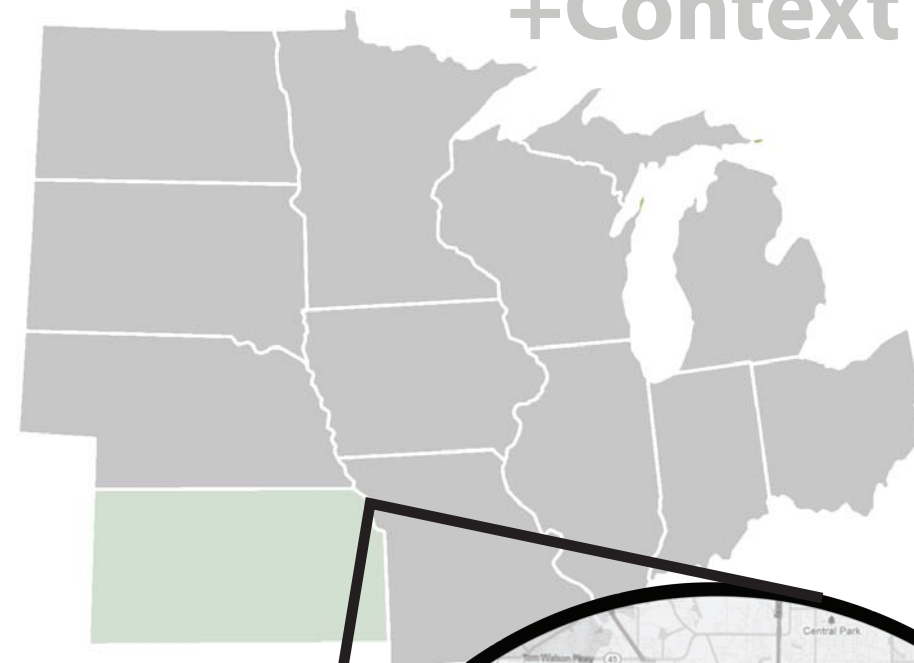


**A Center for Community &
Culture**
Kansas City, Kansas

+Problem Statement

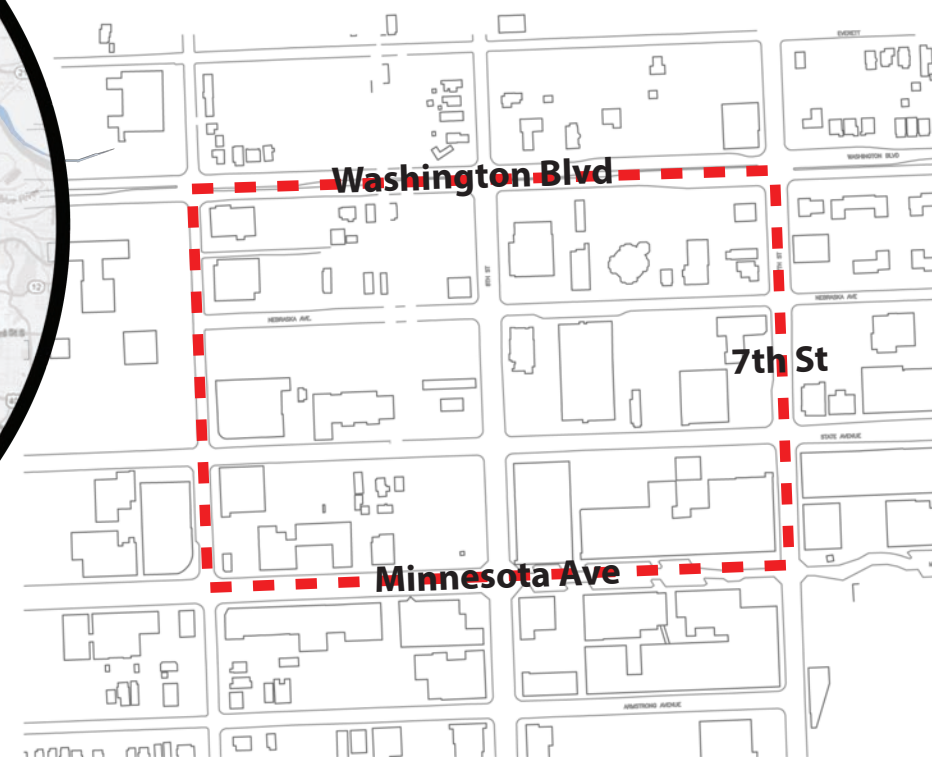
*How can city planning embrace different cultures
and promote desirable spaces for communities?*

+Context



+Why KCK?

- Overshadowed by Kansas City, Missouri
- Needs to make a name for itself
- Lacks a sense of community
- Has a rich history and culture



**History &
Culture**

+Site History

The Kansas Territory was the 1st battle in the conflict over slavery and southern succession that led to the Civil War. They struggled with slavery laws for years, until they finally found success in **1861** as becoming a free state, granting voting rights for women, and deeming Kansas as an actual state itself.

The Kansas Territory started as a settlement for the Wyandette Indians, but much of their opinion on anything political before becoming a state, was overlooked by those higher up in the area and the citizens of Missouri.



+Culture

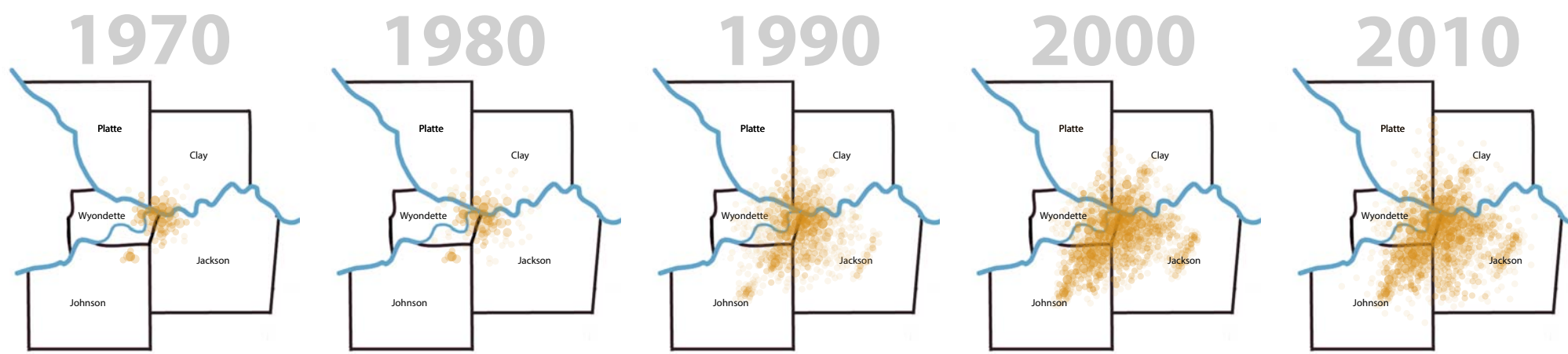
Kansas City, Kansas has a rich and diverse **culture** and **history**. The city holds a celebration to honor and celebrate this, with the most recent celebration being in 2009, marking the 150th year since the area was given their right to become a state and to be free.

The citizens in the area fought hard for their territory to become an actual place, and this battle shapes who the citizens are and how honored they are to live in the place they do.

This celebration runs for 6 months from January to June, and celebrates many different cultural groups such as the Germans, Africans, English, Irish, Scottish, Shawnee, Welsh, and Wyandot Indians.



**Inventory &
Analysis**

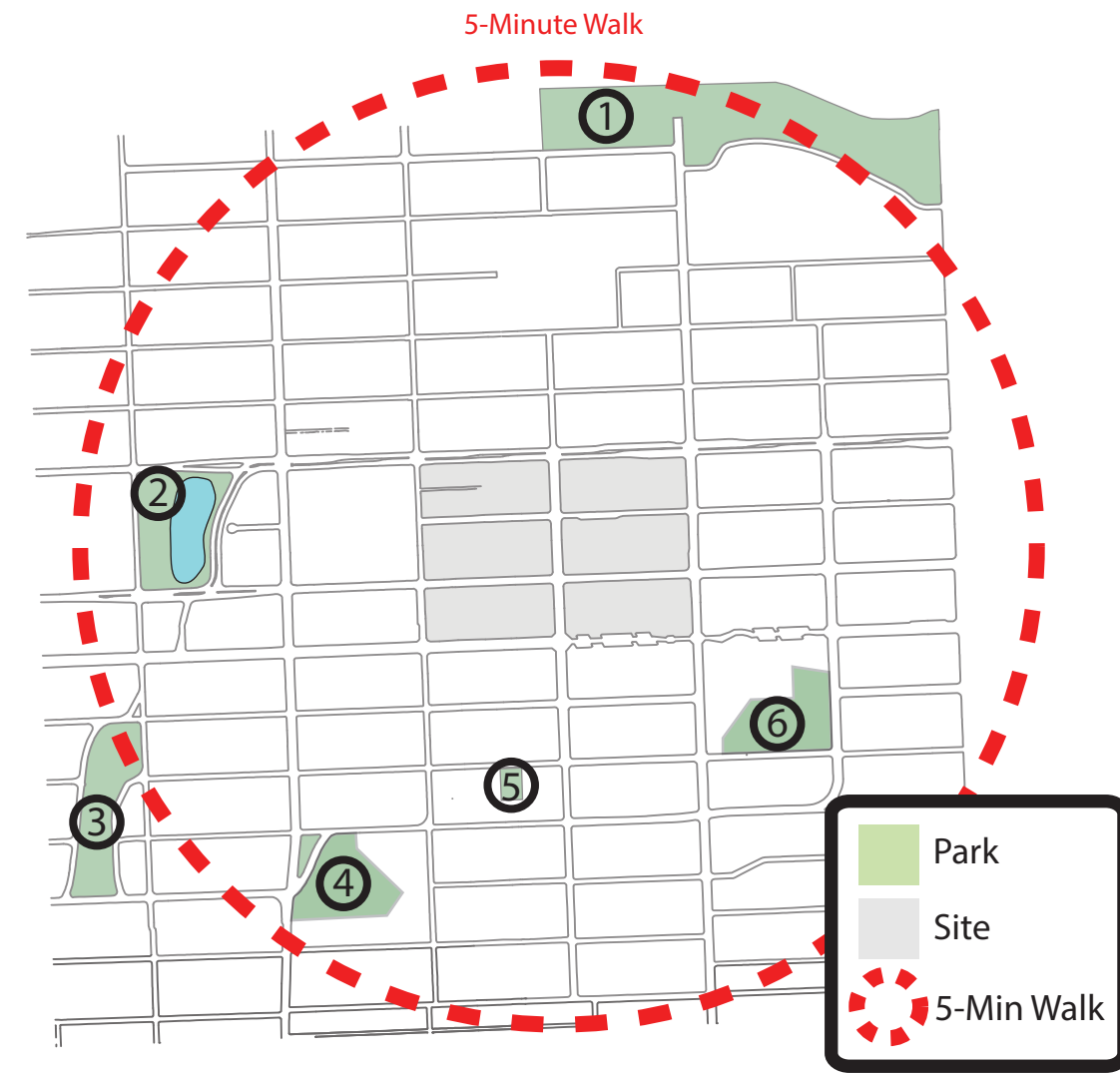


+Population Growth

Kansas City, Kansas owes much of its existence by being a crossroads on the Kansas and Missouri rivers as a launching point for travelers.

Over the years the Kansas City metro area has grown outward immensely. More and more people have begun to conform to **suburban sprawl** which has left some parts of the metro area left behind and not used to their full potential, due in large part to the want to have the "American Dream" and a lot of private space. Kansas City, Kansas used to be one of the largest cities in the area but now sits as one of the smallest due to this movement.

+Nearby Parks & Open Spaces



- ① Jersey Creek Park (24.4 acres)
- ② Big Eleven Lake (3.8 acres)
- ③ Waterway Park (3.8 acres)
- ④ Northrup Park (7.23 acres)
- ⑤ 8th Street Park (.79 acres)
- ⑥ Huron Park (7.43 acres)

+Building Uses



+Site Photos



Lack of uniformity in the sidewalks on Minnesota Avenue



Large sidewalks with no purpose



Unkempt Sidewalks



Lack of vegetation and random street decor



Large Intersections that are unsafe for pedestrians



Wide streets focused mainly on the vehicle

Goals &
Concepts

+SWOT Analysis

STRENGTHS

- Good Location
- Easy Access
- Public Transportation
- Surrounding Population
- Nearby Parks
- Rich History
- Rich Culture

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of Amenities
- KCMO Disconnect
- Overuse of Personal Vehicles
- No Long Term Destinations
- Small Downtown Population
- Sense of Community

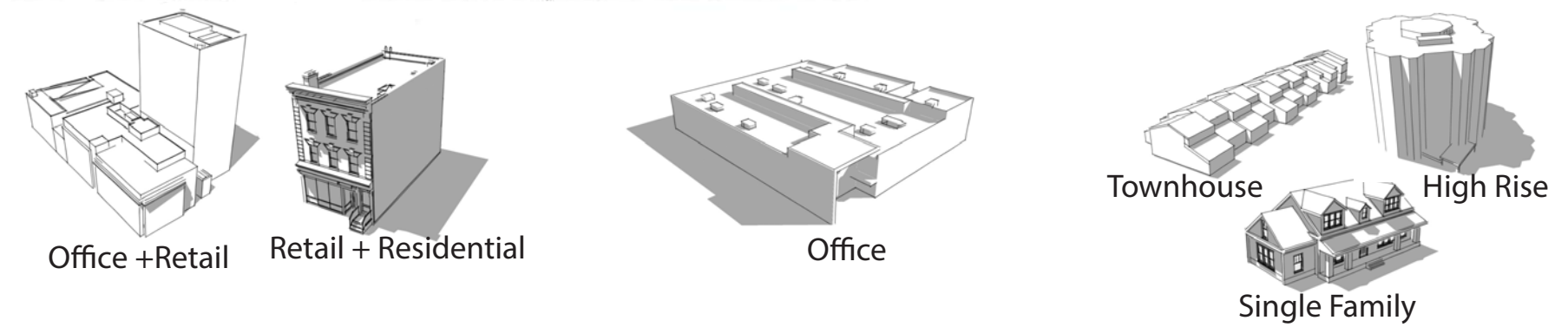
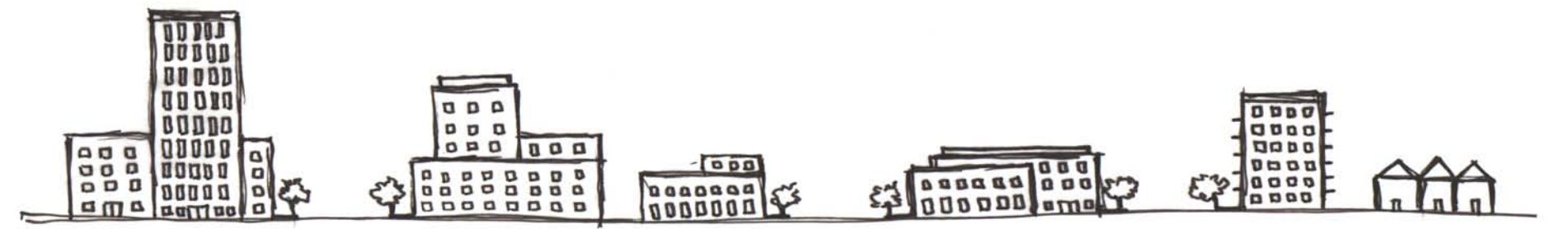
OPPORTUNITIES

- Sense of Place
- Destinations
- Sister City to KCMO
- Sustainable Example
- More Residential Living
- All Season Use

THREATS

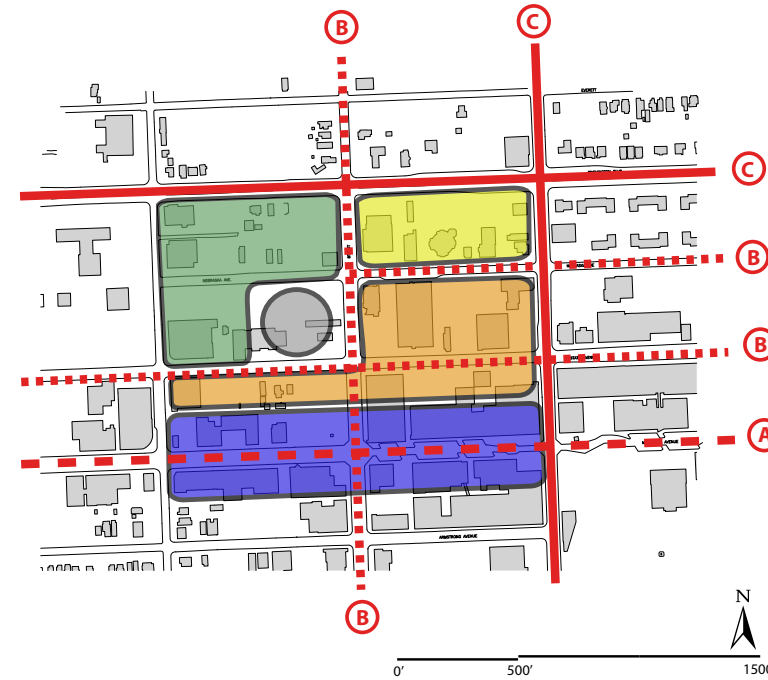
- Kansas City, Missouri
- Suburban Sprawl

+Site Needs



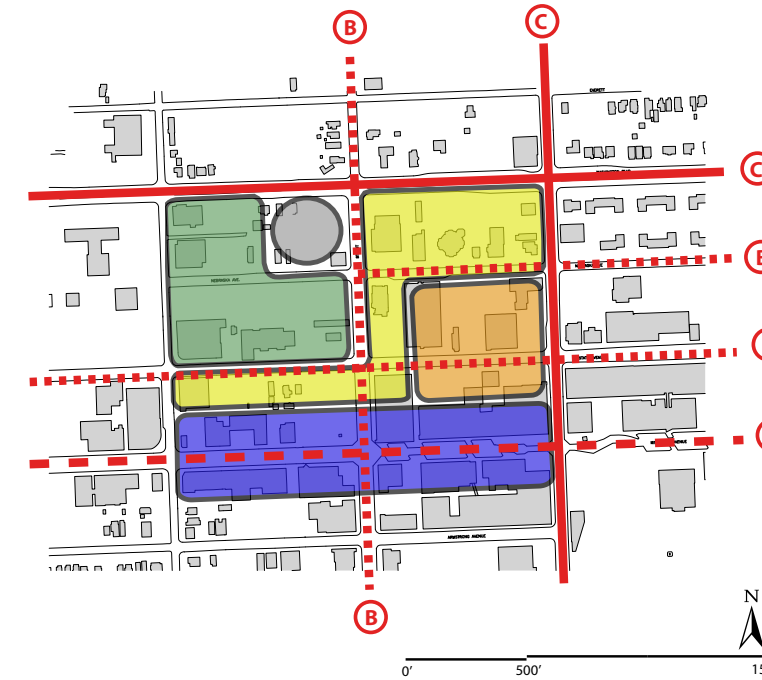
MIXED USE	SPECIALIZED	OFFICE	RESIDENTIAL
Office + Residential	Library	Single Use	Single Family
Retail + Residential	Post Office	Large Scale	Townhouse
Retail + Office	Banks		High Rise
Retail + Office + Residential	Government		
	Schools		

CONCEPT ONE



Concept one focuses on the South end of the site acting as a retail and mixed use destination while the middle is primarily commercial and residential towards the North end. A park is placed on the North West corner towards the residential, with a community center centrally located on the site.

CONCEPT TWO

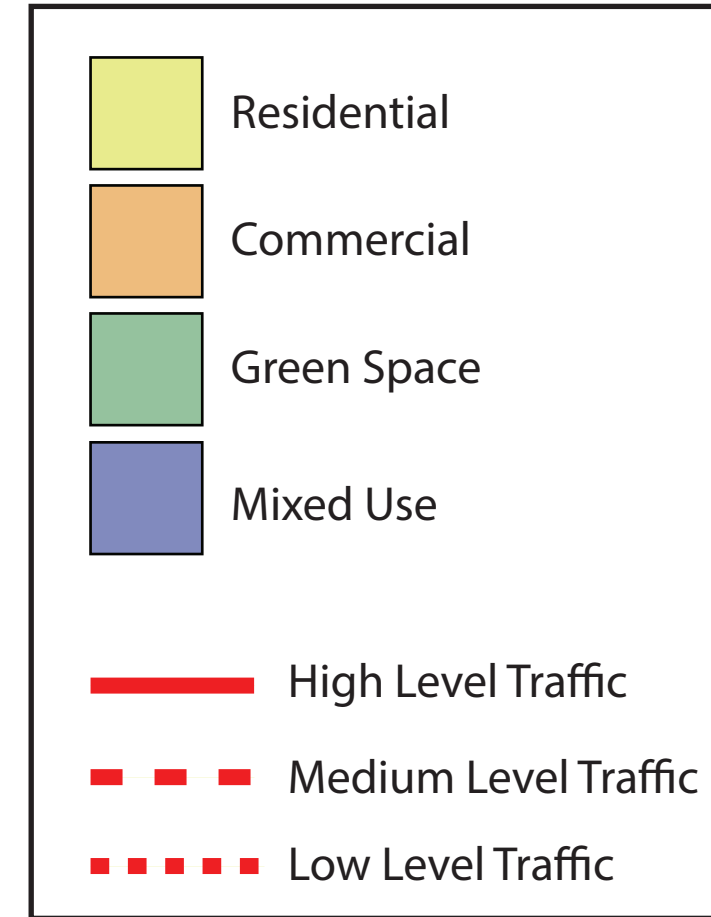


Concept two focuses on the South end of the site acting as a retail and mixed use destination while the East side is primarily commercial and residential wraps around the edges of the park that is placed on the North West corner of the site.

CONCEPT THREE



Concept three takes a similar approach as the other three with retail being on the South end, commercial in the middle, and residential on the North end, but there is a centrally located park that connects to the entire area and becomes a community connection for the area.



The DESIGN
Proposal

+Large Master Plan

The site is approximately **34.5 acres** and focuses on embracing the rich community and culture that already exists, as well as give the general public a place to enjoy in the downtown area.

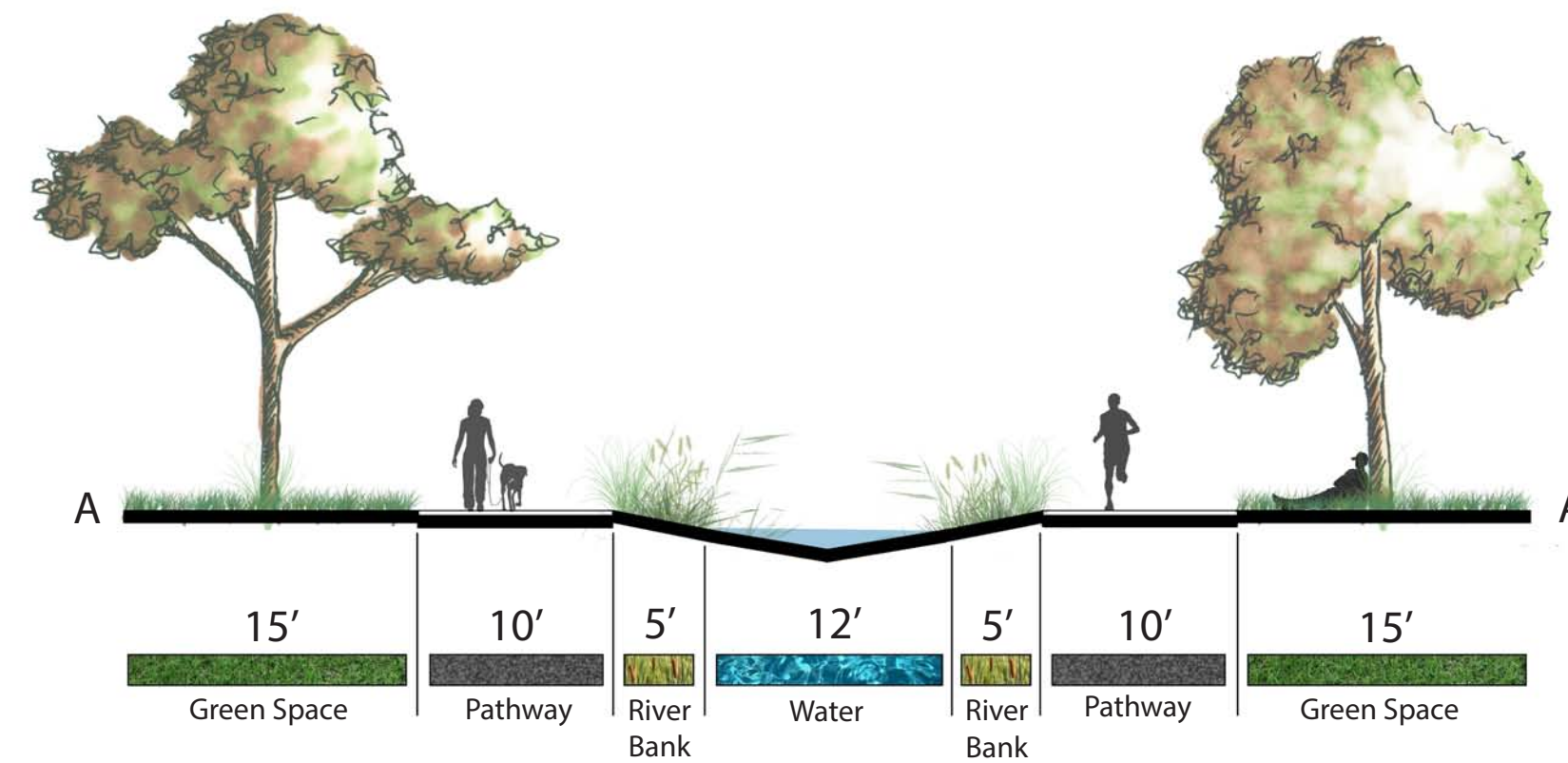
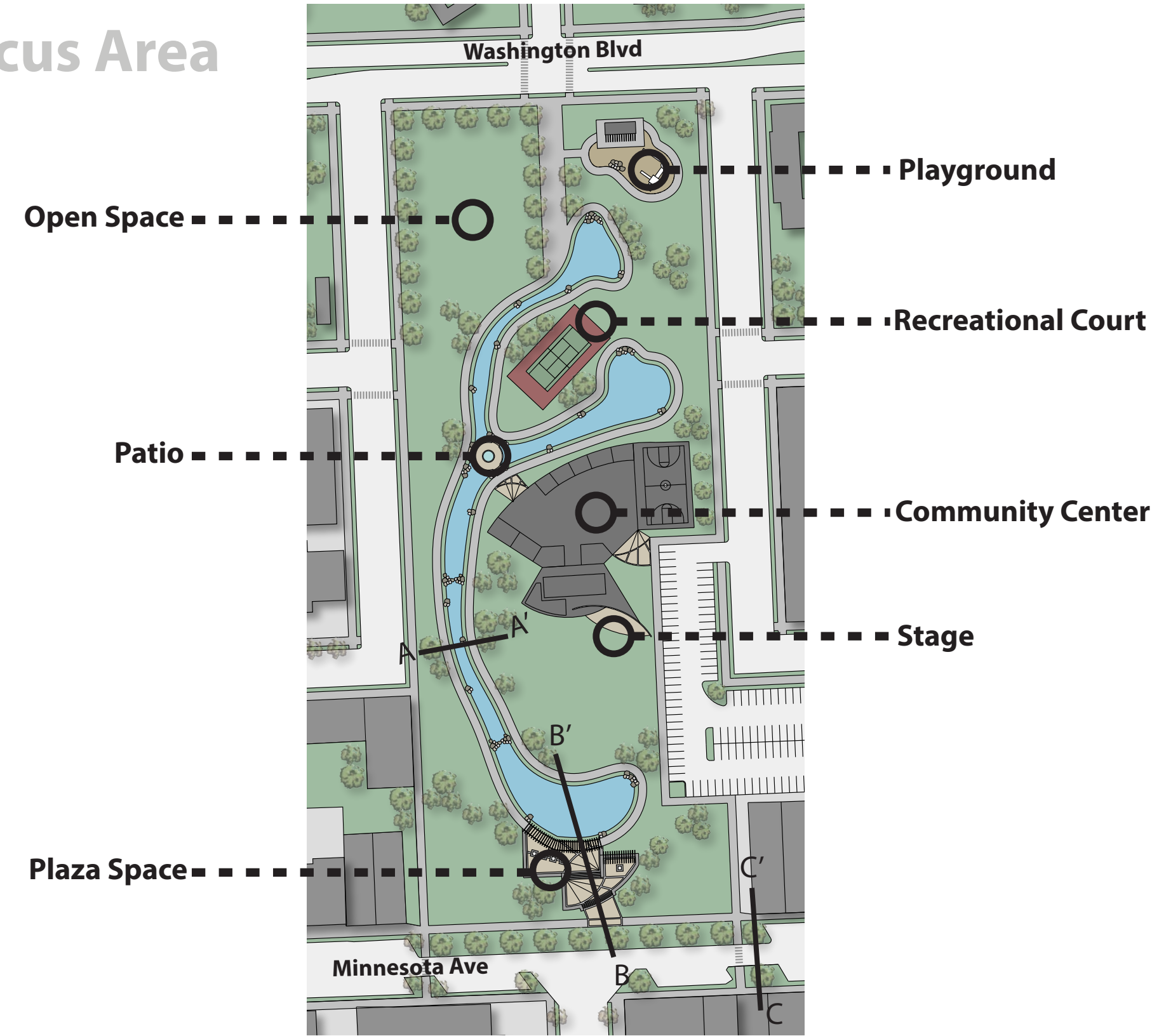
There is a community center on site, as well as outdoor recreational facilities.

It also has a water feature that symbolizes the Kansas and Missouri river connection to the East which serves as an important piece of the community and culture of Kansas City itself.

Multiple public and semi-private spaces exist on the site to suite many different needs for those visiting the site.



+Focus Area



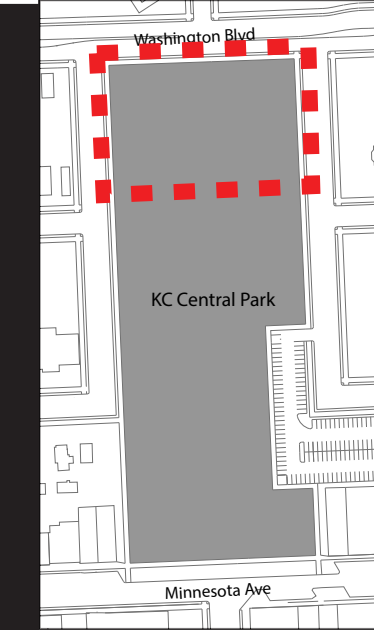
A pedestrian path runs throughout the site, around the large water feature in the center. It is approximately **1/2 mile** all the way around and can be used for biking, walking, or running.

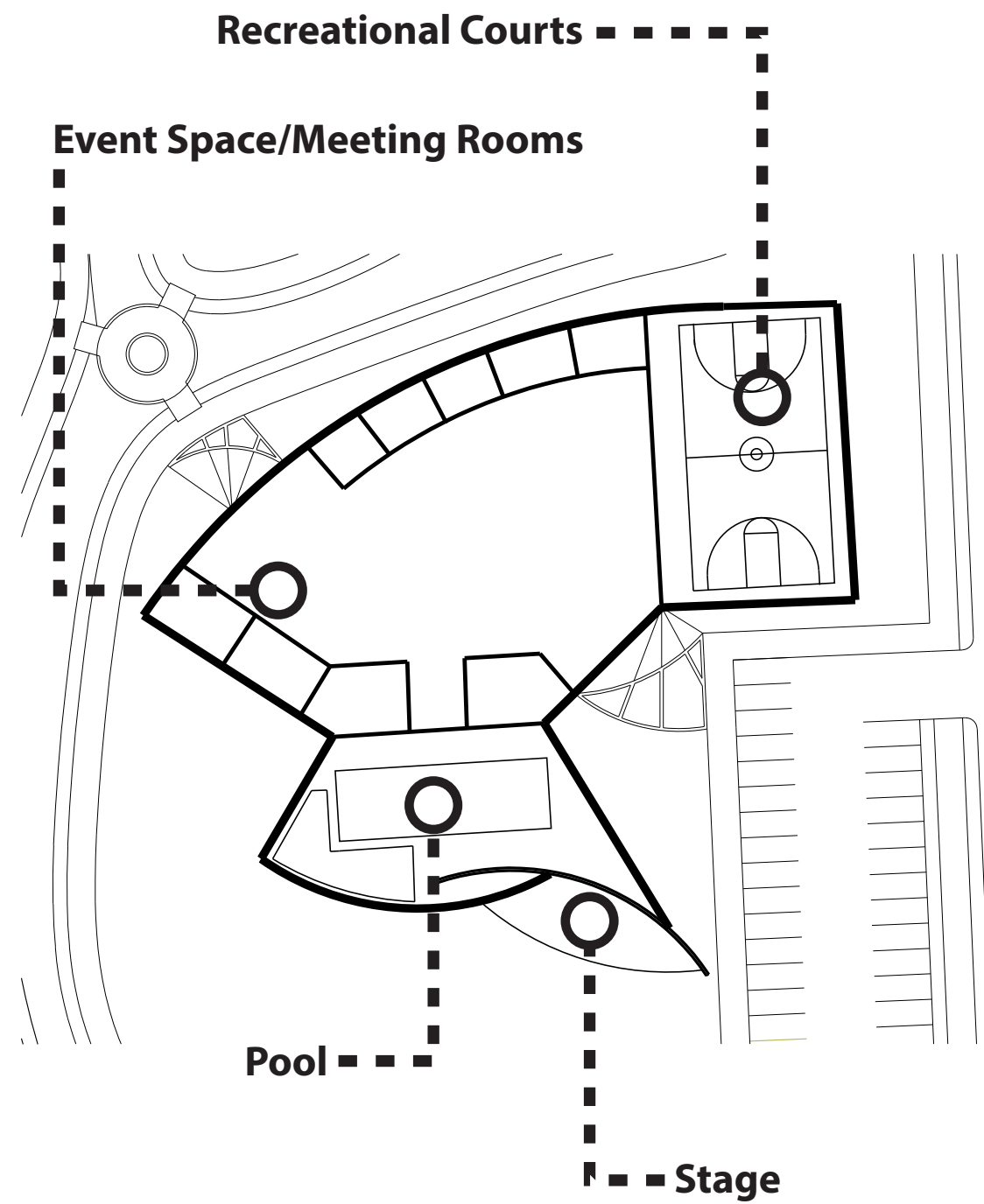


+Residential End

The residential end of the park is on the North side of the site. It has a large open space on the West side that can be used for many forms of recreation. It is the correct size to hold a soccer game should their be a time when a field is needed. The space also acts as one of the only large fairly flat open spaces on the site for the opportunity to throw frisbee or do activities that need large spaces.

On the East side is a picnic shelter and a community playground. This can accommodate for children in the area and can act as a place for families to relax and enjoy the outdoors together. Picnic tables are placed throughout and coal grills are near the picnic shelter for adult use.





+Community Center

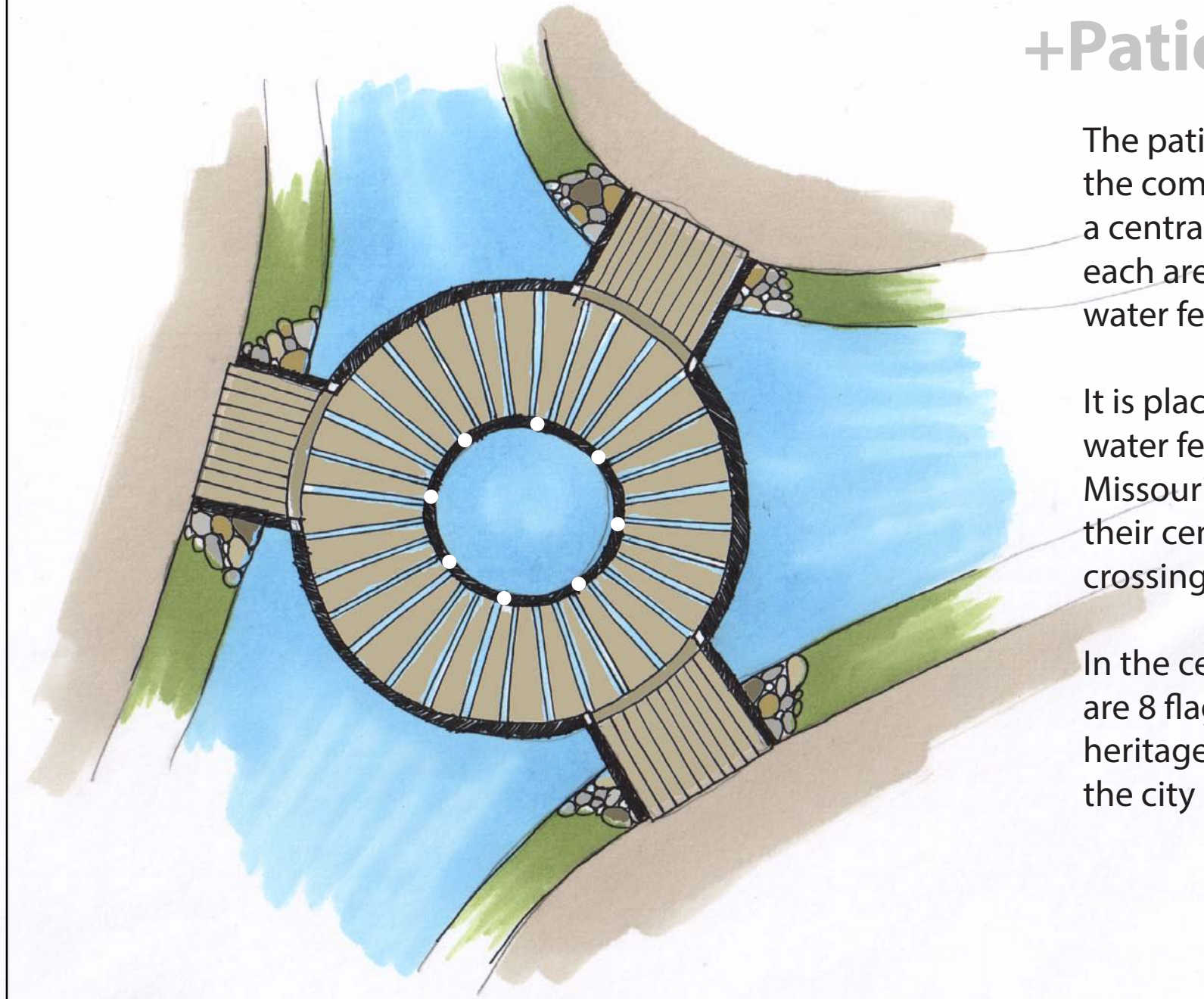
The community center has multiple features on and around the site for the community, as well as youth programs.

It encompasses small rooms for meetings and community events, as well as a large open space in the center for larger meetings.

There is an indoor basketball and recreation court, as well as an indoor pool.

Attached to the outside is a large stage for concerts during events that can also act as a patio when not being used for those events.

Area= 31,500 square feet

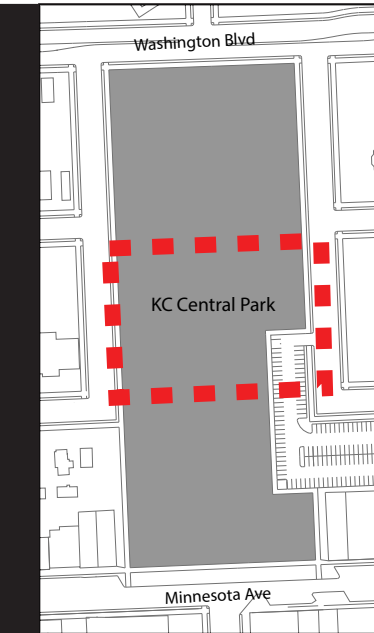


+Patio

The patio on the North side of the community center acts as a central point to move from each area of the site across the water feature.

It is placed in the fork of the water feature to symbolize the Missouri and Kansas rivers and their center of trade in their crossing point.

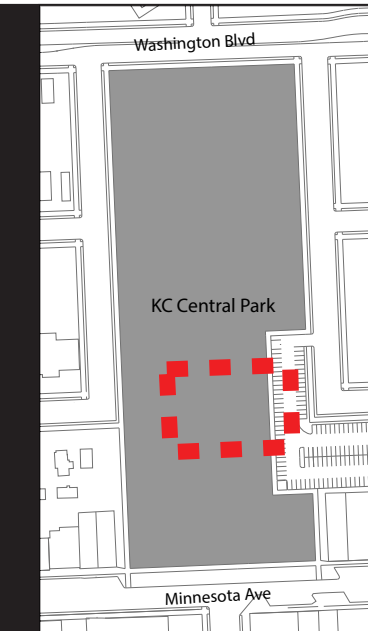
In the center of the patio area are 8 flags of the countries and heritages most represented by the city each year.



+Concert Space

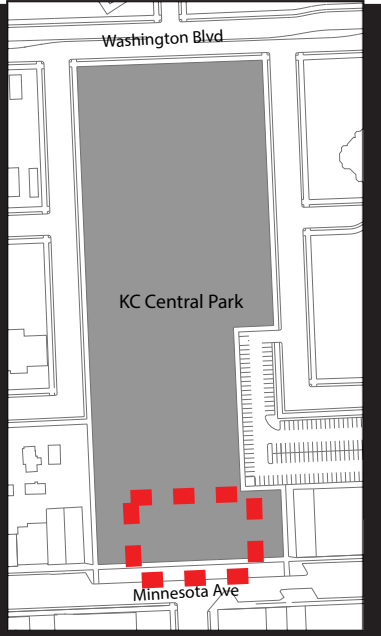
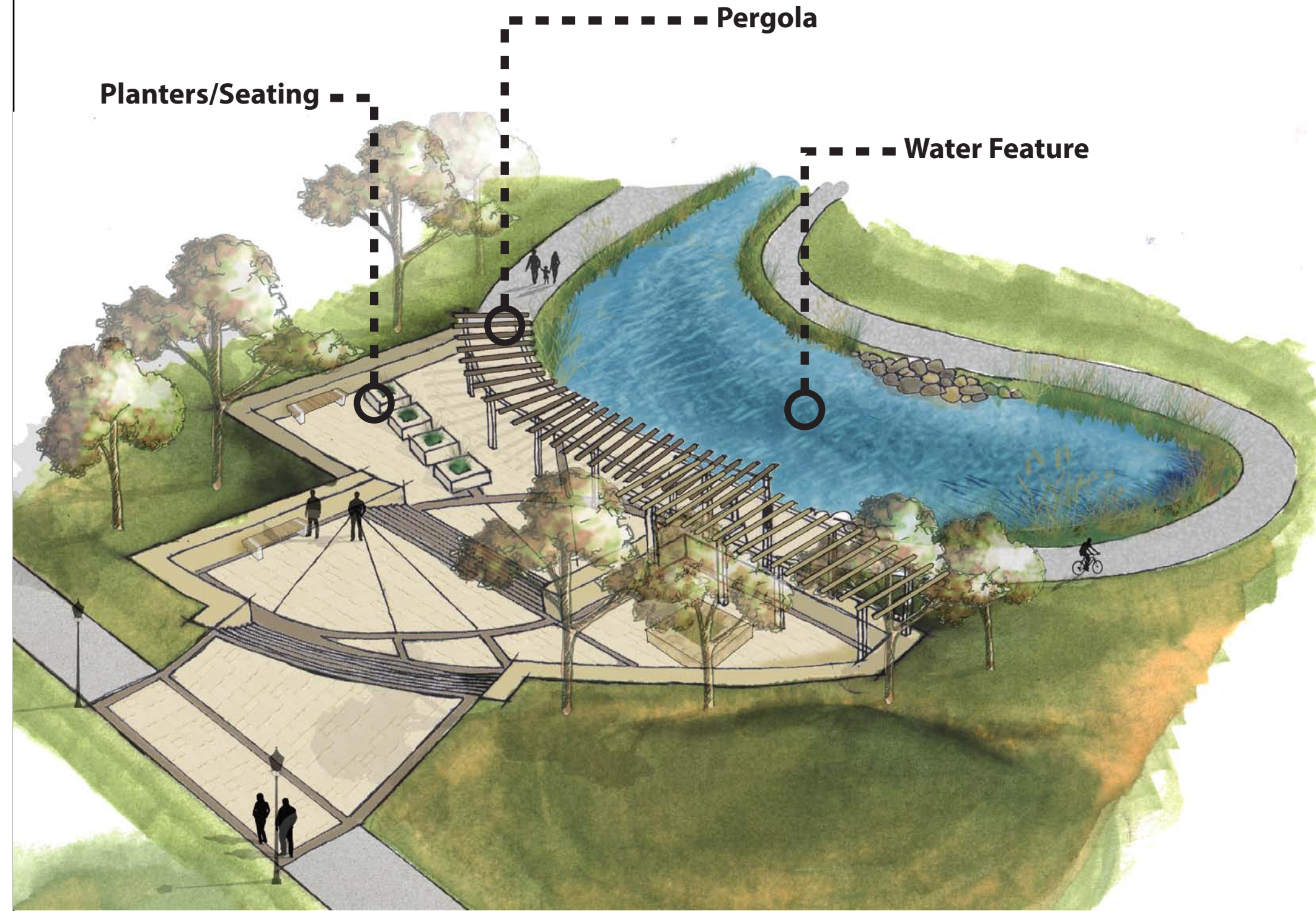
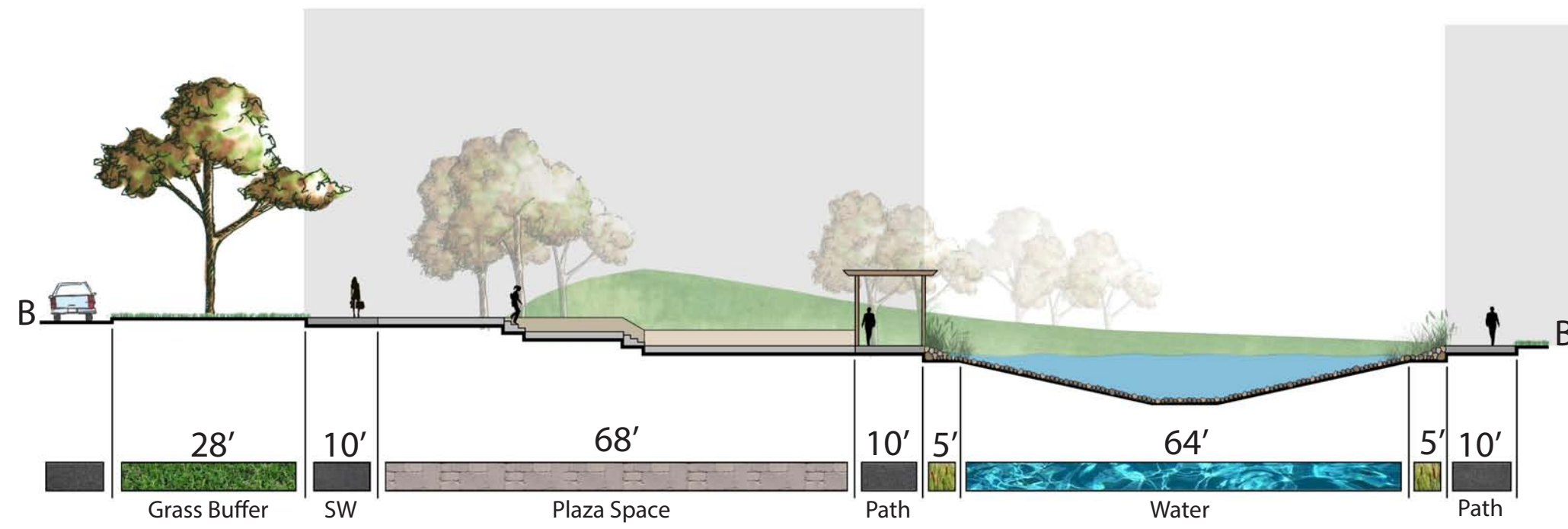
The outdoor concert space attached to the south end of the community center accommodates for approximately **5,000** people.

When not being as used for concerts or shows, the space acts as a large open park space for numerous public activities. The stage can then be used also as a deck with tables and seating to enjoy some shade and relaxation.

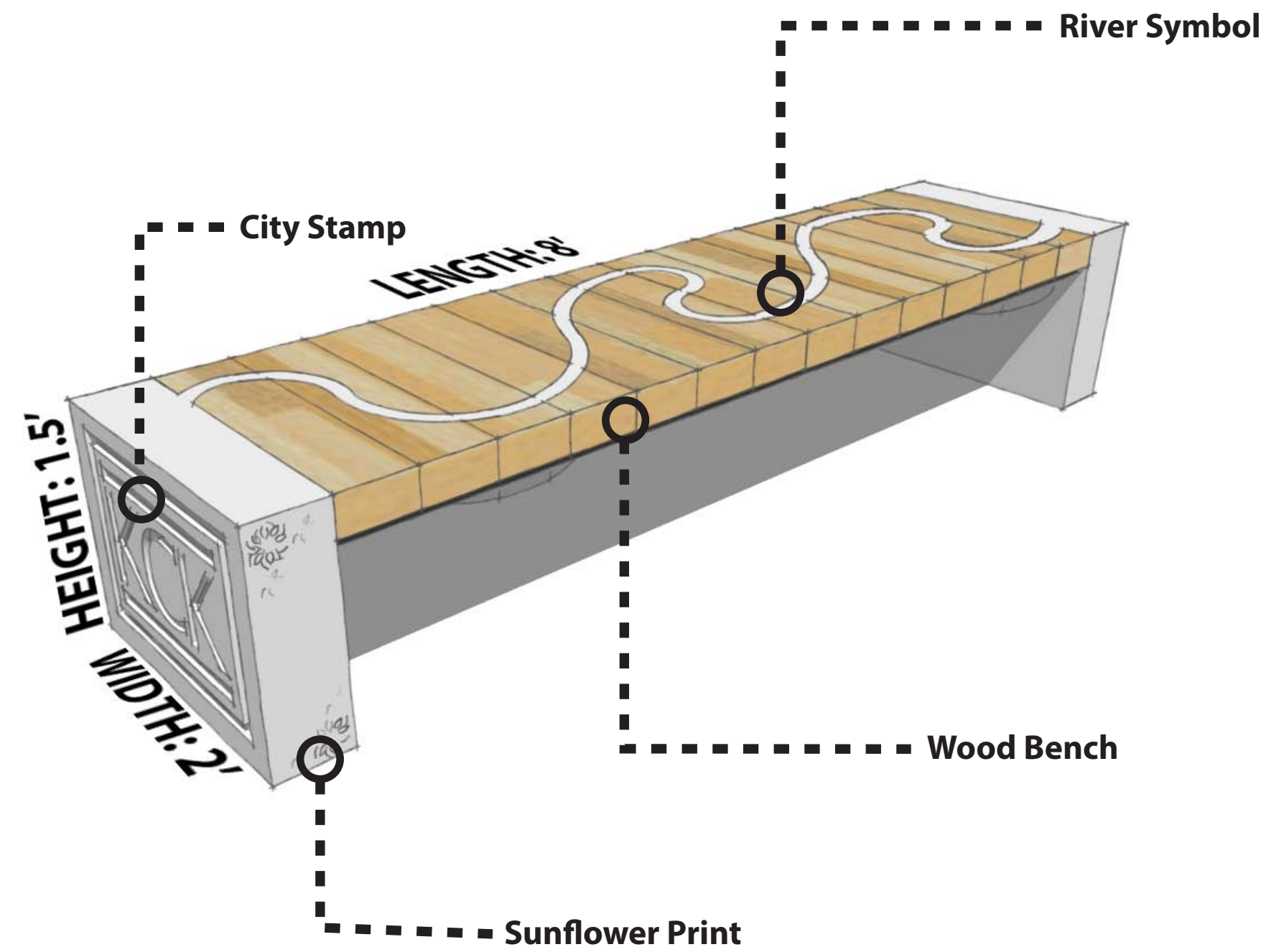


+Plaza Space

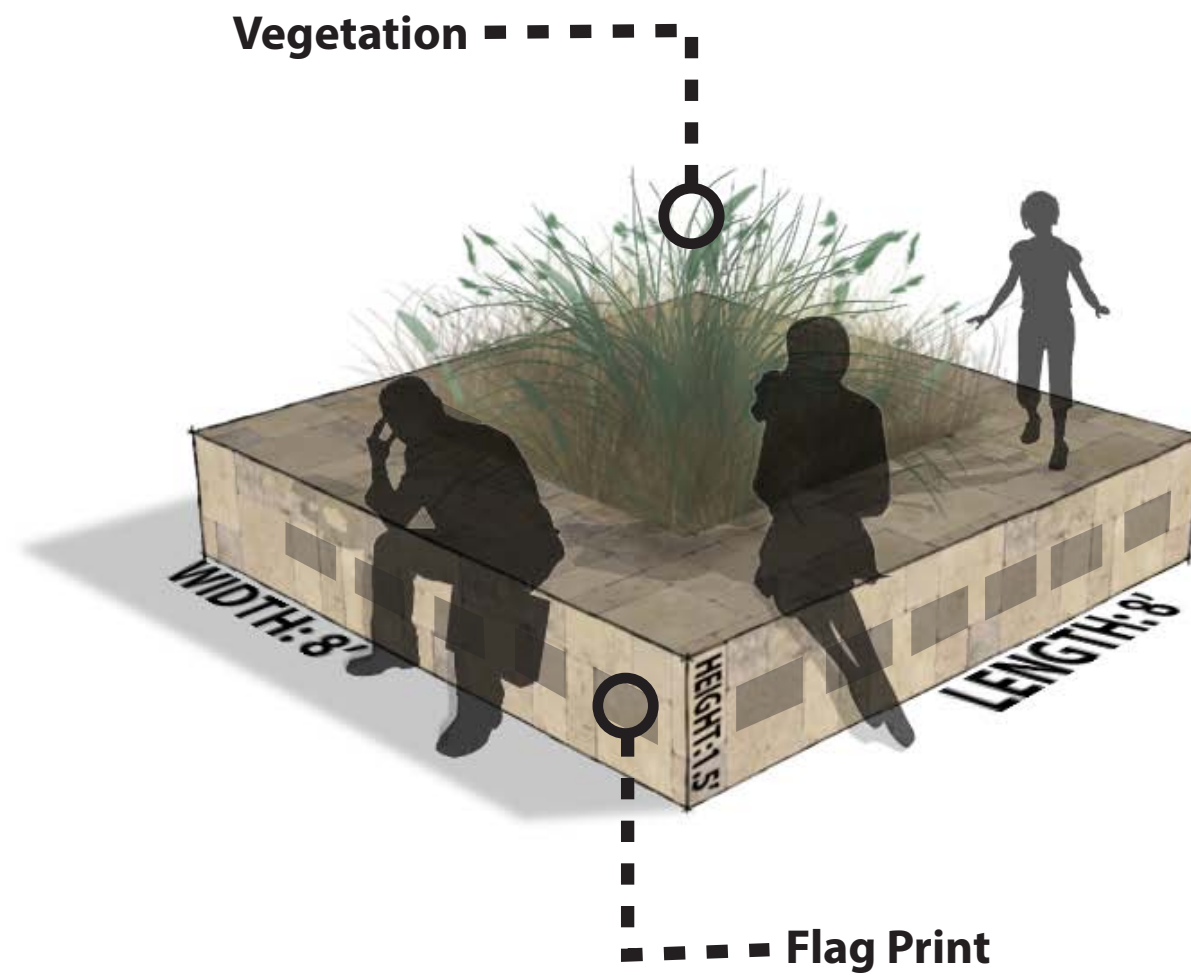
A large plaza space lies on the South end of the site and steps down towards a water feature on the site. It has multiple places for seating and shade to relax and enjoy the feature and also acts as a public center for the main downtown area.



+Focus Area Details



Germans
Africans
English
Irish
Scottish
Shawnee
Welsh
Wyandot Indians





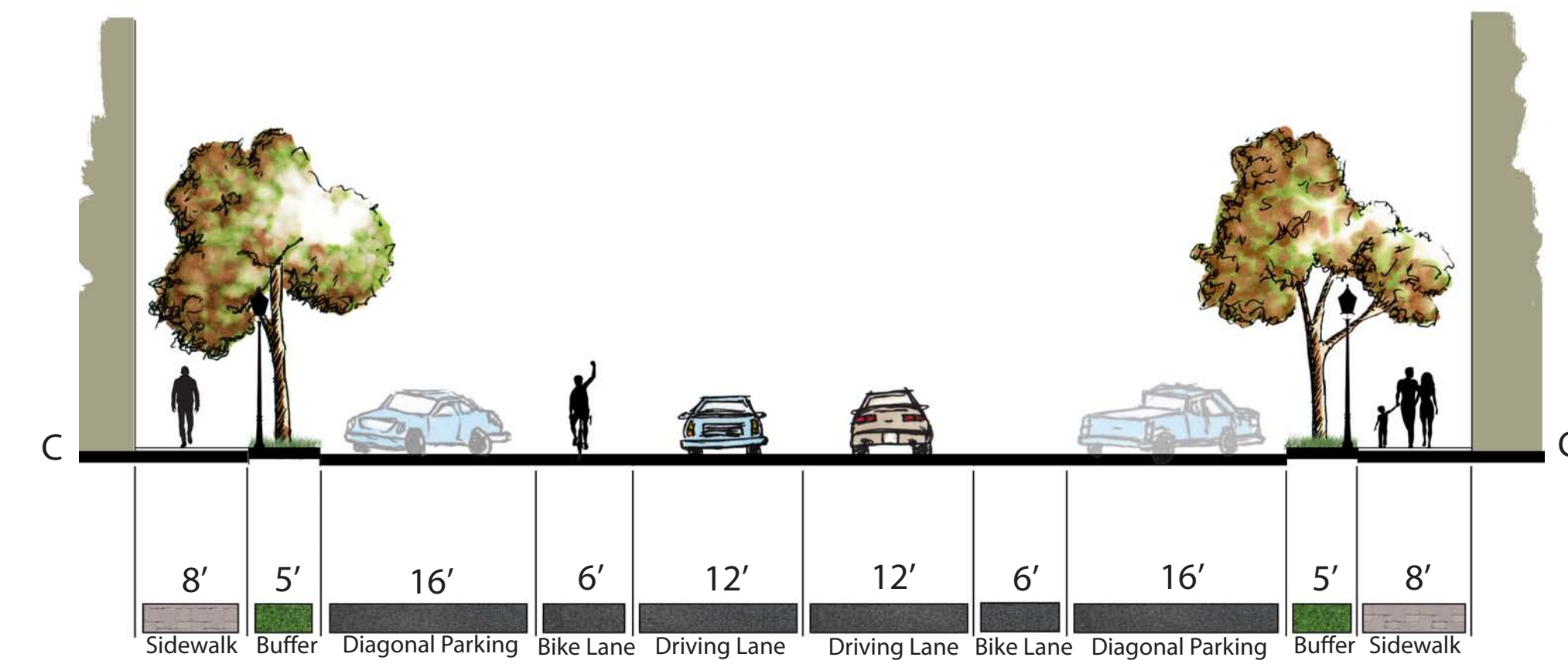
+Downtown Corridor

The main downtown corridor on the South end of the site offers retail and mixed use spaces, as well as small plaza spaces for dining, etc.

Although the corridor is aimed towards pedestrians, the street itself accommodates small vehicular traffic, offering two lanes and diagonal parking in some spots. There are also bike lanes on both sides of the street.

The sidewalks offer buffer zones and seating throughout, as well as lighting and beautiful storefronts.

+Downtown Details



Pedestrian & Street Light



Downtown Corridor Light



The lighting fixtures around the site each serve a purpose for the area they are in. The taller lamp accommodates both the pedestrian and the automobile while also having city signage attached. The smaller lamp holds vegetation and is smaller to sit more at the pedestrian level.

+All Season Calendar

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
CC Skiing Skating	CC Skiing Skating	CC Skiing Skating	*Spring Cleanup*	*Mother's May*	*Summer Block Party*	*Summer Block Party*	*Summer Block Party*	*Music In The Park*	*Halloween Horror*	*Turkey Festival*	CC Skiing Skating
Snowshoeing Sculptures	Snowshoeing Sculptures	Snowshoeing Sculptures	*Easter Eggstravaganza*	*Statehood Celebration*	(Every other Thursday)	(Every other Thursday)	(Every other Thursday)	(Every Friday Night)	*Haunted Hay Rides*		Snowshoeing Sculptures
New Years Event	*Valentine's Event*	*Statehood Celebration*	*Statehood Celebration*		*Music In The Park*	*Music In The Park*	*Music In The Park*		(Every Friday Night)		*Winter Wonderland*
Statehood Celebration	*Statehood Celebration*				(Every Friday Night)	(Every Friday Night)	(Every Friday Night)				
					Statehood Celebration	*4th of July Parade*	*Final Frenzy*				



+Street Events

The downtown corridor will not only act as a street, but also as a main pedestrian event space in the downtown area.

Street fairs will take place in the area and vehicular traffic will be rerouted to neighboring streets during this time.

This is also a space that can be used for farmer's markets, parades, and community block party's.

+Future of KCK

Downtown Kansas City, Kansas will become an attractive and diverse city by engaging the community through well planned activities while embracing their history and culture.