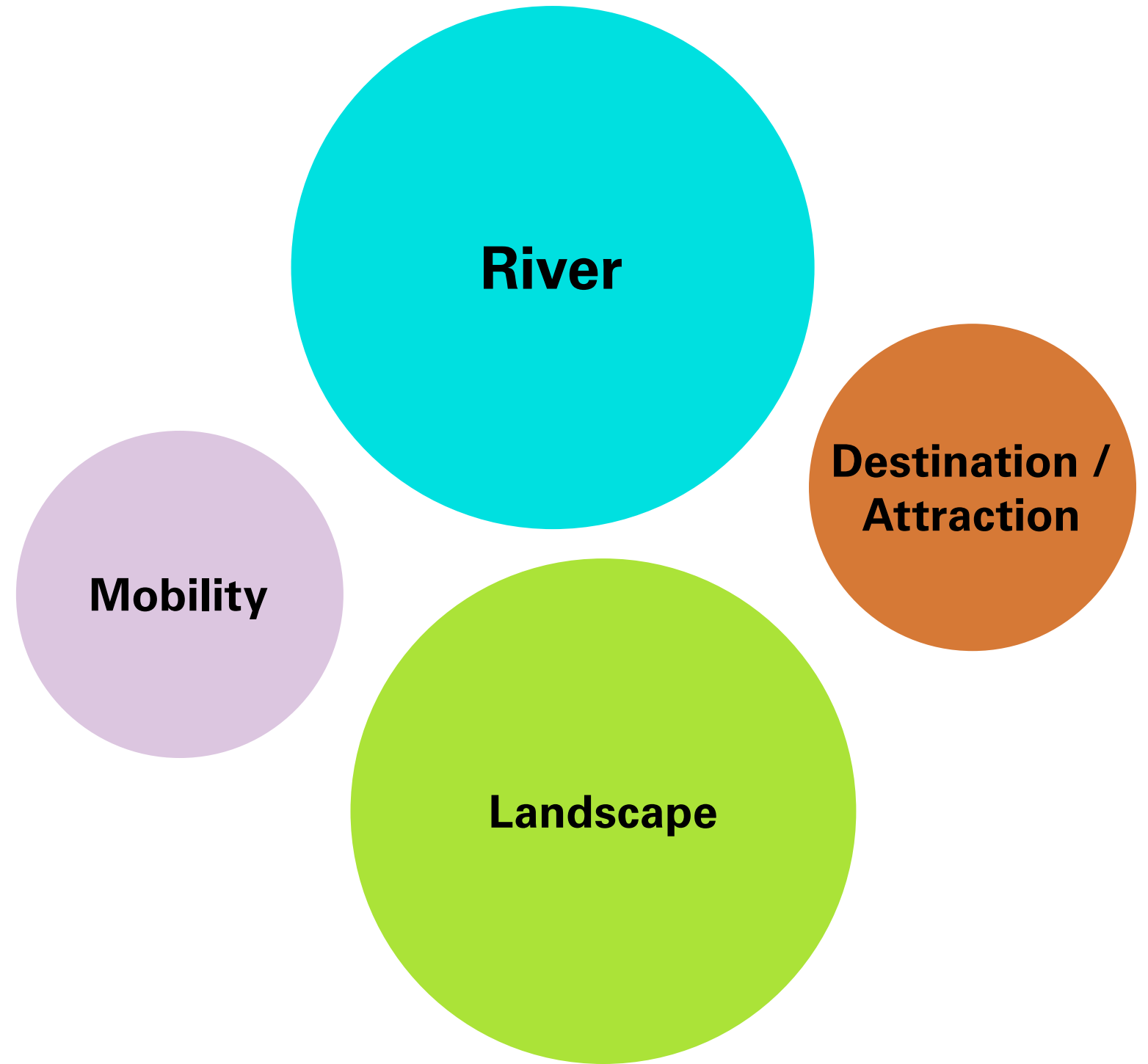
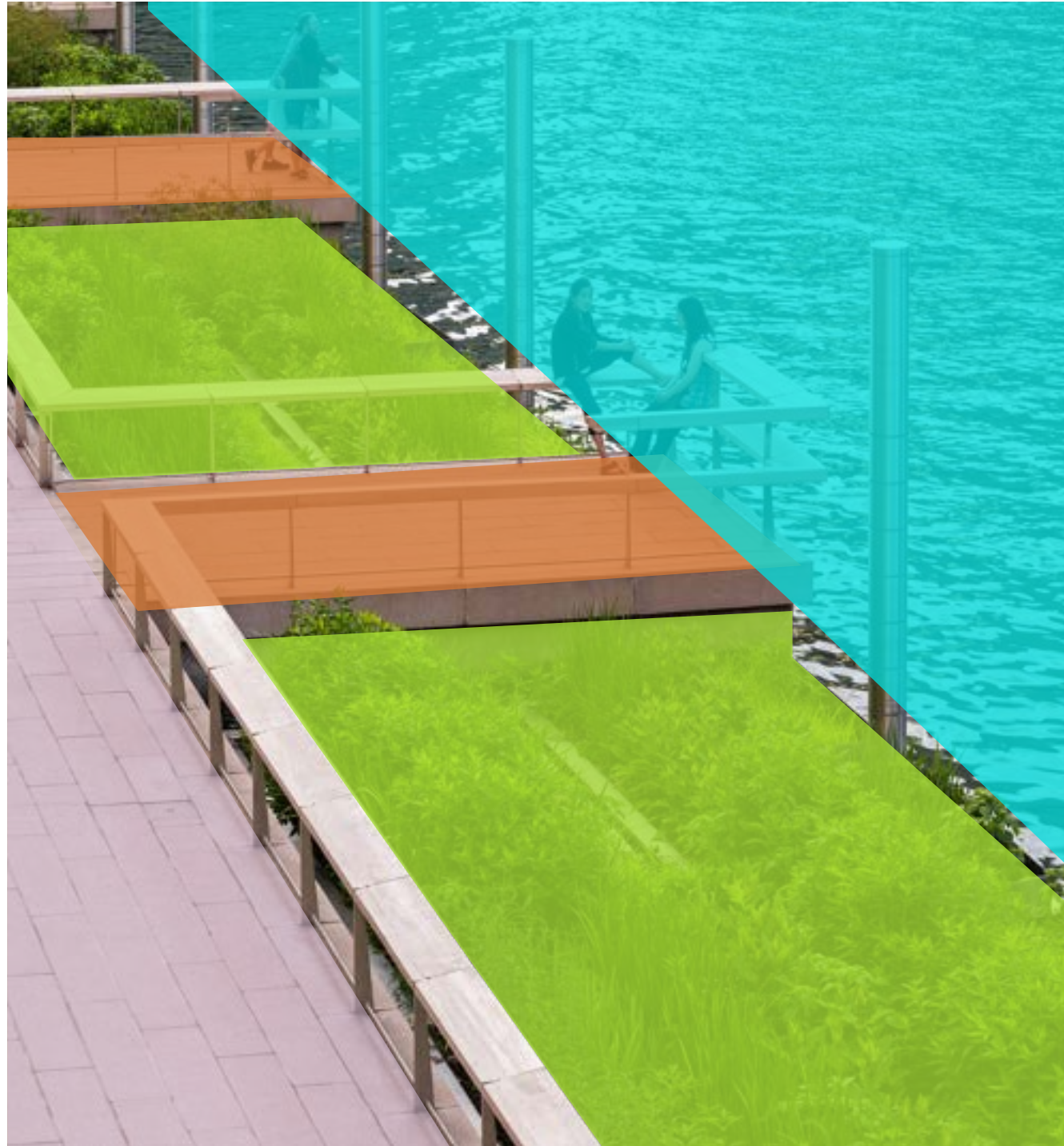


Chicago Riverfront, Chicago





# River Ecology: A Precedent



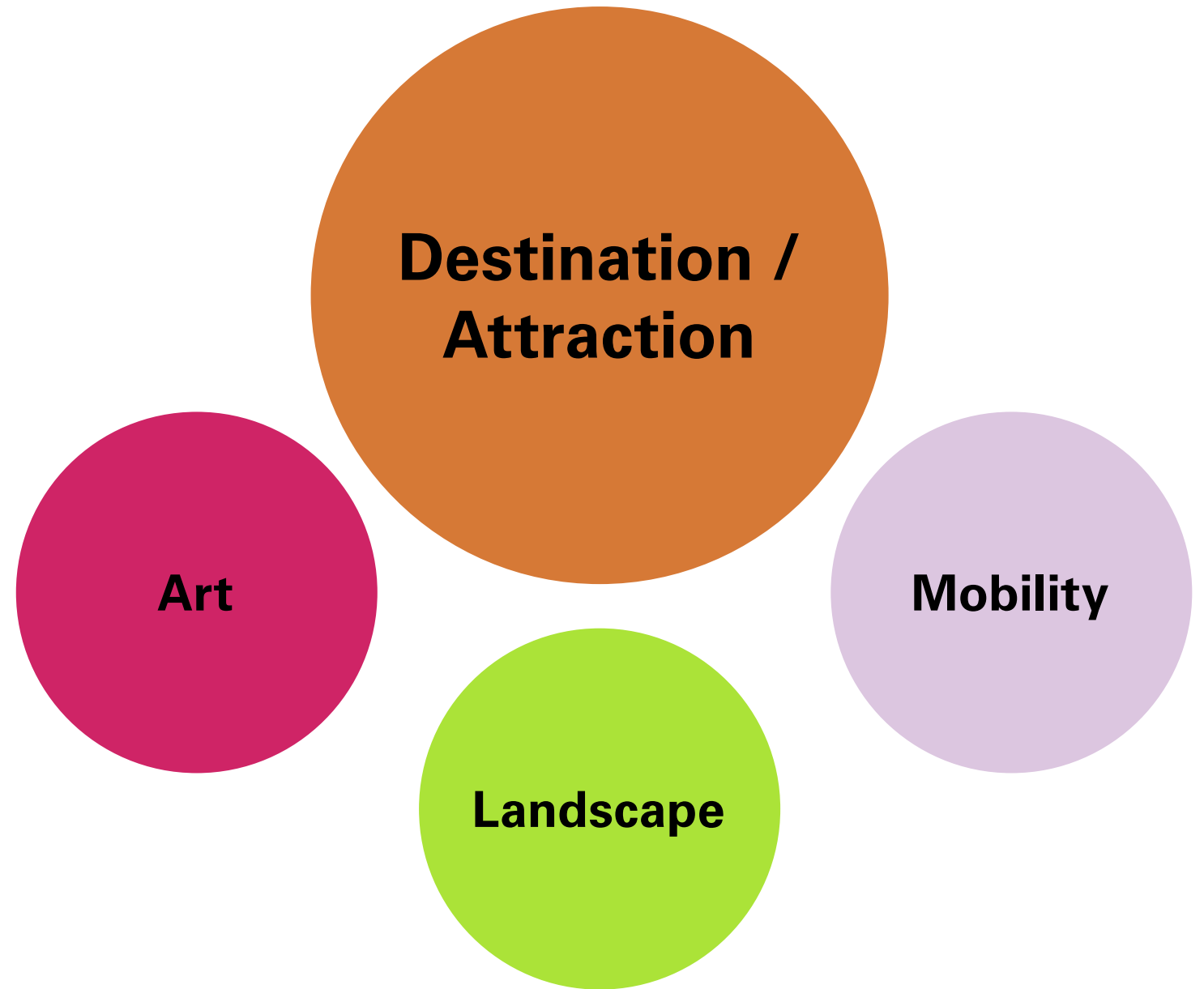
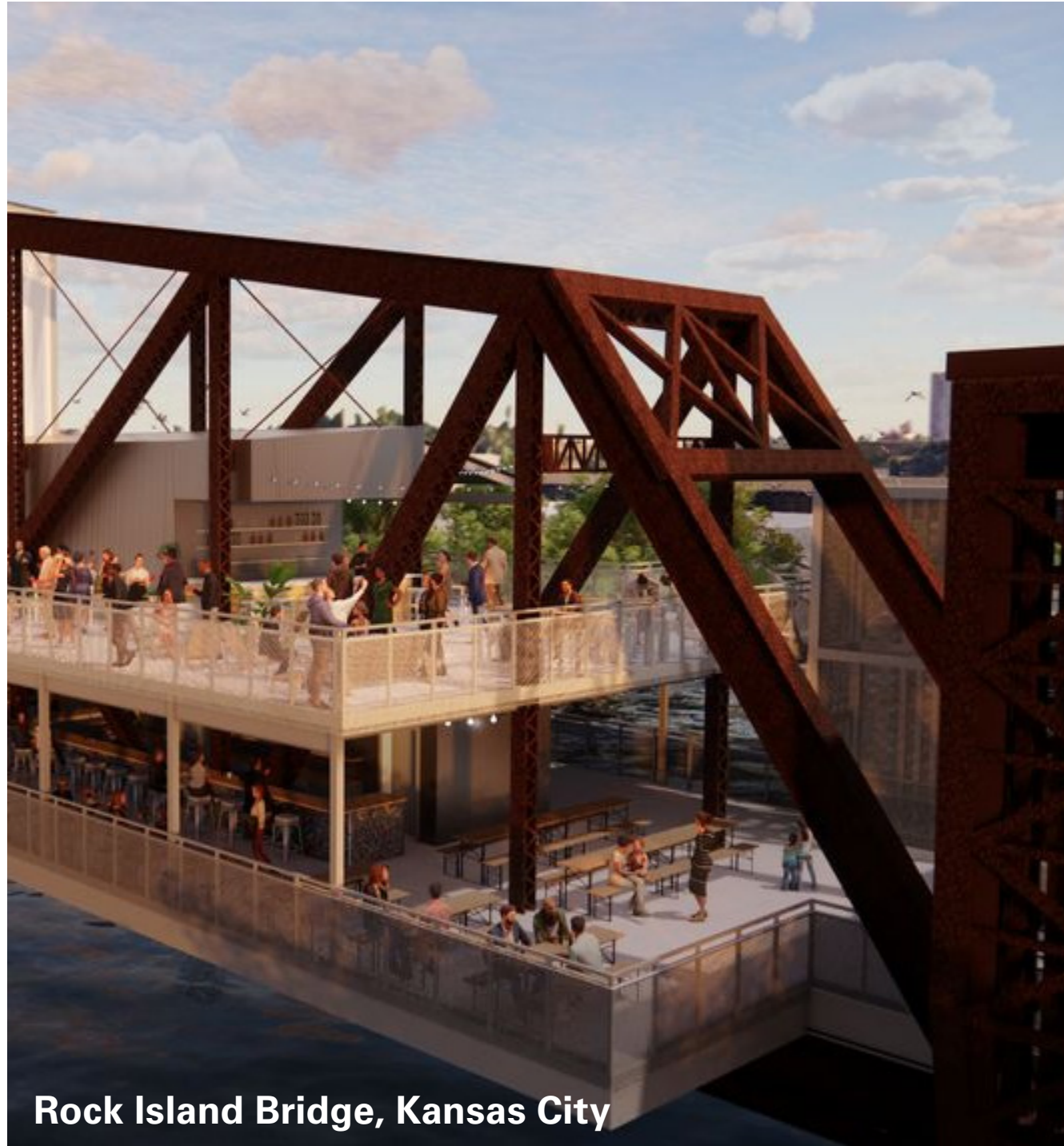


# Six Design Concepts

**The Destination**

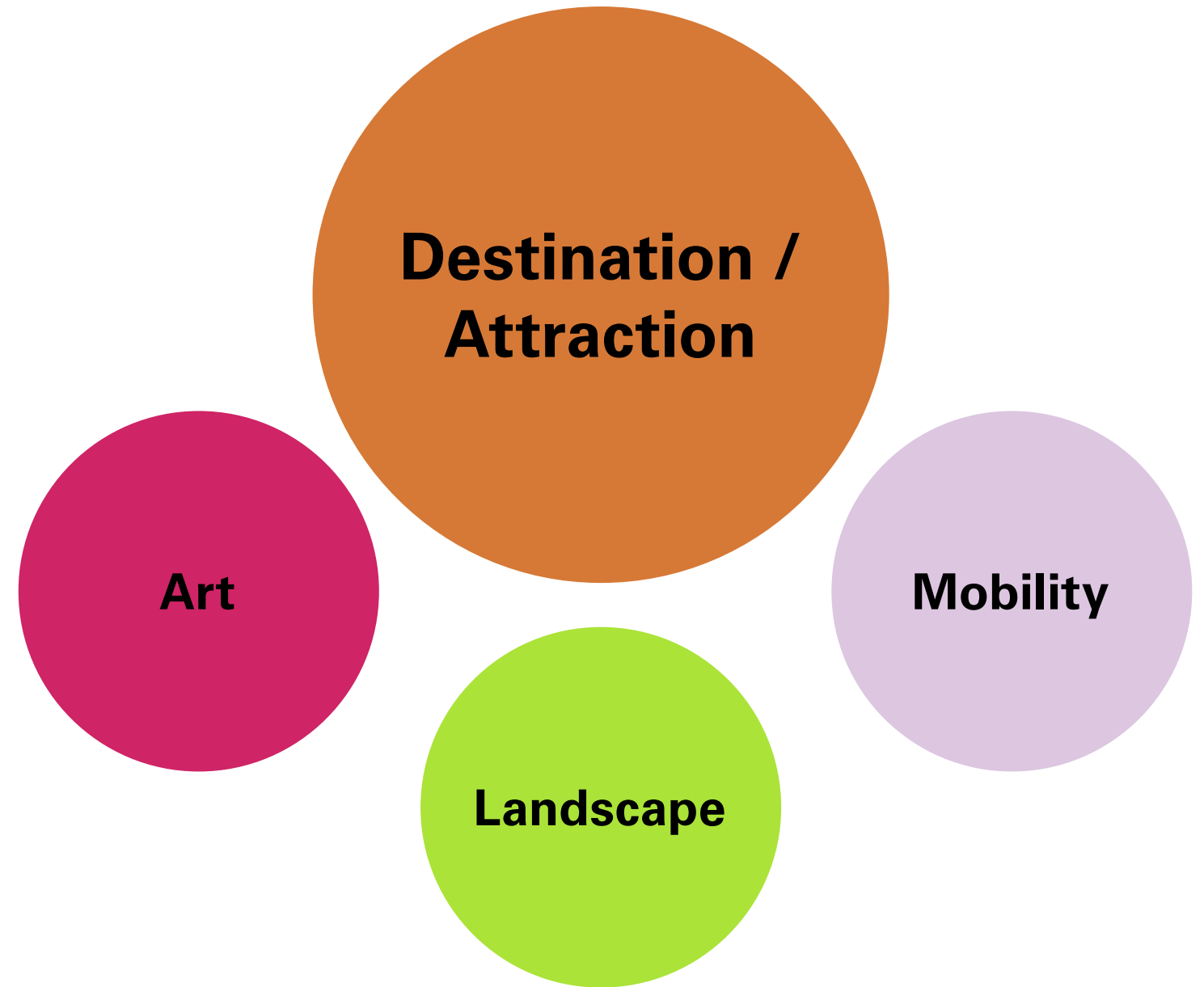
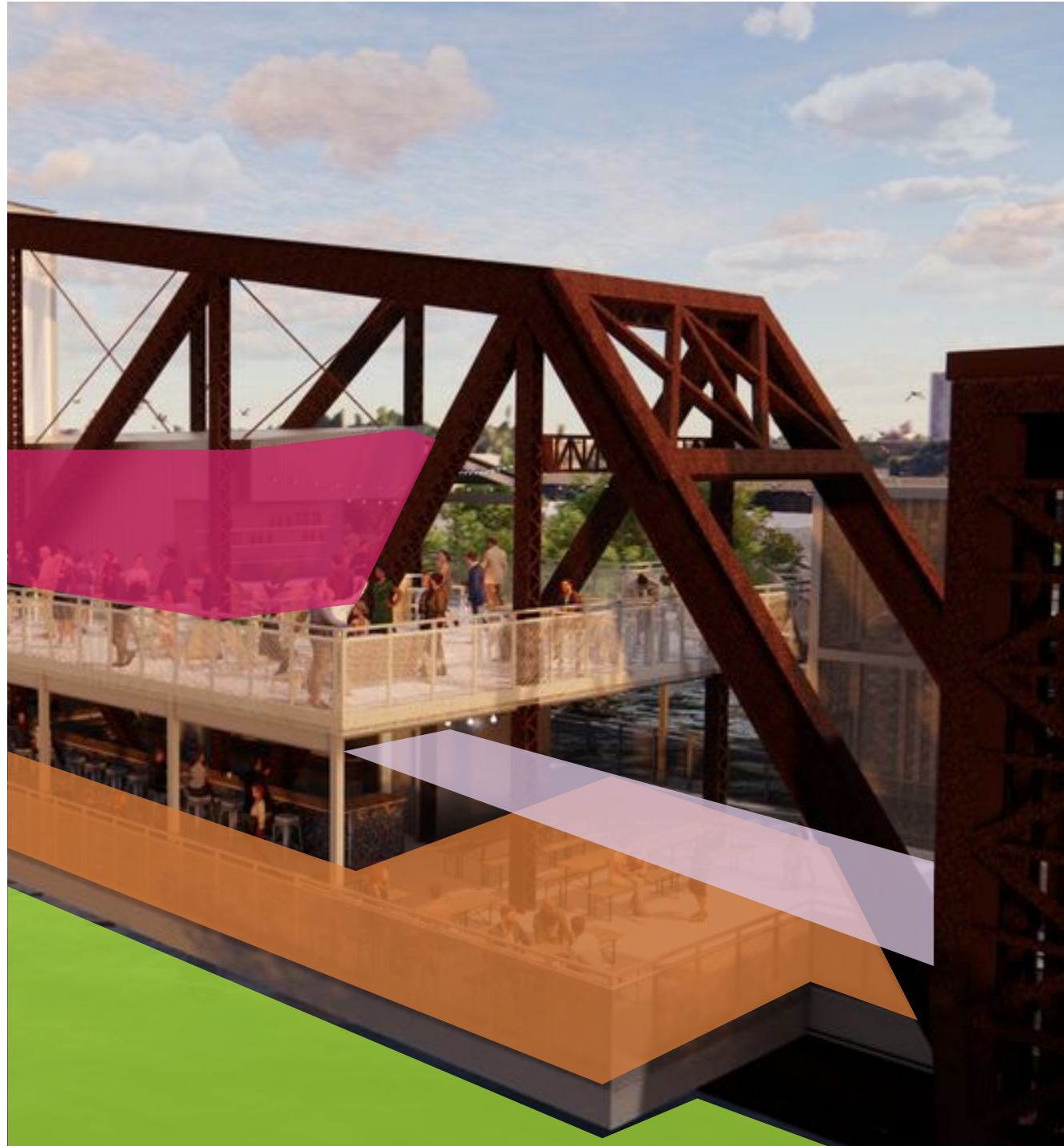
**A Space for Celebration and Gathering**

# The Destination: A Precedent





# The Destination: A Precedent



# Six Design Concepts

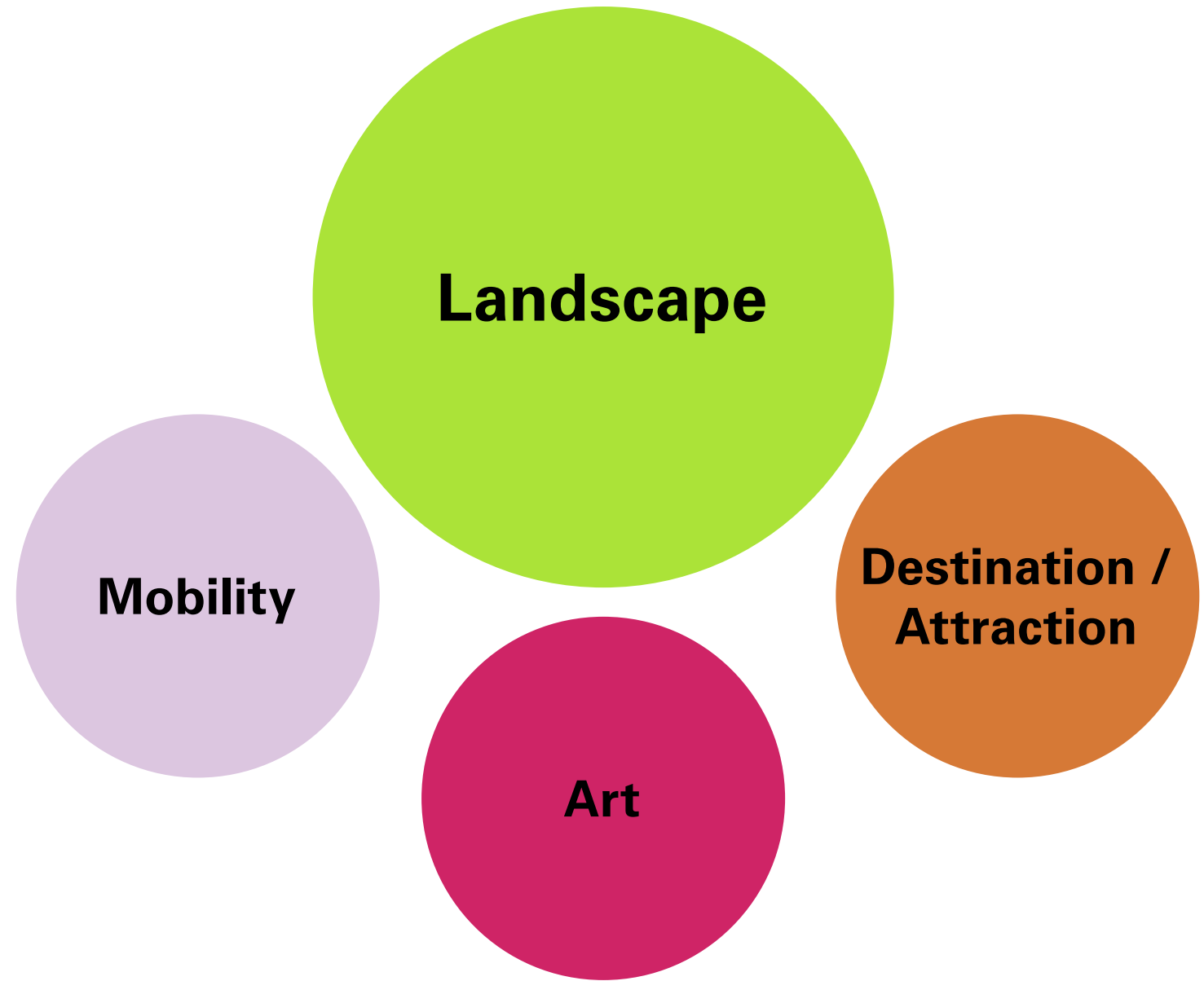
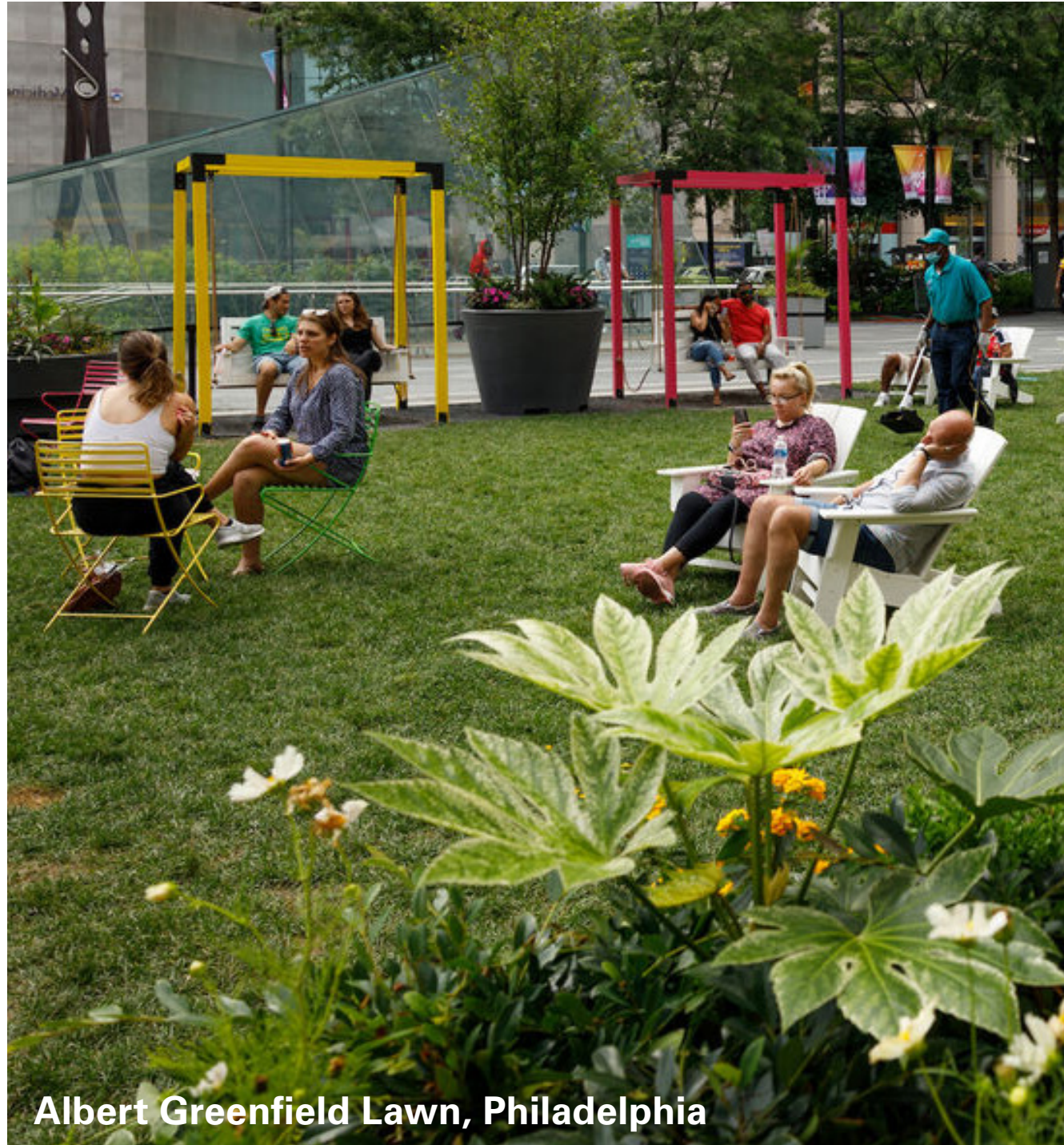
The Everyday

Downtown's Neighborhood Park  
for the Everyday



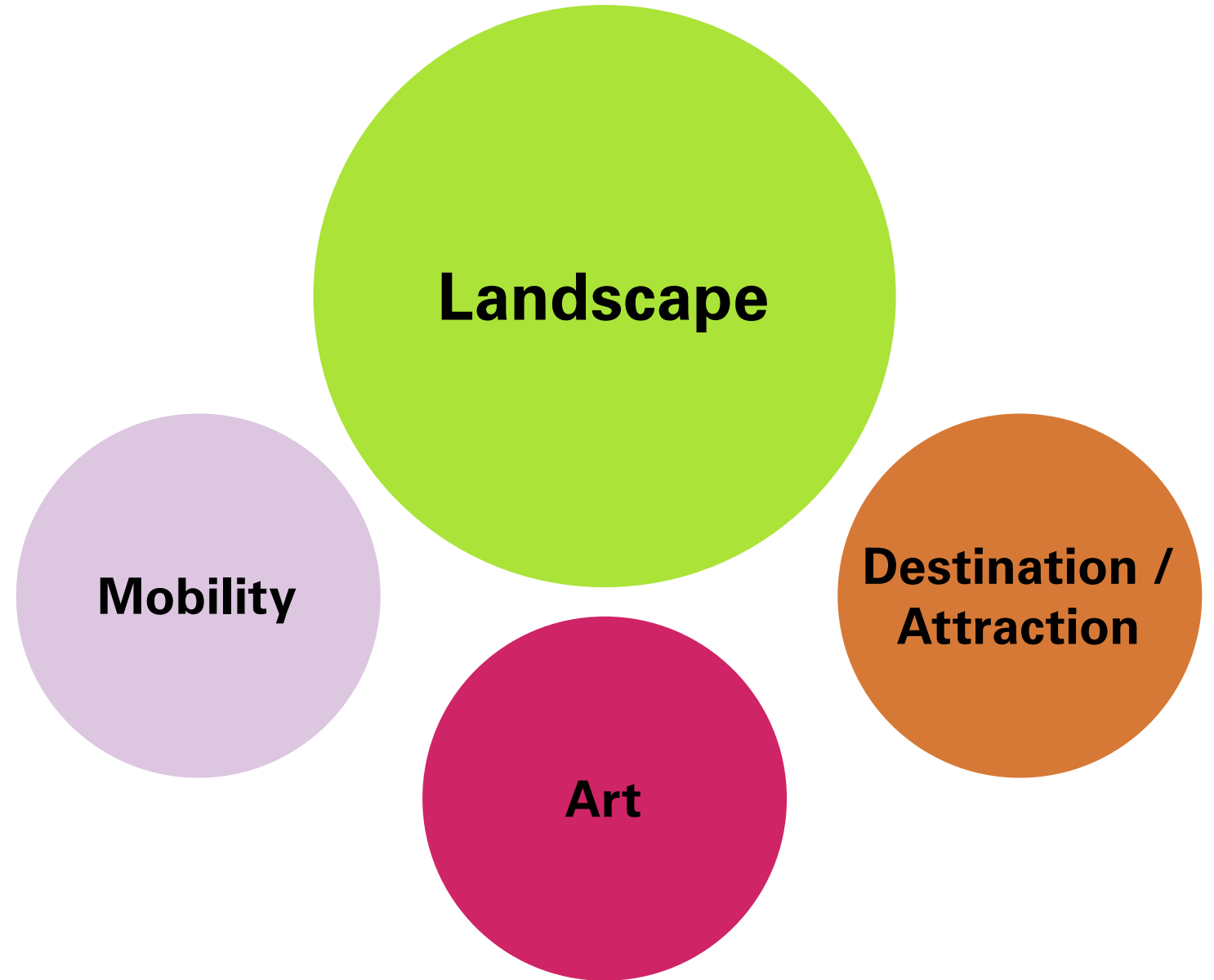


# The Everyday: A Precedent





# The Everyday: A Precedent



# High-Level Questions

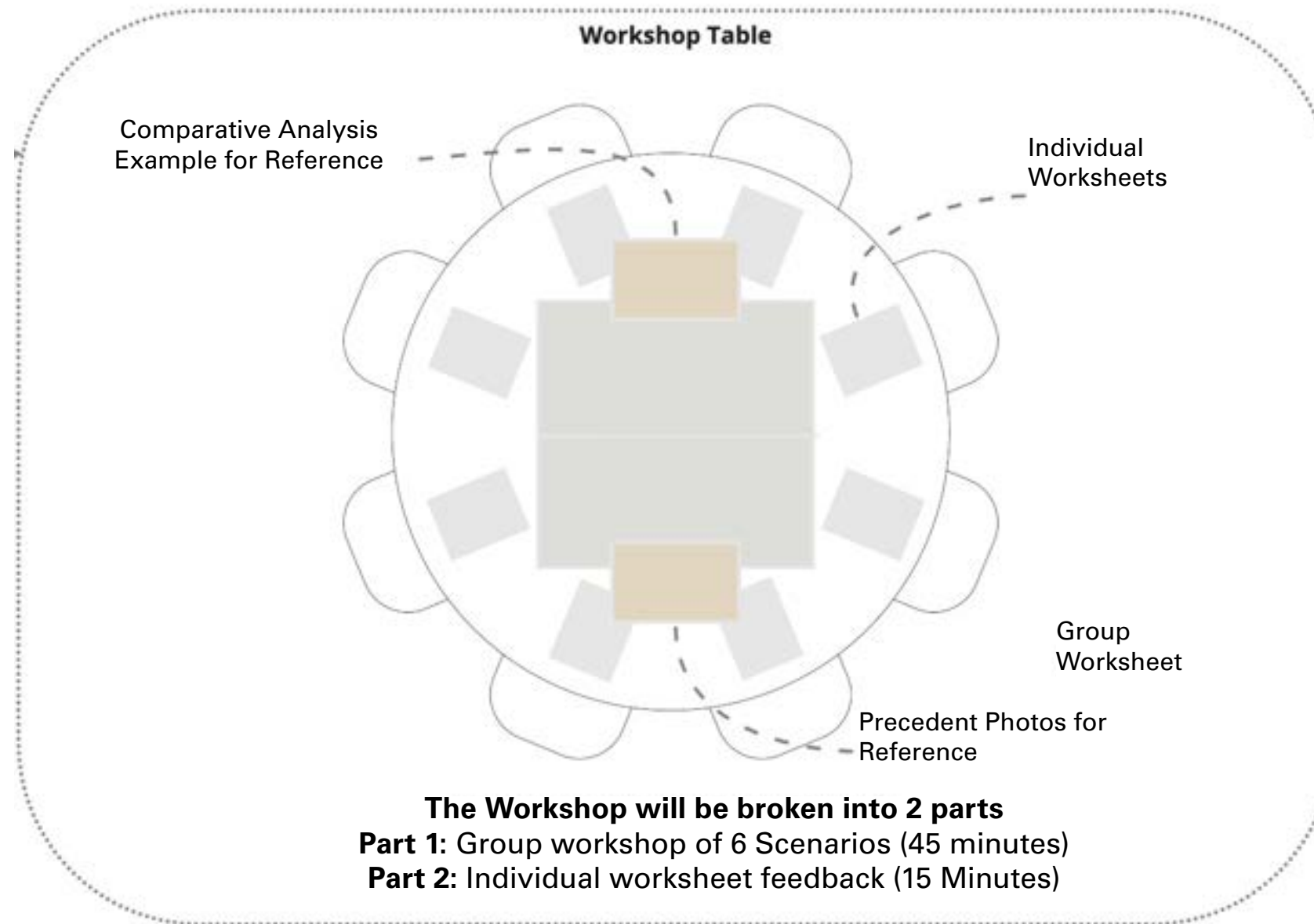
- What excites you most about your first two or three design concepts?
- What types of activities would you like to be able to do at this project that you aren't able to do anywhere else nearby?
- What kind of space(s) would you like this project to create?
- What considerations do we need to take into account when designing for these types of spaces and activities (accessibility, infrastructure, utilities)?





# **Interactive Exercise: It's Your Turn**

# Workshop Layout & Format



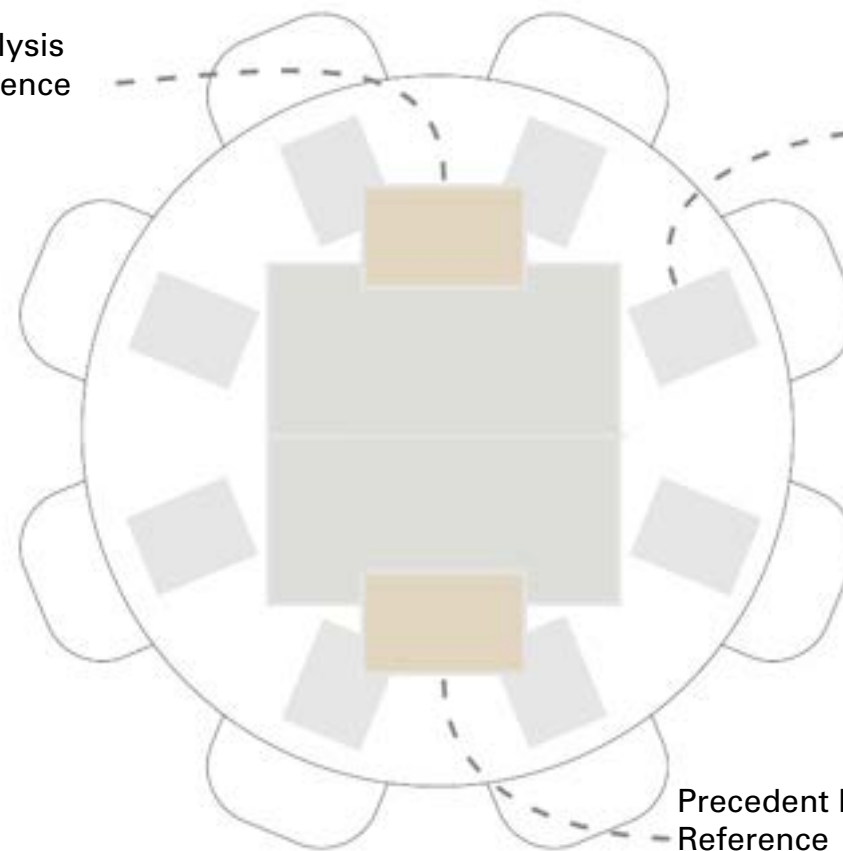


# Workshop Layout & Format

**Group  
Worksheet (1)**

**Precedent  
Photocards  
(2)**

Comparative Analysis  
Example for Reference



Individual  
Worksheets

Group  
Worksheet

Precedent Photos for  
Reference











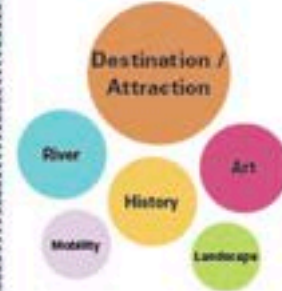

**Public Realm  
Analysis (2)**

**Individual  
Working  
Sheets**

**The Workshop will be broken into 2 parts**  
**Part 1:** Group workshop of 6 Scenarios (45 minutes)  
**Part 2:** Individual worksheet feedback (15 Minutes)

# Workshop Layout & Format

## Group Worksheet (1)

Design Concept	Cultural Histories The Layered History of Rochester & the River	Creative Arts A Living Museum	Connector Connecting People, Neighborhoods and Destinations	Green River Ecology Aqueduct as River Ecology Park	The Destination A Space for Celebration & Gathering	The Everyday Downtown's Neighborhood Park for the Everyday
Precedent						
Priority	 <p>History, River, Destination/Attraction, Mobility, Art, Landscape</p>	 <p>Art, History, Destination/Attraction, Landscape, River, Mobility</p>	 <p>Mobility, River, History, Landscape, Destination/Attraction, Art</p>	 <p>River, Landscape, Destination/Attraction, Mobility, History, Art</p>	 <p>Destination/Attraction, River, History, Art, Landscape, Mobility</p>	 <p>Landscape, Destination/Attraction, Art, River, History, Mobility</p>
Your Design Feedback !	<p>1. What design features do you think could make the space feel like it celebrates cultural history? (for example, visual indicators like plaques or images, installations, something more subtle?)</p> <p>2. Are there certain aspects of history you would be excited to see represented here?</p>	<p>1. What design features do you think can make the space read as a creative arts hub and draw people in? (for example, pop up art spaces? Installations? Performance space? Outdoor classroom area?)</p> <p>2. Are there certain types of creative arts you would be excited to see represented here?</p>	<p>1. What kind of connector would you want the space to be? (for example, slow moving - winding pathways, or faster with incentives to slow down - more seating and shade?)</p> <p>2. What other design features would be necessary to make this a successful connector? (for example, shade, seating, parking etc?)</p>	<p>1. What design elements do you think would make you feel closer to the river and its ecology park? (for example, plants, water features, river history, canal history etc)</p> <p>2. What kinds of activities would you like to do in relation to the river and its ecology?</p>	<p>1. What design features would make this space feel like a destination in itself? (for example, formal events, installations, scale?)</p> <p>2. Can you think of any design features from other destinations you are familiar with that could be new to see here?</p>	<p>1. What design features do you think makes the space feel like an everyday space? (for example, shade, seating of a certain type, views?)</p> <p>2. What design elements will make the community feel comfortable to use year round?</p>



# Workshop Layout & Format

Group  
Worksheet (1)

Precedent  
Photocards  
(2)

**Creative Arts**  
A Living Museum

Leake St Arches, London

Ballroom Luminoso, San Antonio

Rail Park, Philadelphia

Wall Therapy, Rochester

**Creative Arts: A Precedent**  
A Living Museum

The Bentway, Toronto

Art

Mobility

Landscape

Destination/Attraction

# Workshop Layout & Format

Group  
Worksheet (1)

Precedent  
Photocards  
(2)



Public Realm  
Analysis (2)

# Workshop Layout & Format

Group  
Worksheet (1)

Precedent  
Photocards  
(2)

**AQUEDUCT**  
Reimagined

**Public Workshop 02**  
July 21st, 2022

1. What's your age group?  
\_\_\_ 0 - 14 \_\_\_ 15 - 24 \_\_\_ 25 - 44 \_\_\_ 45 - 64 \_\_\_ 65 and above

2. Where in Rochester are you joining us from?

3a. Rate the following from 1 to 6 (1 being highest and 6 being lowest), your design concept priorities for the Aqueduct Reimagined project:

Cultural Histories	Creative Arts	Connector	Green River Ecology	The Destination	The Everyday

3b. What excites you most about your top two or three design concept?

4. What types of activities would you like to be able to do at this project that you aren't able to do anywhere else nearby?

5. What kind of space(s) would you like this project to create? (ex. large open spaces, direct paths to the river, small shaded spaces, etc.)

6. What considerations do we need to take into account when designing for these types of spaces and activities (accessibility, infrastructure, utilities)?

Thank you!

Public Realm  
Analysis (2)

Individual  
Working  
Sheets



**Break!**