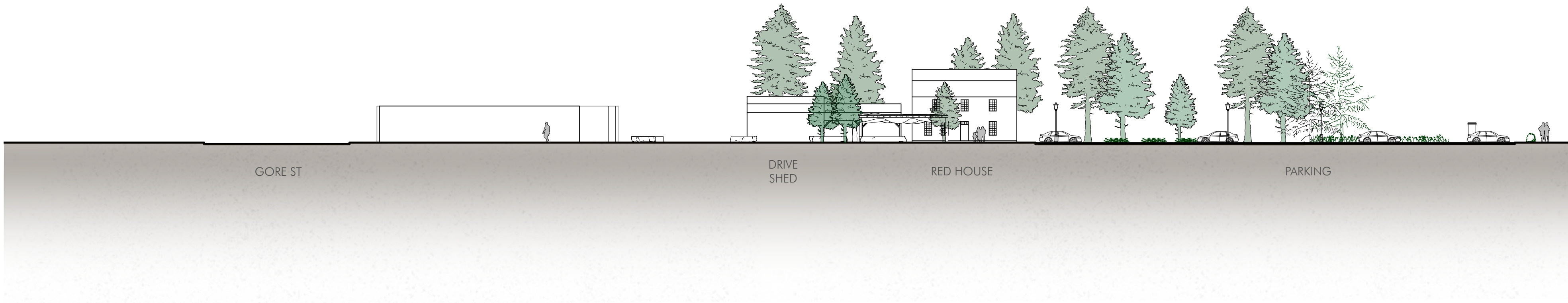
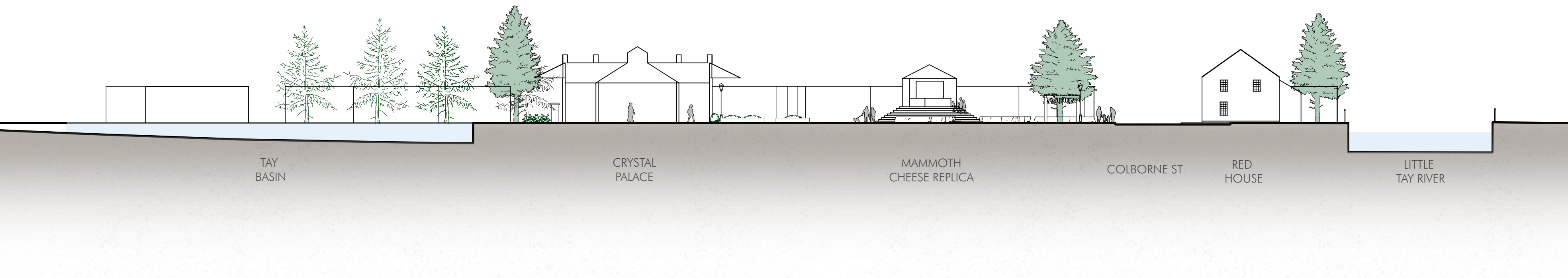
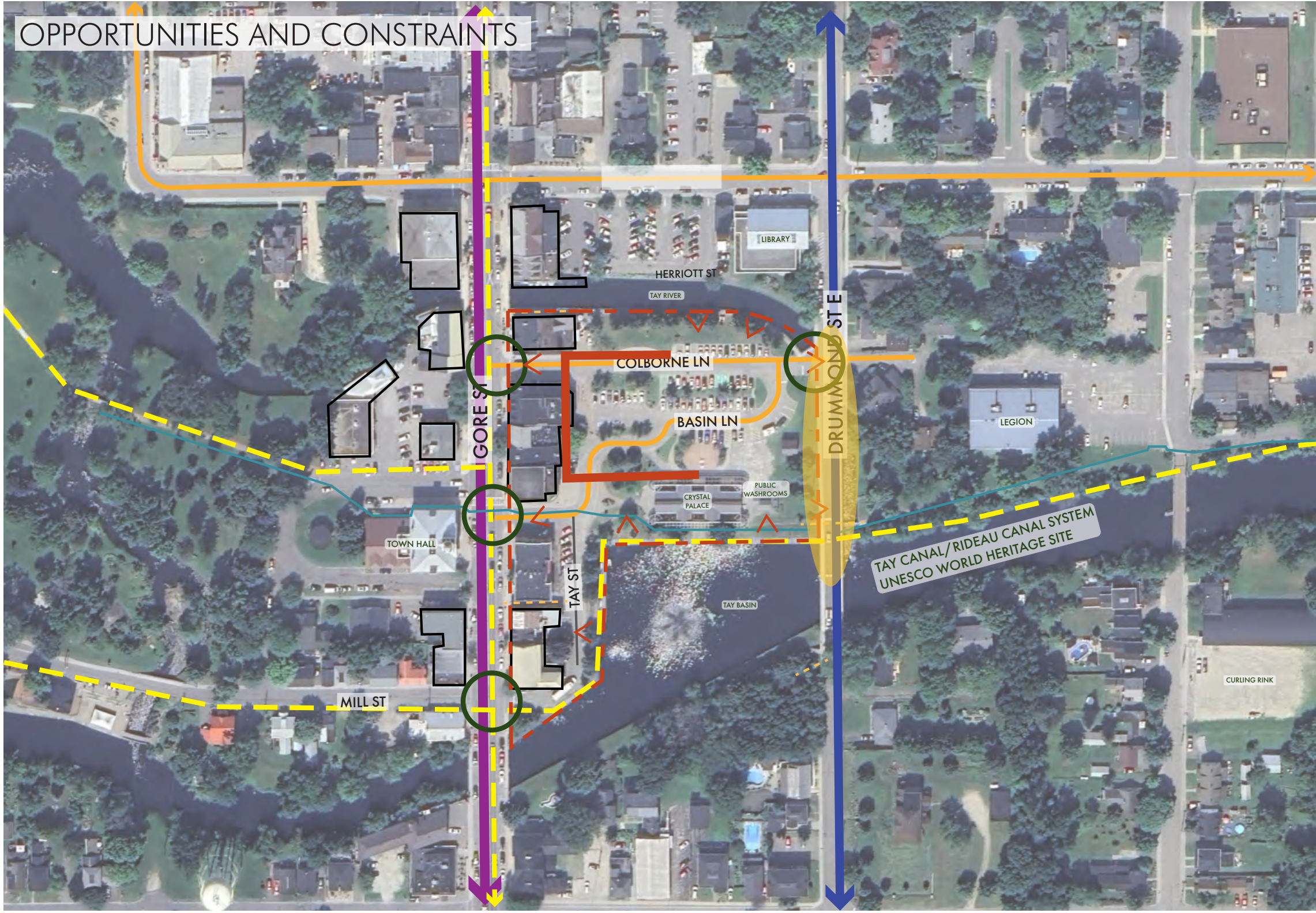


THREADING THE TAY



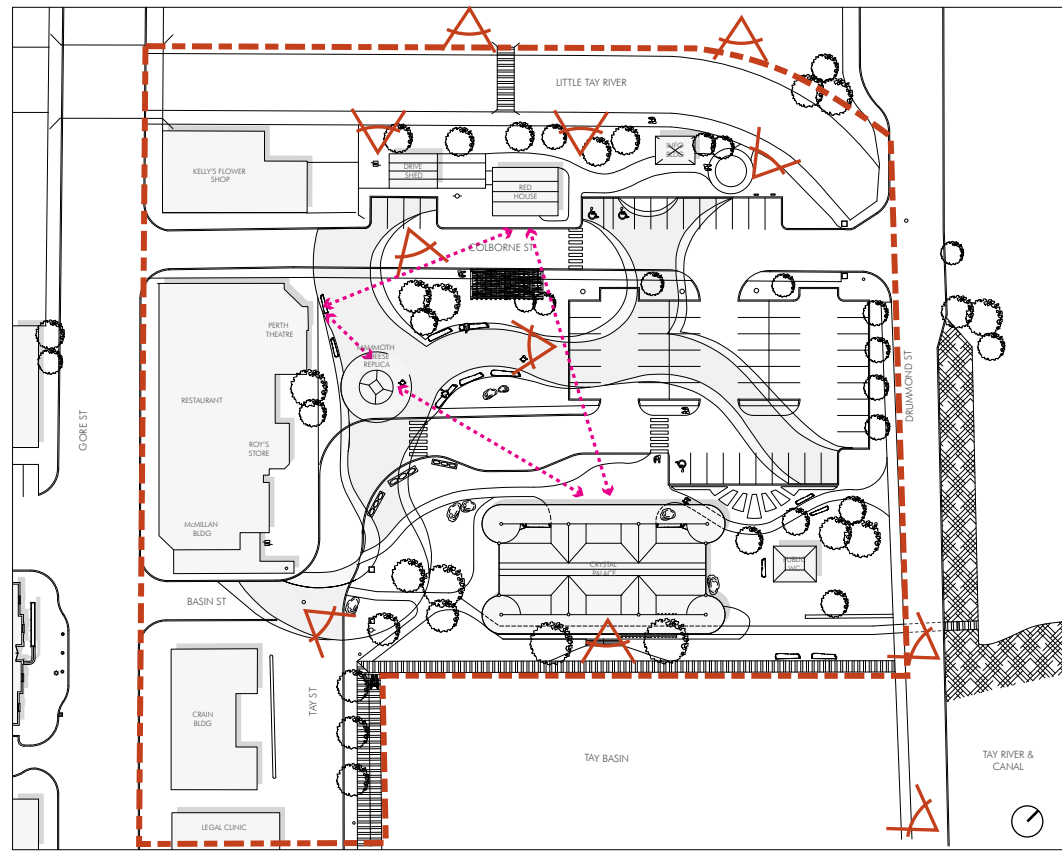
OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS



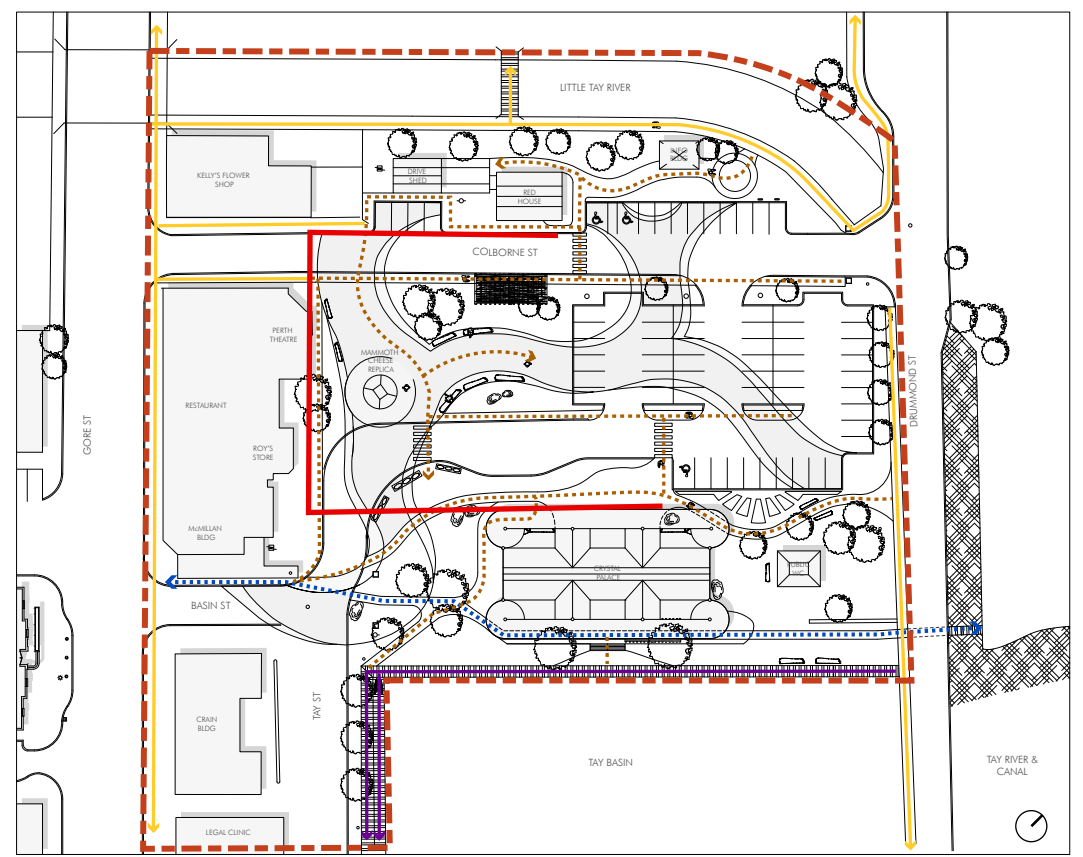
- Arterial Road
- Collector Road
- Local Road
- Existing Trail
- Commercial Street-Facing Buildings
- Rideau Trail
- Pedestrian Links
- Potential Views
- Commercial Edge - Potential for full Pedestrian Circulation
- Major Gateways
- Adjacent Street - buffer area needed from central amenity area



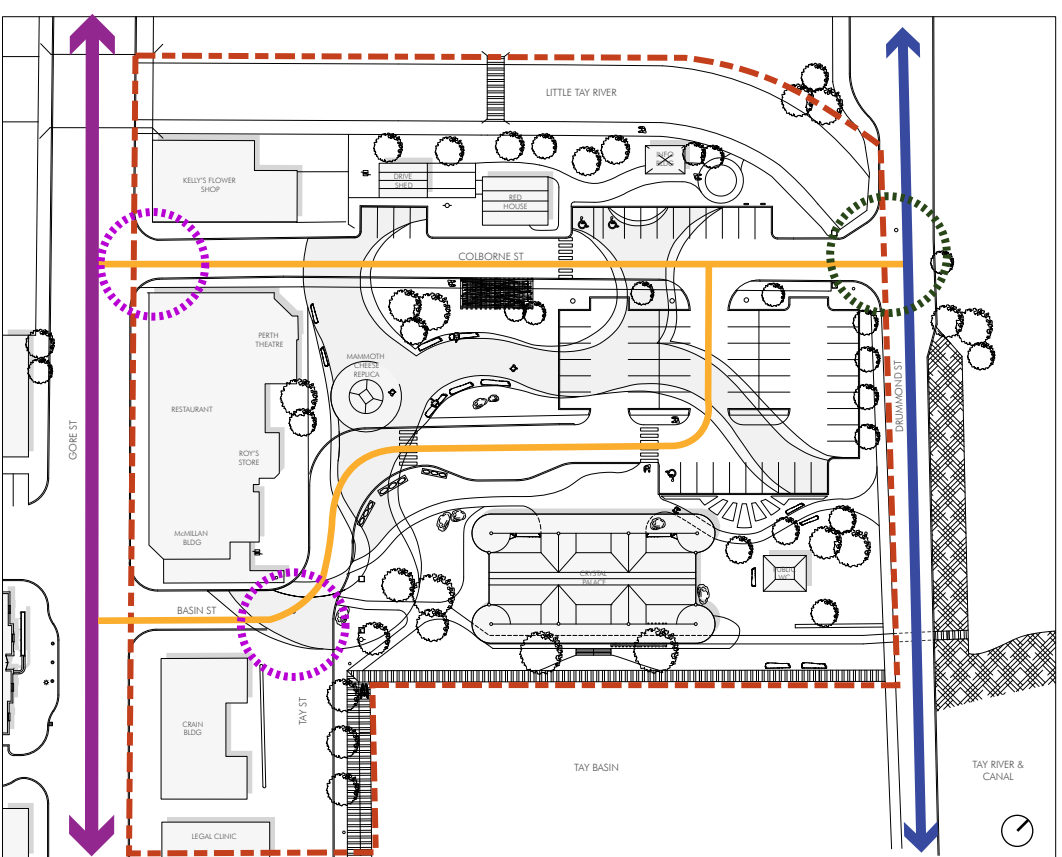
- Subject Site
- Potential Private Amenity Space
- Public Open Space / Landscaped Areas
- Water Bodies



- Subject Site
- Viewpoints
- Building/Structure Sightlines



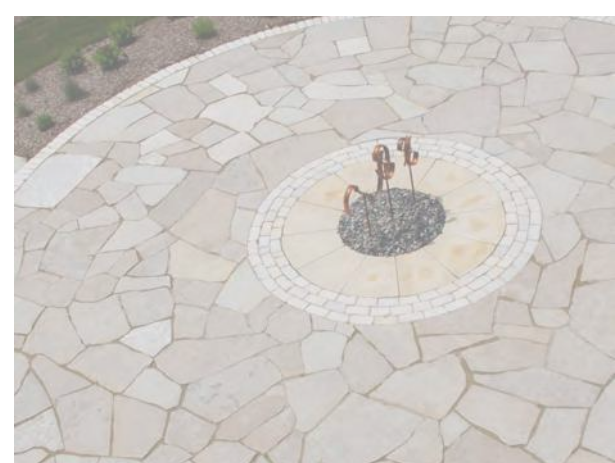
- Subject Site
- Existing Sidewalk/Trail
- Boardwalk
- Proposed Pedestrian Trail
- Rideau Trail
- Commercial Edge



- Subject Site
- Arterial Road
- Collector Road
- Local Road
- Primary Gateway
- Secondary Gateway



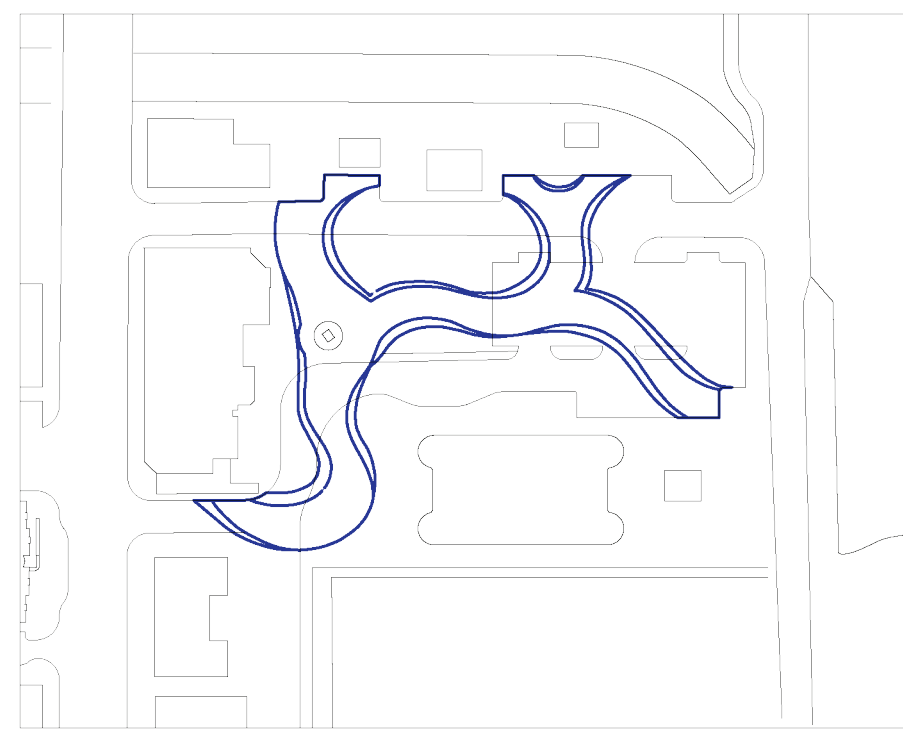
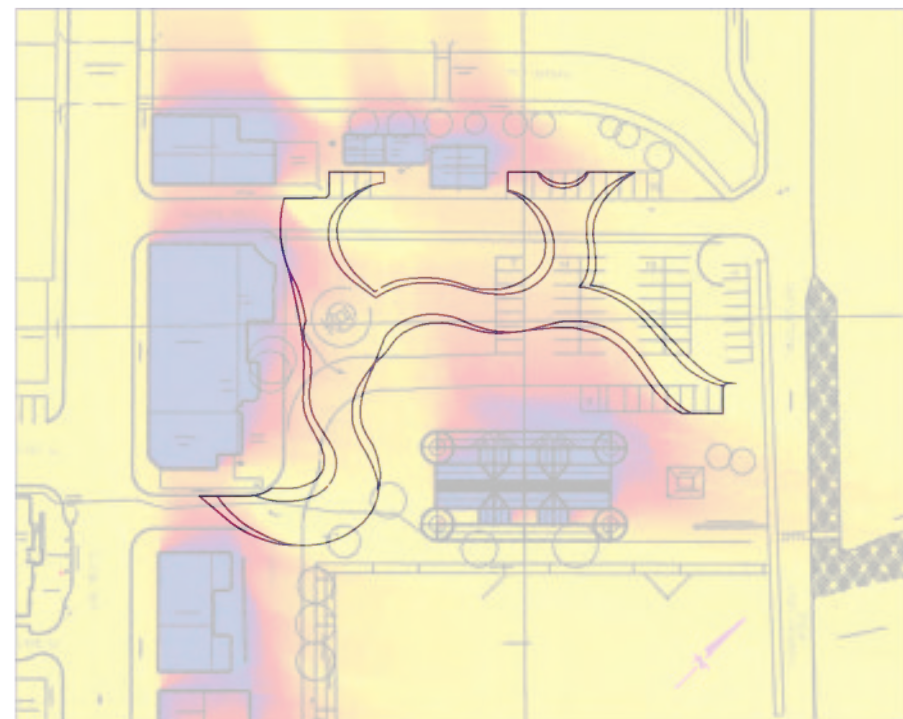
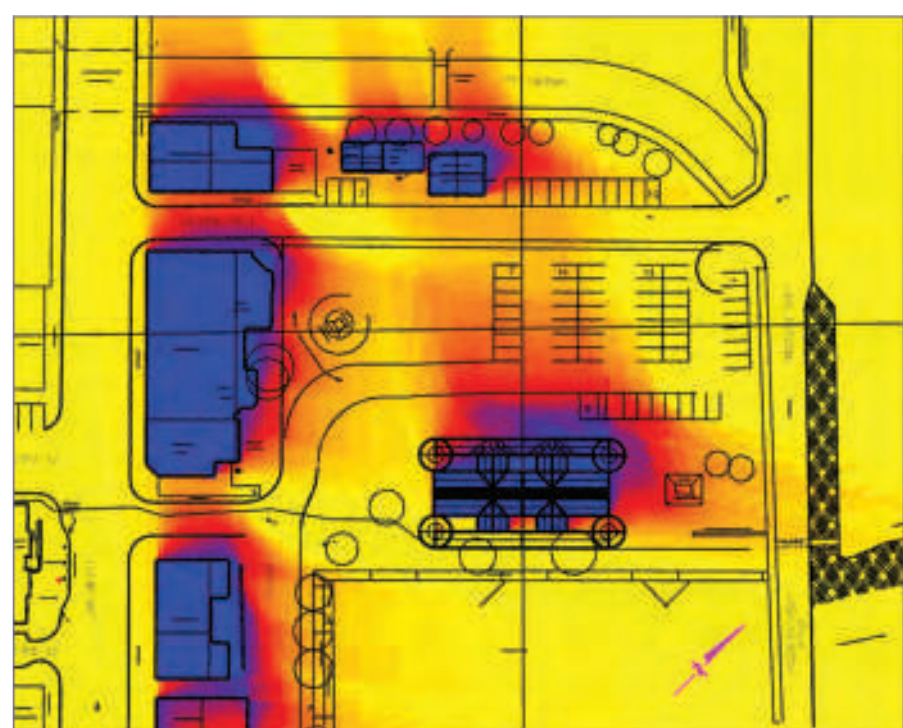
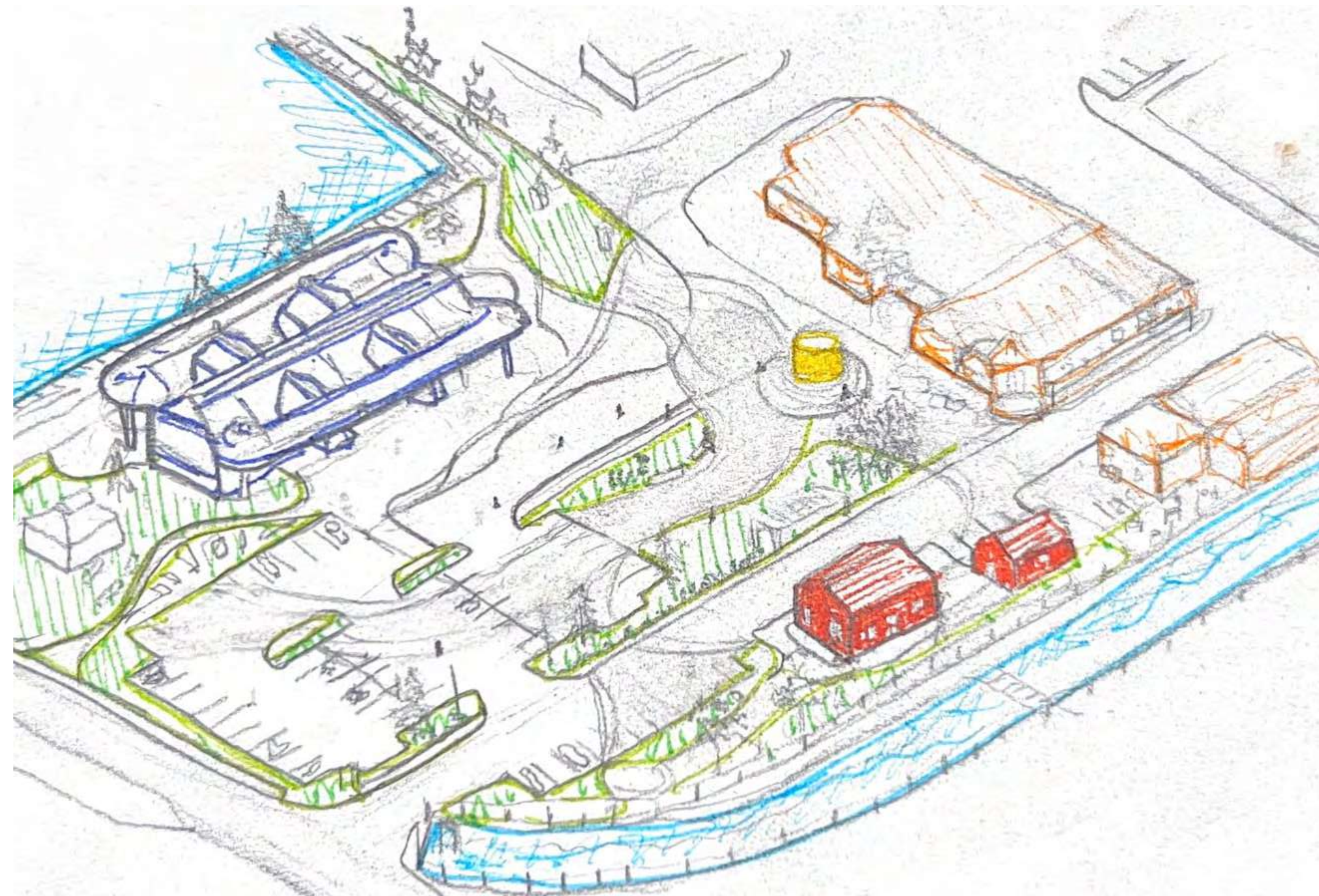
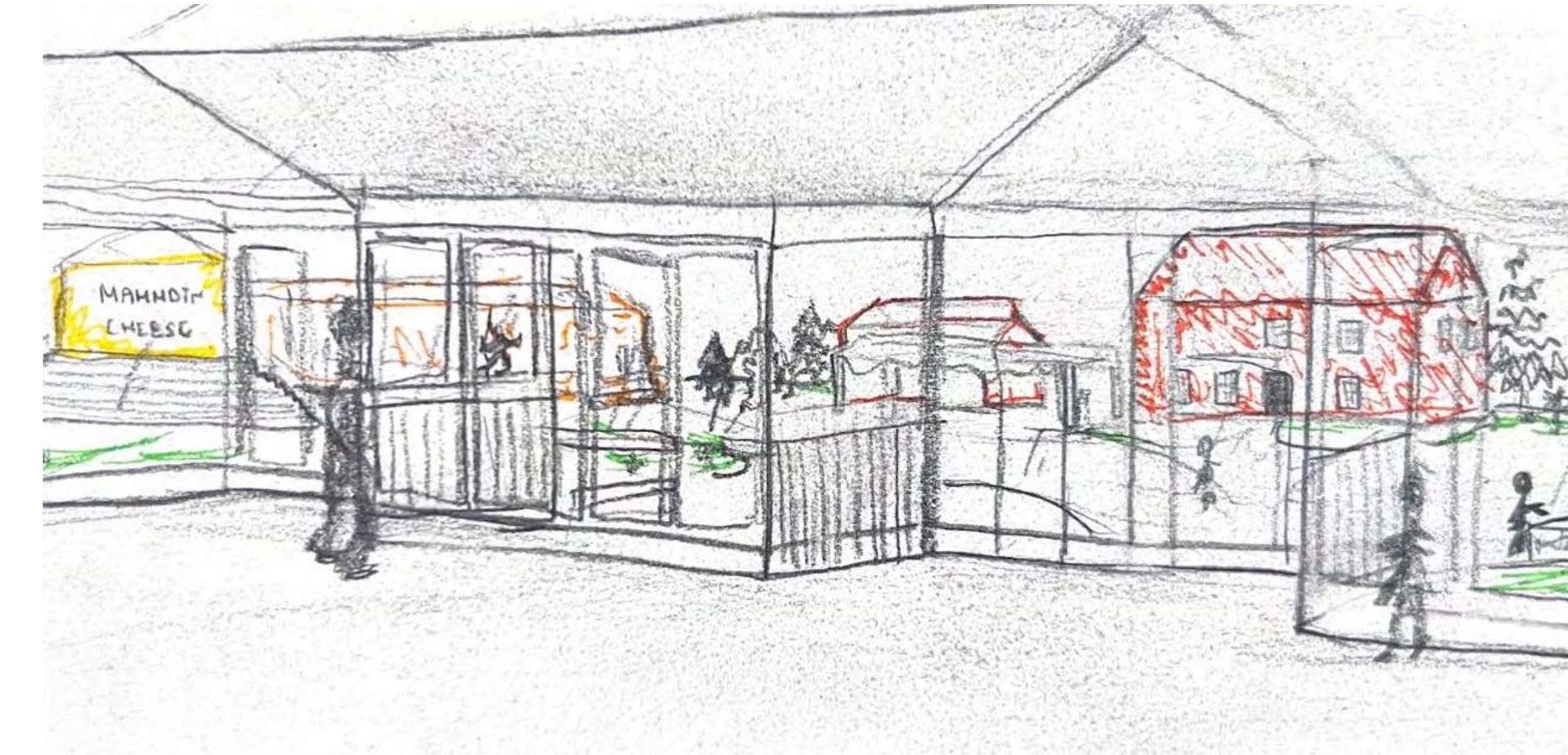
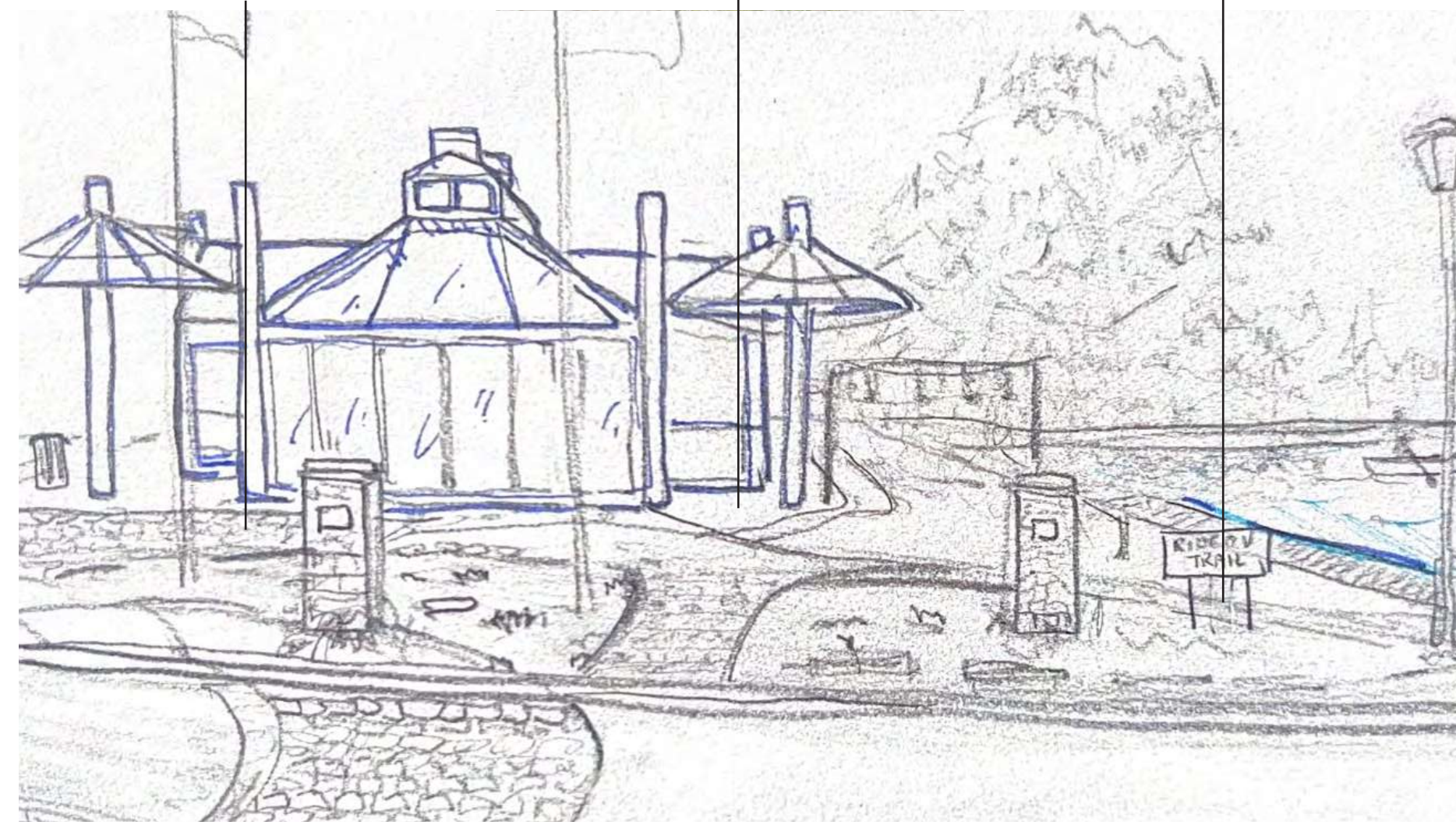
COBBLESTONE



LIMESTONE



STONE PATH



Threading the Tay - Design Statement

The primary focus of this design is to establish a continuous, pedestrian-oriented regional identity structured around a central flowing path. Inspired by the movement of the Tay River, the cobblestone ground pattern weaves together the commercial edges and key features of the square, including the Red House heritage building, commercial blocks, the Crystal Palace, and the Mammoth Cheese Replica, creating a dialogue between these landmarks. At the heart of the proposal is the preservation and enhancement of the site's commercial and cultural edge. The Crystal Palace, the Red House, and the Theatre frame a vibrant pedestrian zone that prioritizes human-scale interaction over vehicular dominance. By relocating the majority of parking spaces closer to Drummond Street, the design establishes a protective buffer, creating a safe and inviting civic space. The flowing cobblestone path is intentionally aligned with solar exposure, guiding movement through the warmest areas of the site throughout the day and across seasons. This gesture also creates a sequence of spatial moments. Small plazas emerge at key points along the path, particularly in front of the Red House and the Crystal Palace, forming natural gathering spots for markets and informal social activity.

Complementing the public space, smaller amenity zones are integrated along the water body edges, including designated zones for campfires and quiet gathering. Year-round usability is central to the design. Under normal conditions, circulation is focused along the commercial edge and key landmarks such as the Mammoth Cheese Replica, drawing activity away from vehicular zones. In winter, the basin accommodates seasonal programming, including skating, supported by accessible pathways and adjacent amenity areas. During larger events, parking zones transform into pedestrian-friendly hardscapes, allowing the site to expand its capacity while the flowing cobblestone path provides visual continuity across the entire site. Parking areas are designed as buffer zones with planting beds to mitigate the visual impact of vehicles. The planting strategy draws on the ecological character of Steward Park, incorporating native and local species to strengthen continuity with the surrounding landscape. A mix of shade trees and shading structures ensures comfort and shelter throughout the year.

By weaving together the site's heritage and landscape, Threading the Tay invites residents and visitors to engage with both the cultural history and contemporary social life of the Tay Basin Square.