

Wilburton – Grand Connection

July 13th, 2017

City of Bellevue Transportation Commission– Project Update

Tonight's Discussion



- Grand Connection
 - Overview of Sequence One work
 - Meydenbauer Bay to Civic Center District
 - Overview of the Draft Framework Plan
 - Updates on the Interstate 405 Crossing
 - Sequence Two

Goals of the Grand Connection

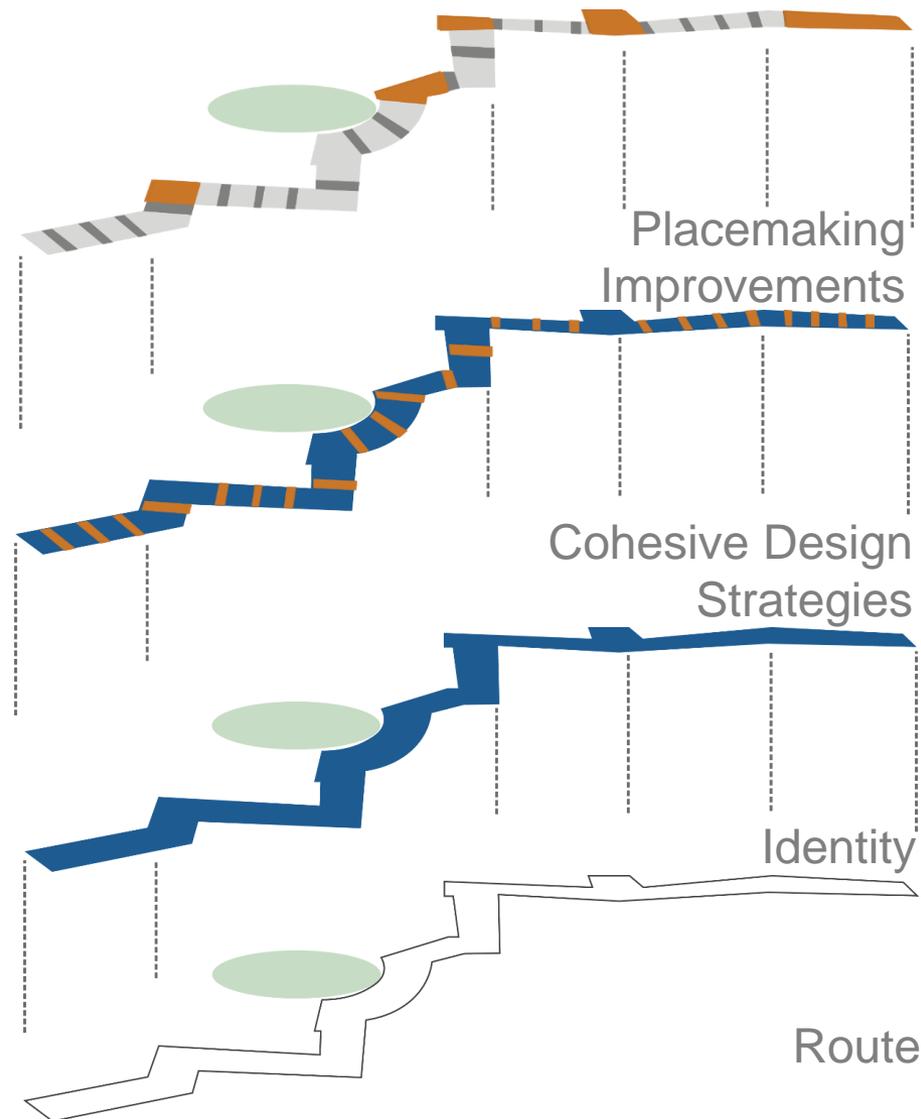


- Enhanced pedestrian and cyclist experience through Downtown
 - Safety
 - Connectivity
 - Mobility
 - Experience
- Improve public spaces
- Pursue opportunities for programming
- Connection across Interstate 405
- Companion effort to the Wilburton Commercial Area
- A City Council Priority

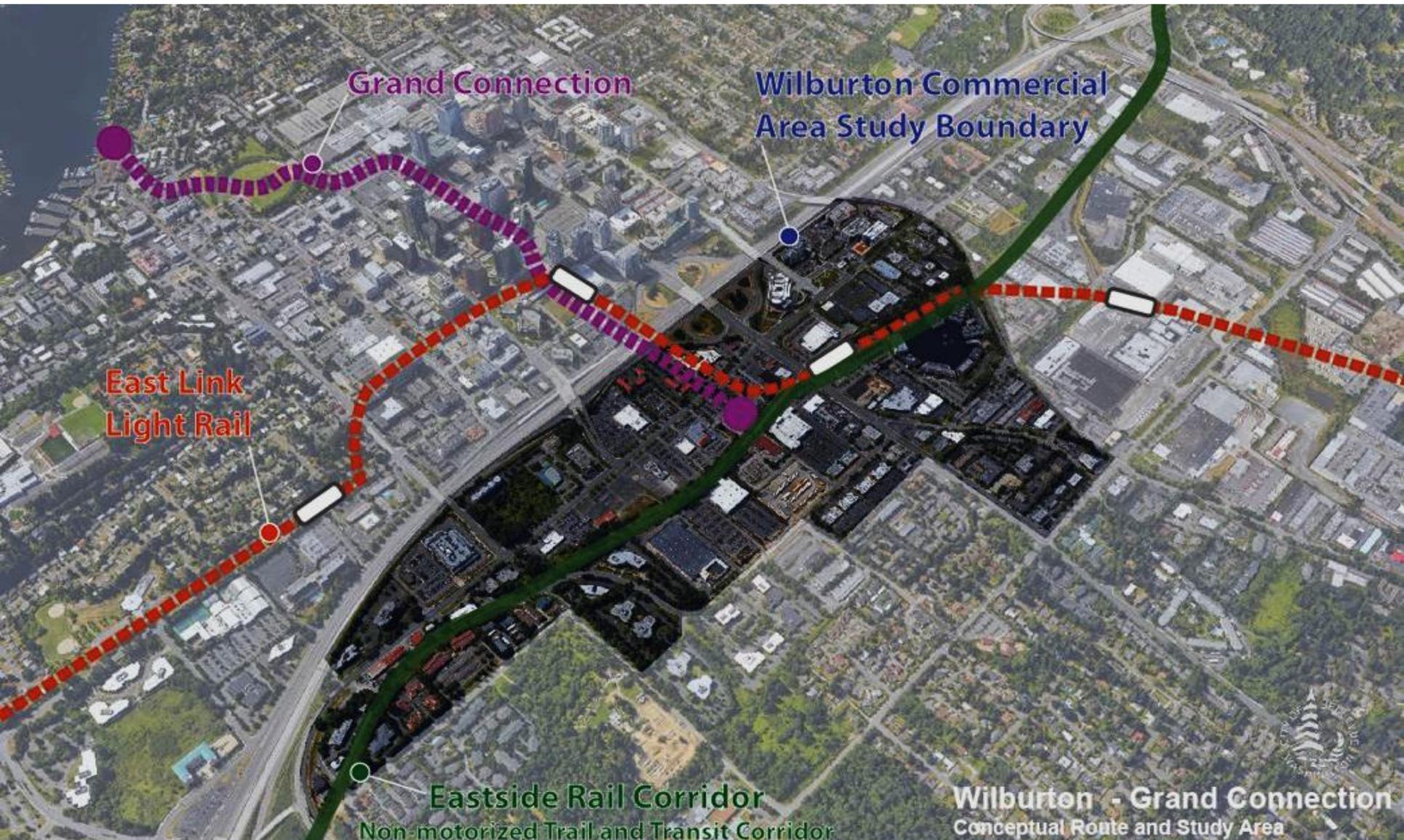
Visioning Process



- Sequence One
 - Meydenbauer Bay to Civic Center District
- Sequence Two
 - Interstate 405 Crossing
 - Interface with Eastside Rail Corridor and Wilburton Commercial Area



Context



Grand Connection

Wilburton Commercial
Area Study Boundary

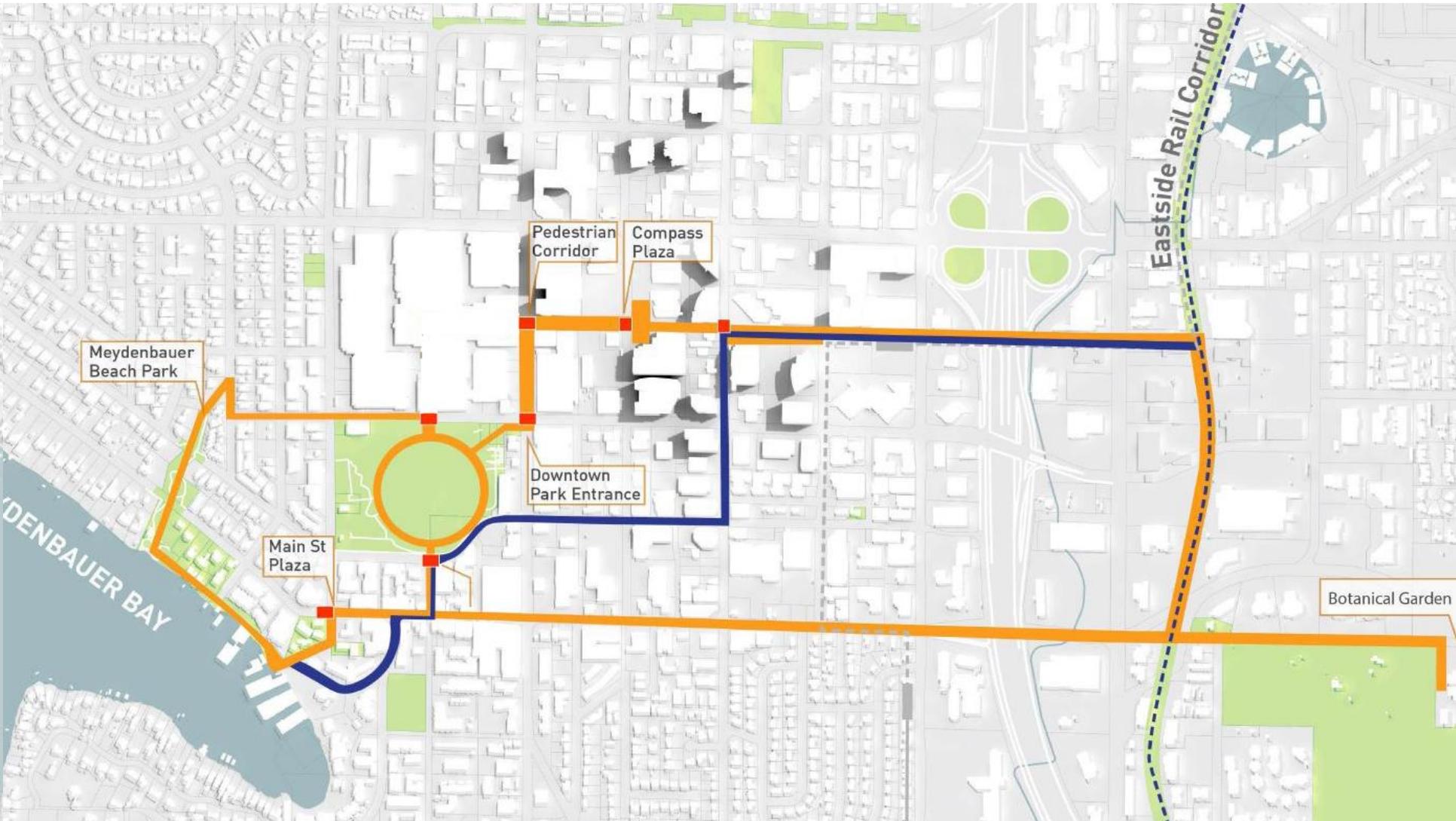
East Link
Light Rail

Eastside Rail Corridor
Non-motorized Trail and Transit Corridor

Wilburton - Grand Connection
Conceptual Route and Study Area



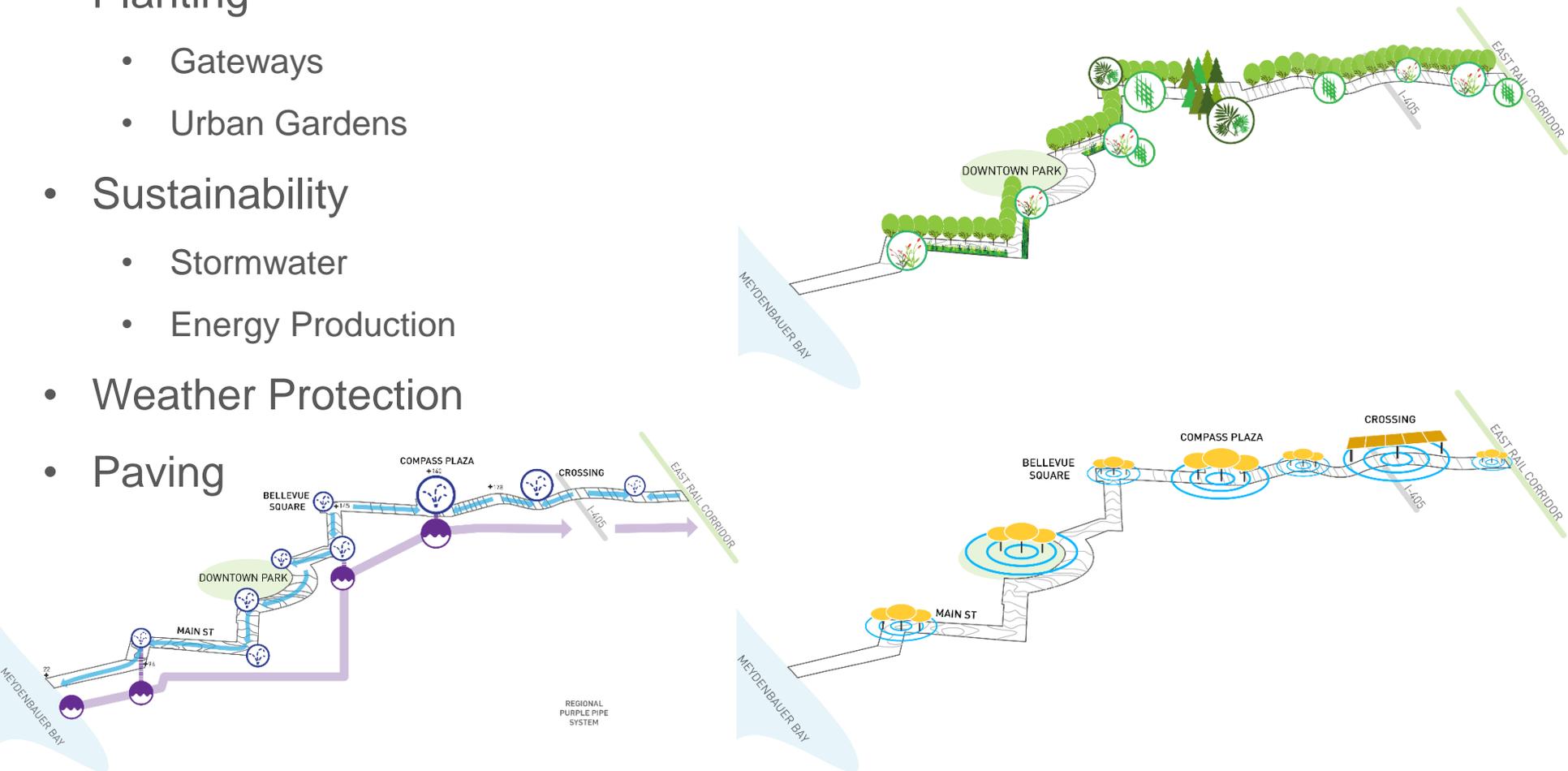
The Route



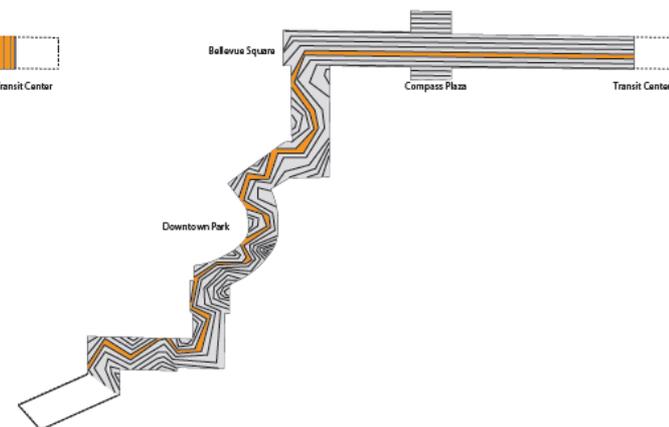
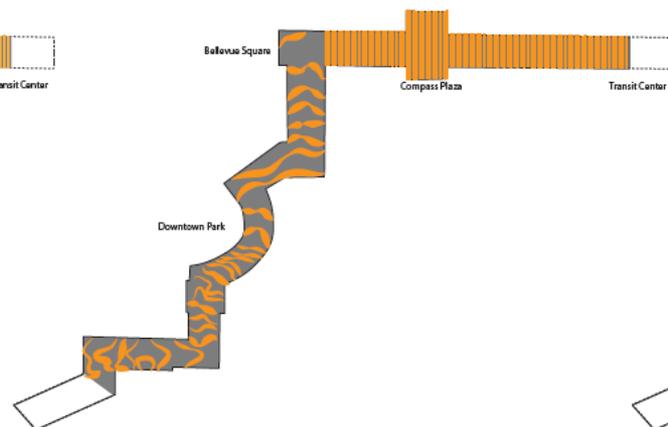
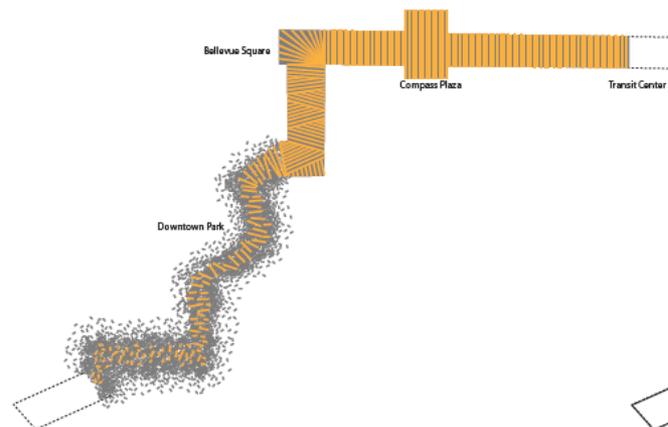
Cohesive Design Strategies



- Planting
 - Gateways
 - Urban Gardens
- Sustainability
 - Stormwater
 - Energy Production
- Weather Protection
- Paving



Cohesive Design Strategies - Paving

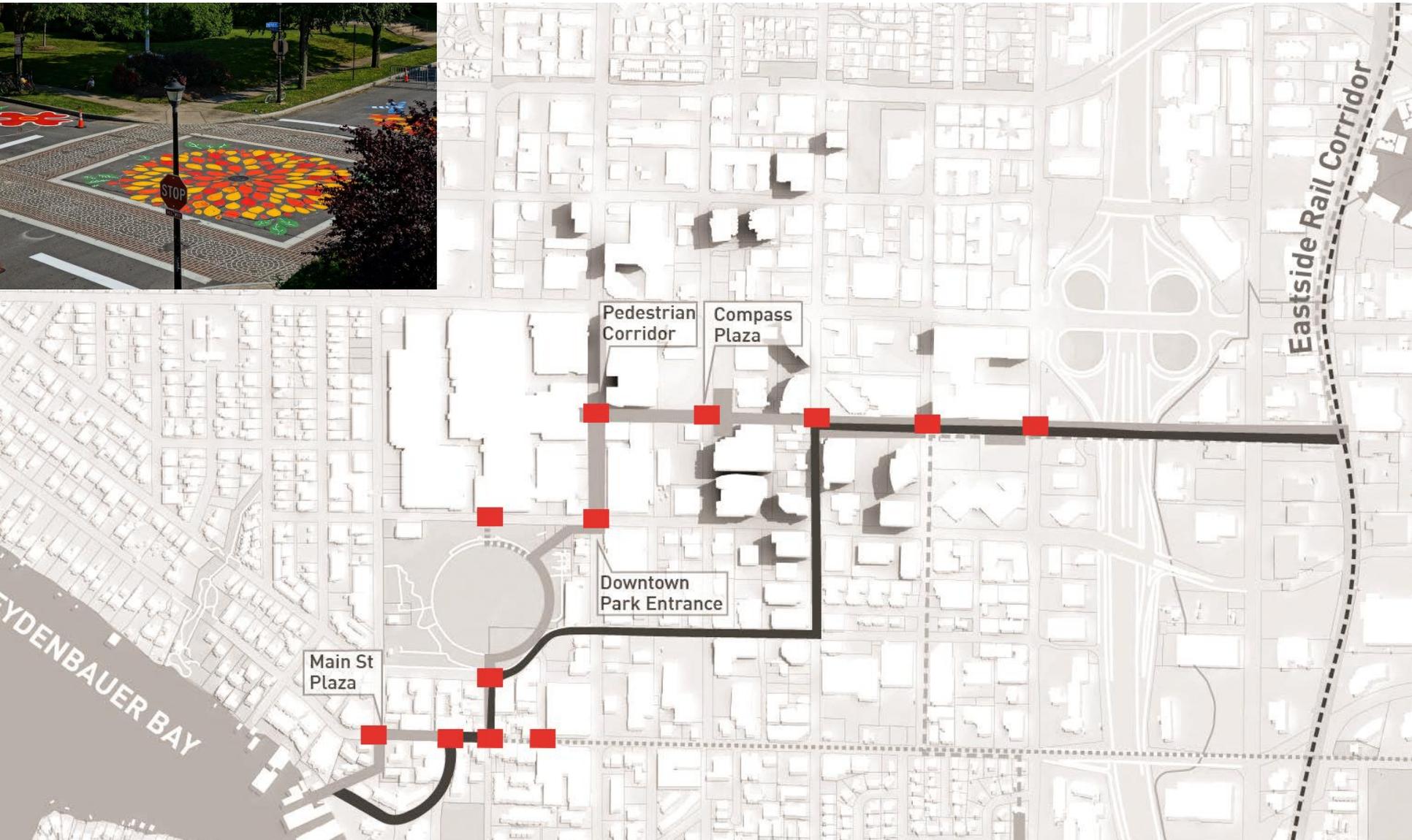


Cohesive Design Strategies – Weather Protection

CANOPY LAYER



Cohesive Design Strategies



Art and Culture



- A defining element of the route
- Supportive of cohesive design strategies and gateways
- Elevate the role of arts and culture in Bellevue
- Encourage new concepts and support Bellevue's creative economy
- Create whimsy and discovery
- Speak to:
 - Cultural diversity
 - Technology
 - Performance
 - Sustainability



Mobility and Connectivity





SNACK!

CINEMAS

SALES

PHOTOGRAPHY

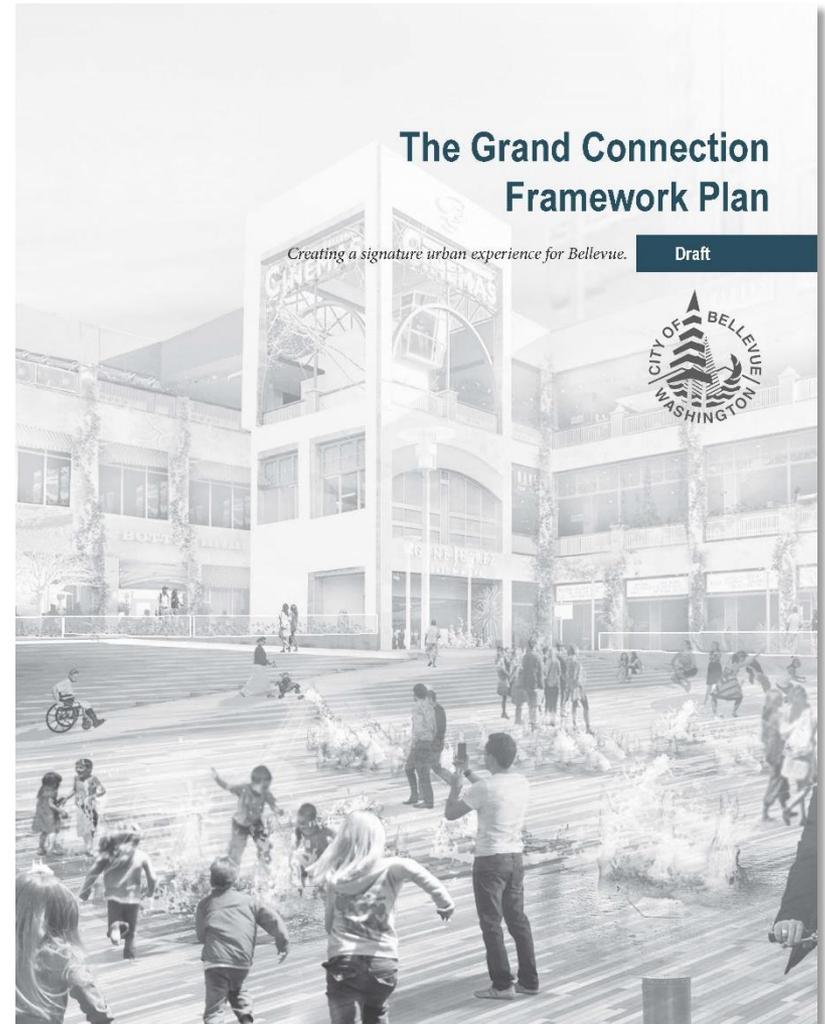
Draft Framework Plan



- Sequence One
 - Meydenbauer Bay to Civic Center District
- 11 Chapters
 - Introduction
 - Public Engagement
 - The Route
 - Route Identity
 - Cohesive Design Strategies
 - Art and Culture *
 - Connectivity and Mobility
 - Public Spaces
 - Interstate 405 Crossing **
 - Programming
 - Implementation and Next Steps

*Appendix to the Framework Plan

**Information only – covered in Volume 2 and Wilburton EIS

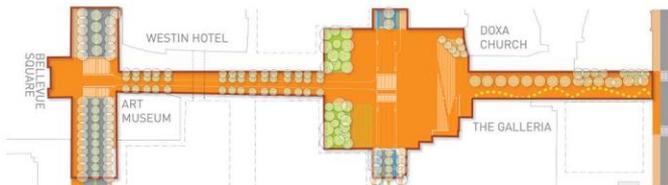


Bellevue Transportation Commission - July 13th, 2017

Draft Framework Plan



Key Strategy



▲ Pedestrian Corridor from Bellevue Way to 108th Avenue NE - Concept - Image by Balmon Associates

Next Steps: Compass Plaza

- Design refinement and phasing approach for the Compass Plaza reconfiguration, including materials, programming, and art installations.
- Explore the opportunity to expand the plaza to the west as a long-term strategy.
- Explore opportunities to collaborate and partner with private development improvements and City initiatives.
- Engage in tactical urbanism events to test and demonstrate potential future improvements.
- Explore programming and cultural plinth opportunities.

Bellevue Transit Center

Overview

The Bellevue Transit Center serves as an important gateway to the City. With the addition of the Downtown East Link light rail station to the east, this area will continue to serve a large population that enters Bellevue via this important transit hub. For many that work and visit Bellevue, this is their initial experience with the city. Proposed improvements through the Downtown Transportation Plan will improve conditions for cyclists and pedestrians on the north side of the transit center.

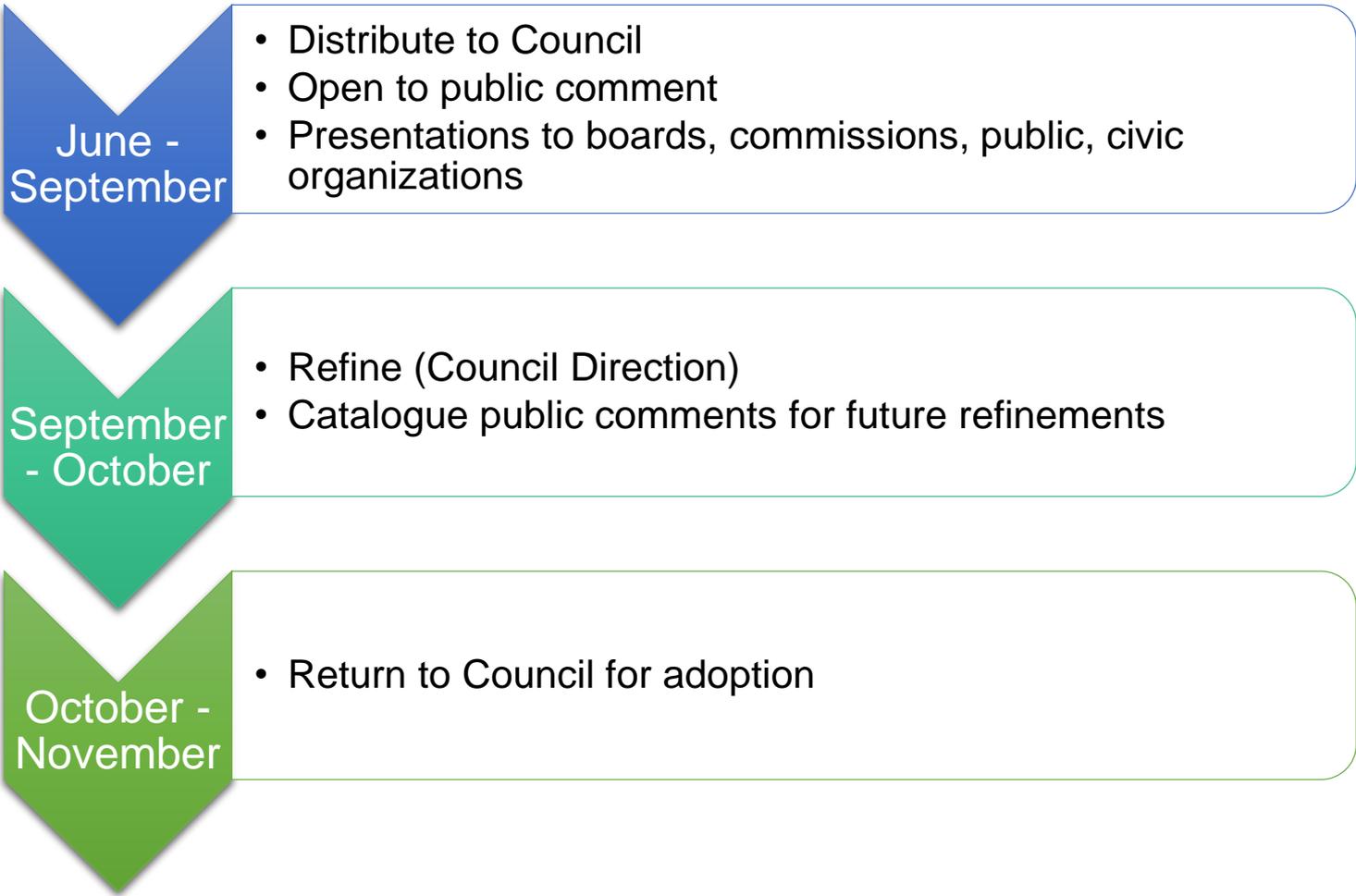
The design team first began by examining the movement of buses in the area. As an important transit node, it is essential that bus movements remain efficient and fluid, but the dual purpose of the area as a significant location along the Grand Connection warrants consideration for improvements and a focus on pedestrians, cyclists, and transportation alternatives. The design proposal seeks to have all buses enter from one direction to simplify the bus movements while reducing opportunities for conflict between non-motorized transportation and buses. The diagram (next page) illustrates the buses entering the transit center from the west, but depending on the routes, the configuration could be modified so that all buses enter from the east.

The concept as proposed represents an ideal situation where the south lane of the transit center could be removed, allowing for the transit center to be connected to the public space and plaza to the south as part of the City Center development. Additionally, this would create space for bike lanes and alternative transportation options. Two alternatives exist in order to accommodate for the current number of bus routes, or a reduced number. Angled spaces are provided to the north of the transit center to preserve the existing number of bays.



▲ Bellevue Transit Center - Existing

Draft Framework Plan



Interstate 405 Crossing



Interstate 405 Crossing

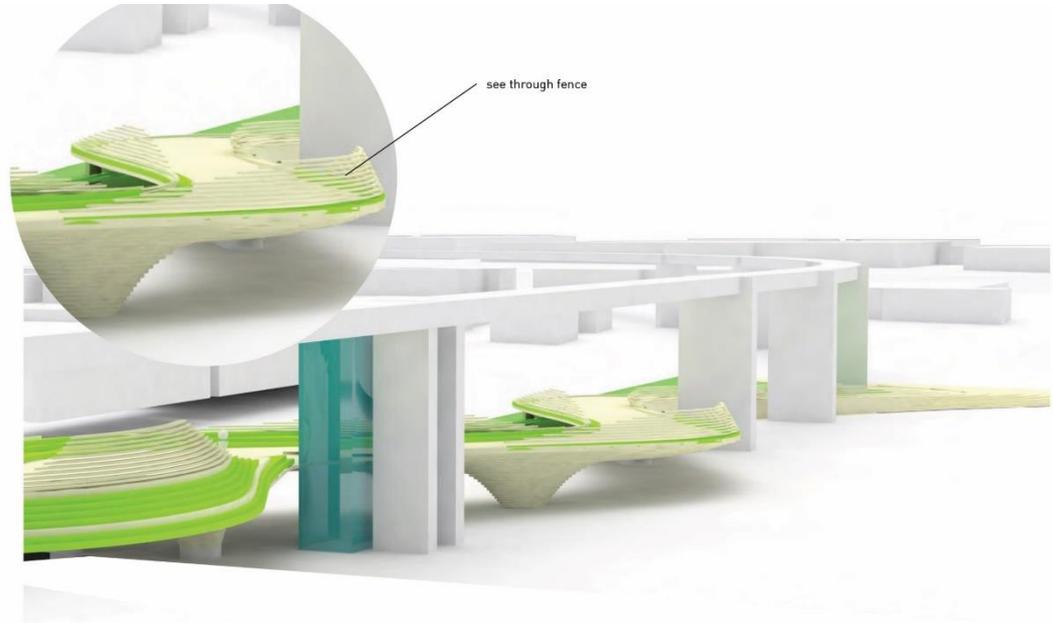
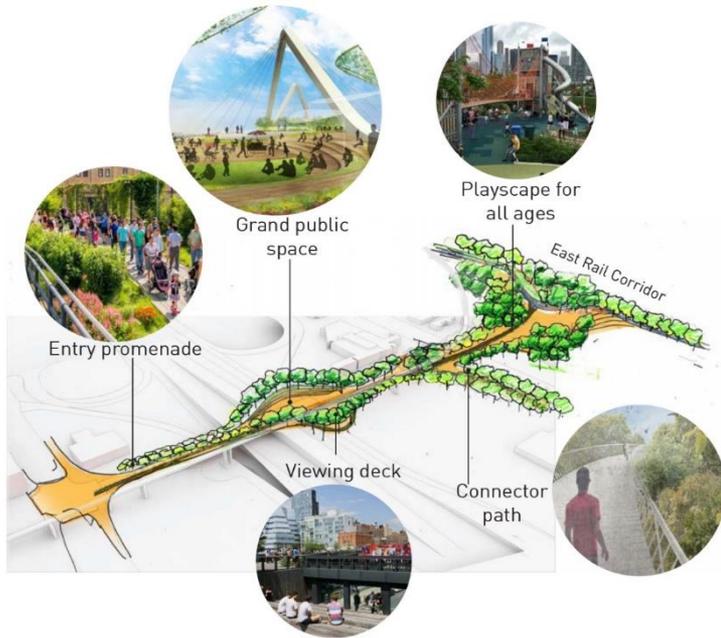
Visioning Goals



- Safe and comfortable connection
- Opportunities for public space
- Integration and cohesion with future development opportunities
- Interface with 116th Avenue NE
- Interface with Eastside Rail Corridor
- Signature in form, design, & experience



Interstate 405 Crossing Alternative One





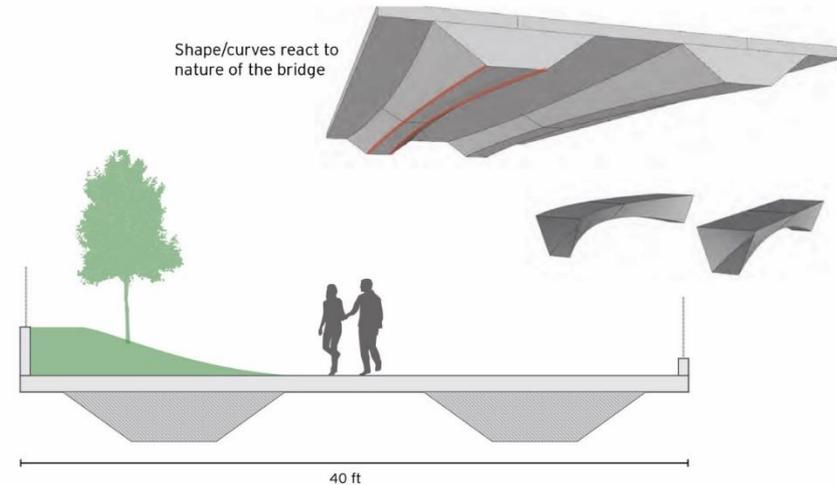
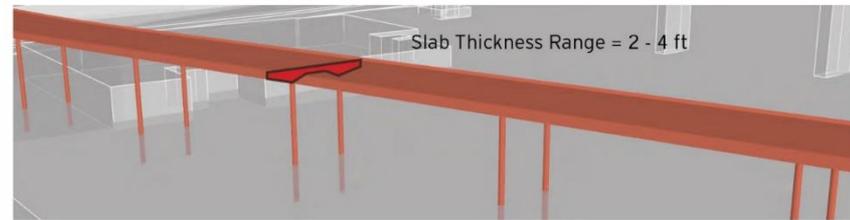
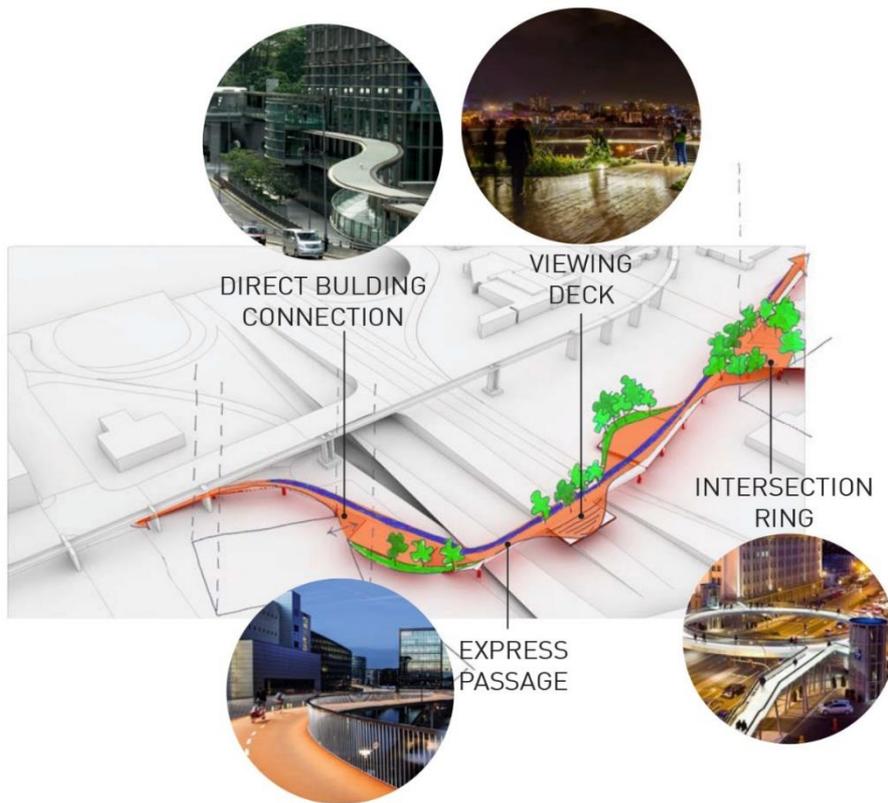
Interstate 405 Crossing

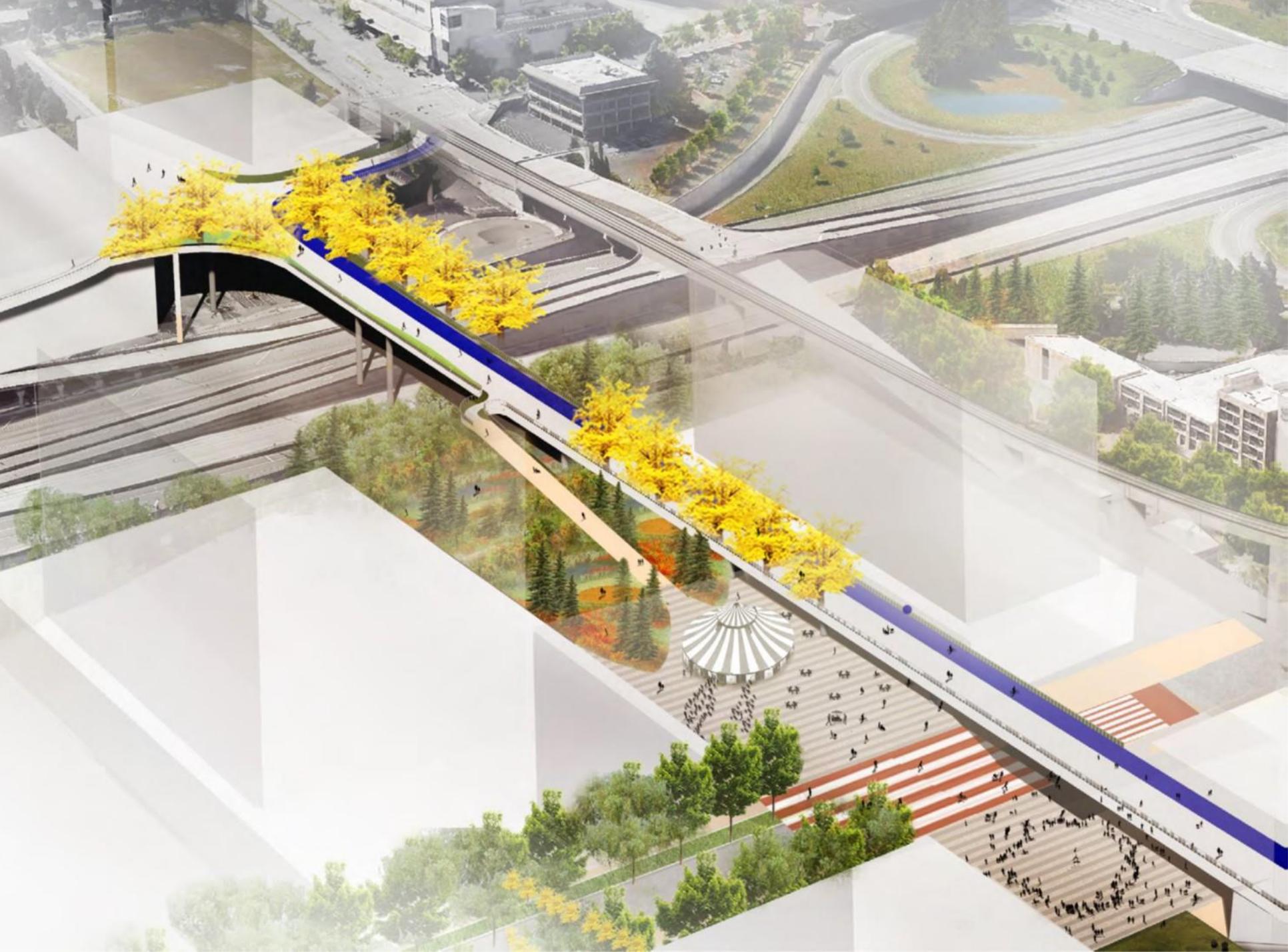
Alternative One



Interstate 405 Crossing

Alternative Two





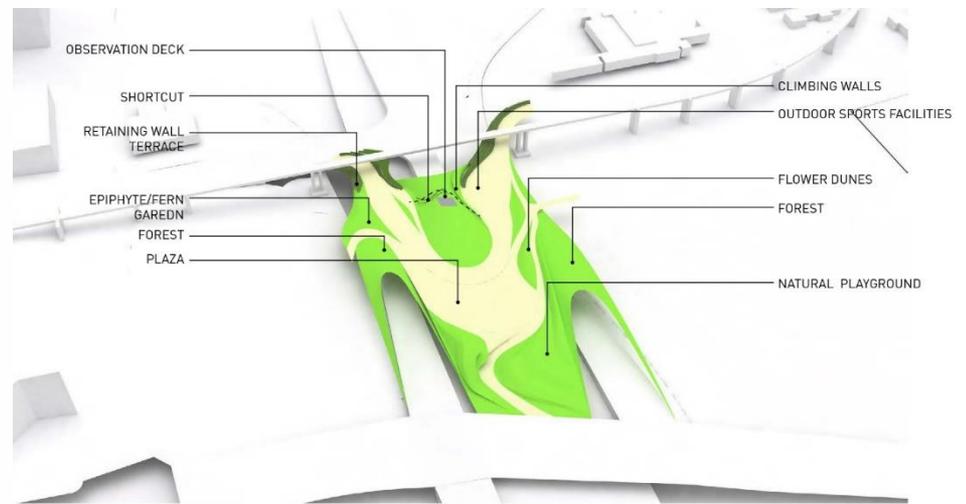
Interstate 405 Crossing

Alternative Two



Interstate 405 Crossing

Alternative Three





Interstate 405 Crossing

Alternative Three



An architectural rendering of a vibrant city plaza. In the center, a tall, white, multi-story building features a large 'CINEMAS' sign and a circular architectural element. The plaza is filled with people: children playing in a water feature, a woman on a bicycle in the foreground, and groups of people sitting at tables. The background shows modern skyscrapers and trees with yellow autumn leaves. The overall scene is bright and lively.

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QUESTIONS?