

Den-City

Revitalize Former Industrial Riverbank In Shanghai

MSc Thesis Urbanism
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Vision

Huangpu river





Vision

Connectivity
Mixed-use
Identity



Google Earth

Image © 2020 Maxar Technologies

4

1 km



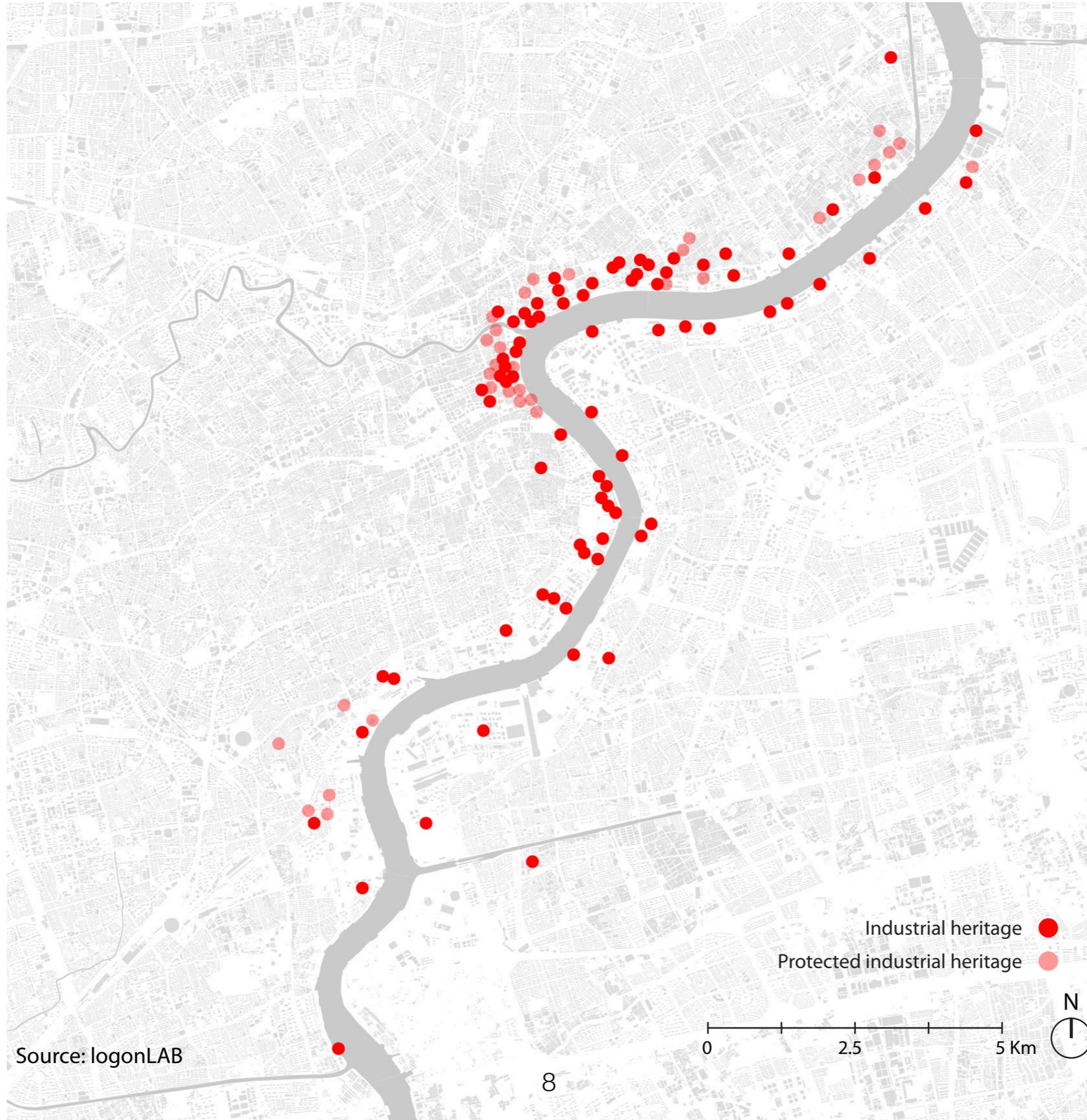


City of Shanghai and surrounding region map, industrial objects, 1937

Shanghai riverfront in 1937



Remaining industrial buildings



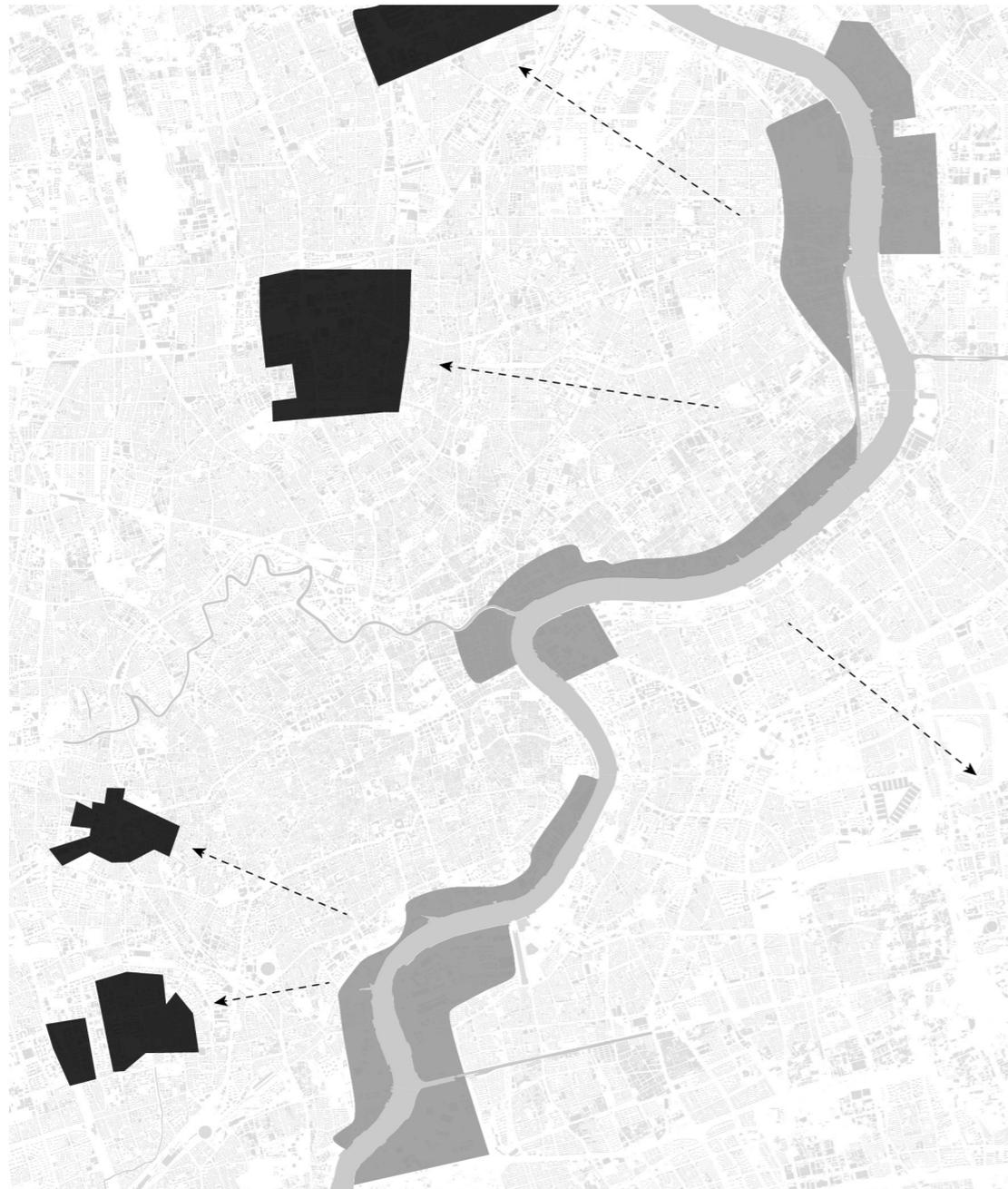


Source: logonLAB



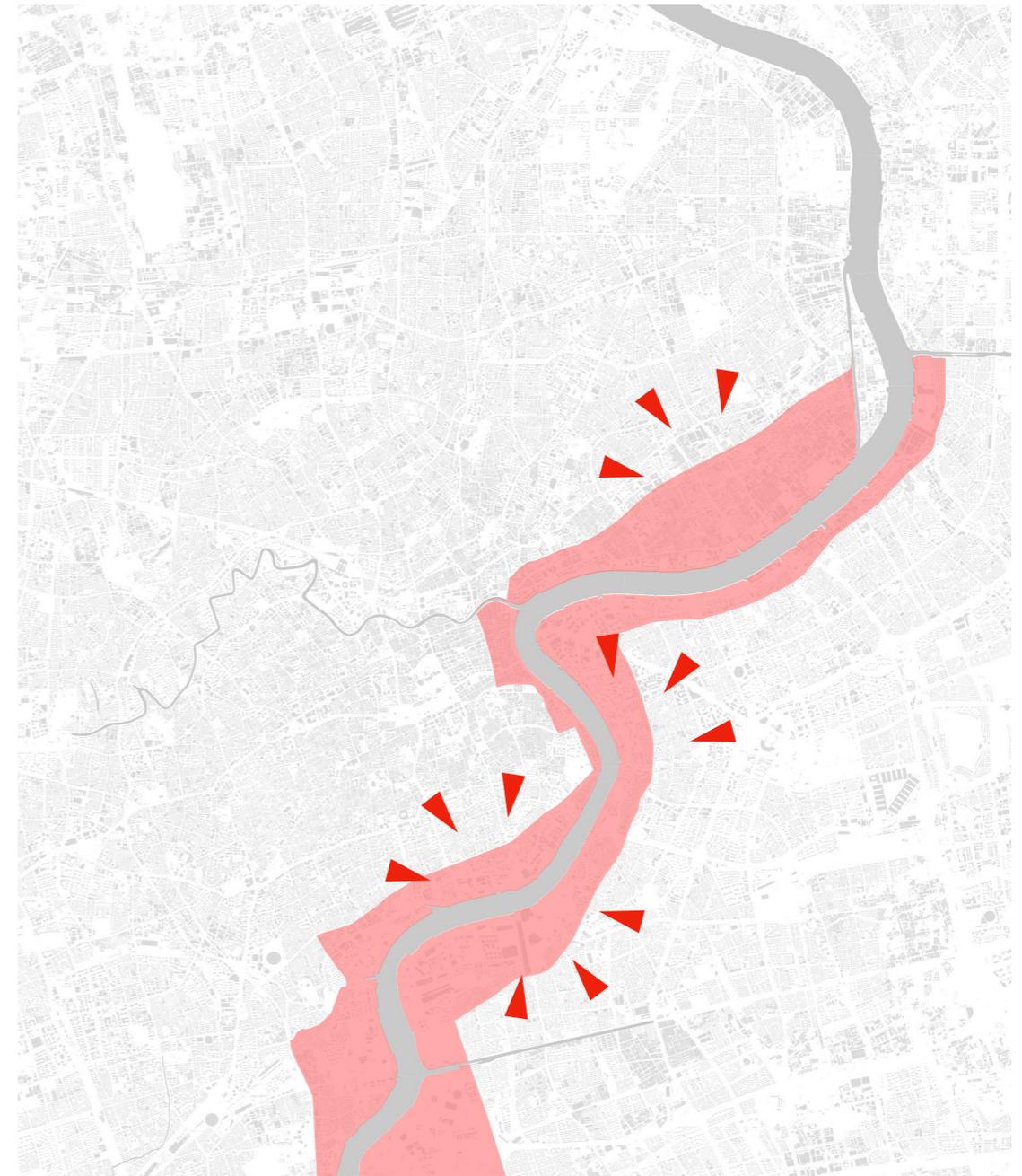
Source: logonLAB

Transformation



1990 - 2002

Heavy industry moved to the suburban, the Huangpu riverfront become abandoned



2002 - Now

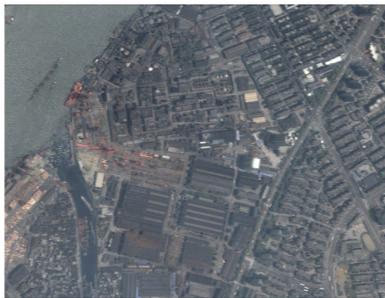
Urban regeneration along riverfront the modern urban functions

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Tokyo, showing a dense grid of buildings and streets. A large, semi-transparent white number '2000' is overlaid in the center of the image. The city is situated near a body of water, visible in the upper left corner.

2000

An aerial photograph of a city, showing a mix of residential and commercial buildings, streets, and green spaces. A large, semi-transparent white '2020' is centered over the image. The city is situated near a body of water, with a bridge or pier visible on the left side. The overall scene is a dense urban environment.

2020



Googlemap, 2000

Googlemap, 2020



The Problem and Challenge



Market-oriented densification is very quick





Homogenous environment
can not accomodate diverse
people



Single function block



Yellow for residential



- ✘ Big block not walkable
- ✘ Single function block make no activity happens
- ✘ Homogenous forms could not serve diverse people
- ✘ Low quality green
- ✘ Poor connection with nearby neighbourhoods
- ✘ Lack of identity and dialog with past



**Densification
ignore the quality**



Use density as a starting point to learn our built environment, and its relation with Quality

The Quality of Density

Density $\xrightarrow{?}$ Quality



When we talk about density...

Density

When we talk about density...

Density

FSI = 3.5



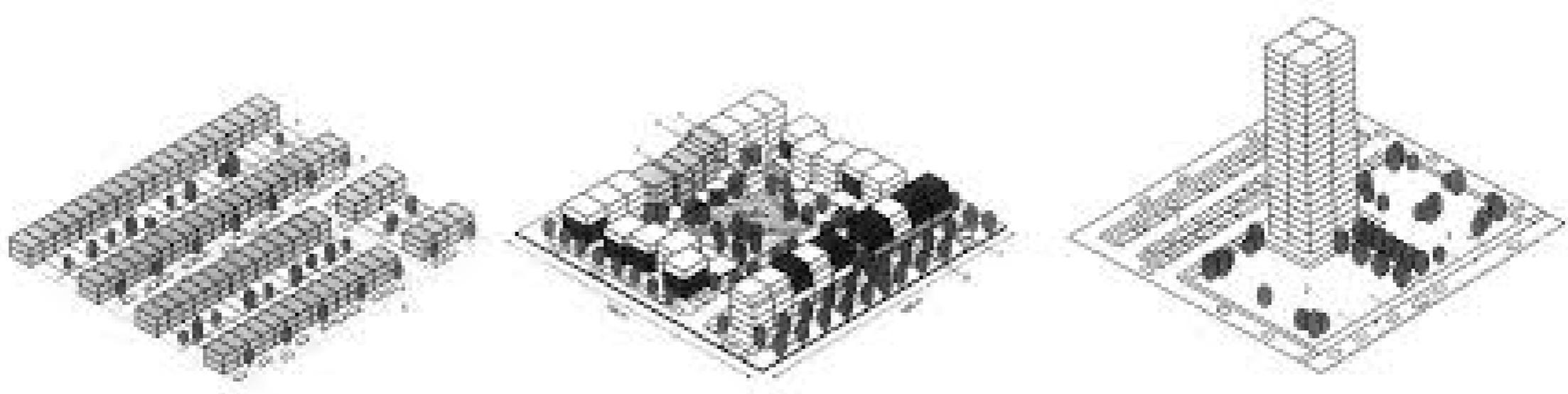
Sha Tin Wo Che Estate

FSI = 3.5



Gang-sha Village, Urban Village

Density – Morphology type



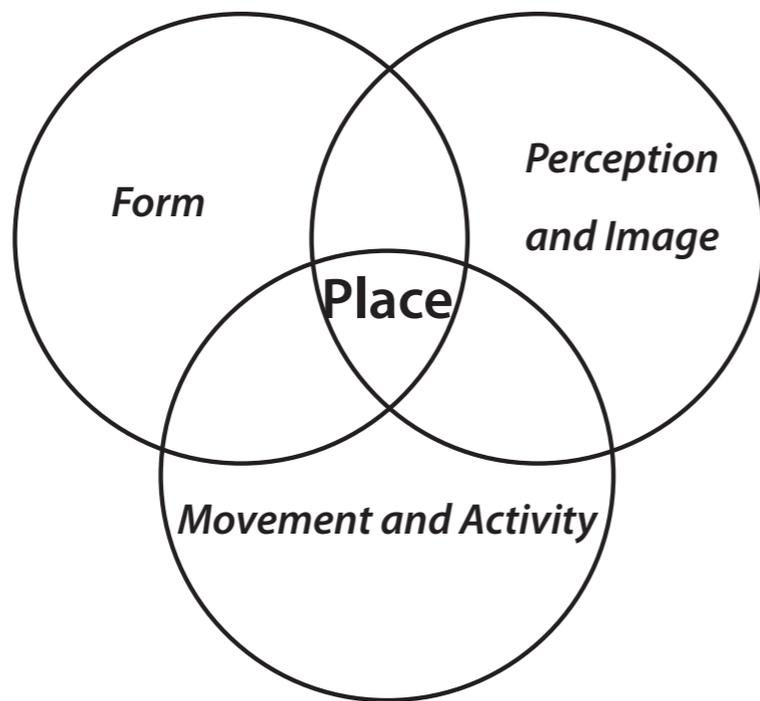
Source: Spacematrix (Berghauser Pont and Haupt, 2010)

Spacematrix describing the density by four variant: FSI, GSI, OSR and L. we get a more accurate description.

Density – Morphology type ~~?~~ Quality

Density — Morphology type ~~?~~ Quality

Place Quality



Source: Montgomery (1998).

Form

1. Accessible for bike, pedestrian
2. Street connectivity
3. Friendly public realm
4. Diverse block typology

Movement and Activity

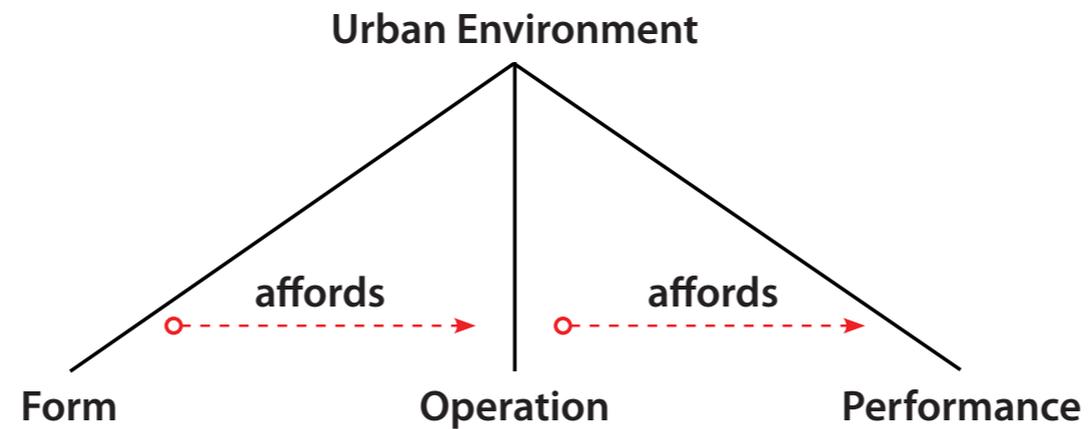
5. Diversity in program and land use
6. Informal and formal social activities
7. Activities to meet diverse social groups
8. Social movement

Perception and Image

9. Physical identity: legibility path, landmark...
10. Social identity
11. Sensory identity
12. History and memory

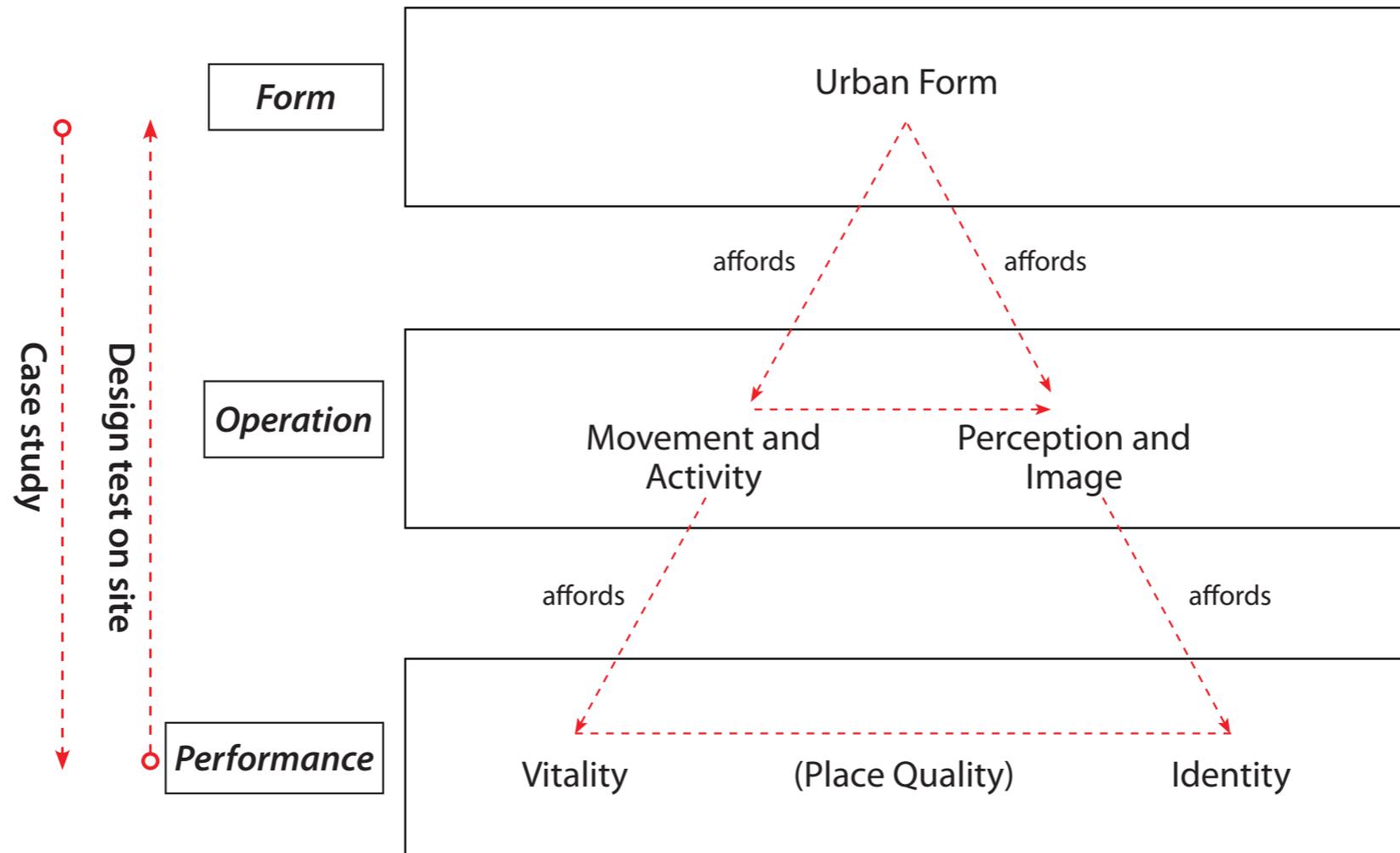
Morphology type — Quality

Method: Affordance model



Source: Adapted diagram from Guney (2008)

Conceptual Framework



Density — Morphology type — Quality

Density — Morphology type — Quality

1

Understand concepts from theory

Research question

SQ1: What quality means for Huangpu riverfront?

SQ2: What is the riverfront density morphological type

How to improve the place quality (urban vitality and identity) in the post-industrial riverfront along the Shanghai Huangpu River by understanding and modifying urban form during the densification and intensification process?

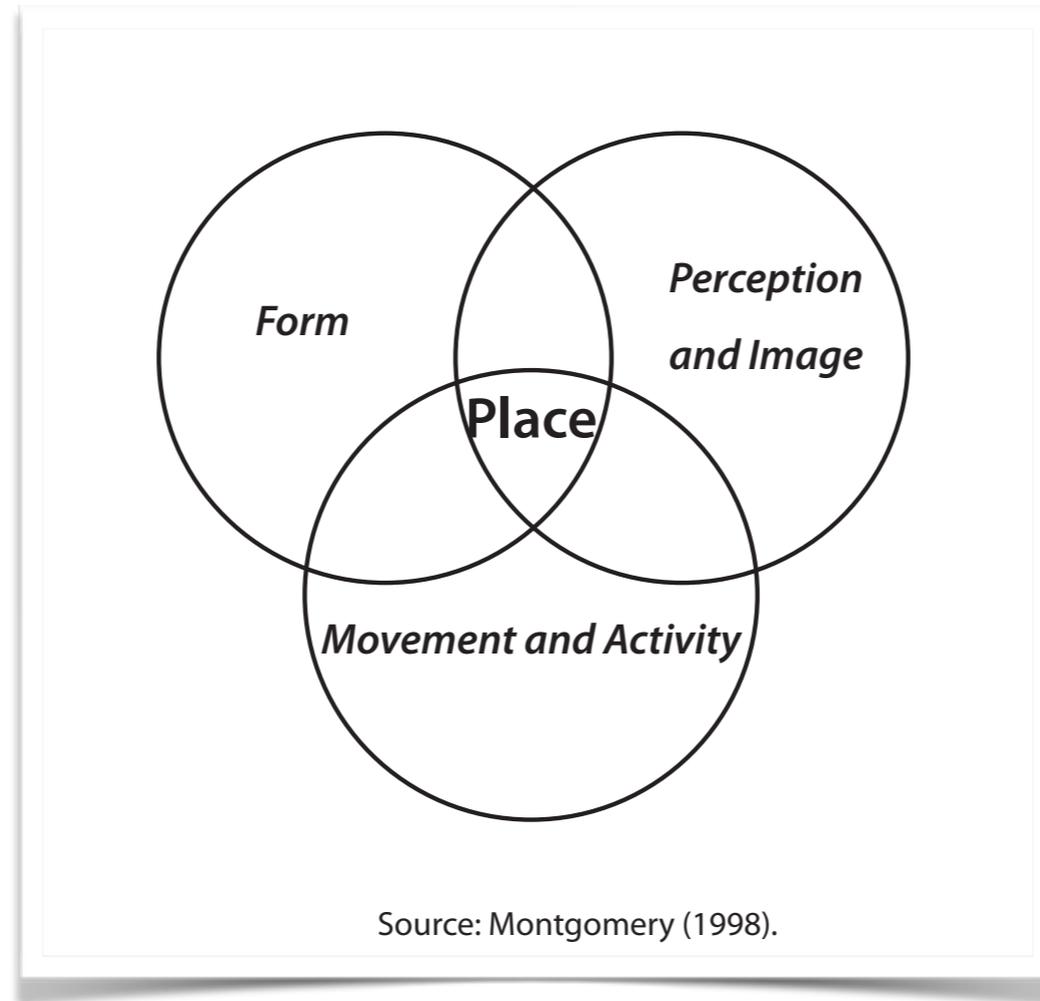
SQ3: Link the quality and density

2

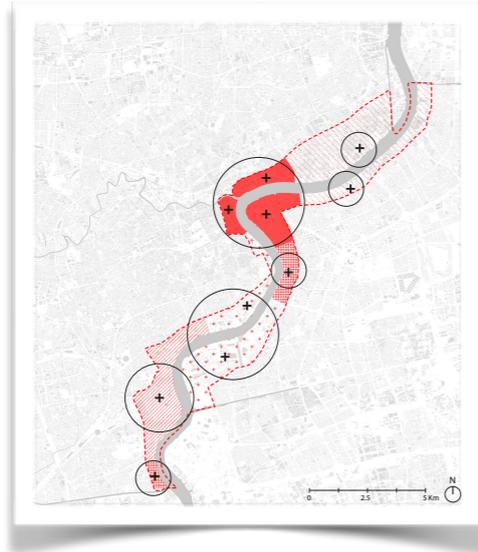
SQ1: What quality means for
Huangpu riverfront



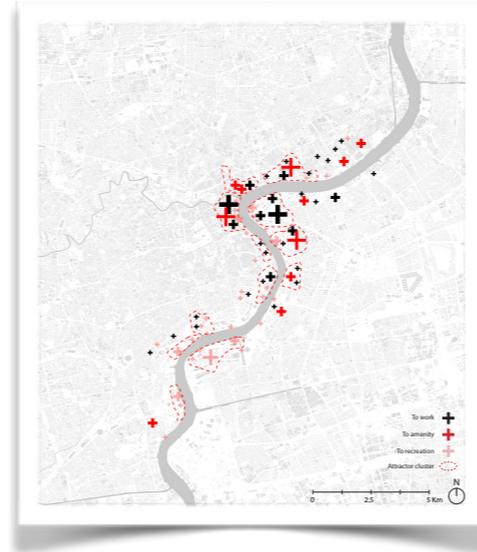
Analyse Framework



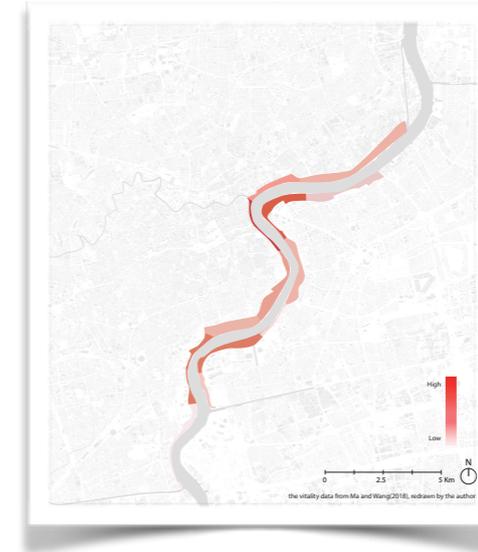
Riverfront Character



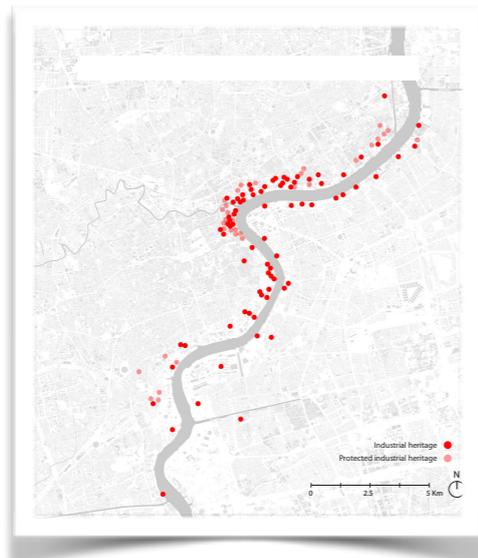
Attractors



Vitality



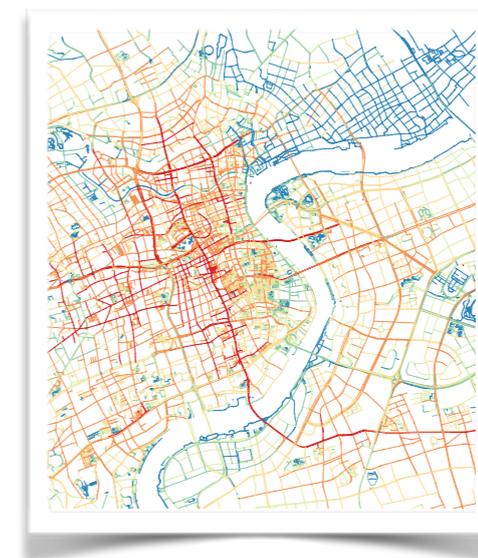
Historical protected buildings



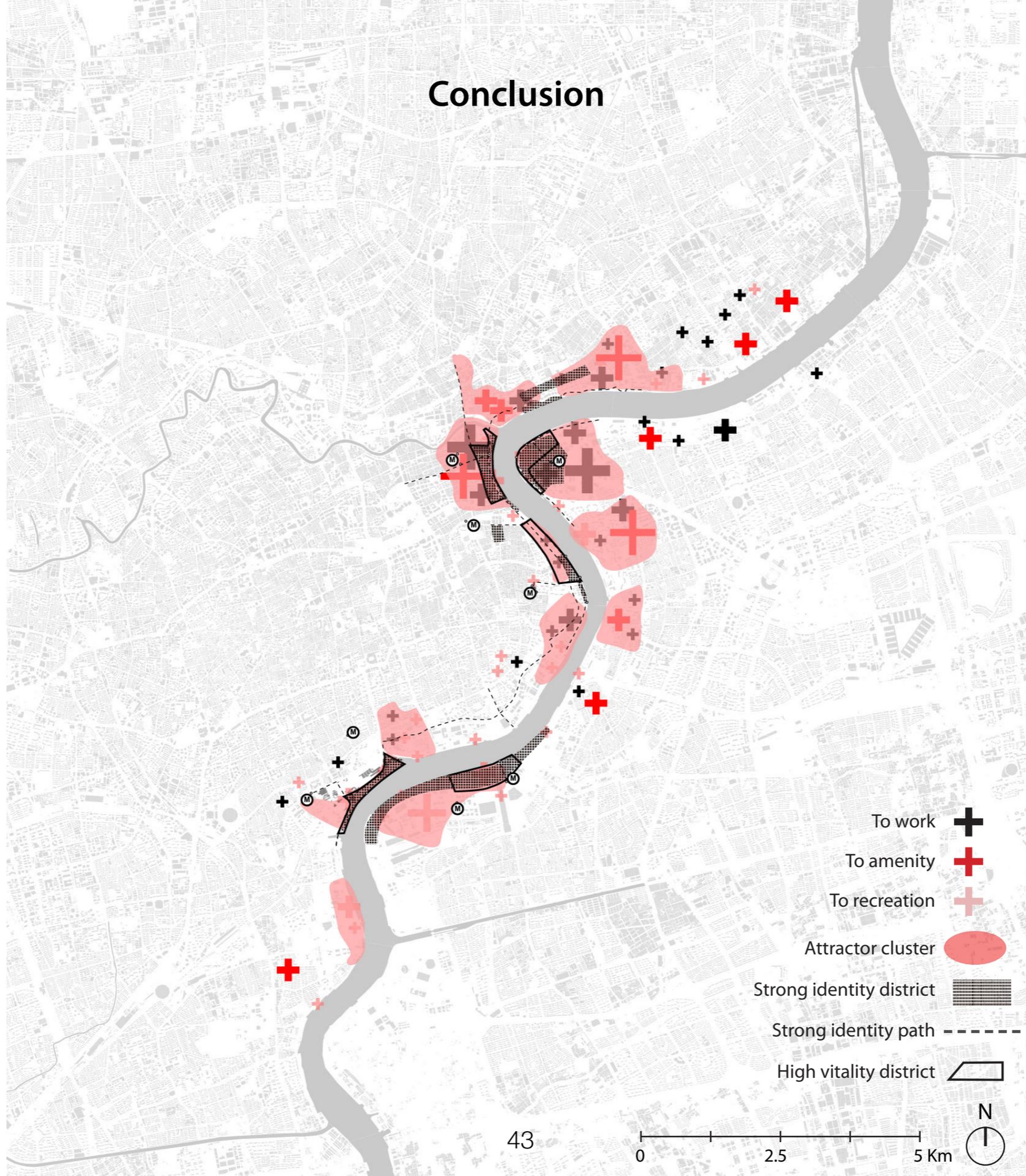
Strong image area



Street connectivity

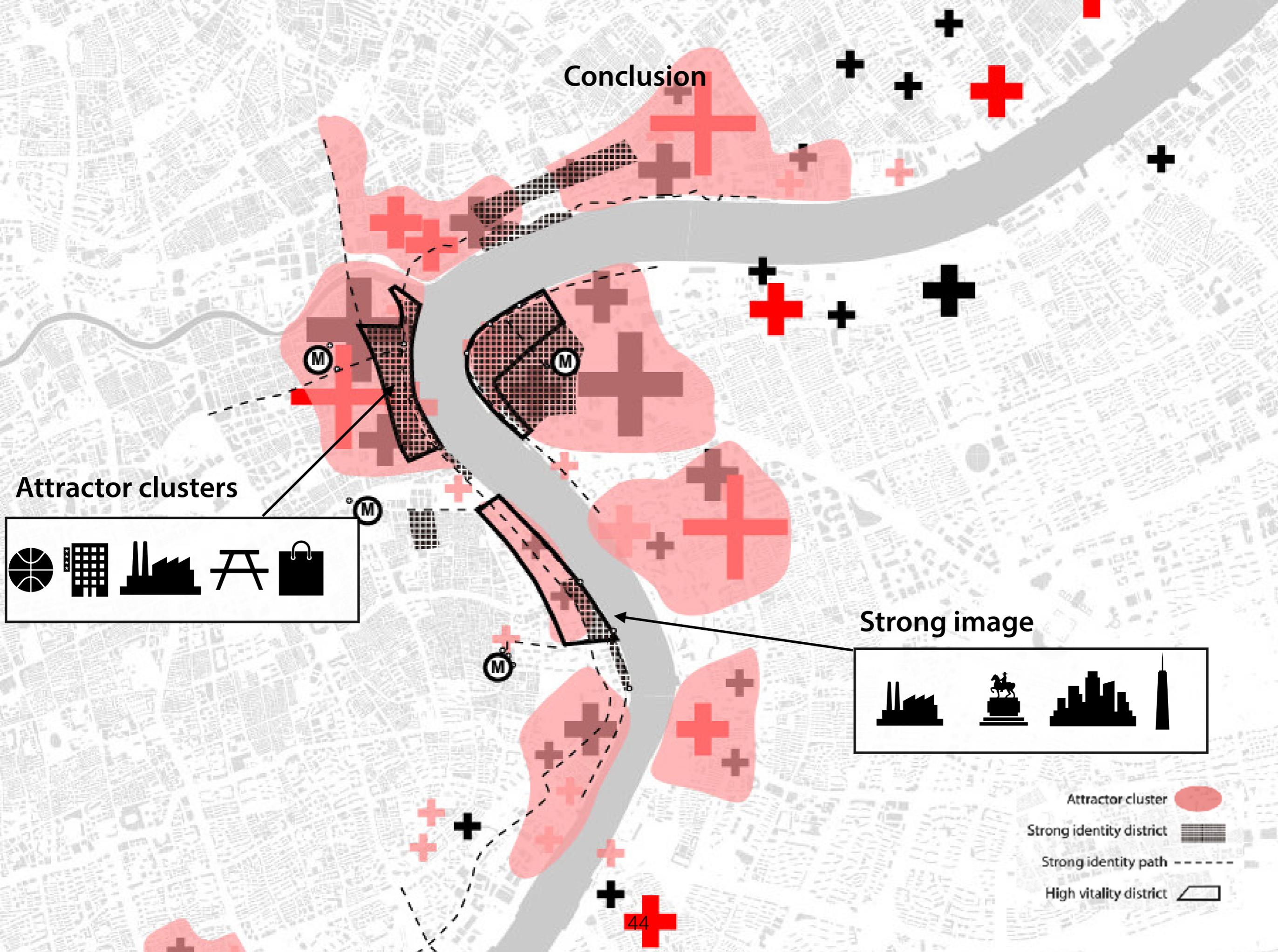


Conclusion

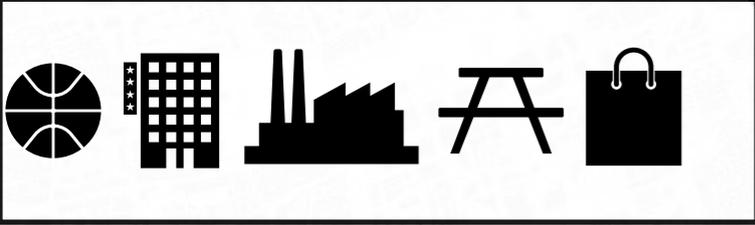


- To work +
- To amenity +
- To recreation +
- Attractor cluster
- Strong identity district
- Strong identity path
- High vitality district

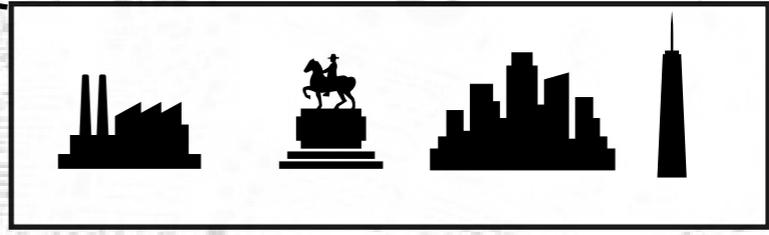
Conclusion



Attractor clusters

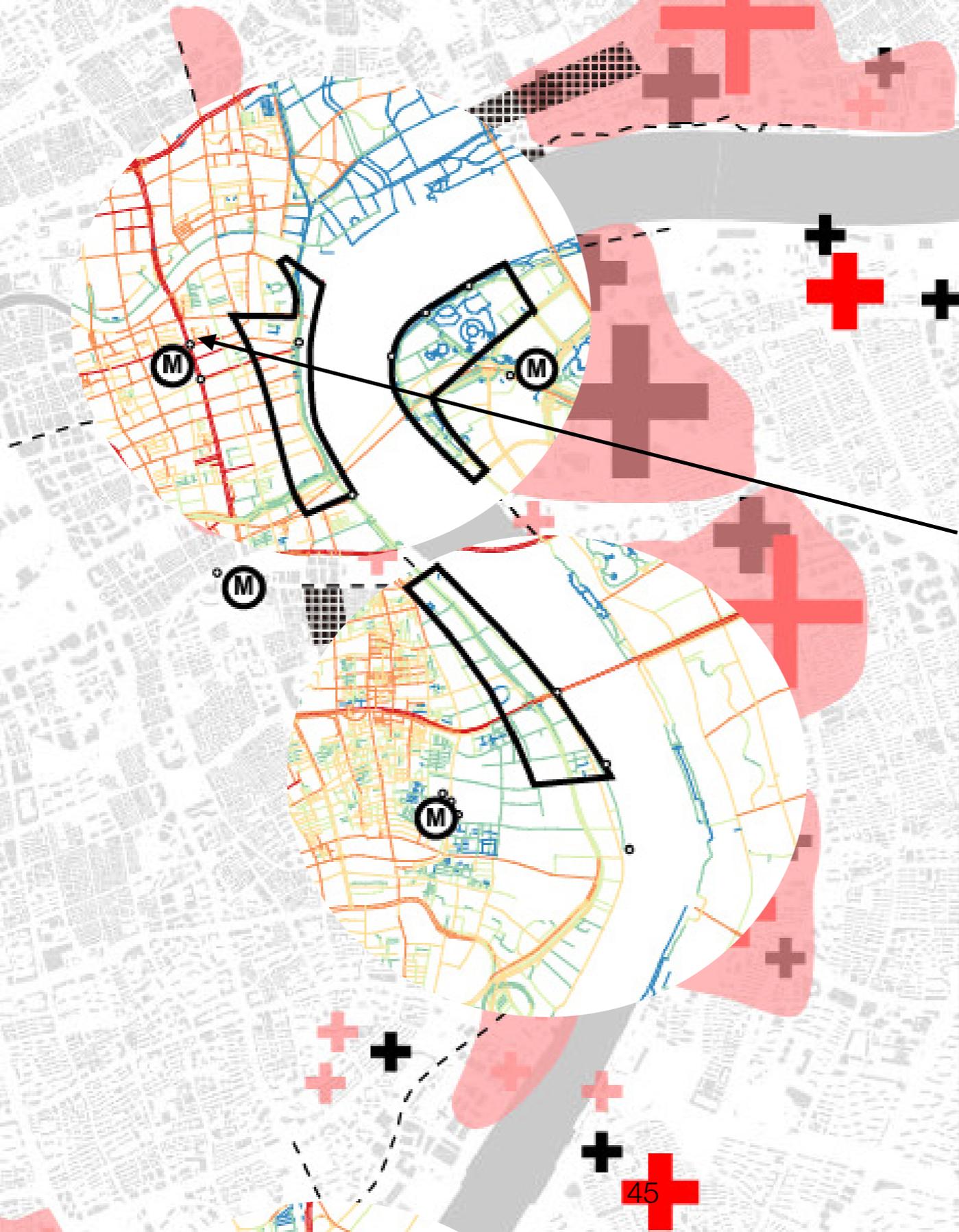


Strong image

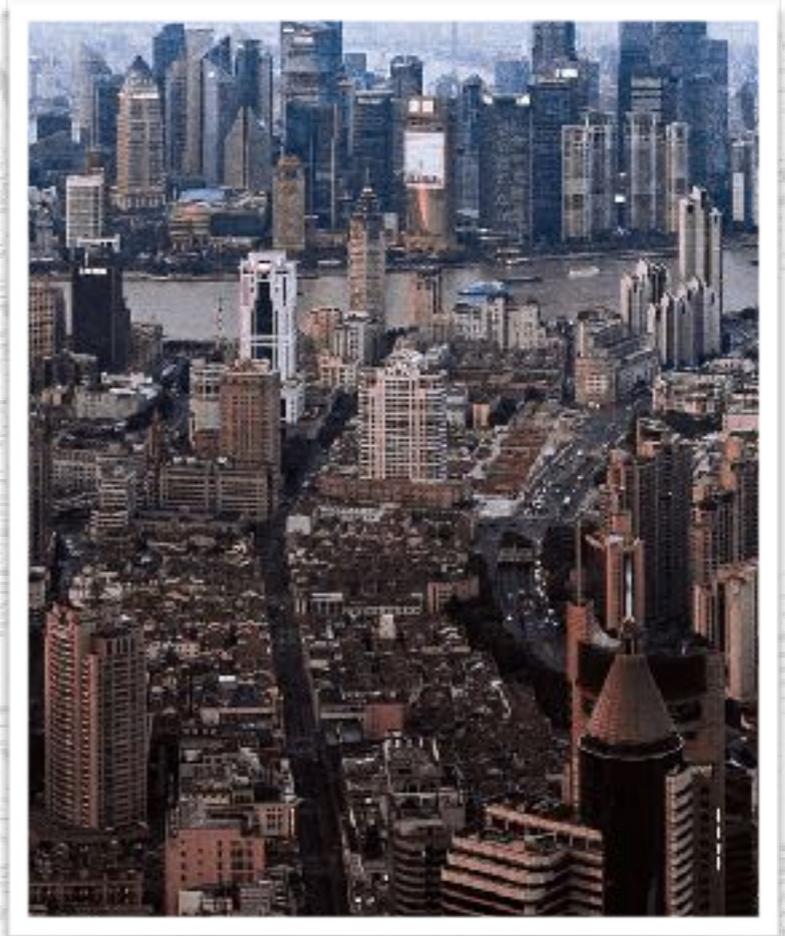


- Attractor cluster 
- Strong identity district 
- Strong identity path 
- High vitality district 

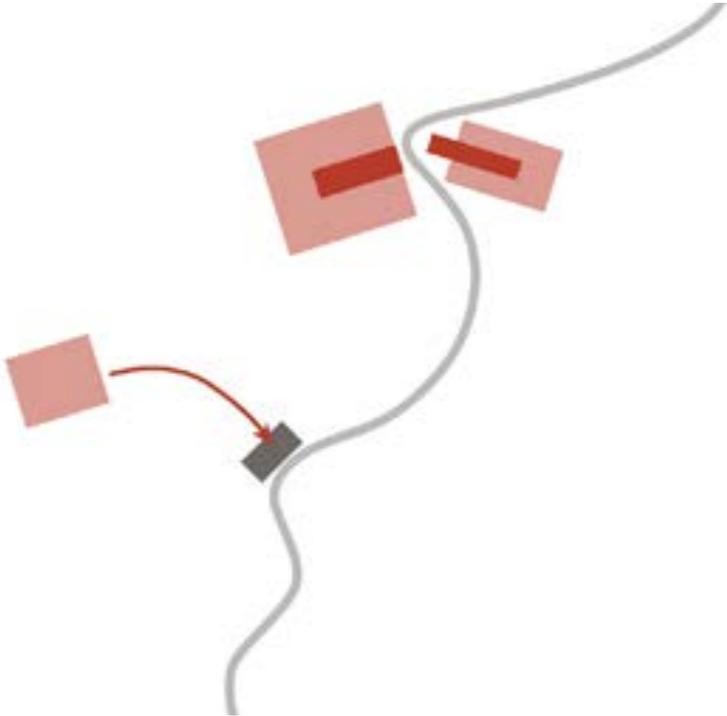
Conclusion



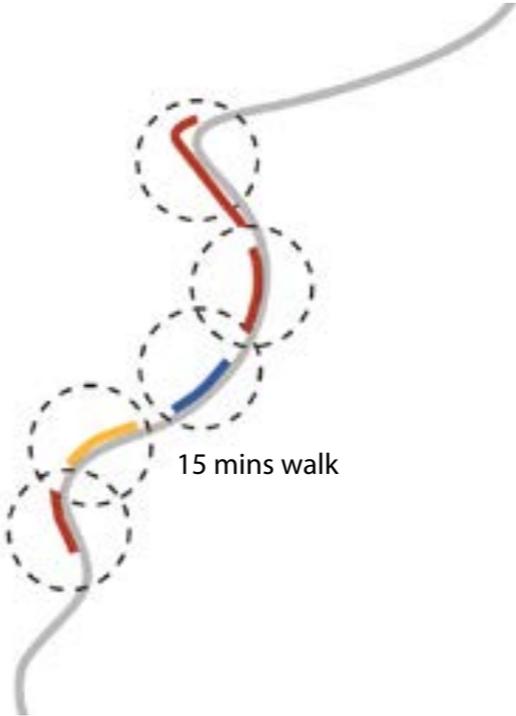
High connectivity street



Three quality concepts



1. Network : Well link with hinterland

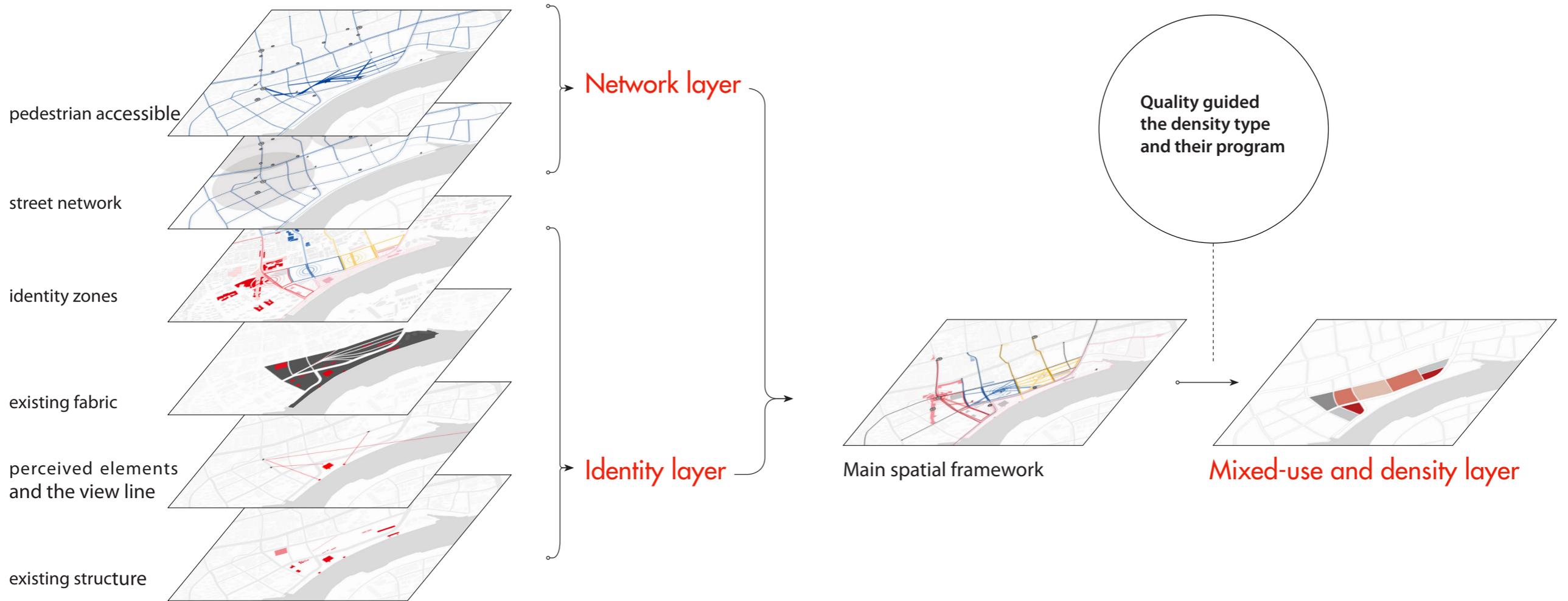


2. Mixed-use and certain density



3. identity

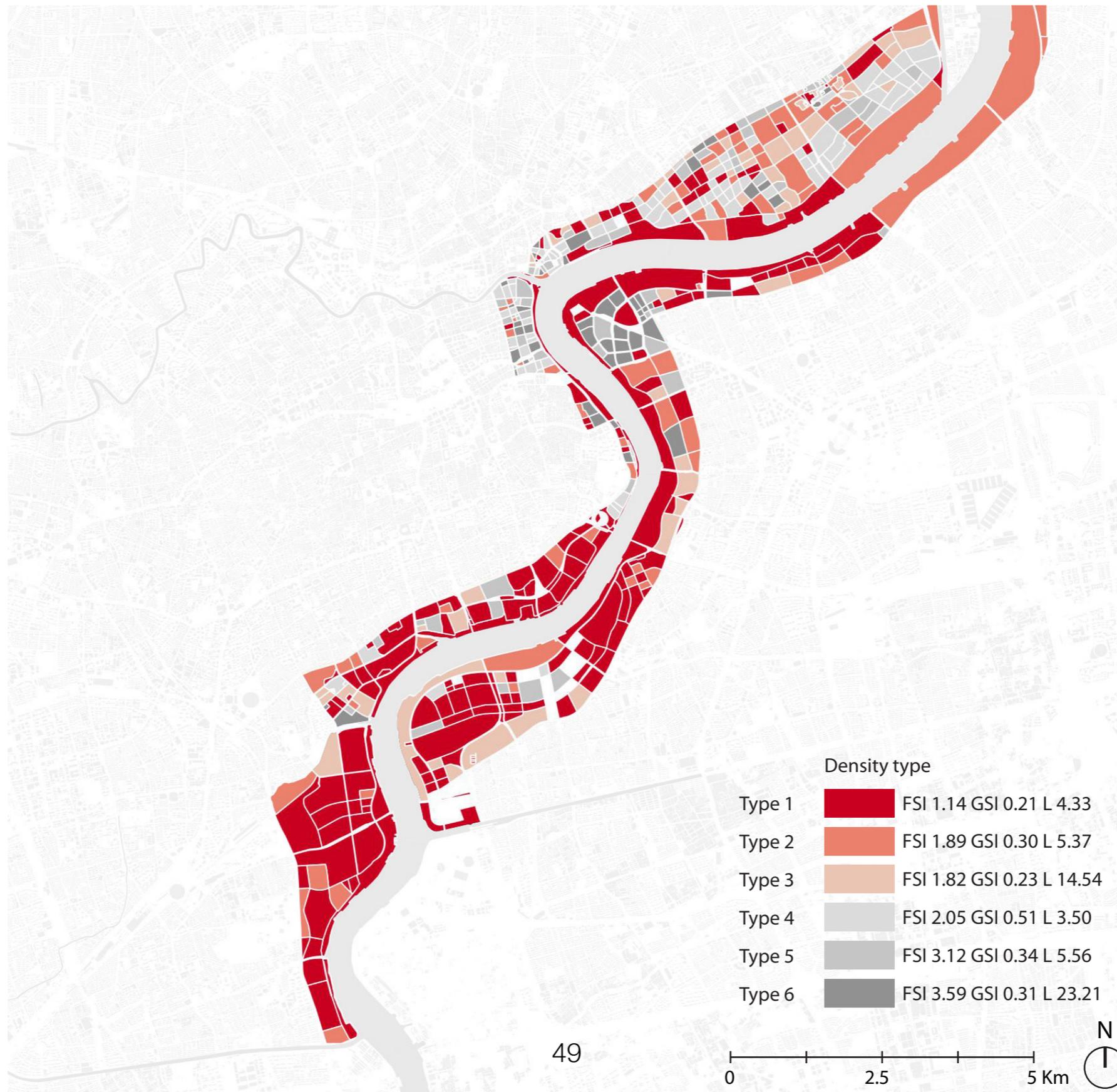
Analyse the main spatial framework



3

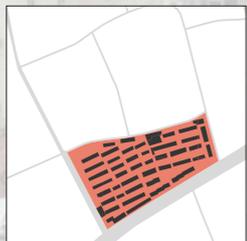
SQ2: Understand Huangpu
riverfront density morphological type

Morphology type

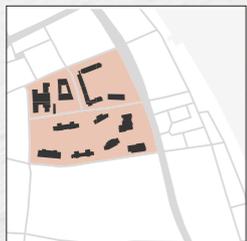




Type 1
Open block with low-rise point
Public Facilities



Type 2
Mix of mid-rise and low-rise



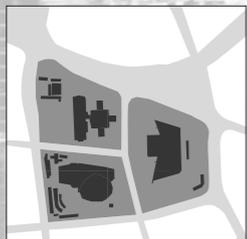
Type 3
High-rise spacious point type
Residential



Type 4
Low-rise compact type
Residential

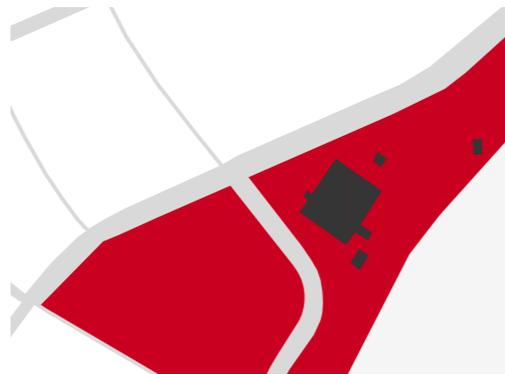


Type 5
Mid-rise compact block type
Commercial & Office

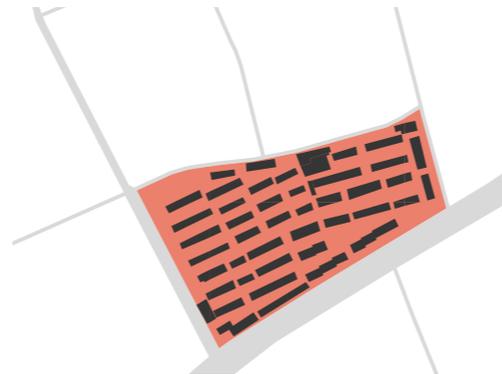


Type 6
High-rise compact point type
Commercial & Office

Morphological type



Type 1
Open block with low-rise point
Public Facilities



Type 2
Mix of mid-rise and low-rise



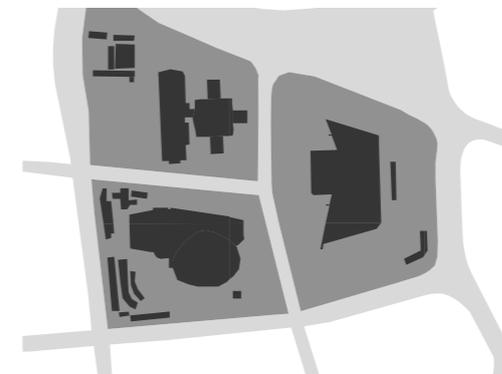
Type 3
High-rise spacious point type
Residential



Type 4
Low-rise compact type
Residential

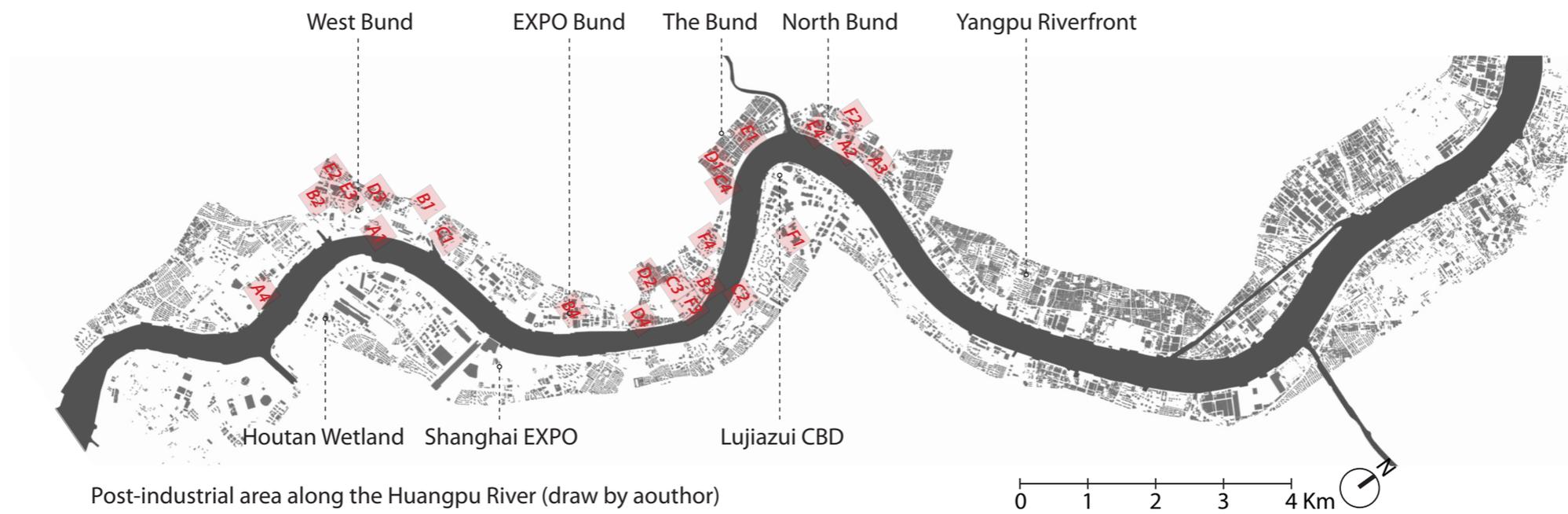


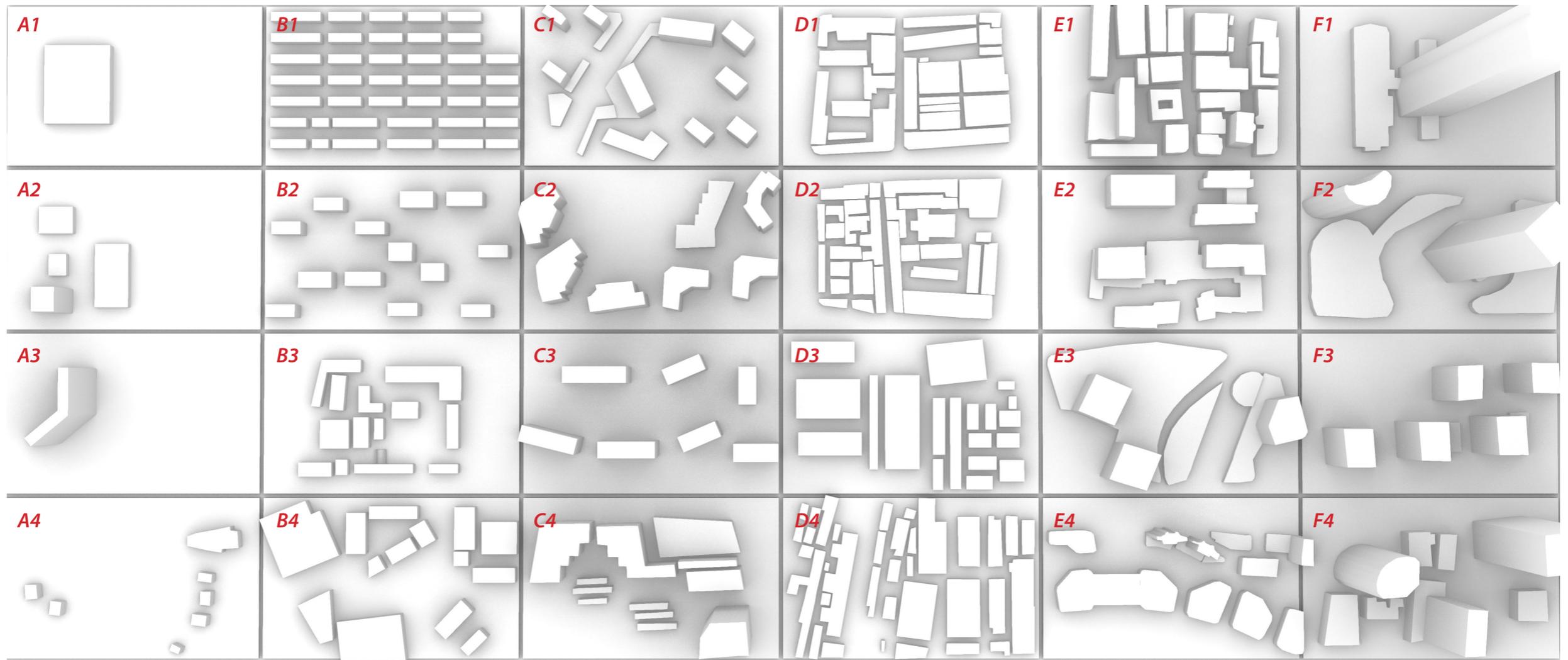
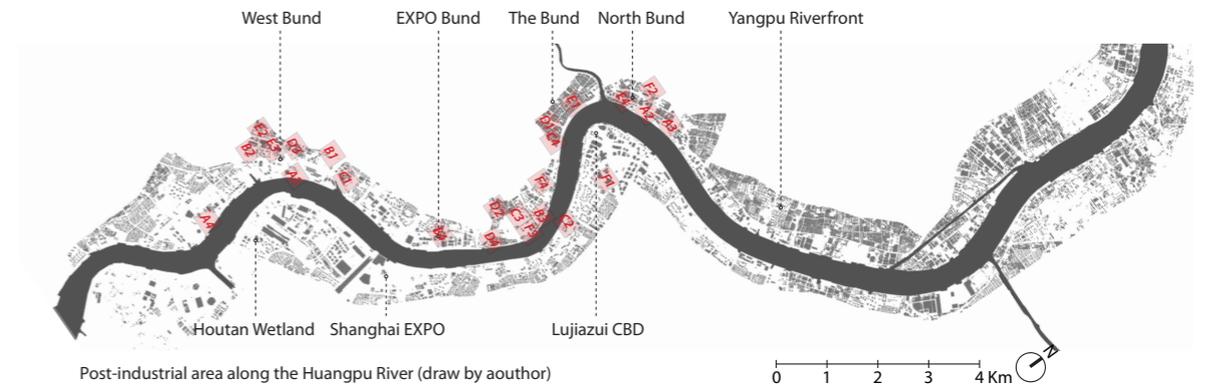
Type 5
Mid-rise compact block type
Commercial & Office



Type 6
High-rise compact point type
Commercial & Office

Huangpu riverfront



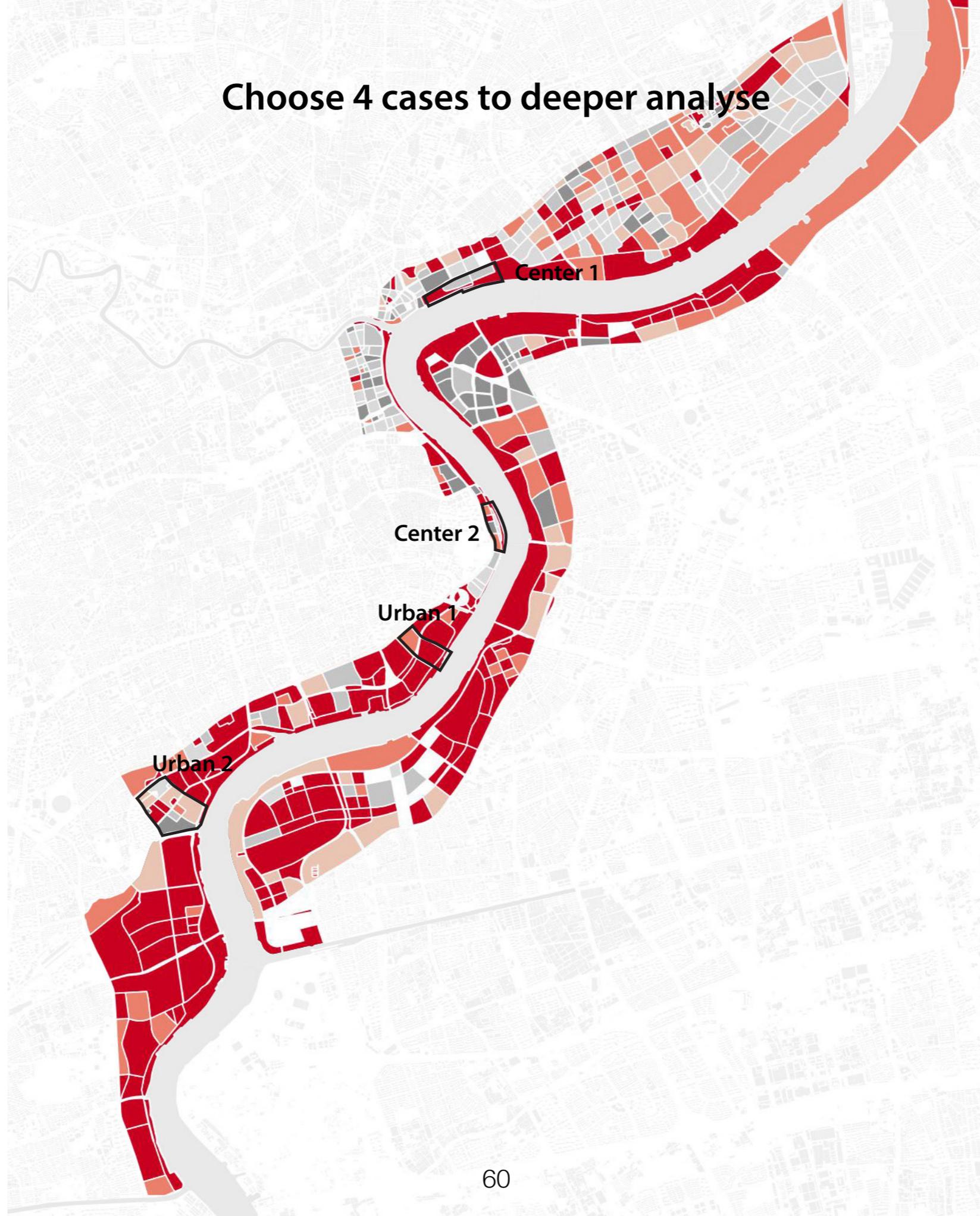


- Type 1
Open block with low-rise point
- Type 2
Mix of mid-rise and low-rise
- Type 3
High-rise spacious point type
- Type 4
Low-rise compact type
- Type 5
Mid-rise compact block type
- Type 6
High-rise compact point type

4

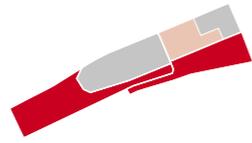
SQ3: *Quality of density type*

Choose 4 cases to deeper analyse



Density distribution

Center 1



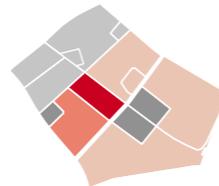
Center 2



Urban 1

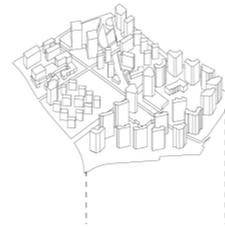
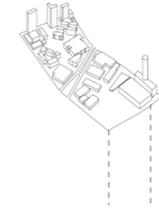
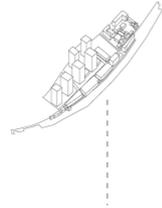
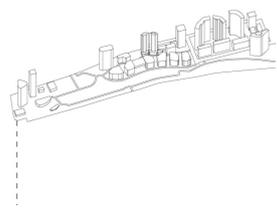


Urban 2

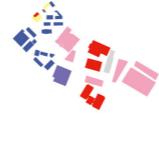


Spatial Quality

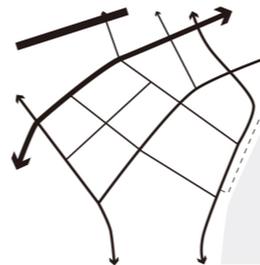
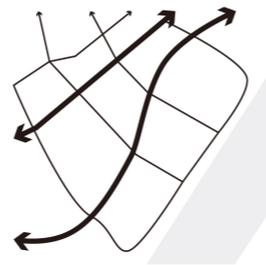
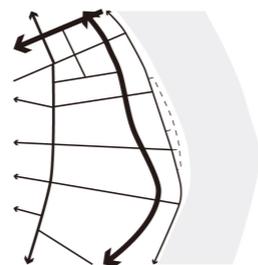
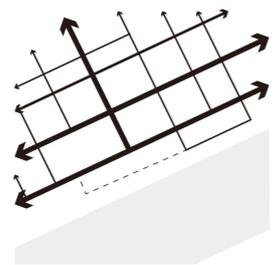
Massing



Program



Street connectivity



Activity



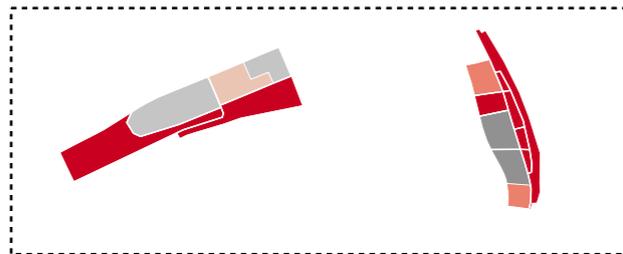
Density distribution

Center 1

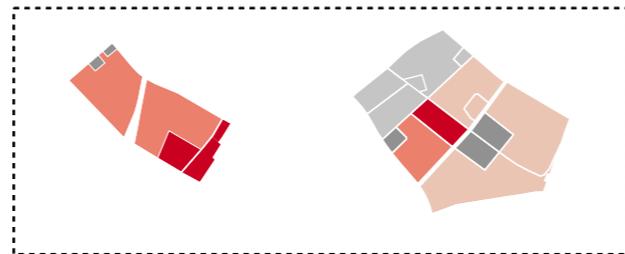
Center 2

Urban 1

Urban 2



small size block



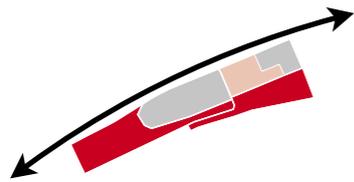
Big size block

Conclusion

1. Density type organisation have relation with block size
2. The adjacent block show different type can create more diversity

Density distribution

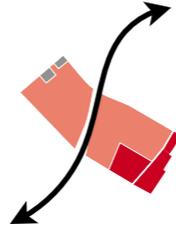
Center 1



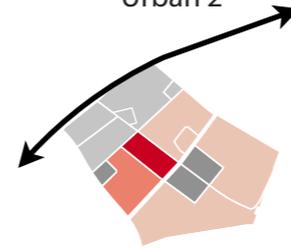
Center 2



Urban 1



Urban 2

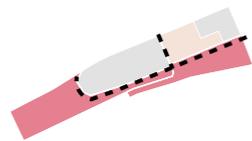


Conclusion

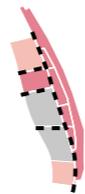
1. Density type organisation have relation with block size
2. The adjacent block show different type can create more diversity
3. Higher-rise shown along main street

Density distribution

Center 1



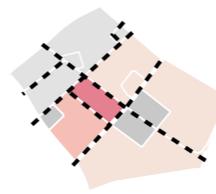
Center 2



Urban 1



Urban 2

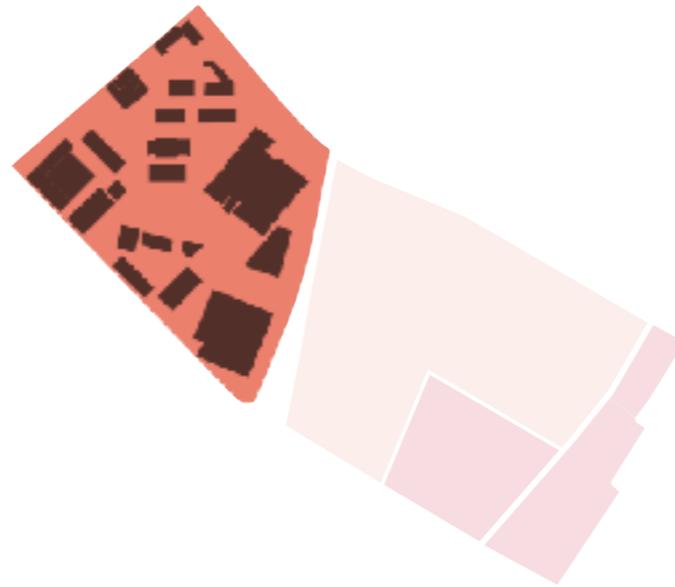


Conclusion

1. Density type organisation have relation with block size
2. The adjacent block show different type can create more diversity
3. Higher-rise shown along main street
4. In-between density type

Not only the block organisation

One block as an example

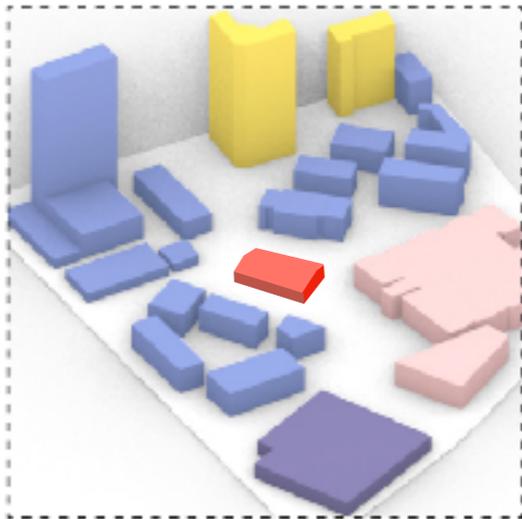


Quality of block

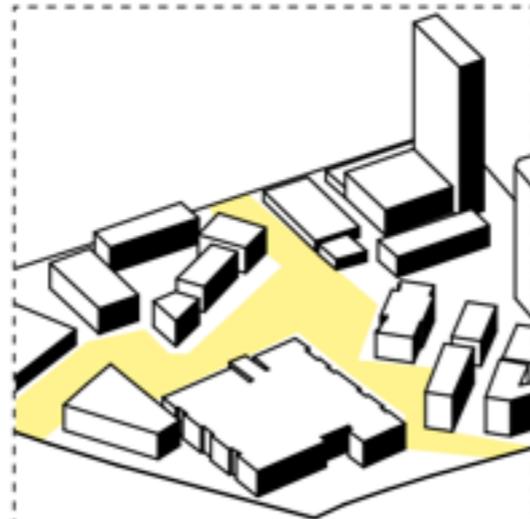


B4 block

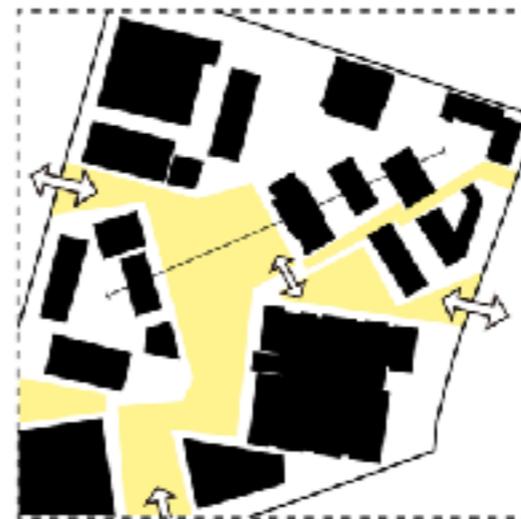
Mixed-use



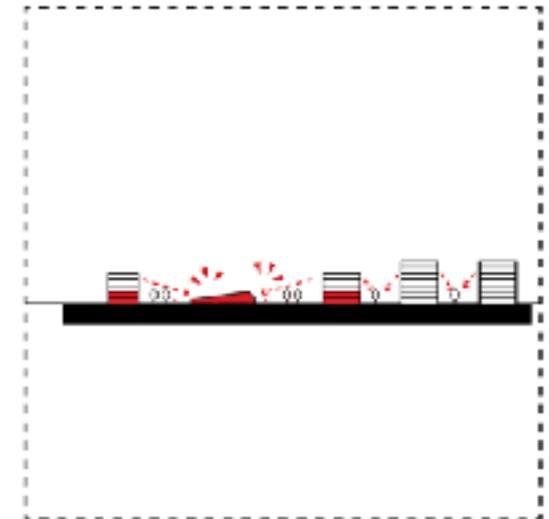
Interior public space



Connectivity



Section and view



Activity mapping



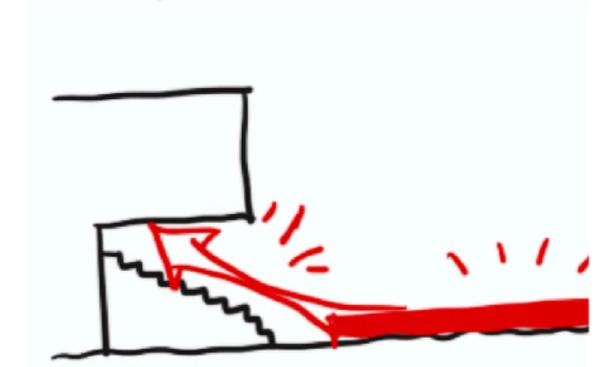
- Open space
- Green
- Walking
- Sitting
- Playing
- Standing

Activity mapping

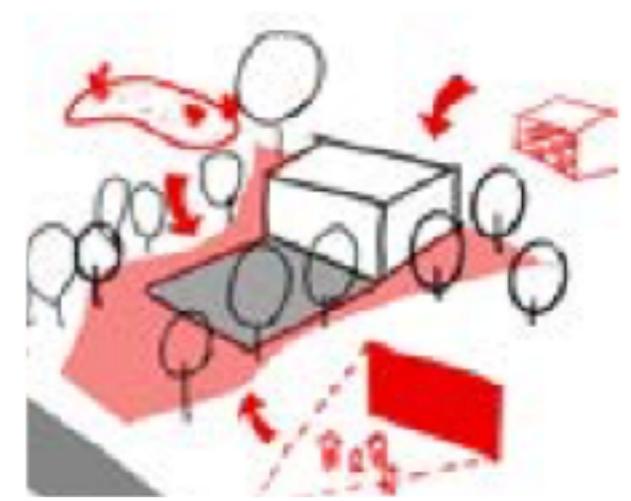


- Open space
- Green
- Walking
- Sitting
- Playing
- Standing

Design action

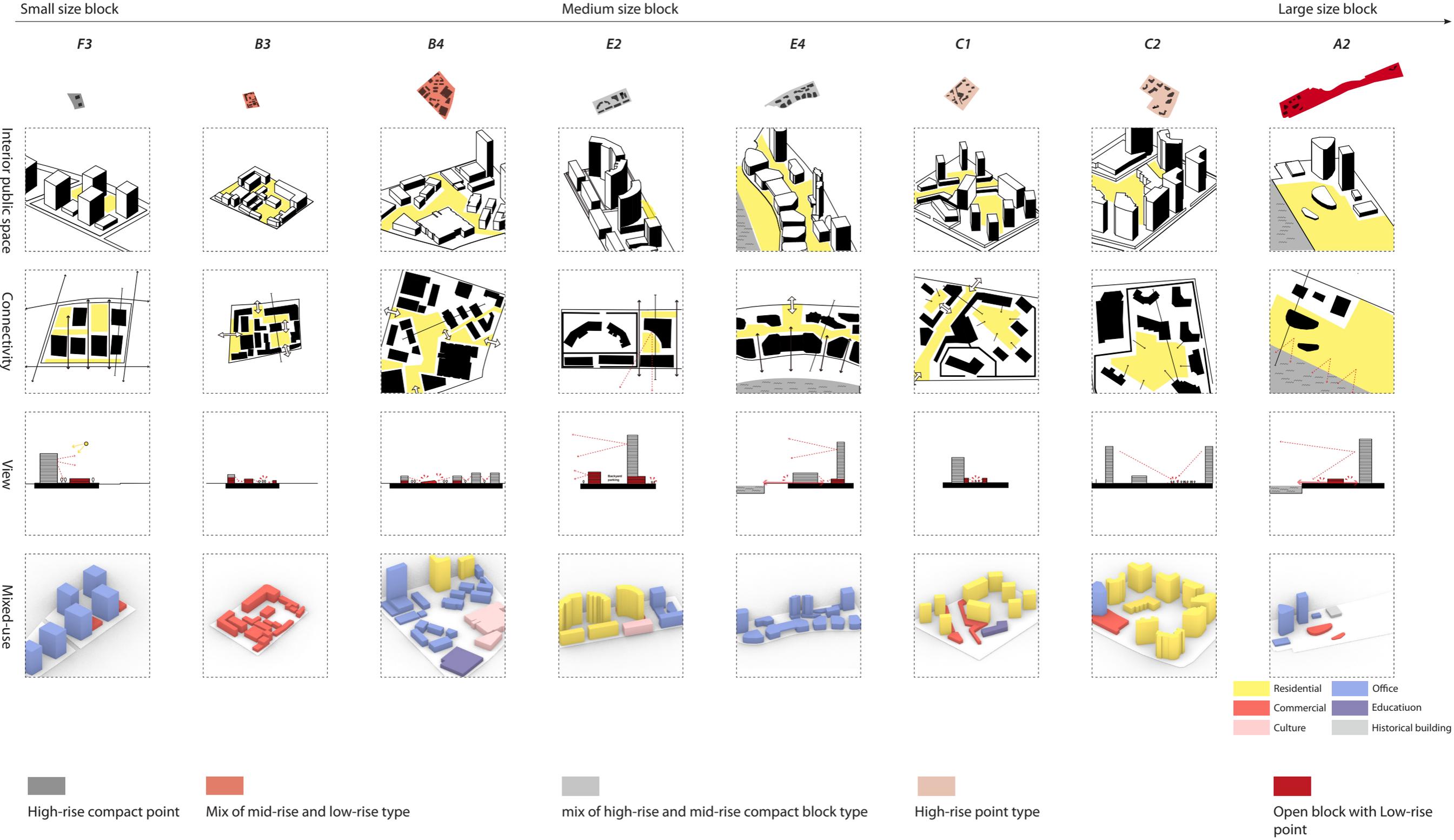


Facade and small scale commercial increase the vitality



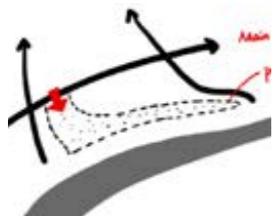
Different playground as attractors

Quality of density type

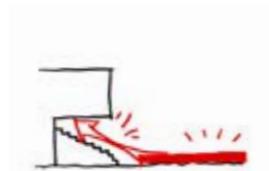


Design action from fieldwork

Form



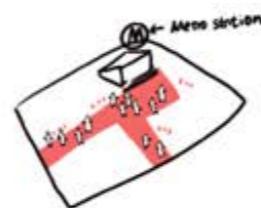
The entrance of riverfront public space link well with main street



Semi-public facade increase the vitality



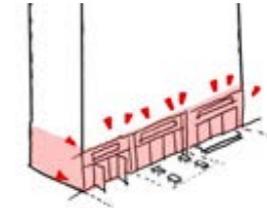
Link to closed blocks with public path



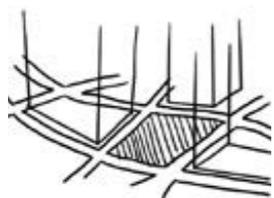
Public transport stop link with block space



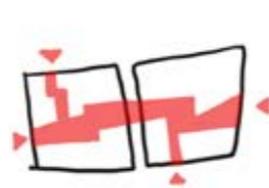
Highlighting public space which lead the people move to important buildings



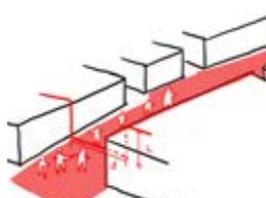
Active facade can attract people



Flexible space can used for temporary programs



Maxing pedestrain porosity



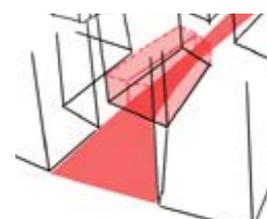
Walkable path prevent from cars with nice scale



Link to closed blocks with public path

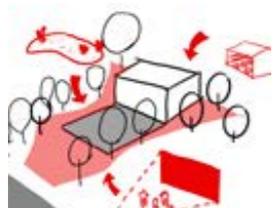


Enough parking

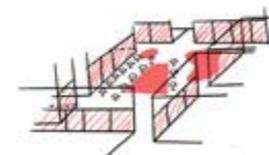


High-rise tower lobby can open to the public

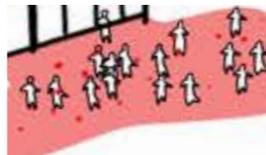
Activity



Different Playground as attractors



Enclosed courtyard with cafe, small scale business



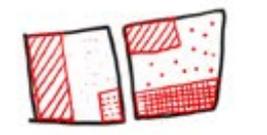
A density of living and working population



The territory in front of the public buildings is attractors



Mixed-use building the groundfloor entrance attracted informal activities

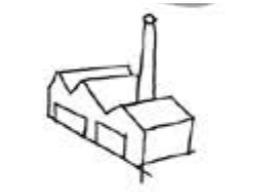


Mixed-use zoning

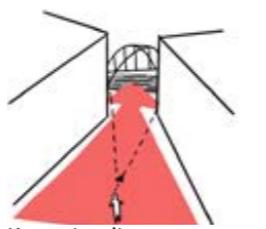
Perception



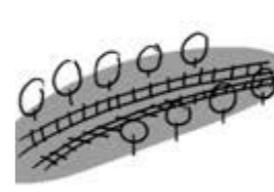
Keep open riverfront view



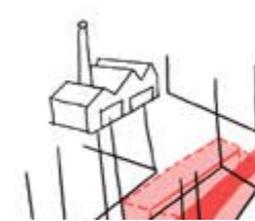
Transform historical warehouse and keep memorable buildings



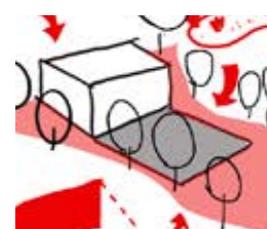
Keep view line



Leave history memory by landscape



Create memorable nodes



Imagable building and place

Design

5

Design action: How to archive
quality riverfront

Place quality: From theory to vision

Place quality conclude from theory

Form

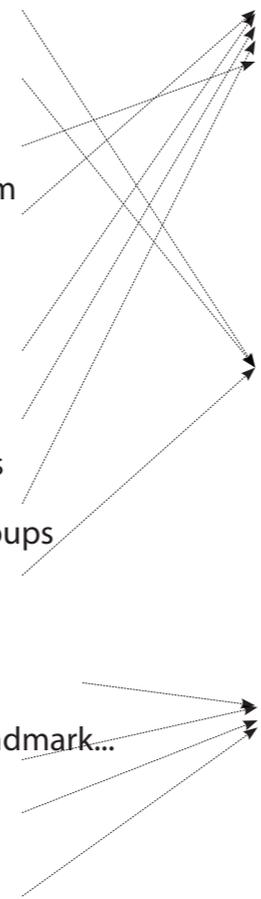
1. Accessible for bike, pedestrain
2. Street connectivity
3. Environmental Friendly public realm
4. Diverse block typology

Movement and Activity

5. Diversity in program and land use
6. Informal and formal social activities
7. Activities to meet diverse social groups
8. Social movement

Perception and Image

9. Physical identity: legibility path, landmark...
10. Social identity
11. Sensory identity
12. History and memory



3 concepts

Mixed-use



Street connection



Identity



Vision

Mixed-use

- Mix different density typology
- Diverse urban program and land use
- Diverse public space
- Green space

Street connection

- Public transport priority accessible
- Network well connected with surroundings

Identity

- Create unique zones with identity
- Maintain iconic elements

D
P
S
G

A
N

U
I

Place quality: From theory to vision

Place quality conclude from theory

Form

1. Accessible for bike, pedestrain
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3. Environmental Friendly public realm
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Movement and Activity

5. Diversity in program and land use
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Perception and Image

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3 concepts

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Street connection



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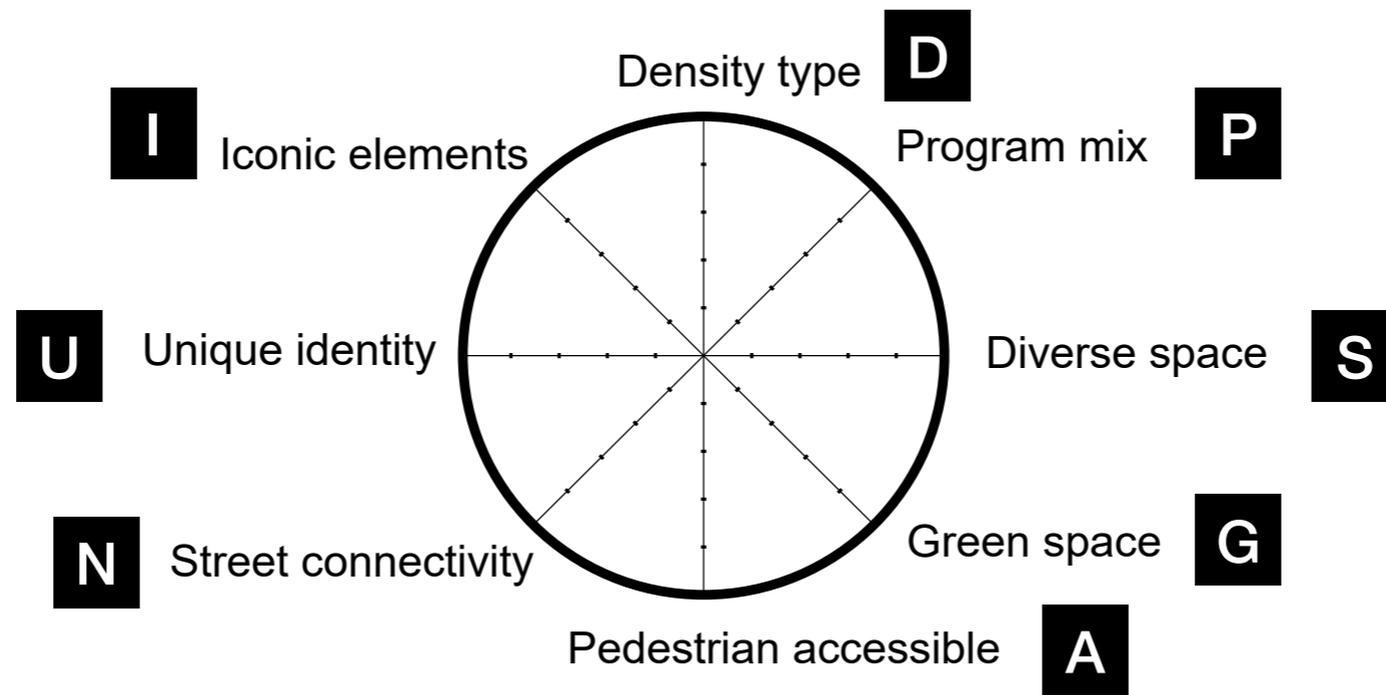
A

N

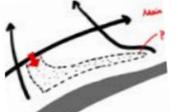
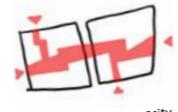
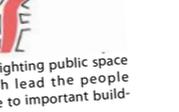
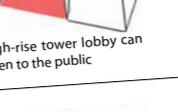
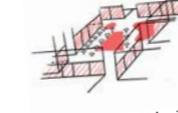
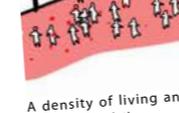
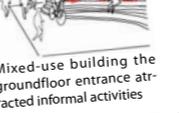
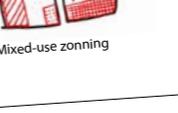
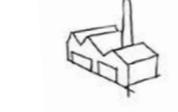
U

I

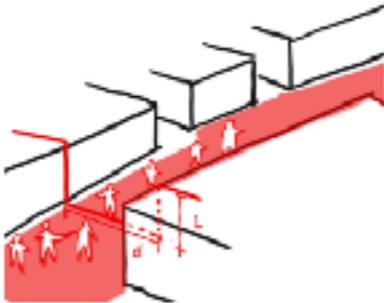
Quality vision



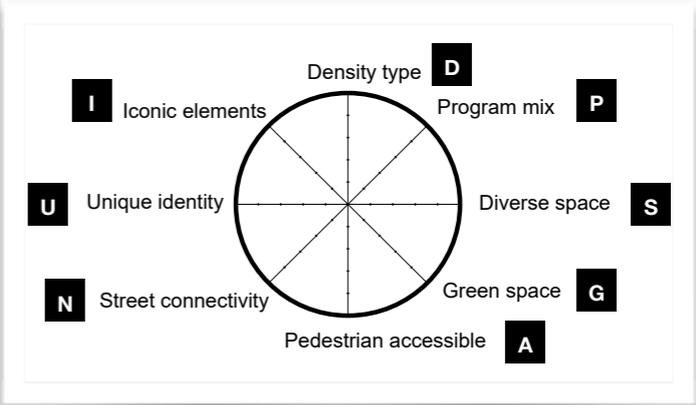
Design action from fieldwork

Form	 <p>The entrance of riverfront public space link well with main street</p>  <p>Flexible space can be used for temporary programs</p>	 <p>Semi-public facade increase the vitality</p>  <p>Maxing pedestrain porosity</p>	 <p>Link to closed blocks with public path</p>  <p>Walkable path prevent from cars with nice scale</p>	 <p>Public transport stop link with block space</p>  <p>Link to closed blocks with public path</p>	 <p>Highlighting public space which lead the people move to important buildings</p>  <p>Enough parking</p>	 <p>Active facade can attract people</p>  <p>High-rise tower lobby can open to the public</p>
Activity	 <p>Different Playground as attractors</p>	 <p>Enclosed courtyard with cafe, small scale business</p>	 <p>A density of living and working population</p>	 <p>The territory in front of the public buildings is attractors</p>	 <p>Mixed-use building the groundfloor entrance attracted informal activities</p>	 <p>Mixed-use zoning</p>
Perception	 <p>Keep open riverfront view</p>	 <p>Transform historical warehouse and keep memorable buildings</p>	 <p>Keep view line</p>	 <p>Leave history memory by landscape</p>	 <p>Create memorable nodes</p>	 <p>Imagable building and place</p>

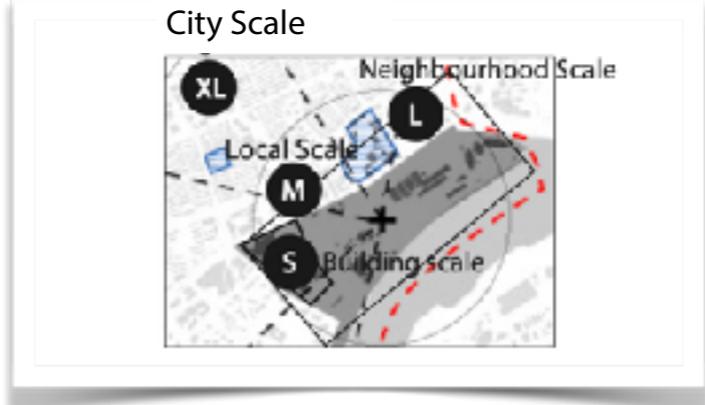
Design action from fieldwork



Quality to archive



Scale of intervention



Quality Scale
N **M**

Give priority to using public transportation and reduce the number of roads used for cars. Make it easier to walk, ride a bicycle, or use personal travel equipment.

Come from Shanghai fieldwork [P. 262]

Design action

XL City Scale



Source: HS Kwartier The Hague [NL], KCAP



Quality Scale

A **L**

Create urban axes to link with surrounding. At the same time the green public spaces will give the corridor an open character.
Come from case study, HS Kwartier The Hague [NL], KCAP [P. 204]

Quality Scale

N **L**

The district will be well connected internally and to the rest of the city
Come from case study, HS Kwartier The Hague [NL], KCAP [P. 204]

L Neighbourhood Scale



Quality Scale

I **L**

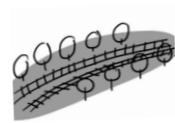
Keep the view line in site



Quality Scale

I **L**

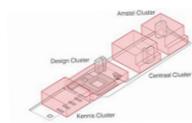
Preserve the old industrial existing building transformed to a signature building
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P. 201]



Quality Scale

I **L**

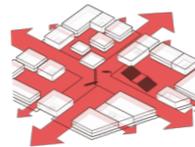
preserve the existing landscape: The existing harsh infrastructure and lost ecosystems will be transformed into a complex of repaired ecosystems and people friendly resilient urban structures.
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P. 196]



Quality Scale

U **L**

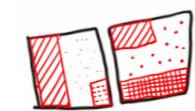
Subdivide the design area into clusters with specific qualities and limitations so that each block is different and has its own identity
Come from case study, Bajes Kwartier, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, OMA [P. 204]



Quality Scale

D **L**

Creating flexible podium typology: The porous ground floors, court yards and through-block pedestrian links create generous public spaces that encourage interaction, networking and a lively public realm.
Come from case study, Jurong Lake District Singapore [SG], KCAP [P. 204]



Quality Scale

D **L**

Mixed density type and building typology
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P. 203]

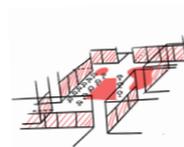
M Local Scale



Quality Scale

S **M**

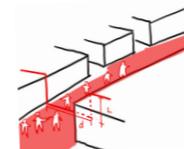
Nodes with different public program and Different programmed public space.



Quality Scale

S **M**

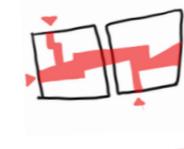
Pop-up event spaces, Modular building systems



Quality Scale

N **M**

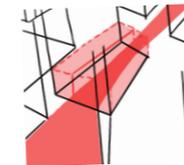
Give priority to using public transportation and reduce the number of roads used for cars. Make it easier to walk, ride a bicycle, or use personal travel equipment.
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P. 202]



Quality Scale

A **M**

Maxing pedestrian porosity
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P. 200]



Quality Scale

I **M**

adaptive re-use buildings and materials
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P.197]

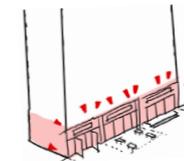


Quality Scale

U **M**

shape the skyline
Come from Shanghai filedwork [P. 198]

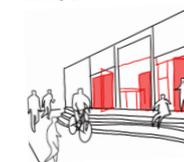
S Building Scale



Quality Scale

P **S**

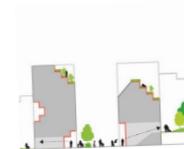
Mixed-use building: The first five to six floors are mainly aimed at a shared experience. From shared spaces for residents to public spaces catering for visitors.



Quality Scale

S **S**

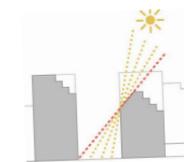
Vibrant plinths
Put the public program on the groundfloor, entrance will attract informal activities



Quality Scale

G **S**

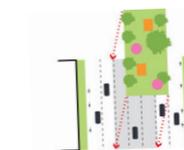
Horizontal and vertical relief maintains the human dimension and add green space
Come from case study, HS Kwartier The Hague [NL], KCAP [P. 204]



Quality Scale

S **S**

Creating a varied street scene with lots of daylight and sunlight for all buildings.
Come from case study, HS Kwartier The Hague [NL], KCAP [P. 204]



Quality Scale

A **S**

make street as valuable public space: green street
Come from case study, Jurong Lake District Singapore [SG], KCAP [P. 204]



Quality Scale

N **S**

Street oriented typology
Come from case study, VDMA, OMA [P. 204]

6

Design



Nanpu Railway Station



Vision for stakeholders



Make full use of Xuhui District's abundant resources in Science and Technology, the advantages of cultural and artistic in the west bund, and the advantages of waterfront location to form a mixed-use district.

Government



A Place where young high-tech graduates can afford to live and work here. More opportunity for start-ups.

Ming, and Ma 24

Graduates and high tech people



Keep the important program for our life. The closure of the supermarket caused great inconvenience to the elderly and nearby residents like us, who could not skillfully use smart devices for online shopping.

Uncle Zhou and his wife 72

Nearby neighbourhood residents



Nanpu Station is a very important place for Shanghai. I took the last photo before the demolition It is important to keep the historical memory. Now, the landmark always remind me this history

Uncle Liu 62

Citizen



We want it deliver high-quality public realm. So in the morning, we could use the area to walk or jog through the park on our way to work.

Miss Huang 32

Office workers



A vibrant district that deliver high-quality commercial space and cultural function which we could come to waste some time on weekends.

Miss Wu, Miss Zhang and Mr. He 20+

Citizen come for cultural visit

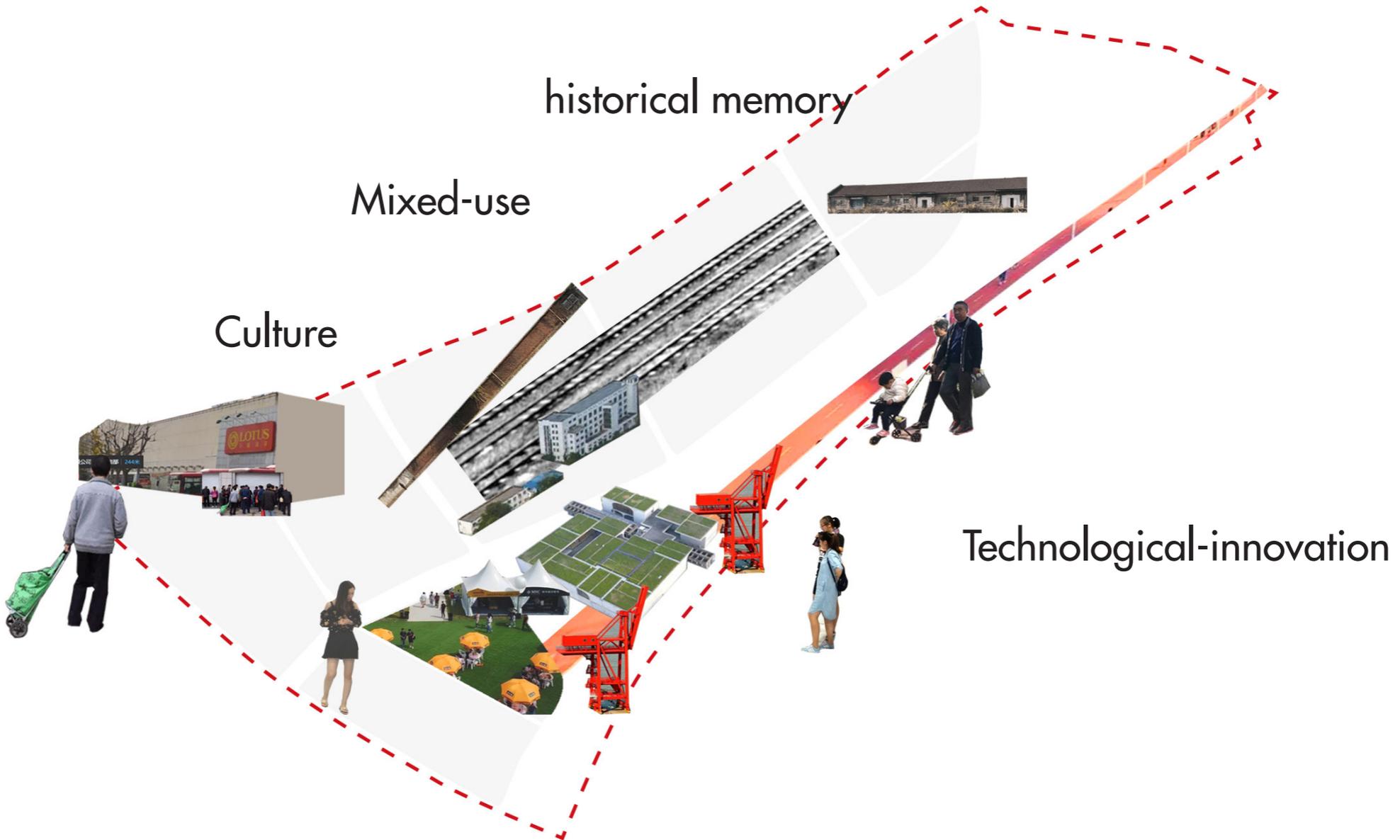


deliver high-quality green space, quiet and safe.

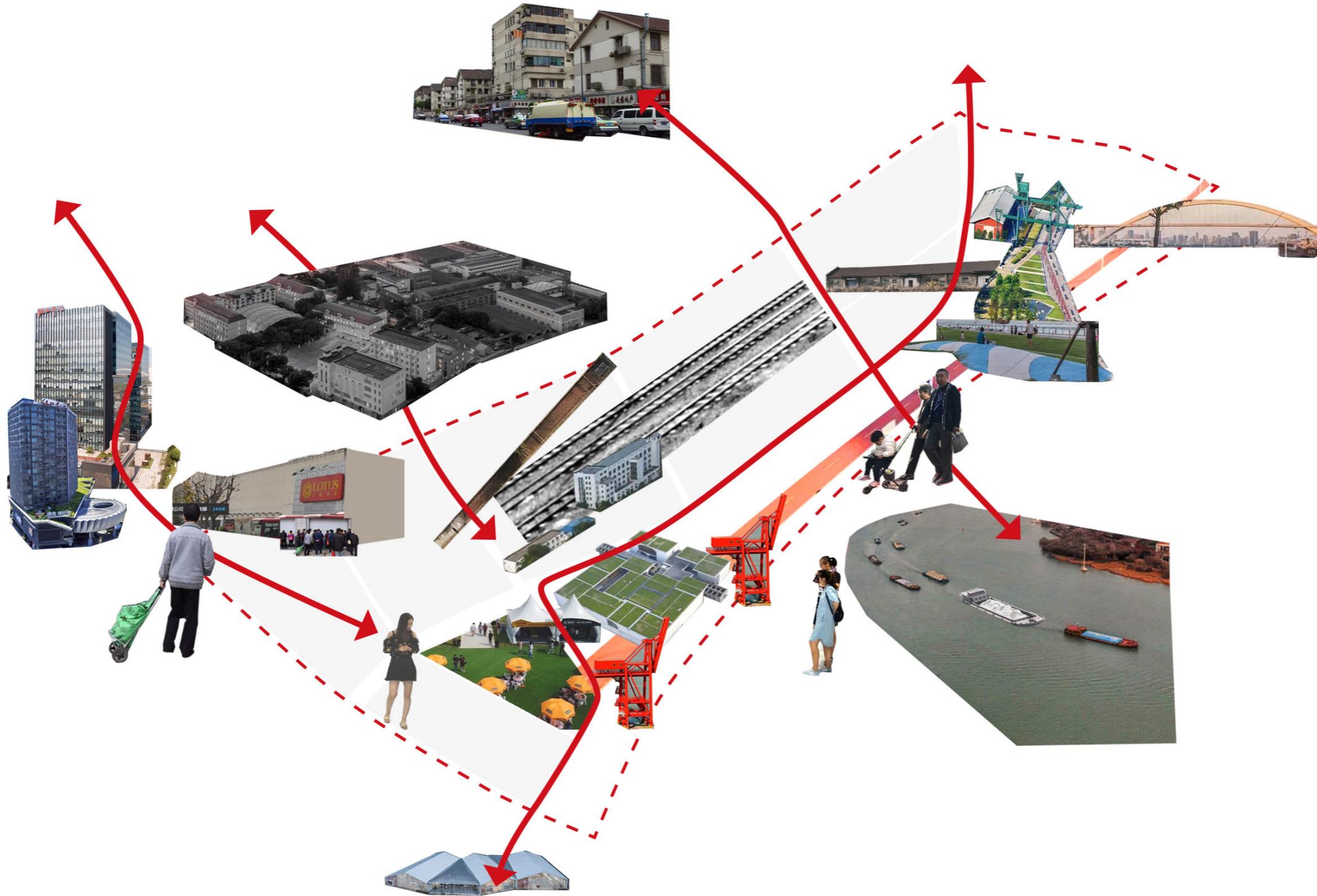
Mr. Wang and his 6 year old son 38

Residents

Vision: Identity layer



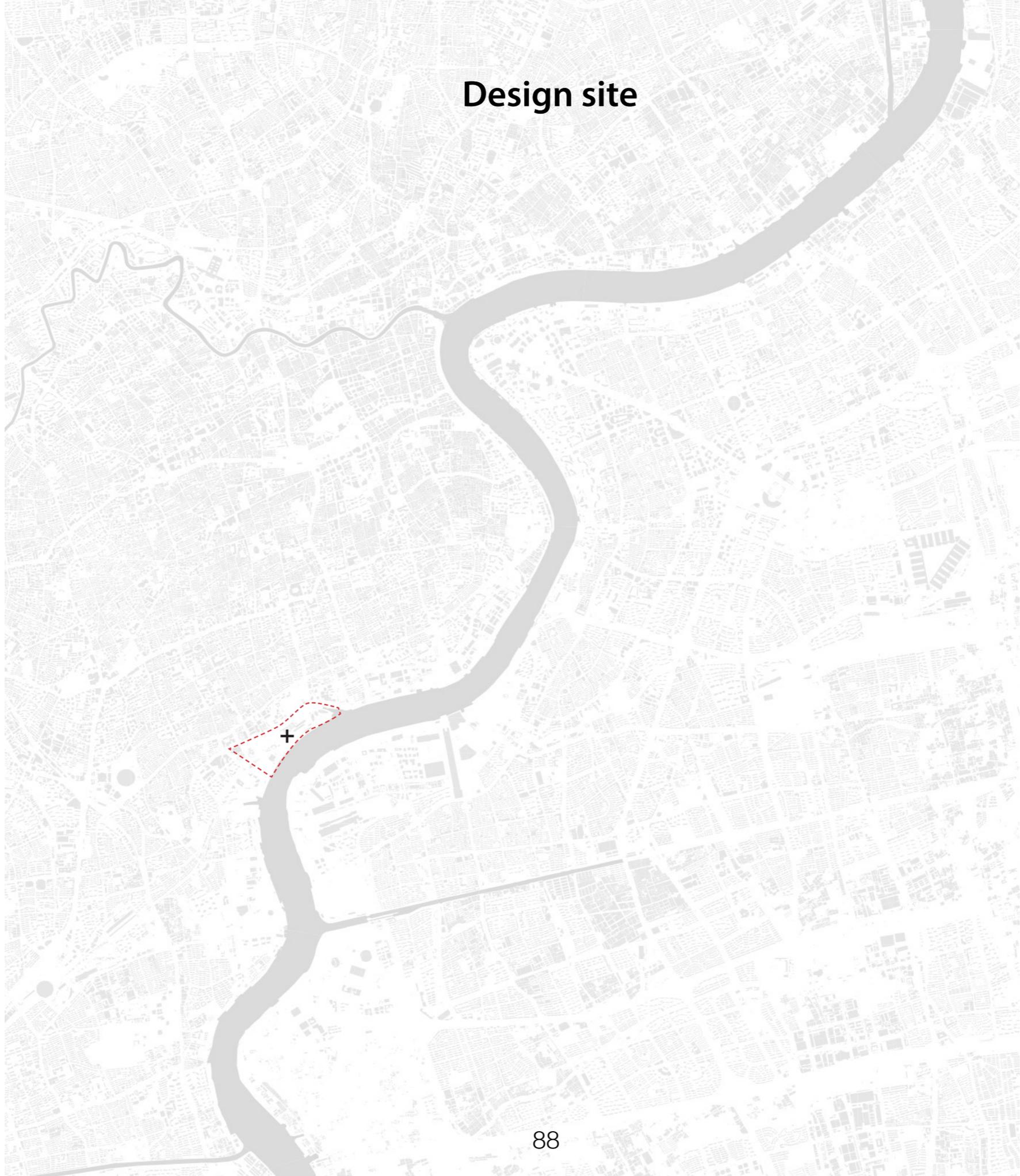
Vision: Connectivity layer



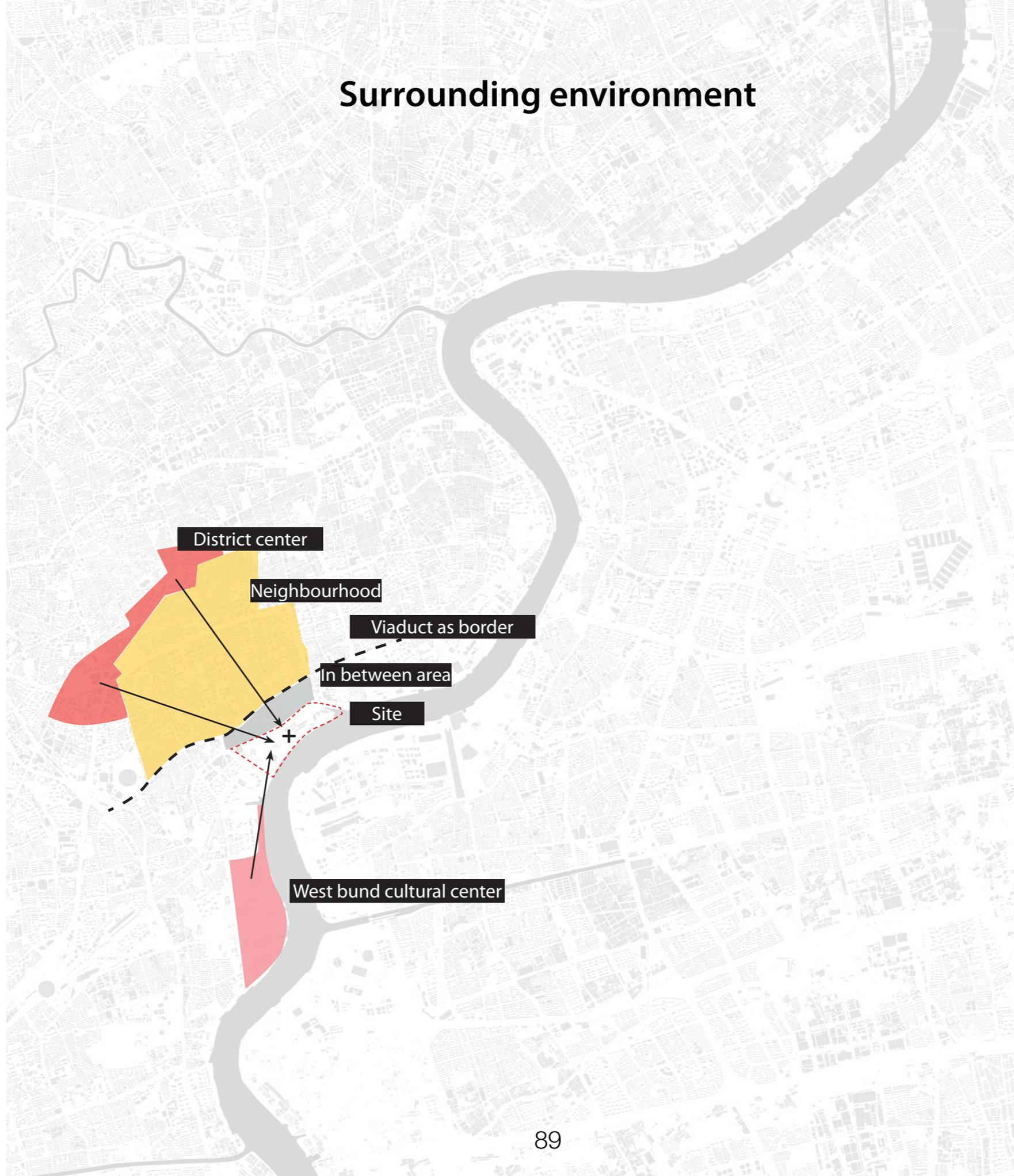
-  City Scale
-  District Scale
-  Block Scale
-  Local Scale

XL City Scale

Design site



Surrounding environment



District center

Neighbourhood

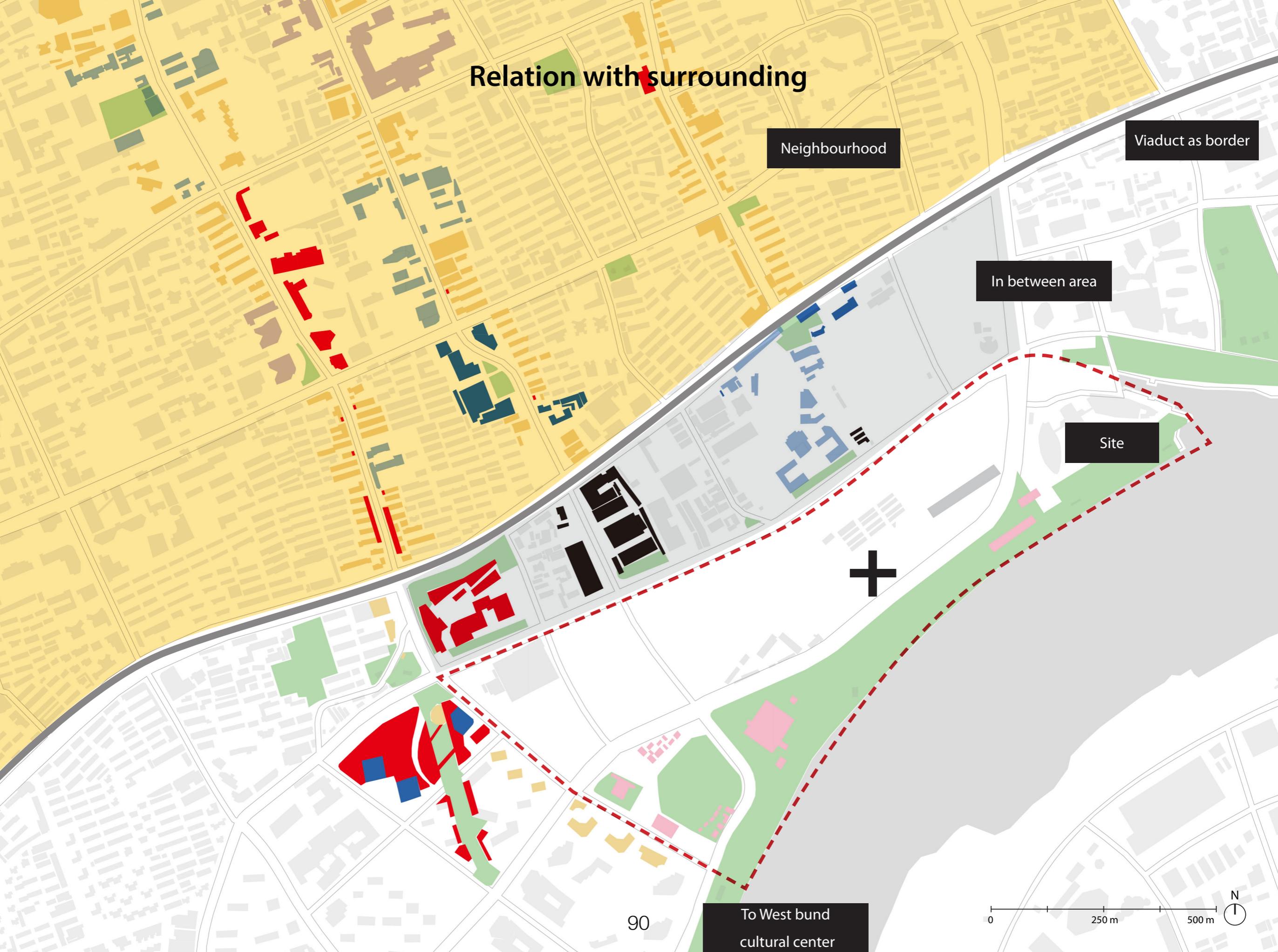
Viaduct as border

In between area

Site

West bund cultural center

Relation with surrounding



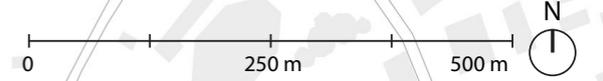
Neighbourhood

Viaduct as border

In between area

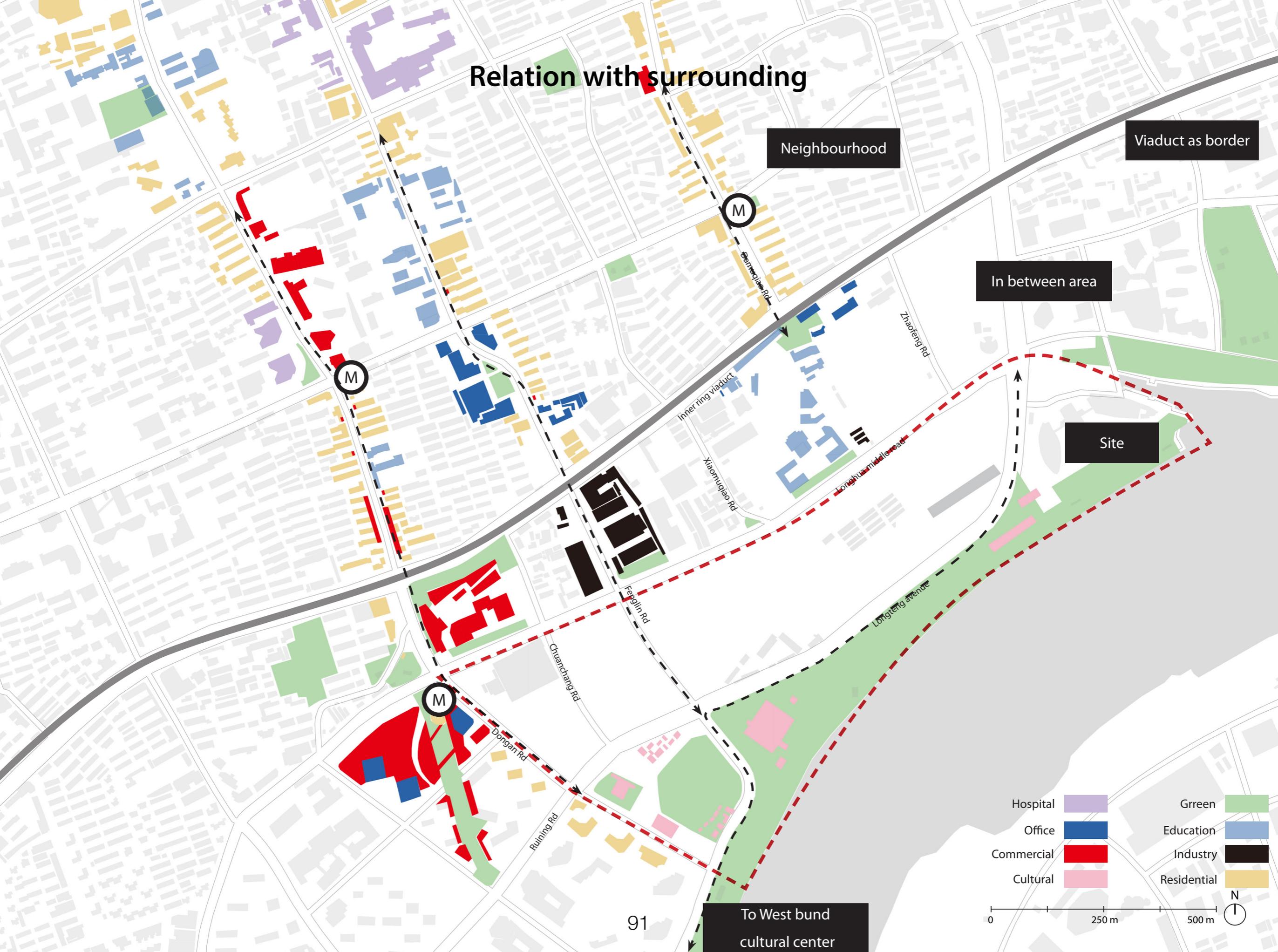
Site

To West bund cultural center



90

Relation with surrounding



Neighbourhood

Viaduct as border

In between area

Site

To West bund cultural center

Hospital		Green	
Office		Education	
Commercial		Industry	
Cultural		Residential	

0 250 m 500 m N

91

Four corridors

Fudan University

Chinese Academy of Science

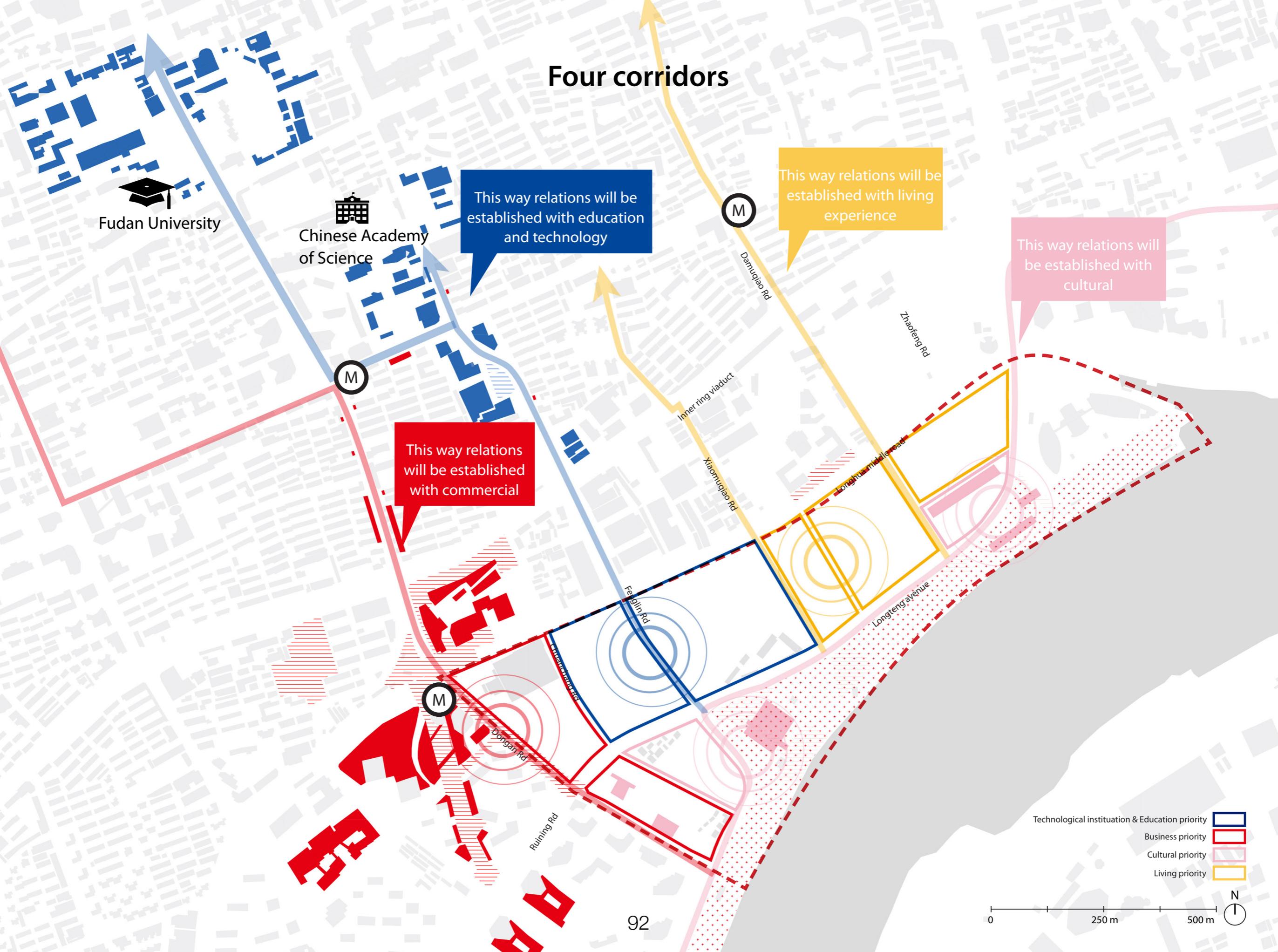
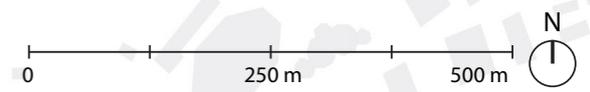
This way relations will be established with education and technology

This way relations will be established with living experience

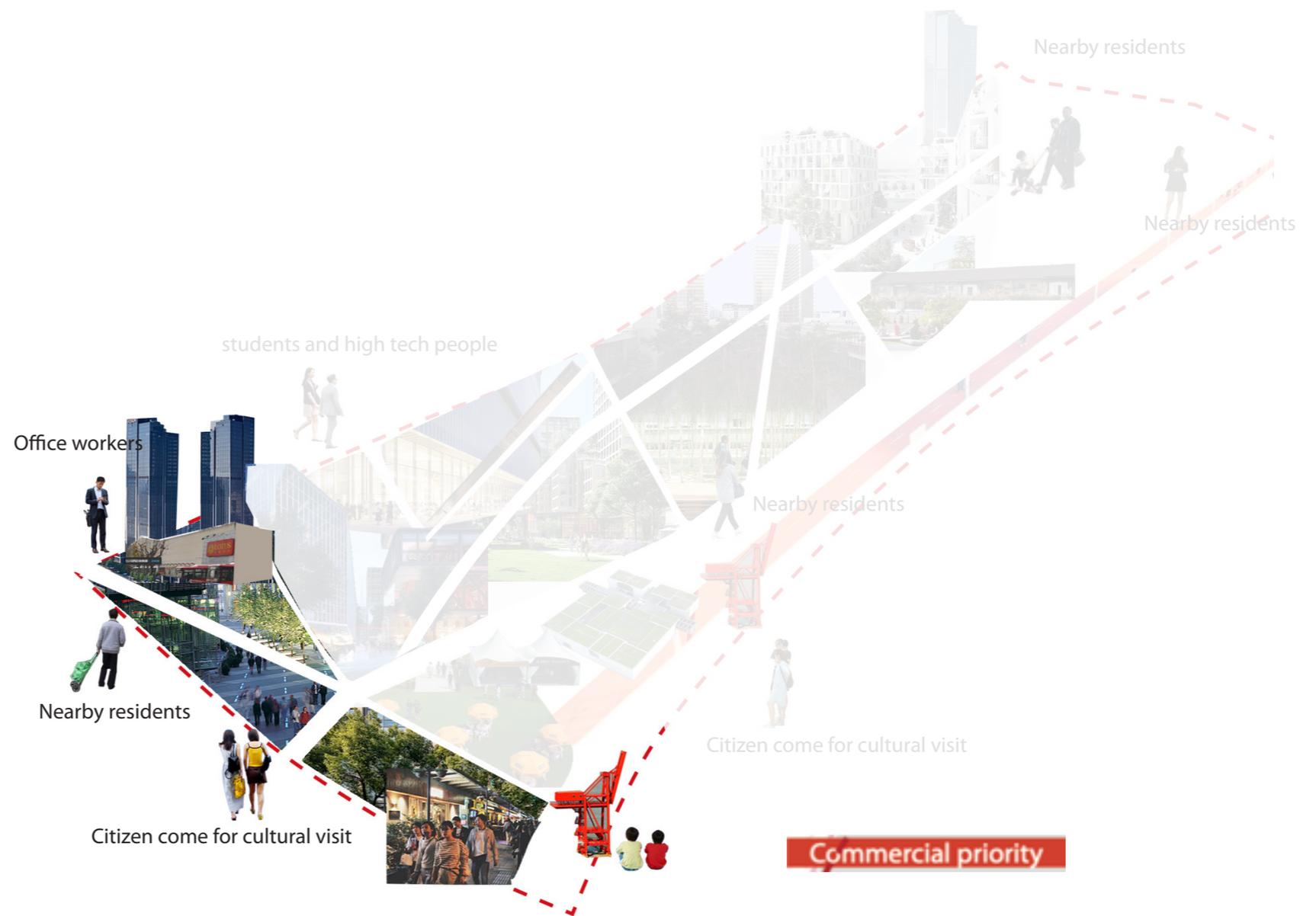
This way relations will be established with cultural

This way relations will be established with commercial

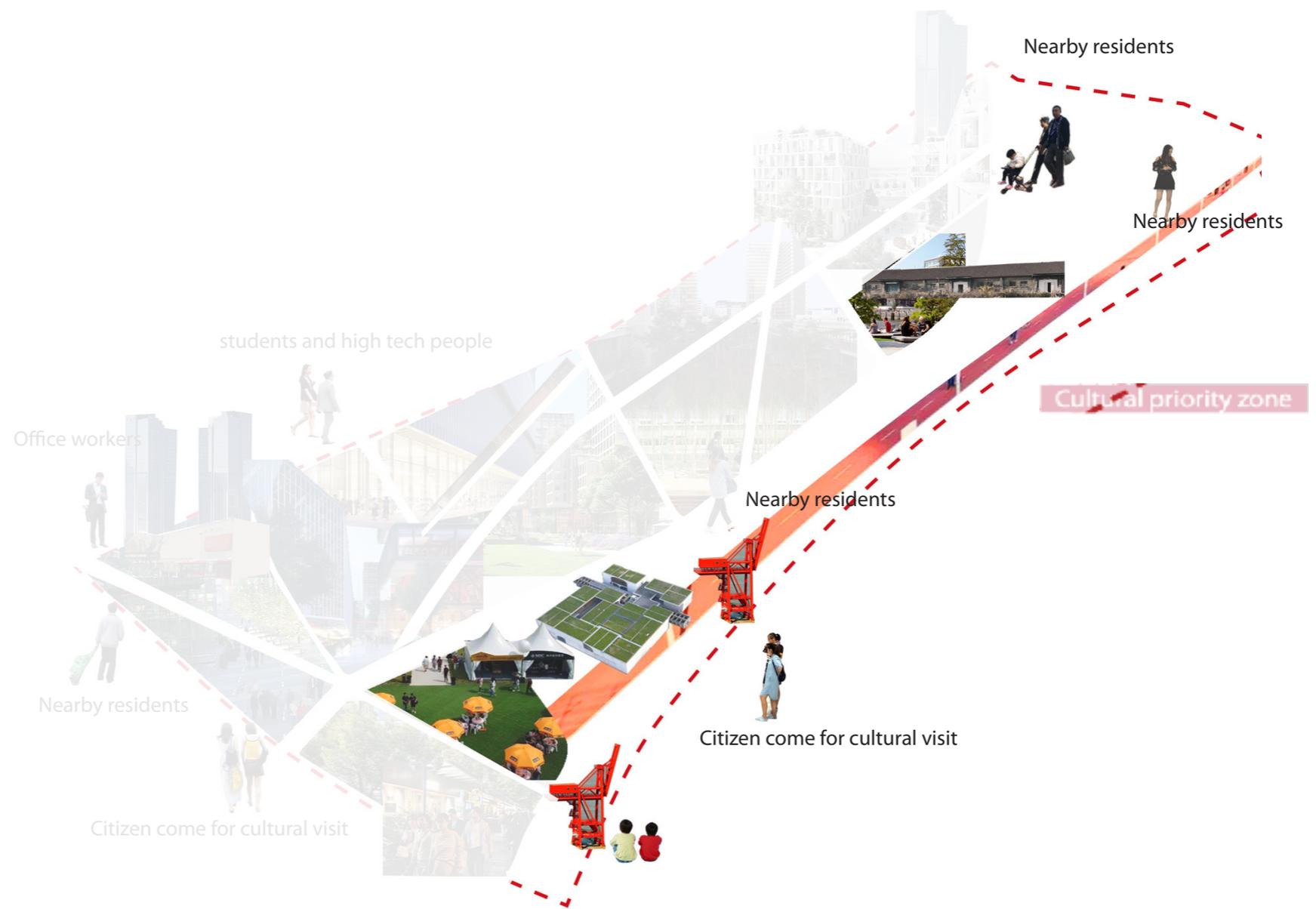
- Technological institution & Education priority
- Business priority
- Cultural priority
- Living priority



Clusters of different identity



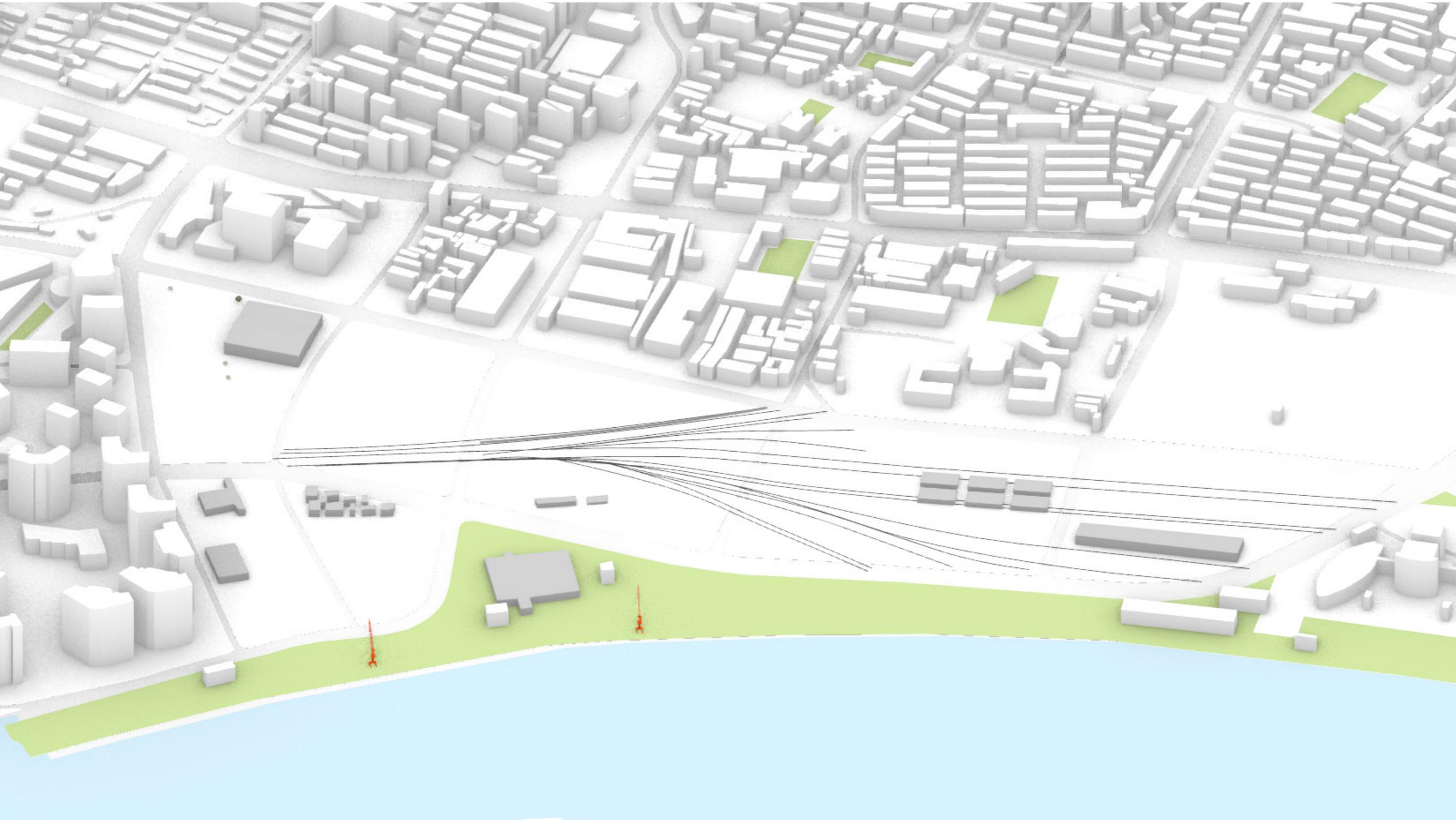
Clusters of different identity



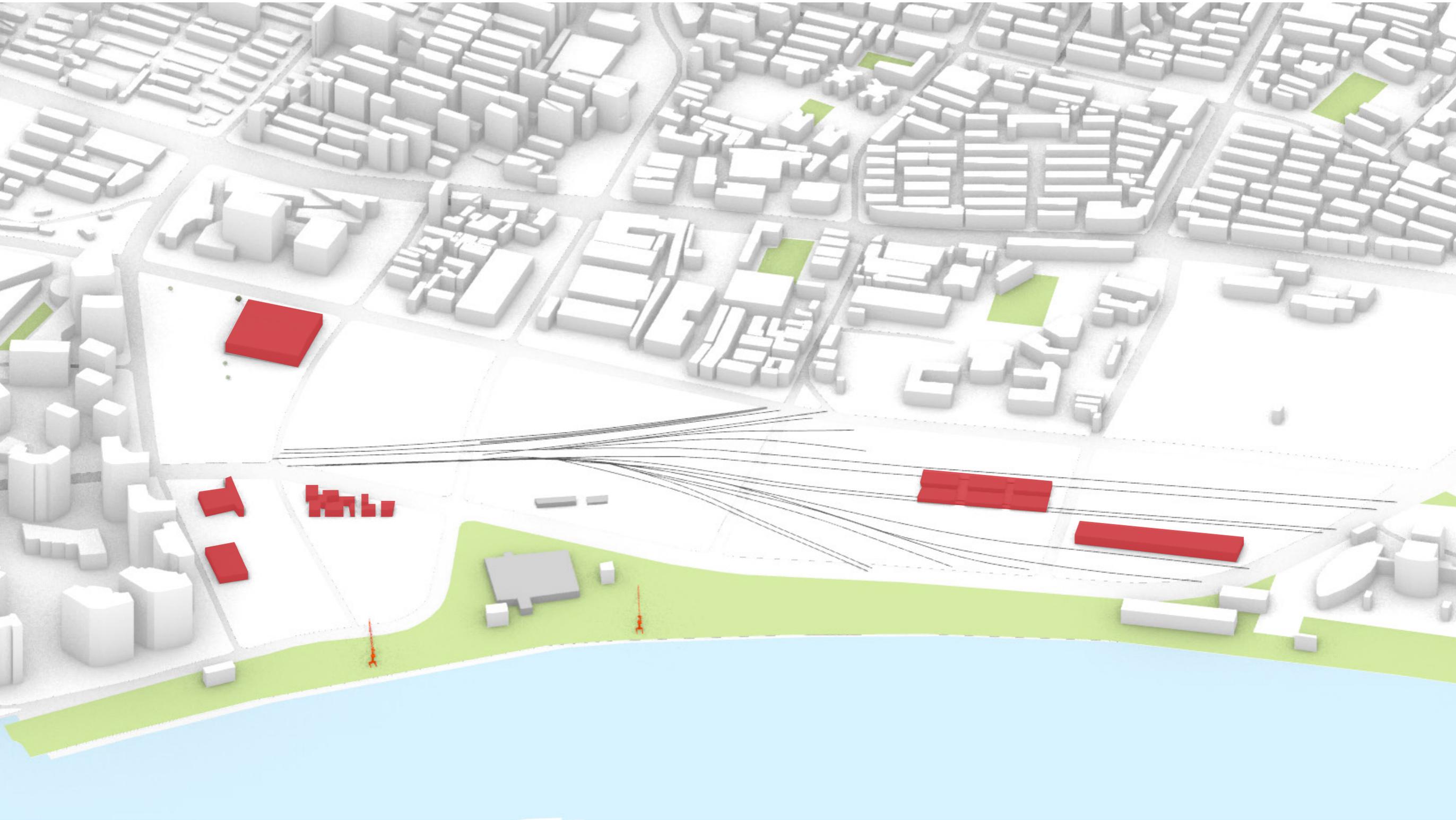
-  City Scale
-  District Scale
-  Block Scale
-  Local Scale

L District Scale

Existing structure



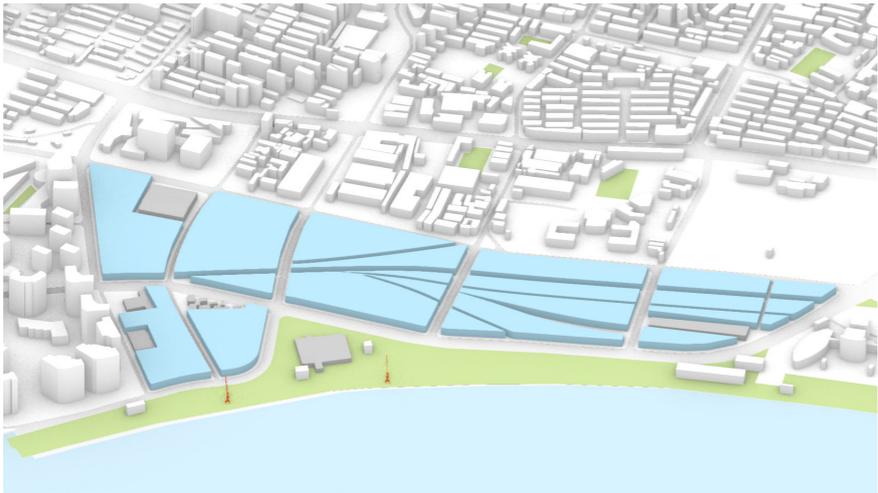
Maintain Iconic elements



Begin with three options

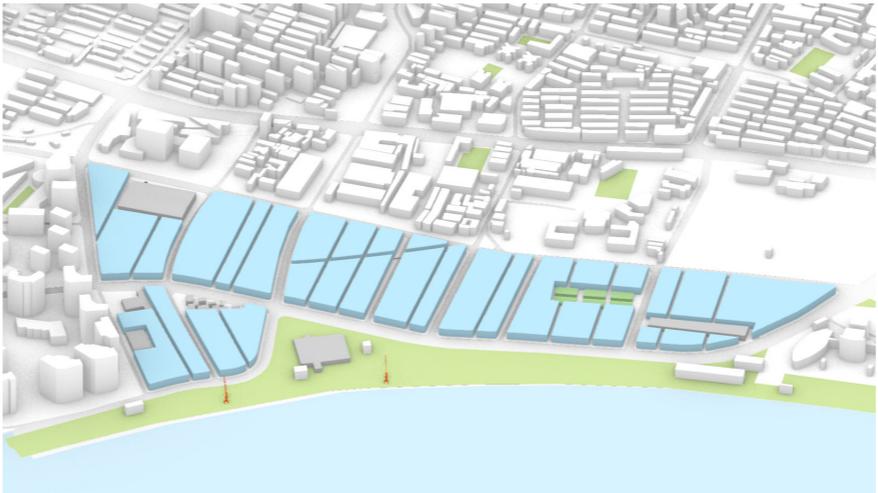
Option 1

Emphasize the existing structure to rebuild the memory of the railway station



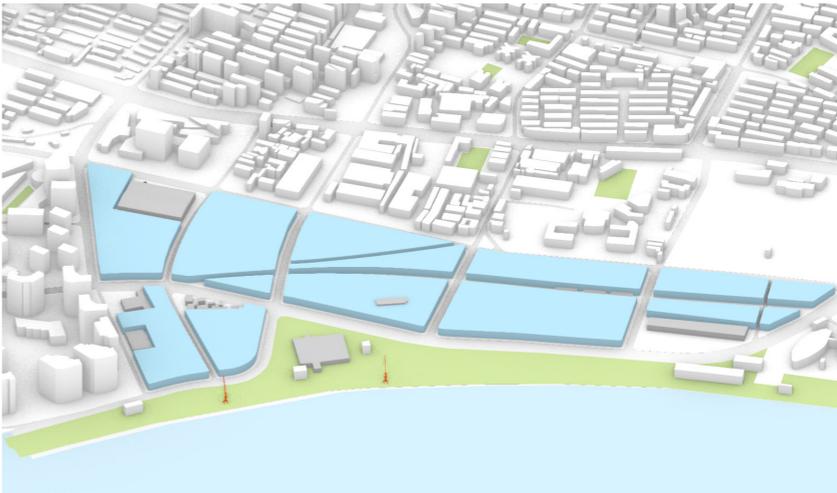
Option 2

Emphasize the route from the city to the river, maximize the street to the river

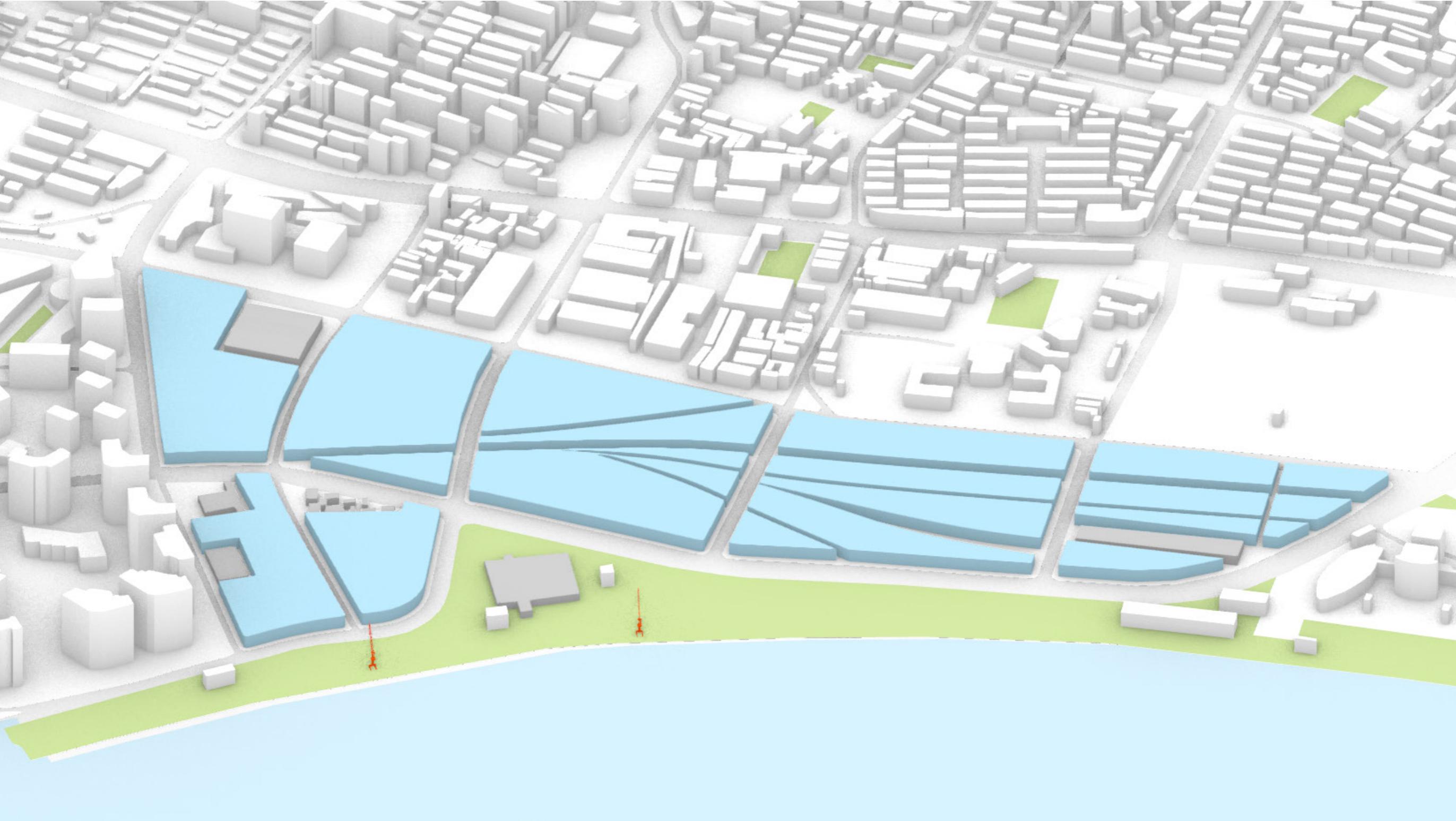


Option 3

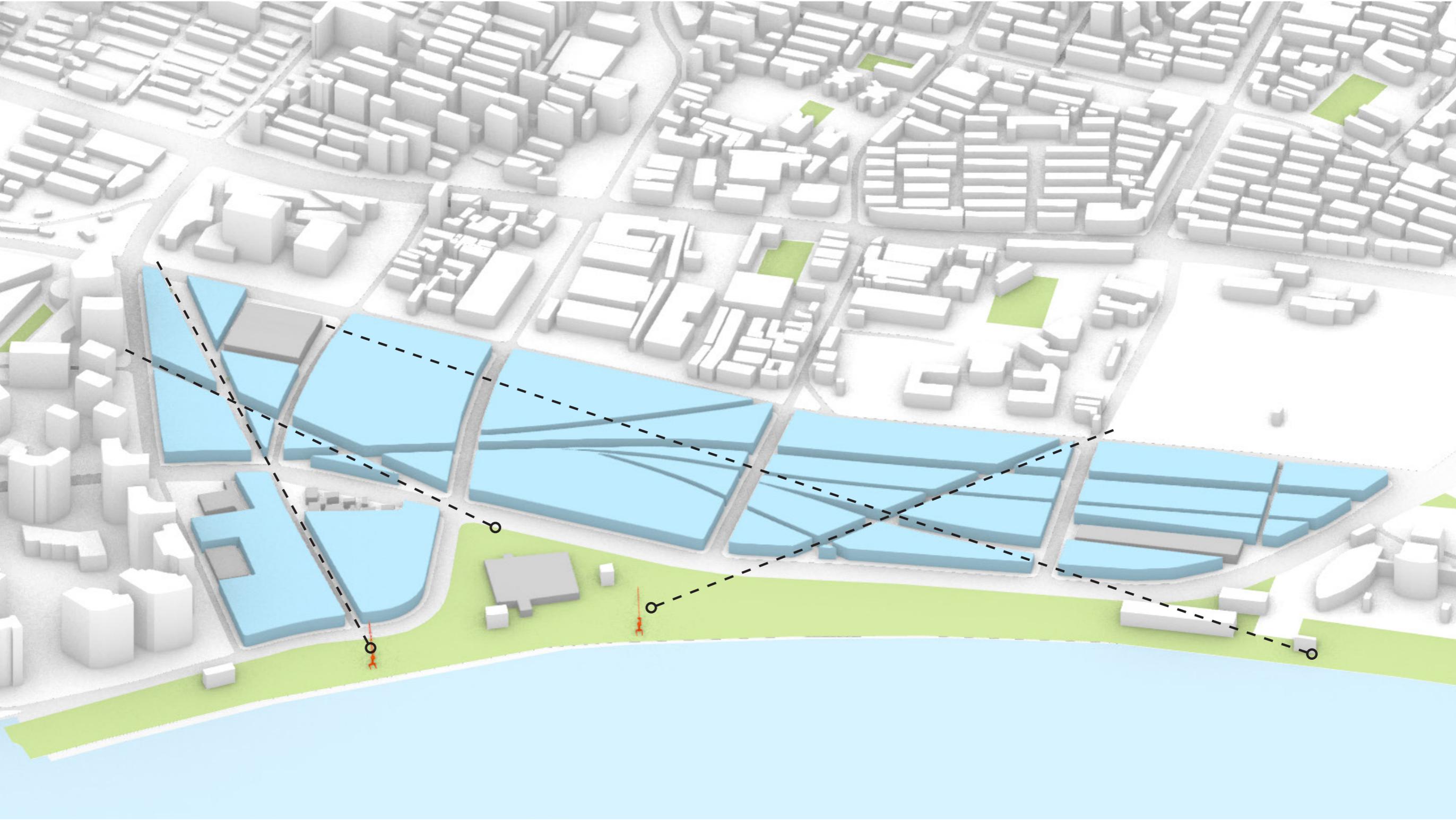
Gradual change from city to more natural.



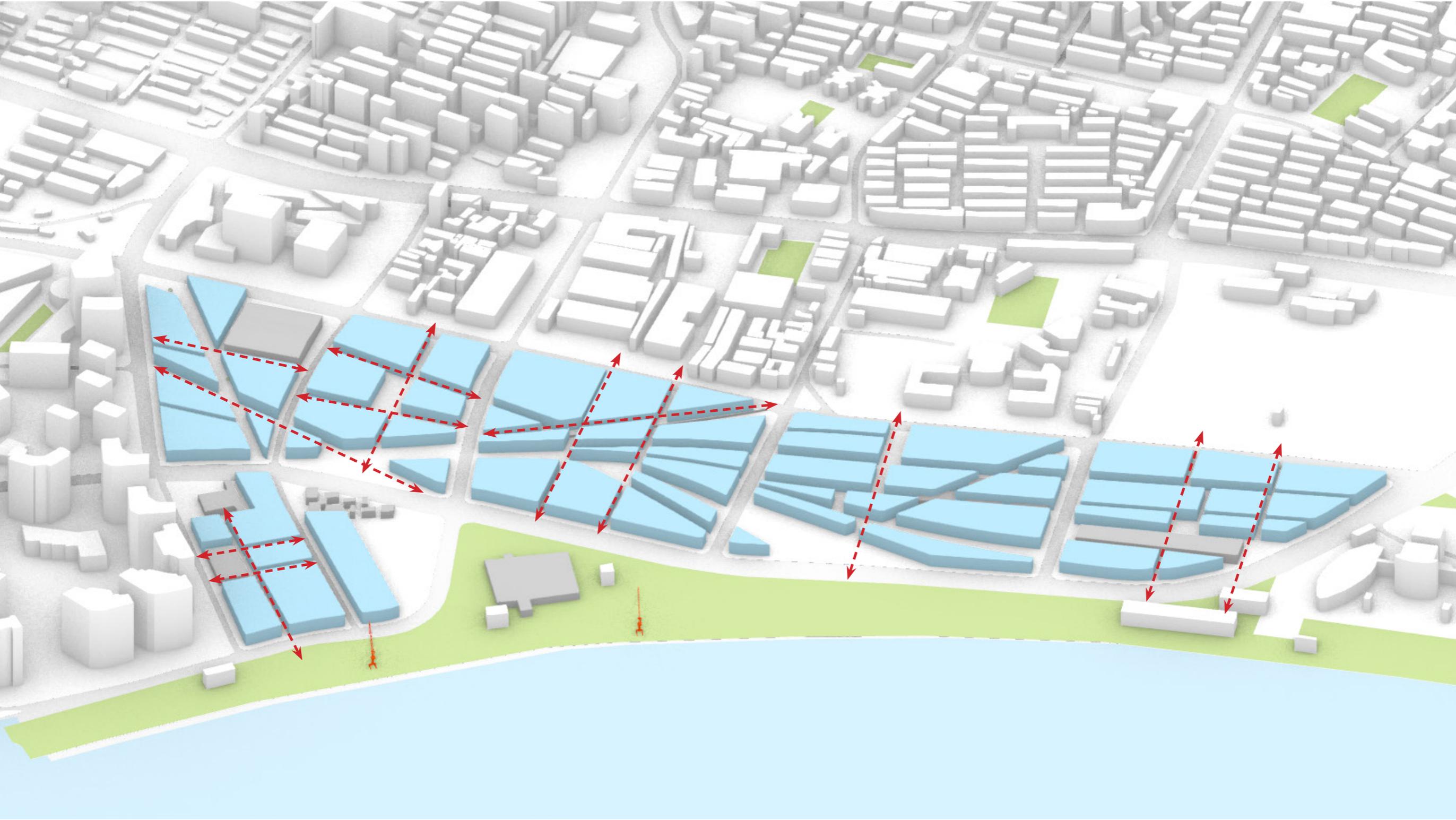
Maintain Iconic elements



Maintain Iconic view line



Public transport accessible

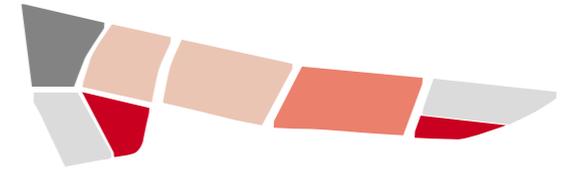
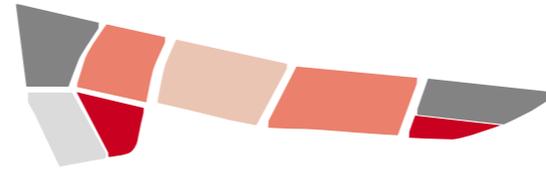
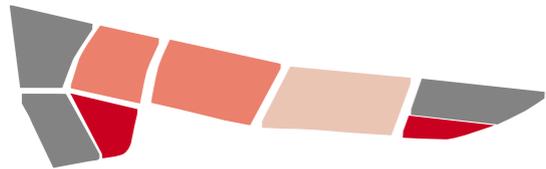


Unique identity zones

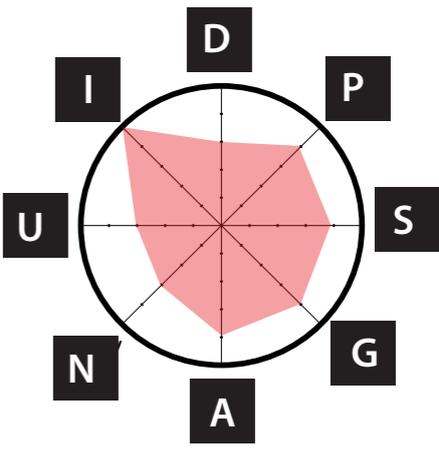
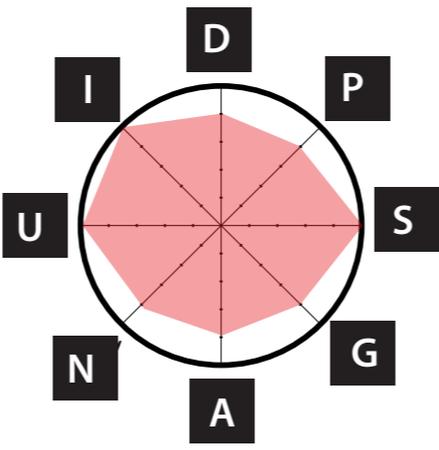
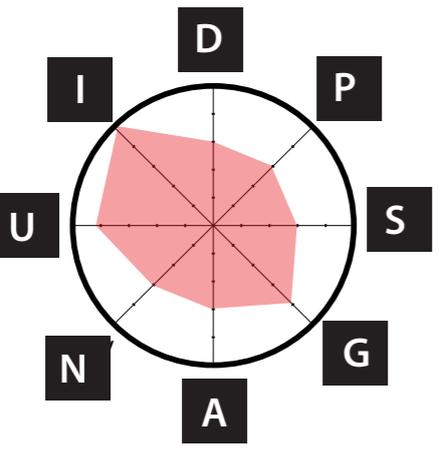
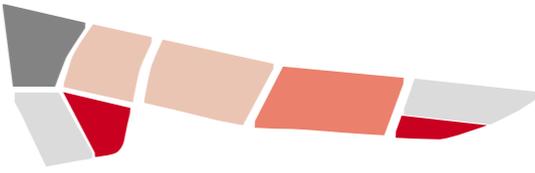
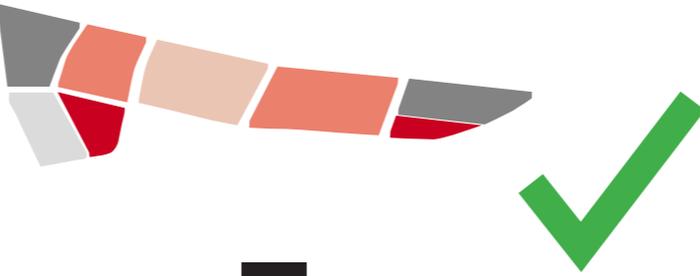
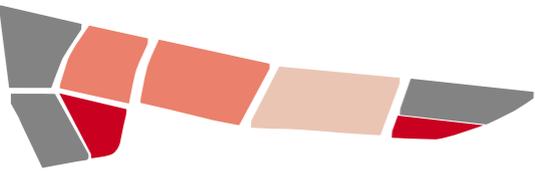


- Technological & Education priority
- Business priority
- Cultural priority
- Living priority

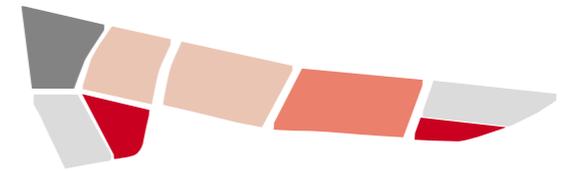
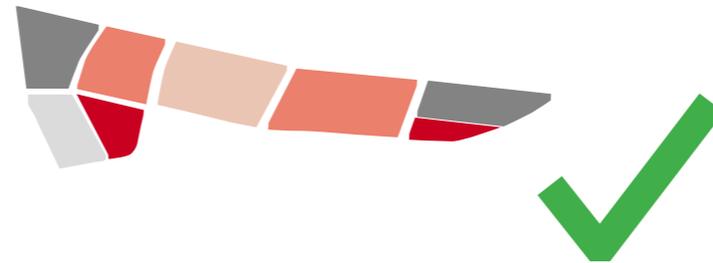
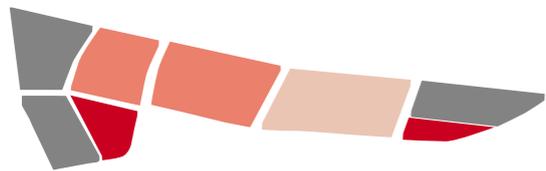
Mix density typology



Evaluate density test



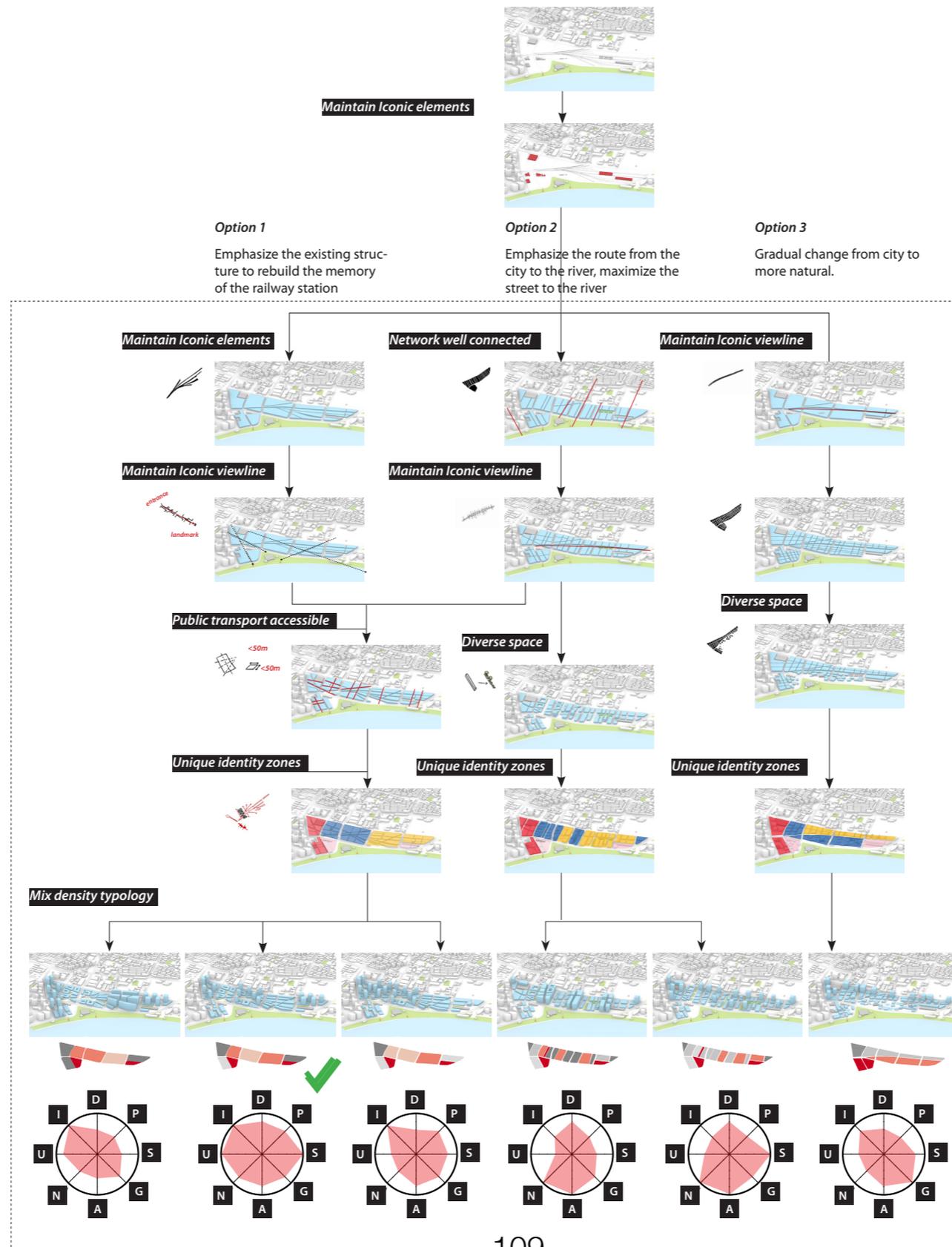
Evaluate density test



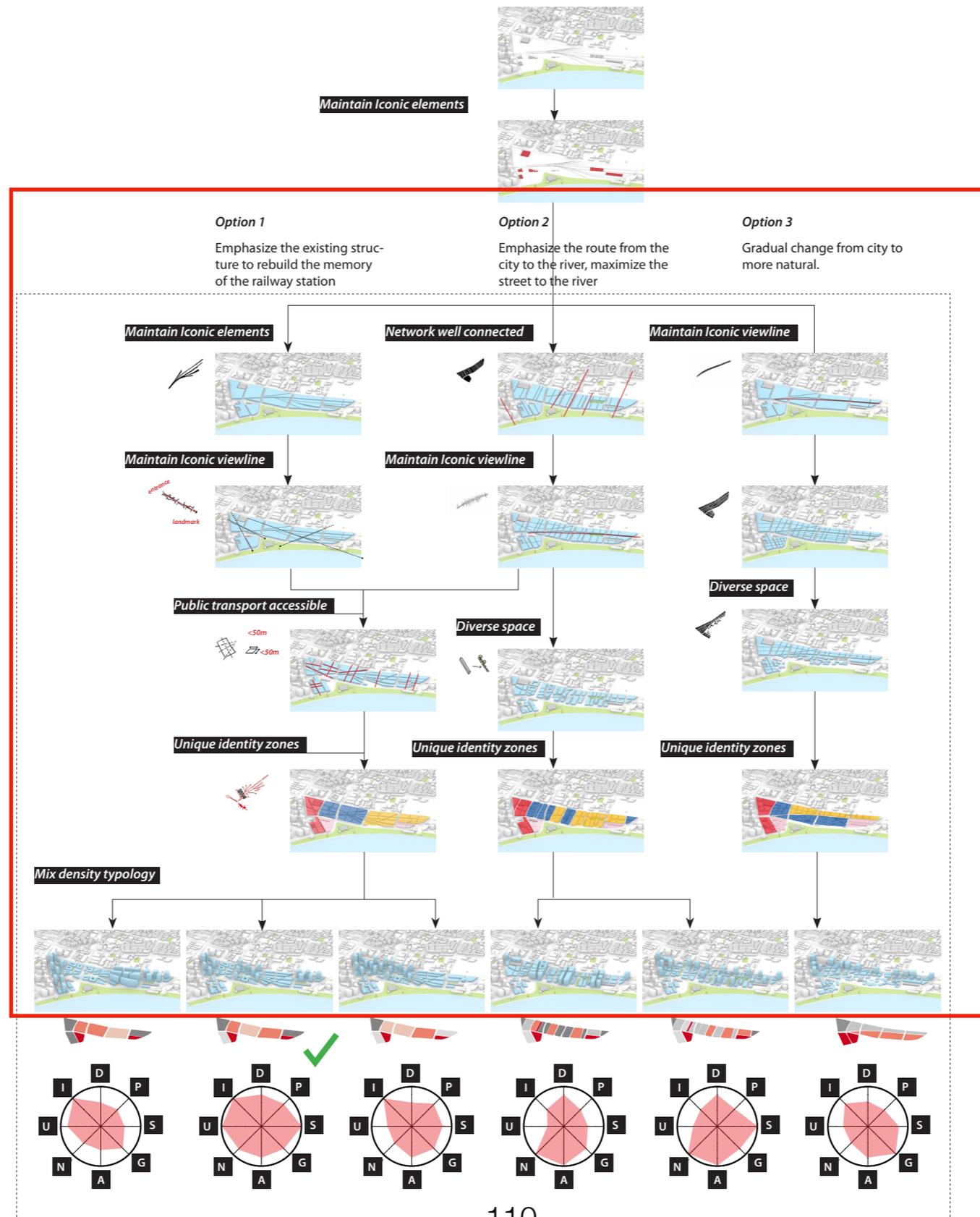
Conclusion

- Building high-rise buildings along the main streets can make full use of the waterfront conditions
- The high-rise block might be distributed in non-adjacent blocks, creating the rhythm of the tower

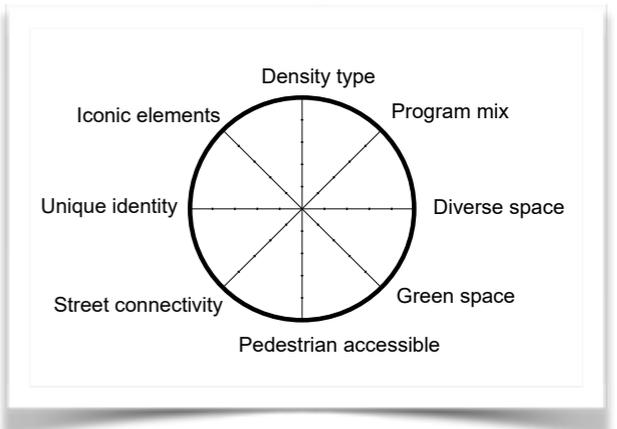
Design evolution



Design evolution



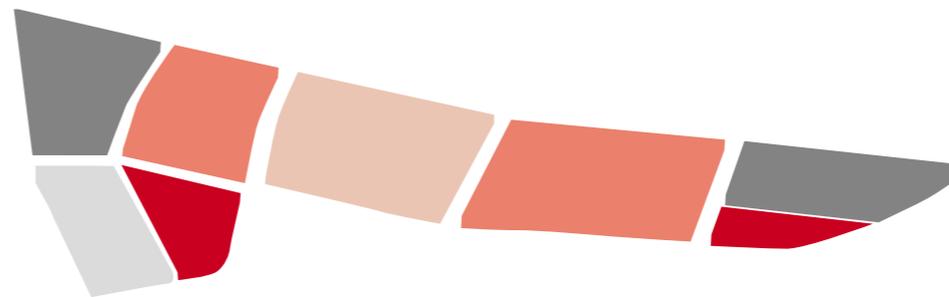
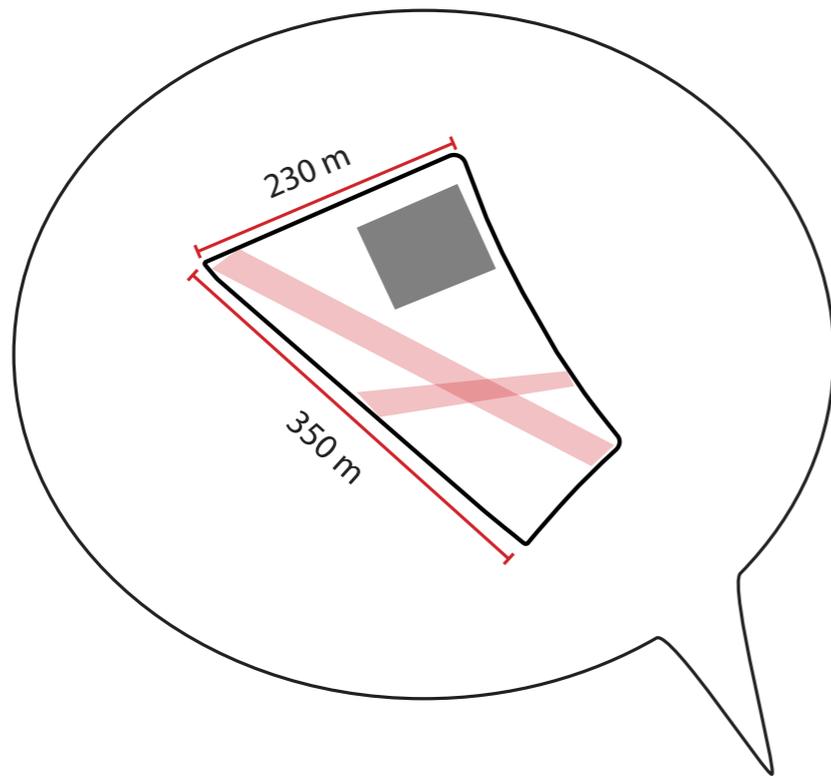
Quality criteria



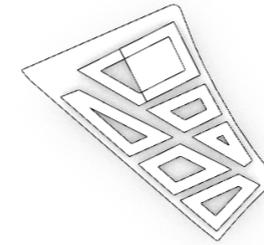
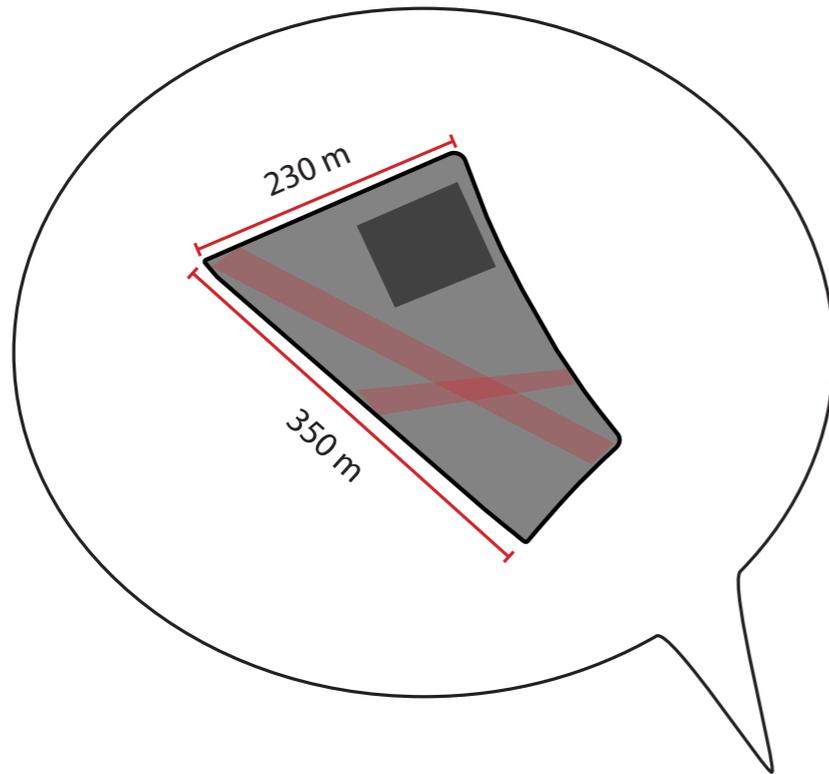
-  City Scale
-  District Scale
-  Block Scale
-  Local Scale

M Block Scale

Take one block as an example



Design evolution on block scale

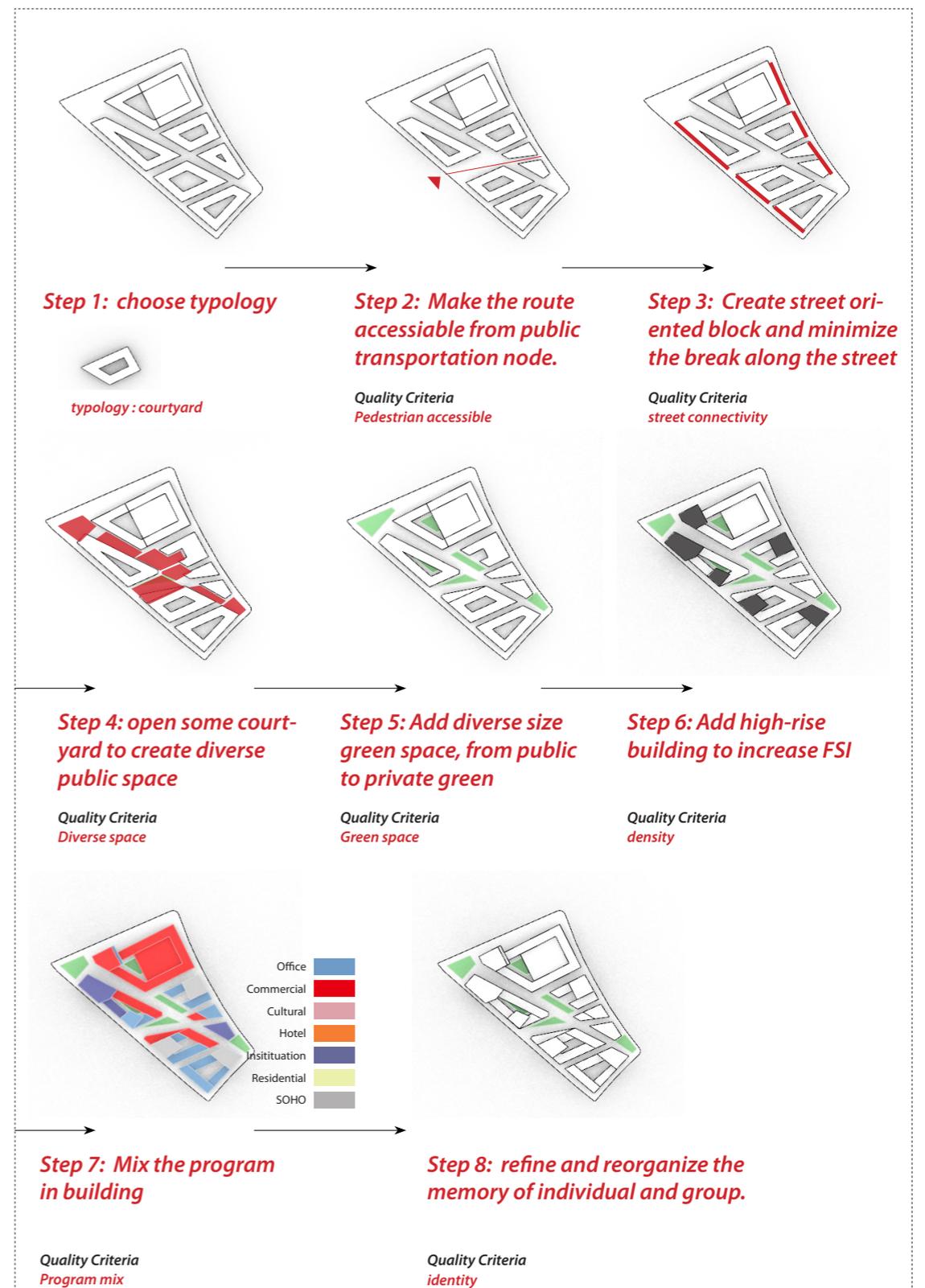
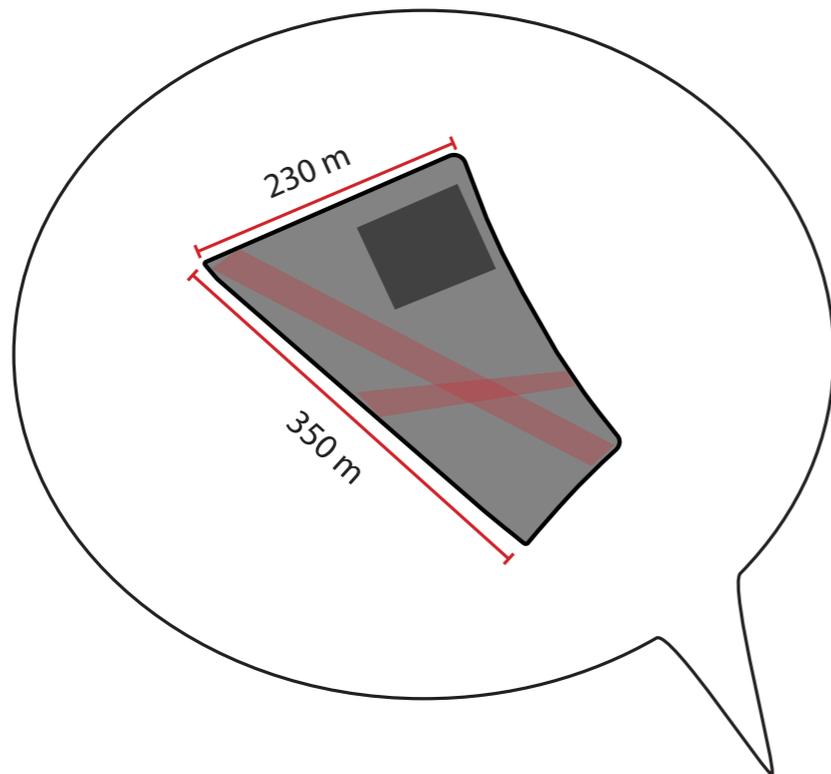


Step 1: choose typology

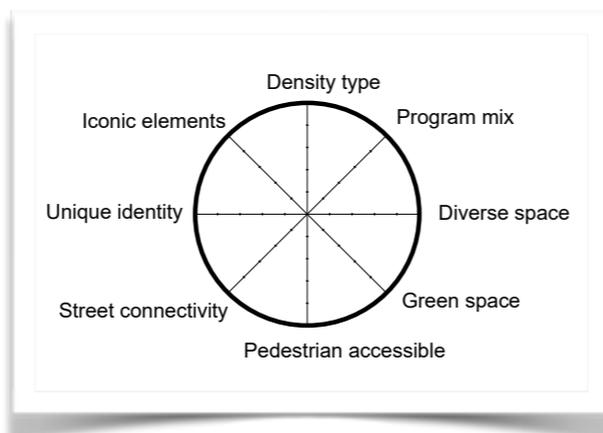


typology : courtyard

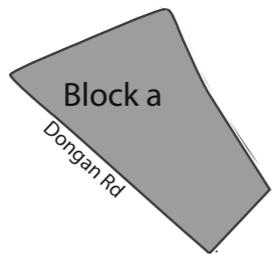
Design evolution on block scale



Quality criteria



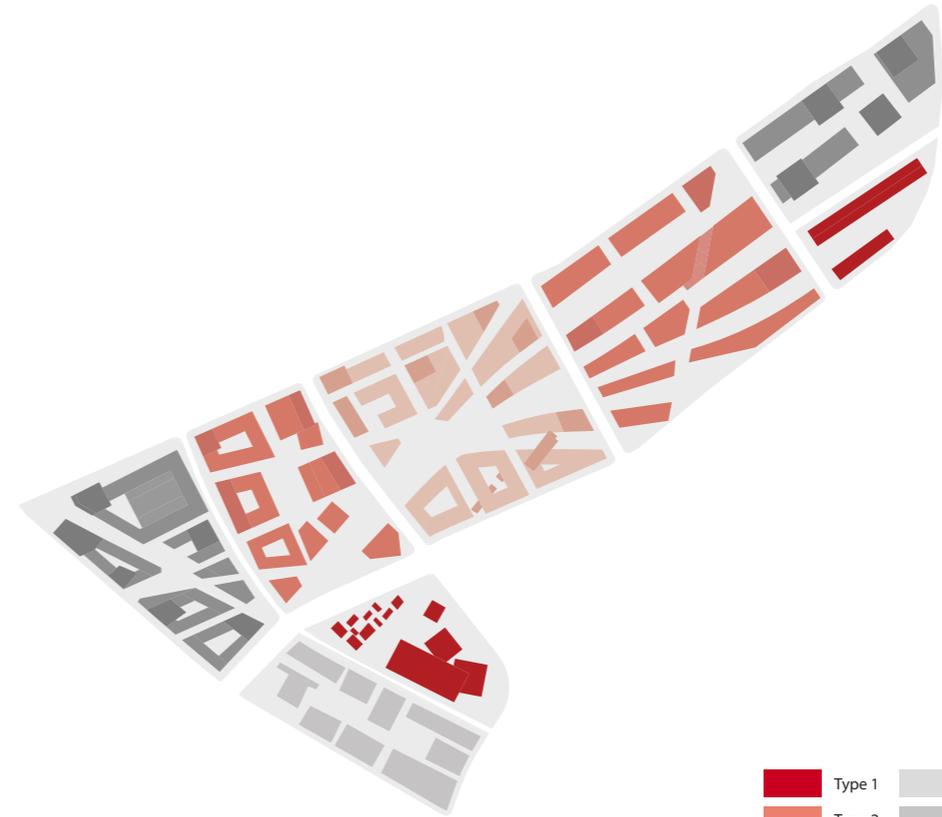
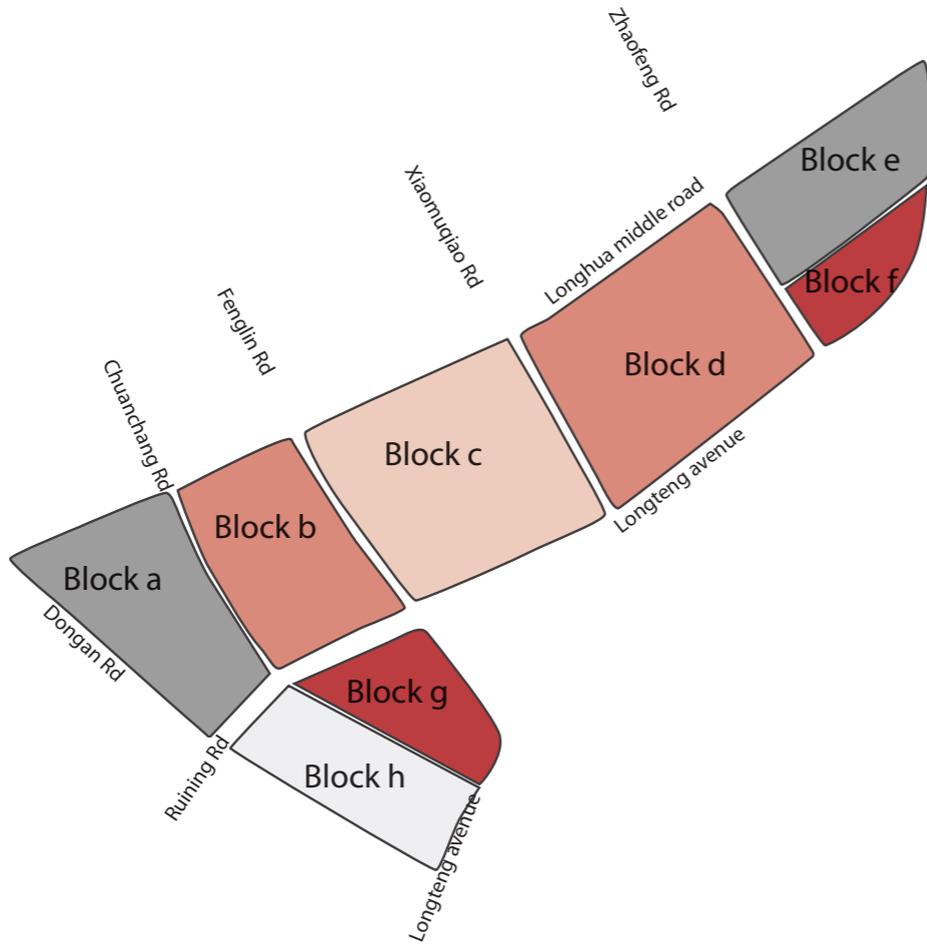
Block typology



←

Block typology

For the different identity blocks, according to its quality and program, choose different building typology



- Type 1
- Type 2
- Type 3
- Type 4
- Type 5
- Type 6



-  City Scale
-  District Scale
-  Block Scale
-  Local Scale

S Local Scale

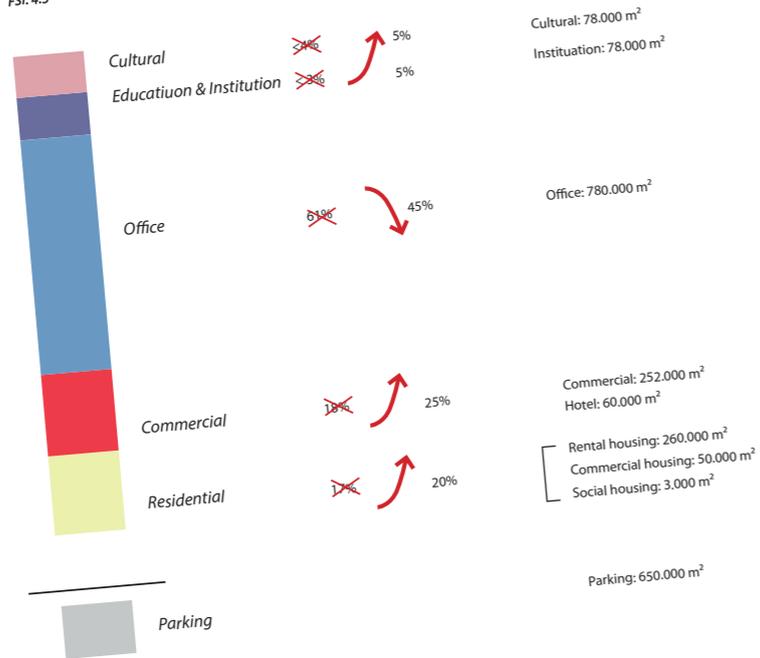
Mixed-use

PROGRAM DIVISION AFTER OPTION TEST

residential population: 2.3w

Total

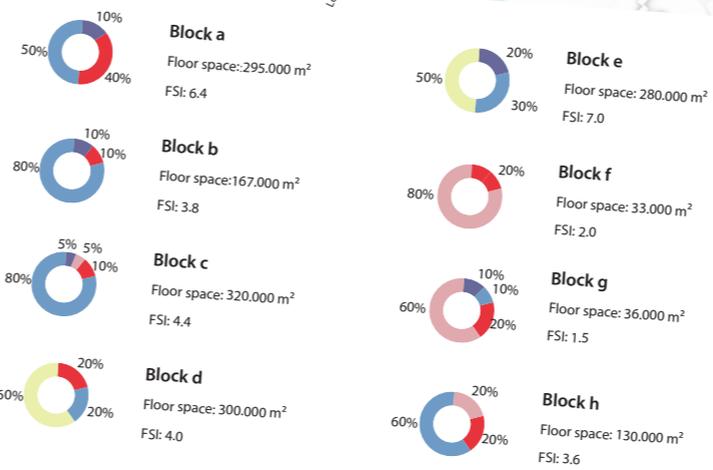
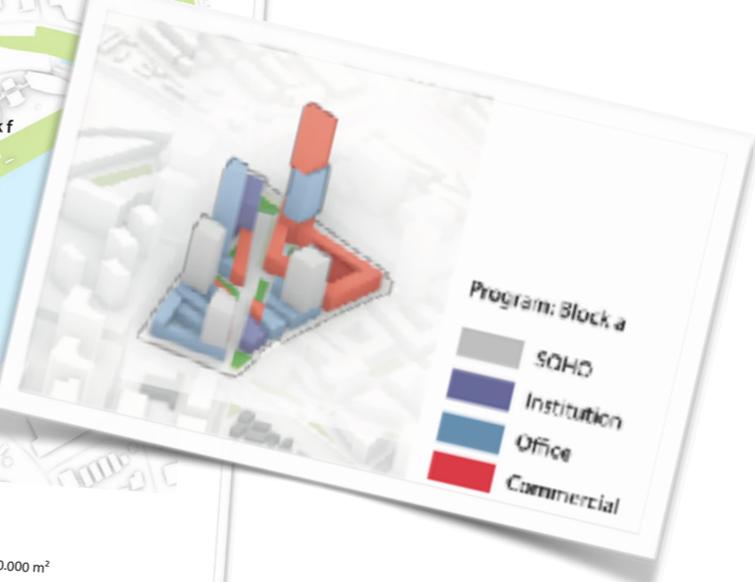
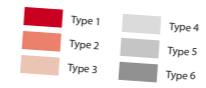
Floor space: 1560.000 m²
FSI: 4.5



Program	Block a	Block b	Block c	Block d	Block e	Block f	Block g	Block h	Total area
total floor area (*10 ⁴ m ²)	295	167	320	300	280	32	36	130	1560
Cultural (*10 ⁴ m ²)			0.1			0.3	0	0.1	73.2
education (*10 ⁴ m ²)		0.1	0.1			0.2		0.2	81.8
office (*10 ⁴ m ²)	0.1	0.8	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.2		0.1	782.7
commercial (*10 ⁴ m ²)	0.5		0.1			0.5		0.2	322.3
residential (*10 ⁴ m ²)	0.4	0.1		0.6					320

166

Total
Floor space: 1560.000 m²
FSI: 4.5



167

Connectivity: Sequence of movement

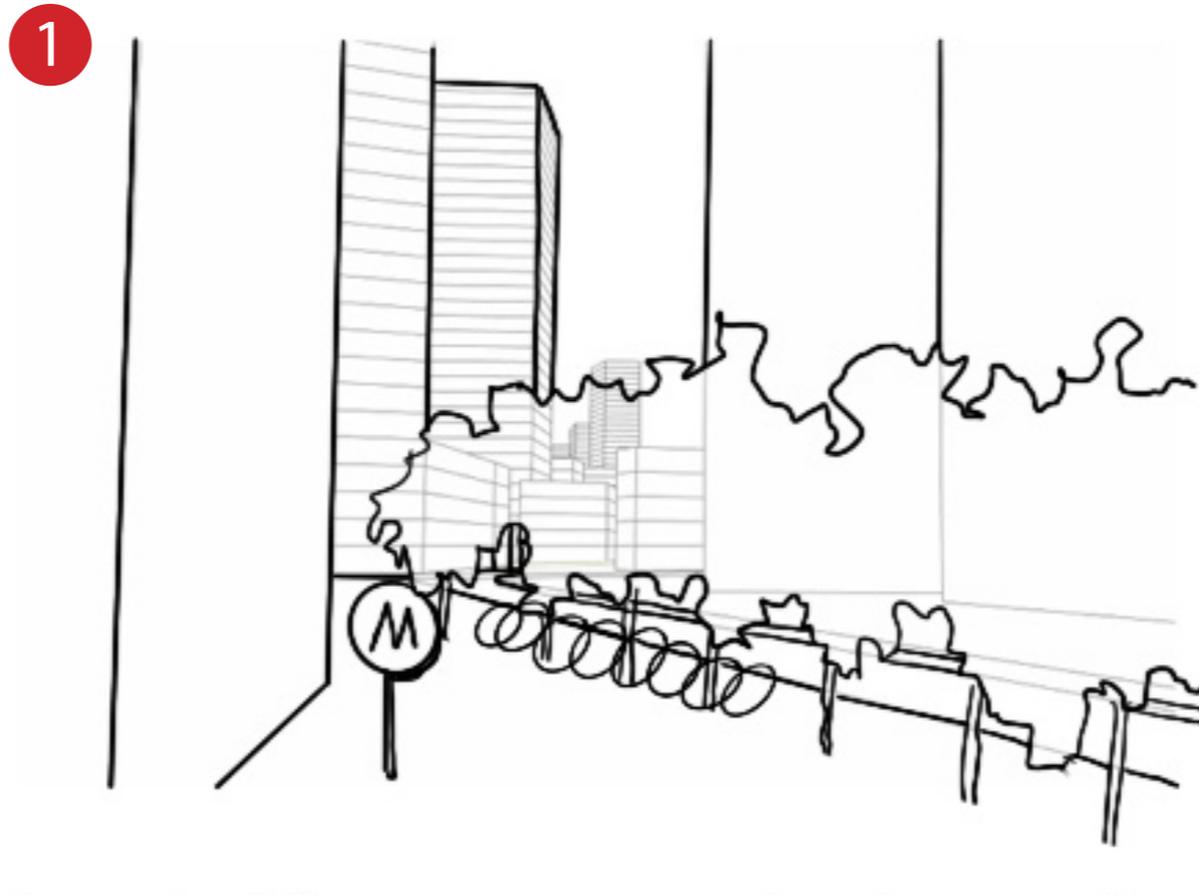


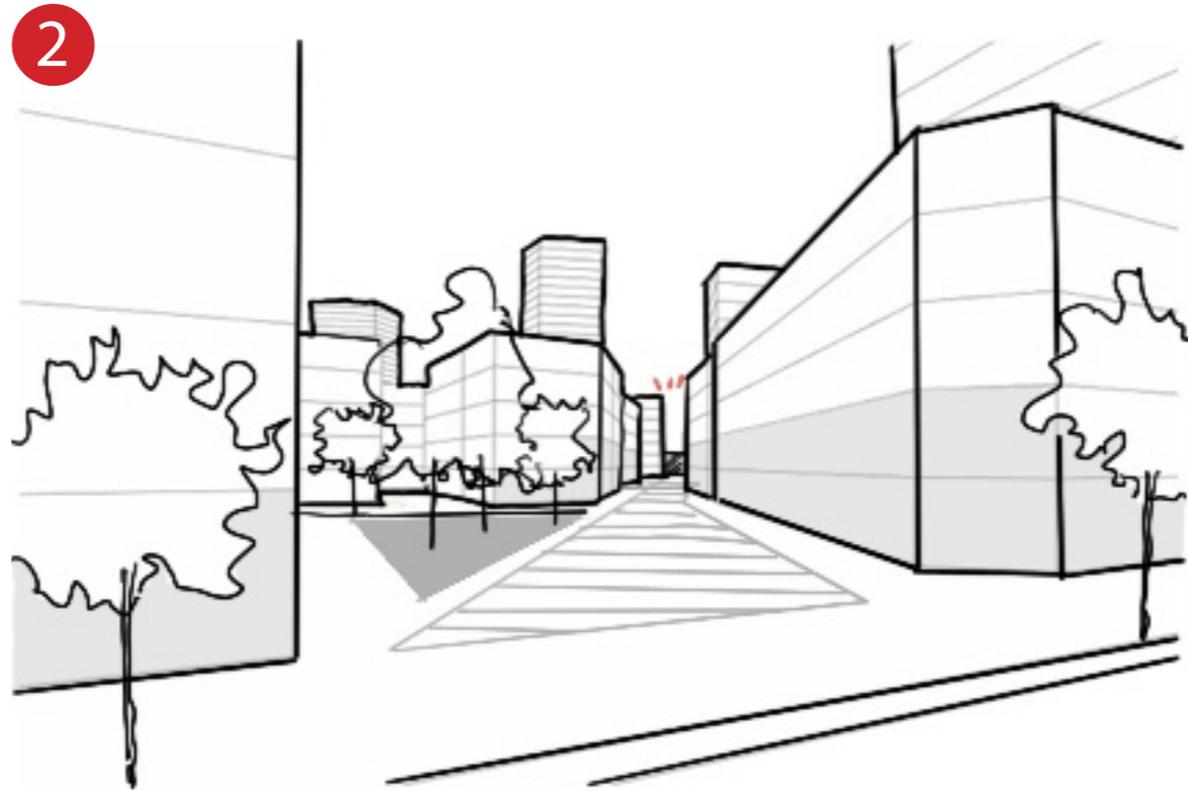
We could get off from Longhua Middle Road metro station, and walking to the Long museum to see the exhibition!

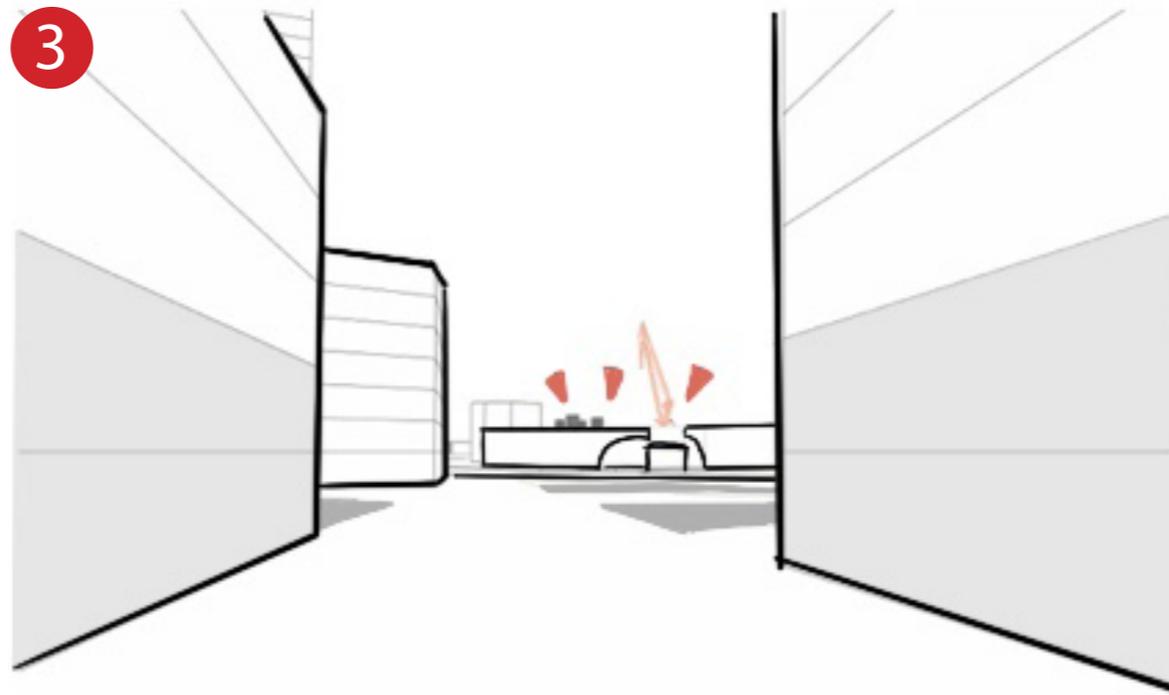


Miss Wu, Miss Zhang and Mr. He

20+

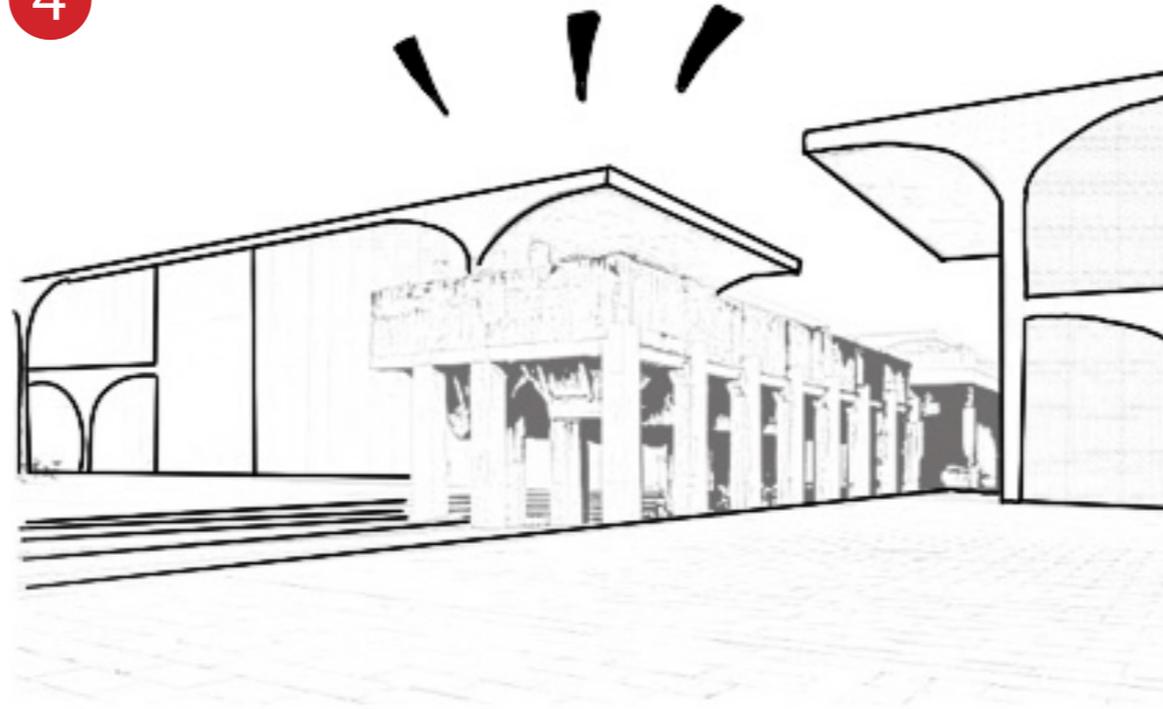








4



Connectivity: Sequence of movement

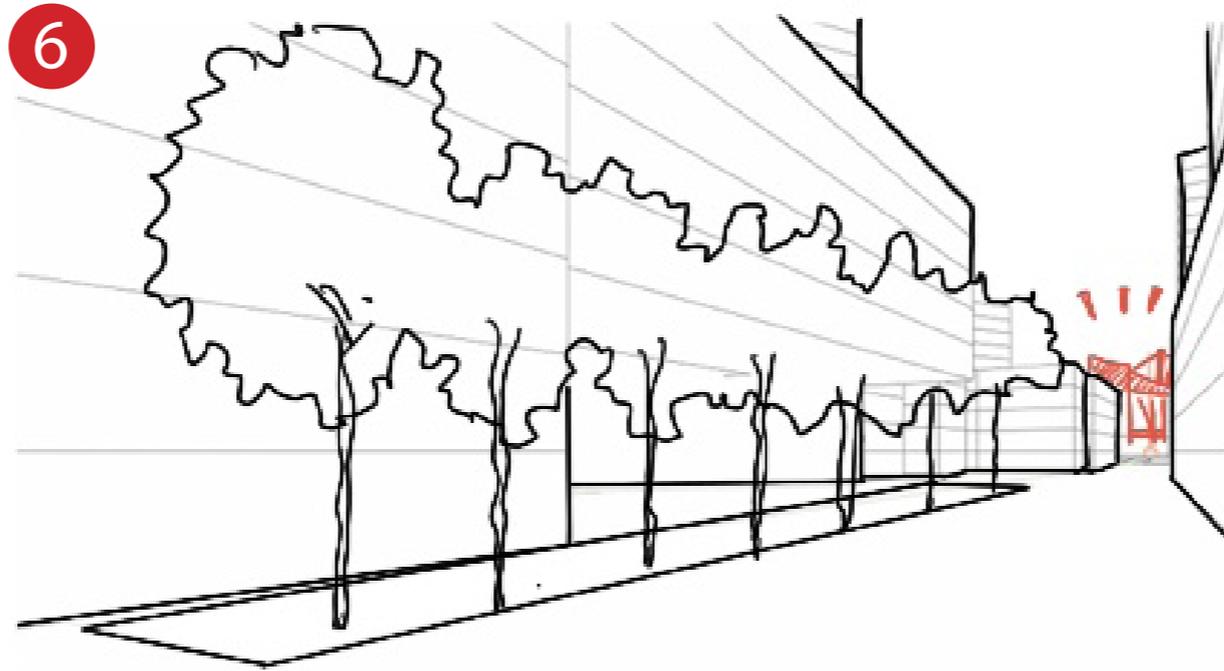


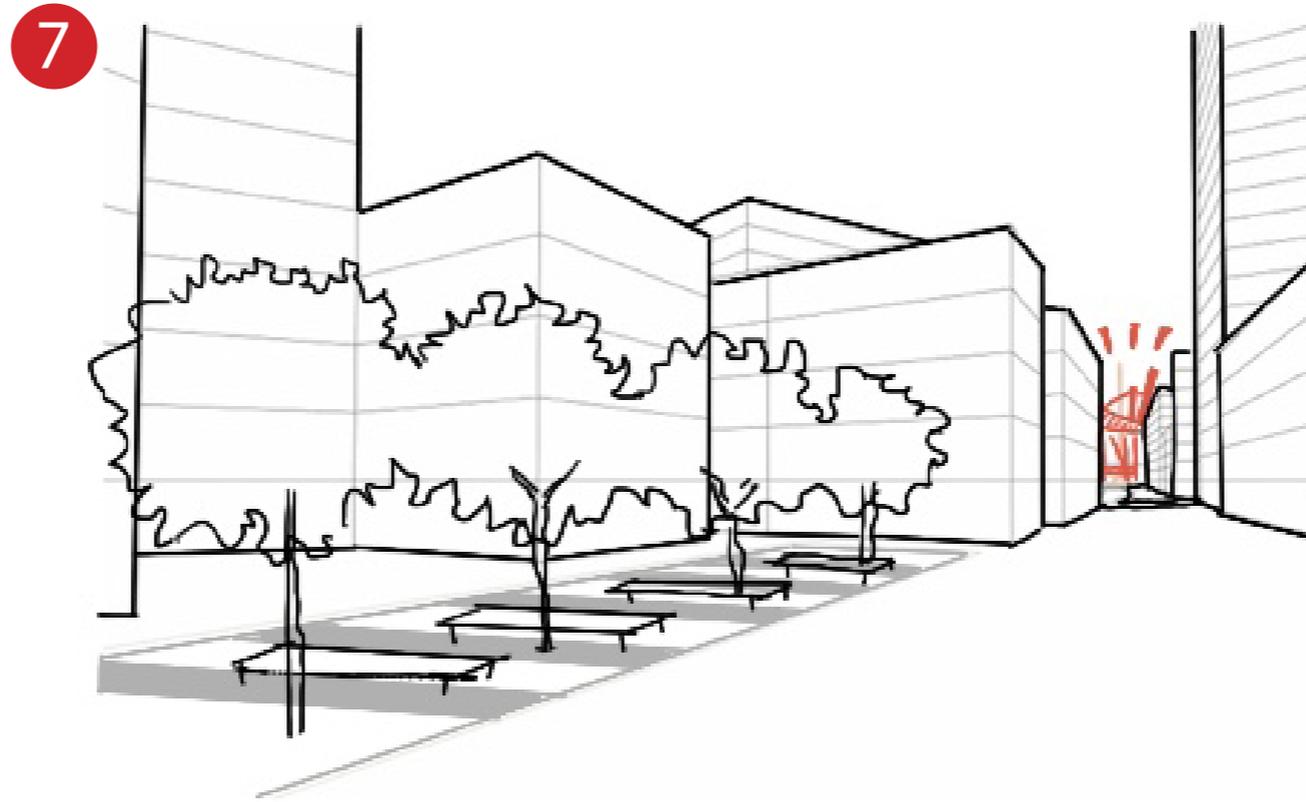
I am a primary school student, everyday my father pick me up from school and we would walk back home through a commercial zone and an innovation square



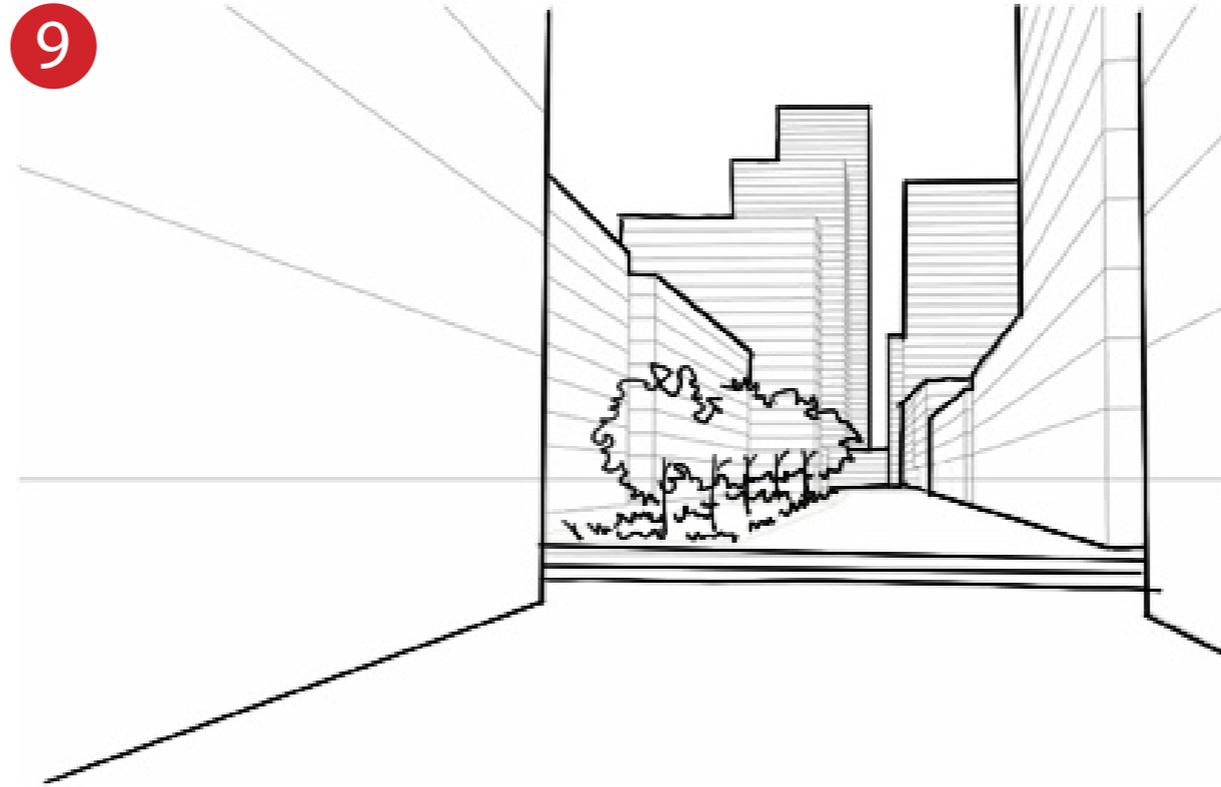
Mr. Wang and his 6 year old son











Identity of block

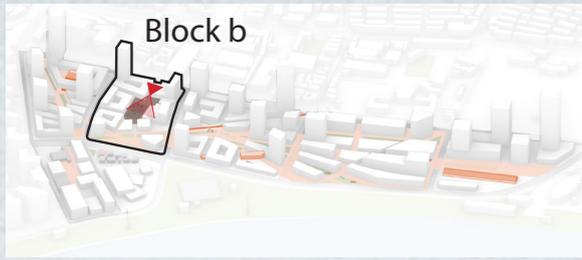


This used to be the Lotus Supermarket which is quite important for our life.

A vibrant district that deliver high-quality commercial space and cultural function which we could come to waste

Nearby residents Zhou:

Identity of block



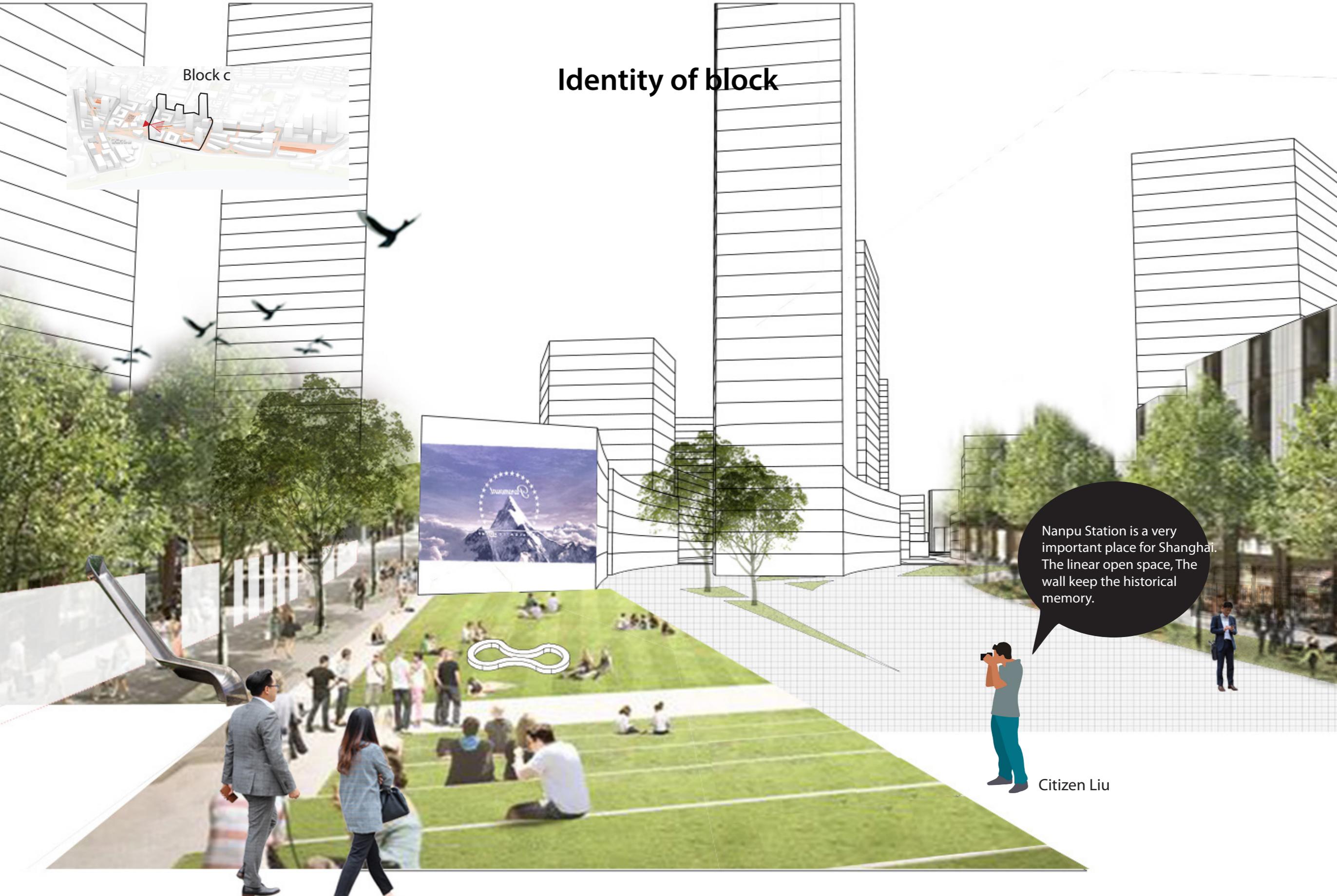
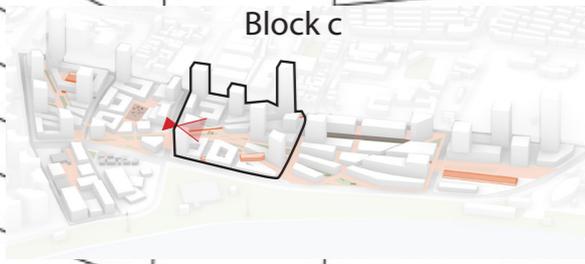
deliver high-quality public realm

A Place where young high-tech graduates can afford to live and work here. More opportunity for start-ups.

Office workers

students and high tech people

Identity of block

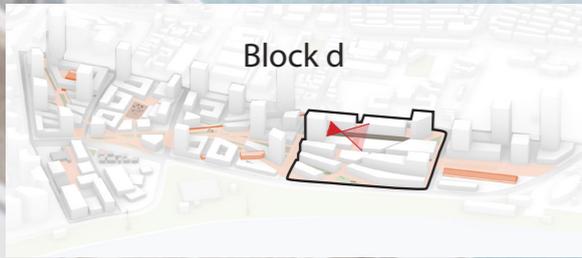


Nanpu Station is a very important place for Shanghai. The linear open space, The wall keep the historical memory.



Citizen Liu

Identity of block

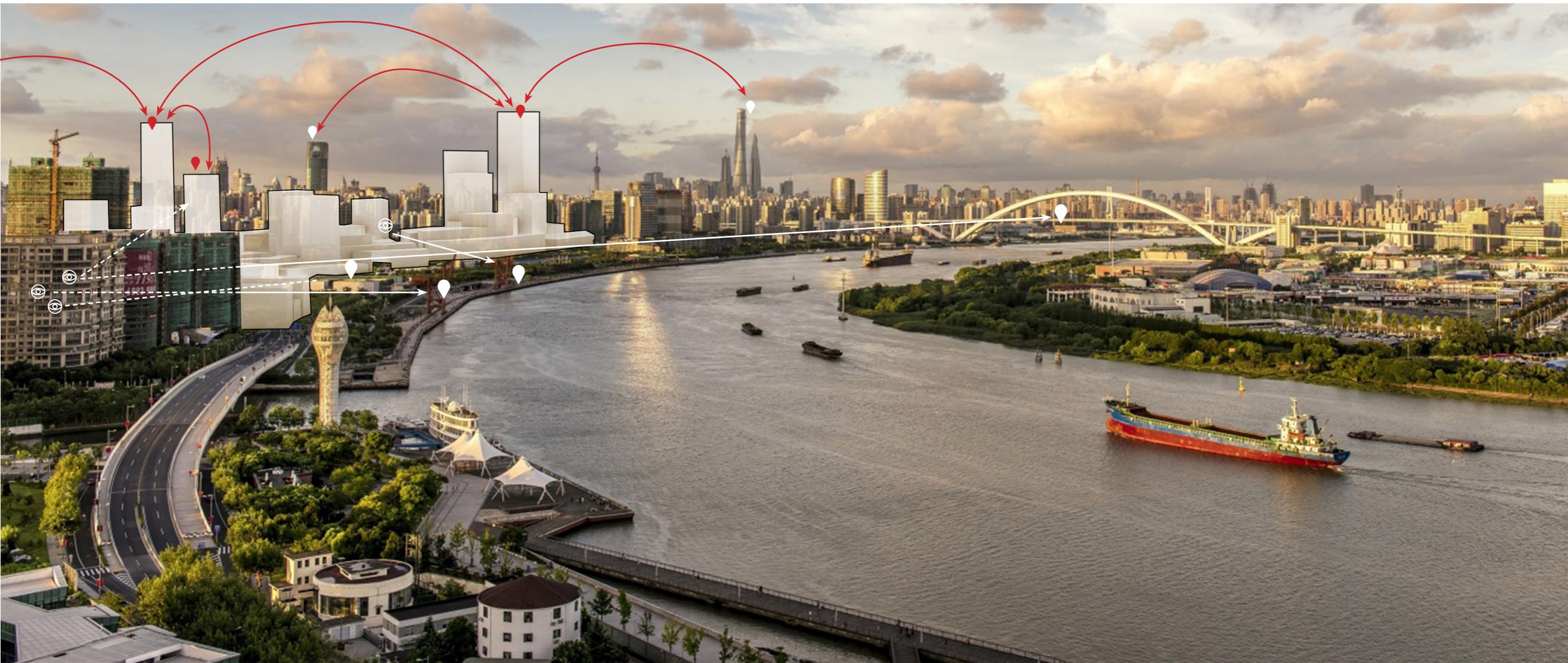


deliver high-quality green space, quiet and safe.

Residents Wang and his 6 year old son

View line

- Existing landmark
- Newly-built landmark
- View line

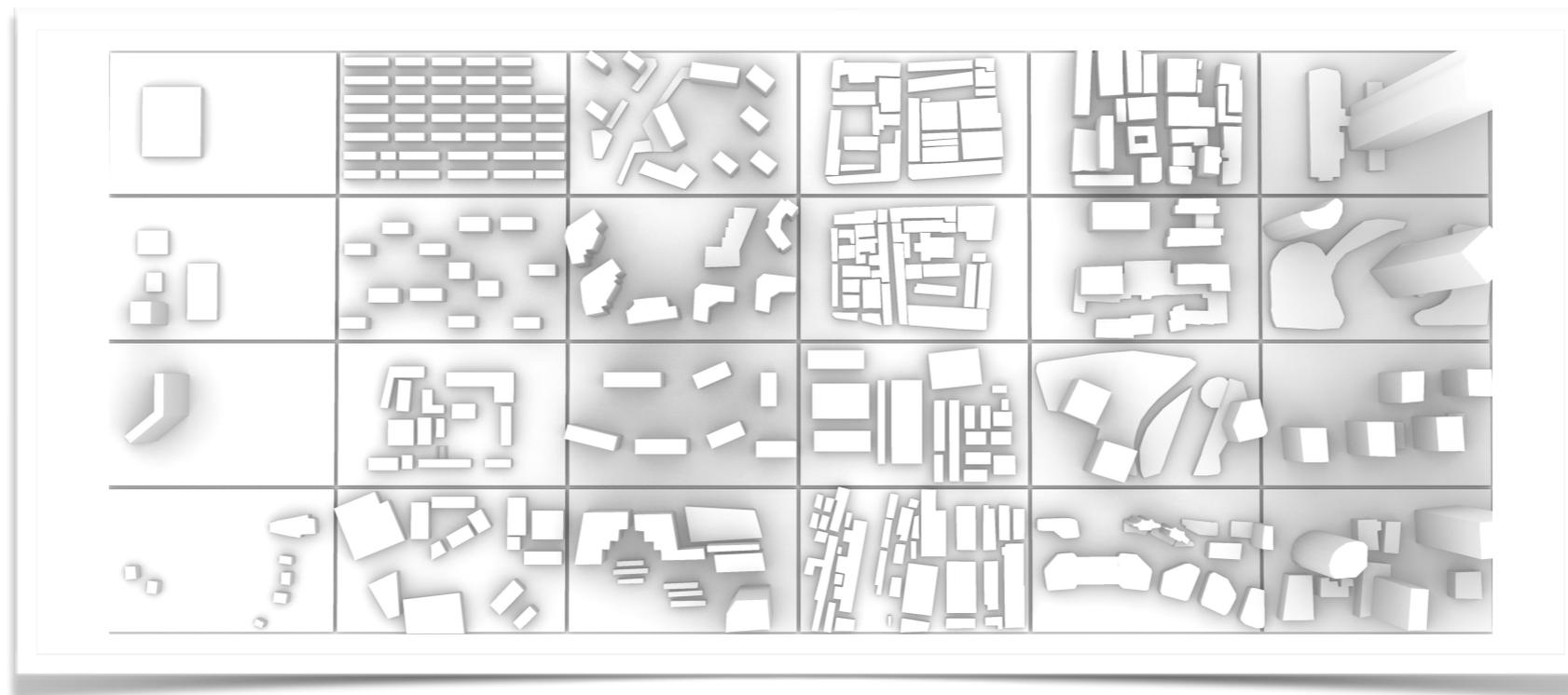


Conclusion

How to improve the place quality (urban vitality and identity) in the post-industrial riverfront along the Shanghai Huangpu River by understanding and modifying urban form during the densification and intensification process?

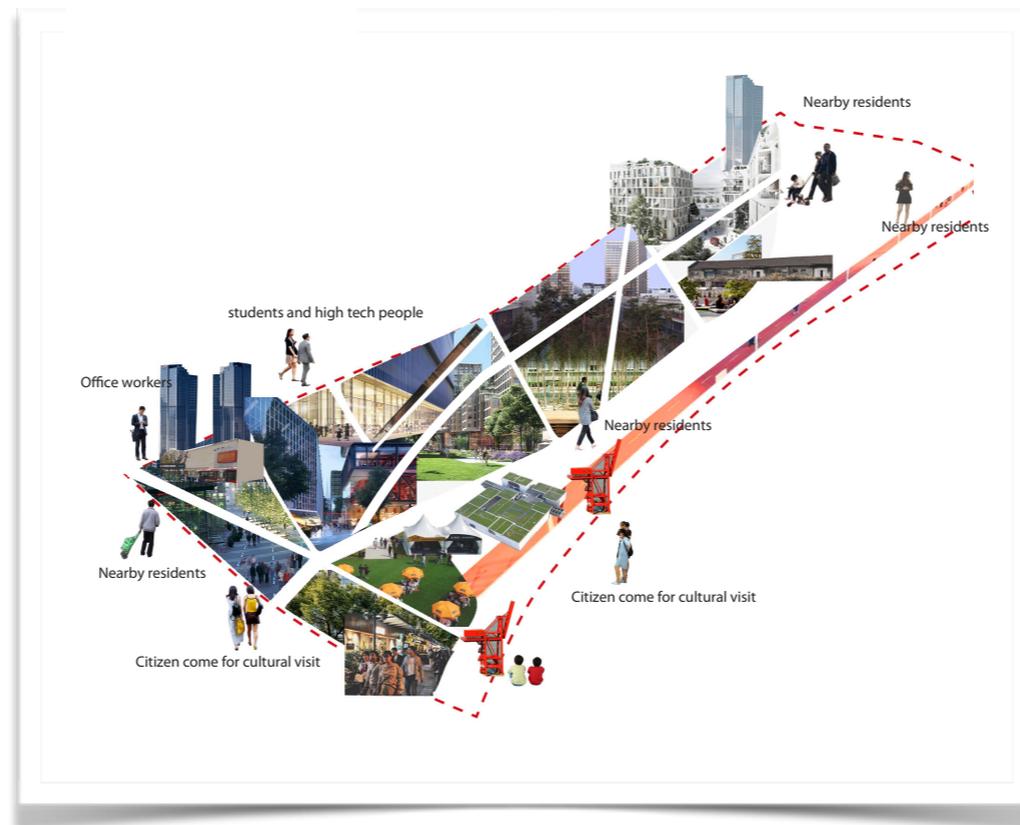
Conclusion

- Density forms can play a role in creating quality urban spaces, helping to create more diverse environments and serve diverse populations. This is important today to reduce the negative impact of homogeneous real estate in the Chinese environment, and achieve mixed-use, identity environment.



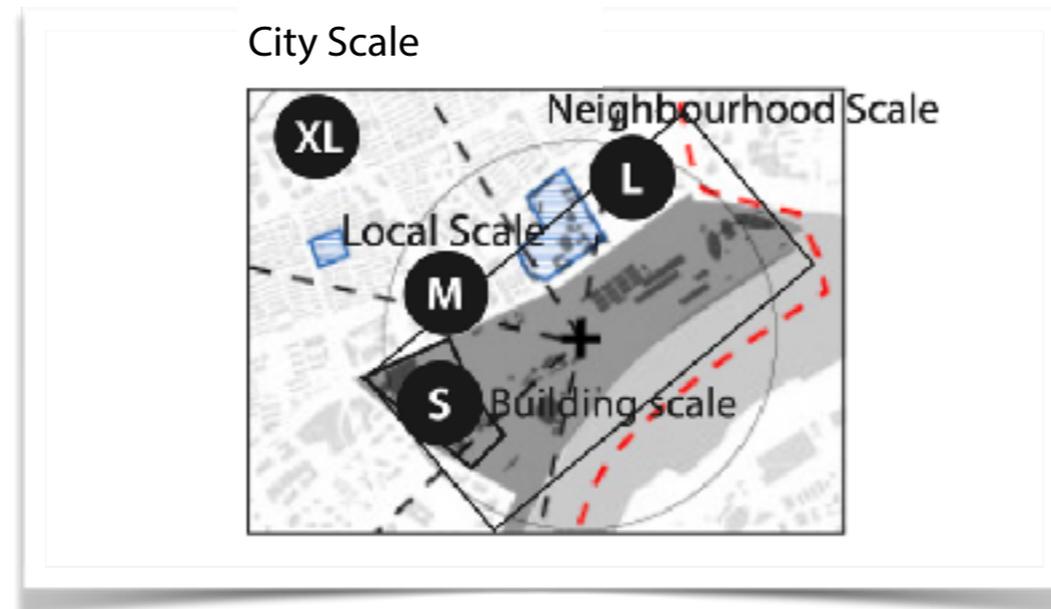
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- The identity and historical heritage are important elements for us to create a dialog between the present and the history of the site. and create attractors for people to gathering. Not only the tangible elements, but also the story and memory can help in create quality post-industrial riverfront.



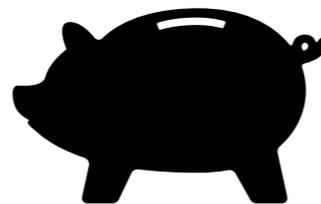
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- The design should design from scale. Not only built up the connection between community and the city, but also the connectivity of walking experience.

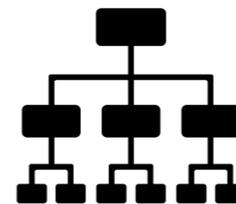


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- The identity and historical heritage are important elements for us to create a dialog between the present and the history of the site. and create attractors for people to gathering. Not only the tangible elements, but also the story and memory can help in create quality post-industrial riverfront.
- The design should design from scale. Not only built up the connection between community and the city, but also the connectivity of walking experience.
- The design is a highly optimise scenario, it does not reflect the financial feasible.
- Although I already did different options to respond to the design site, but still, with the help from parametric program, we urban designer and architects can investigate more unprecedented community form.



- financial feasible.



- more options



Thank you!