

CHINATOWN CONNECTIONS

通達華埠

CB3

10/13/2026



AGENDA

- 1. DESIGN UPDATES
(LANDSCAPE + WELCOME GATEWAY)**
- 2. DISCUSSION**
- 3. VISSIM**
- 4. DISCUSSION**

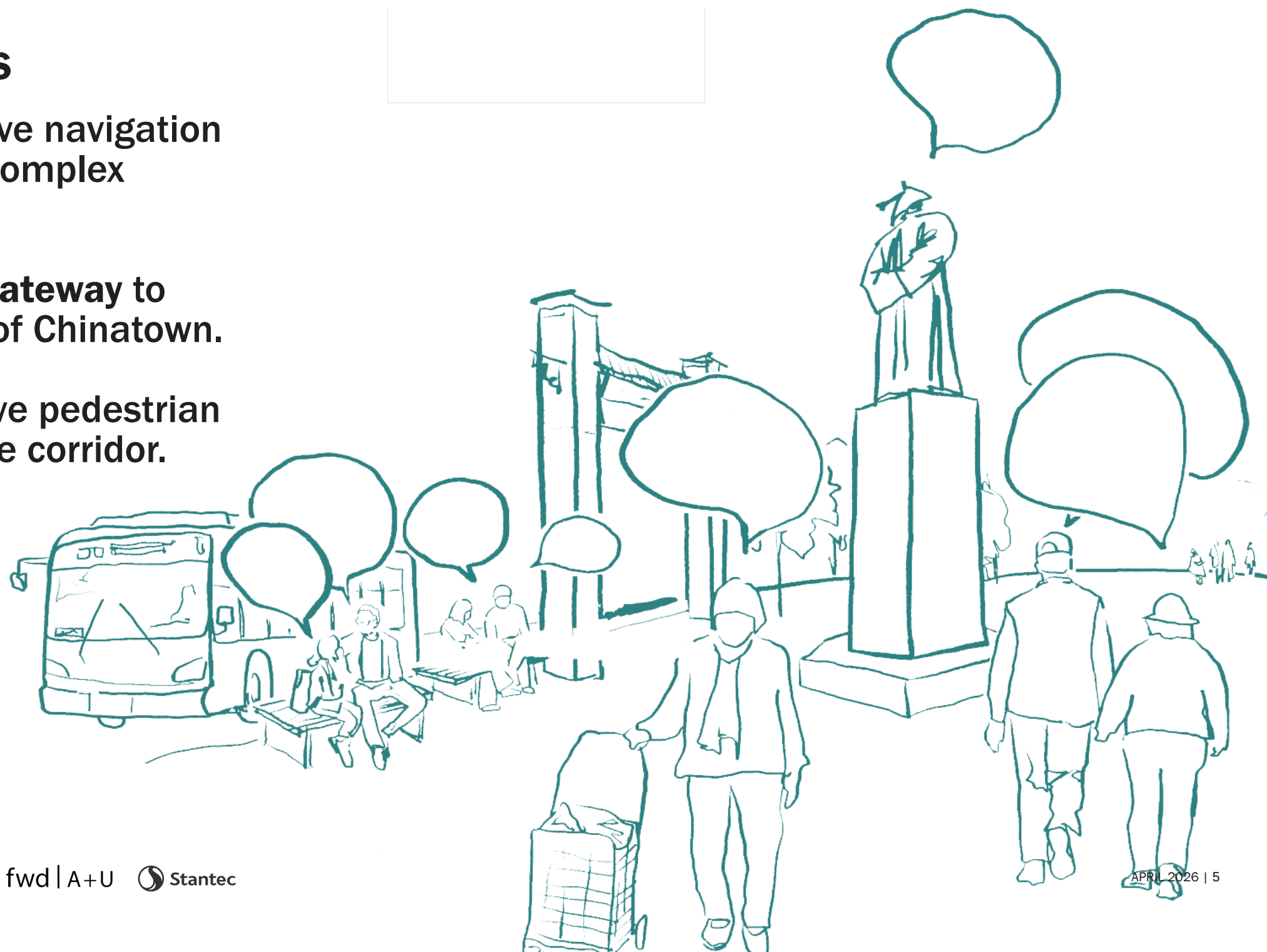
PROJECT OVERVIEW

CHINATOWN CONNECTIONS

NYCEDC, on behalf of NYCDOT, will implement multiple public realm improvements in the Chinatown neighborhood proposed within the DRI Plan.

CHINATOWN CONNECTIONS PROJECTS

- **Redesign of Kimlau Square** to improve navigation and expand public space within the complex intersection geometry.
- **Creation of a Chinatown Welcome Gateway** to commemorate the cultural heritage of Chinatown.
- **Beautification of Park Row** to improve pedestrian experience and accessibility along the corridor.



REDESIGN OF KIMLAU SQUARE

- Realignment of Chatham Sq traffic intersection to address public safety and significant pedestrian traffic.
- Redesign and expansion of Kimlau Sq to increase access to public space.
- Relocation of the Kimlau War Memorial Arch
- Restoration and relocation of the Lin Ze Xu Statue



CREATION OF CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

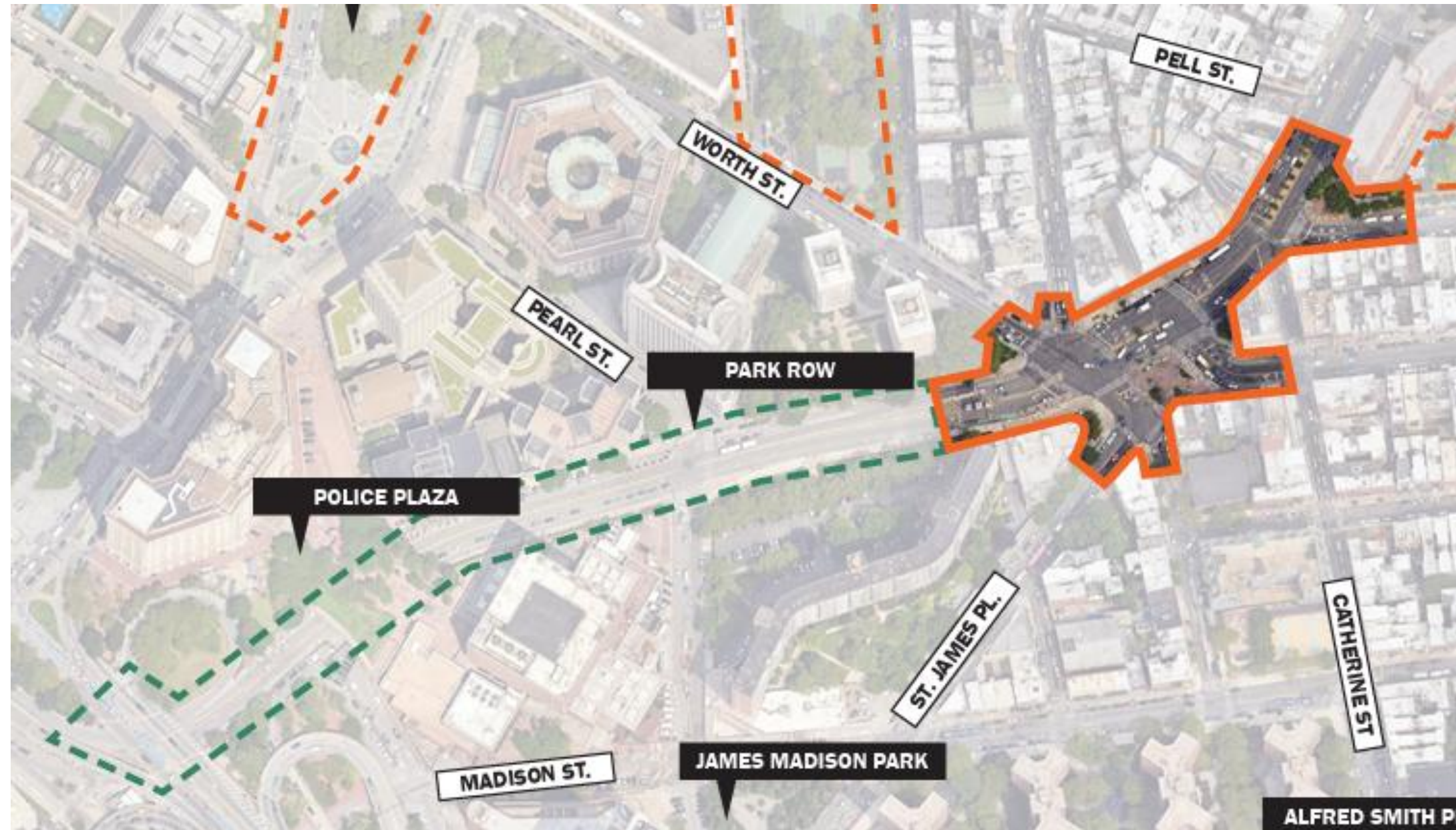
- NYCEDC in collaboration with the **Department of Cultural Affairs (DCLA)** undertook an Artist Selection following the **Percent for Art** process.
- Create a Gateway within Kimlau Square to highlight Chinatown's cultural heritage.
- Finalize an integrated design concept of the Welcome Gateway based upon:
 - Existing Conditions Assessment
 - Overall Design Development
 - Artist-Architect Collaboration
 - Community Engagement

Jennifer Wen Ma



BEAUTIFICATION OF PARK ROW

- A third NYSDOS DRI Grant Project Component awarded **\$4M** to implement moveable streetscape elements to beautify and improve pedestrian accessibility along Park Row
- The existing right-of-way will remain to allow for MTA buses with **interventions limited to existing pedestrian path and sidewalk along Park Row.**
- The limits includes the expanse between the Brooklyn Bridge and Kimlau Square.

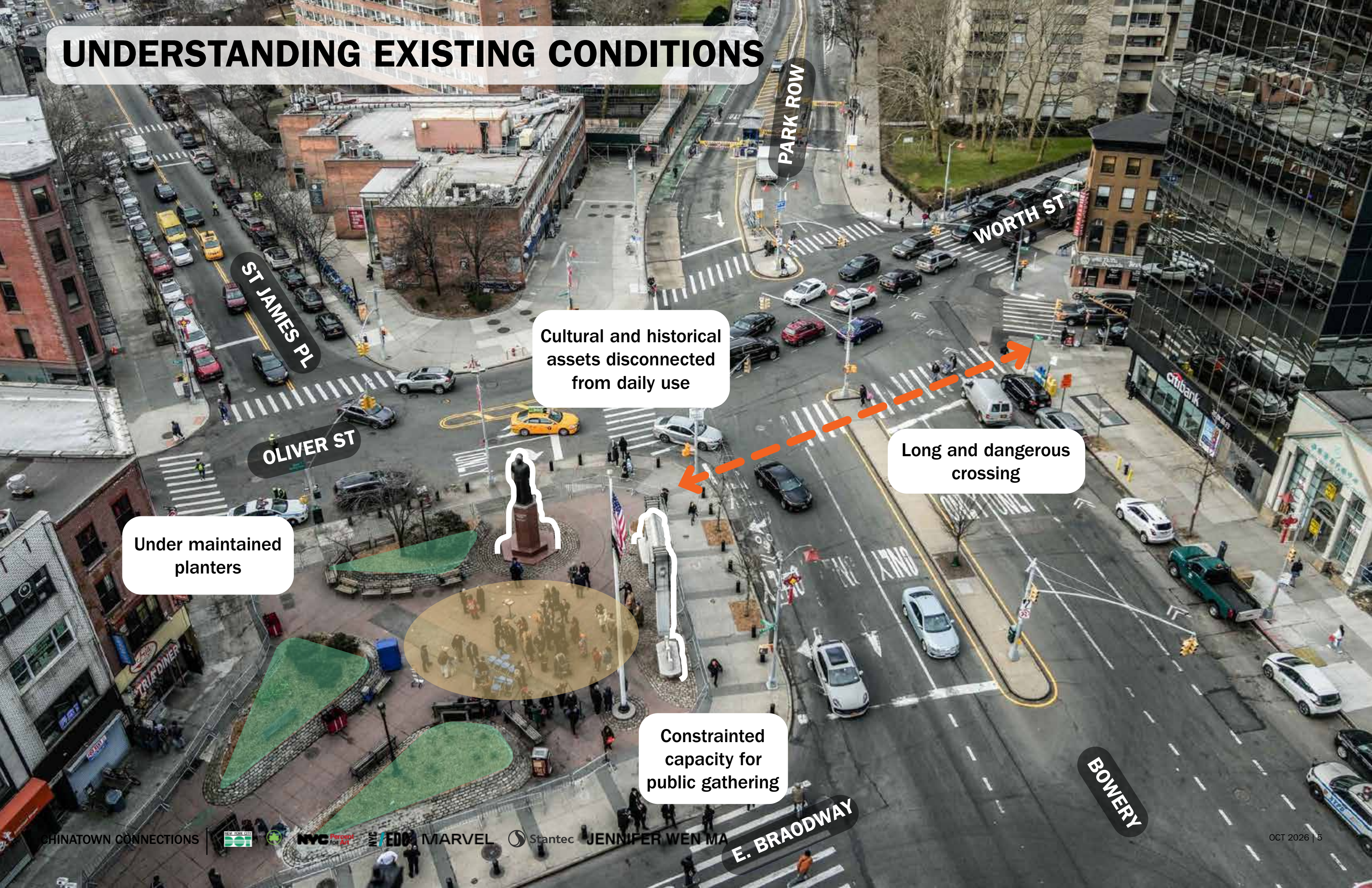


KIMLAU SQUARE AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Kimlau Square is a Gateway to Chinatown, and a convergence of diverse neighborhoods and communities



UNDERSTANDING EXISTING CONDITIONS



ST JAMES PL

PARK ROW

WORTH ST

OLIVER ST

Cultural and historical assets disconnected from daily use

Long and dangerous crossing

Under maintained planters

Constrained capacity for public gathering

BOWERY

E. BRAODWAY

The team conducted 70 outreach and engagements across Chinatown between 2025-2026

- Community Stakeholders Walk-Through
Public Meeting
CCWG + CB
Online Survey
Stakeholder Meetings
Local Residents
- Pop-ups

 - Kimlau Square #1, #2, #3
 - Transfiguration Church
 - Columbus Park
 - Confucius Plaza
 - Chinatown Supermarket
- Tabling

 - Smith Houses
 - Gotham Park Block Party
 - Chinatown Bid Pell Open Street
 - 80th Anni. of the AL, Lt. B.R. Kimlau Chinese Memorial Post 1291
 - E.E.E. Festival
 - BID Summer Refreshing Weekend
 - Chinatown Block Party
 - AL Veterans Day
- Senior Center

 - CPC's Open Door Senior Center
 - VHS Chinatown NNORC
 - 100 Gold St.
- Schools

 - P.S. 124
 - P.S. 130
 - CPC Christie St. After-school Program
- Gateway

 - Artist Selection Info Sessions
 - Artist Selection Charrettes
 - 1 on 1 with Stakeholders, Local Artist, Residents



ENGAGING WITH THE COMMUNITY



COMMUNITY VISION 社區願景

1

A PLACE TO GATHER

A green, shaded, comfortable gathering place where mature trees, thoughtful amenities, and flexible spaces invite people of all ages to connect, rest, play, and celebrate together.

提供一個相聚之處

一個綠意盎然、樹蔭林立和舒適的聚集場所——有成熟的樹木，周到人性的設施和靈活多變的空間，歡迎各年齡段的人群相聚、休憩、玩耍和慶祝的空間。

2

SAFE AND CONNECTED

A road design that improves pedestrian safety and neighborhood connectivity and that minimizes friction at key crossings to Kimlau Square.

安全和暢通

道路設計提供人行安全和各個街區的連接暢通性。最大化地減少劉錦廣場周邊人行橫道的衝突。

3

CELEBRATE & SHARE CULTURE

A space that respects and reflects the neighborhood's history and cultural context.

慶祝和分享文化遺產

一個尊重和體現街區歷史和文化背景的空間。

INCLUSIVE AND ADAPTABLE

An inclusive space that should be designed flexibly to accommodate many different types of programming, uses, and people.

包容性、無障礙和靈活性

為多種類型的活動、使用和人群設計一個包容和靈活的空間。

DESIGN GOALS

Safe and Connected



Simplify the existing travel patterns in the square to create a more typical intersection and ensure smoother, more direct connections for all roadway users

Celebrate and Share Culture



Develop a cohesive design standard for the square to create a visually distinctive entrance to the neighborhood that highlights the existing memorials and statues and provide a location for a new gateway installation

A Place to Gather



Create a premier, expanded, and more functional open space for Chinatown to better accommodate the plethora cultural festivities and gatherings that occur in the neighborhood.

COMMUNITY NEEDS AND ASPIRATIONS:

HOW CAN THE CITY MOVE THROUGH A SQUARE?

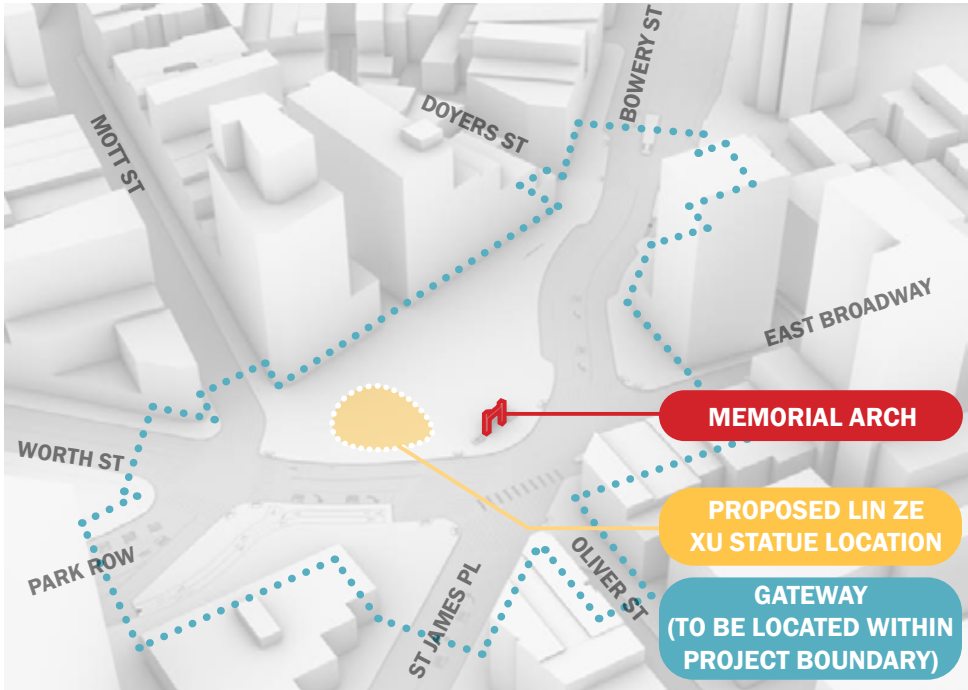
HOW CAN THE SQUARE PROVIDE SPACES THAT RESPECT THE DIVERSE CULTURAL MARKERS?

HOW CAN THE SQUARE SERVE THE DAY-TO-DAY ACTIVITIES?

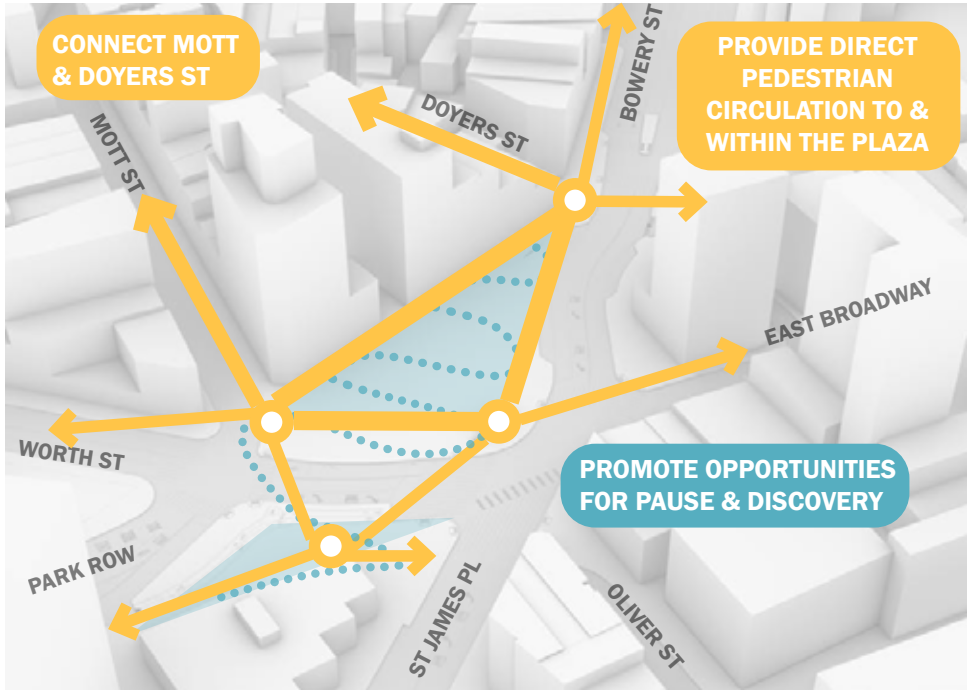
HOW CAN THE PUBLIC REALM FEEL LIKE A RESPITE?

DESIGN FRAMEWORK

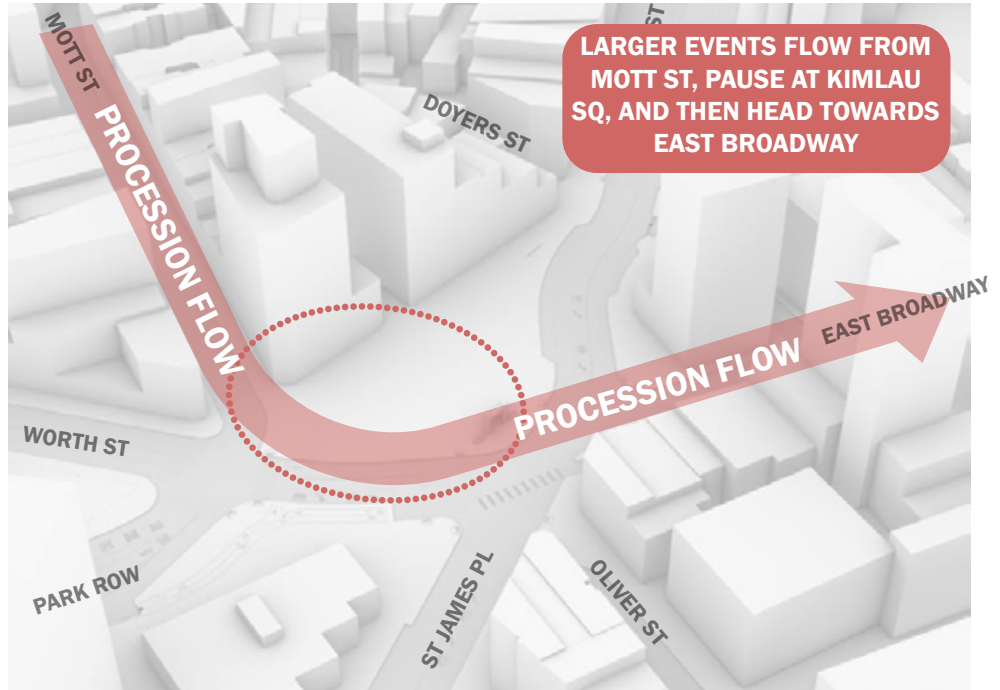
GATHERING SPACE FOR DIFFERENT CULTURAL MARKERS



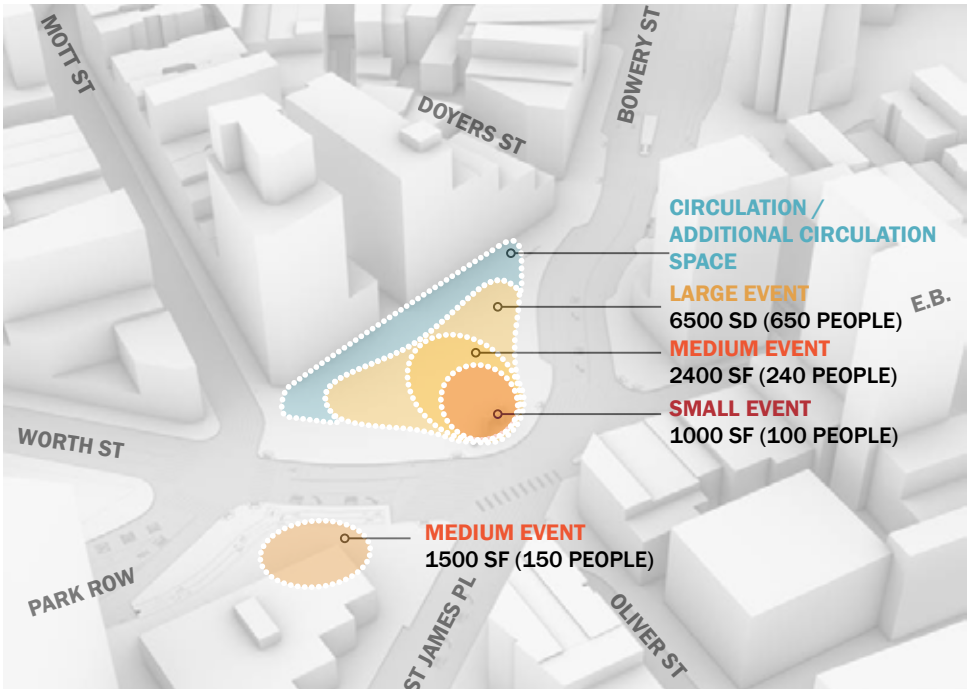
CIRCULATION - PEDESTRIAN DAY TO DAY



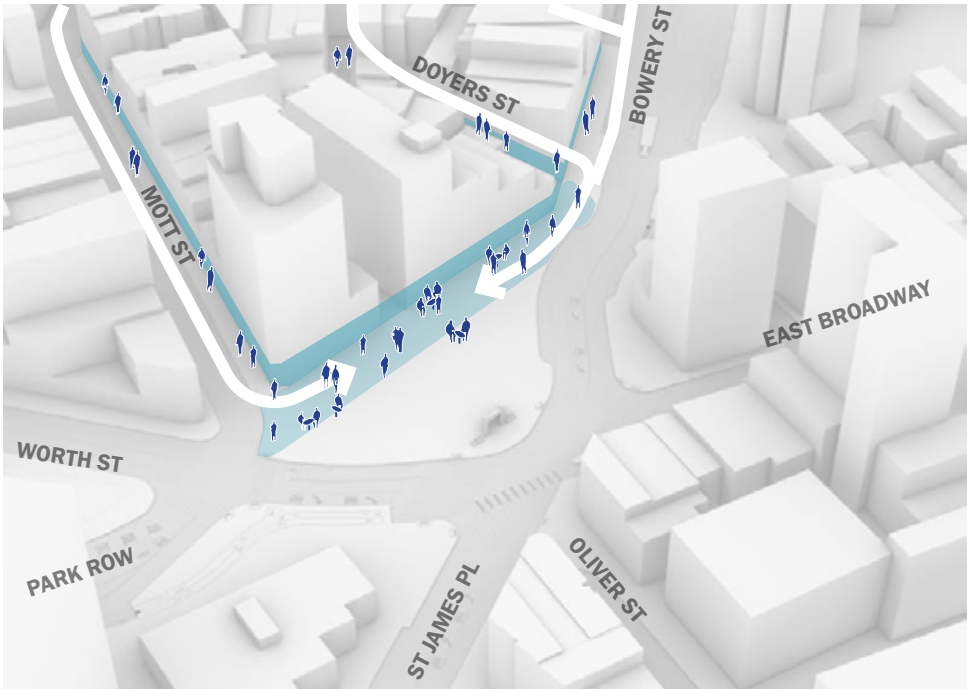
CIRCULATION - EVENTS & CELEBRATIONS



GATHERING SPACE FOR DIFFERENT SCALES



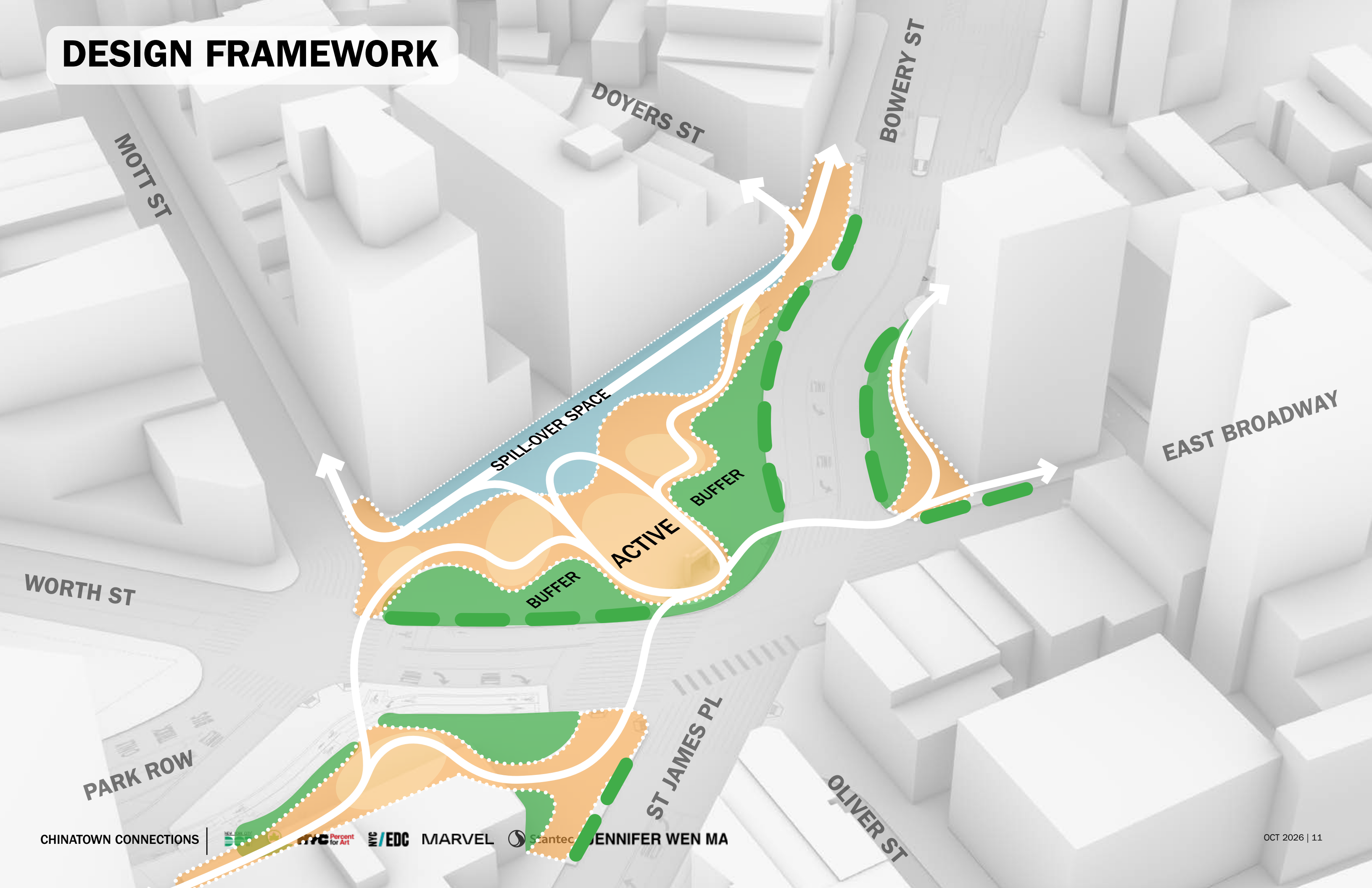
STREET LEVEL COMMERCIAL ACTIVATION



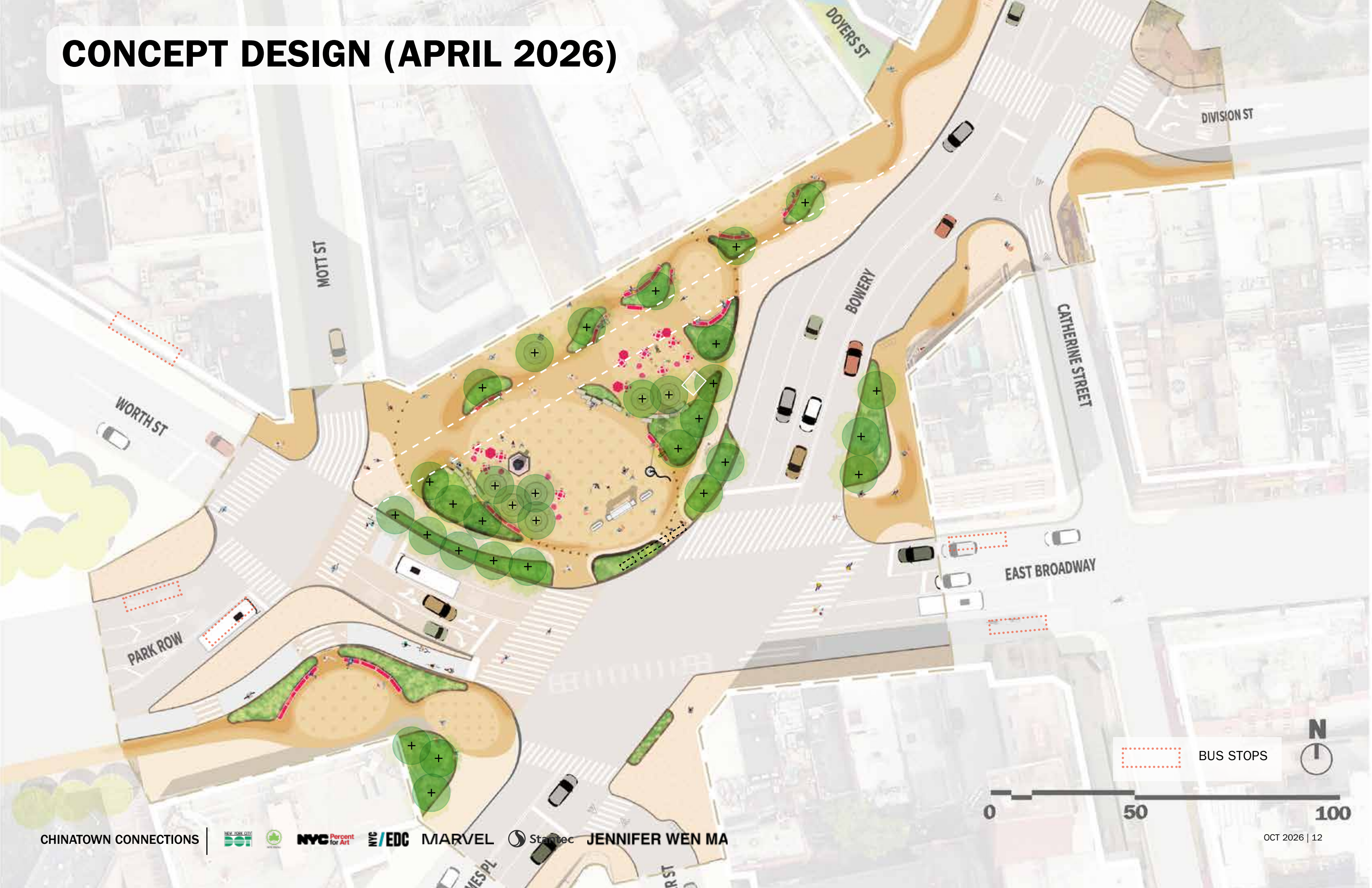
PLANTING - BUFFER



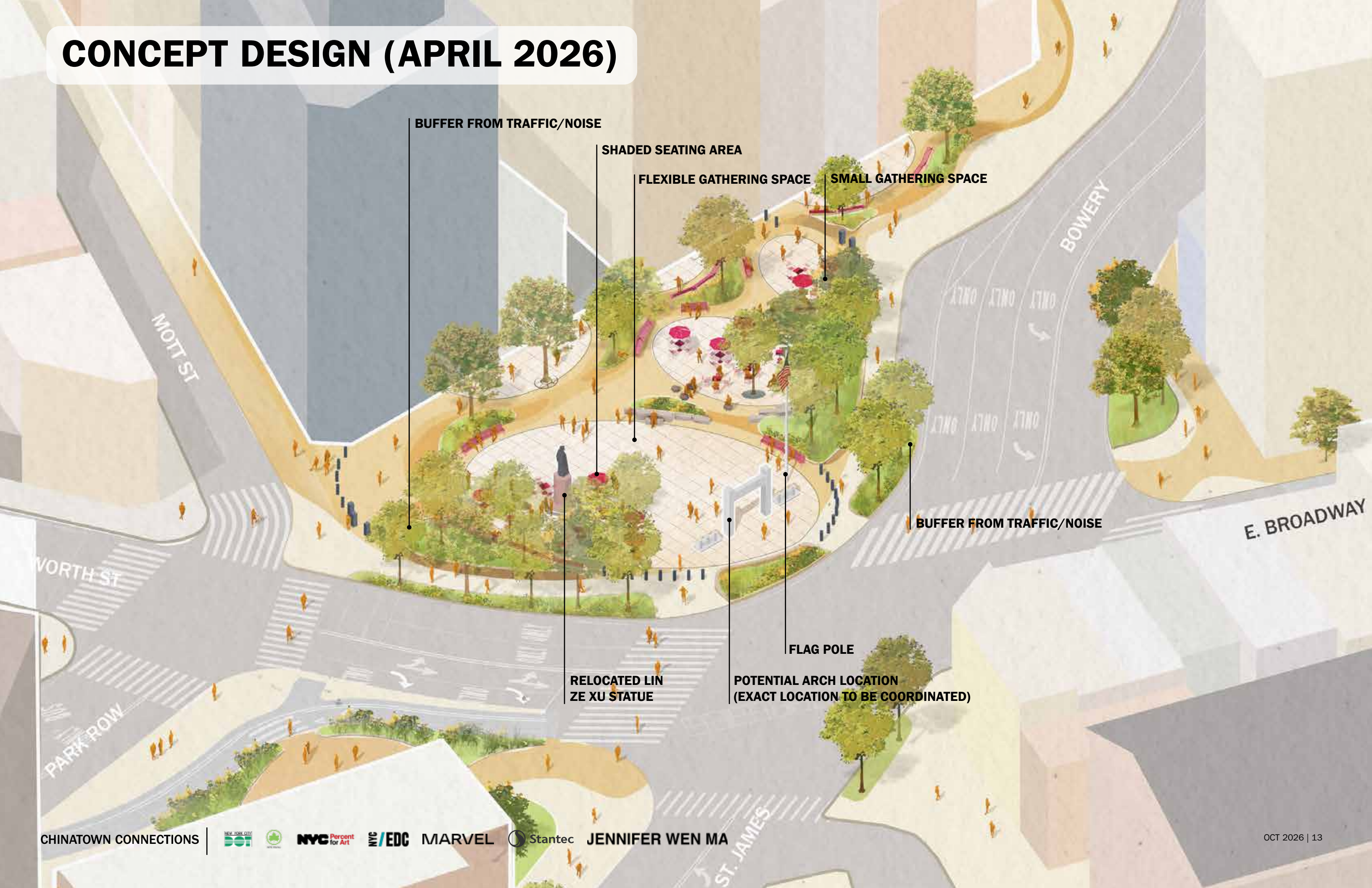
DESIGN FRAMEWORK



CONCEPT DESIGN (APRIL 2026)



CONCEPT DESIGN (APRIL 2026)



**WELCOME GATEWAY
(JENNIFER WEN MA)**

Community & Stakeholders Engagement Summary

Meetings with Stakeholders And Community Partners

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| ● American Legion | 04/09/26 |
| ● Chinatown BID | 04/08/26 |
| ● Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association (CCBA) | 04/09/26 |
| ● United Overseas Fujianese Association of America | 06/15/26 |
| | |
| ● Think!Chinatown | 04/23/26 |
| ● Chatham Green | 05/06/26, 06/15/26 |
| ● VNS Chinatown NNORC | 06/03/26 |
| ● CPC Christie St. After-school Program | 06/03/26 |
| ● Smith Houses | 06/10/26 |
| ● Confucius Plaza | 06/11/26 |
| ● Chatham Towers | 06/08/26, 06/15/26 |
| ● Gotham Park | 06/12/26 |
| ● Welcome to Chinatown | 06/15/26 |
| ● Chinatown business leaders | 06/15/26 |



Artist Jennifer Wen Ma meeting with Chinatown BID and business community



Artist Jennifer Wen Ma and Marvel team’s Chit Yee Ng and Ishita Gaur meeting with Fujianese Association and Chinatown business leaders

Further Engagements with businesses and Community Leader

Key Takeaways | What We Have Heard

- “Hold **traditional** elements of Chinese identity”
- “Be **iconic** and **bold**”
- “The work should be **modern** and **forward thinking**, with balance of classics”
- “Convey the important contribution of **veterans**”
- “Carry the history of Chinatown as part of the **storytelling** of the artwork/plaza”
- “Invite **intergenerational** members of the community - people at different ages have different needs”
- “A welcome to all cultures, ‘**we welcome you**’”
- **Inheritance**: ‘this is yours’ to our young generation”
- “Create a sense of **belonging** and **respect** - We are here and we built this place from the grounds up”
- “**Parade** as a ritual that ties in many Chinese traditions”
- “This place is not just Chinatown, but pivotal for many **immigrants**”
- “I don't want to walk out of my building and feel like I live in a **prison yard**”
- “Programming to attract **continuous flow of visitors** to Chinatown”
- “**Environmentally** safe: cleaner and fresher air, less concrete and more trees”
- “**Night life** - since Covid it's hard to find restaurants open late”
- “**Kids activities** not based on spending money”
- “The biggest challenge of the project is to have a **single unifying element** to rally the complexity of demographics”

Cultural Framework Research

Research | Gateways

Our team has done extensive research into several key aspects of gateway, from conceptual, historical, Chinese, global, contemporary and other perspectives. These have served as inspiration and cultural framework for the development of the artwork.

- Gates, paifang & other traditional Chinese public commemorative forms
- Chinese philosophy
- Classic Chinese architecture and landscape design
- History of site stewardship
- Cosmological inspirations from science
- Contemporary art references



Chinese character for "door" is 門, evolved from the oracle bone script based on a pictograph representing a double-leaf door.

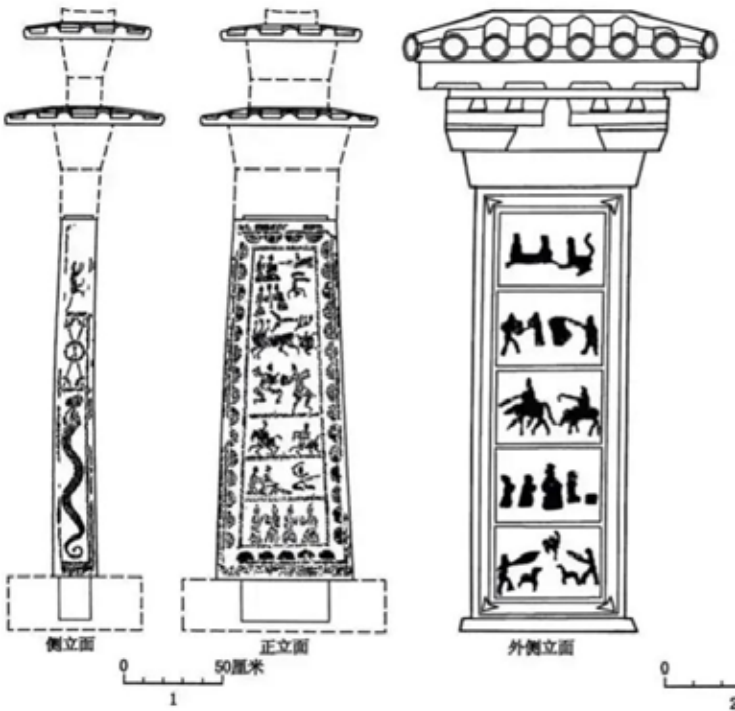
Research | Components of Paifang



Bang mu
(谤木)



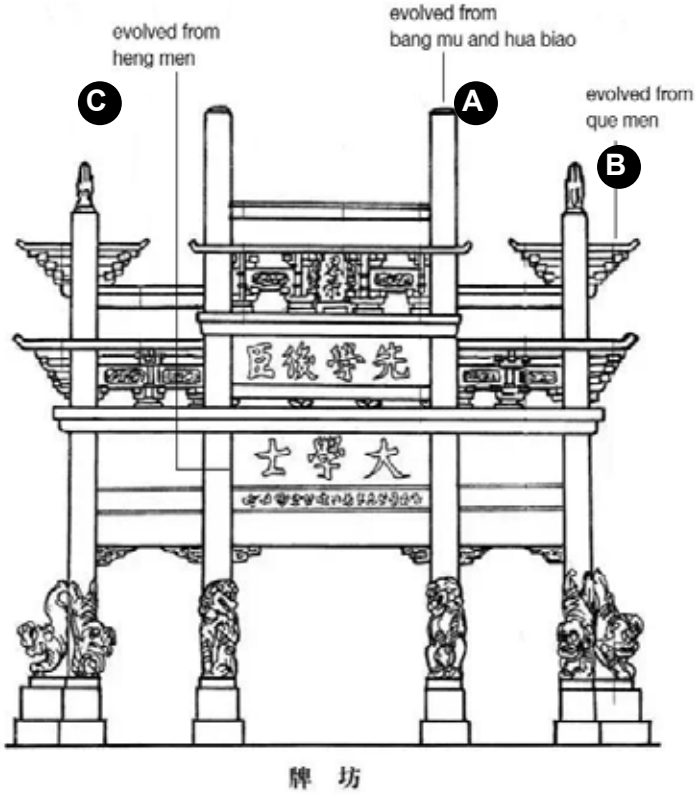
Hua biao
(華表)



Que
(阙)



Heng men
(衡门)



Paifang's key structural components
and their precursors

- A) Hua biao (華表)
- B) Que (阙)
- C) Heng men (衡门)

Research | Various Style of Paifang



一间二柱三樓：
one bay,
two columns,
three roofed



磚牌坊
Brick Paifang



琉璃牌坊
Glazed Paifang



三間四柱五樓：
three room, four columns,
five roofed



五间六柱十一樓
five bays, six columns, eleven roofed

Research | Various Style of Paifang



Kimlau War Memorial Arch

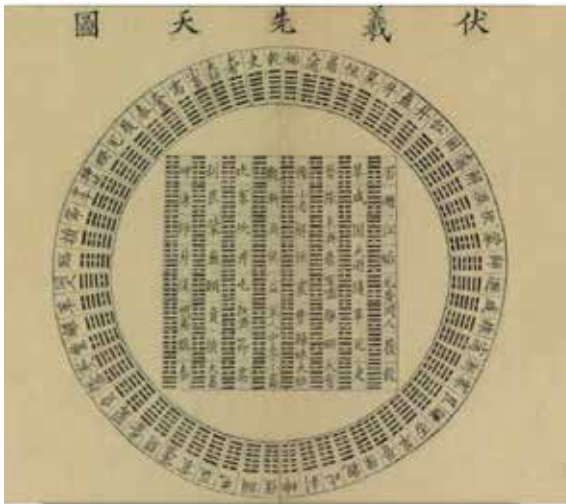


Poy Gum Lee (b. 1900, New York, NY)

Designed by Poy Gum Lee, Kimlau War Memorial Arch is a blend of tradition and the modernist aesthetics of Chinese Art Deco which reflected innovation while honoring Chinese traditions. The memorial was designated as the first city landmark specifically honoring Chinese American history.

Research | Philosophy and Mythology Landscape Design

Philosophy and Mythology



I-Ching Hexagram



Astrological Constellations



Stele with Bixi/Dragon Turtle base



Traditional guardian creatures

Landscape Design



Fractured-ice Lattice



Scholar's Rock



Moon Gates - borrowing view

Research | Historical Stewardship of Lower Manhattan



Before 1624
Lenape

1624–1664
Dutch & African

1664–1783
English

1820s–1880s
Irish and German

1683–1940s
Jewish

1880s–1970s
Italian

1870s–1943
Chinese Taishanese and
Cantonese

1943–2000
Exclusion Act repealed 1943;
Chinese families are reunited
after 1946

1980s–present
Chinese Fuzhounese and
Multicultural

Cultural Markers

1. Shell Midden
(Lenape)
2. *Jar*, Clarkson Crolius, ca. 1800–1814
(German)
3. *African Burial Ground National Monument*
(African)
4. *First Shearith Israel Graveyard*
(Jewish)
5. *Lin Ze Xu Monument*
(Fujianese)



1



2



3



4



5

Research | Contemporary Public Art



Magnolias For Pittsburgh
by Tony Tasset



(External View)



(Internal View)

Skyspace Piz Uter
by James Turrell

Artwork Conceptual Framework

Art and Design Integration

March 2026 – Ongoing

Jennifer Wen Ma and her team hold weekly meetings with Marvel to work on the development and integration of the Gateway with the plaza design.

Weekly Meeting Scope:

- Ensure design integration of concept and form.
- Study impact of underground infrastructures and permanent fixtures on proposed plan.
- Assess security requirements.
- Evaluate proposed artwork location and its presence from various vantage points.
- Historical and cultural relation two existing monuments, Kimlau War Memorial and Lin Ze Xu Memorial.



Jennifer Wen Ma and Marvel Architects, May 29, 2026

Conceptual Framework

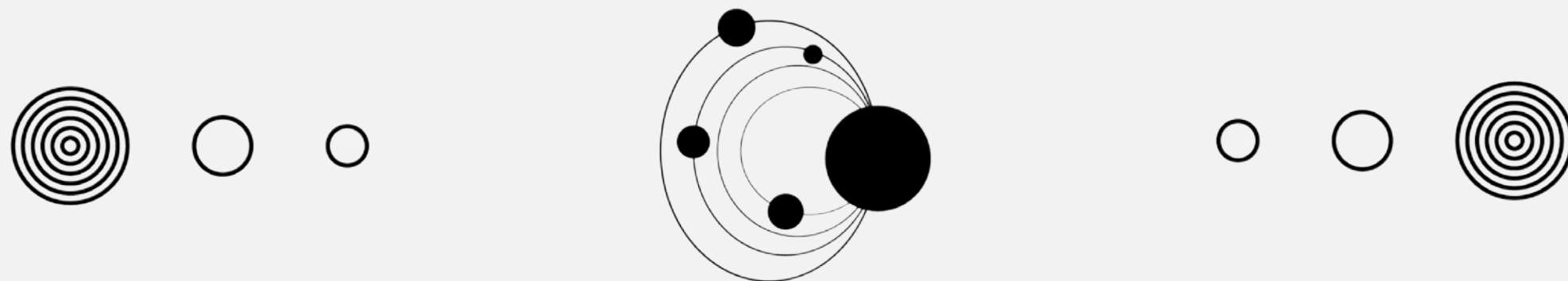
- **Visually bold and iconic** → Serves as a new **visual landmark** that defines community's **identity** and a **destination** for visitors. Embodying keywords captured through community outreach: culture, resilience, belonging, creativity, and joy.
- **Historical elements** → Embody **philosophies, materiality, and craftsmanship** of both traditional Chinese and Chinese/Asian American heritage.
- **Balance contemporary aesthetics with traditional** → Collectively envisioning a **future** for the community while incorporating **historical** perspectives and the **present**.
- **Multivalent perspectives** → Offer distinct visual experiences for **pedestrians, motorists, residents** in adjacent buildings, and **parade** participants.
- **Durational viewing** → Design for a passerby **casual viewing** and offer **layered cultural** and **educational narratives** for a more prolonged experience.
- **Collaborative coalition** → Activate the project as a **co-creative platform**, and create a sense of belonging to the community, engaging with locally-based artists, writers, musicians, performers, oral historians, and the extended community.
- **Site Integration** → Maintain **harmonic dialogue** with the surrounding environment and the two existing monuments.
- **Illumination** → Light will allow the work to be **seen from afar** and experienced **nocturnally**.

NINETY-NINE PORTALS

The Gateway project is envisioned as a **constellation** of **99 portals**.

Anchored by a **monumental scale primary form** of striking visual impact,

surrounded by a group of **smaller satellite sculptures**,
and a series of **integrated landscape design components**
embedded throughout Kimlau Square.



This collection of interconnected elements form a single, pluralistic artwork unified by a cohesive design language stems from the central anchoring sculpture.

Ninety-nine Portals

Conceptual Principles:

Portal: The artwork interpretes gateway as portals - literal, figurative and metaphysical. It opens the idea of gateway into myriad of meanings necessitated by the diversity of the community.

99: The number nine or ninety-nine represent greatness or infinity in Chinese culture, from antiquity to the contemporary era. This central idea of multitude and plentitude, allows many ways to interpret the idea of gateway, collaboration with the community, and provide repeated experiential discovery for visitors.

Geomancy: principles of feng shui through I-Ching will guide portal designs to align the site with energetic flow of the universe.

Ninety-nine Portals

Conceptual Principles:

Heaven, earth, humankind: The portals are organized into these categories to bring together the ideas:

- **天时地利人和** Success is depended upon “**Opportune time (heaven), geographical advantage (earth), and united people (men)**” - Mencius, Confucius philosopher
- **天赖地赖人赖** Daoist philosopher Zhuangzi illustrates the universal, earthly, and human perspectives through three distinct types of sounds.
 - **Man:** produced by vocal cords and instruments - subjective human perspectives
 - **Earth:** such as when wind rushes through nature's hollows, caves, and valleys— vast and objective diversity of the natural world
 - **Heaven:** harmonizes all these disparate utterances into a single cosmic symphony, perfectly embodying the Daoist ideal of universal, non-judgmental unity



PIPING OF MAN
SUBJECTIVE HUMAN PERSPECTIVES



PIPING OF EARTH
OBJECTIVE NATURAL DIVERSITY



PIPING OF HEAVEN
UNIVERSAL HARMONY OF DAO

Ninety-nine Portals

Conceptual Principles:

Flying white 飛白 is a technique that creates elegant lines by swiftly moving a dry brush across the paper that leaves streaky or disconnected strokes. The vitality transferred through the brushwork is so potent that the white spaces contain the transient energy of the artist.

Several key sculptures will be positioned on site according to this principle, so that they align to reveal a grander, interconnected “gateway” when viewed from specific vantage points.

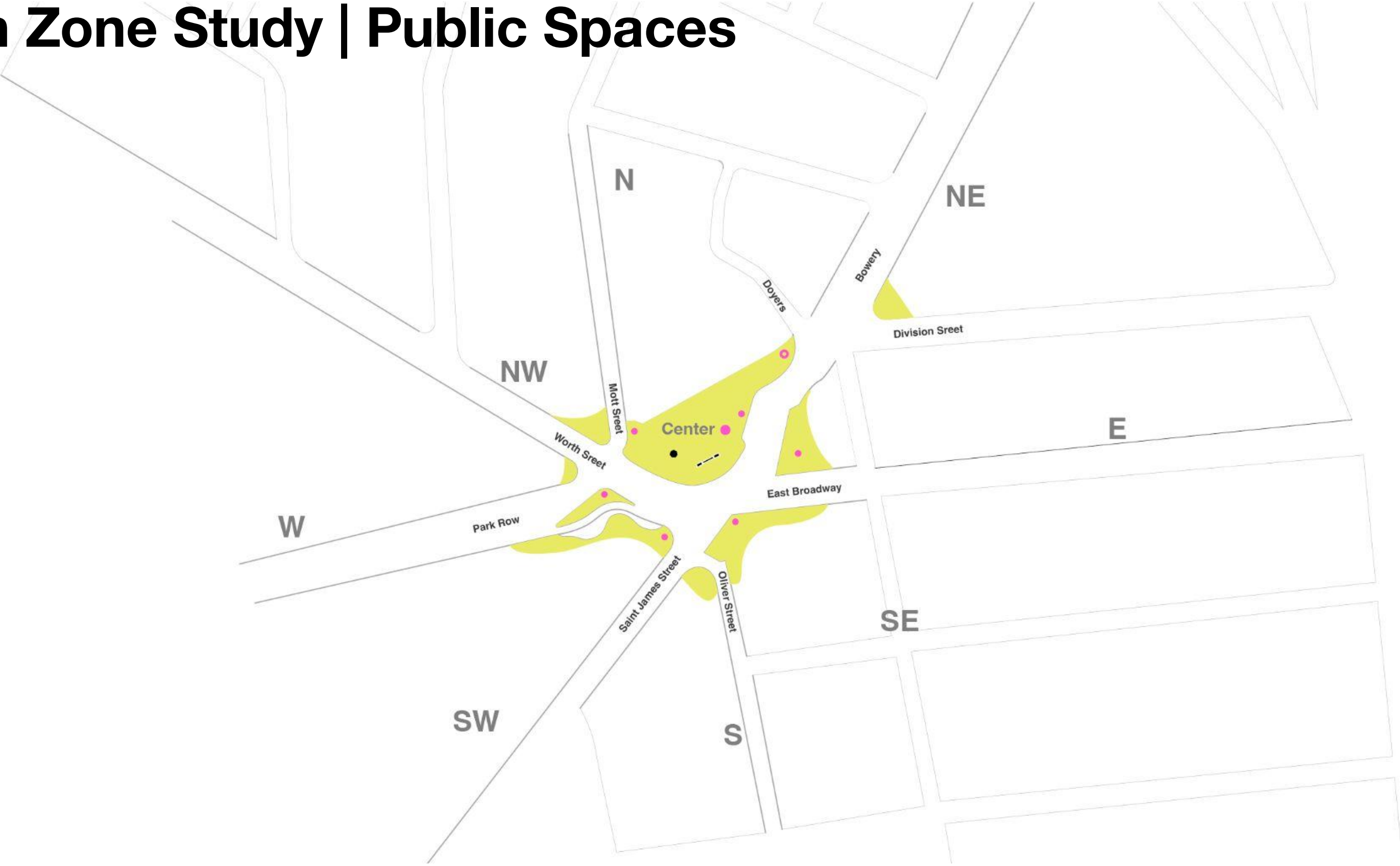


Sample of “flying white” brush stroke



八大山人(朱耷)
Bada Shanren
(Zhu Da)
《湖石雙鳥圖》
Two Birds on
a Lake Rock

Design Zone Study | Public Spaces



Design Zone Study | Schools, Senior Centers & Businesses

●

7. Elements

Colors

Animals

Re: Nature

■

6. Businesses

●

5. Senior Centers

⬡

4. Schools

●

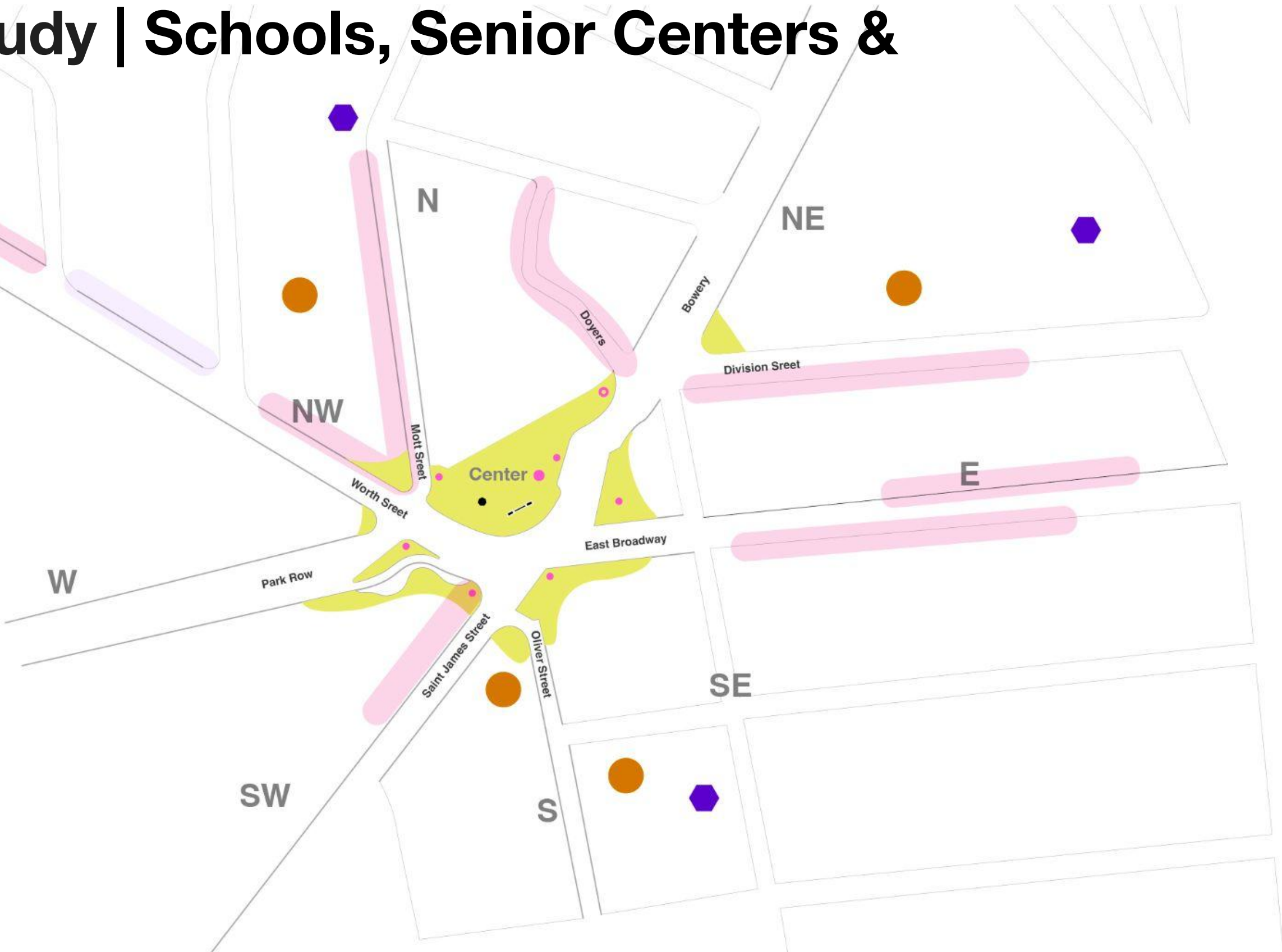
3. Artwork

■

2. Monuments

■

1. Public Space



Design Zone Study | Geomancy

7. Elements

Colors

Animals

Re: Nature

6. Businesses

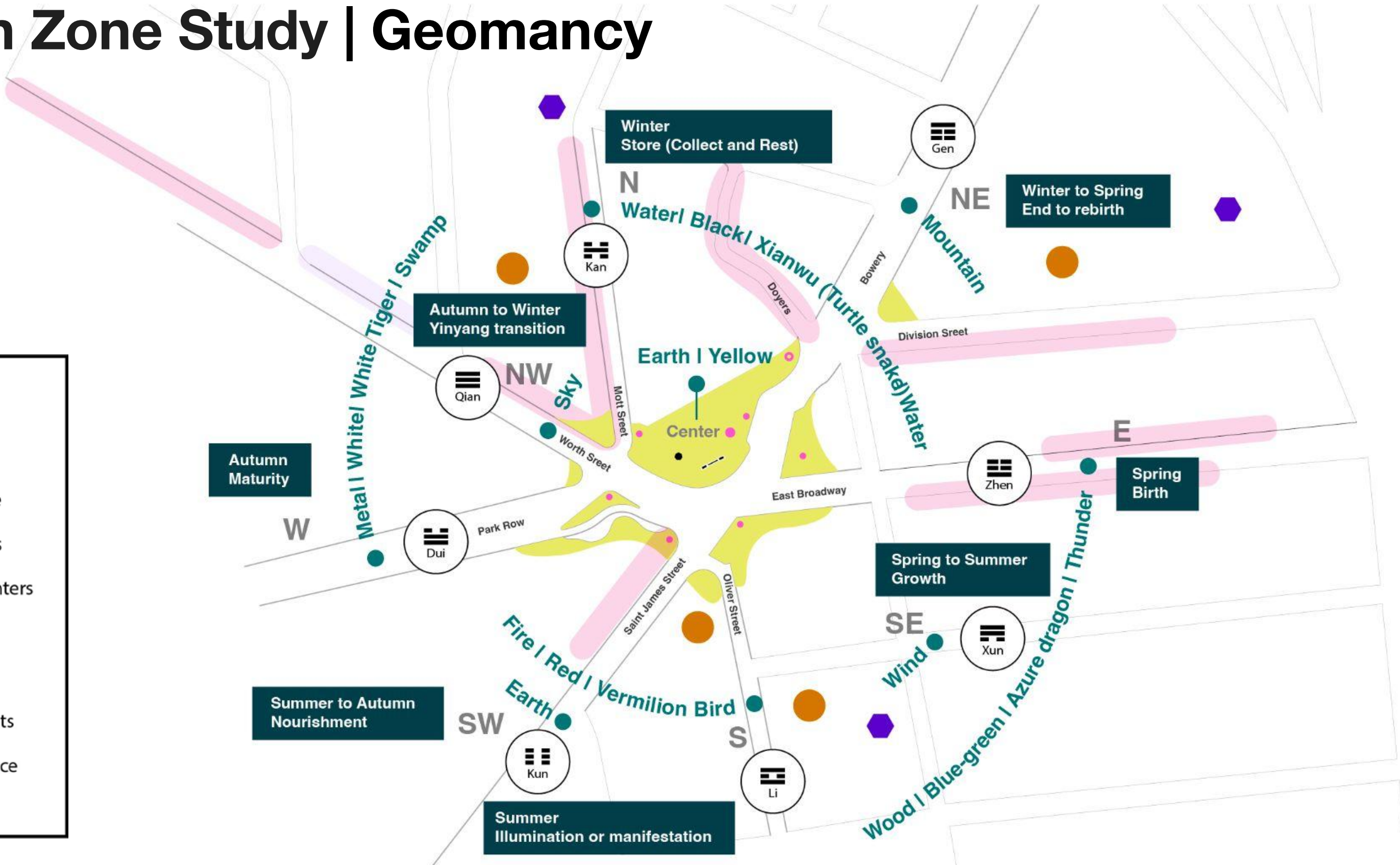
5. Senior Centers

4. Schools

3. Artwork

2. Monuments

1. Public Space



Potential forms

Physical Anchors

- A central **primary** sculpture
- A **secondary** constellation, viewed at certain vantage points, create a “flying white” gateway.
- Smaller **tertiary** elements incorporated in the plaza made in collaboration with the community and architects: planters, benches, pavers and other design elements

Textual Portals

- Poetry/texts by Asian Americans writers
- Prompts inspired by Chinese philosophy and artistic traditions.

Time-based Activations

- Experiential activations or rituals:
 - Dance
 - Music/sound
 - Storytelling
 - Other

Seasonal Metamorphosis

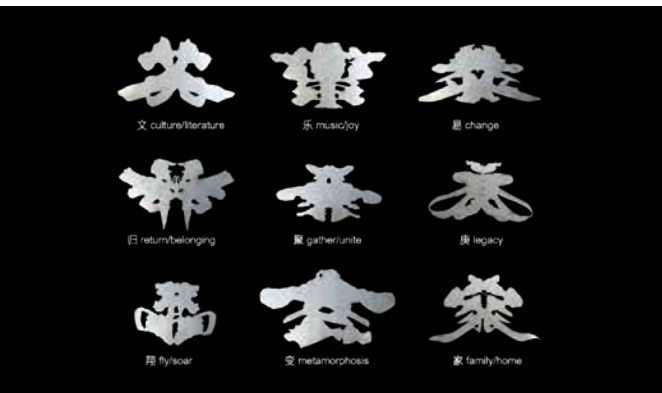
- Responding to seasons.
- Weather conditions:
 - wind,
 - rain,
 - snow,
 - sunlight
 - shadow

Key Formal Qualities

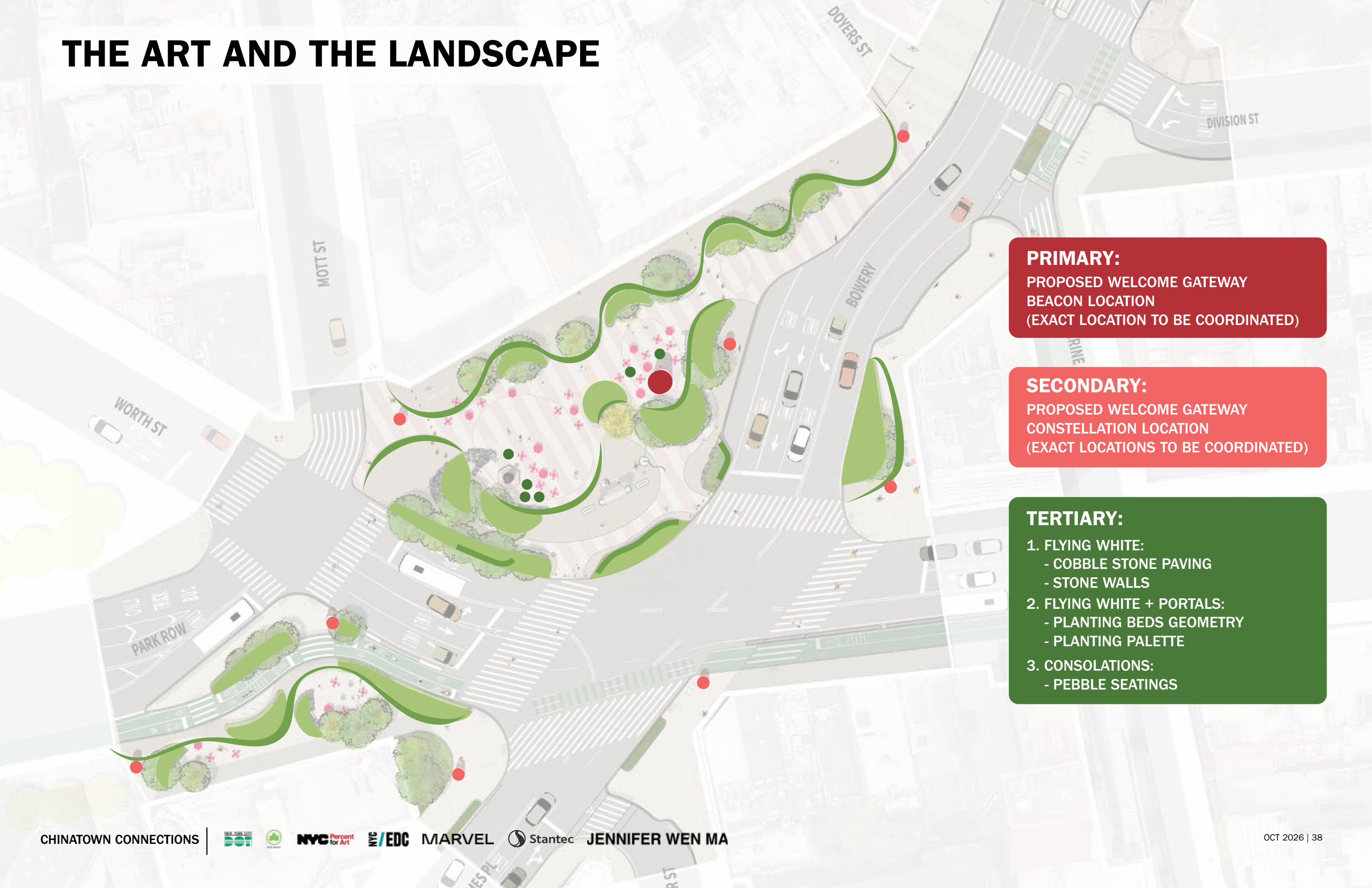
But what will it look like?

Our team aims for the work to embody a rich set of qualities, highlighted in past projects:

- **Nature inspired**
- **Organic & Freeform**
- **Whimsy**
- **Beauty**
- **Awe inspiring**
- **Community-driven**



THE ART AND THE LANDSCAPE



PRIMARY:
PROPOSED WELCOME GATEWAY
BEACON LOCATION
(EXACT LOCATION TO BE COORDINATED)

SECONDARY:
PROPOSED WELCOME GATEWAY
CONSTELLATION LOCATION
(EXACT LOCATIONS TO BE COORDINATED)

- TERTIARY:**
1. FLYING WHITE:
 - COBBLE STONE PAVING
 - STONE WALLS
 2. FLYING WHITE + PORTALS:
 - PLANTING BEDS GEOMETRY
 - PLANTING PALETTE
 3. CONSOLATIONS:
 - PEBBLE SEATINGS

KIMLAU SQUARE AND WELCOME GATEWAY VISION

DESIGN GOALS

Safe and Connected



Simplify the existing travel patterns in the square to create a more typical intersection and ensure smoother, more direct connections for all roadway users

Celebrate and Share Culture



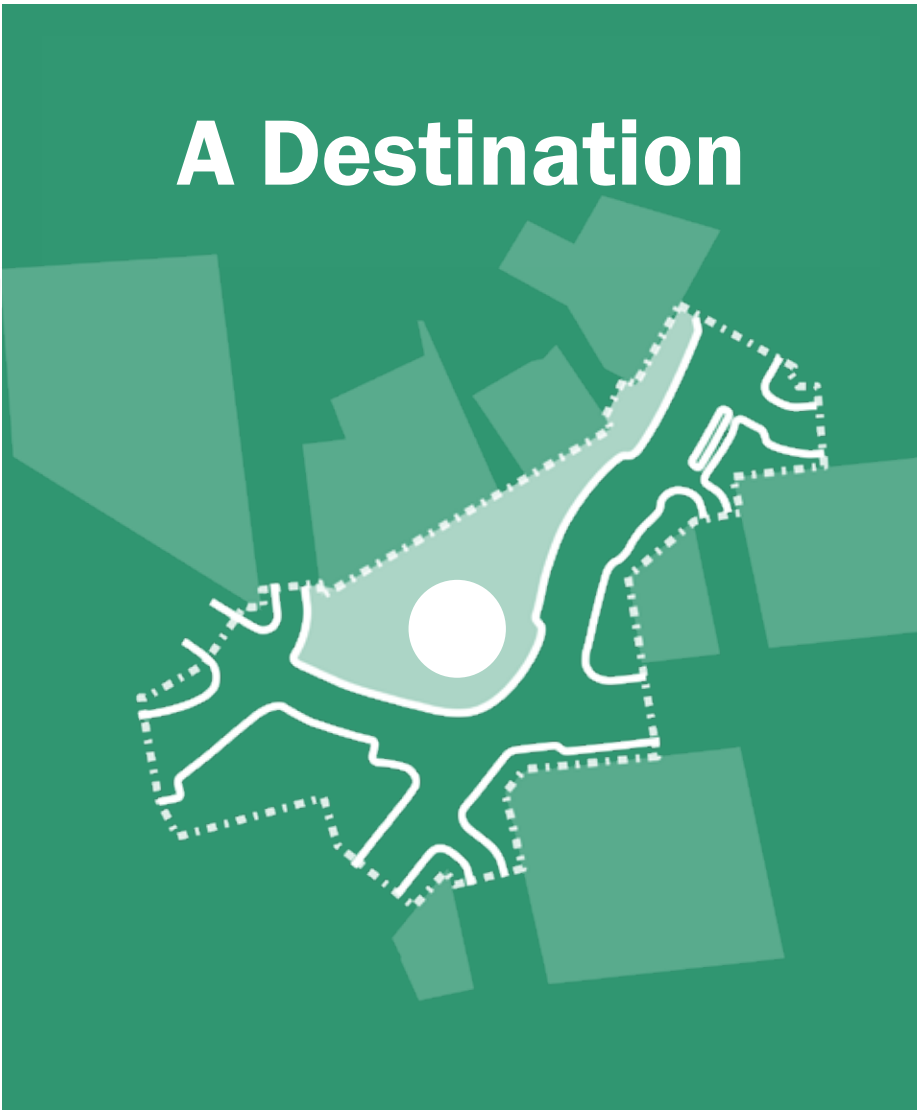
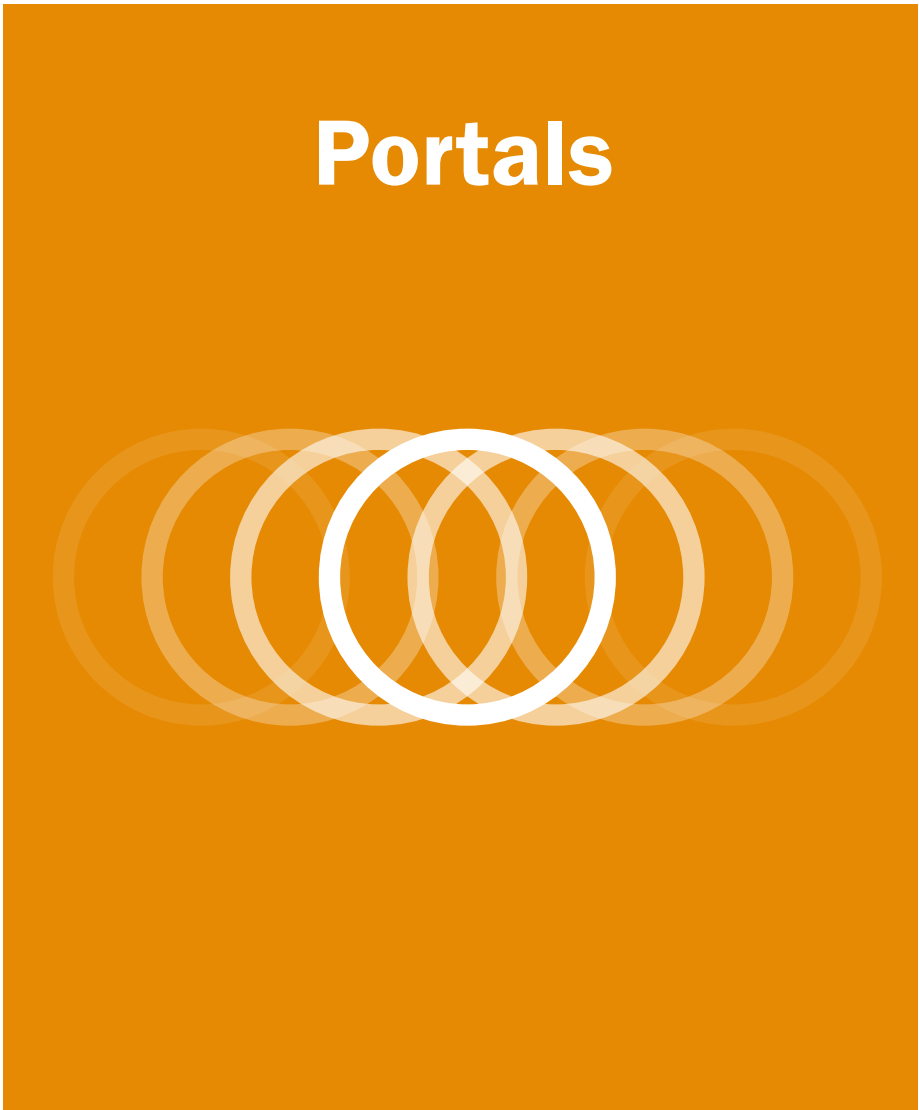
Develop a cohesive design standard for the square to create a visually distinctive entrance to the neighborhood that highlights the existing memorials and statues and provide a location for a new gateway installation

A Place to Gather



Create a premier, expanded, and more functional open space for Chinatown to better accommodate the plethora cultural festivities and gatherings that occur in the neighborhood.

ONE VISION: KIMLAU SQUARE + WELCOME GATEWAY



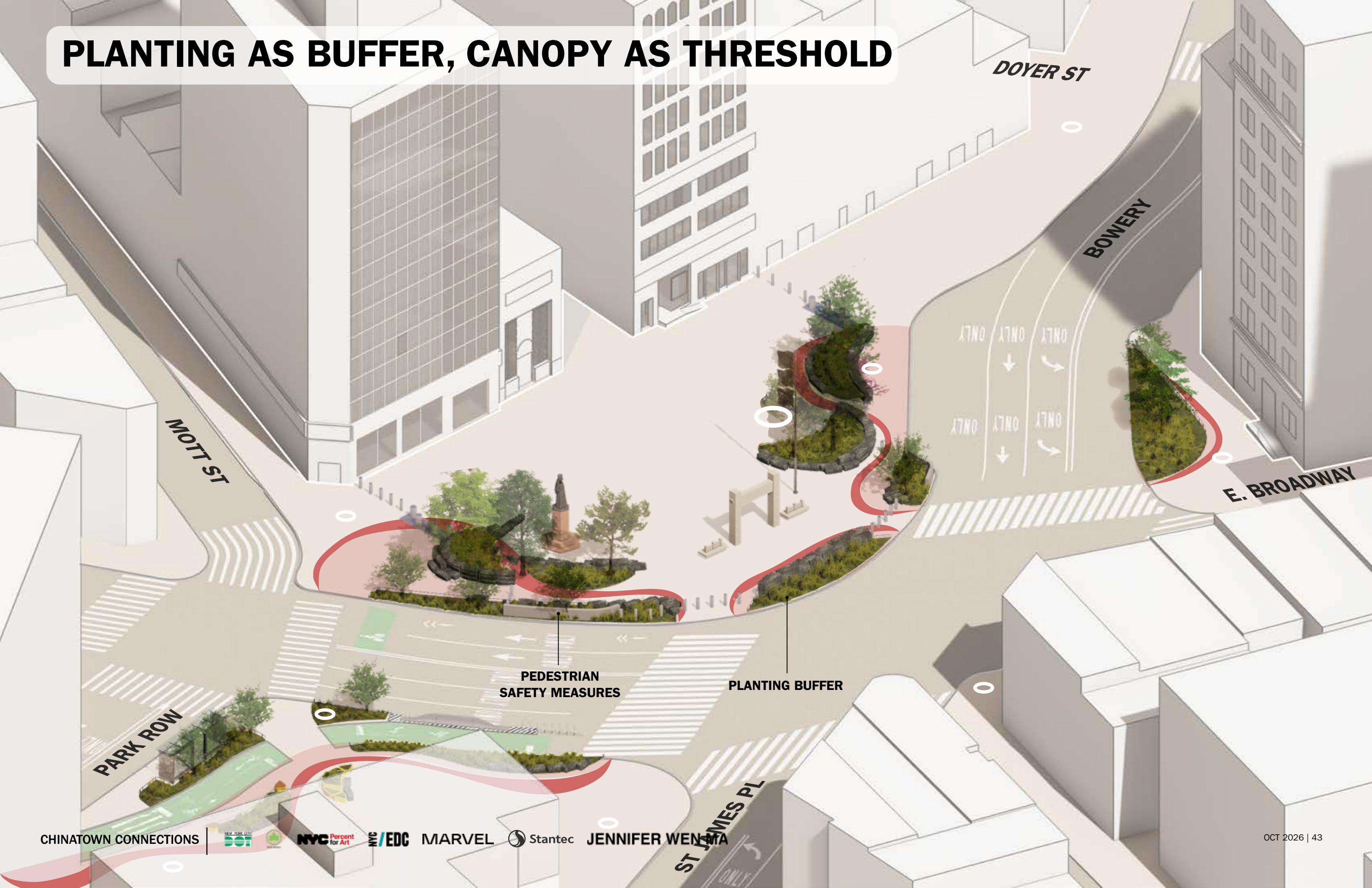
RESPECTING THE CULTURAL MARKERS



RELOCATED
LIN ZE XU STAT-
UE

RECENTERED
MEMORIAL ARCH

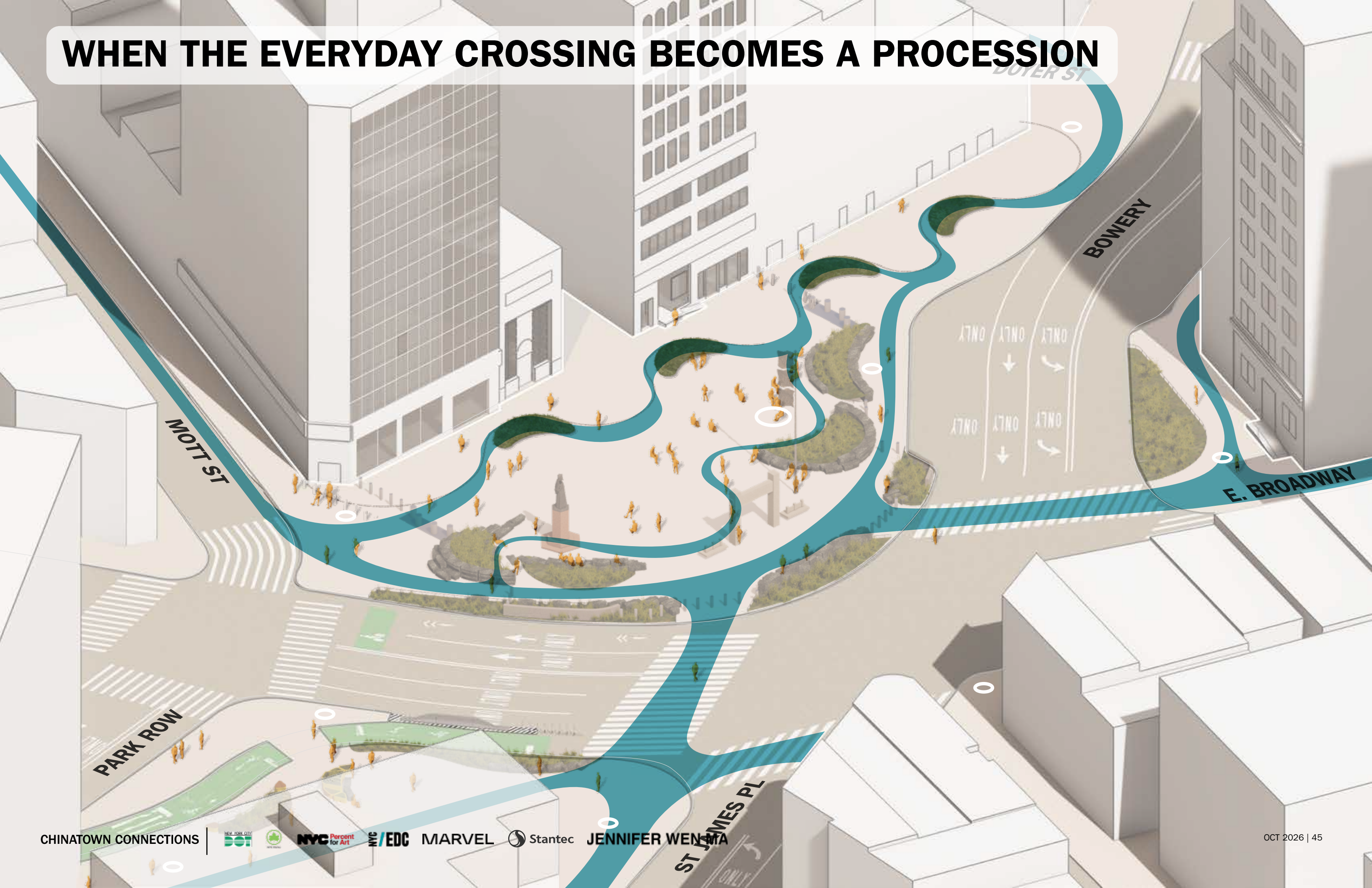
PLANTING AS BUFFER, CANOPY AS THRESHOLD



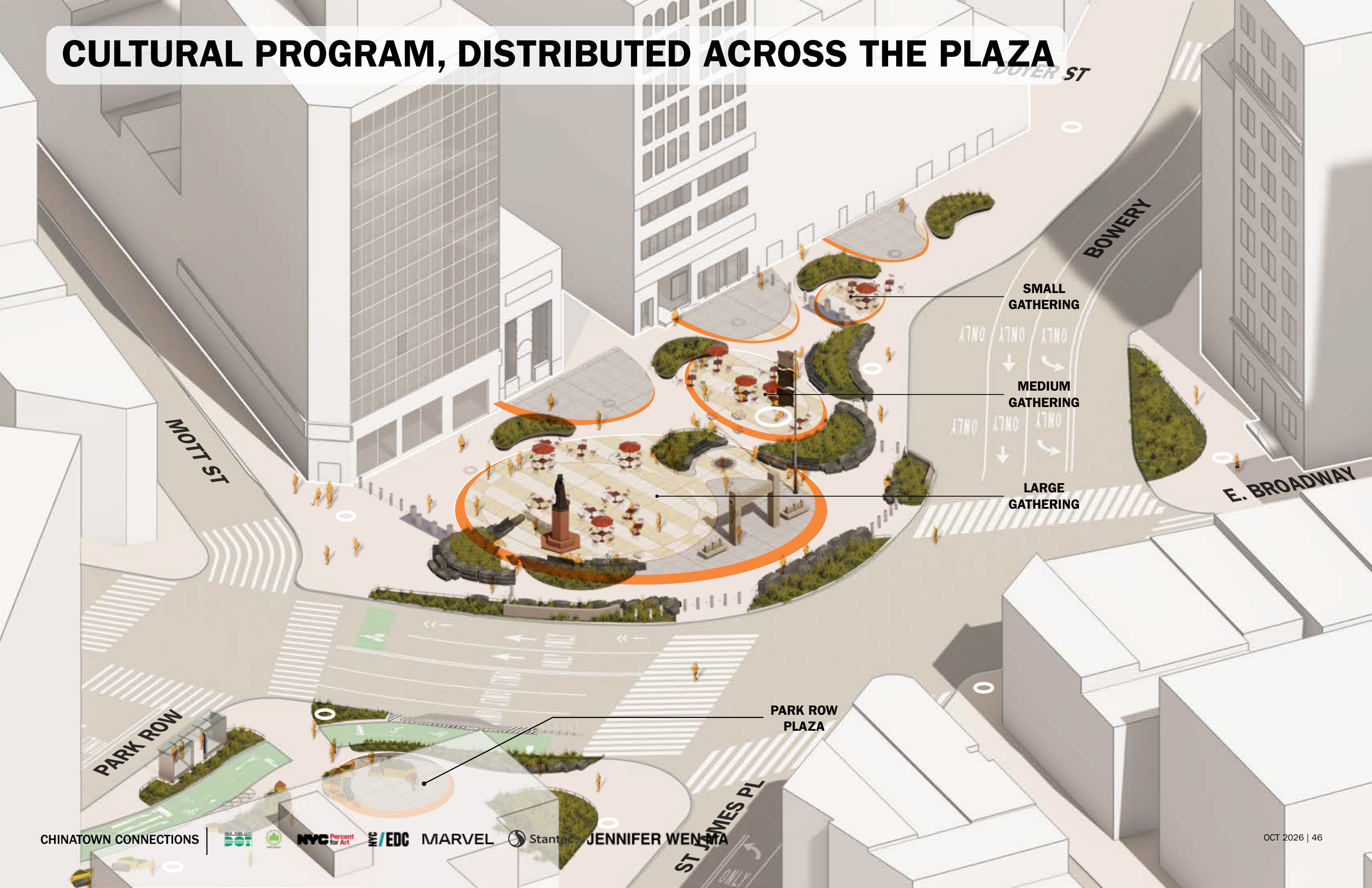
SUPPORT THE LOCAL BUSINESSES



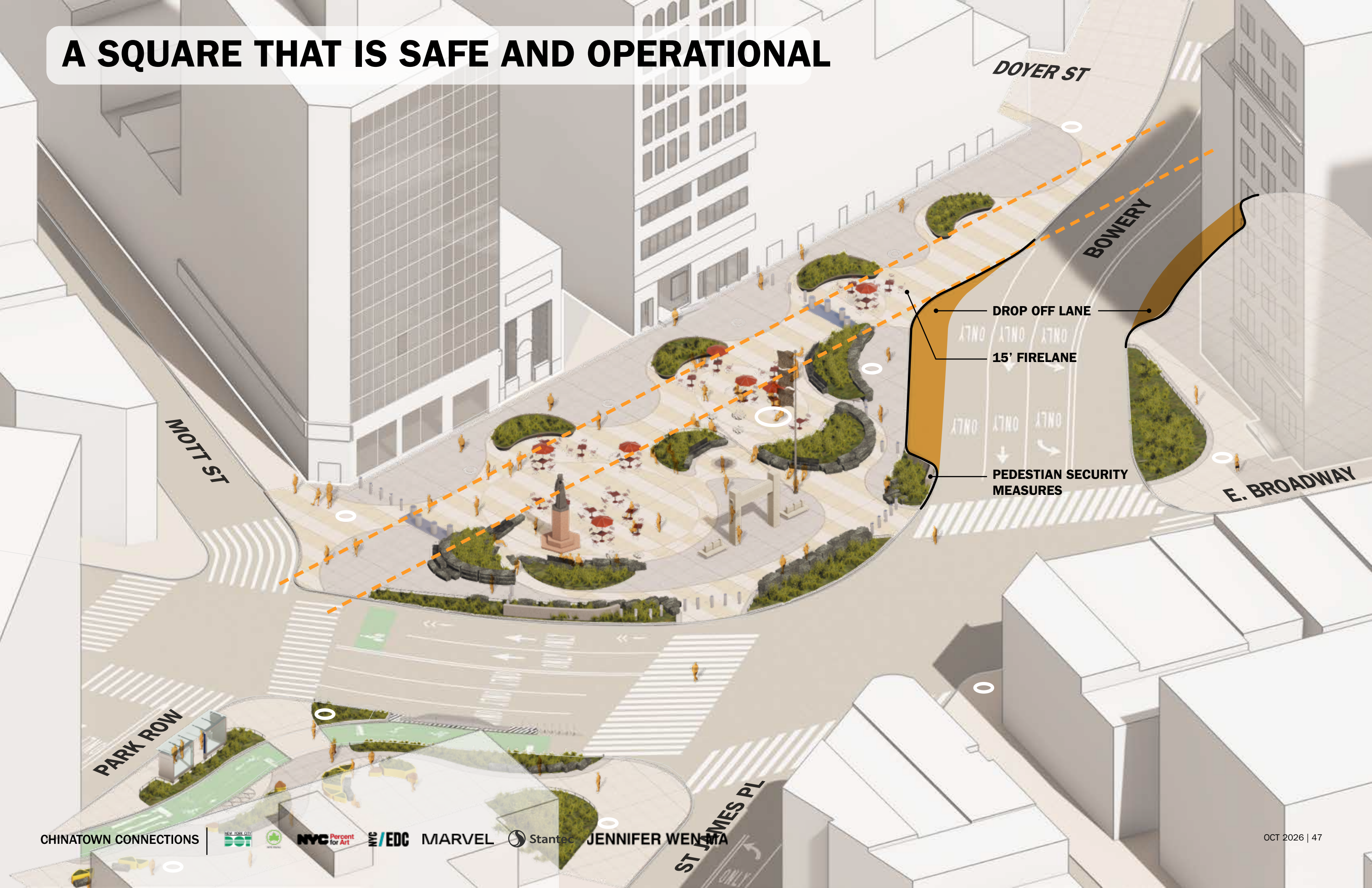
WHEN THE EVERYDAY CROSSING BECOMES A PROCESSION



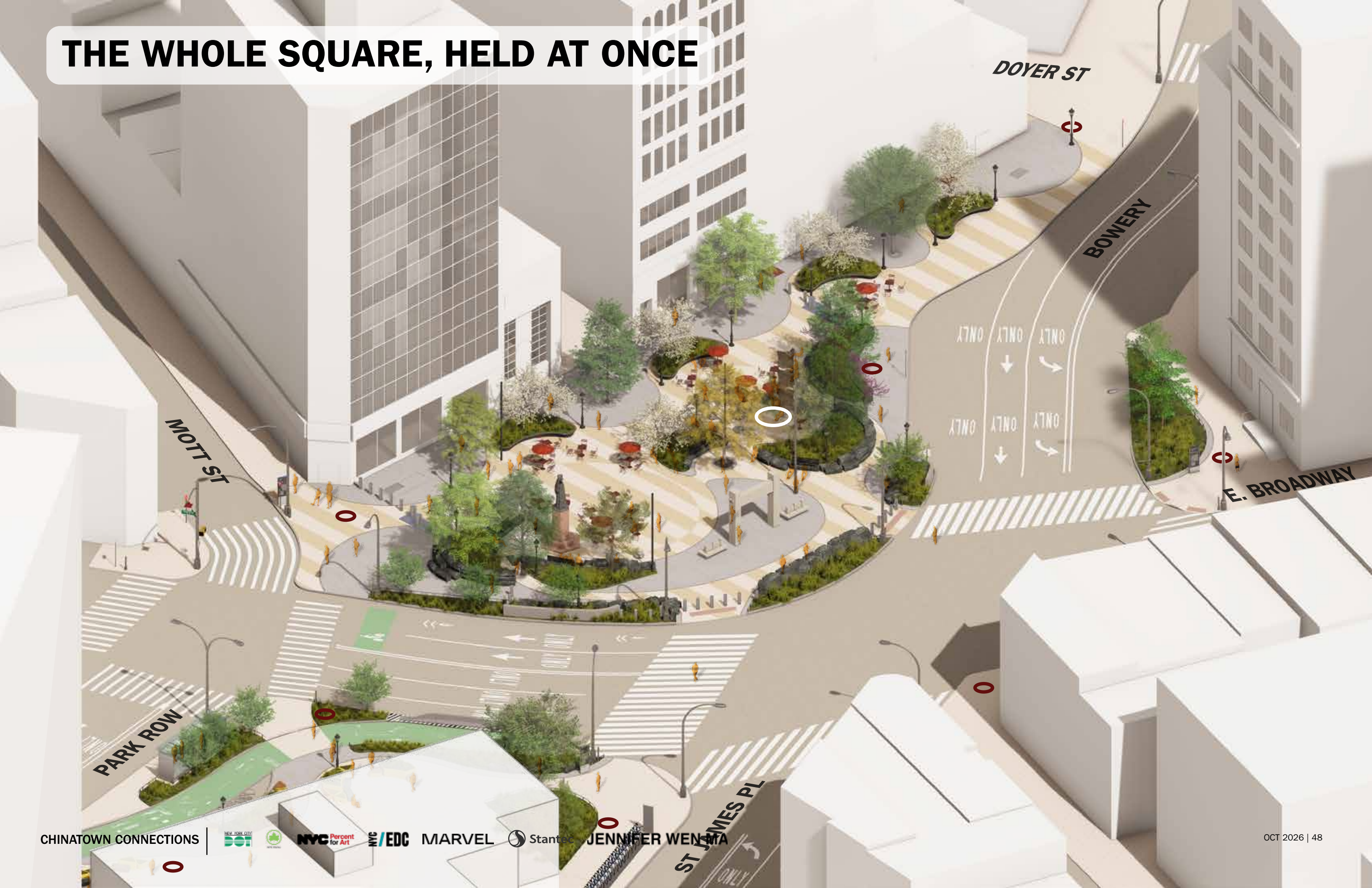
CULTURAL PROGRAM, DISTRIBUTED ACROSS THE PLAZA



A SQUARE THAT IS SAFE AND OPERATIONAL



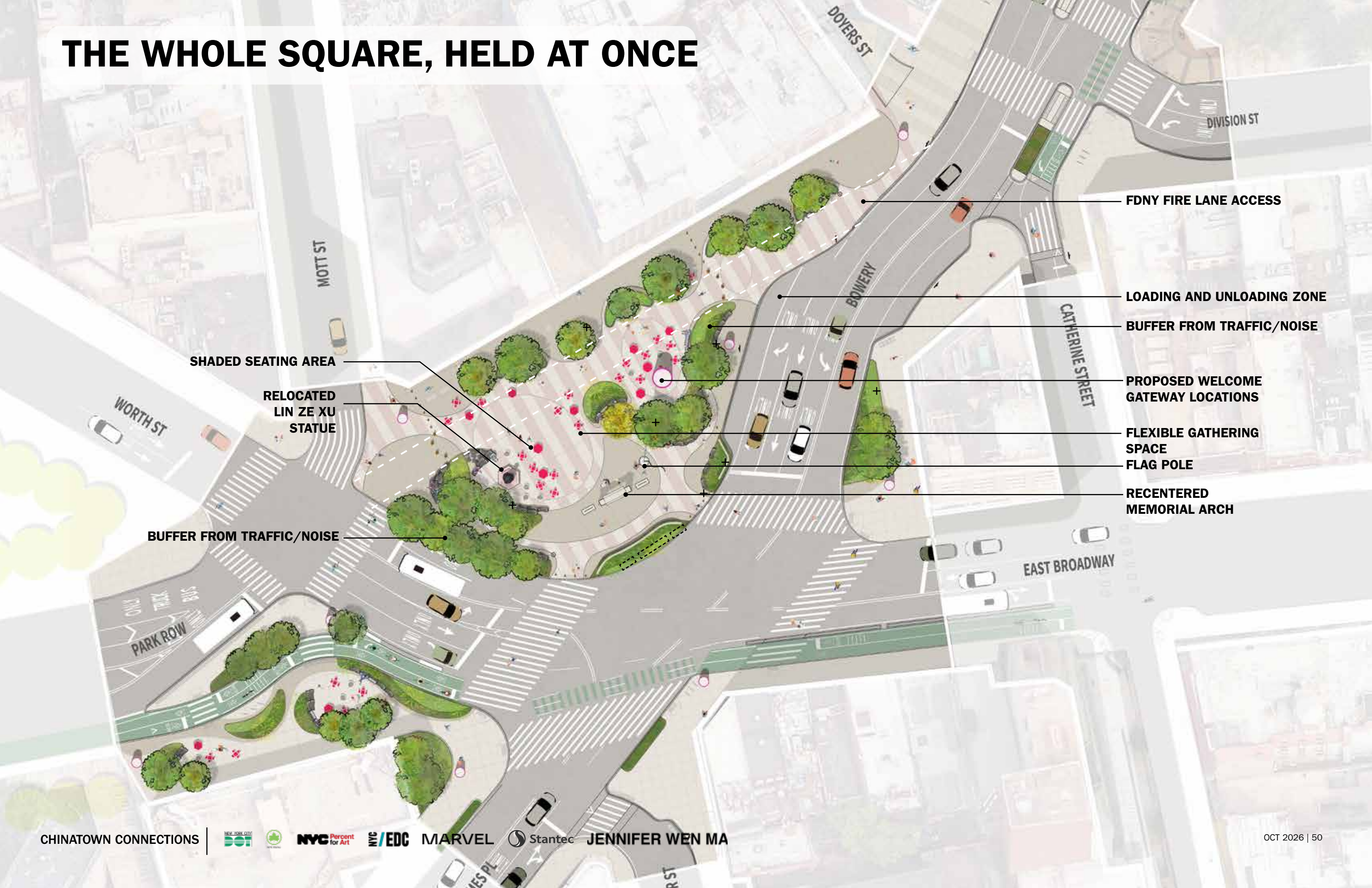
THE WHOLE SQUARE, HELD AT ONCE



THE WHOLE SQUARE, HELD AT ONCE



THE WHOLE SQUARE, HELD AT ONCE



A PLACE WHERE CULTURE THRIVES

A SMALL CLEARING, THE LARGER ONE BEYOND



THROUGH THE THICKET, TOWARD LIN ZE XU



A LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



ROOM FOR A QUIET AFTERNOON DURING SPRING



VIEW OF KIMLAU SQUARE FROM ST JAMES PL

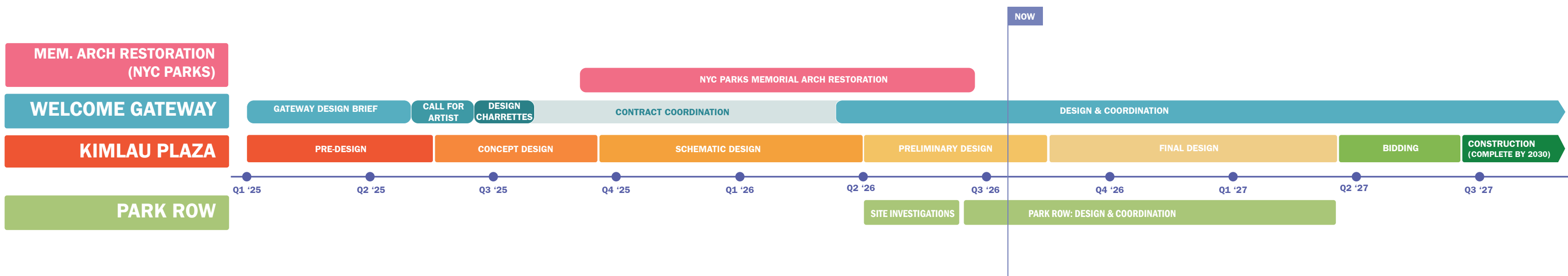


VIEW FROM PARK ROW

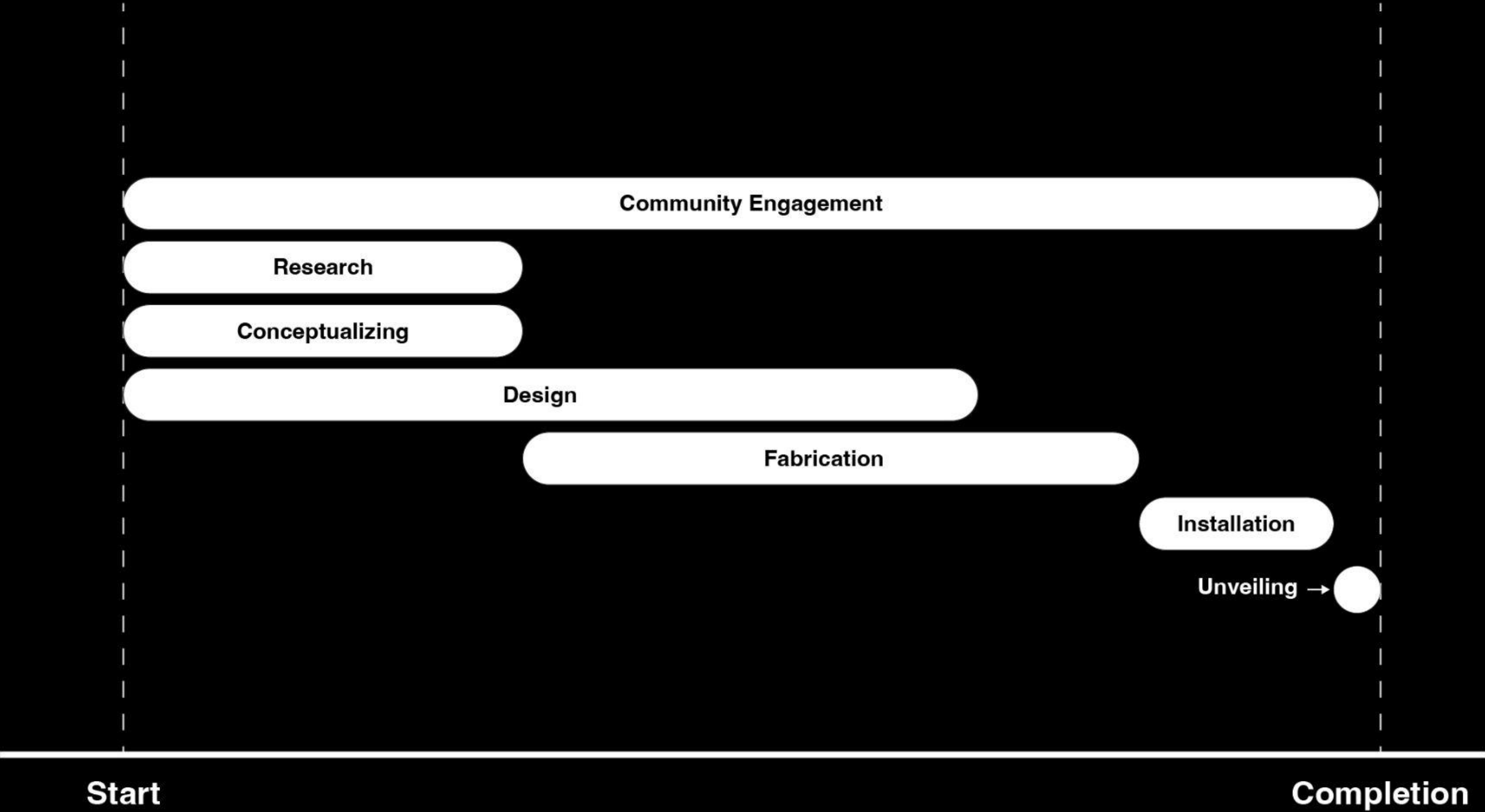
CHINATOWN CONNECTIONS | NYC | MARVEL | Stantec | JENNIFER WEN MA

OCT 2026 | 57

PROJECT TIMELINE



Artistic Process + Timeline



UPCOMING MILESTONES AND SCHEDULE

CONTINUED COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- AMERICAN LEGION
- AMERICAN OVERSEAS FUJIANESE ASSOCIATION
- CHATHAM TOWERS
- CHATHAM GREEN
- CONFUCIUS PLAZA
- SENIOR CENTERS
- HOUSES OF WORKSHIP
- CHINATOWN CONNECTIONS WORKING GROUP MEETING - SEPT 30th

COLLABORATION WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR GATEWAY DESIGN - ONGOING

- COMMUNITY BOARD 3 PRESENTATION - OCT 13th
- COMMUNITY BOARD 1 PRESENTATION - OCT 20th

PUBLIC DESIGN COMMISSION PRESENTATION - NOV 16th

***DOT will be providing the Small Businesses Engagement Summary conducted in August 2026 in the future.**

VISSIM SIMULATION

VISSIM Simulation

- VISSIM is a simulation program that visualizes projected traffic flows
- Modeling program uses:
 - Real traffic volumes including pedestrians, cyclists, vehicles, trucks, and buses
 - Based on collected data and MTA bus schedules
- While the model strives to recreate real world conditions, it is still a simulation and there may be miscalculations including strange lane changing, near misses, and awkward behaviors
- The model shown is for the PM peak hour which is the busiest and represents a 20 minute period at 2 times speed

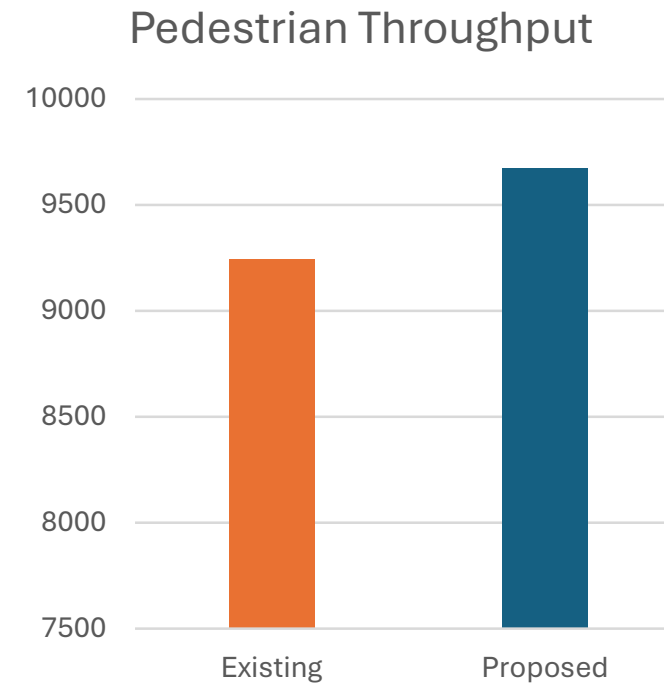


Pedestrian Experience

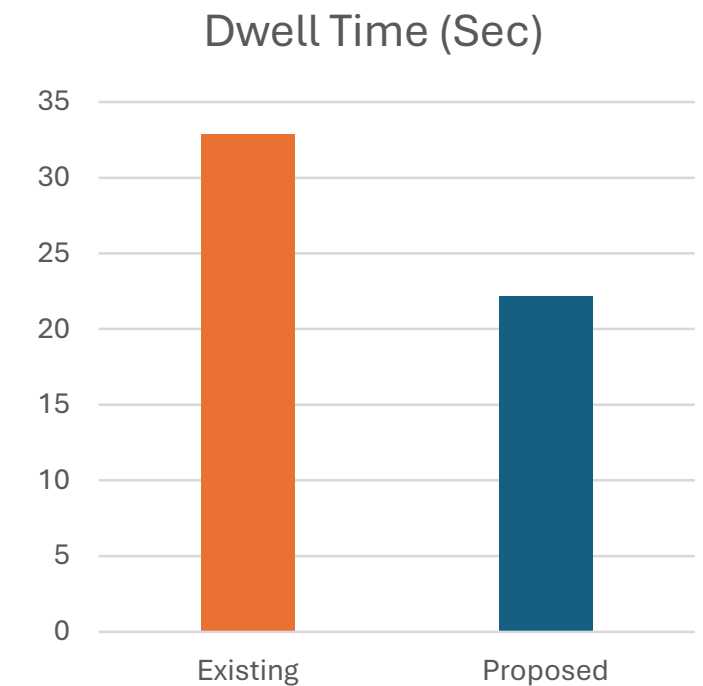
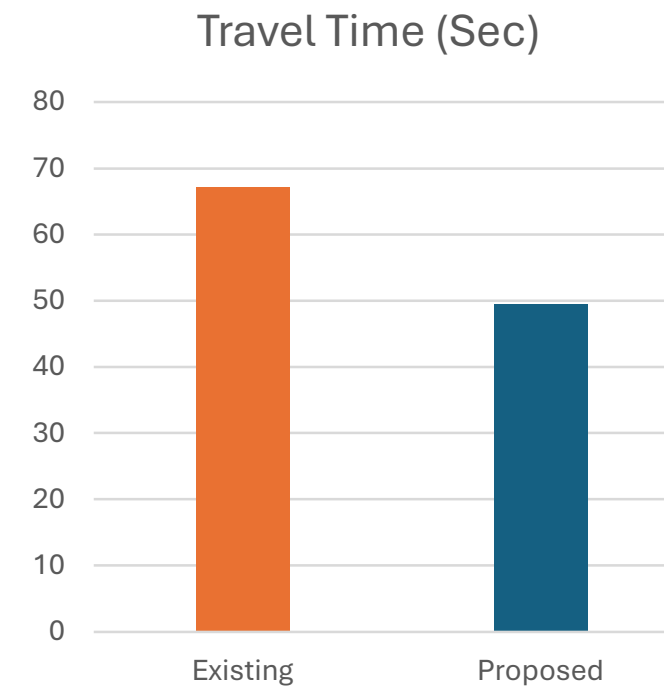
Vissim can evaluate:

- Pedestrian Throughput (number of people who can walk through the model limits)
- Travel Time (includes walking speeds and waiting at traffic signals)
- Dwell Time (amount of time waiting to cross the street)

Overall travel time is reduced **26.4%**
and dwell time is reduced **32.7%**

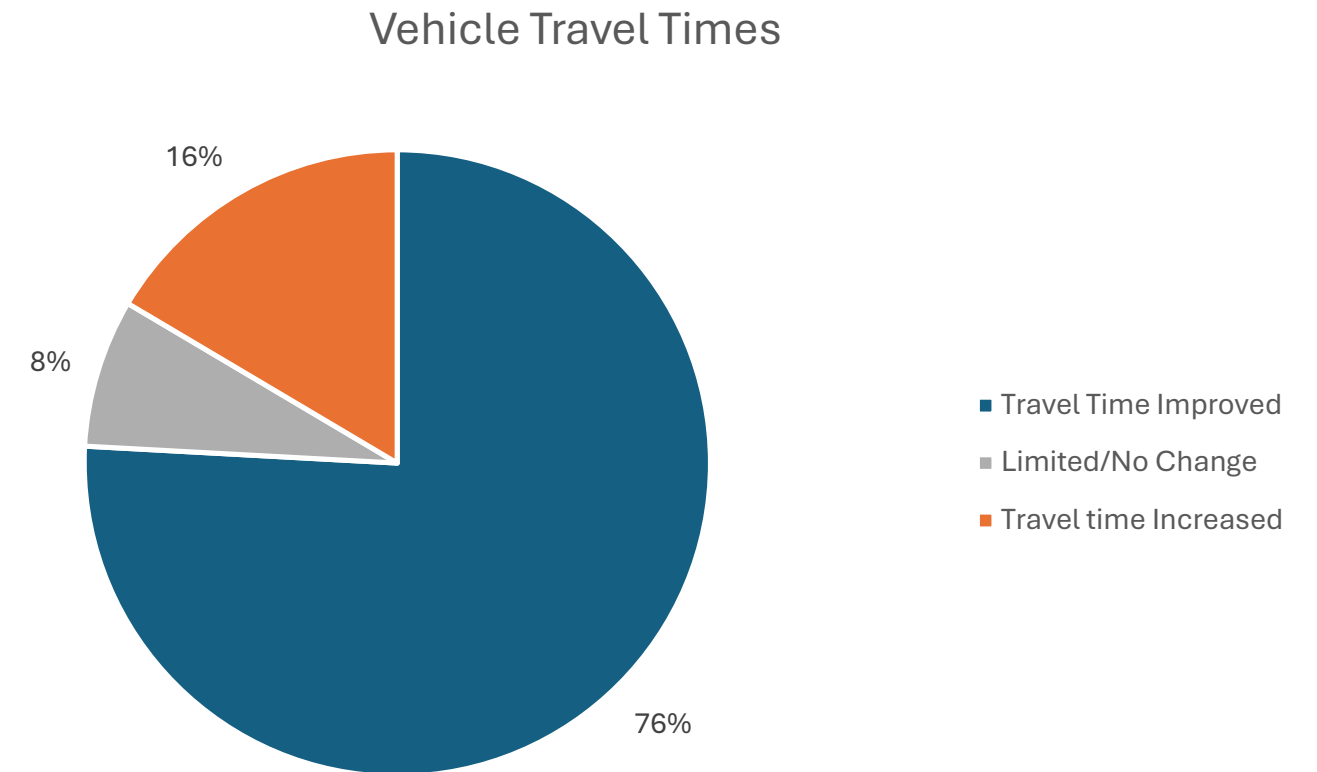


4.6% more pedestrians
can be accommodated
through the square



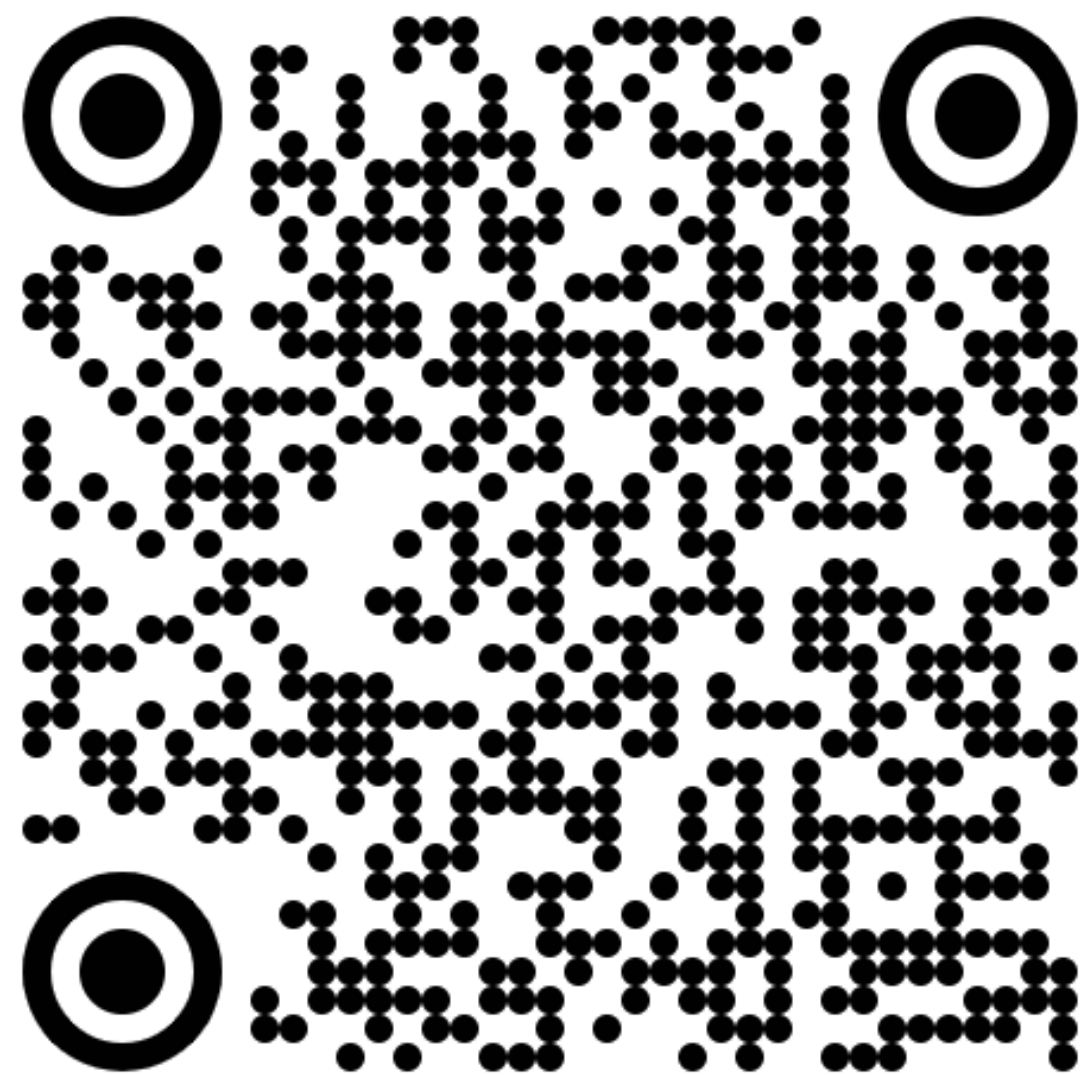
Vehicle Experience

- Majority of vehicle trips would be smoother through the square (**76%**)
- Biggest improvements are for Worth Street to East Broadway (~130 vehicles) which is improved by **85%** and Worth St to Bowery (~80 vehicles) which is improved by **76%**
- Both movements are reduced by ~300 seconds of travel time
- Movement with the largest increase is Worth St to St James (~120 vehicles), however increase in time is still within typical intersection levels (increased from 24 seconds today, to 58 seconds)



76% of vehicle trips would be smoother and quicker through the square

CHINATOWN CONNECTIONS WEBSITE



APPENDIX

2025

FEBRUARY

- 1. CCWG 6 (2/19/25)

MARCH

- 2. Stakeholders: Walk Though (3/21/25)
- 3. Public Meeting #2 PS001 (3/29/25)
- 4. Online Survey (3/29/25 - 6/30/25)

APRIL

- 5. Pop-Up: Kimlau Square #1 (4/8/25)
- 6. Pop-Up: Transfiguration Church (4/8/25)
- 7. Senior Center: NNORC Advisory Board Meeting (4/16/25)
- 8. Pop-Up: Columbus Park (4/17/25)
- 9. Pop-Up: Confucius Plaza (4/17/25)
- 10. Pop-Up: Chinatown Supermarket of Manhattan (4/18/25)
- 11. Pop-Up: Kimlau Square #2 (4/18/25)
- 12. School: PS130 (4/21/25)
- 13. School: PS124 (4/22/25)
- 14. Tabling: Earth Day Event at Smith Rec Center (4/23/25)
- 15. Senior Center: Open Door (4/24/25)
- 16. School: Chrystie St SACC (4/25/25)
- 17. Pop-Up: Kimlau Square #3 (4/26/25)
- 18. Tabling: 80th Anni. Of the American Legion, Lt. B. R. Kimlau Chinese Memorial Post 1291 (4/26/25)
- 19. Tabling: Chinatown Bid Pell Open Street (4/26/25)

MAY

- 20. Tabling: Gotham Park Block Party (5/3/25)
Press Release: Gateway Artist Selection (5/3/25)
- 21. Senior Center: NNORC VNS Health (5/6/25)
- 22. Gateway Artist Info Session at American Legion (5/19/25)
- 23. Gateway Artist Info Session at Think! Chinatown (5/22/25)

JUNE

- 24. Tabling: EEE Festival (6/15/25)
- 25. Senior Center: 100 Gold St. (6/25/25)
- 26. Gateway Artist Selection Panel Meeting (6/25/25)

JULY

- 27. CCWG 7 (7/16/25)
- 28. Gateway Artist Charrettes Day 1 (7/29/25)
- 29. Gateway Artist Charrettes Day 2 (7/30/25)

AUGUST

- 30. Tabling: BID Summer Refreshing Weekend (8/9/25)
- 31. Tabling: Chinatown Block Party (8/10/25)
- 32. Stakeholders: BID Concept Meeting (8/11/25)
- 33. Stakeholders: BID, AL, UOFAA Concept Meeting (8/20/25)
Press Release: Selected Artist (8/21/25)

SEPTEMBER

- 34. Tabling: Smith House Backpack Giveaway (9/2/25)
- 35. CB1 (9/3/25)
- 36. CB3 (9/9/25)
- 37. Chatham Tower Boards and Residents (9/10/25)
- 38. CCWG 8 (9/17/25)
- 39. Chatham Green Annual Shareholders Meeting (9/18/25)

OCTOBER

- Press Release: Conceptual Design (10/21/25)

NOVEMBER

- 40. Stakeholders: BID - Maintenance and Operation meeting (11/7/25)
- 41. Stakeholders: AL Veterans Day at GoGo Dimsum (11/11/25)

DECEMBER

- 42. Stakeholders: BID - Maintenance and Operation Meeting (12/15/25)

2026

FEBRUARY

- 43. CCWG 9 (2/11/26)

MARCH

- 44. Stakeholders: American Legion - Memorial Arch Relocation (3/9/26)
Press Release: American Legion + UOFAA (3/18/26)

- 45. CCWG 10 (3/18/26)

APRIL

- 46. Stakeholders: BID - Maintenance and Operation Meeting (4/4/26)
- 47. Gateway: BID (4/8/26)
- 48. Gateway: American Legion (4/9/26)
- 49. Gateway: CCBA (4/9/26)
- 50. Gateway: Think!Chinatown (4/23/26)

MAY

- 51. Gateway: Phillip Poon (5/5/26)
- 52. Gateway: Chatham Green (5/6/26)
- 53. Gateway: Chatham Towers (5/8/26)
- 54. Tabling: Gotham Block Party (5/9/26)
- 55. CB3 (5/12/26)
- 56. CB1 (5/21/26)

JUNE

- 57. Gateway: VNS Chinatown NNORC (6/3/26)
- 58. Gateway: CPC Chrystie St. After-School Program (6/3/26)
- 59. Gateway: Smith Houses (6/10/26)
- 60. Gateway: Confucius Plaza (6/11/26)
- 61. Gateway: Gotham Park (6/12/26)
- 62. Gateway: 1 on 1 with Chatham Towers Board President (6/15/26)
- 63. Gateway: 1 on 1 with Chatham Green Board President (6/15/26)
- 64. Gateway: Welcome to Chinatown (6/15/26)
- 65. Gateway: Chinatown Business Leaders (6/15/26)

JULY

- 66. CCWG 11 (7/1/26)

SEPTEMBER

- 67. Houses of Worship: Project Meeting {9/17/26)
- 68. Stakeholders: BID Design Update Meeting (9/23/26)
- 69. Stakeholders: BID, AL, UOFAA Design Update Meeting (9/25/26)
- 70. CCWG 12 (9/30/26)

Upcoming:

- Schools, Senior Centers, Business Communities, Local Residents

CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY DESIGN BRIEF



A public art piece intended to highlight Chinatown, Manhattan’s cultural heritage and fulfill a longstanding community desire for an iconic symbol serving as a beacon and wayfinding feature for visitors.

Overview

- Chinatown welcome gateway subgroup is a group of community leaders that help guide the gateway process from design to implementation.
- The group is organized and supported by NYCEDC, DCLA, and NYSDOS.
- The subgroup developed the design brief after 6 meetings over a six month period.

Members

- Kenny Chan, United Overseas Fujianese Ass'n of America
- Nolan Chang, Community Leader
- Wellington Chen, Chinatown BID/LDC
- Gabe Mui, American Legion – Post 1291
- Raymond Tsang, Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association
- Cheryl Wing-Zi Wong, Local Artist

PUBLISHED ON: MAY 2, 2025
CALL FOR ARTIST DEADLINE: JUNE 15, 2025

The Design Brief was prepared by the following Consulting Teams: 3x3, Public Works Partners, and Fu Wilmers Design.

CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

DESIGN BRIEF: DESIGN GUIDELINES

01

MULTIFACETED EXPERIENCE

Ensure the Welcome Gateway is not a monolith but an interactive experience that extends beyond its physical structure.

02

GUIDING SYMBOL

Design the Welcome Gateway to be a clear and recognizable symbol, serving as a beacon and wayfinding feature for visitors.

03

GATHERING SPACE

Design the Welcome Gateway as an integral part of the community, creating a surrounding space that invites community members to gather and rest.

04

CELEBRATE HERITAGE

The Welcome Gateway should honor Chinatown’s rich cultural heritage, celebrate diversity, and foster a sense of belonging.

CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

DCLA PERCENT FOR ART PROCESS: ARTIST SELECTION

INITIATION	ARTIST SELECTION			DESIGN DEVELOPMENT	
Project Initiation	Artist Selection Panel	Design Charrettes	Artist Selection Meeting	Artist Community Presentation	PDC Conceptual Design Review
- Community Project Brief from EDC to share goals / hopes for the artwork - Community suggests panel members - Community shares artist suggestions to be considered for Panel	Selection Panel (including community Advisory panel members) reviews the previous work of artist pool and votes to select finalists and alternates to invite to participate in Design Charrette	- Community Members attend virtually and may submit questions moderated by DCLA and integrated into the discussions. - Daily debrief at end of charrettes	Community Members participate in discussion as Advisory Panelists, providing feedback and final impressions to inform the final voting selection.	- Conceptual Design presentation by Artist - Q+A with Artist and Feedback from Community Members - Letter of Support requested from Community Board	- PDC meeting is open to the public - Members of the public may provide testimony - PDC votes for Conceptual Design Approval

CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

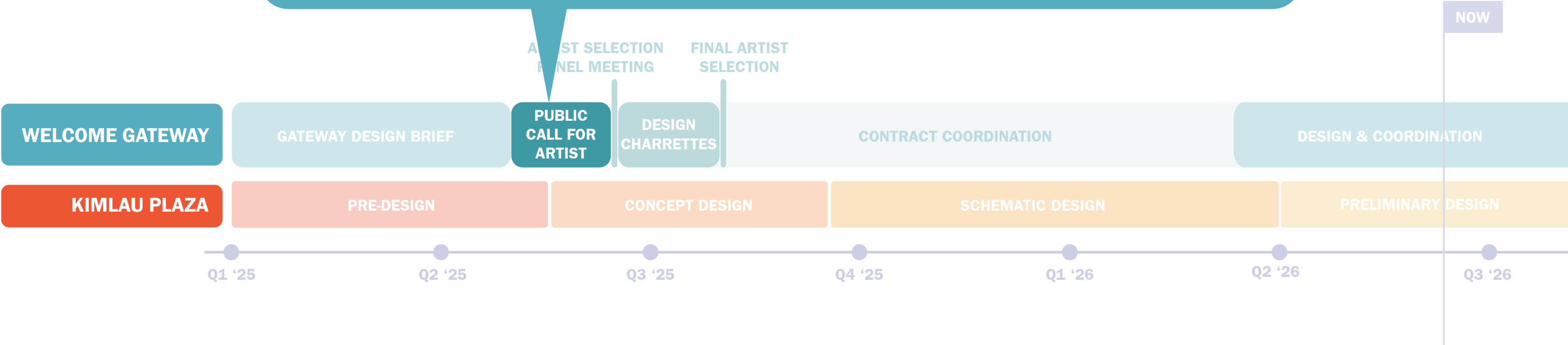
DCLA PERCENT FOR ART PROCESS: ARTIST SELECTION



PUBLIC CALL FOR ARTIST INFO SESSION 1
2025 05 19



PUBLIC CALL FOR ARTIST INFO SESSION 2
2025 05 22



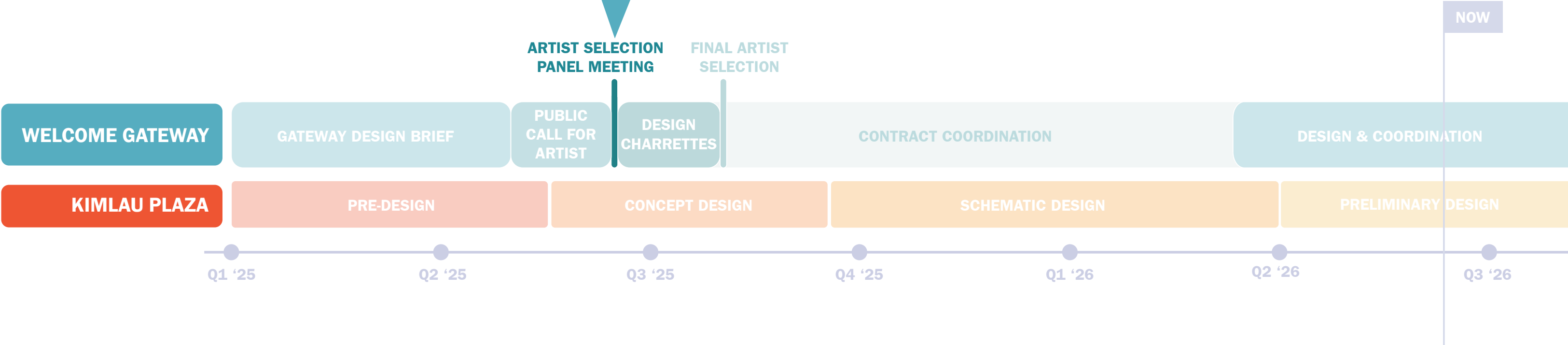
CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

DCLA PERCENT FOR ART PROCESS: ARTIST SELECTION



ARTIST SELECTION PANEL MEETING 2025 06 25

- PUBLIC INVITED TO ATTEND
- COLLECTIVELY RANKED 30+ ARTISTS PRESENTED BY DCLA
- 50+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS ATTENDED AND PARTICIPATED IN REVIEWING AND SELECTING ARTISTS
- SHORTLISTED 4 ARTISTS AND 2 ALTERNATE CANDIDATES TO PARTICIPATE IN DESIGN CHARRETTES



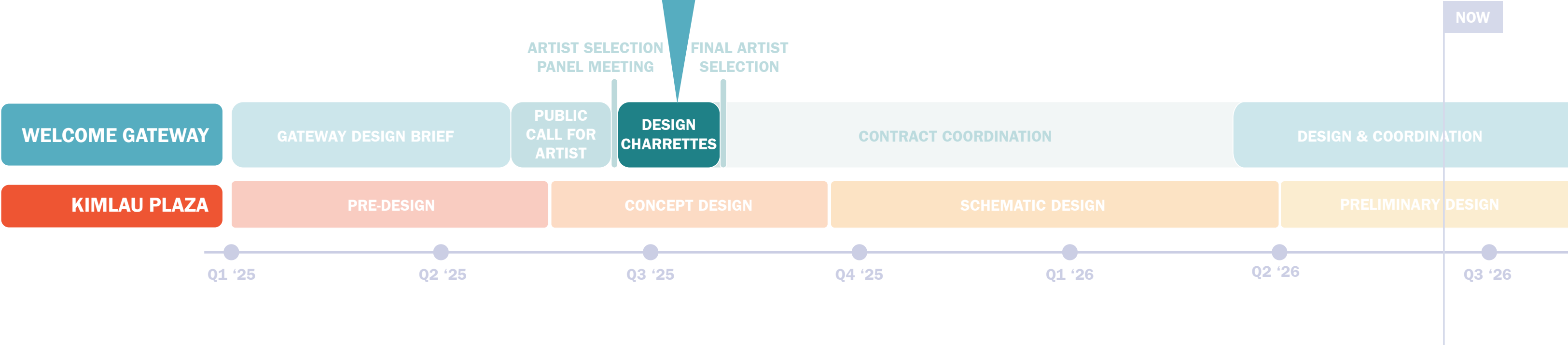
CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

DCLA PERCENT FOR ART PROCESS: ARTIST SELECTION



ARTIST CHARETTES DAY 1+2
2025 07 29 - 2025 07 30

- 4 ARTISTS INVITED TO PRESENT THEIR WORK
- MEETINGS OPENED TO THE PUBLIC VIRTUALLY
- COMMUNITY SHARED COMMENTS AND THOUGHTS TO INFORM FINAL ARTIST SELECTION



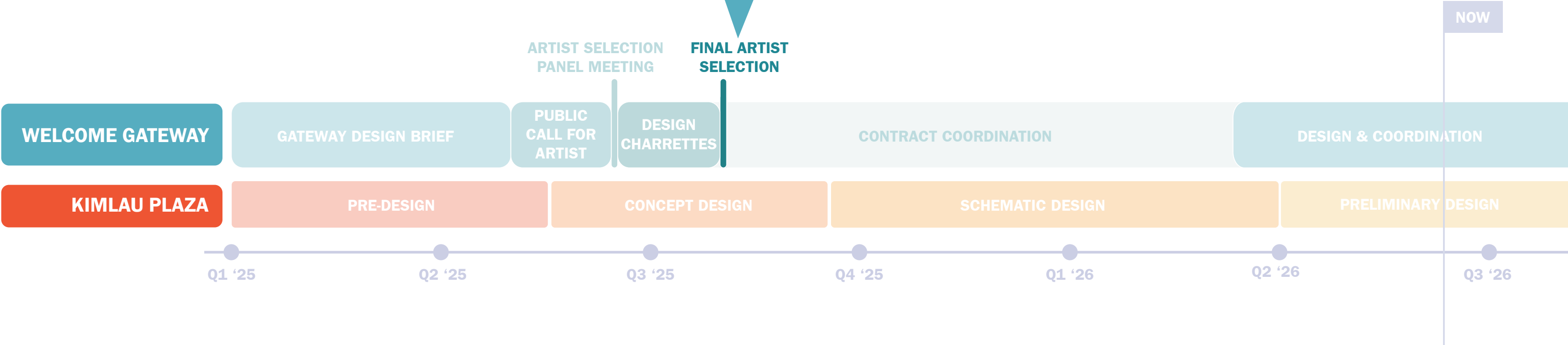
CHINATOWN WELCOME GATEWAY

DCLA PERCENT FOR ART PROCESS: ARTIST SELECTION



FINAL ARTIST SELECTION 2025 08 01

- SELECTION COMMITTEE UNANIMOUSLY SELECTED JENNIFER WEN MA BASED ON COMMUNITY FEEDBACK AS WELL AS PAST EXPERIENCE WITH CHINATOWN



Jennifer Wen Ma: Selected Works



Everchange, projected completion 2029
New York City Public Design Commission for 70 Mulberry Street
New York

Jennifer Wen Ma: Selected Works



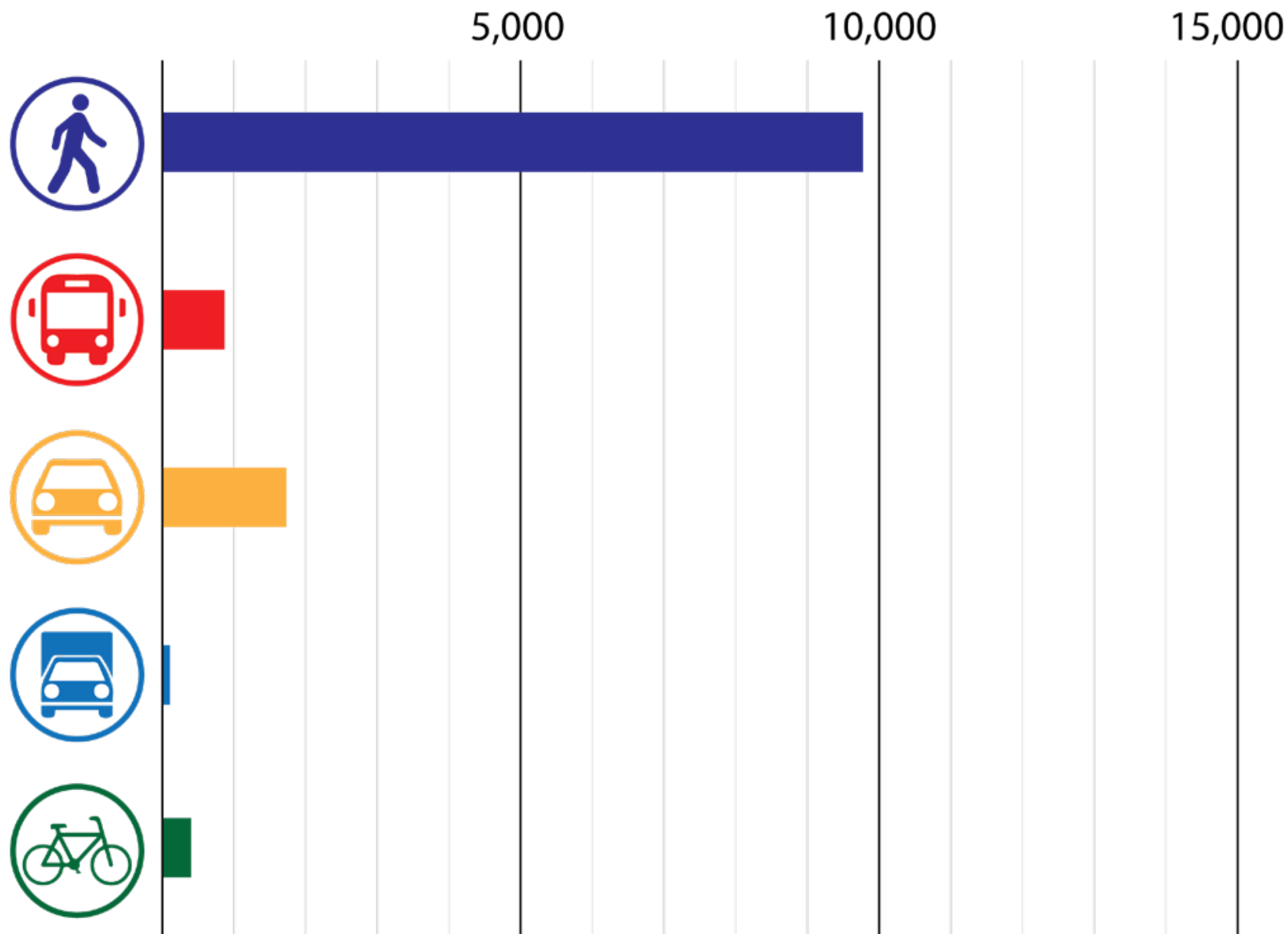
A Landscape of Metamorphosis: No End to End, 2022
MGM Cotai
Macau, China

Jennifer Wen Ma: Selected Works



Paradise Interrupted, 2018
Taipei National Theatre and Concert Hall
Taipei, Taiwan

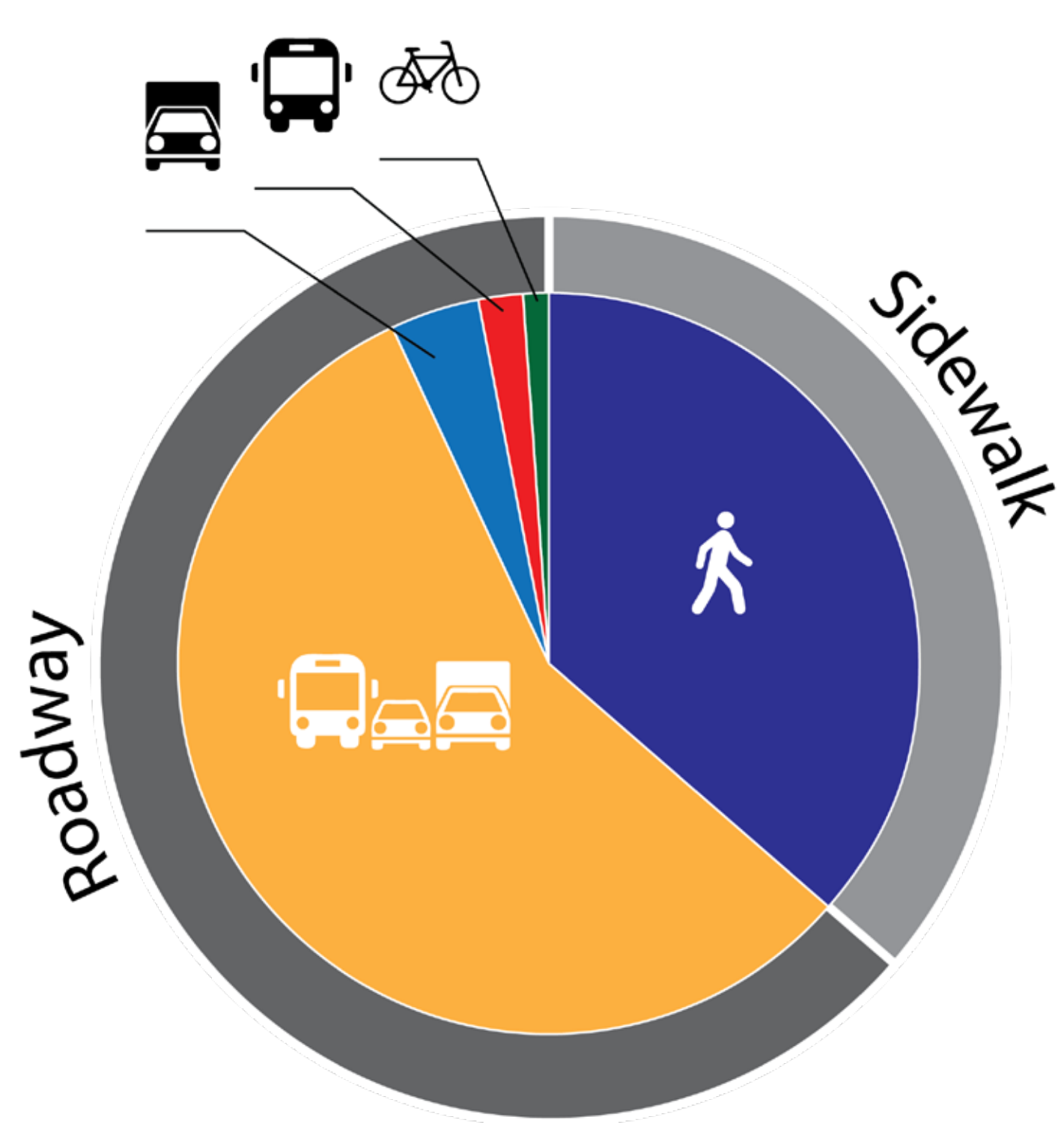
EXISTING KIMLAU SQUARE - USERS AT PM PEAK HOUR



THE SQUARE TODAY IS FULL OF PEOPLE

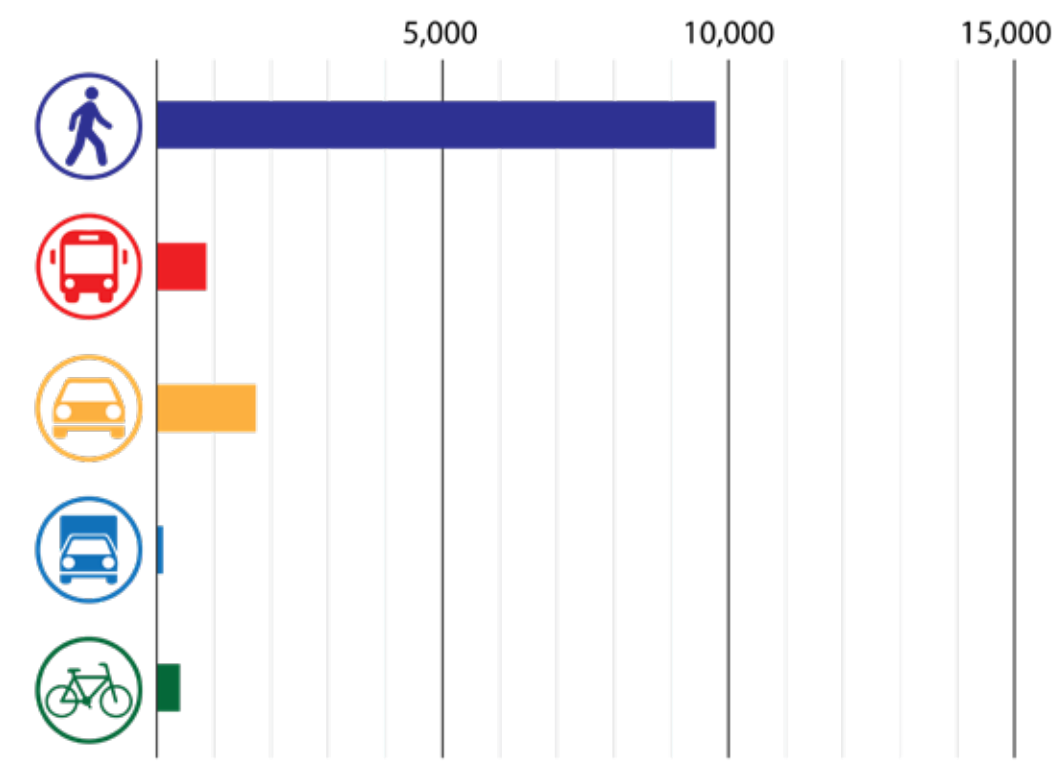
PEDESTRIANS ACCOUNT FOR ALMOST 80% OF USERS

EXISTING KIMLAU SQUARE - ROAD SHARE SPACE CHART



**THE CURRENT SQUARE IS
MOSTLY ROADWAYS**

**ONLY 1/3 OF THE SPACE IS
FOR PEDESTRIANS**



Space shared between different modes - Current

Current Users (PM Peak Hour)

STREET AND PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN PRINCIPLES

- Standard, four-way intersections are safer, more predictable for pedestrians, and function more smoothly.
- Straight, thru-travel movements are safer and more efficient than turning movements.
- Shorter crosswalks reduce exposure and are more accessible/easier to cross for pedestrians, specifically seniors and children.
- Distance between intersections reduce congestion and queuing.
- Larger, consolidated open spaces are more flexible and can better meet a variety of needs.



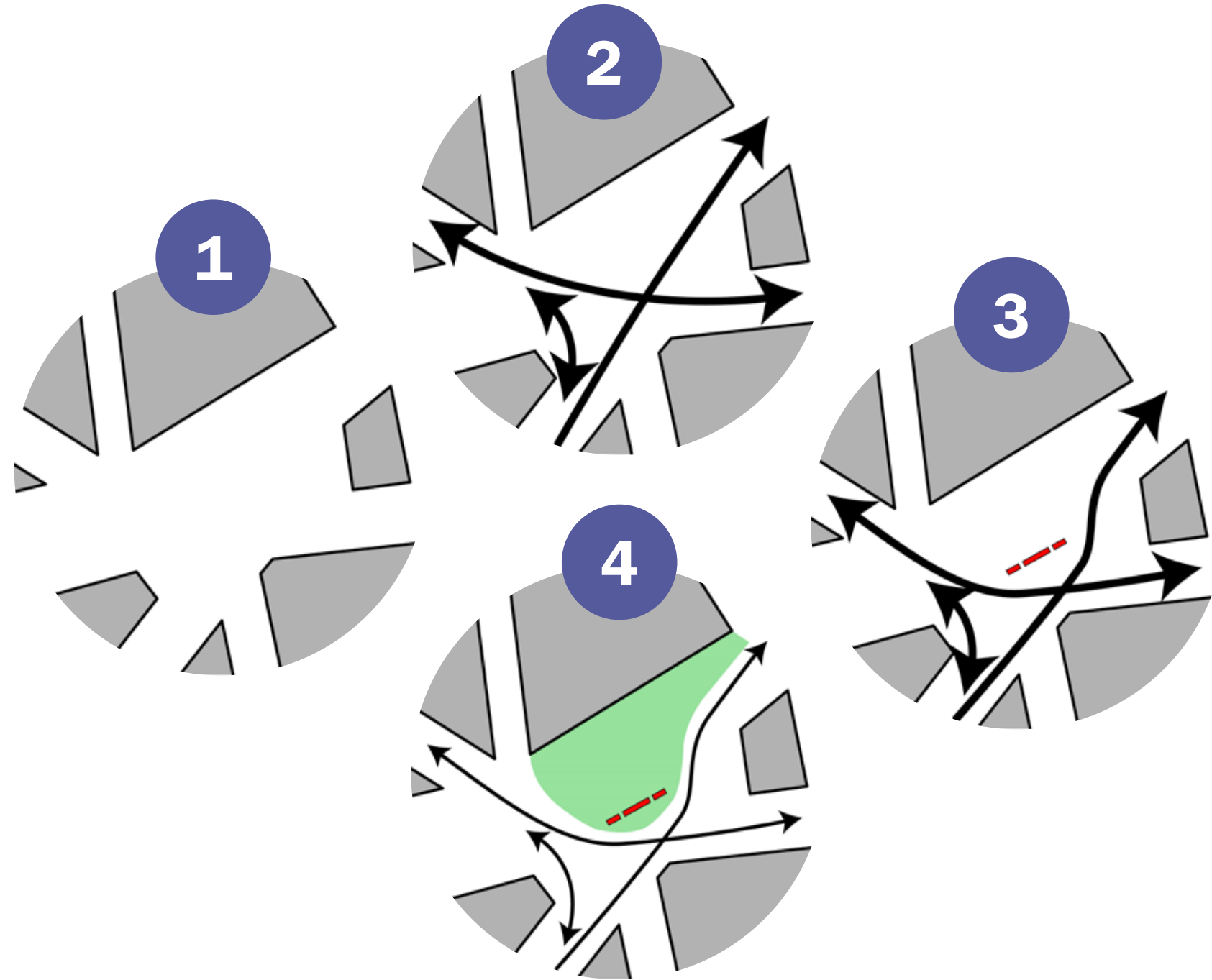
STREET AND PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN PROCESS

1. WORK WITHIN THE EXISTING RIGHT-OF-WAY BOUNDARIES.

2. REALIGN INTERSECTION TO STANDARD FOUR-WAY TRAFFIC MOVEMENTS

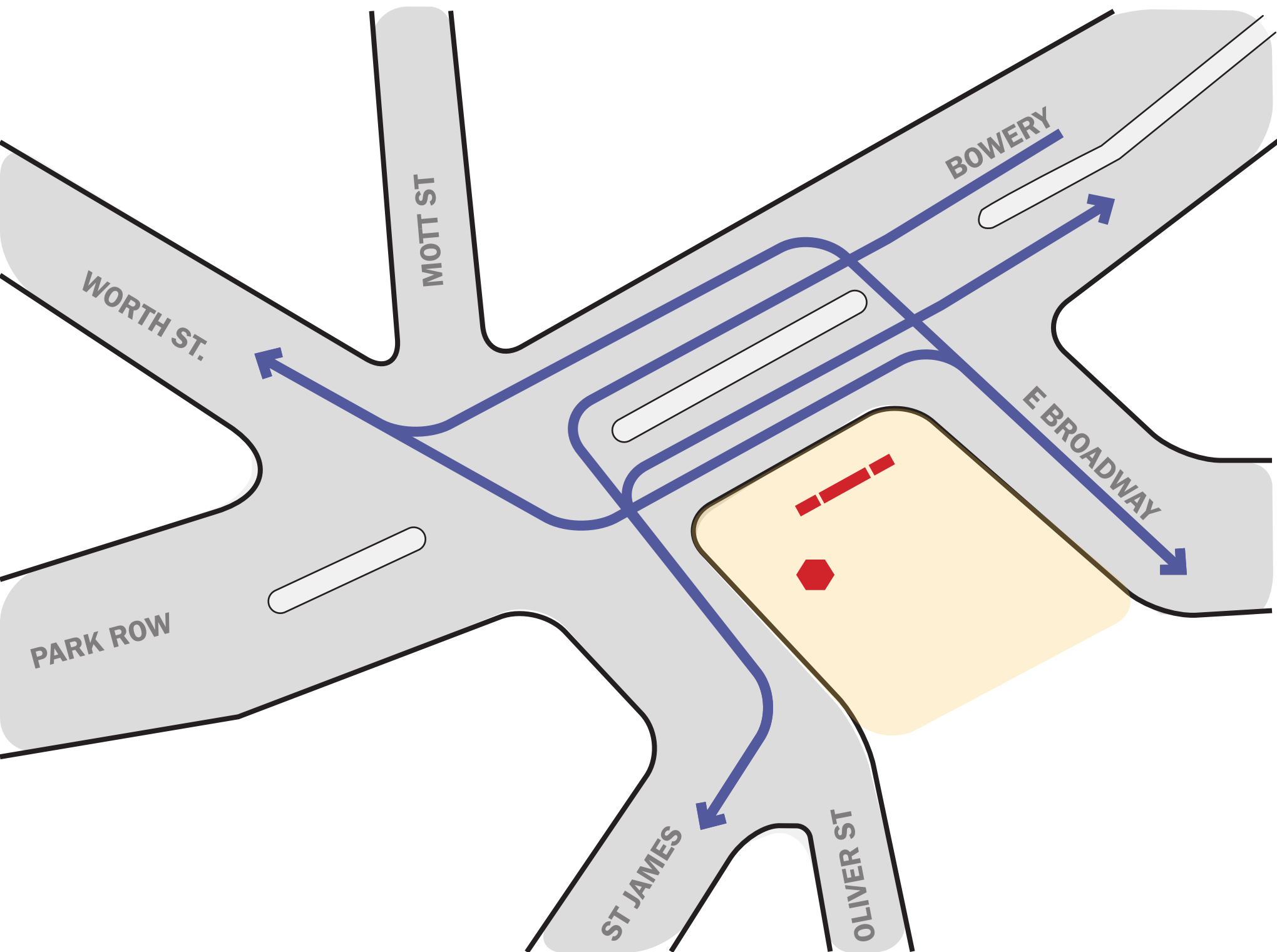
3. RECENTER/RELOCATE MONUMENTS

4. PRIORITIZE PUBLIC SPACE WITHIN THE INTERSECTION



Alternatives Reviewed

Renovate In Place



Does Not Improve Circulation

- Long pedestrian crossings on Bowery
- Complex traffic intersection
- Turning vehicle conflicts with pedestrians
- Key connections require 2 turns

Underground Infrastructure Limitation

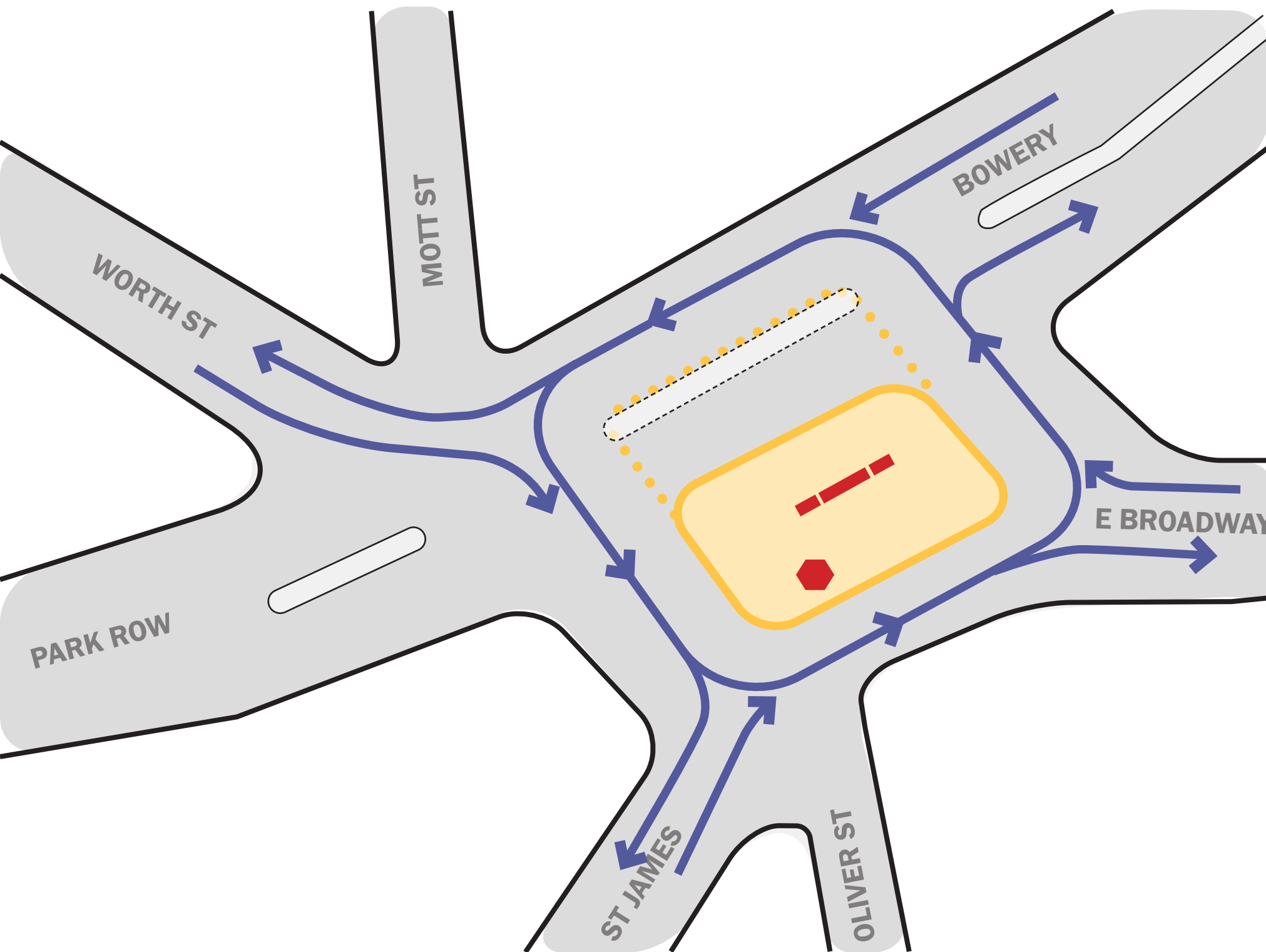
- Limited areas for tree planting
- Plantings must be in raised areas
- DEP and private utility work still needed
- Limited construction timeline benefits

Constrained Public Space

- Limited space for larger events
- Difficult to create buffer from roadways

Alternatives Reviewed

Traffic Circle



Does Not Improve Circulation

- Create more conflicts, reduce pedestrians and cyclists safety
- Long wait to cross street
- Wider roadways needed for large vehicles turning

Underground Infrastructure Limitation

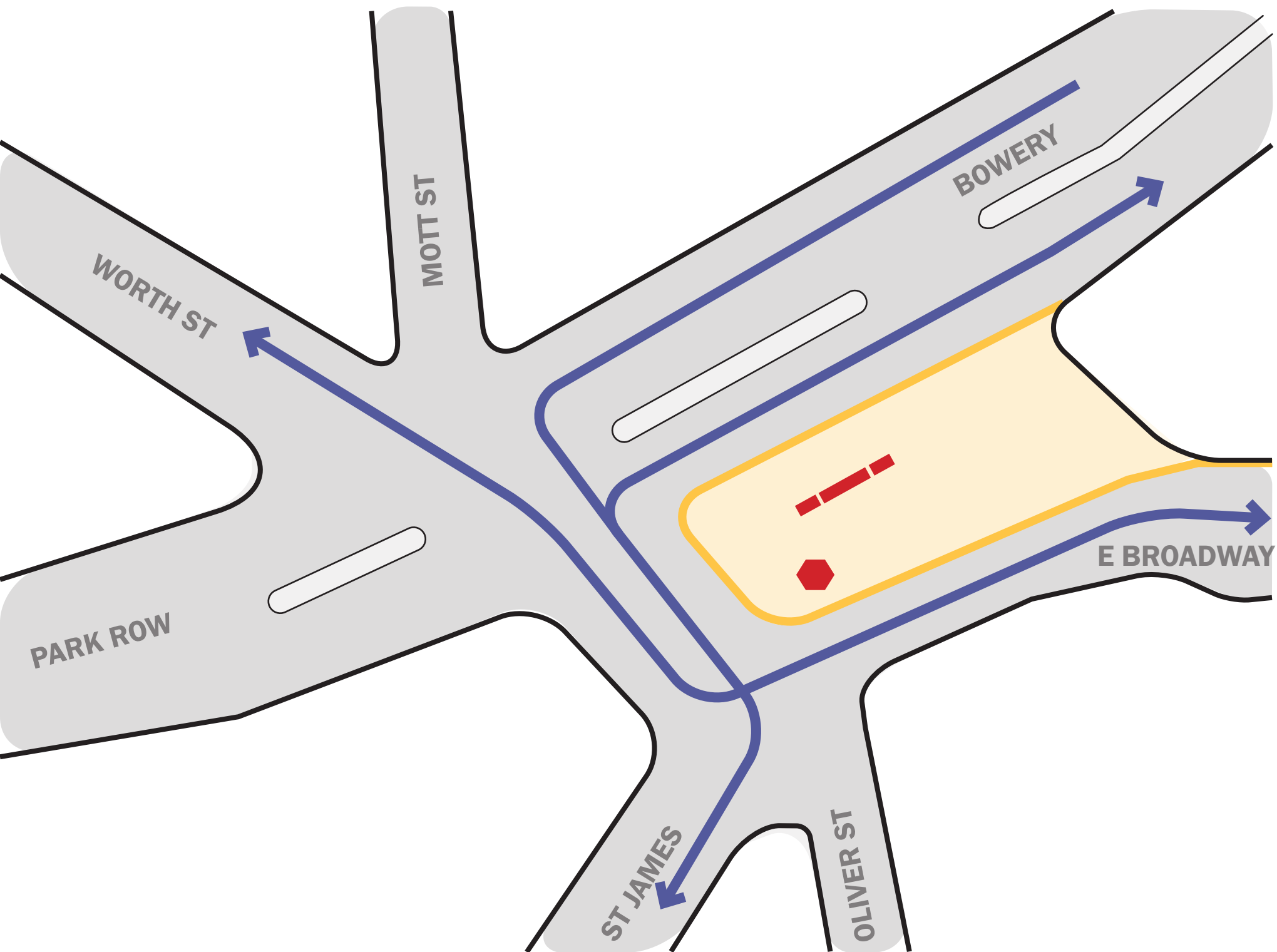
- Limited areas for tree planting
- Plantings must be in raised areas
- DEP and private utility work still needed
- Limited construction timeline benefits

Constrained Public Space

- Smaller footprint will displace existing programming /events
- Surrounded by traffic on all sides.
- Difficult to create buffer from roadways.

Alternatives Reviewed

Expand Plaza to North-east Corner



Does Not Improve Circulation

- Long pedestrian crossings on Bowery.
- Complex intersections
- Turning vehicle conflicts with pedestrians
- Key connections require 2 turns
- New connection between East Broadway and St James only benefits ~2-3% of vehicle trips

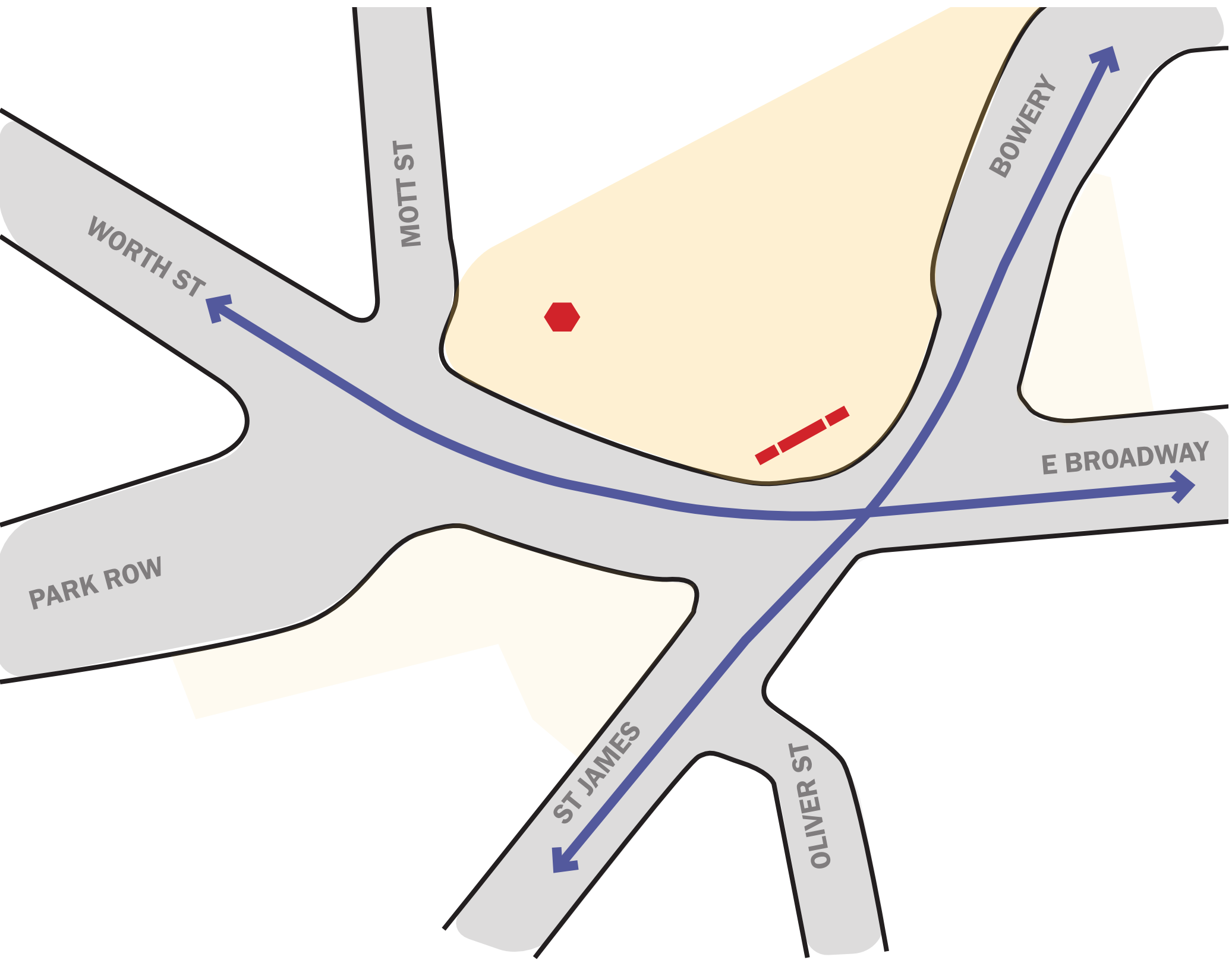
Underground Infrastructure Limitation

- Limited areas for tree planting.
- Plantings must be in raised areas.
- DEP and private utility work still needed.
- Limited construction timeline benefits.

Constrained Public Space

- Smaller footprint will displace existing programming /events
- Surrounded by traffic on three sides.
- Difficult to create buffer from roadways.

Proposed Configuration



Improves Circulation

- Shortens pedestrian crossings
- Simpler intersections
- Reduce conflicts between turning vehicles and pedestrians
- Direct and turn-free key connections

Moves Plaza Away From Complex Underground Infrastructure

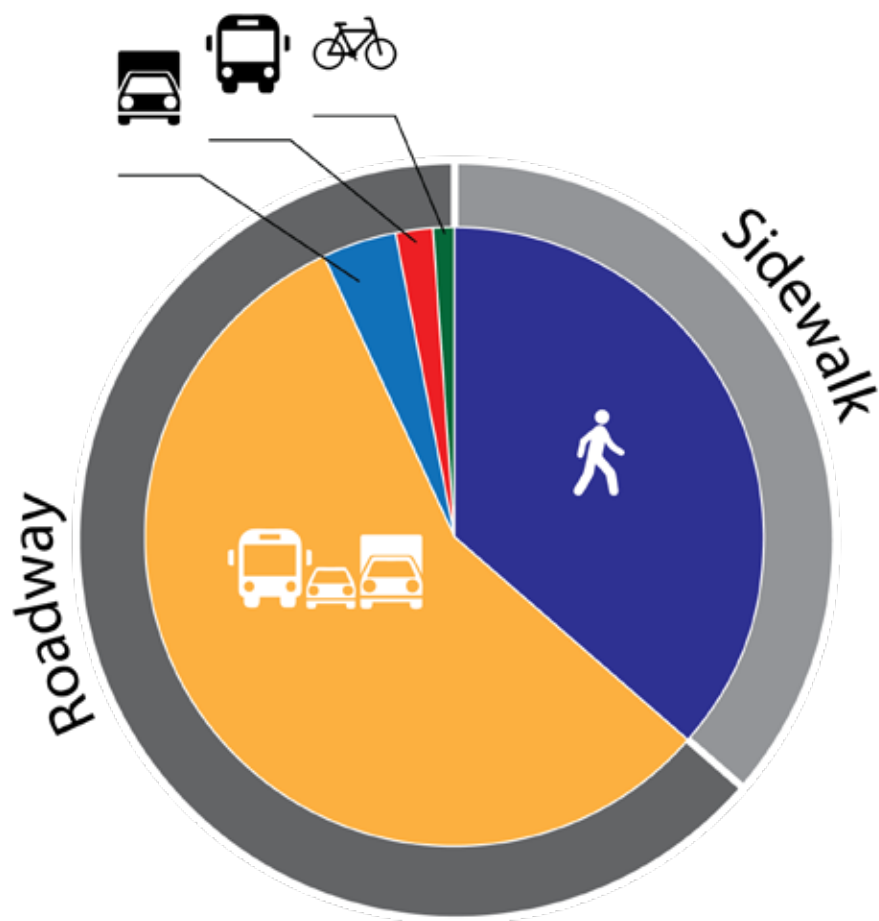
- More opportunities for trees and greenery

Substantially Enlarged Public Space

- Larger gatherings to host events
- Surrounded by traffic on only two side.
- More space to create buffer from roadways
- Additional space provides flexibility for the Gateway Art piece

SPATIAL COMPARISON KIMLAU SQUARE

EXISTING VEHICULAR-CENTERED

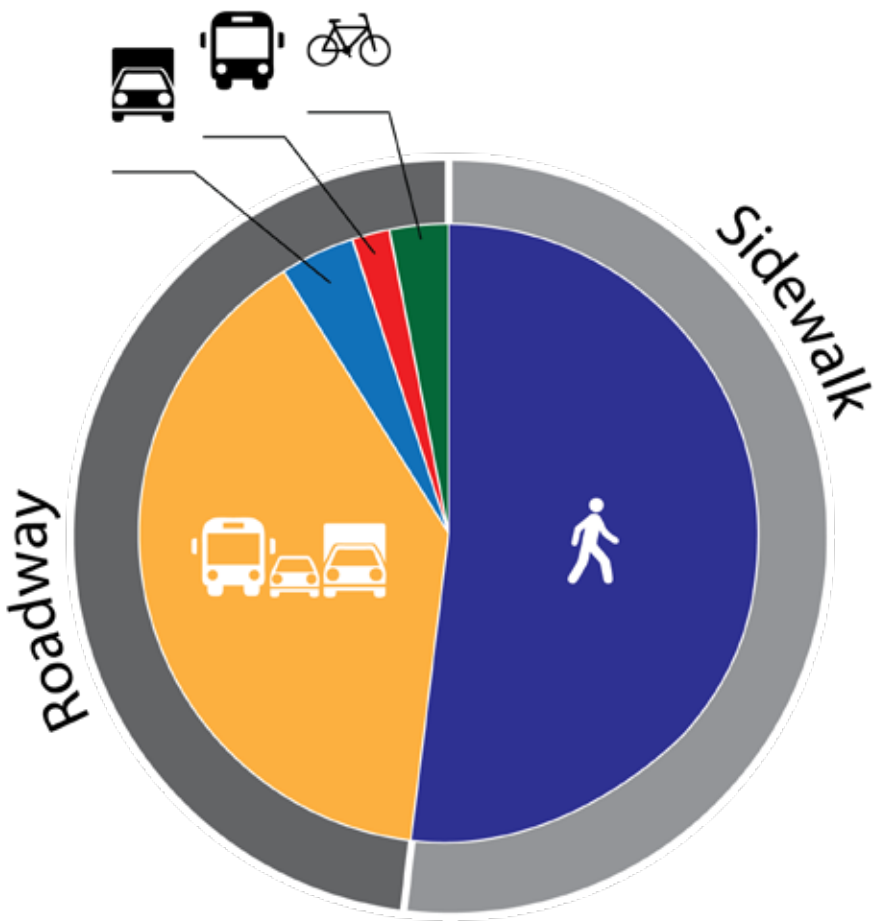


Space shared between different modes - Current

THE CURRENT SQUARE IS MOSTLY ROADWAYS

ONLY 1/3 OF THE SPACE IS FOR PEDESTRIANS

PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN-CENTERED



Space shared between different modes - Proposed

A REDESIGN ALLOWS FOR THE CREATION OF A MUCH LARGER OPEN SPACE

FULFILLS THE GOAL OF BETTER ACCOMMODATING CULTURAL FESTIVITIES AND GATHERINGS