An architectural rendering of an elevated park in an urban space. The scene is set on a rooftop or elevated platform with a wooden deck and a dark metal railing. In the foreground, a woman in a striped top looks towards the camera. To the left, a man in a white shirt stands near a large, dark, angular canopy structure. In the center, a man in a white shirt and dark pants stands near a large, dark, angular canopy structure. In the background, a man in a white shirt and dark pants stands near a large, dark, angular canopy structure. The background features a dense urban skyline with various skyscrapers, including one with 'JACOBS' and another with 'EMBASSY BUTTE' visible. The sky is bright and clear.

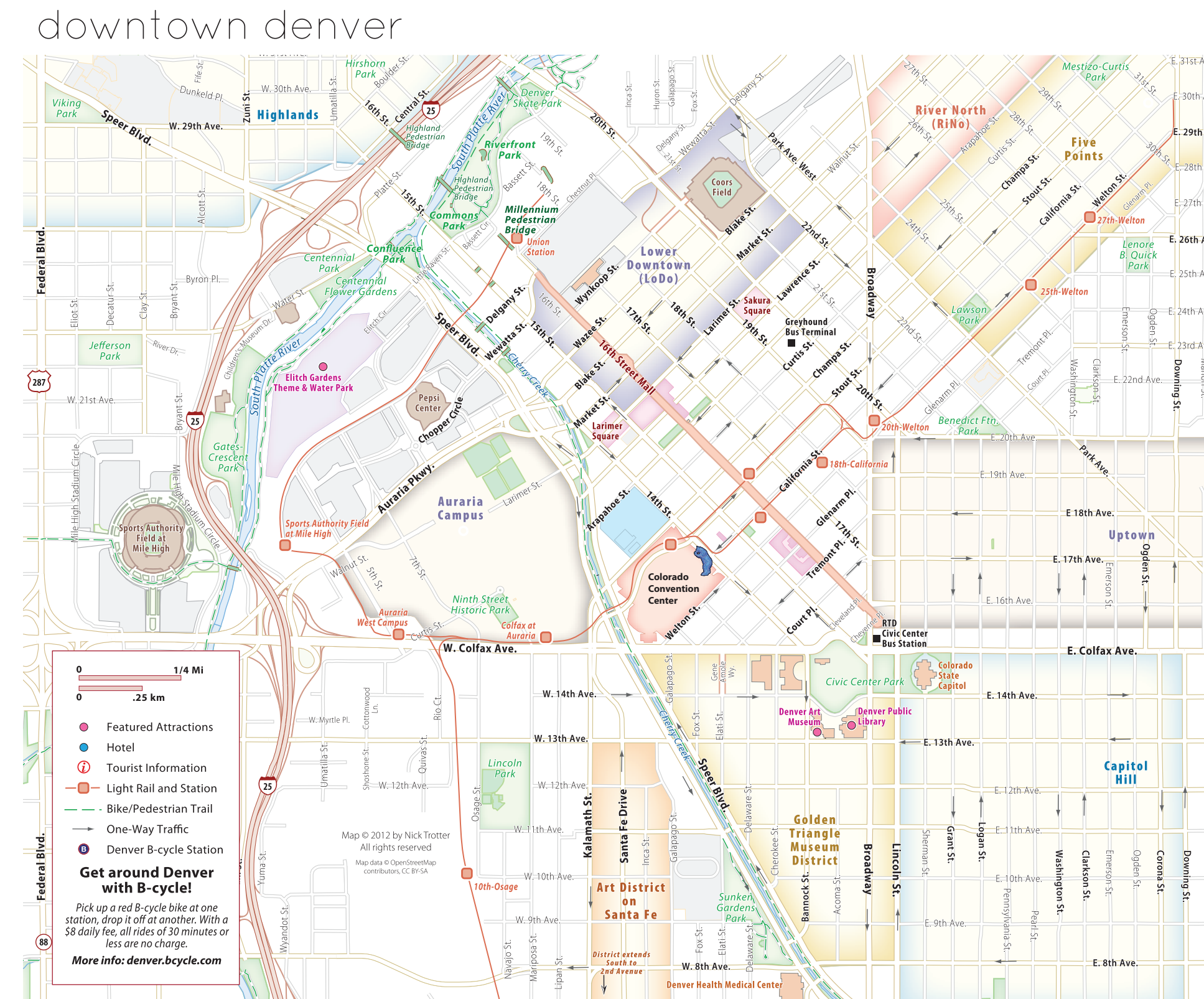
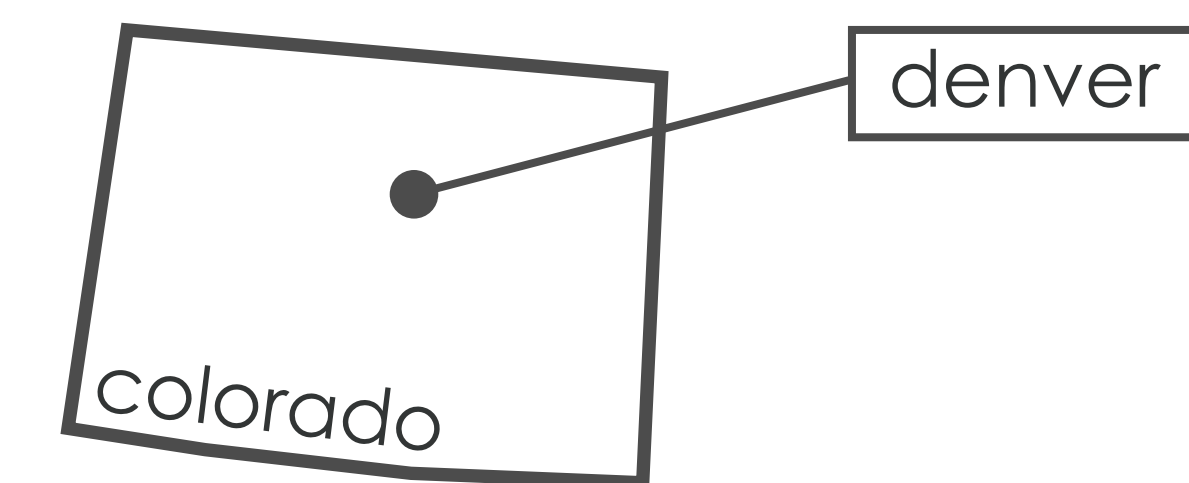
parks reinvented:  
an elevated park in an urban space  
.denver co

amanda ahrenholz  
primary advisor | matthew kirkwood  
secondary advisor | dominic fischer  
spring 2014 | la 572

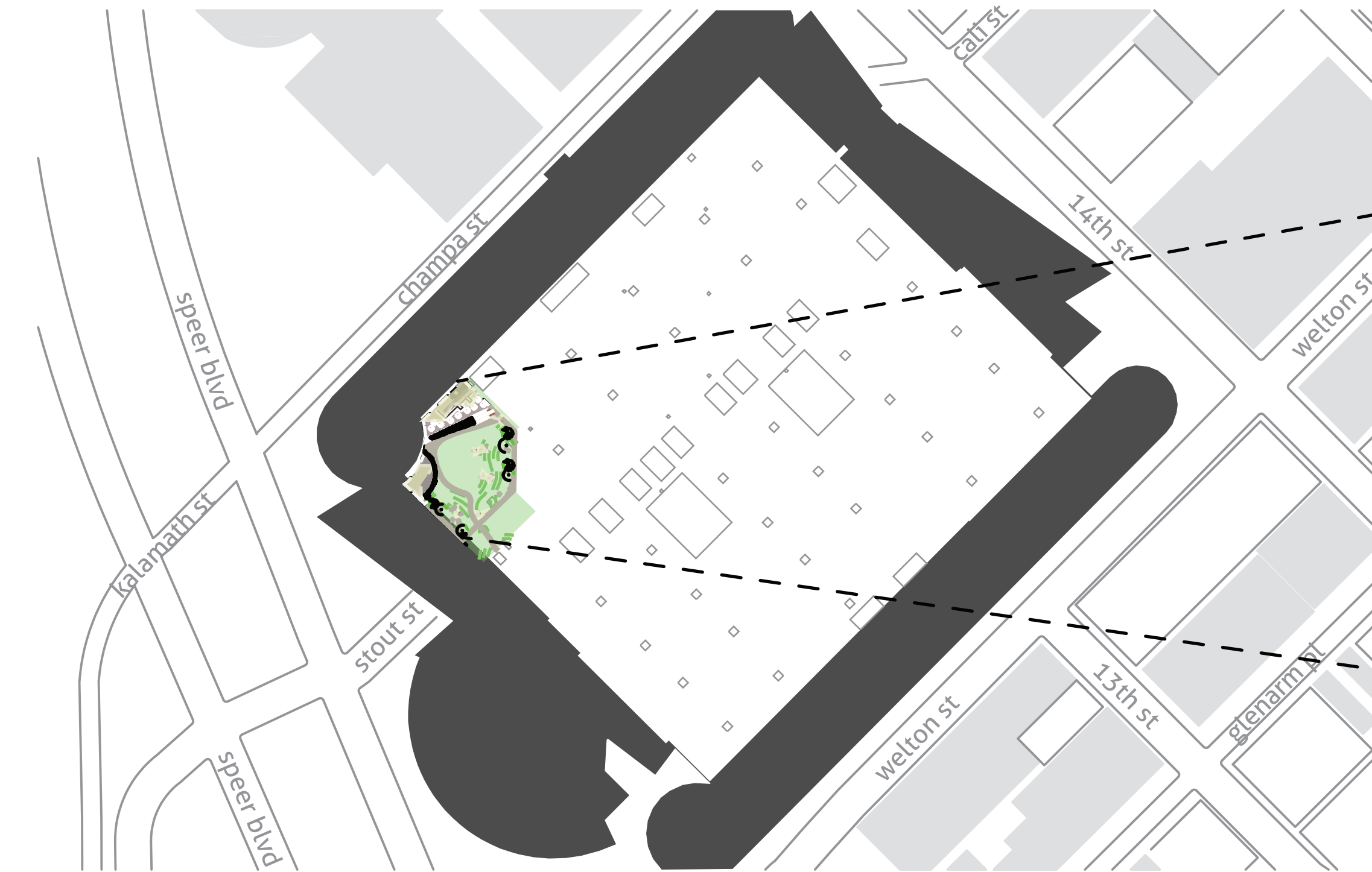
## project

this oasis from the city is atop the Colorado Convention Center in downtown Denver, CO on 14th Street-right in the heart of the hustle and bustle. Because cities are becoming more and more dense, there is less space to save for urban green space and using space atop buildings is both an innovative and green solution. With framing the views of the beautiful Rocky Mountains, site users can experience the views of Denver while still remaining in an urban setting.

## location



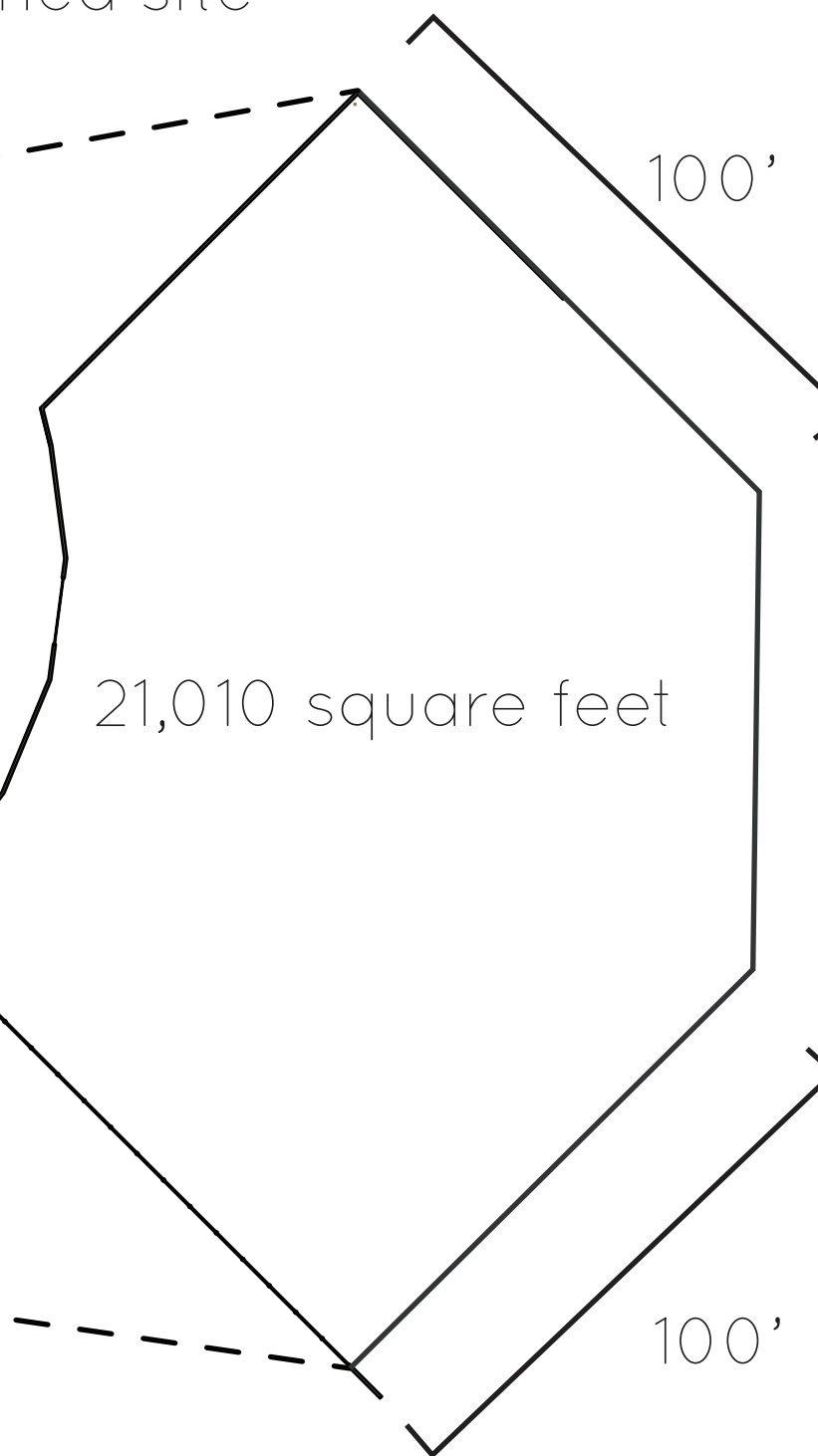
existing site



designed site

a strategy plan was created to plan the six acre site of the rooftop of the Colorado Convention Center. To illustrate a design, a half-acre site was then selected and detailed out.

the designed site is a place where visitors can go to escape the busy city life without leaving the city. the stage provides the opportunity to have large gatherings such as concerts, small parties and performances.



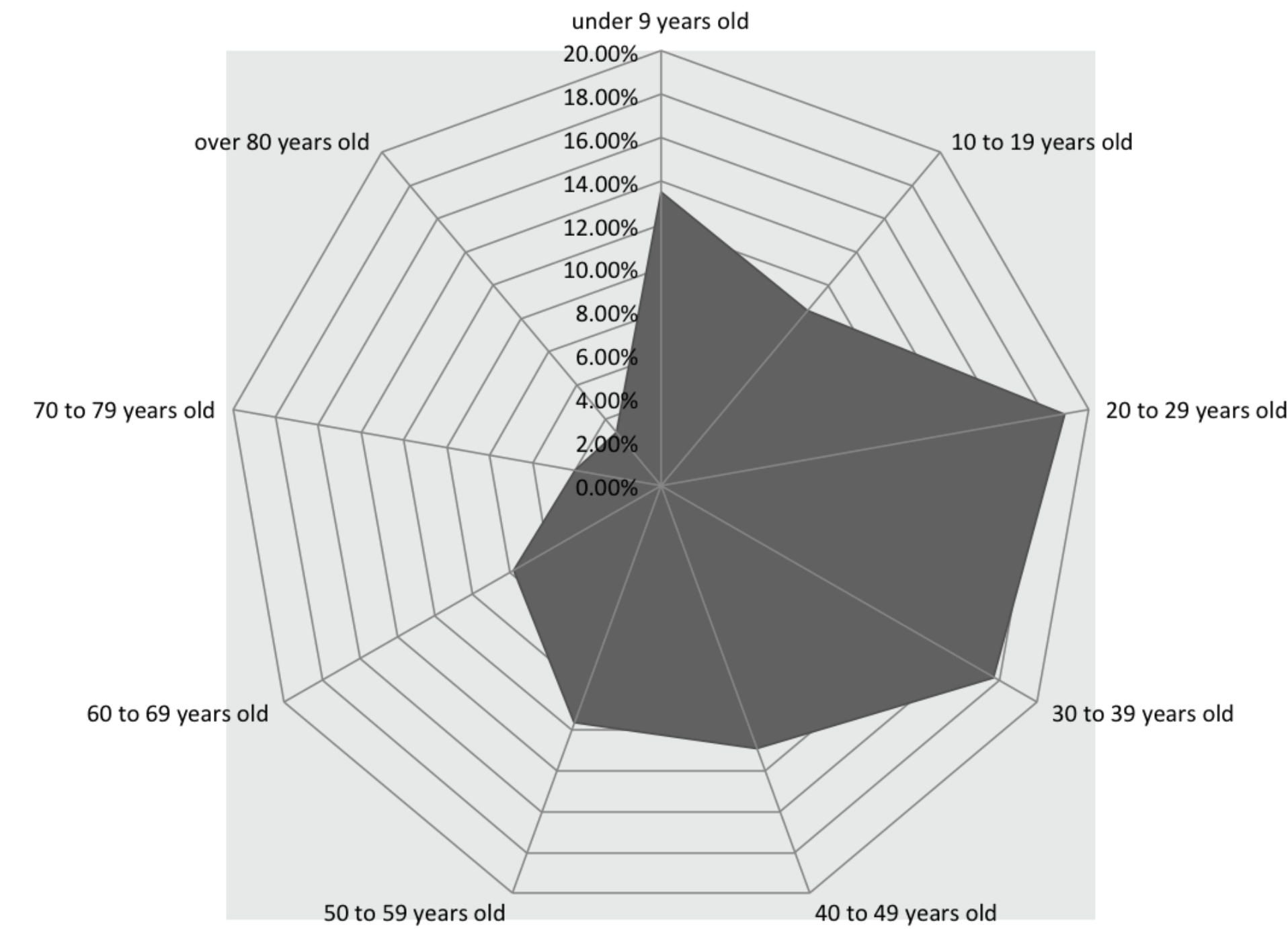
# demographics

# weather

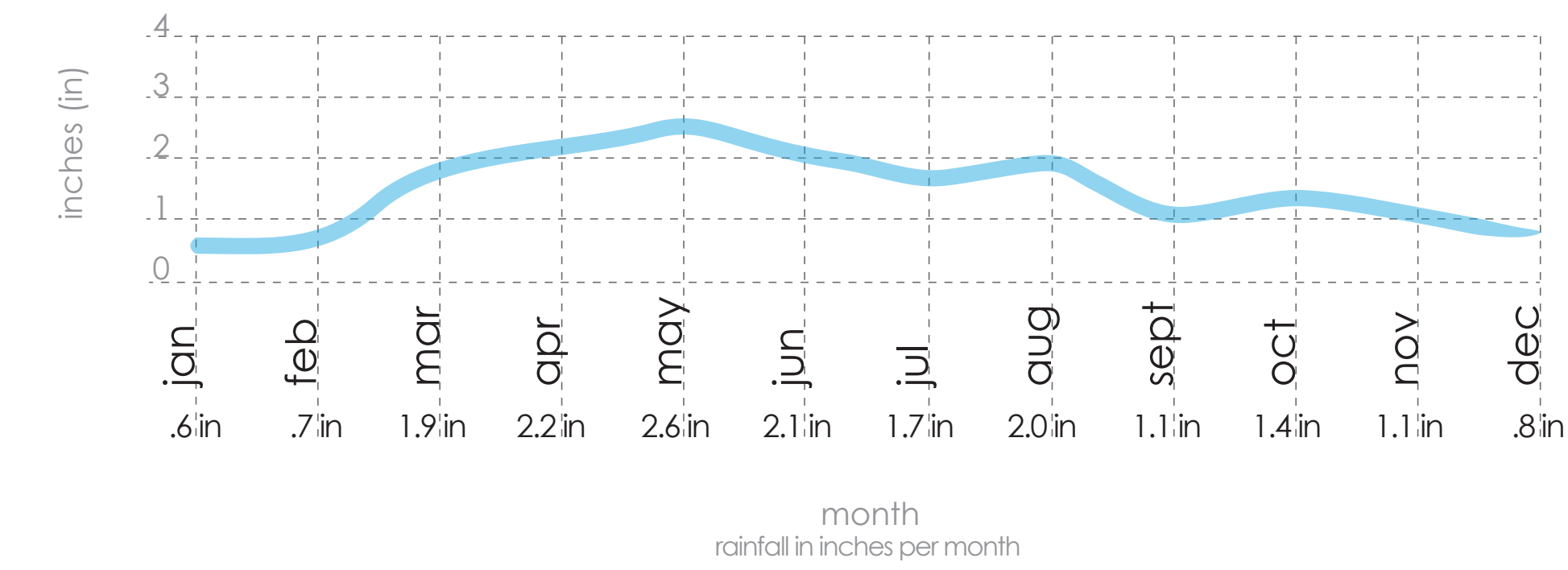
race



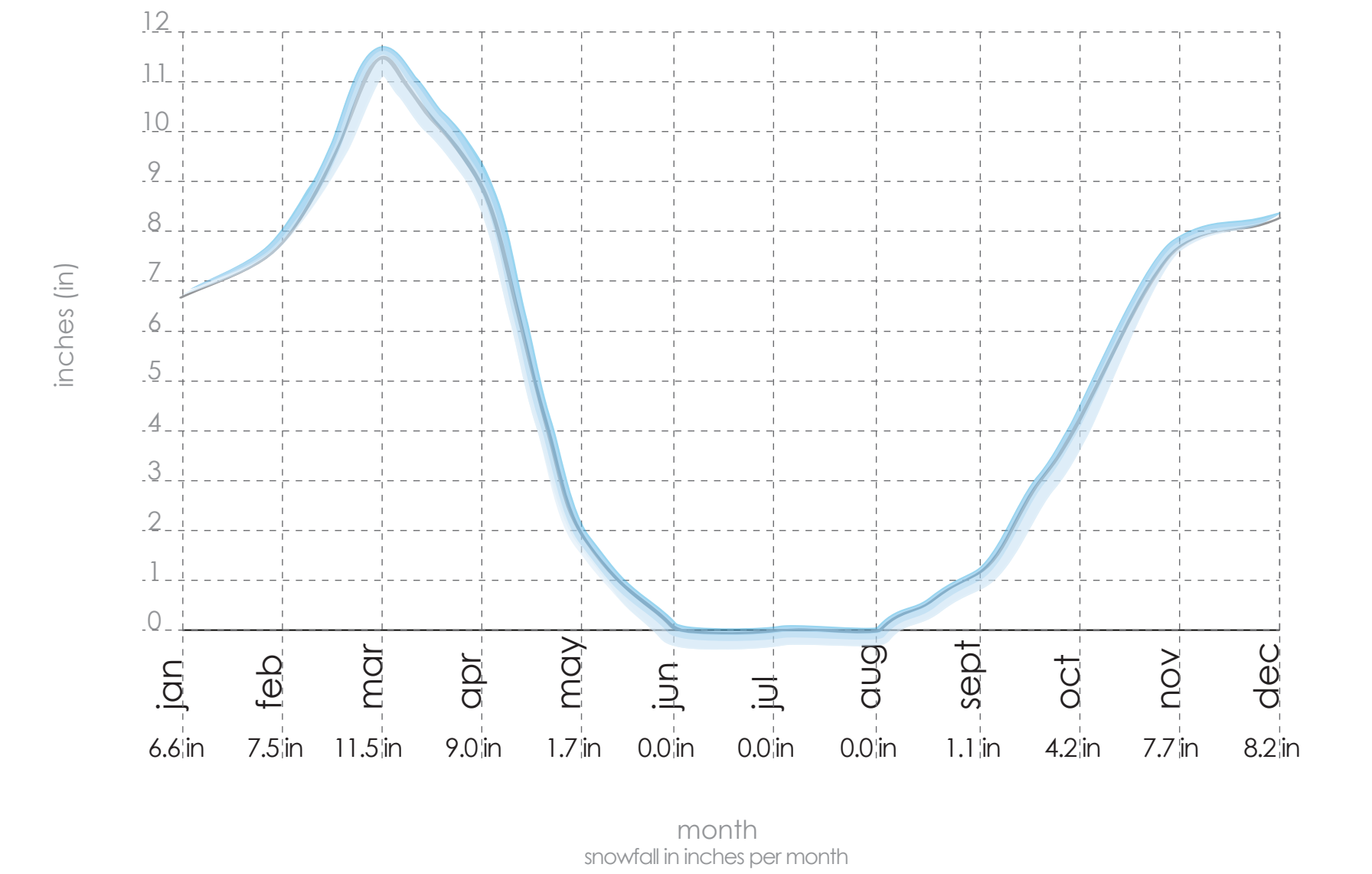
age



rainfall



snowfall



# context analysis

cultural  
denver performing arts complex  
emily griffith technical college

residential  
spire condos  
auraria student lofts

dining  
row 14 bistro and wine bar  
bubba gump shrimp company  
oceanaire seafood room  
starbucks  
crave dessert bar and lounge  
organic pizza company

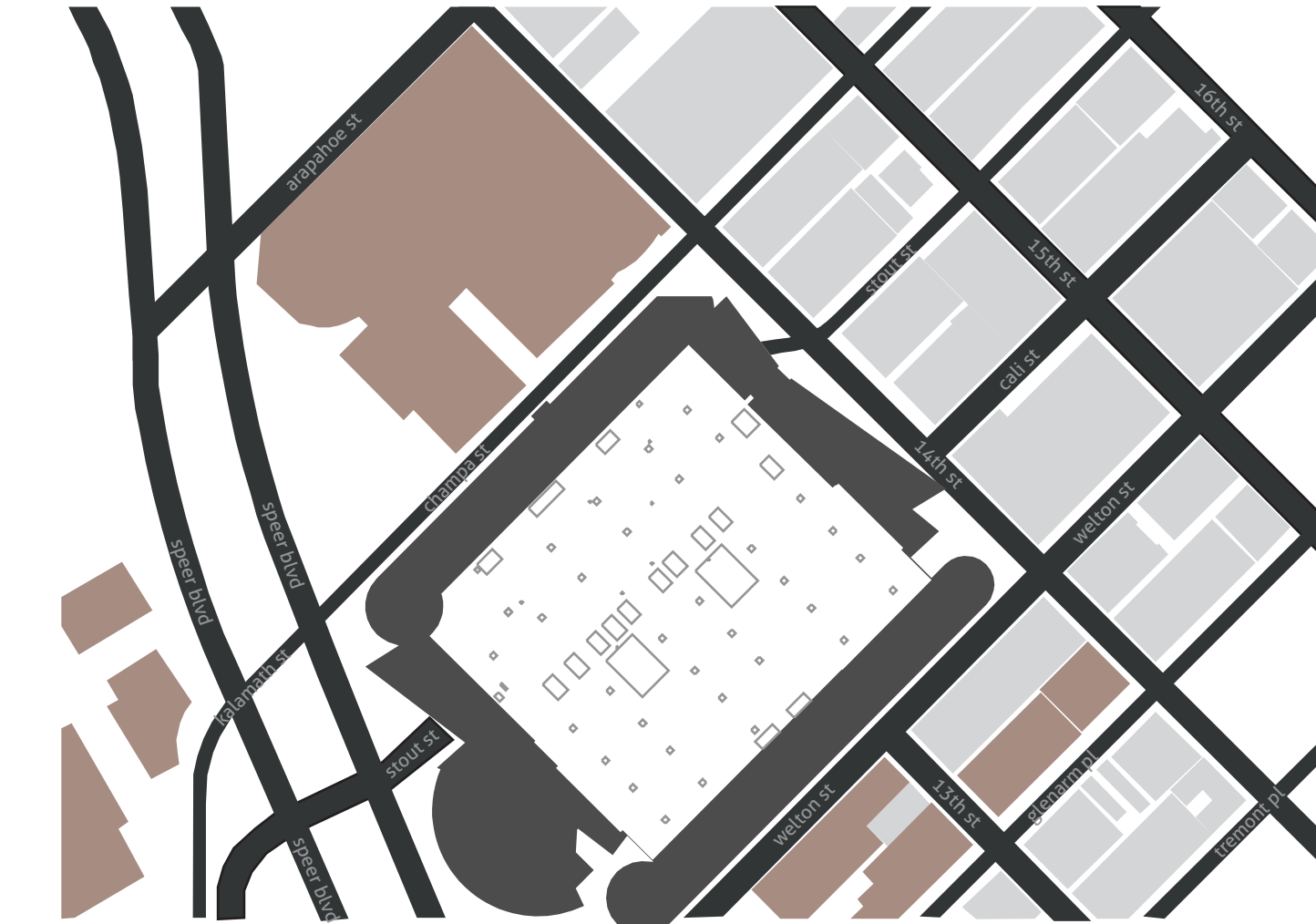
parking  
city of denver ramps and lots  
privately owned ramps and lots

commercial  
a and d data recovery  
telecommunications history group  
us west commercial  
denver gas and electric  
denver laser solutions llc

hotel  
the curtis  
embassy suites denver  
bradshaw hotel  
hilton garden inn denver downtown  
hampton inn and suites denver  
hyatt downtown denver



cultural



hotels



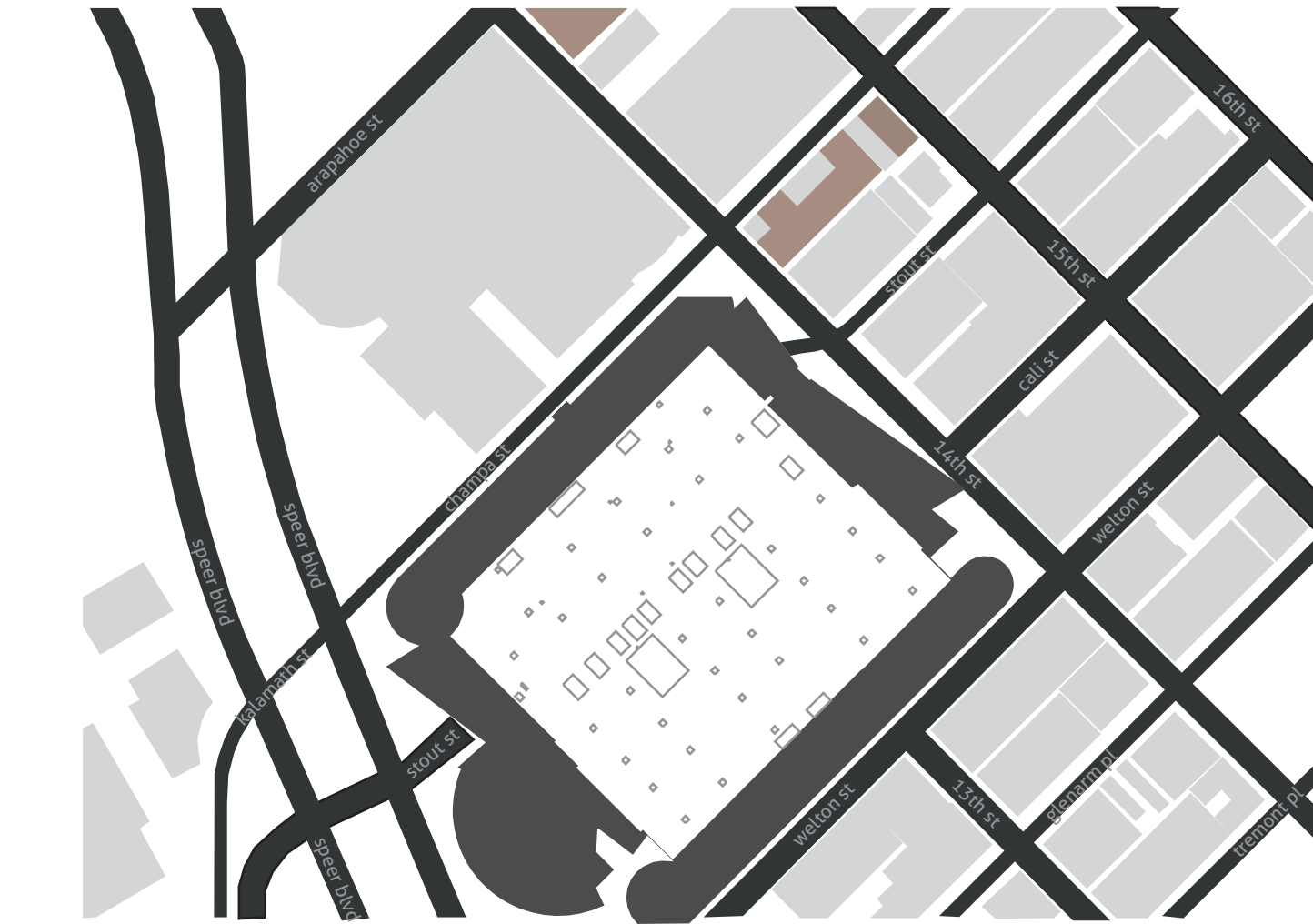
parking



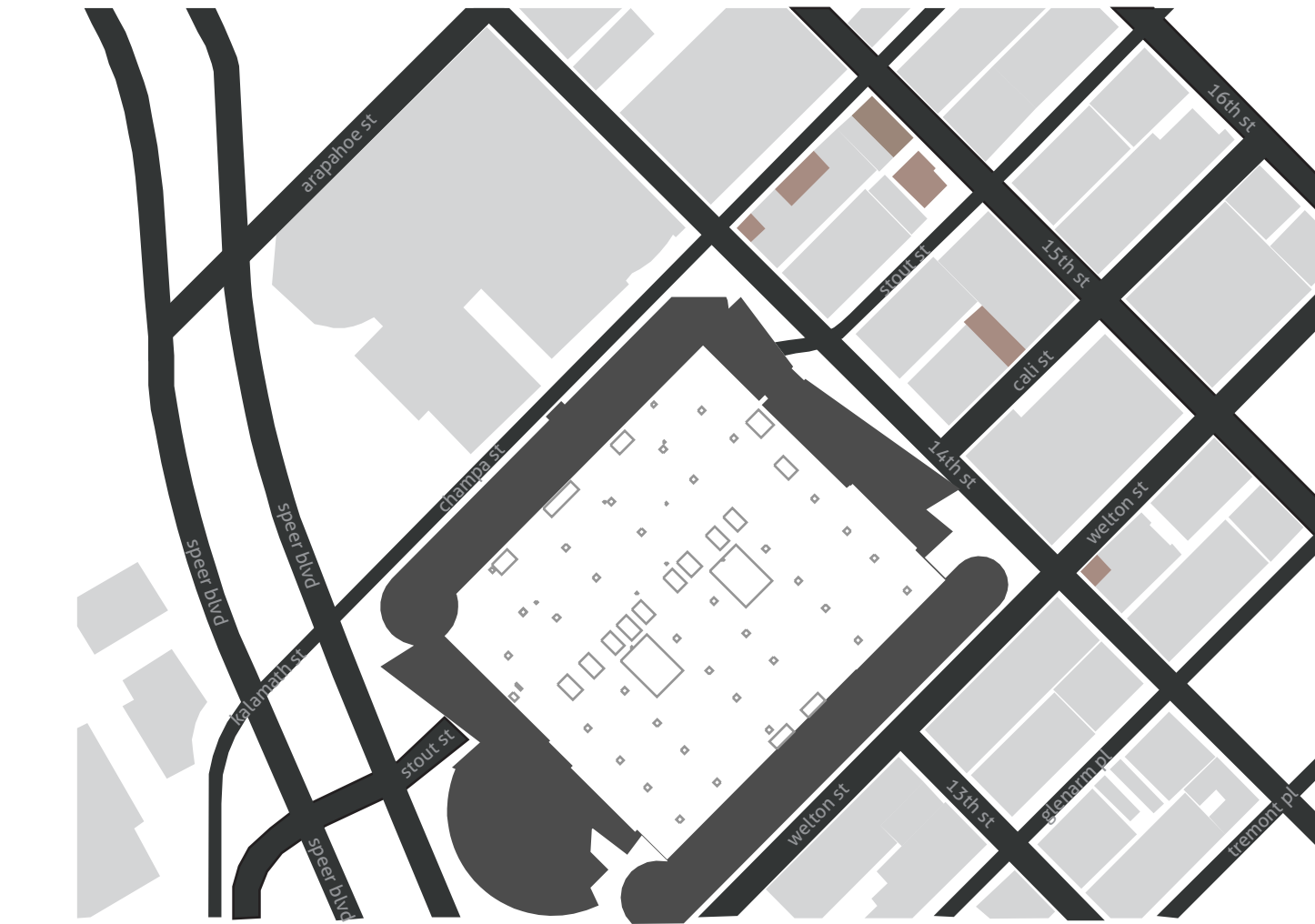
commercial



residential



dining



# circulation analysis

## light rail

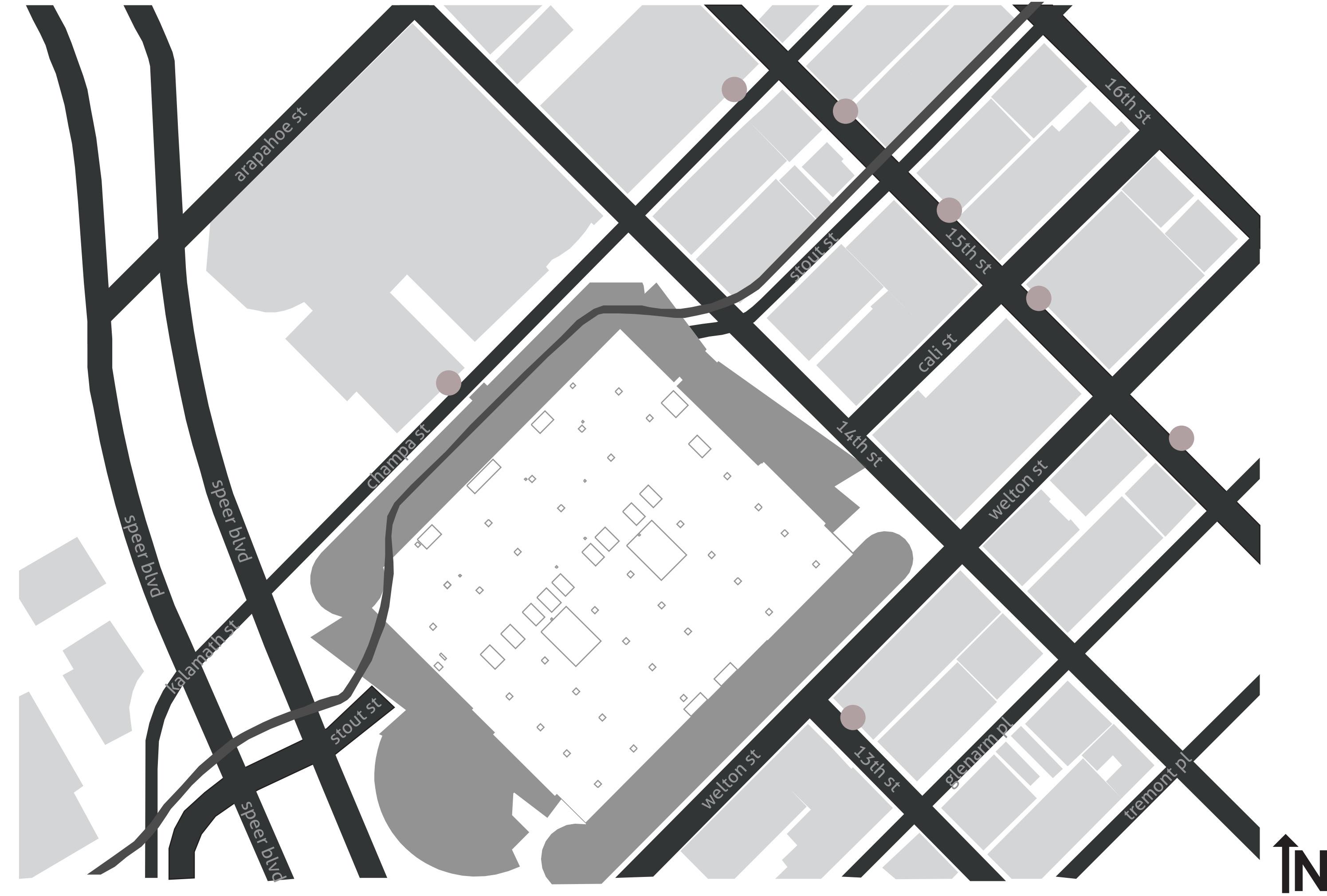
runs every 15 minutes  
 stops along stout street  
 lines D, F and H  
 serves all of downtown  
 theatre district/convention center station

## traffic flow

one ways - southeast bound: 14th street  
 one way - northwest bound: 15th street  
 one way - south bound: speer boulevard  
 one way - north bound: speer boulevard  
 one way - southwest bound: champa street, california street  
 one way - northeast bound: welton street, stout street, curtis street  
 two ways: glenarm place, arapahoe street

## bus stops

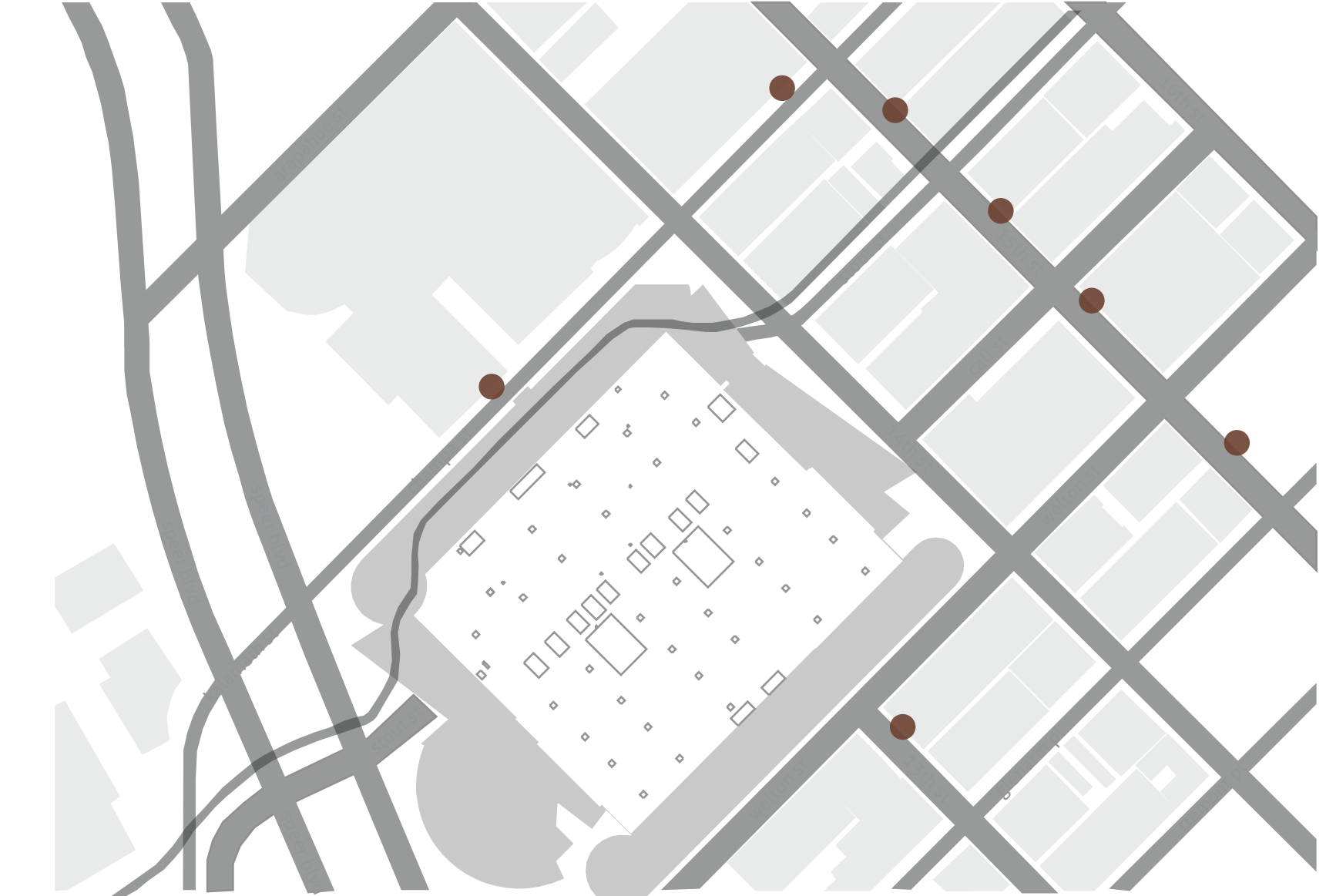
runs every 15 minutes  
 stops at eight different places within a block of the convention center  
 busses 8, 48, 10, 28, 28B, 32, 6, 52, 9, 15, 15L, 20, 1, 30L, 36L,  
 serves all of downtown and surrounding neighborhoods



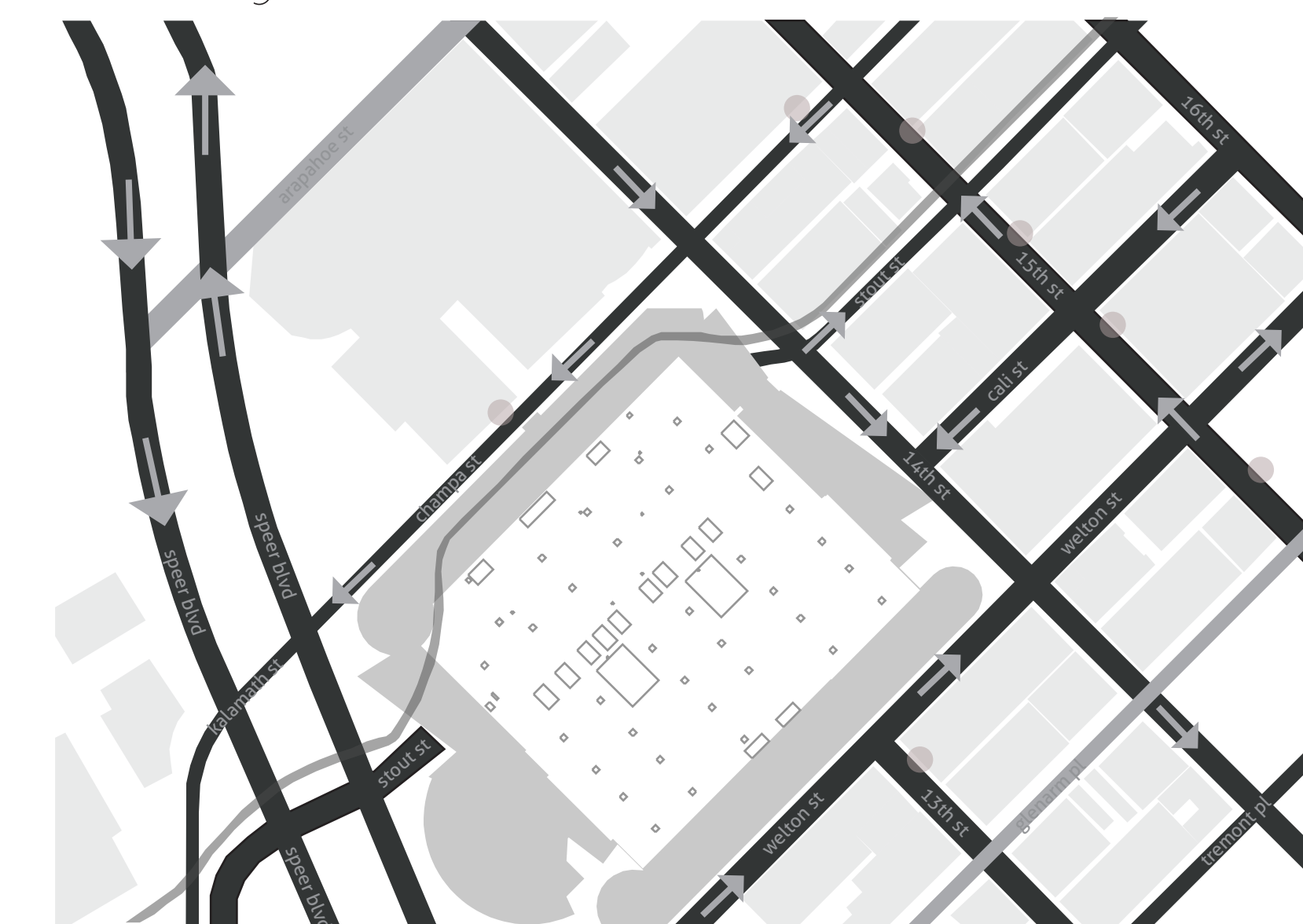
light rail



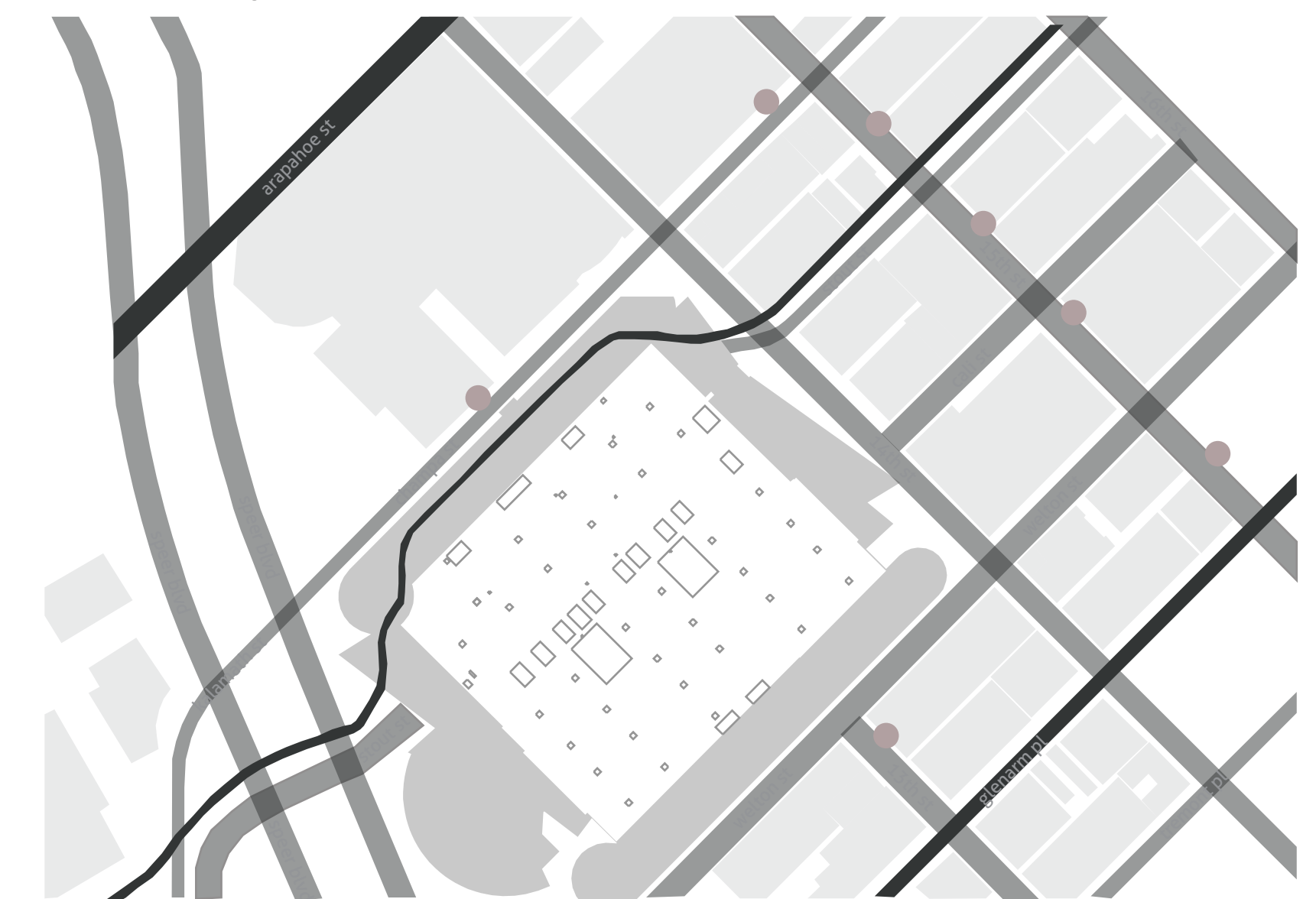
bus stops



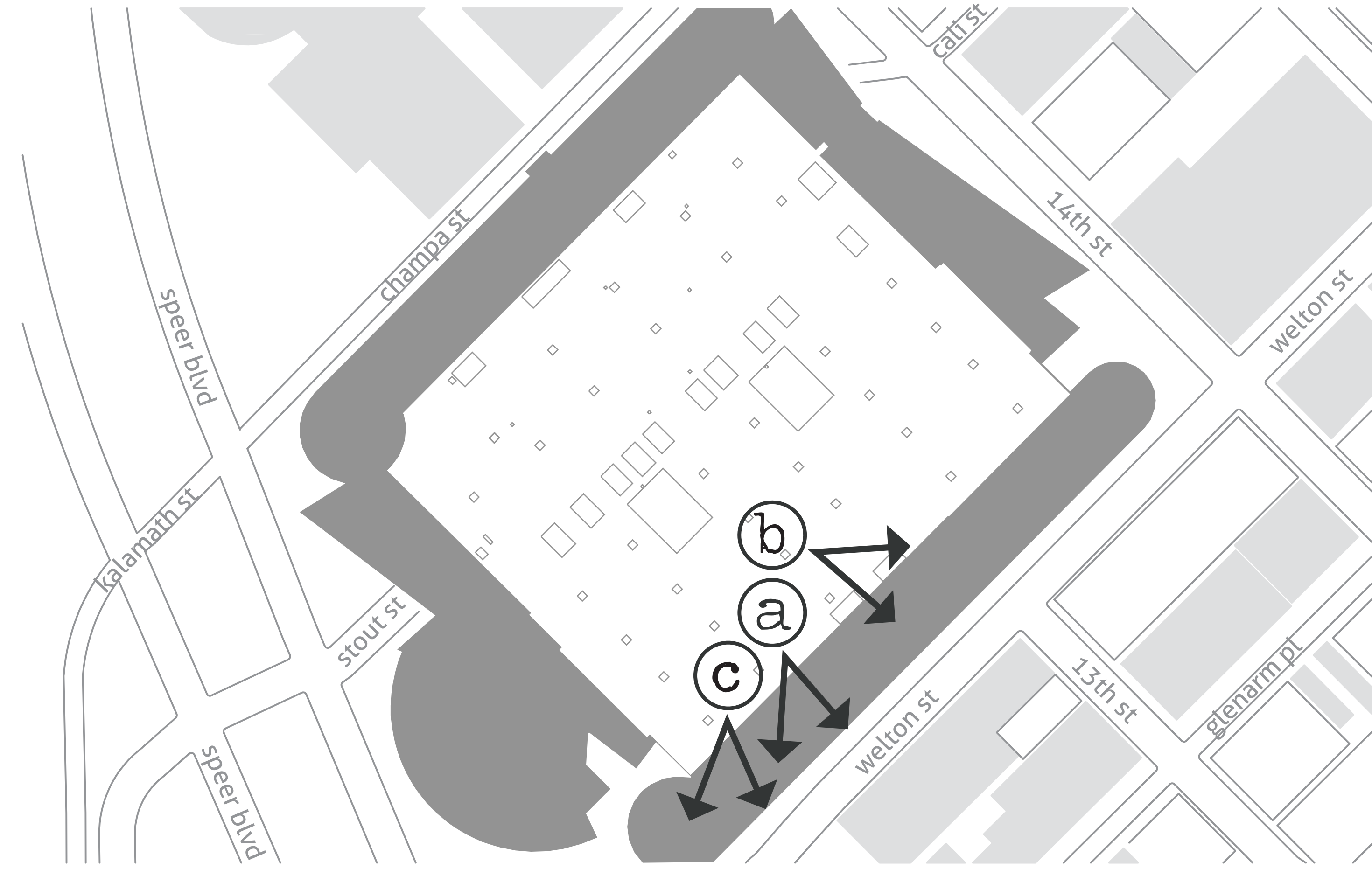
one way streets



two way streets



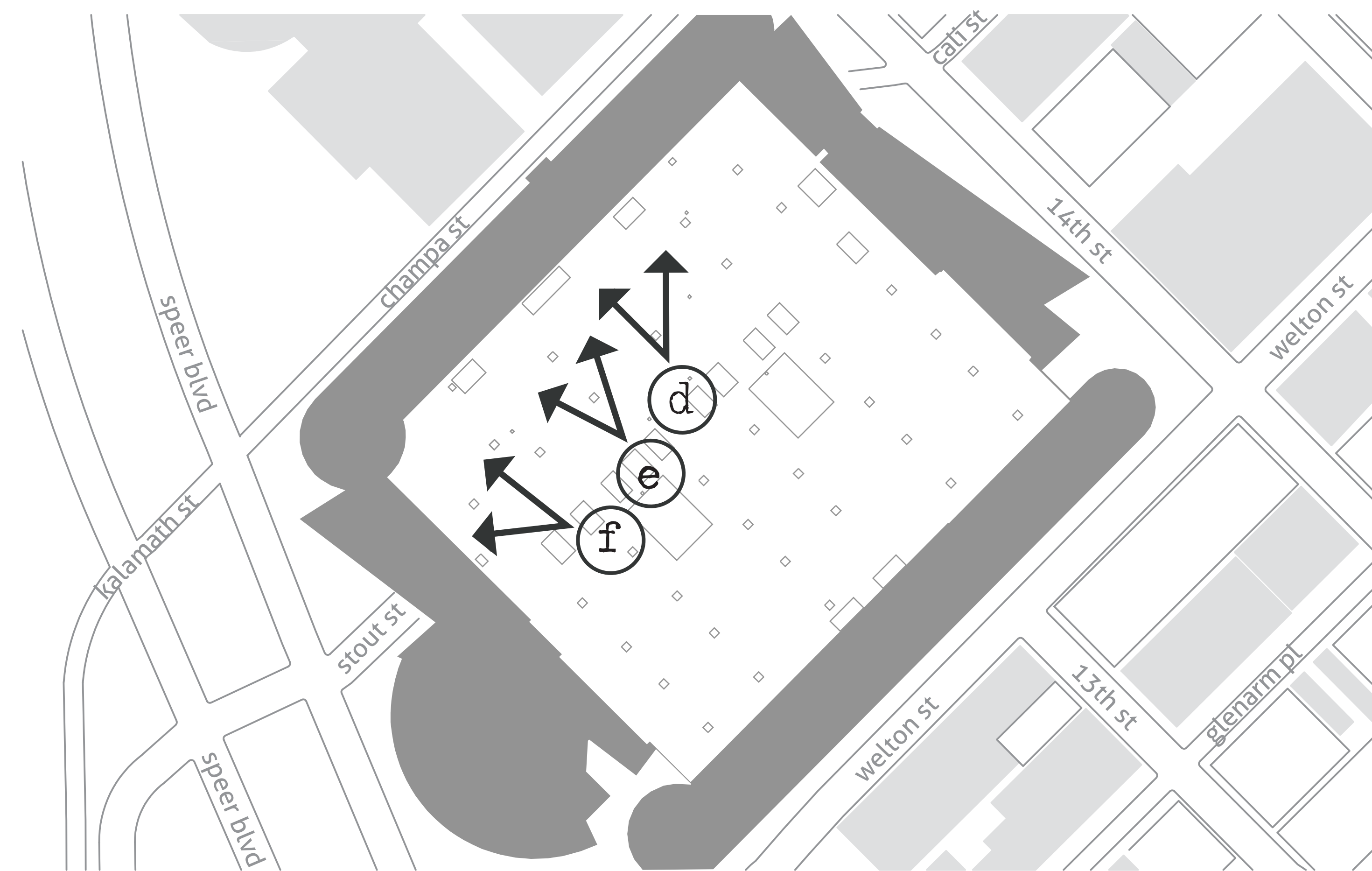
site photos



looking southwest  
residential  
mountains in the distance  
solar panels existing



site photos



looking northeast and northwest

mountain views

city views

residential and college campus

d



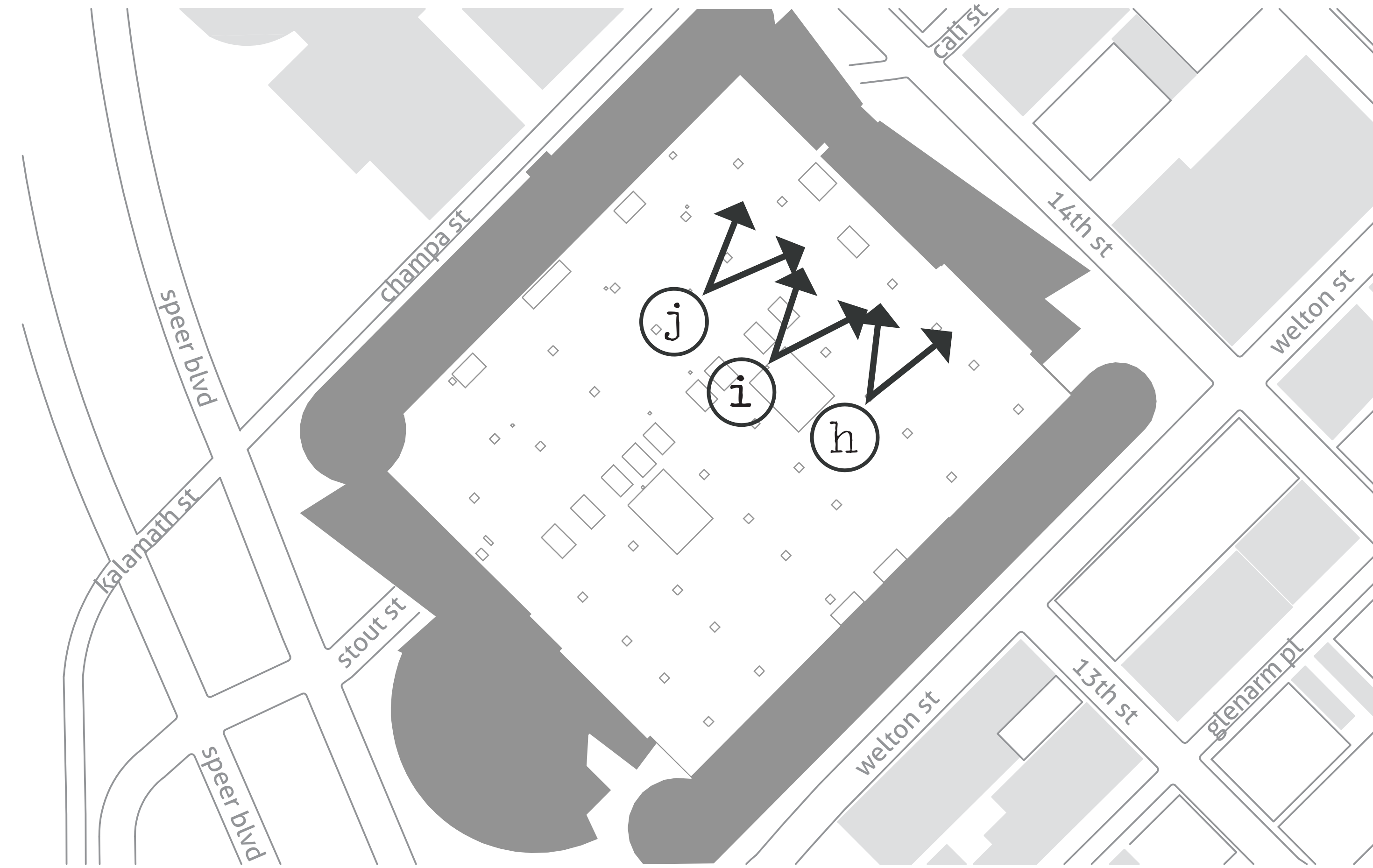
e



f



site photos



looking east

city views

height of buildings

downtown skyline

h



i



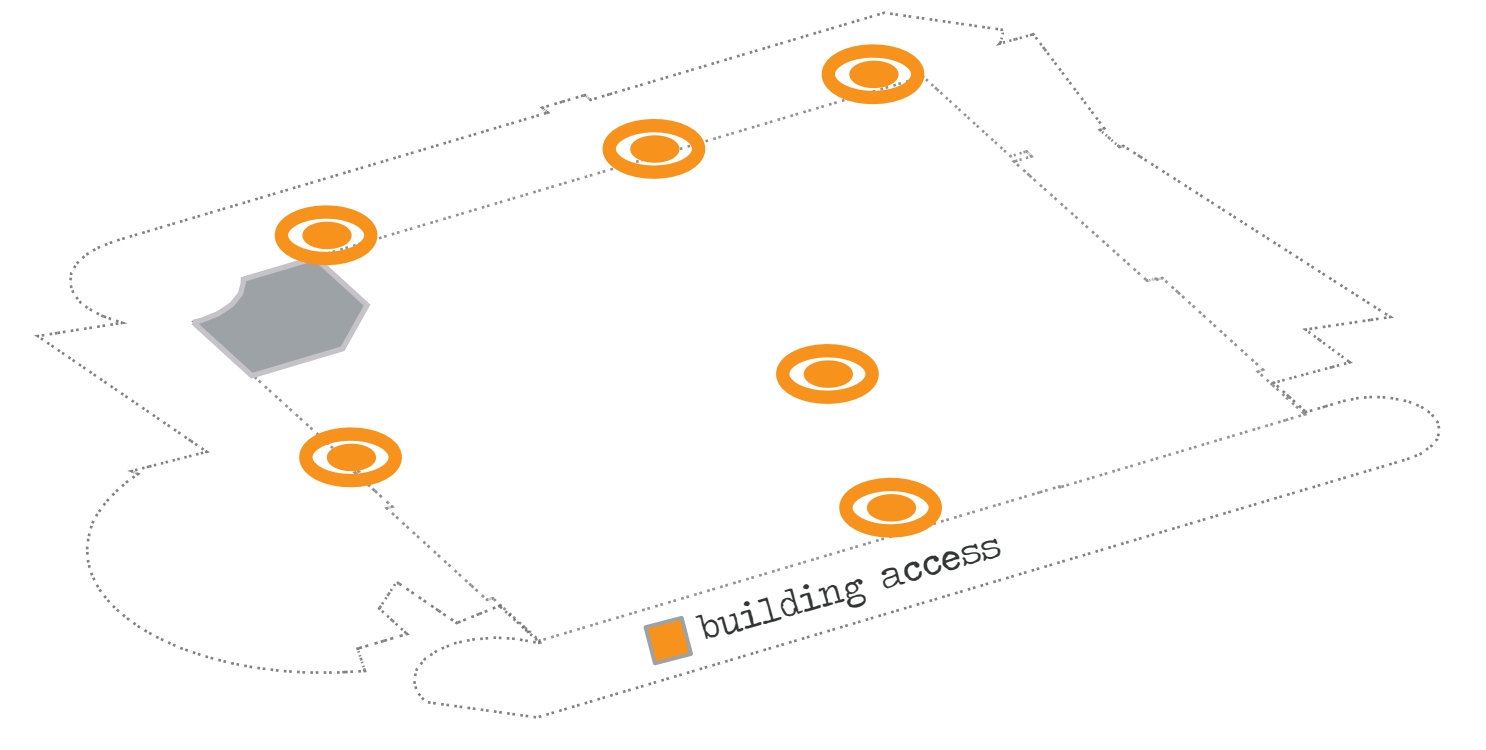
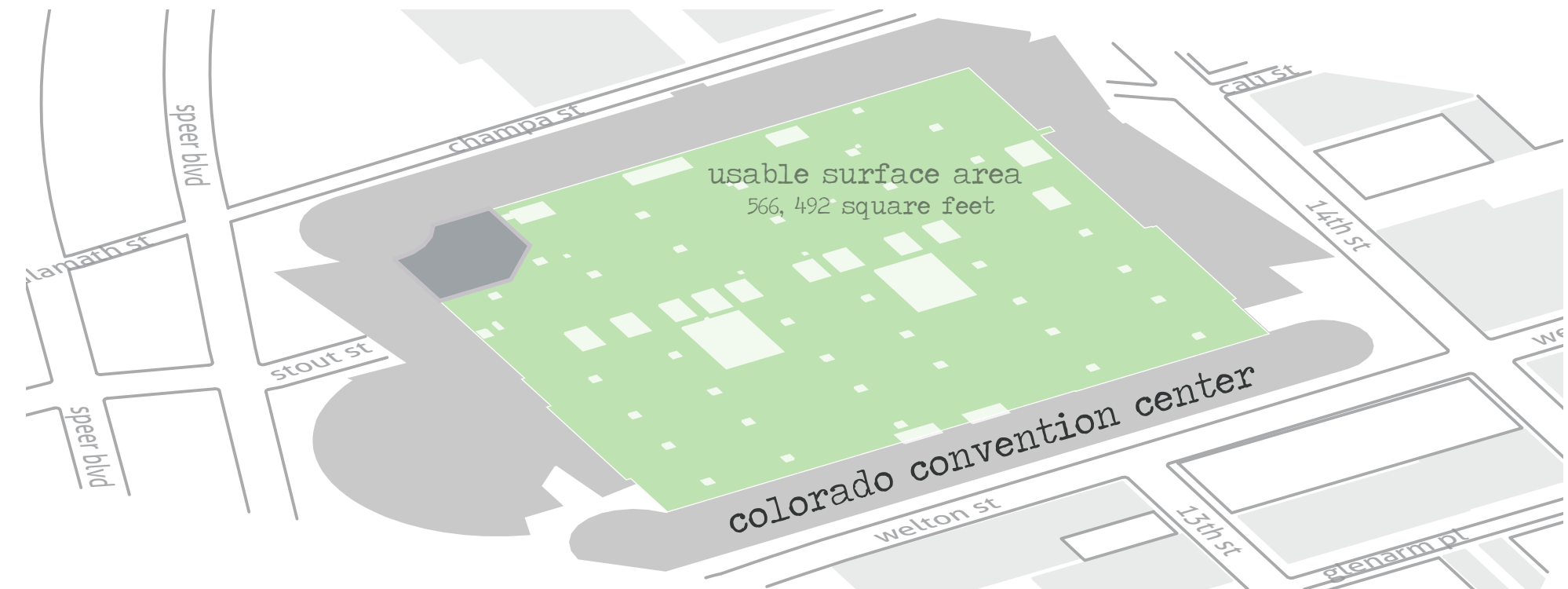
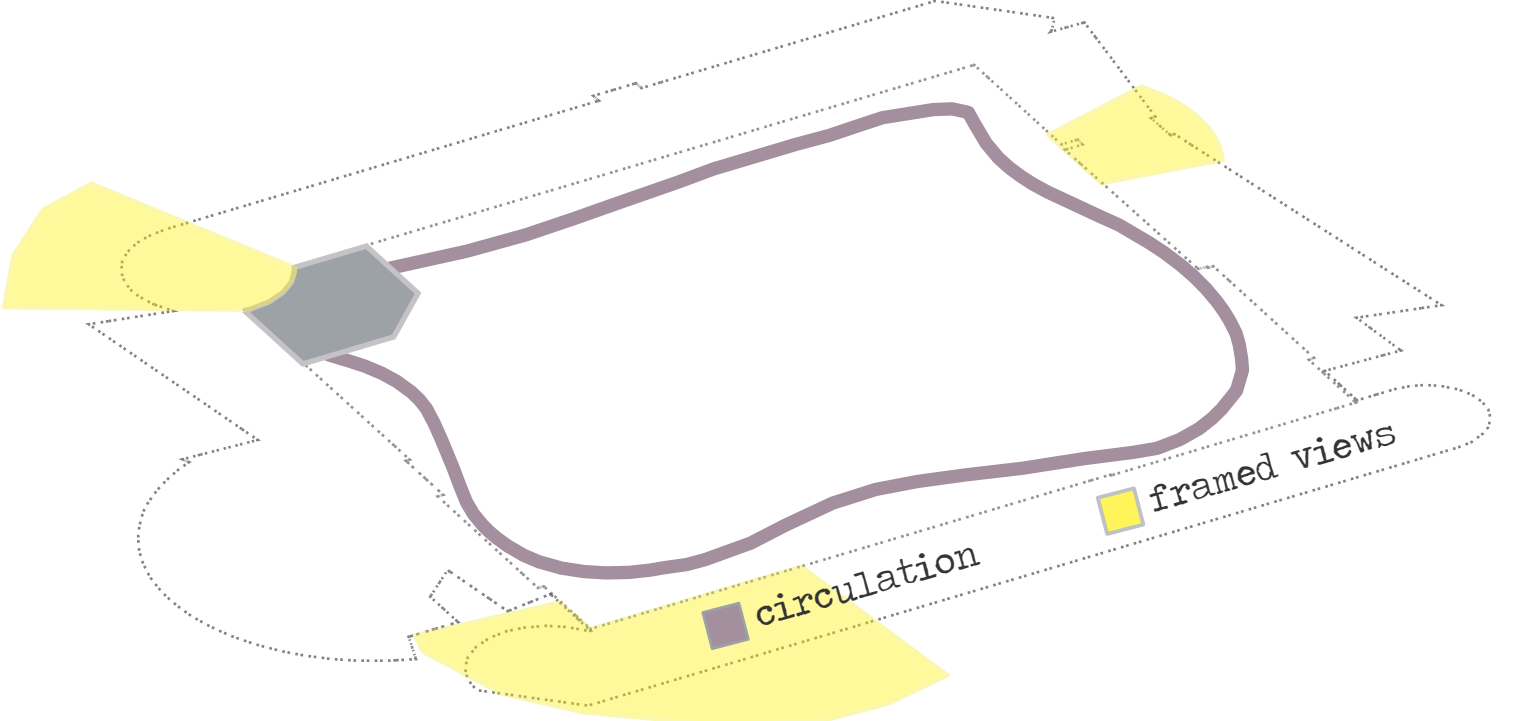
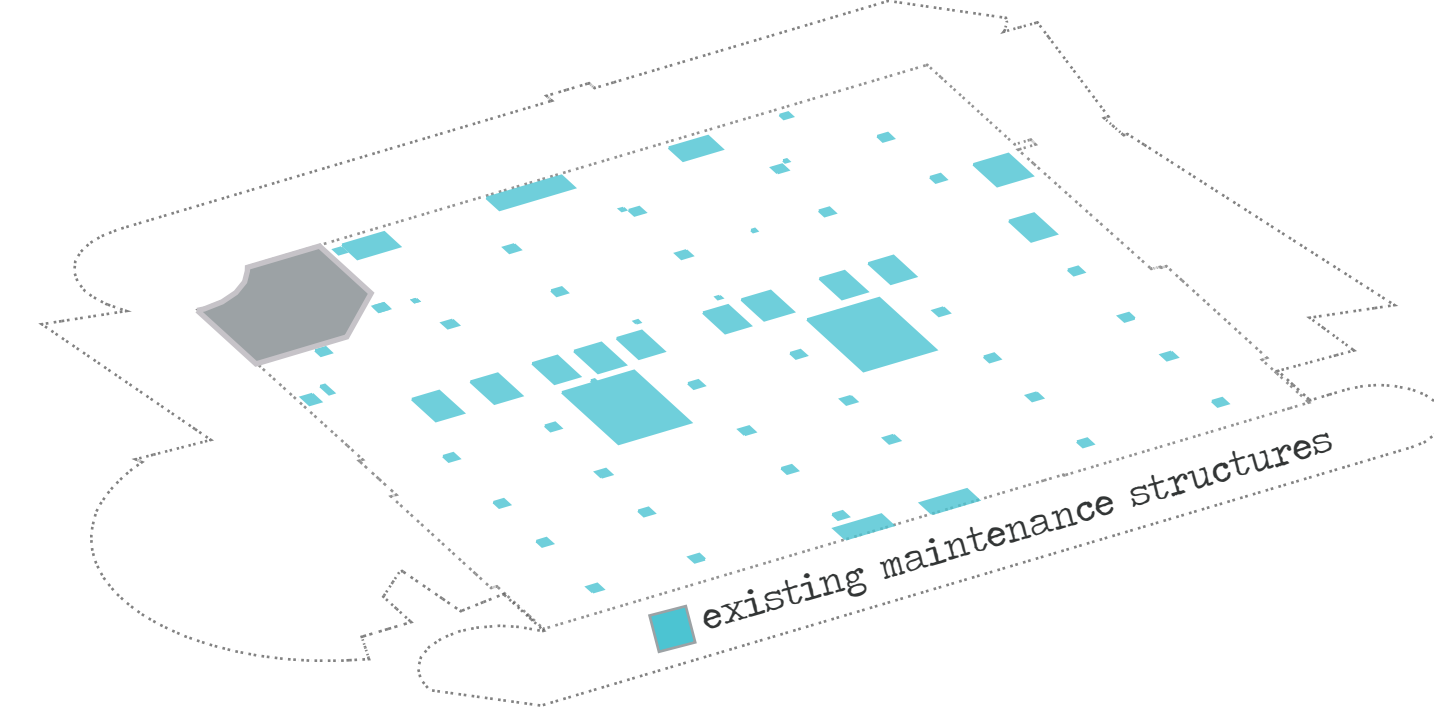
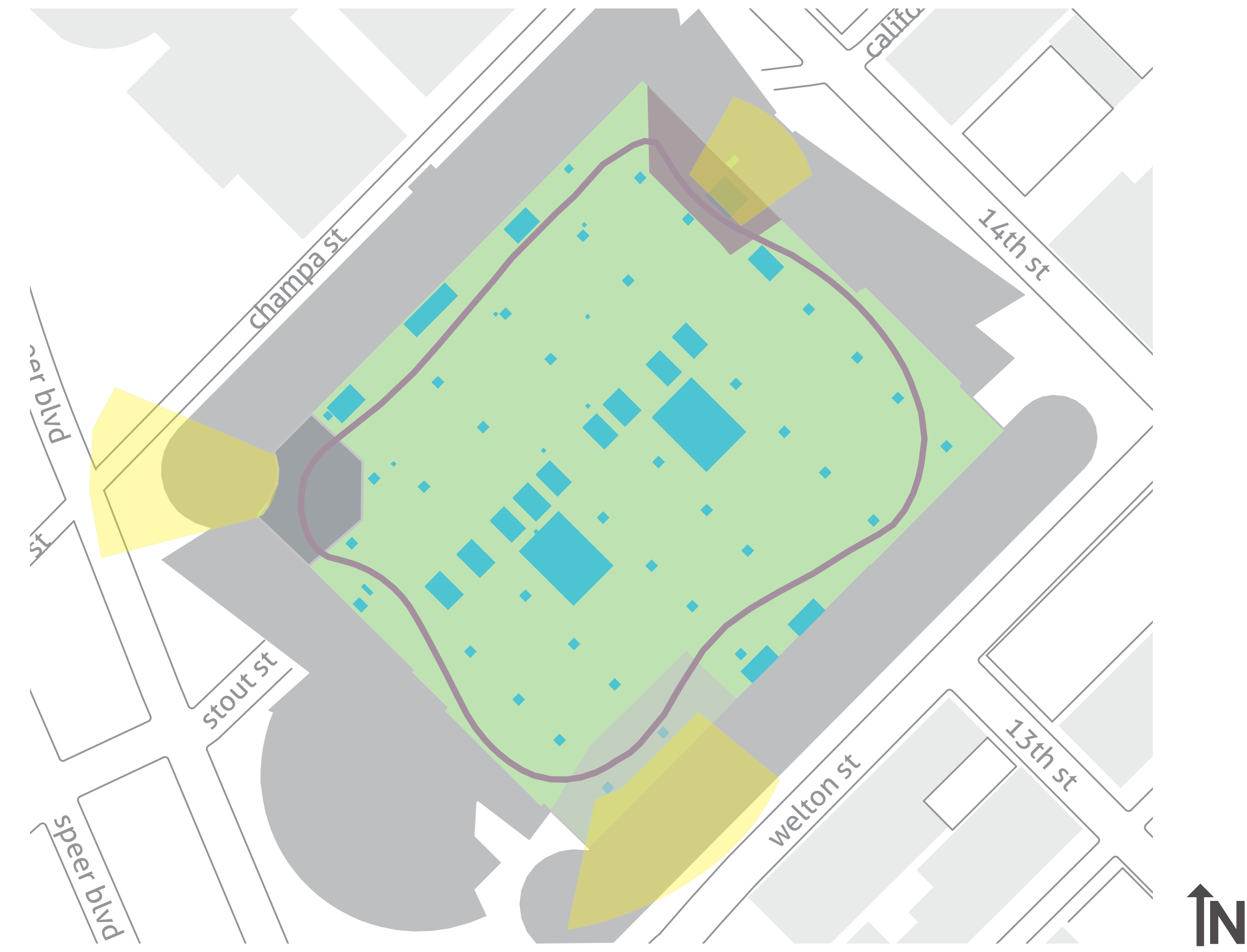
j







# overall site analysis



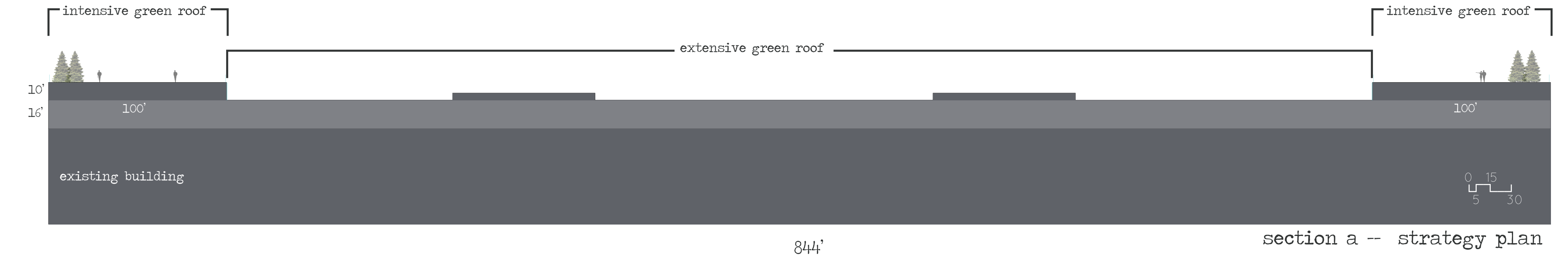
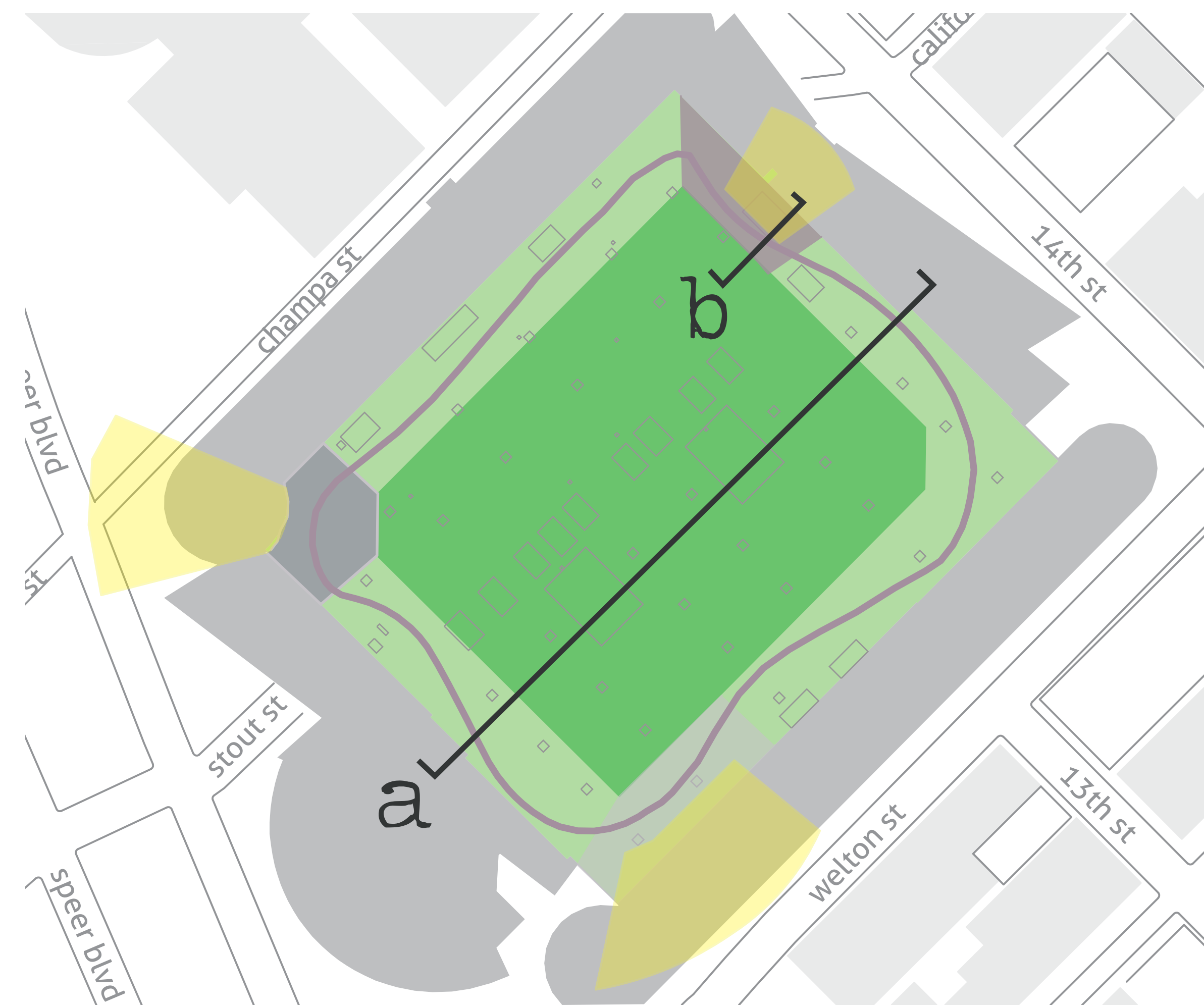
# strategy plan

the strategy plan for the reinvented park frames views in three areas to the city and mountains and separates it into two different types of green roofs -- extensive and intensive.

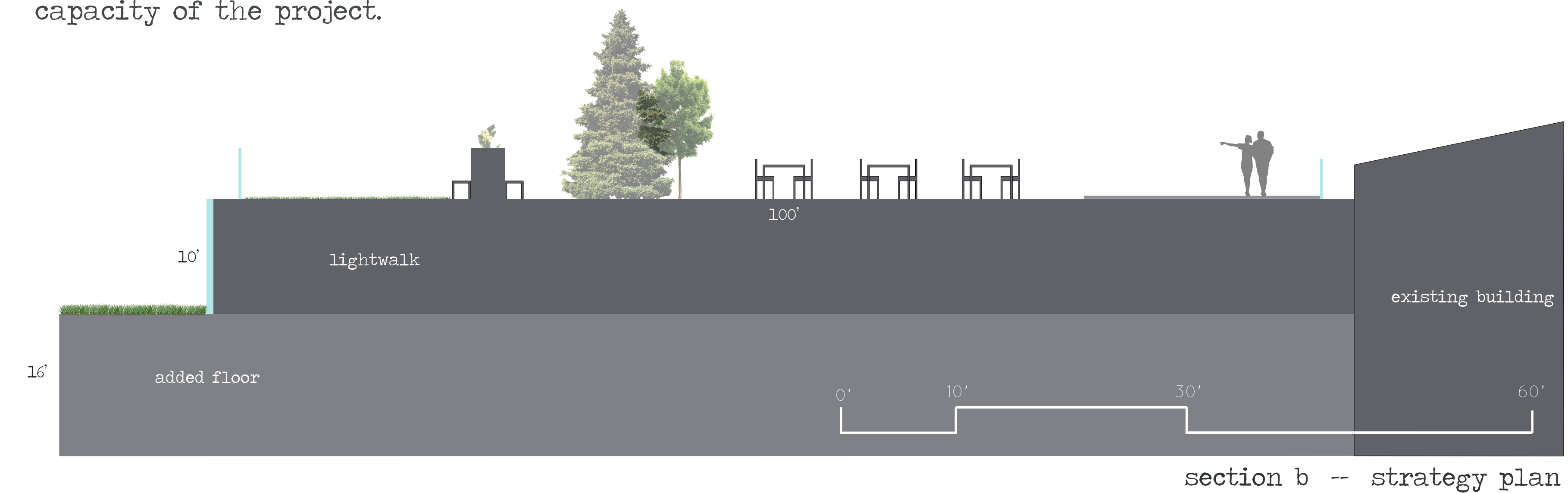
intensive green roofs require more maintenance and have a wide variety of plantings, grasses and trees.

extensive green roofs are more low maintenance and have grasses with small root systems

- city confluence  
immersed views
- outsider influence  
intensified inspirations
- the gridwork  
new connections
- intensive rooftop  
350 psf
- extensive rooftop  
140 psf



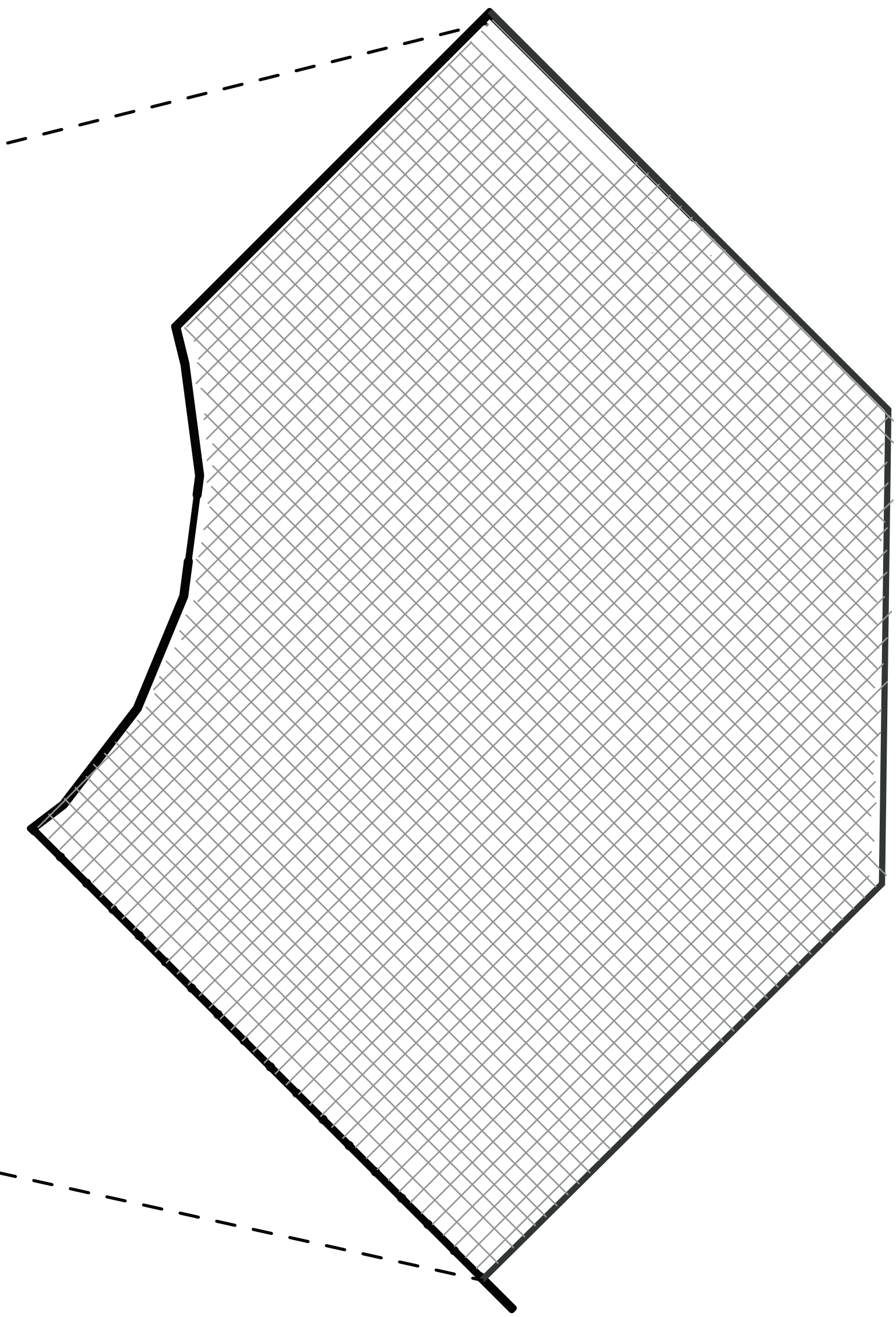
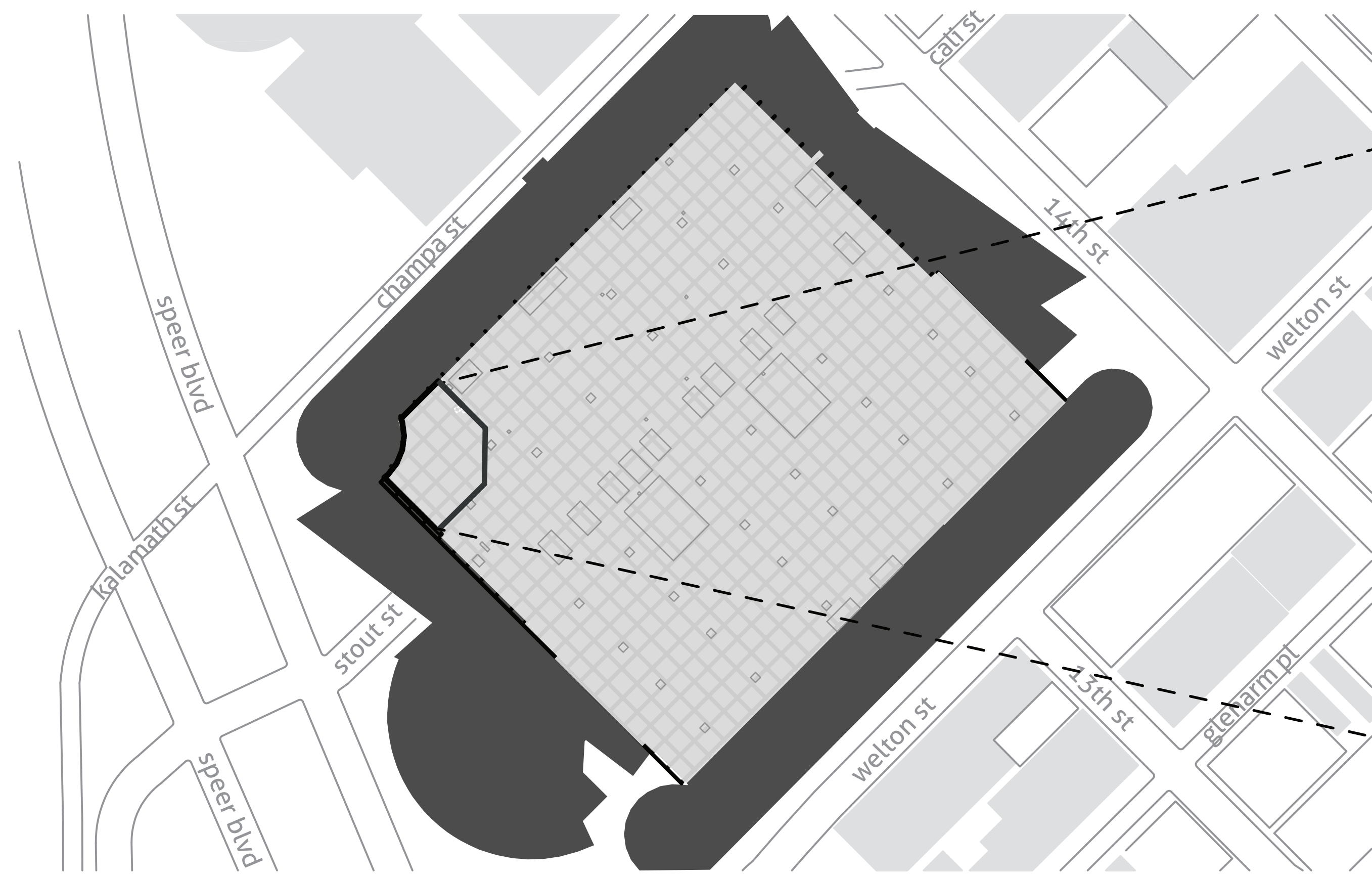
the existing building was not strong enough to hold the load capacity of this project so an additional two floors were added. the first addition is 16 feet tall, with the potential for adding more meeting space to the convention center. the second added floor is a lightwalk which is a large square hallway along the perimeter of the building. adding the two floors will allow the building to sustain the load capacity of the project.



in the strategy plan, there are spaces for seating, a path that circulates through the whole site as well as five different access points. various plantings, based on the views are also featured in this strategy plan. outside views determine the theme of the immediate site.

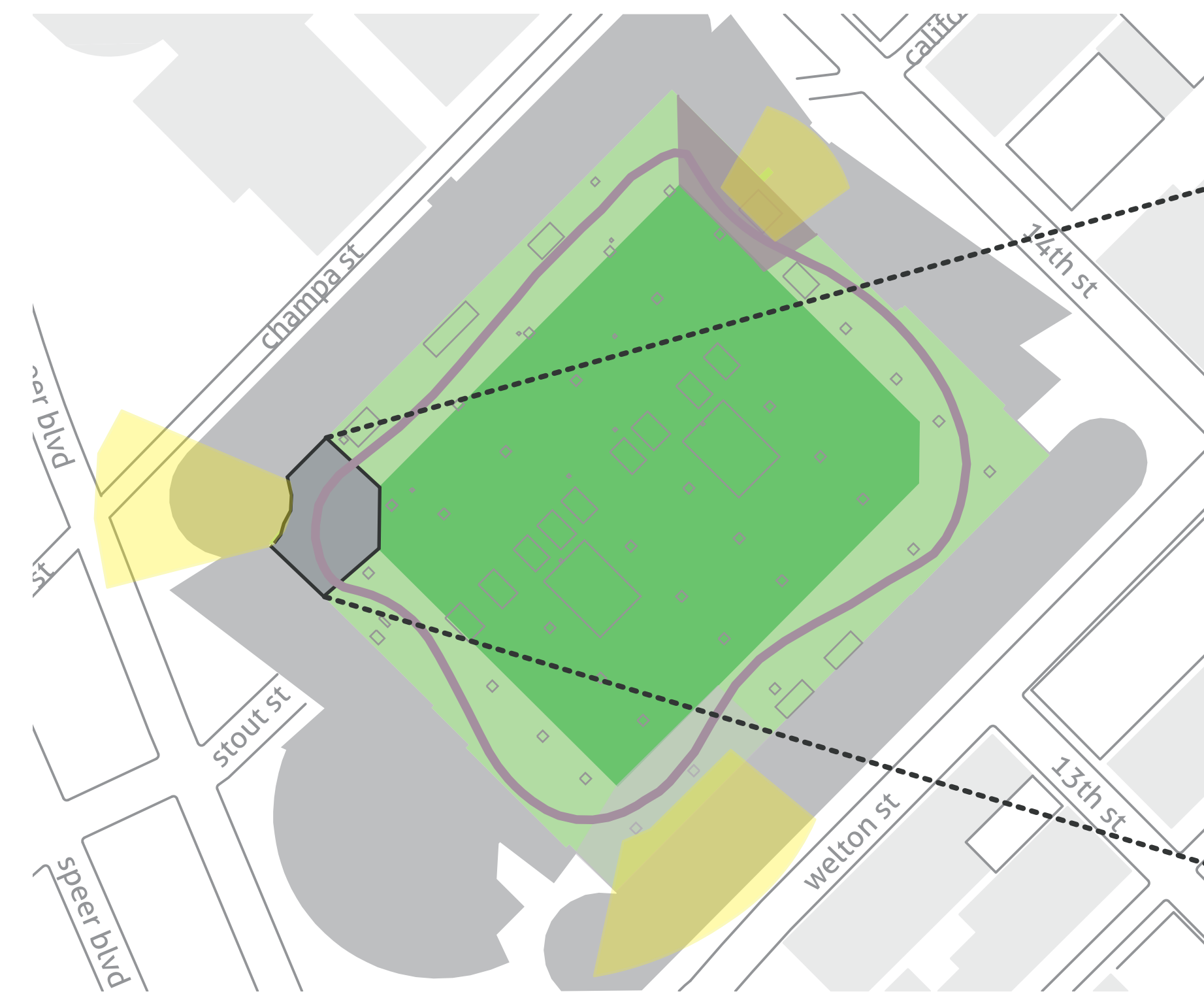
structural grid

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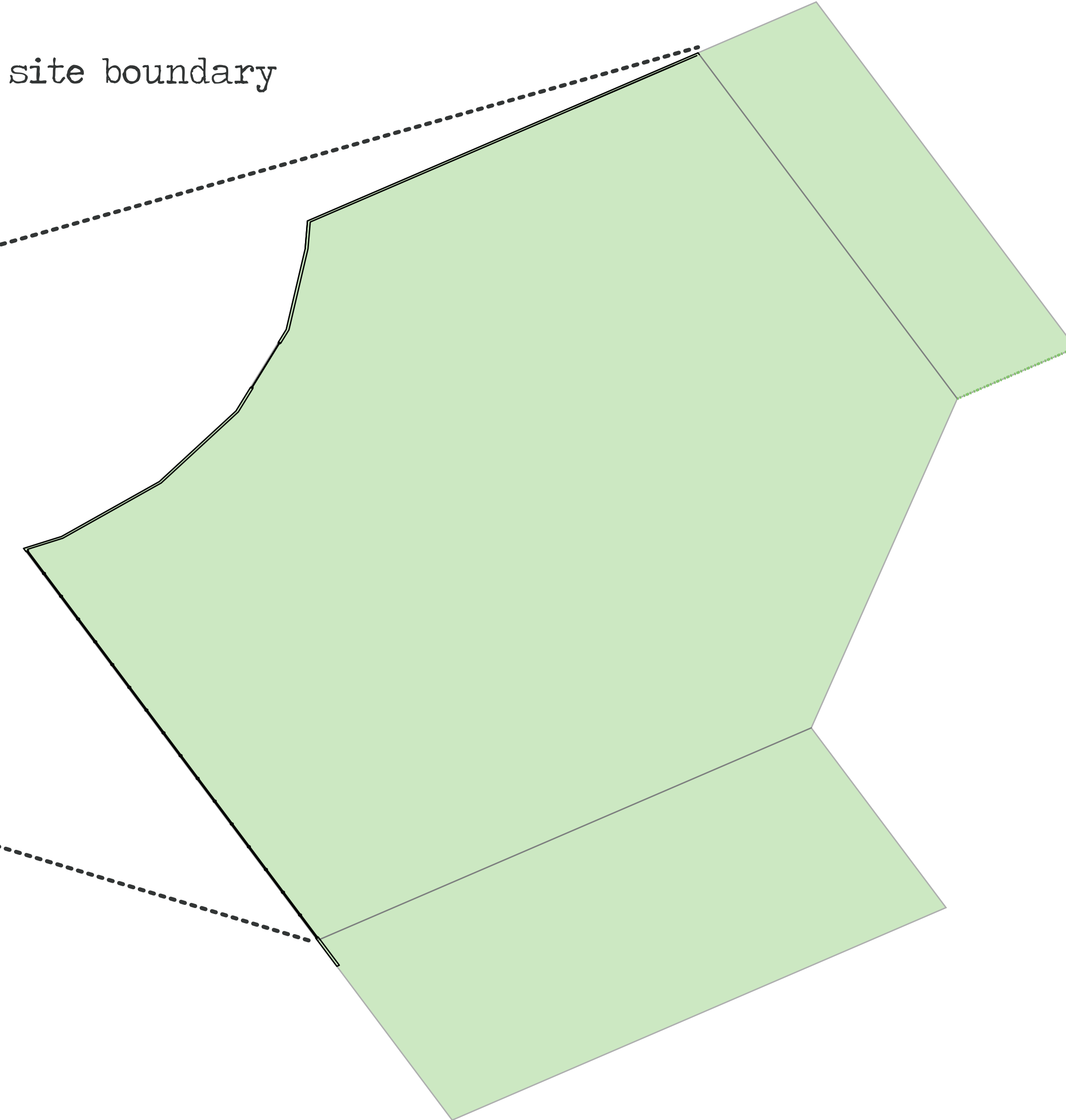


# site plan concepts

strategy plan



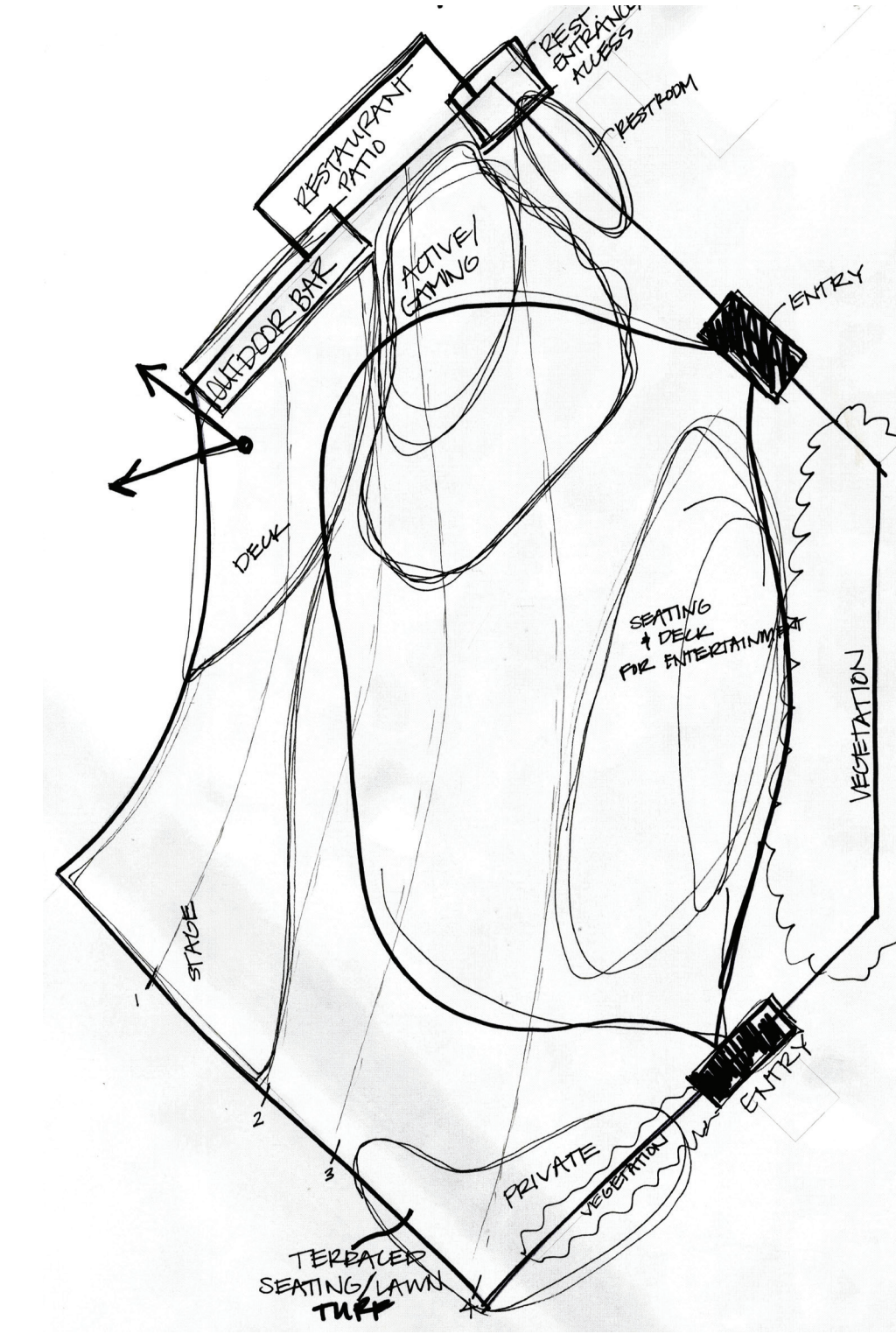
site boundary



a

- elements
1. seating
  2. stage
  3. turf
  4. path
  5. bar
  6. restaurant
  7. privacy
  8. railing
  9. ada
  10. vegetation
  11. deck
  12. restroom
  13. organized games

- accomplish:
1. views
  2. relax
  3. entertain
  4. active
  5. social



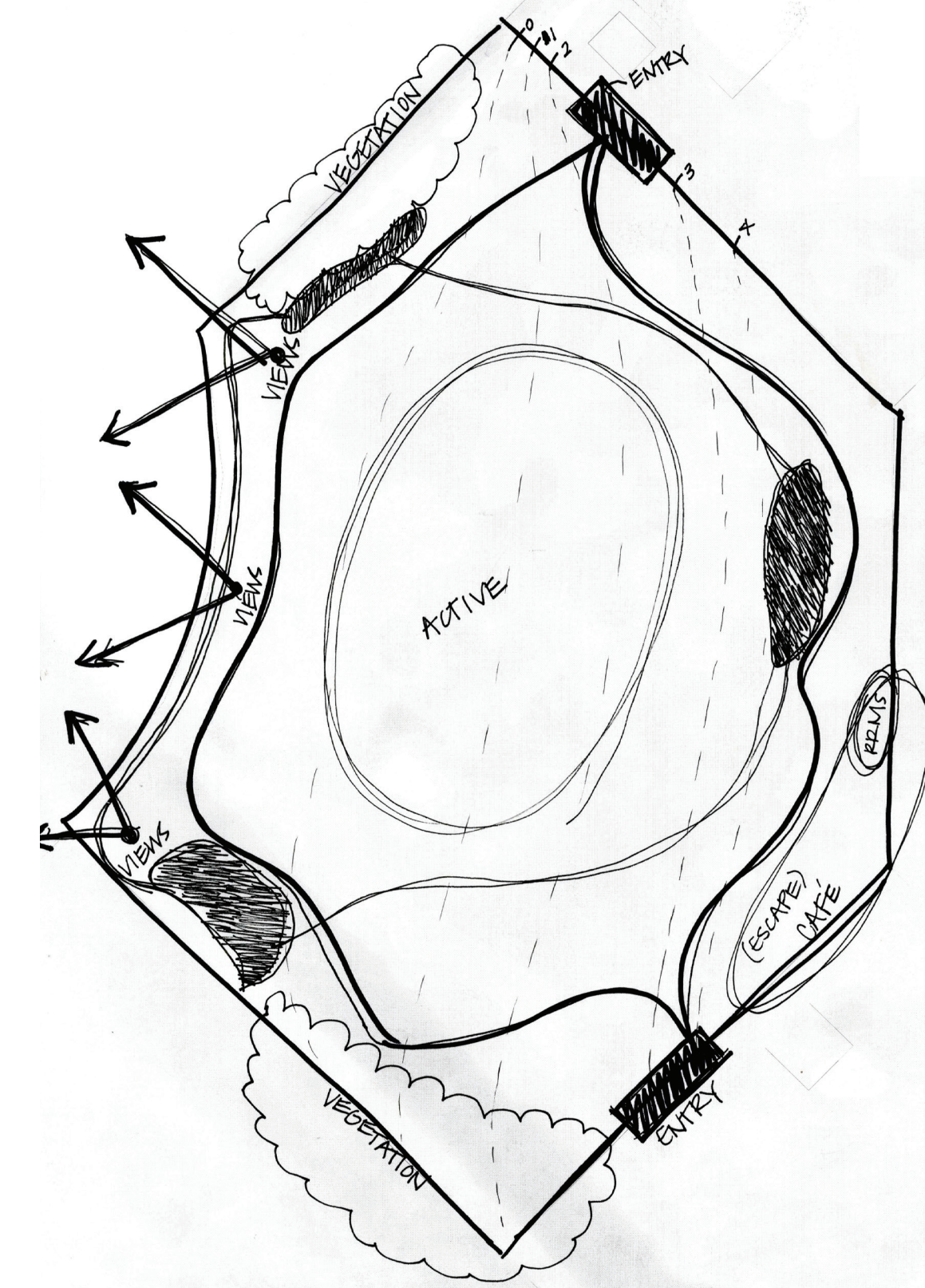
b

- elements
1. seating
  2. railing
  3. path
  4. vegetation
  5. boulders
  6. turf
  7. stone
  8. water/stream
  9. elevation
  10. ada
  11. cafe

- accomplish:
1. views
  2. escape
  3. relax
  4. active/passive

- active:
- green space
  - path
  - stream

- passive:
- seating
  - views

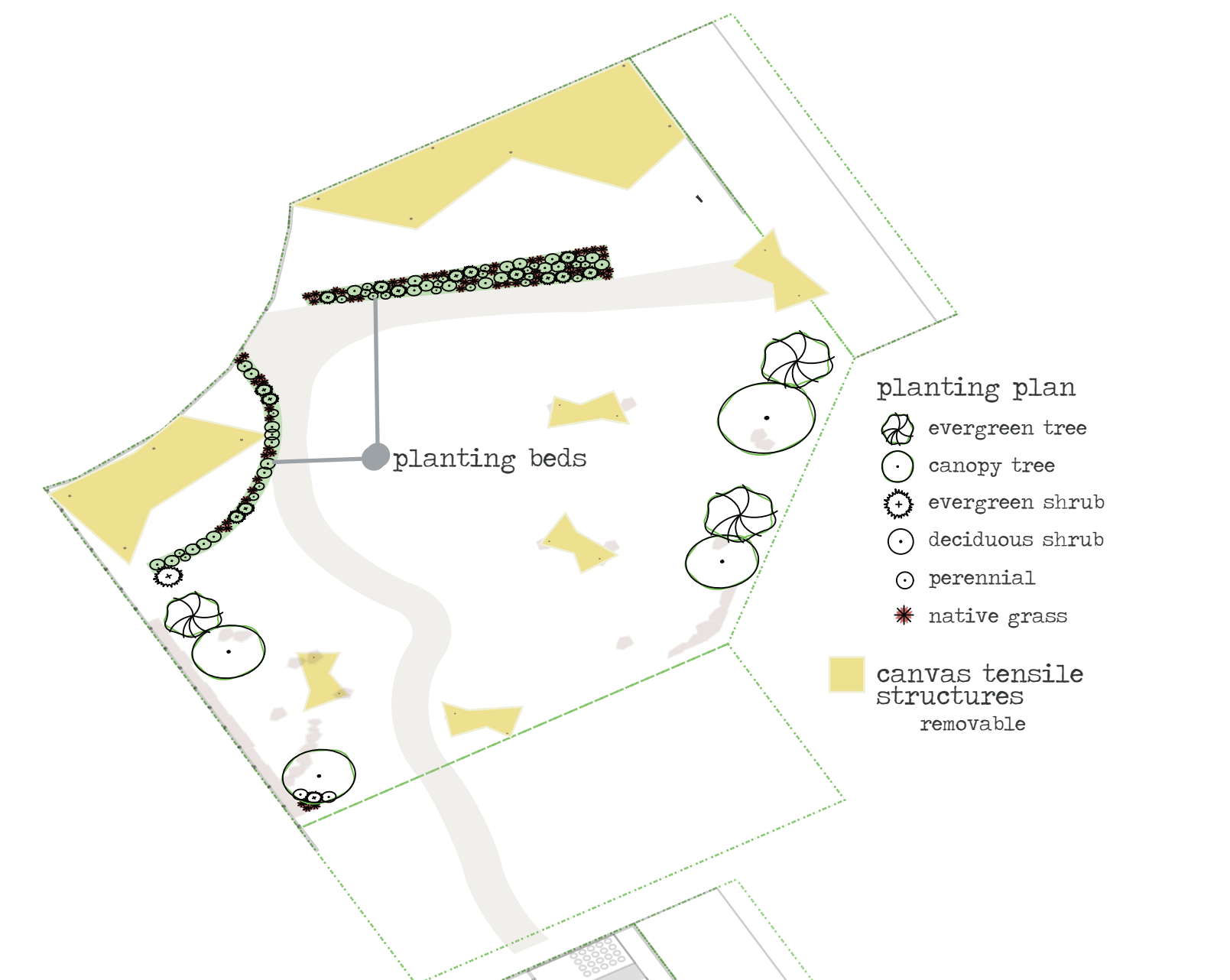
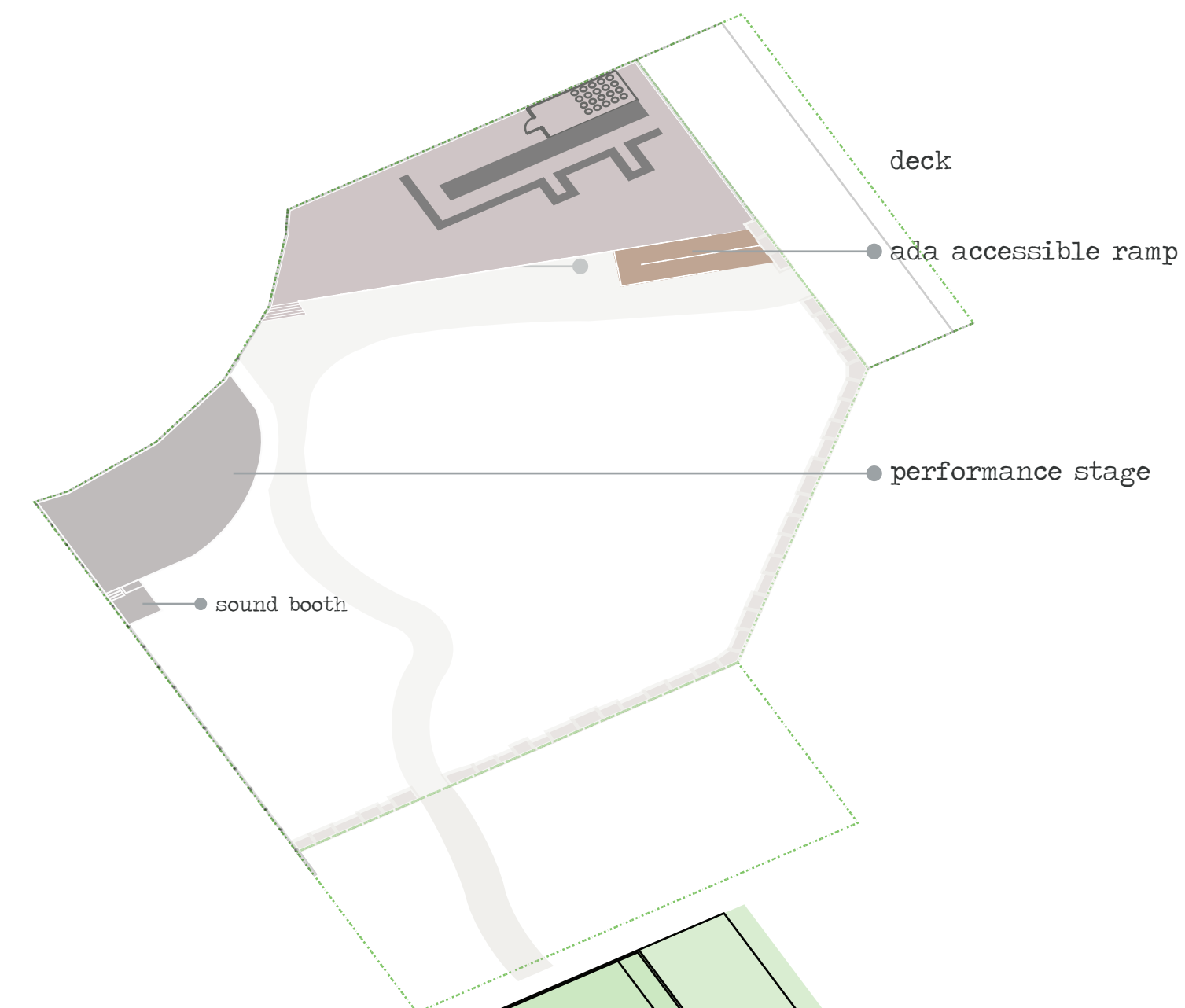
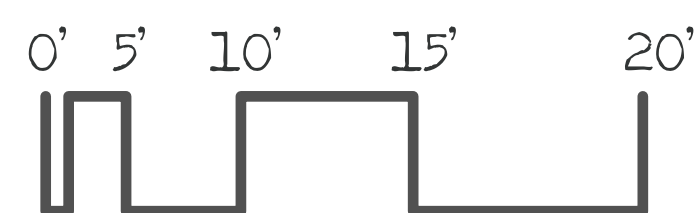


# master plan

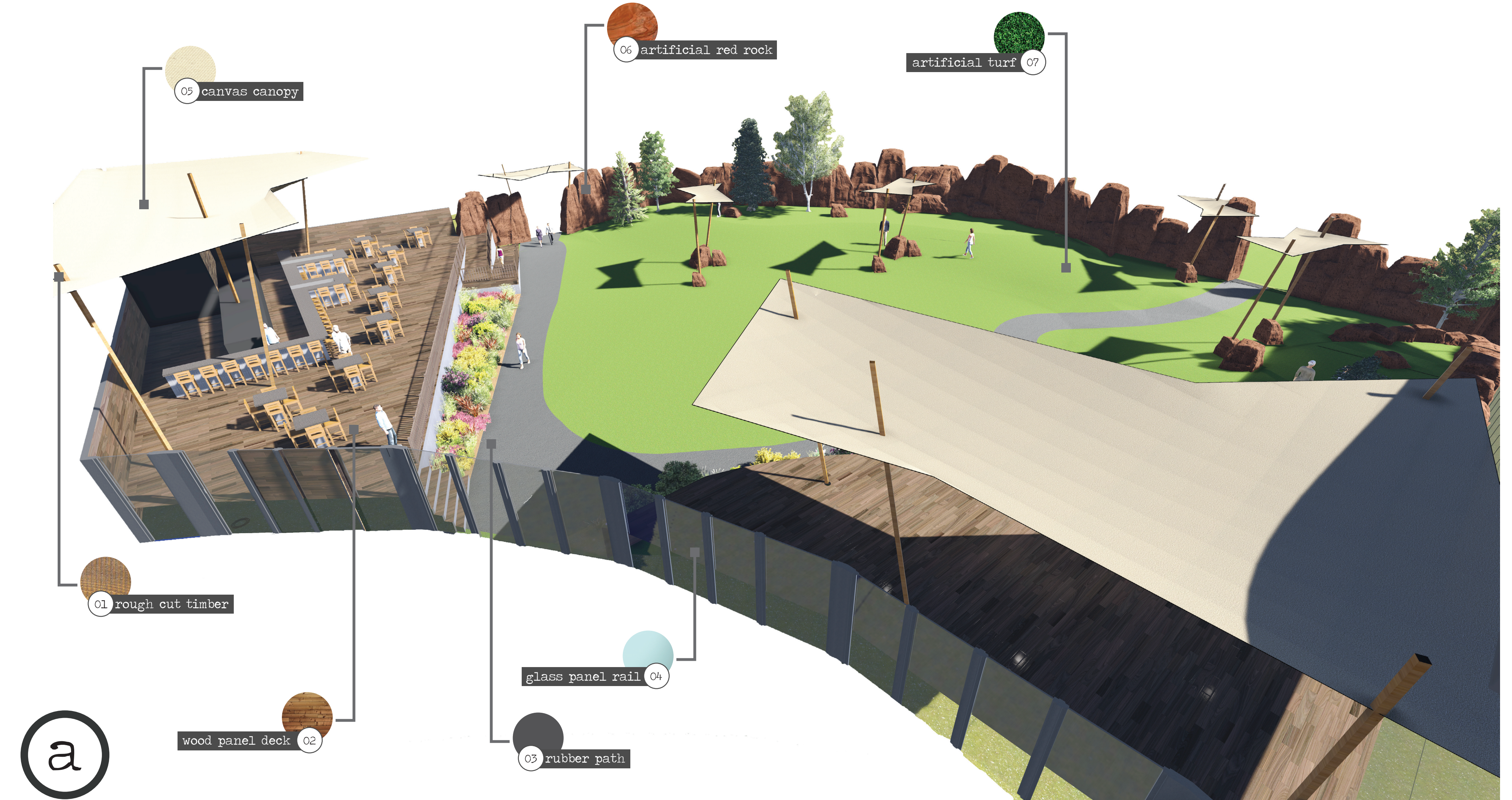
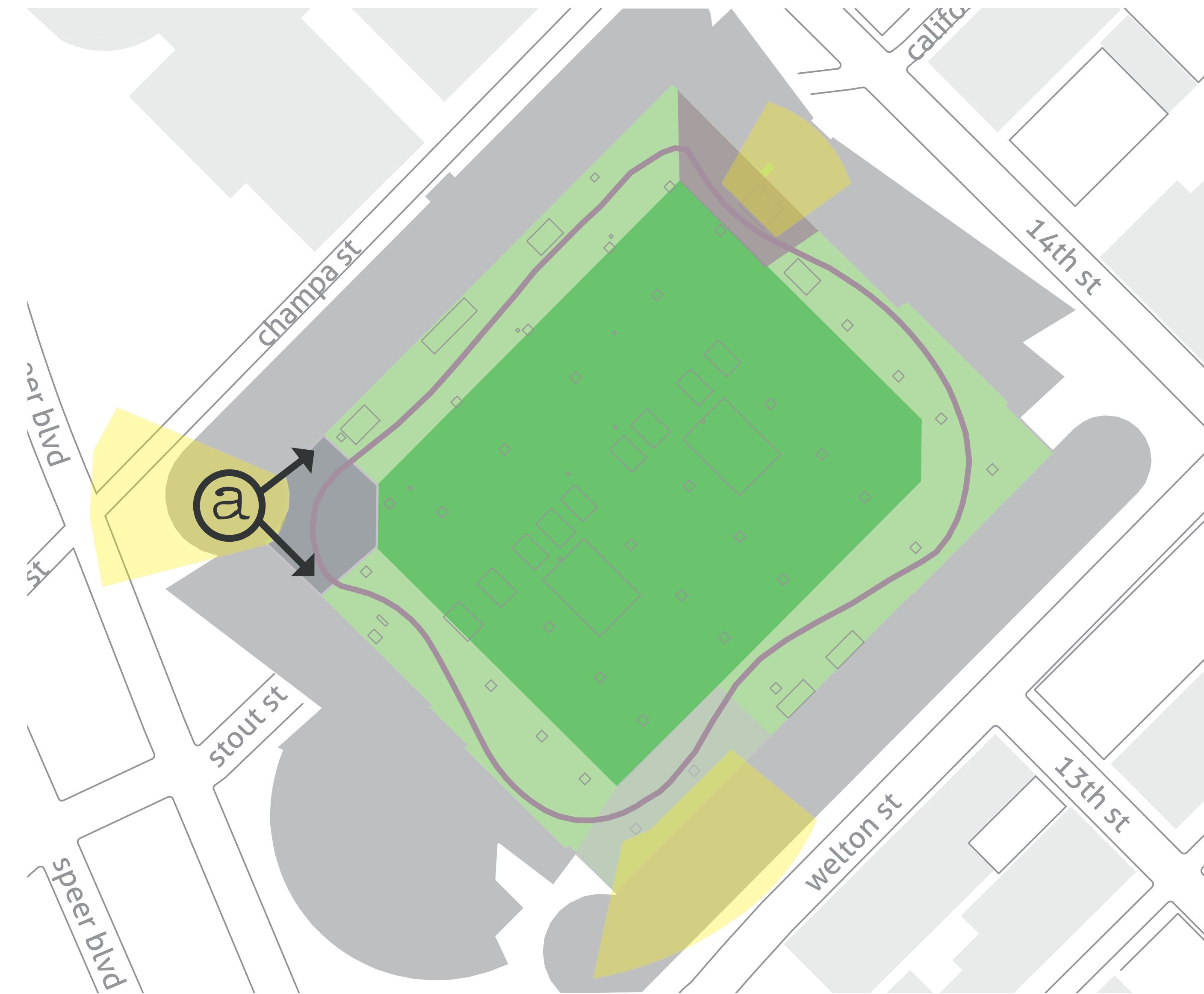
- ① artificial turf
- ② walkway
- ③ wooden deck
- ④ outdoor bar and cafe
- ⑤ tensile canopy
- ⑥ stage
- ⑦ boulder seating
- ⑧ ada accesible ramp
- ⑨ south entrance
- ⑩ north entrance
- ⑪ planting beds

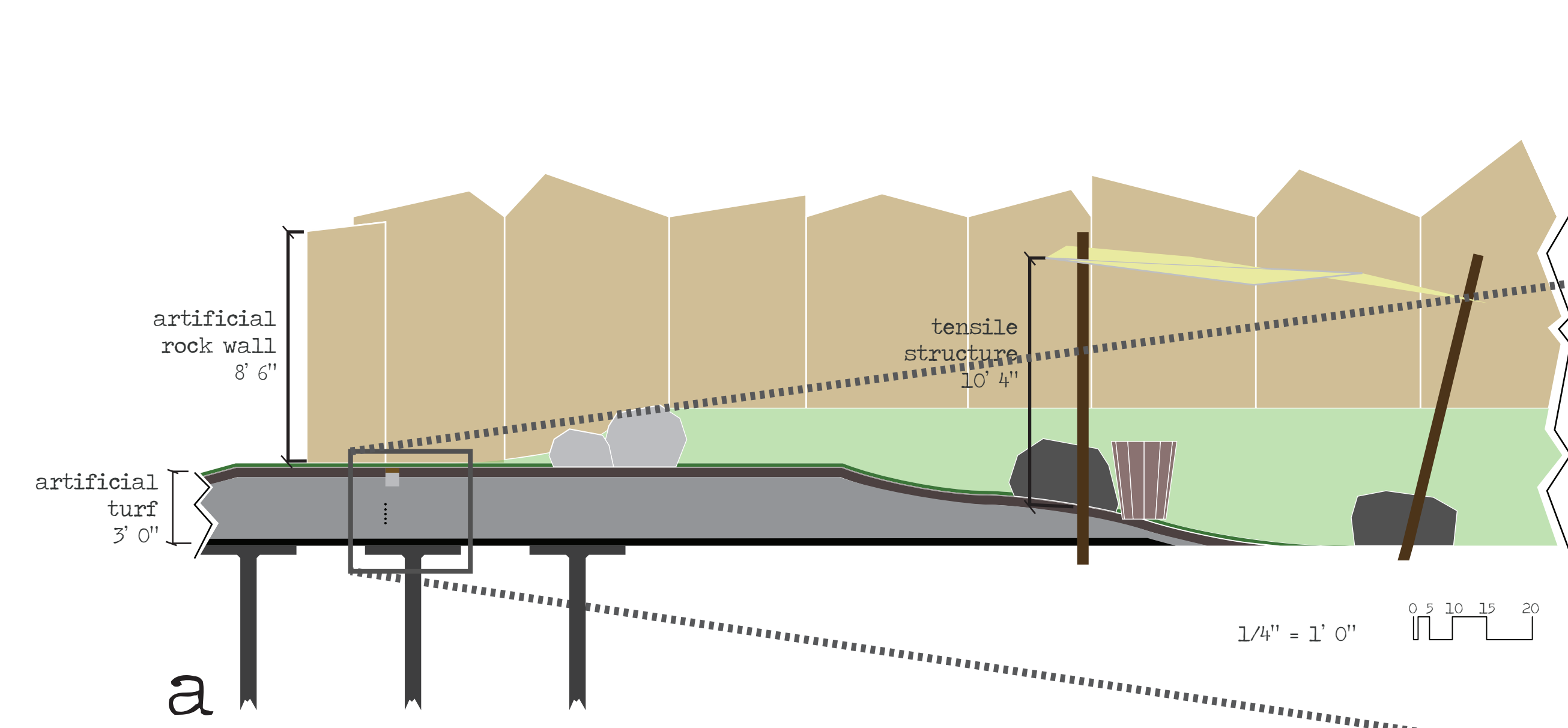
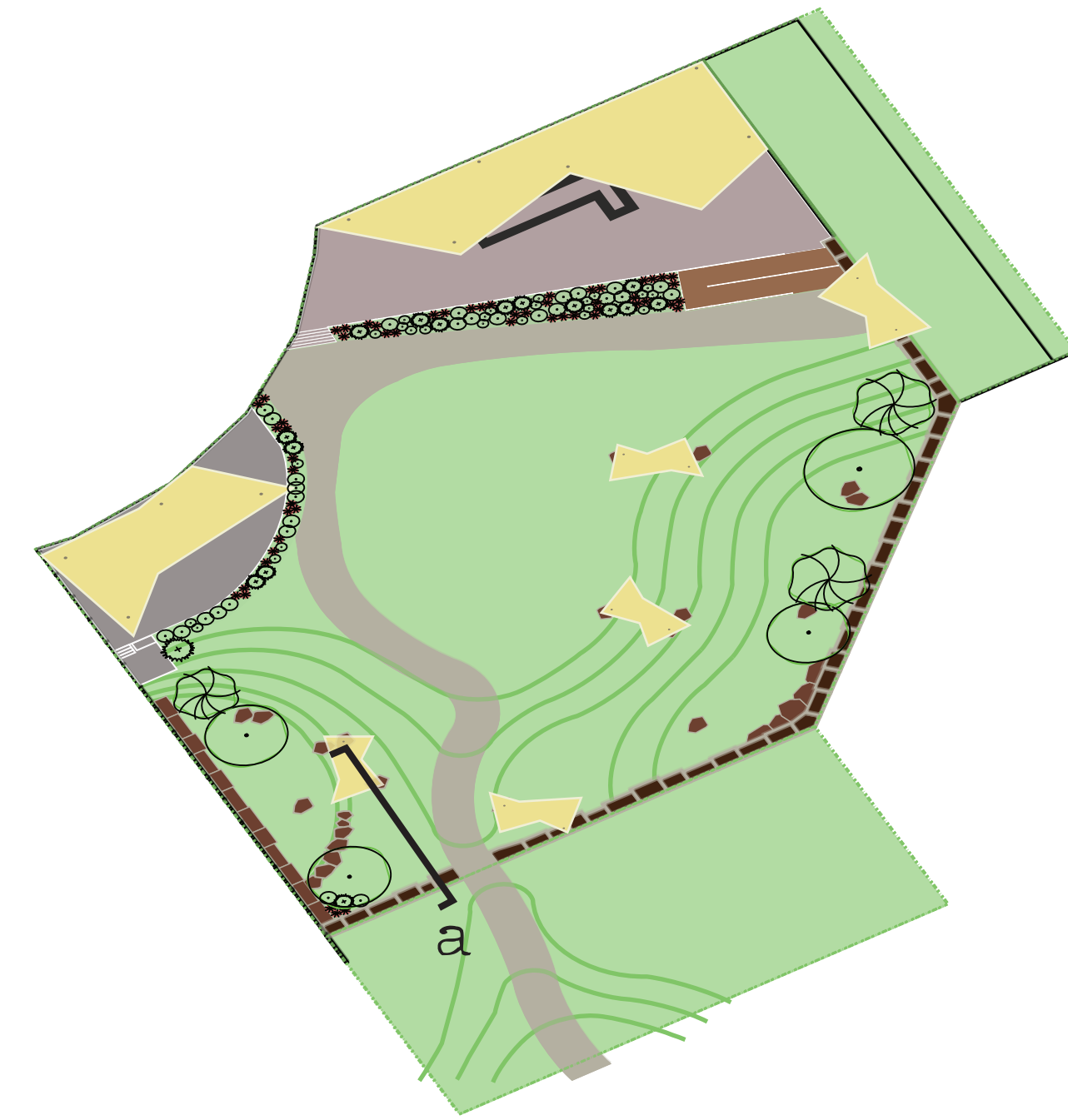


N ↑  
1/16" = 1' 0"

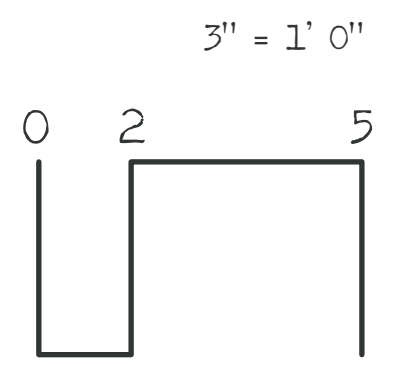
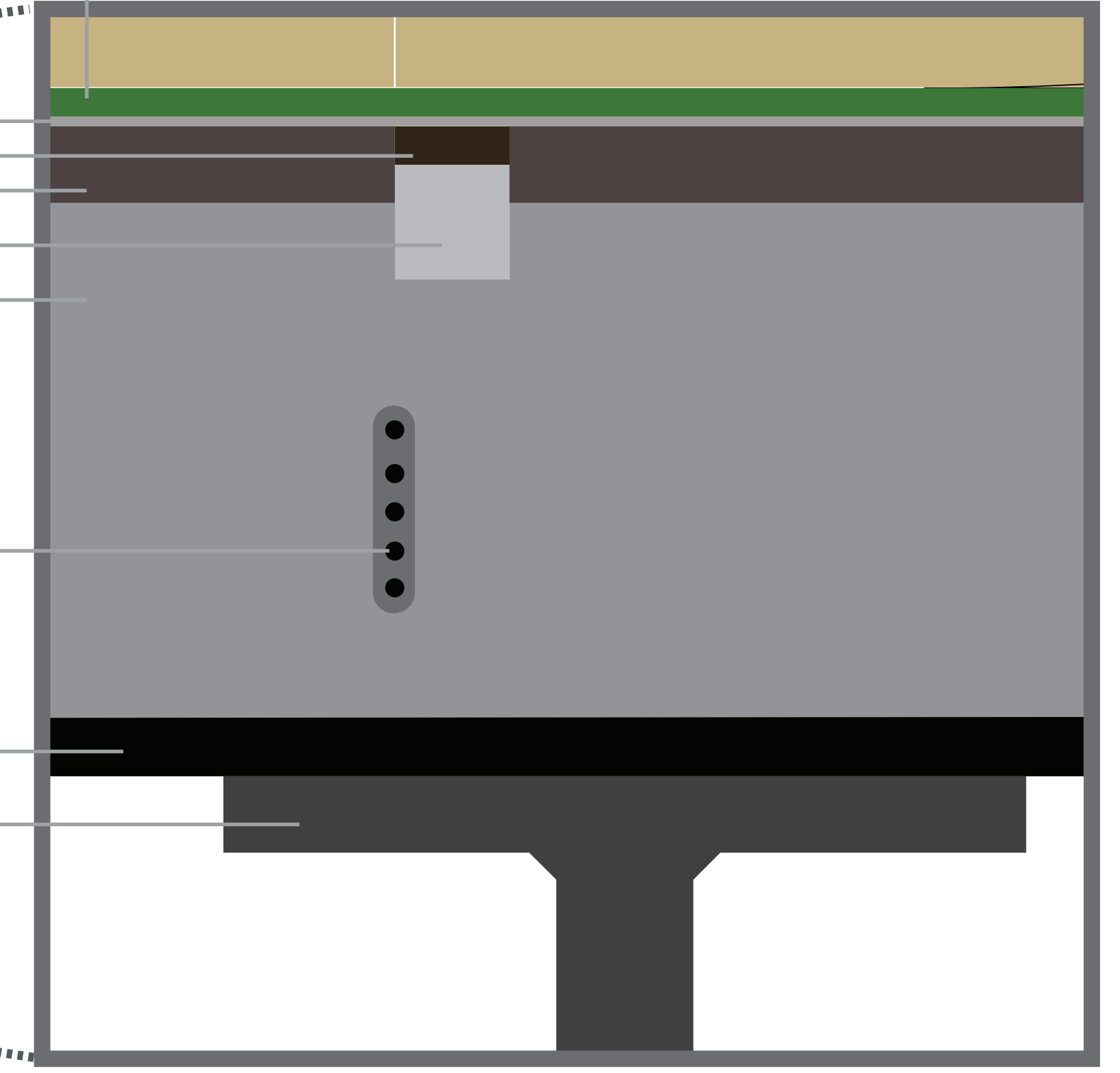


site plan





- artificial turf
- drainage layer
- poly nail board
- 4" compacted stone
- concrete footer
- styrofoam subgrade
- perforated drain
- steel building structure
- steel i-beam



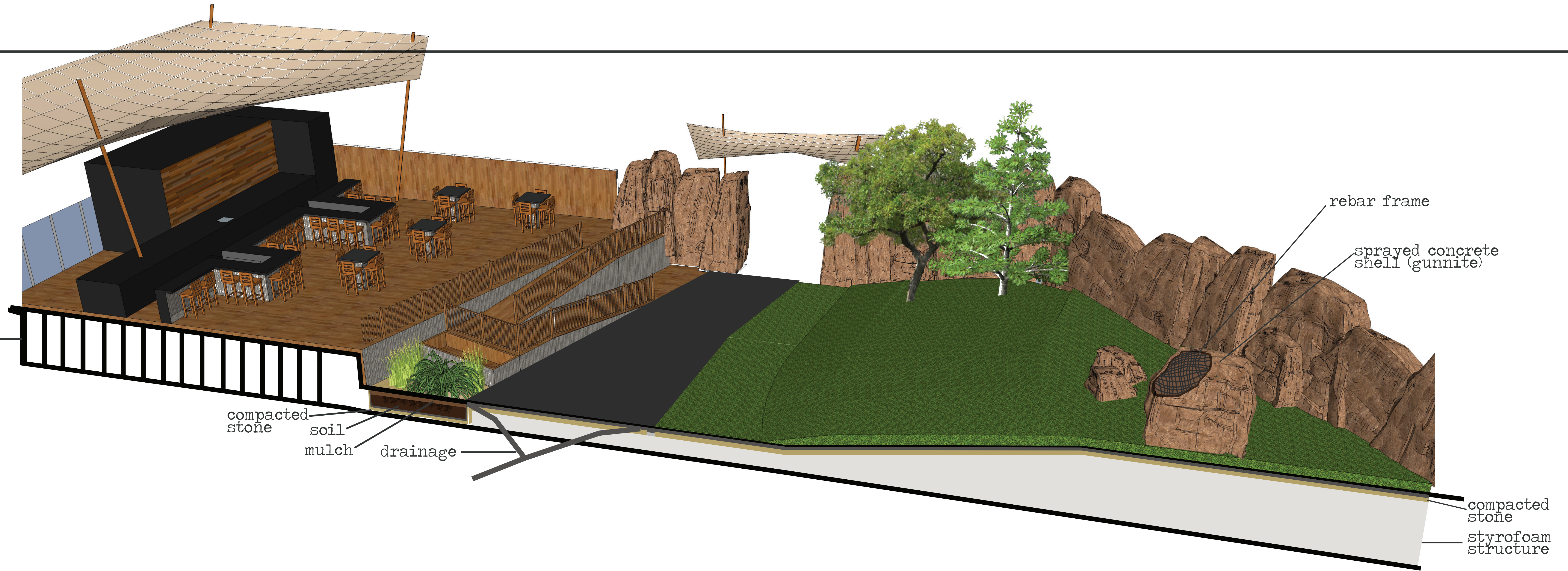


section perspective

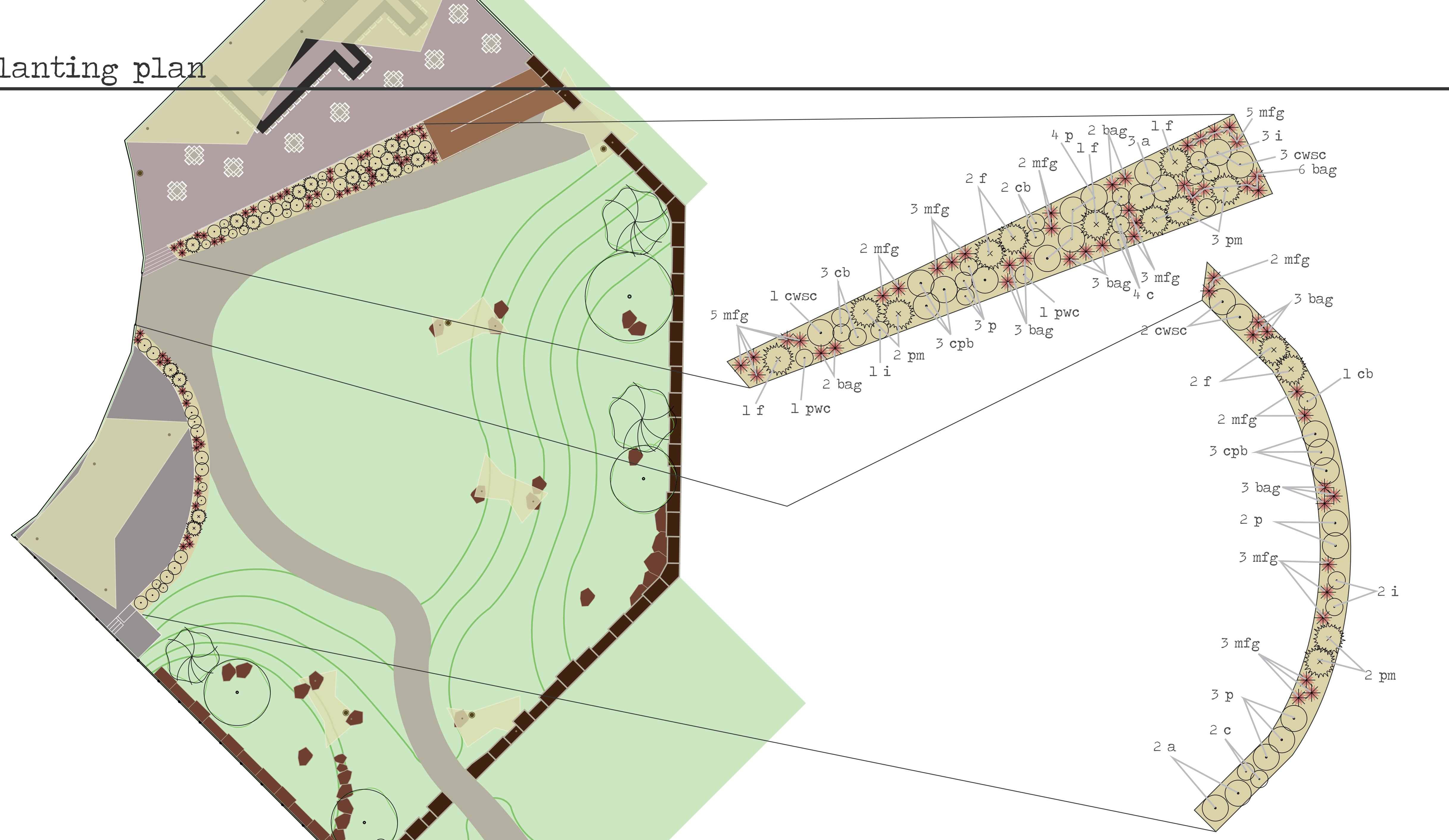
section cut



building structure



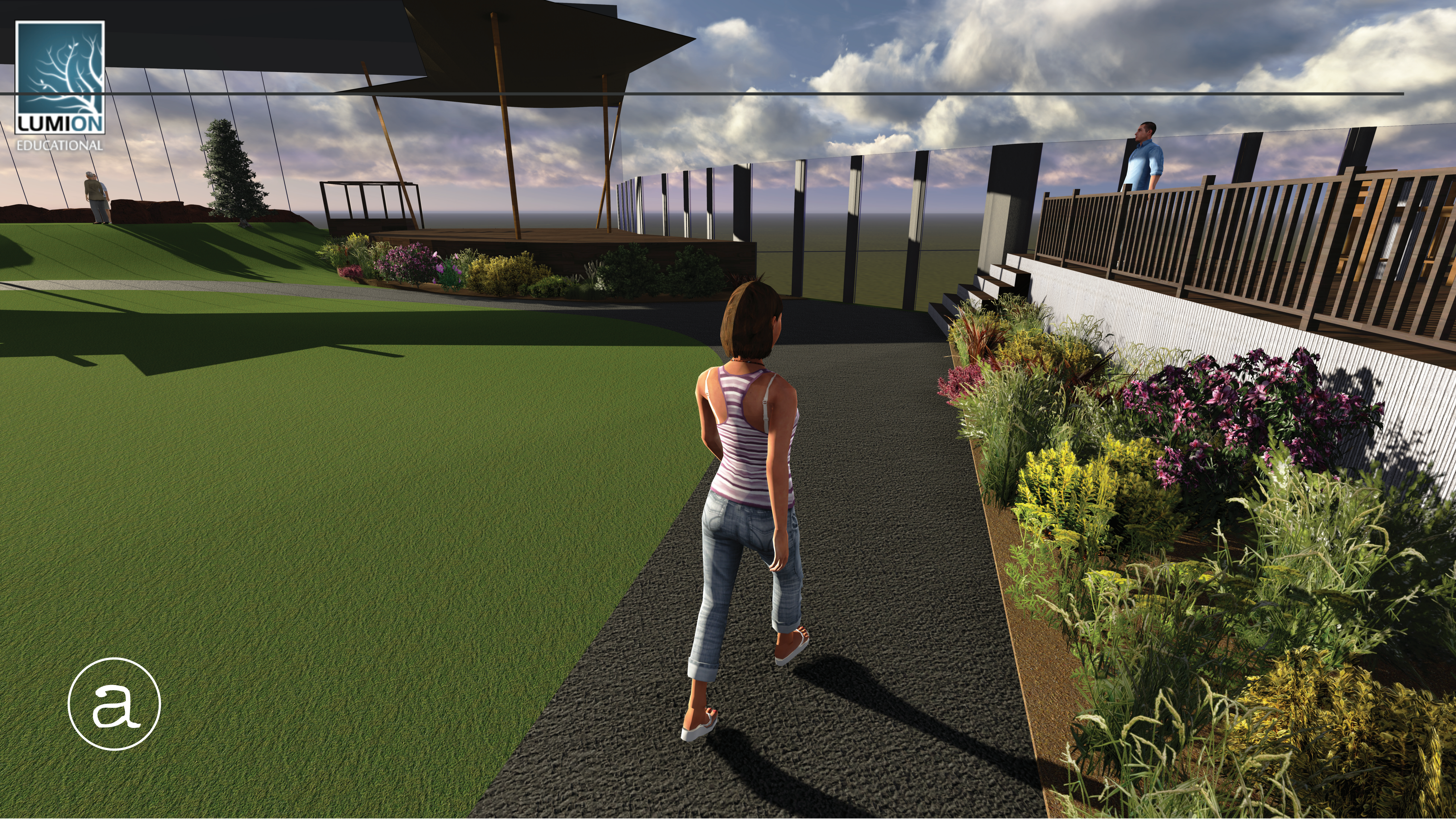
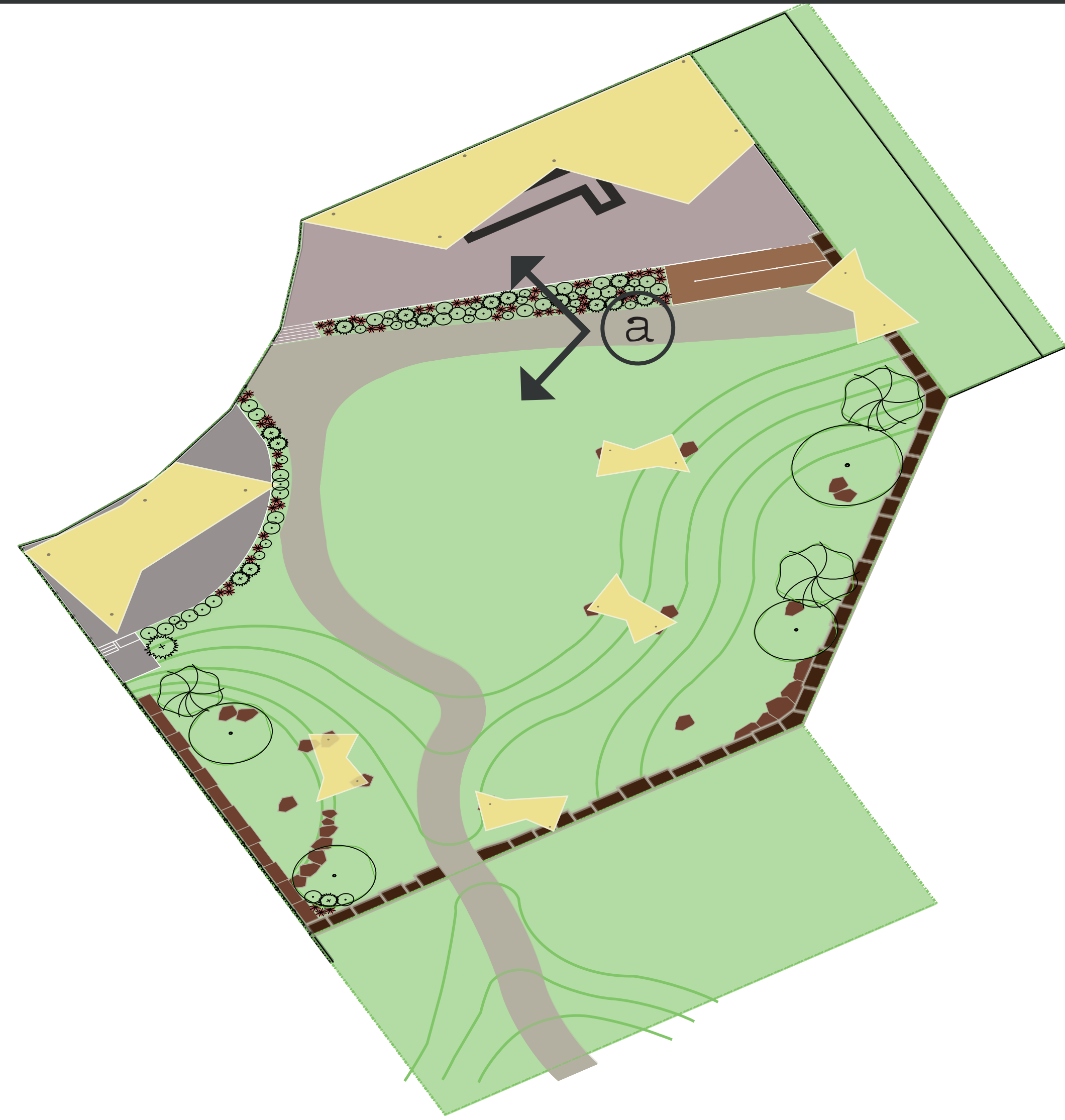
# planting plan



## plant list

| qty | symbol | common name                  |
|-----|--------|------------------------------|
| 5   | a      | agastache                    |
| 22  | bag    | blue avena grass             |
| 6   | c      | catmint                      |
| 6   | cb     | coral bells                  |
| 6   | cpb    | crimson pygmy barberry       |
| 6   | cwsc   | creeping western sand cherry |
| 6   | f      | fernbush                     |
| 6   | i      | iceplant                     |
| 30  | mfg    | mexican feather grass        |
| 8   | p      | penstemon                    |
| 7   | pm     | panchito manzanita           |
| 4   | pwc    | prairie wine cup             |

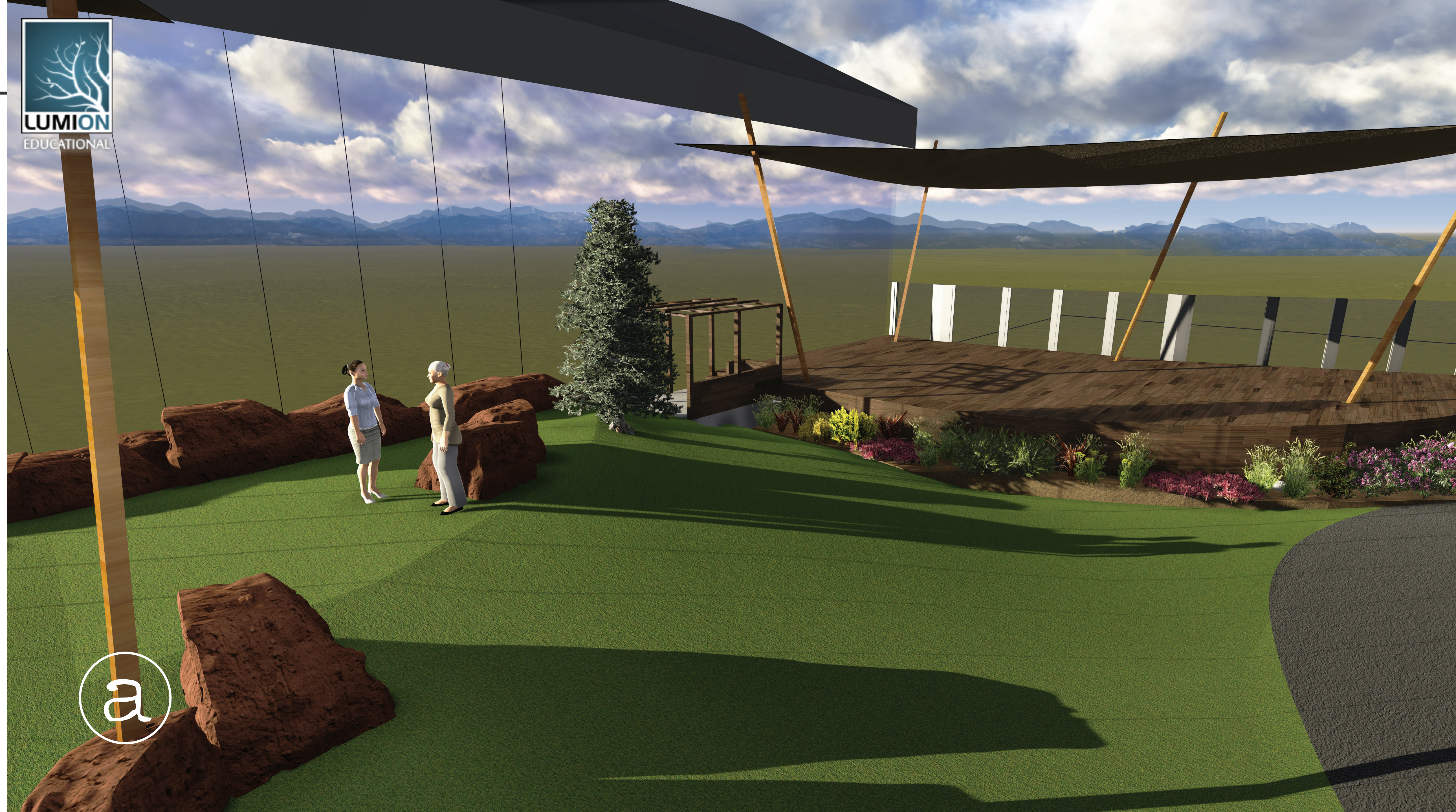
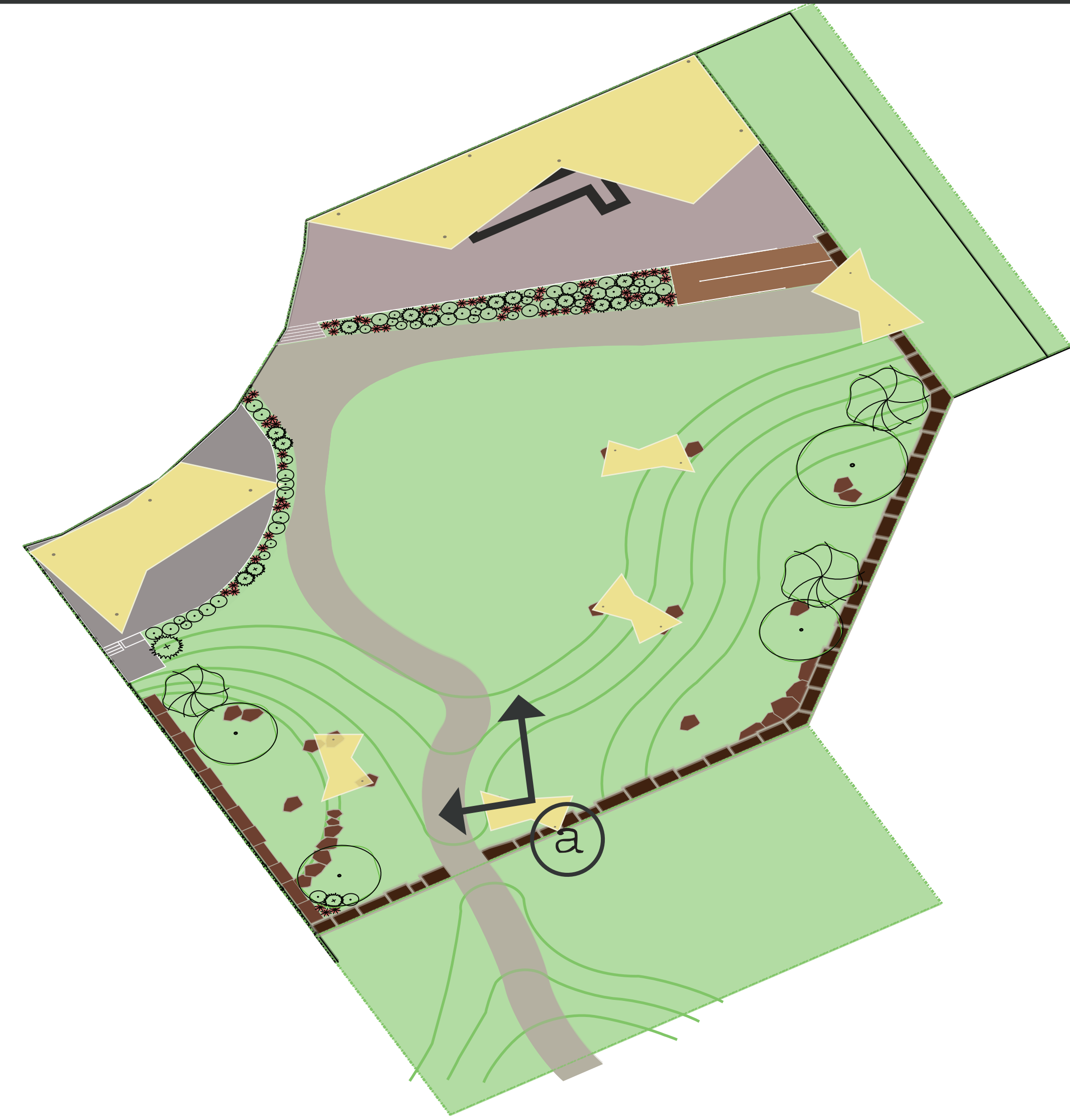
renderings



renderings



renderings



renderings

