

# Regenerating Moerwijk



Constructing a framework for regeneration to improve community life and the public realm in Moerwijk

# Storyline

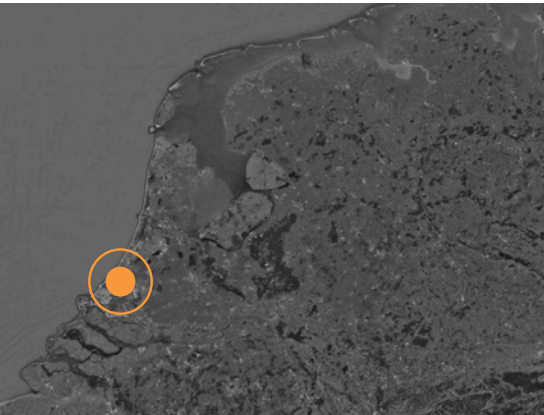
**Context**

**Research**

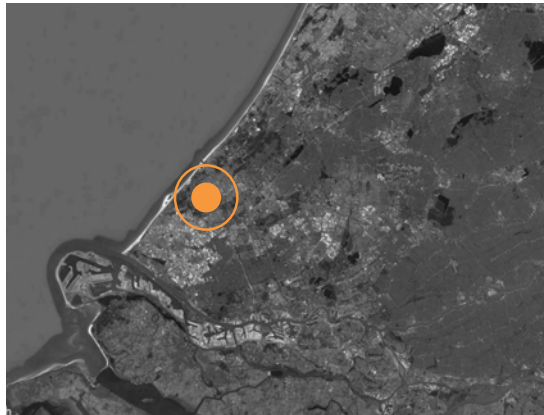
**Pattern language**

**Design testing**

# Moerwijk



The Netherlands



South-Holland



The Hague



Moerwijk

# Moerwijk: Livability



Nieuws Sport Team West Weer Dossiers Nieuwsbrieven

## Drastische verbouwing Den Haag Zuidwest: dit staat de bewoners te wachten

Lot van Bree

8 juli 2021, 07:00 • 6 minuten leestijd



Bewoners Den Haag Zuidwest uiten hun zorgen bij wethouder Martijn Balster (PvdA)  
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www.omroepwest.nl

## Armoede, werkloosheid en schulden: Den Haag Zuidwest kampt met grote problemen

> [www.nrc.nl](http://www.nrc.nl)

## Om arme Haagse buurten 'vitaler' te maken, wordt er gesloopt

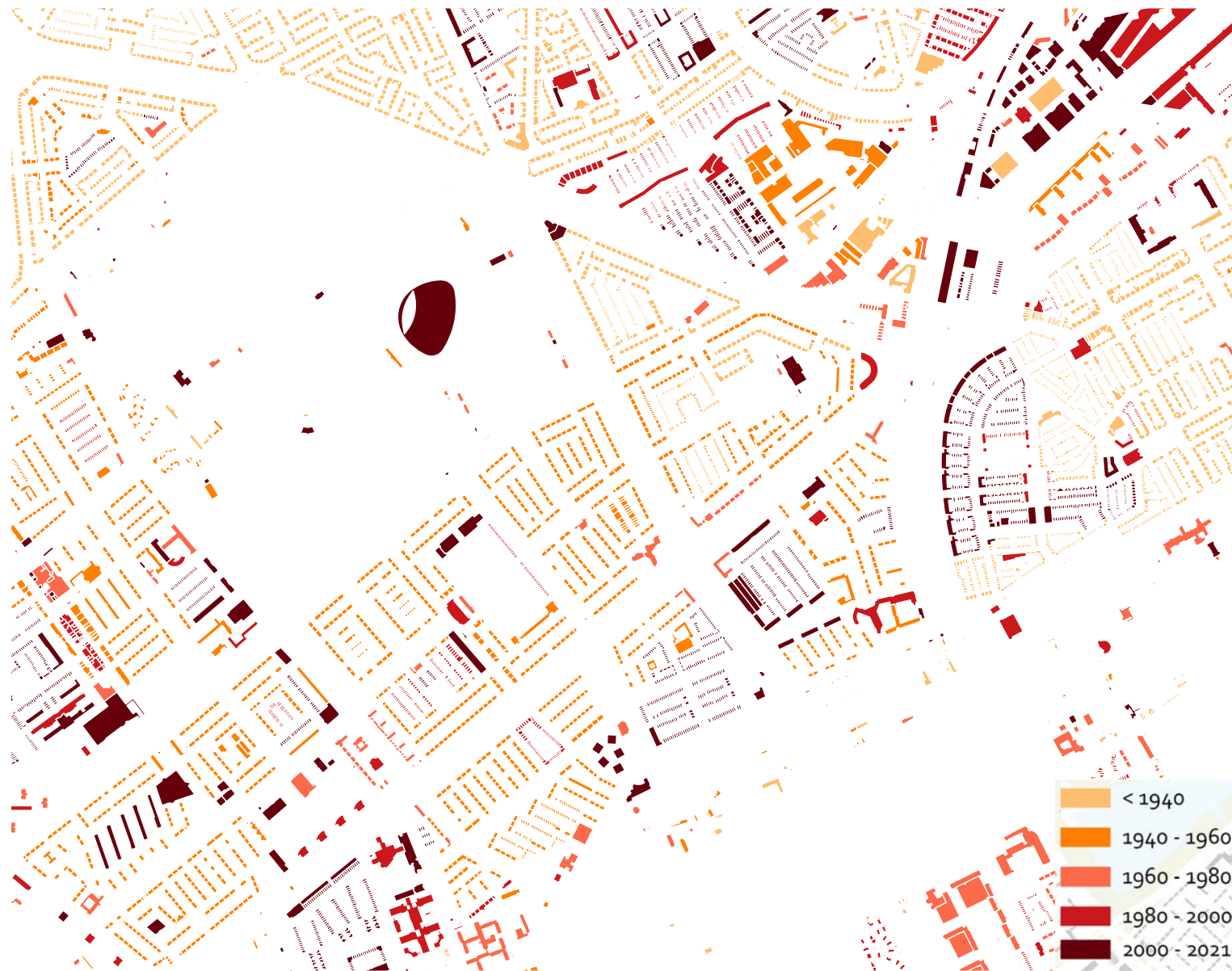


www.trouw.nl

## Vrijwel elke stad heeft zijn eigen Moerwijk, waar de coronaklappen harder aankomen dan elders

Moerwijk in the news

# Moerwijk: Spatial pressure



# Moerwijk: Quality of the public realm

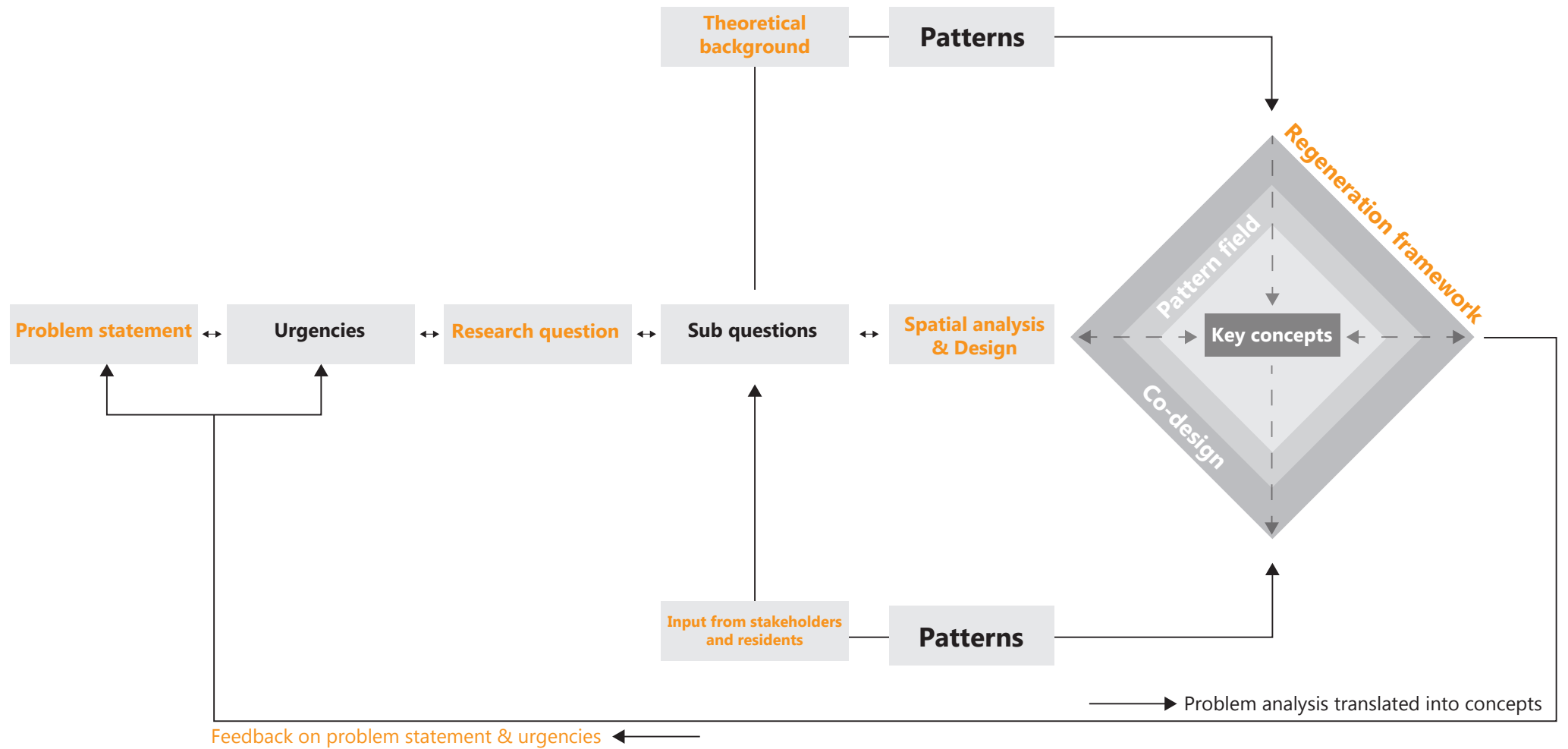




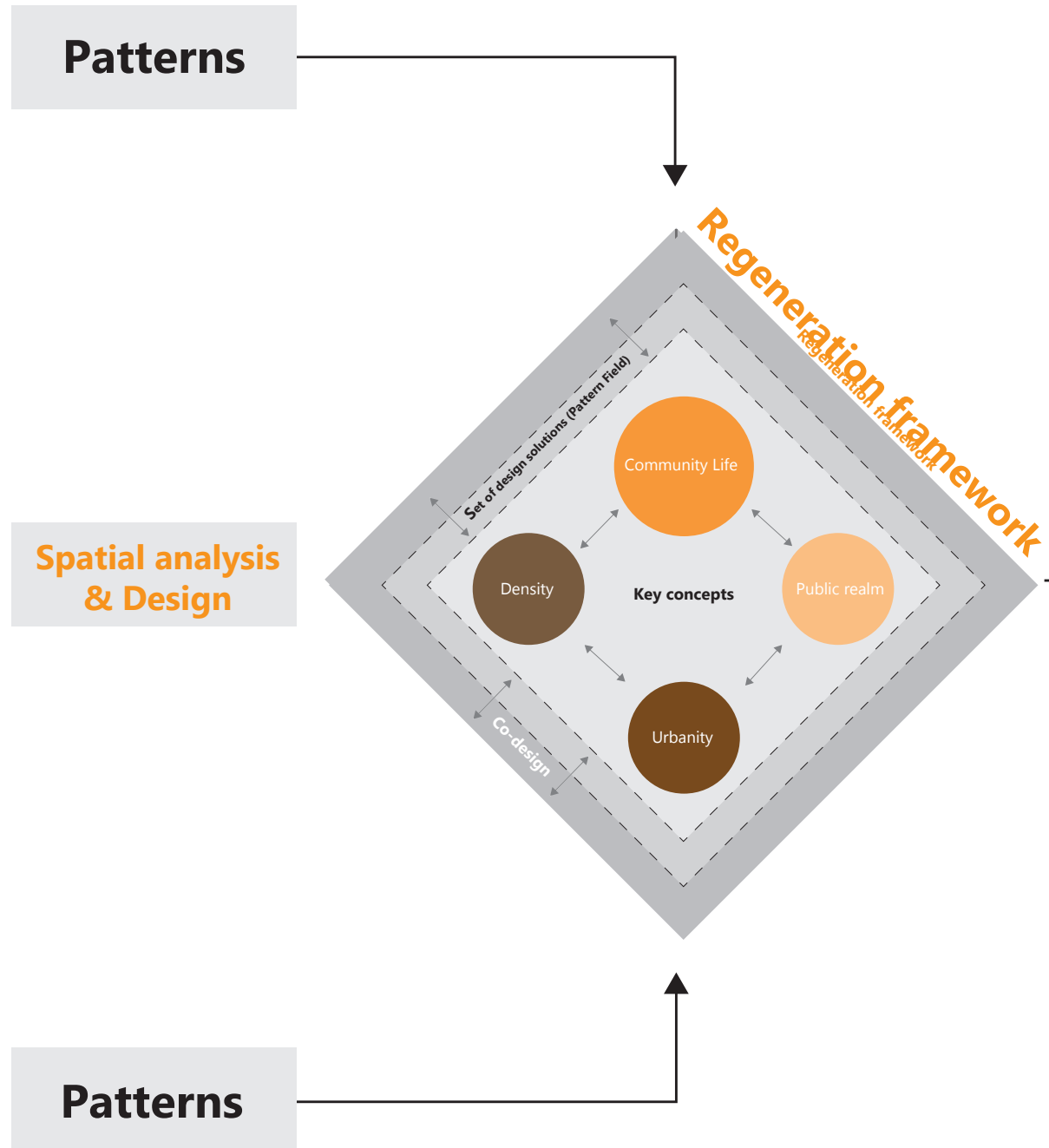
# Research question & methods

Which **regeneration framework** improves **community life** and the **quality of the public realm** in Moerwijk while reducing the **spatial pressure** of the housing shortage in The Hague, on a **co-creative manner**?

# Methods

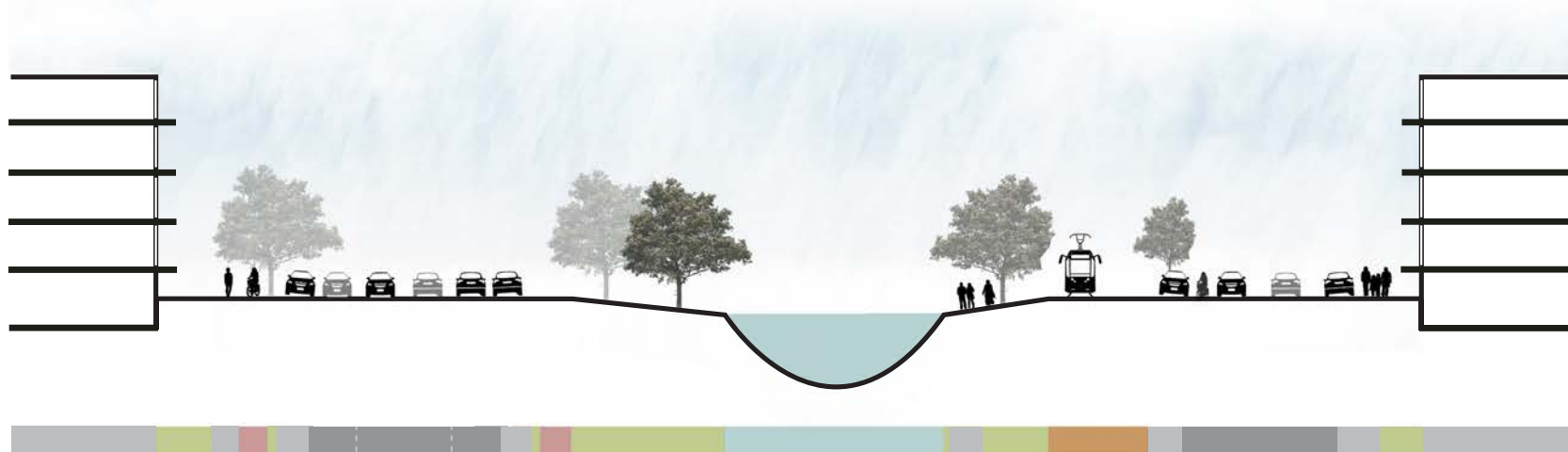
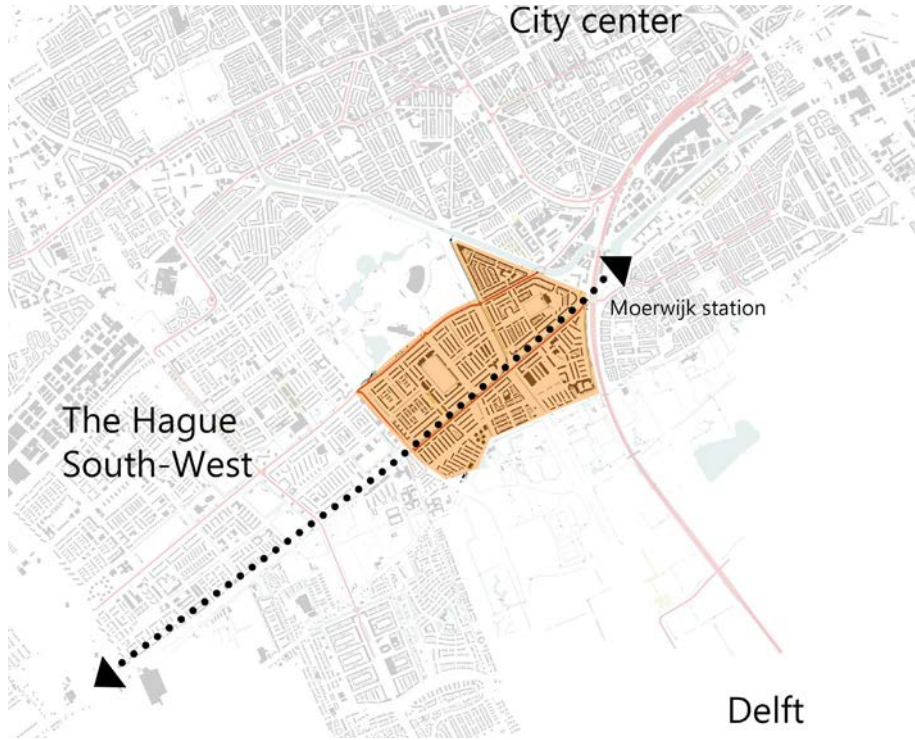


# Methods & concepts

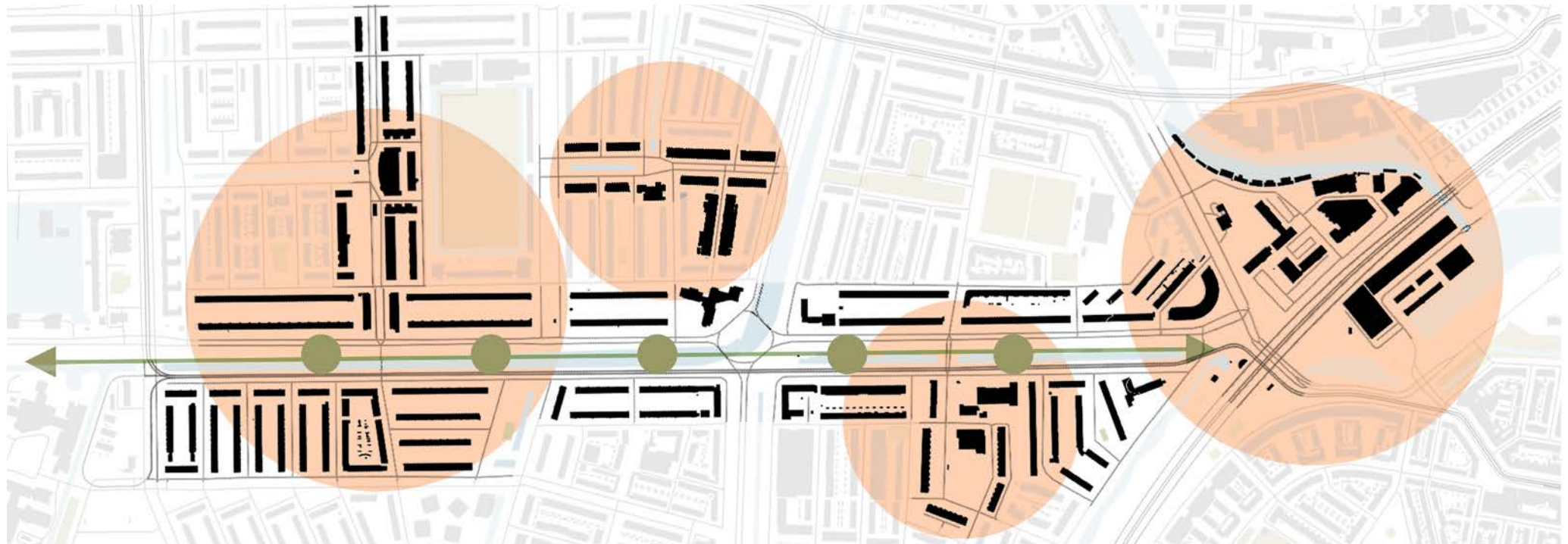


# Spatial analysis

# Spatial analysis: Erasmusweg



# Spatial analysis: crucial locations



**Betje Wolffstraat**

**Jan Luykenlaan**

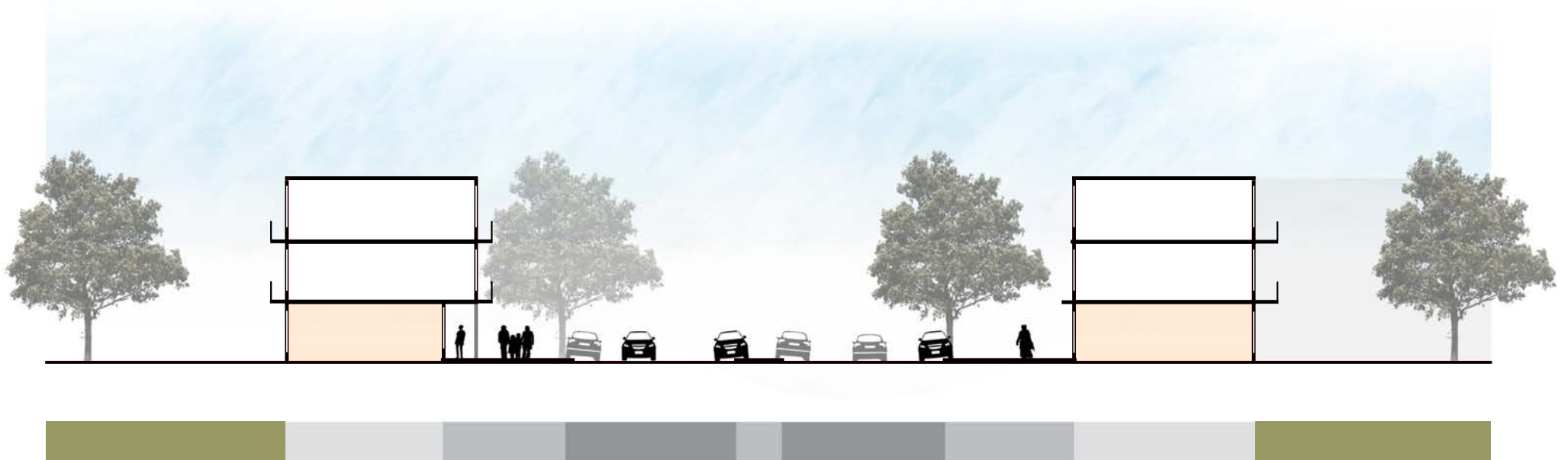
**Heeswijkplein**

**Moerwijk station**

# Spatial analysis: where to densify?

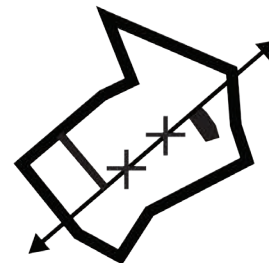
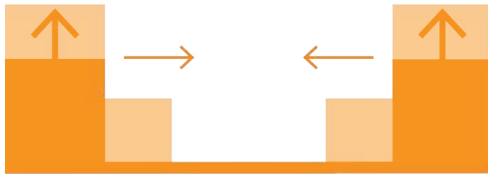


# Spatial analysis: Jan Luykenlaan



# Research by design

# Research by design: Scenarios



## 'Green corridor'

Focused on developing public green outdoor space where mobility is greatly reduced

## 'Neighborhood mainstreet'

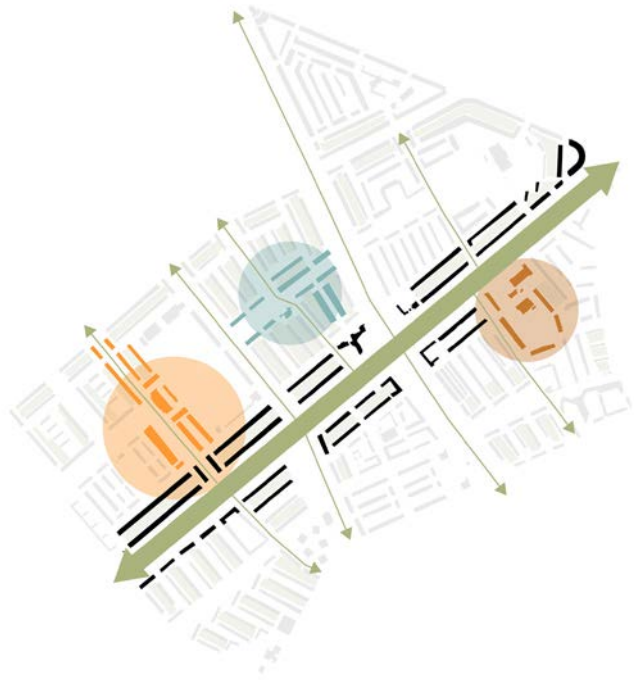
Focused on densification using existing housing stock. Implementing neighbourhood-related functions aimed at social interaction

## 'Connection' (current situation)

## 'City corridor'

Focused on making the street even more important for the city. Intensive densification and implementation of city-related functions

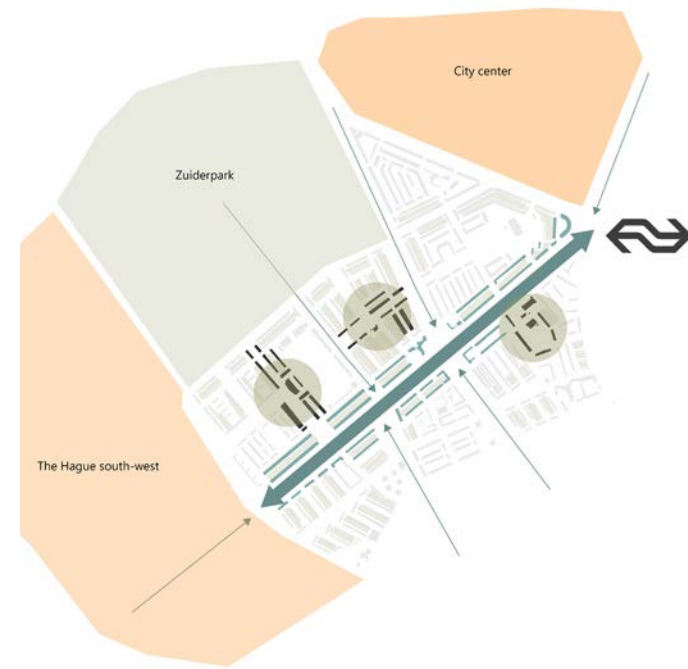
# Research by design: Scenarios



Green corridor

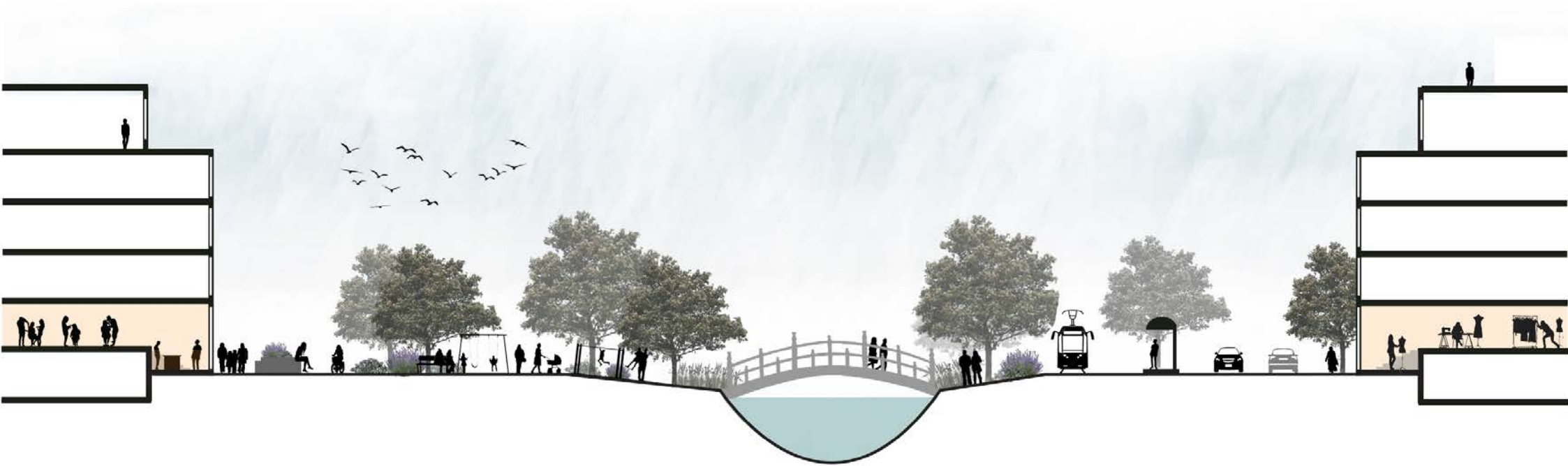


Neighborhood main street



City corridor

# Erasmusweg: Green corridor



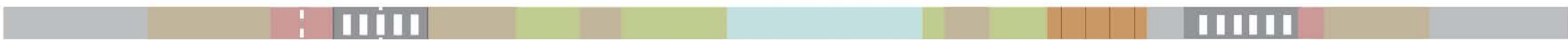
Research

# Erasmusweg: Green corridor



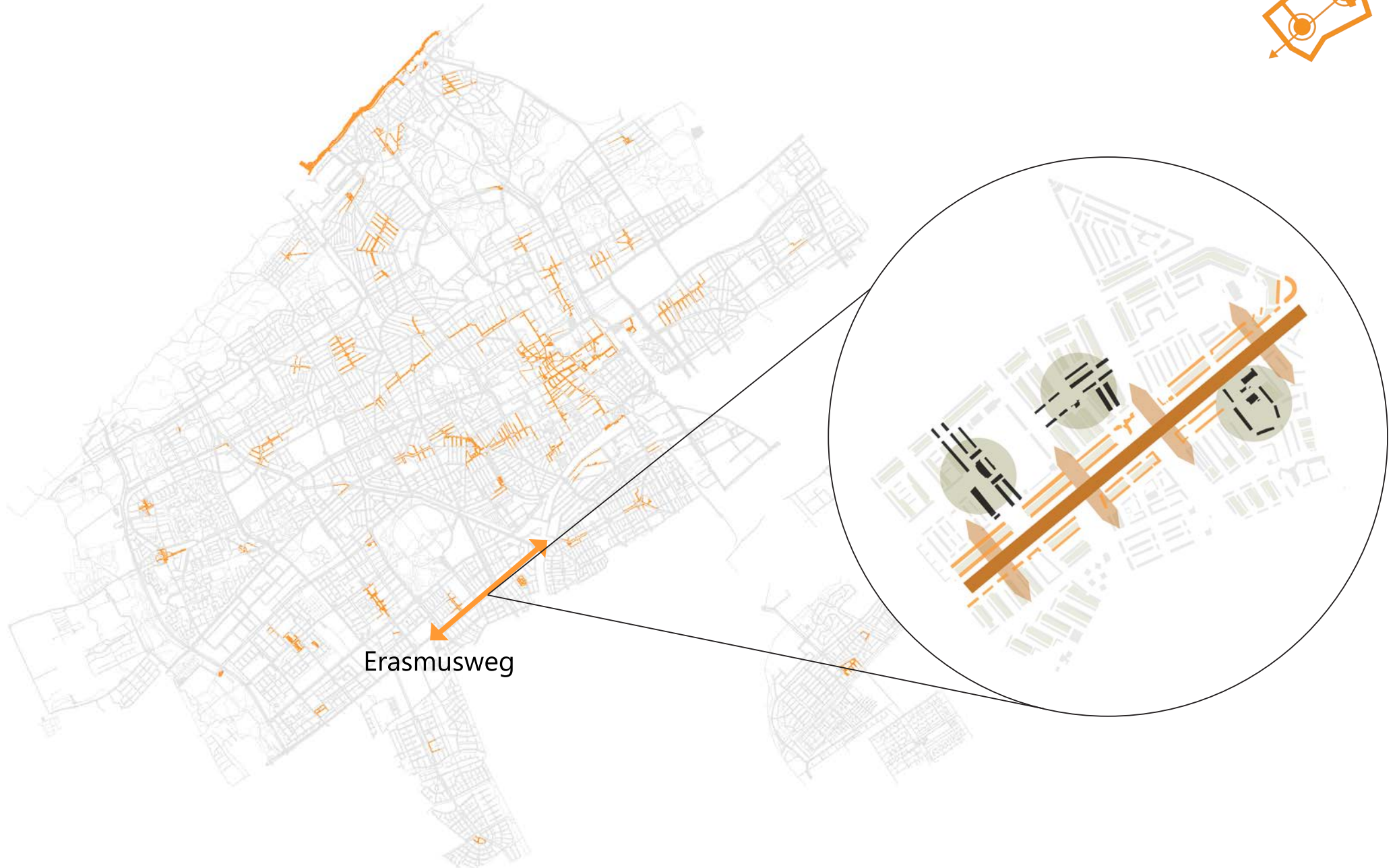
Erasmusweg

# Erasmusweg: Neighborhood main street

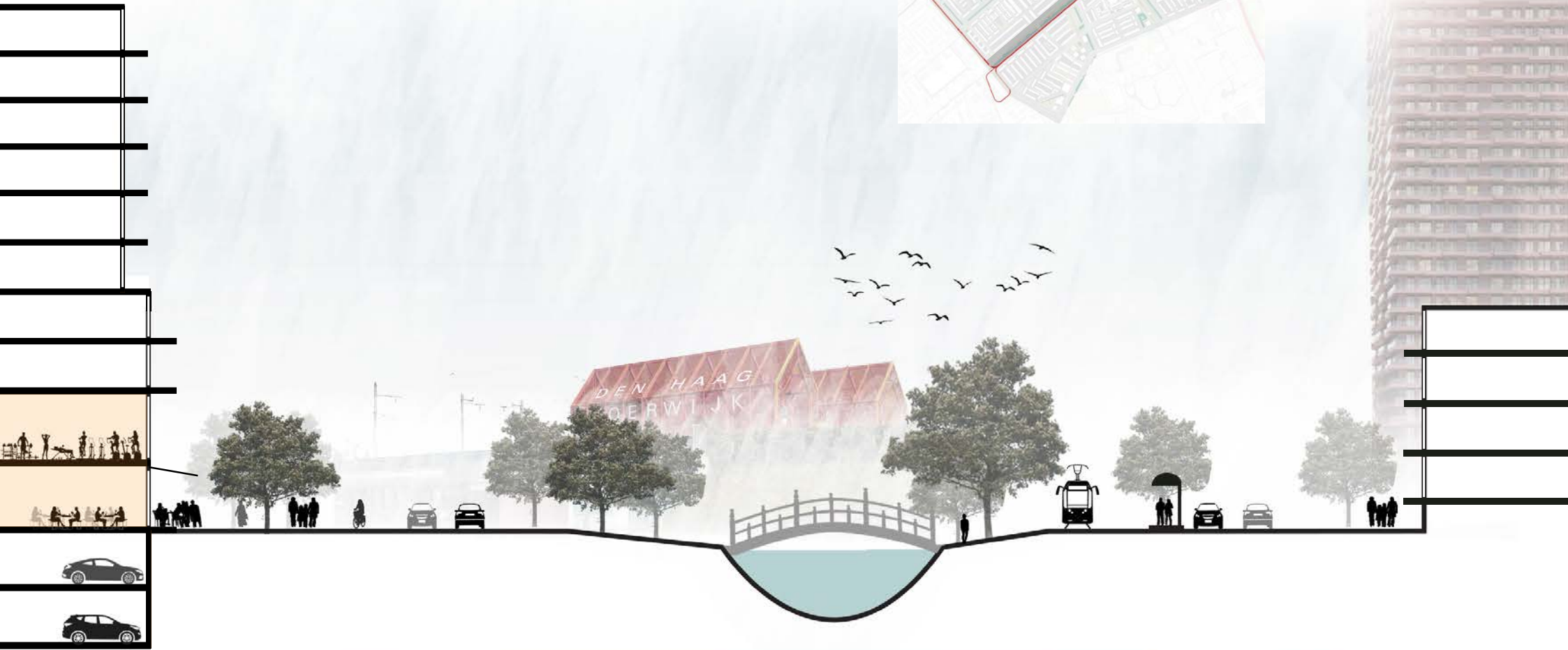
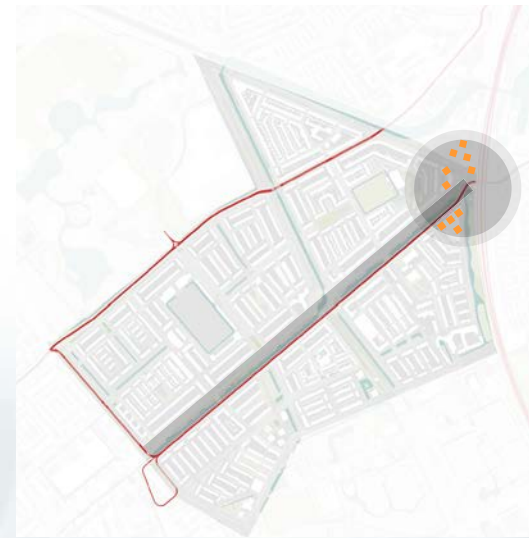


Research

# Erasmusweg: Neighborhood main street



# Erasmusweg: City corridor

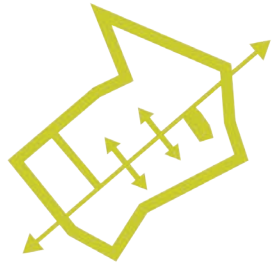


Research

# Erasmusweg: City corridor



# Research by design: Scenario reflection



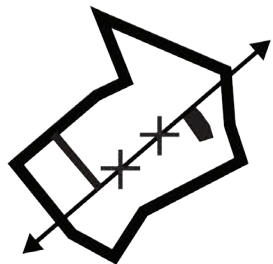
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## 'Neighborhood mainstreet'

Focused on densification using existing housing stock. Implementing neighbourhood-related functions aimed at social interaction

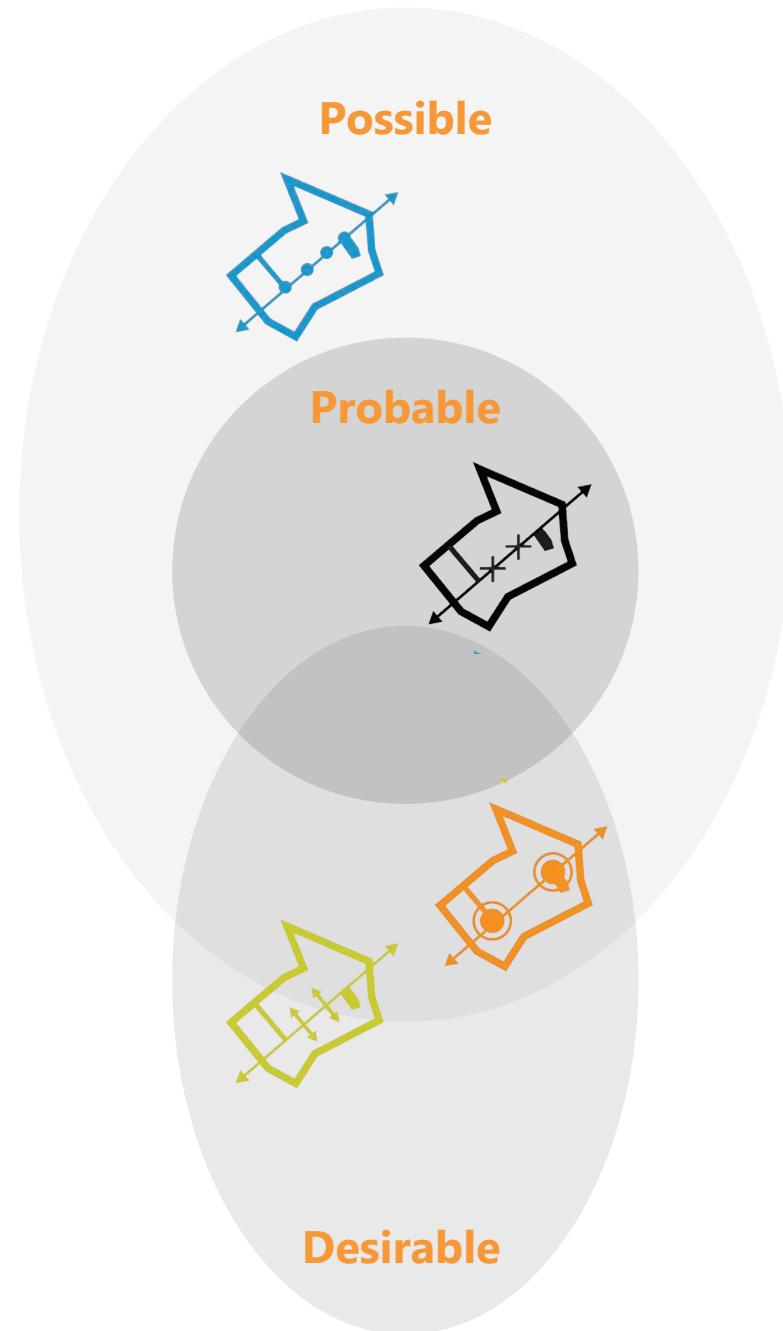


## 'Connection' (current situation)



## 'City corridor'

Focused on making the street even more important for the city. Intensive densification and implementation of city-related functions



Possible

Probable

Desirable

**People**

**Research**

# People of Moerwijk



'Spaces for work and study'

Reda (18)



'Functional green spaces'

Ravi (39)



Urban planner

'Densification along the edges'

'Diverse shopping streets'



Jaap (60)

'Places for daily groceries'



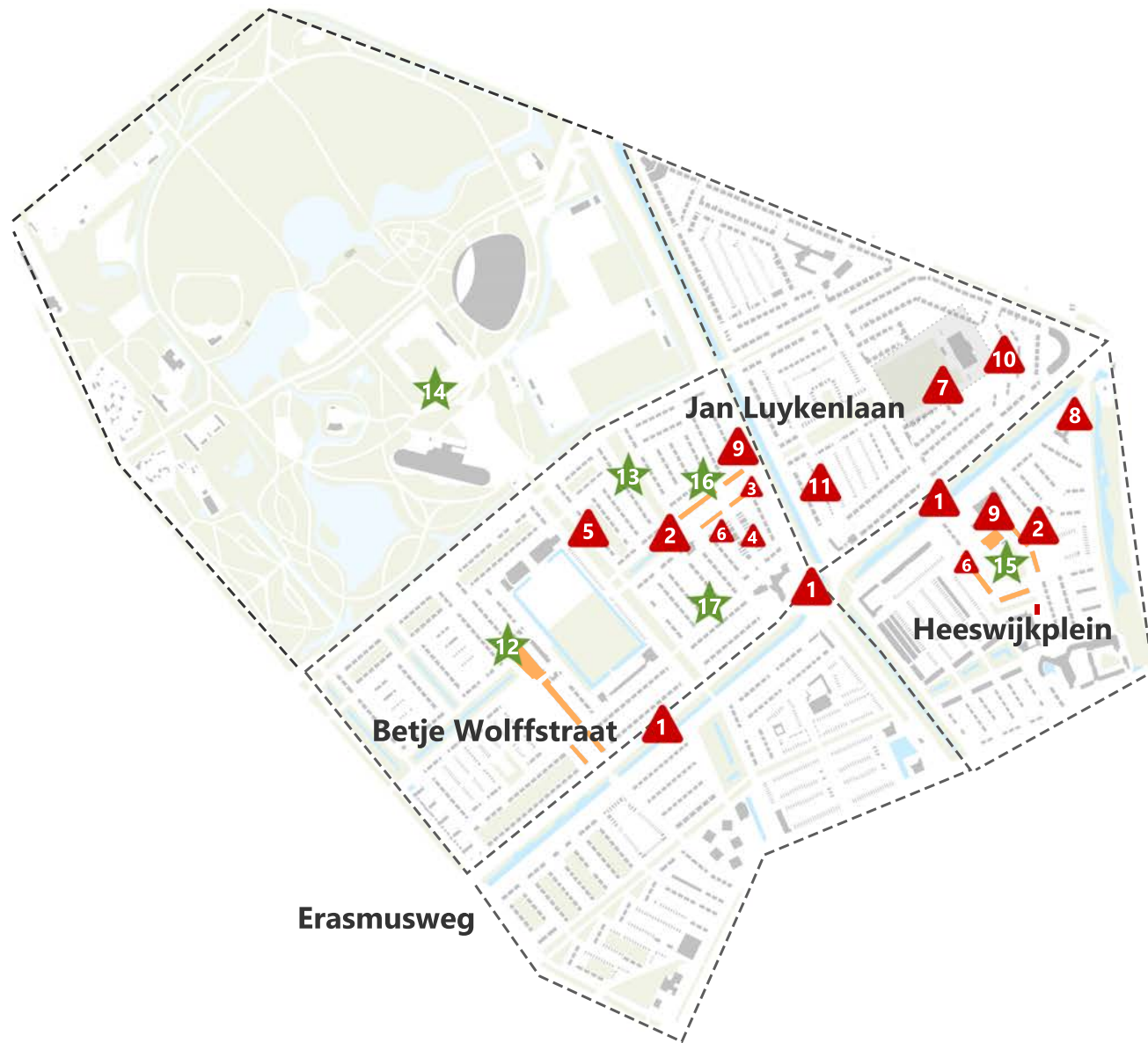
Farida (45)

'Co-creation on inner courts'



Housing corporation

# People of Moerwijk



## Points of attention

1. Erasmusweg: Barrier
2. No diversity in shopping areas
3. Lack of everyday supermarket
4. Lack of places for youth causing a nuisance at night
5. Lack of 'functional green'
6. Shopping area is not being refurbished
7. Playground is closed early
8. Unrest about plans for the demolition of the fire station and the construction of high residential towers
9. Many of the functions in the shopping areas do not appeal to and do not correspond to the needs of the residents
10. Unrest about places of care homes next to school
11. There is uncertainty about the transformation of building blocks. It is unclear which building block could be transformed and which block could be not.



## Qualities

12. Betje Wolffstraat acts as the best street around when it comes to everyday amenities
13. There is a lot of potential green in the neighborhood.
14. Zuiderpark
15. Heeswijkplein has several potentials
16. Several initiatives arise in the Jan Luykelaan: Painting of facade elements, making flower boxes and creating quality public spaces
17. Roofs are identified as potential for sustainable solutions

# Conflicts & agreements

- Regarding the improvement of public space, everyone is keen to strengthen the existing green structure, connect spaces, implement a variety of public spaces, and diversify functional space.
- The need for safer crossing and liveable and reachable spaces within the neighborhood is something all the parties agree on. The same goes for enhancing the local economy.
- Especially on the topic of densification, conflicts are visible.



# Pattern language: example



## 3 Seating space

### Hypothesis:

Designed spaces to sit is an important factor in enabling social interaction in public spaces.

### Context

Currently, what strikes in the public domain of Moerwijk, especially in most public streets, is that there is a lack of spaces to stay. The public domain is usually focused on motorized traffic, besides the shopping function. Regenerating these kinds of spaces offers the opportunity to design spaces in these kinds of streets that are suitable as places for interaction. Designing seating spaces is one of the design solutions that can contribute to this. This calls for an overall change about what these streets can mean for the neighborhood.

### Solution/theory

"Sitting space has been identified as one of the most important characteristics in retaining people in public spaces and possibly supporting social behavior [...] Eating and drinking are activities commonly associated with relaxation, and people frequently combine eating and drinking with socializing. This combination of food and social activity supported by outdoor seating makes people stay longer, making it a very important characteristic to support social life on the street. Outdoor seating makes patrons more visible, and several empirical studies show that people are attracted to places with people in them". (Mehta & Bosson, 2010).

### Practical implication

Seating elements can be designed in different ways. Especially in the public streets, this could be a tool to stimulate interaction. Designs can vary from terraces in front of cafés and meeting spaces to planters to sit on.

### Diagram



Source: Feuster, E. (z.d.). Seating space. AIA New York. <https://www.aiany.org/news/in-the-news-158/> Feuster, E. (z.d.). Seating space. AIA New York. <https://www.aiany.org/news/in-the-news-158/>



# Pattern language: overview

\* Conversations \*\* Research by design \*\*\* Literature



Permeability of streets fronts \*\*\*



Spaces for work \*/\*\*



Diverse shopping streets \*



Walkable streets \*\*\*



Personalization \*\*\*



Third places\*\*\*



Designing the public street \*\*



Safe crossings \*



Seating space \*\*\*



Mixing \*\*\*



Adaptable streets \*\*\*



Neighborhood mainstreet \*\*/\*\*



Shelter \*\*\*



Human scale \*\*\*



Designing the public realm \*\*\*



Social communal gardens \*\*\*



Place meaning \*\*\*



Neighborhood centers \*\*



Hierarchy in public space \*\*\*



Embrace local initiatives \*



Reorganizing building blocks \*\*\*

## Complementary patterns



Creating social space



Connectivity



Legible space



Meaningful space



Activity



Street design



Neighborhood design



Place making



# Pattern language: scales



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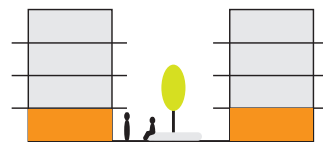
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### Diagram



## 20 Neighborhood main street

### Hypothesis:

Main streets in neighborhoods improve social interaction on neighborhood level.

### Context

Several commercial centers are located in Moerwijk: Betje Wolffstraat, Heeswijkplein, and Jan Luykenlaan. As mentioned before, there is a lack of activity and the facilities do not meet the needs of the residents. In addition, these areas are not designed as places to stay (except for Heeswijkplein). Implementing the principle of the main street or commercial street can help to improve these areas into places where residents can meet.

### Solution/theory

The theory of Vikas Mehta is used to describe what elements are needed in the design of a neighborhood commercial street. In the paper by Vikas Mehta (2007) called 'Lively streets – Determining environmental characteristics to support social behavior', he investigated [...] "what microscale physical characteristics and uses are able to support stationary and social activities on neighborhood commercial streets [...]". These elements are shown in the diagram below, which is forming the base for the practical implication.

### Practical implication

To implement this pattern, the aforementioned diagram can be used to analyze what elements are already present in these public areas and what elements are not. By comparing these qualities with the actual situation, a reflection can be made on what is missing. Based on this, elements from the different factors can be implemented in the current or new situation.



Source: Main street. (2011). Hofkwartier Den Haag. <https://www.hofkwartierdenhaag.nl/>

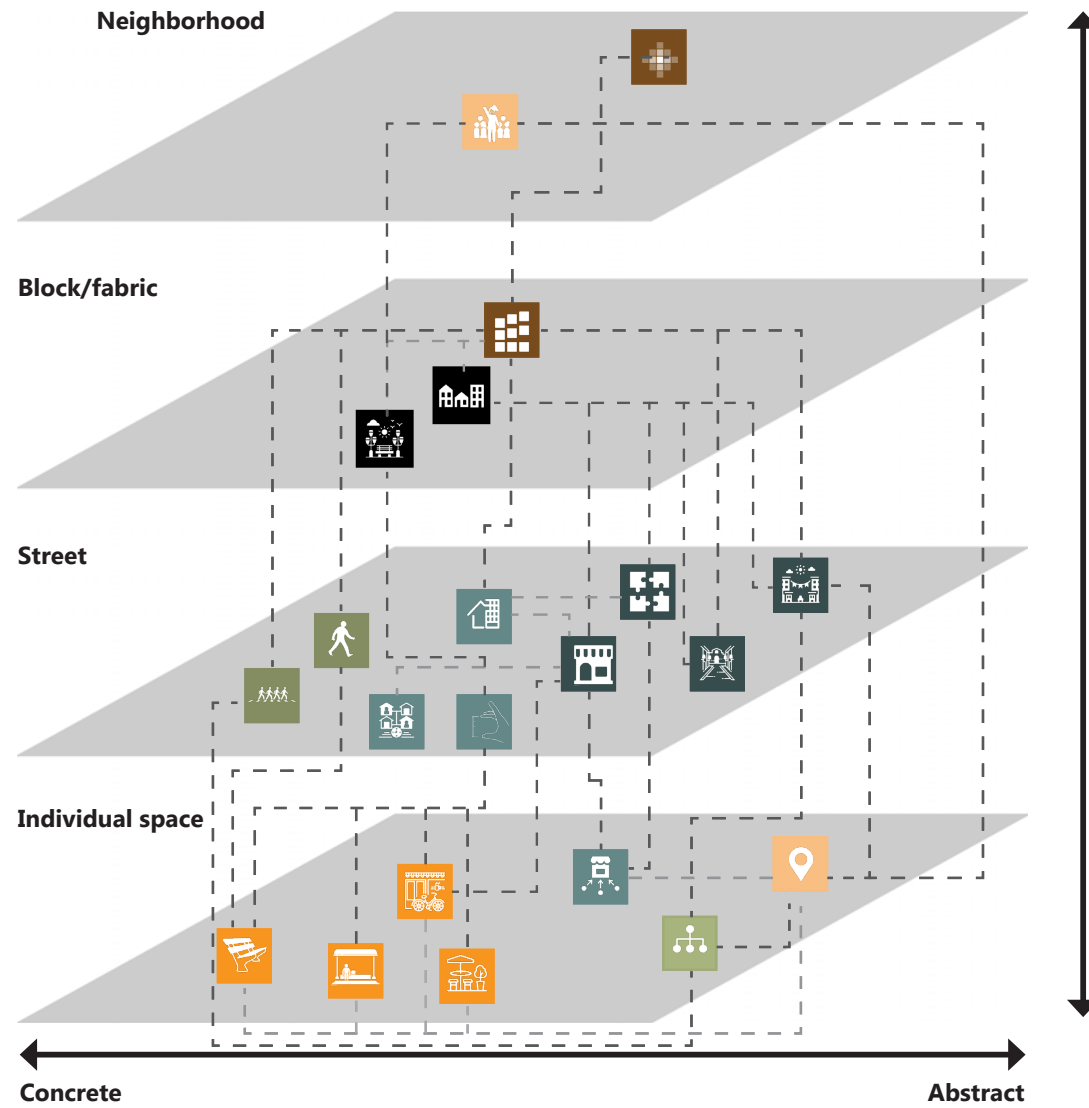
### Diagram



Source: Five dimensions of public space. Source: Lively streets (Mehta, 2007)



# Pattern language: Relations

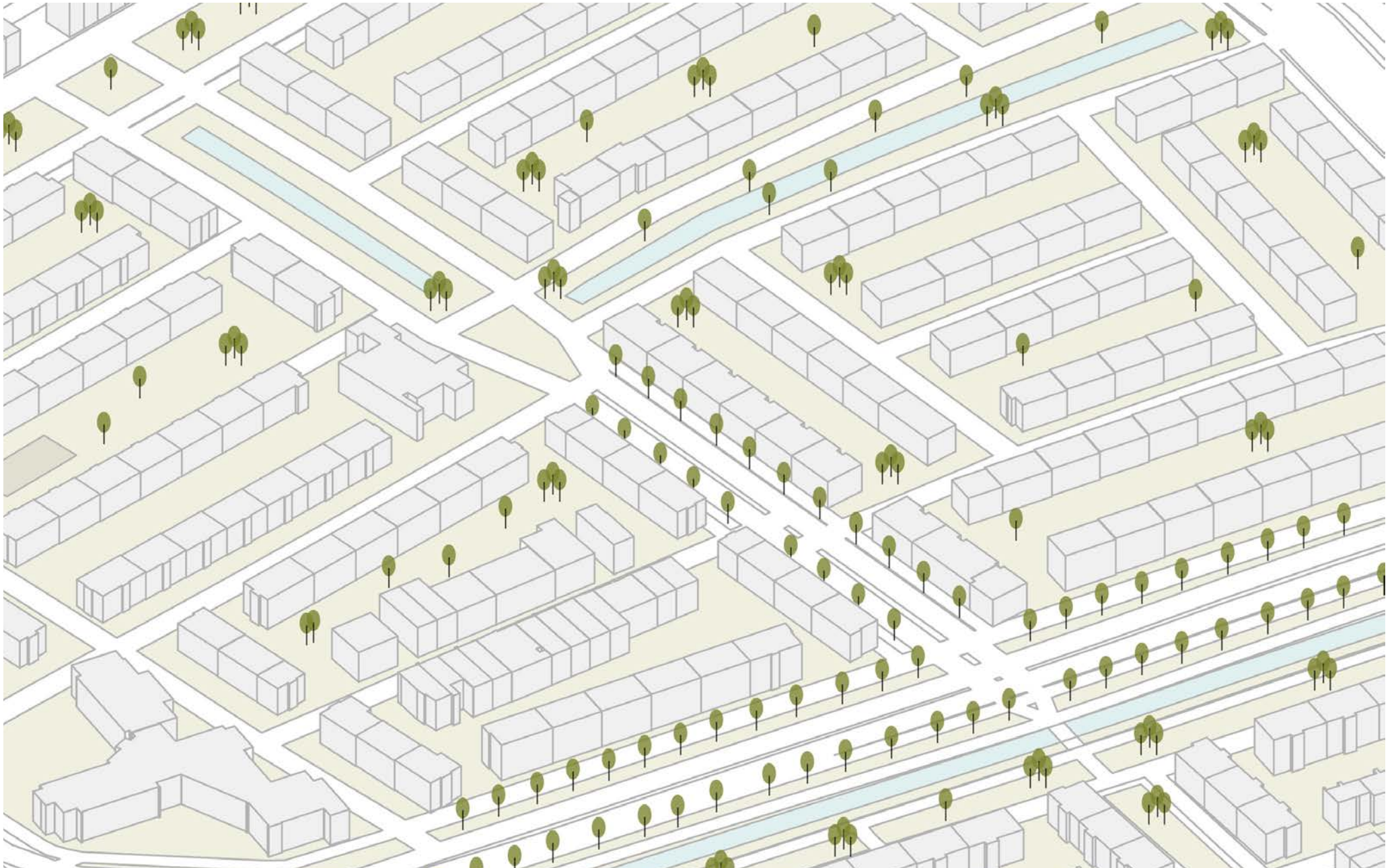


Related with pattern from different level(s) of scale [ ]

Related with pattern from same level of scale [ ]



## Design testing: Jan Luykenlaan



# Design testing: Jan Luykenlaan



Public plinth Jan Luykenlaan



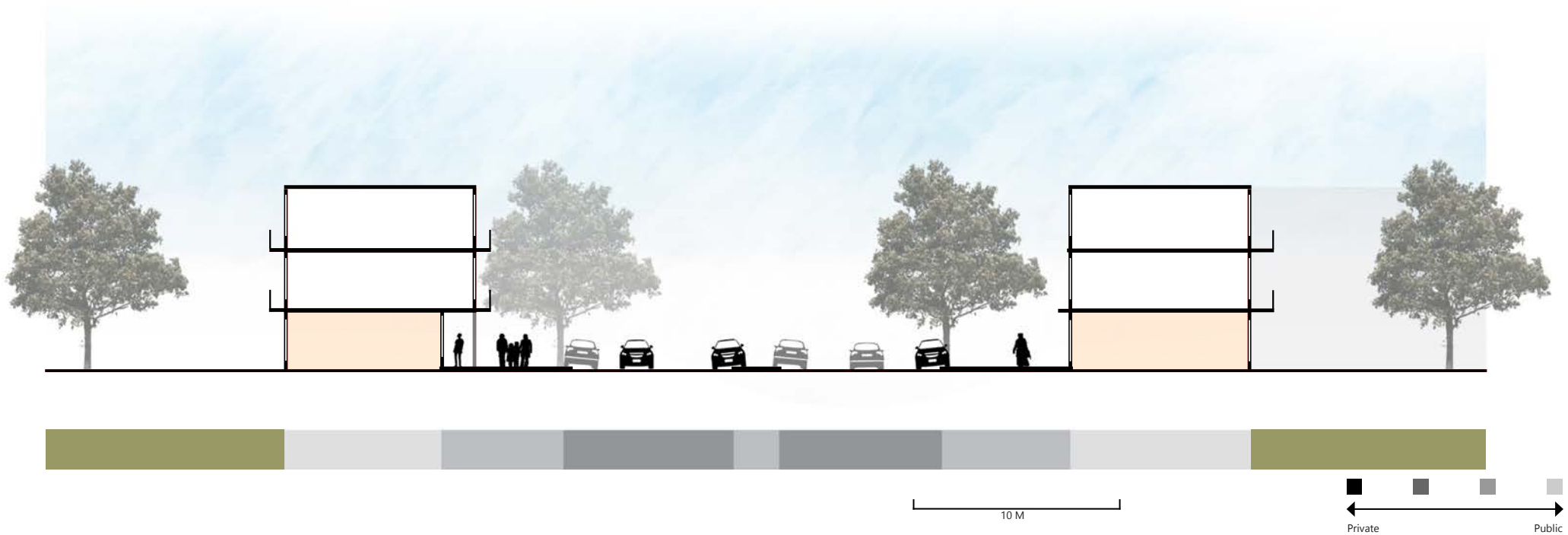
Entrance of the street (near Moerweg)



Street corner Jan Luykenlaan



Entrance of communal garden



# Design testing: Jan Luykenlaan



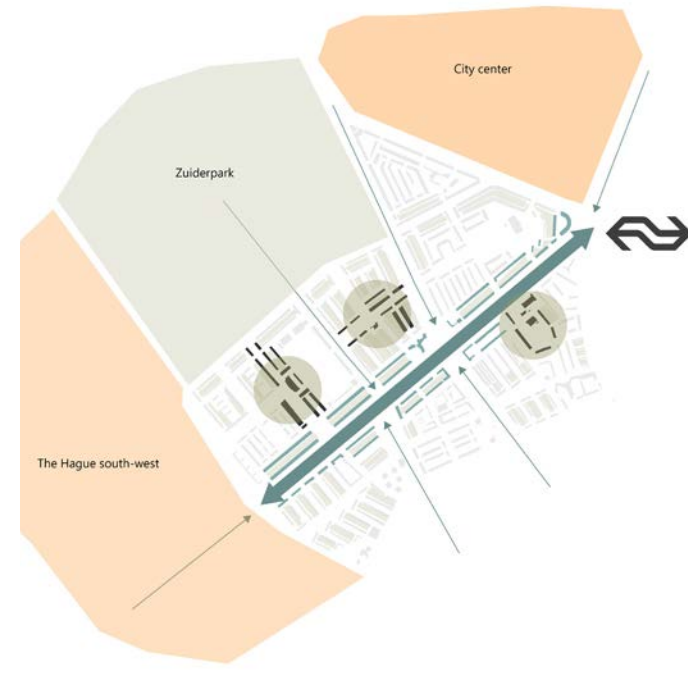
# Design testing: scenarios



Green corridor

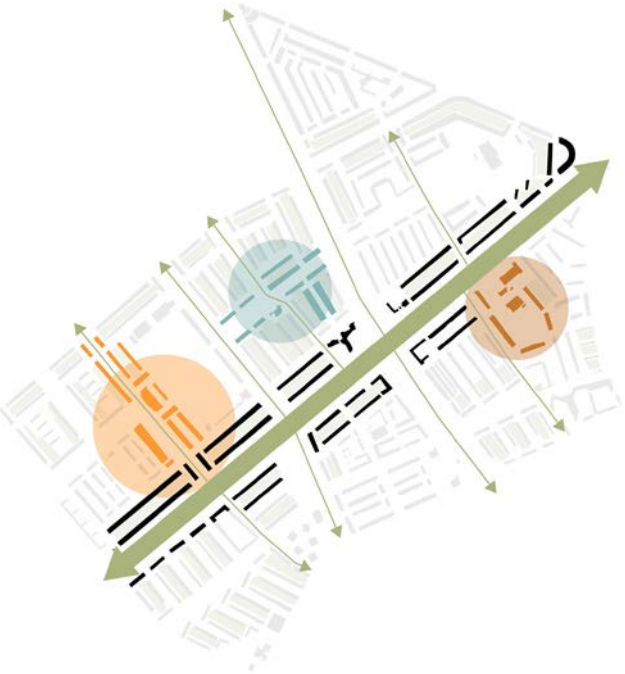


Neighborhood main street



City corridor

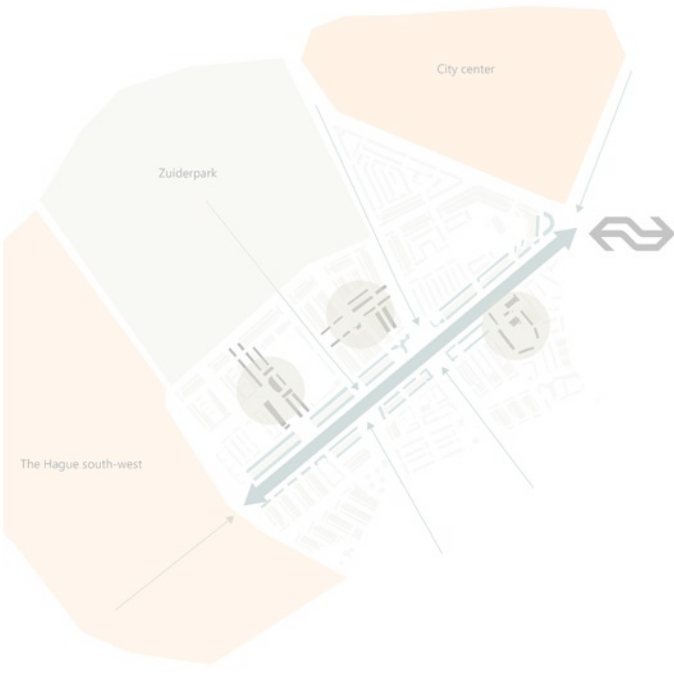
# Design testing: scenarios



Green corridor



Neighborhood main street



City corridor

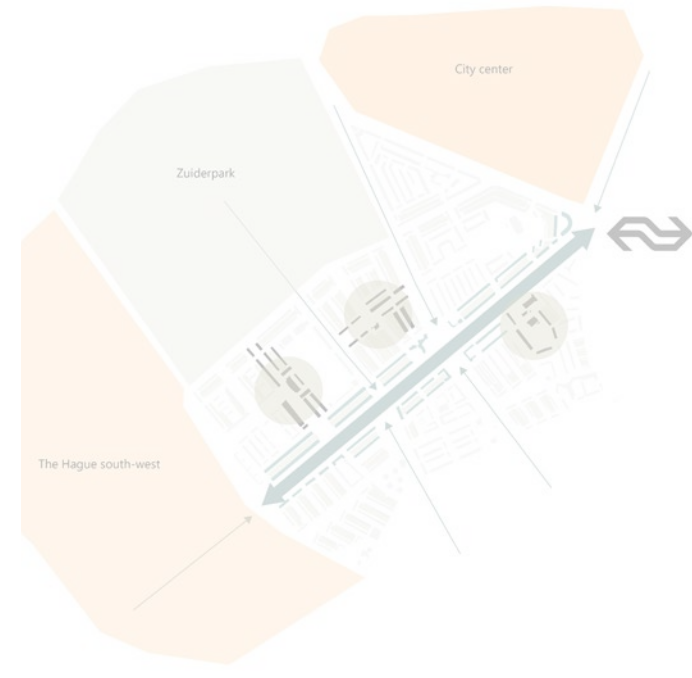
# Design testing: scenario 1



Green corridor

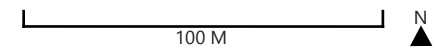


Neighborhood main street

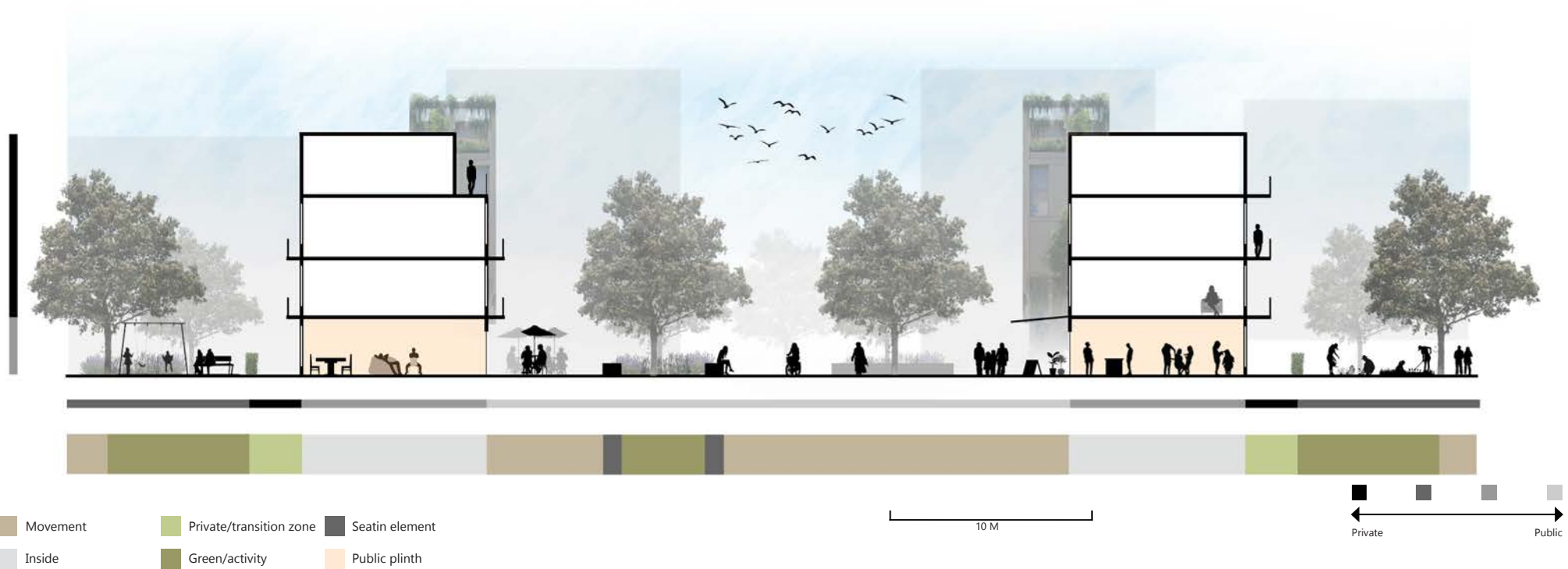


City corridor

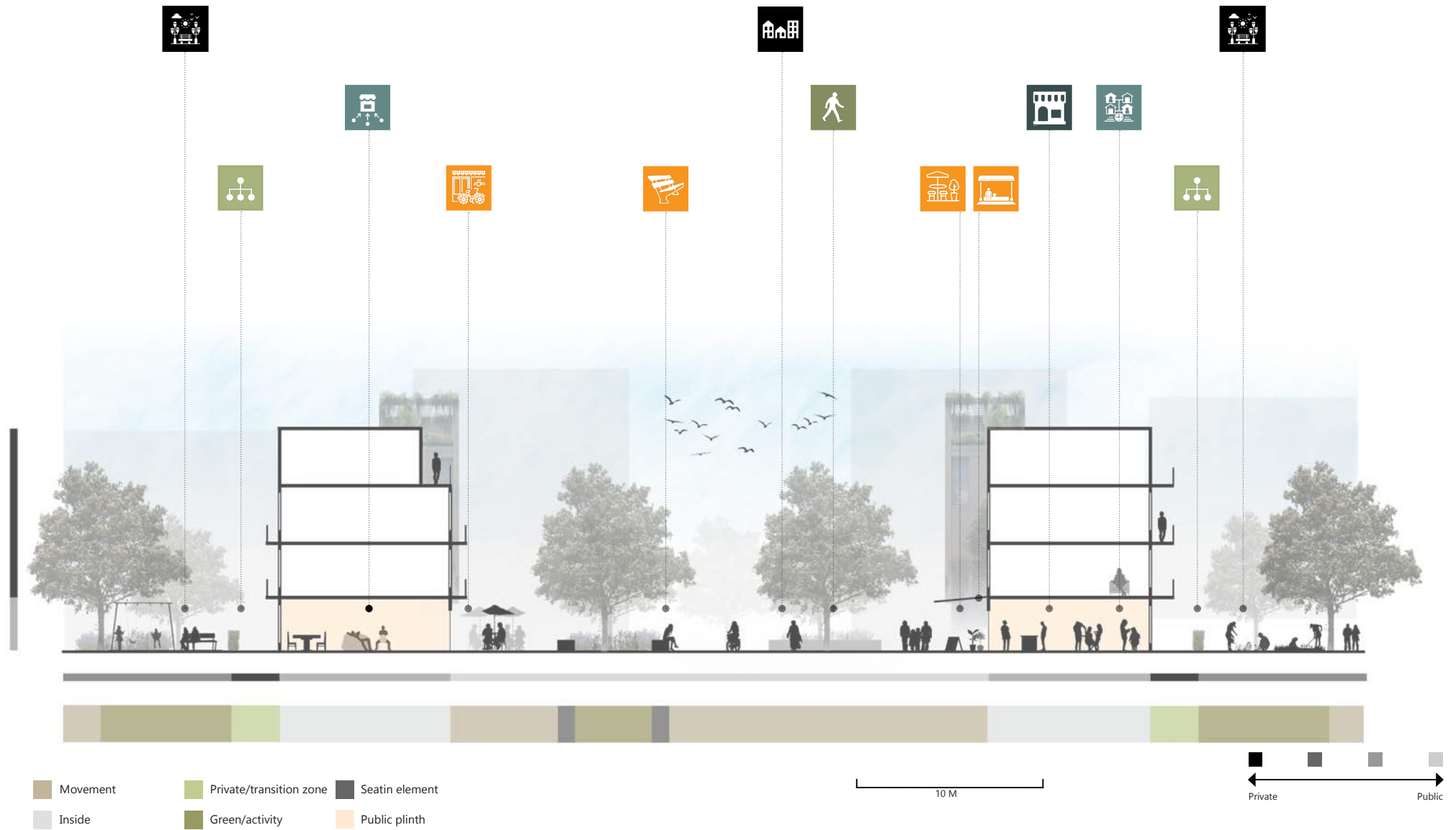
# Scenario 1: plan



# Scenario 1: section

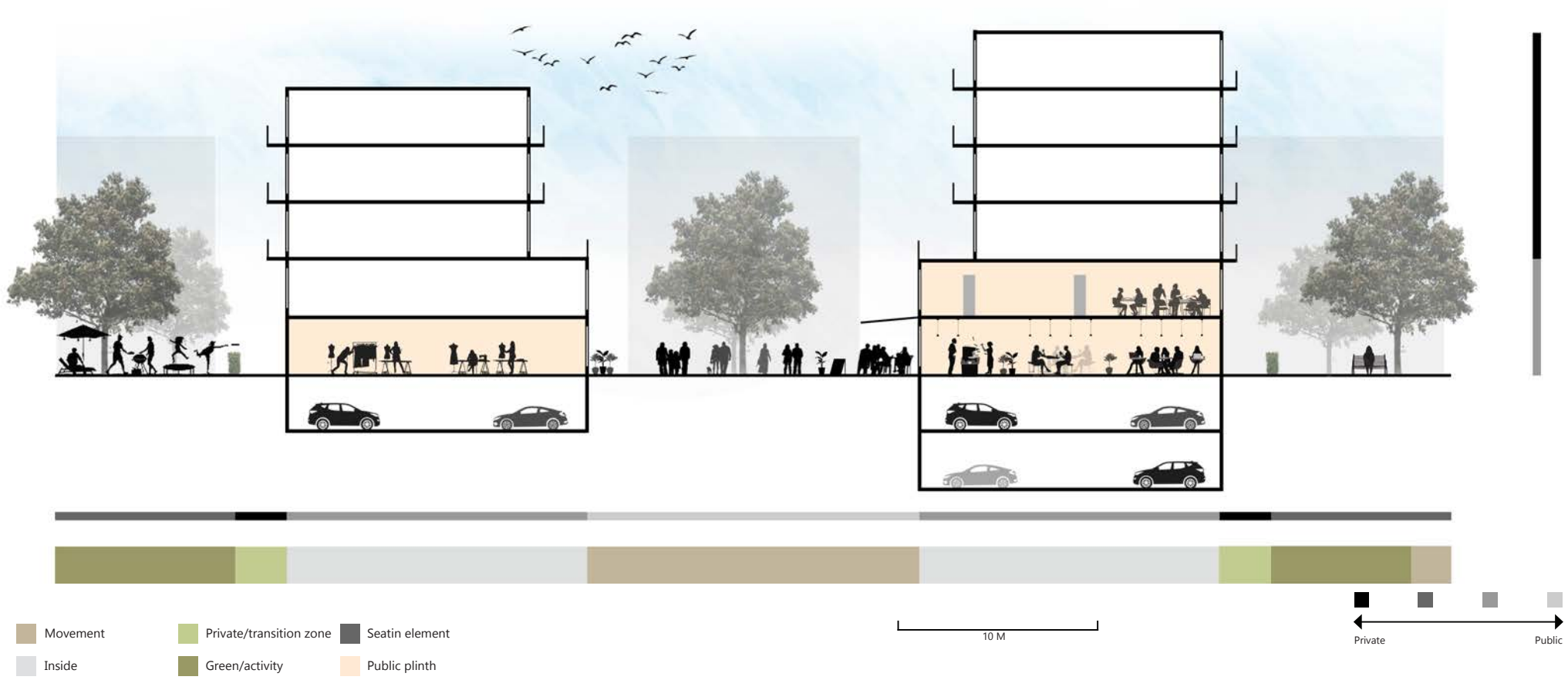


# Scenario 1: patterns



Design testing

# Scenario 1: section





# Scenario 1: qualities



# Scenario 1: building volumes



Pedestrian friendly



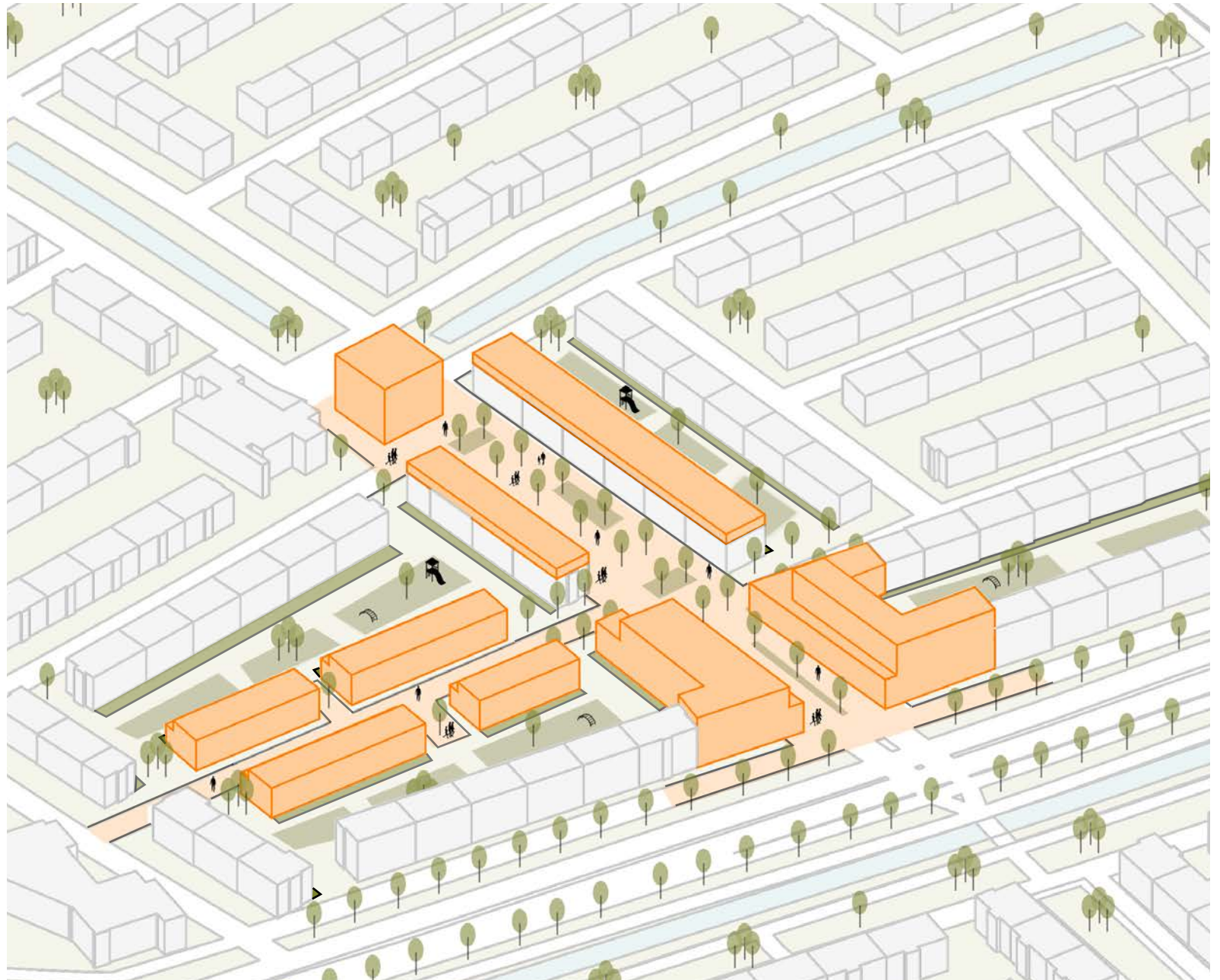
New functions



Neighborhood center

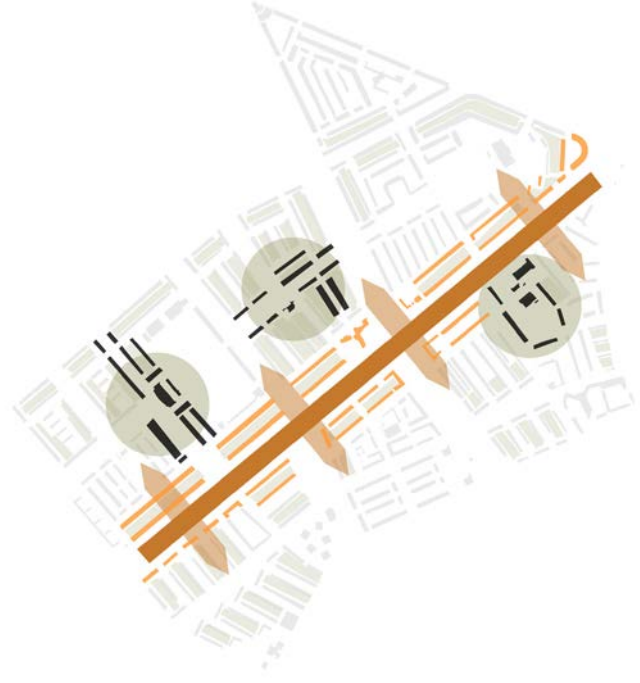


New buildings





Green corridor



Neighborhood main street



City corridor

## Design testing: scenario 2



100 M N

# Scenario 2: section



Figure 7.43 Reference image (z.d). Source: wbez.org/stories/city-of-big-potholes-is-asphalt-the-best-choice-for-chicagos-streets/8bbd9e7a-b27e-4e00-a868-aa0b826b53b2

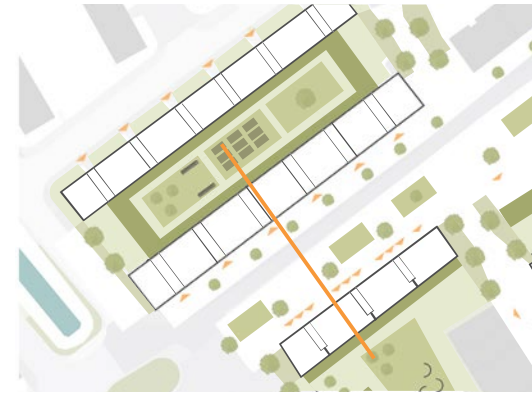
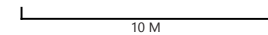


Figure 7.44 Zoom-in map (Van Baerlestraat). Source: made by author

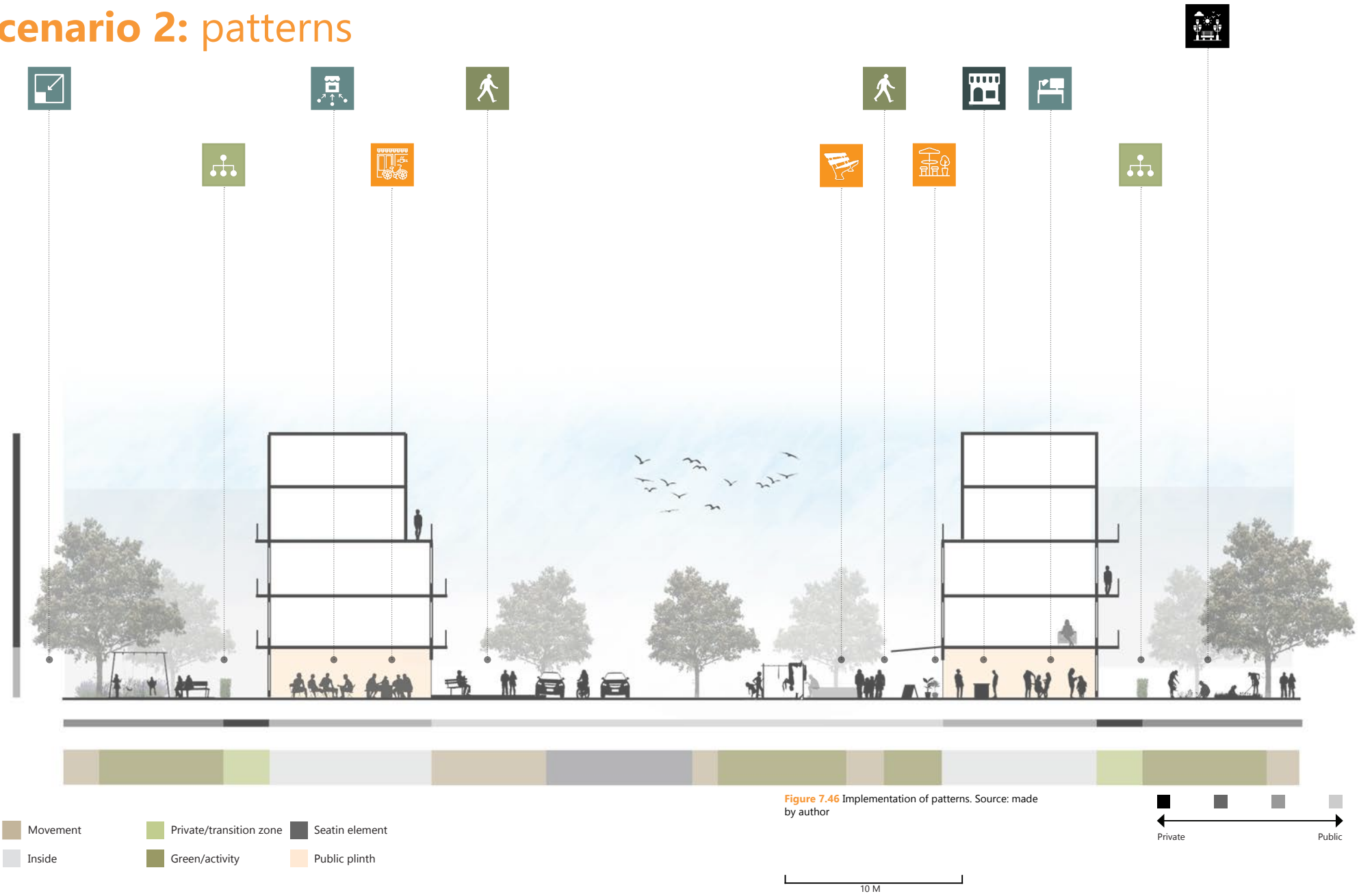


Figure 7.45 Section Jan Luykenlaan (entrance). Source: made by author

- Movement
  - Inside
- Private/transition zone
  - Green/activity
- Seatin element
  - Public plinth



# Scenario 2: patterns



## Scenario 2: building volumes



Shared space



Active space



Neighborhood corridor



Transformation



Design testing

# Conclusions

- Regeneration framework is built on a set of design solutions coming from different inputs
- Pattern language is a chain between the theoretical, spatial and qualitative research.
- Design (process) as a demonstration tool how different interest and needs can land in the actual space through different scales.
- Different patterns in different scenarios

# Reflection

- The research is showing how different inputs could be used in a design process, not a final design
- Further reflection on patterns and design proposals are needed to ensure co-creational input



Thank you