900 Block Pandora Ave Meeting 2

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CASCADIA ARCHITECTS

Agenda

1. Work to date

2019 Charrette

2023 PIT Survey

2. 2024 Charrette

Sketch conclusions

Design outcomes

3. Updating the Vision

Site Plan

Perspectives

4. Next steps

Feedback on Concept

Discussion of next steps



Past work

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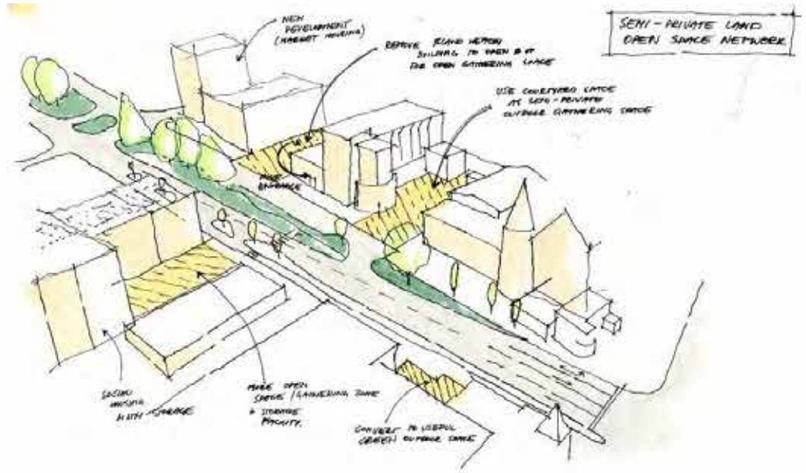
2019

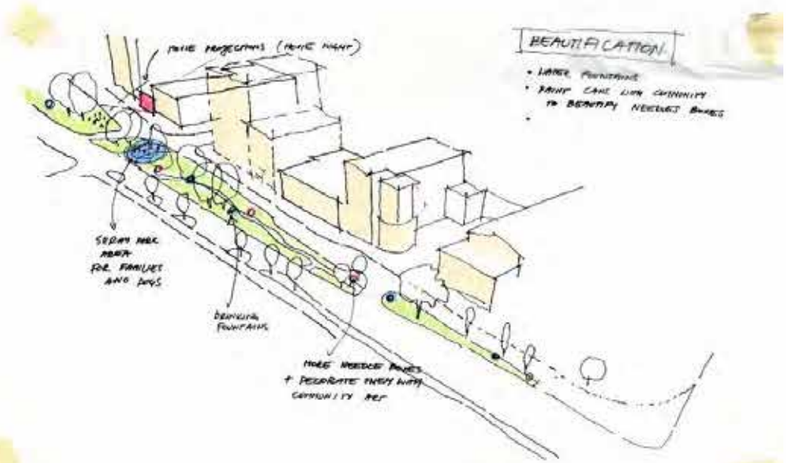
What we heard...

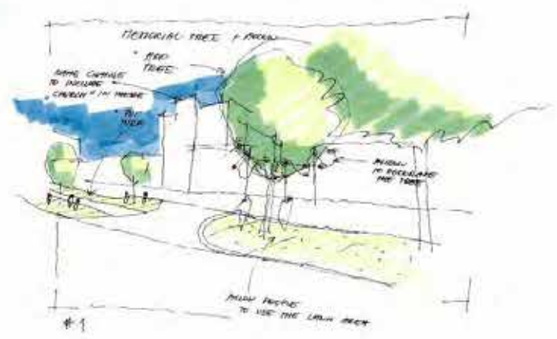
greater victoria coalition to end homelessness
hope has found a home

- Mindful Governance with Community Neutral Zones
- More Housing
- Open Space Network
- Beautification
- Outdoor Gallery

Recovery, Reconciliation, Relationships & Inclusion







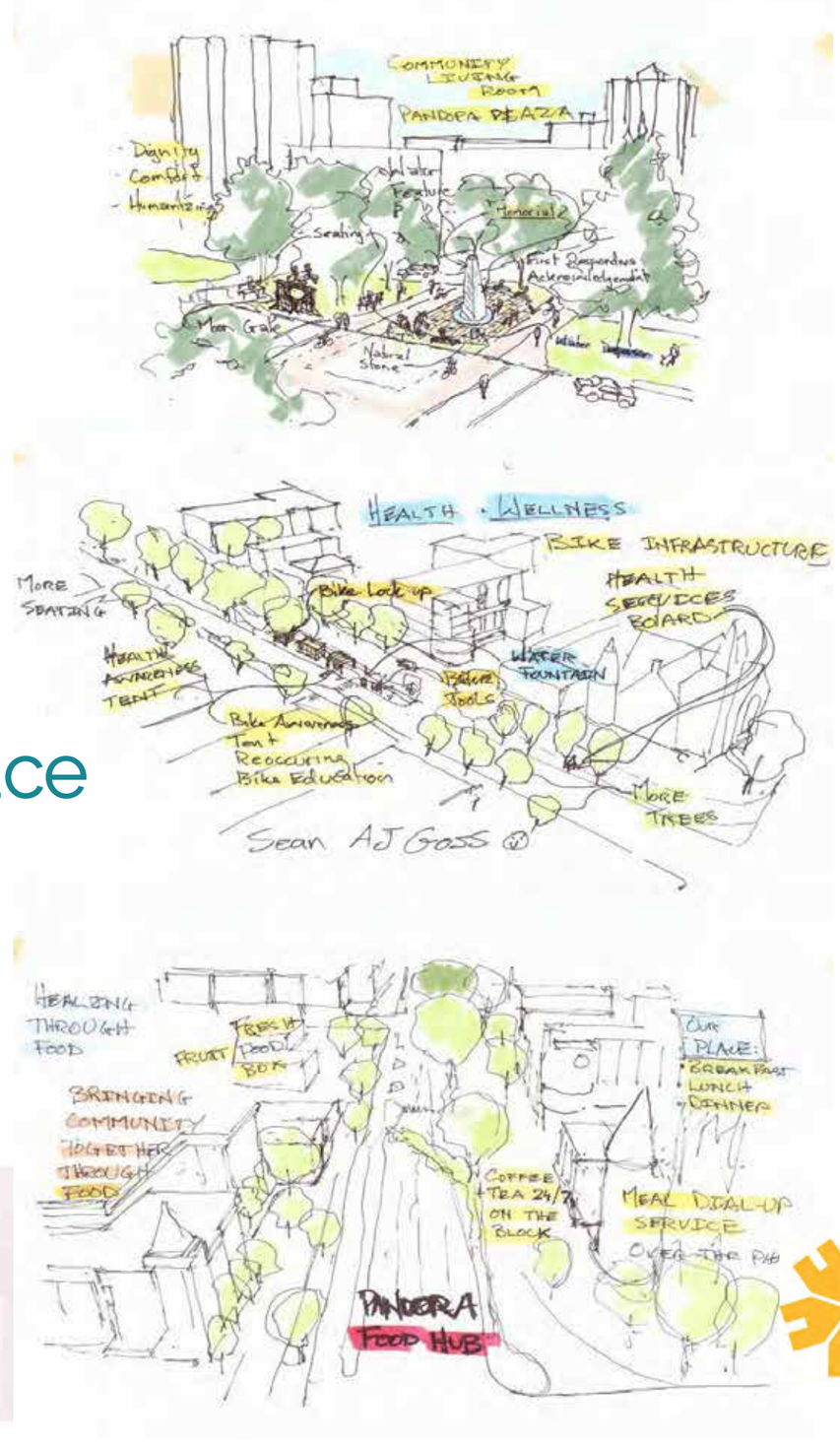
2019

What we heard...

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hope has found a home

- Community Living Room at Pandora Plaza
- Pandora Food Hub
- Community Outdoor Social Space
- Housing
- Health and Wellness

Recovery, Reconciliation, Relationships & Inclusion



IMMEDIATE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Conduct no further consultations. The community has been engaged in discussion regarding this topic at many tables over the past decade, and clear action items have been identified.
2. Implement the recommendations from community consultations and previous reports.
3. Appoint the GVCEH and City of Victoria to coordinate implementation and report on results.
4. Request funding from Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions to support Peer engagement in Acton Teams and implementation of recommendations.

SHORT TERM RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Develop pilot program “Victoria On Call” modeled after the Downtown on Call program in Kelowna. Pilot is designed in collaboration with peer leaders.
2. Installation of Water Bottle Refill Station.
3. 24-hour accessible restrooms are installed on the 900 block maintained by street community members as a social enterprise.
4. Collaborative Space Making is undertaken on the 900 block.

Recovery, Reconciliation, Relationships & Inclusion

greater victoria coalition to end homelessness
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Charrette 2019

Top 5 priorities

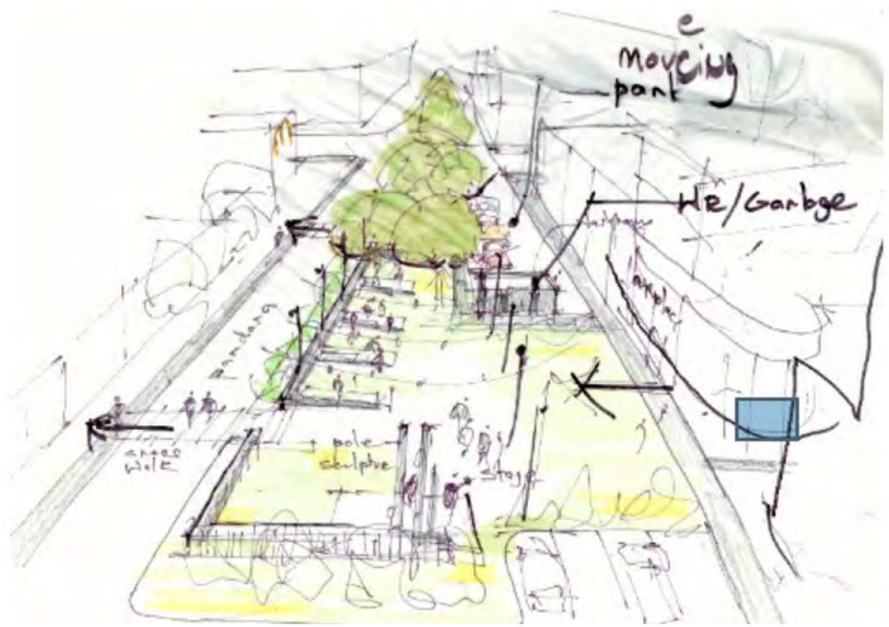
- Shelter/Housing
- Policing
- Seating/Gathering
- Food
- Water/Restrooms

Program Recommendations:

1. Design of a healthy, shared, and safe space
    - Arts, healthy placemaking, inclusive of everyone!
    - Programs
2. Social enterprise/Community Development
    - Progression of Support through community partners
    - Keep in mind: sense of ownership and responsibility

2019 Charrette Outcomes





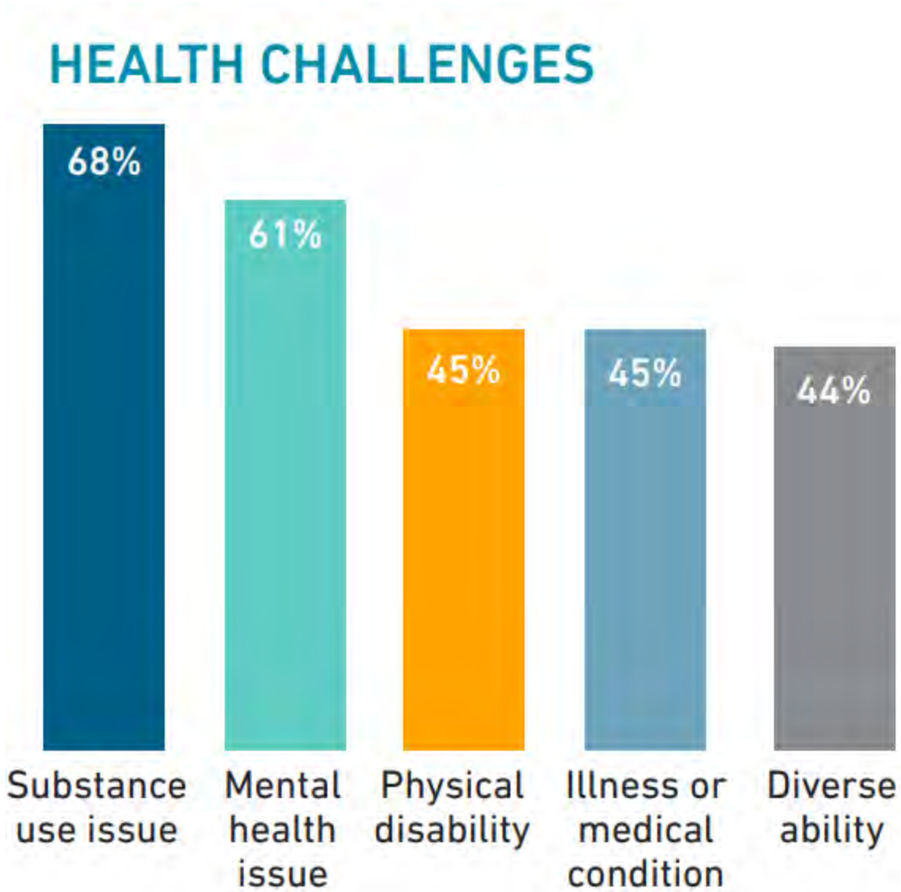
2023 PIT Survey

At least **1,665** people were experiencing homelessness on **March 7, 2023.**

--> In total 524 people were unsheltered and emergency sheltered

- 32.9% of survey respondents identify as Indigenous
- 1 in 3 were in government care as a child or youth
- 2 in 3 identified as male
- Over half (54.1%) of the respondents who said they would not stay in a homeless shelter is due to full shelter capacity

(2023 greater Victoria Point-In-Time homeless count and needs survey)



2024 Charrette



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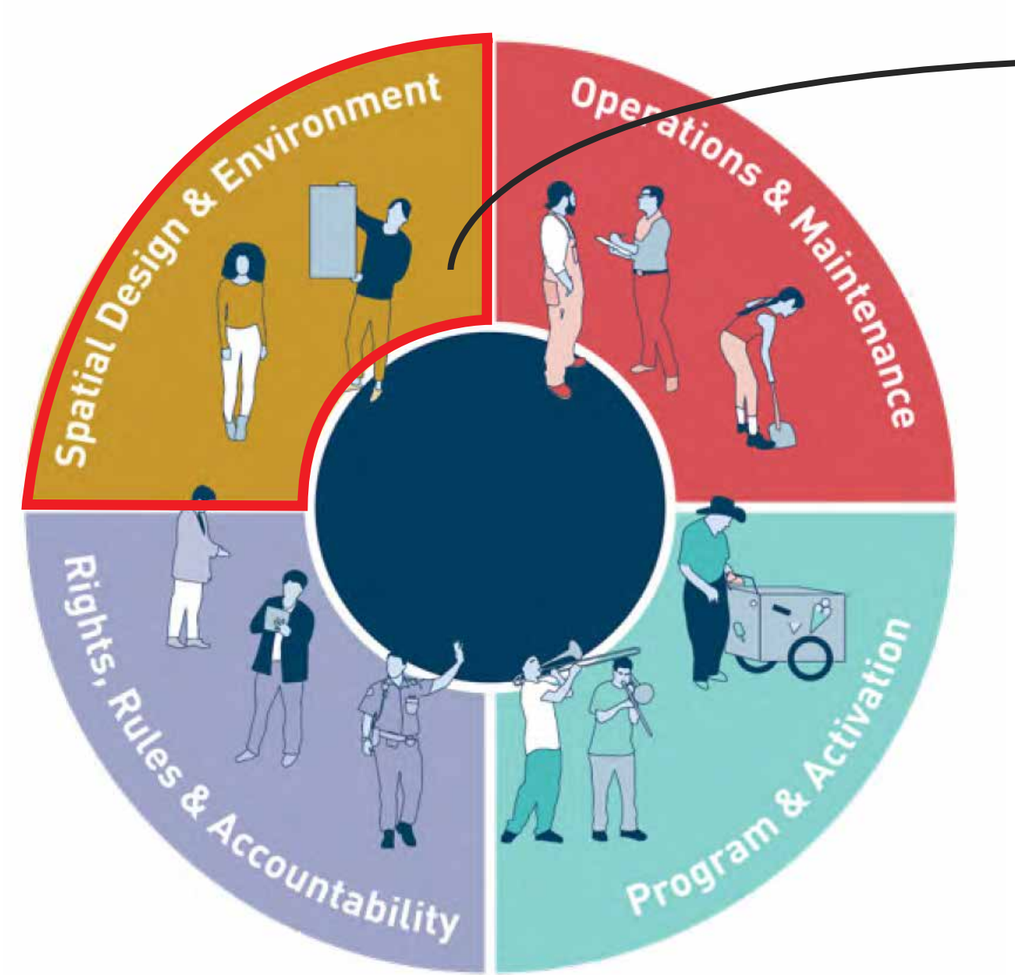
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CASCADIA ARCHITECTS

SOCIAL INCLUSION IN PUBLIC SPACE



SPUR & GEHL INSTITUTE (2019)

PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN INCLUDES

- Lighting
- Seating
- Natural features and landscaping
- Shading structures
- Walkways
- Programming

KEY FEATURES FROM RESEARCH:

Social cohesion:
Encouraging social interaction
(Latham & Layton, 2019)

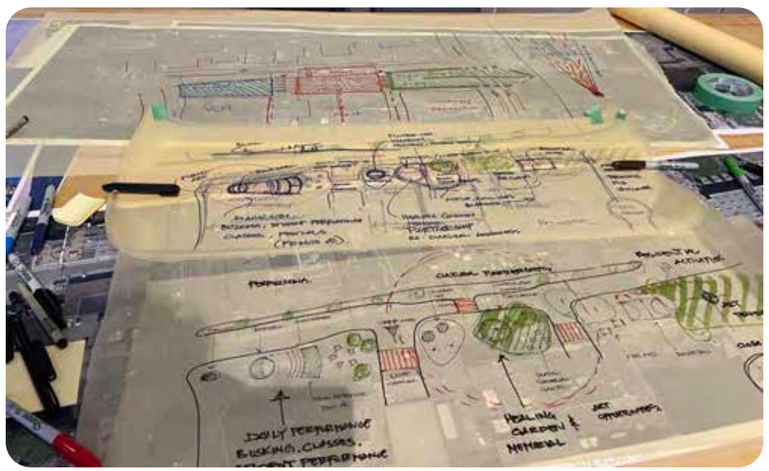
Inclusion and Equity key topics to provide safe space for everyone
(PINEO, 2020)

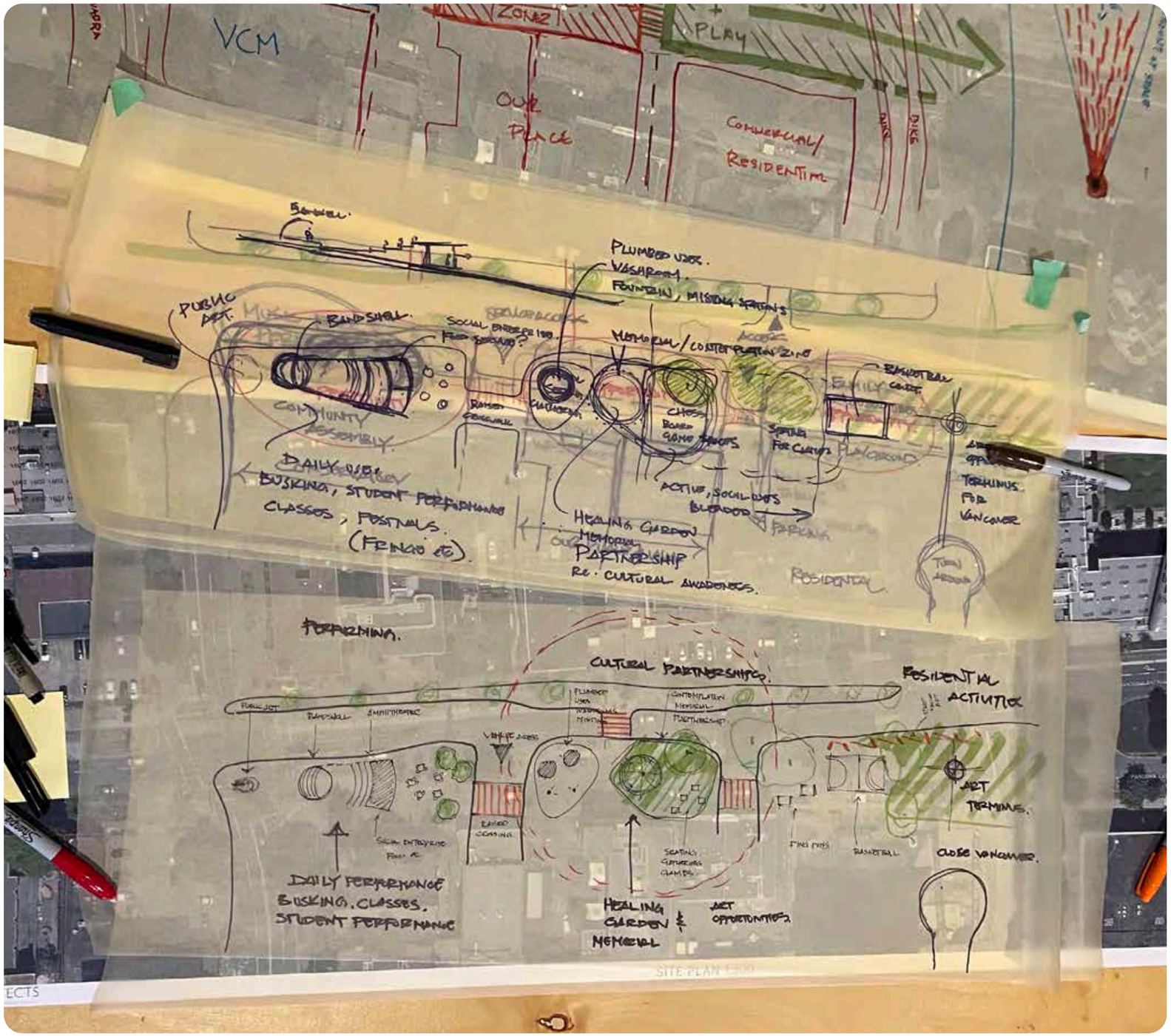
Latham, A., & Layton, J. (2019). Social infrastructure and the public life of cities: Studying urban sociality and public spaces. Geography Compass, 1–15.

Pineo, H., 2020. Towards healthy urbanism: inclusive, equitable and sustainable (THRIVES) – an urban design and planning framework from theory to praxis. Cities Health 0, 1–19. https://doi.org/10.1080/23748834.2020.1769527

Charrette outcomes
Sketch Idea group 1

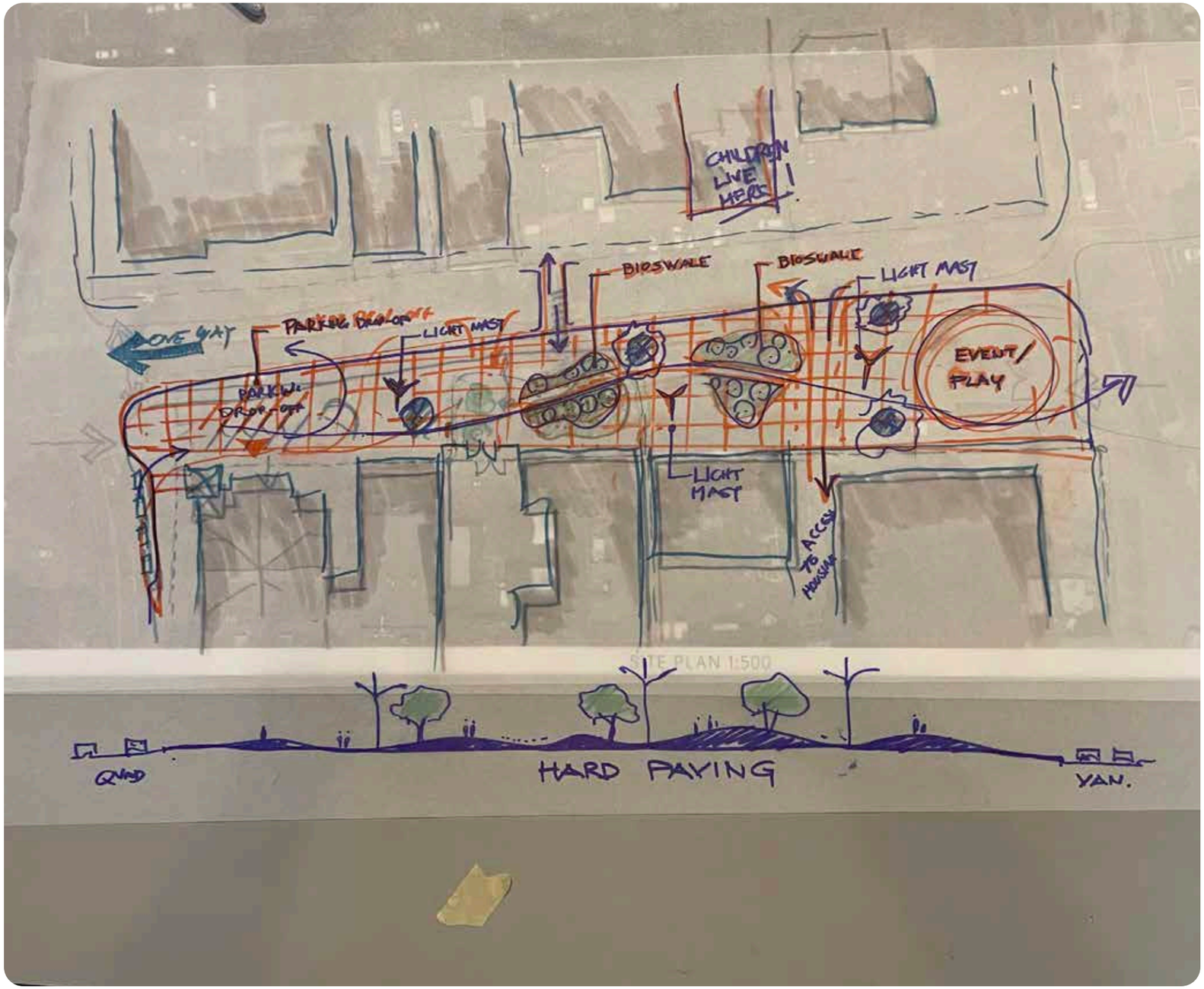
- Add programming and services
- Take over the current road
- Creating cul-de-sac on Vancouver/ Pandora
- Connection to larger park space
- Moving bus stop to less isolated section
- Making multiple connections/crosswalks with North side
- Privacy for Safe Injections site





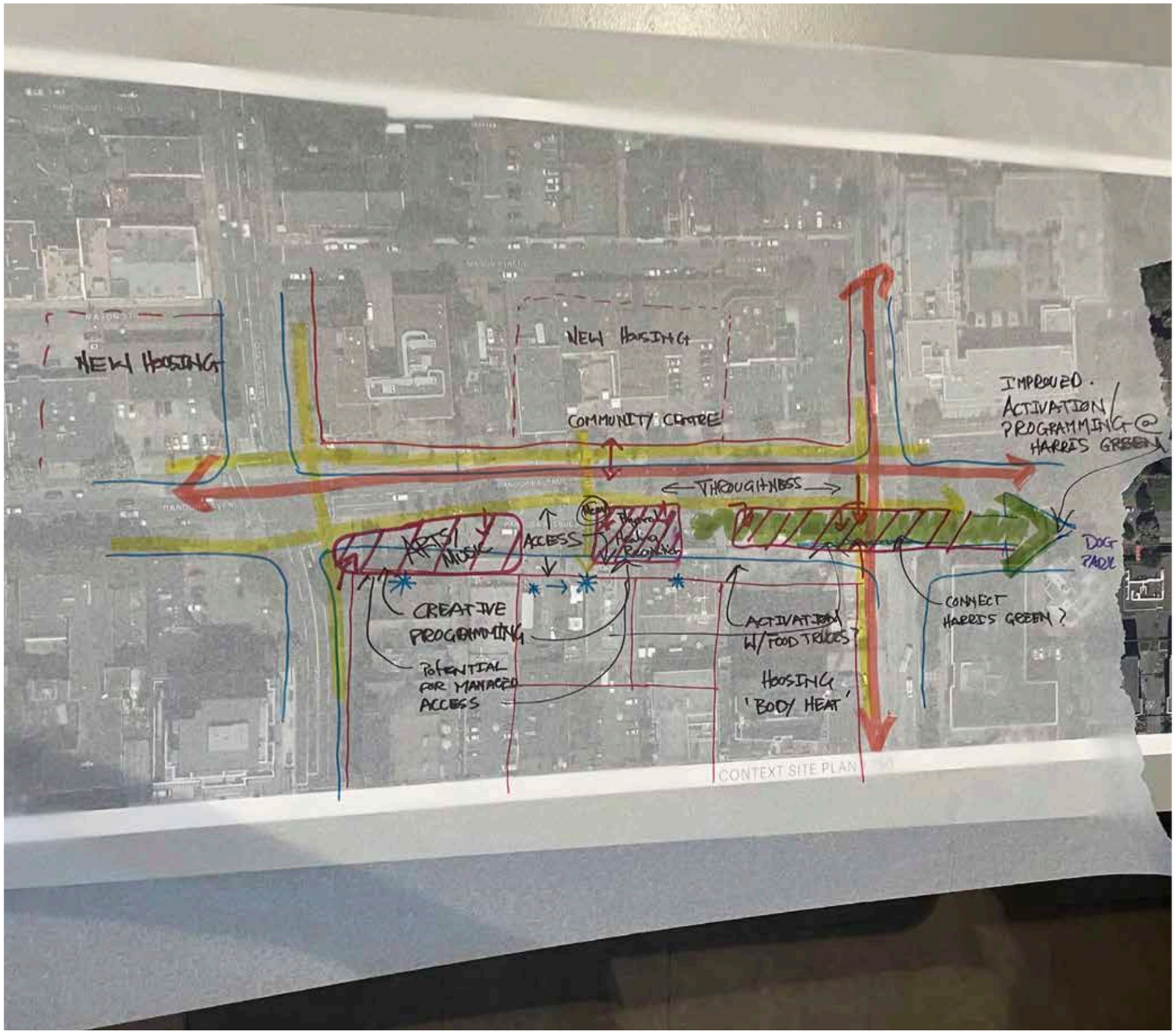
Charrette outcomes
Sketch Idea group 2

- Keep existing trees
- Addition of sculptural lighting
- One singular space all the way across
- Remove flat areas of grass
- Addition of play space
- Not eliminating places for people experiencing homelessness/ accommodating human needs while maintaining safety (for all)



Charrette outcomes
Sketch Idea group 3

- Highlighting the importance of **maintenance** and **operational aspect** of plans
- Creating **creative programming** extending from the conservatory
- Create an opportunity between new community center and space in front of Our Place
- Food trucks and **constant activation** good ideas
- Use of colour and art as a way of placemaking
- Reimagine of south side vehicle access and parking as programmed space
- Access needs on **3 separate Pandora frontages** to reestablish the perception of safety. Each zone is **programmed separately** with more distinct identities.



Charrette 2024 + 2019 Design Outcomes

2019

- Pandora Food Hub
- Community Outdoor Social Space
- Health and Wellness
- Mindful Governance with Community Neutral Zones
- Community Living Room at Pandora Plaza
- Open Space Network
- Beautification
- Outdoor Gallery

2024

- Addressing immediate and larger context (Physical and Social)
- Additional programming
- Closure of Vancouver St. - connection to east median park
- Addition of active management
- Reclassification to park space
- Implement a process for maintaining community consensus
- Maintaining an open public character and allowing for a safe and welcoming space.
- Integrate new developments (community center 932 Pandora, and 975 Pandora) into the new public realm
- Improve mid block crossing

Updating the vision

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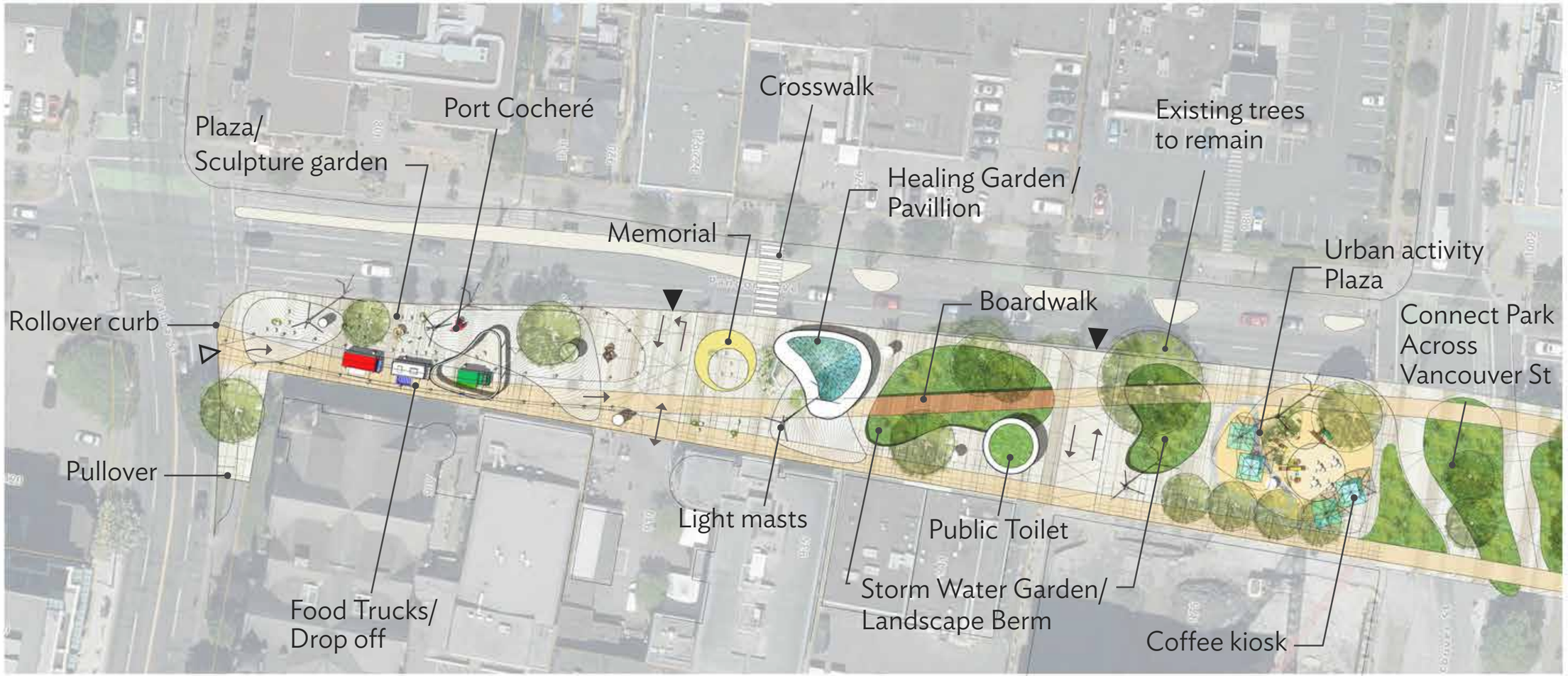
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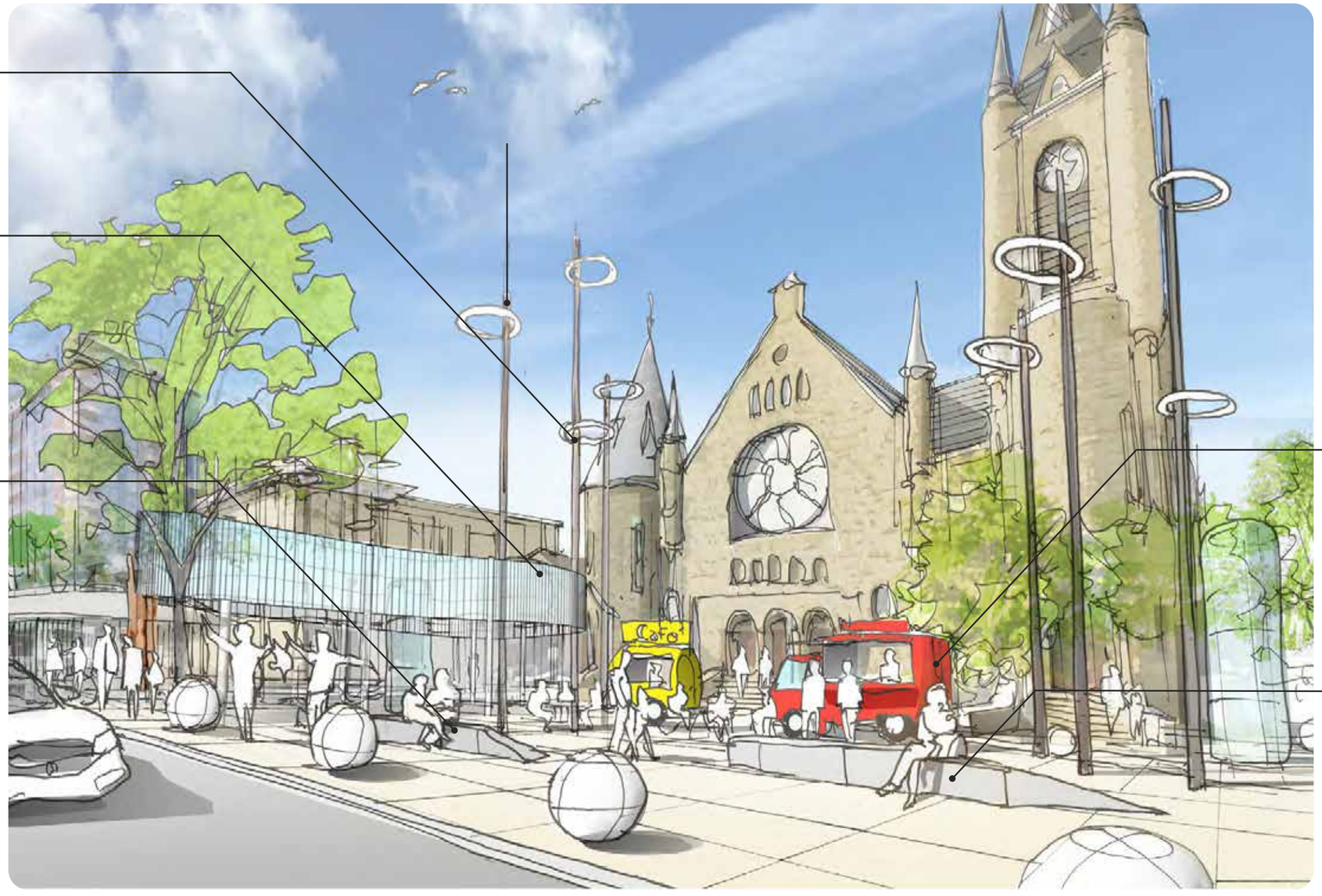
Bird’s eye impression



Map Of Opportunities



Impression Pandora Ave & Quadra St



Impression Healing Garden/ pavillion

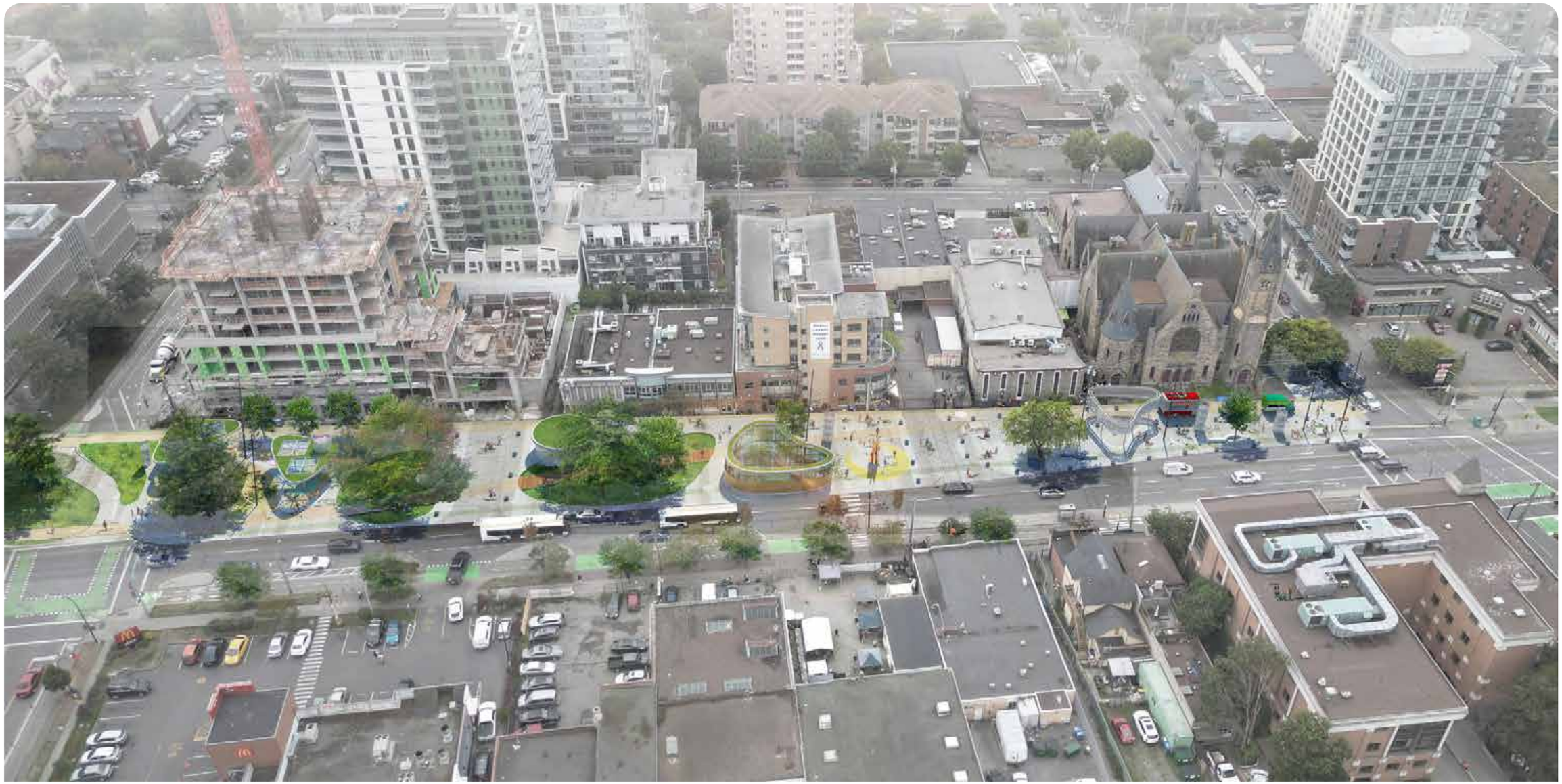



PANDORA CAFE

Impression Pandora Ave & Vancouver St



Bird’s eye impression



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