

RECONNECTING THE CONNECTIONS

Sangita Bhattacharjee | FALL'22

Tarrytown is a dynamic and engaging place with a beautiful riverfront of Hudson river. The whole town provides a wonderful tourist attraction with its enormous green spaces, riverfront parks, beautiful train station and vibrant downtown. To address the probable issues found from the resources and from the stakeholder meetings, I focused on building upon a strong consensus from the public engagement, the master plan for the Tarrytown Riverfront Park creates a socially inclusive and ecologically meaningful waterfront with a strong cultural identity that embraces the Tarrytown's unique philosophy derived from centuries of living alongside a dynamic river.

PROBLEMS FOUND IN SITE



Image: Pierson park zone and Franklin court zone (Future threat from flooding issue)

One of the key problem to focus on site is the threat of future flooding conditions from sea level rise and also from storm water from uphill side.

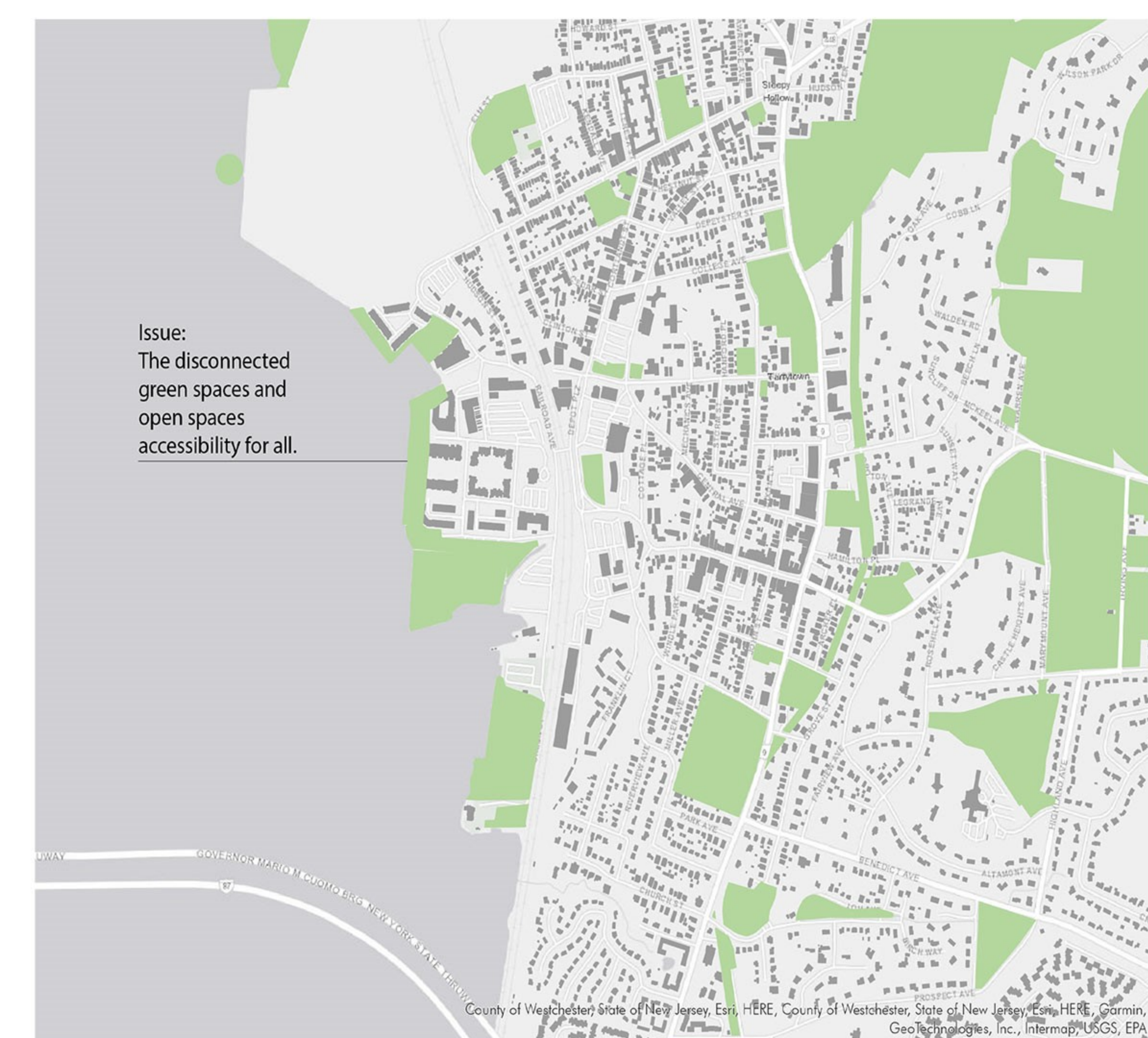


Image: Losee park zone and Sarah Michaels zone (Disintegrated green spaces in Tarrytown)

There are some green spaces in the town. But the green spaces are not integrated with a single green network which will also connect people with riverfront.



Image: Hardscape parking lots in Tarrytown

There are many hardscape parkings in the town. These large area of parkings are a major threat for storm water management system and they are also creating a lot of heat in the nearby places.



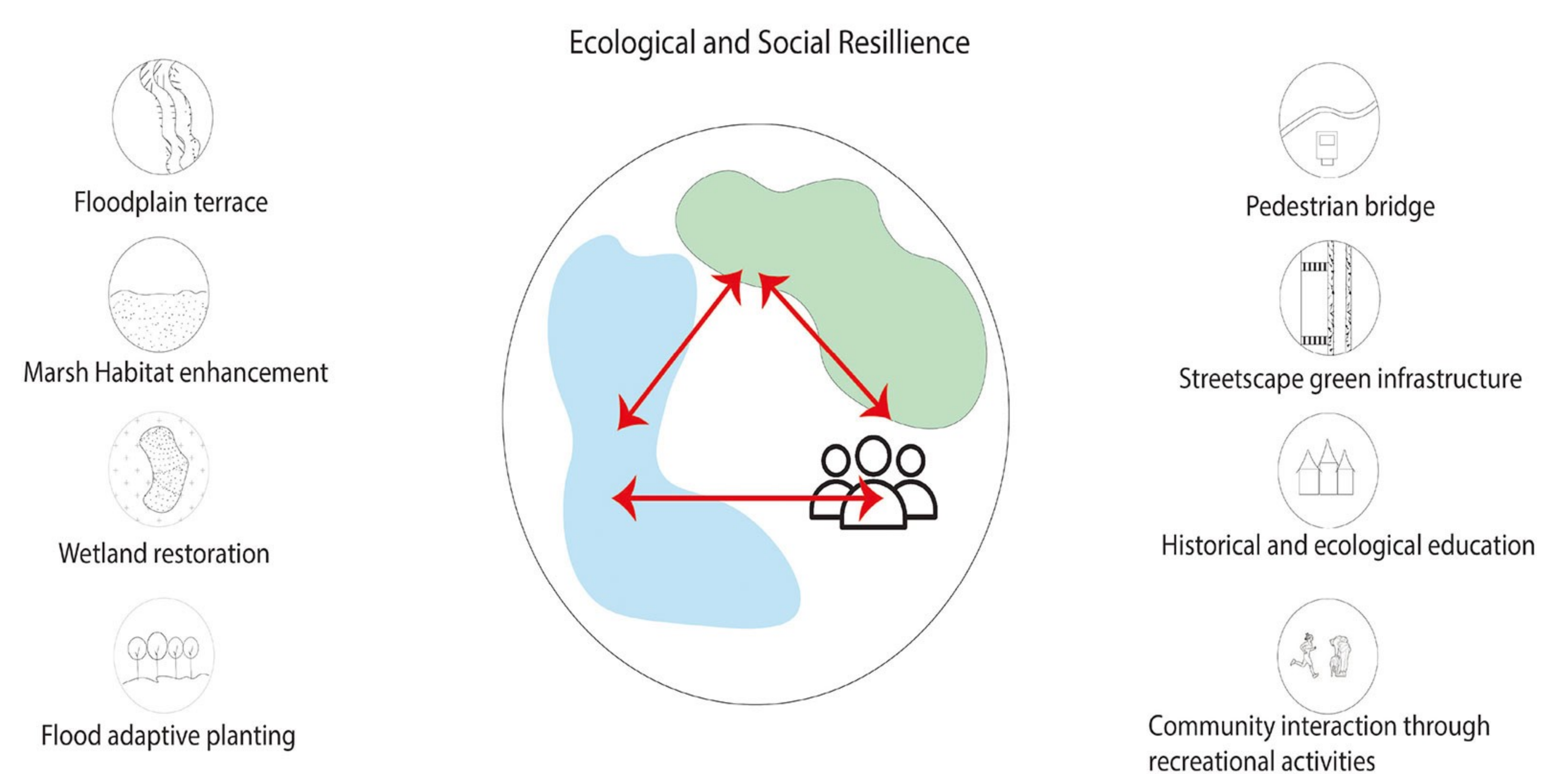
Image: Poor pedestrian connectivity through H bridge.

Another key issue for Tarrytown is the pedestrian connection from the town to the riverfront. tarrytown has a very active and vibrant downtown. However, there is no proper pedestrian connection from the downtown to the riverfront which may attract more tourists and visitors.

CONCEPT GENERATION

From my research on Tarrytown, I am addressing my solutions with a broader concept of ensuring social-ecological resilience in Tarrytown. For the flooding issue, I am focusing on ensuring ecological resilience by establishing terrace embankment, making safe room for marsh habitats, wetland restoration, permeable parking and resilient planting.

For achieving social resilience my key focus is to strengthen the relationship and interaction among the community people so that they can become prepare to face the upcoming challenge together. Therefore, I have created the opportunities for recreational, interactive and educational spaces for all age group people which will help them to grow for this unpredictable future together.



PRECEDENT STUDIES



This is the Wuhan Yangtze riverfront park. In this project they have focused to address the sea level rise conditions with terraced embankment which was successful in that context. So, I have considered this solution in my concept to address the issue of flooding in the riverfront side of Tarrytown.

Image source: Landzine



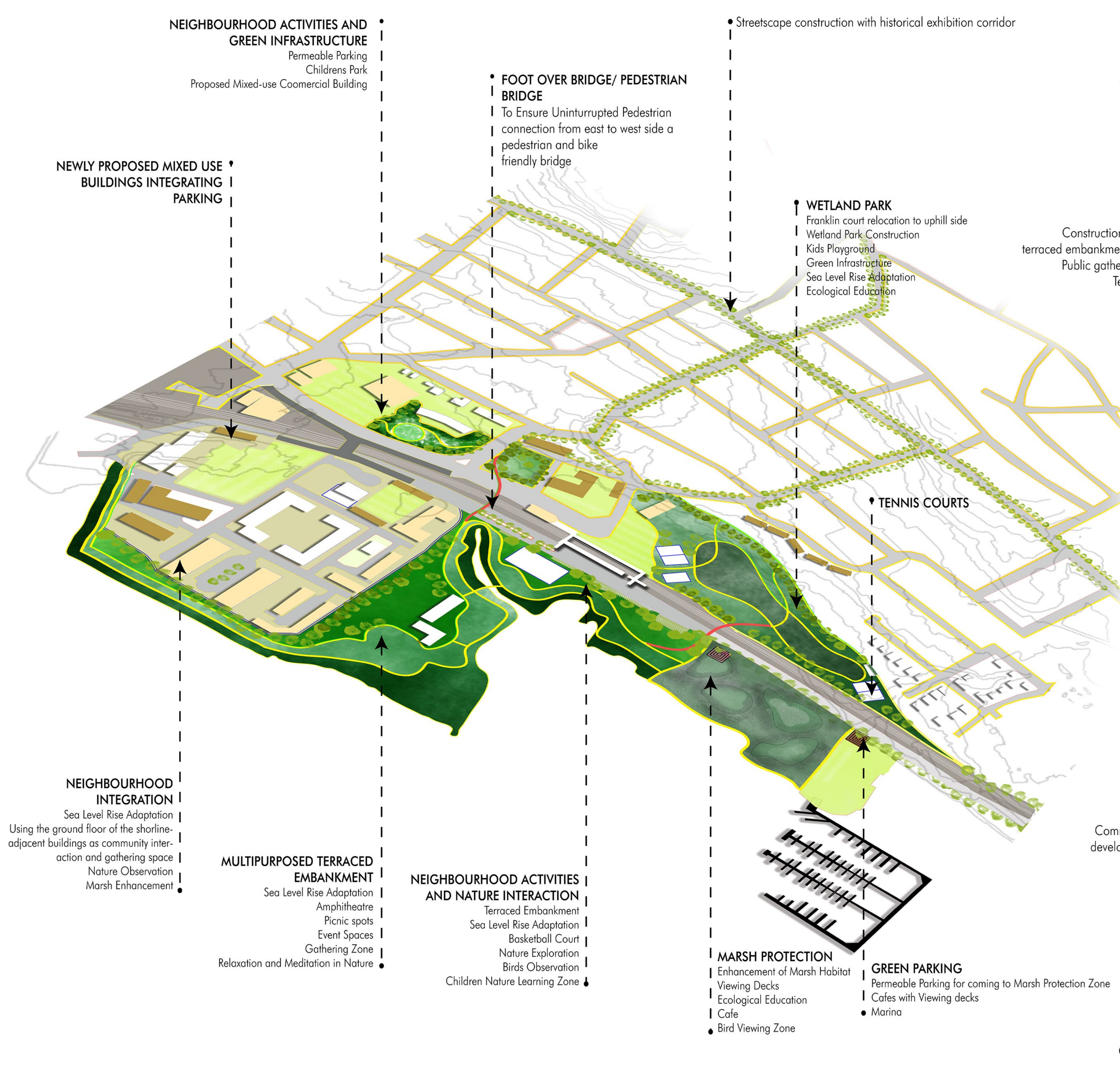
My second precedent project is Yanweizhou park in Jinhu city in China where they focused on creating adaptive pedestrian paths considering the flooding condition so that people can enjoy the natural landscape at different times of the year differently.

Image source: Landzine.

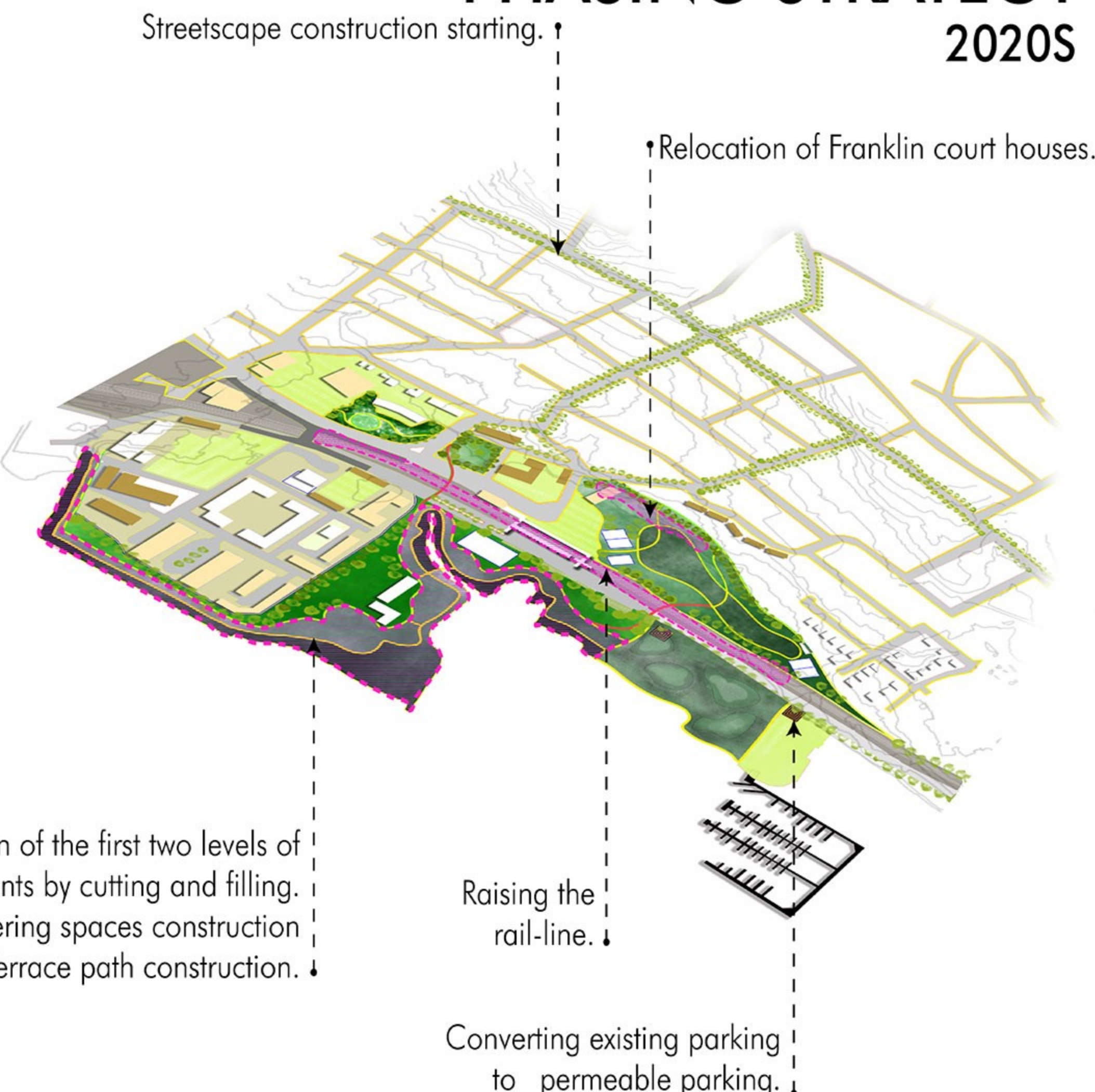
MASTERPLAN



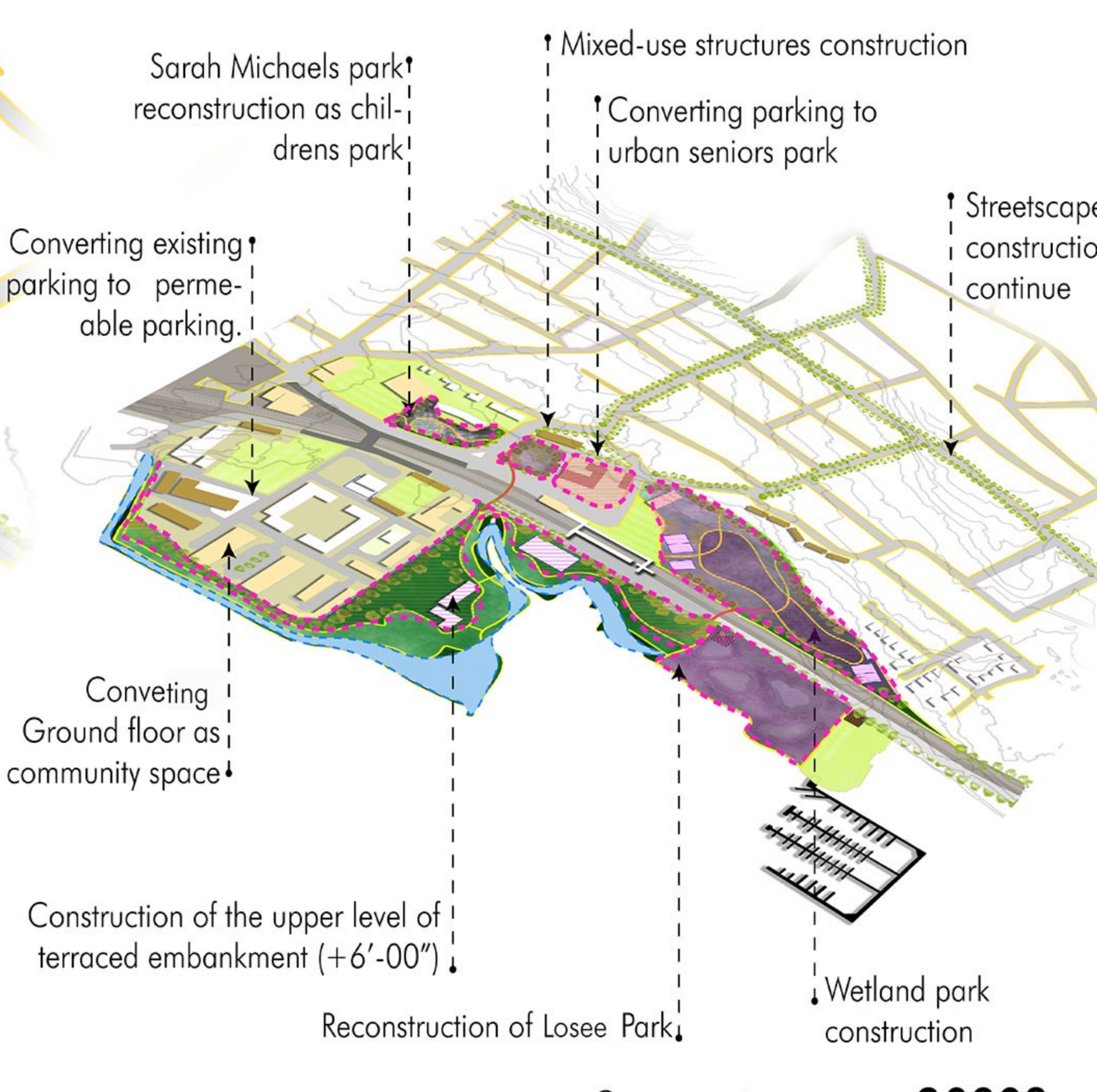
RECONNECTING PEOPLE WITH WATERFRONT PROGRAM STRATEGIES



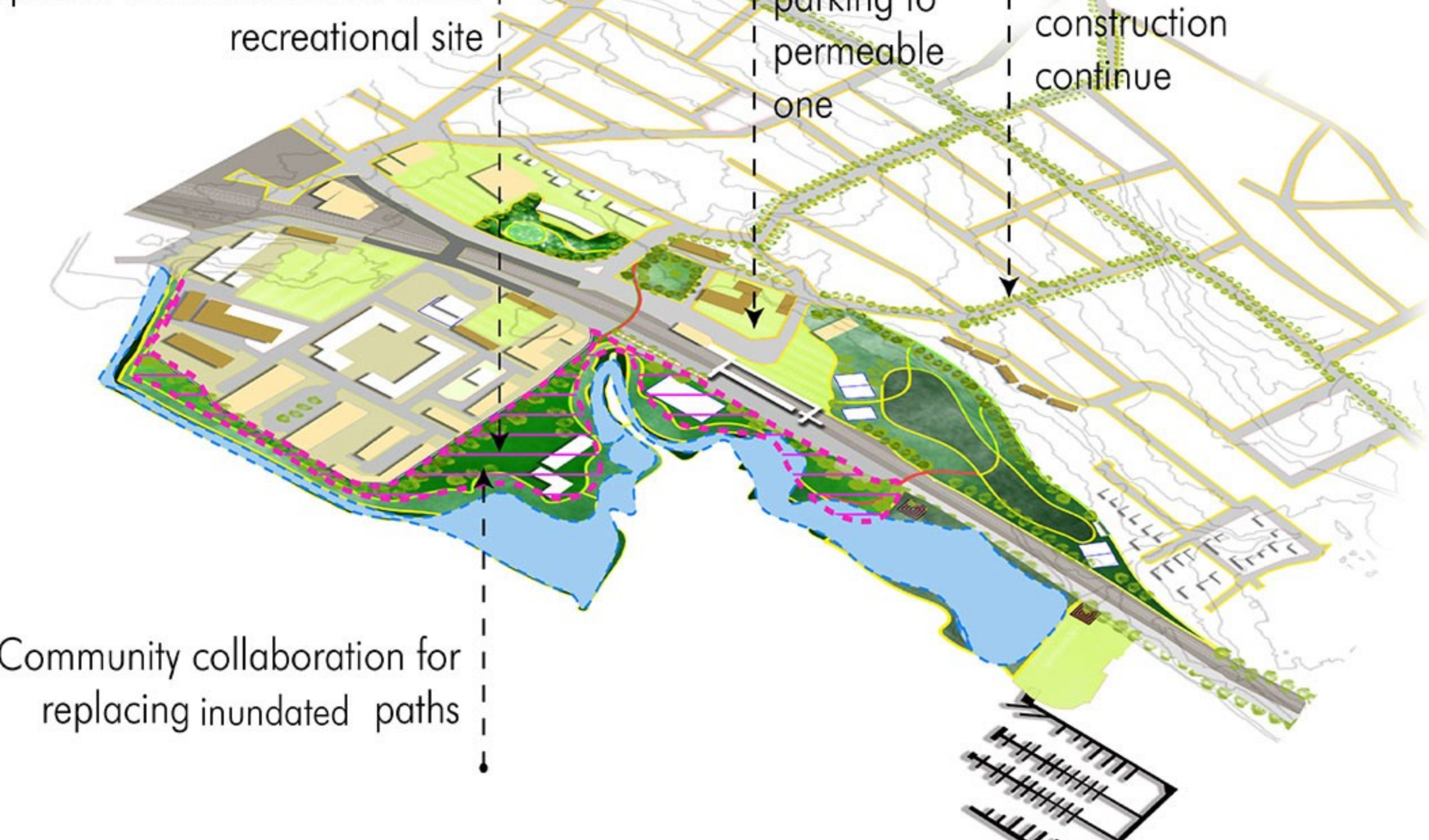
PHASING STRATEGY 2020S



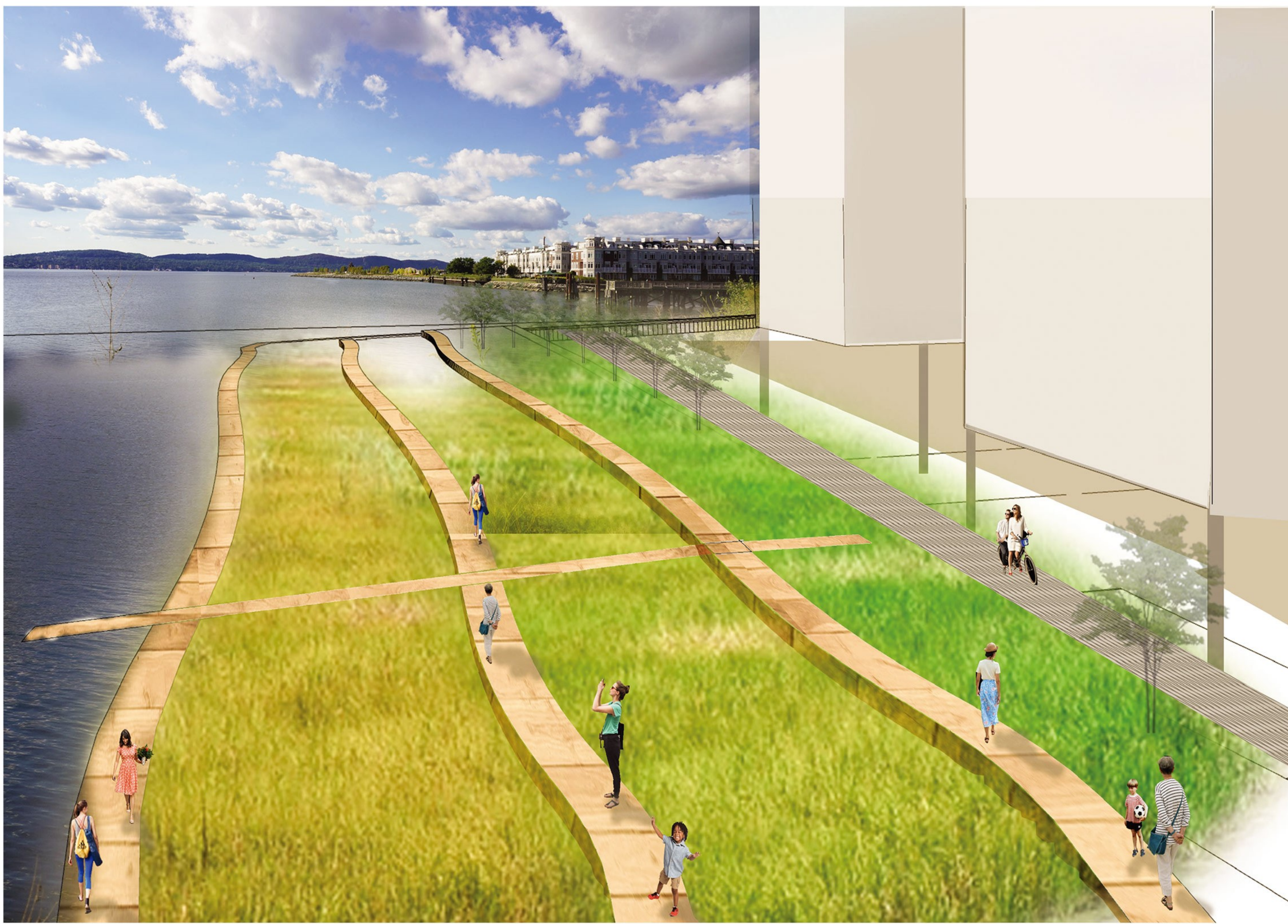
2050S



2080S



VISUALISATION OF FUTURE PROJECTIONS

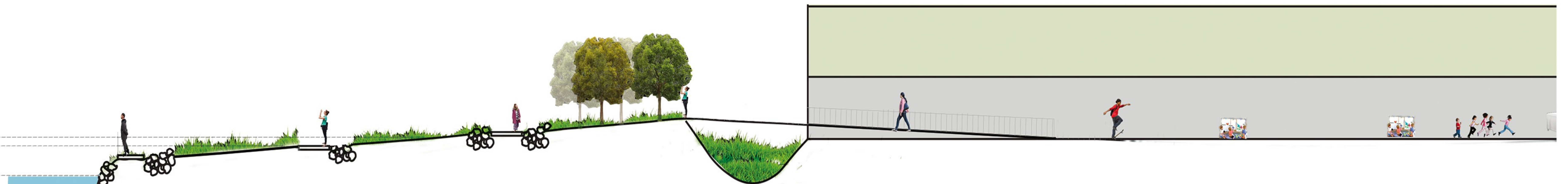


Zone 1

Riverfront adjacent to Hudson Harbour

Gently sloped terraced park to accommodate sea level rise changes. The floodable pedestrian paths will allow people to enjoy the Hudson in different seasons differently. This will also offer people the opportunity to enjoy the riverwalk along with the natural marsh.

The multilevel pedestrian paths which are universally accessible will allow people to enjoy the riverfront from different levels. These paths are designed to accept flooding not as a risk, but as an event to celebrate.



Hudson River Terraced floodplain which is strengthened by riprap to prepare it as future embankment

Buildings ground floor use as community space for climate change workshop, learning center for kids and elder people

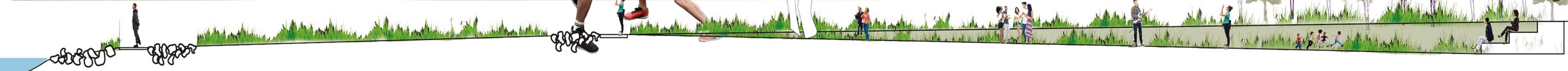


Zone 2

Pierson Park zone

Gently sloped terraced park to accommodate sea level rise changes. This will also allow safe room for the growth of the marsh in the first two levels and the upper level will include flood resilient planting strategy which will allow people to enjoy a natural riverfront and accommodate the recreational activities like event space, picnic spot, deck for concert, amphitheatre and children playing zone.

This place will also include some historical sculptures which will help people to get connected with the past and it will work as an element of identity of the town.



Hudson River Terraced floodplain which is strengthened by riprap to prepare it as future embankment

Performance zone, historical sculpture, amphitheatre for public engagement and recreation.



Zone 3

Pedestrian connectivity through H bridge and the rail-line

The rail-line is raised up to 5 feet which will save the rail line from future flooding and sea level rise. It will also work as a flood wall for the east side in storm surge events.

For uninterrupted pedestrian and bicycle connection from downtown to riverfront, a gently sloped pedestrian bridge is proposed. The bridge will also be connected with the urban parks so when people will use this bridge it will offer a beautiful inviting view of the entire town, the riverfront and urban parks along with a safe pedestrian passage to come to the riverfront.

VISUALISATION OF FUTURE PROJECTIONS



Zone 4

Losee Park zone

The proposal for Losee park is to make it a marsh park with strategic dredging and grading. With the accomodation of open culverts in the outer layer of the park, there will be a naturally created micro-environment for wildlife with different tidal flactualtions. Secondary streams are graded here to emerge in mudflats during mid-high water levels, and provide alternative passages for aquatic wild-life as well as safe corridor for marshes. This strategy creates a tranquil experience amid tall marsh grasses even when the Hudson water roars. During dry mouths, these stream beds function as informal pathways for visitors to explore, slicing through the dense grasses. For recreation purpose, cafes, marina are proposed in this zone. From the cafes, people can enjoy an exceptional view of the marsh land along with the Hudson river.



Zone 5

Franklin court zone

As the Franklin court is in a low topographic zone, it is i risk of intense flooding. So the proposal is to relocate the Franklin court existing houses to the uphill side and make the ground floor of the Franklin court a public community space in the time of rennovation. In the existing zone of the Franklin court, a wetland park is proposed where the biodiversity is adopted and enhanced through the addition of native wetland species. The pedestrian boardwalks in here will help the children and also the community people to get closer to nature and wildlife and learn about ecology. This zone will also work as a buffer to reduce the sound pollution from the trains.



Zone 6

Downtown to Riverfront streetscape design

A continue pedestrian access is created along with a green network of native trees. The green network will increase the storm water retaining capacity while the accomodation of the historical photographs with the walkway will help the communi people get connected with their past and it will increase the communi connection and prepare them for facing the coming challenge.

Green network of native plants for increasing the storm water retaining capacity

Seating for people

Historical display for visitors and tourists so that the Downtown becomes vibrant and attractive to tourists. It will also increase community interaction and bonding.