

# COOPERS' PARK EXTENSION & PLAYGROUND RENEWAL

# WELCOME!

We have an exciting opportunity to expand Coopers' Park into the adjacent paved, pedestrian area under the Cambie Street Bridge. The park already has a well-used playground and sport court under the bridge and we are proposing an additional recreation opportunity. Developing under the bridge provides a number of benefits such as:

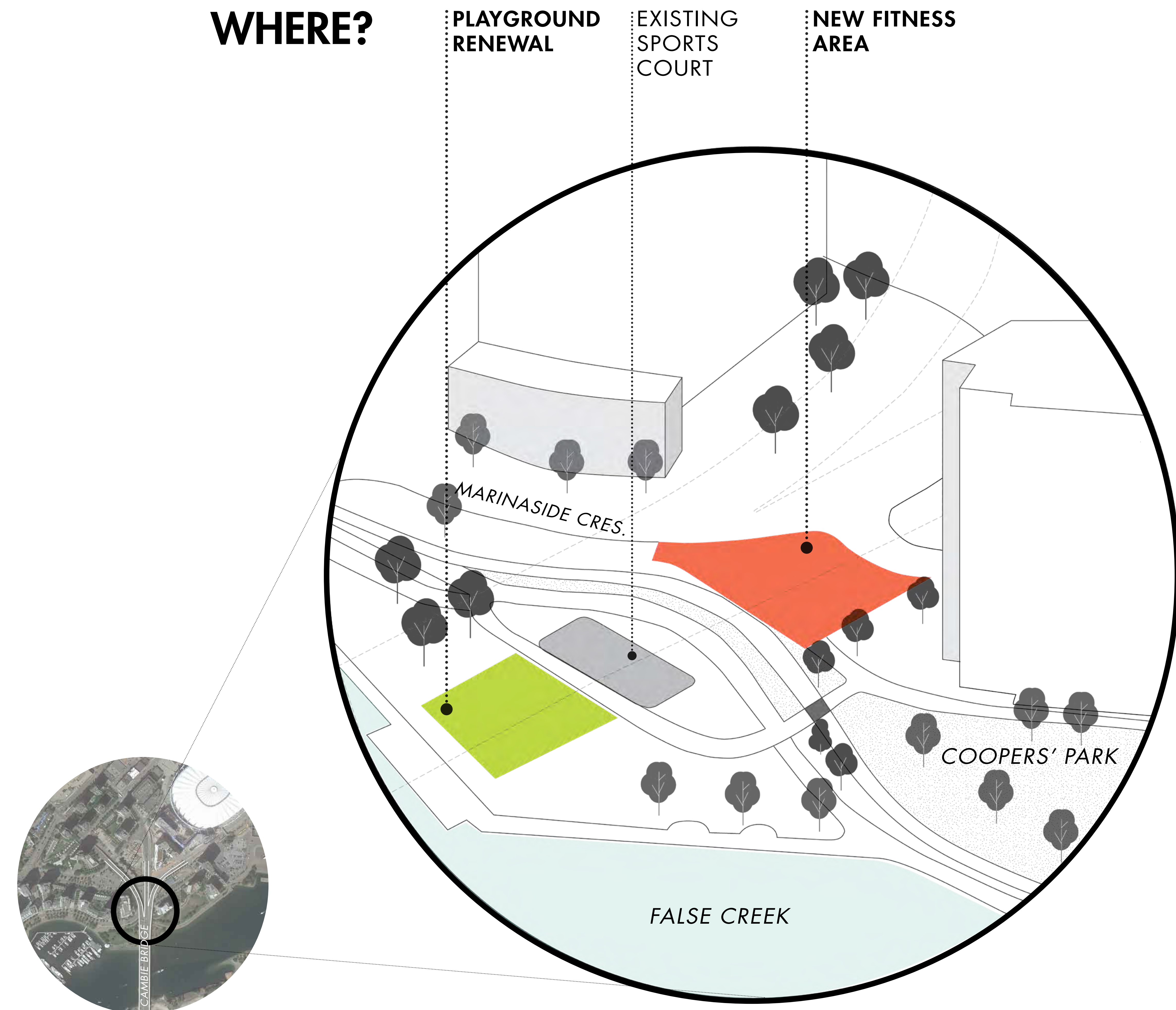
- increased overall park space
- cover from weather and opportunity for activity year round
- a uniquely urban environment
- vertical surfaces and design opportunities
- entryway into the park from pedestrian bridge access

In May 2018 we shared five unique options to activate the space. The feedback received from the first public engagement has helped to inform the theme and programming included in the proposed design. As a result of the feedback received we are also proposing a renewal of the existing playground as part of this project. Please review the following ten (10) display boards and share your comments with us through the survey.

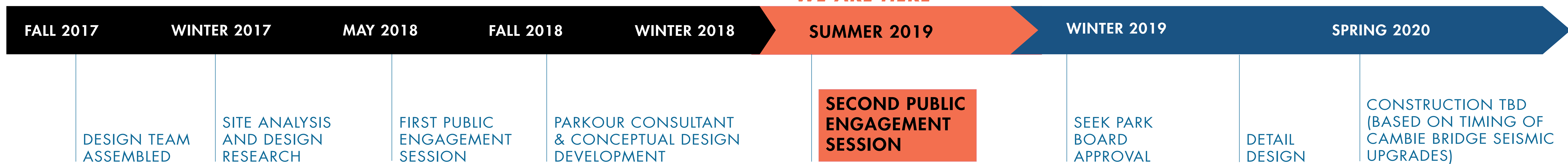
## PROJECT GOALS

- 1 Create a safe, welcoming and engaging recreation amenity and playground renewal
- 2 Design a unique and surprising activity or feature for public use
- 3 A design that reflects Vancouver culture
- 4 Usable and inviting both day and night and through the seasons
- 5 Make it fun!

## WHERE?



## WHEN?



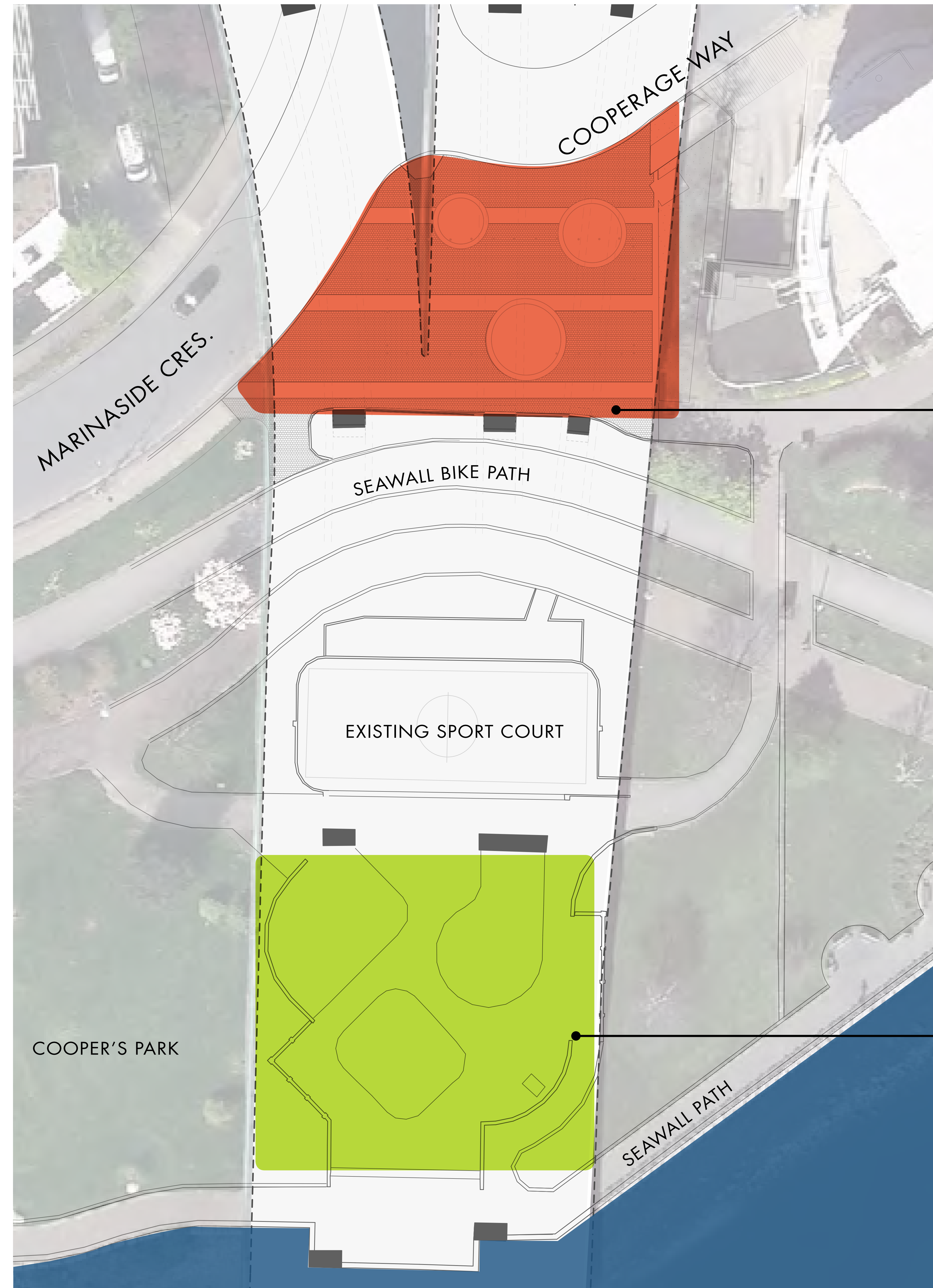
WE ARE ASKING FOR FEEDBACK ON THE PROPOSED CONCEPT FOR THE **FITNESS AMENITY** AND **PLAYGROUND RENEWAL**



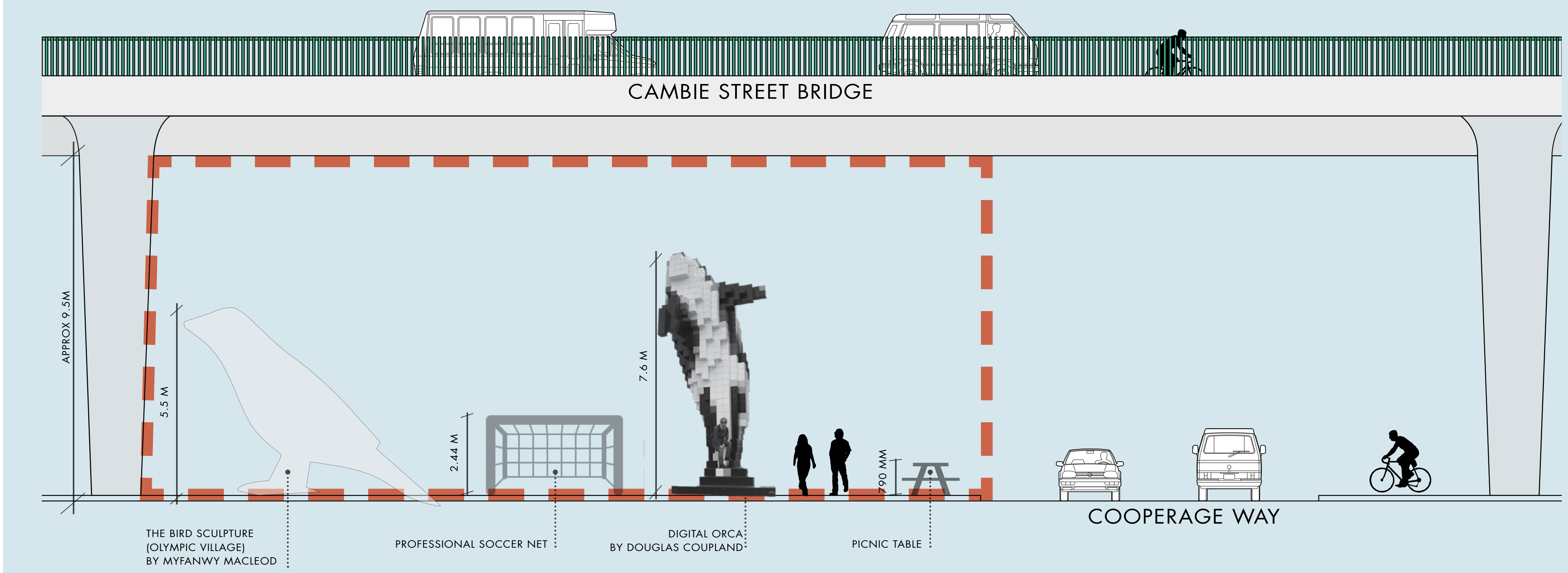
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## EXISTING SITE

Coopers' Park crosses the boundaries of both Yaletown and Northeast False Creek in the Downtown Peninsula, the most densely populated area of Vancouver which is home to over 100,000 people, 150,000 jobs, and a growing number of visitors. The project site is a highly visited and visible location that will serve the expanding downtown community, as well as the thousands of active users traveling the adjacent false creek seawall, or passing through to the pedestrian on/off ramp for the overhead Cambie Street Bridge.



### HOW BIG IS THE SPACE?



NOTE: DIAGRAM FOR SPATIAL REFERENCE ONLY



### NEW FITNESS AREA

#### THE GOOD

- Large covered area
- Highly visible location in a dense urban setting
- On established pedestrian and bicycle routes
- Adjacent to well used park

#### THE NOT SO GOOD

(FOR NOW)

- No reason to stop
- Lack of identity
- Noise from bridge above
- Lack of light during winter



### EXISTING PLAYGROUND FOR RENEWAL

#### THE GOOD

- Cover provides shade and rain protection
- Located directly on the False Creek seawall

#### THE NOT SO GOOD

(FOR NOW)

- Old play equipment
- Lacks variety of play options and imagination



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## WHAT WE'VE HEARD

### WHAT DID YOU LIKE ABOUT THE MOST POPULAR IDEAS?

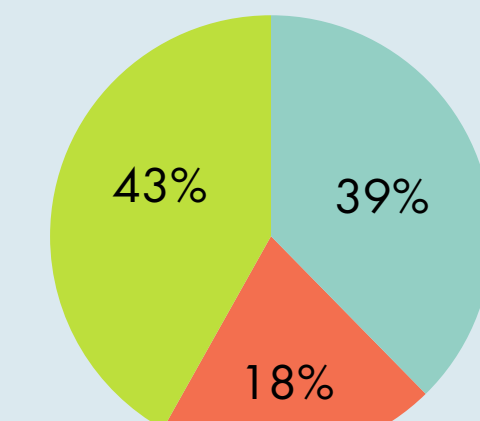
During the 2018 public engagement, we asked for feedback on the five unique options proposed for the site. A total of **571 respondents** completed the survey with **a non-conventional workout spot being the most preferred option (33%)**.

"Have you seen the \_?" (29%) and "A Bright Spot" (29%) were also favoured and as a result we have incorporated elements from all three design options. Below is a summary of the feedback received from the community.

#### A WORKOUT SPOT

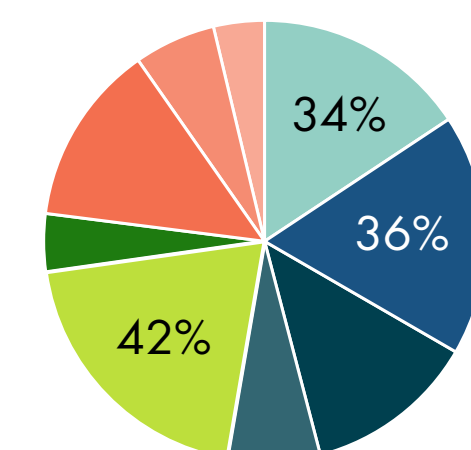
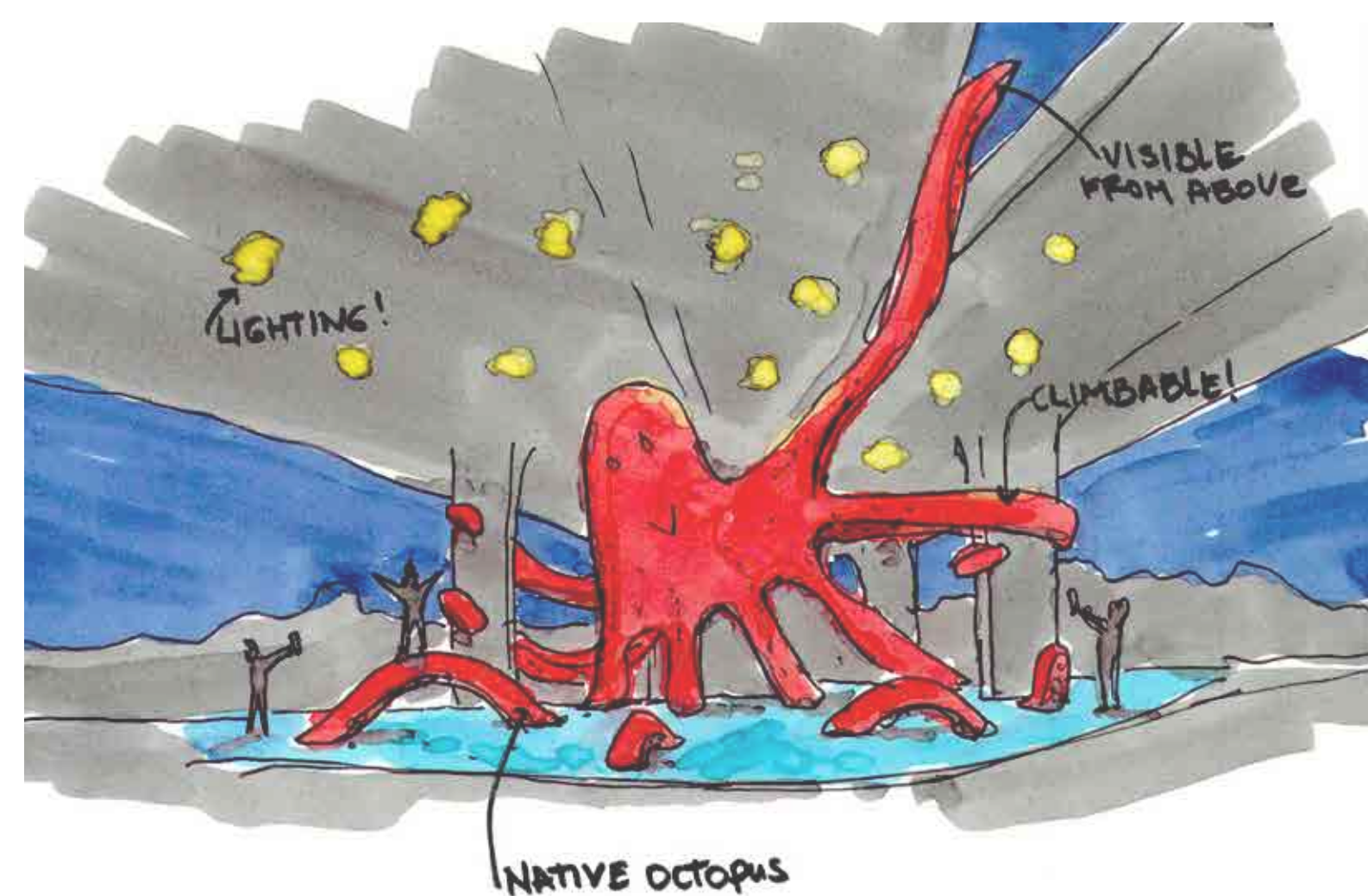


A combined total of **82%** of respondents preferred **parkour** and/or something that **doesn't look like traditional exercise equipment**. Therefore, the proposed design reflects both activities.



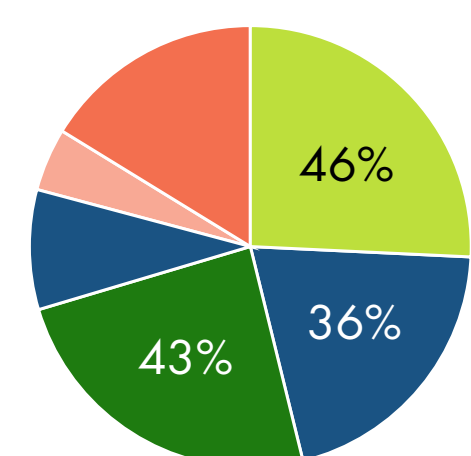
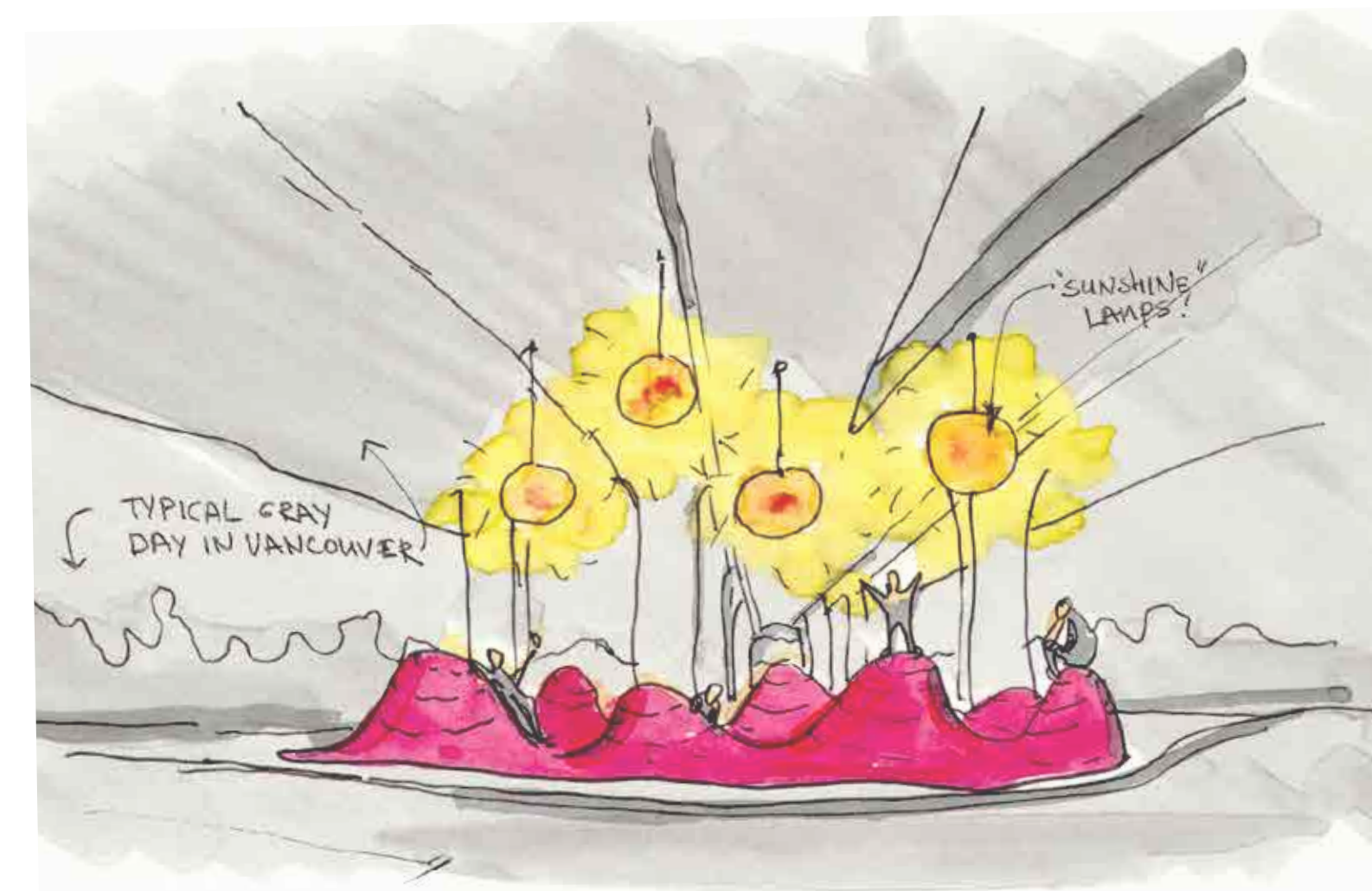
- A parkour course
- Something that doesn't look like traditional exercise equipment
- Traditional exercise equipment

#### HAVE YOU SEEN THE \_?

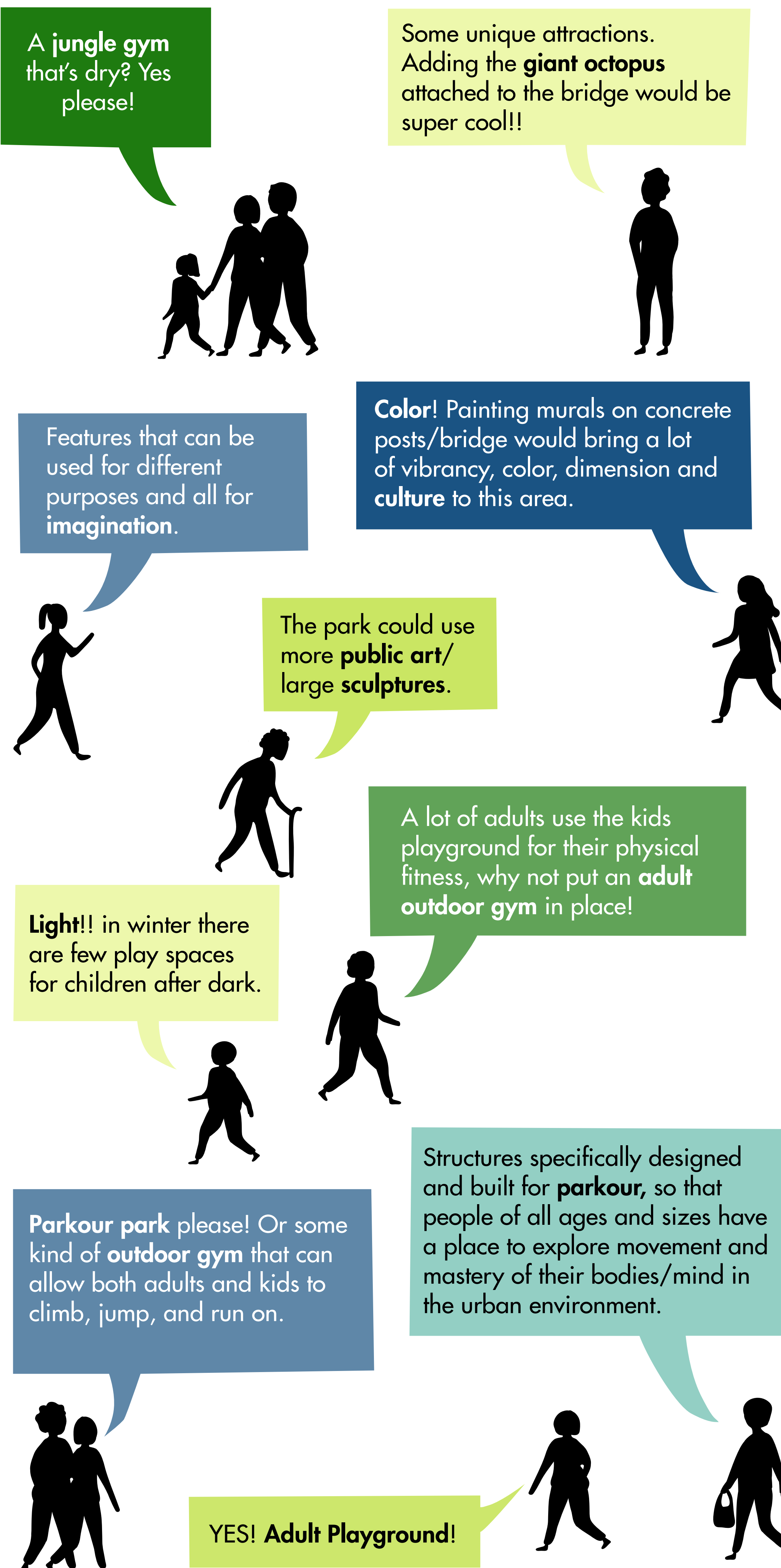


- It can be climbed on
- It lights up
- It's brightly coloured

#### A BRIGHT SPOT



- It's very bright and colourful
- It's a place to get some "sunshine"
- It's interactive and reacts to either sound, motion, or temperature



### DESIGN GUIDELINES

Based on the outcomes of the first open house and online questionnaire we have developed the following guidelines:

- 1 Non-conventional workout spot that supports parkour and calisthenics
- 2 Is brightly coloured
- 3 Is iconic/memorable
- 4 Is a place for "sunshine" and can be used in the winter
- 5 Renewal of existing playground (including the octopus!)

### VANPLAY

The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation is developing 'Vancouver's Playbook', a new master plan to guide the delivery of vibrant parks and recreation over the next 25 years. The masterplan includes 10 Goals – a set of aspirational statements to set the course for parks and recreation into the future. This project aligns with goal one: **Grow and Renew Parks, Community Centres and Recreation Assets to Keep Pace with Population Growth and Evolving Needs**. The masterplan also includes strategic bold moves to help prioritize amenities and services.

One of these moves is establishing Asset Targets, based on gaps in our current inventory. **The Park Board currently has only one parkour area, which equals 1 parkour amenity per 631,500 people. There are currently 11 outdoor fitness areas which equates to 1 per 57,400 people. Increasing in assets of both these amenity types are being addressed through this project.** The strategy also suggests that outdoor fitness areas should be located in close proximity to path and trail loops and active transportation networks like the false creek seawall.

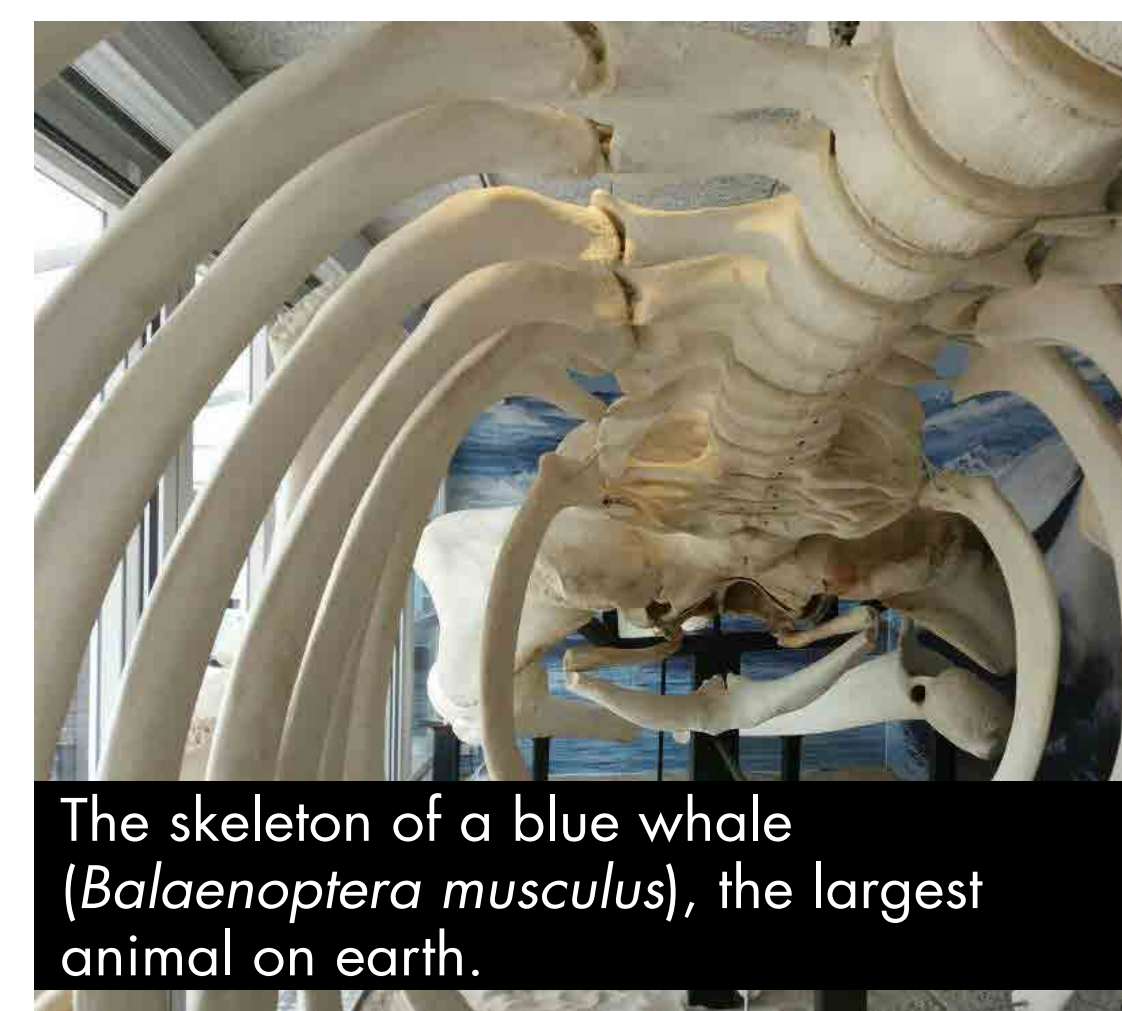


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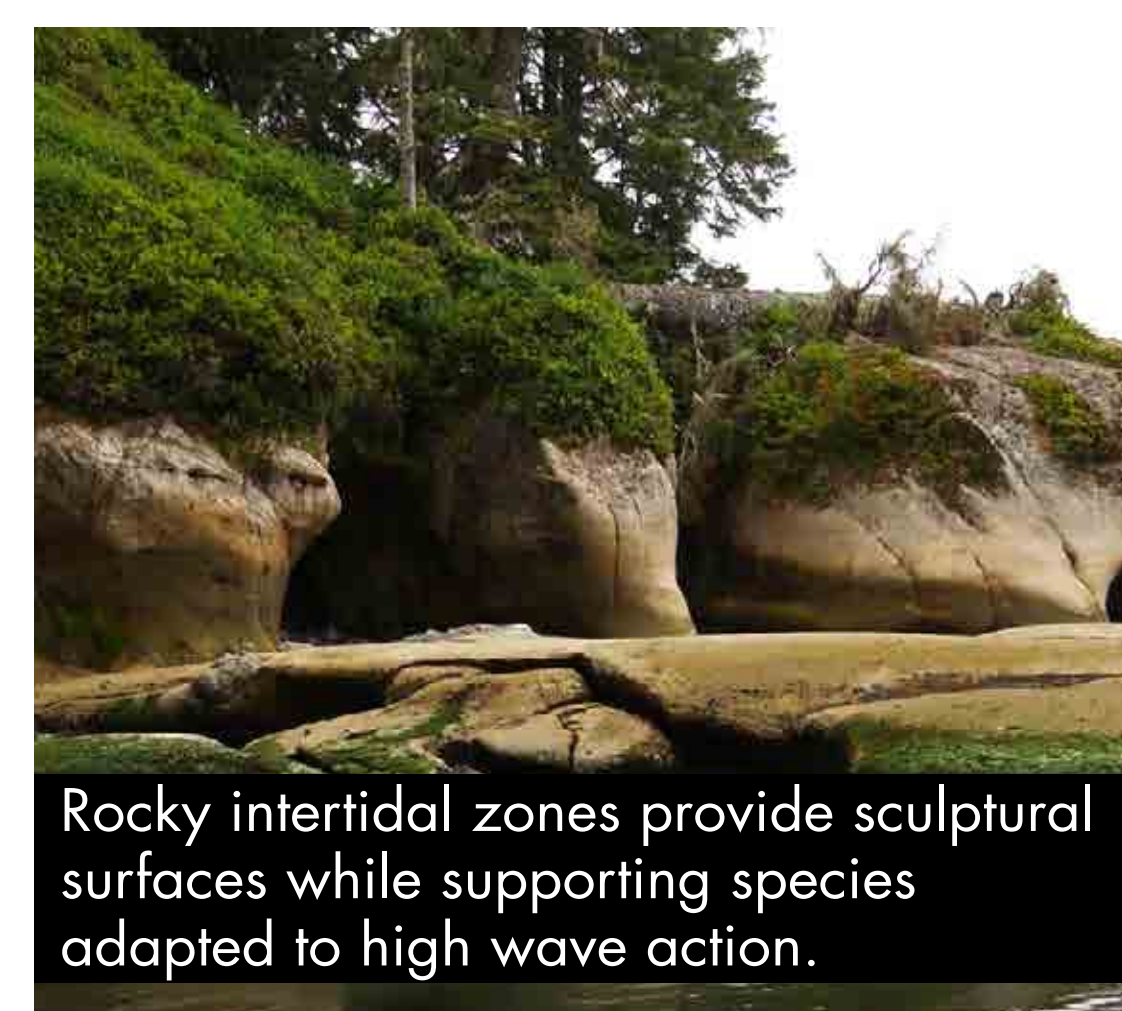
## FITNESS AREA ELEMENTS

The proposed conceptual design for Coopers Park is a Pacific Northwest themed outdoor fitness area for calisthenics and parkour exercises. Calisthenics and Parkour training use minimal equipment to perform exercises. In calisthenics, minimal to no equipment is used to perform exercises such as pulling, pushing, muscle-ups, jumping and swinging. Parkour involves overcoming obstacles to get from one point to another in a fast and efficient way using movements such as running, climbing, swinging and jumping. Parkour and Calisthenics training provide a number of benefits such as improved strength, flexibility, agility, balance and most importantly fun!

### DESIGN INSPIRATION



The skeleton of a blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*), the largest animal on earth.



Rocky intertidal zones provide sculptural surfaces while supporting species adapted to high wave action.



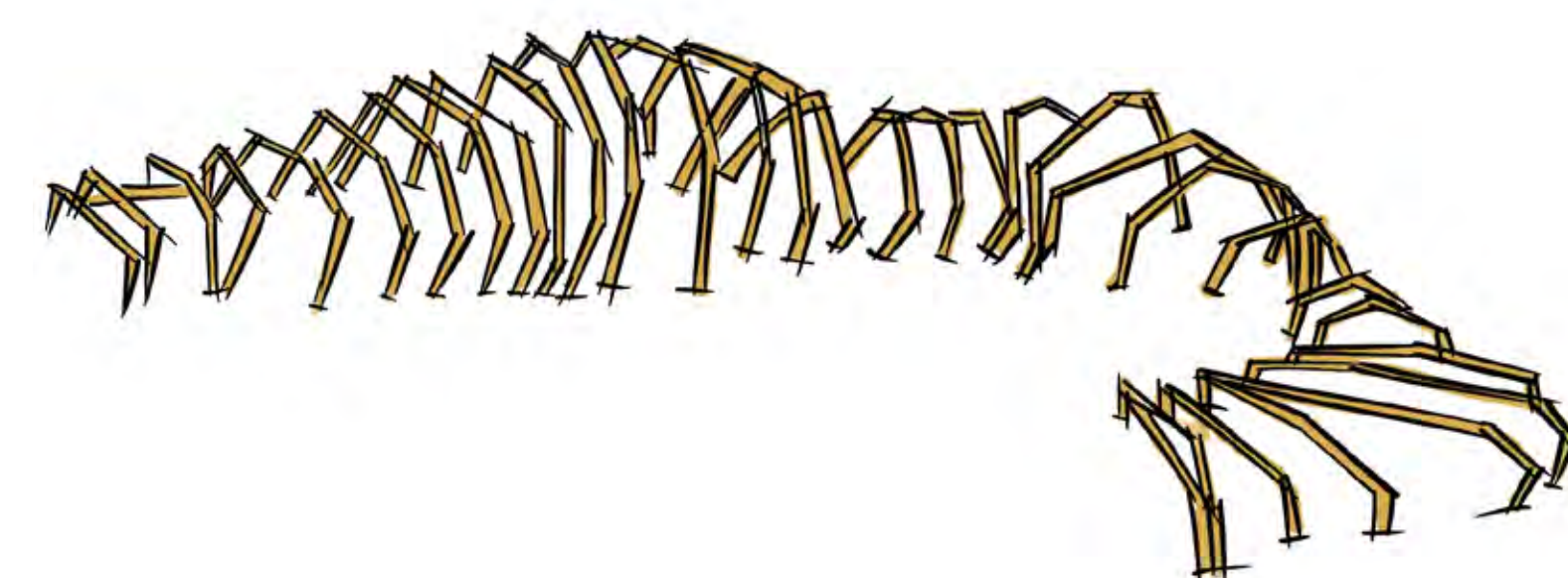
BC's endangered glass sponge reefs are one of the great wonders of the world's oceans.



Bull Kelp (*Nereocystis*) supports a unique biosphere that shelters many species of fish, shellfish and jellies.

### ELEMENT DESIGN

#### WHALE / BAR FRAMEWORK

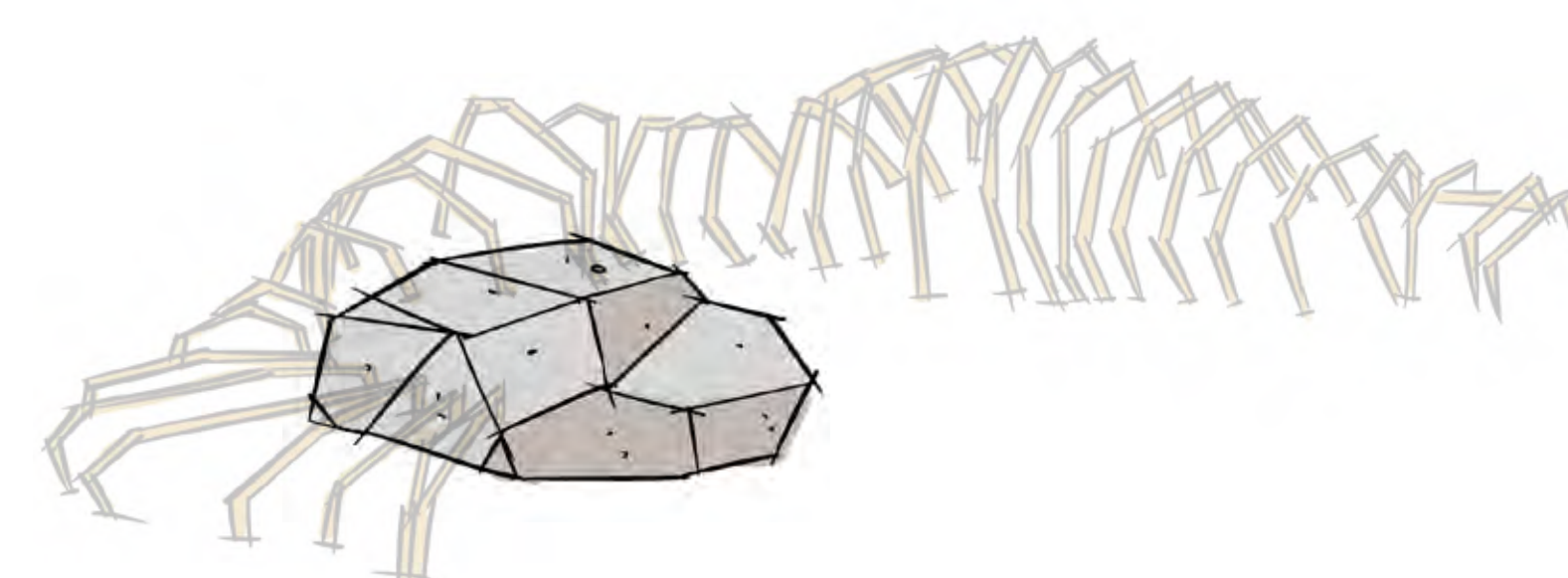


### ASSOCIATED MOVEMENT

Exercise bars at different heights, grip size and spacing for parkour and calisthenics moves



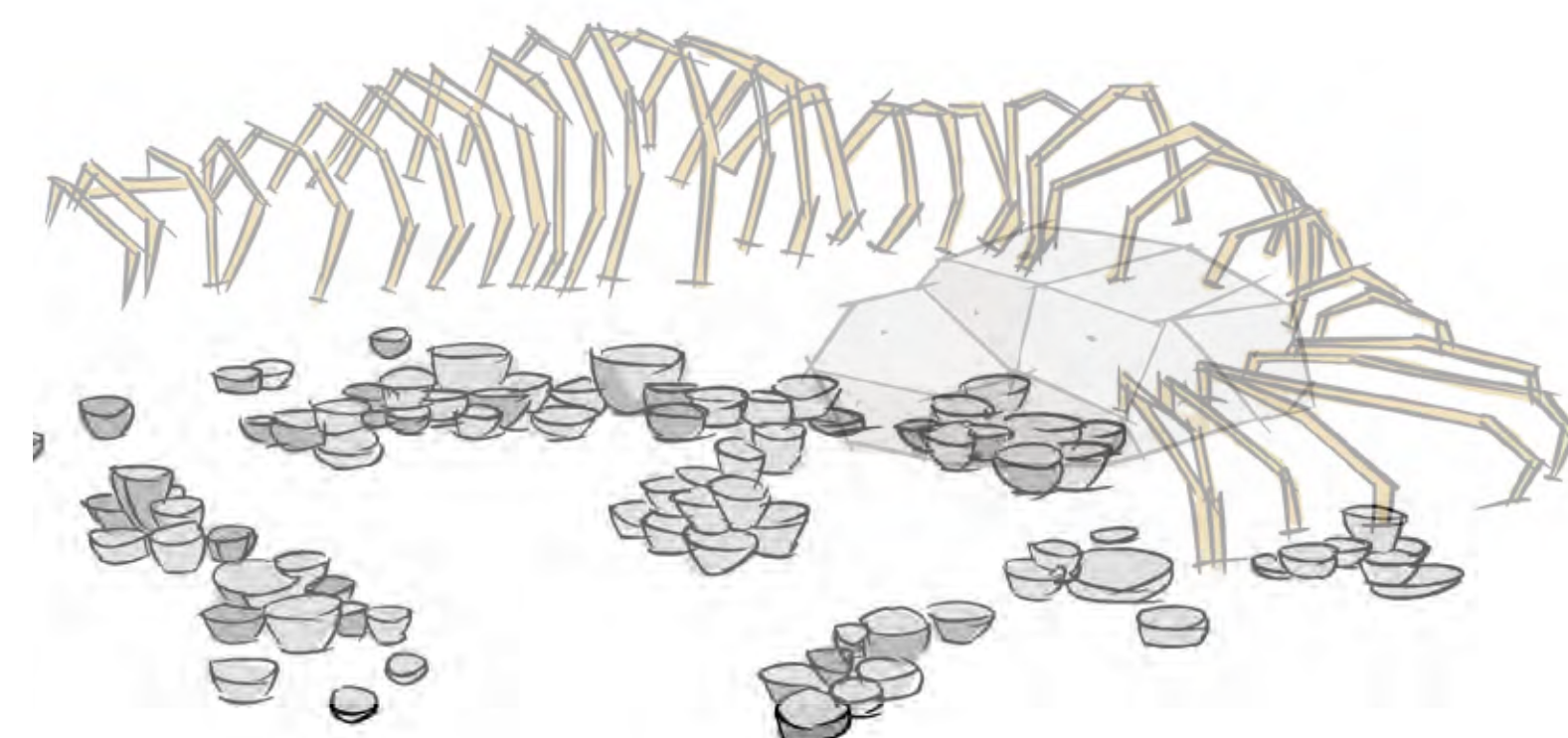
#### ROCKY OUTCROP



Large rocky outcrop for flexible use (climbing, stretching, and observing)



#### GLASS SPONGES



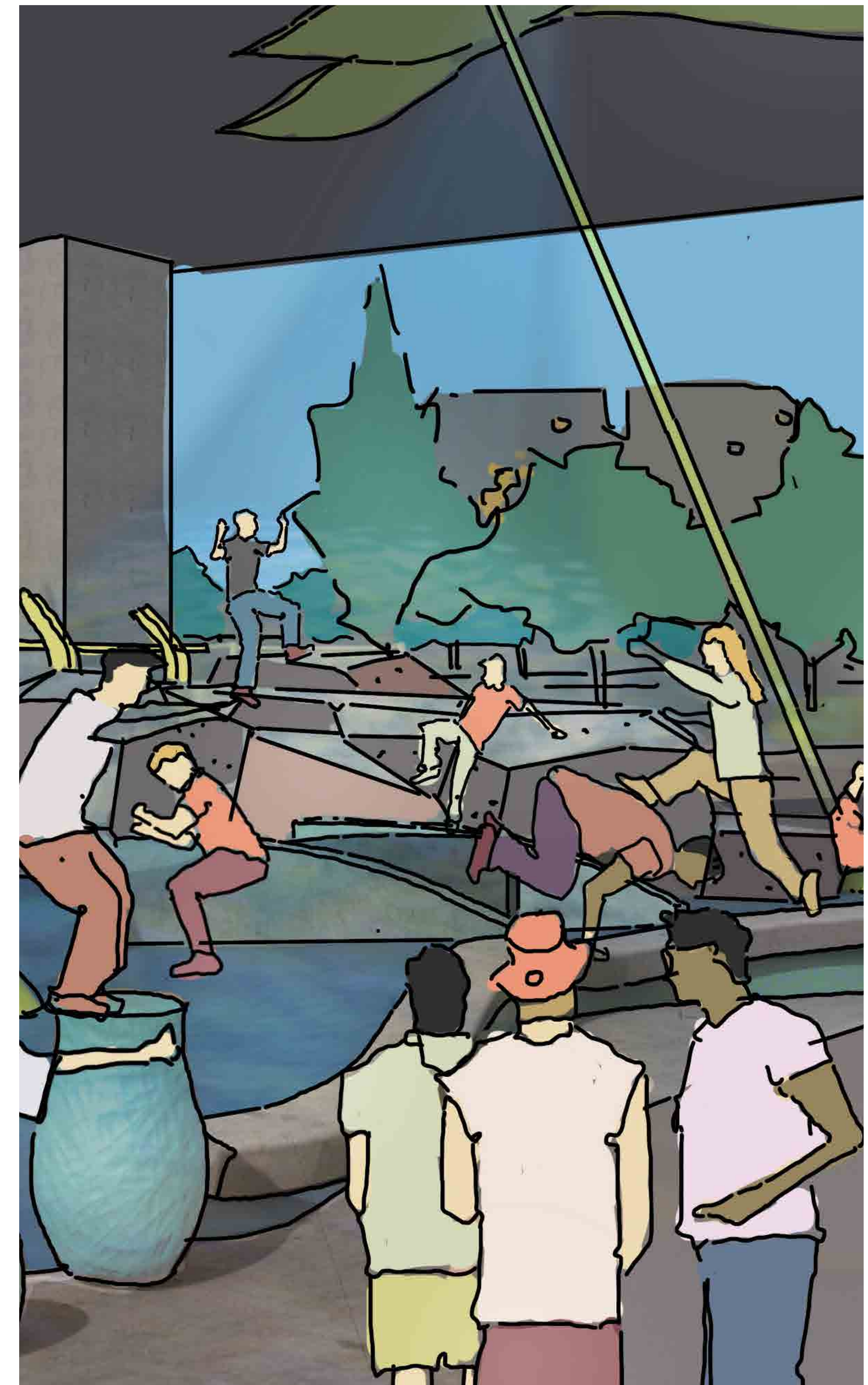
These small steps elements can be used for jumping, dips, split squats, step-ups, etc...



#### BULL KELP



The Bull Kelp allow for the use of fitness bands and exercises like pole-climbing while using the vertical space to create an iconic, visual connection to the bridge





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## FITNESS AREA





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## DAYTIME VIEW

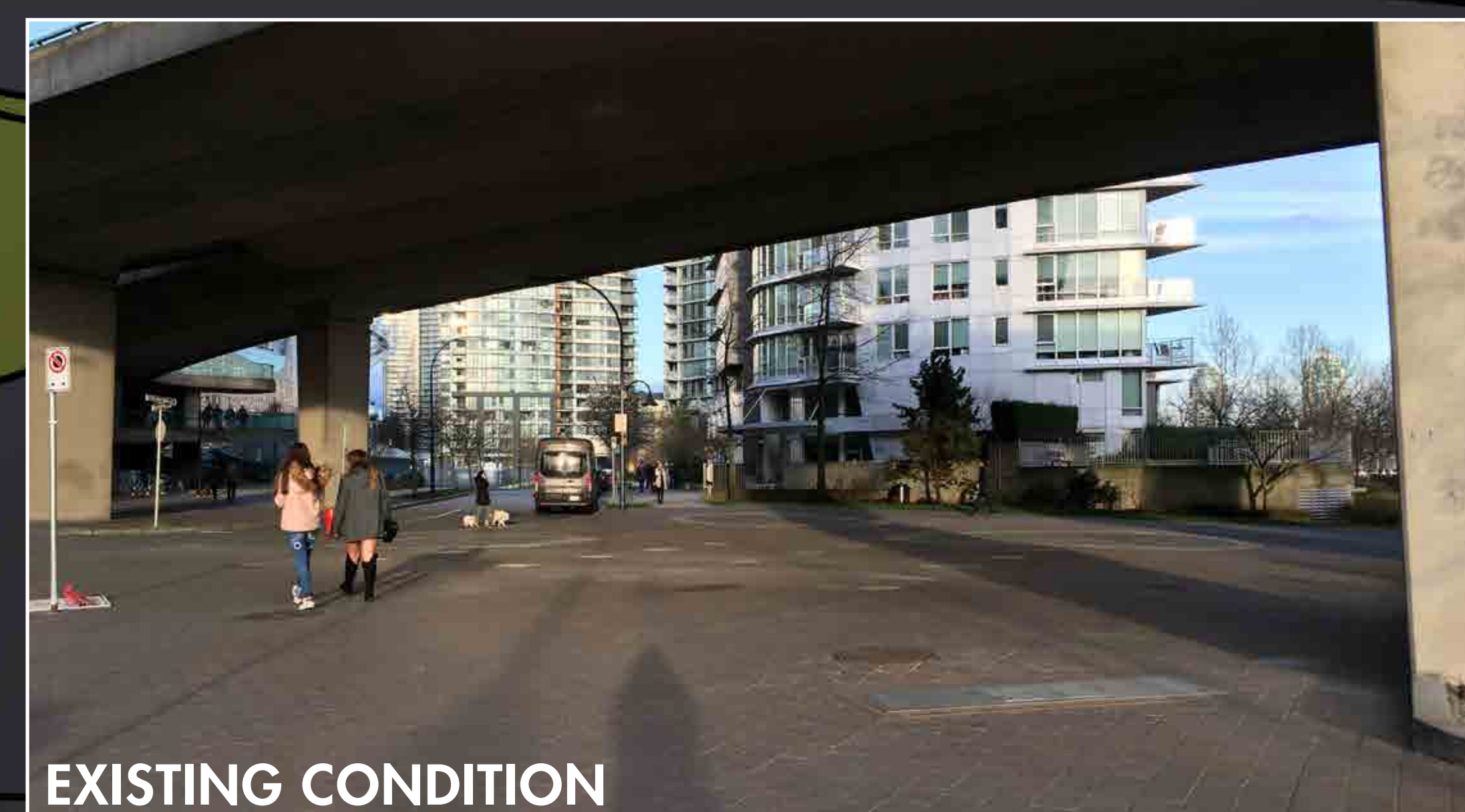
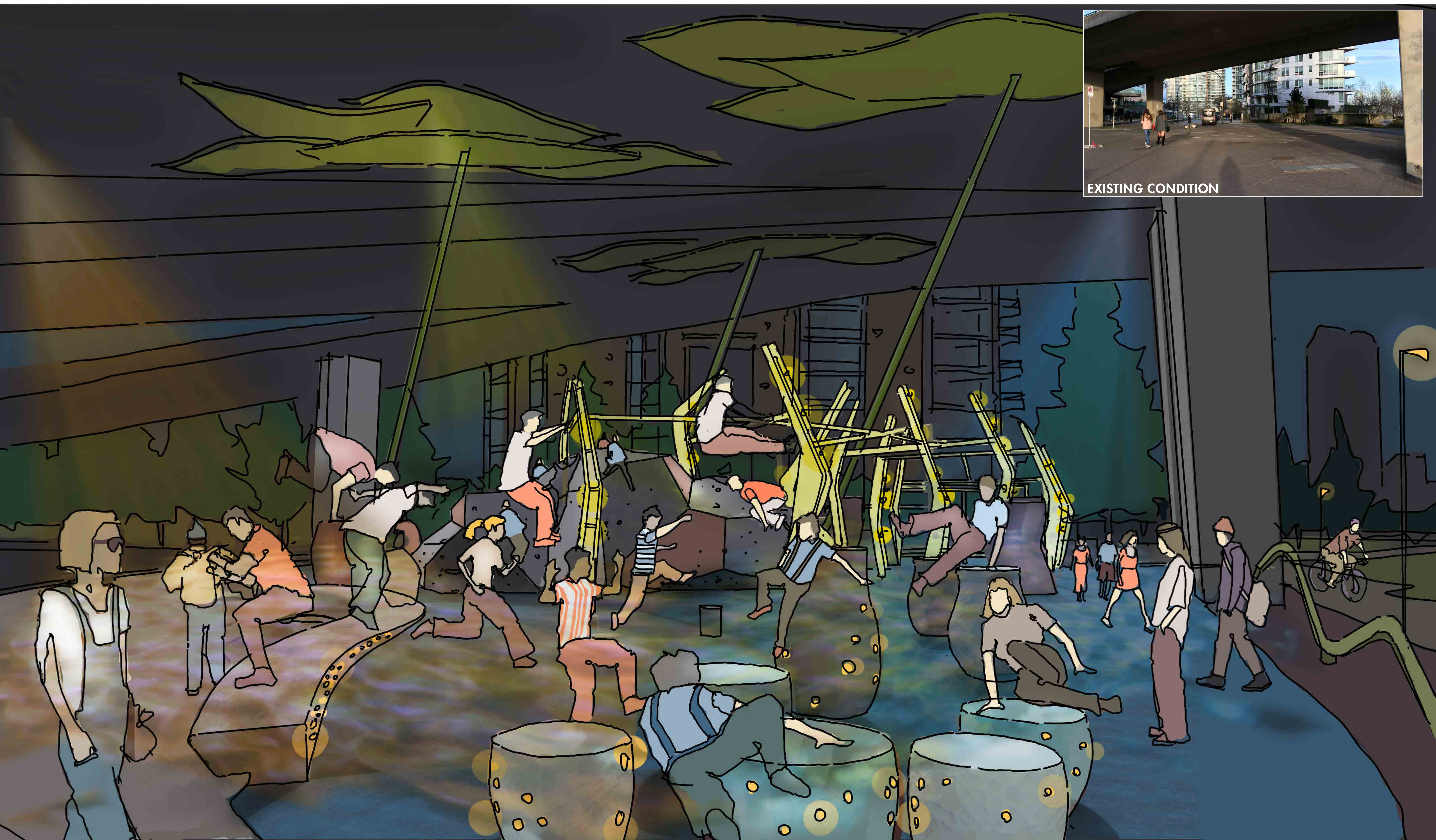


EXISTING CONDITION



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## EVENING VIEW





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## LIGHTING DESIGN

Lighting will be an integral part of this project and will support year-round use by transforming the dark, underutilized area into a safe and inviting space. The lighting strategy will emphasize the coastal theme, and elevate the space into an exciting destination throughout the year by animating the underside of the bridge with shifting water patterns, and highlighting the surface features with a warm glow. The design will take into account the need to prevent glare or 'light-spill' into adjacent properties, and the need to conform with existing lighting bylaws.



### INTEGRATED LIGHTING

- Spot or strip lighting will illuminate feature elements to make them usable and visible during evening hours



### UPLIGHTING / DOWNLIGHTING

- Underside of bridge as a canvas for lighting effects
- Lighting can be modified for events
- Water effect will support the under-the-sea theme



### INTERNAL LIGHTING

- Elements can be lit internally to provide sculptural interest in the evening



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# PLAYGROUND RENEWAL

The existing playground is outdated and will be replaced as part of this project. We are proposing to continue the underwater theme of the fitness area to the renewed playground, and since we heard such positive feedback about the giant red octopus from the first round of ideas we have included it here as a custom climbing element. The proposal for the new play area also includes swings, sand and water play, a spinner and large whale inspired climbing mound.

## DESIGN INSPIRATION



FISHNET



AQUATIC WILDLIFE



TIDAL POOL



LOW TIDE

## DESIGN ELEMENTS



MESH PLAY STRUCTURE



OCTOPUS SLIDE



CLIMBING PLAY



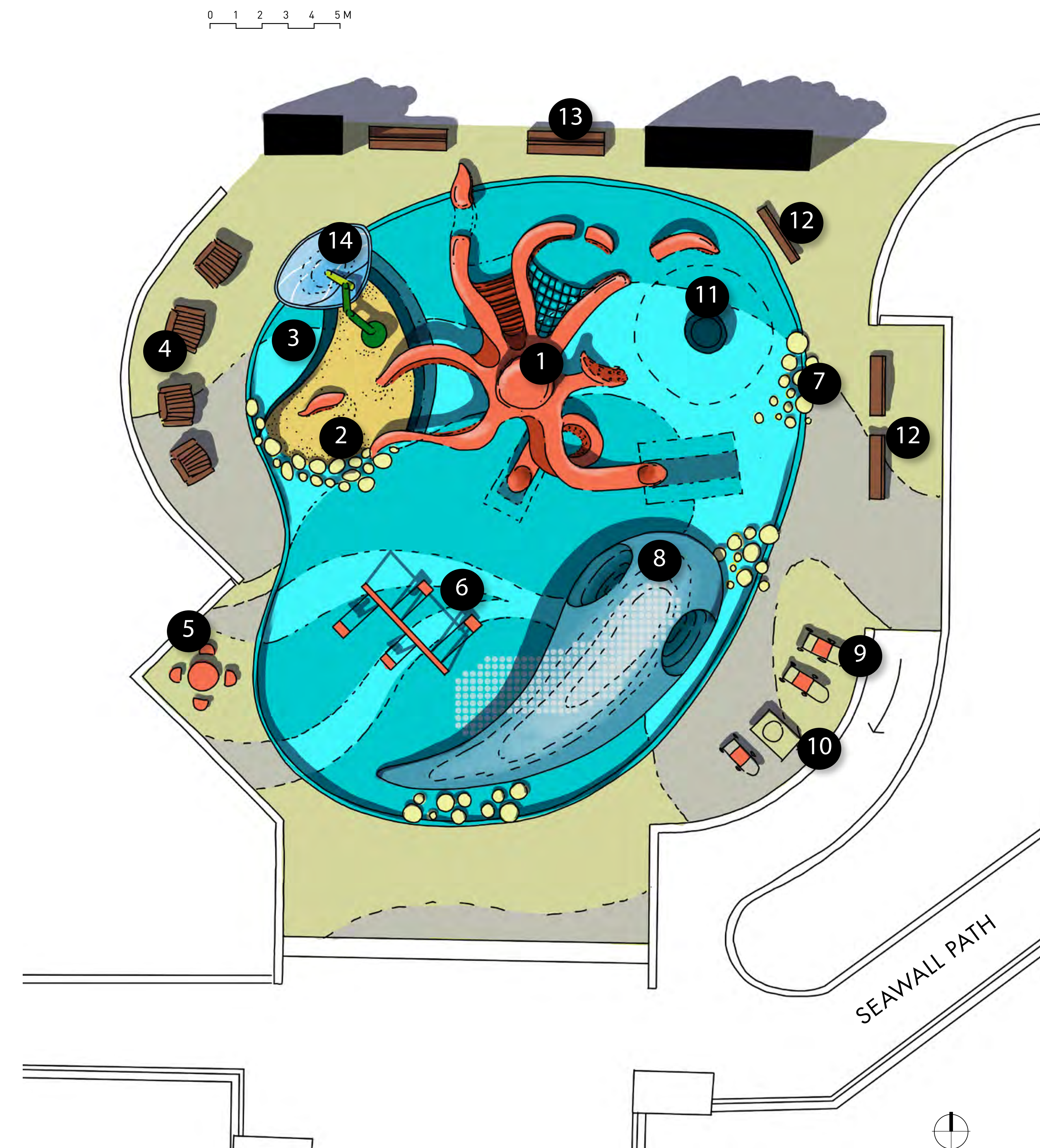
WATER PLAY



CLIMBING PLAY

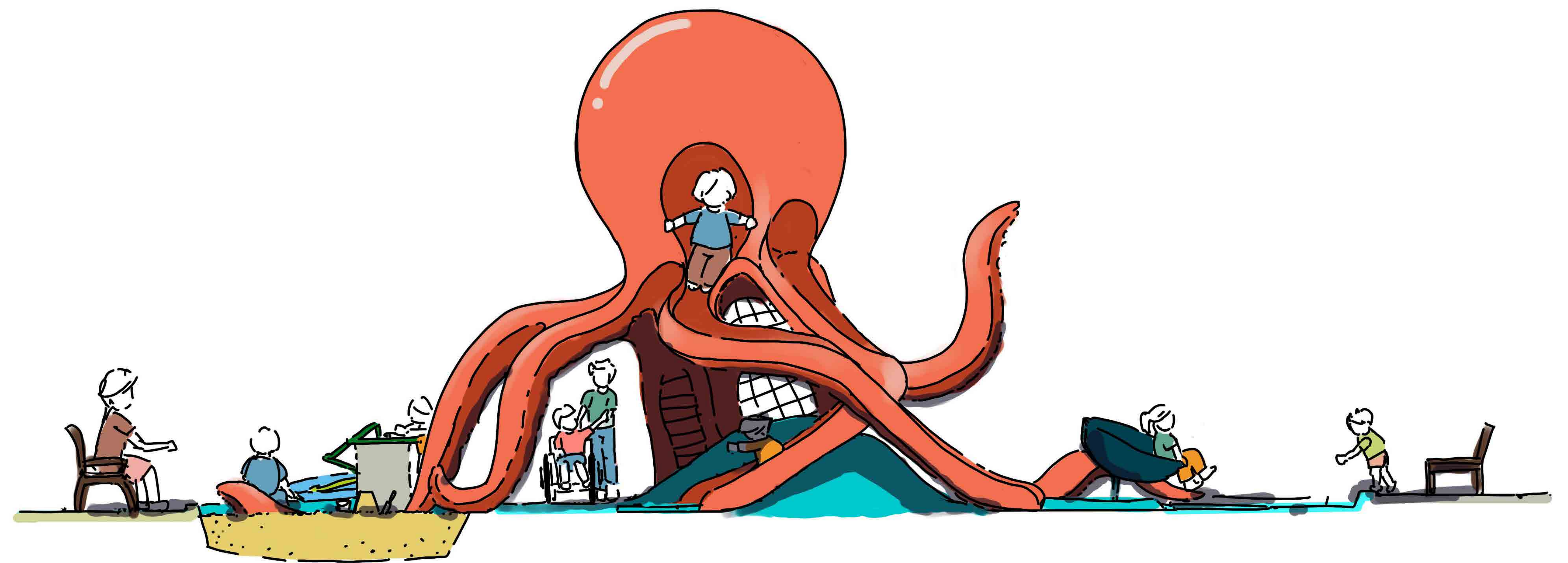


RESTING



### Legend

- 1 OCTO CLIMBER WITH SLIDE, NETS
- 2 SAND-PLAY
- 3 ACCESSIBLE PAD
- 4 ADIRONDACK CHAIRS
- 5 PICNIC TABLE
- 6 SWINGS
  - TOT
  - BELT-TALL
  - ACCESSIBLE
  - FRIENDSHIP
- 7 "GLASS SPONGE" STEPPING STONES
- 8 RESILIENT MOUND WITH HANDHOLDS AND A TUNNEL
- 9 STROLLER PARKING
- 10 DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- 11 SPINNER
- 12 BENCH
- 13 TWO SIDED BENCHES
- 14 WATER PLAY





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## PLAYGROUND RENEWAL

WHAT WOULD YOU  
LIKE TO SEE IN THE  
NEW PLAYGROUND?

