



Boulder Civic Area

SCHEMATIC DESIGN
PACKAGE

FEBRUARY, 2026

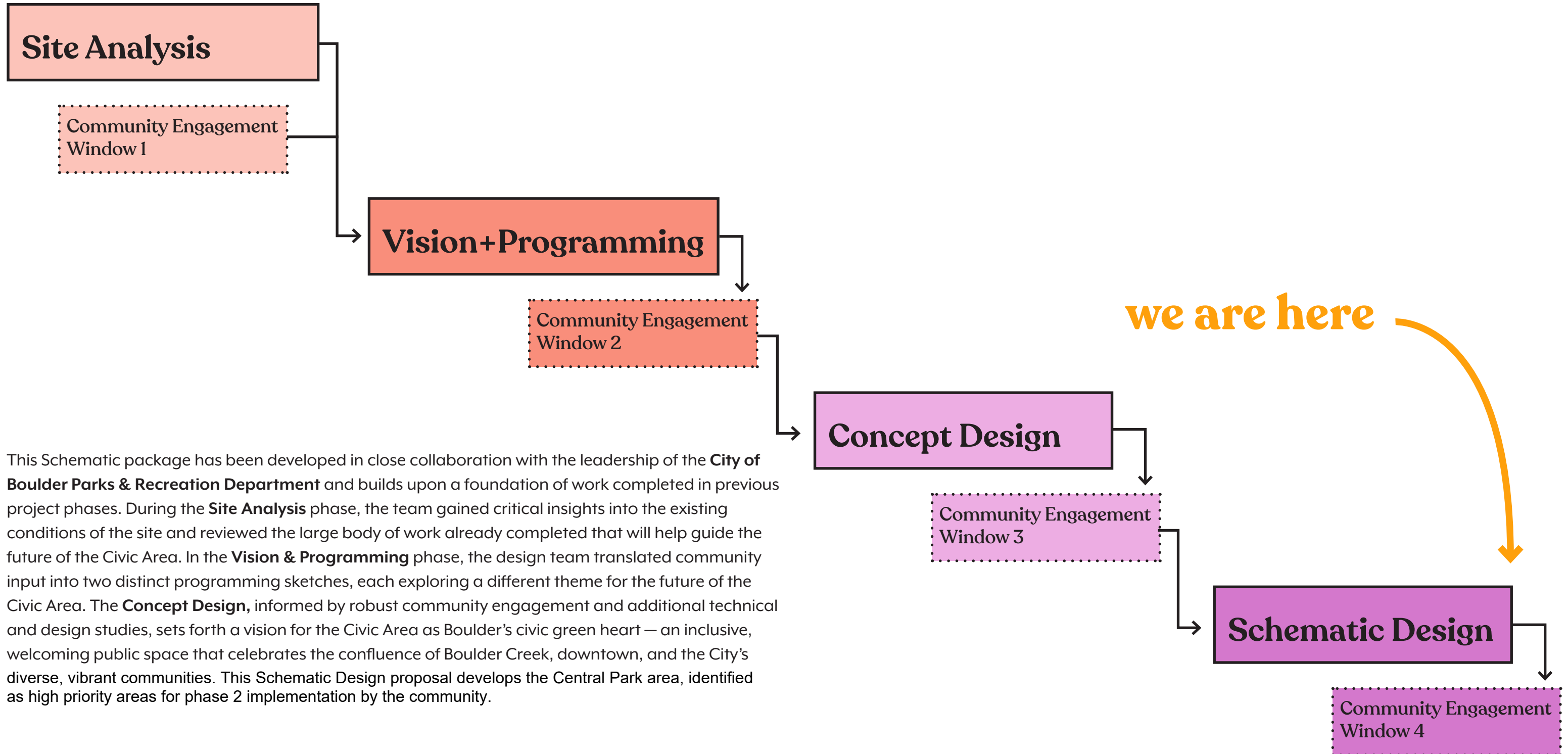
RIOS

1. Background & Context





Boulder Civic Area Phase 2 Overall Design Schedule



This Schematic package has been developed in close collaboration with the leadership of the **City of Boulder Parks & Recreation Department** and builds upon a foundation of work completed in previous project phases. During the **Site Analysis** phase, the team gained critical insights into the existing conditions of the site and reviewed the large body of work already completed that will help guide the future of the Civic Area. In the **Vision & Programming** phase, the design team translated community input into two distinct programming sketches, each exploring a different theme for the future of the Civic Area. The **Concept Design**, informed by robust community engagement and additional technical and design studies, sets forth a vision for the Civic Area as Boulder’s civic green heart — an inclusive, welcoming public space that celebrates the confluence of Boulder Creek, downtown, and the City’s diverse, vibrant communities. This Schematic Design proposal develops the Central Park area, identified as high priority areas for phase 2 implementation by the community.

Celebration of a Unique Place



Boulder is a community with a diverse spectrum of **funky** lifestyles and settings – living together, with each moving to its own rhythm.



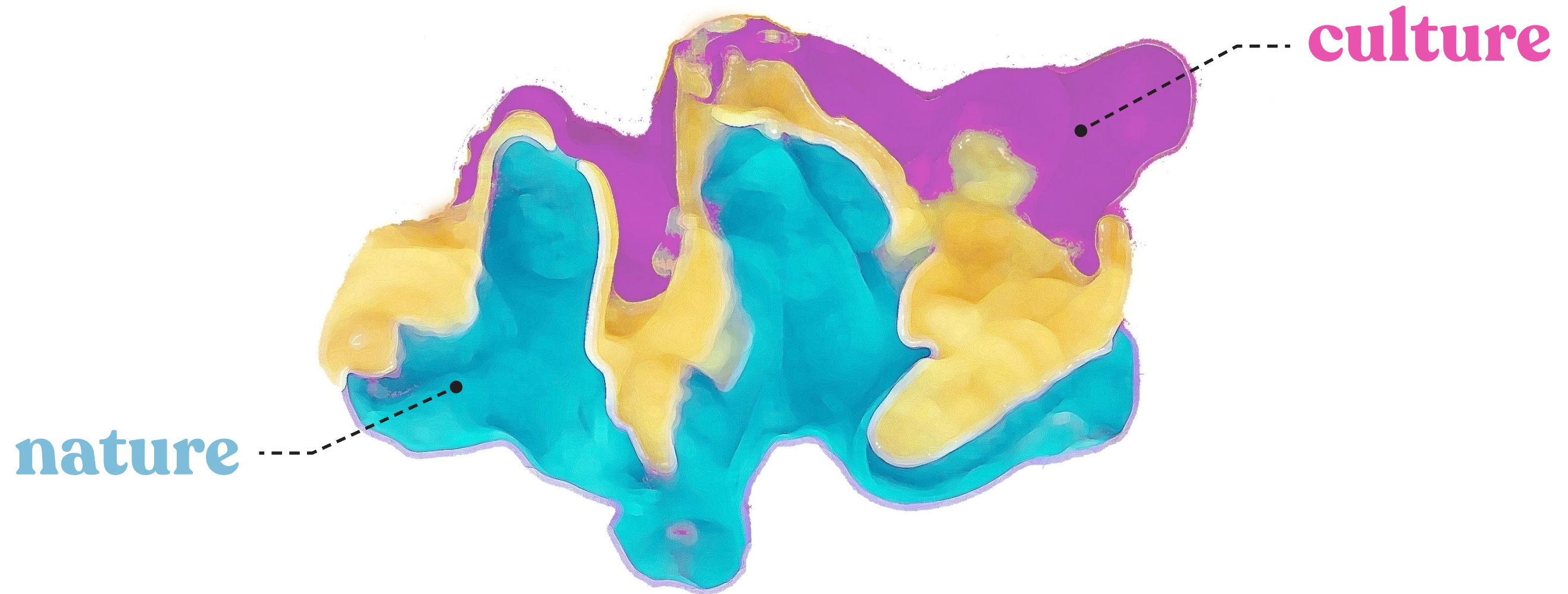
The Civic Area has its own unique personalities due to the **natural creek** juxtaposed with the **cultural heart** of downtown.



Celebrating these **unique moments**, the Civic Area becomes a collection of living spaces for all people to experience culture and nature.



The intersection of
culture + nature
is where the
magic / joy / discovery / new experience
happens!



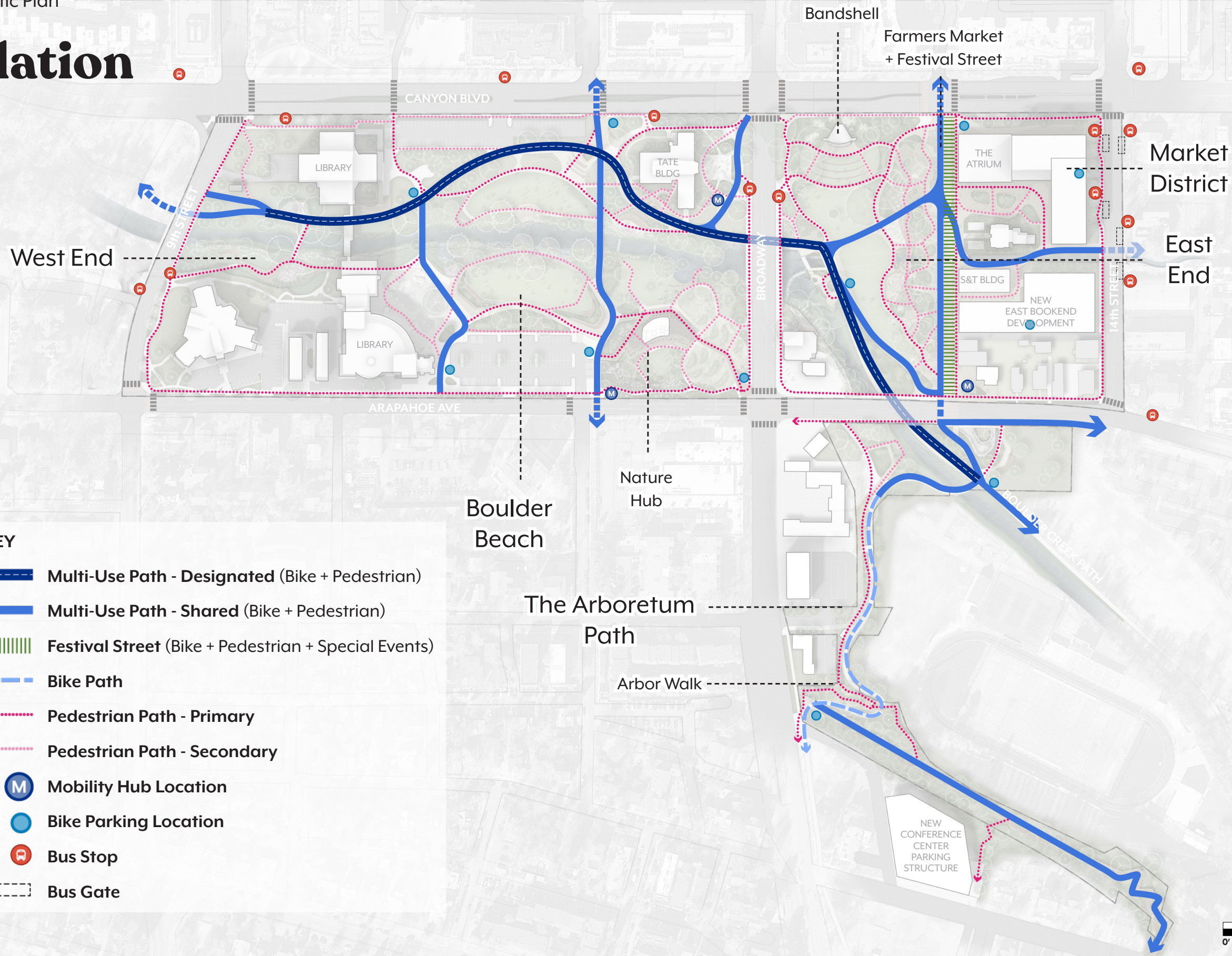
2. Overall Schematic Plan



Site Plan



Circulation

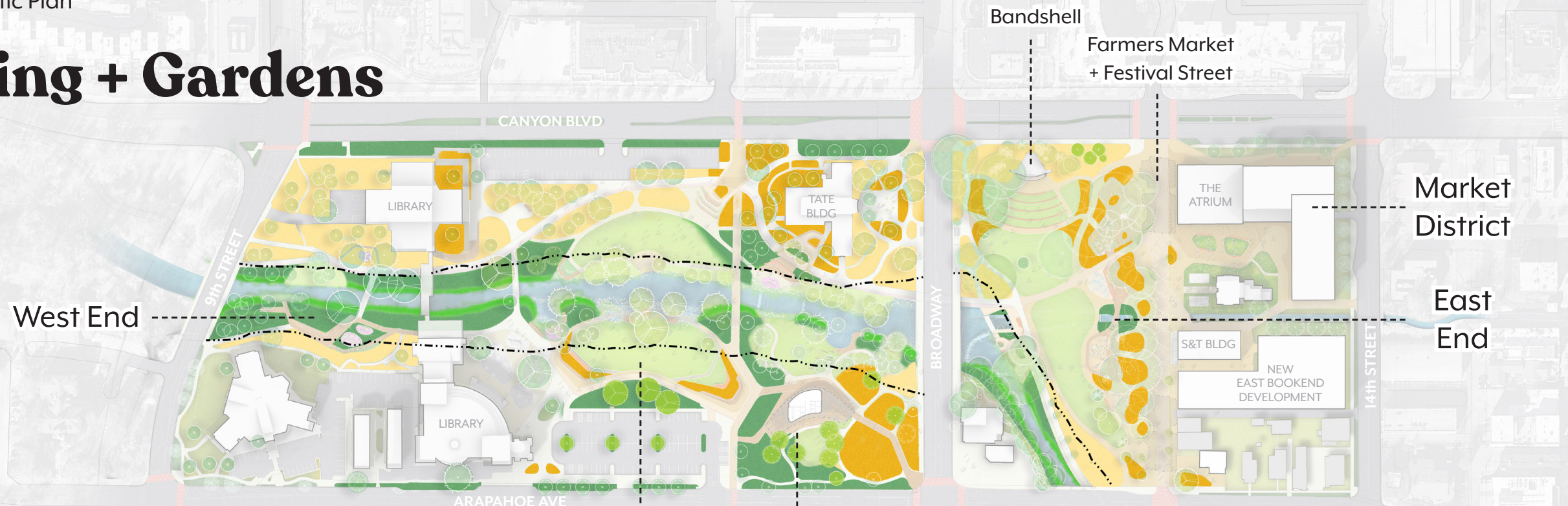


KEY

- Multi-Use Path - Designated (Bike + Pedestrian)
- Multi-Use Path - Shared (Bike + Pedestrian)
- Festival Street (Bike + Pedestrian + Special Events)
- Bike Path
- Pedestrian Path - Primary
- Pedestrian Path - Secondary
- Mobility Hub Location
- Bike Parking Location
- Bus Stop
- Bus Gate



Planting + Gardens



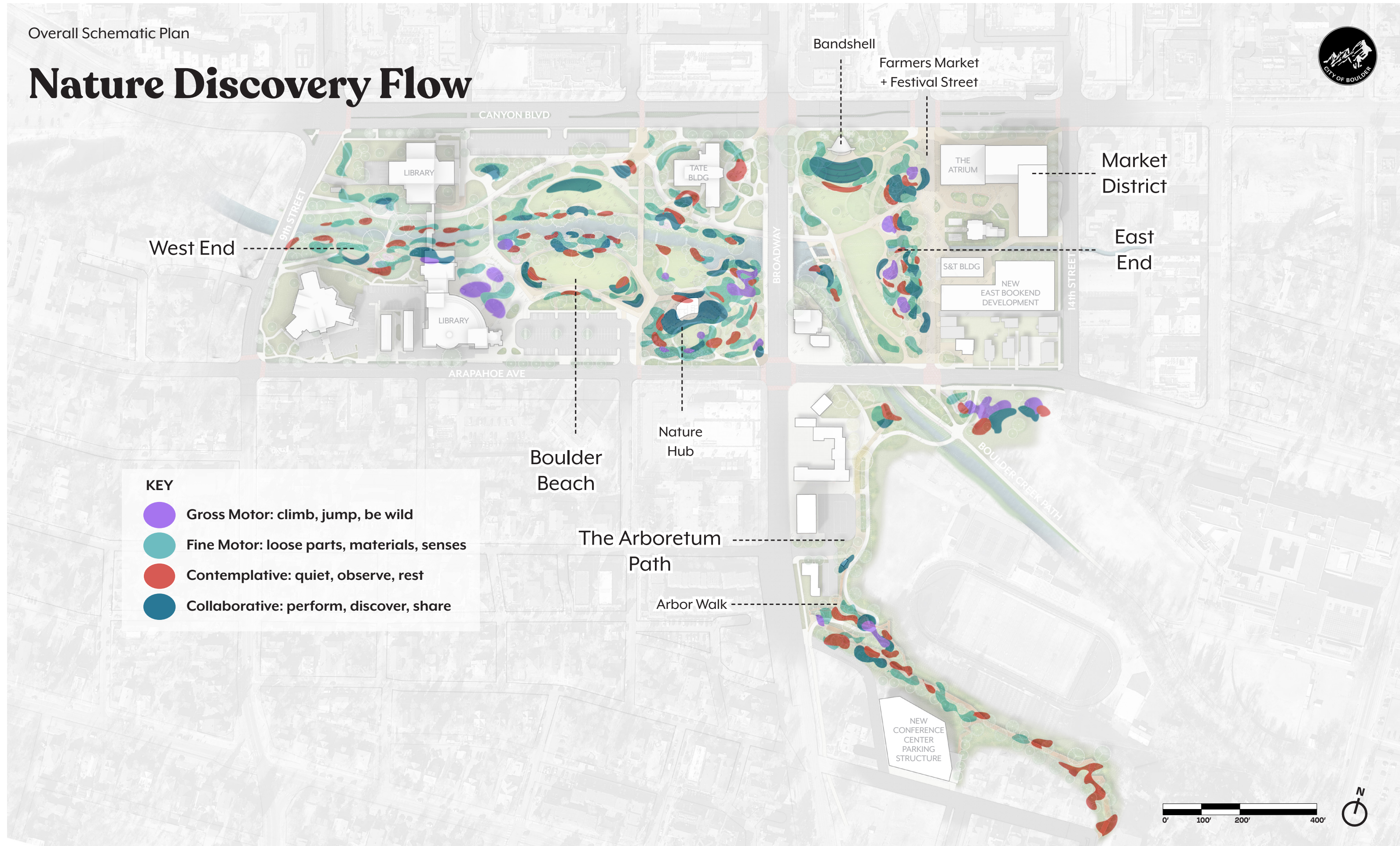
KEY

- Foothills Shrubland
- Climate Demonstration
- Prairie Naturalized
- Prairie Cultivated
- Riparian Wetland
- Riparian Transitional
- Turf Lawn
- 50' Wetland Buffer
- Existing Trees
- Proposed Trees





Nature Discovery Flow



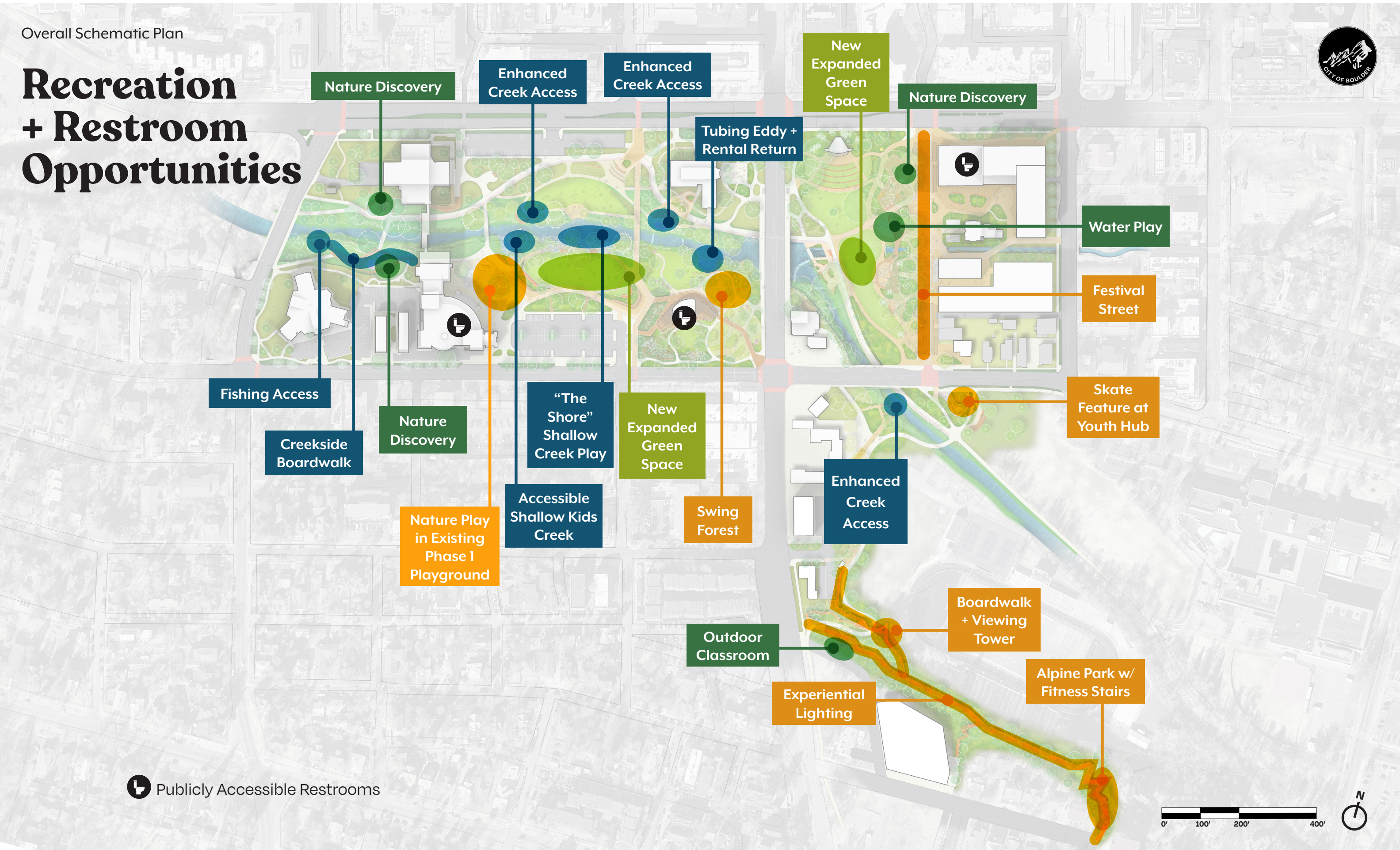
KEY

- Gross Motor: climb, jump, be wild
- Fine Motor: loose parts, materials, senses
- Contemplative: quiet, observe, rest
- Collaborative: perform, discover, share





Recreation + Restroom Opportunities



Publicly Accessible Restrooms



Materials Palette



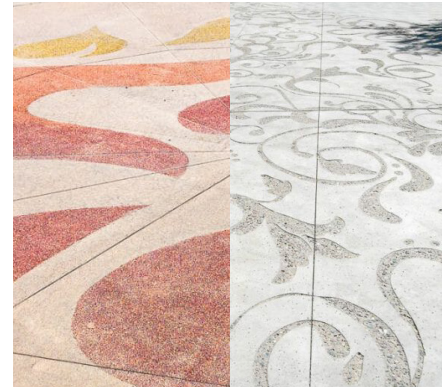
Paving - Informal
(step stones / logs)



Paving - Standard Conc.
(gray + topcast finish)



Paving - Enhanced Conc.
(color, finish)



Paving - Specialty Conc.
(color, specialty finish +
formwork)



Boardwalk
(Concrete, Metal)



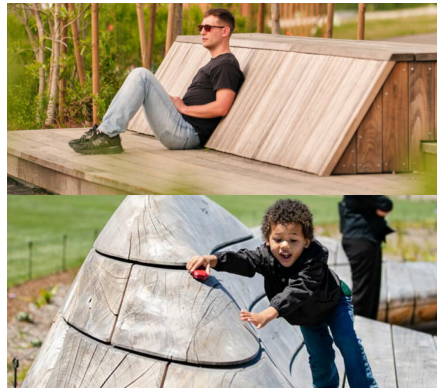
Boulder - Natural



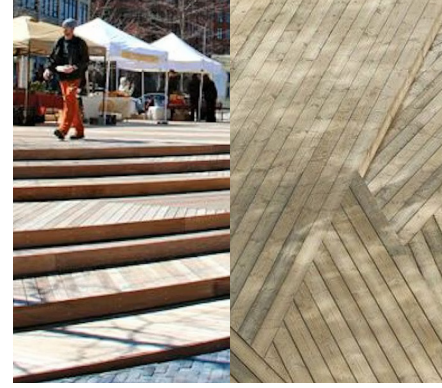
Site Wall
(Concrete + Stone)



Seat Wall



Integrated Bench
(Wood)



Decking -
Porch



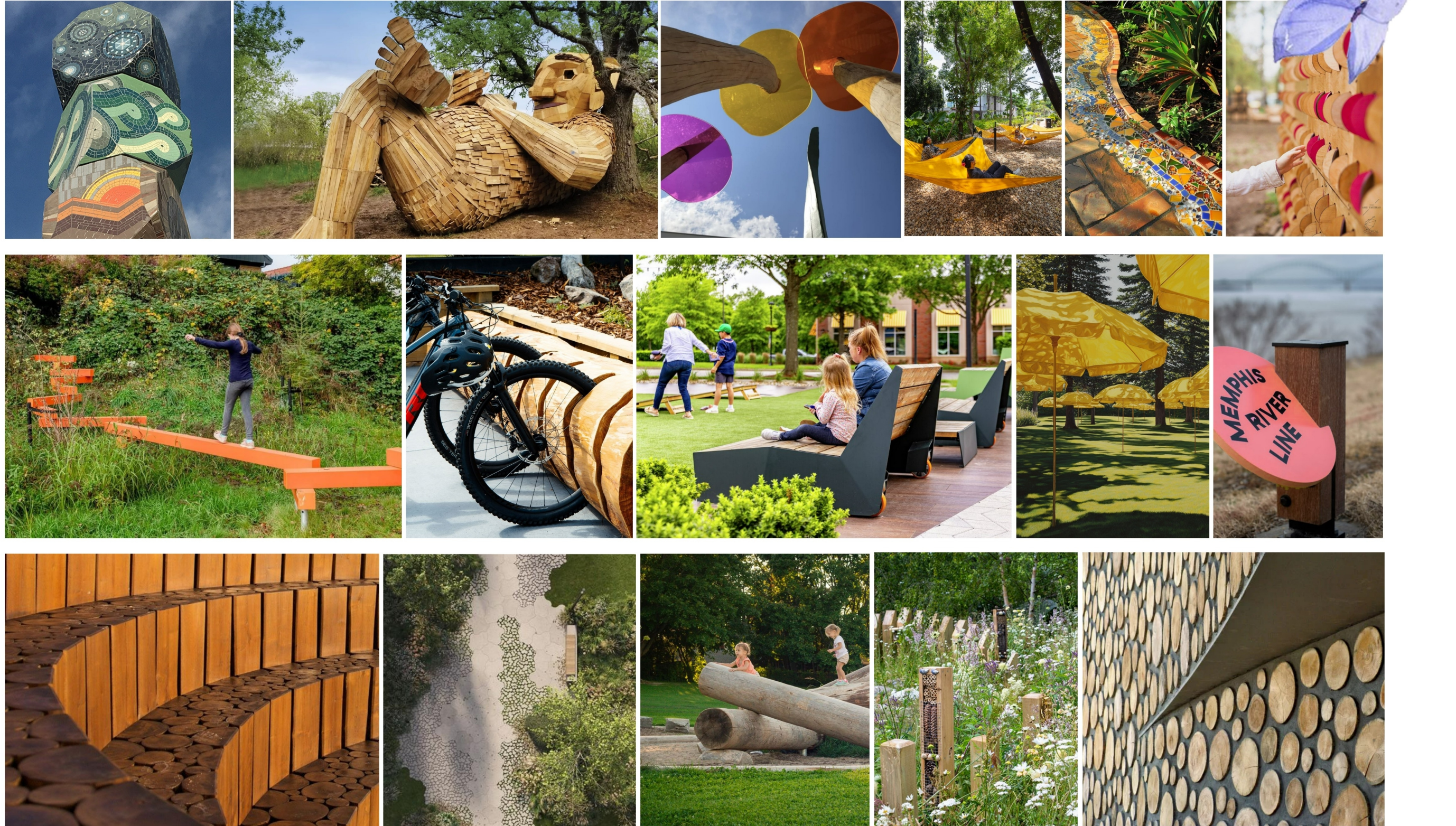
Lighting Pole -
Promenade



Lighting - Park

Materials

Fun Moments



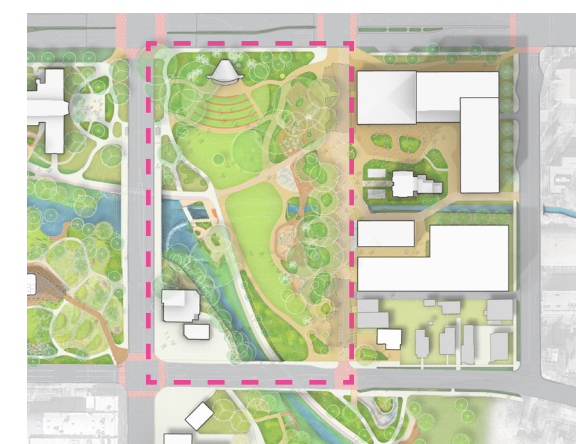
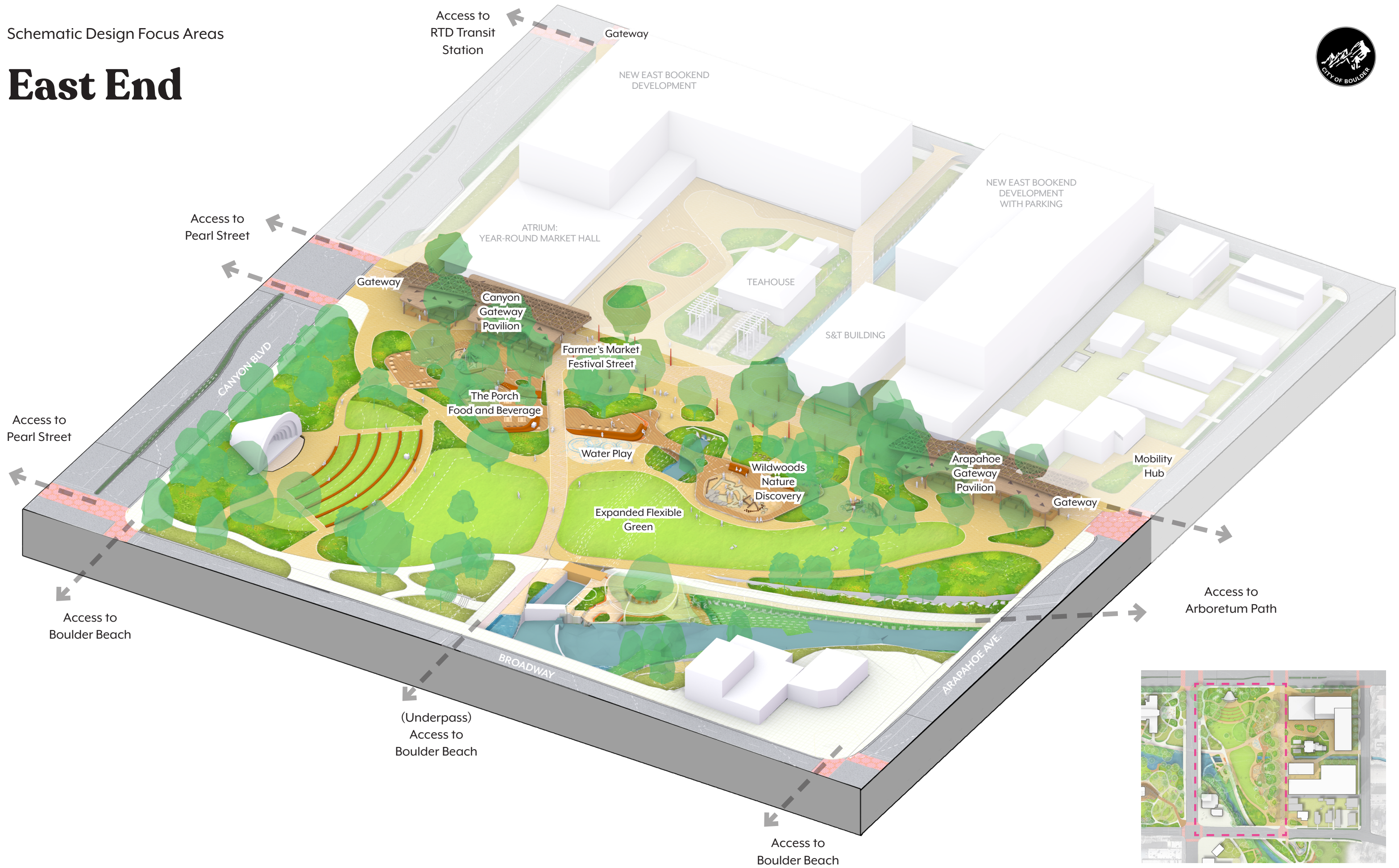
3. Schematic Design Focus Areas



Focus Areas



East End



East End Site Plan



A Festival of Gathering

Nature meets urban life at the eastern end of the Civic Area. 13th Street is envisioned as a curbsless, pedestrian-first Festival Street allowing a variety of public flexible experiences within a comfortable environment for walking and biking. New Pavilions and an Expanded Flexible Green celebrate Boulder's desire to gather through spectacular and everyday events- especially the farmers market.

Activity pours in from Pearl Street (to the north) and the Arboretum (to the south) as "The Porch" creates a welcoming gathering area leading people into the park. New features like the Food and Beverage Garden, Water Play and Wildwoods Nature Discovery, activate the full edge of 13th, bring new uses, and draw a wide range of visitors to this section of Civic Area.



East End Festival Street

MARKET DISTRICT

ATRIUM
PATIO
SPILLOUT

NATURE PLAY/
F+B PATIOS

STAY AWHILE · PLAY AWHILE · YOU'LL LIKE BOULDER

MOVEABLE
PATIO SEATING
+ SWINGS





East End Festival Street - Farmers Market

DYNAMIC PAVILLION
FOR YEAR ROUND
FUN!



VENDOR
SIGNAGE

MARKET DISTRICT

PICNIC
GARDEN

STAY AWHILE · PLAY AWHILE · YOU'LL LIKE BOULDER



FARMER
RECOGNITION

FLEXIBLE
MARKET STALLS

East End The Porch



- 01 Rotating Art
- 02 Gateway
- 03 Canyon Gateway Pavilion
- 04 Curbless Promenade
- 05 Patio Seating
- 06 Movable Food and Beverage Van
- 07 Timber Trunk Climb
- 08 Integrated Benches / Steps
- 09 Waterplay
- 10 Irrigation Ditch
- 11 Flexible Green





East End The Porch

WATER PLAY

FANTASTIC
FLATIRON
VIEWS

FOOD
TRUCK

PROTECTED
EXISTING
TREES





East End Wildwoods



- 01 Waterplay
- 02 Irrigation Ditch
- 03 Nature Bridge
- 04 Iconic Play Structure
- 05 Wildwoods Nature Discovery
- 06 Raised Platform
- 07 Integrated Benches
- 08 Social Swing
- 09 Curbless Promenade
- 10 Arapahoe Gateway Pavilion
- 11 Expanded Flexible Green
- 12 Multi-use Path Improvements



East End

Wildwoods + Flexible Green

♪ HISTORIC BANDSHELL

ICONIC PLAY

WILDWOODS NATURE DISCOVERY

EXPANDED GREEN



East End Choreographed Play



01 Timber Scramble



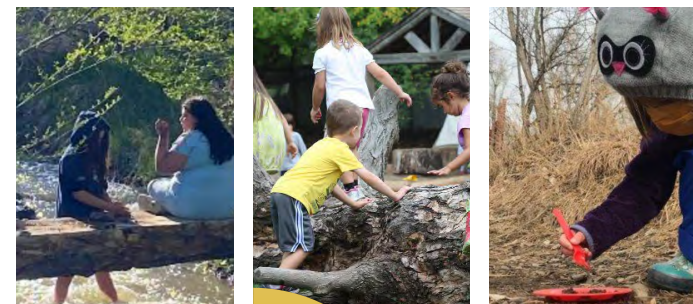
02 Social Swings



03 Waterplay



04 Iconic Play Structure



05 Wildwoods



06 Giant Rope Swing





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