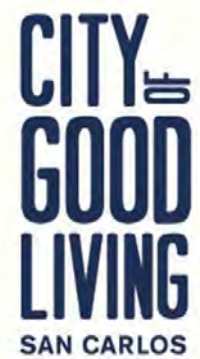




SAN CARLOS DOWNTOWN SPECIFIC PLAN

PRCC MEETING



FEBRUARY 13, 2024

AGENDA

Draft Vision & Guiding Principles

Urban Design Framework Public

Realm Design Concepts

Community Feedback Summary

Programming Concepts

Pedestrian Mall Examples

Group Exercise: Program Exploration

VISION & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

DRAFT VISION STATEMENT

Downtown is the **heart of San Carlos** that provides a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly, safe, charming, futuristic, and accessible destination for the community. It is a **place for celebration and gathering** that offers **diverse and authentic experiences** through a draw of food, retail, services, art and music in a visually attractive environment for the growing community. Downtown is an **inclusive place** with easy access for all, opportunities for housing and businesses of all types, and **inviting spaces for all users**. Downtown San Carlos is a **sustainable district**, with landscape that **supports ecological and community health & well-being**.



DRAFT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

EQUITY + RESILIENCE



MOBILITY & CONNECTIVITY

Downtown should have a balance of mobility modes that emphasizes pedestrian, bicycle, and public transit circulation along with effective parking management strategies, to support a socially vibrant pedestrian-oriented environment and to minimize auto-dependence to access downtown.

The Plan Area should strive to be an equitable place offering social, economic, housing and recreational opportunities at varying levels of affordability for all users along with being resilient to address evolving climate adaptation needs.



PLACEMAKING & IDENTITY

The Downtown Specific Plan should strive to create distinctive character and identity unique to San Carlos' culture, history, and context; defined by the physical form and experience of the downtown.

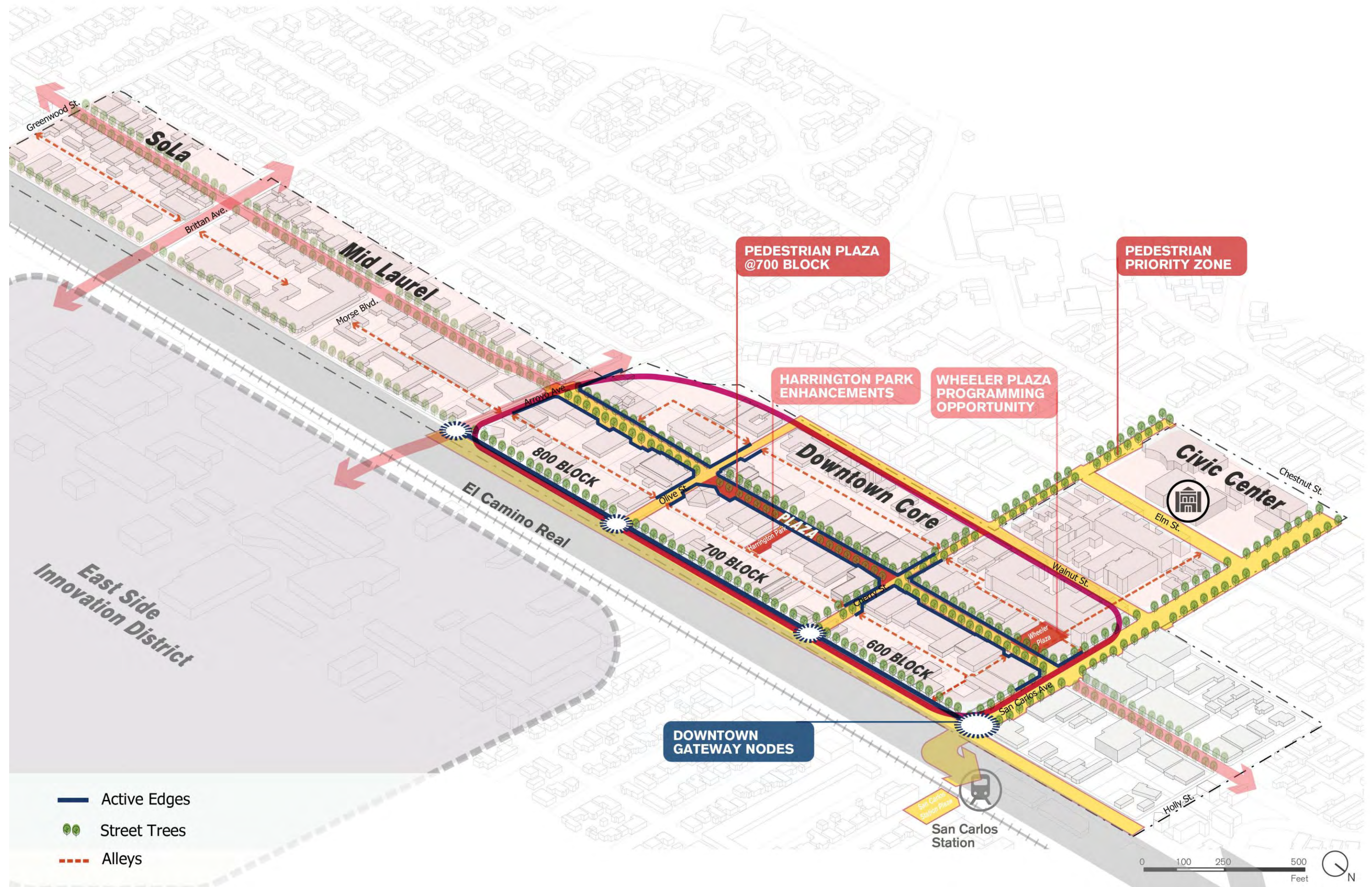


DOWNTOWN VIBRANCY

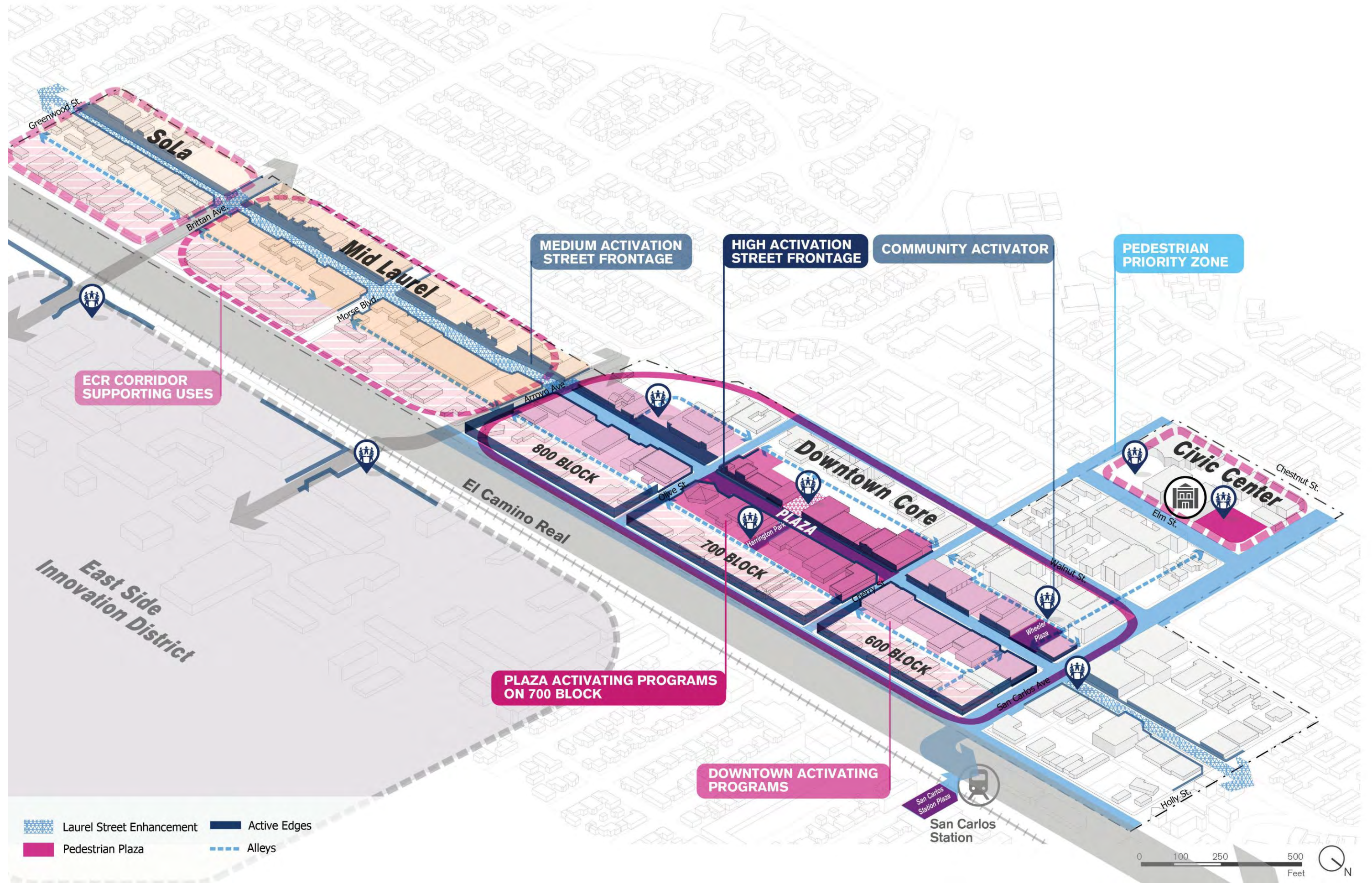
The Downtown should achieve a level of vibrancy and vitality that consistently attracts users and shoppers through enhancement of local businesses and diverse programming, in a setting that is distinctive, safe, and attractive.

URBAN DESIGN FRAMEWORK

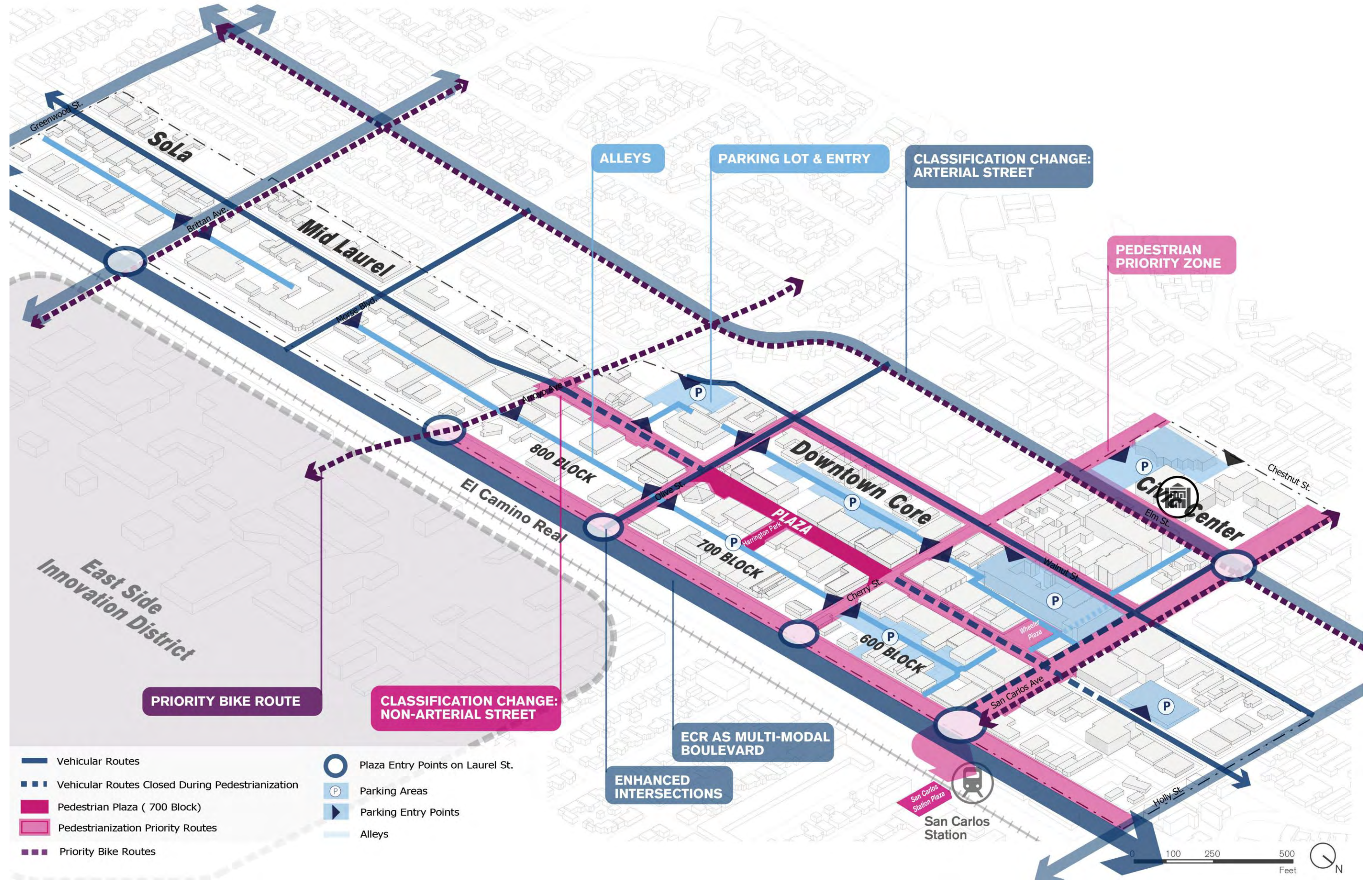
PLACEMAKING + IDENTITY



DOWNTOWN VIBRANCY



MOBILITY & CONNECTIVITY



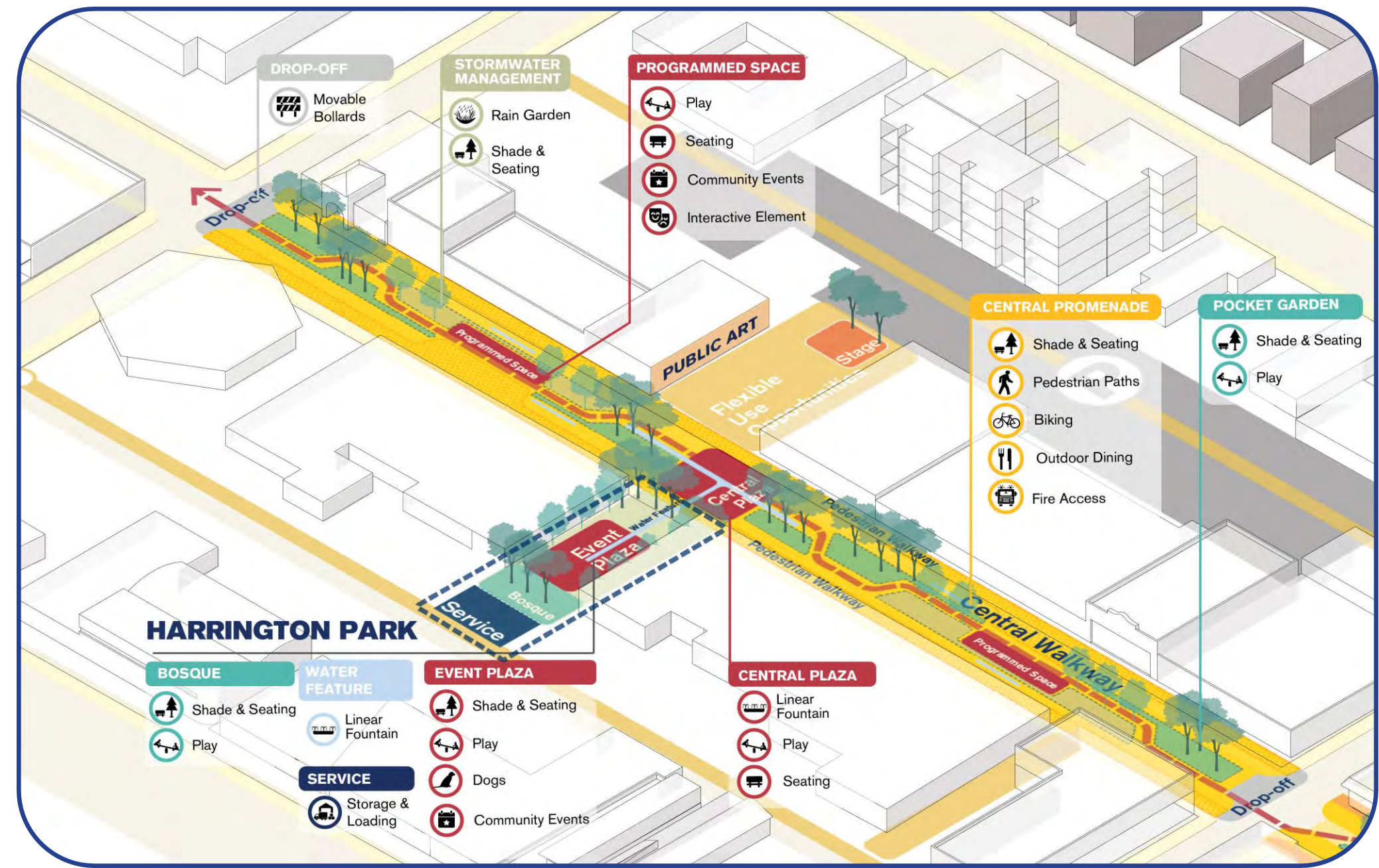
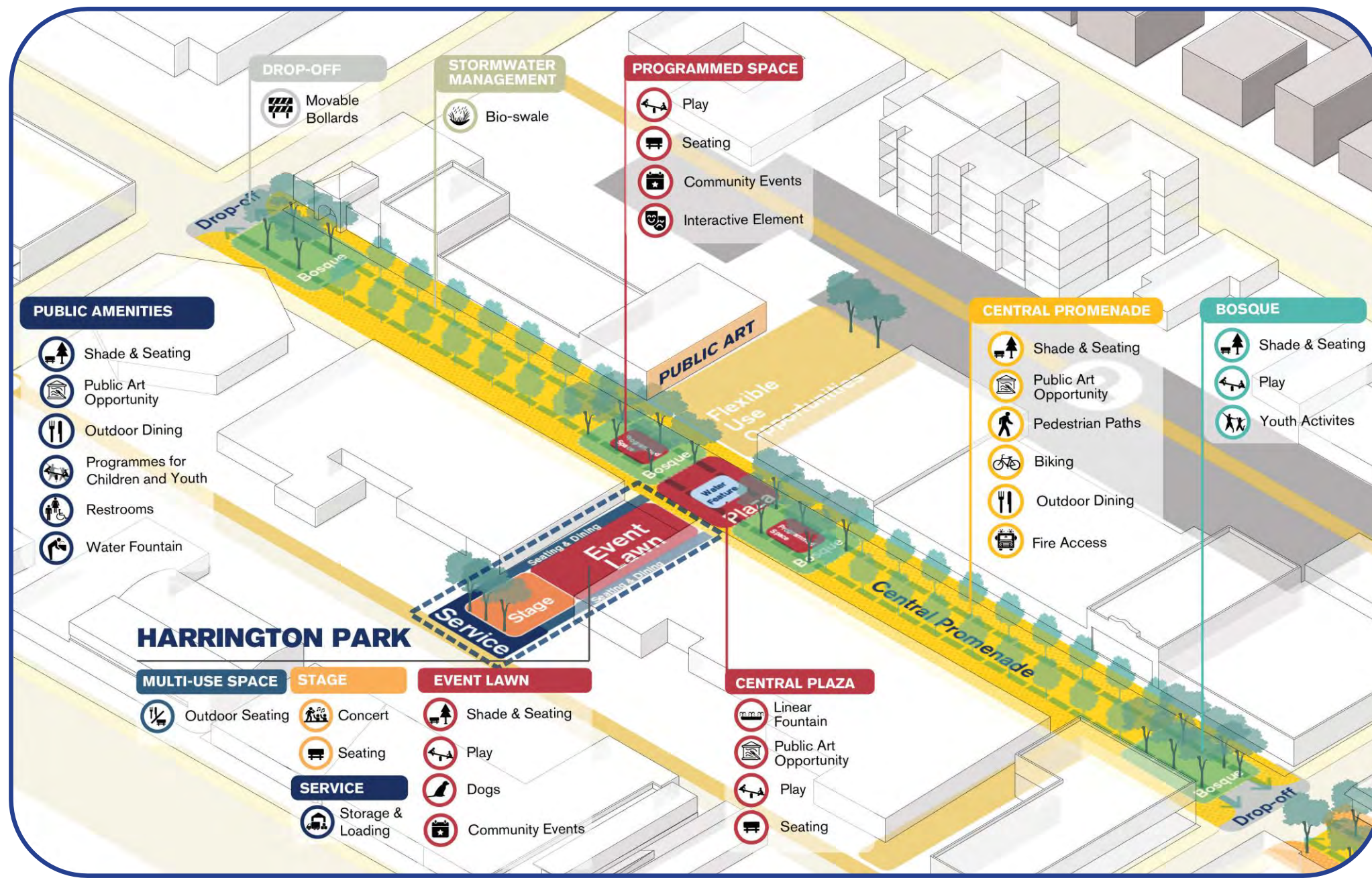
PUBLIC REALM DESIGN

CONCEPT ALTERNATIVES

700 BLOCK - LAUREL STREET BETWEEN CHERRY STREET AND OLIVE STREET

CONCEPT 1 "THE PROMENADE"

CONCEPT 2 "THE GARDENS"



COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SUMMARY

PUBLIC REALM DESIGN: 700 BLOCK

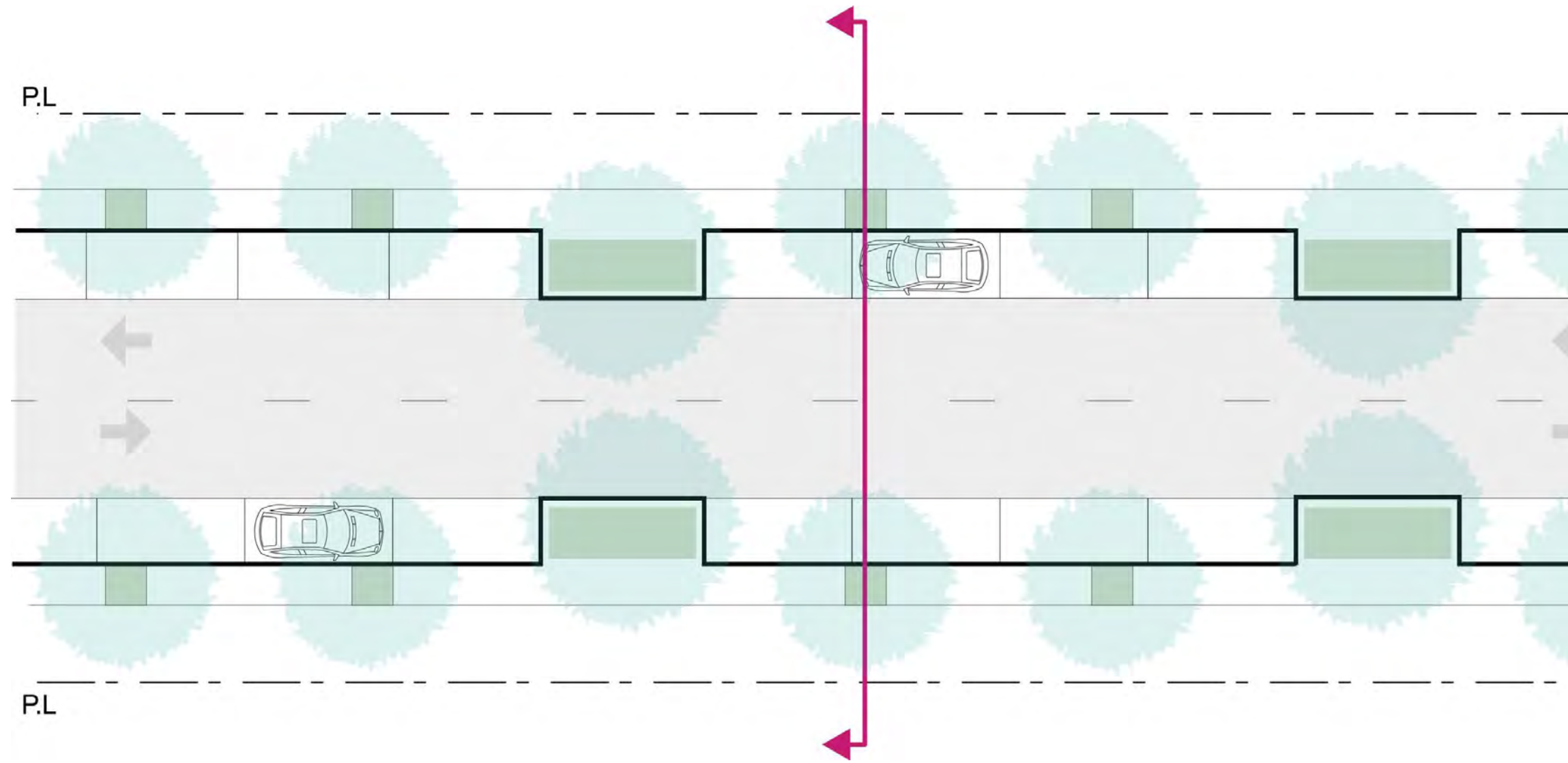
Recurring themes:

- Desire for more greenery and intimate gathering spaces.
- Preference for more outdoor dining spaces.
- Strong preference for a linear water feature with benches, while some expressed concerns about maintenance and safety.
- Emphasis on better collaboration between the city and local merchants.

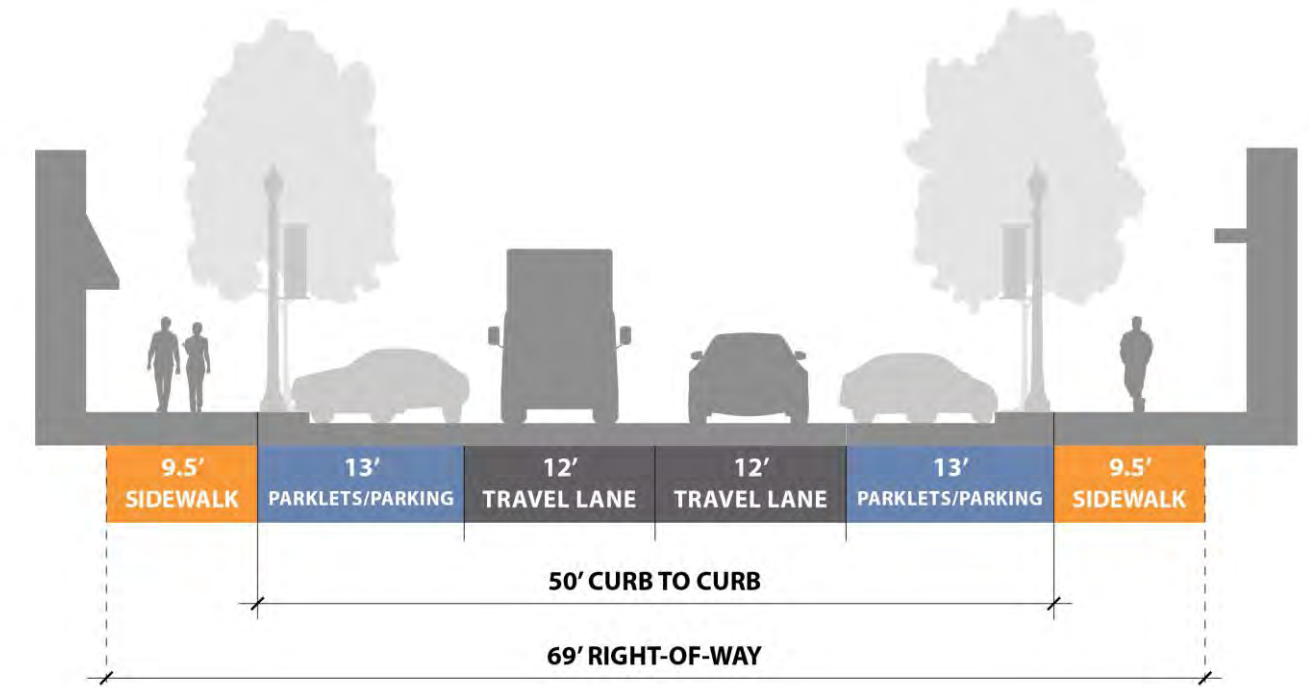
Additional feedback:

- Concerns about mixing bikes into the pedestrian plaza, citing safety issues for children.
- Support for skateboard facilities and careful selection of water features to avoid maintenance issues.
- Appreciation for the “groves”, combining natural elements with sun and shade.
- Preference for non-allergy causing trees and plants.
- Support to push buildings back to create more pedestrian space and ensure adequate bike parking.
- Support for interactive play fountains, unique street lighting, and considerations for bike rules, especially for teenagers.

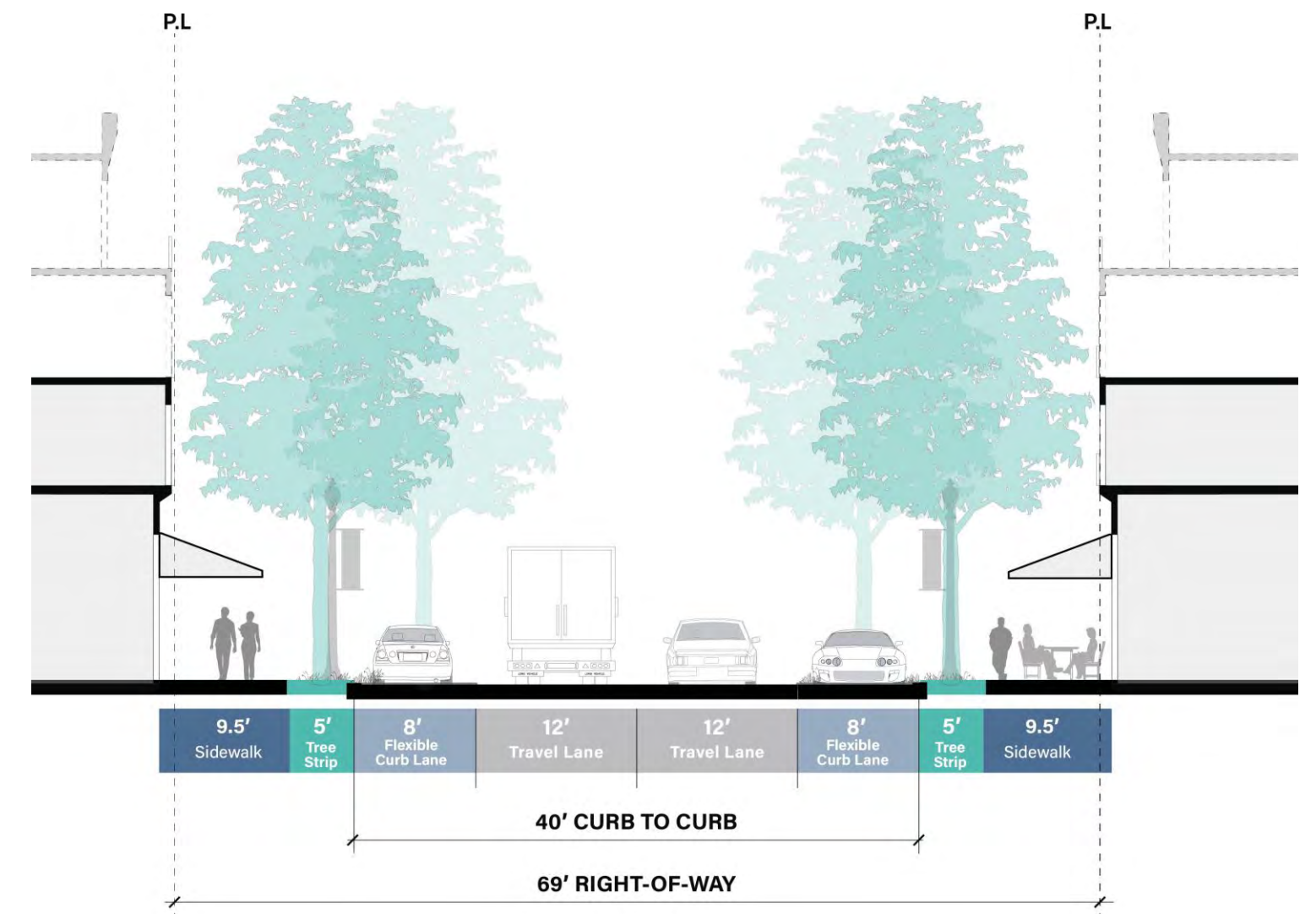
LAUREL STREET CONCEPT 1 - PARELLEL BOTH SIDES 600 & 800 BLOCKS (LOOKING NORTH)



SCHEMATIC PLAN

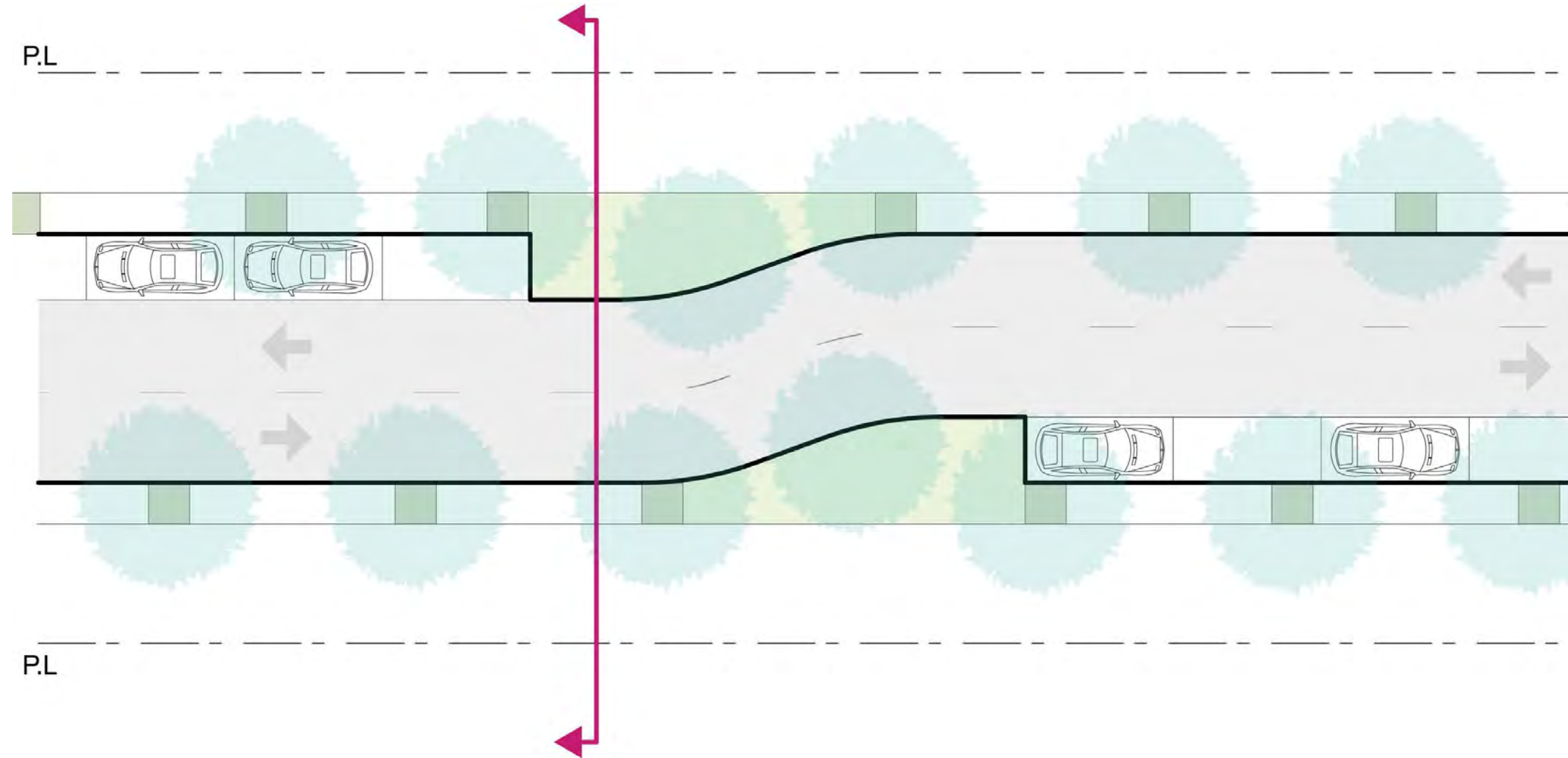


EXISTING
(LOOKING NORTH)

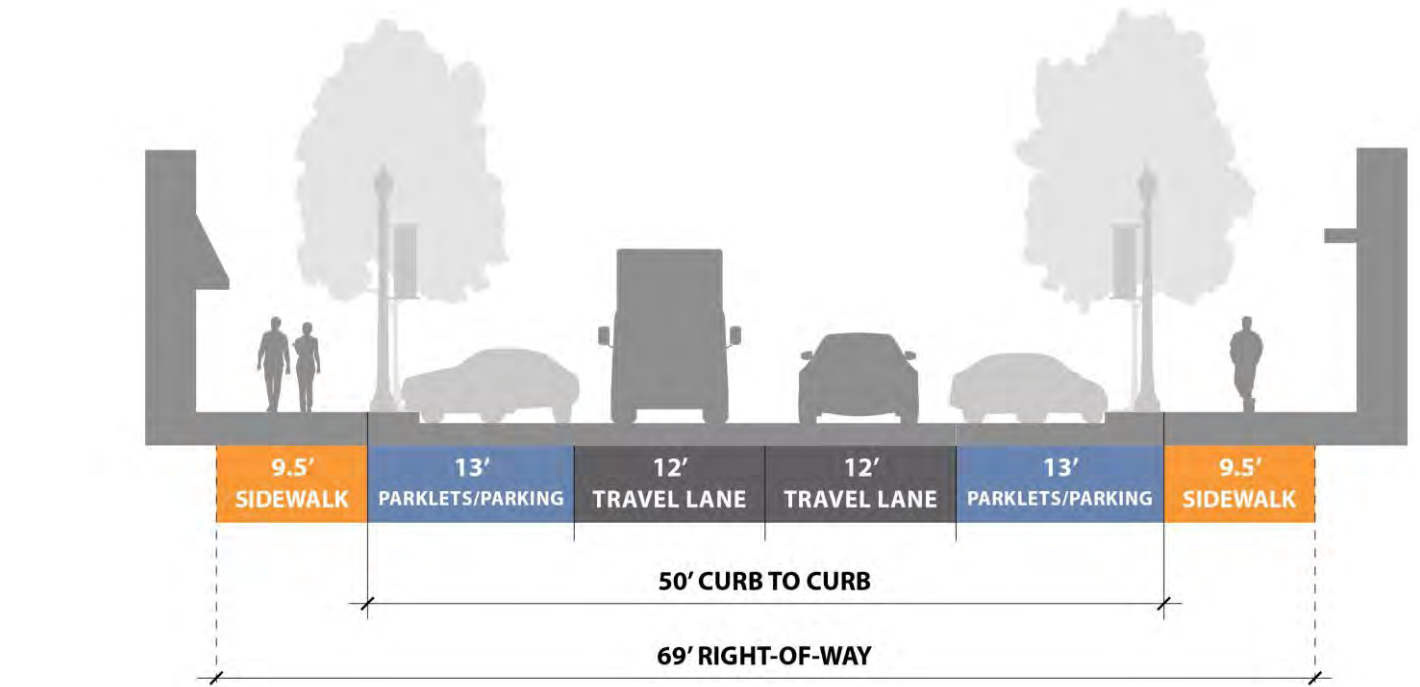


CROSS SECTION
(LOOKING NORTH)

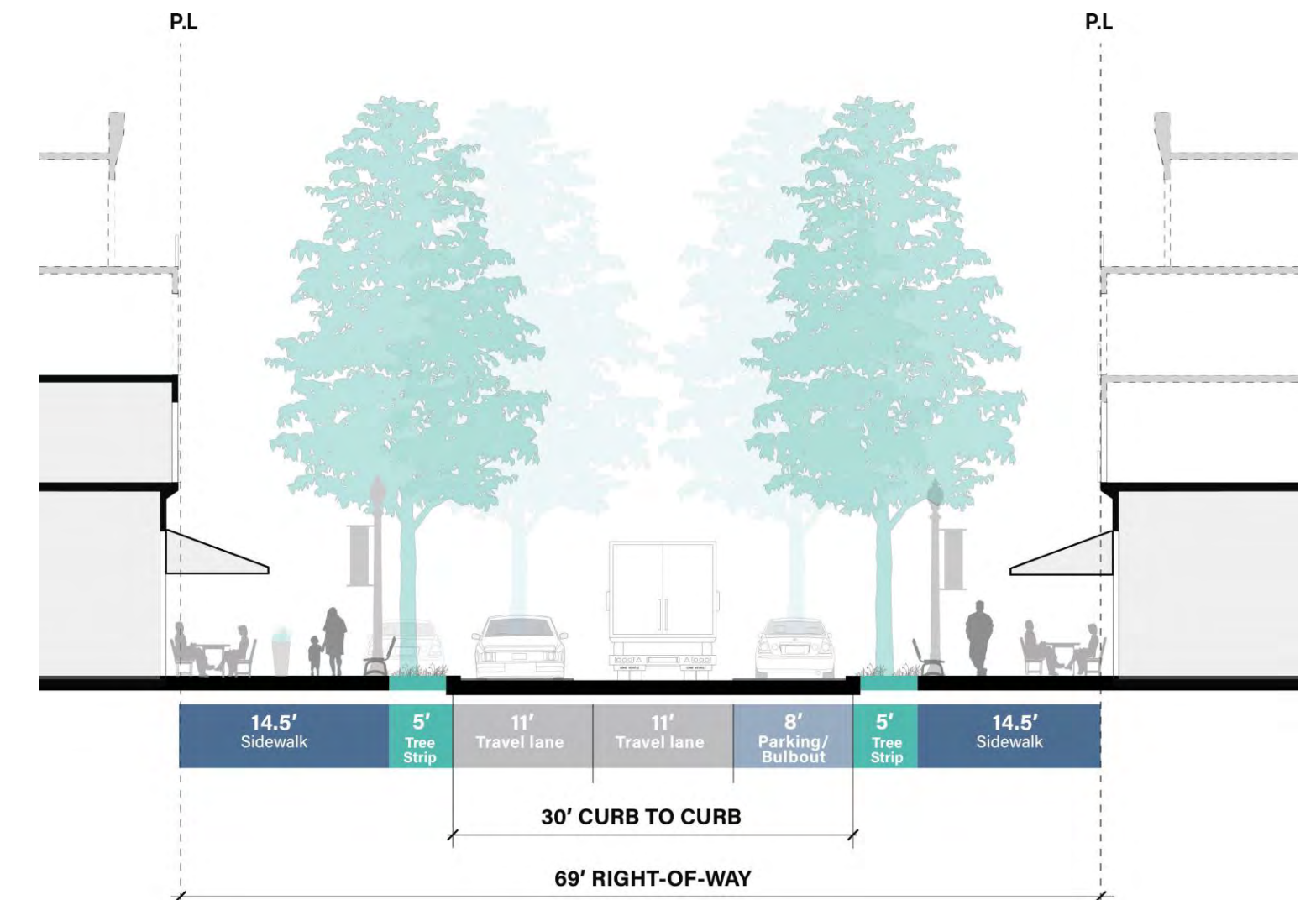
LAUREL STREET CONCEPT 2 - PARALLEL, ALTERNATING SIDES 600 & 800 BLOCK (LOOKING NORTH)



SCHEMATIC PLAN



EXISTING
(LOOKING NORTH)



CROSS SECTION
(LOOKING NORTH)

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SUMMARY

PUBLIC REALM DESIGN: 600 & 800 BLOCKS

Recurring themes:

- Suggestions for one-way streets adjacent to these blocks for public safety and comfort.
- Reservations against parallel parking due to its potential to slow down traffic and create congestion.
- Recommendation for best street trees selection.
- Strong preference for diversity in retail offerings and food or beer garden pop-up.

Additional feedback:

- There's a safety concern about Wheeler Plaza parking lot being dangerous and lacking monitoring.
- Suggestions included a community gaming center where board games, chess, and puzzles can be played.
- More preference for sinuous concept 2 for traffic calming.
- Recommendation for signage to keep cars off Laurel Street.
- Mixed views on building heights along Laurel: some prefer low-rise buildings, while others are open to moderately taller structures (upto 3 stories).
- Regulations governing pop-up venues to ensure proper management and community benefits.

IN PROGRESS PROGRAMMING CONCEPTS

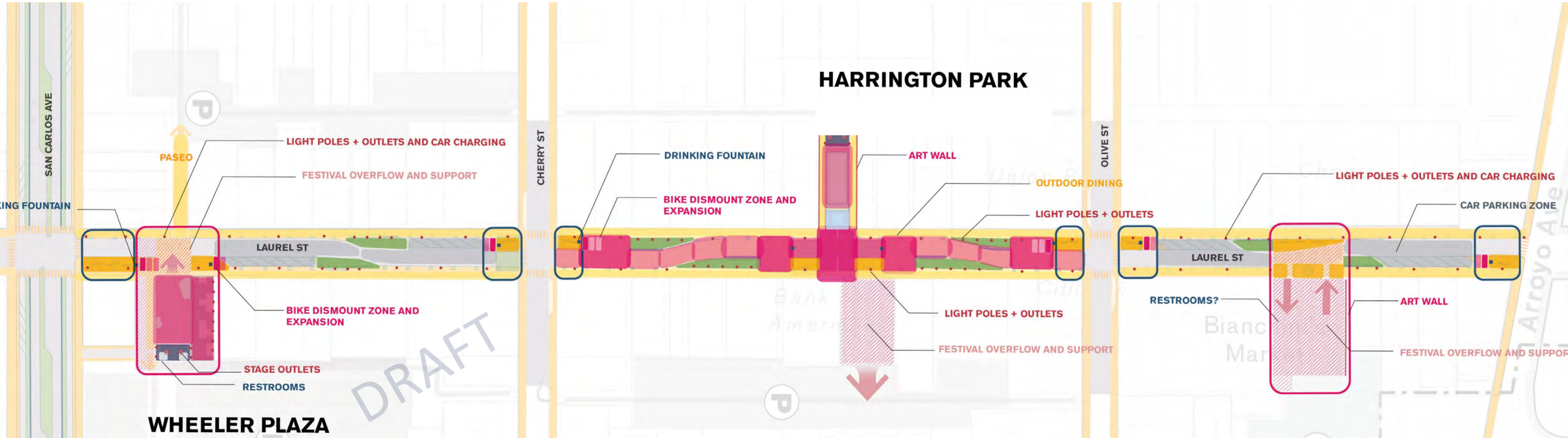
IN PROGRESS PROGRAMMING CONCEPTS



IN PROGRESS ILLUSTRATIVE LAYOUT: UNIFORM STREET DESIGN



IN PROGRESS PROGRAMMING CONCEPTS



- LEGEND
- Gateway Groves
 - Plaza
 - Green Infrastructure
 - Vehicular
 - Pedestrian Walkways
 - Infrastructure Inserts
 - Programming
 - Festival Overflow & Support



1 GROVE WITH SEATING



4 FOOD TRUCKS WITH SEATING



5 PERFORMANCE AREA



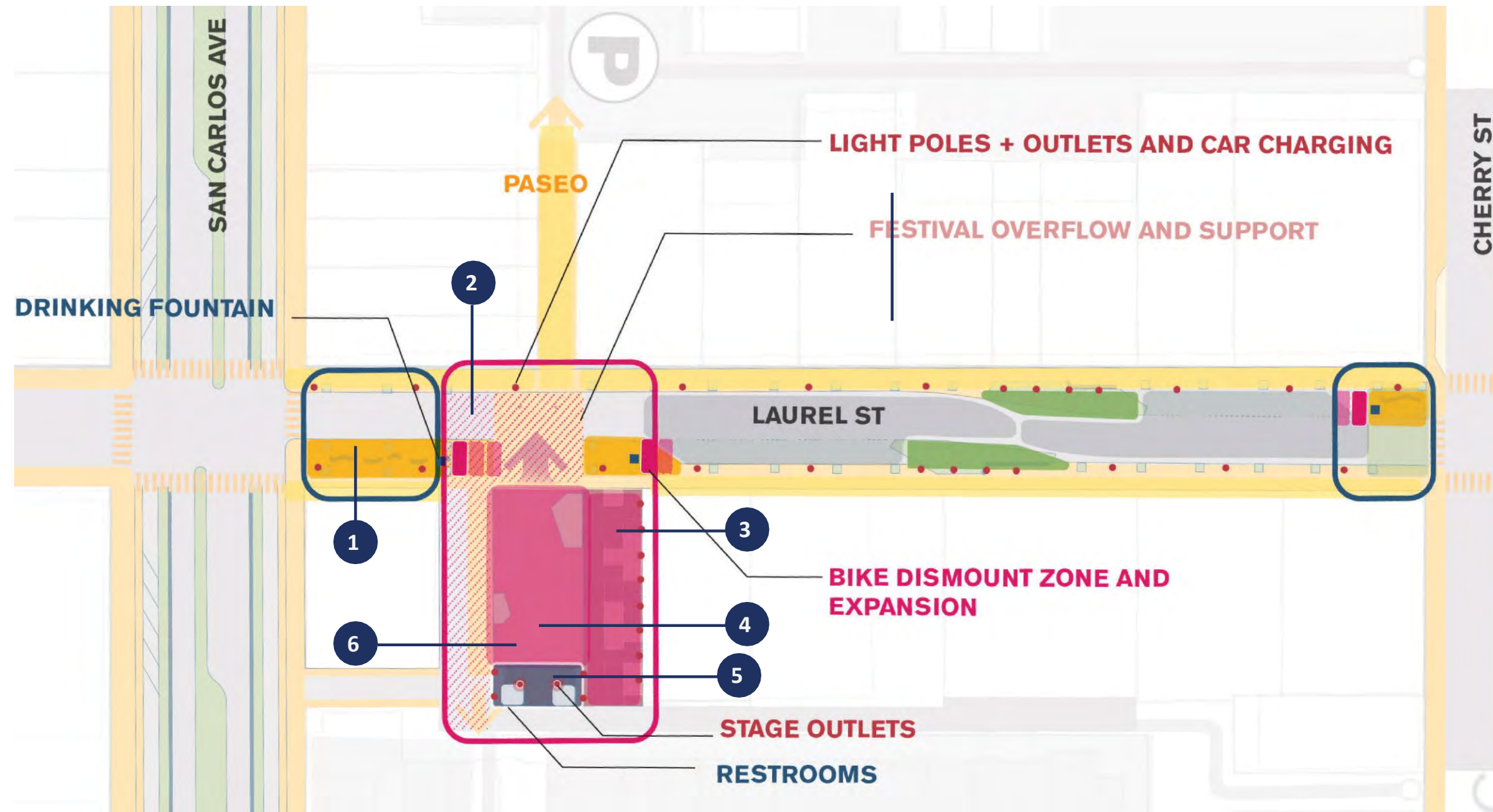
6 MULTI-PURPOSE PROGRAMMING



2 EXPANDED PLAZA



3 POP-UP MARKET



600 BLOCK WHEELER PLAZA CONCEPT



1 WATER FEATURE



4 EVENT PLAZA/ PROGRAMMING



5 STAGE/ PERFORMANCE AREA



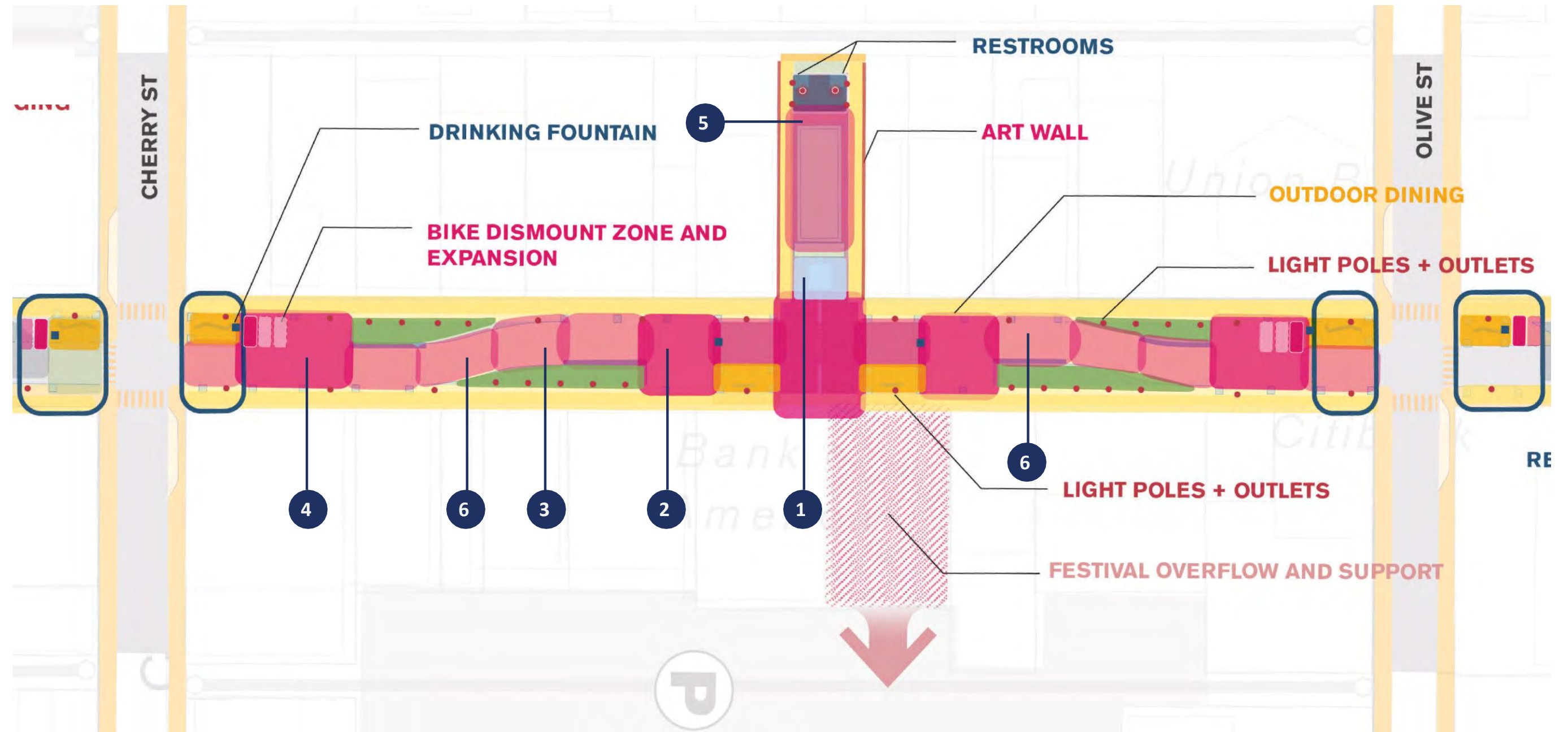
6 OUTDOOR DINING



2 SHADE AND SEATING



3 PEDESTRIAN PATHS



700 BLOCK HARRINGTON PARK CONCEPT



1 EXPANDED SIDEWALK



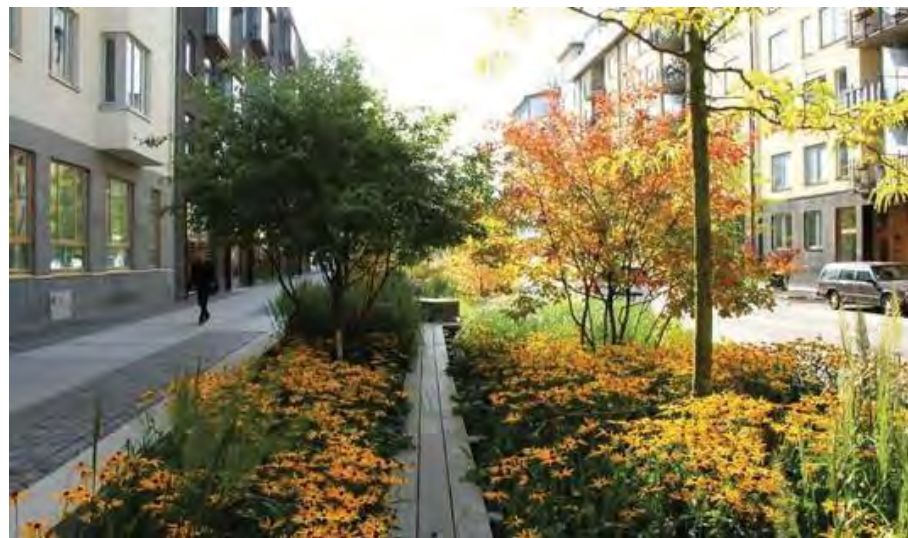
4 FLEXIBLE USE / SPECIAL PAVING



5 SIDEWALK DINING



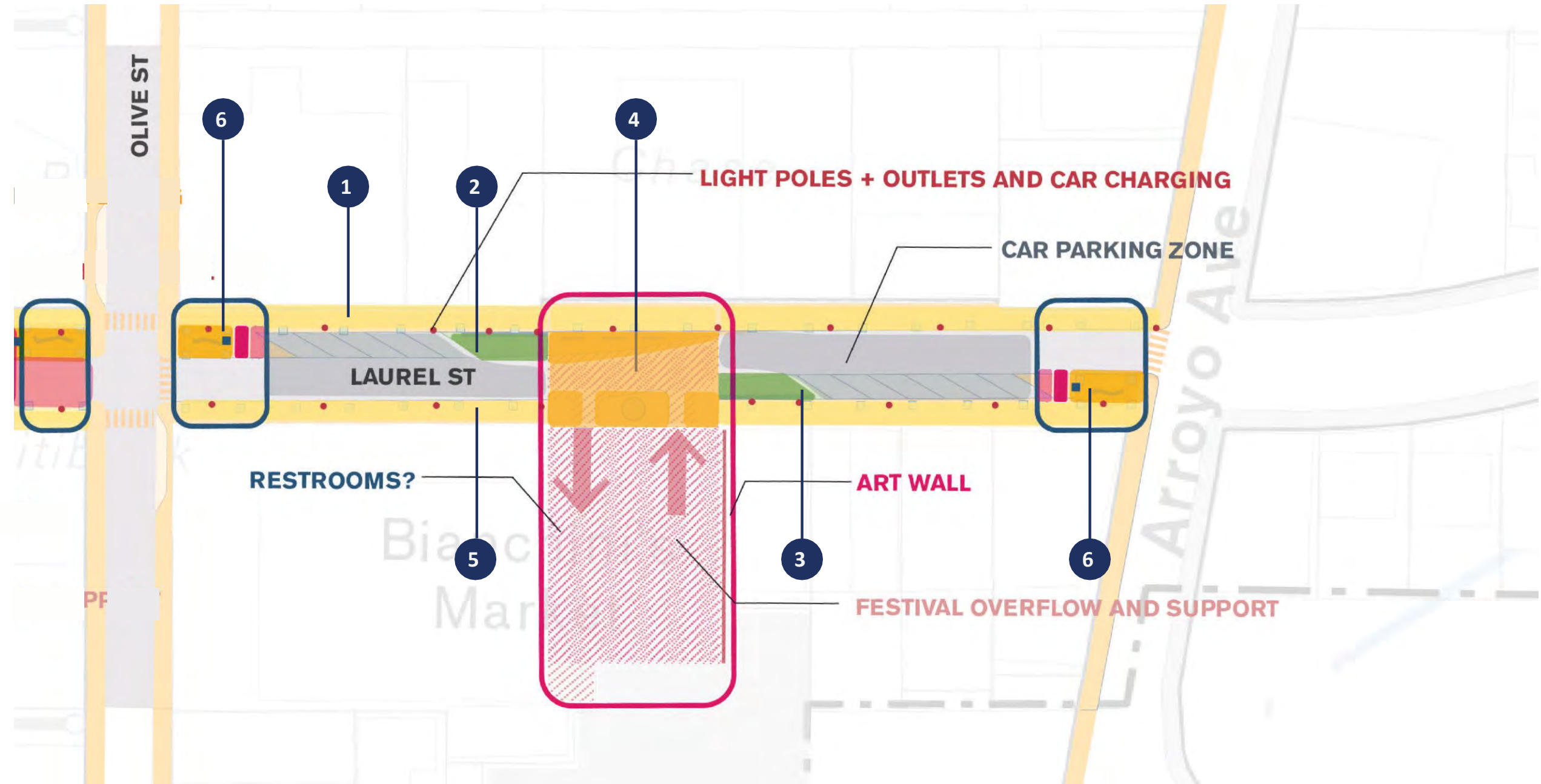
6 GROVE



2 STORMWATER MANAGEMENT



3 SEATING



800 BLOCK CONCEPT



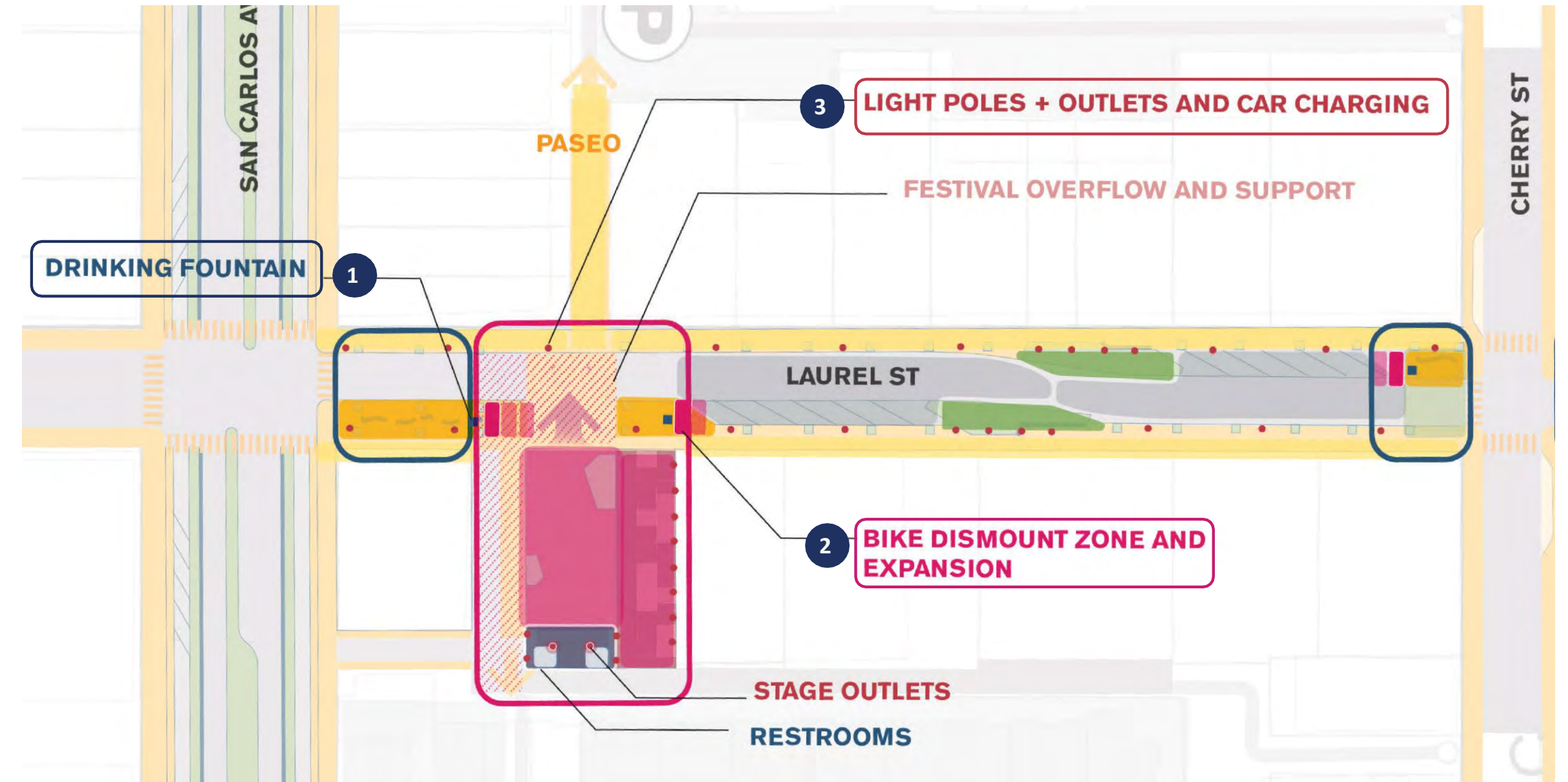
3 MULTI-PURPOSE/ SMART LIGHT POLES



1 EXPANDED SIDEWALK



2 BIKE PARKING



INFRASTRUCTURE ELEMENTS

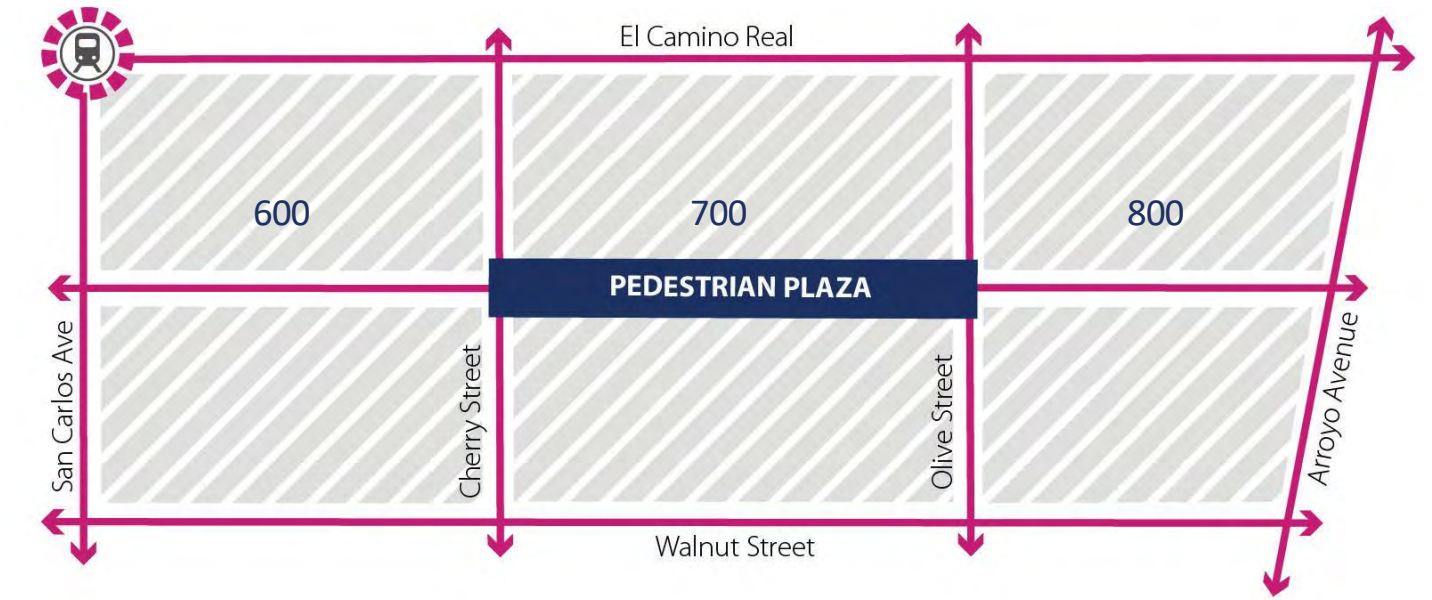
HOW DO WE USE LAUREL STREET DURING EVENT DAYS?



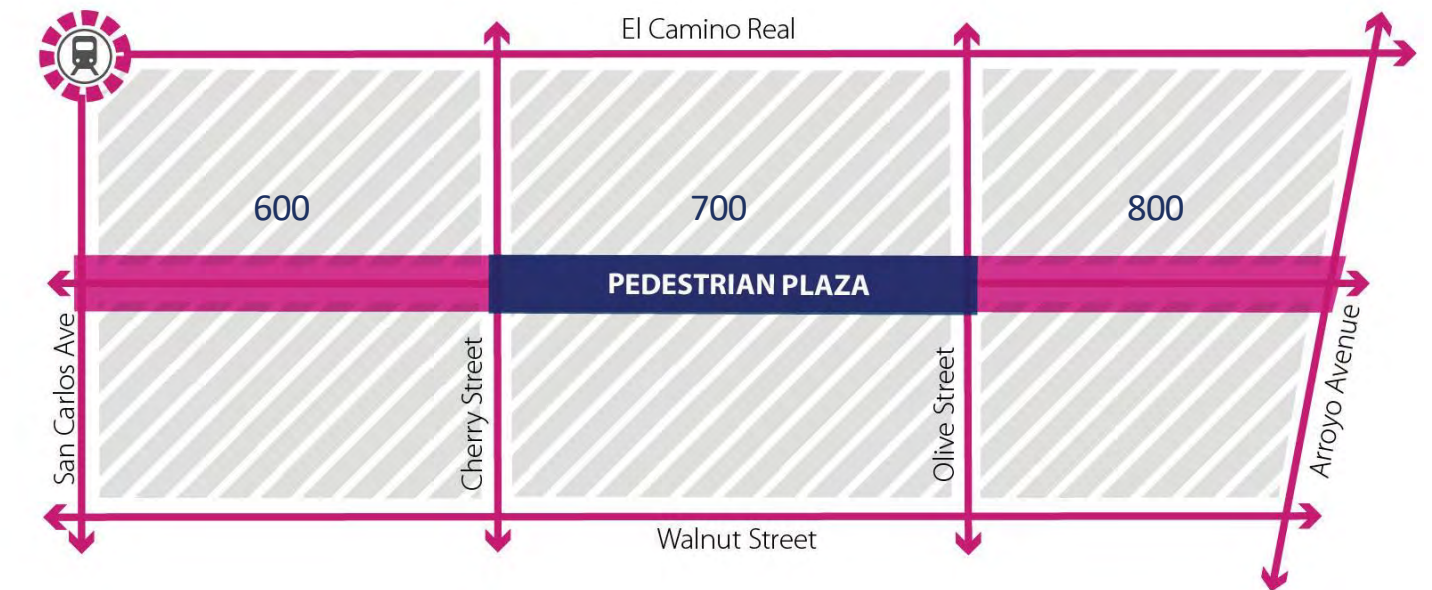
HOW DO WE USE LAUREL STREET DURING EVENT DAYS?

EVENT	DATE/DAY	TIME	ATTENDANCE	LOCATION
San Carlos Farmers' Market	Every Sunday, Year-round	9.00 AM - 1.00 PM	2,000	Laurel Street
Art & Wine Fair	Annual, Month of October	10.00 AM - 6.00 PM	50,000	Laurel Street
Goblin Walk	Friday, October 27, 2023	4.00 PM - 5.30 PM	2,000	Laurel Street
Night of Holiday Lights	Annual, Month of December	5:00 PM - 8:30 PM	3,000	Laurel Street
Block Party	July/ August 2024	4.00 PM - 8.00 PM	2,000	Laurel Street

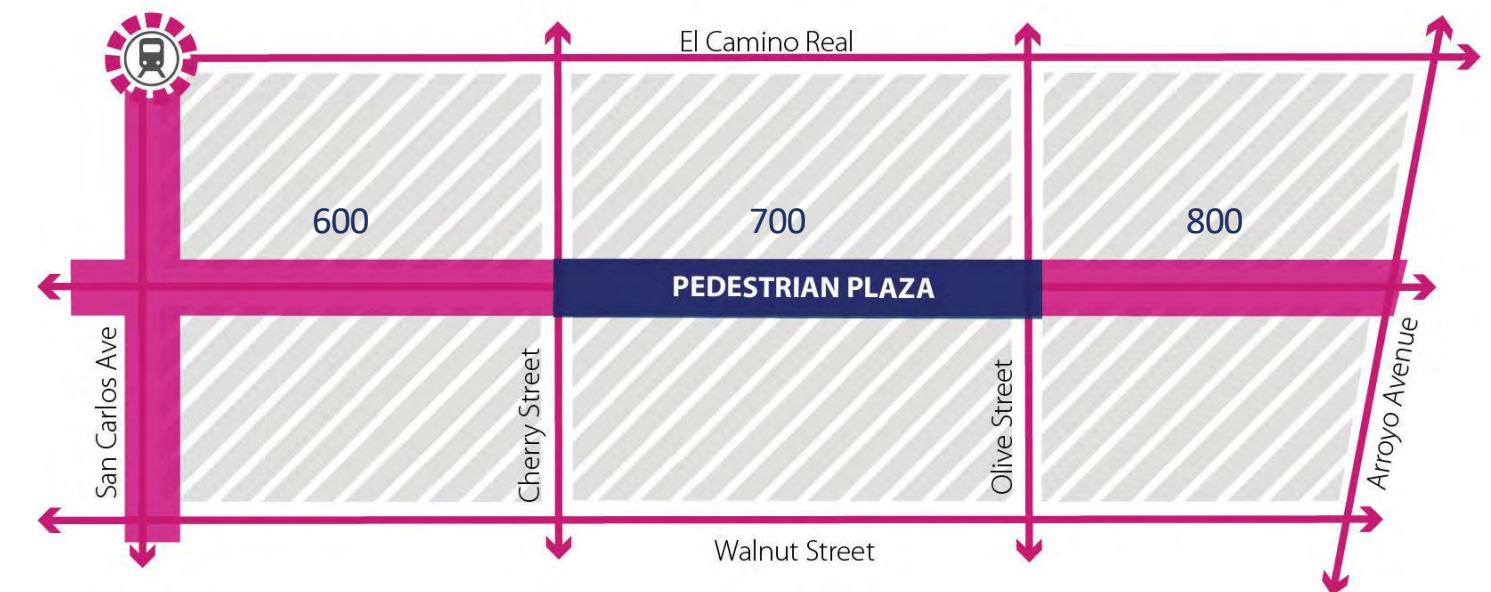
SCENARIO 1:
700 BLOCK PEDESTRIAN PLAZA



SCENARIO 2:
700 BLOCK PEDESTRIAN PLAZA +
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF LAUREL STREET



SCENARIO 3:
700 BLOCK PEDESTRIAN PLAZA +
TEMPORARY PEDESTRIANIZATION OF
LAUREL STREET & SAN CARLOS AVENUE



 Laurel Street 700 Block Closure/ Pedestrian Plaza
 Temporary Pedestrianization Scenarios

EVENT DAYS

CAPACITY TESTING :CURB ALIGNED ARRANGEMENT



- Art & Wine Festival Stalls
- Farmers' Market Stalls
- Current Stall Layout
- Barricades

- * For the Art & wine Festival, approx. 70 stalls per the current layout between Laurel and Elm St. are proposed to be accommodated in the 600, 700 & 800 blocks
- * Holly->Elm St. or Holly ->San Carlos Avenue -> Elm for vehicular circulation.
- * Cherry and Olive St. is closed between ECR & Walnut St.

EVENT DAYS

CAPACITY TESTING: CENTER ALIGNED ARRANGEMENT



-  Art & Wine Festival Stalls
-  Farmers' Market Stalls
-  Current Stall Layout
-  Barricades

- * For the Art & wine Festival, approx. 70 stalls per the current layout between Laurel and Elm St. are proposed to be accommodated in the 600, 700 & 800 blocks
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PEDESTRIAN MALL EXAMPLES

PRECEDENTS: PEDESTRIAN MALL | ITHACA COMMONS, NY



PRECEDENTS: PEDESTRIAN MALL | PEARL STREET, BOULDER, CO



PRECEDENTS: PEDESTRIAN MALL | CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA



PRECEDENTS: CASTRO STREET, MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA



PRECEDENTS: BURLINGAME AVENUE, BURLINGAME, CA



PRECEDENTS: OTHER PROGRAM IDEAS





GROUP EXERCISE: PROGRAM EXPLORATION

ACTIVITY 1 - Provide Inputs on the Public Realm Design Concept

ACTIVITY 2 - Hands-on Exercise

THANK YOU

