

**URBAN DESIGN INTERVENTIONS FOR  
CREATIVE  
NIGHTSCAPES  
IN ROTTERDAM**

**Kimberley Nguyen**  
4543033

**Graduation Studio Design of the Urban Fabric**  
First mentor: Dr Víctor Muñoz Sanz  
Second mentor: Dr Juliana Goncalves

January 19, 2024  
P5 Presentation

Delft University of Technology  
Faculty of Architecture and the Built Environment  
MSc Urbanism 2022/23

# CONTENT

## **1 / LIGHTS FADING IN THE NOCTURNAL METROPOLIS**

Problem analysis

## **2 / ILLUMINATE THE NIGHT IN RESEARCH**

Research questions

## **3 / ILLUMUNATING NIGHTSCAPES: NAVIGATING THROUGH URBAN DARKNESS**

Methodology

## **4 / COLLECTING NOCTURNAL ECHOES**

Data collection

## **5 / NOCTURNAL ECHOES AT DAWN**

From data to design

## **6 / THE DESIGN OF CREATIVE NIGHTSCAPES**

Design framework

## **7 / NOCTURNAL INSIGHTS & DISCOVERIES**

Conclusions

## **8 / REFLECTION ON NIGHTTIME RESEARCH**

Reflection

**1 / LIGHTS FADING IN  
THE NOCTURNAL METROPOLIS  
PROBLEM ANALYSIS**

**SCALE**

**LEVEL**

XL

(Inter)National

L

Regional

M

City

S

Creative cluster / Neighbourhood

XS

Creative spaces

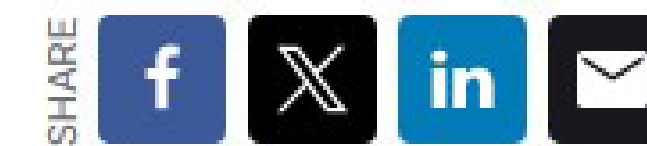
# Nightclubs closing: One in five have shut since Covid-19 pandemic began

🕒 2 August 2022

## One in three nightclubs 'face closure' by the end of 2022

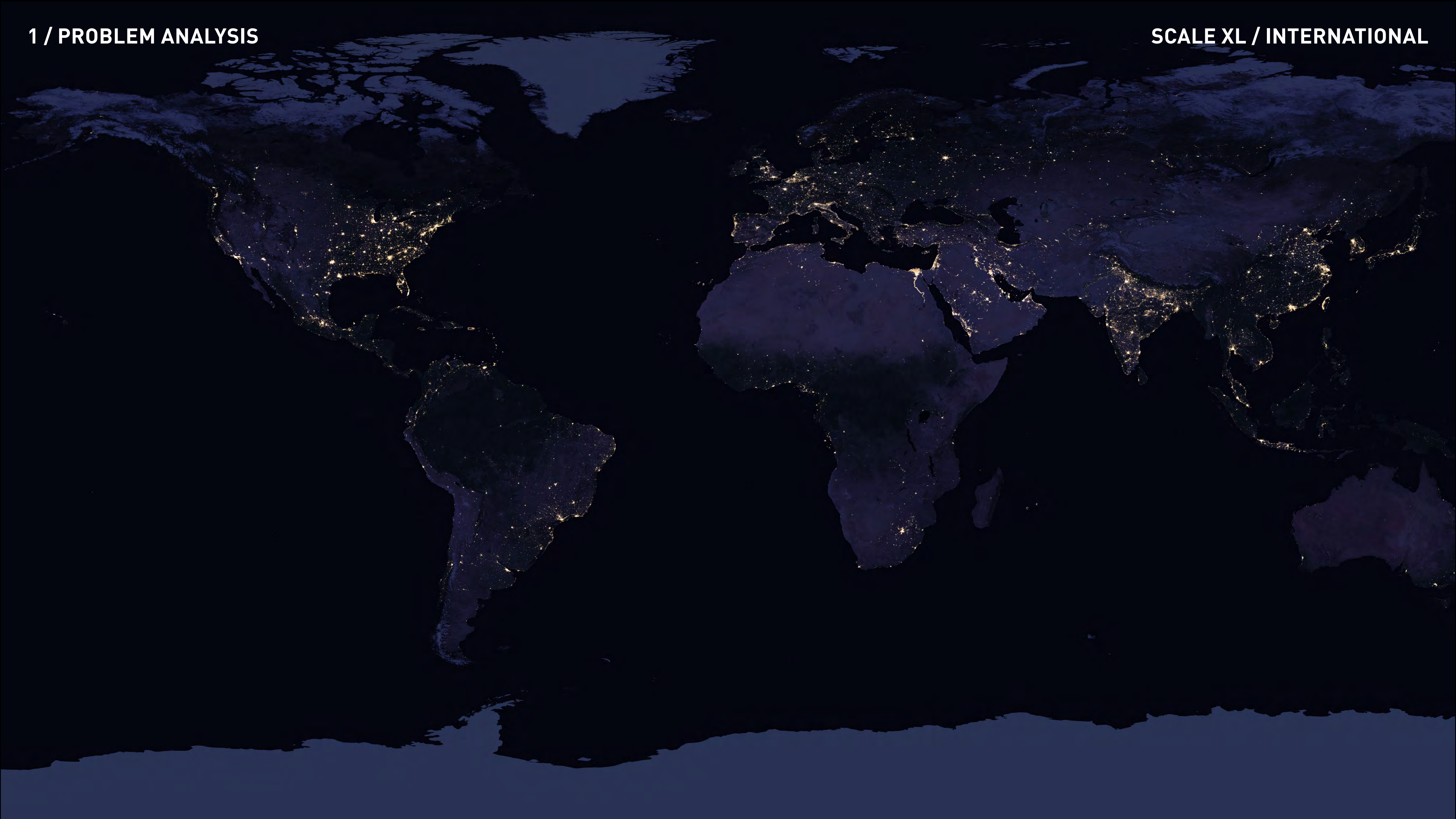
By James McAllister

03-Nov-2022 - Last updated on 03-Nov-2022 at 12:18 GMT



## Global club closures continue to rise, study finds

*The number of nightclubs in the UK declined by 21% in 12 months...*







▲ De Biergarten is één van de rauwe en creatieve plekken in Rotterdam die aan Berlijn doet denken.

## 'Cool, rauw en ruw Rotterdam wordt het nieuwe Berlijn'

Rotterdam is het nieuwe Berlijn. Dat stelt de Duitse krant Die Welt. Het dagblad roemt de Maasstad om haar echte skyline, grote haven en ultramoderne architectuur. 'Het is een stad die nooit af is en tegelijkertijd constant verandert.'

Jasper Monster 04-05-16, 15:13 Laatste update: 10-05-16, 00:30

## Woede omdat gemeente plan voor club in haven schrappt

**Nachtleven** Rotterdam is bezorgd over het nachtleven, nadat de gemeente plotseling de stekker uit de ambitieuze plannen voor de nieuwe club in Merwe-Vierhaven trok.

Rollinde Hoorntje 20 februari 2019 Leestijd 6 minuten



Foto Walter Herfst

## Extatische sfeer in de foyer van Rotterdams KINO (maar de burens zijn boos)

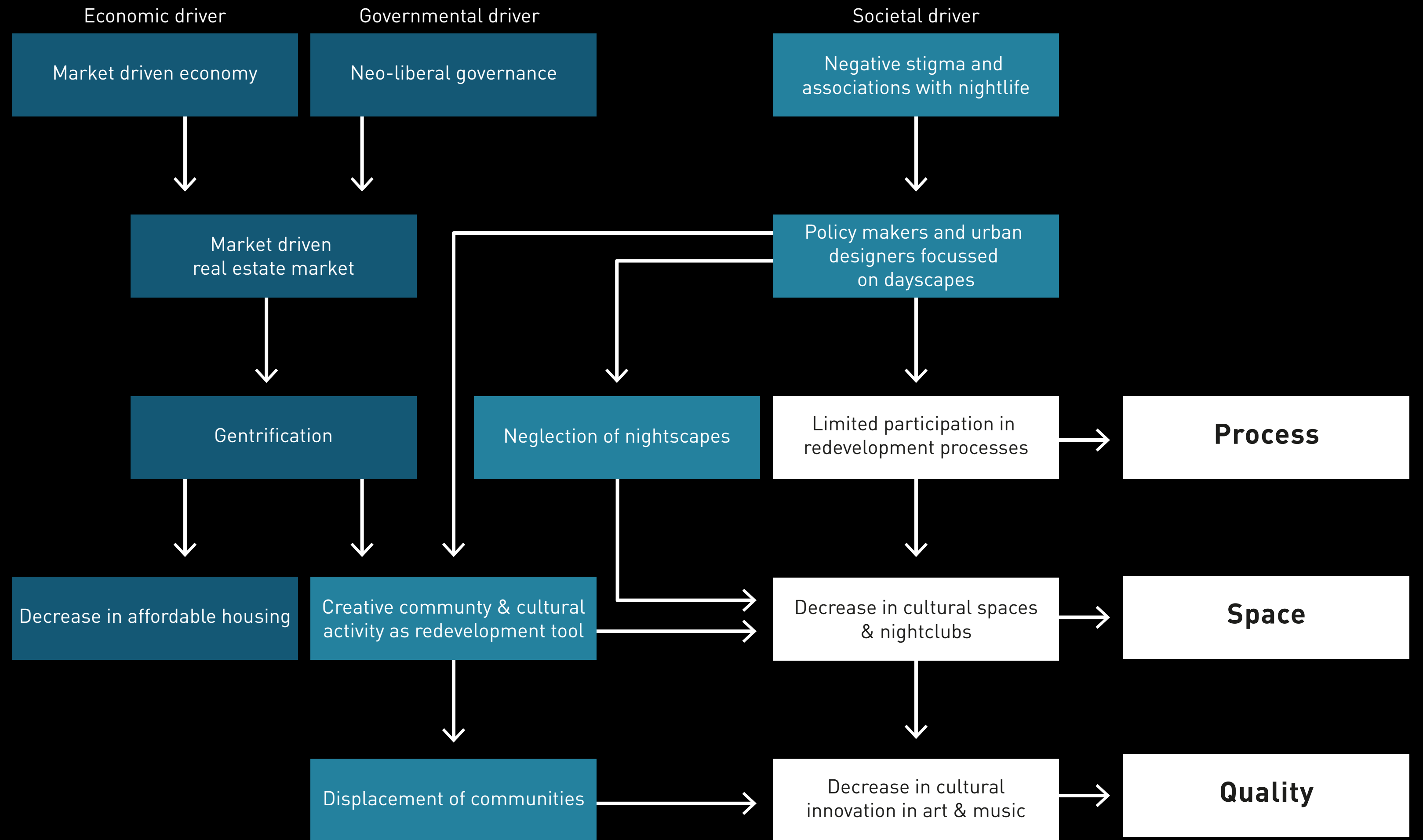
Jonasz Dekkers 1 juni 2022 Leestijd 3 minuten

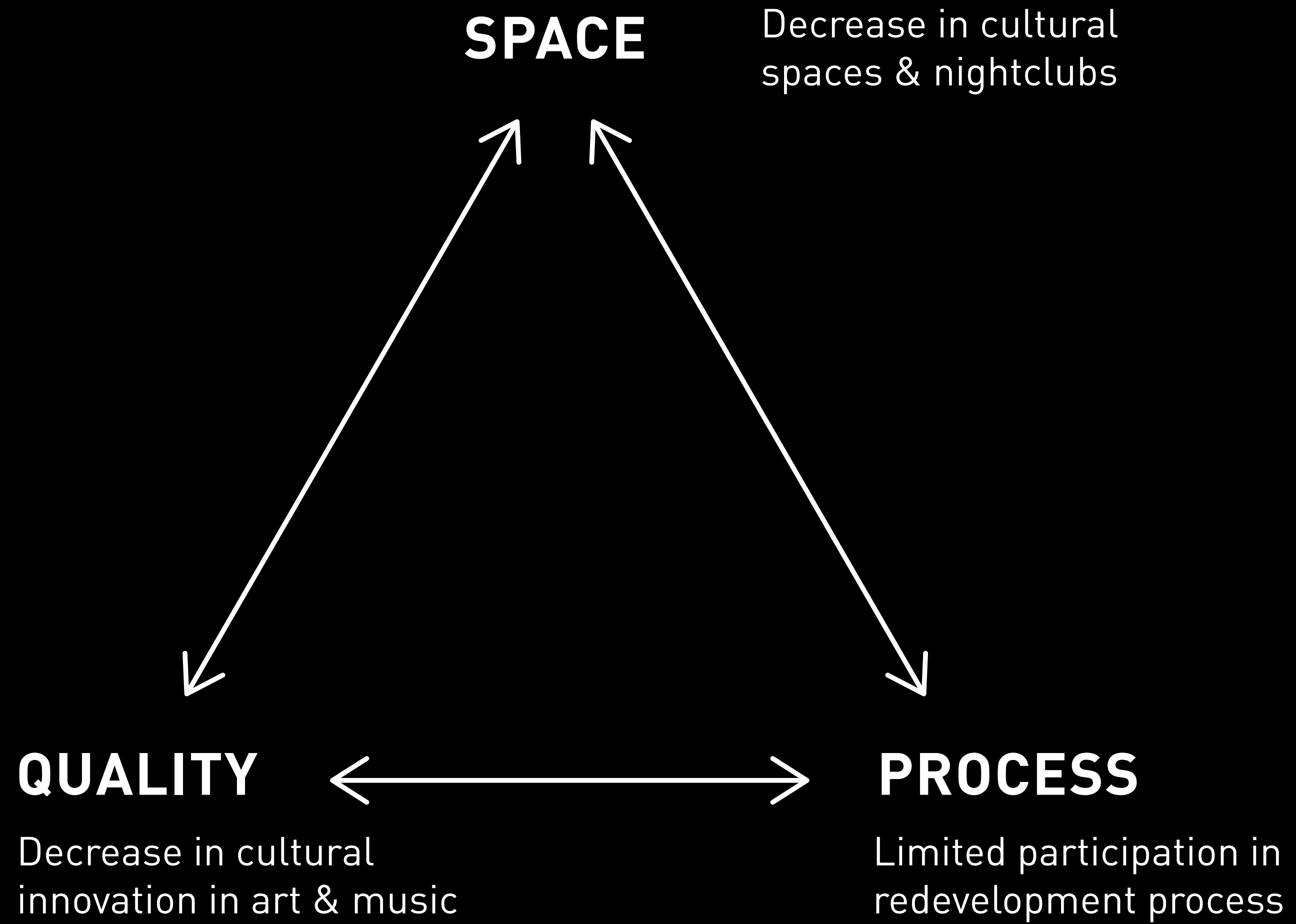


Foto Kamiel Scholten



- MAIN FOCUS
- SCOPE
- BACKGROUND



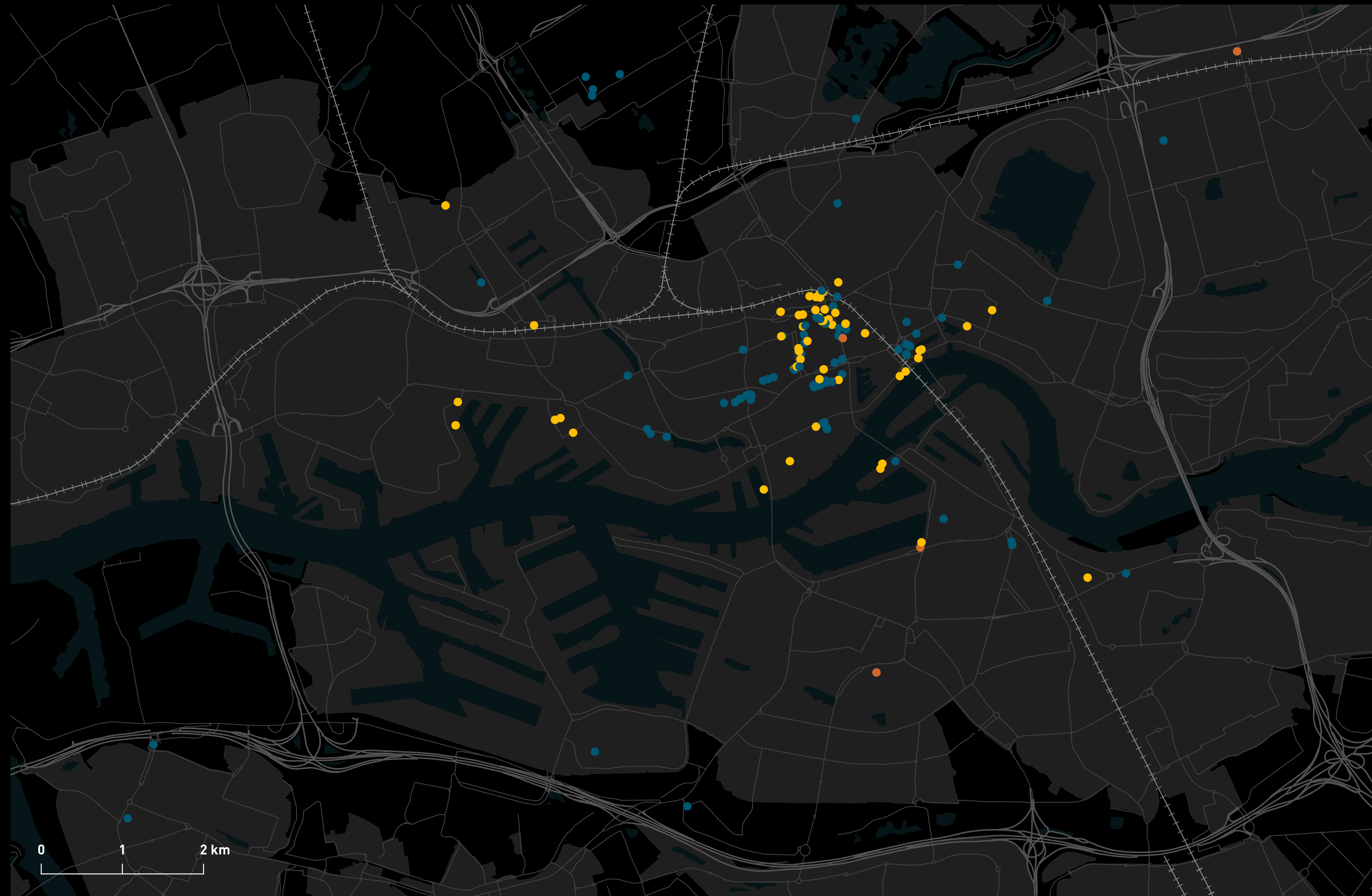
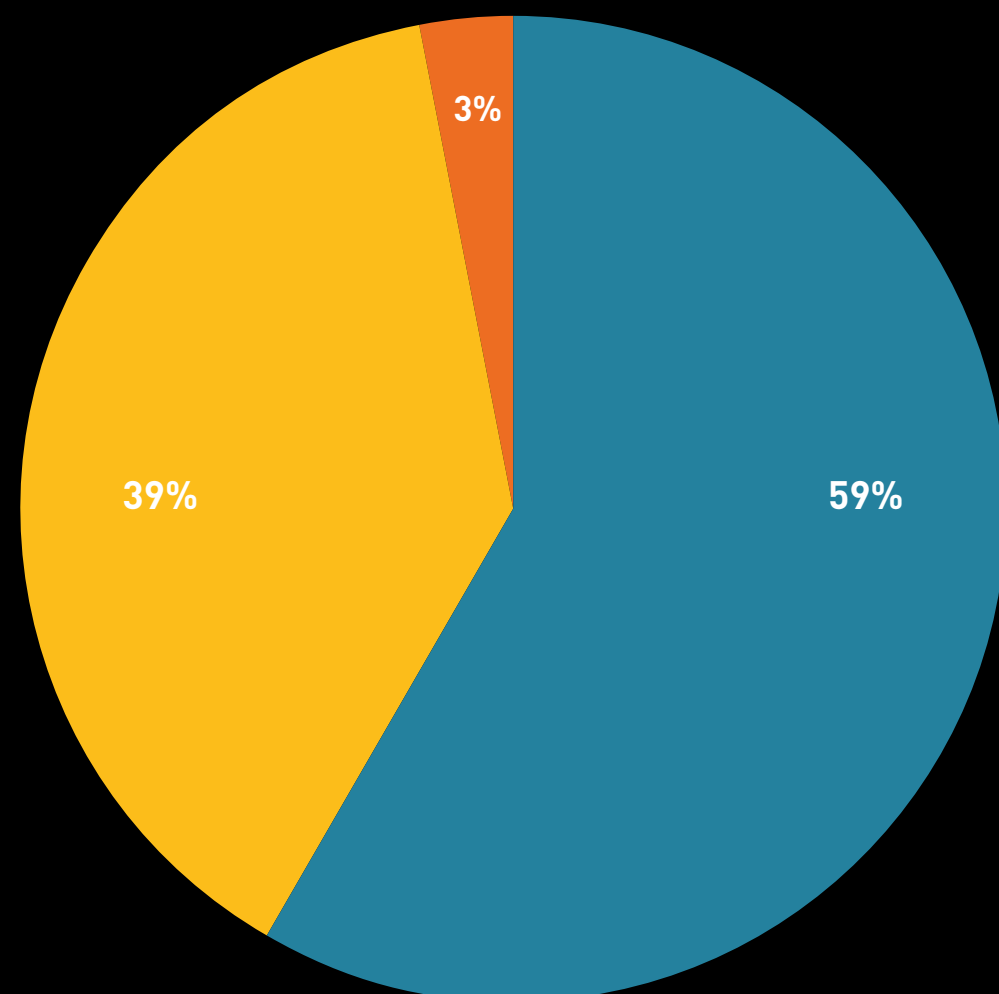




Category 3  
- allowed to be open for 24 hours  
- or amplified music

Category 4  
- allowed to be open for 24 hours  
- amplified music  
- capacity under 2500 visitors

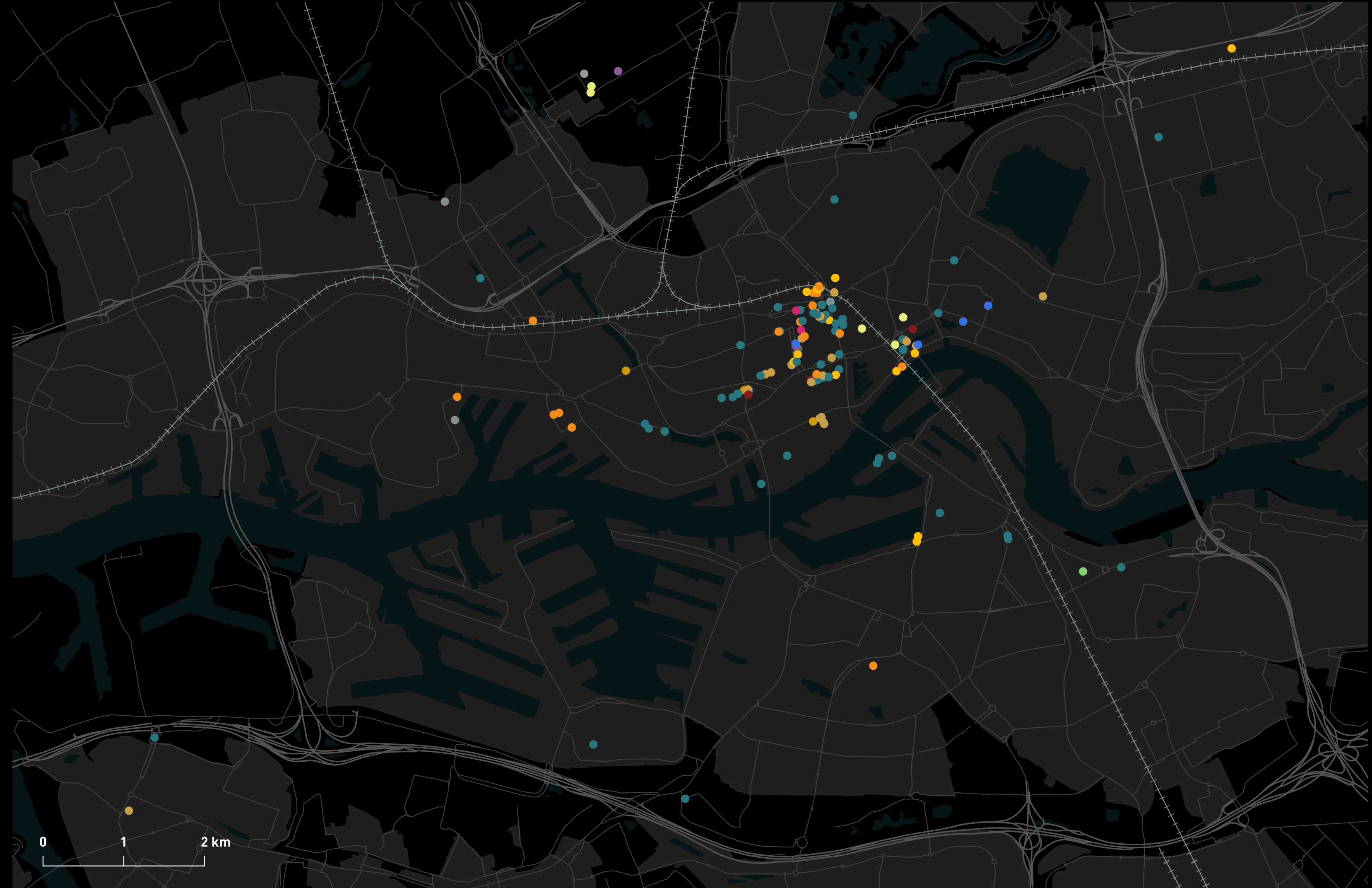
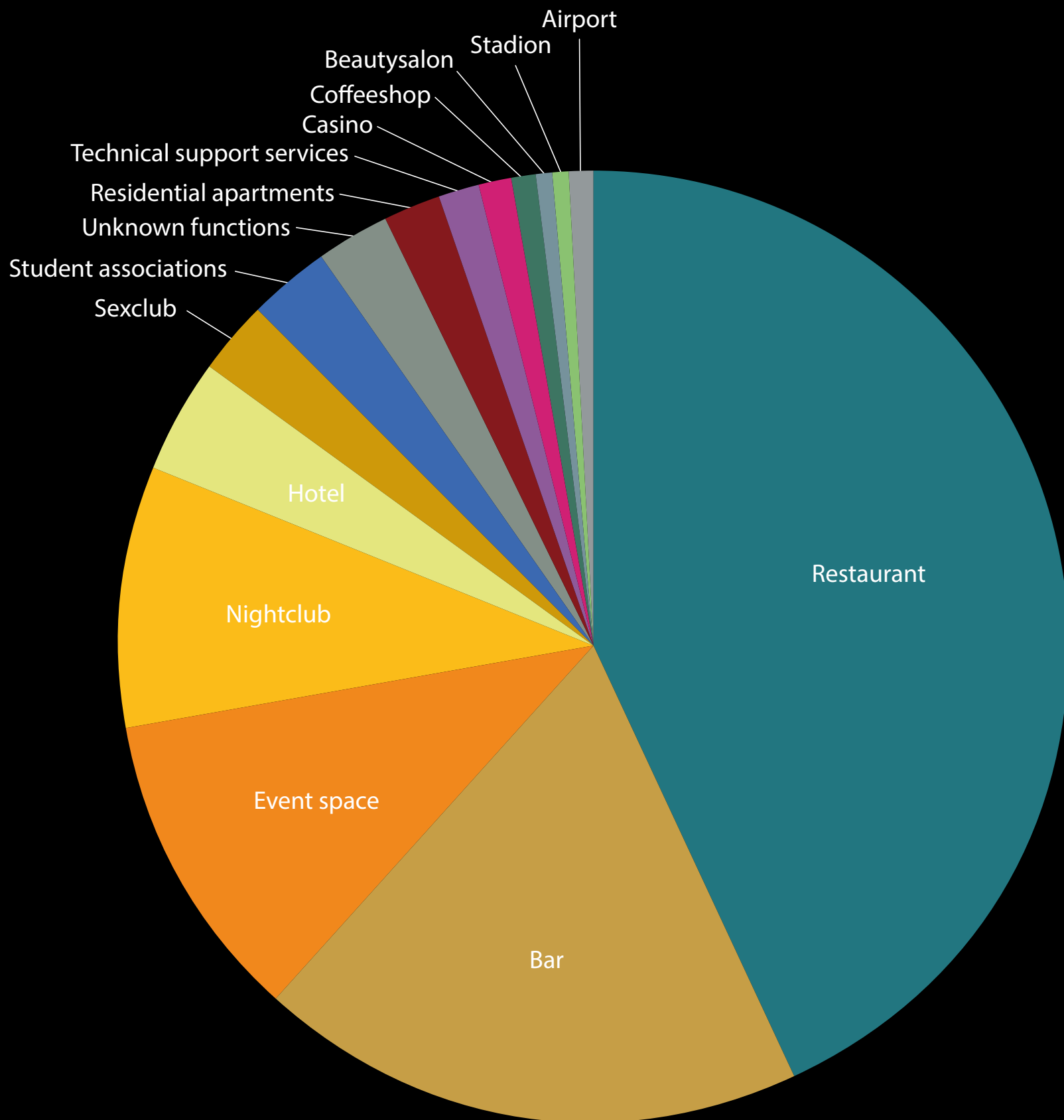
Category 4+  
- allowed to be open for 24 hours  
- amplified music  
- capacity over 2500 visitors



# 1 / PROBLEM ANALYSIS / SPACE

# SCALE M / CITY / SPECIFIC FUNCTIONS

- 67 restaurants
- 29 bars
- 16 event spaces
- 14 nightclubs
- 6 hotels
- 4 sexclubs
- 4 student associations
- 3 residential buildings
- 2 casino's
- 2 technical support services
- 1 beauty salon
- 1 coffeeshop
- 1 stadion
- 1 airport
- 4 unknown



- Night culture
- Hospitality
- Gathering space (day)
- Other

**Night culture**

- Nightclubs
- Event spaces

**Hospitality**

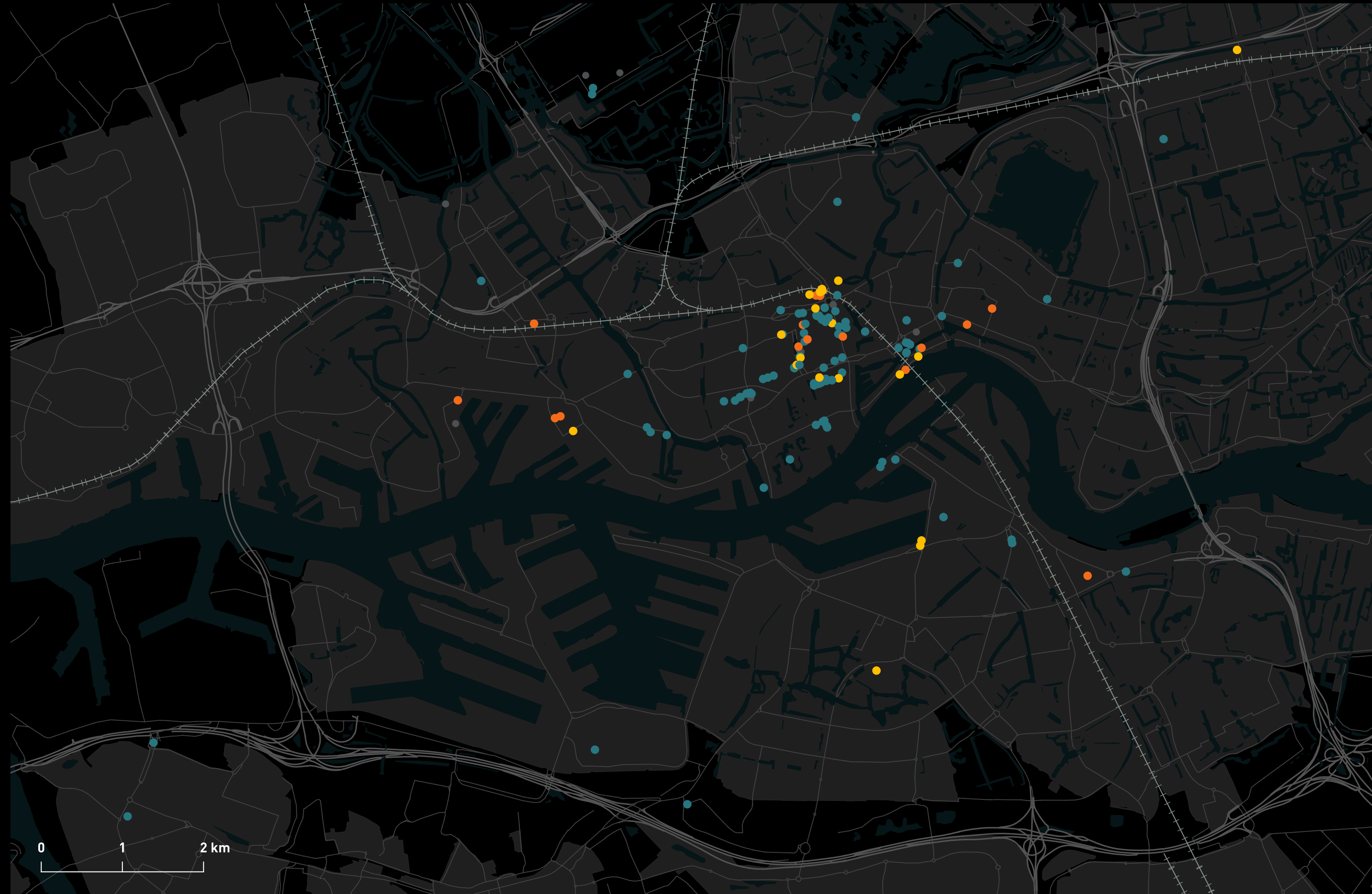
- Hotels
- Restaurants
- Bars
- Sex clubs
- Casino's

**Meeting spaces (daytime)**

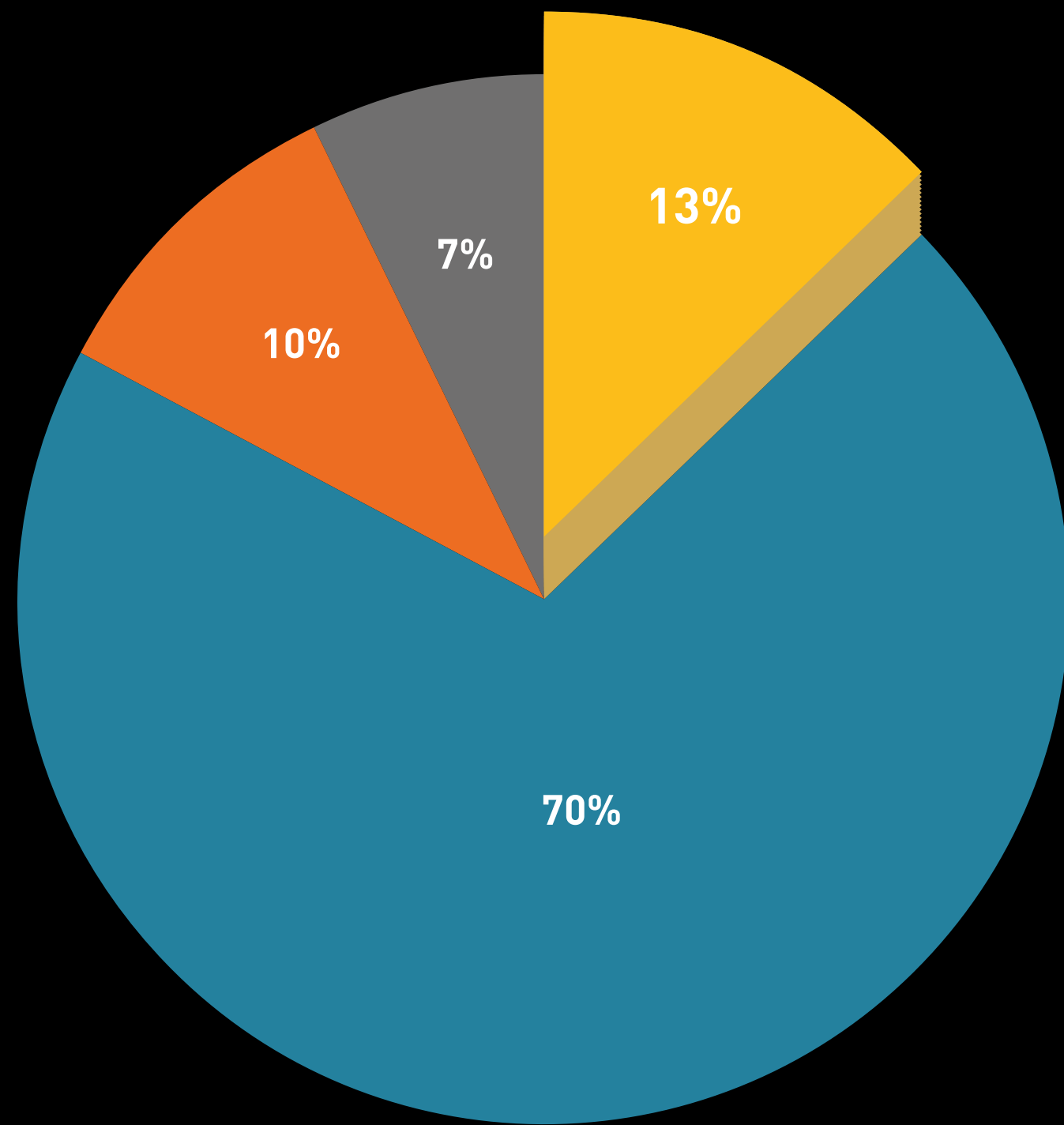
- Event spaces
- Student association
- Stadion

**Other functions (daytime)**

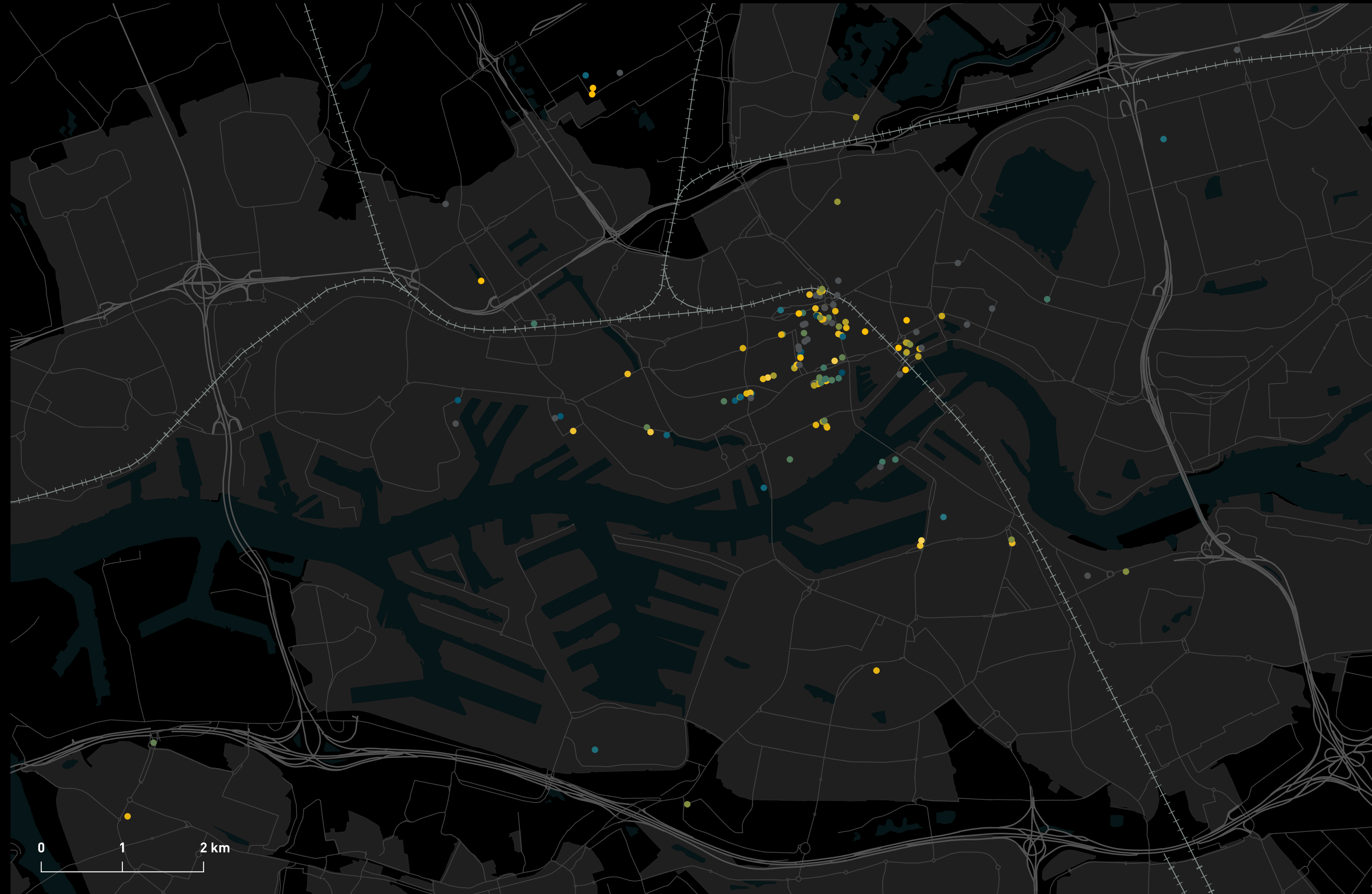
- Airport
- Coffeeshop
- Beautysalon
- Technical support
- Residential
- Unknown



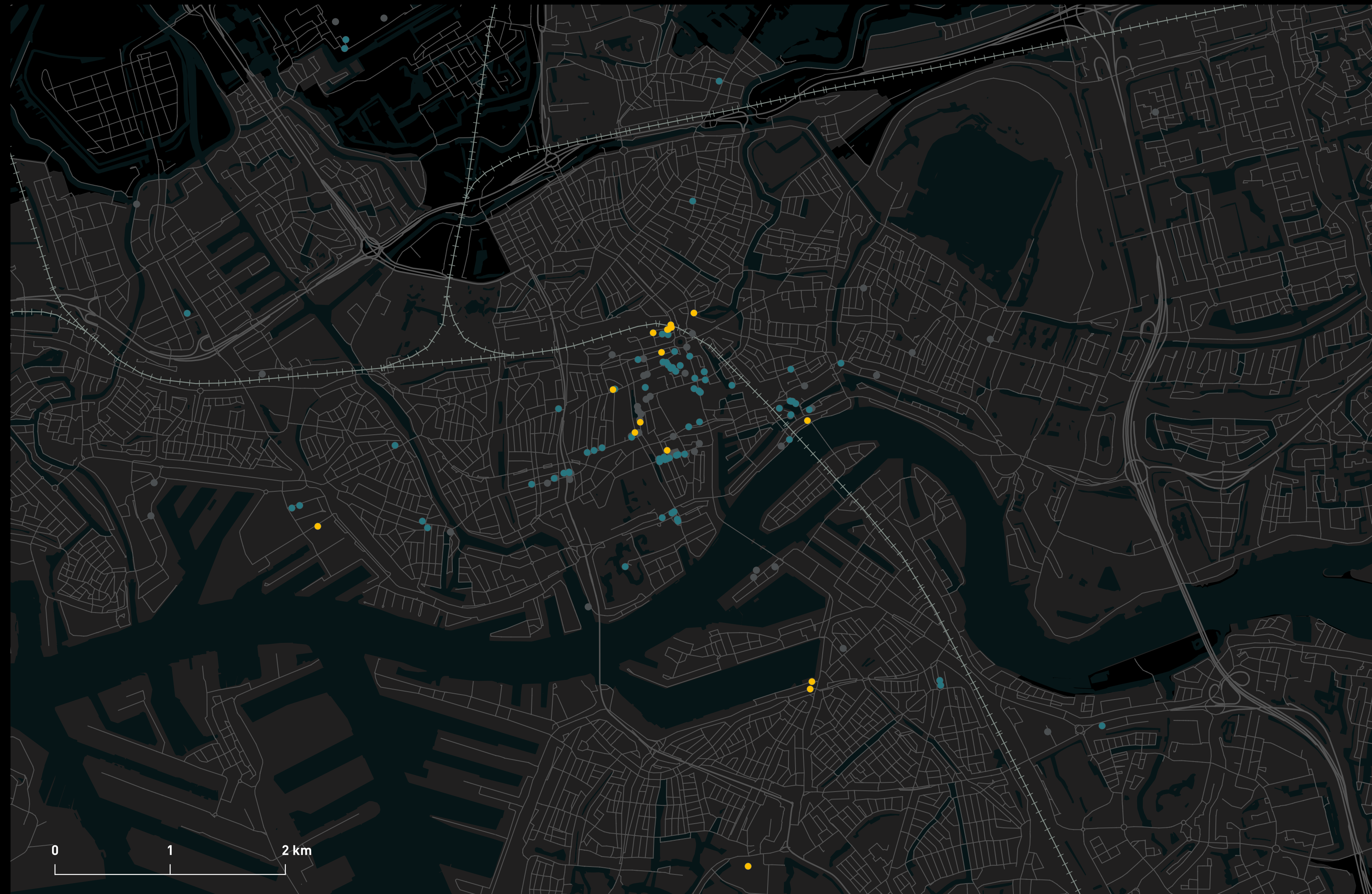
- Night culture
- Hospitality
- Gathering space (day)
- Other



- closed
- 17:30
- 18:00
- 19:00
- 20:00
- 22:00
- 23:00
- 00:00
- 01:00
- 02:00
- 03:00
- 04:00
- 05:00
- 06:00
- 06:30
- 07:00
- 08:00
- 09:00
- 24h

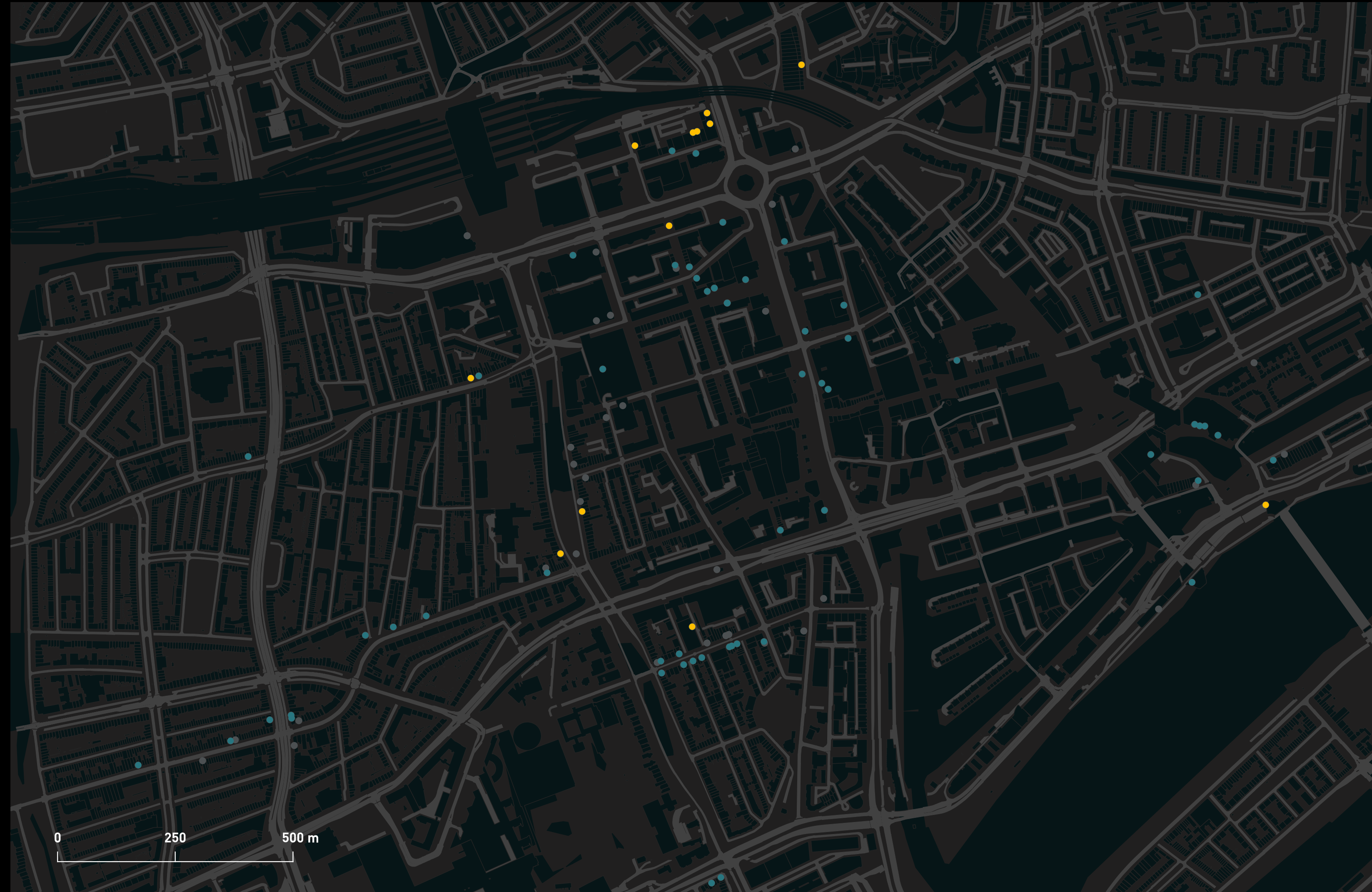


- Hospitality
- Night culture

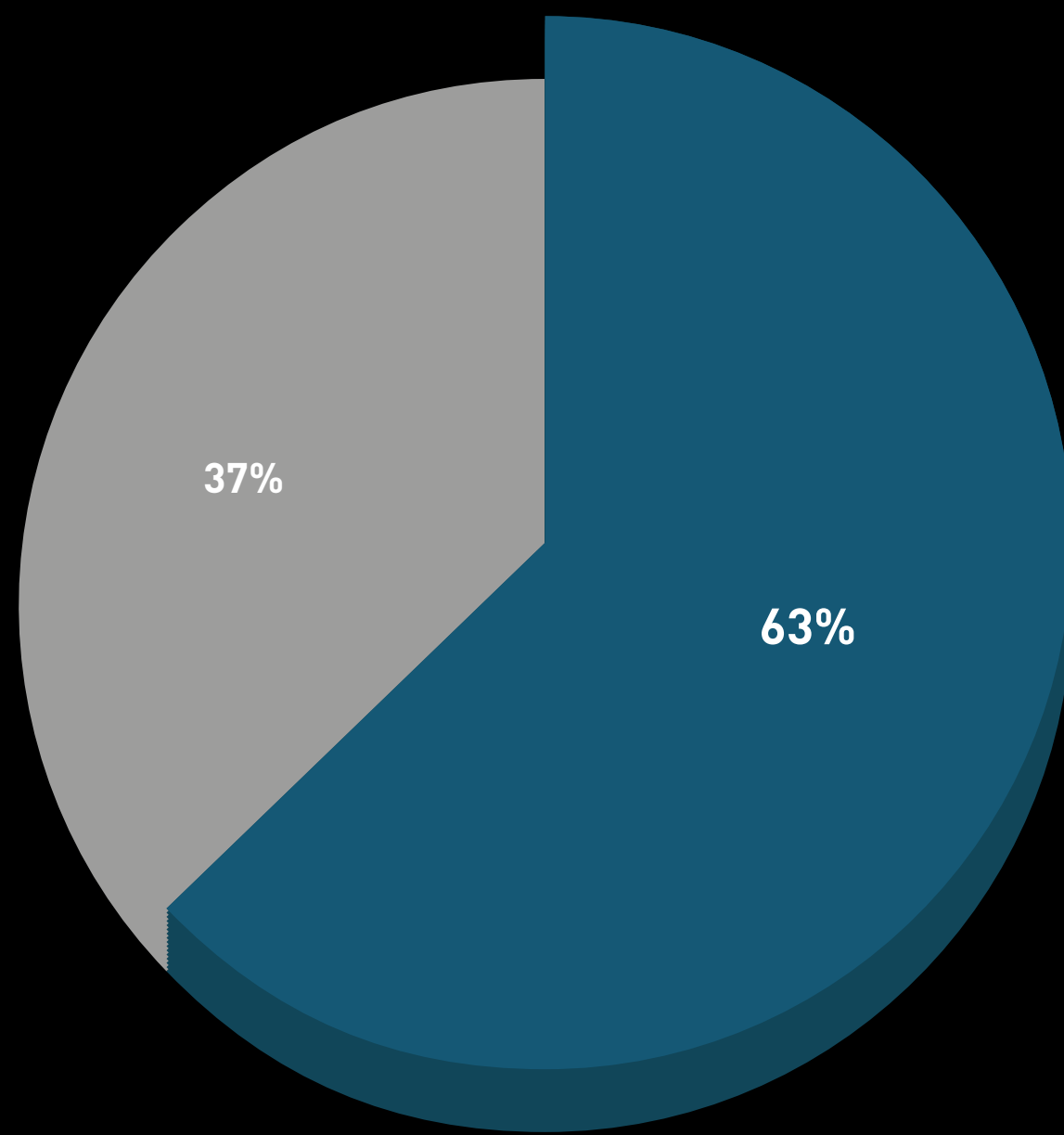




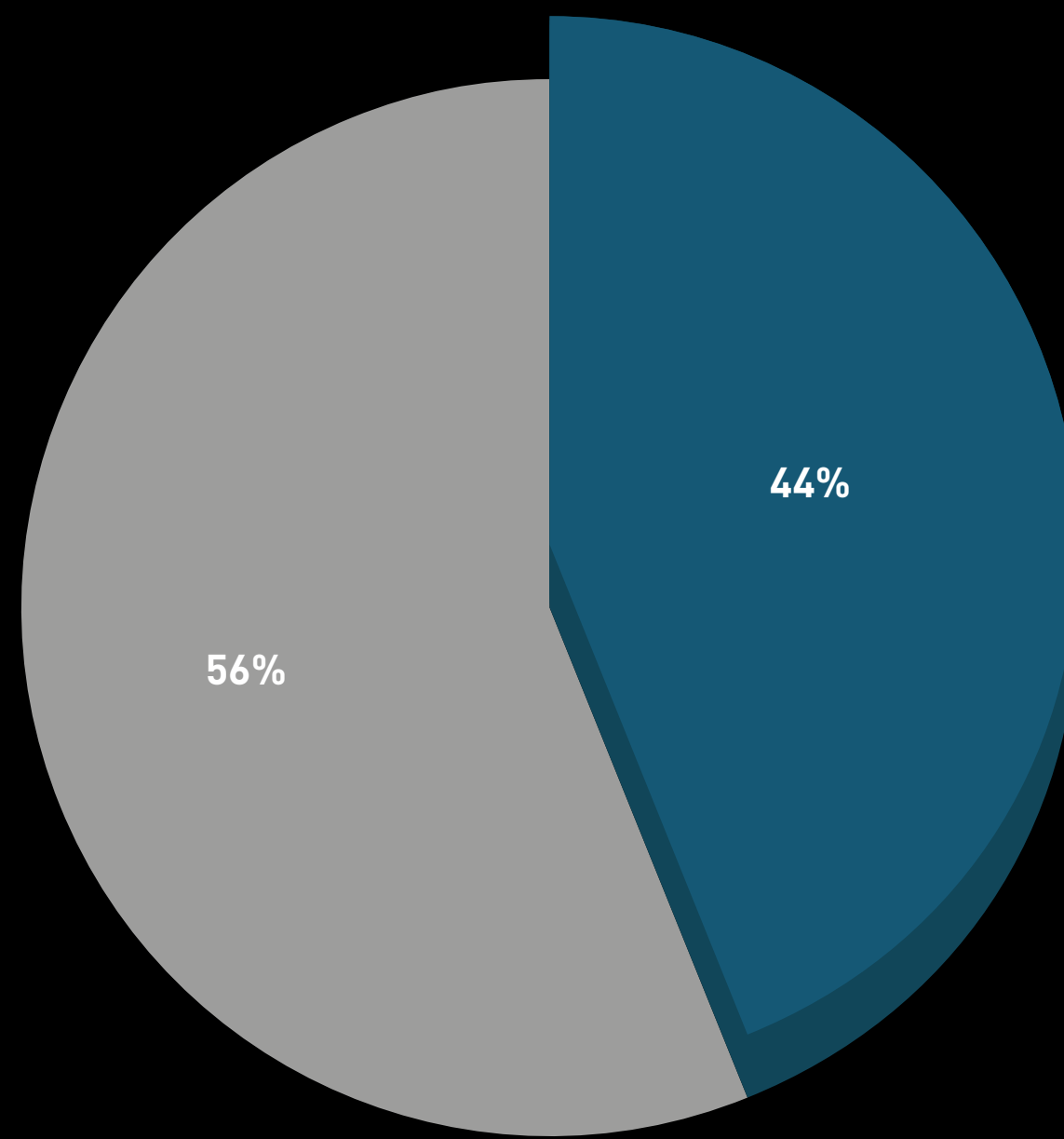
- Hospitality
- Night culture



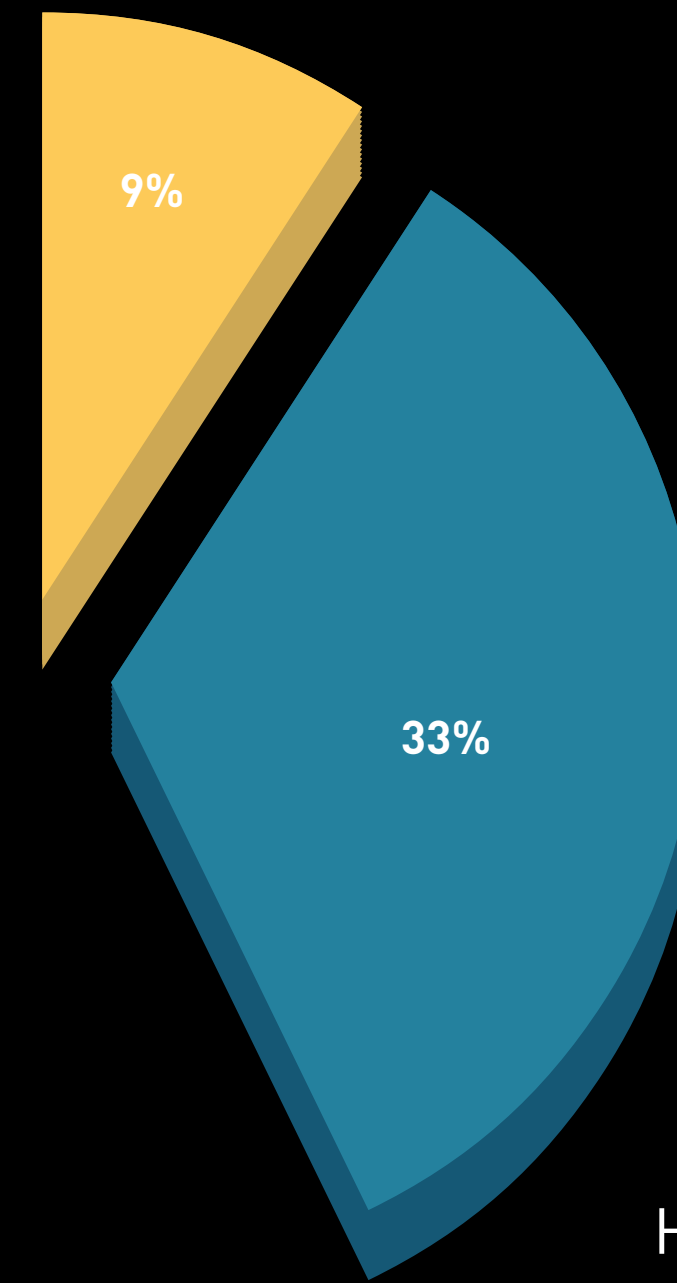
00:00



03:00



Night culture



Hospitality

● Occupied  
● Vacant

1 / Overschieseweg 25  
Address does not exist.

2 / Gustoweg 57  
Empty shed.

3 / Prins Alexanderlaan 37b  
Former "Club Blu"

4 / Goudse Rijweg 16  
Former restaurant "Orlena"

5 / Boompjeskade 12  
Former "Club Waterfront"



● Occupied  
● Vacant

6 / Mauritsstraat 1b  
Former bar "The Cat Cafe & Cigar Lounge"

7 / Karel Doormanstraat 243  
Restaurant in renovation "Wowcrab"

8 / Stadhuisplein 20  
Former restaurant "Five Guys"

9 / Coolasingel 69  
Former club "Kings"

10 / Coolasingel 87A  
Address does not exist anymore.

11 / Weena 10 Unit-3  
Former restaurant "Hugh"

12 / Pompenburg 451-453  
Former "Club Boudoir Shisha Lounge"



1 / M4H (Merwevierhavens)  
- Former harbour, industrial, warehouses, creative industry, creative studios, medium capacity

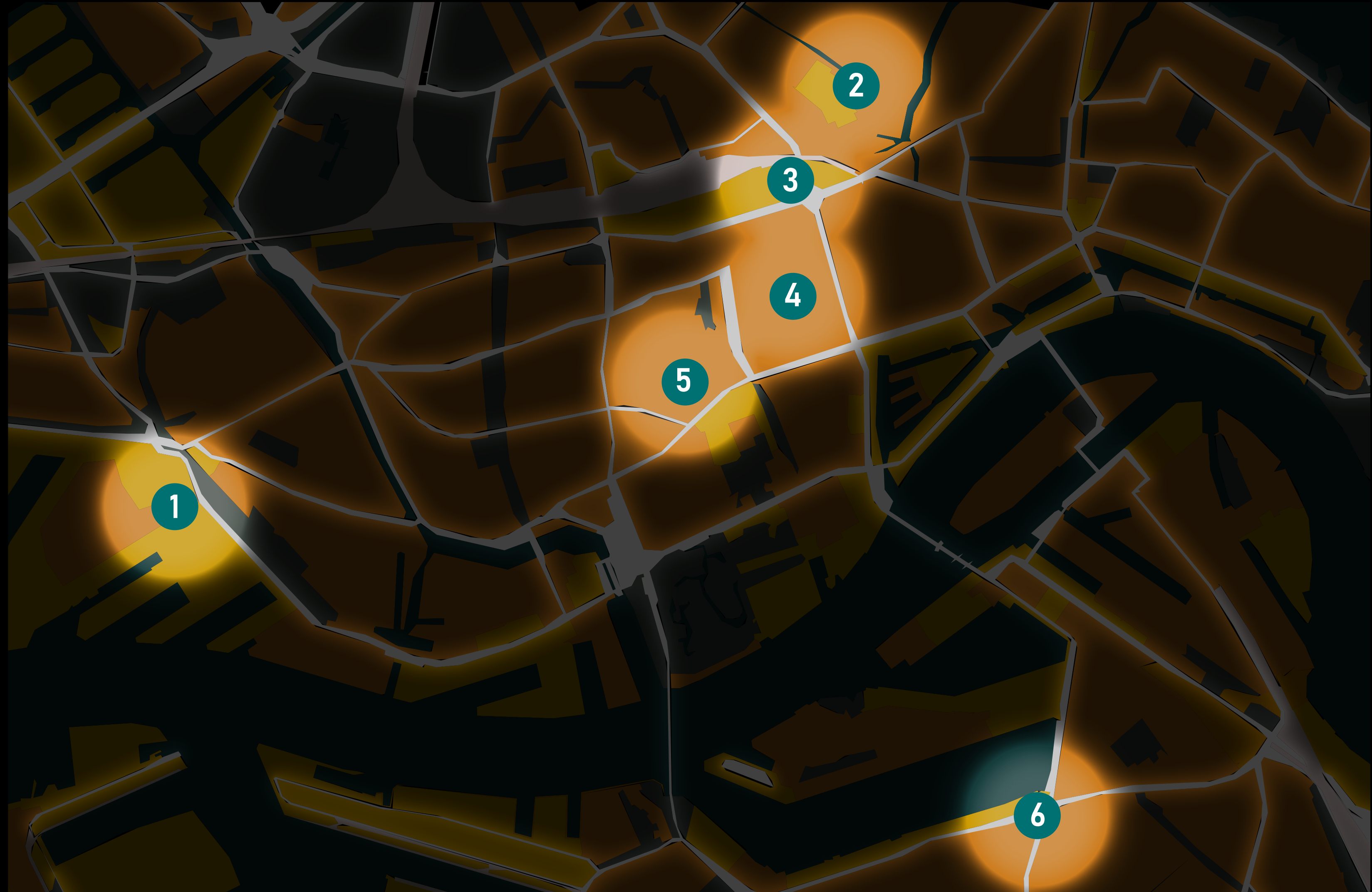
2 / ZOHO (Zomerhofkwartier)  
- Industrial, urban, creative studios, residential neighbourhood, small capacity

3 / Schieblock  
- Urban, old office buildings, creative studios, medium capacity

4 / City center  
- Commercial clubs, bars, medium capacity

5 / Nieuwe Binnenweg  
- Bars, residential neighbourhood, small capacity

6 / Maassilo  
- Former harbour, industrial, warehouses, commercial clubs, big capacity



# 1 / PROBLEM ANALYSIS / SPACE



Figure 50: Nightclub Analysis Rotterdam 2000-2020 (Lambers, 2020) (Edited update 2020-2024)

# SCALE S / CITY CENTER / NIGHT LIFE VENUES

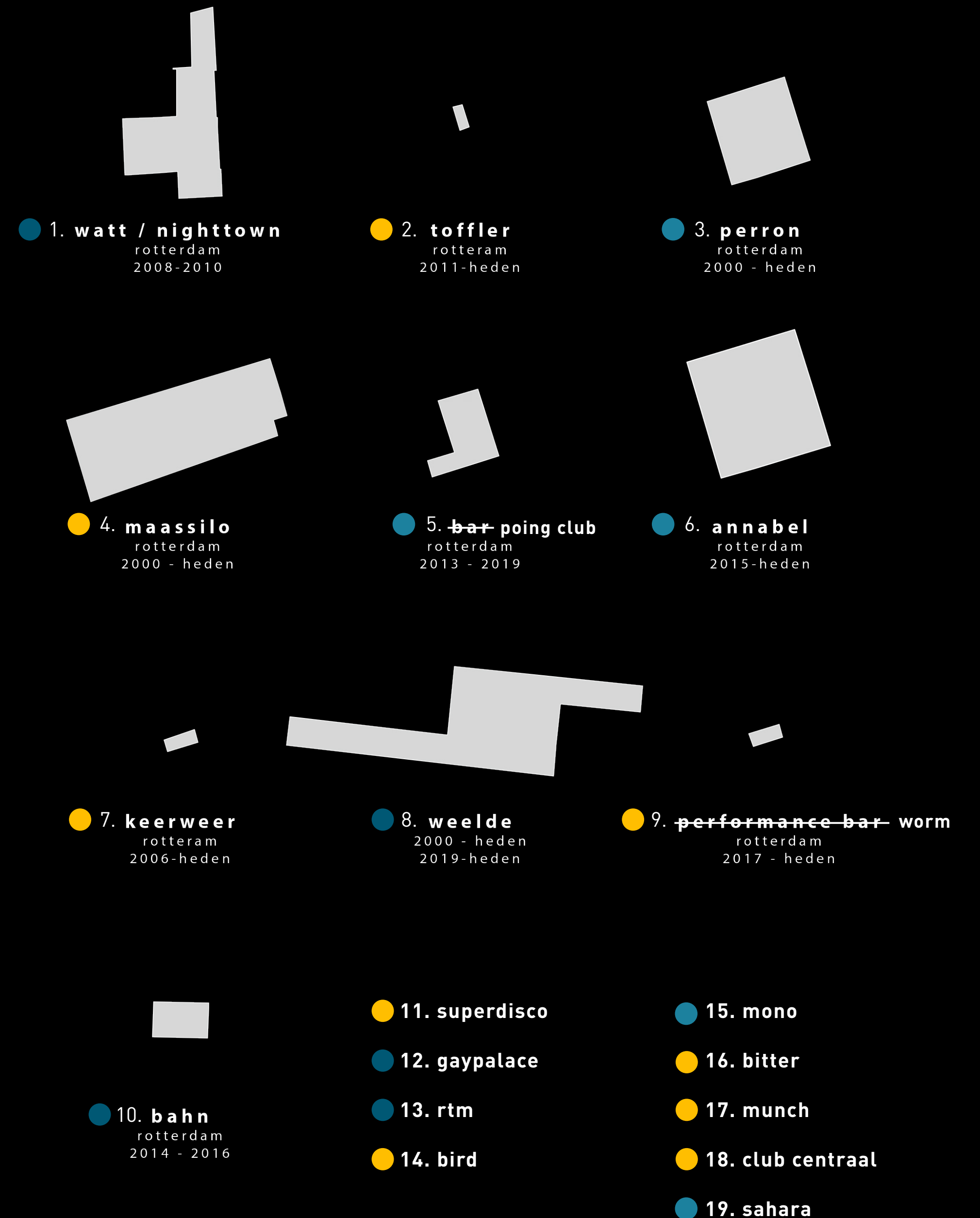


Figure 51: Nightclub Analysis (Lambers, 2020) (Edited update 2020-2024)

Area 1 / M4H

> Closed since September 2023



Weelde

Area 1 / M4H  
> Plans for 2.500 apartments





Area 2 / ZOH0

> Closed since March 2023



Area 2 / ZOHO

> Plan for 600 apartments



Area 3 / Schieblock

- > Under threat of gentrification,  
expected to close in February 2024



Area 3 / Schieblock

- Plan for 650 apartments
- + 39.000 m2 offices



Figure 9: Presented renders of the proposed Schieblock (Gemeente Rotterdam, 2023)

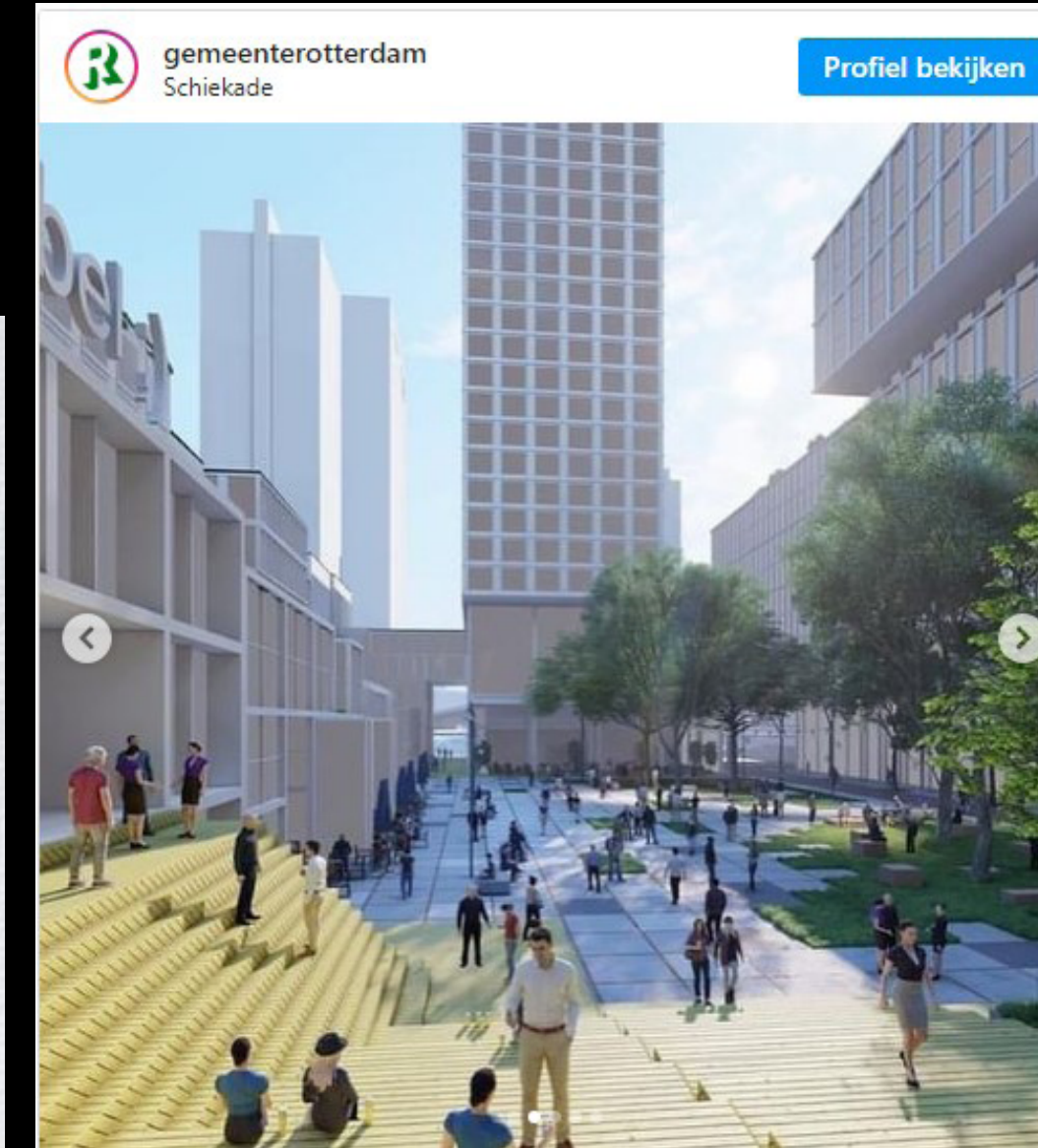
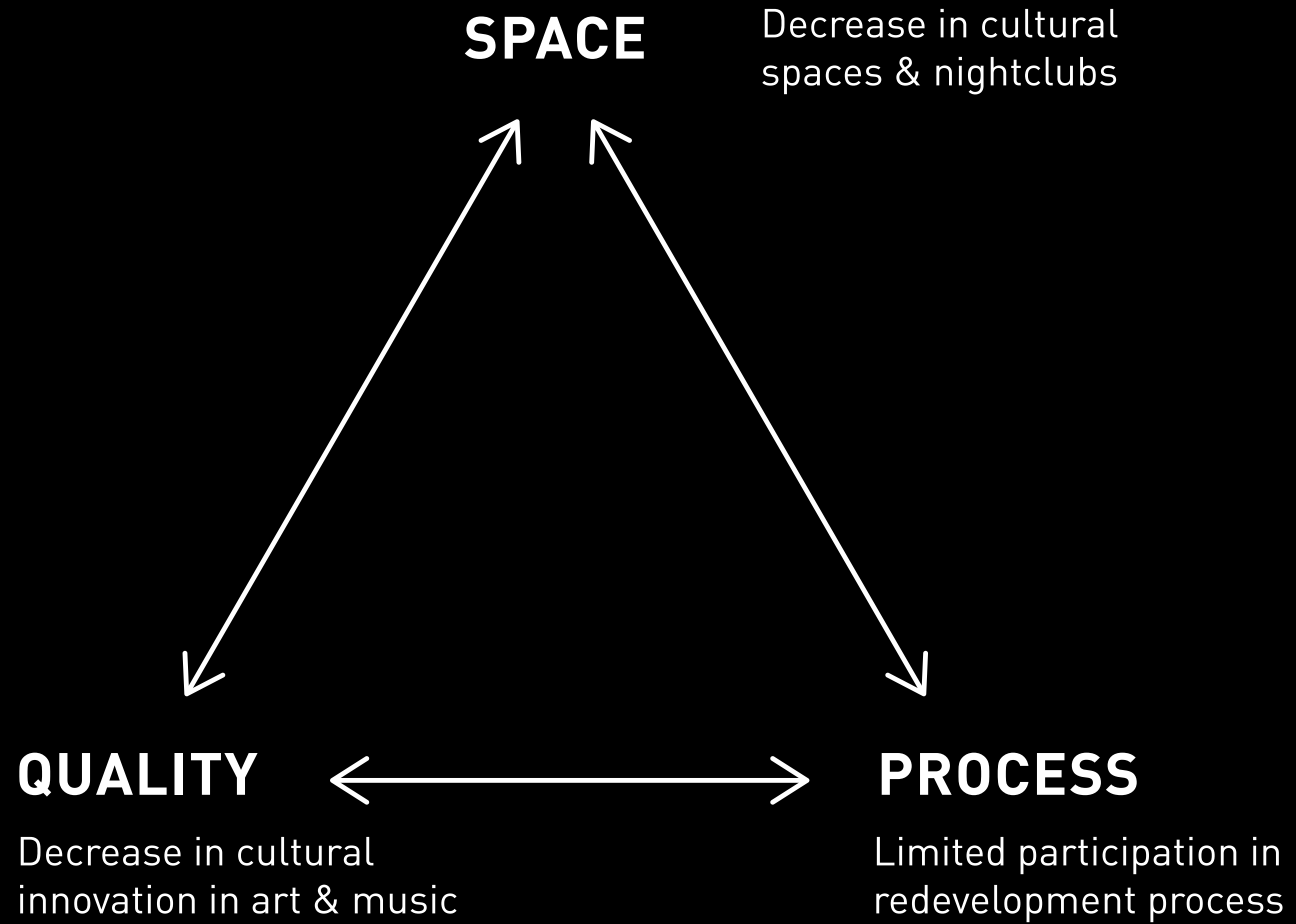
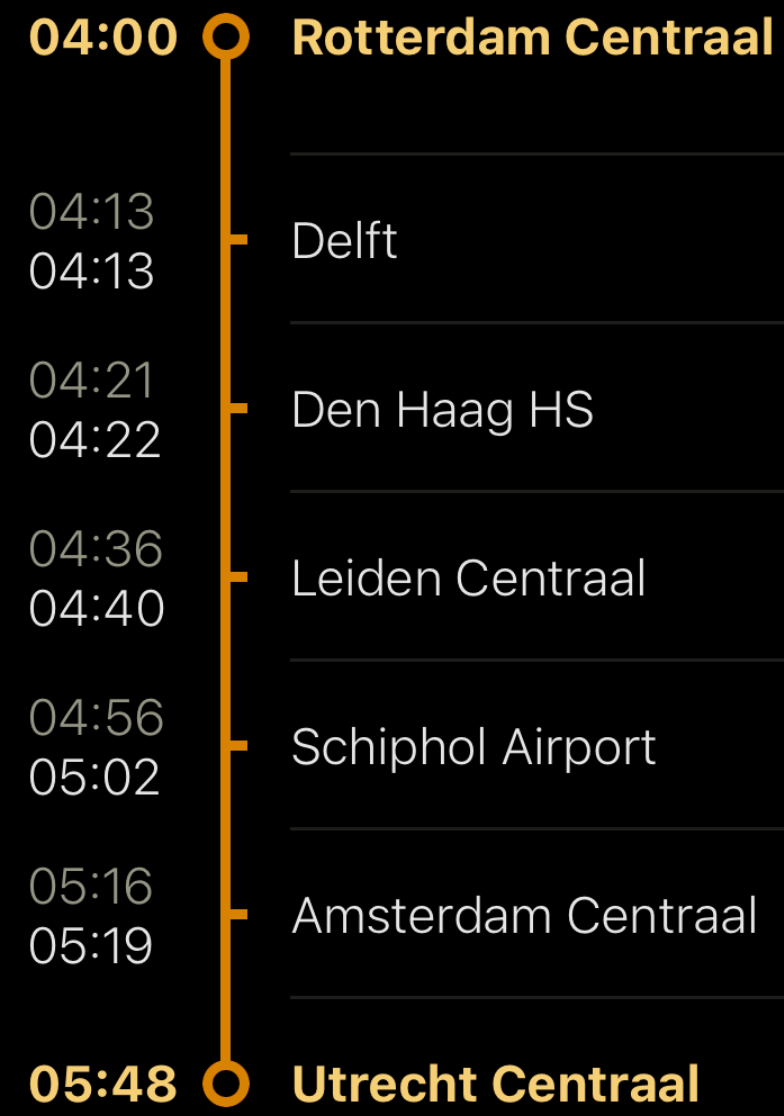
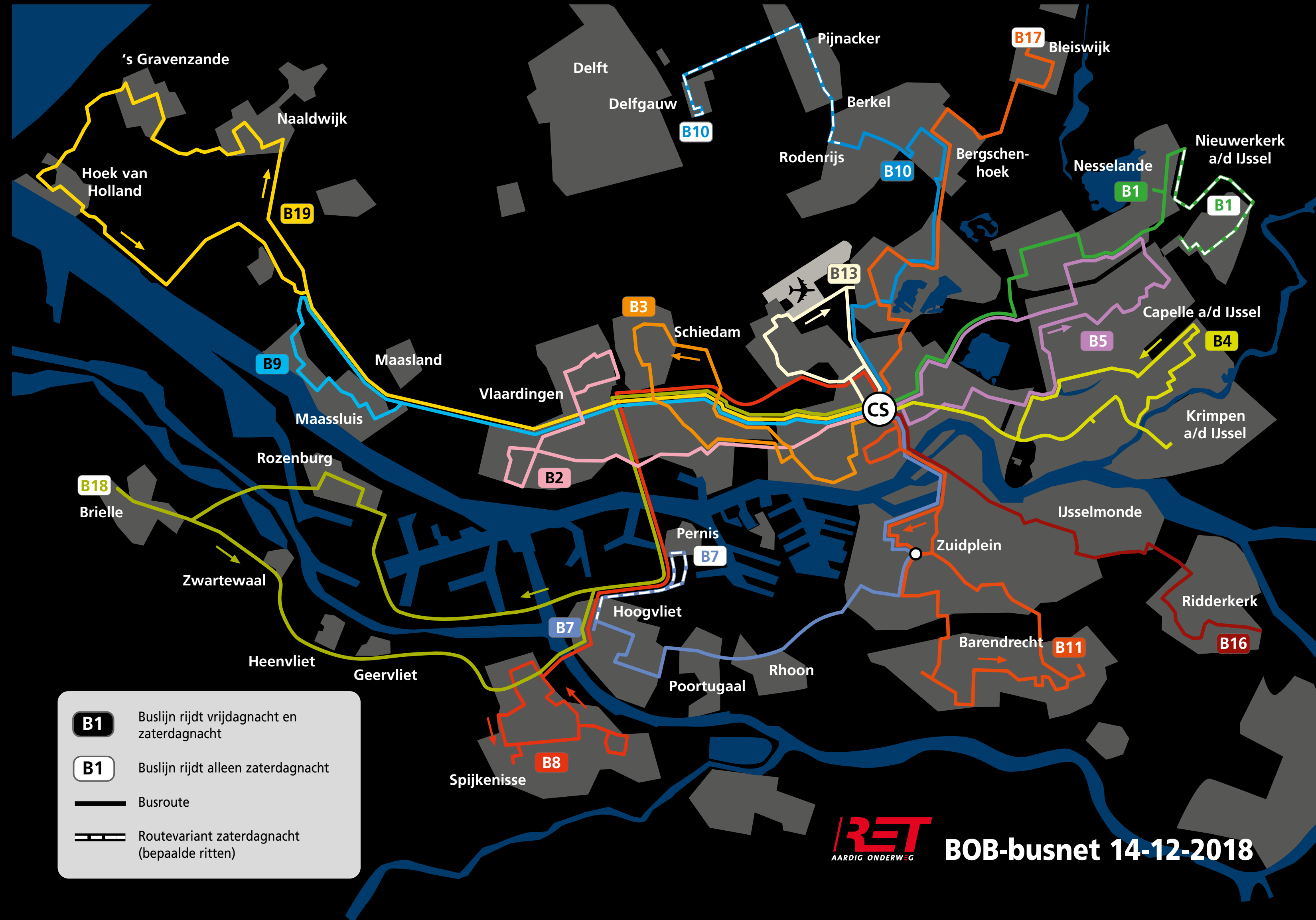


Figure 10: New plans for Schieblock (KCAP Architecten, 2023)



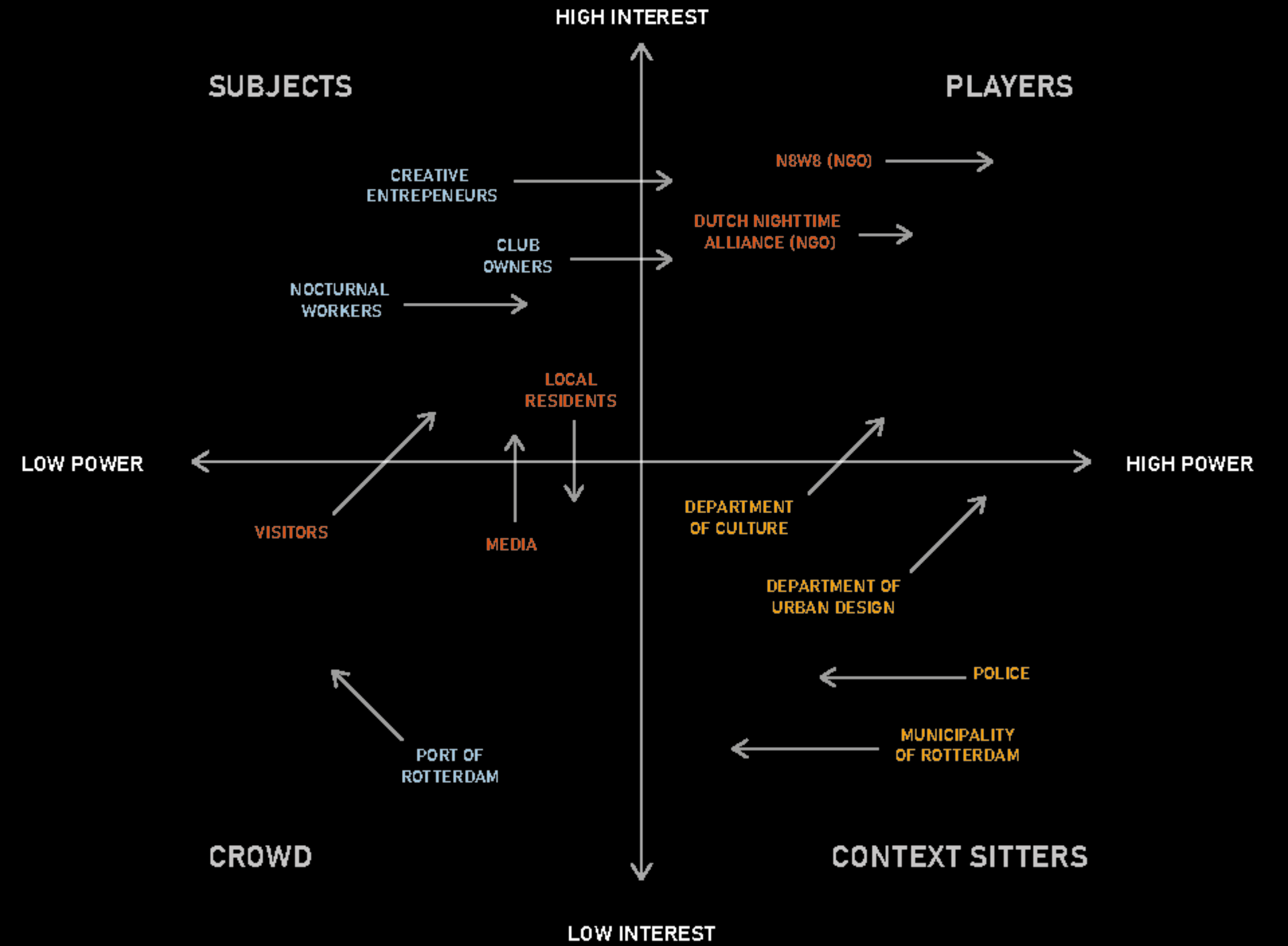
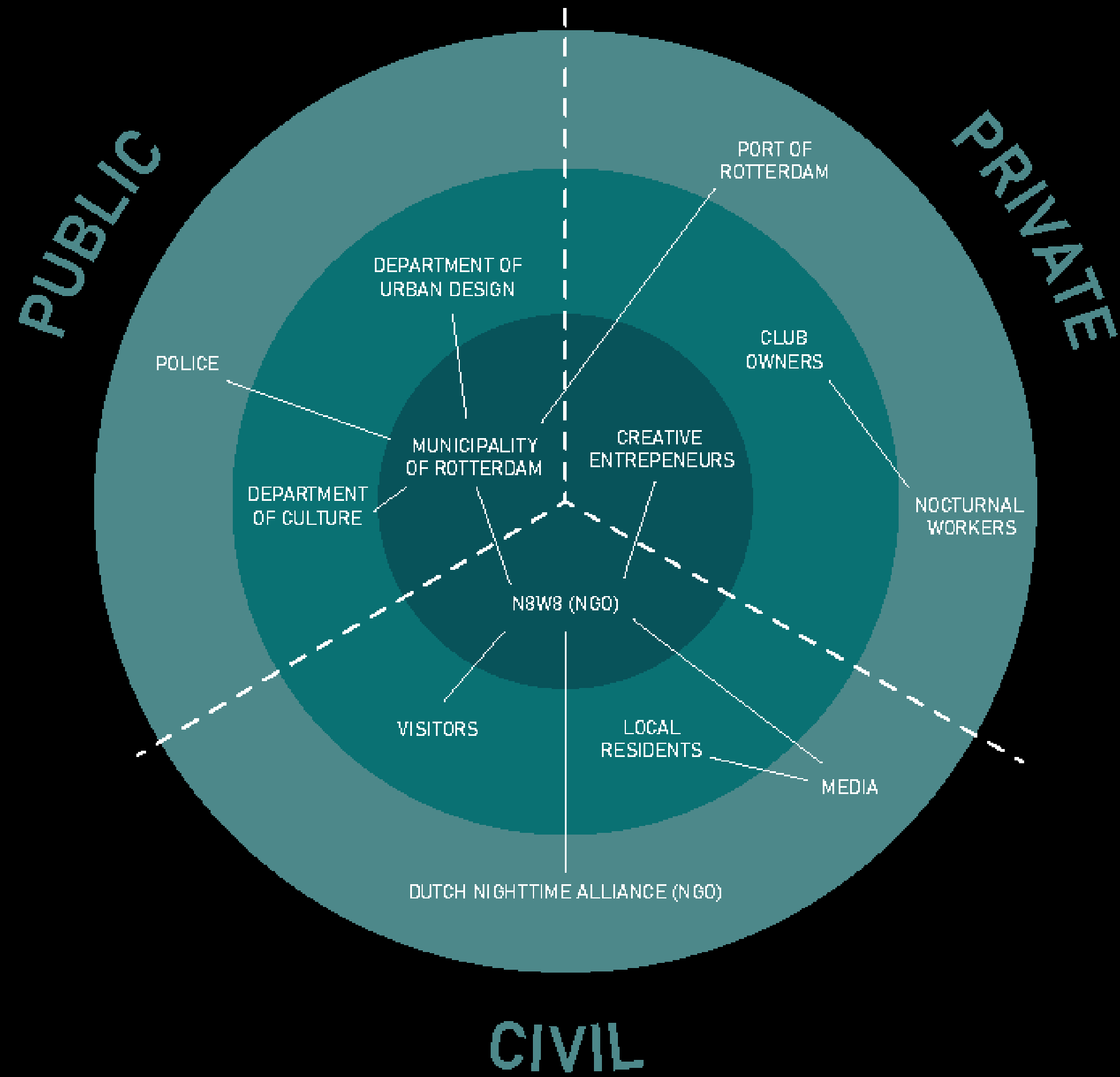






# 1 / PROBLEM ANALYSIS / PROCESS

# SCALE M / ROTTERDAM / NOCTURNAL STAKEHOLDERS





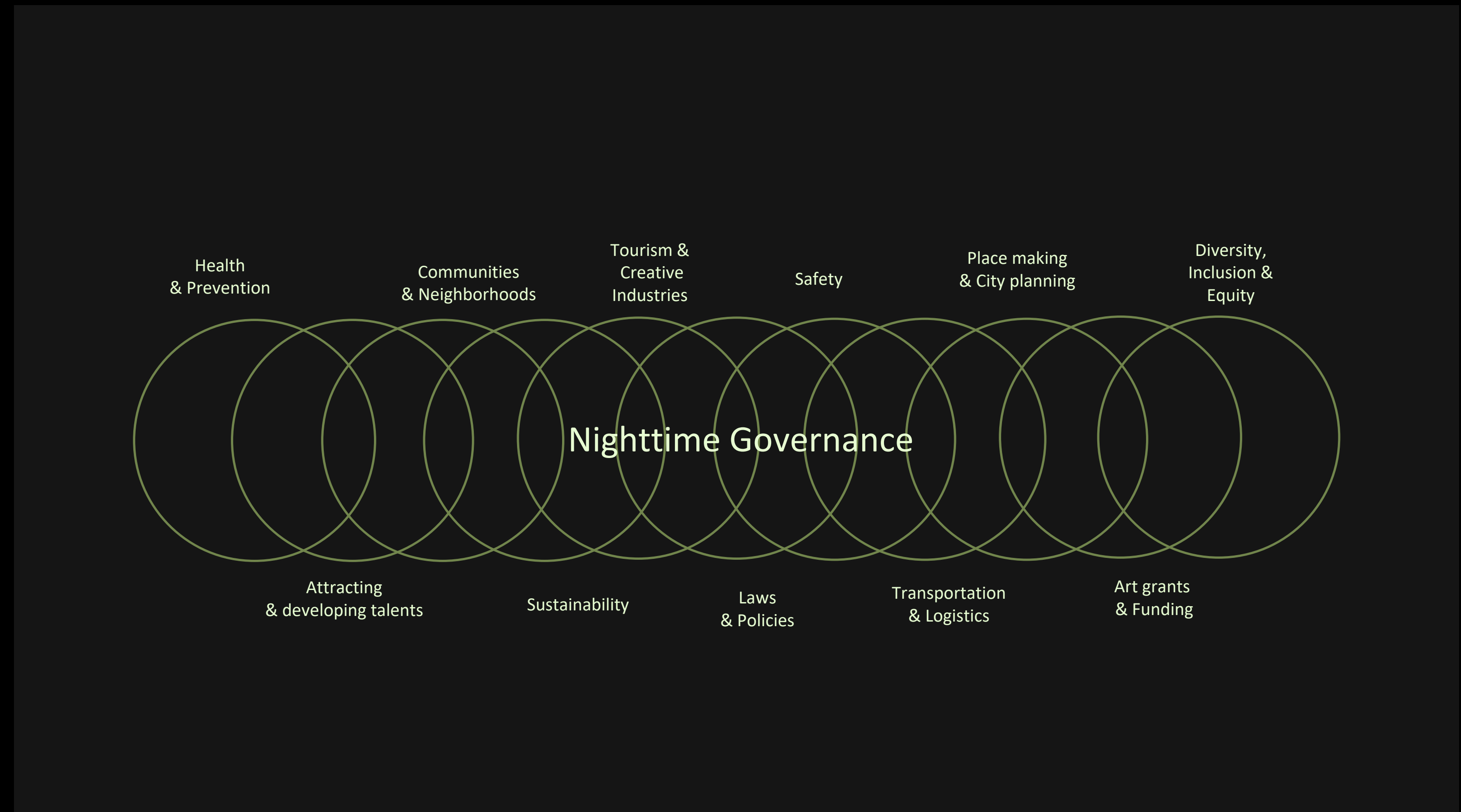
# Het nachtleven is cultuur, geen horeca

**Cultuur** Een goed georganiseerd nachtleven maakt de stad veiliger en leefbaarder en biedt jongeren de ruimte zich te ontplooien, schrijft *Jonasz Dekkers*.



Image: News article "Nightlife is culture, not hospitality" (NRC, 2021)

Source: Lutz Leichsenring (2023)



## SPACE

- Decline in available spaces for nightlife, under threat of housing development.
- Neglect of essential facilities: social, cultural and nocturnal.
- 24-hour permits: underrepresentation of nightlife, predominantly favor hospitality sector and daytime activities.
- Technical spatial analysis shows high-rise structures as threat to public spaces. Potential decrease in comfort and vibrancy.

## PROCESS

- Limited involvement of creatives in urban development processes: only short-term opportunities for cultural exploration.
- Power dynamics & stakeholders: power imbalance between public (municipality) and private stakeholders. Creatives subject to decisions made by others. Civil stakeholders (night mayors/nightlife councils) mediate power imbalance.
- Nocturnal infrastructure deficiency: restricted night train network and discontinuation of local nightbus network.

## QUALITY

- Underappreciation of cultural value of nightlife in society and policy frameworks.
- Threat to cultural innovation by lack of recognition of primary objective of creating cultural value. Displacement hinders cultural innovation by limiting spaces for experimentation.

**2 / ILLUMINATE THE NIGHT IN RESEARCH**  
RESEARCH QUESTIONS

*MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION*

**HOW CAN URBAN DESIGN INTERVENTIONS  
ACCOMMODATE CREATIVE NIGHTSCAPES  
IN THE CITY OF ROTTERDAM?**

*SUB RESEARCH QUESTIONS*

**QUALITY**

1/ *What is the relationship between  
nightlife & urban design?*

**PROCESS**

2/ *How can nighttime users be empowered  
in redevelopment processes of creative  
nightscapes?*

**SPACE**

3/ *Which urban design strategies  
benefit creative nightscapes?*

**3 / ILLUMINATING NIGHTSCAPES:  
NAVIGATING THROUGH URBAN DARKNESS**  
METHODOLOGY

SCALE	LEVEL	PROJECT
XL	(Inter)National	The Netherlands
L	Regional	The Randstad
M	City	Rotterdam
S	Creative cluster	Schiekadeblok
XS	Creative spaces	Schieblock & Delftsehof

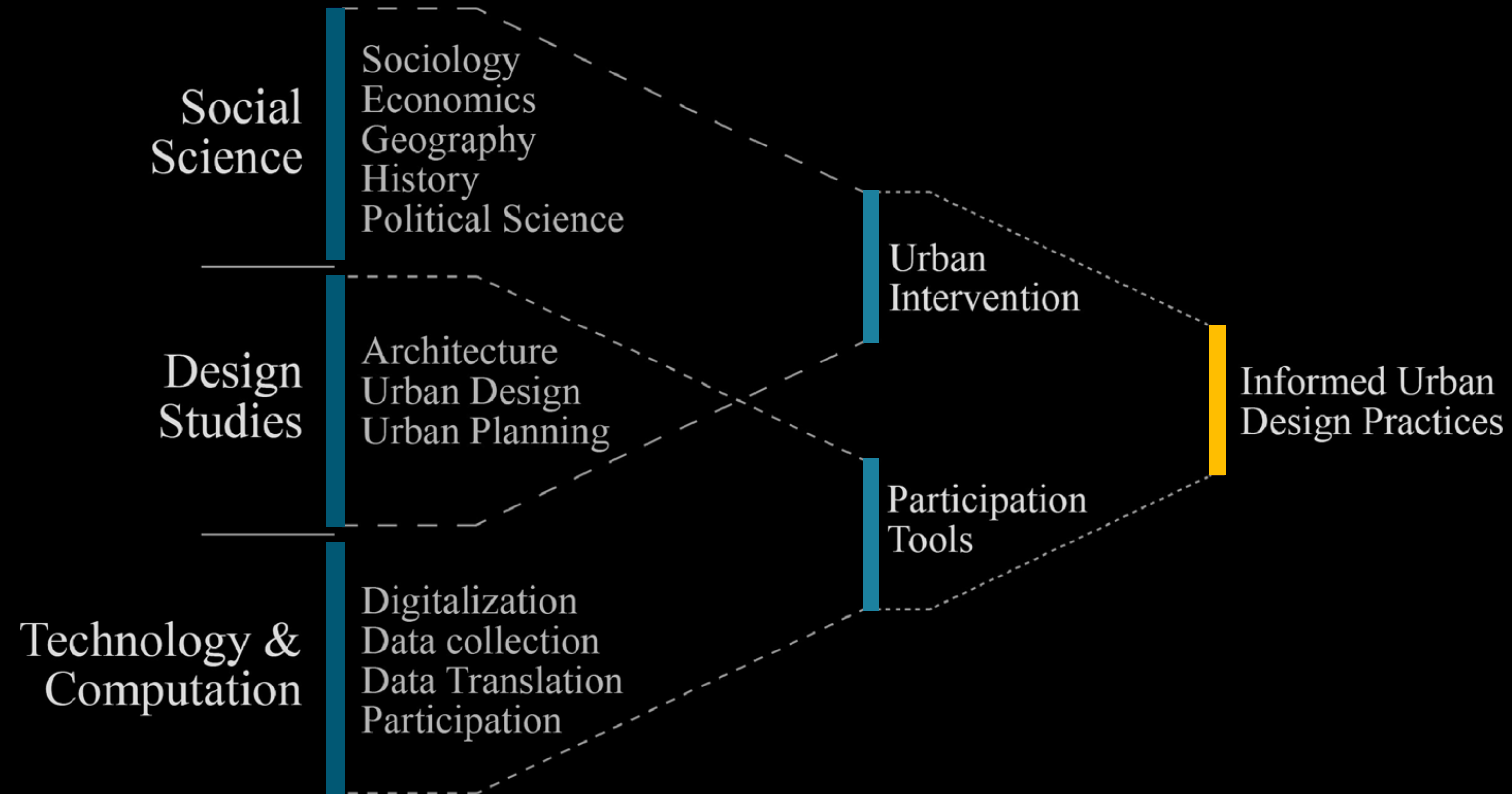
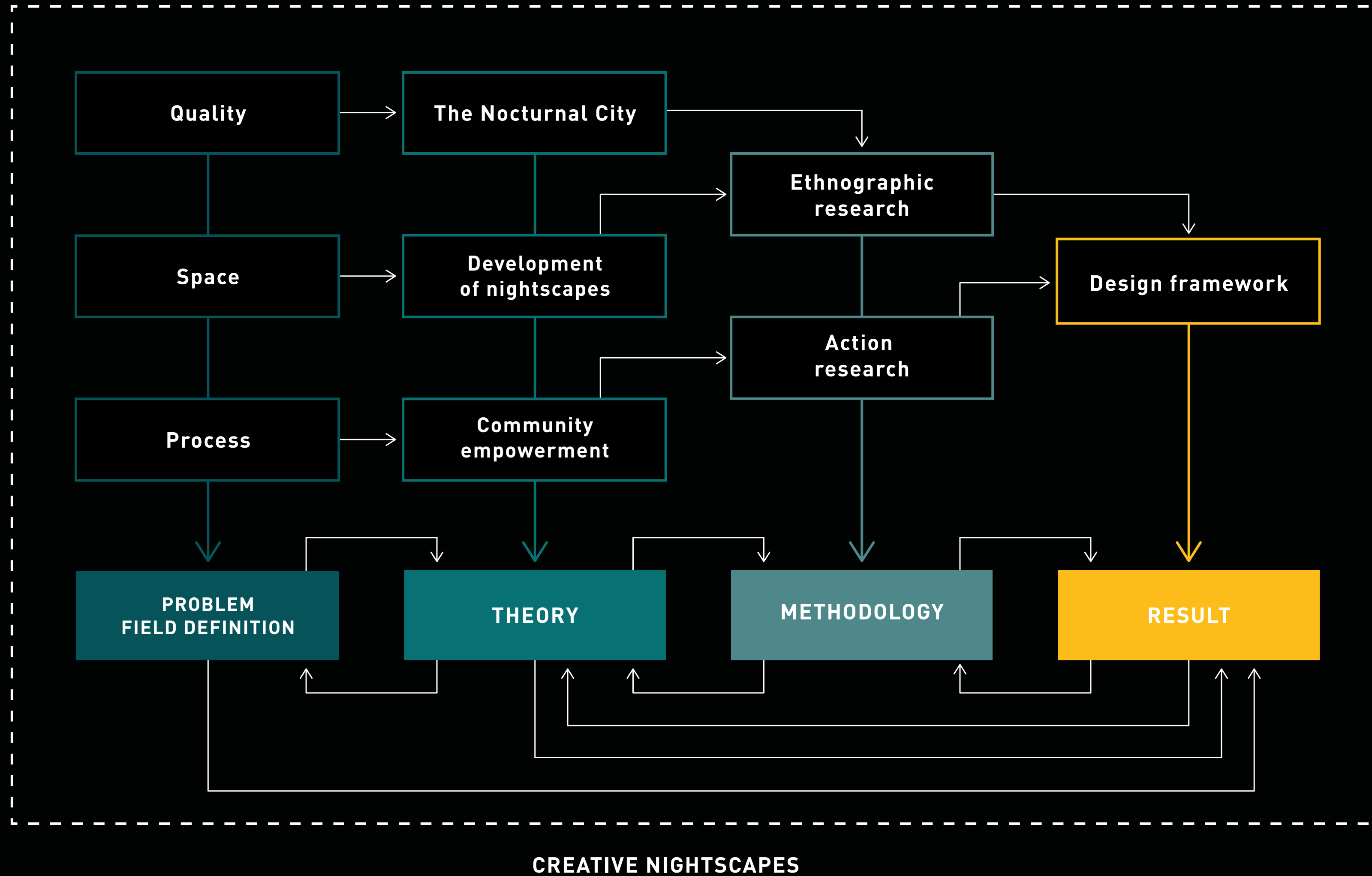
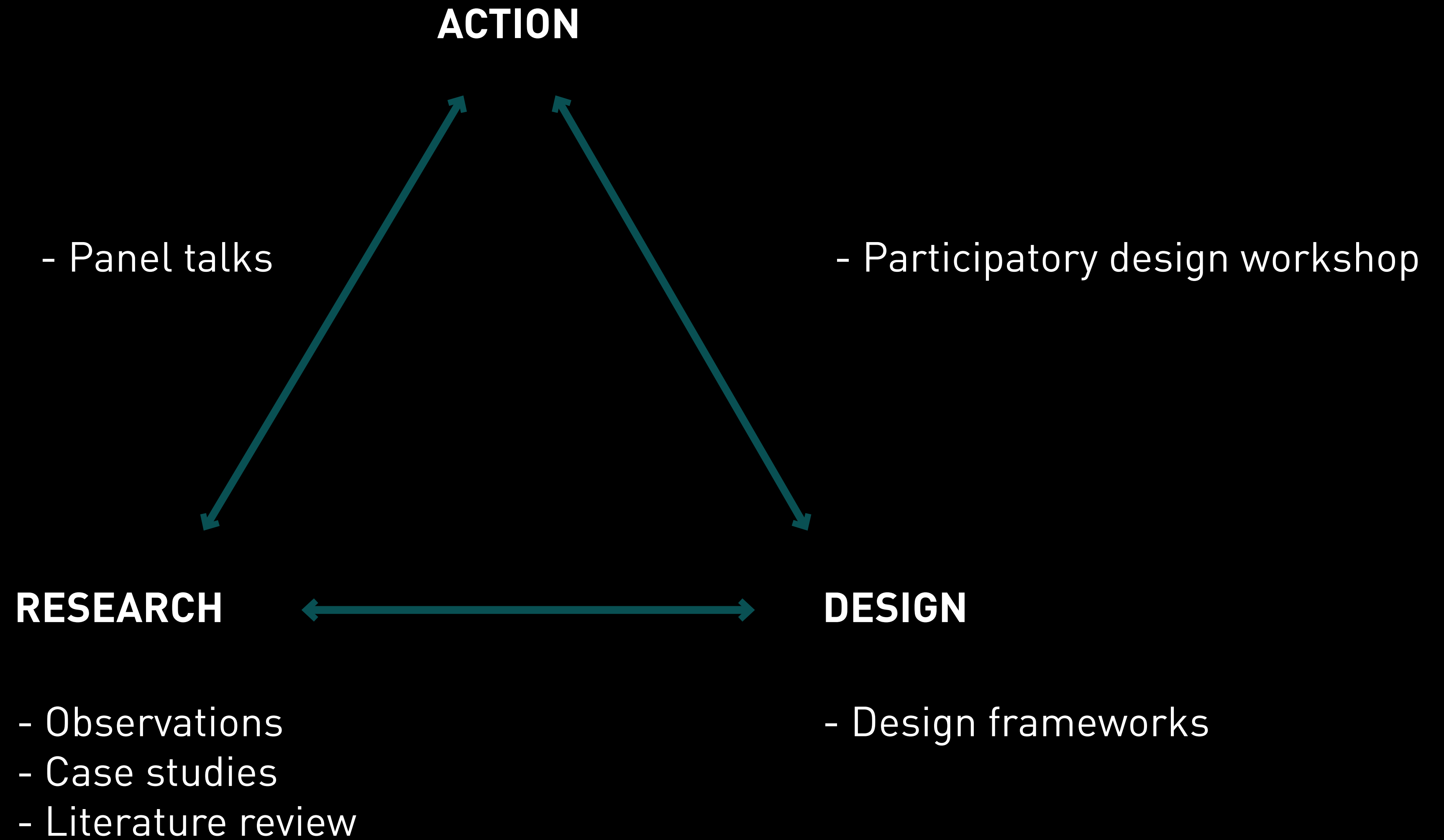


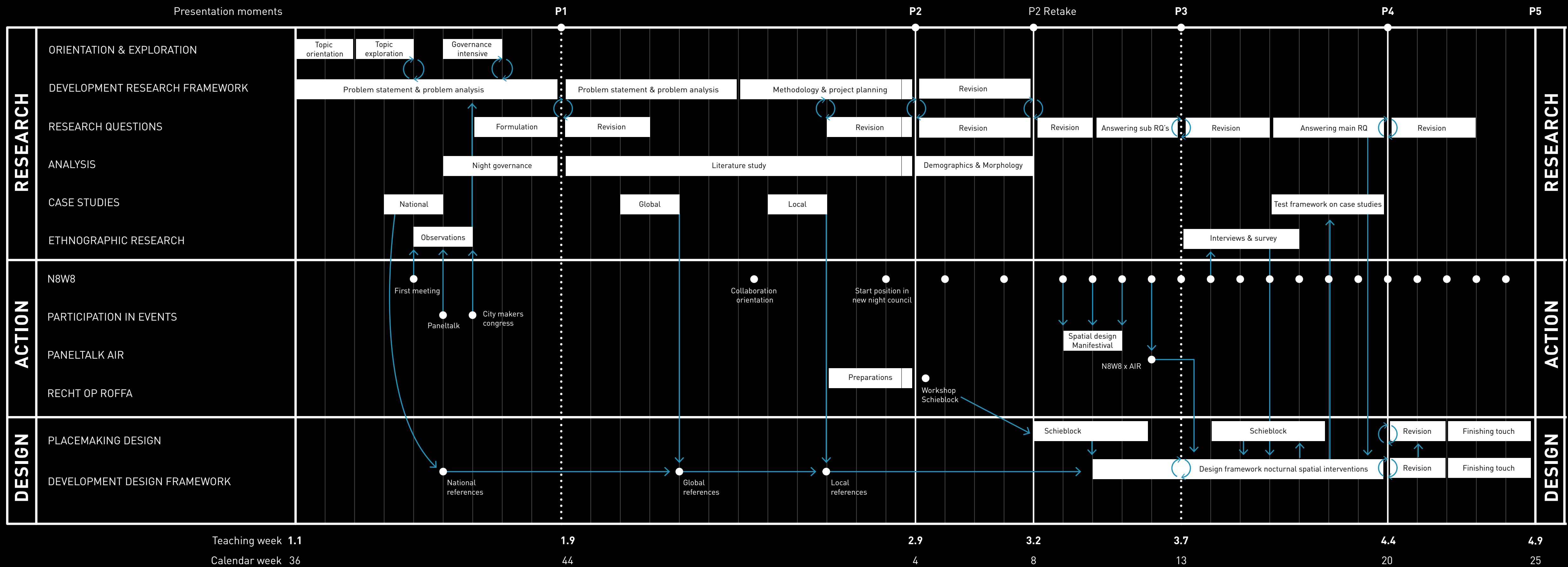
Figure 87: Interdisciplinary domains (Ataman & Tuncer, 2022)







RESEARCH QUESTION	SUB QUESTIONS	METHODS	EXPECTED OUTCOME	END RESULT
<p>“How can urban design interventions accommodate creative nightscapes in the city of Rotterdam?”</p>	<b>QUALITY</b>			
	<p>1 / What is the relationship between nightlife &amp; urban design?</p>	<p><b>Literature review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- History of nocturnal activity</li> <li>- The value of nightlife</li> <li>- Creativity of night</li> <li>- The Creative City &amp; gentrification</li> <li>- Night time economy</li> <li>- Nocturnal segregation</li> </ul> <p><b>Ethnographic research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paneltalk AIR x N8W8</li> </ul> <p><b>Action research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participation design workshops</li> </ul>	<p><b>Gain knowledge &amp; show relevance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social sciences &amp; urban mental wellbeing</li> <li>- Interdisciplinary approach in research and planning of nightscapes</li> <li>- Critical view on creatives as gentrification tool and ethical role of urban designer</li> </ul> <p><b>Identification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Current problems in quality of nightscapes</li> </ul> <p><b>Identification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- User input: Design conditions</li> </ul>	<p><b>Theory</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3.1 The Nocturnal City</li> </ul> <p><b>Design framework quality</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6.1 Vision</li> <li>- 6.3 Public space &amp; amenities</li> </ul>
	<b>PROCESS</b>			
<p>2 / How can nighttime users be empowered in redevelopment processes of creative nightscapes?”</p>	<p><b>Literature review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Civil participation</li> <li>- Tactical urbanism</li> <li>- Placemaking</li> </ul> <p><b>Ethnographic research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Paneltalk AIR x N8W8</li> </ul>	<p><b>Gain knowledge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tools for civil empowerment</li> <li>- Bottom up planning</li> </ul> <p><b>Identification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Current problems in process of nightscapes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Theory</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3.2 Community empowerment</li> </ul> <p><b>Design framework process</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6.5 Communities &amp; stakeholders</li> <li>- 6.6 Phasing</li> <li>- 6.7 Policy changes</li> </ul>	
	<b>SPACE</b>			
<p>3 / Which urban design strategies benefit creative nightscapes?</p>	<p><b>Literature review</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agent of change</li> <li>- Nocturnal city comparison</li> </ul> <p><b>Action research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Participation design workshops</li> </ul>	<p><b>Gain knowledge</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- References of nightscapes</li> </ul> <p><b>Identification</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- User input: Programming</li> </ul>	<p><b>Theory</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3.3 Development of nightscapes</li> </ul> <p><b>Design framework space</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 6.2 Accessibility</li> <li>- 6.4 Architectural guidelines</li> </ul>	



### RESEARCHER'S ROLE

- Active engagement in the field, different perspectives
- Community trust
- Potential biases

### RESEARCH METHODS

- Permission participation workshops
- Voluntary, anonymous participation with informed consent
- Transparant documentation for future projects and transferability of research

# **4 / COLLECTING NOCTURNAL ECHOES**

## DATA COLLECTION

Workshop on 25th of January, 2023

Location: Time Is The New Space / Schieblock (Rotterdam)

Collaboration: SAVE Museumpark, Op Je Muil!, visitors

**TIME IS THE NEW SPACE**  
*Schiekade 185*

**RECHT  
OP  
ROFFA**

CREATE AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE FOR

**SCHIEBLOCK**

**WOENSDAG  
25 JANUARI  
18:00 - 22:00**



**OPEN SESSION • FREE ENTRANCE**

**DINSDAG 24 JANUARI  
18:00 - 22:00  
SLASH GALLERY/WORM**

CREATE AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE FOR

**MUSEUMPARK**

**WOENSDAG 25 JANUARI  
18:00 - 22:00  
TIME IS THE NEW SPACE**

CREATE AN ALTERNATIVE FUTURE FOR

**SCHIEBLOCK**

**Cultural value**

What do you appreciate about the Schieblock?

**Users**

Who is using the space?

Who do you meet here?

**Programming**

What kind of activity should happen in the building during the day and at night?

What kind of activity should happen on the public innercourt (Delftsehof) during the day and at night?

What should be happening in the plinth?

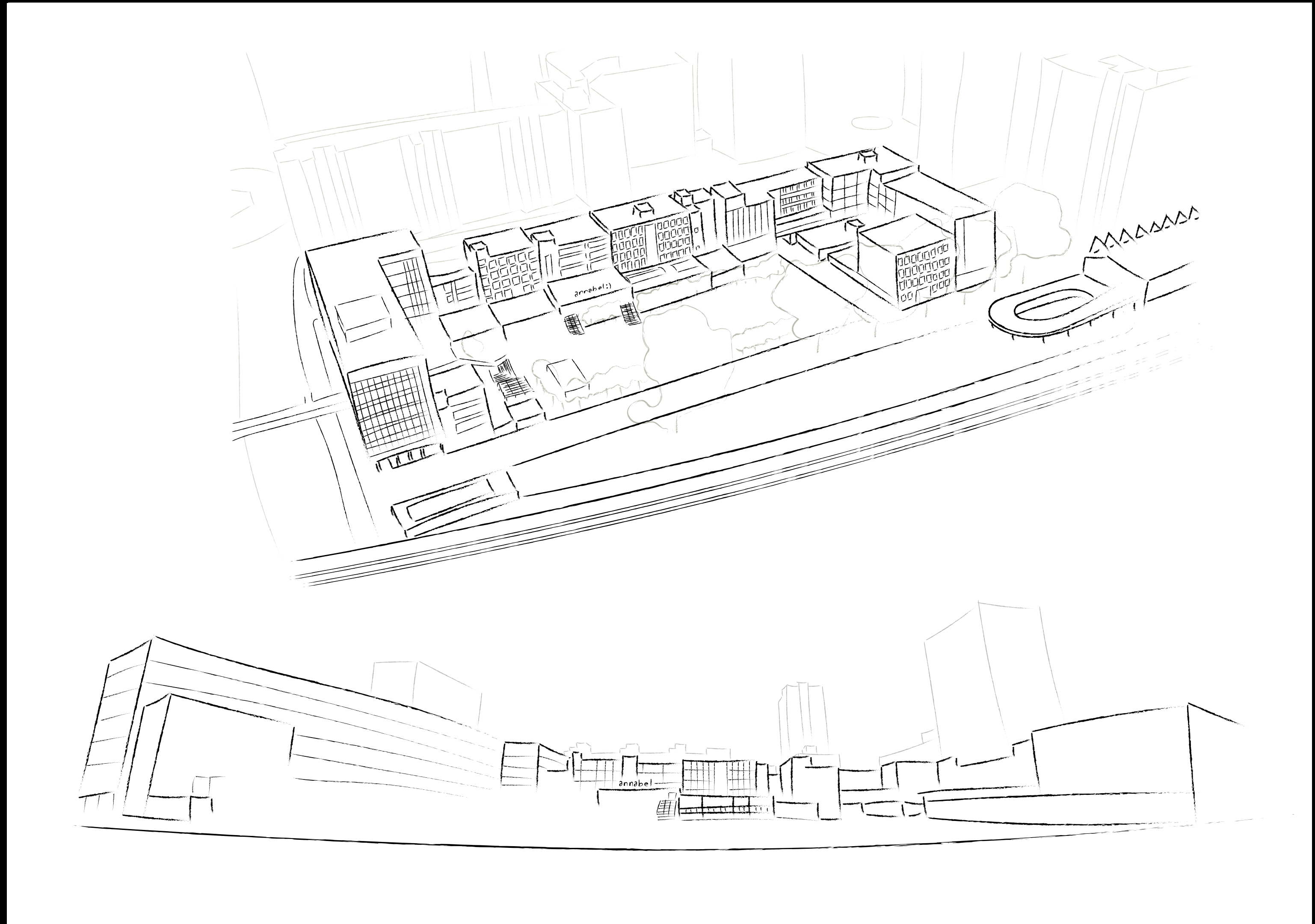
**Design**

How does your ideal Schieblock look like?

How would you like to feel in this place?

What street furniture would you find?

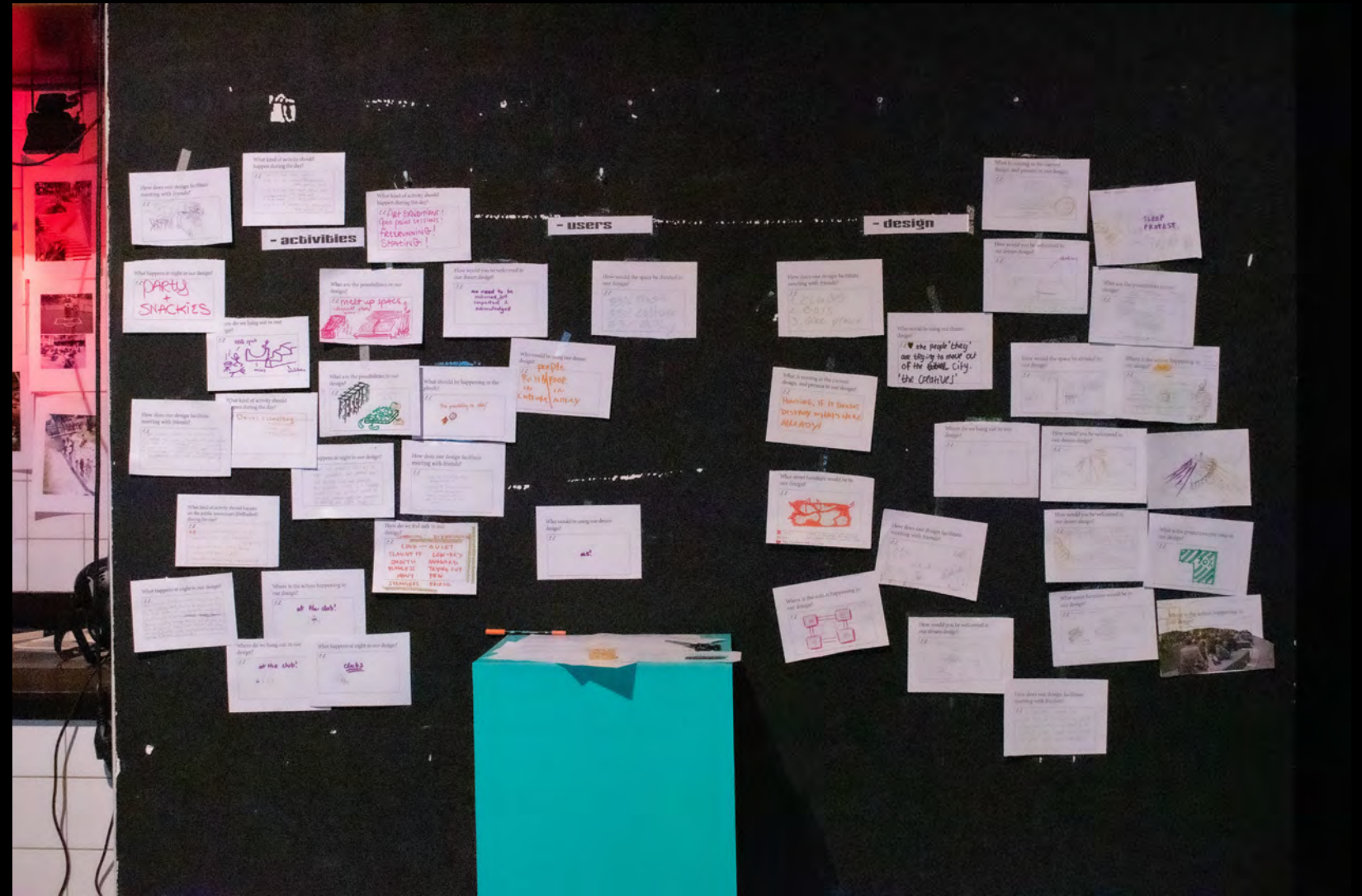
What is the materialization of the innercourt?












What should be happening in the plinth?

LL  
the possibility to stay!  


What is missing in the current design, and present in our design?

LL  
connection as a collective of businesses, squatters, GREEN RIGHTS  
to own ONE ISSUE COLLECTIVELY FOR THE REPRESENTATION OF KOTTAROM CULTURE  
to tell the story  
stronger argument

How does our design facilitate meeting with friends?

LL  
- places are connected through bridges, tunnels, etc.  
- possibility for bars, music venues etc (like here opening library)  
- benches (to the yellow stairs)  
- public to be taking space for more skill-out

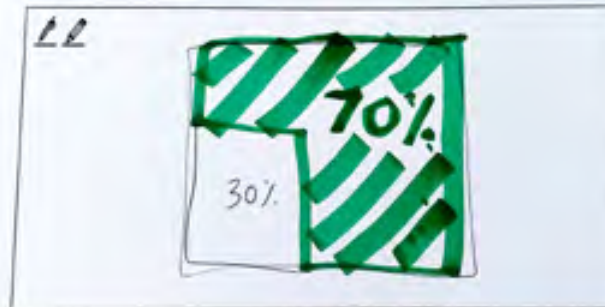
Where is the action happening in our design?



What kind of activity should happen during the day?

LL  
AAJ EXPO, MARKET, FREE FOOD & CLOTHING COLLECTION POINTS FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE & WORKSHOPS  
→ CULTURAL CENTER KINDA THING

What is the green/concrete ratio in our design?

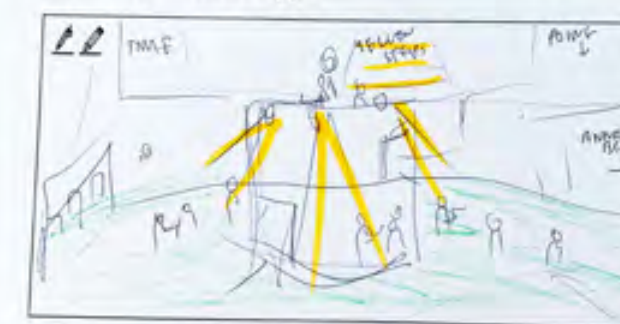


Who would be using our dream design?

LL  
people  
RICH & POOR  
IN CULTURE | IN MONEY



How would you be welcomed in our dream design?



How do we feel safe in our design?

COMMERCIAL — DIY UNDERGROUND

PRATICES OF VISIBILITY

LOU — QUIET

TLAUNT IT — LOW-KEY

SMOOTH — ANKWARD

FLAWLESS — TRYING OUT

MANY — FEW

STRANGERS — FRIEND

CULTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY

LEARNING FOR THE FUTURE

Where is the action happening in our design?

the space should be modular so the action and location changes...

Who would be using our dream design?

the people 'they' are trying to move out of the ~~city~~ city. 'the creatives'

What kind of activity should happen during the day?

6:00 - 7:00 AM IDEA - ROOF TOP?

8:00 - 10:00 CREATIVE COLLABORATION OPEN WORKING SPACE

11:00 - 12:00 CALL TRASHY COOLING WORKS FOR CHEAP BATS IN THE HARBOR WITH MULTICULTURAL INFLUENCES

14:00 - 15:00 CREATIVE HUBS LALAS KATISTV OPEN WORKING SPACE

What kind of activity should happen during the day?

Art exhibitions!  
Open paint sessions!  
FREERUNNING!  
SKATING!

What is the green/concrete ratio in our design?

Communal rooftop garden

How would the space be divided in our design?

33% music  
33% culture  
33% chilling

How does our design facilitate meeting with friends?

- 1. CLUBS
- 2. BARS
- 3. Green place



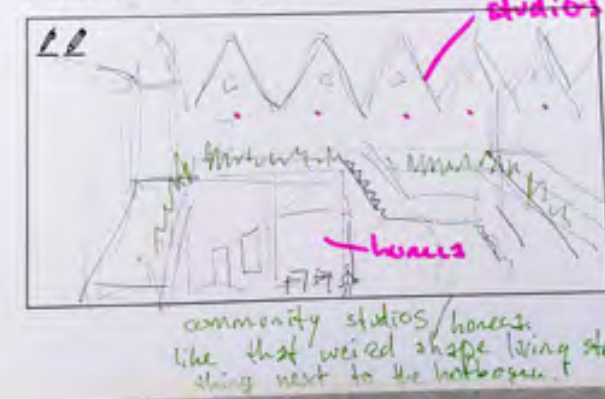
What are the possibilities in our design?



Where is the action happening in our design?



How would you be welcomed in our dream design?



What are the possibilities in our design?



What kind of activity should happen on the public innercourt (Delftsehof) during the day?

- GRAFFITI WORKSHOPS (FOR KIDS)
- BREAKDANCING AND HIPHOPPING (HIPHOPHUIS)
- ENJOY THE SUN WITH A DRINK
- WATCH THE TRAINS GO BY
- ARTISTS MAKING THEIR WORK OUTSIDE

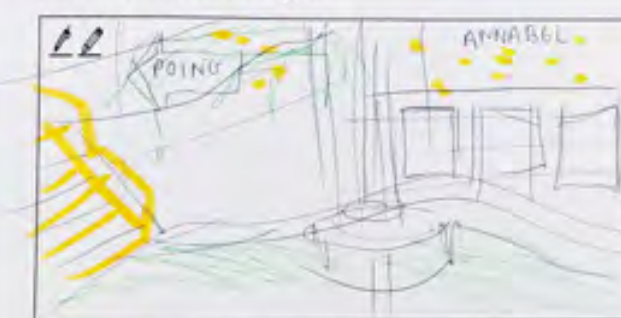
How would the space be divided in our design?



What kind of activity should happen during the day?

- Drinks + something interactive
- chess tables
- art expo
- outdoor games

How would you be welcomed in our dream design?



How does our design facilitate meeting with friends?

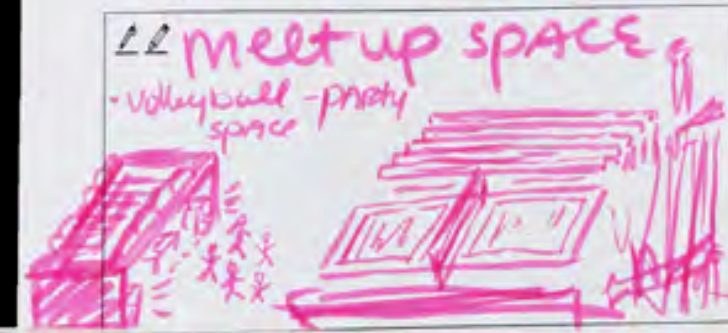
LL a new space where the under dogs of the city can get to know each other and meet up to socialise and create and just be and feel safe and understood

How would you be welcomed in our dream design?



Start van Samenkomst Kuit

What are the possibilities in our design?



How does our design facilitate meeting with friends?



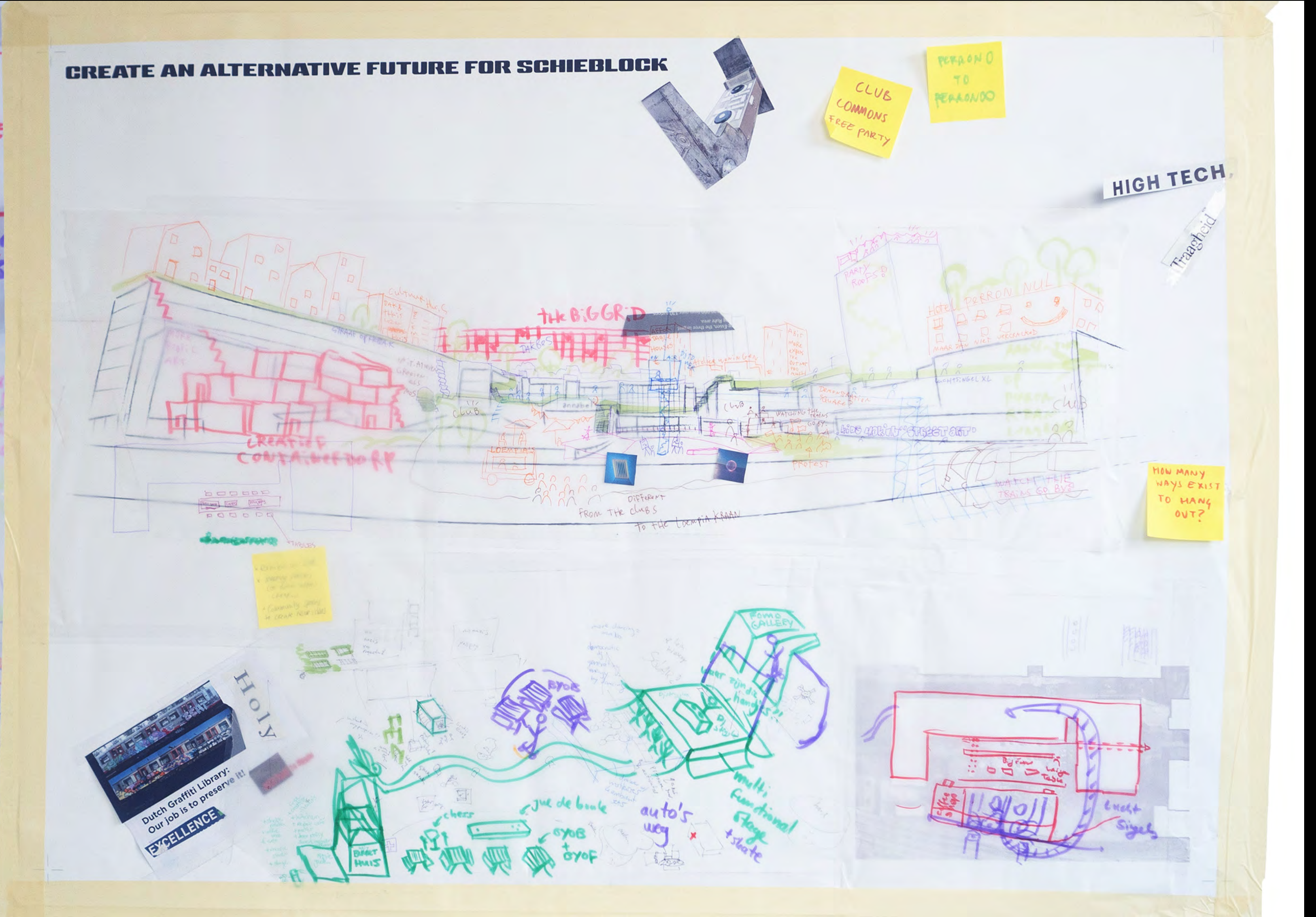
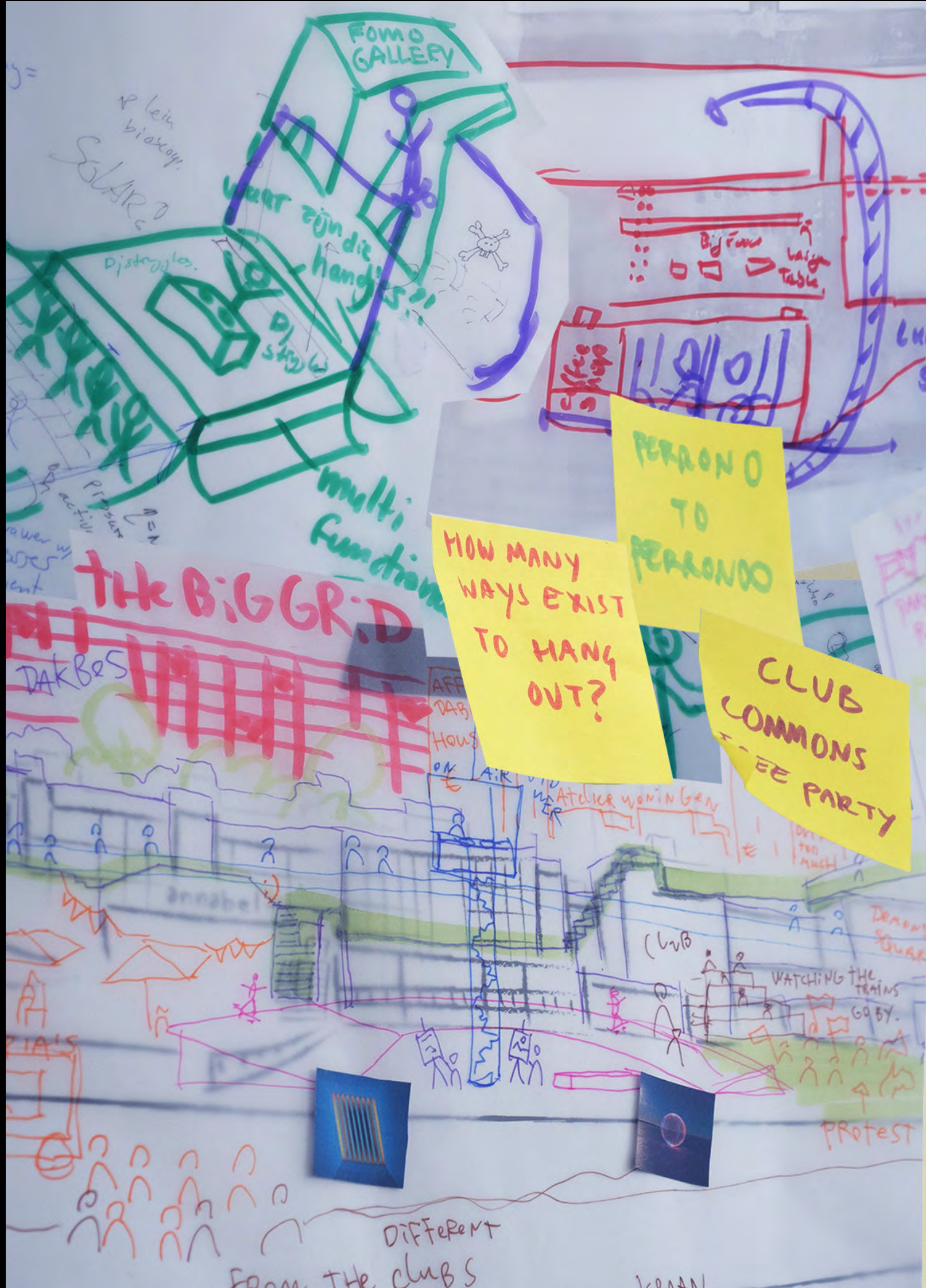
What happens at night in our design?

LL ideas are brought to life here at night - friendships are created here and business ideas are created. This Scheideck space is a "breeding ground" for the cultural sector of the city. Whether people are creating or dancing the night away!

What happens at night in our design?

LL MUSIC, PARTY, DRINKS, FLIRTS, DRINKS, DANCING, DANCE, JOY, STRANGERS MEETING, SEDUCTION, TALKING, SERIOUS & TO THE POINT, WATCHING THE SUN RISE, TRANCE, JOKING AROUND, SEX, SHARED LAUGHTER, WARMING UP, BELIEVE

MEGA BOWL







Panel 1: 24-Hour Economy in Rotterdam



Panel 2: Preserving Rotterdam's Nightlife



Extra: Input for Municipality



“Whether it’s polarization, diversity and inclusion, or any other problem, the answers lie in nightlife. That’s **where people come together**, that’s where we connect with each other.”  
- Rosie Okhionkpamwionyi

**QUALITY**

“Don’t try to control, don’t try to do too much, but **let it happen**, and later give **grassroots** a chance. But then, everyone finds it an interesting area, so we have people from all over the world coming to explore this area.” - Hans de Jonge

“Many subsidies are structured in such a way that success is a requirement, and **failure is not allowed**, but that is not possible. This is also not possible for innovation.”  
- Lara Jade Vleeschhouwer

“Through bankruptcy and problems in the formal world, various opportunities arose. It created fertile ground for people to start something there temporarily (...). In essence, an **eternal temporariness** is what we should strive for.” - Hans de Jonge

“If space is not made for you, then we’ll **create space ourselves.**”  
- Lara Jade Vleeschhouwer

**PROCESS**

“The rents go up, and the parties are pushed out, so you have to do something to **create the conditions** for those entrepreneurs.”  
- Hans de Jonge

“Put a stop to the increase in festivals; you should actually say you shouldn’t give so many permits for festivals outside the city, you should keep all of that in the city. So, **less regulated zones with very low rents.**”  
- Hans de Jonge

“**Homes** are needed. However, one tends to forget how important this place is for many **different communities.**”  
- Mitchel Sam Sin

**SPACE**

“Safe public transport at night, speaking of safe space, is not only within that space but also from the space to home, so there is **no safe night transport in Rotterdam.**”  
- Hans de Jonge

“Allow **room for mistakes**. Within that, of course, there should be room for errors. Entrepreneurs need to be able to learn; most people who become entrepreneurs haven't been to school for it. They **learn by doing**.” - Nikki van Dijk

**QUALITY**

“Think in **collectives**. Or in cooperatives. So, if you want to do something, do it especially with others. Because you gain much more impact. And you get much more diversity. And you are truly future-proof. Because you can anticipate much more easily. And set up a much larger block.” - Folkert van Hagen

“However, just space alone is not the only solution. It must be **curated** in a certain way.” - Nikki van Dijk

**SPACE**

““How do we literally provide square meters, along with **permits and support** in permitting, space for what we want to emerge? We don't just want space in itself, of course.” - Nikki van Dijk

“How do we organize the right **curatorship** now? Set the right framework? So that indeed, the creative process can grow in a good way. (...) protected against a kind of **non-competition** from various commercial chains or the like.” - Nikki van Dijk

“we created a beautiful, cool sketch of nightlife with elevation, with the Erasmus Bridge in the background as if you were dancing on the roof of such a block. That's **inspiring, encouraging**. (...) 'I see potential for nightlife and maybe space for the night.'” - Maurice Boumans

“Those million homes. (...), we've created a city where we've actually **forgotten the cultural program**. Which we later have to add. And it usually doesn't fit.” - Maurice Boumans

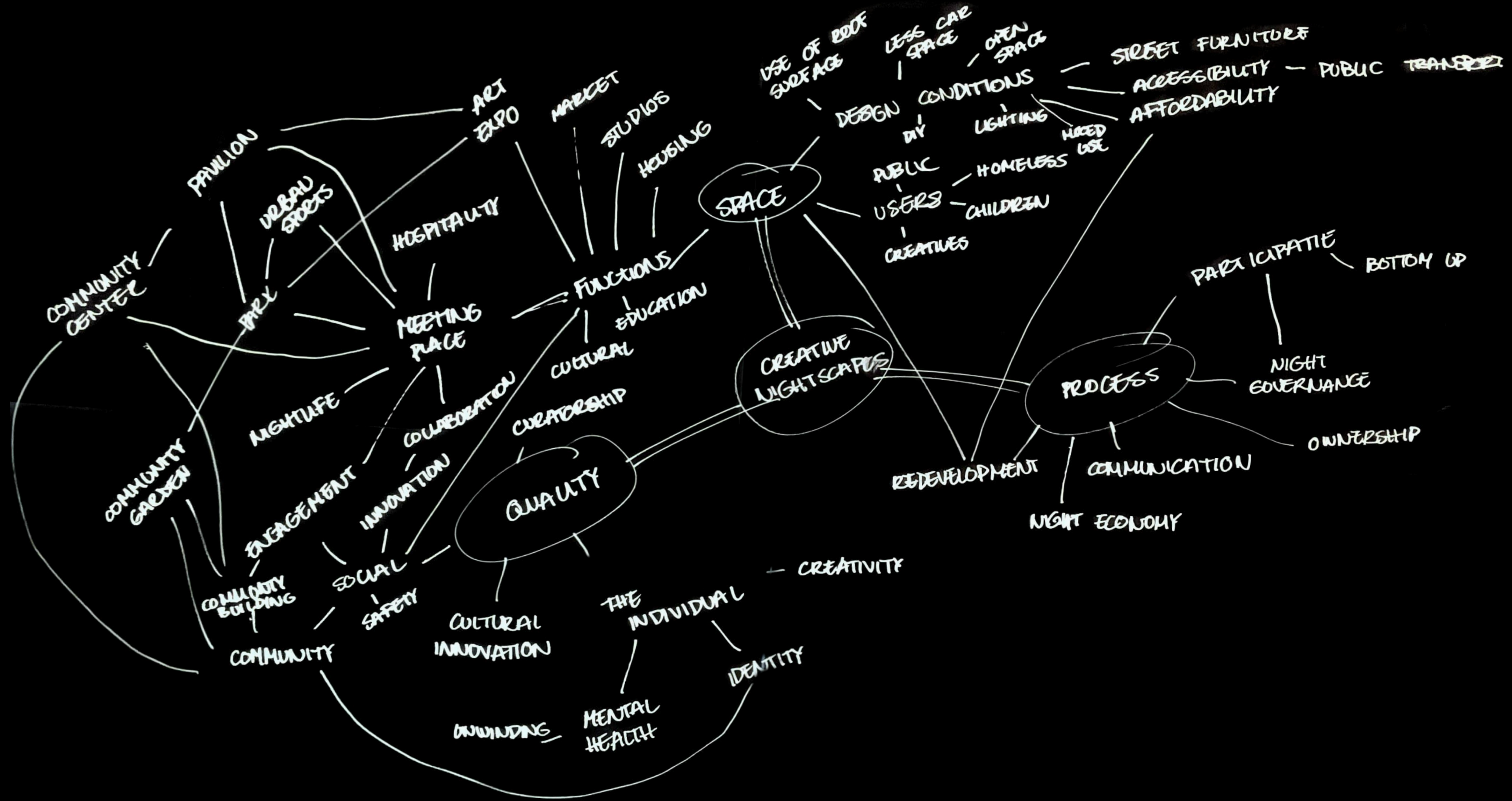
“The **open conversation**. What do you really want? What drives you? What can I do with that? How can I contribute? That's what I find most important.” - Maurice Boumans

**PROCESS**

“Then suddenly a culture cluster emerges, and later, you add housing. Well, who wants to live there? You have to be a **fan of culture** (...) people choose to live there because they want to. There are people who want the evening noise disturbance.” - Folkert van Hagen

“Designating for hospitality is, of course, not the same as designating for nightlife. And that's what we see now in the Schiekadeblok. (...) they have **removed** quite a bit of nightlife. What currently has a nighttime designation might not have it anymore in the future.” - Nikki van Dijk

**5 / NOCTURNAL ECHOES AT DAWN**  
FROM DATA TO DESIGN



**PROCESS**

## CHALLENGES

- Place keeping
- Ownership
- Insecurity
- Gentrification
- In practise
- Bankrupcy
- Curationship
- Limitations
- Unpredictability
- Lack of guidelines

## DEVELOPMENT

- Urban development
- Political development
- Economical development
- Real estate development
- Social development

## MUNICIPAL POLICY

- Policy
- Support
- Responsibility
- Temporality
- Low rents
- Regulation
- Permits

## STAKEHOLDERS

- Creatives
- Entrepreneurs
- Policy makers
- Creative sector
- Municipality of Rotterdam
- Developpers
- Police
- Initiatives
- Users
- Nightlife council

## COMMUNICATION

- Complaints
- Forward thinking
- Dialogue
- Curiosity
- Social trust
- Open communication
- Conflicting interest

## PARTICIPATION

- Engagement
- Protest
- Public participation process
- Paneltalks

## ECONOMY

- 24 hour economy
- Investment
- Economic value

**SPACE**

## DESIGN CONDITIONS

- Accessibility
- Affordability
- DIY
- Less space for cars
- Lights
- Mixed use
- Nocturnal activity
- Open space
- Public transport
- Resilience
- Reuse old buildings
- Rooftop
- Street furniture

## FACILITIES

- Art expo
- Community center
- Community garden
- Culture
- Education
- Event space
- Food and beverages
- Housing
- Market
- Meeting space
- Nightlife
- Park
- Pavilion
- Studios
- Urban Sports

## USERS

- Children
- Homeless people
- Public

**QUALITY**

## CULTURAL INNOVATION

- Appreciation incomprehensible
- Creativity
- Culture
- Experimentation
- Knowledge sharing
- Placemaking
- Social impact
- Talent development

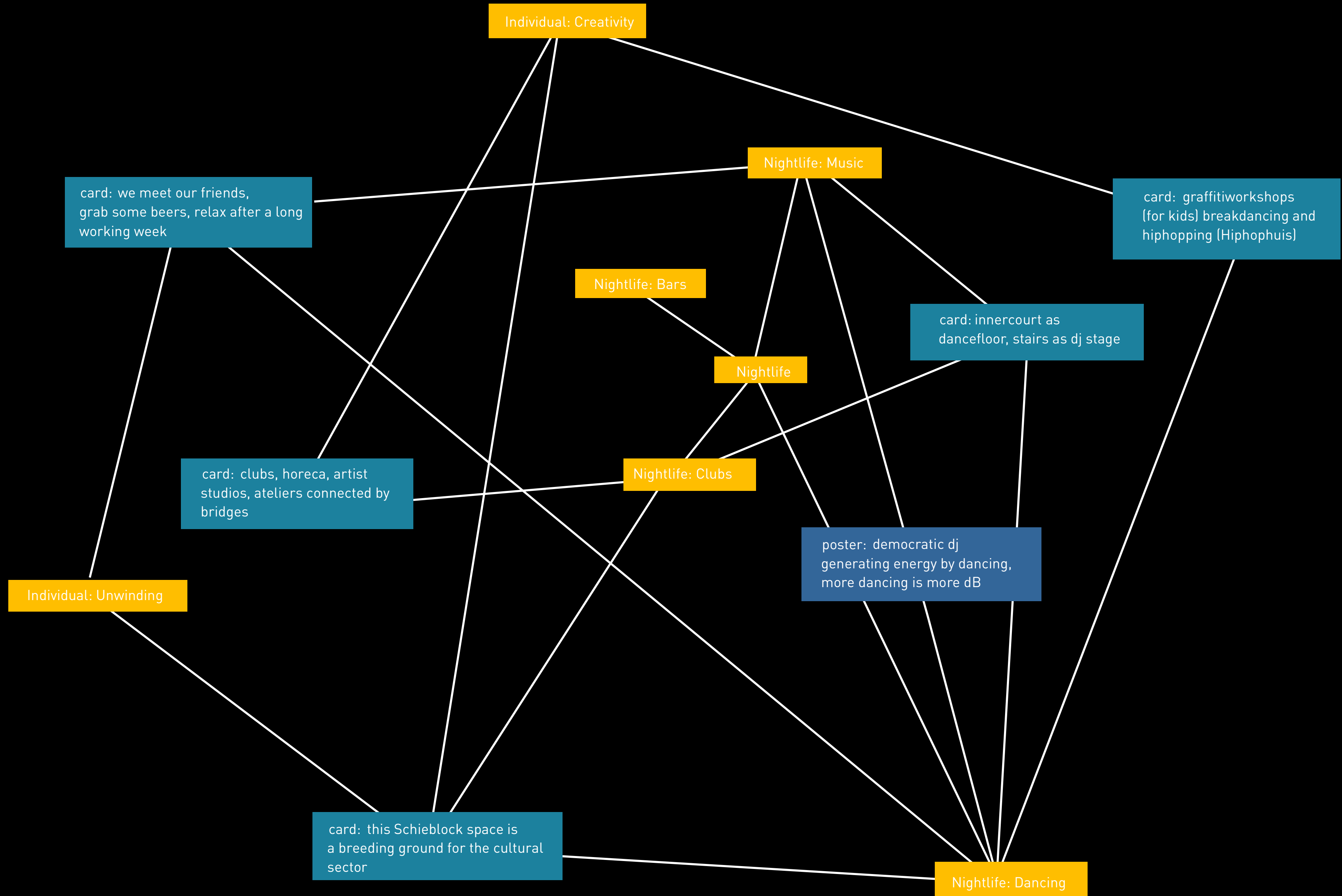
## INDIVIDUAL

- Creativity
- Identity
- Mental health
- Sense of belonging
- Unwinding
- Personal development

## SOCIAL

- Collaboration
- Collectivity
- Community
- Community building
- Connection
- Diversity
- Equality
- Safety
- Social cohesion
- Socializing
- Solidarity

NIGHTLIFE X INDIVIDUAL

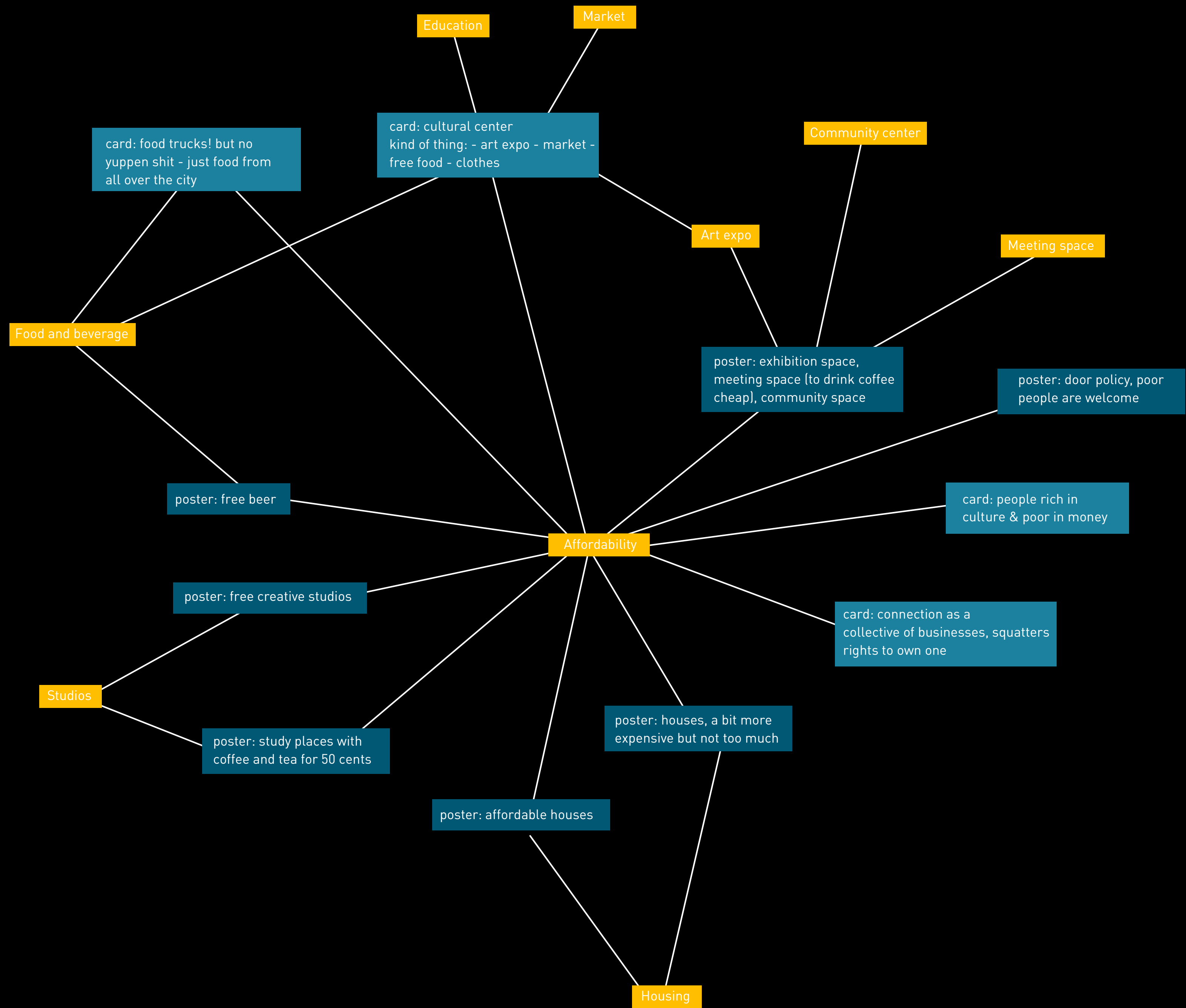




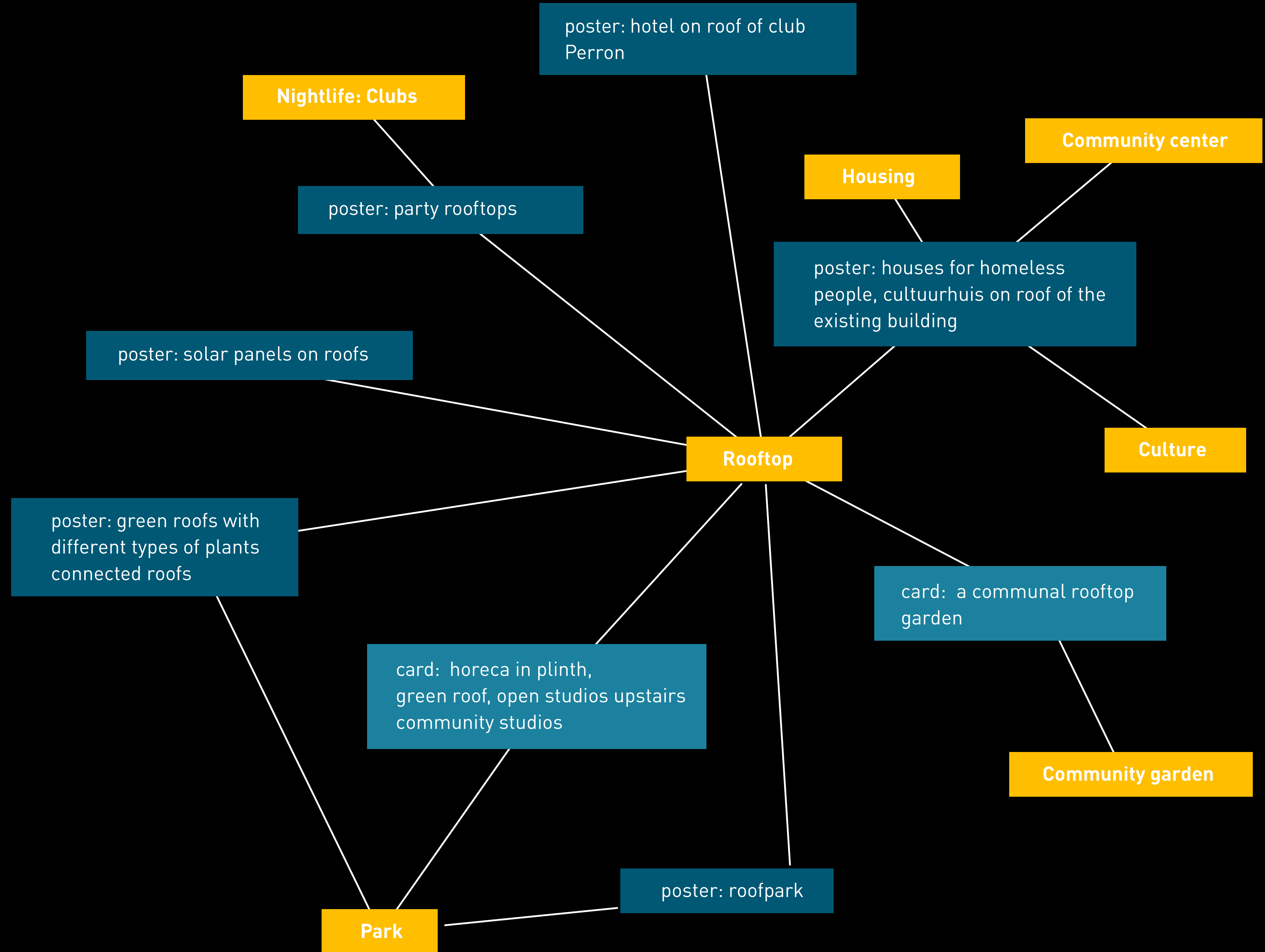
SOCIAL X ACCESSIBILITY



FUNCTIONS X AFFORDABLE

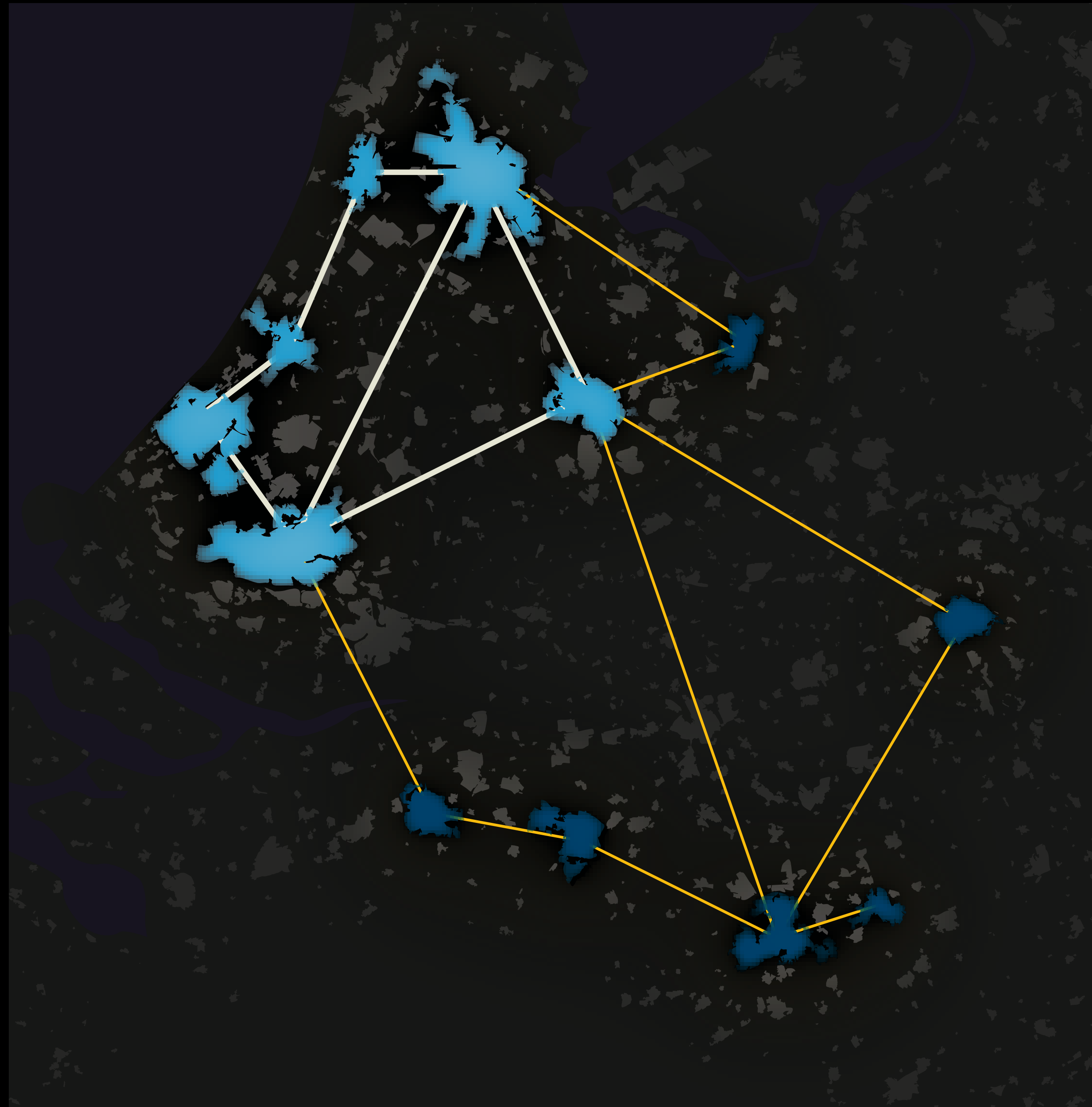


FUNCTIONS X ROOFTOP



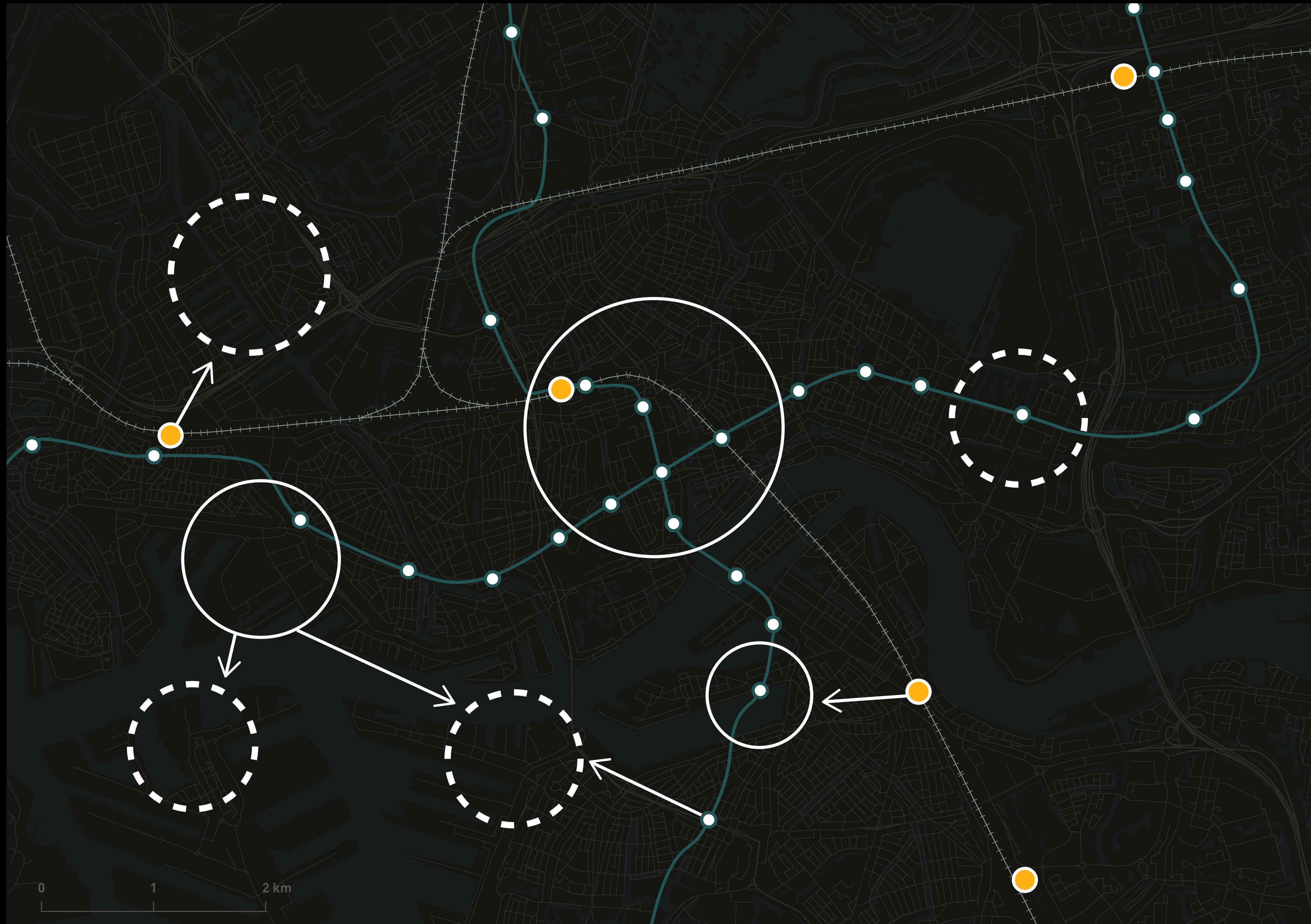
# **6 / THE DESIGN OF CREATIVE NIGHTSCAPES**

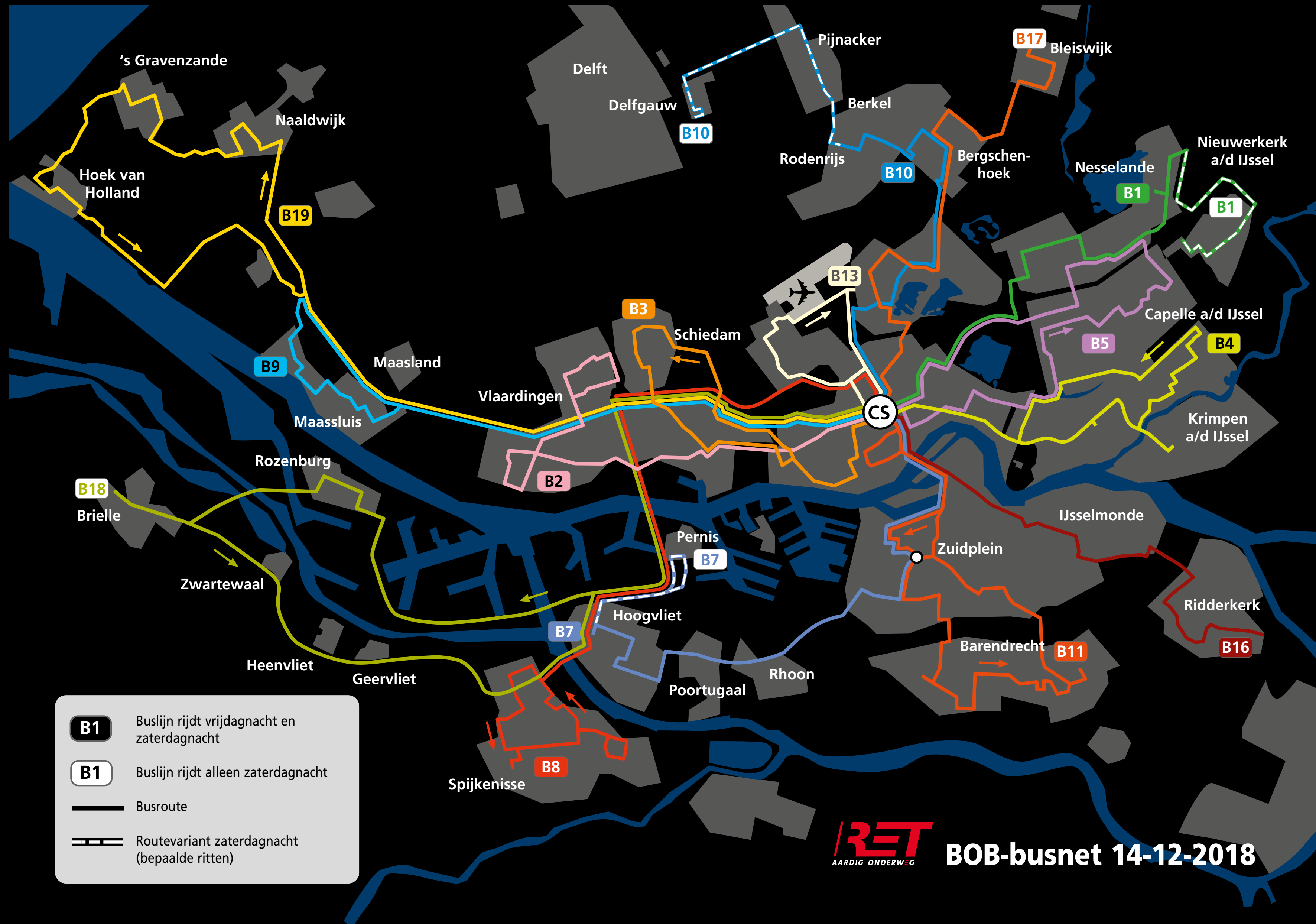
## DESIGN FRAMEWORK





- Current nightnet stations
- New nightnet stations
- Current night routes
- - New night routes





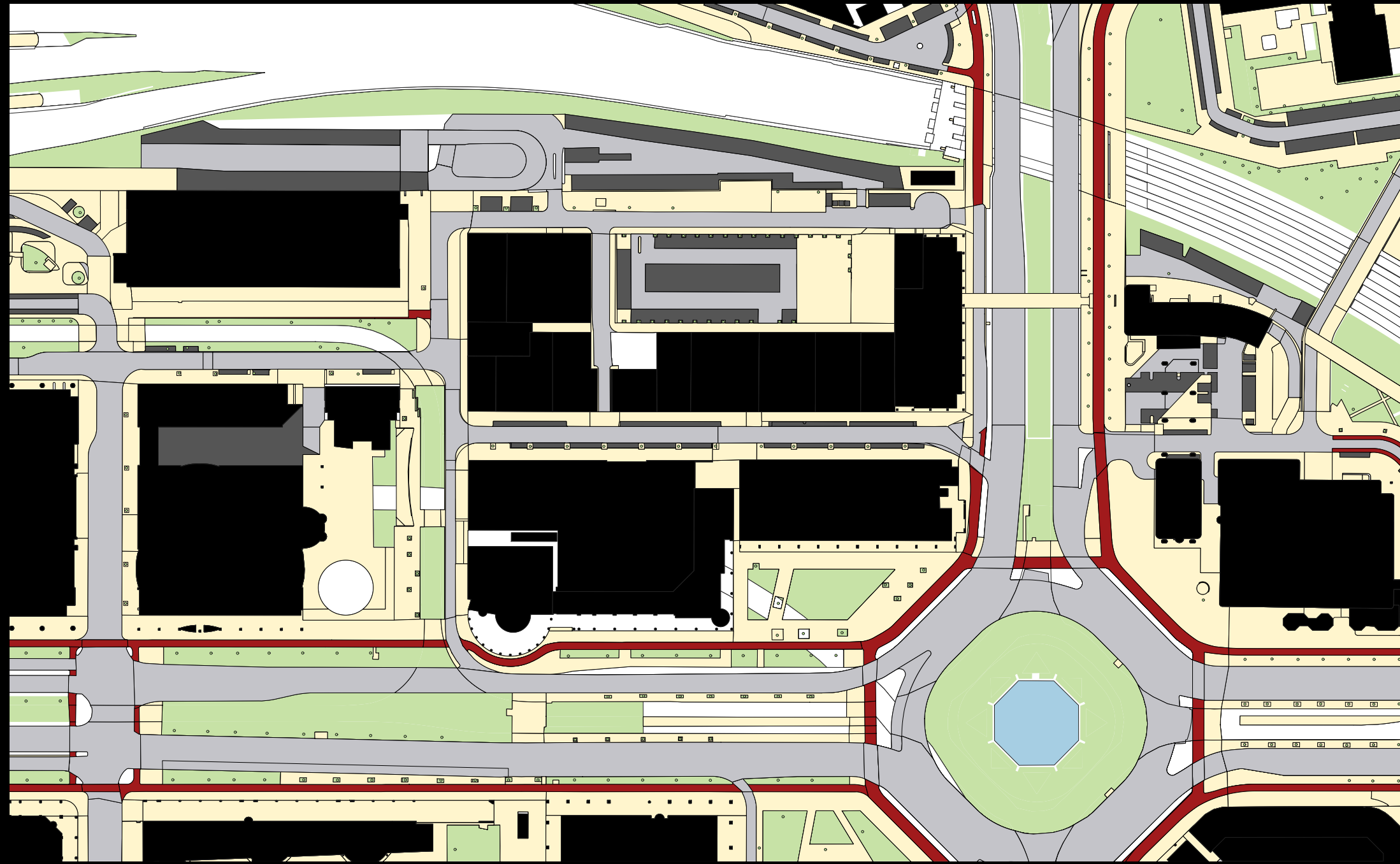
- B1** Buslijn rijdt vrijdagnacht en zaterdagnacht
- B1** Buslijn rijdt alleen zaterdagnacht
- Busroute
- - - Routevariant zaterdagnacht (bepaalde ritten)



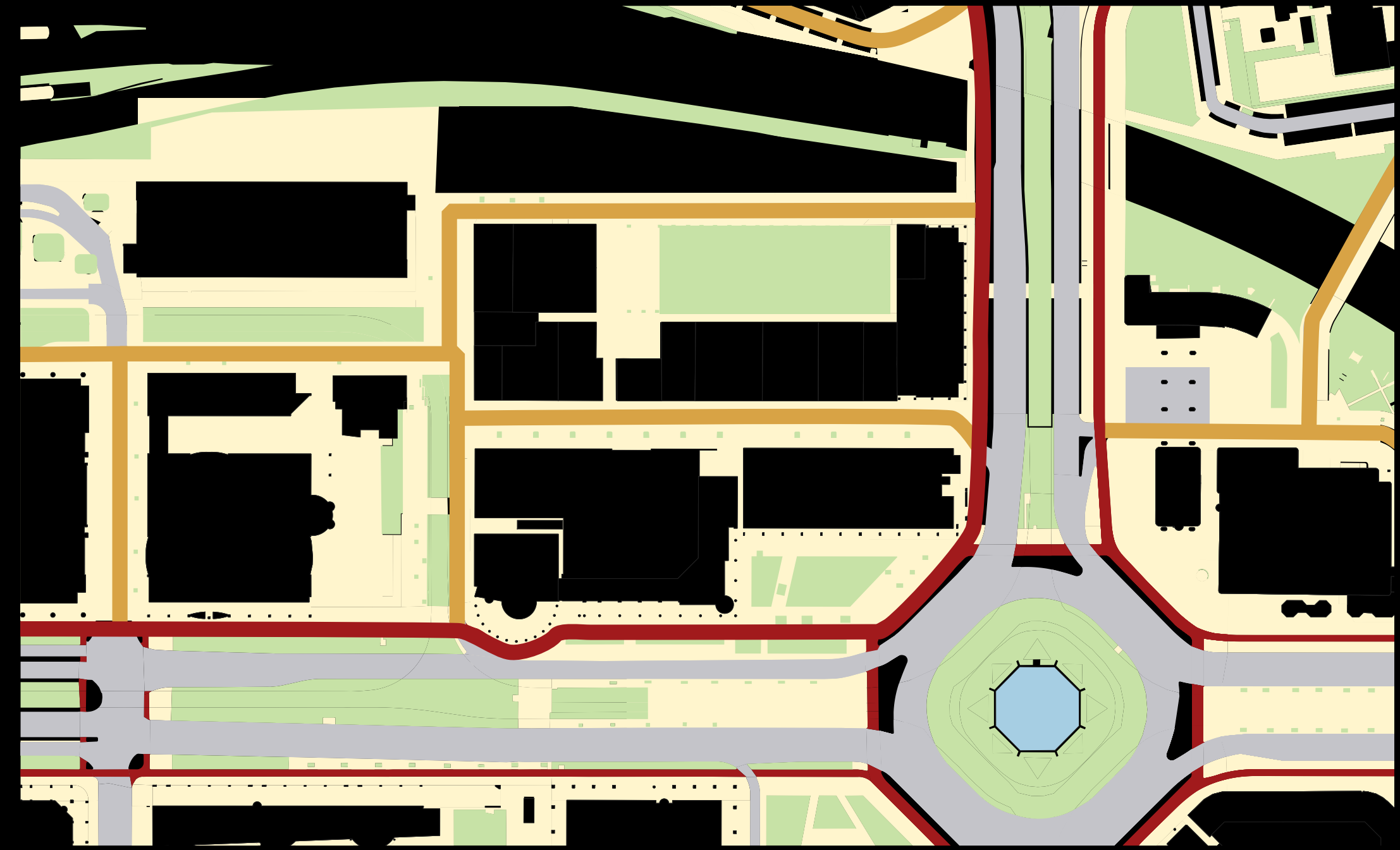
**BOB-busnet 14-12-2018**



6 / DESIGN FRAMEWORK / SPACE / ACCESSIBILITY



SCALE S / PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE INFRASTRUCTURE

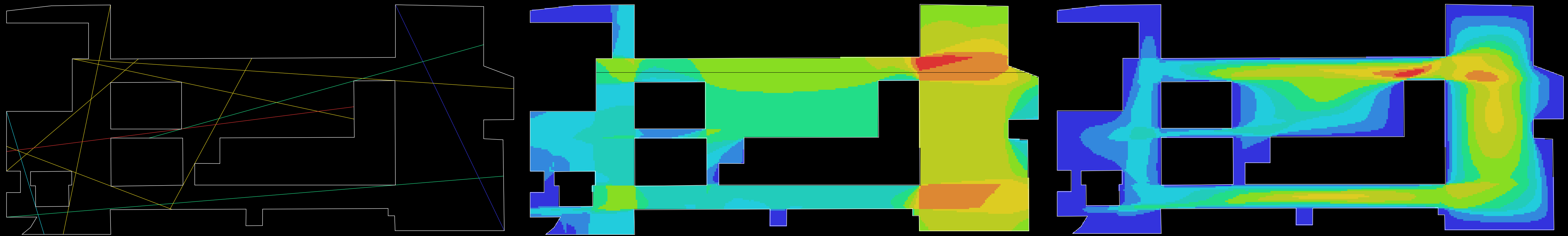


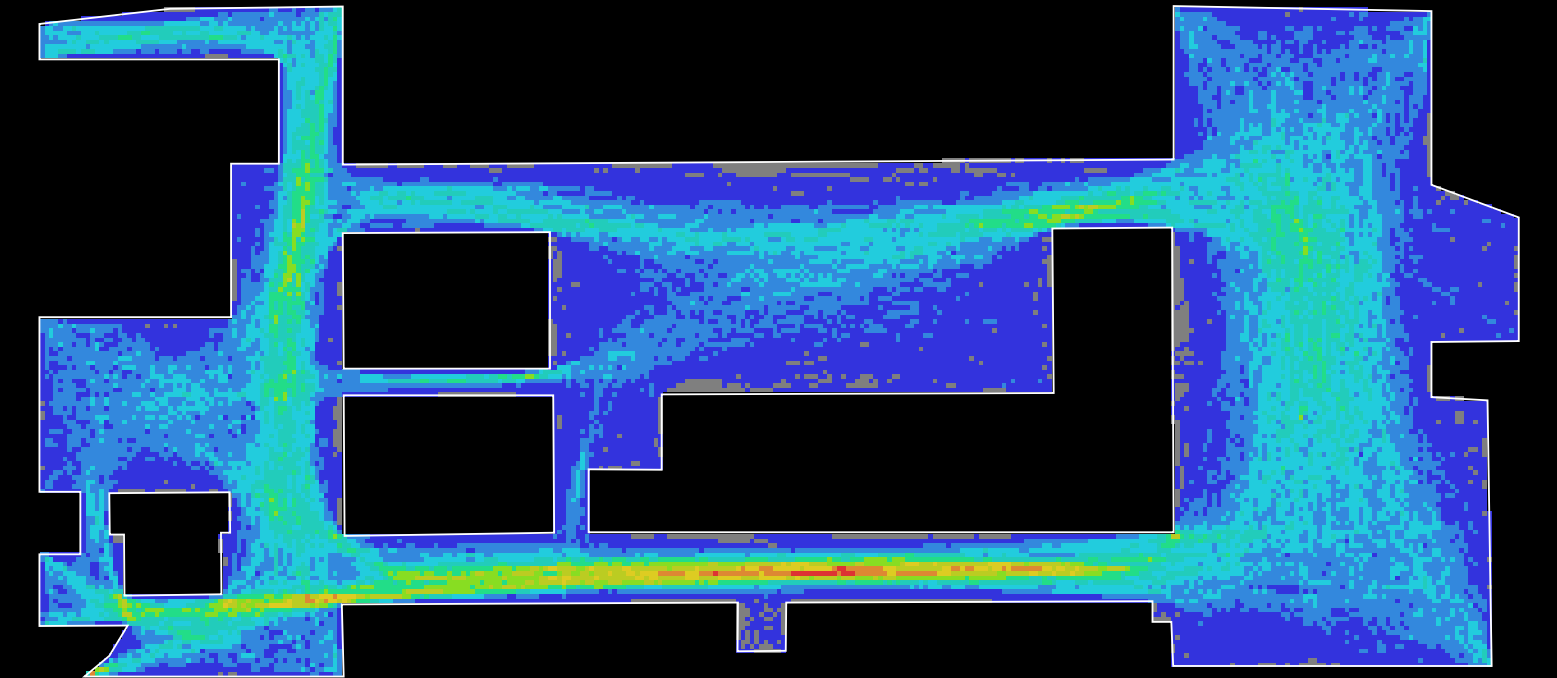
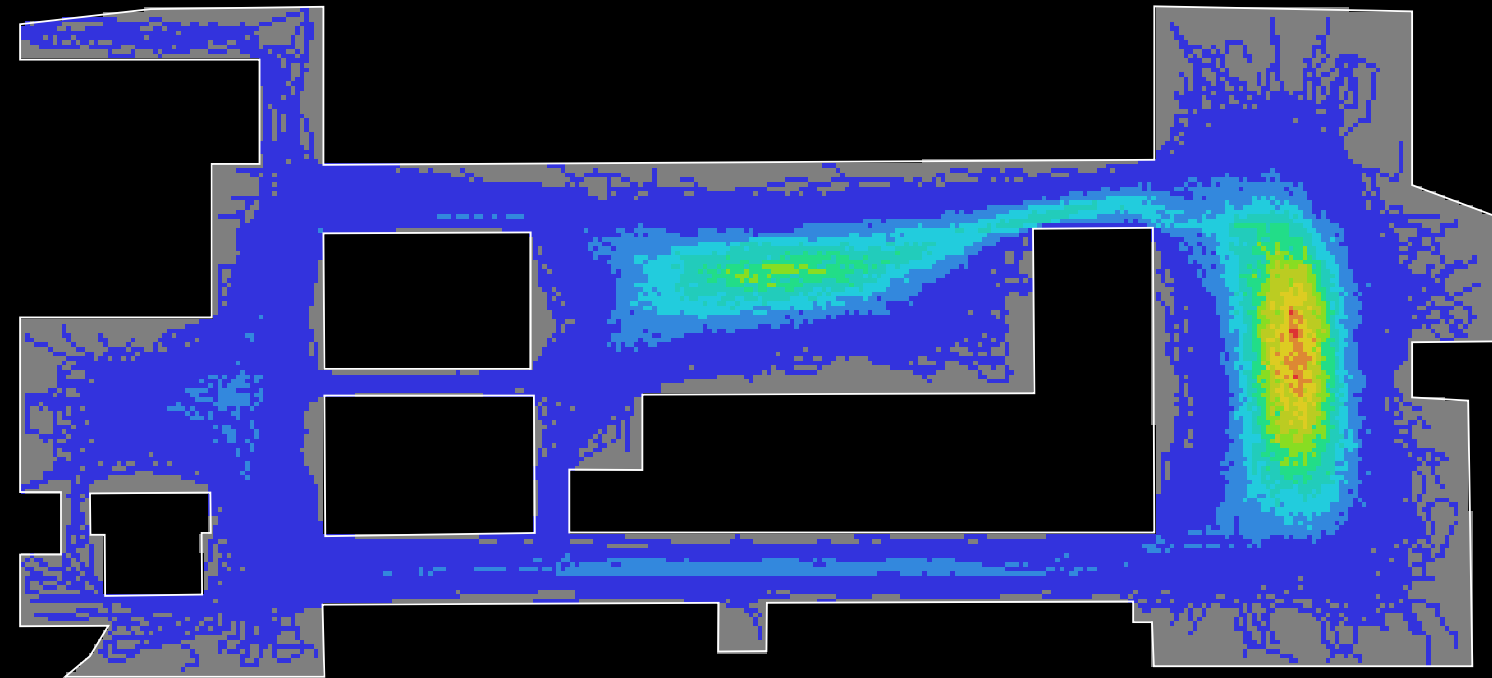
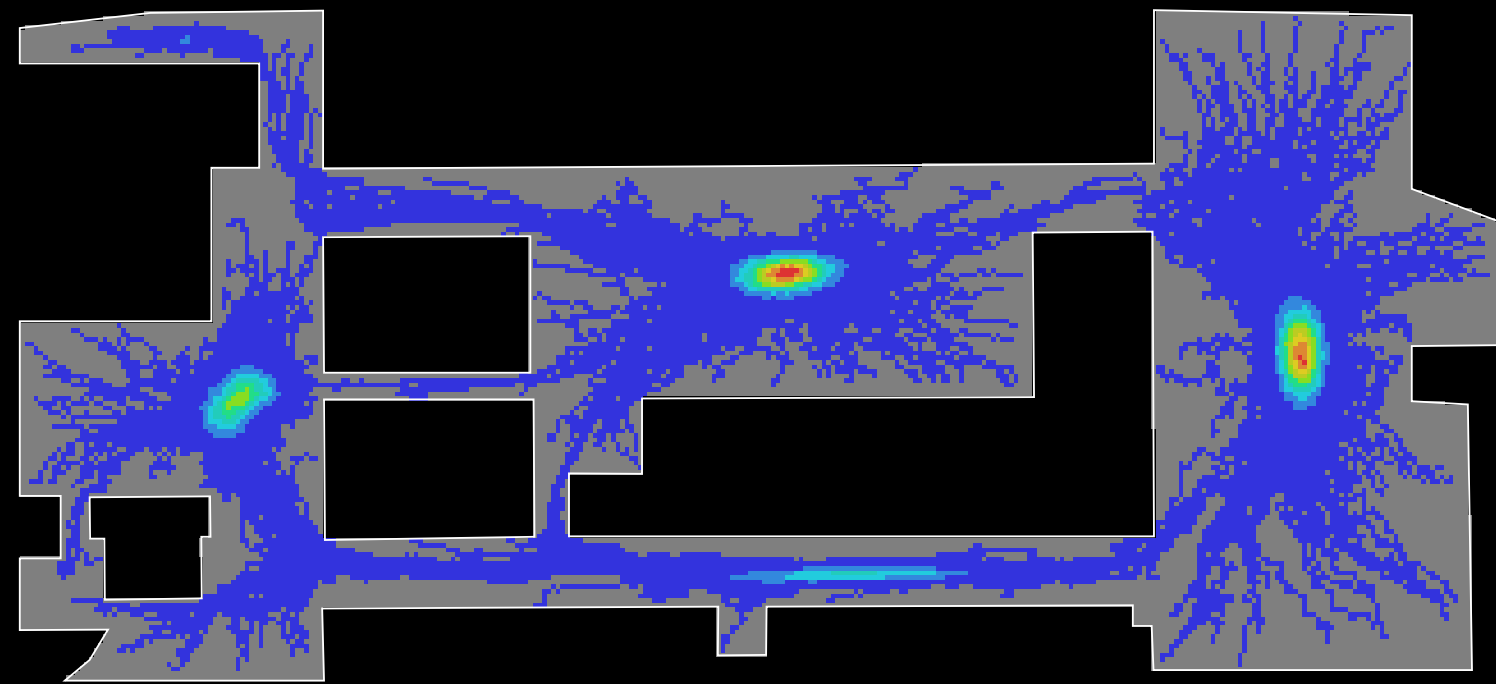
Design proposal: Emphasize nocturnal bike infrastructure



Design proposal: Emphasize square as nocturnal pedestrian area







INDOOR

NIGHT CLUBS

CREATIVE STUDIOS

WORKING PLACES

COMMUNITY CENTER

NIGHTSHOP

HOUSING

(XS)

INDOOR /  
OUTDOOR

BAR

MEETING SPACES

ART EXPO

MARKET

FOOD & BEVERAGES

WORKSHOPS / EDUCATION

SPORTS

PAVILION

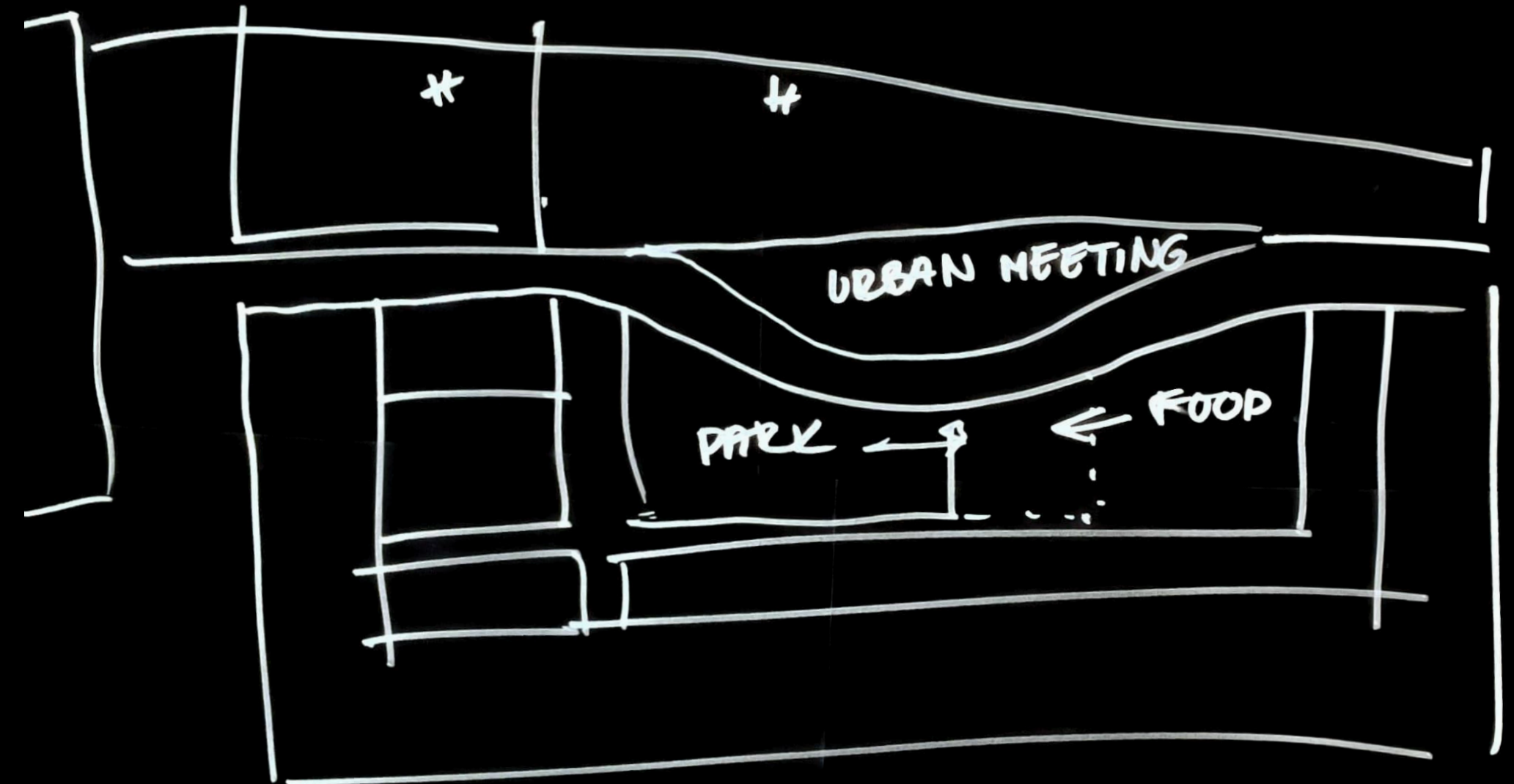
(XS/S)

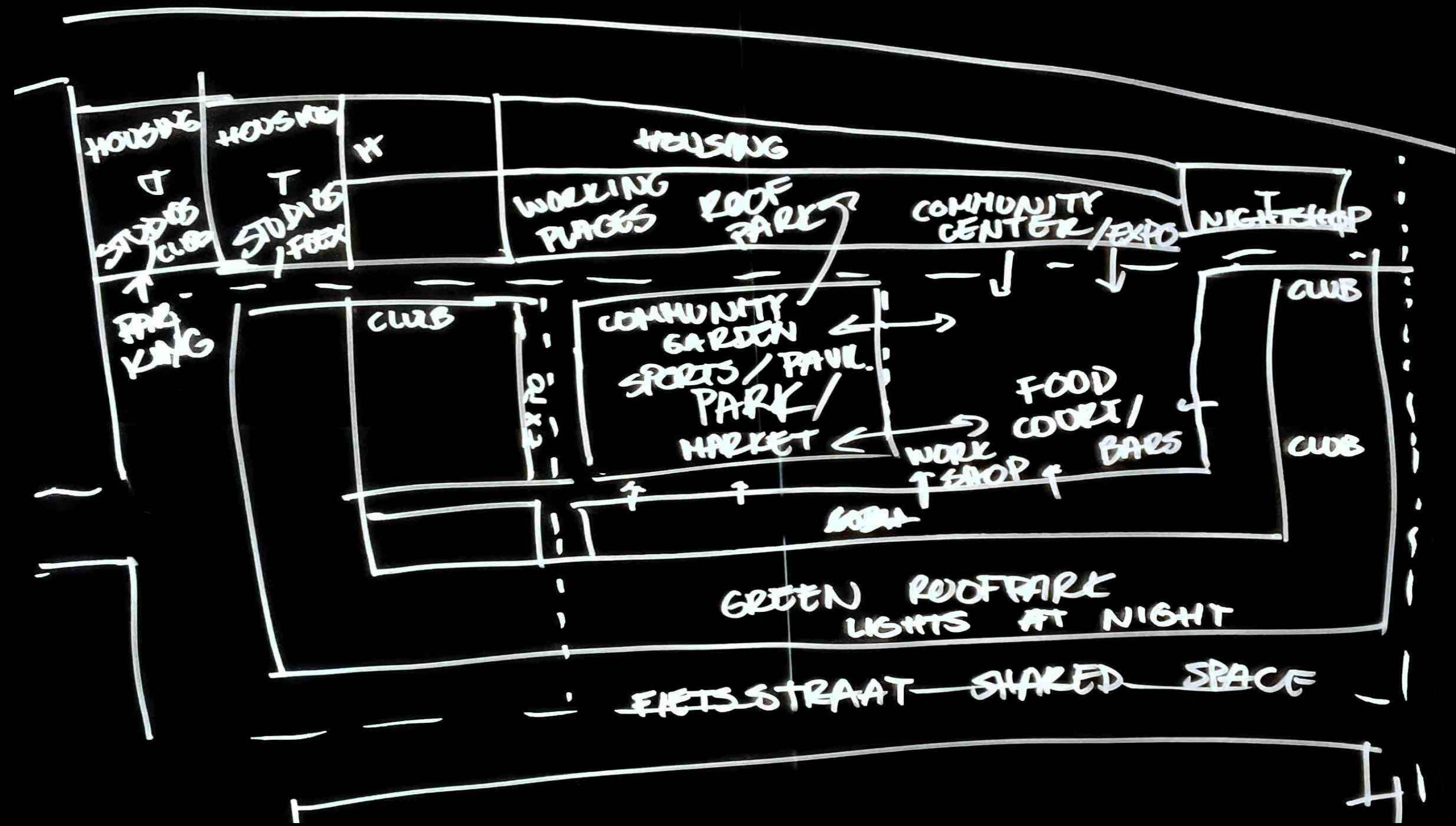
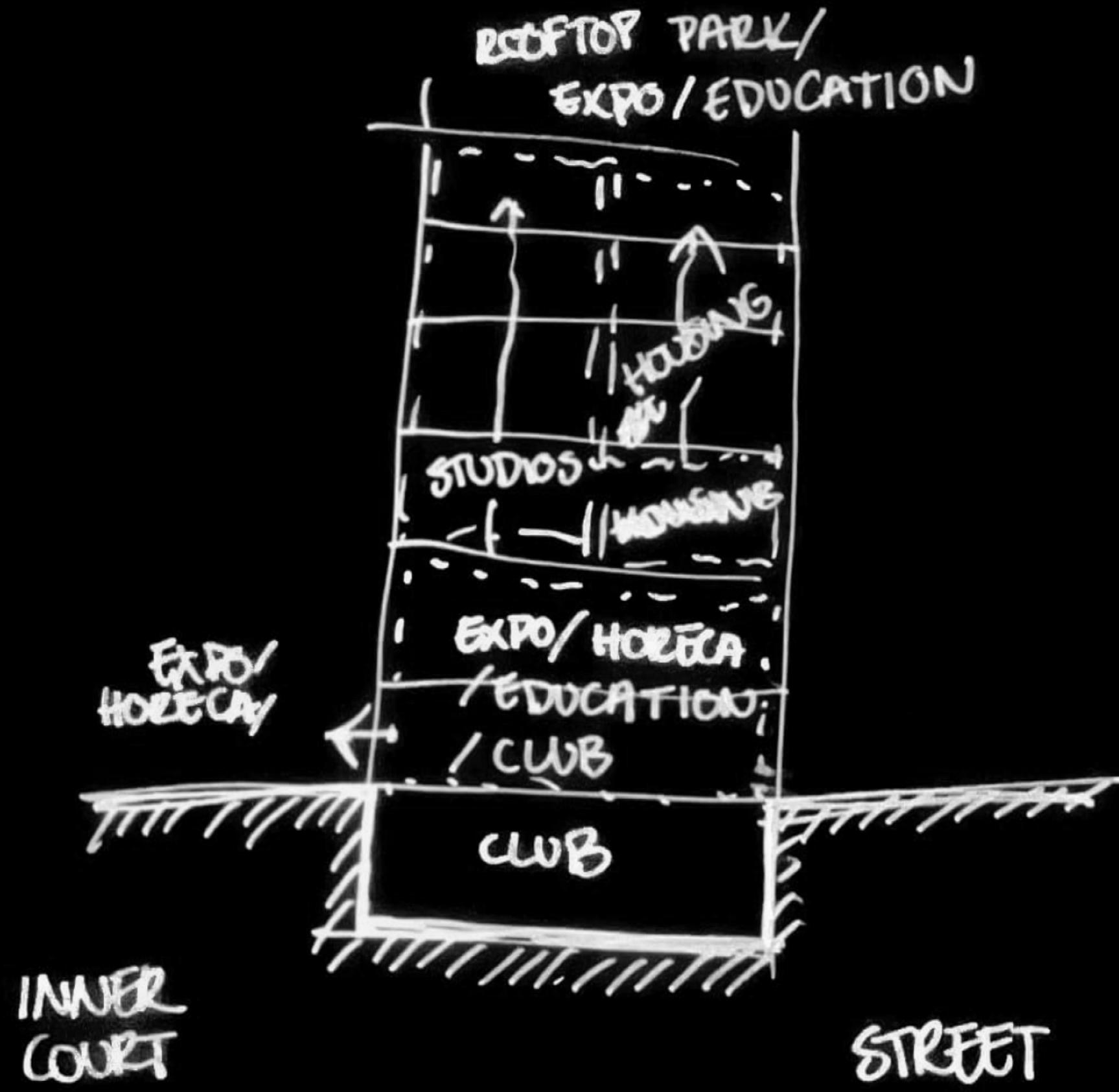
OUTDOOR

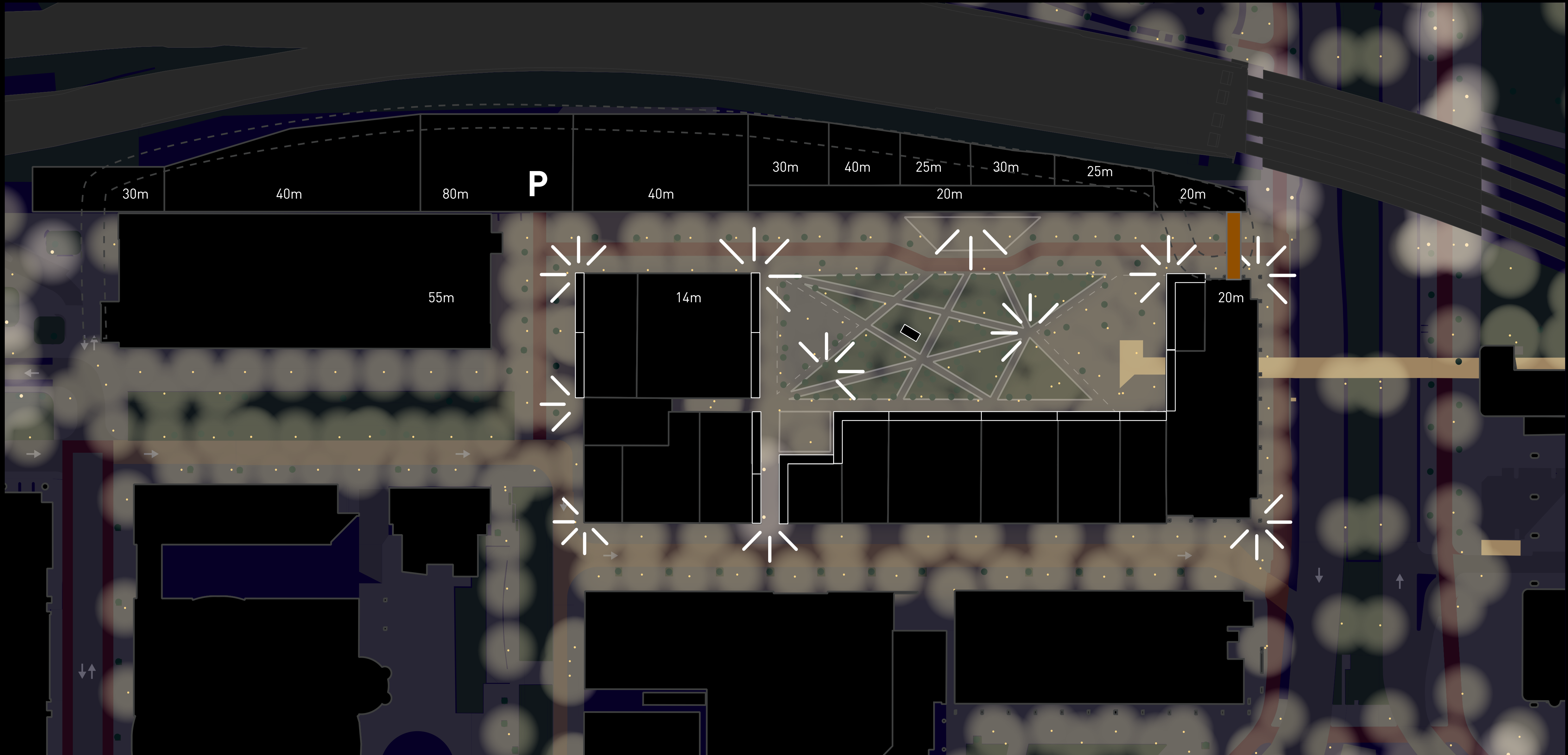
PARK

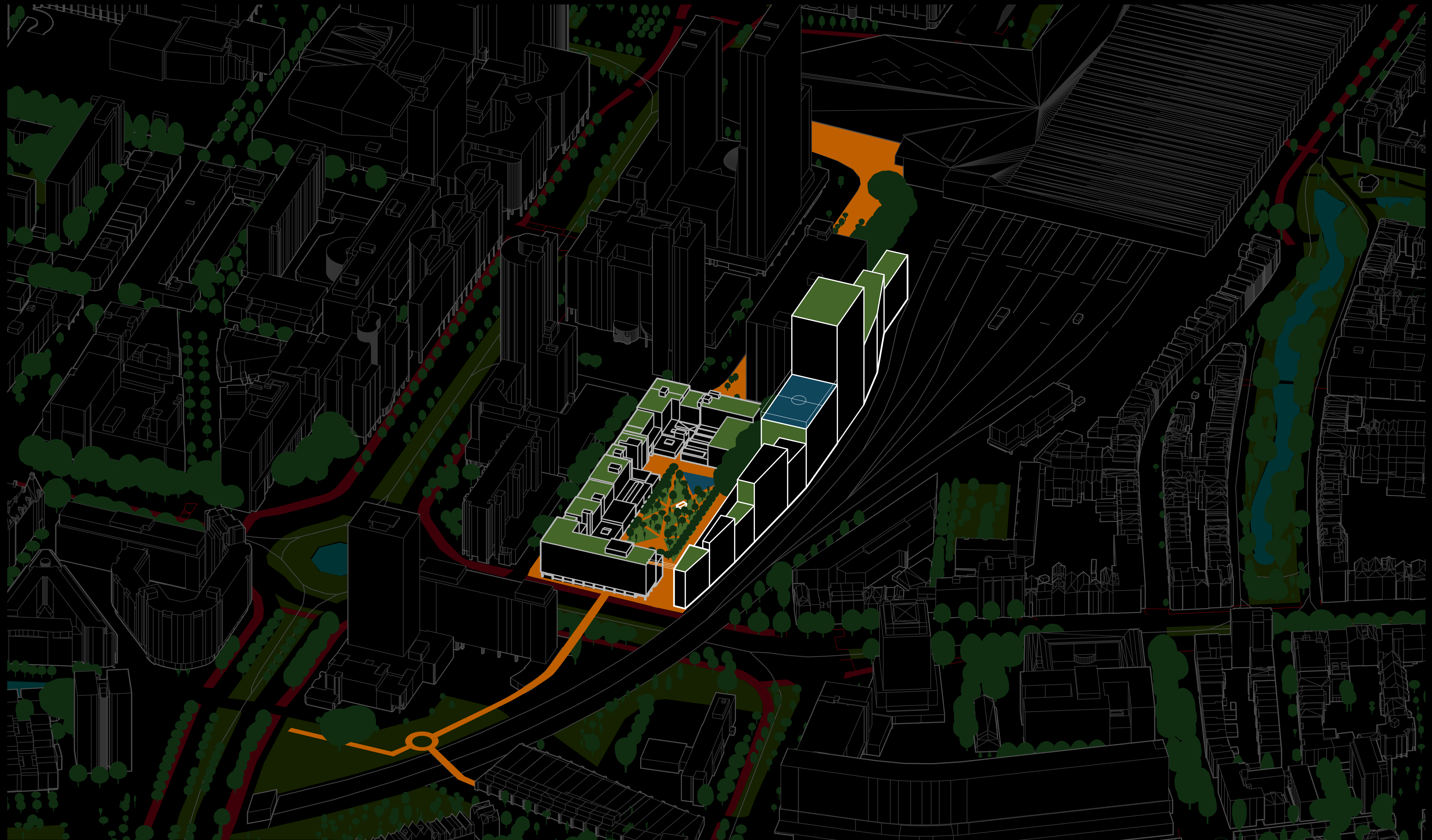
COMMUNITY GARDEN

(S)

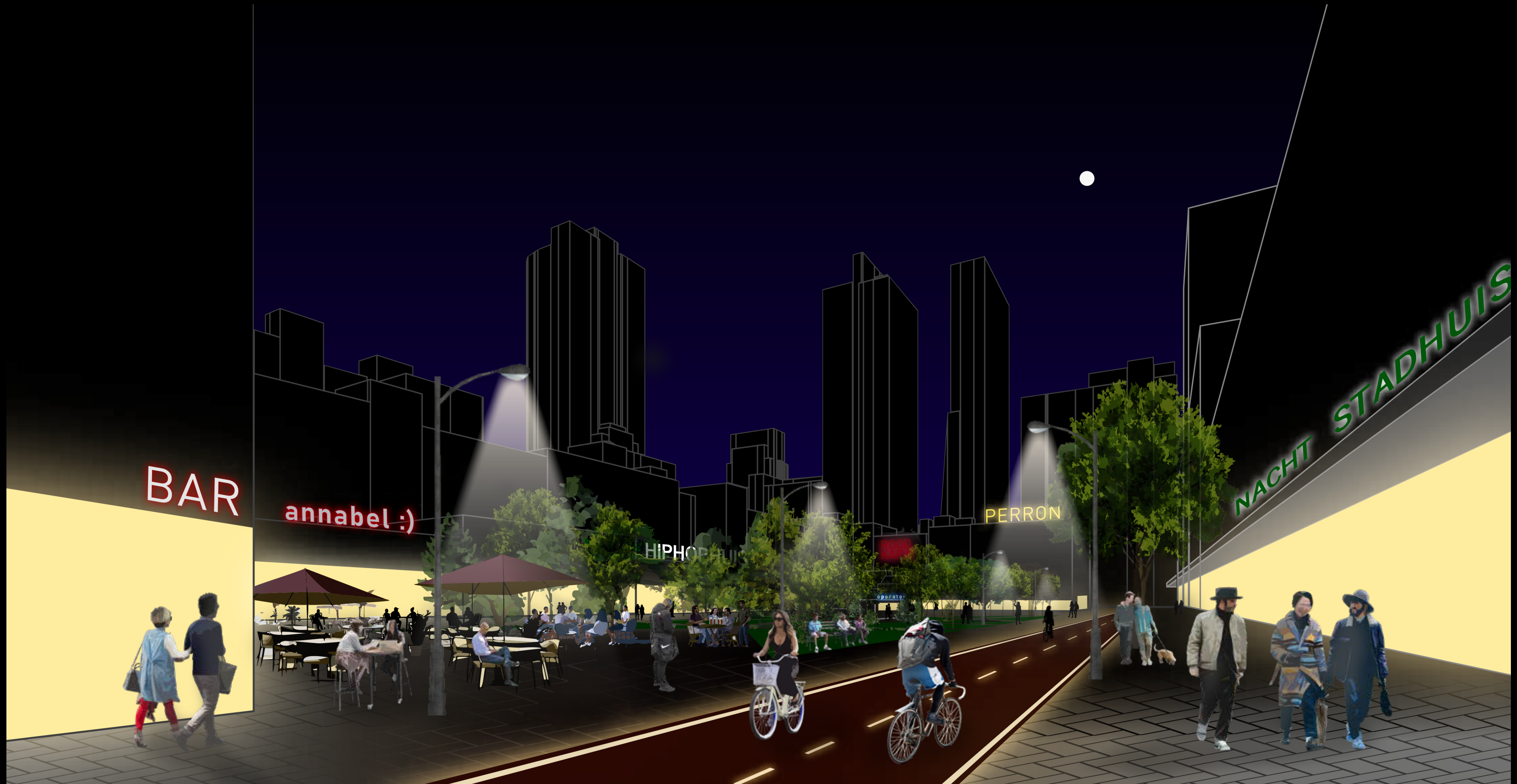


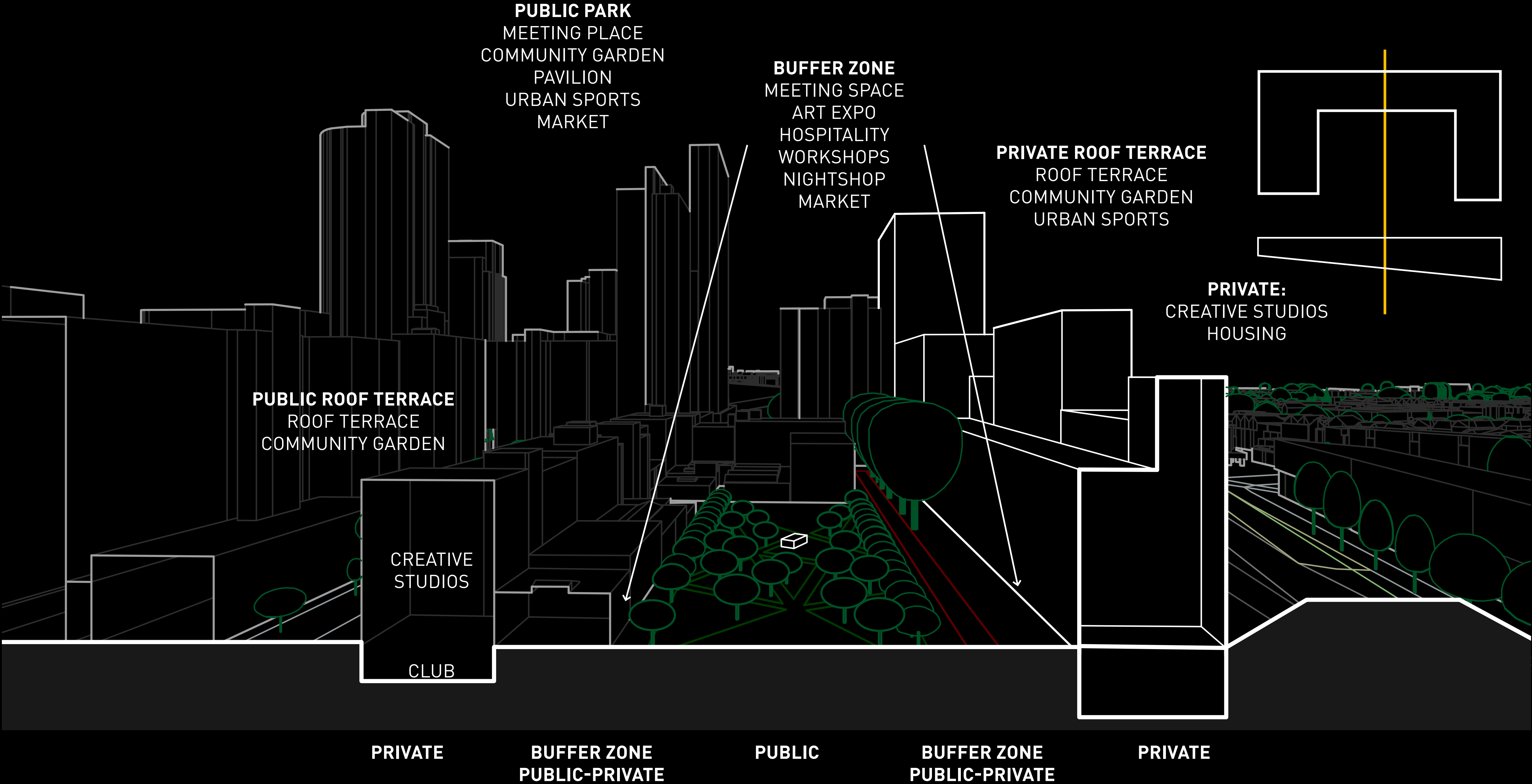






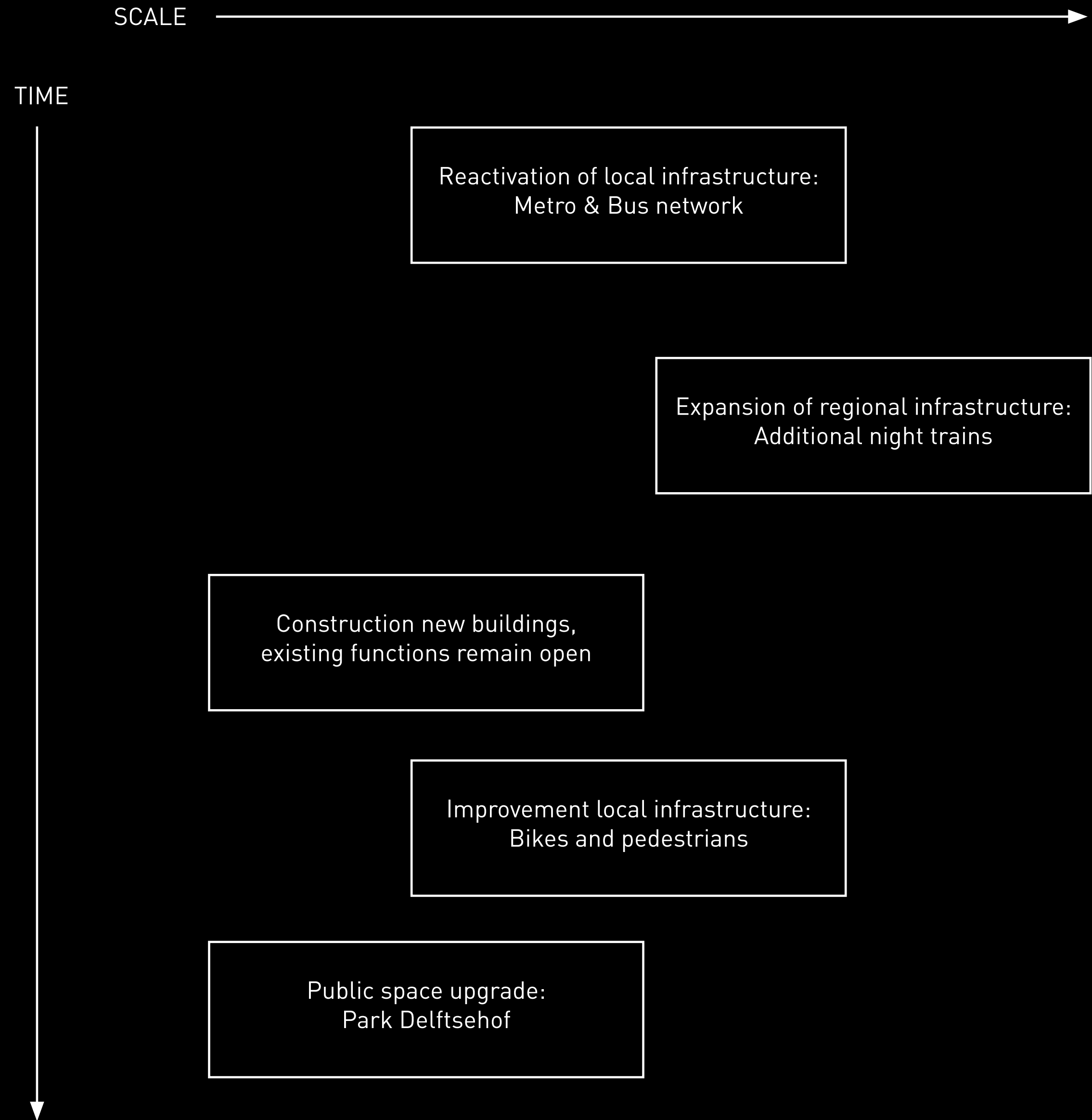






- Existing buildings: Preservation of existing functions
- Building height: max. 60 meters
- Plinths: Open, inviting, engaging
- Materialization: Choice architecture for influencing human behaviour

- Improve nocturnal mobility
- Reconfigure permit types, regulations & opening hours
- Flexibility in rental contract duration
- Community engagement in redevelopment processes
- Financial compensation for social value creation



SCALE	LEVEL	INTERVENTIONS	INTERVENTIONS	INTERVENTIONS
		QUALITY	SPACE	PROCESS
<b>XL</b>	International	Acknowledgement of nightlife as essential for urban life	Nocturnal infrastructure > Night trains	International night governance > Knowledge sharing
<b>L</b>	Regional	Acknowledgement of nightlife as essential for urban life	Nocturnal infrastructure > Night trains, busses, metros	National night governance > Knowledge sharing
<b>M</b>	City	Agent of change Preservation and protection	Local nocturnal infrastructure > Night bus & metro > Bike infrastructure > Pedestrian infrastructure	Local night governance > Agent of change > Policy changes > Support system for creative nocturnal entrepreneurs
<b>S</b>	Creative cluster	Agent of change Preservation and protection	Neighbourhoods for nocturnal activity > Mixed building configurations	Involve inhabitants in participation > Locals > Entrepreneurs
<b>XS</b>	Creative space	Spaces for experimentation Plinths as connectors	Flexible spaces > Open plinths > Public space as expo > Materialization	Involve users in participation > Visitors > Nocturnal workers

# **7 / NOCTURNAL INSIGHTS & DISCOVERIES**

## CONCLUSION

## QUALITY

### *What is the relationship between nightlife & urban design?*

- Interdisciplinary nature
- Evolution of nocturnal activity
- Role of the creative industry: drives nightlife with innovation but triggers gentrification
- Catalyst for community building, social well-being, and inclusivity
- 24-hour city: integration of the night into urban planning
- Acknowledgement and preservation of nightlife essential for inclusive, vibrant, and resilient urban environments



## PROCESS

### ***How can nighttime users be empowered in urban redevelopment processes of creative nightscapes?***

- Social inclusivity: engagement of nighttime users in redevelopment process
- Identification of needs for nocturnal activity
- Participatory tools: workshops, panel talks, and co-creation projects
- Supportive policies for active nighttime users and nocturnal governance
- Financial compensation for social value creation
- Phased urban design strategy: prioritizing sustained operation, accessibility, and connectivity

## SPACE

### *Which urban design strategies benefit creative nightscapes?*

- Multi scaled approach: city zoning designating mixed-use areas for nocturnal activity
- Legal protection against residential encroachment
- Nocturnal mobility facilities: public transport, slow infrastructure
- Buffer zones and green spaces against nuisance
- Strategic lighting: improve wayfinding, light art, bicycle & pedestrian infrastructure
- Adaptive reuse of buildings
- Diverse cultural programming 24h
- Open plinths

## MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION

***How can urban design interventions accommodate creative nightscapes in the city of Rotterdam?***

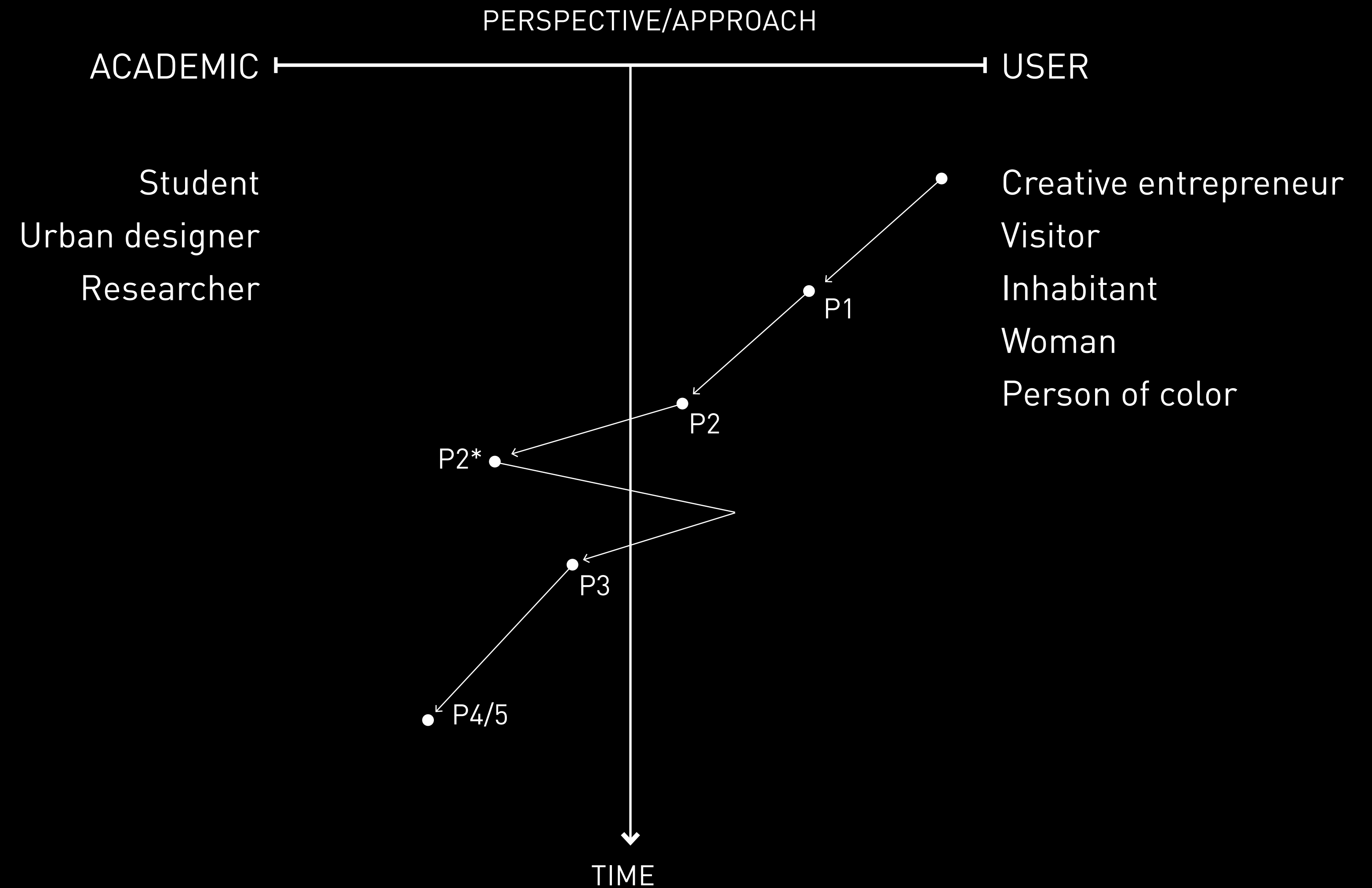
- Acknowledgement of the positive impact of creative nightscapes
- Active participation by local communities and nighttime users
- Supportive policies & nocturnal governance: subsidies, permits, agent of change
- City scale zoning strategies to offer legal protection
- Adaptive use for identity preservation
- Diverse cultural programming and public access
- Spatial solutions: strategic lighting, buffer zones, green spaces
- Nighttime mobility for accessibility
- Open plinths for engagement
- Balance between nighttime community needs and broader urban development goals

**8 / REFLECTION ON NIGHTTIME RESEARCH**  
REFLECTION

- Multidisciplinary approach and connection to the build environment
- Interchange between design, research, and action: lots of fieldwork
- Context-specific project
- Short term vs. long term
- Social sustainability vs. environmental sustainability
  
- Active stakeholder involvement: advantages vs. potential biases
- Open walk-in sessions to avoid self-selection bias
- Role of references in workshops

## 8 / REFLECTION

- Personal exploration due to involvement: diversity in perspectives
- Knowledge on social studies, communication, and action research



**THANK YOU**

