

# WELCOME!

## CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN OPEN HOUSE

APRIL 24, 2018 | BILL GRAHAM CIVIC AUDITORIUM



Opening remarks  
and a short overview  
presentation is  
scheduled at 4:00  
p.m., and will be  
repeated at 6:30 p.m.



CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN

**WELCOME!**

THE CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN

歡迎!

市政中心公共區域計劃

**¡BIENVENIDO!**

PLAN PARA EL AMBIENTE PÚBLICO EN EL CENTRO CÍVICO

أهلاً وسهلاً!

خطة الأماكن العامة في سيفيك سنتر

**MAIGAYANG PAGDATING!**

PLANO PARA SA MGA ESPASYONG MAGAGAMIT NG PUBLIKO (PUBLIC REALM PLAN) SA CIVIC CENTER

**XIN CHÀO QUÝ VỊ!**

KẾ HOẠCH CHO KHU VỰC CÔNG CÔNG CỦA TRUNG TÂM HÀNH CHÍNH

## OVER 50 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION ENGAGED TO-DATE

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| 826 Valencia (Tenderloin Center)                                       | La Voz Latina                                   | SFLBGT Center                                     |
| Arab American Grocer Association                                       | Library for the Blind                           | Shih Yu Lang Central YMCA (Boedekker Park)        |
| Bay Area Women's and Children Center                                   | LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired  | South of Market Community Action Network (SOMCAN) |
| Bayanihan Community Center   | Mid Market CAP Community Ambassador Program     | Southeast Asian Community Center                  |
| Boys and Girl Clubs Tenderloin - Teen Clubhouse & After School Program | Mission Economic Development Association (MEDA) | St. Anthony Foundation & Dining Room              |
| Canon Kip Senior Center  | Mission Hiring Hall                             | St. Francis Living Room Foundation                |
| Charity Cultural Services Center                                       | Mission Neighborhood Centers - Precita Center   | St. Jude's Free Clothing Program                  |
| Chinese Newcomers Service Center                                       | Mission YMCA                                    | Sword for Plowshares                              |
| Community Youth Center   | Mujeres Unidas y Activas (MUA)                  | Tenderloin CBD Safe Passage                       |
| Curry Senior Center  | Project Homeless Connect                        | Tenderloin Community Benefit District             |
| Glide Memorial Church  | Safe House Arts                                 | Tenderloin Housing Clinic                         |
| Hayes Valley Merchants/Neighborhood Association                        | Safe Routes to School                           | Tenderloin Neighborhood Development (TNDC)        |
| Heart of the Farmer Market   | Salvation Army Kroc Center                      | The Central City SRO Collaborative                |
| Hospitality House  | San Francisco Aids Foundation                   | Tool Works  |
| Independent Living Resource Center                                     | San Francisco Public Library                    | Vietnamese Youth Development Center               |
| Independent Living Skills Program                                      | Self Help for the Elderly                       | Walk SF   |
| Instituto Familiar De La Raza, Inc.                                    | Senior & Disability Action                      | Woman Inc   |
|  | SF Bike Coalition                               | Year Up   |
|  | SF Day Labor Program and Women's Collective     | YMCA Chinatown                                    |



# OPEN HOUSE

## PRESENTATION OUTLINE:

1. Project Background
2. Community Outreach To-Date
3. Street Design Overview
4. Public Space Design Overview

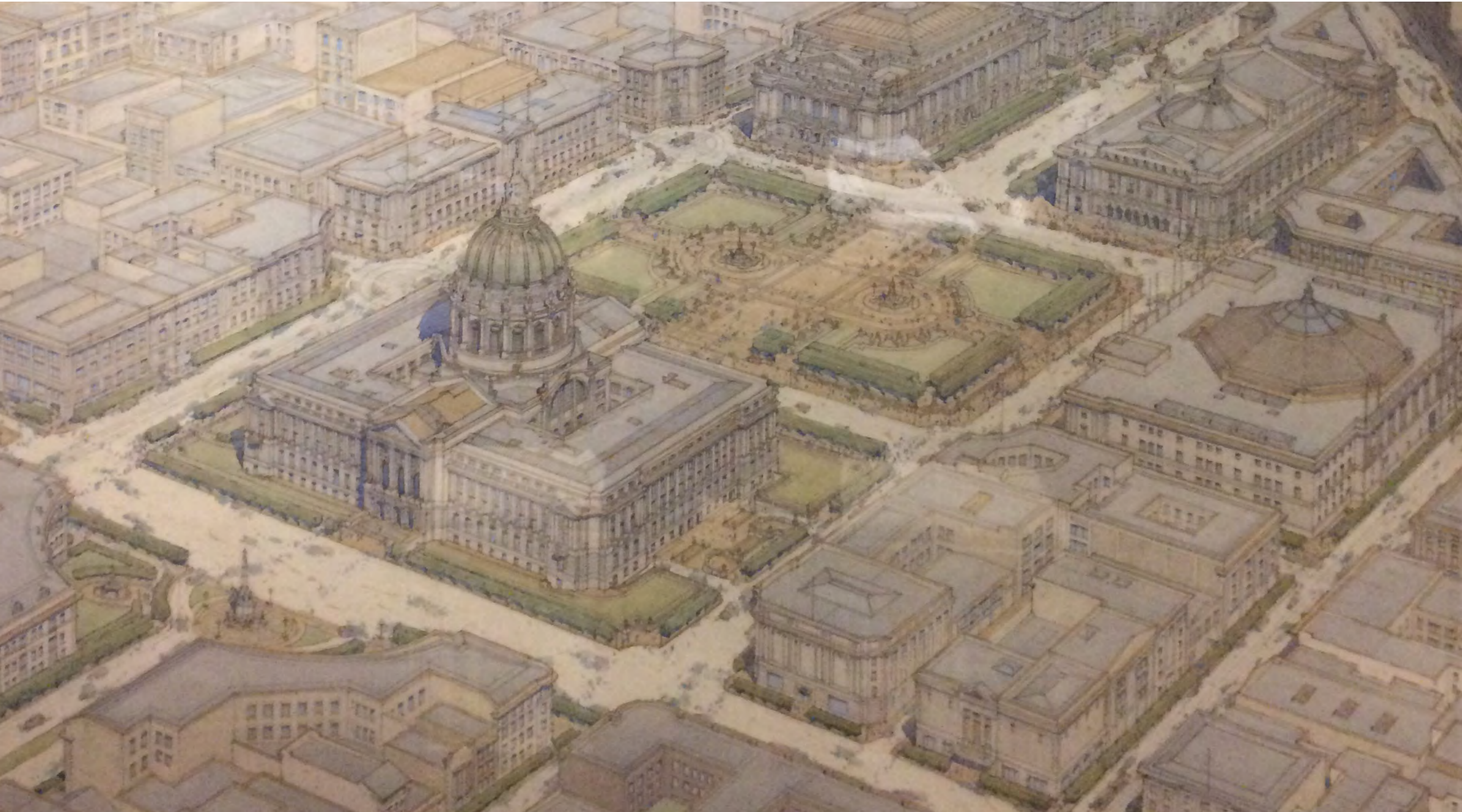




# PROJECT BACKGROUND

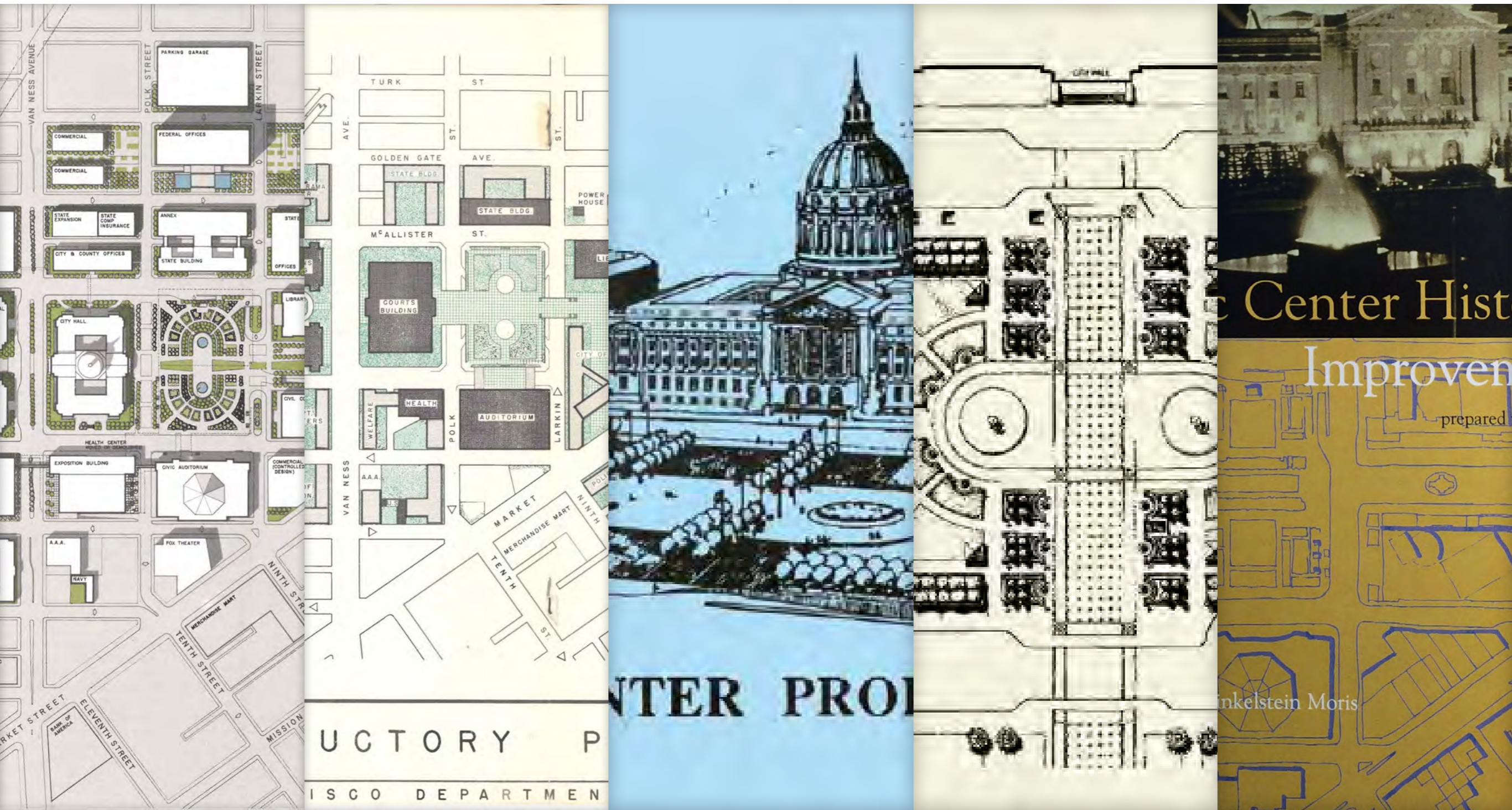
## PLANNING HISTORY

Civic Center was originally designed c. 1912 as a unified “Beaux Arts” district of grand government buildings and public spaces



## PLANNING HISTORY

There have been multiple plans for improving Civic Center's public spaces, but the most-recent is over 20 years old



## PLANNING HISTORY

Since then, the Civic Center area has grown as both an arts and culture district and as a residential neighborhood.



*Photo Credit: flickr Ed & Eddie*

ACT's Strand Theater is one of a number of new arts venues in Civic Center.



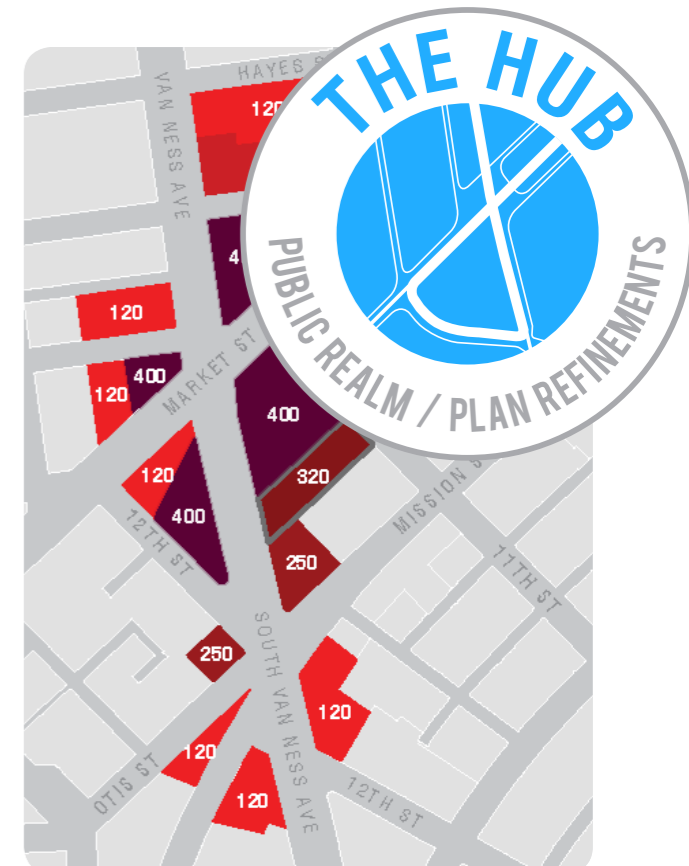
*Photo Credit: SPUR*

The conversion of 100 Van Ness from office to residential is one example of Civic Center's growing residential population.



*Photo Credit: TNDC*

New affordable housing, such as the TNDC's Eddy & Taylor Family Housing, will expand the number of people using Civic Center's open space.



Over 4,900 new housing units are projected in the Market Street Hub Area, near the Market/Van Ness intersection.

# MAJOR MILESTONE: NEW CIVIC CENTER PLAYGROUNDS





The Civic Center Public Realm Plan will build off recent plans and studies and create one coordinated, interdepartmental plan for long-term improvements to the area's streets, plazas, and other public spaces.

## INTERAGENCY PROJECT TEAM:



# CONSULTANT TEAM:

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Prime Consultant:



Landscape      Architecture

Sub-Consultant Team:

*Public Life,  
Tactical Projects &  
Urban Design:*



*Economic Modeling  
& Management:*



*Architecture:*

KENNERLY ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

*Historic Resources:*



*Outreach & Public  
Participation:*



*Structural  
Engineering*



*Mechanical,  
electrical, &  
plumbing*



*Lighting Design:*



*Civil Engineering  
& Green  
Infrastructure:*



*Cost Estimation:*

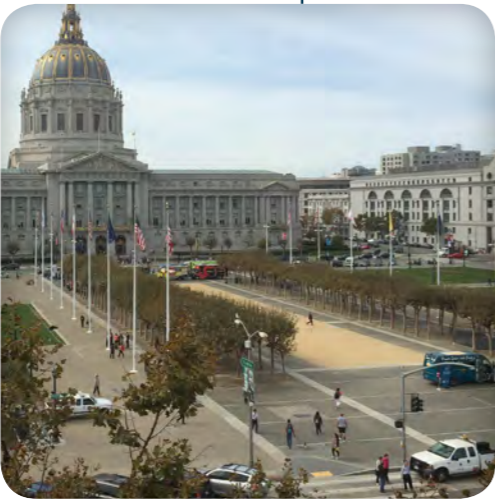


# PLAN AREA

## LEGEND



- PUBLIC REALM PLAN BOUNDARY
- KEY OPEN SPACE FOCUS AREAS (CMG TEAM SCOPE)
- KEY PUBLIC REALM FOCUS AREAS (CITY TEAM SCOPE)
- FOCUS AREA OVERLAP



Civic Center Plaza

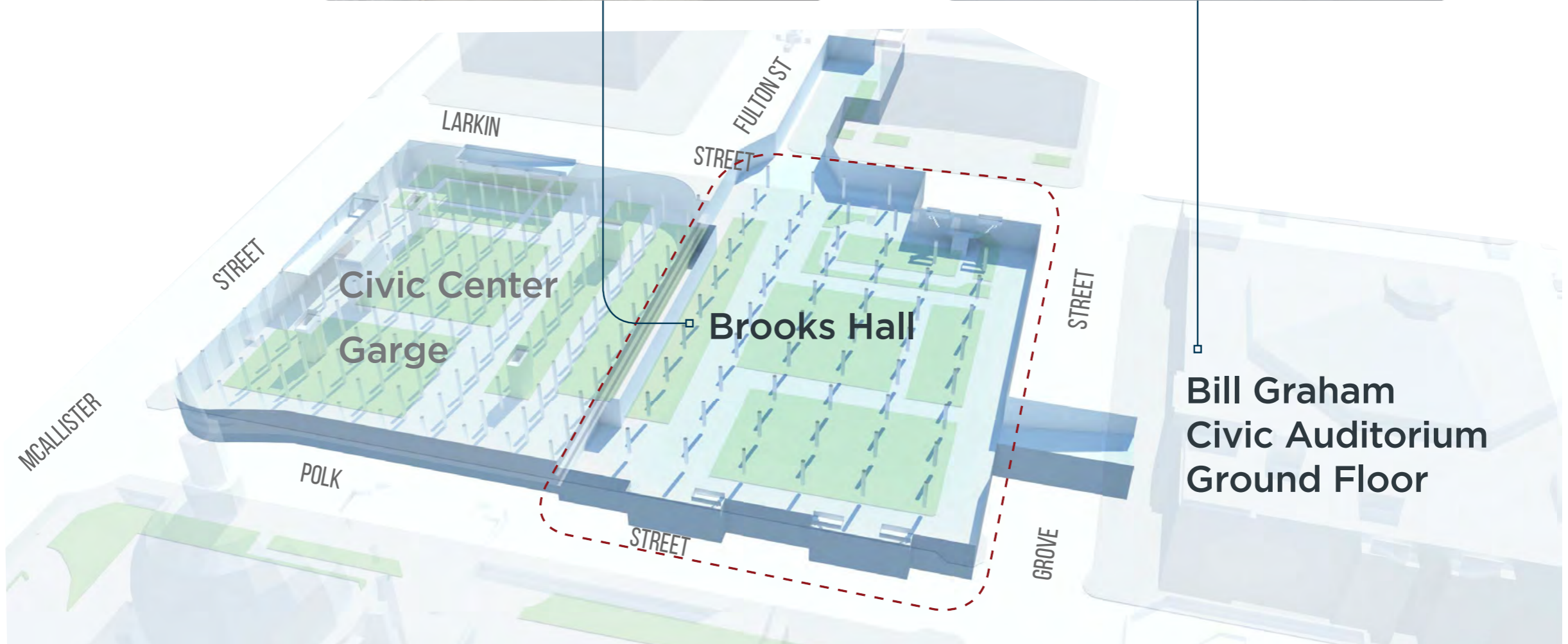


Fulton Mall



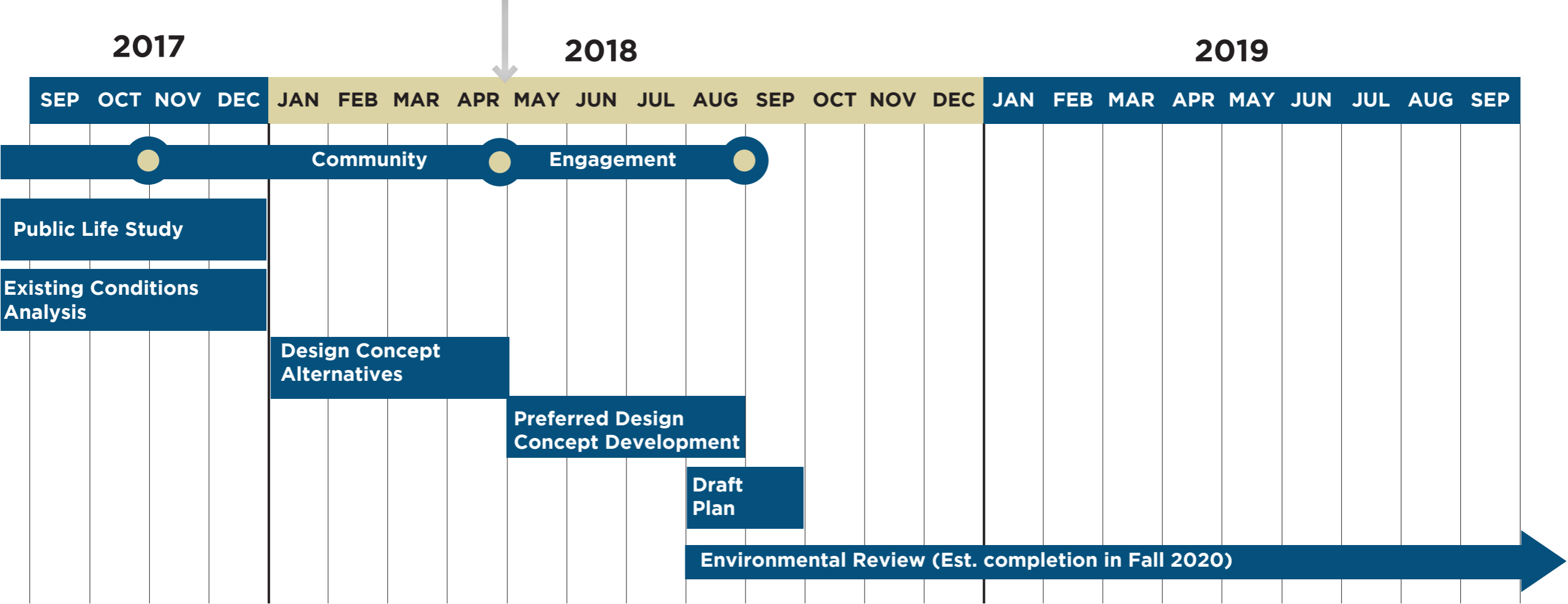
United Nations Plaza

# BROOKS HALL & BILL GRAHAM CIVIC AUDITORIUM GROUND FLOOR



# PLAN TIMELINE

*Subject to change*



 = Community Workshop/Open House

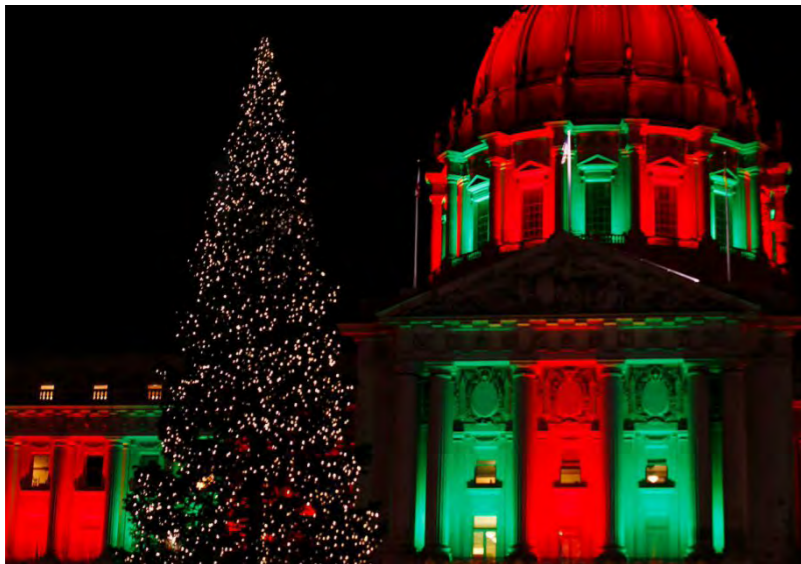


The Civic Center Commons Initiative is a collaborative effort to breathe new life into the City’s central civic spaces.



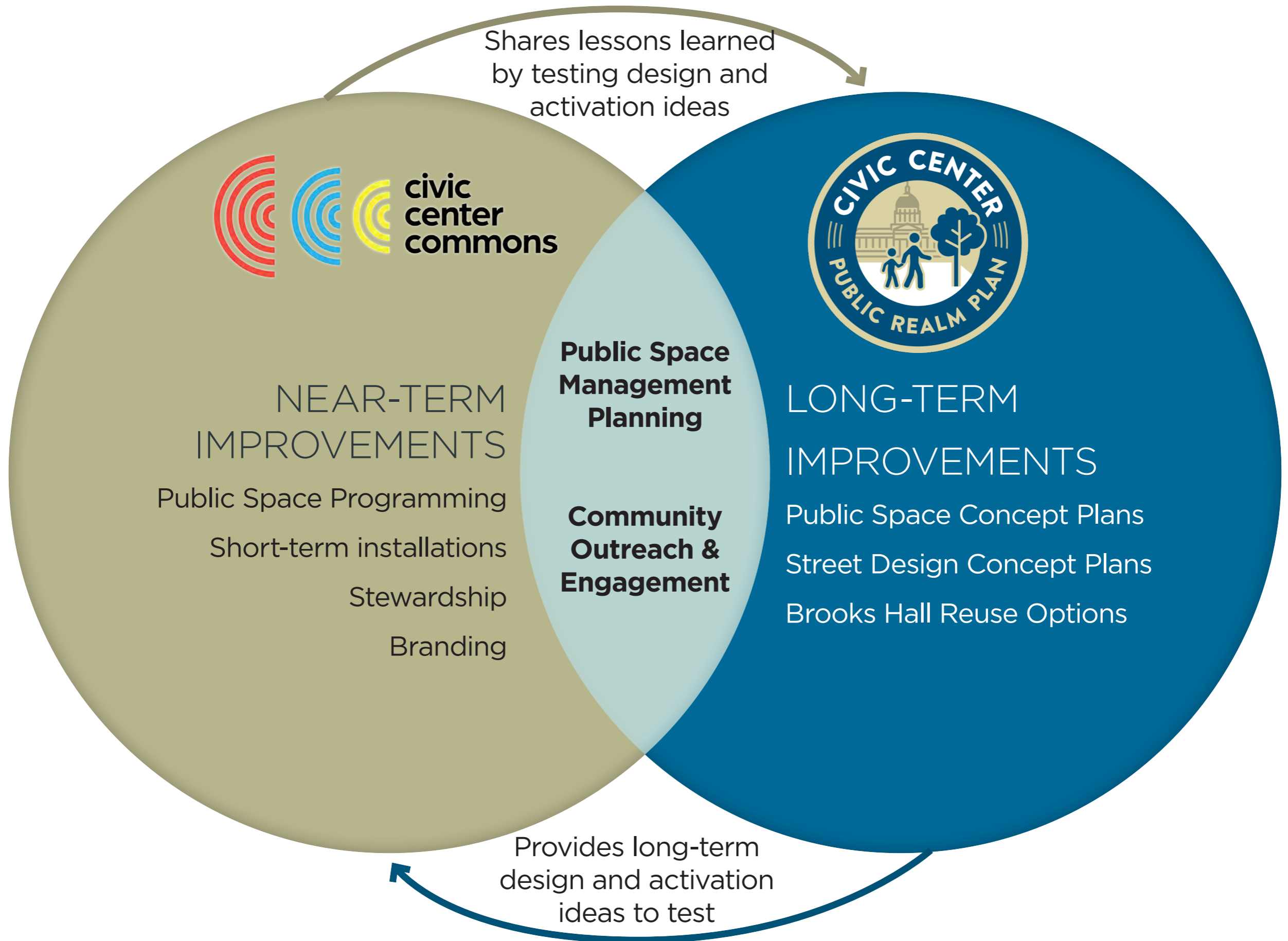


The Initiative is changing how people engage with the place and with each other so that everyone can feel welcome and experience the best of San Francisco every day.



Learn more and follow us at: [civiccentercommons.org](http://civiccentercommons.org)

# COMMONS + PUBLIC REALM PLAN COORDINATION





# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

# IN-LANGUAGE & YOUTH FOCUS GROUPS



## CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN



Submitted by:  
InterEthnica, Inc.  
60 Rausch Street, Suite 307  
San Francisco, CA 94103

In an effort to get feedback and perspectives from communities sometimes under-represented at City outreach events, four focus group discussions were held with the local residents from the following communities in Fall 2017:

- Vietnamese (Conducted in Vietnamese)
- Chinese (Conducted in Chinese)
- Latino (Conducted in Spanish)
- Youth, Ages 13-17 (Conducted in English)

# WORKSHOP #1 - NOVEMBER 7, 2017

CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN



- Over 70 community members in attendance
- Presentation of project background, public life study results, and existing conditions analysis
- Small group activity and interactive boards where participants provided feedback on potential design direction for Civic Center's public realm

# MOBILE OUTREACH STATION

CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN



Mobile Outreach Station with large-scale aerial map of Civic Center designed to engage community members in the spaces and events where they already gather

Mobile Outreach Station Events To-Date:

- CCC – Third Thursdays – 10/19/2017
- Civic Center Tree Lighting – 12/5/2017
- Heart of the City Farmer's Market – 2/7/2018
- CCC – First Sundays – 2/4/2018
- Helen Diller Civic Center Playground Opening – 2/14/2018

# ONLINE & IN-PERSON SURVEY #1

CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN



Survey designed to give people from throughout San Francisco a chance to share their thoughts on content originally shared at Workshop #1

**CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN: PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN SURVEY**

**I. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE CIVIC CENTER AREA?**

For the purposes of this survey, the Civic Center Area is the area outlined in the map below. The area is home to many prominent buildings like City Hall, Davies Symphony Hall, and the Main Library. At its center are major public spaces like Civic Center Plaza in front of City Hall.

The following questions are about the entire Civic Center area, as outlined in black on the map below.

**CIVIC CENTER PLAN AREA**  
**PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN FOCUS AREAS**

1. How often do you come to the Civic Center area?

☐ Every Day ☐ Several times per week ☐ Several times per month ☐ Several times per year ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

2. In general, how do you FEEL about the Civic Center area?

☐ Very negative ☐ Somewhat negative ☐ Neither negative nor positive ☐ Somewhat positive ☐ Very positive

3. In general, how SAFE do you feel in the Civic Center area?

☐ Very unsafe ☐ Somewhat unsafe ☐ Neither safe nor unsafe ☐ Somewhat safe ☐ Very safe

4. How likely is it that you would bring someone to the Civic Center area?

☐ Very unlikely ☐ Somewhat unlikely ☐ Neither unlikely nor likely ☐ Somewhat likely ☐ Very likely

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中文詢問請電: (415) 558-6282  
Para información en Español llamar al: (415) 558-6307

San Francisco Planning

- 200 In-Person intercept surveys (66% In-Language)
- Over 2,000 online survey responses
- Data is being incorporated into design concepts

# COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP, MEETING #1, FEB. 22, 2018

CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN



- Diverse group of community members from neighborhoods surrounding Civic Center
- In-depth conversations on materials shared at Workshop #1
- Two additional meetings planned



# STREET DESIGN OVERVIEW

# STREET DESIGN: CONTEXT TODAY

Street typology, key sites, safety deficiencies, vehicles traffic volumes, parking and loading needs, and the bike and transit network are all key factors in guiding redesign priorities on specific streets and blocks within the Civic Center.

IDENTITY

### STREET TYPOLOGY TODAY

The Better Streets Plan classifies Civic Center's most central streets as **Ceremonial Streets**, reflecting their critical civic importance.

SAFETY

### KEY SITES

Major government buildings (in blue) are clustered along McAllister and Polk Streets, while major arts institutions (magenta) are primarily found along Grove Street and Van Ness Ave.

### HIGH-INJURY STREETS

Almost all of Civic Center's streets are Vision Zero high-injury corridors, with high injury and collision rates for all users.

### COLLISION LOCATIONS

Along the key focus corridors, pedestrian and bicycle collisions are highest at Grove and Hyde/Market. When including vehicle-only collisions, Grove and Van Ness had the 4th-most overall collisions in the entire city from 2005-15.

CONNECTION

### THE BIKE NETWORK TODAY

Due to topography, Polk Street is a critical north-south bicycling route. McAllister and Grove streets serve as east-west routes. Limited transit conflicts and low traffic volumes make Grove Street a better candidate for upgraded bike facilities.

### THE TRANSIT NETWORK TODAY

The main transit spines are McAllister Street and Van Ness Avenue, which will soon host the city's first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line. Civic Center Station, with both BART and the Muni Subway, is a key transit hub for accessing Civic Center from throughout the Bay Area.

MOBILITY/OPERATIONS

### TRAFFIC VOLUMES TODAY

Van Ness, Franklin/Gough, and Hyde/Leavenworth carry the bulk of north-south traffic. Hayes and Fell carry significant east-west traffic. Grove Street carries the least traffic of the plan area's major streets.

### KEY STREETS PARKING & LOADING TODAY

There are 1,265 on-street metered parking and loading spaces in the plan area. There are also 600 spaces in the Performing Arts Garage and 843 in the Civic Center garage. With daytime peak occupancy at 63%, and night-time 39%, Civic Center Garage has substantial capacity.

The **Context Today Board** has important background information that is shaping the long-term designs for Civic Center's streets.

# STREET DESIGN: GOALS

## STREET DESIGN GOALS

Goals for the design of Civic Center's streets were crafted with stakeholder and community input from Workshop 1 in November until today. They are consistent with the goals developed for Civic Center's open spaces, but specific to the needs for Civic Center's streets.

### 1 SAFETY AND COMFORT

Create safe, comfortable, human-scaled streets that encourage walking and achieve San Francisco's Vision Zero goal to eliminate traffic fatalities by minimizing conflicts between people walking, biking, and driving



### 2 CONNECTION

Use pedestrian-priority street design to reduce the physical and visual barriers created by wide roadways that now divide Civic Center's public spaces



### 3 DISTINCTIVE IDENTITY

Enhance the special character and historic beauty of Civic Center through streetscape materials and amenities that contribute to a memorable district identity



### 4 ACTIVATION

Design sidewalks to complement active adjacent ground floor uses and roadways that can easily convert to public space during major civic events



### 5 MOBILITY/ OPERATIONS

Improve universal accessibility, enhance transit operations and fulfill essential loading needs to ensure efficient access to Civic Center's institutions



### 6 SUSTAINABILITY

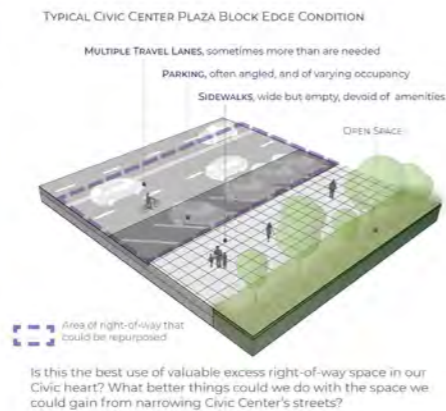
Make Civic Center's streets a showcase of San Francisco's commitment to sustainability through efficient, well-maintained, multi-modal, green streets design



The **Goals Board** outlines the six key goals the City team is striving to achieve through long-term improvements to Civic Center' streets.



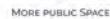
City Hall and Civic Center Plaza's streets were designed many years ago to be extra wide for civic parades and so they would feel more grand. To make the streets so wide, the blocks were shrunk, making them smaller than surrounding blocks.



Angled parking along the plaza edges creates unsafe, wide roadways and intersections. It also makes for an uninviting view as people approach Civic Center Plaza by foot.



## PARK EXPANSION



### REALIGNED SIDEWALKS

NARROWED AND REDESIGNED ROADWAY

## MORE PUBLIC SPACE

GRAND PEDESTRIAN PROMENADE

NARROWED AND REDESIGNED ROADWAY

## MORE PUBLIC SPACE

PARTIALLY REALIGNED SIDEWALK

NARROWED AND REDESIGNED ROADWAY

### PARK KIOSKS

## MORE PUBLIC SPACE

#### REALIGNED AND ENHANCED SIDEWALKS

NARROWED AND REDESIGNED ROADWAY

## PARK PAVILION

NARROWED AND REDESIGNED ROADWAY

## FLEXIBLE PAVED PLAZA SPACE

NARROWED AND REDESIGNED ROADWAY

# STREET DESIGN: OVERVIEW

CIVIC CENTER PUBLIC REALM PLAN  
COMMUNITY WORKSHOP 2 - April 24, 2018



## INTRODUCTION

Welcome and thank you for coming tonight and providing your input on street design in Civic Center.  
The Civic Center Public Realm Plan area, shown at right, encompasses more than 20 blocks and several miles of streets. Working with the community and the consultant-led public space redesign team, a multi-agency City team has led the concept design of the streets within the Civic Center Public Realm Area. We invite your feedback on these street design concepts.

## KEY FOCUS STREETS

Several street corridors have received particular focus for concept design. Shown in light blue in the diagram below, these include:

- Grove Street, from Cough to Market
- Polk Street, from McAllister to Market
- Larkin Street, from McAllister to Market
- Hyde Street, from McAllister to Market
- Hyde Street, from Polk to Market

## PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN FRAMEWORKS INTEGRATION

The consultant-led public space design team has been focusing on Civic Center Plaza, UN Plaza, and the connecting block of Fulton Street, shown below in purple. To be sure the concept design for all the streets and blocks surrounding and bordering Civic Center's key public spaces was closely coordinated and integrated into the redesign of the public spaces, the City-led street design team and consultant-led public space design team have been closely collaborating on the areas where the teams' design focus areas overlapped, shown below in magenta.



## GROVE AND POLK STREETS

There are two alternative ideas for consideration for these two key corridors. Please see the detailed design boards for Polk and Grove Streets for detailed information about specific design changes each alternative is proposing.

## OTHER KEY PLAZA STREETS

McAllister and Larkin Streets both border some of Civic Center's key public spaces, including the Plaza. Both are well-designed streets around the Plaza and also, for McAllister, as City Hall. While changes are not proposed on a corridor-wide level for either of these streets, changes are proposed for the blocks around the Plaza and vicinity, as detailed below.

### MCALLISTER ST



### Design Proposal Highlights

- Strengthened role as major transit corridor
- 6' Sidewalk and 6' Rapidly installed transit priority
- 20' of potential reclaimed public space created from within 100' existing right-of-way
- Grass and pedestrian promenade along Civic Center Plaza's north edge
- Narrowed travel lanes and enhanced crosswalks for safety



### LARKIN ST



### Design Proposal Highlights

- Strengthened role as major neighborhood gateway street
- 30' of potential reclaimed public space created from within 100' existing right-of-way
- Grass and pedestrian promenade along Civic Center Plaza's east edge and fronting the Public Library and Asian Art Museum
- Narrowed travel lanes and enhanced crosswalks for safety



The **Overview Board** has information on proposed long-term changes to the street network, including McAllister and Larkin Streets

# STREET DESIGN: GROVE STREET



## GROVE ST

Two alternative street designs are proposed for Grove Street. The images below depict proposed changes on the block bordering Civic Center Plaza, which would have the most significant changes.

The **“Complete Street”** alternative would employ today’s best-practice street design to improve comfort and safety for pedestrians and cyclists via protected bike lanes and sidewalk widening.

The **“Plaza Promenade”** alternative would transform Grove Street into a gracious promenade experience, with major sidewalk widening and plaza expansion and a protected two-way bike path.

KEY MAP

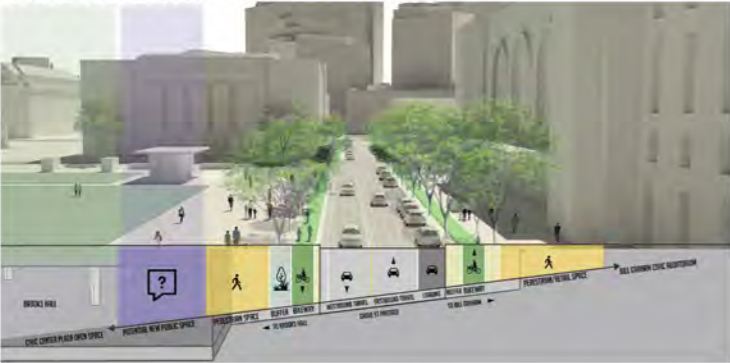


### EXISTING



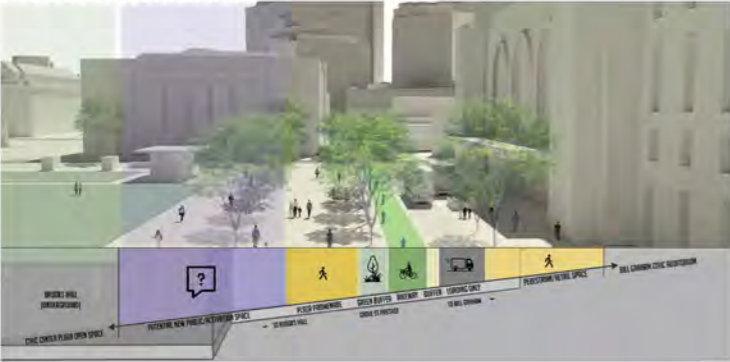
- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY + COMFORT**
  - High-injury corridor, even with low traffic volumes.
  - Van Ness & Grove among the highest collision rates in SF.
  - Very wide, 71' intersection crossings with multiple conflicts.
- BIKE FACILITY**
  - Shared lanes west of Van Ness.
  - Eastbound bike lane from Van Ness to Market St.
- TRANSIT SERVICE**
  - 21-Hayes (eastbound direction only) from Gough to Polk.
- TRAFFIC LANES AND VOLUMES**
  - 4 very narrow lanes between Gough & Larkin, 2 lanes between Larkin & Hyde/Market.
  - Low traffic volumes.
- VEHICLE ACCESS**
  - No access restrictions other than for existing one-way street circulation.
- LOADING + PARKING**
  - Parallel or diagonal parking/loading on both sides of street on all blocks.

### COMPLETE STREET



- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY + COMFORT**
  - Narrowed and enhanced intersection crossings.
  - Upgraded sidewalk furnishings.
  - New trees and planting areas.
- BIKE FACILITY**
  - Parking-protected one-way bike lanes.
- TRANSIT SERVICE**
  - No changes to 21-Hayes service.
- TRAFFIC LANES AND VOLUMES**
  - 2 lanes between Gough & Polk.
  - Reduced traffic volumes.
- VEHICLE ACCESS**
  - No circulation changes proposed.
- LOADING + PARKING**
  - Parallel parking/loading on one side of street on all blocks.

### PLAZA PROMENADE



- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY + COMFORT**
  - Significant pedestrian-priority upgrades on all blocks, especially Plaza block.
  - Narrowed and enhanced intersection crossings.
  - New furnishings, trees and planting areas.
- BIKE FACILITY**
  - Fully-separated two-way bikeway/multi-use trail.
- TRANSIT SERVICE**
  - No changes to 21-Hayes service.
- TRAFFIC LANES AND VOLUMES**
  - 2 lanes between Gough & Polk.
  - 1 eastbound loading-only lane between Polk & Larkin.
  - 1 westbound lane between Larkin & Market.
  - Significant traffic volume reduction.
- VEHICLE ACCESS**
  - No private vehicles on Plaza block (Bill Graham loading-only).
  - 1 lane, one-way westbound between Larkin & Market (Library block) to improve safety at Market and Grove.
- LOADING + PARKING**
  - Parallel parking/loading on one side of street on all blocks.

The **Grove Street Board** summarizes the two design options the City team has developed for improvements to Grove Street.

Plan views of the Grove Street options are also available on the tables at the street design station.

# STREET DESIGN: POLK STREET

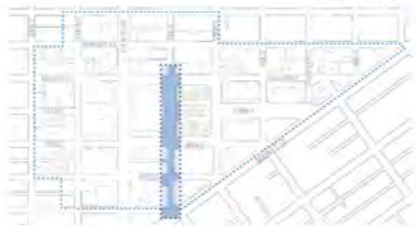
## POLK ST

There are two alternative street designs proposed for Polk Street, as shown below the existing condition.

The **“Complete Street”** alternative would calm Polk St by adding parking-protected bike lanes.

The **“Plaza Promenade”** alternative would transform Polk Street on the City Hall block into one with a strong pedestrian emphasis, while also enhancing its role as a major bicycle route.

KEY MAP



### EXISTING



- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY + COMFORT**
  - High-injury corridor north of McAllister
  - Very wide intersection crossings with multiple conflicts
- BIKE FACILITY**
  - Bikes Lanes lanes north of Grove, and from Grove to Market southbound
  - Protected contra-flow northbound bike lane from Market to Grove St
- TRANSIT SERVICE**
  - 21-Hayes (southbound direction only) from Grove to Market
- TRAFFIC LANES AND VOLUMES**
  - 2 southbound lanes + 1 northbound lane north of Grove, 2 southbound lanes south of Grove
  - Increasing traffic volumes approaching Market
- VEHICLE ACCESS**
  - One-way/southbound-only for vehicles between Market and Grove
- LOADING + PARKING**
  - Parallel or diagonal parking/loading on both sides of street on City Hall/Plaza block
  - Parallel parking/loading on one side of block between Hayes and Grove
  - Loading only between Hayes and Market

### COMPLETE STREET



- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY + COMFORT**
  - Narrowed intersection crossings
  - Raised intersection crossing at Fulton central axis
  - Special paving, upgraded sidewalk furnishings, new trees and planting areas
- BIKE FACILITY**
  - Parking-protected one-way bike lanes
- TRANSIT SERVICE**
  - No changes proposed
- TRAFFIC LANES AND VOLUMES**
  - 2 southbound lanes + 1 northbound lane north of Grove, 2 southbound lanes south of Grove
  - Moderate traffic volumes
- VEHICLE ACCESS**
  - No access or circulation changes proposed
- LOADING + PARKING**
  - Parallel parking/loading on both sides of street on City Hall/Plaza block
  - Parallel parking/loading on one side of block between Hayes and Grove
  - Loading only between Hayes and Market

### PLAZA PROMENADE



- PEDESTRIAN SAFETY + COMFORT**
  - Significant pedestrian-priority upgrades on all blocks
  - City Hall/Plaza block designed as shared street to connect City Hall with Plaza to improve safety and provide new public gathering space
  - Special paving, new trees and sidewalk furnishings
- BIKE FACILITY**
  - Fully-separated two-way bike path/multi-use trail
- TRANSIT SERVICE**
  - No changes proposed
- TRAFFIC LANES AND VOLUMES**
  - 1 southbound lane between McAllister and Grove, 2 southbound lanes south of Grove
  - Lower traffic volumes
- VEHICLE ACCESS**
  - One-way southbound-only for vehicles south of McAllister
- LOADING + PARKING**
  - City Hall loading only on City Hall/Plaza block, if any accommodated
  - Parallel parking/loading on one side of block between Hayes and Grove
  - Loading only between Hayes and Market

The **Polk Street Board** summarizes the two design options the City team has developed for improvements to Grove Street.

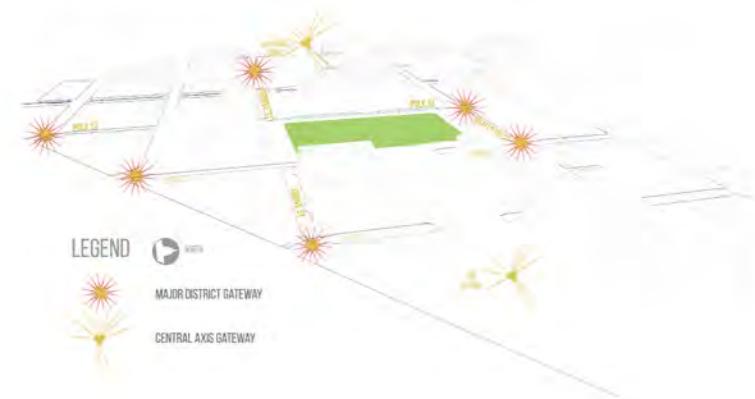
Plan views of the Polk Street options are also available on the tables at the street design station.

# STREET DESIGN: GATEWAYS

## CIVIC CENTER GATEWAYS

Civic Center has a unique and special civic character that should be designed to welcome everyone, residents and visitors alike. There are several areas and intersections where, when you reach them, you suddenly realize you have arrived in the Civic Center district. Few of these key places serve as welcoming and distinctive district gateways today, however, as can be seen from the images at right. Today's gateway on the main central Civic Center Axis are more formalized, but still have clear room for improvement.

The Public Realm Plan has identified 8 areas and intersections, indicated in the diagram below, to be enhanced as special gateways unique to the district.



### POTENTIAL DISTRICT GATEWAYS



Highlight the special character of the major entry and exit intersections to Civic Center through streetscape gateway designs that welcome all visitors to the district

### CENTRAL AXIS GATEWAYS



Highlight the special character of the central axis of Civic Center through unique gateway designs that welcome all visitors to the district

## WAR MEMORIAL COURTYARD

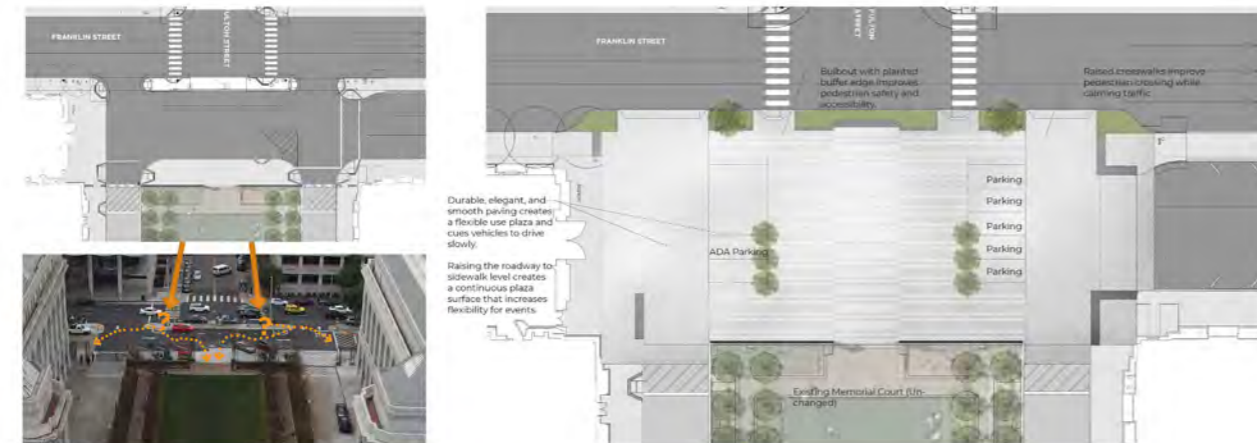
On-street parking at the western edge of the War Memorial Courtyard creates an uninviting and ambiguous gateway for pedestrians; The City Team is studying ways to improve this area by converting parking into public space

### ISSUES TODAY

The intersection of Franklin and Fulton is challenged with pedestrian safety and accessibility issues, including long crossing distances, a narrow and cluttered pedestrian island, and dangerous vehicular shortcuts through the War Memorial Parking lot. It is important that a redesign of this space maintain the operational functionality required by the cultural institutions.

### CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Regrade and repave the existing pathways and roadway to create a flexible use plaza that forms a beautiful civic gateway between Hayes Valley and the War Memorial Complex. The plaza would accommodate the existing function and operations of the War Memorial Complex, such as vehicular access and loading, as well as a new range of events and programming. Parking would be moved to the sides of the space to restore the significant view axis towards the Veterans Memorial and City Hall beyond.



The **Gateways Board** identifies opportunities to improve gateways to Civic Center, with a special focus on the intersection of Fulton and Franklin streets at the War Memorial Courtyard.



# PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN OVERVIEW

**VISION:**  
**Civic Center is a 21<sup>st</sup> century commons for all San  
Franciscans to be proud of: a civic gathering place  
that welcomes everyday use.**





# What We've Heard



# Public Space Principles

1. An accessible place for everyone that embodies civic principles
2. Authentic to San Francisco and represents the best of surrounding neighborhoods
3. A place of respite and a place to meet your neighbors
4. Financially sustainable and managed to be clean, safe, and inviting
5. A model for sustainable and resilient urban infrastructure and “the safest place in the city”
6. World class, elegant and beautiful

# **Paving, planting, & amenities are crucial elements for transforming Civic Center**



# Should the public spaces have more planting or paving?

CIVIC CENTER PLAZA



Constitution Square, Mexico City

6%

MORE  
PAVING



FULTON STREET



Campidoglio, Rome

8%

MORE  
PAVING



UN PLAZA



Mariahilferstrasse, Vienna

11%

MORE  
PAVING



Place De La Republique, Paris

38%

SOME OF  
BOTH



Paseo Del Prado, Havana

40%

SOME OF  
BOTH



Current Design

40%

SOME OF  
BOTH



Bryant Park, New York City

56%

MORE  
PLANTING



Dorchester Square, Montreal

52%

MORE  
PLANTING



Bailey Plaza, Ithaca, NY

49%

MORE  
PLANTING



# Trees contribute to district identity and a sense of wonder, district identity and ecological services



“To see delight in  
Civic Center is an  
unusual experience”

# Paving that feels civic and inviting

**BOLD GRAPHIC PAVING**



**QUIET ELEGANT PAVING**



# Permanent uses that would invite you to Civic Center

CAFE PAVILIONS



INTERACTIVE WATER FEATURES



RETAIL KIOSKS



MORE PLACES TO SIT / SOCIALIZE



OUTDOOR LIBRARY & READING SPACE



DECORATIVE WATER FEATURES



# Attractions that would support social & civic gathering

**PUBLIC ART**



**INFORMAL STAGE (PLATFORM)**



**ICONIC STRUCTURES**



**ART INSTALLATIONS & INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS**



**GARDENS & GREENERY**



**DESIGN FEATURES REPRESENTING DIFFERENT CULTURES**



# Events that would bring you to Civic Center

## HEART OF THE CITY FARMERS MARKET



## OPEN-AIR MARKETS



## MOBILE RETAIL, FOOD KIOSKS / TRUCKS



## LIBRARY PROGRAMMING & EVENTS



## MARCHES, PROTESTS, CIVIC EVENTS



## PERFORMANCE EVENTS



## OUTDOOR MOVIES / SIMULCASTS



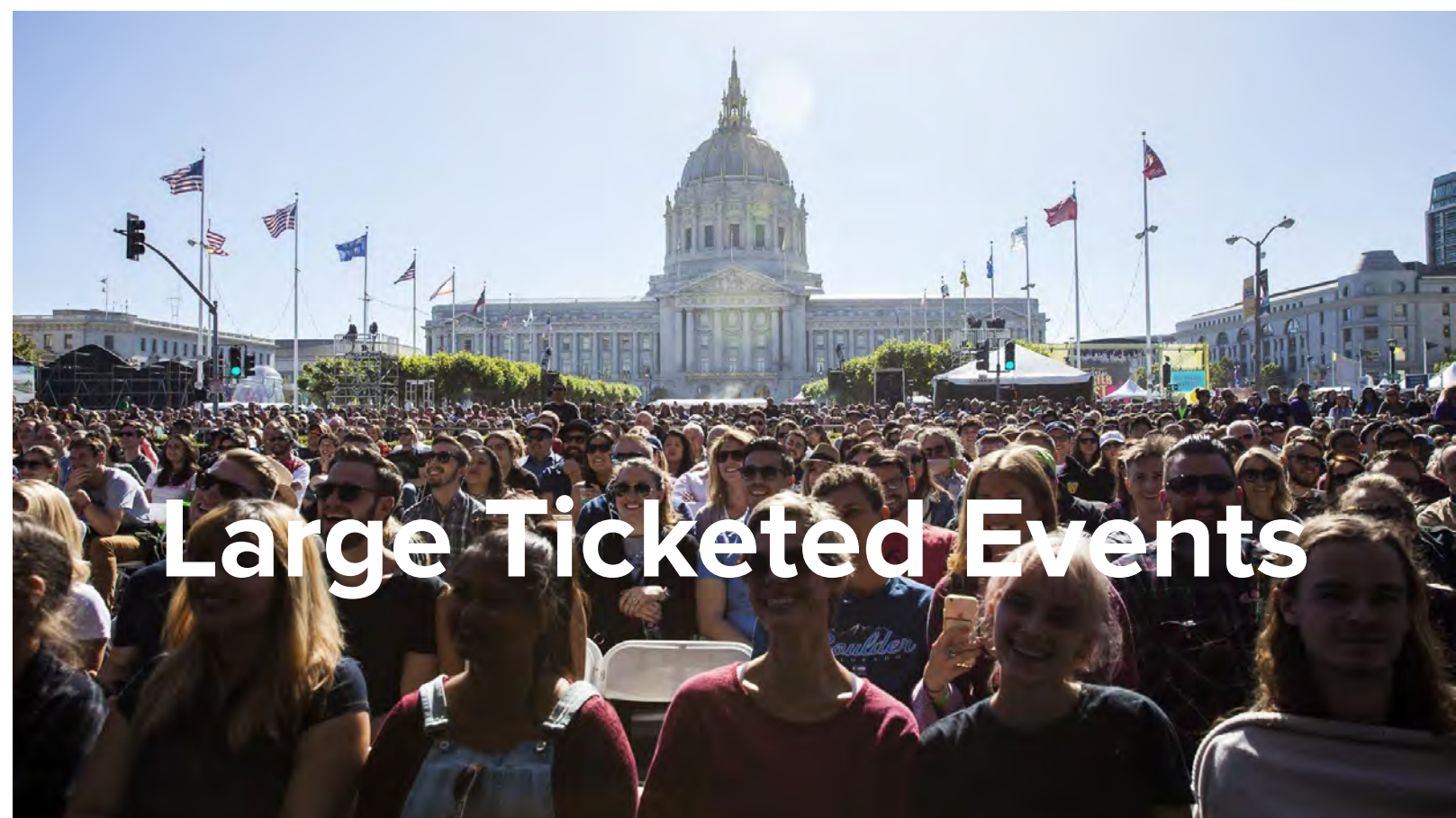
## MUSIC AND FOOD FESTIVALS

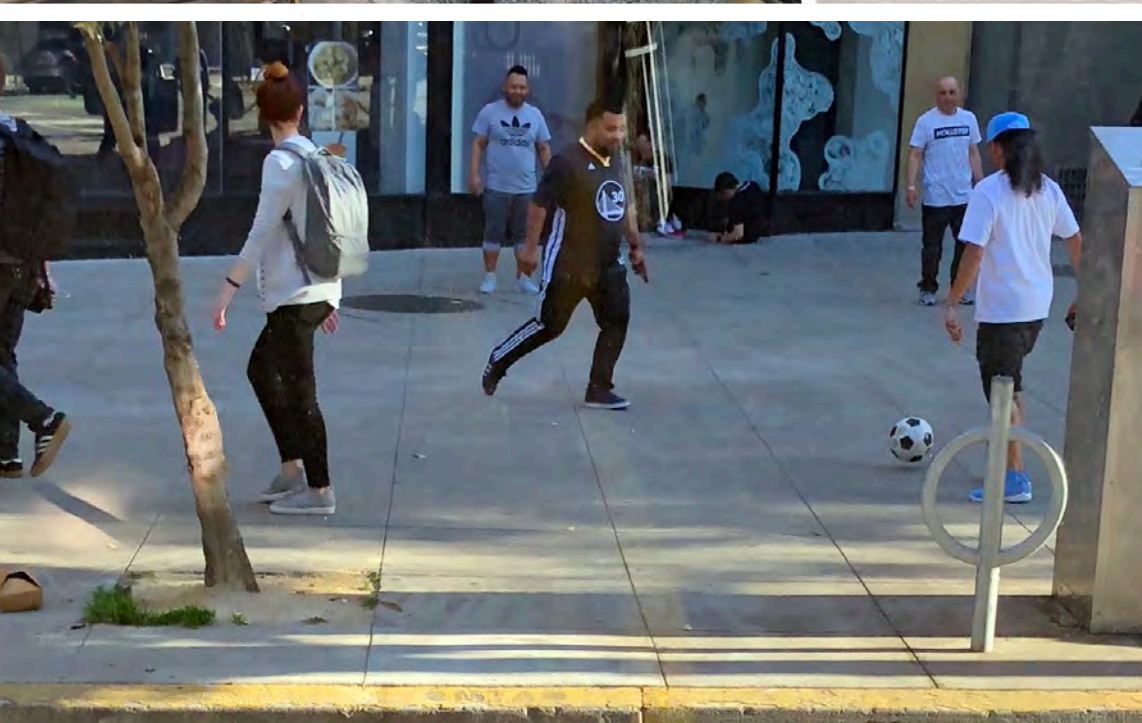
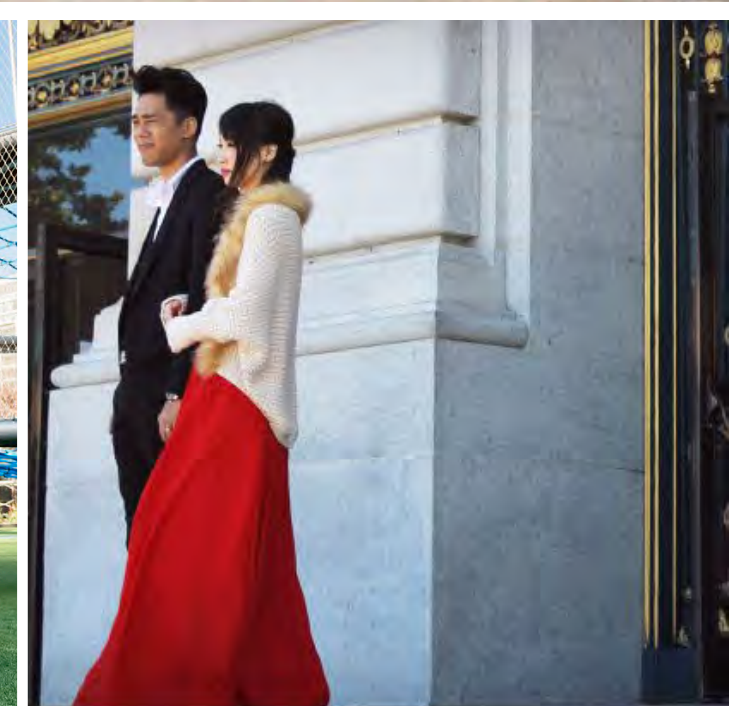
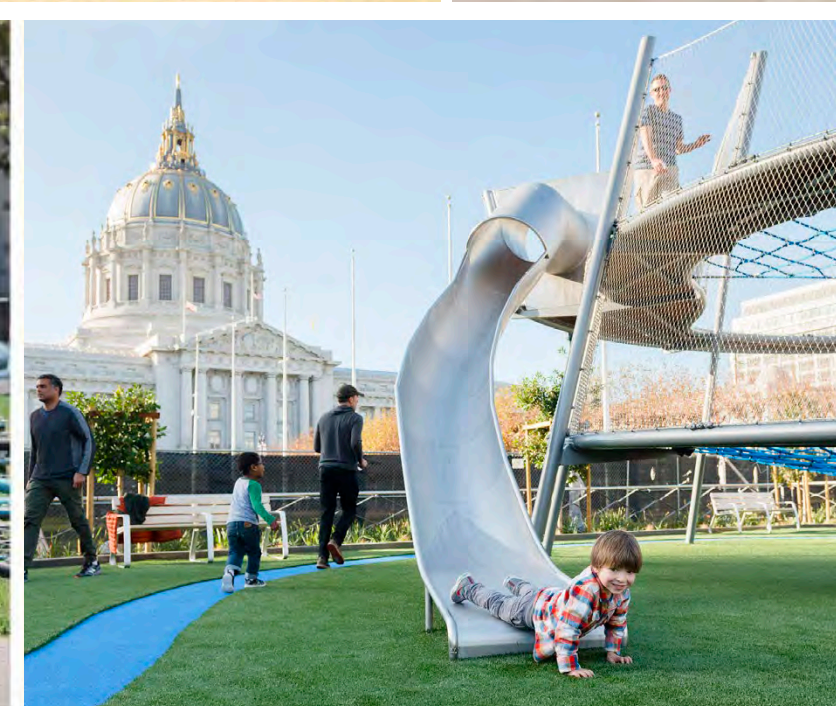
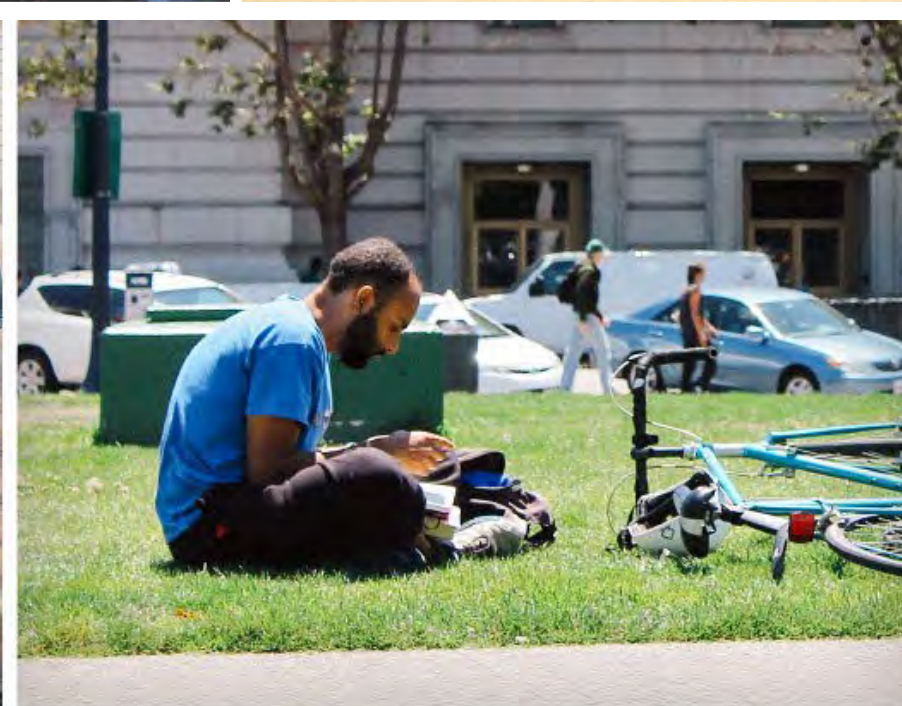


## FREE COMMUNITY EVENTS

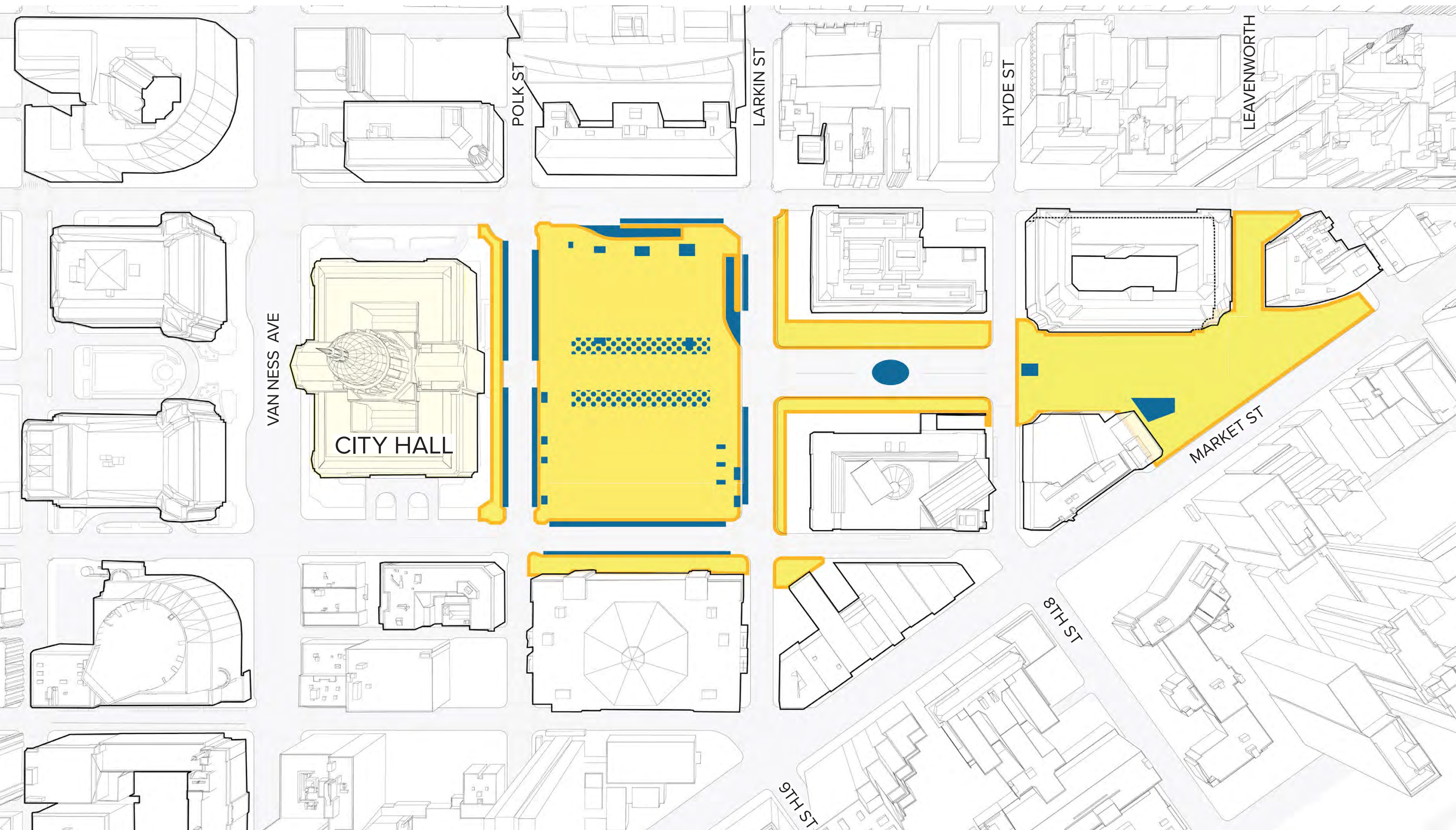


# Civic Gatherings

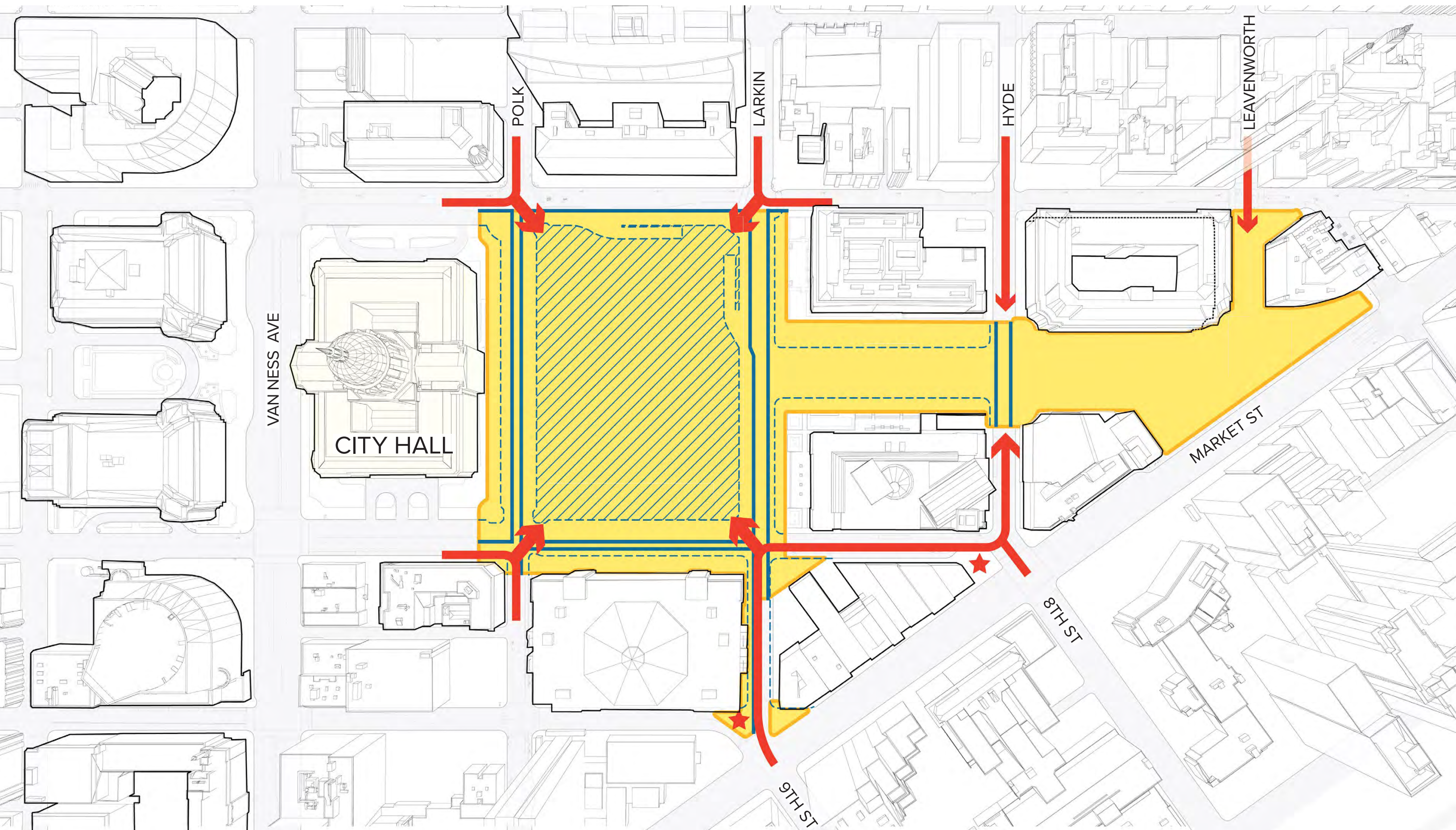




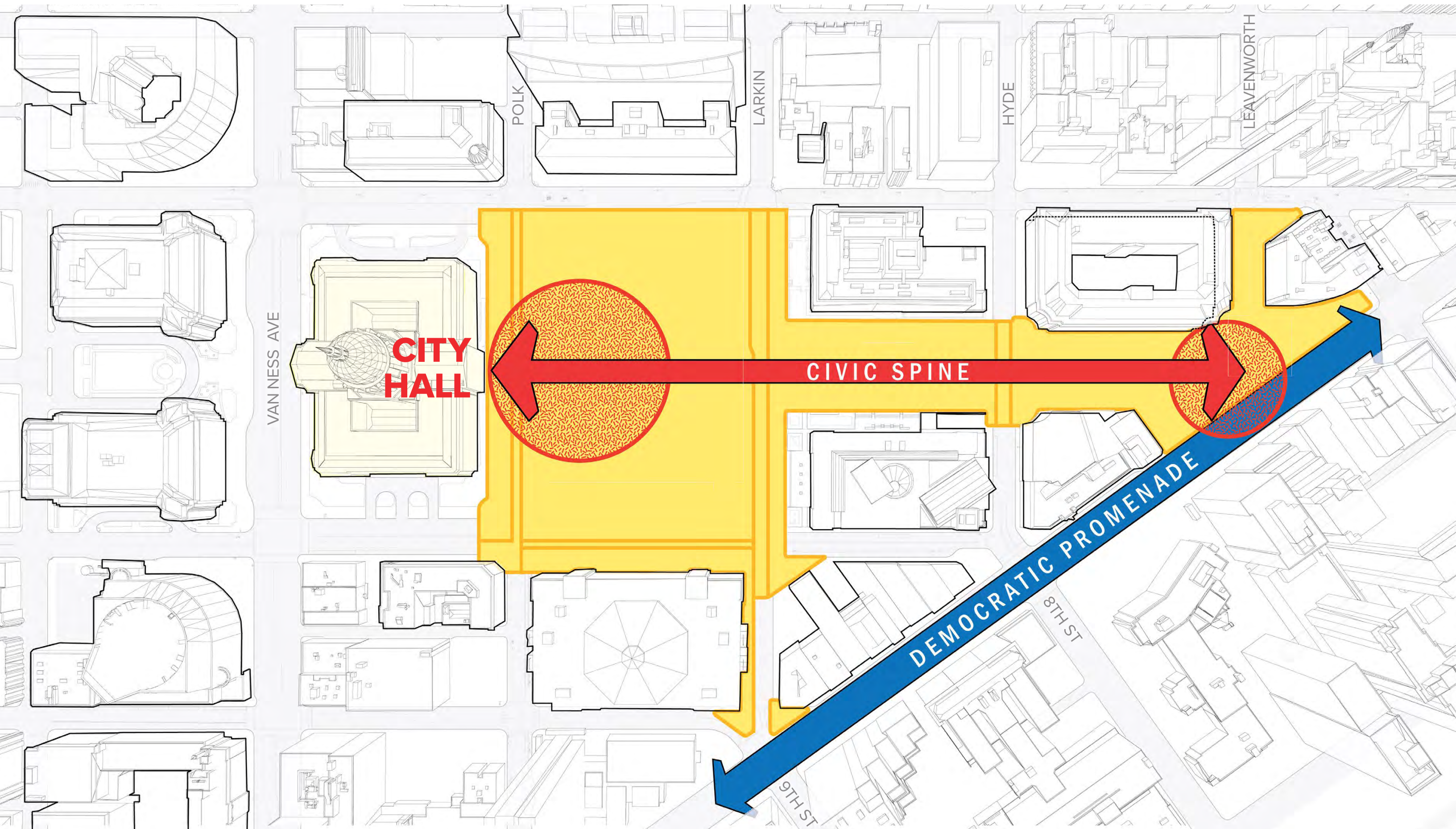
# Civic Center Today



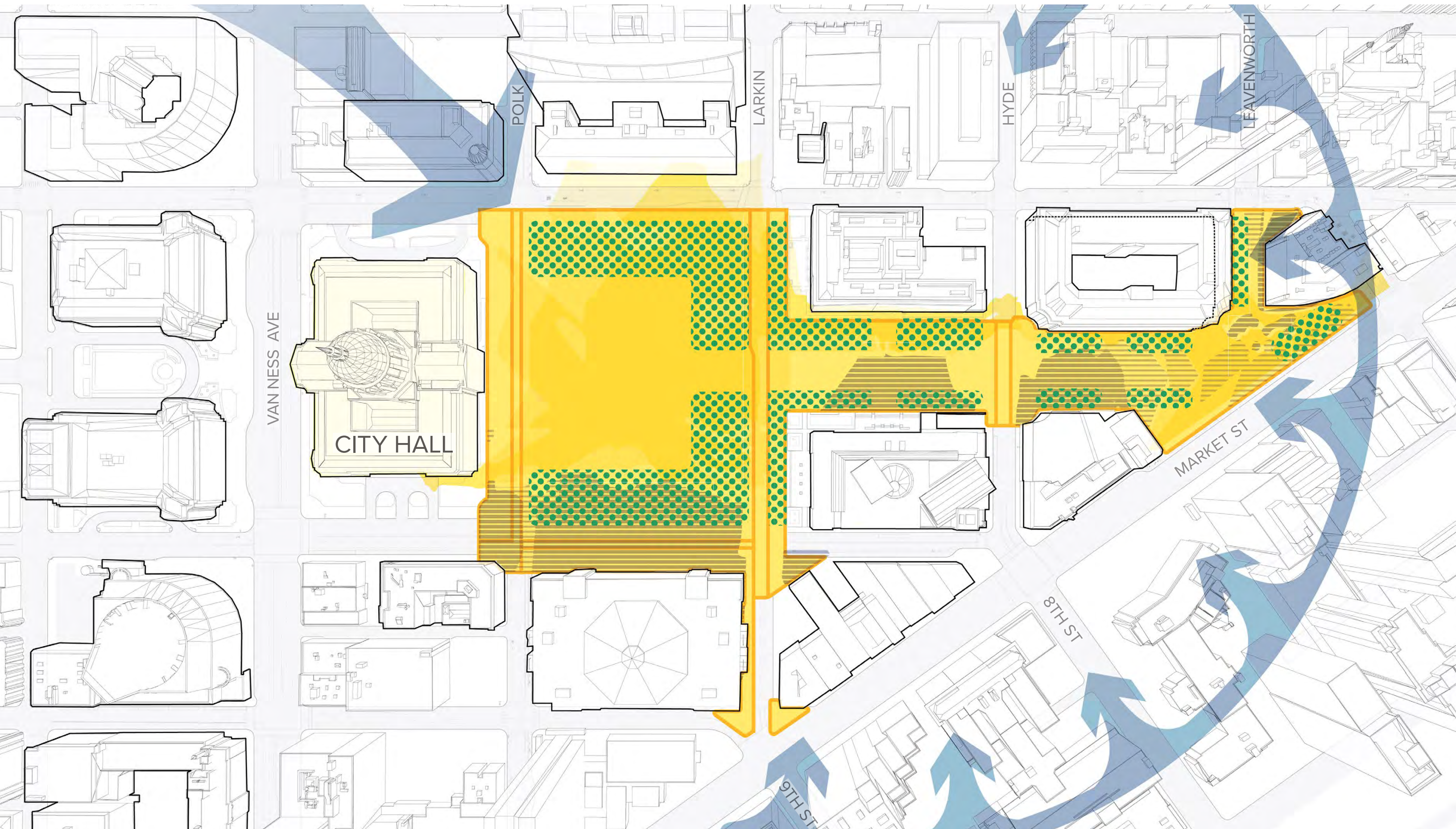
# Unify the Public Realm



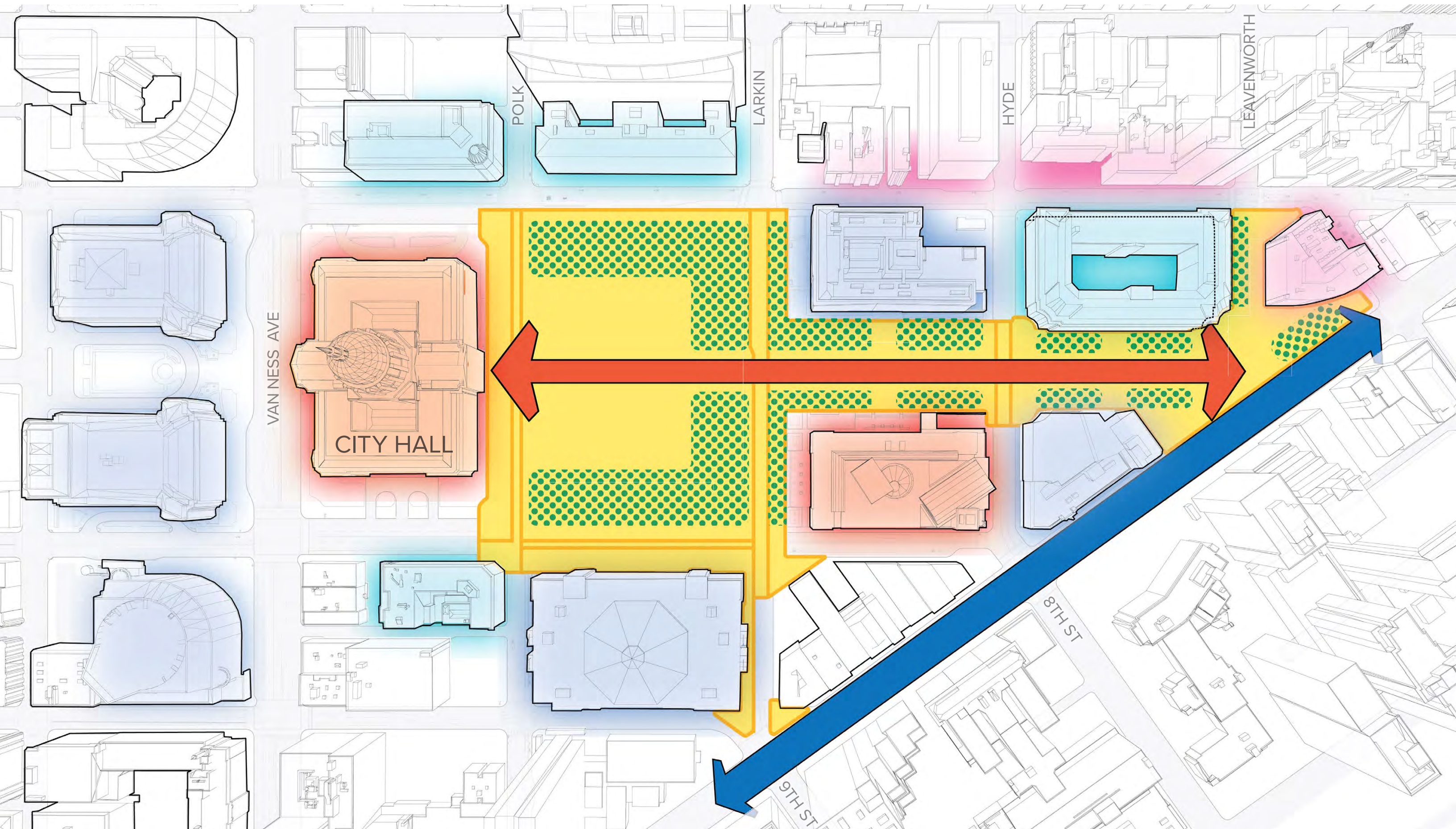
# Accommodate Civic Gatherings



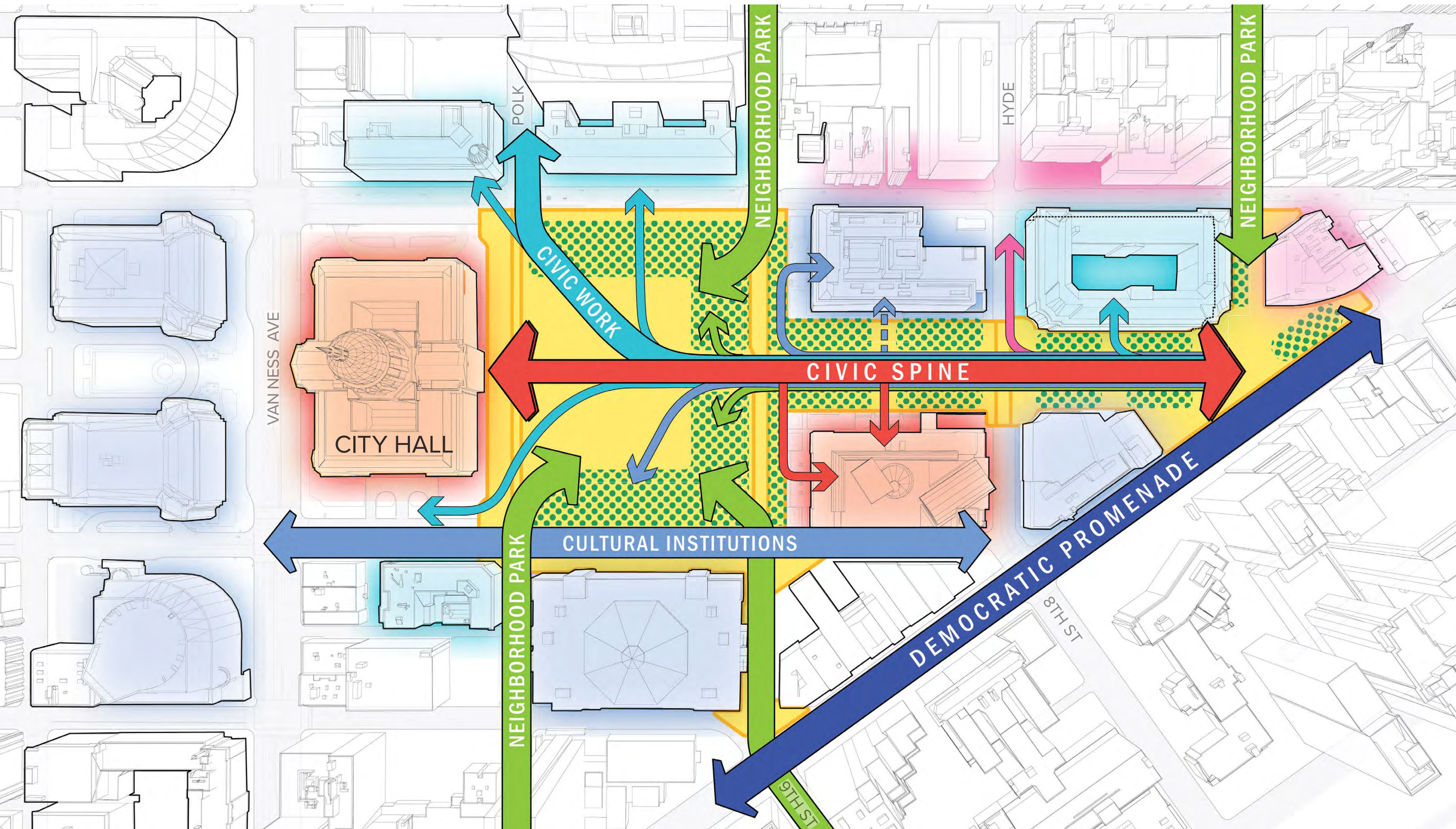
# Block Wind & Enhance Sunny Locations



# Enclose Spaces, Frame Views, & Enhance Edges



# Make Places that Invite People & Public Life



# **CIVIC CENTER FRAMEWORK PLANS**

## **City Image + Gathering + Daily Life**

# 3 Frameworks

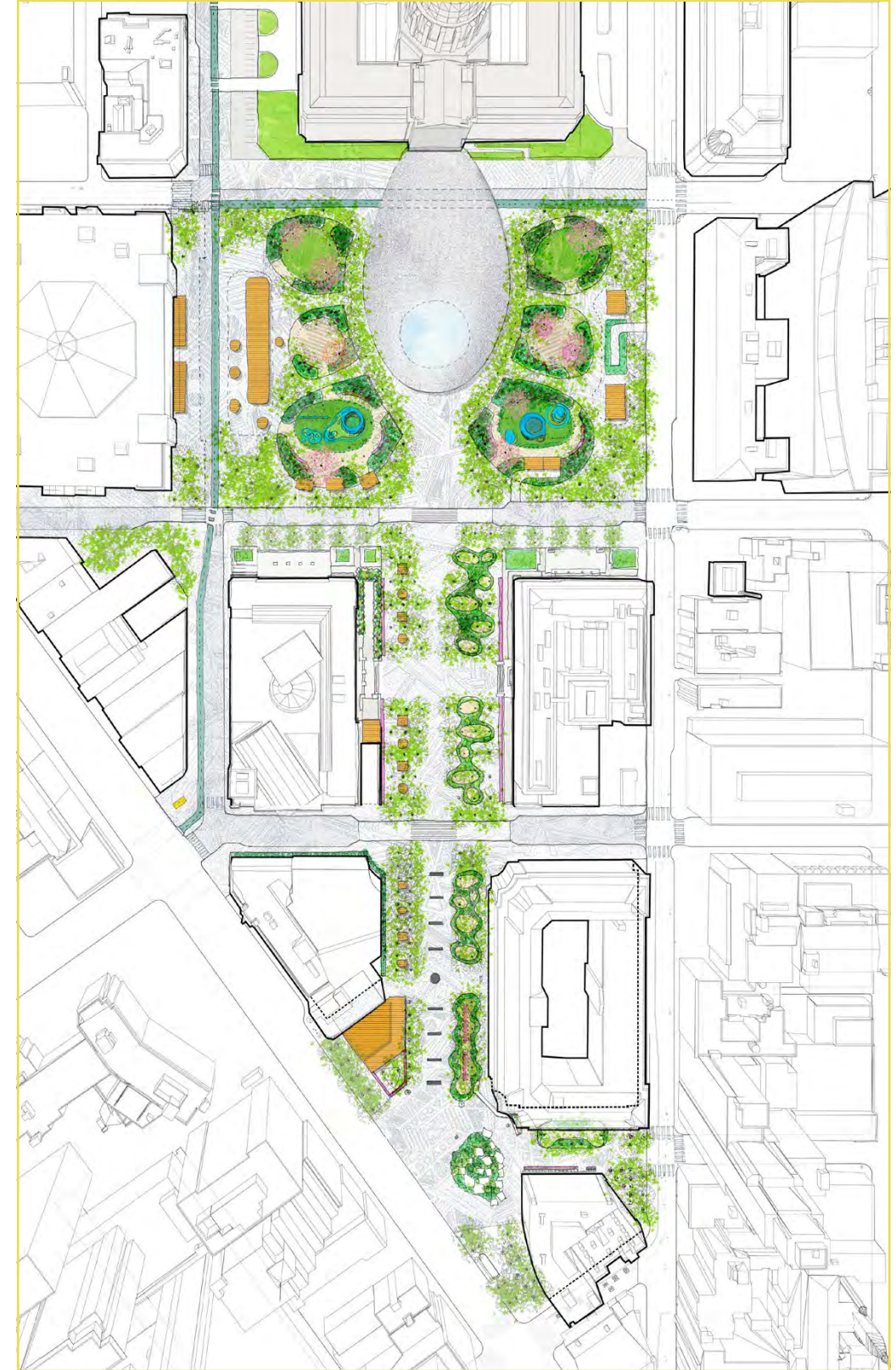
## Public Platform



## Civic Sanctuary



## Culture Connector

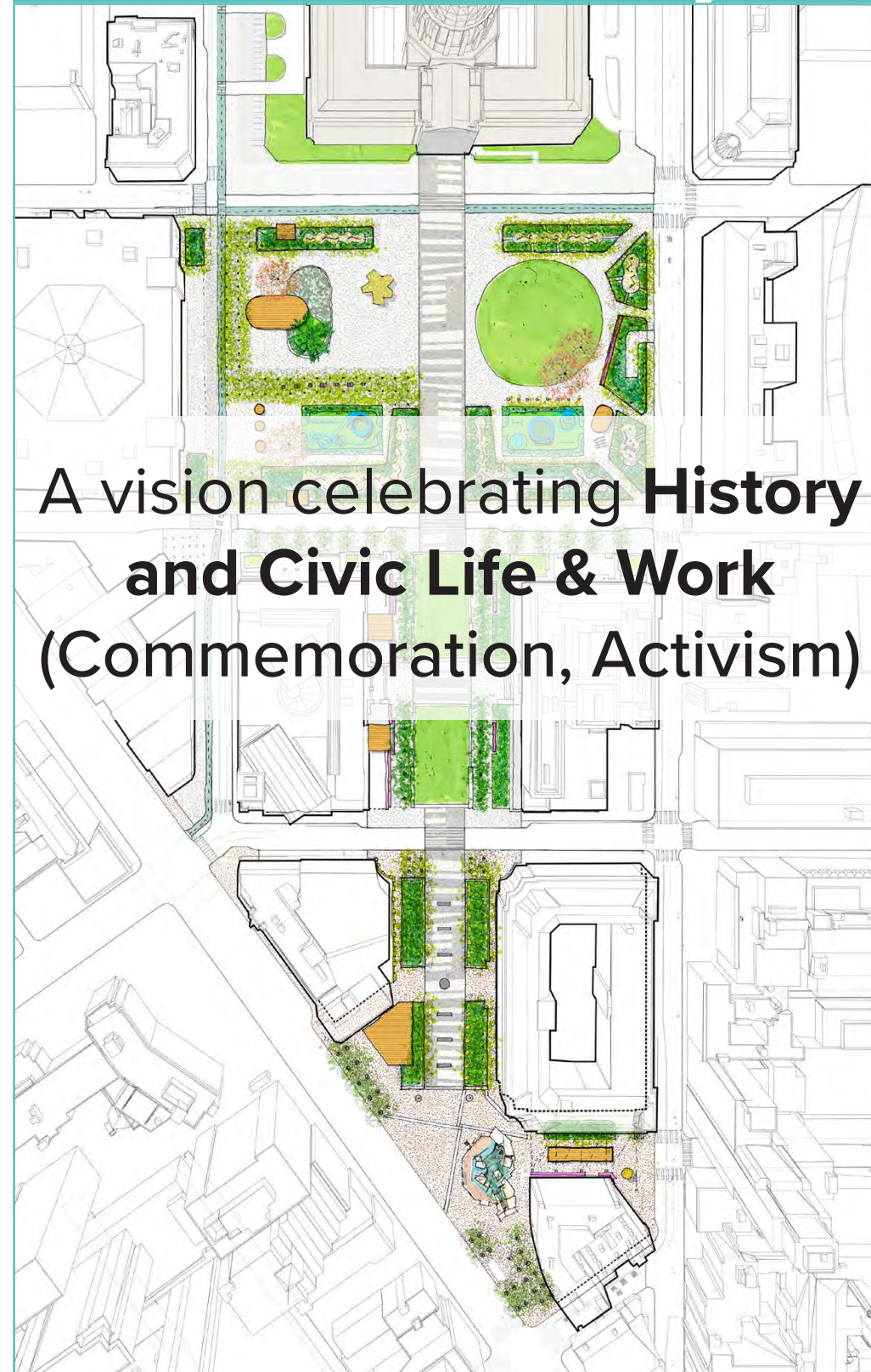


# 3 Visions for a New Commons

## Public Platform



## Civic Sanctuary

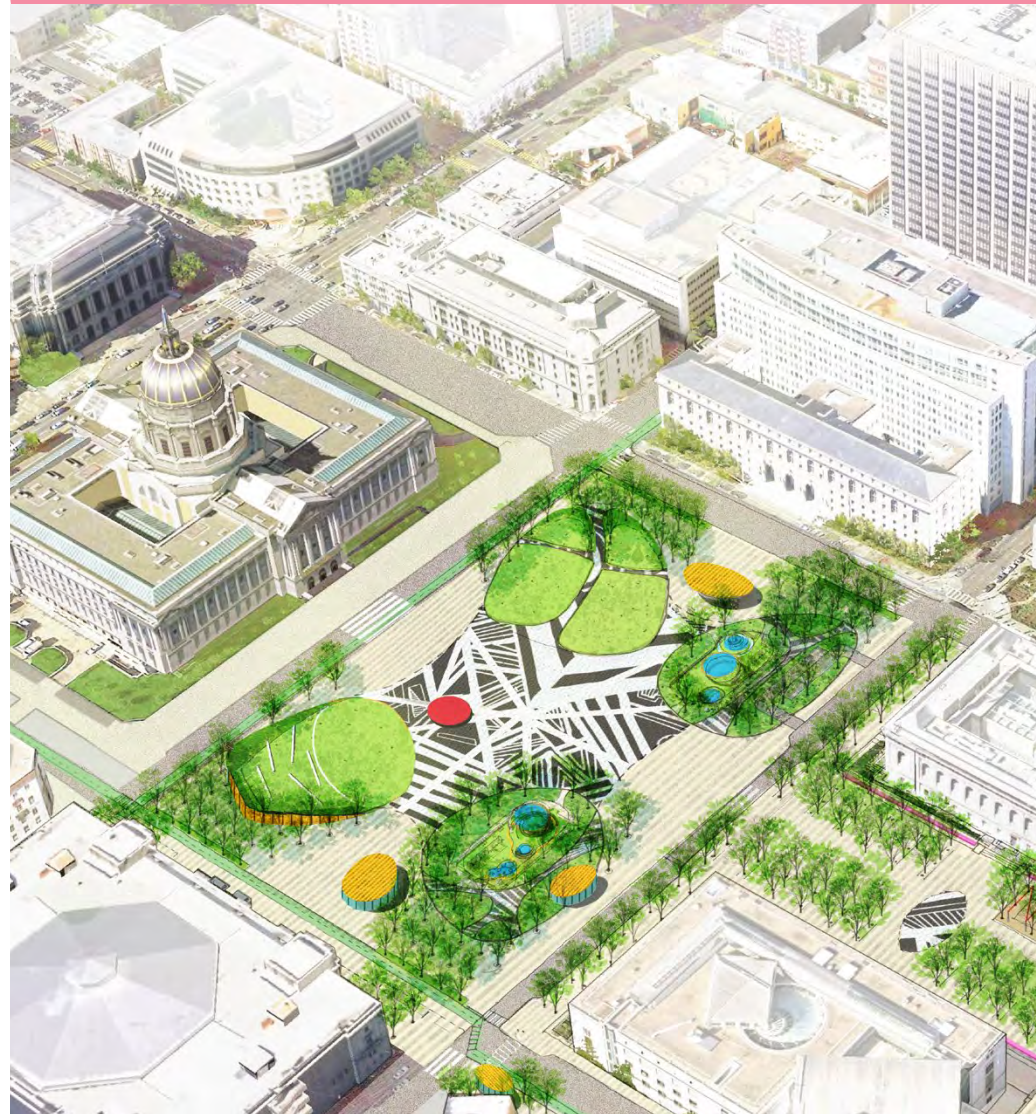


## Culture Connector

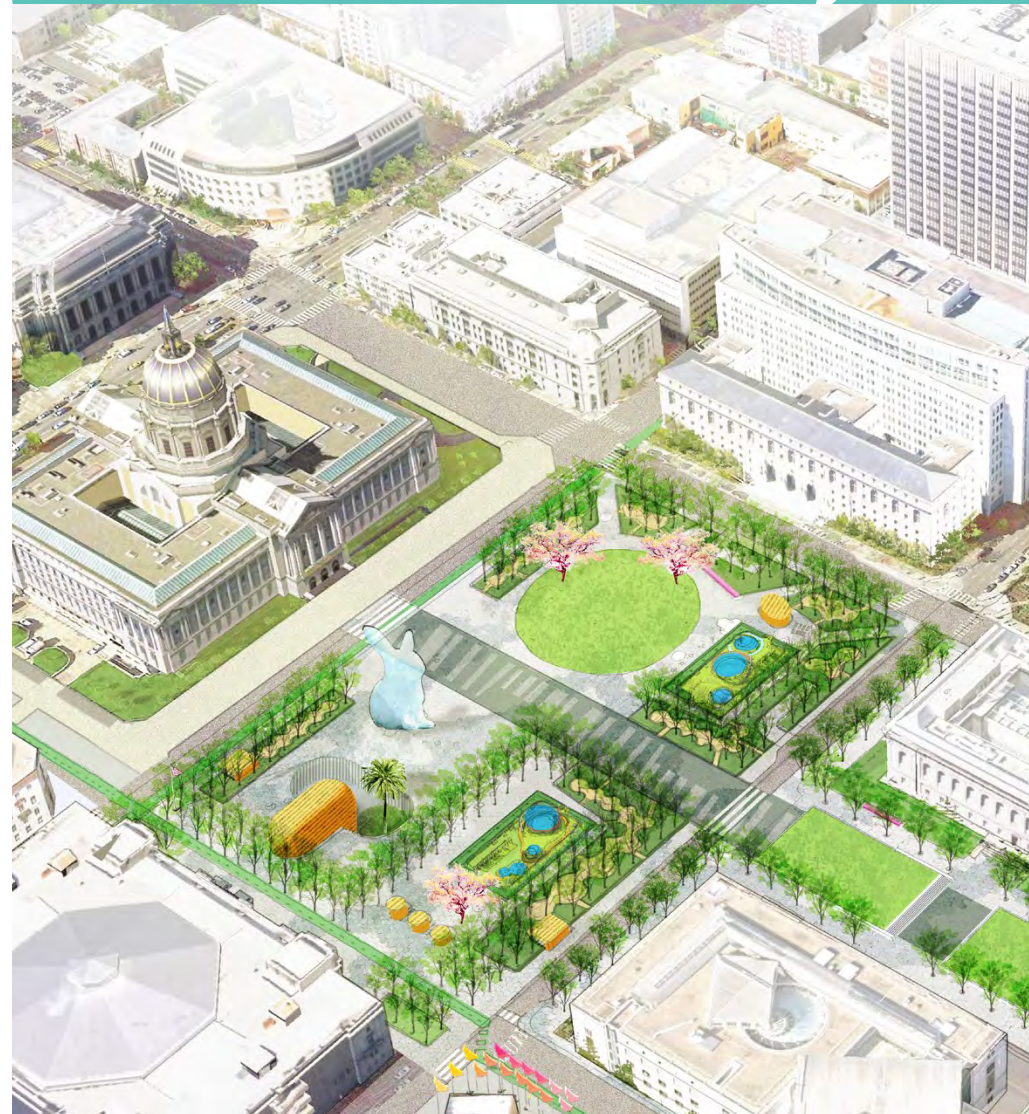


# Civic Center Plaza

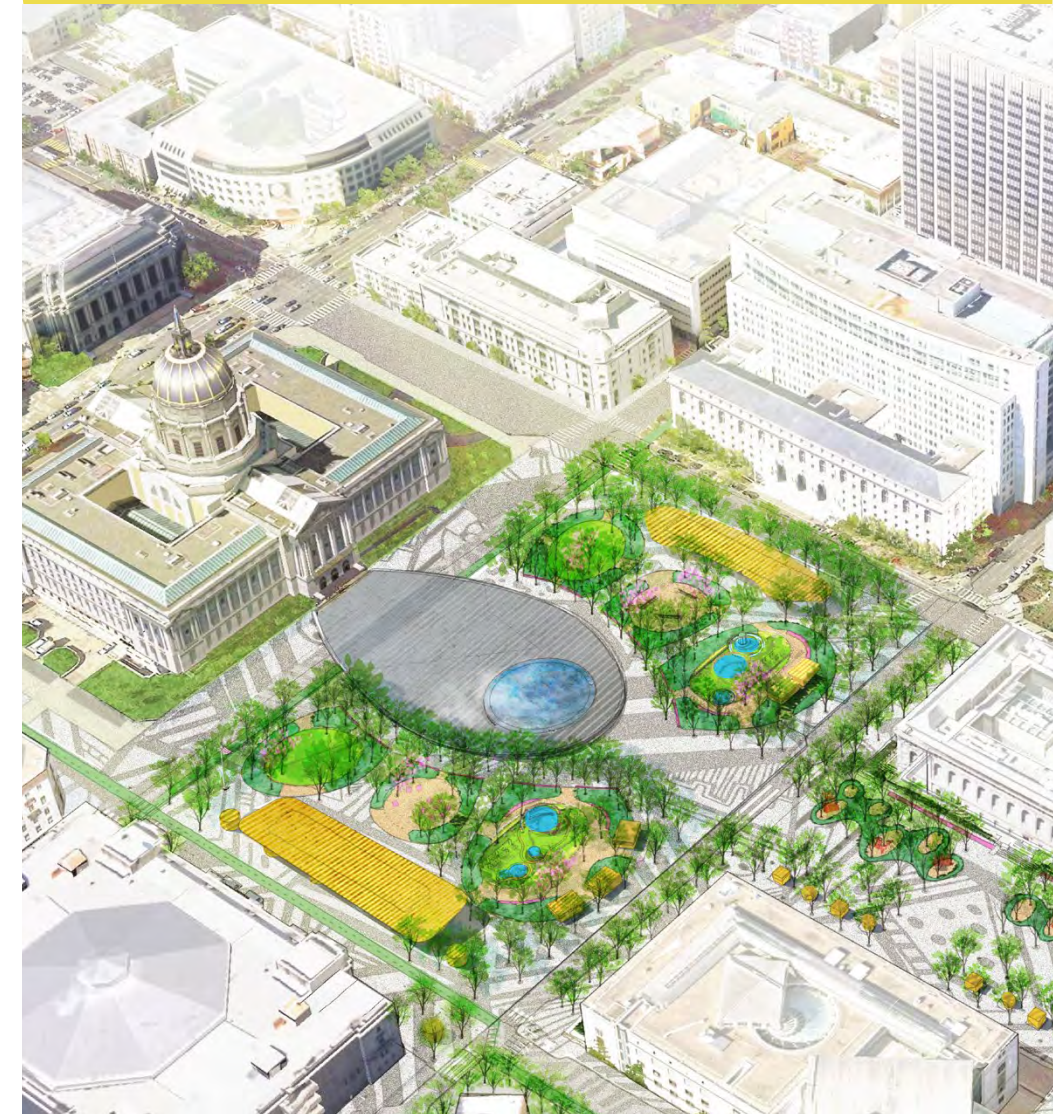
Public Platform



Civic Sanctuary

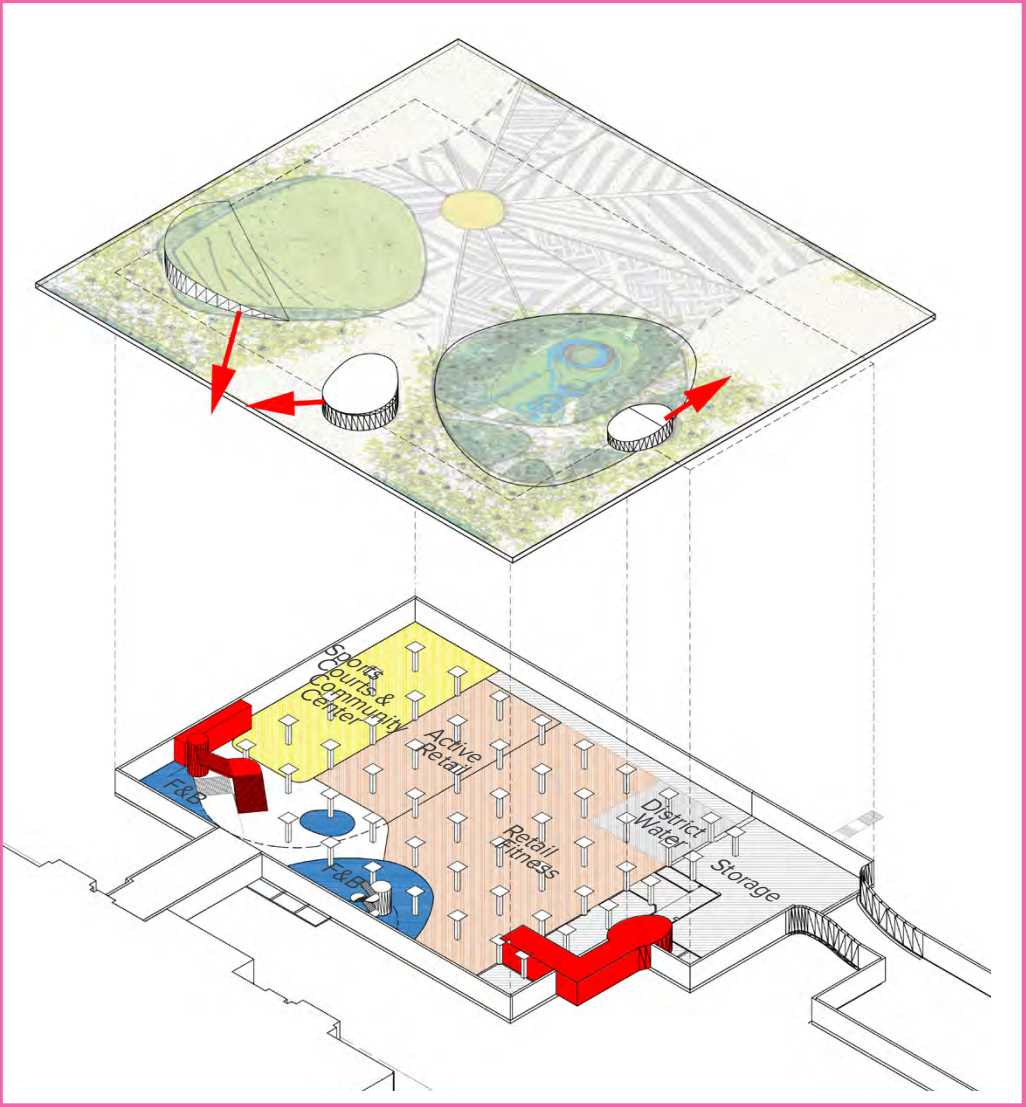


Culture Connector

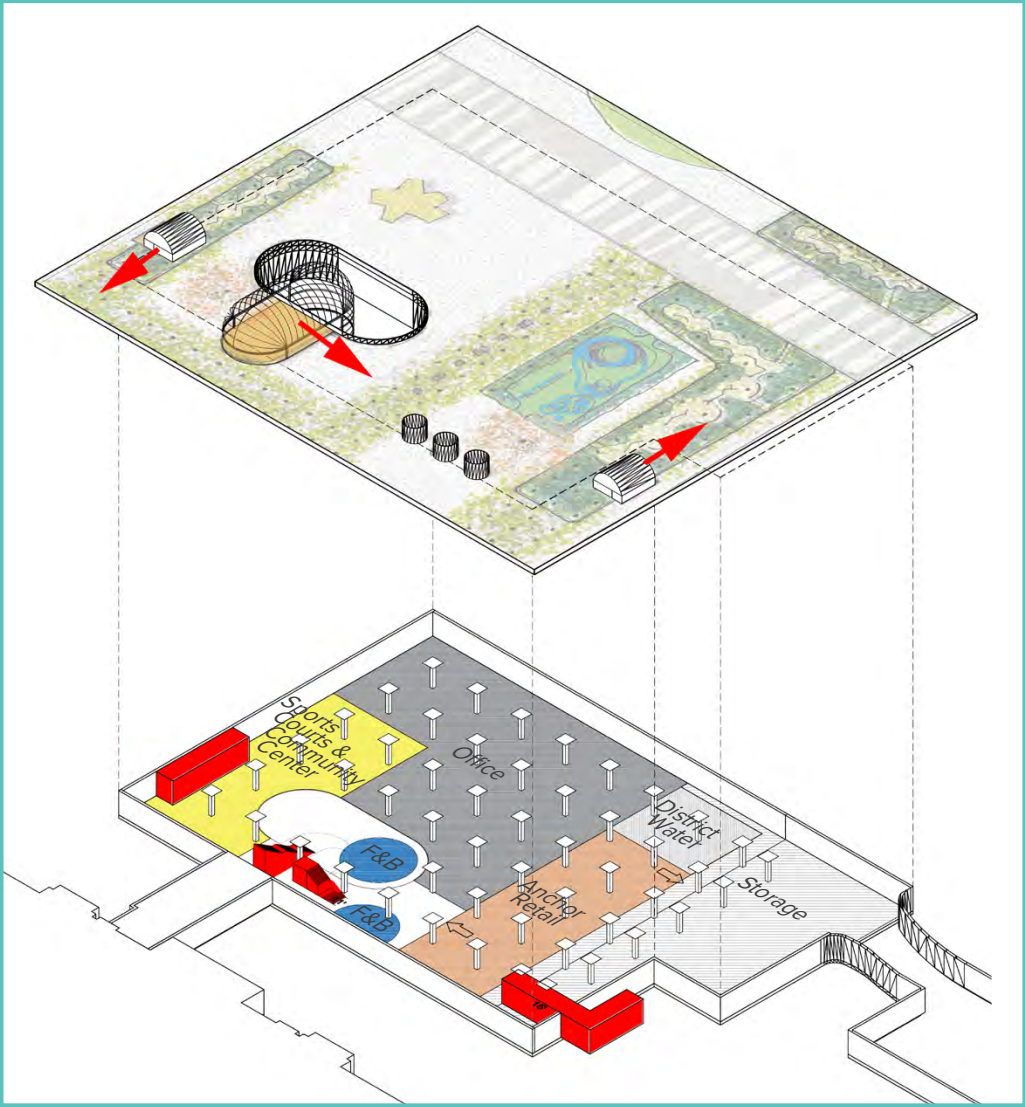


# Brooks Hall

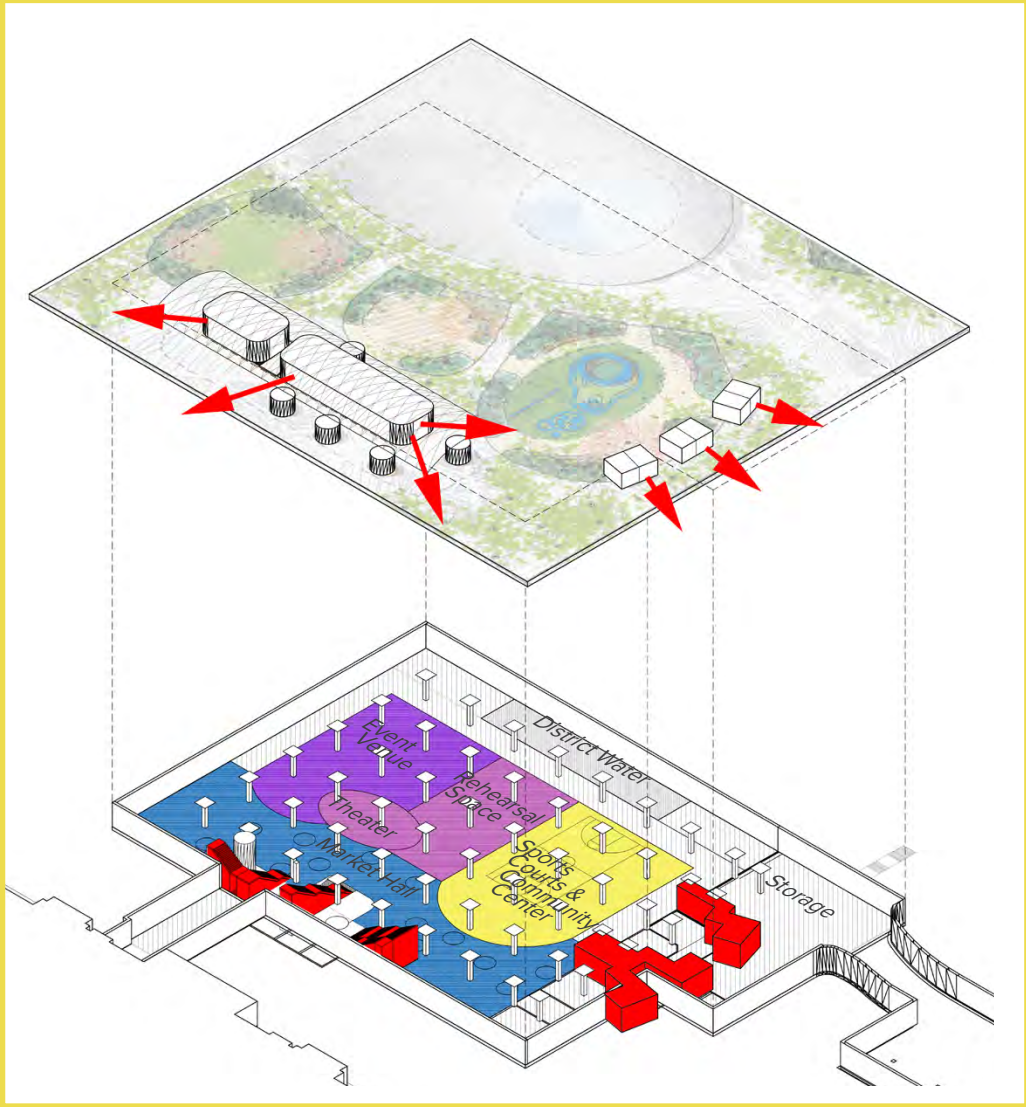
## Public Platform



## Civic Sanctuary

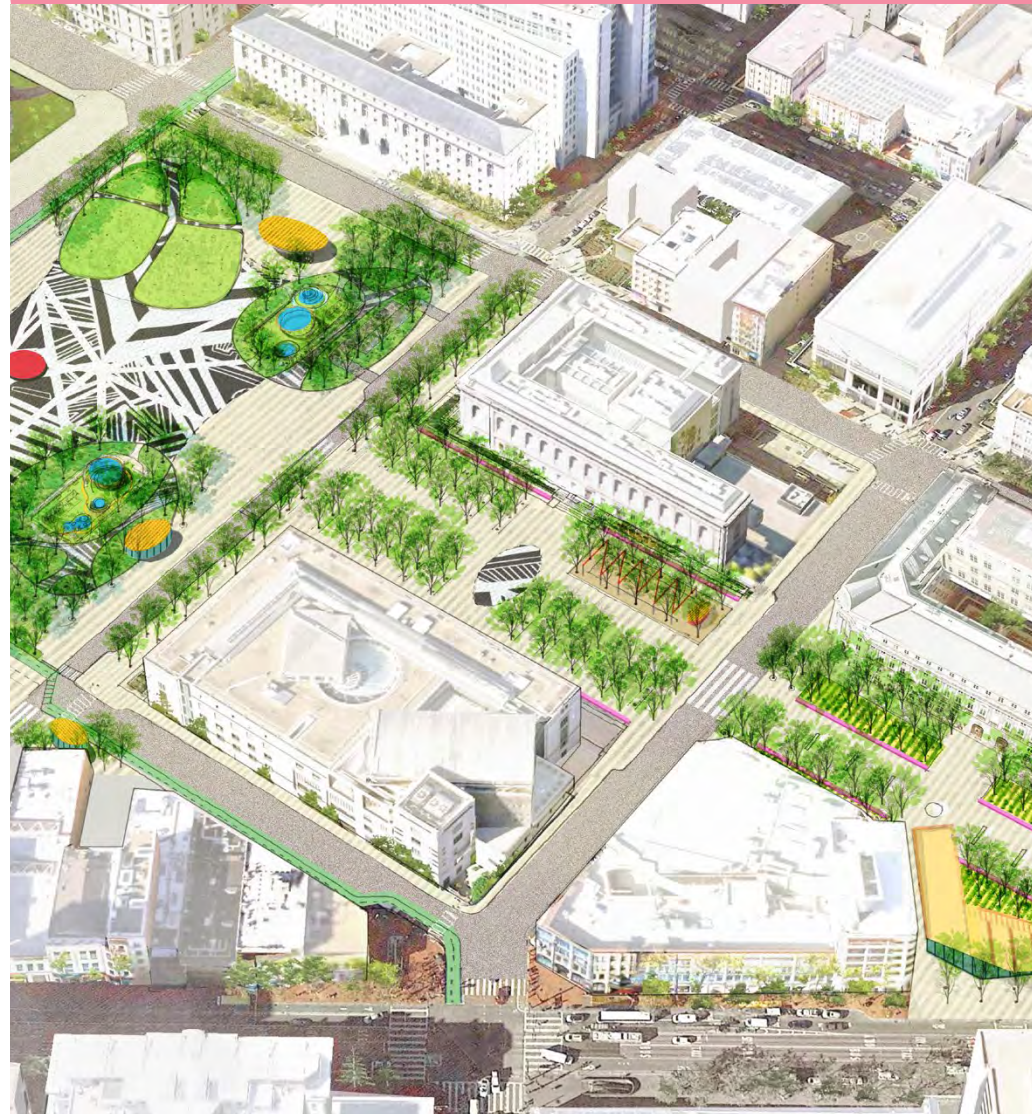


## Culture Connector



# Fulton Mall

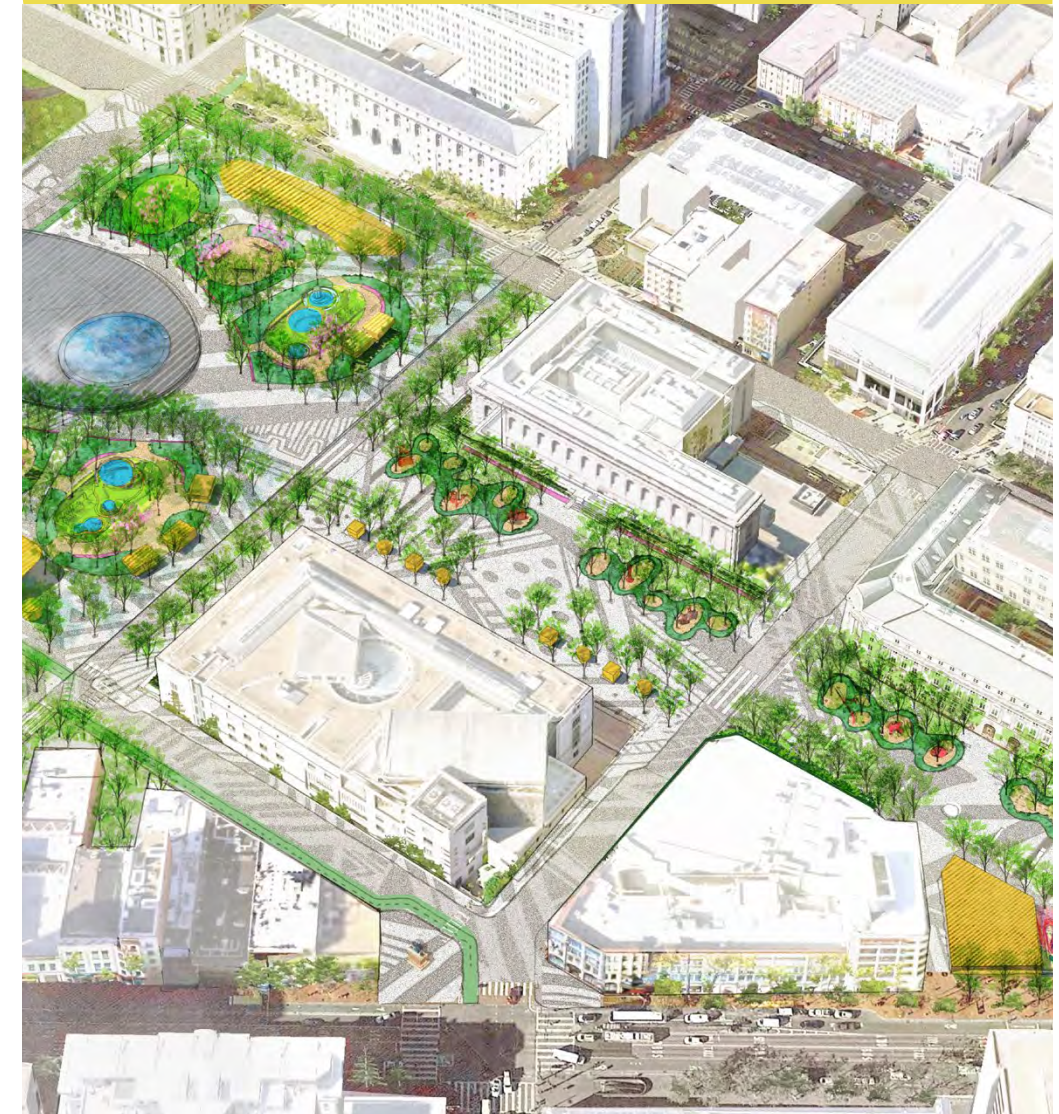
Public Platform



Civic Sanctuary



Culture Connector



# UN Plaza

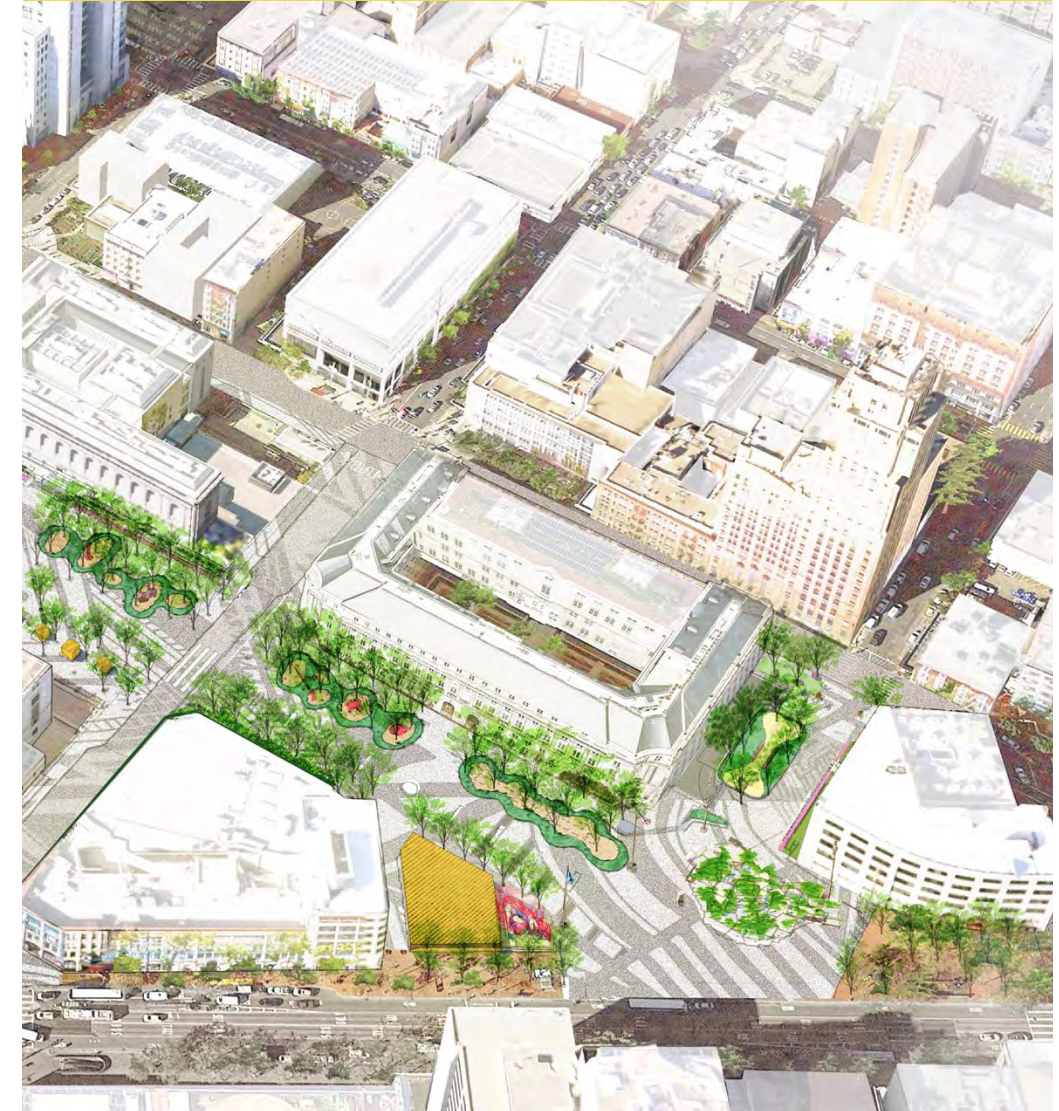
Public Platform



Civic Sanctuary



Culture Connector

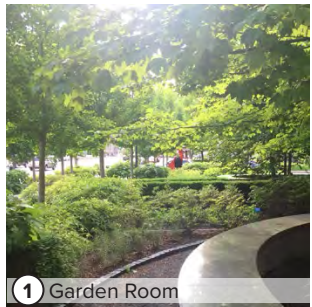


# Vision + City Image

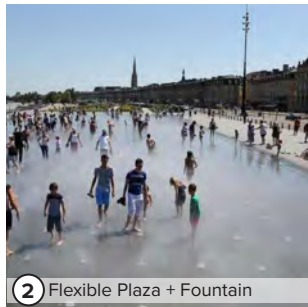
## CULTURE CONNECTOR



**CITY IMAGE** A vision for an inclusive commons that prioritizes **Ecology, Wellness, + Variety**: an expansive tree canopy loosely frames a civic promenade from Market Street to City Hall and provides a variety of settings for art, commerce, & play.



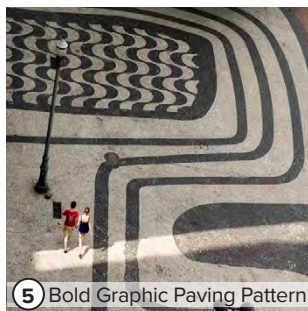
1 Garden Room



2 Flexible Plaza + Fountain



4 Food/Retail Kiosks, Canopy



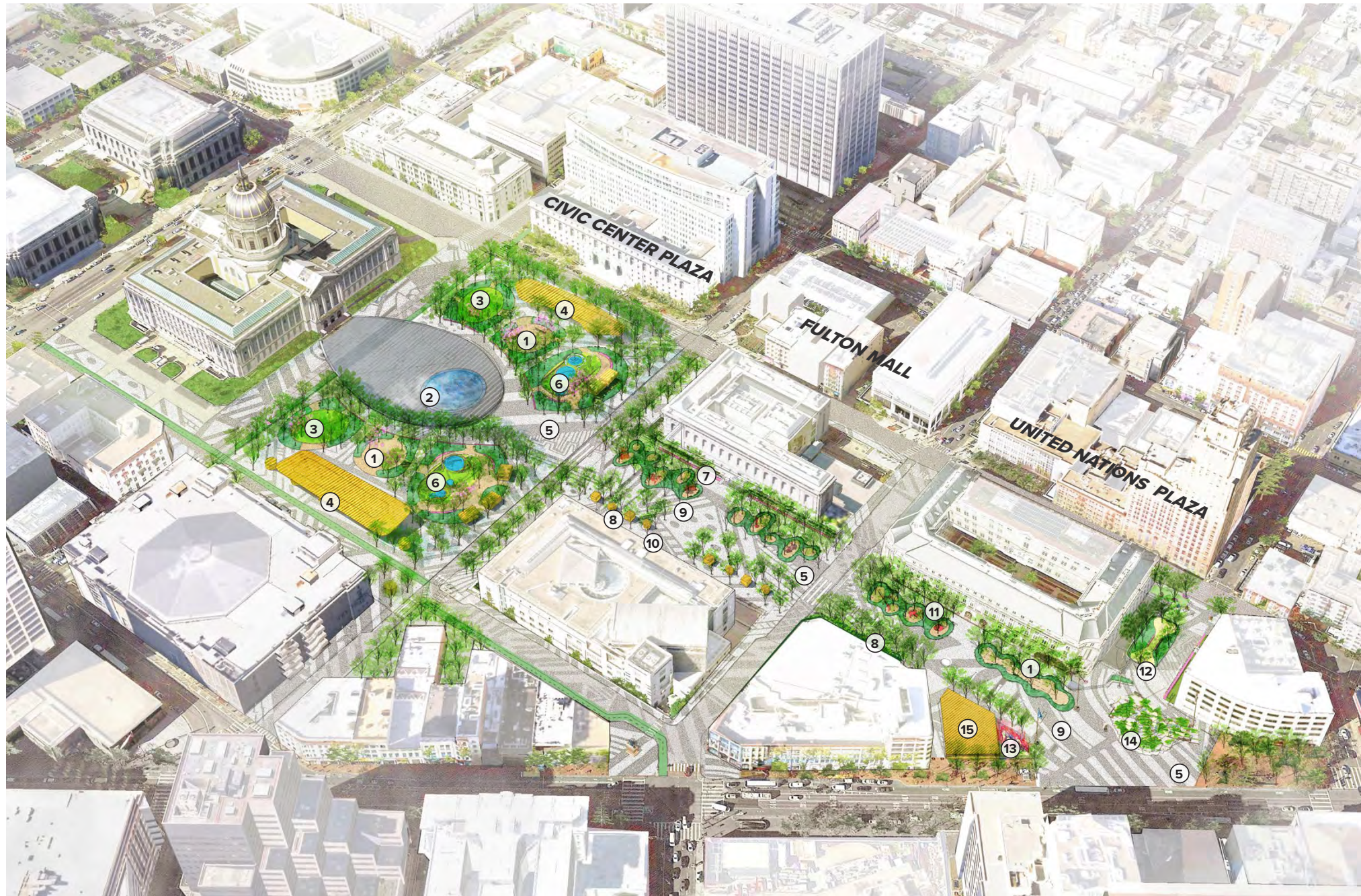
5 Bold Graphic Paving Pattern



7 Sculpture Garden



12 Dog Park



### CIVIC CENTER PLAZA

- 1 Garden Room
- 2 Flexible Plaza + Fountain
- 3 Lawn
- 4 Food & Retail Kiosks
- 5 Bold Graphic Paving
- 6 Civic Center Playgrounds

### FULTON MALL

- 5 Bold Graphic Paving
- 7 Sculpture Garden
- 8 Best of SF Kiosks
- 9 Flexible Plaza
- 10 Library Terrace + Pavilions

### UN PLAZA

- 1 Garden Room
- 5 Bold Graphic Paving
- 8 Best of SF Kiosks
- 9 Flexible Plaza
- 11 Interactive Art
- 12 Dog Park
- 13 Cafe Terrace
- 14 Boulder Play Garden
- 15 Food + Retail Pavilion

# Organization + Gathering

## CIVIC SANCTUARY

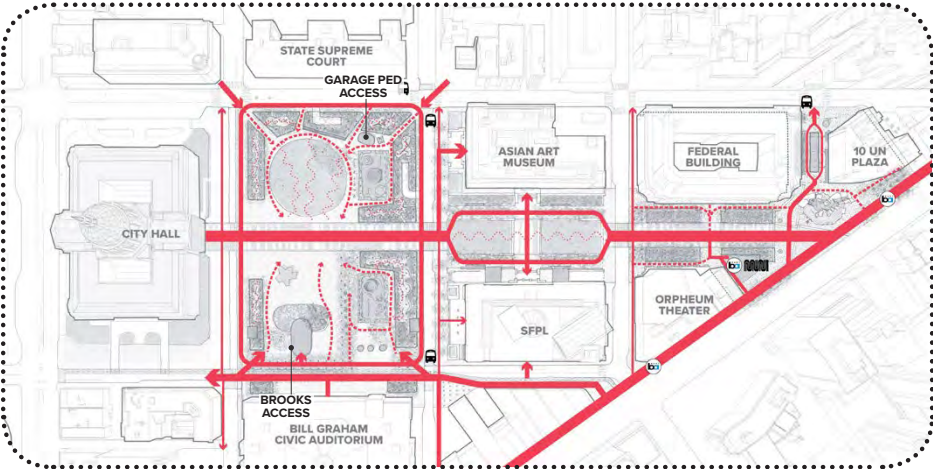


### FRAMEWORK ORGANIZATION

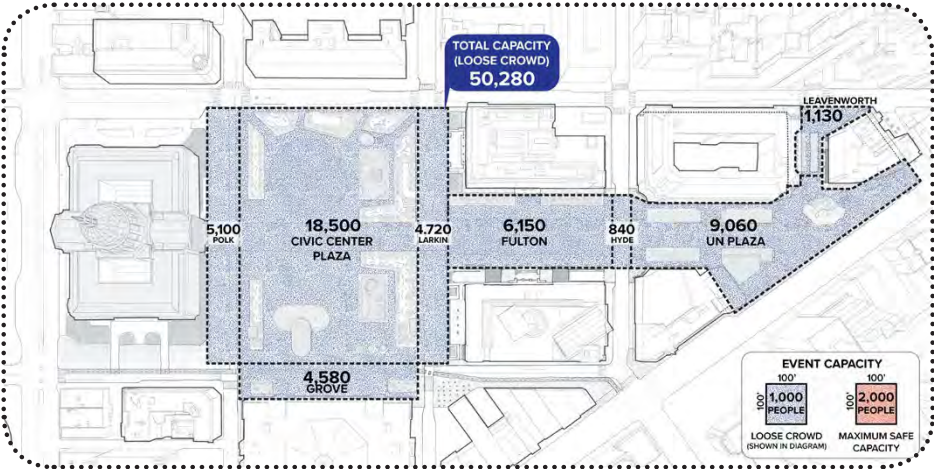
- LEGEND**
- Lawn
  - Planting
  - Kiosks + Pavilions
  - Benches/Social Seating
  - Public Art



### PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION



### EVENT CAPACITY



# Everyday Use

## PUBLIC PLATFORM



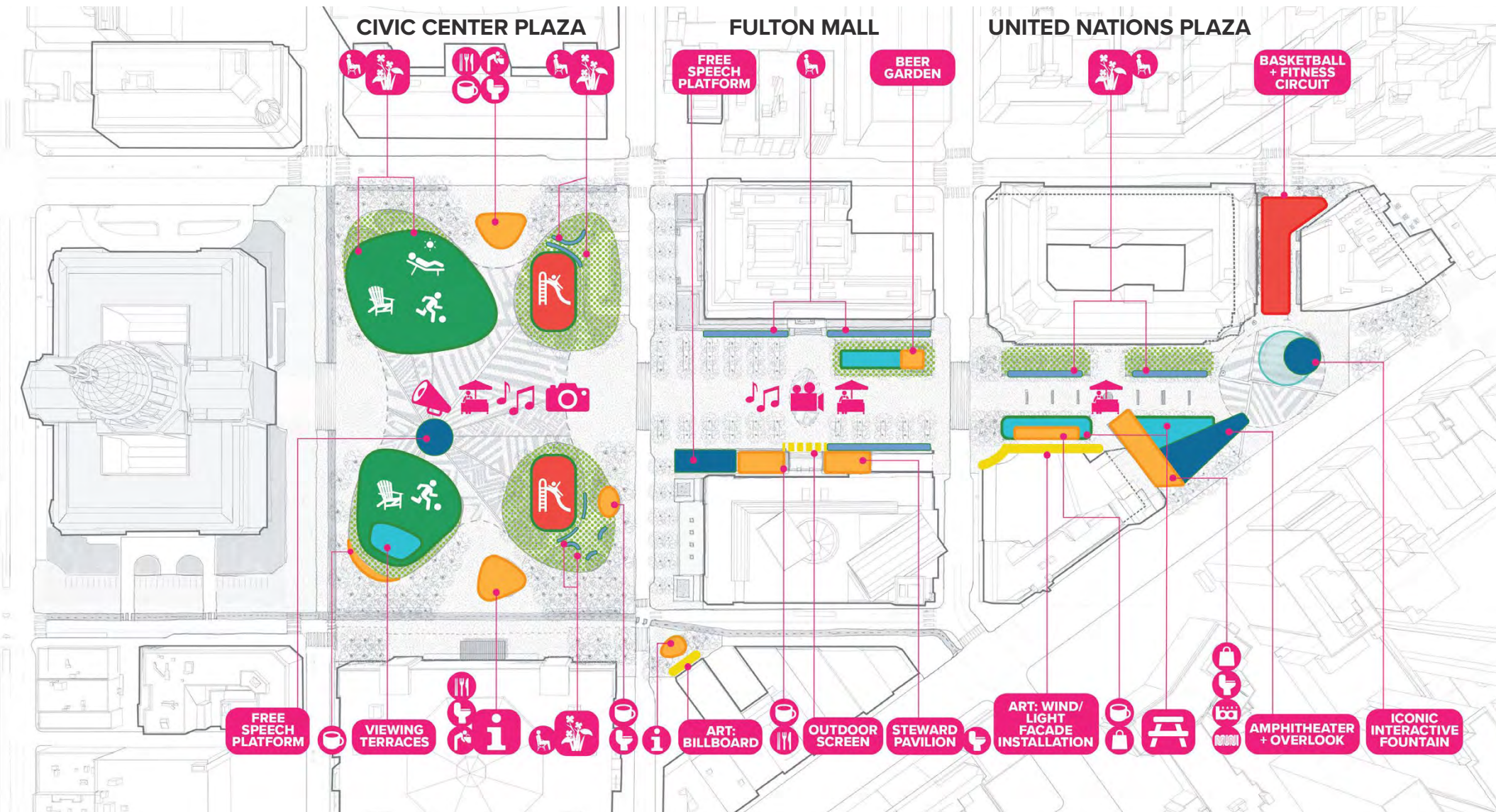
### PROGRAM + USE

#### AMENITY AREAS

- Lawn
- Kiosks + Pavilions
- Play
- Amenities
- Water Feature
- Public Art
- Planting (non-lawn)
- Bench/Social Seating

#### PROGRAM/ACTIVITIES

- Playground
- Farmer's Market
- Restroom
- Water Fountain
- Cafe
- Food & Beverage
- Picnic
- Barbecue
- Games
- Social Seating
- Bench Seating
- Lounge Seating
- Active Recreation
- Passive Recreation
- Celebrations & Special Events
- Demonstration
- Photo Point
- Interactive Fountain
- Information
- Outdoor Reading Room
- Dog Park
- Public Art
- Ornamental Garden
- Retail
- Bart Station
- Muni Station
- Bus Stop



### PUBLIC LIFE: ACTIVITY

These are snapshots of the variety and intensity of activity expected during a weekday at noon and a weekend at night, based on the **Program & Use** plan above.

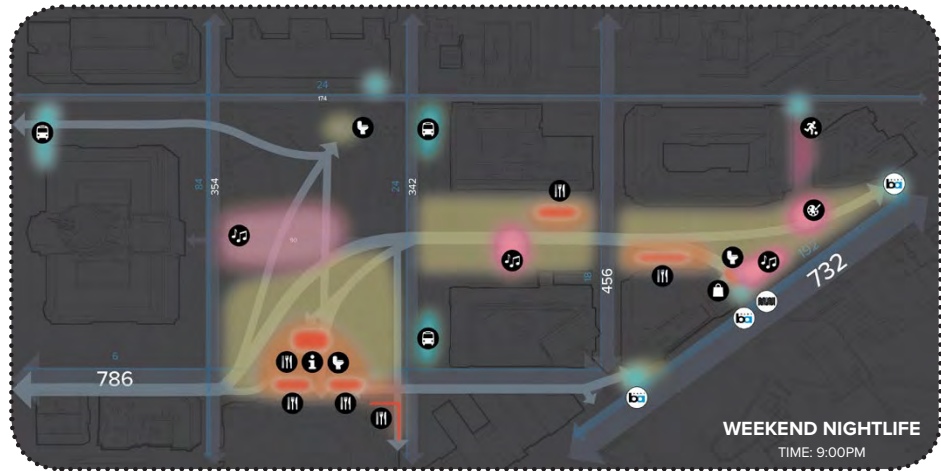
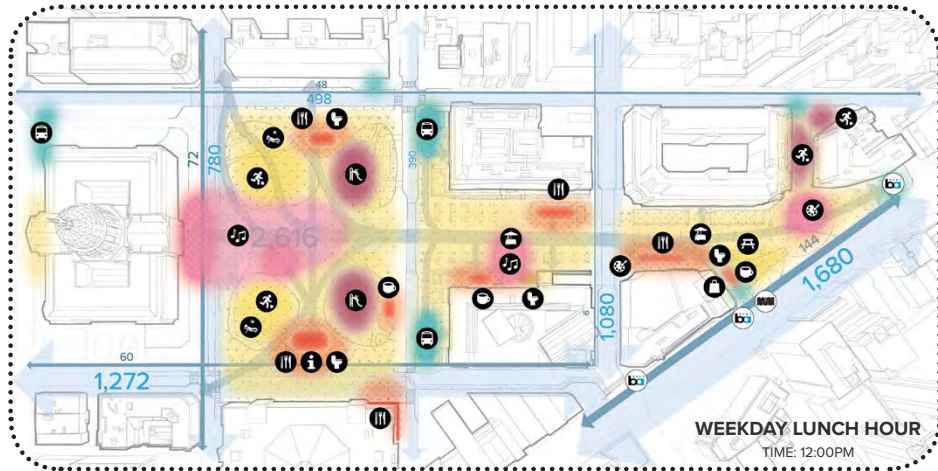
#### STATIONARY ACTIVITY

- Eating/Drinking
- Waiting for Transit
- Accompanied by Pets
- Passive - Sitting/Standing
- Exercise/Play/Recreation
- Commerce
- Political/Religious Advocacy
- Cultural/Performance
- Civic Work

#### PEDESTRIAN & BIKE MOVEMENT

- Existing Pedestrian Count Volume
- Existing Bike Count Volume

Weekday & Weekend Data Source: Gehl Database, app.gehlpeople.com  
McClister, Park, Grove, Larkin, & Hyde St. Pedestrian & bike data taken on 6/7/2017  
Market St. Pedestrian & bike data taken on 3/10/2011



# Daily Life



## PUBLIC PLATFORM

### A DAY AT CIVIC CENTER



1 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA: A generous central gathering space is framed by the playgrounds and lawn areas. Sloped lawns create elevated areas to see and be seen, while flat lawns provide flexible space for active and informal recreation.



2 FULTON MALL: An open, flexible plaza accommodates temporary activities, such as additional space for the Farmers' Market and food trucks. New pavilions in the plaza and along the Library add places to eat lunch and relax after work.



3 UN PLAZA: An amphitheater and a new interactive fountain frame a space for gathering and performance at Market St. A fitness mini-park on Leavenworth creates opportunities for active recreation.

# Brooks Hall Reuse

## BROOKS HALL | CIVIC SANCTUARY



Pavilion Structure



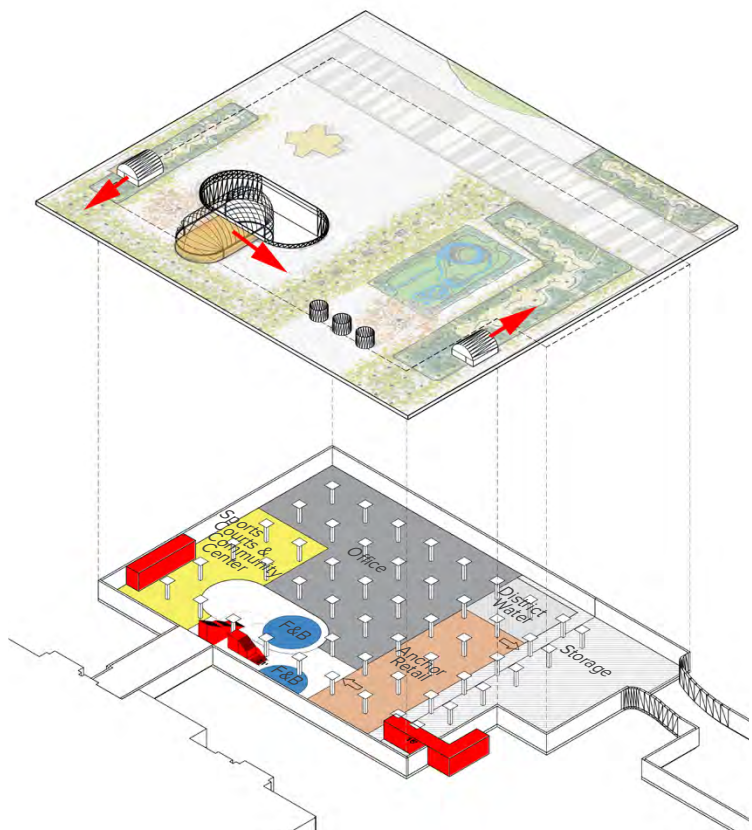
Pavilion Structure



Below-Grade Court

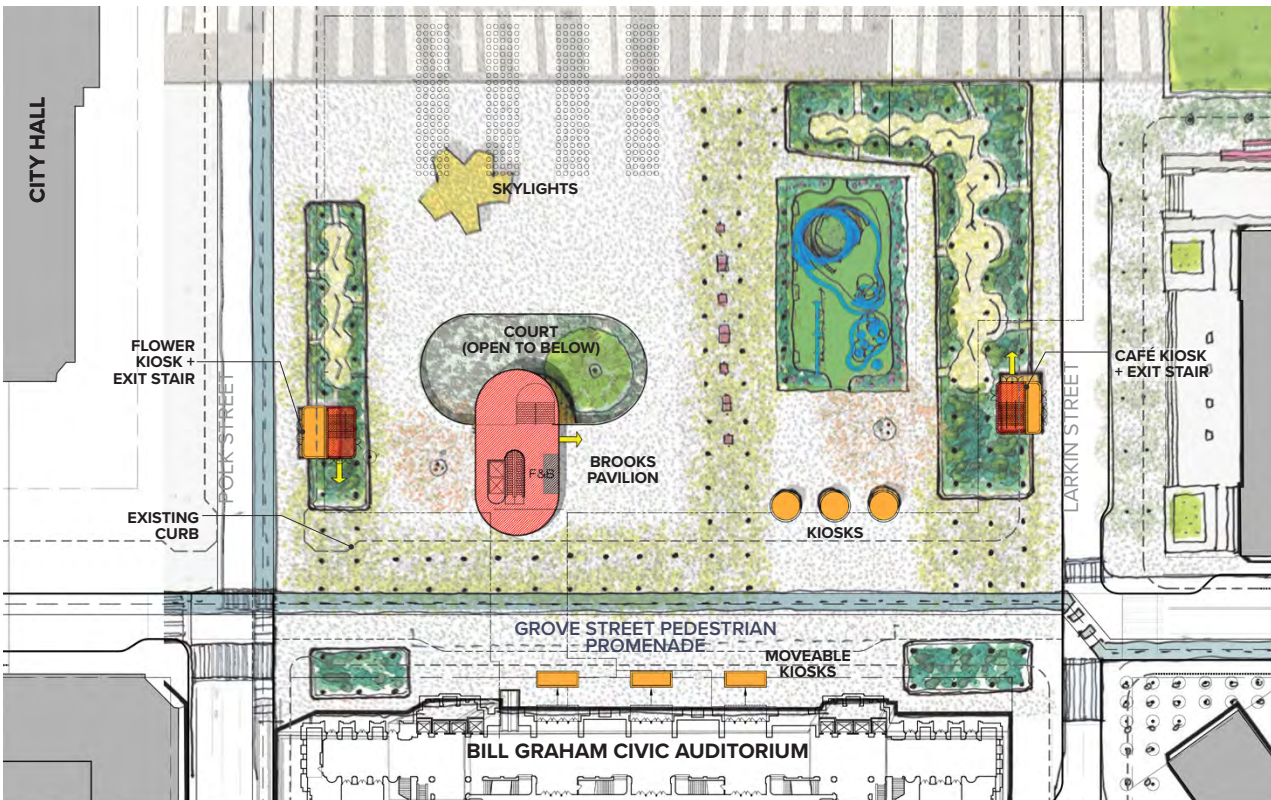


Kiosks

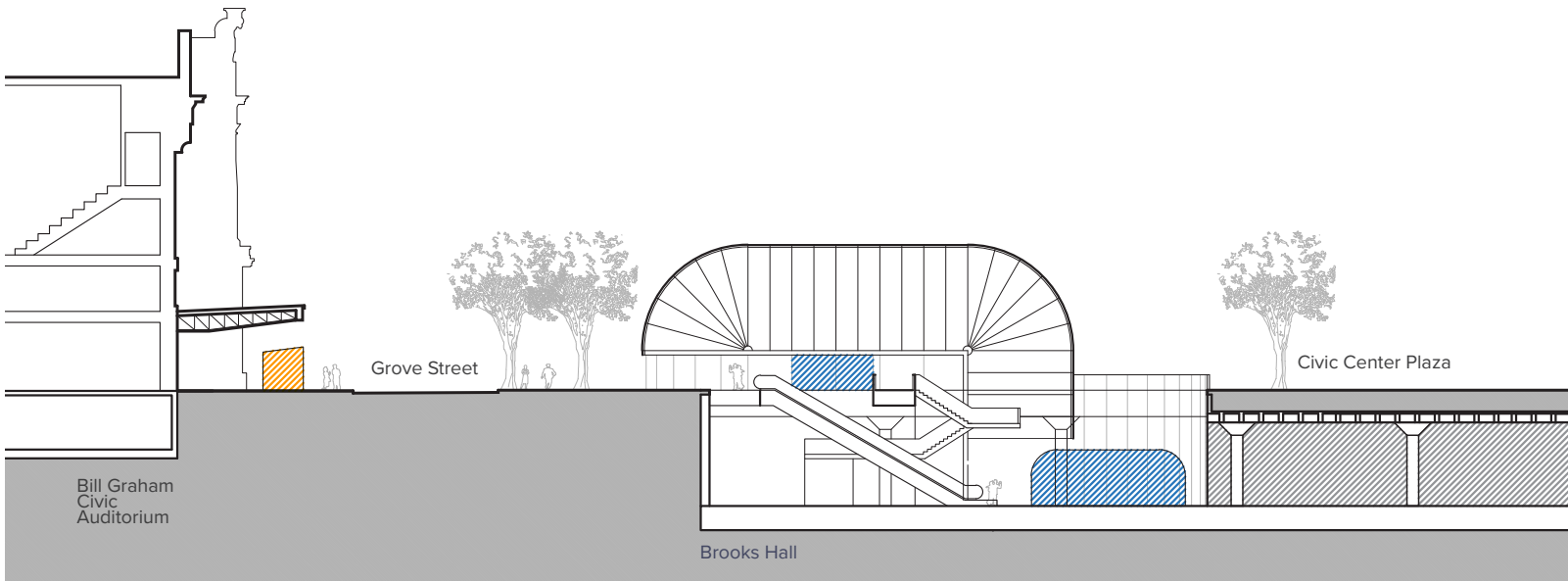


### PROGRAM NEIGHBORHOOD-SERVING

- Food + Beverage
- Retail
- Community / Civic
- Event
- Performing Arts
- Office
- District Water Storage
- Storage
- Exit Enclosure
- Multi-purpose Kiosk



### SURFACE DIAGRAM



### N-S GROVE STREET SECTION

# Kiosks: Public Spaces + Grove Street

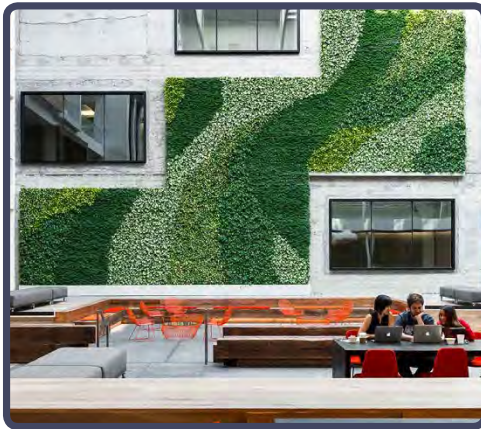
## BROOKS HALL + GROVE STREET PROMENADE



### WHAT KIND OF USES AND ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU ENJOY?

Which images best describe the activities and uses you would like to see at Brooks Hall, Bill Graham Civic Auditorium, and Kiosks along Grove Street?

#### CIVIC + CULTURAL



CITY OFFICE SPACE, SAN FRANCISCO



COMMUNITY CENTER, CALIFORNIA



COMMUNITY MEETING



COMMUNITY REHEARSAL SPACE, NEW YORK CITY

- Examples:
- City Offices
  - City Services
  - Community Center
  - Citizens Hall For Public Forums
  - Emergency Shelter
  - Community Sports Courts
  - Bike Storage

#### RECREATION + ENTERTAINMENT



TOURIST INFORMATION KIOSK, COLOMBIA



CLIMBING WALL + SKATE PARK, DENMARK



BOWLING ALLEY, PHILADELPHIA



LOCAL FILM FESTIVAL SCREENING, LOS ANGELES

- Examples:
- Visitor Info Kiosk
  - Incubator Spaces
  - Gallery
  - Climbing Gym
  - Bowling Alley
  - Rehearsal Space
  - Black Box Theater
  - Recording Studio
  - Event Venue

#### PLACES TO EAT + SHOP



FLOWER MARKET, PARIS



ARTISAN CRAFT MARKET, NEW YORK CITY



MARKET HALL, LOS ANGELES



UNDERGROUND RESTAURANT, SAN FRANCISCO

- Examples:
- Flower Stand
  - Cafe - coffee/lunch
  - Market Hall
  - Artisan Market
  - Fitness Facility
  - Anchor Retail
  - Restaurant
  - Bar/Lounge

# Conversation

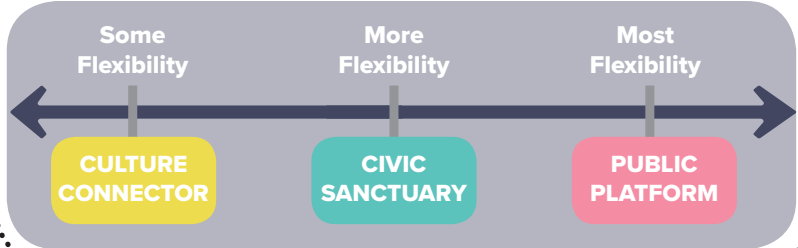
## FRAMEWORKS: CONSIDERATIONS + TRADE-OFFS



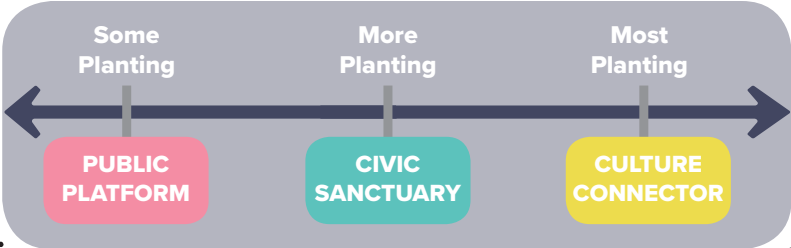
The preferred plan will address all of the considerations below to some extent. Your feedback on these design considerations will help inform the priorities of the plan.

**GATHERING:** Each framework plan is developed with specific considerations and trade-offs that inform the organization of the three public spaces for **spontaneous & planned events and gathering**:

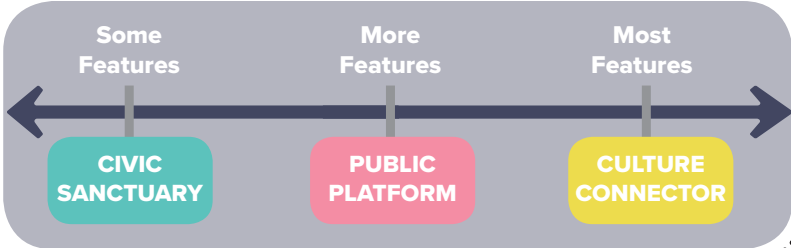
**1 FLEXIBLE AREA FOR LARGE EVENTS & GATHERING** is essential for a successful Civic Center. Each framework plan provides a different amount of flexible-use lawn & plaza versus fixed elements & planting:



**2 TREES & PLANTING** provide important nature in the city, relief from the surrounding streets, shelter, and wind mitigation -- but reduce the amount of flexible area. Each framework plan provides a different amount of trees & planting:



**3 INTERACTIVE FEATURES** such as fountains, public art and spaces for performances add beauty, amusement and reason to visit. Each framework plan provides different interactive features and opportunities:



**DAILY USE:** Each framework plan is developed with specific considerations and trade-offs that support **varied and inclusive uses, activities and social life**:

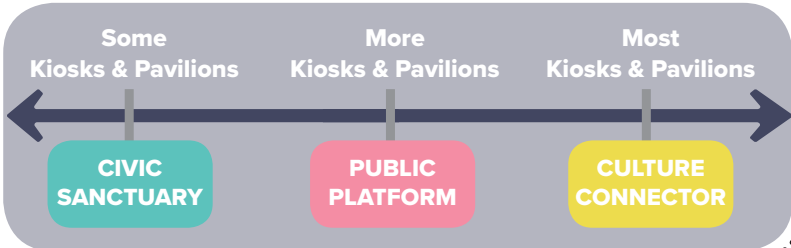
**4 SUPPORTING EVERYDAY USES** in the public realm, and activity associated with surrounding institutions & Brooks Hall, is a goal of each framework plan. Each framework promotes and accommodates a different variety of activities:



**5 RECREATION:** Civic Center is public open space serving active recreation needs (informal sports areas, lawns, etc.) of surrounding neighborhood residents and district employees. Each framework plan proposes different recreational amenities, including lawn areas of varying size:



**6 KIOSKS & PAVILIONS** can create centers of activity where people can eat, shop, or receive services. These are social experiences that are important for a lively Civic Center. Each framework plan proposes a different amount and arrangement of uses in kiosks, pavilions, and Brooks Hall:





# OPEN HOUSE

## *Chat with us!*

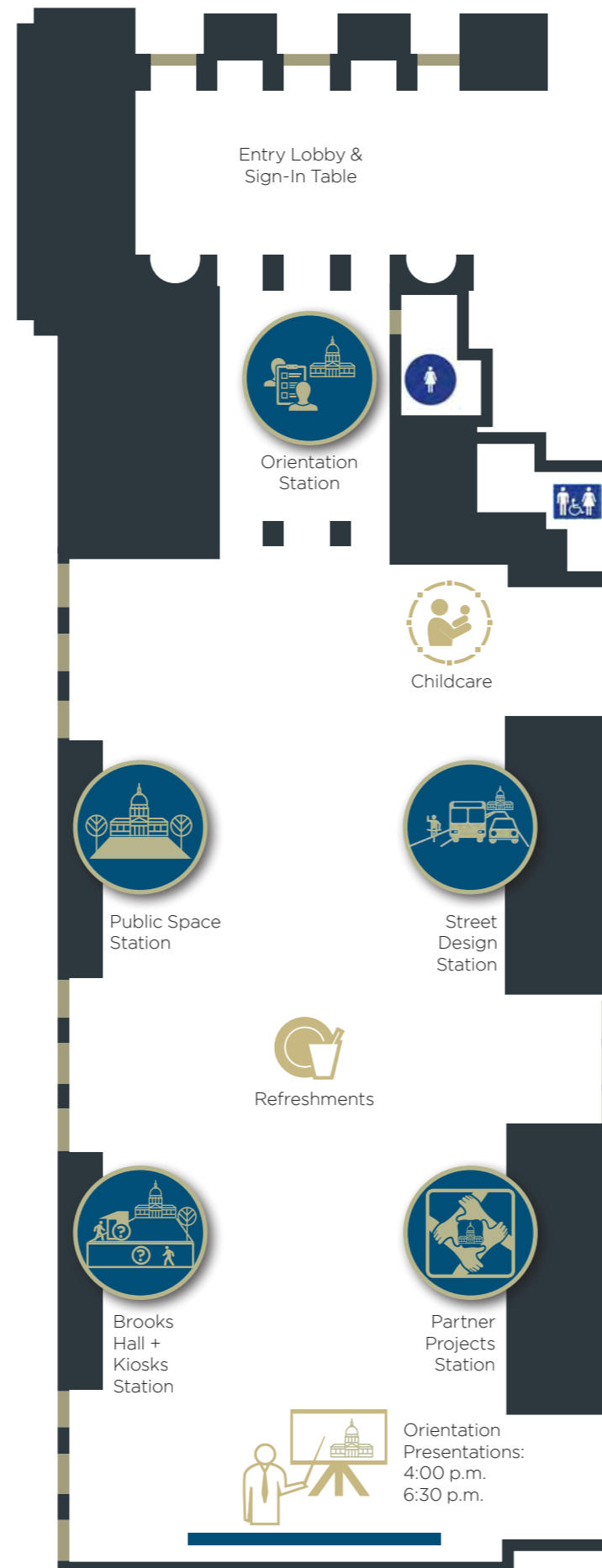
Staff are located at each station to answer your questions and hear your thoughts

## *Share Your First Impressions!*

At each station we invite you to share your initial thoughts on the design concepts via either interactive worksheets or posters where you can write down your response to key design questions

POLK STREET

GROVE STREET



## **AFTER THE OPEN HOUSE: TAKE OUR SURVEY**

An online survey with detailed questions on the design options presented today will be available next Tuesday, May 1 at:  
**[www.civiccentersf.org](http://www.civiccentersf.org)**

Print-copies will be distributed at a future Heart of the City Farmer's Market and are also available upon request in English, Chinese, Filipino, or Spanish.

**Contact us at:**  
[info@civiccentersf.org](mailto:info@civiccentersf.org)



**Website:** [www.civiccentersf.org](http://www.civiccentersf.org)

## Contact Information:

**Nicholas Perry**, *Plan Manager*

[nicholas.perry@sfgov.org](mailto:nicholas.perry@sfgov.org) | (415) 575-9066

**Patrick Race**, *Assistant Plan Manager*

[patrick.race@sfgov.org](mailto:patrick.race@sfgov.org) | (415) 575-9132

**THANK YOU!**