

Planning Transit Hubs via Placemaking

Together North Jersey Training Initiative
December 15, 2017

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It's hard to create a space that will not attract people, what is remarkable, is how often this has been accomplished. –William H. Whyte

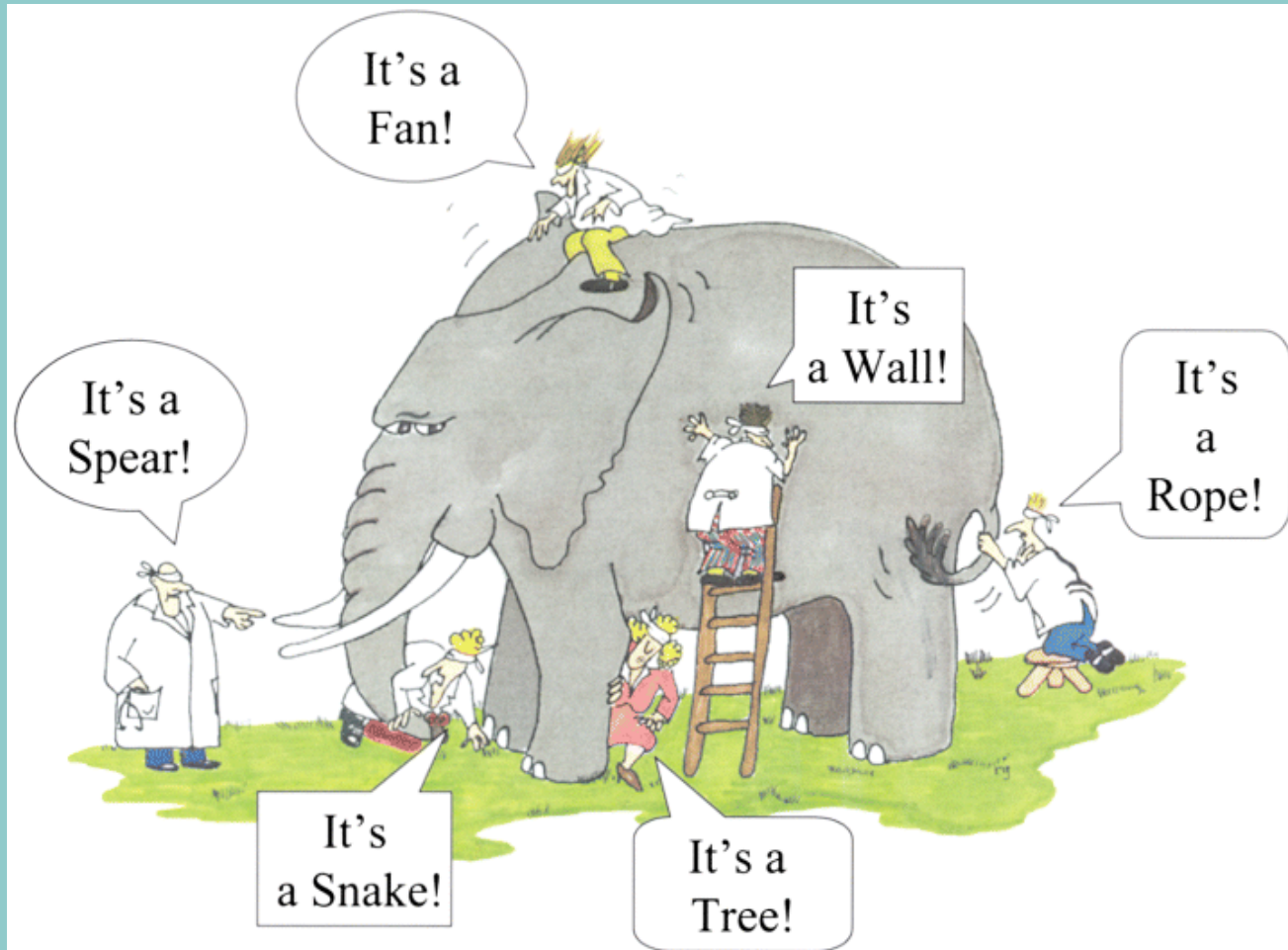


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–William H. Whyte

Why?

No One Sees the Big Picture



COMMUNITIES TODAY

Single purpose investments

Office
Parks

Churches

Hospitals

Transit Stops/
Stations

Strip
Centers

Parks

Community
Centers

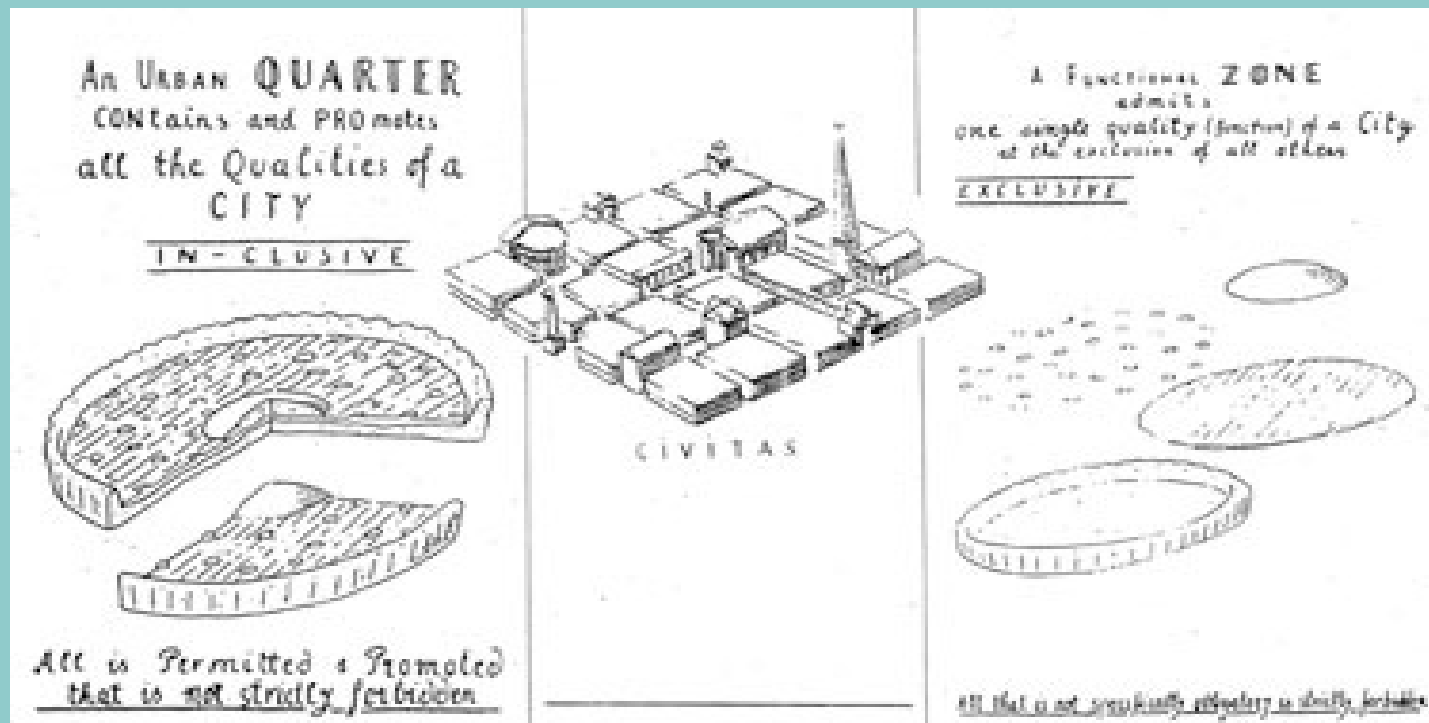
Malls

Schools

Libraries

City Hall

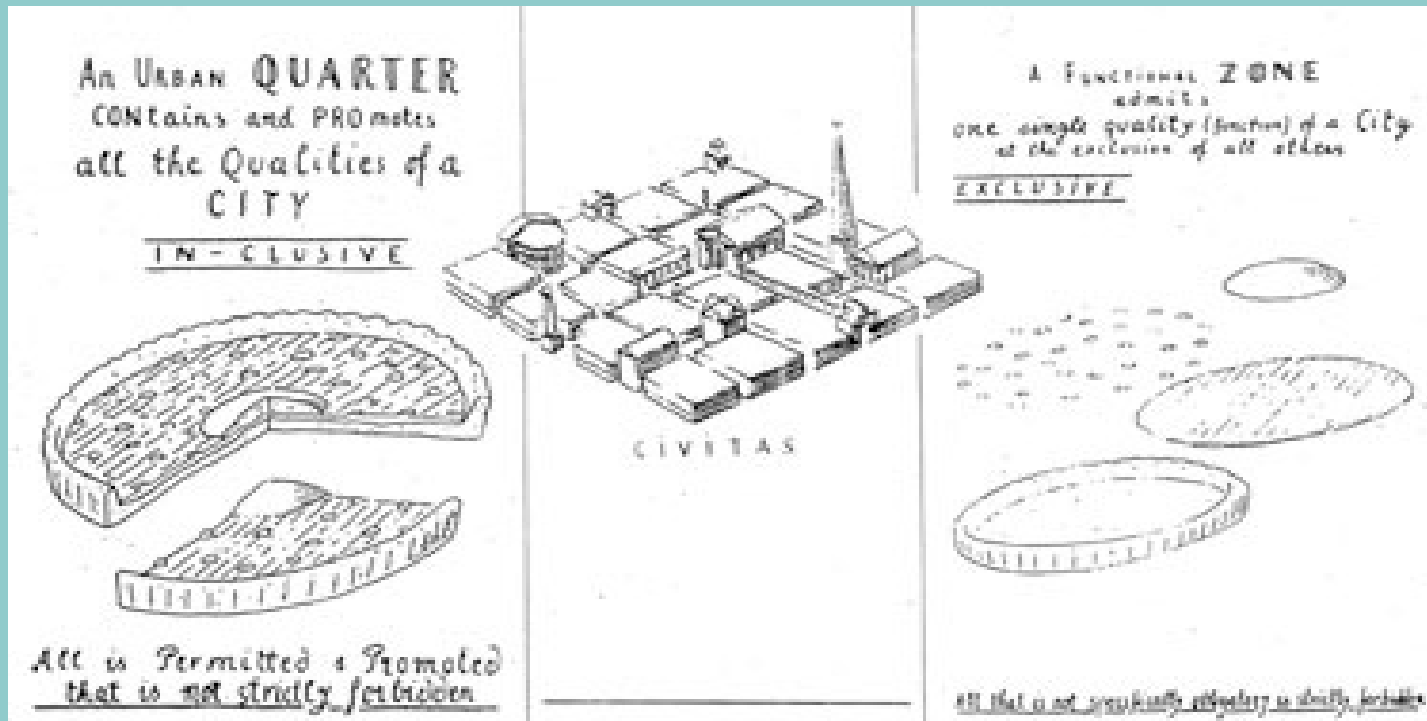
We no longer decide on a Place Recipe before we design our communities



So what do we do?

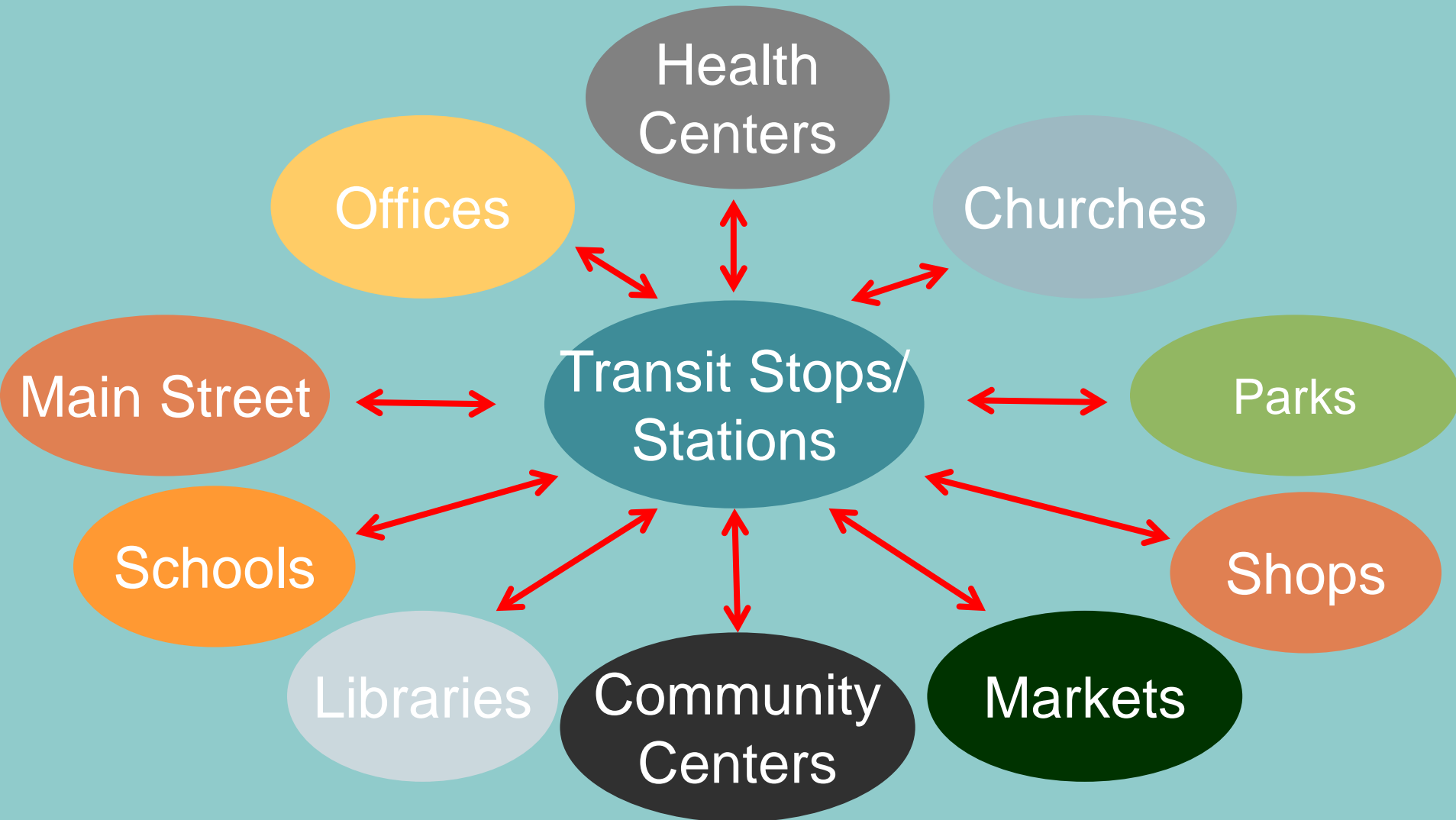


Create the Place Recipe First!



Transit integrated into the Place Recipe

Not a side dish!



Place Led Community Process

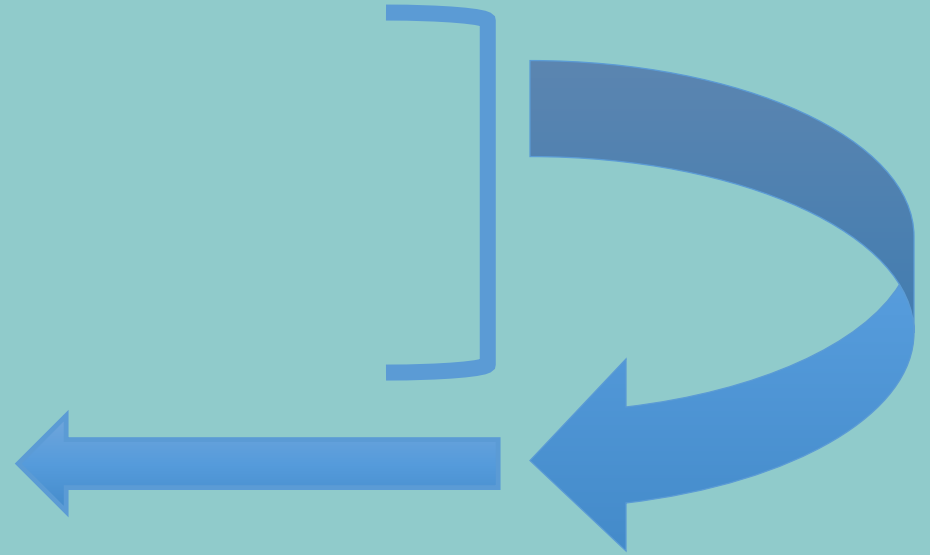
How to Create the Recipe

- Place/Destination Mapping aka Power of Ten
- Route Mapping aka Connectivity Exercise
- Evaluate Space and Identify Opportunities
- Street Typologies – A Street for Every Purpose

- Create a Place Vision



- Test and implement vision via Lighter Quicker Cheaper Interventions
- Modify Vision based on LQC – that is, “You are never finished”



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Placemapping



Place Mapping Goal

Power of Ten

A great place needs to have at least 10 things to do in it or 10 reasons to be there. But, don't get fixated on a particular number. It's really a matter of offering a variety of things to do in one spot – whose quality as a place then becomes more than the sum of its parts. We've listed 10 things to do at Navy Pier. Can you think of more?



Power of Ten

Multiple Scales

A city/region needs 10+ MAJOR DESTINATIONS

Example: Chicagoland region

Brookfield Zoo Museum Campus Forest preserve bike trail Navy Pier Ravinia Festival Frank Lloyd Wright houses
Baha'i Temple Lake Michigan lakefront path St. Patrick's Day Parade Soldier Field Second City Apple picking
Chicago Botanic Garden Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Historic Pullman District Downtown Chicago Chinatown

A Destination needs 10+ PLACES

Example: Downtown Chicago

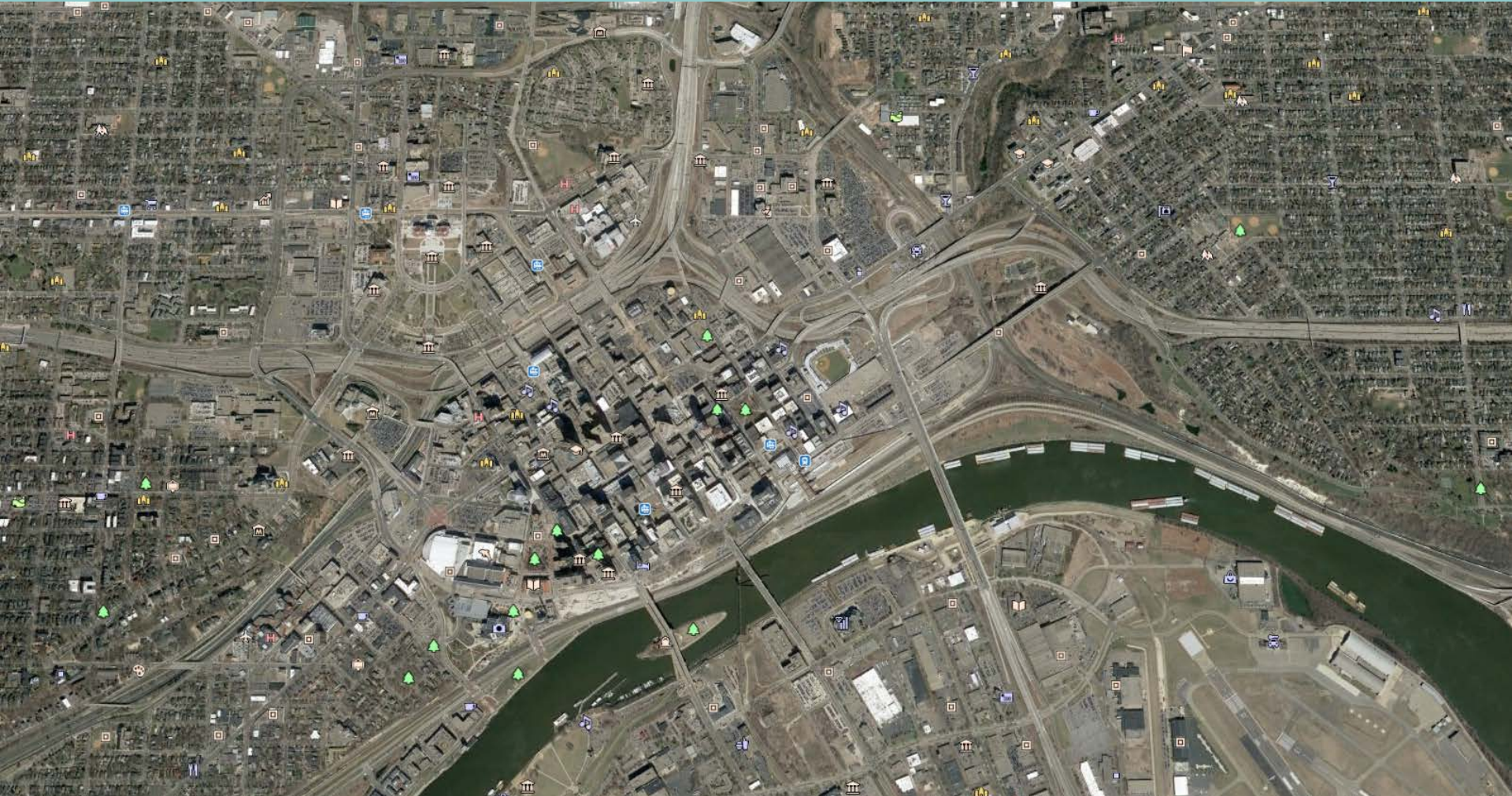
Navy Pier Crown Fountain Ice rink Taste of Chicago Popcorn shops Shopping "The Bean," aka Cloud Gate
Harold Washington Library Grant Park Sears Tower Gene Siskel Film Center Daley Plaza Chicago Riverwalk
Green City Market Chicago Theatre Mies buildings World-class restaurants Looptopia Buckingham Fountain

Each place needs 10+ THINGS TO DO

Example: Daley Plaza, Downtown Chicago

Go to the farmer's market Sit on the Picasso statue Meet up for Chicago's Critical Mass ride Join ethnic celebrations
Put your feet in the fountain Read the newspaper Take a break after getting your driver's license Eat lunch outside
Catch the El or a bus, within a block Listen to free lunchtime music Visit two churches and a synagogue within a block

Placemapping St. Paul



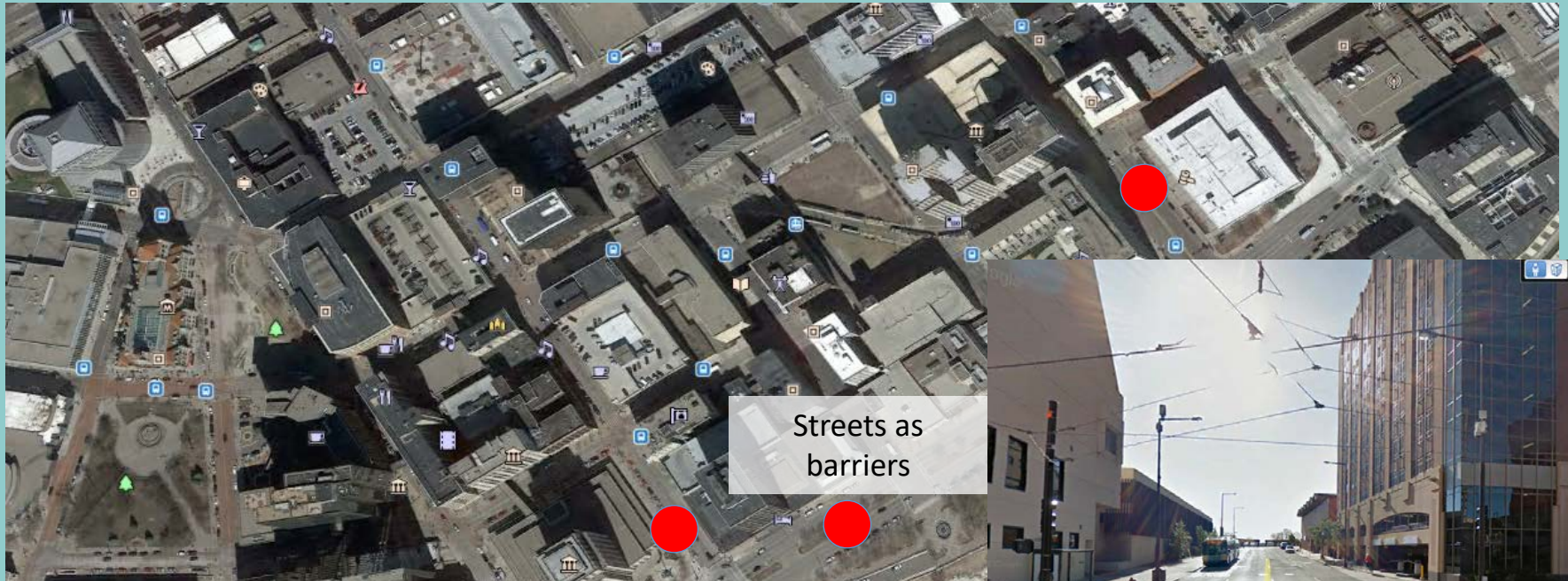
Placemapping St. Paul



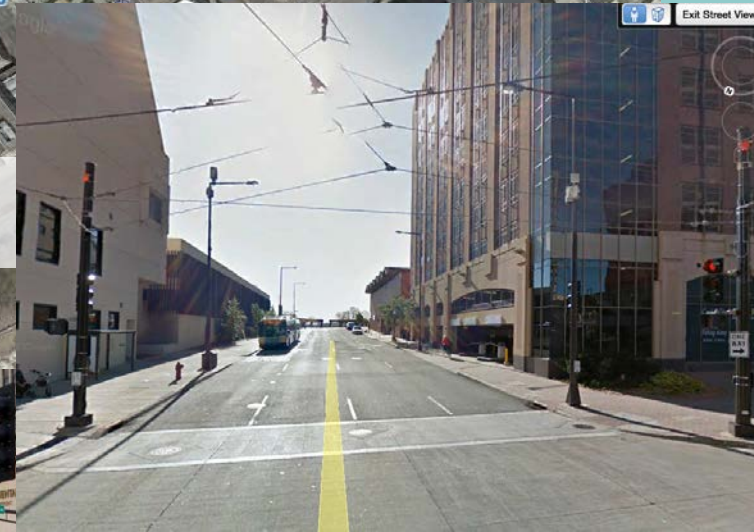
Placemapping St. Paul Opportunities



Placemapping St. Paul Barriers/Liabilities



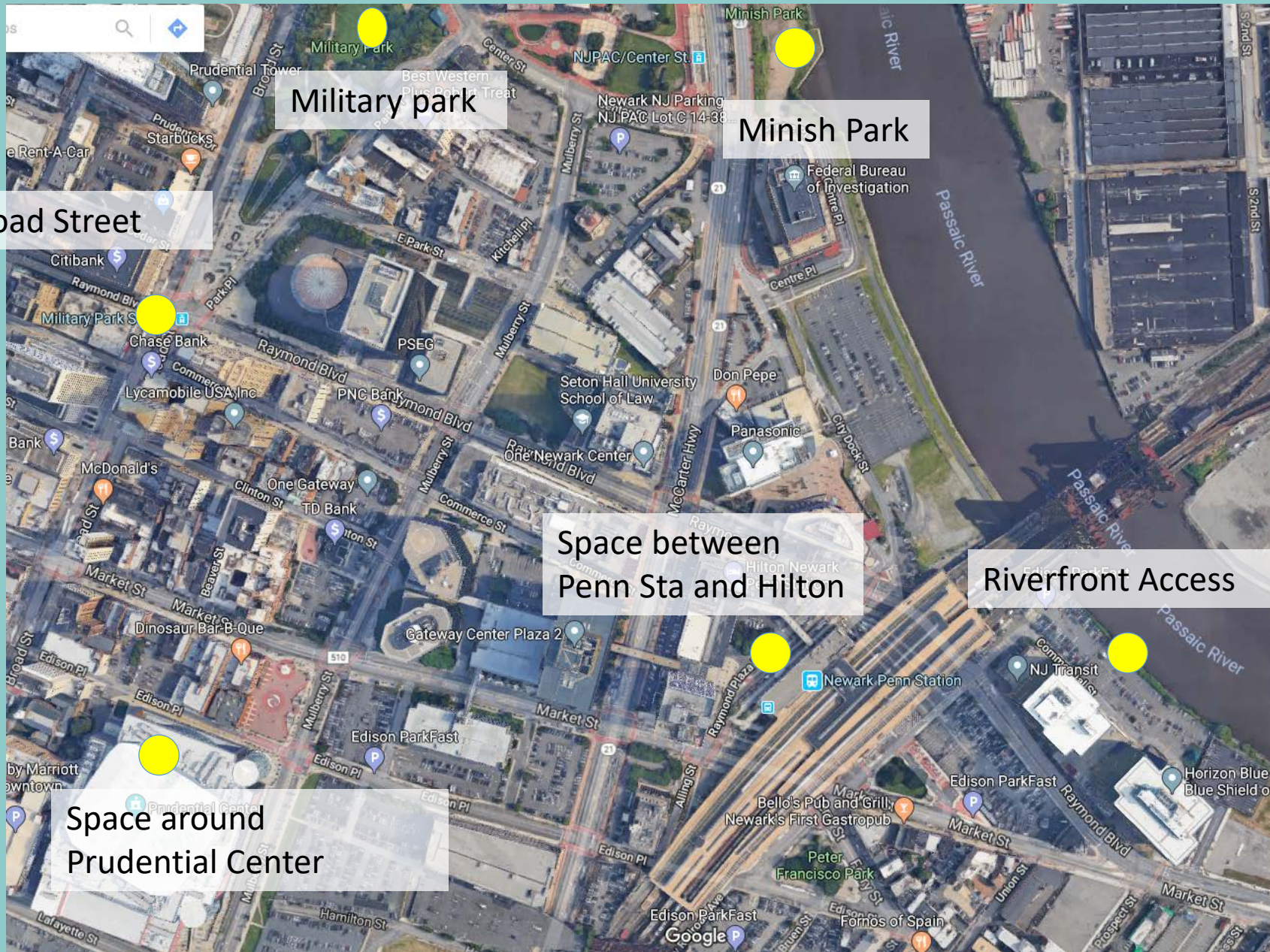
Streets as
barriers



Placemapping Newark -- assets



Placemapping Newark -- opportunities



Military park

Minish Park

Broad Street

Space between Penn Sta and Hilton

Riverfront Access

Space around Prudential Center

Placemapping Newark -- liabilities



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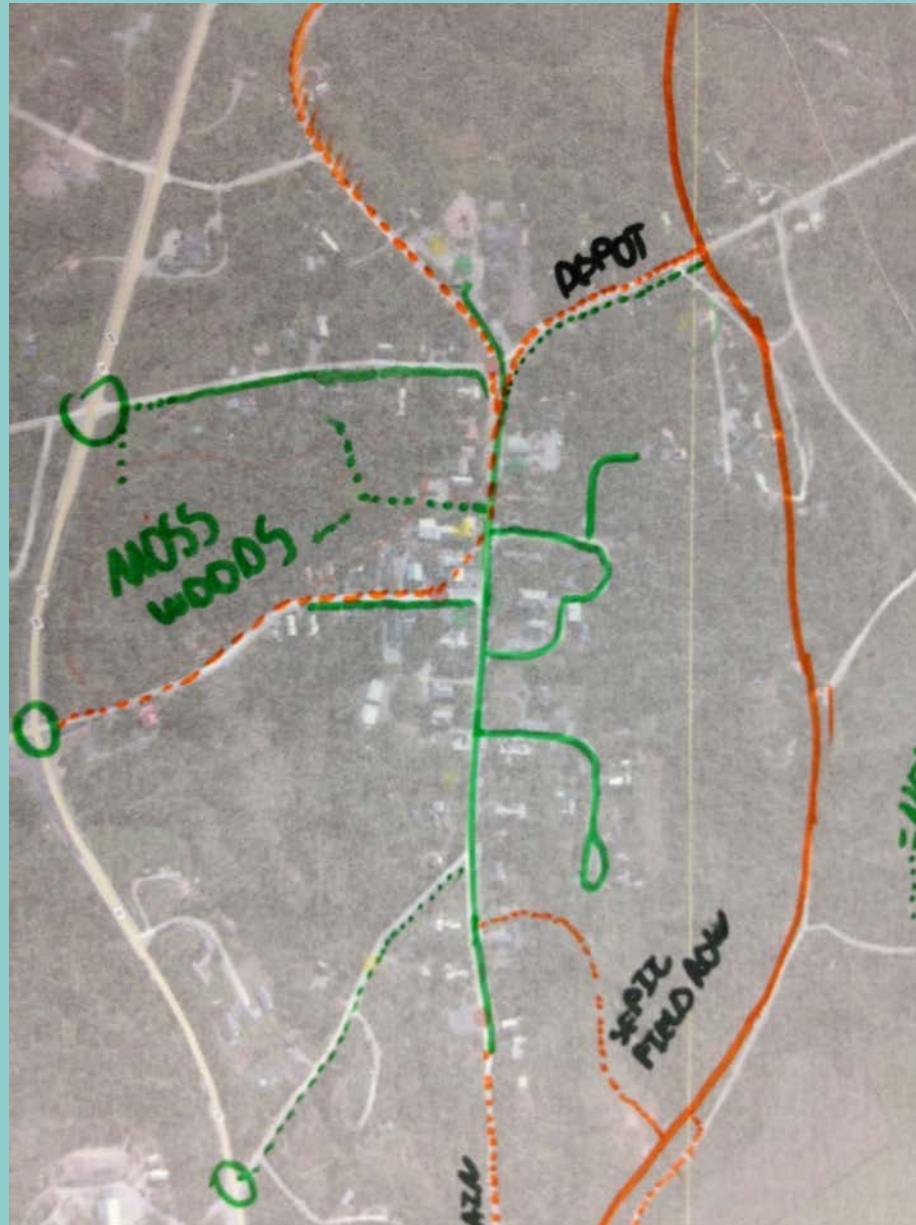
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Connectivity Exercise



Connectivity Exercise



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Evaluate Space/Identify Opportunities



Street and Place Audits



Place and Street Audits

LOCATION: _____ GROUP NUMBER: _____

A EVALUATE THE PLACE

Stop at your designated site and complete part A of the evaluation. Put yourself in the shoes of someone who lives or works in the community and evaluate this site's performance.

ACCESS, LINKAGES & INFORMATION

← DISAGREE AGREE →

Pedestrians can easily walk to and through the area. 1 2 3 4

Pedestrian access is safe and convenient:

- Sidewalks connect to adjacent areas & are contiuous 1 2 3 4

- Crosswalks are well marked; 1 2 3 4

- Crossing times are adequate 1 2 3 4

- Crossing distances are minimal. 1 2 3 4

Taking transit is easy:

- Stops and stations are easy to find; 1 2 3 4

- Stops and stations are easy to get to on foot; 1 2 3 4

- Maps and schedules are readily available. 1 2 3 4

Bicycling is easy:

- Routes are safe and convenient; 1 2 3 4

- Routes are well marked; 1 2 3 4

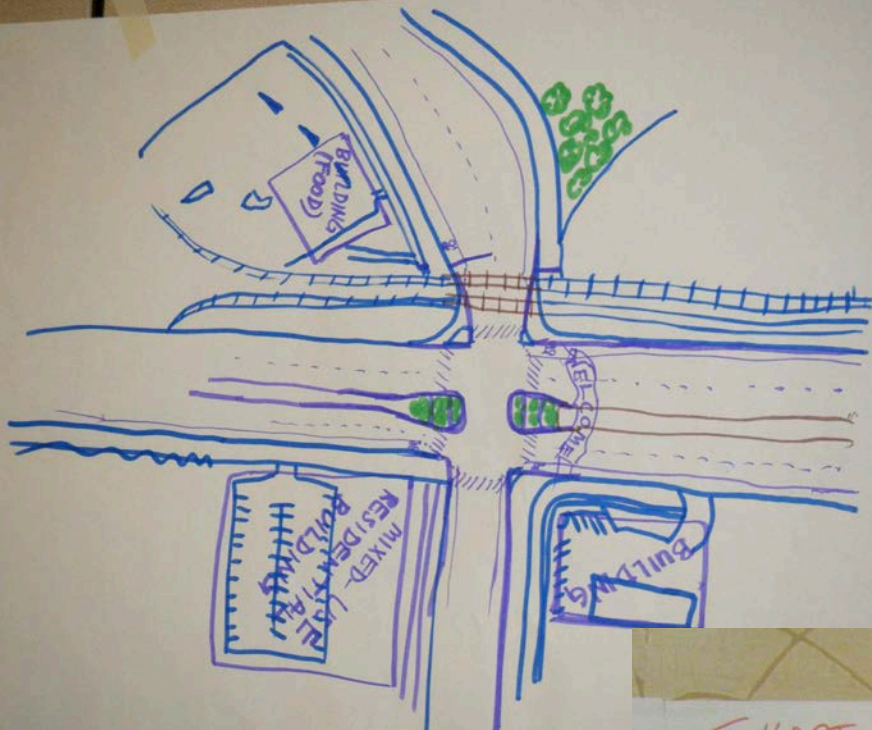
- Storage is adequate. 1 2 3 4

Automobiles do not detract from the pedestrian experience. 1 2 3 4

C INTERVIEW

Ask one or two people in the place what they like about it and what they would do to improve it. If a particular issue from the ratings has emerged, ask them their opinion about it.

THEIR ANSWERS:



SHORT TERM IMPROVEMENTS EASY FIXES

- Bike Lanes⁶
- * Murals (ART SCAPING) ●●●●●⁵
- * Removing on-Street Parking¹
- * Benches ●●●●●³
- * More Vegetation ●●●³
- * Improving pavement markings (Pedestrians) ●●●●●⁴
- * Pedestrian Signs showing directions to popular destinations (Way Finding) For Tourist²
- Pedestrian level street signing³
- Transit shelters (Property Owner Conflicts)⁶
- * Traffic signage for vehicles trying to turn into the parking garage

SHORT TERM

- Lengthen the amount of time for pedestrian crossing²
- * Add countdown timer ●●●●●●⁶
- * Planter boxes at each corner ●●●●●⁴
- Bike storage / RACKS ●●●●●⁶
- * Pavement markings to direct cars in tight turning radius.



Pop-up Workshops: Dot Preference Surveys

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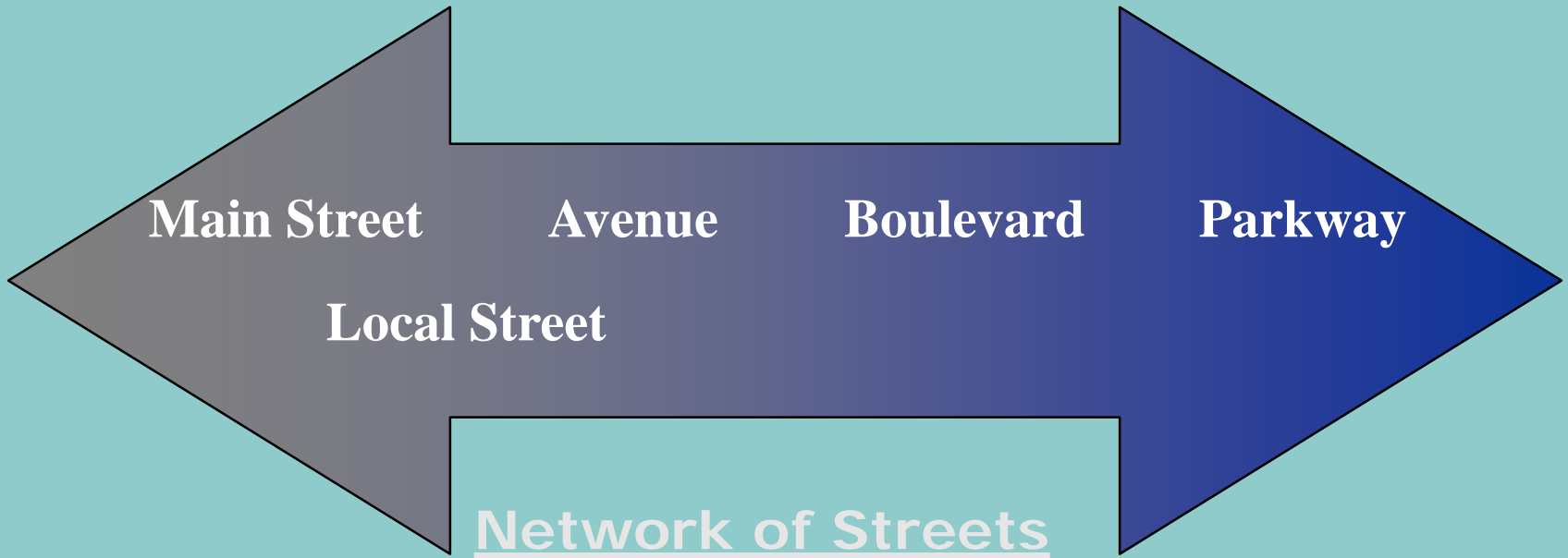


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Street Typologies

A Variety of Street Types



Main Street

Avenue

Boulevard

Parkway

Local Street

Network of Streets

Pedestrian-
Oriented

Auto-
Oriented

Example Typologies Brunswick

DESTINATION STREET



Destination Street:

A thoroughfare of moderate capacity and low speed that serves a regional urban destination, such as a main street district. Pedestrian and bicyclist comfort is prioritized.

Precedents:

- **Maine Street, Brunswick**
- Main/Bayview Street, Camden
- Main Street, Rockland



Maine Street, Brunswick



Maine Street, Brunswick

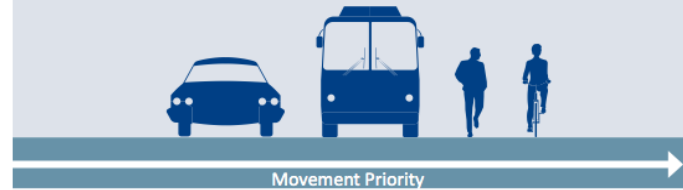


Main/Bayview Street, Camden

Main Street, Rockland

THOROUGHFARE TYPE	DESTINATION STREET
Right-of-Way Width	Varies
Pavement Width	Varies
LAND USE CHARACTER	WALKABLE, URBAN CORE
GENERAL USES	Offices, Retail, Residential, Civic
PUBLIC FRONTAGE QUALITY	HIGH
Drainage Type	Curb
Curb Radius	5 - 15 ft.
Walkway Type	Sidewalk
Landscape Type	Planted
# VEHICULAR LANES	2 - 3
Traffic Lane Width	10 ft.
Parking Lane Width	7 - 8 ft.
Target Design Speed	20 - 25 mph
BIKEWAY TYPE	BICYCLE LANE, SHARROW
Riding Surface Width	5 - 6 ft.
Movement	Uni-Directional
Bicycle Parking	Rack, Shelter, Locker
TRANSITWAY TYPE	REGIONAL BUS, LOCAL CIRCULATOR, AMTRAK

COMMERCIAL ARTERIAL



Commercial Arterial:

A thoroughfare designed to provide a high degree of vehicular mobility at moderate speeds to regional serving commercial land uses. While the design of this thoroughfare type generally favors motor vehicles, future redevelopment opportunities should include bicycle and pedestrian facilities.

Maine Precedents:

- **Outer Pleasant Street, Brunswick**
- Bath Road, Brunswick
- Civic Center Drive, Augusta

Image from Outer Pleasant

Outer Pleasant Street, Brunswick

THOROUGHFARE TYPE	COMMERCIAL ARTERIAL
Right-of-Way Width	Varies
Pavement Width	Varies
LAND USE CHARACTER	AUTO-ORIENTED, SUBURBAN
GENERAL USES	Gas Stations, Big Box Retail, Motel
PUBLIC FRONTAGE QUALITY	LOW, MEDIUM
Drainage Type	Curb, swale
Curb Radius	15 - 25 ft.
Walkway Type	Sidewalk
Landscape Type	Planted
# VEHICULAR LANES	3 - 6
Traffic Lane Width	11 - 12 ft.
Parking Lane Width	n/a
Target Design Speed	30-35 mph
BIKEWAY TYPE	BICYCLE LANE
Riding Surface Width	5 - 6 ft.
Movement	Uni-Directional
Bicycle Parking	Rack
TRANSITWAY TYPE	REGIONAL BUS, LOCAL CIRCULATOR

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Outer Pleasant Street, Brunswick



Bath Road, Brunswick



Civic Center Drive, Augusta

NEIGHBORHOOD STREET

NEIGHBORHOOD ST / BIKE BLVD

LANE

DESTINATION STREET

SUPPORT STREET

MEW

ALLEY

COMMERCIAL AVENUE

AVENUE

BOULEVARD

COMMERCIAL BOULEVARD

RURAL HIGHWAY

RURAL DRIVE

INDUSTRIAL ACCESS ROAD

PATH



USES OF STREET SPACE



PEDESTRIANS



TRUCKS



CYCLISTS



TRANSIT



PASSENGER CARS



MAIL BOXES



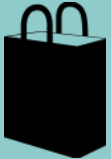
PARKING



OUTDOOR DINING



SCHOOL BUSES



SHOPPING



PLAY



DELIVERIES

**Alleys are the appropriate place for sanitation and utilities.*

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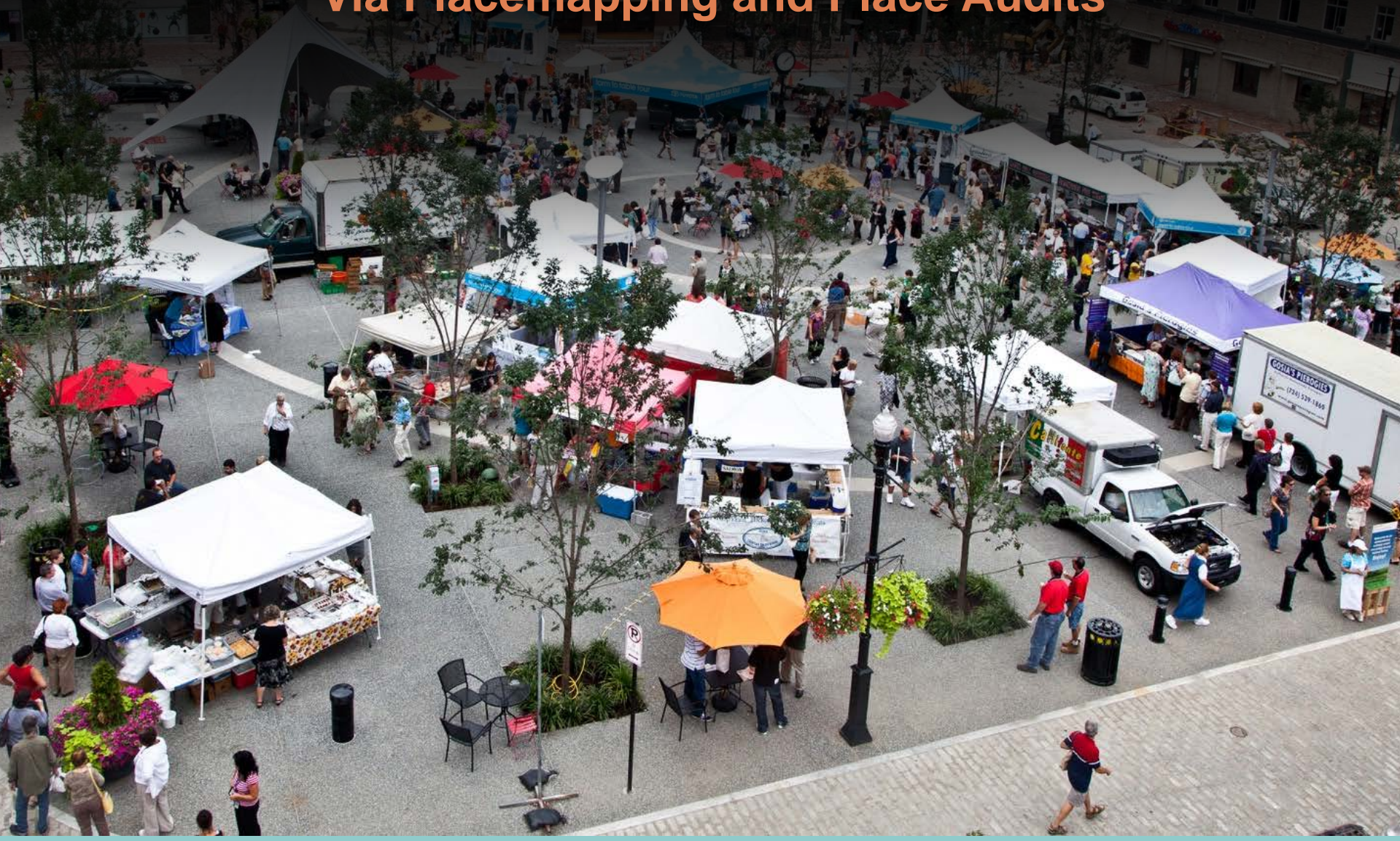
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Example TRANSFORMATION OF PITTSBURGH MARKET SQUARE Via Placemapping and Place Audits





1900s Diamond Market Buildings



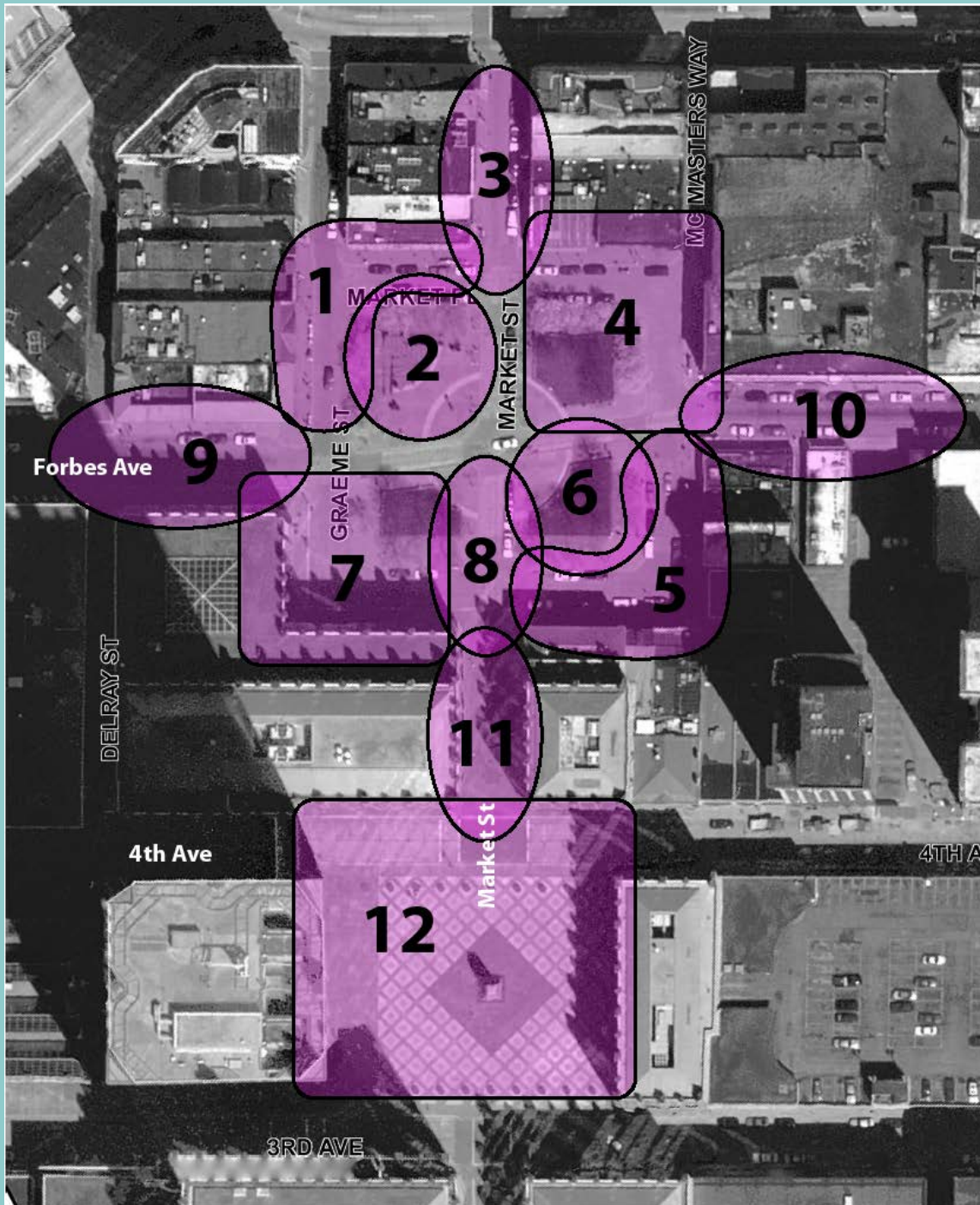
1960's Open Space



1970's Pittsburgh's first historic district



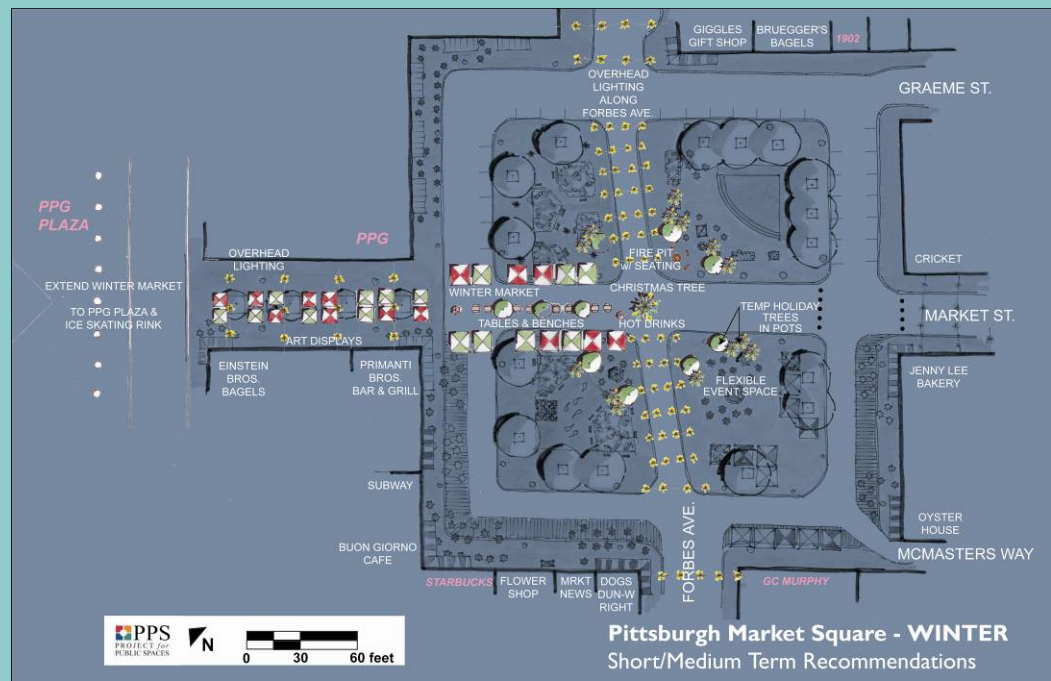
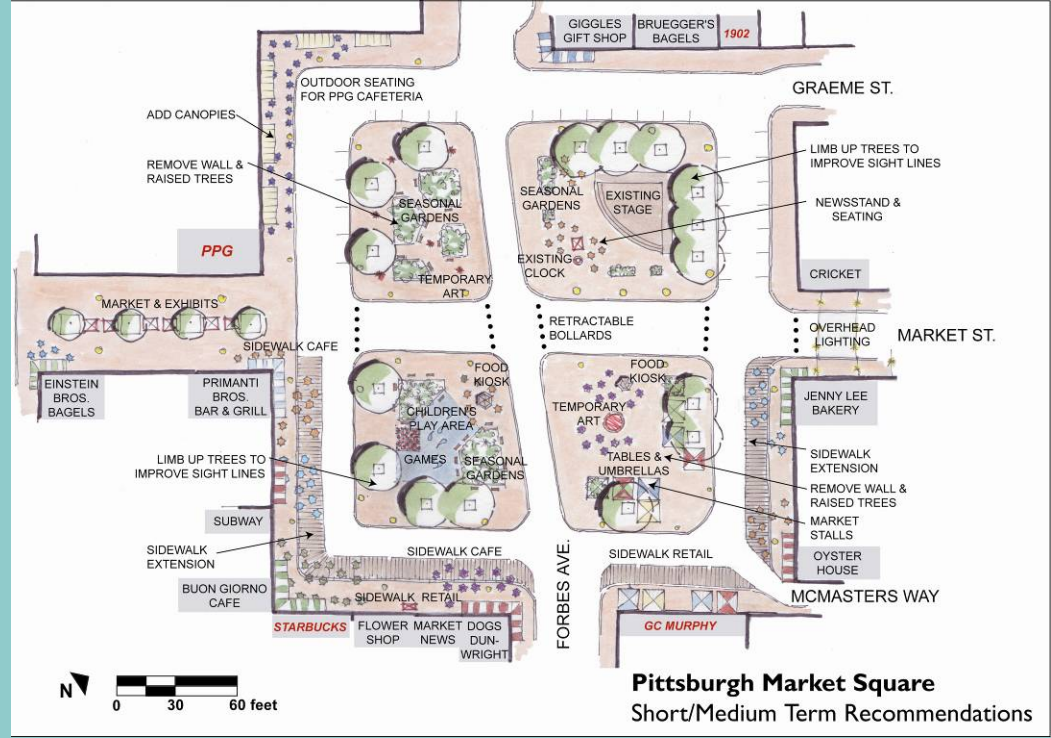
2000's European-style plaza



Evaluate



Place Vision







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Short Term Solutions aka Lighter Quicker Cheaper





JORDAN IS

This One Big Project





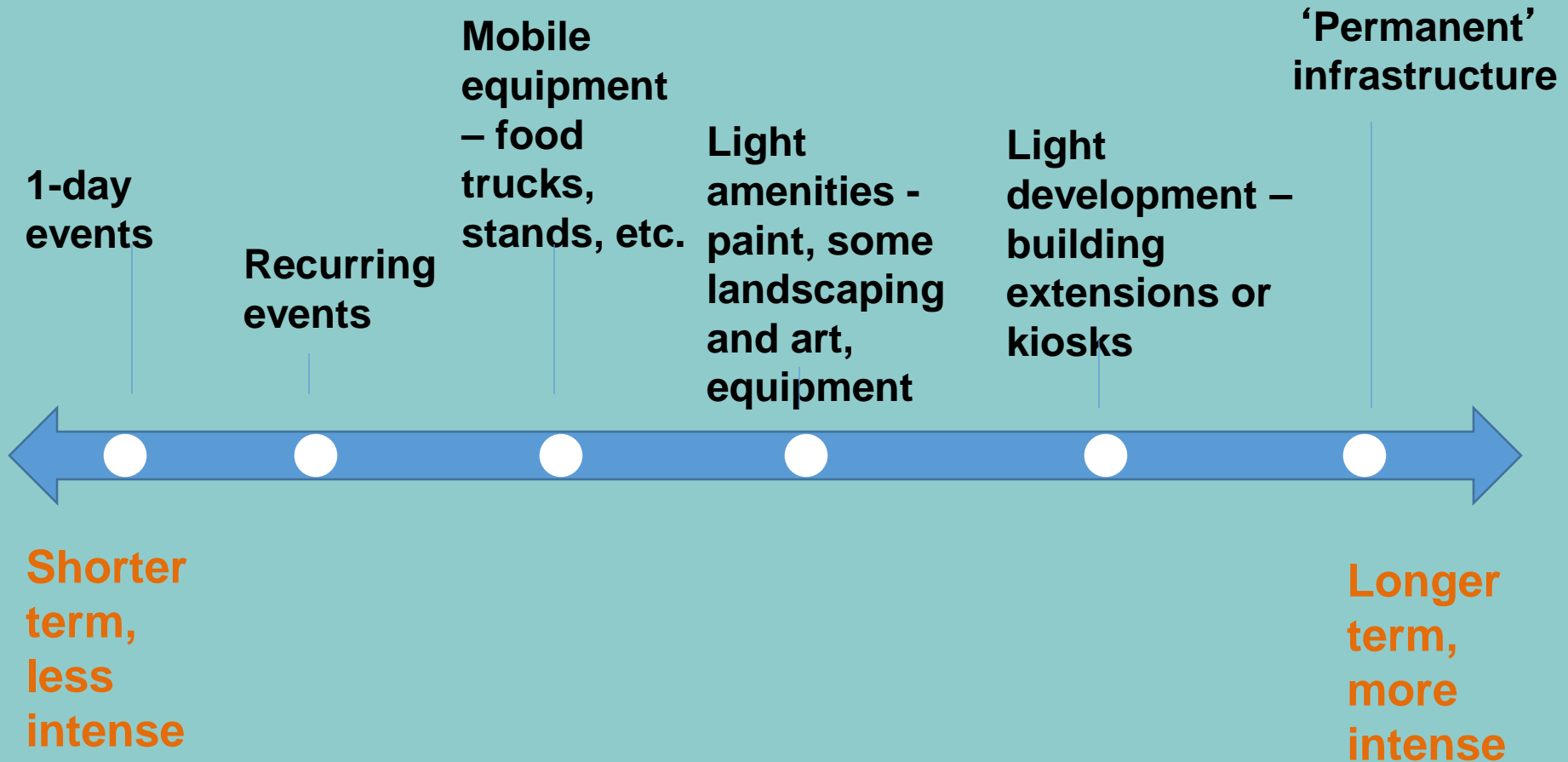
Kaplan et al, Harvard 2005

The Snowball Effect

“a figurative term for a process that starts from an initial state of small significance and builds upon itself, becoming larger and faster at every stage”

Applied to a community, this is a *transformational* principle...

Lighter Quicker Cheaper Spectrum



Times Square, NYC



Try it!

Minneapolis Bicycle Coalition Open Streets Demonstration Project



Image: Sam Rockwell.



Increasing People Space Chicago



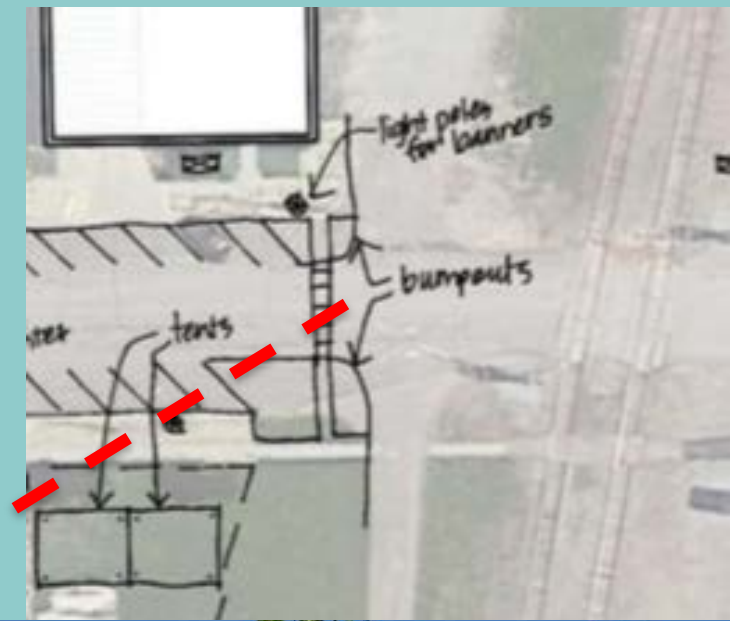
Lincoln Hub, Chicago, IL. Built in 2015. Photo Credit: John Greenfield

Increasing People Space Chicago



Brownsville, Brooklyn
www.nyc.gov/streetseats

Bumpouts: Defining the Place







ENGAGING BUS STOPS



YAHOO BUS DERBY | SAN FRANCISCO



Yahoo! pit commuting neighborhoods against one another in interactive game play. The winner got the glory and a chance to host their own block party with rock band, OK Go!



MACBOOK AIR & SWING | LONDON



Waiting for the bus is much
more palatable, when
you're swinging!

OSMOSIS OF THE BOULEVARD DIDEROT | PARIS



This Parisian bus activation goes beyond the station and uses Placemaking to make the station a destination in its own right.

Engaging Bus Stops



Bus Stops.



Public Spaces.

To commemorate the 2014 Pro Walk/Pro Bike/Pro Place conference join us on July 24, 2014, 6-11am and 2-7pm for a community workshop that will ask you to improve your bus shelter.

We need your help to envision activities or amenities that you want to have at this bus stop. You can drop in, or help us answer a few questions while you wait for the bus! In all, we are encouraging straphangers like you to think about bus stops as fun public spaces.

With the support of local cultural institutions your suggestions will be used to inform a temporary installation of activities this September 8-11th that will make waiting for the bus more fun!

WHAT COULD
MAKE THIS
BUS STOP
BETTER?

Flowers,
Add Recycling
and Ash
trays

Nicer
Seats

Clean up
the benches

Bus stops
represent
local
culture.

Make the
elderly
comfortable


Better
Maintenance

Better
Seats.
- Enclosed
deck, add
a phone.

Make it
a nicer
place.

Air conditioner
or
Mister

Police man
on
Duty at
Stop

Reading
Lights


Cleaning
+
Security

Garden would
be nice.
Water fountain

Add music!








“FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS”







ENHANCING PEDESTRIAN SPACE AT COMMERCIAL AND BROADWAY, VANCOUVER, BC

Photo
Credit:
City Lab

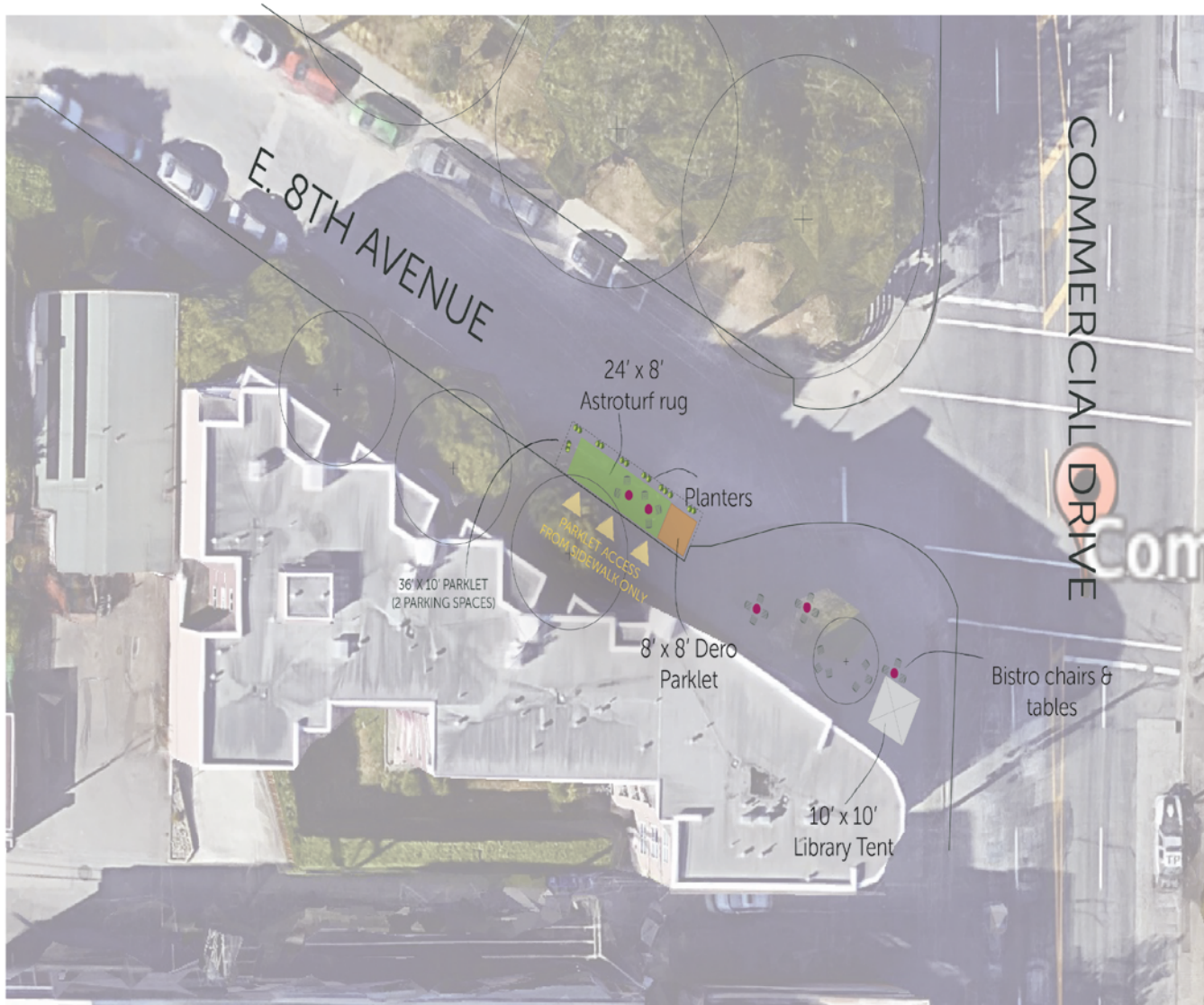




SAFE SPECIAL EVENT PLAN CHECKLIST



2016



SITE PLAN
 8TH AVENUE & COMMERCIAL DRIVE, VANCOUVER, B.C.



PLEASE JOIN US ON

JULY 15, 2016 12-8PM

FOR A

POP-UP PUBLIC SPACE

AT

EAST 8TH AVENUE AND COMMERCIAL DRIVE

Come celebrate this public space not only as an important transit station but as a setting for community interaction, a place that can be home to a diversity of activities.

Join Project for Public Spaces for a day of music, art, books and more!

















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Rail Station Examples NJ

South Orange

Transit facilities are active, attractive, community public spaces that attract people on a regular basis, at various times of day, and days of week.



Bradley Beach, NJ

A variety of amenities and retail are provided, such as news/sundry stands, coffee carts, comfortable seating, restrooms, and information kiosks that serve residents and commuters alike.



Transit facilities are managed so they serve as anchors for local businesses and as small business incubators.

Maplewood, NJ



Netherwood, Plainfield



South Orange, NJ



Transferring between train, buses, and cars is both convenient and pleasant.

Rutherford, NJ



Amenities within Stations

Newark Penn, NJ





A Citizen's Guide to Better Streets

HOW TO ENGAGE YOUR TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

Project for Public Spaces, Inc.

http://www.pps.org/pdf/bookstore/How_to_Engage_Your_Transportation_Agency_AARP.pdf

Gary Toth

Director of Transportation Initiatives

Project for Public Spaces

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