

# HUDSON-HOUSTON PLAZA

PUBLIC DESIGN COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
PRELIMINARY SUBMISSION

JULY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2024



MNLA WXY

DAILY  
TOUS LES JOURS

# PARTNERSHIP FOR HUDSON-HOUSTON PLAZA



**ROLES:**

- SITE OWNER
- ROUTINE MAINTENANCE OF DEP INFRASTRUCTURE

**REPRESENTATIVE**

- Alicia West, DEP Director of Public Design Outreach



NYC Parks

**ROLES:**

- PROCUREMENT & CONSTRUCTION LEAD
- OPEN SPACE MANAGEMENT

**REPRESENTATIVES**

- Steve Simon, NYC Parks Chief of Staff to the Manhattan Borough Commissioner
- Allan Scholl, NYC Parks Landscape Architect



**ROLES:**

- DESIGN & ENGAGEMENT LEAD
- MAINTENANCE & PROGRAMMING FOR NEW OPEN SPACE

**REPRESENTATIVES**

- Samara Karasyk, President & CEO
- Jacob McNally, Vice President of Planning & Capital Projects



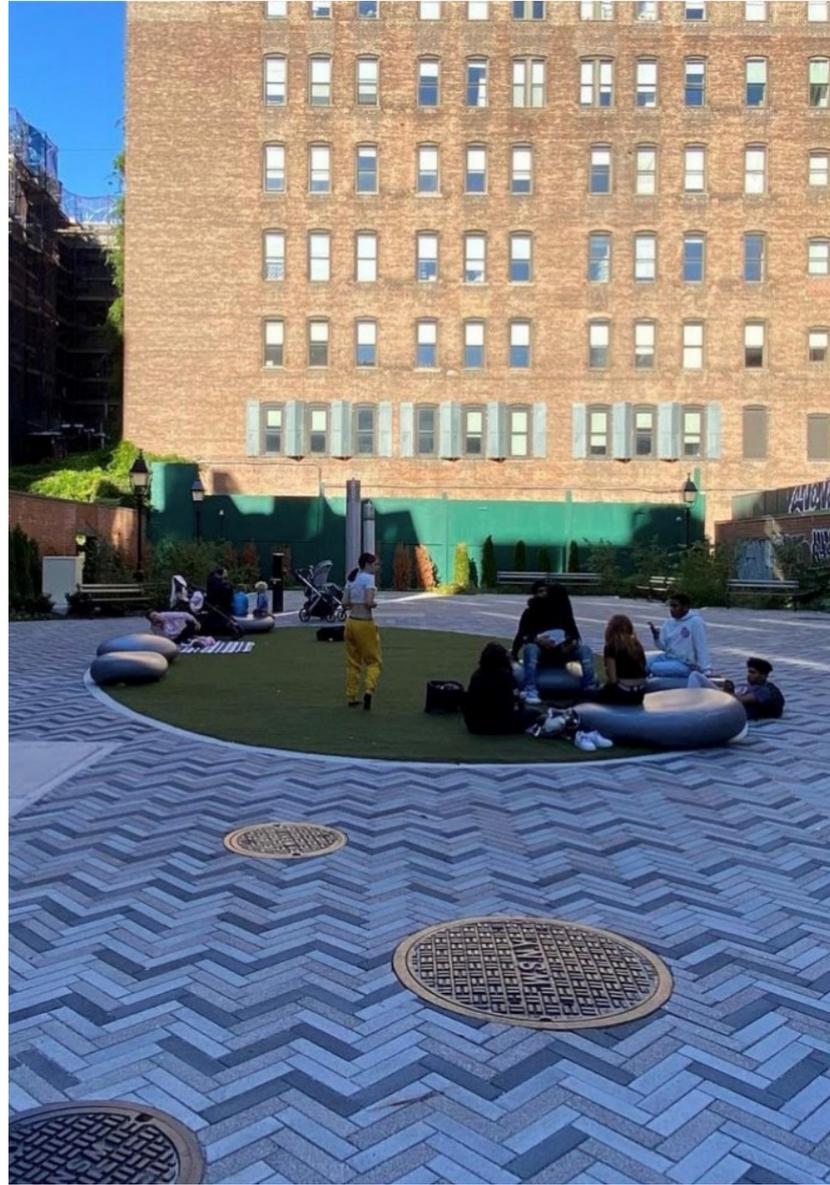
DAILY  
TOUS LES JOURS

**ROLES:**

- PROJECT DESIGN TEAM

**REPRESENTATIVES**

- Signe Nielsen, MNLA, Principal in Charge
- Michele Richmond, MNLA, Project Manager



**MANUEL PLAZA: OPENED 2022**

35 E 4th St, New York



**RAPKIN-GAYLE PLAZA: OPENED 2022**

142 Grand St, New York

# GOALS

- Create a new passive open space for the public, including a variety of amenities for the neighborhood.
- Retain DEP routine access to existing infrastructure
- Increase the ecological benefits of the site, continue the greening of Hudson Street
- Create a gateway to Hudson Square from the north and east
- Reflect the creative spirit of Hudson Square

**PROJECT SIZE:** 0.26 acres

**TOTAL BUDGET: \$3.62 million**

- NYC Mayoral Funds (DEP): \$1 million
- Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine: \$1.62 million
- Hudson Square District Area Open Space Special Improvements Fund\*: \$1 million

*\*Authorized by NYC Parks*

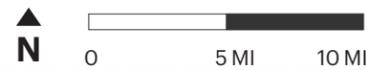


# SITE CONTEXT & EXISTING CONDITIONS

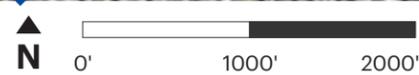




**BOROUGH**



**NEIGHBORHOOD**



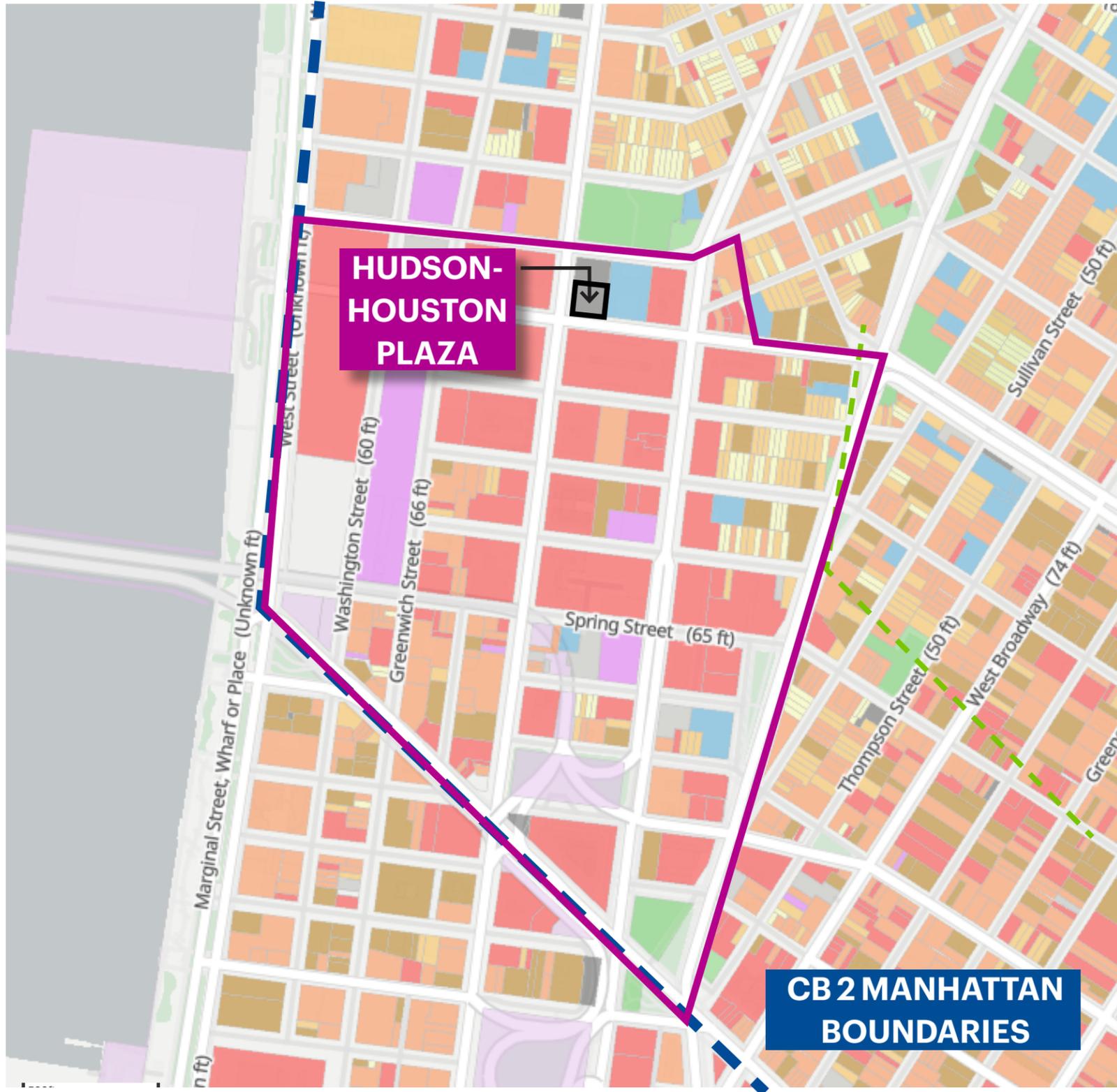
**SITE**



**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Context & Site Location**

2024-07-15 | Preliminary PDC Submission





- Tax Lots □
- One & Two Family Buildings
  - Multi-Family Walk-Up Buildings
  - Multi-Family Elevator Buildings
  - Mixed Residential & Commercial Buildings
  - Commercial & Office Buildings
  - Industrial & Manufacturing
  - Transportation & Utility
  - Public Facilities & Institutions
  - Open Space & Outdoor Recreation
  - Parking Facilities
  - Vacant Land
  - Other



**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Land-use**

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**JAMES J. WALKER PARK**

- Baseball Field
- Soccer Field
- Handball Courts
- Playground
- Pickleball Courts
- Spray Showers

**HUDSON RIVER PARK AND PIER 40**

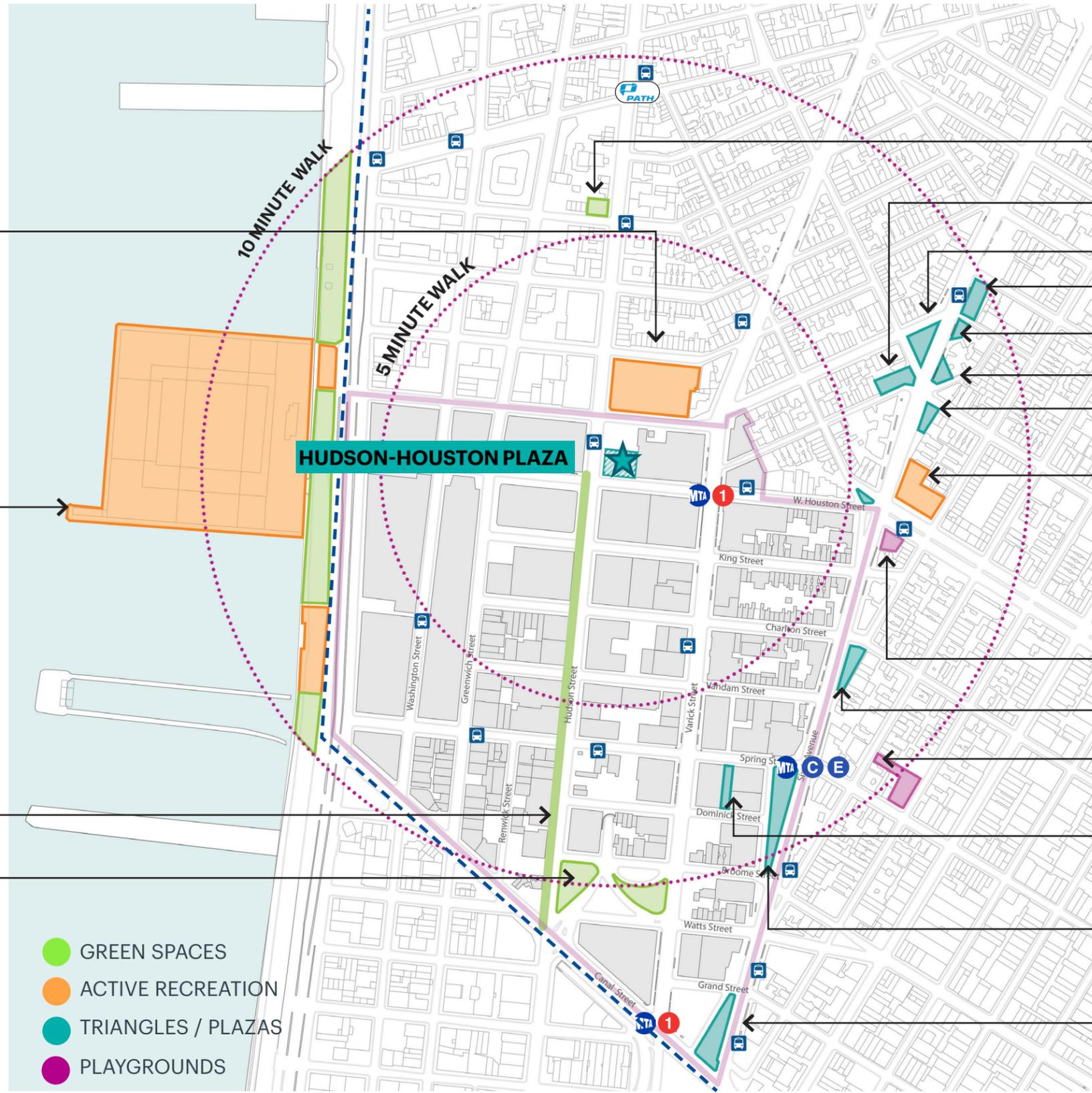
- Basketball Courts (3)
- Athletic Fields (5)
- Tennis Courts (3)
- Beach Volleyball
- Dog Parks (4)
- Skate Park (2)
- Pickleball Courts

**HUDSON STREETScape**

**FREEMAN PLAZA (EAST & WEST)**

- Ping-Pong
- Cornhole
- Outdoor Seating

- GREEN SPACES
- ACTIVE RECREATION
- TRIANGLES / PLAZAS
- PLAYGROUNDS



**ST. LUKE IN THE FIELDS GARDEN**

**DOWNING STREET PLAYGROUND**

**FATHER DEMO SQUARE**

**MINETTA PLAYGROUND**

**MINETTA GREEN**

**MINETTA TRIANGLE**

**LITTLE RED SQUARE**

**WILLIAM F. PASSANNANTE BALLFIELD**

- Basketball Court
- Pickleball
- Softball Field
- Roller Hockey

**PLAYGROUND OF THE AMERICAS**

**FATHER FAGAN PARK**

**VESUVIO PLAYGROUND**

**URBAN PLAZA AT DOMINICK HOTEL**

**SPRING STREET PARK**

**DUARTE SQUARE**

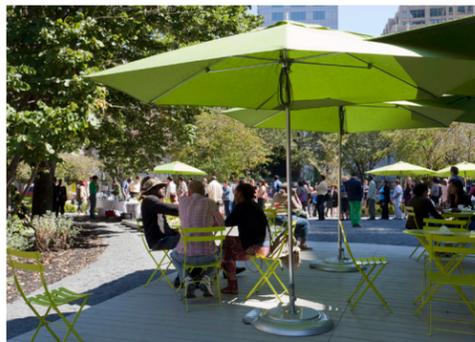
**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Neighborhood Context**

2024-07-15 | Preliminary PDC Submission

HUDSON STREETScape



FREEMAN PLAZAS EAST & WEST



HUDSON-HOUSTON PLAZA



URBAN PLAZA AT THE DOMINICK HOTEL



SPRING STREET PARK



# Hudson-Houston Plaza | District Context

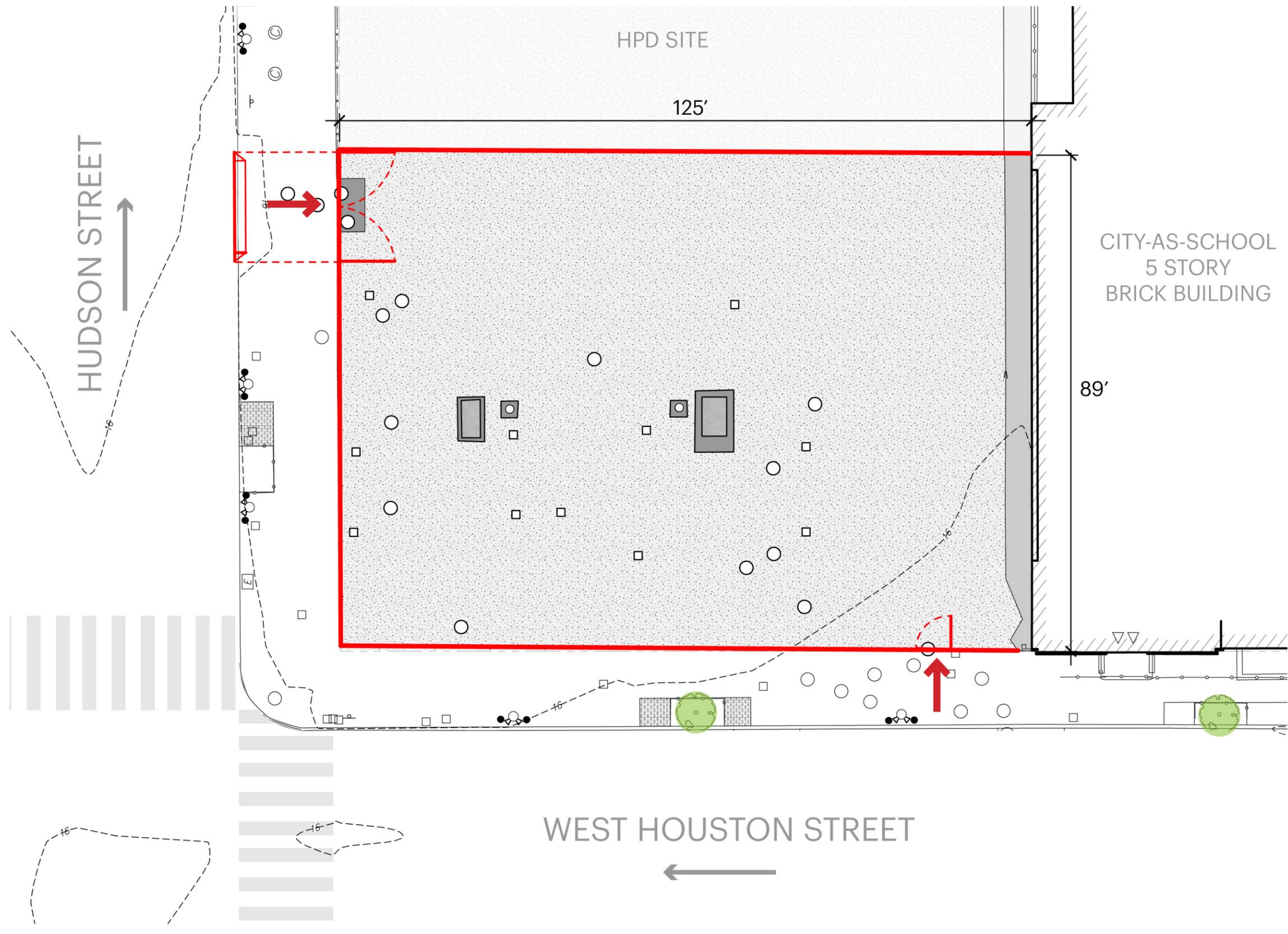
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**1927: VIEW FROM WEST HOUSTON STREET (NE)**



**1938: VIEW FROM WEST HOUSTON STREET (N)**



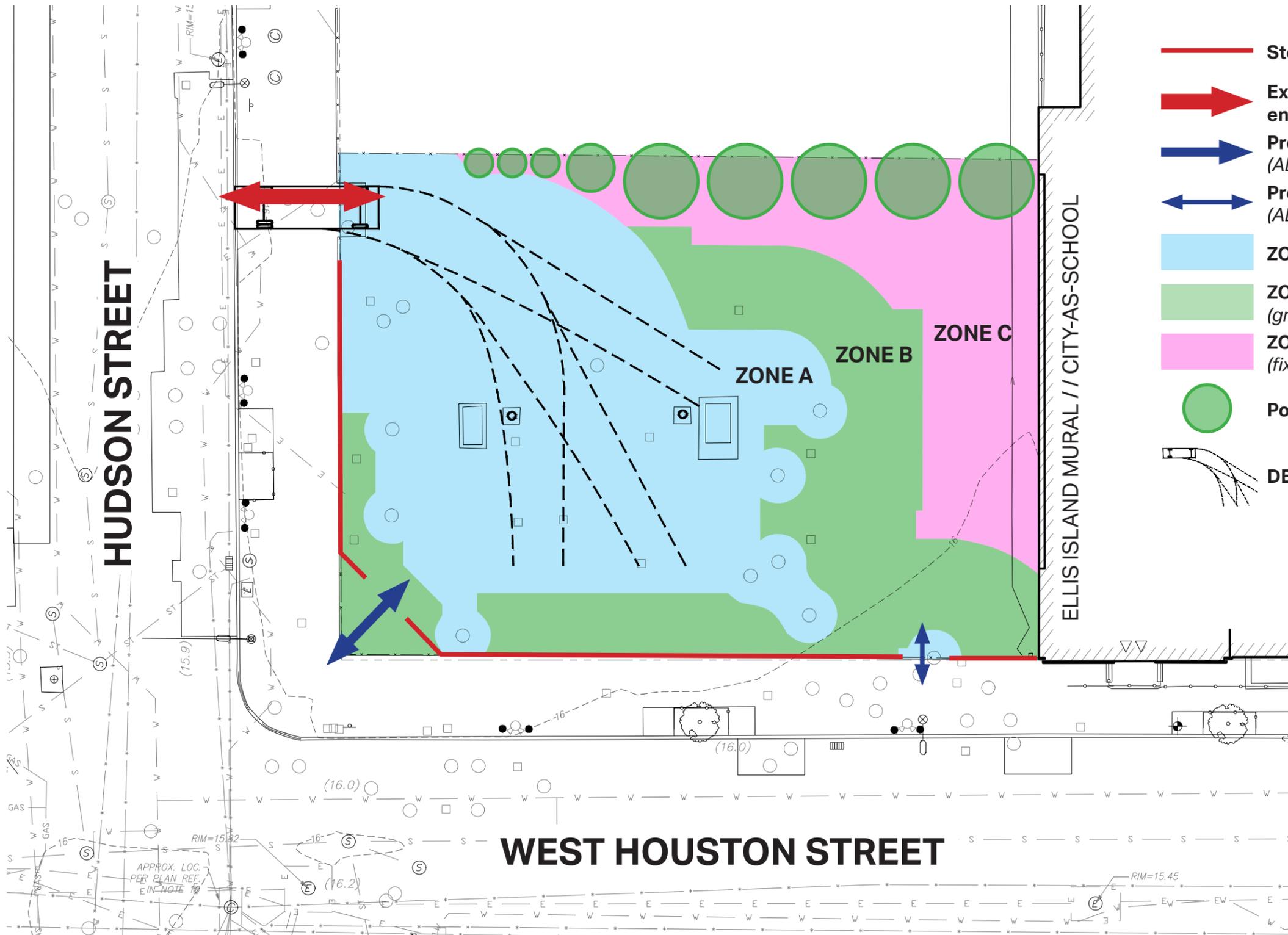
- LEGEND:**
-  Stone Aggregate
  -  Manholes/Hydrant Covers in Stone Aggregate
  -  Concrete Encased Manholes
  -  Metal Hatch Doors in Concrete Pad
  -  20'-0" wide Drop Curb and 9' high Chain Link Double Gate
  -  9'-0" ht Chain Link Fence

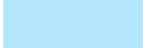


**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Existing Conditions**

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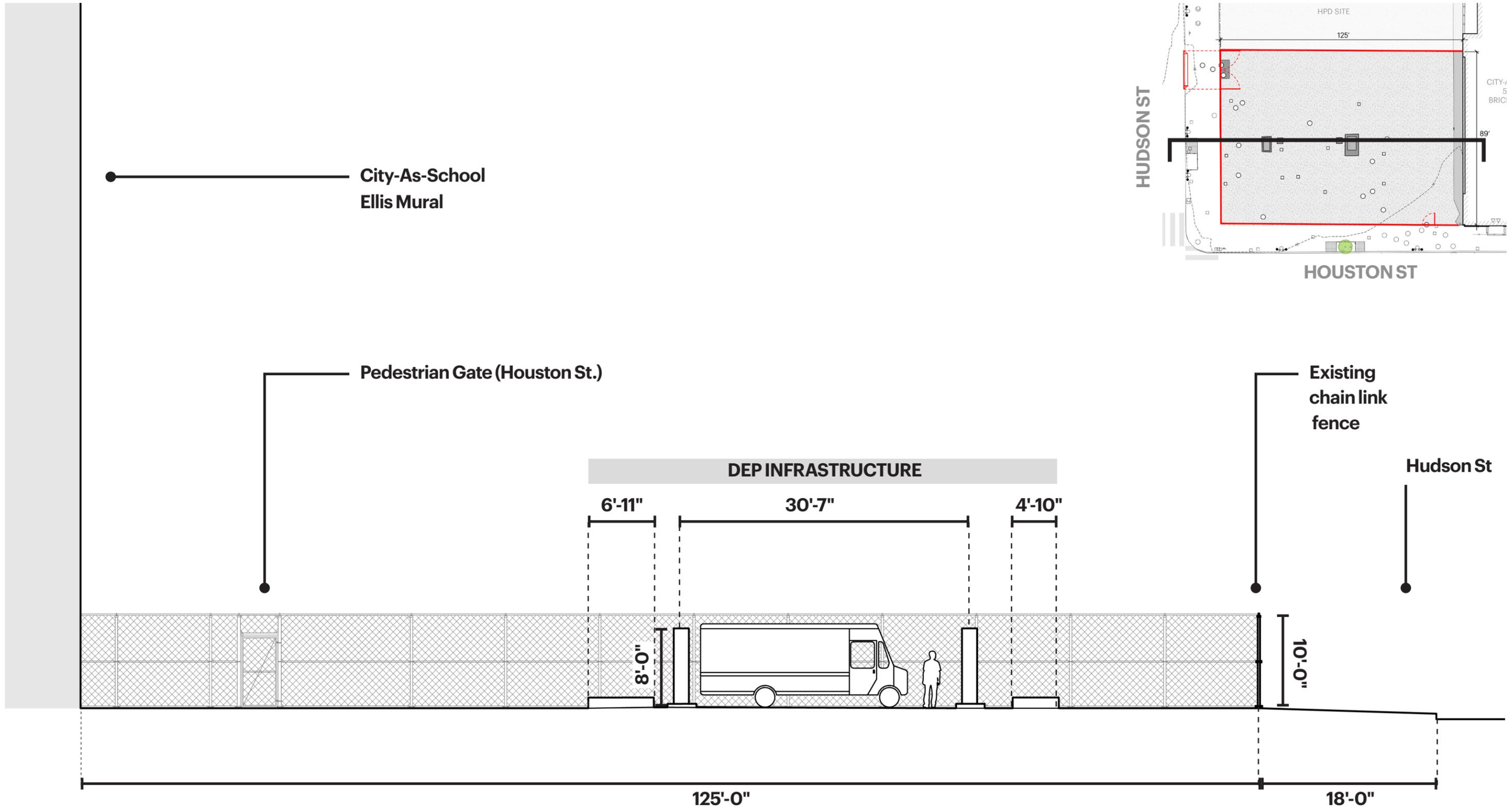




-  **Steel Fence**
-  **Existing drop curb and proposed maintenance truck entrance (16'-0" wide double gate)**
-  **Proposed primary pedestrian entrance (ADA accessible)**
-  **Proposed secondary pedestrian entrance (ADA accessible)**
-  **ZONE A: DEP Routine Access (paved/pavers)**
-  **ZONE B: Potential paved or planted areas (groundcovers or low shrubs)**
-  **ZONE C: Potential footing & tree canopy area (fixed benches, canopy structures, tree extents, etc.)**
-  **Potential tree canopy**
-  **DEP Truck Turning Radius**

**Prohibited Site Uses:**

- No dog runs
- No pets
- No sports courts
- No playgrounds

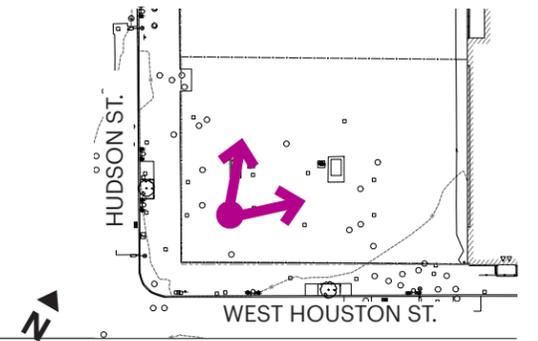


**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Existing Conditions**

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**SITE STREET VIEW: HUDSON-W. HOUSTON INTERSECTION (SW)**



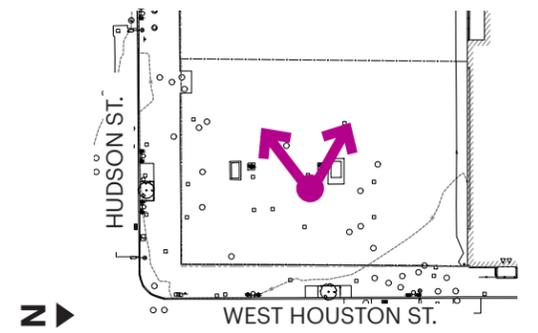
**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Photos**

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**SITE PHOTO: LOOKING NORTH**



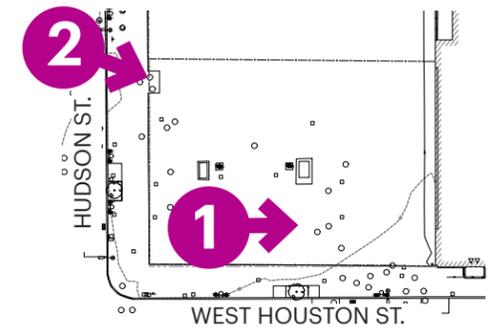
**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Photos**

2024-07-15 | Preliminary PDC Submission





**SITE PHOTO: EXISTING CONDITIONS**



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



## Community Outreach: Guiding Principles

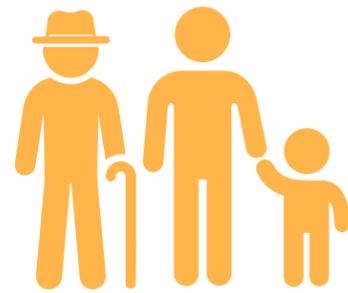
Our community survey received **449 responses**, of which **90%** were from those **who work or live within 15 minutes walking distance of Hudson-Houston Plaza.**

**Total people reached: 600+**  
**Outreach events: 9**



### FLEXIBLE SPACES

- PLACES TO:**
- Relax
  - Read
  - Eat
  - Lounge
  - Hold Events/Performances
  - View or enjoy public art
  - Hold class
  - People Watch



### INCLUSIVE

- A SPACE THAT CATERS TO MANY GROUPS:**
- Multi-generational
  - Students
  - Individuals
  - Small groups
  - Large groups
  - Friends
  - Families



### LANDSCAPE FORWARD

- A SPACE THAT INCLUDES:**
- Maximizes greenery
  - Trees
  - Areas for shade
  - Areas for sun
  - Experience planting



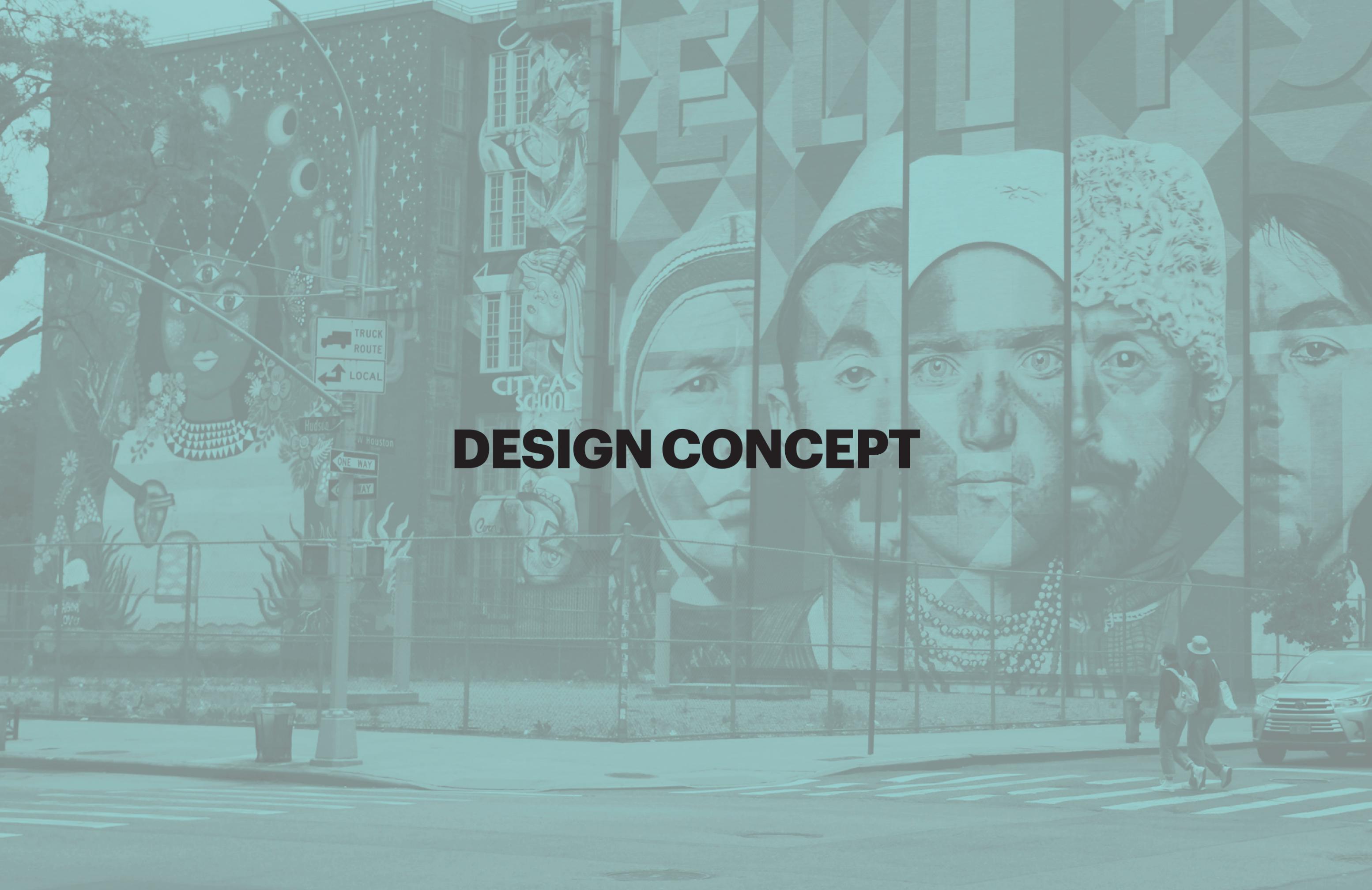
### ART-CENTRIC

- A SPACE THAT:**
- Keeps the mural
  - Celebrates the mural
  - Calls on neighborhood history
  - Has interactive elements
  - Performance spaces

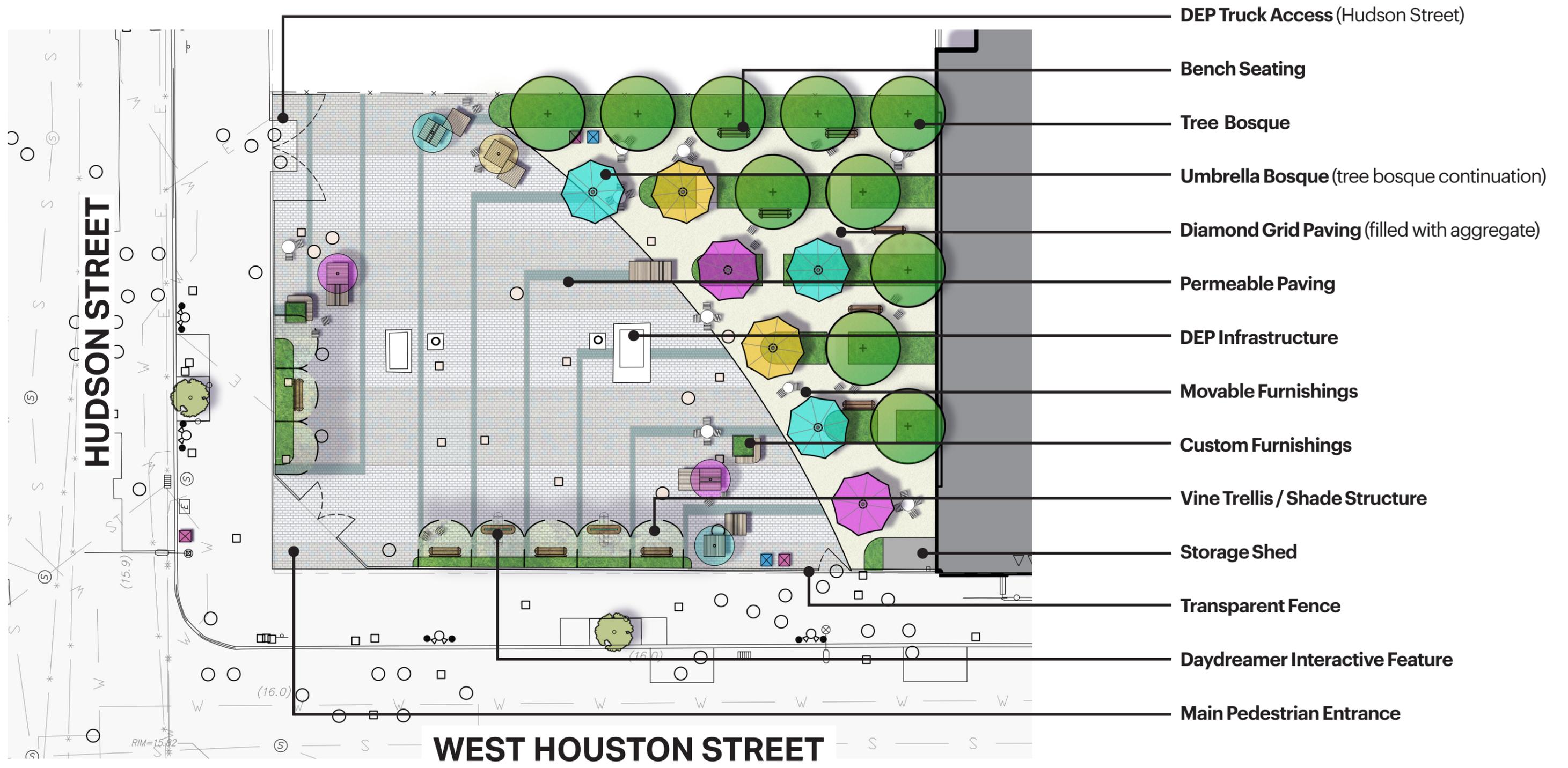


### WELCOMING

- A SPACE WHICH IS:**
- Welcoming
  - Well-maintained
  - Transparent fence
  - Accessible to all
  - Safe and secure
  - Colorful & unique seating



# DESIGN CONCEPT



**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Schematic Plan**

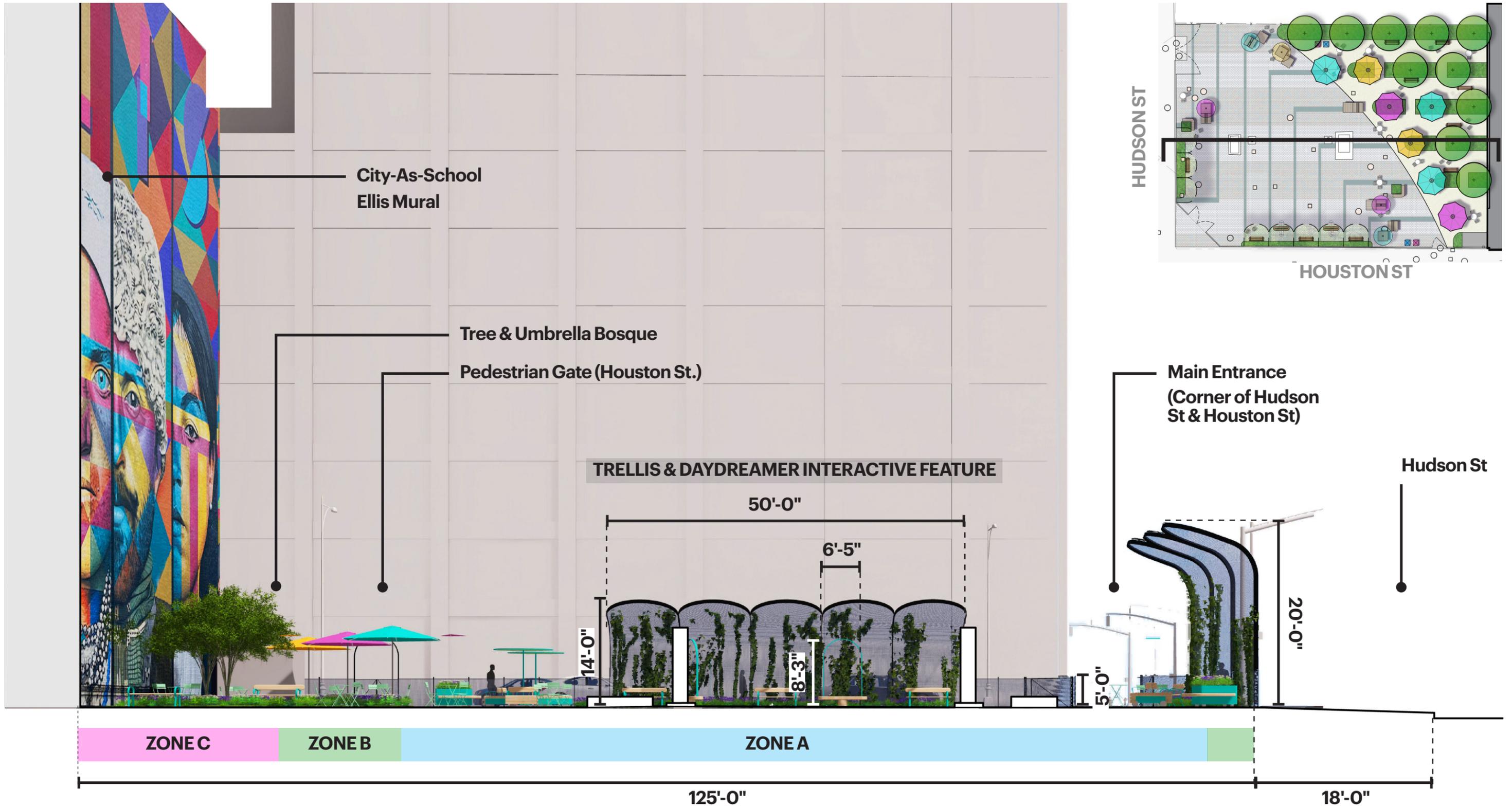
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# Site Design

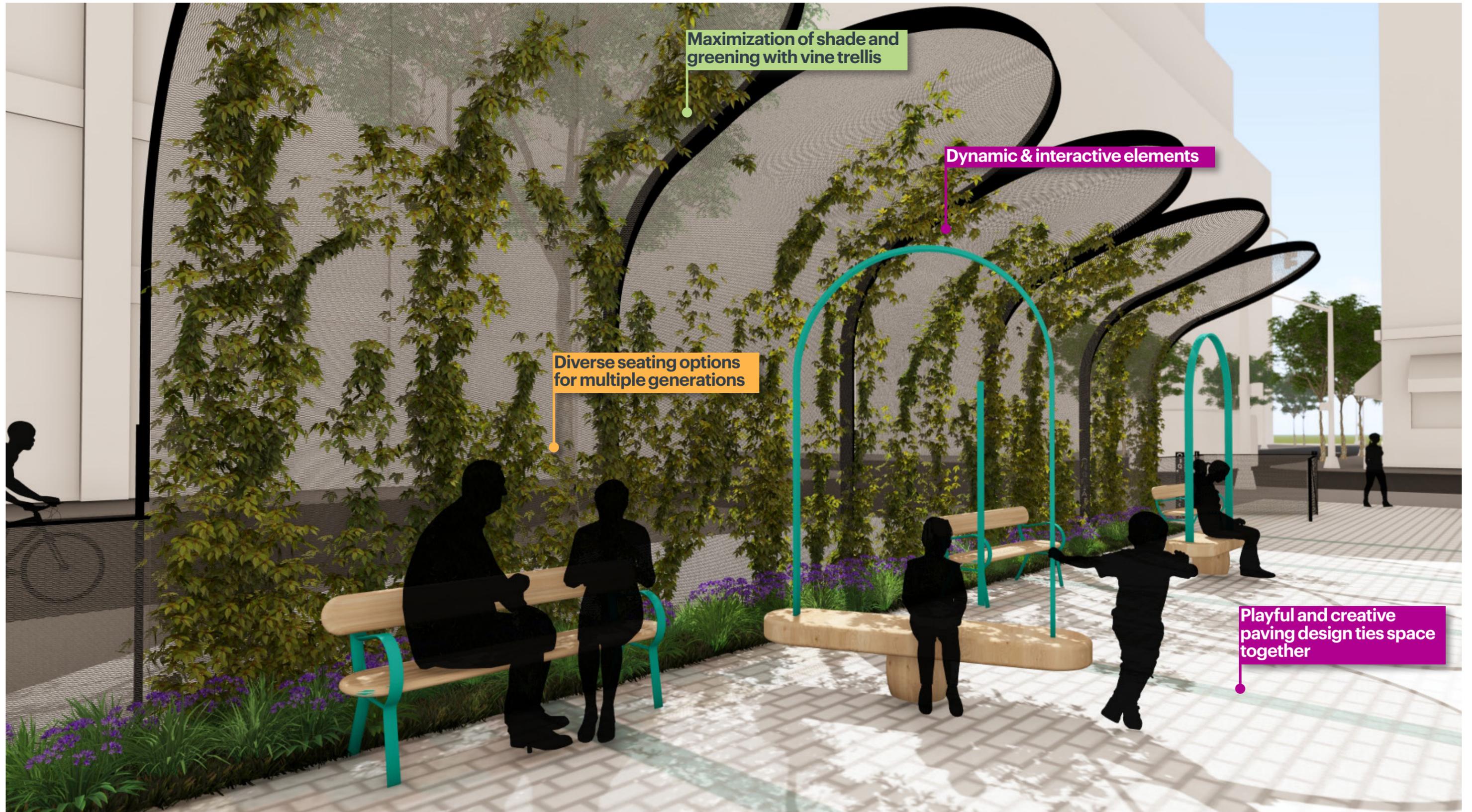


- Landscape Forward**
  - Maximizing shade where possible through tree and umbrella bosque
  - Fence with vine trellis to provide additional green and shade
- Art Centric**
  - Art can be integrated into the movable seating and umbrellas
  - Fun and colorful seating (movement, color, and light)
  - Umbrellas playfully extend the bosque and shade into the site
  - Daydreamer interactive feature celebrates dynamism and creativity of Hudson Square
- Flexible Spaces**
  - One larger central space that can be configured in many ways
  - Smaller spaces of refuge with multiple seating options
  - Movable tables and chairs allows for many configurations
- Inclusive**
  - Seating will serve multiple generations (playful and supportive)
  - Space configurations can be for large groups, small groups, families, friends, individuals, etc.
- Welcoming**
  - Accessible to all
  - Welcoming entrance
  - Places of both prospect and refuge



**Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Design**

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Maximization of shade and greening with vine trellis

Dynamic & interactive elements

Diverse seating options for multiple generations

Playful and creative paving design ties space together

## Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Design

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Viewsheds frame and celebrate the Ellis mural

Paving extends outward, establishing an inviting entrance for the public

Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Design

2024-07-15 | Preliminary PDC Submission



Modular furnishing unit allows for diverse space configurations, creating spaces for seclusion or gathering.

Seating and space configurations, support a range of user groups big and

## Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Design

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Maximization of canopy increases shade and ecological benefits

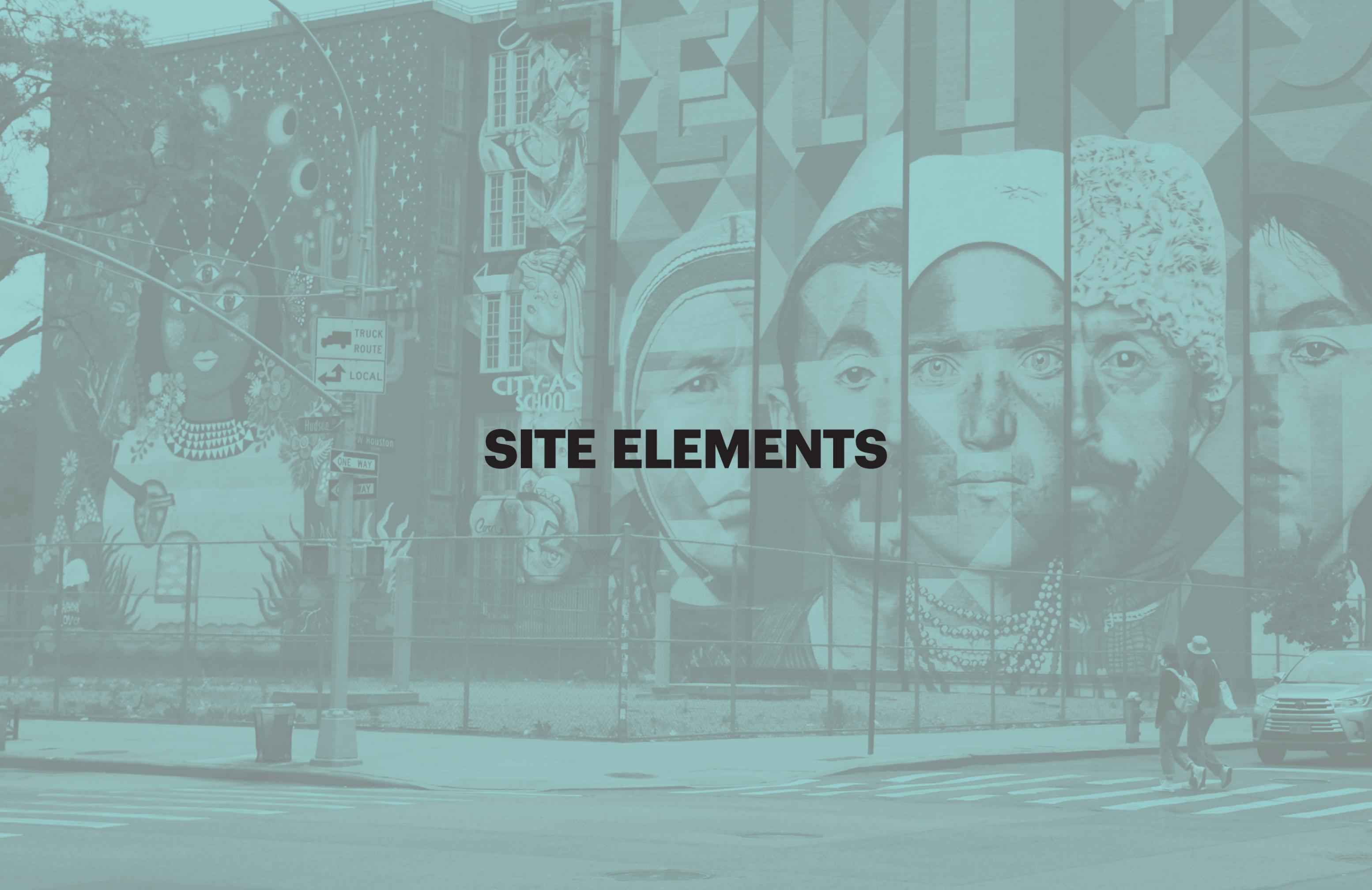
Playful inclusion of color into umbrellas and furnishings draws the mural into the site

Bosque creates smaller places of refuge with flexible seating options

Colorful and dynamic planting palette

## Hudson-Houston Plaza | Site Design

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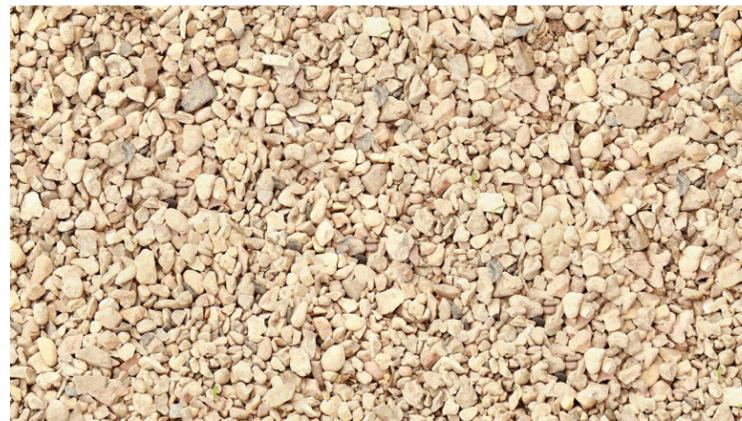


# SITE ELEMENTS

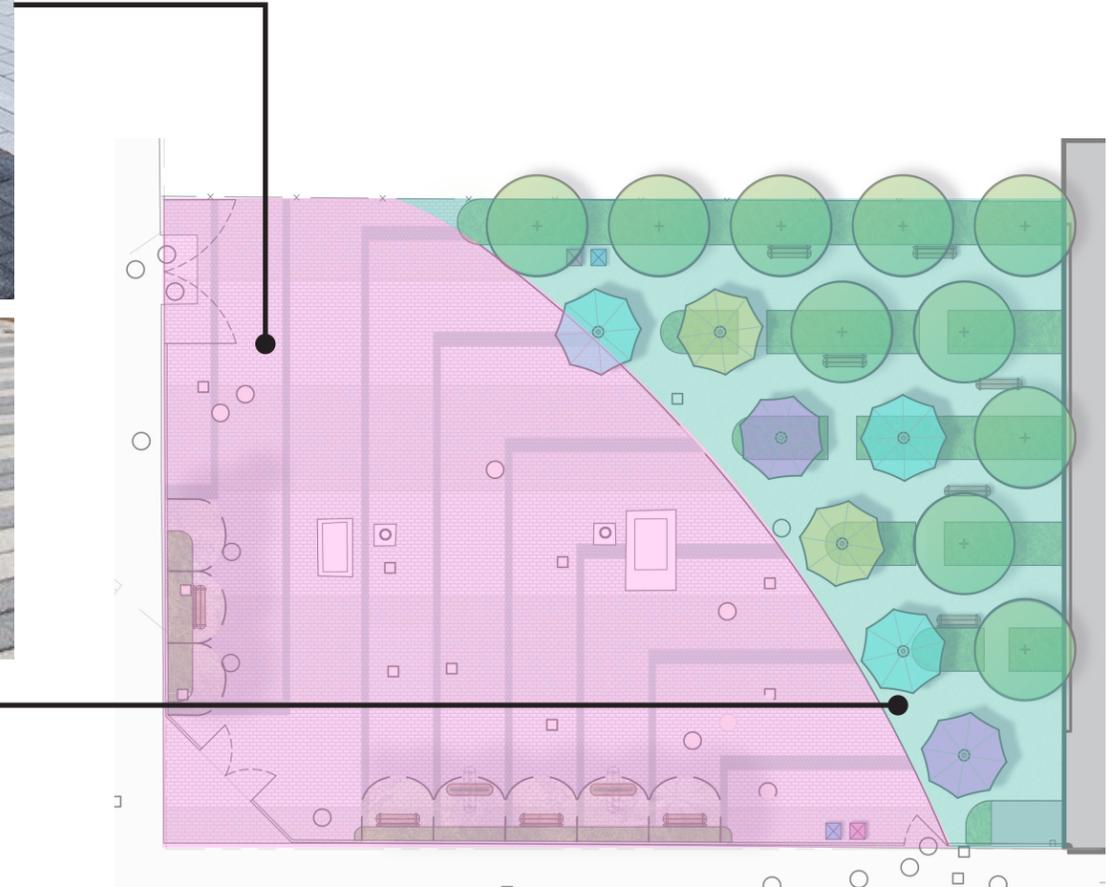
# Materials & Elements: Ground plane



**Paving: Diamond Grid**



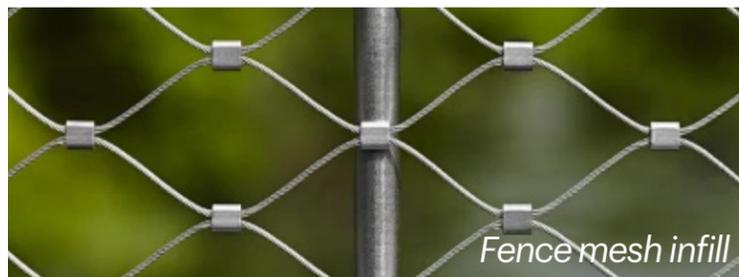
**Paving: Permeable Pavers**



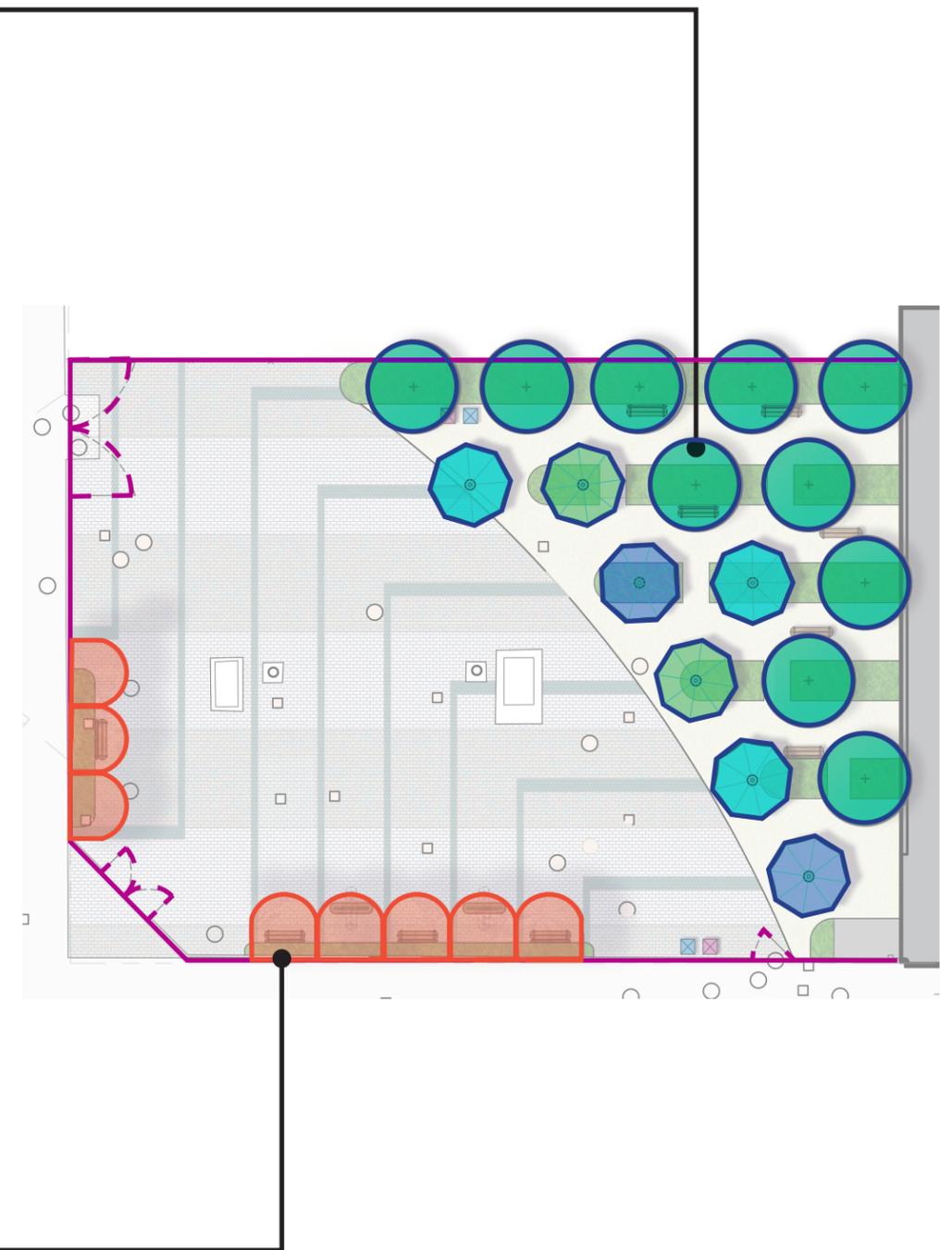
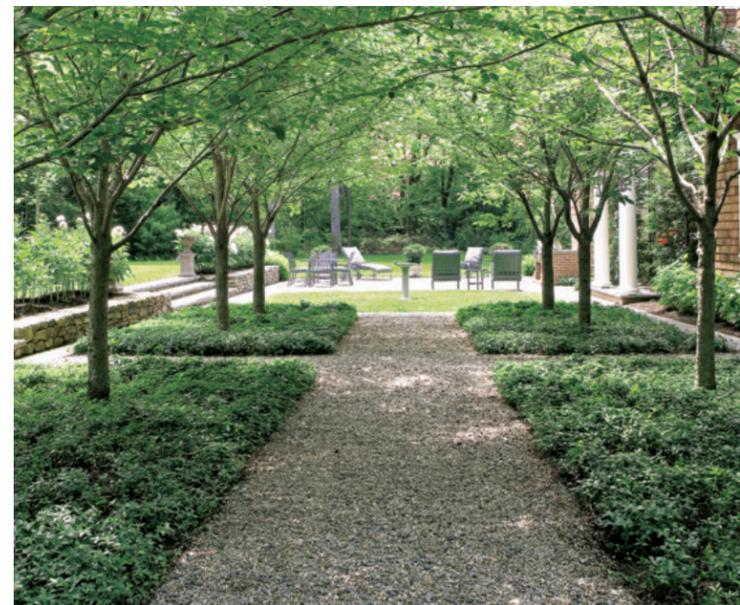
# Materials & Elements: Site Frame



■ Vine Trellis ■ Fence



■ Tree & Umbrella Bosque



# Materials & Elements: Furnishing Palette



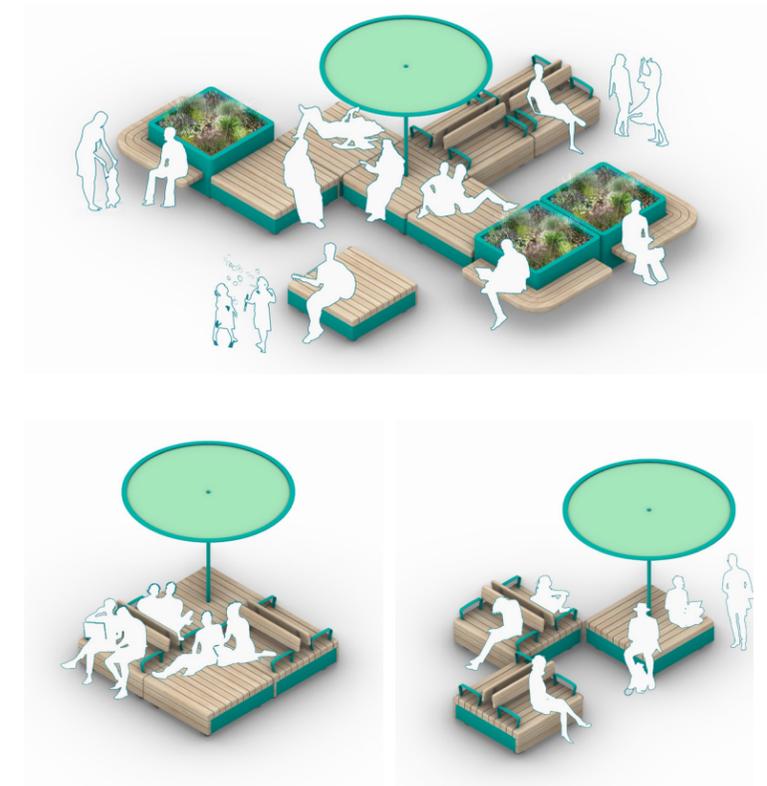
## Movable Tables & Chairs



## Daydreamer Interactive Feature



## Modular Furnishings



## HSBID Bigbelly Trash Can

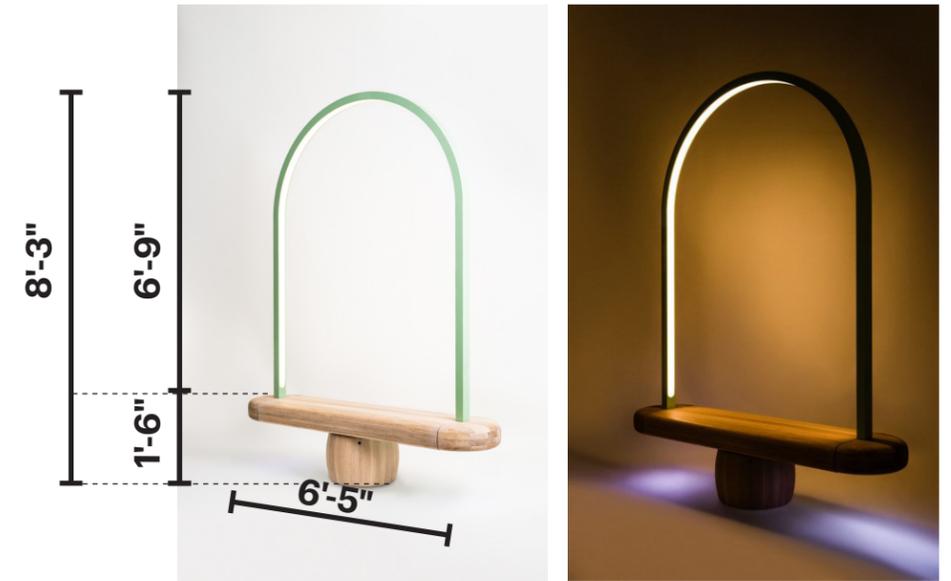
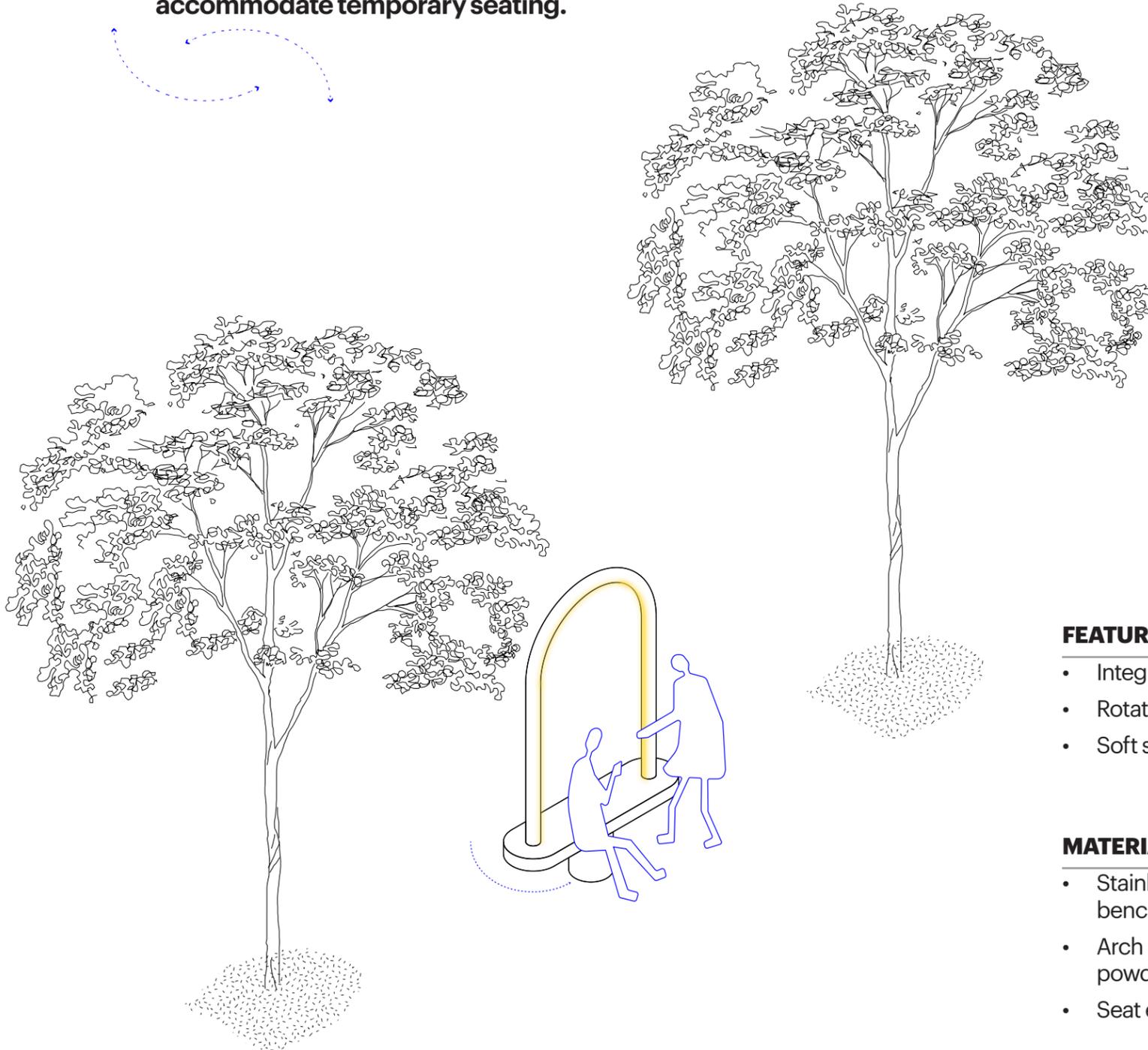


## Bench (8' long, with back and armrests)



## Interactive Feature: Daydreamer

A family of rocking and spinning interactive artistic elements that create a moment of suspension and can accommodate temporary seating.



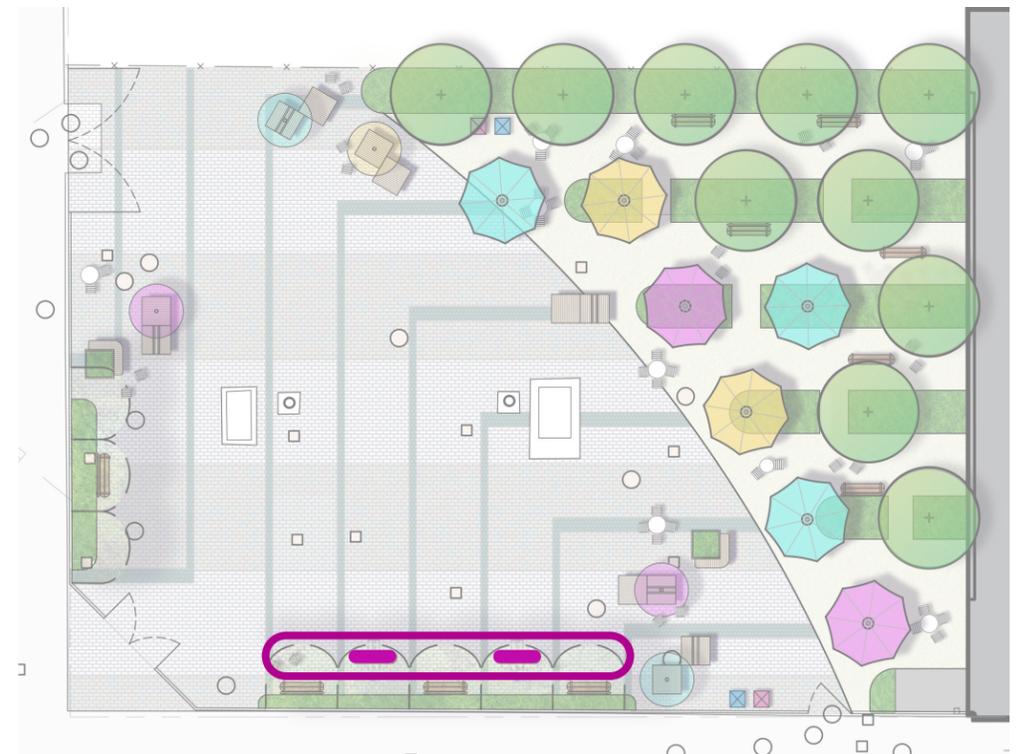
• Daily tous les jours' Daydreamer

### FEATURES

- Integrated LED light
- Rotatable (22 RPM max)
- Soft sound with rotation

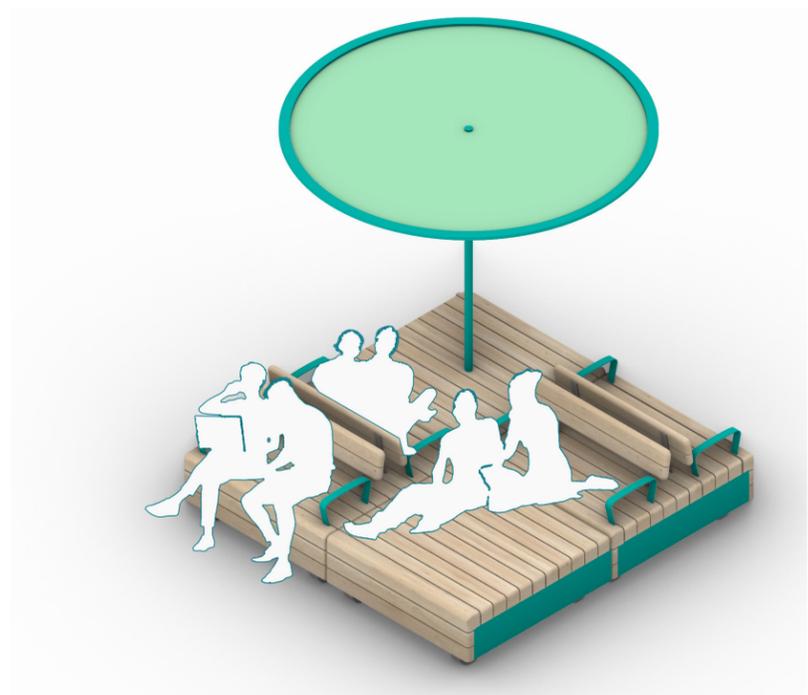
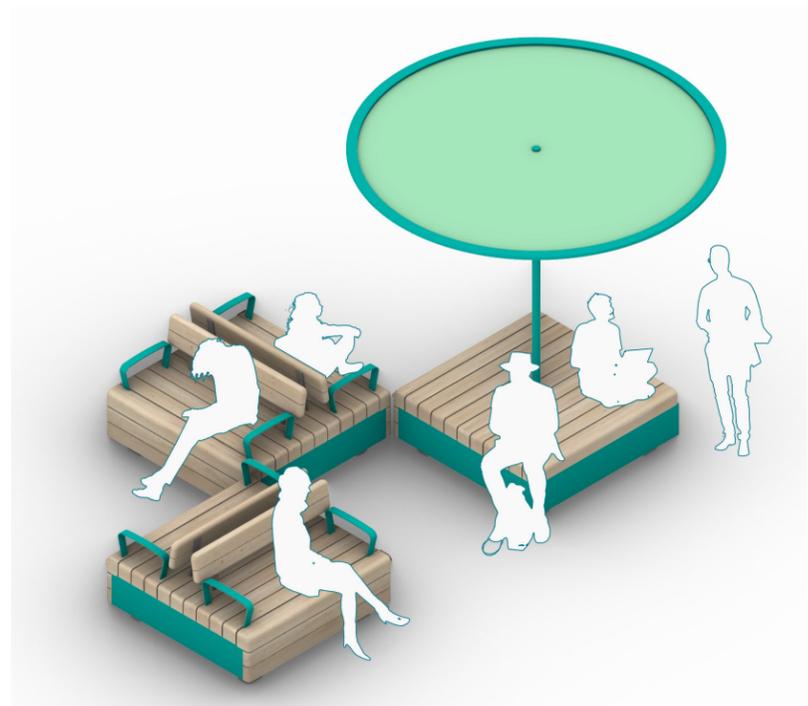
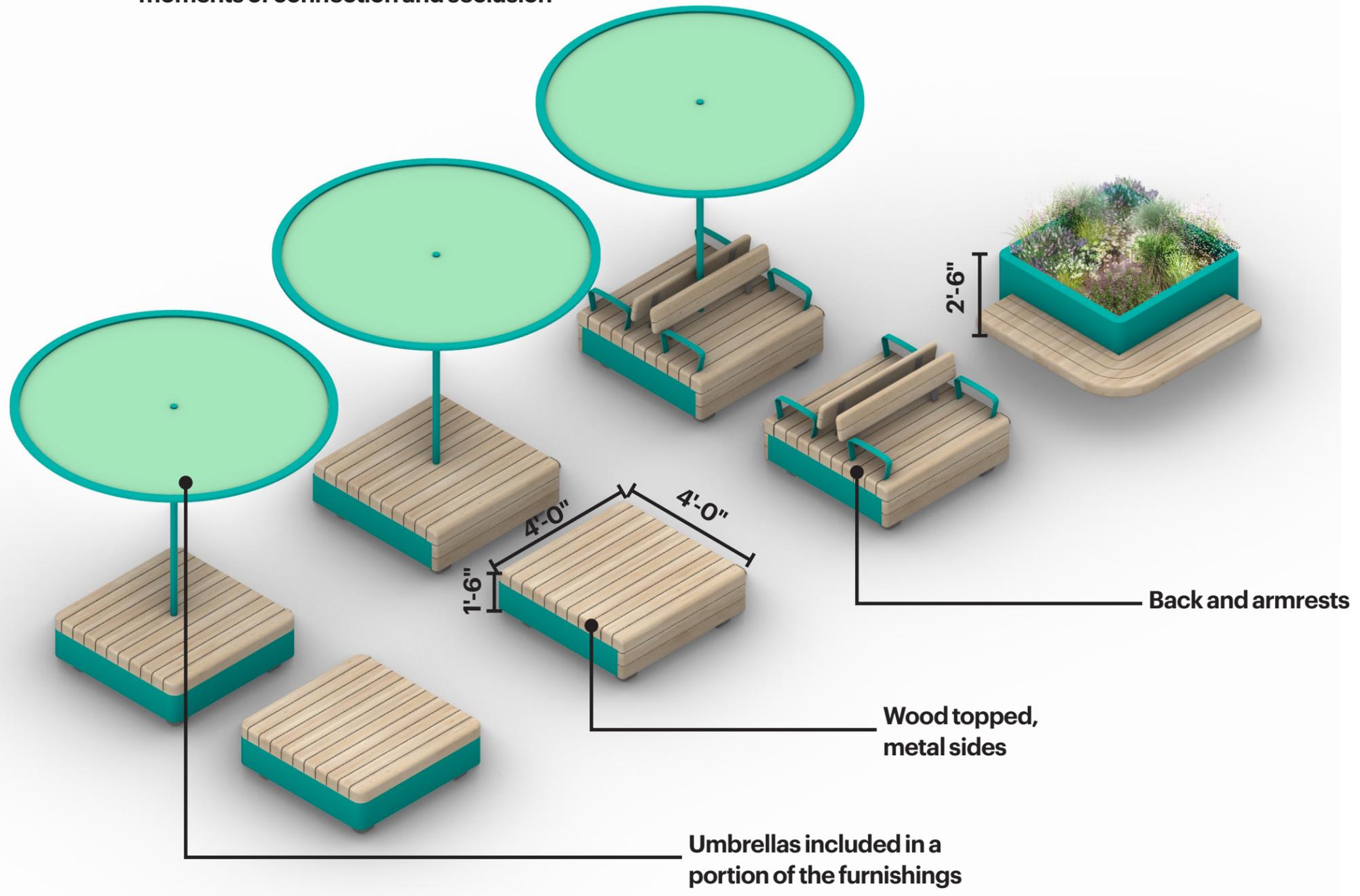
### MATERIALS

- Stainless steel structure (base + bench)
- Arch is fabricated aluminum, powder-coated with LED lights
- Seat element has a wood finish

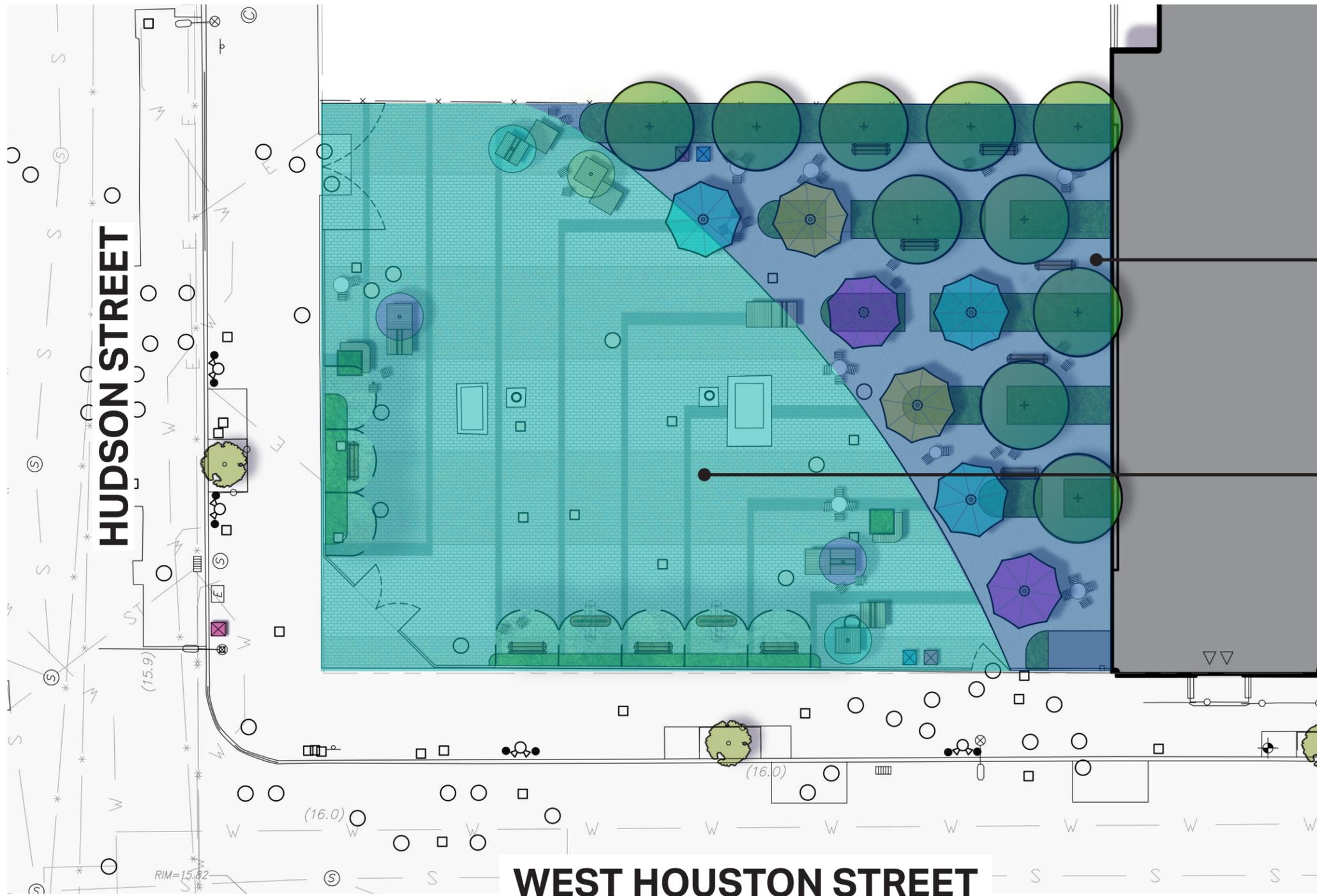


# Furnishings: Modular

A family of modular elements to create moments of connection and seclusion



# Materials & Elements: Lighting



- Low level lighting zone for more intimate experience with mural and the landscape
- Recommended correlated color temperature for lighting is 3000K
- Recommended light level is 1fc avg.

- High level lighting zone for more stakeholder/maintenance and interaction
- Recommended correlated color temperature for lighting is 3000K
- Recommended light level is 2fc avg.



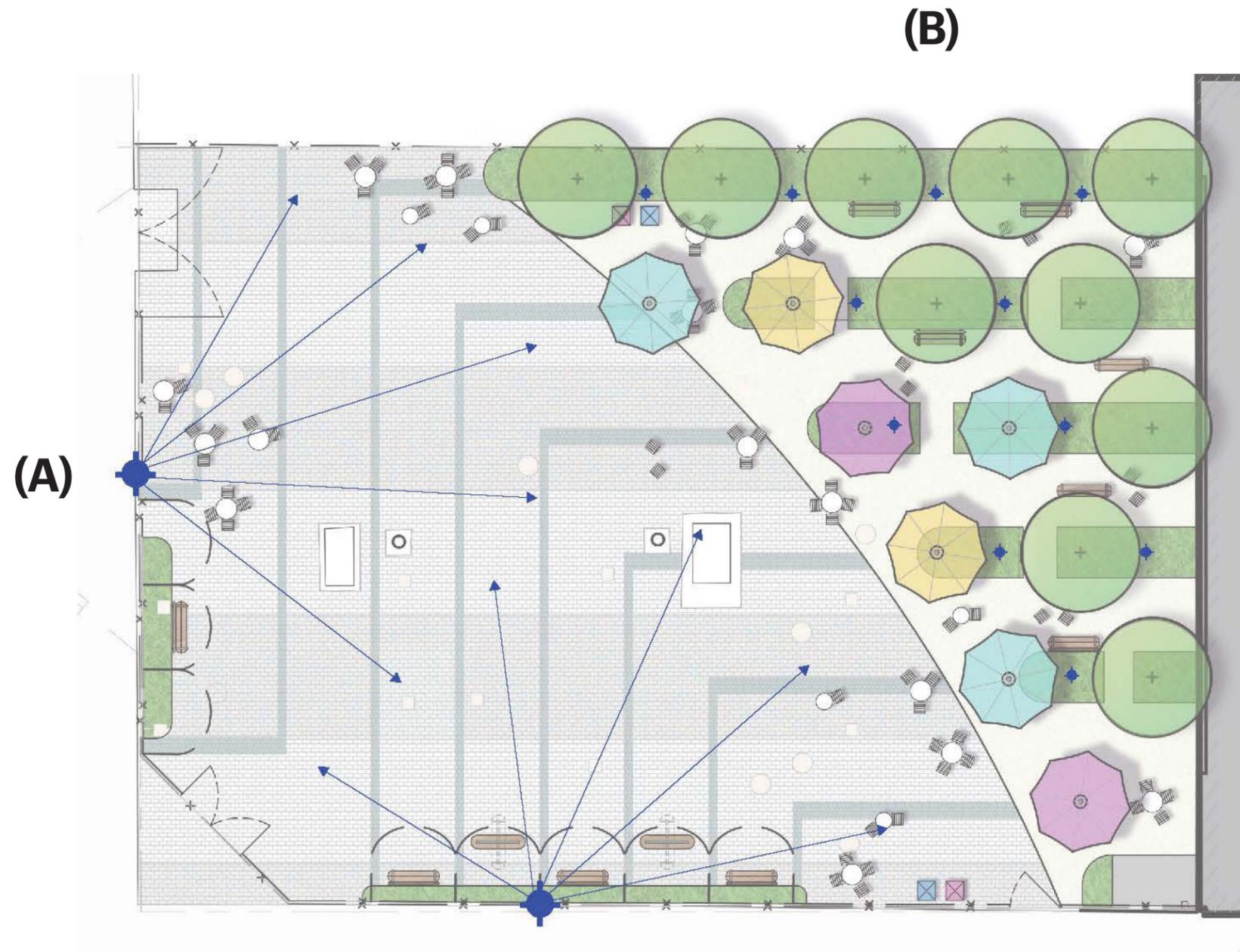
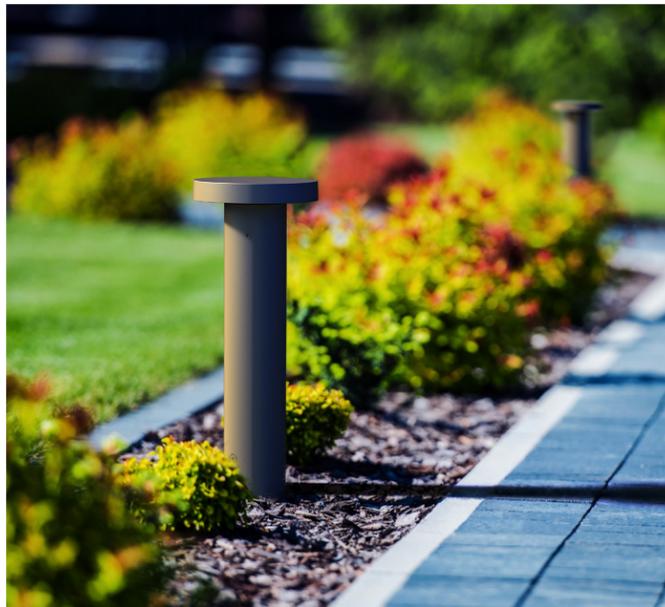
NOTE: Lights to be directed and shielded to avoid light spillage on north lot

# Materials & Elements: Lighting

Pole Lights (A)

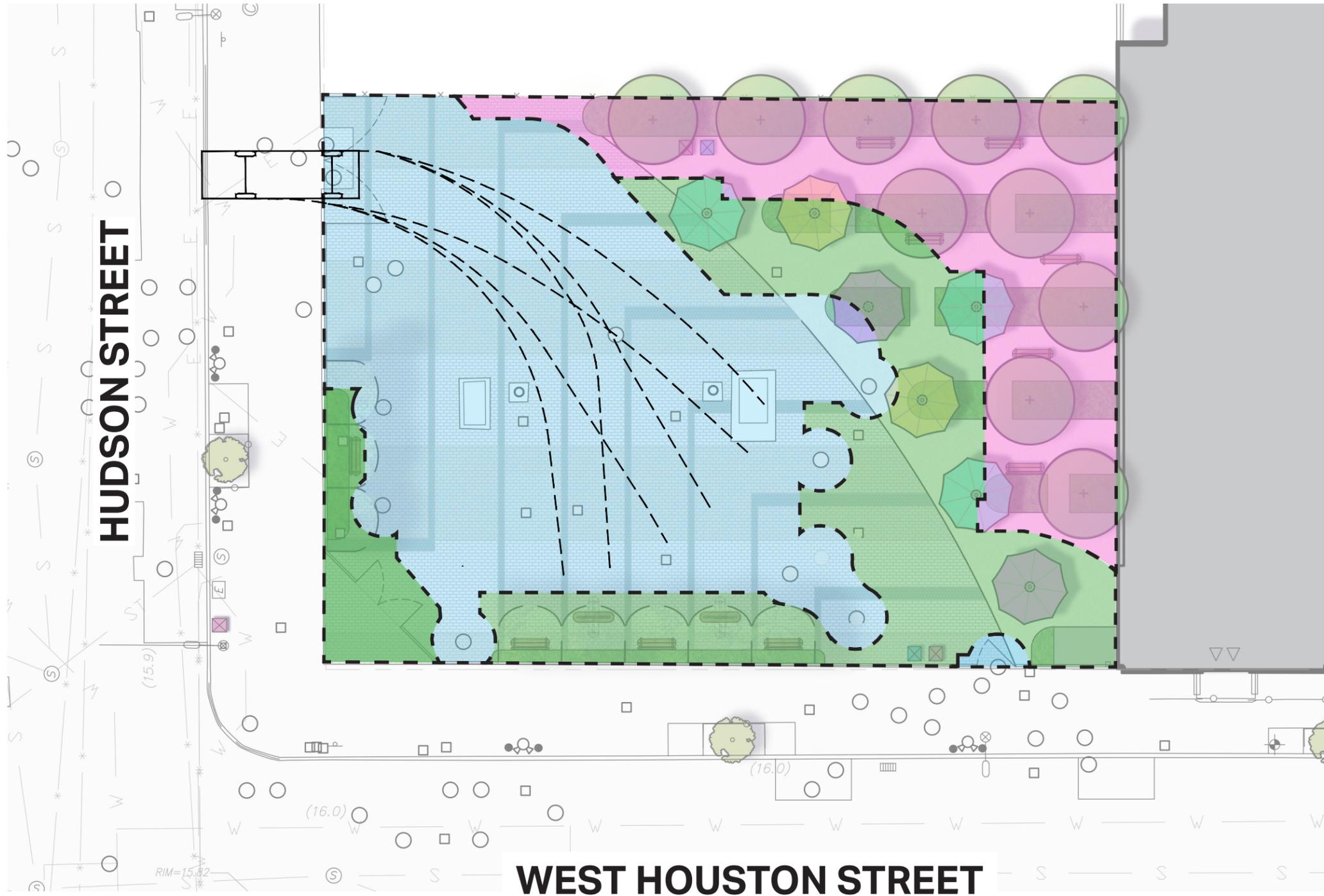


Bollard Lighting (B)



NOTE: Lights to be directed and shielded to avoid light spillage on north lot

# DEP Access Integration



- ZONE A: DEP Routine Access**  
*(paved/pavers)*
- ZONE B: Potential paved or planted areas**  
*(groundcovers or low shrubs)*
- ZONE C: Potential footing & tree canopy area**  
*(fixed benches, canopy structures, tree extents, etc.)*
- DEP Truck Turning Radius**

- Prohibited Site Uses:**
- No dog runs
  - No pets
  - No sports courts
  - No playgrounds





# PLANTING



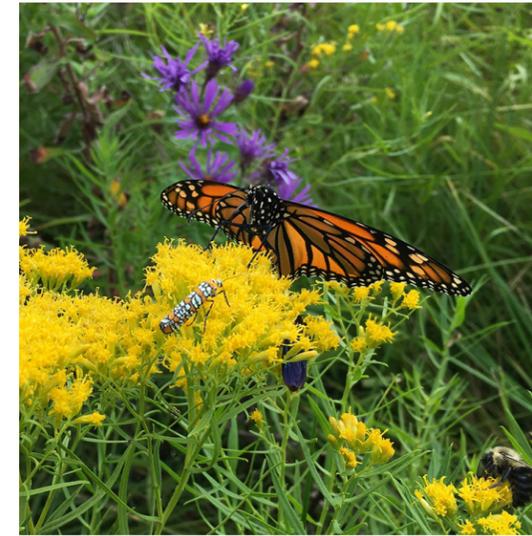
## Neighborhood Cohesion & Context

*Build on Hudson Square planting palettes  
Tie into neighborhood history  
Support of community goals*



## Sustainability & Resilience

*Native & adaptive plant species  
Woody plant species for carbon sequestration  
Species able to adapt to future conditions*



## Ecological Benefits

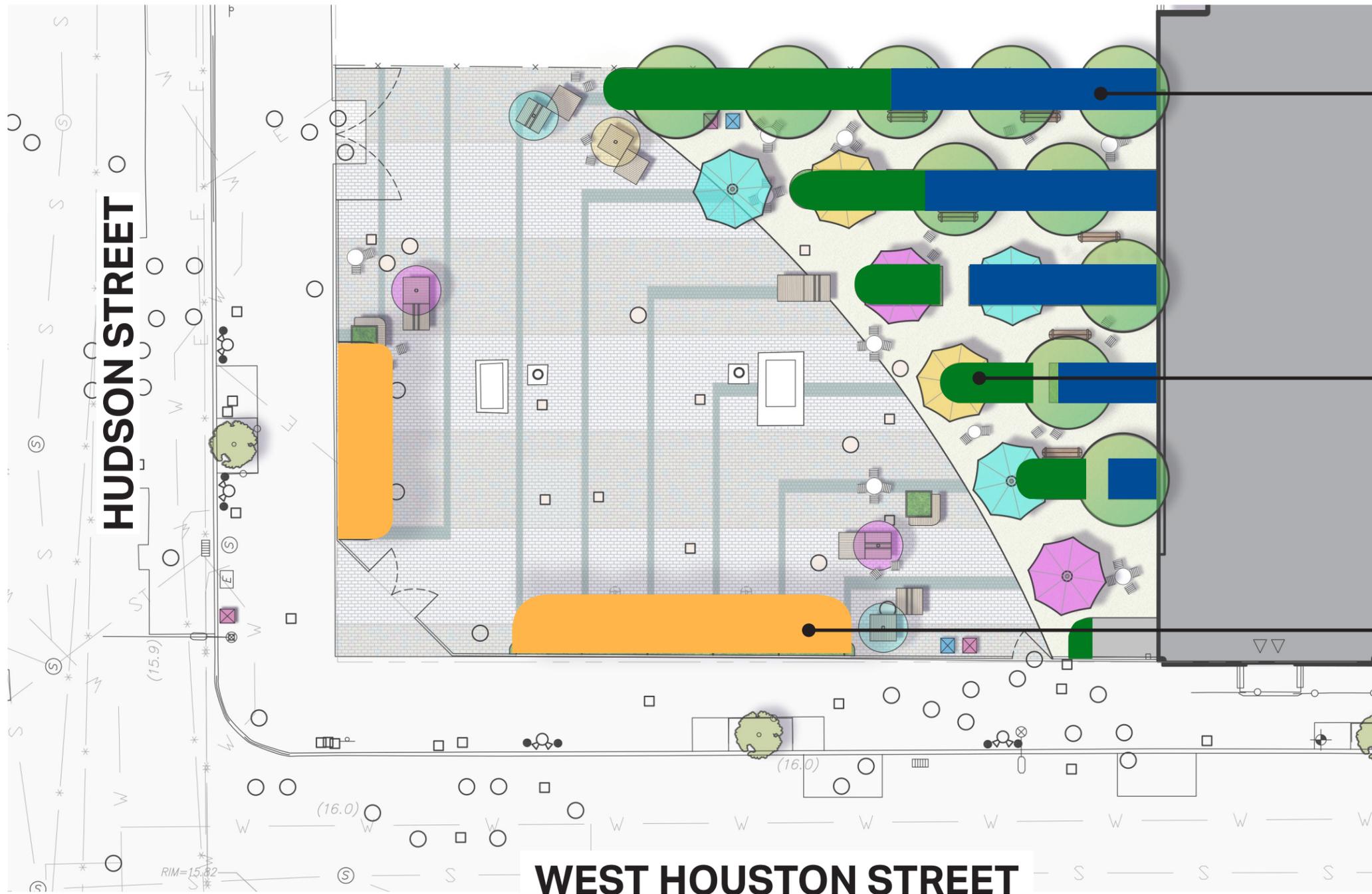
*Wildlife friendly planting  
Water capture & peak flow reduction*



## Creative Spirit

*Colorful plant palette  
Dynamic forms & textures  
Sensory experience*

# Planting Zones



## PLANTING ZONE A | Part Sun-Full Shade

- Continuation of Mural
- Medium to tall shrubs
- Perennials for color



## PLANTING ZONE B | Full Sun - Part Shade

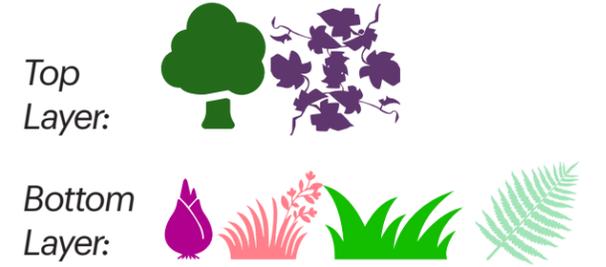
- Short shrubs
- Perennials for color
- Maintain visibility across site
- Emphasis on sensory



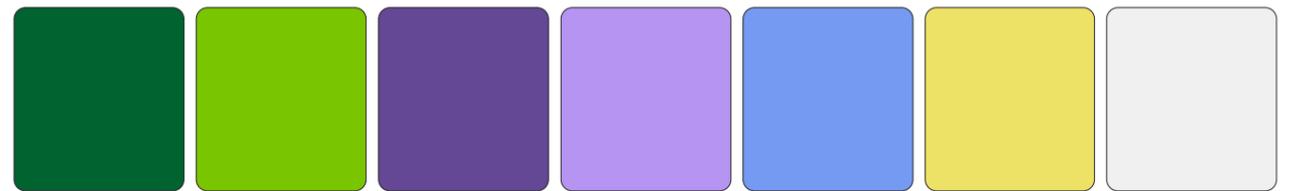
## PLANTING ZONE C | Full Sun - Part Shade

- Ground covers & perennials
- Vines on trellis
- Maintain visibility across site
- Create welcoming entrances





- Evergreen ground cover
- Varying forms and textures evoke a light & airy feel
- Staggered bloom periods create a dynamic color palette



Base Color Group

**FERN:**



*POLYSTICHUM ACROSTICHOIDES*  
CHRISTMAS FERN

**Height:** 1'-2'  
**Spread:** 1'-2'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** N/A  
**Bloom:** N/A  
**Notes:** Drought tolerant



*ANISOCAMPIUM NIPONICUM*  
PAINTED FERN

**Height:** 1'-1.5'  
**Spread:** 1.5'-2'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** N/A  
**Bloom:** N/A  
**Notes:** Weeping silver foliage



**GRASSES:**



*CAREX SP.*  
SEDEGE

**Height:** 0.5'-1'  
**Spread:** 0.5'-1'  
**Water:** Dry/Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** May  
**Bloom:** Green, Insignificant  
**Notes:** Shade tolerant



*LIRIOPE MUSCARI*  
BIG BLUE LILYTURF

**Height:** 1'-1.5'  
**Spread:** .75'-1'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Aug-Sept  
**Bloom:** Lavender  
**Notes:** Drought tolerant



*DESCHAMPSIA CESPITOSA*  
TUFTED HAIR GRASS

**Height:** 2'-3'  
**Spread:** 1'-2'  
**Water:** Dry/Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Jul-Sept  
**Bloom:** Gold/Silver, Showy  
**Notes:** Winter interest, pollution tolerant



**BULBS:**



*HYACINTHOIDES NON-SCRIPTA*  
COMMON BLUEBELL

**Height:** 1'-1.5'  
**Spread:** .25'-.5'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** May-Jun  
**Bloom:** Blue  
**Notes:** Fragrant blooms



*A. LUSITANICUM 'SUMMER BEAUTY'* - MOUNTAIN GARLIC

**Height:** .75'-1.5'  
**Spread:** 1'-2'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Jun-Sept  
**Bloom:** Lavender  
**Notes:** Drought tolerant



**PERENNIALS:**



*SALVIA SP.*  
SAGE

**Height:** 1'-2'  
**Spread:** 1'-2'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** May-Sept  
**Bloom:** Deep purple  
**Notes:** Drought tolerant, many cultivars available



*LYSIMACHIA NUMMULARIA 'AUREA'* - CREEPING JENNY

**Height:** .25'-.5'  
**Spread:** 1'-1.5'  
**Water:** Medium/Wet  
**Maintenance:** Medium  
**Bloom time:** June  
**Bloom:** Yellow, showy  
**Notes:** Yellow tinted foliage



*SISYRINCHIUM ANGSTIFOLIUM 'LUCERNE'* - BLUE-EYED GRASS

**Height:** 3'-4'  
**Spread:** 3'-5'  
**Water:** Dry/Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** May-Jun  
**Bloom:** White, Showy  
**Notes:** Drought tolerant



*RUDBECKIA FULGIDA*  
BLACK-EYED SUSAN

**Height:** 2'-3'  
**Spread:** 2'-2.5'  
**Water:** Dry/Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Jul-Oct  
**Bloom:** Yellow, showy  
**Notes:** Pollution tolerant, drought tolerant, long bloomer



*ANEMONE CANADENSIS*  
CANADA ANEMONE

**Height:** 1'-2'  
**Spread:** 2'-2.5'  
**Water:** Medium/Wet  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Apr-Jun  
**Bloom:** White, Showy  
**Notes:** Drought tolerant

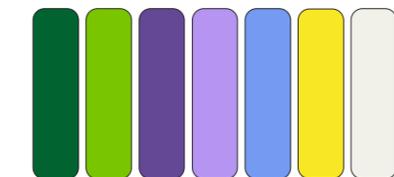


*C. CHRYSANTHUS 'CREAM BEAUTY'* - SNOW CROCUS

**Height:** .25'-.5'  
**Spread:** .16'-.25'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Feb-Mar  
**Bloom:** Yellow, Showy  
**Notes:** Winter Interest



**BASE COLOR GROUP:**



- KEY:**
- FULL SUN
  - PART SUN / PART SHADE
  - SHADE
  - WILDLIFE FRIENDLY
  - CARBON CAPTURE
  - NATIVE / ADAPTIVE
  - DECIDUOUS
  - EVERGREEN

TREES:



*SYRINGA RETICULATA 'IVORY SILK'*  
TREE LILAC

**Height:** 20'-25'  
**Spread:** 15'-20'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** May-Jun  
**Bloom:** White panicles  
**Notes:** Pollinator & bird habitat



*PARROTIA PERSICA 'RUBY VASE'*  
PERSIAN IRONWOOD

**Height:** 20'-25'  
**Spread:** 15'-20'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Apr-May  
**Bloom:** Red  
**Notes:** Urban tolerant, wind hardy



VINES:



*LONICERA SEMPERVIRENS*  
MJ. WHEELER HONEYSUCKLE

**Height:** 6-10'  
**Spread:** 2'-4'  
**Water:** Wet/Medium  
**Maintenance:** Low  
**Bloom time:** Aug-Oct  
**Bloom:** Red  
**Notes:** Fragrant  
Bloom  
**Loc:** Hudson St.

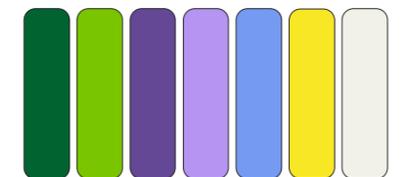


*CAMPSIS RADICANS*  
TRUMPET CREEPER

**Height:** 15'-30'  
**Spread:** 5'-10'  
**Water:** Medium  
**Maintenance:** High  
**Bloom time:** Jun-Jul  
**Bloom:** Orange/Yellow  
**Notes:** Fragrant  
Blooms  
**Loc:** W. Houston St.



BASE COLOR GROUP:

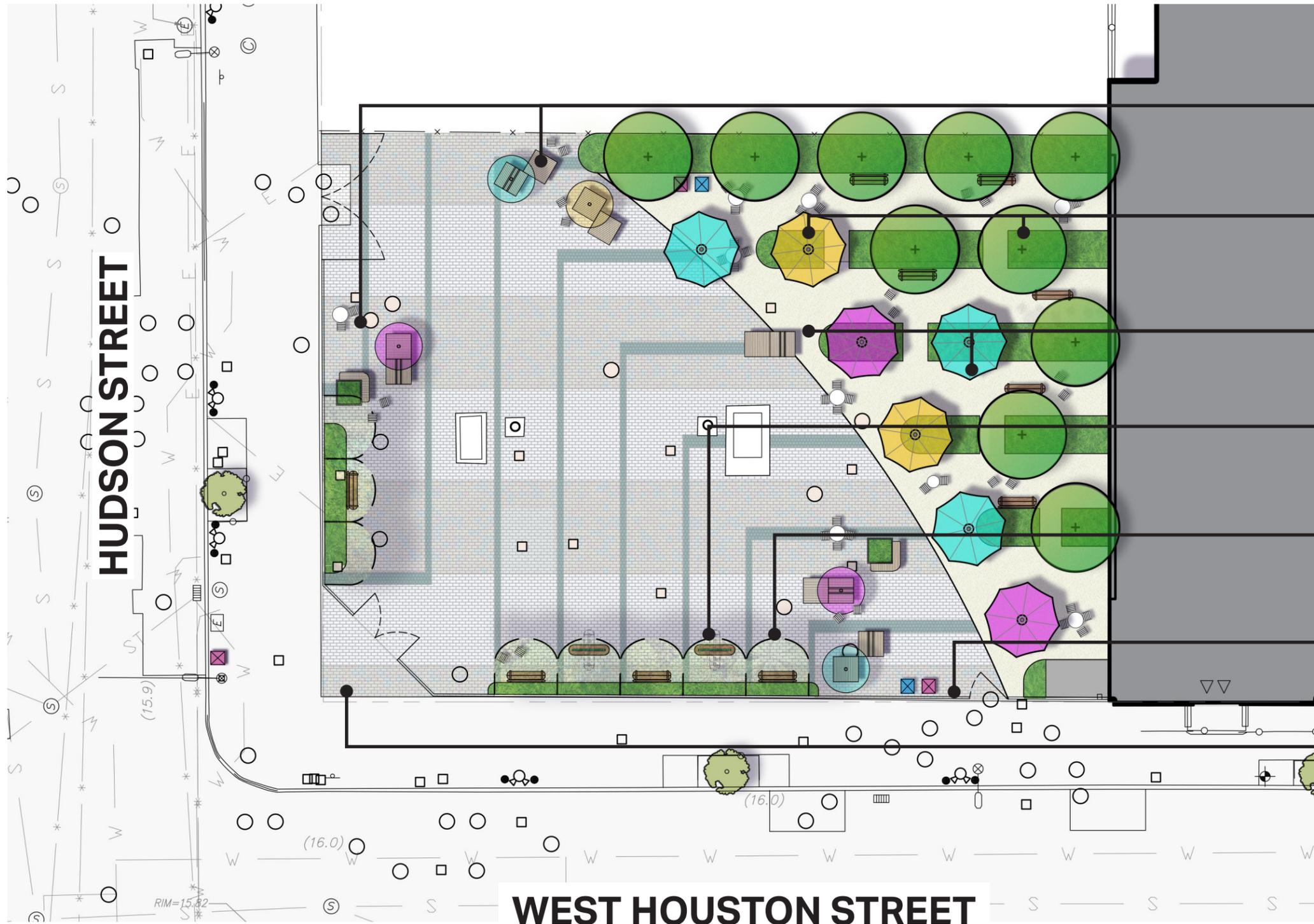


KEY:

- FULL SUN
- PART SUN / PART SHADE
- SHADE
- WILDLIFE FRIENDLY
- CARBON CAPTURE
- NATIVE / ADAPTIVE
- DECIDUOUS
- EVERGREEN

# Seasonality: Bloom Sweep

	Botanical Name	Common Name	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
 TREE	<i>Syringa reticulata</i> 'Ivory Silk'	Ivory Silk Tree Lilac												
	<i>Parrotia persica</i> 'Ruby Vase'	Ruby Vase Persian Ironwood												
 FERN	<i>Athyrium niponicum</i> var. <i>pictum</i>	Painted Fern												
	<i>Polystichum acrostichoides</i>	Christmas Fern												
 GRASS	<i>Carex flacca</i>	Blue Green Sedge												
	<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania Sedge												
	<i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	Tufted Hair Grass												
	<i>Liriope muscari</i>	Big Blue Lily Turf												
 PERENNIAL	<i>Anemone canadensis</i>	Canada Anemone												
	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i> 'Aurea'	Creeping Jenny												
	<i>Salvia nemerosa</i> 'Caradonna'	Caradonna Sage												
	<i>Salvia nemerosa</i> 'Lubecca'	Lubecca Sage												
	<i>Sisyrinchium angustifolium</i> 'Lucerne'	Blue-Eyed Grass												
	<i>Rudbeckia fulgida</i>	Black-Eyed Susan												
 VINE	<i>Campsis radicans</i>	Trumpet Creeper												
	<i>Lonicera sempervirens</i>	MJ Wheeler Honeysuckle												
 BULB	<i>Allium lusitanicum</i> 'Summer Beauty'	Summer Beauty Mountain Garlic												
	<i>Crocus chrysanthus</i> 'Cream Beauty'	Snow Crocus												
	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	Common Bluebell												



- Custom Furnishings
- Tree & Umbrella Bosque
- Flexible Spaces
- Daydreamer Interactive Feature
- Vine Trellis / Shade Structure with multiple seating options
- Transparent Fence
- Welcoming Pedestrian Entrance



# Hudson-Houston Plaza | Schematic Plan

2024-07-15 | Preliminary PDC Submission