

# Revitalizing the post-war neighborhood

Towards inclusive and strategic new perspectives for Schiedam Nieuwland



P5 Presentation | June 20th, 2023  
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# Motivation

The interest for post-war neighborhoods and Nieuwland

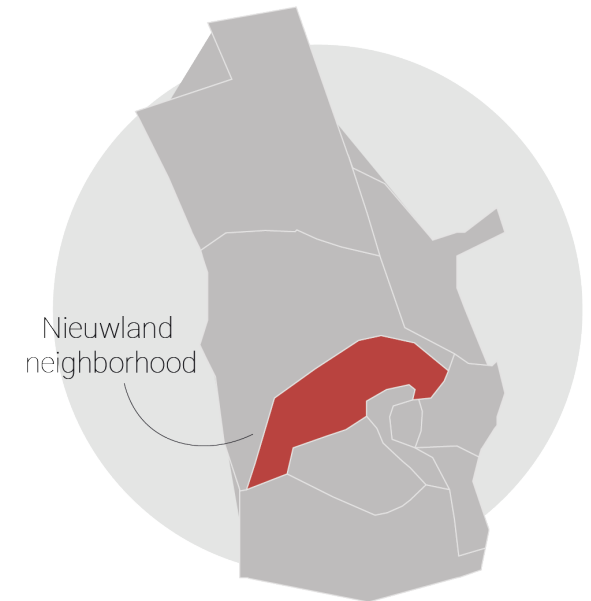
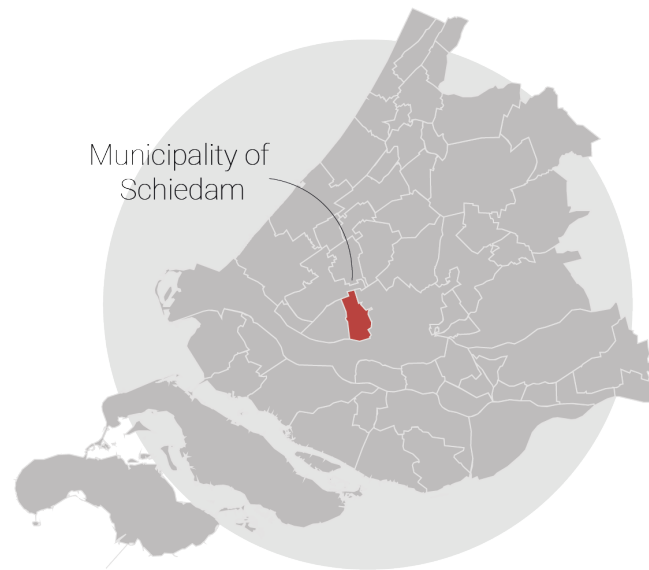


# Project definition

The location and the 'problems' at hand



# Location





## History

A post-war neighborhood born from functionalism, build to flee the busy inner city life



K.L.M. Aerocarto NV, 1960



Haan, A.E., 1967

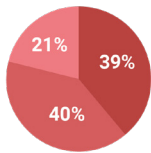


# Social perspective

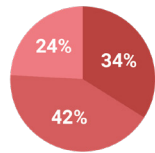
Marked by a vulnerable population

Low level of education

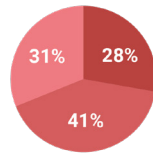
## Level of education



Nieuwland



Schiedam

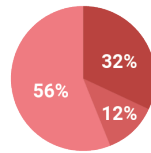


Netherlands

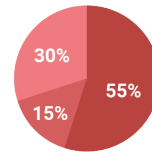
Level of education (Alle Cijfers, 2022)

Large portion with a migration background

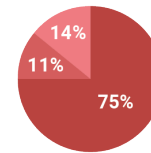
## Migration background



Nieuwland



Schiedam



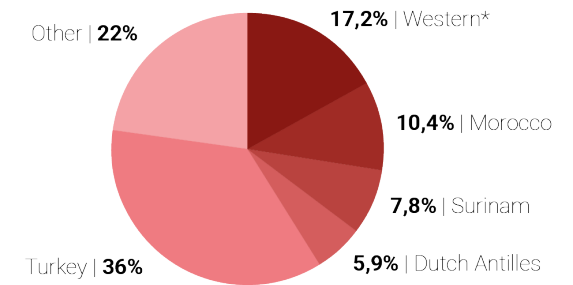
Netherlands

\*Western: originating from either Europe (excl. Turkey), North-America, Oceania, Indonesia, Japan.

Migration background (Alle Cijfers, 2022)

## Migration background

% of migrants per country/region



Nieuwland

\*Western: originating from either Europe (excl. Turkey), North-America, Oceania, Indonesia, Japan.

Migrants per country/region of origin (Alle Cijfers, 2022)

Many social issues

## 'Acting upon tackling Liveability and Safety issues withing Nieuwland and Oost' (Gemeente Schiedam, 2021)

"Citizens of Nieuwland and Oost are increasingly dealing with persistent issues in regards to poverty, education, work, health, debt and criminality" - Gemeente Schiedam



## National perspective

National issues that put pressure on local change

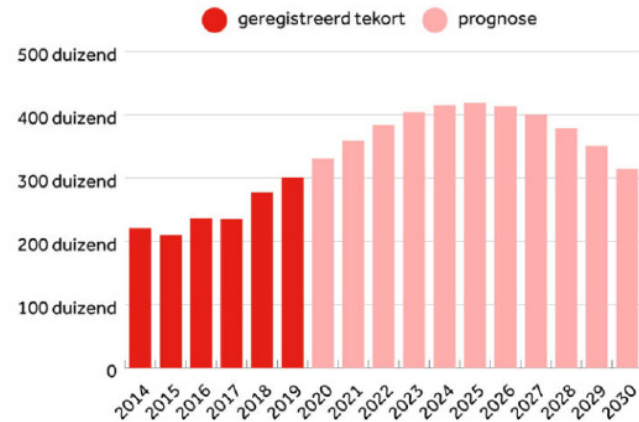
Housing shortage

### 'Woningtekort wordt komende jaren alleen erger'

10 feb. 2022 in OELD

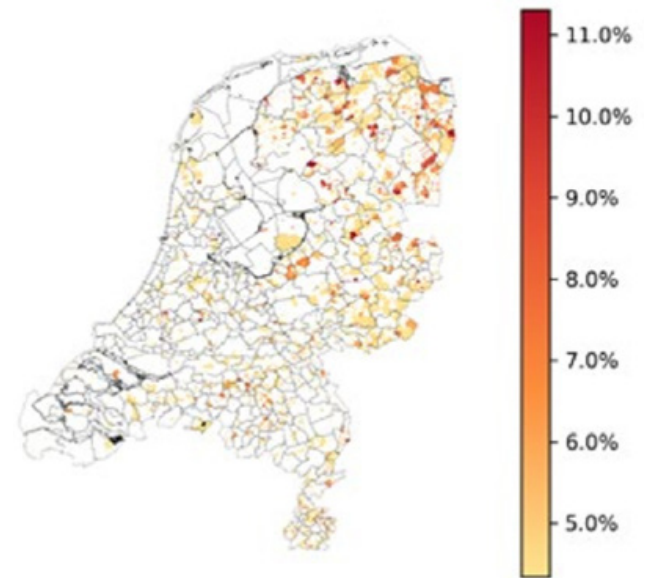


#### Ontwikkeling woningtekort



Historic (red) and projected (pink) housing shortage in the Netherlands. (NOS/ABF, 2021)

Energy transition



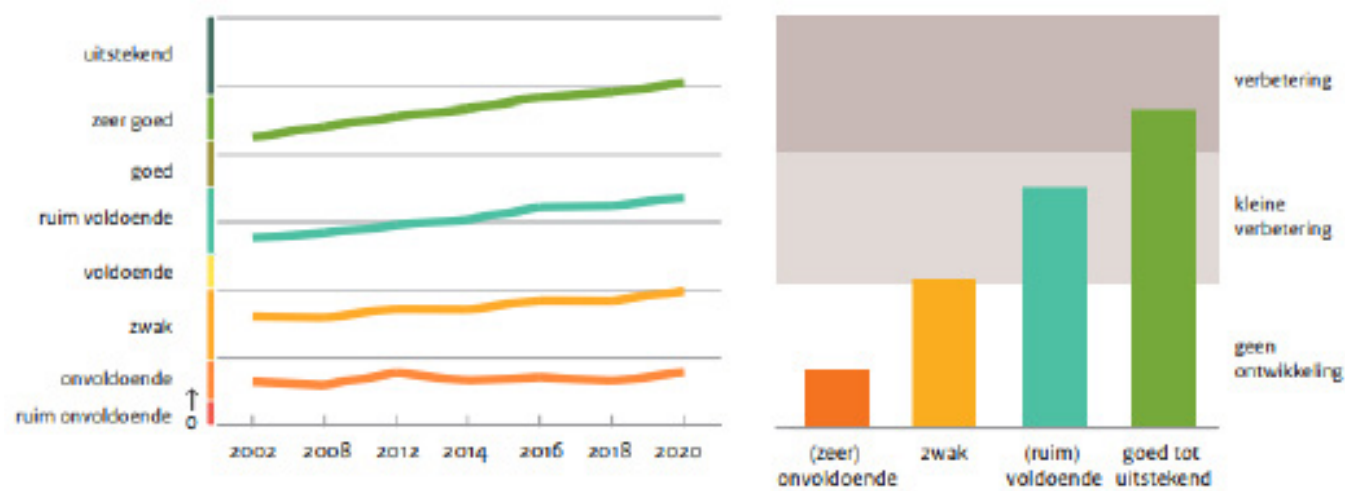
Overview of the top 20% of Dutch neighborhoods in terms of energy poverty. (TNO, 2021).



## Local perspective

Indicators of problems on local levels

Liveability and safety of neighborhoods



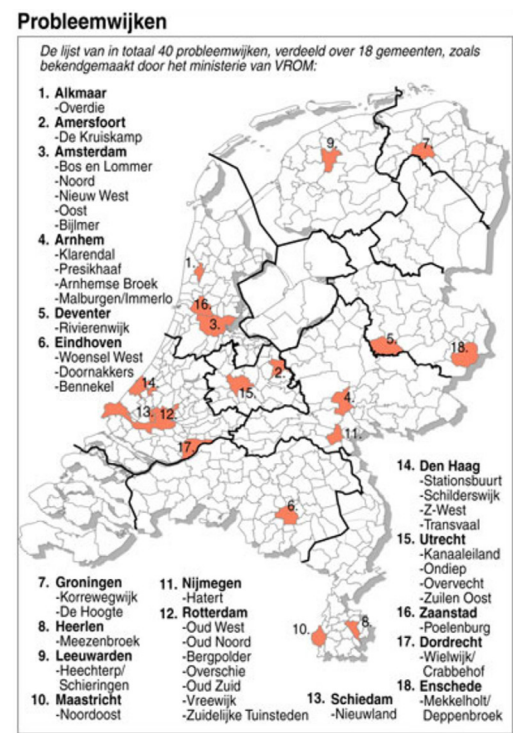
From the *Leefbarometer* (Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken en Koninkrijksrelaties, 2022)



# Historical perspective

Not all neighborhoods are improving as effectively

Vogelaarwijken (2007)



Nationaal programma Leefbaarheid en Veiligheid (2022)





## Problem statement

“

Schiedam Nieuwland and its vulnerable population are suffering from national and local issues concerning liveability and safety. Plans to mitigate these issues in the past have not proven effective yet.

”

A grayscale photograph of a public space featuring a mosaic-covered bench in the foreground. The bench has the word 'Nieuwland' written on its side. In the background, there is a parking lot with several cars and a building. The word 'Methodology' is overlaid in large red text on the bench.

# Methodology

Defining an approach for the project



## Research question

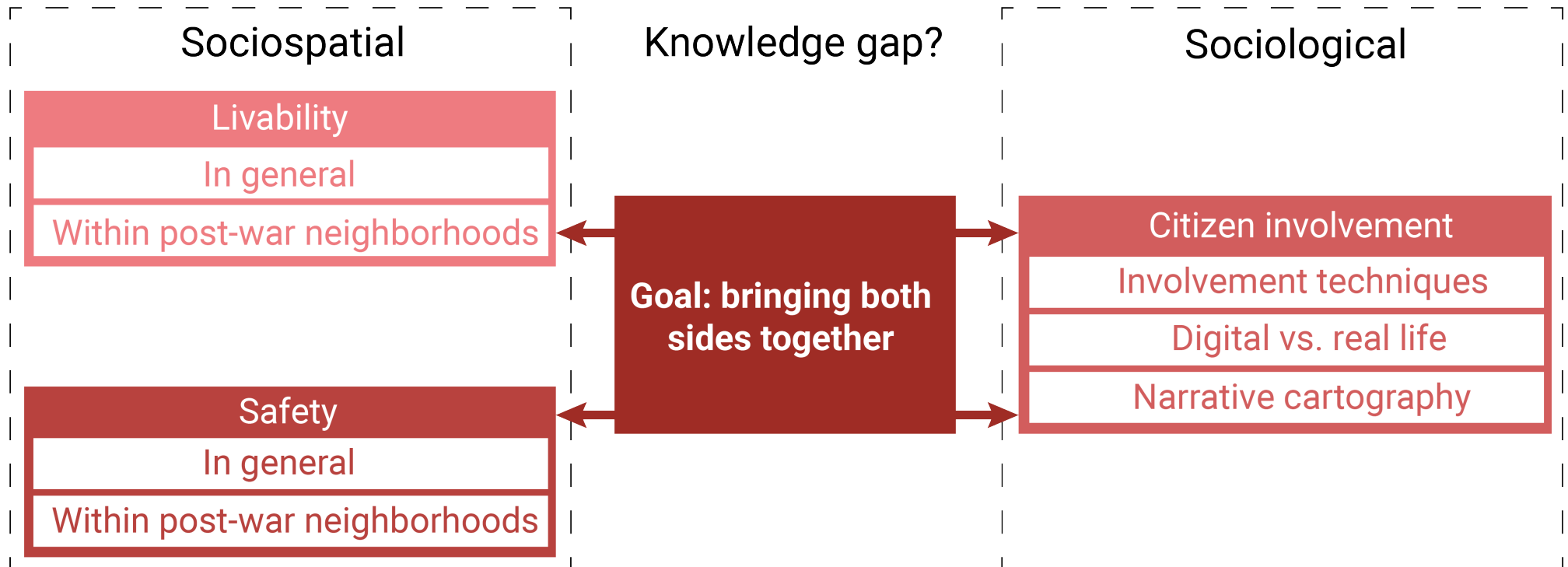
**How can post-war neighborhood Schiedam Nieuwland be transformed into a safe and liveable urban environment while in this transformation catering to the perspective of the current inhabitants?**

### Subquestions

- 1 What is the origin behind post-war neighborhoods in the Netherlands?
- 2 What spatial aspects determine safety and liveability in post-war neighborhoods?
- 3 What can we learn from citizen perspectives within the redevelopment of Schiedam Nieuwland?
- 4 What interventions are needed to improve the quality of living in Schiedam Nieuwland?

# Theoretical framework

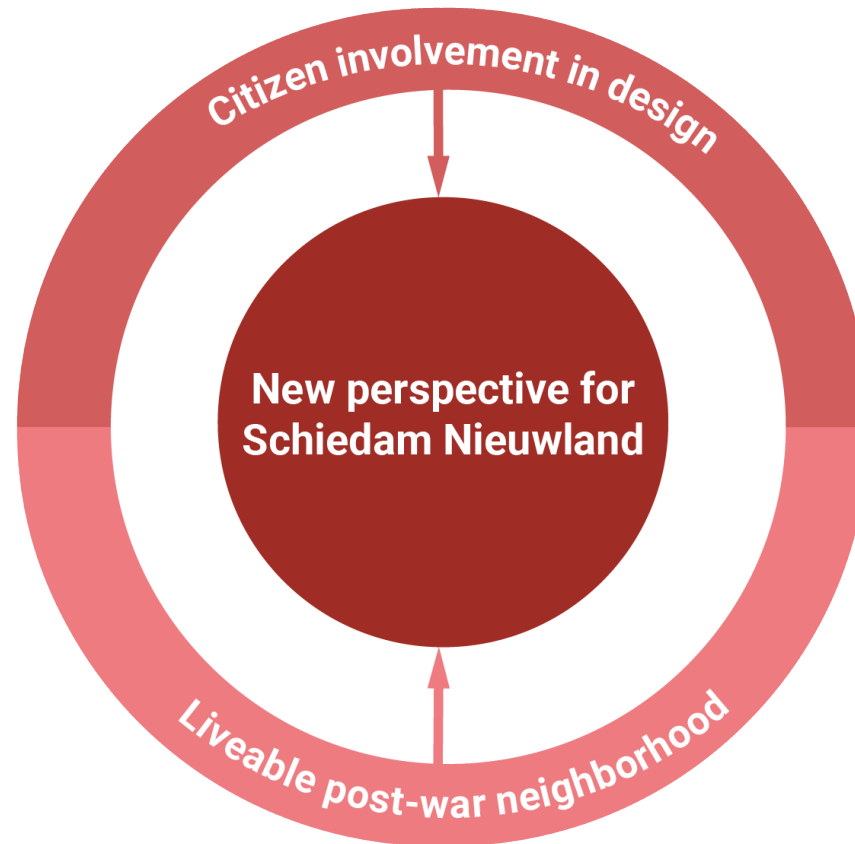
How do we bring theory into practice?





## Conceptual framework

Can we create a new perspective for Schiedam Nieuwland?



# Fieldwork

## Understanding the citizen's perspective of Nieuwland



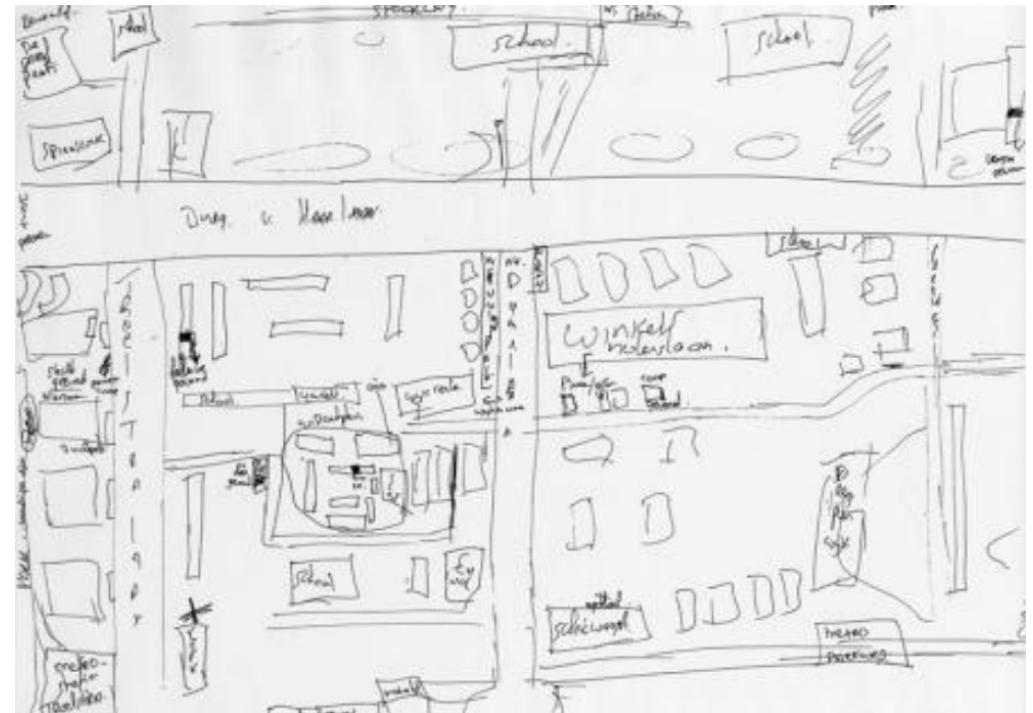


## Fieldwork technique

- Low/high threshold
- Low/high level of anonymity
- Narrative cartography was chosen

## Narrative cartography

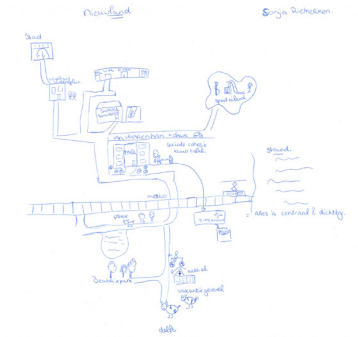
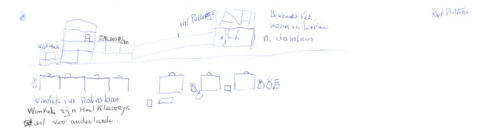
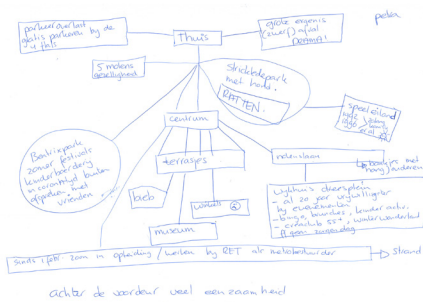
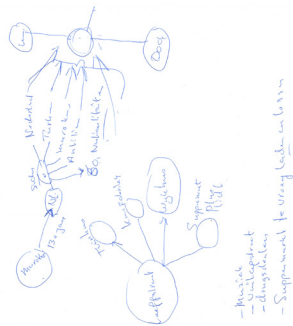
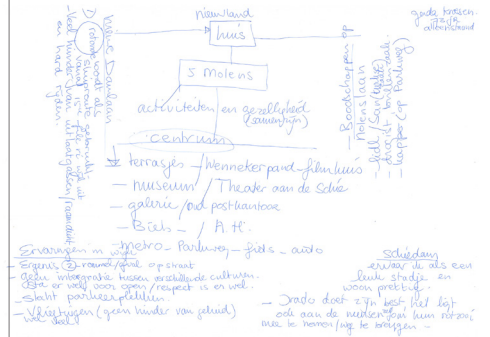
- From a blank sheet of paper
- Telling a verbal and visual narrative
- Highlighting what is most relevant, leaving out what is not



Example of narrative cartography for Nieuwland (Reinders, 2013)

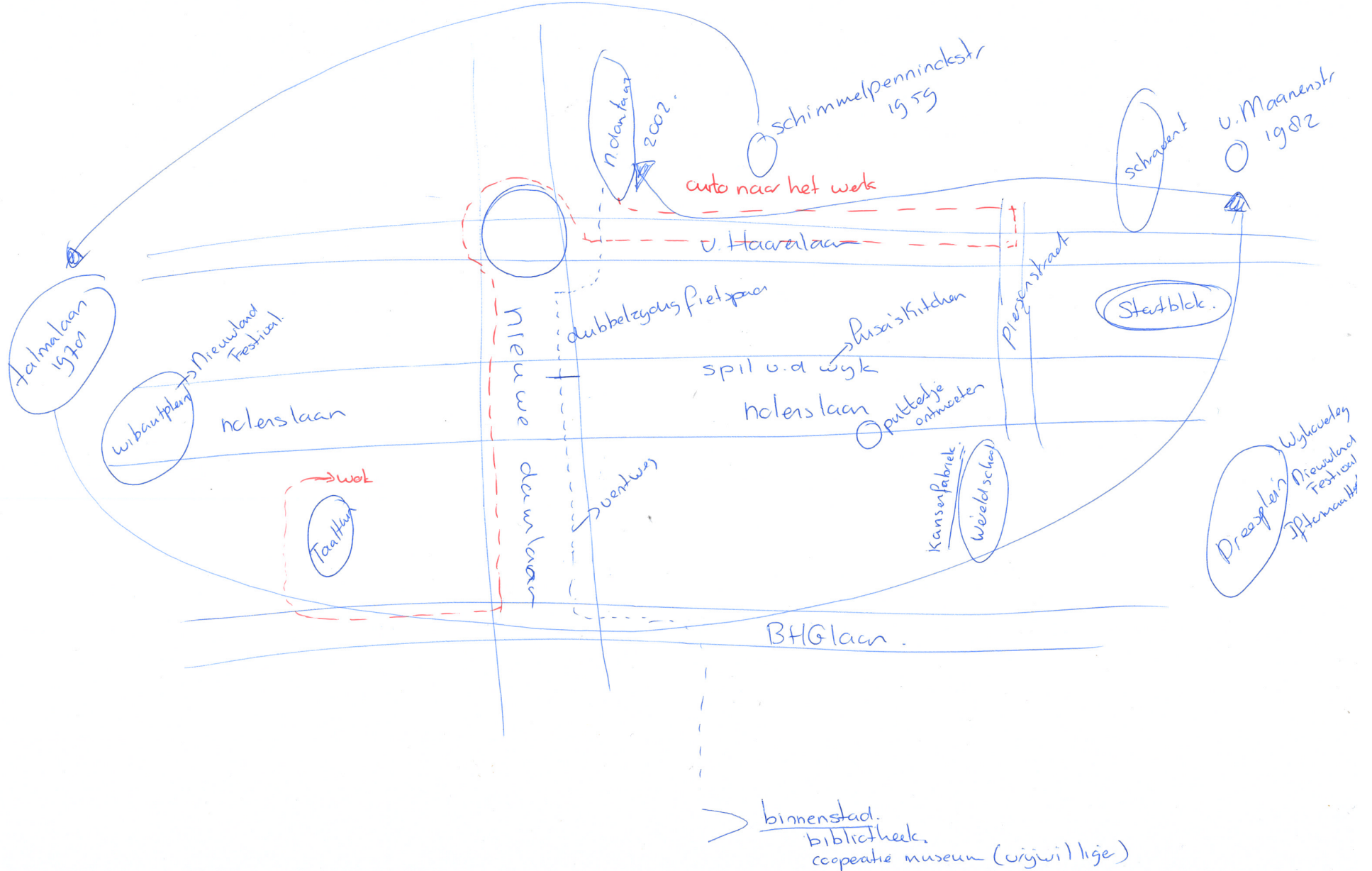
## Results

12 narrative maps, 12 stories



## Results

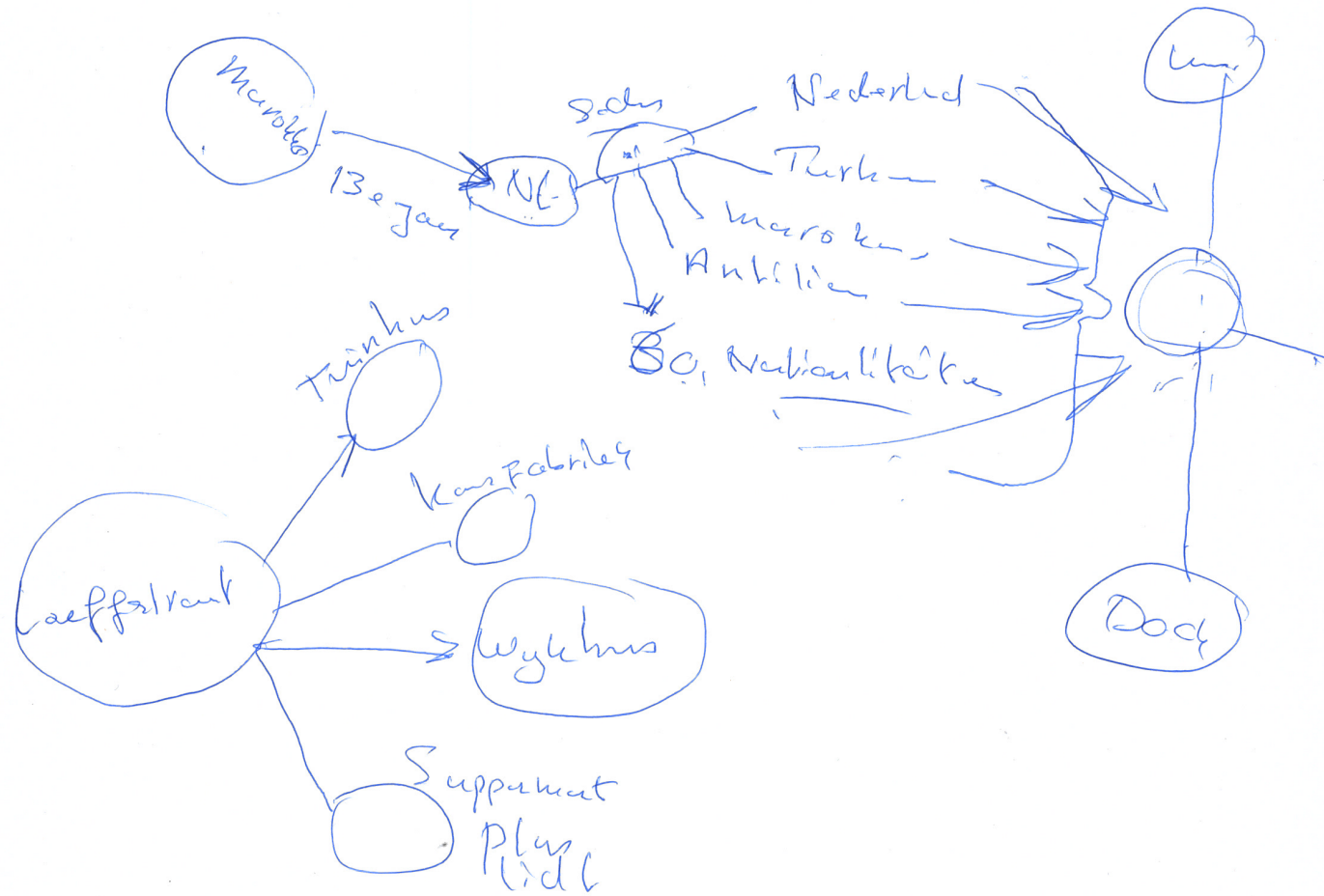
Liesbeth, 66





# Results

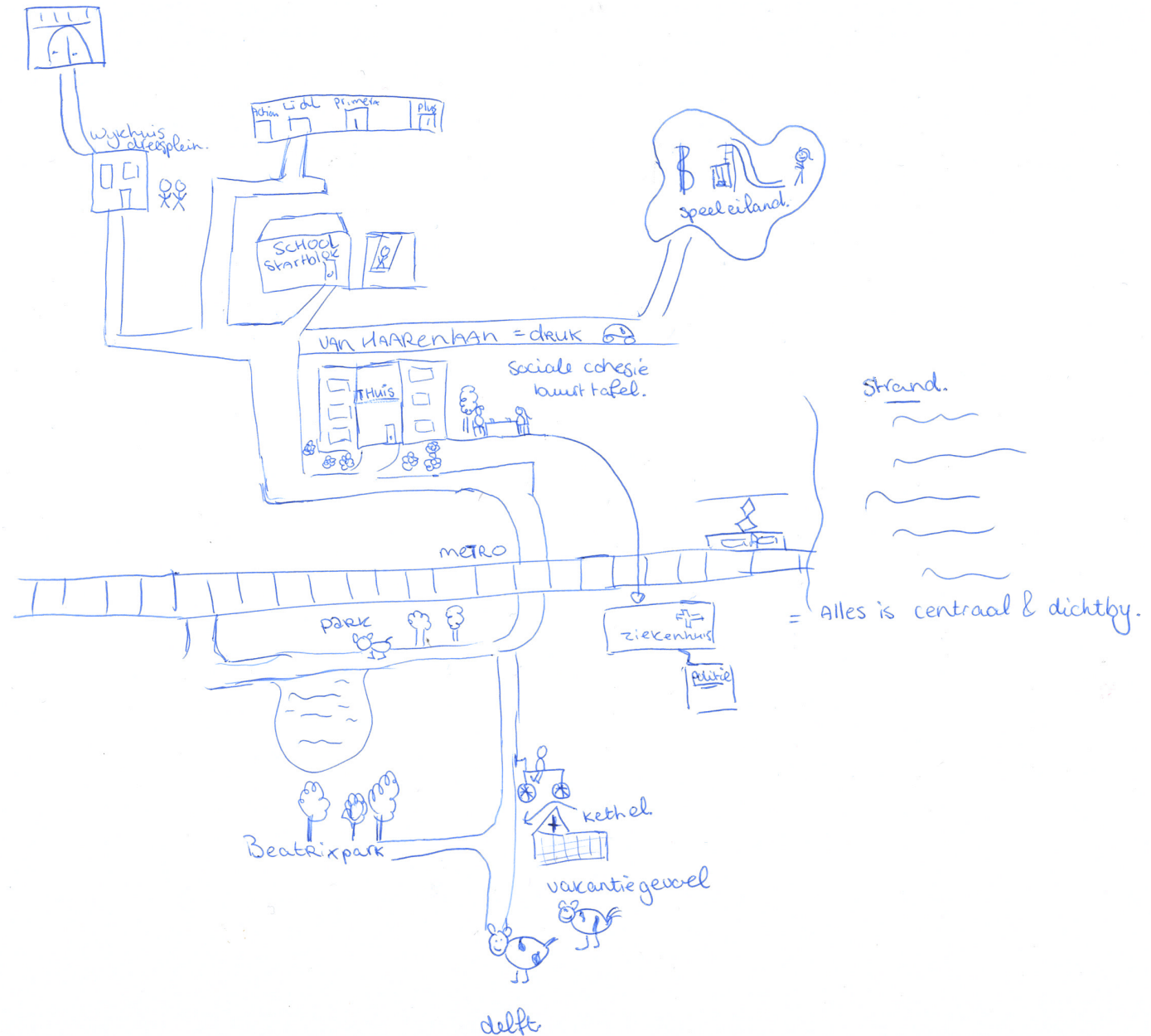
Hassan, 58



- Muziek
- Vrijheid
- drugsdealers
- Supermarkt te vroeg laden en lossen

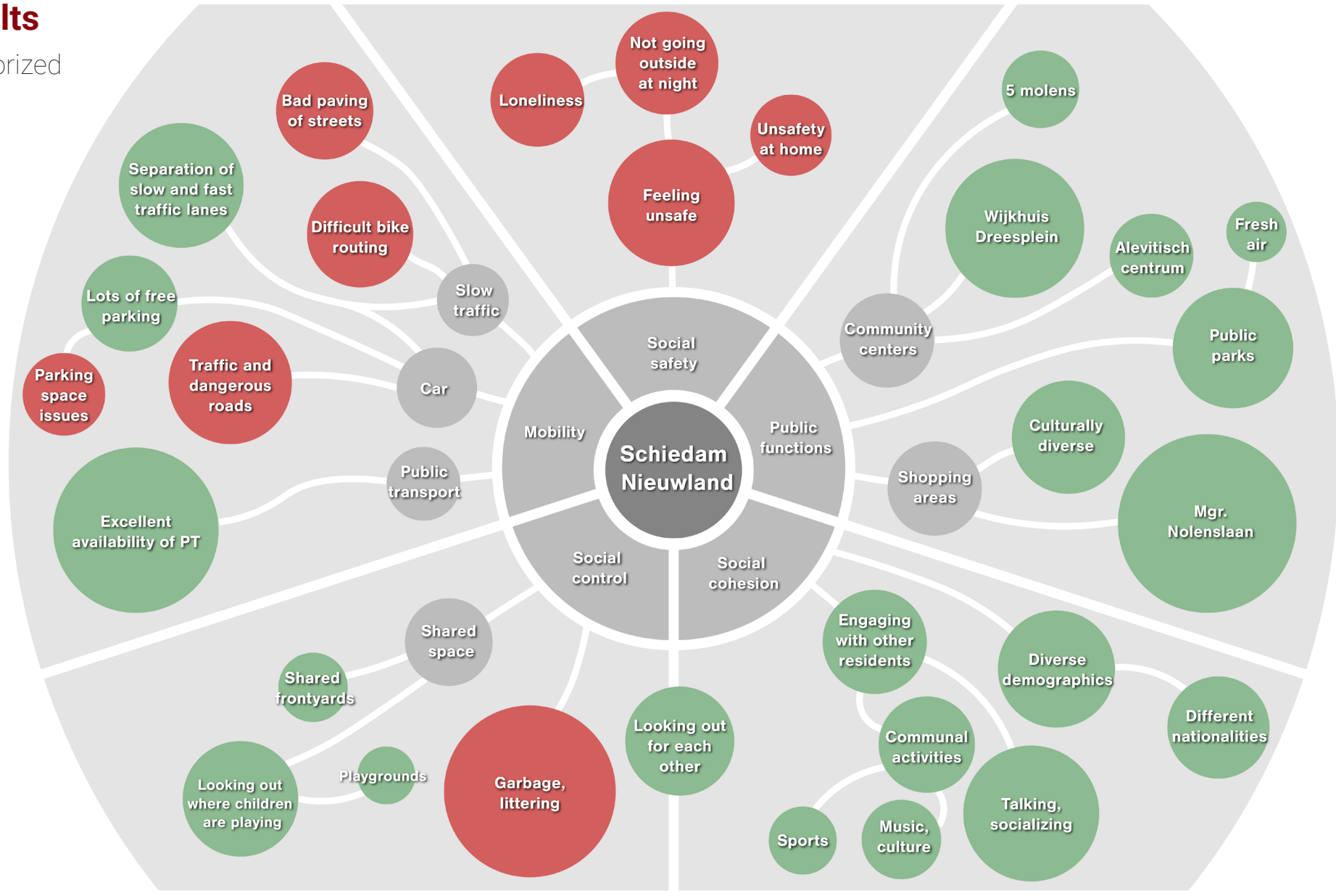
# Results

Sonja, 28



# Results

Categorized



Positive



Neutral



Negative

Mentioned more frequently



Mentioned less frequently

Motivation

Project definition

Methodology

**Fieldwork**

Design framework

Design proposals

Conclusion

Reflection



## Considerations

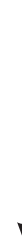
Thoughts and ideas on the neighborhood were often limited to the human scale level



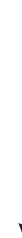
We also need to look into other ideas on how we can redevelop within contemporary urbanism



Far from all information relates to pure spatial or sociospatial aspects



There are also other stakeholders involved



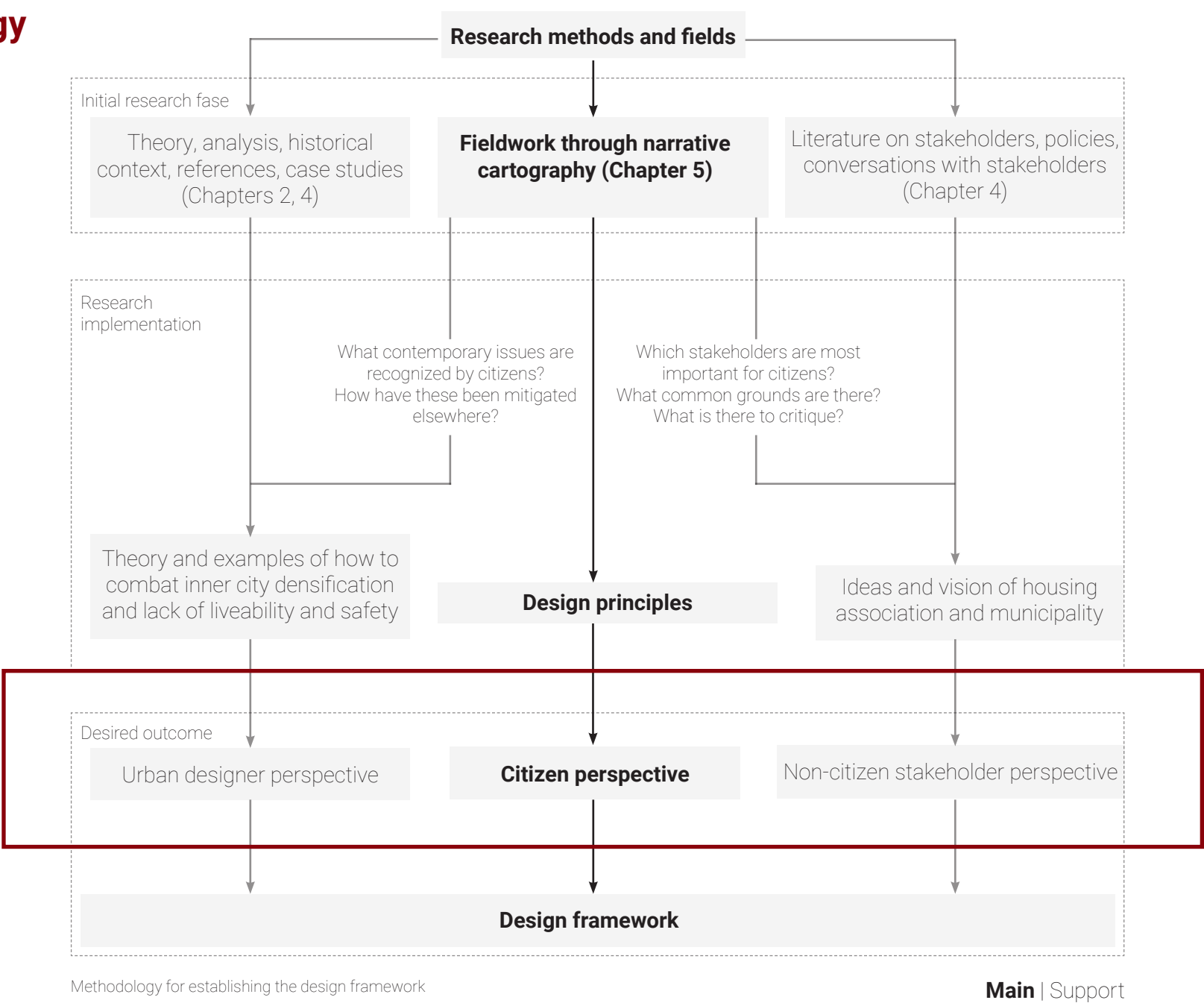
If the goal is to create realistic design proposals for Nieuwland, we need to look further than purely the citizen perspective



# Design framework

The scope and limitations of designing for this project

# Methodology

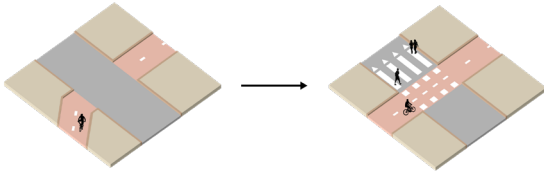




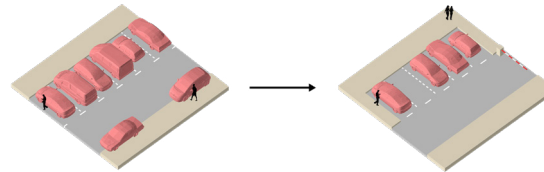
# Citizen perspective: design principles

Based on interviews with residents

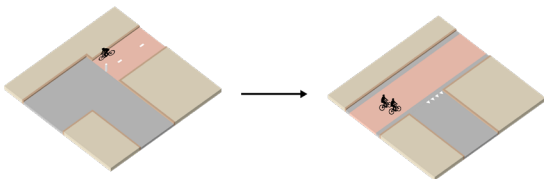
Slow traffic prioritization on crossings



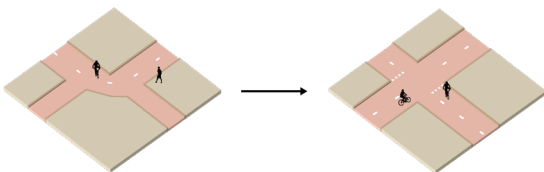
More balanced and fair parking



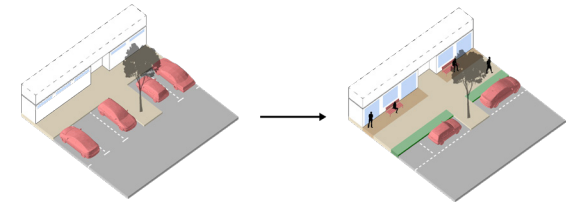
Prioritization on through streets



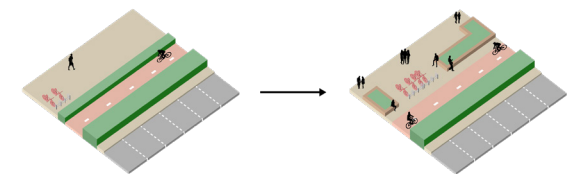
Clearer organization of infrastructure



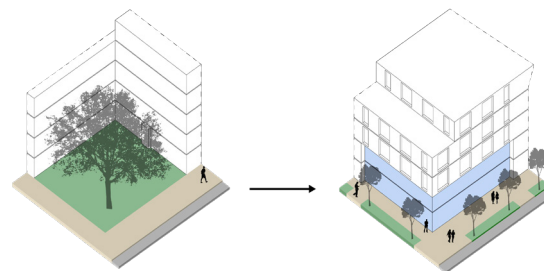
Engaging from home



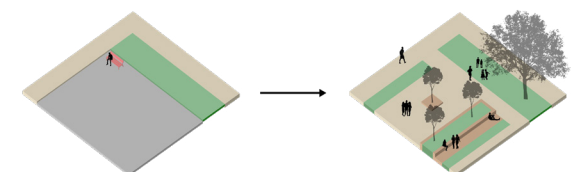
Engaging on the street



More eyes and life within public space



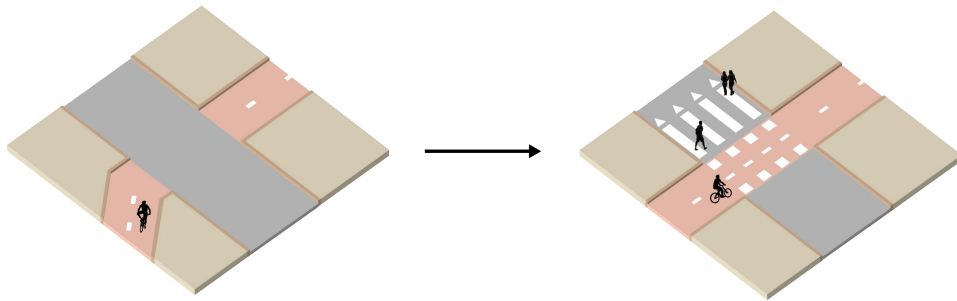
Engaging on the square



# Citizen perspective: design principles

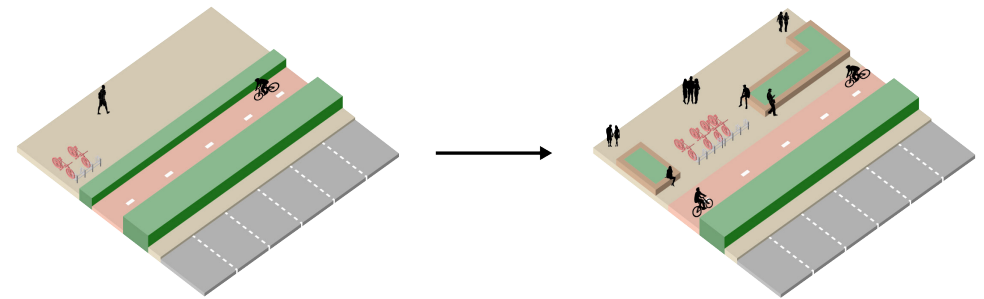
Further elaboration

Slow traffic prioritization on crossings



*'Sonja feels some roads in Nieuwland are dangerous, especially for her children.'*

Engaging on the street



*'Liesbeth is often held up on the Nolenslaan, where she ends up socializing with other residents of Nieuwland.'*

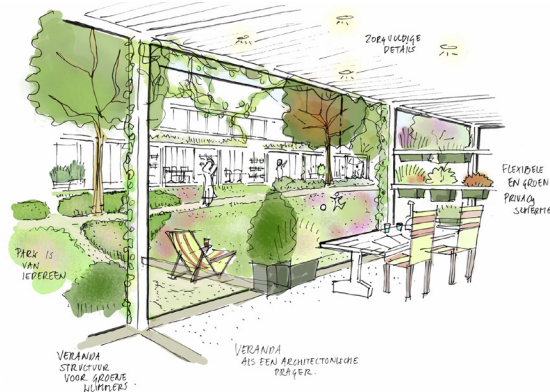
# Urbanist perspective: theory and references

What can we learn from ideas and examples from reference cases?

## Densification



## Safety



Gradient between public and private space in the Parkbuurt (ECHO, 2022)



Slow traffic oriented shopping street (Sant en Co, 2014)

## Liveability



Restructuring and activation of the main square in Tuinzicht, Breda (BN De Stern, 2018)



Use of Symbolism on the Heinekenplein (HK Groen, 2023)



## Non-citizen stakeholder perspective: literature and conversations

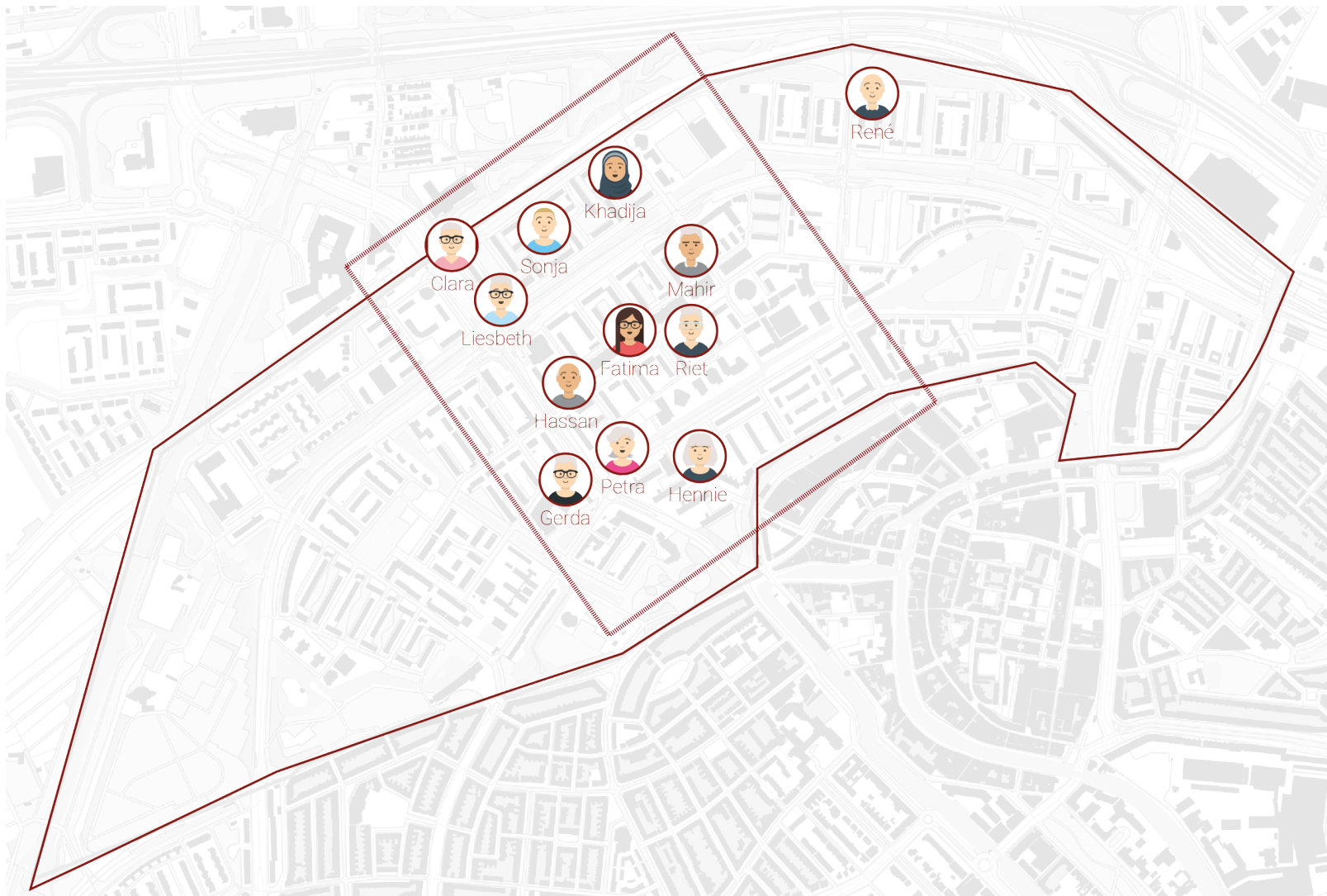
What common grounds are there with other actors in the neighborhood?



g e m e e n t e  
Schiedam

Densification and diversification  
Sustainability  
Public space  
Public amenities  
Mobility

## Focus area



Approximate location of residence of interviewees in Nieuwland





# Design proposals

The way we could redefine the neighborhood







# Focus areas

Characteristic locations

Staatsliedenbuurt



Schimmelpenninckstraat

Nolensbuurt Noord



Van Tienhovenstraat



Central  
Nolenslaan



De Meesterstraat



Crossing  
Nieuwe Damlaan

Monseigneur Nolenslaan



Willem  
Dreesplein

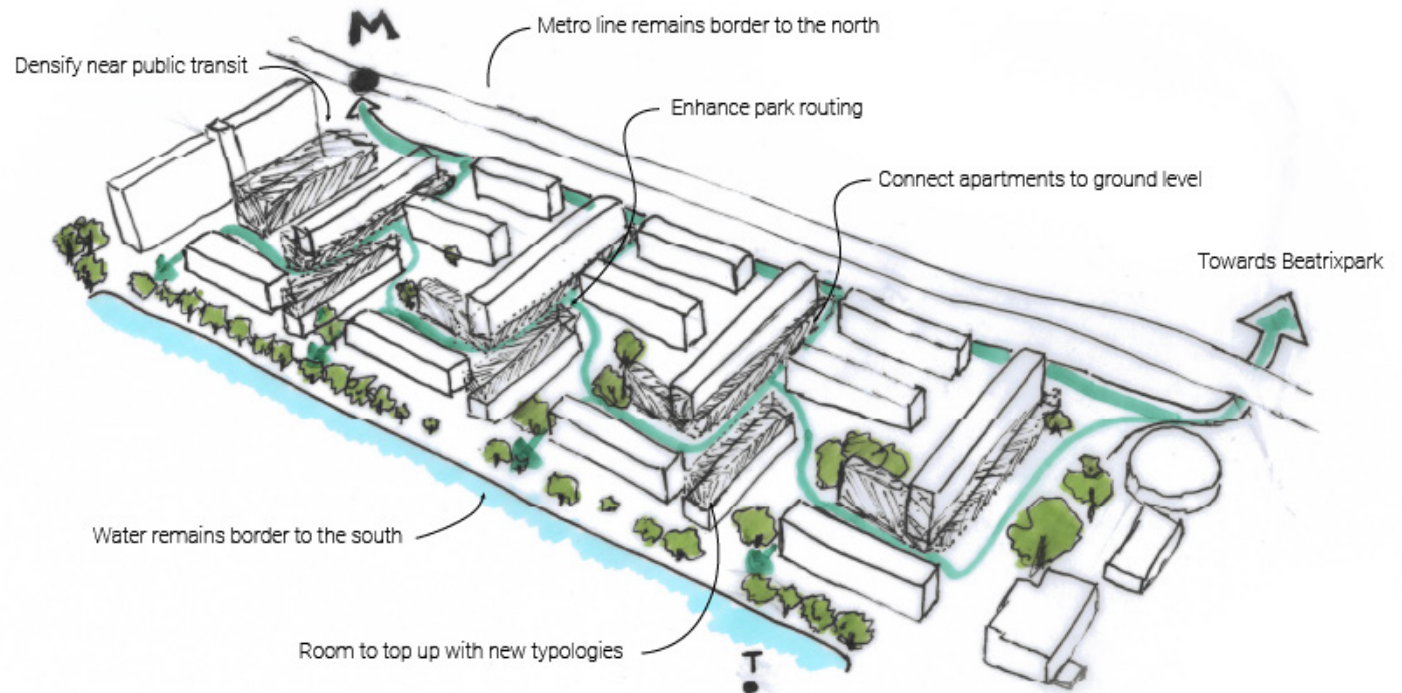
Nolensbuurt Zuid



# Staatsliedenbuurt



Google Earth, 2023

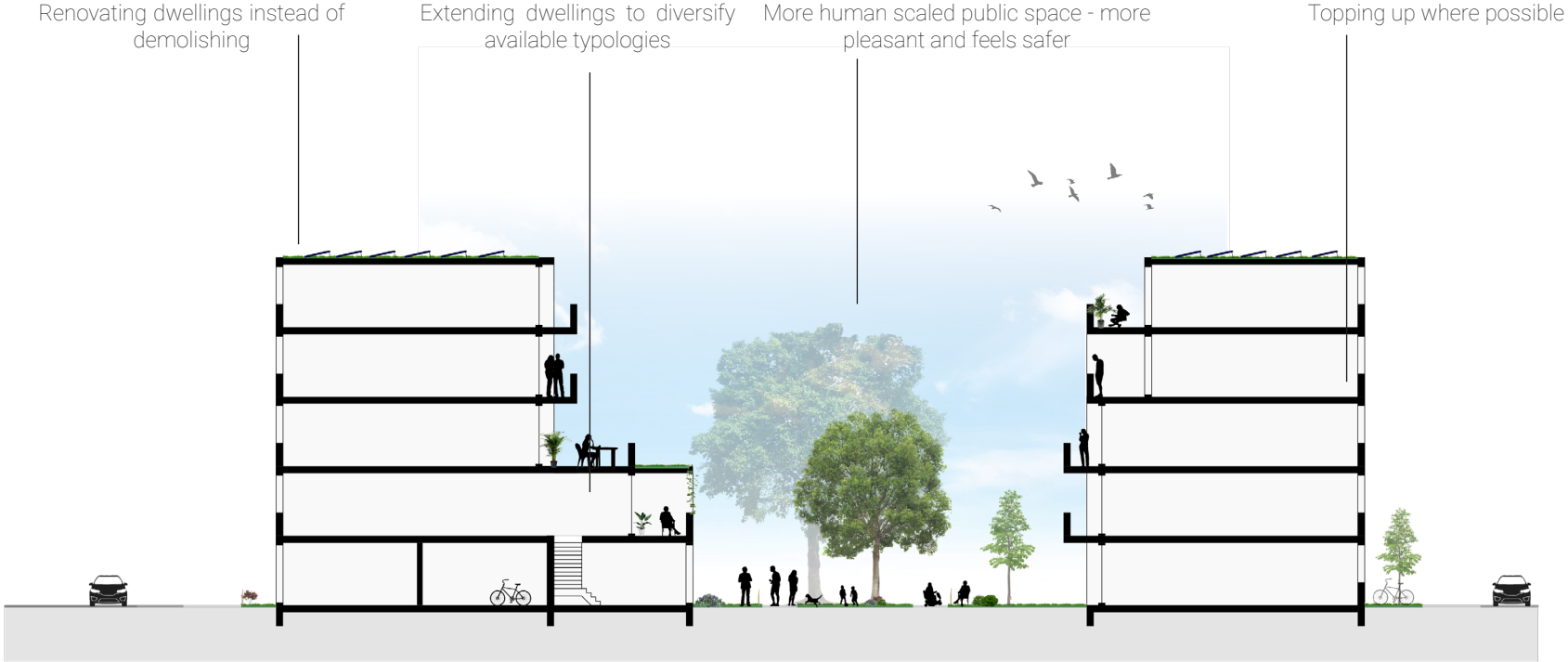




**Section of Staatsliedenbuurt block**  
*Old situation*

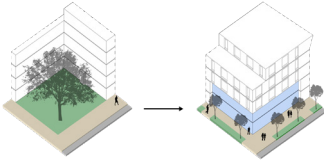


*New situation*

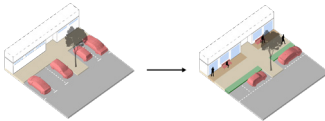


**Citizen design principles that have been incorporated within this location**

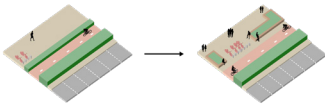
More eyes and life within public space



Engaging from home



Engaging on the street



straat



Google

Opnamedatum afbeelding: aug 2014 © 2023 Google Nederland Voorwaarden Privacy Prof





Upper level dwellings could house less community driven citizens like students or even expats

Shared space can be valuable, but there is also risk of neglect and fragmentation. Therefore, housing should be the focus for activating the plinth

Park routing can form the connector for the Staatsliedenbuurt

Ideally, the backyards 'open up' - this should not be enforced: those who want it will contribute.

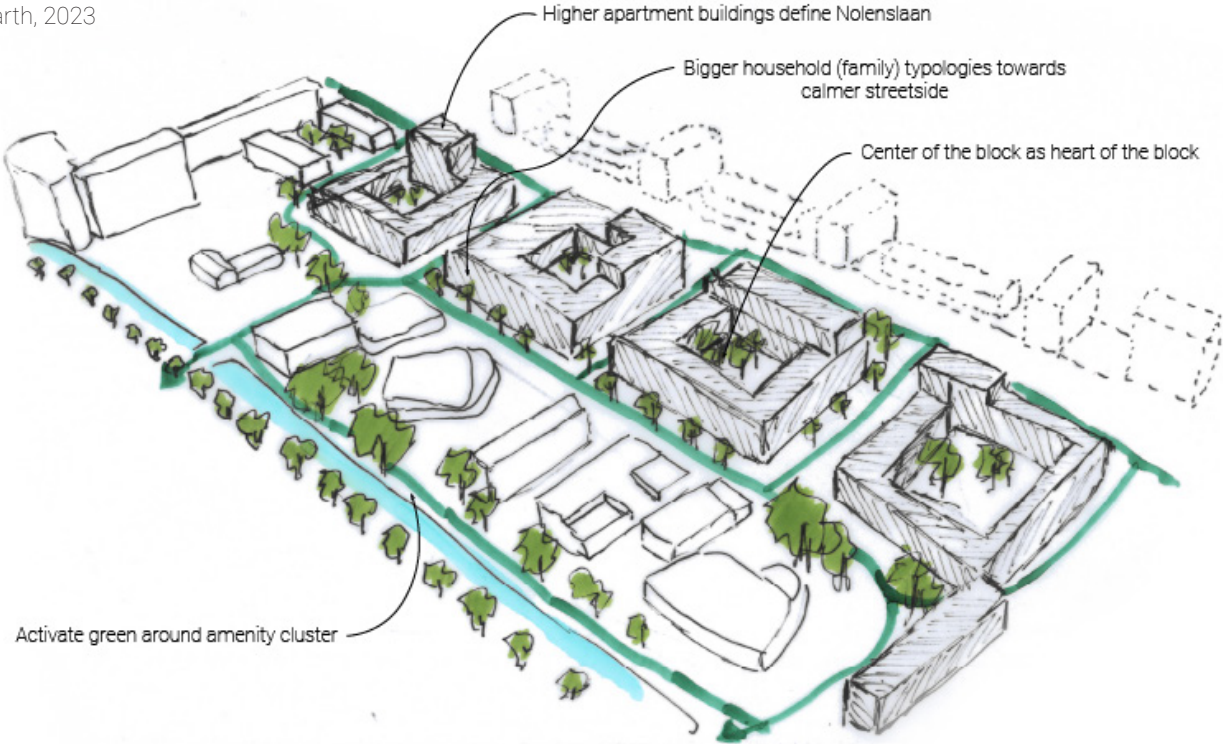
Public space make-up is flexible and should be community driven for optimal use



# Nolensbuurt zuid



Google Earth, 2023





Section of Nolensbuurt Zuid block  
*Old situation*



*New situation*

Increase density but maintain level of social housing

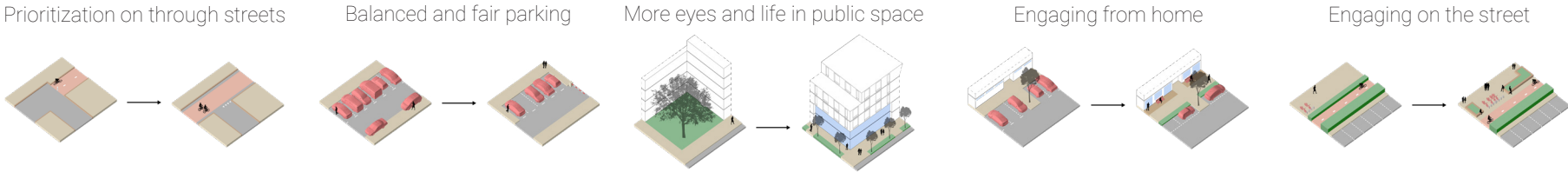
Parking for cars and (e-)bikes can be privatized and stowed away to offer more qualitative public space on top

South faced terraces connect housing and public space

Opening up plinths should create a more lively streetscape. New street configuration adds to the safety of slow traffic




Citizen design principles that have been incorporated within this location











Privatized and secluded parking can resolve parking issues and improve public space lay-out

Social housing should not be strongly diminished within this redevelopment. Because of the increase in density a diverse ranging in housing should still be possible

Frontyards here do not necessarily have to be active, but the open plinths should work to improve feelings of safety

Separation through greenery can offer safer slow traffic routing

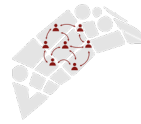


# Monseigneur Nolenslaan



Google Earth, 2023

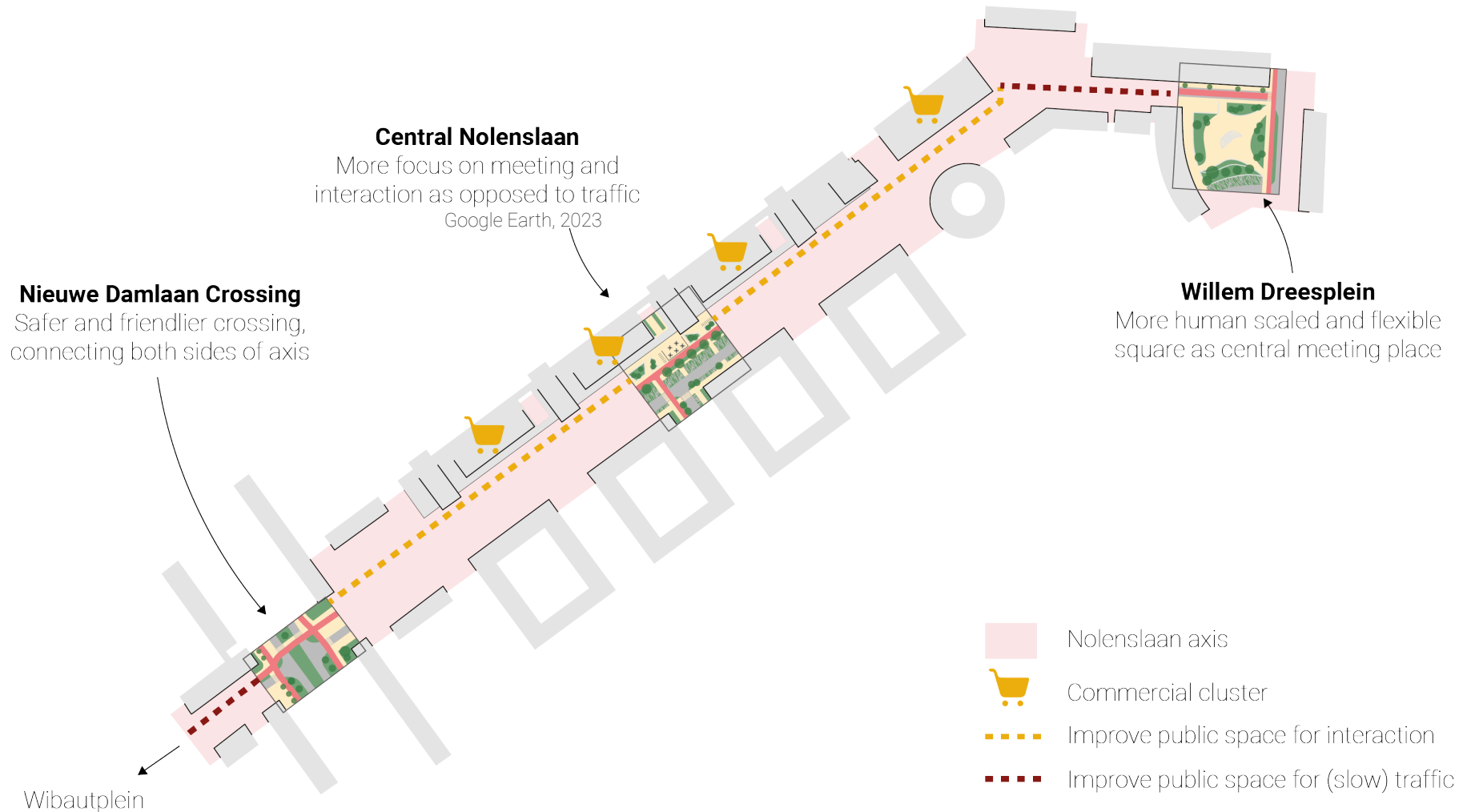




Place for fast traffic and parking because this is necessary for amenities, but also more room for valuable places of interaction alongside it.

More valuable public space, address feelings of unsafety here.

A more diverse, friendly and safe axis will increase usage and further support the viability of amenities.





## Nieuwe Damlaan Crossing





## Central Monseigneur Nolenslaan



Google



Creating a more open, green environment with seating and shade should allow for more interaction

Slow traffic priority combats unsafety of crossing



## Willem Dreesplein



Google



Greenery, seating, shading, and the bordering Wijkhuis Dreesplein should make the square a pleasant place to stay and interact

The square should be approachable and inviting from all directions

The square remains reachable by vehicles so expositions, markets and the Nieuwland festival can still be organized





# Conclusions

What we can take away from this project



# How can **post-war neighborhood Schiedam Nieuwland** be transformed into a **safe and liveable urban environment** while in this transformation catering to the perspective of the current inhabitants?

## Subquestions

1 What is the origin behind post-war neighborhoods in the Netherlands?

2 What spatial aspects determine safety and liveability in post-war neighborhoods?

3 What can we learn from citizen perspectives within the redevelopment of Schiedam Nieuwland?

4 What interventions are needed to improve the quality of living in Schiedam Nieuwland?



# How can **post-war neighborhood Schiedam Nieuwland** be transformed into a **safe and liveable urban environment** while in this transformation catering to the perspective of the current inhabitants?

## Subquestions

### 1 What is the origin behind post-war neighborhoods in the Netherlands?

Functionalist principles. Neighborhoods stayed the same but demographics changed

### 2 What spatial aspects determine safety and liveability in post-war neighborhoods?

Safety and liveability are based on many variables and factors. They are often also related to social aspects. Important to look further than purely theory to understand what these mean

### 3 What can we learn from citizen perspectives within the redevelopment of Schiedam Nieuwland?

Better insights to what defines safety and liveability in Nieuwland, how people perceive the neighborhood and where the opportunities lie

### 4 What interventions are needed to improve the quality of living in Schiedam Nieuwland?

Grand interventions are not necessarily vital, we should look more into specific situations. Nuance might be key to make change feasible.

## **How can post-war neighborhood Schiedam Nieuwland be transformed into a safe and liveable urban environment while in this transformation catering to the perspective of the current inhabitants?**

There has been much to gain from understanding how the inhabitants of Nieuwland perceive their neighborhood. I have discovered that many relatively small, nuanced but tactical interventions have the potential to improve Nieuwland if it was up to its inhabitants. Although it is also important to take into consideration other perspectives to create well-advised design proposals, centralizing the citizen will also prioritize the wants and needs of the current inhabitants.





# Reflection

Aspects we need to consider regarding the scope of this project



## Considerations

- Only the surface has been touched
- The process could use more iteration
- We are not simply talking about a spatial problem, but also about sociospatial, socioeconomic and purely societal issues



# Revitalizing the post-war neighborhood

Towards inclusive and strategic new perspectives for Schiedam Nieuwland



P5 Presentation | June 20th, 2023  
Joaquim Boendermaker  
4611497

# Vision from different perspectives

*From the urbanist perspective*

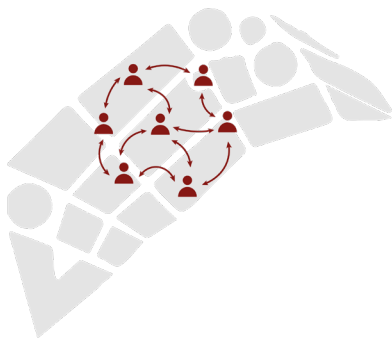
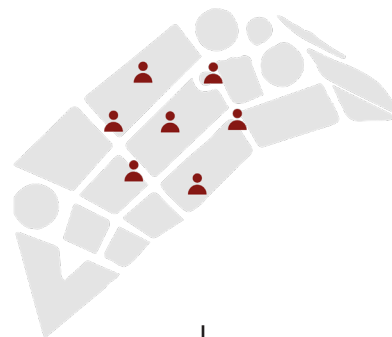
**Hetereogeneity as a connector instead of a divider**



Icon represents urbanist perspective

*From the citizen perspective*

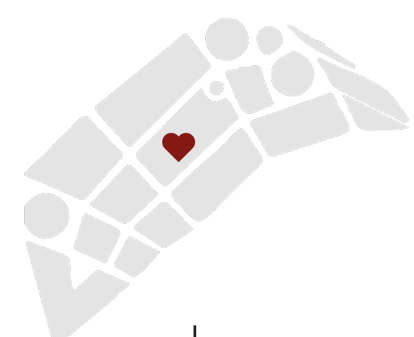
**Safety and liveability through a sense of community**



Icon represents citizen perspective

*From the (non-citizen) stakeholder perspective*

**A strong central heart for the neighborhood and beyond**

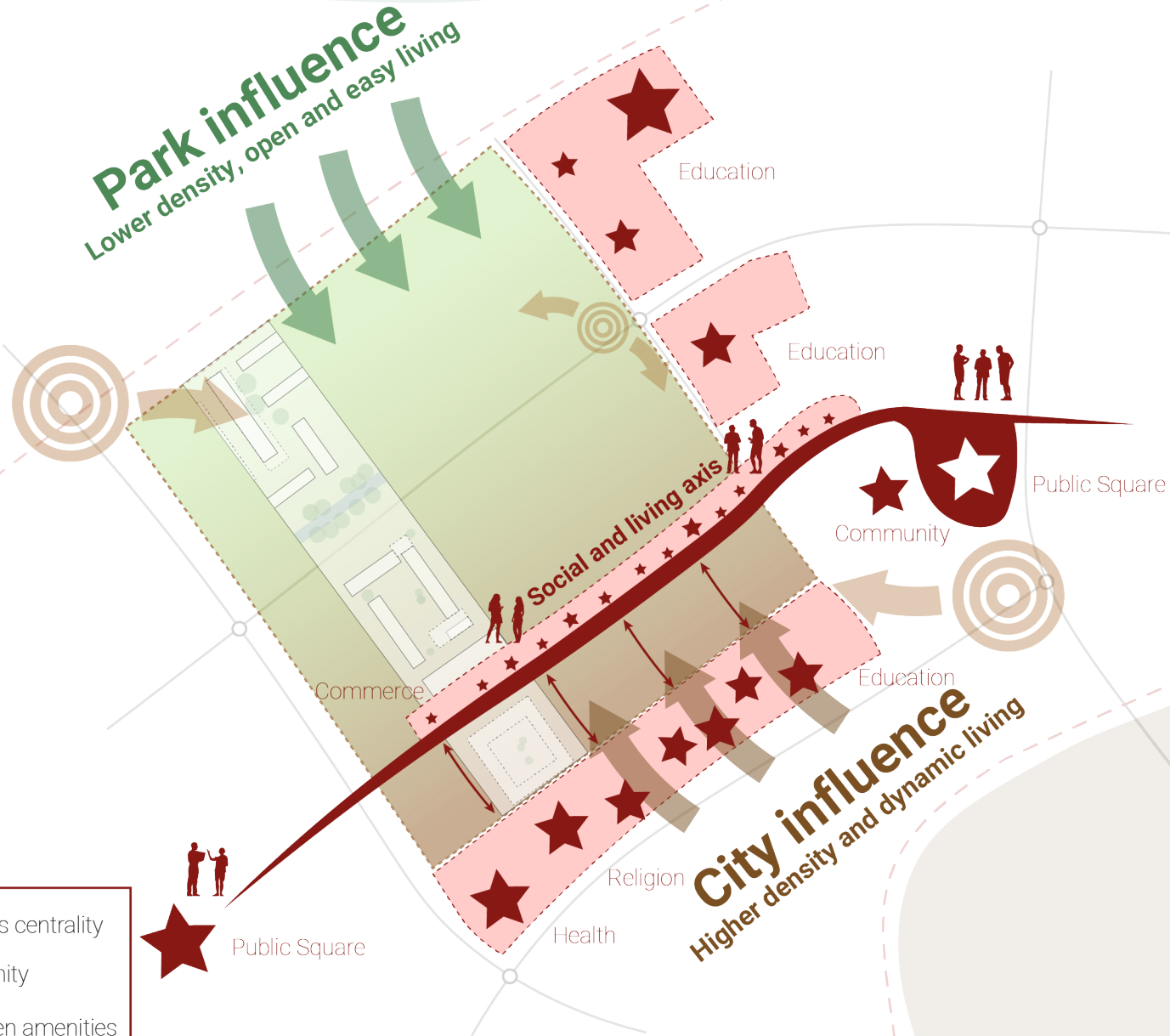



Icon represents stakeholder perspective



# Park influence

Lower density, open and easy living



- 
- City influence**  
Higher density and dynamic living

## Inner city