

# Red Arrow Park

Analysis | 09.27.2021



Wholeness in everything we do.

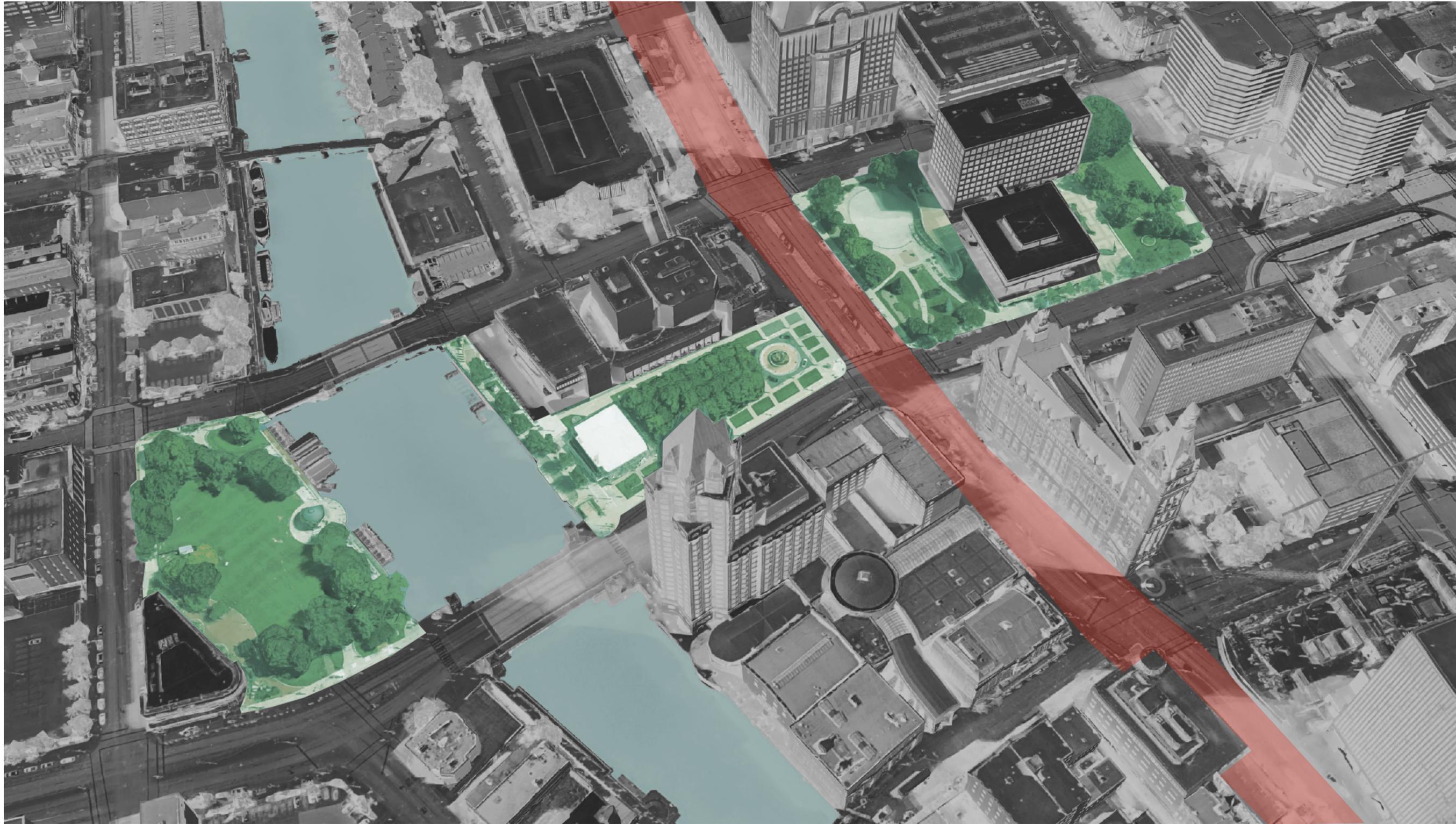
THE KUBALA WASHATKO ARCHITECTS

# Site Diagnosis

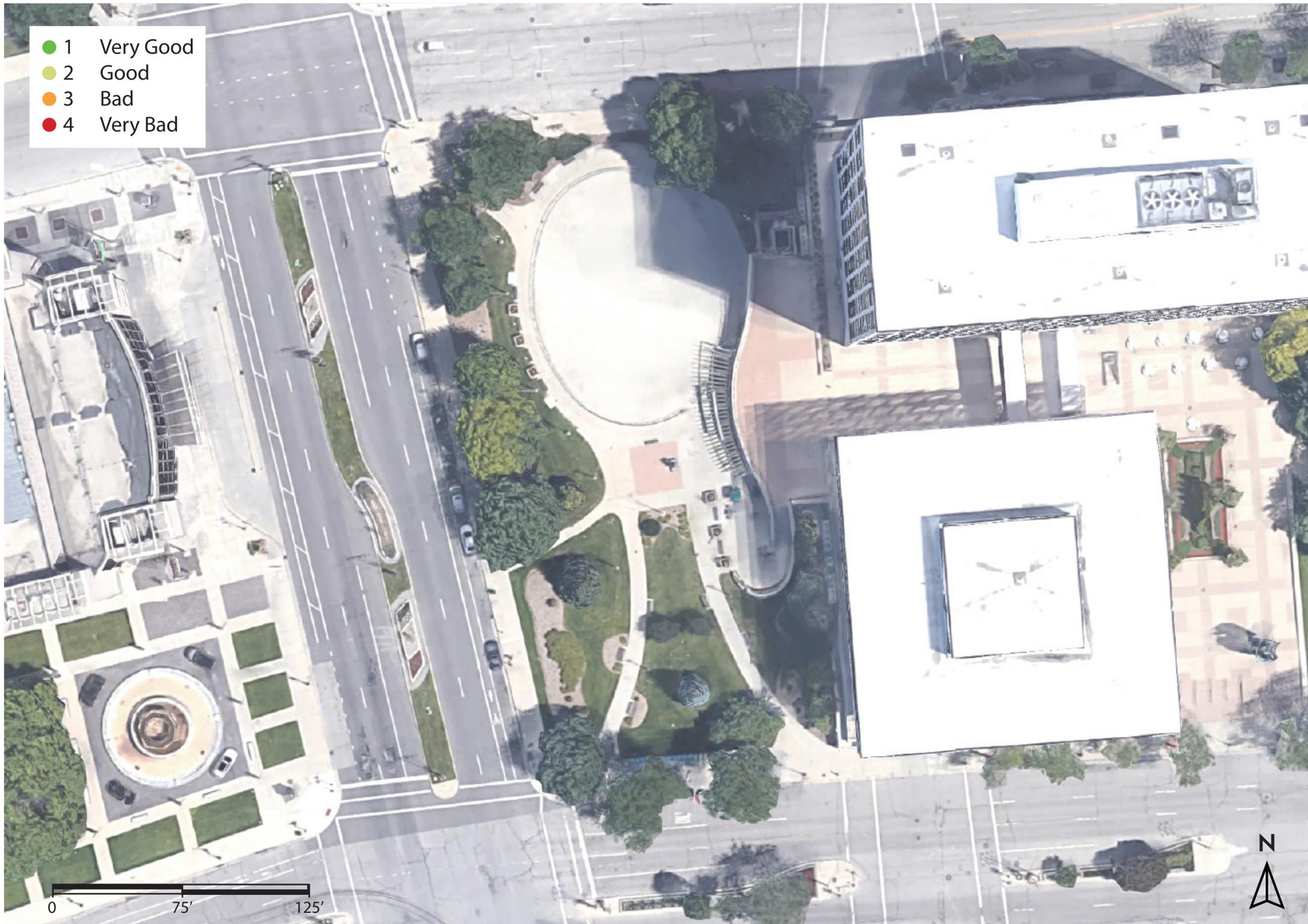
# Context Map



# Island Assets



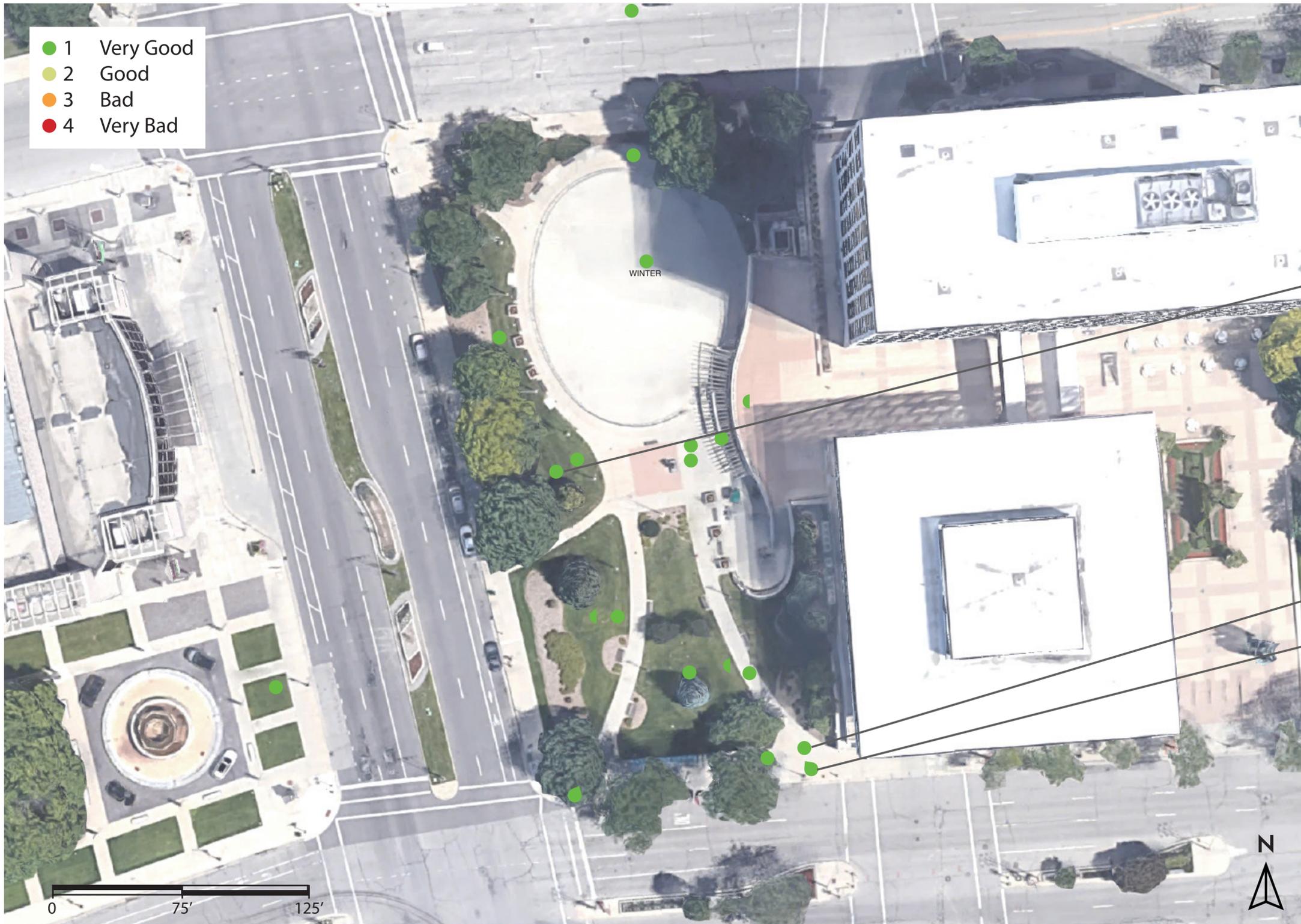
# Feelings Map



# Feelings Map\_Results



# Feelings Map\_Very Good



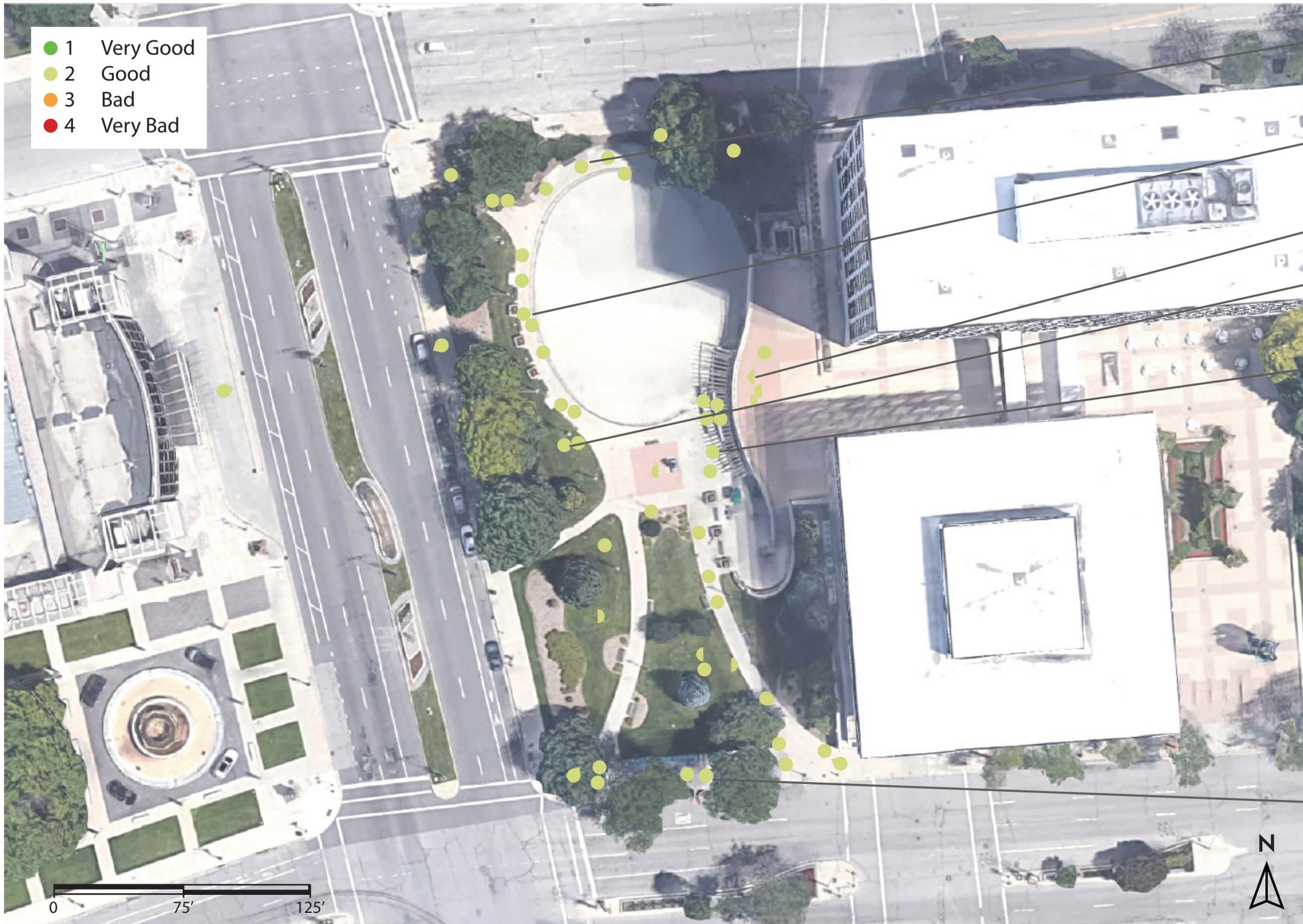
"Love the large trees."

"Beautiful flowering trees."

"Best view of the park."

"Great procession."

# Feelings Map\_Good



"The bushes provide a nice barrier from traffic."

"Best spot to sit."

"Great View...has potential..."

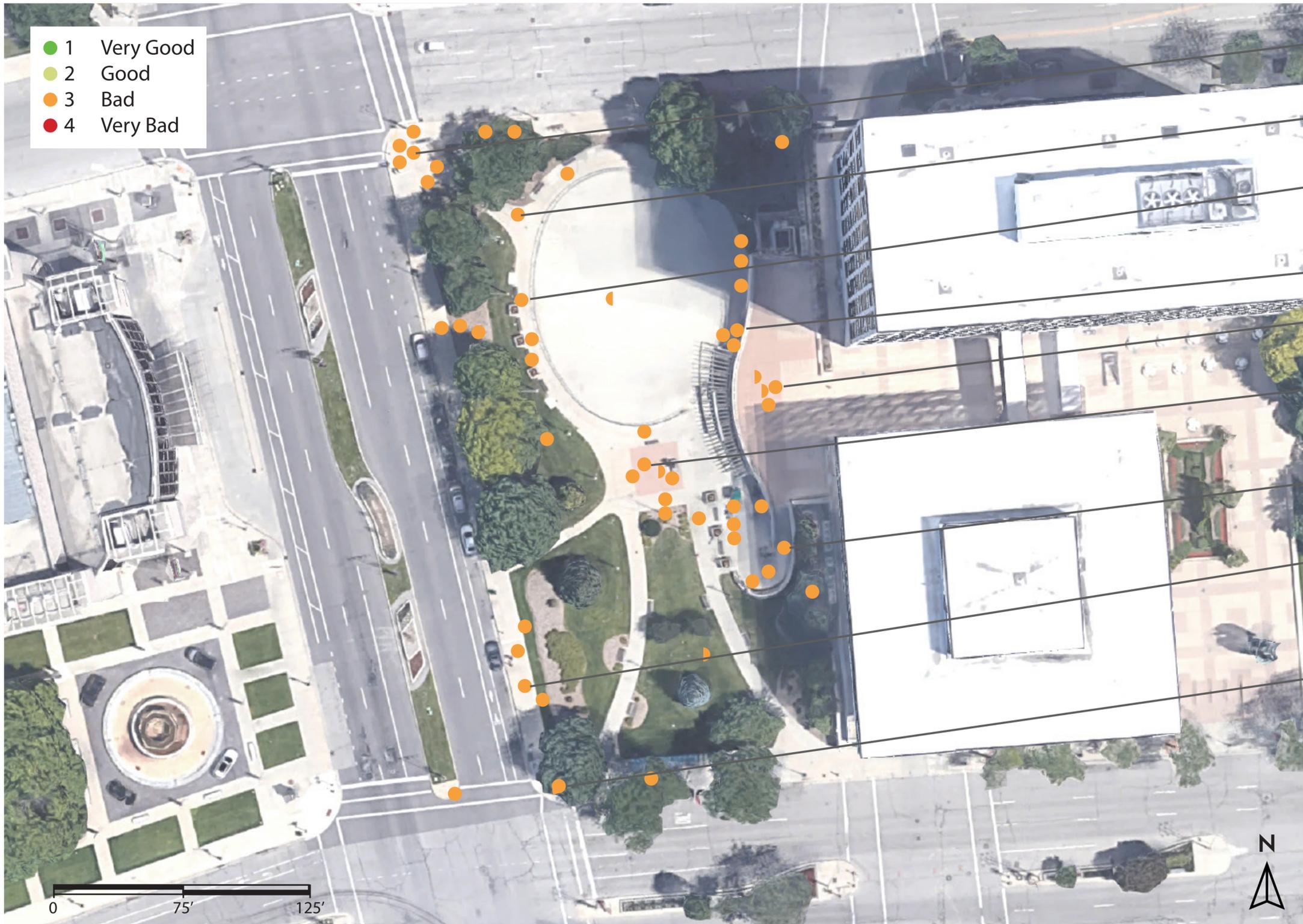
"Love the large trees."

"Love sitting in the grass."

"The canopy provides a nice spot for shade in the summer."

"The bike lane is an asset"

# Feelings Map\_Bad



"Noisy."

"Uninviting. Needs more."

"I see lots of concrete."

"Too narrow for two people."

"The planters are massive!"

"Bottleneck."

"There's nothing to keep me up here."

"It feels very empty."

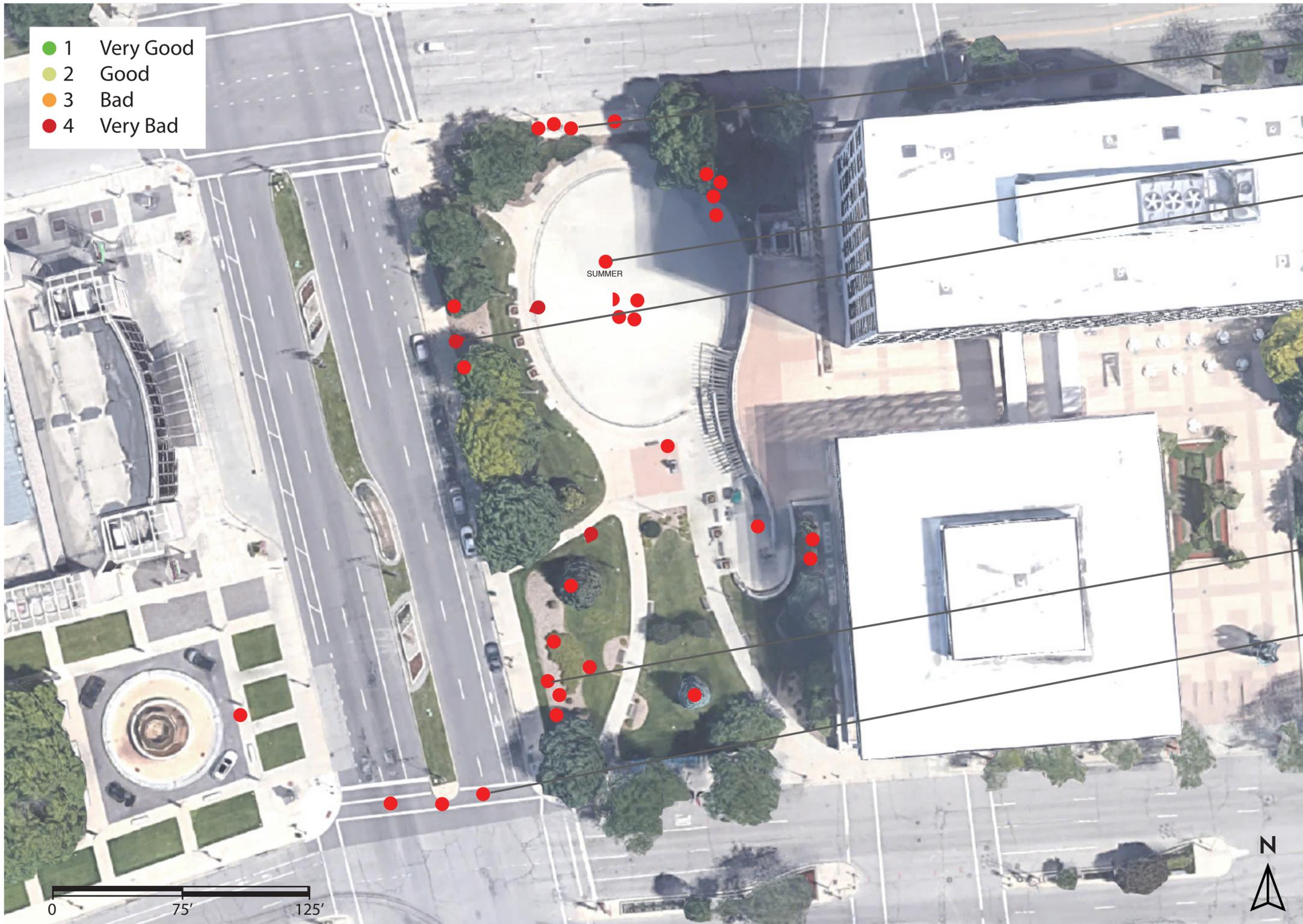
"Nowhere to sit."

"Never sure if I can go up here."

"It's hard to see the park."

"You have to fully commit to entering or not."

# Feelings Map\_Very Bad



"All I see is bushes."

"...desolate in the Summer."

"The hump blocks the park.  
Why can't we enter here?"

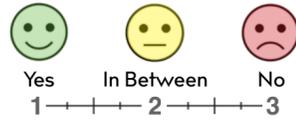
(Landscaping) "It's taking up space  
that could be utilized."

"It's like playing Frogger!"

# TWELVE URBAN QUALITY CRITERIA



Red Arrow Park



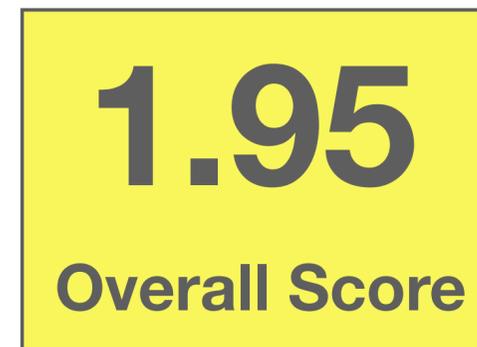
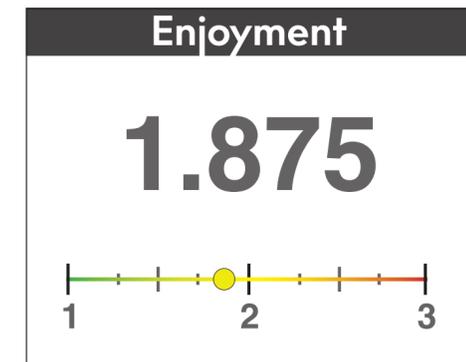
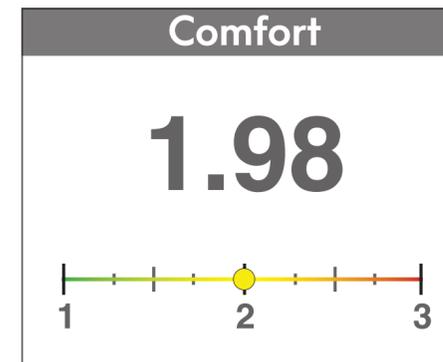
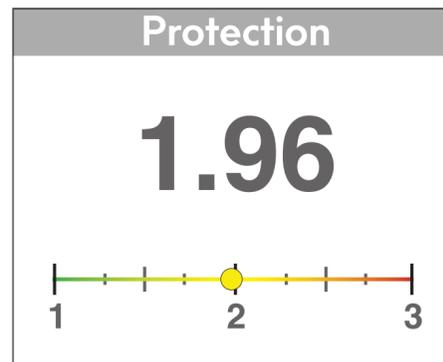
Protection	<p><b>Protection against traffic and accidents.</b> Do groups across age and ability experience traffic safety in the public space? Can one safely bike and walk without fear of being hit by a driver?</p> <p>1.625</p>	<p><b>Protection against harm by others.</b> Is the public space perceived to be safe both day and night? Are there people and activities at all hours of the day because the area has, for example, both residents and offices? Does the lighting provide safety at night as well as a good atmosphere?</p> <p>2.125</p>	<p><b>Protection against unpleasant sensory experiences.</b> Are there noises, dust, smells, or other pollution? Does the public space function well when it's windy? Is there shelter from strong sun, rain, or minor flooding?</p> <p>2.125</p>
	<p><b>Options for mobility.</b> Is this space accessible? Are there physical elements that might limit or enhance personal mobility in the forms of walking, using a wheelchair, or pushing a stroller? Is it evident how to move through the space without having to take an illogical detour?</p> <p>1.375</p>	<p><b>Options to stand and linger.</b> Does the place have features you can stay and lean on, like a façade that invites one to spend time next to it, a bus stop, a bench, a tree, or a small ledge or niche?</p> <p>2.375</p>	<p><b>Options for sitting.</b> Are there good primary seating options such as benches or chairs? Or is there only secondary seating such as a stair, seat wall, or the edge of a fountain? Are there adequate non-commercial seating options so that sitting does not require spending money?</p> <p>2.125</p>
	<p><b>Options for seeing.</b> Are seating options placed so there are interesting things to look at?</p> <p>1.75</p>	<p><b>Options for talking and listening/ hearing.</b> Is it possible to have a conversation here? Is it evident that you have the option to sit together and have a conversation?</p> <p>2.125</p>	<p><b>Options for play, exercise, and activities.</b> Are there options to be active at multiple times of the day and year?</p> <p>2.125</p>
Comfort	<p><b>Scale.</b> Is the public space and the building that surrounds it at a human scale? If people are at the edges of the space, can we still relate to them as people or are they lost in their surroundings?</p> <p>1.75</p>	<p><b>Opportunities to enjoy the positive aspects of climate.</b> Are local climatic aspects such as wind and sun taken into account? Are there varied conditions for spending time in public spaces at different times of year? With this in mind, where are the seating options placed? Are they located entirely in the shadows or the sun? And how are they oriented/placed in relation to wind? Are they protected?</p> <p>1.75</p>	<p><b>Experience of aesthetic qualities and positive sensory experiences.</b> Is the public space beautiful? Is it evident that there is good design both in terms of how things are shaped, as well as their durability?</p> <p>2.125</p>
	Enjoyment		

CREDIT: [gehlpeople.com/tools/twelve-quality-criteria/](https://www.gehlpeople.com/tools/twelve-quality-criteria/)

The Kubala Washatko Architects

May 13, 2021

# URBAN QUALITY CRITERIA SCORES



# Patterns

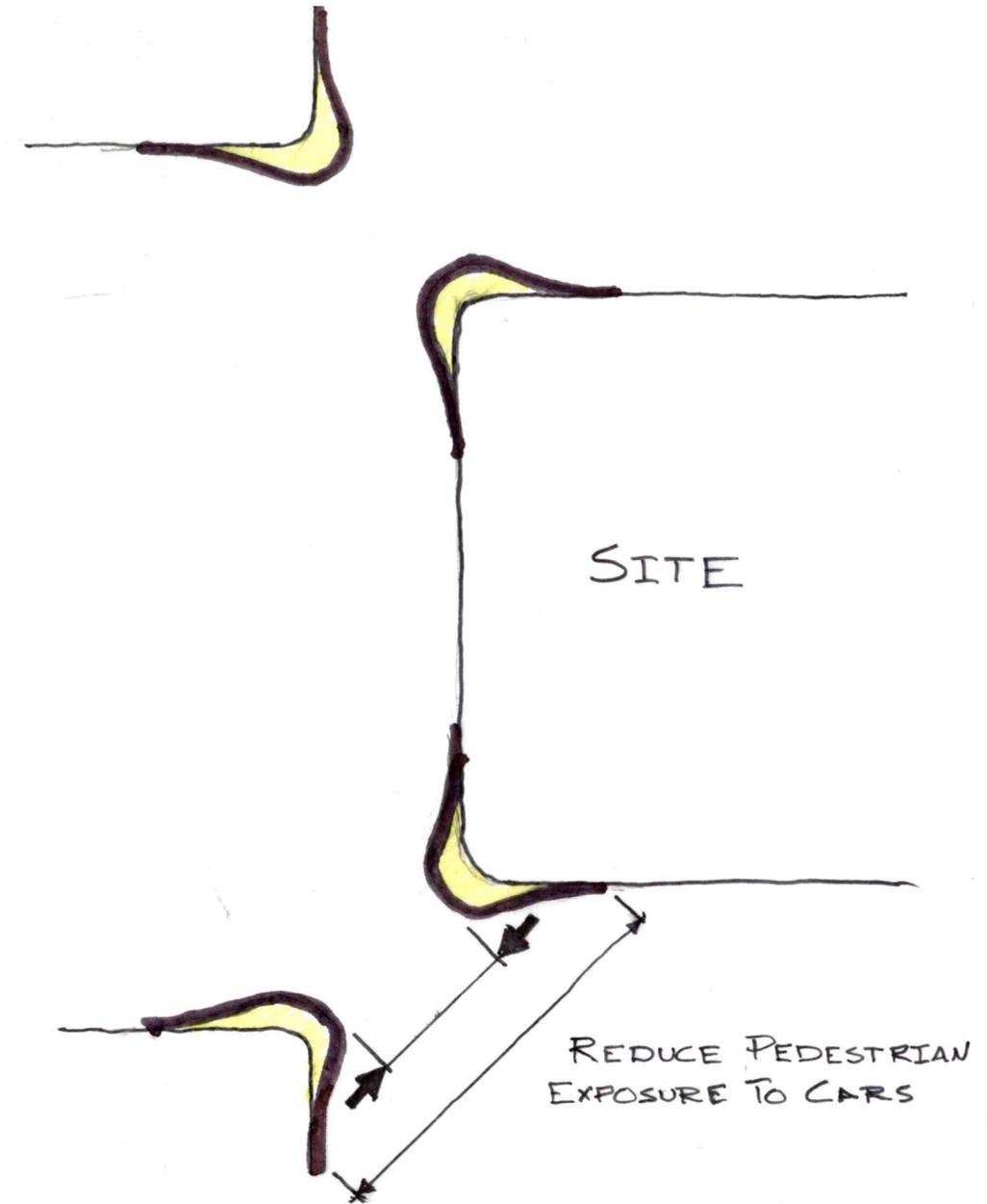
# 1. Enhanced Pedestrian Connections

**Issue** - Water, Kilbourn and State, which ring three sides of the park, are wide streets with fast moving traffic. Pedestrian crossings feel precarious at best.



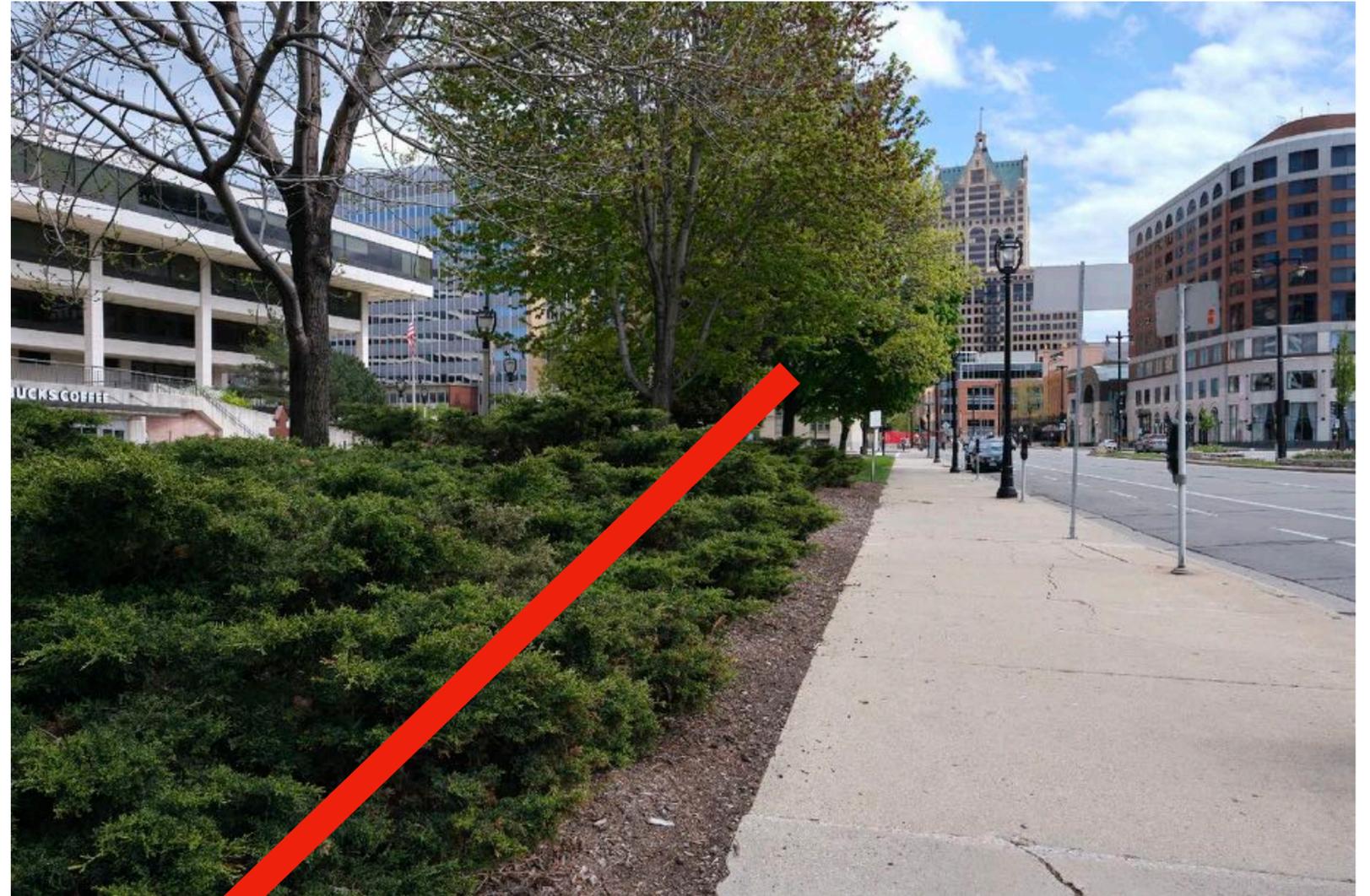
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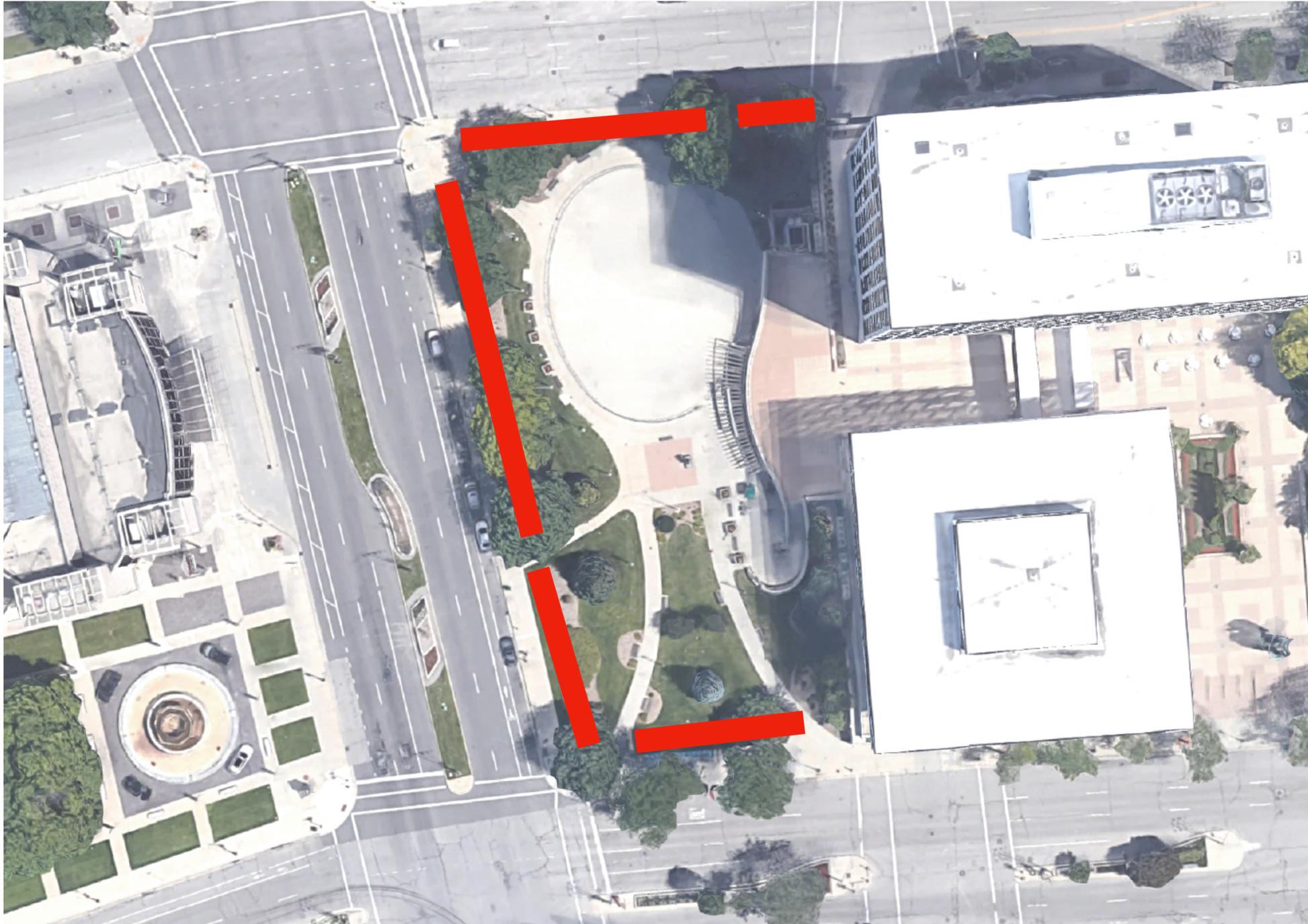


## 2. Edges that Invite

Issue - Red Arrow's perimeter acts as a physical and psychological boundary between the sidewalk and park interior. Corner entries force passersby to commit to either entering the park or continuing past. There's little opportunity to be a passive contributor along the edges.

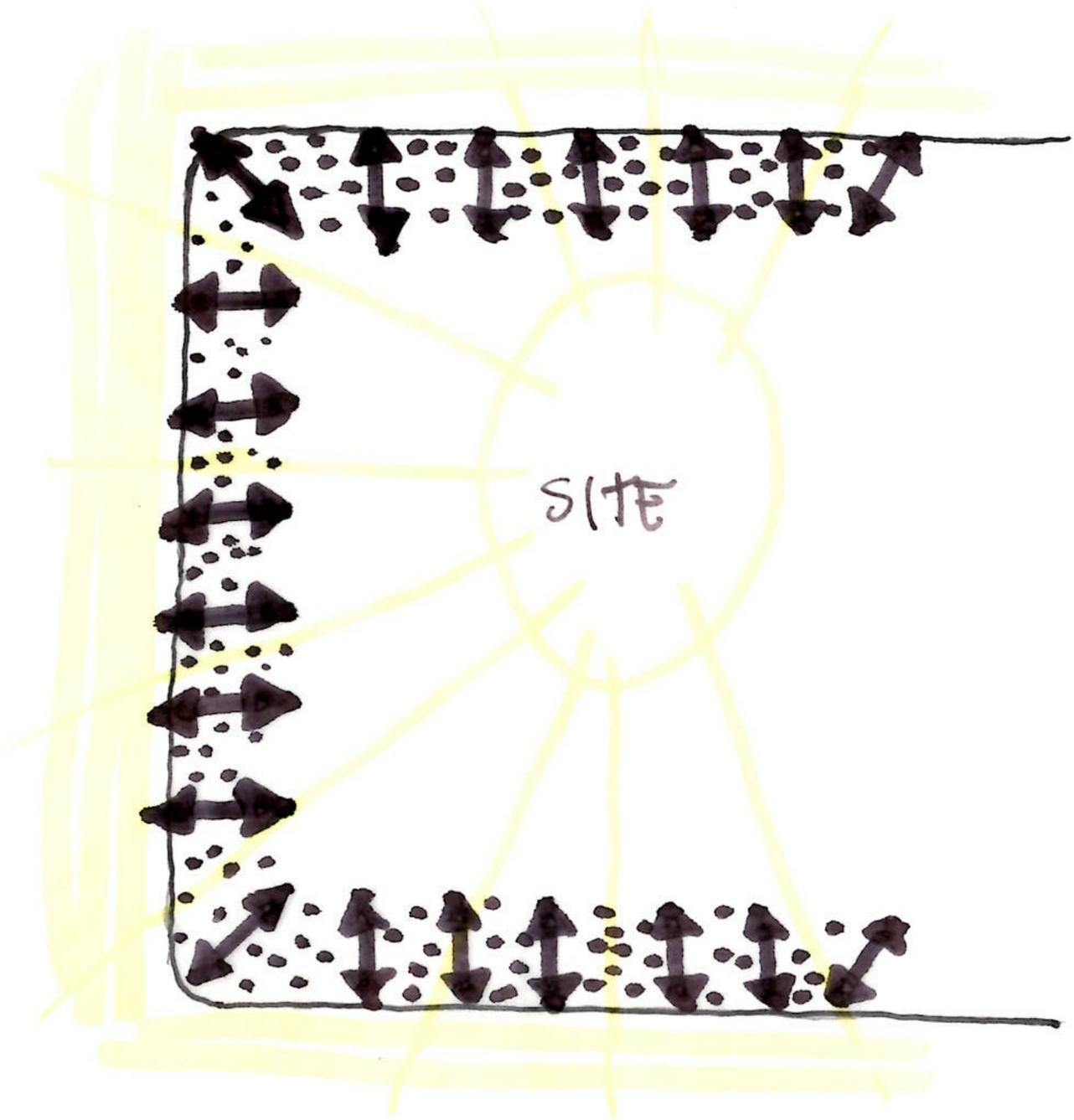


## 2. Edges that Invite\_Current Condition



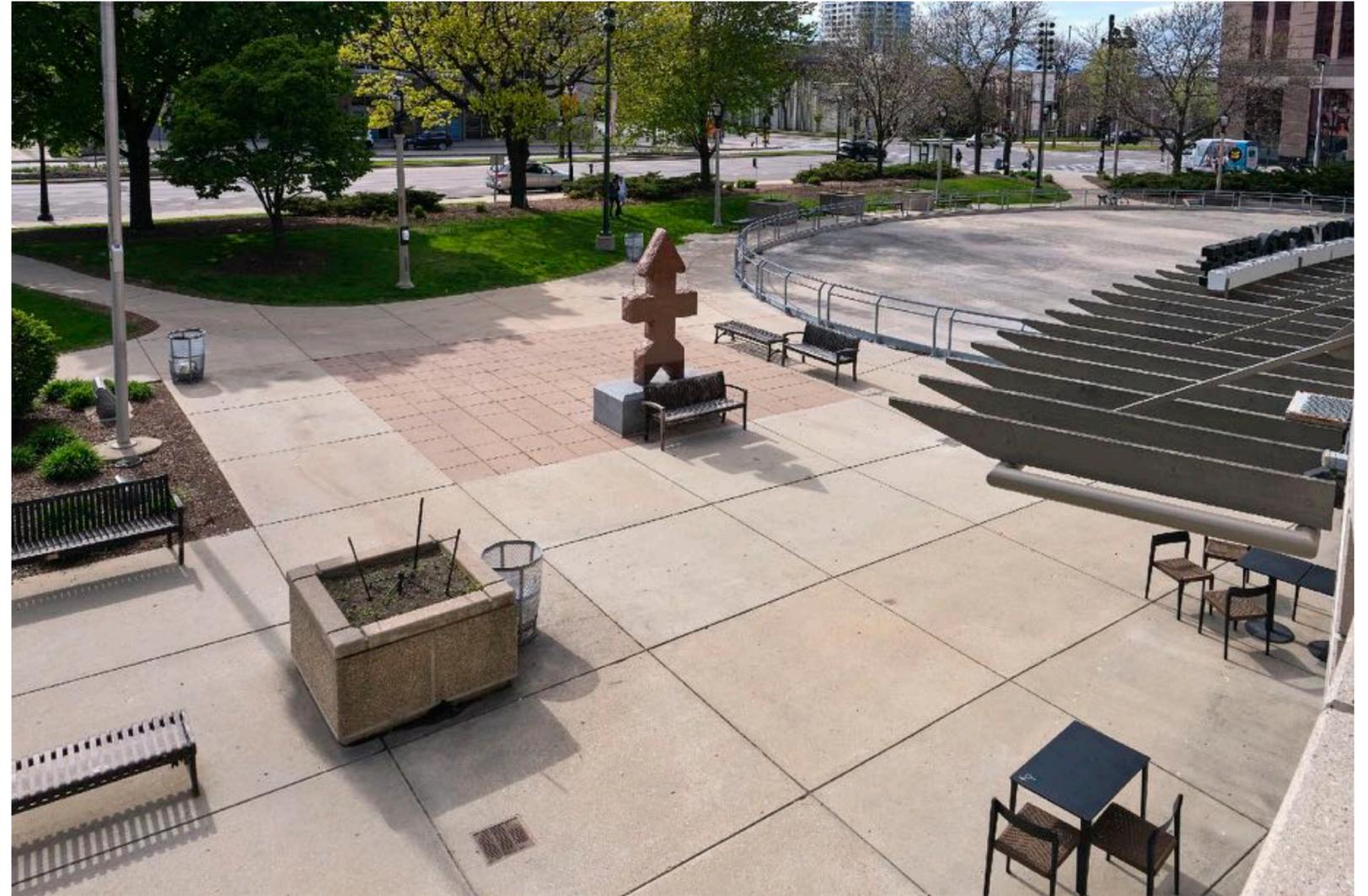
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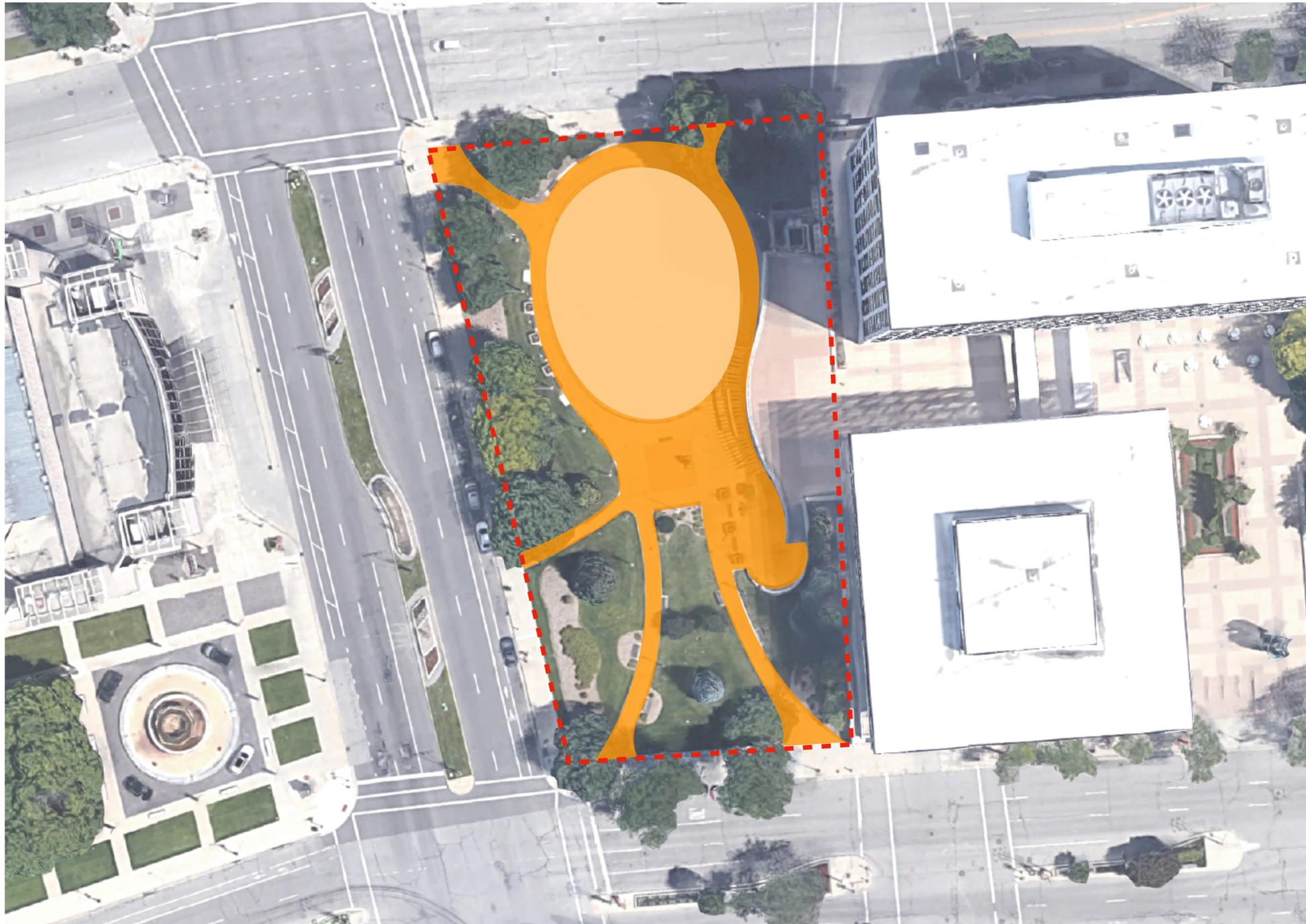


### 3. Valuing Every Square Inch

Issue - A large percentage of Red Arrow Park is given over to space that people cannot and do not want to use.



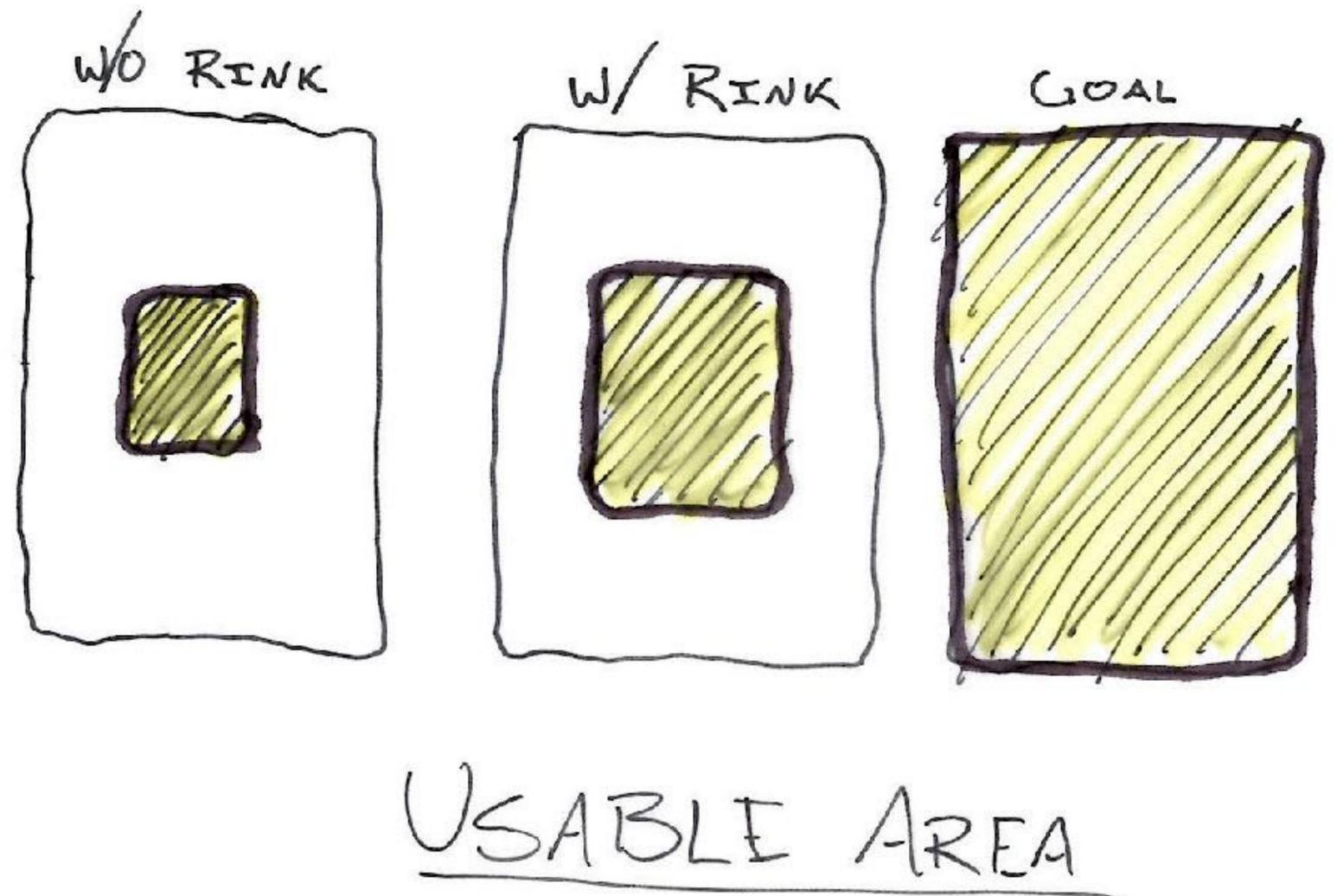
### 3. Valuing Every Square Inch\_Current Condition



-  Total Park Area 53,000 SF
-  Usable Area Without Rink 12,700 SF\_24%
-  Usable Area With Rink 22,400 SF\_42%

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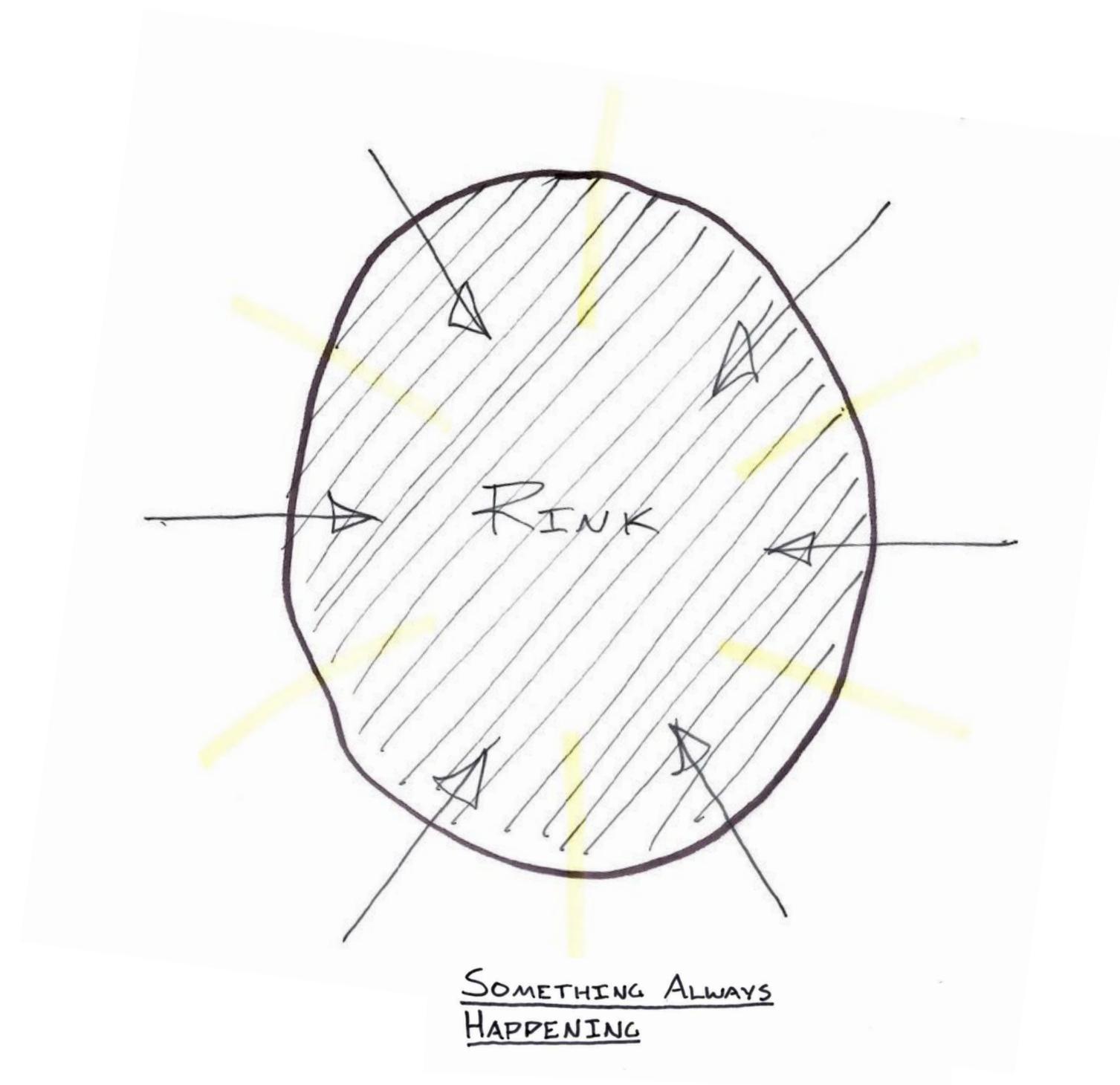
## 4. All-Season Rink

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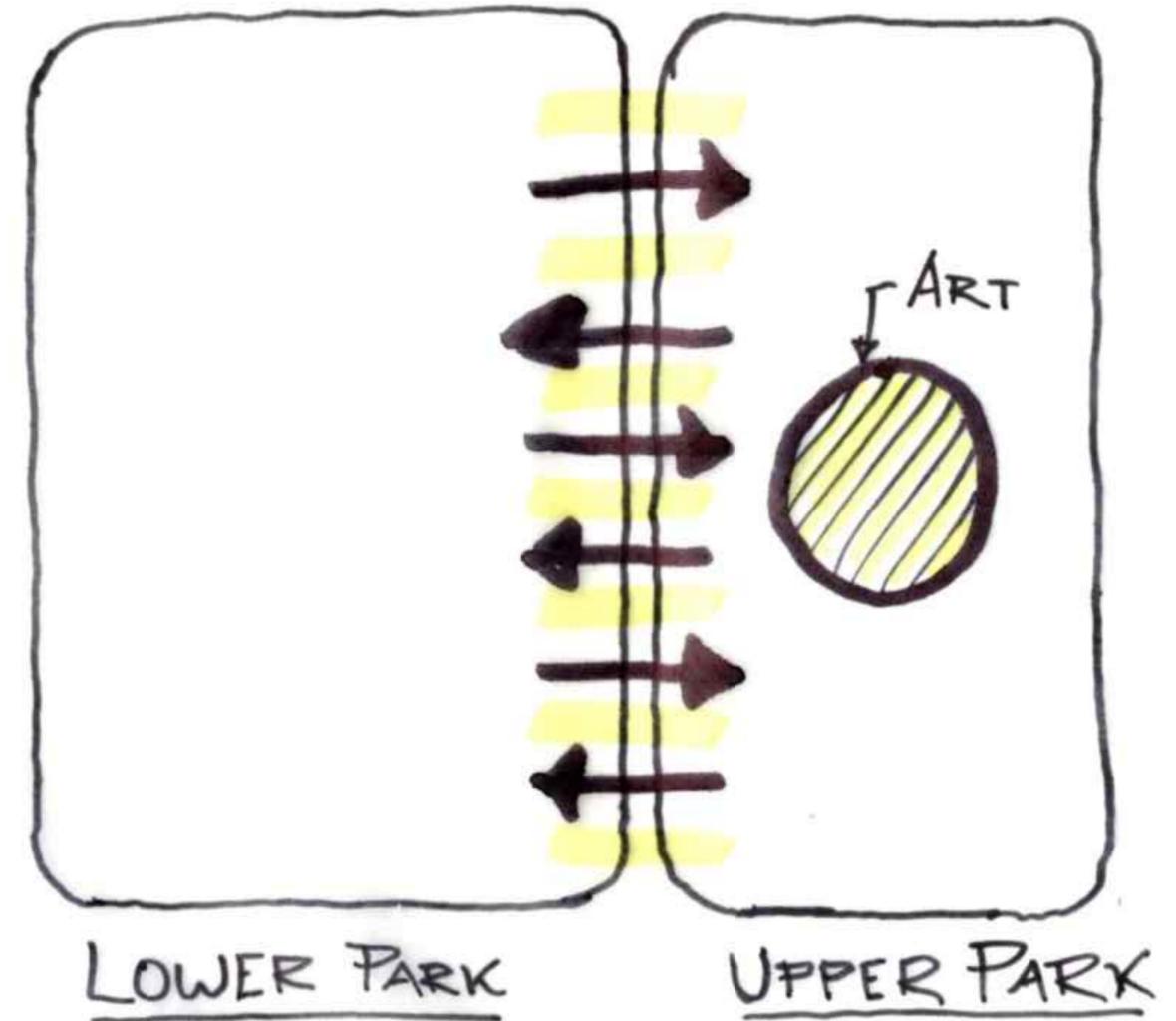
## 5. Upper Plaza Attraction

Issue - The Park's upper-level public space gives little or no reason to go there.



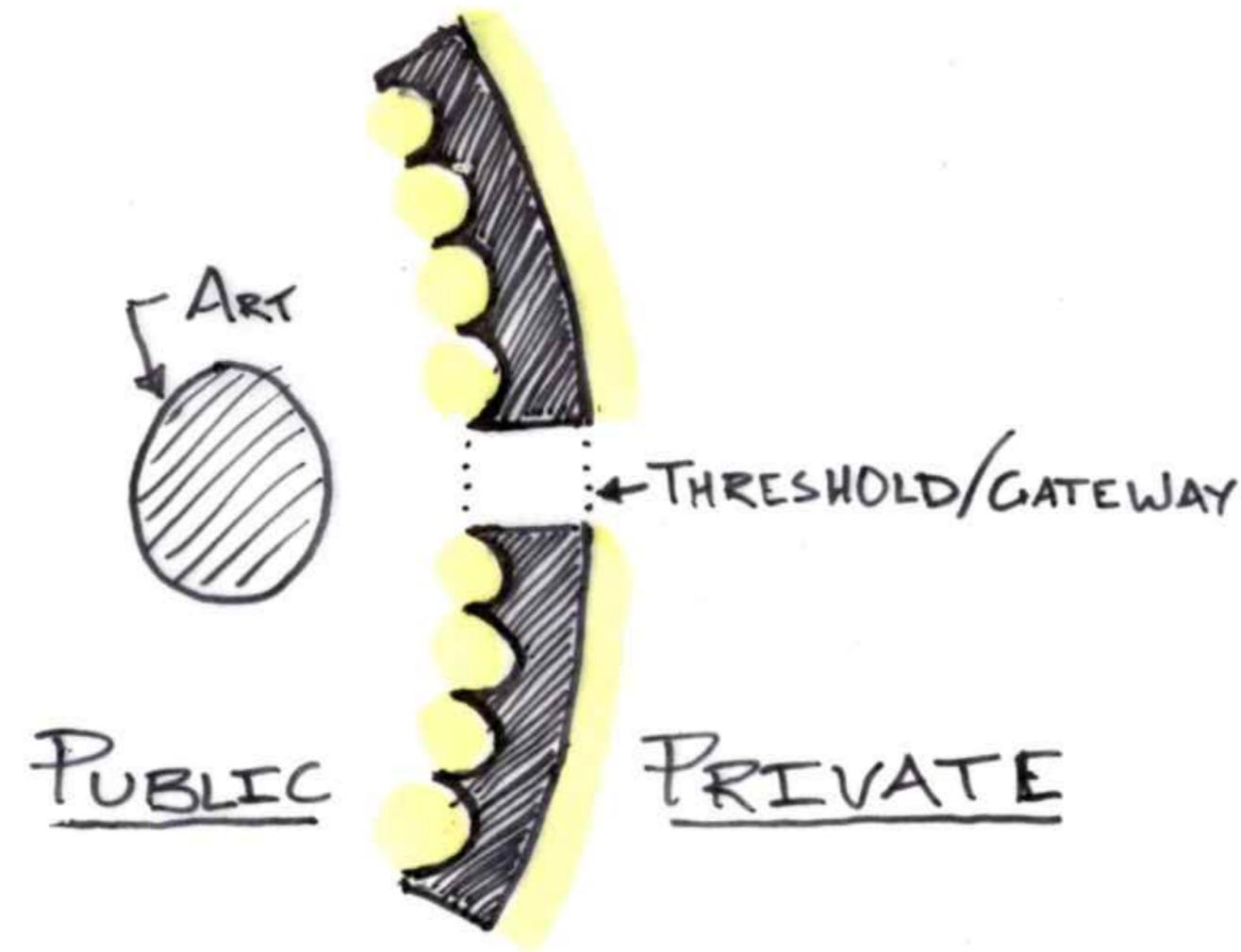
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## 6. A Comfortable Stay

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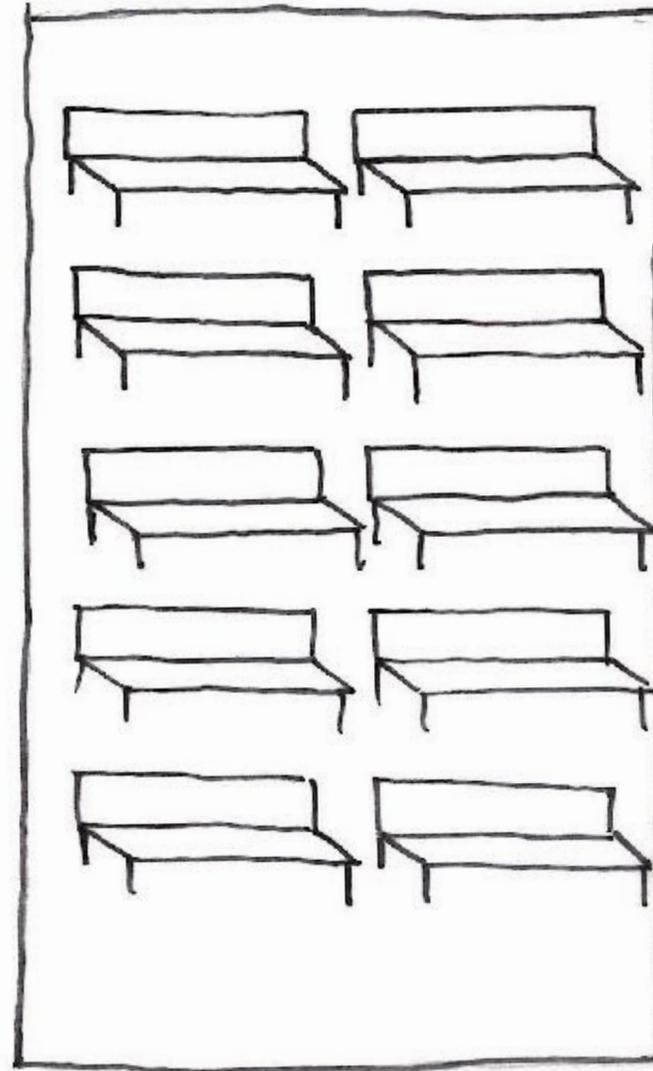
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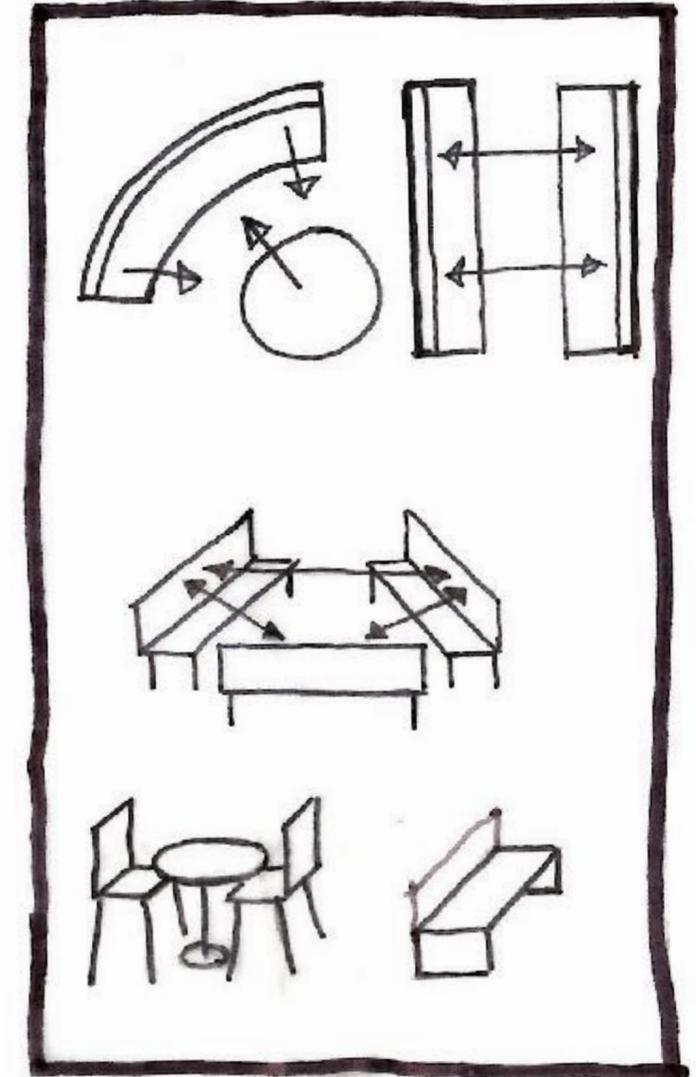


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AIRPORT



LIVING ROOM

# Open Conversation

# Offer Space To Honor and Remember

Embryonic Issues:

- Existing war memorials neither communicate clearly their stories nor create space for contemplation. Is it even possible to alter the existing markers?
- The Red Arrow markers and future Dontre Hamilton bench are two very different kinds of memorials. One honors history while the other will be a place of ongoing grief, reflection, and activism.
- How do the memorials interact with everything else in the park?



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# Precedent

# Millenium Park -Chicago, IL



# Comparison

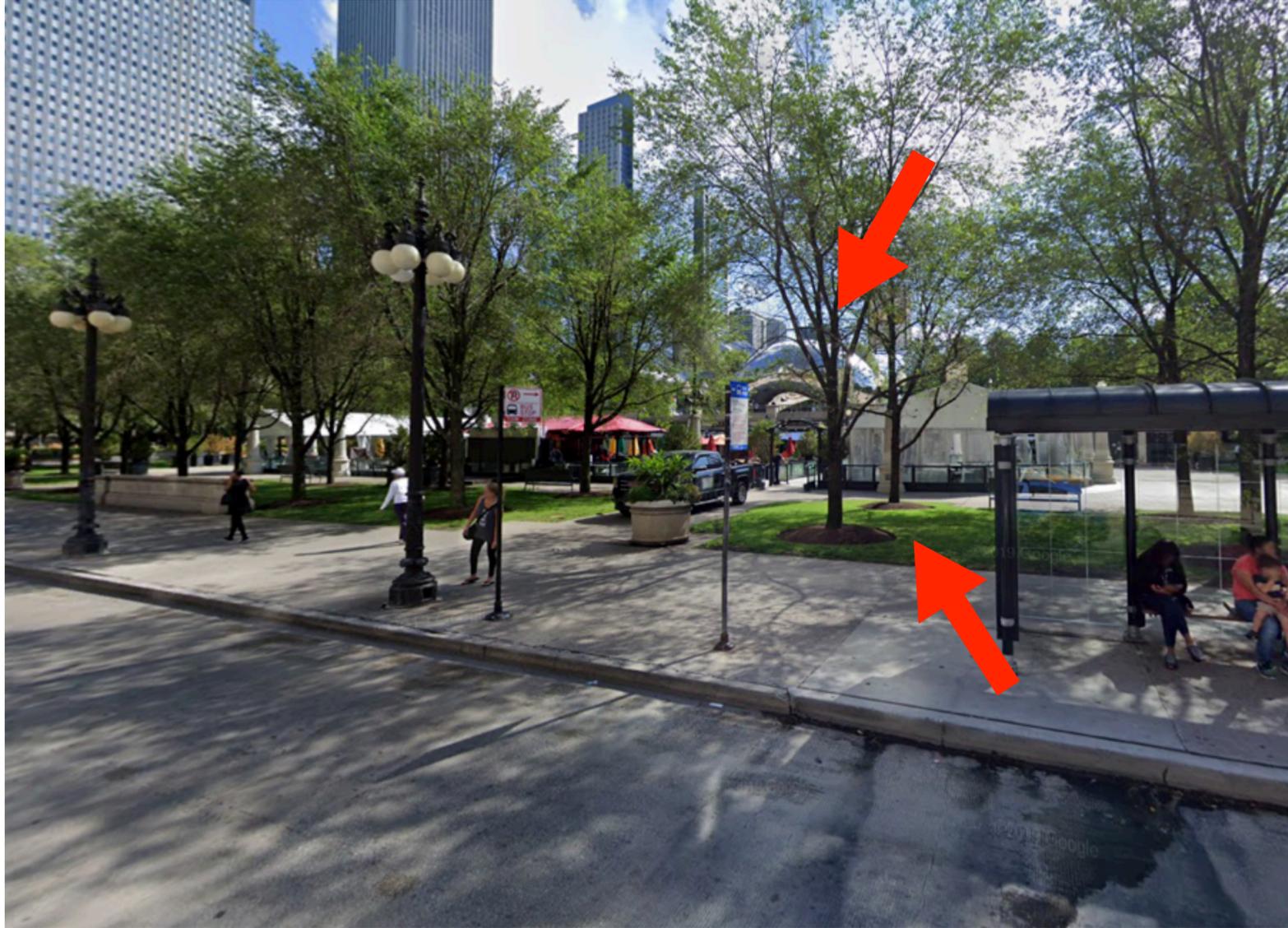


**Millenium Park**



**Red Arrow Park**

# Comparison



Millenium Park

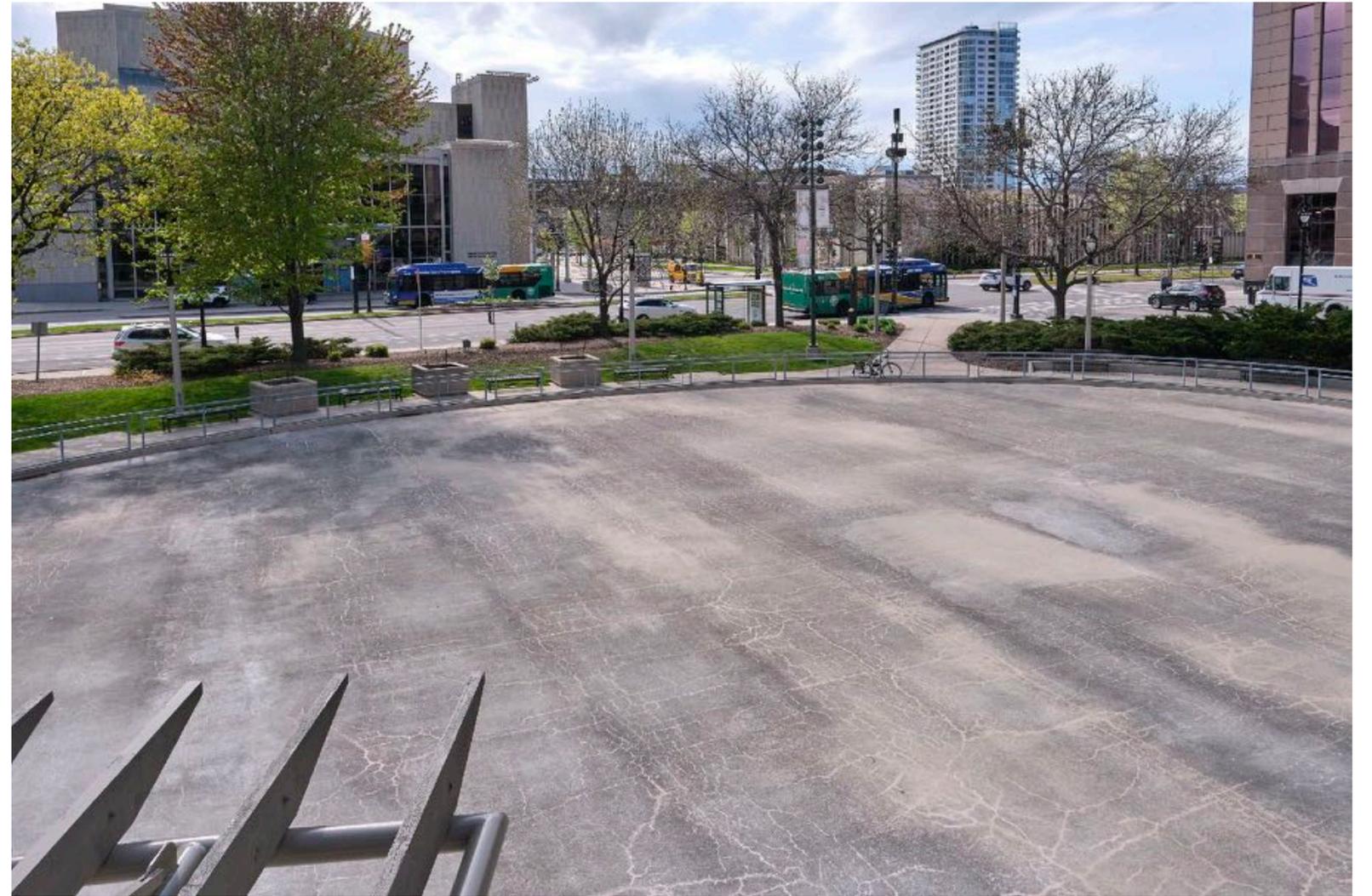


Red Arrow Park

# Comparison



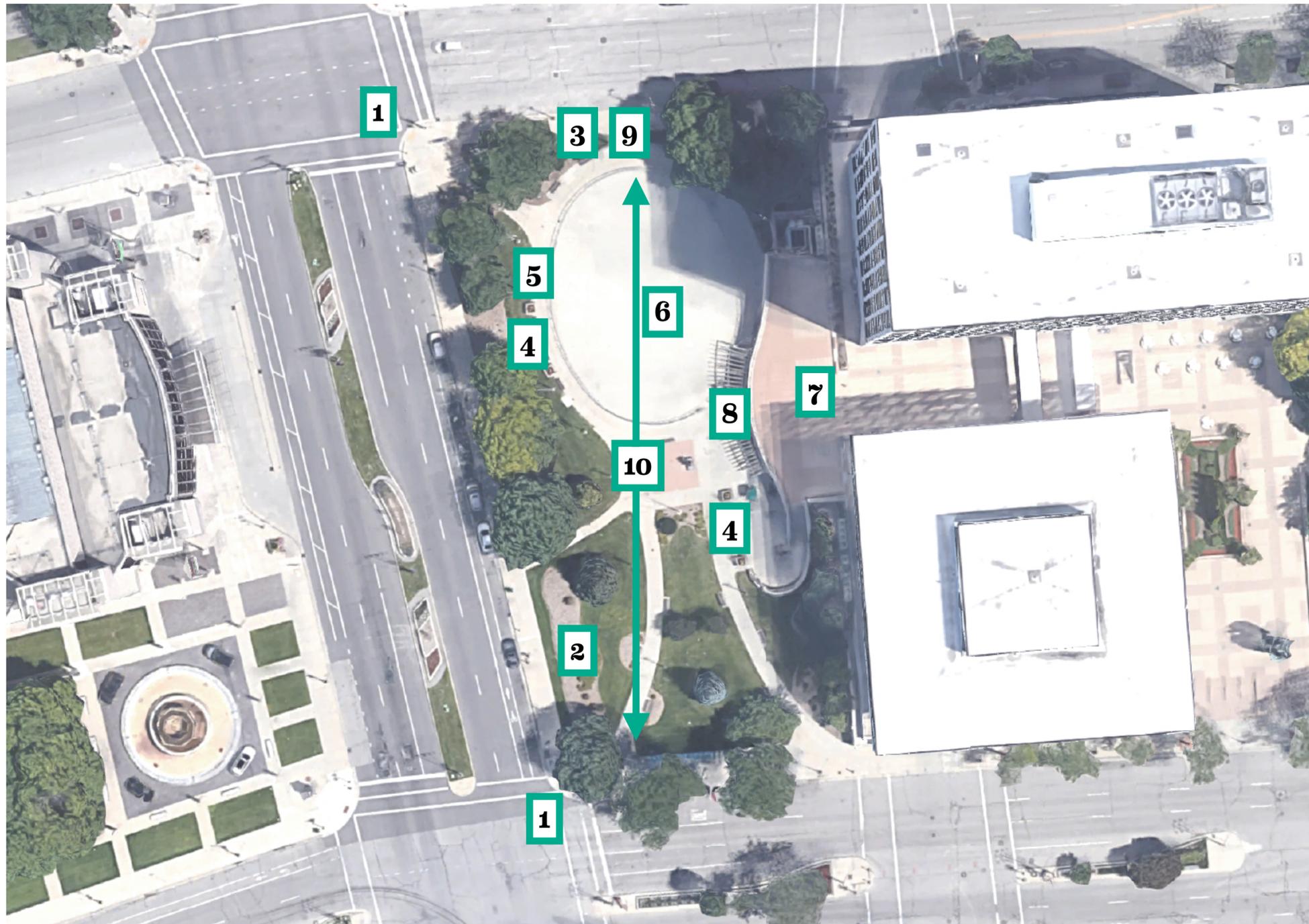
Millennium Park



Red Arrow Park

# Near-Term Tactics

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1. Enhance crosswalks connecting to the park with more visible striping.
2. Complete tree line along Water Street and improve park entry points per pattern #2.
3. Alter landscaping along State Street to improve views into the park.
4. Remove large concrete aggregate planters. Replace with more appropriately scaled elements.
5. Expand sidewalk and replace benches on west side of rink with bistro tables and chairs.
6. Program the rink with passive uses in the summer.
7. Create a more distinguished separation between public/private space on the terrace. Consider public art placement to draw users onto terrace.
8. Activate the pergola at Starbucks to create a more distinguished space.
9. Add standing/seat wall along State Street that engages both the sidewalk and park users.
10. Provide a variety of furniture that accommodates flexible programming for small to large groups.

# 2021 Tactical Wins

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1. Replace faded and missing pole banners with vibrant banners, designed by local artist Emma Daisy Gertel
2. Extend the park's new branding by Gertel around the rink
3. Activate the central plaza space with moveable tables/chairs and weekly programming (Art in the Park series, food trucks, live music)

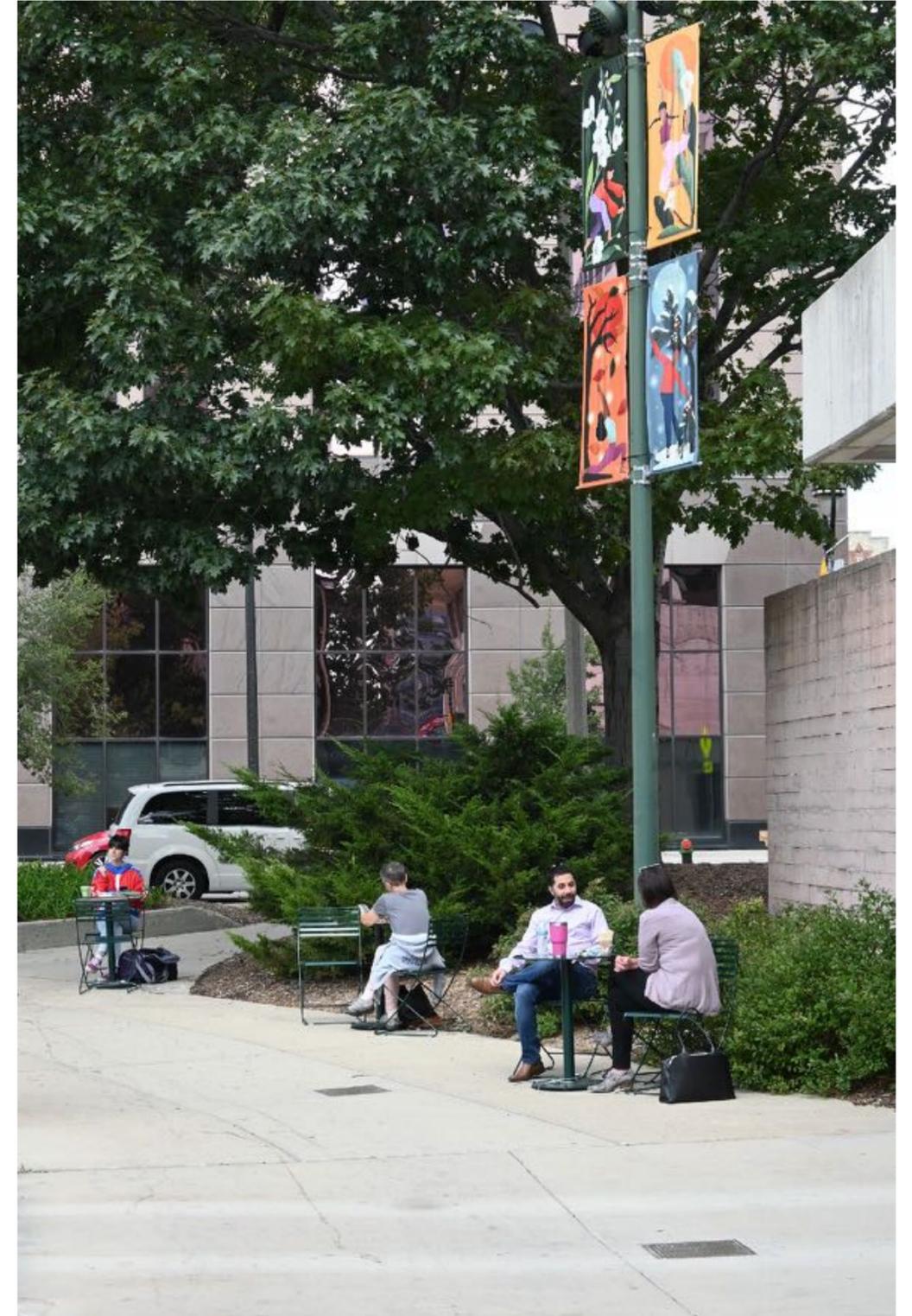
# 2021 Tactical Wins



# 2021 Tactical Wins



# 2021 Tactical Wins



# 2021 Tactical Wins



# 2021 Tactical Wins



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Thank you.

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