

Break the tourist bubbles!



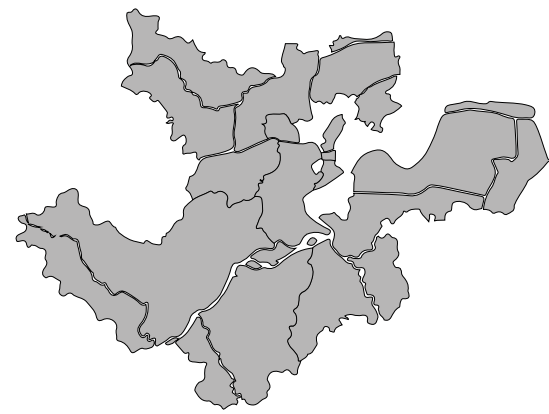
Shuangyun Chen
First Mentor: Arie Romein
Second Mentor: Gerdy Verschuure-Stuip

Master graduation project in Planning Complex Cities,
Urbanism, BK, TU Delft
P5

2020.07.06
2019.9-2020.7



Tourist bubbles



in Hangzhou

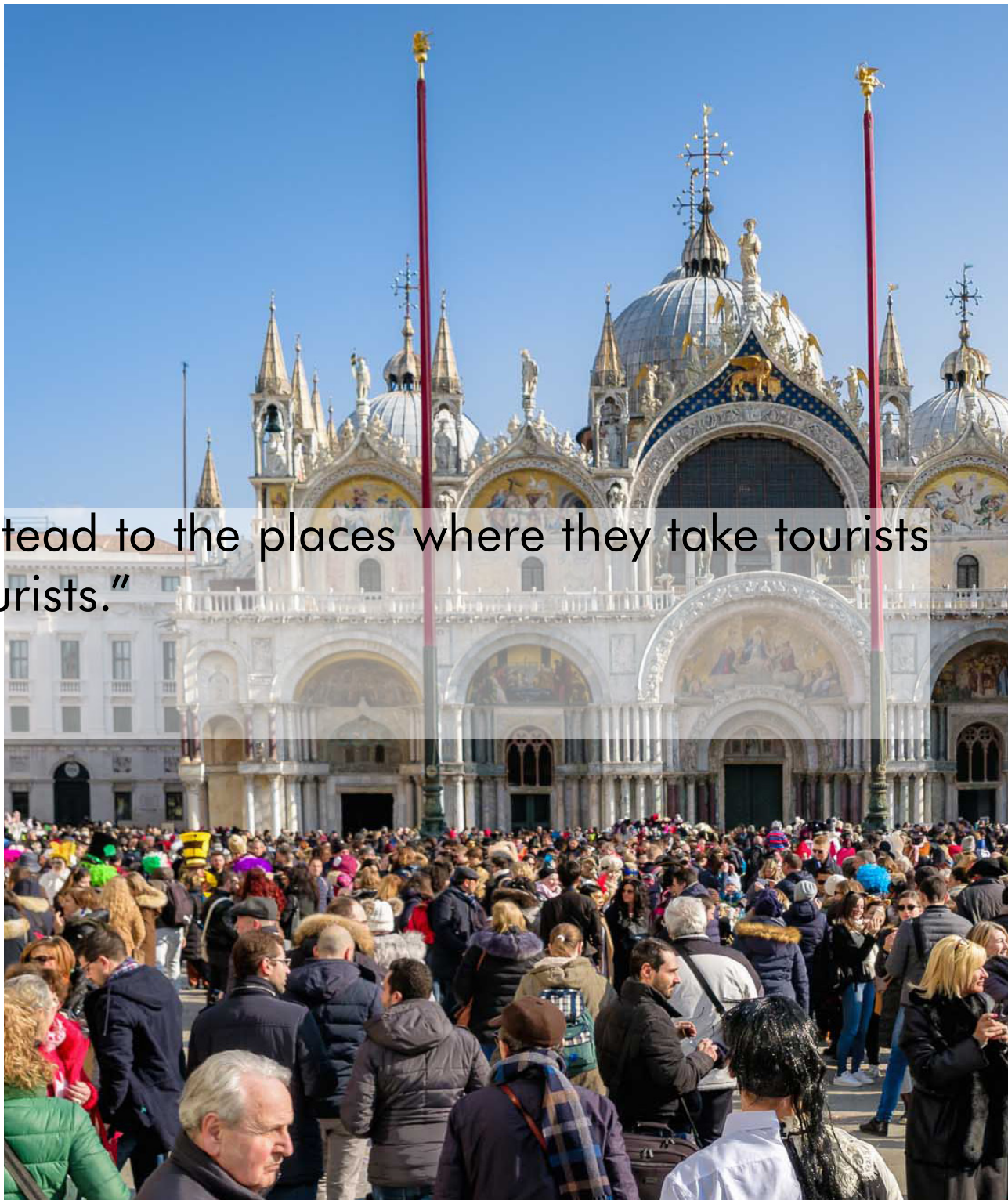
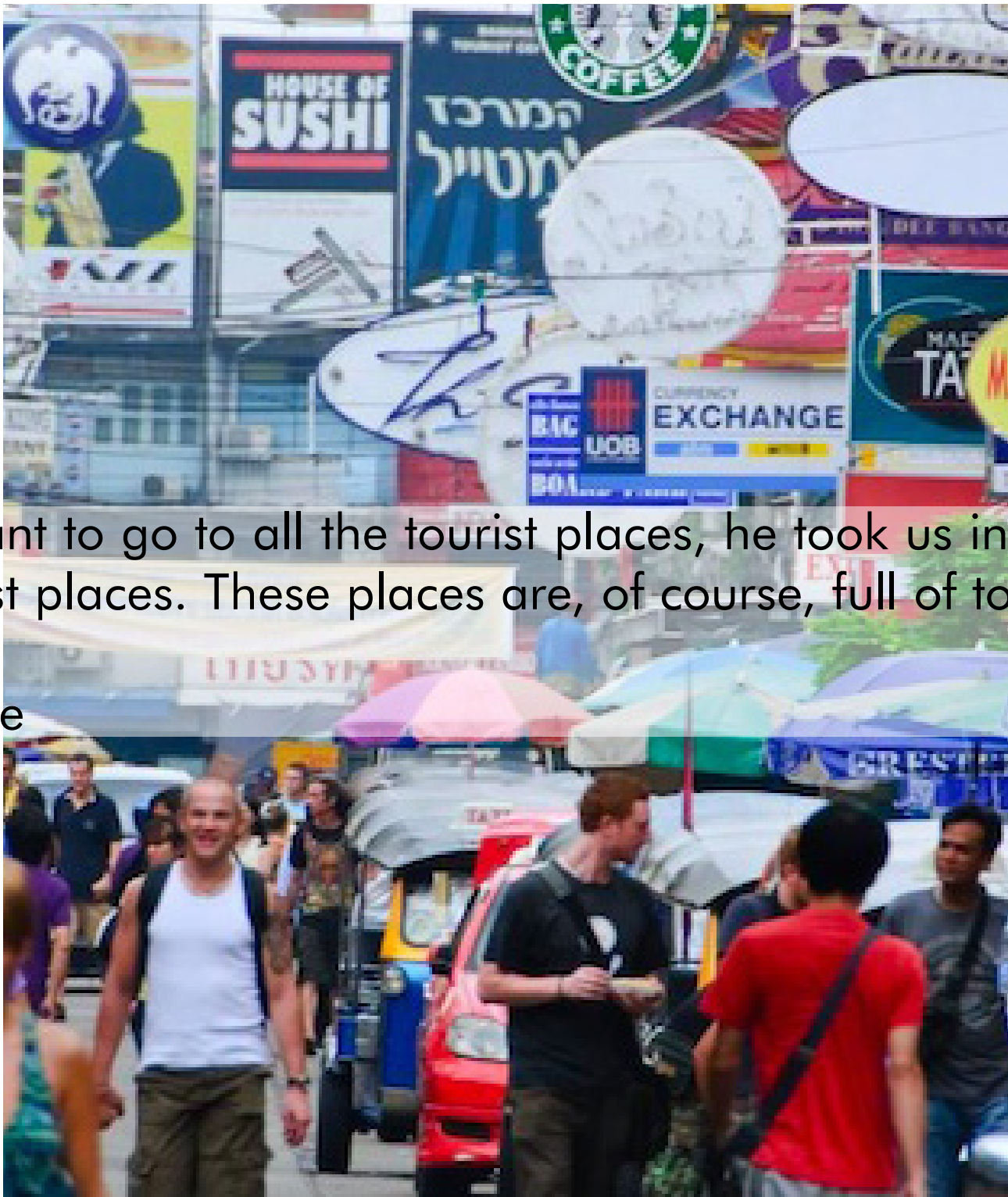


With 3 representative cases



& 4 types of visitors

Have you ever experienced...?



“When we told our guide that we didn’t want to go to all the tourist places, he took us instead to the places where they take tourists who say that they don’t want to go to tourist places. These places are, of course, full of tourists.”

Douglas Adams (1990), Last Chance To See



Priority given to the tourists

No pets, no cycling, no roller-staking
Source: www.hangzhou.gov.cn, 2018



Spaces occupied by the tourists

Tours, 2020
<https://www.touropia.com/tourist-attractions-in-bangkok/>



Functions switched to the tourists

jarino47/iStock, 2018
<https://adventure.com/venice-overtourism-slow-travel/>

TOURIST BUBBLES

The **activity** of the urban tourists can be either melted into the urban fabric or confined to distinct urban tourist zones (Bosley & Brothers, 2008). These geographic areas, which are planned and managed for tourists, have been described as “tourist bubbles” (Judd & Fainstein, 1999).

Tourist bubbles

Enjoyable environment occupied by tourists; the city identity is capsuled inside the tourist bubbles

Problem statement

Segregations for tourists area and the city life

*Over-tourism inside
Loss of daily life inside*

*Outside: loss of identity &
liveability under fast urbanisation*

Pressure at the edge

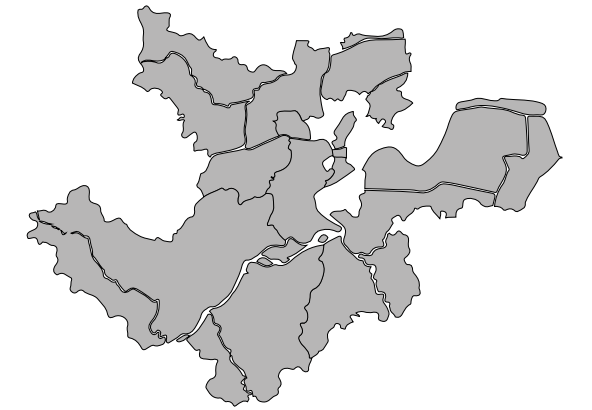
Locals outside are ignored

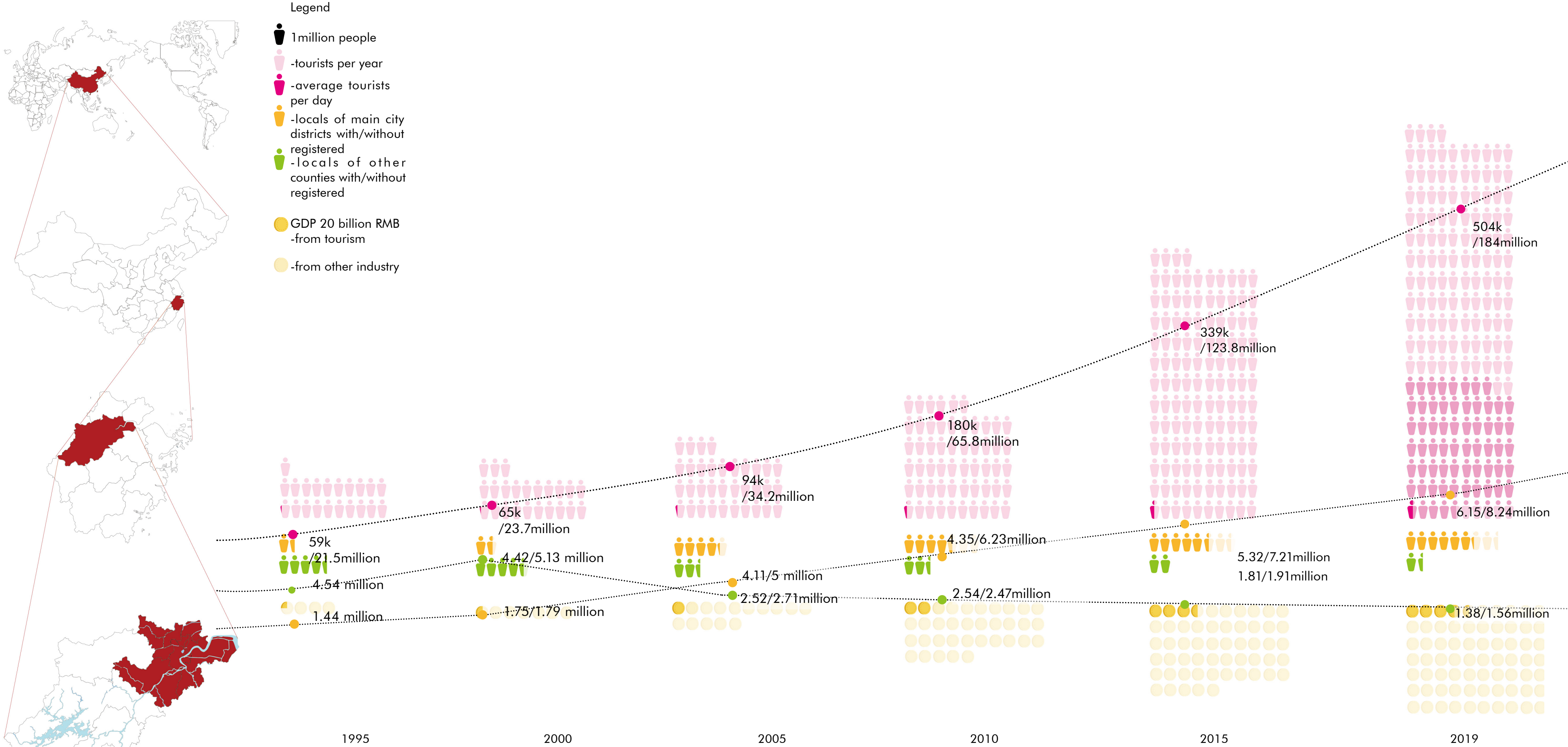
The overview of the
probelm

Author
2020



Hangzhou?





Tourist number on the rise

Location of Hangzhou

source: Hangzhou.gov
2020

The change of Hangzhou's population, tourists and GDP

source: gov.hangzhou, draw by author
2019

7%



Tourism is not as a pillar of the economy;
But tourist areas as the city branding



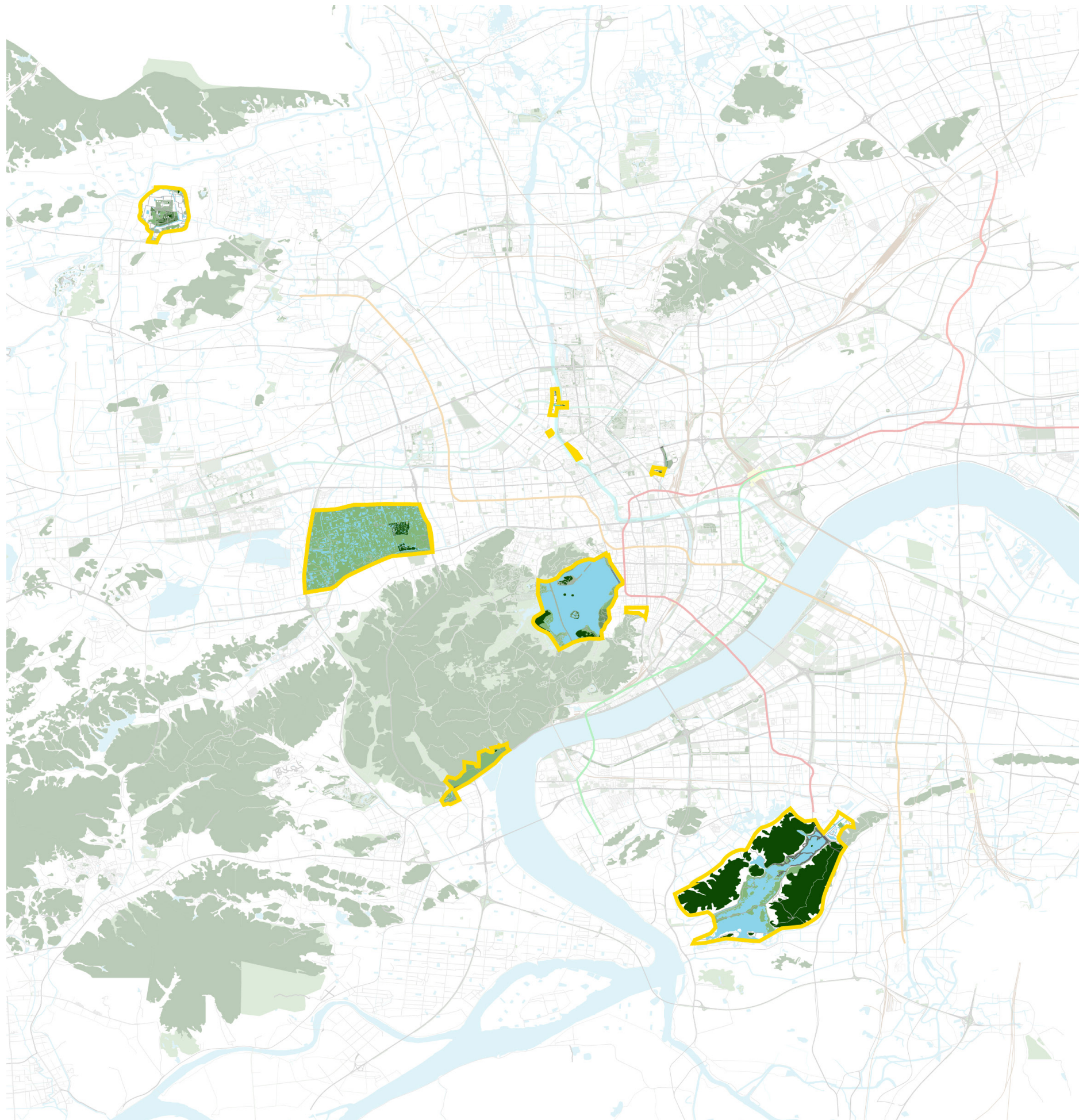
Great natural structure



Historical city



Culture resources



The tourist areas in
Hangzhou

author
2020

Tourists bubbles in Hangzhou



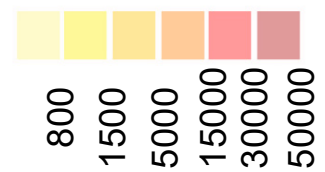
Tourists occupy the best part of the city.

Legend

Tourist visiting



The population density ppl/km²

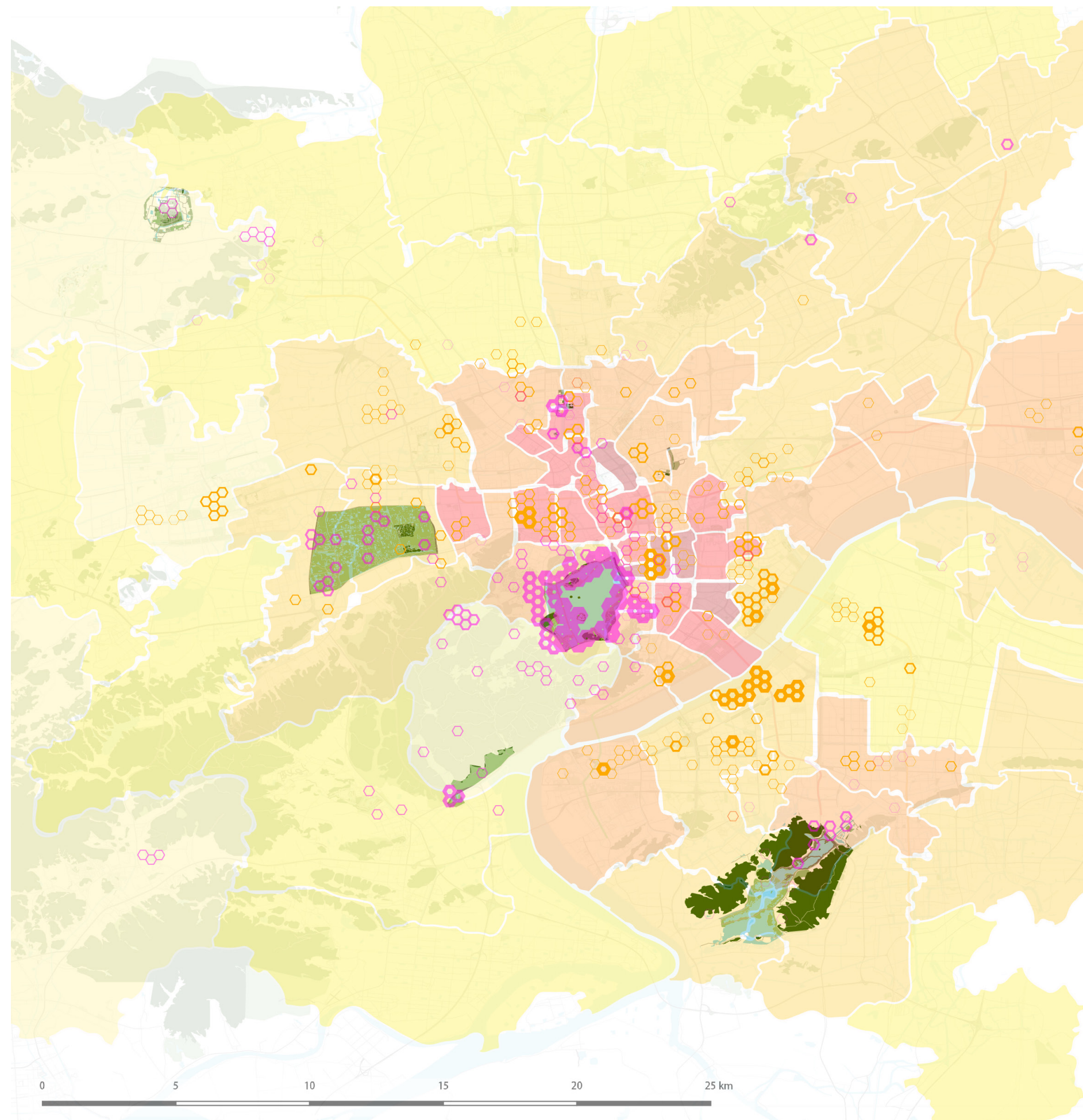


Business/office clusters



The tourist areas with
the business centres &
residential areas

author
2020



The office/residential area besides the bubbles



The tedious new-built neighbourhood which has little consideration on humane scale and city identities

Xinke Wang, 2014
source: 3g.163.com/dy/article/ECQ8LEKE0514R9P4



The urbanisation around the tourist bubble area of Gongchen Bridge

Xinke Wang, 2014
source: 3g.163.com/dy/article/ECQ8LEKE0514R9P4



The skyline of Hangzhou

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/c3/Hangzhou_CBD.jpg

Fast-urbanised areas



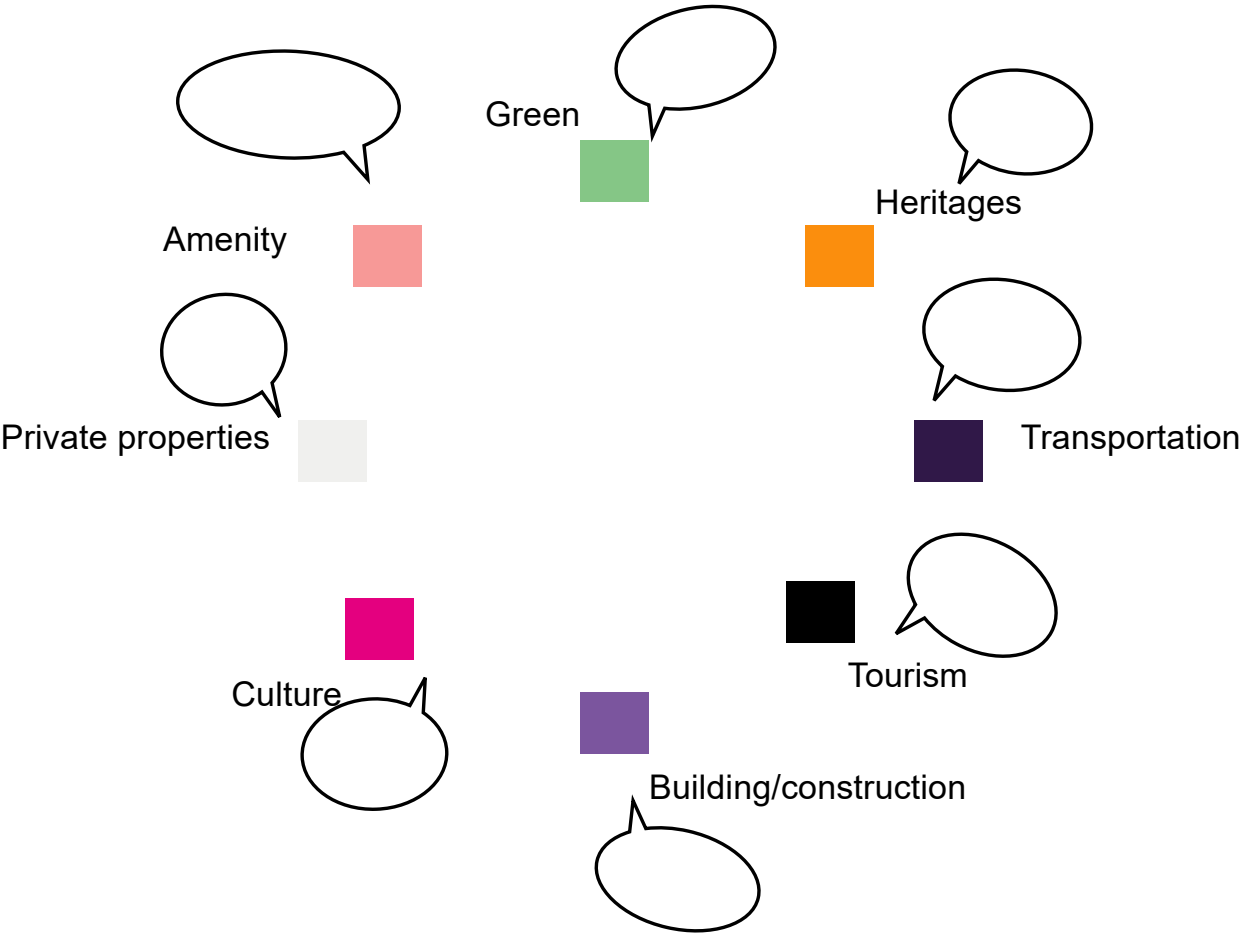
Spreading tourism out of the city is the main concept. However, does it work?

Only focusing on amount(numbers)
Spreading tourists, more bubbles?

Current solution

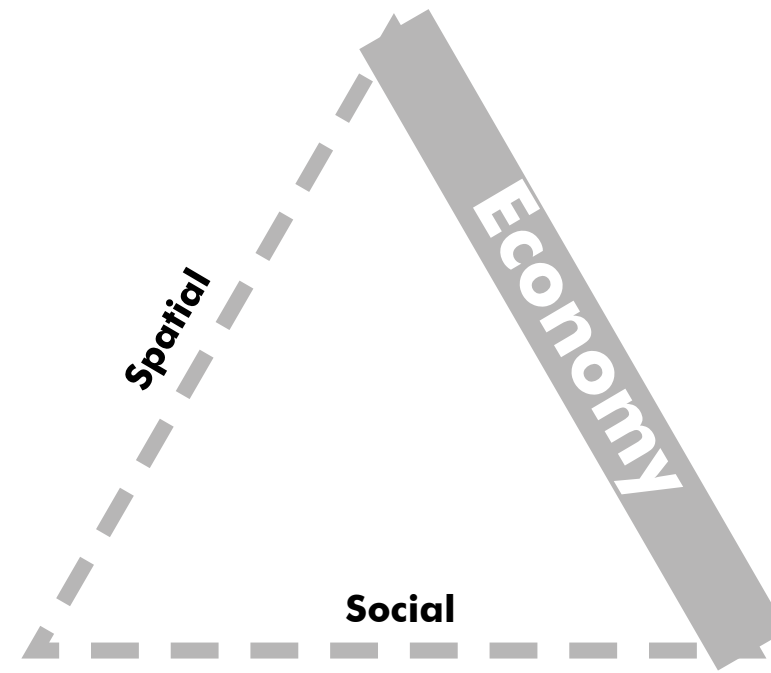
the non-integrated planning

The planning system is now changing, and encourages new cooperation





Living Poetry ?

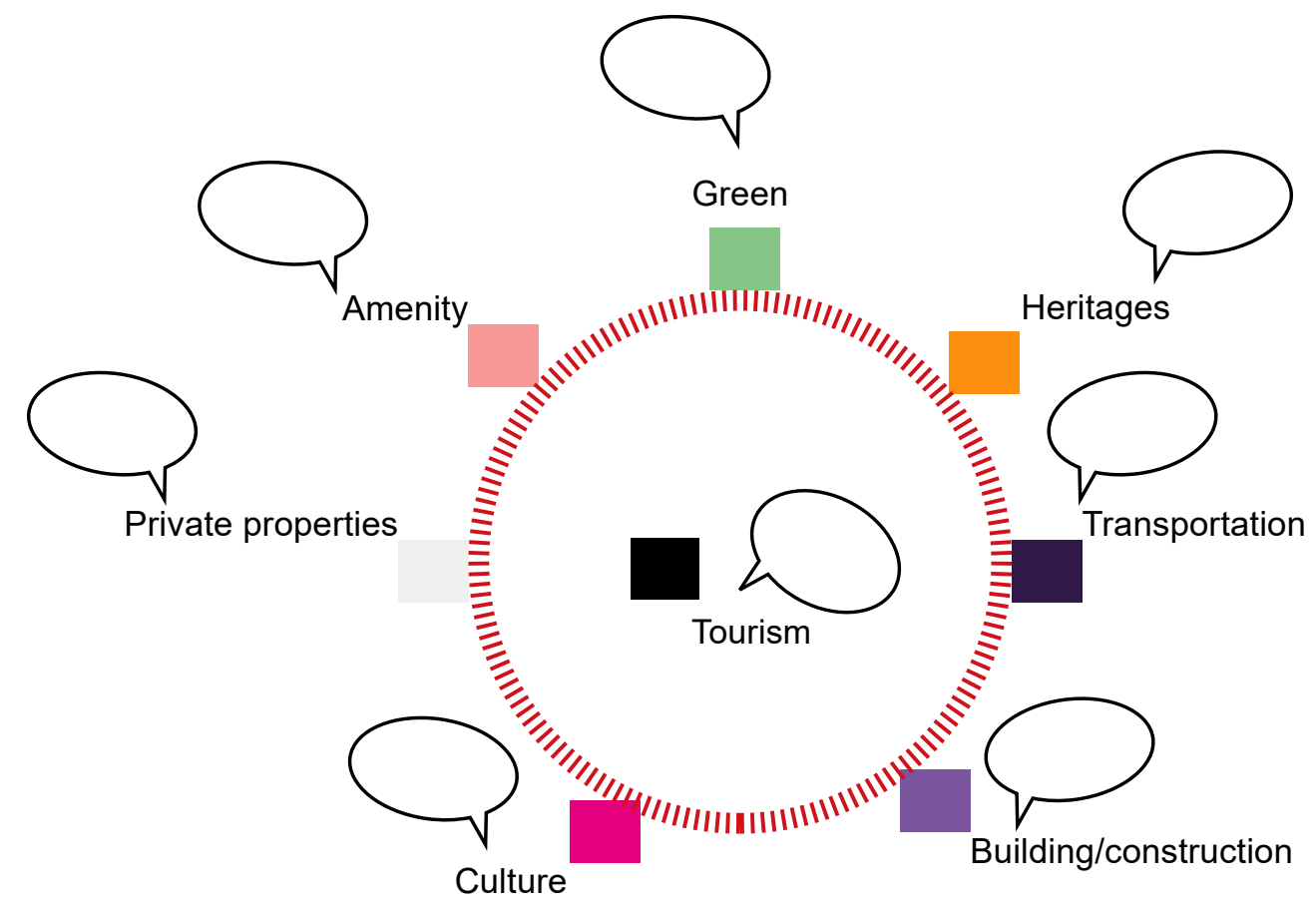


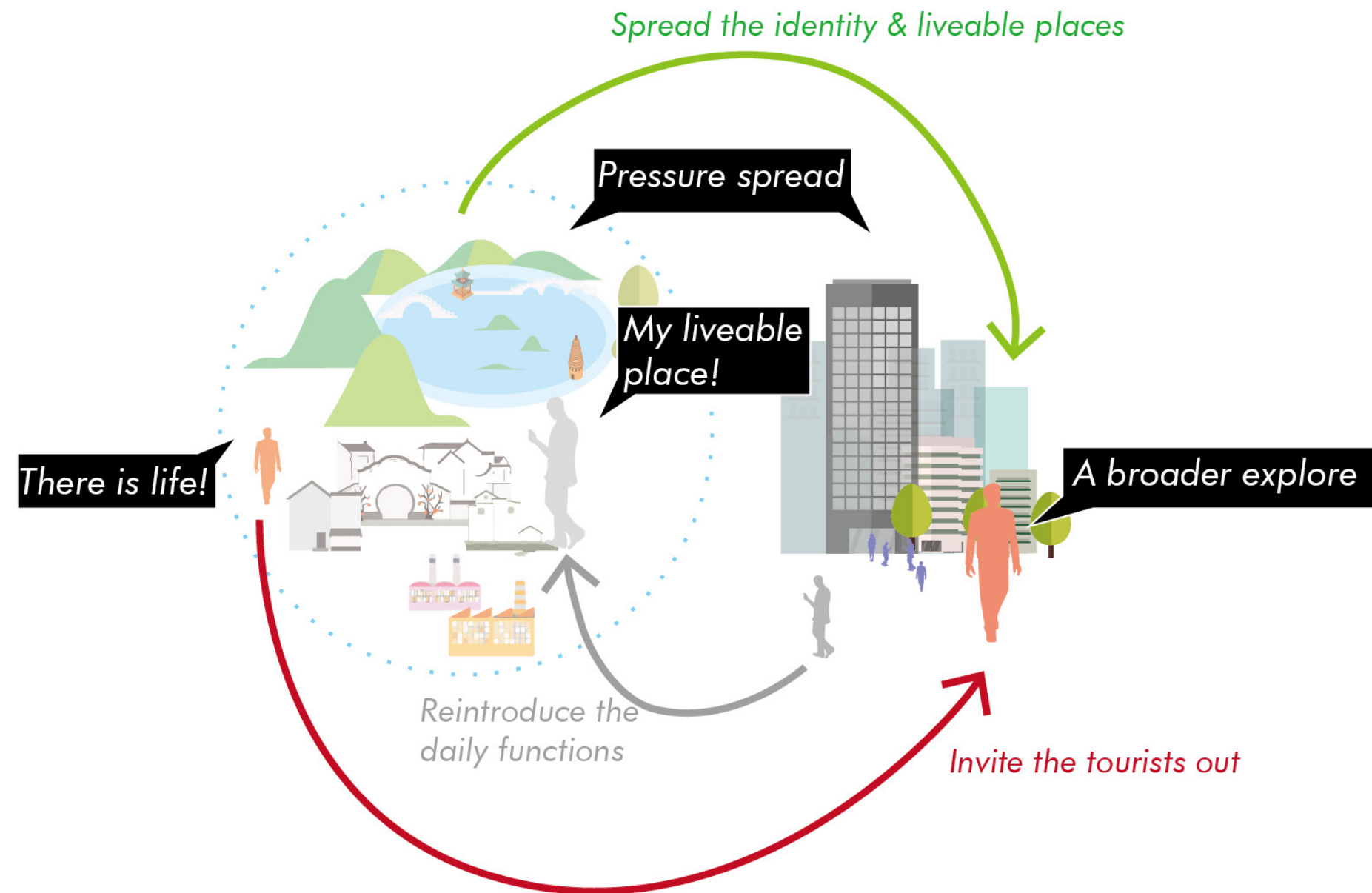
Economy becomes the main focus.

The official tourism slogan of Hangzhou
Aiming at Tourism Enhance Local Life
Only remaining on economic aspects

A chance

The planning system is now changing, and encourages new cooperation

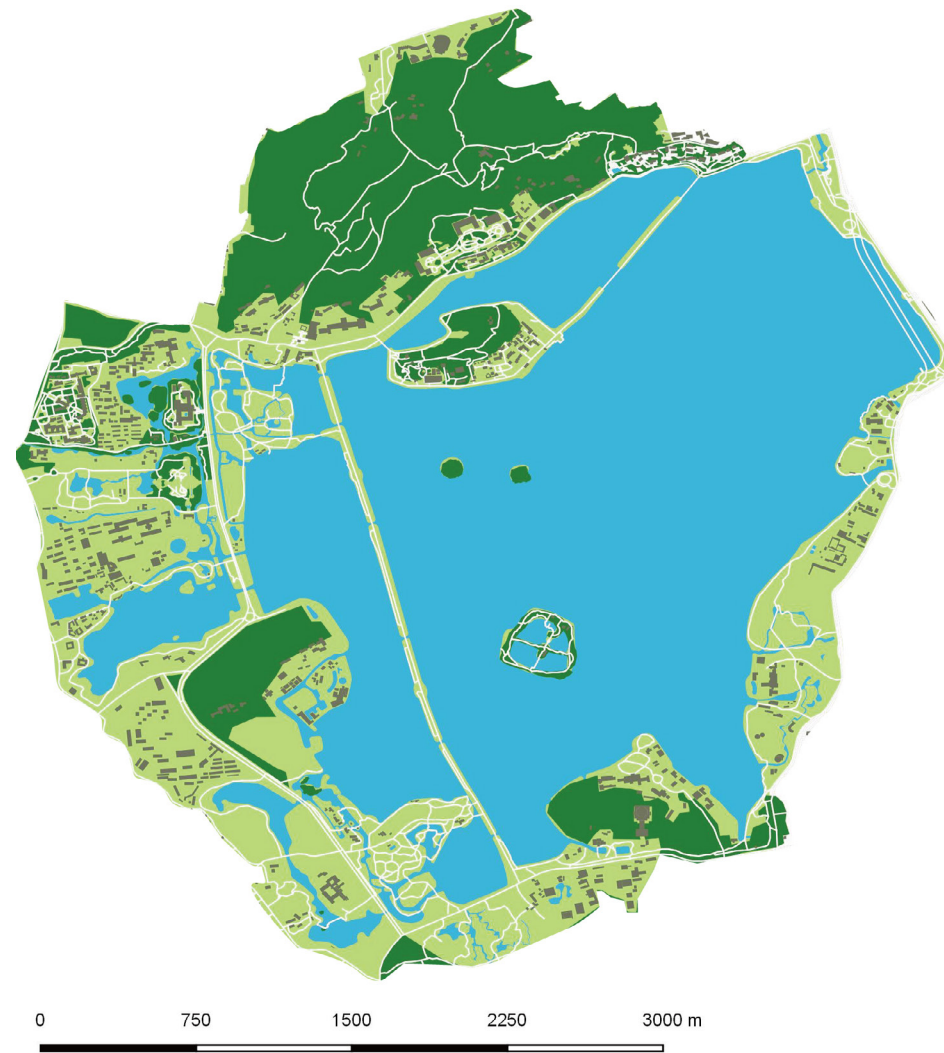




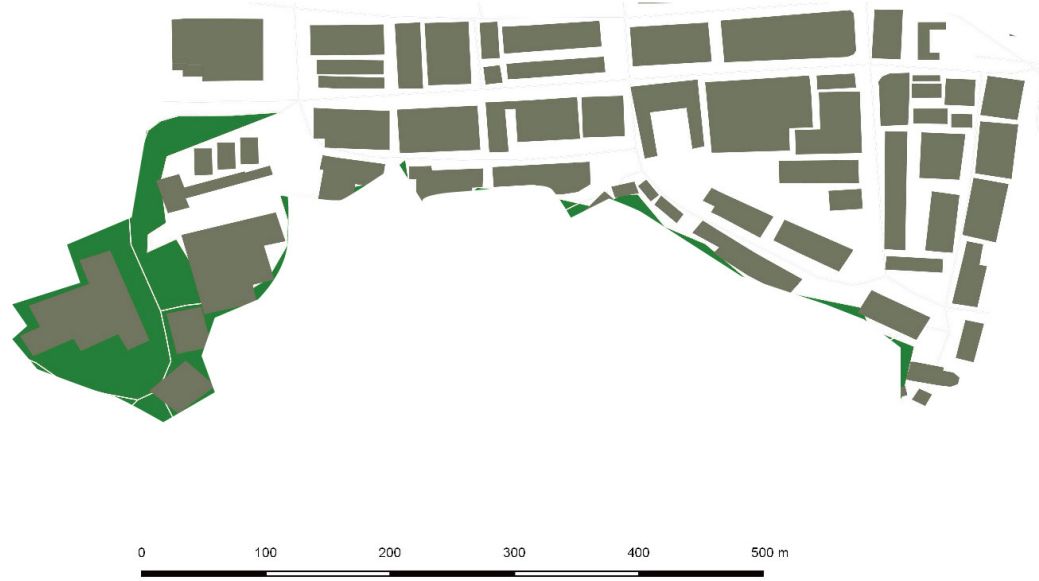
Goal of the project

Reintroduce the locals in the current tourist areas, and invite the tourists out.

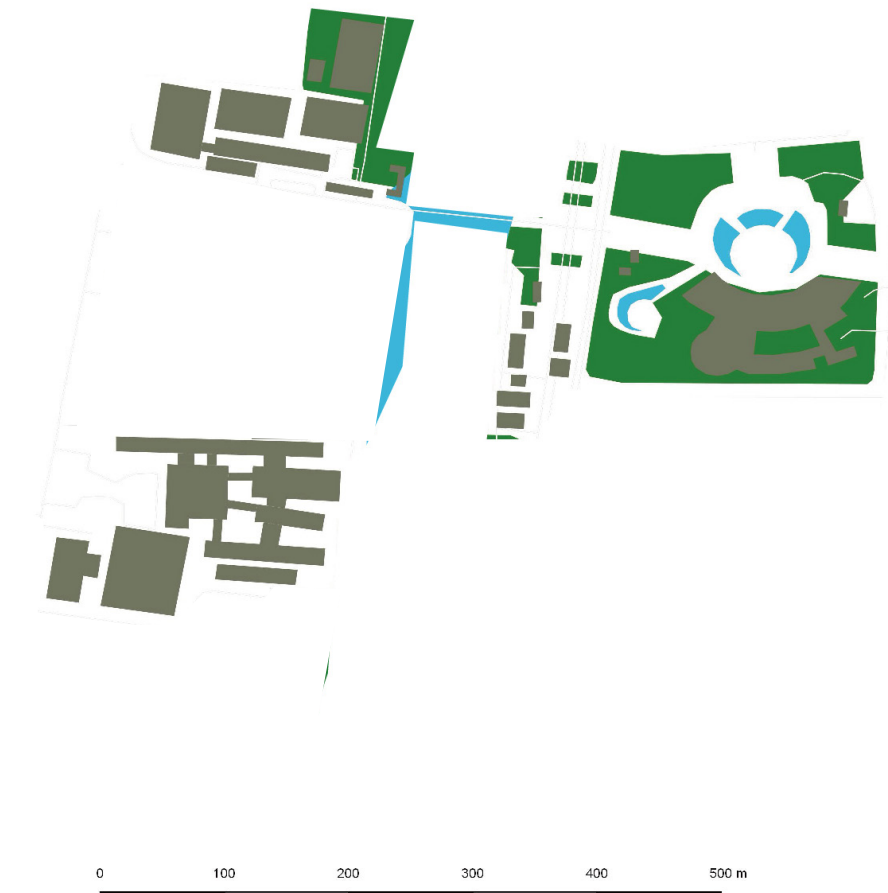
Where to change?
What to change?
How to change?



**The West Lake
(Lake Zone)**



Hefang Neighbourhood

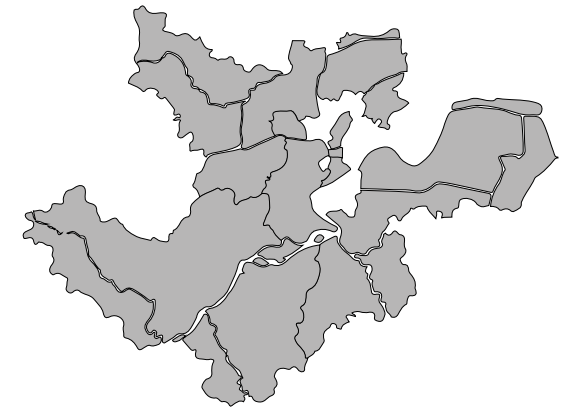


Qiaoxi Museum clusters

3 representative bubbles



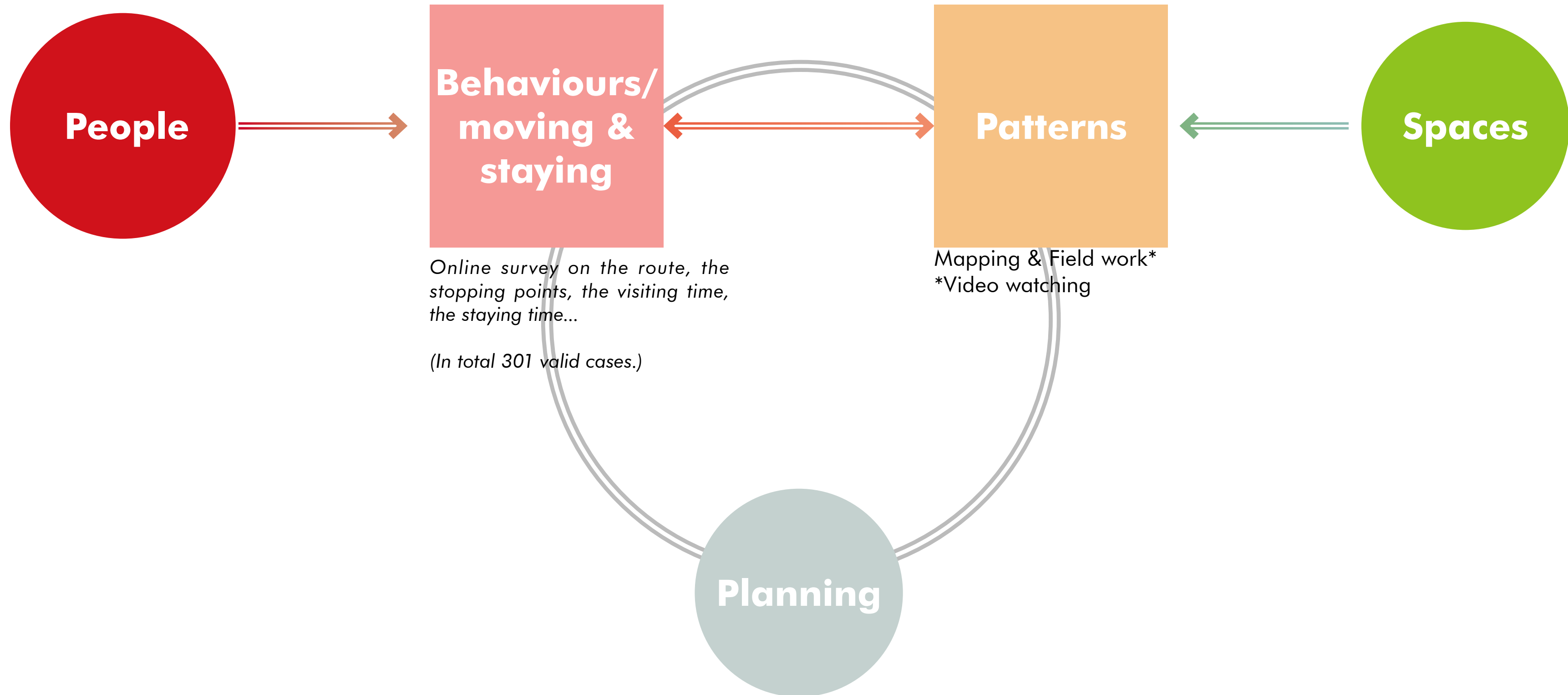
寶石山
Precious Stone Hill



The view of this project

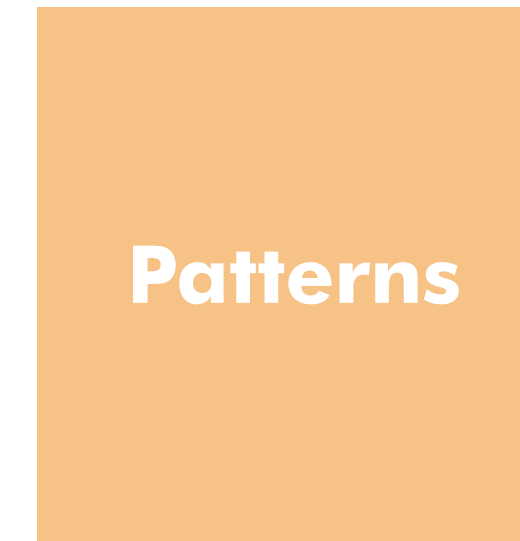
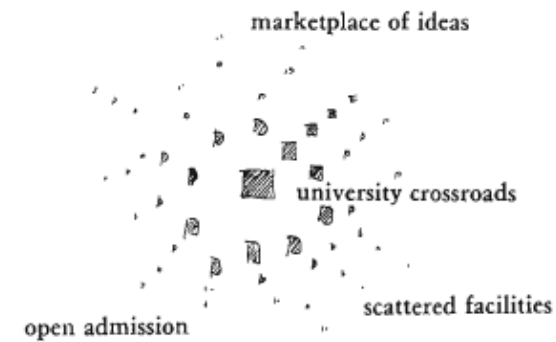
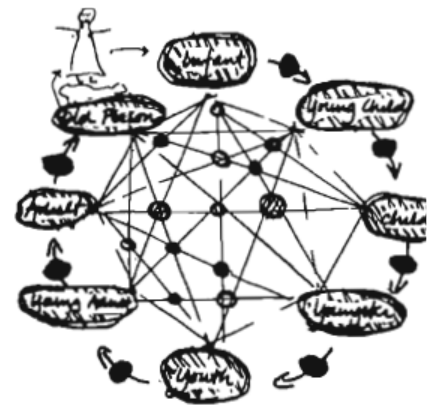
Methodology: Patterns/behaviours

Two gaps: Planning---Tourist Spaces---Different group of visitors

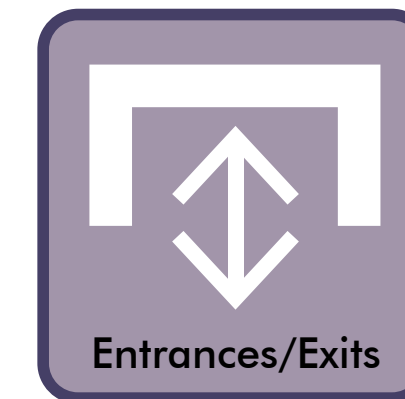


"Each pattern describes a problem which occurs over and over again in our environment, and then describes the core of the solution to that problem, in such way that you can use this solution a million times over, without ever doing it the same way twice."

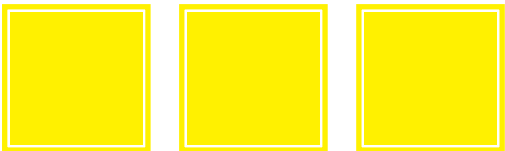
Christopher Alexander, A Pattern Language 1977, p10



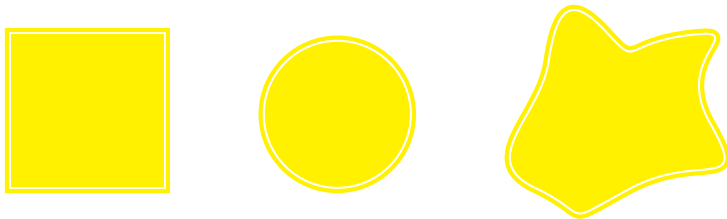
Mapping & Field work*
*Video watching



Repetitive phenomenon



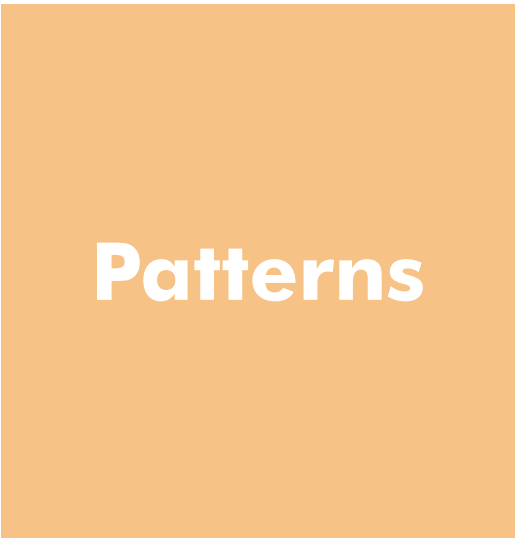
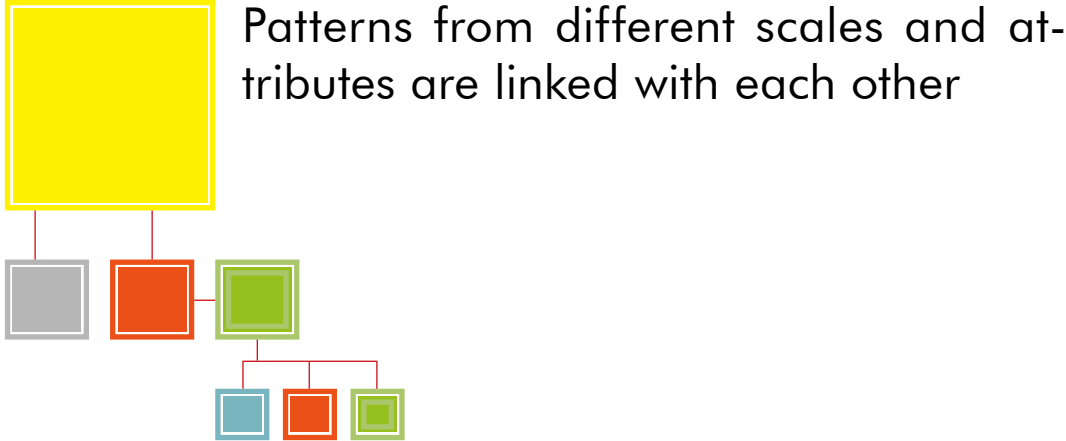
Cover diverse forms in the reality



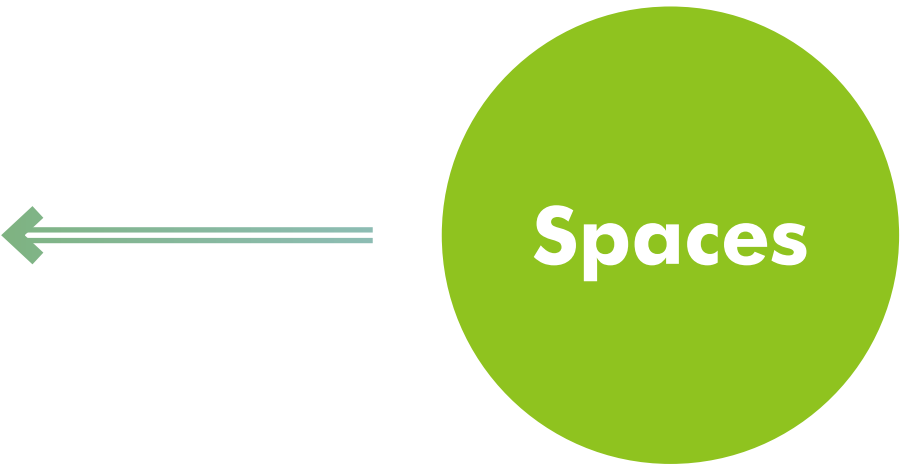
Cross scales

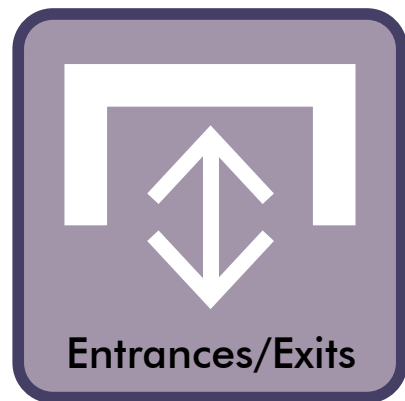


Linked

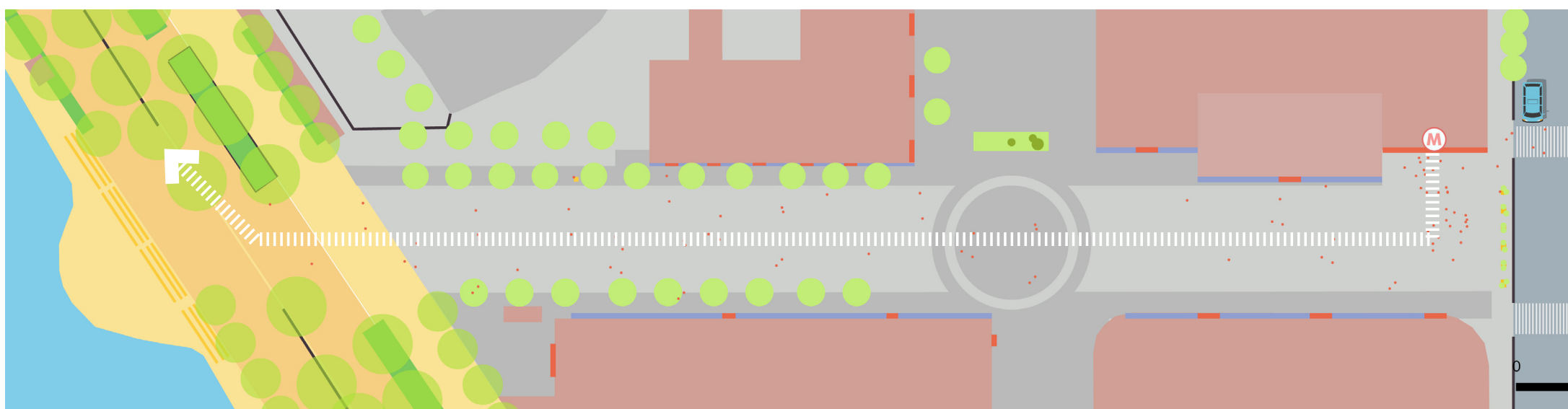
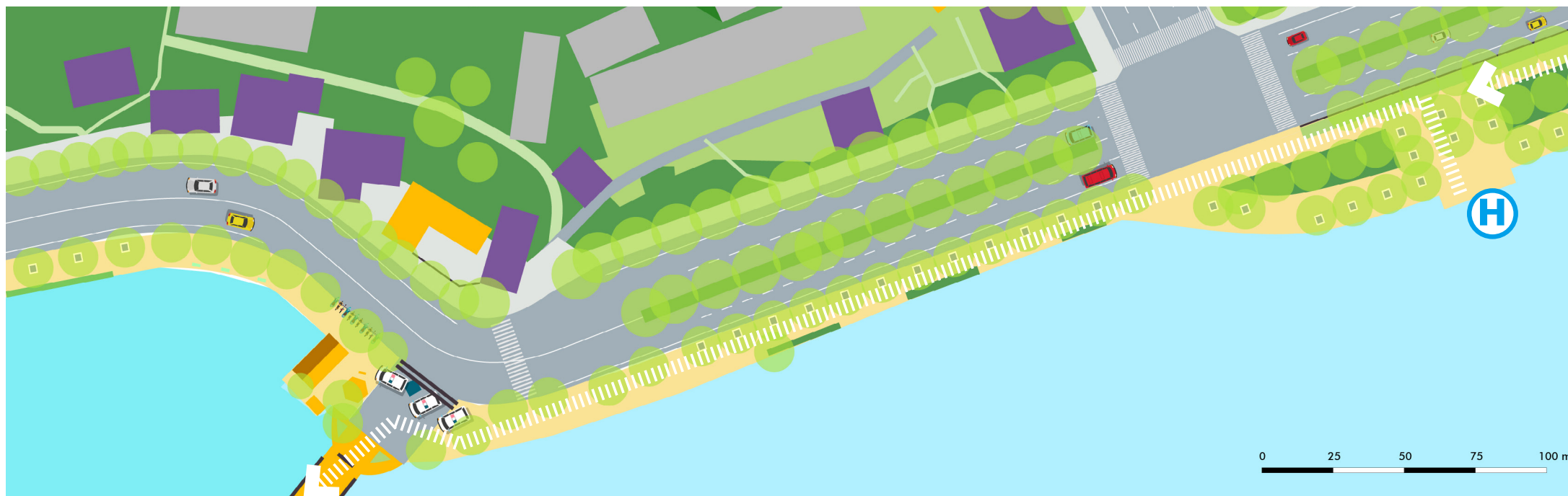
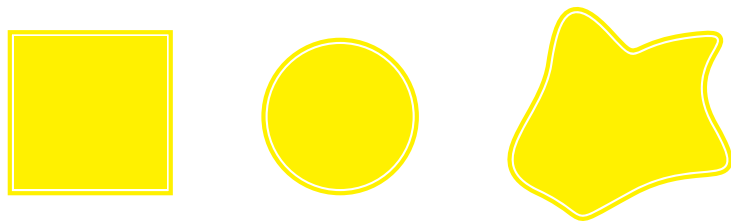


Mapping & Field work*
*Video watching





Cover diverse forms in the reality



NHK, 2019
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/av53734855/>

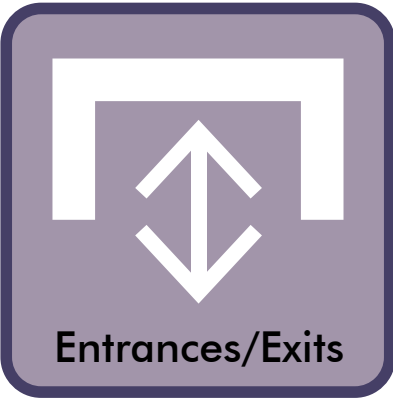


YiFan, 2019
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/>

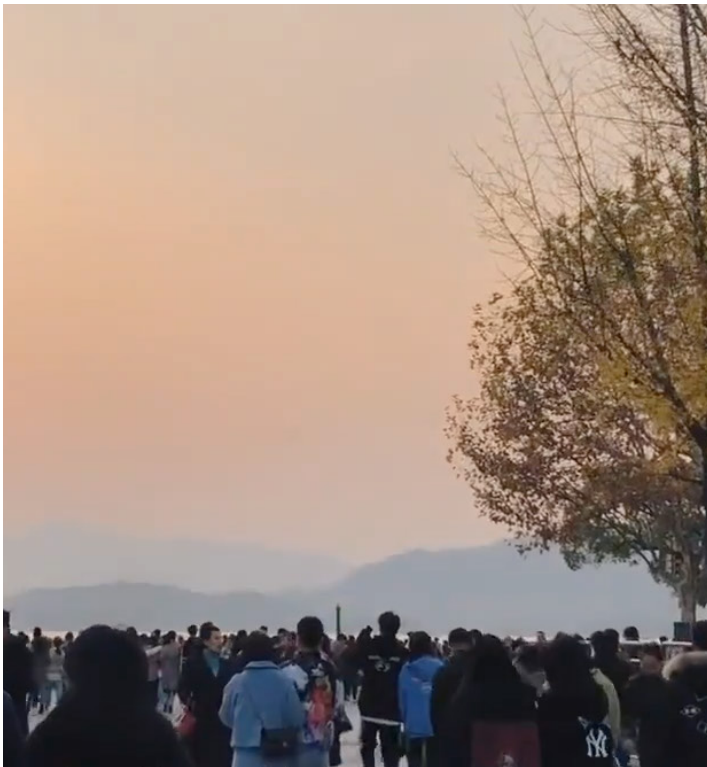
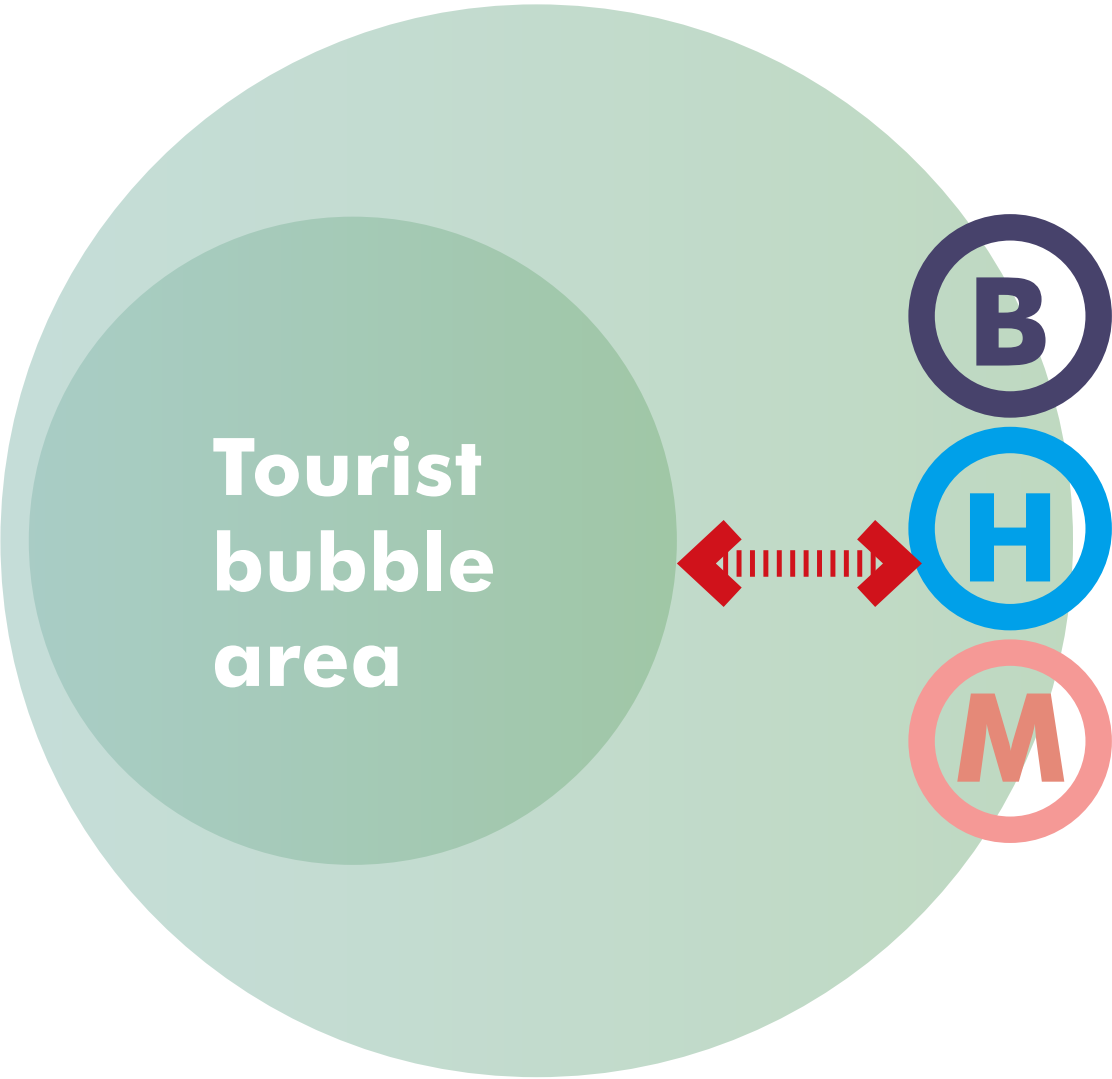
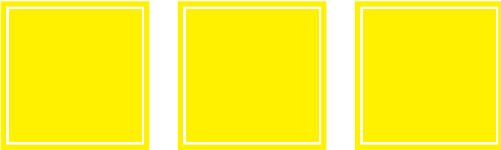


KatAndSid, 2017
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1ks411y7NY>



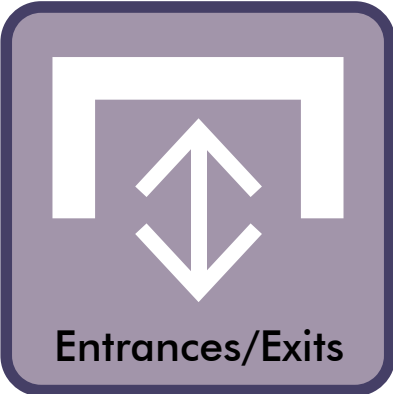


Repetitive phenomenon



From the public transportation to the tourist area

Digging out reason behind the big pattern with patterns at smaller scale



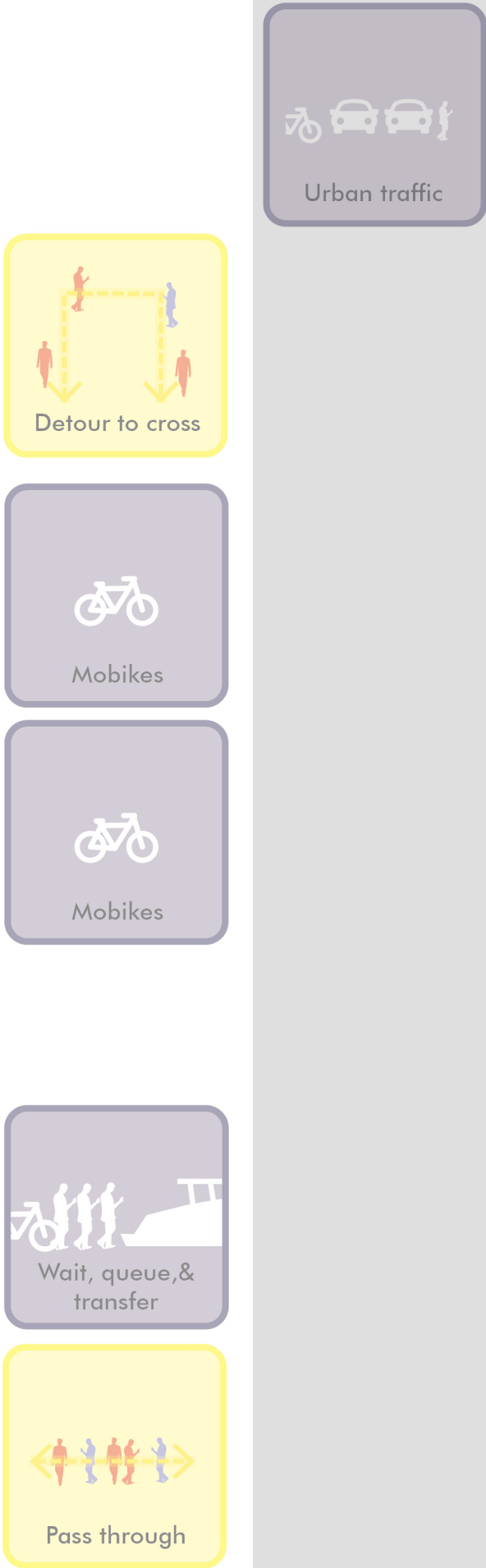
Cross scales



Digging out reason behind the big pattern with patterns at smaller scale



OUT



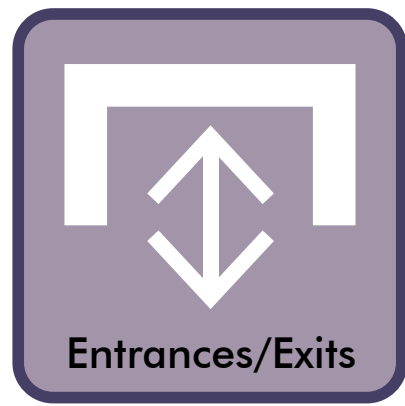
THE EDGE



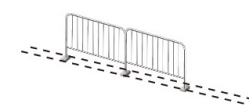
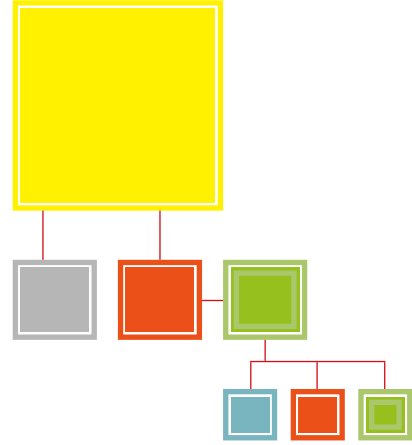
IN



- Legend
- Colour stands for the categories
- Green
 - Heritages
 - Amenity
 - Transportation
 - Urban grey elements
 - Circulation
 - Building/construction



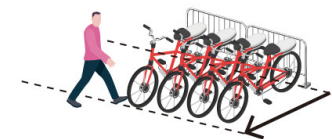
Linked



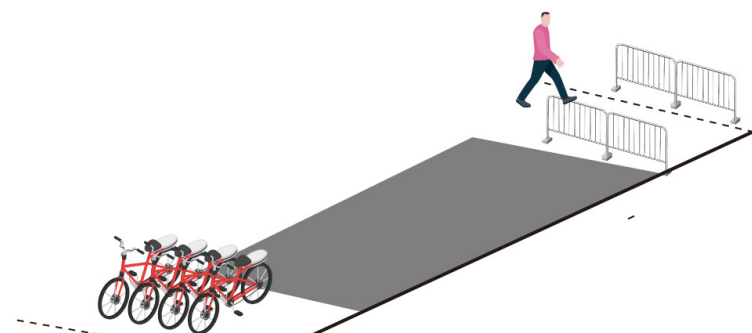
the transfer point from cycling to walking



people parking mobikes at the transfer place



the bikes form a stronger edge



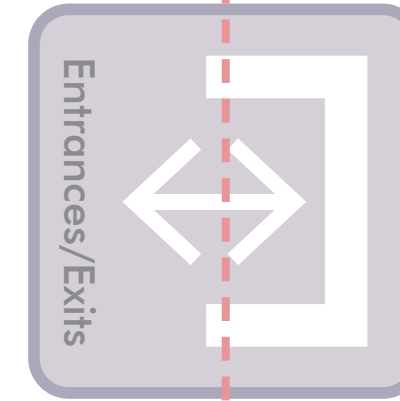
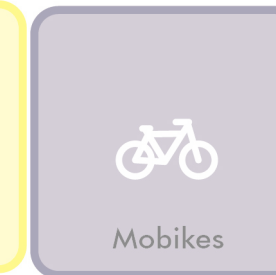
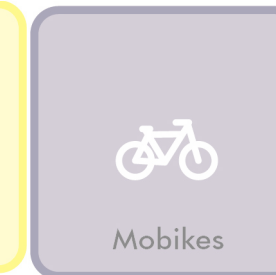
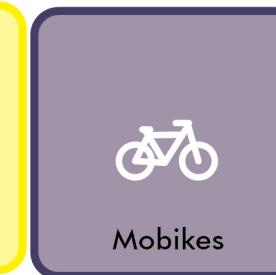
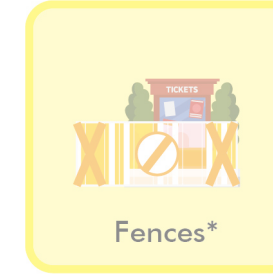
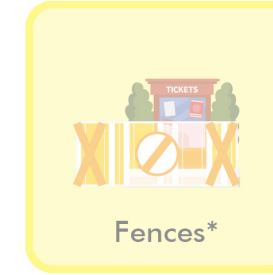
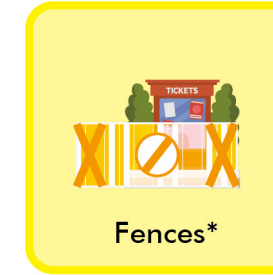
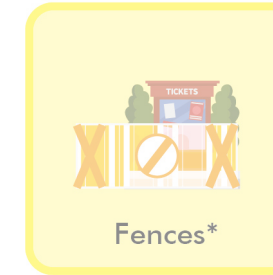
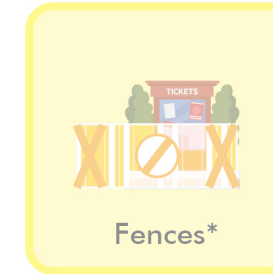
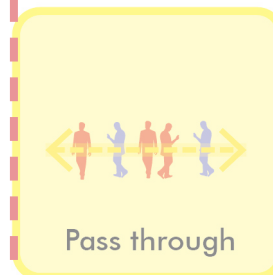
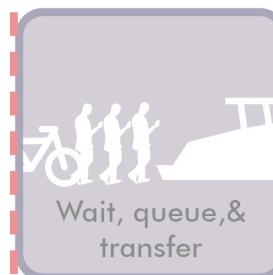
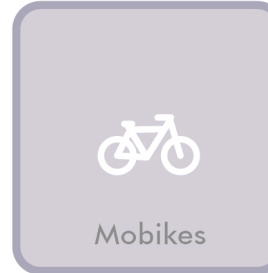
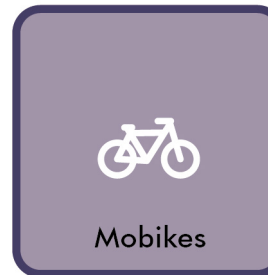
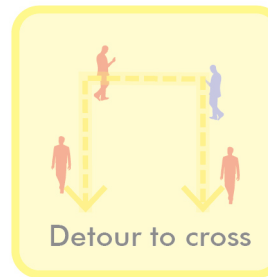
adding fences=pushing the edge further

the edge

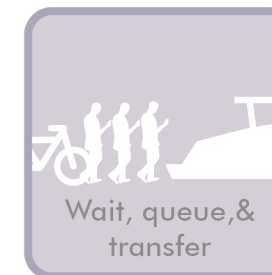
OUT

THE EDGE

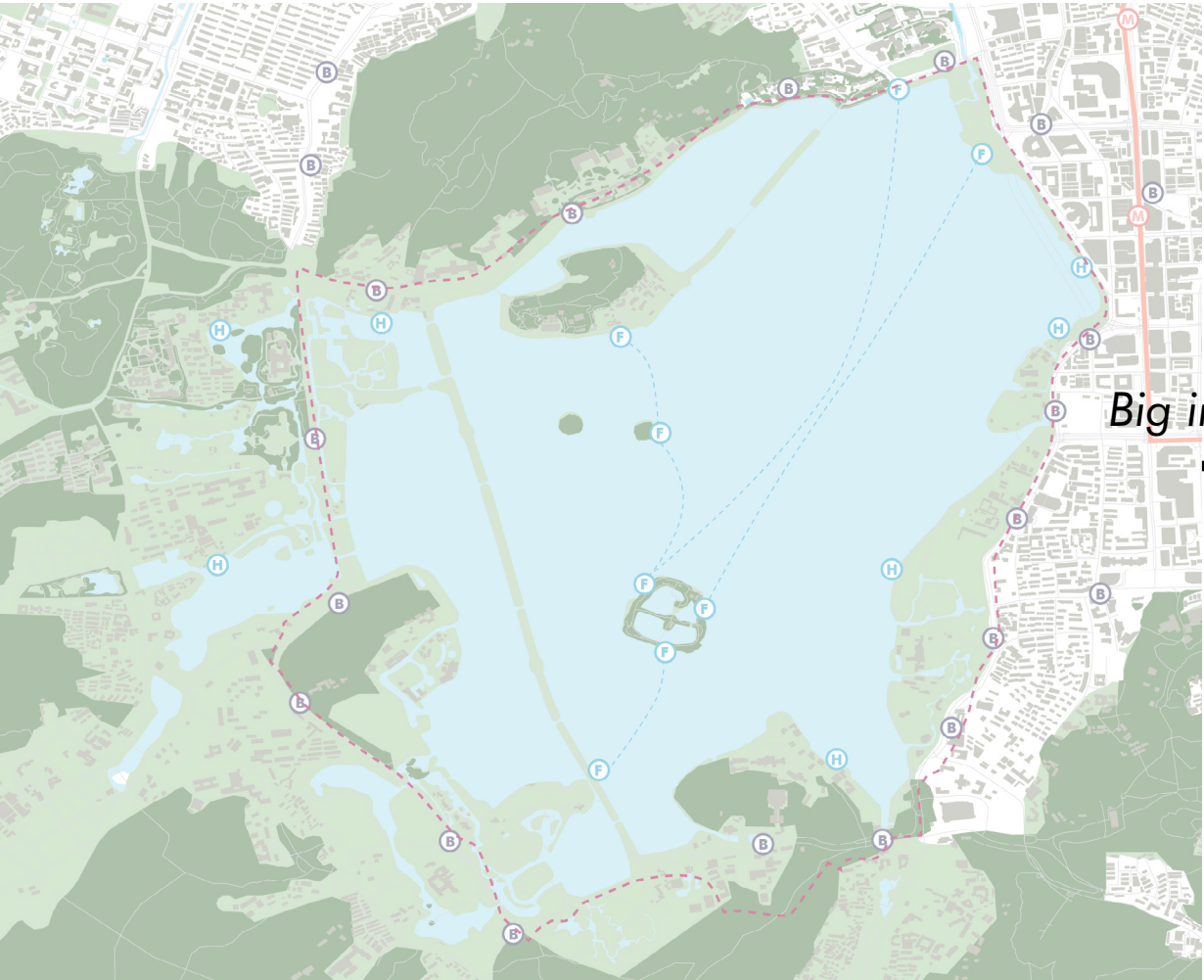
IN



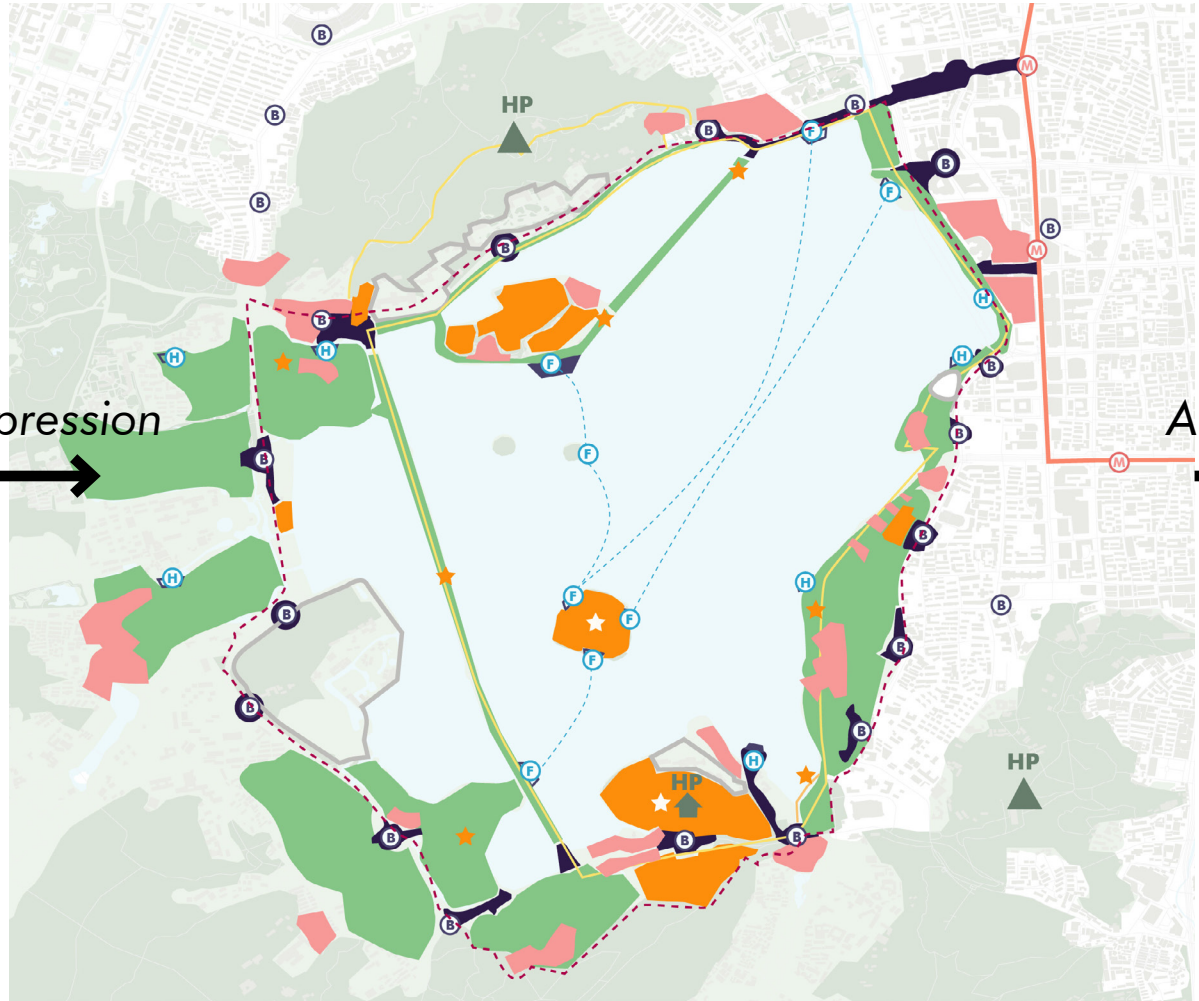
*



- Legend
Colour stands for the categories
- Green
 - Heritages
 - Amenity
 - Transportation
 - Urban grey elements
 - Circulation
 - Building/construction

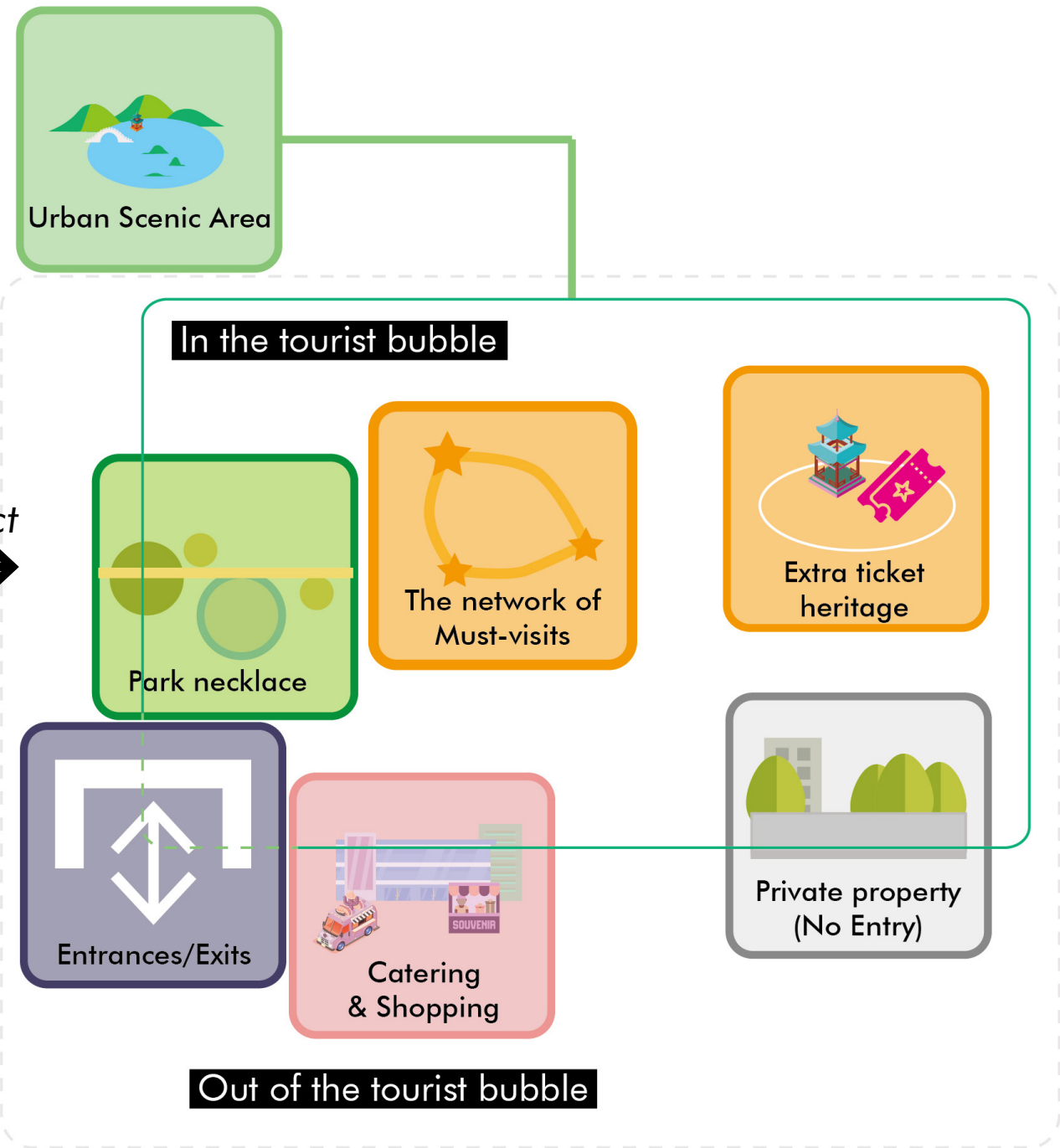


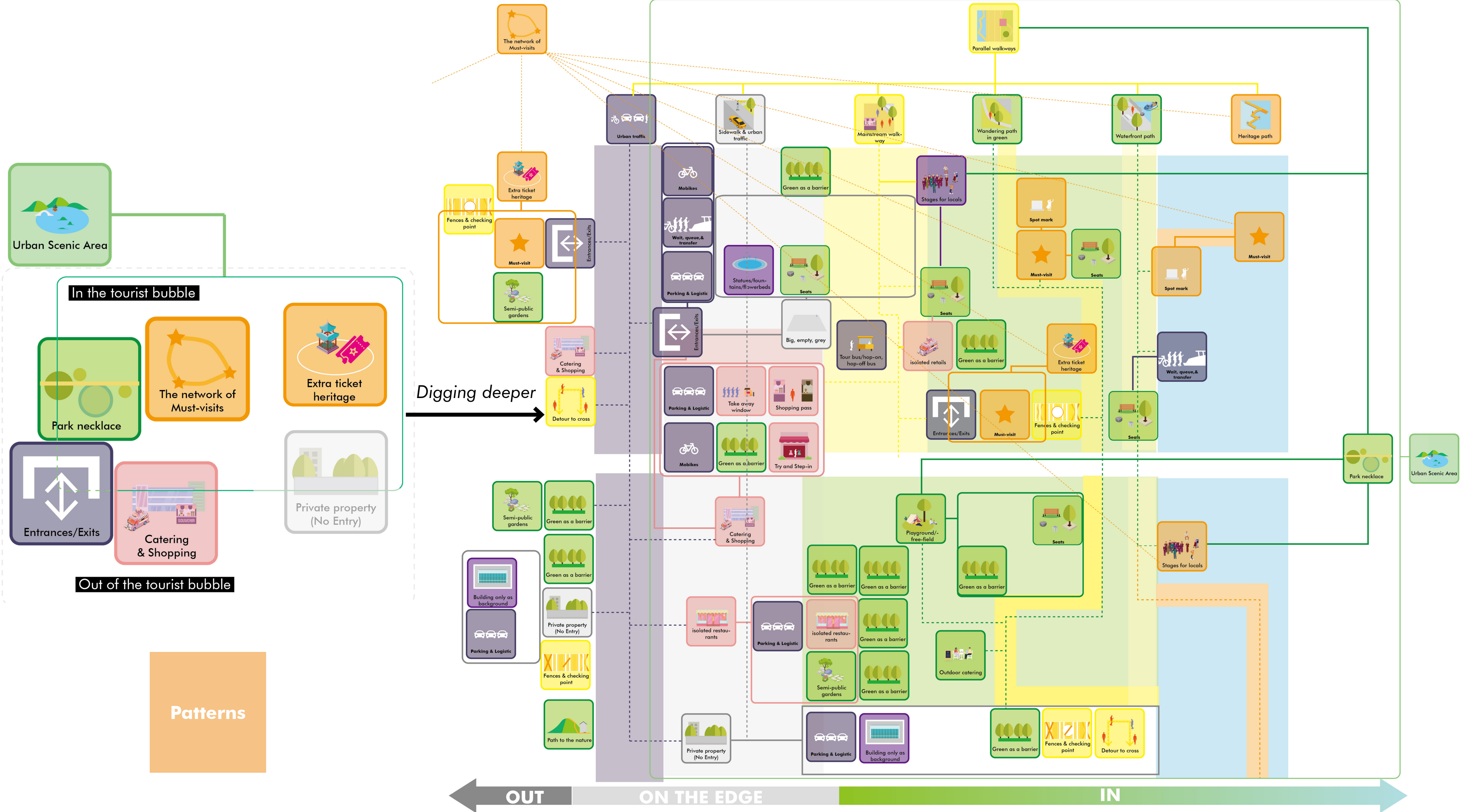
The West Lake Urban Scenic Area(Lake Zone)
author
2020



The spatial patterns of the West Lake Urban Scenic Area(Lake Zone)
author
2020

- Legend**
- Park necklace
 - Heritages need extra tickets
 - Catering & Shopping
 - Entrances
 - Private properties
 - Tourist bubble boundary







Online survey on the route, the stopping points, the visiting time, the staying time...

(In total 301 valid cases.)

2 general behaviours

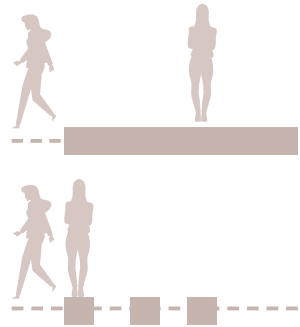


Move Stay



Different spatial needs

Different combination



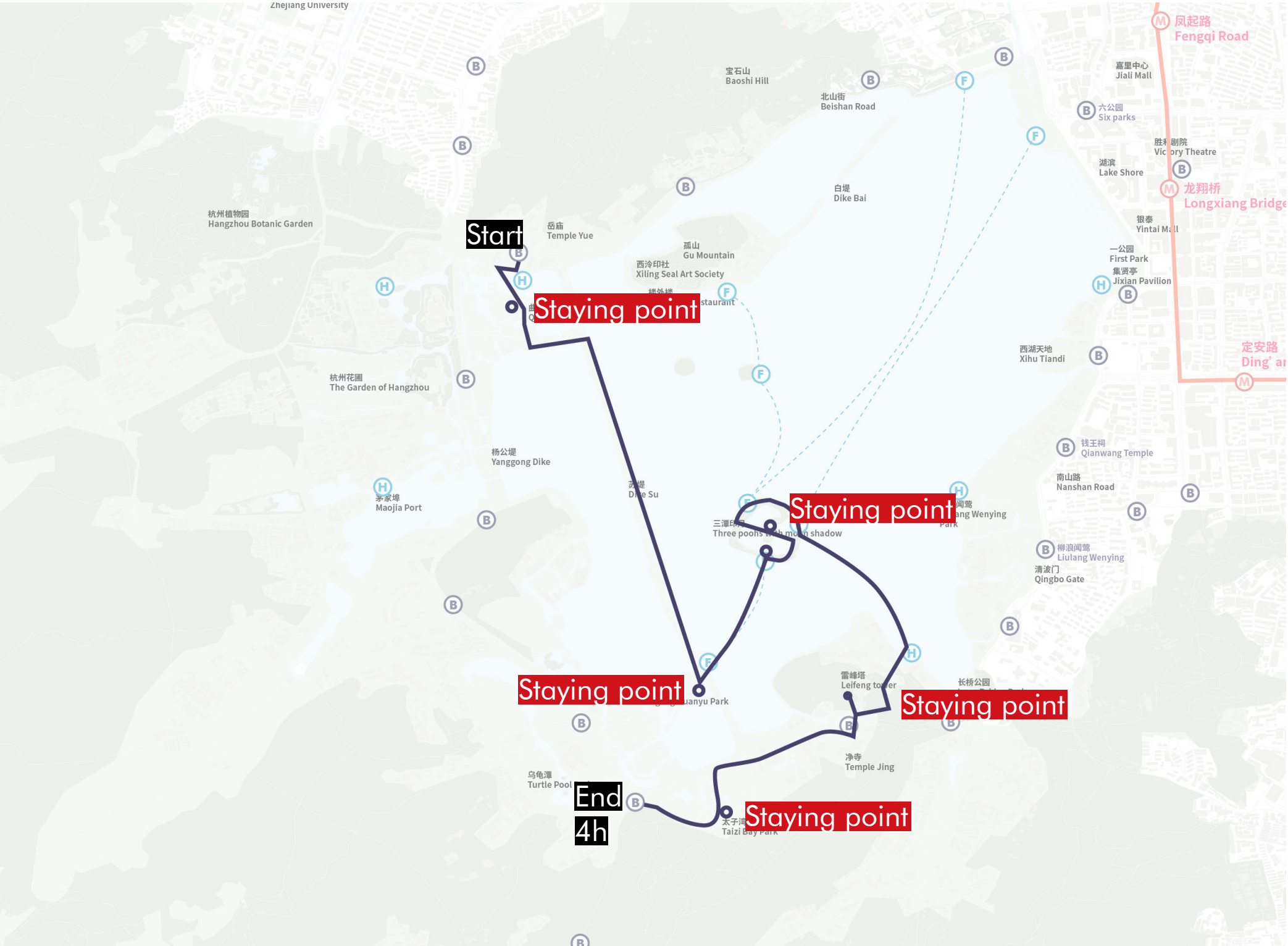
Visitor types

- Type A →
- Type B →
- Type C →
- Type D →

Tourists/local



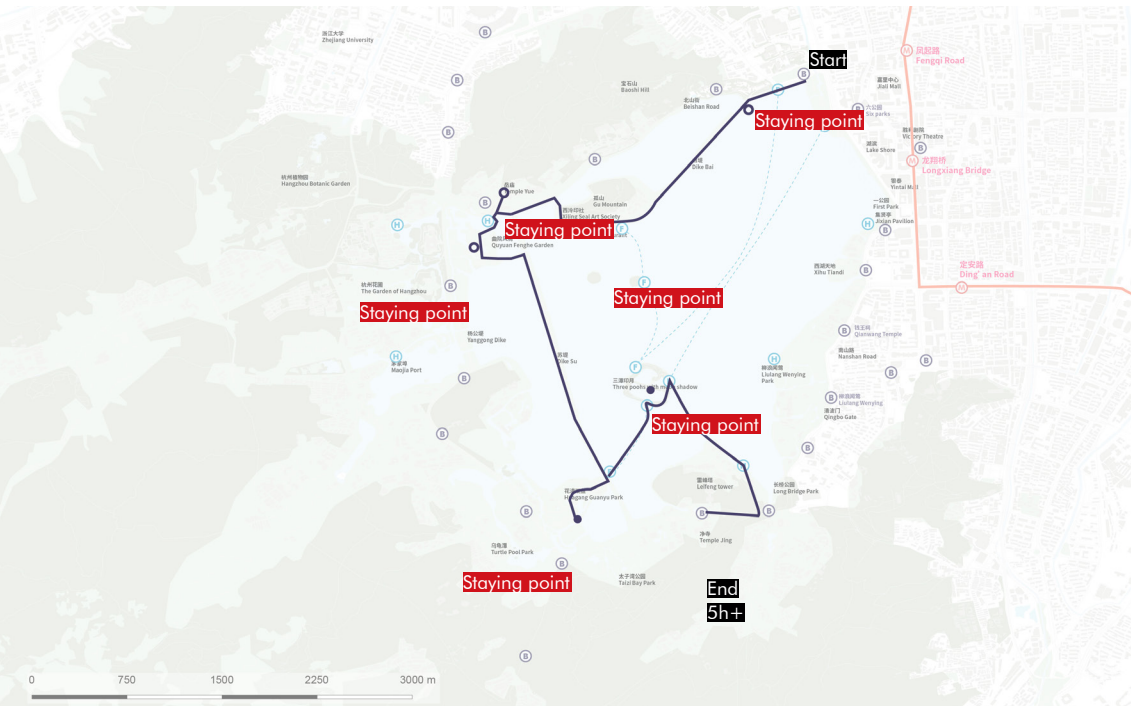
Different needs on a sequences of spaces



Tourists

The description of case No.303 in the West Lake area

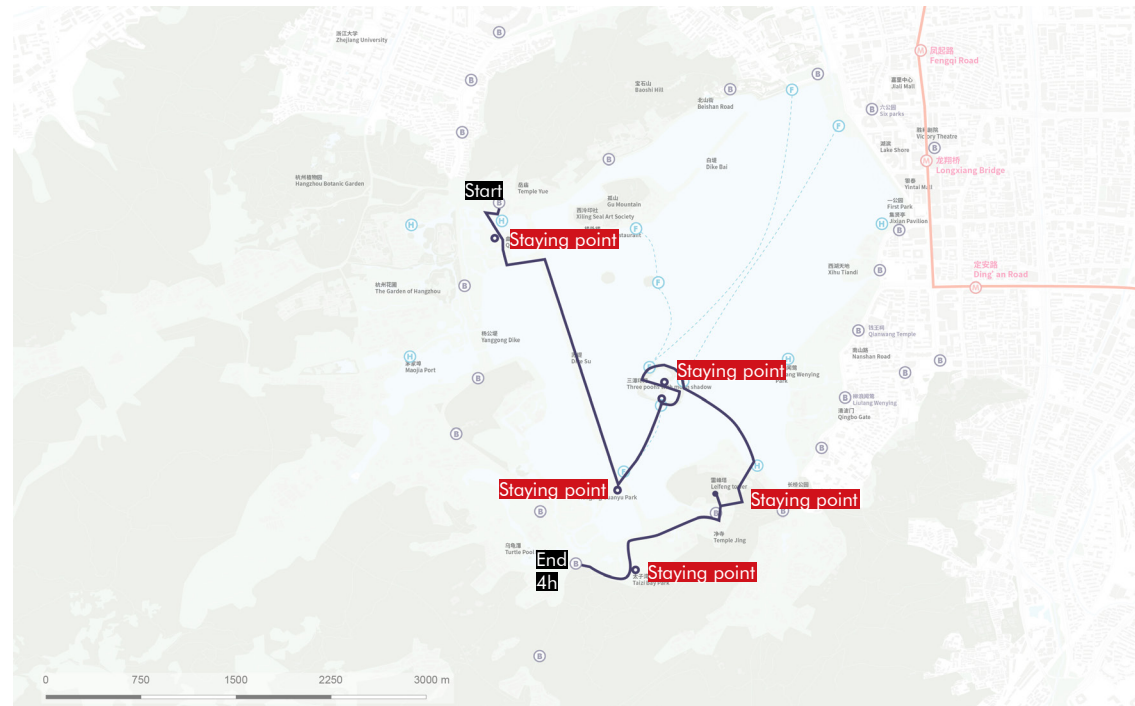
author
2020




 Tourists

The description of case No.49 in the West Lake area

author 2020



 Tourists

The description of case No.303 in the West Lake area

author 2020



 Locals

The description of case No.30 in the West Lake area

author 2020



 Tourists

The description of case No.107 in the West Lake area

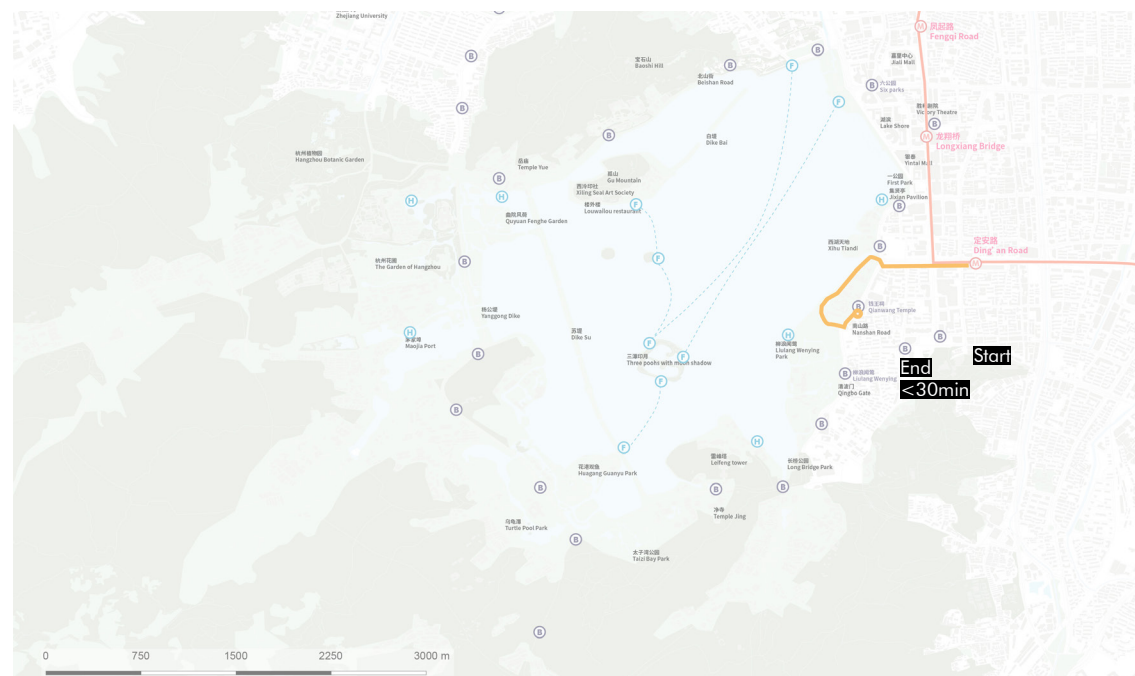
author 2020



 Locals

The description of case No.81 in the West Lake area

author 2020



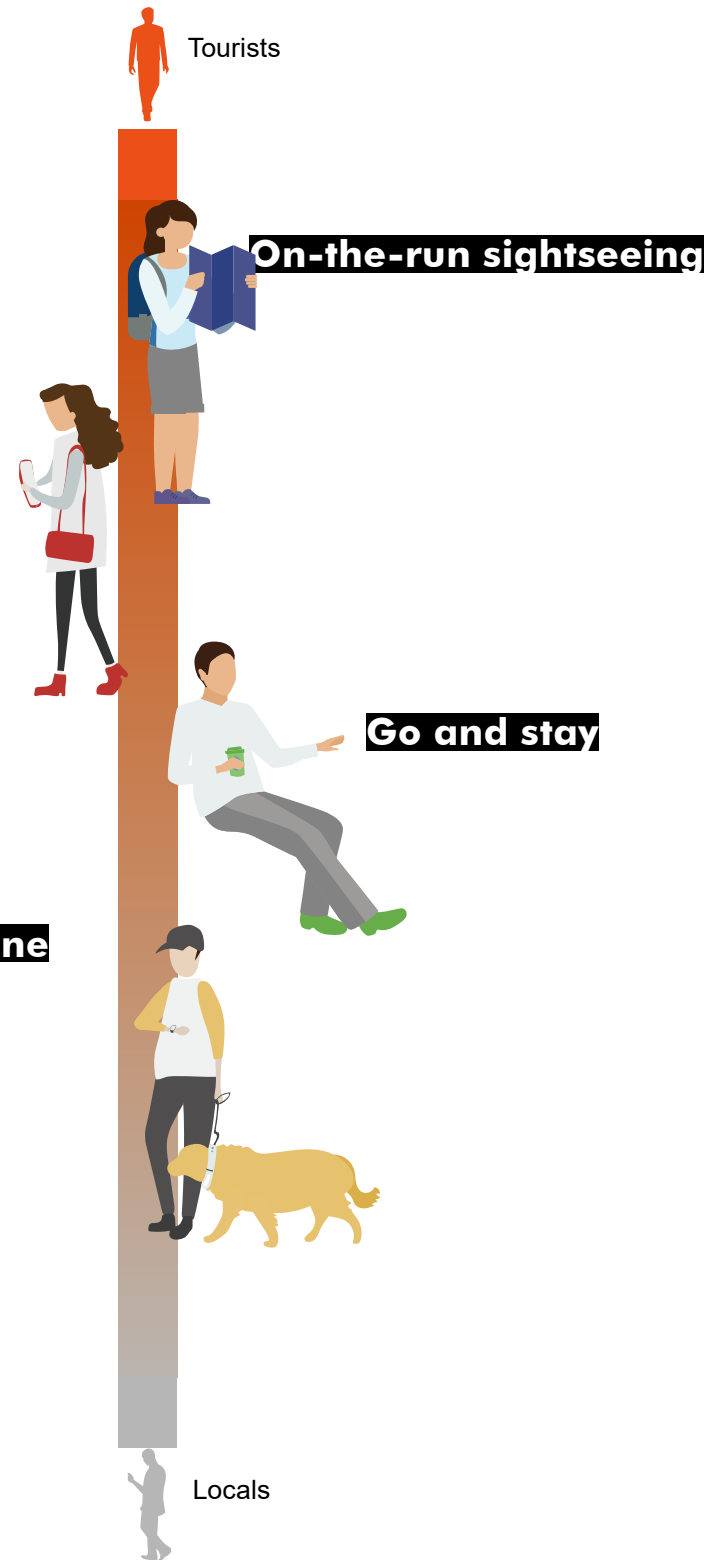
 Locals

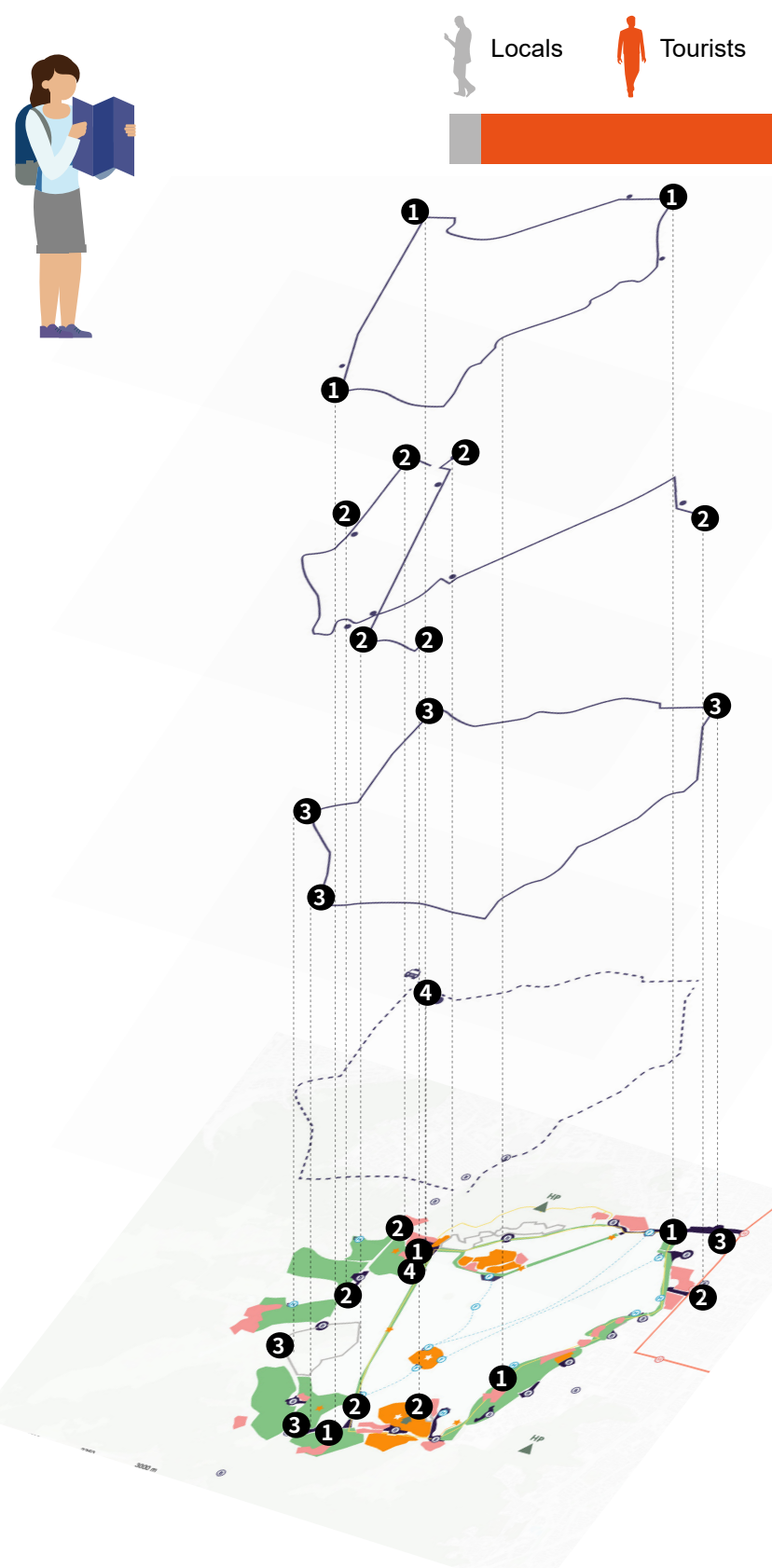
The description of case No.100 in the West Lake area

author 2020

Random wandering

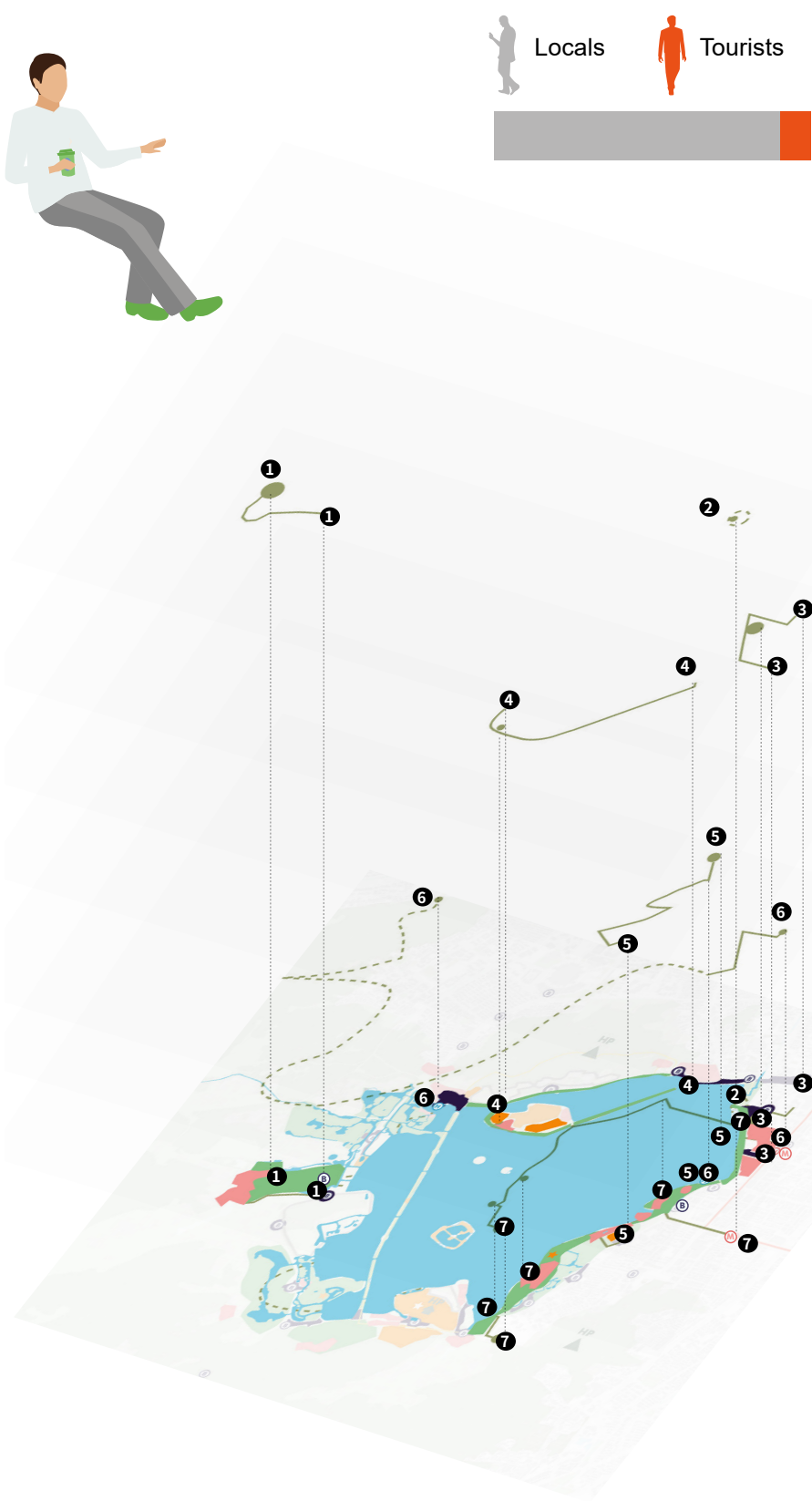
Daily routine





On-the-run sightseeing

Structured
 Strict time-money budget
 Long & fast moving
 Many stops but short staying for each



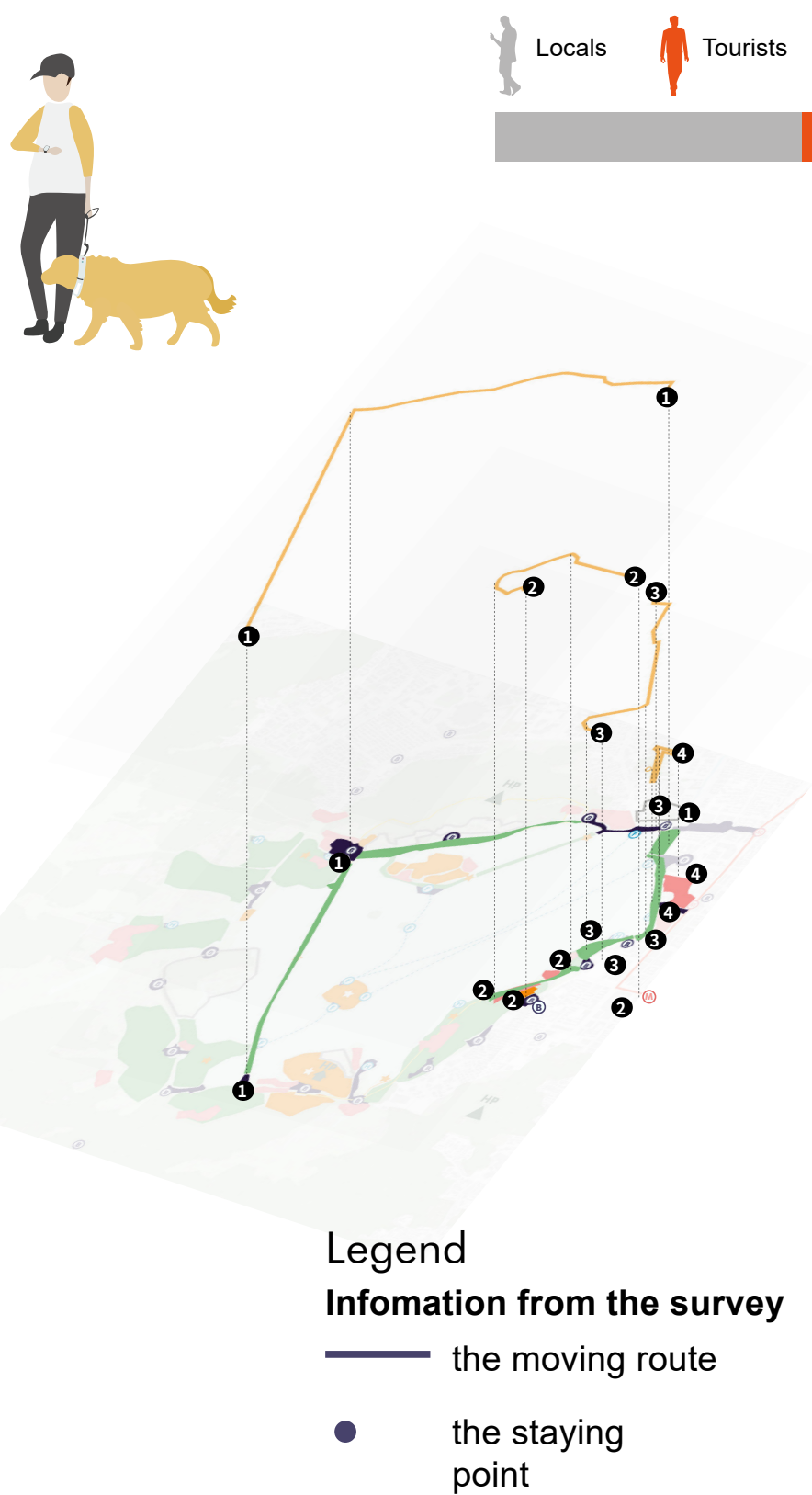
Go and stay

Half-structured
 Directly to the destination
 Very limited stops, but staying long for each



Random wandering

Flexible time budget
 Easy to be distracted
 Always with other motivations for the visit
 Short time visiting and staying



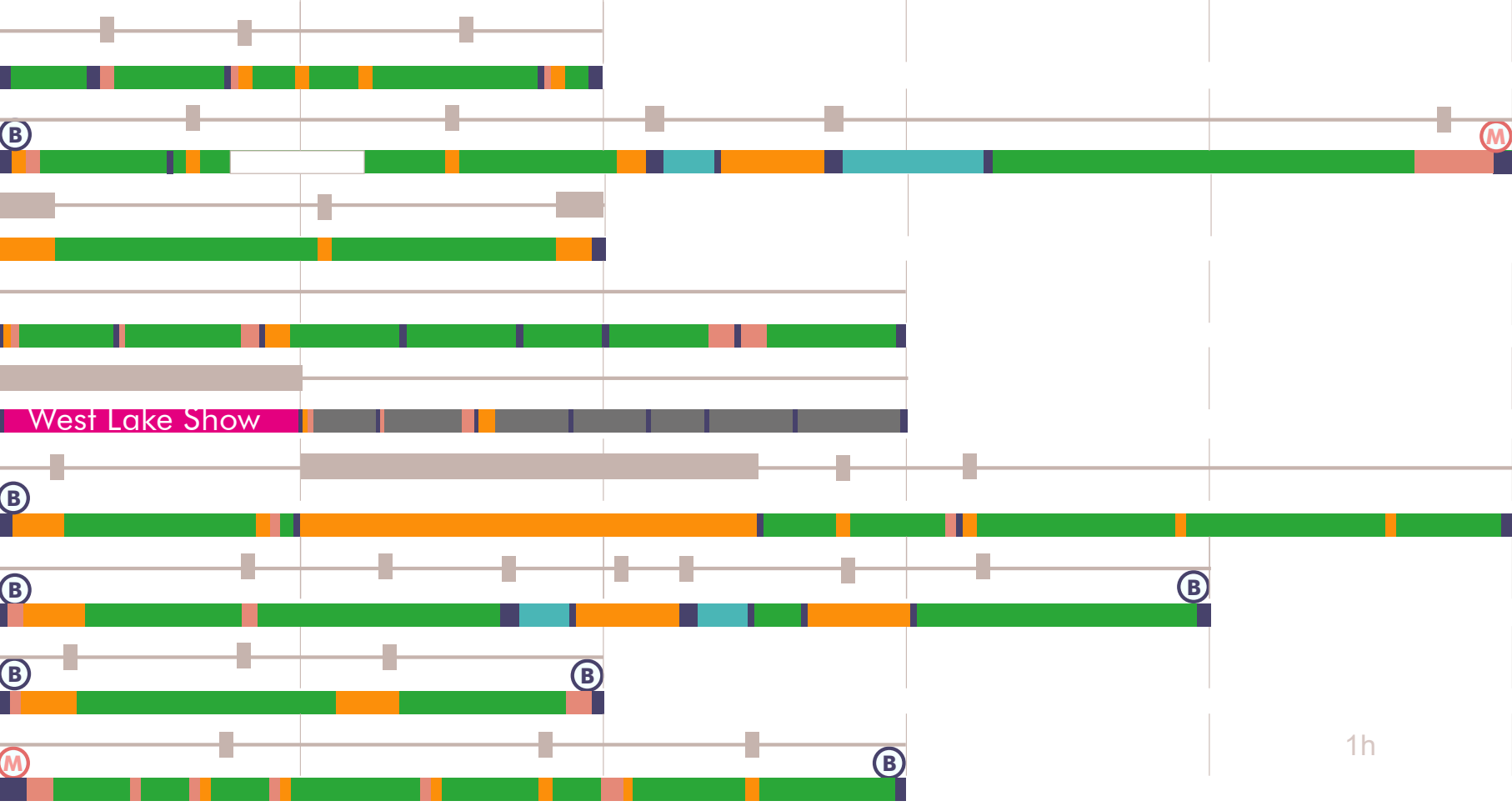
Daily routine

Fixed routine/
 Fixed gathering point
 Depends on different individuals/groups
 Professional needs/social connections to the site
 Stable attractions

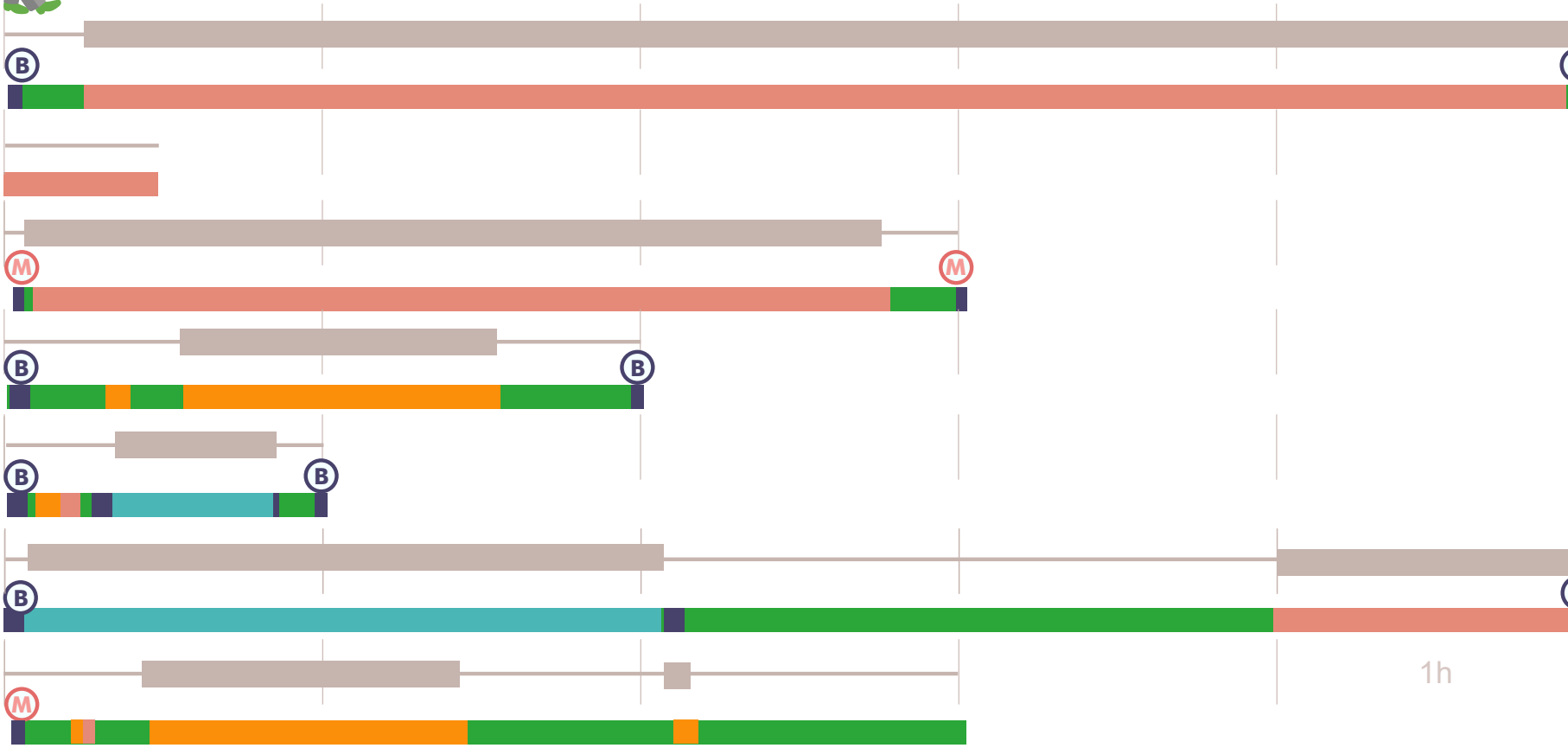
Legend
 Information from the survey
 — the moving route
 ● the staying point



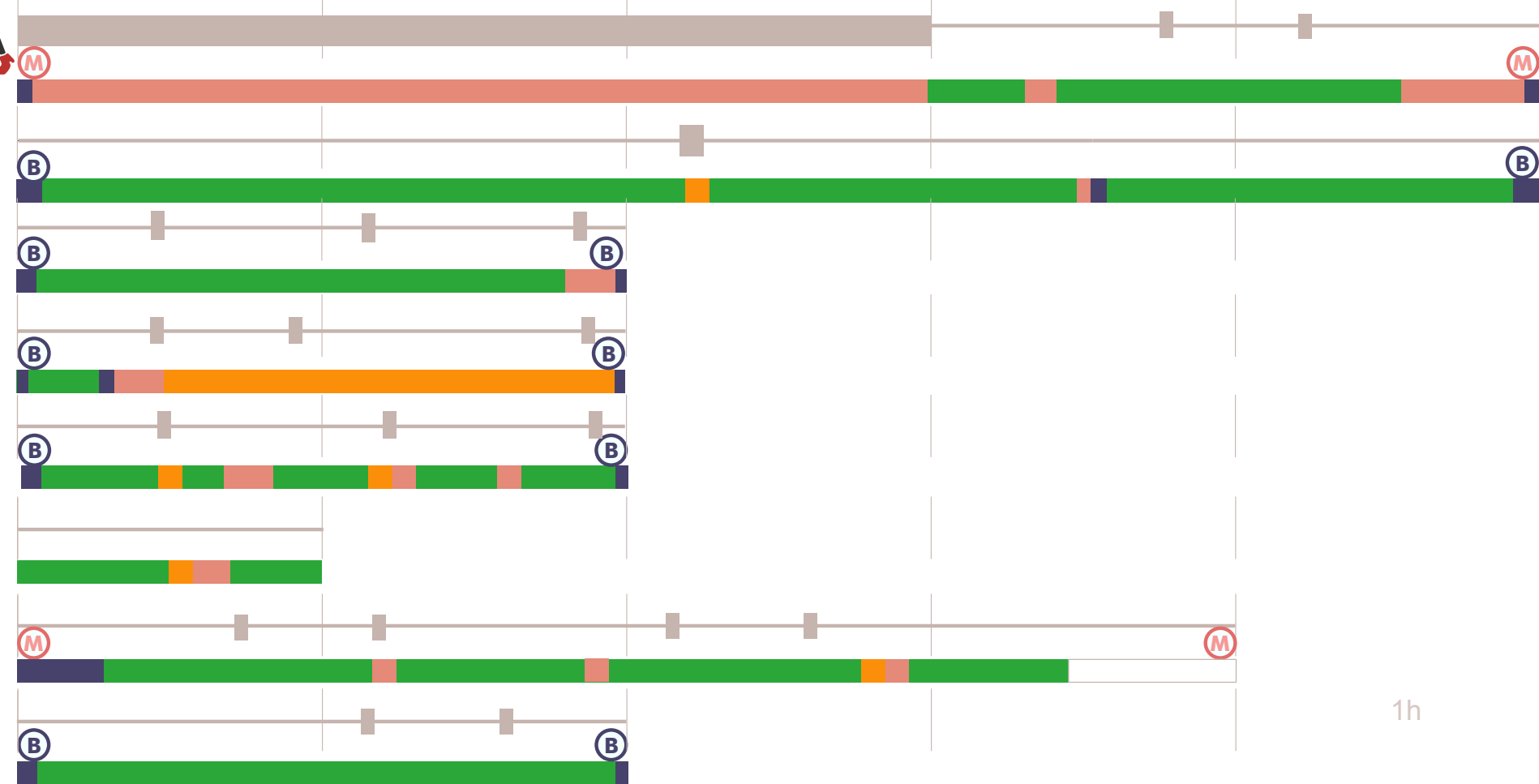
On-the-run sightseeing



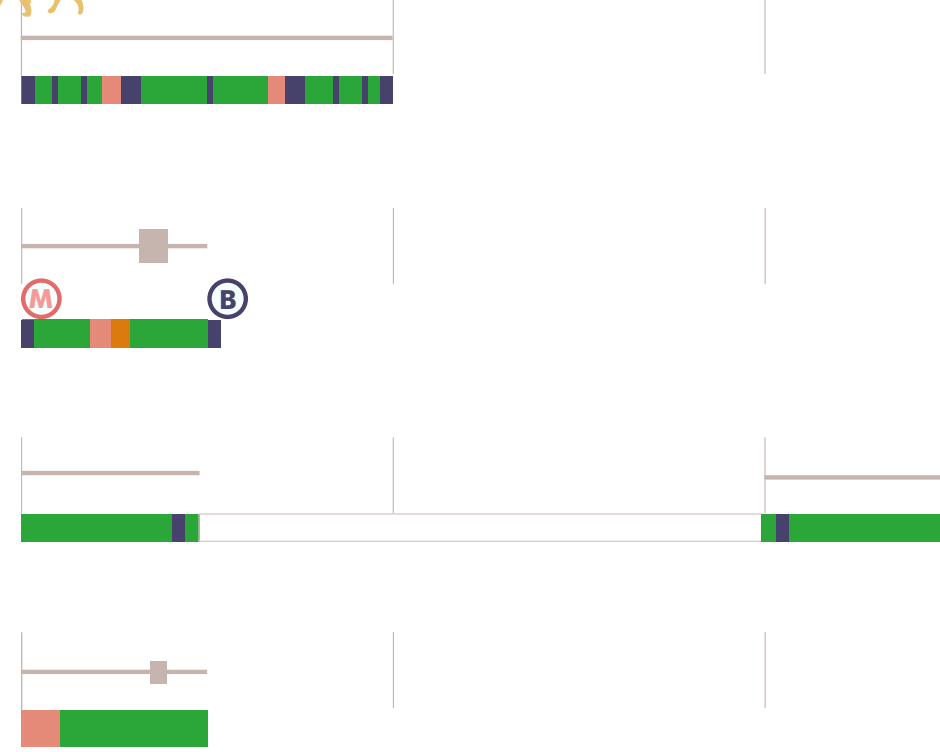
Go and stay



Random wandering



Daily routine



Legend

moving

staying

staying time duration

1h

the spatial attribute on the route

transportation-entrance

attached parks

catering & shopping

heritages

show/event

water(on boat)

bus station

metro station



On-the-run sightseeing



Go and stay



Random wandering



Daily routine



Legend

— moving
— staying

staying time duration
1h

the spatial attribute on the route

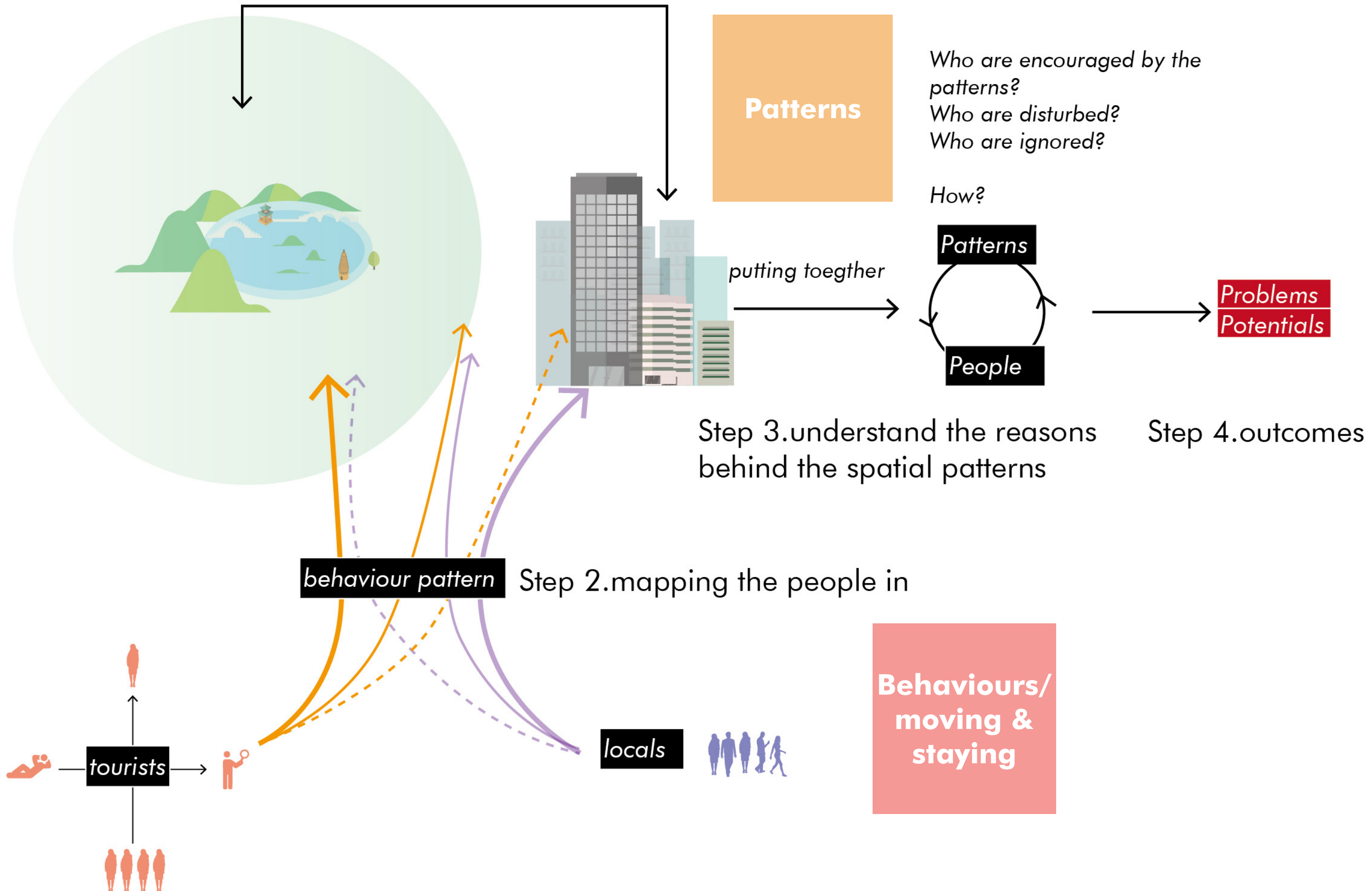
transportation-entrance
attached parks
catering & shopping
heritages
show/event
water(on boat)

bus station

metro station

Step 1. mapping the physical existence

Spaces | **Functions**
Forces/stakeholders



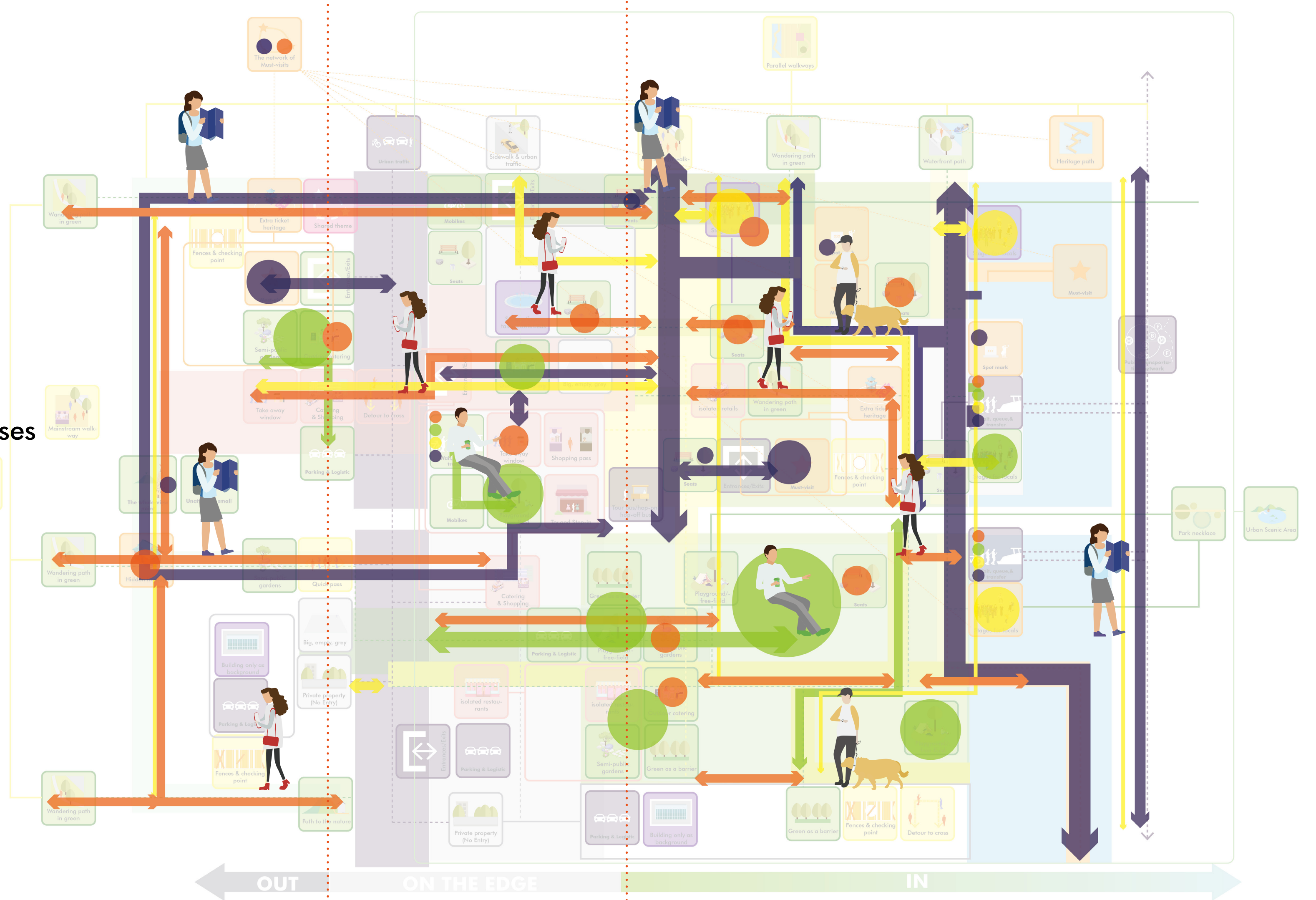
The vision

For all

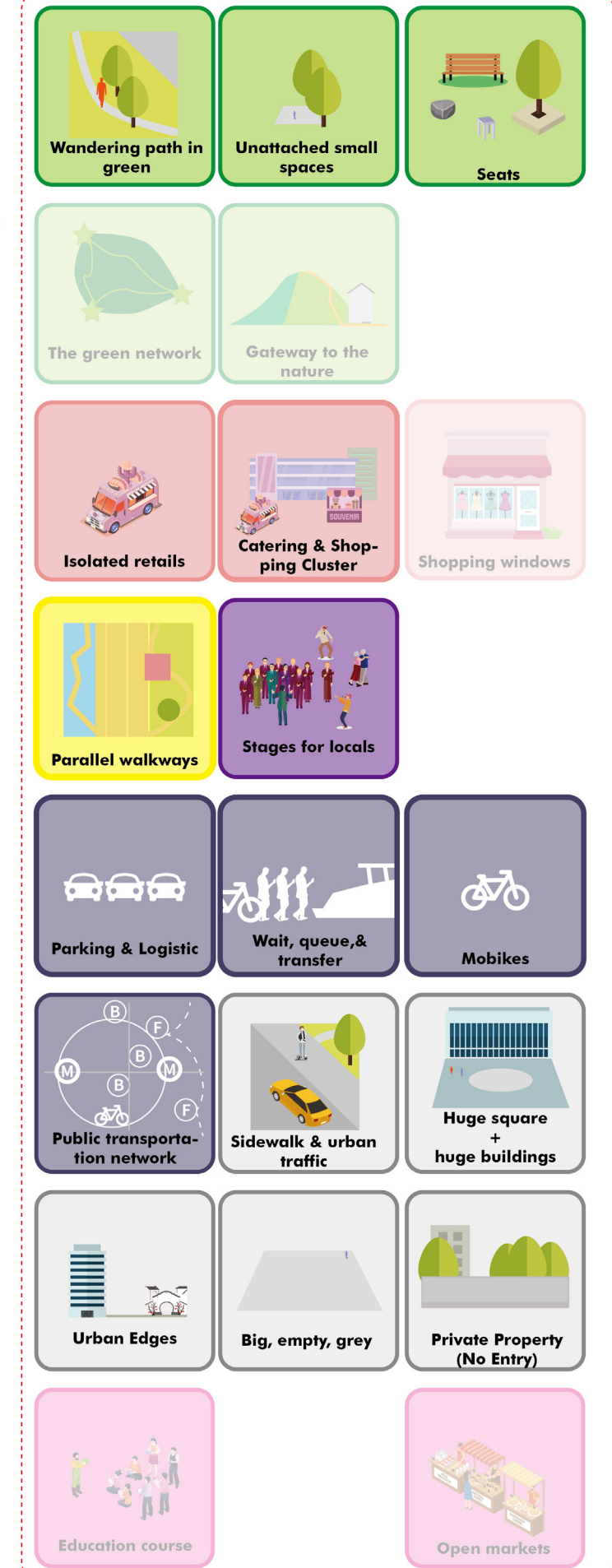
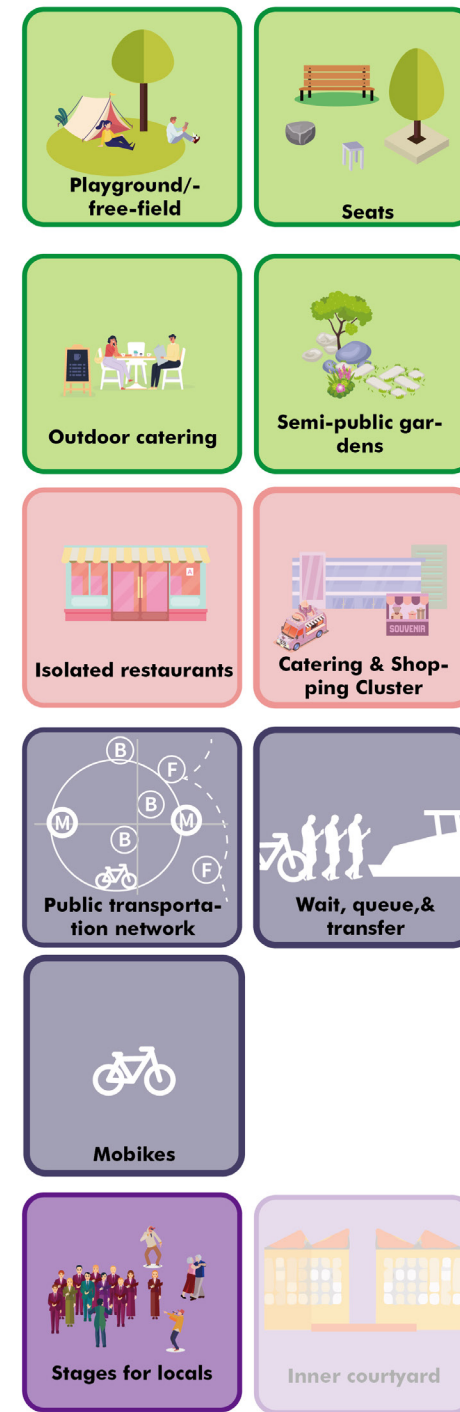
Permeable Edge

System for all visitor's uses

- Legend
- the moving route of fast sightseeing visitors
 - the moving route of the go-and-stay visitors
 - the moving route of wandering visitors
 - the moving route of daily routine visitors
 - the staying point of fast sightseeing visitors
 - the staying point of the go-and-stay visitors
 - the staying point of wandering visitors
 - the staying point of daily routine visitors



The patterns related to the visitor groups



The patterns related to the visitor groups



Strategies

Strategy 1: Lively edge

Strategy 2: Diverse Green for daily life

Strategy 3: Social nodes

Strategy 4: Heritages for each

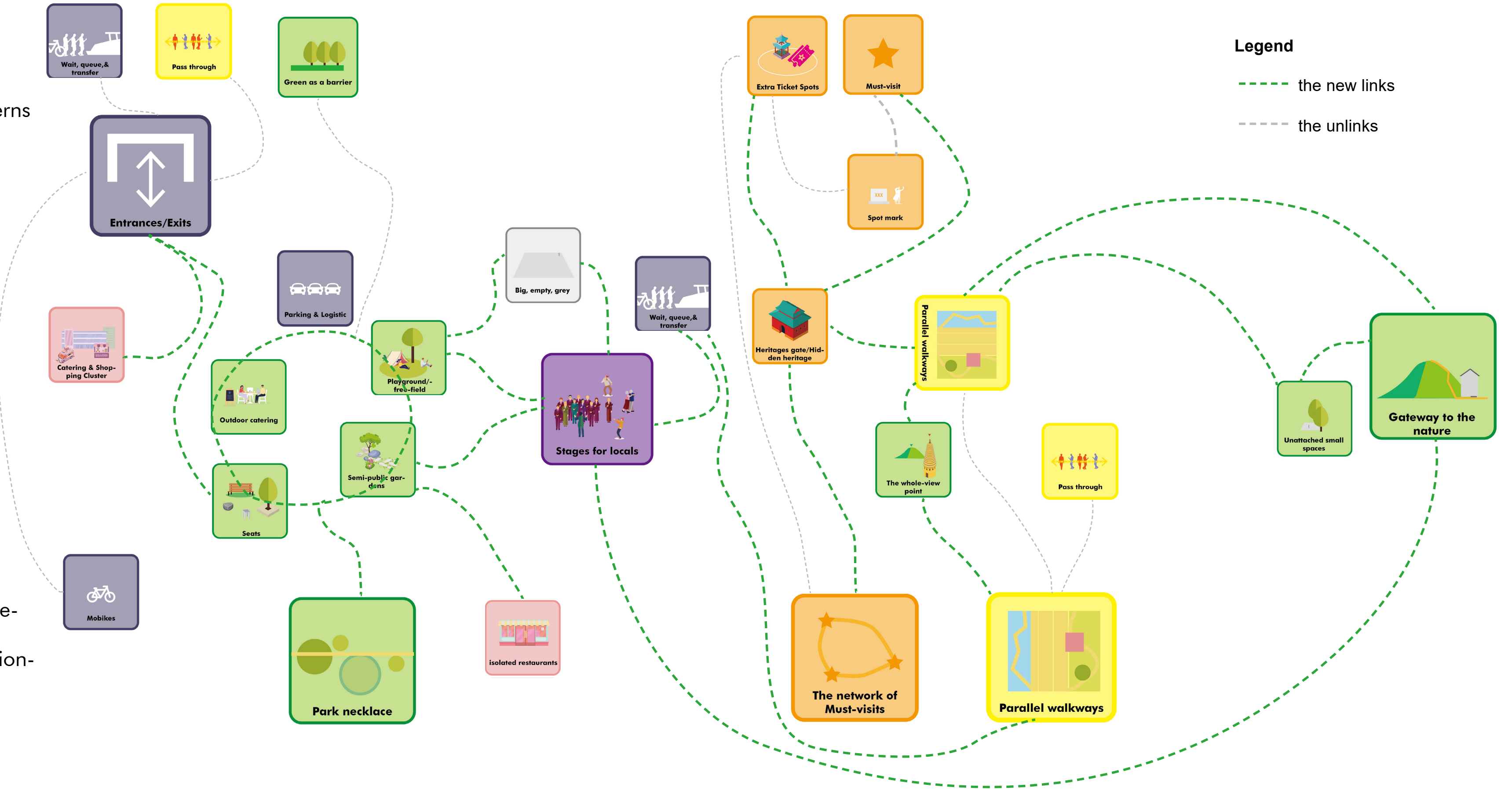
Strategy 5: Multi-direction routes for casual visits

Strategy 6: An Explorable network

Weaken
by unlinking
by adding other patterns

Promoting
by adding
by linking

Changing
by adding/deleting ele-
ments
by changing the relation-
ships



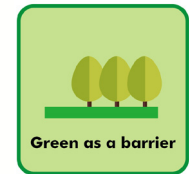
Strategies

STRATEGY 1: LIVELY EDGE



Weaken the pattern Entrance/Exit

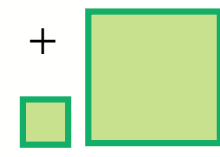
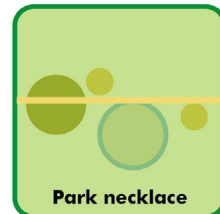
Use the green and amenity together on both sides to form continuous and experiential spaces;
Soften the big entrances and add more entrances for daily crossing;
Give proper places and arrangement for different means of transportation;
Give proper facilities for the daily commuting people at the transportation nodes;



More for the experience series

Create direct entries for the people who want to stay;
Organising activities/events around;
Add surprises in the necessary detours;

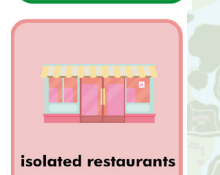
STRATEGY 2: DIVERSE GREEN FOR DAILY LIFE



More green types with more combinations in the park necklace

Create diverse and remarkable areas at different scales and with different pavements;
Form shades and enclosure for small groups of people aiming at long stays;
Combine the accessible green with the paths;
Combine the green settings with heritages, amenities and transportations.

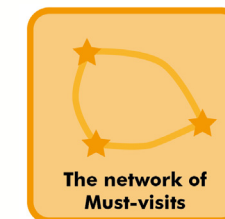
STRATEGY 3: SOCIAL NODES



Various social nodes

Create for social areas based on different activities;
Forming staying areas along the amenity both for passers-by and stayers;
Create lively sharing places for people with same routines and visiting purpose;
Create places for random meeting and communicating yet not disturbing each other;
Make use of the transportation nodes which naturally mix all types of people;
Create a slowing down commercial node with greens and heritages

STRATEGY 4: HERITAGES FOR EACH



Heritage both as a network for picture taking, education and social life

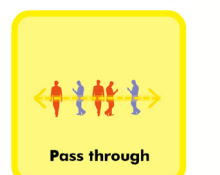
Separate the fast-visitors who wanted to tour around and those who only target for limited destinations;
Make hidden heritages discovered and used as local stages or landmarks for local events;
Make the extra-ticket heritages more tangible and easier access for the people;
Rearrange the must-visit network with new promoted routes.



+



STRATEGY 5: MULTI-DIRECTION ROUTES FOR CASUAL VISITS



Less crowd

Unlock the hidden parallel routes;
Reorganise the circulation around the bottlenecks, adding proper explorable route from both sides;

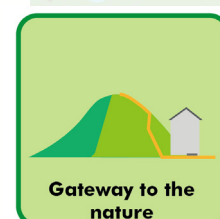
Freer passing

Create more crossing flows between the different parallel routes;

Soften the dominance of the tourist streamlines

Organise the water lines for more than tourist purpose.

STRATEGY 6: AN EXPLORABLE NETWORK



Green as links and hints

Link the out and the in as a whole with visual and physical connections with green;
Push the natural identity out of the boundary;
Highlight the existing staying places and paths with green;

Port way for multi-directions

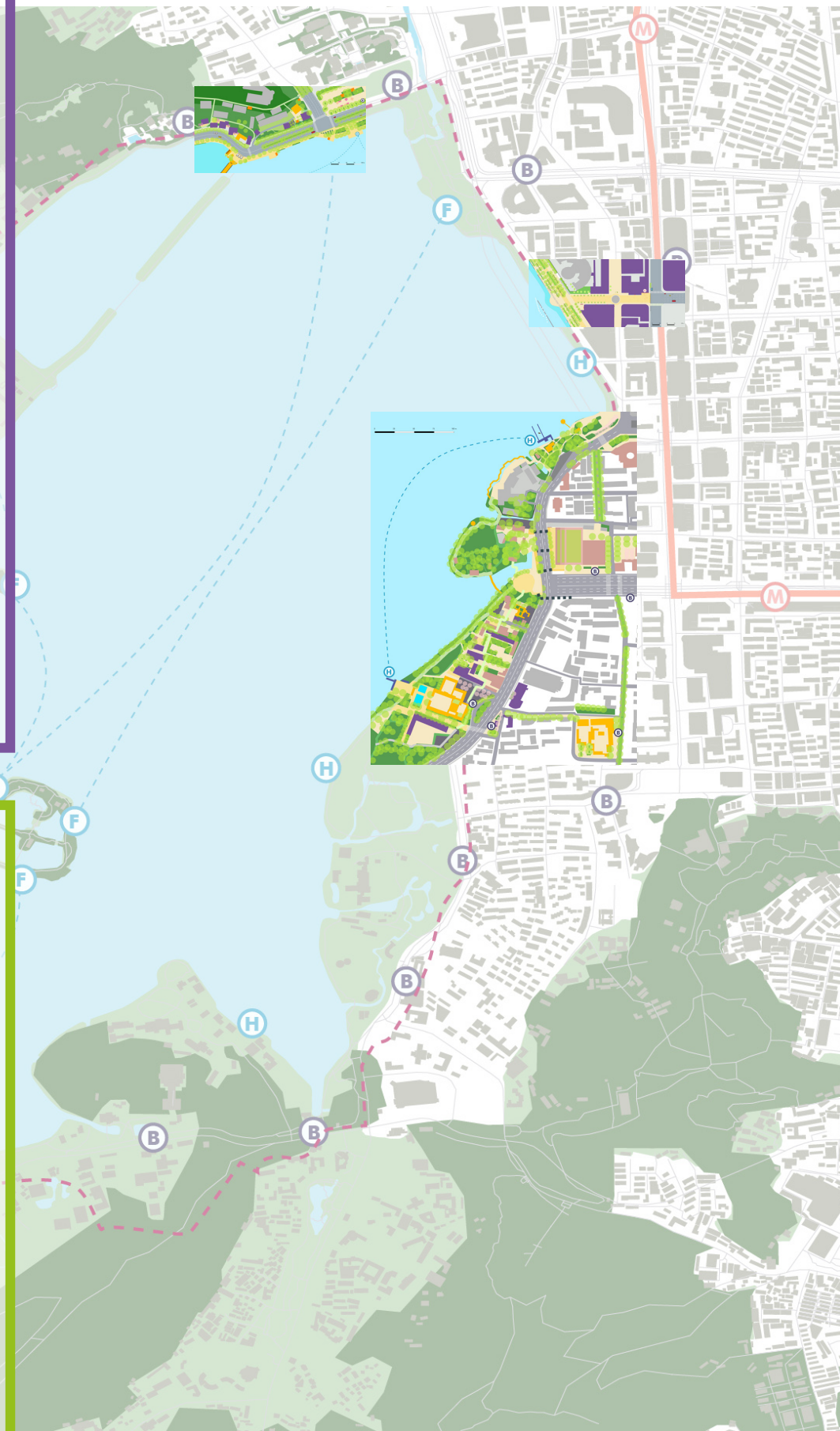
Make the entrance for explorations to multi-directions;
Build up various identities;

Heritage as the attractions and nodes

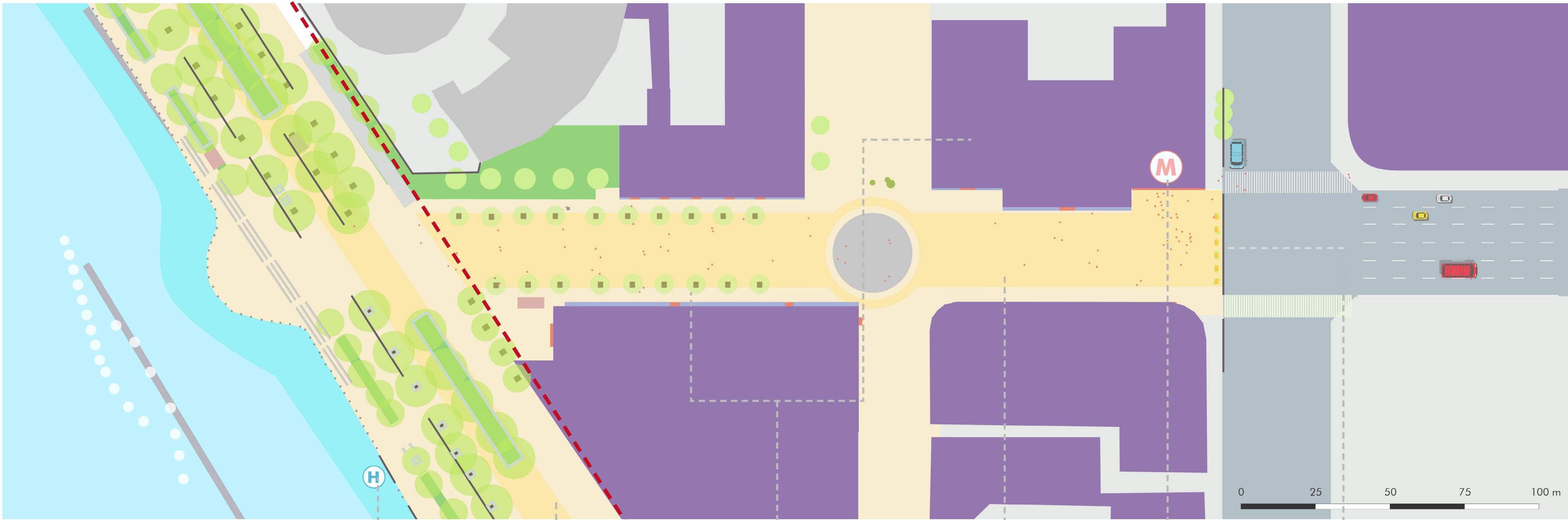
Enlarge the heritage networks and organise more exploring possibilities with one must visit site;

Events for atmosphere

Hold events at the edge for distracting the main flows.



The existing situation of the Lake shore area



The existing status

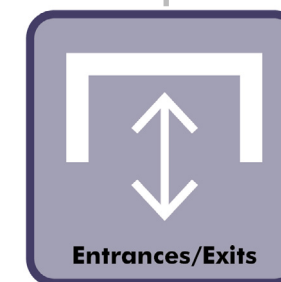
Daily visitor number:
The peak day in the year-
145k
Normal peak-50k
Average day-3k
(Hangzhou tourism au-
thority, 2018)



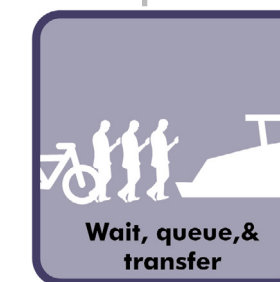
Parallel walkways



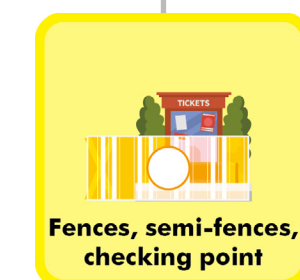
Catering & Shop-
ping Cluster



Entrances/Exits



Wait, queue, &
transfer

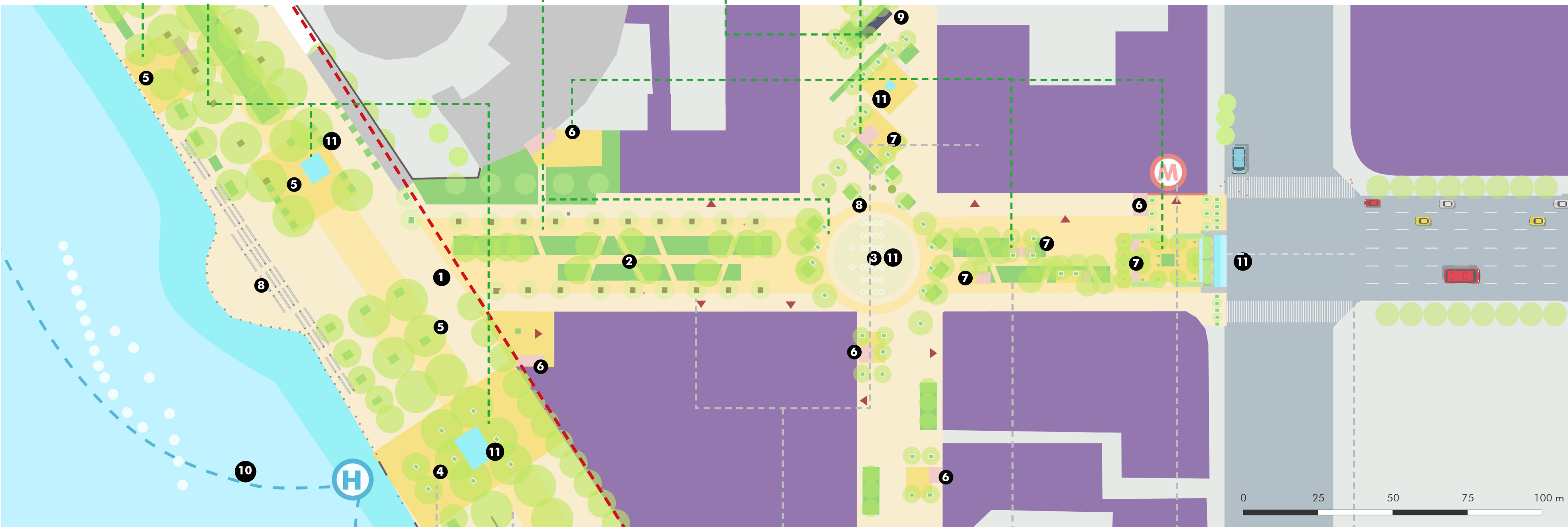


Fences, semi-fences,
checking point

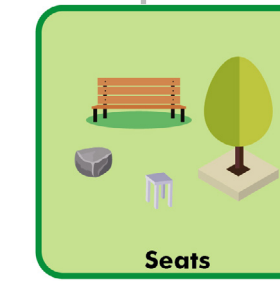
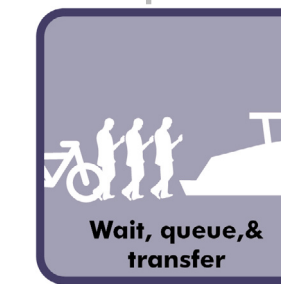
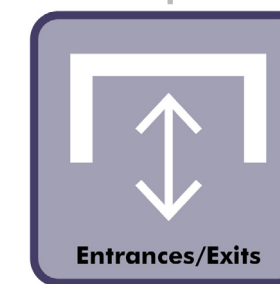


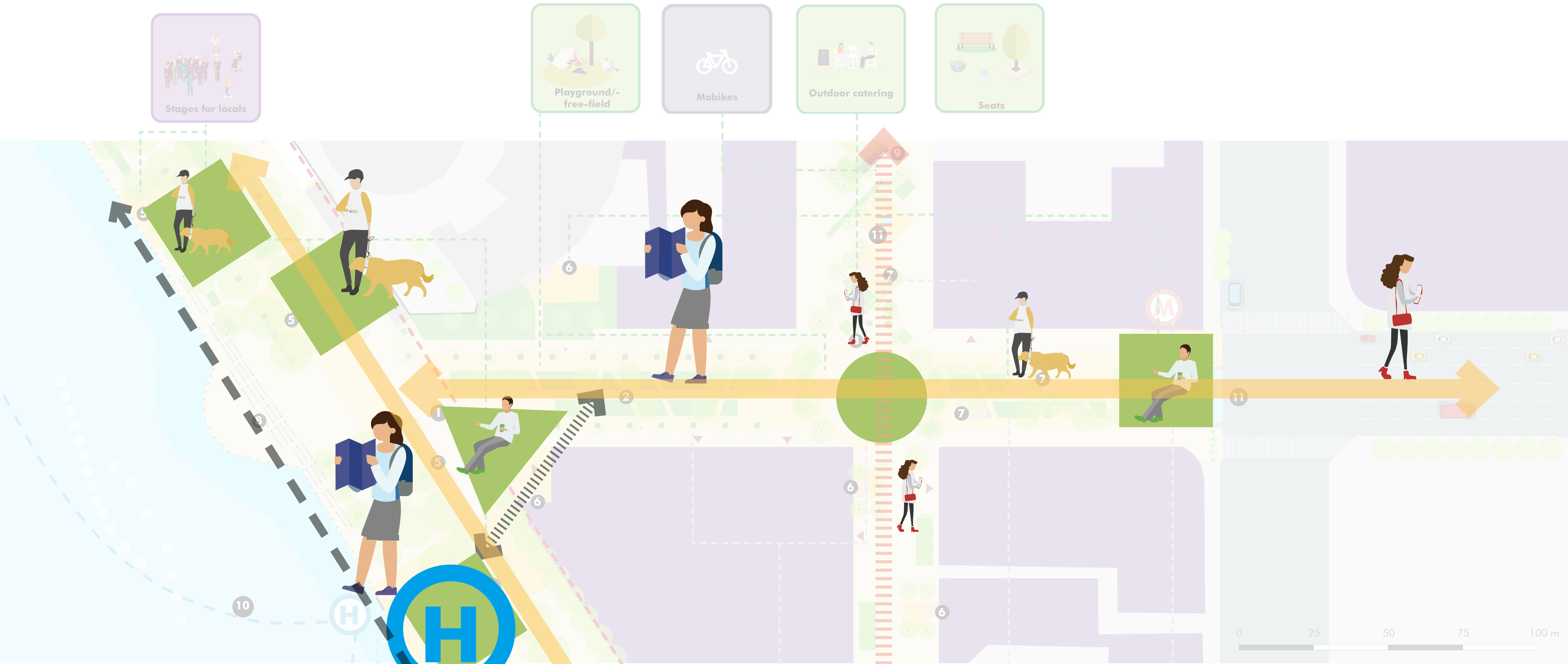
The design of the Lake shore area

Daily visitor number:
The peak day in the year-145k
Normal peak-50k
Average day-3k
(Hangzhou tourism authority, 2018)



- ① Square clusters around the edge
- ② Open green belt
- ③ Fountain plaza
- ④ Harbour with a staying square
- ⑤ Staying places of different scales along the main route
- ⑥ Lively facade with outdoor cafe/ takeaway windows
- ⑦ Outdoor cafe/ restaurant in green
- ⑧ Multiple seats for a quick and easy rest
- ⑨ Mobike parking area
- ⑩ Round lake waterline
- ⑪ Water as the continuous theme

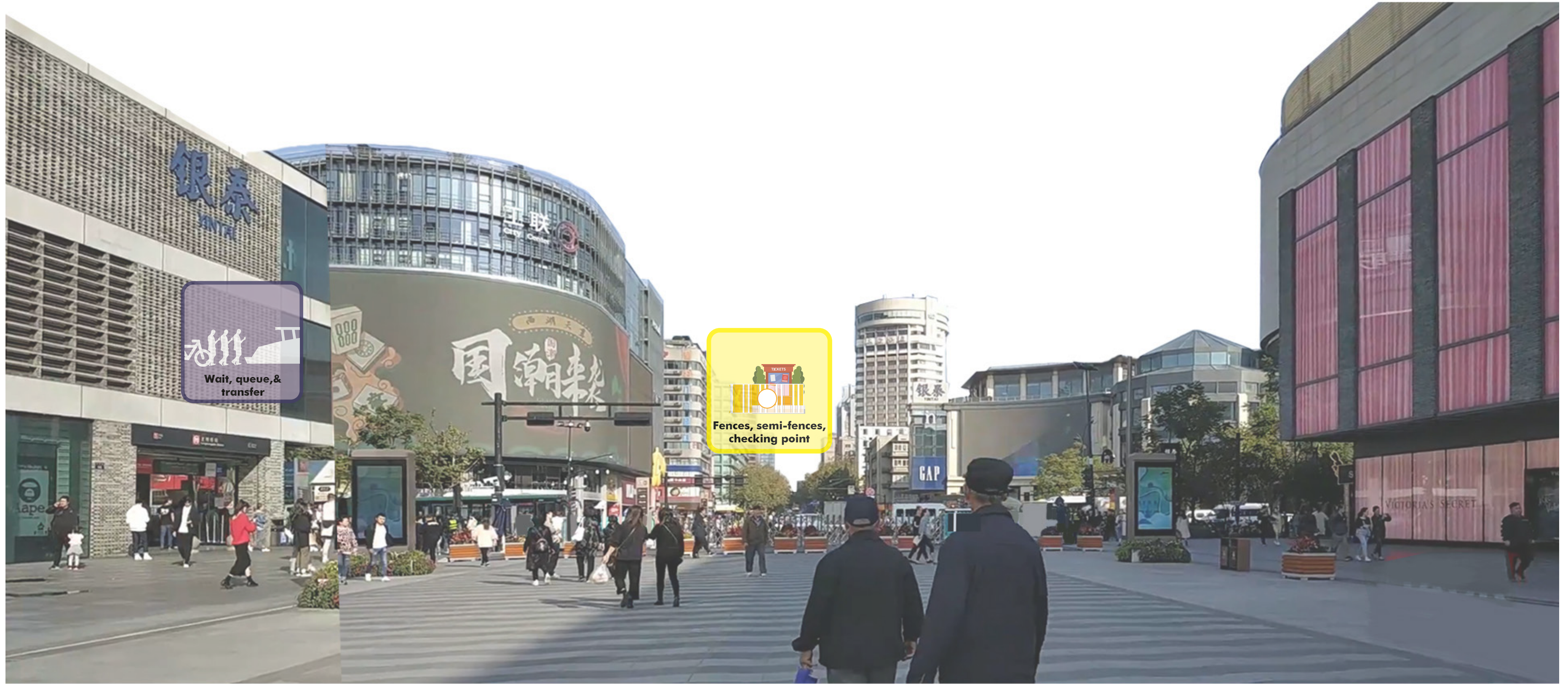




The design of the Lake Shore area

Daily visitor number:
The peak day in the year-
145k
Normal peak-50k
Average day-3k
(Hangzhou tourism au-
thority, 2018)

- 1 Square clusters around the egde
- 2 Open green belt
- 3 Fountain plaza
- 4 Harbour with a staying square
- 5 Staying places of different scales along the main route
- 6 Lively facade with outdoor cafe/ takeaway windows
- 7 Outdoor cafe/ restaurant in green
- 8 Multiple seats for a quick and easy rest
- 9 Mobike parking area
- 10 Round lake waterline
- 11 Water as the contiuous theme





11 Water as the continuous theme

7 Outdoor cafe/ restaurant in green



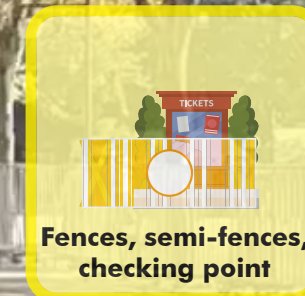
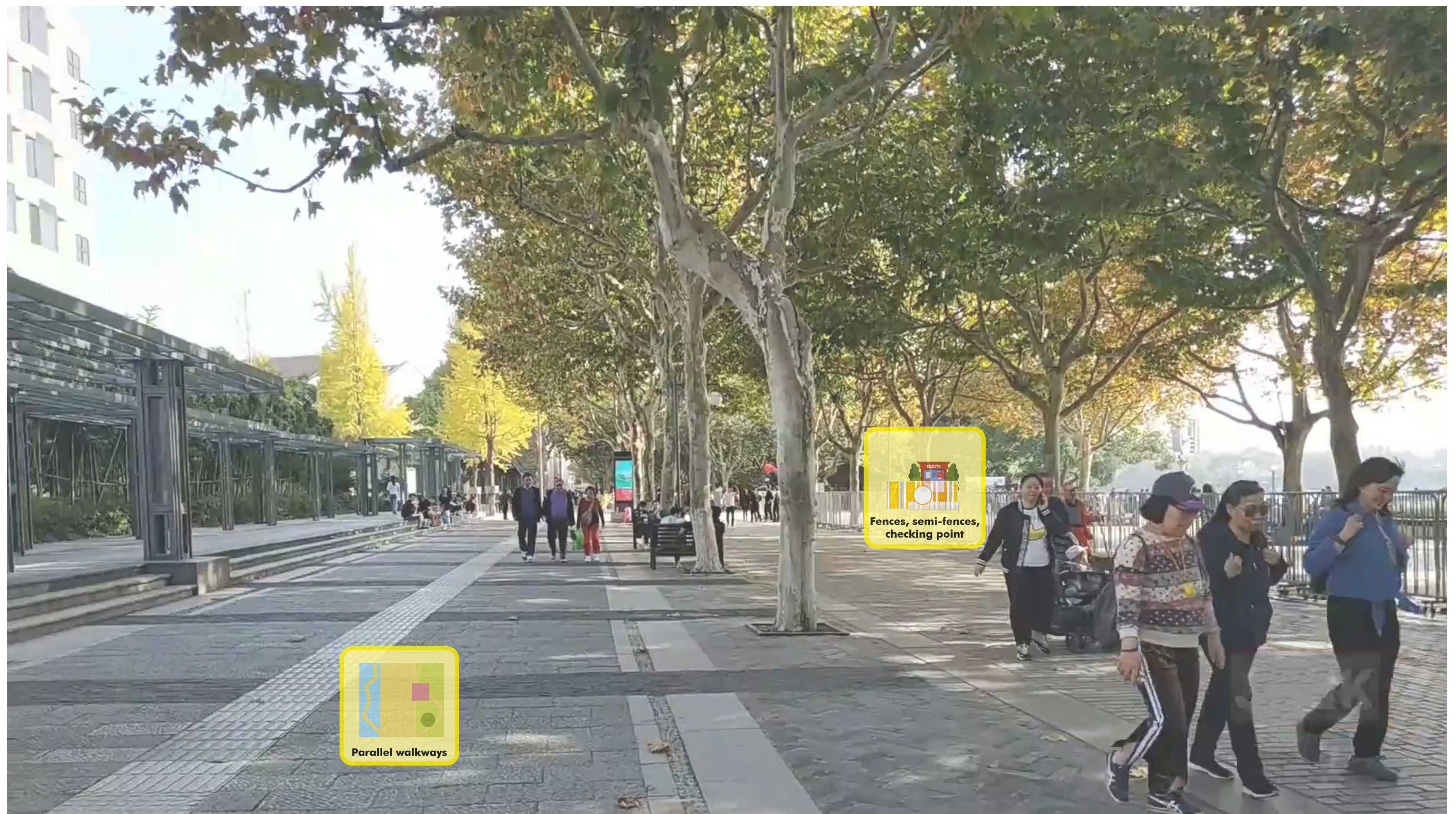


8 Multiple seats for a quick and easy rest

2 Open green belt

3 Fountain plaza as a node

11 Water as the continuous theme



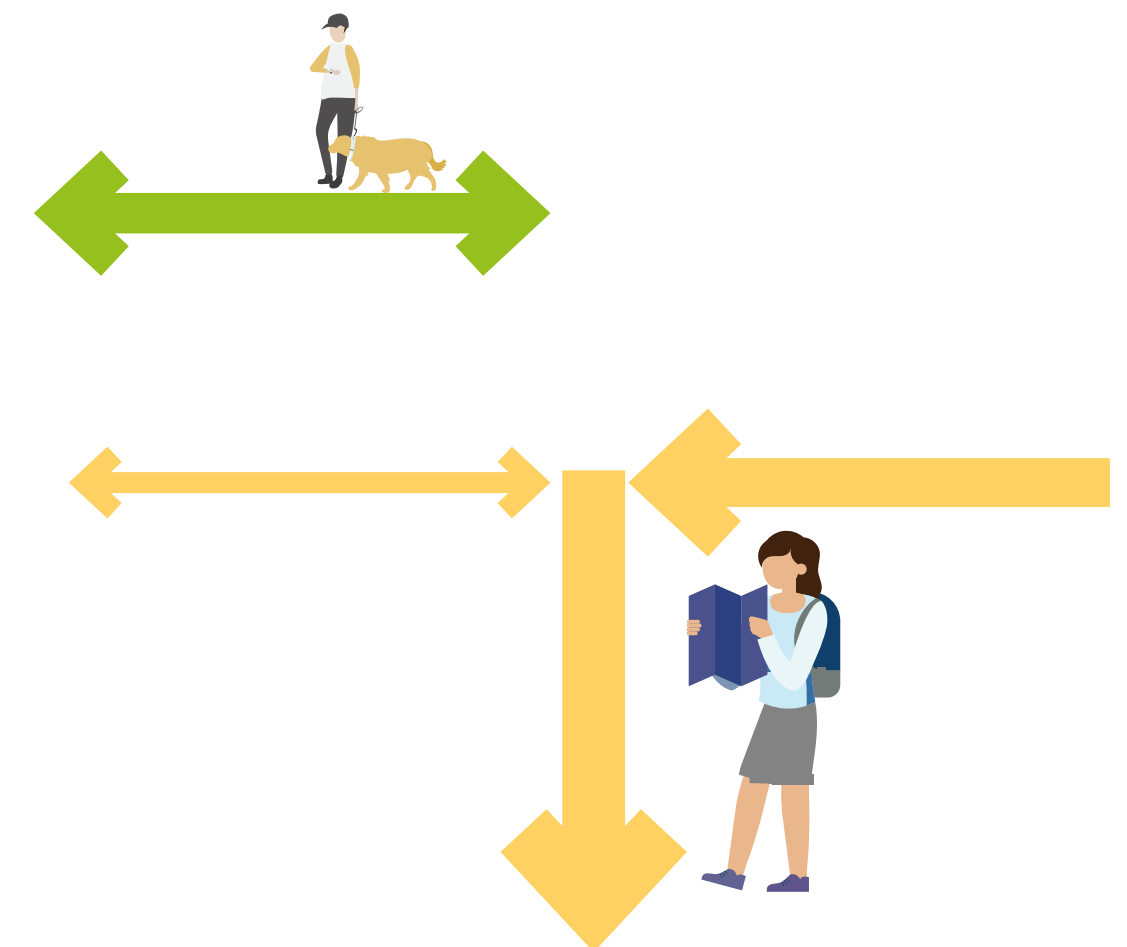
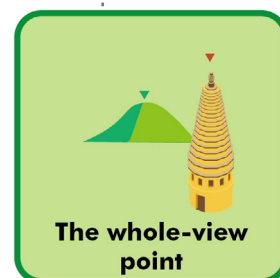


5 Staying places of different scales along the main route

11 Water as the continuous theme

The existing of the Dike Bai area

Daily visitors:
 Peak day in the year-142k
 Normal peak-50k
 Average day-6k
 (Hangzhou tourism authority, 2018)

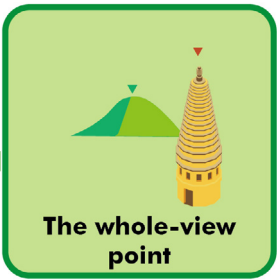


The design of the Dike Bai area

Daily visitors:
Peak day in the year-142k
Normal peak-50k
Average day-6k
(Hangzhou tourism authority, 2018)



- 1 Add mobike parking lots
- 2 Events and markets in the square nearby
- 3 Add staying point at the view on top of the nearby hill, form a platform
- 4 Add pavilion to form a staying area in the nearby square
- 5 Remove the hedge at the edge of the nearby square
- 6 Add series of photo-taking platform with pavilion to form local stages along the bank facing the heritage bridge
- 7 Add hiking lines and linkages, highlight them with spot marks, pavilions and plants
- 8 Round-lake water line and a harbour square behind it



The whole-view point



Stages for locals



Spot mark



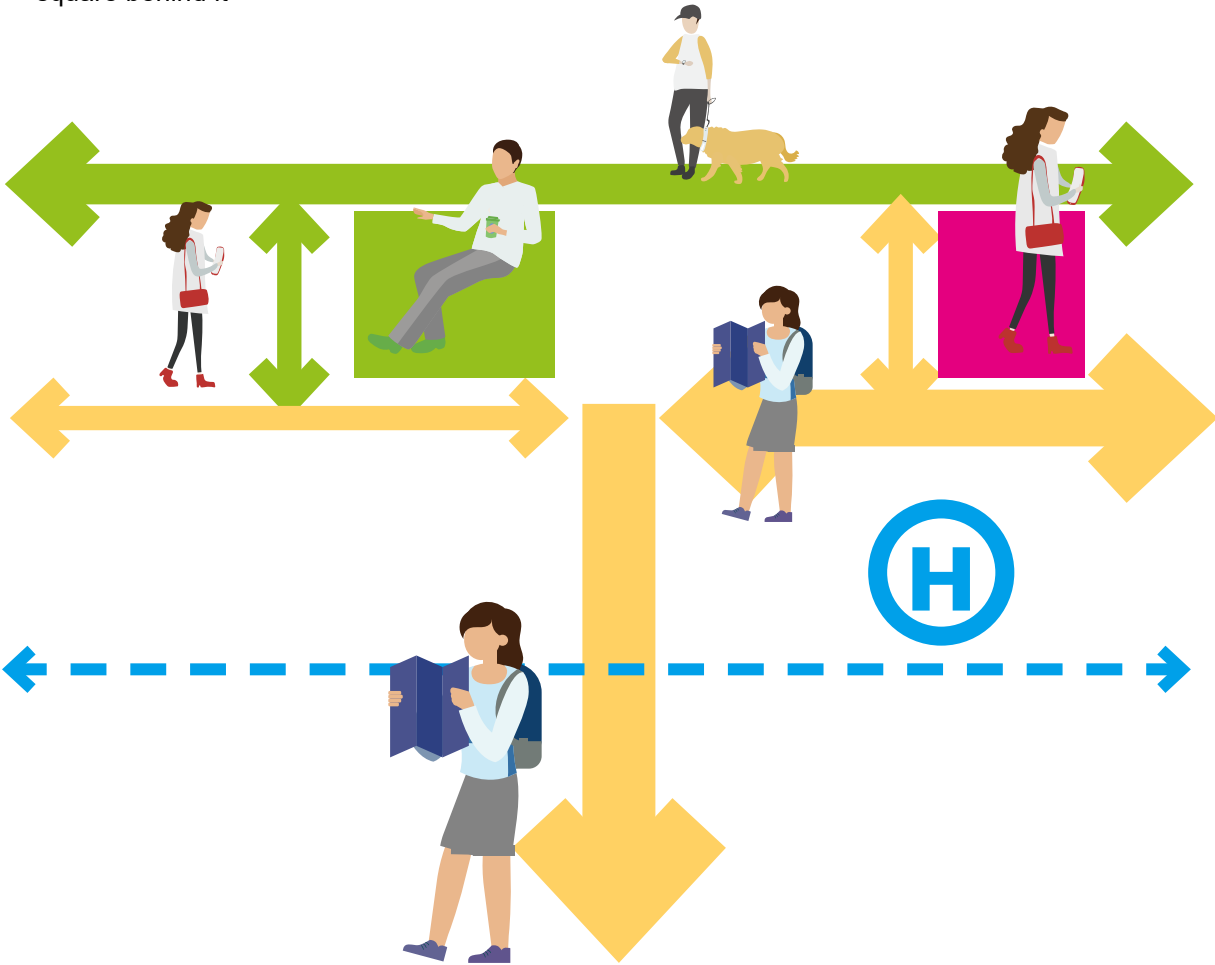
Open markets



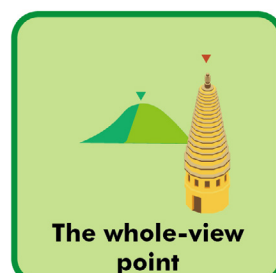
Mobikes



Wait, queue, & transfer



- ② Events and markets in the square nearby
- ⑤ Remove the hedge at the edge of the nearby square



- ③ Add staying point at the view on top of the nearby hill, form a platform

- ⑦ Add hiking lines and linkages, highlight them with spot marks, pavilions and plants



- ① Add mobike parking lots
- ⑧ Round-lake water line and a harbour square behind it



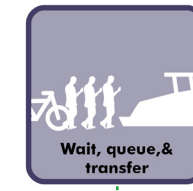
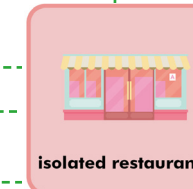
- ⑥ Add series of photo-taking platform with pavilion to form local stages along the bank facing the heritage bridge



Design around Yongjin Park



Potentials to form daily routine, short/long staying for multi-groups



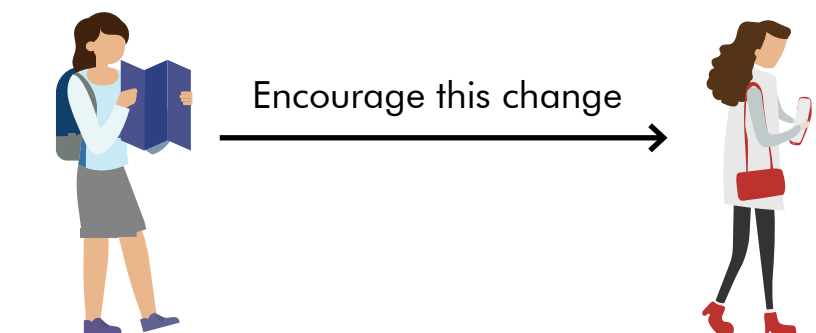
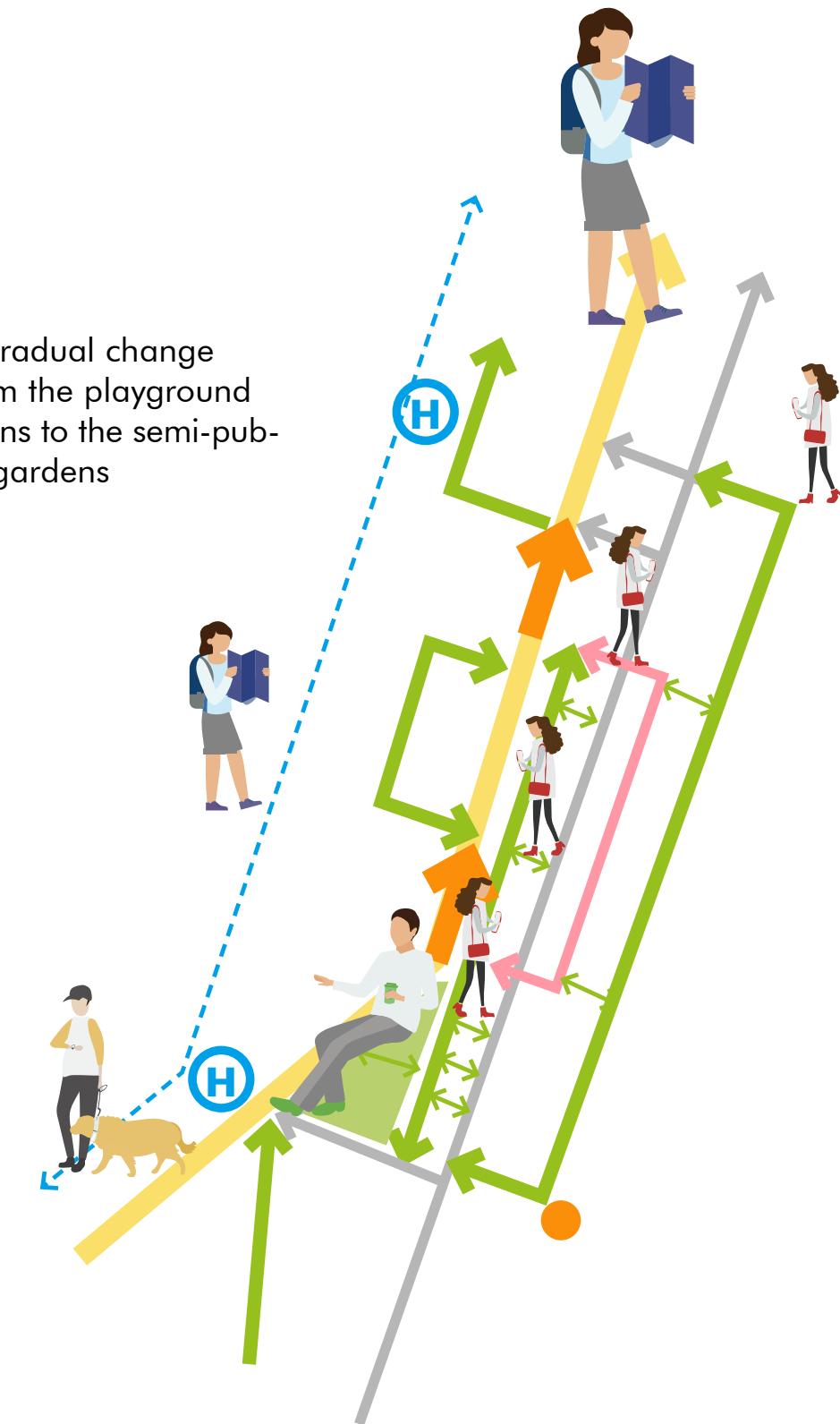
Public transportation form new meeting point & local use & parallel route



Hidden heritage for more route options

- ① Add a crossing and add flourish trees at both sides
- ② Add underground commercial with the new development to form a continuous commercial space from east side of the road to the west
- ③ Form a new path crossing a series of the semi-public gardens
- ④ Open up the woods with outdoor cafes and picnic field in front of the cafes
- ⑤ Add another bridge and for a small spaces along the water front with squares, amenities and underground shopping pass
- ⑥ Add trees and small squares for events
- ⑦ Form pocket garden with the fenced-up heritage
- ⑧ Round-lake water line with a harbour square

A gradual change from the playground lawns to the semi-public gardens

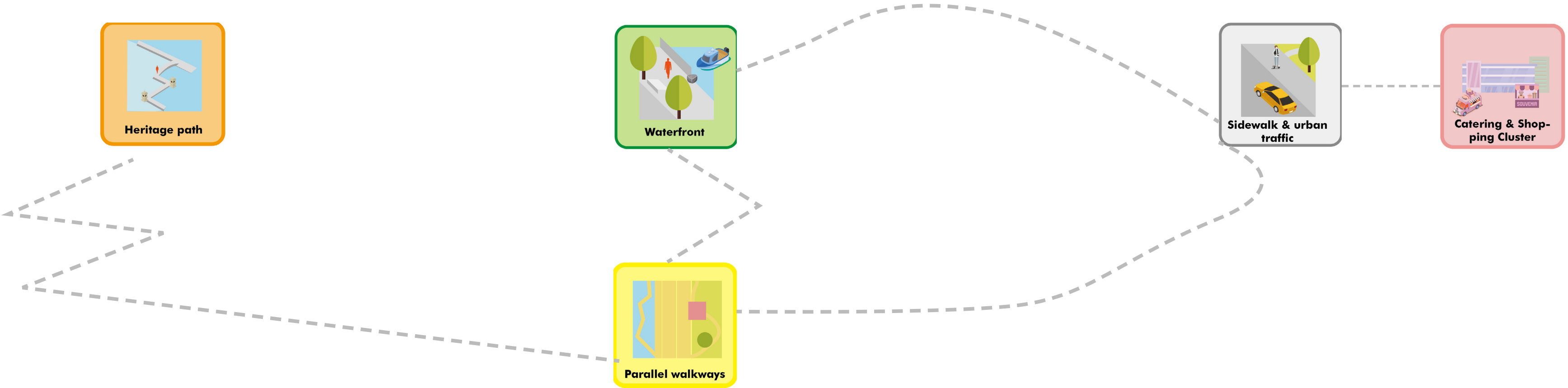


The design of the attached parks with parallel routes



5 Add another bridge and for a small spaces along the water front with squares, amenities and underground shopping pass

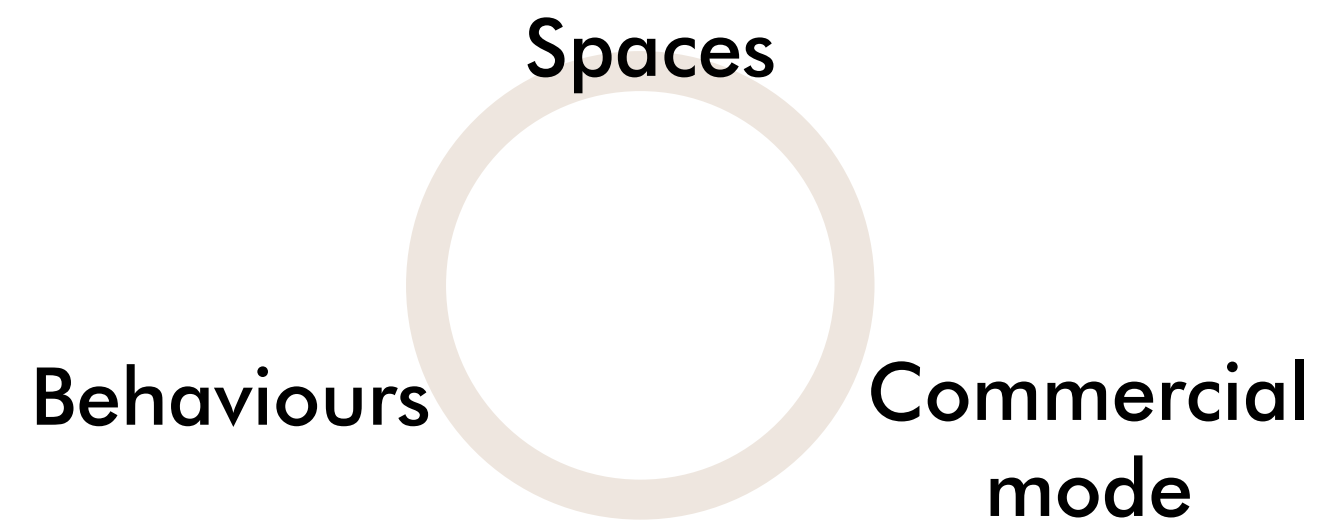
2 Add underground commerical with the new development to form a continuos commercial space from east side of the road to the west



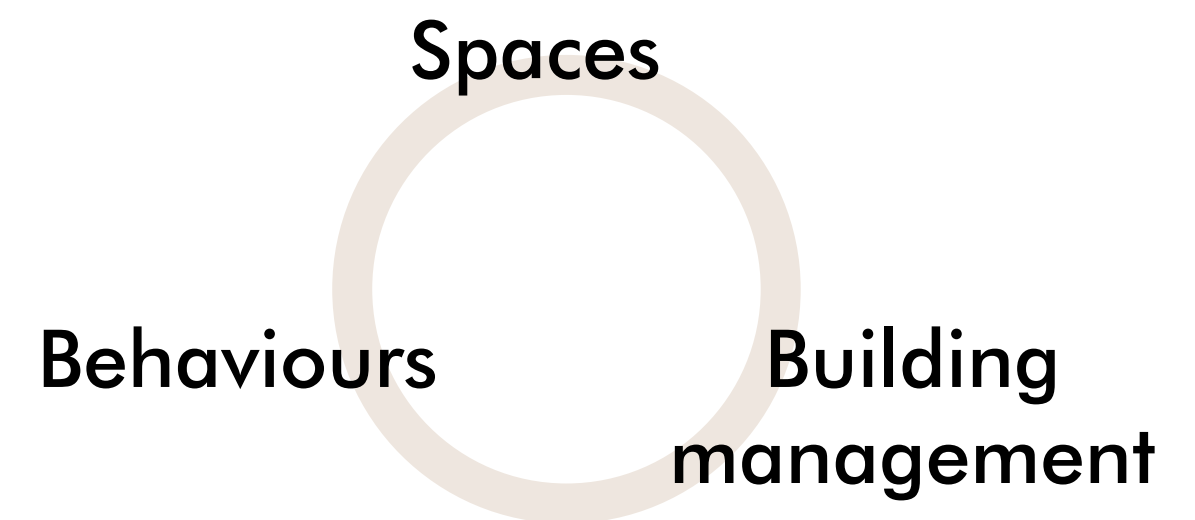


- 3 Form a new path crossing a series the semi-public gardens
- 4 Open up the woods with outdoor cafes and picnic field in front of the cafes

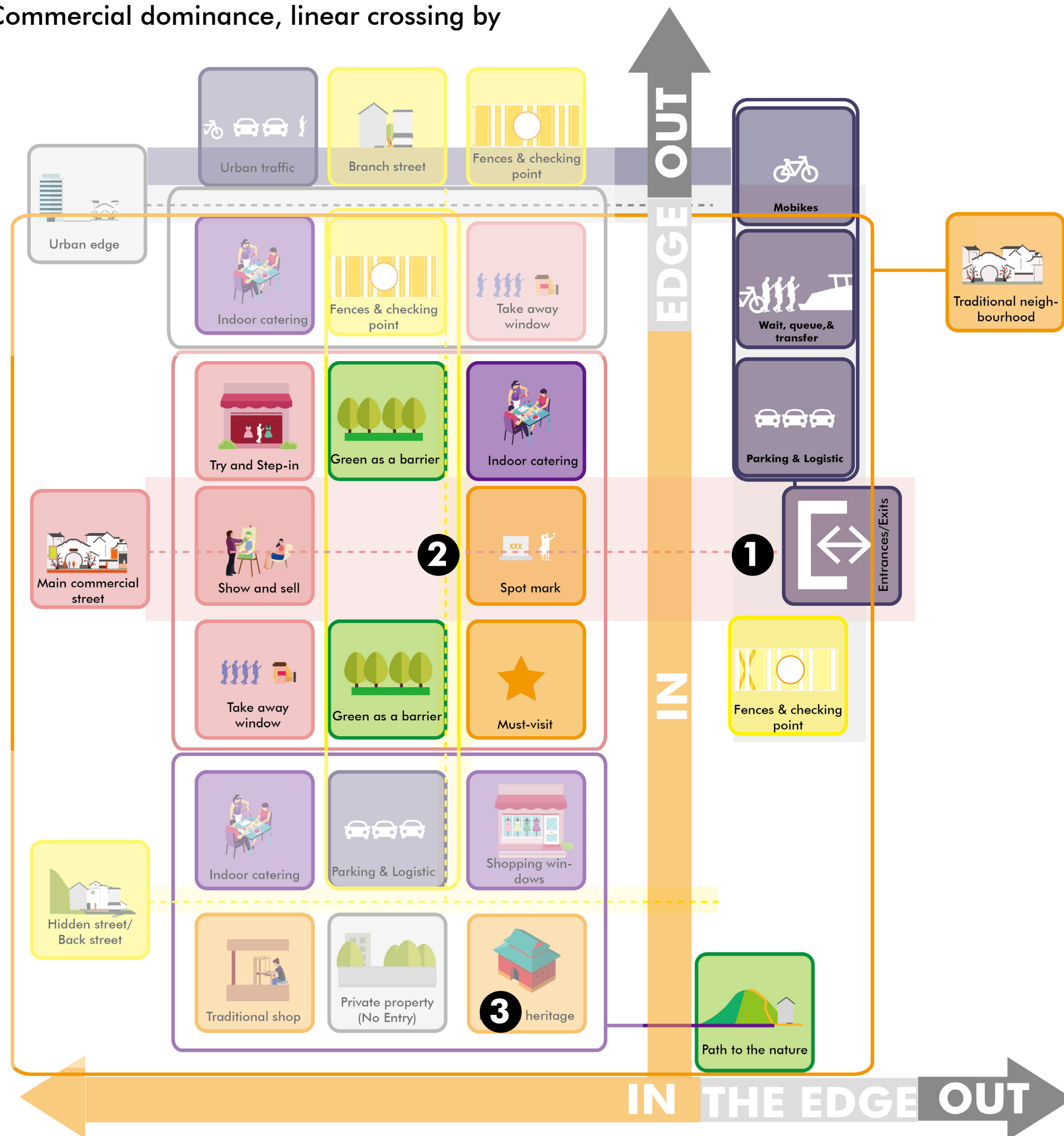
Hefang Neighbourhood



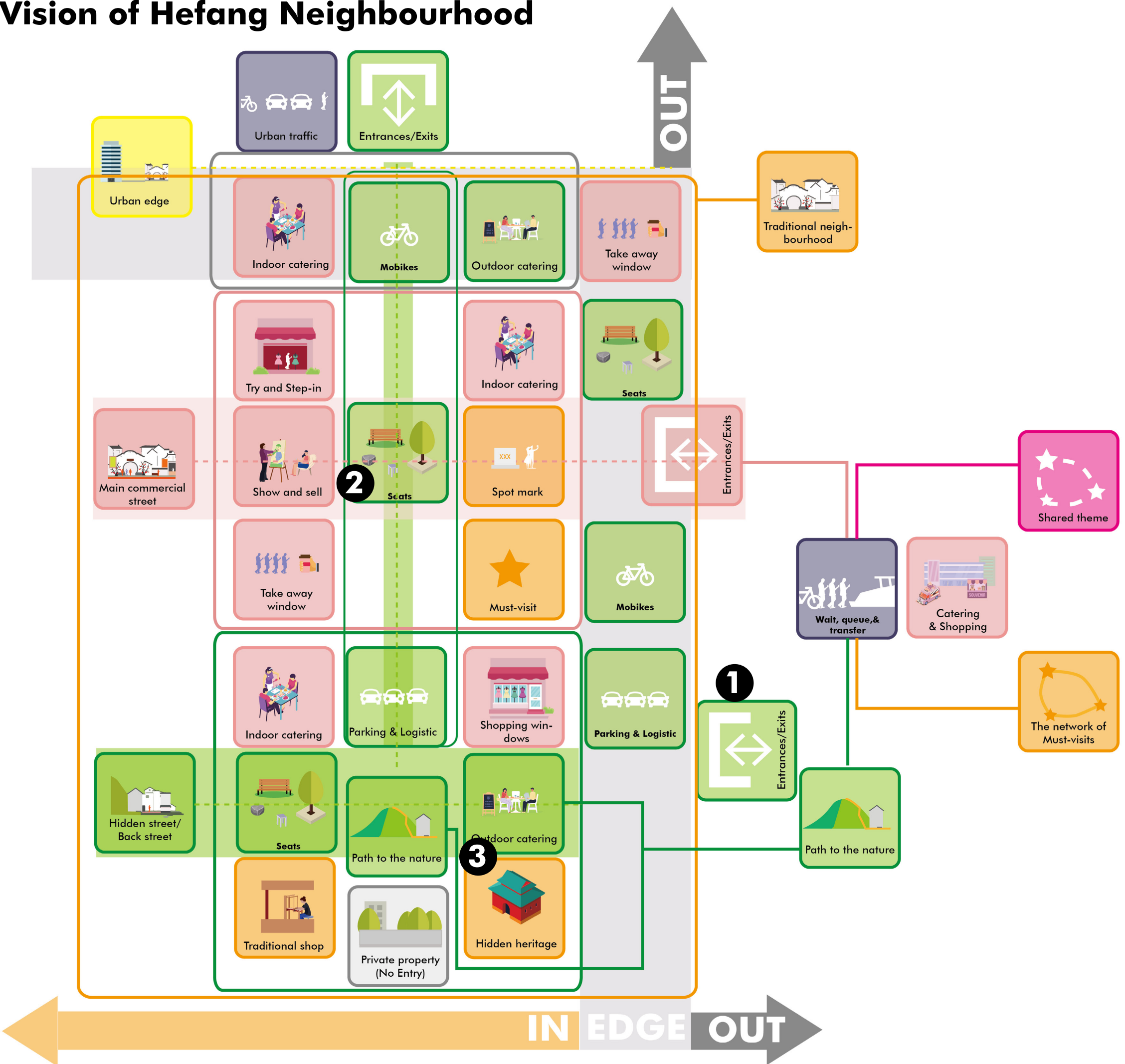
Qiaoxi Museum clusters



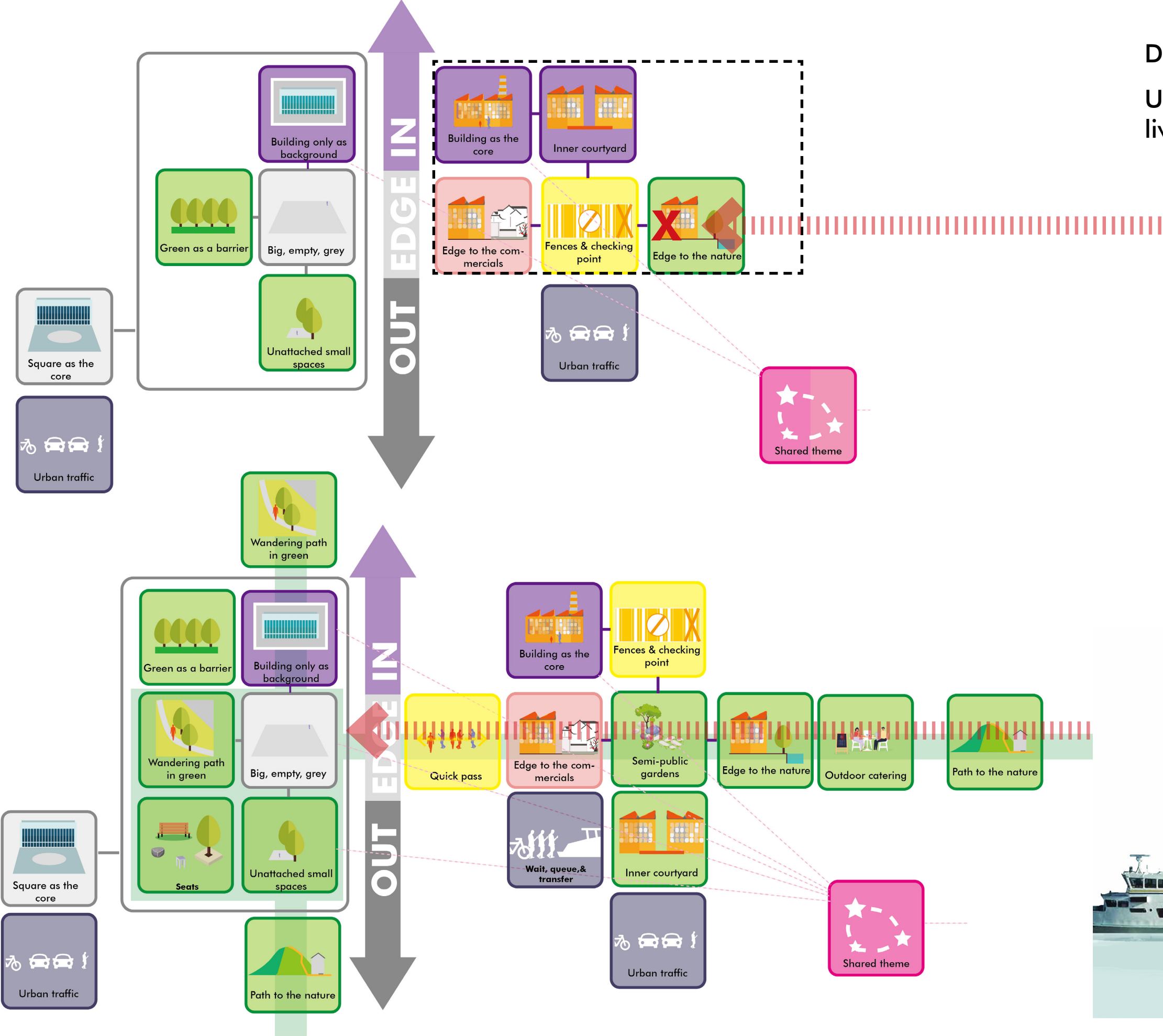
Commercial dominance, linear crossing by



Vision of Hefang Neighbourhood



Vision of Qiaoxi museum cluster

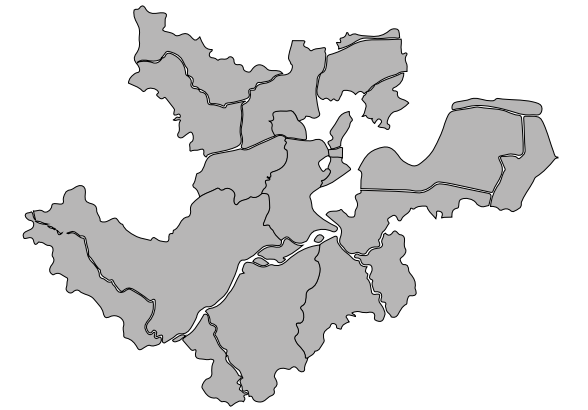


Distanced building with management fences

Using outdoor places to keep the circulation lively



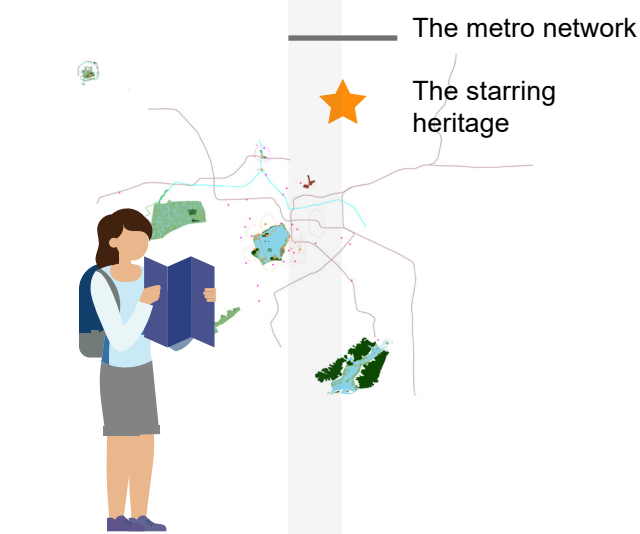
City & planning



Back to the city level

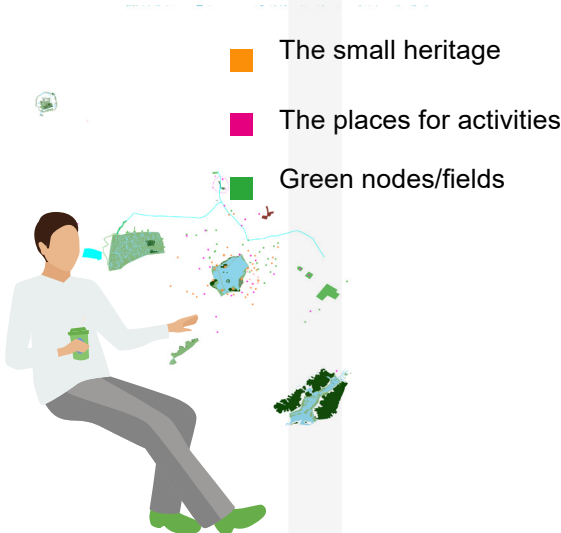
Different visitors have different focuses in the system.
The system can offer places for them to meet and communicate.
It triggers the transformation of the typeA visitors to other types.

Type A On-the-run sightseeing

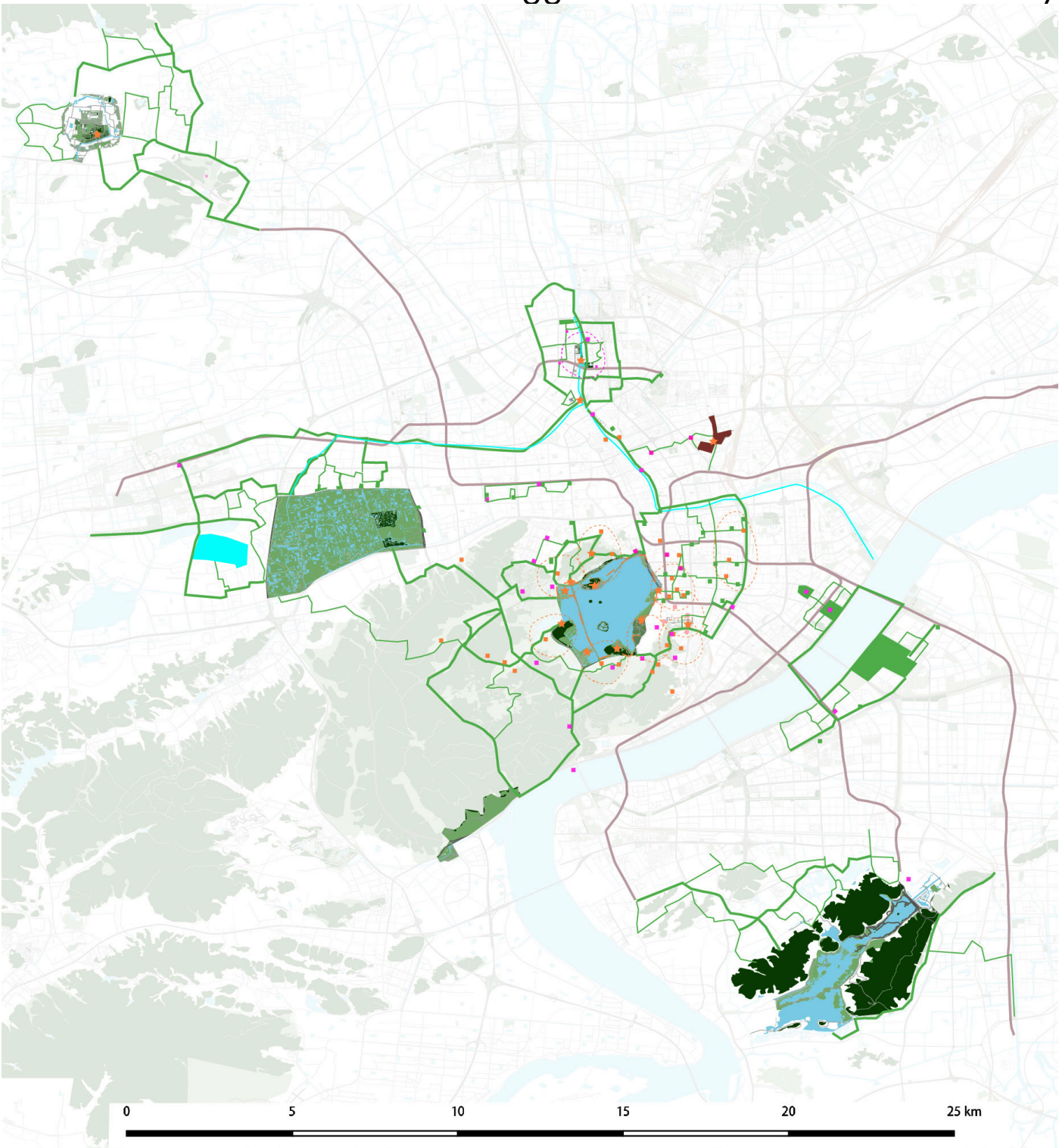


“More attractions and an efficient public transportation system linking them”

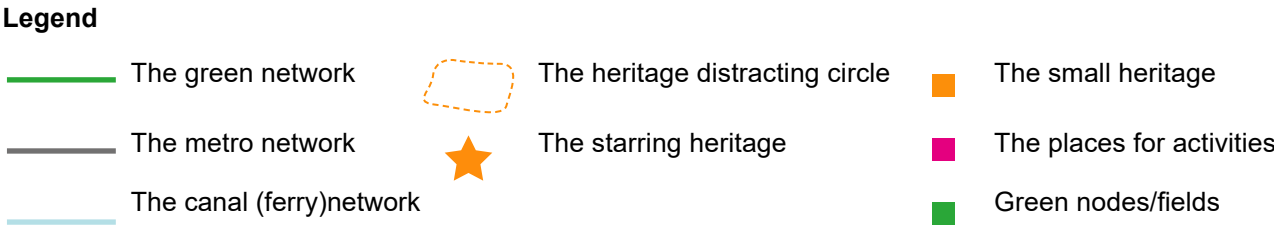
Type B Go-and-stay



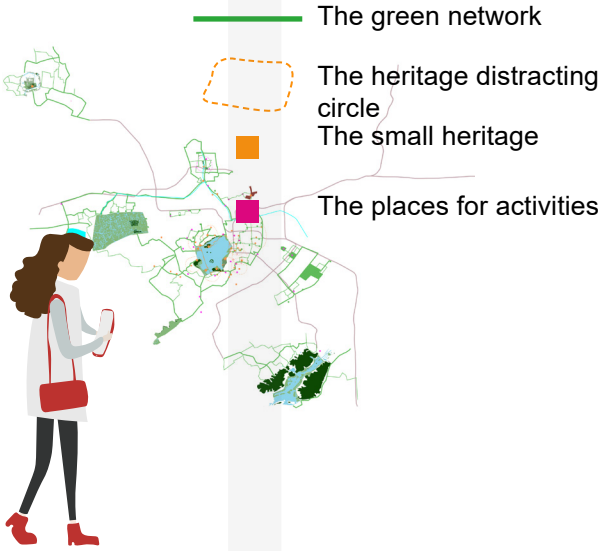
“More places for relaxing and doing nothing!”



The city scale vision for Hangzhou with breaking the tourist bubbles

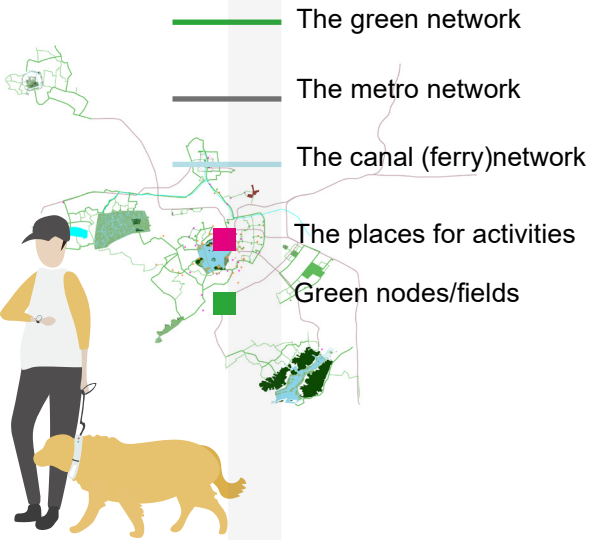


Type C Random wanderer



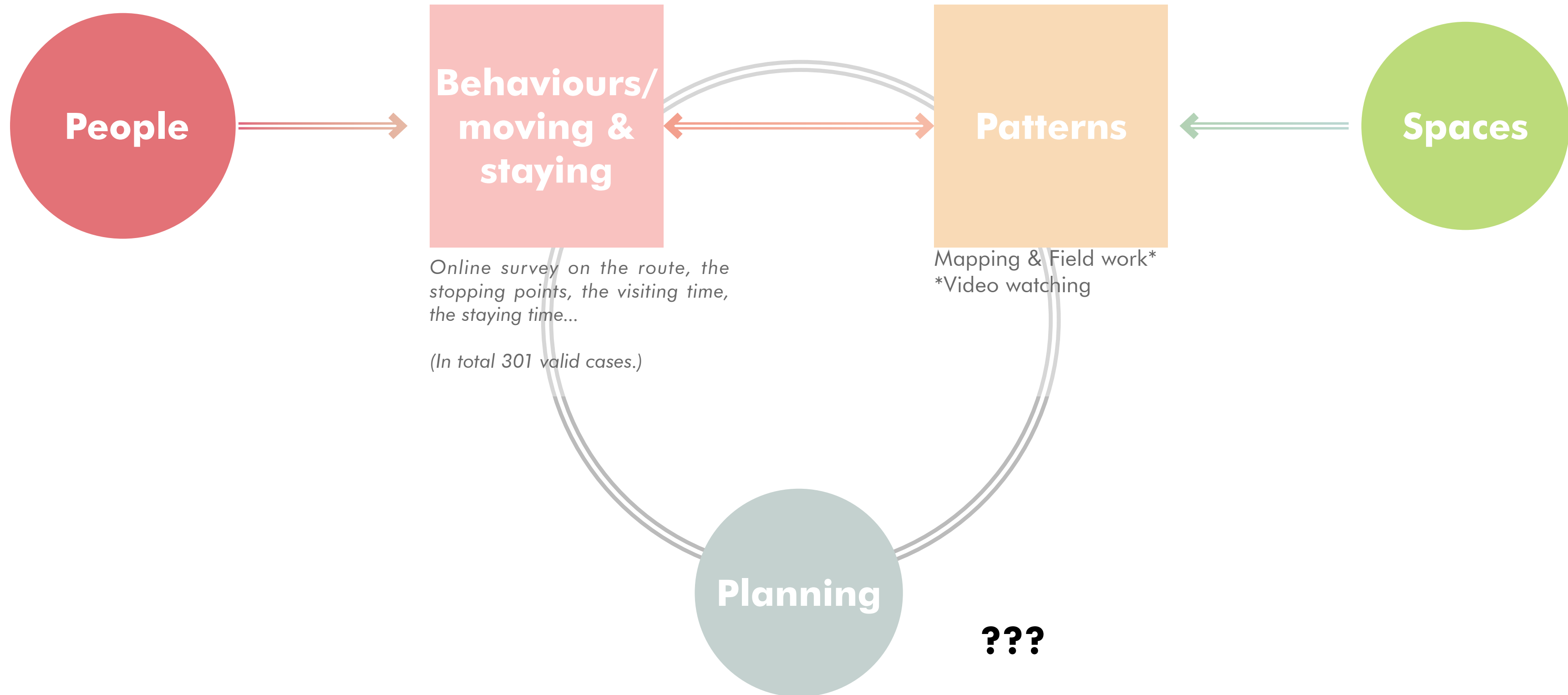
“May the new paths lead me to the untouched places for me in the city. Adventures start.”

Type D Daily routine

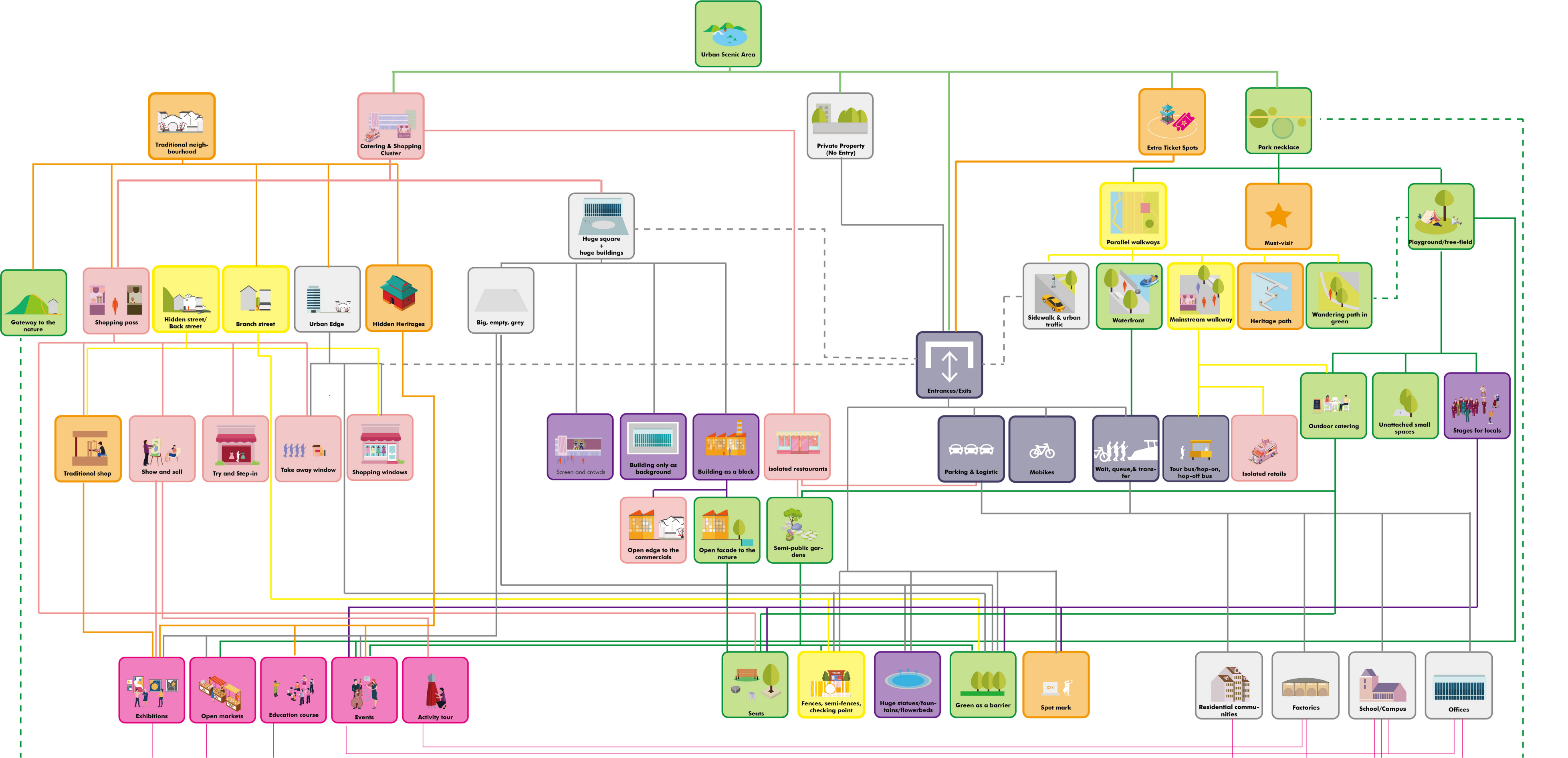


“Exercising route, check!
Commuting route, check!
Daily shopping area, check!”

Two gaps: Planning---Tourist Spaces---Different group of visitors



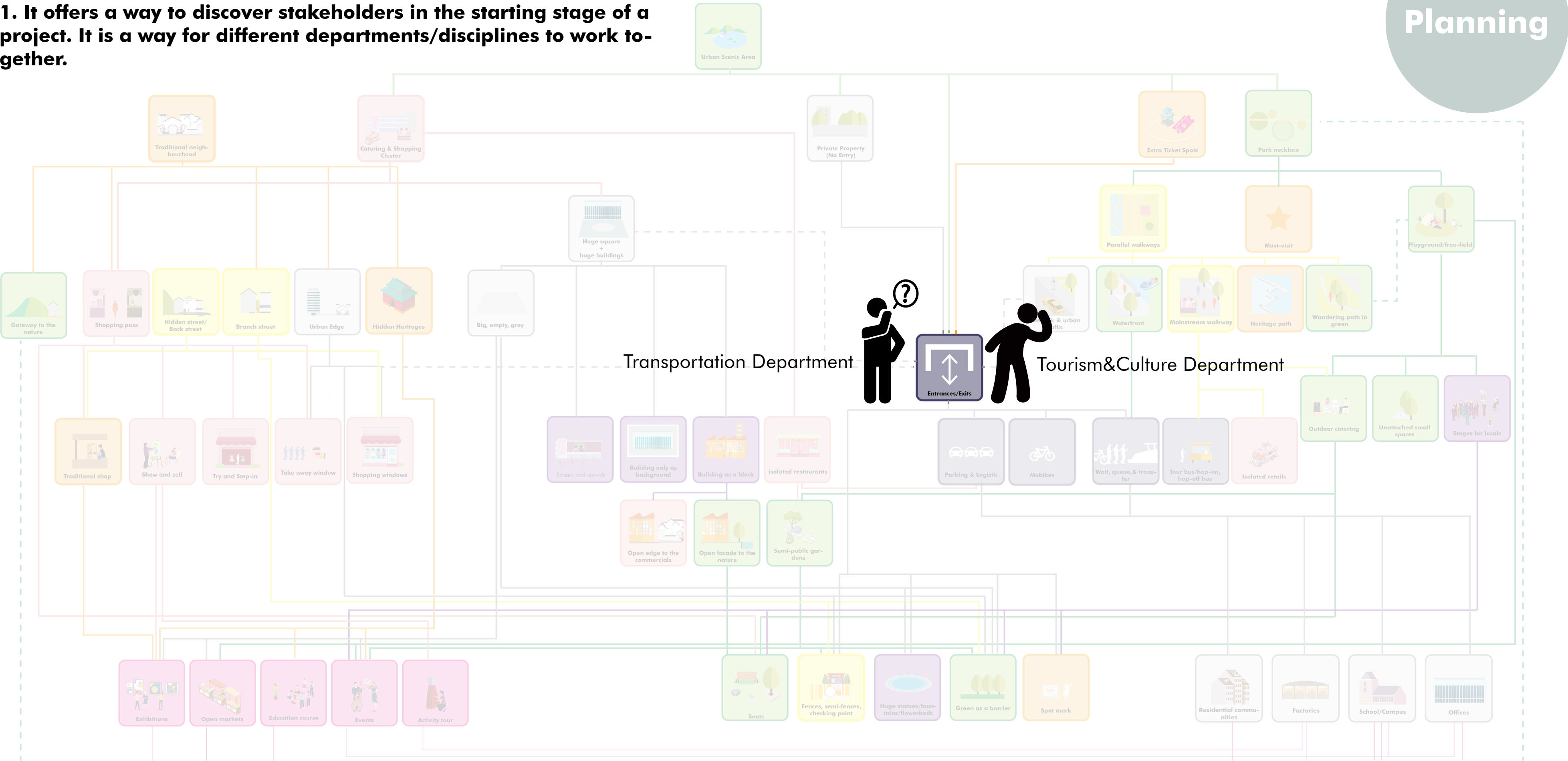
For the changing planning system...



Discover stakeholders & start conversation

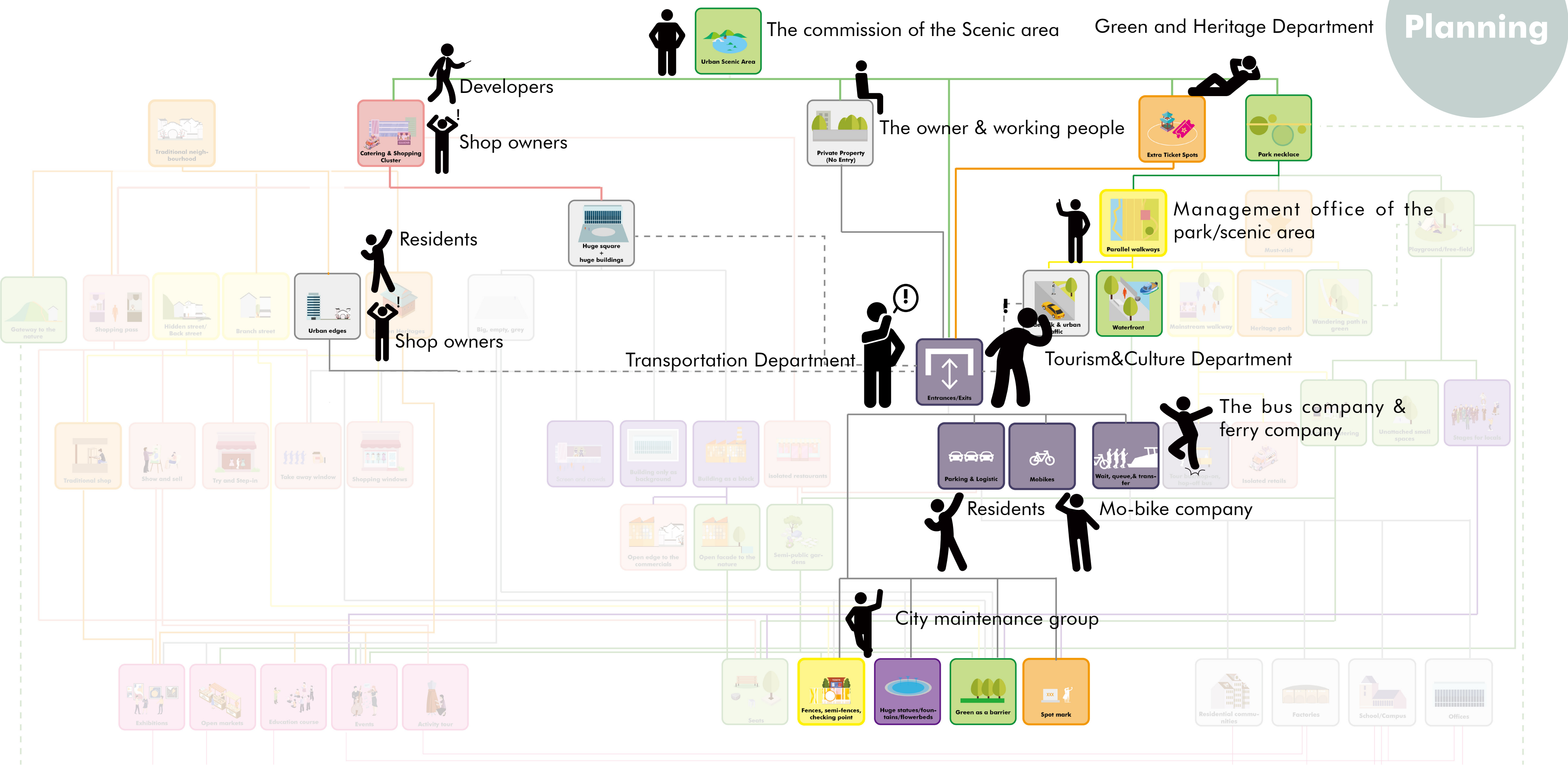
1. It offers a way to discover stakeholders in the starting stage of a project. It is a way for different departments/disciplines to work together.

Planning



Discover stakeholders & start conversation

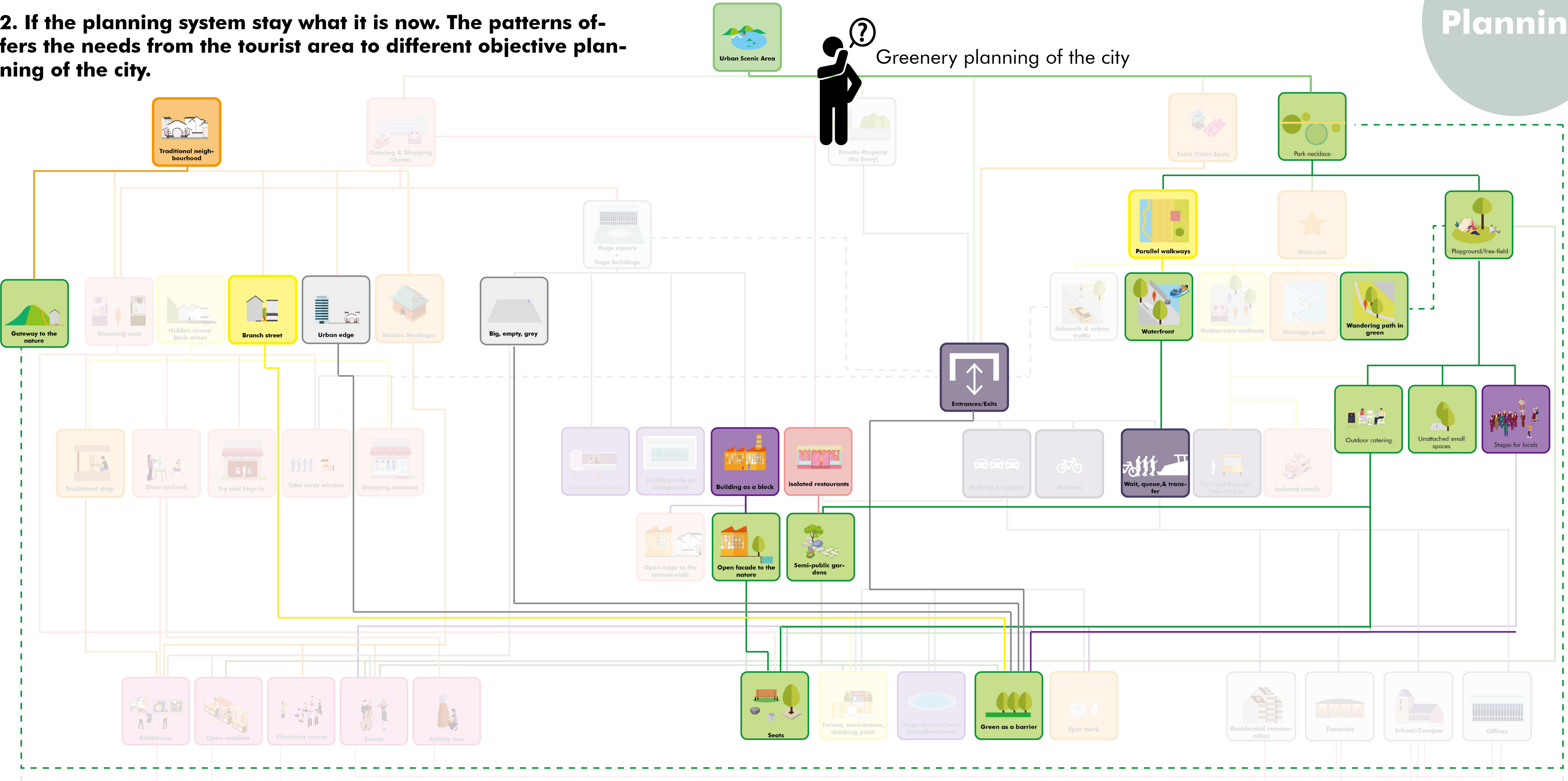
Planning



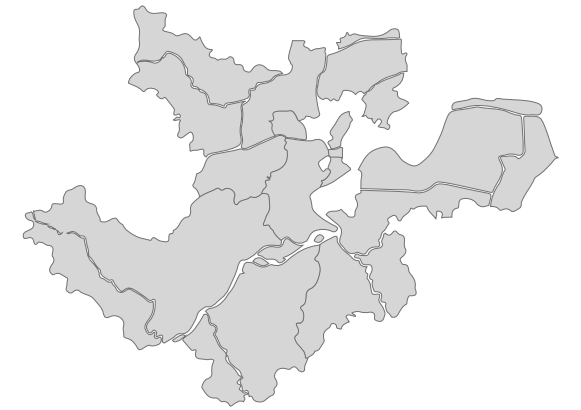
Offer a wholesome view for different city agendas in tourism area

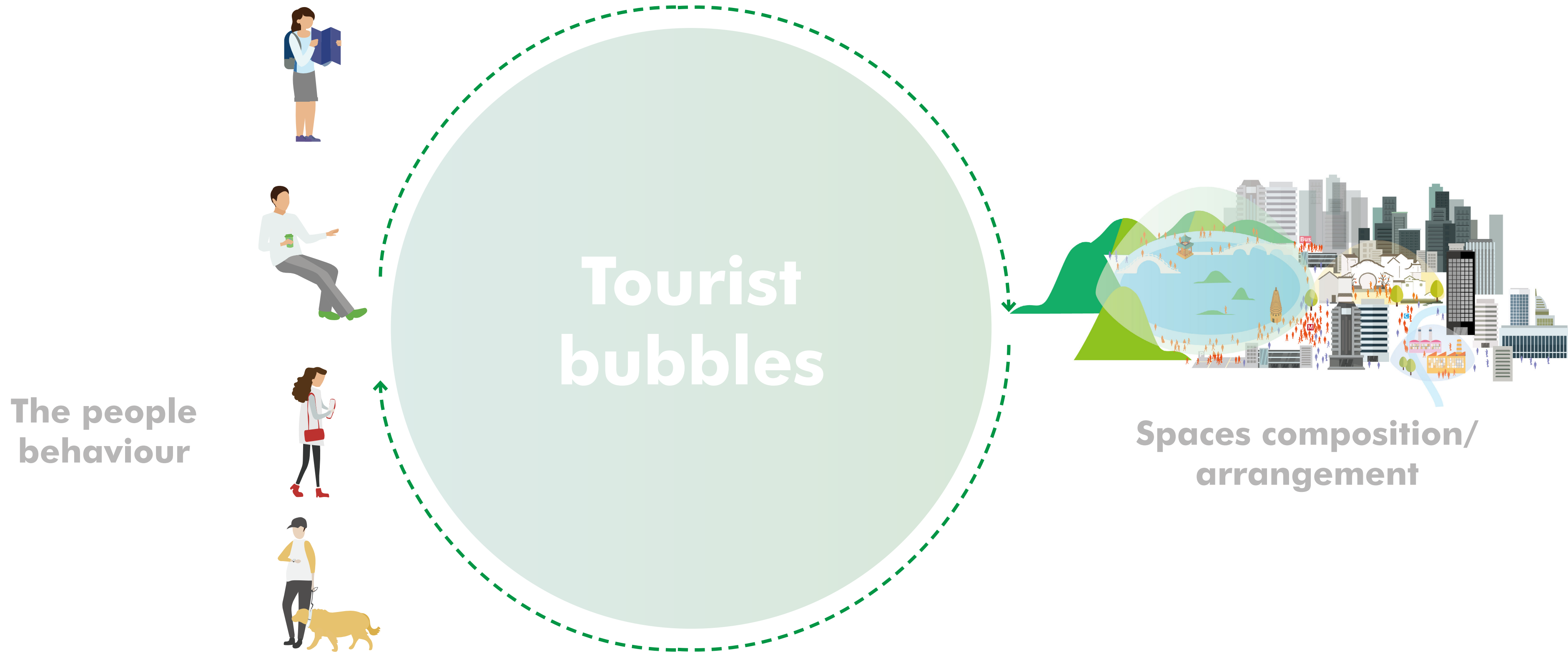
2. If the planning system stay what it is now. The patterns of-
fers the needs from the tourist area to different objective plan-
ning of the city.

Planning



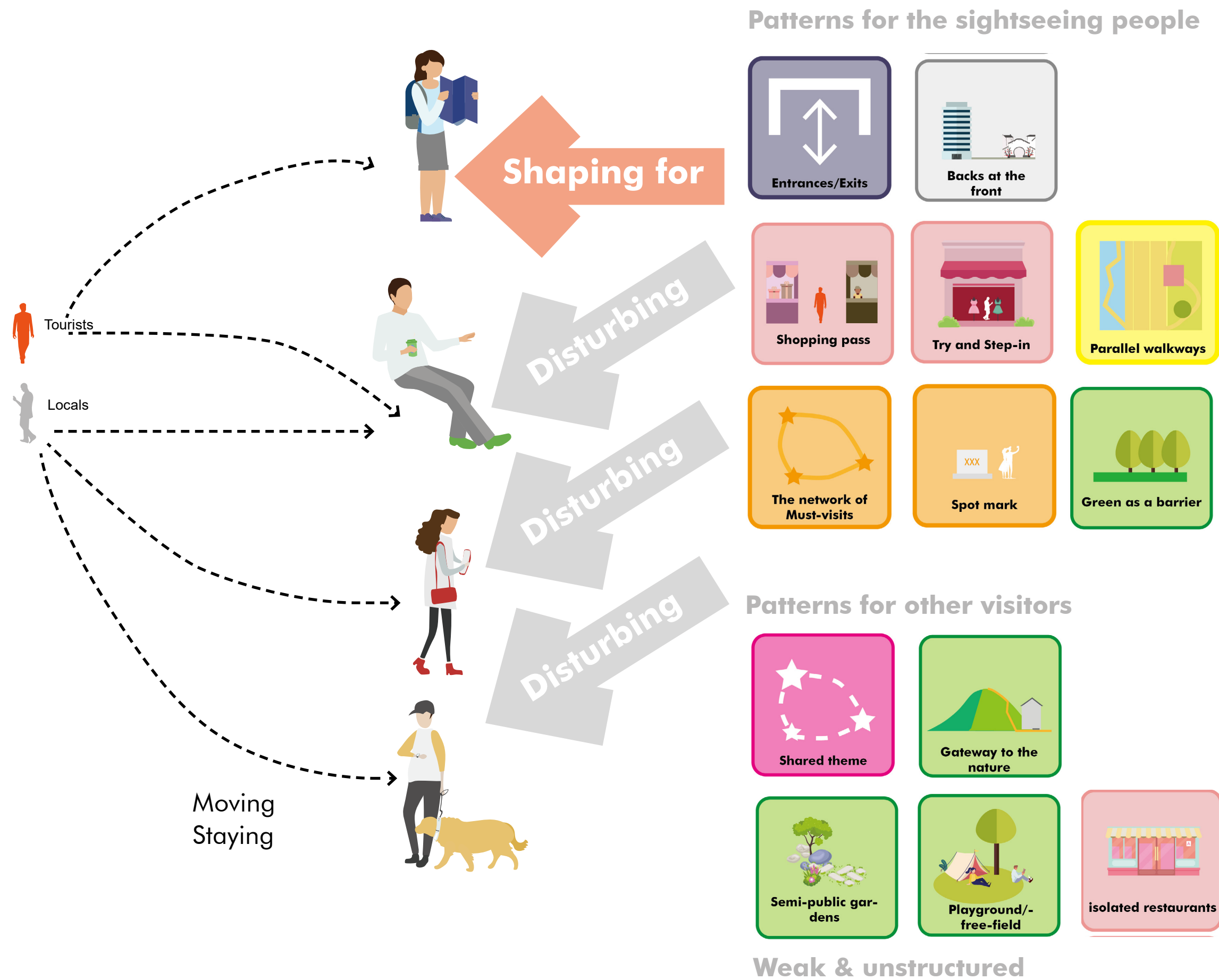
Take-away messages





It is not only about a management line/ the amount of the tourists.

Conclusions



What is the view of this project?

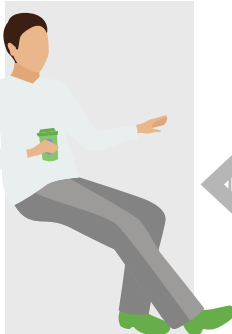
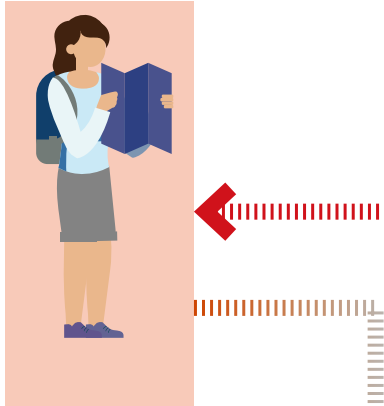
**The spaces in tourist area disturbing/
support different visitors.**



The spaces work systematically.
**It is not a problem of one pattern or several patterns
which form the problem.**

Conclusions

Encourage certain the behaviour type
Trigger the change on the change of behaviours



Moving
Staying

Stimulating internal fast crossing+planned visiting



Stimulating stays short and long+casual visiting/daily visiting



What is the view of this project?

Change the patterns can be the starting step to break the loop.



Change the relationship between the locals & tourists & the tourist area

Transferability



Other tourist bubbles

Examine with two questions

1. How similar is the social and cultural context?

Very ○

Little ✗

2. How similar are the scale and spatial composition?

Very ○

Little ✗



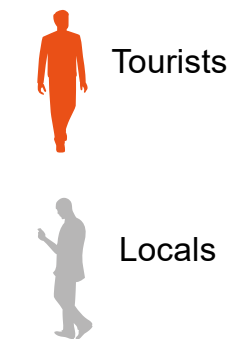
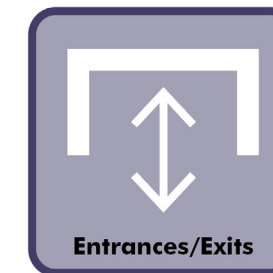
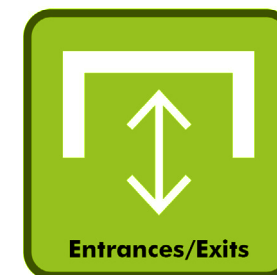
The strategies



The patterns



The methodology



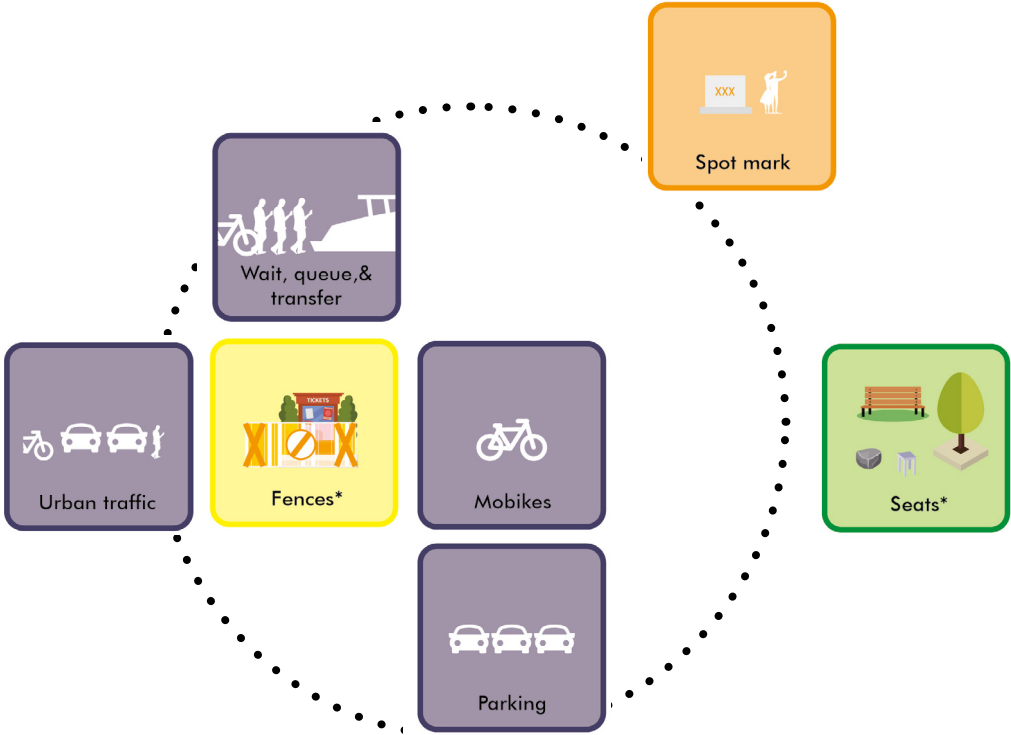
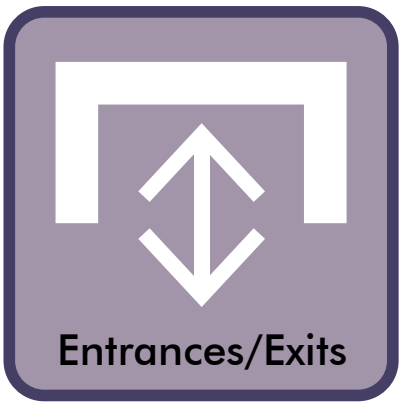
Other tourist bubbles

Reflections

Rethink about the patterns

Digging deeper in the problem

It is a nice way of digging out the spatial reasons behind the phenomenon.

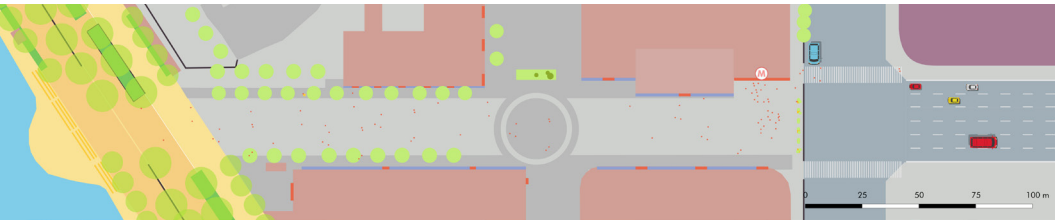


Abstract gives the new understanding:

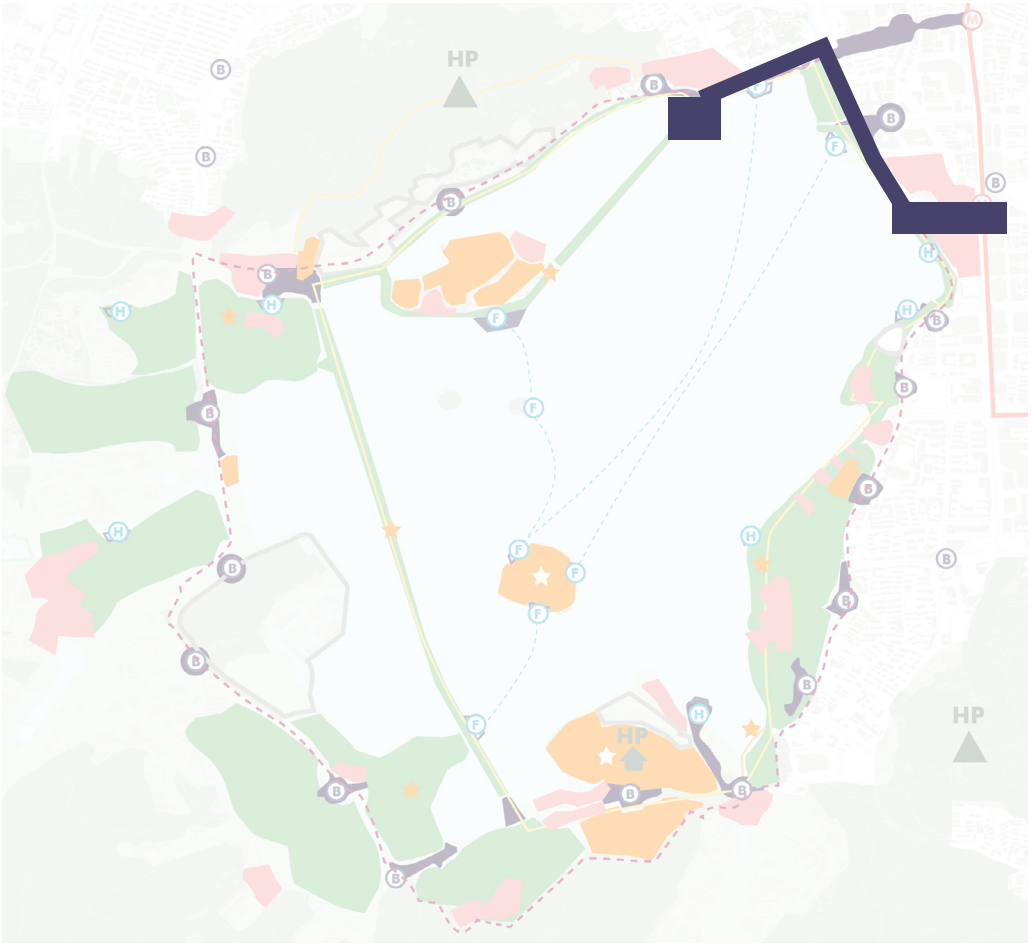
It breaks the spatial boundary when distinguish the pattern from the reality.



Entrance of Dike Bai



Entrance-Metro to the lake shore



If it is only metro-Dike Bai then the whole area could be see as an entrance

Can be use as case study & problem analysis

Good and bad example can all use the language.

Reflections

As a dictionary with a system behind:

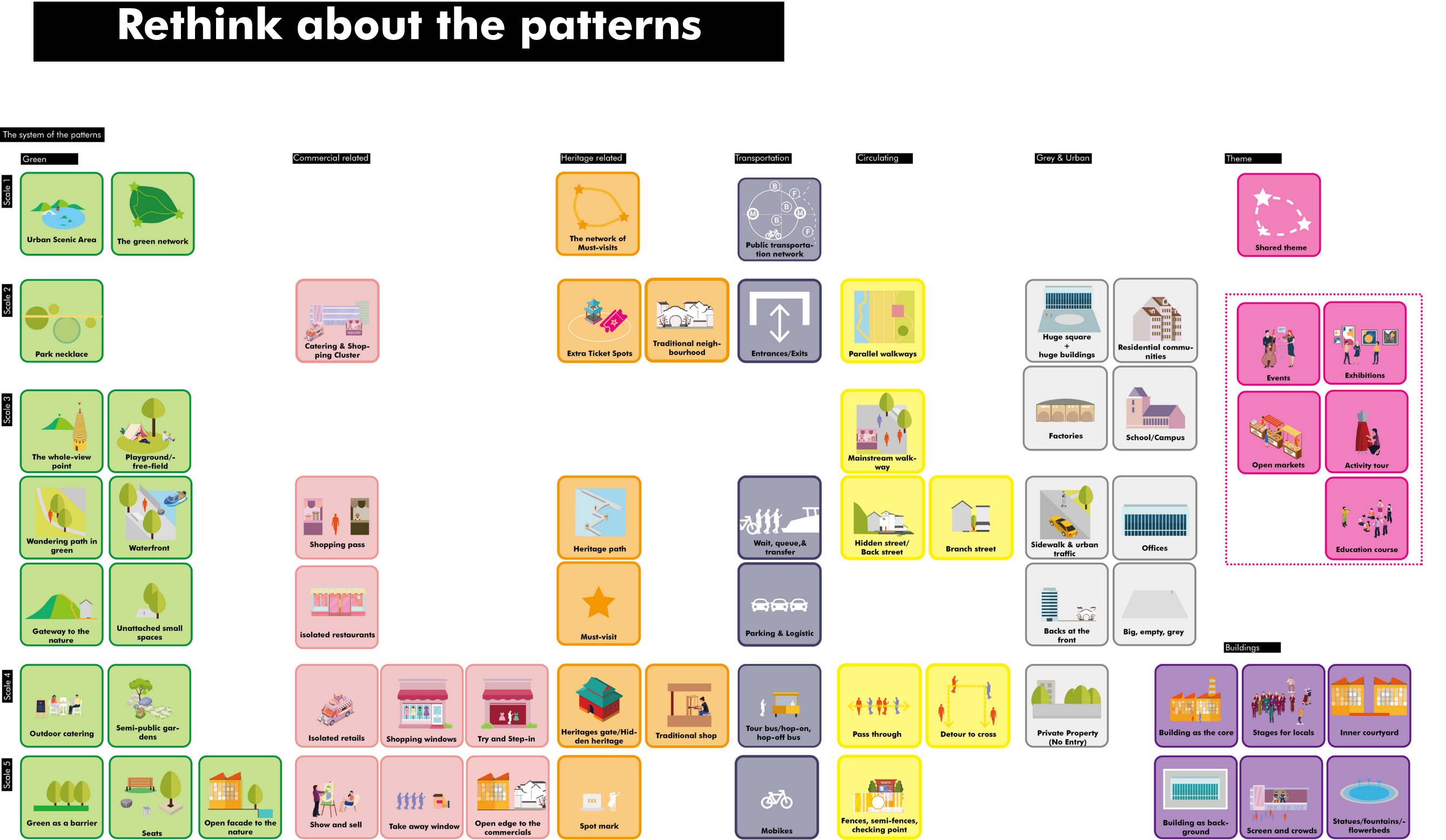
To check and use singly as the starting point;
See the parallel patterns at the same scale and same category, possibility to change one into the other;

The first step towards the digitalising and modelling?

The pattern language is the first step to set up a model to do examine how different people will change when the spatial patterns change.

Based on a personal observation??

Different system from different person, patterns scattering around and growing endlessly.
A base for going on for the discussion, but not a final work.



The summary index of the patterns with categories

New Challenges & New Chances



March 2020
<https://whatsupwithamsterdam.com/corona-in-amsterdam-week-1/>



Reuters, Febuary 2020
<https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/southeast-asia/article/3048543/coronavirus-hits-thailand-tourism-chinese-visitors-desert>



April 2020
<https://www.dw.com/en/what-will-be-the-future-of-tourism-in-venice/a-53823135>

Switch from economic **efficiency** to **robustness** for a certain city area:



Bankrupt shops in tourist area, 2020
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1ot4y1X7Bk>



The shops closing during the covid-19, 2020
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1x7411B7Jd>

It is a good chance to break the tourist bubbles

Local market/local needs

Understanding of different culture/lifestyles in the new age

**De-globalisation?
Tensions?**

**Urban tourism as the bond for
the social-cultural understand-
ing of the world**



The foreign visitors in Hefang neighbourhood
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1Jx411e7sx>



Pakistan tourist in the West Lake
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1fE411S7PD>



South Korean TV show in the West Lake
<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1BW411Z7CJ>



Thanks.