

An aerial photograph of a city grid, likely Calgary, showing a dense network of streets, buildings, and green spaces. A river flows through the lower left, and a major highway interchange is visible in the center. The text "CALGARY CROSSROADS" is overlaid in large white letters.

# CALGARY CROSSROADS

EVPD 644 B02 | Winter 2020  
University of Calgary | School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape

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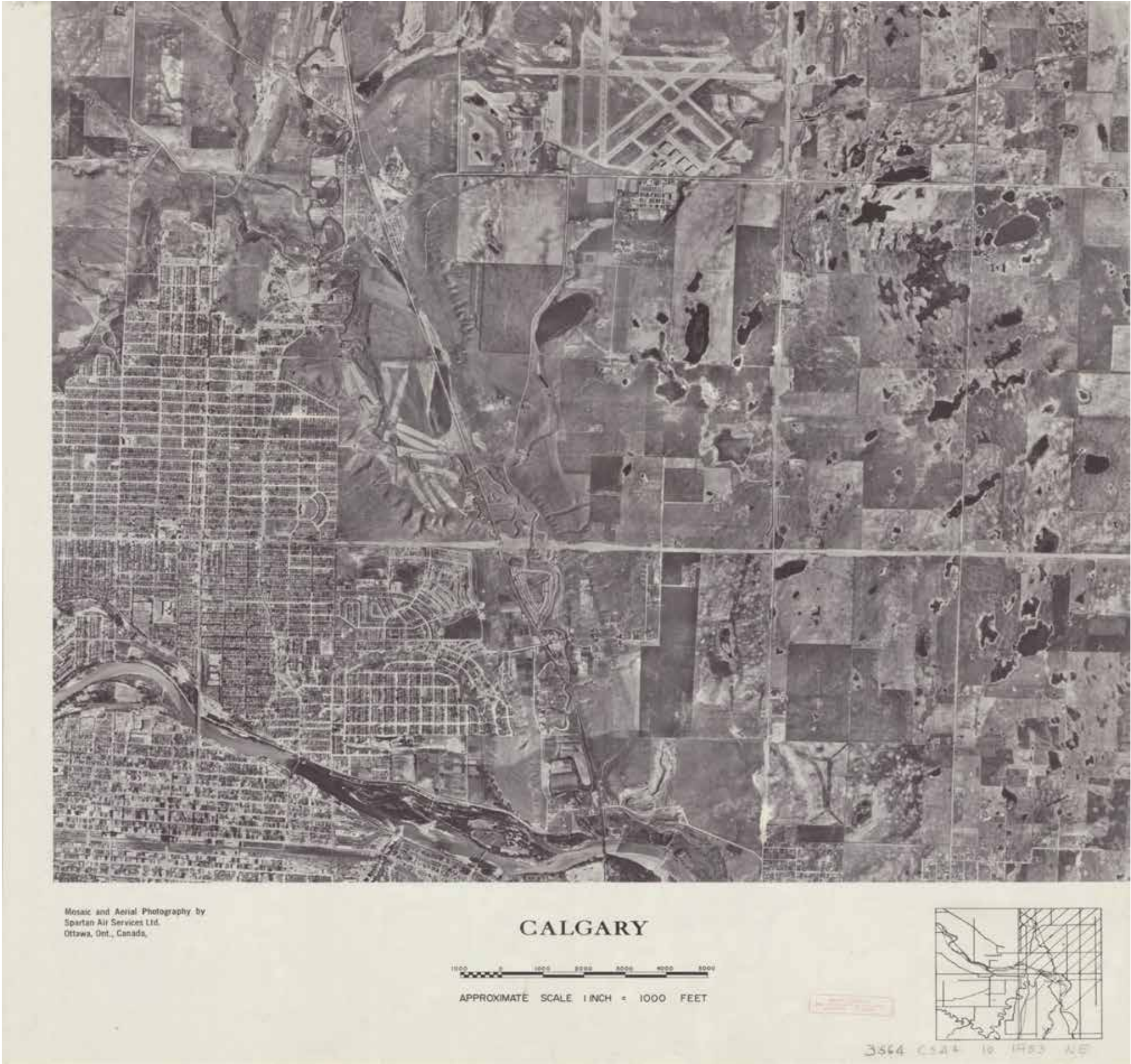
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# PREFACE



Crossroads, Calgary (1953)

This report summarizes the work undertaken during the capstone studio of the class of 2018 at the School of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape. The students complete with this their professional graduate degree in planning.

The work focuses on participation and design, exploring how these two aspects can be brought together in the planning of the built environment.

Learning in an academic context might seem very theoretical. For this studio, the collaboration with the Community of Crossroads brought a very different angle to the format. The students met with the CA, community stakeholders, as well as the public in workshops, discussions, tours, and presentations. They not only designed, but also participated themselves in the process to develop and debate a range of possible visions for the future of the built environment in Crossroads.

The dramatic shift brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and the resulting shut down of everyday life changed the participation approach. While in the first half of the studio, the focus was on analog and in-person collaboration, it had to shift to an entirely digital format. A steep learning curve, combined with a whole range of contextual problems and small



and large emergencies, made it a daunting and challenging task. Nevertheless, the persistence, notion for experimentation, and excellent flexibility of the student cohort enabled the group to turn an obstacle into an asset.

The discussions and explorations have led to a variety of projects, none of them alike. Different themes from local assets such as breweries, as a **Recipe**, to connectivity and wayfinding, **Weaving**, including infrastructure questions such as walkways and crossings, as usual as **Norm Core** were tackled. Other projects took on the aspect of culture, how diversity, especially in the North East, captured in the **Market** as a venue creates shared identity or indeed tackling the process itself to build a vision around a **Heart** of the community.

The exploration into the potential of online participation was generously supported by Engagement HQ by not only allowing the students to use their platform for their participation part of the project but also by providing extensive training and feedback sessions on how to use the tools and formats.

It allowed over 1,000 people to participate online over a relatively short time. Furthermore, the live streaming of the final review on social media was watched

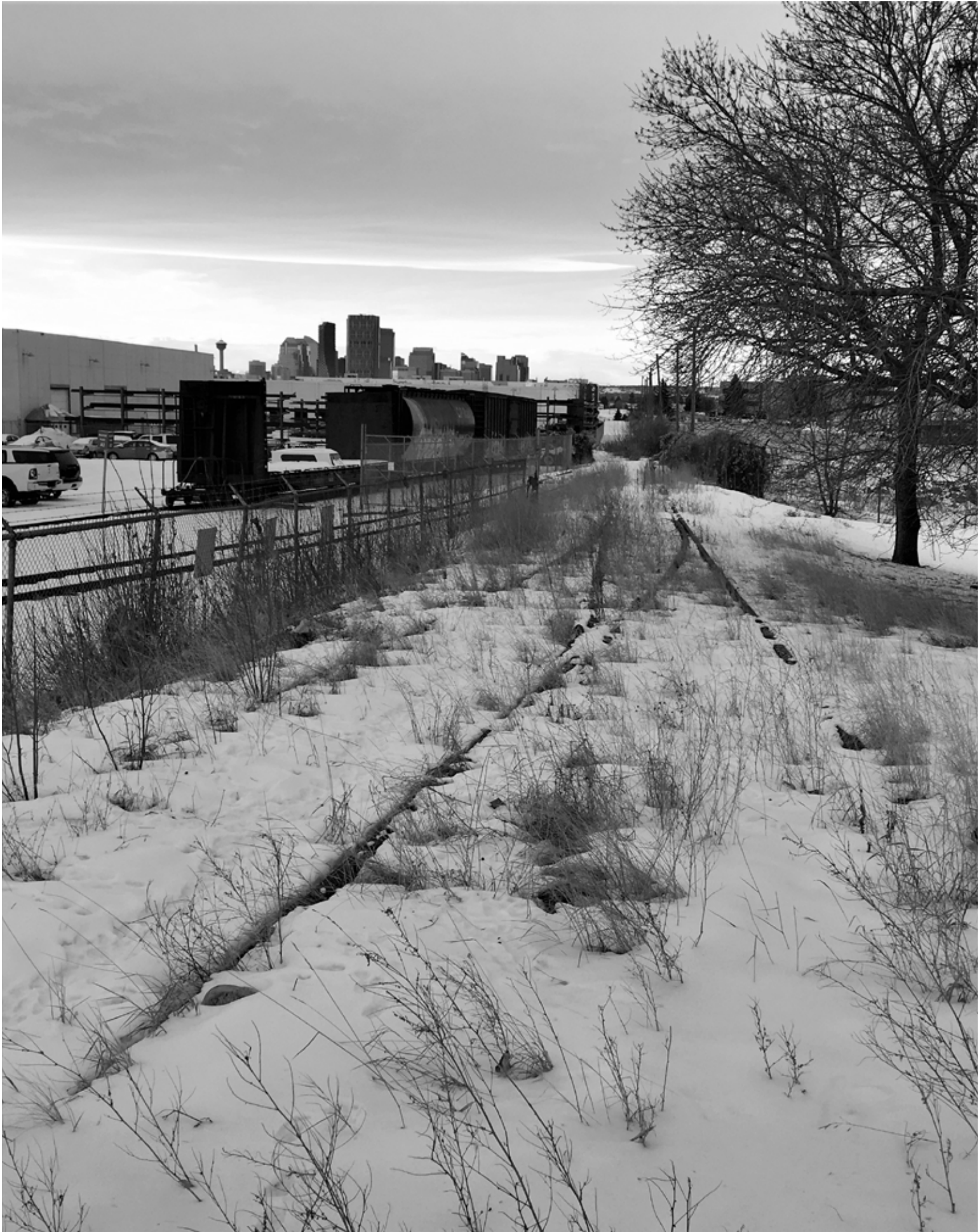
over 1,600 times. Discussions were held in different forms and platforms alongside developing the proposals. In the end, those unexpected circumstances and the boring sheltering at home was turned into a very successful digital interaction for all stakeholders involved.

We would like to thank the Community of Crossroads for their openness to discuss their neighborhood, the Community Association, for the invitation to collaborate. The projects were supported in a series of crit discussions with experts. Special thanks go out to **Anthea Brown**, EngagementHQ; **Barry Wylant**, SAPL; **David Winkler**, CA; **Jeffrey Haggett**, City of Calgary; **Kate van Fraassen**, City of Calgary; **Larry Leach**, CA; **Noel Keogh**, SAPL; **Ricardo Cosentino**, CA; **Ruth de Santis**, CA; **Travis Davidson**, Hindle Architects; **Catherine Hamel**, SAPL; **Nicholas Dykstra**, O2; and **Sonny Tomic**, City of Calgary.

We sincerely hope that the strategies, proposals, and ideas we summarize in this document will continue to contribute to the discussion about the possible future of Crossroads.

**Fabian Neuhaus**  
Studio Lead

2020.04.22 | Calgary, AB.



Studio site visit to Crossroads, Calgary in January 2020



# WELCOME MESSAGE



Welcome to our final academic project in collaboration with the community of Crossroads in Calgary. We hope that you enjoy the journey as we walk you through our four months of studio work. We truly believe that every community has the right to be happy and proud of where they live. Hence, we have developed five exciting proposals that will help rejuvenate Crossroads. All of us worked hard to deliver great visions for the community through extensive research, analysis, and brainstorming sessions.

We are grateful to the community of Crossroads for allowing us to carry out this venture and for being a big part of each stage of this project. We would also like to thank our studio instructor, Dr Fabian Neuhaus for his immense support and contributions during the four months of our planning studio. As a studio group of eleven, we had a memorable time working together and learning from one another.

### Thank you and welcome!

- |                       |                  |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Students:             | Pamela Haskell   |
| Sidharth Agarwal      | Nikita Kheterpal |
| Reza Bacchus          | Matt Lalonde     |
| Adrian Clarke         | Tessa Larsen     |
| Jennifer Comrie       | Melinda Lobo     |
| Arvind Gopalakrishnan | Liyang Wan       |

# STUDIO INTRODUCTION

This advanced studio, exploring contemporary themes in planning and professional planning practice, centres on a real-world problem or client project. It involves analysis, synthesis, participation and the formulation of a planning or urban design solution. It culminates in a professional report and presentation.

For this studio, we will be working in Calgary with the Crossroads community in NE. The community has a lot of amenities and excellent proximity to major facilities, including the Bow River, Downtown, the Calgary Zoo, Telus Spark and LRT access. It however also faces several challenges mainly in connection with large scale transport infrastructure and industrial land use through which the community is relatively isolated.

For the emergence of a transformational planning practice in Calgary that starts to add a second and third layer of development in the built-up areas, this part of town is prime territory. The industrial uses are already beginning to transition into mixed-use with hybrid forms of storage, production and retail as well as commercial and cultural merges. Together with opportunities for new concepts of connectivity focused on slow/public transport, a new kind of Calgary specific urban environment has the potential to emerge here. Cities around the world have over the past two decades capitalized on development potential in transforming their semi-industrial areas. Calgary too can tap into this potential, in the case of Crossroads with the perfect view of the Rocky Mountains.

Between these large industrial/commercial areas, sits a residential community with a great spirit. The LRT station has potential for TOD, transforming mixed uses are introducing a new hybrid form of development. Together with the old CP rail spurlines that lead off the mainline into Crossroads (think High Line in New York), this is a great setting to develop some exciting new urban models for the future of Calgary's inner-city growth.

As the capstone course, this is a student-led studio allowing ample room for exploration and experimenting. The focus is on urban form and collaboration. We will work closely with the community in workshops to co-create facilitated by the student teams. Guiding the design work is the Matrix, the Guidebook for Great Communities and reference projects.

The City of Calgary is shifting its process from community-centered ARPs to Local Plan Areas, each comprised of a group of communities. Crossroads is in fact both a community and at the same time, one of these new areas - Area 24. The work undertaken is essentially a trial run of the new ARPs applying the new Guidebook in practice. Work produced in this studio is of interest both to the community and the City to finetune tool and process.



# WORKSHOP



In collaboration with the Crossroads Community Association, our class hosted a community design workshop for Crossroads community members on Saturday, February 8, 2020 at the Crossroads Community Hall.

In preparation for the workshop, our class constructed a model of the community and developed five engagement activities.



PIMP MY COMMUNITY / GROUP A

ILLUMINATE THE PRIORITIES OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS

INTRO

Pimp My Community is a game designed around the idea of distributing funds for new community amenities and changes to the urban form. There are specified categories of upgrades - such as changes to the existing LRT stations or overall street beautification - with a cost associated with each category, however participants are not given enough money to allocate to every category. The aim is to illuminate the priorities of community members by the importance they place on each category, and which categories they choose over others.

The name for this activity is inspired by the mid-2000s TV series titled Pimp My Ride.

ACTIVITY

**PREPARE:**  
Determine the potential spending categories for the game by either taking an inventory of existing/lacking urban features or engaging directly with members of the community. The fake currency required for the game can be taken from existing board games, like Monopoly, or made specifically for Pimp My Community.

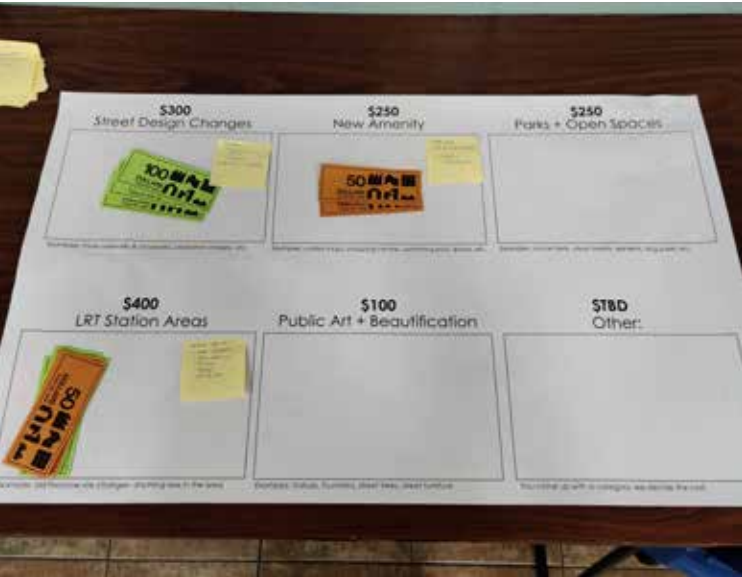
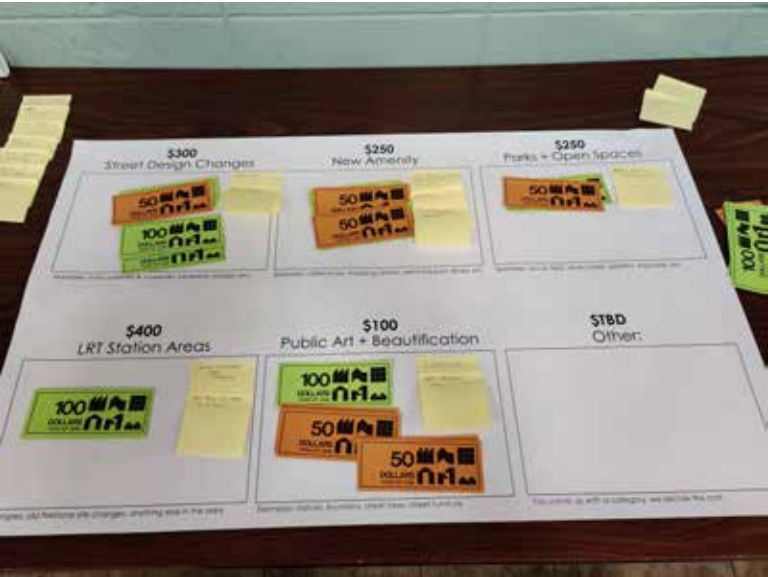
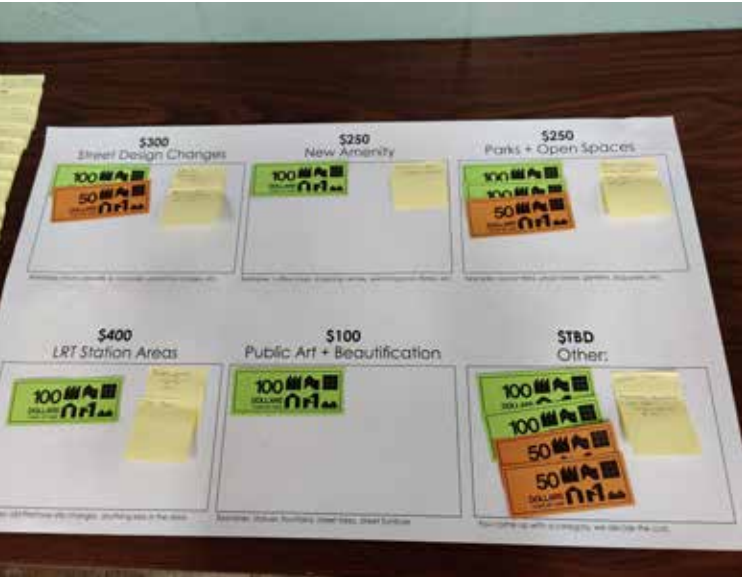
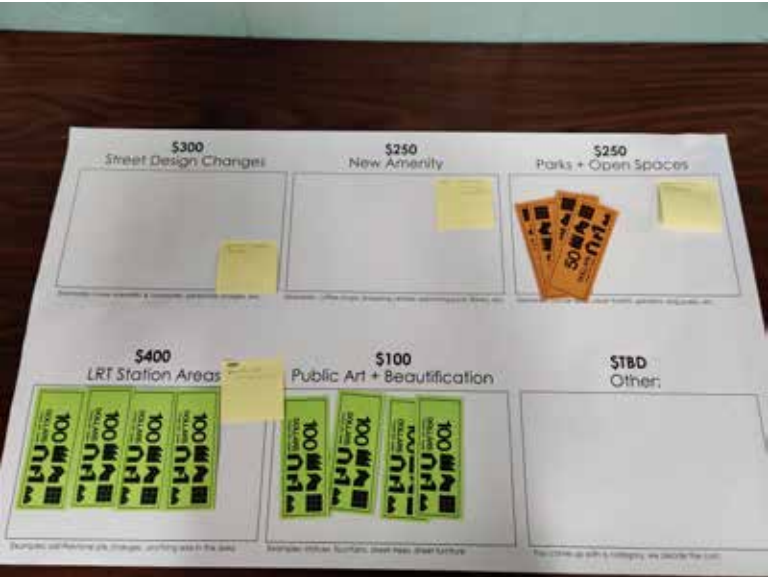
**FUNDING:**  
Each participant is handed \$1,000 (or more realistic increments if custom money is made).

**DECIDE:**  
Participants allocate their funds to the categories of their choice. They have the opportunity to write down the details behind their decision (i.e. specific upgrades or changes to the community within that category).

**DISCUSS:**  
After allocating as much of their funds as possible among the categories, participants are then encouraged to discuss the reasoning behind their choices. This allows further insight into the priorities of the community members.

RESULTS

We found that Pimp My Community was better enjoyed and provided more discussion with participants when costs were not assigned to each category. When participants were able to allocate any amount within their means to a category, they were more likely to provide details behind their choices.





MENTAL MAP MAKING / GROUP B

UNDERSTAND THE COMMUNITY THROUGH RESIDENTS' EYES

INTRO

The purpose of this engagement activity was to understand Crossroads from residents’ eyes - using simple strokes, colours, symbols, and words to convey how they see their community. Specifically, participants were asked to draw or note down items that they loved, did not want, and would like to see more in Crossroads.

ACTIVITY

In this activity, be creative! Try to focus on drawing places, objects, and things as our other activities will help you express your emotions and feelings. We will ask you to draw a mental map of your community as well as a few specific items. Accuracy and artistic skill are not concerns!

With the PURPLE marker, please draw a map of your community and it’s surroundings as best as you can remember it. Feel free to include any landmarks or features you use to help visualize the community!

With the GREEN marker, please draw 1-3 of your favorite aspects, parts, or features of the community.

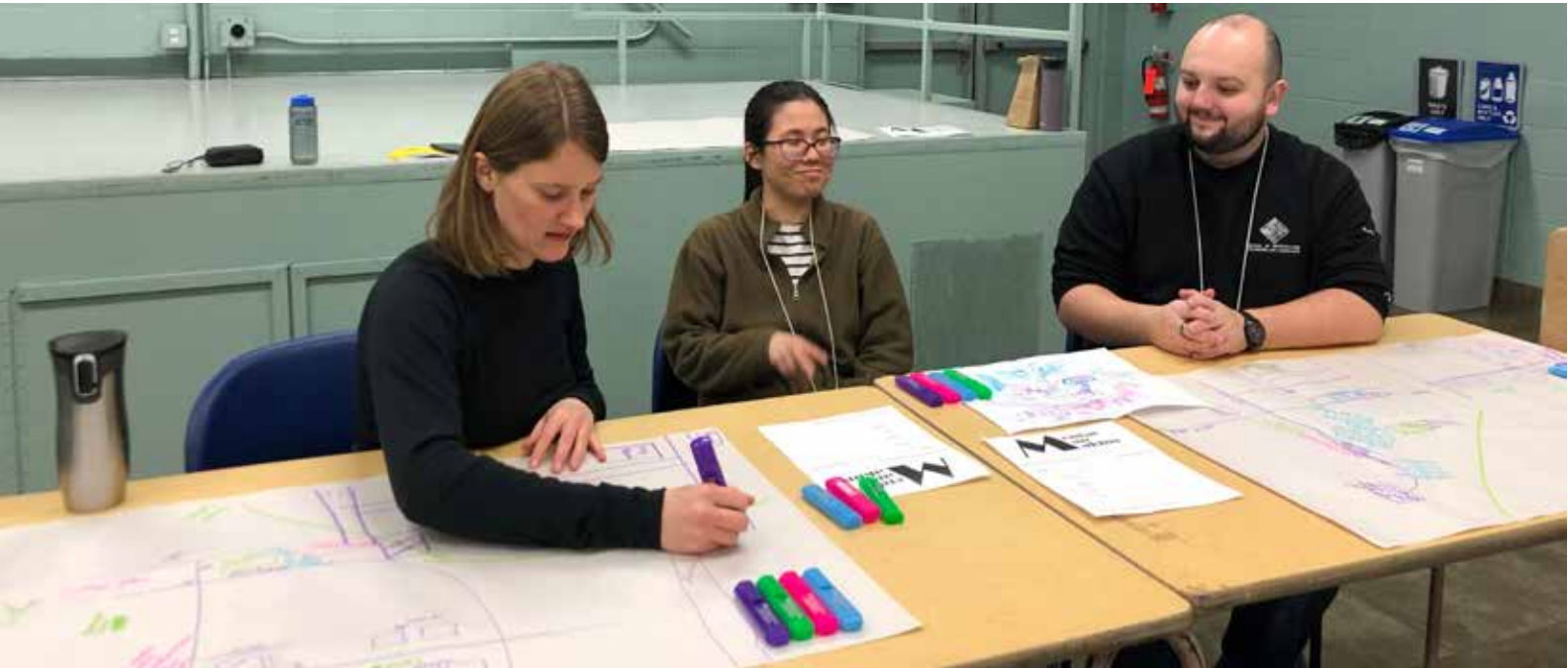
With the PINK marker, please draw 1-3 things in the community you may not want to see in the future.

With the BLUE marker, please draw 1-3 things you would like to see in your community in the future. Feel free to be creative!

Now that we have all drawn our maps, we will have a quick discussion about them with the group and talk about what we all drew.

RESULTS

The culmination of this activity was a visual summary of the community to spatially orient all items listed – as well as a gallery of map artefacts created by residents for residents to enjoy and take in.





COLLAGE MY COMMUNITY / GROUP C

CREATE A SHARED LANGUAGE DESCRIBING THE COMMUNITY

INTRO

We set out as a team to create a participation strategy that was engaging and enabled participants to collaborate with one another. We chose to use imagery and collaborative collaging for three reasons.

First, we were interested in facilitating an activity that enabled participants to create a shared language describing their community. The activity was designed to foster a space for community members to dream, speculate, and discuss the current state of their neighbourhood (e.g. “Crossroads Today”), and what they envision for the community in the future (e.g. “Crossroads Tomorrow”).

Second, we believed that the collective practice of collaging might encourage discussion among different community members. We hoped the imagery and the shared canvases would encourage participants to explore the ways in which perspectives of the community may align or differ from their own experiences.

Third, we were intentional to choose an activity that was playful, simple and intuitive. By choosing collage-making, we felt the exercise would be accessible to all ages, easy to follow, and immediately engaging for participants.

ACTIVITY

**PREPARATION:**  
Team gathered together for an initial image sourcing meeting and collected a broad range of images.  
Team made inventory of collected images and placed into broad categories and identified missing categories (i.e. religious and cultural spaces, industrial warehouses, accessibility and seniors, etc.)  
Team print and cut images in quintuplicates (in anticipation of carrying out five rounds of our activity).  
Team sorted and placed same or similar images into five group folders to ensure each group had the same foundations.

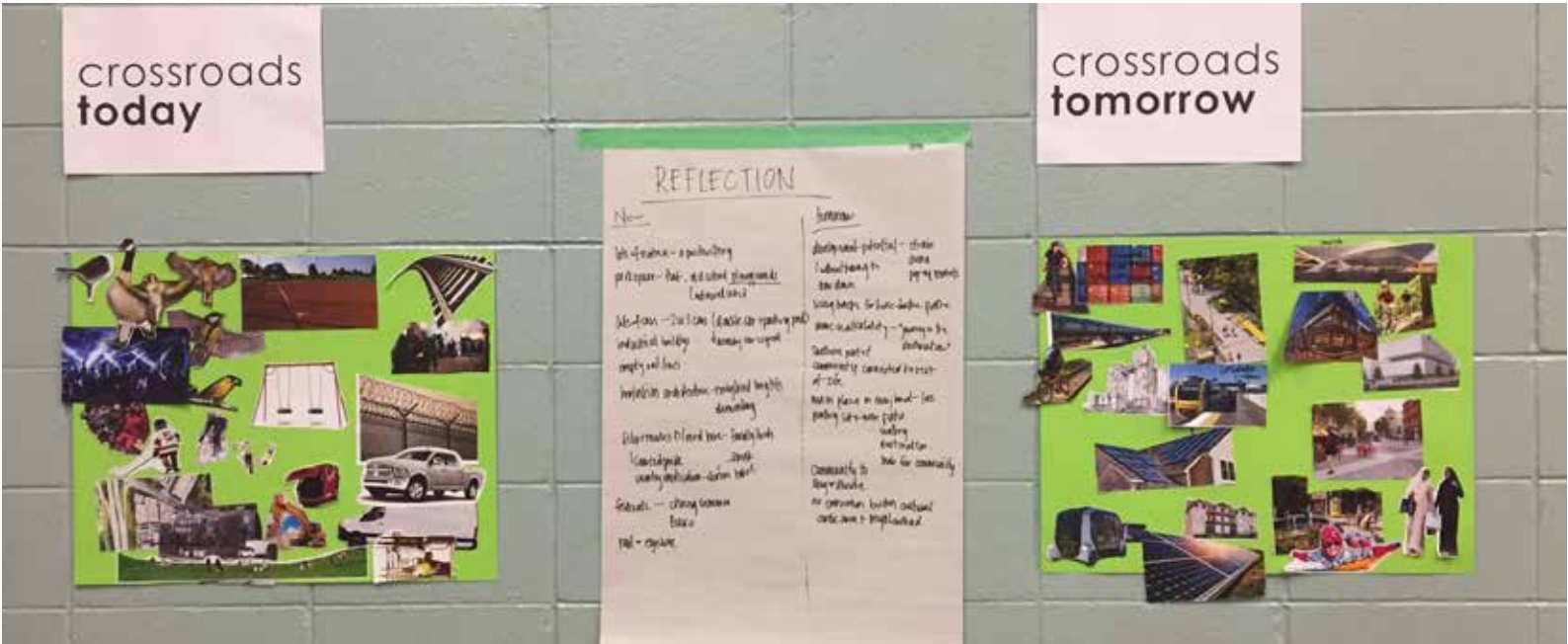
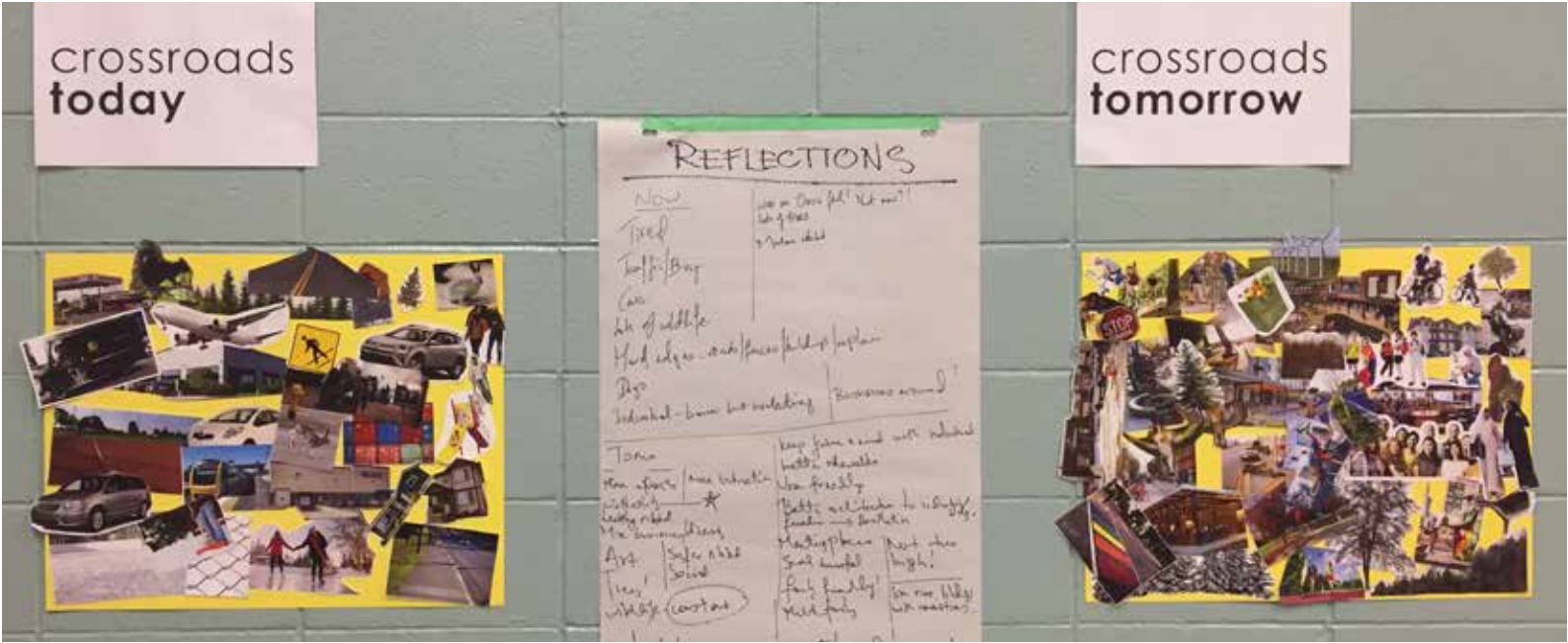
**COLLAGE-MAKING:**  
Each group was given a different coloured poster for collaging.  
Taped the activity table into four categories (i.e. nature/landscape, buildings, people, and objects) for participant usability and navigation of images.  
Intentional, objective instructions of activity presented to participants.  
Timekeeping for collaging (i.e. 10 minutes total) to progress through activity and to limit tangential discussions.

**GROUP DISCUSSION:**  
Facilitated conversation about collages; team was cognisant of using unbiased language (i.e. “what is your experience with...” or “tell us more about...”) to promote discussion and facilitate conversation.  
Team took turns documenting group discussion on the reflection page, collage boards, and captured pictures of final collage-outcome for each group.  
Team cleared unused images and re-set activity table with new folder of images for each group.

RESULTS

We were grateful our activity was flexible and could adapt to the dynamic nature of the morning. Despite a very similar physical outcome, each group did the activity slightly different. In the two larger groups, collages were broad in scope and representative of shared community experiences. In the two smaller groups, we noted that the conversations and collages reflected more personal, individualized experiences of the community. However, the common denominator through each group was a great discussion.

If we had to think about doing this activity again, we might consider the implications of using a timeframe for the “Crossroads Tomorrow” collage. On one hand, a timeframe adds a pragmatic element to the exercise. On the other hand, it may limit the freedom of expression and imagination.





# THE GOOD, THE RAD, AND THE LOVELY / GROUP D

## REPRESENT HOW THE RESIDENTS WISH TO SEE THEIR COMMUNITY DEVELOP

INTRO

For our workshop activity, we took inspiration from the City of Calgary’s engagement games displayed in the Calgary Central Library to spark an interest in the city’s residents about the Guidebook for Great Communities. We, ourselves, as student planners, felt very involved in the activities, particularly the Bingo game. We wanted to tread on similar lines for our activity as Bingo is a game that is commonly played during community events and hence, would allow residents to associate our game with a happy memory. We evolved our activity into a two-part game with Bingo as the first part and spatial mapping as the second part.

ACTIVITY

The game will have Bingo sheets (refer to Figure 1) where each numbered box contains an amenity or feature. For the first part of the game, participants will be asked to use Bingo markers to stamp the amenities they already have in their community – ‘What do you Have?’ – in blue and the amenities they wish to have in the future– ‘What do you want?’ – in pink (refer to Figure 2).

For the next half, participants will be requested to write the numbers representing the amenities they do want, i.e., the ones stamped in pink, on circular coloured stickers. Then they will proceed to paste those stickers on the map of Crossroads indicating where would they like to see that particular amenity or feature in the physical space (Figure 3).

RESULTS

For ‘the Good, the Rad and the Lovely’, we wanted to incorporate Bingo; however, we also wanted a task that would allow us to extract some tangible results from the workshop game. The different maps of the community resulting from the activity – overlapped over one another – represent how the residents wish to see their community develop. This activity provided useful feedback that may be developed into a real design solution.



Figure 1.



Figure 2.

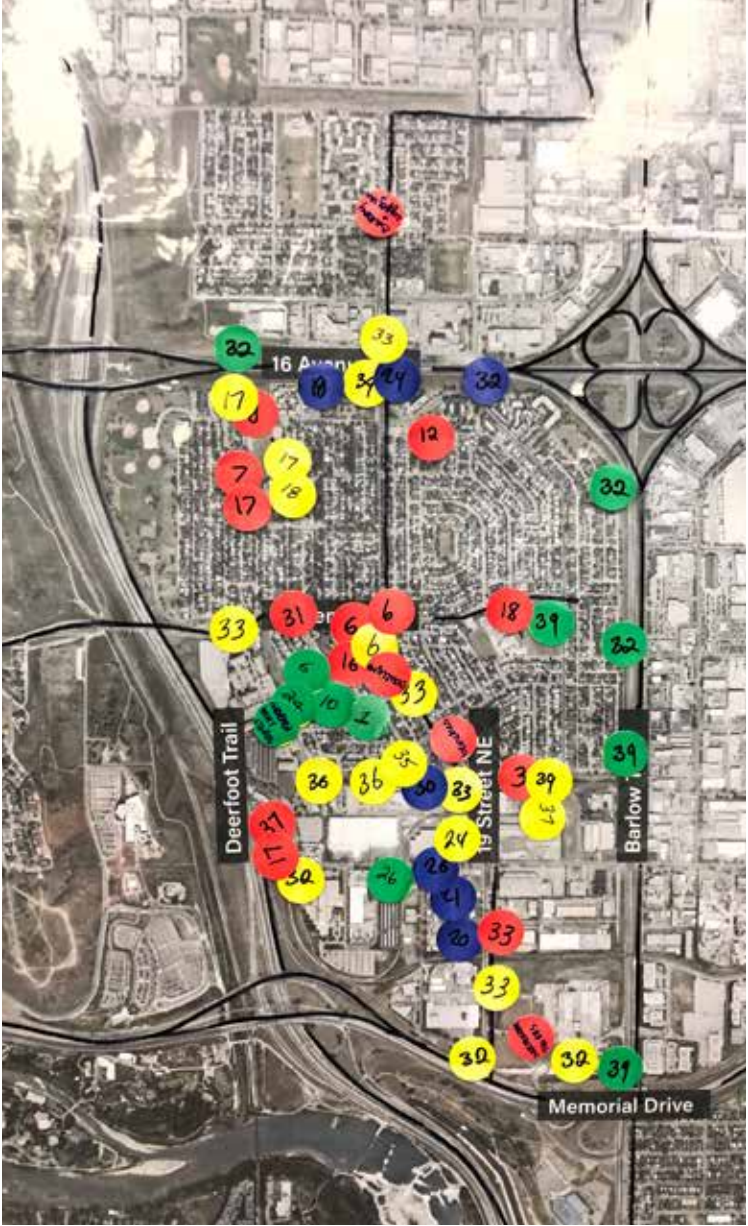


Figure 3.





BACK TO THE FUTURE / GROUP E

IDENTIFY EVENTS & CHANGES CONSIDERED TO BE IMPORTANT IN THE COMMUNITY  
IDENTIFY WHAT PEOPLE HOPED FOR IN REGARDS TO FUTURE EVENTS & CHANGES

INTRO

There were two main subjects we wanted to learn about when we were planning for the Design Workshop with Crossroads. First, we wanted to identify the events and changes which residents considered to be important to the development of the community. Second, we wanted to know what people hoped for, were anticipating in regards to future events and changes. We decided that we could address both these areas by creating a timeline activity that recorded both past and future events. For the timeline of the past, participants could mark events that considered important to themselves or to the community as a whole. For the projected timeline of the future, residents would place the changes they hoped to see on a timeline that began today and extended to 2050.

ACTIVITY

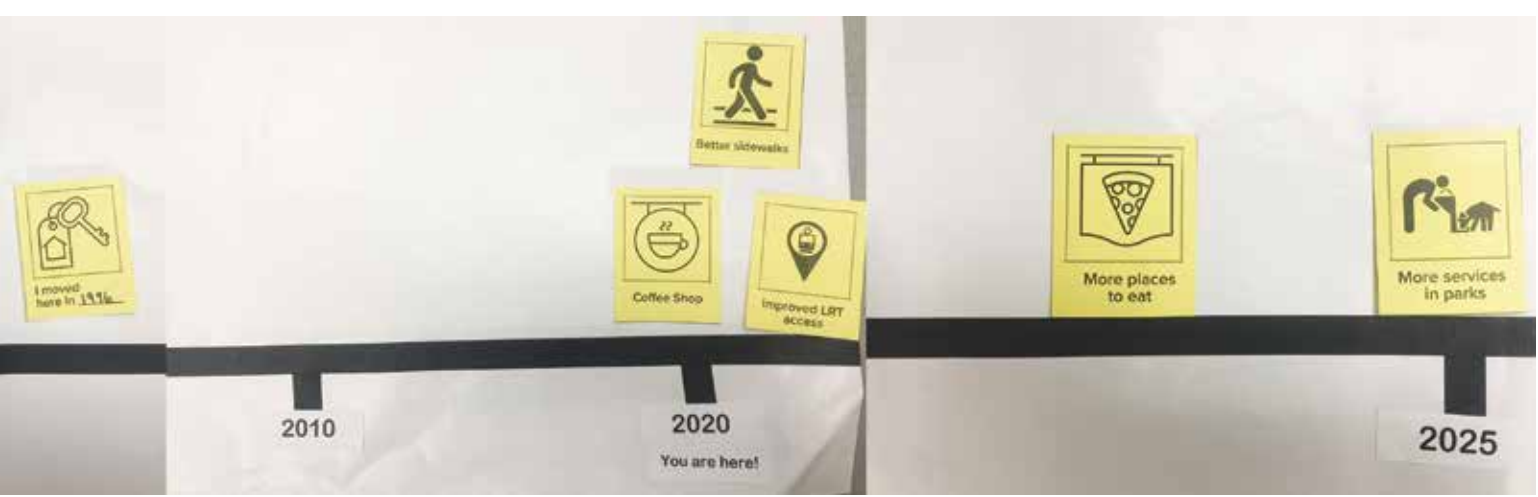
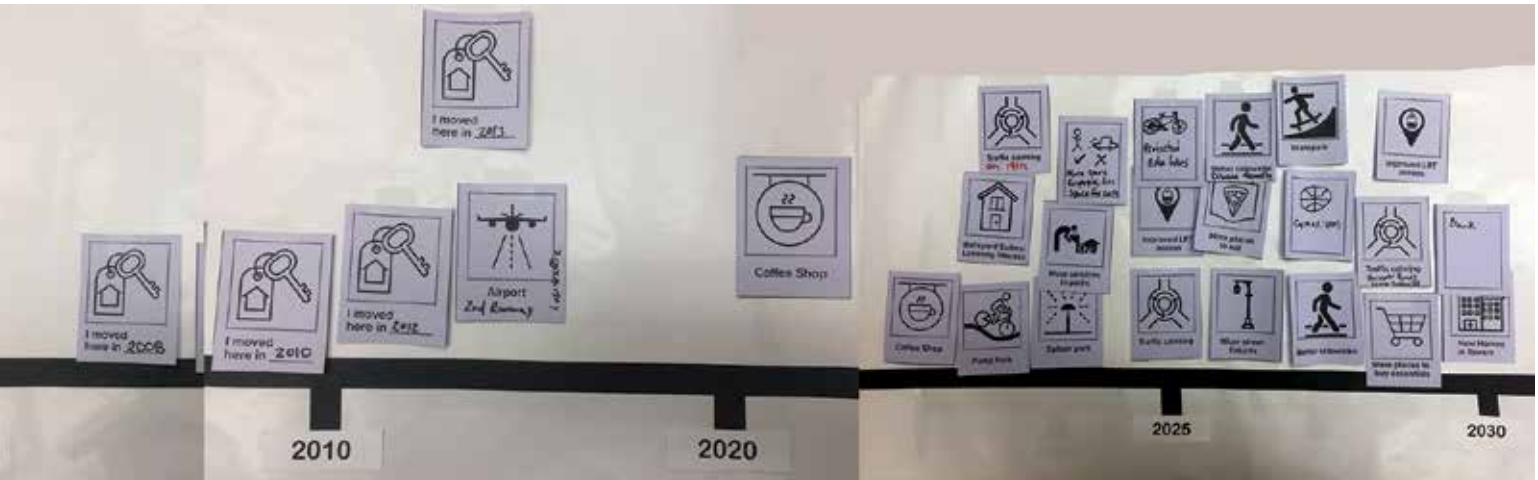
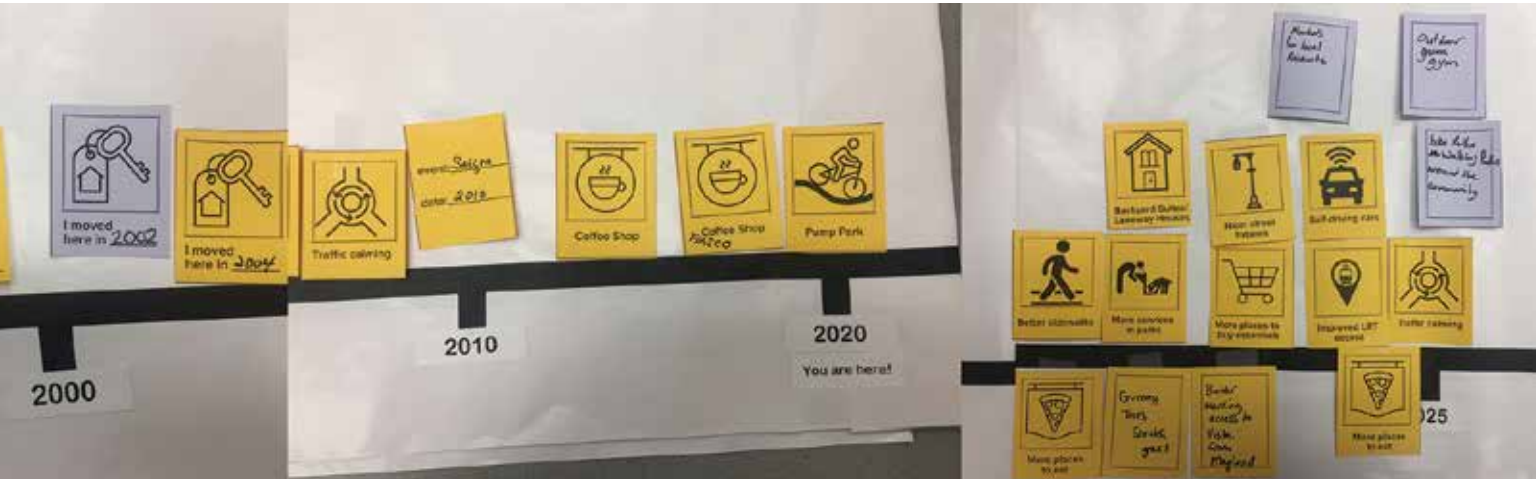
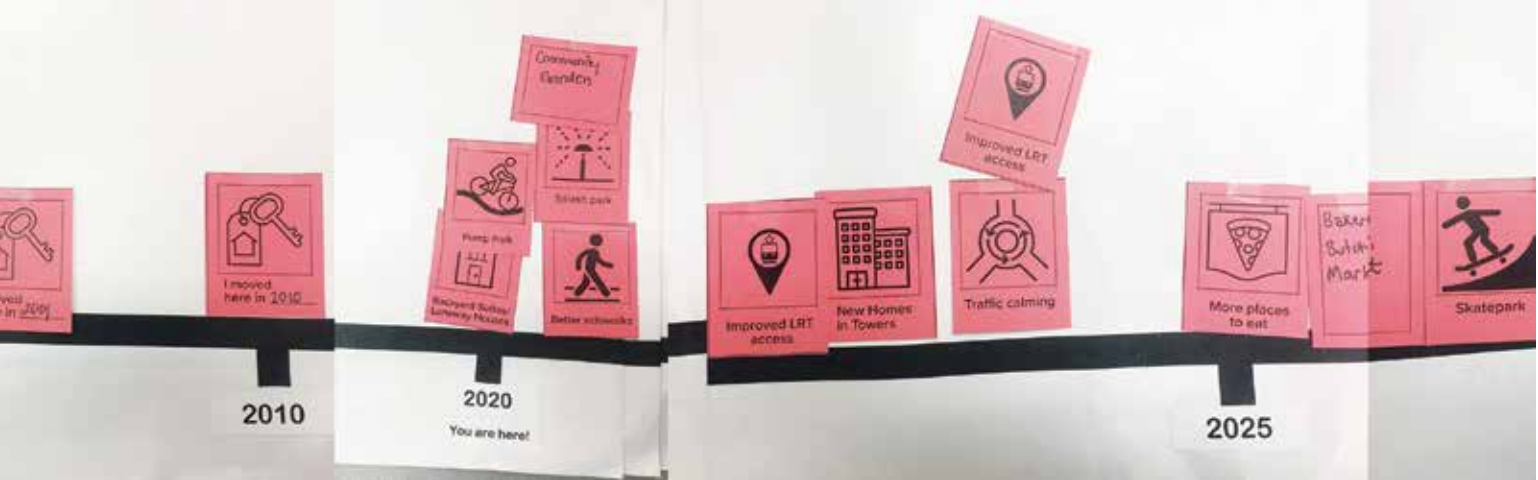
To spark ideas we created several dozen variants of cards with either a question or an idea on them. Some asked when the participant has moved into the neighborhoods, or when their home had been built. This allowed everyone to participate in the timeline of the past, even if they weren't sure about dates when other events had occurred.

For the 'future' timeline, we provide an array of cards representing amenities, policy changes, new housing forms and potential technology changes. We worked with small groups of participants, helping them to choose cards and write up their own to place on the timeline.

After one group had placed their cards on the timeline, the paper timeline was removed from the working table and displayed on the wall. A new paper timeline was placed on the table for the next group to start fresh. After several rounds, participants were able to observe what people before them had done, and the differences between each timeline. This sparked richer discussions with the participants as they worked on the timeline.

RESULTS

Participants did not interact with the timeline in the way we predicted they would. This means we did not receive the results we initially expected, but the results were even more interesting to us. For the timeline of the past, participants were not particularly interested in our prompt cards for historical events and these did not start many conversations. However, some of the best stories and local information we received were from the cards that people wrote and placed themselves, such as cards about the history of the Family Foods/Safeway. Participants tended to only write and place one of these self-written cards, rather than several as we expected. However, placing the card was often the start of a longer and more valuable storytelling process. Creating the timeline of the future didn't follow our plan at all. Participants were not interested in choosing priorities among the improvements they wanted or in thinking about potential timelines. Instead they chose to use the timeline as more of a wishlist, choosing cards for everything they were interested in, and placing them in the immediate future. As one participant said, "I want it all now."





# TRANSFORM



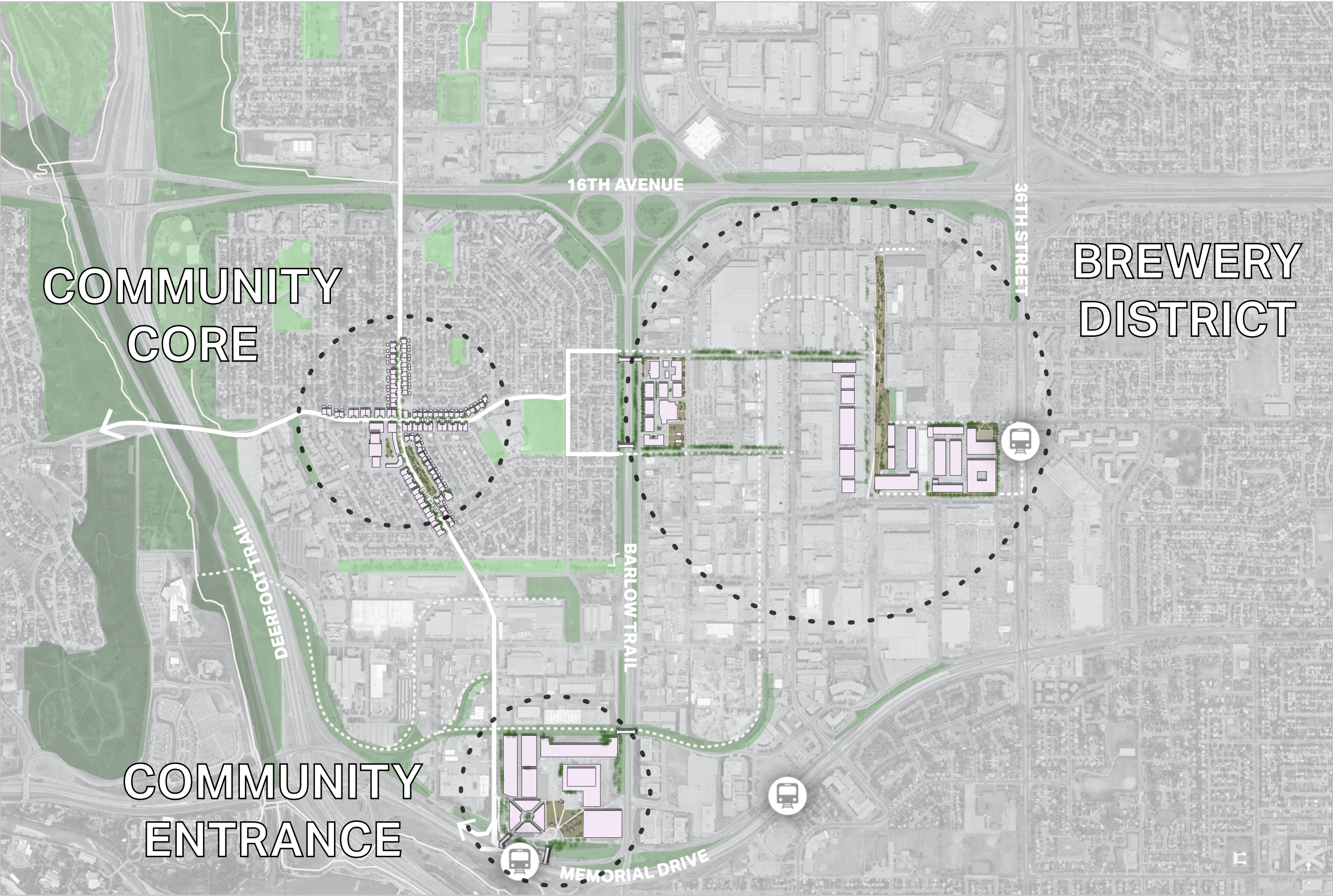
Crossroads model prepared by the students.



The Transform assignment was expressed as a comprehensive proposal demonstrating design strategies, policies, physical forms, and programming across the community. Visualized through a master plan with accompanying conceptual diagrams, sections, collages, precedent references, and narratives, the assignment summarized the design and decision-making processes pertaining to the proposed changes in Crossroads.

The design process was heavily influenced by members of the community through in-person and online engagement, helping shape each proposal into an effective and grounded transformation. Each group utilized unique strategies to achieve a wide variety of contrasting proposals for the community, as detailed in the following five projects.





[THE  
CROSSROADS  
RECIPE]

Sidharth Agarwal  
+  
Tessa Larsen

Through our initial analysis and meetings with residents + stakeholders, we learned that Crossroads has all the ingredients + seasonings for a perfect community...

*it just hasn't been cooked yet.*

We saw the physical properties of Crossroads as the ingredients to a delicious community recipe. And the social lifestyle of its residents as the special seasoning.

Our design proposal includes the rest of the Crossroads recipe, focusing on the community entrance, the community core, a new brewery district, and the connections in between.



# FIRESTONE SITE // OPPORTUNITIES



## // Preparation

We took a look at areas of the community with the most obvious development potential that would also have an immediate positive impact -- leading us to the old Firestone site on the corner of 19th Street and Memorial Drive. Our focus here is increasing community connection by adding additional access points to the Max Bell LRT Station, and redeveloping unused open spaces into flexible public areas - for things like outdoor concerts, farmers markets, and more.

Redeveloping this area will help Crossroads better prepare for future changes - in the community itself as well as Calgary as a whole - by increasing transit accessibility and converting unused land into usable social spaces.

# FIRESTONE SITE // PLAN

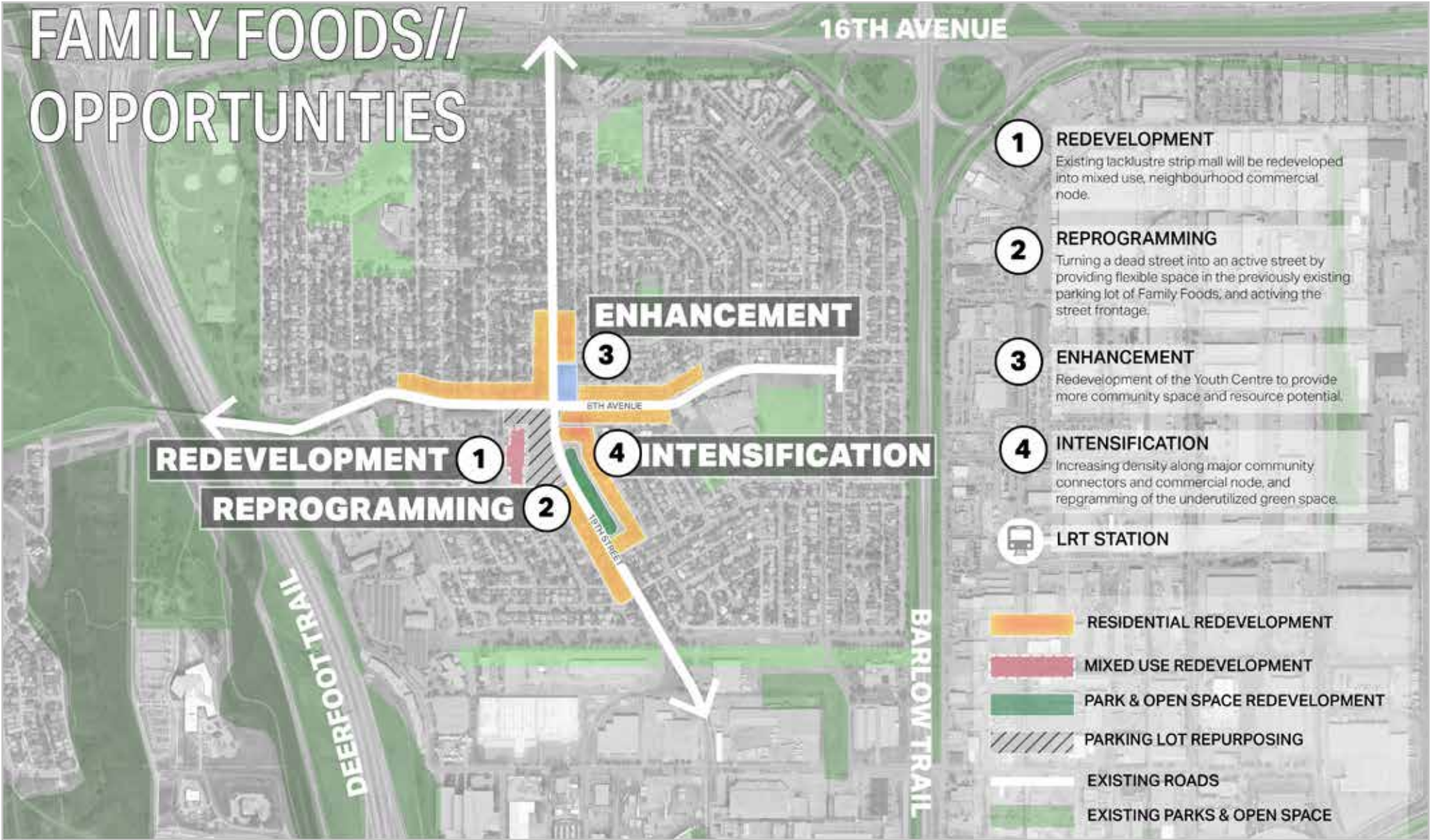




// Cooking

We also took a look at what areas inside Vista and Mayland Heights could be enhanced to spur positive changes within the community -- bringing us to the current location of Family Foods. This area has the potential to be the core of Crossroads with all its great ingredients and seasoning, it just needs to be cooked.

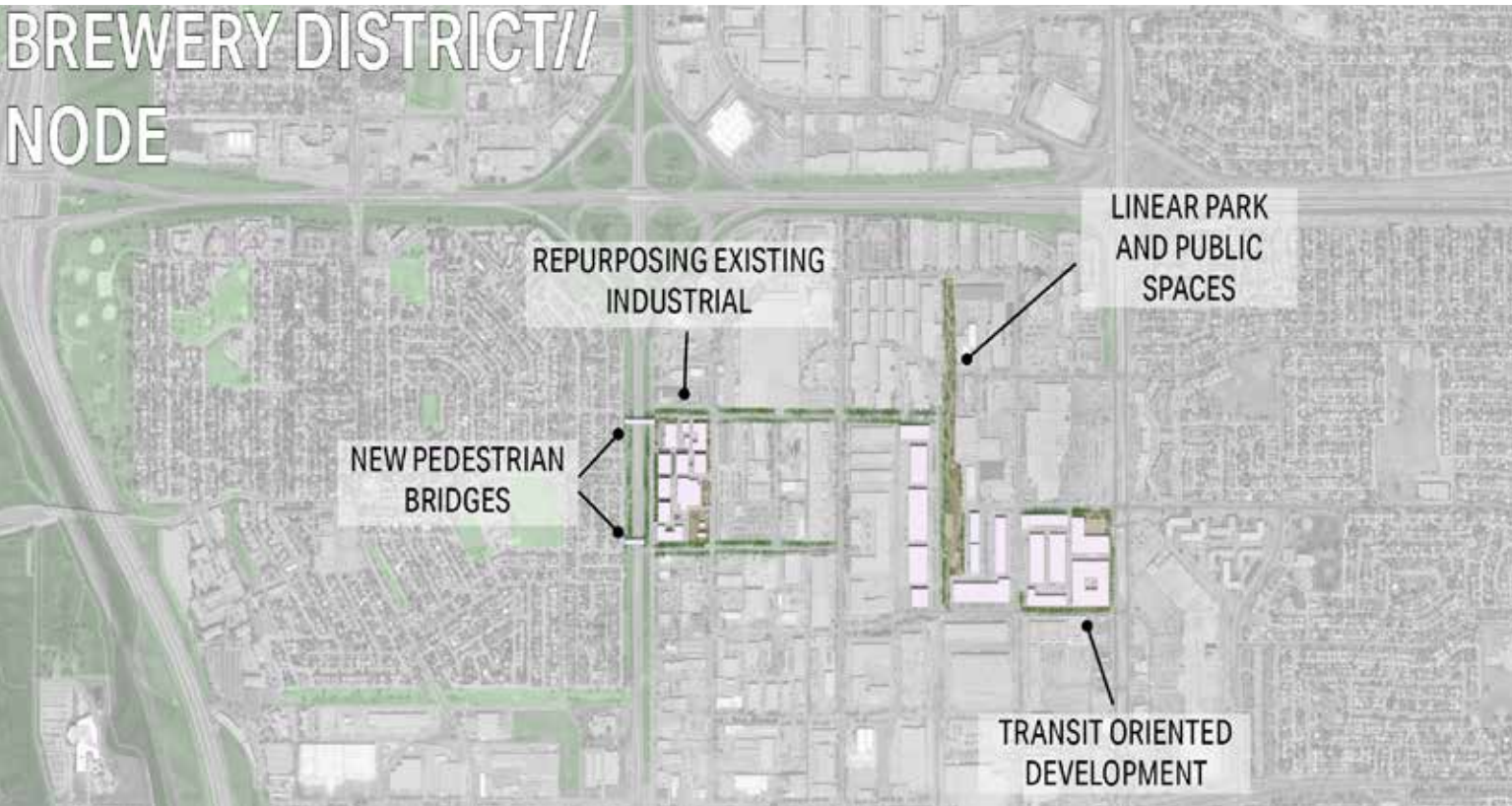
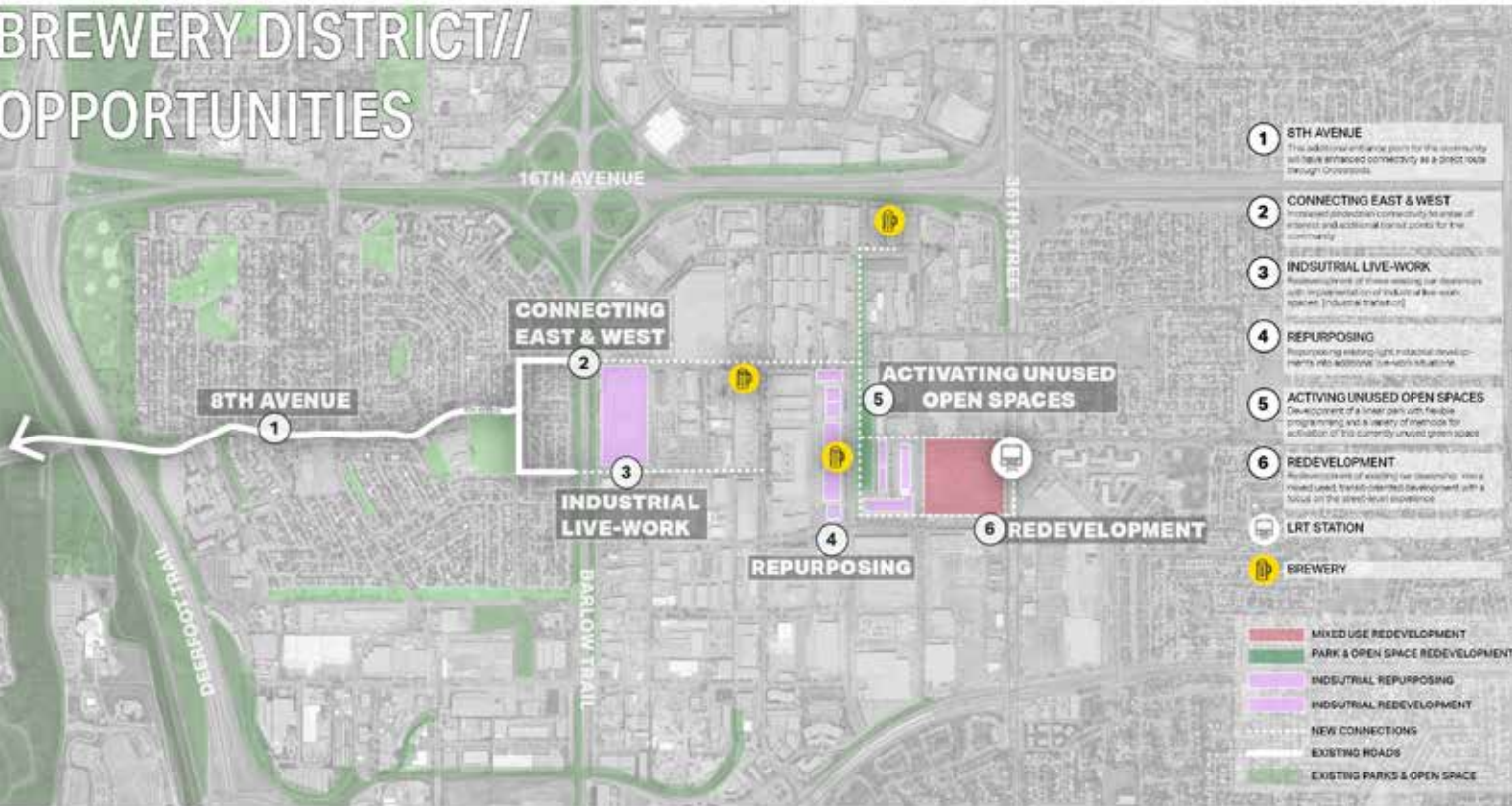
Our focus for this area is an improved pedestrian experience along 19th Street through the installation of better sidewalks, crosswalks, and bike lanes. We also propose redeveloping the shopping centre to shift the focus from endless parking stalls to pleasant public spaces and greenery.





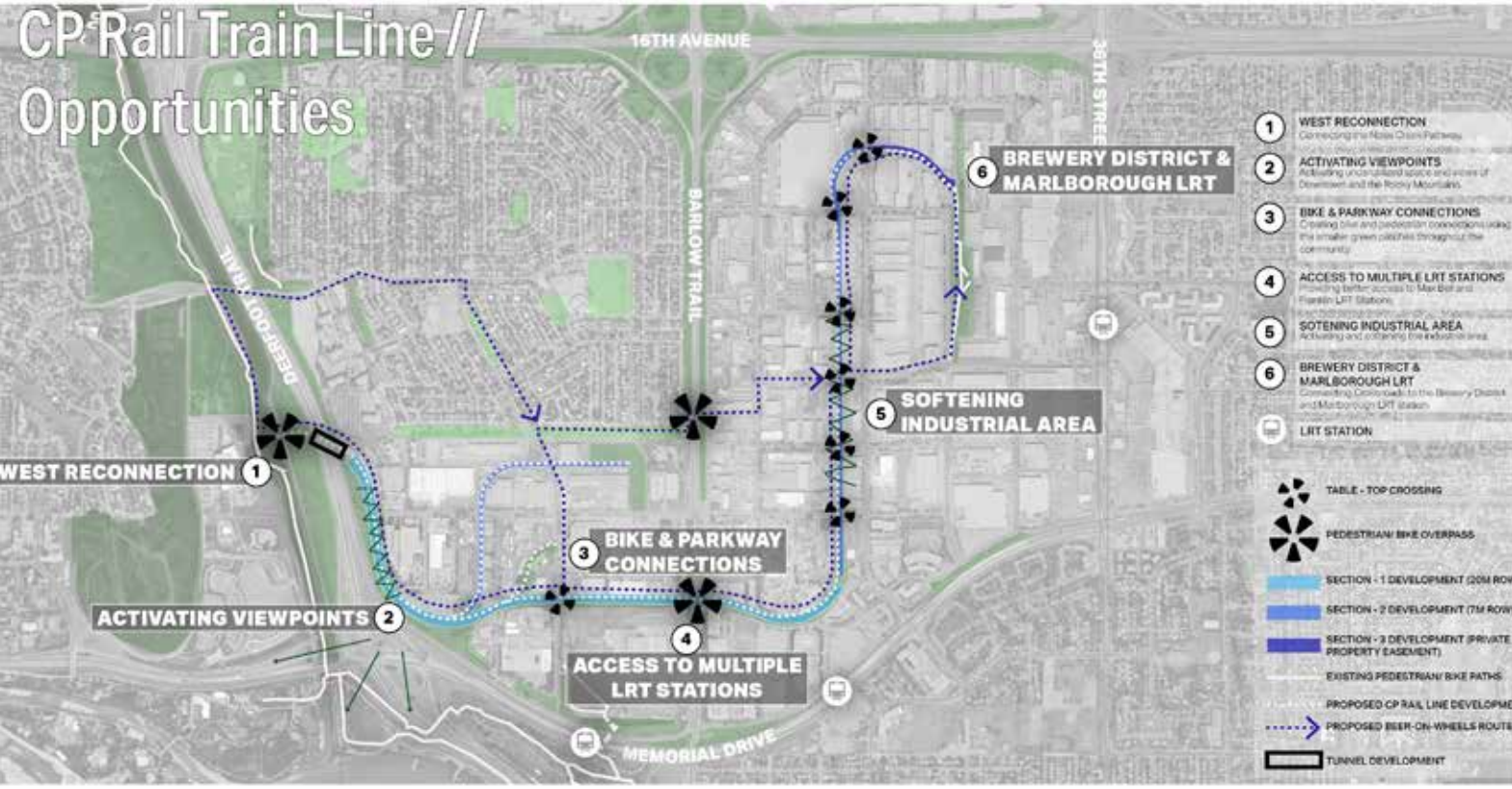
// Garnish

Now that we've determine what to bring to the residential parts of Crossroads, we took a look at nearby areas that can further enhance the community recipe. Like any great meal, the garnish completes the experience-- and we saw the presence of local craft breweries as the garnish to the Crossroads recipe. In our proposal, these breweries can be used to build a stronger community connection, and provide more social spaces -- bringing people together over food and drink.



Serving //

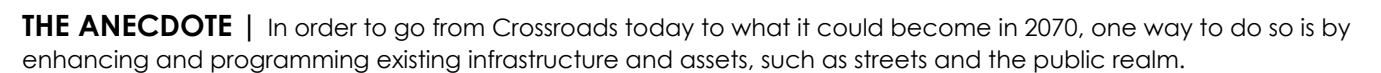
Now that we've determine what to bring to the residential parts of Crossroads, we took a look at nearby areas that can further enhance the community recipe. Like any great meal, the garnish completes the experience-- and we saw the presence of local craft breweries as the garnish to the Crossroads recipe. In our proposal, these breweries can be used to build a stronger community connection, and provide more social spaces -- bringing people together over food and drink.



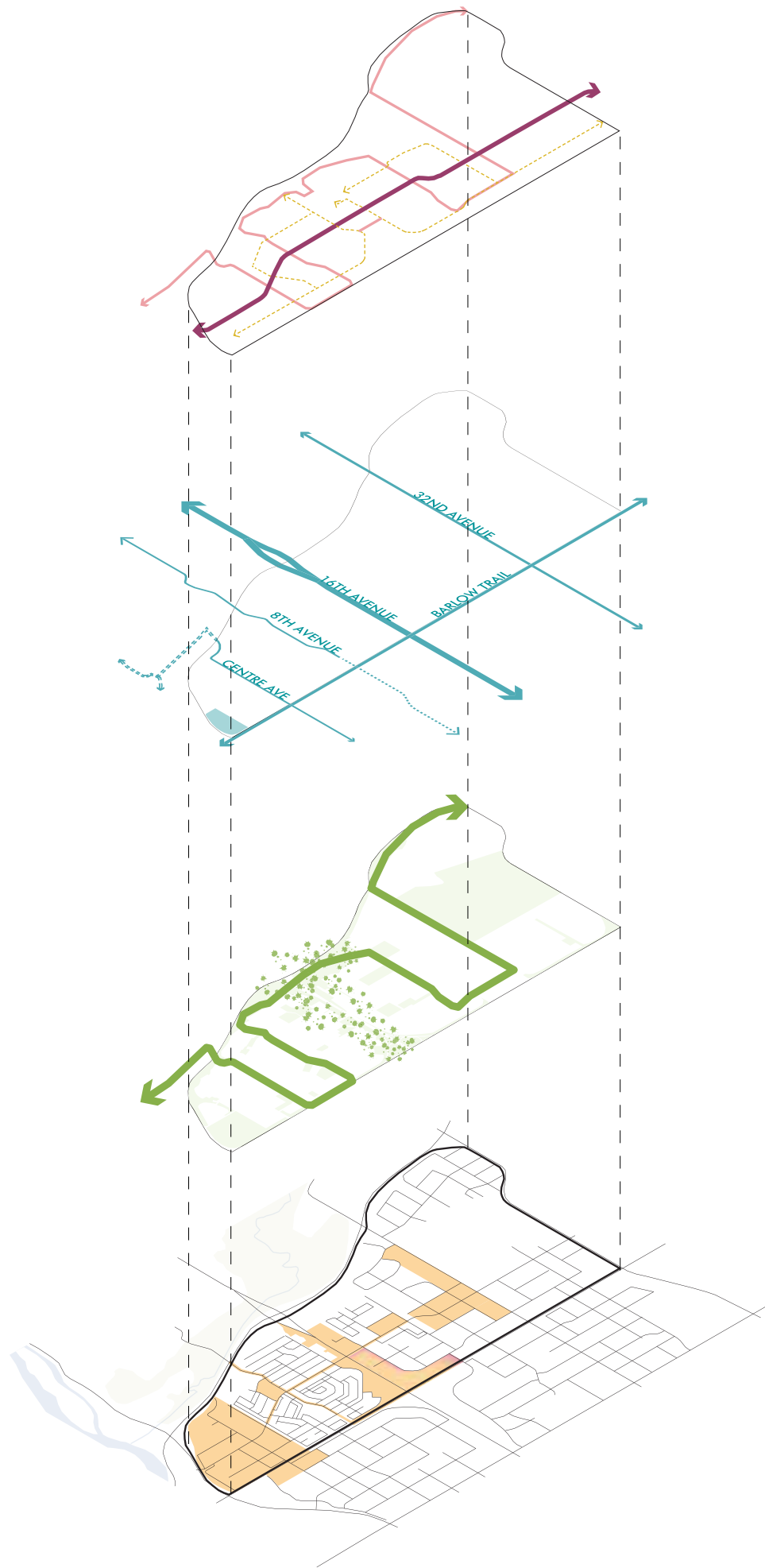


Matt Lalonde + Liyang Wan

The diagram shows a white irregular shape labeled "Crossroads" on the left, followed by a plus sign "+". In the center is a yellow rectangular area labeled "Weaving" containing a dense, interlaced pattern of yellow lines. To the right of the weaving is an equals sign "=". On the far right is a yellow rectangular area labeled "Crossweave" containing a pattern of vertical lines with horizontal wavy lines in various colors (pink, blue, green, red) weaving through them.





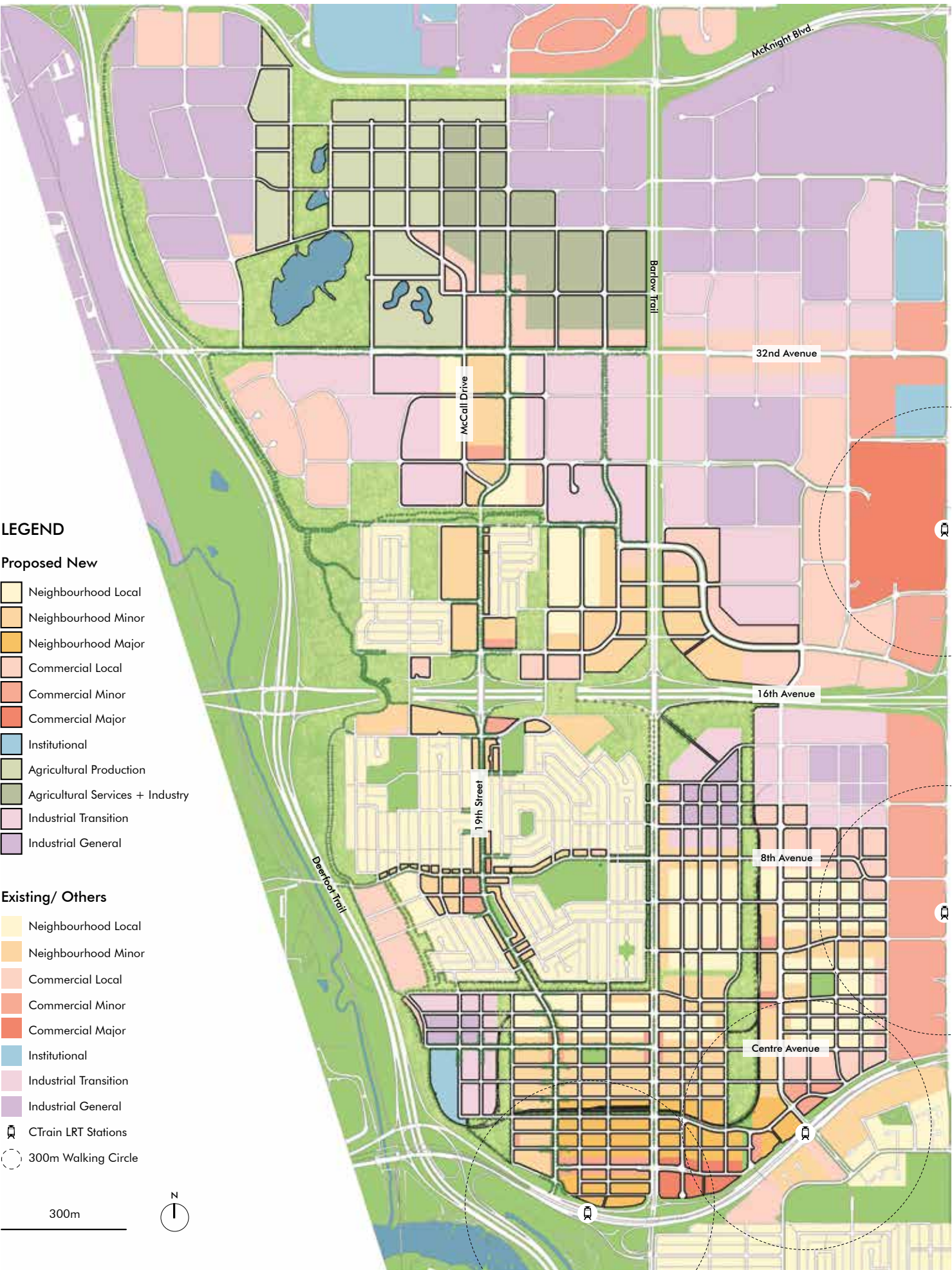


- CONNECT to each other**
- Connected 19th Street
  - Multi-Modal, Green Corridor
  - Bike Routes

- CONNECT to others**
- Street Extensions

- CONNECT to nature**
- Existing Green Space
  - Community "Green Weave"

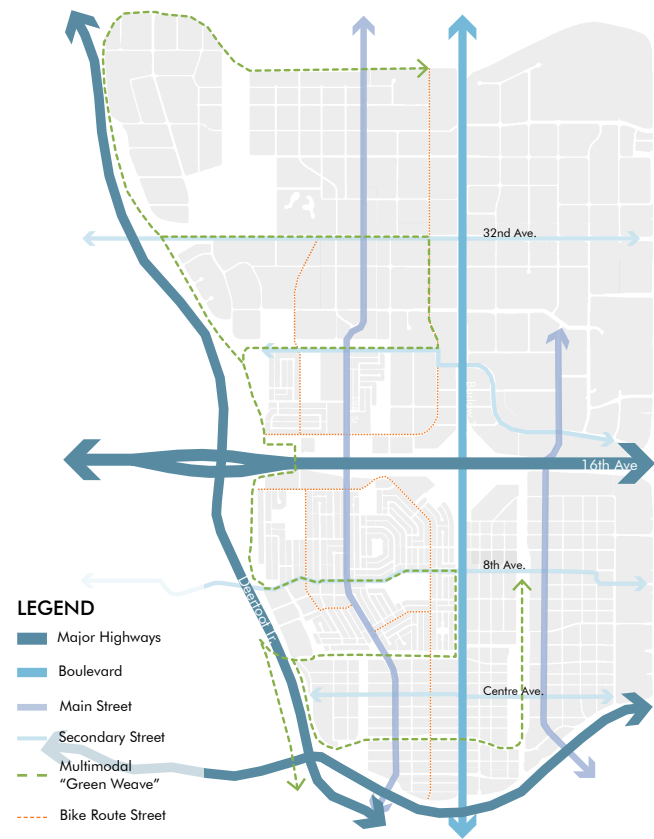
**Areas of Focus to ACHIEVE CONNECTIVITY**



- LEGEND**
- Proposed New**
- Neighbourhood Local
  - Neighbourhood Minor
  - Neighbourhood Major
  - Commercial Local
  - Commercial Minor
  - Commercial Major
  - Institutional
  - Agricultural Production
  - Agricultural Services + Industry
  - Industrial Transition
  - Industrial General

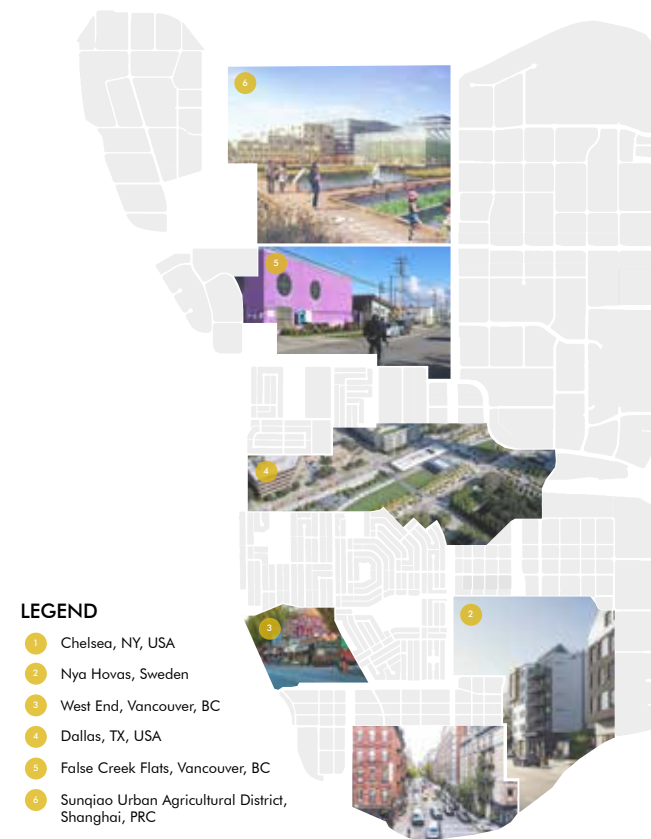
- Existing/ Others**
- Neighbourhood Local
  - Neighbourhood Minor
  - Commercial Local
  - Commercial Minor
  - Commercial Major
  - Institutional
  - Industrial Transition
  - Industrial General
  - CTrain LRT Stations
  - 300m Walking Circle





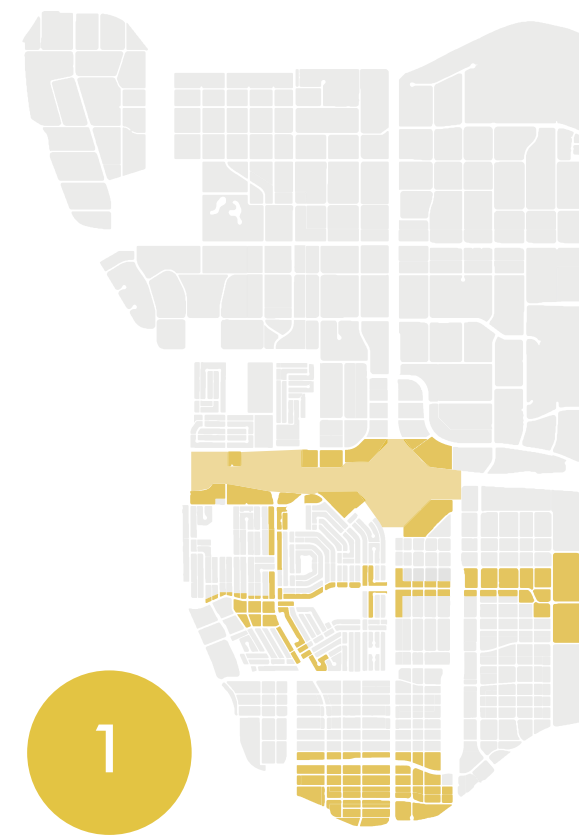
## HOW PEOPLE + GOODS MOVE

An interconnected, multi-modal transportation system weaves through Crossroads to link up people and places.



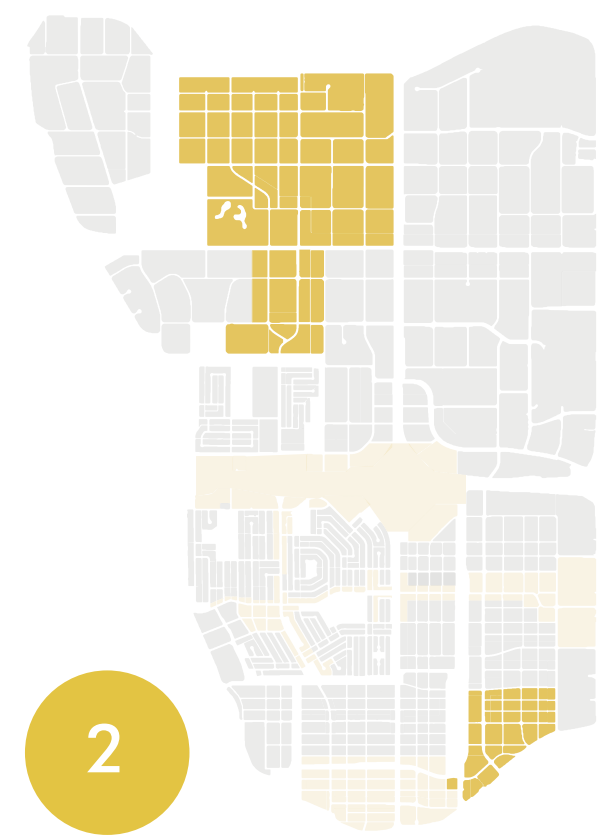
## HOW SPACES FEEL

The community is comprised of multiple hubs, each taking on unique qualities that make for a memorable journey.



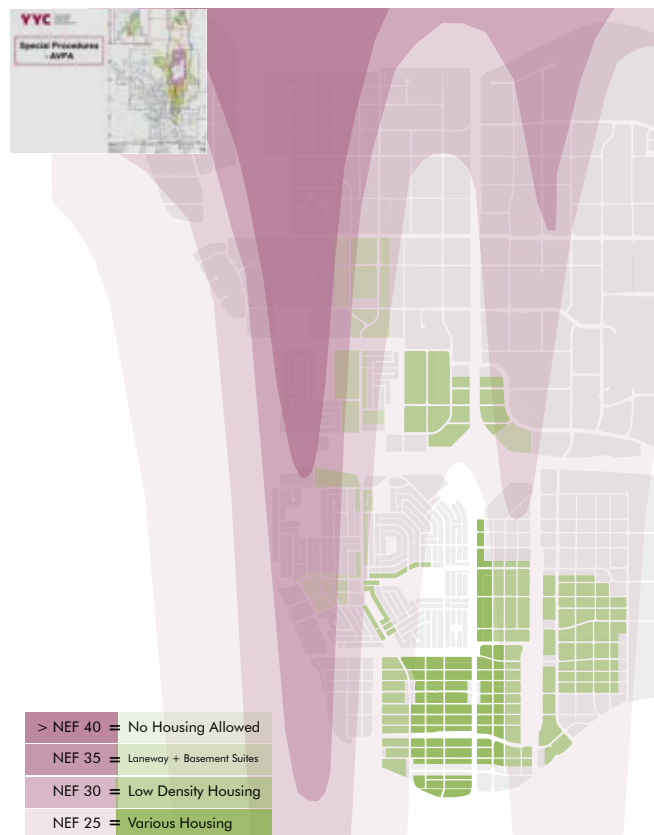
## LINK

Create new connections to streets, pathways, communities, and corridors - creating an interconnected network.



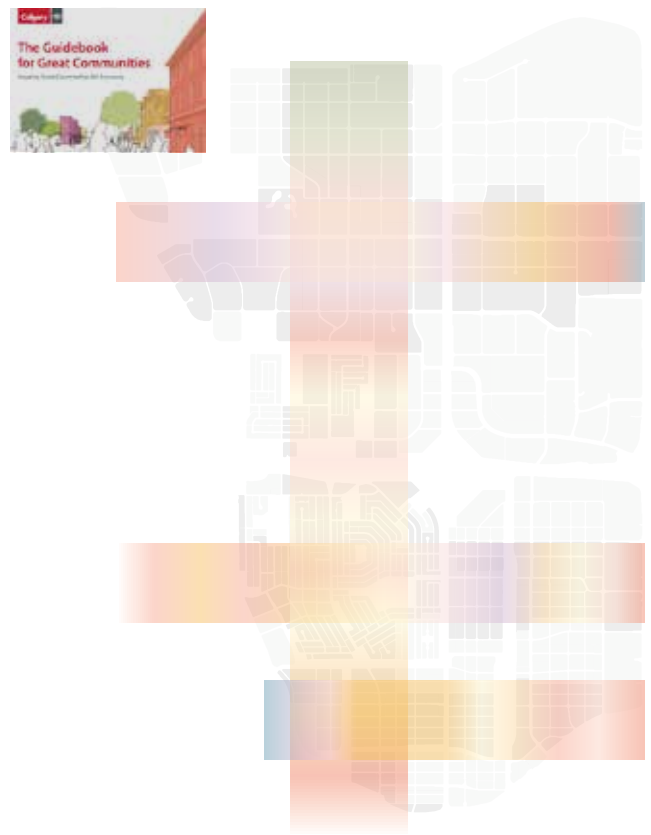
## DENSIFY + DIVERSIFY

Develop major TOD areas, bring density to existing and new developments, and introduce urban agriculture



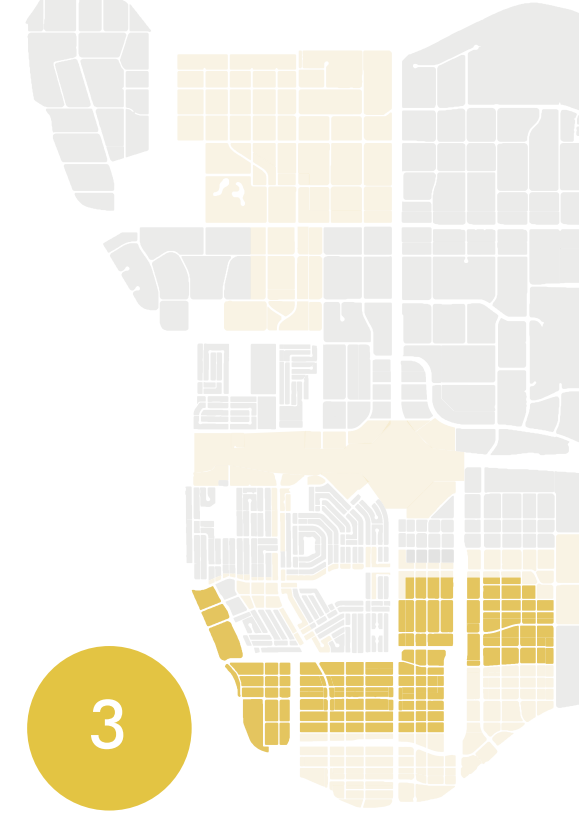
## AVPA vs. PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL

All proposed residences of CROSSWEAVE abide by the AVPA, but use creative, strategic means to to add density.



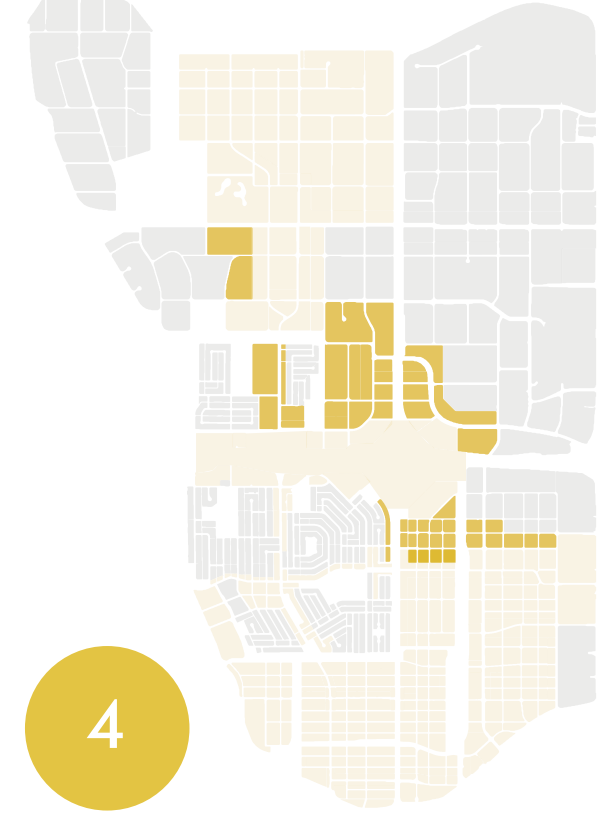
## GUIDEBOOK FOR GREAT COMMUNITIES

Applying the Guidebook via a transect approach along corridors can help diversify inner-city neighbourhoods



## REINVIGORATE

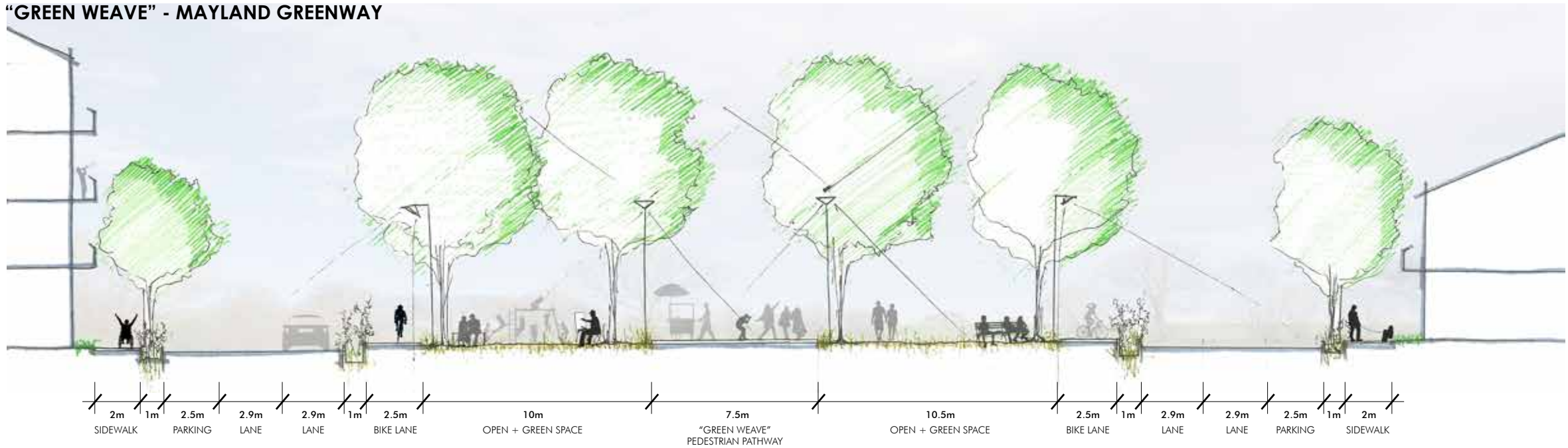
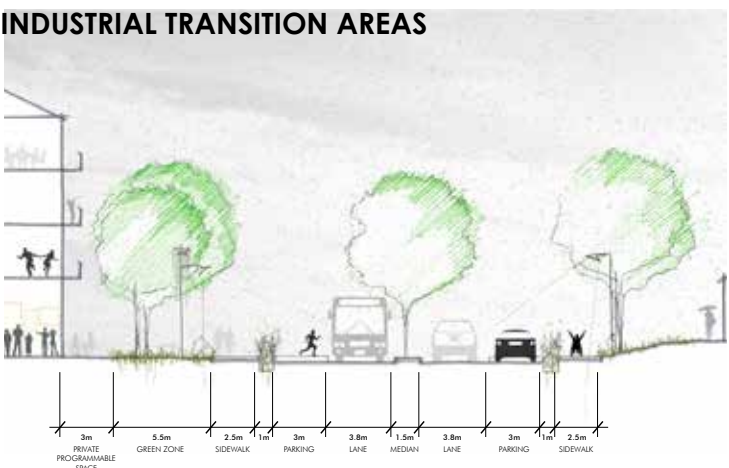
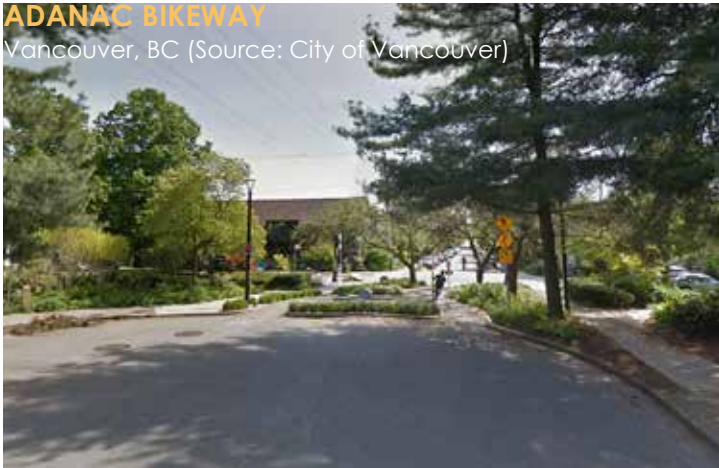
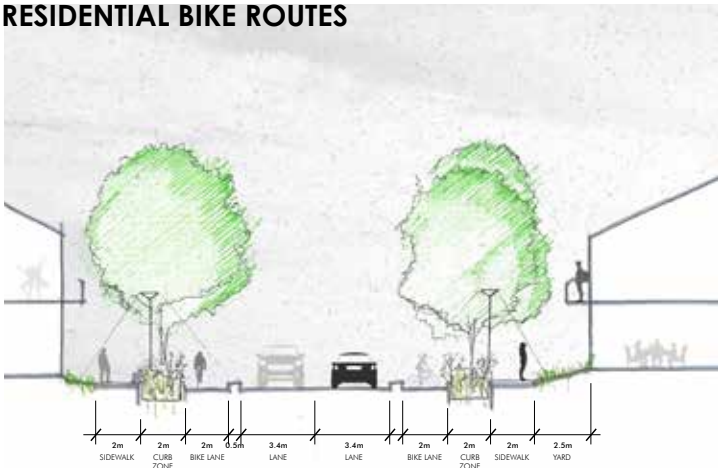
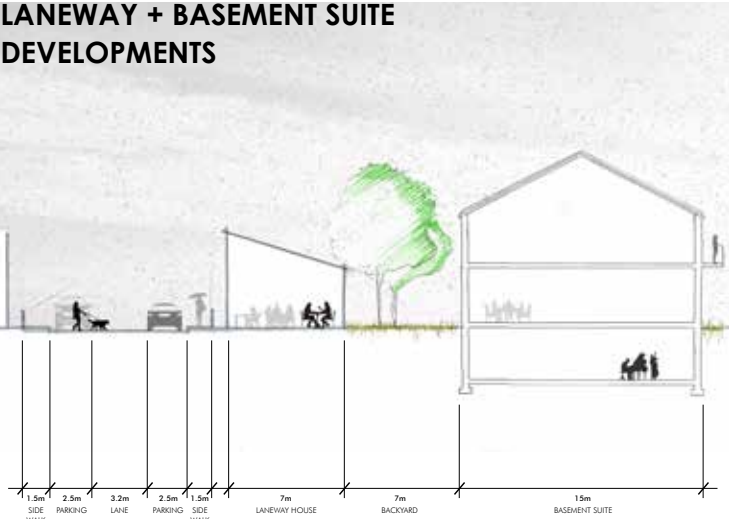
Create mixed-use urban neighbourhoods on underutilized industrial lands to bridge gaps between neighbourhoods



## INTEGRATE

Introduce new land uses and forms - in and adjacent to the community - to integrate it with the surrounding context

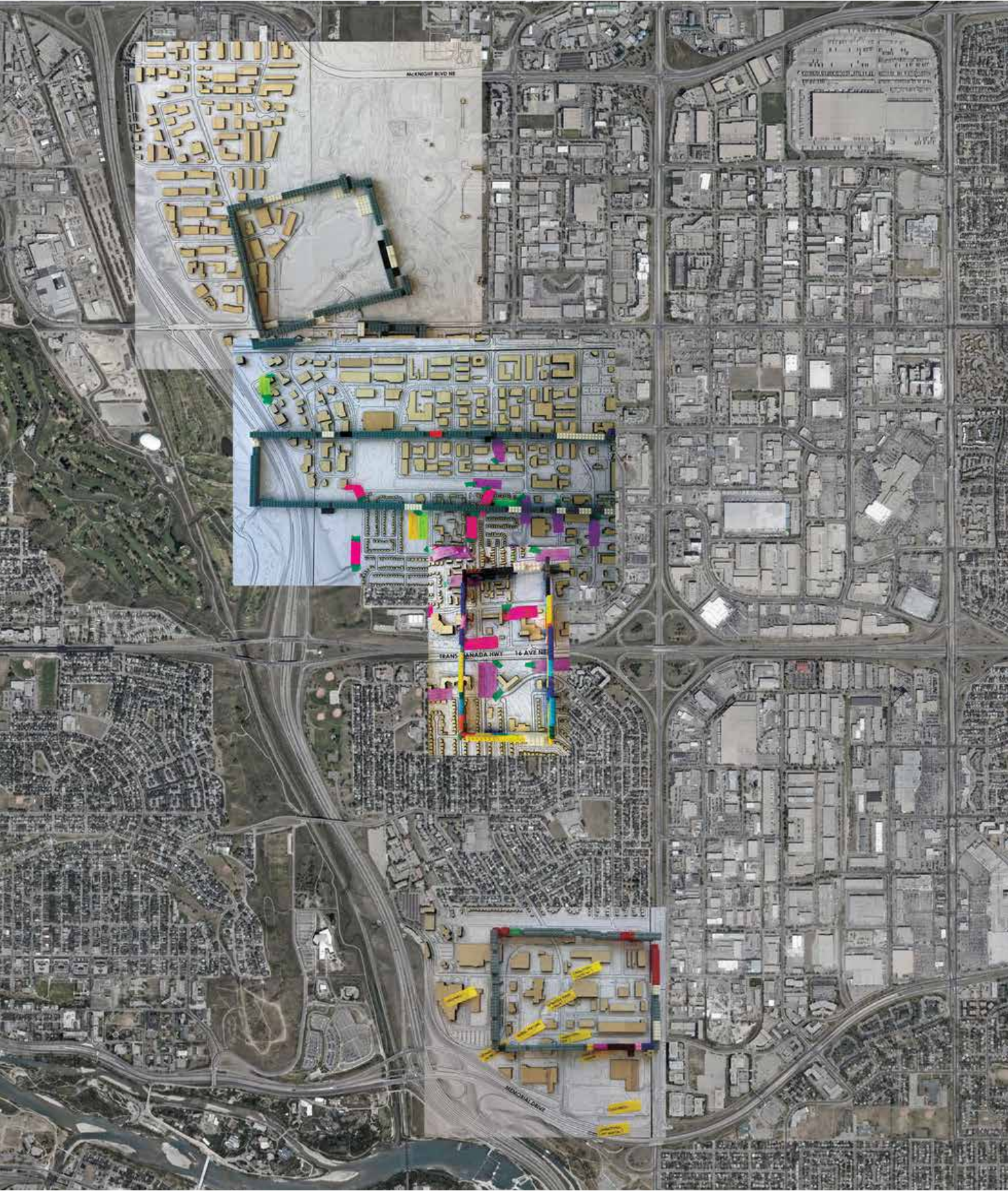






[CROSSROADS' HEARTS]

Jennifer Comrie  
Reza Bacchus  
Arvind Gopalakrishnan



Community design workshop

In collaboration with Crossroads Community Association, we hosted a community design workshop in February 2020.



Studio work

We worked as a team to develop a design process that reflected community input and our academic training.





What's with the Hearts?

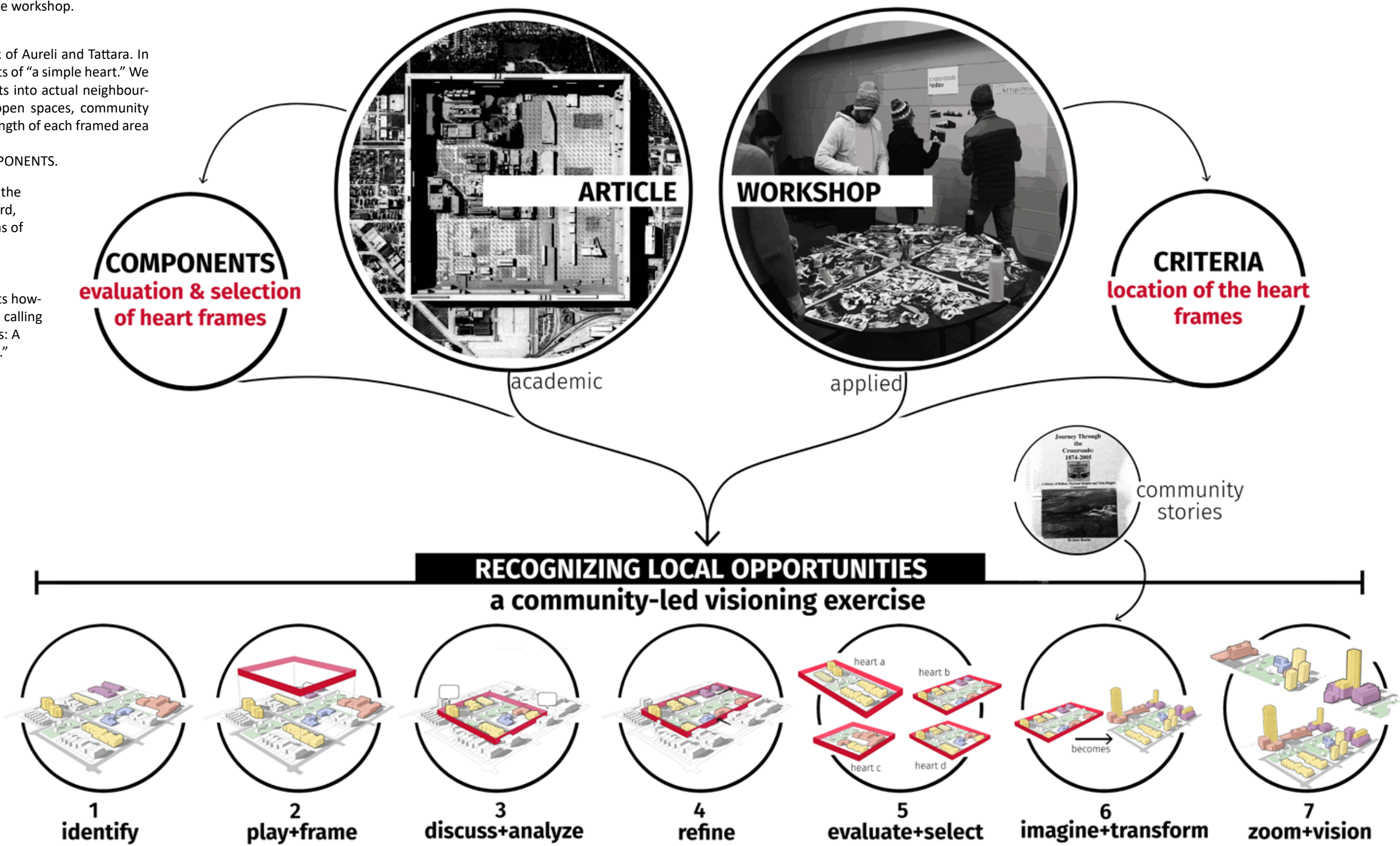
It's a concept we developed using an academic article and what we heard from you at the workshop.

FIRST, we used our class model (and lego!) to play and frame areas in Crossroads that contained features the community members expressed as important to the future of the community during the workshop. These features became CRITERIA.

NEXT, we used the academic work of Aureli and Tattara. In their article, they outlined elements of "a simple heart." We translated their academic elements into actual neighbourhood components (e.g. streets, open spaces, community landmarks) and evaluated the strength of each framed area using these components. These elements became the COMPONENTS.

FINALLY, we discussed and refined the framed areas. We dropped the word, "simple" and termed our four areas of interest, "hearts."

After going through this process ourselves, we then created a hearts how-to guide for the community. We're calling it "Recognizing Local Opportunities: A Community-Led Visioning Exercise."

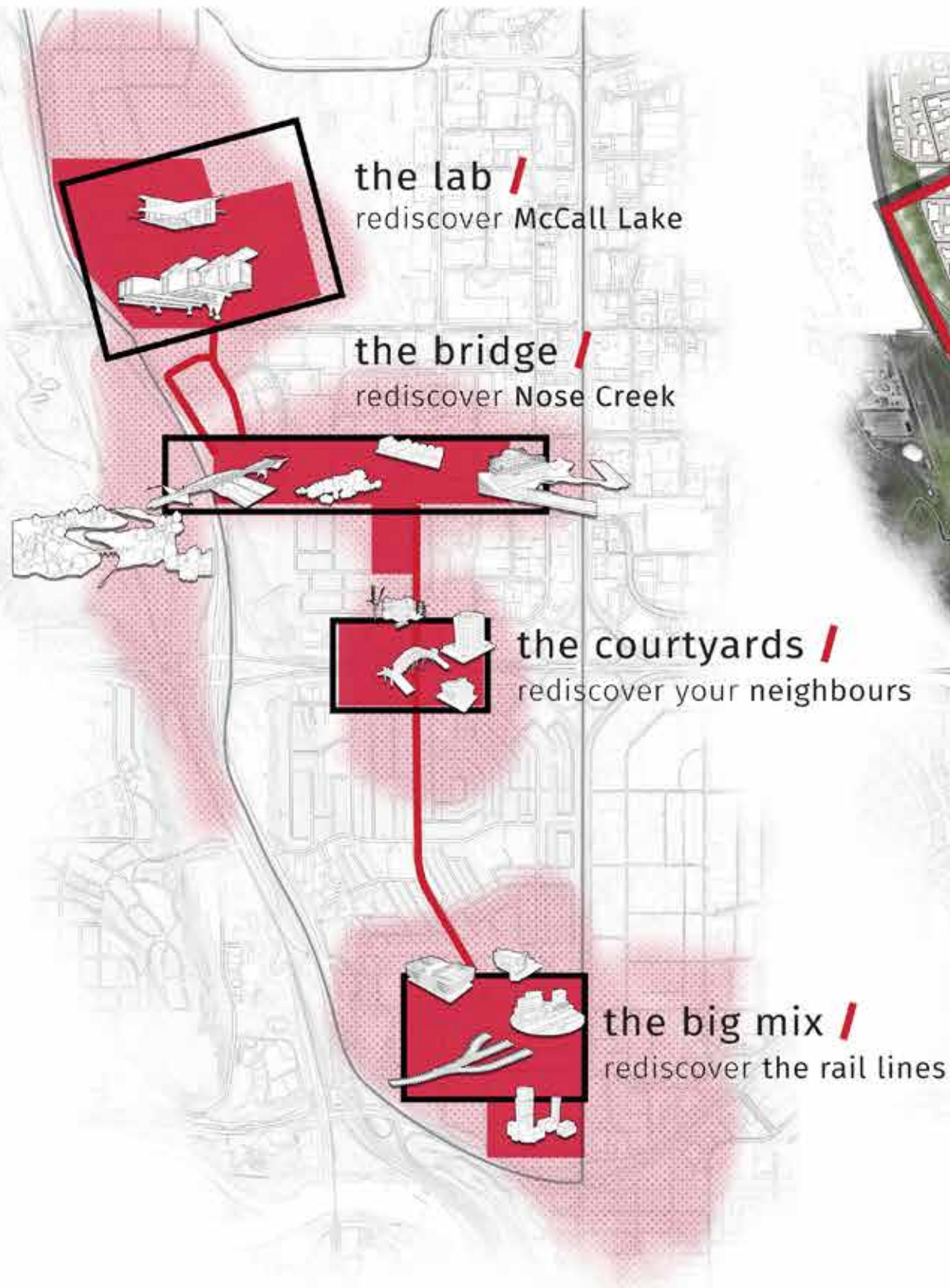




# rediscover crossroads

a community **vision**

four hearts equal **one vision**  
**sum** is greater than its parts  
a community **rediscovered**





## The Laboratory

### heart development



01 / Identify, Play + Frame

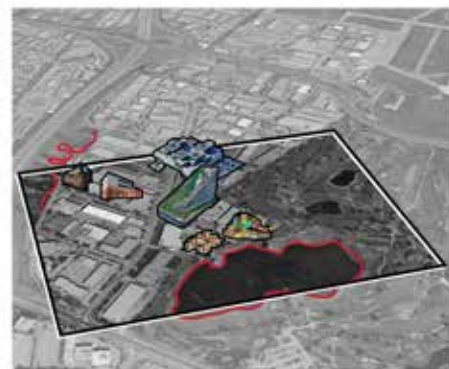
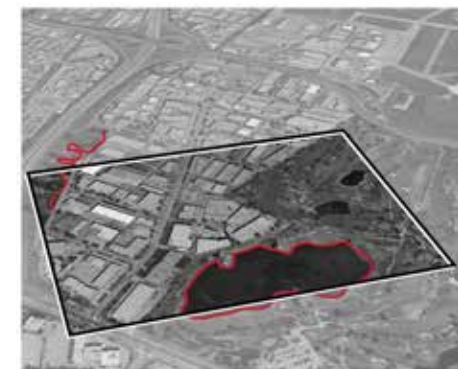


02 / Discuss &amp; Refine



03 / Imagine &amp; Transform

**concept testing**  
the laboratory



**existing**

industrial sandwiched by natural amenities

**built form evolution**

later / within 20 years

## Policy Spotlight

### Airport Vicinity Protection Act (AVPA)

- 1** Schedule 3, Section 2.2(1)  
Challenge current legislation to include residential subdivision and development in plan, block and lots within NEF 30-35 Contour Area of the Laboratory

**The Guidebook for Great Communities**

- 2 **3.1 Building Design**  
Encourage high-quality street wall to develop
- 3 **3.6 Amenity Space**  
**3.7 Landscape Design**  
Encourage permanent and progressive redesign of large green medians into pedestrian connection
- 4 **6. Comprehensive Site Development Modifier**



## design evolution

now / less than 2 years



## design evolution

soon / within 5 - 10 years



## design evolution

later / within 20 years



**existing**

industrial sandwiched by natural amenities

**built form evolution**

later / within 20 years

## Policy Spotlight

### Airport Vicinity Protection Act (AVPA)

- 1** Schedule 3, Section 2.2(1)  
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**The Guidebook for Great Communities**

- 2 **3.1 Building Design**  
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**3.7 Landscape Design**  
Encourage permanent and progressive redesign of large green medians into pedestrian connection
- 4 **6. Comprehensive Site Development Modifier**



**inviting community back to industrial area**  
now / less than 2 years



**adapting form to work for new activities**  
soon / within 5 - 10 years:



**new business and play lifestyle in the n.e.**  
later / 20 years out





# CROSSROADS: A CROSS OF CULTURE

*celebrating diversity*

**1** *Medley Market*

Creating opportunities for residents and businesses

**2** *Fusion Square*

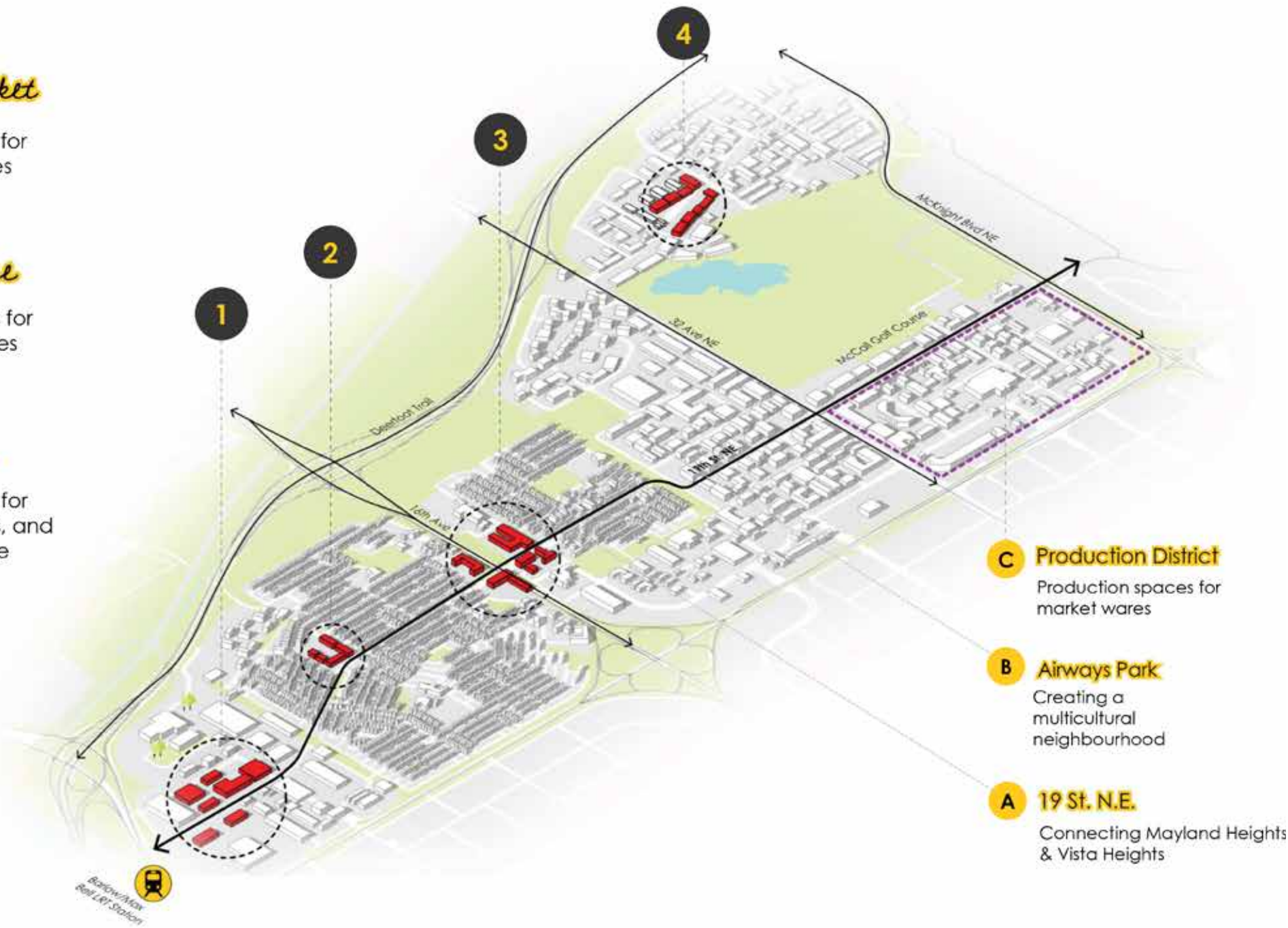
Creating opportunities for residents and businesses

**3** *Ethnic Vistas*

Creating a destination for passersby's, employees, and residents along 16<sup>th</sup> Ave

**4** *Cultura*

Creating markets for industrial sector employees and repurposing McCall Golf Course



[CROSSROADS:  
A CROSS OF CULTURE]

Nikita Kheterpal + Melinda Lobo

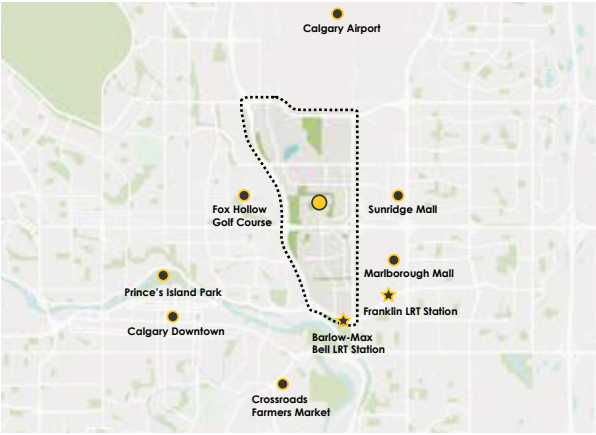
Cross of Culture is a design proposal that celebrates the unique backgrounds of people in Calgary. We propose to create lively markets in Mayland Heights and Vista Heights that represent the different cultural backgrounds of people living in the community. We hope that our proposal will help to remove the stigma associated with the city's northeast and is adopted by other communities too. Having an influence from a diverse country, we wanted to share our experiences and transfer the essence onto the community of Crossroads.

Cross of Culture is achieved through "Markets". The market is a pivotal community meeting place, even as we see now during the pandemic that these institutions remain essential to our social existence and become a central hub of interaction with our immediate community members.

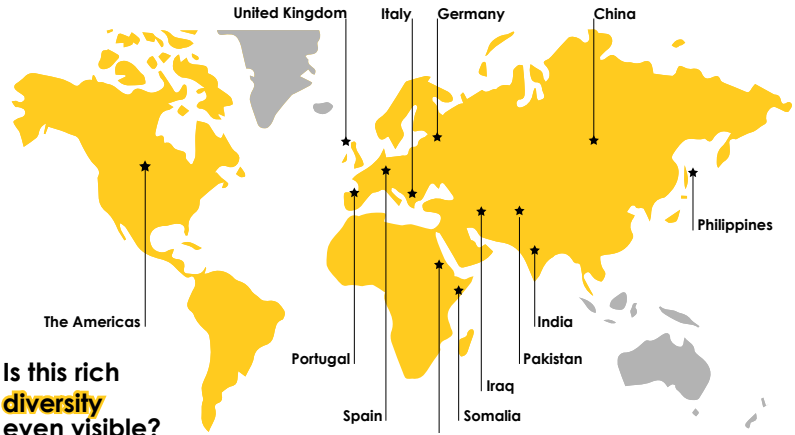
A multicultural neighbourhood with markets spread out around Mayland Heights and Vista Heights – attracting and bringing in people from other communities and creating a destination for Crossroads. As we explore culture, it is important to remember how much we all have in common.



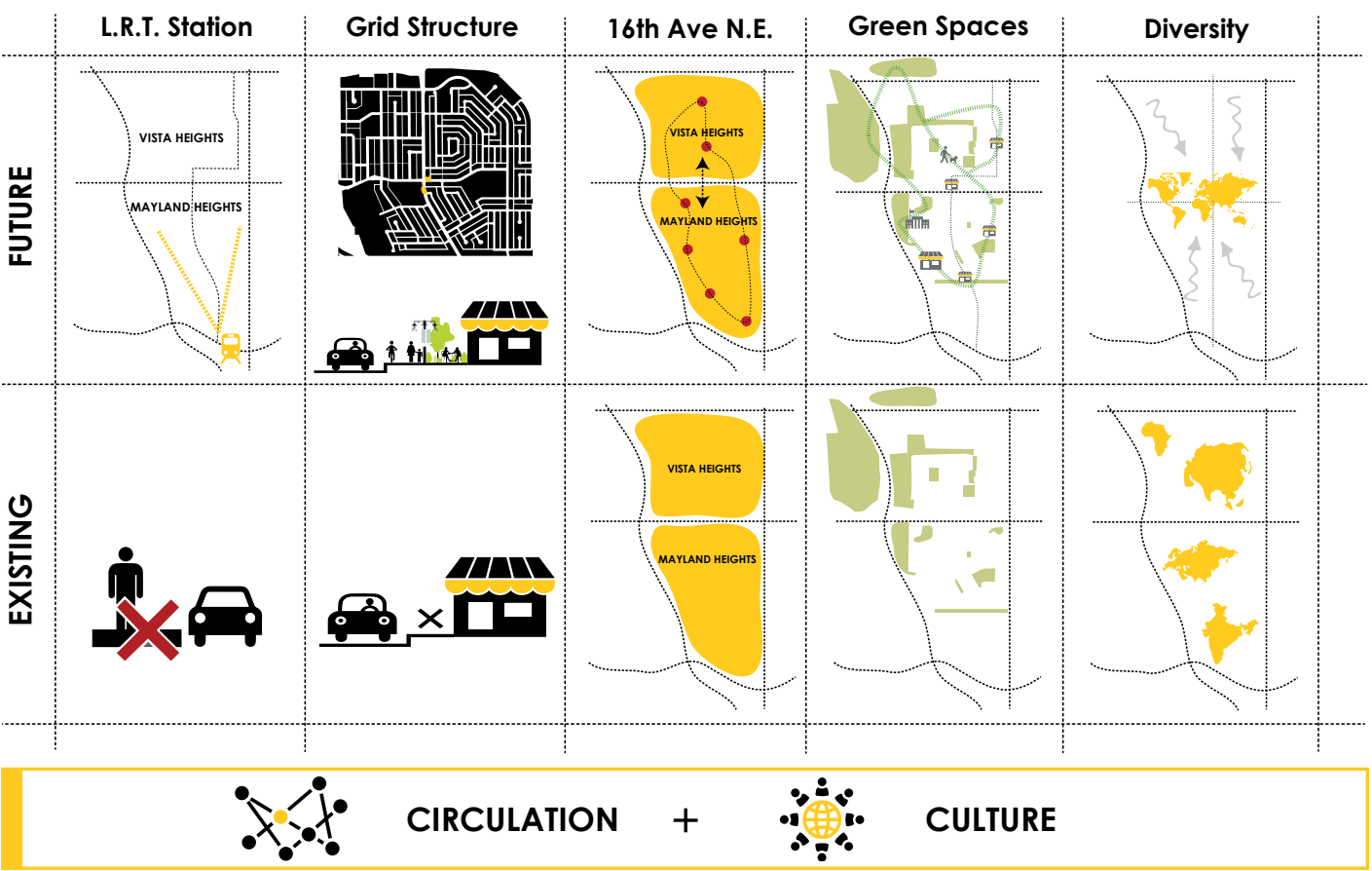
■ WHERE IS CROSSROADS?



■ WHO LIVES HERE?



■ WHAT DID WE LEARN?



■ Benjamin Lee - *Cultures of circulation: The imagination of Modernity*

"When we talk about **the market** today, we usually mean the stock market and its counterparts. But this was not always the case. For most of mercantile history, **the market** designated institutions for exchanging valuables, commodities, and services".

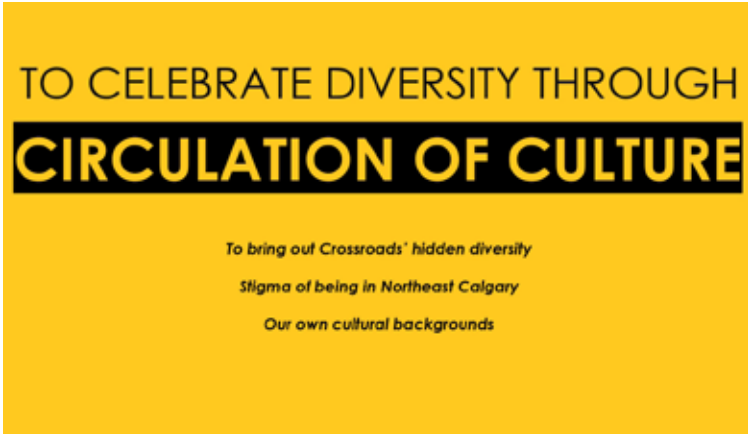
■ Arjun Appadurai - *5 scapes of globalization*

"We're not two separate worlds separated by the rich and poor".  
**"Global cultural flow"**.  
"We all influence each other. Our **cultures intersect and overlap** all the time".

■ Bogma II - *Gardens, Fields + Workshops A Field of Walls*

"A traditional city is made of walls + streets, the modern city is **shaped by circulation**, and a **rich experience** of moving through urban space".  
"The flexibility of the ground floors allows **exchange + permeability** between different buildings".

■ WHAT IS OUR VISION?



■ WHY MARKETS?



■ LISTENING PROCESS



■ HOW ARE WE ACHIEVING OUR VISION?



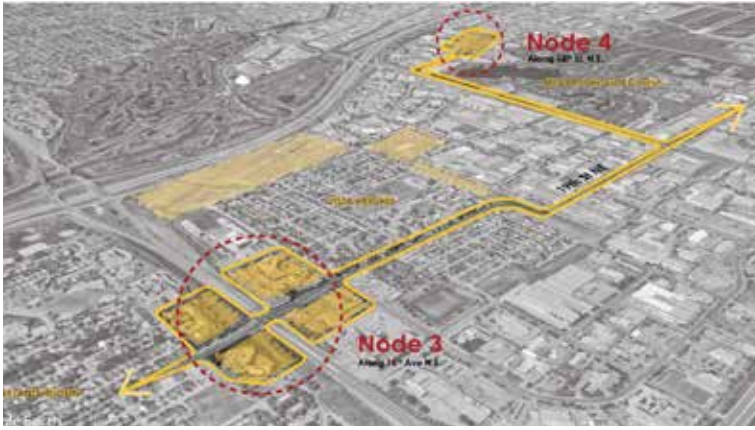
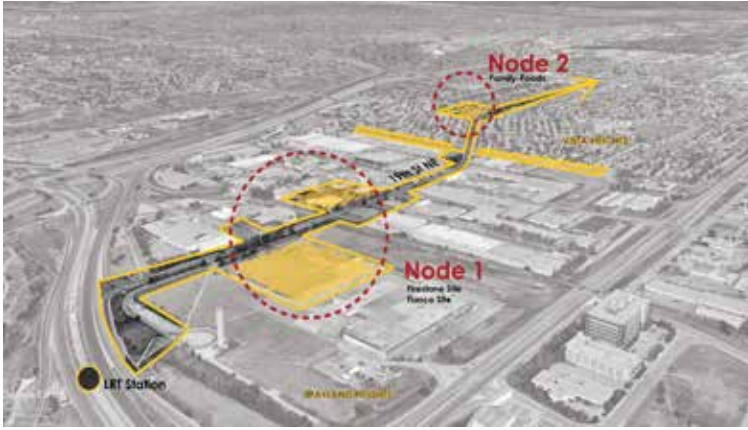
■ WHAT ARE MARKETS?



■ STUDIO PROCESS

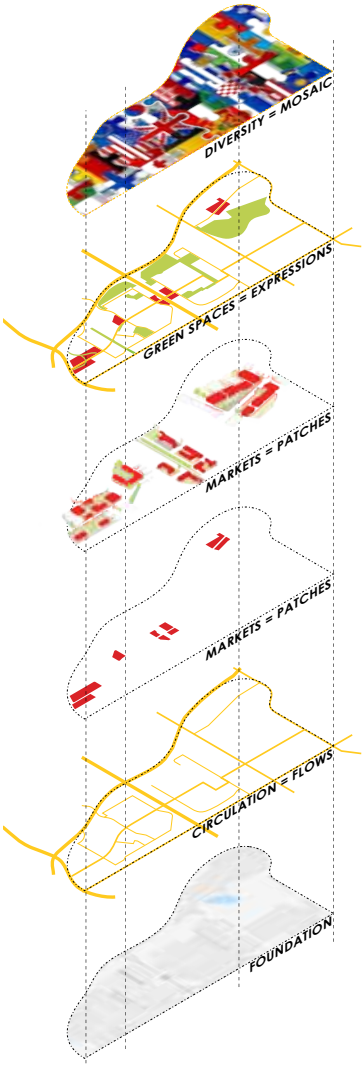


■ PROCESS BASED NODE SELECTION CRITERIA

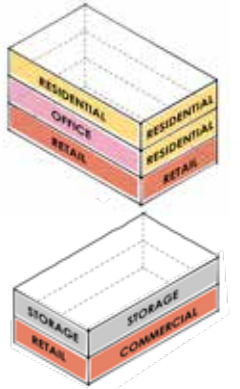
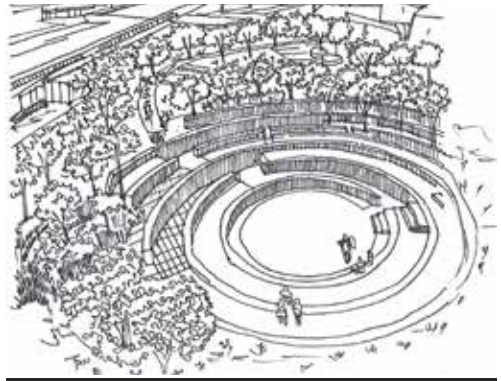
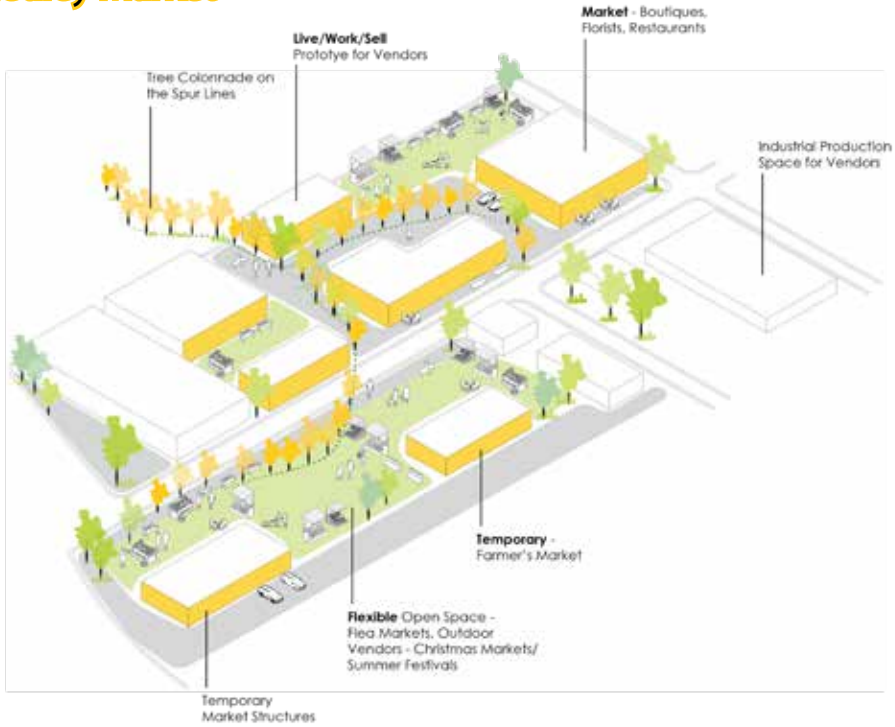




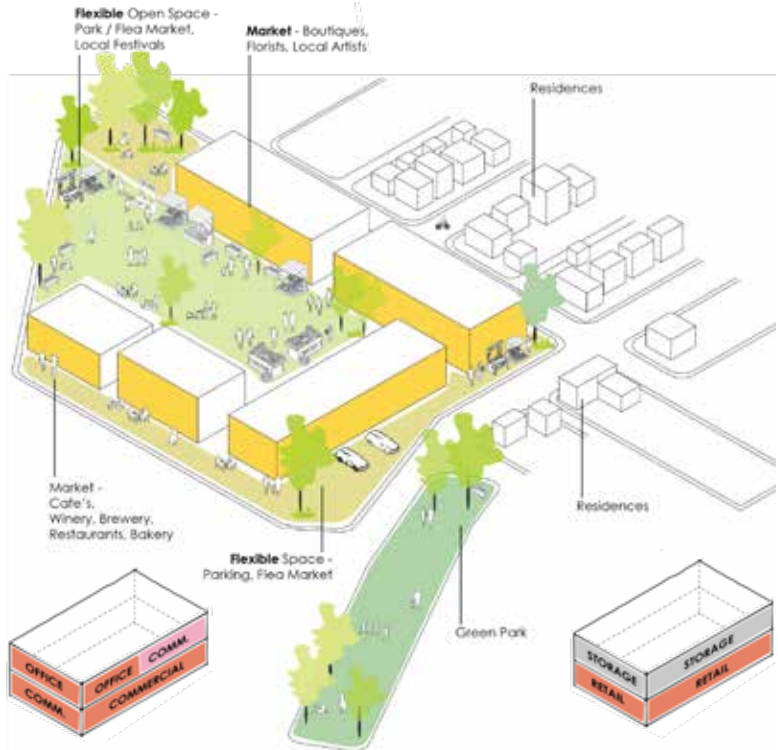
WHAT ARE OUR LAYERS + WHAT DO THESE SPACES MEAN?



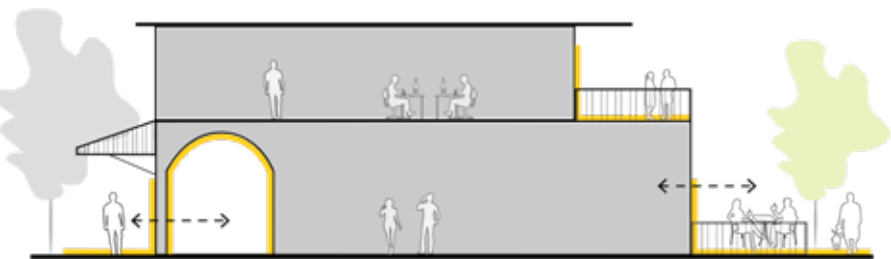
Medley Market



Fusion Square



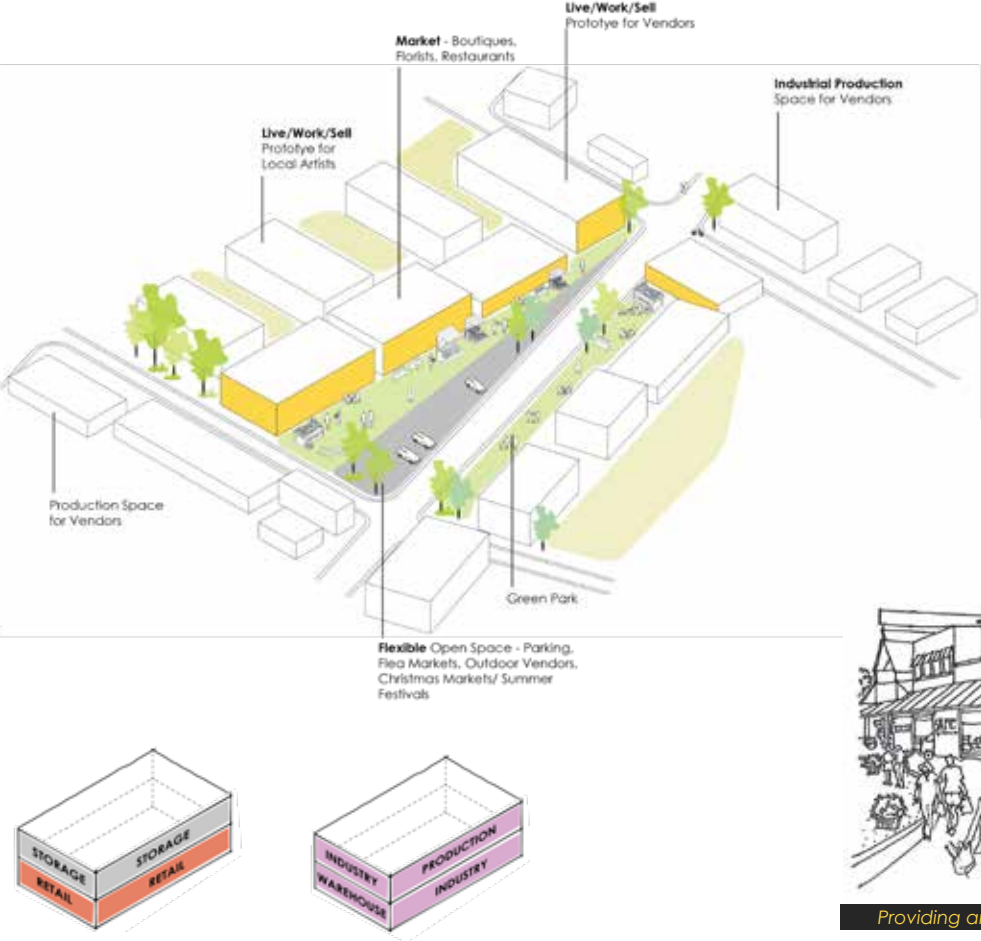
Fusion square is situated at the existing Family Foods Site. The aim for this site and market is to provide opportunities for residents and businesses that are situated in the heart of the community. We envision a courtyard style- market formation with flexible open spaces, patio spaces for unique ethnic restaurants, blending indoor and outdoor experiences to create a sense of community. An opportunity for local businesses to showcase unique and speciality items- a change from the basic.



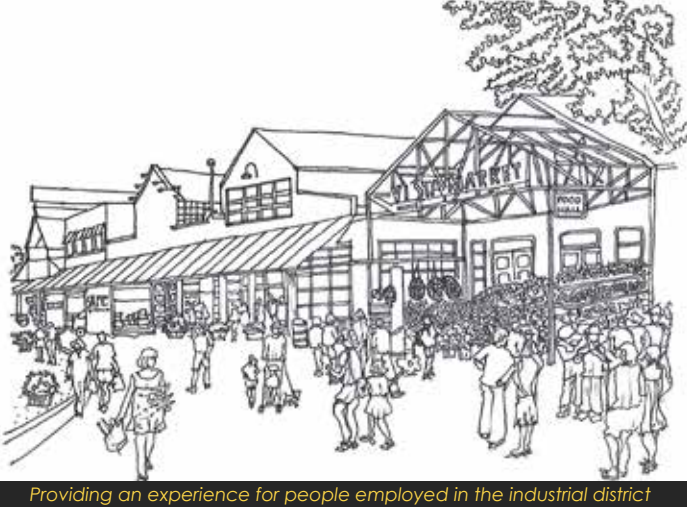
The Firestone site, Fiasco, Spolumbo's and the historic railway lines provide huge potential to create Medley Market. We envision built form to have arcades for increased porosity between indoor and outdoor spaces, and the active frontages create a vibrant and safe ambience along 19th Street NE.



Cultura



Cultura is located in the industrial area besides the McCall Golf Course. A market that becomes a destination for industrial sector employees and adds life to the golf course. We envision large markets that are food halls, farmer's markets, boutiques, stores with flexible indoor and outdoor spaces. A space for seasonal markets, a prototype for surrounding live/work environments, with a production district that serves these markets.



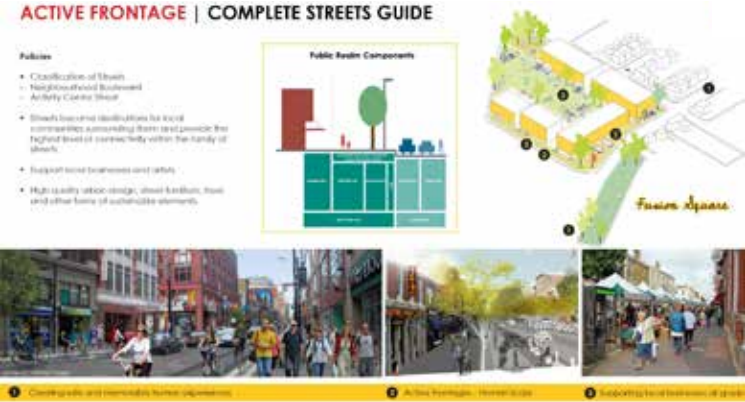
Airways Park | A MULTICULTURAL URBAN SPACE



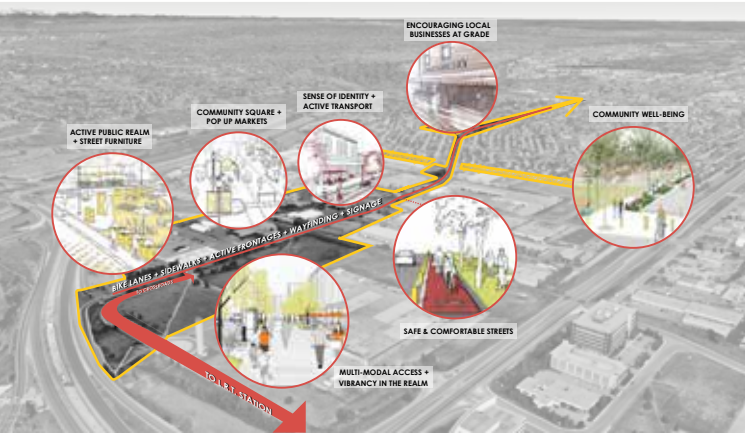
HOW WILL POLICY HELP?



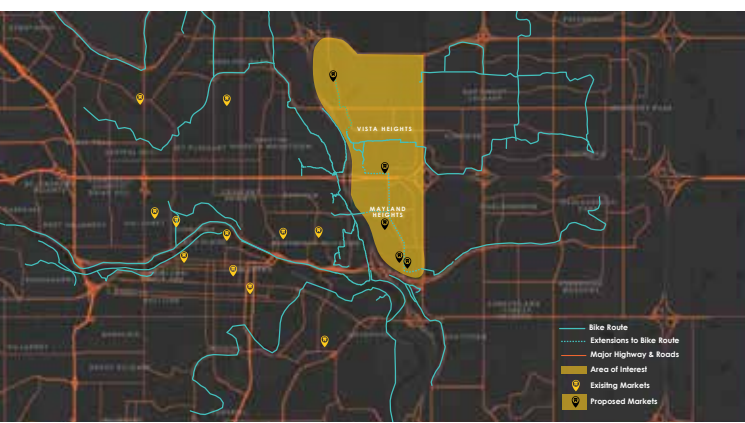
ACTIVE FRONTAGE



POLICY - MAYLAND HEIGHTS



BRINGING CALGARY TO CROSSROADS



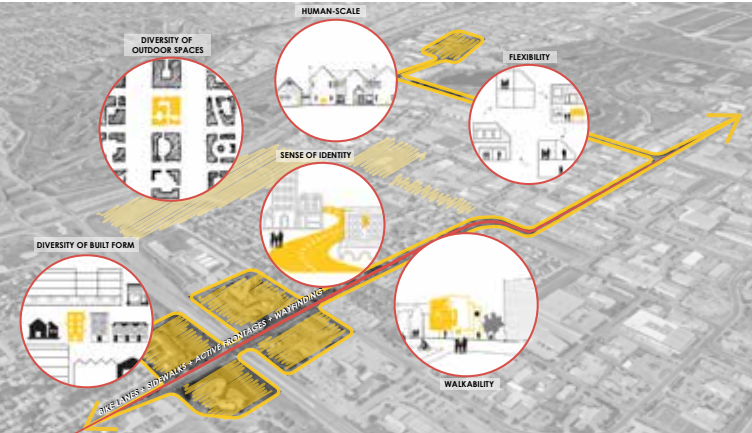
ACTIVE TRANSPORT



ACTIVE LIVING



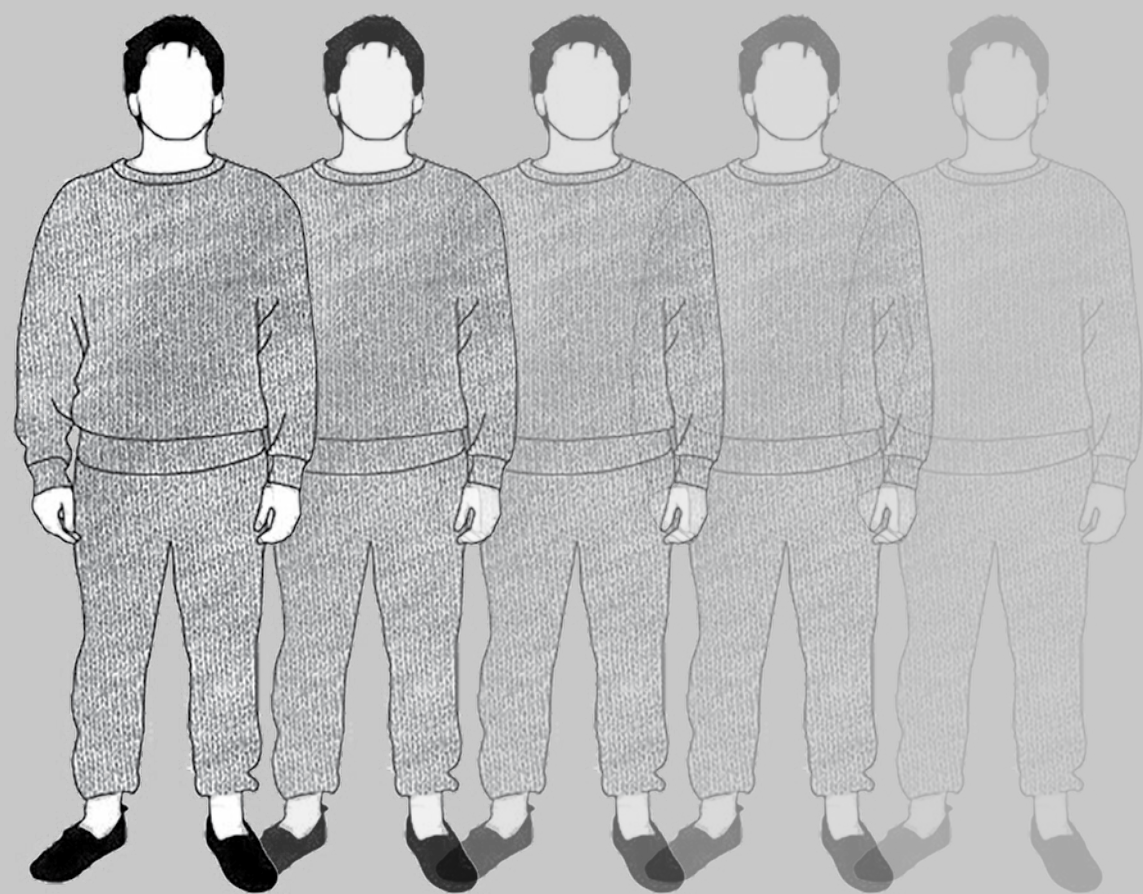
POLICY - VISTA HEIGHTS



TIMELINE







## [CROSSROADS CONNECTIONS]

Adrian Clarke + Pamela Haskell

Normcore celebrates the ordinary and the functional. It endeavors to step away from the cycles of fashion and find that which is enduring. Planning is not immune to the vicissitudes of trends. So when we aim to 'transform' are we improving the lives of residents or are we imposing the latest fashion onto a community? Neighborhoods should be places for people, not products for sale.

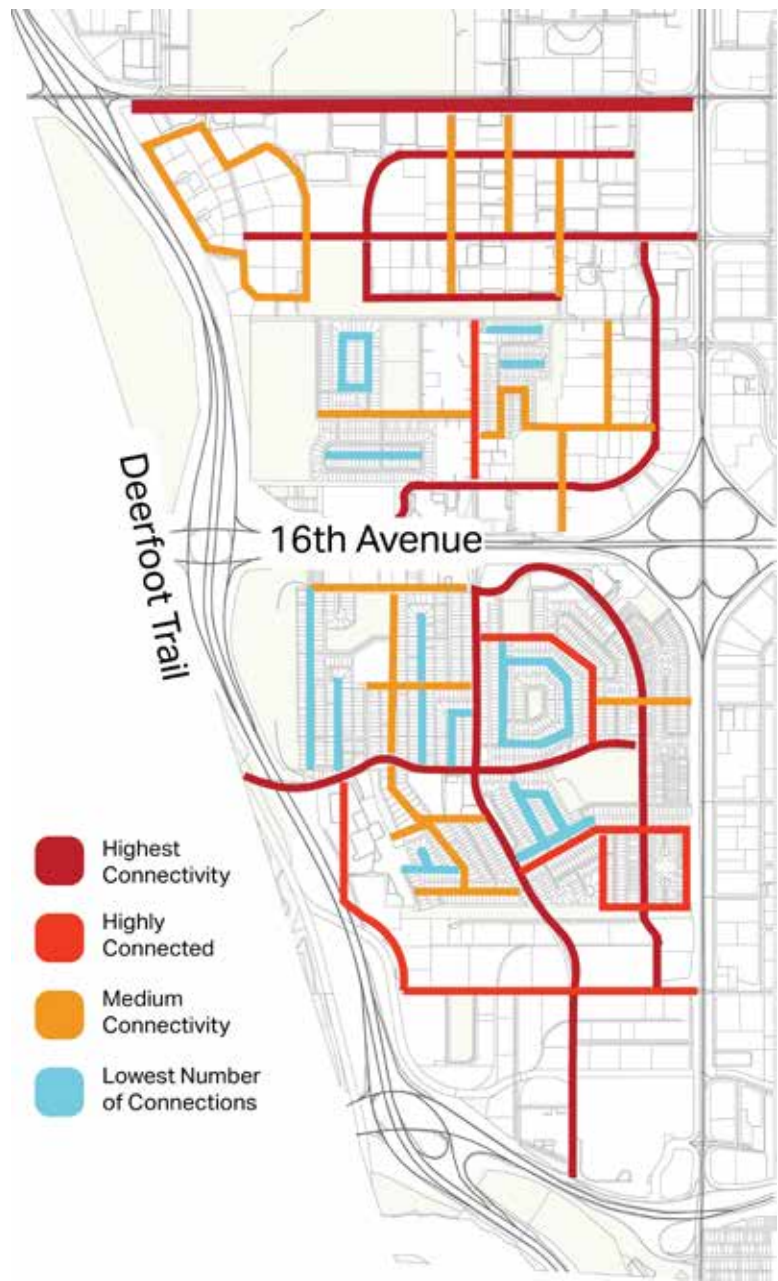
Normcore Planning is our exploration of the potential effects of interventions and transformations on an existing community. Our aim is to introduce change without remaking the existing character of the Crossroads community..



# Analysis

Explorations of the Crossroads community, examining its internal functions and how it fits within the greater context of Calgary.

## Spatial Syntax - Roadway Connection Analysis



## Amenities and Walkshed Analysis



## Schools and Walkshed Analysis



## Conceptual Map of Neighborhood Pockets and Land Uses



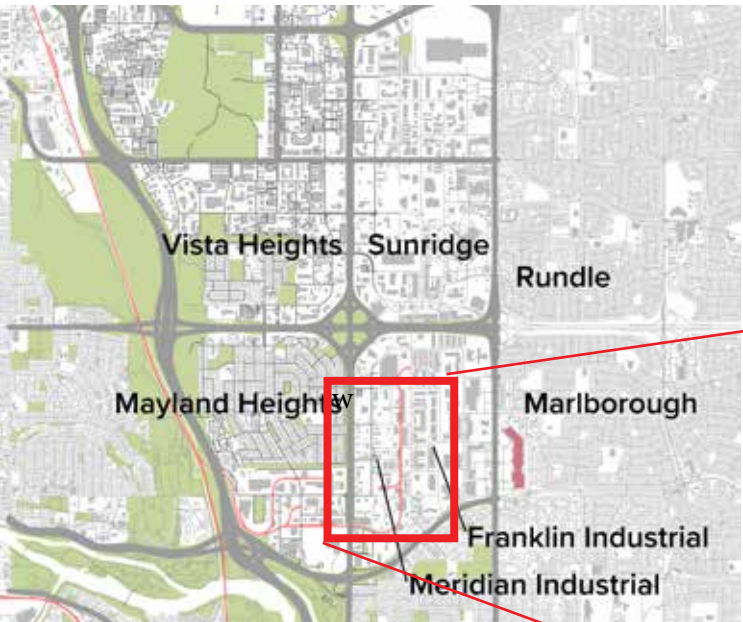


NE Connections

Our first series of interventions identified possible routes of vehicle and non-vehicle traffic from Mayland Heights eastward to the commercial areas of Marlborough.

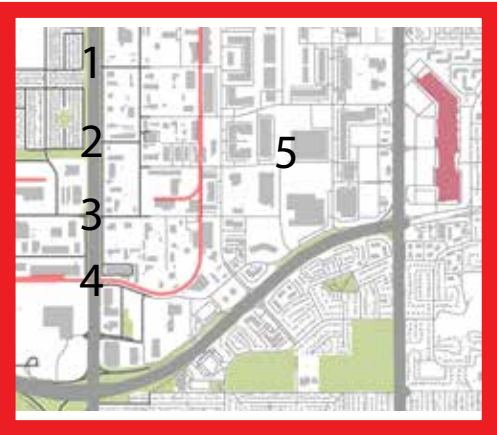
Proposed Routes

Streets and park spaces that could be redesigned and made into comfortable and legible travel paths into the Northeast and back.



Intersection Interventions

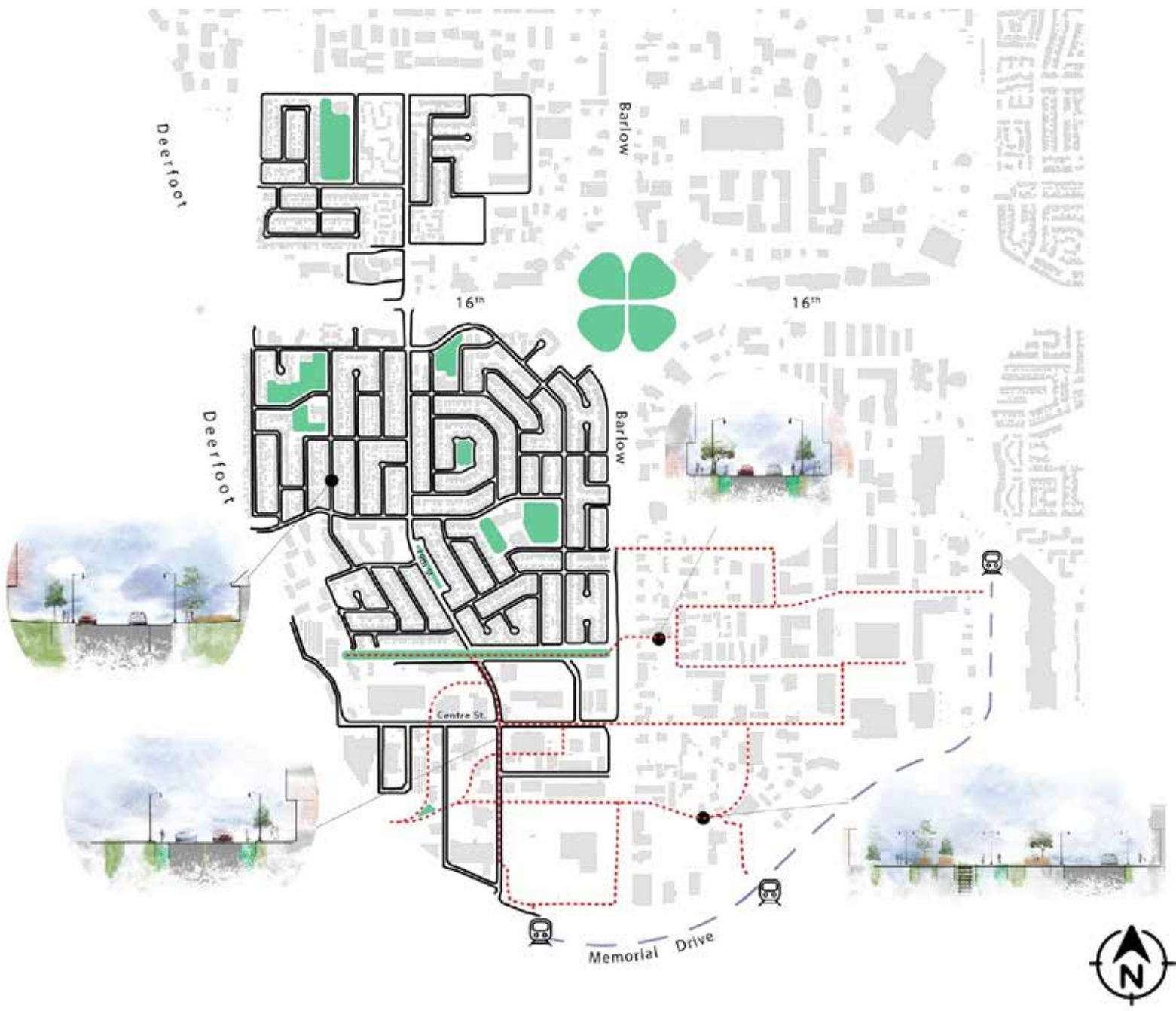
These intersections were chosen as the key links to the proposed routes. Redesigning these intersections makes Barlow Trail into a crossable street rather than an impenetrable barrier.





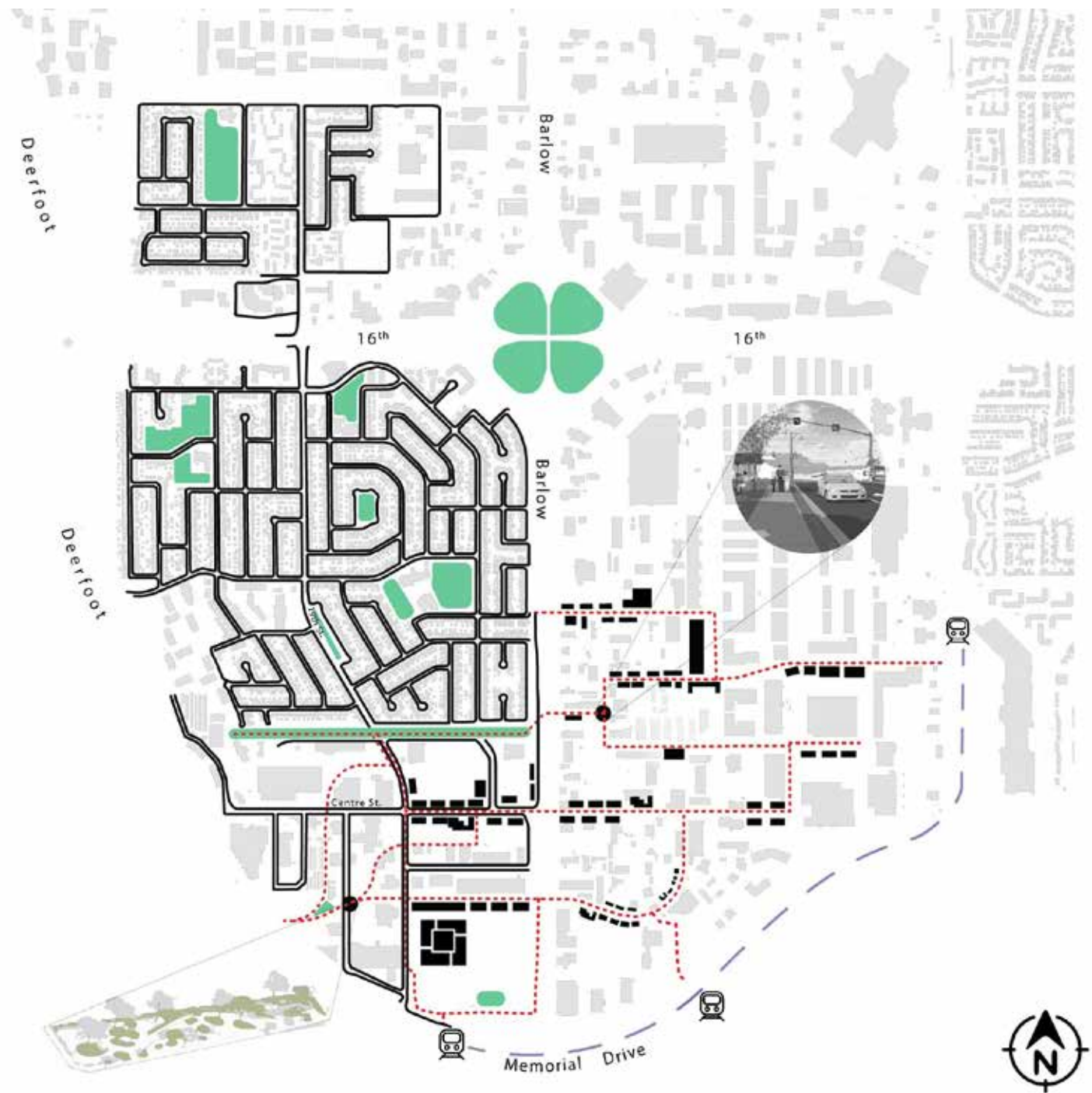
# Street Profile

The profile here represents how the new access routes would look and feel. Wide sidewalks, bike lanes, a variety of building types bring vibrancy to these streets.



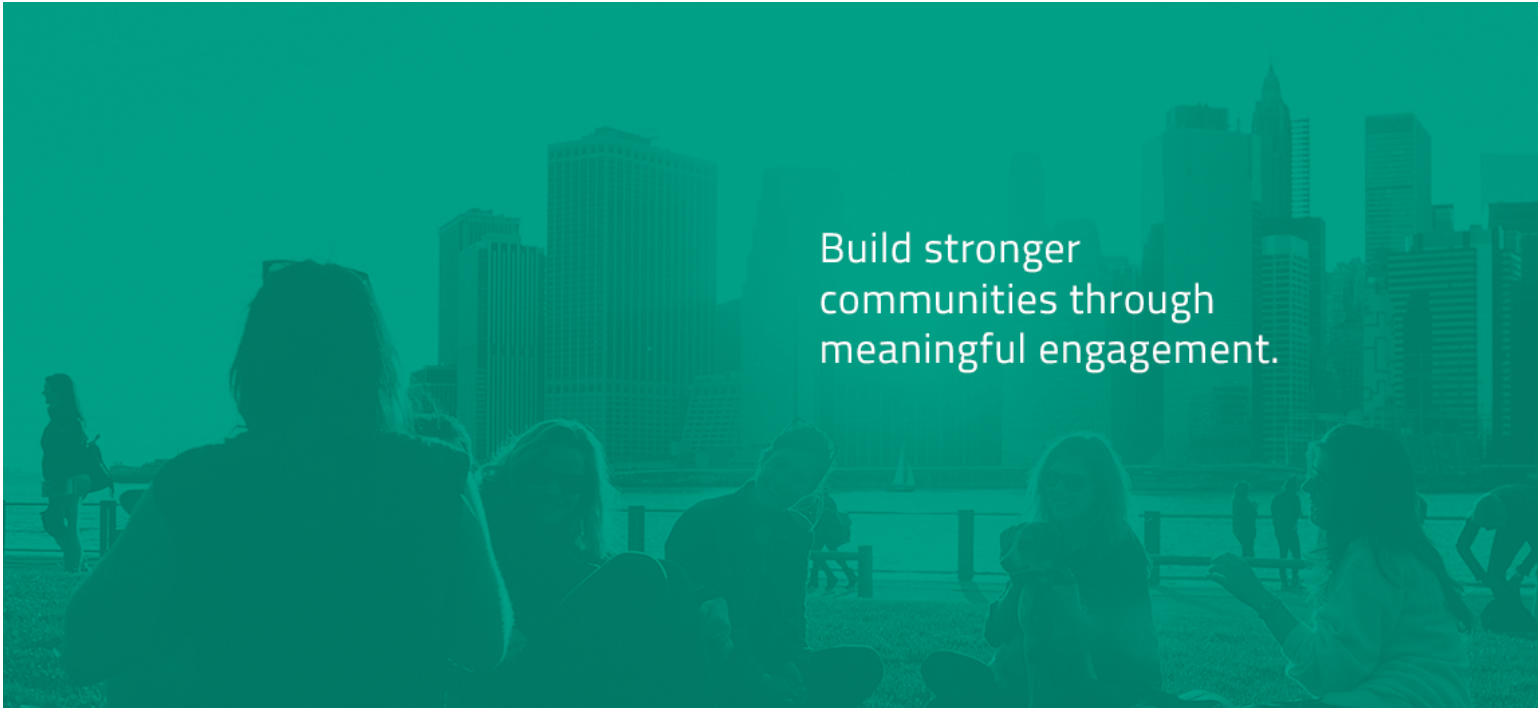
# Master Plan

Synthesizing our analysis, proposed interventions and goals for the future of Crossroads, the Master Plan connects the neighborhood with the Northeast and provides accessibility to everyone within the community.





# PLAY



Build stronger communities through meaningful engagement.



The objective of this phase was to develop a strategy for collaboration with the community to foster creativity, discussion and decision making. Due to unprecedented circumstances posed by COVID-19, the focus was on developing tools for online participation.

Bang the Table was the platform used for two weeks to communicate with the community members and receive feedback on the students' TRANSFORM proposals.

The online space provided the opportunity to give vastly more community members access to information on the proposals and enabled them to have their say. It allowed for an inclusive, transparent, and measurable community engagement process for collaborative learning and discussion.





THE RECIPE

Over the past few months we have had the pleasure of working with different members of the Crossroads community. Through our discussions with residents we came to realize that the communities of Crossroads have all the ingredients for a delicious neighbourhood recipe - *it just hasn't been cooked!*

With our Design Proposal we are introducing The Crossroads Recipe, focused on connecting Crossroads to the rest of Calgary, reconnecting the community to itself, and bringing people together in public spaces through food & drink. Read about our project details below in each section of the Recipe.

Now we are asking YOU for feedback on our proposal!

Explore the tabs below to understand our project and provide your feedback.

**Thank you Crossroads!**

We enjoyed getting to know your community and what makes it so delicious.

We are no longer monitoring the engagement responses on this site as our class has come to an end, but we thank you for your time and participation!

- Sidharth + Tessa

- RECIPE
- FORUM
- MAP
- SURVEY

Presentation Video

4 days ago

You can view the presentation for 'The Recipe' below.

ds20w\_fc\_groupA\_presentation

THANK YOU

Engagement Timeline

**PART 1: INTRODUCTION**

We introduce our design proposal for Crossroads and seek your initial reactions in the form of a short survey.

(on-going until April 20th)

**PART 2: ACTIVE FEEDBACK**

We want your comments and suggestions on the specific features within The Crossroads Recipe. An interactive map will be published to this engagement site to collect your comments.

(coming Friday, April 10th)

**PART 3: OPEN DISCUSSION**

We will open up a Forum for discussing next steps in realizing some or all of The Recipe's design proposals. We want the community to start an active dialogue with themselves through this online forum.

(coming Tuesday, April 14th)

Key Dates

Introduction + Survey  
April 06 – April 20 2020

Active Feedback  
April 10 – April 20 2020

Studio Review for The Recipe  
April 15 2020

Discussion on Next Steps  
April 14 – April 20 2020

Gallery - Our Journey

Who's Listening

**Sidharth Agarwal**  
Co-Creator of The Recipe  
SAPL - University of Calgary

**Tessa Larsen**  
Co-Creator of The Recipe  
SAPL - University of Calgary

NEXT STEPS! - How to Implement

- 4 days ago
- This is a general forum for the community to discuss possible next steps to implement some (or all!) of the proposals under 'The Recipe'.
- We have proposed a way forward for the community and now want you to now discuss and provide your comments on how we should move forward. A good starting point can be -
- A. Identify the Steps - What are the next steps for us?
- B. Timeline - What should be the sequence of these steps?
- C. Stakeholders - Who should be involved in each step?
- D. The City - When do we involve the city?

PATH FORWARD // STEPS FOR THE COMMUNITY

**ACTION**

HAVE YOUR SAY CROSSROADS!

1. CONTINUE THE ENGAGEMENT!

**RESOURCES**

Calgary Brew Fest 14

bang the table

1. PREPARE A PROPOSAL

**STEPS**

1. Spread the Word  
2. Identify Change-makers  
3. Understand needs and concerns  
4. Get the Councilor Involved

1. Outline Intent - Vision + Goals + Outcomes  
2. Development Bucket List - Make a Case  
3. Zoning Map (Refer Guidebook for Great Communities)  
4. Identify action to be taken by each stakeholder

1. ENGAGE THE CITY

Approach to the online engagement

With the online engagement we were looking to further identify the priorities of the community in relation to our proposal and offer a space to discuss steps forward should the community choose to pursue any aspect of our design. We chose a staged release of three different tools to encourage repeat visitation and active engagement with the community participants.

Description of the participation tools

We used the survey tool to collect feedback on our design proposal and identify which aspect of our design is most pertinent for the community- this was released first and was designed to be completed in 60 seconds. We also included an interactive map of our design proposal so participants can have a more spatially focused discussion around the design ideas. Finally, we included a forum with some leading questions aimed at generating discussion within the community on a potential path forward with our proposal.

Reflection on Bang the Table

Overall, we believe the play exercise was a resounding success given the visitations and active participants. We may have had some hits and misses, but we learnt a ton and acquired a valuable skill that we can take to our professional careers.

The Recipe Feedback

We encourage you to answer this super short survey (under 60 seconds) to help us understand the value of our proposals and whether you - the Crossroads community members - like it!

Please read through our Project Details prior to completing the survey.

Survey starts Finish

All fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

1. Which part(s) of The Recipe do you feel will be most beneficial for the community? (Max. 2 answers)

PREPARATION: The Firestone Site Redevelopment

COOKING: Family Foods Market Redevelopment + 19 Street Improvement

GARNISH: The Brewery District

SERVING: CP Rail Line Re-purposed (as non-motorized parkway)

2. Which part of The Recipe do you like the most?

PREPARATION: The Firestone Site Redevelopment

COOKING: Family Foods Market Redevelopment + 19 Street Improvement

GARNISH: The Brewery District

SERVING: CP Rail Line Re-purposed (as non-motorized parkway)



# CROSSWEAVE

AN INTEGRATED STREETSCAPE + PUBLIC REALM ORIENTED VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF CROSSROADS

## CrossWeave

CrossWeave engagement will be ongoing until Sunday April 19th at 6 PM. Please feel free to participate using the survey and the map below!

Our full presentation video is on the right for you to watch!



### Who's Listening

#### Liyang Wan

Planning Student  
University of Calgary

Email: [liyang.wan@ucalgary.ca](mailto:liyang.wan@ucalgary.ca)



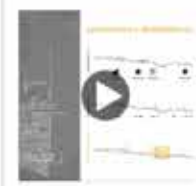
#### Matt Lalonde

Planning Student  
University of Calgary

Email: [mlalond@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mlalond@ucalgary.ca)



### CrossWeave Video Presentation



☐ CrossWeave Master Plan (12.8 MB) (jpg)

[SURVEY](#)

[ADD COMMUNITY FEATURE TO MAP](#)

### Presentation Feedback

Please watch our (14 minute) presentation attached above! We would love to hear your feedback on what you liked, what you didn't like, what needs more clarification, and what else you would like to see in Crossroads!

[Take Survey](#)



1. How does our proposal for Crossroads make you feel? \*



Angry



Unhappy



Neutral

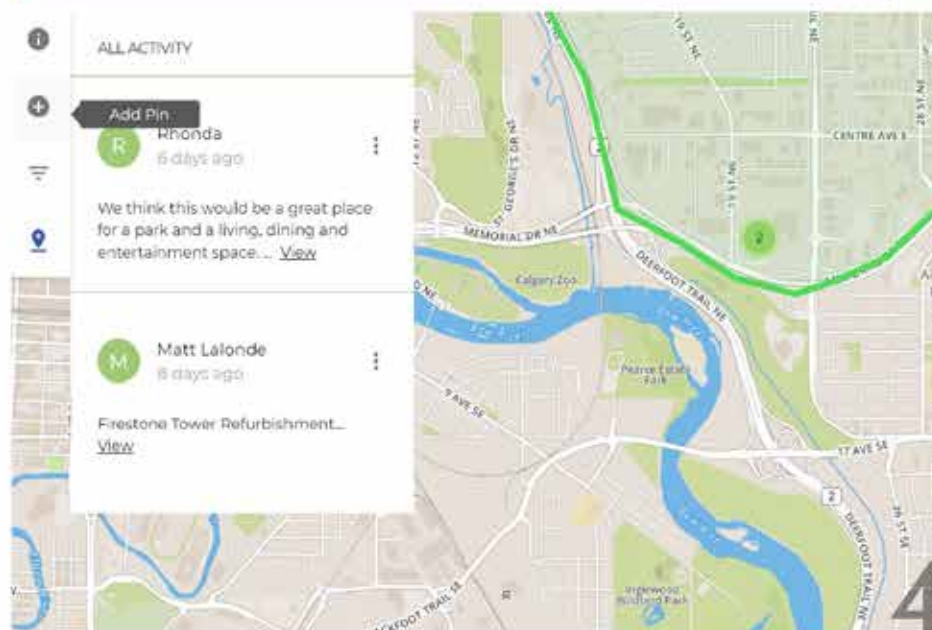


Happy



Ecstatic

3



## Approach to the online engagement

The engagement (**Image 1 & 2**) provided participants the opportunity to directly review our Master Plan and final presentation. As well, they are able to complete a survey to outline their emotional response to the proposal, any questions or concerns they have about specific project elements, and the order they would like to see elements completed.

## Description of the participation tools

Upon arriving at our page, users will interact with two tools:

**Survey (Image 3)** – as a quick wrap up, this tool is meant to harness comments and reactions to some elements introduced in our CROSSWEAVE proposal, including the Green Weave and Firestone Site redevelopment.

**Community Map (Image 4)** – it was important for us to tie things back to our initial engagement activity. As such, this tool was used to assess and evaluate proposed programs introduced in our Master Plan.

## Reflection on Bang the Table

CROSSWEAVE possesses a strong dose of pragmatism and realism that can take form and shape. So instead of **play**, the potential of **action** is what truly entralls us.



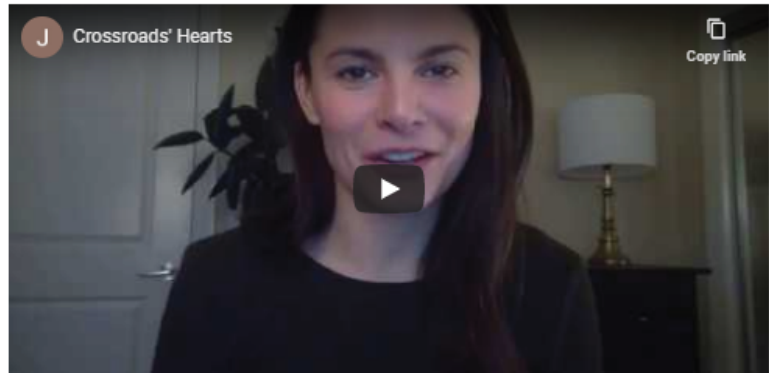
# CROSSROADS' HEARTS



## Crossroads' Hearts

Thank you for your input! We're grateful for your participation this term. To learn how we used your feedback, please check out our [Report to the Community by downloading it from the task bar to the right.](#)

NOTE: This project is now closed. As a studio team, we will no longer be monitoring responses.



Welcome! We're excited you're here. This page is for you and your neighbours.

As part of our studio project, we selected four areas in Crossroads where we could dream big about the future. We are calling these areas Hearts.

We need your help designing one Heart. There are opportunities for you to participate and provide your input using the tabs below. Let's get started!

[SURVEY](#) [BRAINSTORM](#) [LEARN MORE](#)

Quick Survey 42 responses

Take our short survey! It only takes two minutes, we promise! Your responses will point us in the right direction.

Need a reminder of where the Heart is located? [Click here.](#)

[Take Survey](#)

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#) [e](#)

### Report to the Community: What We Heard

[Crossroads' Hearts: Report to the Community \(1.86 MB\) \(pdf\)](#)

### Timeline of Community Input

- Studio Kick-off**  
January 13, 2020
- Fiasco Gelato Community Meetings**  
Wednesday January 22, 2020 & Friday, January 24, 2020
- Community Design Workshop**  
Saturday, February 8, 2020
- LIVE Crossroads' Heart Presentation**  
Wednesday, April 15, 2020  
[Click on the video to watch our presentation!](#)
- Online Engagement**  
Monday, April 6, 2020 - Monday, April 20, 2020
- Post Community-Designed Vision for the Heart**  
Monday, April 20, 2020
- Deliver Studio Final Report**  
Friday, April 24, 2020

### Who's Listening

**Arvind Gopalakrishnan**  
Student, SAPL Crossroads Studio  
University of Calgary

**Jennifer Comrie**  
Student, SAPL Crossroads Studio  
University of Calgary

**Reza Bacchus**  
Student, SAPL Crossroads Studio  
University of Calgary

### Survey starts

All fields marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

1. Crossroads has abandoned rail tracks running through the south of Mayland Heights. Do you use the rail tracks as a way to move through the community? \*

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Never thought about it.

2. What would encourage you to use the rail tracks as a new pathway system? Select all that apply. \*

☐ Public art and lighting

☐ Pop-up events and businesses

☐ Wayfinding

☐ Access to buildings from rail lines

### Videos

[Walk](#)  
"Mayland Heights needs better or more sidewalks."

[Access](#)  
"The Fiasco location is perfect for people to live in and access the train station. Live in and access the train station."

[Pedestrian](#)  
"We have a lot of vehicles, but not a lot of space to stop at and even less cycling and pedestrian infrastructure to make 18th street a more enjoyable walk, commute."

[Train station](#)  
"There would be a little library at the train station like the Nichols family library at the Westbrook LRT station."

[Market](#)  
"Great big tall apartments, farmers market and shops. Lots to see and do."

[Density](#)  
"Would be nice to not only see higher density residential along with commercial, but to also see wider boulevards, benches, gathering spaces, etc."

[Park](#)  
"Privately owned water park at the Fiasco site. Water is summer, rain is winter."

[Climbing](#)  
"High rise residential with indoor and outdoor climbing wall facility."

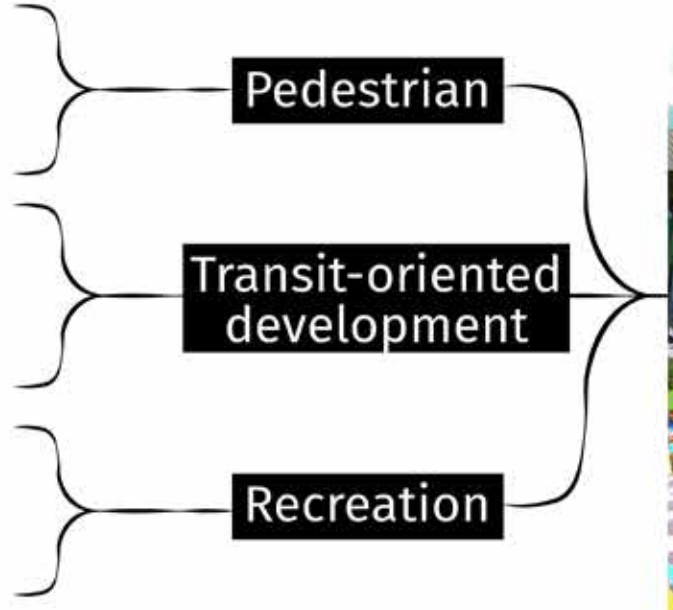
[Ferris Wheel](#)  
"A Ferris wheel at Fiasco Park. Like the one in London, England."

### FAQs

Ok! I've submitted my input. What now?

How long will I be able to provide my input?

I don't like where the Hearts are located. Can their location change?



## Approach to the online engagement

Our online engagement campaign encouraged community members to dream big about the future of one area in their neighbourhood. We called this area a "Heart." We used our design process to provide the overall structure of the online engagement activities.

## Description of the participation tools

Our first activity asked participants to fill out a quick survey. The survey tool was selected in order to provide our team with a quick snapshot of how community members feel about selected the Heart, now and into the future. Our second activity offered community members a platform to share, like, and comment on their own bold ideas for the Heart. Together, these two activities encouraged community members to collaborate and co-create a new imagined and transformed Heart. We complimented these two tools with several widgets that provided additional project context.

## Reflection on Bang the Table

As a team, we were flexible with our engagement approach. We launched our campaign using three tools. Four days later we reviewed the community participation and quickly pivoted, adapted, and streamlined our approach to better respond to the community's adeptness in collaborating online. This required extra work, however, once we made the shift it was energizing, and we felt a sense of accomplishment as a team.





# CROSSROADS: A CROSS OF CULTURE

*celebrating diversity*

## TO CELEBRATE DIVERSITY THROUGH CIRCULATION OF CULTURE

Home » Crossroads | Cross of Culture

### Crossroads | Cross of Culture



We, two Master of Planning students at SAPL - University of Calgary, are working on an academic project together with the community of Crossroads. We would love to involve you in this exciting process and know your thoughts on our project as well as about Crossroads! There are opportunities to engage through the tools below this description.

Cross of Culture is a design proposal that celebrates the unique backgrounds of people in Calgary. We propose to create lively **markets** in Mayland Heights and Vista Heights that represent the different cultural backgrounds of people living in the community. We hope that our proposal will help to remove the stigma associated with the city's northeast and is adopted by other communities too.

Check out 'Our Story' and 'Our Studio Journey' - a brief visual description of our studio process through the widgets on the right. You can learn more about our design proposal through:

1. Design Proposal Phase 2: Presentation (April 15, 2020) - <https://vimeo.com/408532670>
2. The images posted in 'C: Phase 1 Vision Posters' on the right
3. And through our website - <https://nextcalgary.ca/Cross-of-Culture>.



FORUM MAP STORIES QUICK POLL

#### Would you like to see Crossroads Farmer's Market IN the community of Crossroads?

- ☒ Would love that!
- ☐ Probably not
- ☐ Why not a new market?

View Results



Submit

#### Our Story

[Our story.pdf \(856 KB\) \(pdf\)](#)

#### Our Website

[Check out our proposal for Crossroads!](#)

#### Learn more about culture!

- ☒ Learn why culture is so important, particularly in these hard times!
- ☒ Circulation of Culture by Benjamin Lee

#### C: Phase 1 Vision Posters



#### Our Studio Journey



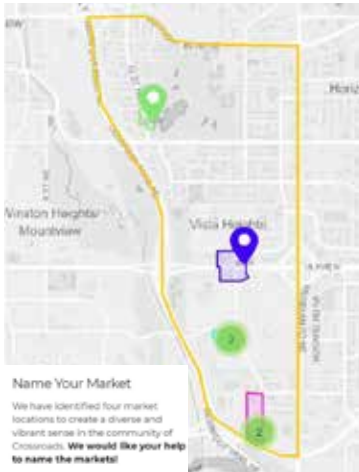
#### Timeline

Have your Say, Crossroads! on Cross of Culture  
April 06 — April 20 2020

Design Proposal Phase 2: Final Presentation  
April 15 2020

Last day for participation  
April 20 2020

Discussion & Next Steps  
April 21 — May 20 2020



Name Your Market  
We have identified four market locations to create a diverse and vibrant sense in the community of Crossroads. We would like your help to name the markets!

#### Who's Listening

##### Nikita Kheterpal

Master of Planning Student  
University of Calgary | SAPL

Email [nikita.kheterpal@ucalgary.ca](mailto:nikita.kheterpal@ucalgary.ca)



##### Melinda Lobo

Master of Planning Student  
University of Calgary | SAPL

Email [melinda.lobo1@ucalgary.ca](mailto:melinda.lobo1@ucalgary.ca)



FORUM MAP STORIES QUICK POLL

We would love to know about your experience with Culture!  
Please share a story!

Markets in Penang & Tel Aviv  
The Asian Street Markets  
Milan Market  
Arte Market | Old Dubai

Christmas Markets, Manchester UK  
Traveling Market in Wilamowice, Poland  
English Market, Cork Ireland  
The "Shandy" in Chikmangalore, India



### Approach to the online engagement

As a team of two, we decided to align the engagement towards our main, overarching idea, which is - representing the diverse culture in Crossroads through markets.

### Description of the participation tools

We used four (4) tools for participation – Forums, Stories, Maps, and Quick Poll. With Forum, we wanted to understand how - and where- does the community envisions their gathering spaces to be. Since the question was open-ended they had the opportunity to share what they felt was most important. Through Stories we wanted the community members to share market experiences to remind everyone of happy memories as something to look forward to after the COVID situation comes to an end. Maps offered the community members a chance to get spatially involved in our proposal. Together, all four activities allowed community members to understand our concept and give feedback which reaffirmed our belief that we were working in the right direction. We also added several widgets to provide more information on our project.

### Reflection on Bang the Table

As a team, we were flexible with our engagement approach. We launched our campaign using three tools. Four days later we reviewed the community participation and quickly pivoted, adapted, and streamlined our approach to better respond to the community's adeptness in collaborating online. This required extra work, however, once we made the shift it was energizing, and we felt a sense of accomplishment as a team.

Share your ideas on how we can create vibrant markets in your community!

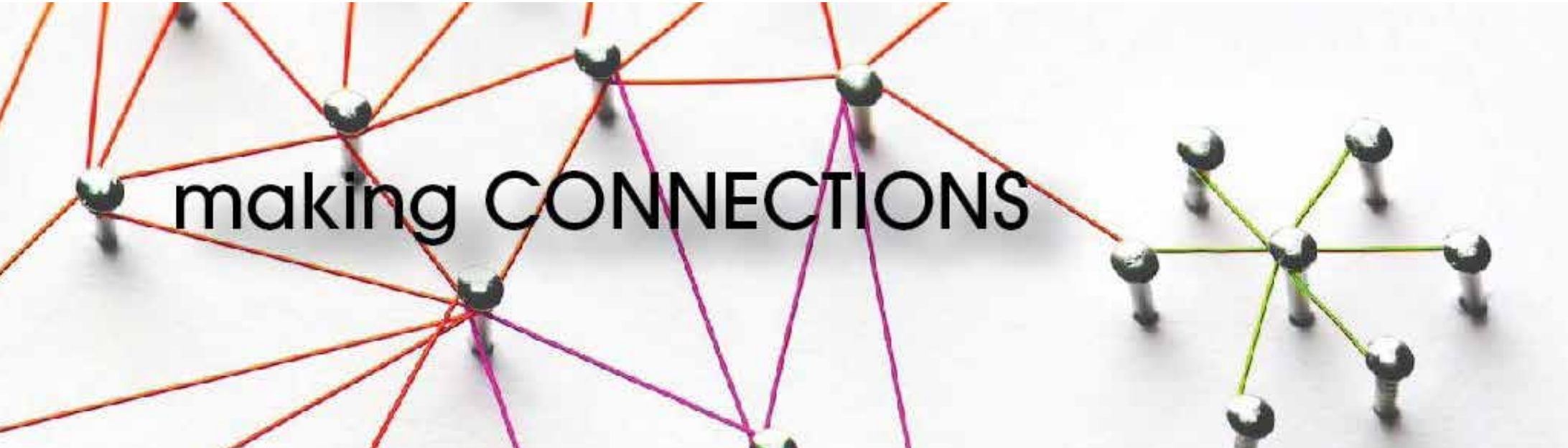
22 days ago

11 Responses

Markets could be a Farmer's Market, Boutique Stores, Liquor Shops, Accessories & Jewellery, Bakery, Arts & Crafts, Supermarket, Food Hall etc.







## Approach to the online engagement

The aim of this engagement was to get a sense of residents’ walking habits – where did they walk to, why did they choose to walk to certain destinations, were there barriers that prevented walking? We also wanted to find out what would encourage more frequent or longer non-car trips.

## Description of the participation tools

We used the Survey tool and the Places tool. For the Survey tool, we created a ten-question survey about residents’ walking habits and how people move within the community. The Places tool allowed users to place a marker on a map of the neighbourhood and write an explanation for their choice. We also used several ‘widgets’ included in the platform-tools. These widgets provided information on key dates and future events, links to our Cargo site, as well as options for people to contact us directly or leave a comment outside the structure of our Survey and Place tools.

## Reflection on Bang the Table

The site had a surprisingly high level of engagement despite being a last-minute change to the engagement plan. The Community Association helped us get the word out, and the community was motivated to participate- even during a pandemic they took the time to share their thoughts!

Home > Making Connections

Making Connections

While visiting the community and meeting with the residents, we saw how proud everyone is about the community. Calling yourself the island in the North East, it clearly shows that Crossroads is unique without trying to be. Crossroads community is in a unique position where the can lose its unique qualities. It has all the features of a neighborhood ready to be 'discovered,' it's central and close to major transit. We want to hear from you, give us feedback.

We are interested in the changes that will improve Crossroads as a functional place to live, not those that make it more attractive as an investment opportunity. We want to know how you would enjoy moving across your neighborhood, how to enhance the usefulness of green spaces, sidewalks, and the streetscape. Also, to connect the neighborhood to the North East, and to make this unique neighborhood known.

SURVEY

MAP

How do you use your neighbourhood?

31 responses

Do you walk? Bicycle? Walk your pet? Do you want to see new exciting things?

Take Survey

f

t

in

e

Public Engagement - Design Workshop

Online Engagement

Stage 1

We are presenting possible designs that would connect the community of Crossroads to see if this will create the best pathways to blend the community into the NorthEast.

Stage 2: Getting your views

We would like to know your views about the different strategies that could be put in place to increase the communities connection to the rest of the area.

Wrap up - Online Engagement

This is the end. This engagement process with your community as been an exciting and changing experience for us. Thanks for sharing all your thoughts.

Important Links

Crossroads Studio Design Interventions

making Connection

Key Dates

Introduction and Survey

April 06 — April 20 2020

Feedback

April 09 — April 20 2020

Studio Presentation

April 15 2020

2. How long are your neighbourhood walks for business or going to work? \*

10 mins

20 mins

30 mins

Less than 1hr

More than 1hr

Doesn't apply

Who's Listening

Adrian Clarke

Student, SAPL Crossroads Studio

University of Calgary

AC

Pamela Haskell

Student, SAPL Crossroads Studio

University of Calgary

PH

SURVEY

MAP

Connections

12 days

f

t

in

e

This is a map showing the proposed pathways and improved connections that would be created within the community. These improvements would allow residents to access more amenities when going out for a 10 - 20 min walk. Also, the converted rail line would allow the community a new place to walk or gather.

Place a pin to indicate:

Where would you enjoy walking using the path?

Marlborough Mall

Safeway/Horne Depot

Youth Health Centre

Rail Line Park

Use the amenity pin to show what places you would like to have additional access to.

Amenity

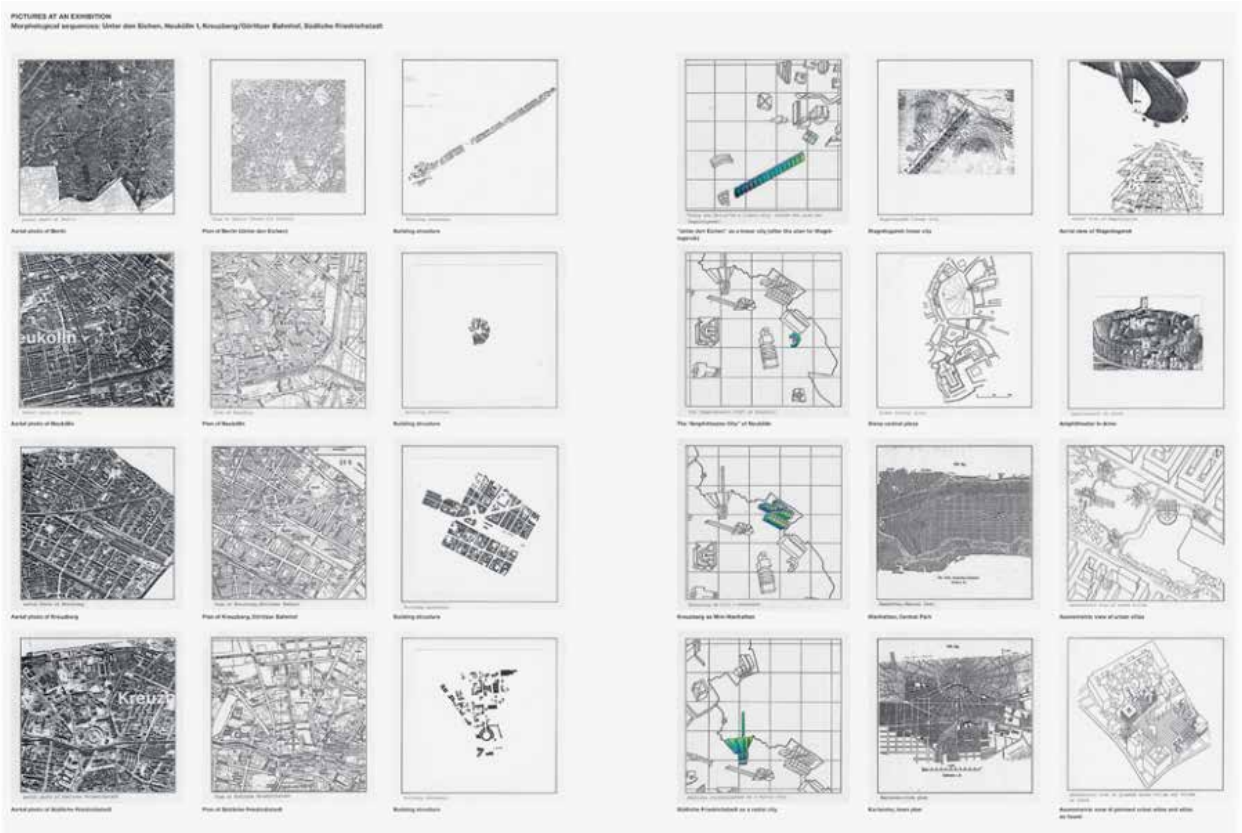
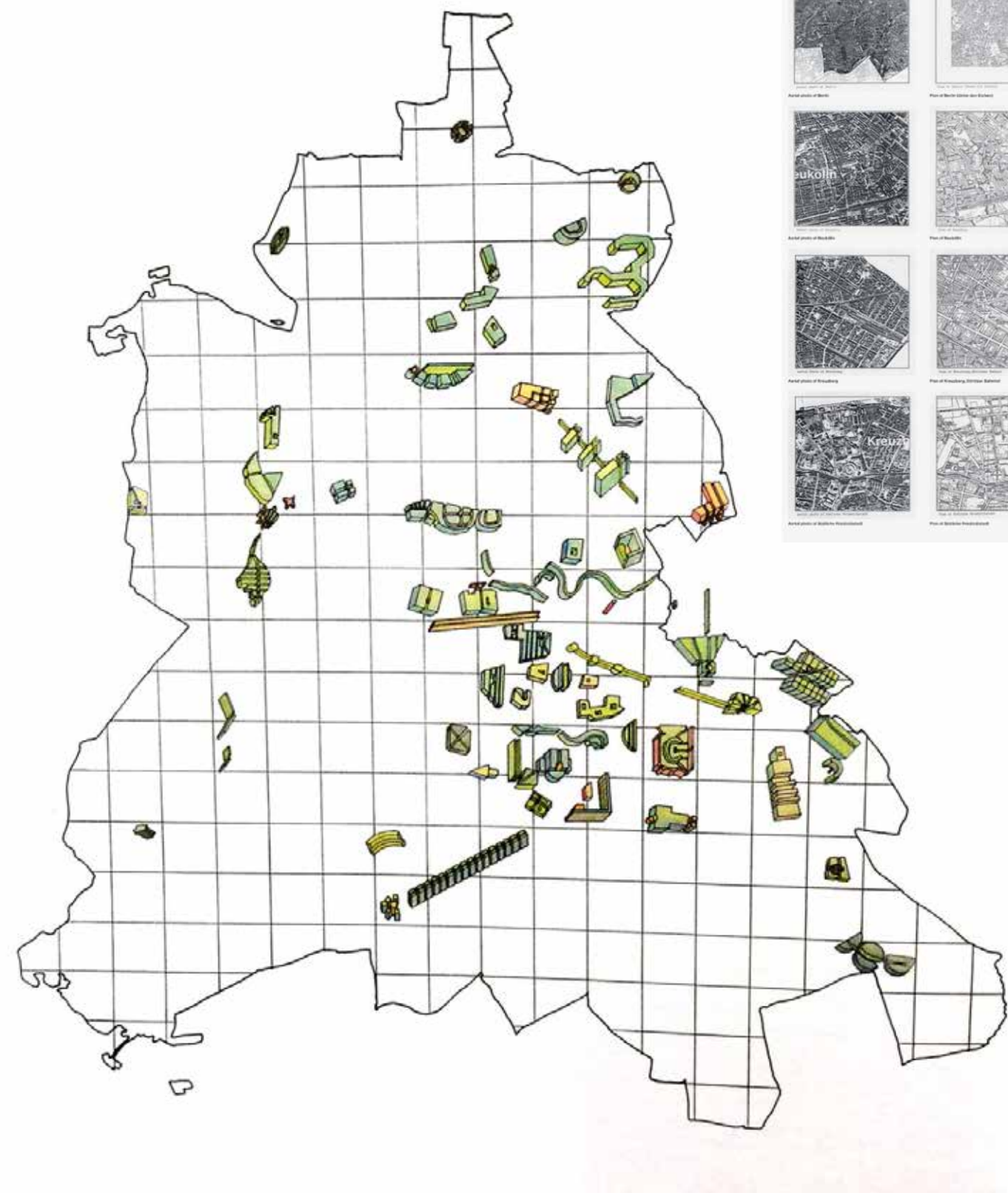








# OBJECT



Our first analysis of the community was completed using our computers. It was too cold during our first week in January to conduct a site visit.

As a result, our first assignment borrowed its approach from Ungers and Koolhaas' "The City in the City—Berlin: A Green Archipelago" manifesto.

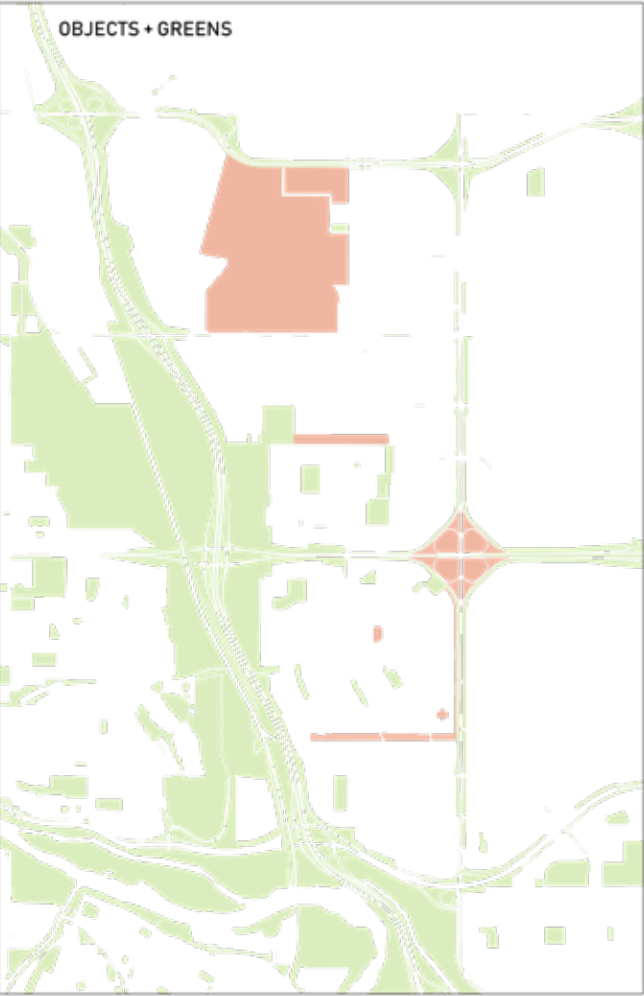
Each student completed an individual analysis of the community and identified areas (built and natural forms, patterns, structures, etc.) that appeared to have a strong existing identity in the community. For each identified area, students completed a morphological and reference sequence study.

As part of the assignment, each student produced a final key map of the community that reflected their overall understanding of Crossroads' morphological structure.

Ungers, O.M., Koolhaas, R., Riemann, P., Kollhoff, H., Ovaska, A., Hertweck, F., Marot, S. and Ungers Archiv für Architekturwissenschaft, 2013. The City in the City: Berlin- a Green Archipelago. Zürich: Lars Müller Publishers.



 <p>A. Mayland Heights Off-Leash Dog Park</p>			 <p>Reference - Sunset Beach, Vancouver</p>	 <p>Reference - Photograph</p>	<p><b>Functional Buffer Green Space</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Buffer between two uses - Residential &amp; Industrial</li> <li>2. Transitional Zone</li> <li>3. Recreational Use</li> </ol>
 <p>B. Cloverleaf - Intersect, near St. John's Cathedral</p>			 <p>Reference - Sun Club - Ring Road</p>	 <p>Reference - Photograph</p>	<p><b>Available but Redundant Green Space</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dead Zone in the green space within and surrounding Cloverleaf Intersect</li> <li>2. Usable Space with potential for development</li> <li>3. Sun Club as public art and a public park at a major intersection in New Delhi</li> </ol>
 <p>C. McCall Lake Golf Course</p>			 <p>Reference - Sunrise Vista Golf Course</p>	 <p>Reference - Photograph</p>	<p><b>Misfit and Manicured</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Golf Course south of the airport and surrounded by industrial area</li> <li>2. Most likely an attempt to put the Manley land surrounding McCall Lake to productive use</li> <li>3. Sunrise Vista Golf Course next to the Nellis Air Force Base in Las Vegas as an example of a misfit Golf Course</li> </ol>
 <p>D. Sub-Neighborhood Park</p>			 <p>Reference - Plaza San Marco</p>	 <p>Reference - Photograph</p>	<p><b>Enclosed Open Space</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A small neighborhood park as the focal point of a built arrangement</li> <li>2. Place of recreation and congregation</li> <li>3. A linear resemblance to Plaza San Marco, with a single main exit point with a central glass</li> </ol>
 <p>E. 13 Street NE, Vista Heights</p>			 <p>Reference - 13th Ave NE, High Point</p>	 <p>Reference - Photograph</p>	<p><b>Sidewalk Buffers</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Narrow Curbside green strips serving multiple purposes in various contexts</li> <li>2. In various cities, used as water collection areas, found for various purposes</li> <li>3. High Point, Seattle employs multiple low impact rain water collection</li> </ol>
 <p>F. McKinnon Place</p>			 <p>Reference - Sandbar, South and Rose Islands</p>	 <p>Reference - Photograph</p>	<p><b>Bridge between two islands</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Small green patches acting as connectors as well as recreational spaces between two cul-de-sacs</li> <li>2. This space acts as a bridge between two housing lots</li> <li>3. The Sandbar flow in Rose and South Islands in the Andromeda is reminiscent of the green connector, a bridge between two islands</li> </ol>



# [Green Objects] Sidharth Agarwal

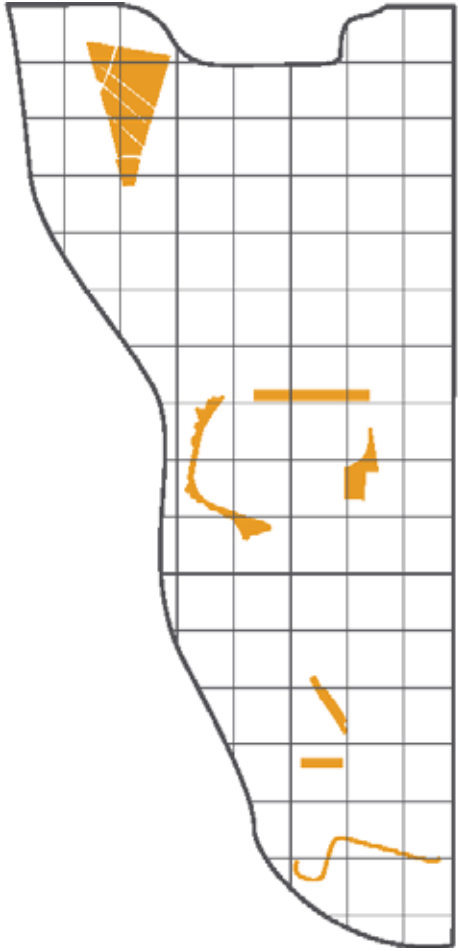
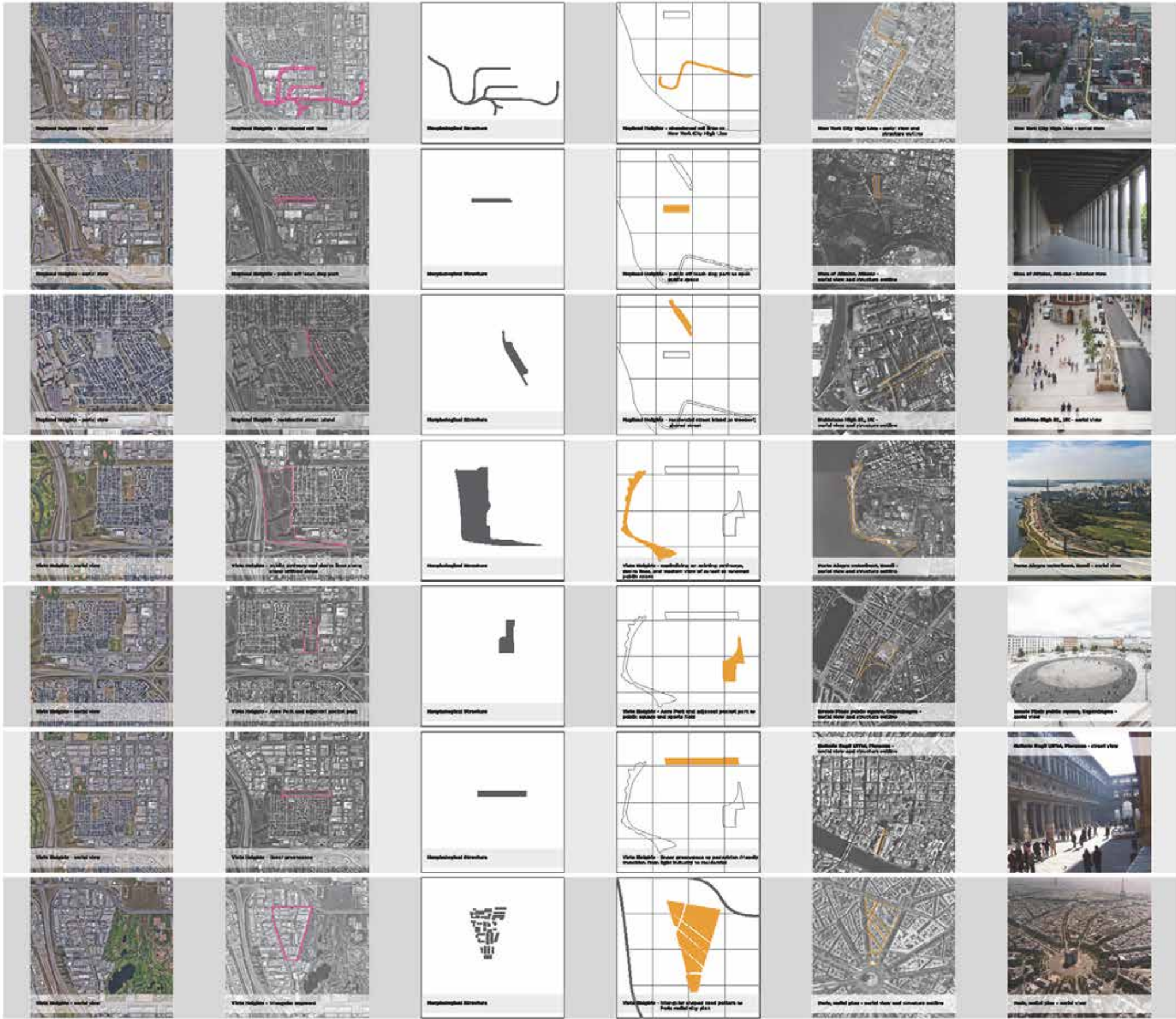
In contemporary design, much attention is given to the built form, sometimes at the expense of the non-built. For this reason, the chosen theme in this panel is green and open spaces. What are green open spaces- parks, buffers, dead spaces, all of these? The objects highlight the different (and non-exhaustive) types of green and open spaces within the Crossroads community.

The references corresponding to each object are based on first impressions (e.g. similarity of form or function). Based on a preliminary analysis of the Crossroads community using satellite imagery and spatial data-sets, six distinct objects emerged. These include:

1. Redundant green spaces (e.g. dead zone within the cloverleaf intersection),
2. Functional buffer green spaces (e.g. off-leash dog park acting as buffer between industrial and residential uses)
3. Misfit green spaces (e.g. McCall Lake Golf Course)
4. Bridge between two islands (i.e. green patch connecting two cul-de-sacs).
5. Enclosed open spaces
6. Curbside green strips

Going forward, the intent is to solicit the community's opinion on these green open spaces and possibly create a design proposal that enhances them.





# [Innovative Public Spaces]

Reza Bacchus

My first analysis of Crossroads’ spatial morphology and the potential of its various sites and spatial forms throughout, was informed by structure, function, scale, civic nature, and an effort to examine all corners of Crossroads. Frankly, this was a challenge due to my limited precedent bank of urban plans.

All but one of my sites and references are exterior public spaces. Perhaps this is because by limiting our exploration to maps and imagery, these configurations were the type that featured more dominantly. The one exception, located in Vista Heights, is an attempt to reinterpret the monotonous coarse grain that runs through the business/ industrial sector between 27 Ave NE and McKnight Blvd NE. This reference is only based on structure and my attempt at an overall scope (of the community).

Otherwise, as a subject of focused analysis, Crossroads may be understood as having great potential for innovative public spaces that function with a sense of place or as connectors.





Study Area



1



2



3

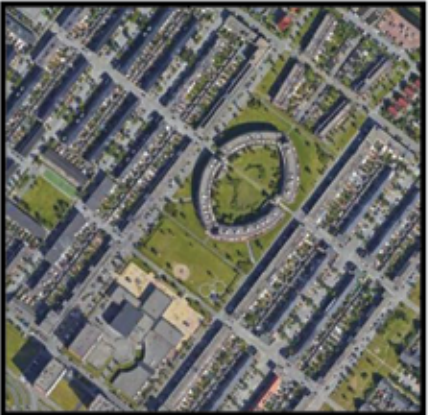


4

Objects



Sun City, Az



Netherlands



Ipswich, UK



Paris



# [Opening Spaces]

Adrian Clarke

The objects that were selected, were done in order to identify unique spaces within the area of study. These spaces formed a unique street topology or had a unique look which created an area that felt underutilized.

Of the different locations selected one reminded me of a laby-rinth, the using the park more would provide a level of stability within this network of confusion. There is also the alleyway weaves through the community can be used to create and connect spaces throughout the area. Activation of different pocket parks throughout the neighborhood that can be utilized for more than just a play park for kids these space is good to provide a unique area for different small outdoor events.

My aim was to find a representation of the spaces with a similar pattern, that showed the of utilizing the spaces to its fullest potential. These locations Identified as objects also represent a means to which people could be drawn into the Community and also to create spaces where members of the community enjoy occupying.



Obj. 1 / Family Foods square.

01. aerial photo



02. plan



03. building structure



04. reference



Obj. 2 / 19 Street NE Axis.

01. aerial photo



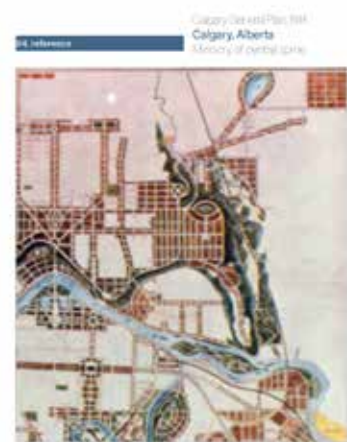
02. plan



03. building structure



04. reference



Obj. 3 / Linear parks.

01. aerial photo



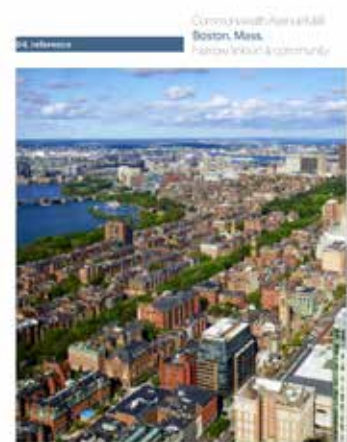
02. plan



03. building structure



04. reference



Obj. 4 / Industrial arches.

01. aerial photo



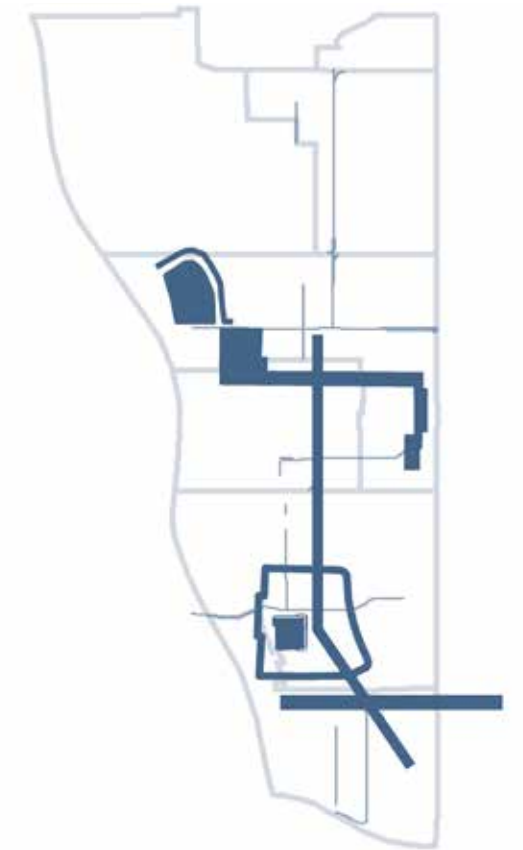
02. plan



03. building structure



04. reference



## [Echoing Forms]

Jennifer Comrie

I used our first assignment to conduct a tabletop review of the Crossroads community. As an academic analysis of the community, the exercise offered an initial window into the community and its built form.

I came across four forms that were of interest to me.

First, the large format form of the Family Foods site amidst the smaller surrounding residential lots. The structure and location of the lot makes it a well-known site in the neighbourhood and reminded me of a central market square.

Next, the axial structure of 19 St. NE reminded me of angles in Thomas Mawson's Calgary Plan from 1914. It appeared as if Mawson's plan was shifted into Crossroads and became the blueprint for 19 St. NE.

In addition, Crossroads is uniquely bordered by two linear parks that function as buffers between residential and industrial areas of the community. The linear morphology and function of the parks echo to the structure of Commonwealth Avenue Mall in Boston, Mass.

Finally, the structure of two streets in the community's northern industrial area immediately caught my attention. The streets have a unique curvilinear form and appear to follow the area's topography; akin to the classic Olmstedian block.





**land use**  
Aerial photo of Mayland heights and Franklin



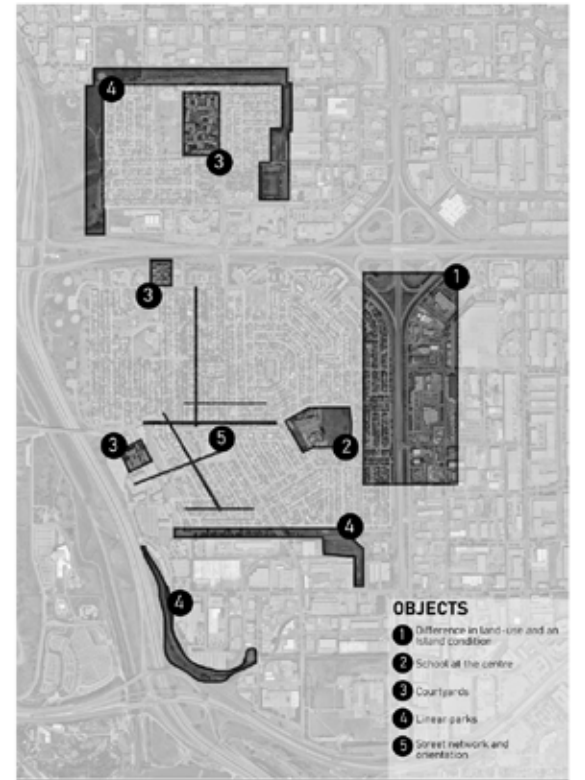
**land use**  
Plan of Mayland heights and Franklin



**land use**  
Plan of Monroe township, NJ



**land use**  
Aerial photo of Monroe residential and industrial area divided by the I-95



**Building structure**  
Aerial photo of courtyards surrounded by buildings



**Building structure**  
Plan of courtyards surrounded by buildings



**Asian Games Village, New Delhi**  
Plan of courtyards surrounded by buildings  
[http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/Asian\\_Games\\_Village.html](http://www.greatbuildings.com/buildings/Asian_Games_Village.html)



**Asian Games Village, New Delhi**  
View of courtyards surrounded by buildings

## [First Impressions] Arvind Gopalakrishnan

The above objects are a representation of my first impression of the community. These are based on some important urban design principles and how I relate them to my past experiences (i.e. places I have visited, and concepts I have learned in the past).

Land uses / This object represents a contrast in land use on each side of Barlow Trail; Residential to the east and industrial to the west.

Location of institutional buildings in the neighbourhood / The location of the school at the centre surrounded by residential area is a direct representation of Clarence Perry's neighbourhood layout.

Building structure and their relationship with open space / The apartment buildings are oriented in such a way that it creates a courtyard space at the centre.

Parks and open spaces / Multiple disconnected pieces of landscape show the potential of transforming them into a linear park through the community.

Street network and orientation / The map of the community represents a grid iron pattern that changes its orientation diagonally due to the surrounding physical features such as the Deerfoot trail.



**Linear Park**  
Aerial photo of Mayland Heights, Calgary



**Linear Park**  
Plan of Mayland Heights, Calgary



**Linear Park**  
Aerial photo of Promenade du Pailion, France



**Linear Park**  
View of Promenade du Pailion, France  
<http://www.centre-ville.org/inauguration-de-la-promenade-du-pailion-a-nice/>

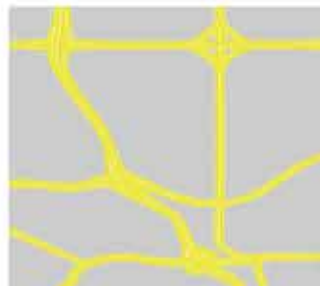




Calgary, major roads



Closeup of the major highways and cross roads



Building form - the great cross roads



'A Smaller History of Rome ... New and thoroughly revised edition by A. H. J. Greenidge, etc'. 1897, British Library.



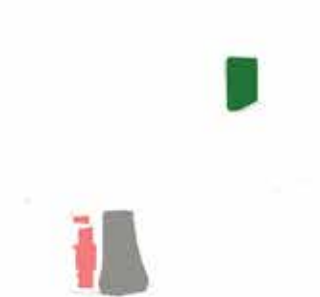
Image from "402 of 'Der Mensch, die Rätsel und Wunder seiner Natur. ... Vierte Auflage". 1864, British Library.



Partial plan of the Crossroads area



Two major focal points of the neighborhood



Building form - urban voids, faded landmarks



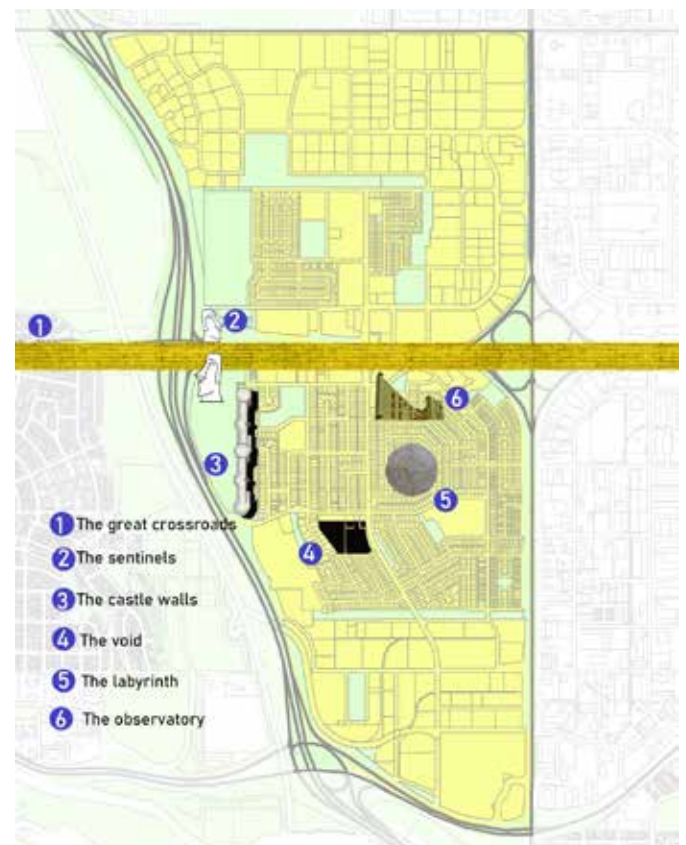
Spaces as voids



Berlin: Into the Future, New York Times, Oct 18 1992



Potsdamer Platz 1972: The Ghosts of Berlin 1997.



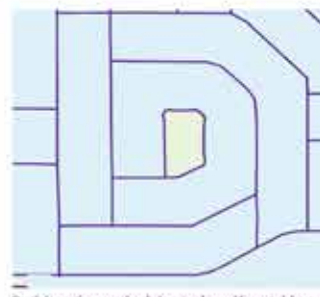
- 1 The great crossroads
- 2 The sentinels
- 3 The castle walls
- 4 The void
- 5 The labyrinth
- 6 The observatory



Mayland Heights Plan



Closeup of neighborhood focal point



Building form - the labyrinth walk neighborhood design



A labyrinth inserted into the street plan



A historic architectural drawing of the medieval fortified German city of Nordlingen in 1651, by architect Andreas Zeitler.



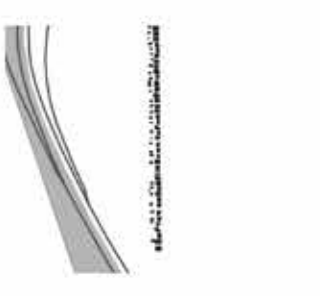
Photo: Laurent Bernier



Figure ground of study area



Closeup of arrangements against the hill



Building form - houses turned in defensive posture



Conwy Castle (ancient.eu)



Conwy Castle (CastleWales.com)



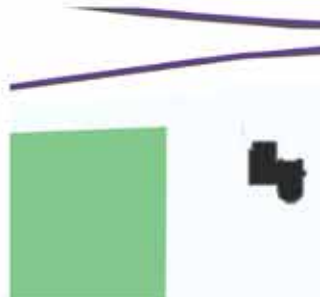
Ordek's Necropolis/Xiaohe Cemetery, from Bernard Rudofsky, Architecture Without Architects



Plan of study area



Closeup of buildings on the edge of the rise



Building form - taking the power position over the highways



Mary, Mother of the Redeemer as seen from 16th Avenue NE



Plan of Easter Island and location of sentinels



Easter Island sentinel - Rogerio Camboim S Almeida

## [Ancient Forms of Mayland Heights]

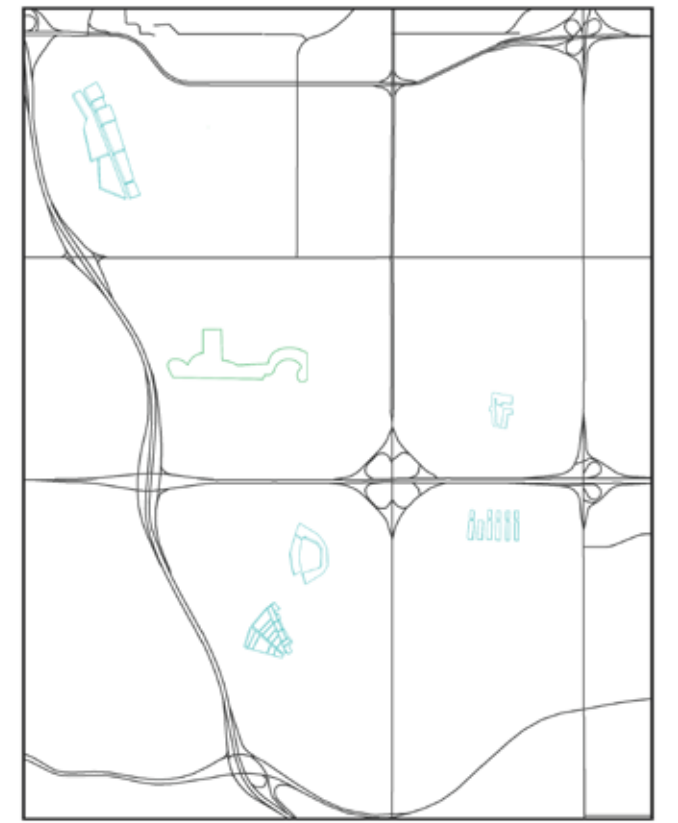
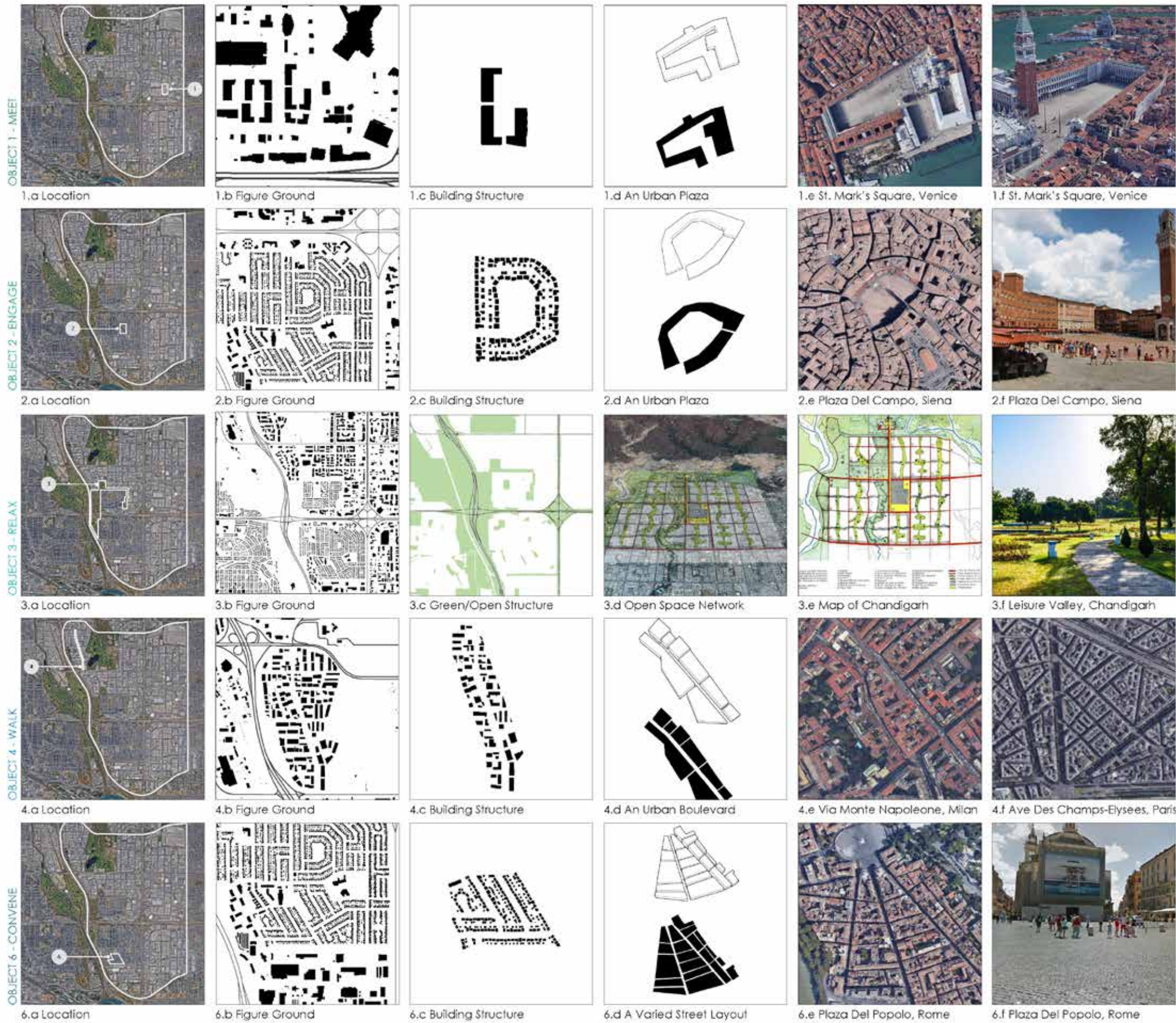
Pamela Haskell

Some building forms and symbols have been present in human settlements across millennia. Echoes of these ancient forms can be found even in a settlement as future-focused as Crossroads.

Taking its name from the nearby intersection of the TransCanada Highway and Deerfoot Trail, Crossroads is part of a long tradition of settlements located at the crossing of trade routes- The Great Crossroads.

On the rise overlooking this intersection is the Mary, Mother of the Redeemer Church, taking the role of community sentinel. Sentinels both mark the location of a community and warn visitors to tread carefully and respect the values of the community they are entering. These and other forms found in the community reveal our instinctual reliance on familiar methods of building our settlements.





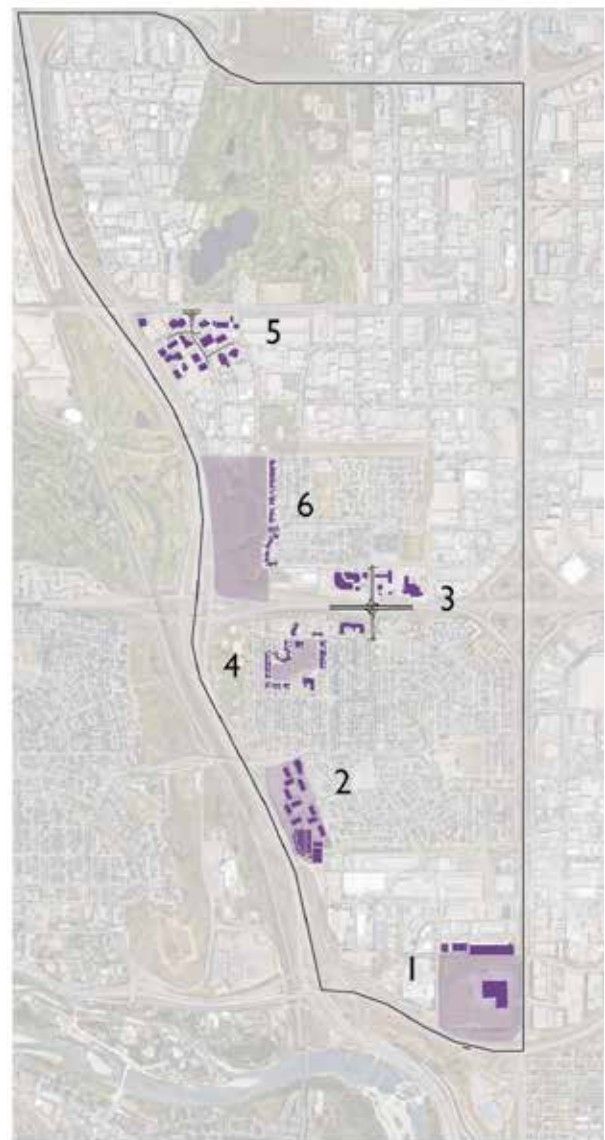
## [Cohesion in the Urban Fabric]

Nikita Kheterpal

For the purpose of this exercise, I decided to focus on people – or residents – as they play a key role in creating an identity for their community. Looking at an aerial image of Crossroads, it was evident that the community's built structure provided several opportunities to transform into spaces suitable for hosting community events, activities and even become commercial nodes or streets.

As such, the objects identified in this exercise attempt to draw inspiration from popular urban spaces around the world where people can meet, engage, relax, walk, and convene. The aim is for the objects to provide residents the opportunity to connect to one another and become more involved in the community. If put together on the map of Crossroads, all of them will contribute in creating cohesion in the community's urban fabric by bringing people together.





## [Crossroads Morphology]

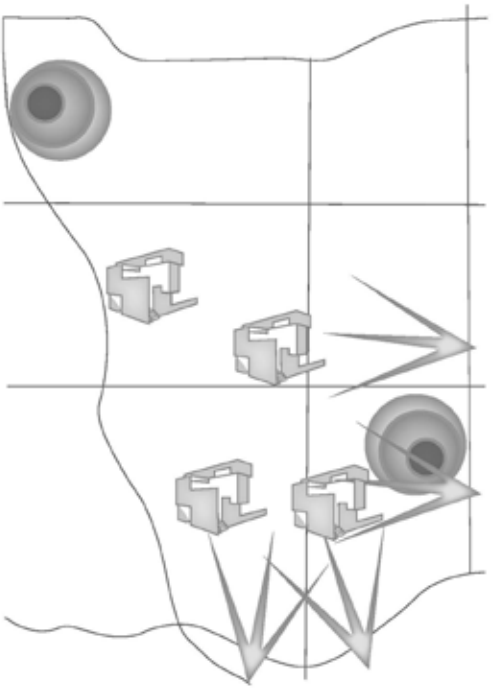
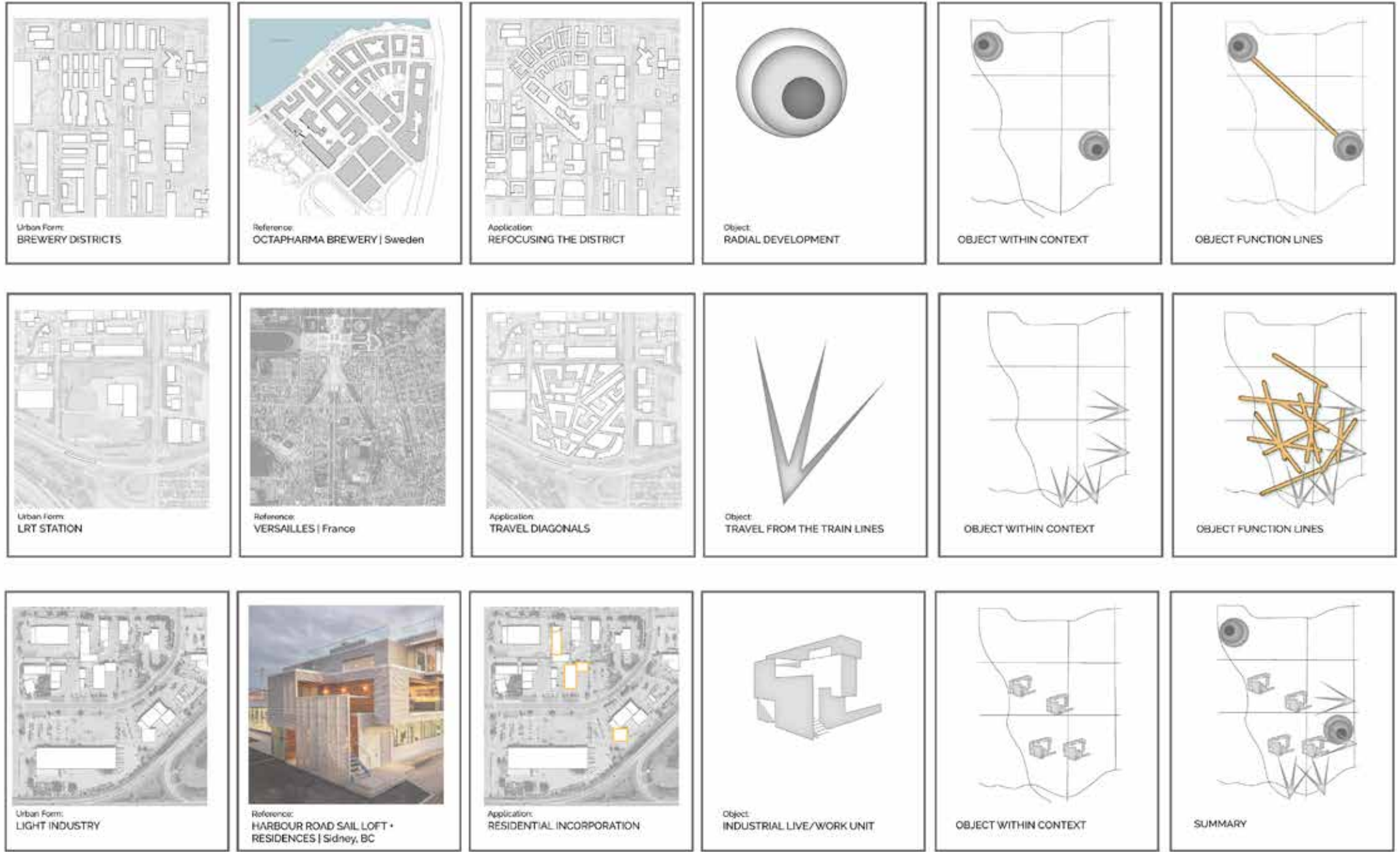
Matt Lalonde

This project sought to complete a site analysis of the community of Crossroads, including aerial imagery, building footprints, roads, pathways, rail lines, waterways, parks, and open spaces.

After the data had been collected and graphically represented on the maps, six spaces were identified by focusing on large open areas, visual prominence, and spatial uniqueness. These spaces were perceived as underutilized and due to their prominent locations in the community, worthy of preservation as unique sites and accentuation in the form of transforming the sites into more usable forms.

For each of the six spaces, a similar site from another city was identified to provide two contextual reference images. Lastly, in an effort to show how the six spaces could transform into a more usable form, a potential future use for each space was identified and included as a final reference image.





[Local Brew]  
Tessa Larsen

This exploration of objects takes inspiration from existing places close to Crossroads – breweries.

First, the urban structure is altered to reframe spaces and movements towards the breweries themselves.

Second, the local LRT stations are addressed by applying an axial road network emanating from each of the station’s central points. Both of these have “function lines” – or lines that indicate functional direction or relationship.

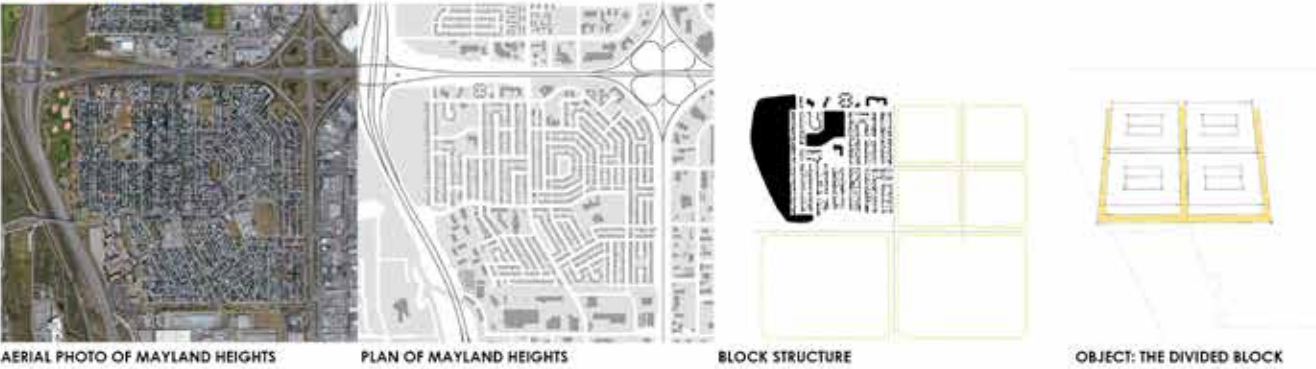
Finally, density is implemented at the intersection of these function lines through incorporating living units into existing light industrial areas.



CIRCULATION



CONNECTION



CLUSTER



COMFORT



[Sense of Place]

Melinda Lobo

Our relationship with places, expressed in different dimensions of human life: imagination, stories, personal experiences (Basso, 1996).

Circulation, Connection, Cluster and Comfort – four aspects that reflect a ‘Sense of Place’. The four objects – the urban boulevard, the divided block, multi-use cluster, and natural landscapes takes me back to walking down the boulevard of Montparnasse in Paris.

Circulation: the tree cover and public realm reflects the urban boulevard which can be seen on the 19 St NE.

Connection: the division of the block for the ease of walking and diversity of various uses and activities.

Cluster: attaching residential and mixed-use development and applying the multi-use concept, making the space sociable and friendly.

Comfort: using comfort in the existing landscape as portrayed in Mawson’s Plan. The Seine River and Eiffel Tower reflect the Bow River and Calgary Tower, creating an identity for the community of Crossroads.

The four objects reflected on the key plan creates a ‘sense of place’ - which mirrors my experience in Paris and is seen in the community of Crossroads.

Basso, K.H. (1996). Wisdom sits in places: Notes on a Western Apache Landscape. In Feld, S. and Basso, K.H. (Eds.), Senses of place (pp. 53-90). Santa Fe, New Mexico: School of American Research Press.





the "entry"



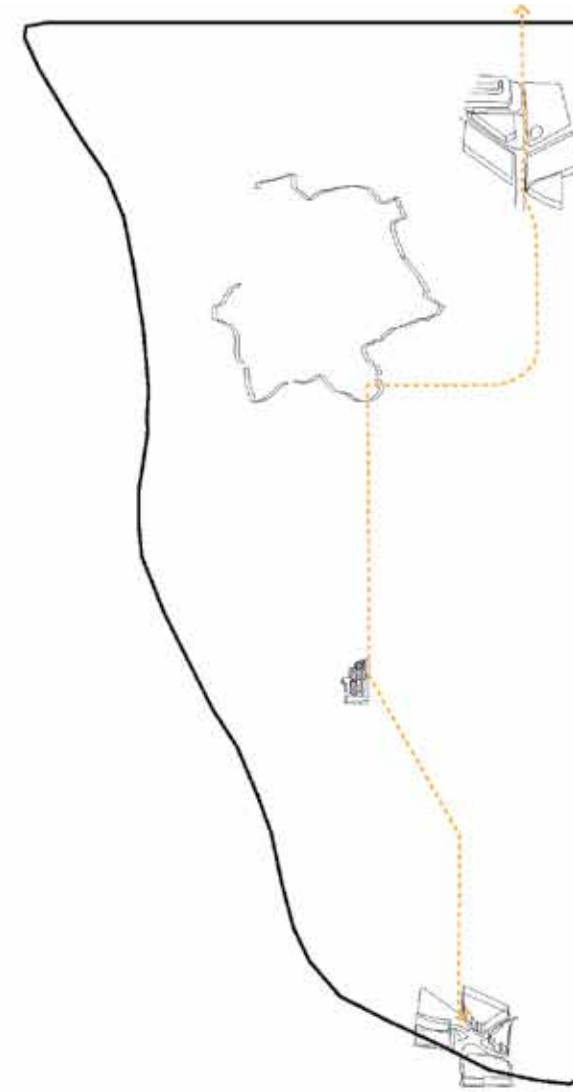
the "core"



the "cocoon"



the "exit"



## [Exploring Crossroads]

Liyang Wan

As an introduction to Crossroads, this project is a speculative exploration of critical nodes within the community.

Using Kevin Lynch's mental mapping approach, nodes were determined by identifying edges, paths, districts, places of interest, key water bodies within greater Calgary, followed by layering and combining these components together.

As nodes emerged, precedent projects of either similar or desired values and characteristics were placed in their locations for consideration and experimentation. When connected, these nodes ultimately follow Crossroad's historic road pattern. In addition, they created a gradient of natural to local to urban islands that radiate outward from Crossroads' ecological "core".



site context



grey edges



green edges



edges + places of interest



grey axis



axis + places of interest



places of interest



ensemble



water



focus nodes

DECOMPOSITION + (re)COMPOSITION



# INPUT



The Input phase was our preliminary interaction with key community stakeholders, designed to provide the class with insight into the lived experience, challenges and expectations of community members in Crossroads. We held two informal engagement sessions at Fiasco Gelato Cafe, and were given a tour of the community.

Each student wrote about their first impressions and most important takeaways from the engagement with the stakeholders.





## [BIGGEST SURPRISES & INTERESTING DISCOVERIES]

The residential areas of Crossroads are boxed in by major roads and industrial land uses, making the neighborhood feel like an urban island.

However, many residents don't view this as a problem. Instead, they regard it as a prime feature of the neighborhood. They're not stranded on their island, they're privileged to be there. Being in Crossroads makes residents feel like they are in on a secret – something the rest of Calgary isn't lucky enough to know about.

–Pamela Haskell

The fact that multiple community experts from the second session recently purchased homes elsewhere in the community, while already living there for a number of years, was fascinating. When myself or others I know move, we typically move out of the community we live in. But Crossroads seems to keep its residents – it has something going for it, despite its apparent lack of many things.

–Tessa Larsen



Larry mentioned the motto “Made in Mayland” during the first meeting with the community. The phrase seemed to capture the small town-feel that Larry and Ruth described during the walking tour. This phrase also echoed a theme that emerged throughout the session: the community has several interdependent business relationships.

For example, Nate noted that Fiasco gets their milk from the Parmalat factory down the street. Jeff shared that many of Cornerstone’s donors are local operations in Crossroads and that a chiropractor set up shop in the neighbourhood to meet the needs of nearby industrial labourers.

–Jennifer Comrie

## [CHALLENGES & CONCERNS]

The community is bordered by major roads along with the LRT station- making it accessible to various parts of the city – a sense of connection. But on the other hand, do these roads impede the ease of movement within the community?

The community has a character, but it requires rejuvenation. It lacks a gathering or congregating space (mainly a cafe) where people can engage and participate. Accessibility and walkability are a concern with the lack of sidewalks.

–Melinda Lobo

As noted by Larry, “people outside of Crossroads do not know about Crossroads the way other communities like Kensington, Inglewood are known”.

–Reza Bacchus

There is a perceived lack of a community champion, as well as a lack of leverage with the city. The community acknowledges there is need for new development – sidewalks, new housing, redevelopment (of the commercial centre as well as the old Firestone factory site) – but no one to take the mantle.

–Sidharth Agarwal

The theme of connectivity, including isolationism, accessibility, and walkability was raised during both input sessions. Nathan’s (a Fiasco Gelato employee) opinion about the accessibility challenges of the Barlow/Max Bell transit station was a great example of how open-ended questions can solicit further information and dialogue among stakeholders.

–Reza Bacchus







## [LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE]

Another takeaway for me was the idea of business revitalization. Tenants like Fiasco Gelato, Spolumbo's Café, Platoon FX Fitness, Evergreen Community Spaces, exemplify stakeholders who may be willing to engage and contribute more to the community but perhaps need support. They could represent a tipping point for future business revitalization.

—Reza Bacchus

For Crossroads to move away from the feeling of isolation, it may be beneficial for businesses to explore ways of creating a strong establishment or a strong BRZ, hence putting Crossroads on the map of Calgary and get the City's help.

—Nikita Kheterpal

Residents would like to see more wayfinding and marketing strategies, public art and installations – small changes that make a difference. As a planner, I would like to consider and see if we could pilot the lead. Could this be our chance to present ideas, design with people, and build on the concepts that the community possesses.

—Melinda Lobo

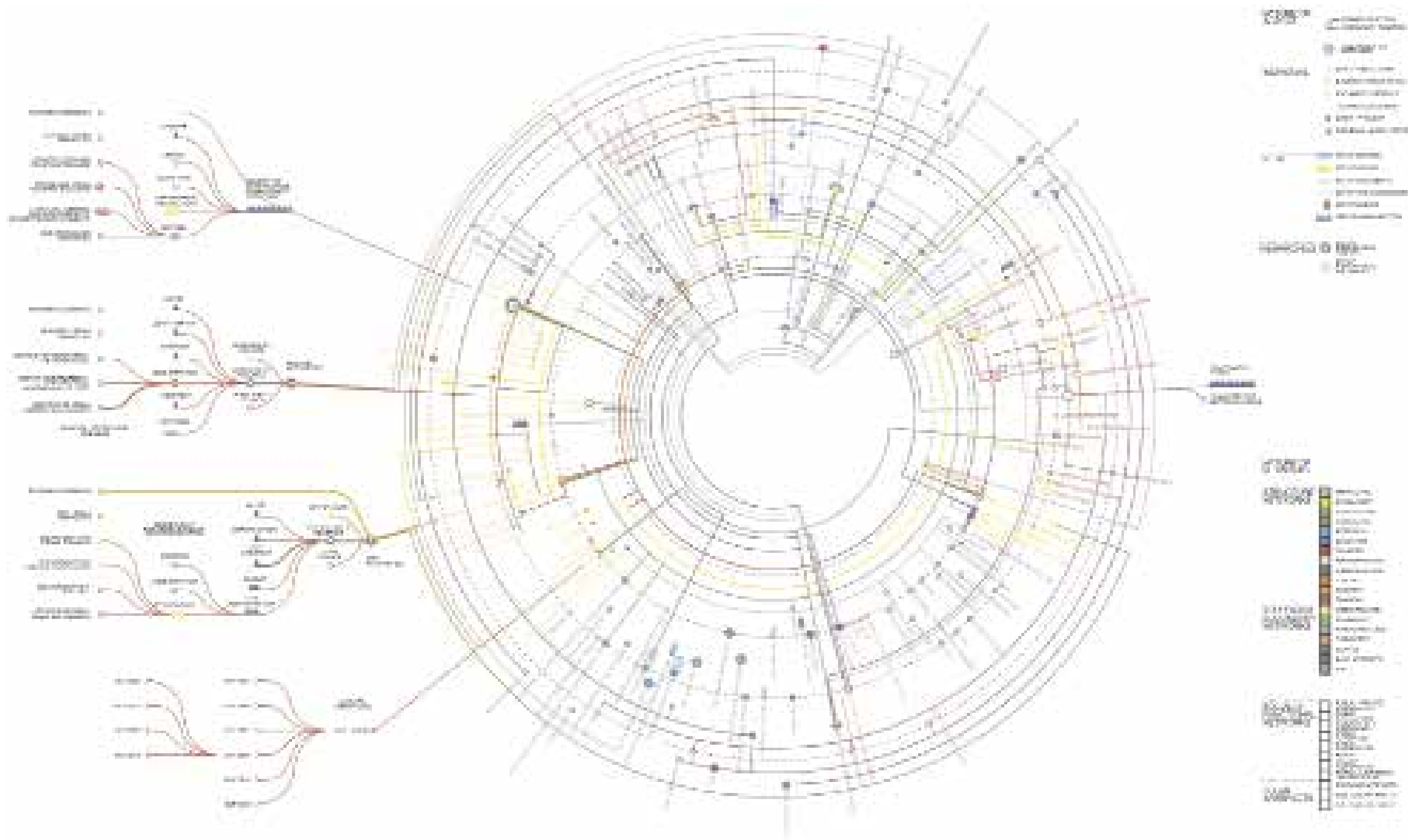
My first reaction to their responses and comments was that as a community, they admit that it needs some modifications for it to coexist in harmony with its neighboring industrial lots and the existing infrastructure that envelops the site under consideration.

It is in many ways, a relief to know that the stakeholders are open to change, and believe that it has the potential to offer myriad of opportunities to Calgarians not only in terms of its residential, industrial, and commercial components, but also in terms of active transportation, landscape, and connectivity to downtown.

—Arvind Gopalakrishnan



# ACTOR NETWORK



A vertical timeline showing the course schedule. The dates and topics are listed on the left and right of a central vertical dotted line. The 'Feb 03' entry is highlighted with a black dot and a red rectangular box.

Date	Topic
Jan 13	Studio Start
Jan 17	Object
Jan 27	Input
<b>Feb 03</b>	<b>Actor Network</b>
Feb 08	Workshop
April 15	Transform
April 20	Play

In an attempt to better understand the influences (actors) on the community of Crossroads, each student individually explored their interpretation of the network of these influences.

Each student has a distinct visual style or narrative driving their network, creating an interesting collection of visual analysis diagrams.

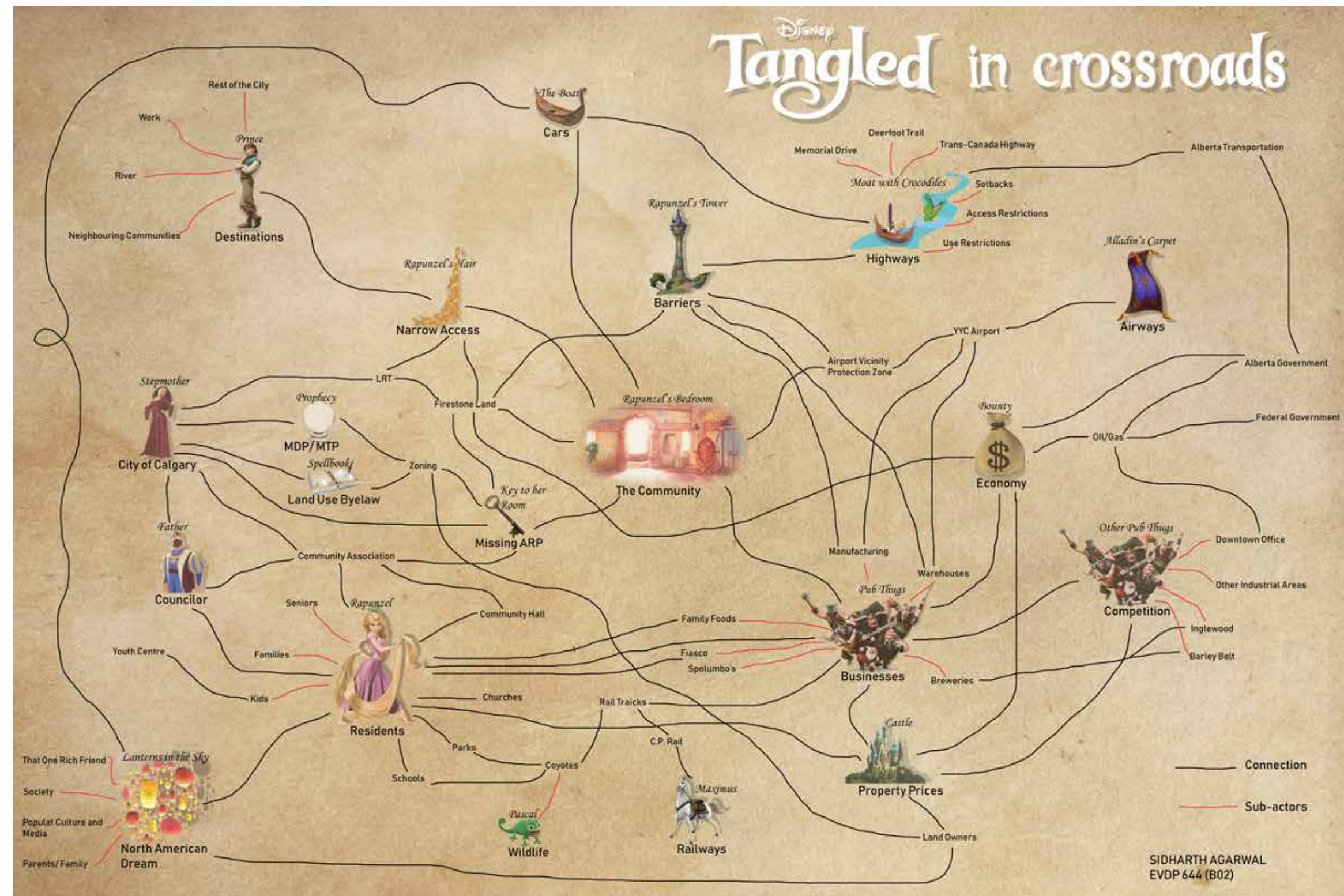


## [TANGLED IN CROSSROADS]

Sidharth Agarwal

This actor network diagram was an attempt at analogizing the important actors in the community of crossroads and their inter-relationships to the fairytale of Rapunzel, more specifically to the movie Tangled. The idea is to communicate the complex relationships between different actors in simple and digestible manner to a wide variety of stakeholders. The narrative was majorly informed by the focus group sessions that the students held with the community stakeholders between 20 and 24 January 2020, supplemented with background research into the policies/ legislations/ plans and institutions. The network is biased (and thus highly subjective) as it is primarily from the perspective of the community members and businesses, along with the author's own assumptions. It has been additionally exaggerated to give weight to some of the seemingly mundane relationships (but of importance).

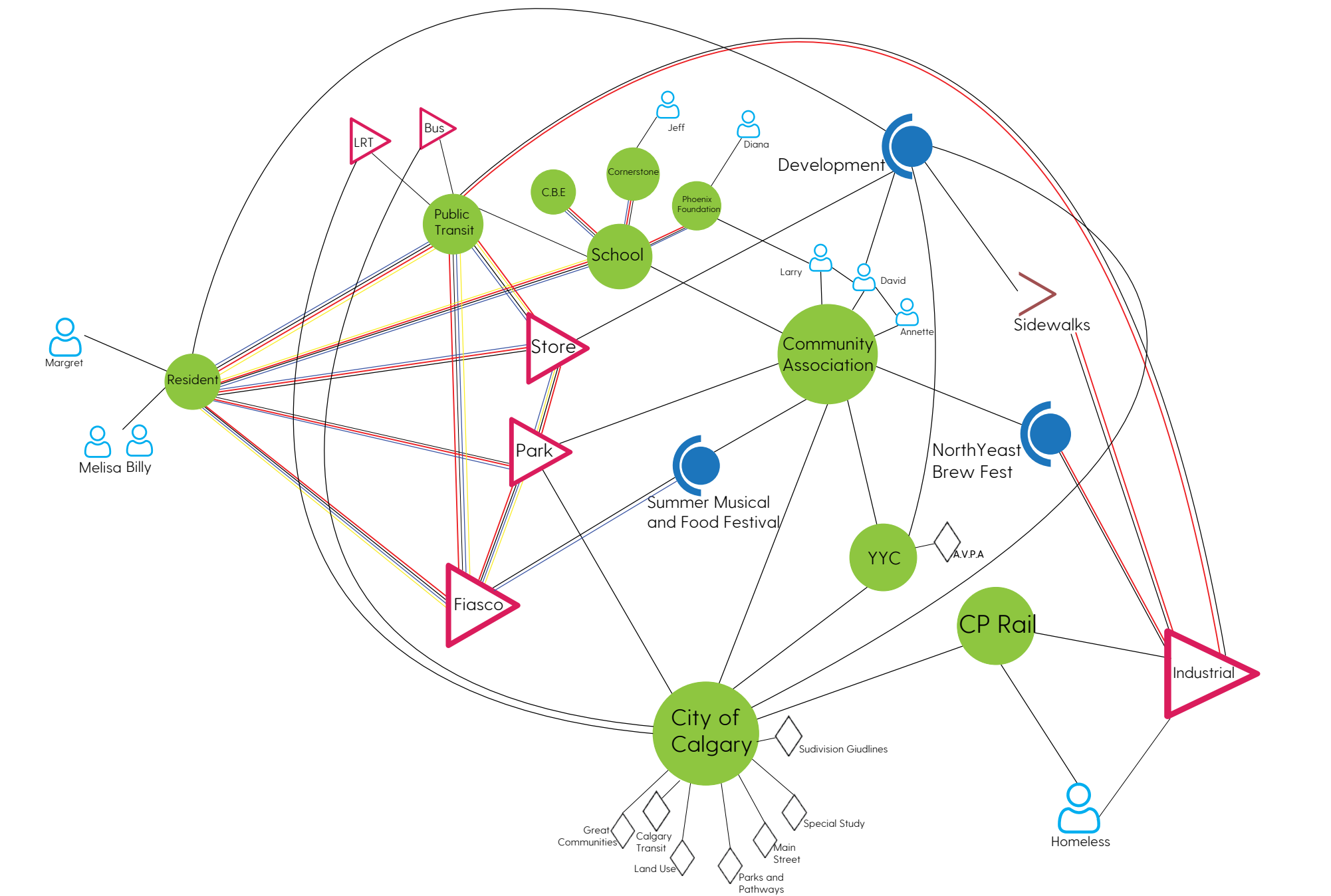
The community members likened their community to an island or a city within itself, hidden from the bigger city, which was the main inspiration for the narrative. To summarize the key actors in our fairytale of Crossroads, the community residents are Rapunzel, trapped bedroom (the community), with several barriers (Rapunzel's tower) to the city (the Prince) such as the high-traffic highways (Deerfoot, Memorial Drive, Trans-Canada Highway, etc.). The thoroughfares also place some restrictions in terms of setbacks and land use restrictions. Other barriers include proximity to airport, responsible for the extensive industrial development around the community (Land use restrictions due to



Airport Vicinity Protection Area, as well as compatibility of warehousing, logistics and industrial uses with the airport). City of Calgary has been viewed by the community members as similar to 'the stepmother', controlling and hindering their movement with poorly designed LRT access, absent sidewalks, few points in and out of the community, etc. The city controls the key policies instruments – The MDP ('The Prophecy') and the Land Use Byelaw ('The Spell-book') -

and is also responsible for the Local Area Planning (or Area Redevelopment Planning). The lack of this local area planning or a concerted planning vision for the community has been described by many community members and landowners as 'the missing key', inhibiting investments and development within the community. The narrative ends with describing this 'missing key' as the key to Rapunzel's room that will finally liberate Rapunzel from her Tower.





### Adrian Clarke

The purpose of this Actor-Network was to identify and give a general overview of the different actors that influenced the way in which the community of Crossroads was developed. The process of development would encompass different events in Calgary and different policy documents implemented by the city. There is also the impact of the airport which is in close proximity to the community, the proximity of this structure was a major influence in the way in which the community grew and changed over the years.

The network is also telling the story of three different characters within the crossroads community and how they travel through the community using the network to guide this process. The different actors will influence the story of the characters going through the network. One character is Margaret which is a retired senior citizen which lives within the crossroads community and the other is a single-parent family, “Melisa, and Billy”. The Parent lives and works within the industrial area of the community while the child attends a middle school and after-school programs.

**Spaces**  
 LRT Stop  
 Bus Stops  
 Store  
 Parks  
 Fiasco  
 Industrial Areas

**Event/Projects**  
 Summer Musical and Food Festival  
 NorthYeast Brew Fest  
 Development

**Artifact**  
 Sidewalks/(lake of)

**Perosn**  
 Jeff - Executive Director  
 Diana - Founder Phoenix Foundation  
 Larry - Board Member (phoenix), Former CA President  
 Annette - CA President  
 David - Development Commutiyy head CA  
 Homeless

**Institution/Entity**  
 City of Calgary  
 CP Rail  
 Community Association  
 Calgary Board of Education  
 Cornerstone Youth Centre  
 Phoenix Foundation  
 Calgary International Airport (YYC)

**Policies**  
 The Guidebook for Great Communities  
 LandUse ByLaws  
 Crossroads Special Study  
 Parks and pathways ByLaws  
 Main Streets Plan  
 Airport Vicinity Protection Area (AVPA)

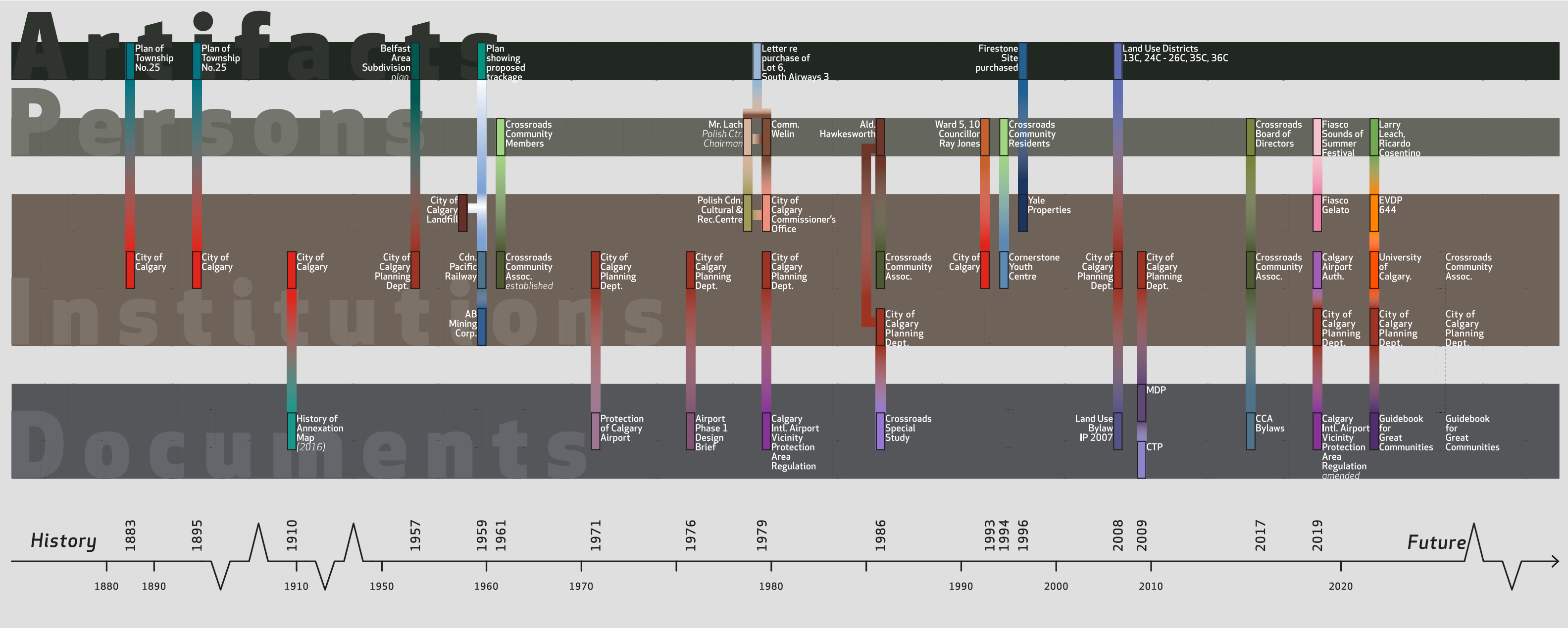
People Moventment through network

Biking

Connections

Walking





**Reza Bacchus**

In order to gain a deeper understanding of Crossroads Community we analyzed relevant agents of influence using Actor-Network Theory. The term “Actor-Network Theory” was first used by writers: Michel Callon, Bruno Latour and John Law in the 1980’s to describe their approach to understanding the complexities within science and innovation. Since then this method of analysis has been adopted into many other disciplines including urban development. Communities are dynamic and perpetual networks of human and non-human agents referred to as actors, and the connections between them. These agents of influence, or actors, shape communities over time through various associations with other actors. For the purpose of analyzing Crossroads, this diagram groups actors into four categories: artifacts, persons, institutions, and documents. This diagram also attempts to map Crossroads’ actors and their connections along a timeline to illustrate a further temporal understanding of this community.

The diagram has five distinct elements: the timeline, actor categories, individual actors, actor descriptions, and connections. The timeline anchored at the bottom gives the diagram its temporal structure. Actors are placed into categories accordingly. The horizontal bands representing each category are as thick or thin depending on the number of actors associated with it (e.g., ‘Institutions’ is the largest category). Individual actors are given individual colours. If the same actor reappears along the timeline it retains the same colour. Also, actors of similar type or that are associated with one another are given colours with similar hue but different tone or shade. In this way, it is easier to recognize which actors or actor types reappear; which actors may be seen to exert more influence throughout time. Each actor is labelled. Connections between actors are represented by gradient bands consisting of the colours from each actor within that connection.

Focusing on the temporal aspect of Crossroads’ Actor-Network proved to be challenging graphically. As illustrated among the variety of diagrams in this appendix, there are many different ways of approaching this analysis. In the end, the main take away from this diagram hopefully is that Crossroads Community is influenced by a wide variety of actors, each with different purposes, operating within different temporal windows, with the exception of a few consistent actors.



[PROCESS]

During our initial site visit, Larry noted that Crossroads is a community made up of “layers of development.” I started my Actor Network diagram with the intent of peeling these layers back and attempting to understand the intricate and nuanced relationships that underpin the community. As a result, my research guided my Actor Network mapping process. As I learned more about Crossroads, I attempted to understand my discoveries in relationship to my previous research findings along a temporal scale.

My Actor Network is comprised three key elements:

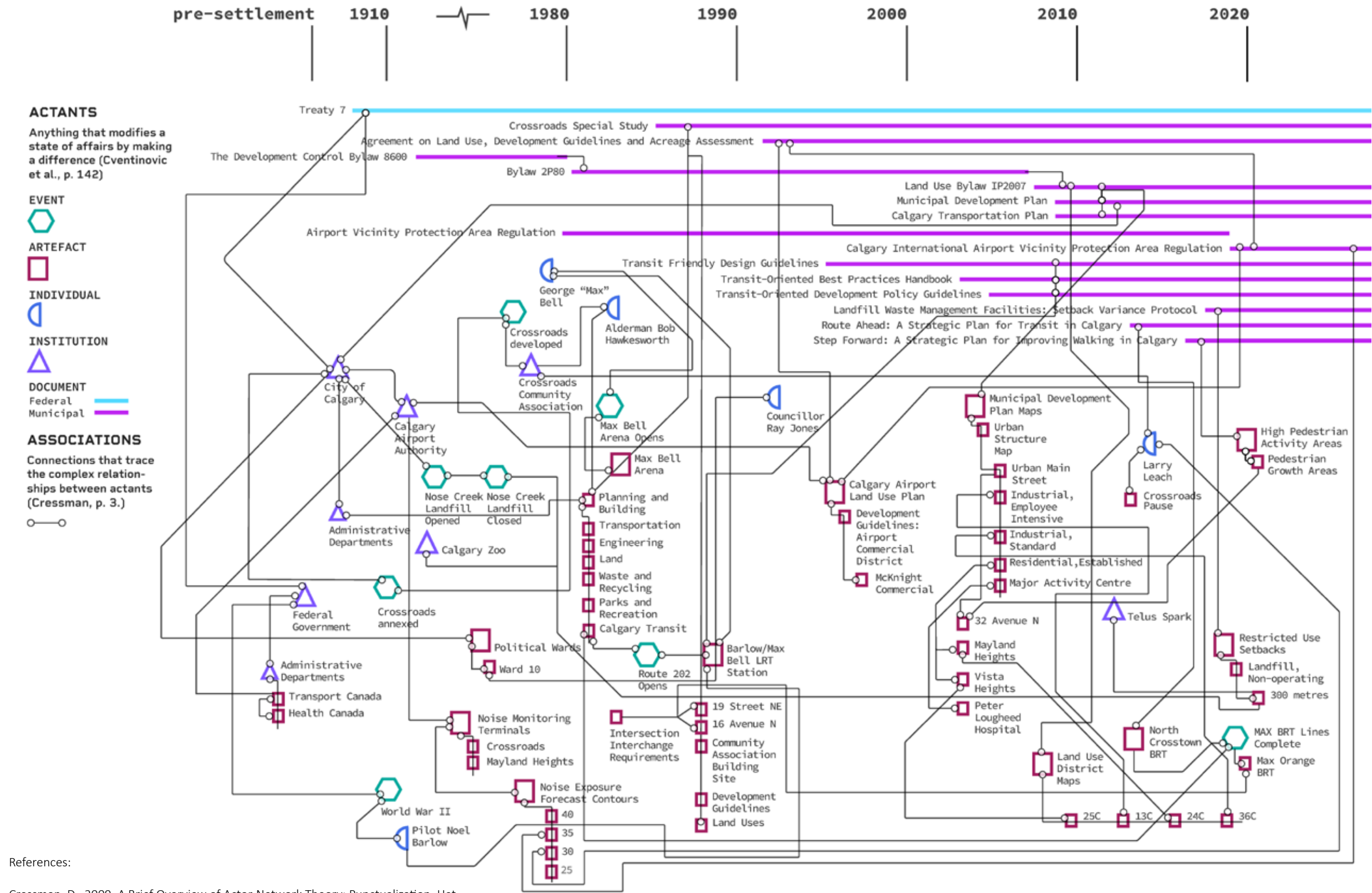
**Actants** (Artefact, Individual, Institution, or Document) | Defined as “Anything that modifies a state of affairs by making a difference (Cventinovic et al., p. 142).

**Associations** | Defined as “Connections that trace the complex relationships between actants” (Cressman, p.3).

**Timeline** | A relevant scale of time  
This method of mapping created a network akin to a Subway map; key actants with influence had the most connections and revealed themselves through the process of mapping. For example, City of Calgary had a high concentration of connections; including key documents, events, and artefacts that continue to influence the direction of the community. Also, the Calgary Airport Authority had a variety of actant associations that continue to exert influence and inform the nature of development within Crossroads.

[LEARNINGS AND ASSUMPTIONS]

By using a temporal scale, I was able to garner an understanding of the community over time; the layers of Crossroads did begin to peel back by looking at each actant and its associations. However, the Actor Network is a snapshot in time; and, it was completed in a compressed timeframe. As such, it does not represent a full picture of the Actor Network in Crossroads. Instead, the diagram reflects my journey to explore and understand the Crossroads community.



References:

Cressman, D., 2009. A Brief Overview of Actor-Network Theory: Punctualization, Heterogeneous Engineering & Translation. ACT Lab/Centre for Policy Research on Science & Technology (CPROST).

Cvetinovic, M., Nedovic-Budic, Z. and Bolay, J.-C., 2017. Decoding Urban Development Dynamics Through Actor-network Methodological Approach. Geoforum, 82.



Considering the complexity of the actors involved in the crossroads community and their relationship between each other, I chose to represent it with a chord diagram.

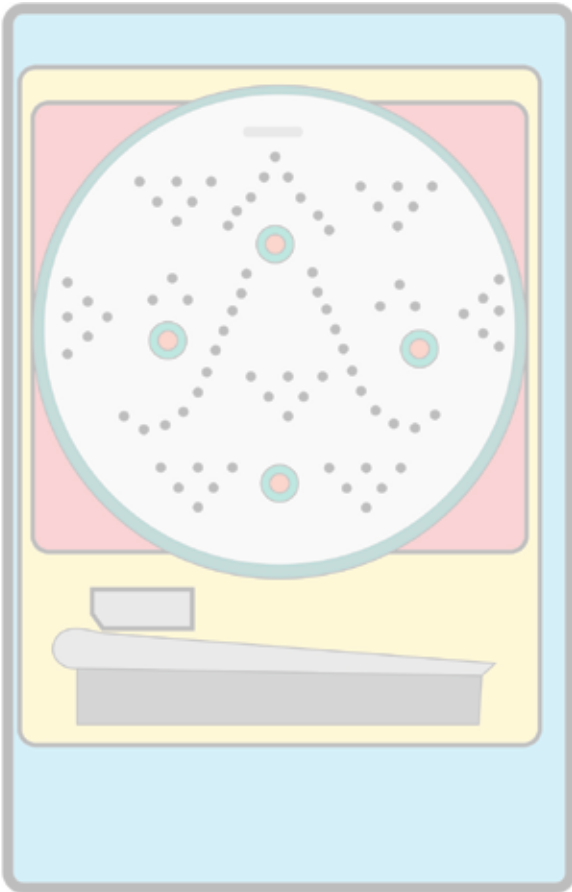
The circle is divided into 4 quadrants viz. the artefacts, people, institutions and regulations /documents.

The intent behind using a chord diagram is that, when dissected into individual artefacts, it becomes clear as to which are the actors that would be involved in the execution of a particular intervention. The thickness of the arc could also determine the significance of the actor for a specific opportunity.

Overall, this exercise and especially this diagram was helpful in understanding the involvement of different actors that could help facilitate the execution of the missing elements (opportunities) in the community.







[THE PACHINKO NETWORK]

Pamela Haskell

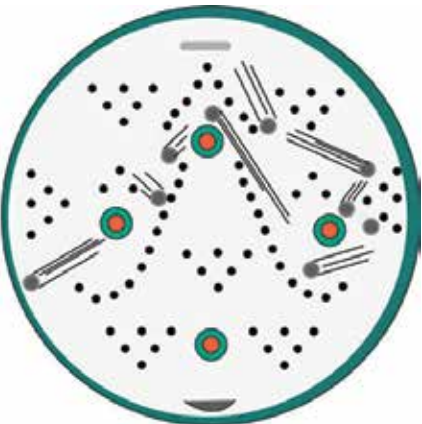
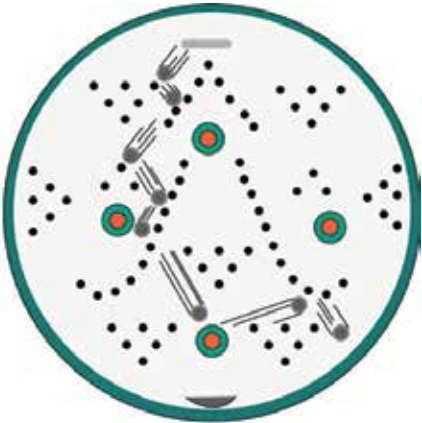
THE INTERACTION OF OPERATING AND IMMUTABLE ACTORS IN A COMMUNITY NETWORK

The relationships between actants in a community network are never fixed. For every transaction, actants can take the role of the Operating Actor (the actant taking action to achieve a purpose) or the Immutable Actor (the actant that directs or redirects the path of the Operating Actor upon their interaction).

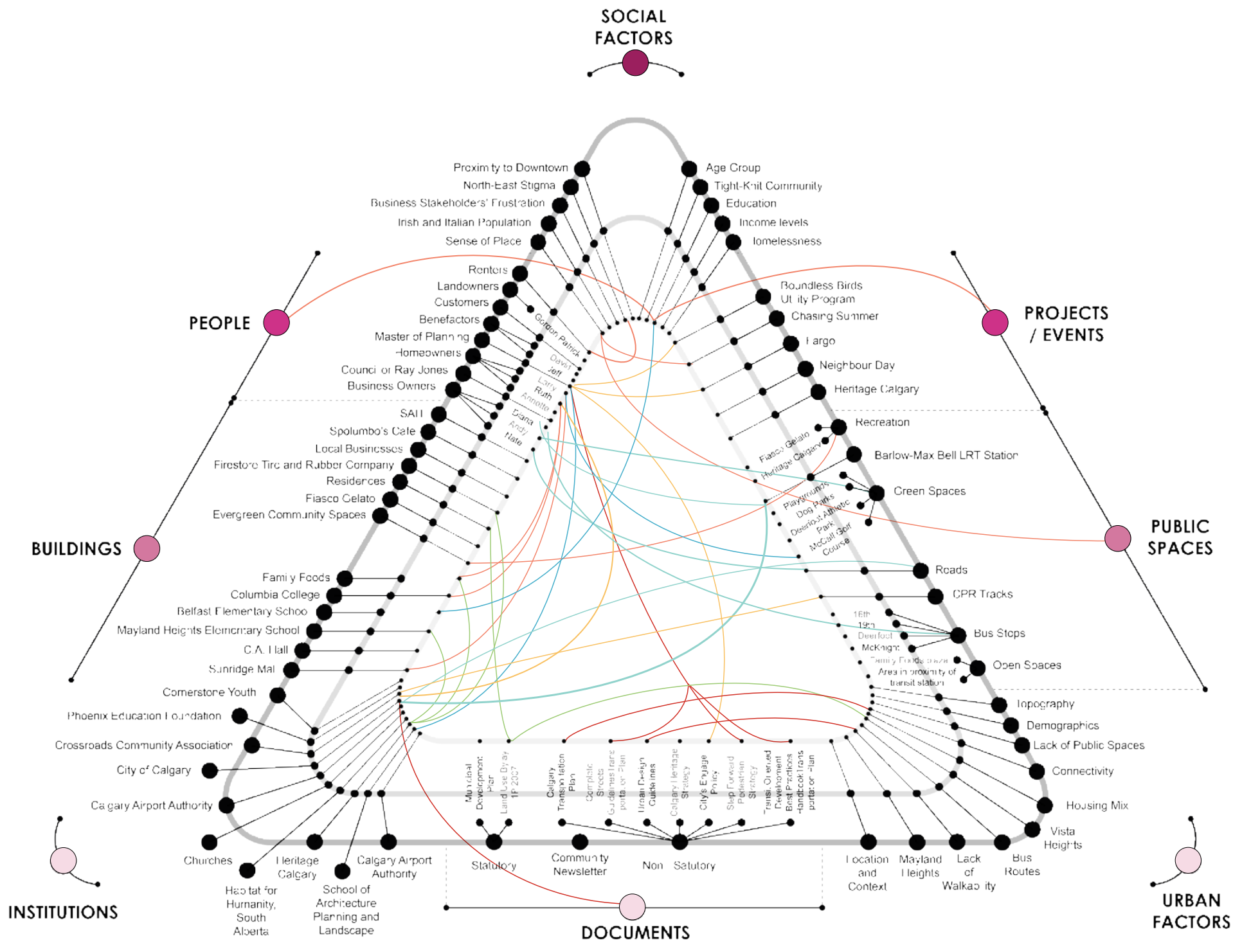
In every interaction, one participant takes a more active role while others can choose to be unmovable- acting as either obstacles or necessary directors of the path of the active participant. In the context of another interaction, the roles may be reversed.

These dynamic relationships can be envisioned as the operations of a traditional Pachinko machine. The path of one moving ball is determined by the unmoving pegs it encounters.

Actants and Dynamic Relationships		
Actants in the Operating Actor Role	Actants in the Immutable Actor Role	Context in which these roles are present
Community Influencers	Firestone Property Owners	Involved members of the community often viewed businesses as being hostile to the community for not sharing the same community development goals they did. From this point of view, businesses operating as standard, profit-oriented business were seen as hostile to the community.
	Family Foods	
	New Development (The “Berlin Wall” Building”)	
	Other private property developments and private businesses in the Crossroads area	
Community members	City of Calgary – Roads Department	The interactions between community members and the various institutions, documents, guides, departments and structures that they have approached with concerns has often been non-productive or adversarial – the interactions are more akin to collisions with an immutable force (hence the “Immutable Actor” role)
	City of Calgary Land Use Bylaw	
	Great Communities Handbook	
	City of Calgary Infrastructure	
	LRT/Transportation	
Community Influencers	Community members - renters	In these situations, the influence of key members of the community is used not as a uniting force for all member, but as a way to create a schism of ‘legitimate’ community members and those that may be residents of the community are but are not deemed true members of the community
	Absentee owners	
	Secondary Suite developers	
Absentee Owners/ Secondary Suite Developers	Community Influencers	In this reversal, community influencers can be seen as the Immutable actor – difficult to grant tacit community approval to projects that lack ‘insider’ status
	Neighbors	







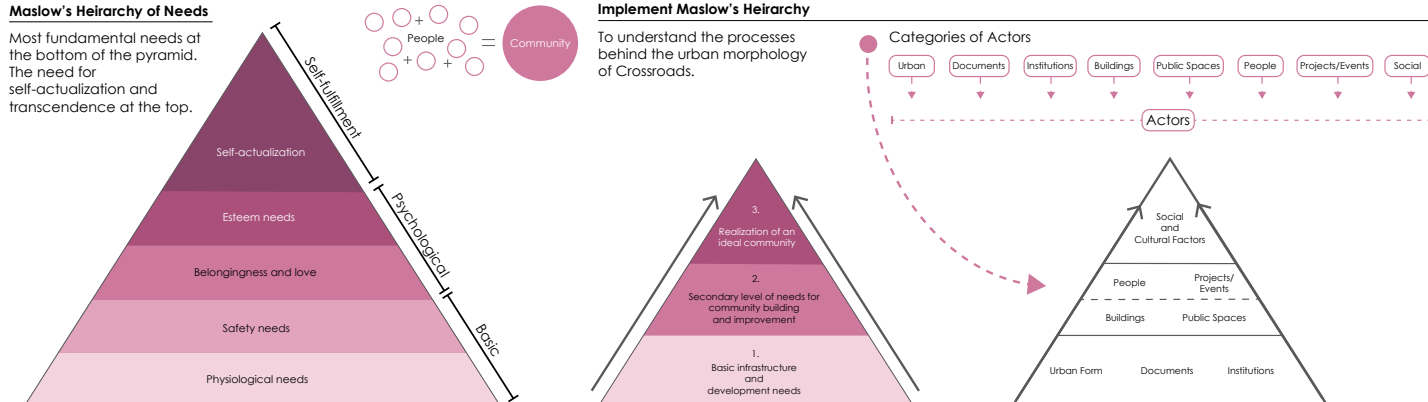
**Nikita Kheterpal**

Ever since I looked at an aerial image of Crossroads, I was intrigued to see how the systemic and rigid pattern of the roads was overlaid by organic intricacies over the years. Apart from planners and designers, there surely must be other actors at play, that led Crossroads into becoming what it is today?

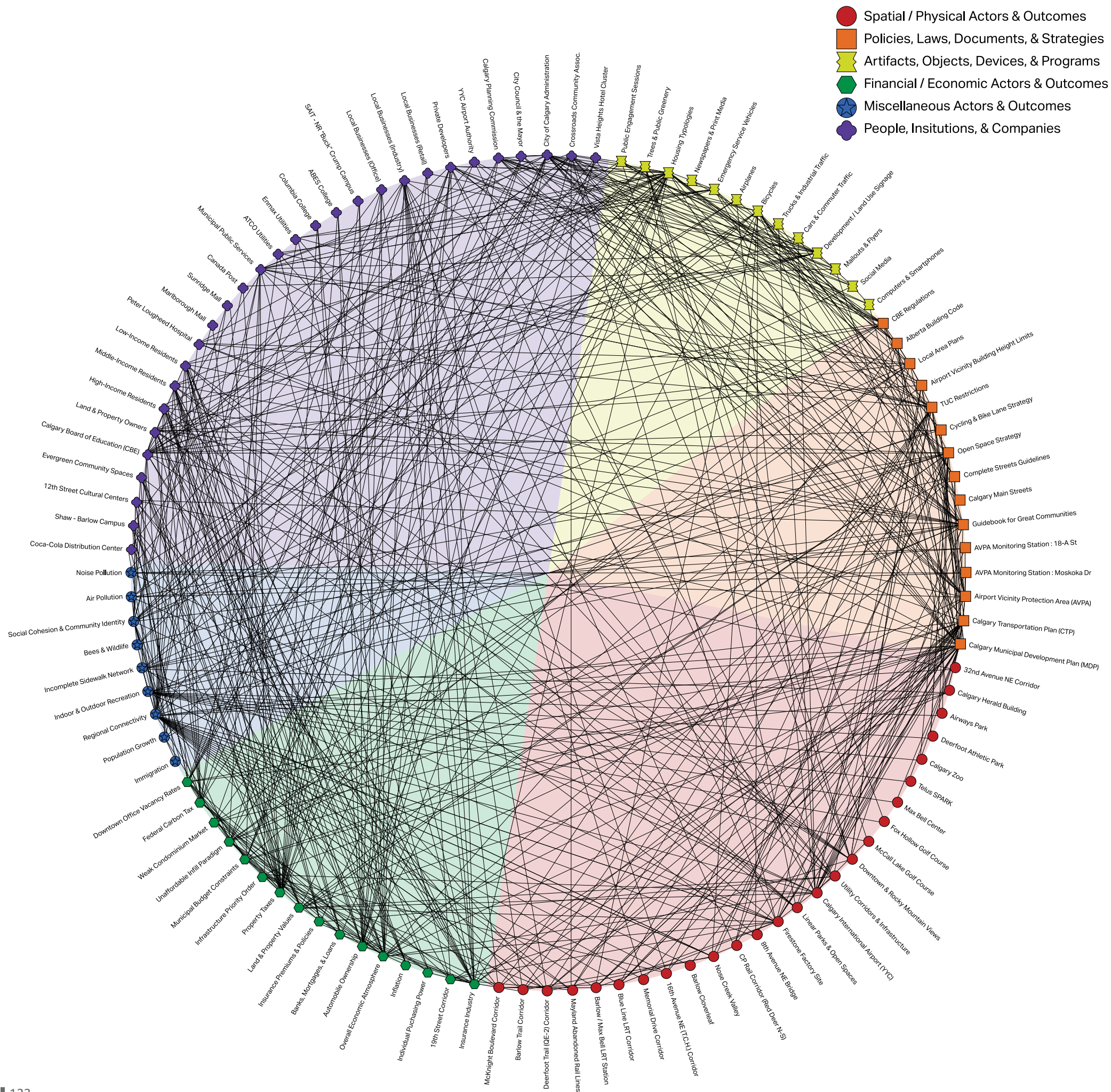
To analyze all the actors – living, as well as non-living – that influence the urban morphology of the Crossroads community, I employed Maslow’s Hierarchy of Human Needs. After all, a community is made up of humans. Hence, Maslow’s triangular hierarchy can be translated and implemented to understand the processes behind the evolution of Crossroads’ urban structure. Nine major categories of actors were developed to be placed into Maslow’s triangle, which would comprise of three hierarchy levels. Maslow’s theory states that individuals’ most basic needs must be met before they become motivated to achieve higher level needs. Similarly, a community must have basic infrastructure before it can even exist or become an exemplary one. As such, three categories, namely, Urban Form, Documents and Institutions were placed at the lowest rung of the triangle, indicating the most basic needs of the community. Further on, a community needs Buildings, People, Public Spaces and Projects/Events to thrive. As such, these were placed at the second level. Lastly, for a community to become an ideal one, it relies on various Social and Cultural factors. Hence, this category of actors of places at the highest, i.e., third level of Maslow’s triangle.

This analysis led to a resultant Actor-Network diagram, where the exterior side of the triangular form lists the various actors under each main category. The colorful lines – each of which represent the nature of the connection (please refer to the key) – connect the various actors and help to give an understanding of how a community is affected by numerous factors.

This diagram was a helpful activity to realize how complex the evolution of a community – or even a city – is.







Matt Lalonde

To gain an overview of the dynamic stakeholder structure and interrelationships within the community of Crossroads, including both human and non-human actors and outcomes, this assignment sought to diagrammatically visualize that structure for future analysis. By diagramming all of the actors and outcomes in Crossroads, as well as the relationships between them, conclusions relating to their relative significance, influence, and impact could be drawn. Future design and policy decisions were substantially influenced by the patterns that emerged during this assignment.

To begin the visualization, an inventory of actors and outcomes first needed to be identified and categorized. Identifying every influence on the community was impossible given the complexity of the task and the reality that Crossroads is not a self-contained environment devoid of interaction with the world around it. As such, a cut-off point was established to provide a defined edge to the visualization and preserve the overall relevance of listed actors and outcomes to the community. The inventory was divided into 6 all-encompassing categories as follows:

1. Spatial / Physical Actors and Outcomes
2. Policies, Laws, Documents, and Strategies
3. Artifacts, Objects, Devices, and Programs
4. Financial / Economic Actors and Outcomes
5. People, Institutions, and Companies
6. Miscellaneous Actors and Outcomes

After identification of the approximately 100 actors and outcomes was completed, a series of symbols representing each of them was placed in a circle, organized by category. To gain an understanding of the interrelationships and influences between, lines representing existing relationships were then drawn from each symbol to every other symbol deemed to be impacted by or related to each other. Initially, relationships established between individual actors and outcomes were diagrammed as directional arrows and determined to be either positive or negative, denoted as a green or red arrow. However, in an effort to mitigate the effects of personal biases and preconceptions, these arrows were replaced with black lines that simply indicated that a relationship existed between two given actors.

Upon completion of the hundreds of lines, a detailed web of actors and outcomes in Crossroads and the relationships between them was realized. The visualization was color-coded for clarity and conclusions relating to the relative significance, influence, and impact of the relationships, actors, and outcomes began to be drawn. Areas with notably denser concentrations of lines (i.e. relationships), most notably categories 4, 5, and 6, were determined to be of higher influence, of greater relevance, and in need of greater consideration when making future policy and design decisions. There were other concentrations surrounding key policy documents such as the Calgary MDP and highly relevant objects such as Trees and Houses, which were in turn given greater consideration.

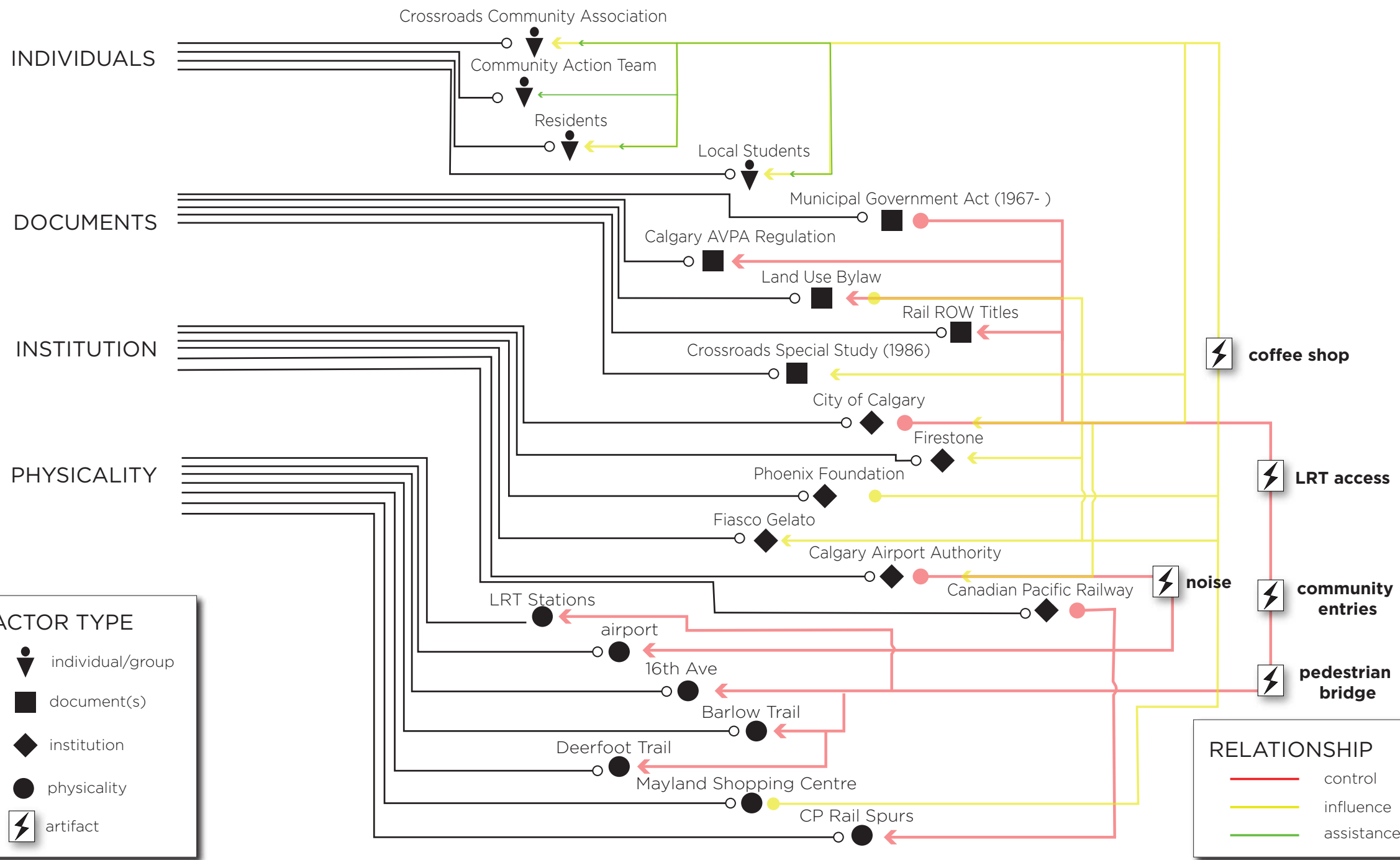
This strategy, while imperfect due to the continued existence of personal bias and a personally defined cut-off point of relevance, provided a helpful and clear visualization of the actors and outcomes present in Crossroads and the relative importance, significance, and influence of each of them. Future design and policy decisions were substantially influenced by this assignment.



INPUTS

NETWORK  
Actors

OUTPUT  
Crossroads Today



Tessa Larsen

This actor network investigation attempted to look at artifacts through a different perspective- instead of approaching the network looking for physical artifacts present within the community of Crossroads, artifacts were treated like glitches in the system, similar to a computer science lens.

ACTOR: an input with a direct effect on the present day form and feel of Crossroads > the hardware and software.

ARTIFACT: “a distortion in an image or sound caused by limitation or malfunction in the hardware of software, artifacts may or may not be easily detectable” - PC Mag

The artifacts found in Crossroads represent areas of necessary change or improvement as a result of the community in its current form.



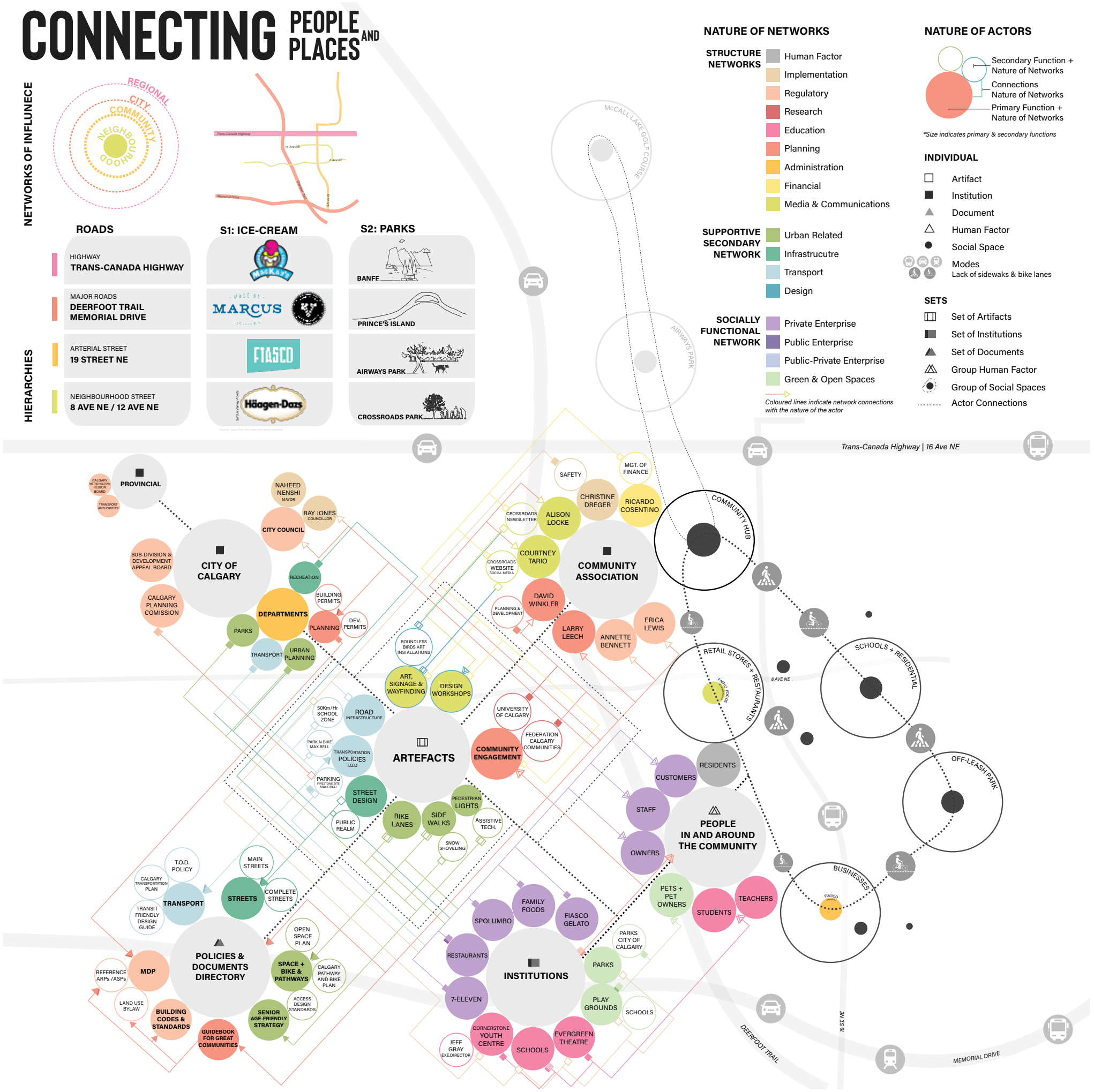
# Melinda Lobo

The theme for the actor diagram is how to ‘Connect People and Places’. Places that are social.

The network of influence is on a regional, city, community, and neighbourhood level.

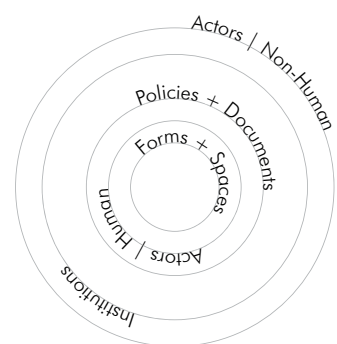
The diagram takes advantage of the 4 road hierarchies bounding Crossroads - highway, major roads, arterial street and neighbourhood street. From an ice-cream scenario - would you prefer driving on the Trans-Canada Highway and having ice-cream at MacKays in Cochrane or drive on Deerfoot or Memorial Drive that takes you to Made by Marcus or Village, or would you prefer hopping on the train and stopping by at 19 St NE to have a gelato at FIASCO or would you just walk or bicycle to Family food and buy a tub of Haagen Daz. Similarly, there are numerous scenarios that can be created from the road hierarchies.

- First, I layered the network of roads and marked a few social spaces on the site.
- Thereafter I layered the different modes of transport
- All this leads to the kind of people that use these spaces
- This is closely linked to the institutions that make this neighbourhood vibrant and comfortable to live, work and play
- A set of artefacts are chosen based on the need to connect people to these spaces. Sidewalks, bike lanes, the public realm, public art, wayfinding and signage etc. Community engagement plays an important role as it is the best way to get peoples consent and implement strategies for the community.
- The Community Association and the City of Calgary are on their own in this diagram as there are various leads and heads that are instrumental in connecting people to places.
- These artefacts are connected to a directory of documents and policies that help take care of these little details, which brings the community together.
- Lastly, the province as an institution – as we have Trans Canada and Deerfoot bordering our site – the CMRB and Transport Authorities will be instrumental in facilitating people who are connected to these social spaces.
- To conclude, citing a quote from Christopher Alexander’s book, The city is not a tree “transportation joins the villages into a new town”. And the same we can see with the Community of Crossroads. Being a small town – how it connects with the rest of the city and region.





This actor network diagram explores the complex relationships associated with wildlife and ecology within Crossroads. Specifically, it examines the intricate connections amongst various actants including human actors, non-human actors, policies/ documents, forms/ spaces, and institutions by asking the question: Are wildlife and ecology important to the community? The takeaway from this activity is it is; however only a string of strong relationships exists for trees, plants, subsurface organisms.



-  Cultural Relationship
-  Political Relationship | Statutory
-  Political Relationship | Non-Statutory
-  Economic Relationship
-  Educational/ Research Relationship

