

LSU

College of  
Art & Design

Vinton, LA

# NEW BEGINNINGS

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# OUR PLAN

The front doorstep to Louisiana, Vinton is a town of untapped beauty and charm, embracing its cajun culture within a tight-knit community. Though rich in history and local traditions, there lies opportunity in enhancing the cultural vibrancy. **New Beginnings** seeks to unlock this hidden **potential** by revitalizing its downtown area into a central hub that connects the people to various amenities, creating a welcoming and pedestrian-friendly environment. By redirecting traffic on the parallel streets to the east and west, we encourage a circulation path carrying you throughout the town. Rediscovering elements that were always there.

In addition, **New Beginnings** introduces outdoor elements to help amplify the range of activities available to both residents and visitors. This redesign invites the community to explore and experience the local culture through **interactive** spaces, displaying the underlying vibrant **community**.

In our vision, **opportunity** awaits at every corner both within the streets and in the community, by completing our series of development to these key areas, we will bring the culture of Vinton to life, inviting people to savor the town's unique characteristics.





# ASSETS

Throughout Vinton



## Tight Knit Community

A strong sense of reliability lies between neighbors, small business owners, and locals in the area that work to keep the community comfortable and connect with one another.



## Amenity Proximity

Walkability is encouraged through amenities and other landmarks proximity. The grid design encourages an organized and developed setting making it easy for residents and visitors to travel between destinations.



## Infrastructure

Pre-existing buildings provide a solid foundation for potential redevelopment and guidelines to continue growth. Leveraging new opportunities and pursuing identity for the community as a whole.



# CHALLENGES

Throughout Vinton

## *Downtown Circulation*



- *Lack of Amenities*
- *Large ratio of vacant buildings*
- *Lack of social spaces*

## *Entertainment Options*



- *Lack of Activities*
- *Lack of Venues/Event Spaces*
- *Lack of Dining*

## *Lack of Social Hubs*



- *Lack of Social Gathering Spaces*
- *Lack of Outdoor Amenities*

## *Pedestrian Accessibility*



- *Lack of Proper Sidewalks*
- *Lack of Proper Crosswalks*
- *Disconnect between accessible amenities that are close in proximity*



# 3 FOCUSES

## Recreation

Through a variety of outdoor activities and enrichment spaces, the public is able to not only be encouraged into the community but also feel engaged with the surrounding neighbors



## Leisure

A series of leisure spaces offers hubs of comfort and interactions within separated communities, differing from group events to individual strolls, these elements encourage connections and peace.



Vinton

## Entertainment

Social environments are set through a range of entertainment options, displaying variety of engagement types to encourage community of all ages to explore levels of social dynamics.





# CONTEXT MAP

VACANT LAND

WATERWAY  
USAGE

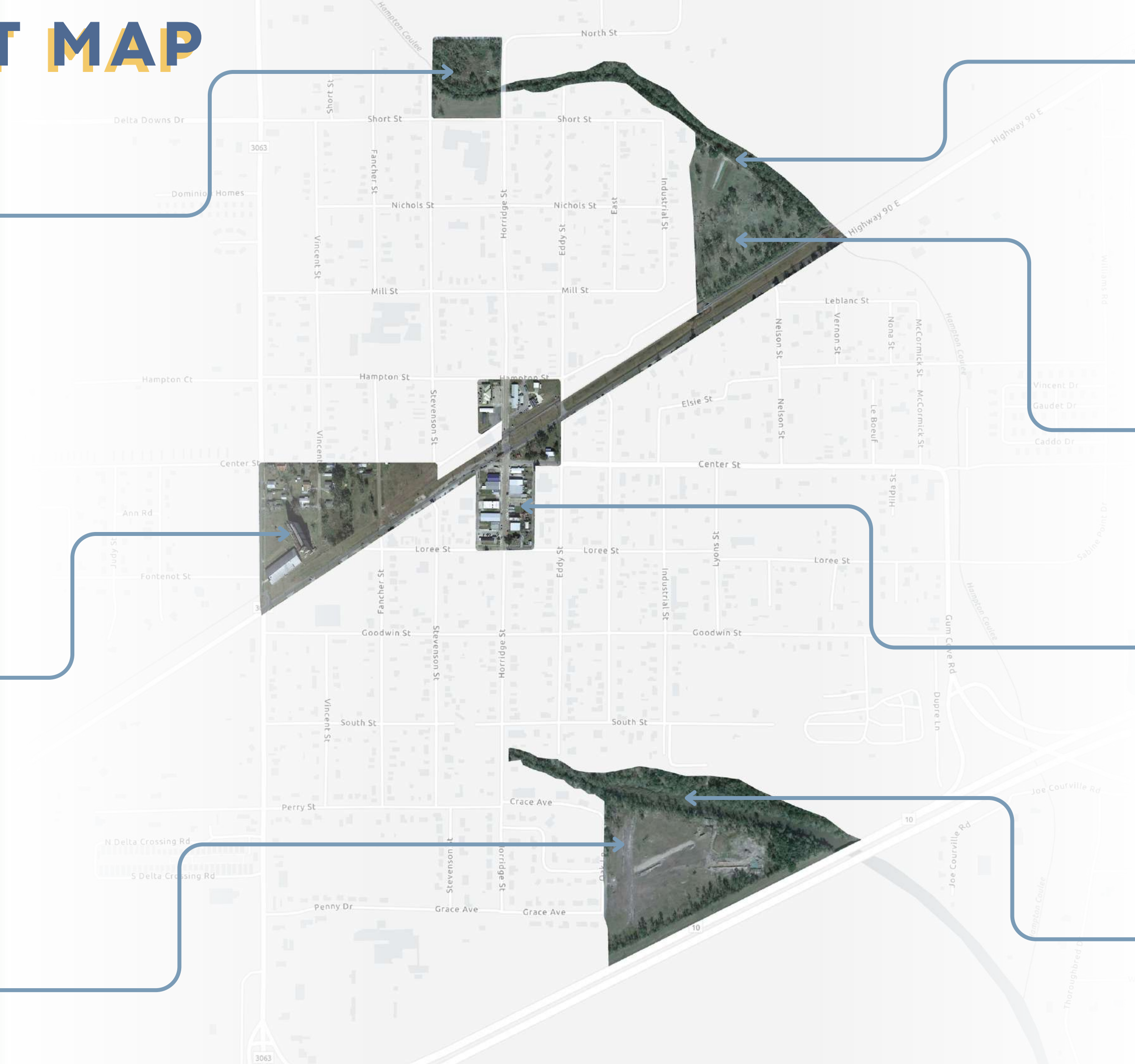
VACANT LAND

DOWNTOWN

RICE SILO

WATERWAY  
USAGE

VACANT LAND





# SYSTEM MAP

WATERFRONT

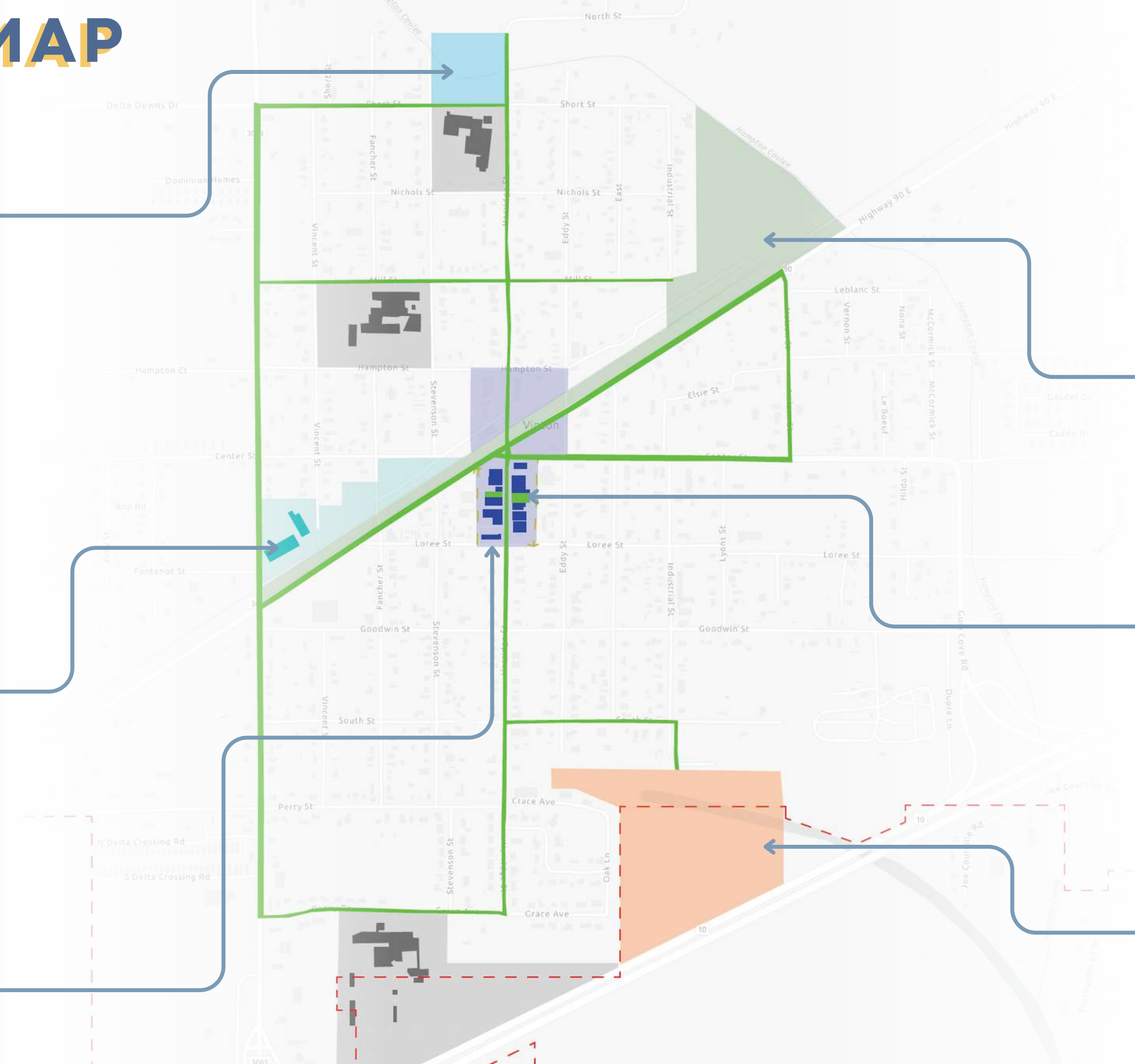
CYPRESS TRAILS

POCKET PARKS

THE HARVEST HIDEAWAY

WATERFRONTS/  
HOUSING

HORRIDGE BOULEVARD



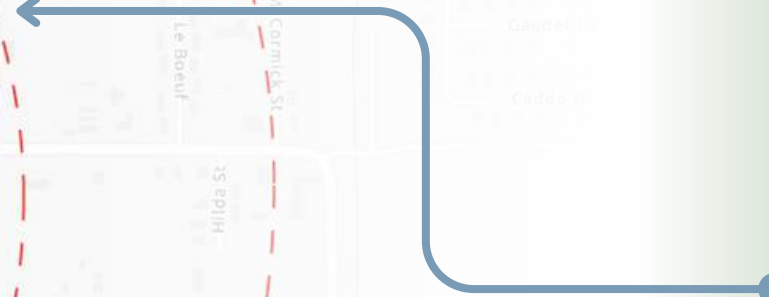


# WALKABILITY MAP

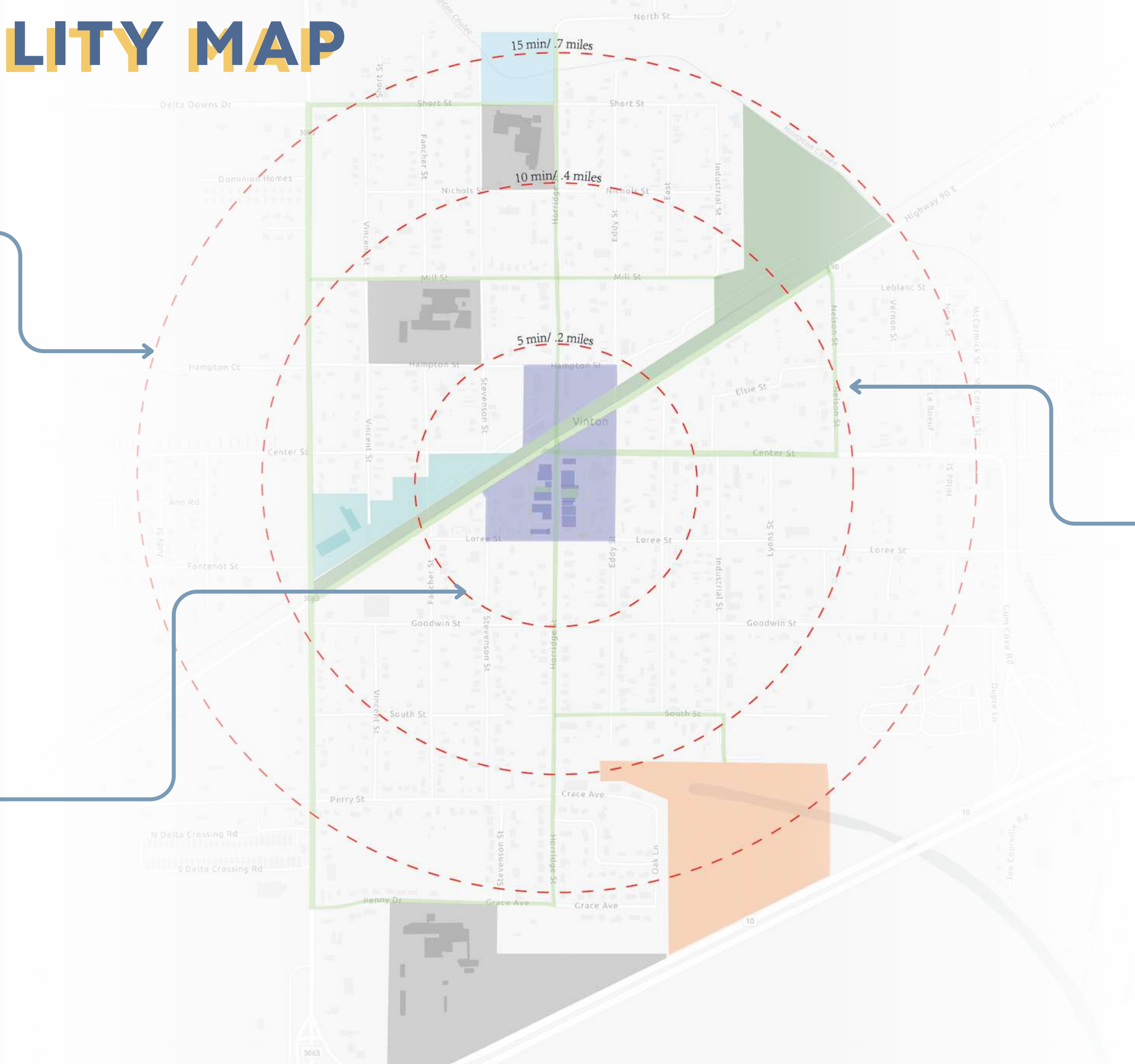
15 MIN/ .7 MI



10 MIN/ .4 MI



5 MIN/ .2 MI





# 5 NODES

Locations that benefit the growth in **Recreation, Leisure, and Entertainment** aspects of Vinton.

01



Horridge  
Boulevard

Pocket Parks



02

03



Housing on the  
Waterfront

Cypress Trails



04

05



The Harvest  
Hideaway



An architectural sketch of a street scene. On the right, a building with a yellow facade features a sign that reads "WINTON Cafe" in red and blue lettering. A white car is parked on the street in front of the cafe. To the left of the car, there are several trees with green foliage. In the foreground, two figures are walking on a sidewalk. The scene is framed by blue diagonal lines on the left and right sides. The text "01 HORRIDGE BOULEVARD" is overlaid in the center in white capital letters.

# 01 HORRIDGE BOULEVARD



# Where it begins....

**New Beginnings** starts at the center of downtown; **Opportunity** waits just around the corner of Center St. and Breau's Pharmacy; Introducing **Horridge Boulevard**, a collaborative redesign of the towns Main Street through a series of **interactive** spaces along with social hubs to not only **invite** pedestrians through the town but to **explore** it.

By having connected pathways and green elements that reflect the same **welcoming** atmosphere the community brings, we invite visitors to engage with community and the townsfolk to rediscover their home in new light.

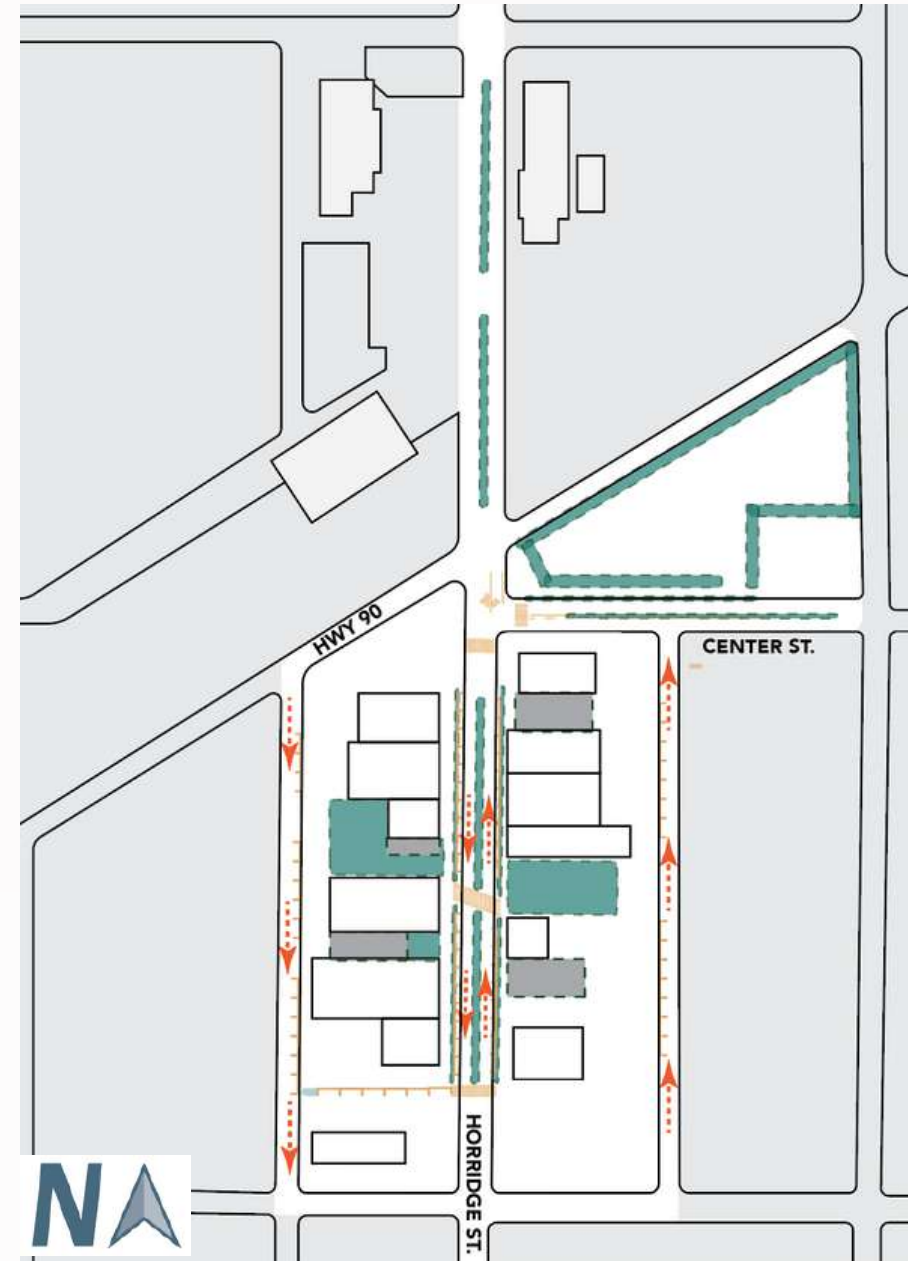
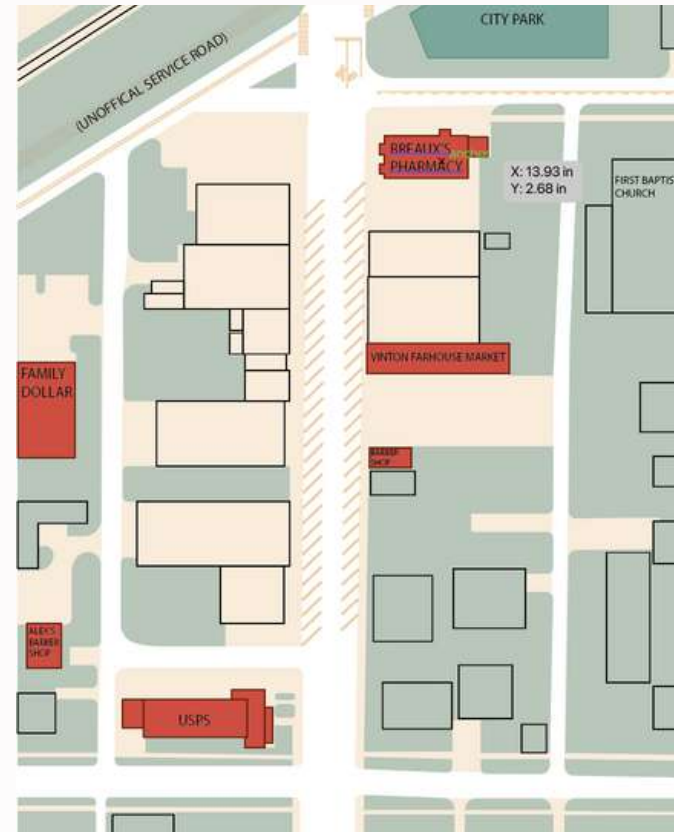
**Working to connect community  
through interactive spaces**





# THE PLAN

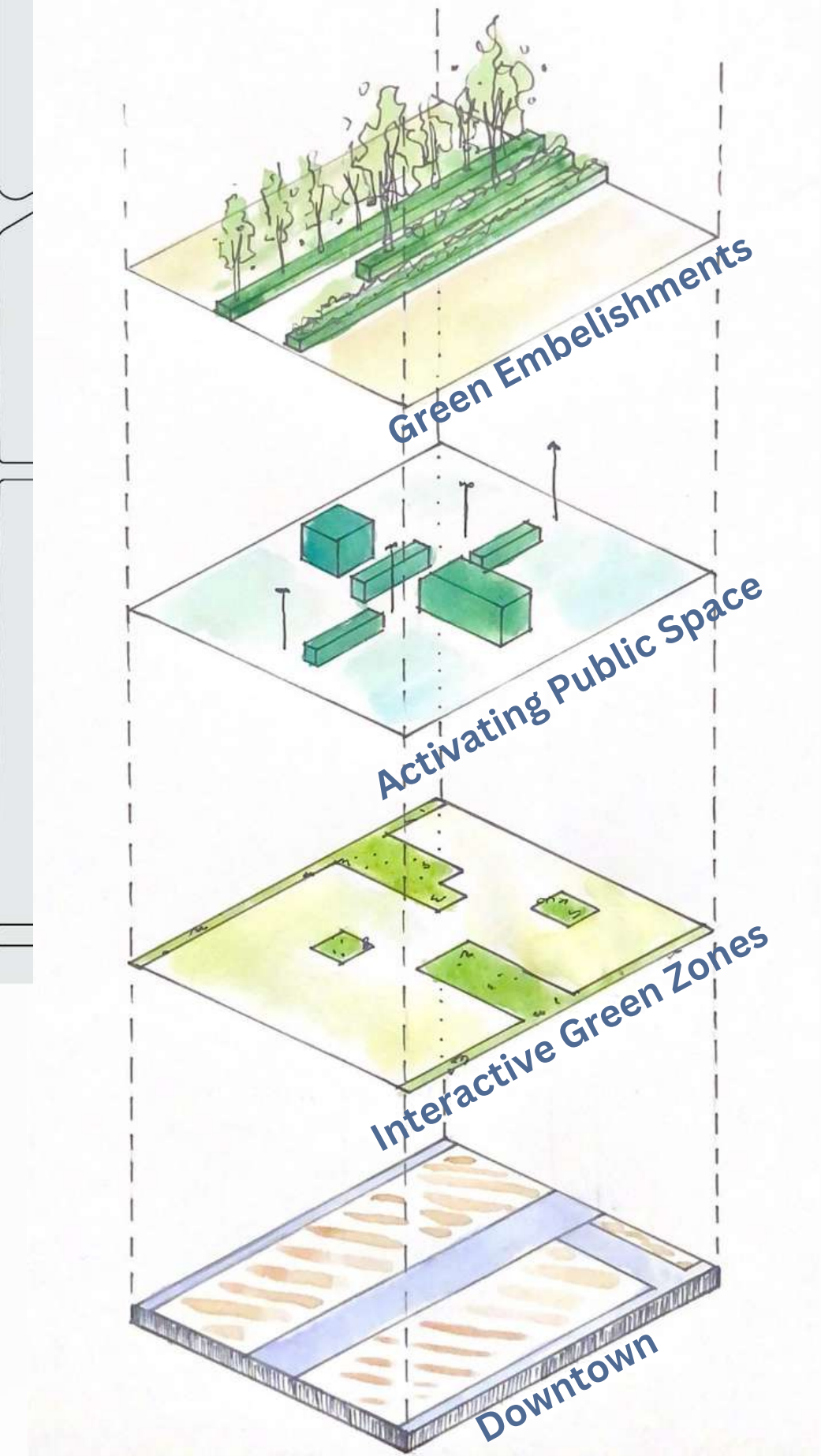
## IN CONNECTING DESTINATIONS



Current separation of attractions; Parks, amenities, and recreation are disconnected by lack of social engagement, experience, and accessibility to areas that demonstrate lots of opportunity for community engagement.

**Recreation, Leisure, and Entertainment**

How can we invite community to explore what's always been there?





# PAINTING THE PICTURE Downtown

01 Median Dividing one-ways

02 Parallel Parking

03 Series of Parklets

04 Elevated Crosswalks

05 sidewalk Trees



Section Horrridge Blvd.



# PAINTING THE PICTURE

## City Park

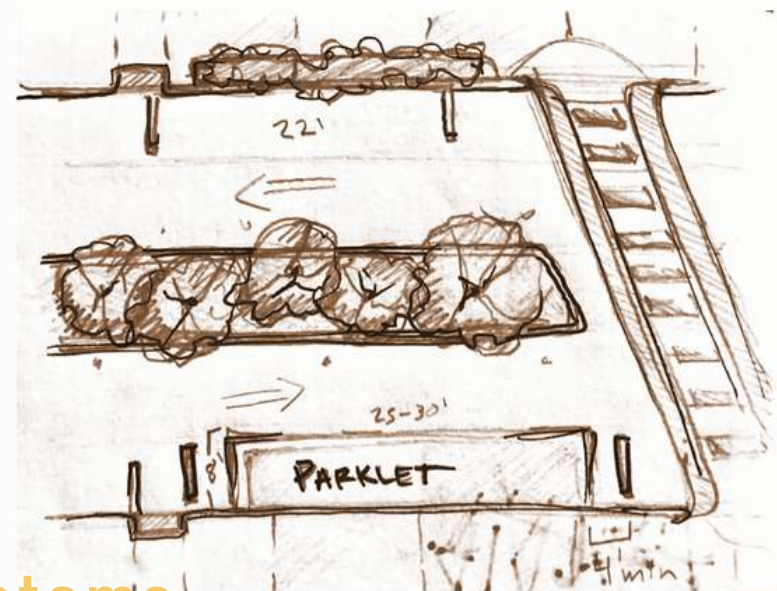
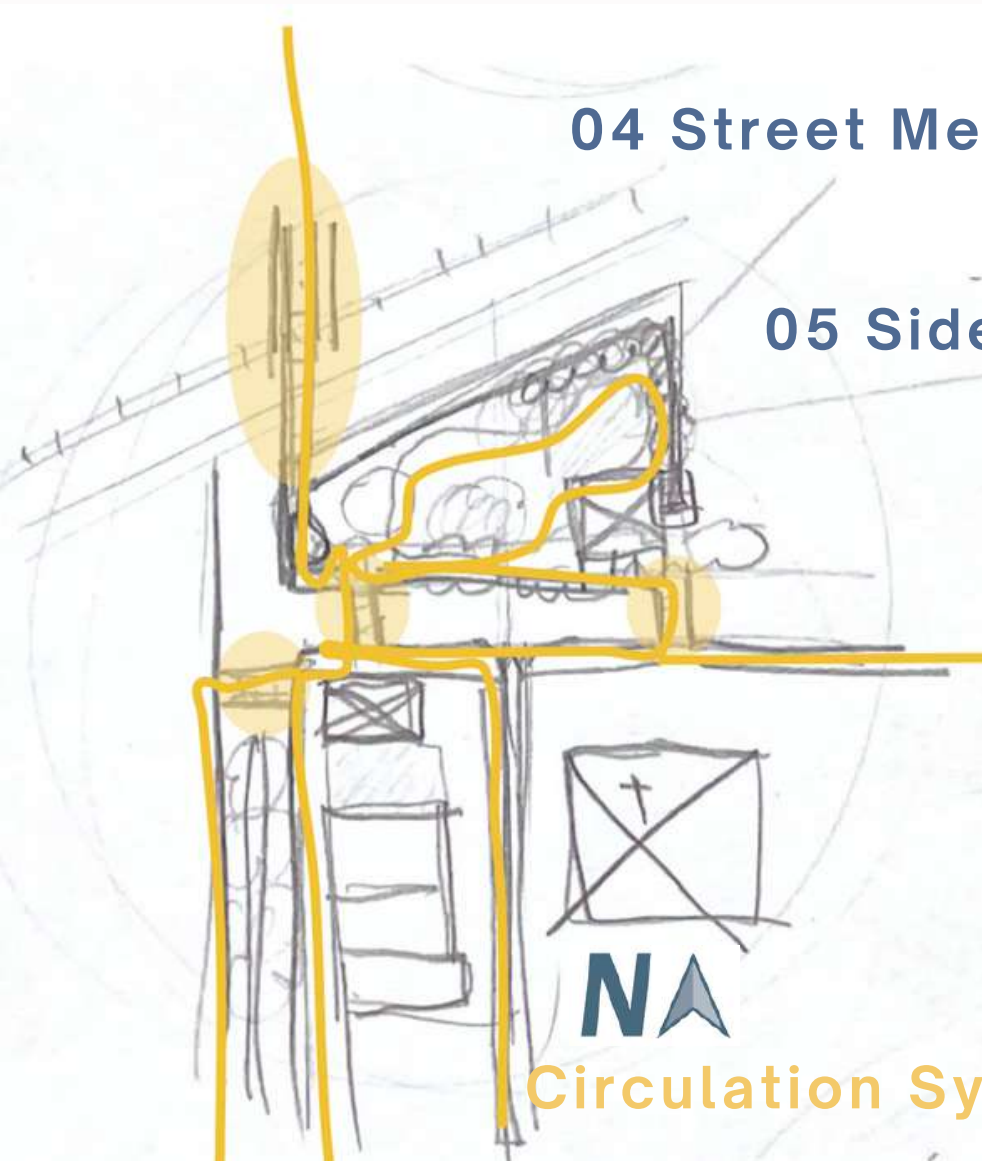
01 Pedestrian Sidewalk

02 Protected Crosswalk

03 Vegetative Privacy Buffer

04 Street Median

05 Sidewalk Guard



Circulation Systems



An architectural rendering of a park scene. A wide, light-colored concrete path runs diagonally from the bottom left towards the background. A narrower path made of reddish-brown bricks runs parallel to it on the right. On the left side of the brick path, there is a planter bed with tall green grasses and a tree with vibrant pink blossoms. To the right of the brick path, there are more trees, including one with pink blossoms and another with green leaves. In the background, a modern building with large glass windows and a flat roof is visible. Several stylized human figures are walking along the paths. The sky is a deep blue with some light clouds. The entire image is framed by blue geometric shapes on the left and right sides.

# 02 POCKET PARKS



# Why Pocket Parks?

Pocket Parks socially activate downtown. This is done by providing amenities which attract and encourage people to linger and socialize in. Seating, shade, areas for various activities and proximity to food and stores downtown provide access to various forms of leisure and entertainment.



Amenities attract business and will stimulate the local economy.





# Opportunities

The size limitations of a pocket park are also an opportunity to provide a more intimate space as the city grows and a appropriately scaled one as it is. A multi-purpose green for various activities and use during festivals is also an outdoor movie screening area.

**Parks raise property value and attract more people.**



**Entry and Vendor Tent**



**Multi Purpose Green and Pop Up Theater**

**Left Pocket Park Renderings**



# Amenities

Outdoor dining and access to food trucks will make downtown not just a place to go but *the* place to go. As downtown grows temporary pocket parks can be infilled with food trucks becoming brick and mortar restaurants. An example of a food truck becoming a brick and mortar establishment is El Sur in Little Rock, AR.

**The establishment of business in downtown will attract more business and more people.**



**Entry and Tiered Garden**



**Outdoor dining and food truck access**

**Right Pocket Park Renderings**



# Nightlife

There is a great opportunity in keeping downtown active at night. Night is when students and workers alike have time away from their day time obligations. These pocket Parks are a place that will provide a social activation point at night and give businesses a reason to stay open later attracting more investment and social interest.

**Nightlife allow relief of stress  
and promotes community  
social health.**



**Multi Purpose Green and Pop Up Theater**



**Outdoor dining and food truck access**

**Right Pocket Park Renderings**



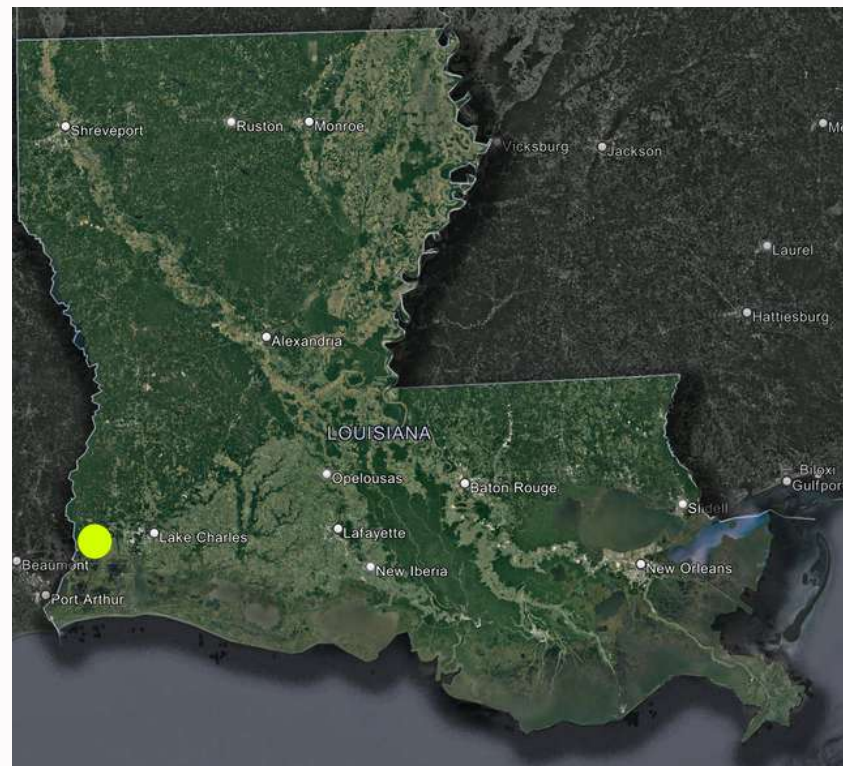


# 03 HOUSING ON THE WATERFRONT



# Cajun Cottages and Boardwalk

## Location



## Site Analysis

Flood zone X - moderate to low risk

Undeveloped land - 23 acres

Directly behind Ward 7 Rec center

10 minute walk to Vinton High School

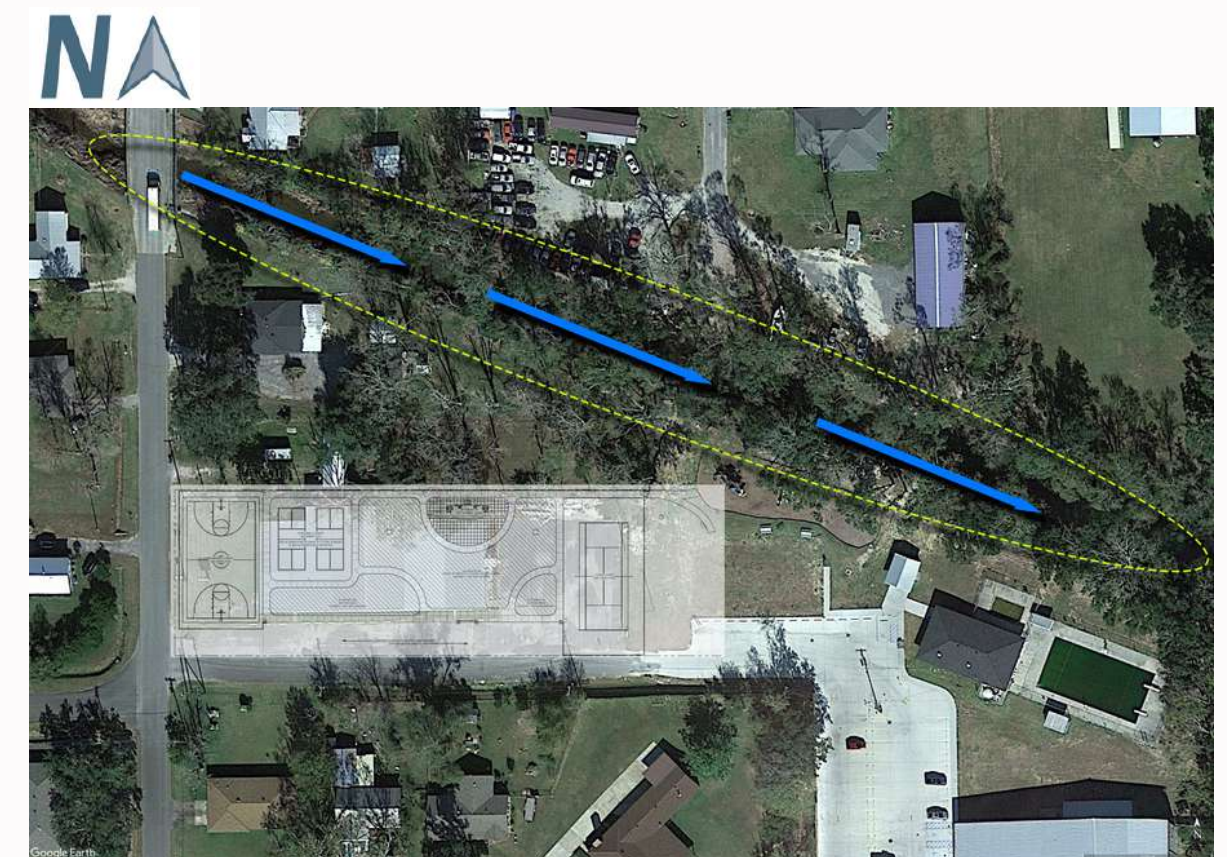
15 minute walk to town

20 minute walk to Vinton Middle School

20 minute walk to Vinton Elementary school

Proposed Cajun Cottages area - 13 acres

Proposed Recreation park area - 7 acres





# Masterplan

The site of the proposed Cajun Cottages is currently undeveloped. This land is prime candidate for residential development. It is located just north of I-10 and directly behind Vinton's recreation center, Ward 7. Cajun Cottages will have 60 homes, ranging from 500 to 600 square feet. Cajun Cottages will be connected to Ward 7 by means of a boardwalk, which will also allow residents of Vinton and the Cajun Cottages to a park that will host a number of amenities. This park will have a diverted channel allowing for a fishing pond that can act as a storm water retention basin for the heavy rains. The park will also have a kayak launch and a nature trail, along with plenty of open space to run around, do yoga, or just throw the frisbee.





# Renderings

## Spider Pavilion



## Kayak Launch



## Small Pavilion



## Cottage Courts





# Perspectives/ Sections



Section cut through the overflow wetlands area

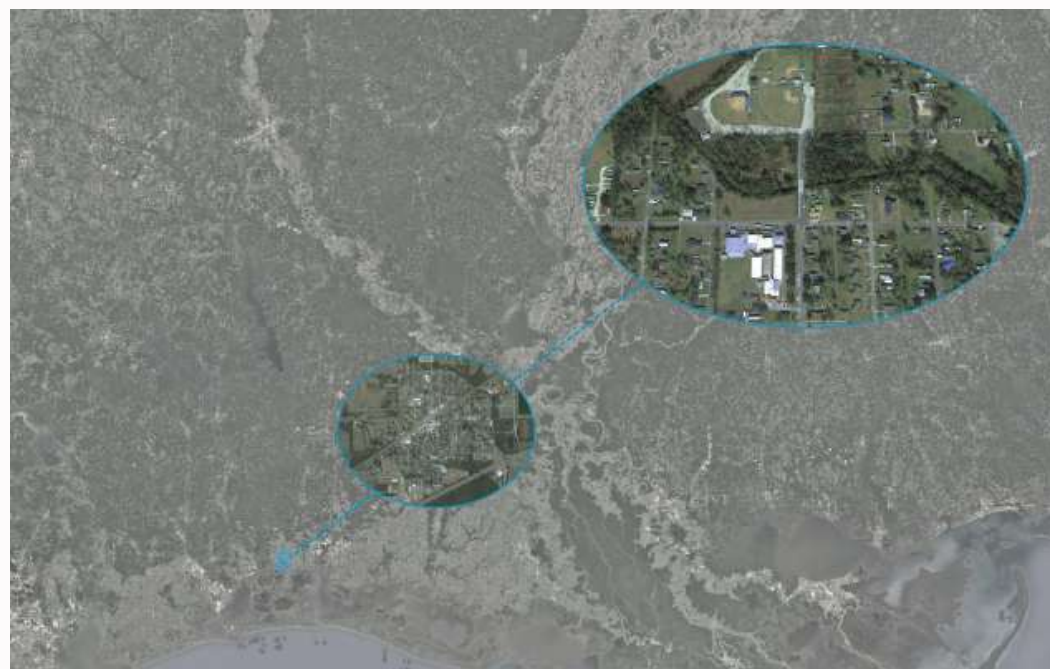


Perspective of pedestrian bridge by Ward 7



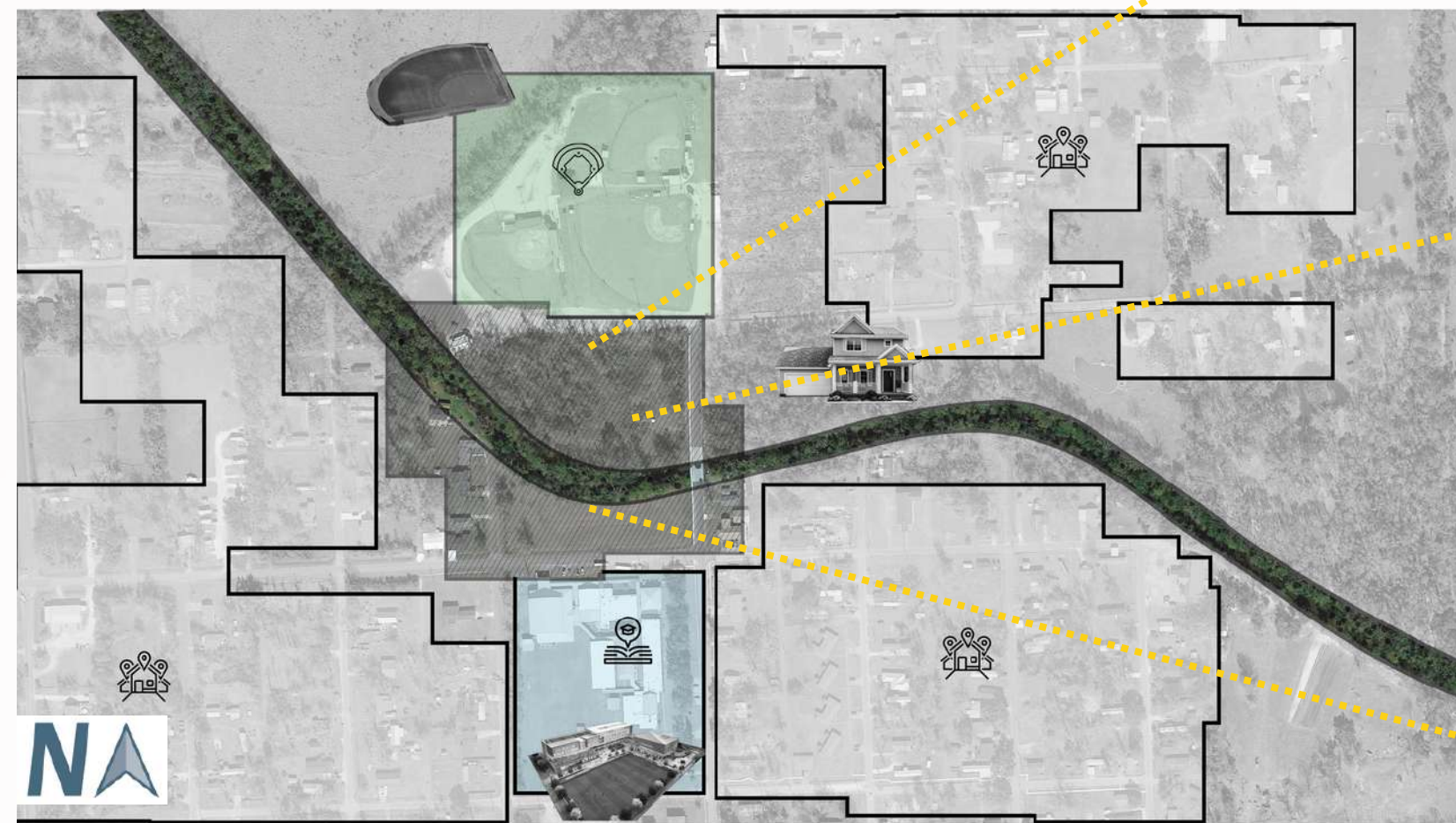
# Site Analysis

## Location



This park is located in the northern part of Vinton, with Vinton Middle School to the south and Ted Lyons Ball Field to the north. The surrounding area is primarily residential, and it's only a 2-minute drive or a 10-minute walk from downtown to the site, making it a great recreational spot for residents of the city.

This is a rectangular site of approximately 550 feet by 620 feet, almost 8 acres in size. Currently, the site is in an undeveloped stage, with trees and a grassy lawn being the only elements it possesses. This also underscores the significant potential of this site.



## Flood Zone Map



## Goals



## Entertainment



## Recreation



## Leisure

## Site Status





# Site Design

## Design Narrative

I initially divided the site into multiple zones using a grid and connected them with roads. Given the proximity of the site's southern side to a high school, I designed the areas on the southern side to be more suitable for teenagers. I added a basketball court, playground, and skate park on the southern side of the park, while the northern side features a dog park, exercise area, and expansive lawns. The lawns are divided into two sections, one with numerous picnic tables for dining and relaxation, and the other for playing soccer or football. Additionally, there is a shop selling water and fishing equipment."

## Circulation



## Drainage



## Master Plan





# Perspectives/ Sections

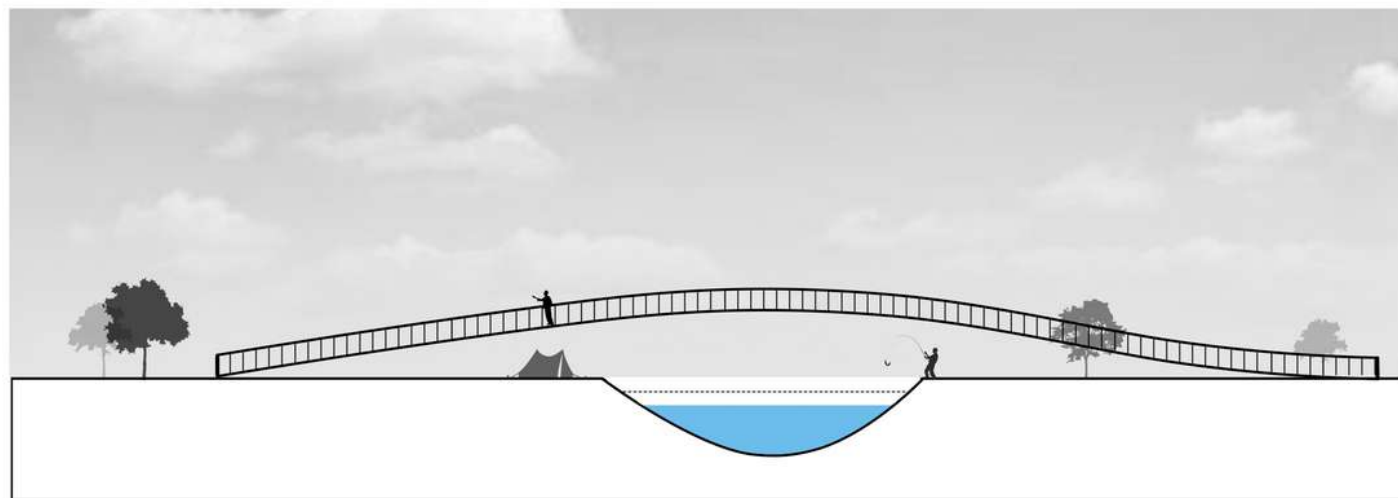
## Dog Park Perspective



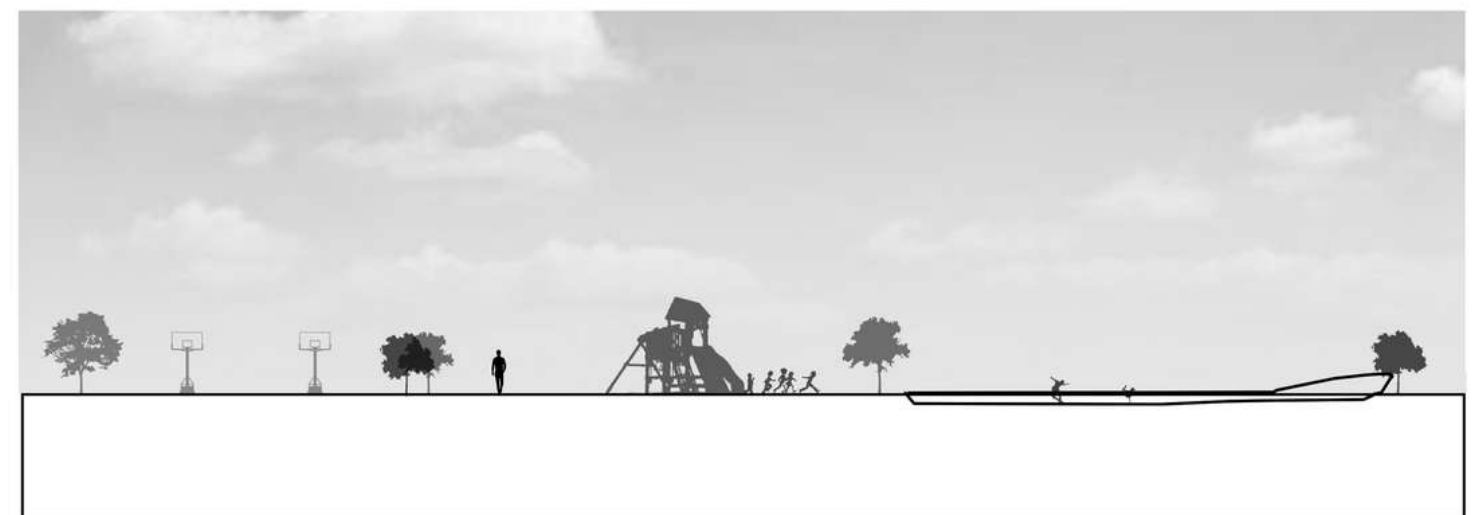
## Skate Park and Playground Perspective



## Section A River and Bridge



## Section B Skate Park and Playground







# 04 CYPRESS TRAILS



# Why Build a Greenbelt?

The Cypress Trail Greenbelt is a proposed node focusing on the area between highway 90 and the railroad, which are two major transportation corridors running through the heart of Vinton.

The current area lacks shade, noise and pedestrian buffers from the rail, and parking space.

Design aims to bridge the gap between north and south parts of town, introduce native habitats, and protect and immerse pedestrians in the landscape.

Besides making Vinton more accessible by foot for locals, the brand new streetscape along highway 90 allows Vinton to stand out from its surrounding, making it more attractive to visitors, and further establishing its nickname as the gateway to Louisiana.

LOCATION



CURRENT USE



- noise buffer for pedestrians and neighboring residencies
- site drainage and flood protection for neighboring areas
- additional parking space for park visitors, festivals, and future inhabitants
- brand new streetscape along Highway 90



# Better Connection

Improving connections and introducing green space along these routes helps foster community, business, and placemaking throughout the town

## People

Walkable cities historically have scored higher in terms of life satisfaction, and lower in loneliness compared to areas that are not accessible by foot

## Place

Using consistent signage, color schemes, and planting palettes not only help to orient pedestrians, but fosters a sense of place throughout the community, setting it apart from its surroundings.

## Profit

Parks increase property values within walking distance by up to 8-20%. Designated public space and walkable areas increase tourism and foot traffic benefitting adjacent businesses.



## Town Benefits



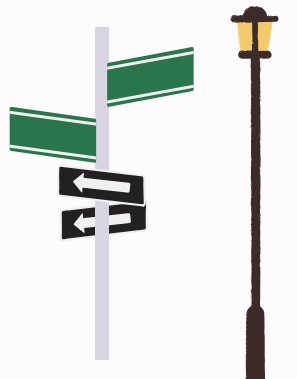
Increased Property Value

New Pedestrian Pathways



New Scenic Routes

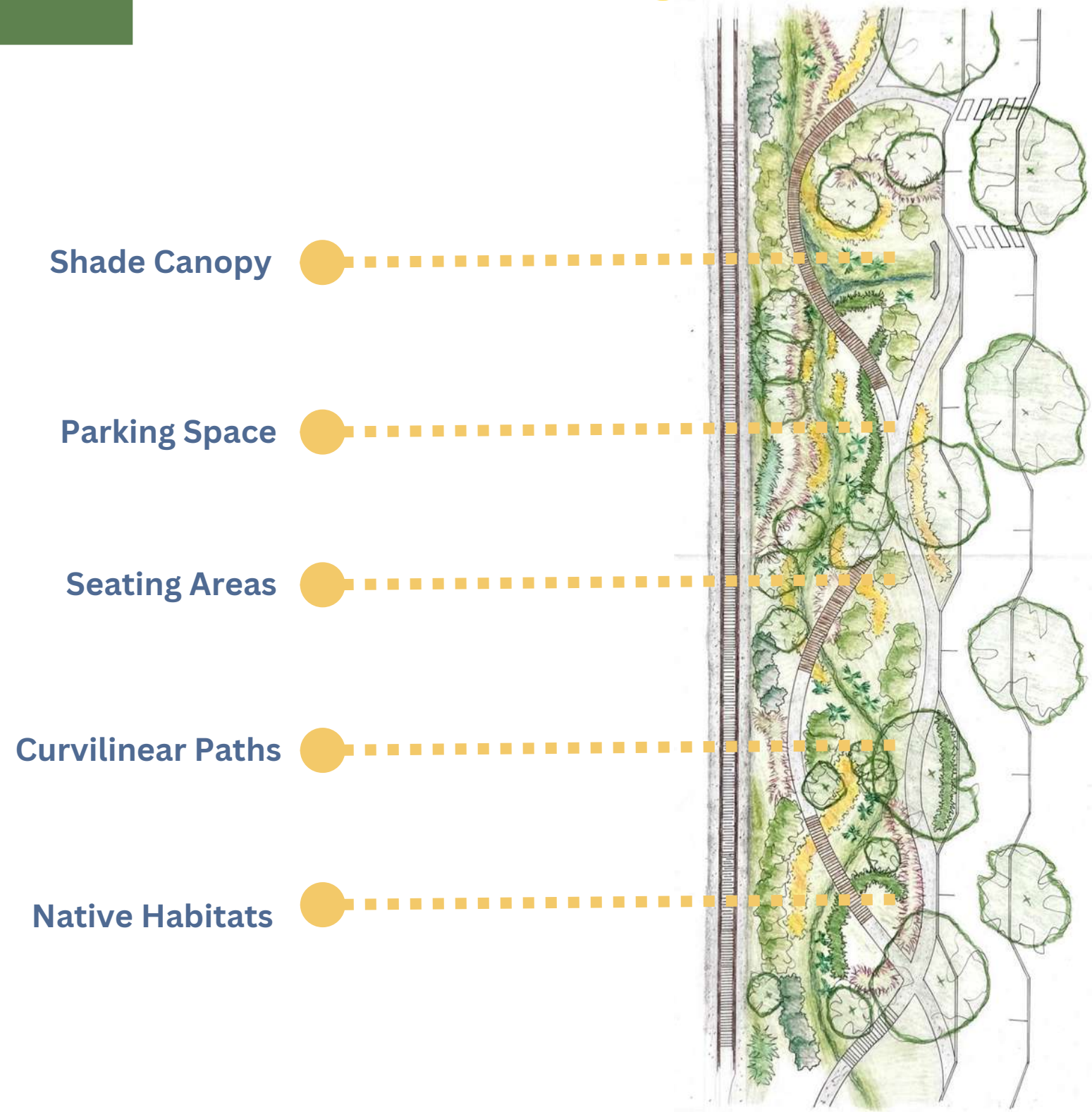
New Signage and Lighting



New Ecosystems and Habitats



# Site Design







# 05 HARVEST HIDEAWAY



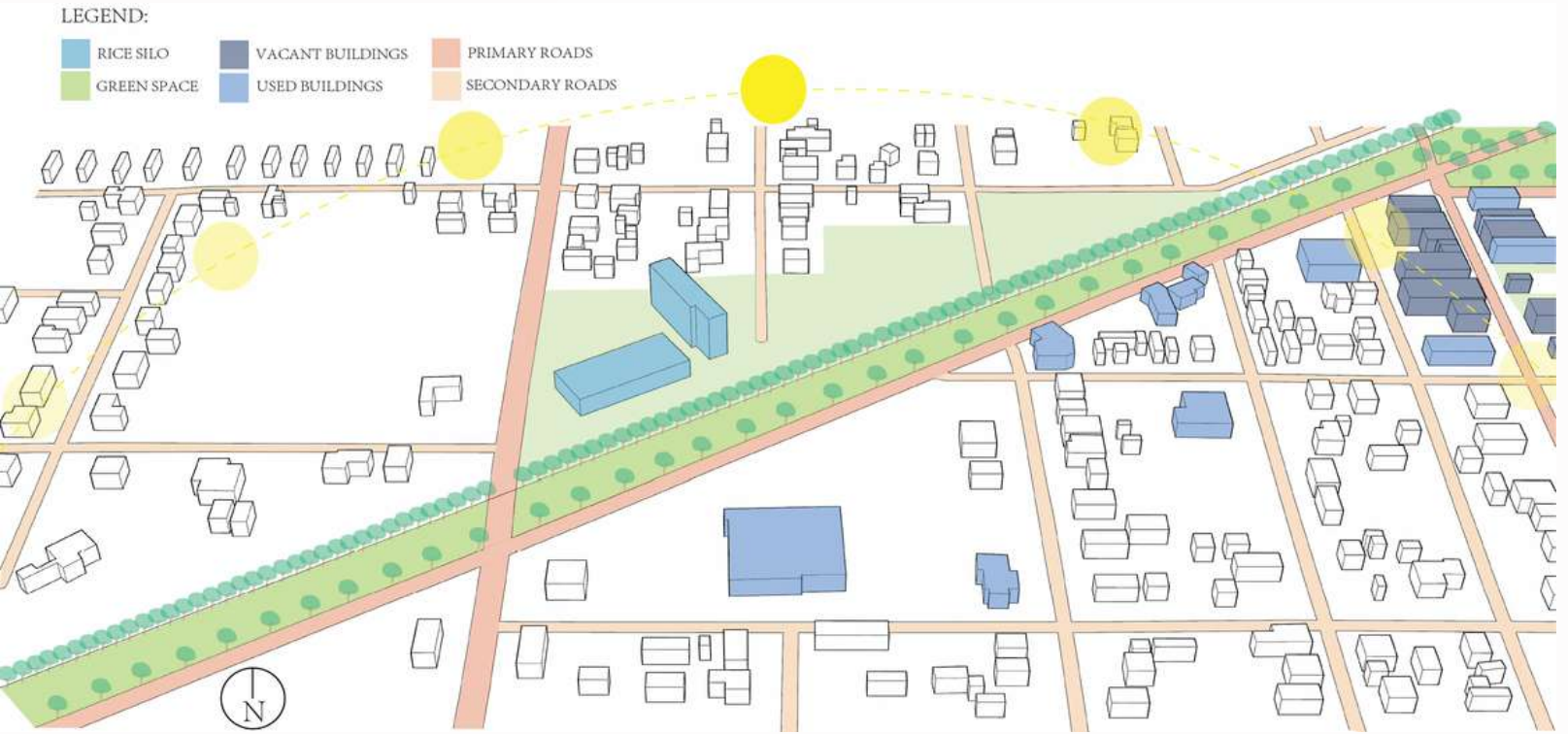
# Unveiling the Canvas

The Harvest Hideaway while initial underestimated hinted at possibilities in its foundational structure. The project aimed to seamlessly integrate our three key focuses: **recreational, leisure, and entertainment.**

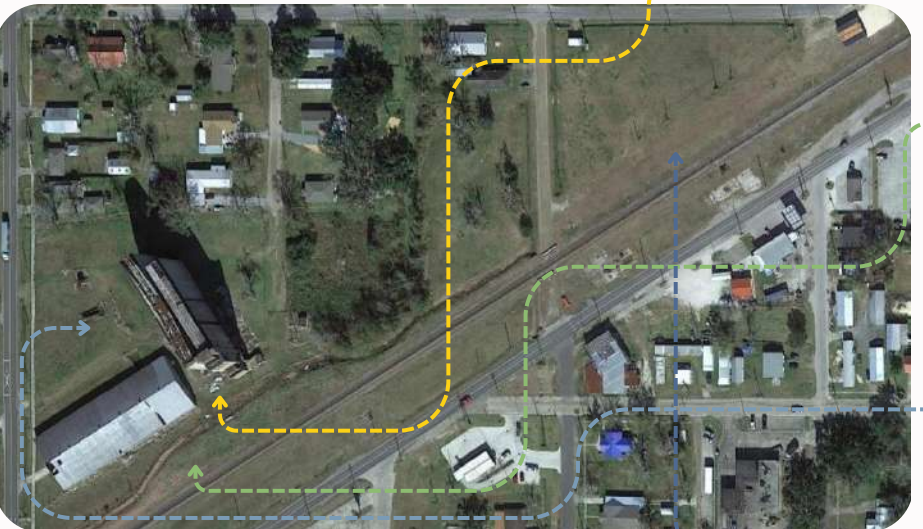
Spanning 10 acres, the site features a **diverse range of activities.** Everything is **interconnected** through a **central hub**, not only linking the Harvest Hideaway Brewery and Festival Center for continuous exploration but also the multiple parks featured throughout.

**Recreation** flows throughout all 10 acres of the site designed to cater all age groups. **Leisure** permeates the space, with scattered open grass patches. **Entertainment** defines the Harvest Hideaway experience, with two parks, a multipurpose building hosting activities and events and, complemented by a restaurant and brewery.

## Site Analysis



## Pre Existing Site Conditions



Site Plan - 1/64" = 1'0"

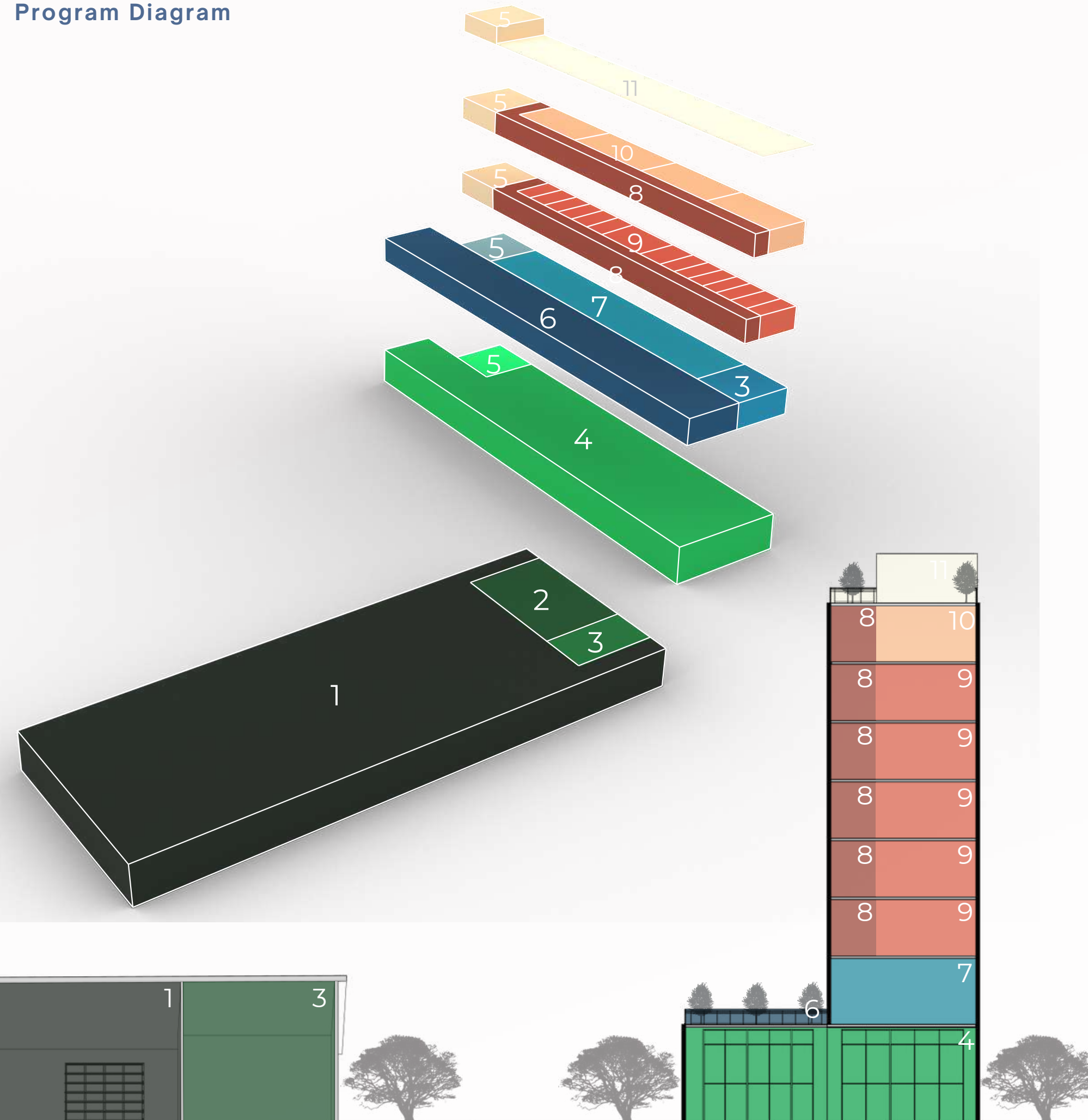




# Programming/ Section

- 01 Multi - Purpose Center
- 02 Kitchenette
- 03 Restrooms
- 04 Brewery/ Restaurant
- 05 Elevators/Stairs
- 06 Brewery Balcony
- 07 Brewery Tap Bar
- 08 Hallway
- 09 Work Force Housing
- 10 Work Force Amenities
- 11 Work Force Courtyard

Section - 3/64" = 1'0"





# Elevations



Northeast Elevation - 1/16" = 1'0"



South Elevation - 1/16" = 1'0"



# Precedents/ Renderings

## Precedents



## Renderings



View of Harvest Hideaway



View of Multi Purpose Center



View of Central Hub



View of Courtyard



View from Tap Bar Balcony



View from Rooftop



View of Tap Bar Balcony



View of Rooftop Lounge



View of Pond/ Bridge