

# AQUEDUCT

*Reimagined*



**Public Workshop #4**  
**April 27, 2023**

**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

CITY OF ROCHESTER

# AQUEDUCT

*Reimagined*

# 4<sup>th</sup> PUBLIC WORKSHOP

Thursday, April 27

**OPEN HOUSE**

12 – 4 p.m. *(Stop by anytime)*

**PRESENTATION & WORKSHOP**

6 - 8 p.m. *(ASL and Spanish interpretation will be available)*

**Rochester Riverside Convention Center**

123 E. Main St., Rochester, NY 14604

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



City of Rochester, NY  
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Department of  
Transportation

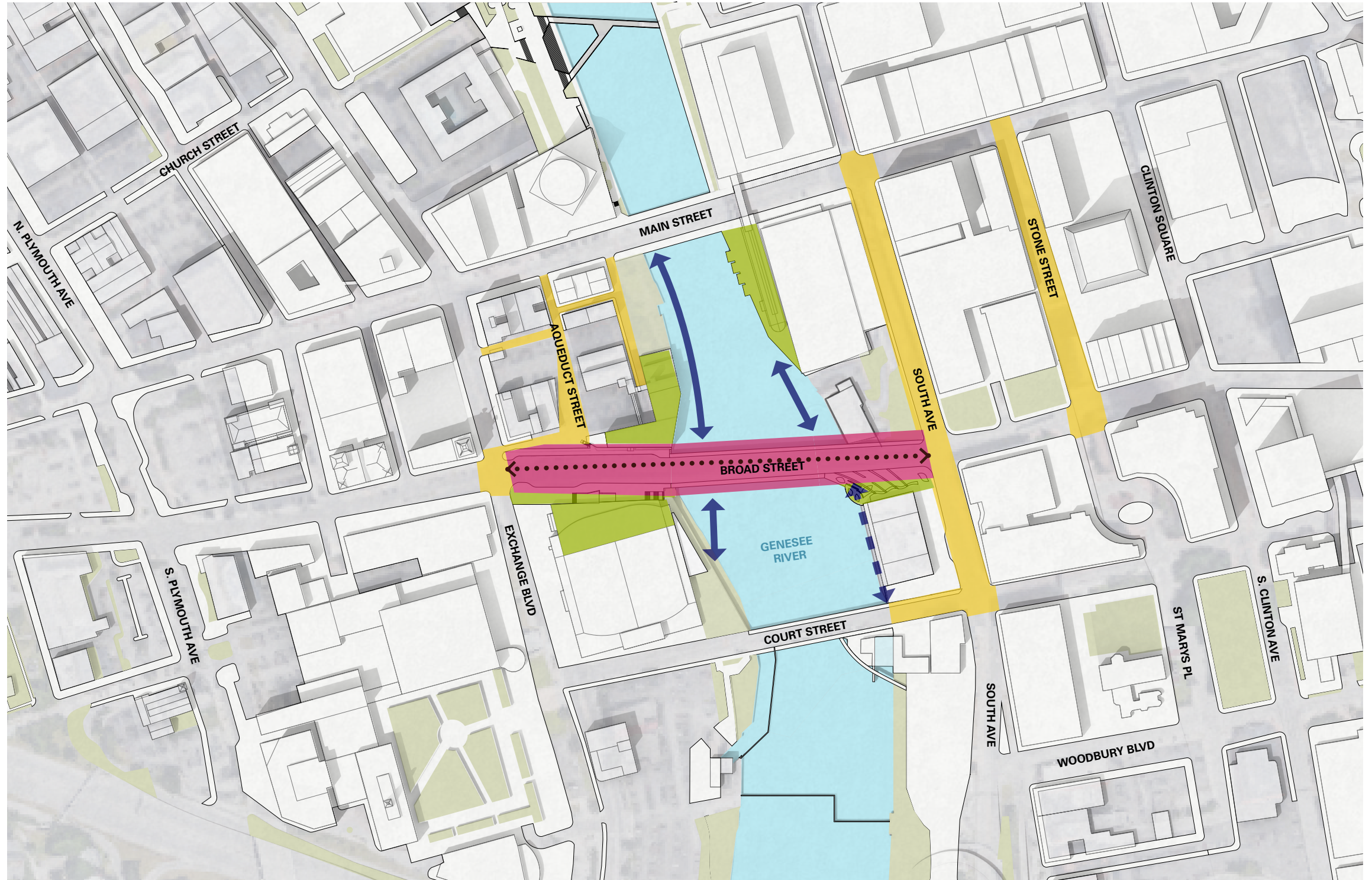
# Table of Contents






1. Scope Update
2. Engagement
3. Design Developments
4. Programming
5. Feedback

# Scope Update

- Scope Overview and Update
- Process Overview (NEPA & NHPA)

# Project Scope



-  Street Improvements (City Funded)
-  Riverfront Promenades
-  Adjacent Building Modifications
-  Vehicular Deck Removal, Structural Repairs & Creation of Public Space
-  Utilities Consolidation

# Aqueduct District Streets Construction Update



# Aqueduct Reimagined Design Process

## Key Factors to Shape the Design

Project ideas, including schematic studies, are being developed in response to community input, accounting for technical requirements, and through a process of design explorations.

**Input from all three categories will shape the final outcome of the design.**

### COMMUNITY ROLES

#### ENGAGEMENT

- Public Input
  - Community Advisory Committee Input
  - Technical Advisory Committee Input
  - Online Engagement
  - Pop-up Events
  - Neighborhood Outreach
- Takeaways

#### STEWARDSHIP

- Operations and management
  - Management and maintenance needs
  - Roles and responsibilities
  - Precedents
- Discussion

### DESIGN DEVELOPMENT

#### SCHEMES

- Project vision
- Objectives and opportunities
- Considerations
- Conceptual studies (Four Concepts)
- Scheme evaluation criteria

#### PROGRAMMING

- Programming opportunities
- Thematic zones
- Existing public realm analysis
- Discussion

# Project Purpose and Needs

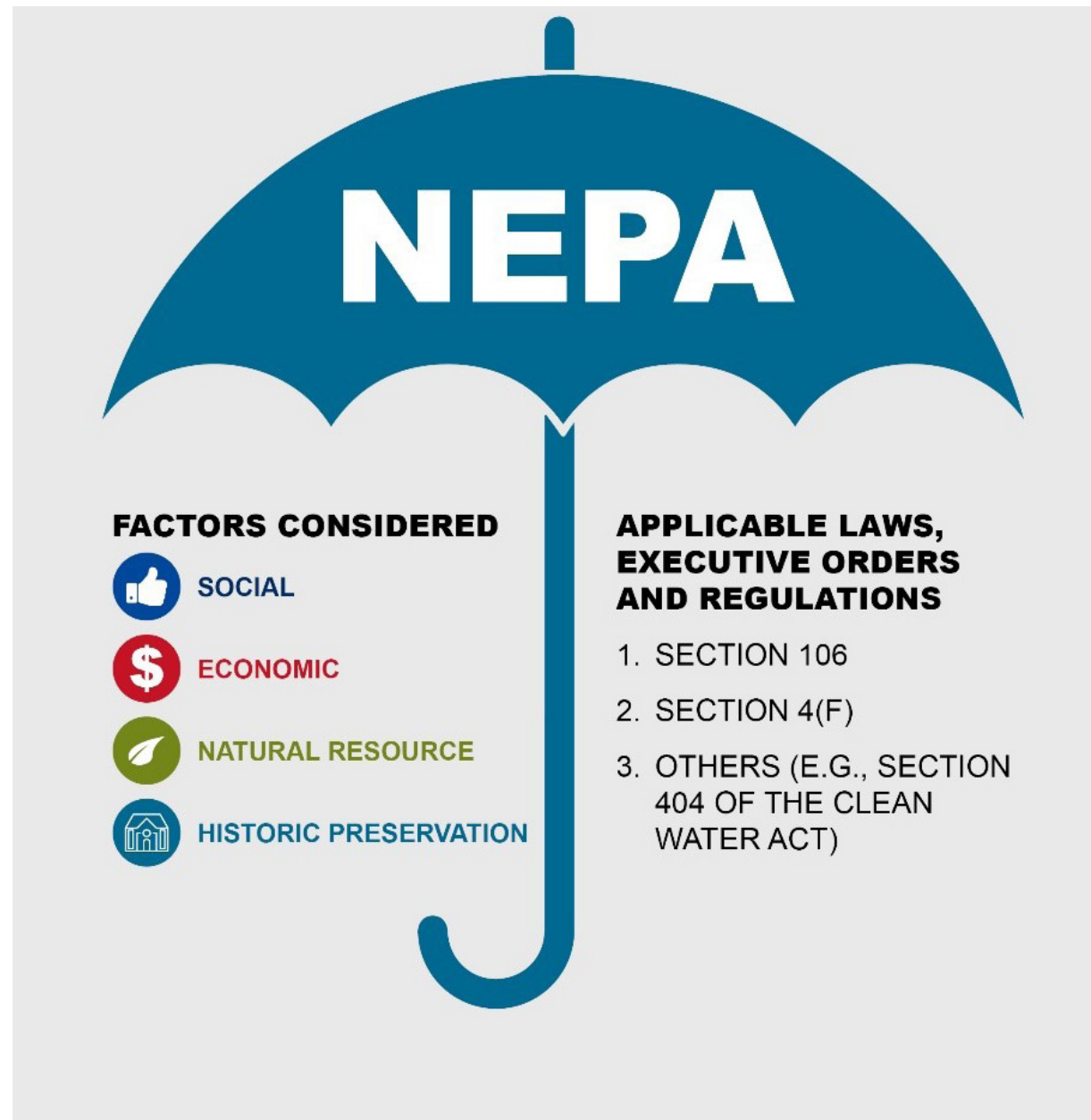
**Project Purpose** - To remove vehicular traffic from the Second Aqueduct/Broad Street Bridge and approaches to facilitate its conversion into a dynamic urban public space while addressing the infrastructure, multi-modal, safety issues and engaging the historic resources within the corridor. The corridor is defined as Broad Street from South Avenue over the Genesee River to Exchange Boulevard and along the Genesee River from Court Street to Main Street.

## Project Needs:

- Fix infrastructure deficiencies of the existing bridges
- Eliminate gaps in the existing trail network and improve pedestrian, bicycle mobility and access in the surrounding community
- Address the public safety issues associated with the inaccessible lower aqueduct level
- Remove physical barriers impeding public access to and appreciation of the significant historic and cultural resources at the bridge and along the project corridor

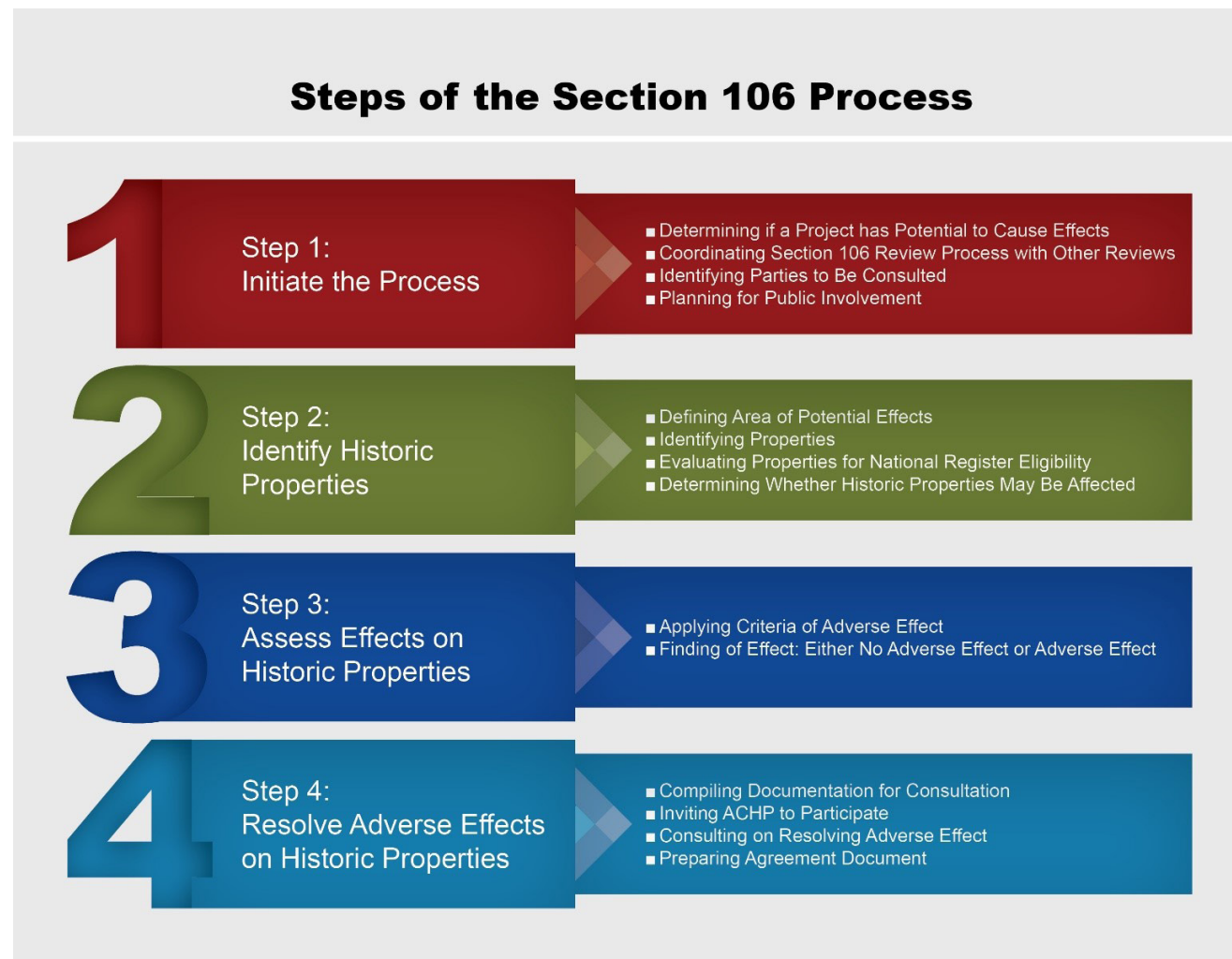


# National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process Update



- National policy and goals for the protection, maintenance and enhancement of the environment along with a process for implementation
- Applies to projects financed by federal agencies and that require federal permits
- Requires environmental reviews to consider the project impacts to the social and natural environment
- Key steps in the process include:
  - Determining the project's purpose and need
  - Determining the range of alternatives to be considered and their impacts
  - Coordinating with relevant agencies and involving the public
  - Determining mitigation for unavoidable impacts
  - Documentation of the analysis and decision making (EIS, EA or Categorical Exclusion)

# National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 Update



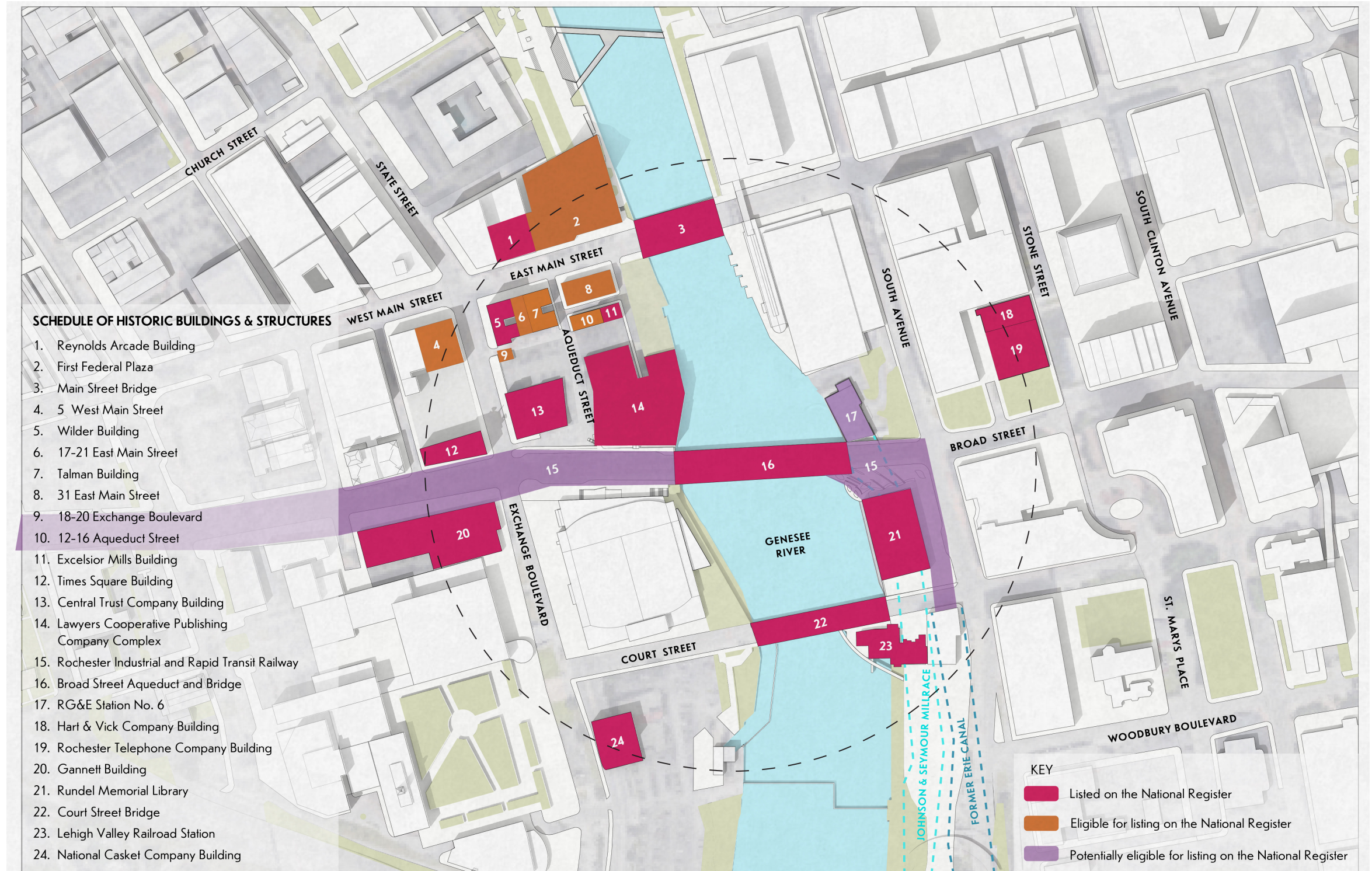
- Triggered when a federally funded project has the potential to affect historic properties
- At the heart of 106 is the consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), local governments, the public and other interested parties
- Four key steps:
  - Initiating the Section 106 review process
  - Identifying historic properties within a project area
  - Assessing if a project will have an adverse effect on any historic properties
  - If there is an adverse effect, identifying and ensuring the implementation of measures to resolve any adverse effect

# Area of Historic Resource Survey

- Broad Street Bridge and the historic Aqueduct are considered a single resource on the national registry.
- Impacts to the structure will most likely be considered an adverse effect.



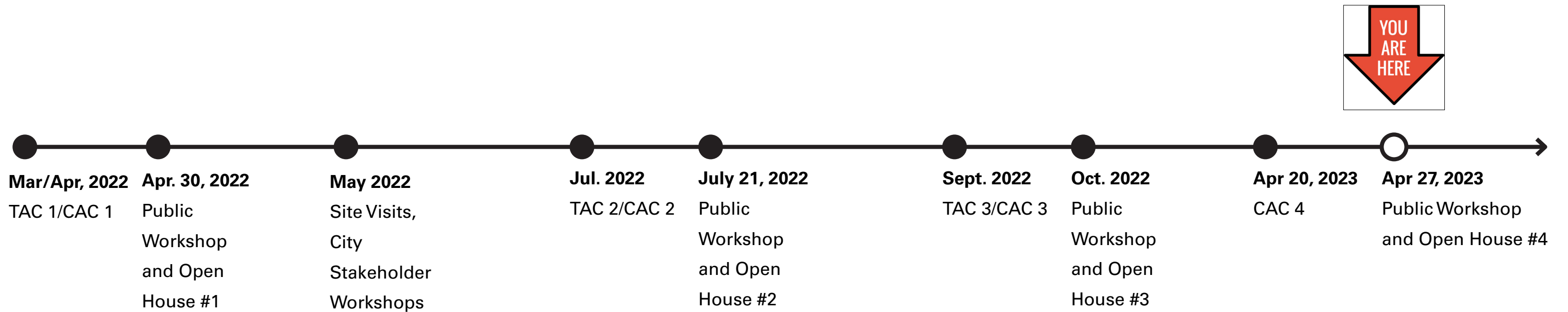
Graffiti in the historic Aqueduct level



# Engagement

- Timeline
- Engagement Findings: What We're Learning

# What Has Happened to Date



# Community Engagement Additional Channels

## Public Meetings

- Public Open House - 4/30/22
- City Hall Open House - 5/26/22
- Public Open House and Event - 07/21/22
- Survey
- Social media
- Party on the Aqueduct -
- Public Workshop #4 - 4/27/23

## Stakeholder Engagement

- Youth Engagement at Central Library - 4/27
- Erie Canalways Council Meeting - 6/15
- WallTherapy Meeting - 6/27
- Subway Tour with Mayor Evans - 7/7
- Susan B. Anthony Neighborhood Meeting (9/1)
- Neighborhood Association Presidents Meeting (09/13)
- Genesee River Alliance (9/22)

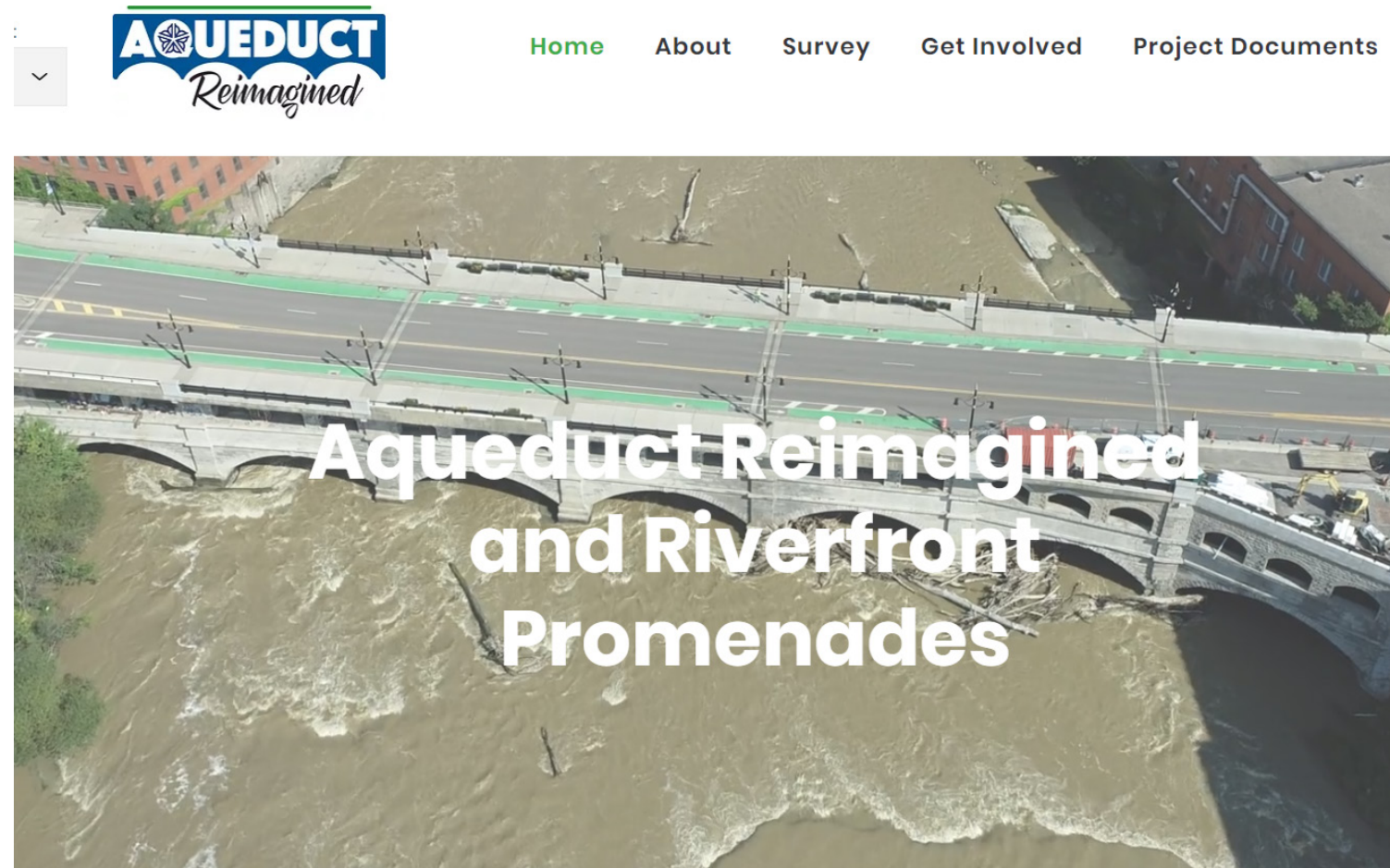
## Pop-Ups

- Jazz Festival - 6/23
- Party in the Park - 7/7
- Corn Hill - 7/9 & 7/10
- Puerto Rican Festival (8/4)
- Midday Lunch Bash 8/7 & 9/7
- Frederick Douglass R-Center (8/17)
- Park Square Apartments Pop-Up (8/30)

## Online Engagement

- Project Website ([www.ROCtheAqueduct.com](http://www.ROCtheAqueduct.com))
- Survey
- Social media
- Instant Input

# Online Engagement - Ongoing



ROCtheAqueduct.com

The advertisement is enclosed in a blue border. On the left is the 'AQUEDUCT Reimagined' logo. To the right is the 'instant input' logo. Below the logos, the text reads: 'Want project notifications sent right to your phone?' and 'Follow along & share your input with the Instant Input app!'. In the center is a smartphone displaying a notification for a public workshop. To the right of the phone are two QR codes, one for the App Store and one for Google Play.

Instant Input App

# Community Input

## What We're Learning

**Public Workshop #2 (07/21)**

- What are the community priorities for this project?

- What are the top concept preferences for the community?

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



# Cultural Histories, Connector & Destination

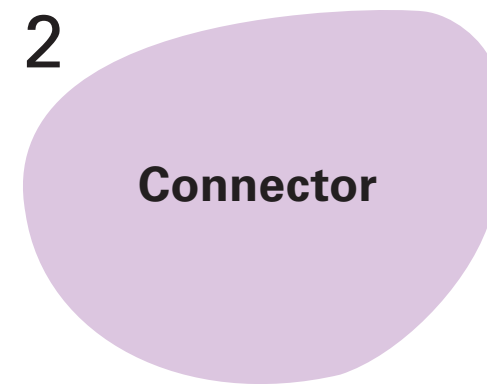
## Top Community Concept Preferences

People were most excited about the Aqueduct as **a place to experience layered cultural histories, a way to connect, and a destination space to celebrate and gather.**

The other three concepts were also important to people and can be incorporated into any schemes.



The Layered History of Rochester & the River



Connecting People, Neighborhoods and Destinations



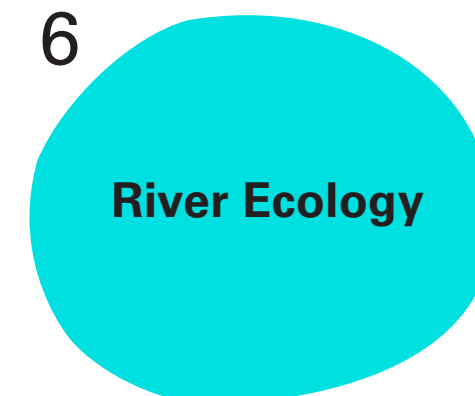
A Space for Celebration & Gathering



A Living Museum



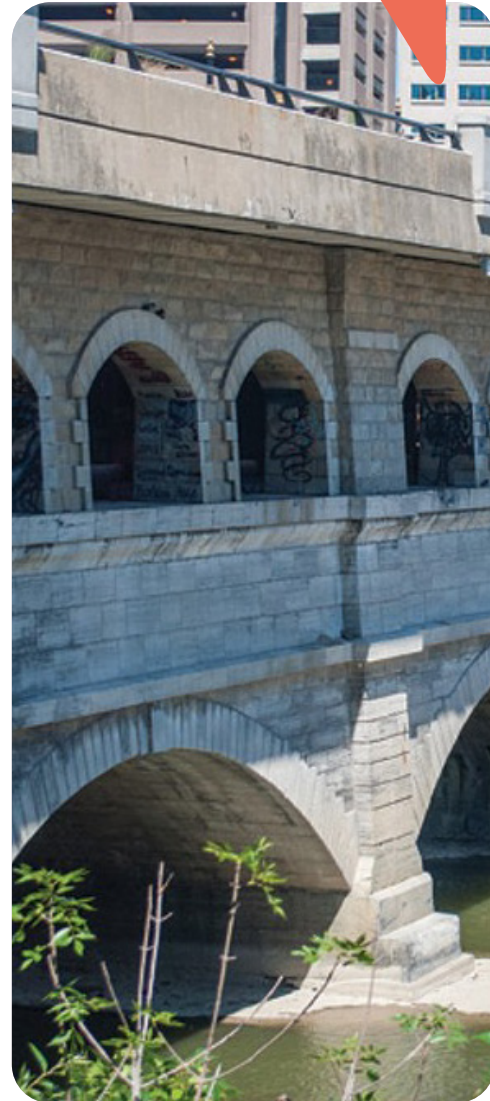
Downtown's Neighborhood Park for the Everyday



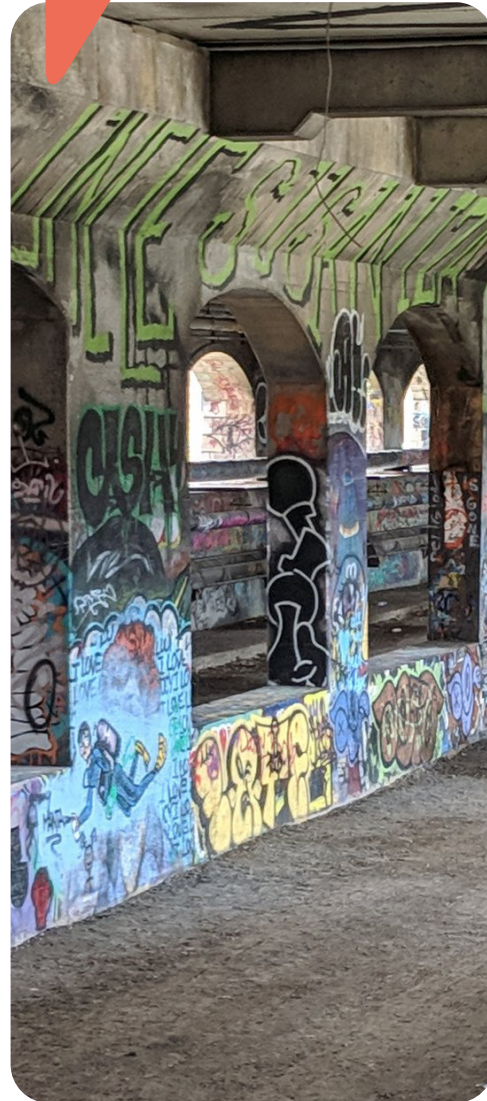
Aqueduct as River Ecology Park

# What We're Hearing Community Voice

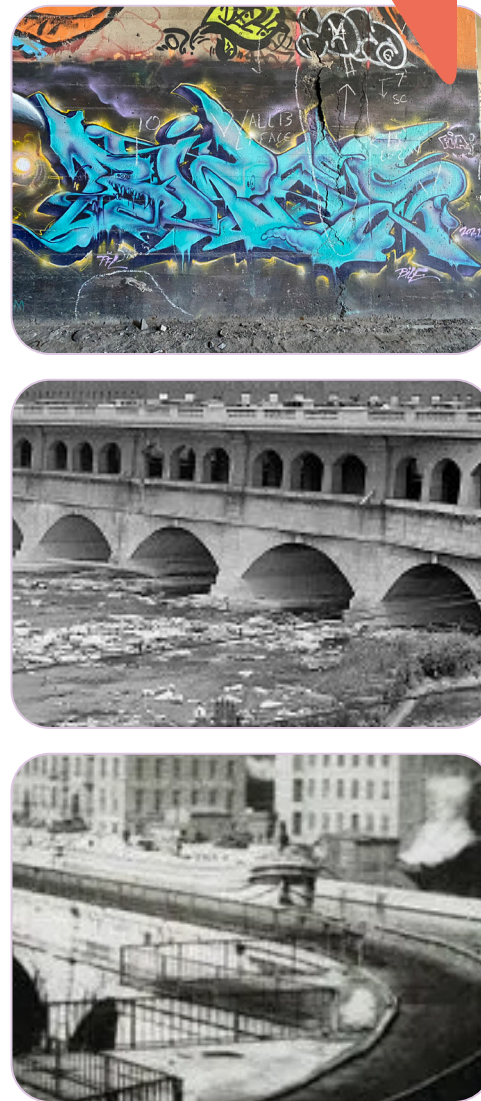
Keep the Iconic  
Upper Arches



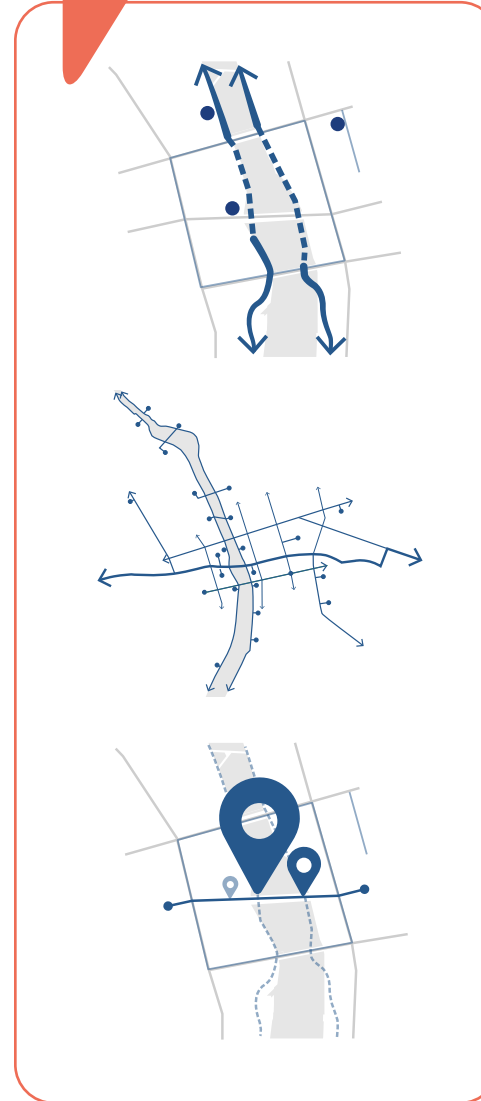
Keep the Graffiti  
/ Make Room for  
New Art



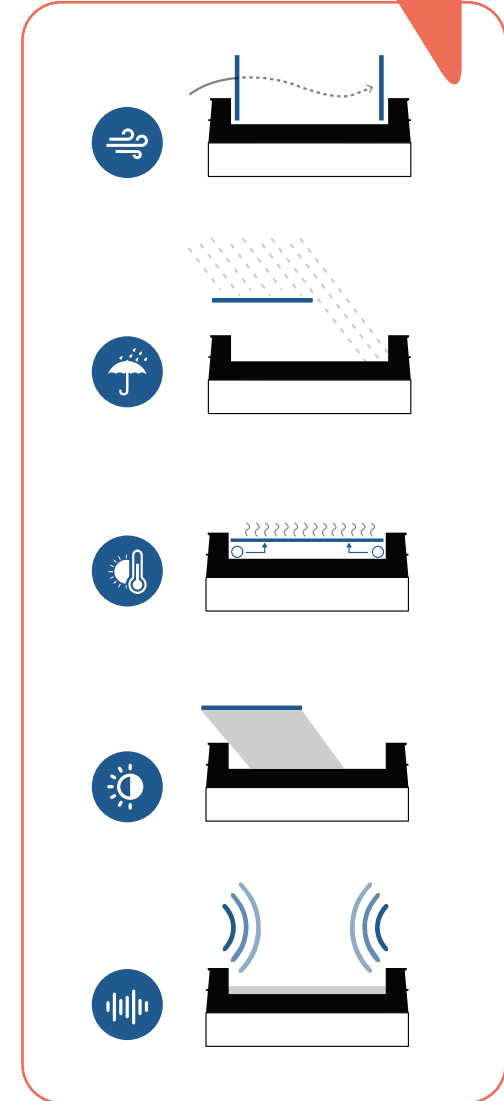
Honor Multiple  
Layers of Cultural  
Histories



Make Both a  
Connector and a  
Destination

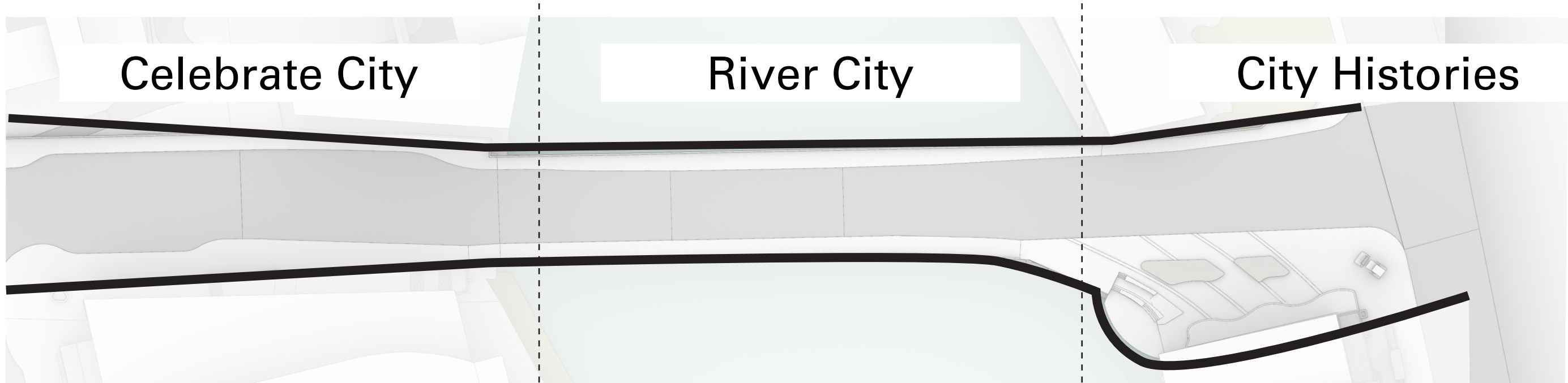


Create a  
Comfortable,  
All-Seasons Place



# Aqueduct Zones

## Design Zone Concepts



Celebrate City

River City

City Histories

Plaza and Gather

*Celebrating Entertainment at "Aqueduct Square"*



Observe and Porch

*Reveal, Comfort, Observe, Photograph, and "Embrace the River"*



Path and Plaza

*Gather, Observe, Linger*



# Design Process Overview

- **Project Vision Origins**
- **Design Principles**
- **Alternatives Evaluation Criteria**

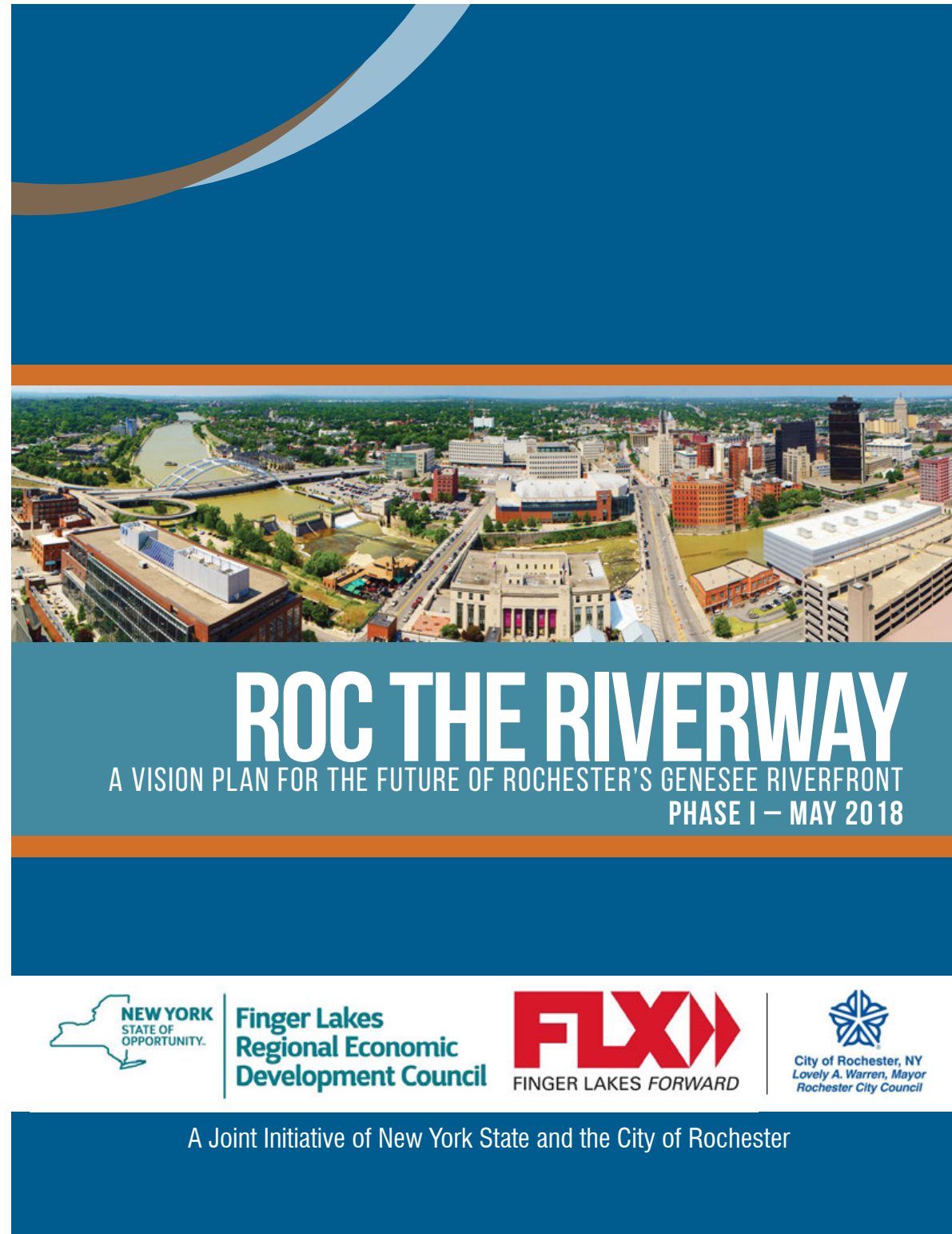
# ROC the Riverway Origins

## A Vision Plan for the Future of Rochester's Genesee Riverfront

ROC the Riverway: A Vision Plan for the Future of Rochester's Genesee Riverfront was developed in 2018.

The plan included a long stretch of the Genesee and 28 ongoing and proposed projects.

The Aqueduct Reimagined & Riverfront Promenades were identified as a key project for Downtown.



# ROC the Riverway

## Aqueduct Reimagined Goals & Design Assumptions

### ROC the Riverway Aqueduct Reimagined Goals

- A dynamic and unique public space
- Create a place for public gatherings and community events
- Create a new asset that attracts residents, visitors, and conventions
- Opportunity for informal and formal programming
- Bring people to the water
- Connect and enhance the anchor institutions

### ROC the Riverway Aqueduct Reimagined Design Assumptions

- New riverfront promenades on both sides of the bridge
- Broad Street vehicular deck is being removed\*

\*Note: Broad Street will be closed to vehicular traffic, and the upper deck removed. Based on public input and technical requirements, the design team is exploring the possibility of a new upper level connection for operations, maintenance, pedestrian and bicycle connections.



# Design Principles

## 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

## Place

**Regional / Genesee River Scale**

Complete Regional System

**Inner Loop Scale**

Bridge Divides

Repair Harm

Complete Existing Trail Networks

Complement Other Programs

**Aqueduct District Scale**

Create a Local Destination

Complete The Genesee Riverway Network

**Aqueduct Scale**

Restore Viewsheds

## 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

Rain / Snow Protection

Thermal Comfort

Light / Shade

Sound Scape

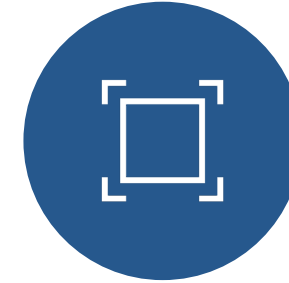
# Equity Defined for the Aqueduct



**Community  
Participation in  
Design**



**Exposing Histories  
(Told and Untold)**



**Spaces and  
Programming for All  
Residents**



**Accessibility for all  
Bodies**



**MWBE and Local  
Contracting and  
Procurement**



**Sustainable/  
Resilient Choices  
in Design and  
Materials**



**Keeping Our River  
Clean**



**Sustainable Choices  
in Maintenance**



**Community  
Stewardship and  
Partnership**



# Evaluation Criteria Overview



## Cultural Histories

Preserving the physical and cultural legacy of the Aqueduct and improving public access



## Visibility and Public Safety

Opening up viewsheds and enhancing safety through visibility



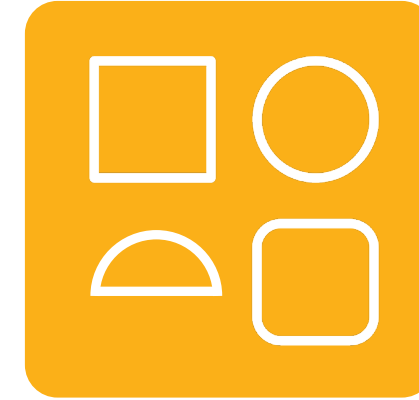
## Access and Connectivity

Creating a safe and accessible year round multimodal connection across and down the river



## Durability

Addressing the structural concerns of the existing structure and lowering long term repair and construction costs



## Spatial Variety

Embracing the uniqueness of the Aqueduct and providing an array of spaces



## Operations

Minimizing the hassle of day to day operations, staffing, and security

# Technical Requirements & Opportunities Overview



## Historic and Cultural Preservation



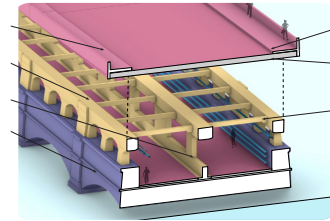
NHPA Section 106



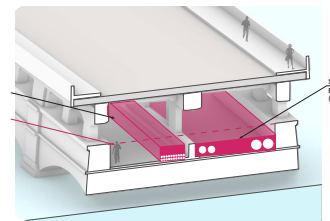
Graffiti Art



## Utilities and Structure



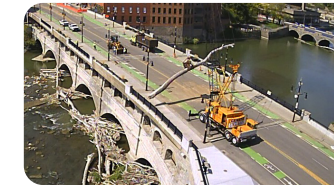
Structural requirements



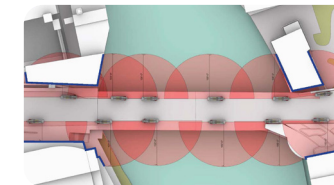
Utilities coordination



## Service and Maintenance



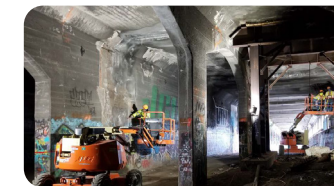
Log / debris removal



Emergency vehicle access



Inspection access



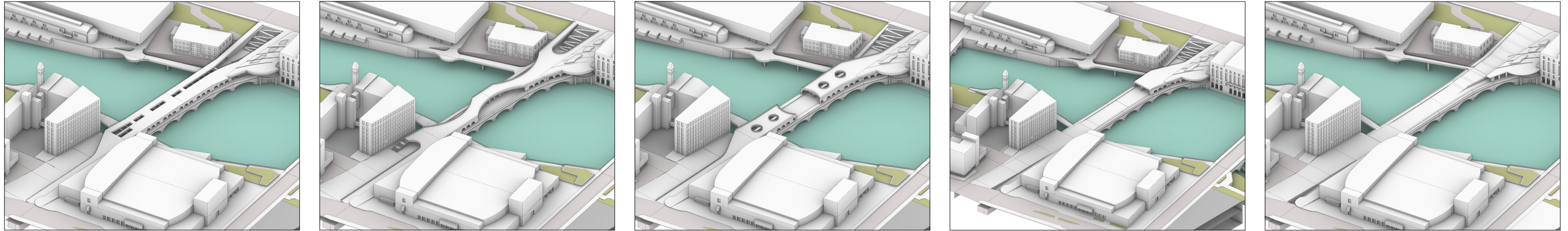
Tunnel access

# Design Alternatives

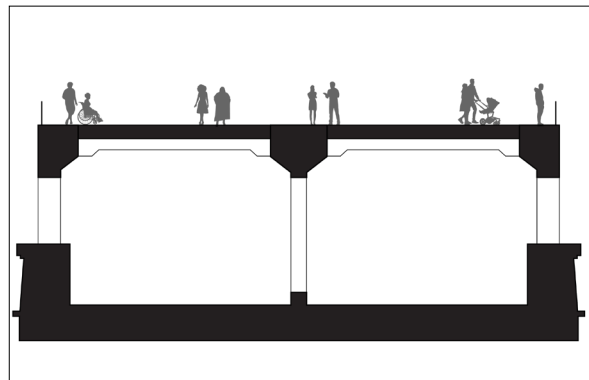
- Four Alternatives
- Promenade Connections

# Getting to Four Alternatives

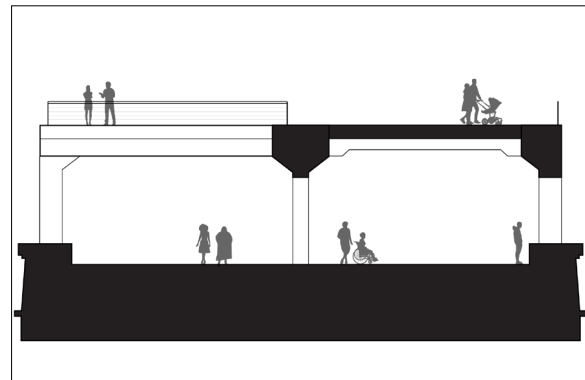
## Initial Design Schemes (CAC 3)



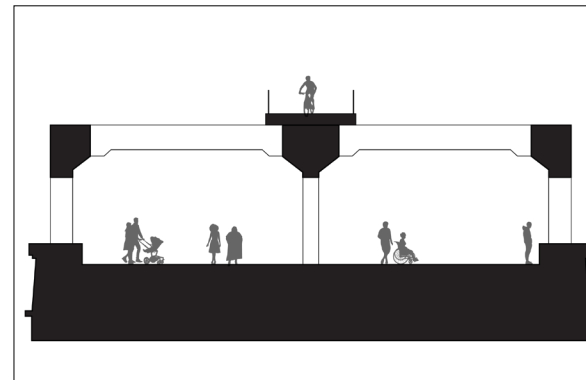
## NEPA Alternatives (CAC 4)



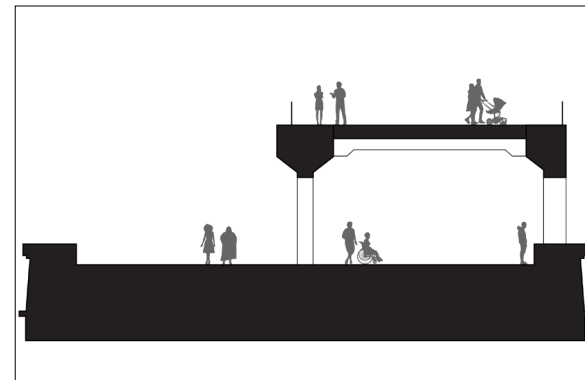
**Alternative 0:**  
Do Nothing



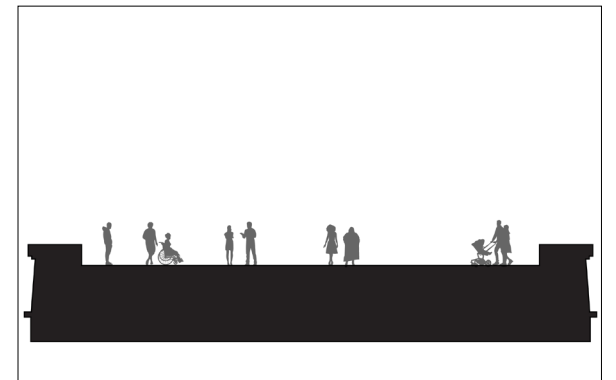
**Alternative A:** Full  
preservation of the  
upper arches.



**Alternative B:** Full  
preservation of the  
upper arches. Minimal  
removal of tow path  
wall.



**Alternative C:** Minimal  
removal of select  
upper arches, tow path  
wall, and upper deck.



**Alternative D:** Full  
removal of the upper  
deck and upper arches.  
Minimal removal of  
tow path wall.

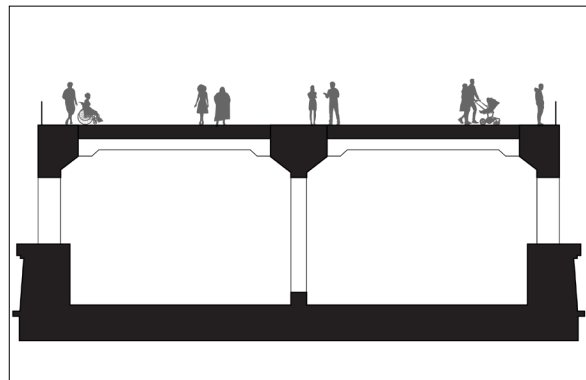
# Getting to Four Alternatives

Most Preservation

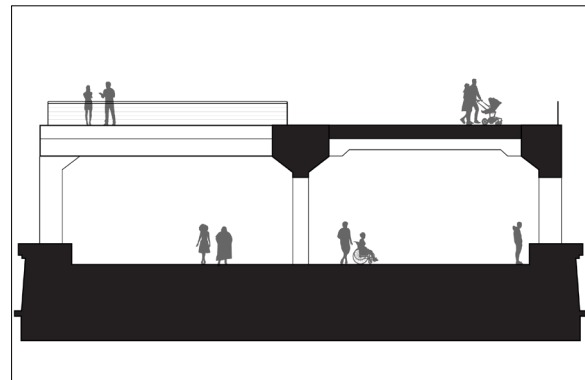
Least Preservation



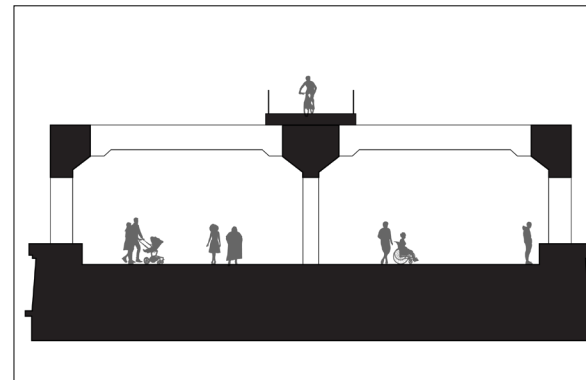
## NEPA Alternatives (CAC 4)



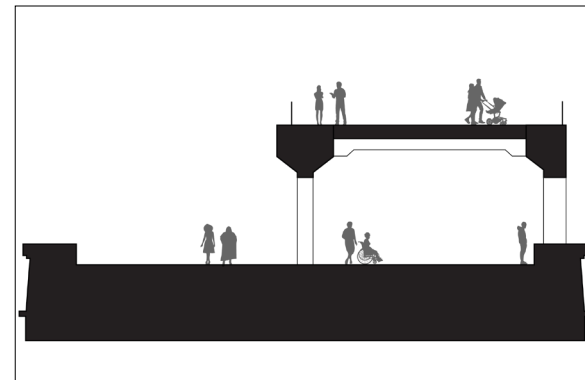
**Alternative 0:**  
Do Nothing



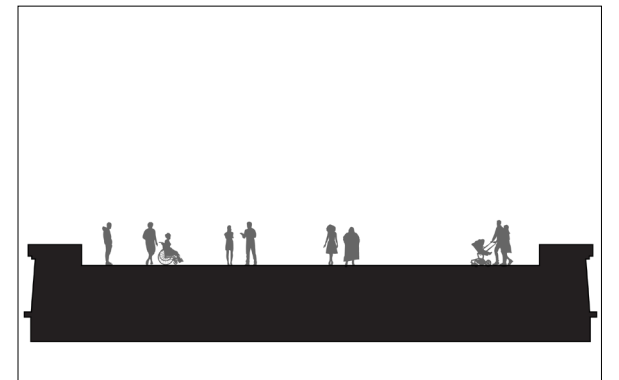
**Alternative A:** Full  
preservation of the  
upper arches.



**Alternative B:** Full  
preservation of the  
upper arches. Minimal  
removal of tow path  
wall.



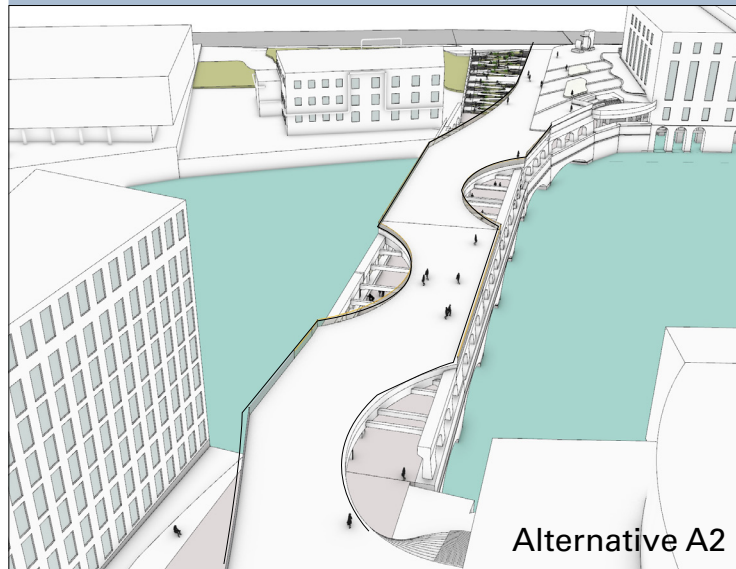
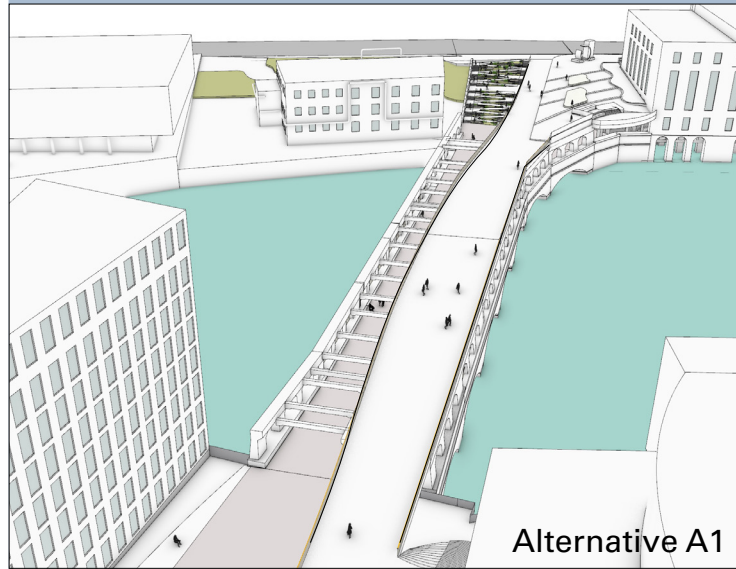
**Alternative C:** Minimal  
removal of select  
upper arches, tow path  
wall, and upper deck.



**Alternative D:** Full  
removal of the upper  
deck and upper arches.  
Minimal removal of  
tow path wall.

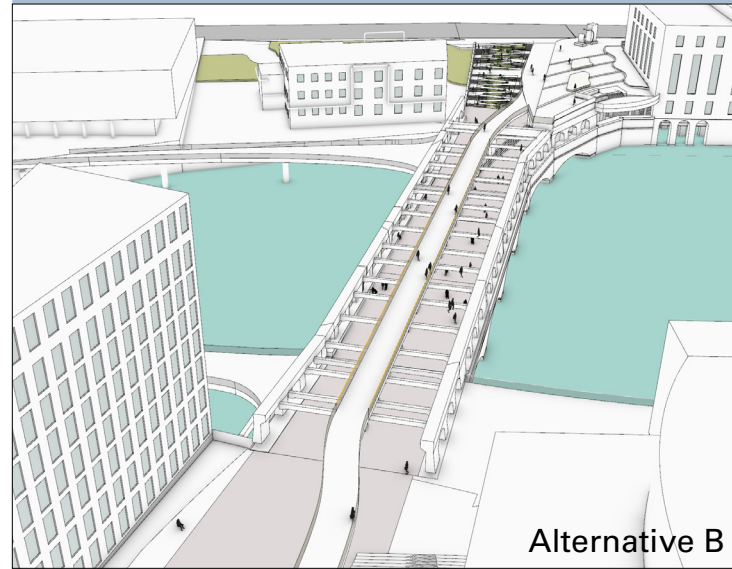
# Exploring Four Alternatives

## Alternatives A1/A2



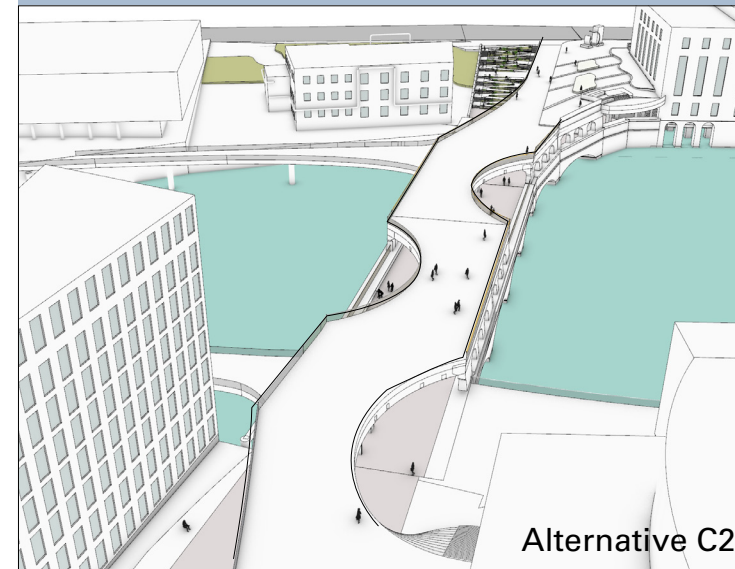
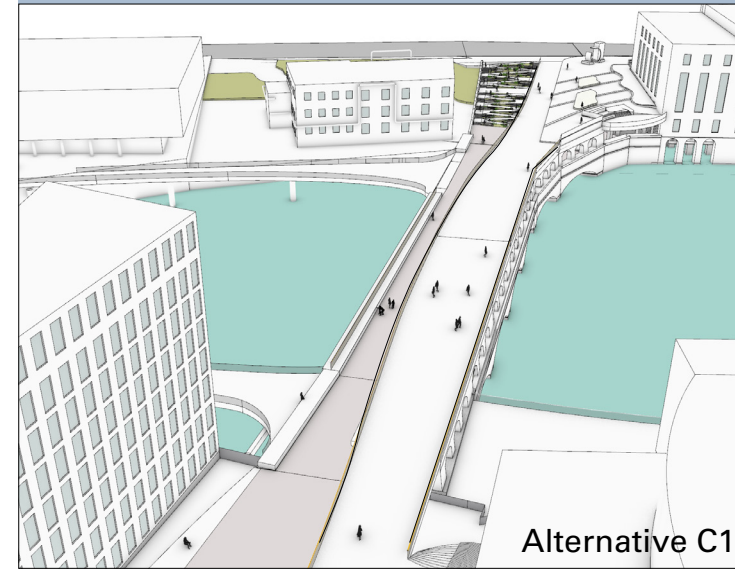
- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Replacement of the upper deck.
- Preservation of tow path wall with no promenade connections

## Alternative B



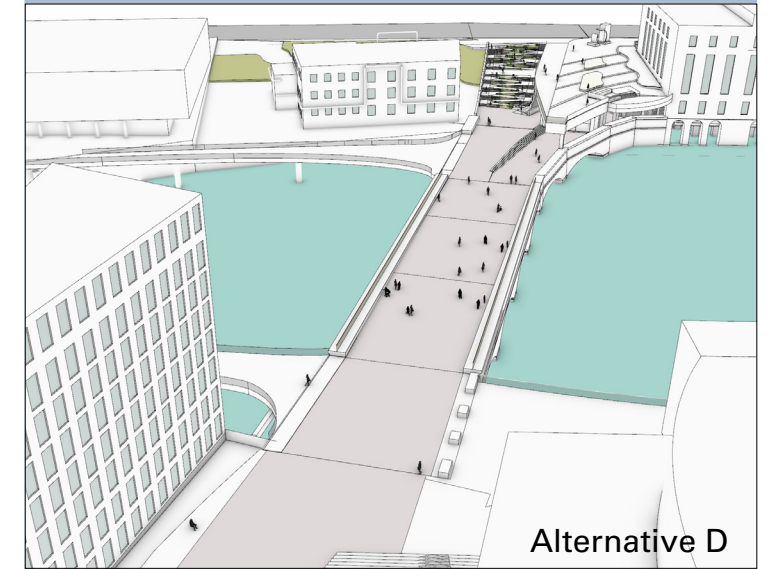
- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Partial replacement of the upper deck.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate promenade connections

## Alternatives C1/C2



- Minimal removal of select upper arches and upper deck.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate promenade connections

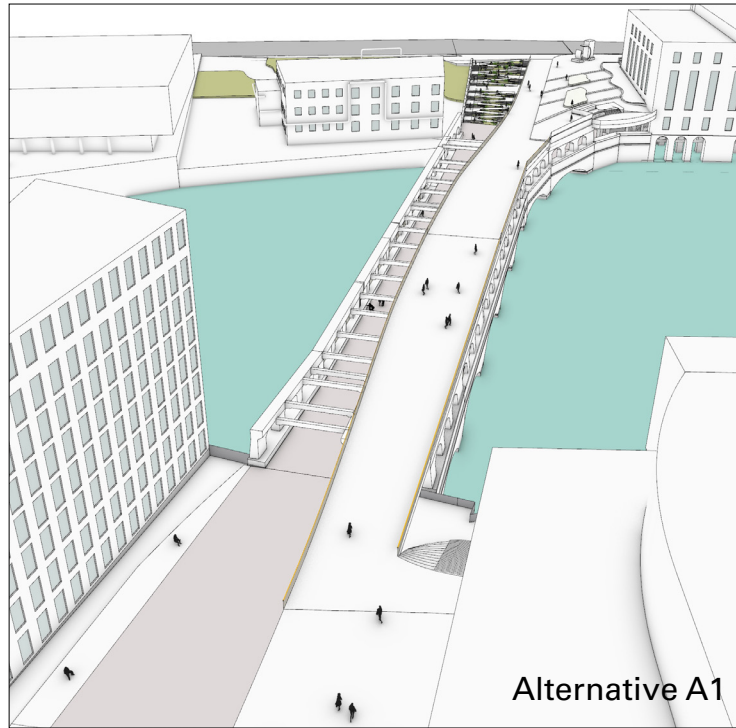
## Alternative D



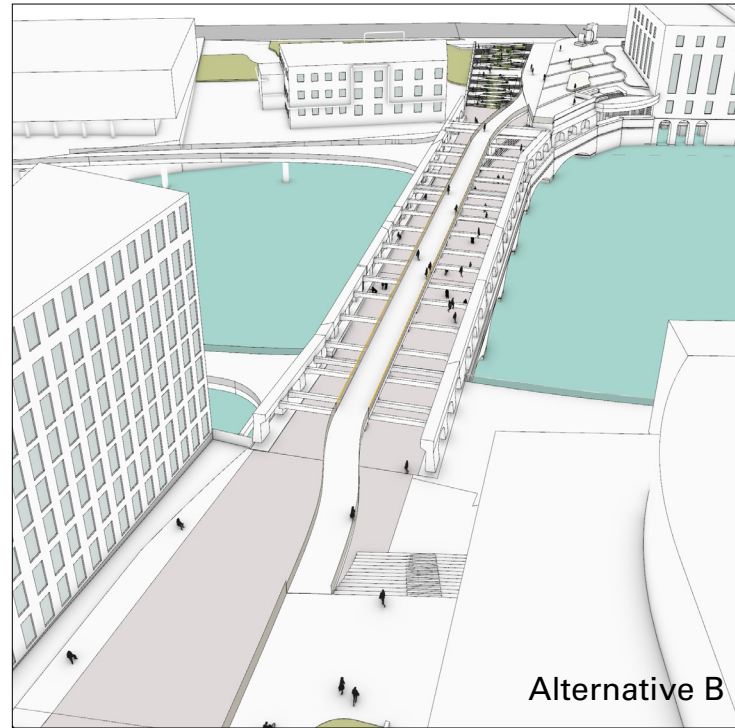
- Full removal of the upper deck and upper arches.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate promenade connections

# Exploring Four Alternatives

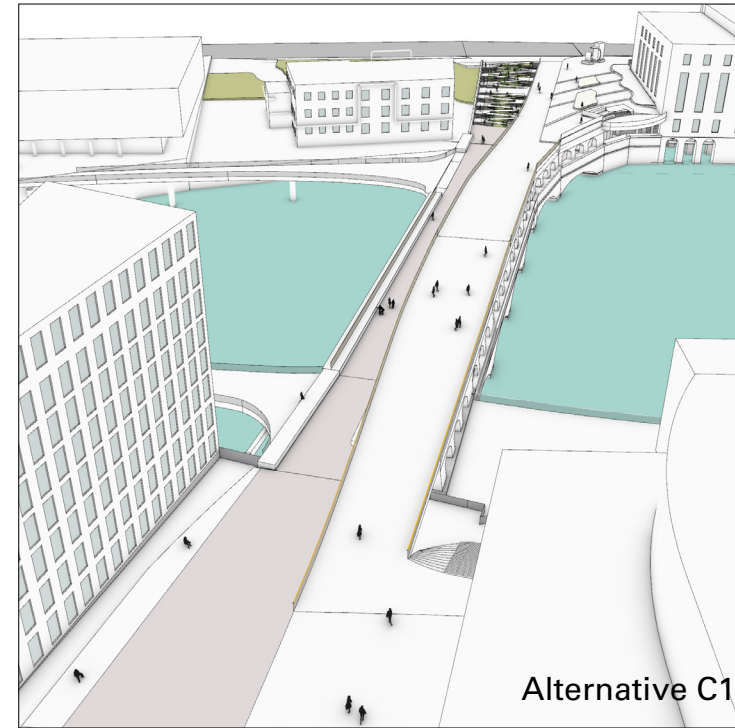
Alternatives A1/A2



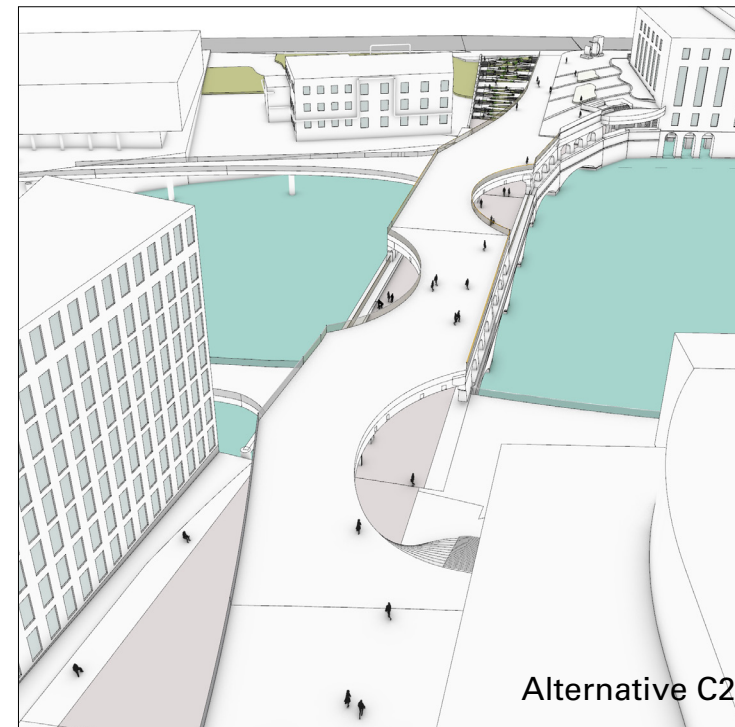
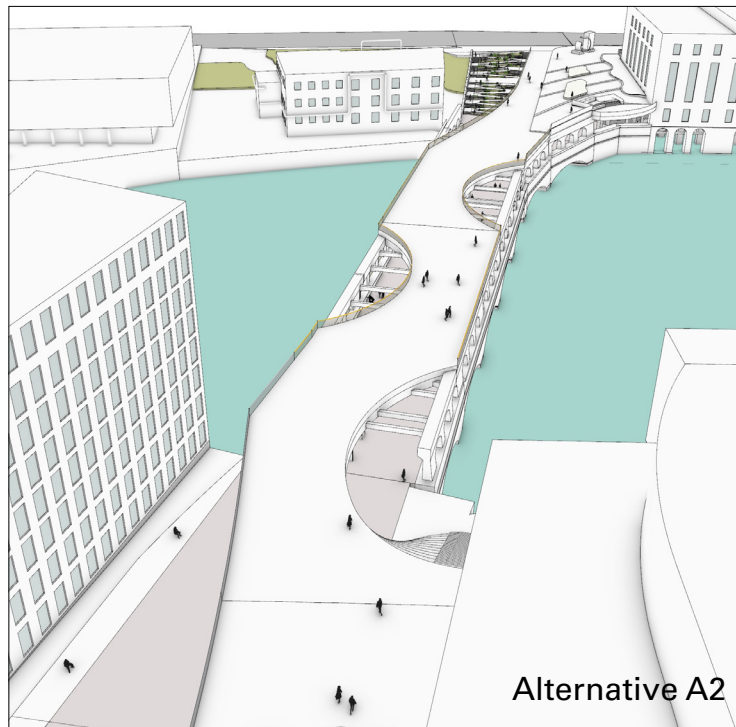
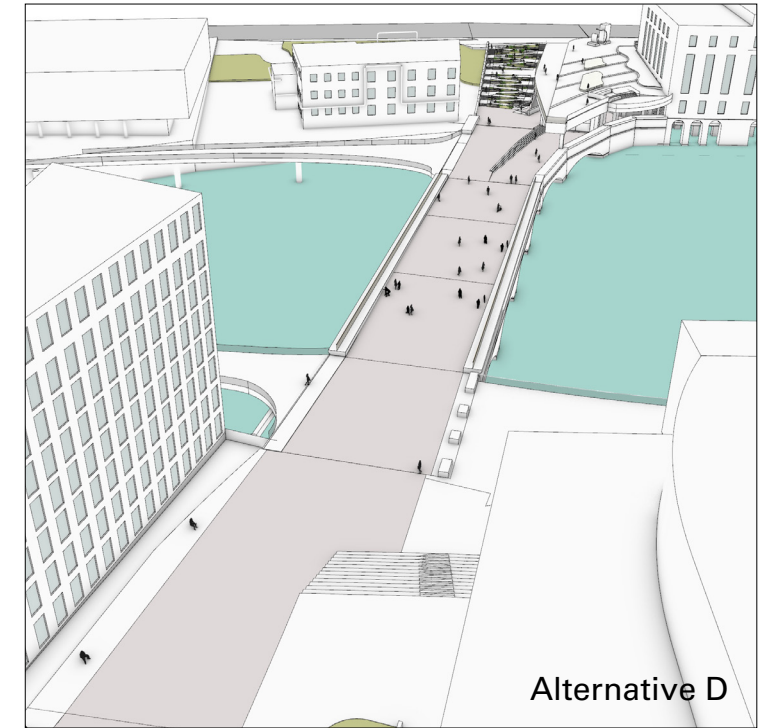
Alternative B



Alternatives C1/C2



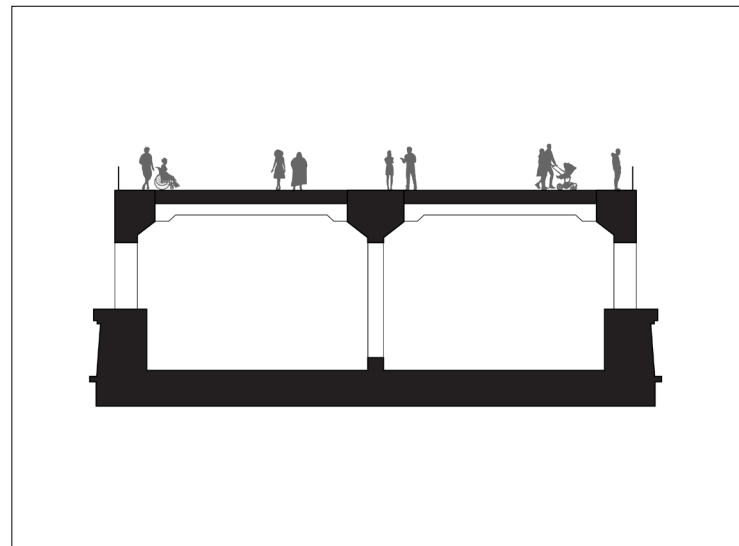
Alternative D



# Alternative 0 - Do Nothing

## Alternative 0:

- No demolition.
- No promenade connections.
- No access to the historic lower-level of the Aqueduct.





# Alternative 0 - Do Nothing



1. Upper Level Perspective

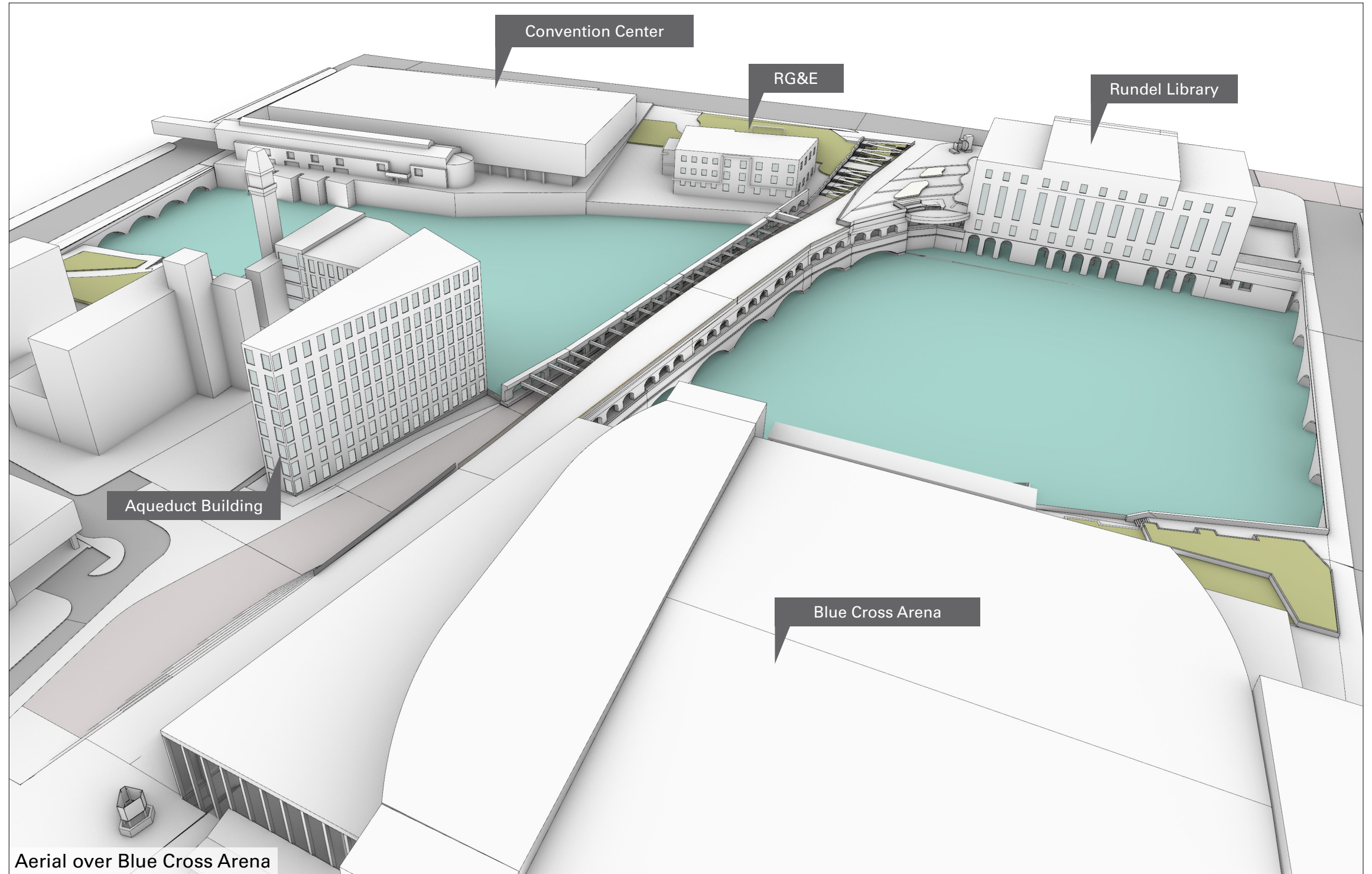


2. Lower Level Perspective

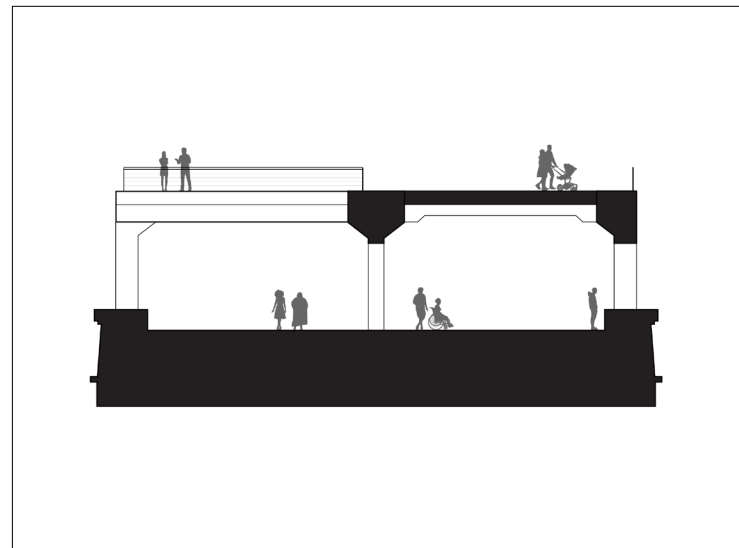
# Alternative A1

## Alternative A1:

- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Replacement of the upper deck.
- Preservation of the tow path wall with no promenade connections added.



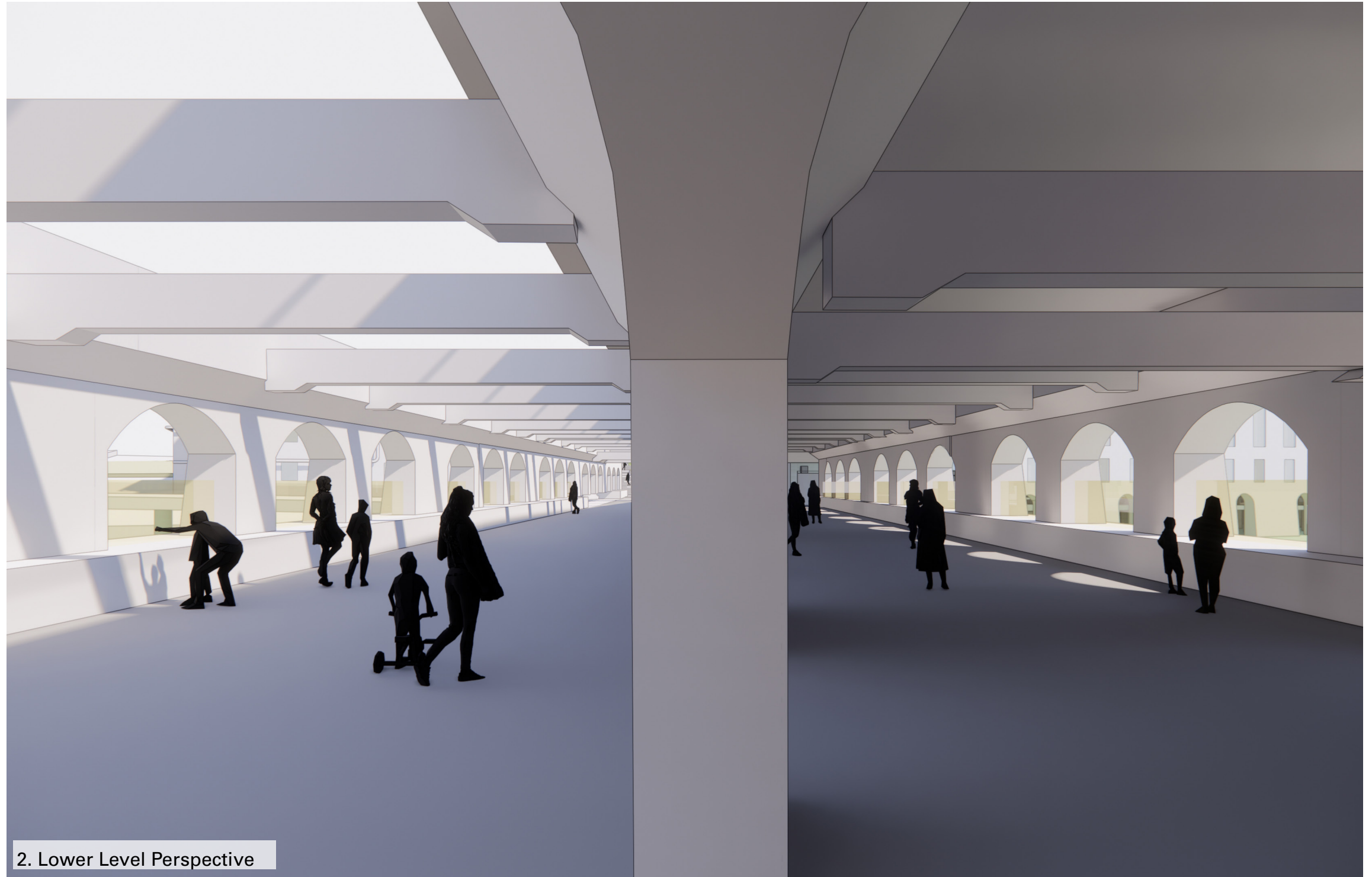
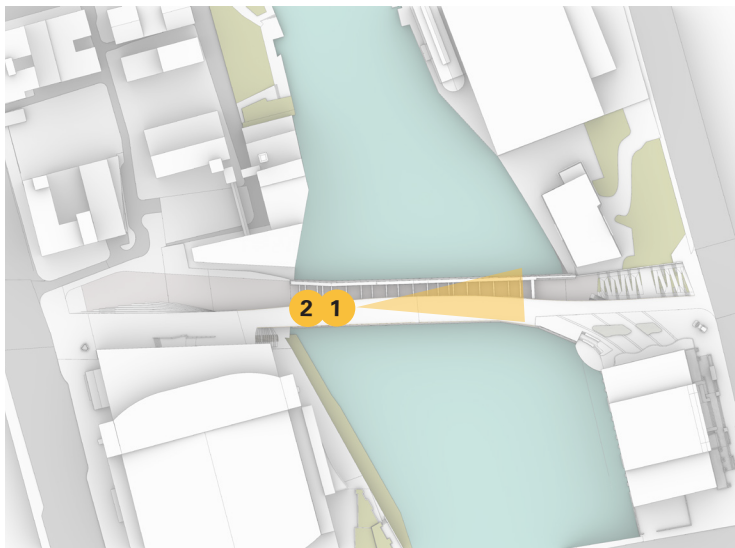
Aerial over Blue Cross Arena



# Alternative A1



1. Upper Level Perspective

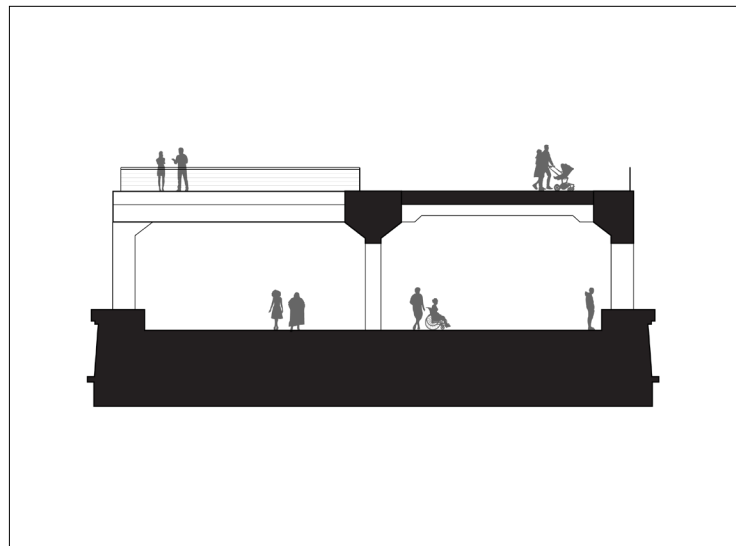
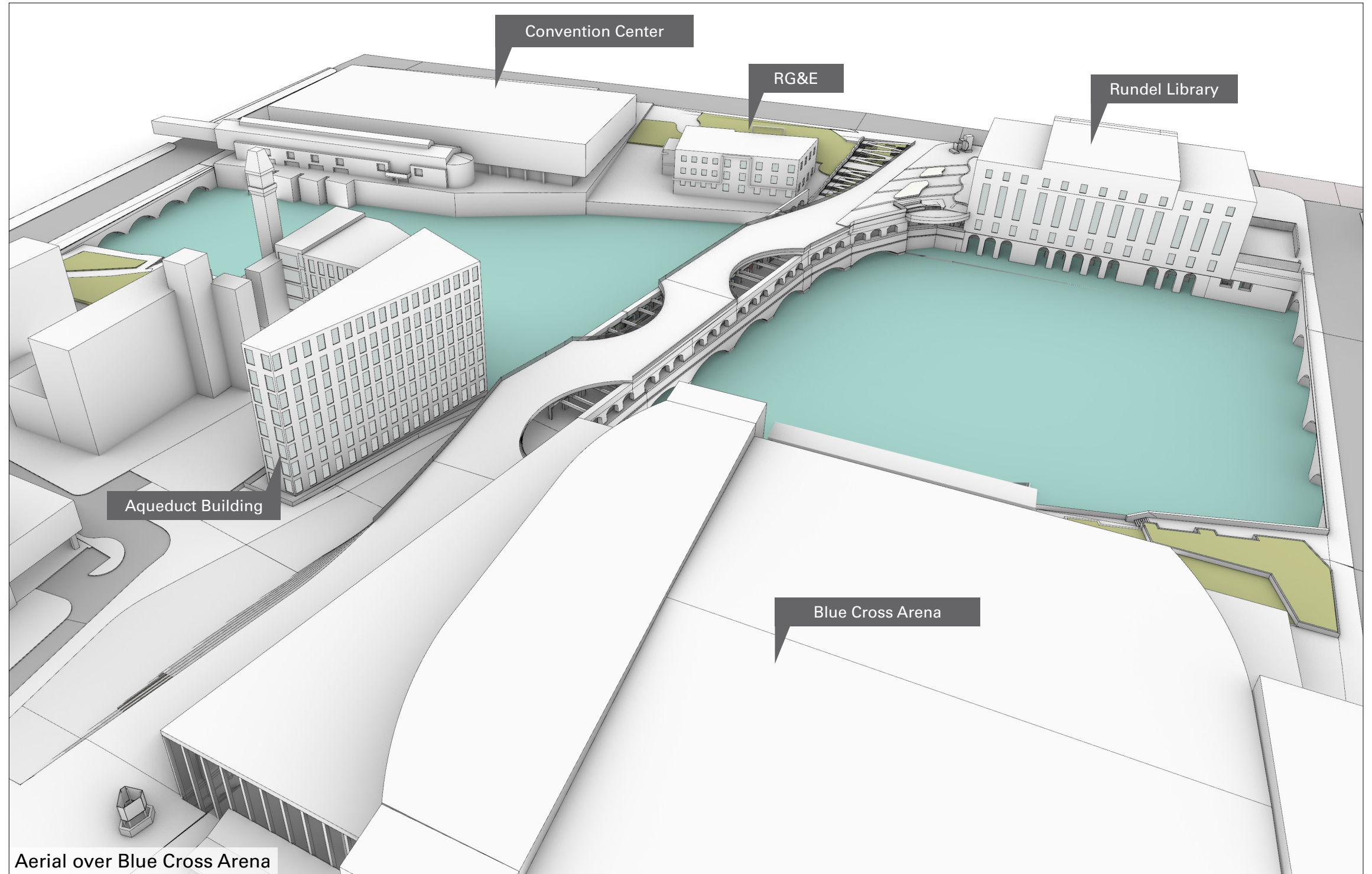


2. Lower Level Perspective

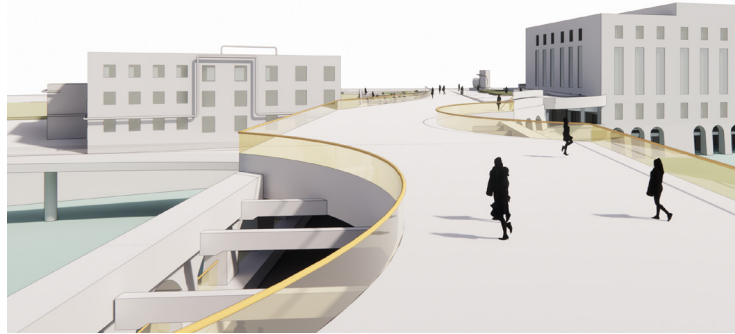
# Alternative A2

## Alternative A2:

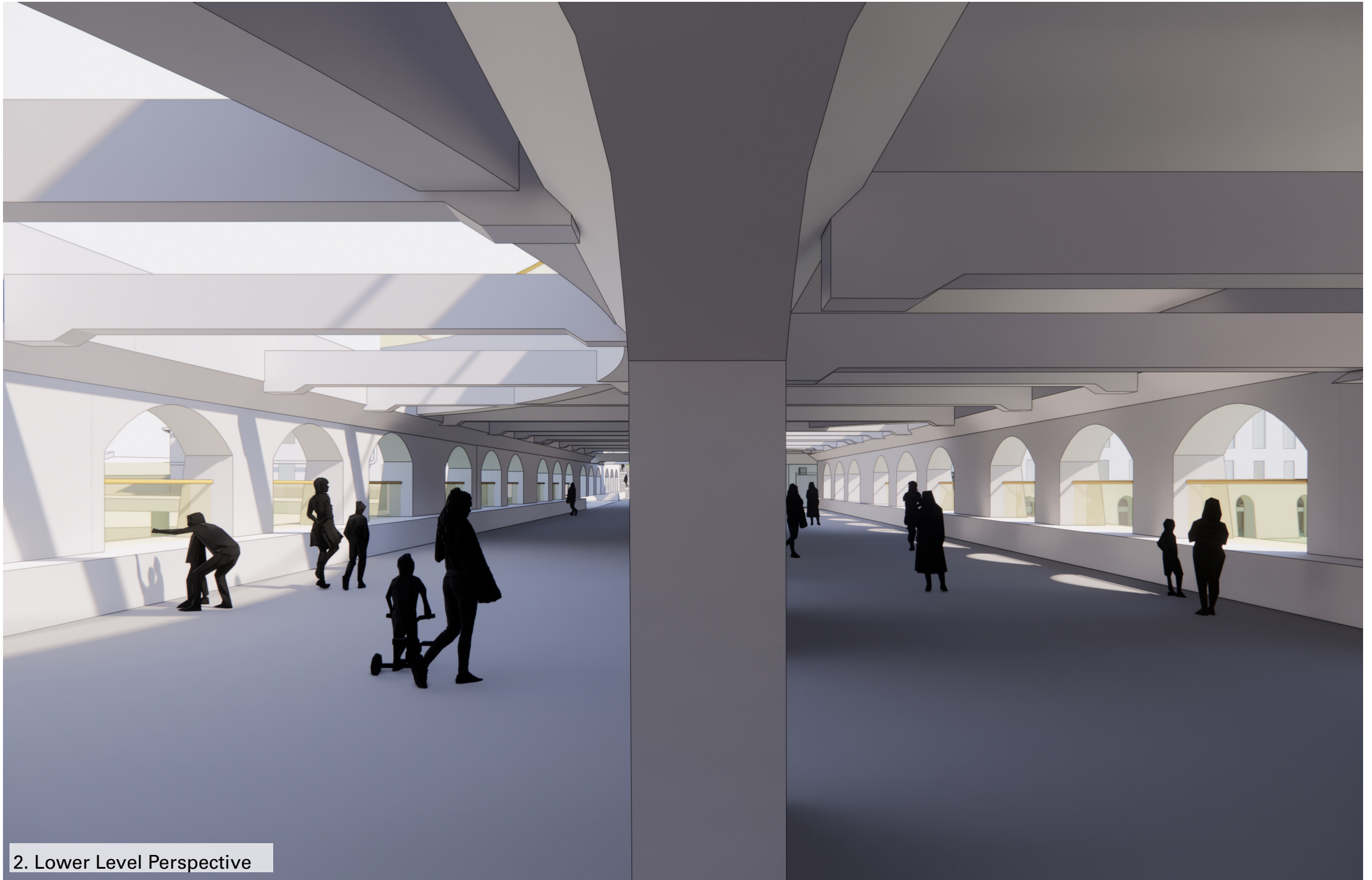
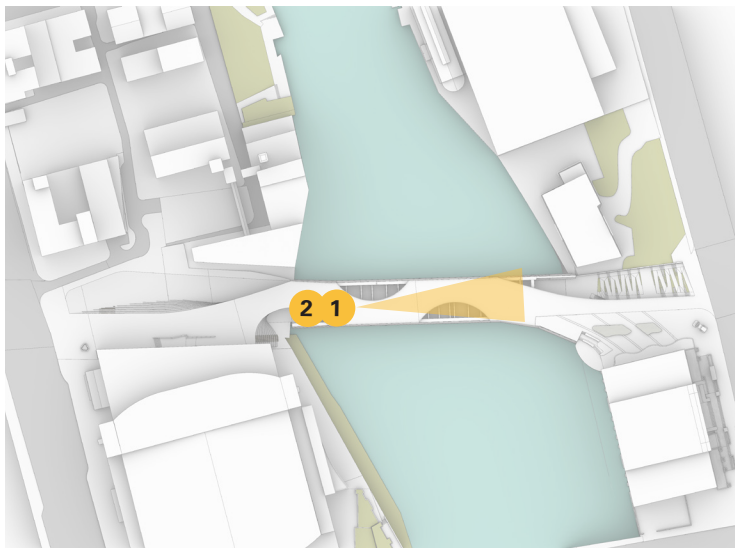
- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Replacement of the upper deck.
- Preservation of the tow path wall with no promenade connections added.



# Alternative A2



1. Upper Level Perspective

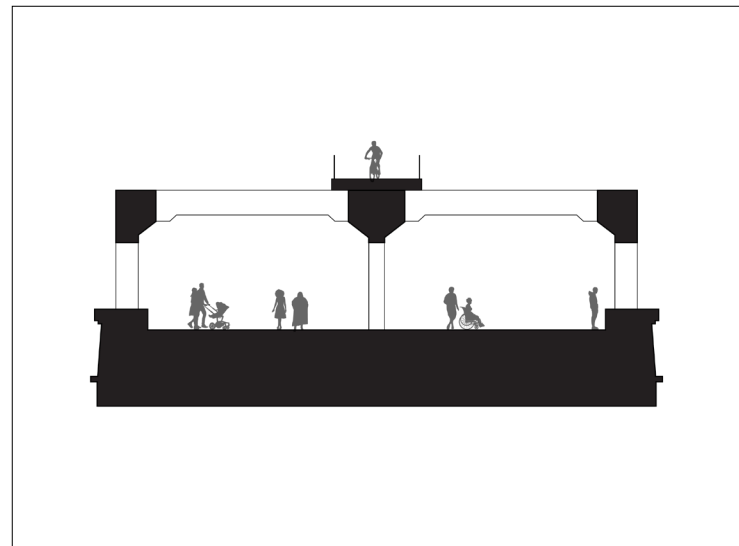
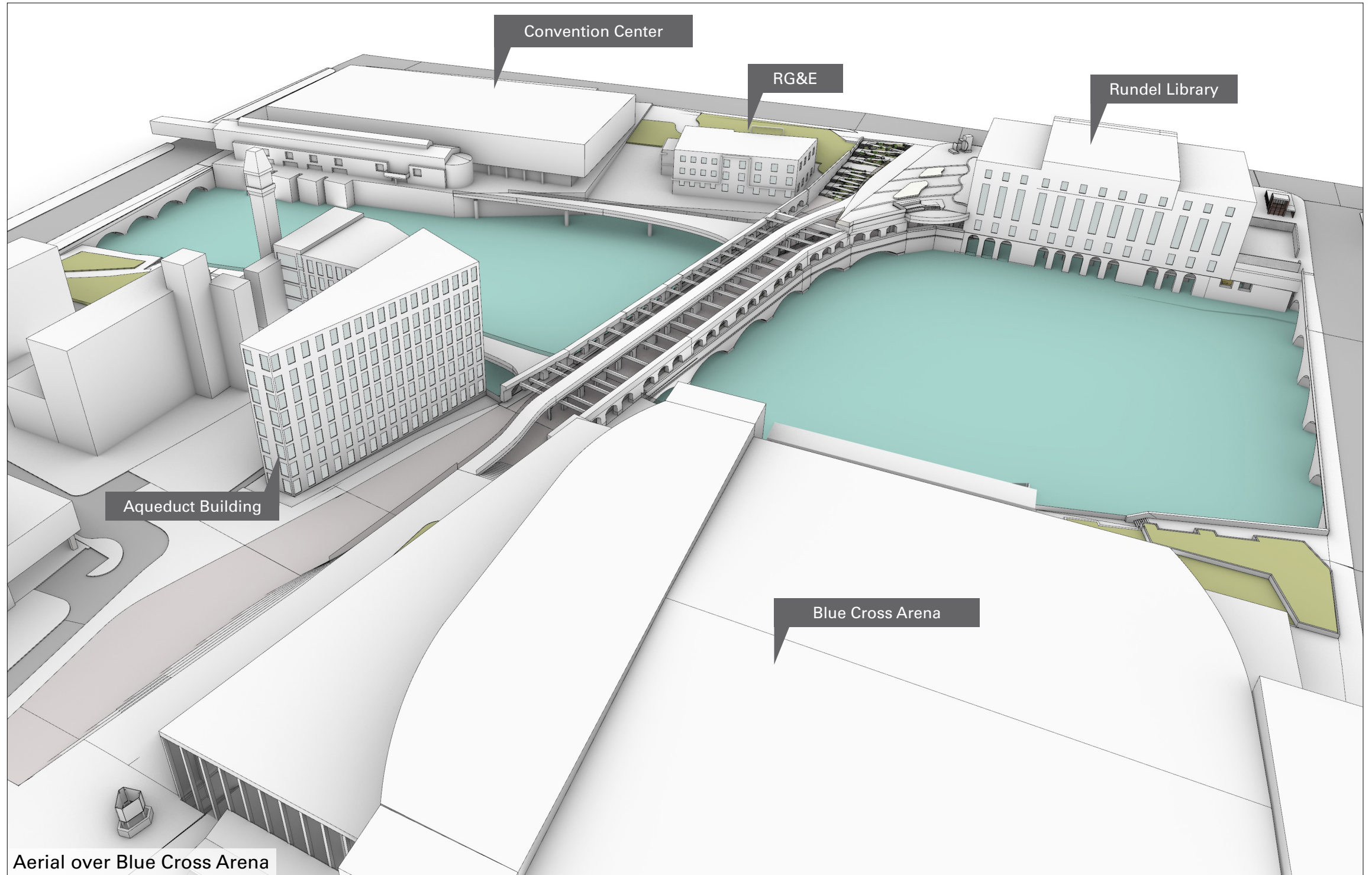


2. Lower Level Perspective

# Alternative B

## Alternative B:

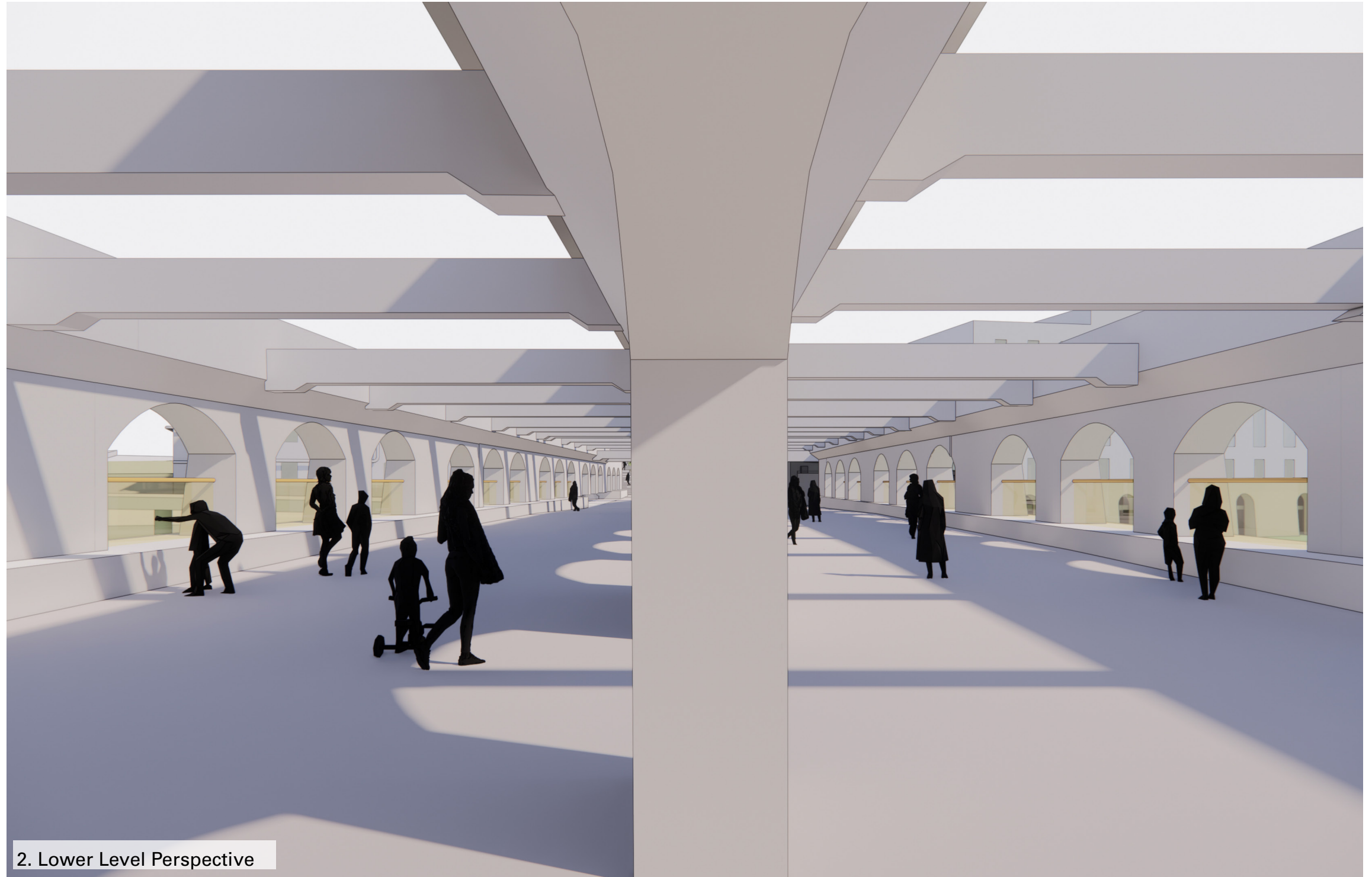
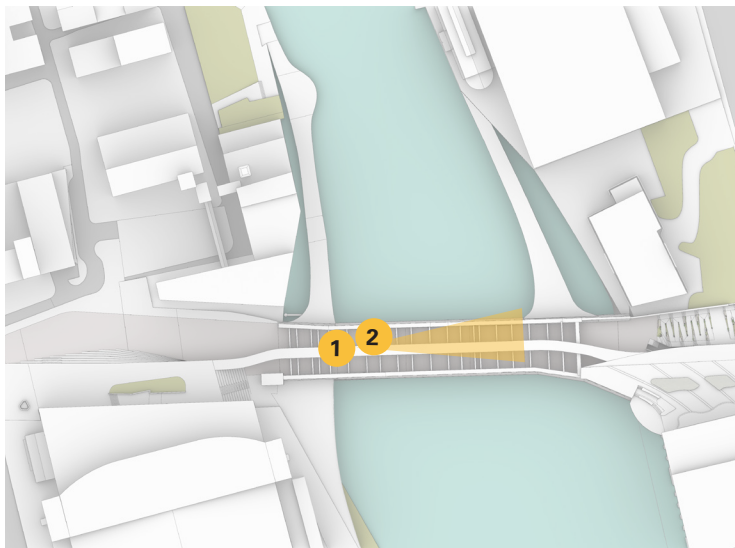
- Partial replacement of the deck.
- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Added promenade connections



# Alternative B



1. Upper Level Perspective

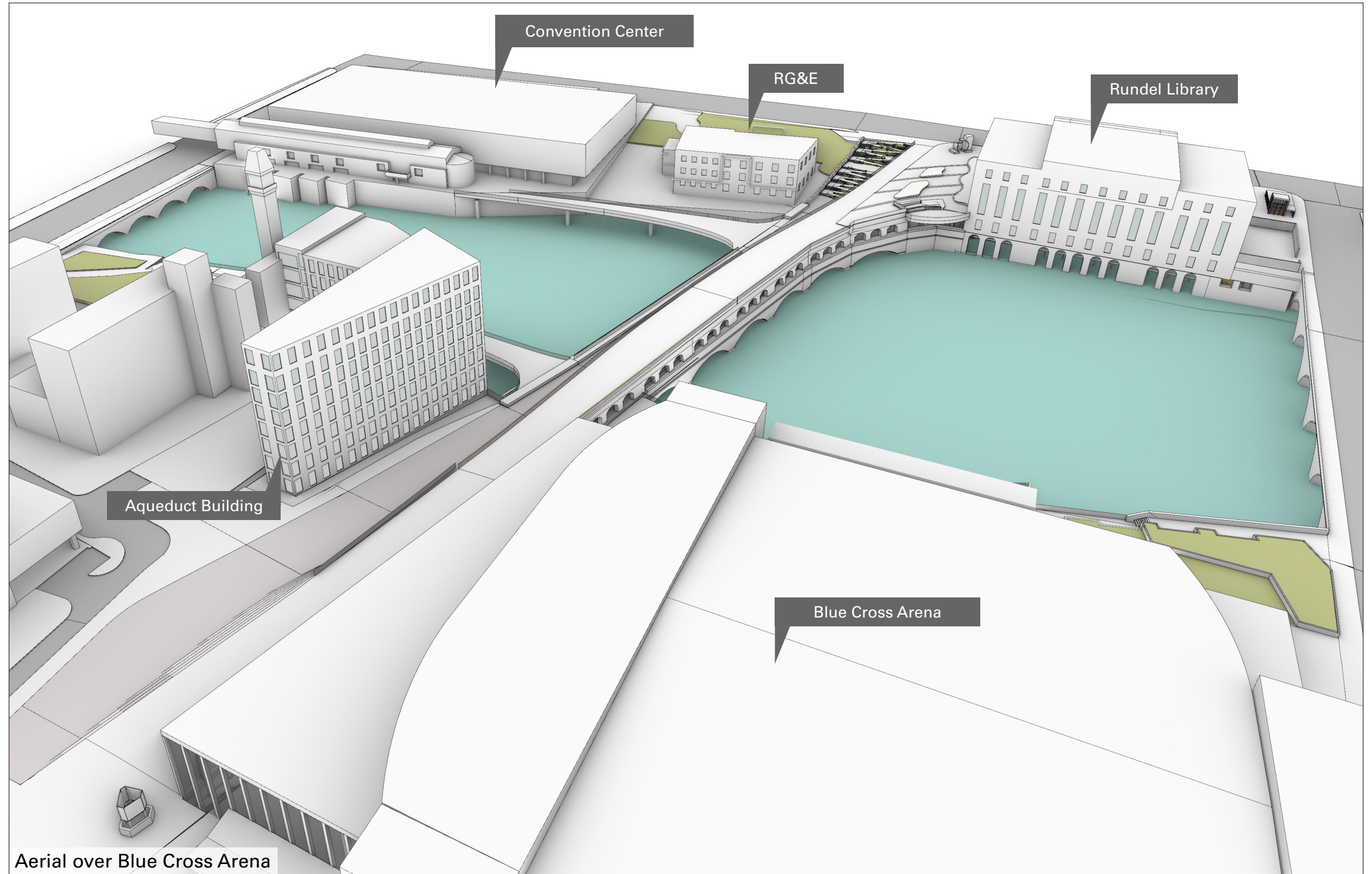
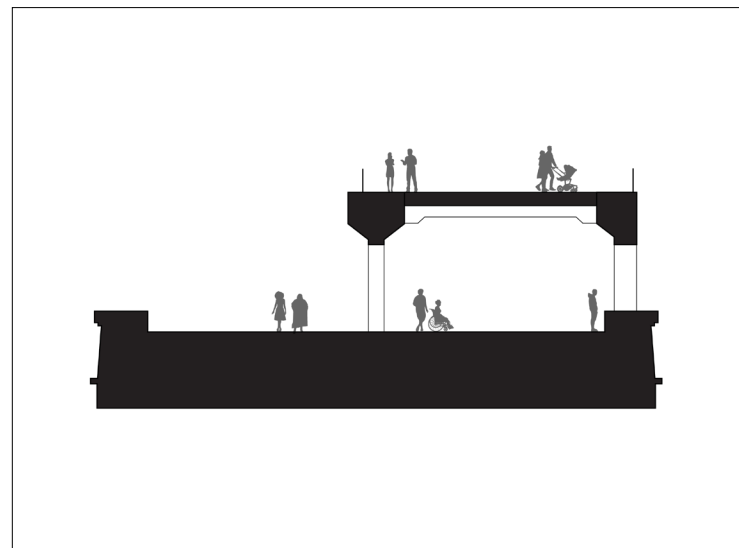


2. Lower Level Perspective

# Alternative C1

## Alternative C1:

- Minimal removal of select upper arches and upper deck.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate promenade connections

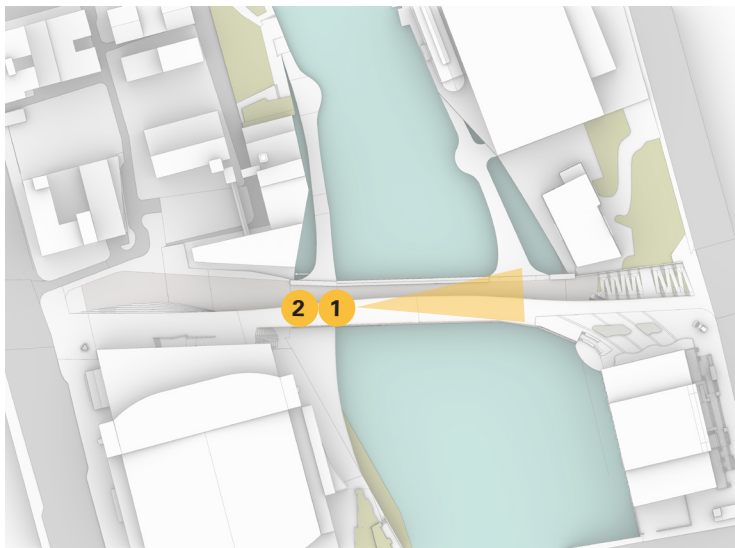




# Alternative C1



1. Upper Level Perspective

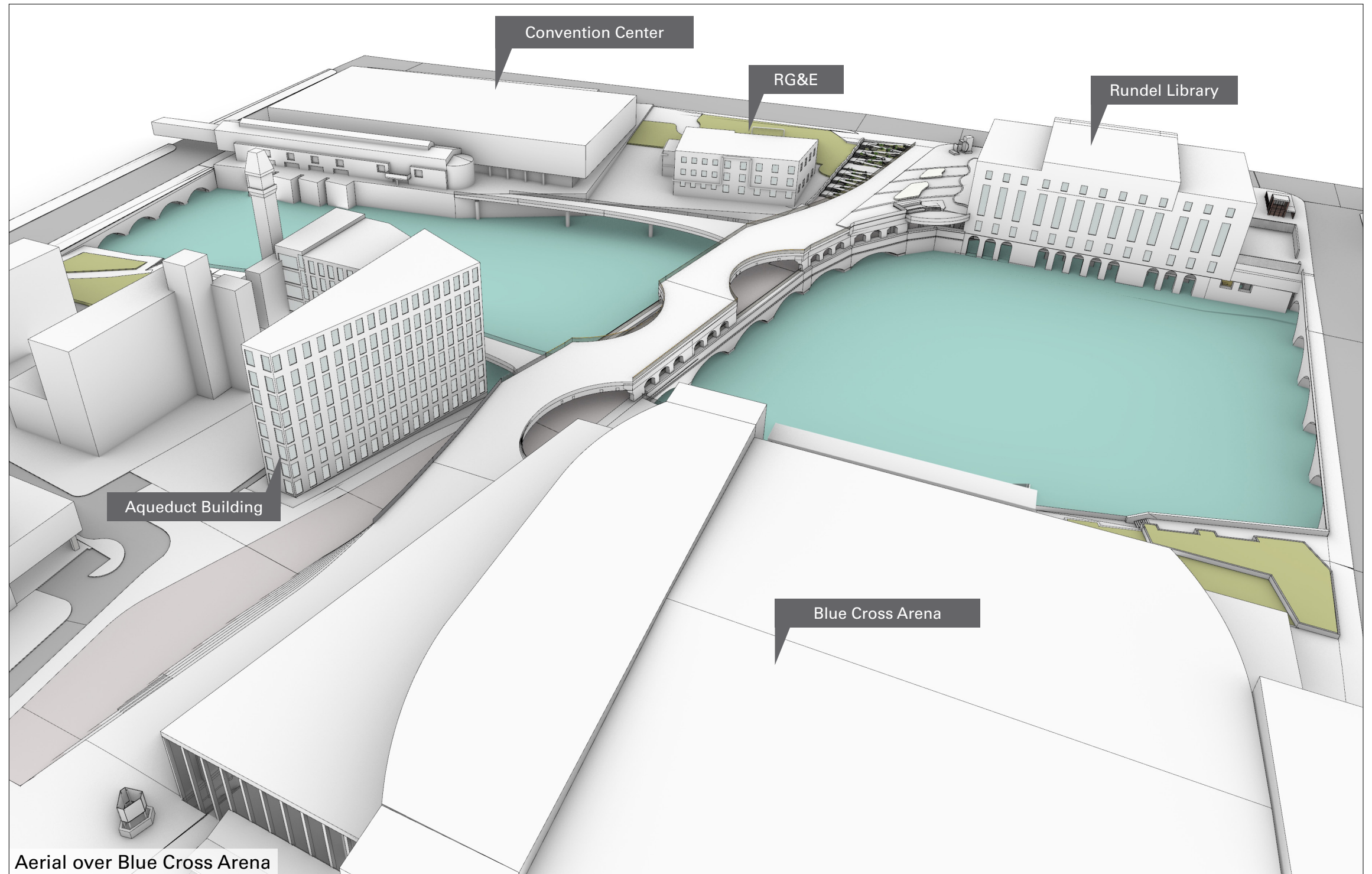
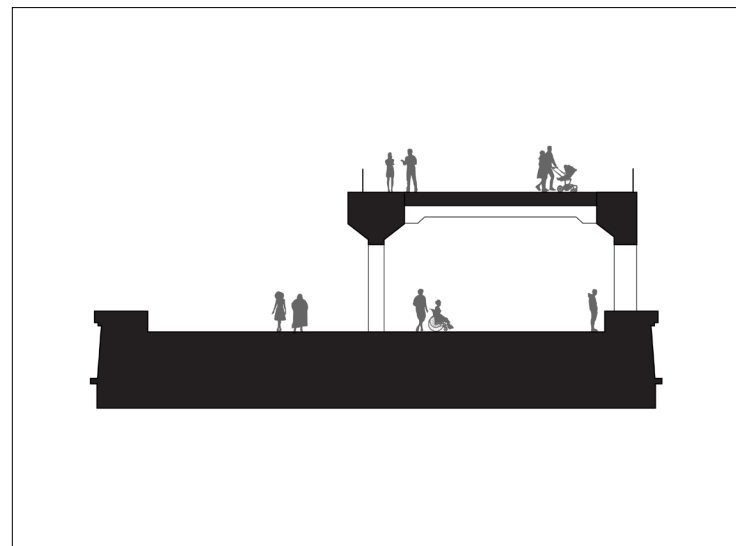


2. Lower Level Perspective

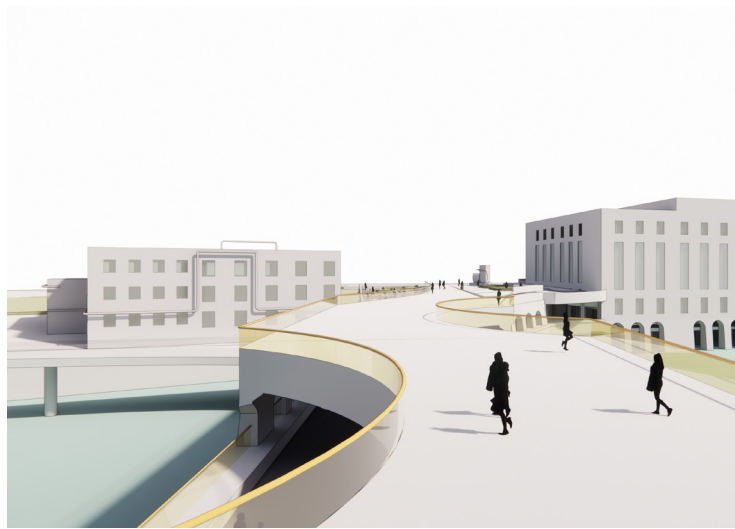
# Alternative C2

## Alternative C2:

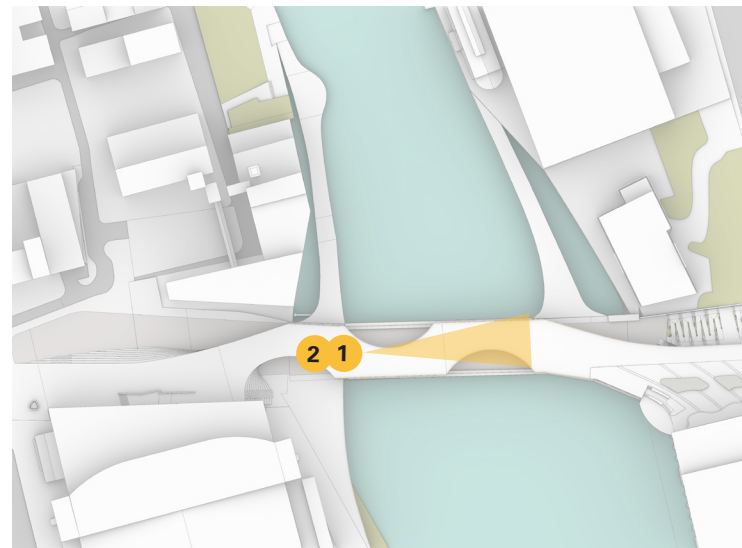
- Minimal removal of select upper arches and upper deck.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate promenade connections



# Alternative C2



1. Upper Level Perspective

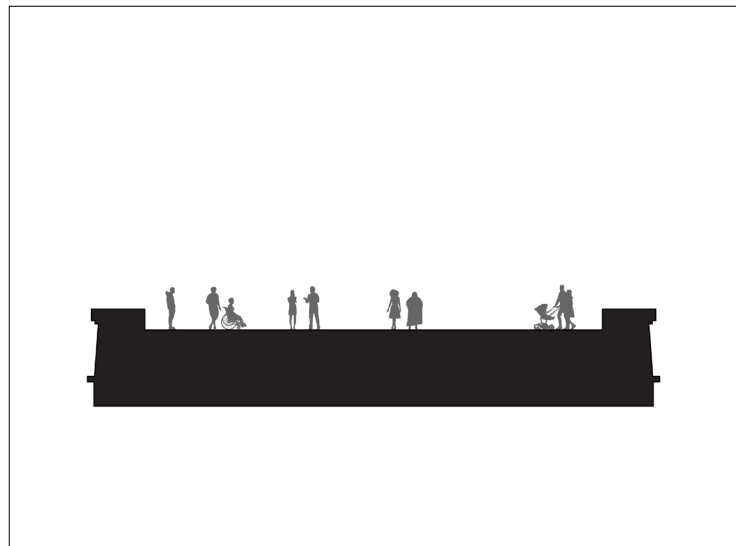
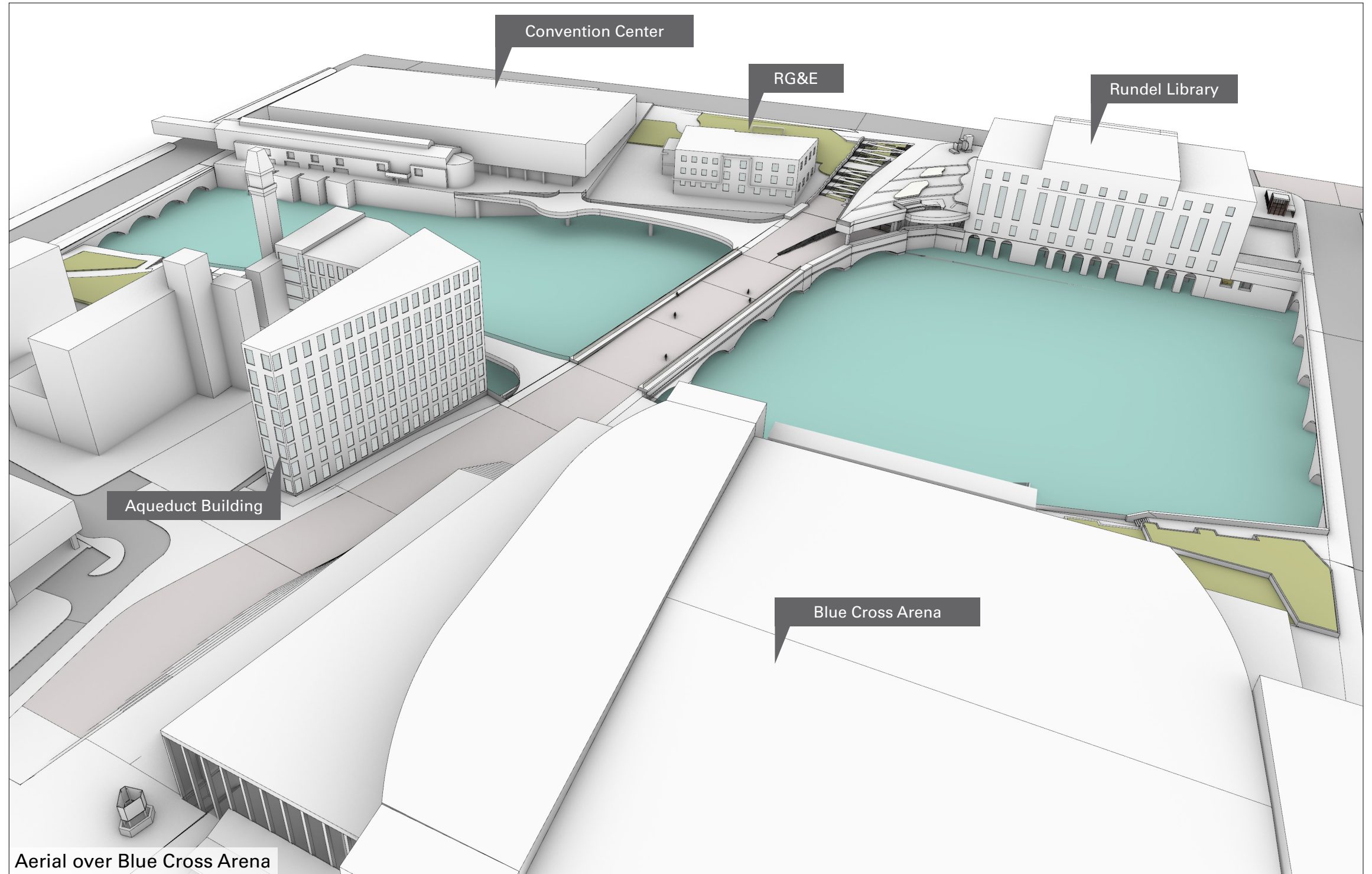


2. Lower Level Perspective

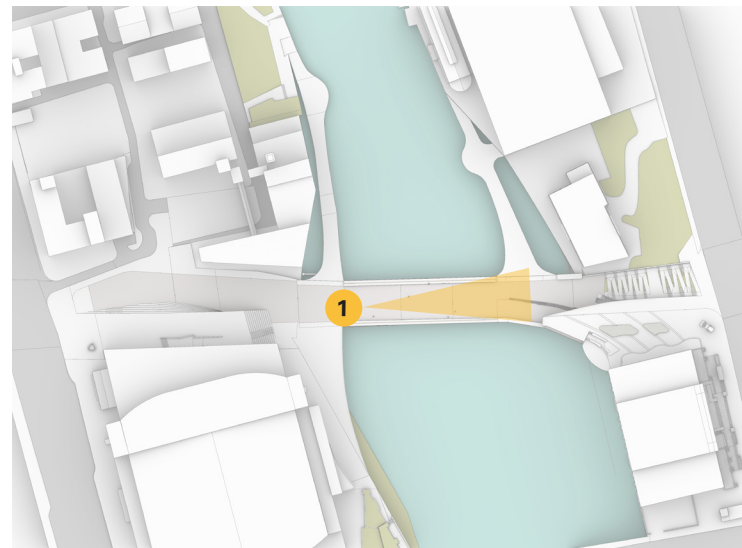
# Alternative D

## Alternative D:

- Full removal of the upper deck and upper arches.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate promenade connections



# Alternative D



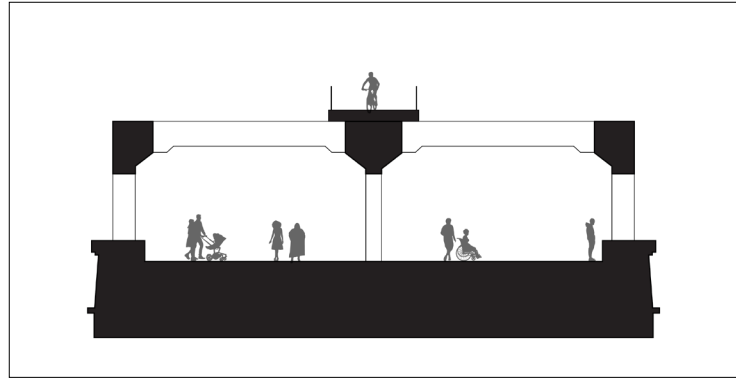
1. Lower Level Perspective



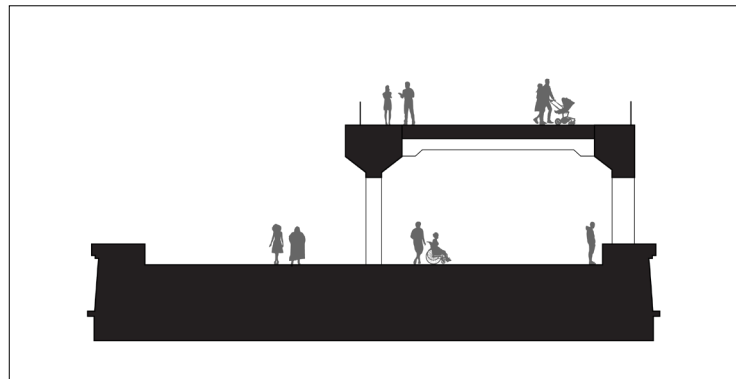
# Promenades

- Design Considerations
- Four Promenade Connections Summary

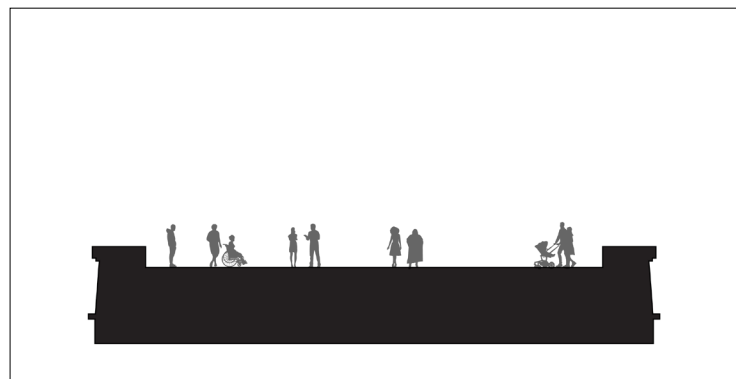
# Promenade Connections Diagram - Alternatives B, C, and D



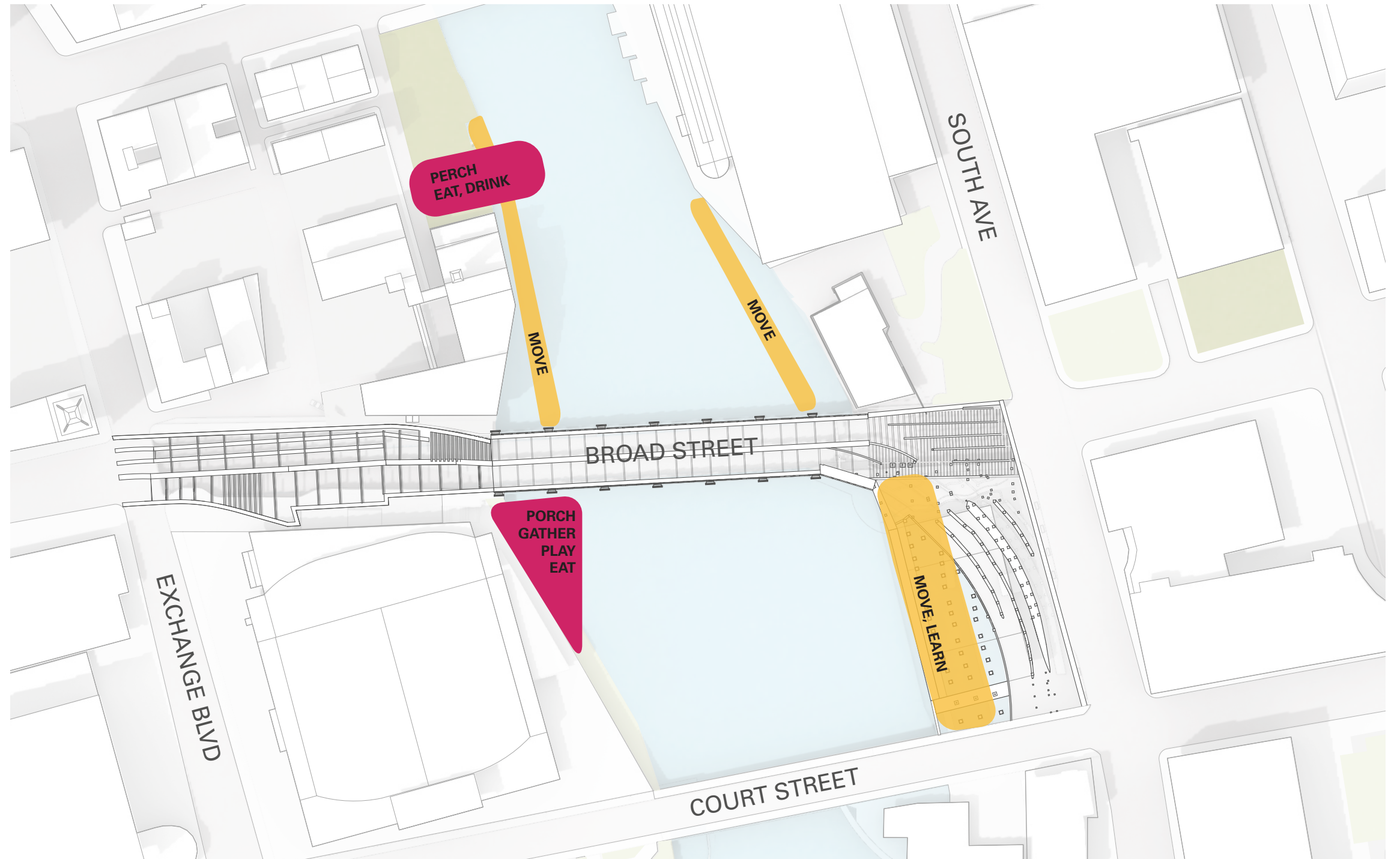
Alternative B



Alternatives C1/C2



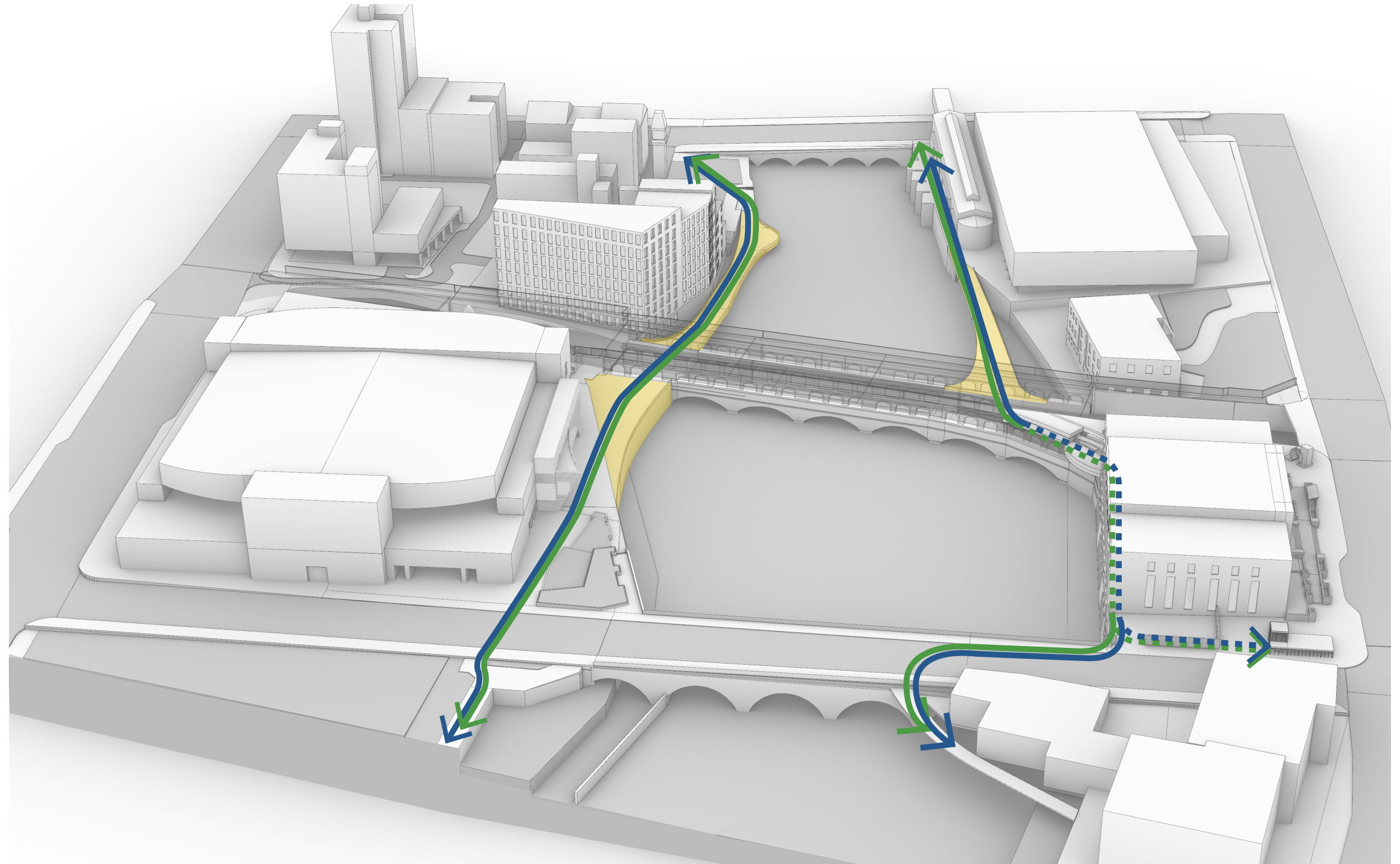
Alternative D



# Promenades - Alternatives C and D

## Alternatives B, C, and D Considerations:

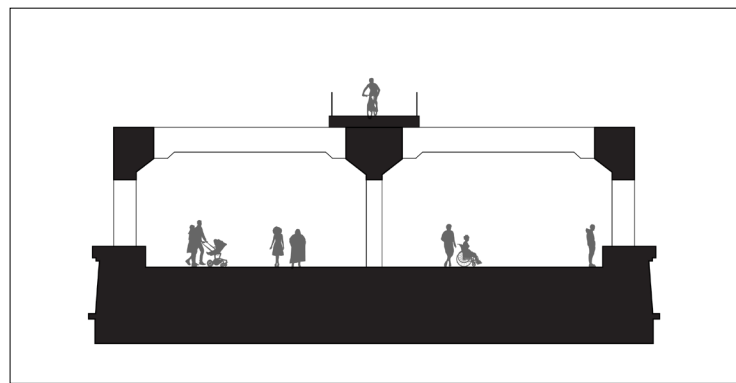
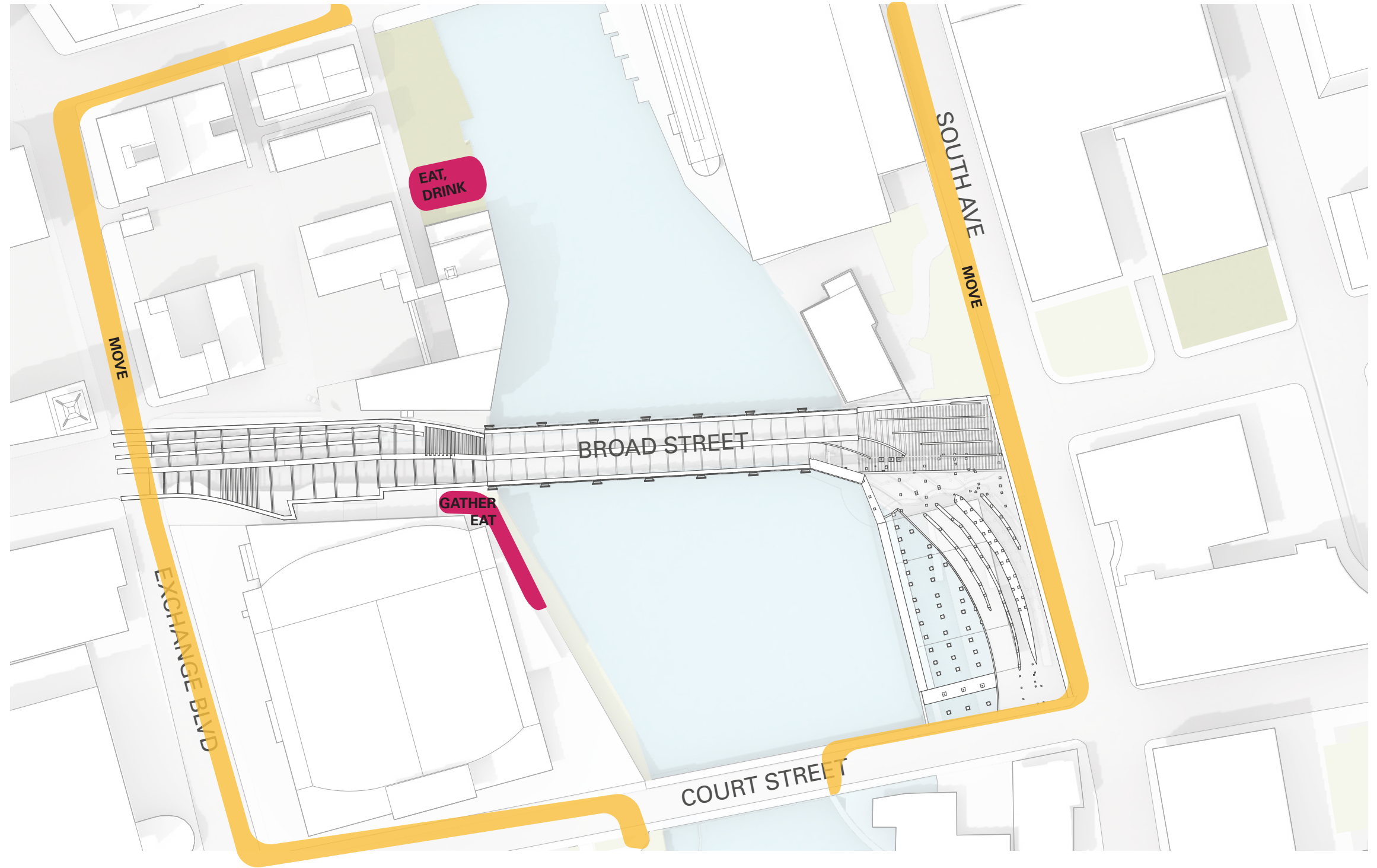
- Riverside trail connections
- Trail Width (12'-15')
- Piers alignment, shape, and spacing are defined by design requirements.
- Minimum Height Clearance (10', Bike Min 8')
- Inspection Equipment Access
- Snow removal - sidewalk plough
- Minimal tow path wall demolition needed to facilitate connections



- ↔ Bicycle Connection
- ↔ Pedestrian Connection
- Added Promenade Connections



# Promenade Connections Diagram - Alternatives A

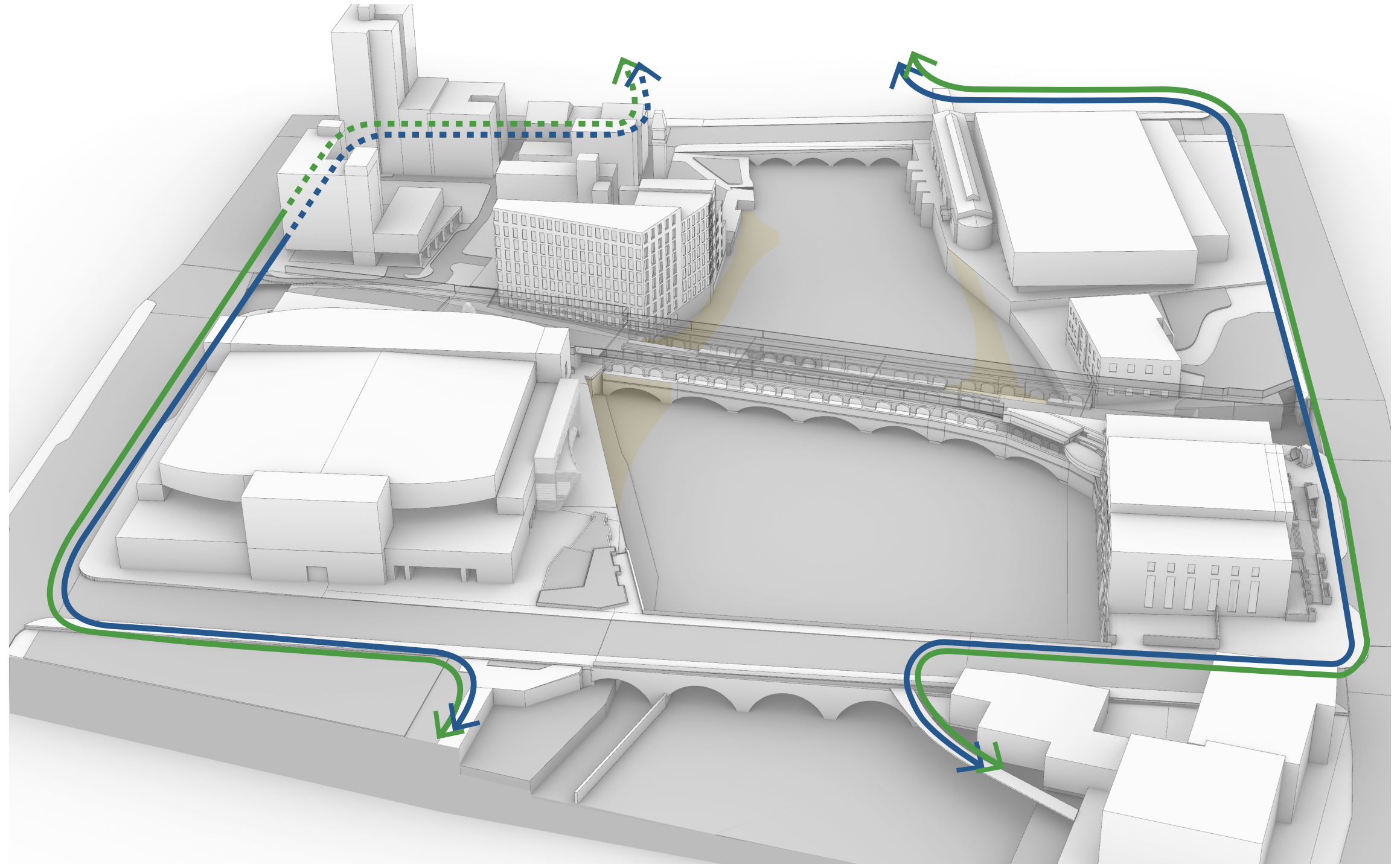


Alternatives A

# Promenades - Alternatives A

## Alternatives A Considerations:

- No riverside trail connections
- No pillars in the river
- Trail Width: varies
- No tow path wall demolition needed



↔ Bicycle Connection  
↔ Pedestrian Connection



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



WXY

URBAN  
AMERICAN  
CITY



DUN  
WOODE  
Dr. Jessica  
Lieberman

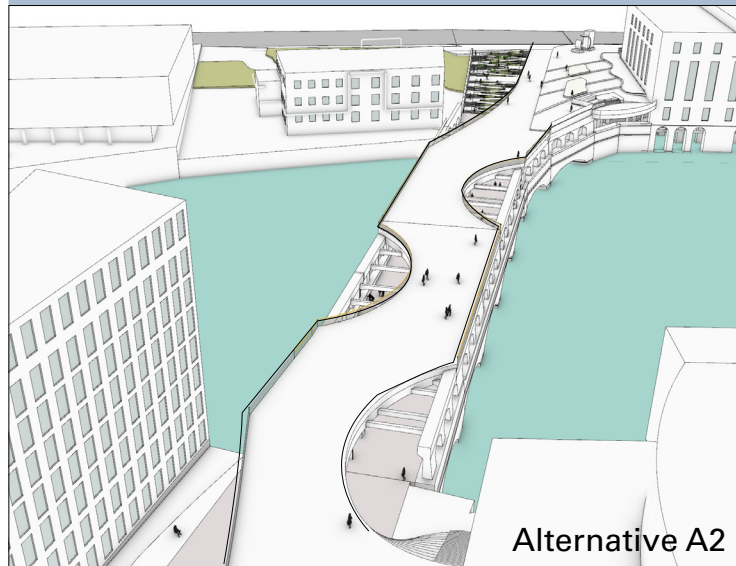
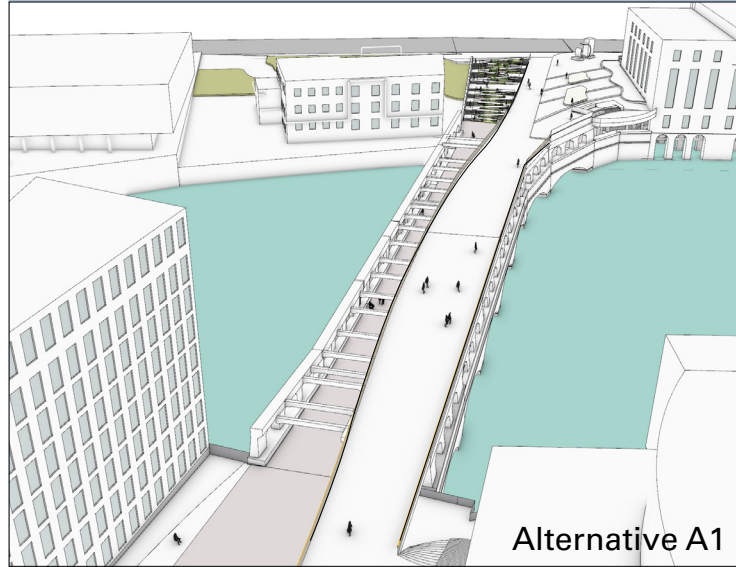
bero  
ARCHITECTURE



Lu  
Engineers

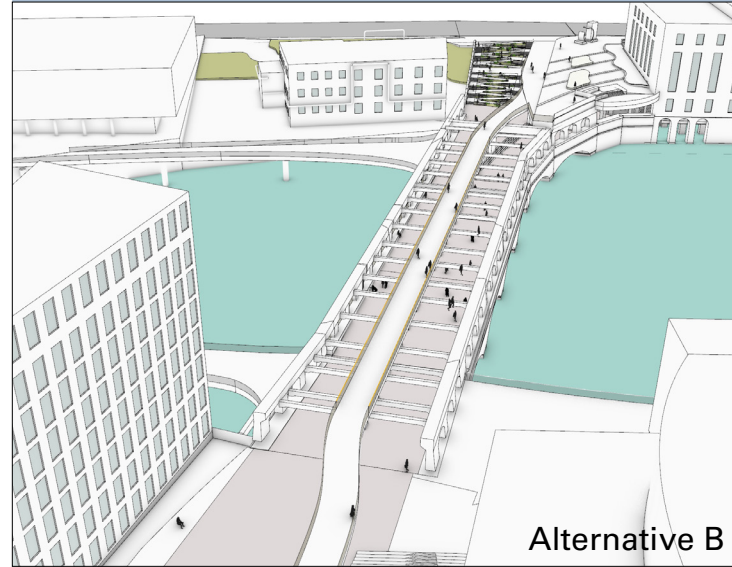
# Exploring Four Alternatives

## Alternatives A1/A2



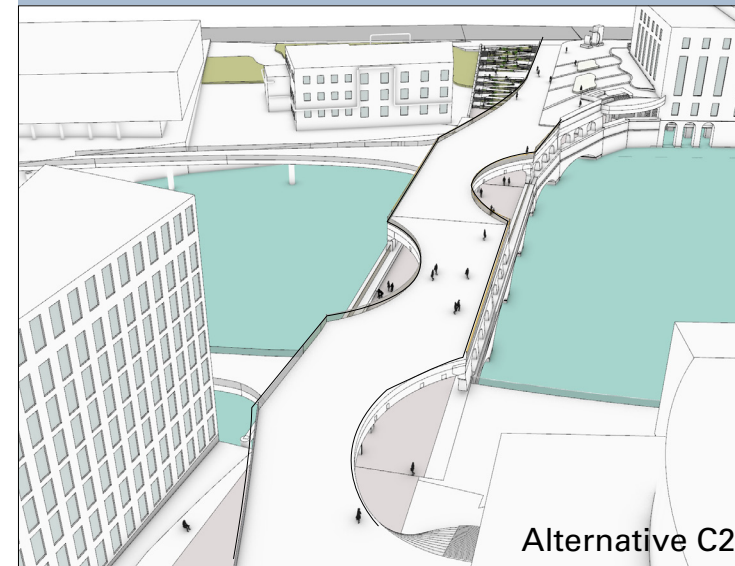
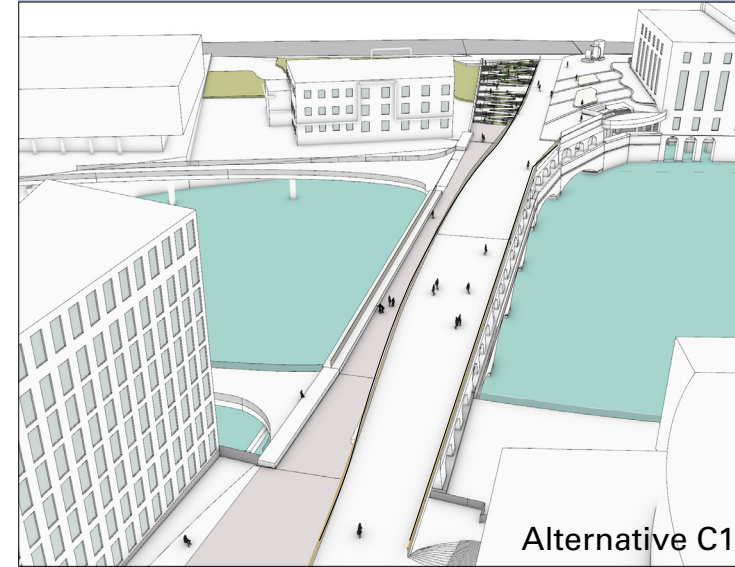
- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Replacement of the upper deck.
- Preservation of tow path wall with **no promenade connections.**

## Alternative B



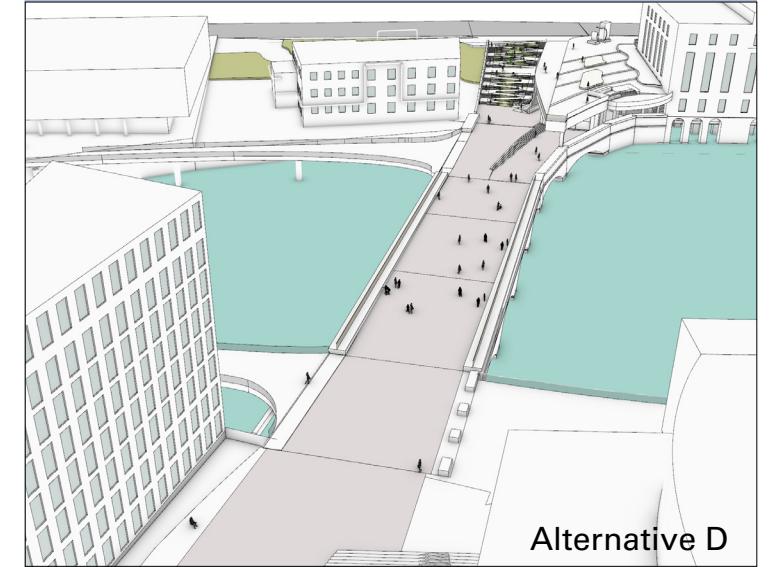
- Full preservation of the upper arches.
- Partial replacement of the upper deck.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate **promenade connections**

## Alternatives C1/C2



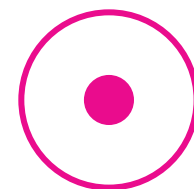
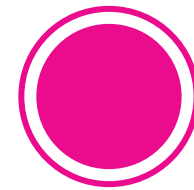
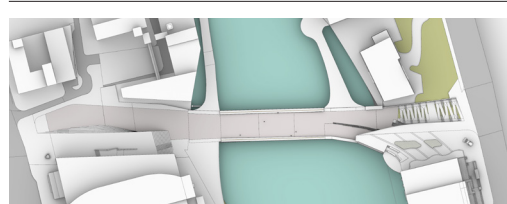
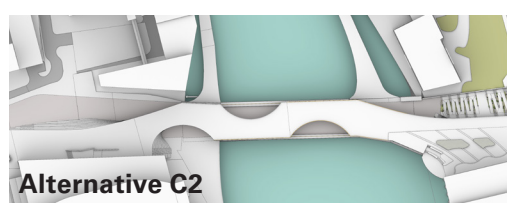
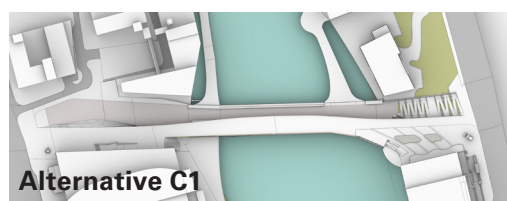
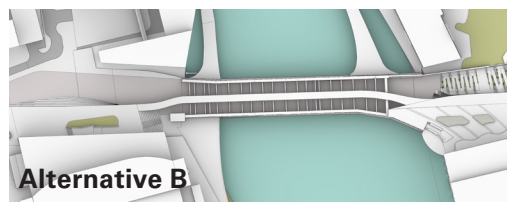
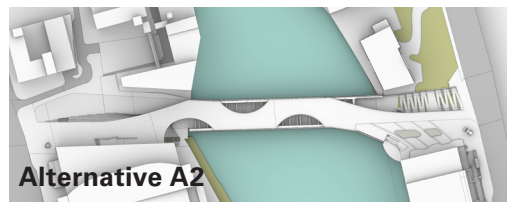
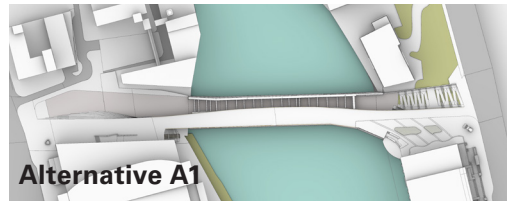
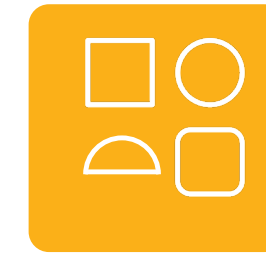
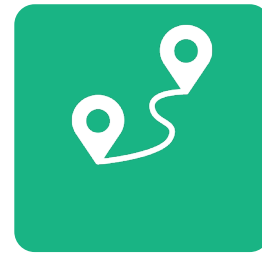
- Minimal removal of select upper arches and upper deck.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate **promenade connections**

## Alternative D

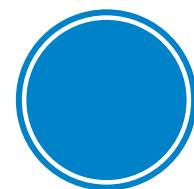
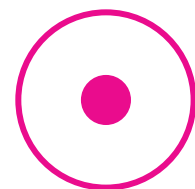
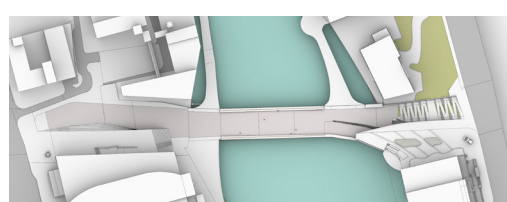
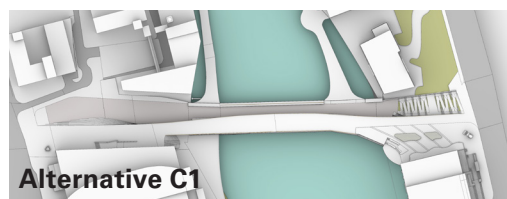
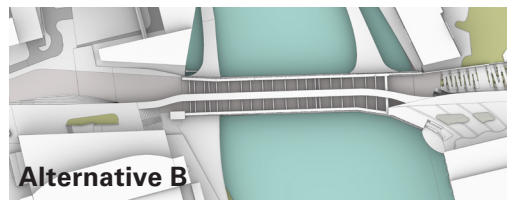
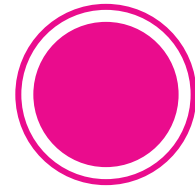
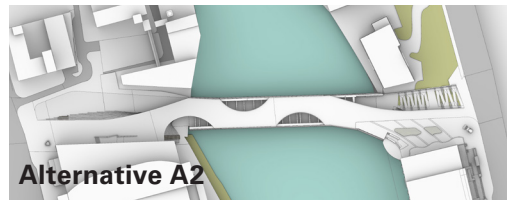
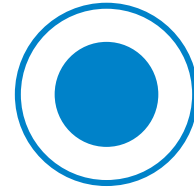
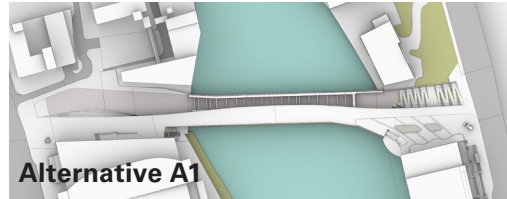
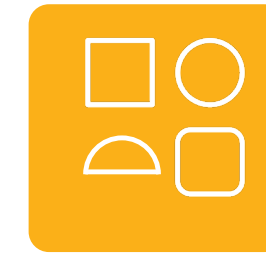
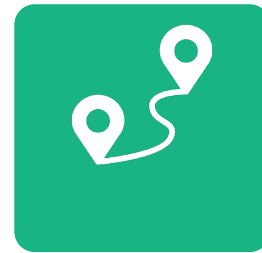


- Full removal of the upper deck and upper arches.
- Select tow path wall removal to facilitate **promenade connections**

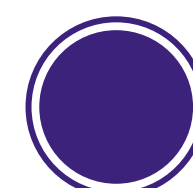
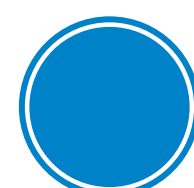
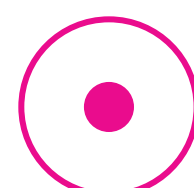
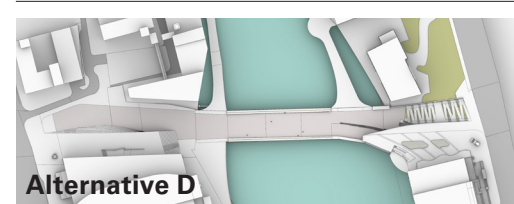
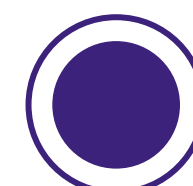
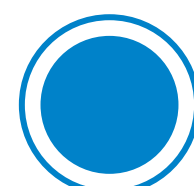
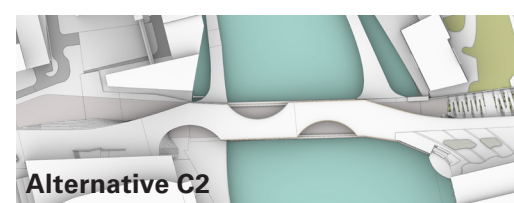
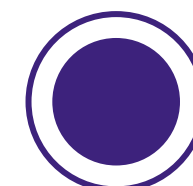
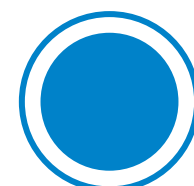
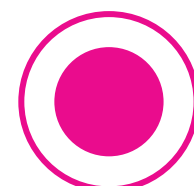
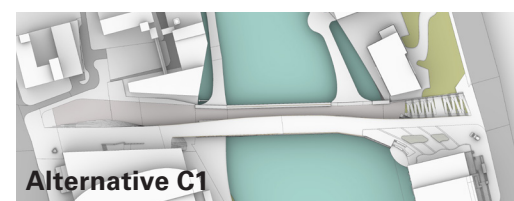
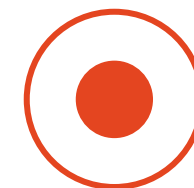
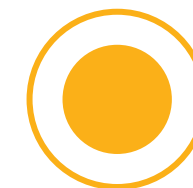
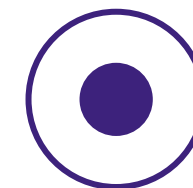
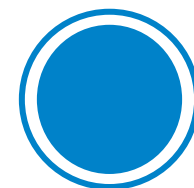
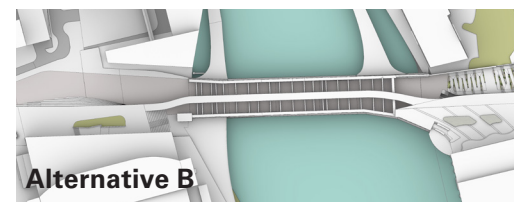
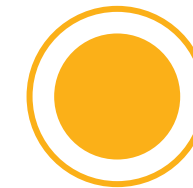
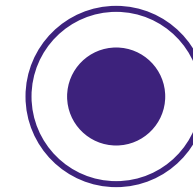
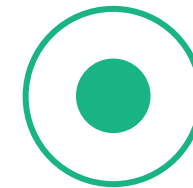
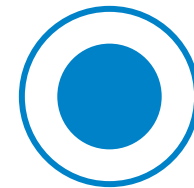
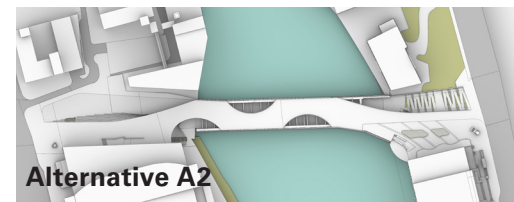
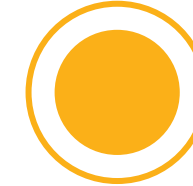
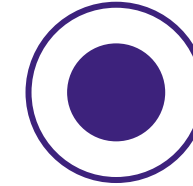
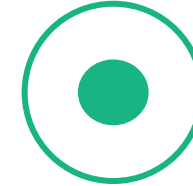
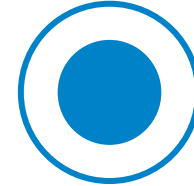
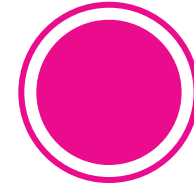
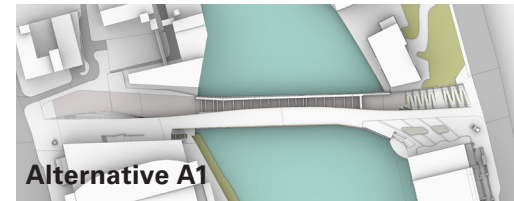
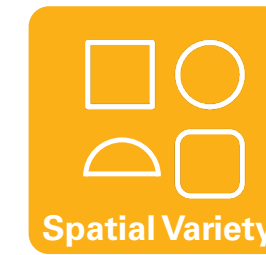
# Evaluation Matrix



# Evaluation Matrix



# Evaluation Matrix



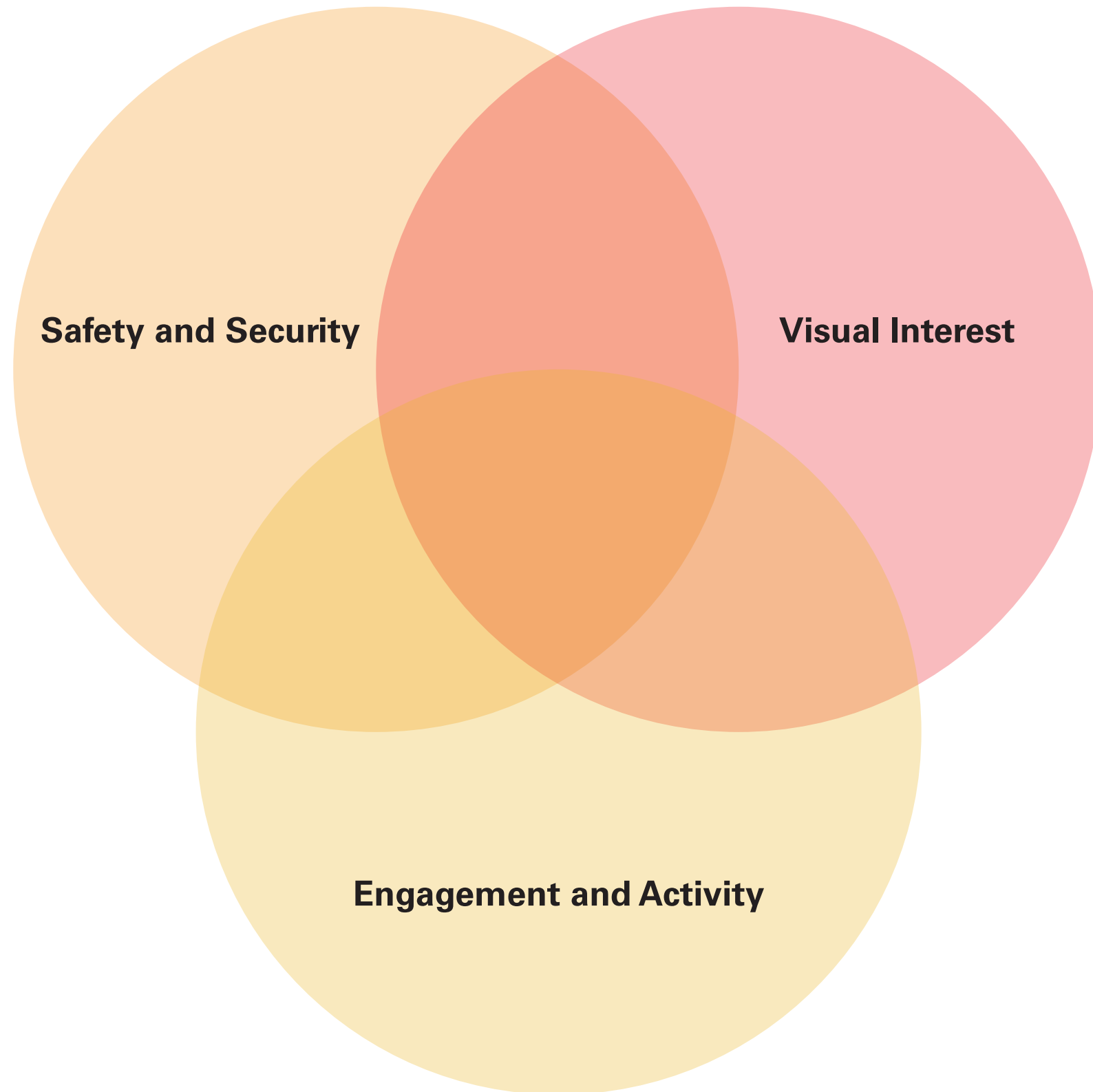
# Design Features

- Lighting
- Water Features

# Lighting Principles

Good lighting design accomplishes unifying three distinct principles, Safety and Security, Visual Interest, and Engagement and Activity.

For the Aqueduct, this means designing a space that functions as both a path and place. The lighting design must provide functional lights as well as engage the community and draw people to the space.





# Lighting Principles Security and Safety

Lighting for security is both functional and thoughtful. A safely lighted space is an active space.

For the Aqueduct, this means lighting a space where people are predictable and creating an environment that is active.

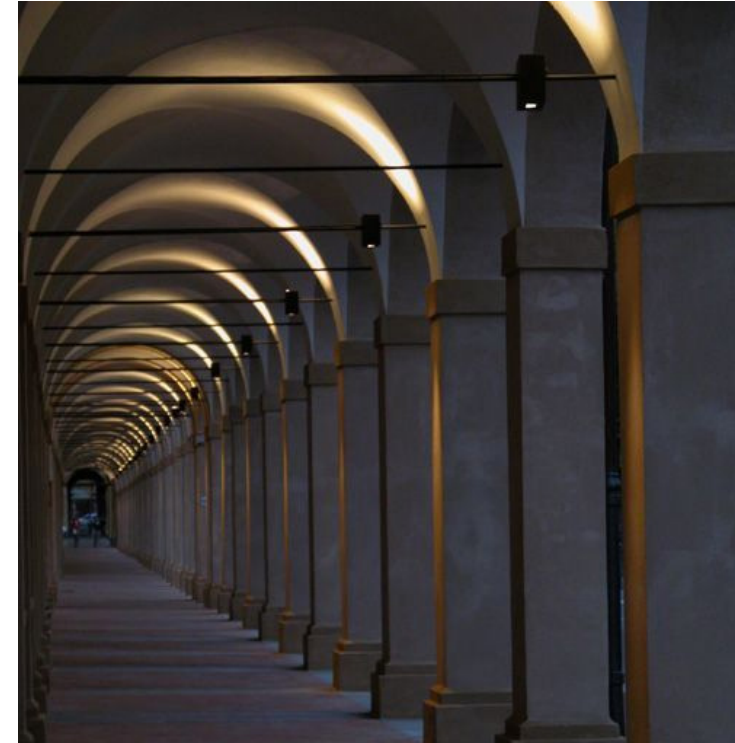


# Lighting Principles

## Visual Interest - Illuminate Surfaces

A user's perception of light in a space changes depending on what and how well a surface is illuminated. Without illuminating vertical surfaces, a space can feel darker and smaller than it really is

For the Aqueduct, this means lighting all surfaces in a meaningful way. This can be lighting walls, ceilings, trees, murals, or sculptures.

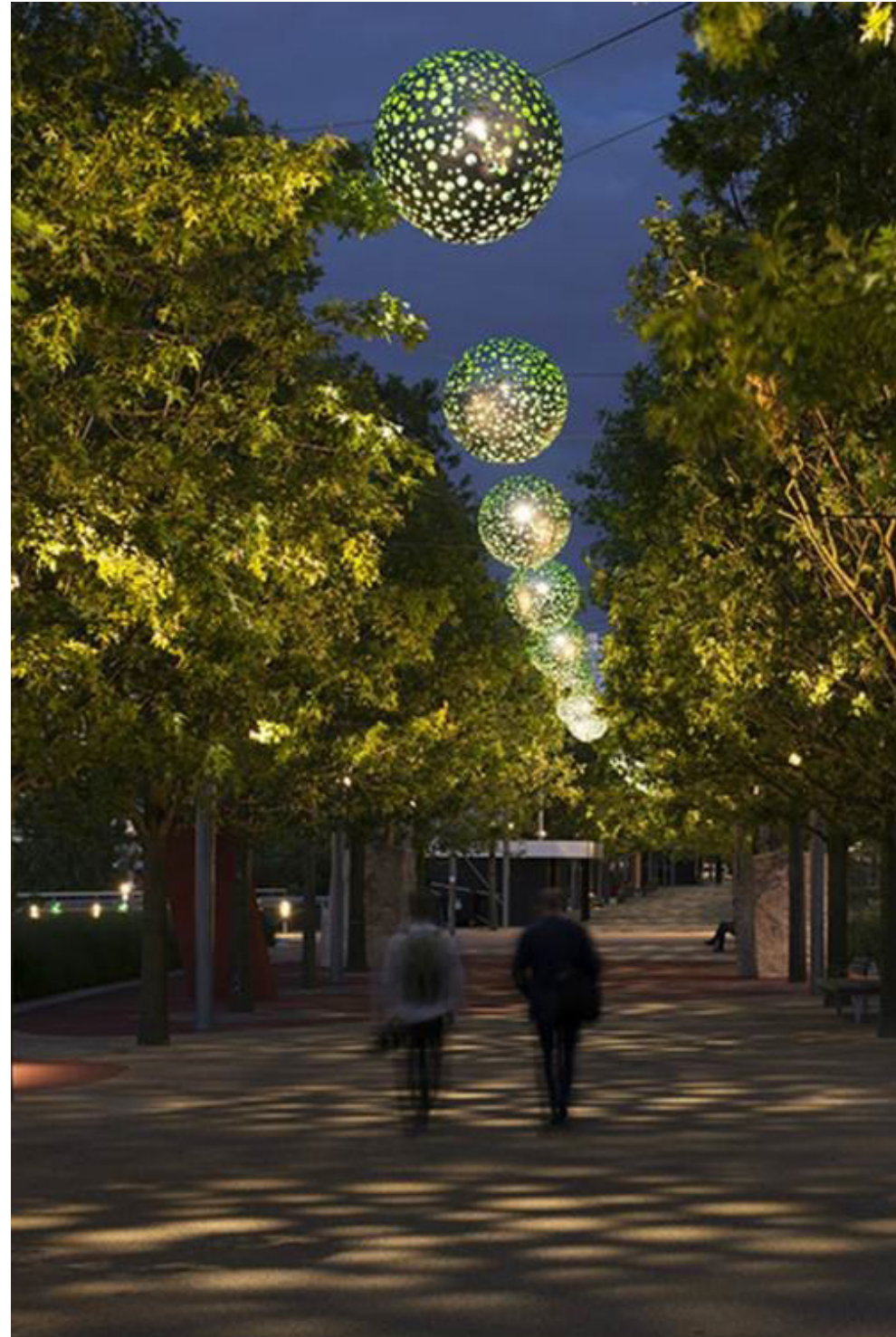


# Lighting Principles

## Visual Interest - Contrast

Contrast is the relationship of darkness and light. It is also the relationship of differing levels of light on different objects. Contrast allows for visual hierarchy.

For the Aqueduct, this means highlighting primary, secondary, or tertiary paths of travel. Creating visual hierarchy allows us to cater the lighting design to the individual needs of each space.



# Lighting Principles

## Engagement and Activity - Automatic

Automatic lighting does what it is told to do. It is predictable and functional, activating a space.

For the Aqueduct, this means activating light in a familiar manner. Highlighting known focal points and using colored light to denote seasons, events, holidays, etc. are two methods of achieving this goal.

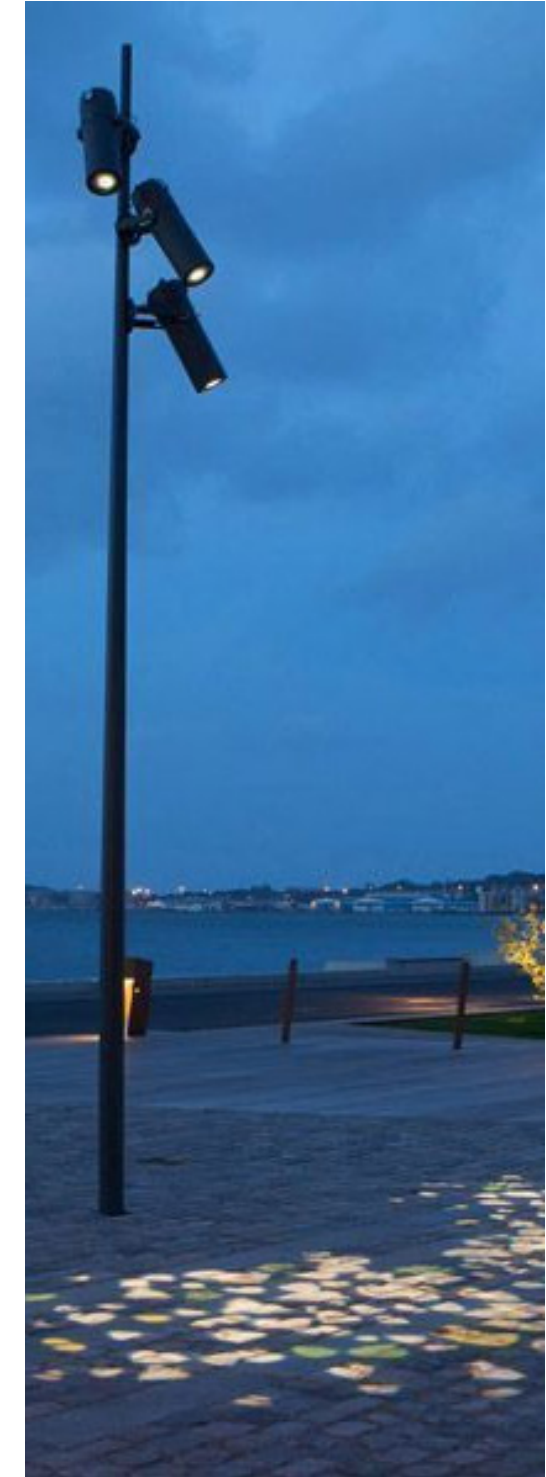


# Lighting Principles

## Engagement and Activity - Interactive

Interactive light, by contrast, can be unpredictable or visually stimulating and allows people to use the light to move and perform. In turn, it is more engaging and makes the space more personalized.

For the Aqueduct, this means providing interactive or interesting lighting installations that give the space an identity and dynamic function.



# Water Features Water Fountains and Play Surfaces



Feature fountain



Splash fountain



Water play surfaces



Shallow water surface

# Water Features

## Mist, Water Channels and Pools



Mist area

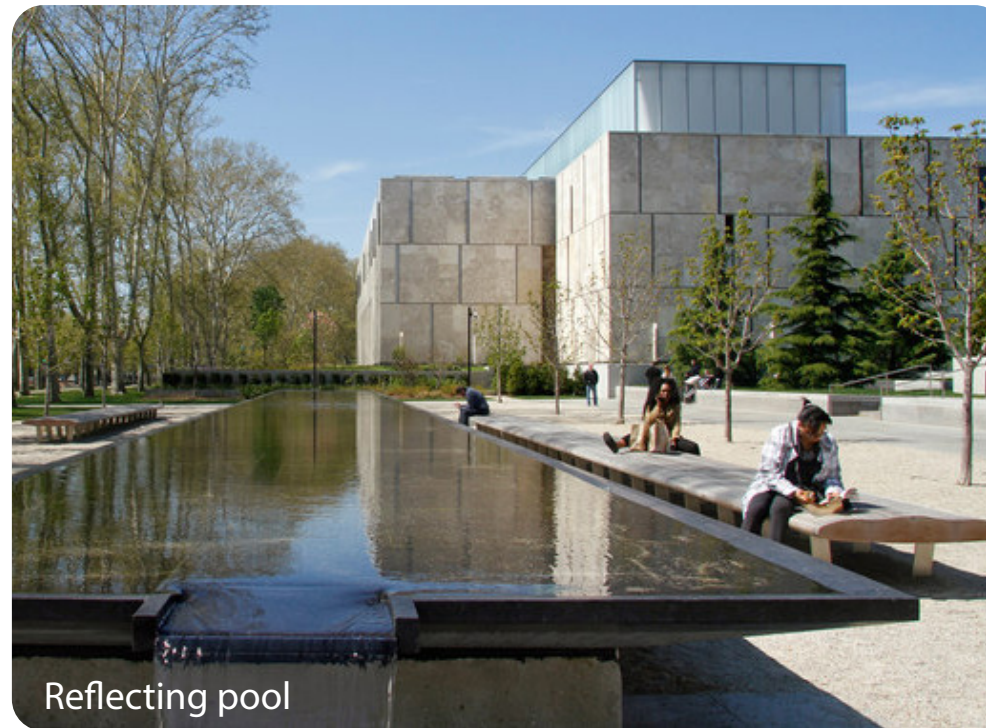


Mist channels



Water channel

Turin ©2011 Orner + Orner | Leatz + Partner



Reflecting pool



Decorative pool

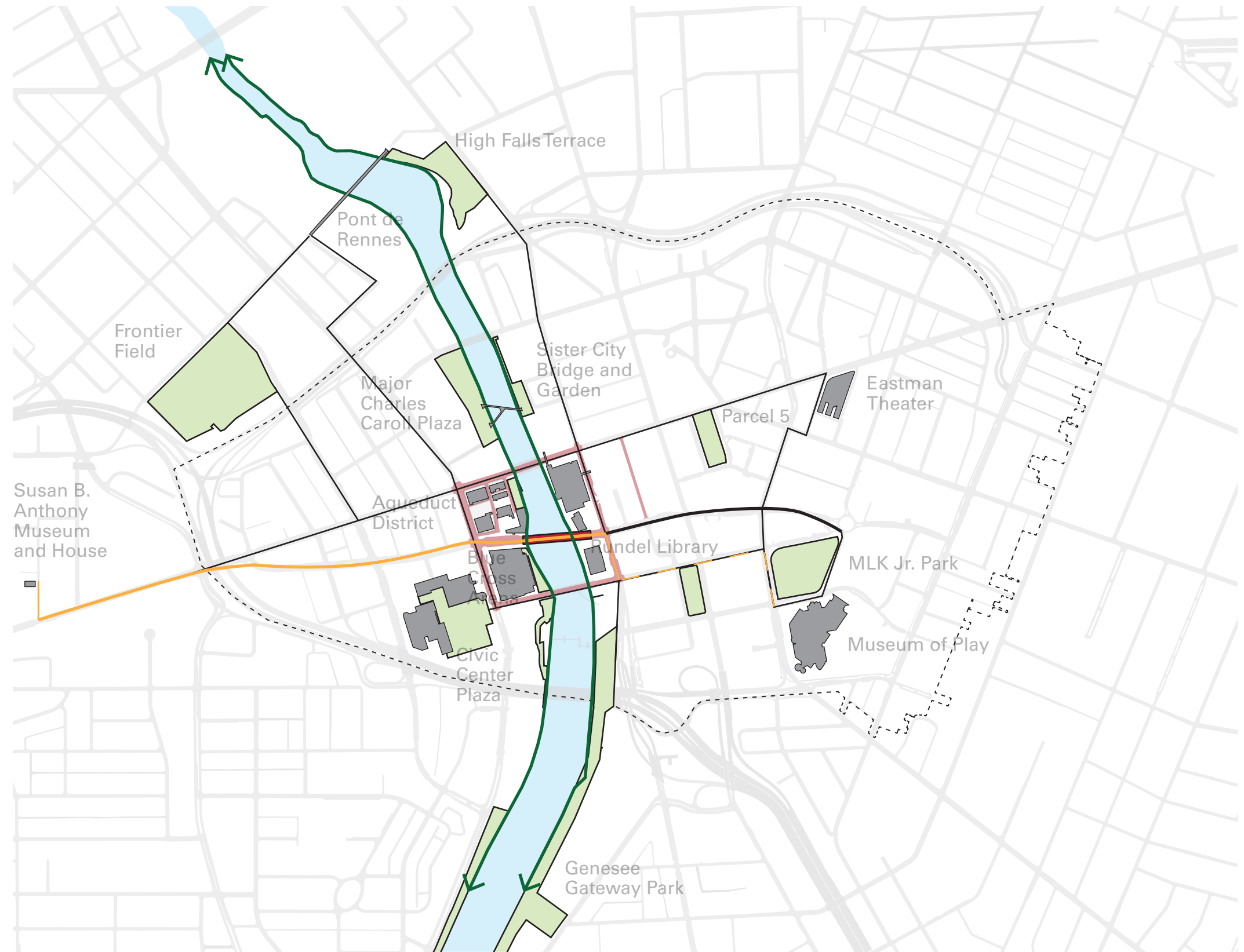
# Activities & Programming

- Existing Public Realm Analysis
- Activities & Programming Opportunities



# Connecting the Existing Public Realm

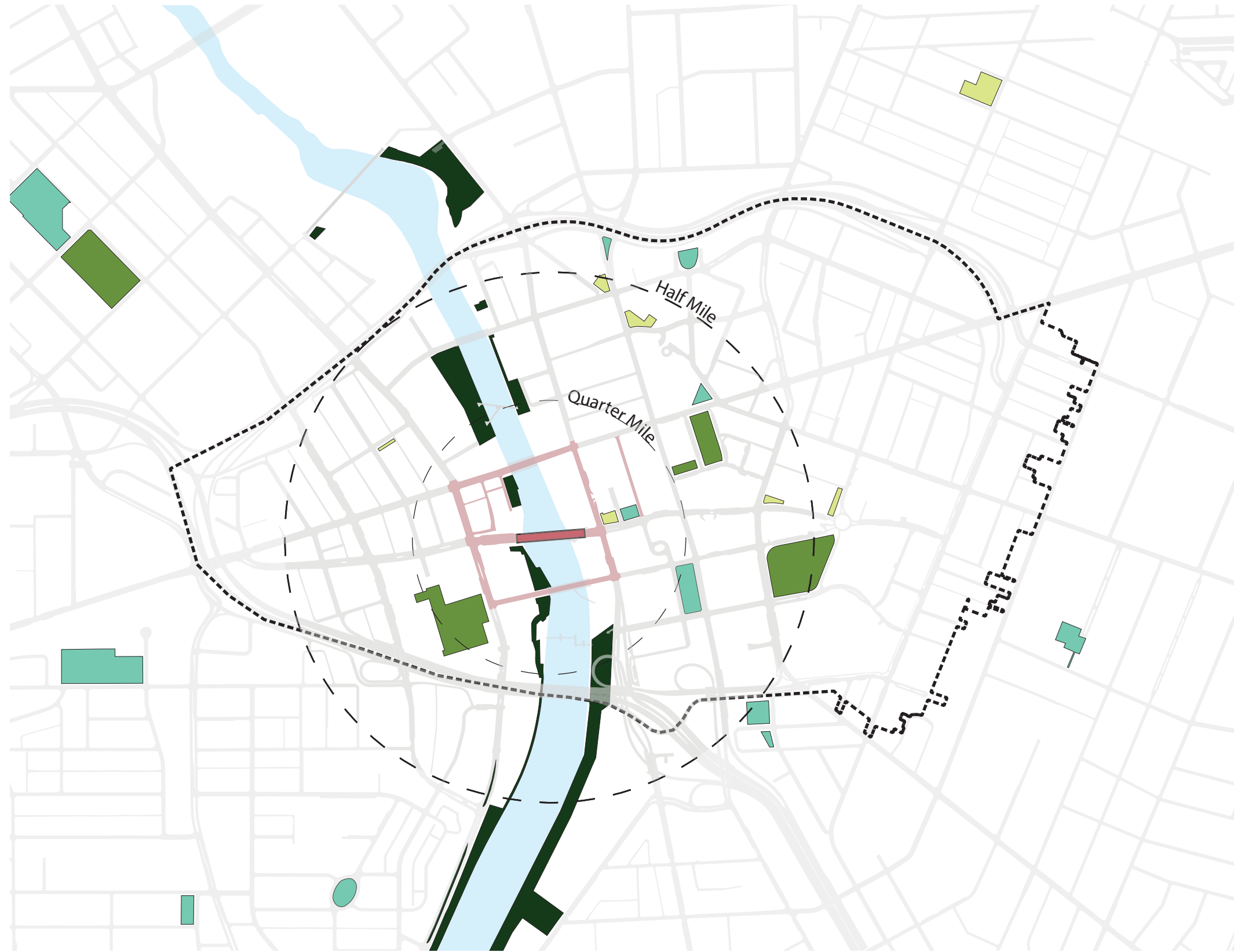
Aqueduct Reimagined connects the Inner Loop public realm system on both sides of the Genesee



- Aqueduct District
- Aqueduct
- Existing Public Space
- Genesee Riverway Trail
- Heritage Trail

# Varied Existing Public Realm Spaces

Inner Loop residents  
and visitors already  
have access to more  
than 20 existing parks  
and green spaces



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

# Existing Capacity to Support Activity

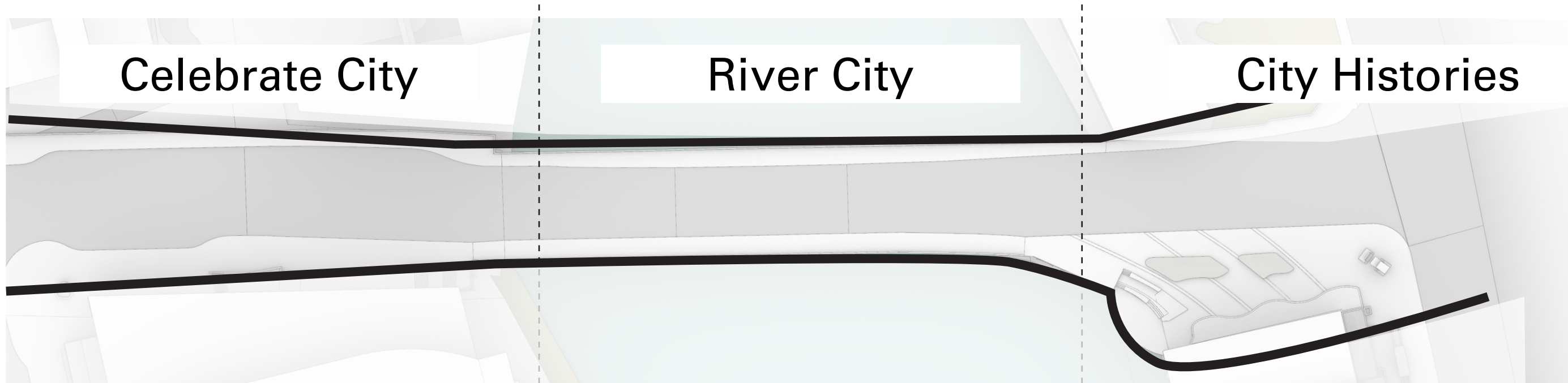
Existing public realm spaces near the Inner Loop have varied capacity to support these activities.

This suggests that the Aqueduct Reimagined should especially support activities that are less common in other spaces nearby: Playing, Moving, Exhibiting, Observing, and large Gatherings.



# Aqueduct Public Space Zones

## Design Zone Concepts



Celebrate City

River City

City Histories

### Plaza and Gather

*Celebrating Entertainment at "Aqueduct Square"*



### Porch and Observe

*Reveal, Stay, Observe, Play and "Embrace the River"*



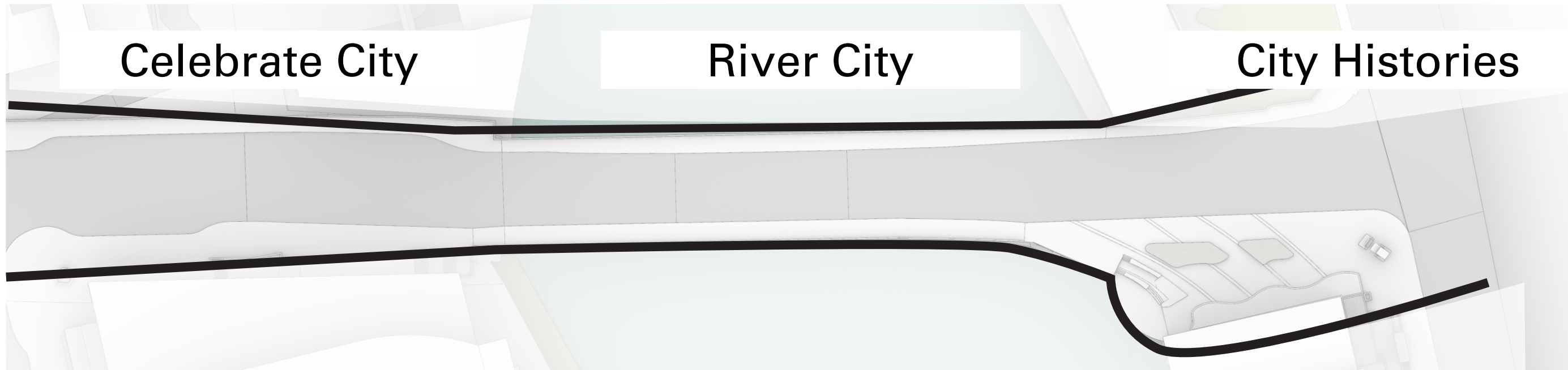
### Path and Learn

*Explore, Learn, Observe, Gather at "City History Plaza"*



# Aqueduct Public Space Zones

## Reveal and Celebrate



Genesee River



Indigenous Peoples



Erie Canal / Raceways / Mill Industry



Heritage Trail / Black History / Women's Suffrage History



Rochester Industrial & Rapid Transit Railway



Genesee River Trail



World War II War Memorial



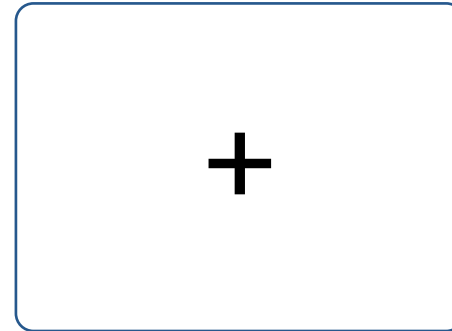
Graffiti



Adjacent Cultural Assets



Many others!



# Defining Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

The project should intentionally attract a mix of people with different cultural norms.

Space, amenities and programming should especially benefit populations with greater needs or those who might not typically use this type of public space.

People should feel comfortable, welcome, and accepted in the space regardless of age, gender, race, ability, sexuality, income level, and a host of other factors.

## **DIVERSITY**

An intentional state of mixed people, institutions, and cultural norms

## **EQUITY**

The distribution of material and non-materials goods in a manner that brings the greatest benefit required to any particular community

## **INCLUSION**

The acceptance of difference and the intention to involve diverse opinions, attitudes, and behaviors

## **BELONGING**

To feel accepted and comfortable in a setting despite age, gender, race, sexuality, or income

- The Just City Index

# Designing for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging



**Seniors**



**People with Disabilities**



**Displaced People & People Experiencing Homelessness**



**Families**



**Women**



**Children and Youth**



**African Americans and other minority residents**



**LGBTQ+ People**



**Low Income People**



**Students**



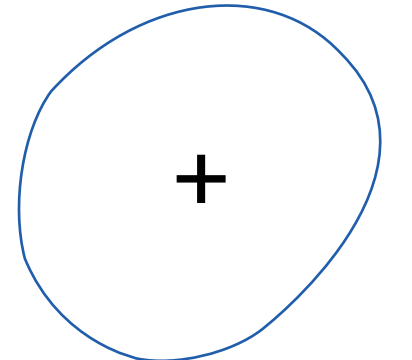
**Artists**



**Faith Communities**



**Downtown Workers**



**Others!**

# Designing for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

## Design Features



## Activities



## Programming





# An Everyday Public Space

Based on Initial Community Feedback



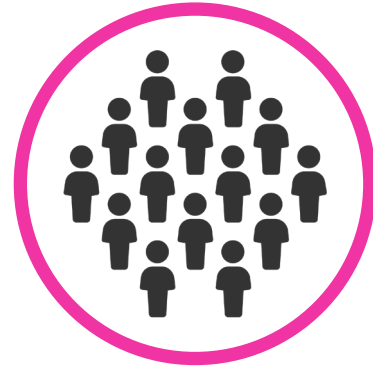
Move



Bike



Skate



Gather



Sit



Eat



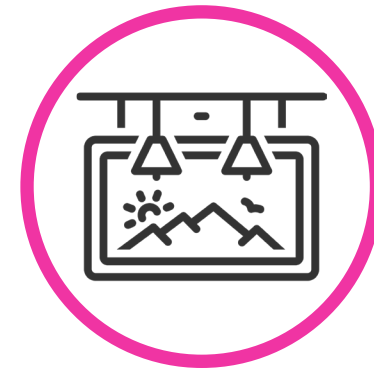
Observe



Play



Play / Listen

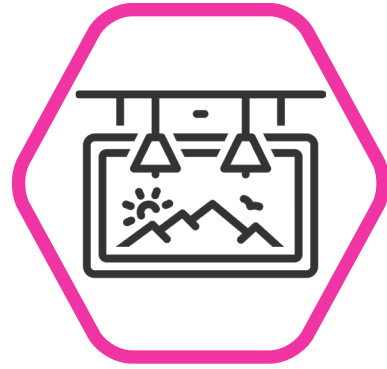


Create /  
Appreciate



Learn

# A Special Event Destination Space Based on Initial Community Feedback



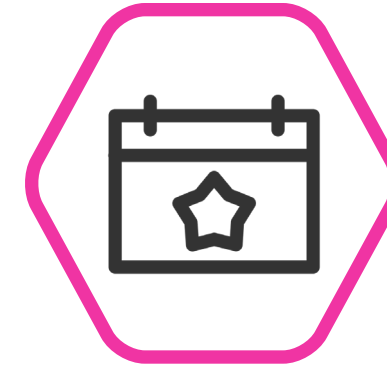
Create /  
Appreciate



Learn



Celebrate



Attend



Exercise



Pop Up / Shop

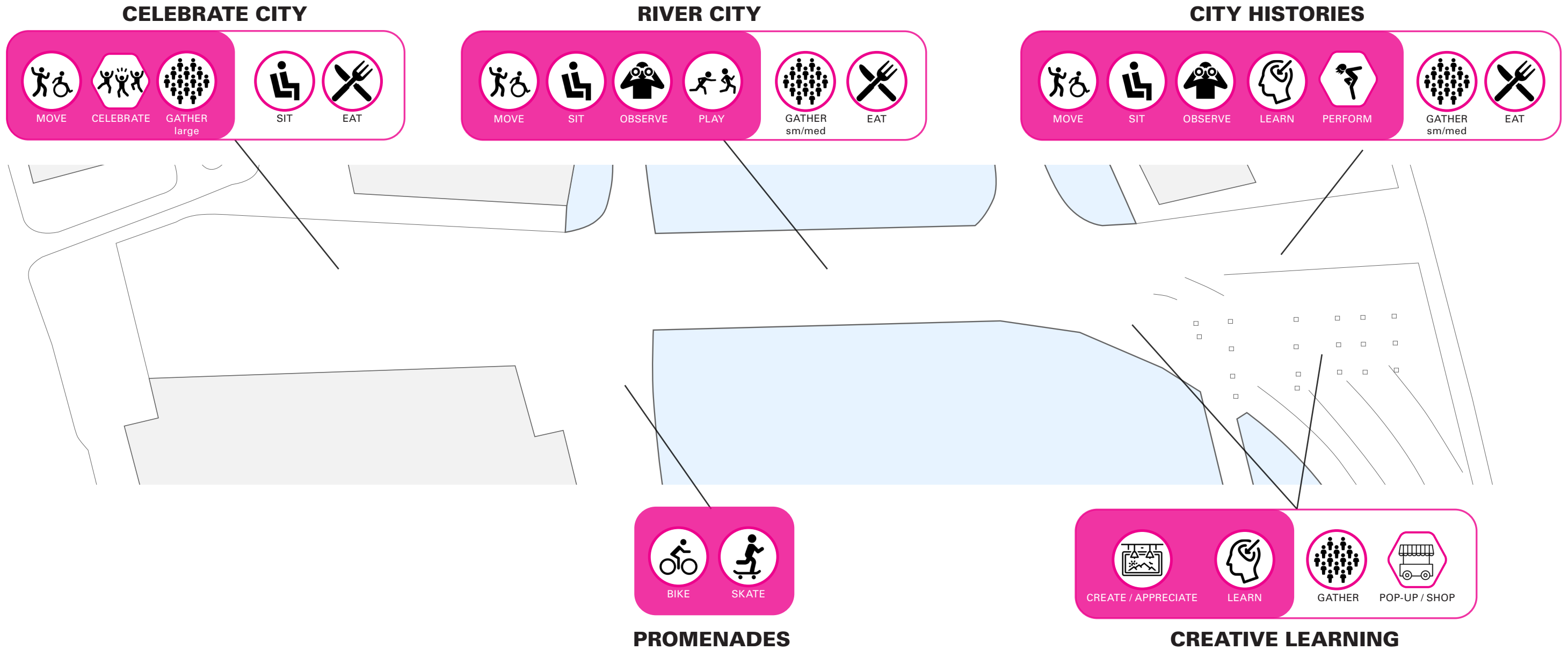


Perform



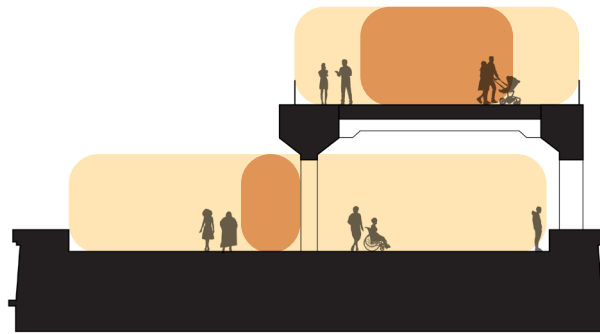
Skate

# Programming Opportunities All Alternatives

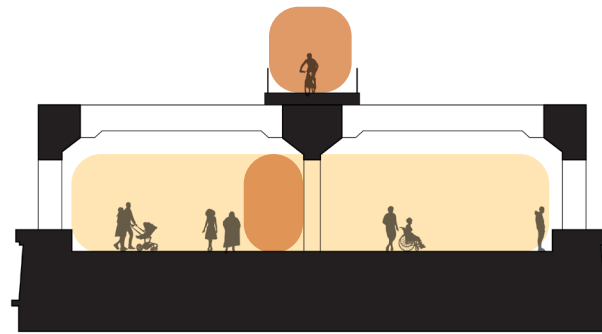


# Connectivity One v. Two Level Alternatives

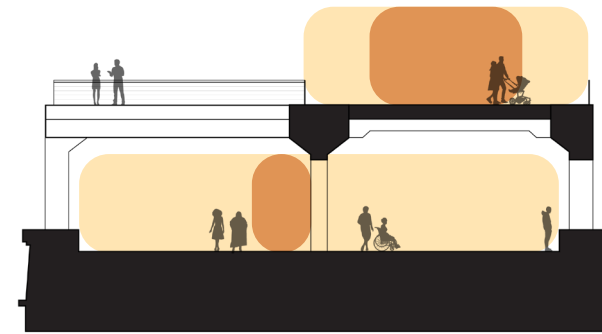
**Alternatives A1 and C1**  
Two Levels



**Alternative B**  
Two Levels



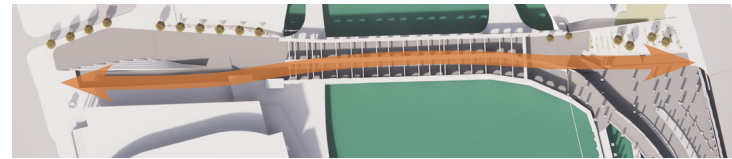
**Alternatives A2 and C2**  
Two Levels



**Alternative D**  
One Level



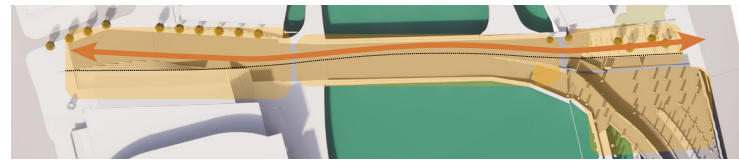
Upper Level



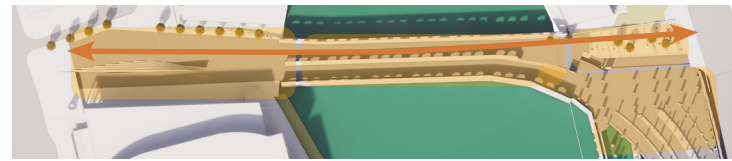
Upper Level



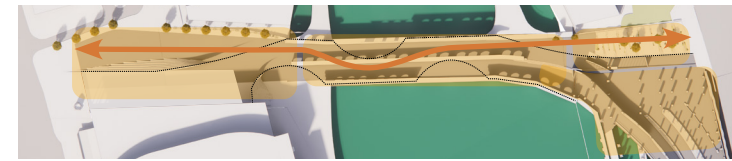
Upper Level



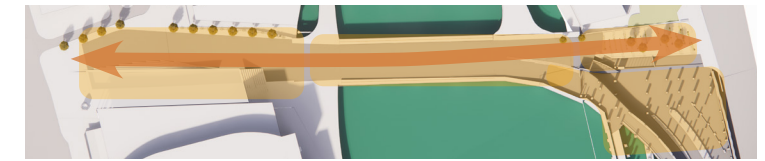
Lower Level



Lower Level



Lower Level



Lower Level

Two levels allows the upper level to be primarily for multimodal connectivity, including continuous bicycle travel.

This frees up more space for activities and programming at both levels.

One level requires multimodal connectivity be at the same level as programming. Bicycles would need to dismount for safety.

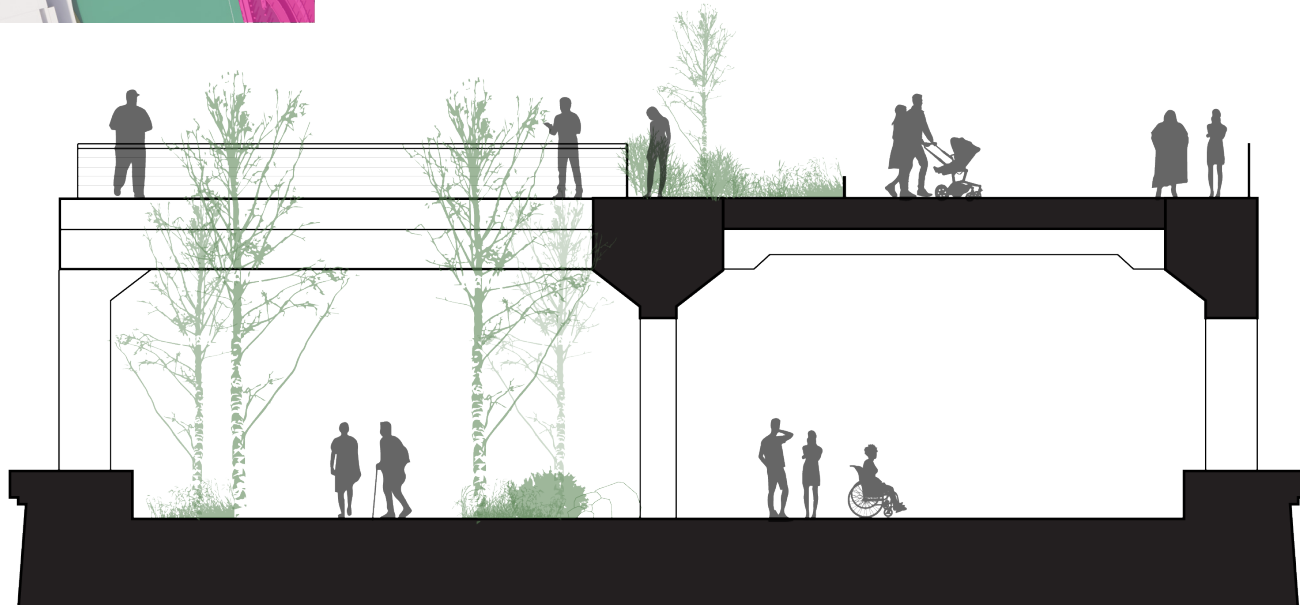
This also reduces space for activities and programming.

Connectivity Programming

Activities and Programming



# Move Everyday Activities



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Covered space at the Bentway, Toronto



Uncovered space at the High Line, NY

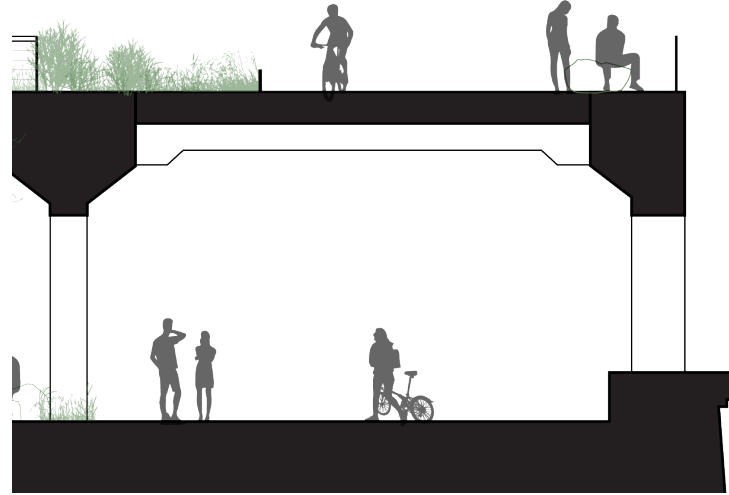


Uncovered space in Texas

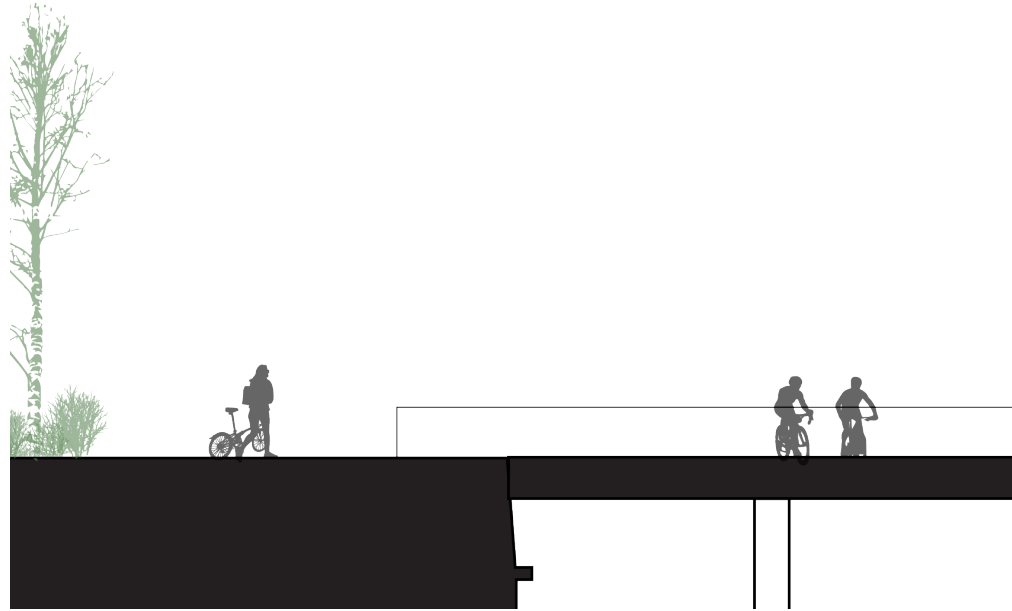
# Activities and Programming



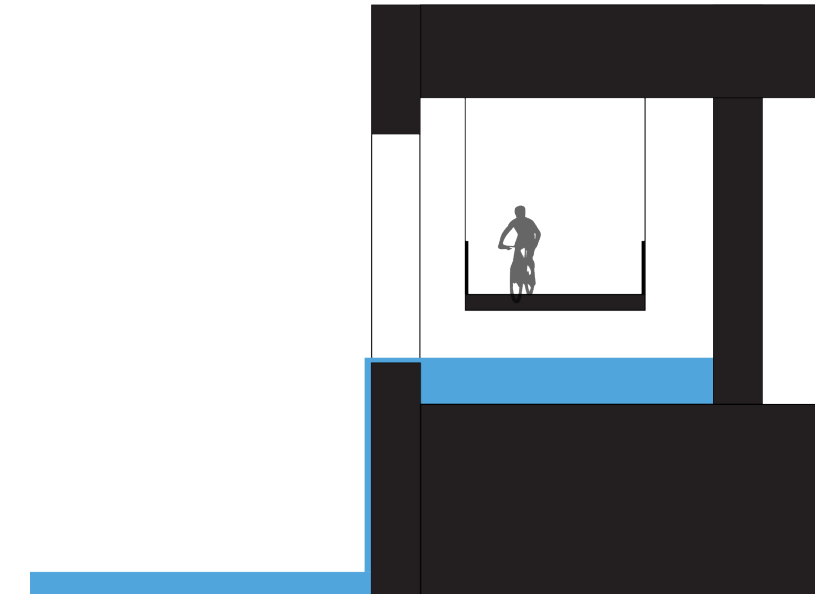
# Bike Everyday Activities



**On the Bridge**



**On the Promenades**



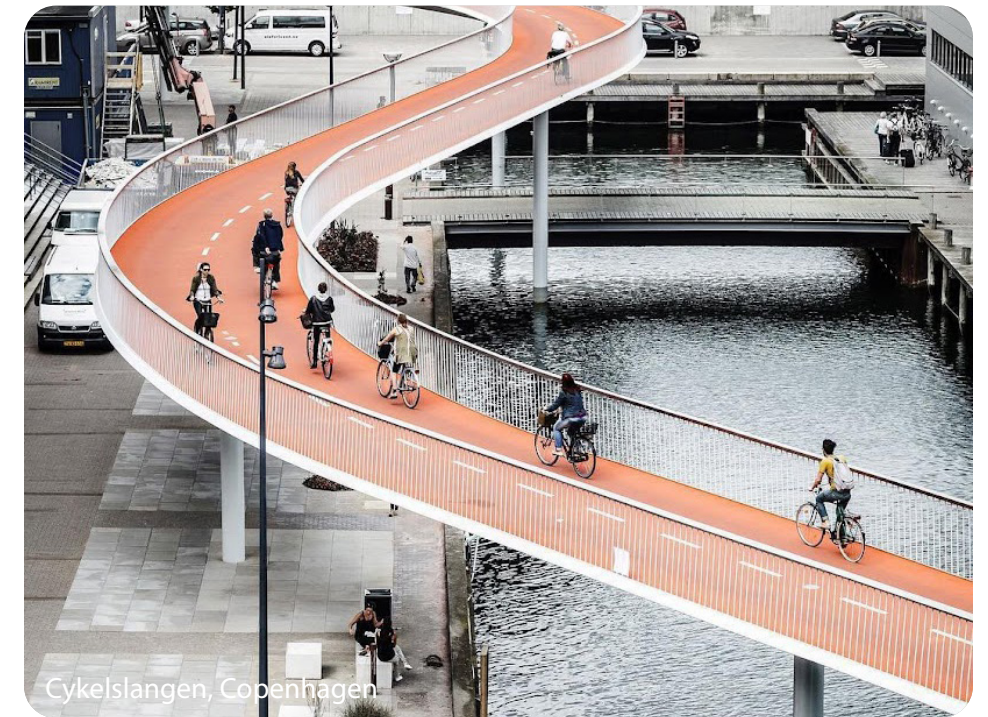
**Under Rundel Memorial Library**



The 606, Chicago



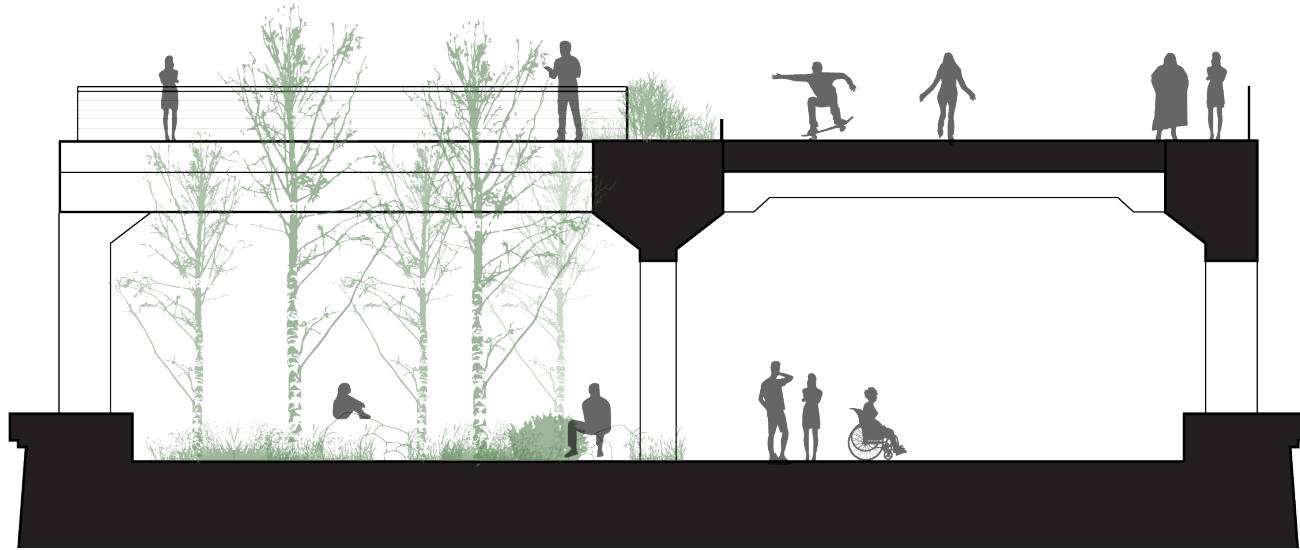
Genesee Riverway Promenade, Rochester



Cykelslangen, Copenhagen

Activities and Programming

# Skate Everyday Activities



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Skateboarding at ROC City Skate Park, Rochester



Roller skating

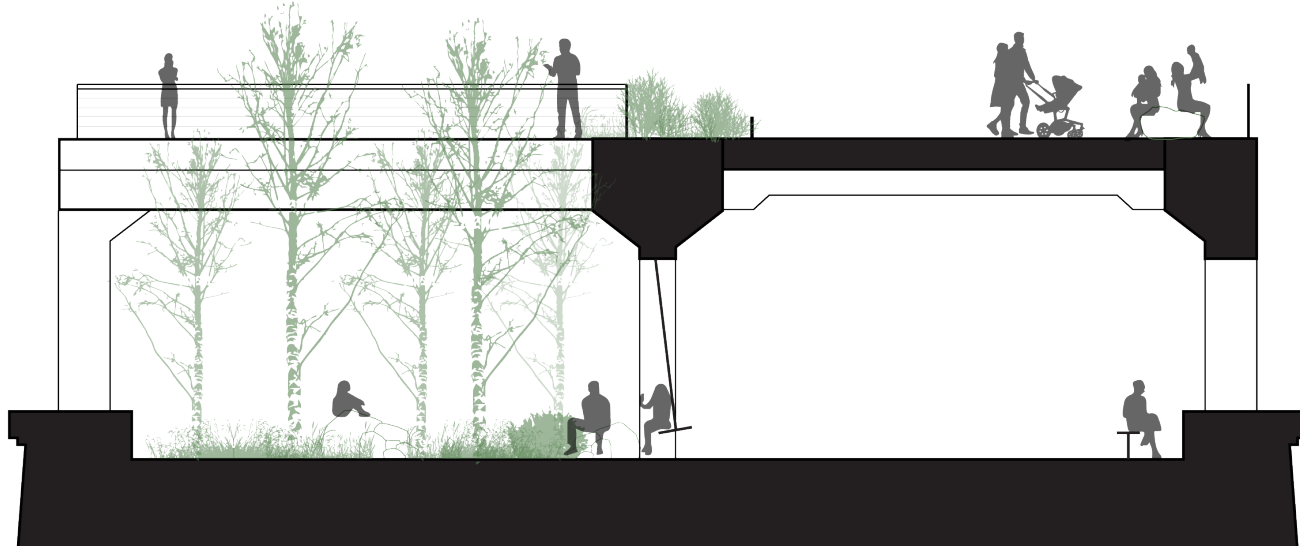


Roller skating on the Aqueduct

Activities and Programming



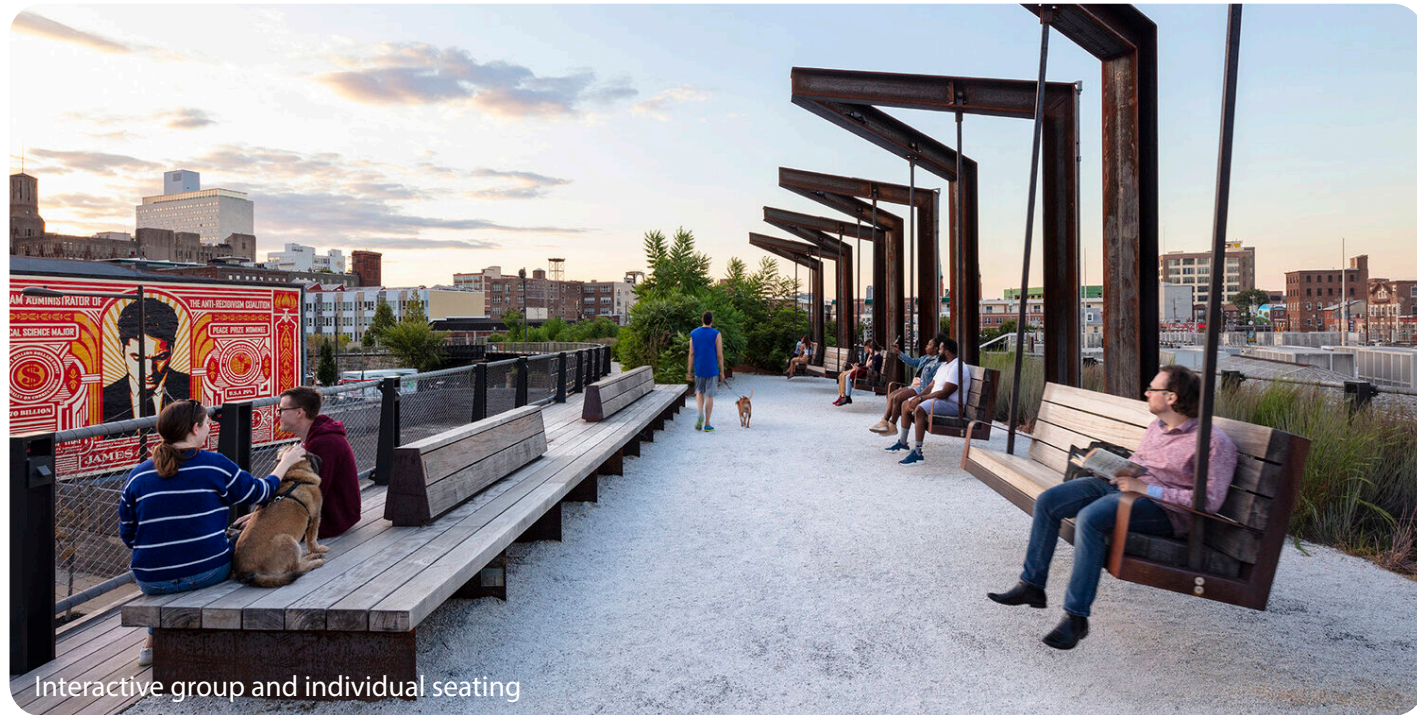
# Sit Everyday Activities



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Interactive group and individual seating



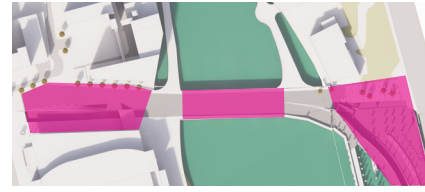
Family-friendly & accessible play steps



Family-friendly benches



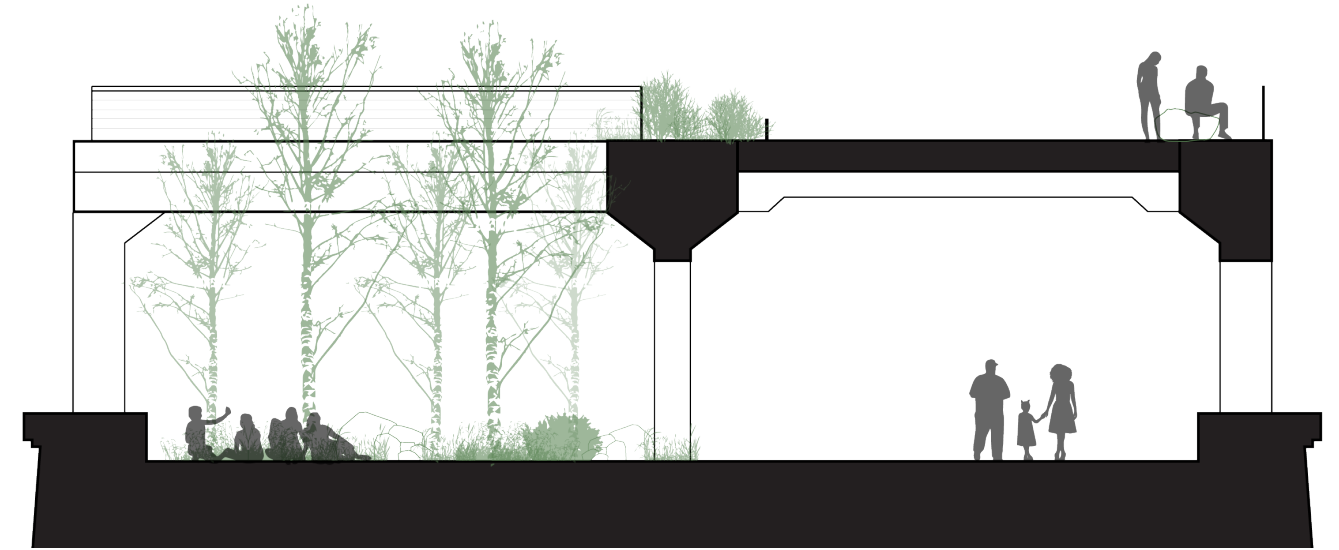
# Activities and Programming



# Gather Everyday Activities



Western Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)



Alternatives A, B & C



Small groups

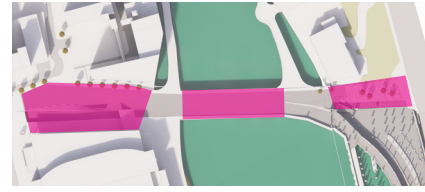


Medium groups

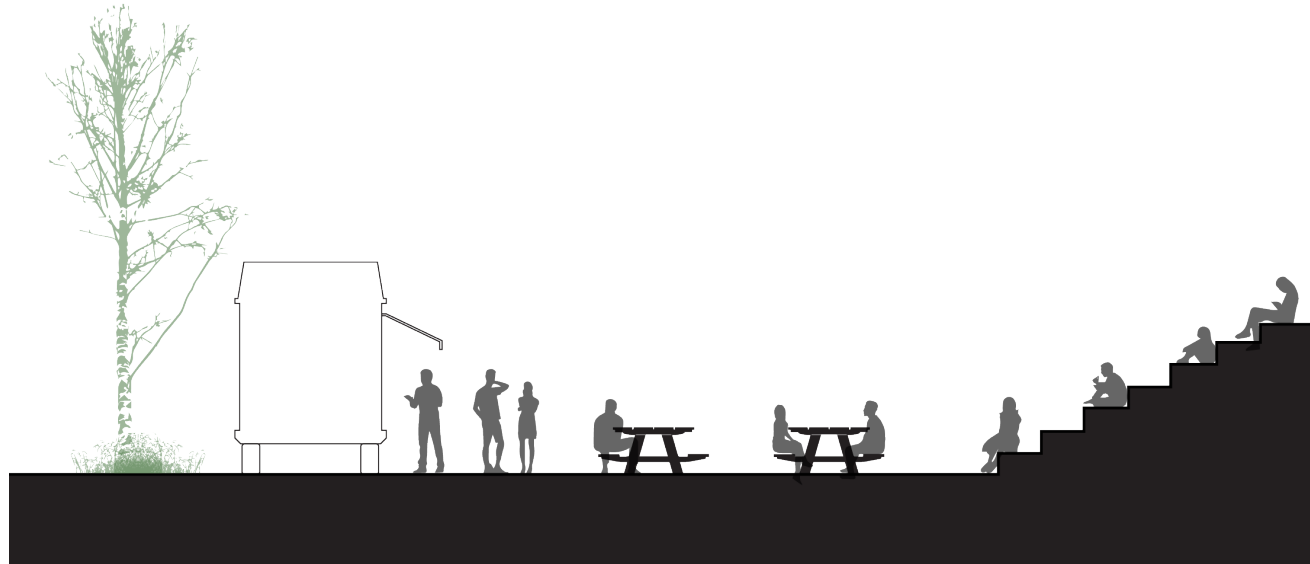


Large groups

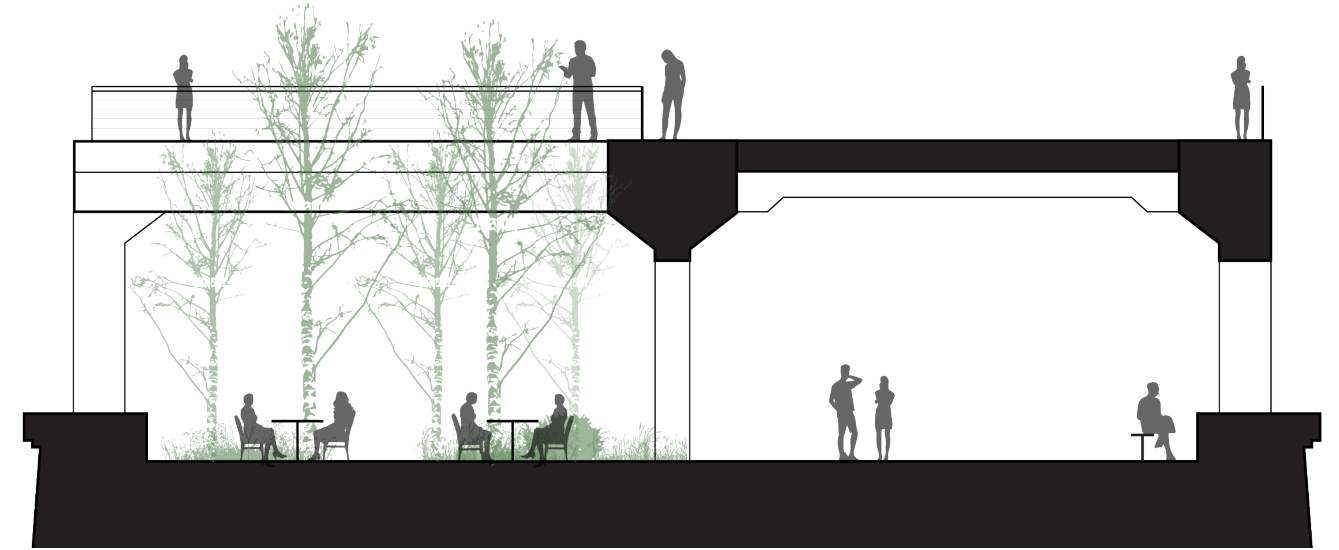
Activities and Programming



# Eat Everyday Activities



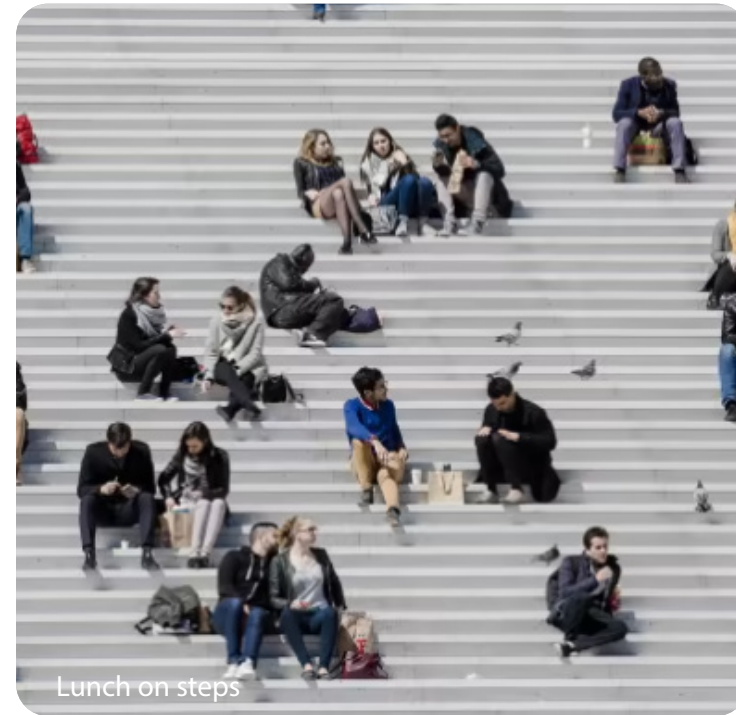
Western Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)



Alternatives A, B & C



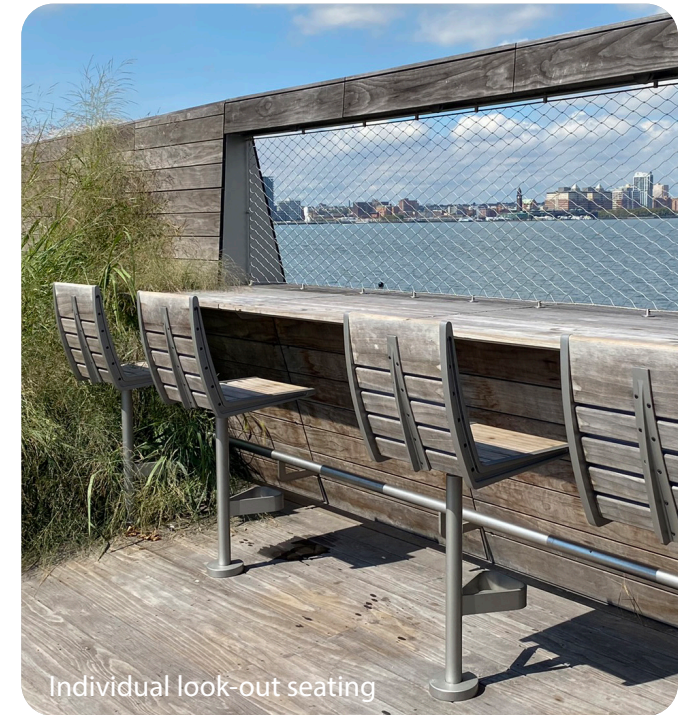
Food trucks and picnic tables



Lunch on steps

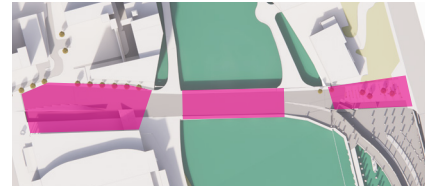


Small group seating

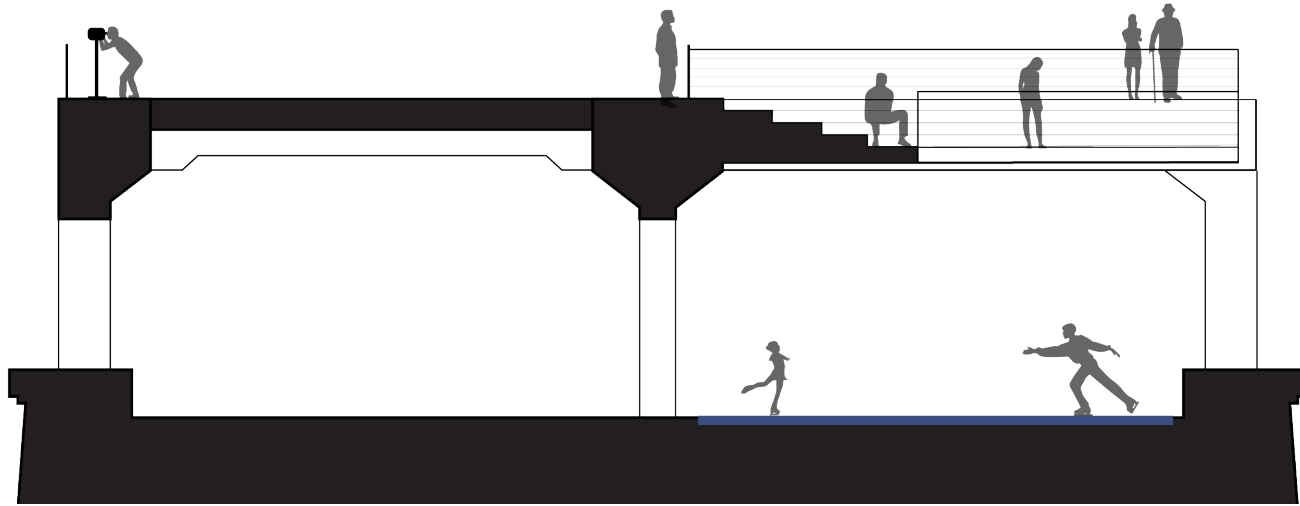


Individual look-out seating

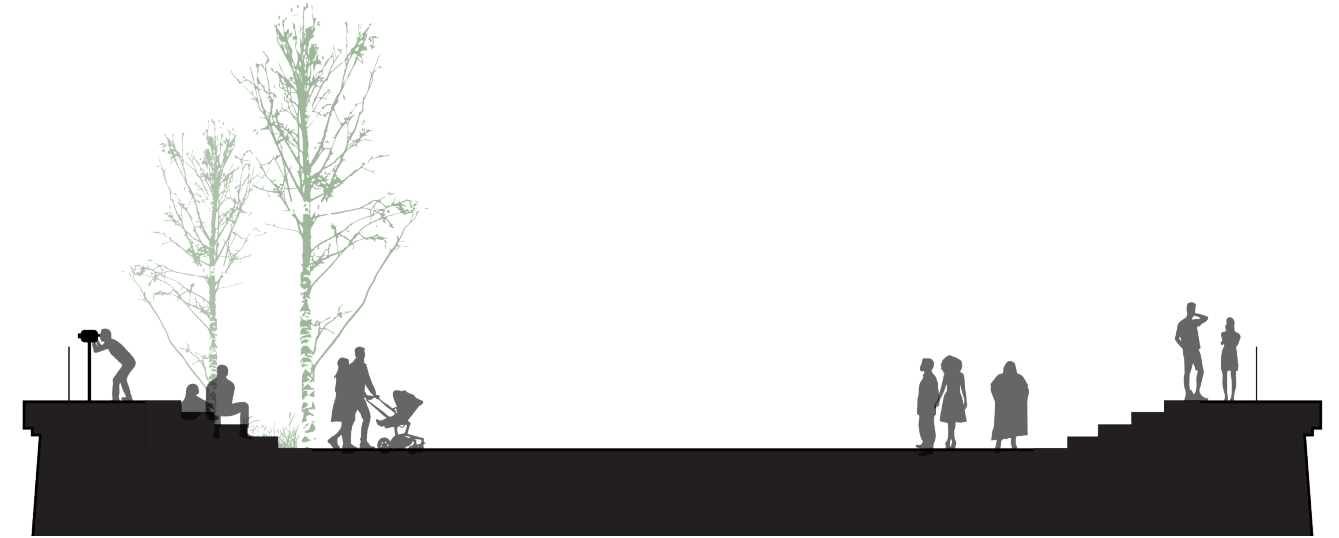
Activities and Programming



# Observe Everyday Activities



Alternatives A,B & C



Alternative D



The High Line, NY

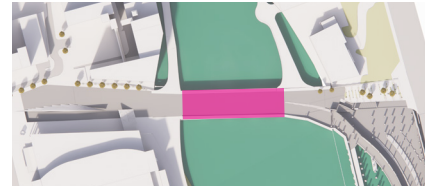


Destination Crenshaw, LA



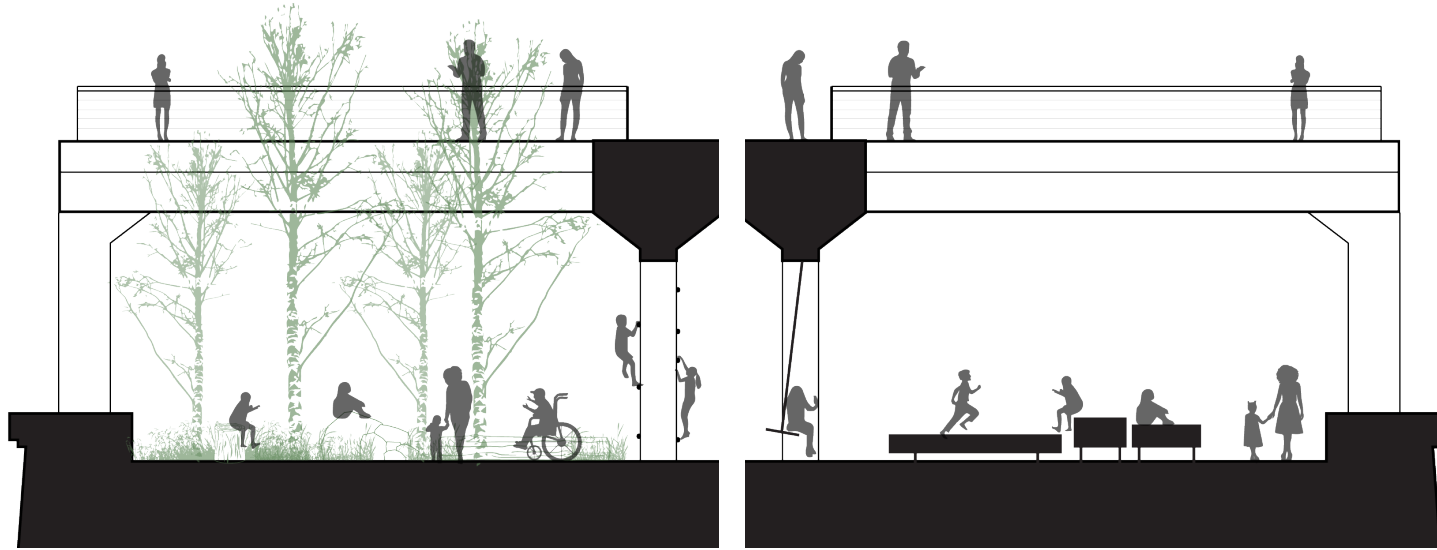
The High Line, NY

Activities and Programming

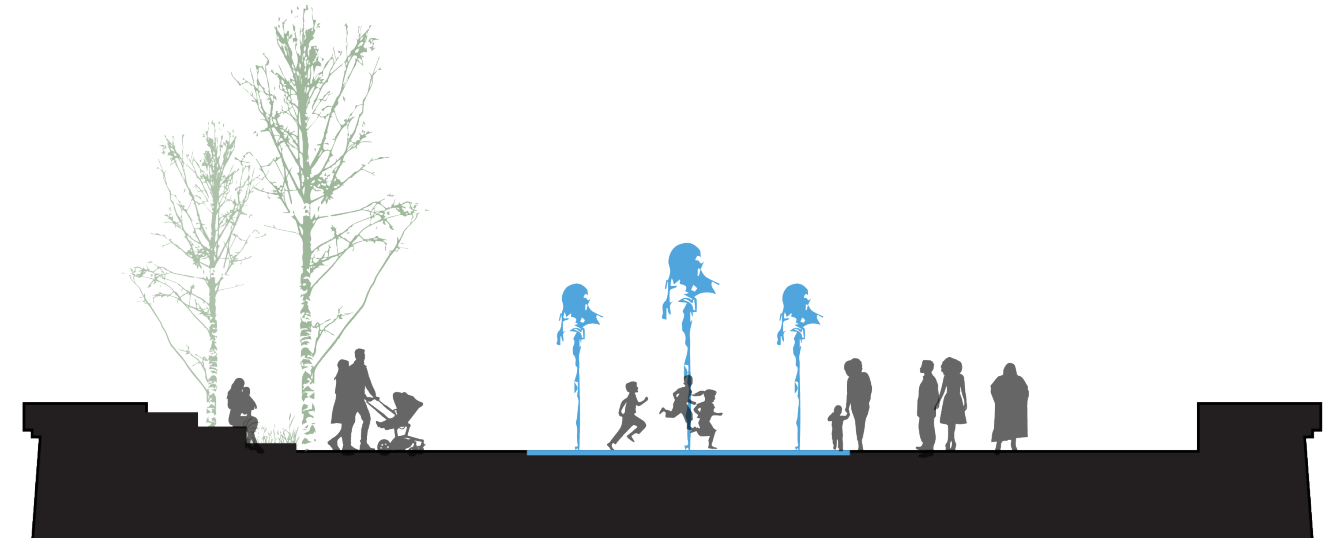


# Play

## Everyday Activities



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Nature Play



Jing Zhang Railway Heritage Park, Beijing

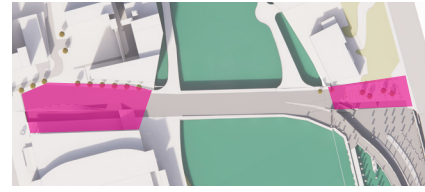


Splash Fountain at Domino Park, NY



Mist at Domino Park, NY

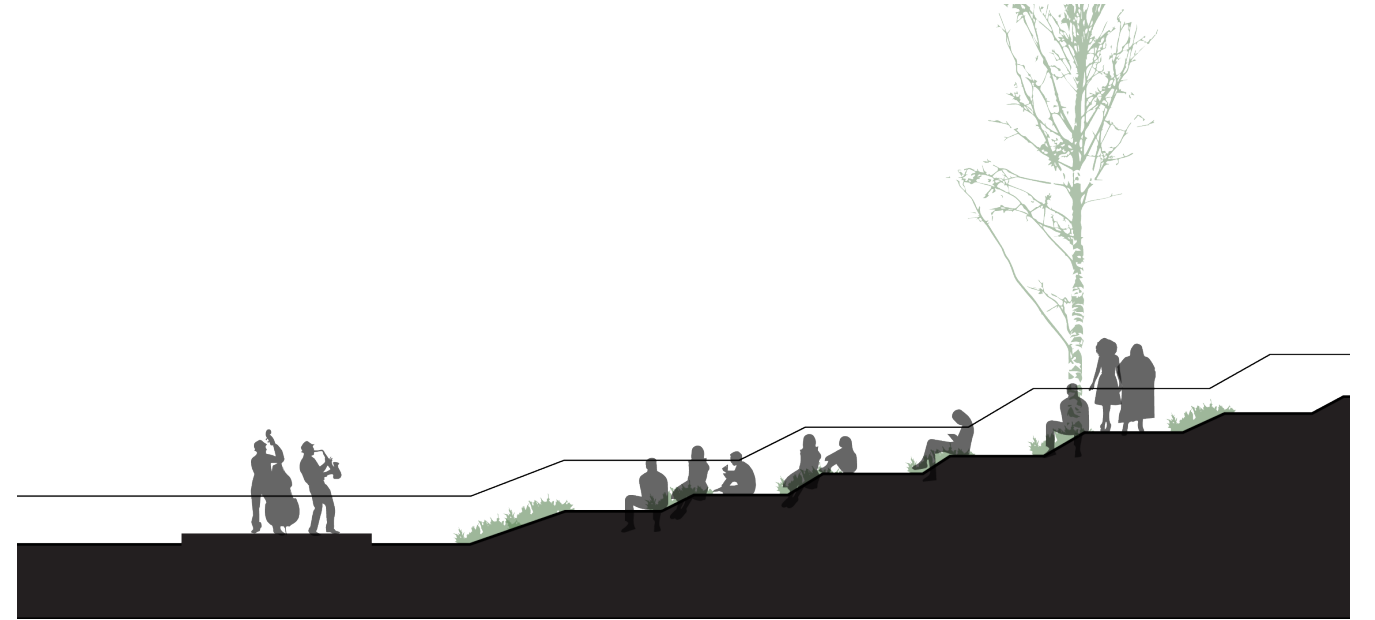
# Activities and Programming



# Play / Listen Everyday Activities



Western Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)



Eastern Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)



Informal music performances



Eastman School of Music student performances

# A Special Event Destination Space Based on Initial Community Feedback



Create /  
Appreciate



Learn



Celebrate



Attend



Exercise



Pop Up / Shop

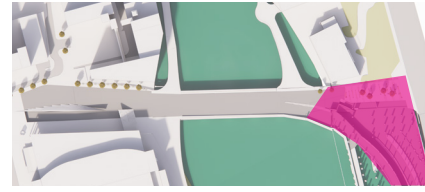


Perform



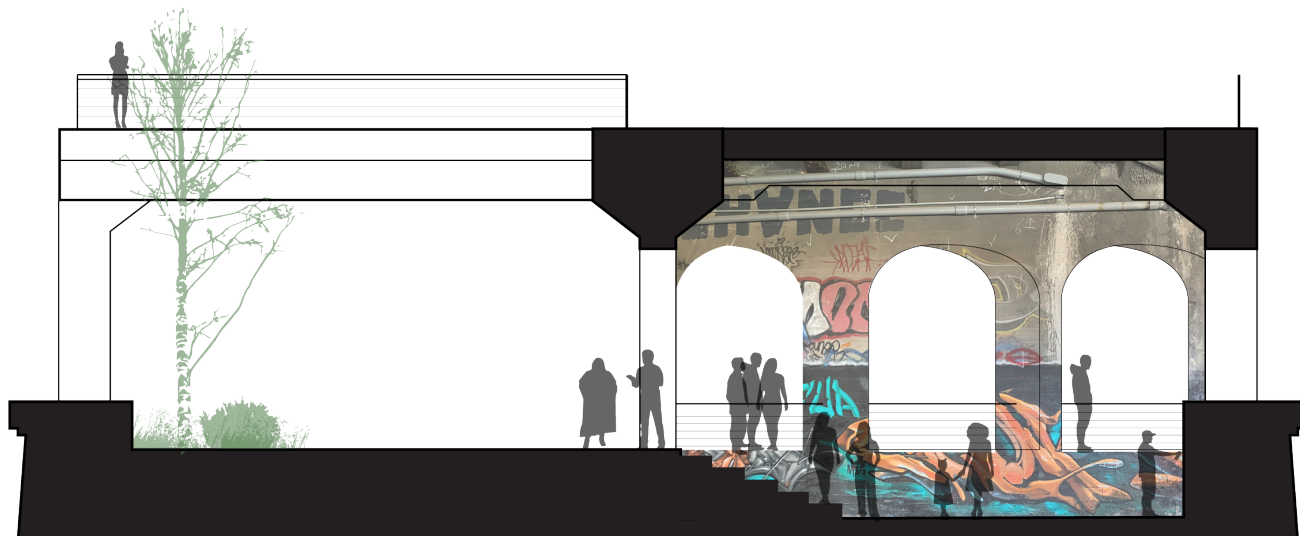
Skate

Activities and Programming

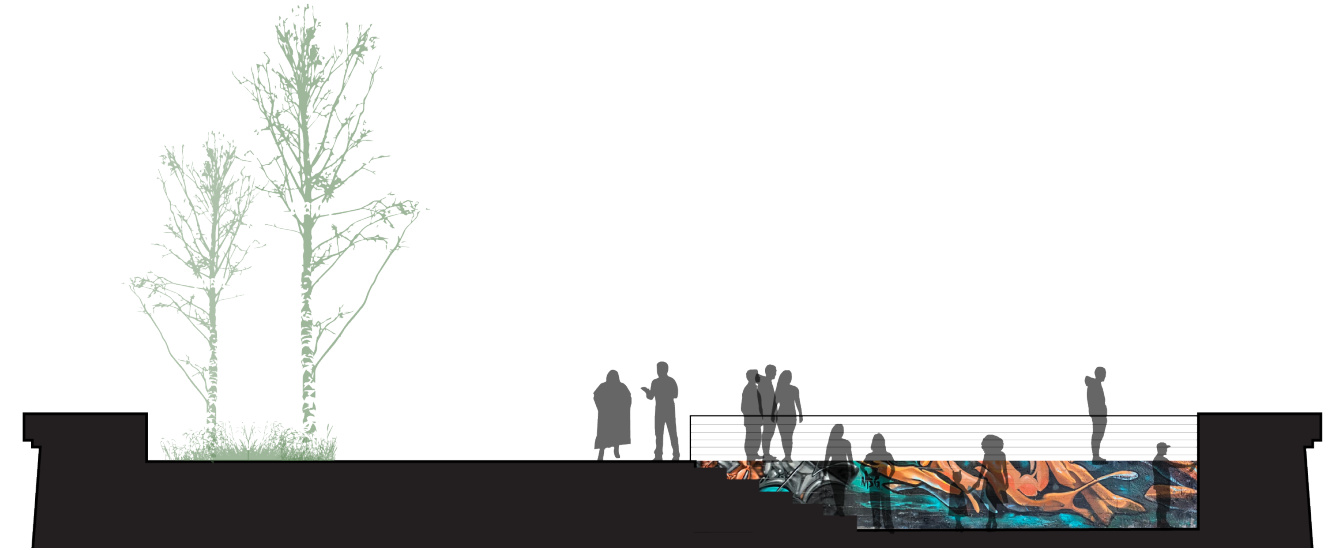


# Create / Appreciate

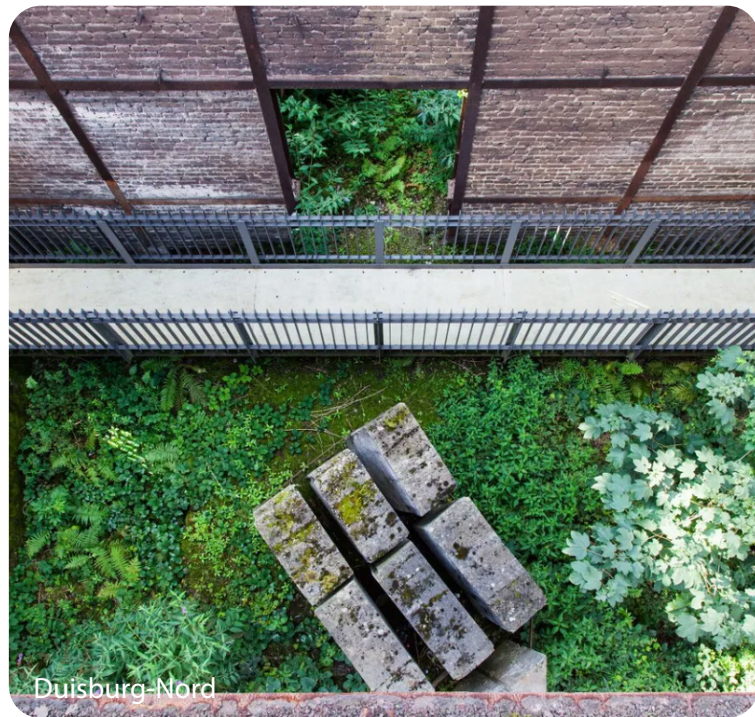
## Everyday Activities and Special Activities / Events



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Duisburg-Nord



Destination Crenshaw, LA

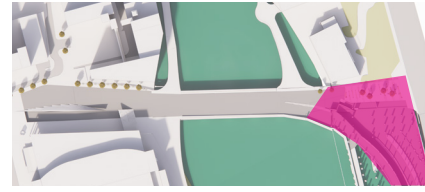


Carrie Furnaces, Pittsburgh



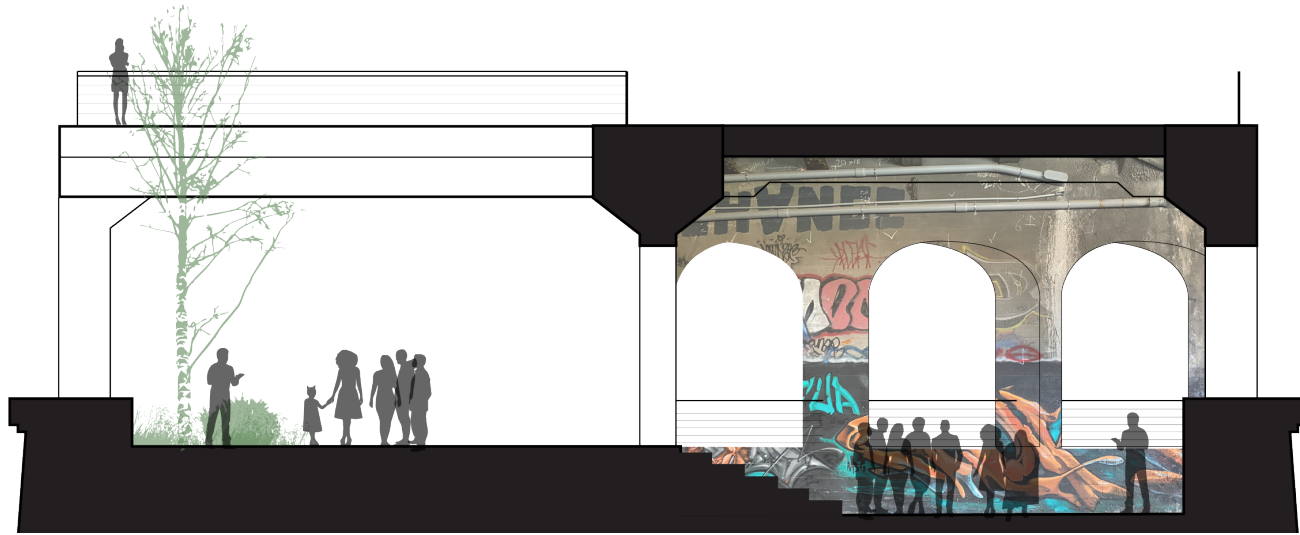
Graffiti Piers, Philadelphia

Activities and Programming

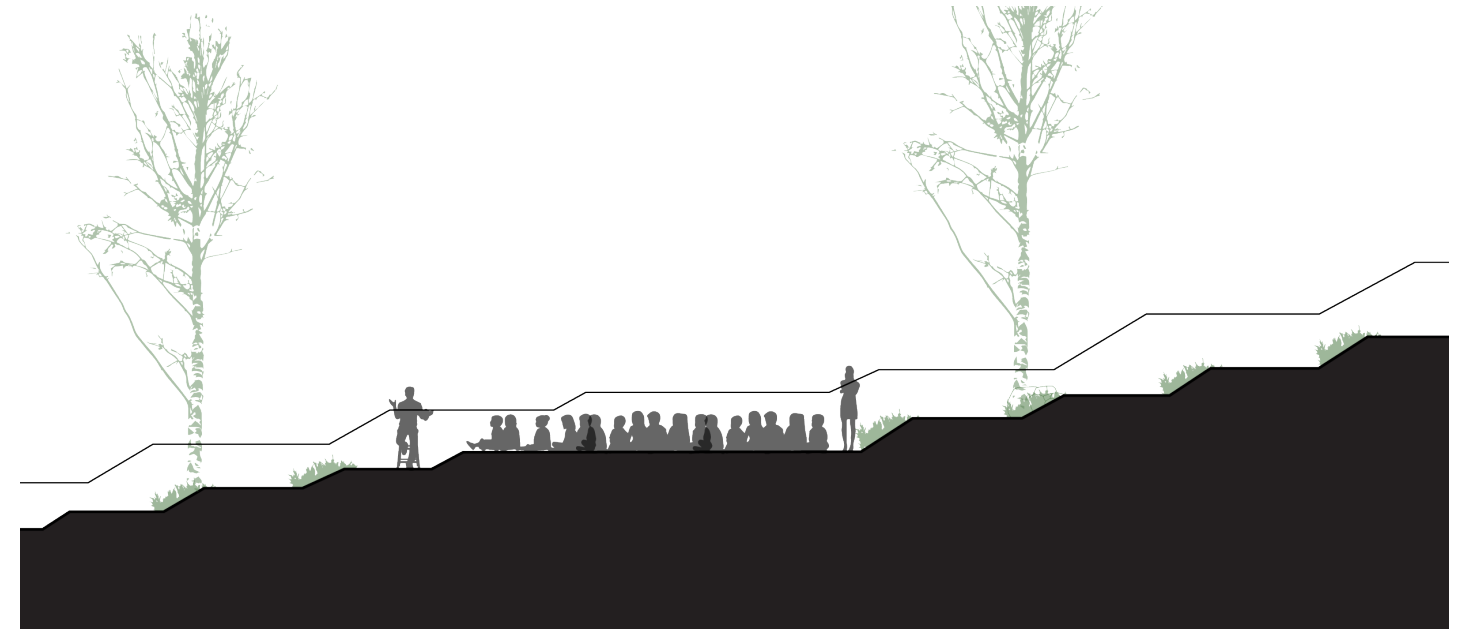


# Learn

## Everyday Activities and Special Activities / Events



Alternatives A, B & C



Eastern Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)



Outdoor Classroom



Educational Signage



Integrated Educational Markers



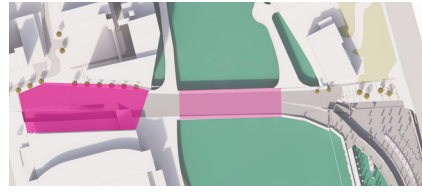
Learning about Graffiti Art



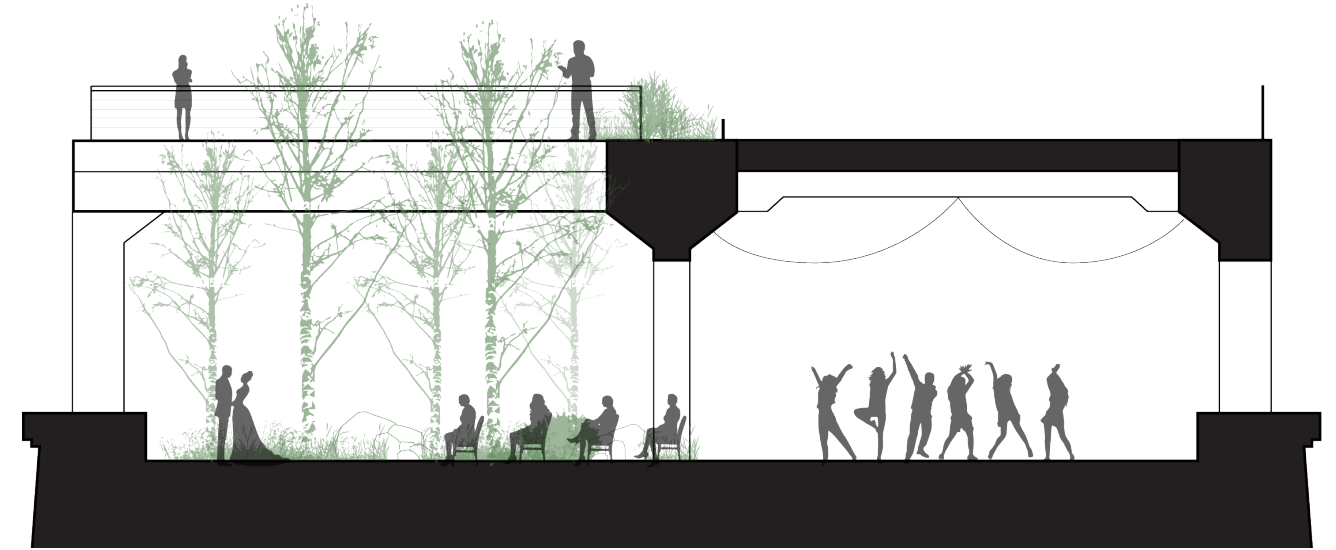
Activities and Programming

# Celebrate

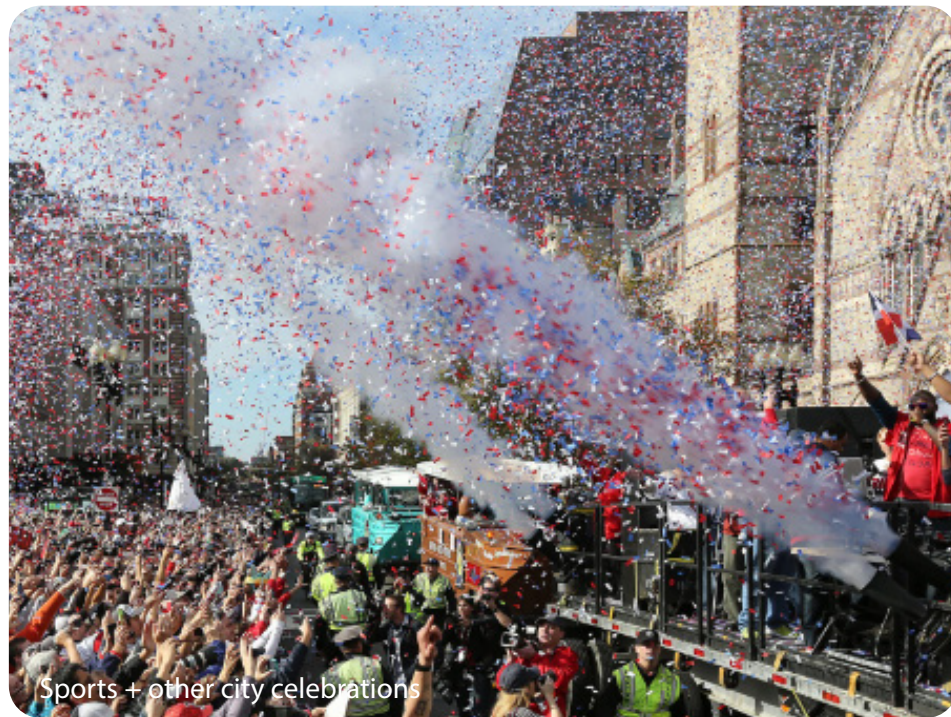
## Special Activities / Events



Western Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)



Alternatives A, B & C



Sports + other city celebrations

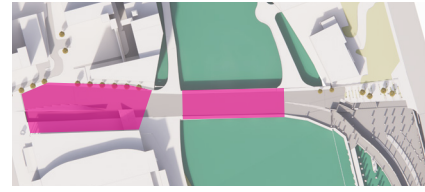


Celebratory festivals

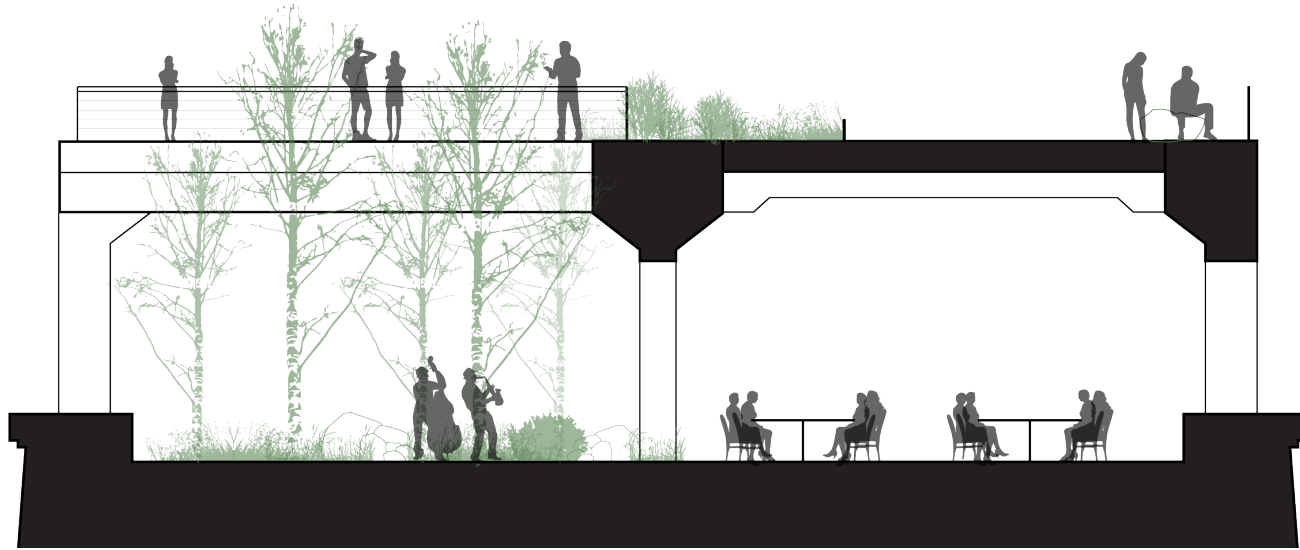


Urban weddings + other private events

Activities and Programming



# Attend Special Activities / Events



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Twilight Criterium, Rochester

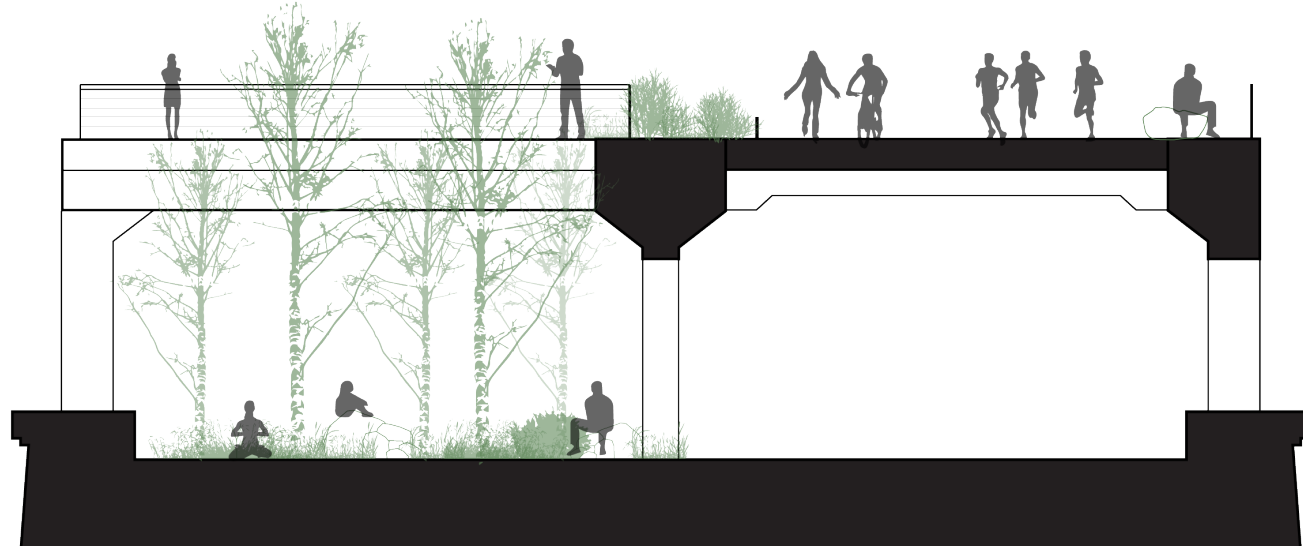


BBoy BBQ, Rochester

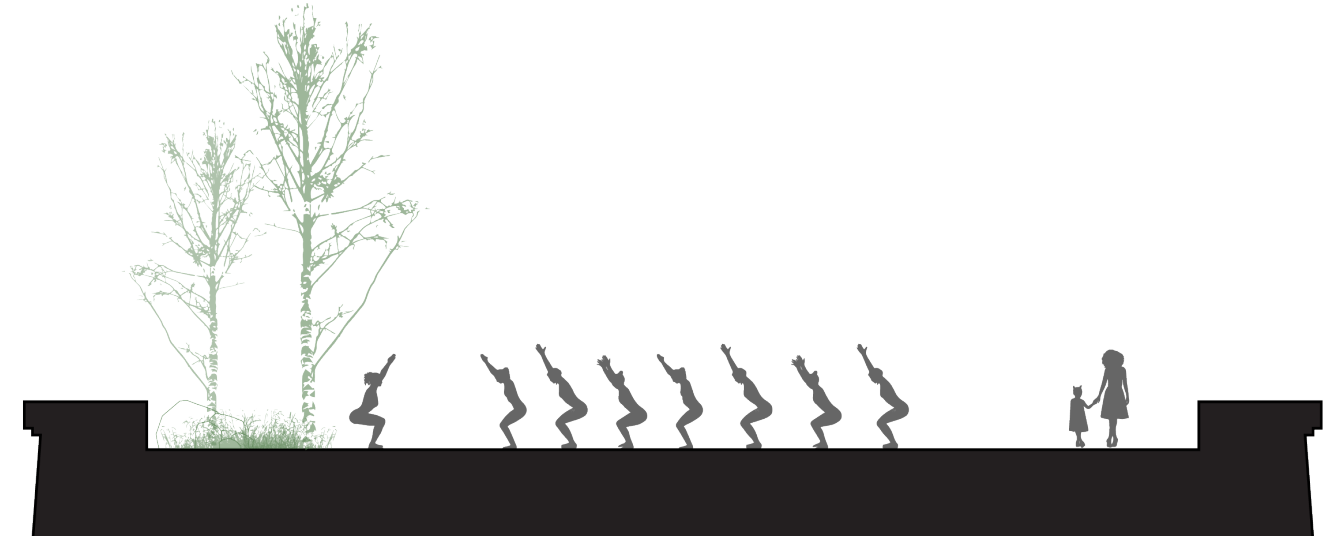


Dinner on the Bridge, Rochester

# Exercise Special Activities / Events



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Fitness

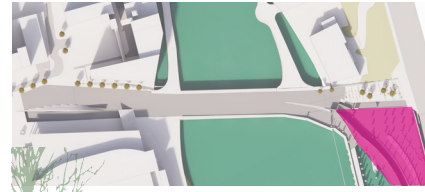


Meditation



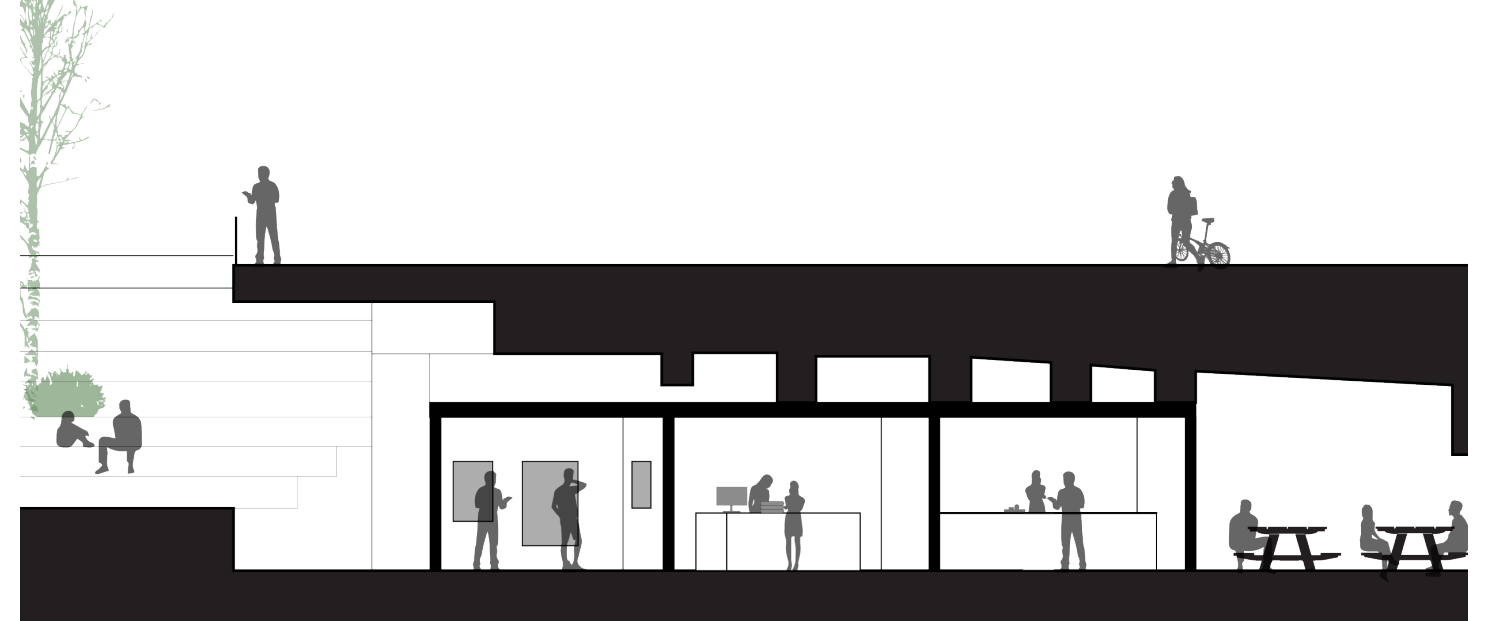
Yoga

# Activities and Programming

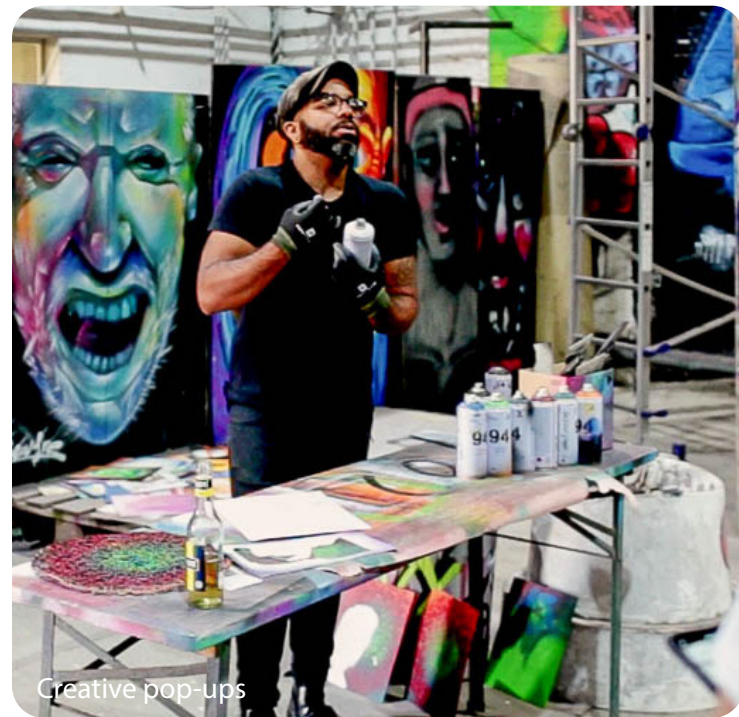


All Alternatives - Built-in Spaces

# Pop-up / Shop Special Activities / Events



All Alternatives - Stand-alone Spaces



Creative pop-ups



Retail pop-ups (All Day Sunday pop-up)



Retail & food pop-ups

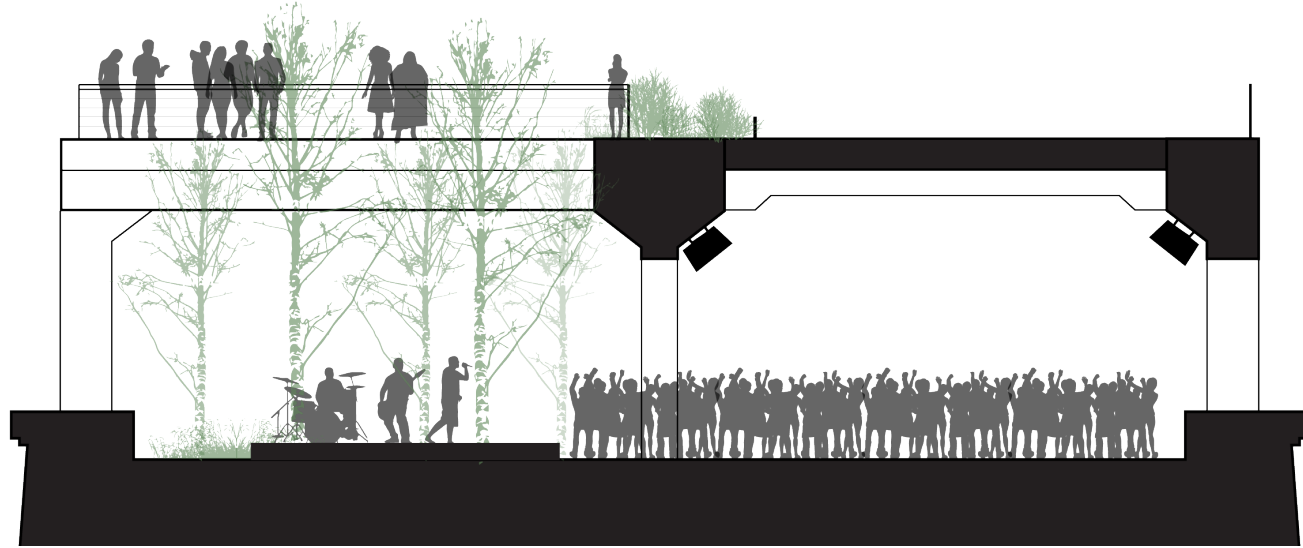


Educational pop-ups

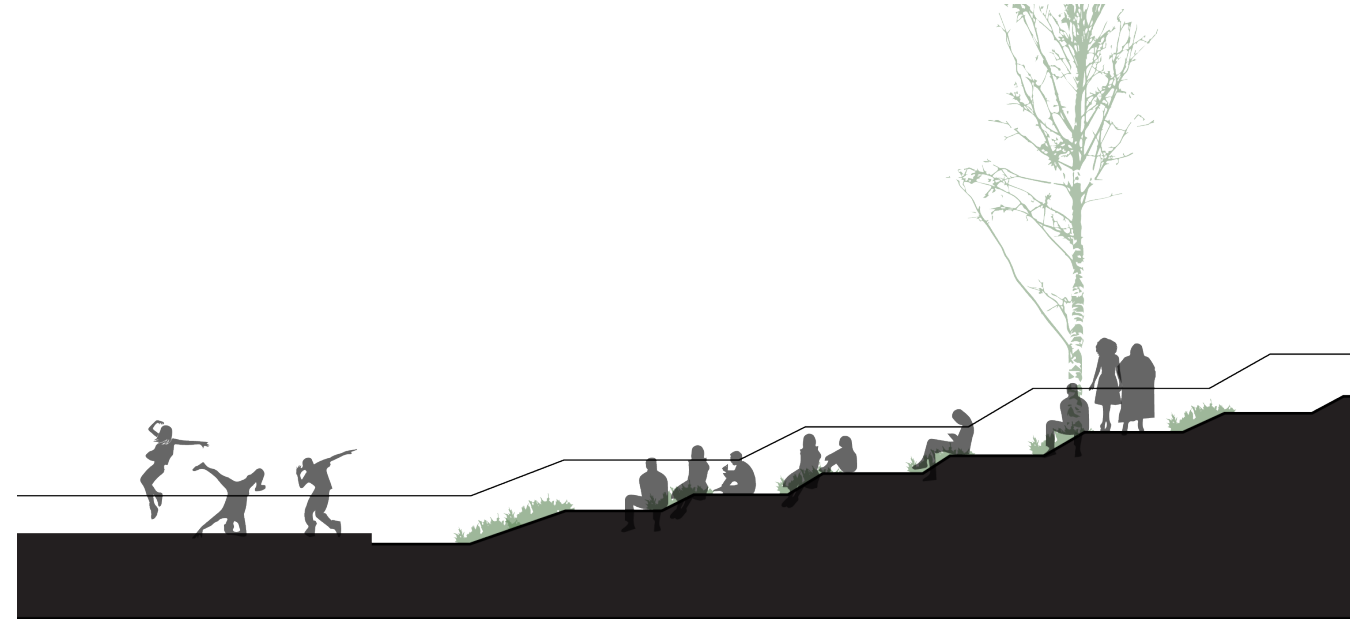
Activities and Programming

# Perform

## Special Activities / Events



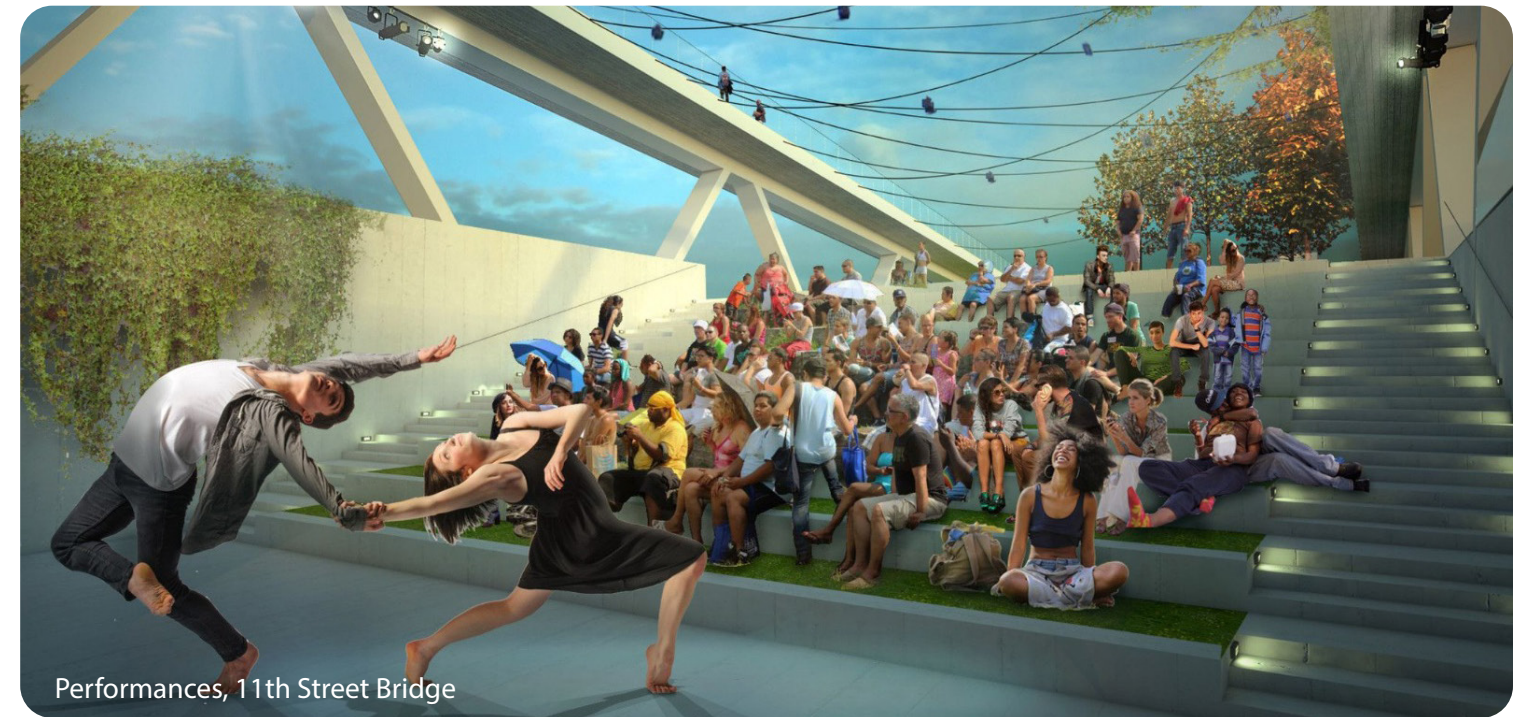
Alternatives A, B & C



Eastern Plaza (Alternatives A, B, C & D)

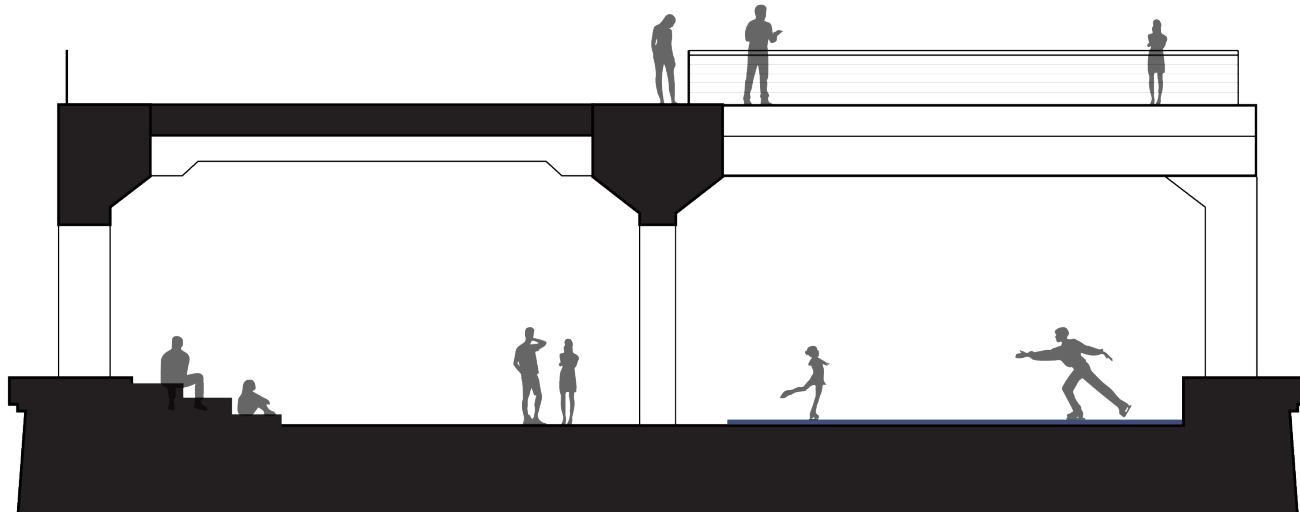
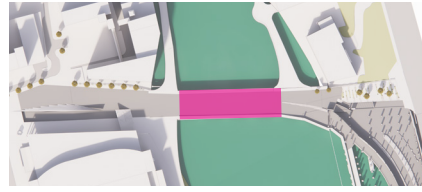


Concerts, Rochester



Performances, 11th Street Bridge

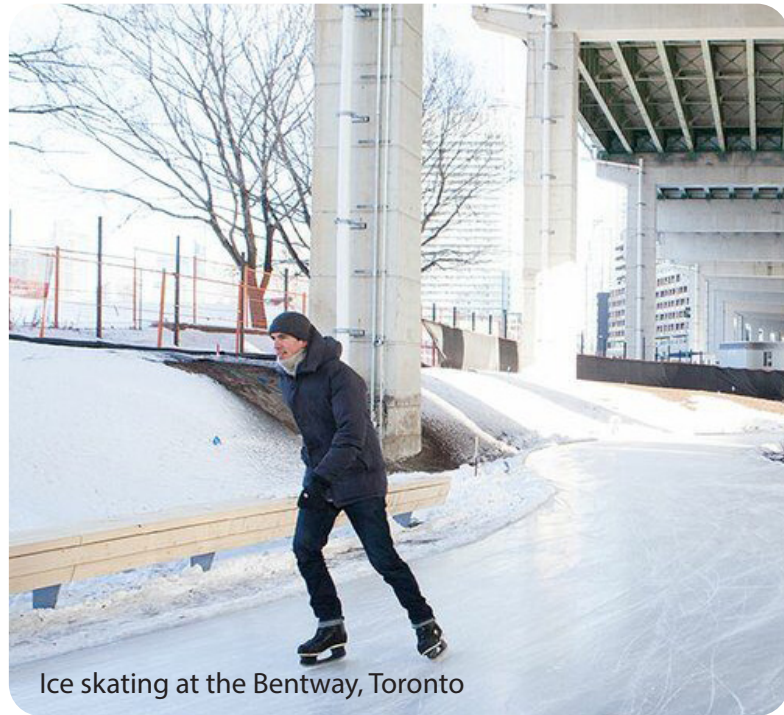
# Skate Special Activities / Events



Alternatives A, B & C



Alternative D



Ice skating at the Bentway, Toronto



Ice skating at Rockefeller Plaza, NY



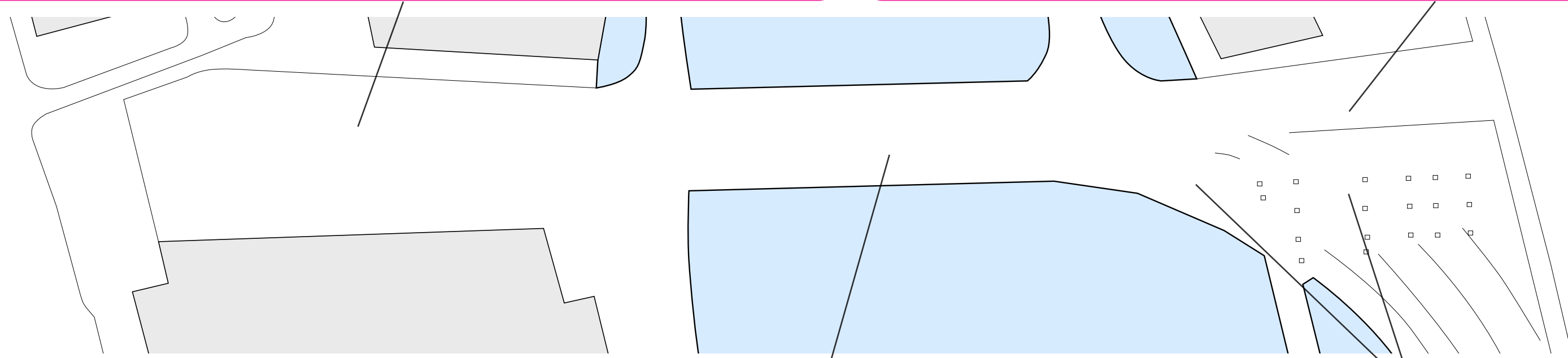
Roller skating, Rochester

# Programming Opportunities All Alternatives

## CELEBRATE CITY



## CITY HISTORIES



## RIVER CITY

## CREATIVE LEARNING

# Feedback Topics

## Boards and Worksheets

### **Design Alternatives**

Which design alternatives are you most excited about?

### **Activity and Space Allocation Priority**

Of the programs and activities you see today, which would you prioritize?

Where on the site would you like to do them?

### **Making People feel Welcome and Included**

What types of people and populations are missing from Downtown's public realm?

What types of design features, activities, and/or programs could make underrepresented populations feel welcome?



# Individual Exercise Boards & Worksheets

# Your Feedback

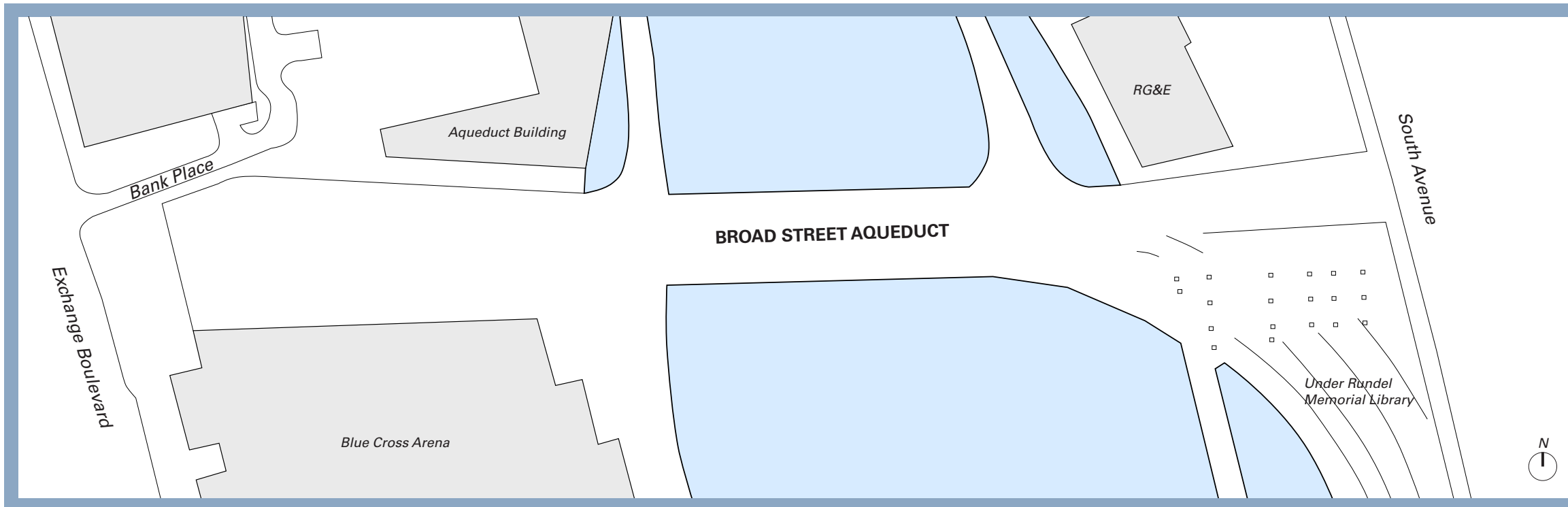
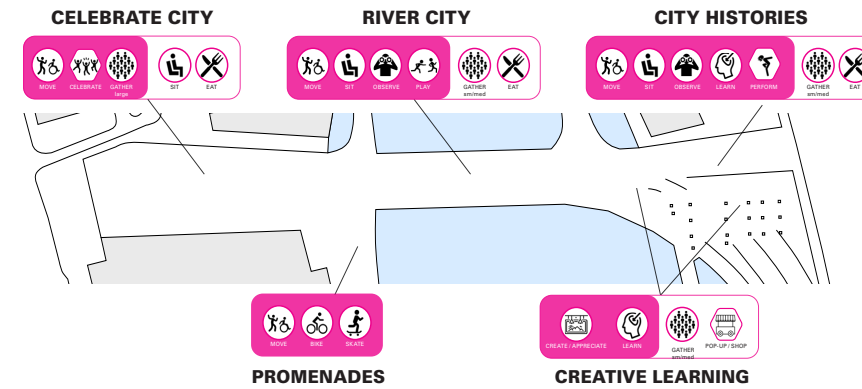


## EXERCISE A: Activities and Programming Locations

**1** We have ideas about where Activities and Programming can take place, but we want to hear from you! **Put the Activities and Programming Icon stickers where you would be most interested or excited to do them.** Feel free to sketch ideas if you have them!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

### REFERENCE CONTENT: Aqueduct Public Space Zones



# Your Feedback



## EXERCISE B: Designing for diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging

Design features, activities, and programming can help to make people feel welcome and included in public space. We would like to hear your ideas!

**1** Are there any **design features** that you think could make underrepresented populations feel welcome at the Aqueduct Reimagined?

*(e.g. An elevator at the eastern edge could make people with mobility difficulties feel more welcome, or "Public art centering Indigenous and Black heritage could make BIPOC people feel more welcome.")*

**2** Are there any **activities** that you think could make underrepresented populations feel welcome at the Aqueduct Reimagined?

*(e.g. "Allowing skateboarding could make youth feel more welcome," or "Facilitating year-round outdoor play could make families feel more welcome.")*

**3** Are there any **programming opportunities** that you think could make underrepresented populations feel welcome at the Aqueduct Reimagined?

*(e.g. "Incorporating pop-up shops under Rundel could make the graffiti artist community feel more welcome," or "Offering age-inclusive exercise programs could make seniors feel more welcome.")*

## REFERENCE CONTENT

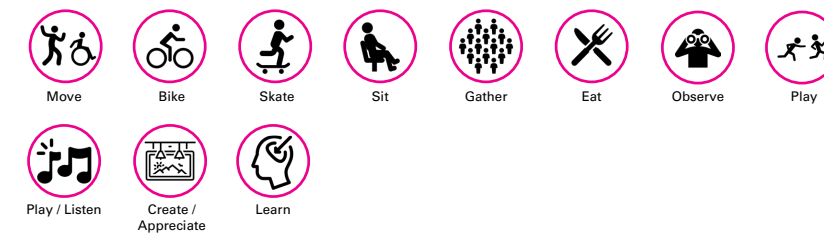
### Who are we designing for?



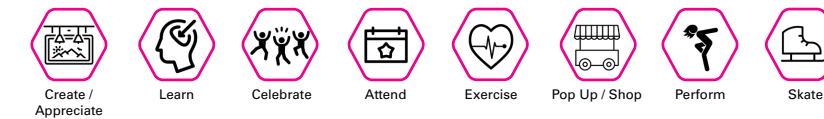
*If you're comfortable doing so, please indicate if you identify with or represent any of these populations, or any others we missed!*

### Activities and Programming Opportunities

#### Everyday Activities



#### Special Events & Activities



# Next Steps

- Refining studies based on input from TAC/CAC/PW
- Advancing phasing and sequencing analysis
- Selecting preferred alternative
- Presenting initial draft to NHPA

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



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

Richard Perrin, DES Commissioner  
Holly Barrett, City Engineer  
Kamal Crues, Project Manager



**BERGMANN**  
ARCHITECTS ENGINEERS PLANNERS

**URBAN  
AMERICAN  
CITY**

DUN  
WOODE

Dr. Jessica  
Lieberman

**WXY** architecture + urban design

**bero**  
ARCHITECTURE

**Lu**  
Engineers

# Appendix

# What We're Hearing

## Programming and Spaces

The Aqueduct geometry presents an opportunity to create **unique zones, levels, and spaces** that respond to diverse community needs

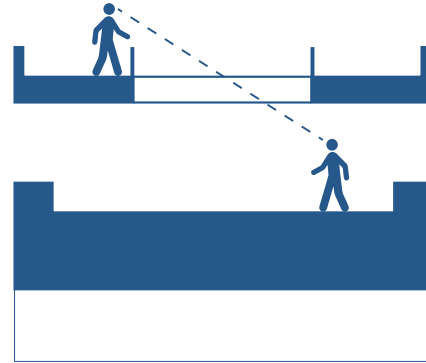


# Aqueduct Levels

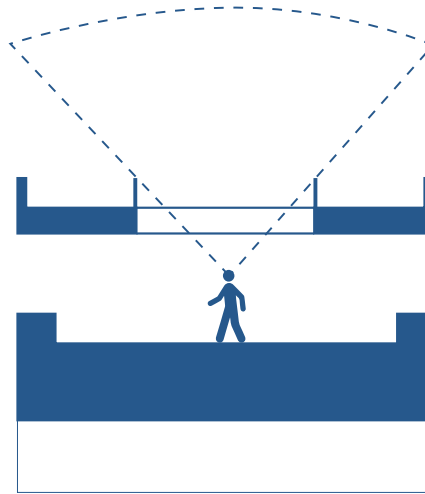
## Connecting Upper and Lower Levels

Upper Level  
(Bridge)

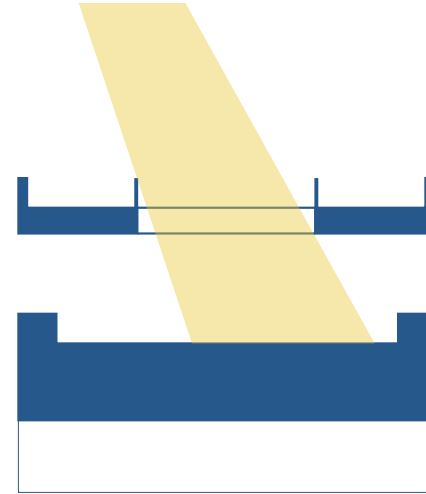
Lower Level  
(Aqueduct)



Visually Connects  
Upper and Lower  
Levels



Provides Sky  
Viewshed



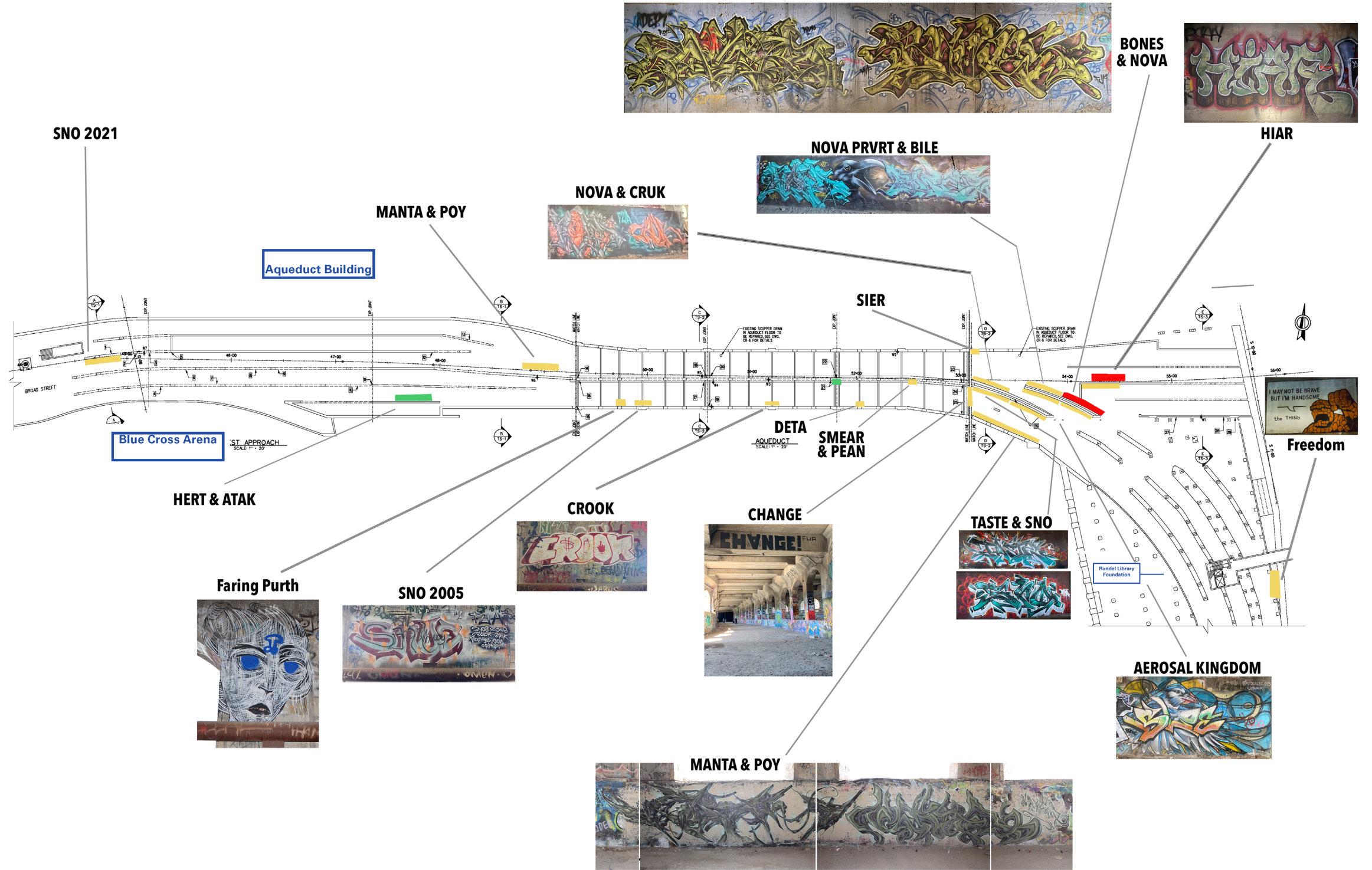
Naturally Lights  
Lower Level



Creates Space for  
Landscaping



# Graffiti Art Preservation Priorities



- High Significance
- Neutral
- Low Significance