SDRP REPORT (07/02/2025)

Appendix:

- 1_ SDRP Recommendations (04/06/2024)
- **2**_ Previous SDRP Booklet Submission (17/05/2024)







SDRP REPORT (07/02/2025)

DESIGN INTENT:

The proposed development at 267 O'Connor aims to create a future-proof community hub within Centretown. The proposal features a variety of unit typologies in the towers and upper levels of the podium, as well as a vibrant public space in the podium's lower level and courtyard.

RESPONSE TO KEY RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Exploration of proposed density on site (South/East Tower): The redesign has addressed the positioning and massing of the South Tower. We reexamined the efficiency of the tower plate and setback the tower about 9m+ from the east plot line, also maximizing the distance between the two towers to 20m
- How the proposal fits within the context of the Centretown Heritage Conservation District: The design is deeply influenced by the existing heritage context of Centretown, particularly in the design of the podium. To better integrate with the surrounding neighborhood, we've broken up the overall massing. The podium reaches the typical height of nearby buildings and reflects Centretown's materiality with warm, light brick textures. Arched details distinguish the podium from the towers, grounding the architecture in the traditional geometry often seen in Ottawa's heritage buildings.
- O'Connor Street as primary façade: The O'Connor façade features double-height arches at the internal corners of the courtyard, marking the site's entry point. Intermediate setbacks between the podium and towers create a human-scaled transition, further enhancing the design. The east façade terraces into a private residential amenity terrace to further open up to the eastern surrounding context. The decision of developing two towers further enhances this opportunity.
- Concerns with the cantilever's impact on the public realm/POPS (particularly in the south corner) as well as the minimal separation distances proposed between the towers and to adjacent properties: The South Tower plate has been revised in terms of efficiency and reducing the cantilevers significantly. The distance between the two towers is now 20m, creating a vibrant and generous POPS space in the form of a courtyard.
- **Urban Room:** The urban room has been redesigned into an open exterior courtyard shared by the community and residents. Due to the level of discomfort to bringing the public into the interior with the original concept of the Urban Room, we have now made this an exterior space to accommodate more of the public and align with landmark policies.
- Two building tower vs One tower: The development features two towers of varying heights, designed to reduce the overall massing and align more closely with the neighborhood's scale. The two panelized ceramic towers, spaced 20 meters apart, open up opportunities for views of Ottawa's skyline, nature, and landmarks, while also providing space for a vibrant public green courtyard. This courtyard will serve as a year-round gathering space for both residents and the community, supported by interior commercial and retail spaces. The two-tower approach also allows for phased development, enabling the project to progress incrementally over time and accommodate market demands.
- Re-examine the balconies in the towers: We have rationalized the balconies to localize them only on the outer corners of the towers in order to mitigate the overhangs and the corner conditions.
- Analyzing the existing projects/development in the neighborhood and their impact on the proposal: We have looked into 3 proposals in the neighborhood all about 7 blocks away from the site, having minimal impact. The new project across the street on the S/E corner will have a similar scale to the podium of the our proposal.











SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024

The City of Ottawa's Special Design Review Panel met on **May 17th**, **2024**. The meeting was hosted virtually using *Zoom* video-conferencing software.

Panel Members in Attendance:

David Leinster James Parakh Josh Chaiken Dominic Bettison

Meeting Index

May 17th, 2024

1) 267 O'Connor St. | Formal Review | Official Plan Amendment & Zoning By-law Amendment Application | Taggart Realty Management, Hobin Architecture, UNStudio



SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024

267 O'Connor St. | Formal Review | Official Plan Amendment & Zoning By-law Amendment Application | Taggart Realty Management, Hobin Architecture, UNStudio





Key Recommendations

- The Panel members welcomed UNStudio to the project and expressed their gratitude to the proponent for engaging in a productive discussion with the SDRP.
- The Panel appreciates that the project is moving in a positive direction toward the requirement of a landmark building—which is to provide the community with Privately Owned Public Space, which may incorporate vital institutional use(s), and landmark architecture while remaining respectful of the Centretown Heritage Conservation District.
- The Panel has fundamental concerns with the proposed density on the site, particularly in relation to the sensitivity of the heritage neighbourhood context.
 - The Panel recommends further exploration of alternate massing/density options that improve the building's transition to the immediate heritage context (e.g., reducing the height and/or tower floorplate of the south-east tower).

SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024



- The Panel asks that the proponents provide further visual analysis of how the
 proposal fits within the context of the Centretown Heritage Conservation District,
 and the immediate vicinity in all directions, prior to their next review with the
 SDRP. The Panel suggests modelling both the current and future planned
 contexts for the area would be a good basis for such an analysis.
 - The Panel seeks clarification on the proposed development's relationship with the east property line and adjacent properties, noting that the current relationship needs refinement to address both the current and planned context.
- The Panel supports the design approach and material palette proposed for the podium.
- The Panel recommends the podium and towers should be designed in a manner that faces and treats O'Connor Street as the primary façade, cautioning that the current proposal seems to have the building turning away from O'Connor Street and puts too much focus on the local side streets (Gilmour Street and MacLaren Street).
 - Some Panel members suggest exploring a slight increase in podium height along O'Connor Street and stepping down toward the east to relate with the heights of the adjacent heritage context may be a solution that helps re-establish the building's west elevation as the primary façade of the development.



Figure 1. The Panel has concerns with the prominence of the cantilever and its relationship to the POPS.

Ottawa

SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024

- The Panel supports the overall architectural expression of the towers but has
 concerns with the cantilever's impact on the public realm/POPS (particularly in
 the south corner) as well as the minimal separation distances proposed between
 the towers and to adjacent properties.
 - The Panel suggests removing/reducing the corner balconies as a potential way to mitigate the negative impacts of the overhang on the public realm below.
 - The Panel suggests further shaping/reducing the massing of the towers to allow for appropriate separation distances from adjacent properties and from one another.
- The Panel encourages the proponents to expand the scope of the institutional use and ensure that the building's architecture clearly defines—and is informed by—the institutional space.
 - The Panel recommends the proponents secure and clarify the institutional use prior to their next review with the SDRP.
- The Panel appreciates the look and feel of the interior space but strongly recommends that the urban room be lined with public and/or publicly accessible uses, and have strong visual connections to the exterior public realm on all sides in order to be readily apparent to the community as a publicly accessible space.

Site Design & Public Realm

- The Panel appreciates the vision to express the design with green infrastructure horizontally and vertically, but did not fully see that vision permeate into the plans and renderings.
- The Panel encourages the proponents to consider bringing additional POPS to the podium rooftop, with a clear public connection to the indoor/outdoor POPS at ground level.
- The Panel recommends exploring more POPS external to the building. There should also be a greater proportion of the POPS provided as exterior space rather than as interior space, with an emphasis toward at-grade POPS.
- The Panel has concerns with the current program proposed around the urban room inhibiting its success as a premier public space for the community.
 - The Panel recommends the urban room space be lined with uses that would encourage engagement from the public.

SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024



- The Panel suggests further bolstering the relationship between the interior and exterior POPS at ground level in order to create an interior POPS that truly reads as a publicly accessible space.
 - Consider the importance of strong public connections to all streets, including the local streets, for a successful interior POPS.
- The Panel suggests the proponents undertake a study of the neighbourhood's open spaces to determine the lack of public space available in the area and then adjust the size and program of the proposed exterior and interior POPS accordingly.
- The Panel seeks clarification on how the project interacts with the east property line, emphasizing the need for refinement to better integrate with both the existing surroundings and the future development plans.

Sustainability

- The Panel questions the sustainability of the cantilever given the embodied carbon necessary.
- The Panel has concerns with the sustainability and implications of using aluminum materials in the design.
 - o Consider using durable noble materials in the design as much as possible.
- The Panel asks that the proponents provide a revised shadow analysis and wind analysis of the design and massing prior to their next review with the SDRP.

Built Form & Architecture

- The Panel understands the proponents' desire for a two-tower building. However, the Panel has concerns with the size and mass of the towers, which are too large for the site.
- The Panel suggests the tower massing/program be revised with reduced floorplate sizes in order to increase the separation distance between the two towers and improve both building's relationships with the public realm and the historic context. The Panel has concerns with the heaviness and expansiveness of the towers along the small local streets, Gilmour Street and MacLaren Street.
- The Panel appreciates the architectural expression demonstrated in both the podium and the towers—which differentiate their expressions depending on

Ottawa

SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024

- orientation. The Panel also appreciates the thoughtful consideration given to the design of the tower top, but question the orientation of the slope.
- The Panel suggests that a single tower on the site may be more suitable given its size, and that pursuing a single tower massing could help with strengthening the relationship with O'Connor Street as the main arterial (e.g., orienting the longer façade along O'Connor Street).
- The Panel appreciates the attention given to the details of the podium, such as
 the colour selection, architectural detailing, and brick material used in the façade.
 However, to assist with understanding how these fit within the context, and how
 they might be improved, the renderings of the podium should accurately show
 the surrounding buildings.
- The Panel suggests that the podium currently appears squat beneath the towers, and recommends working with City staff to improve the building massing in a way that rebalances the tower and podium relationship to visually hold the weight of the towers, while remaining respectful of the surrounding Heritage Conservation District and stepping down to the public realm and the scale on all sides.
 - Consider sculpting the towers to reduce the overall massing, or pursuing a single tower option, to create a better balance between the tower and podium.
 - Consider studying stepping the podium up slightly toward O'Connor Street to give the podium a stronger presence along the main arterial, while maintaining the 2-storey height toward the east/neighbourhood. These studies should be shared first with staff for their review and comment.
 - Consider lightening the towers visually as a possible solution to rebalancing the tower-podium relationship.
- The Panel suggests giving the towers a lighter appearance by reducing the overhang of the corner balconies and limiting the number of projecting balconies.
- The Panel has concerns with the large, tower cantilever which in their view negatively affects the POPS and public realm. The Panel recommends softening the cantilever as much as possible, potentially by sloping/tapering it considerably over several floors or increasing the height of the cantilever to at least 6 or 7-storeys above the POPS. The Panel provided a few examples in Toronto, such as the Pinnacle on John Street and 8 Cumberland Street, which are pictured below for reference.



SPECIAL DESIGN REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDATIONS May 17th, 2024



Figure 2. The Pinnacle on John Street, Toronto, which has a sloped façade above a triangular-shaped POPS.





Figure 3. The building at 8 Cumberland Street in Toronto, which has a cantilever above a mid-block pedestrian connection POPS. The cantilever is located on level 6.



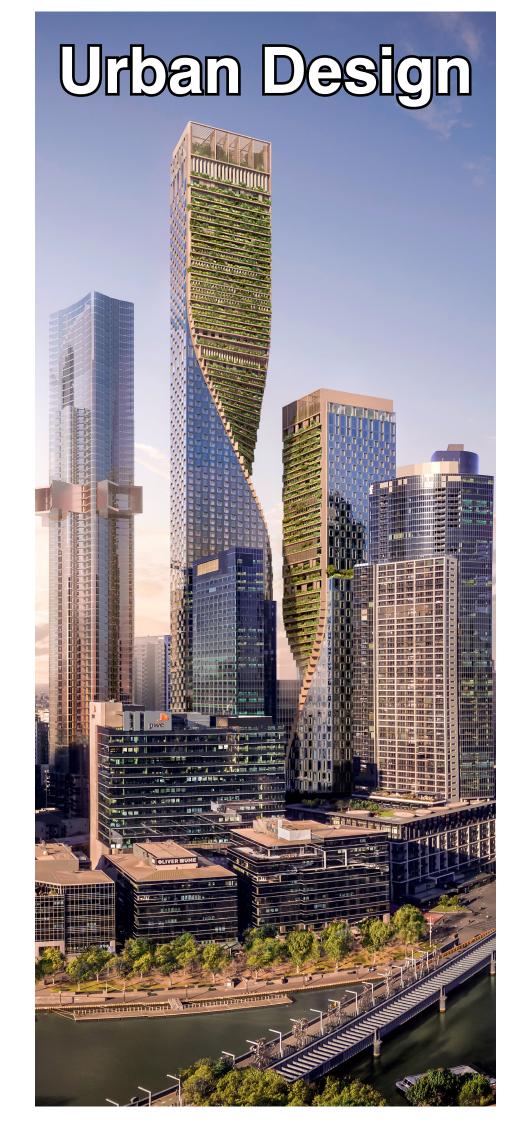
- _ UNStudio
- _ Vision
- _ Context Analysis
- _ Architectural Approach
- _ Urban Room
- _ Tower Approach
- 7_ Sustainability Approach



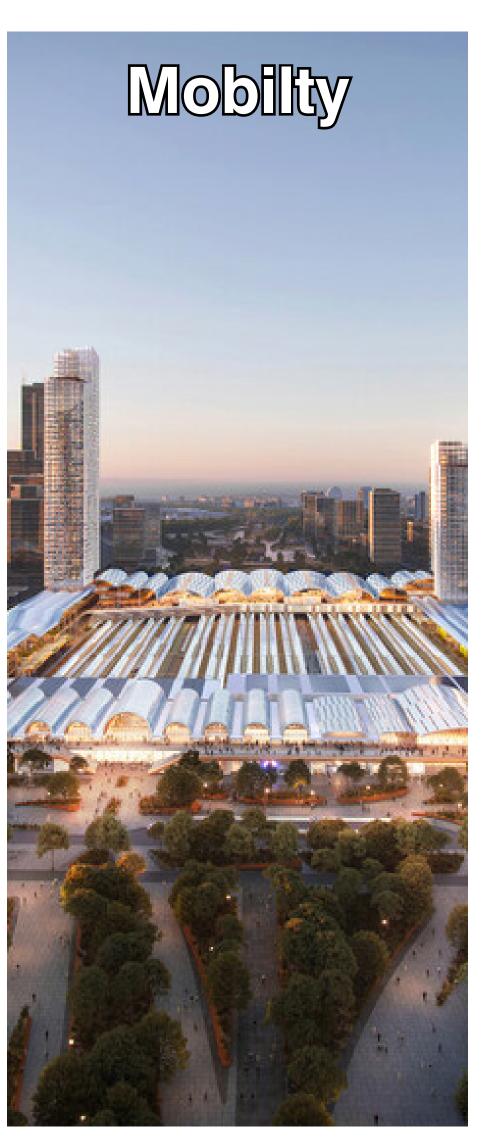
- _ UNStudio
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- 3_ Context Analysis
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- _ Tower Approach
- 7 Sustainability Approach



UNSTUDIO



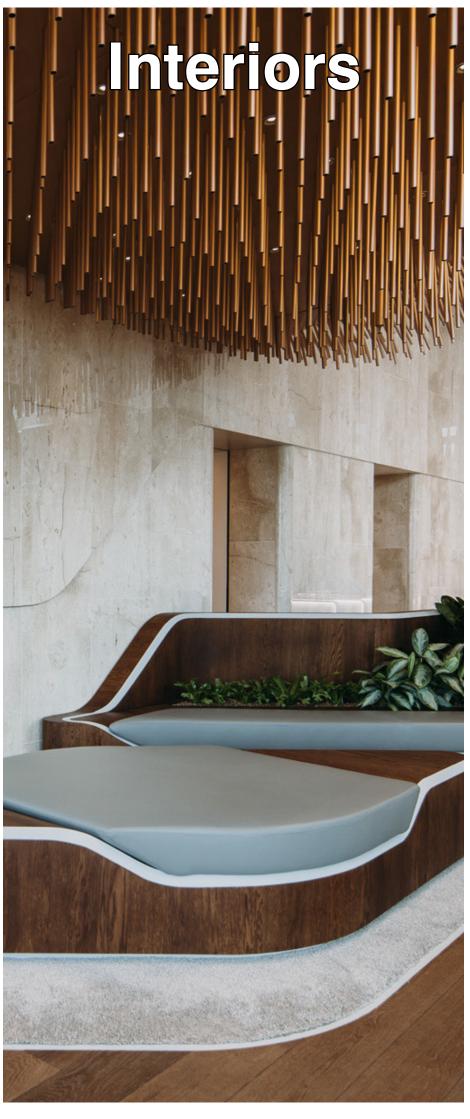
South Bank, Melbourne under construction



Chamartin Station, Madrid competition winner



Raffles City, Hangzhou completed



Unstudio Tower Lobby, Amsterdam completed



Hardt Hyperloop, Hardt design

UNSTUDIO

Past and Current Projects



Mixed-Use





















Infrastructural









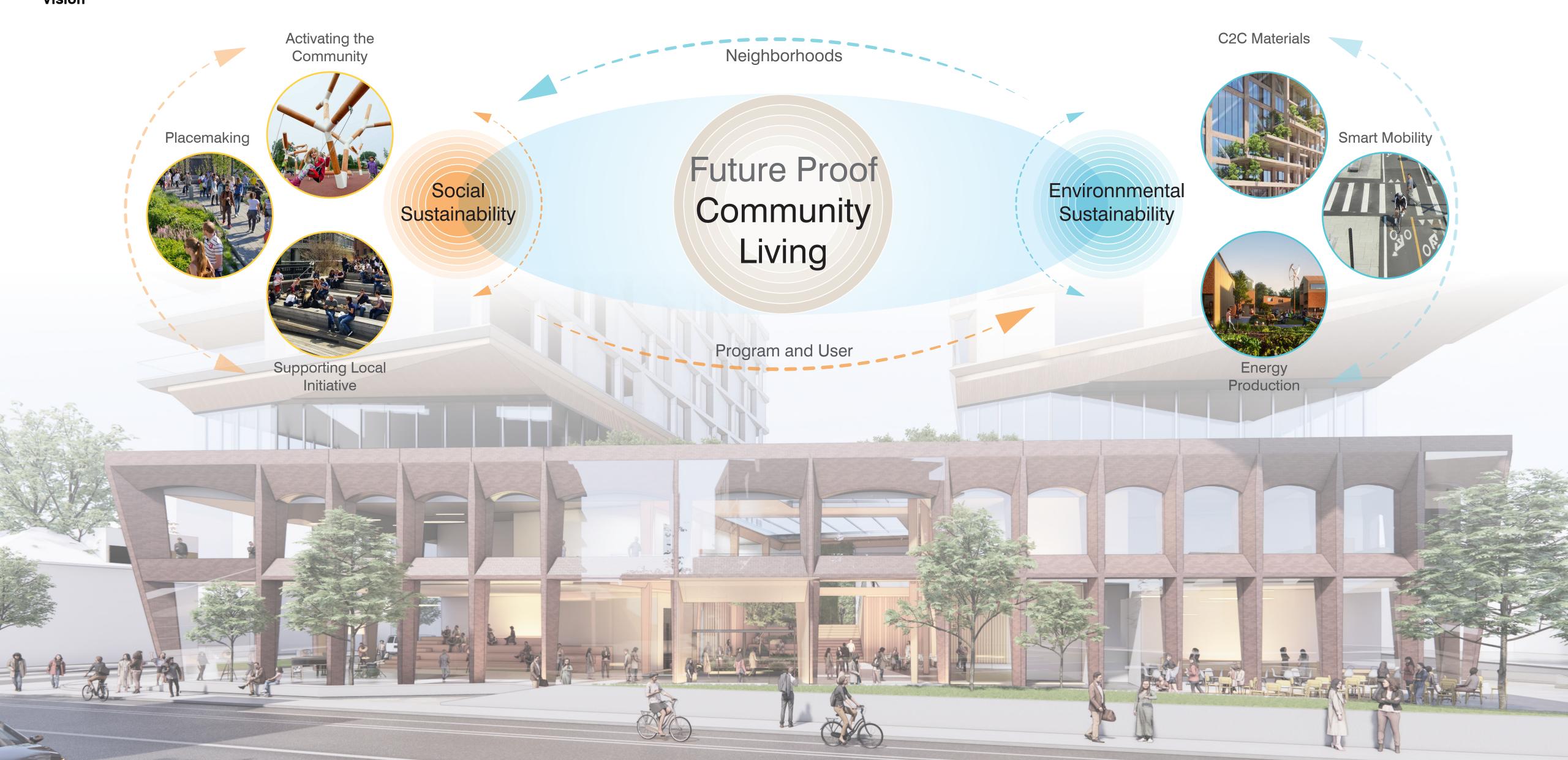


Educational



- _ UNStudio
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- _ Tower Approach
- 7 Sustainability Approach

Vision



Vision_Key Drivers



MOBILITY

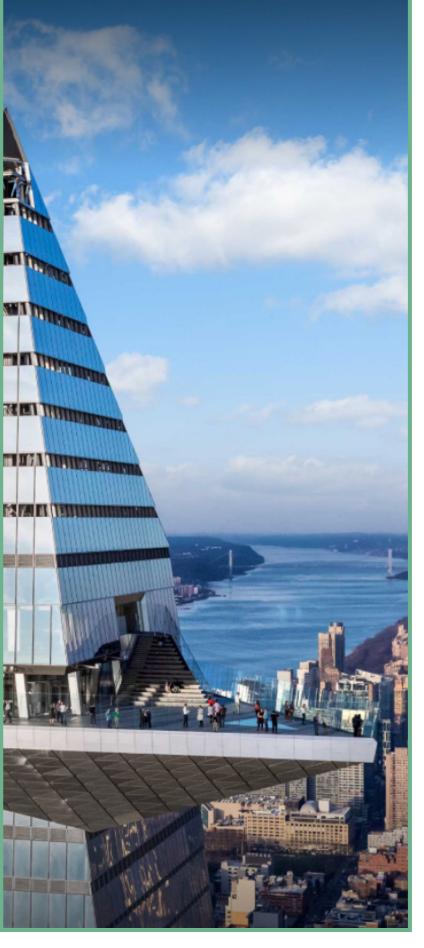


NATURE

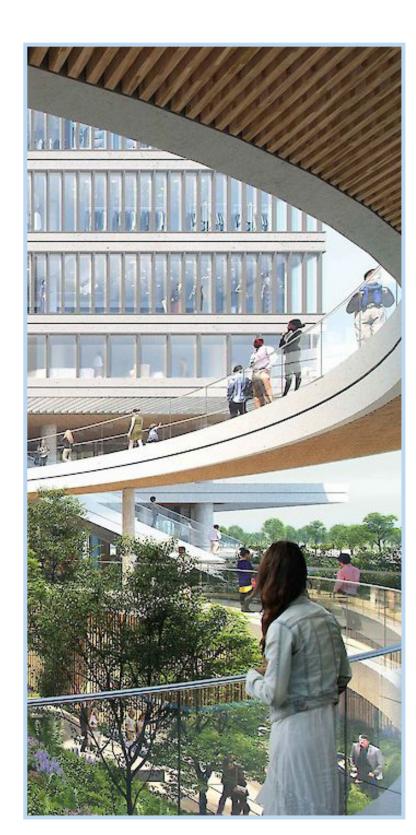


COMMUNITY

NURE



VISUAL LANDMARKS



SUSTAINABILITY

- _ UNStudio
- _ Vision
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- _ Architectural Approach
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- _ Tower Approach
- 7 Sustainability Approach



Context Analysis_Centertown, Ottawa Downtown_high rise Northern Area_mid to high rise Rideau City Hall Parliament Hill, Courthouse Canal 267 O'Connor Museum of Nature Central Area mid to low rise Residential Area_low rise,houses

Context Analysis_Centertown, Ottawa



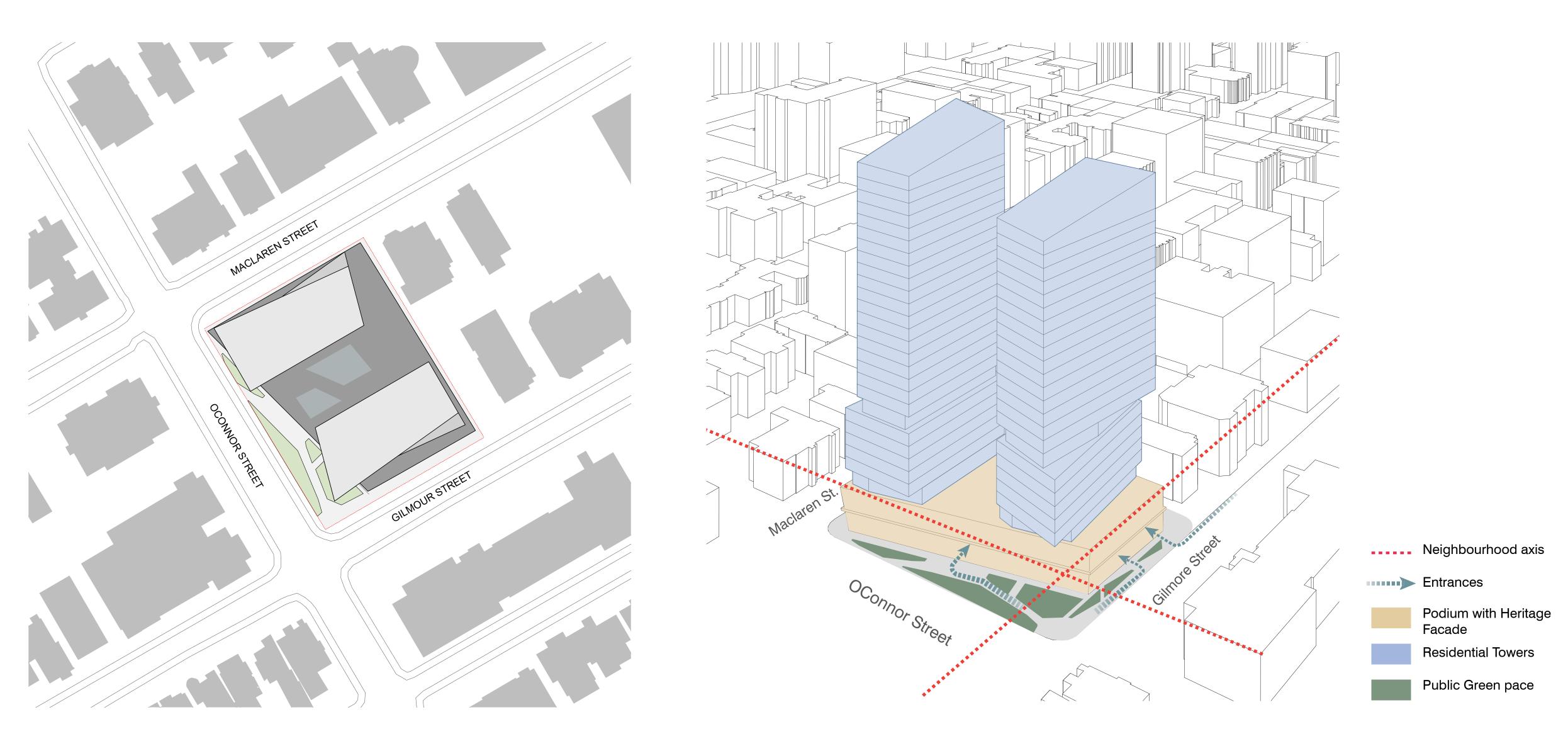
Bus Route Bike Lanes Pedestrian Flow Parks **Mobility and Circulation**

View Points

Context Analysis_Centertown, Ottawa



Context Analysis_Centertown, Ottawa



Context Analysis_Setback Strategy



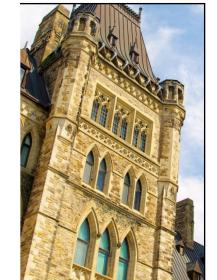
Residential Typologies

2-4 Levels

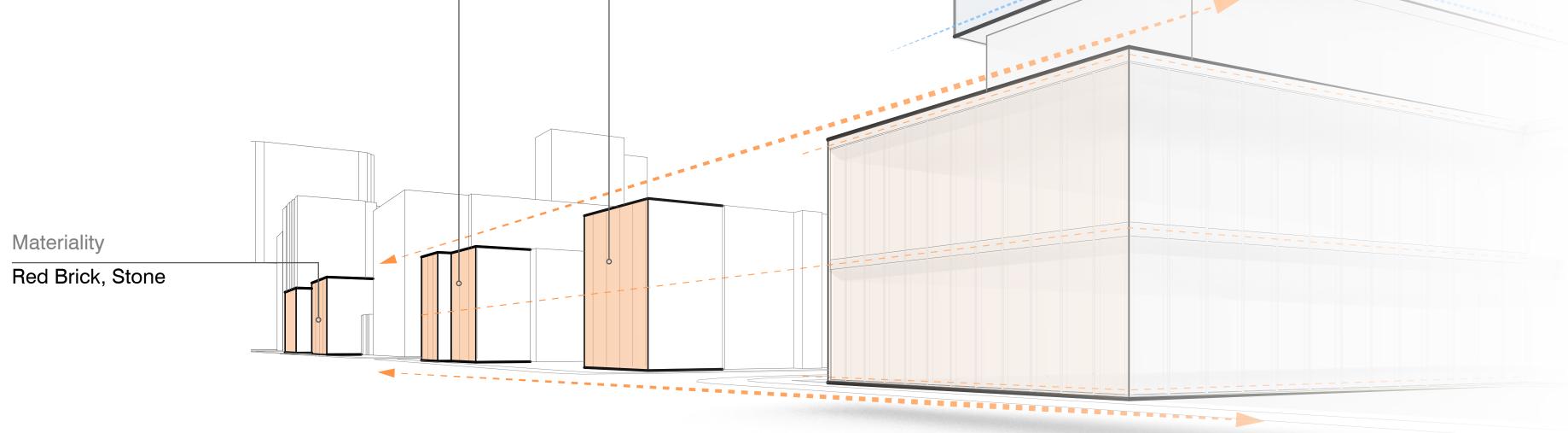




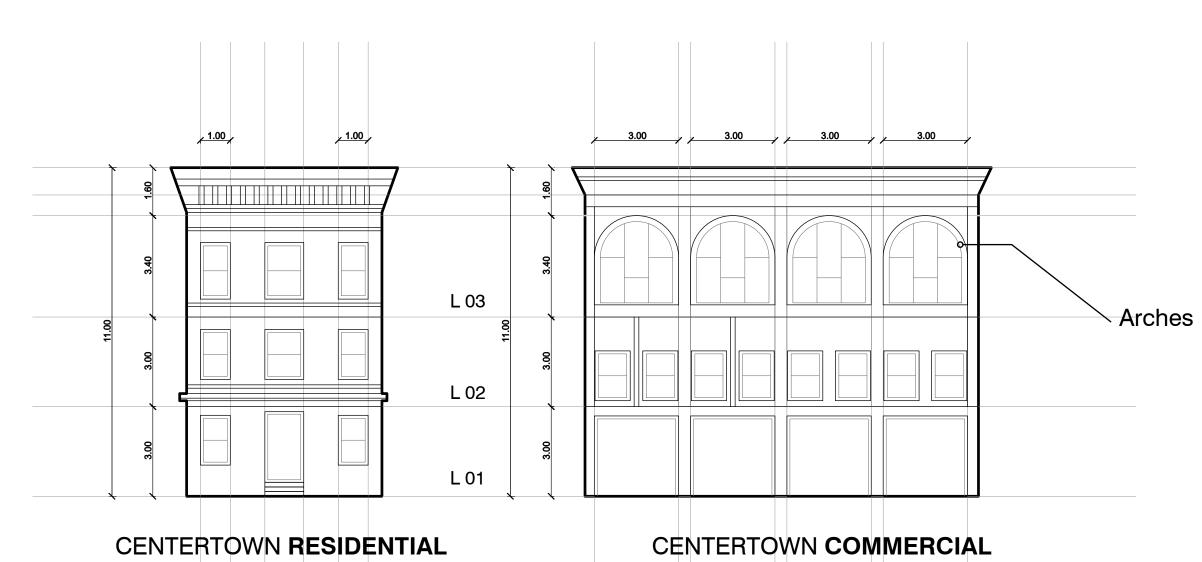
Retail vs Resi Division







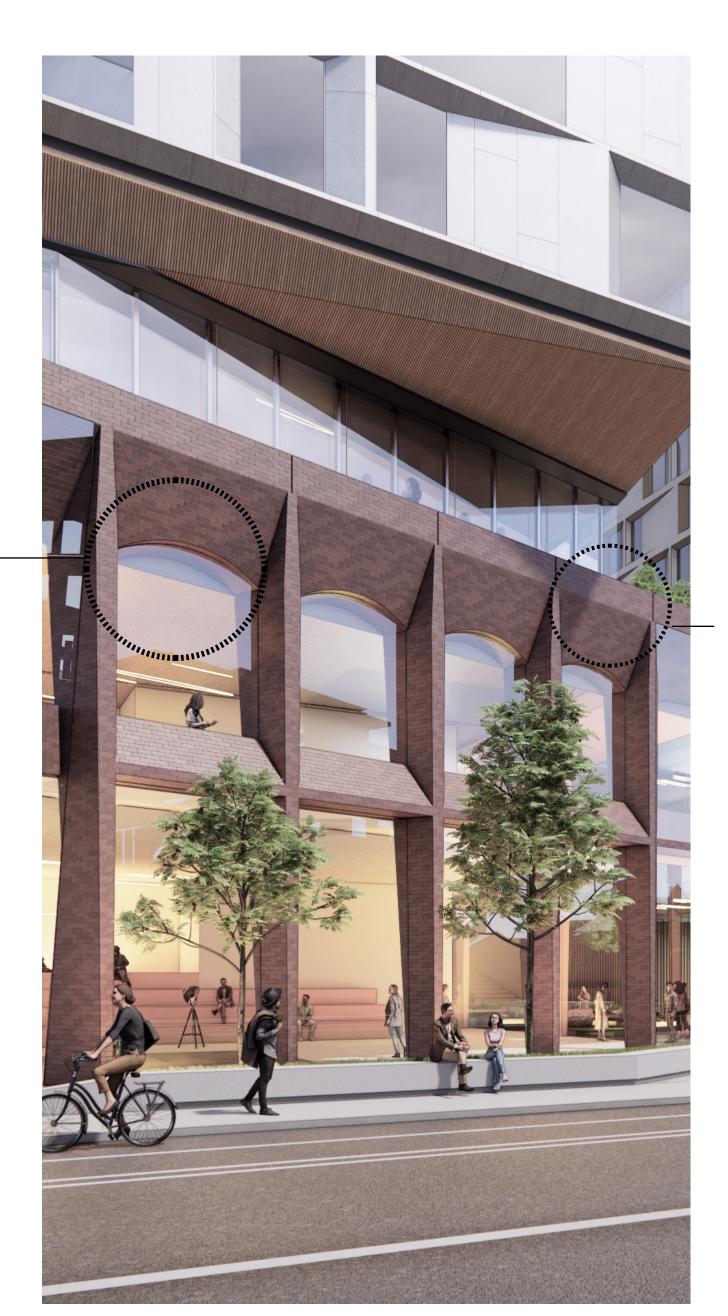
Context Anaylysis_Podium Strategy















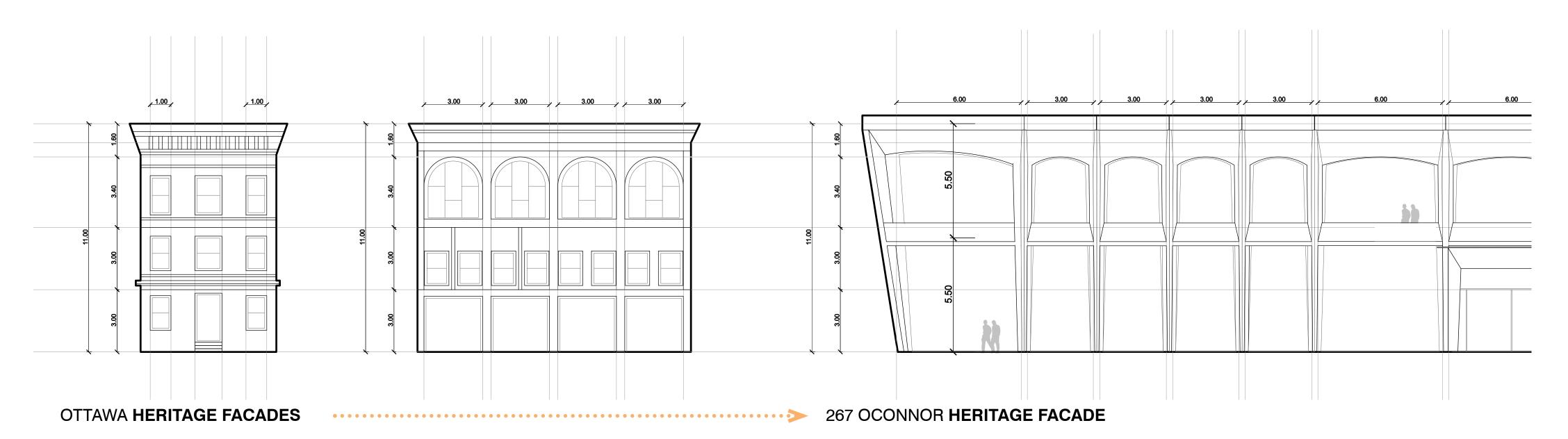
Masonry Brick



SCHOOL BOARD

267 OCONNOR **PODIUM**

Context Anaylysis_Podium Strategy









Introduction of Architectural Concept_Conceptual Materiality Physical Model

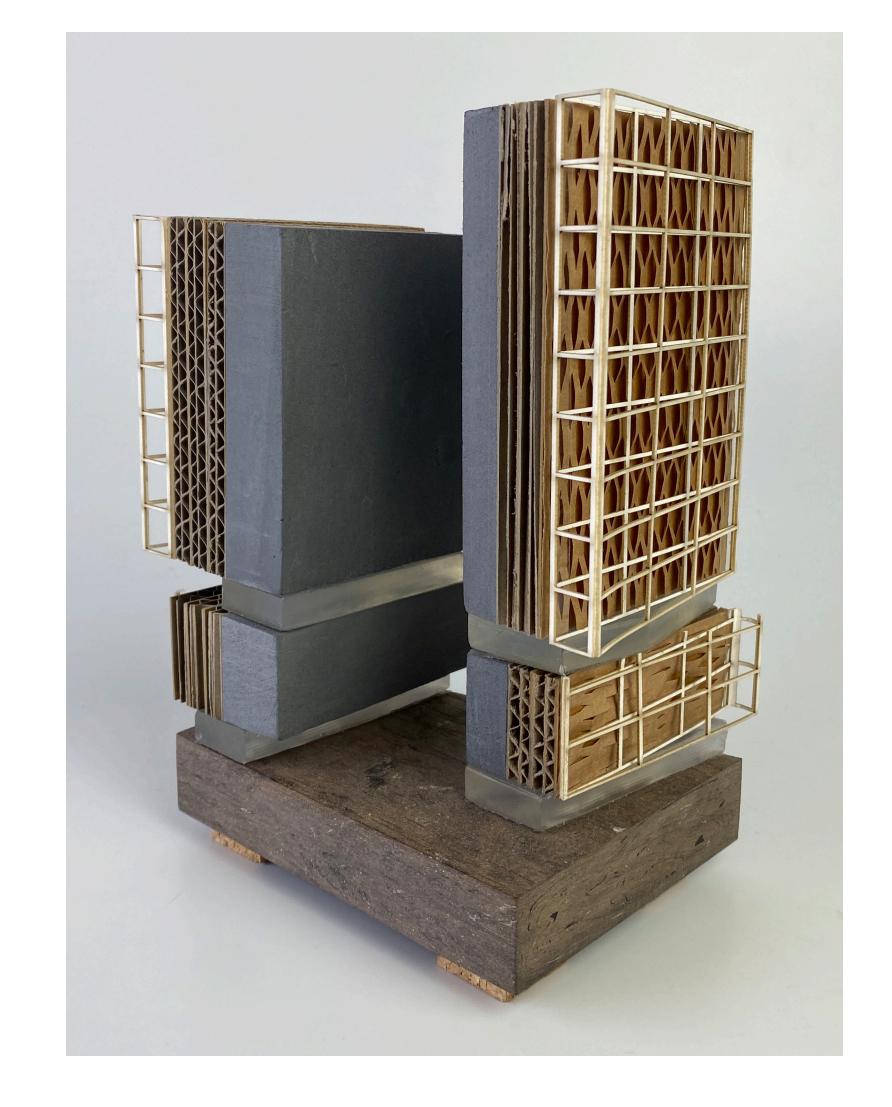








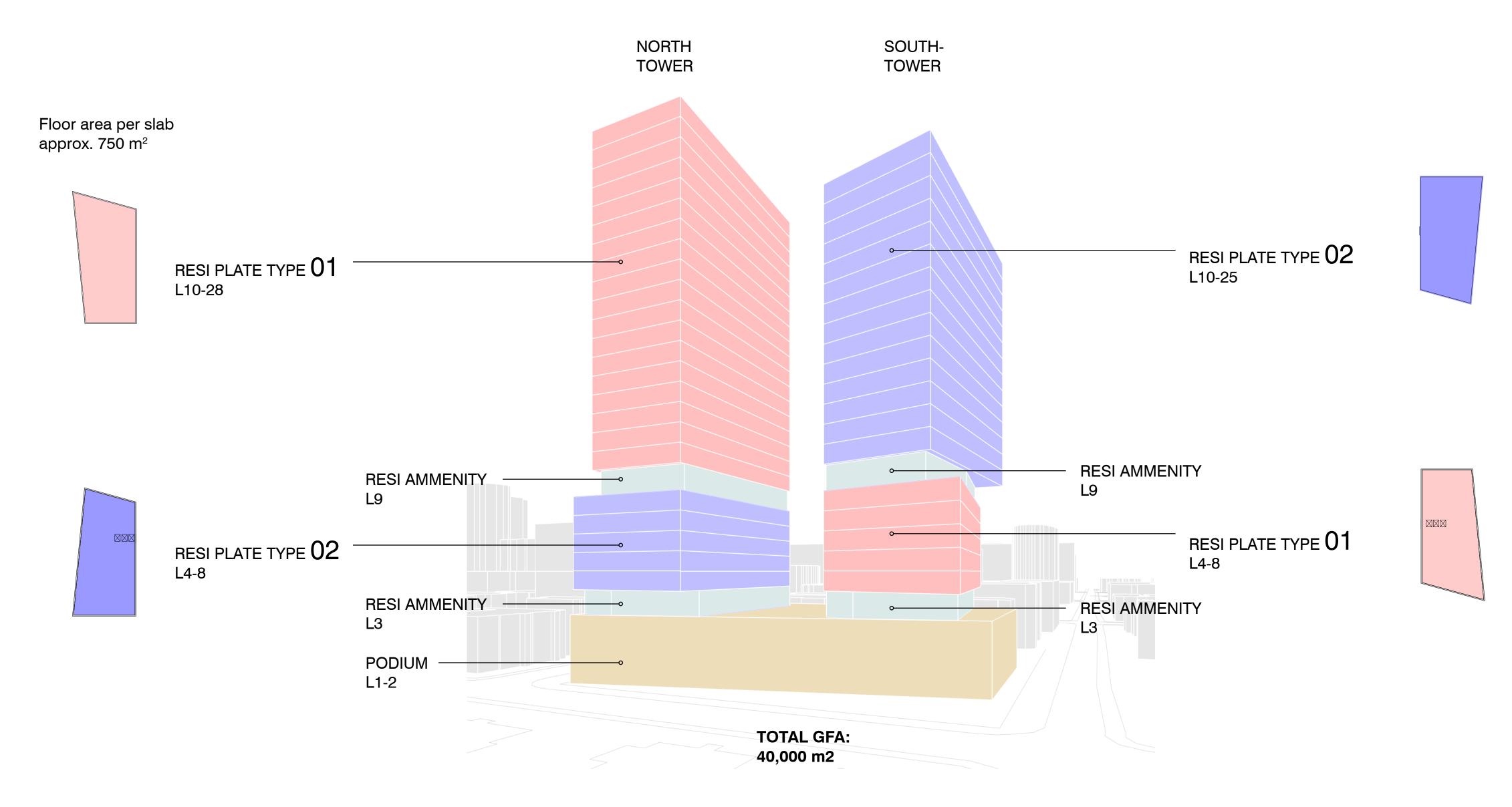




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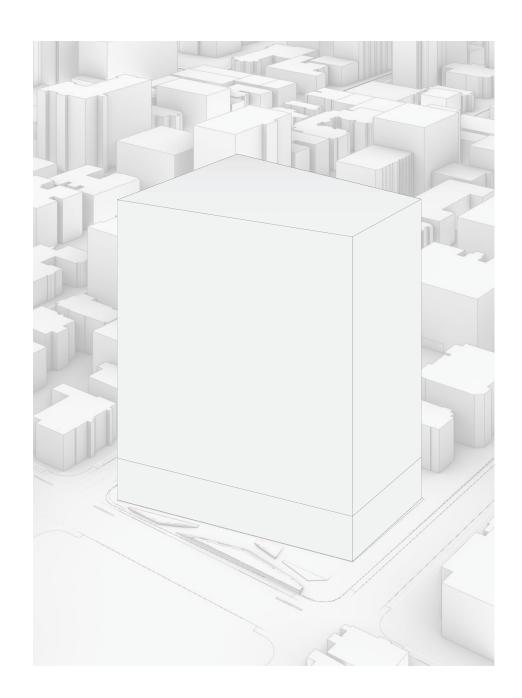
Architectural Approach_Massing Breakdown

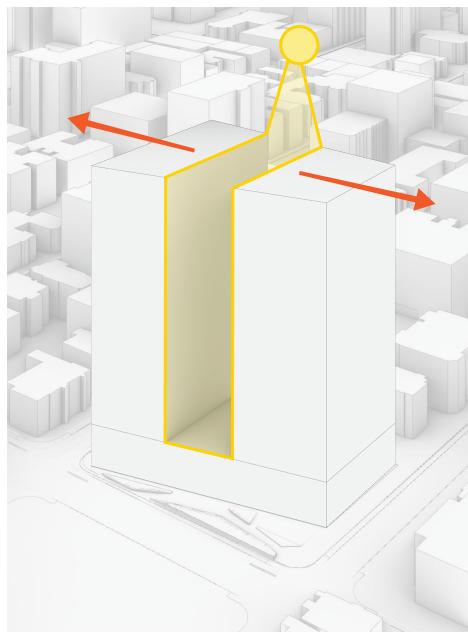


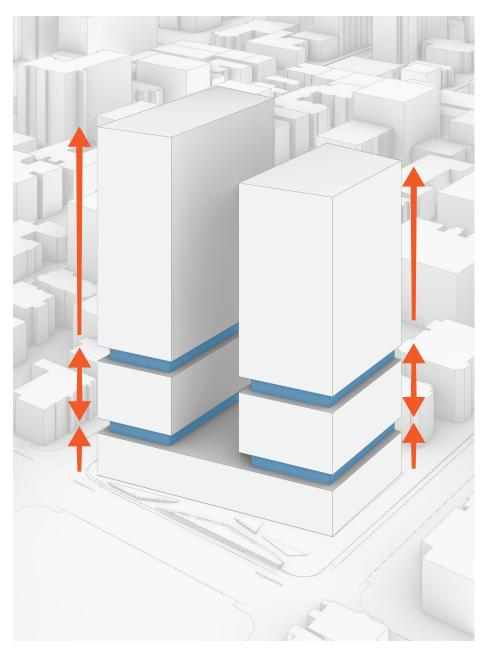
Architectural Approach_1 Tower vs 2 Towers Sun 1 Tower 2 Towers 2 Towers 2 Towers vertical green space for the community create atrium space for create green space for the community the community

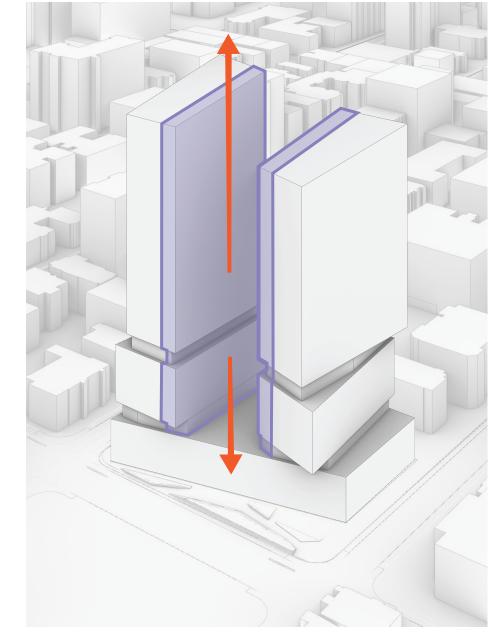
1 Tower 2 Towers 2 Towers 2 Towers 2 Towers scale adjustment adjust scale to context towers at different heights complement existing context

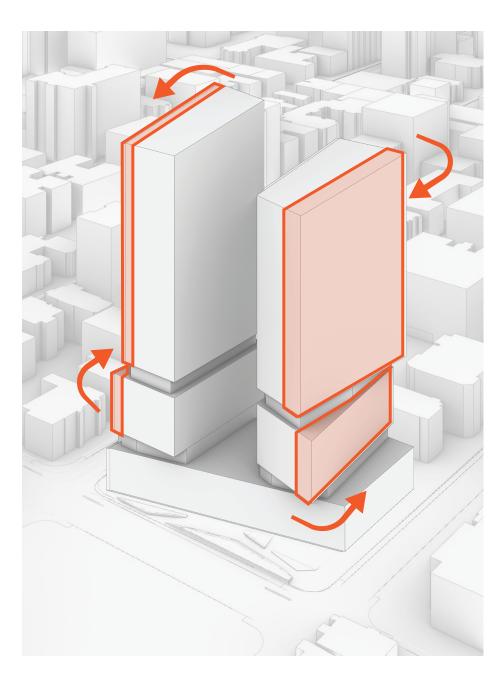
Architectural Approach_Massing Concept











01

tower + podium

02

split tower for sun exposure to podium and inner facades 03

lift tower from podium to break mass

04

alignement of inner facades

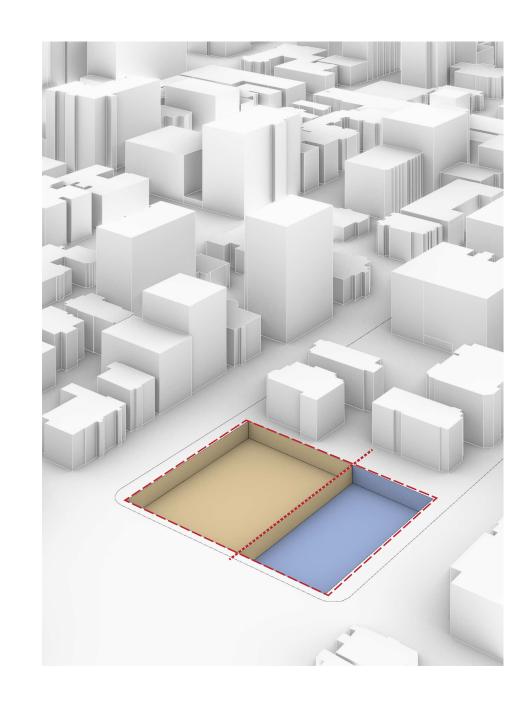
05

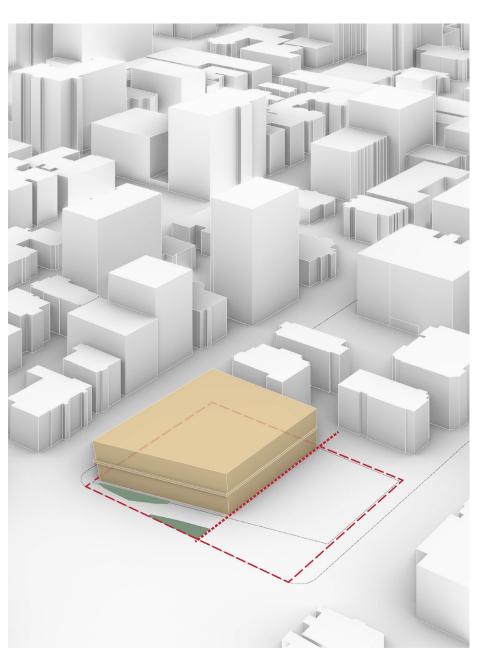
rotation of outer corners for view optimization

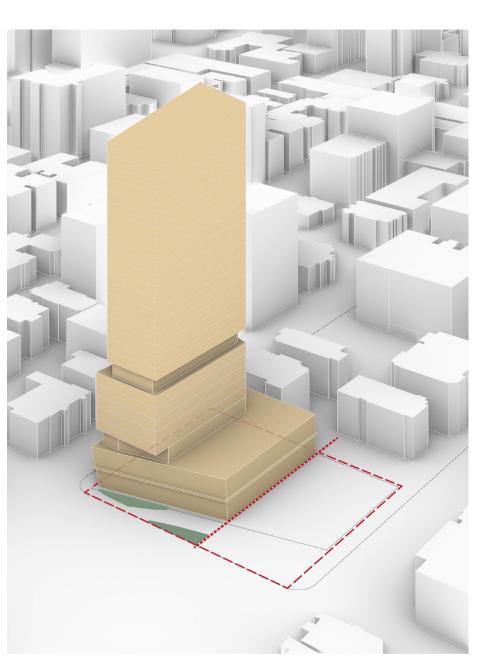
Phasing

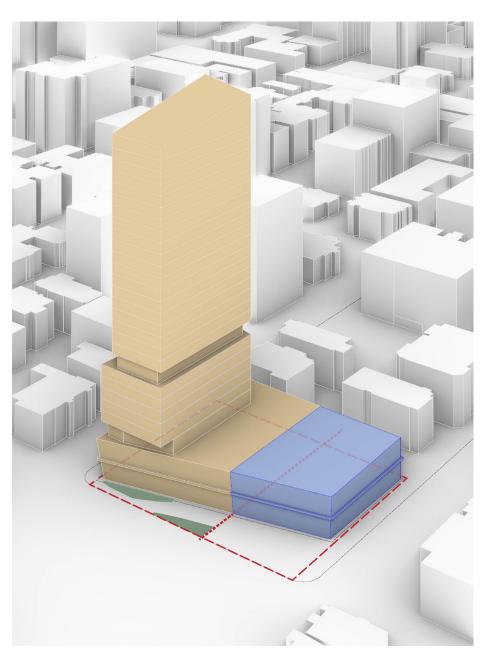
PHASE 1

PHASE 2











01North Parking

02
North Podium
+
Institutional Program

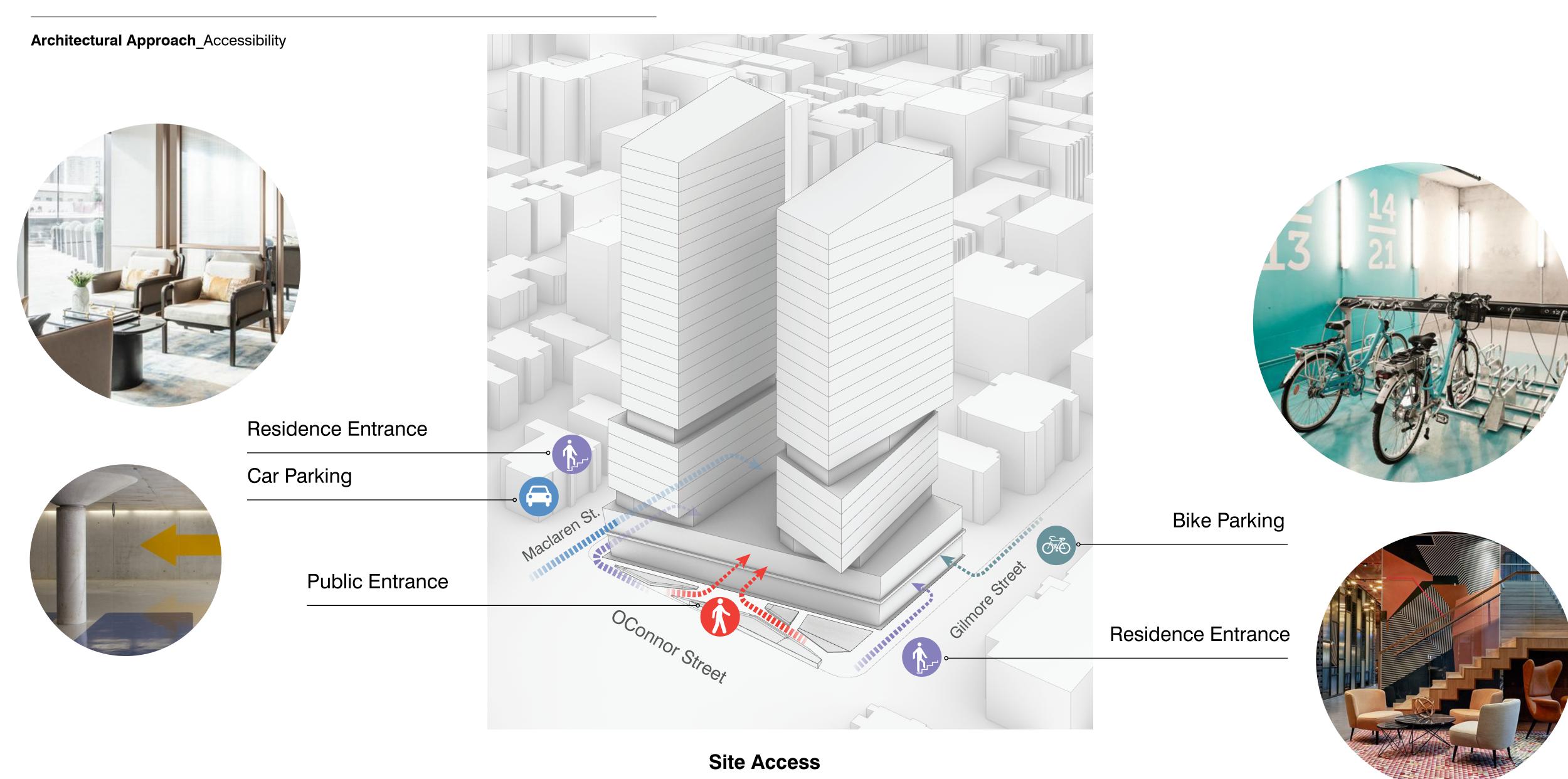
North Tower

03

O4
South Podium
+
South Parking

05

South Tower



Architectural Approach_Access From Gilmour



- _ UNStudio
- _ Vision
- 3_ Context Analysis
- _ Architectural Approach
- _ Urban Room
- _ Tower Approach
- 7 Sustainability Approach



Podium_Urban Room



Urban Room_Community Program Elements



LIBRARY



small library space for the community



HEALTHY LIVING



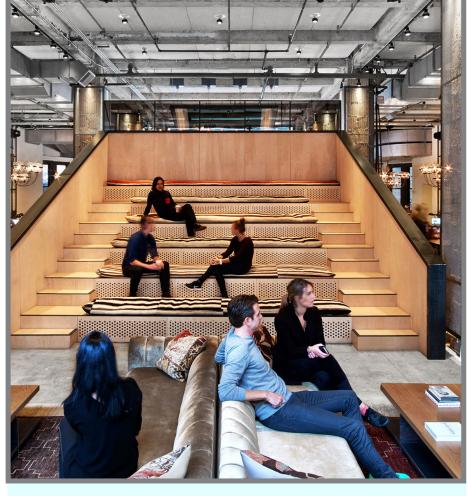
gym, fitness center yoga studio community health check



ARTS / CULTURE



exhibition spaces artist residency program community art classes



CO-WORKING



co-working spaces gathering spaces performance space

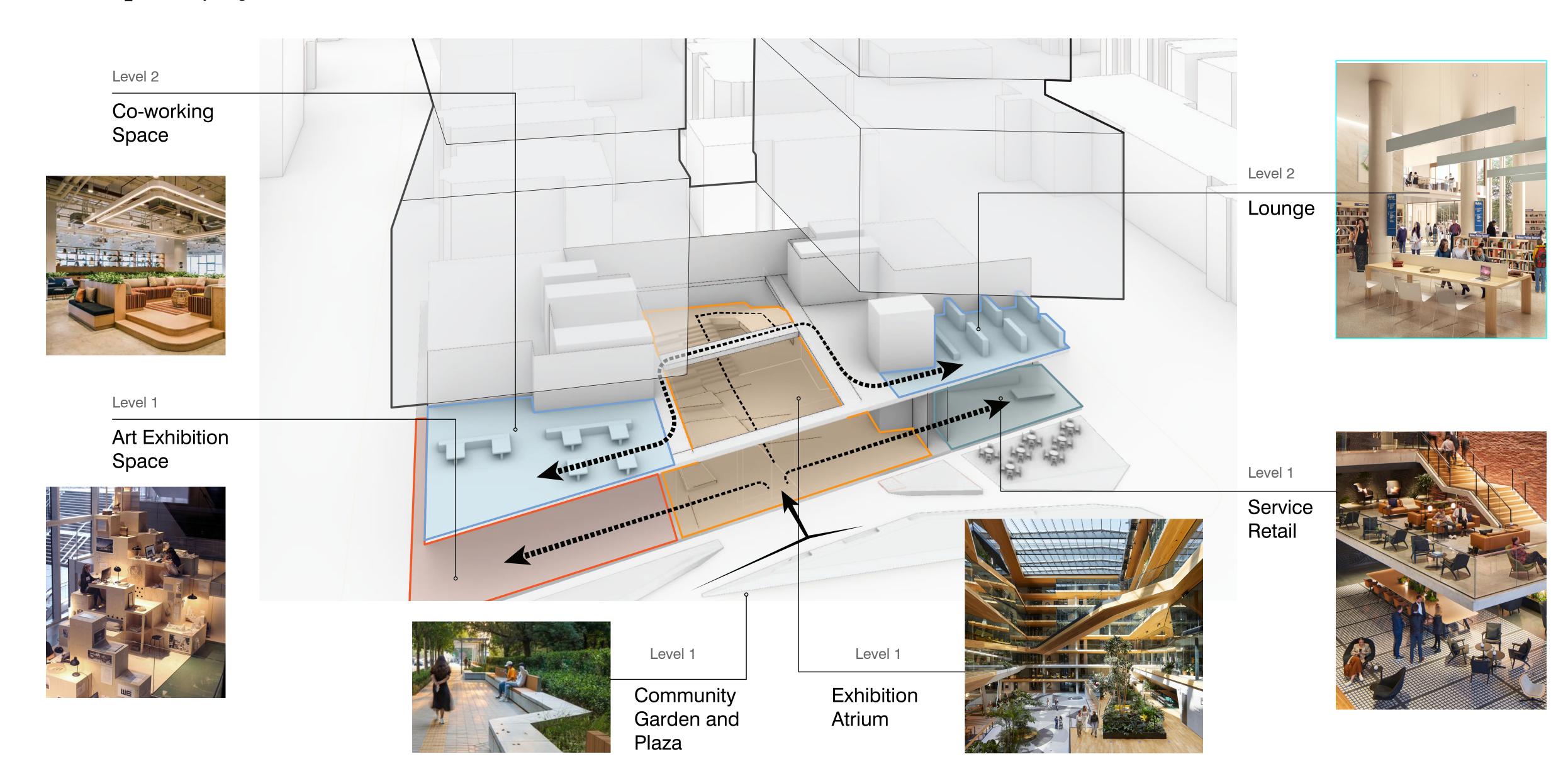


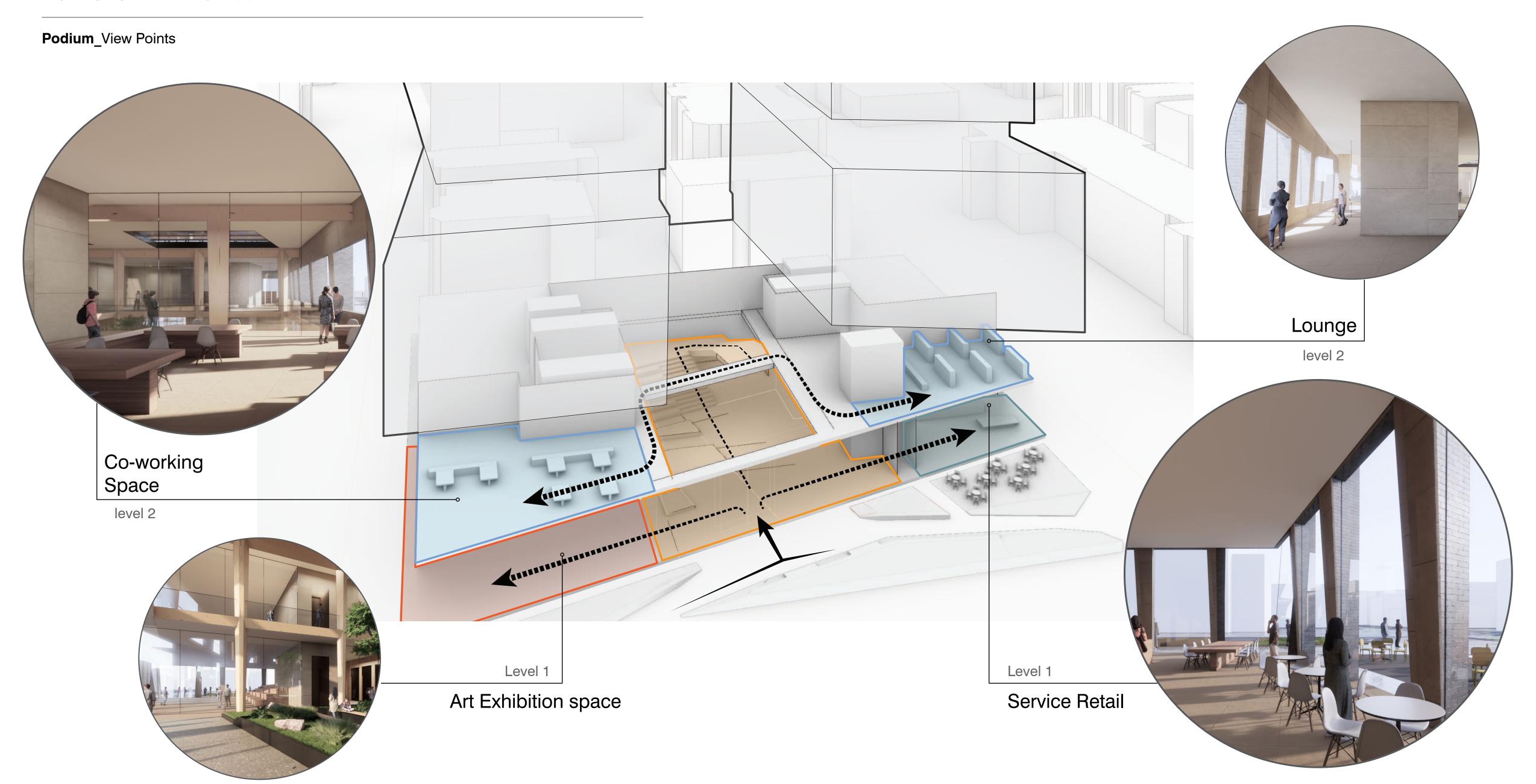
OUTDOOR SPACES



seasonally adaptive spaces

Urban Room_Community Program Elements





Podium_View Points



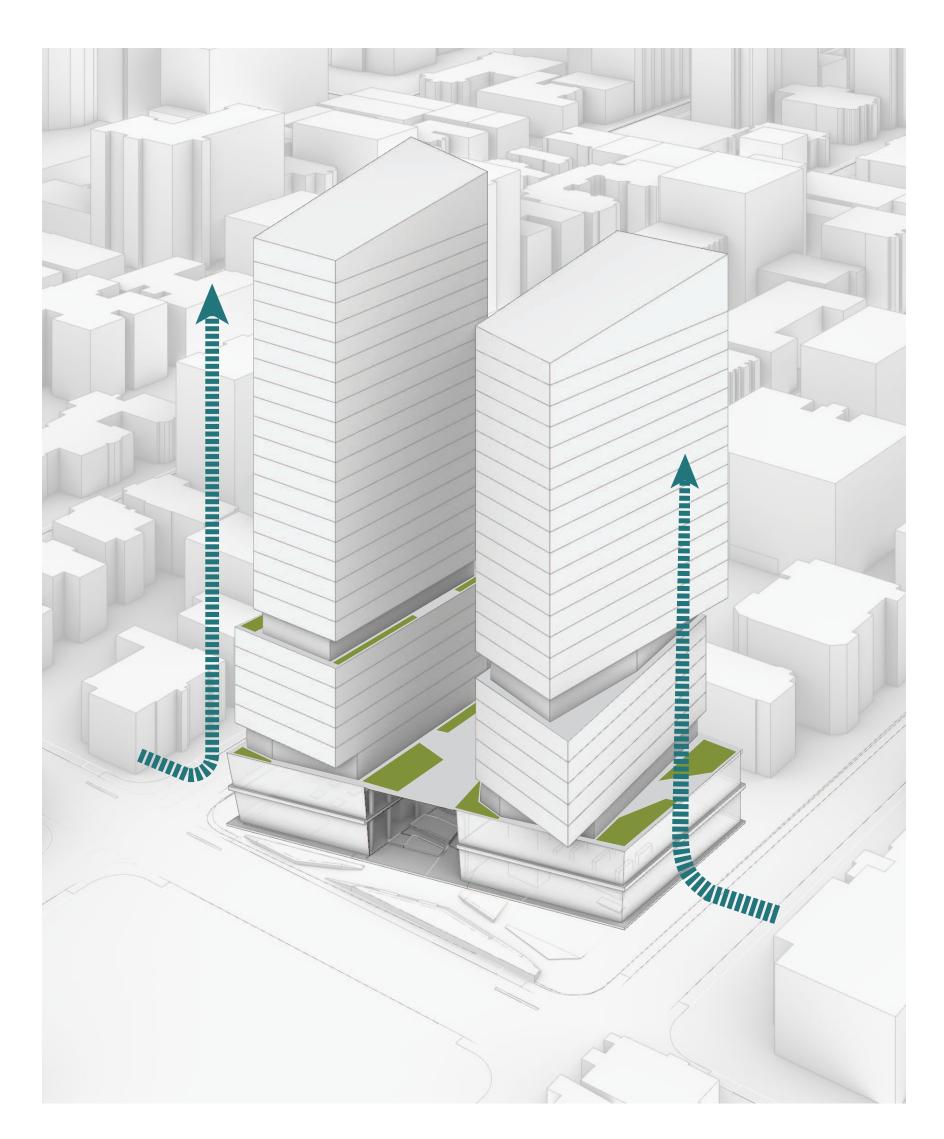
Podium_View Point S/W corner



Podium_Landscape

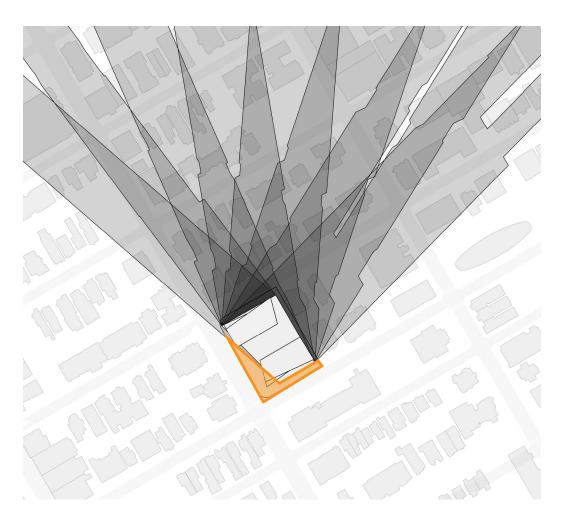


Landscape Approach merging the exterior with the atrium

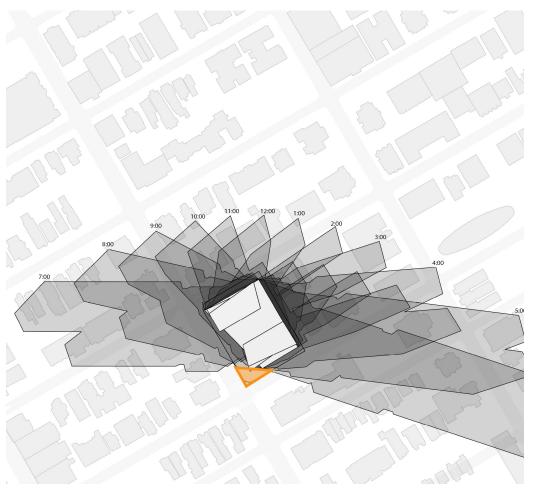


Vertical garden terraces and green pockets

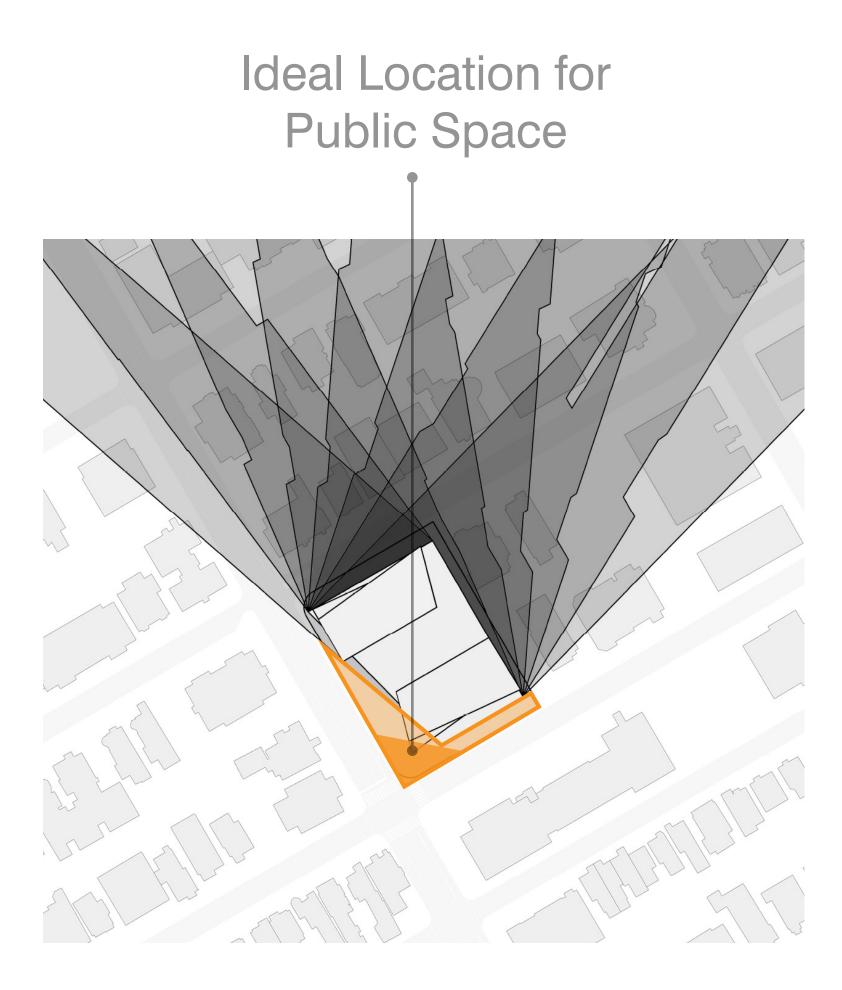
Podium_Context and Sun Impact Analysis



December 22



June 22



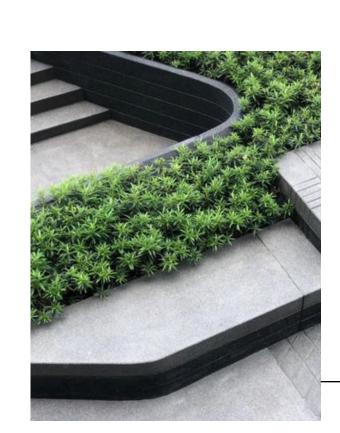


March 21



September 22

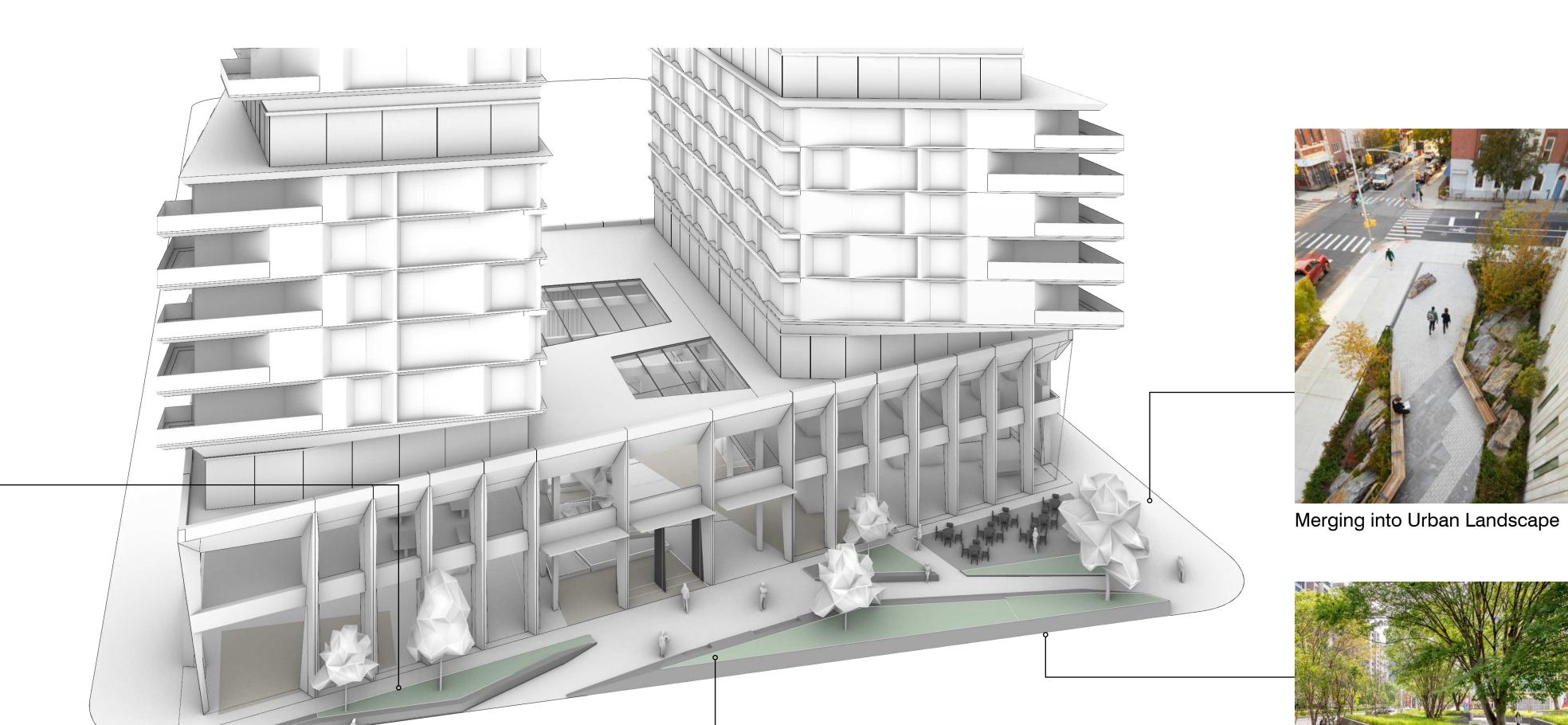
Podium_Landscape



Intergrated Seating



Blended Greenscapes



Integrated Vegetation

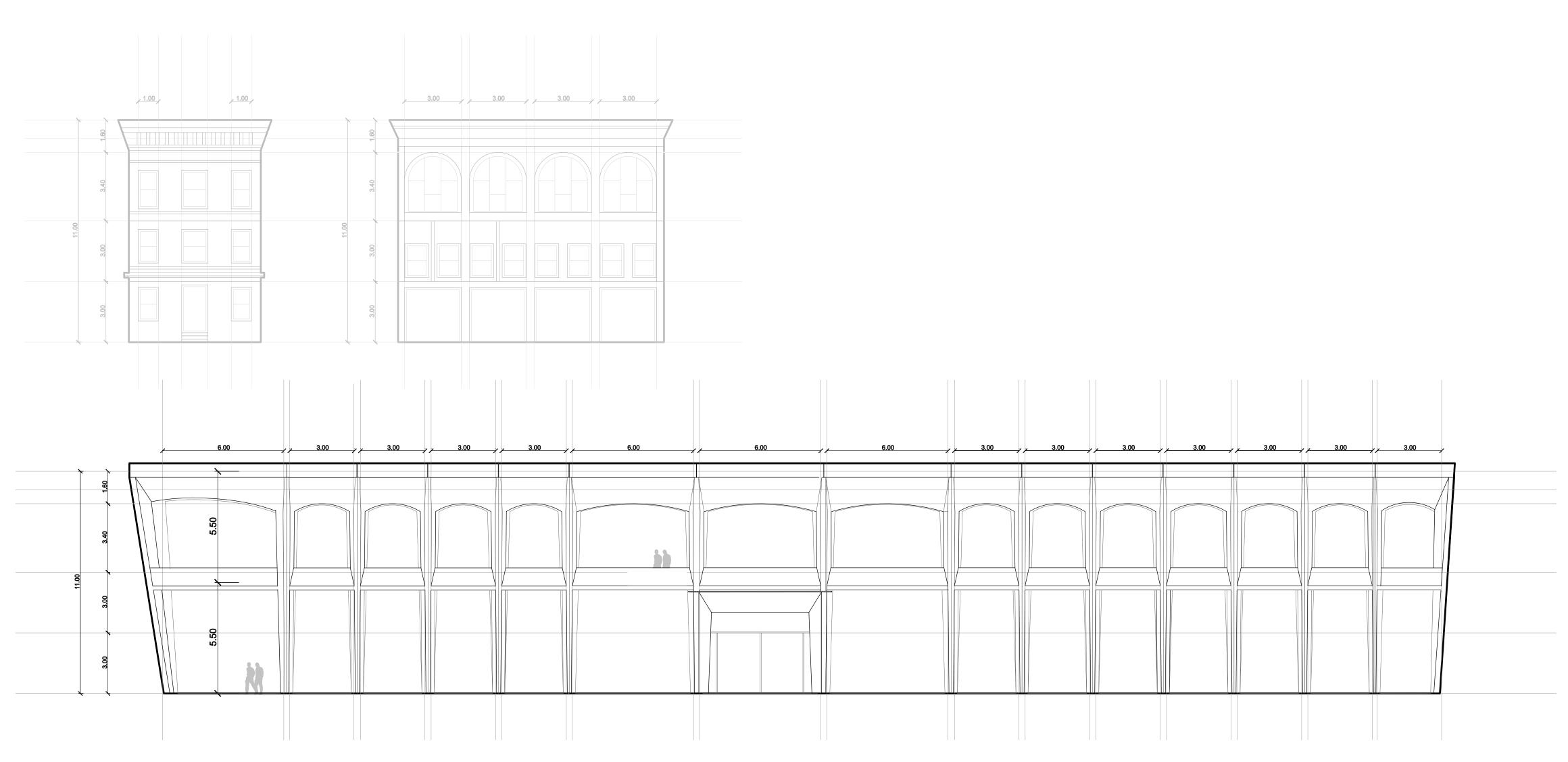
Public Realm_Community Program Elements Summer Spring Interior Amenity Atrium/ Outdoor Residences Ammenity Outdoor Public Spaces • • • Winter **Autumn**

365 Days of Active Community Programs

Podium_View Point N/W corner



Podium_Heritage Facade



Heritage Podium Elevation

Podium_View Points

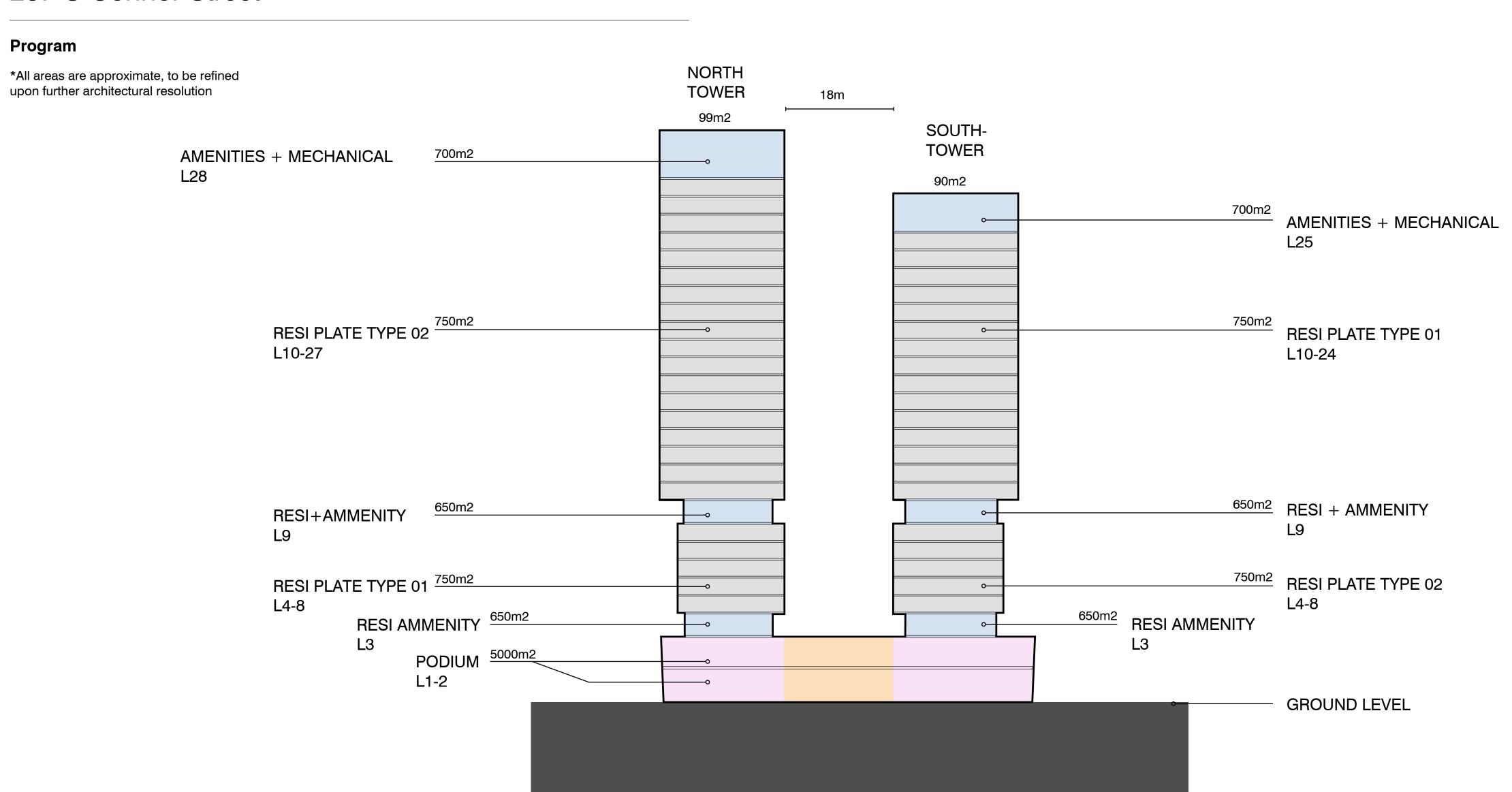


- 1_ UNStudio
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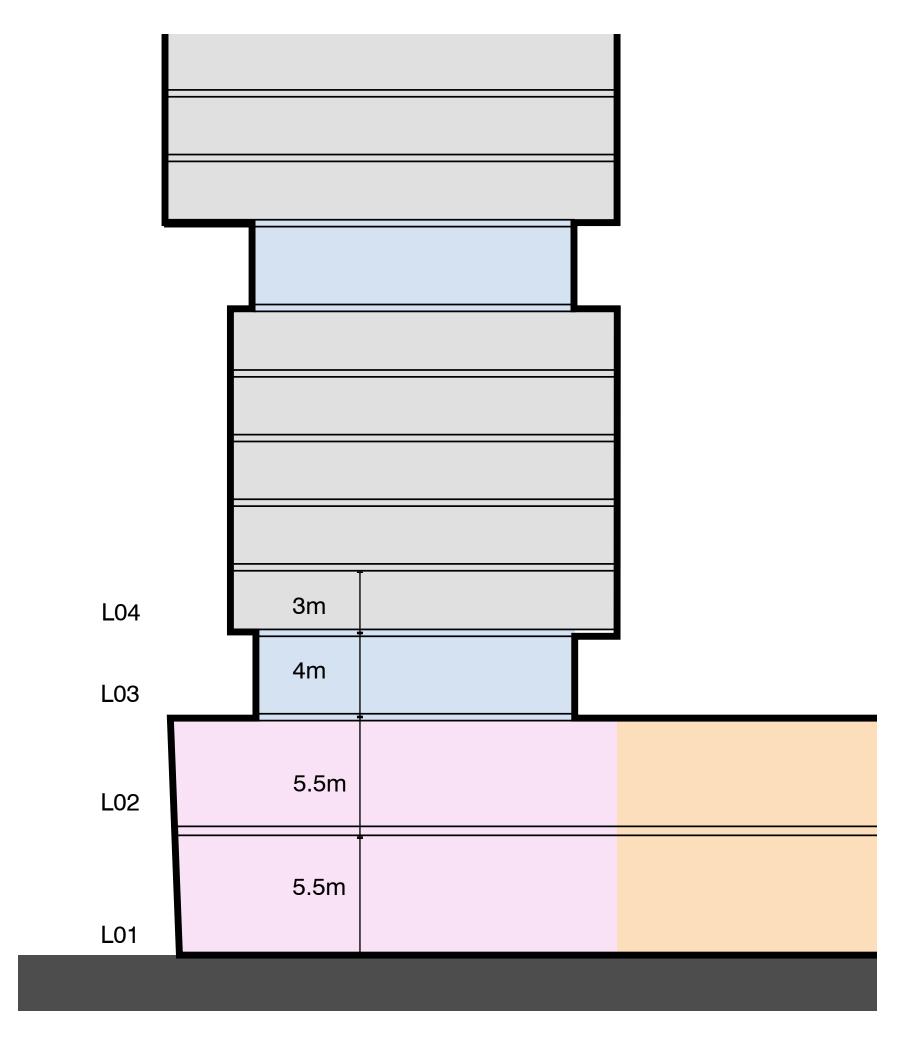
Site Plan





TOTAL GFA: 40.000m2

Program



NORTH TOWER	units	SOUTH TOWER	units	PODIUM	units	
		0	0		12	
650	5	650	4	5000		
750	10	750	10			
750	10	750	10			
750	10	750	10			
750	10	750	10			
750	10	750	10			
650	5	650	4			
750	9	750	10			
750	9	750	10			
750	9	750	10			
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750	9	750	10			
750	9	750	10			
750	9	750	10			
750	9	750	10			
750	9	700	0			
750	9					
750	9					
700	0					
						TOTAL (m2
19250		17000		5000		41250
						TOTAL unit
	222		208		12	442

Section Unit Count / GFA

Views_S/W corner



View _N/W corner



View _N/E corner



Towers_View Plane Diagram NCC View Plane Height Limit 191.716 easl 192.031 easl 187.502 easl 187.836 easl MECH. MECH.

LEVEL 24 LEVEL 24

LEVEL 22 LEVEL 22

LEVEL 21 LEVEL 21

LEVEL 20 LEVEL 21

LEVEL 18 LEVEL 18

LEVEL 16 LEVEL 16

LEVEL 16 LEVEL 16

LEVEL 11 LEVEL 11

LEVEL 11 LEVEL 11

LEVEL 11 LEVEL 11

LEVEL 12 LEVEL 12

LEVEL 13 LEVEL 14

LEVEL 14 LEVEL 14

LEVEL 15 LEVEL 15

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LEVEL 17 LEVEL 16

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LEVEL 7

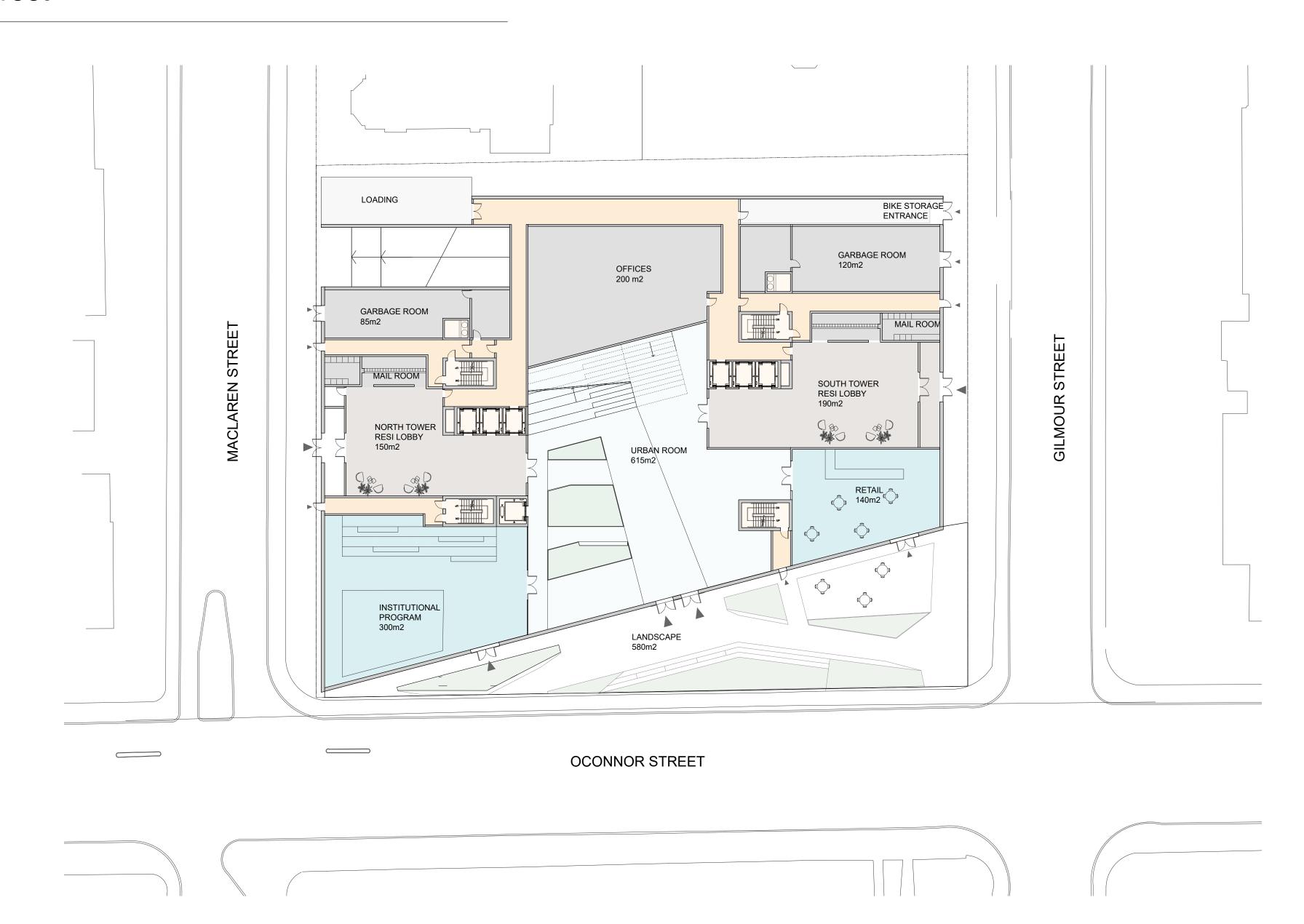
L METCALFE ST. +/- 72.00 +/- 72.00 +/- 72.00 +/- 72.00 O'CONNOR ST. O'CONNOR ST. METCALFE ST. 191.821 easl 192.031 easl 191.716 easl 187.836 easl 187.613 easl 187.502 easl MECH.
LEVEL 24
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LEVEL 24
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LEVEL 10
LEVEL 9
LEVEL 8
LEVEL 7
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LEVEL 4
LEVEL 3 LEVEL 3 71,530 easl LEVEL 2 71.26<mark>0 easl</mark> 72.000 easl 72.000 easl

GILMOUR

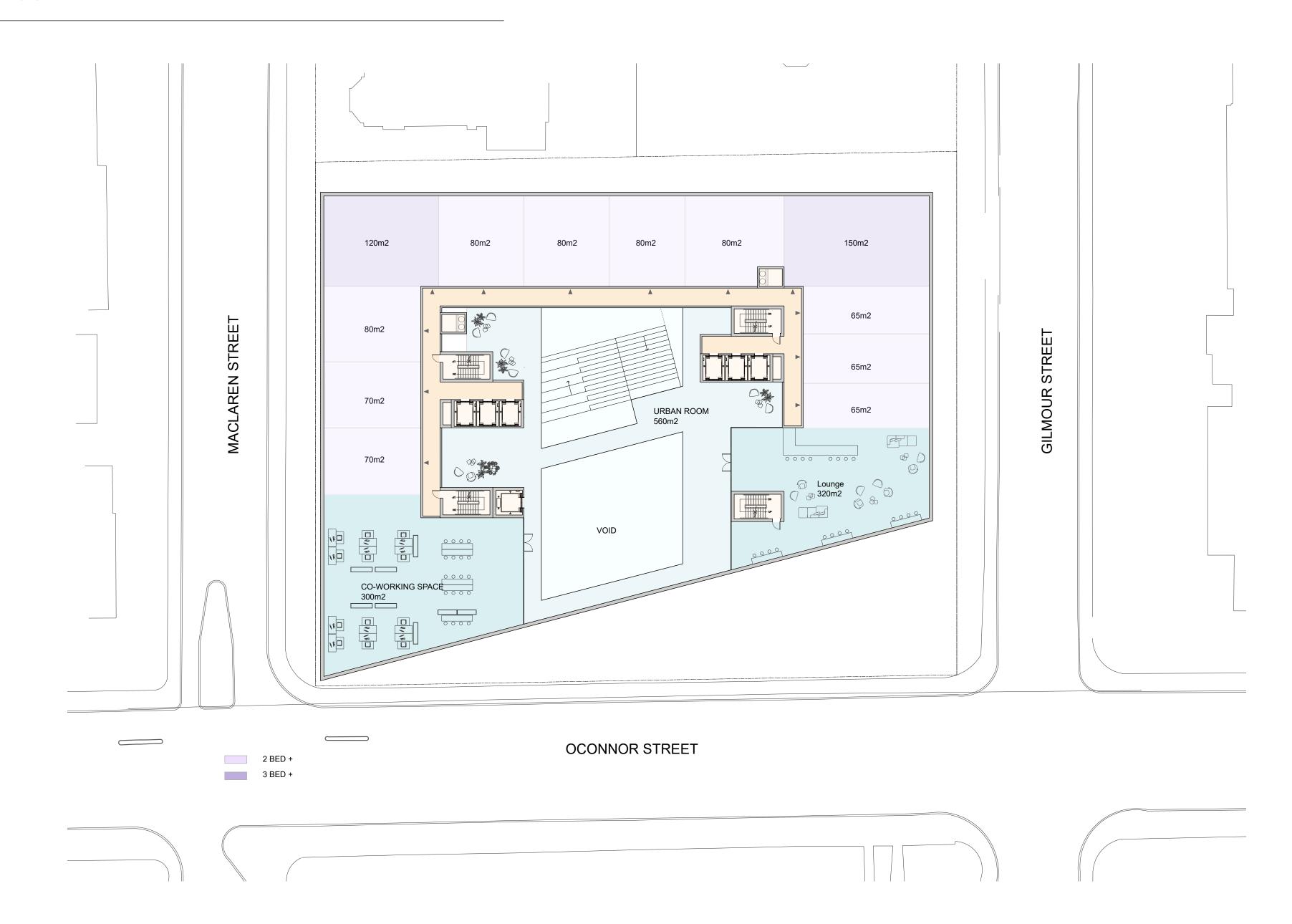
MACLAREN

ELEVATION DATA FROM OFFICIAL PLAN - ANNEX 8B - CENTRAL AREA MAXIMUM BUILDING HEIGHTS / ANGULAR PLANES

Plan_Level 01



Plan_**Level 02**



Plan_Level 03



Plan_**L04-L09**

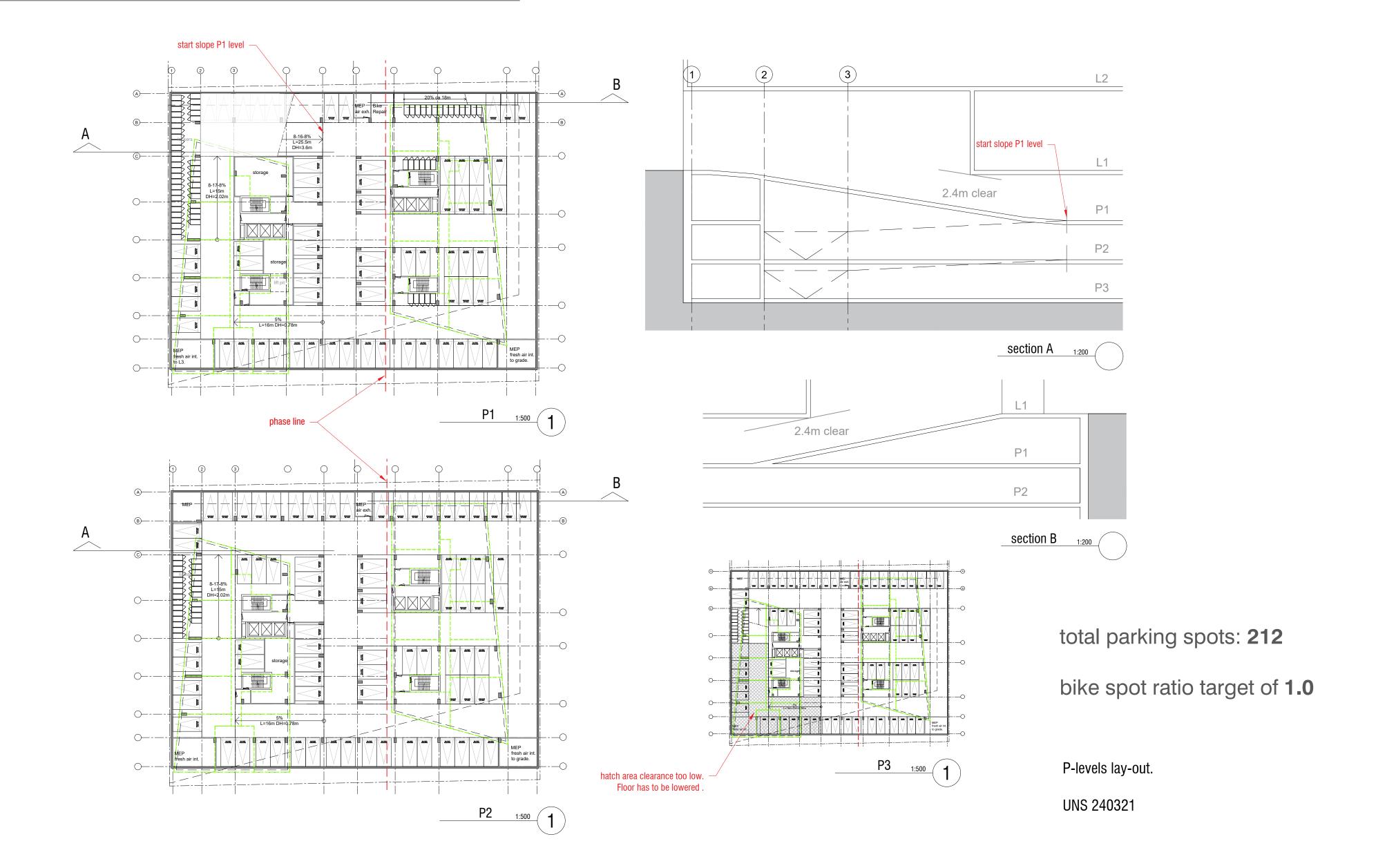


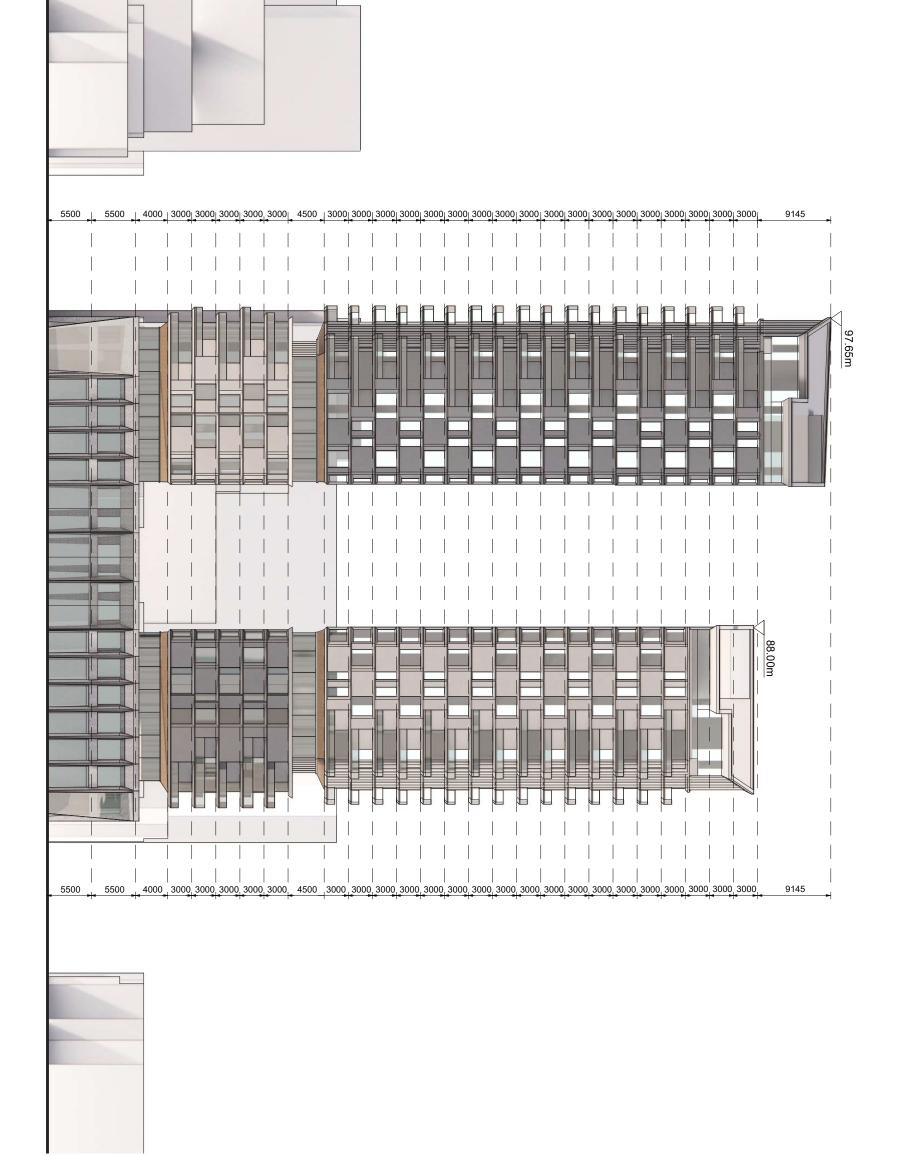
Plan_**L10-L23/27**

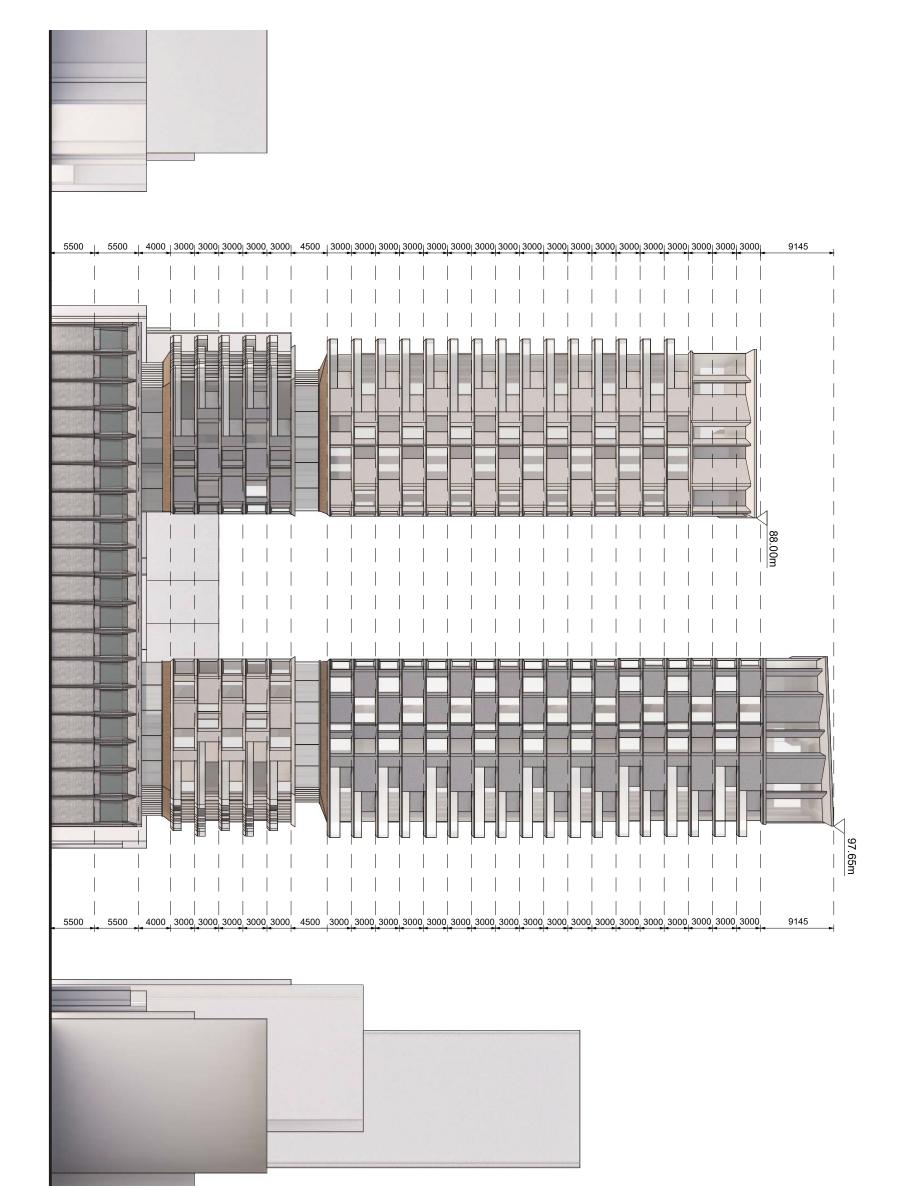




Plan_Parking Levels

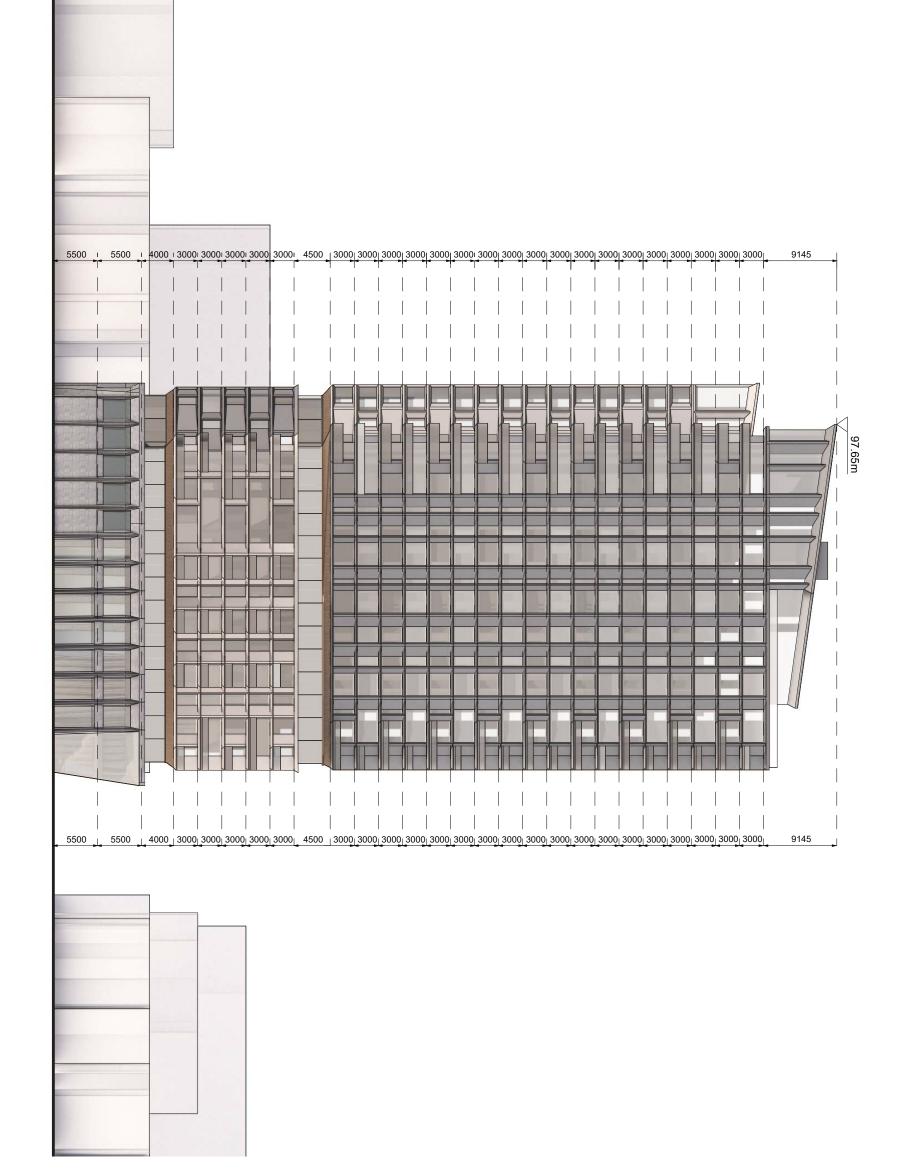


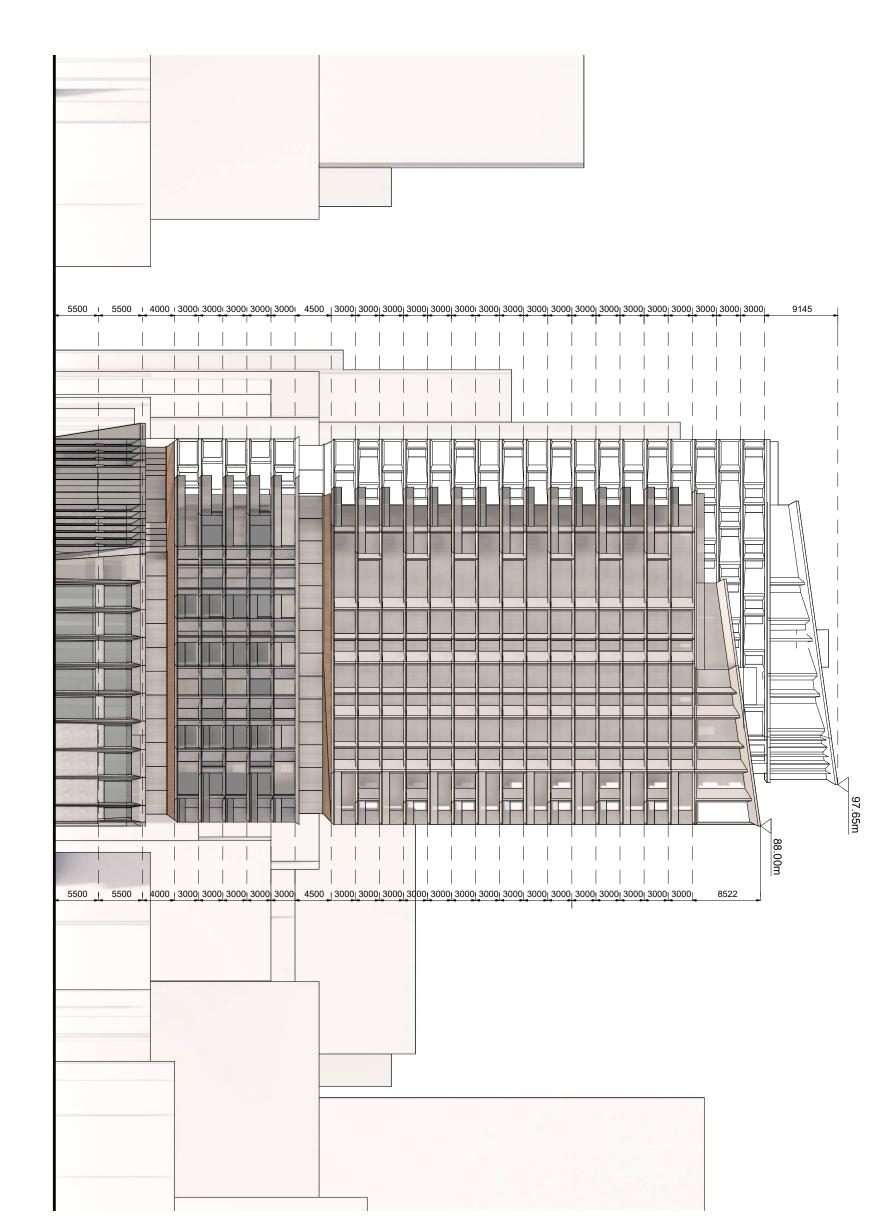




West Elevation

East Elevation





North Elevation

South Elevation

- _ UNStudio
- _ Vision
- 3_ Context Analysis
- _ Architectural Approach
- _ Urban Room
- _ Tower Approach
- 7_ Sustainability Approach



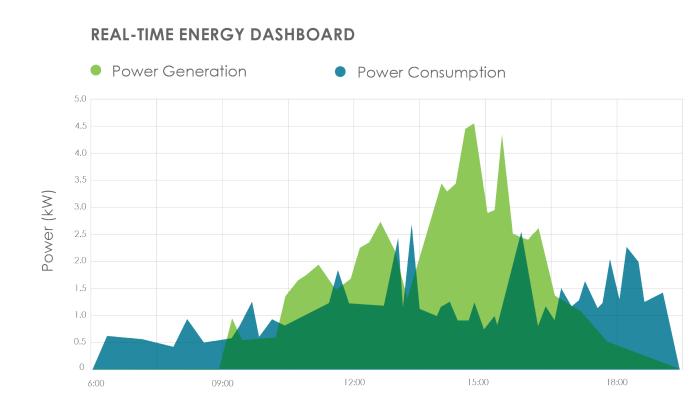
Sustaianability_Strategy

01

High Performance Building

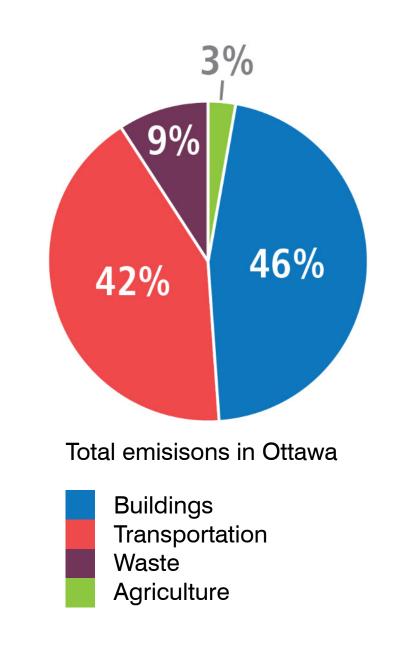
- Intelligent building systems
- Assess capacity for on-site renewable energy generation
- Real time energy dashboard





02Operational Energy Disclosure

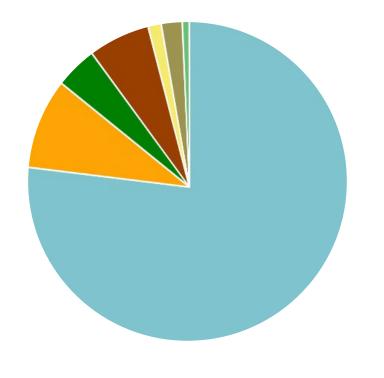
- Enroll in Better Buildings Ottawa
 program for benchmarking and auditing
- Disclose operational data to the City of Ottawa's objective to accelerate adoption of low carbon building technologies

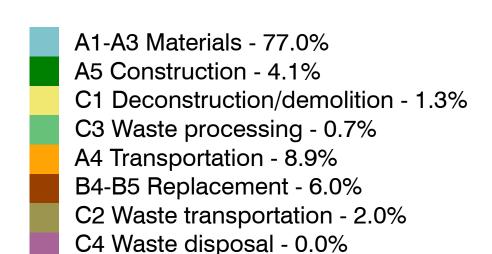


03

Life-cycle assessment of Construction Materials

- Limited information on constrcutions materials used in the National Capital Region
- Assessment findings will inform procurement of lower-carbon materials where local options are available

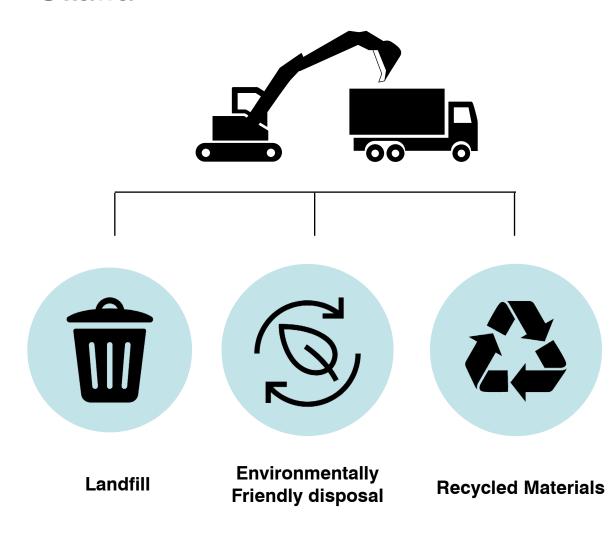




Construction Waste Management

04

- Construction Demolition and Waste
 Management Plan will be implemented
 during the construction phase
- Plan will align with LEEDv4.1
 requirements and other existing best practices
- Project data (weight / volume, diversion rate, etc.) will be shared with the City of Ottawa

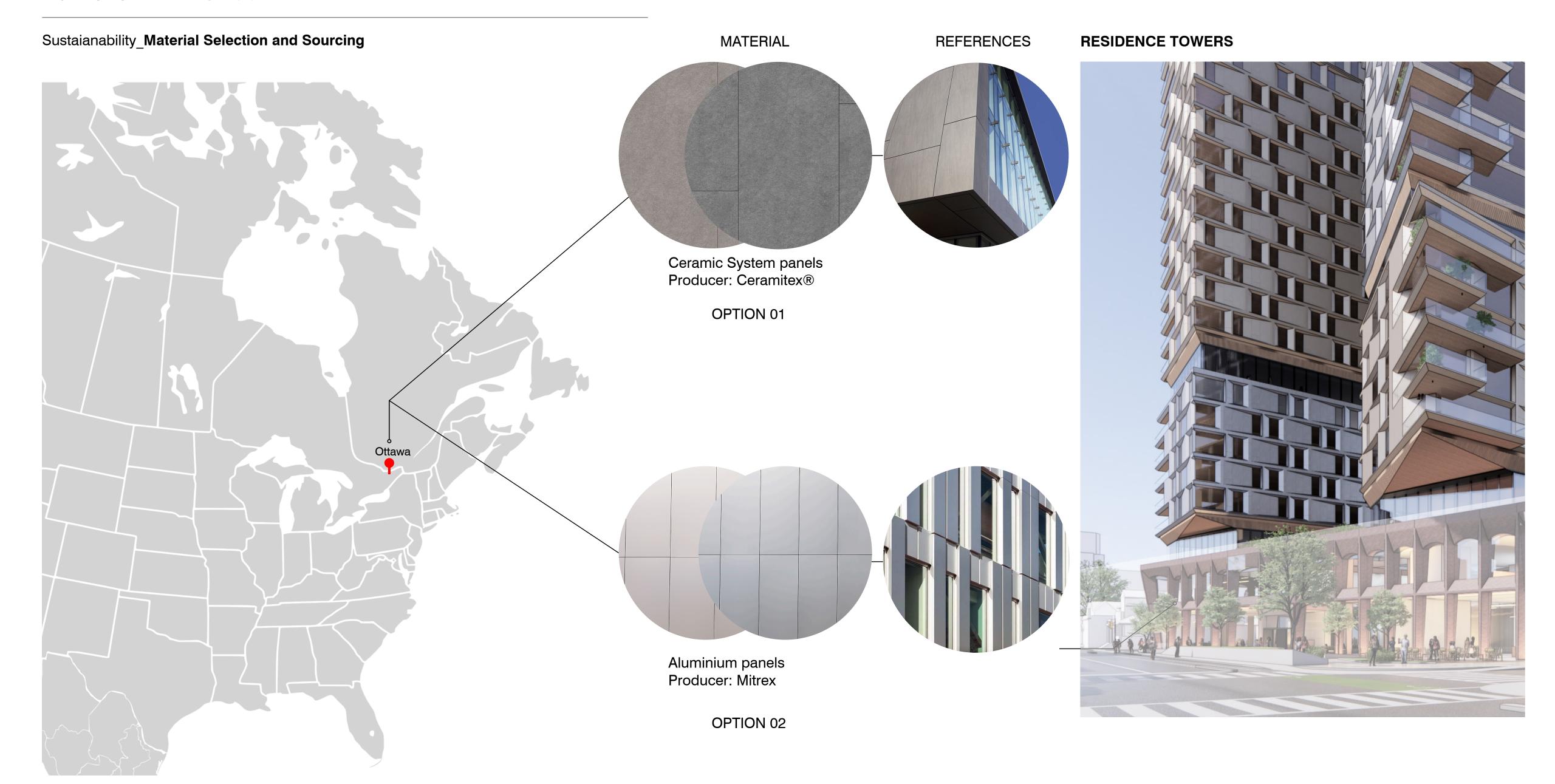


Sustaianability_Material Selection and Sourcing

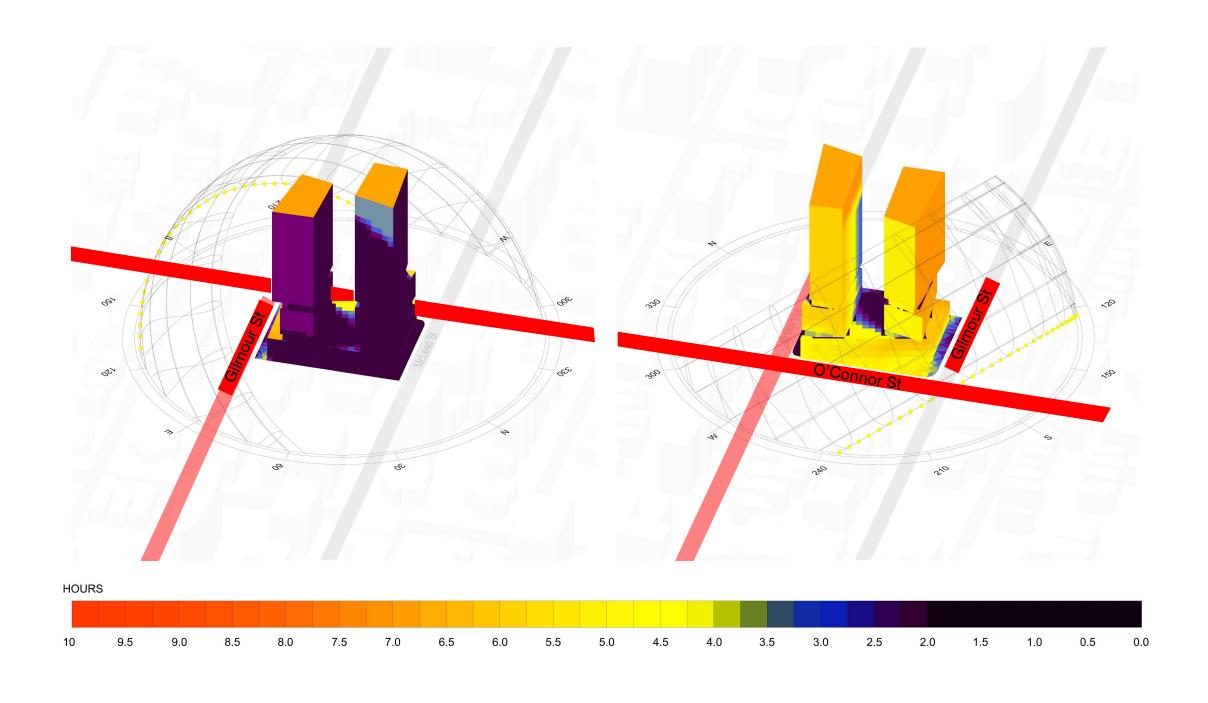
REFERENCES Ottawa SUPPLIER Masonry Brick Producer: Sioux City

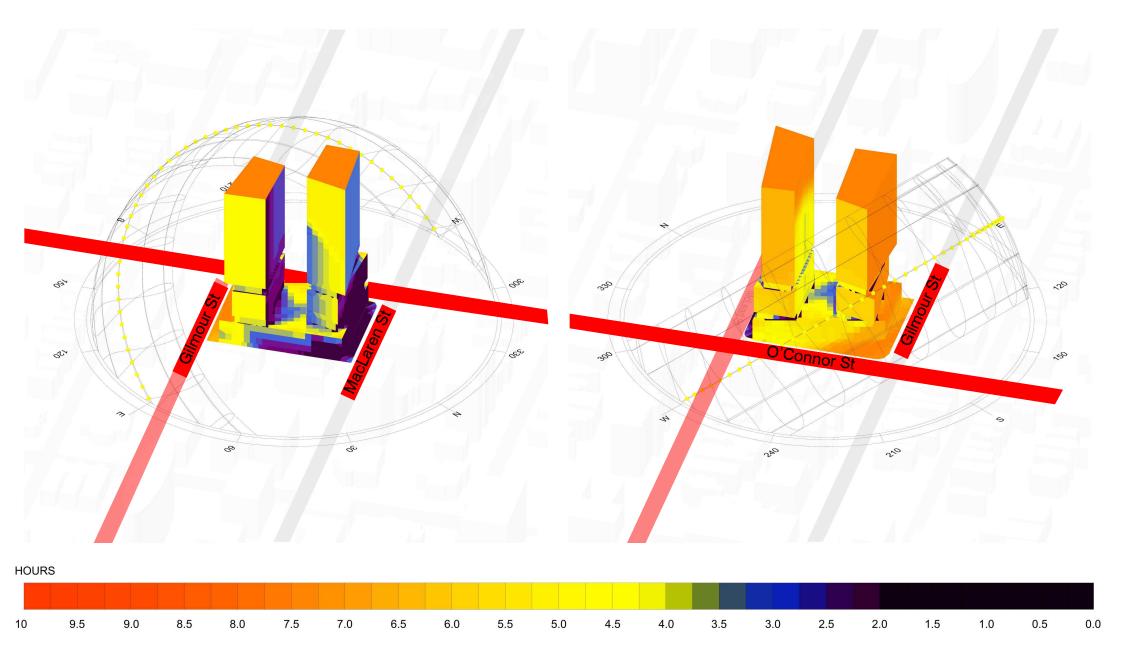
HERITAGE FACADE





Sustainability Approach_SUN STUDY



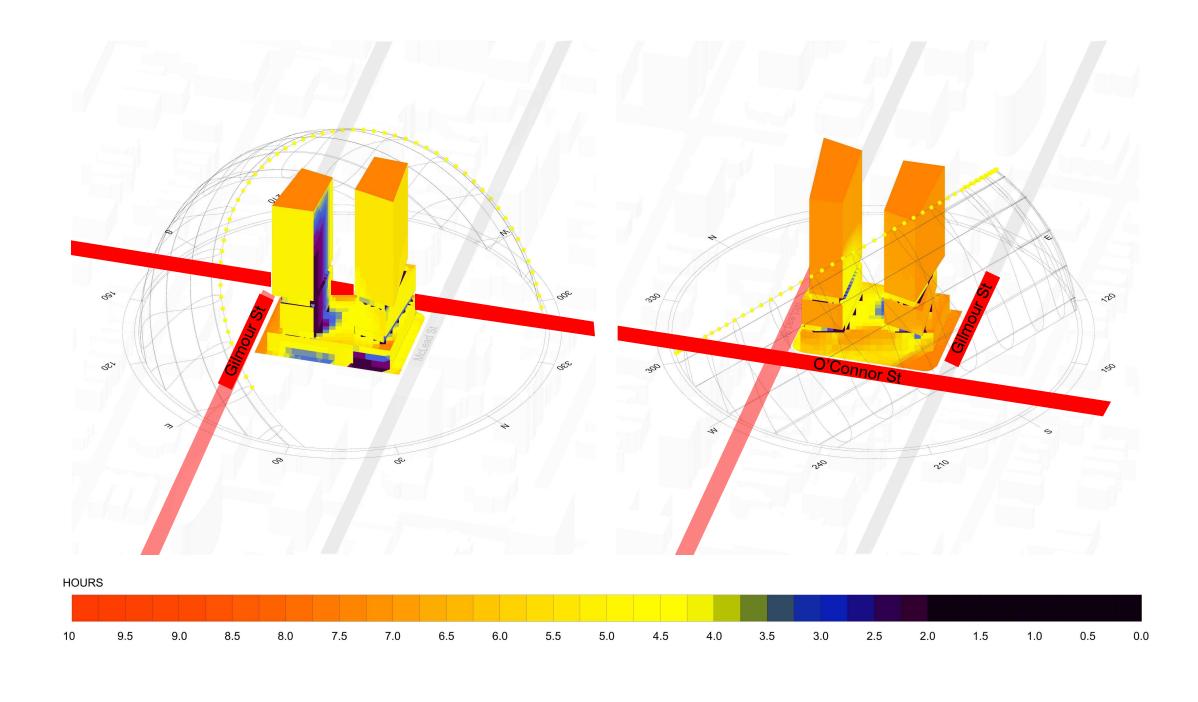


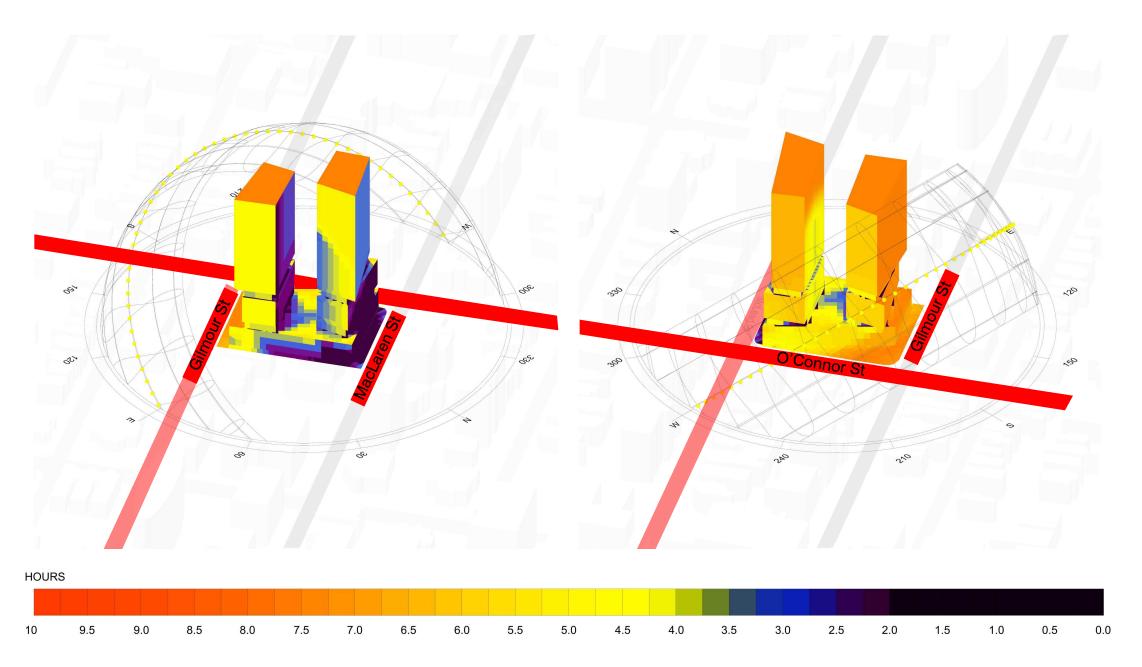
MARCH 21 **DECEMBER 21**

CONCLUSIONS:

- Facades facing OConnor Street and Gilmour Street receive the most sunshine
 Areas with most sun exposure are the optimal location for balconies

Sustainability Approach_SUN STUDY





JUNE 21 SEPTEMBER 21

CONCLUSIONS:

- In summer all exterior faces receive some amount of sun exposure
- Facades facing OConnor Street and Gilmour Street receive the most sunshine
 Areas with most sun exposure are the optimal location for balconies

Sustainability Approach_SUN STUDY ATRIUM

