



# MOVING WITH WATER

Creating a Flexible and Resilient City in the Face of Extreme Weather

Metropolitan Ecologies of Place  
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**IPCC: gevolgen klimaatverandering steeds erger; 'nu razendsnel aan de slag'**

**Nederland kwetsbaar voor wateroverlast bij extremere weersomstandigheden**

**'Twintig keer zo veel kans op droogte noordelijk halfrond door klimaatverandering'**



- Increase in days with heavy rain



- Increase in days with heavy rain
- Increase in hourly rainfall



- Increase in days with heavy rain
- Increase in hourly rainfall
- Increase in damages




- Higher precipitation deficit



- Higher precipitation deficit
- More heat waves

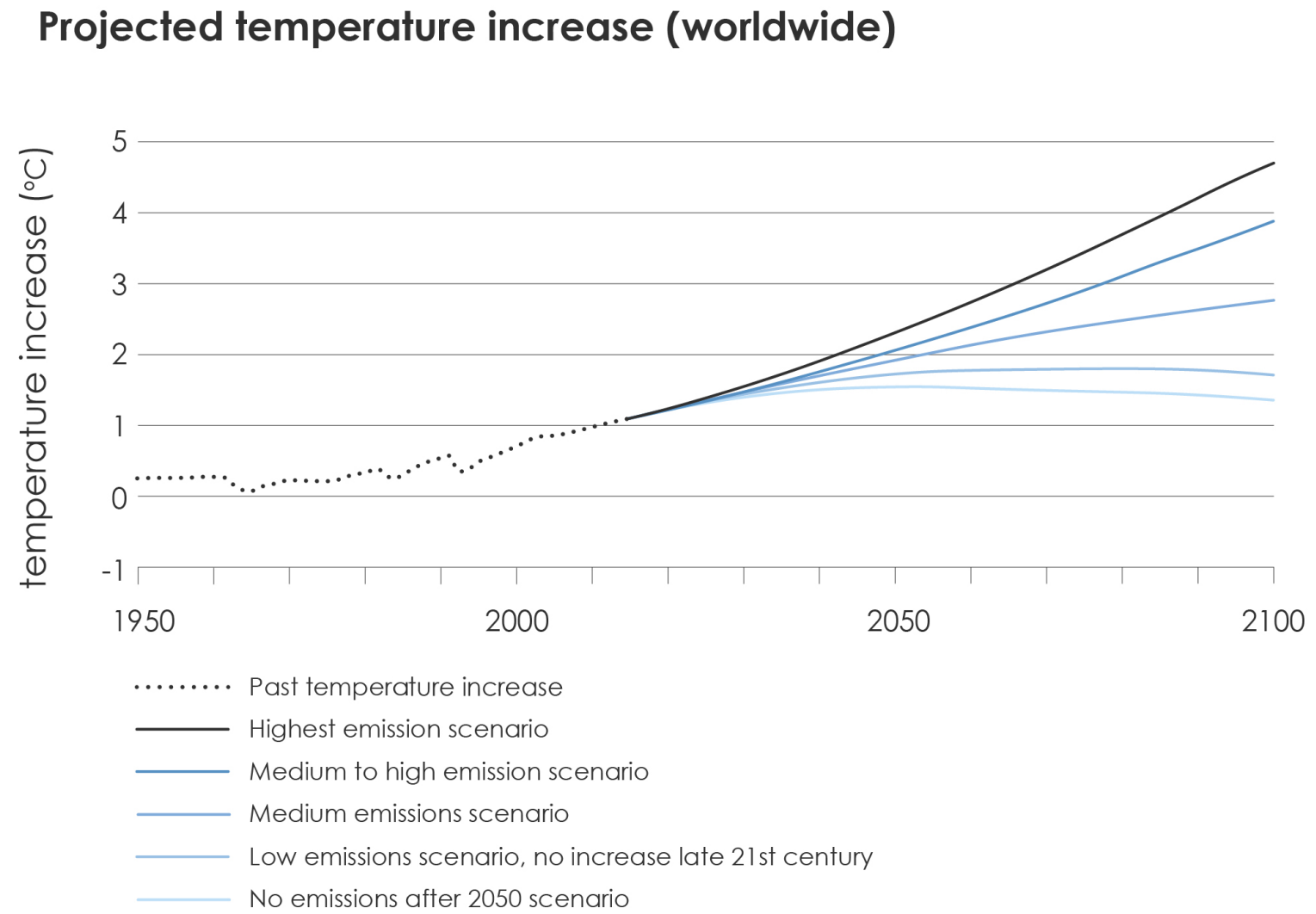


- 
- Higher precipitation deficit
  - More heat waves
  - Increase in damages



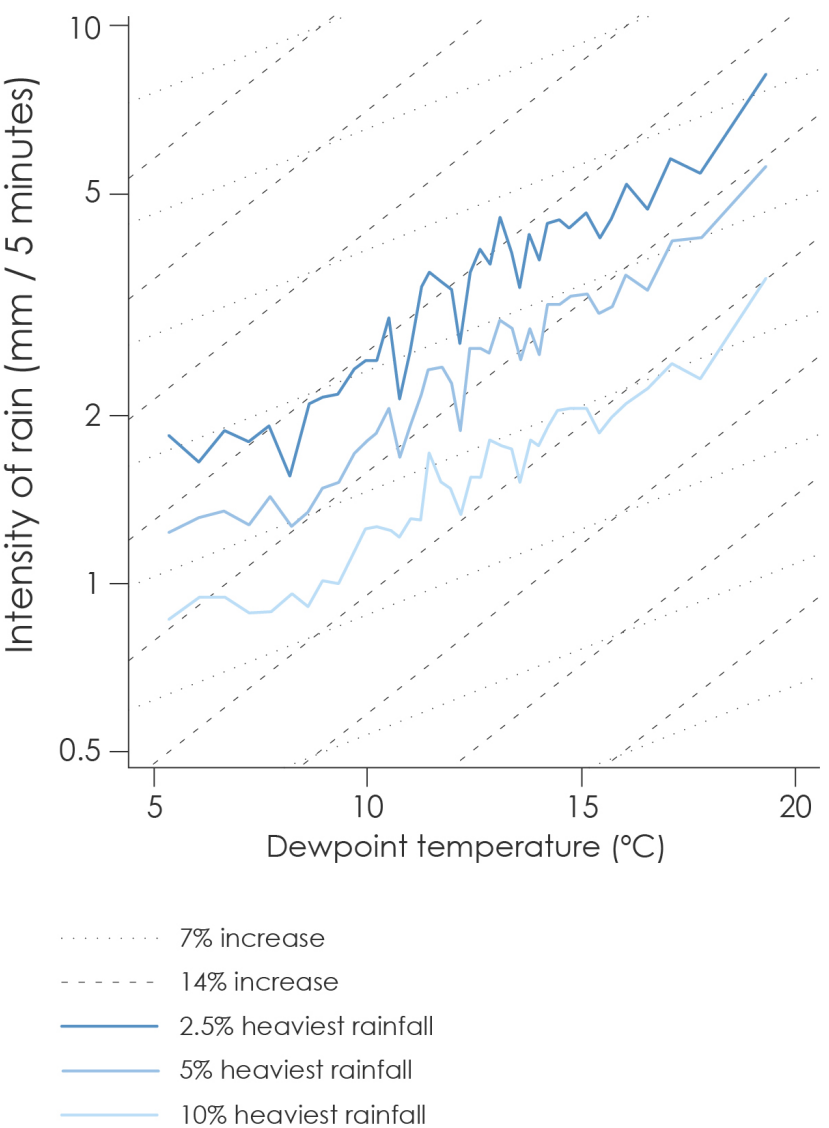
- 
- Higher precipitation deficit
  - More heat waves
  - Increase in damages
  - Water shortages







Relation between dew point temperature and rain intensity





**How can the built environment become more flexible to accommodate weather extremes and changing needs?**











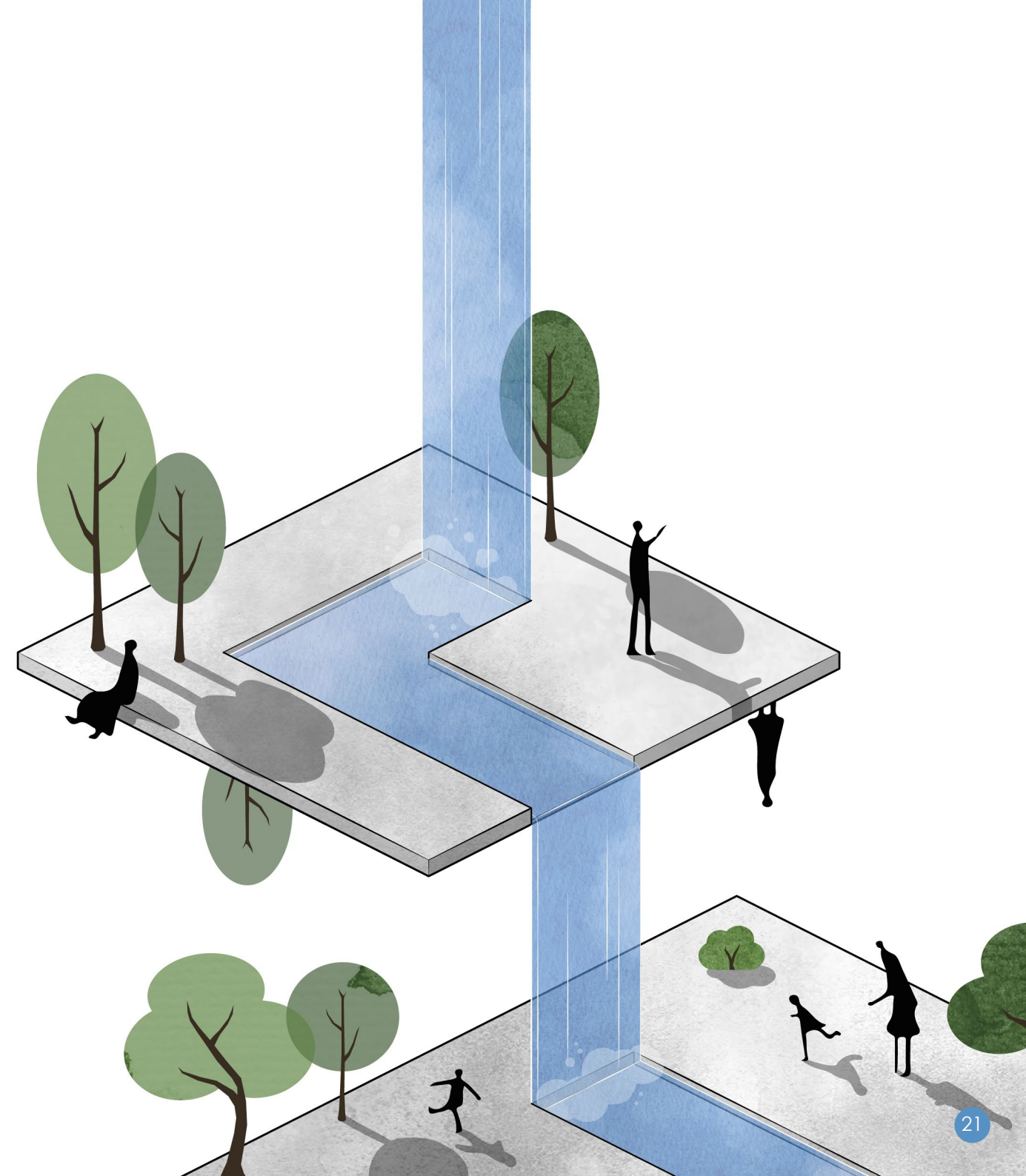






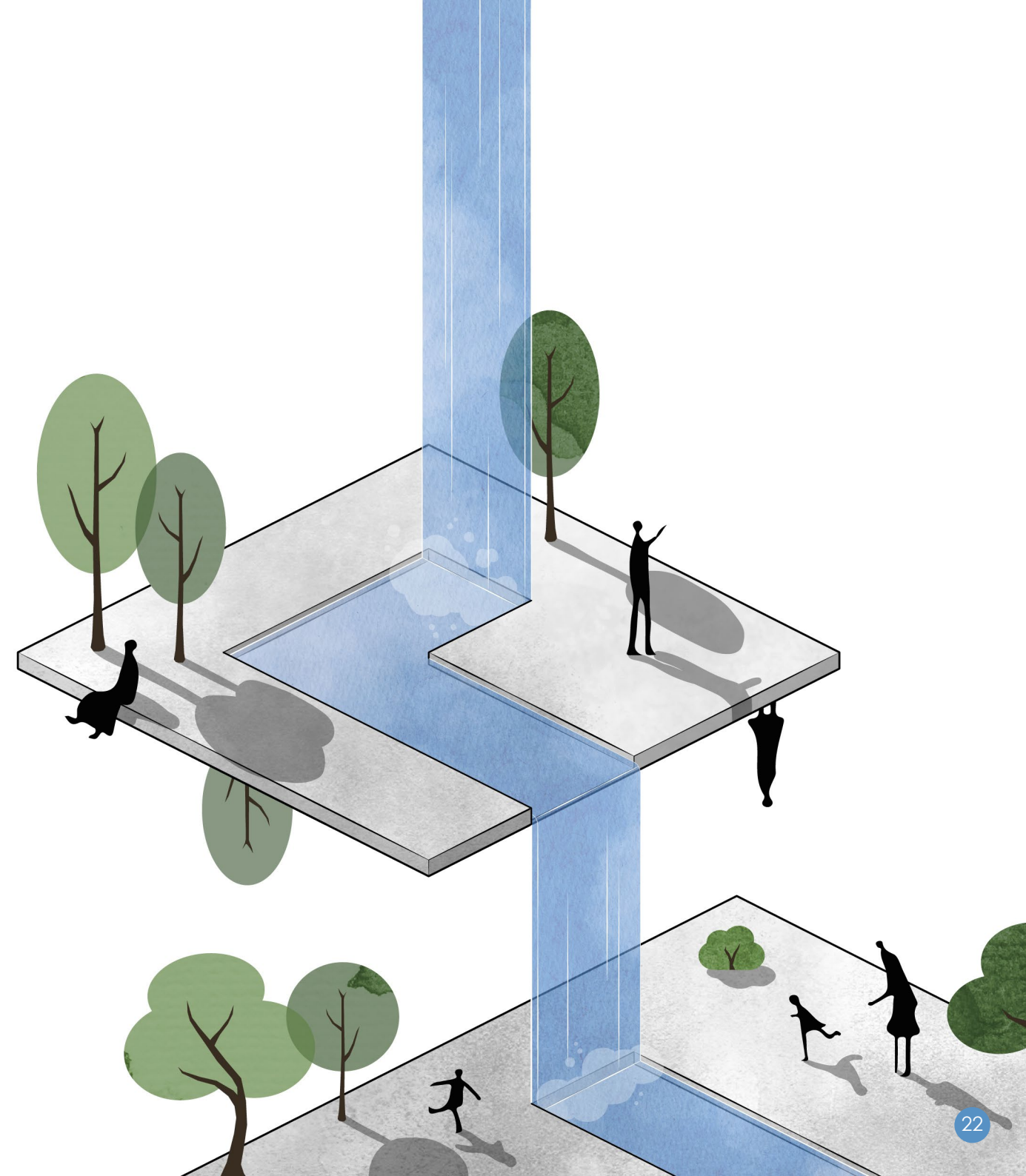


- Disconnect between people and nature
- Disconnect between the city and nature
- Cities stagnant in dealing with change
- Cities lack flexibility
- Flexibility and resilience



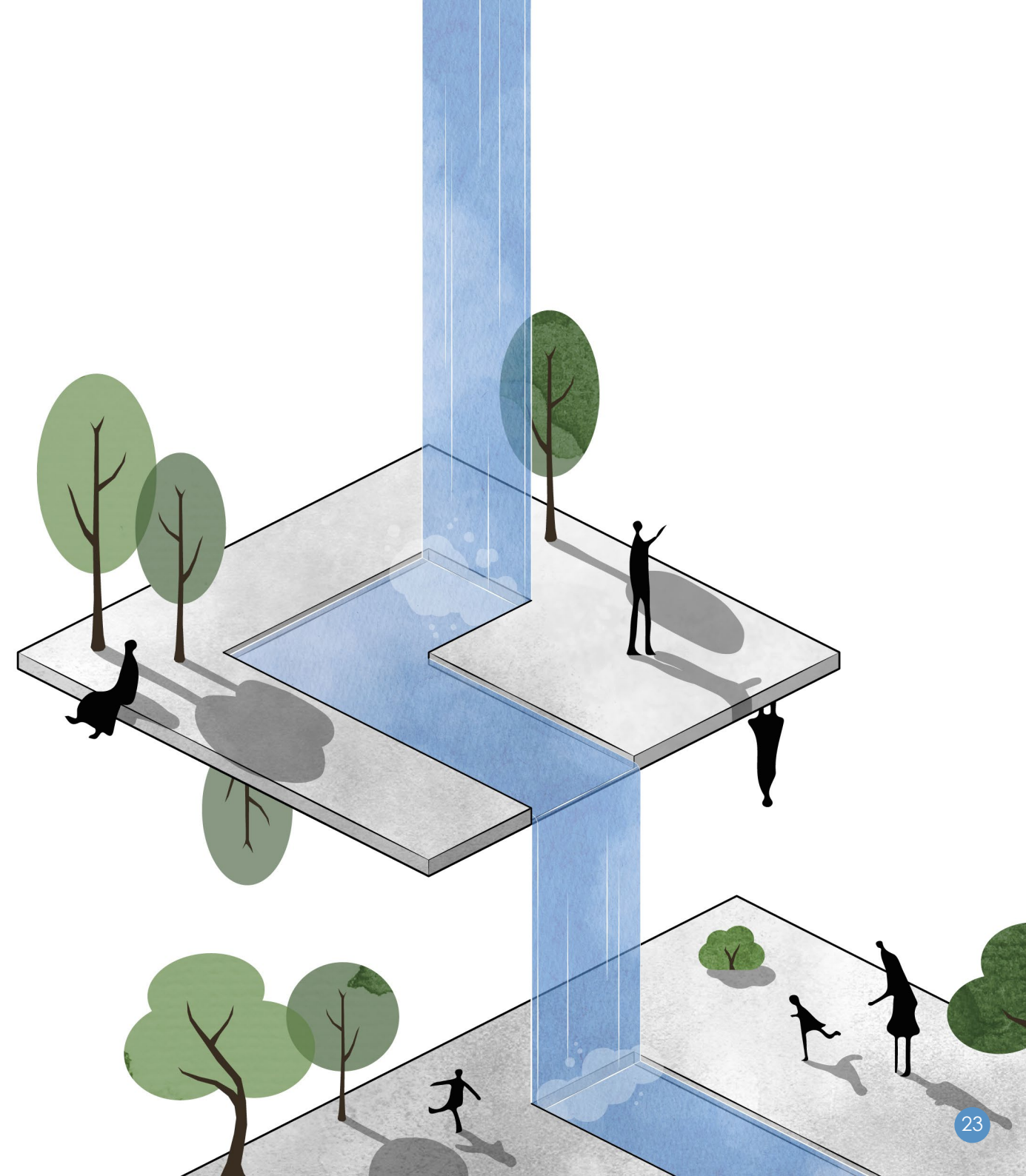


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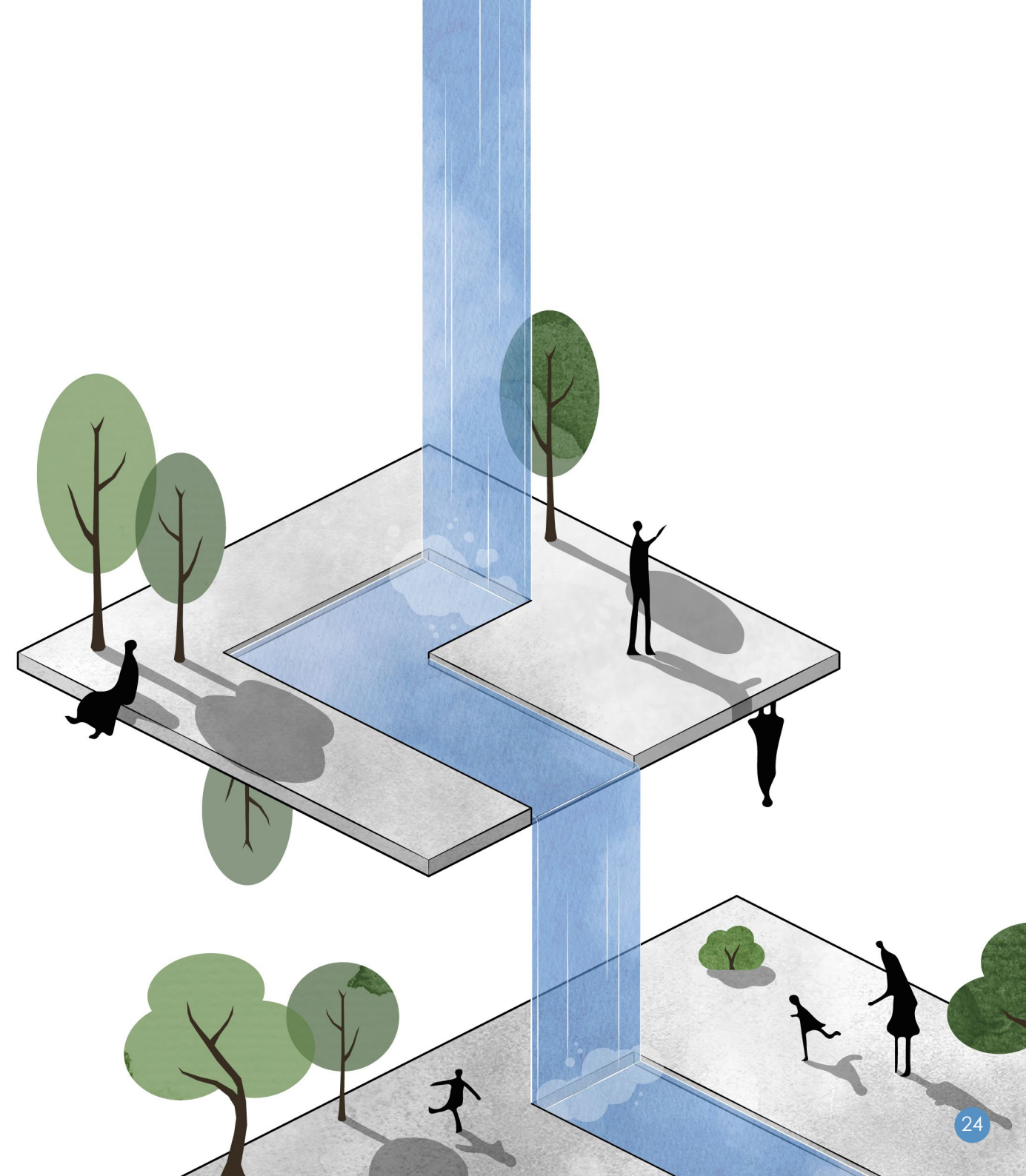


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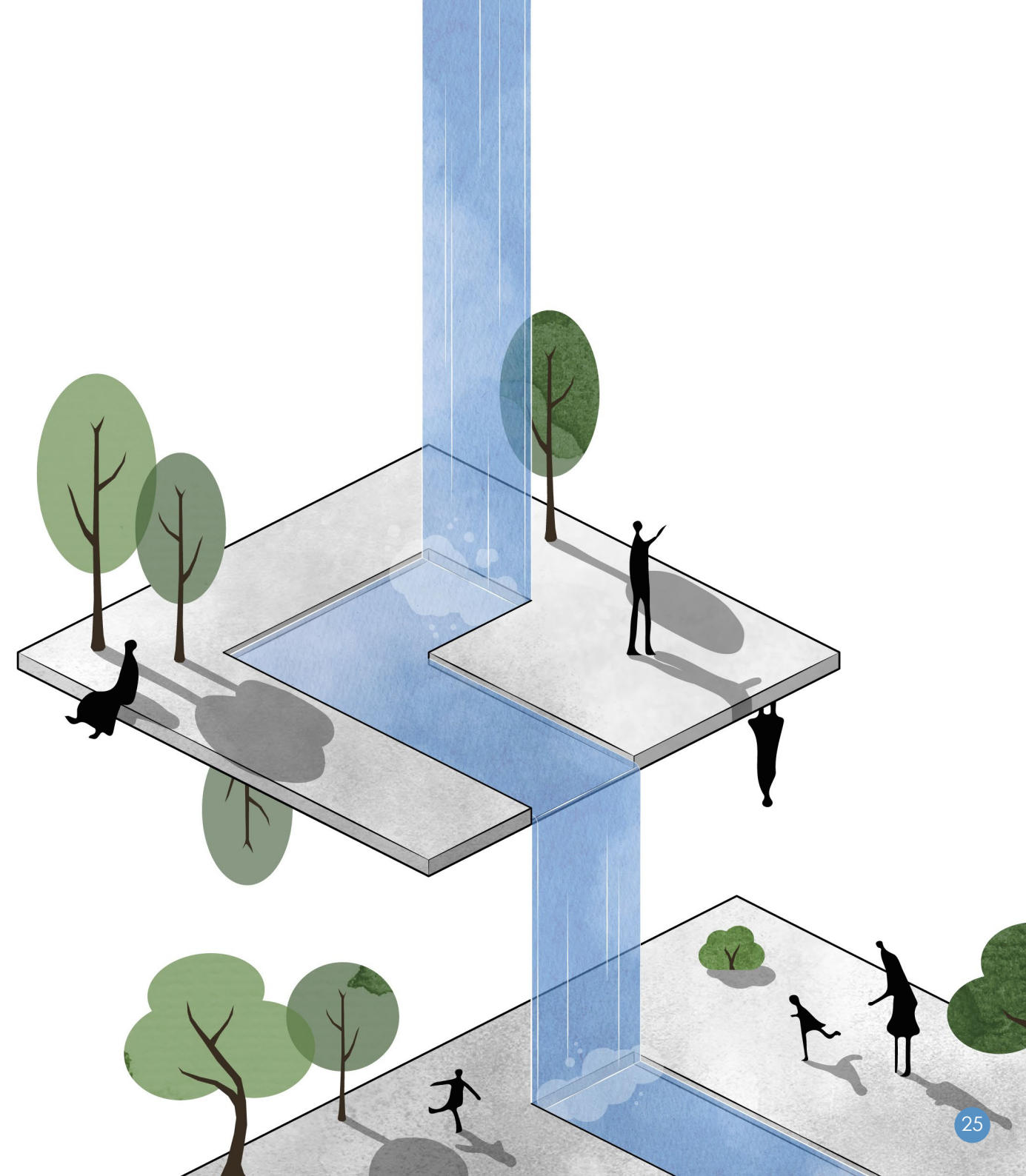


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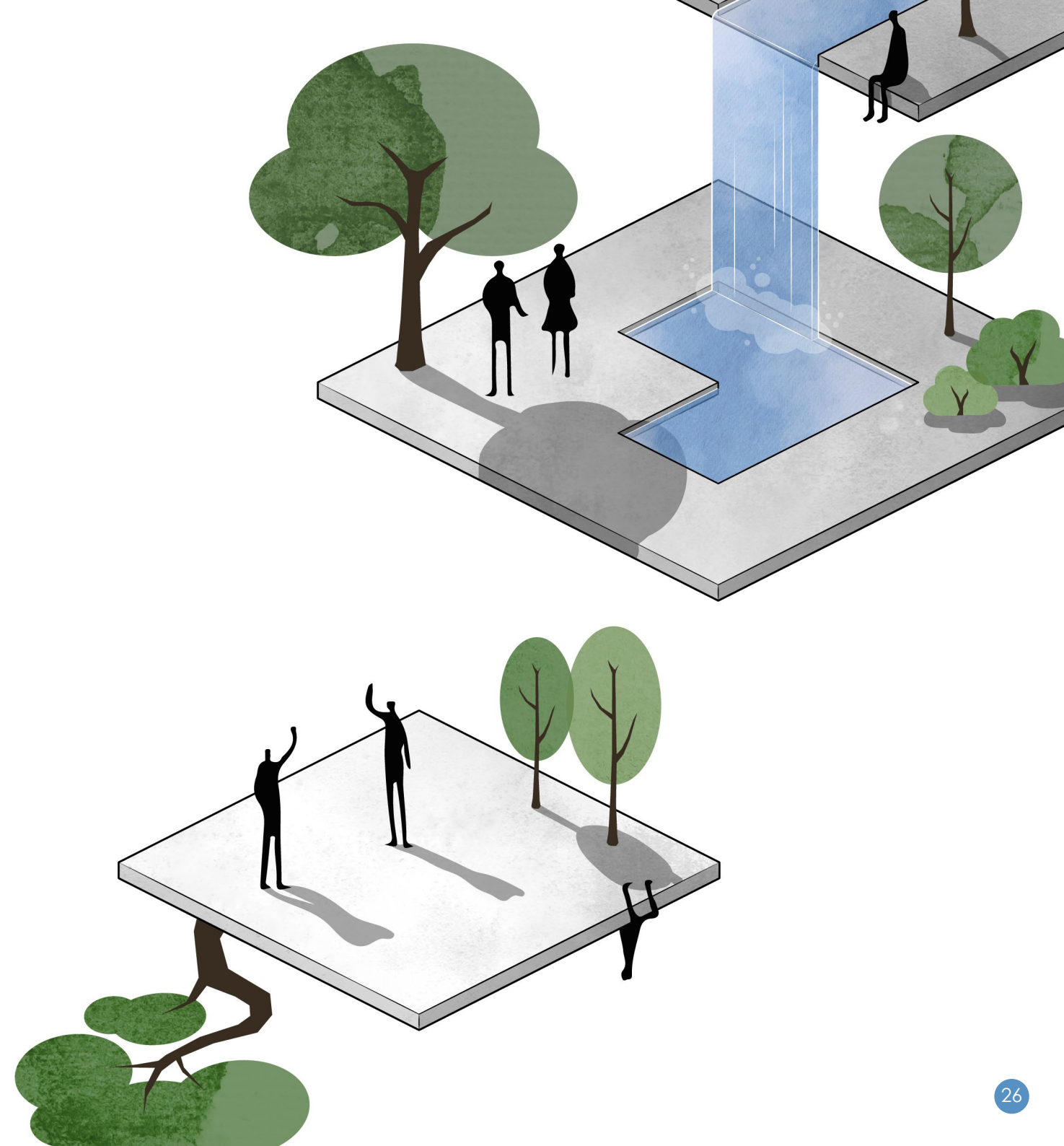


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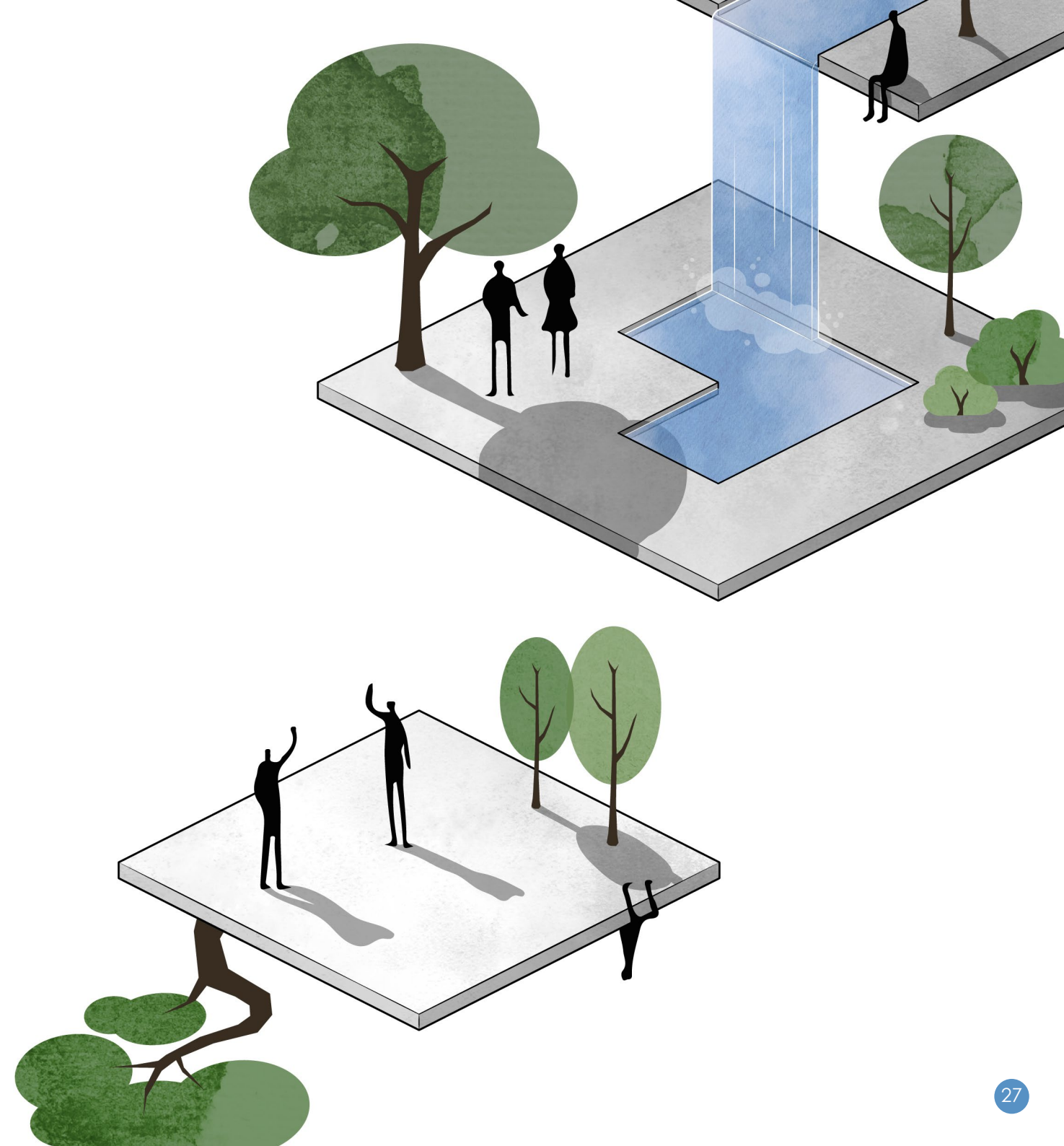


- Adapting to the unforeseen
- Adapting to extreme weather





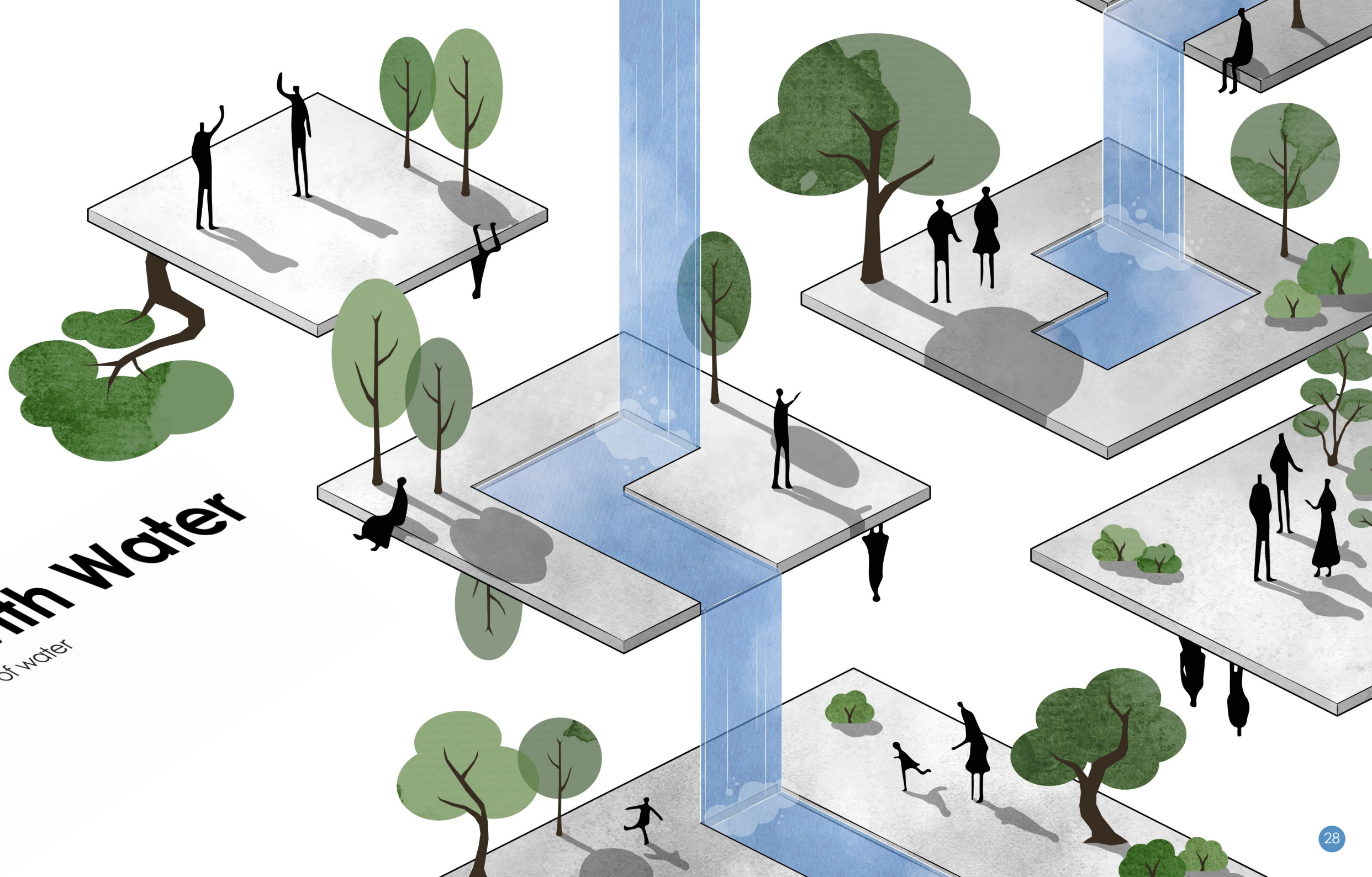
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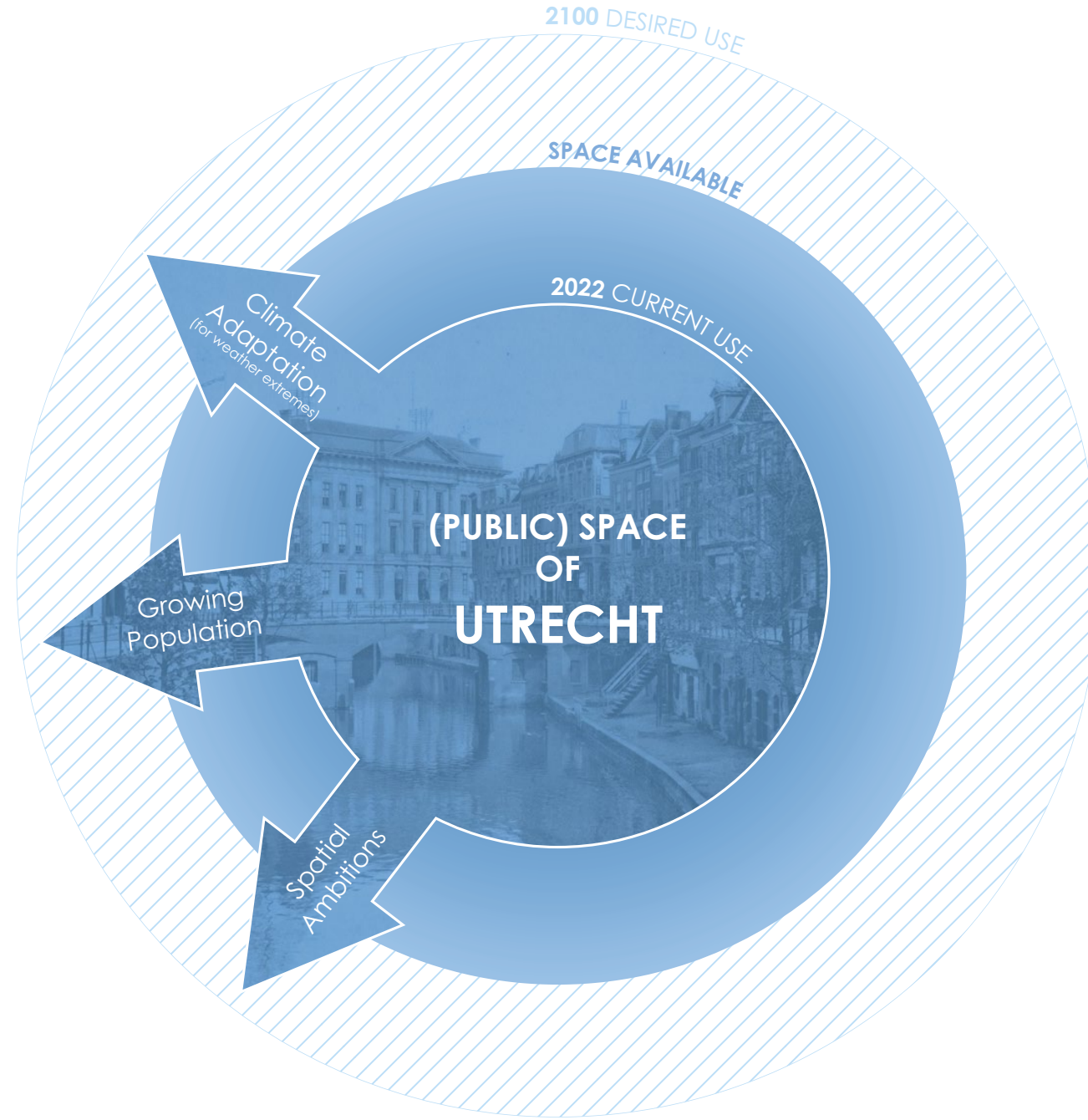


# Moving with Water

Learning from the fluidity of water





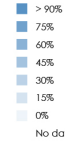




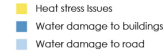
# Vulnerability to Heavy Rain



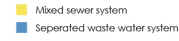
## Percentage of built-up space



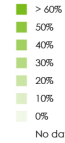
## Municipal priority for heat stress and water nu



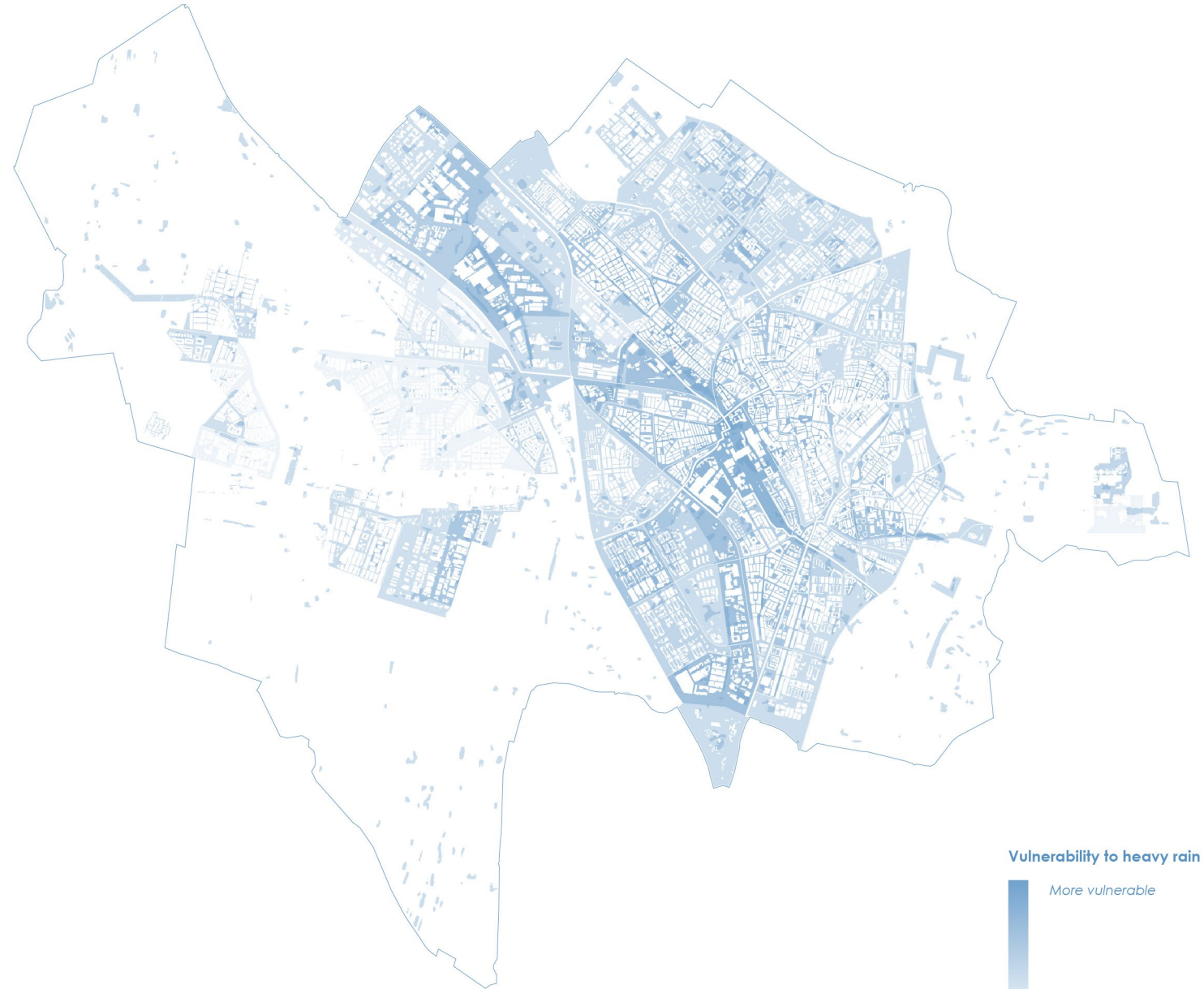
## Sewer system



## Percentage of green surfaces



## Waterdepth on the street after rainfall of 80 m



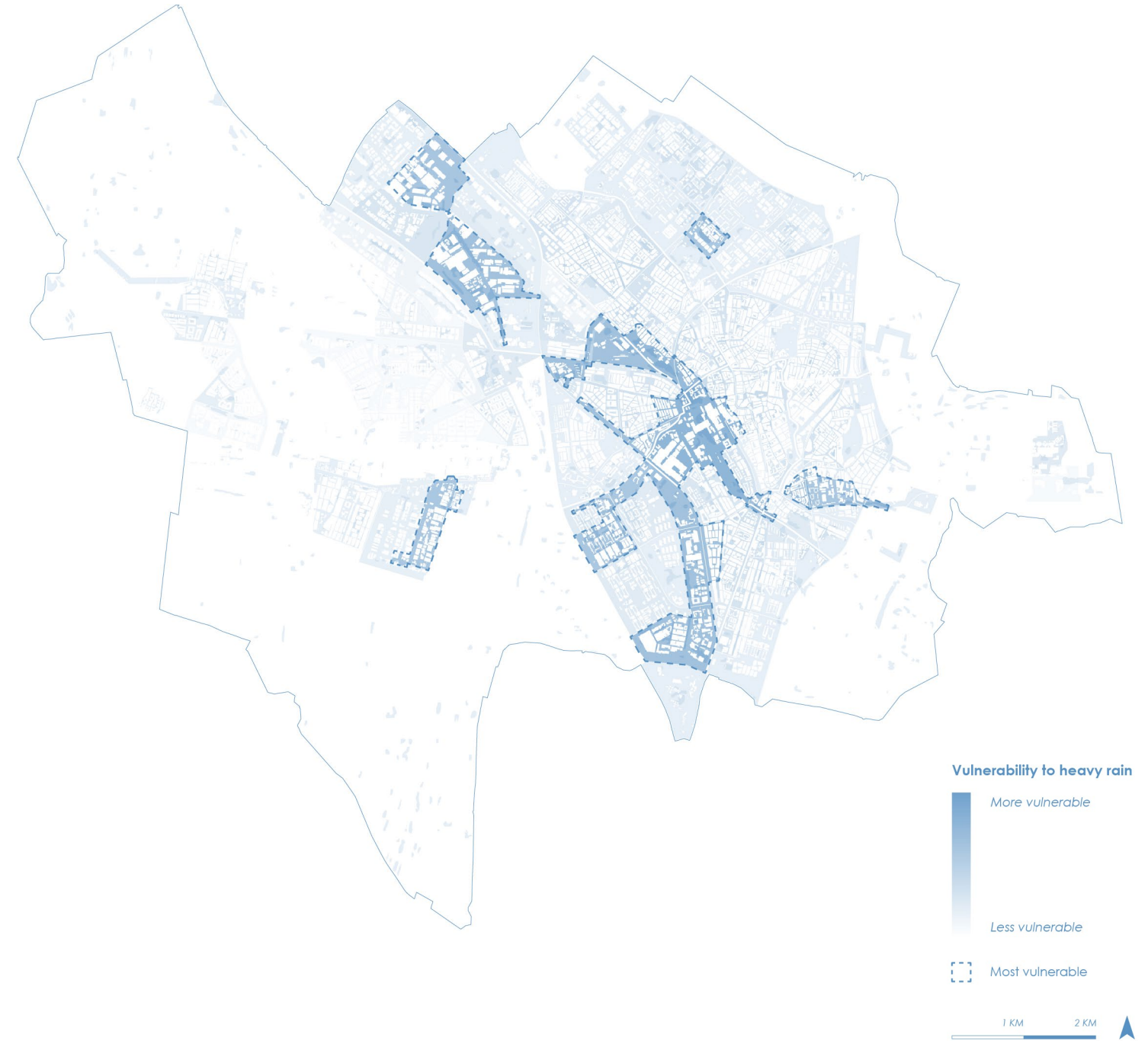
## Vulnerability to heavy rain





## Vulnerability to Heavy Rain

- Infiltration
- Capacity of sewer system
- Capacity of surface water
- Current problems

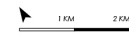
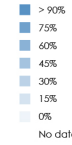




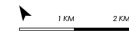
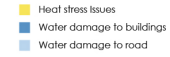
# Vulnerability to Drought and Heat



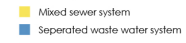
## Percentage of built-up space



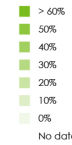
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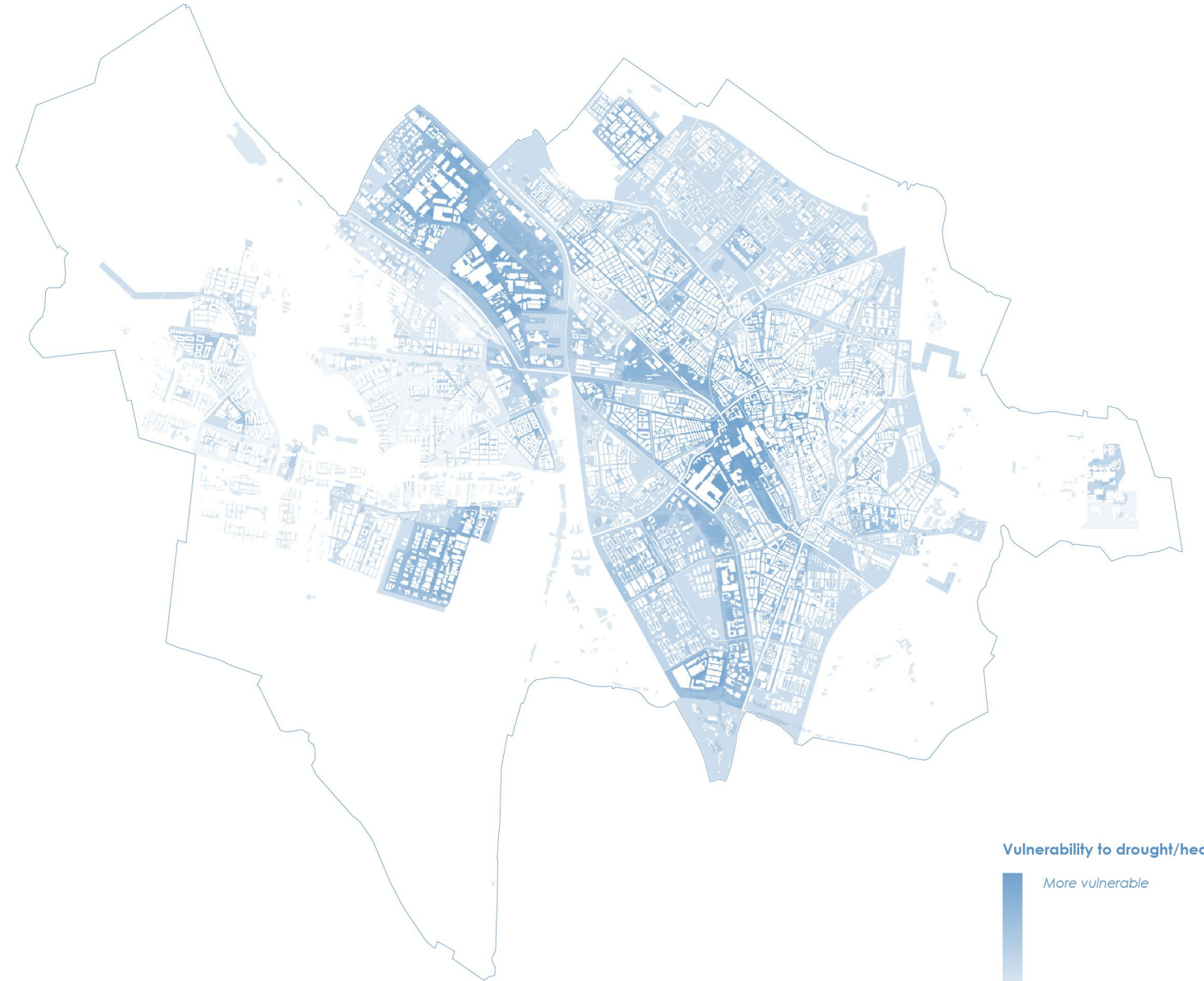
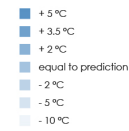
## Sewer system



## Percentage of green surfaces



## Heat stress



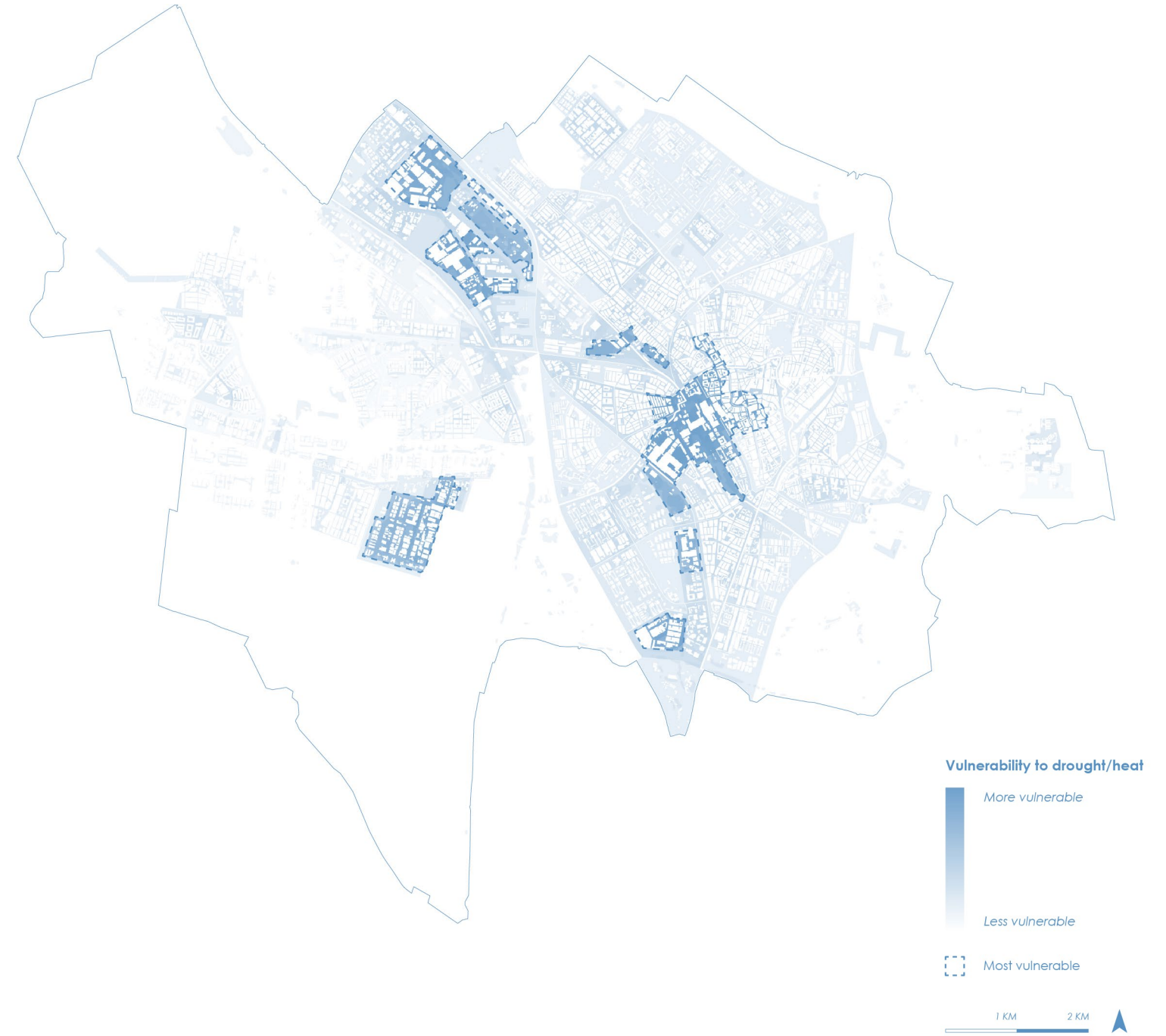
## Vulnerability to drought/heat





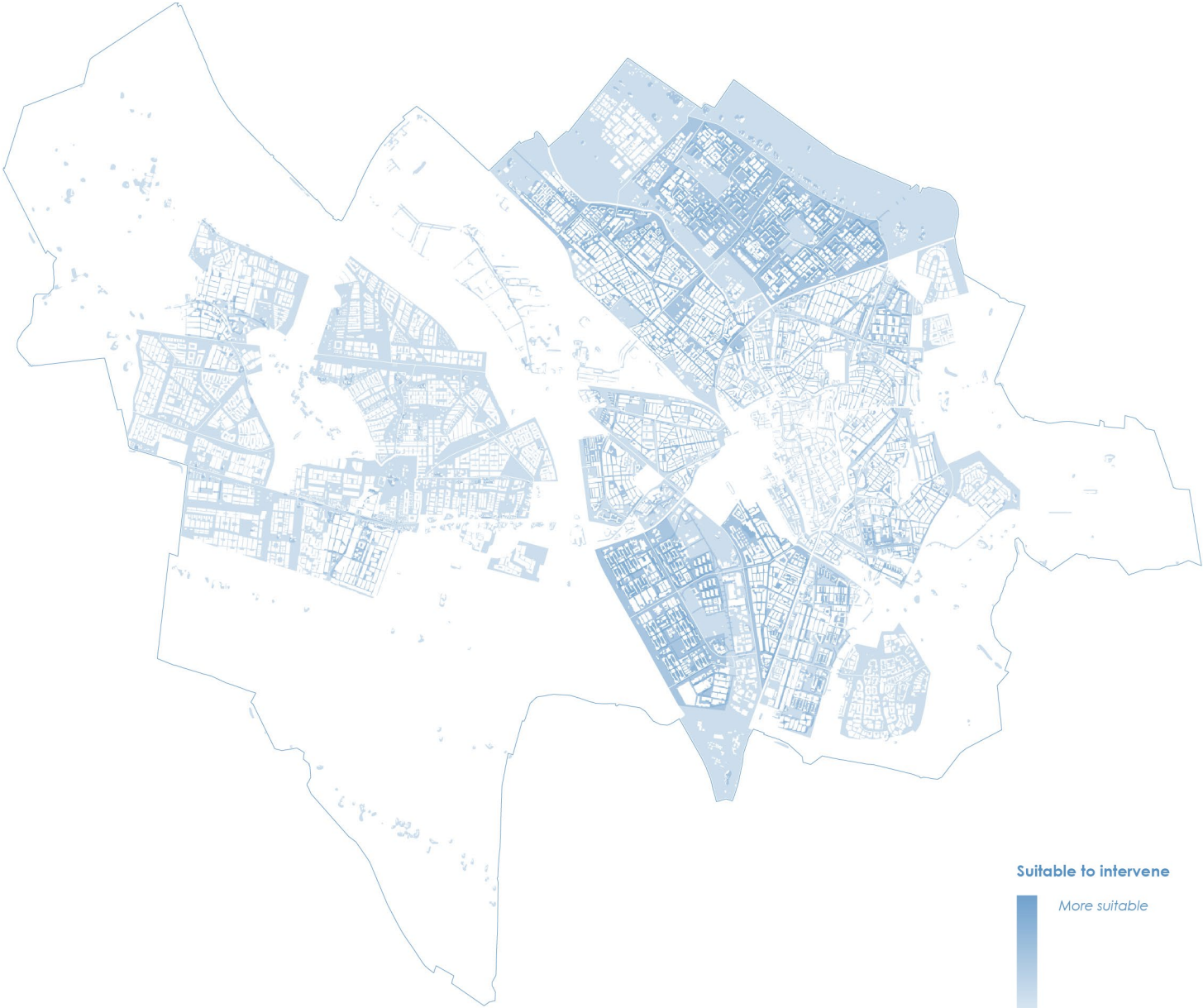
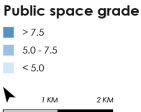
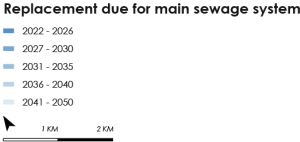
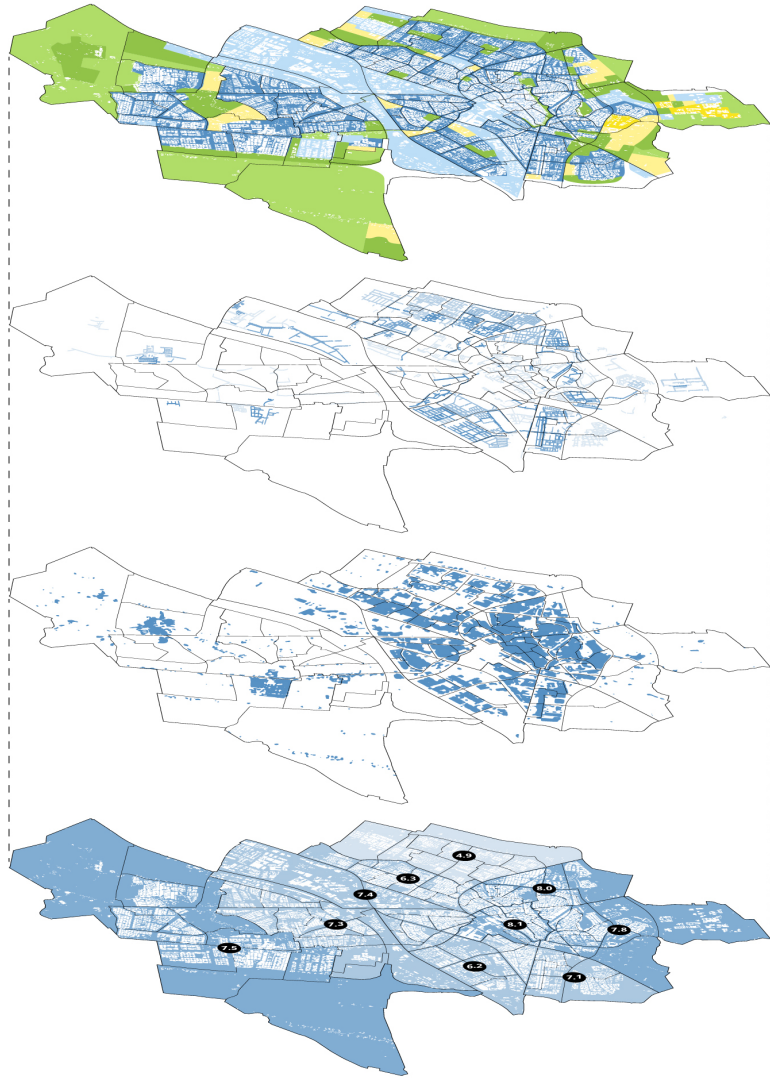
## Vulnerability to Drought and Heat

- Infiltration
- Green space
- Heat stress
- Current problems





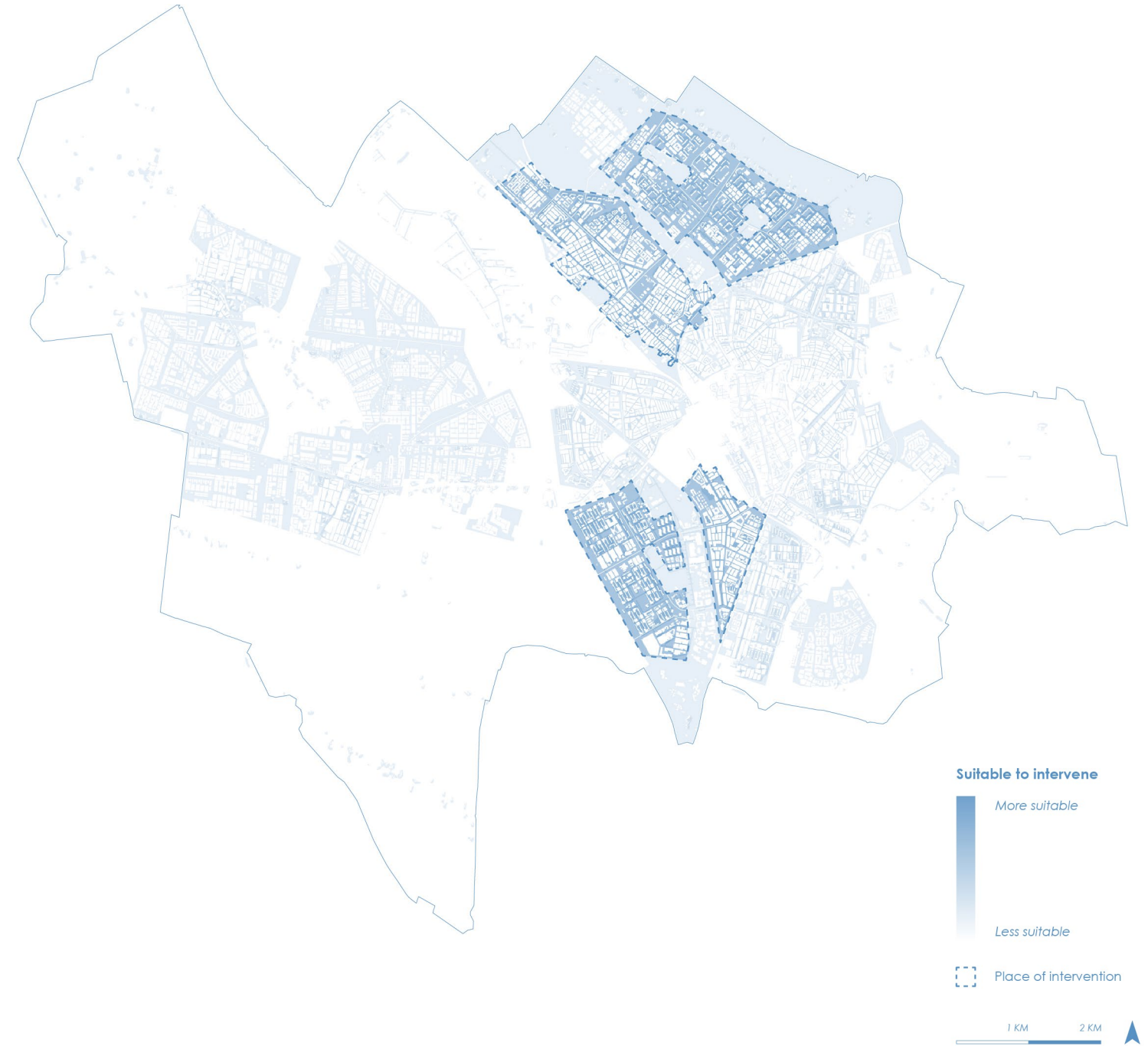
Where to Intervene





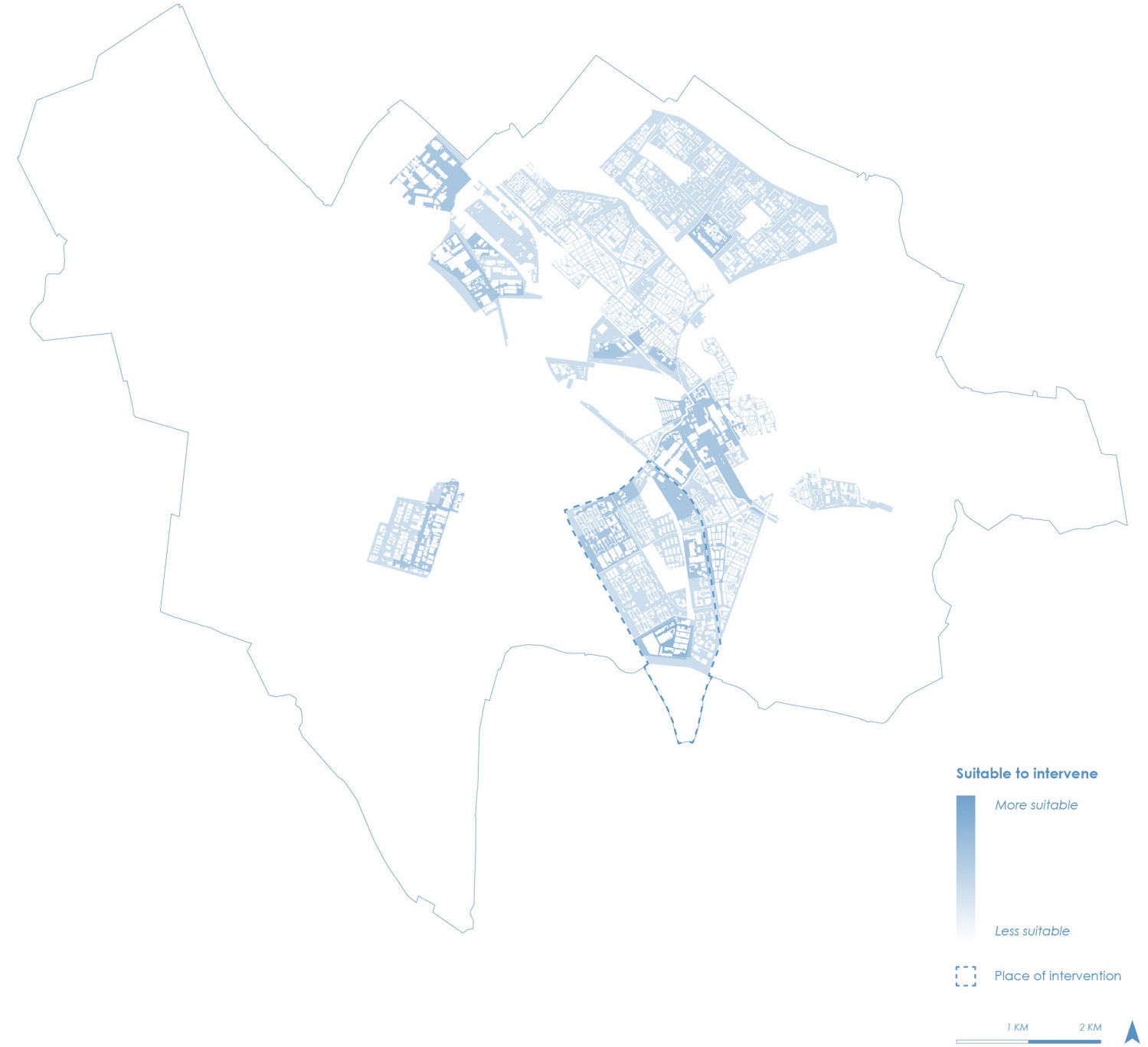
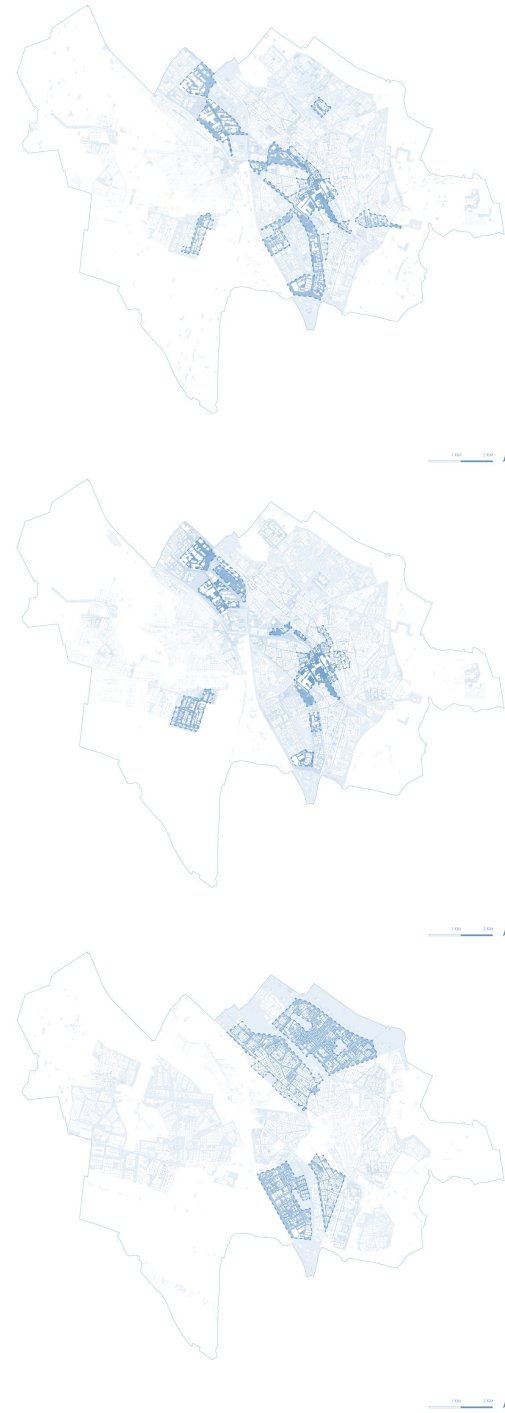
## Where to Intervene

- Living function
- State of the water system
- State of the built environment
- Public space quality

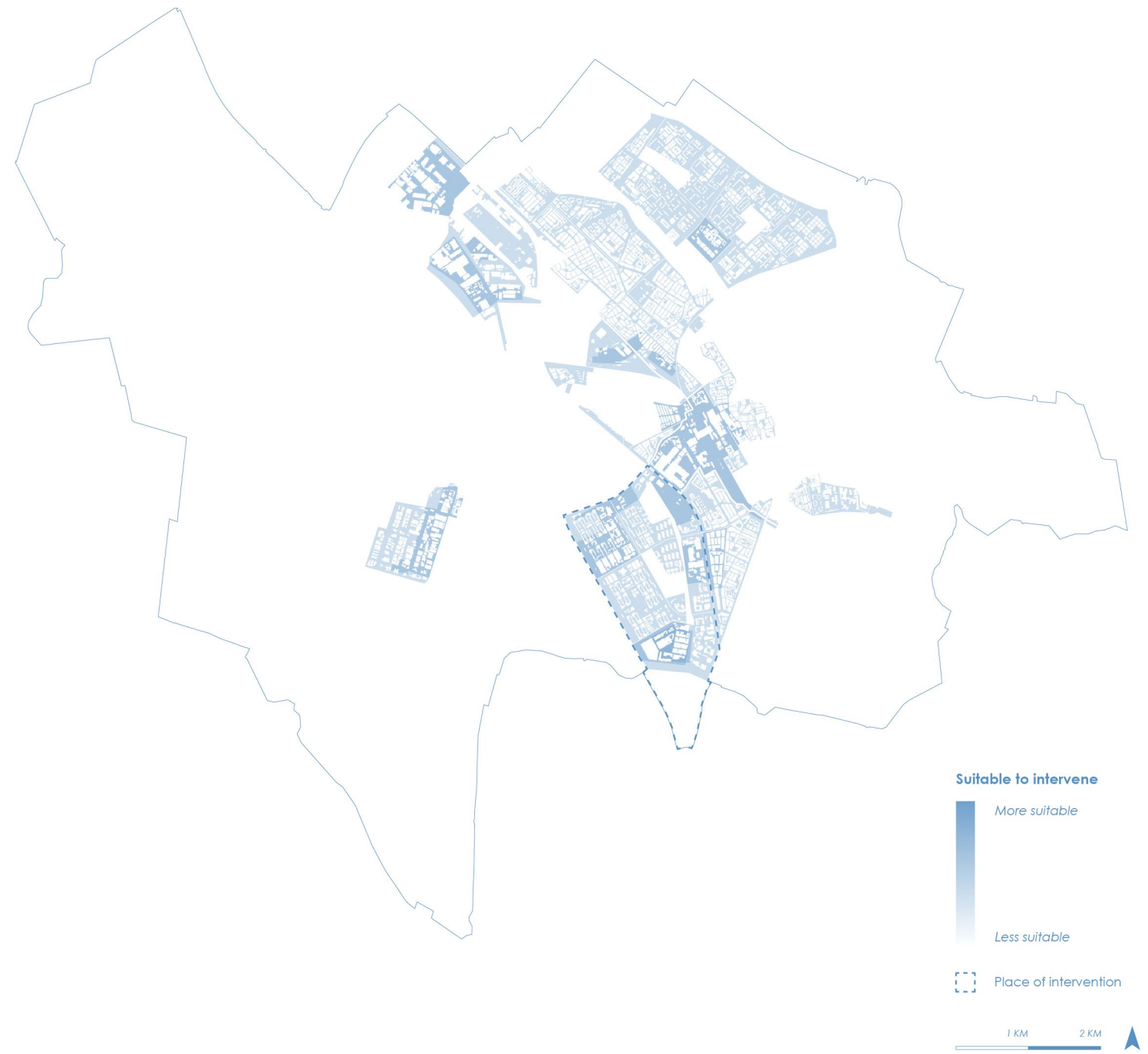




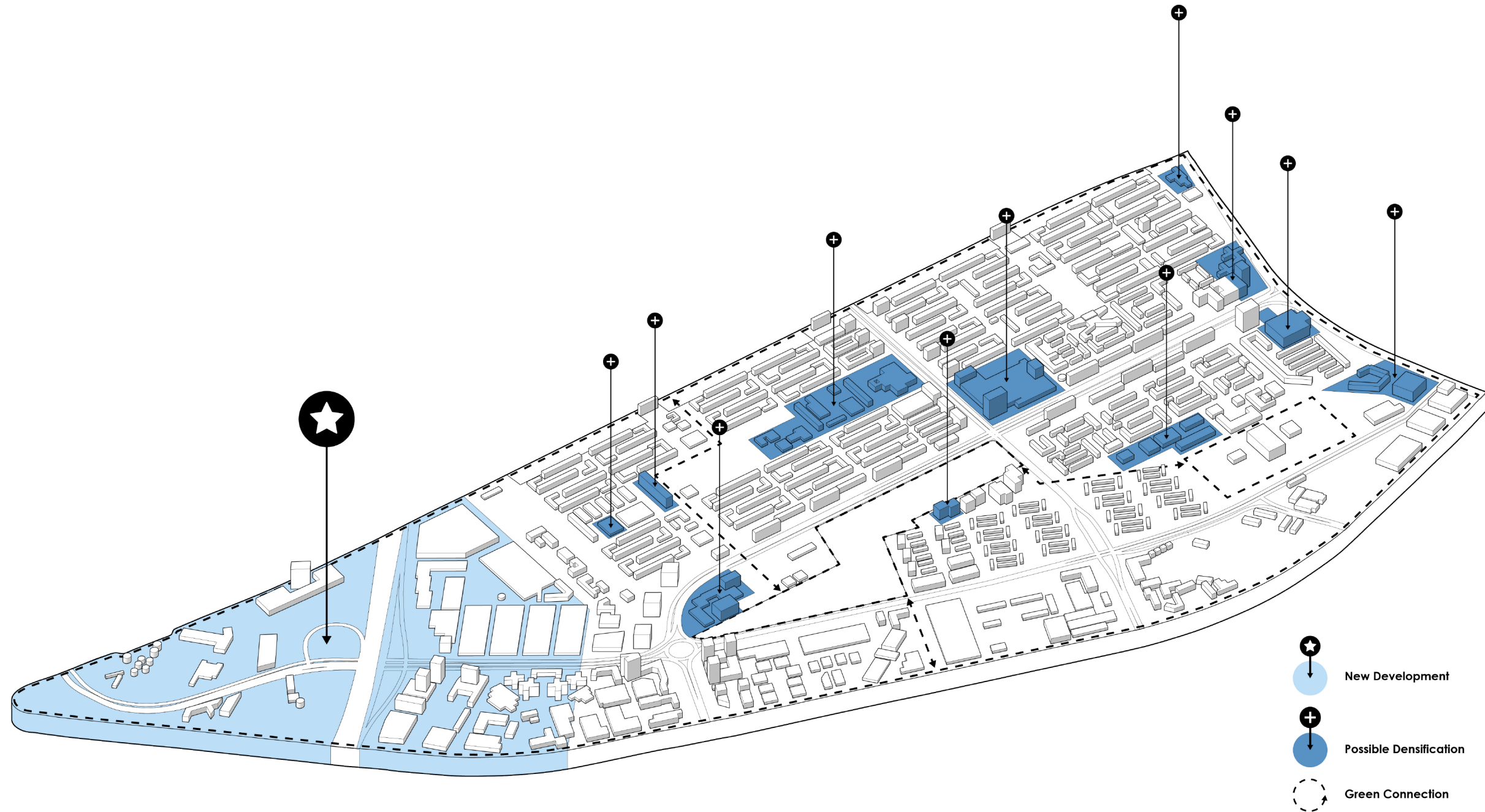
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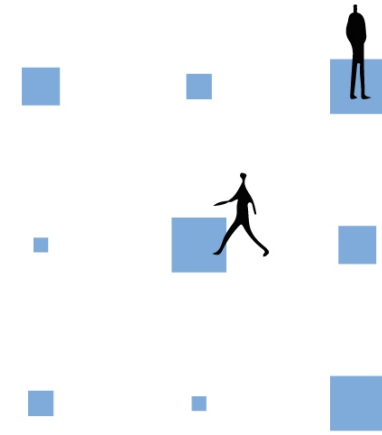




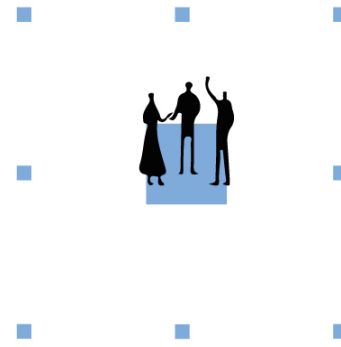




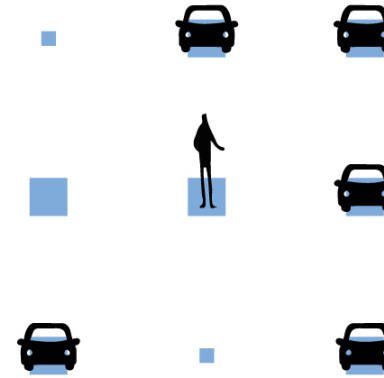




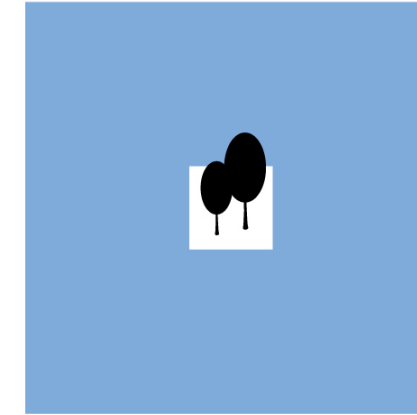
Gaps in public space



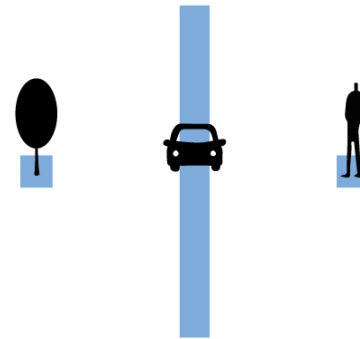
Nowhere to go



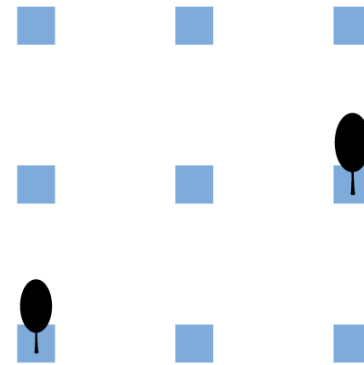
Car dominated



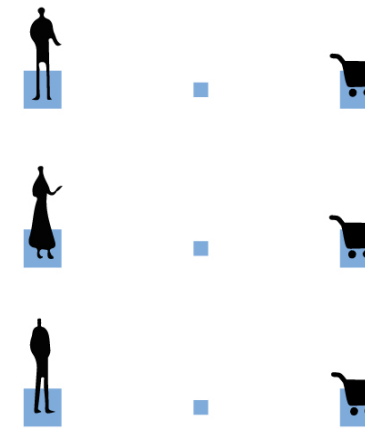
Heavily paved



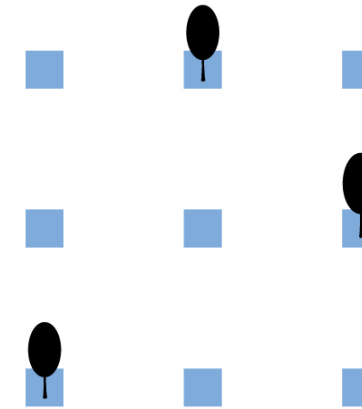
Disconnected



Underutilized



Seperated functions

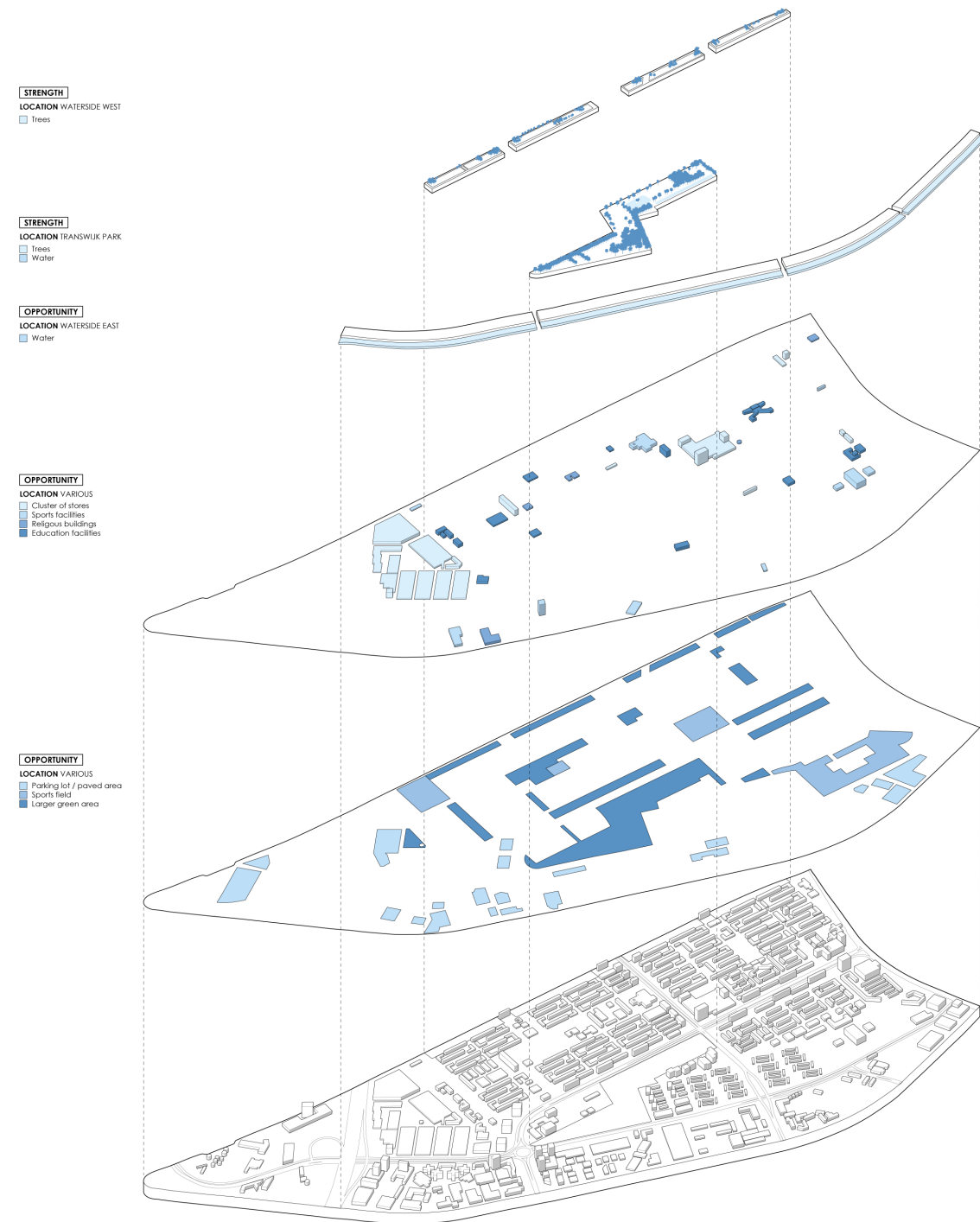


Low quality green

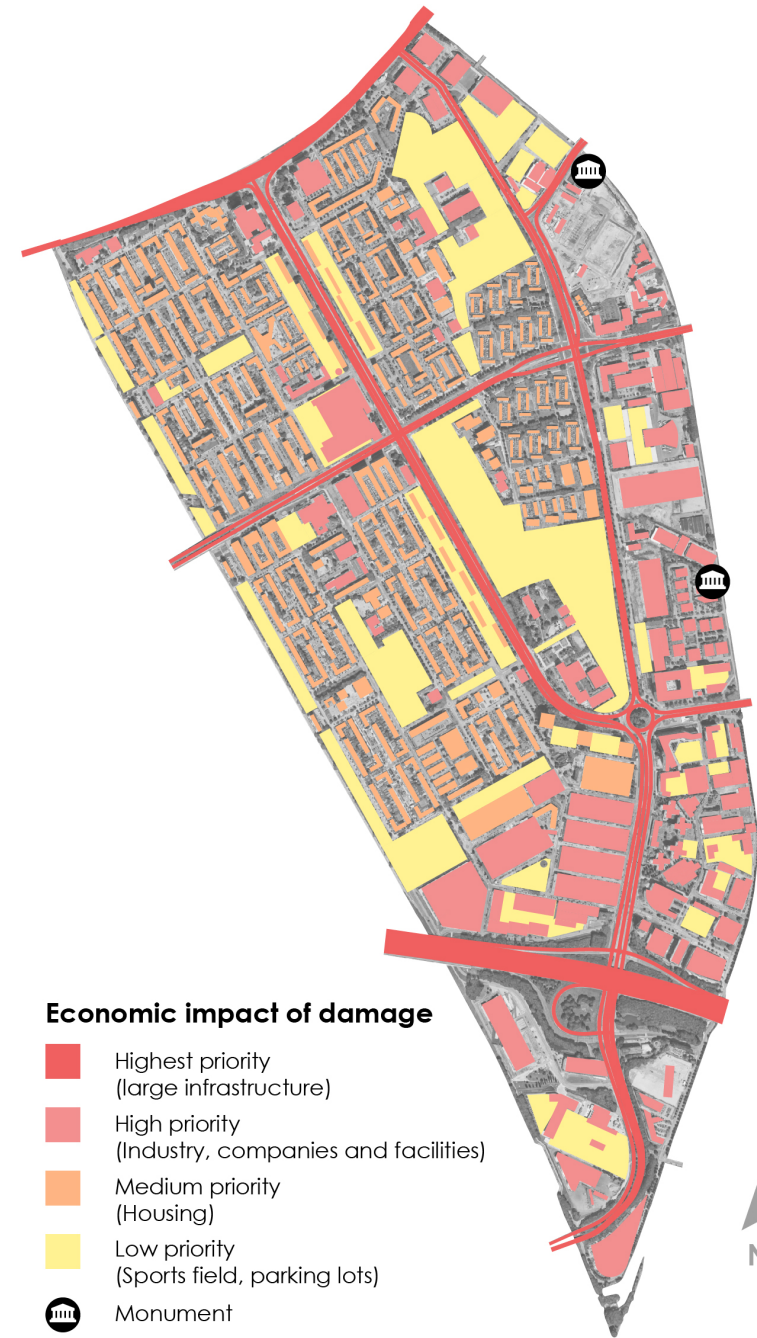


# Strengths and Opportunities

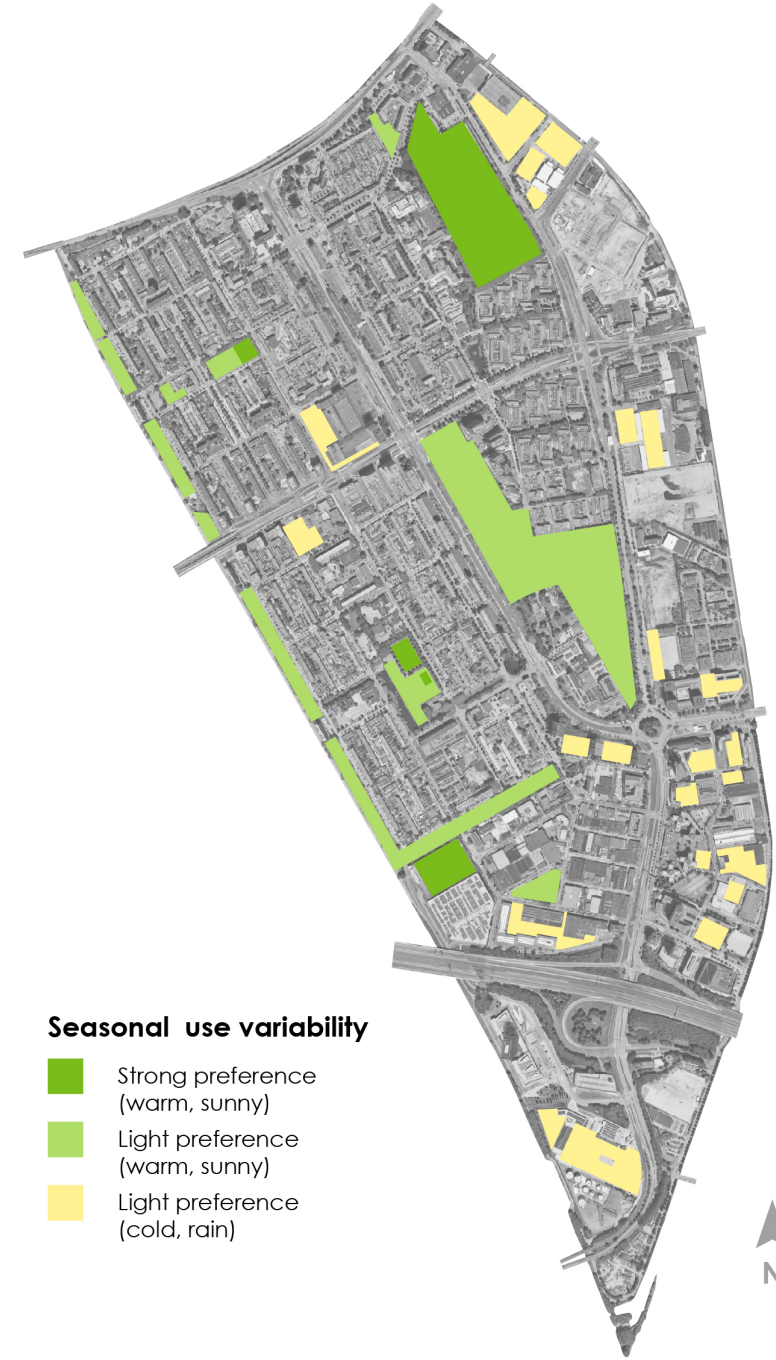
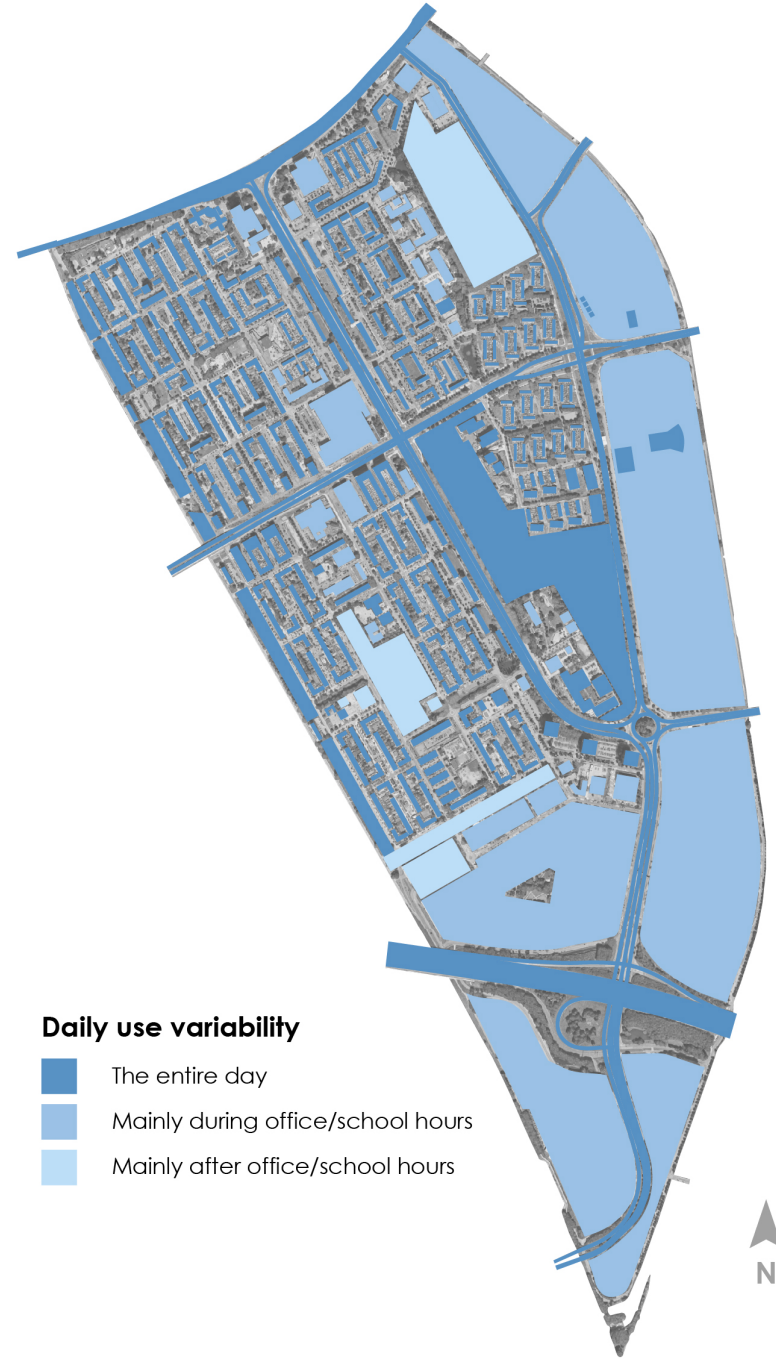
- West waterfront
- Transwijk Park
- East waterfront
- Social opportunities
- Open and underutilized space



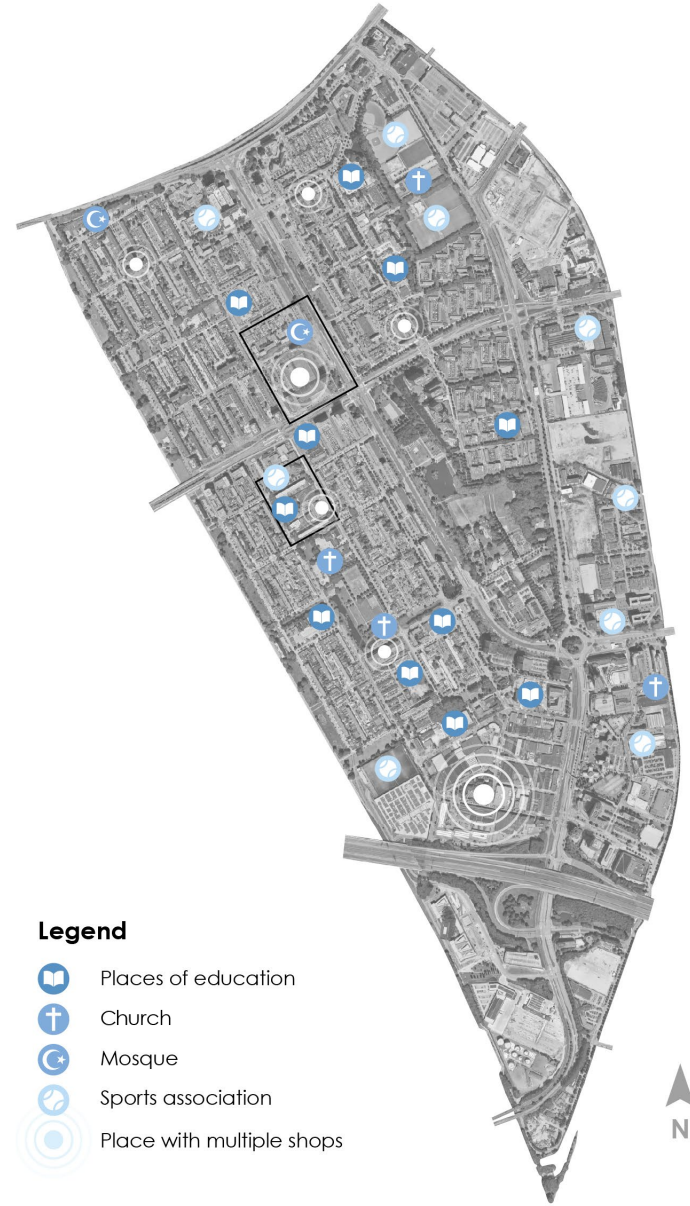






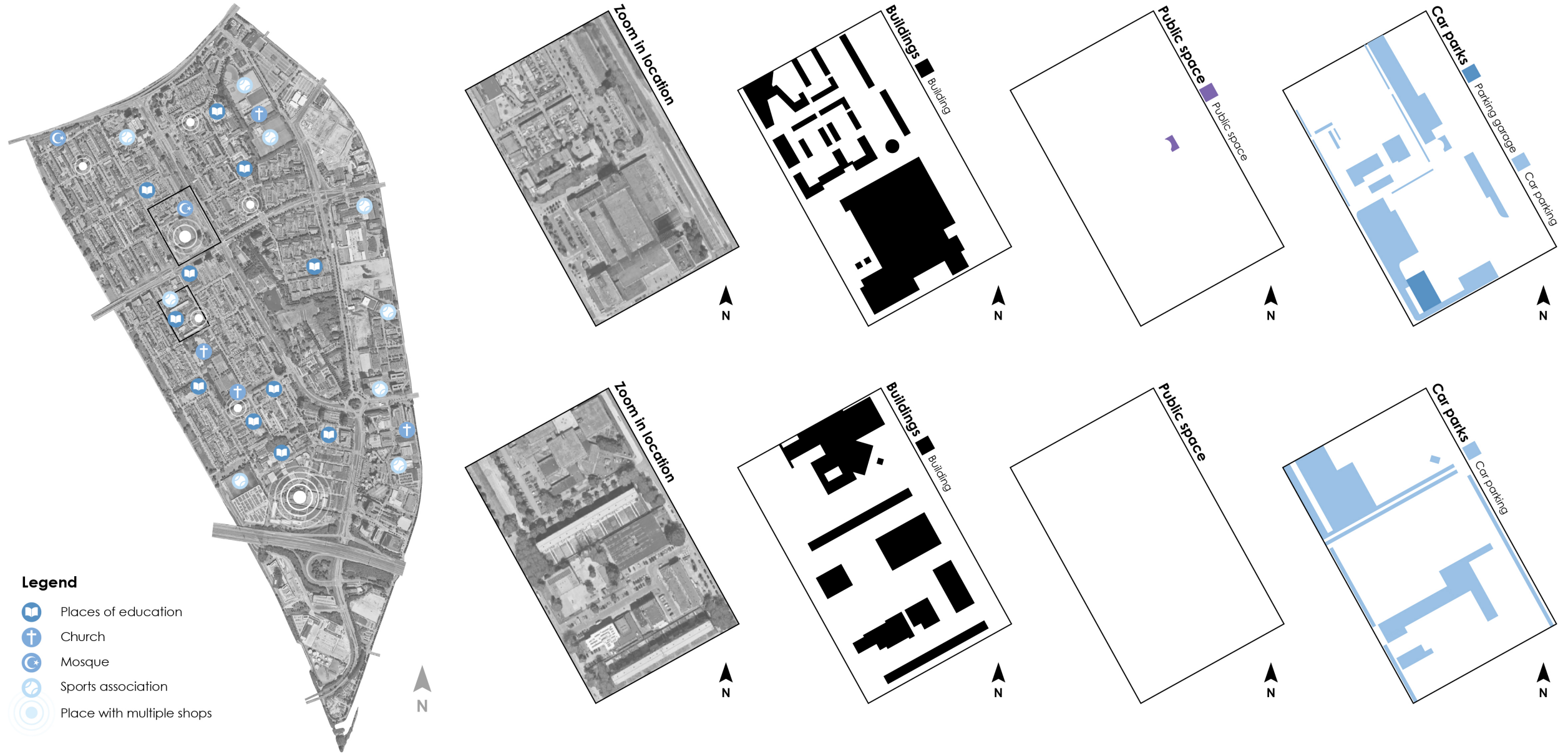








## Social Opportunities







## Dealing with Heavy Rain



## Dealing with Drought and Heat

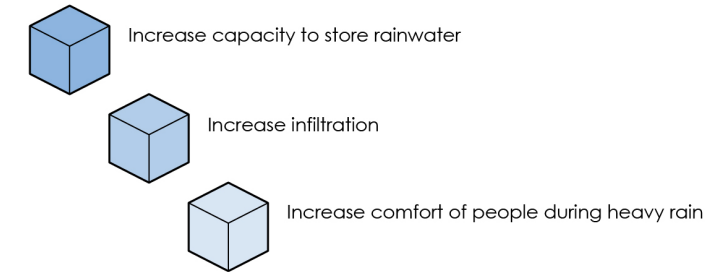


## Increasing Flexibility

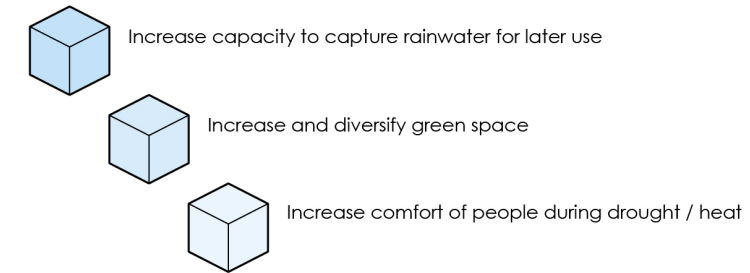


## Creating Social Spaces

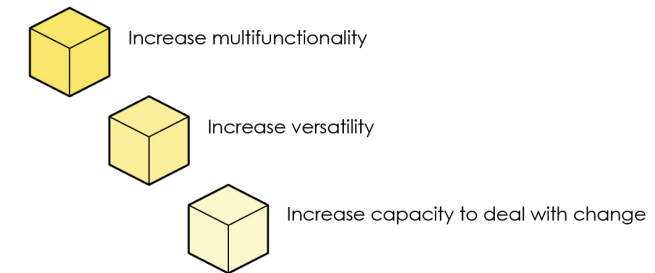
### Dealing with heavy rain



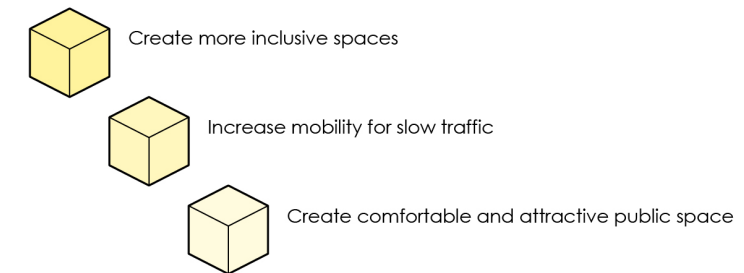
### Dealing with drought and heat



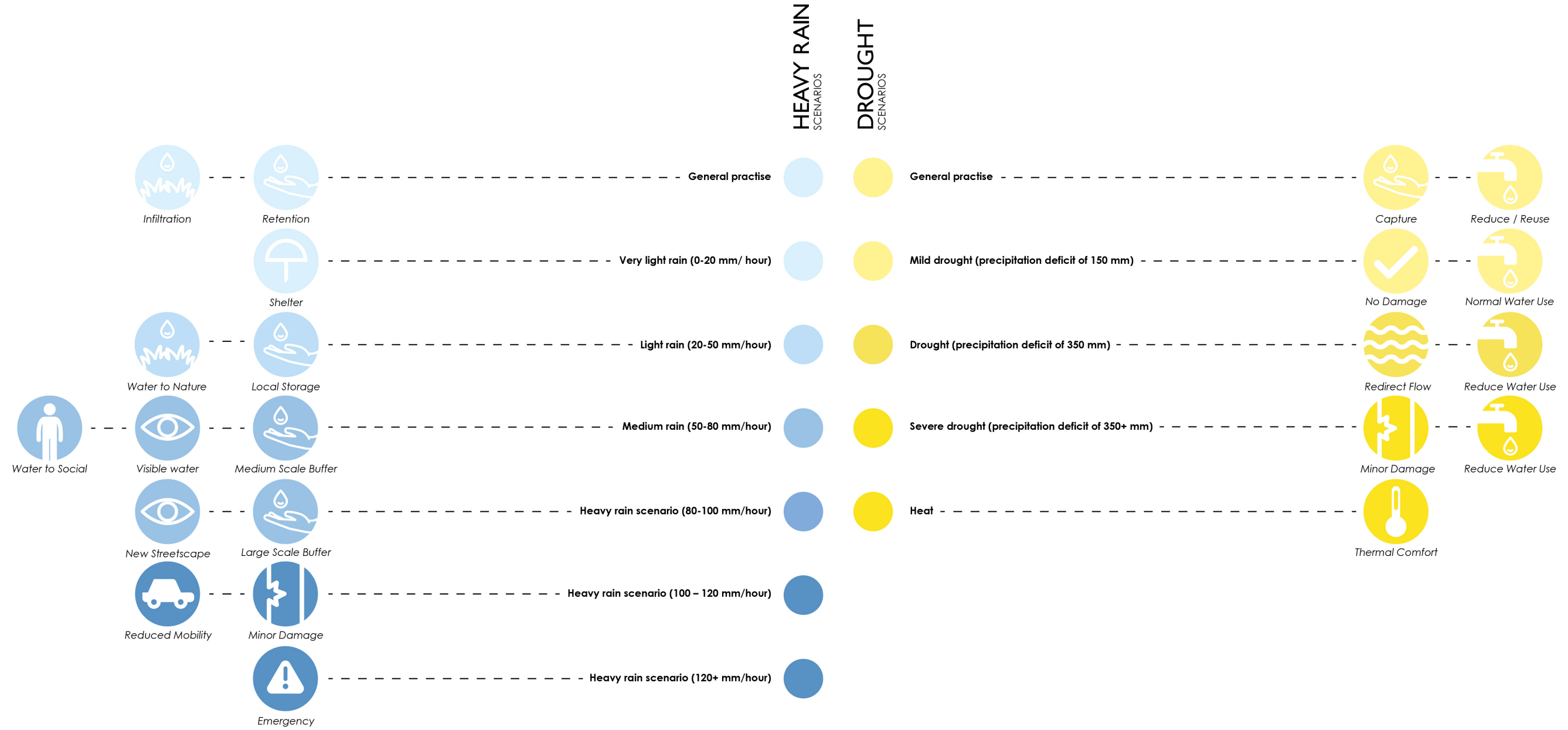
### Increasing flexibility



### Creating social spaces



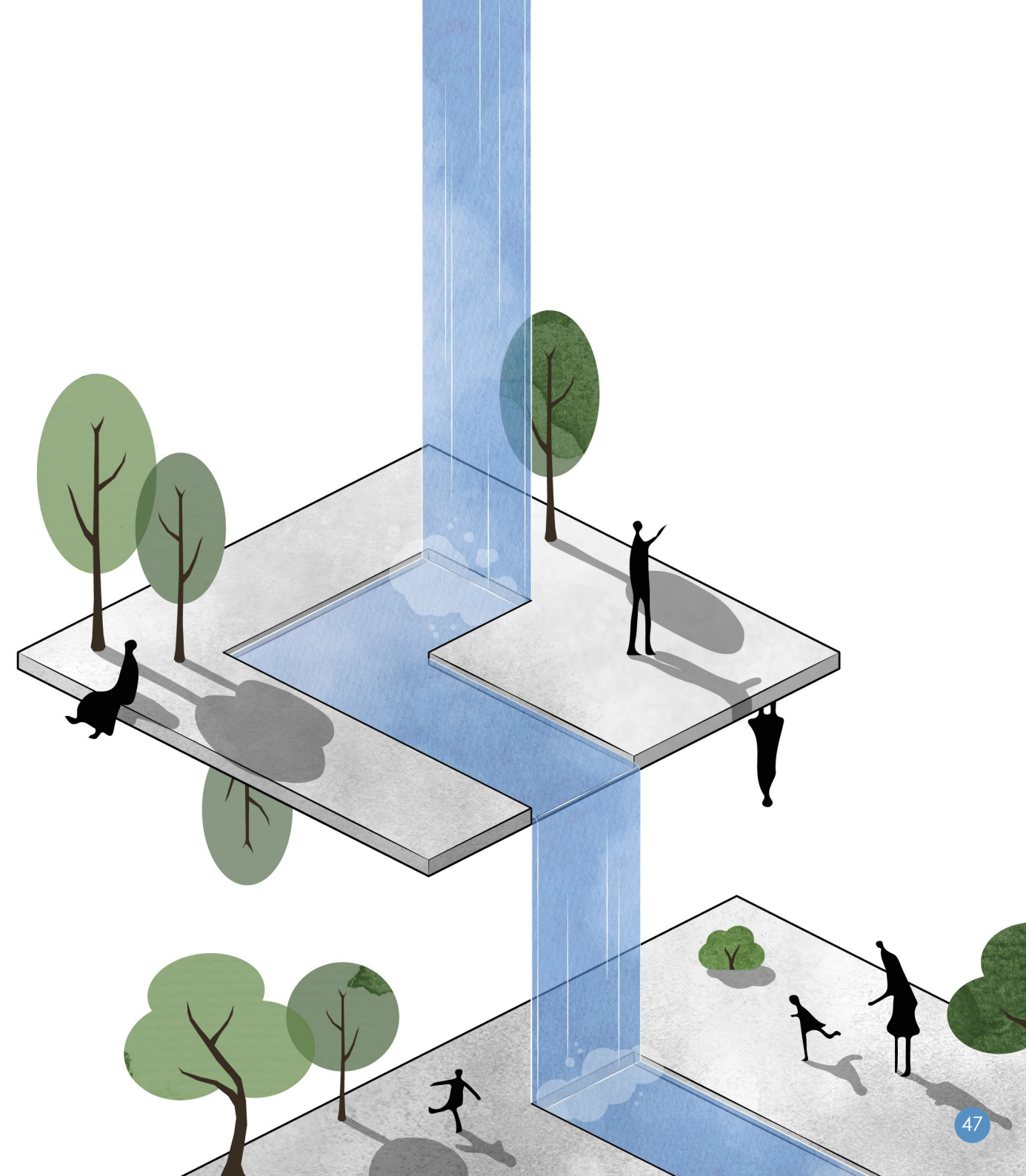






## Considerations

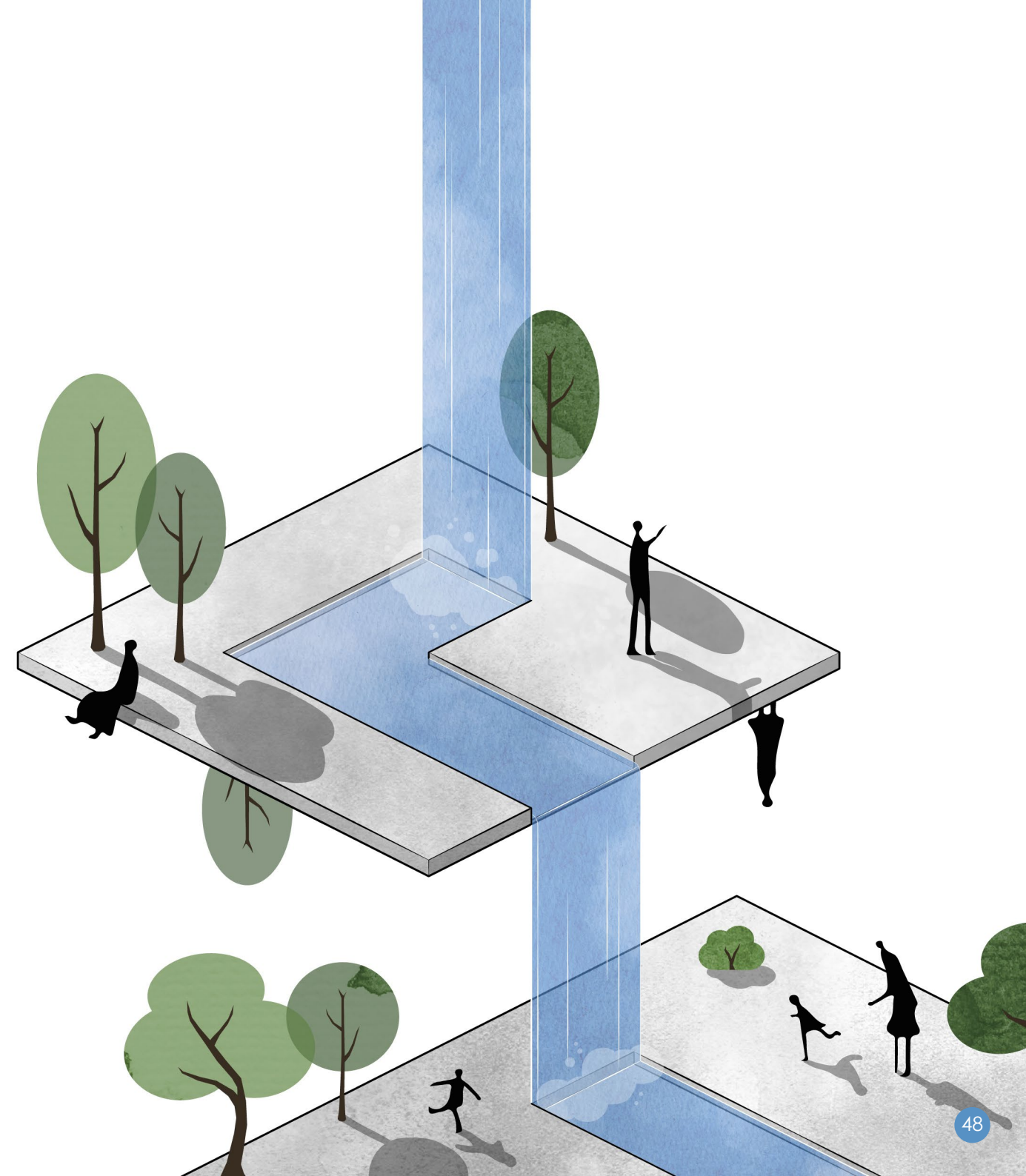
- Function and safety
- Water towards nature
- Livability above expansion
- Our neighborhood
- Flexible plans





## Considerations

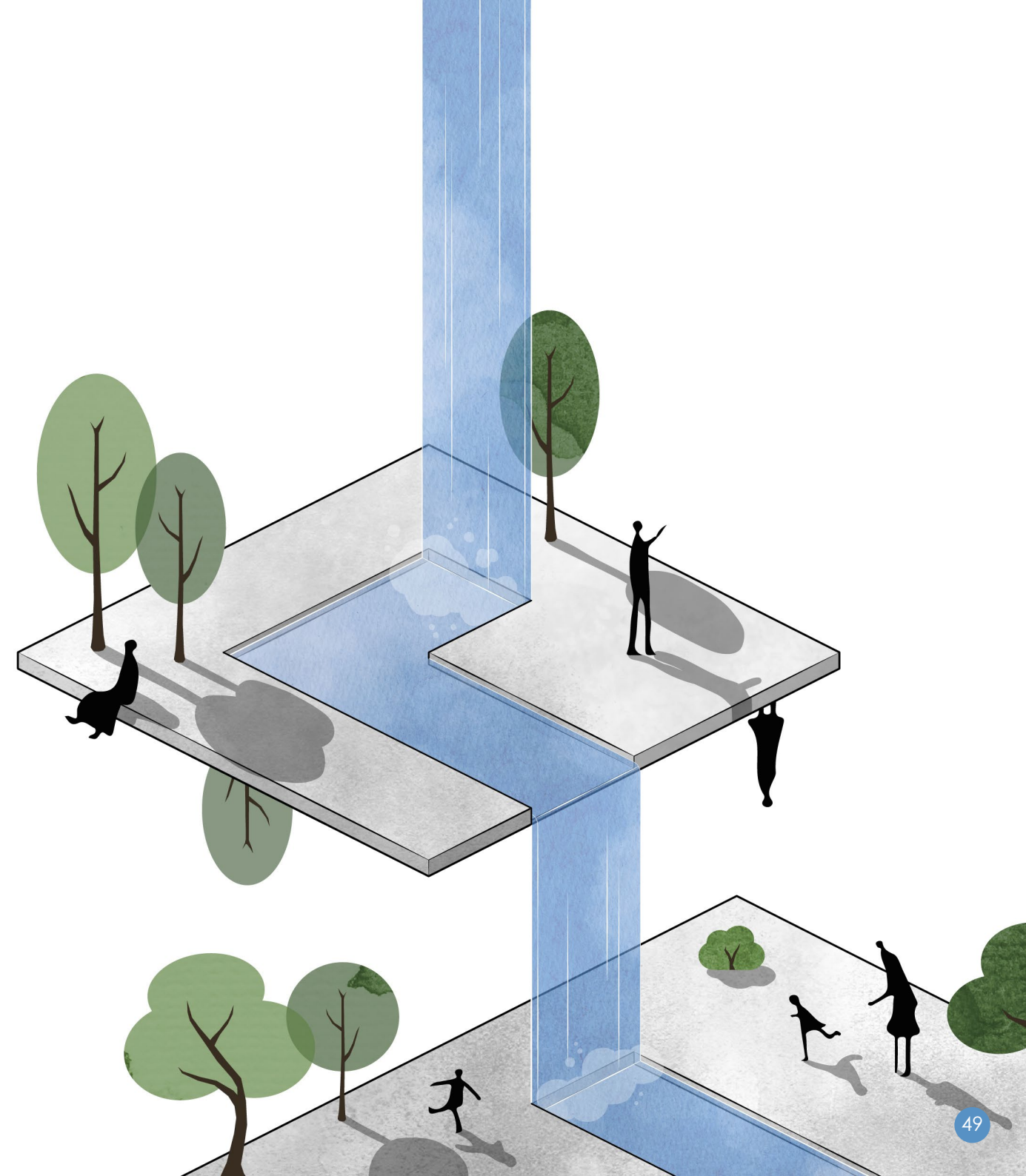
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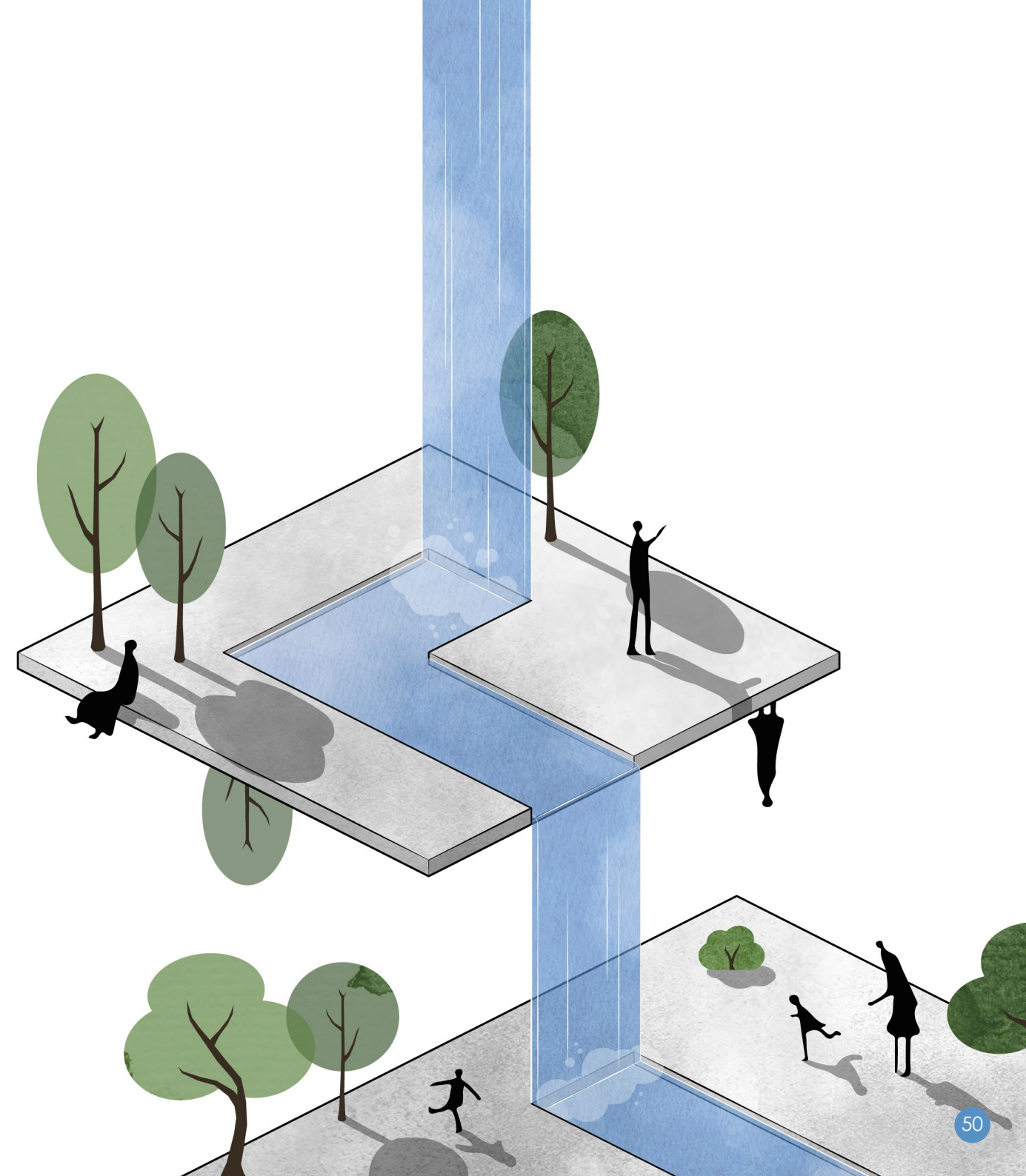
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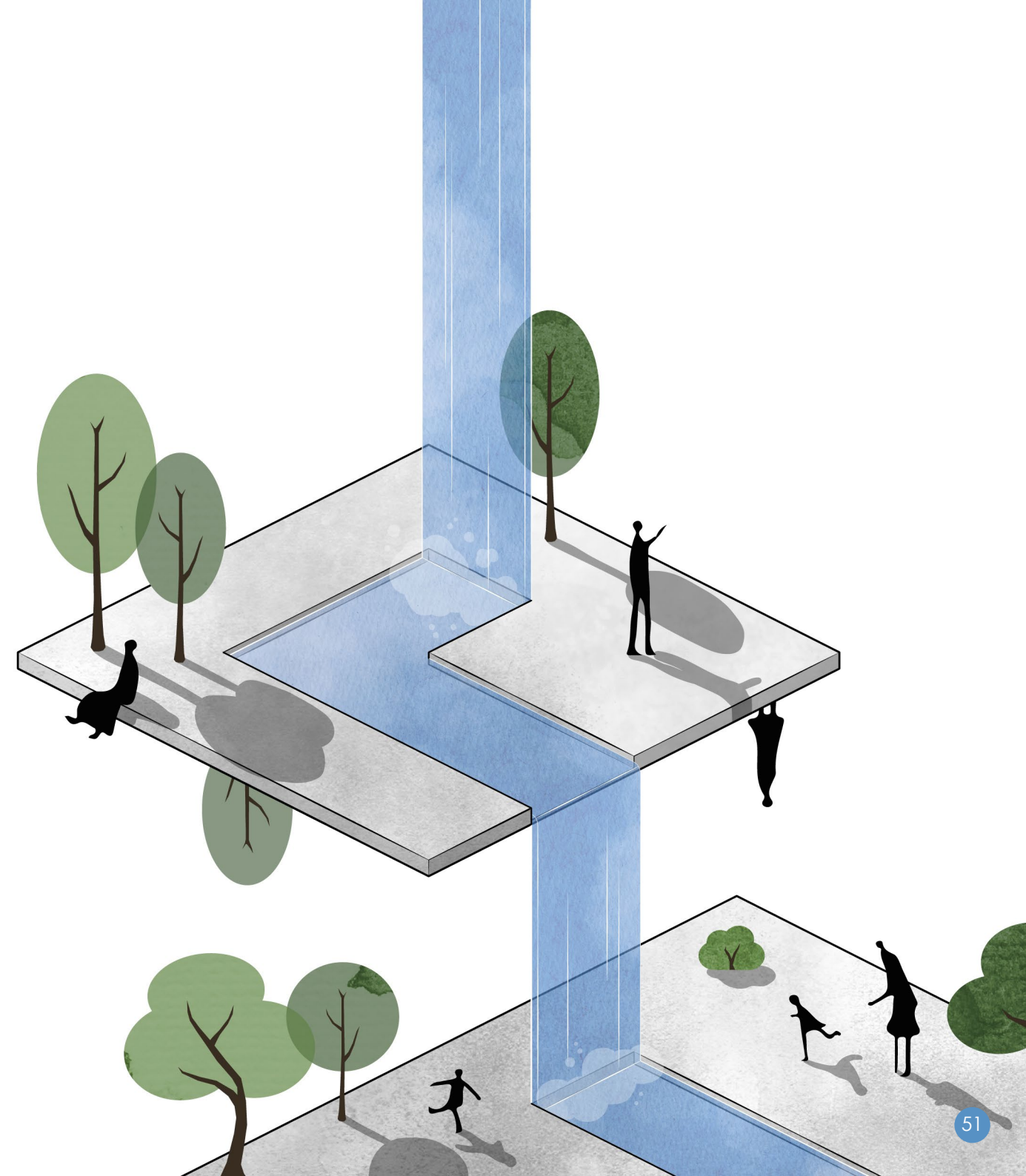
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## Considerations

- Function and safety
- Water towards nature
- Livability above expansion
- Our neighborhood
- Flexible plans





- Two routes
- One combining climate adaptation with green spaces and ecological goals
- One combining climate adaptation with social spaces and community goals



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- Two routes
- One combining climate adaptation with green spaces and ecological goals
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**MOVING WITH WATER**  
NATURE ROUTE

- BENEFITS**
- Dealing with heavy rain
  - Dealing with drought/heat
  - Increasing flexibility
  - Creating social spaces

**MOVING WITH WATER**  
SOCIAL ROUTE

- BENEFITS**
- Dealing with heavy rain
  - Dealing with drought/heat
  - Increasing flexibility
  - Creating social spaces

**LOCAL SUPERMARKETS**  
Local supermarkets are another place people meet informally. Some places already tried to create some type of space to have a chat by hanging some type of cover. The public space around it does not facilitate meeting in these places. Placing water storage can also be an opportunity to improve these spaces to become meeting places.

**RELIGIOUS BUILDINGS**  
Religious are already a meeting place for many people. In Kanaleneiland and Transwijk however, these places are often without any public space to come together after a gathering. Using water, meeting places can be created outside of these places to enhance community while providing opportunity for water to be stored.

- ● ● ●

**CONNECTING GREEN SPACES**  
Water and green can be used in the neighborhoods to connect larger green structures in and around the city with each other. This can increase resilience to drought and heavy rain as well as increase biodiversity.

- ● ● ●

**CONTROL THE FLOW**  
By monitoring and assessing the state of the natural system in different places, the flow of water can be increased and decreased to certain areas based on need.

- ● ● ●

**EMERGENCIES**  
When the amount of rain that falls reaches 100 mm/hour or there have been many days in a row with heavy rain. Both water routes can redirect flow towards larger water storage areas.

- ● ● ●

**WATER EXCHANGE IN TIME**  
Water can be exchanged between different places during different times. This way the functionality of these places does not have to take a back seat to climate adaptation.

- ● ● ●

**EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**  
Places of education are often social spaces for children, students and parents. Using water to create meeting places around these institutions can be an opportunity for people to meet and be educated on the topic of climate change.

- ● ● ●

**VEGETATION VARIETY**  
By increasing the variety of plantlife, nature will be more equipped to deal with drought and heavy rain. It can also help with the protection and reintroduction of vulnerable species.

- ● ● ●

**COMBATING HEAT**  
By strategically introducing green and blue structures through the neighborhoods, the urban heat island effect can be reduced. A more comfortable microclimate for inhabitants and visitors can be created in this way, while also reaching other goals like increasing water storage.

- ● ● ●

**CREATING HABITATS**  
Connecting and expanding the natural network of Utrecht should go hand in hand with the creation of different types of habitats to attract and protect the species that live there or could live there in the future.

- ● ● ●

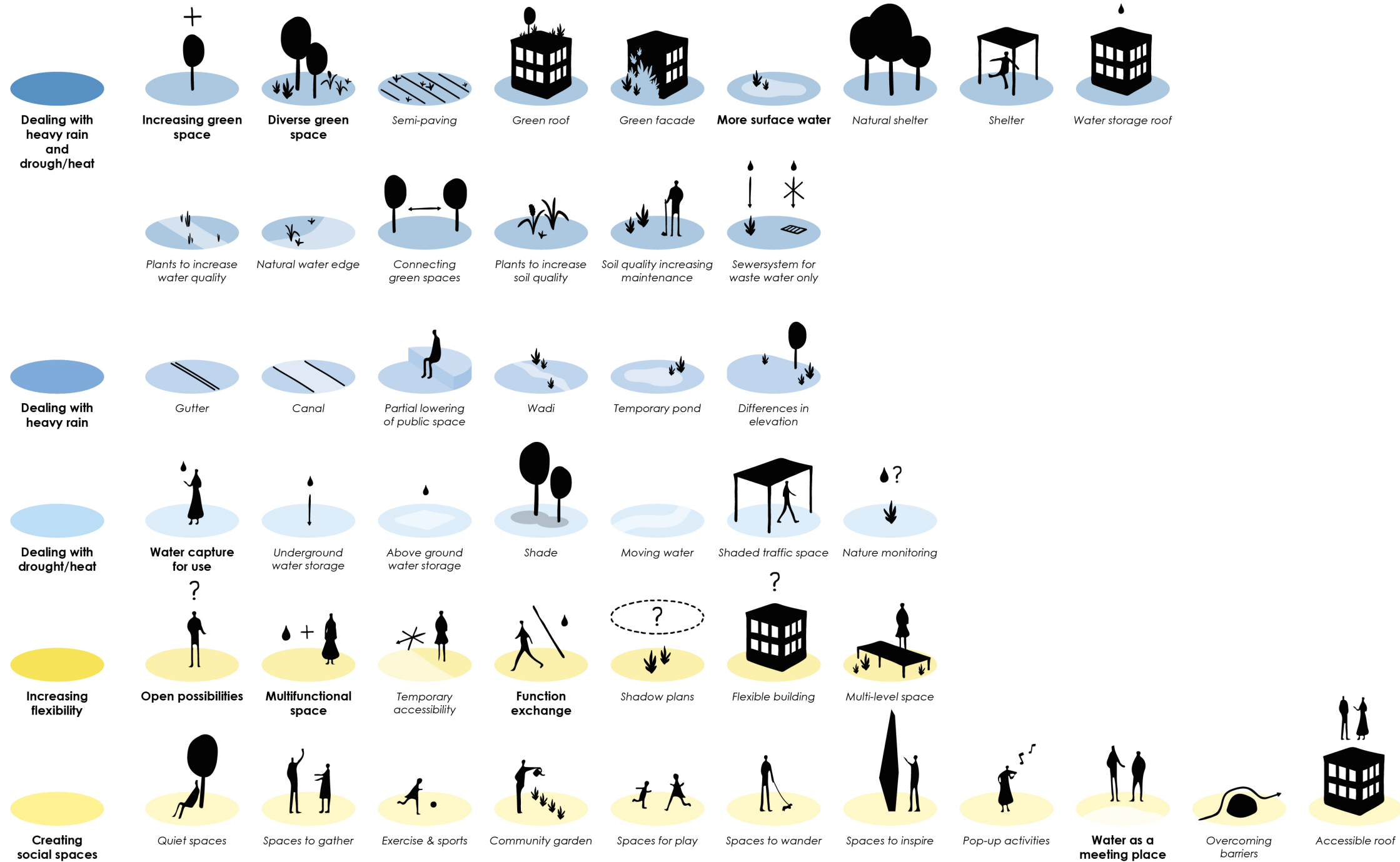
**MORE VARIETY IN PUBLIC SPACE**  
Kanaleneiland and Transwijk lack variety in public spaces, which can be excluding to people of different ages or genders. Creating water storage can be an opportunity to increase the variety of public space in these neighborhoods.

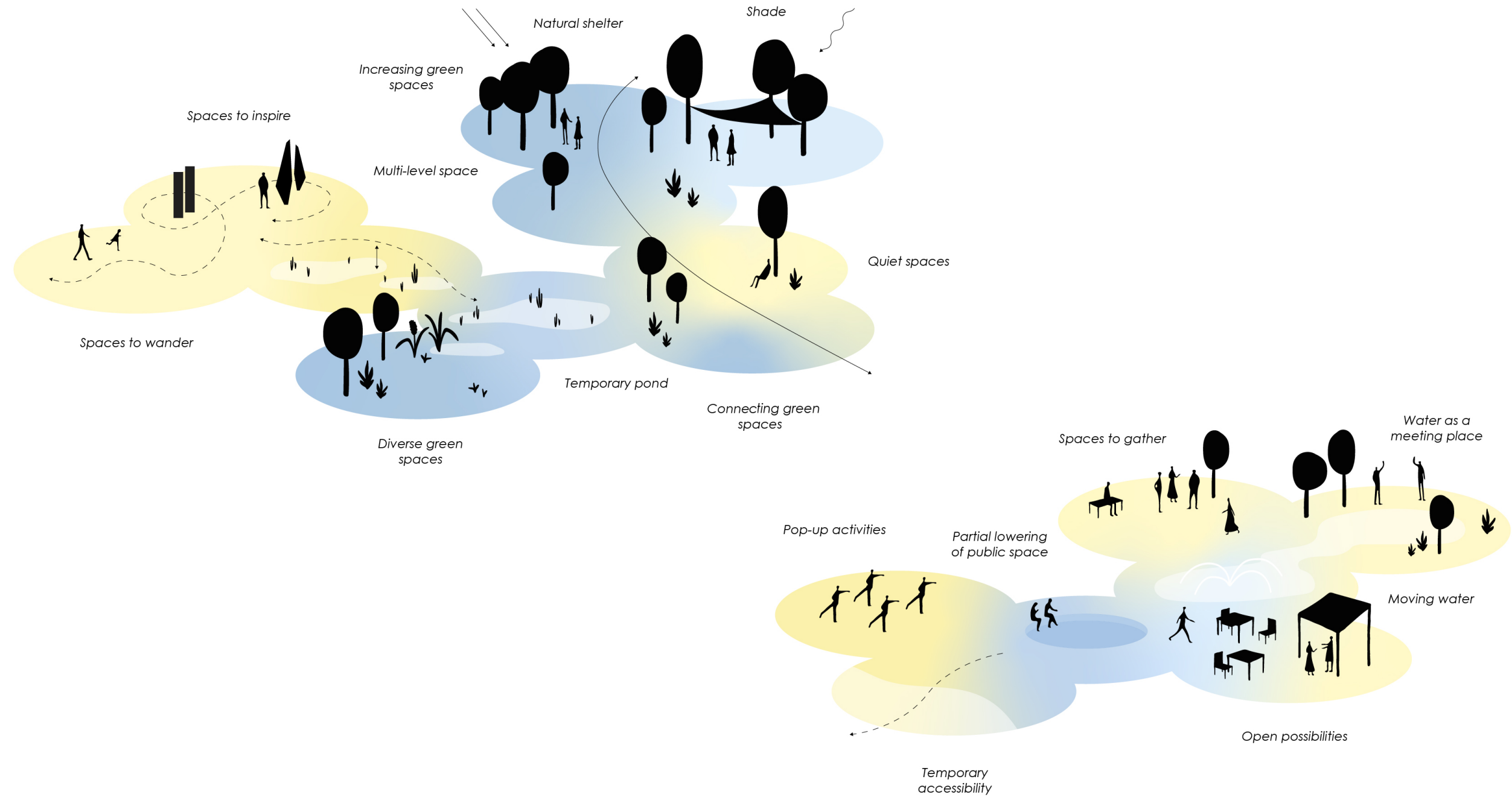
- ● ● ●

**DIFFERENT TYPES OF STORAGE**  
There should be a balance between natural water storage and built water storage. Which is chosen is based on factors like the functionality of the place, the microclimate and groundwater level.

- ● ● ●











# MOVING WITH WATER

SOCIAL ROUTE



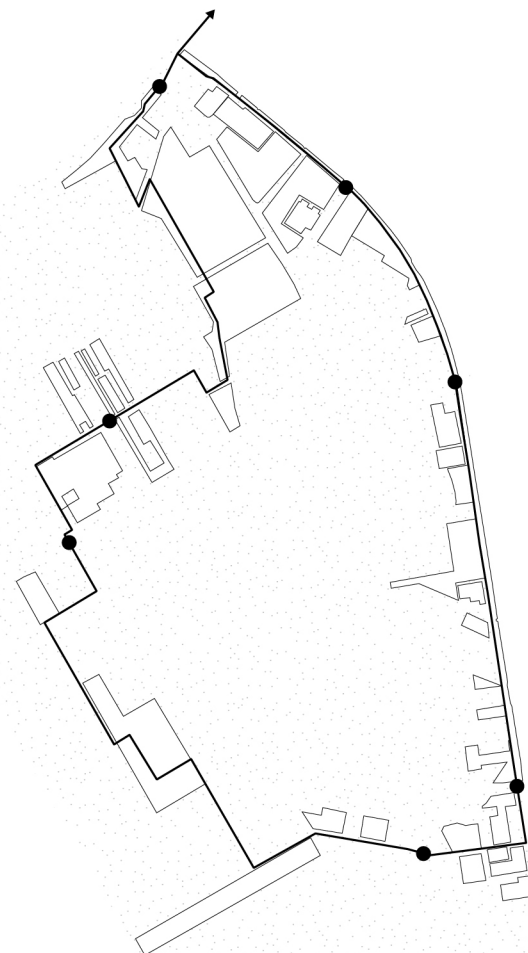
Route

Route crossing barrier

→ Connection route to larger network

..... Kanaleneiland / Transwijk

Public space that is part of the route



# MOVING WITH WATER

NATURE ROUTE



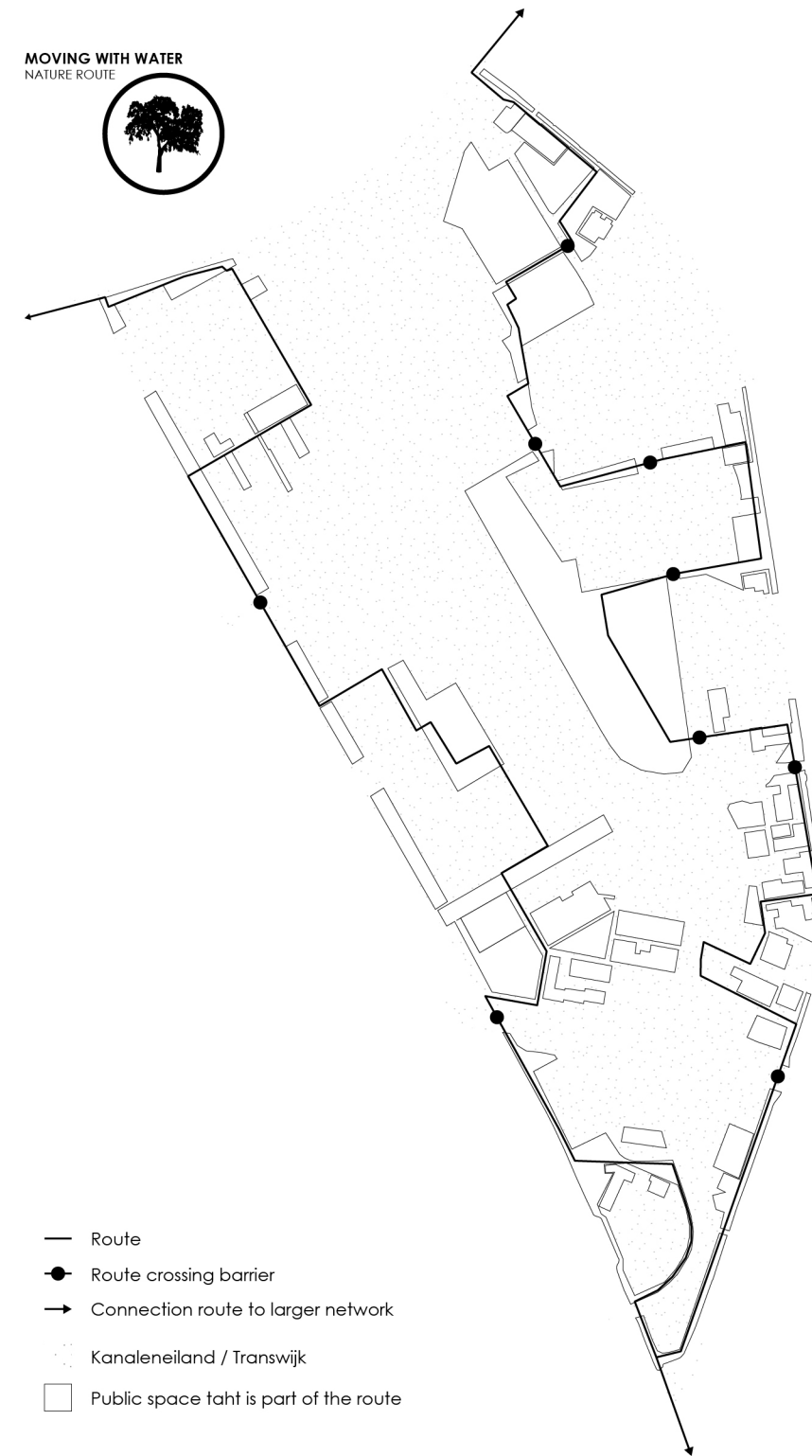
Route

Route crossing barrier

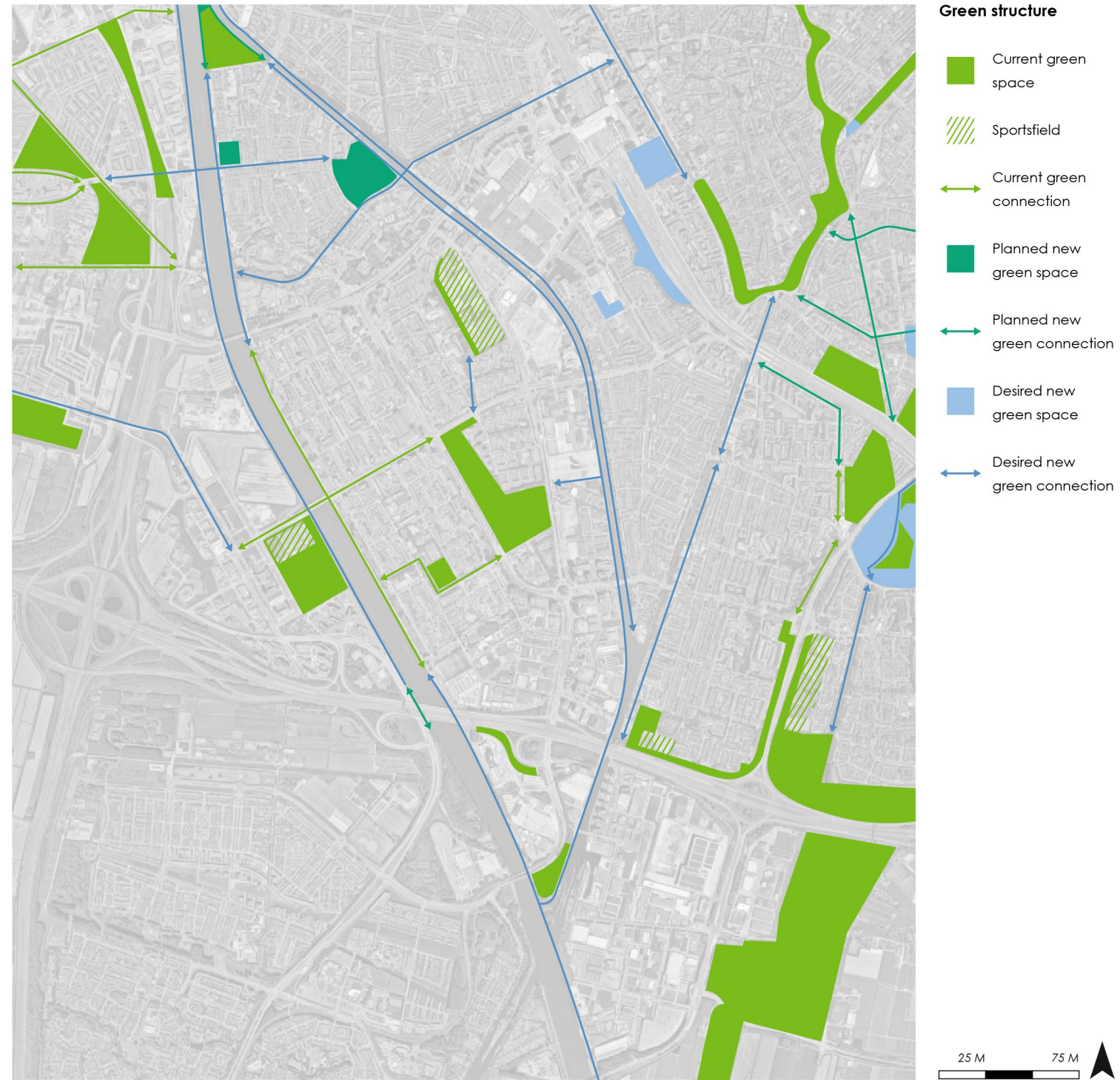
→ Connection route to larger network

..... Kanaleneiland / Transwijk

Public space that is part of the route

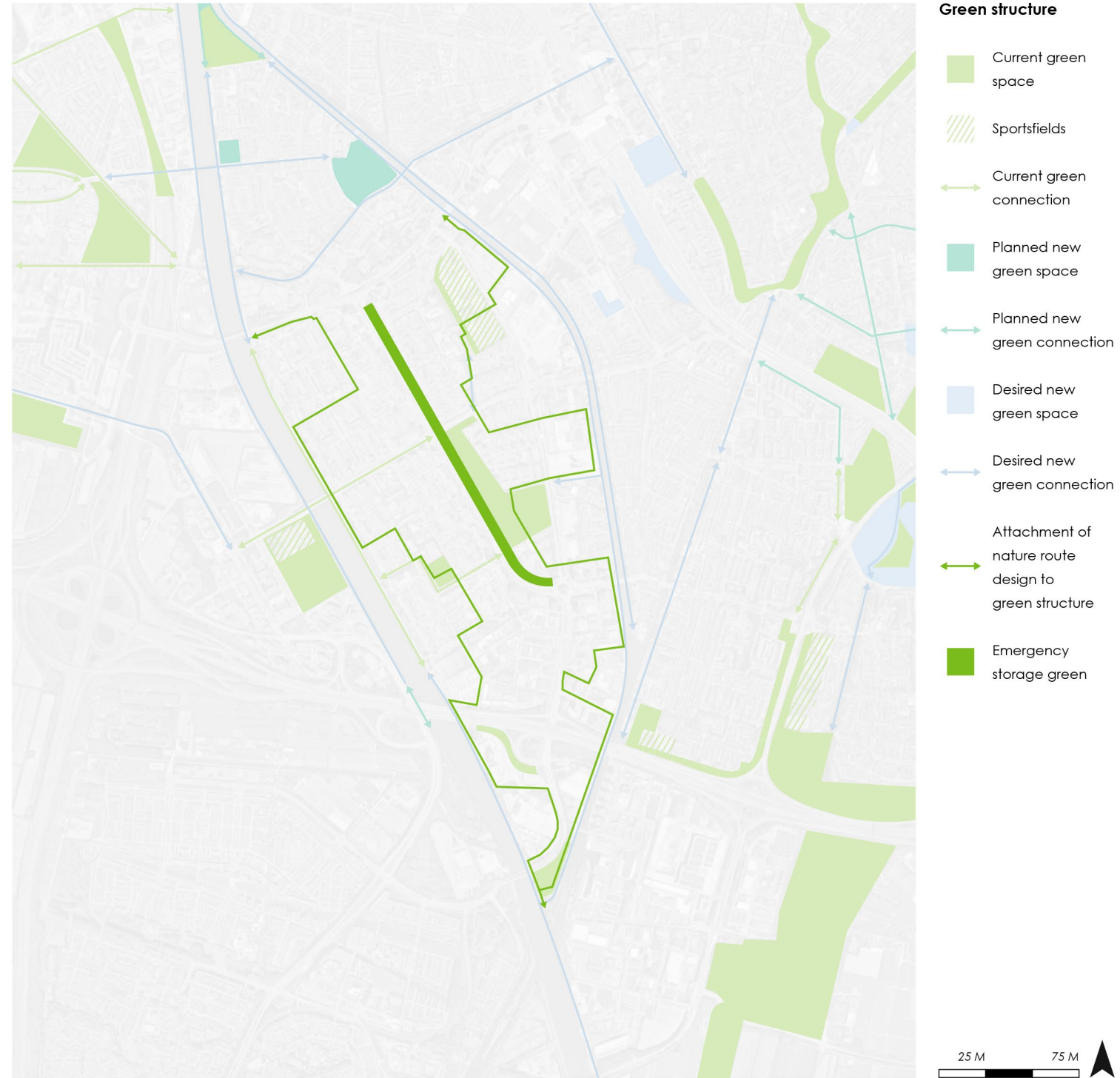


## Connection to the Larger Scale Green Network

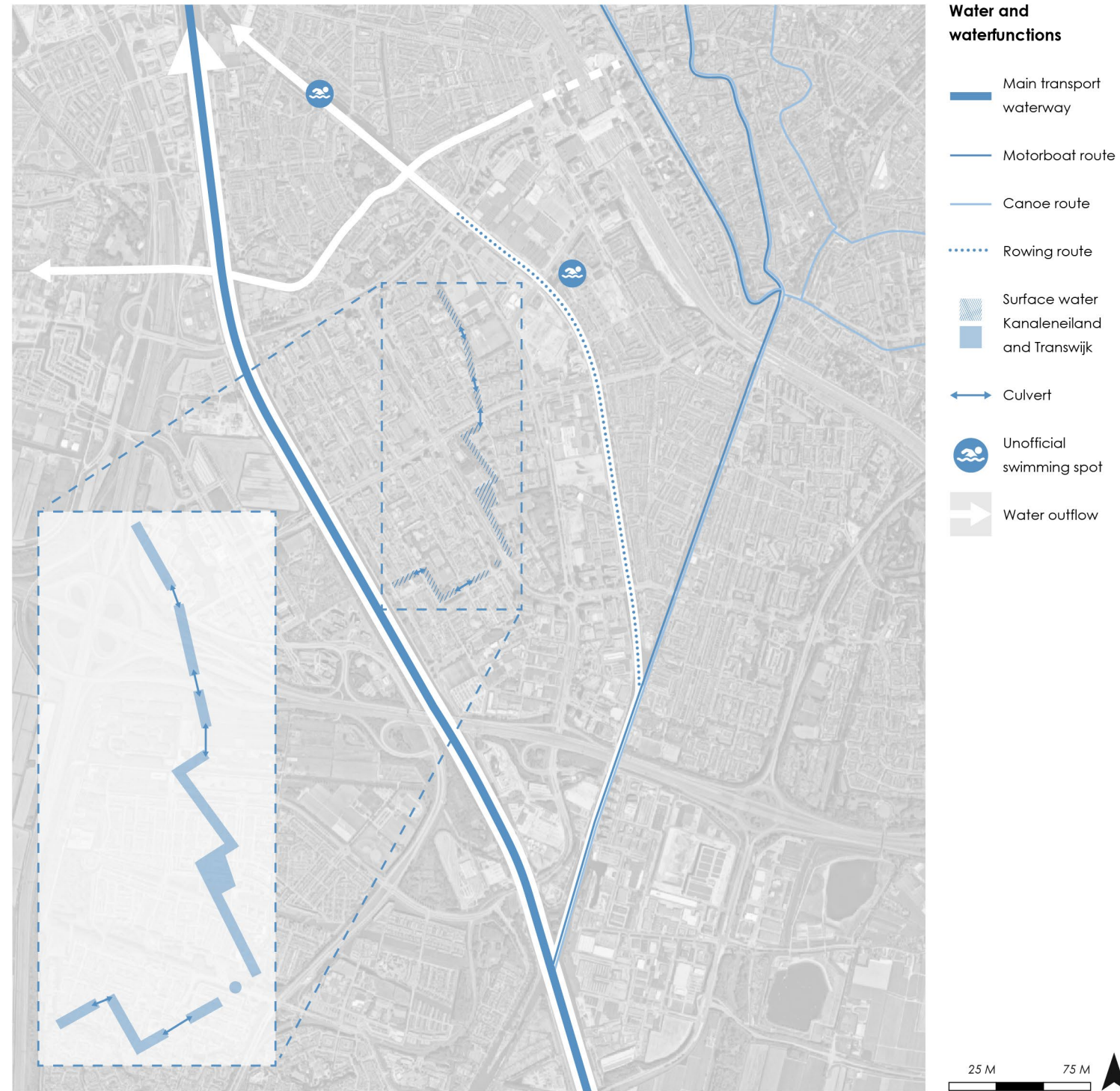




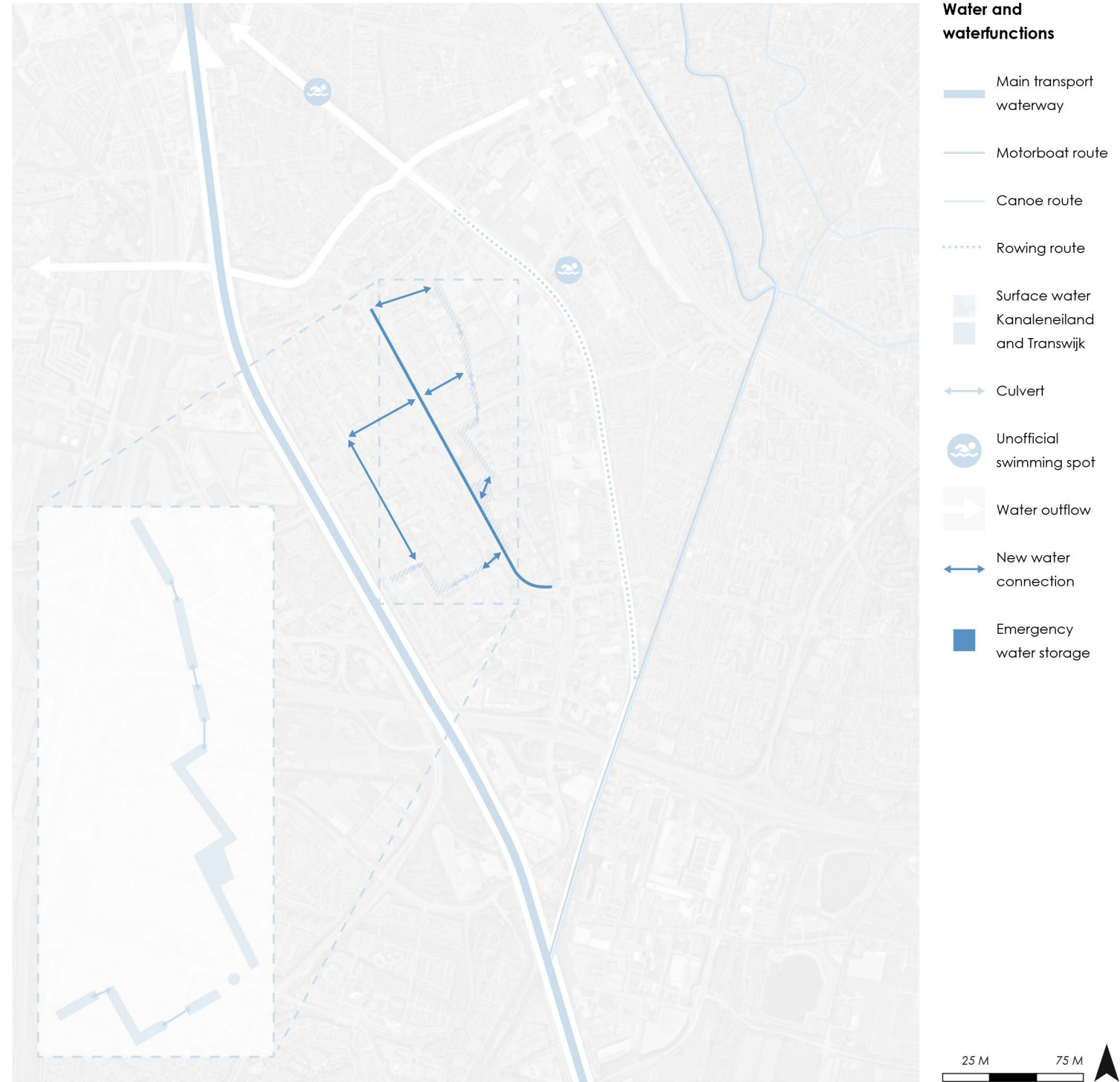
## Connection to the Larger Scale Green Network

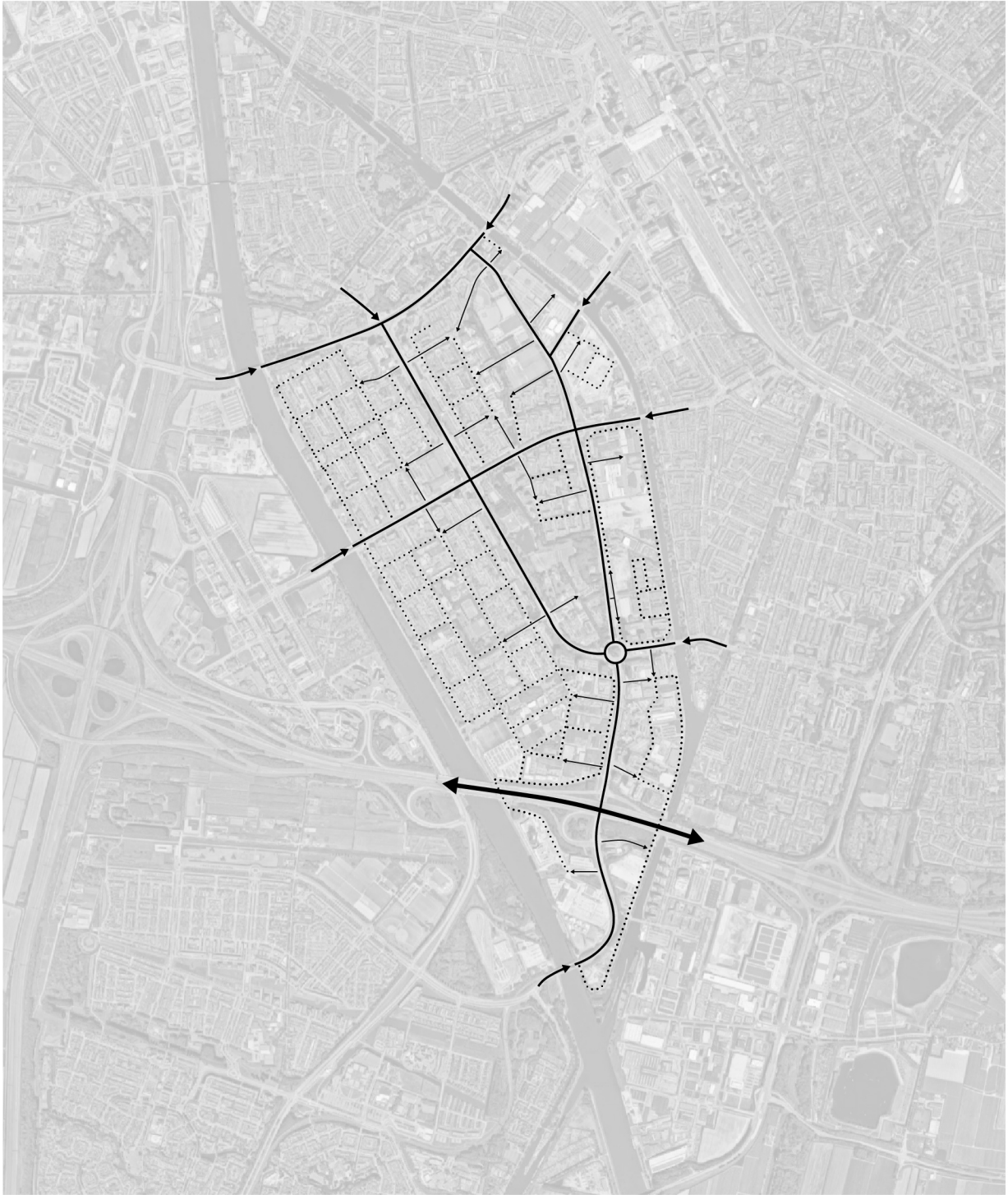


## Connection to the Larger Scale Water network









Accessibility by car

- Highway
- Entrance to neighborhood
- Main road
- Entrance to block
- ..... Main road structure in block





# Connection to the Larger Scale Car Infrastructure



## Accessibility by car

- Highway
- Entrance to neighborhood
- Main road
- Entrance to block
- ..... Main road structure in block
- X Road made inaccessible for cars
- New connection for cars
- ..... Roadsize reduced



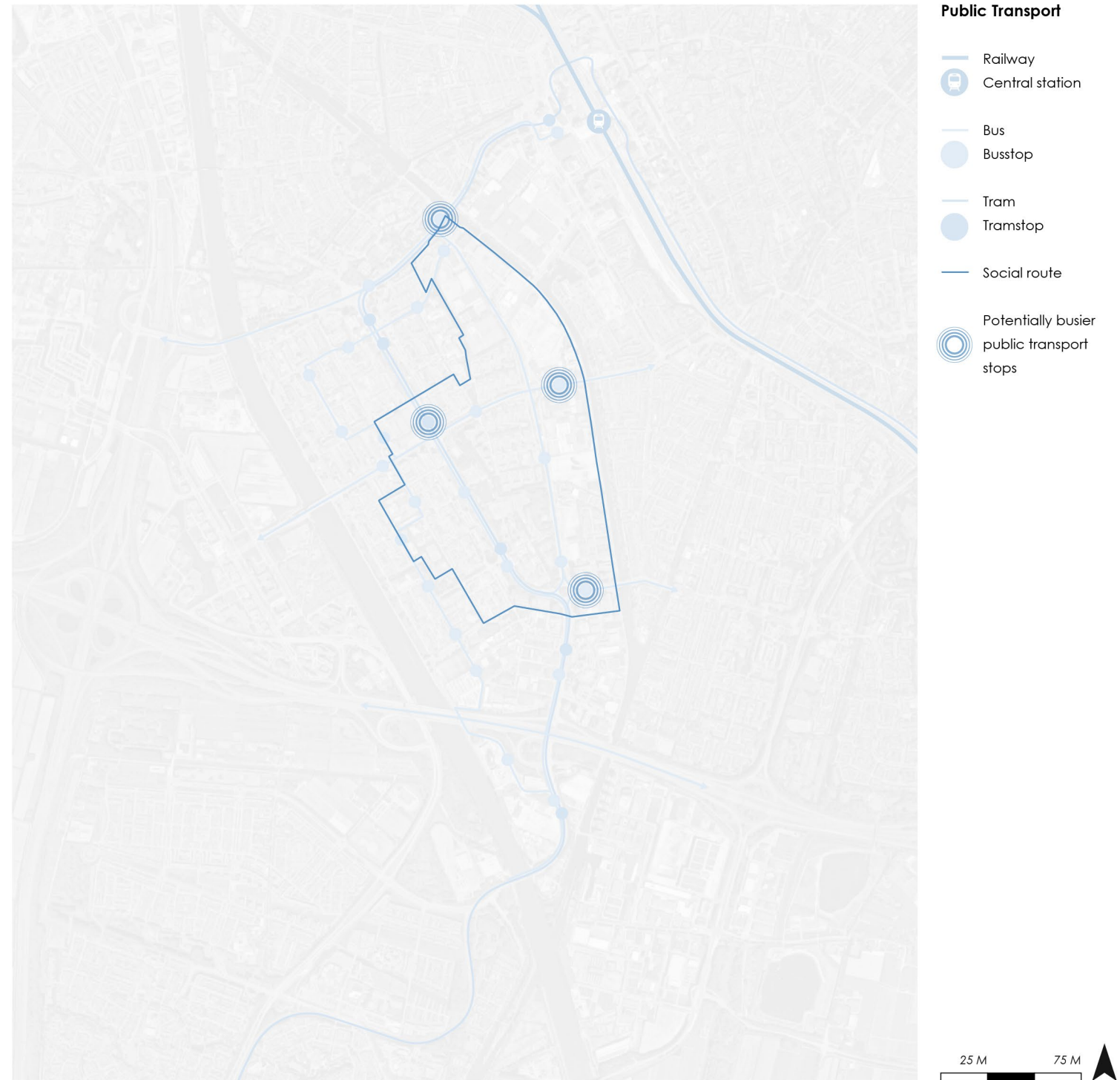
# Connection to the Larger Scale Public Transport



## Public Transport

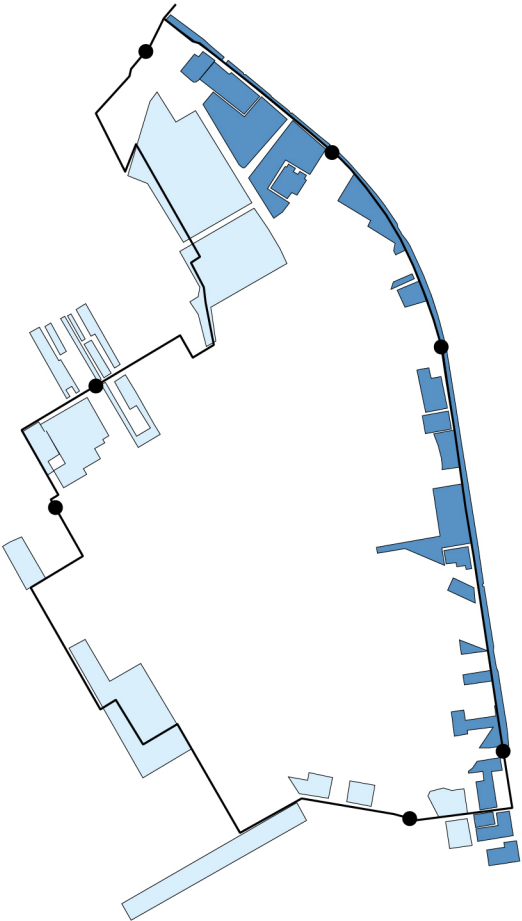
- Railway
- Central station
- Bus
- Busstop
- Tram
- Tramstop





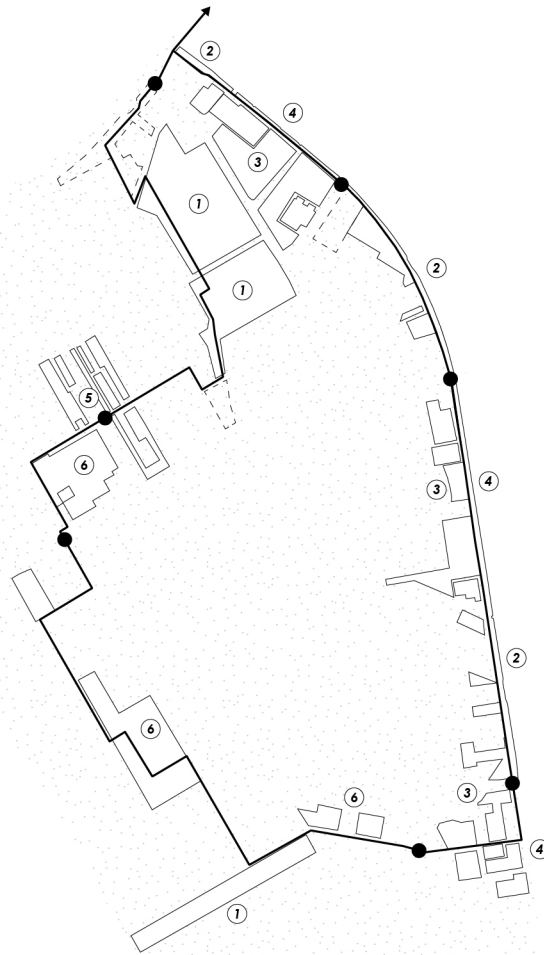


- Route
- Route crossing barrier
- Connection route to larger network
- ⋯ Kanaleneiland / Transwijk
- Existing public space along route
- New / Enhanced public space along route



- Waterfront character
- Community space



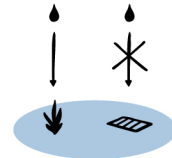


- Route
- Route crossing barrier
- Connection route to larger network
- Kanaleneiland / Transwijk
- Existing public space along route
- New / Enhanced public space along route

## General



Soil quality increasing maintenance



Sewersystem for waste water only



Nature monitoring

2



Multi-level space



Plants to increase water quality



Water as a meeting place



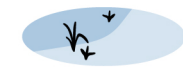
Function exchange



Exercise & sports



Partial lowering of public space



Natural water edge

3



Green roof



Green facade



Water storage roof



Accessible roof

1



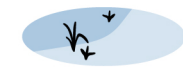
Function exchange



Exercise & sports



Partial lowering of public space



Natural water edge



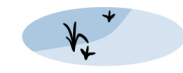
Temporary accessibility



Exercise & sports



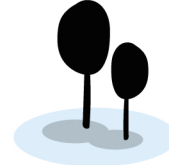
Partial lowering of public space



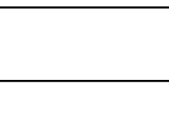
Natural water edge



Above ground water storage



Shade



Shade



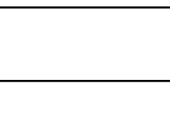
Shade



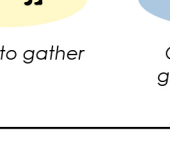
Natural shelter



Natural shelter

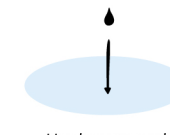


Natural shelter

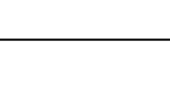


Natural shelter

6



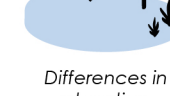
Underground water storage



Community garden



Spaces for play



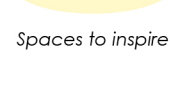
Wadi



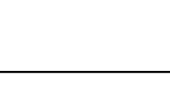
Differences in elevation



Spaces to wander



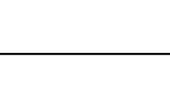
Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire



Spaces for play



Multifunctional space



Water capture for use

5



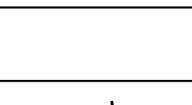
Wadi



Differences in elevation



Spaces to wander



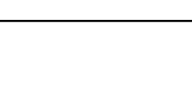
Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire



Spaces to inspire

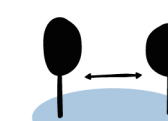
4



Water as a meeting place



Spaces to gather



Connecting green spaces



Increasing green space

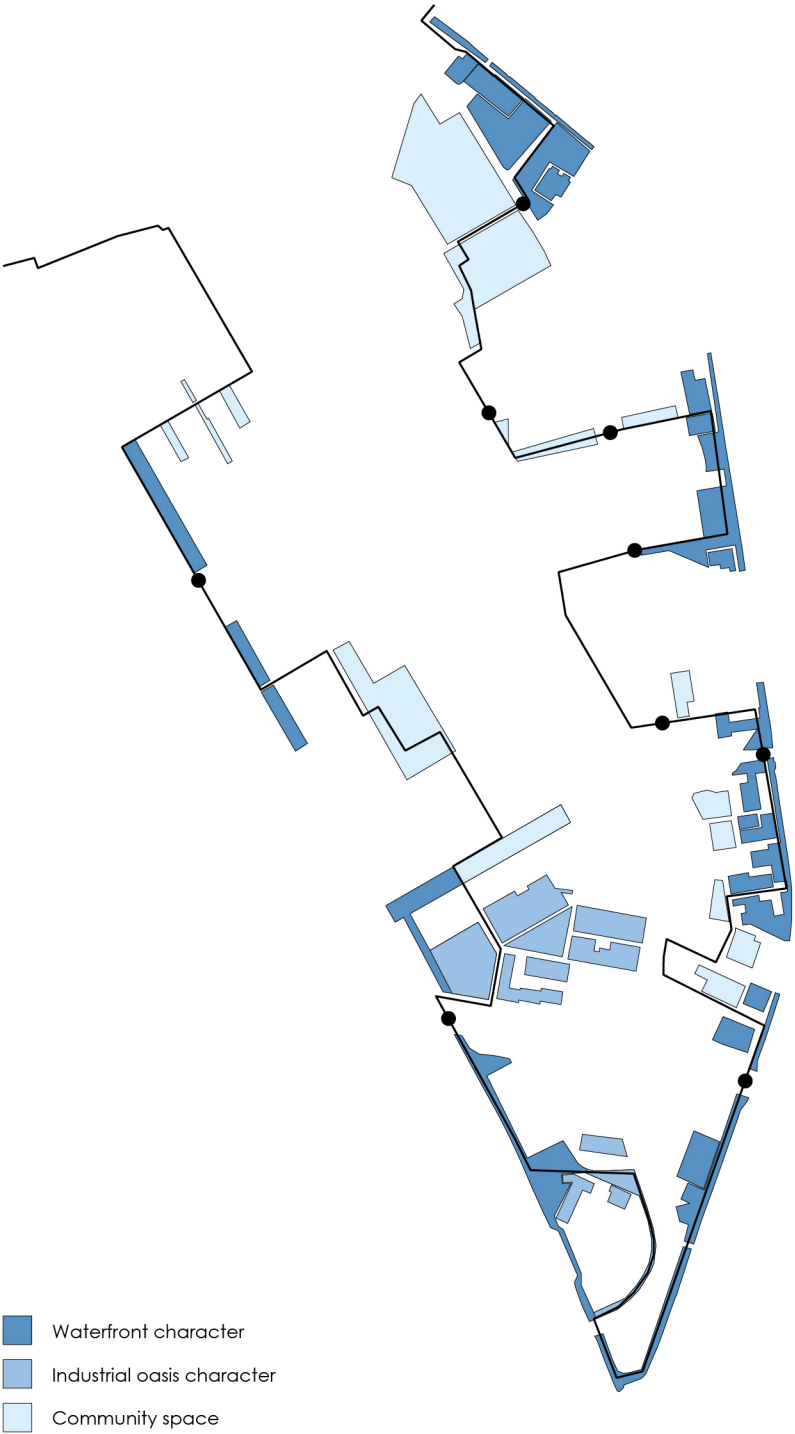
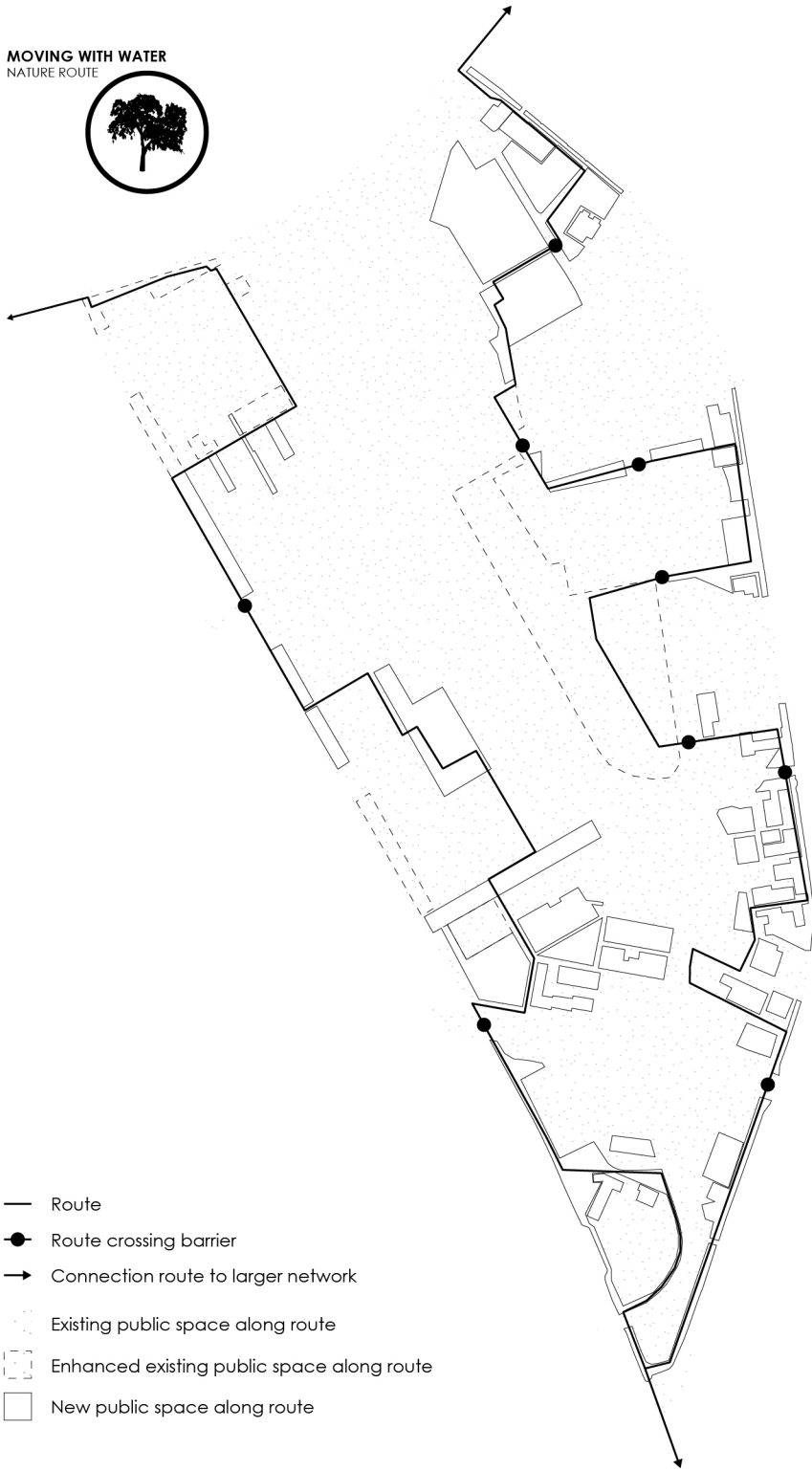


Pop-up activities

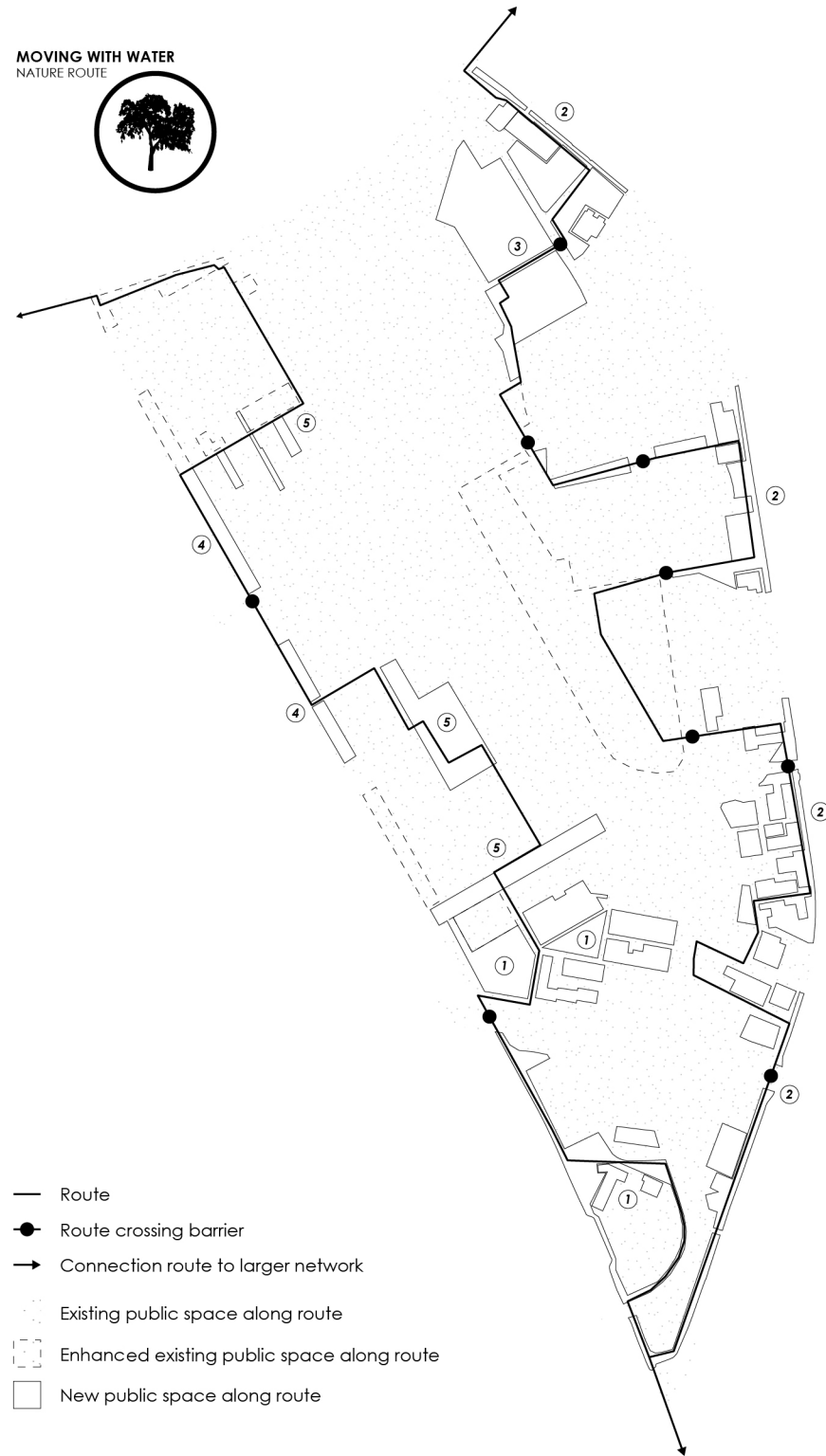


Open possibilities

# Nature Route



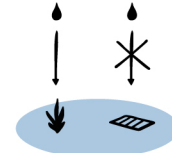




## General



Soil quality increasing  
maintenance



Sewersystem for  
waste water only



Plants to increase  
water quality



Plants to increase  
soil quality



Nature monitoring

1



Green roof



Green facade



Water storage roof

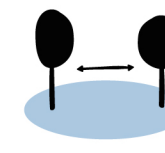


Shaded traffic space



Multi-level space

4



Connecting  
green spaces



Moving water

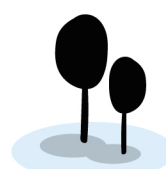


Water as a  
meeting place

3



Natural shelter



Shade

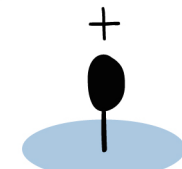


Multi-level space



Accessible roof

2



Increasing green  
space



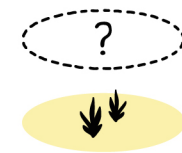
Diverse green  
space



Plants to increase  
water quality



Multi-level space



Shadow plans



Quiet spaces



Spaces to wander



Spaces to inspire

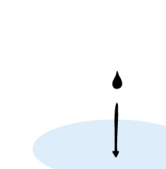
5



Diverse green  
space



Water capture  
for use



Underground  
water storage



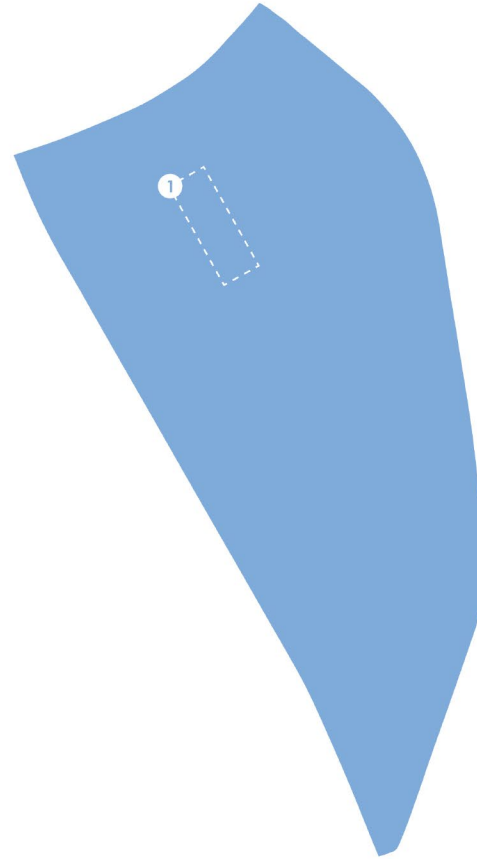
Multifunctional  
space



Community garden

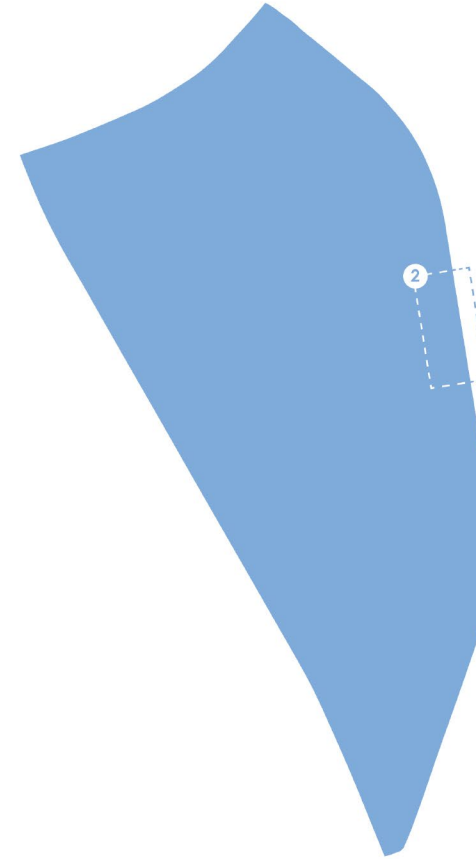


Water as a  
meeting place



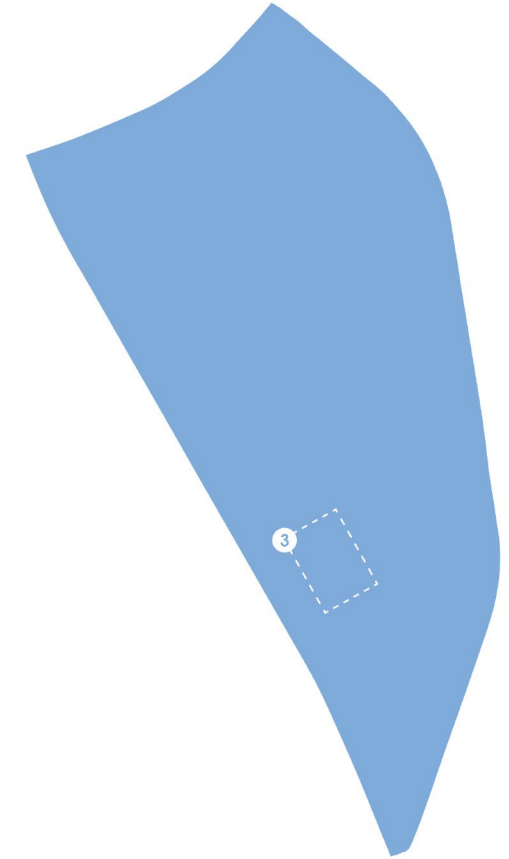
**Location 1**  
Emergency Water Storage

Storing water during peak rainfall



**Location 2**  
Waterfront

Increasing flexibility and creating  
a connection with the water

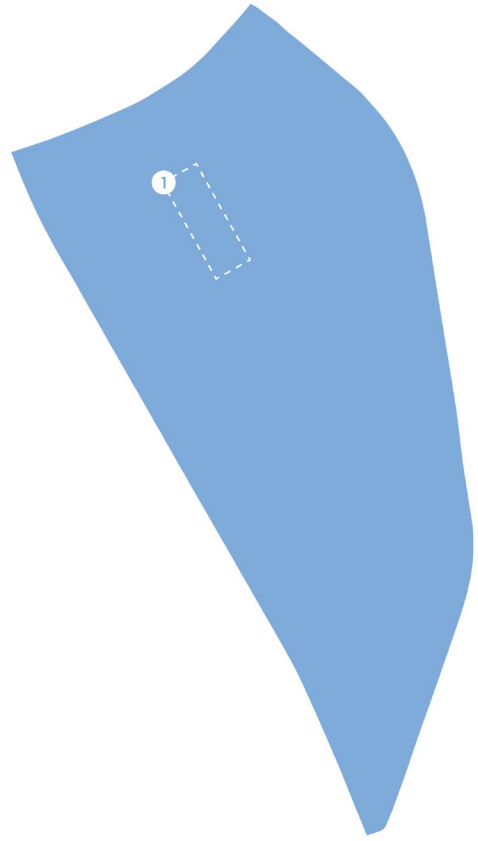


**Location 3**  
Industrial Oasis

Reducing heat stress  
and capturing rainwater for use



## Design 1 Emergency Water Storage



### Main aim

Storing water during peak rainfall

### Character

Community space

### Routes involved

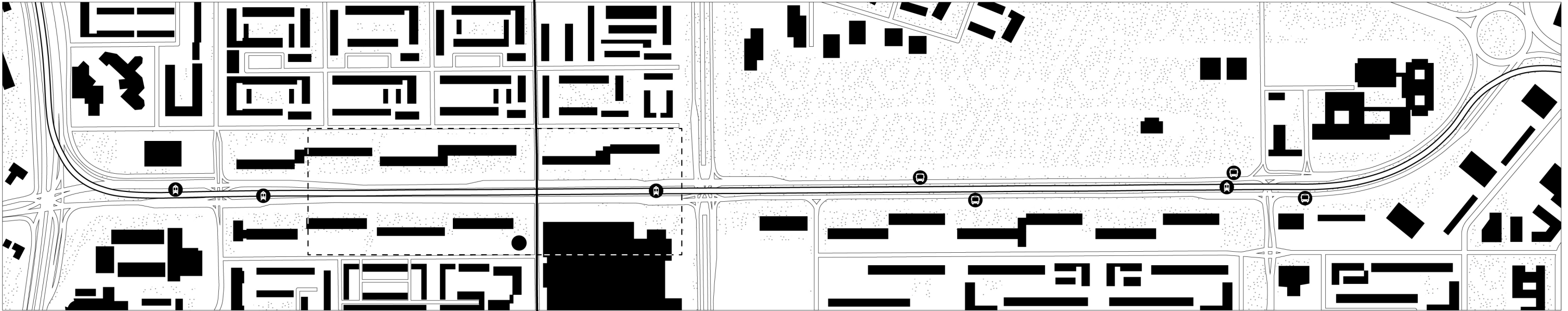
Social route





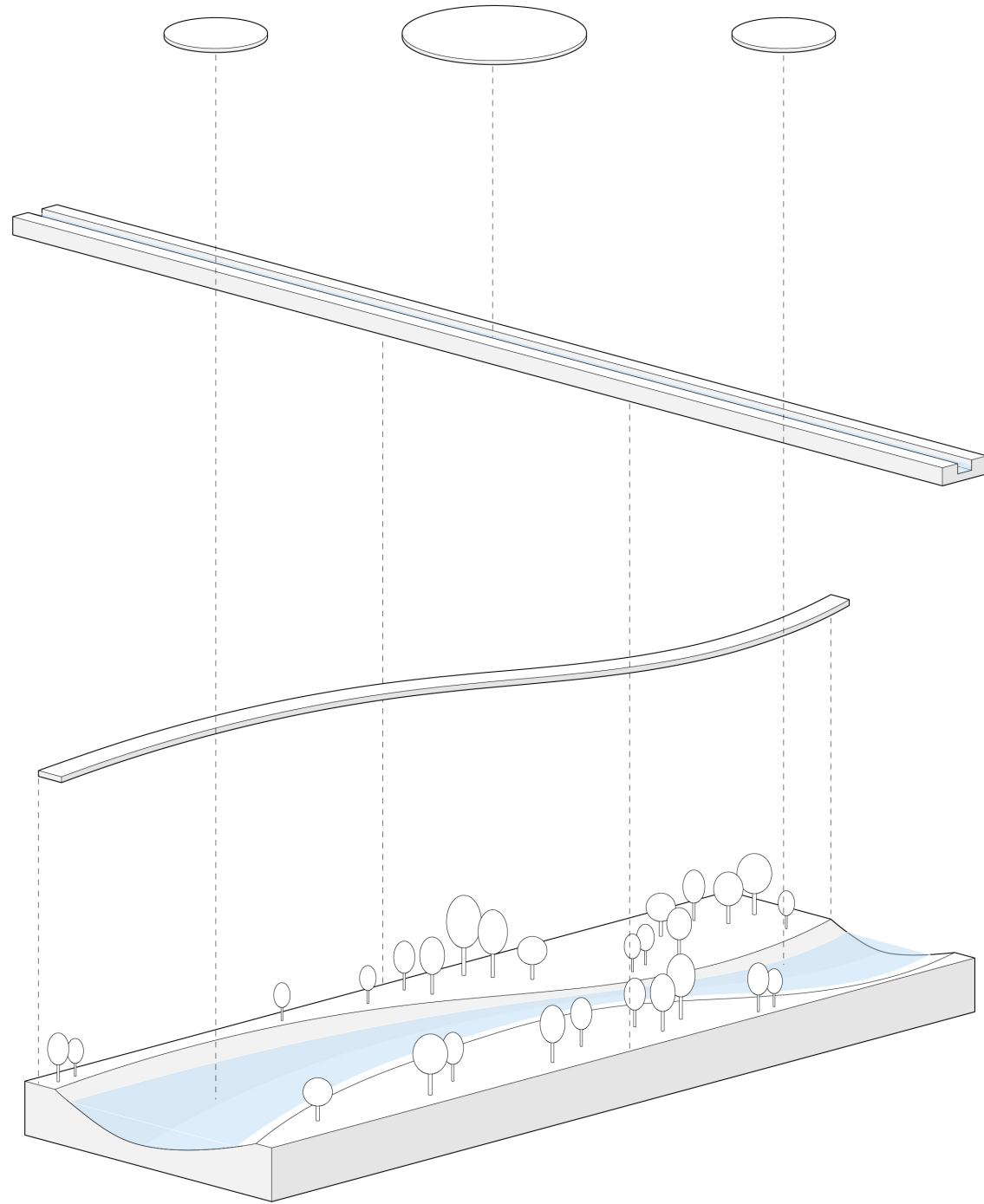






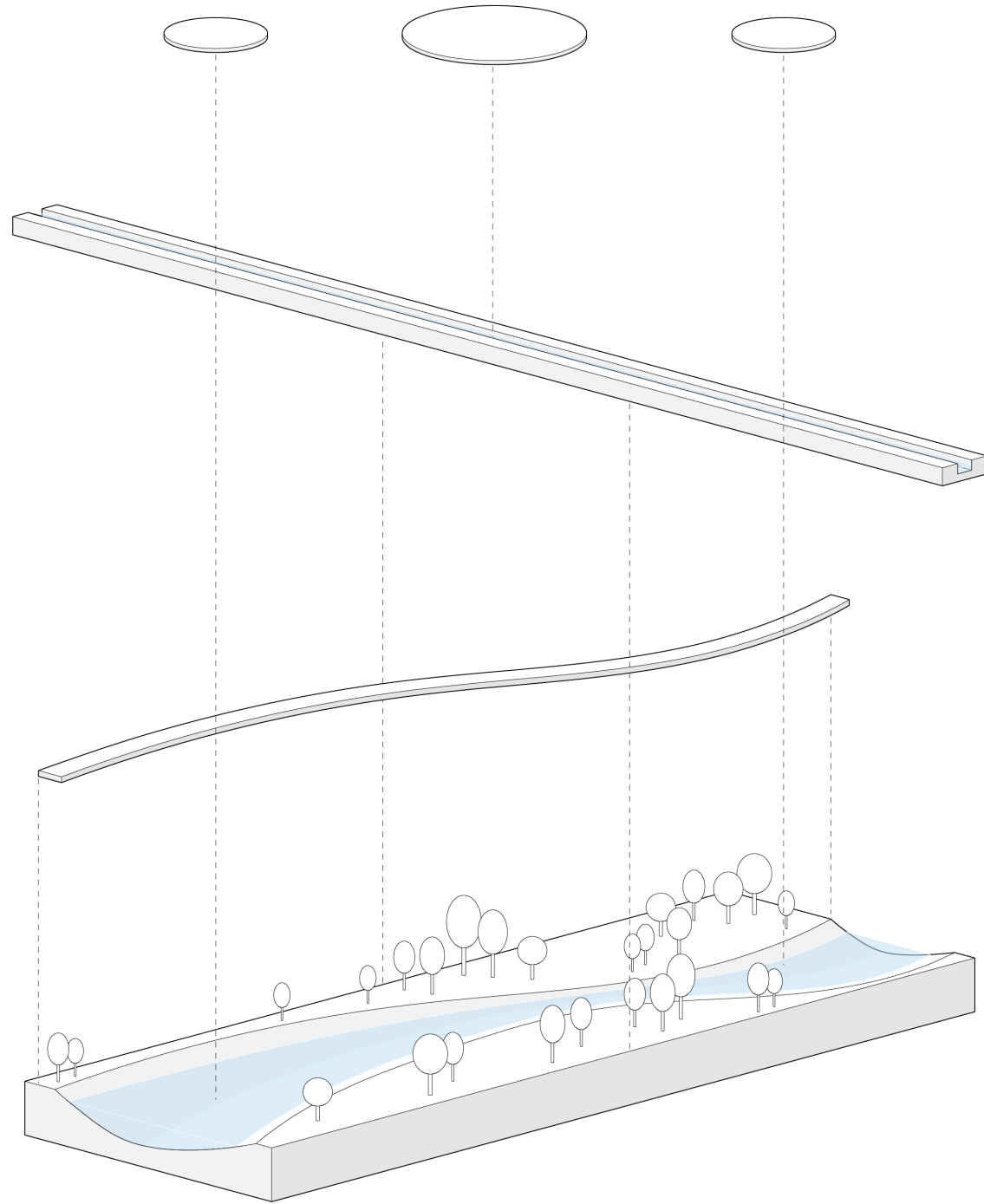
== Tram line    — Road    ■ Buildings    · Green space    Ⓣ Tram stop    Ⓟ Bus stop    [ ] Zoomed in design area    → Route



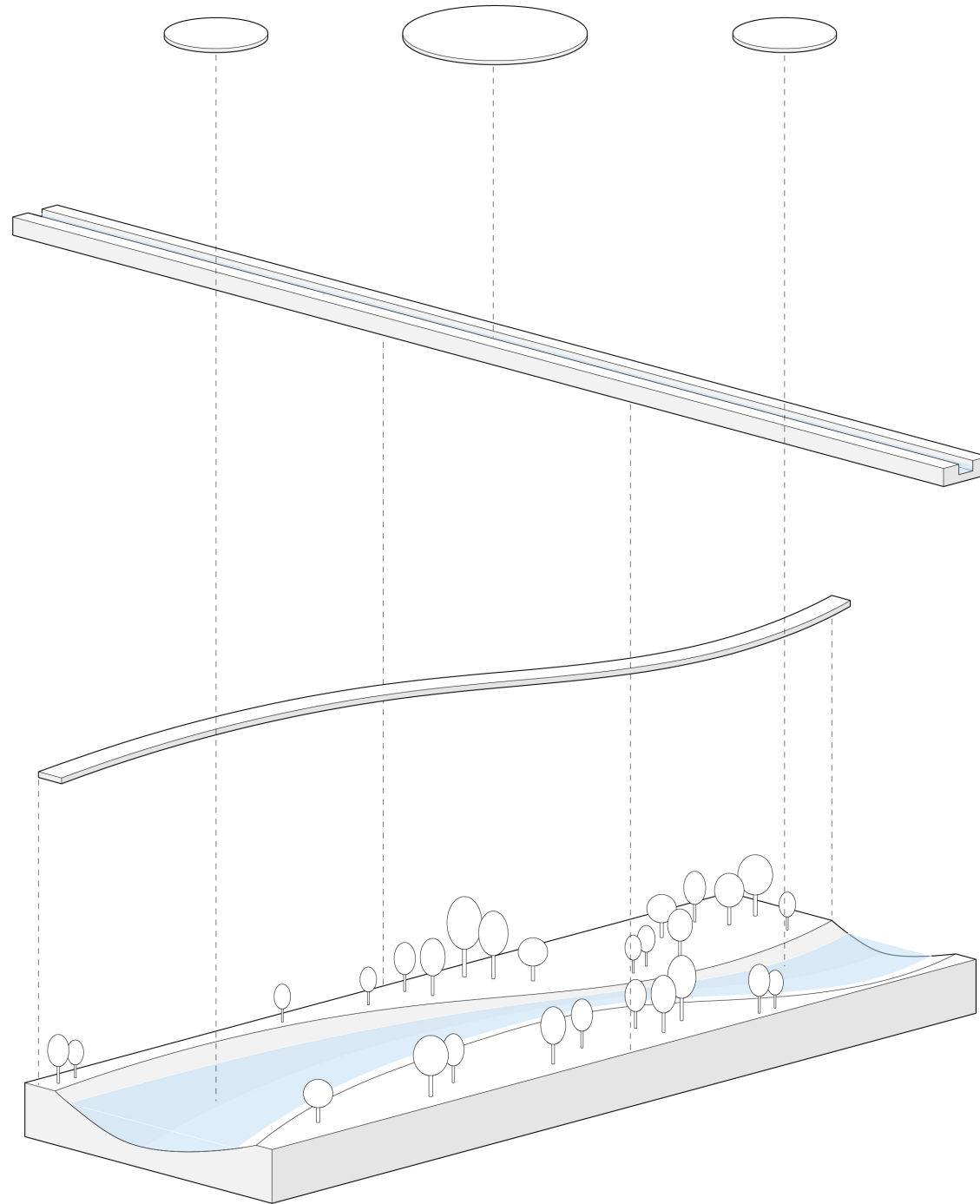


- Waterbuffer



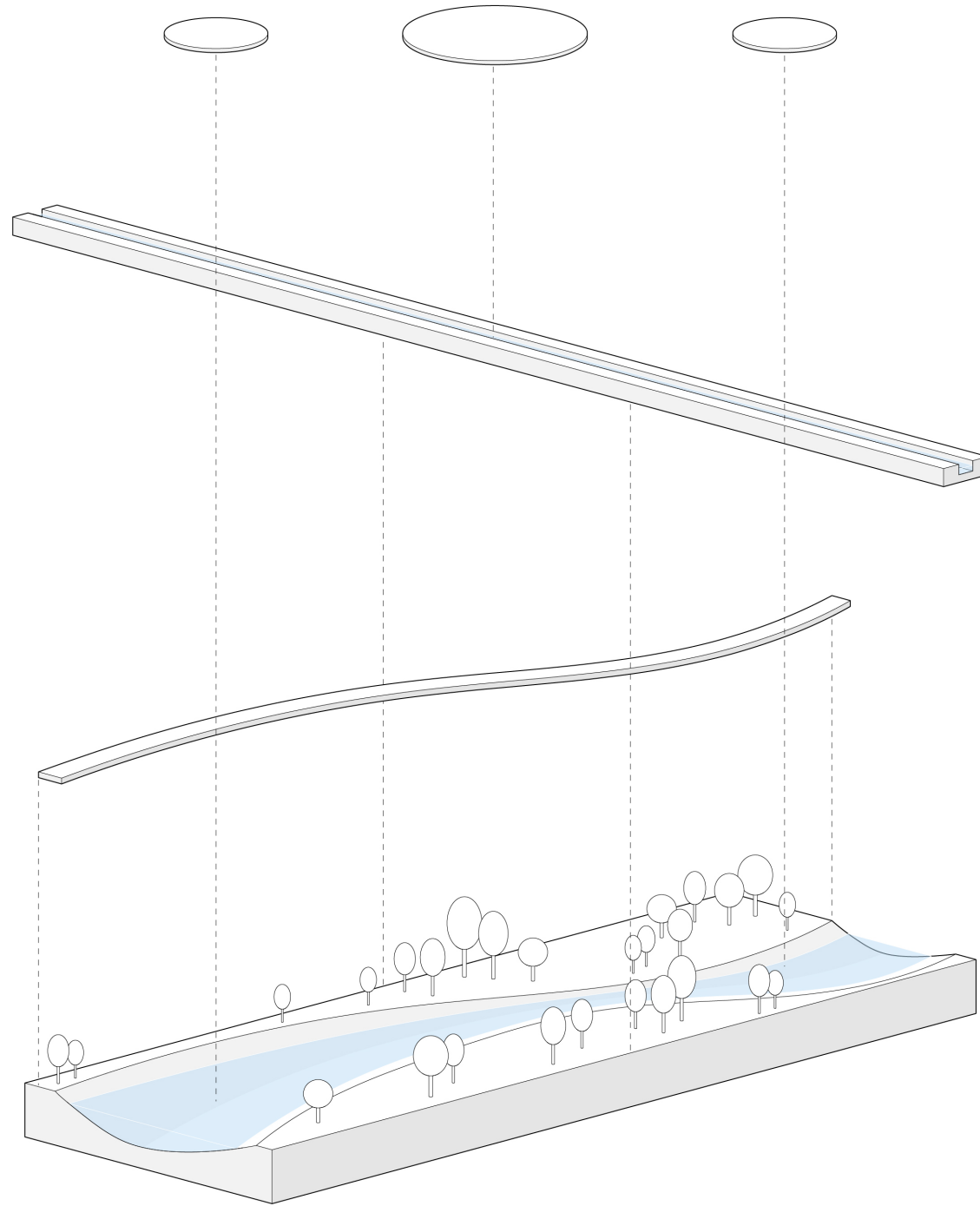


- Winding path

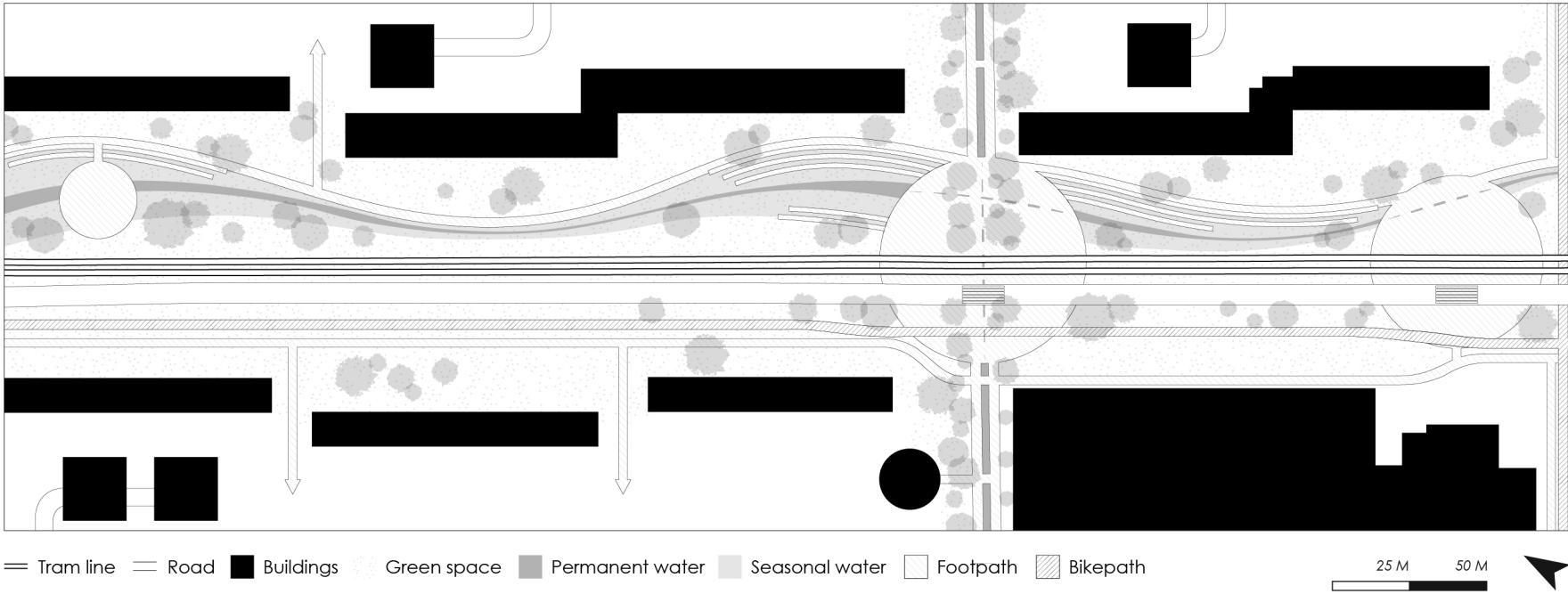


- Slow traffic road

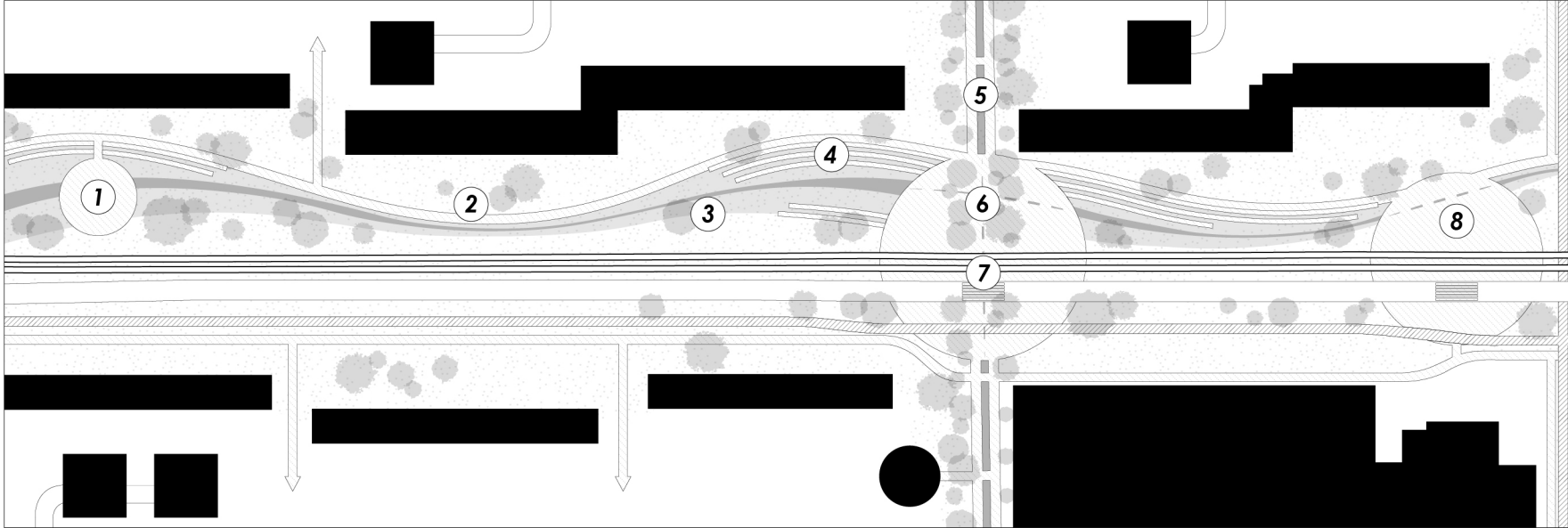




- Squares







== Tram line    — Road    ■ Buildings    ● Green space    ■ Permanent water    ■ Seasonal water    □ Footpath    ▨ Bikepath    25 M    50 M    ↗

1

?

Open possibilities

Multi-level space

Water as a meeting place

Pop-up activities

2

Diverse green space

Plants to increase soil quality

Spaces to wander

Spaces to inspire

3

Plants to increase water quality

More surface water

Differences in elevation

Nature monitoring

4

Wadi

Temporary accessibility

Water as a meeting place

Spaces to gather

5

Canal

Shade

6

Underground water storage

Multi-level space

?

Open possibilities

Spaces to gather

7

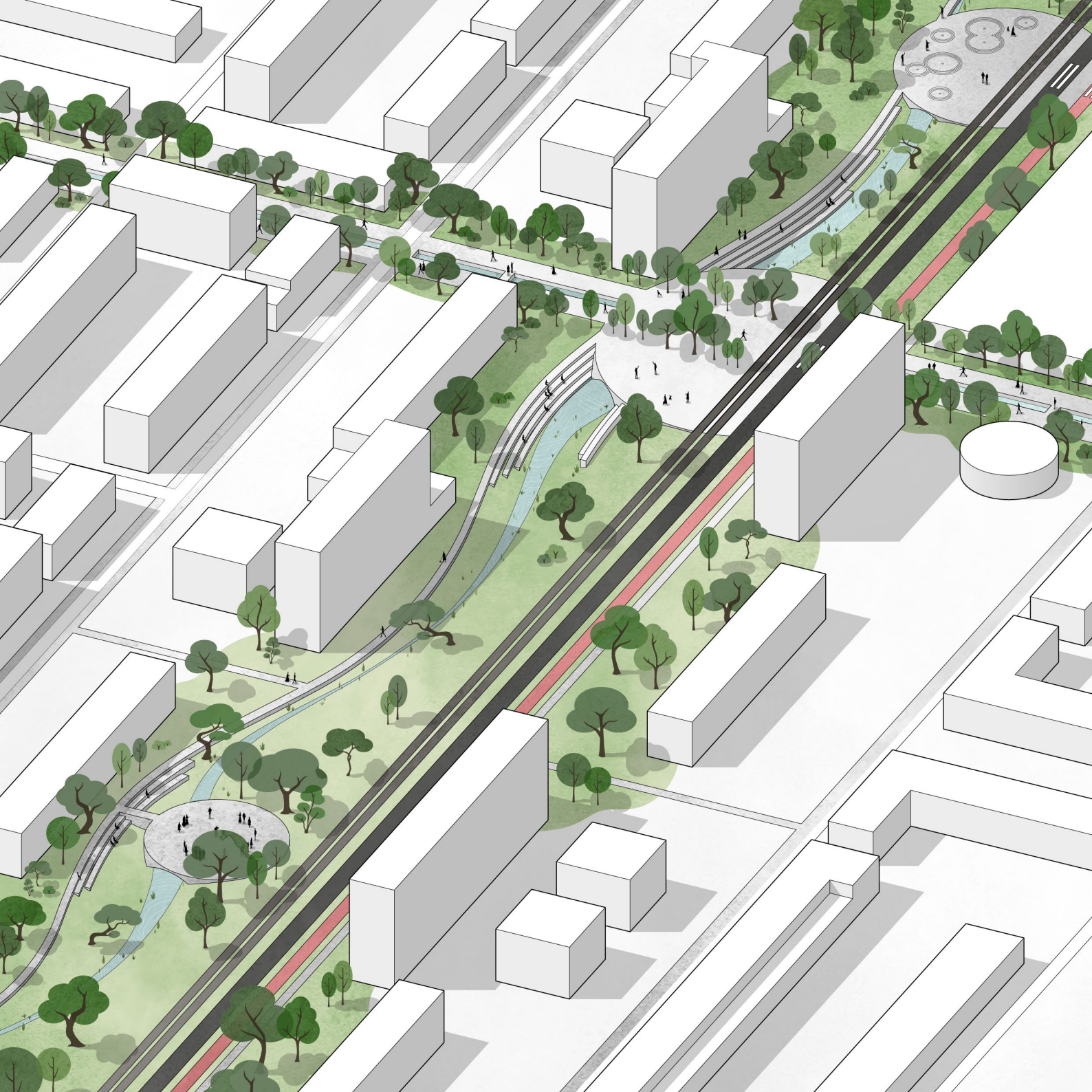
Overcoming barriers

8

Underground water storage

Moving water

Spaces for play



## Everyday Scenario



## Dry Scenario



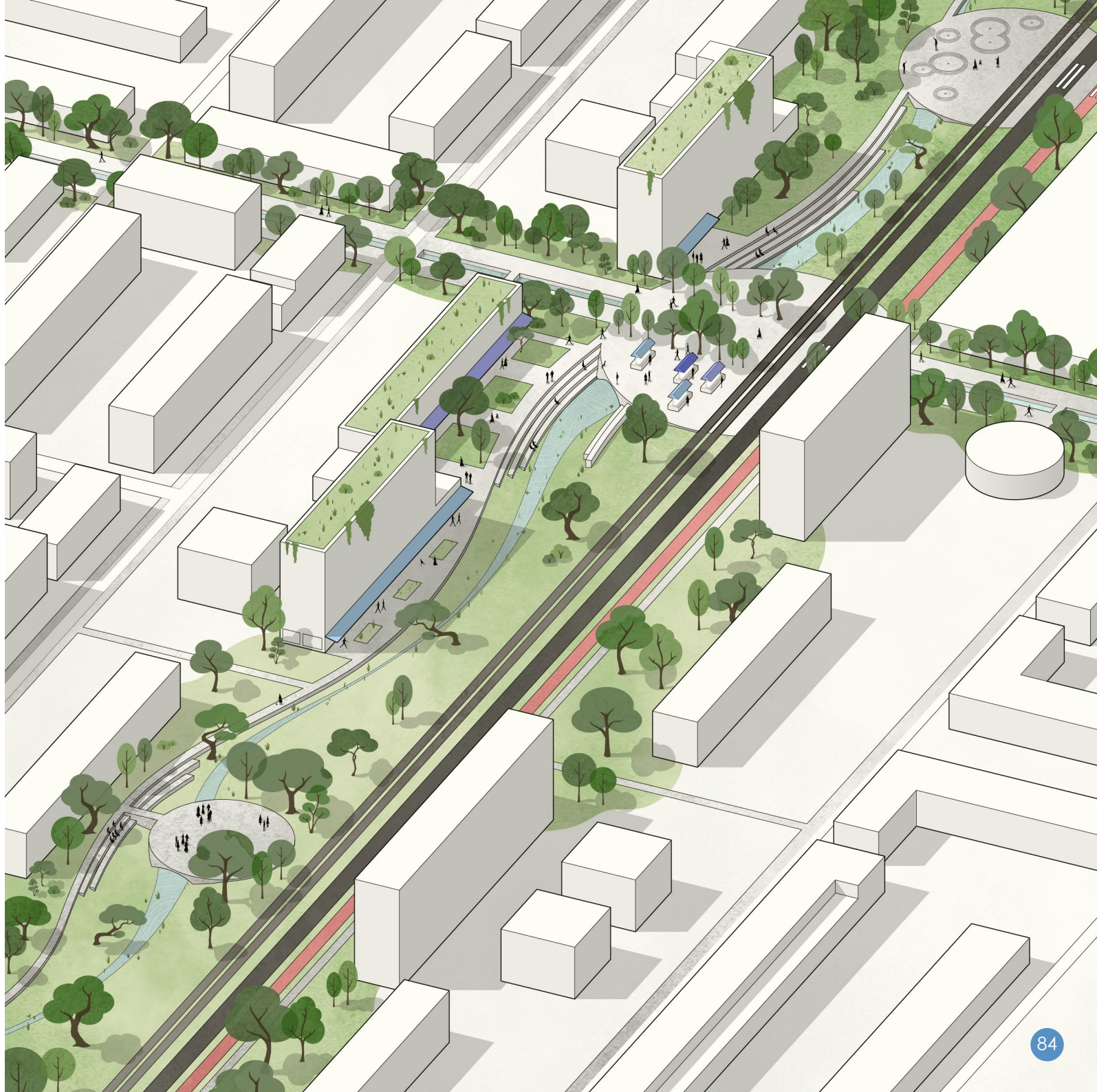




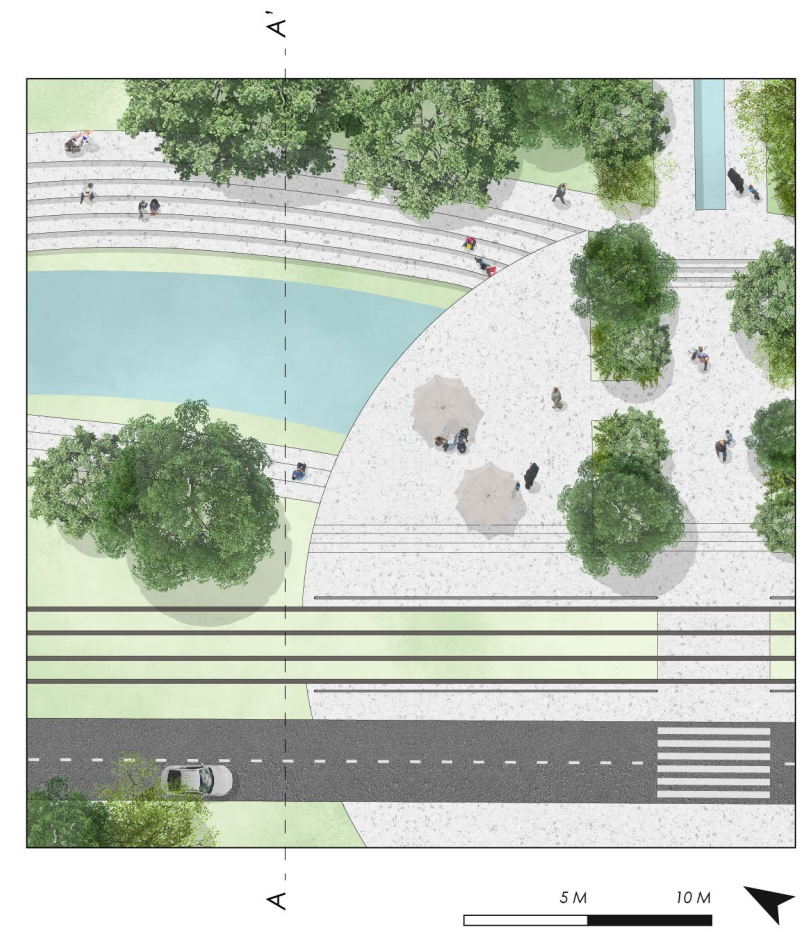
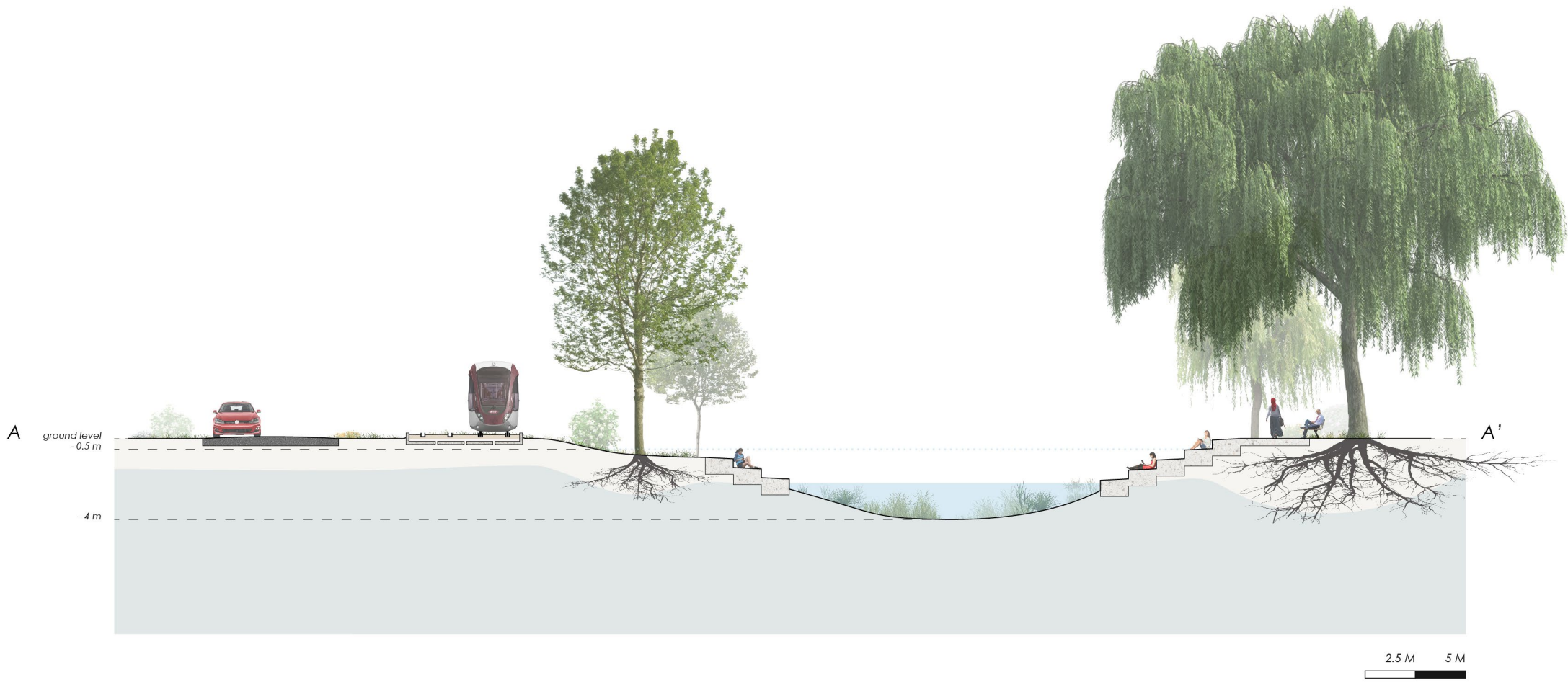
Wet Scenario



Function Change Scenario





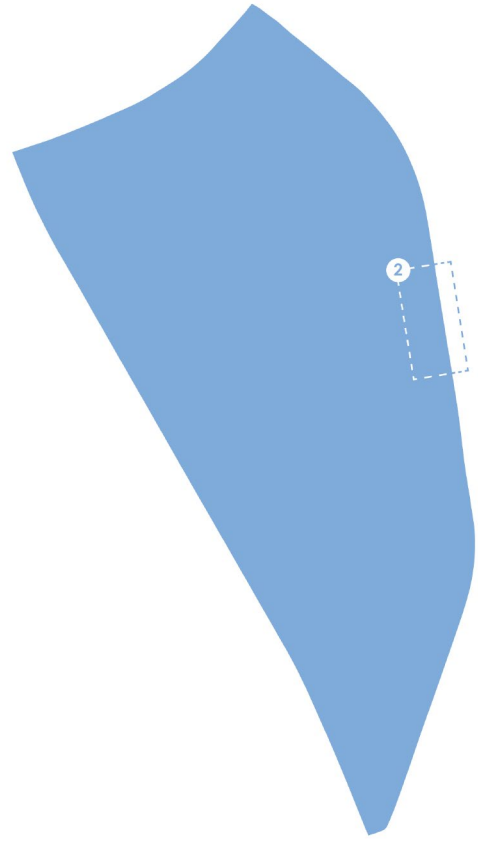








## Design 2 Waterfront



### Main aim

Increasing flexibility and creating a connection with the water

### Character

Waterfront

### Routes involved

Social route and nature route

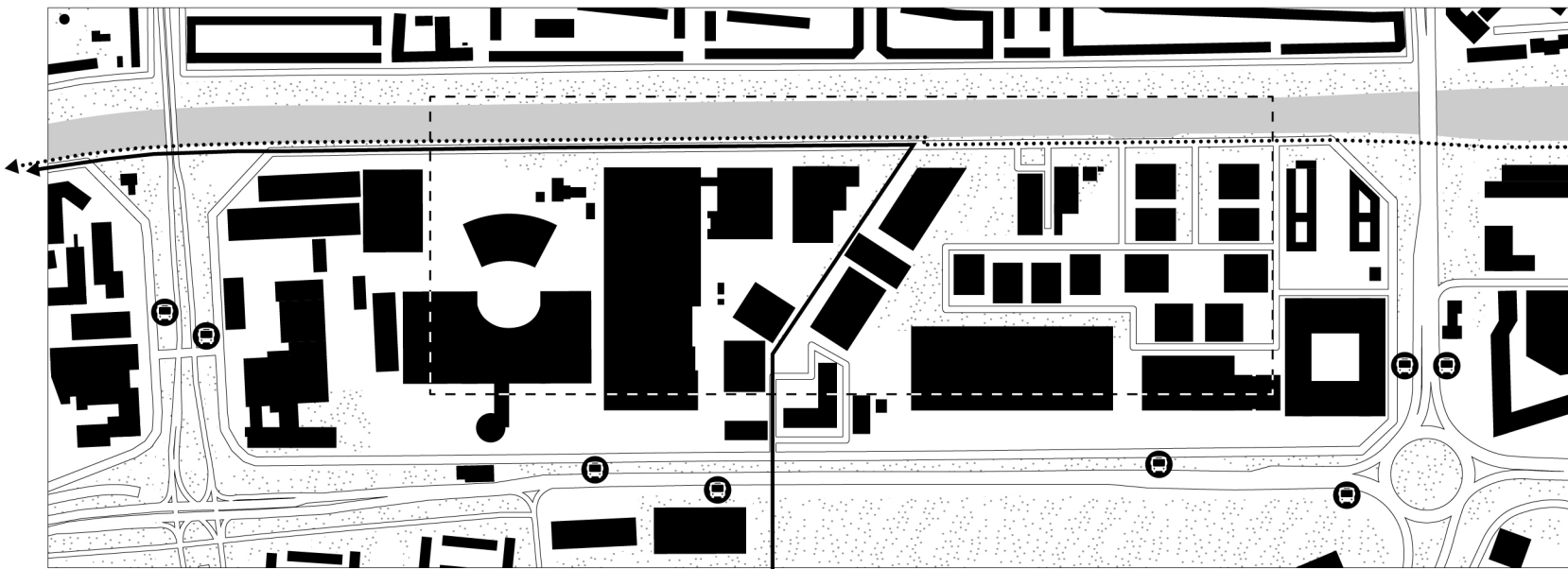








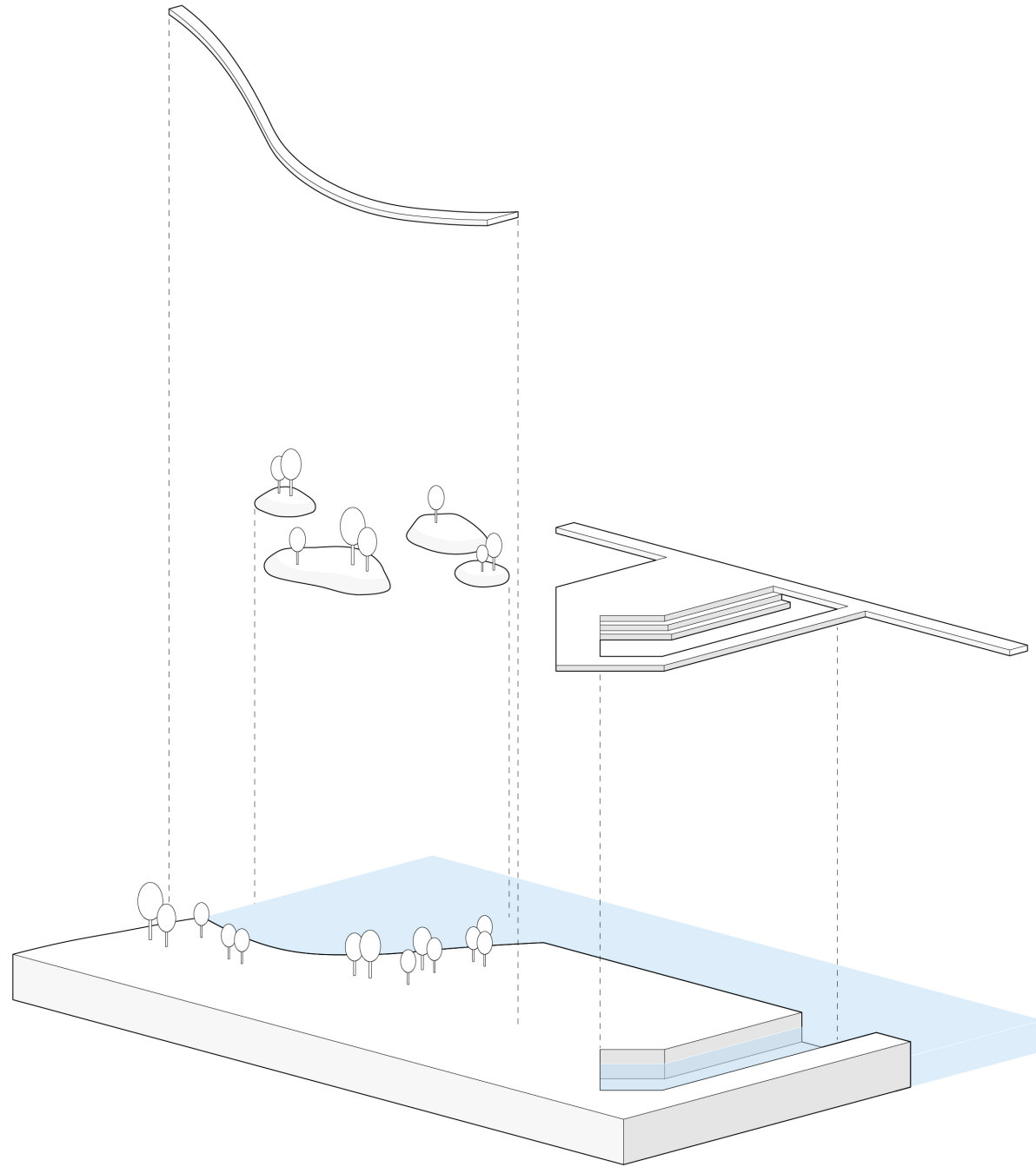
Intervention Location



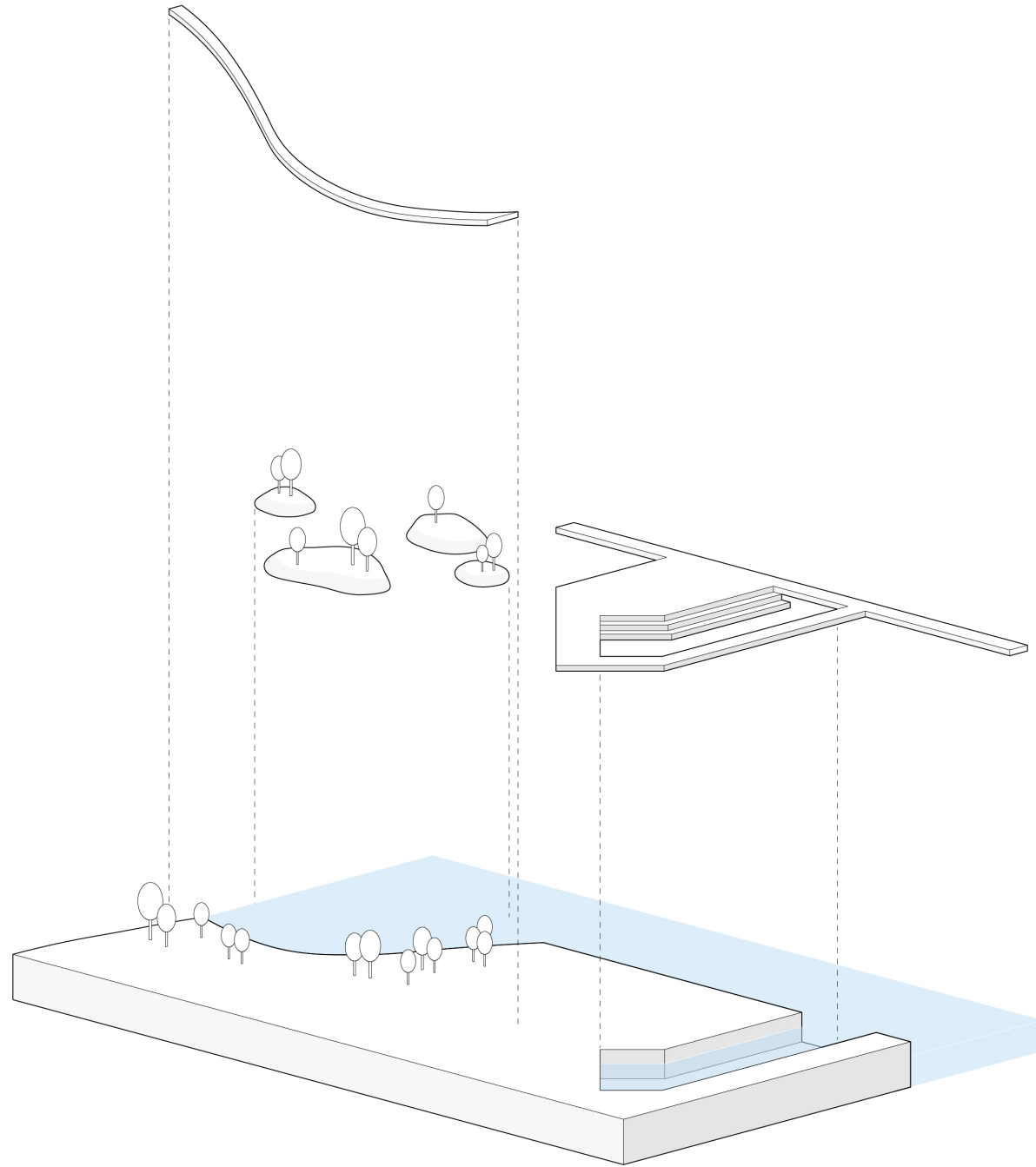
— Road   ■ Buildings   ··· Green space   🚌 Bus stop   [ ] Zoomed in design area  
→ Nature route   ··· Social route





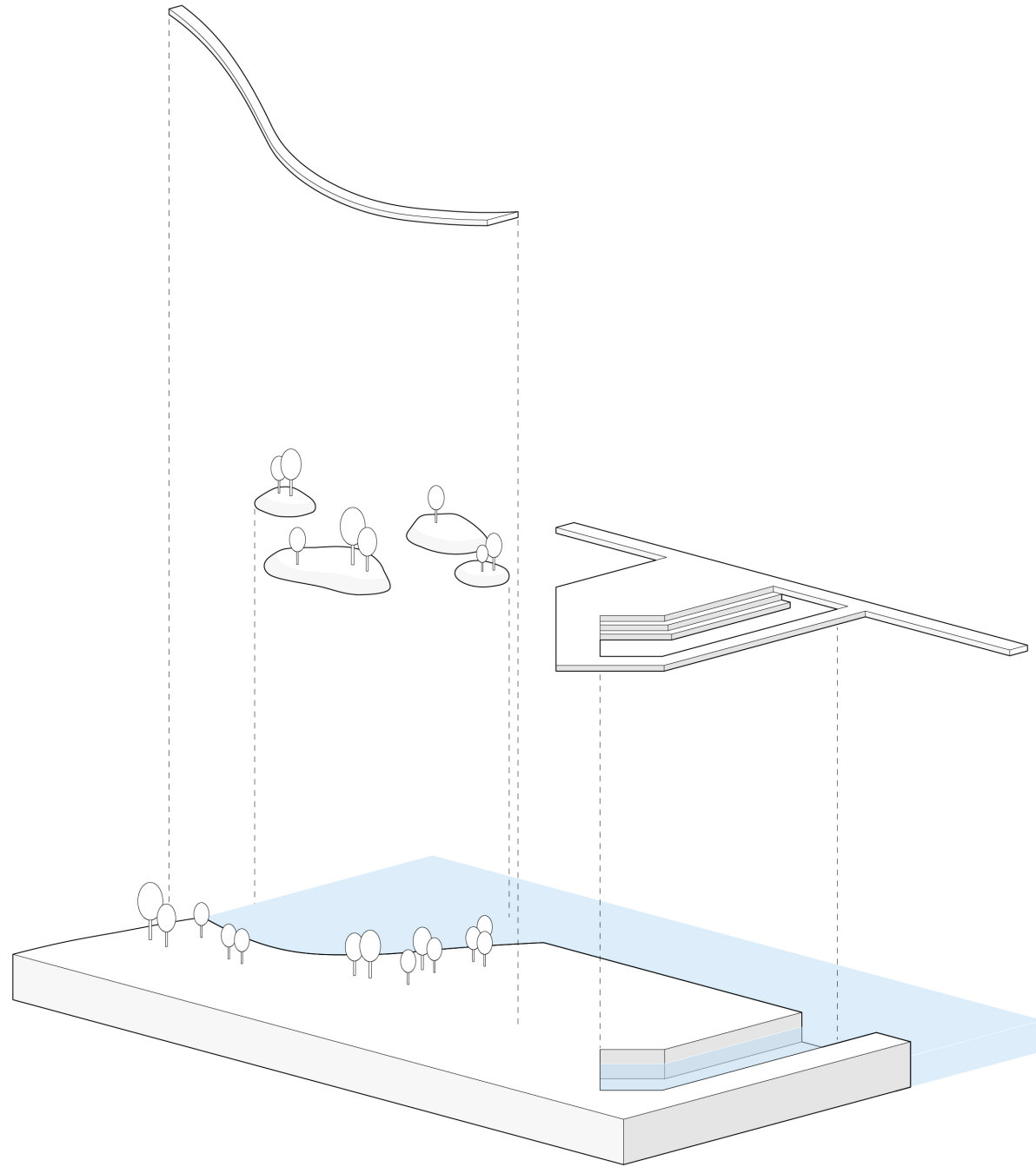


- A natural edge

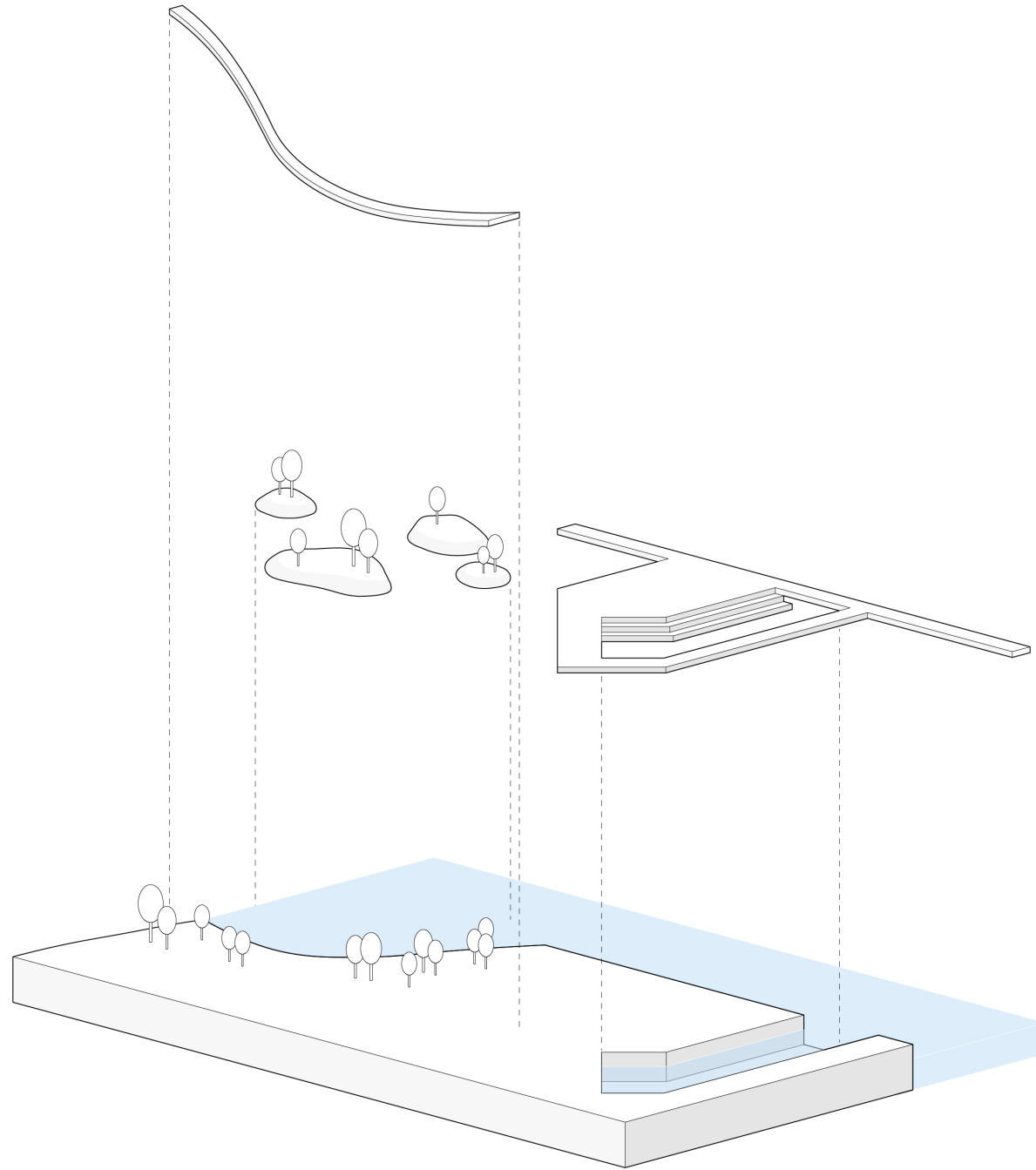


- Wooden walkway



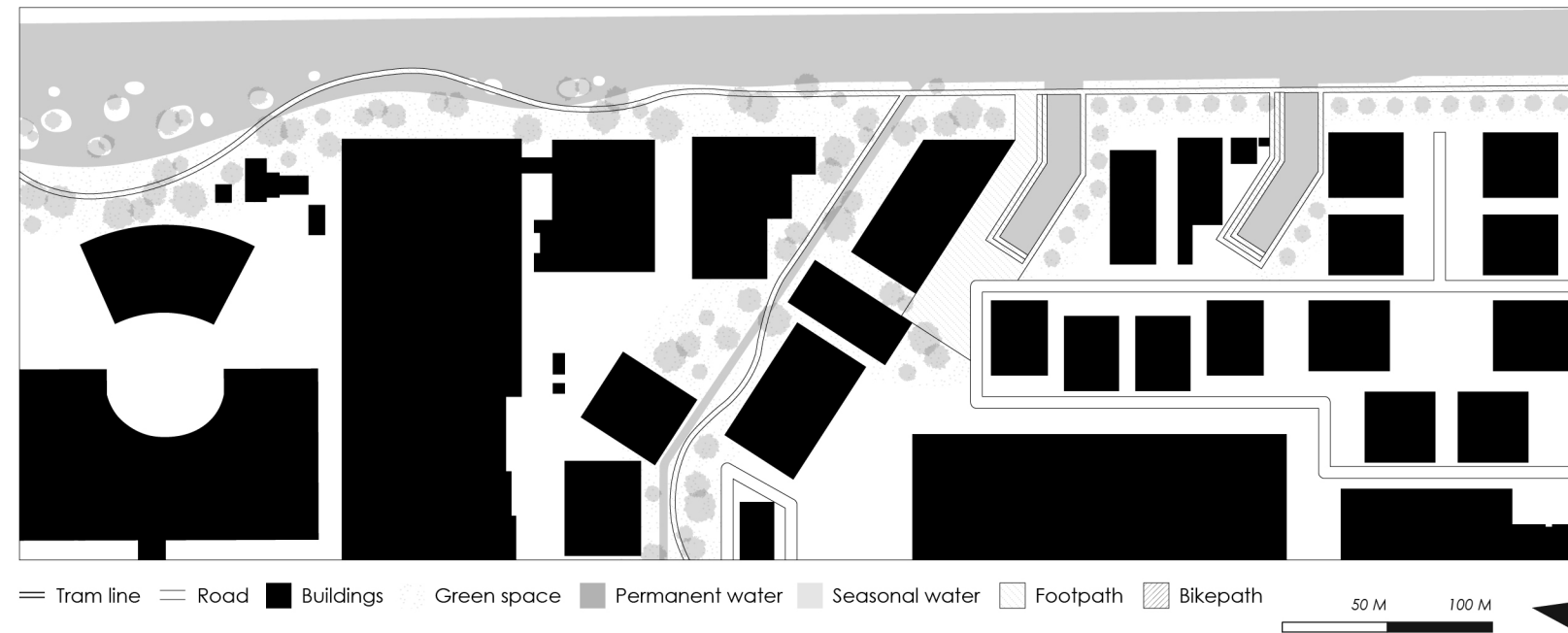
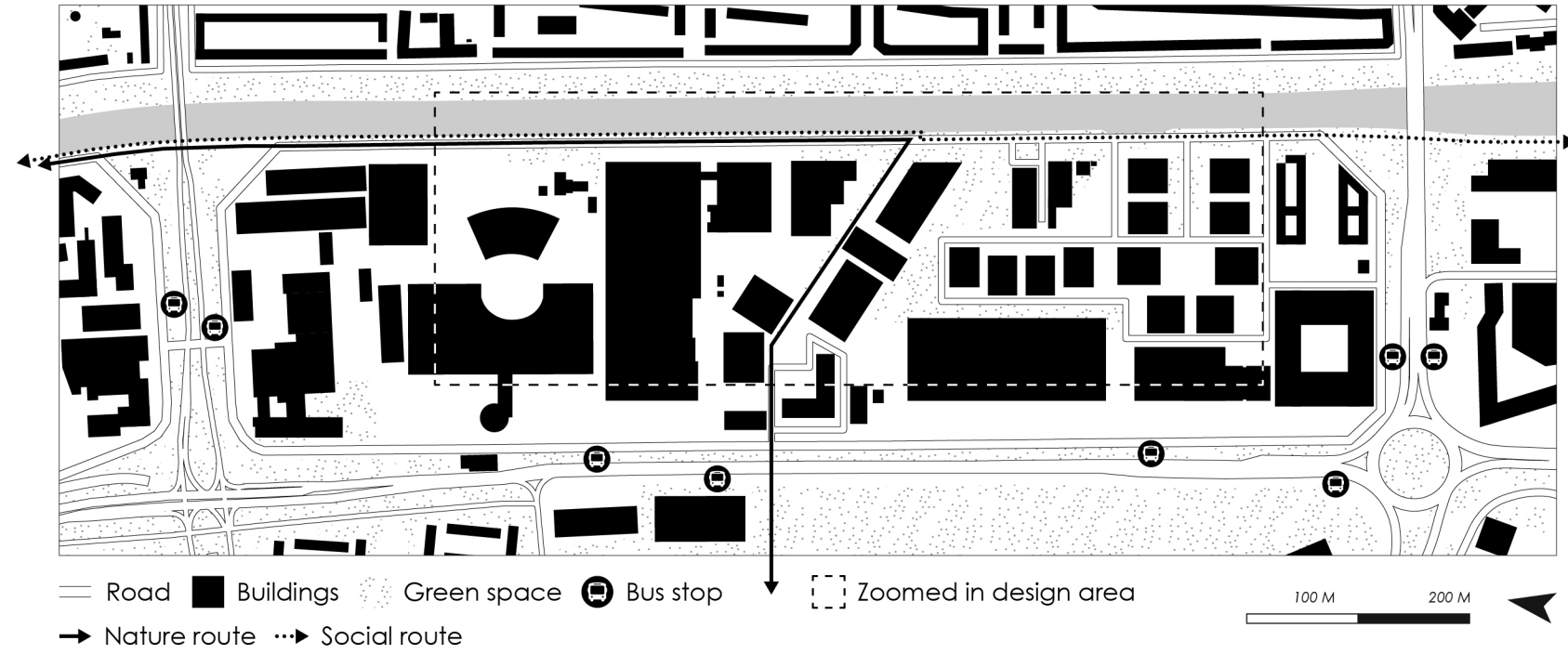


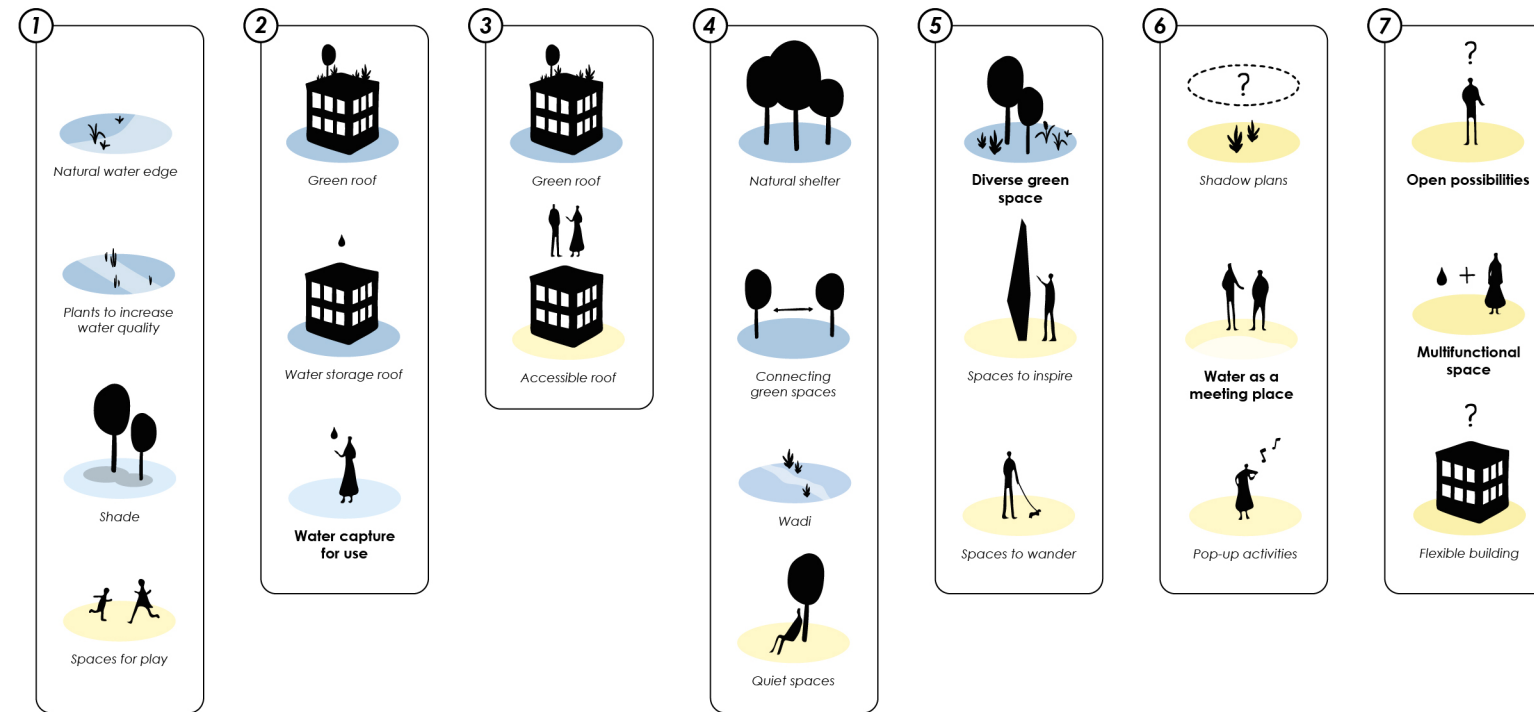
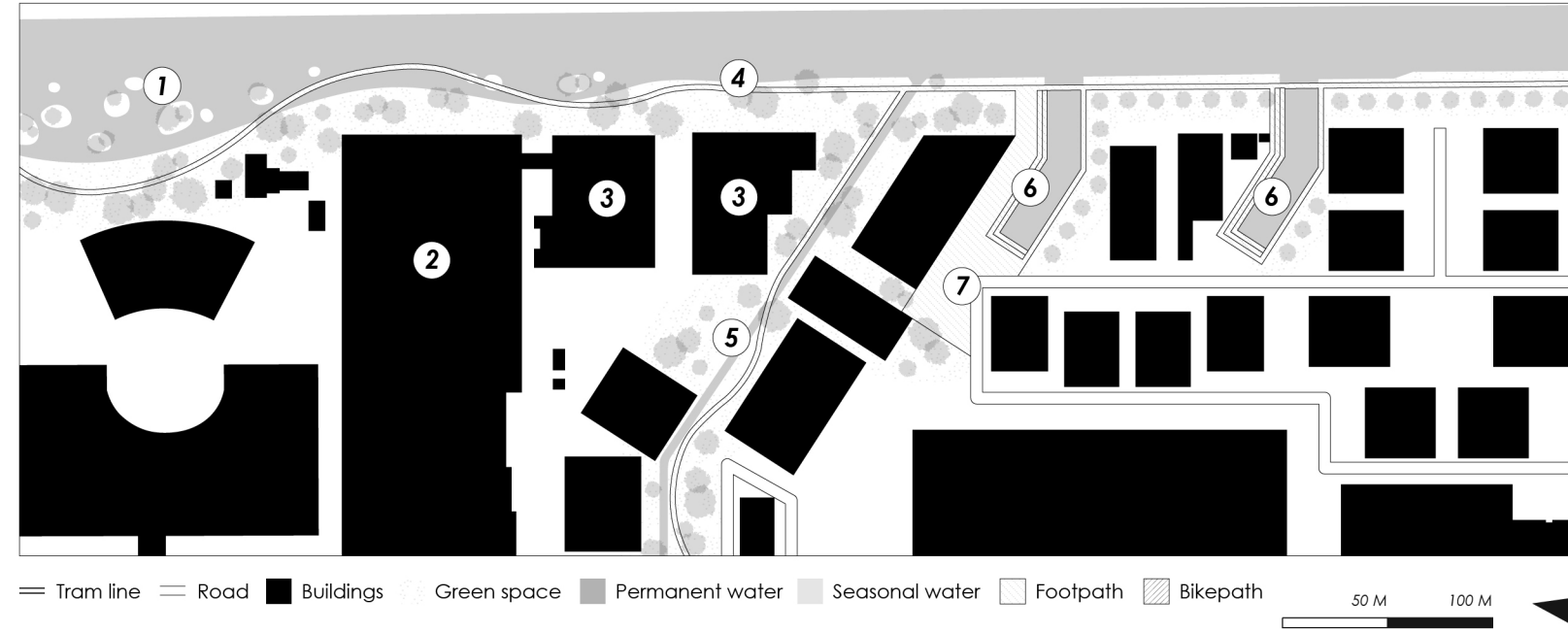
- Ecological islands



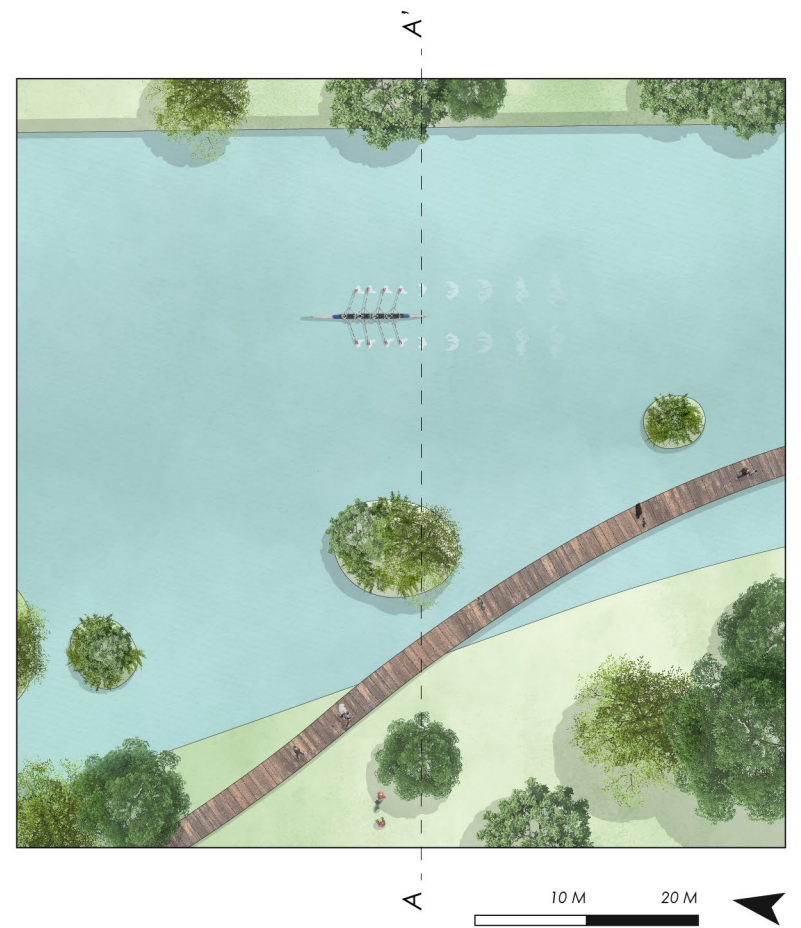
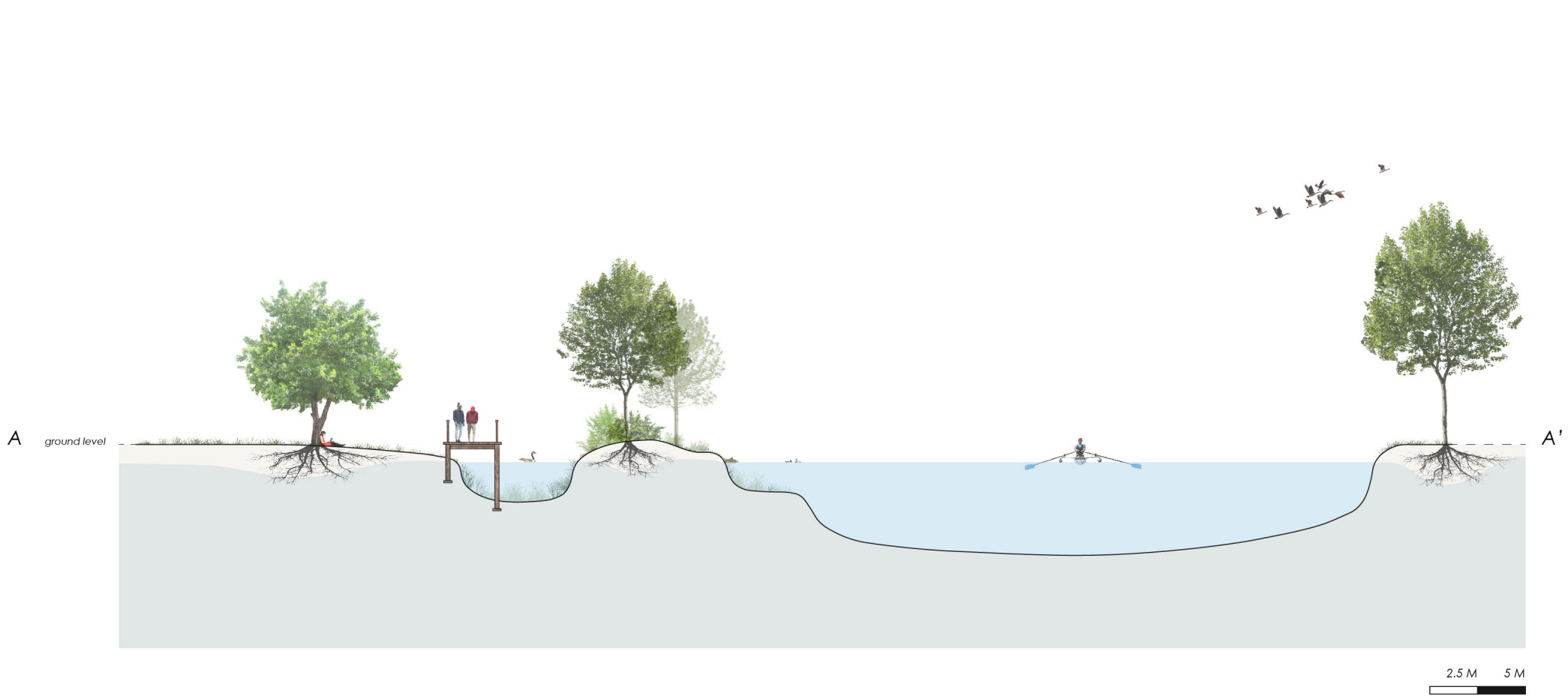
- Public space at the water









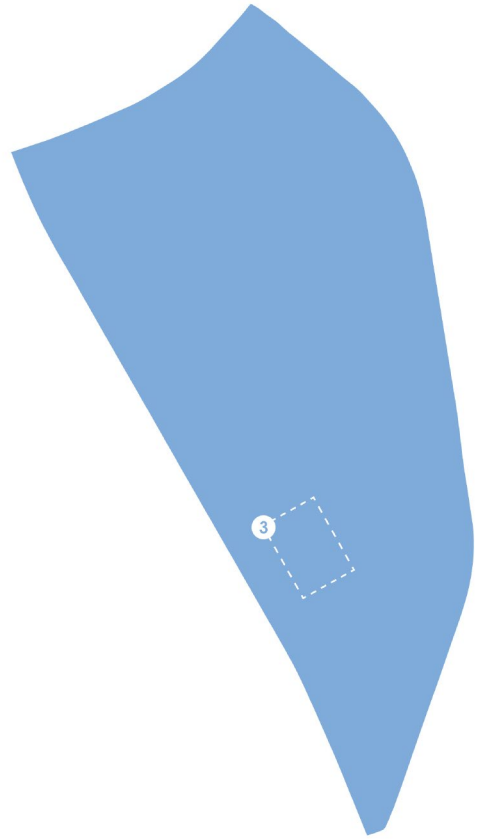








## Design 3 Industrial Oasis



### Main aim

Reducing heat stress  
and capturing rainwater for use

### Character

Industrial oasis

### Routes involved

Nature route

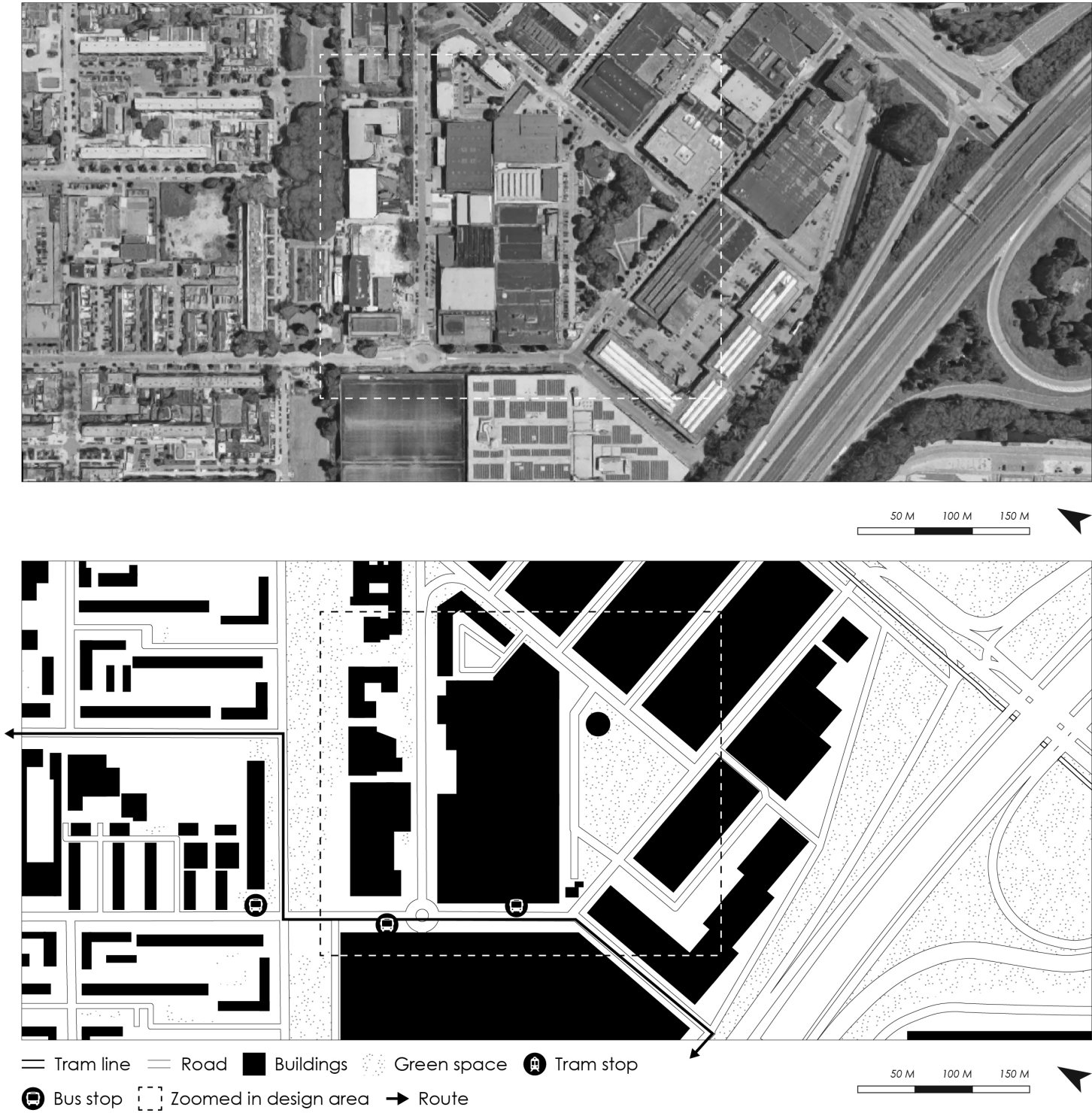


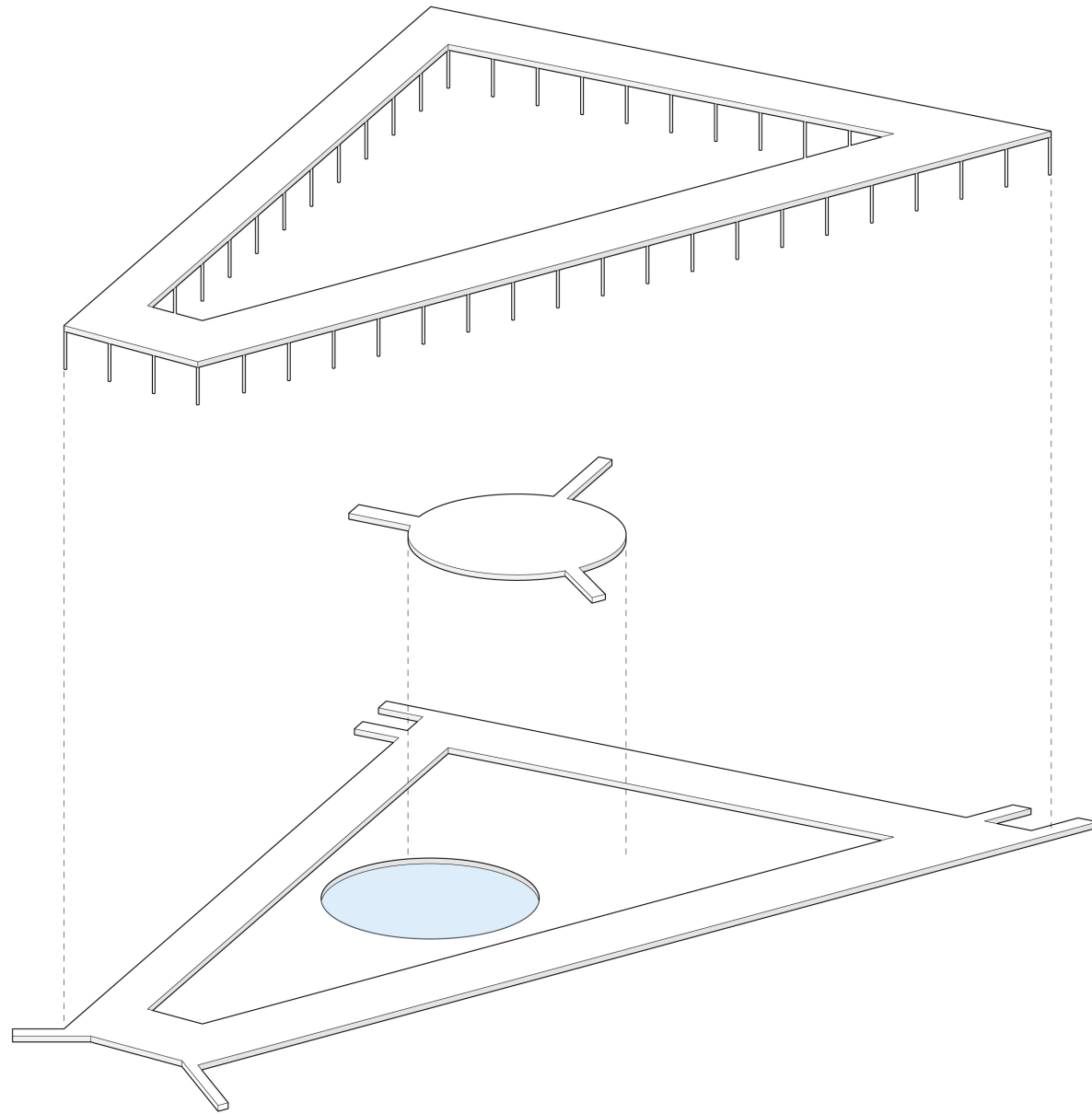






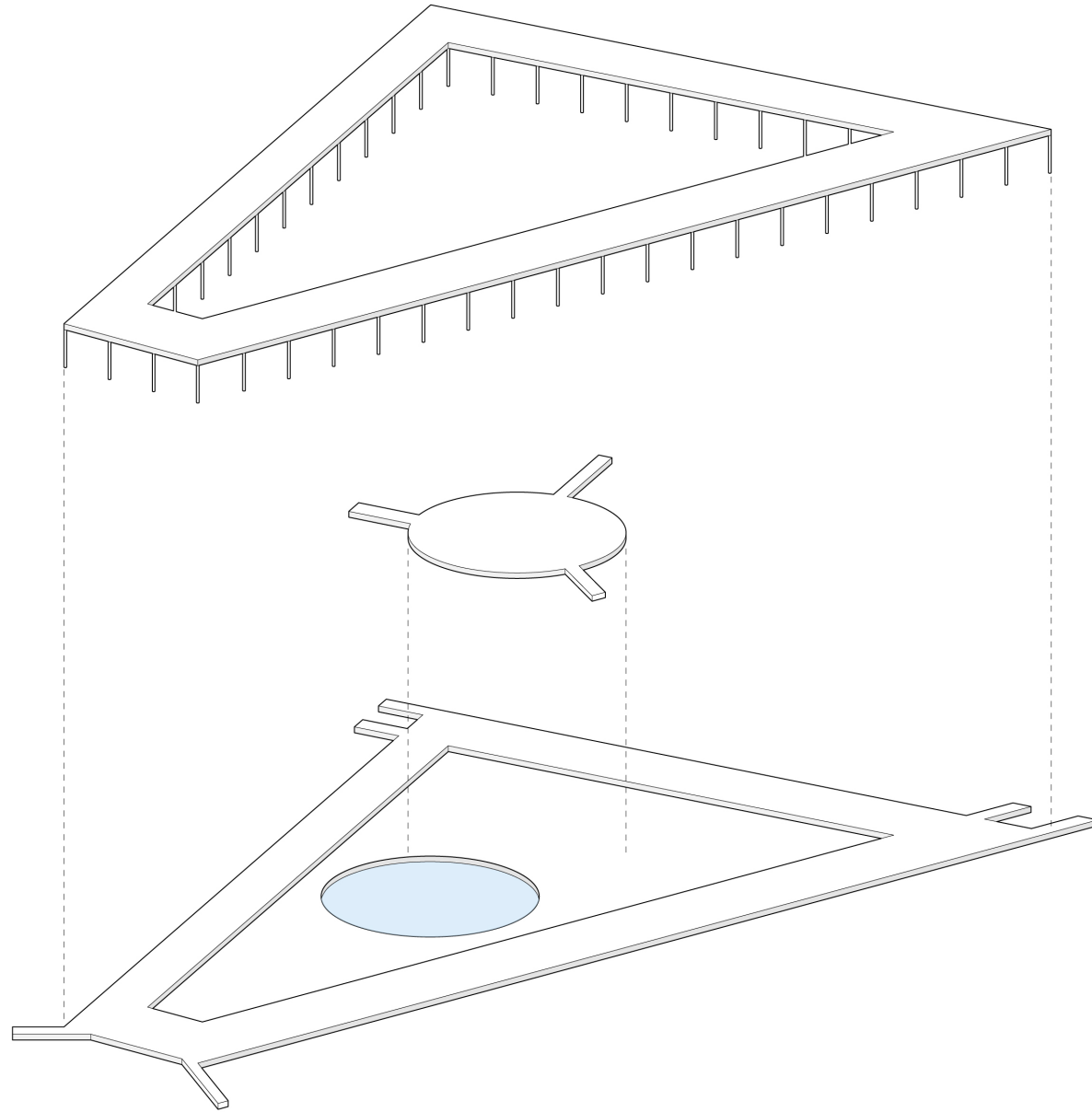
Intervention Location



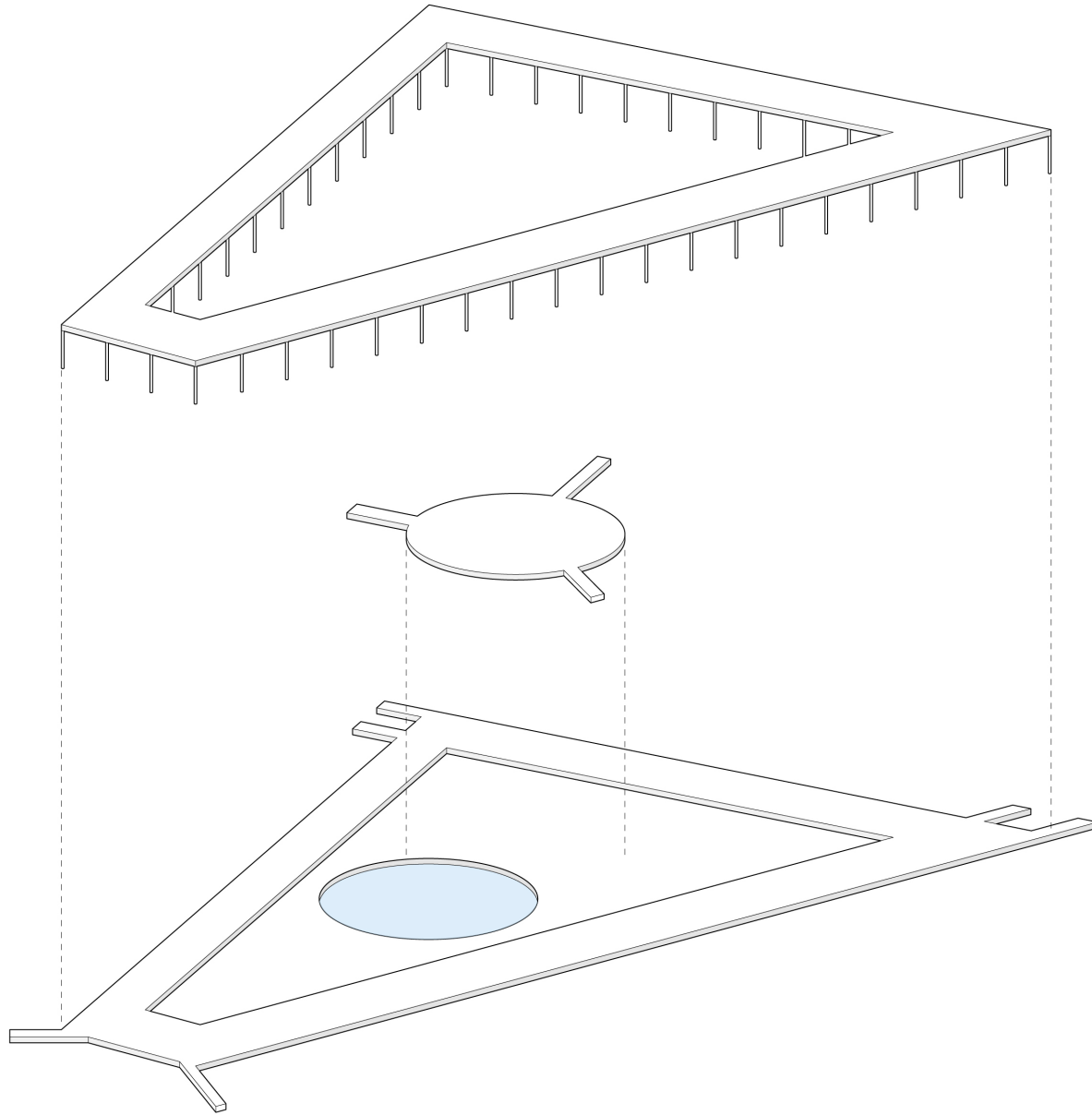


- Water buffer



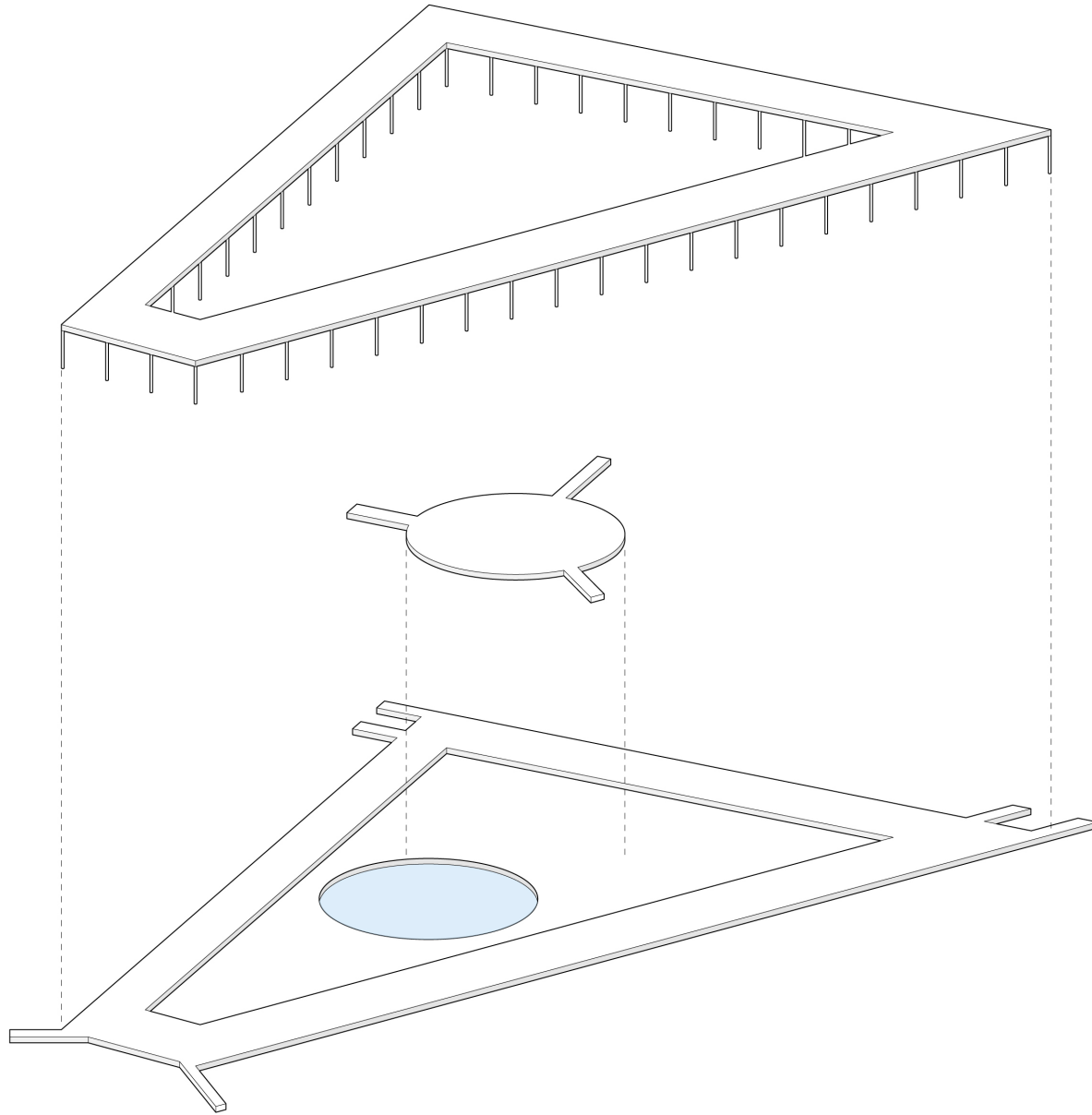


- Pedestrian roads

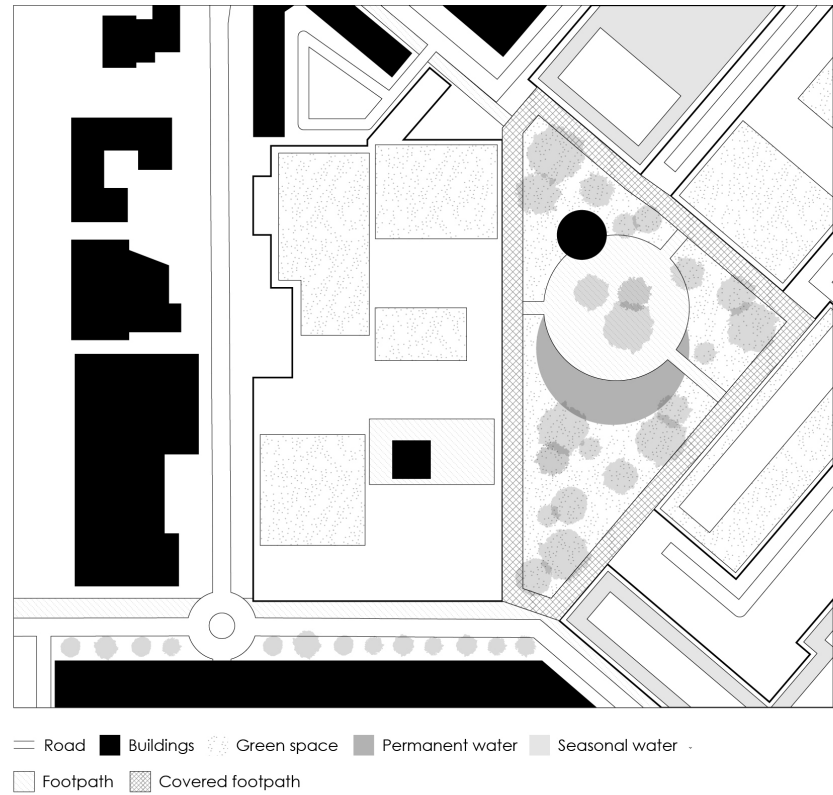
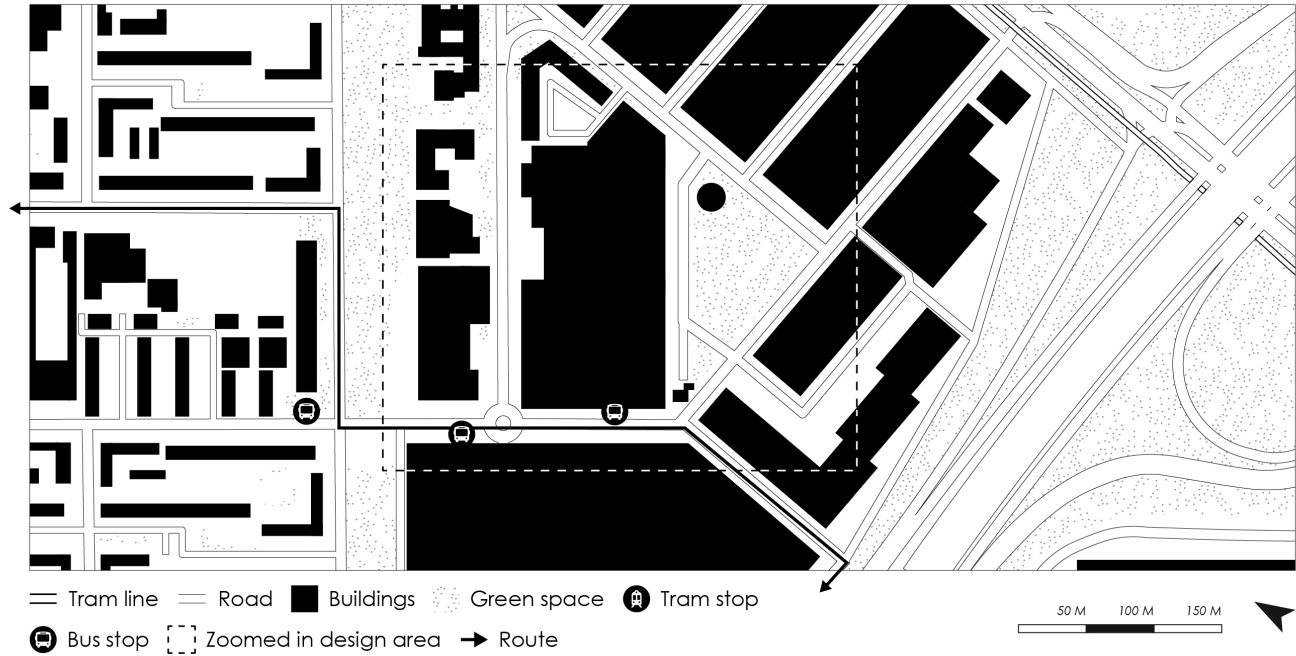


- Square

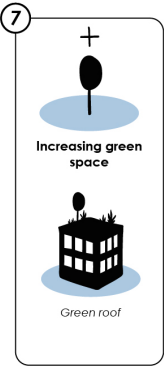
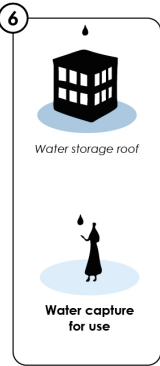
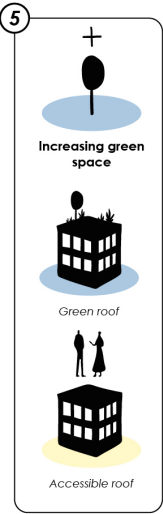
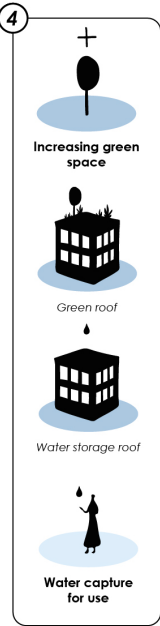
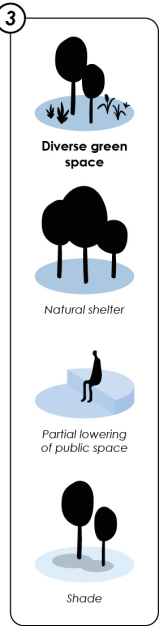
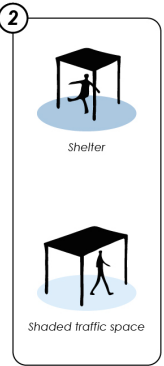
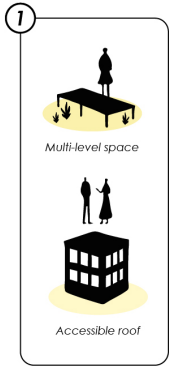
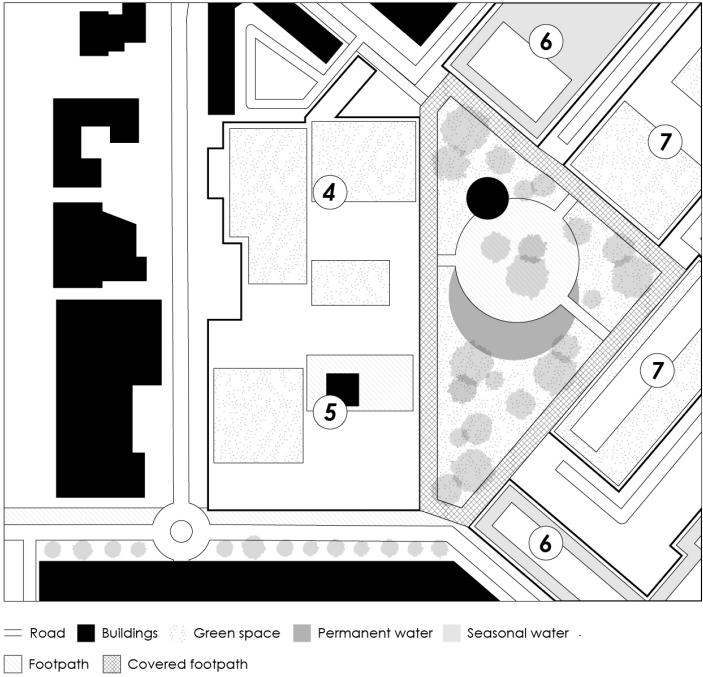
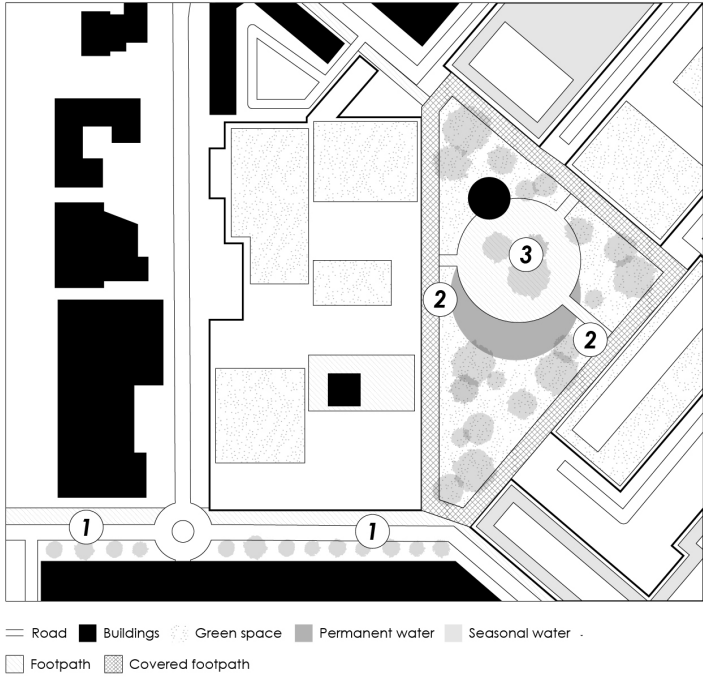


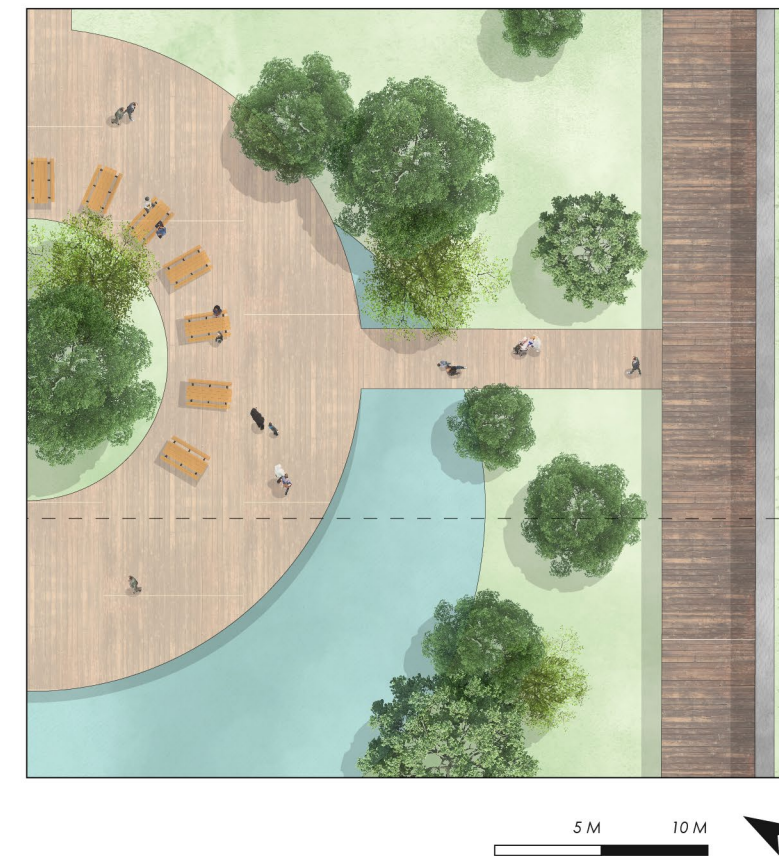
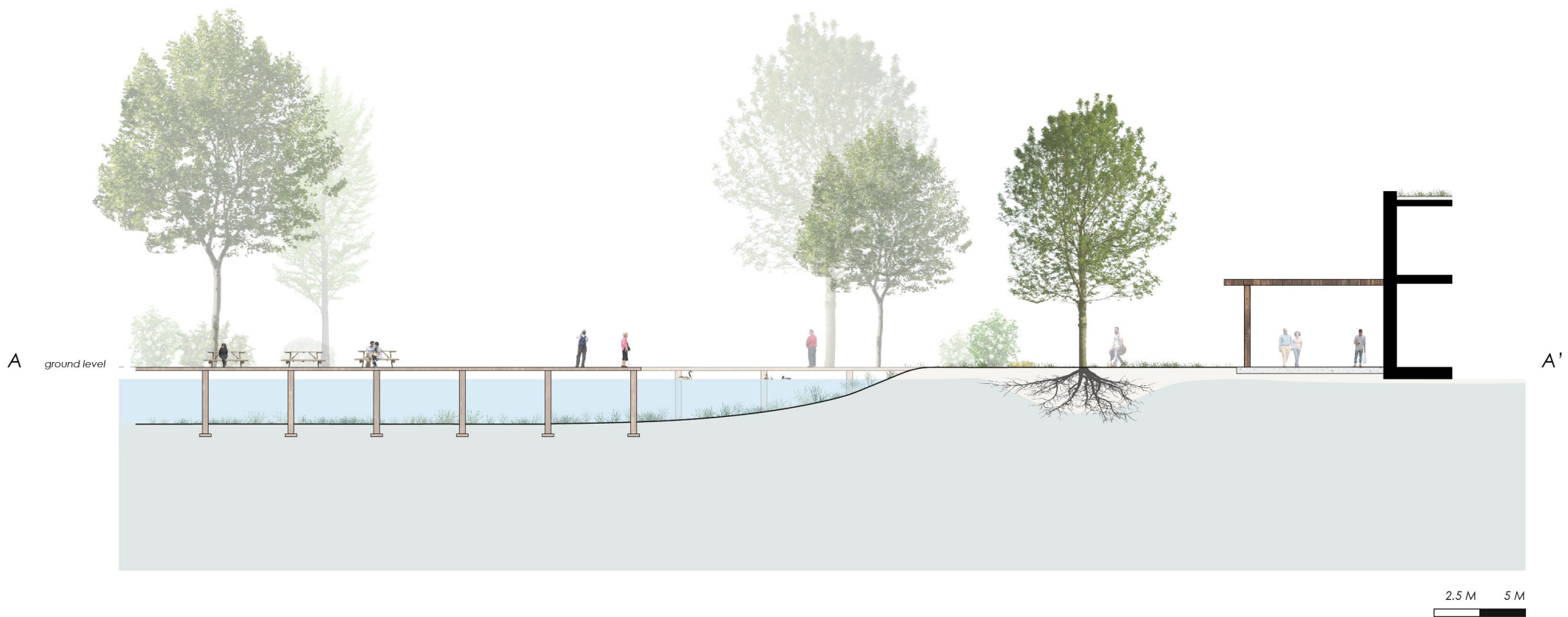


- Shaded walkway






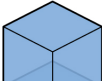



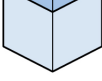

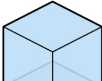



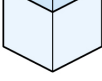





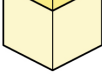





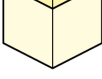




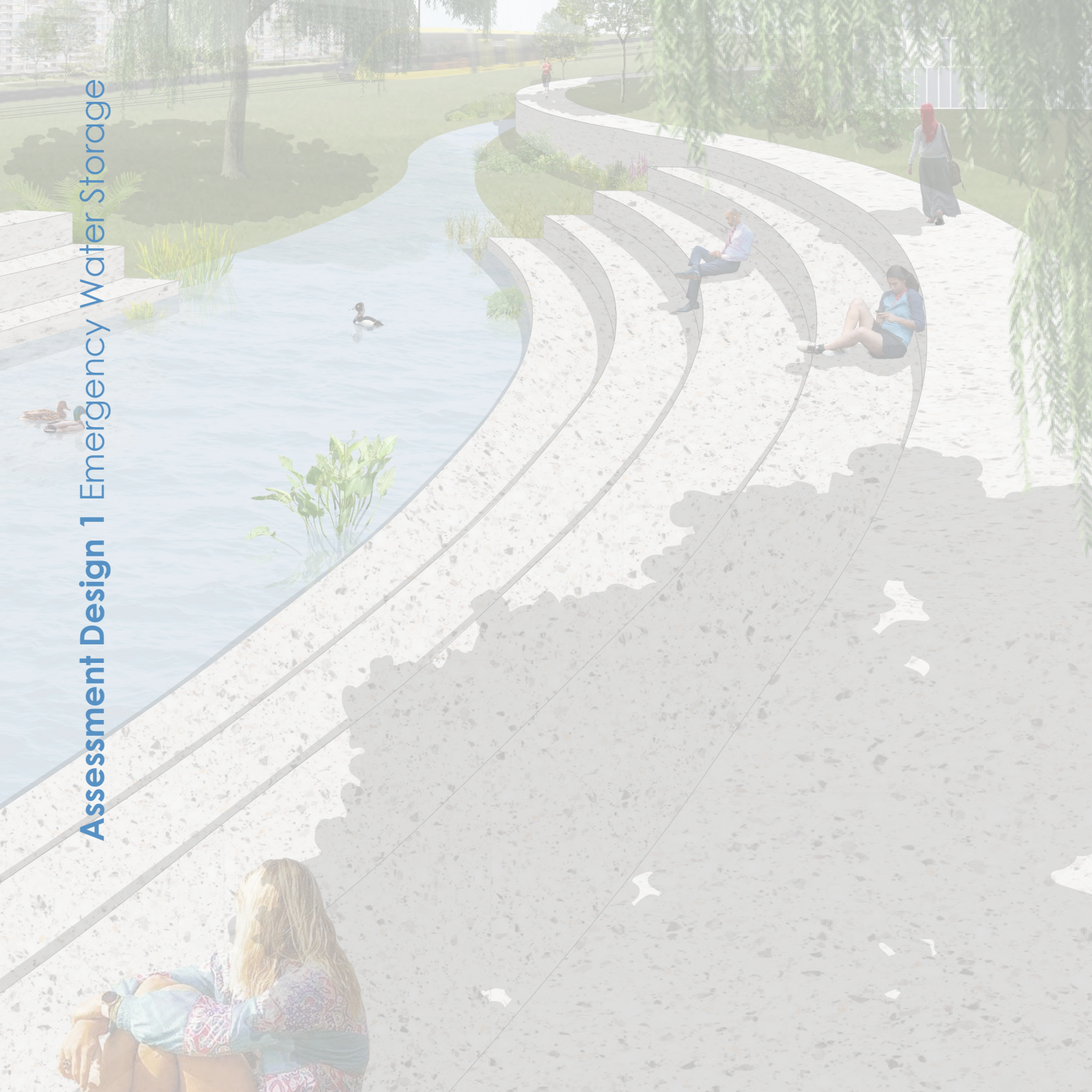




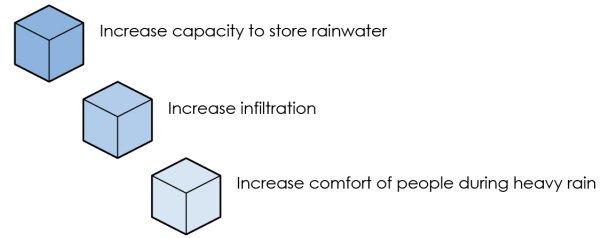


Assessment	Scenario	Total score
<b>Assessment</b> Total possible score of 60		
<b>Dealing with heavy rain</b> Total possible score of 15		
 Capacity to store rainwater Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Percentage of water that infiltrates Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Comfort of people during heavy rain Scale from 1 - 5		element score
		<b>category total</b>
<b>Dealing with drought and heat</b> Total possible score of 15		
 Capacity to capture rainwater for later use Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Green space Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Comfort of people during drought / heat Scale from 1 - 5		element score
		<b>category total</b>
<b>Increasing flexibility</b> Total possible score of 15		
 Multifunctionality Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Versatility Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Capacity to deal with change Scale from 1 - 5		element score
		<b>category total</b>
<b>Creating social spaces</b> Total possible score of 15		
 Inclusivity Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Mobility Scale from 1 - 5		element score
 Comfort and aesthetics Scale from 1 - 5		element score
		<b>category total</b>

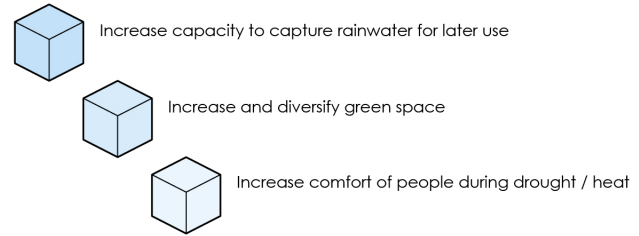




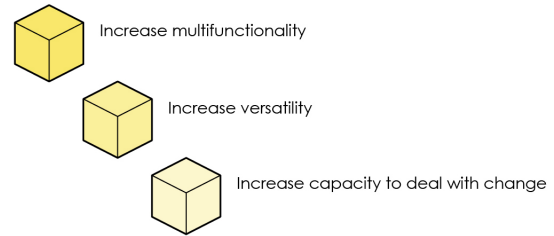
Dealing with heavy rain



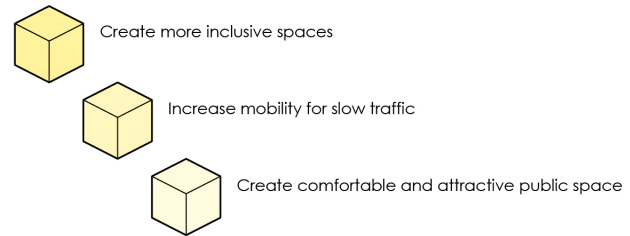
Dealing with drought and heat



Increasing flexibility

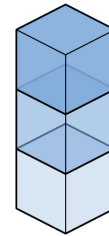


Creating social spaces

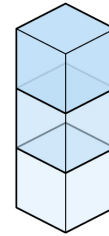


Design 1

48



5  
5  
3  
13



3  
3  
5  
11



3  
5  
3  
11

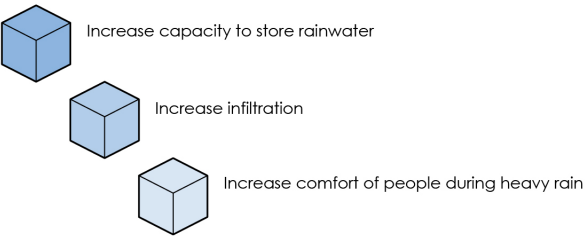


5  
3  
5  
13

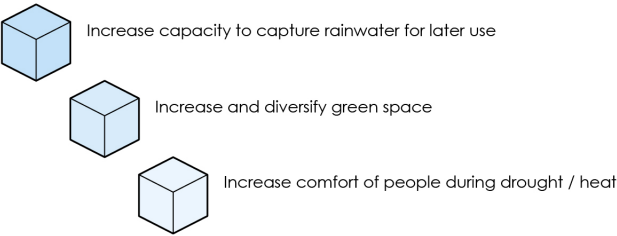




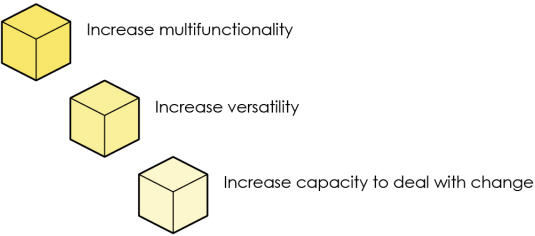
Dealing with heavy rain



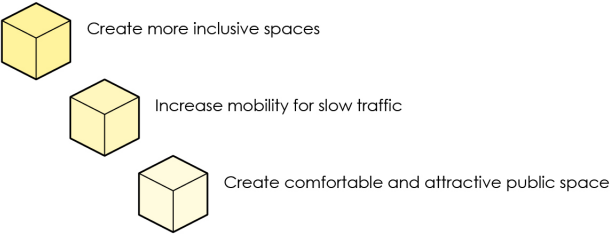
Dealing with drought and heat



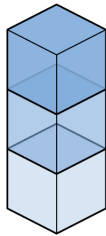
Increasing flexibility



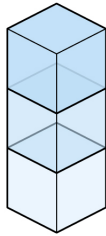
Creating social spaces



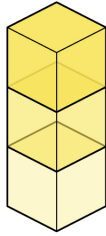
Design 2 48



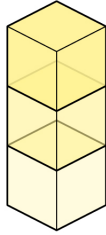
3  
5  
3  
11



3  
5  
3  
11



5  
3  
5  
13

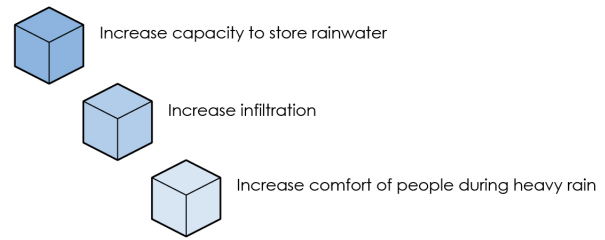


3  
5  
5  
13

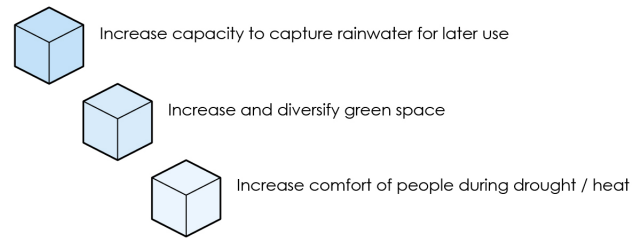




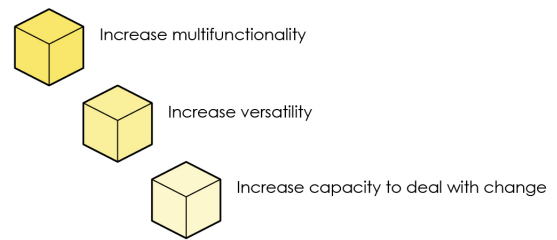
**Dealing with heavy rain**



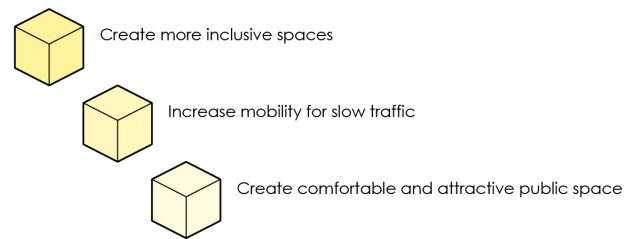
**Dealing with drought and heat**



**Increasing flexibility**

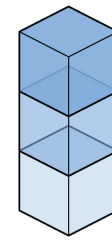


**Creating social spaces**

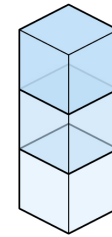


**Design 3**

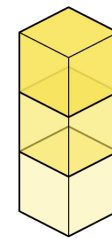
**38**



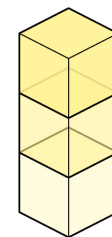
5  
1  
5  
**11**



5  
3  
5  
**13**

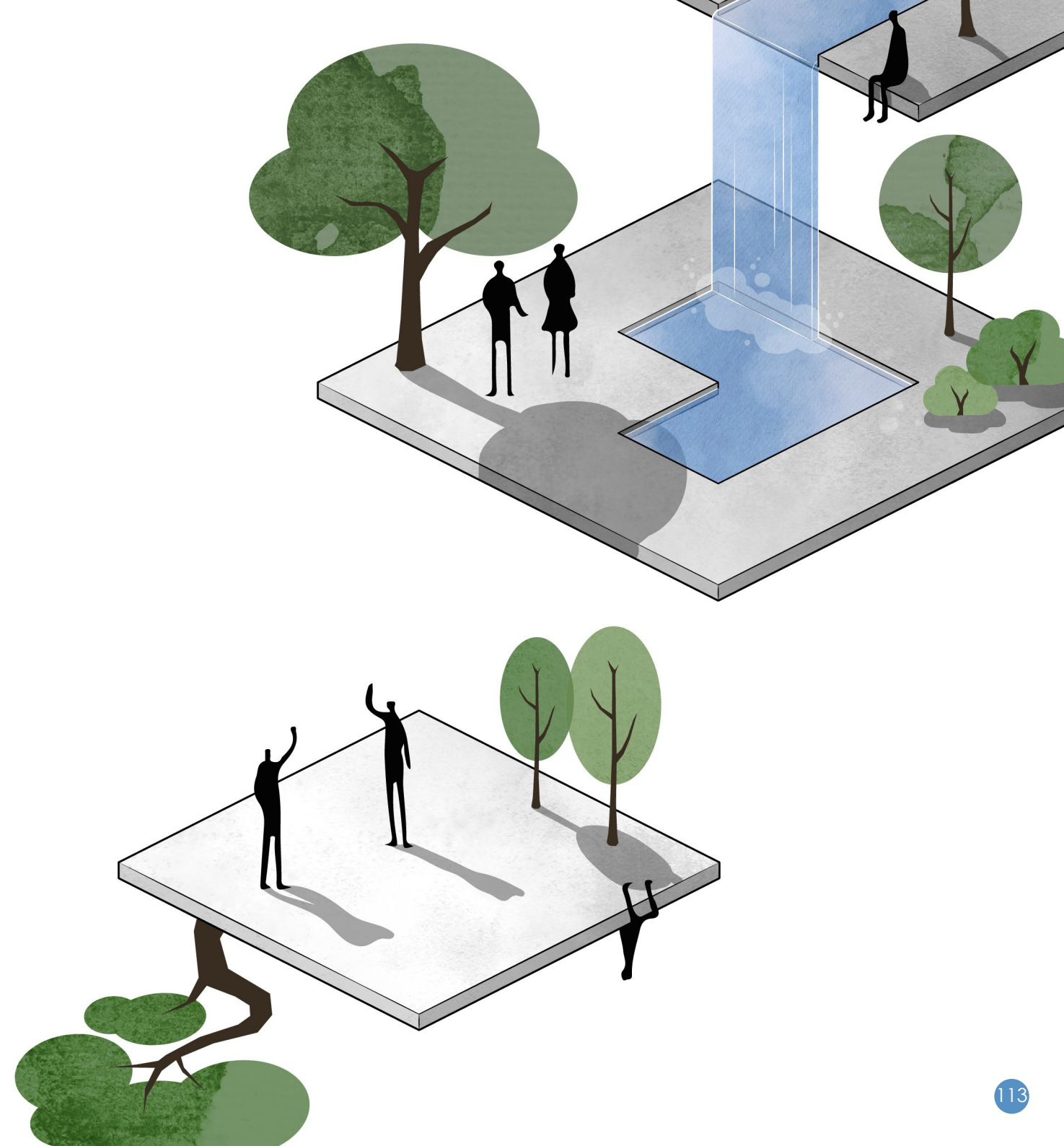


1  
3  
3  
**7**



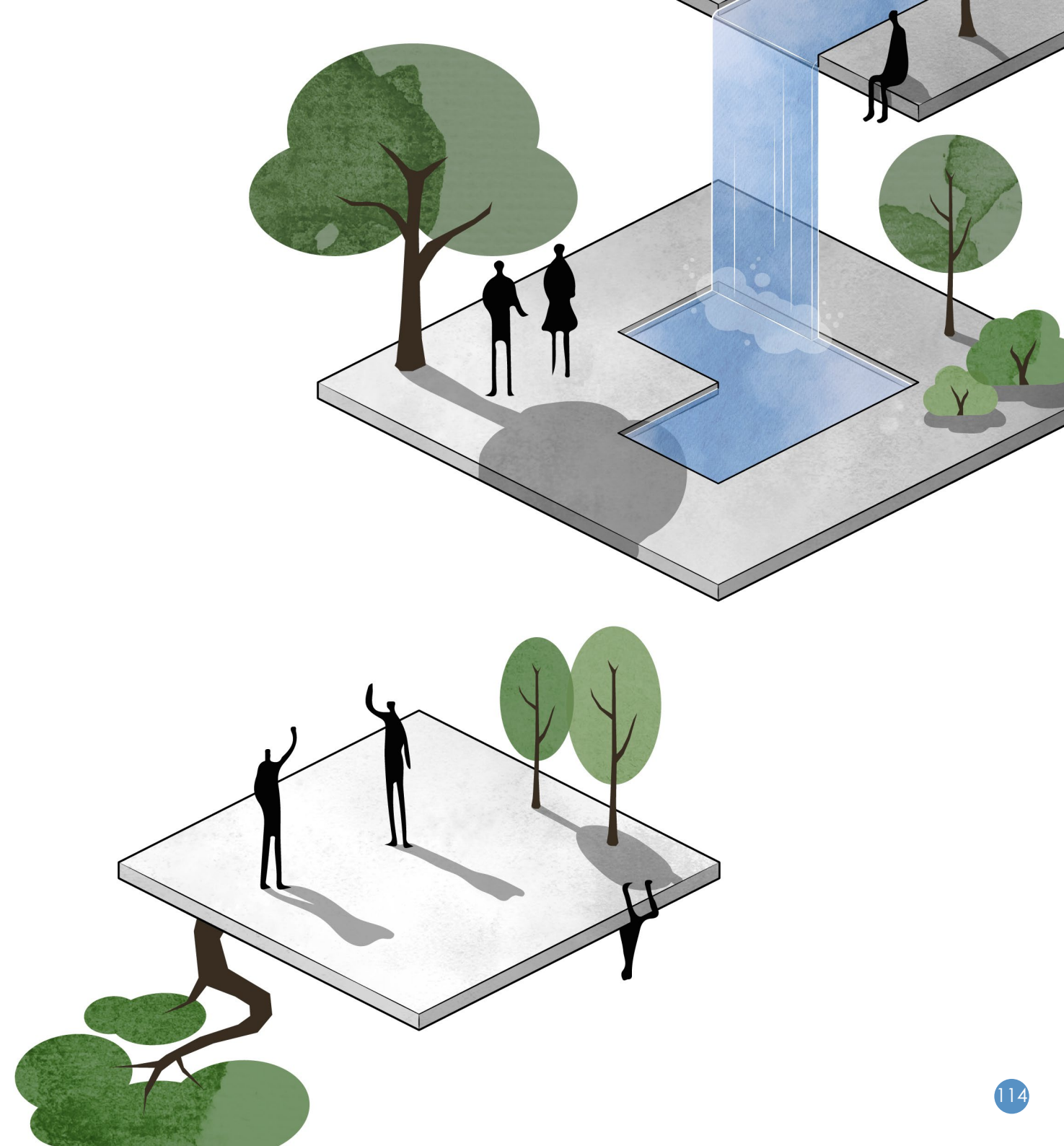
1  
3  
3  
**7**

- 35% of municipal green space goal
- Emergency buffer captures 30% of a 80 mm shower
- Social goals

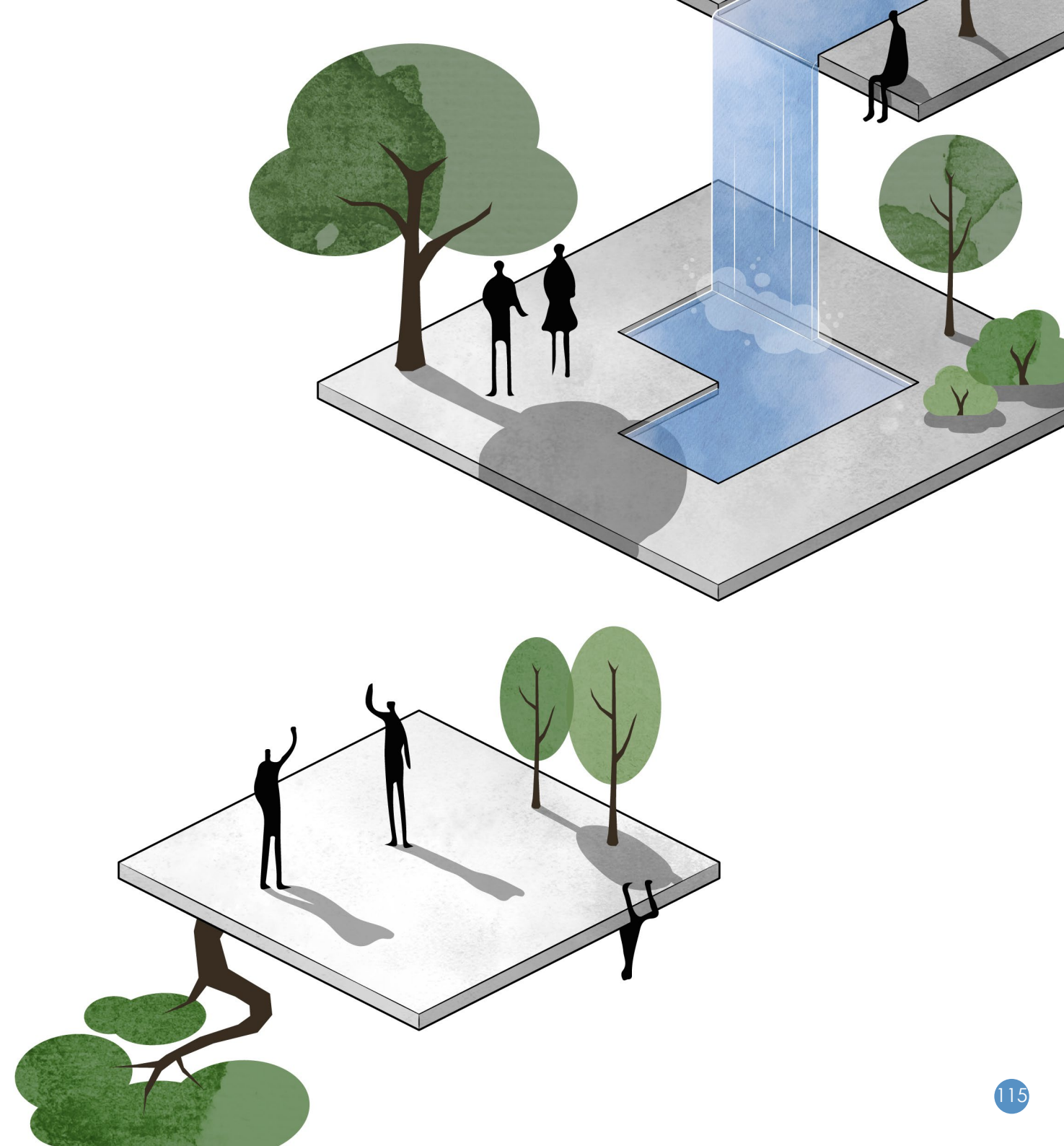




- 35% of municipal green space goal
- Emergency buffer captures 30% of a 80 mm shower
- Social goals

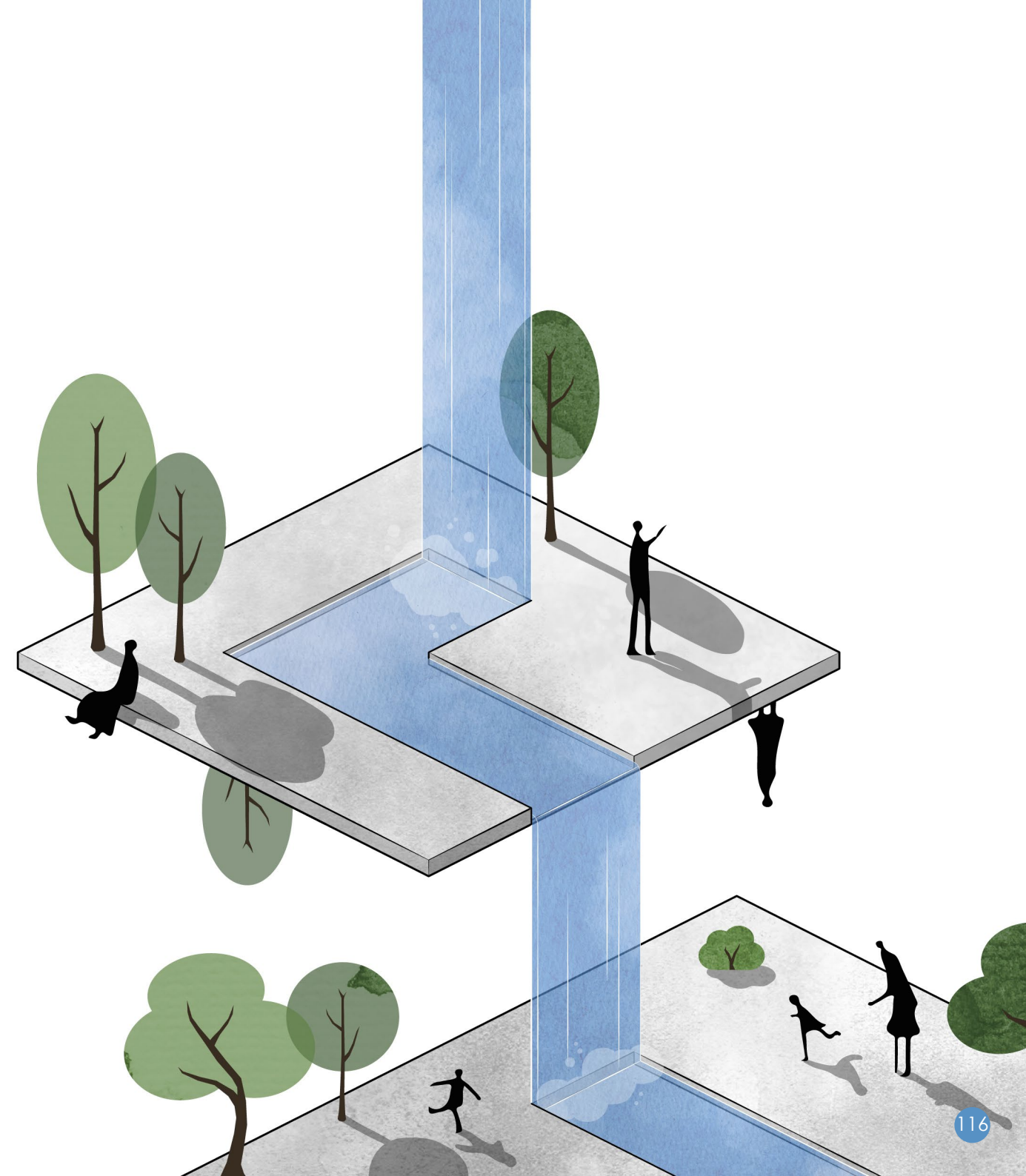


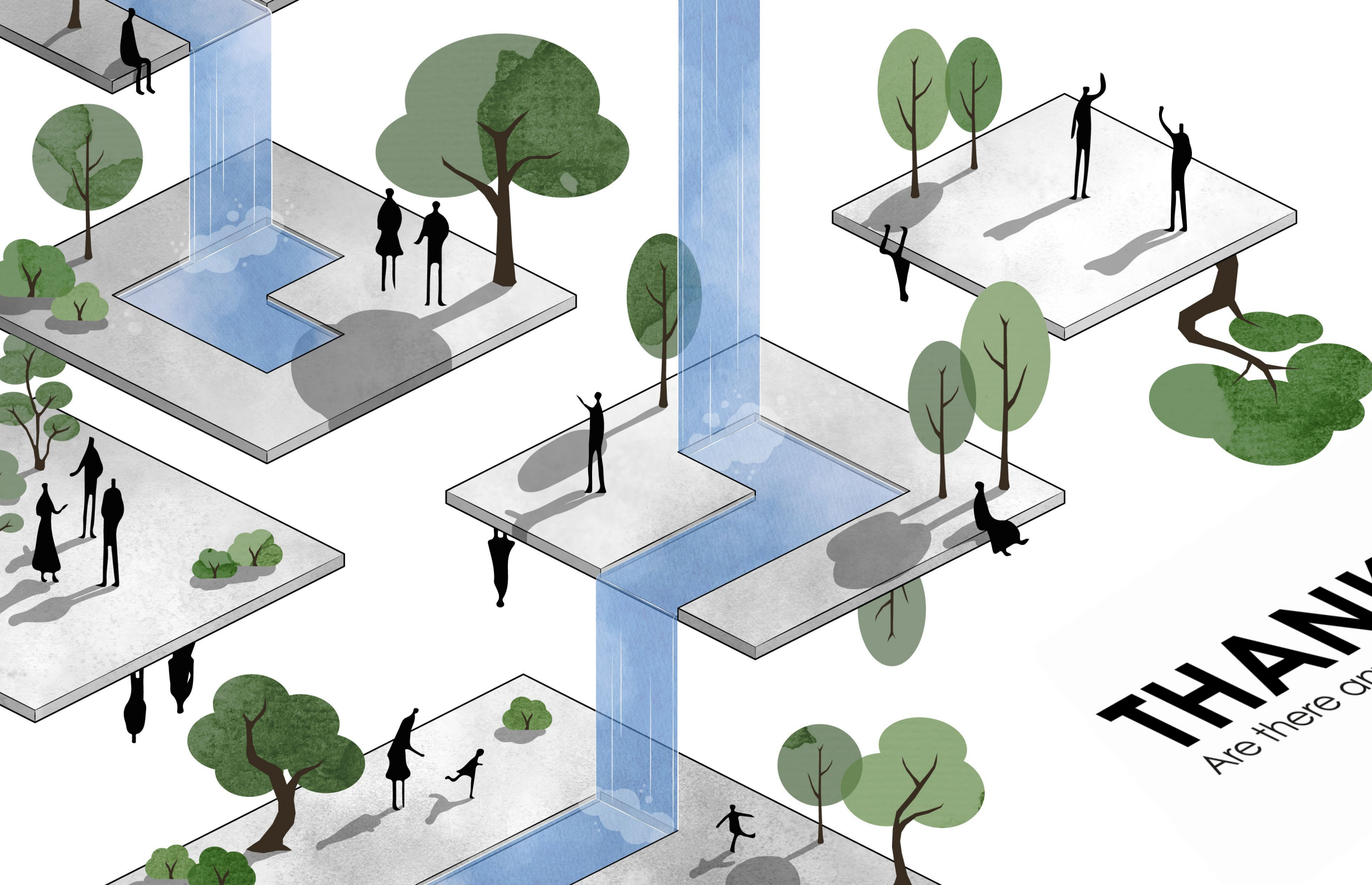
- 35% of municipal green space goal
- Emergency buffer captures 30% of a 80 mm shower
- Social goals





- Disconnect between our cities and nature
- Lack of flexibility
- Extreme weather and unforeseen change
- More flexibility and long-term vision





**THANK YOU**  
Are there any questions?