

# The Brownfield Renewal Recreation Park

Rosika Babakhanian



This Project is an **urban renewal** of an abandoned **post-industrial land** in the calumet region located on Chicago's far southeast. The Calumet region was once the largest and richest **wetland** in lower north America, but 120 years of intensive **industrialization**, pollution and waste disposal **tailored** the **ecosystem** of this region and resulted in thousands of acres of **brownfields**. Today, a renewed interest in calumet region as well as an enlightened view of the environment provides a unique opportunity to develop a **recreation park** that contributes to development and **strengthening** of the identity of this region. The project also attempts to strike a balance between the area's **ecology** and **economy**, to foster a healthy, productive, and sustainable environment for the area's visitors, plants, animals.



Calumet region is historically an important region, both for its **ecological richness** as well as its contribution to the **prosperity of Chicago**. Prior to becoming one of the busiest transportation hubs in North America, calumet's land contained **marshes**, **fens**, **swales**, as well as **prairies** and **savannas**. The emergence of the industrial era altered the land of this region dramatically. The wetlands were filled by the byproduct of steel-making to create more land to support the high demand of the industry. For over a century, this region, **manufactured** and **processed** products essential for industry and in the everyday lives of citizens. However, the **decline of industry** in 1990s left this region with acres of **Brownfields**. Today, **3,000 acres** of vacant **industrial land** and **4,800 acres** of **open space**.

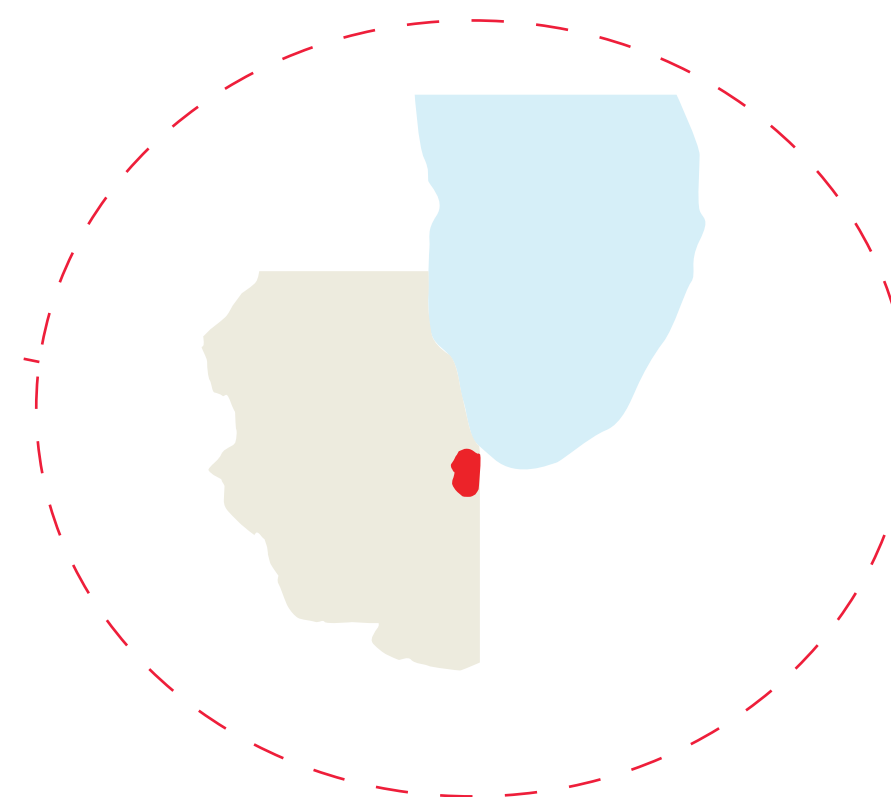
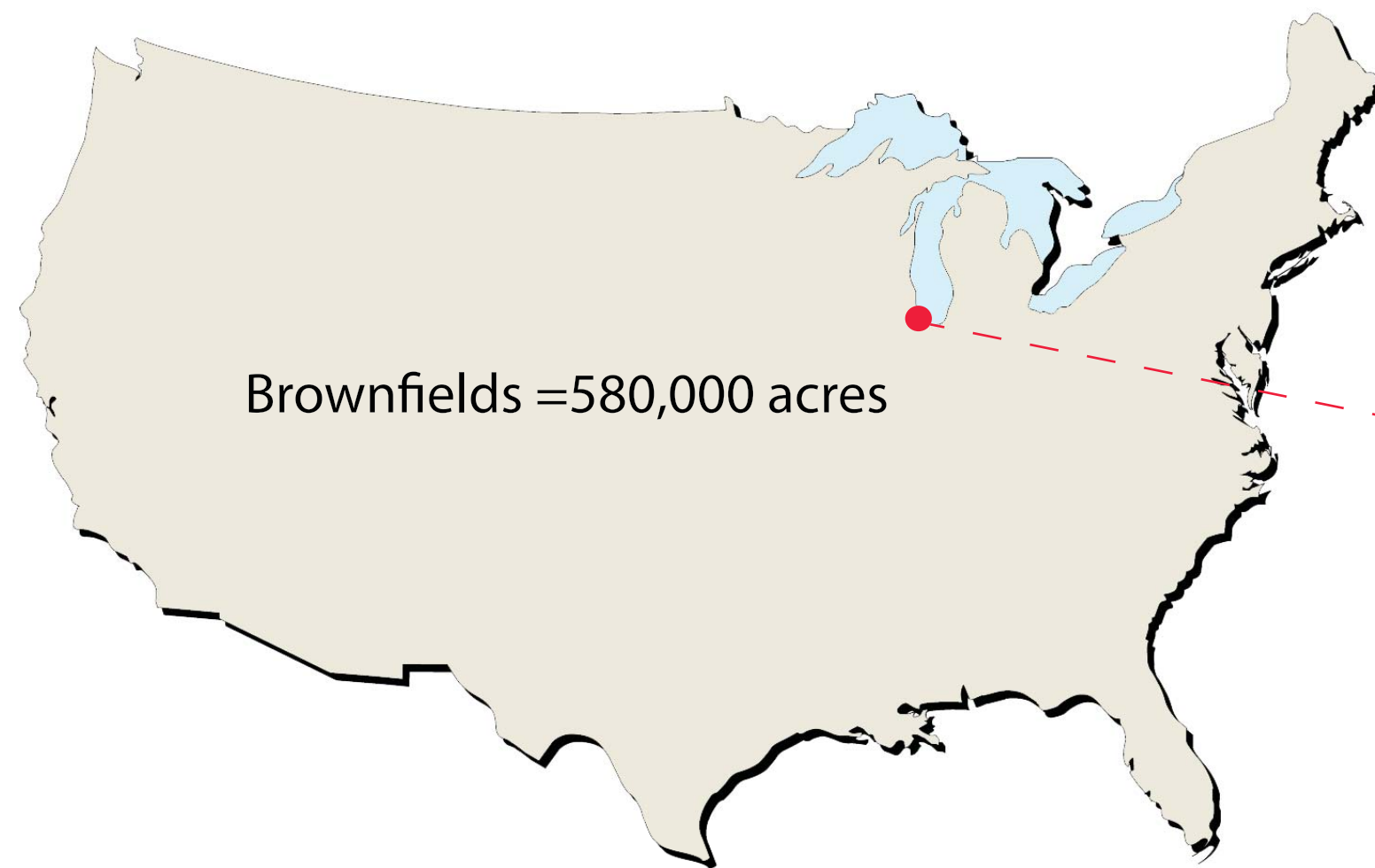




Calumet has always been a popular destination for outdoor activities, especially fishing, since late 1800s and early 1900s. Thus, the park will provide ample fishing opportunities for the visitors. In addition, a recreation park in this region will contribute to the economic growth of this region. For an example, Workers in parks and recreation, sports agencies, organizations, non-profit organization all will utilize and benefit from this facility. A recreation park also brings along some civic benefits. For an example, Sports and youth activities offer leadership development for adults and children. These benefits extend to all ages, childhood, youth, young adults, families, and seniors.

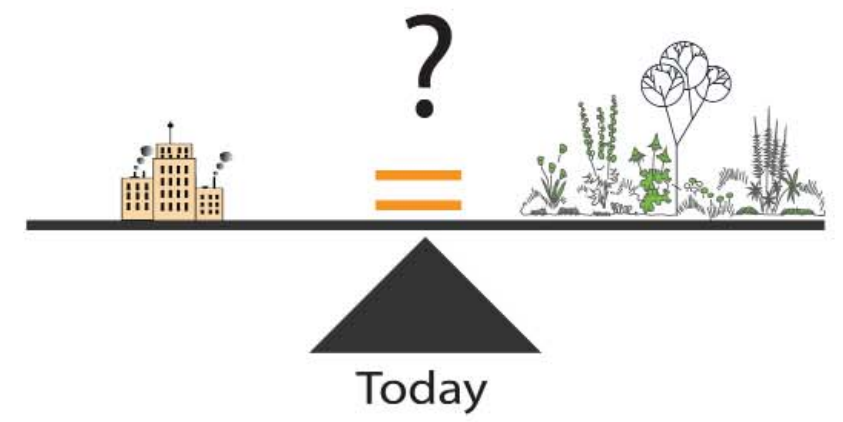
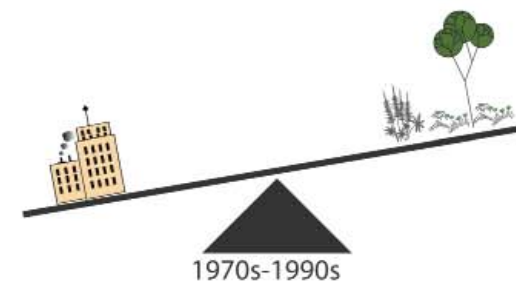
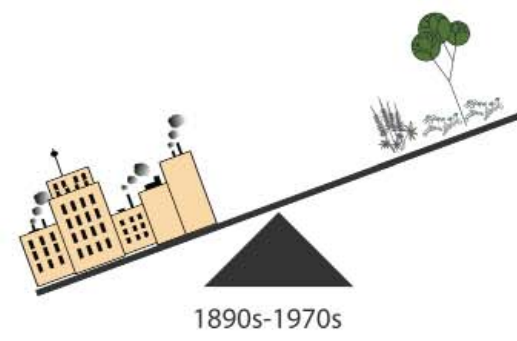
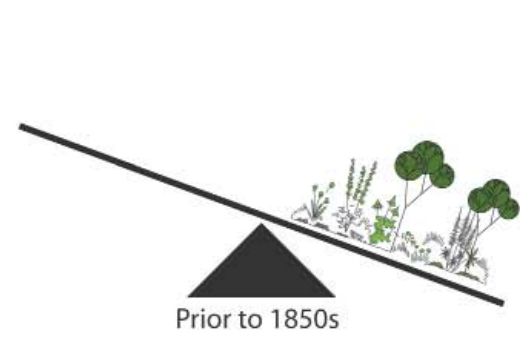






Calumet Region= 1% of Total Brownfields





Enriching Community

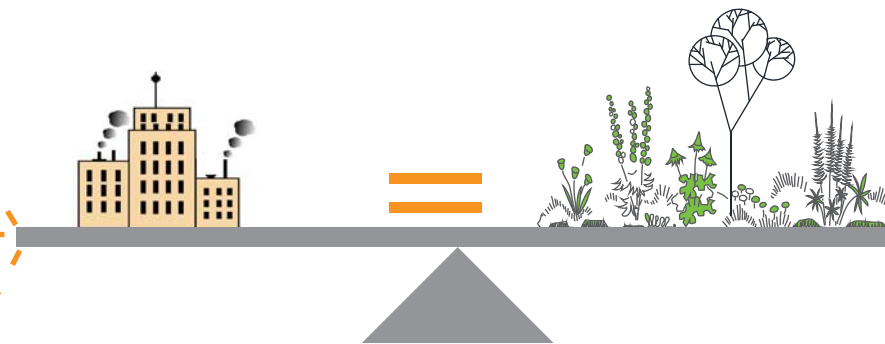
Improving the Aquatics

Harvesting Energy

Enhancing the Biodiversity

Generating Income

Renewing the Ecosystem







1901



1930



1960



2000





Burnham Plan, 1909



Comprehensive City Plan, 1946



World's Fair Plan, 1980



Third Airport Plan, 1990



# Goals

- To develop a public space for civic, cultural, recreational, and leisure activities in Calumet area.
- To attract new commerce and business through economic growth and community reinvestment.
- To develop a Brownfield into a sustained environment.

# Guidelines

- Creating a space that comfortably accommodates the needs of diverse group of people.
- Attract new industrial and business development, and create new job opportunities.
- Protect and enhance wetland and natural areas within the Calumet area, and improve habitat for rare and endangered species.
- Enhance habitat for native plants and animals. Promote energy efficient and environmentally sustainable design and construction techniques.
- Creating an environment that allows users to connect with nature.



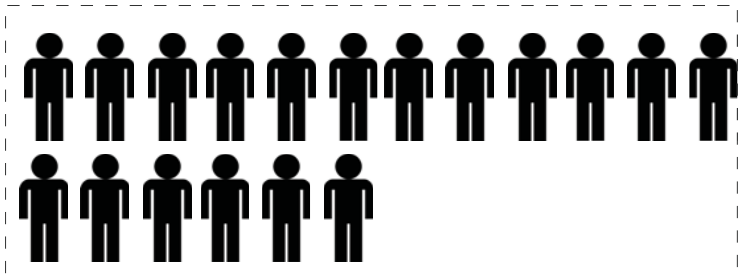
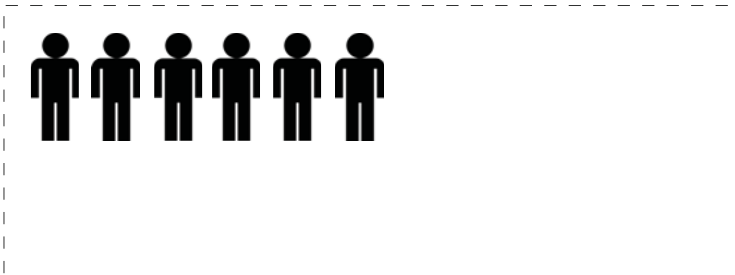


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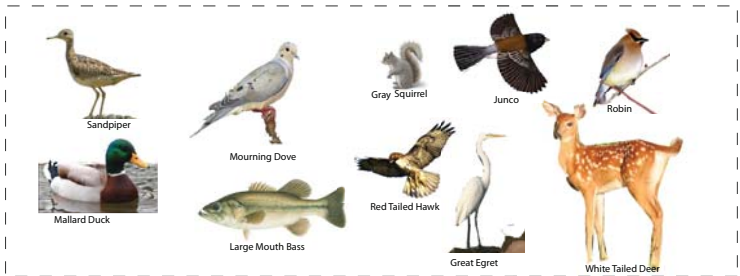
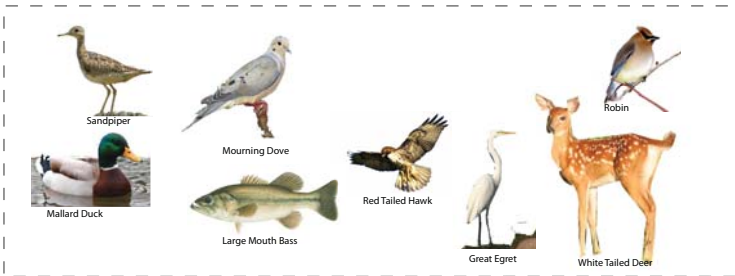
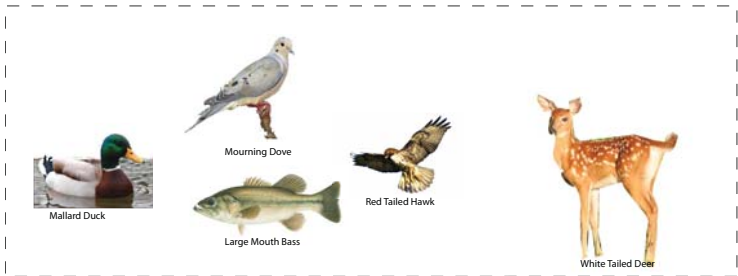
Short Term

Long Term

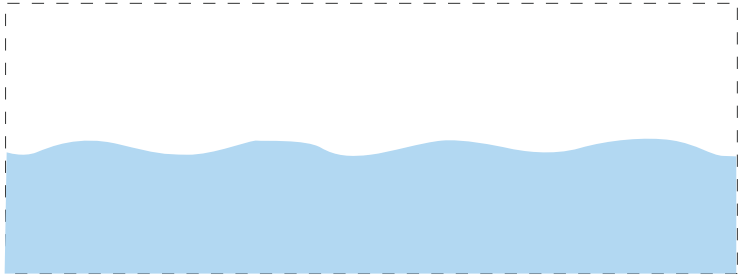
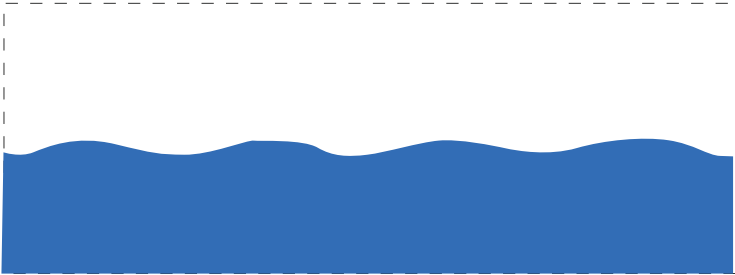
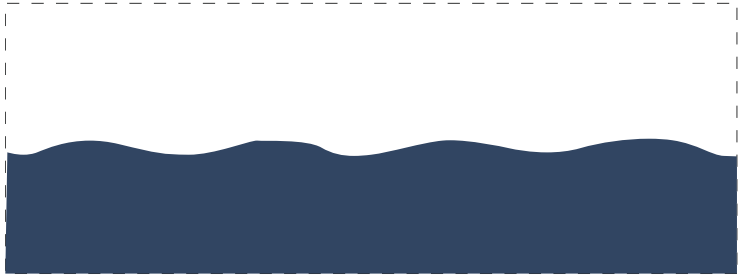
Users



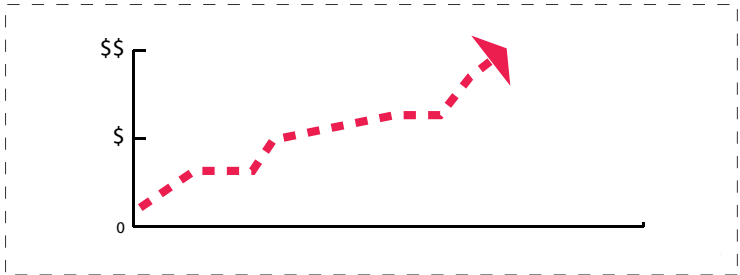
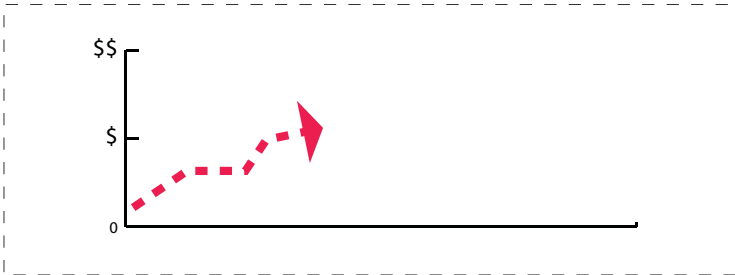
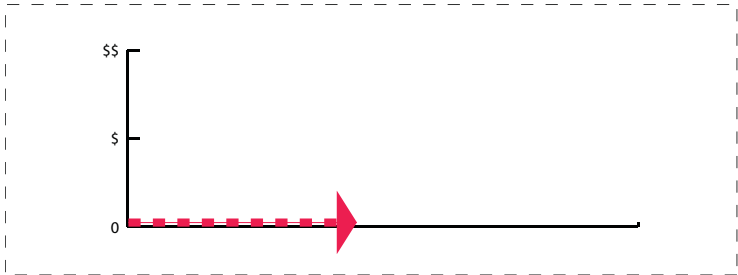
Biodiversity



water Quality

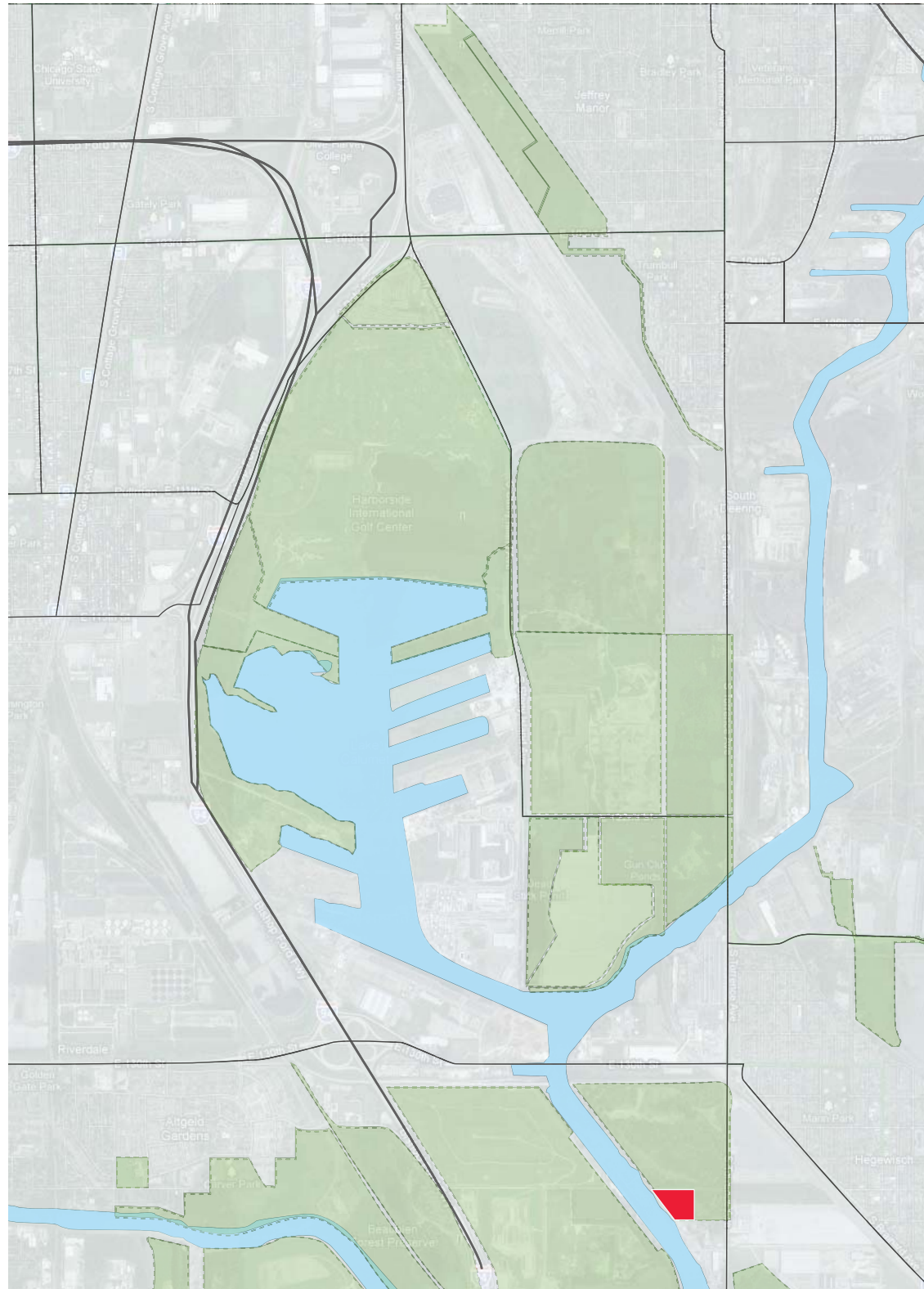


Economic Growth



Short-term & Long Term Result

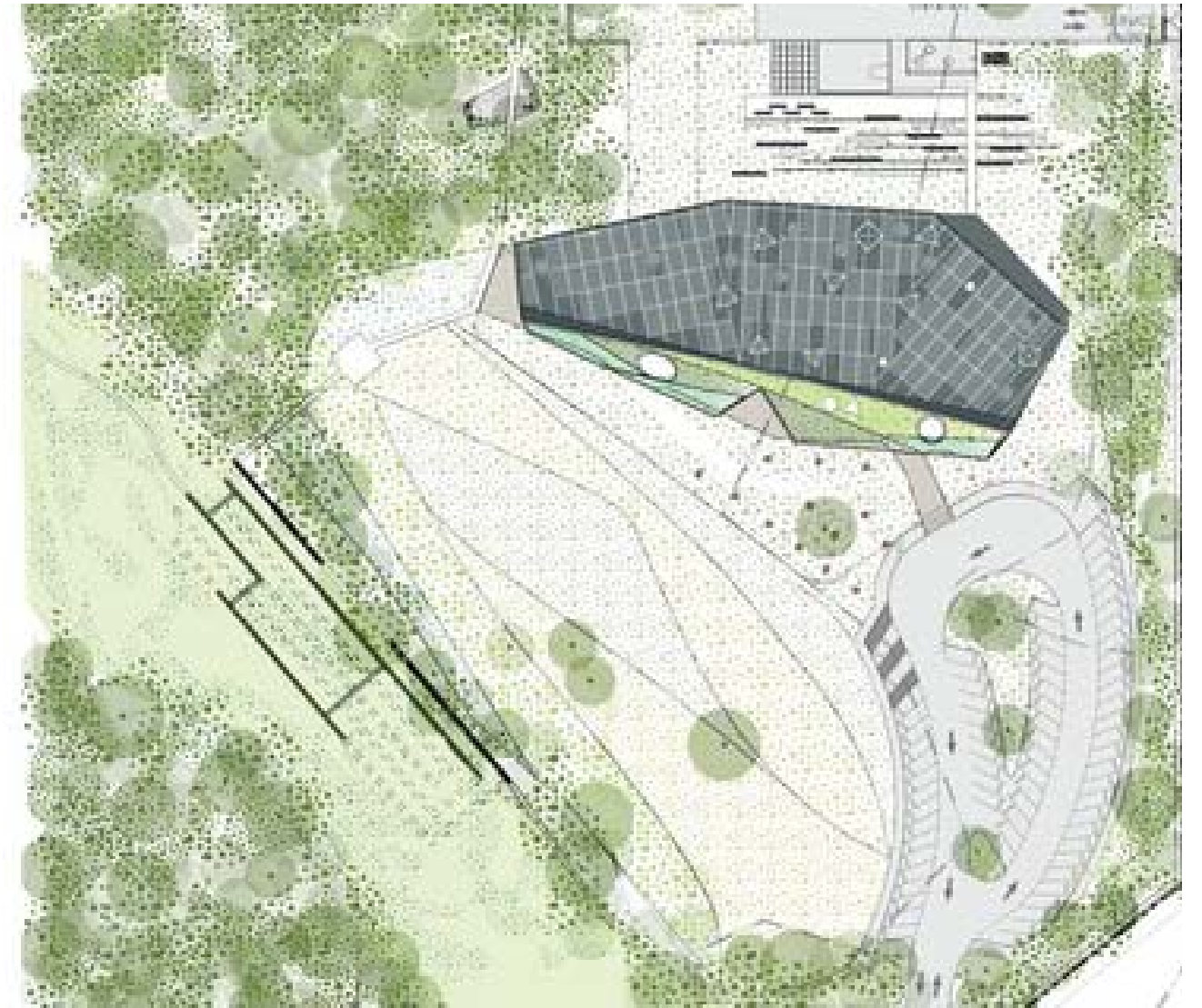




Current efforts in Calumet Region: Ford Calumet Nature Center







Current efforts in Calumet Region: Ford Calumet Nature Center



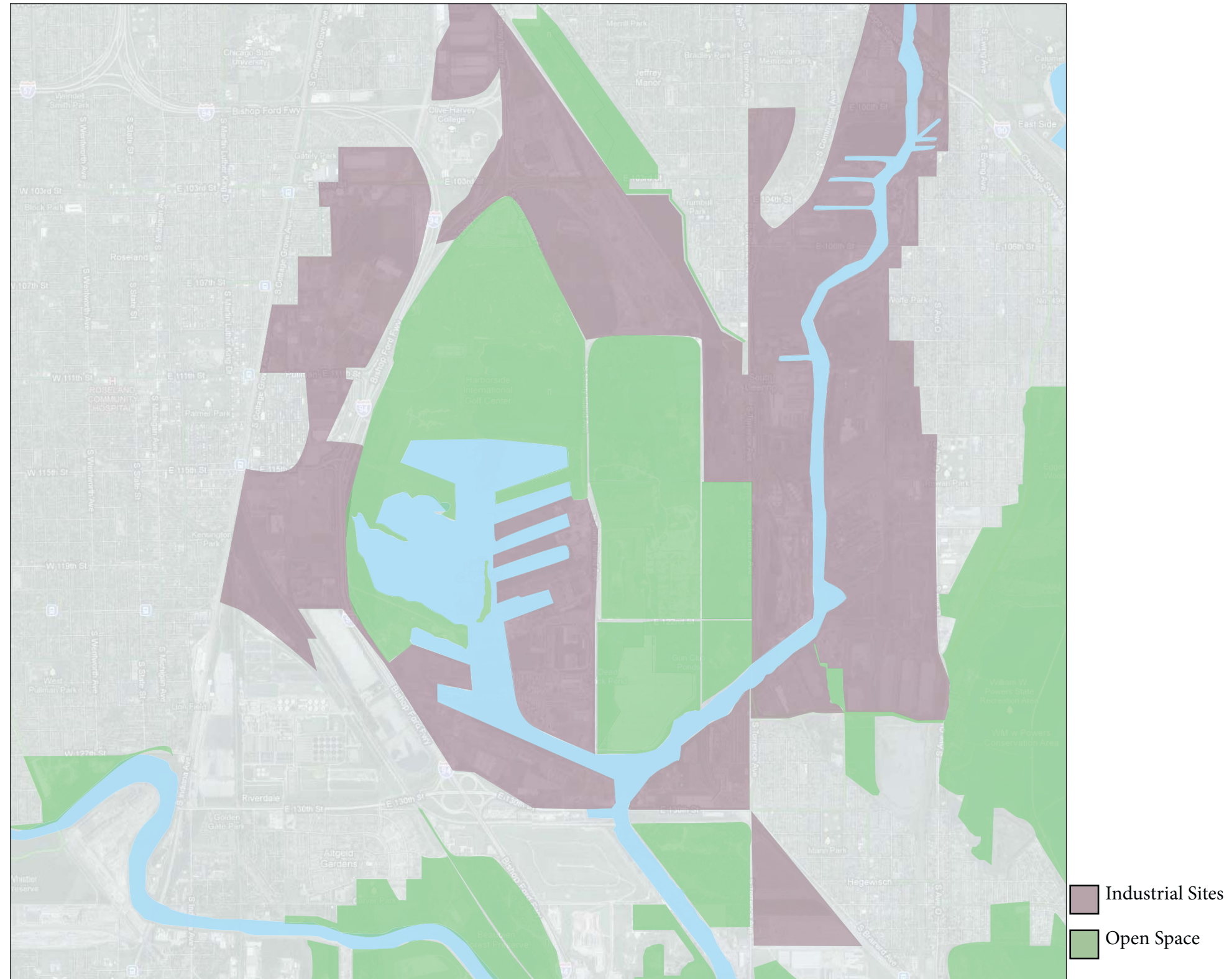




Aerial View of Calumet Region

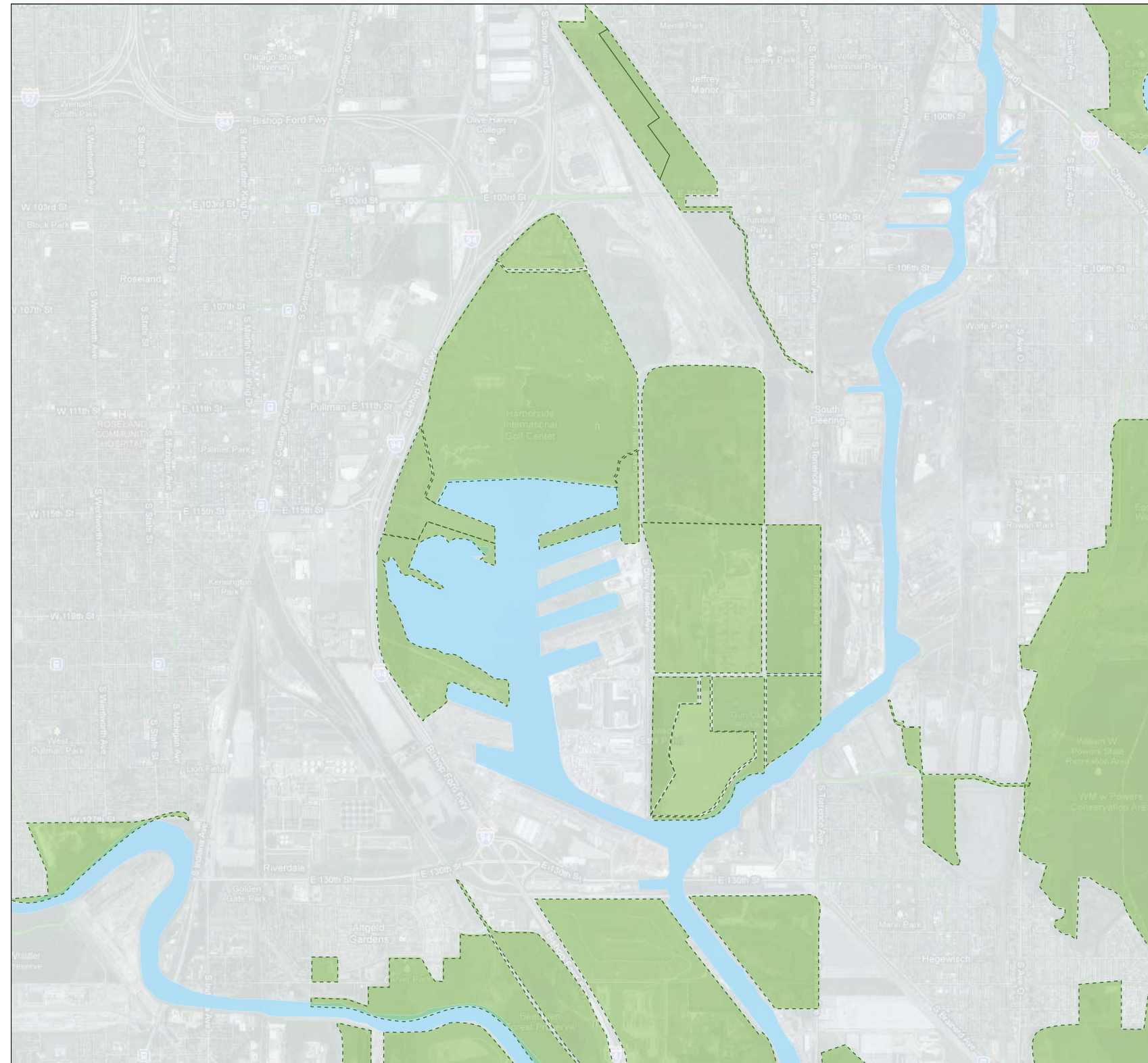




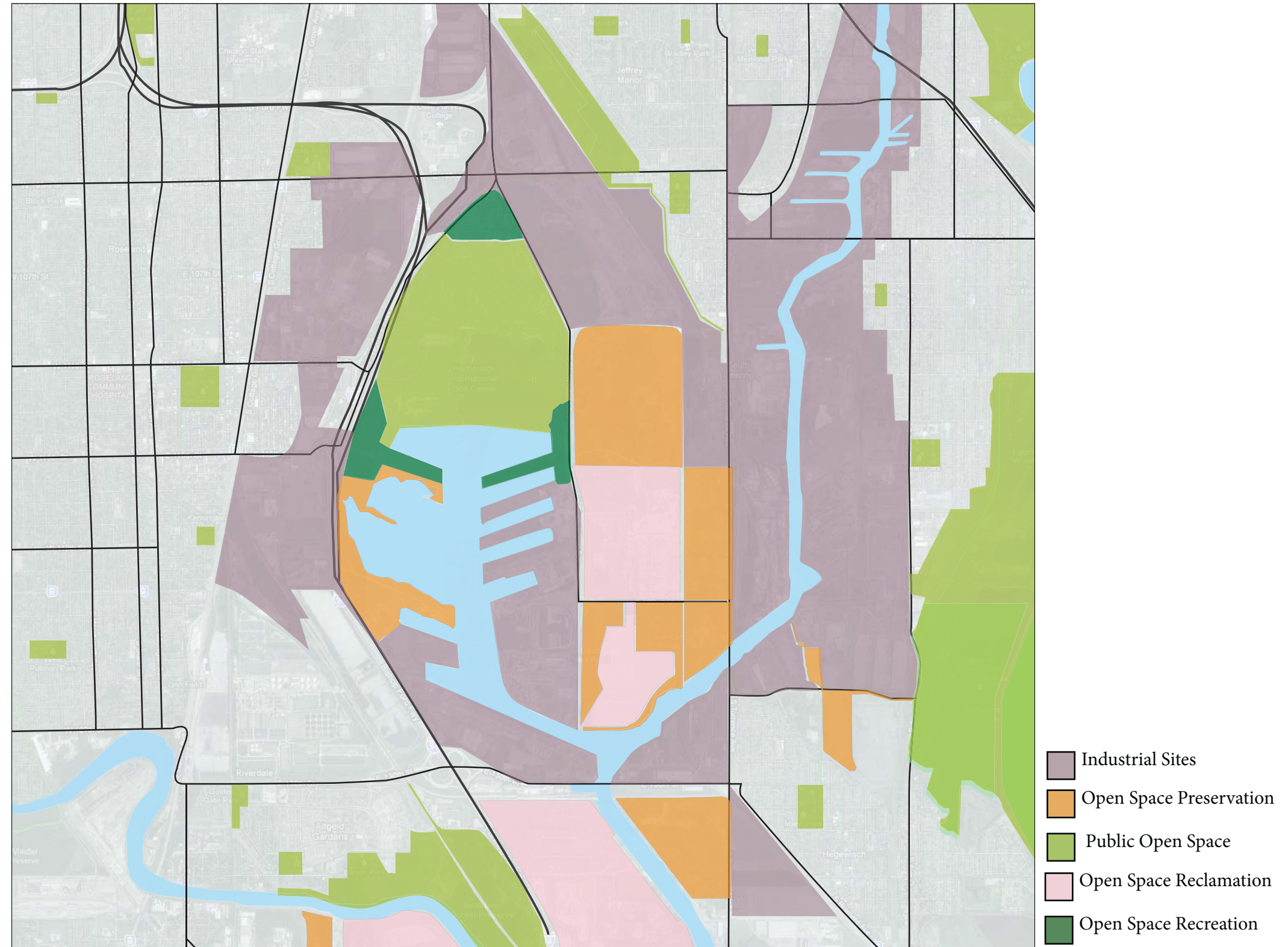


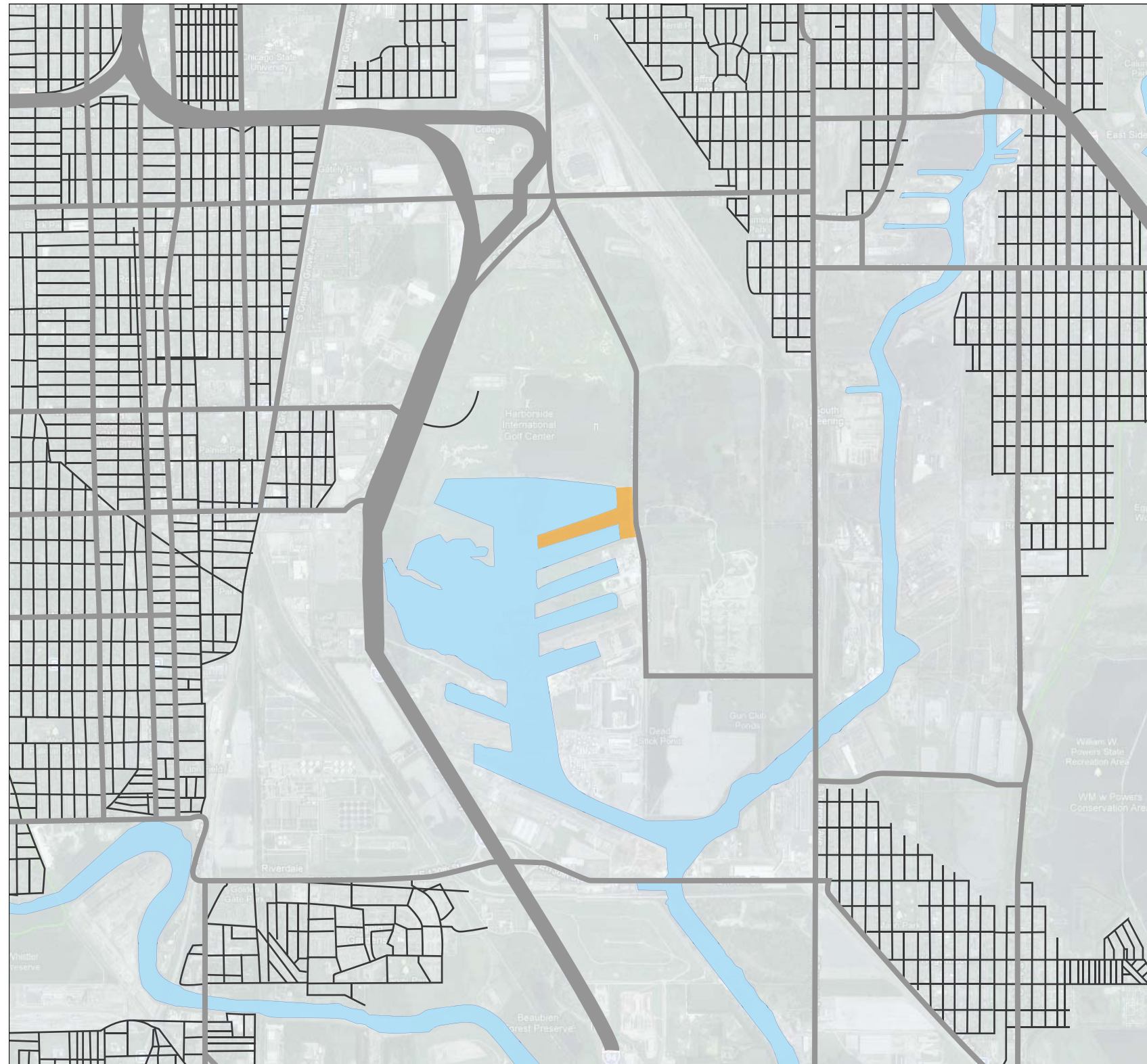
Open Space & Industrial land In Calumet



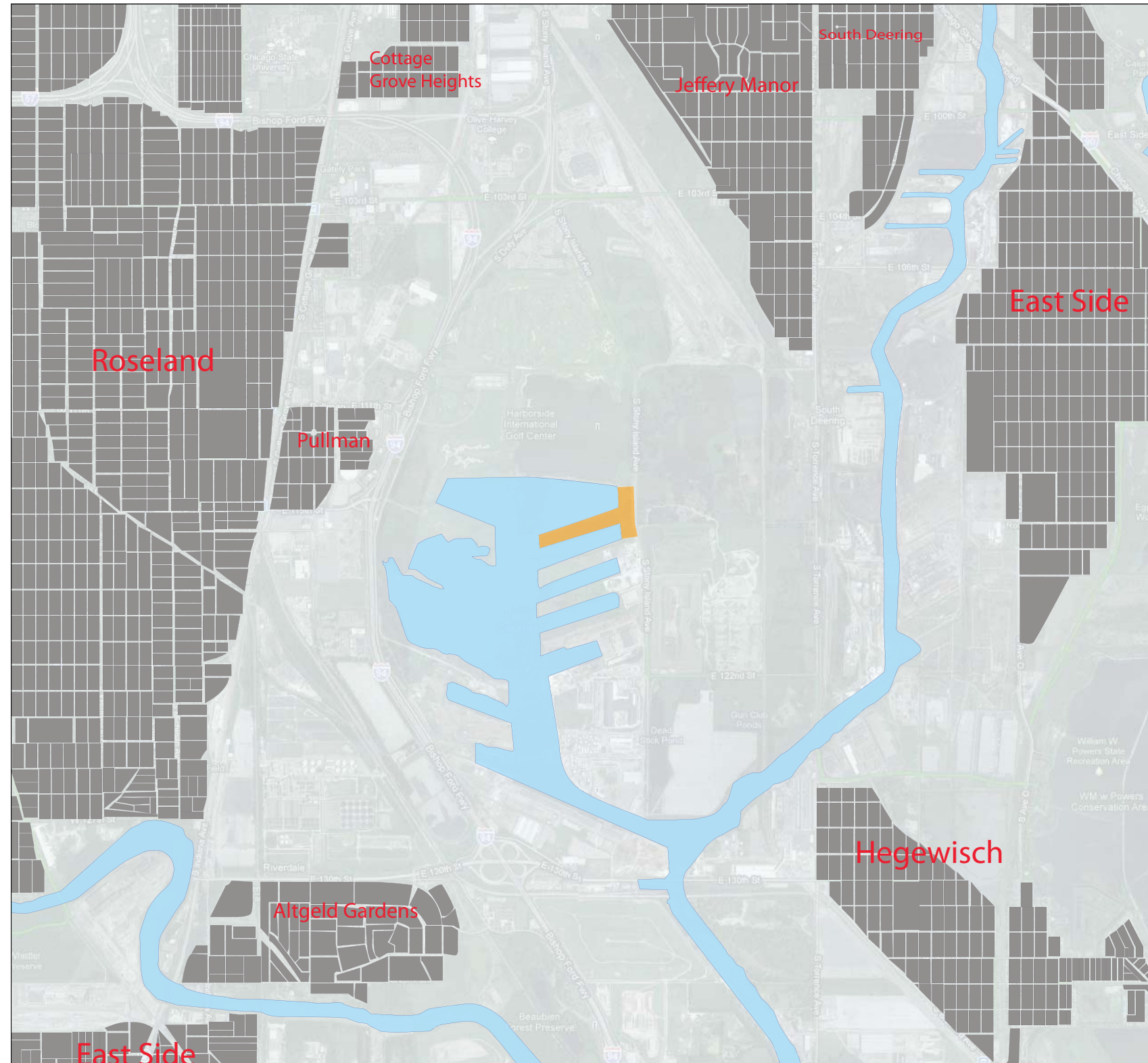






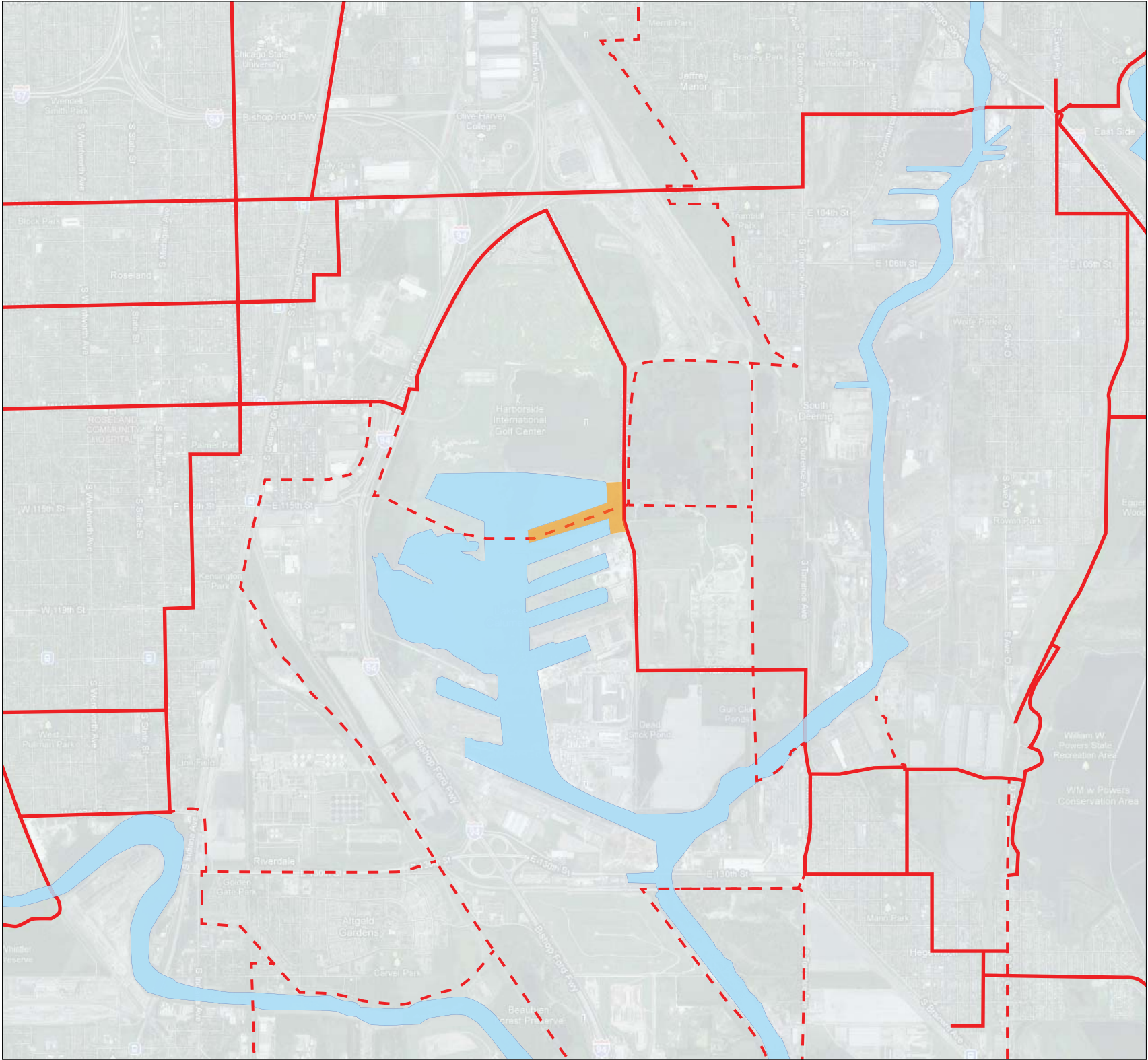






Surrounding Neighborhoods

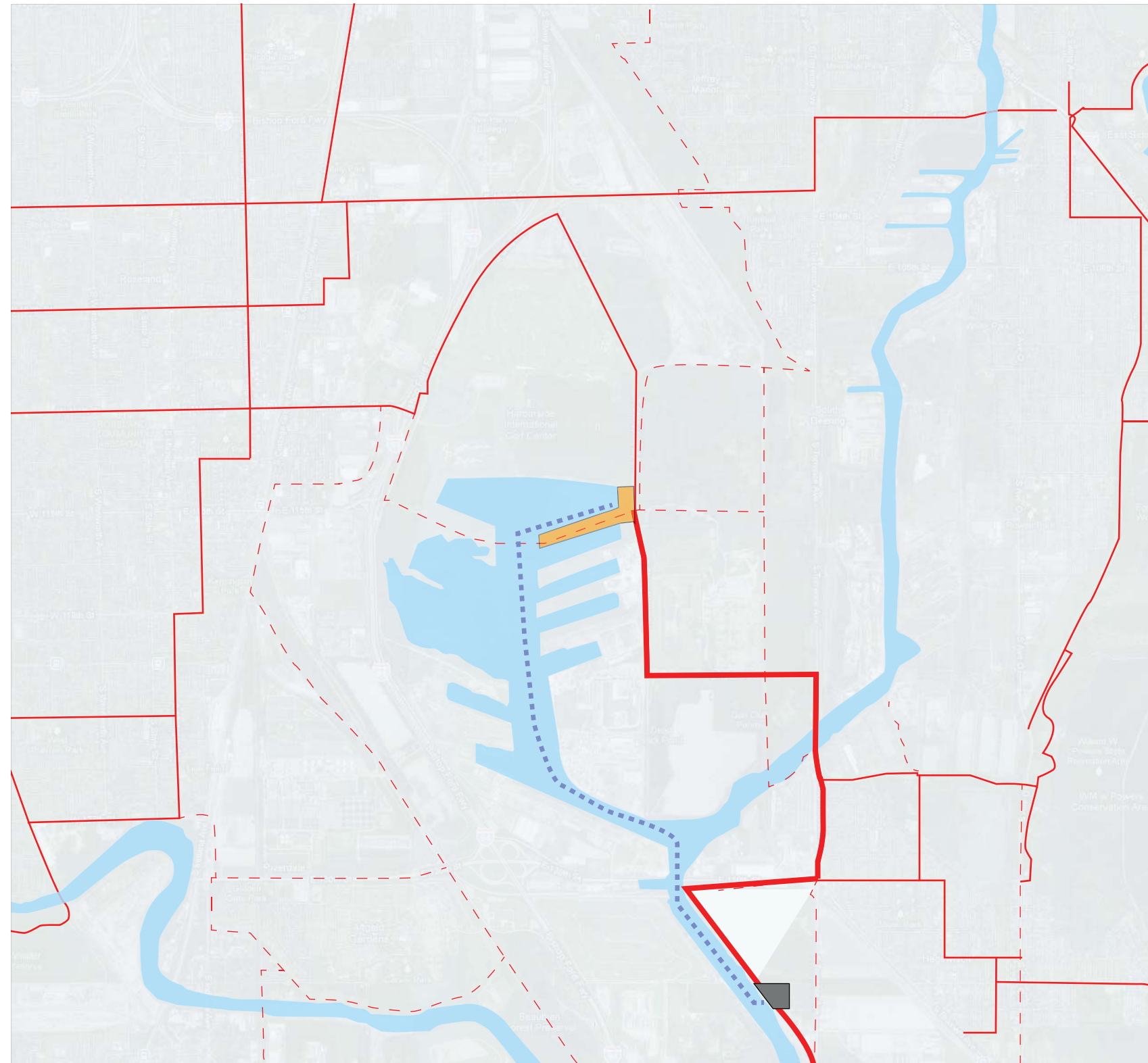




Existing Paths  
Proposed

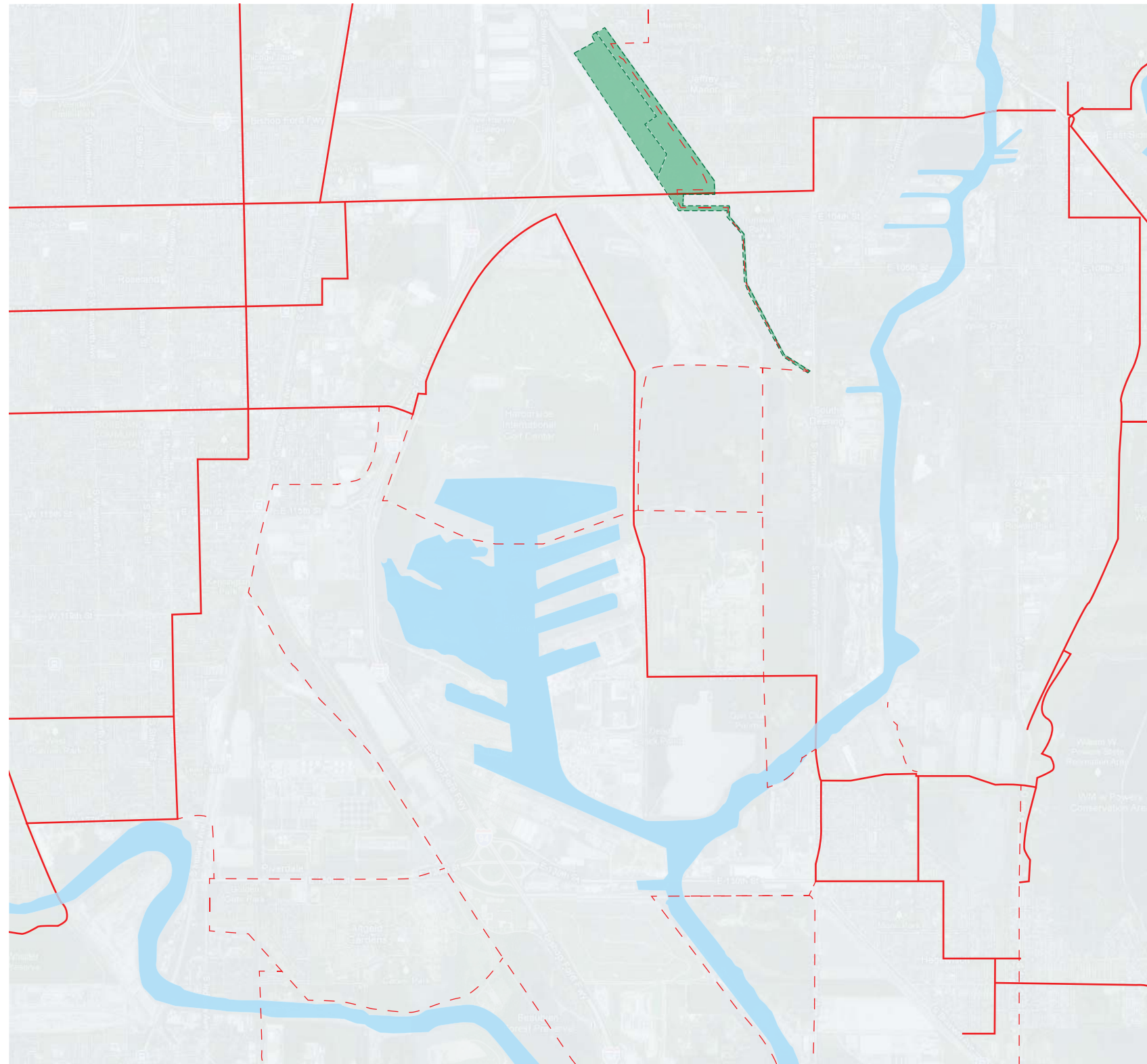




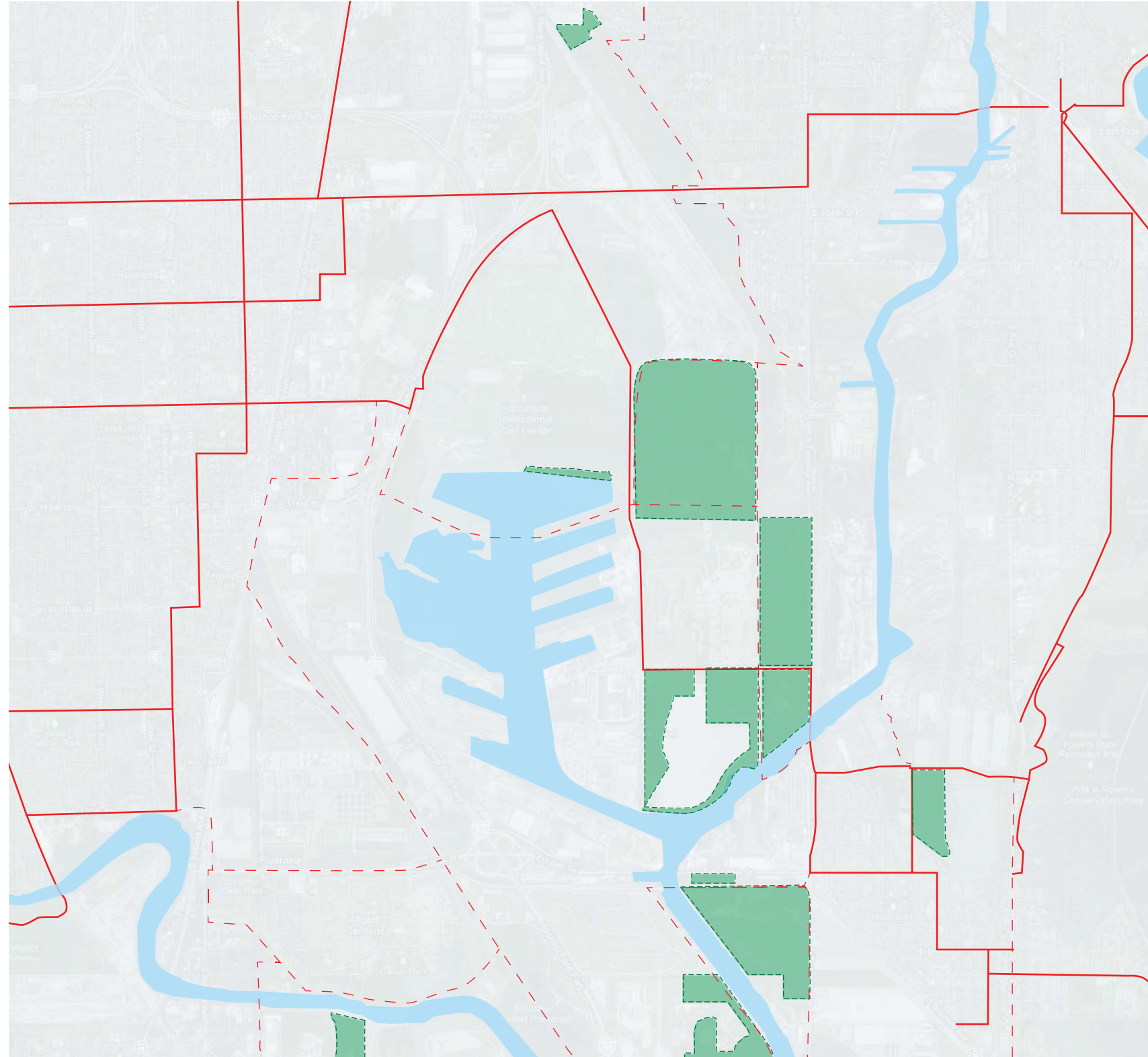


Access to Ford-Calumet Center



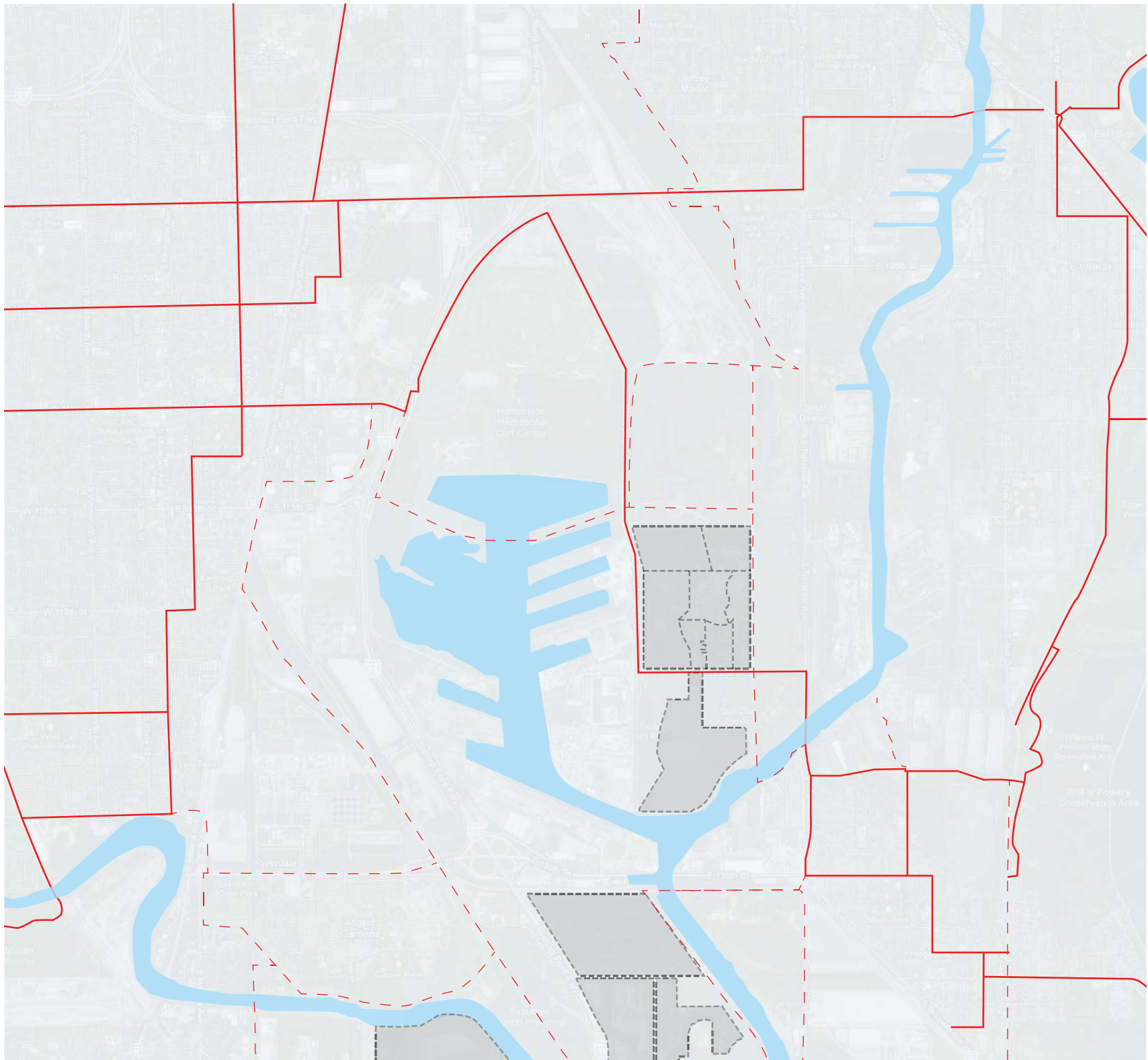






Calumet wetland Units





Landfills

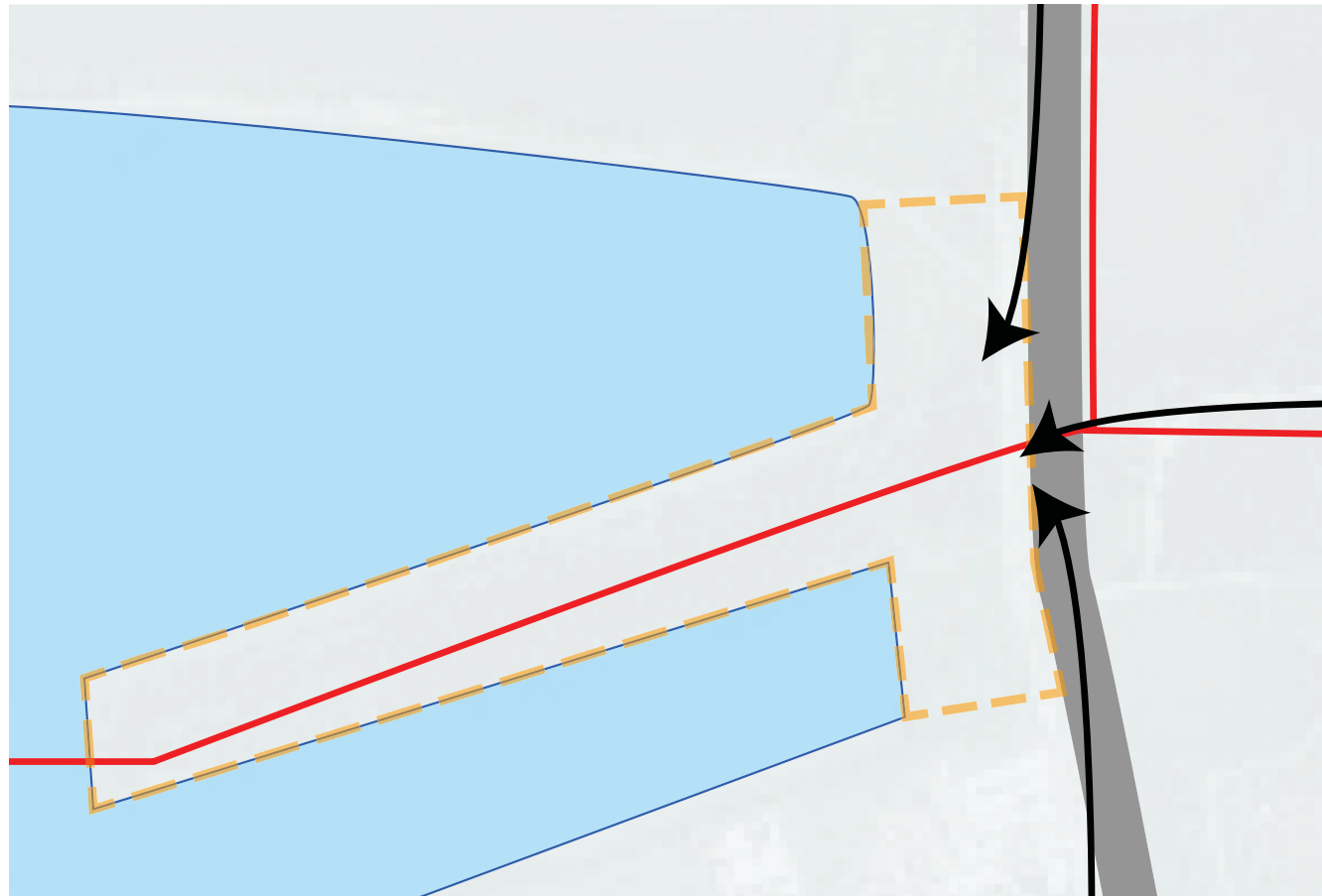




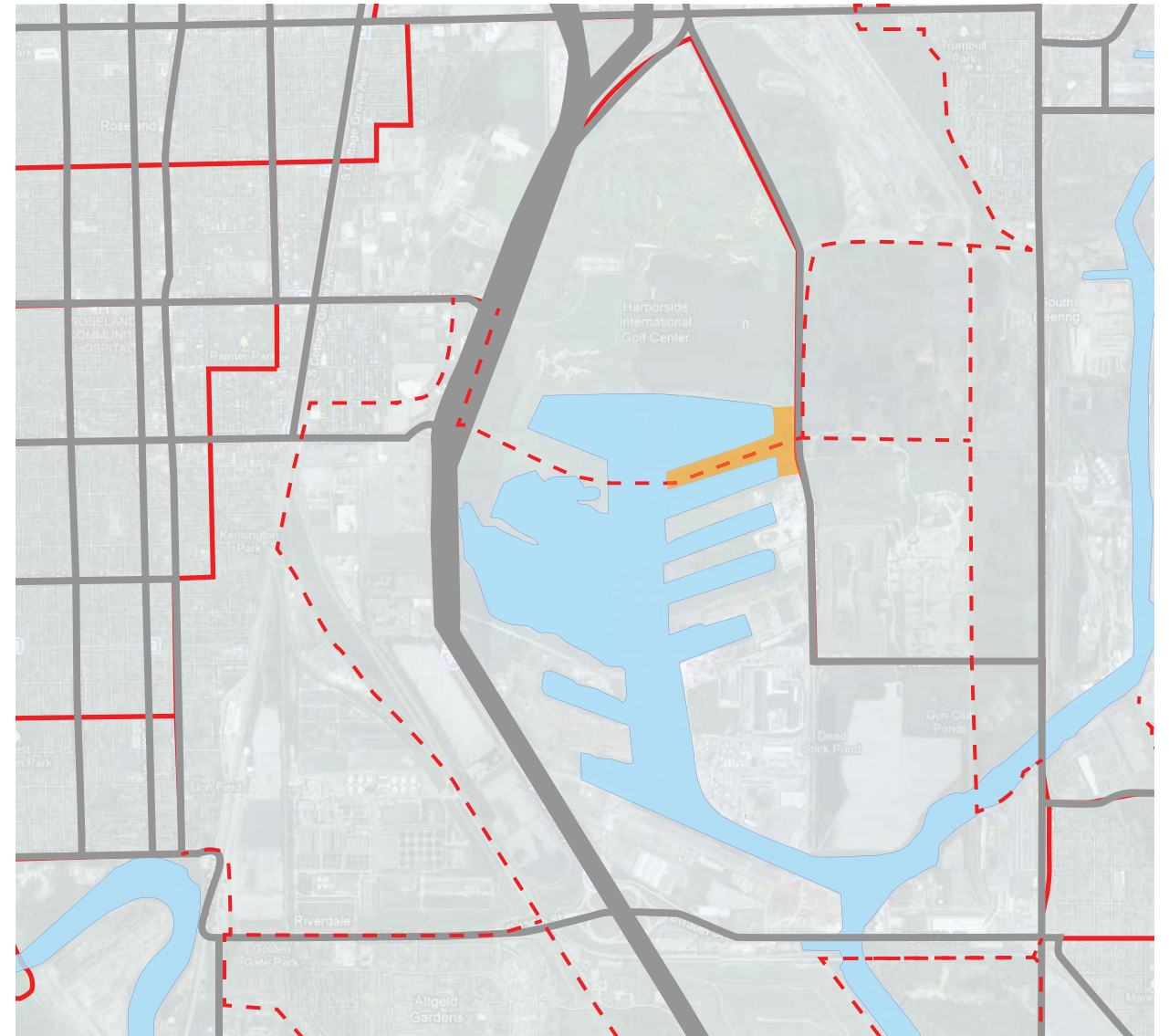


Aerial View of the Project Site





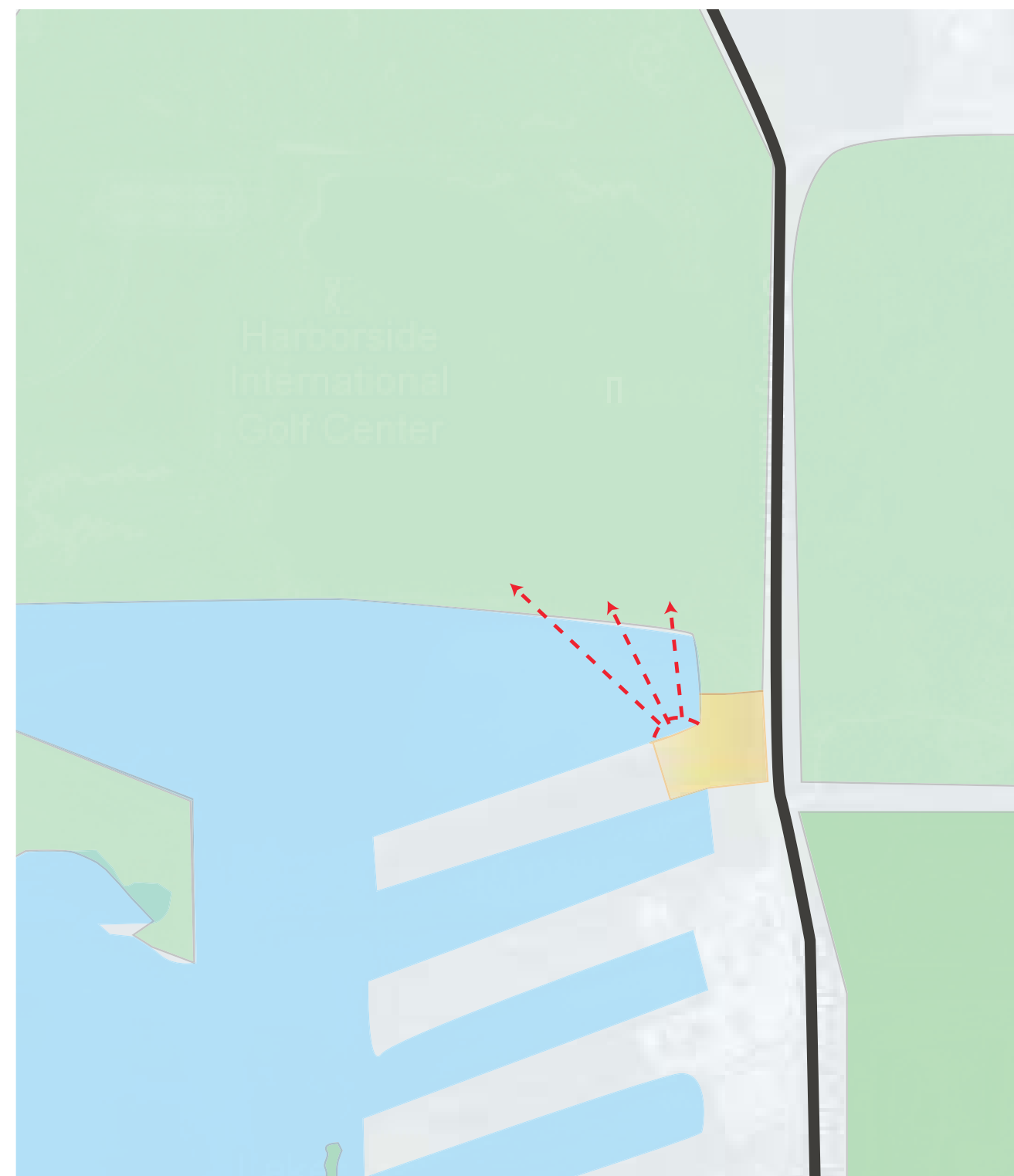
- Stoney Island Ave Access
- Existing Paths
- Proposed



Immidiata Site Access

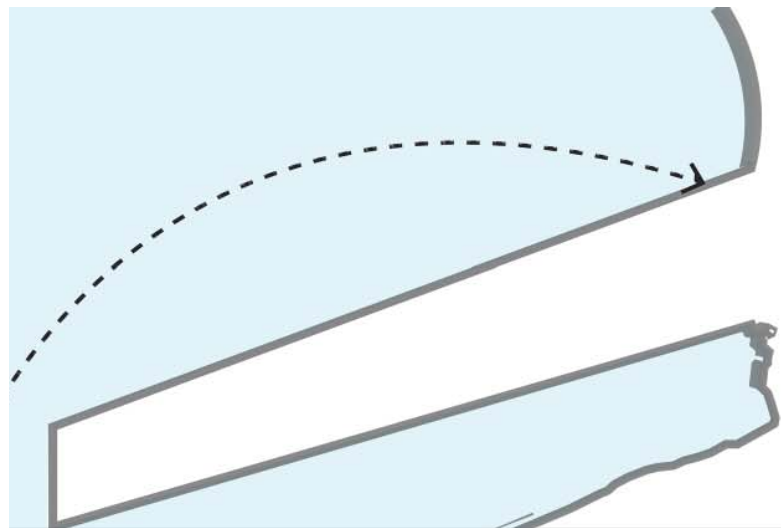




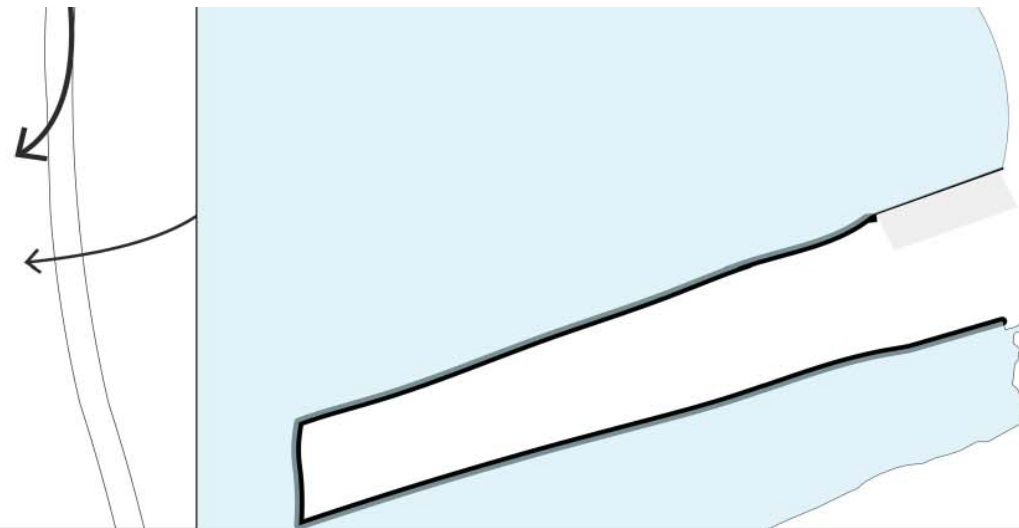


View from the Site

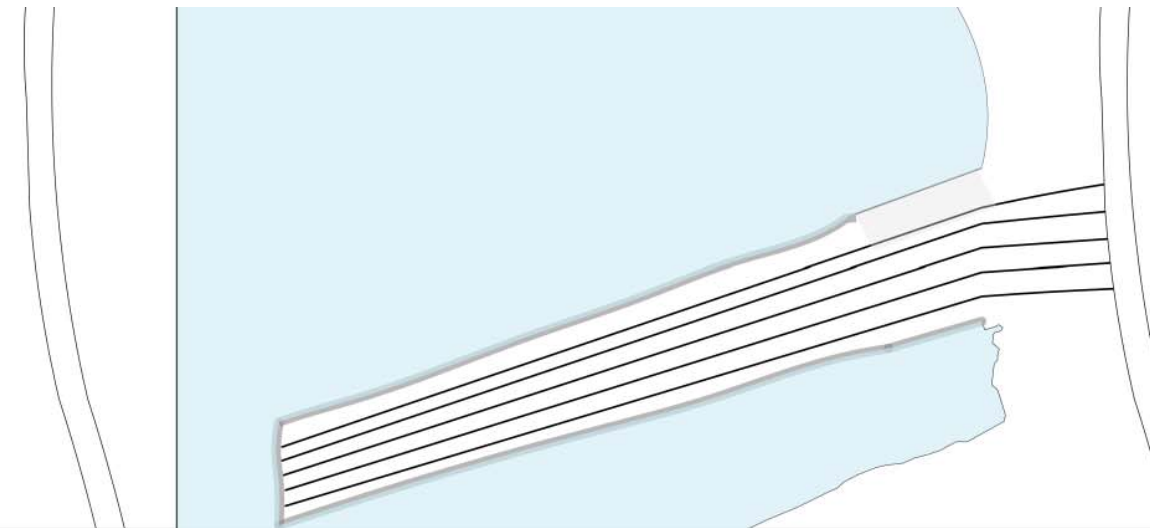




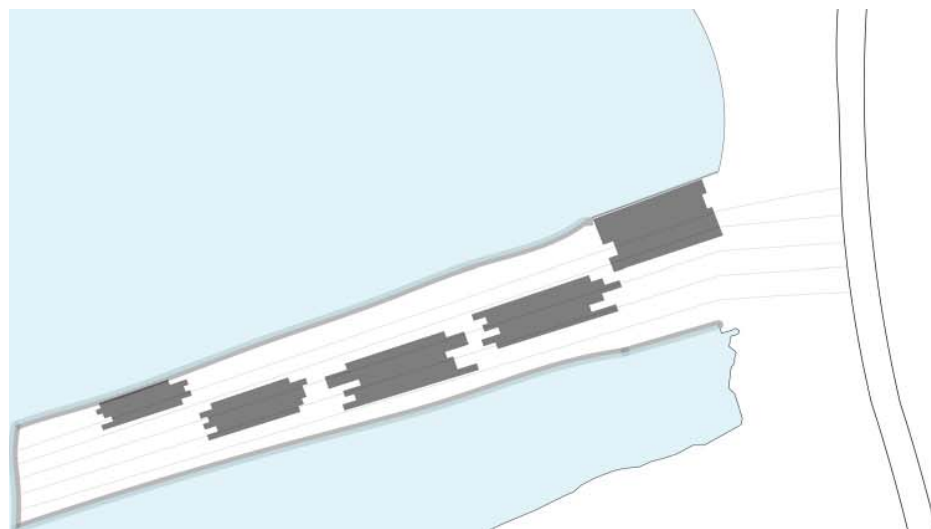
1. Identify the access points



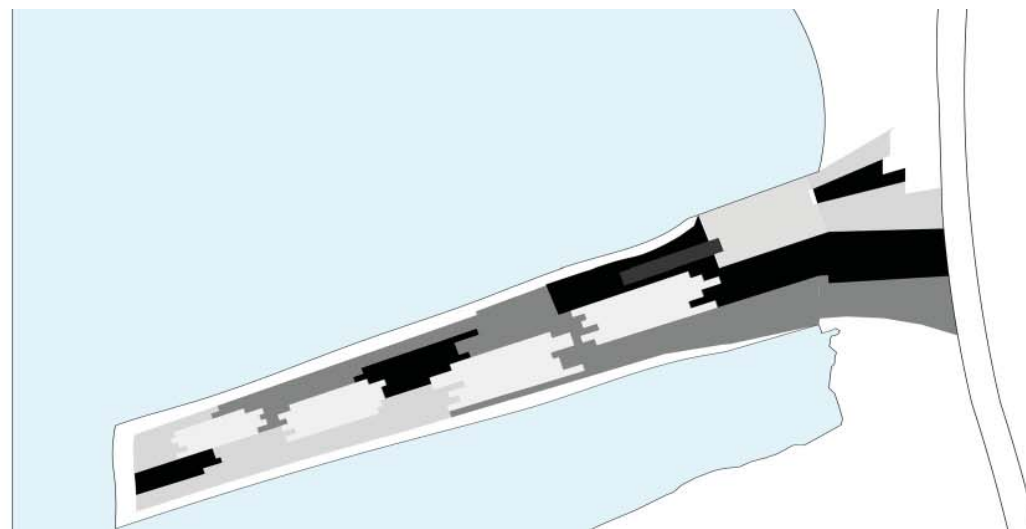
2. Treating the edges



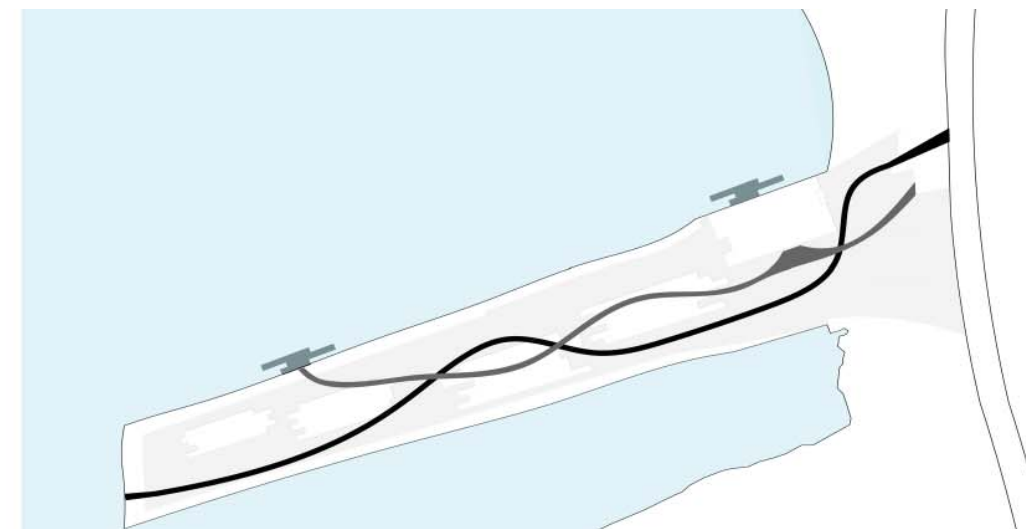
3. Establish the ecological framework



4. Define the new programs and their placement



5. Create the new landscape



6. Define the pathways



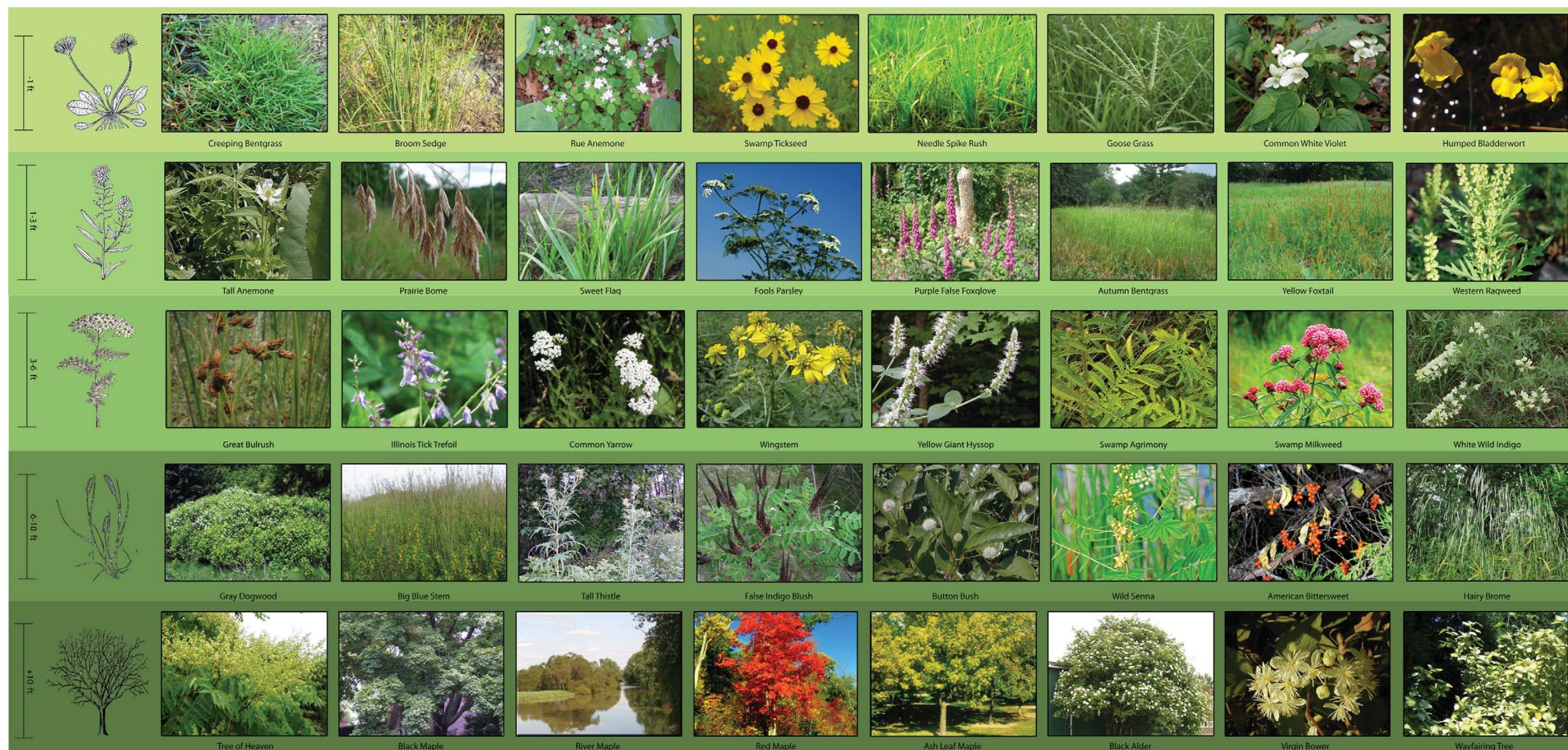




The Site Plan







different vegetations

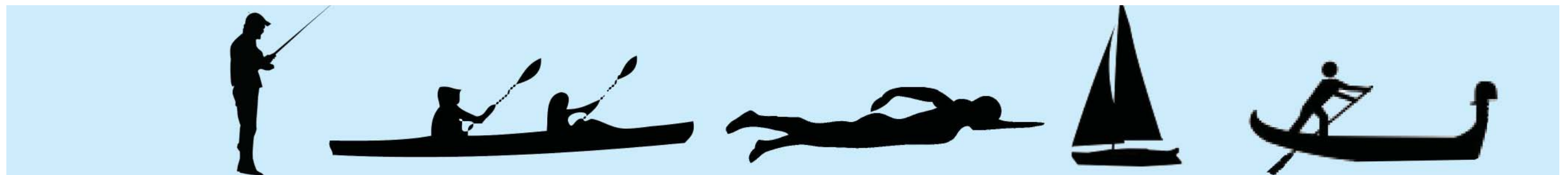




Recreational



Aquatics



Leisure







Solar Panel Field: Harvesting Energy



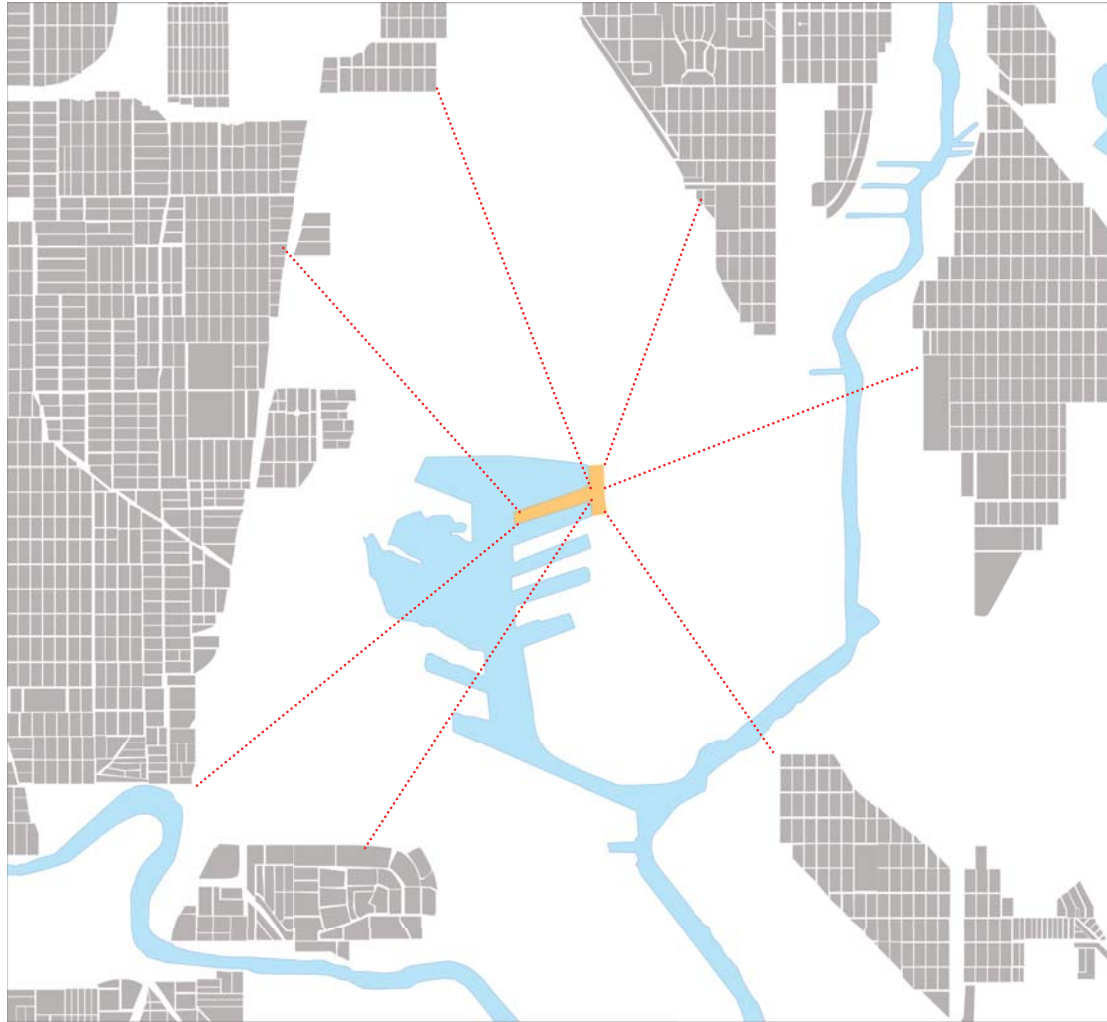




Wetlands: Improving the Aquatics & Enhancing Biodiversity



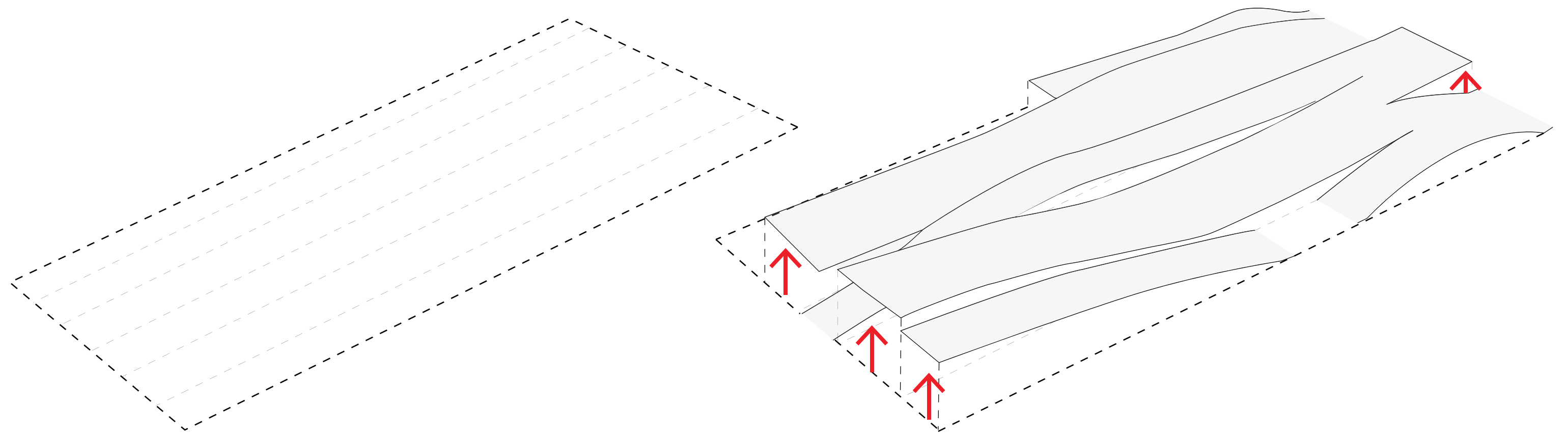


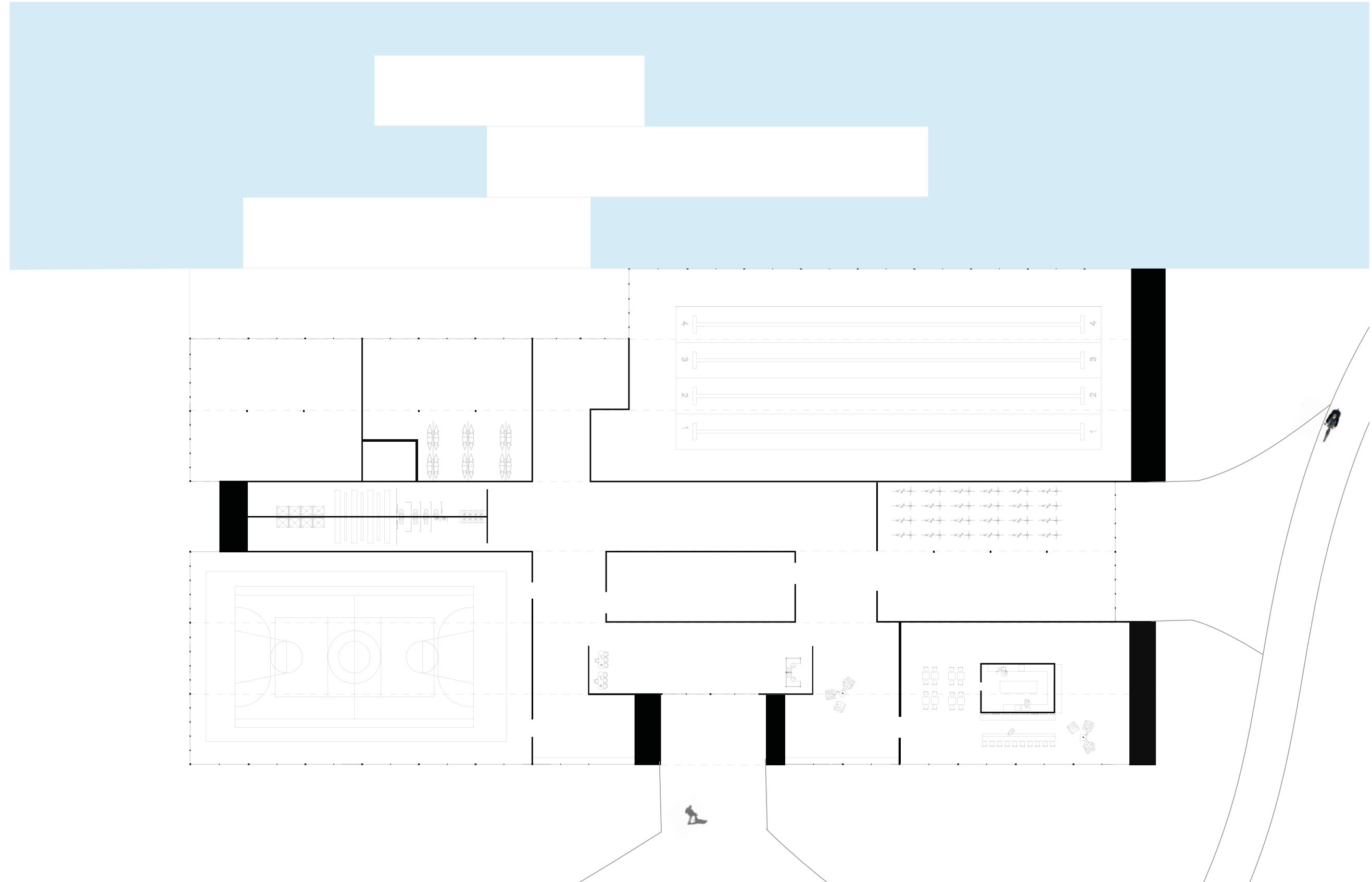


The major bus stops in all the surrounding neighborhood will be activated by a park's shuttle



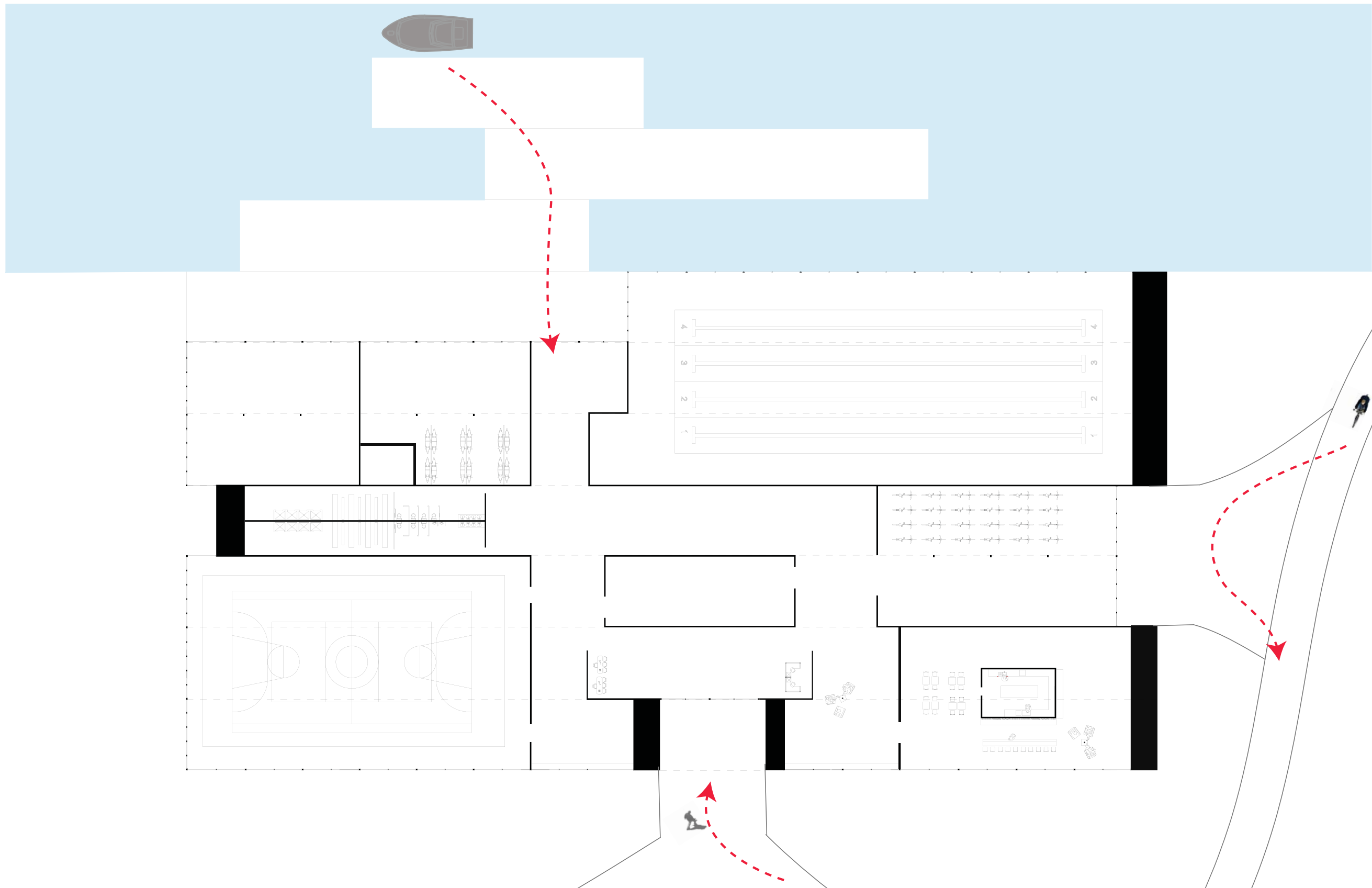






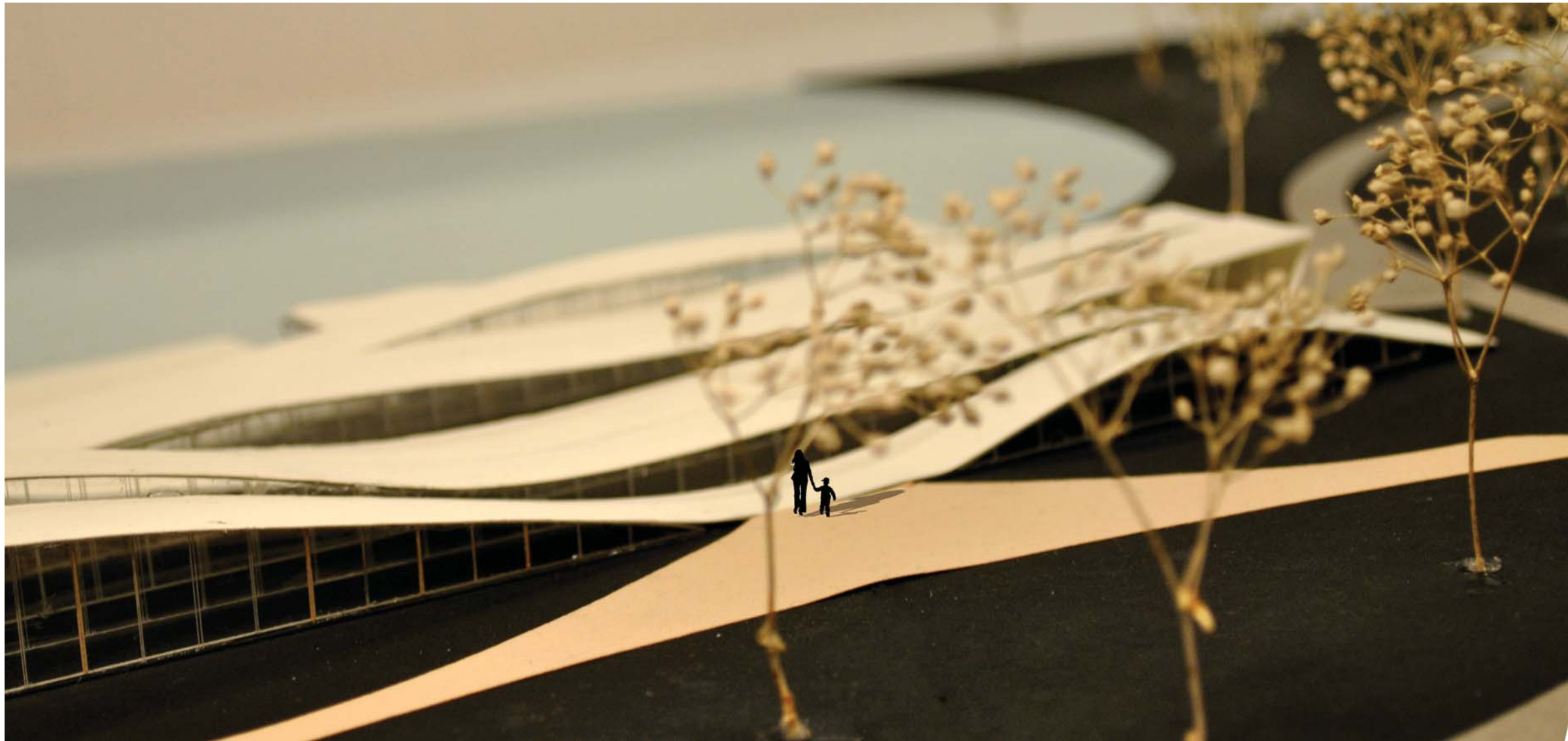
## Floor plan





Access Points



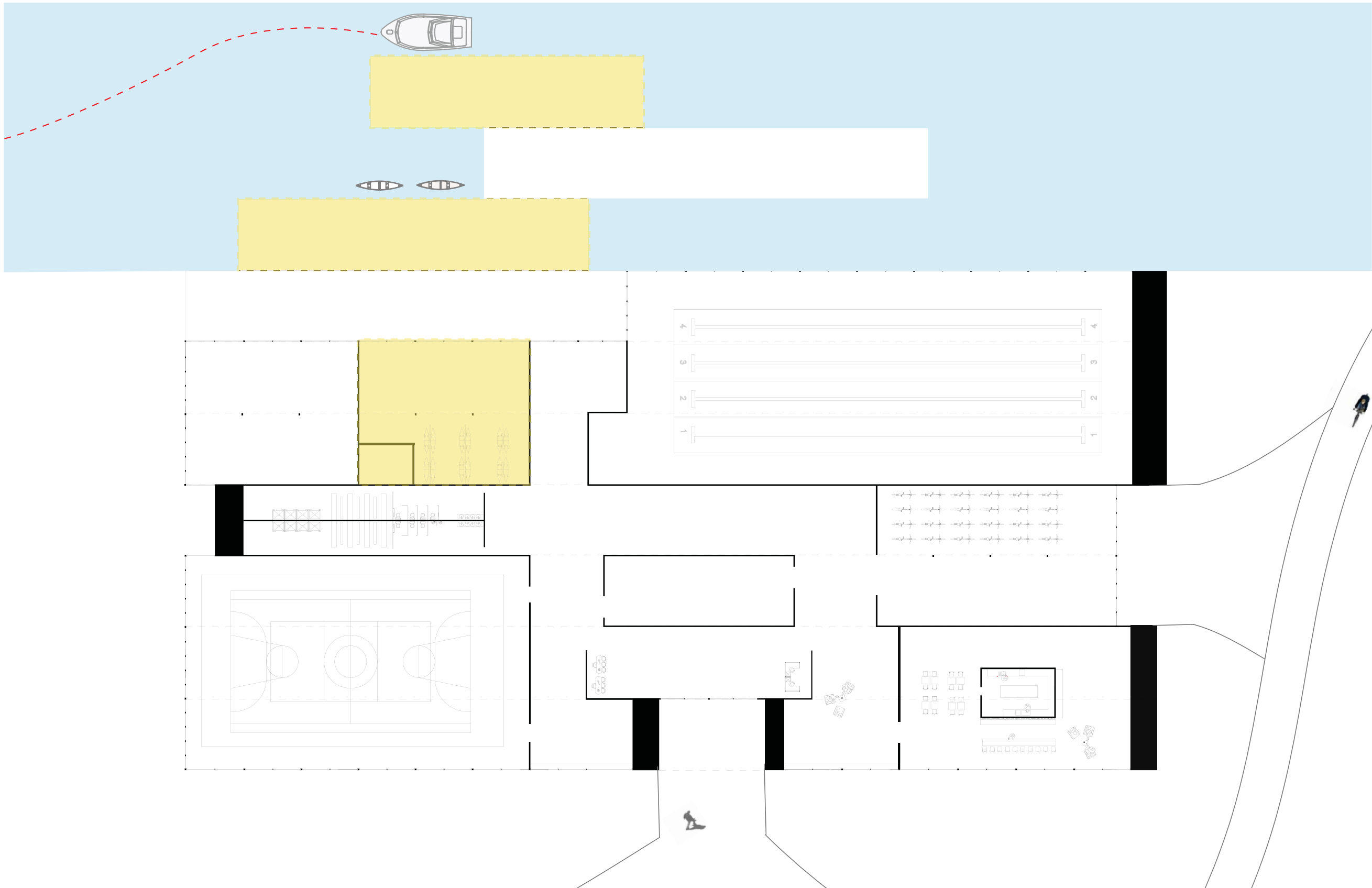


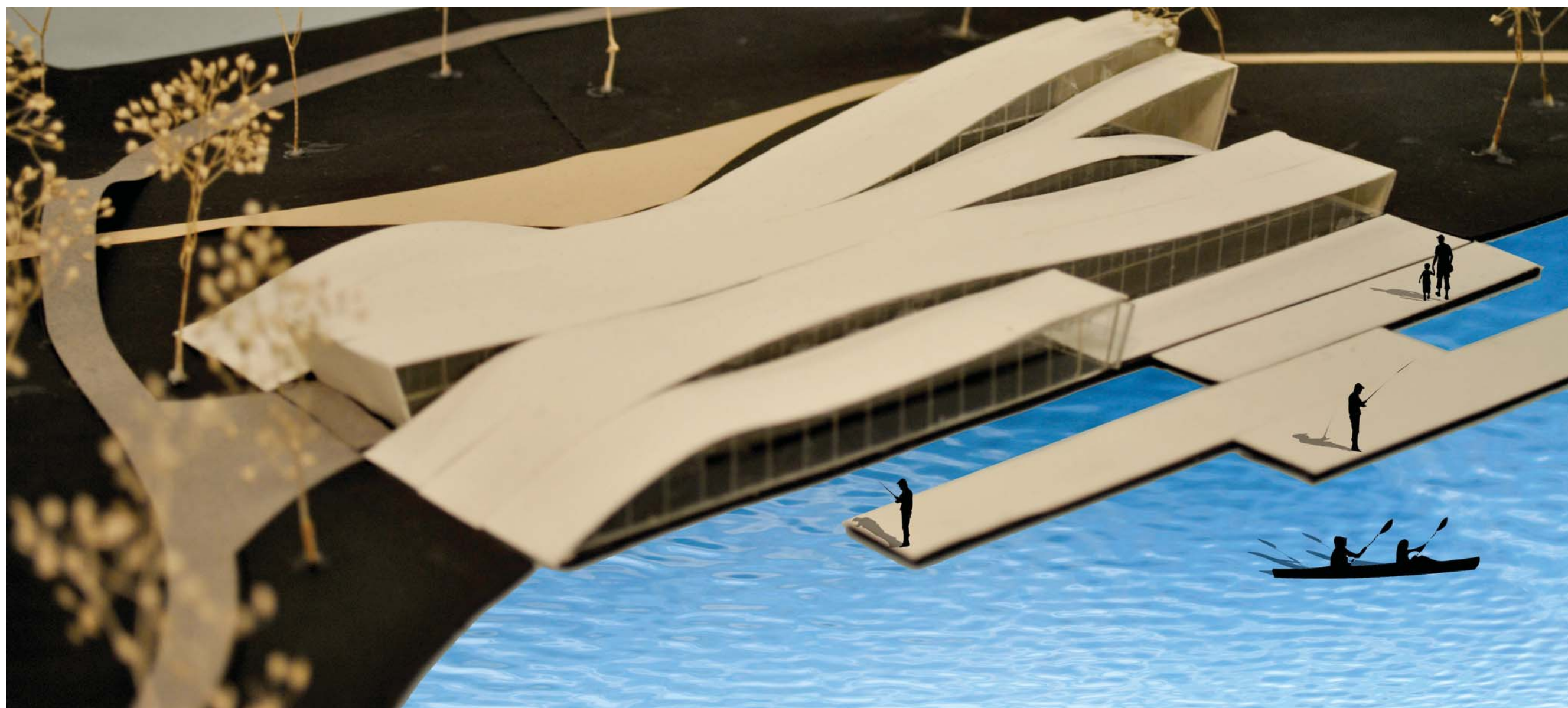
View of the Entrance





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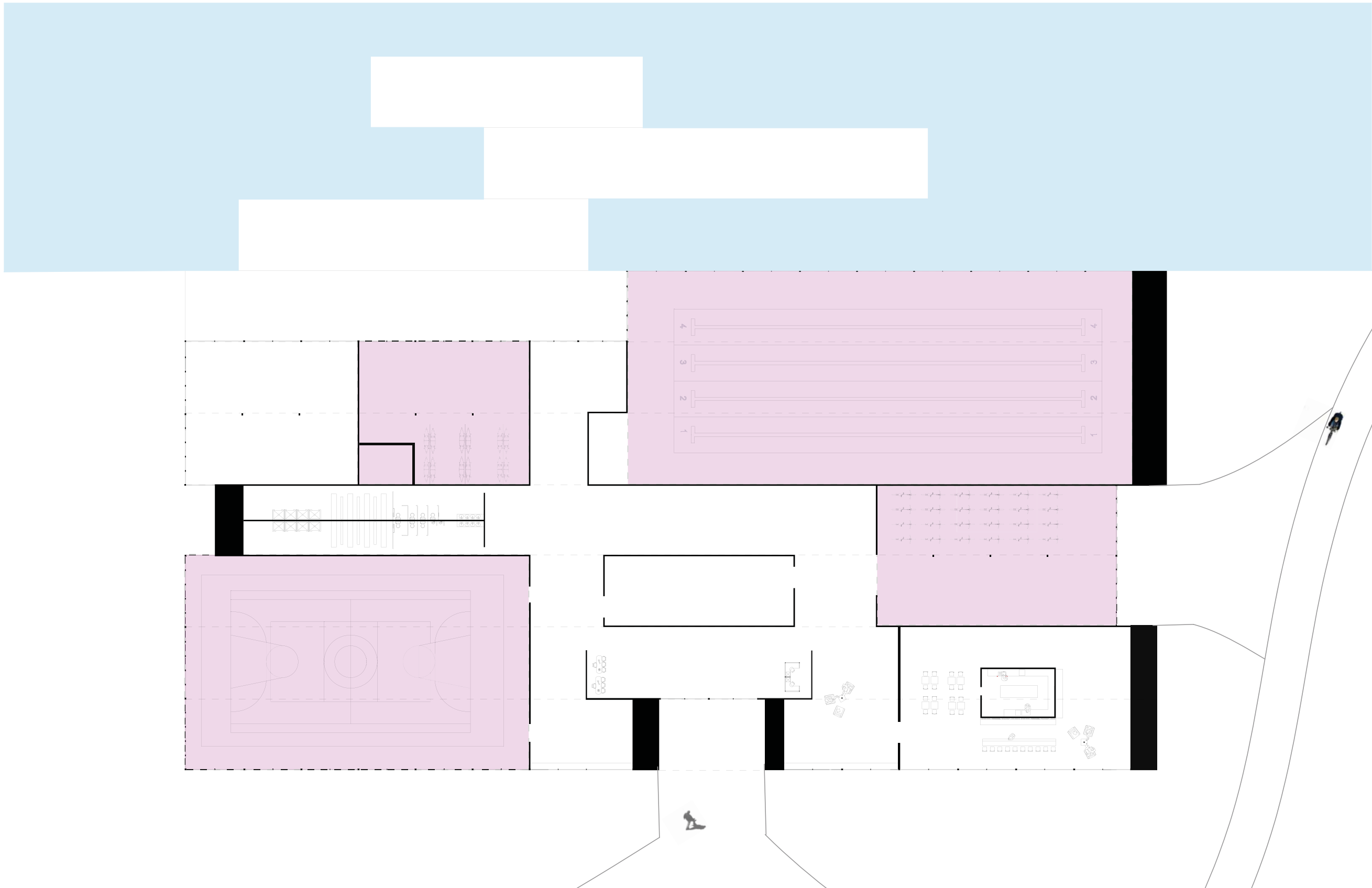




A View of the Fishing and Kayaking Platforms

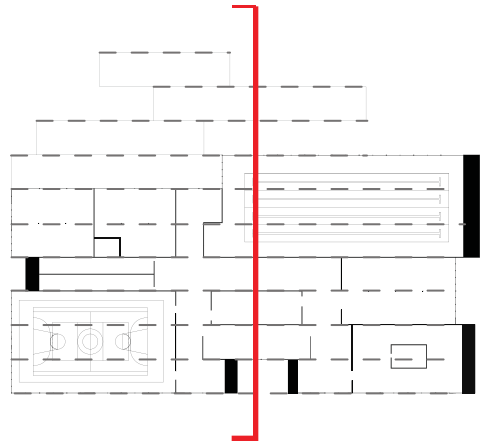




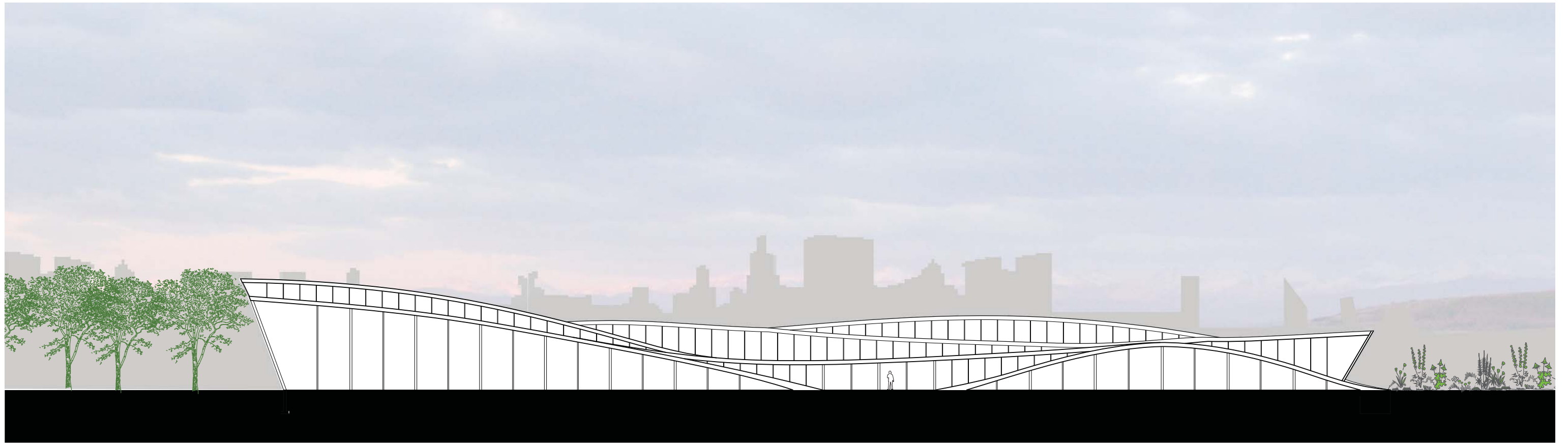


Fitness Facilities



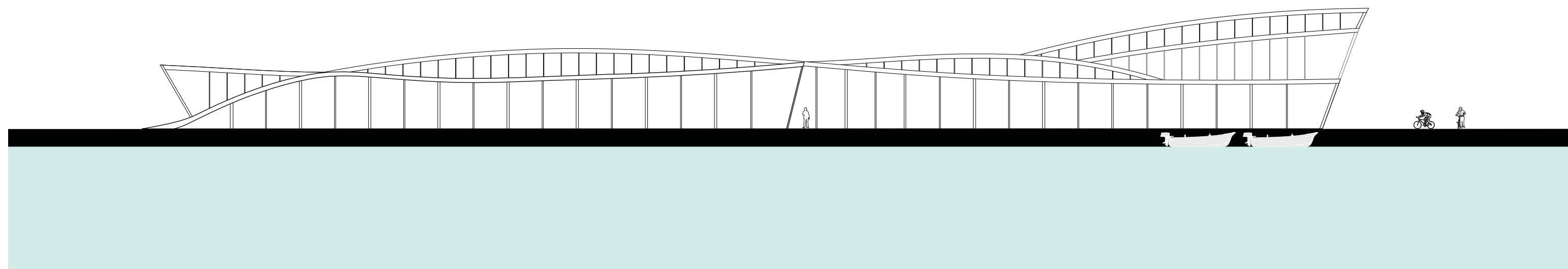






South Elevation

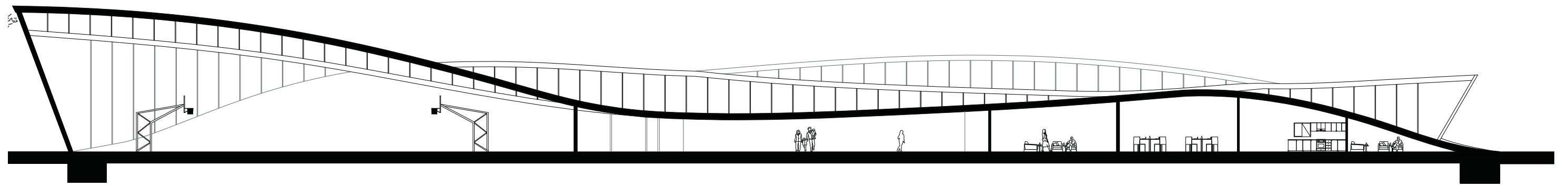
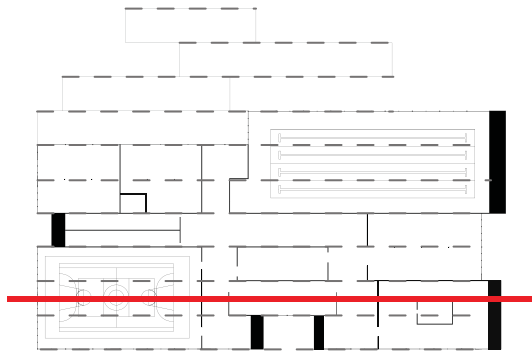




North Elevation

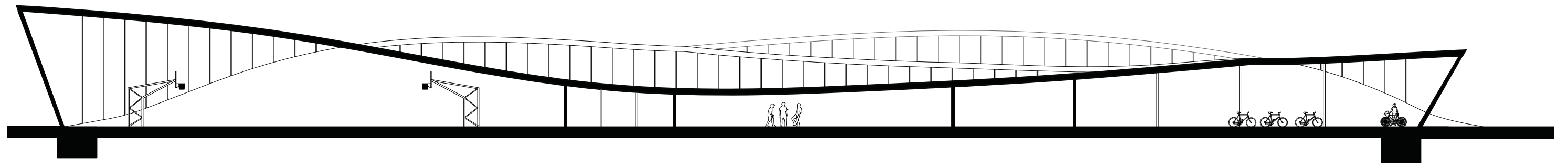
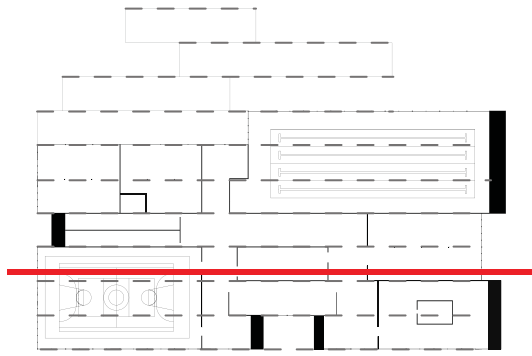






Section I

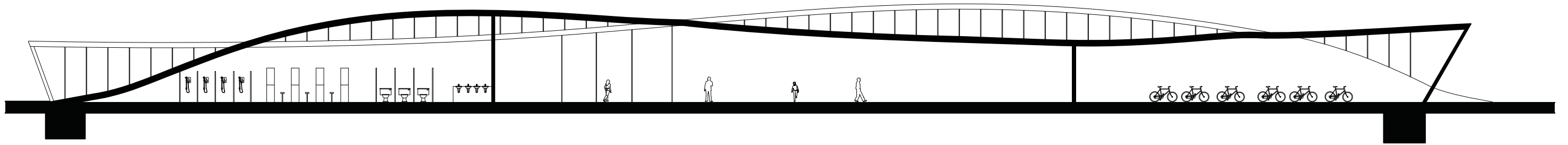
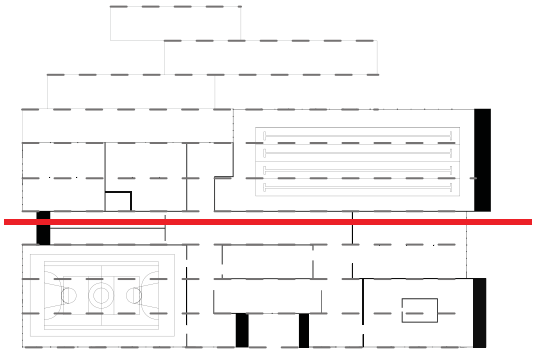




Section 2

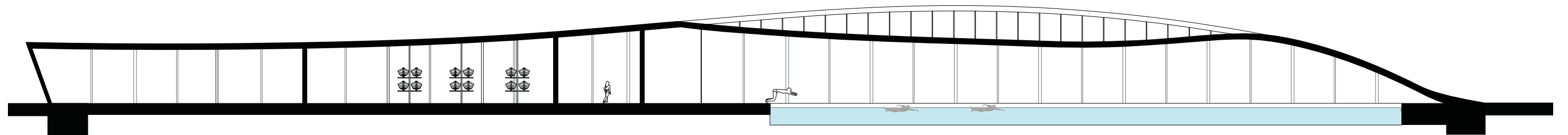
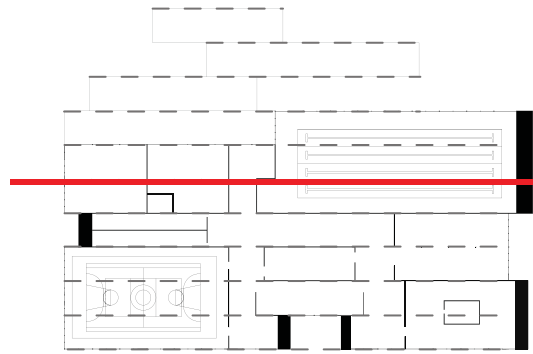






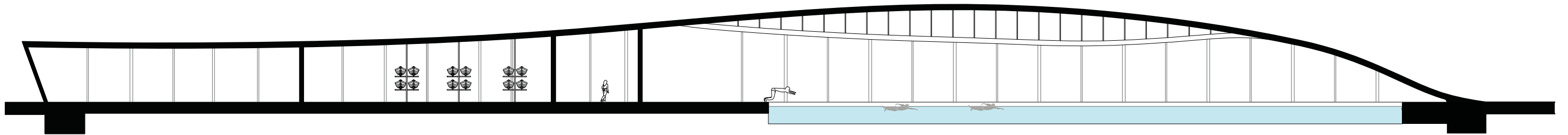
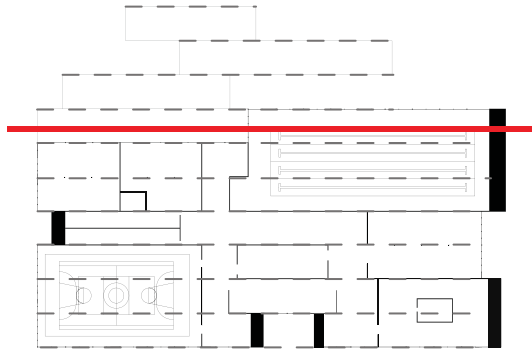
Section 3





section 4

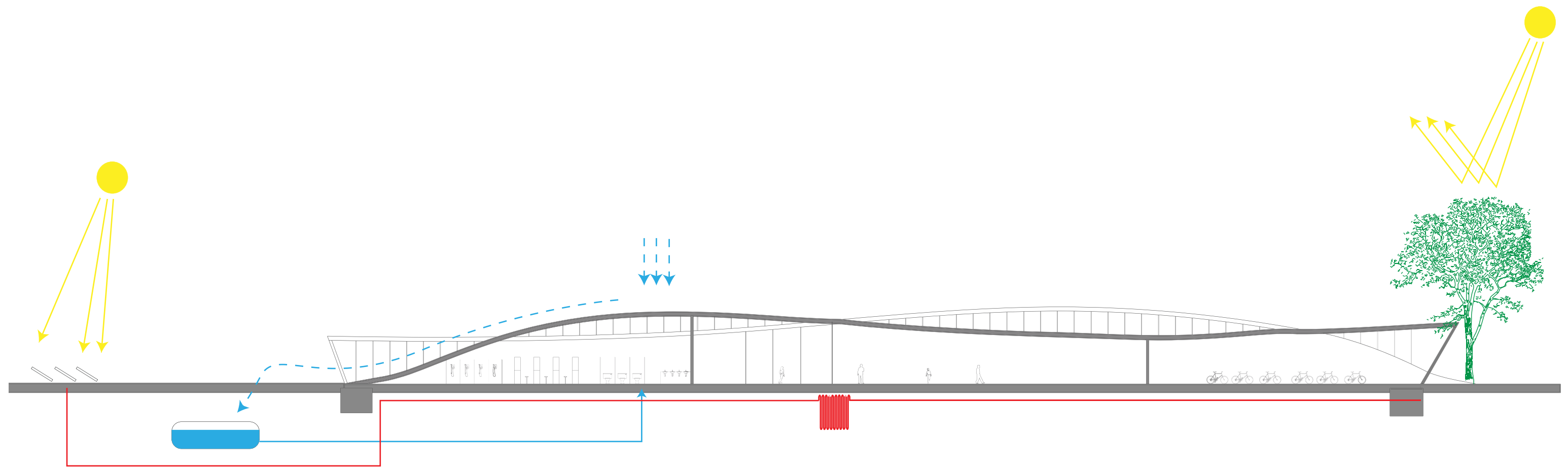




Section 5

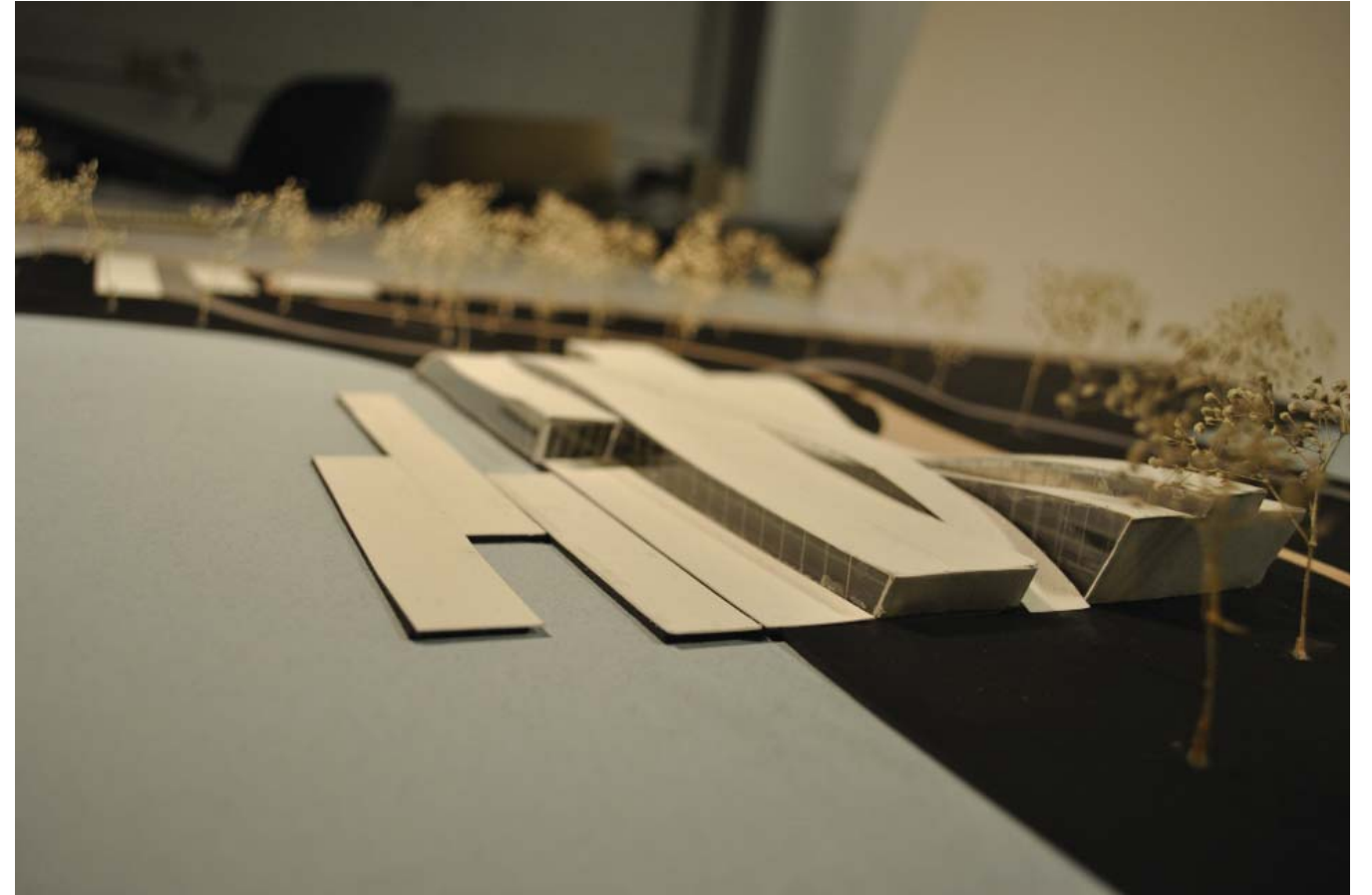






# Appendix



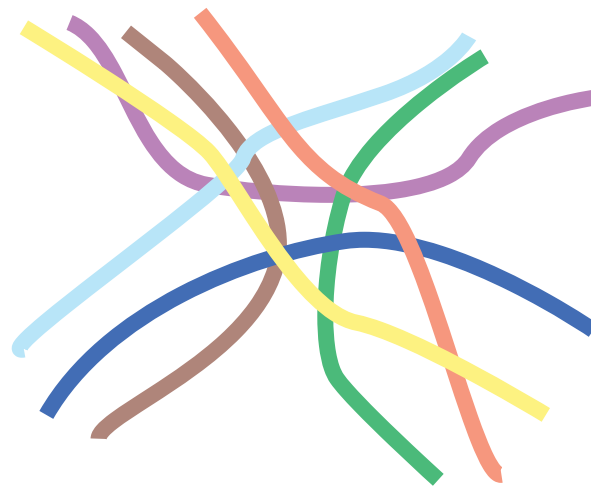




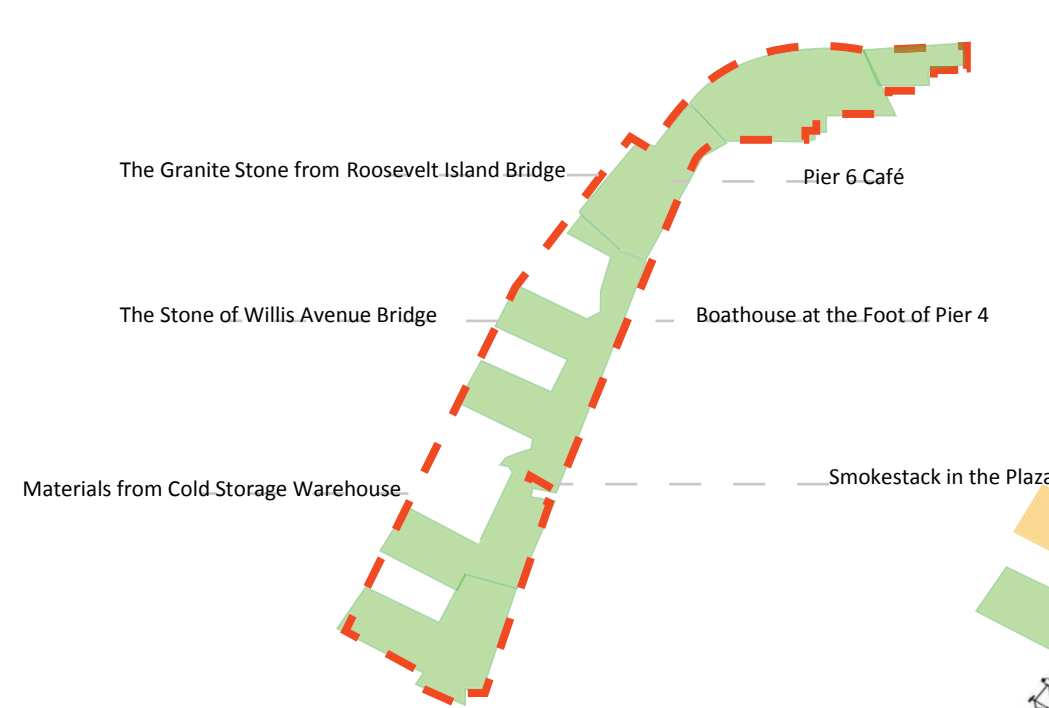
# Brooklyn Bridge Park

Reusing ● Renewing

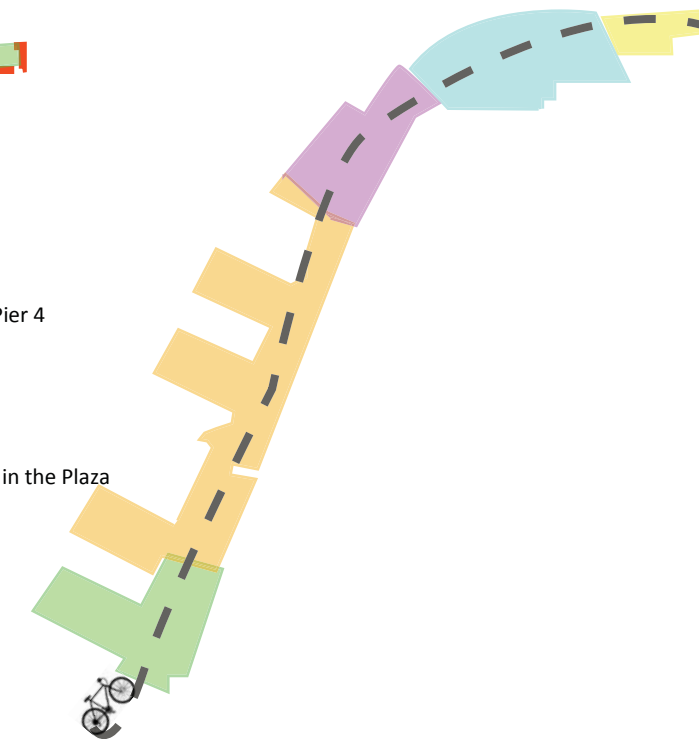
The water front of Brooklyn presents a post-industrial landscape which represents an unique opportunity for the neighborhoods and for the city as a whole- 85 acres of new parkland- adjacent to 800 acres of open water and harbor views. The project which represent a combination of different elements, required a kind of transformation that took the ordinary features of the site- rock outcrops, hydrologic patterns, topography and transfigured into a more nobler and powerful version of themselves. "The master plan presented here describes a framework for how a powerful park landscape can, again, address a new generation of vital social and environmental concerns."



Urban Junction



Structural Economy



Post-Industrial Nature

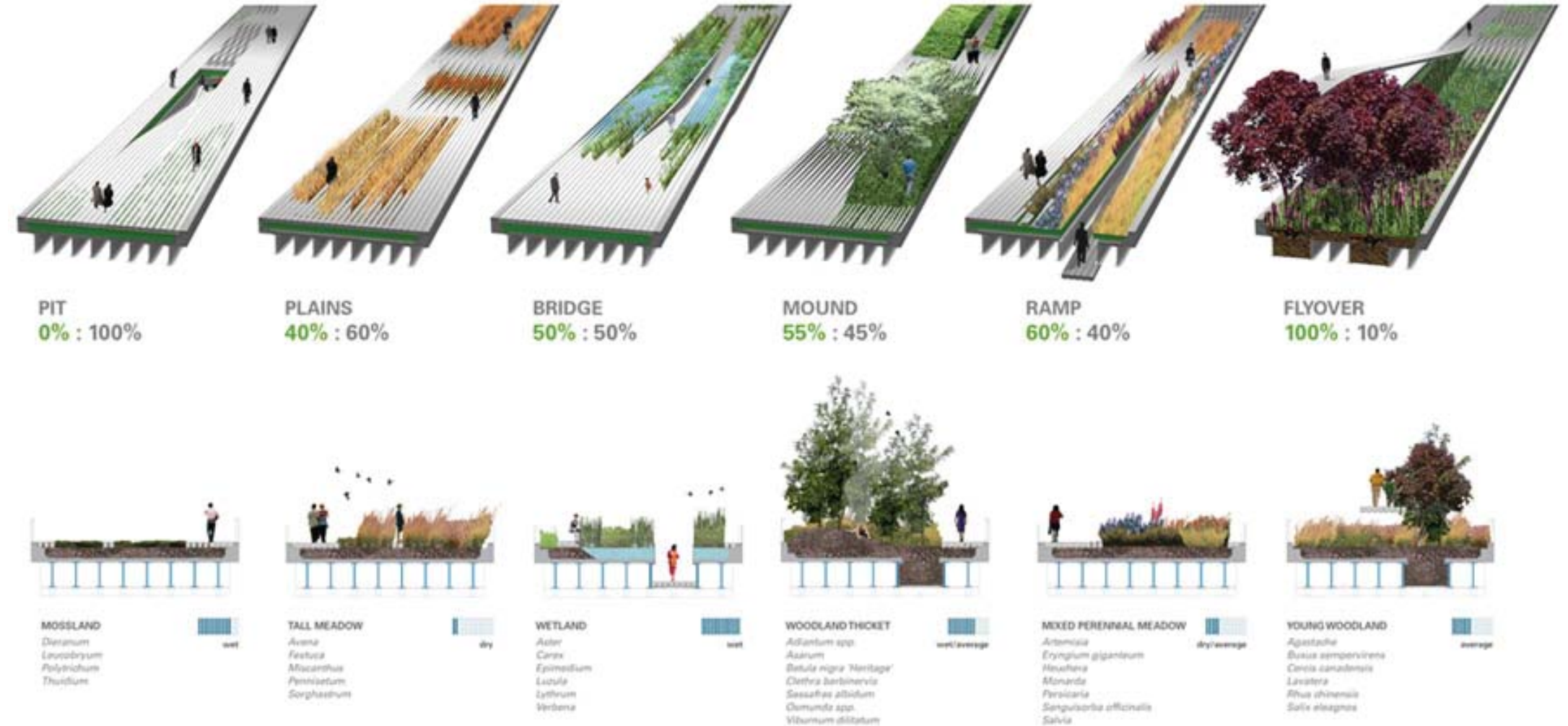




# High Line Park

Reusing ● Renewing

The High Line Park was inspired by the wild seeded landscape left after the line had been abandoned, the team created a paving system that encourages natural growth which creates a 'pathless' landscape. "Through a strategy of agri-tecture - part agriculture, part architecture – the High Line surface is digitized into discrete units of paving and planting which are assembled along the 1.5 miles into a variety of gradients from 100% paving to 100% soft, richly vegetated biotopes," explained DS + Renfro. This undefined and unobtrusive environment allows the public to meander and experience the park as they wish.



## Refernces:

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