

DEVON AVENUE

race and ethnicity map of chicago

project statement

Devon Avenue Streetscape

elevator statement

This project will seek to improve Devon Avenue in order to provide neighborhood residents new opportunities and conditions for: "stoop" socializing, outdoor activities to encourage a healthy lifestyle for children, business development and attraction.

case statement

The development of this projects began because of current talks and initiatives to improve and revive Devon Avenue in West Rogers Park. The first action the committee implemented was to remove the benches from Devon Avenue corners in and around West Rogers Park. Why? It is the position, and fear, of some that these benches attracted unsavory and criminal elements to the neighborhood, especially at night. It is possible that this is true. However, criminal behavior cannot be eradicated through the removal of benches; especially when these benches are used by the "eyes of the street"- the locals, for gathering and socializing. Can a better street make a better neighborhood? Over 50% of children in this neighborhood are overweight and over 25% are considered obese. Can a redesigned streetscape offer new opportunities for children to learn new and improved healthy life habits? This project will investigate current conditions of car traffic, pedestrian traffic, street widths, zoning uses, building facades, sidewalks, criminal activity and other features of Devon Avenue. I will then introduce a new concept and design to allow the continuation of social activity, pacify those that fear an increase in criminal activity, and seek ways to create new opportunities for healthy living.



goals

Overall:

Numerous neighborhood benefits of the streetscape project will include: lifestyle, natural environment, economy, culture, and reputation of Devon Avenue.

Social:

To provide opportunities for a range of social benefits by capitalizing on local neighborhood assets and, through the creation of a safe and adequate public realm, encourage social interaction and promote the neighborhood's lifestyle, health, happiness and well being.

Economic:

To encourage the revitalization of economic activity in the area by providing public amenities that support local businesses and encourage positive, respectful behavior.

Streetscape:

To enhance the area's natural and built heritage through quality urban design and high environmental standards.

guiding principles

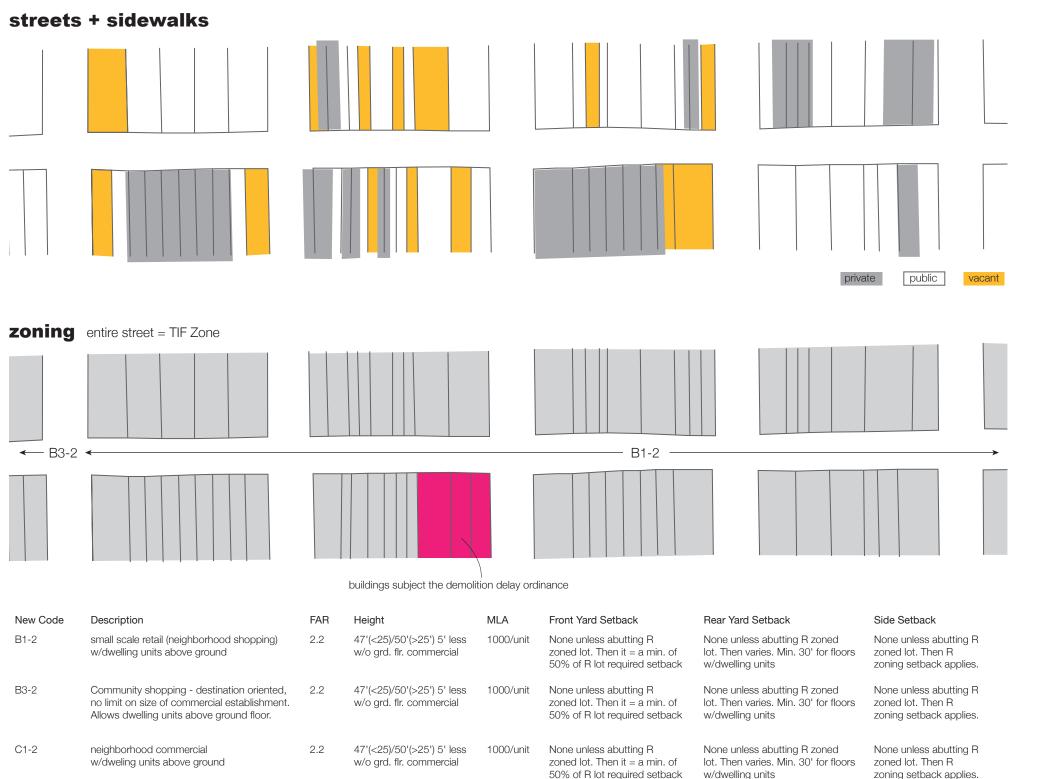
a safe and comfortable environment will promote street level activity that supports the social and economic health of Devon Avenue

seasonal weather changes effects street life; make sure to accomodate for hot summers and cold winters

new public spaces should be accomadating for residents of all ages

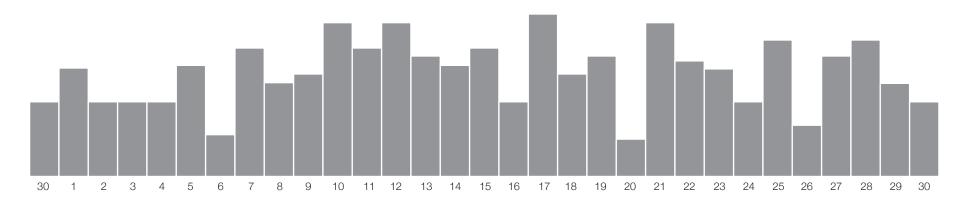
the average american spends only 72 minutes outdoors each day.



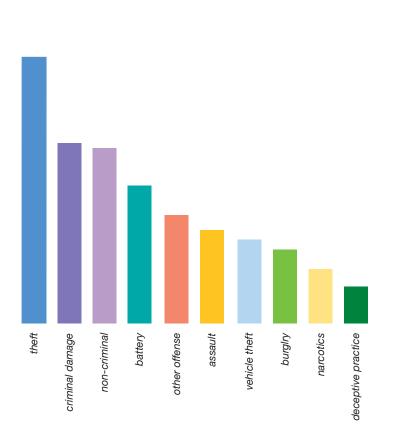


crime

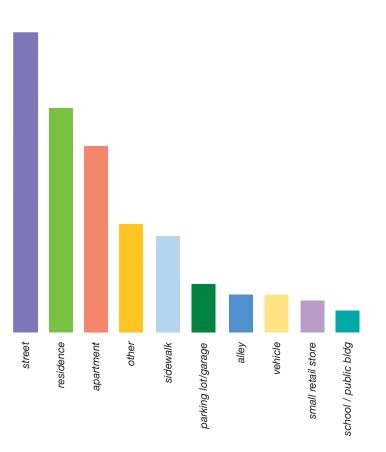
when



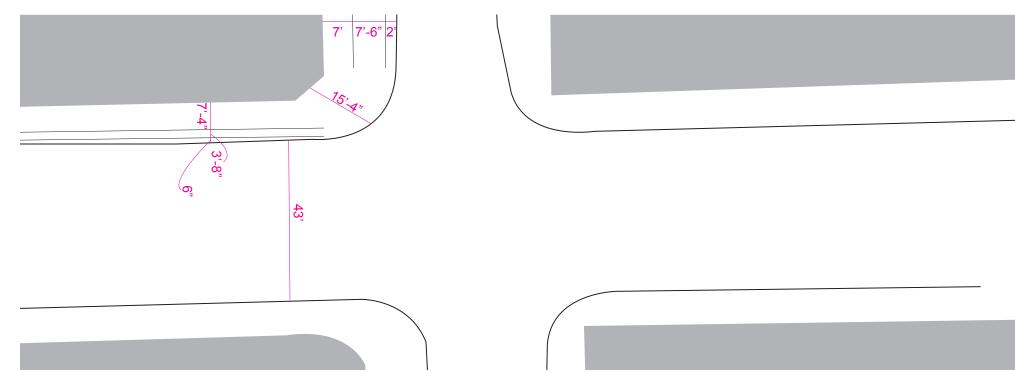




where









chicago standards

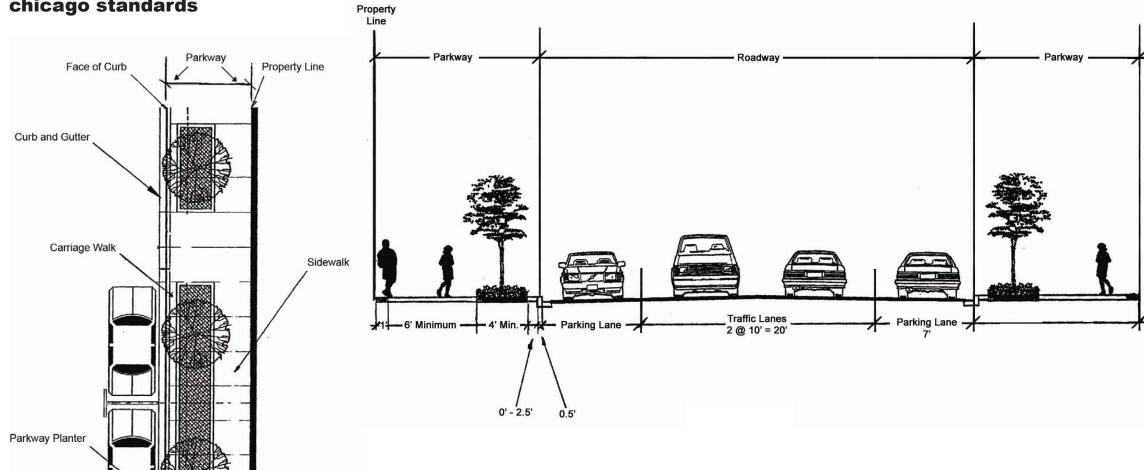
Courtesy Walk

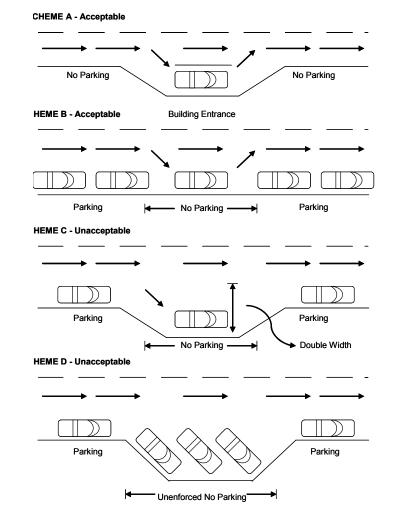
Curb '

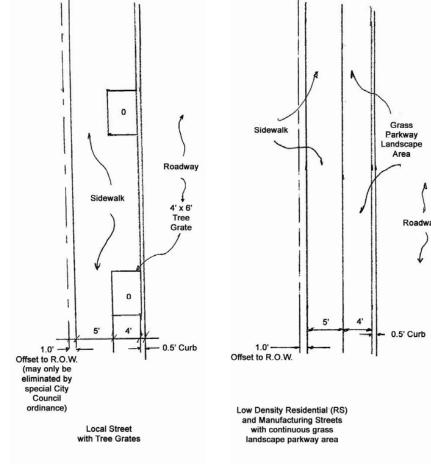
Carriage Walk

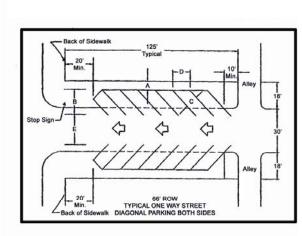
Parkway Landscape Area

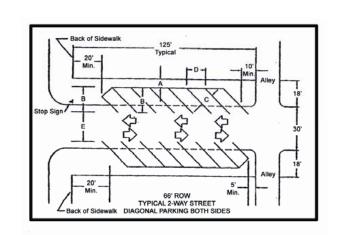
Sidewalk

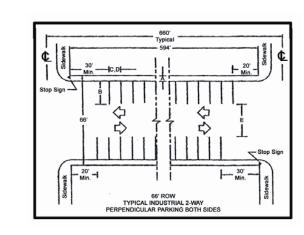


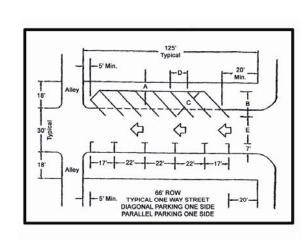


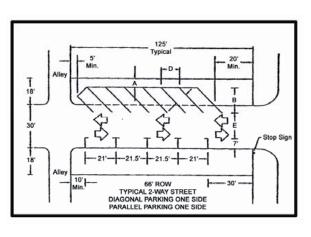


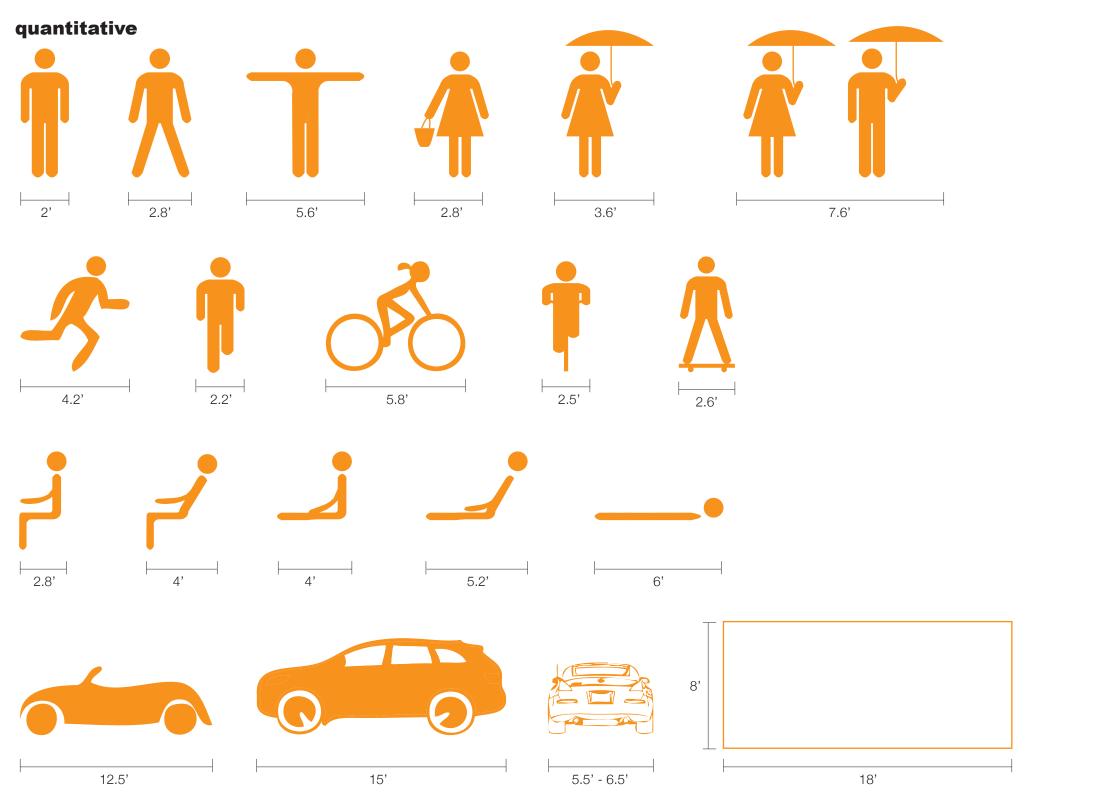


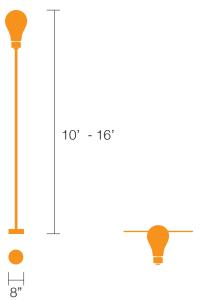












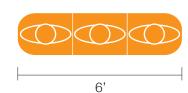


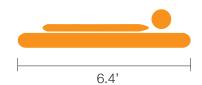


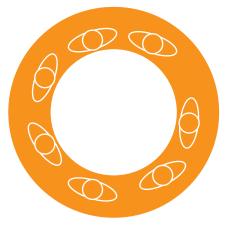


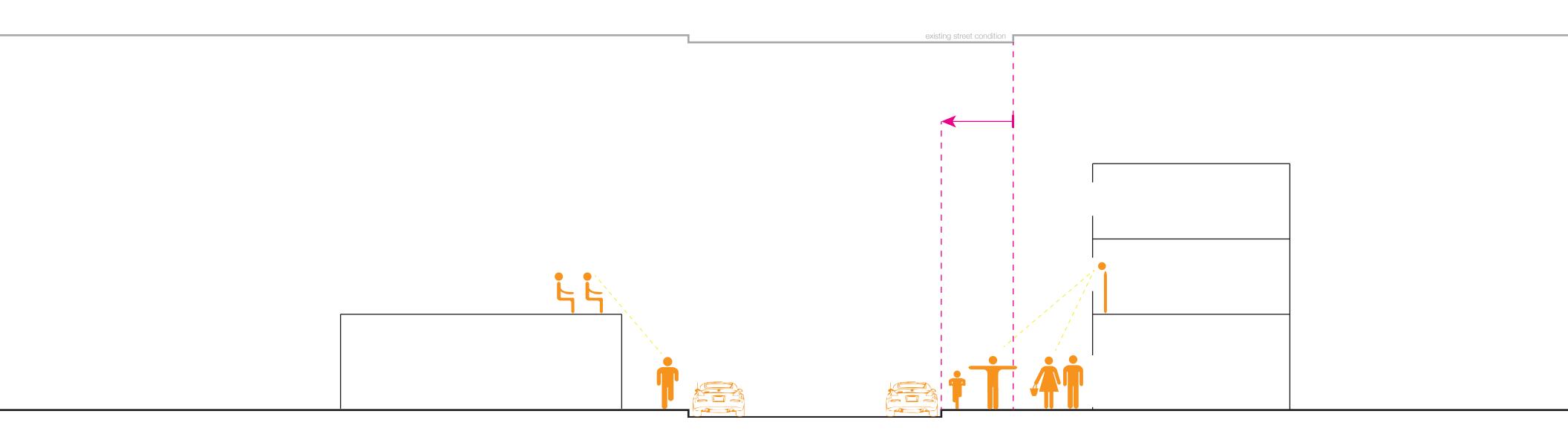












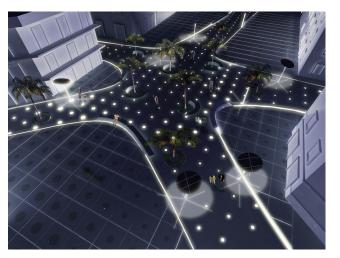
qualitative







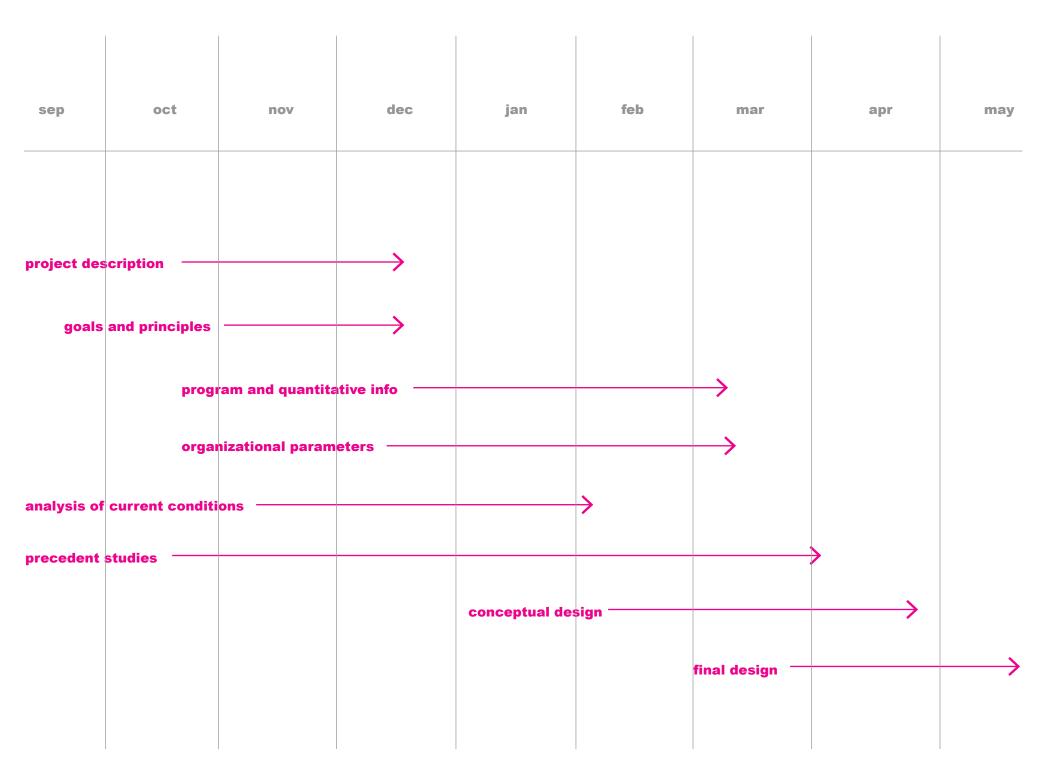






process

stakeholders





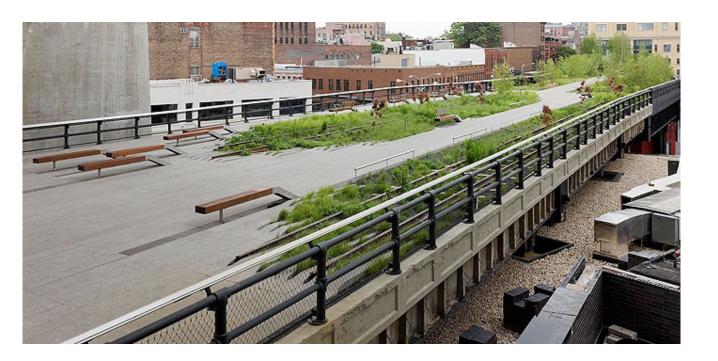
High Line New York

a 1.5-mile long public park built on an abandoned elevated railroad stretching from the meatpacking district to the hudson rail yards in manhattan.

using a strategy of "agri-tecture", they combined organic and building materials into a blend of changing proportions that accommodate the wild, the cultivated, the intimate, and the social

3 strategies used:

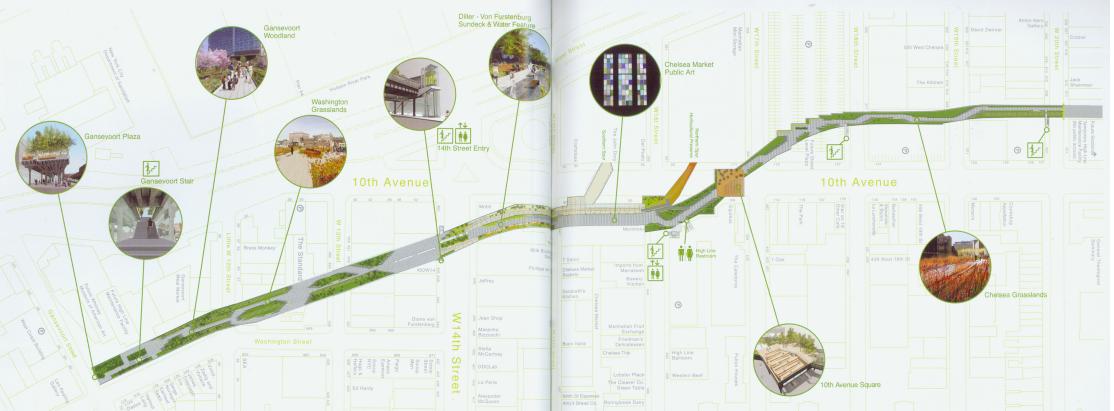
- paving system
 slowing things down
 careful sense of dimension of scale

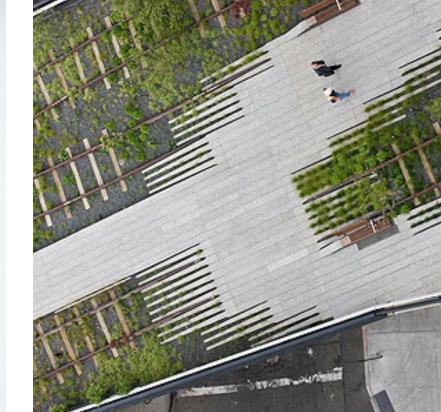










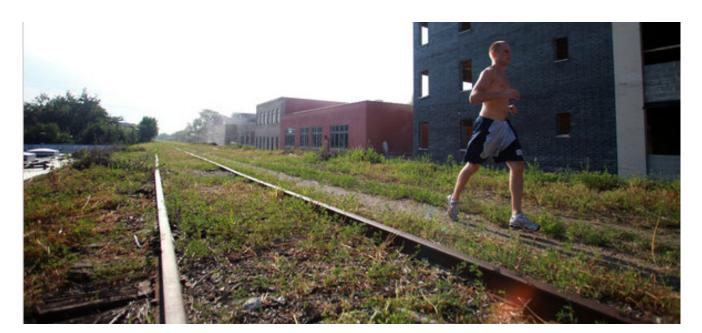


Bloomingdale Trail Chicago

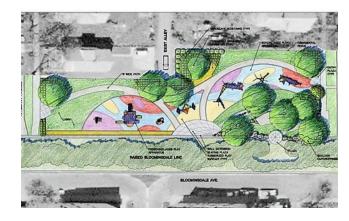
the conversion of the bloomingdale rail embankment into an elevated, multi-use, linear park and trail

the 5 goals:

- preserve the elevated right of way
- beautify the public space
- create a new, mixed use trail/linear park
- establish a broad coalition that supports the proposed park
- connect with neighborhood schools and institutions













Giddings Plaza Chicago

originally farmland owned by farmers of German and English descent

area is known as a heavily German influenced and populated neighborhood

designated as "Lincoln Square" by the City of Chicago in 1925

about 45,000 people live in Lincoln Square / 38.6% are foreign born

about 1,000 small to medium sized businesses

Lincoln Square Chamber of Commerce started to promote its commercial identity in 1949

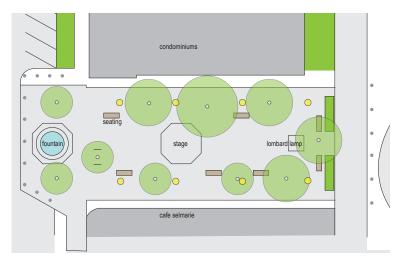
accessible through the Brown Line + Metra

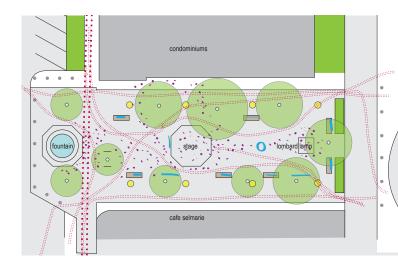
Tuesday morning farmers market in train parking lot Thursday evening farmers market + summer concert

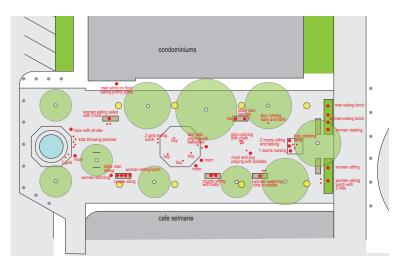
one mother proclaimed
"I bring my kids here to play and run around,
because I feel safer here than I do at the park."



the last segment of giddings street was cut off from vehicular traffic creating a pedestrian plaza









life in lincoln square/giddings plaza

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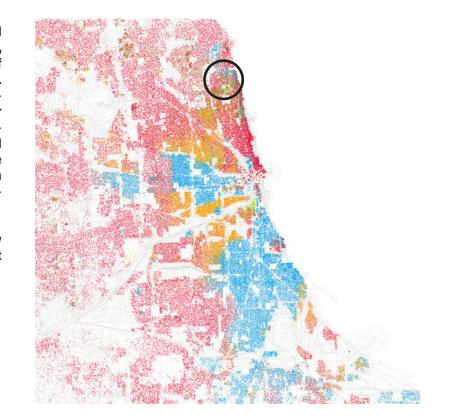
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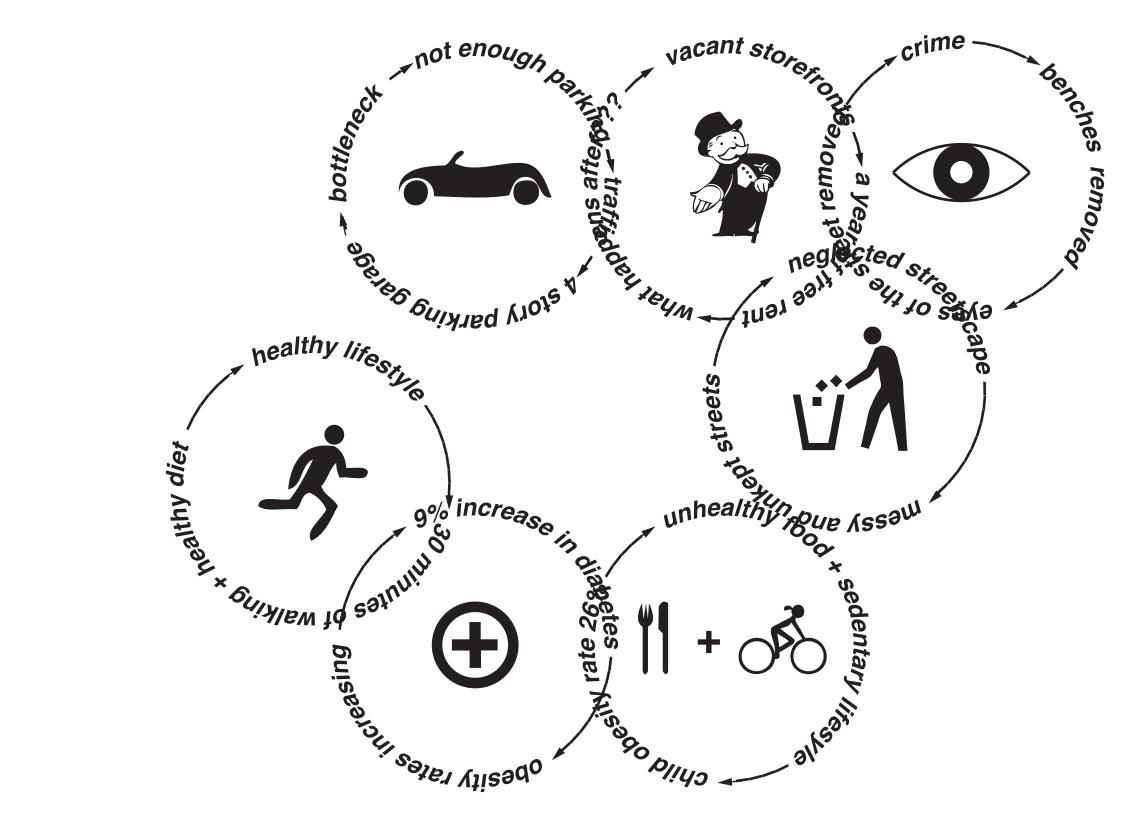
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This project encourages innovative design and planning concepts that further the development of a better, healthier and more active lifestyle through the infusion of activities into everyday practices in a space inhabited daily. It is not about encouraging us to go to the gym and workout more. It's about giving citizens a workout through their interactions with this environment on a daily basis. This includes biking instead of driving and creating interesting and engaging environments to walk through. Governments are beginning to realize that by attacking obesity through urban design and architecture, designers might be its best warriors in the battle against obesity and its costs.

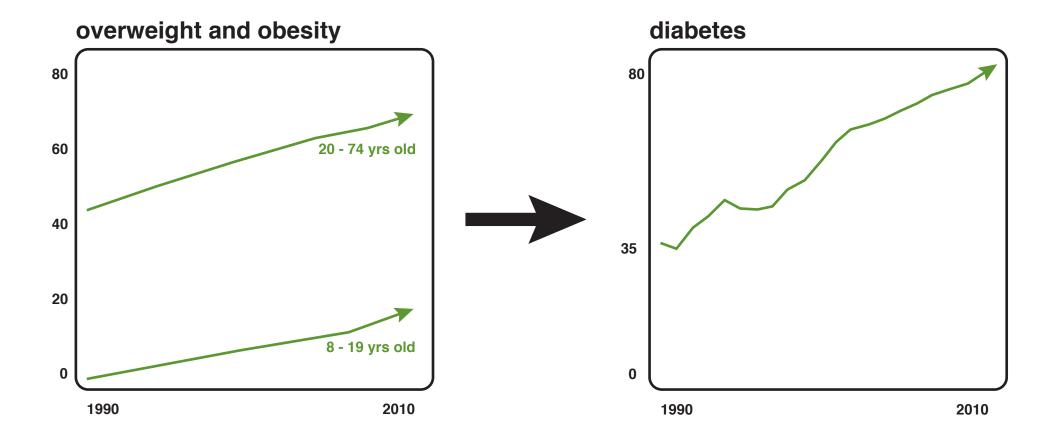
Instead of trying to change individual choices by using a moral appeal about what is good for you, it's about changing the environment to reshape the available choices.



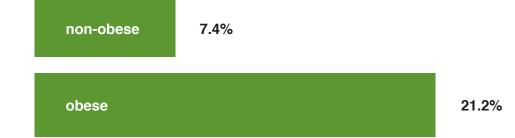




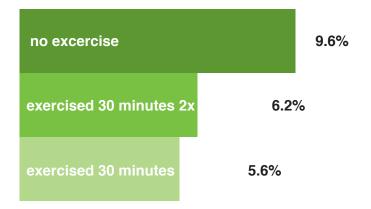
weight increase = disease increase



likelihood of being diagnosed with diabetes



non-obese americans with diabetes

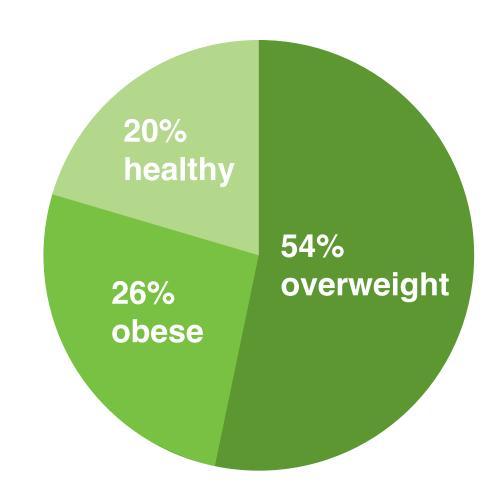


obese americans with diabetes



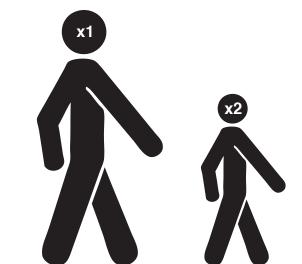
children in the rogers park neighborhood

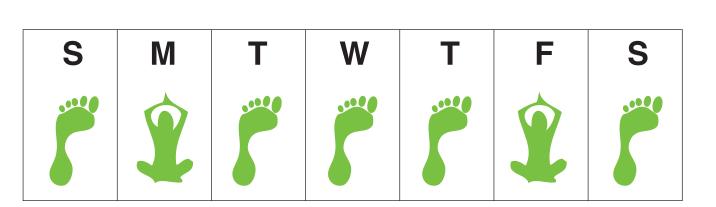
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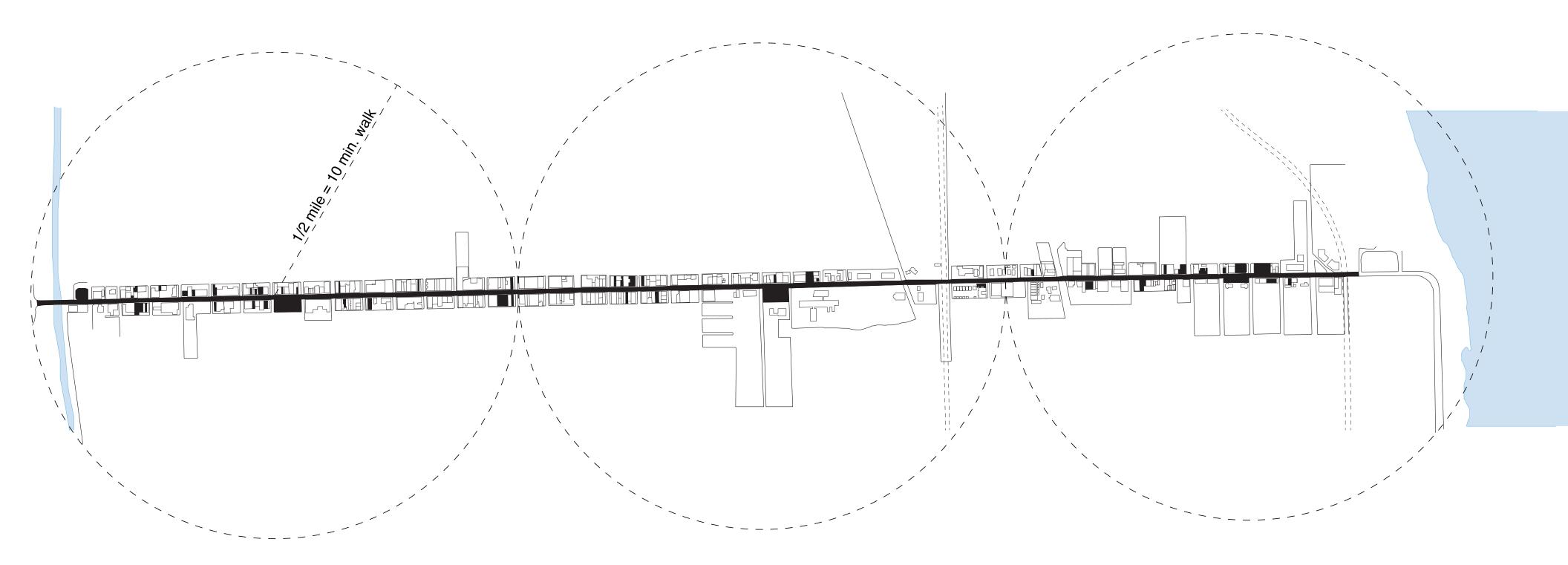


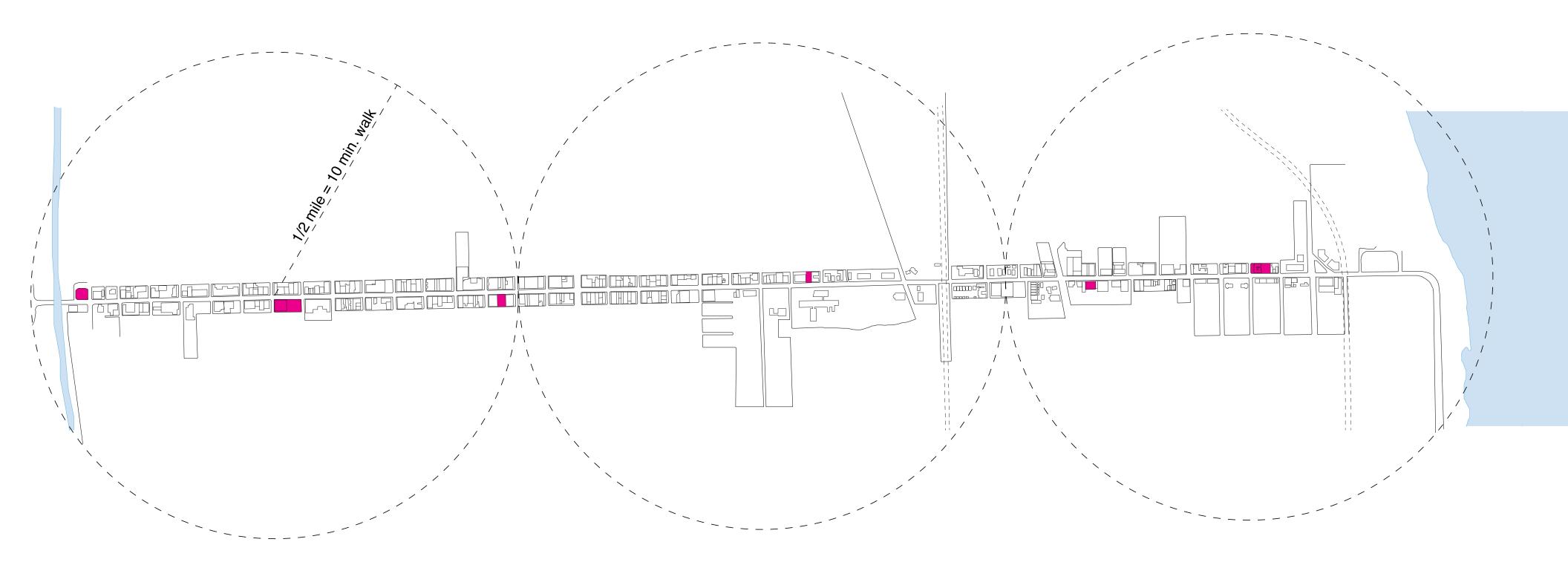


recommended weekly excercise is 150 minutes of walking (+ 2x/week strength training)





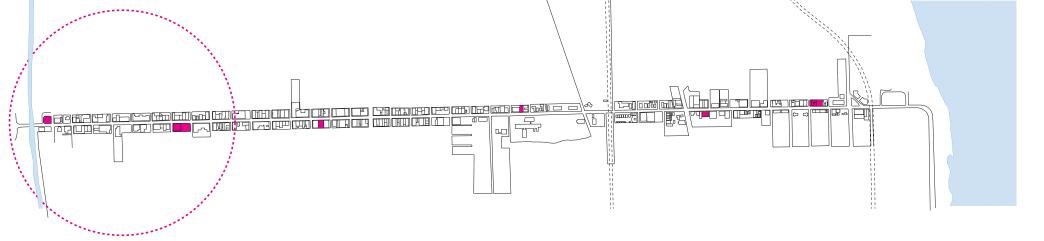


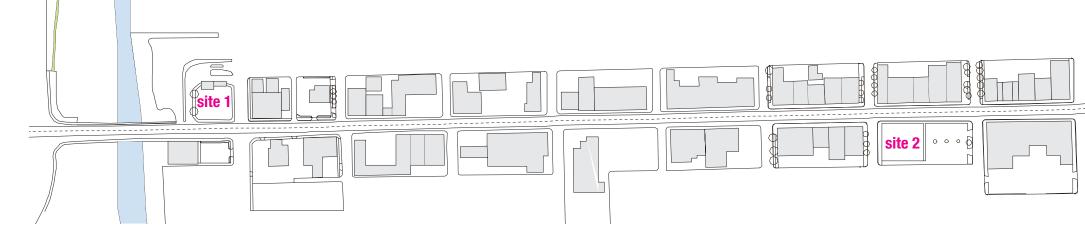


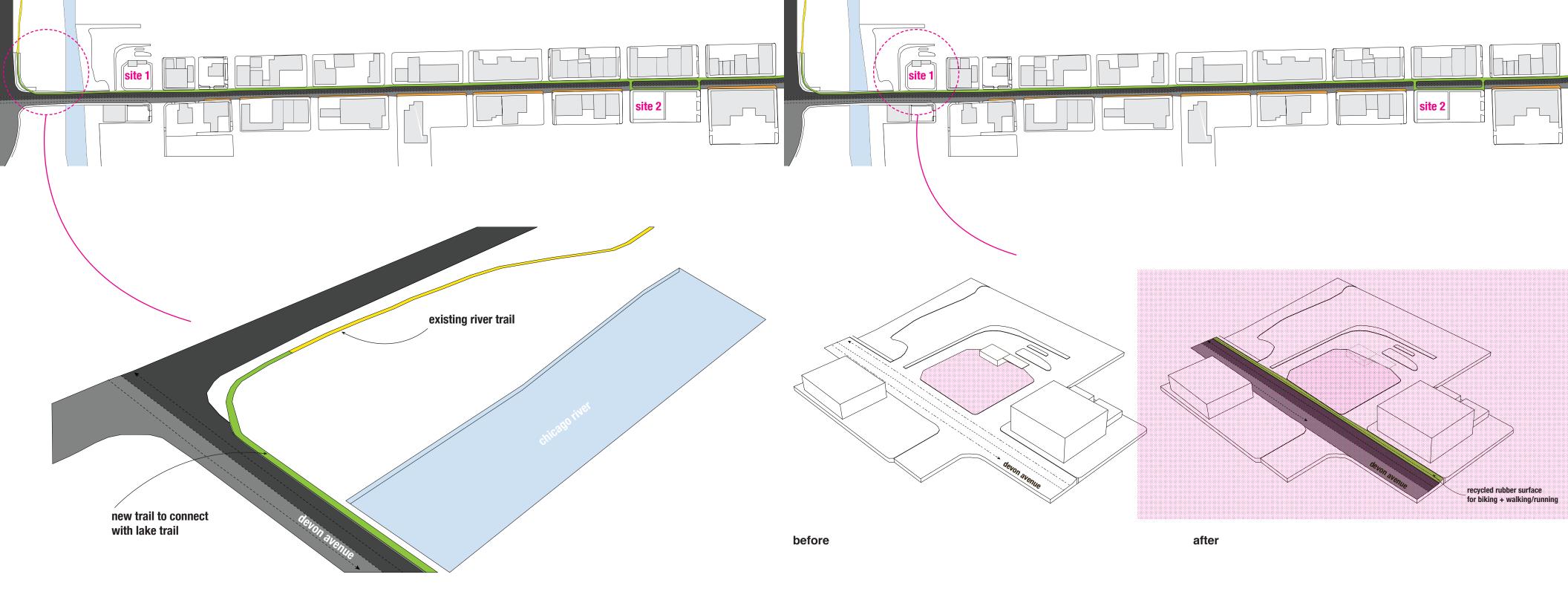




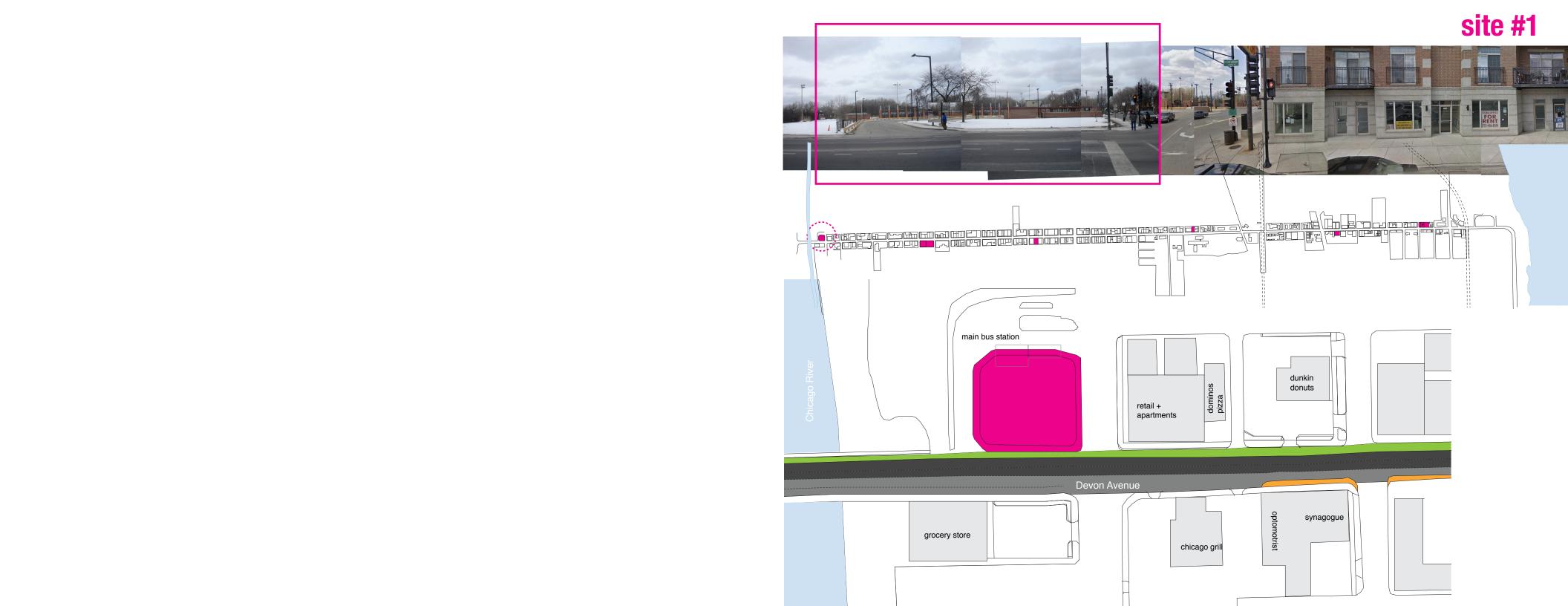












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