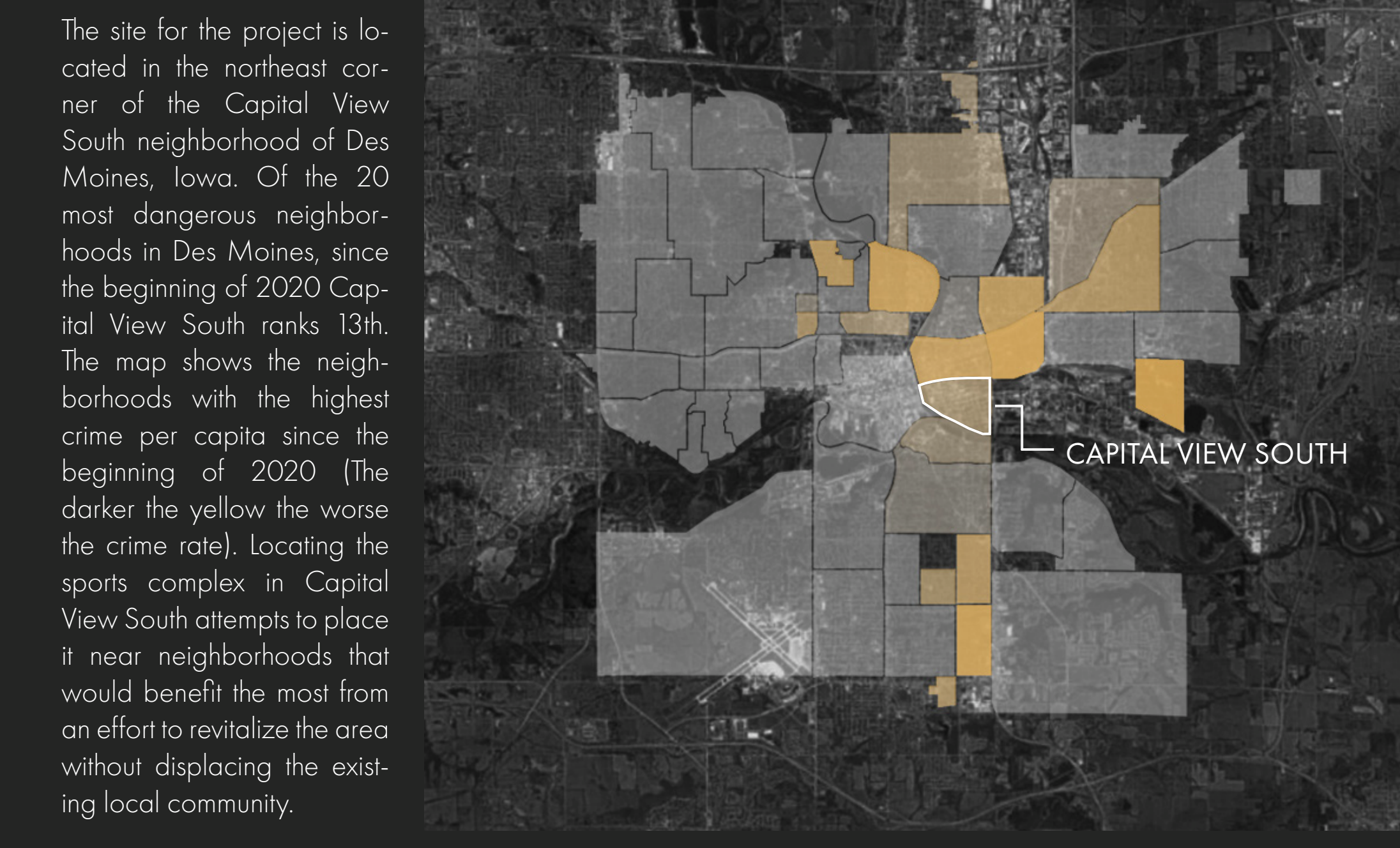


# LIVE + WORK + PLAY

## Engaging and revitalizing the broader urban community through sport

As most professional sports leagues continue moving towards a minor league model in an effort to develop athletes right out of high school as opposed to drafting players from the college ranks, the question of where these new developmental league teams will hold games in the future opens the door for smaller market cities to land the stadiums where these professional minor league teams will compete. It only makes sense that if cities are to make a bid for a developmental league team that the tax payers should see a return on their investment in any stadium and practice facilities that are constructed.

In order to benefit the local community, these future sporting venues and accompanying facilities should be intentionally designed to engage the broader community throughout the year and serve as a catalyst for urban growth and economic development within its surrounding neighborhoods. These multi-purpose sports complexes would feature a more accessible design which would allow the stadium and surrounding landscape to become utilized year-round by both the developmental league team and the broader community. By not only designing for the needs of the sports team, but also the surrounding community this design will hopefully become a blueprint for major professional sports venues moving forward.



Within the Capital View South neighborhood, a master plan for the Market District, the industrial area located east of the Des Moines River, has been developed by HDR Inc. Des Moines has a beautiful downtown west of the Des Moines River but the neighborhoods to the east are dilapidated. Redevelopment of the east side of the river affords the opportunity to expand the city center. A vibrant sports complex that incorporates both a community center and developmental football team practice facility might serve as an end-cap to the HDR Inc. proposed redevelopment plan.

