EAST SIDE COASTAL RESILIENCY

Community Board 3
Parks, Recreation, Waterfront & Resiliency Committee

June 9, 2022

NYC DDC · NYC Parks · New York City DOT · NYC Environmental Protection · NYC Mayor's Office of Resiliency

RECAP

CURRENT DESIGN

RECAP

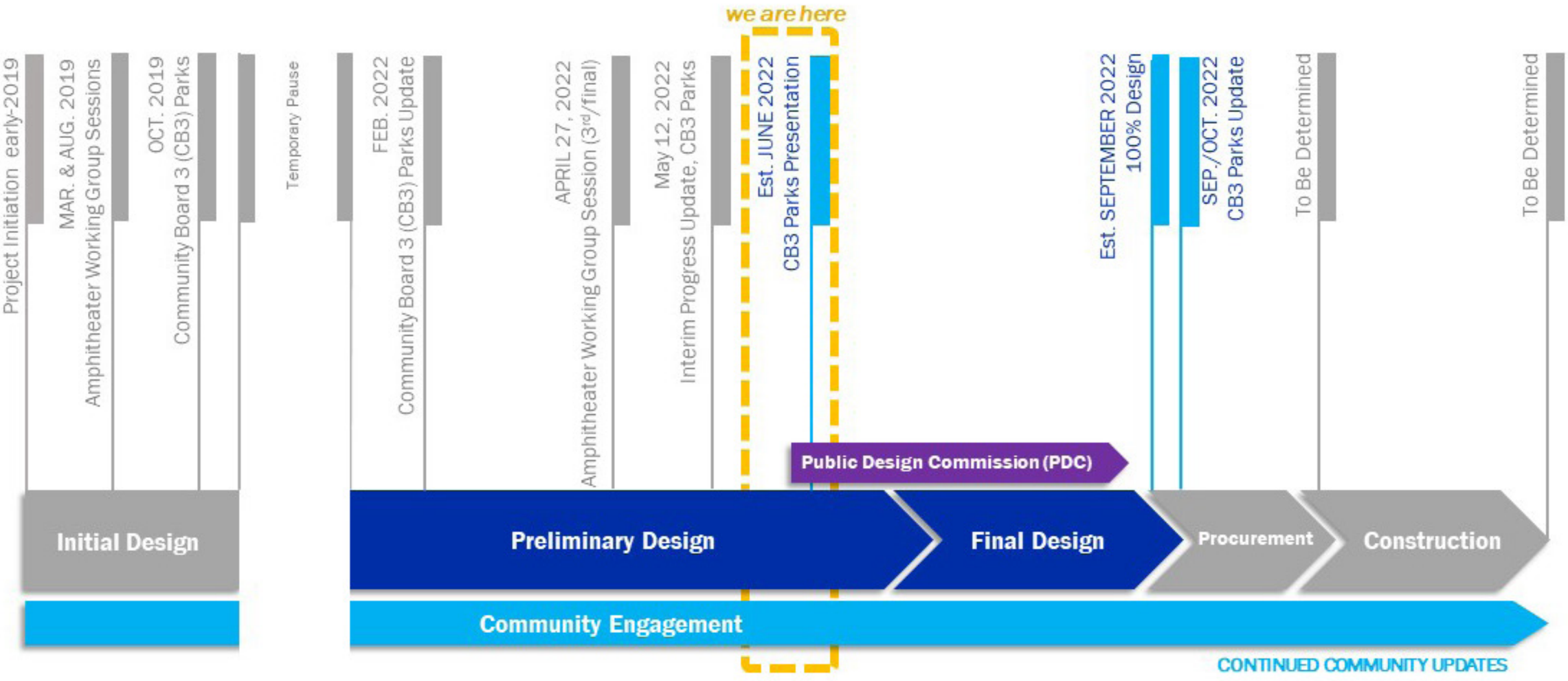
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Amphitheater & Canopy Structure

- Amphitheater will be rebuilt in the same general location.
- Amphitheater seating design developed with community input, featuring increased accessibility, backed seating, improved loading/stage access, and increased maximum capacity of 2000 spectators.
- Community requested canopy structure over stage.
- In 2019, a Feasibility Study was conducted to better understand the scope and design possibilities.
- The design team is now in the Preliminary phase of developing the full Canopy Structure design, which will be constructed as part of the Project Area 1 construction contract.

ESCR AMPHITHEATER CANOPY STRUCTURE

PROJECT TIMELINE



Subject to Change

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

SITE HISTORY

Original Structure

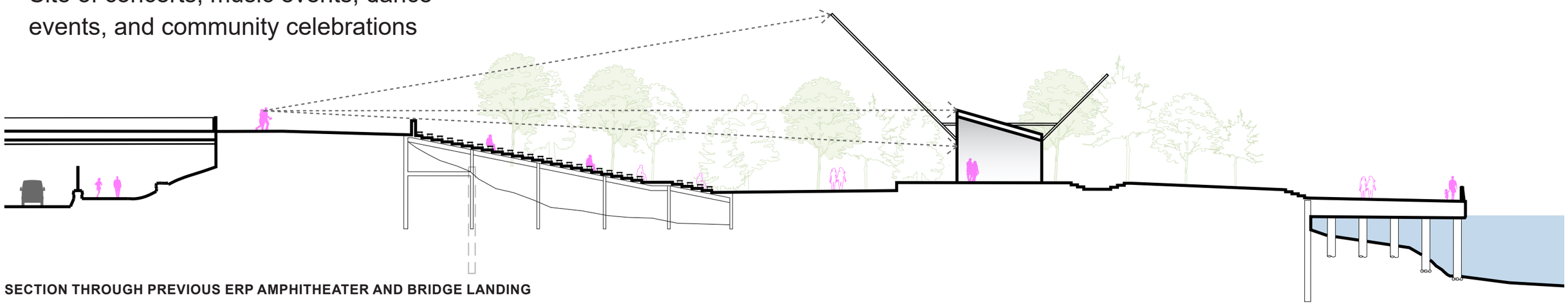
- Built in 1941
- Site of the City's first Shakespeare-in-the-Park series during the 1950s.
- Used for local ceremonies, music and theater events, and school graduations
- Original recreation building and amphitheater deteriorated over time and closed in 1980's

Rehabilitation

- Amphitheater was restored in 2001 as part of efforts to revitalize lower Manhattan
- Recreation building was removed, leaving open view through bandshell to river
- Metal canopy structure added
- Site of concerts, music events, dance events, and community celebrations

ORIGINAL EAST RIVER PARK AMPHITHEATER & RECREATION CENTER, 1941

REHABILITATED STRUCTURE, 2001



SECTION THROUGH PREVIOUS ERP AMPHITHEATER AND BRIDGE LANDING

STRUCTURE
DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

STRUCTURE

DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

CAPACITY

PERMITTED EVENT SIZE AT EAST RIVER PARK

AVERAGE PERMITTED EVENT SIZE, 2018:
90 PEOPLE

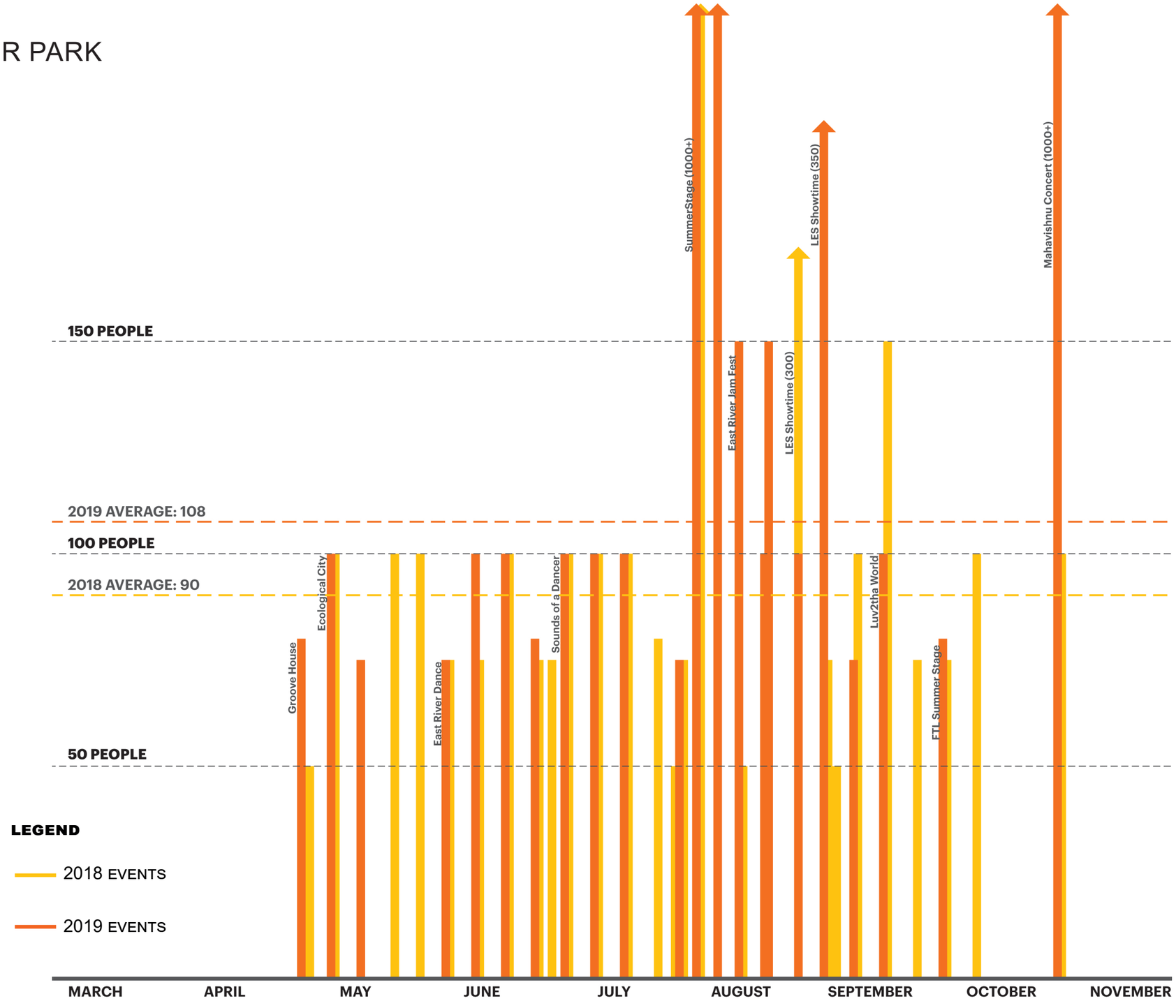
AVERAGE PERMITTED EVENT SIZE, 2019:
108 PEOPLE

(AVERAGES EXCLUDE SUMMERSTAGE AND MAHAVISHNU CONCERT)

2-3 EVENTS OF 1000+ PEOPLE (SUMMERSTAGE, MAHAVISHNU CONCERT)

EVENT TYPES:
CONCERTS
MUSIC
DANCE
FESTIVAL / PROMOTIONAL

Note: Event organizers submit estimates of event attendance for permits, however actual attendance may vary. Data on non-permitted or informal events is not captured above.



STRUCTURE

DESIGN FOR MULTIPLE SCALES

Permitted Events → Everyday Use

LARGE PERFORMANCE

- Larger events and performances for 1000+ spectators.
- Views towards performers on stage.
- All seating rows occupied (including overflow area).
- Significant audio amplification and separate rigging/stage setup.

MEDIUM PERFORMANCE

- Performances with around 500 spectators.
- Views towards performers on stage.
- Main seating area occupied.
- Some audio amplification.

SMALL PERFORMANCE

- For around 200 spectators
- Views towards performers on stage
- First rows and ‘orchestra pit’ occupied
- Less audio amplification.
- Most common permitted event size.

GATHERING / EVENT SPACE

- Gatherings of around 100 persons.
- Waterfront view backdrop.
- Occupies stage footprint.
- Limited need for audio amplification.

IMPROMPTU PERFORMANCE

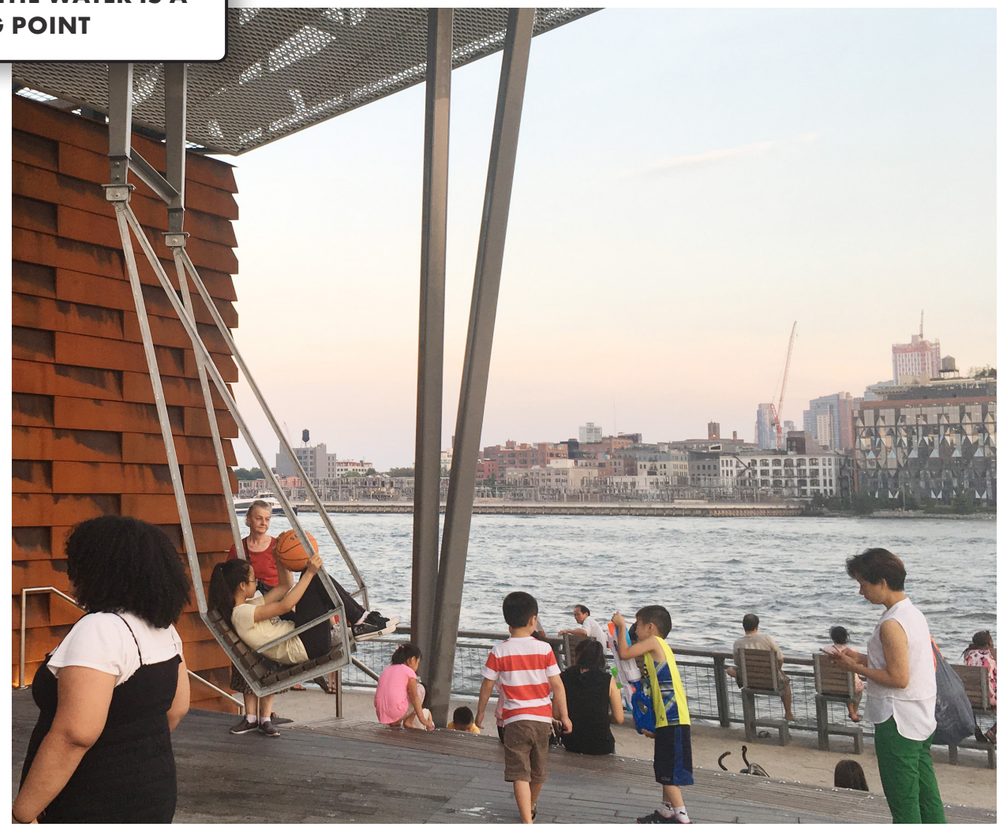
- Small, informal events & performances.
- Secondary stage.
- Area for spectators and passers-by to gather.
- No audio amplification.

HANGOUT SPOT

- Place to take a break and sit in the shade
- Addresses the waterfront

SHOULD IT FEEL LIKE A BANDSHELL OR A WATERFRONT PAVILION?

WE BELIEVE AN ARCH STRUCTURE WITH VIEWS TO THE WATER IS A GREAT STARTING POINT



WE BELIEVE IT CAN FEEL LIKE BOTH A BANDSHELL AND A WATERFRONT PAVILION

ACOUSTICS

ACOUSTICAL DESIGN FINDINGS

Project team studied potential noise effects of the proposed amphitheater:

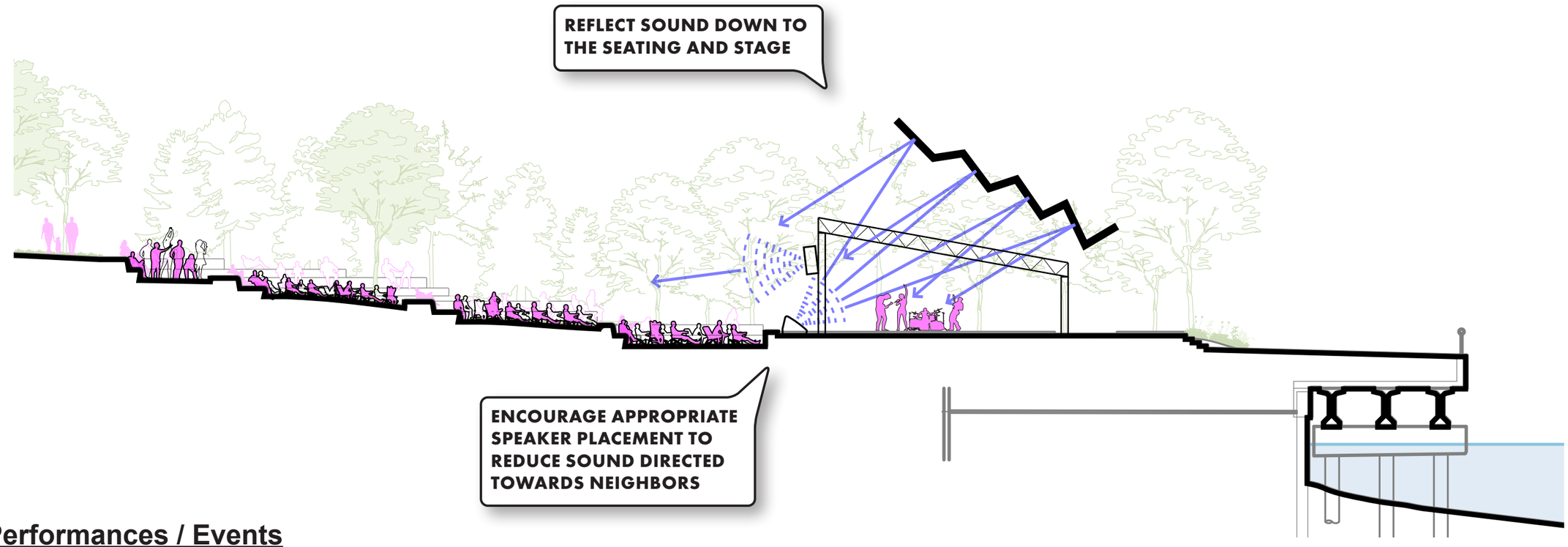
- Measurement of existing sound levels, with and without events
- Computer based acoustic modeling based on proposed amphitheater design

Noise mitigation measures include:

- Stage height and placement
- Audience seating area
- Canopy configuration
- Softscape and planted areas

ACOUSTICS

DESIGN FOR MULTIPLE SCALES

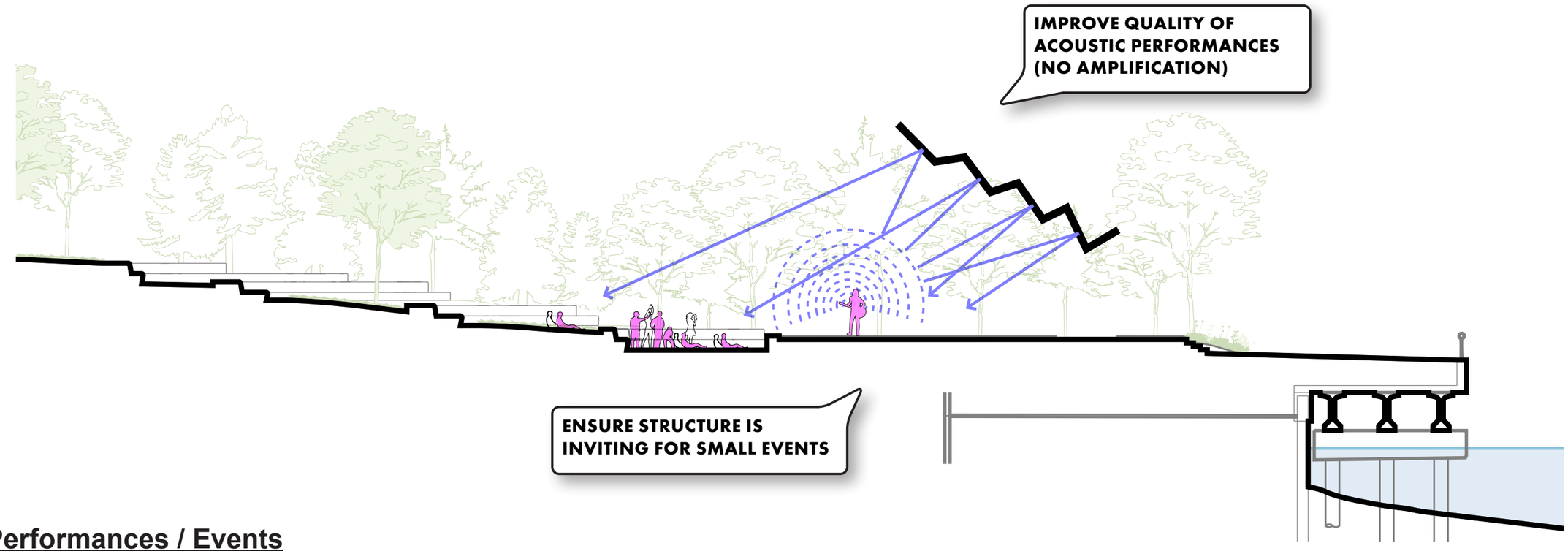


Large Performances / Events

- Encourage appropriate speaker placement with downward direction.
- Concentrate sound from stage monitors back to the stage and performers (nothing towards neighbors).
- When performers can hear their sound better, there is less need to turn up amplification.

ACOUSTICS

DESIGN FOR MULTIPLE SCALES



Small Performances / Events

- Concentrate reflected noise back to the stage and first seating rows (nothing towards neighbors).
- Improved acoustic reflection lessens need for amplification and better supports smaller events.
- Most common type of permitted event.

PROPOSED DESIGN

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

DESIGN CONCEPT

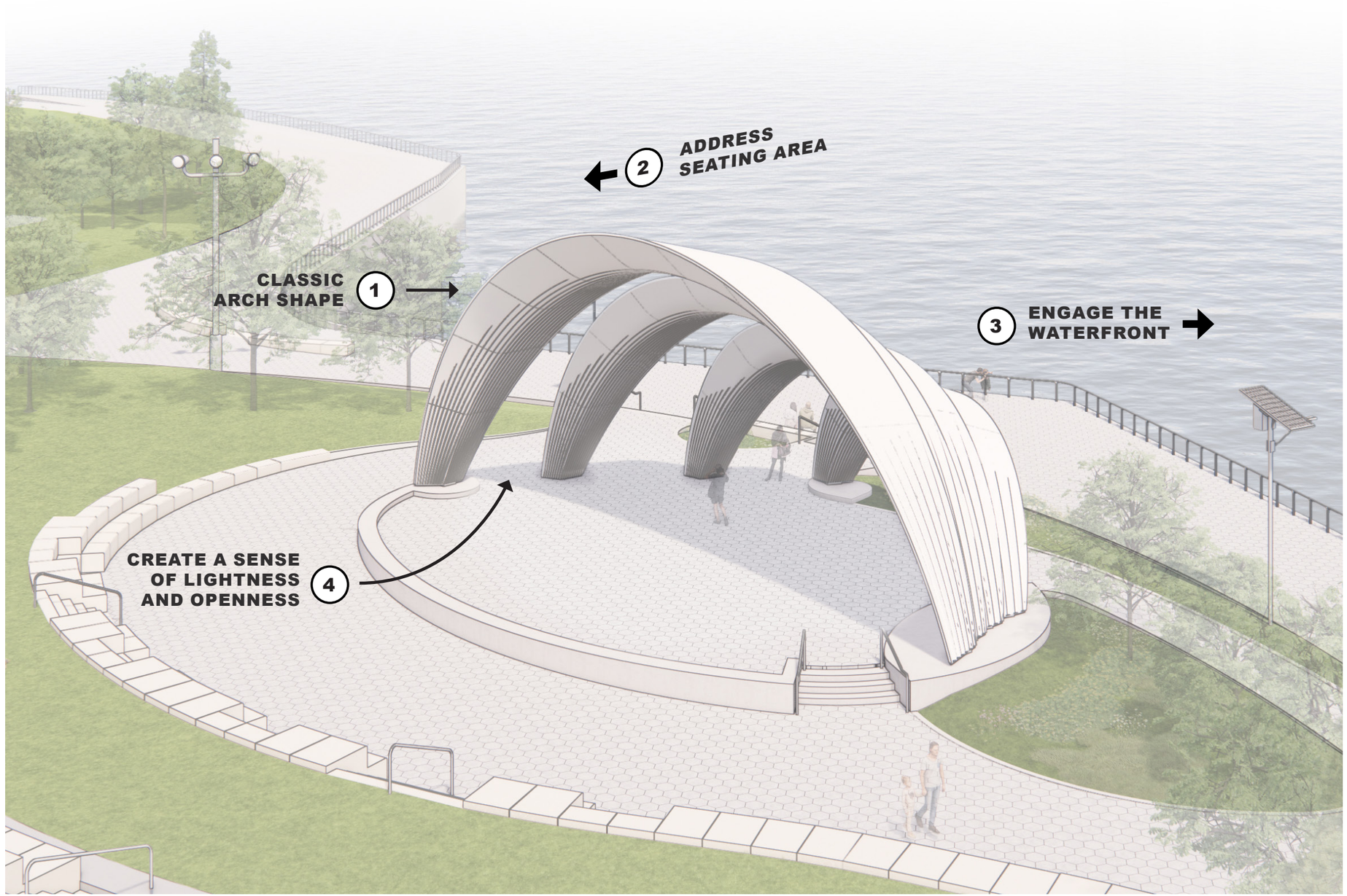
1. **Embrace a Classic Arch Shape:**
An arch shape pays homage to both the original structure and classic bandshells while creating opportunities for physical access and sight lines to the waterfront.

2. **Clearly Address the Main Seating Area:**
The front arch is on axis with the main seating area and is scaled to provide a sense of arrival as one enters from the Corlears Hook bridge.

3. **Engage the Waterfront:**
Views to the waterfront are framed by an arch parallel to the esplanade. This arch is lower than the front, creating a more intimate experience near the water. An accessible path and stairs connect the stage to the esplanade and reinforce this design as a multi-purpose bandshell and waterfront pavilion.

4. **Create a Sense of Lightness and Openness:**
An open-arch scheme allows for greater visibility and connectivity at the stage level. This approach also creates separation between the overlapping arches above, allowing light and air to enter while keeping the rain out.

5. **Perform Acoustically:**
The structure is designed to direct sound toward the seating and landscape. This will improve the sound quality for small, unamplified events while mitigating sound projections toward the upland neighborhood.



AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

Clearly Address the Main Seating Area:

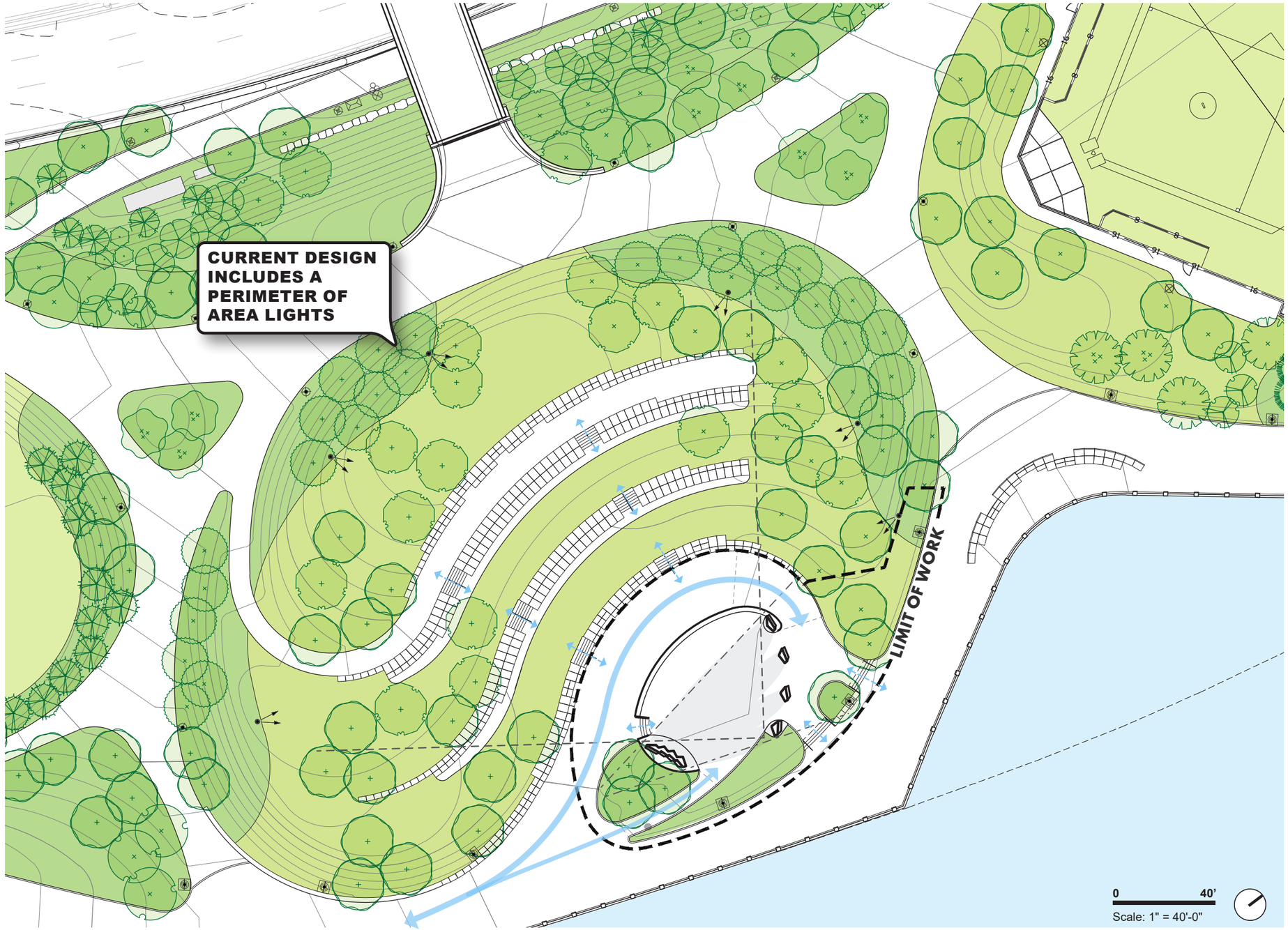
- Center on the seating area and align with circulation stairs
- Provide a sense of entry and arrival by ensuring strong visibility from the Corlears Hook Bridge

Engage the Waterfront:

- Views to the waterfront are framed by an arch that is parallel to the esplanade.
- An accessible path and stairs connect the stage to the esplanade and reinforce this design as a multi-purpose bandshell and waterfront pavilion.

Create a Sense of Lightness and Openness:

- The open-arch scheme allows for greater visibility and connectivity at the stage level.



Legend (No Addt'l or Change in Lighting in Scope):

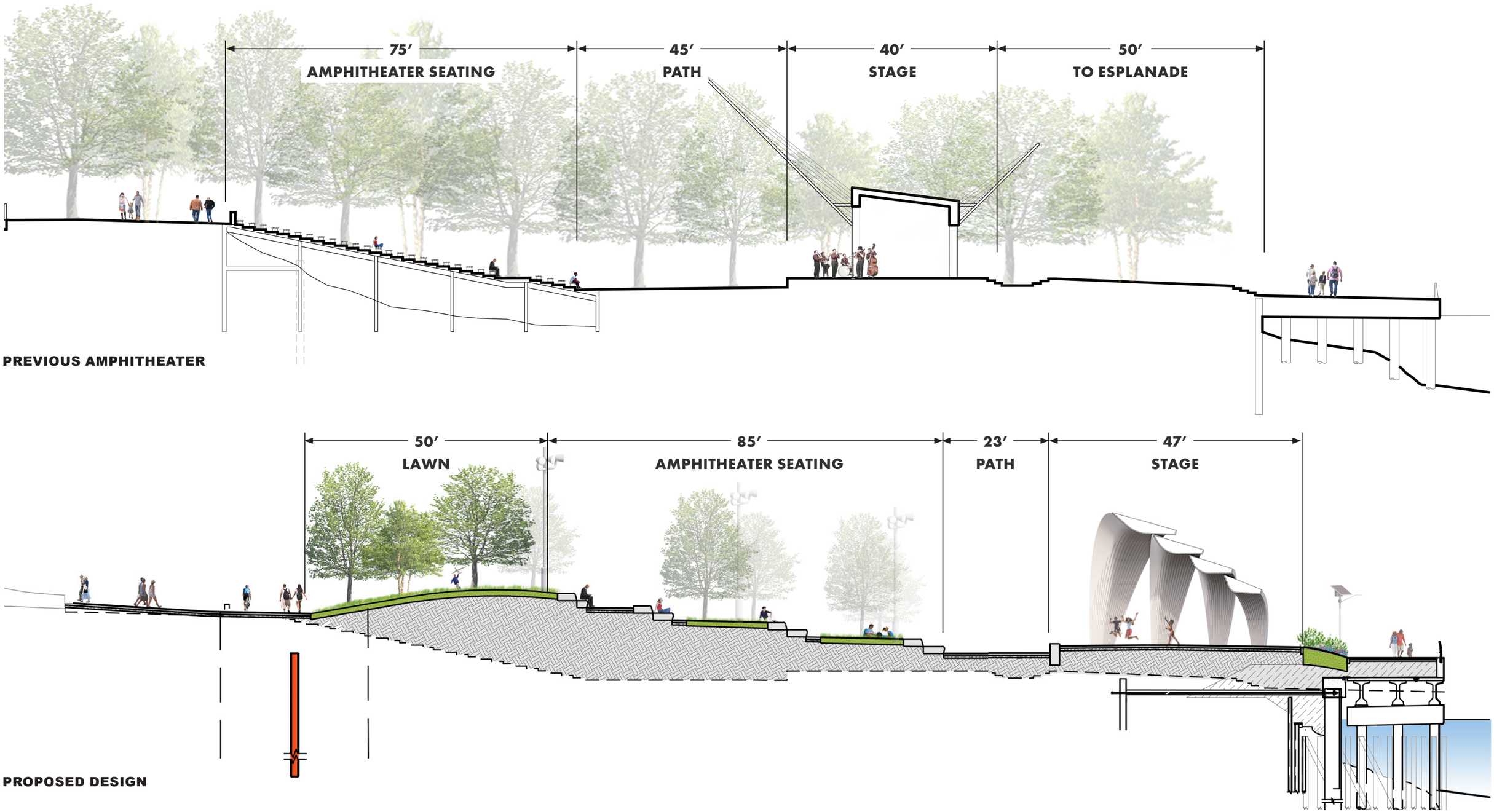
Amphitheater Area Light

Solar Esplanade Light

Walkway Light

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

PREVIOUS AND PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS

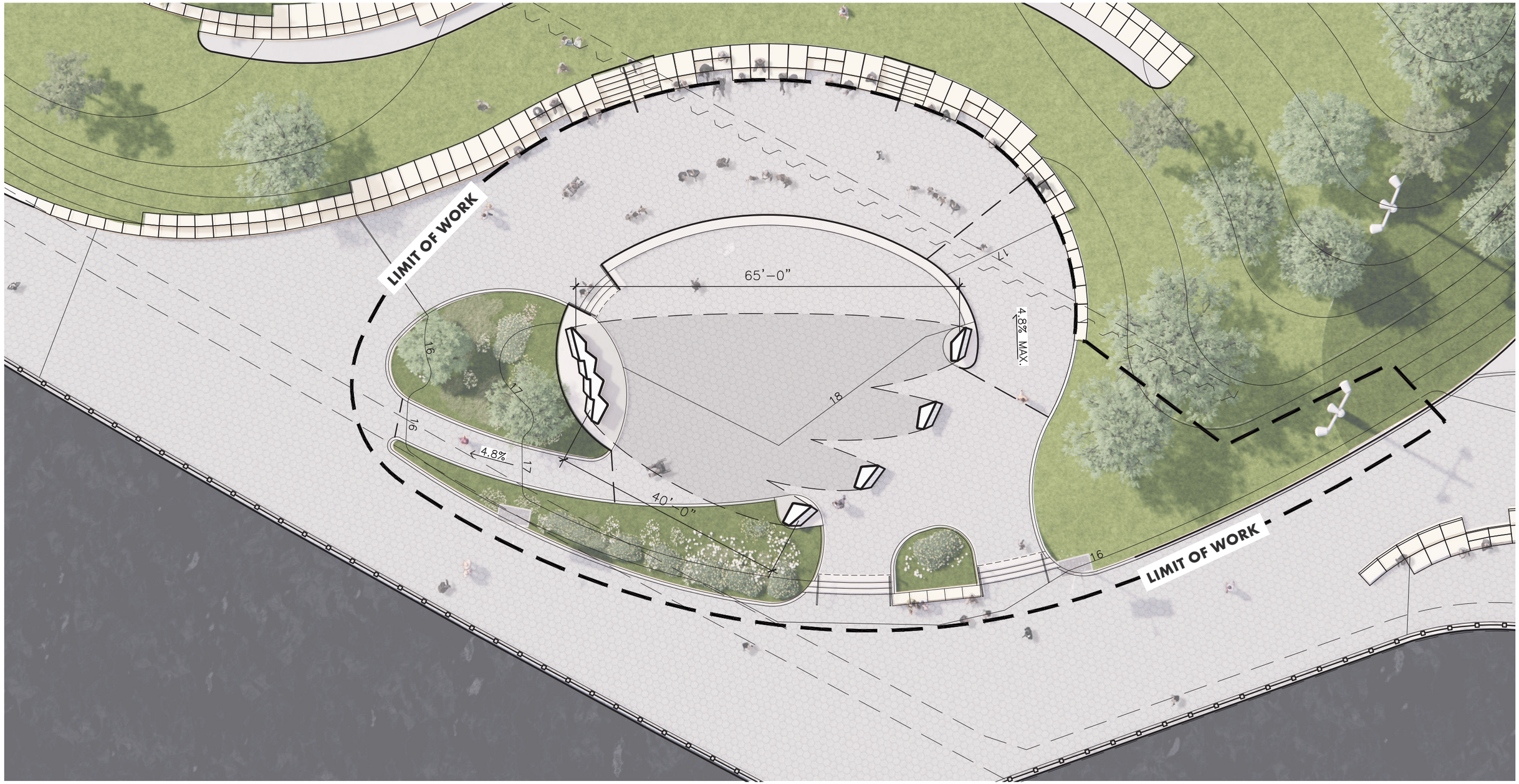


PREVIOUS AMPHITHEATER

PROPOSED DESIGN

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

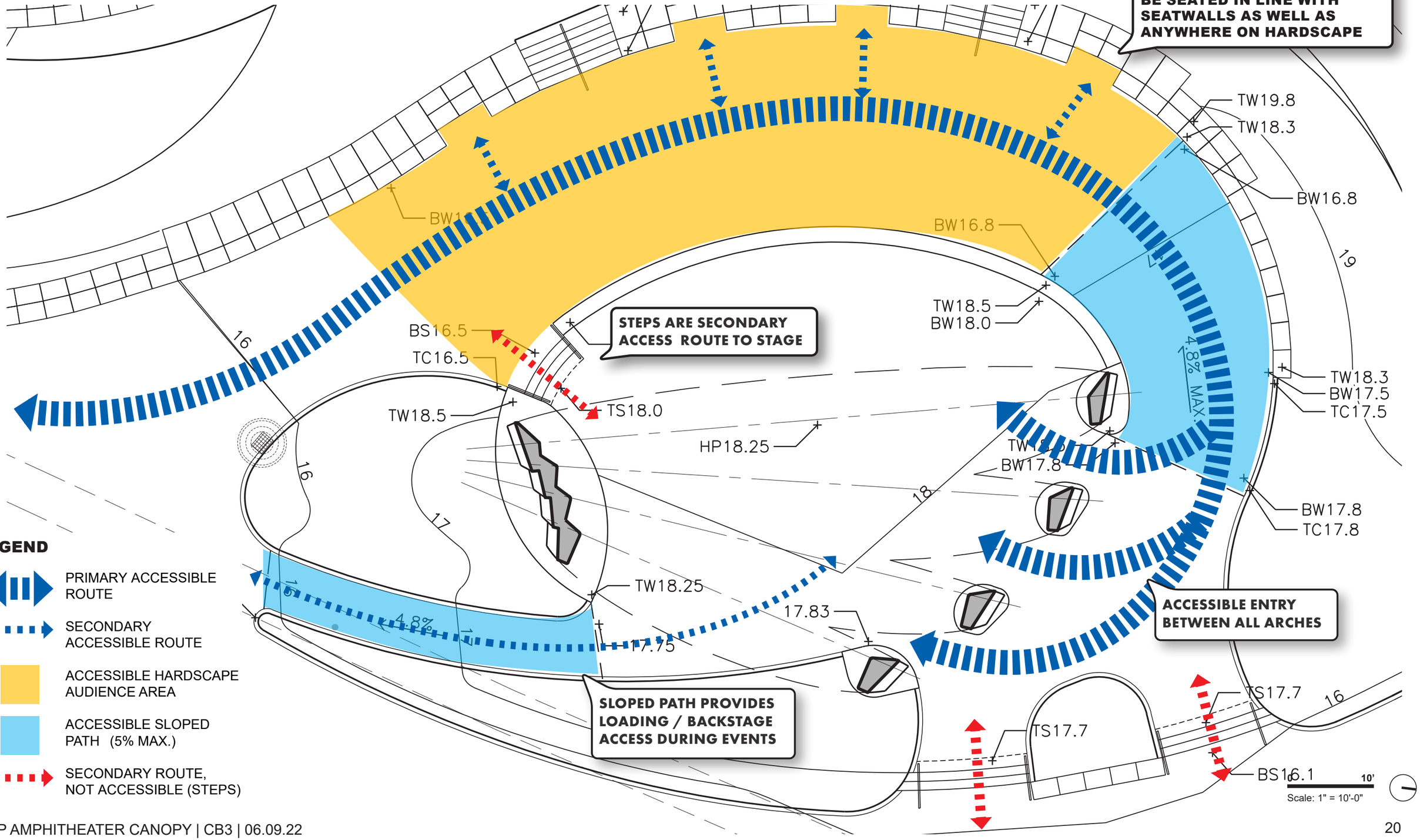
STAGE AREA PLAN



0 16’

Scale: 1/16" = 1'

SEATING AND ACCESSIBILITY

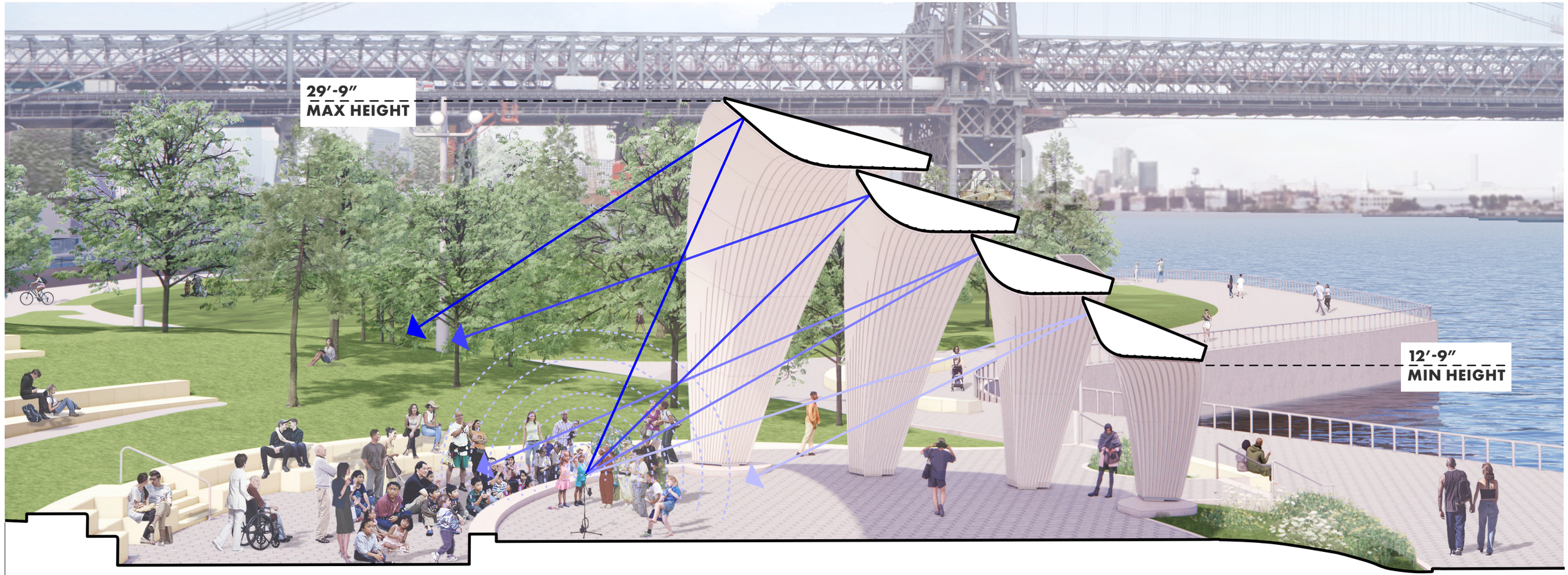


LEGEND

- PRIMARY ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
- SECONDARY ACCESSIBLE ROUTE
- ACCESSIBLE HARDSCAPE AUDIENCE AREA
- ACCESSIBLE SLOPED PATH (5% MAX.)
- SECONDARY ROUTE, NOT ACCESSIBLE (STEPS)

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

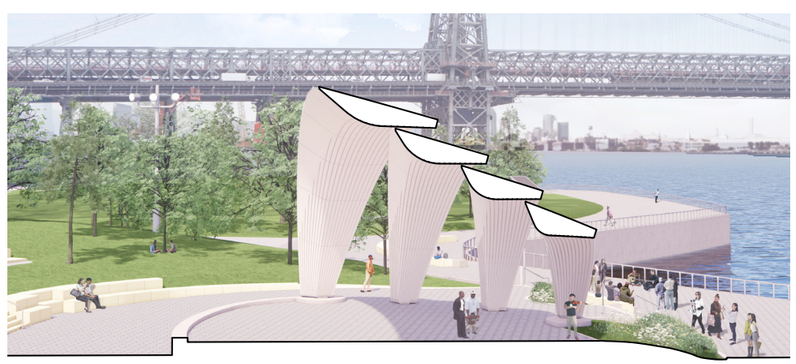
SECTION AND USE SCENARIOS



SECTION PERSPECTIVE - SMALL PERFORMANCE

LARGE PERFORMANCE

GATHERING UNDER THE CANOPY

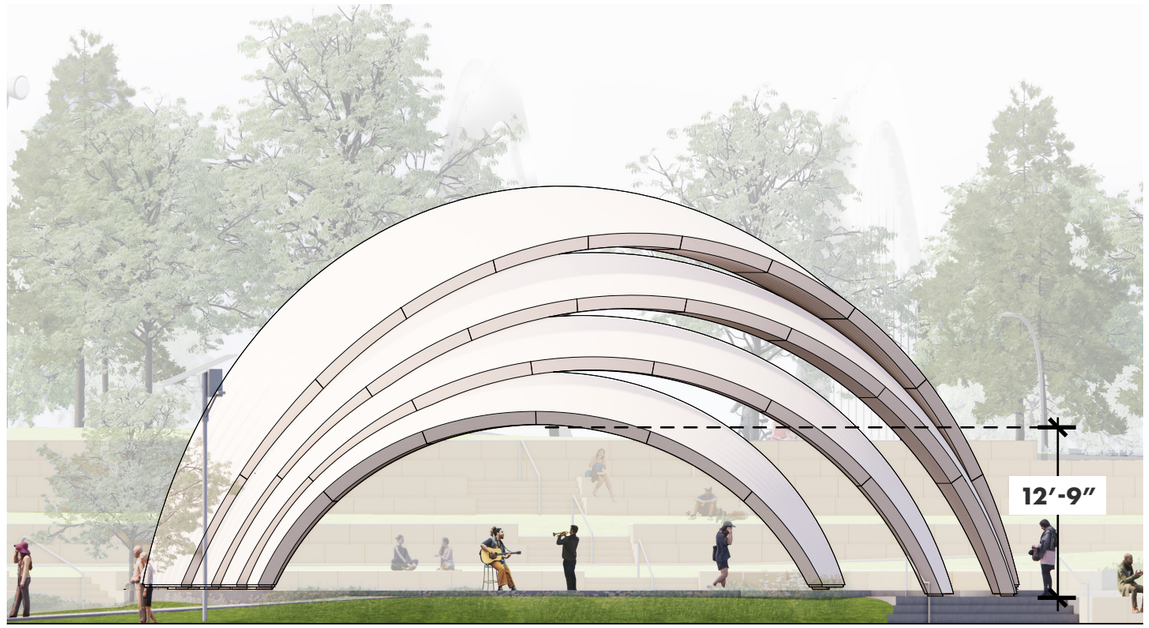


EVERYDAY USE

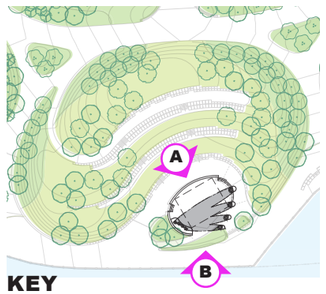
AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

ELEVATIONS

A. FRONT ELEVATION



B. REAR ELEVATION



KEY

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

VIEW FROM CORLEARS HOOK BRIDGE LANDING

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

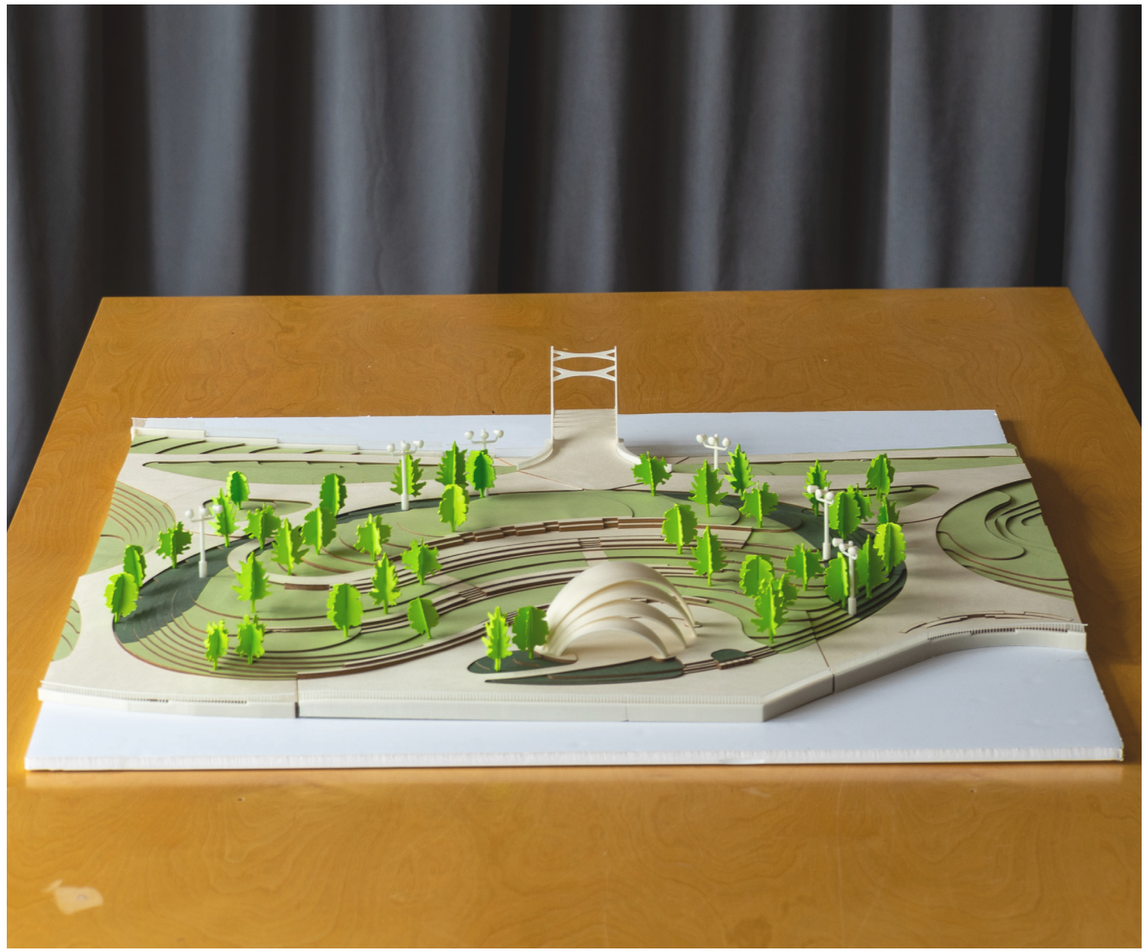
VIEW FROM AUDIENCE SEATING

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

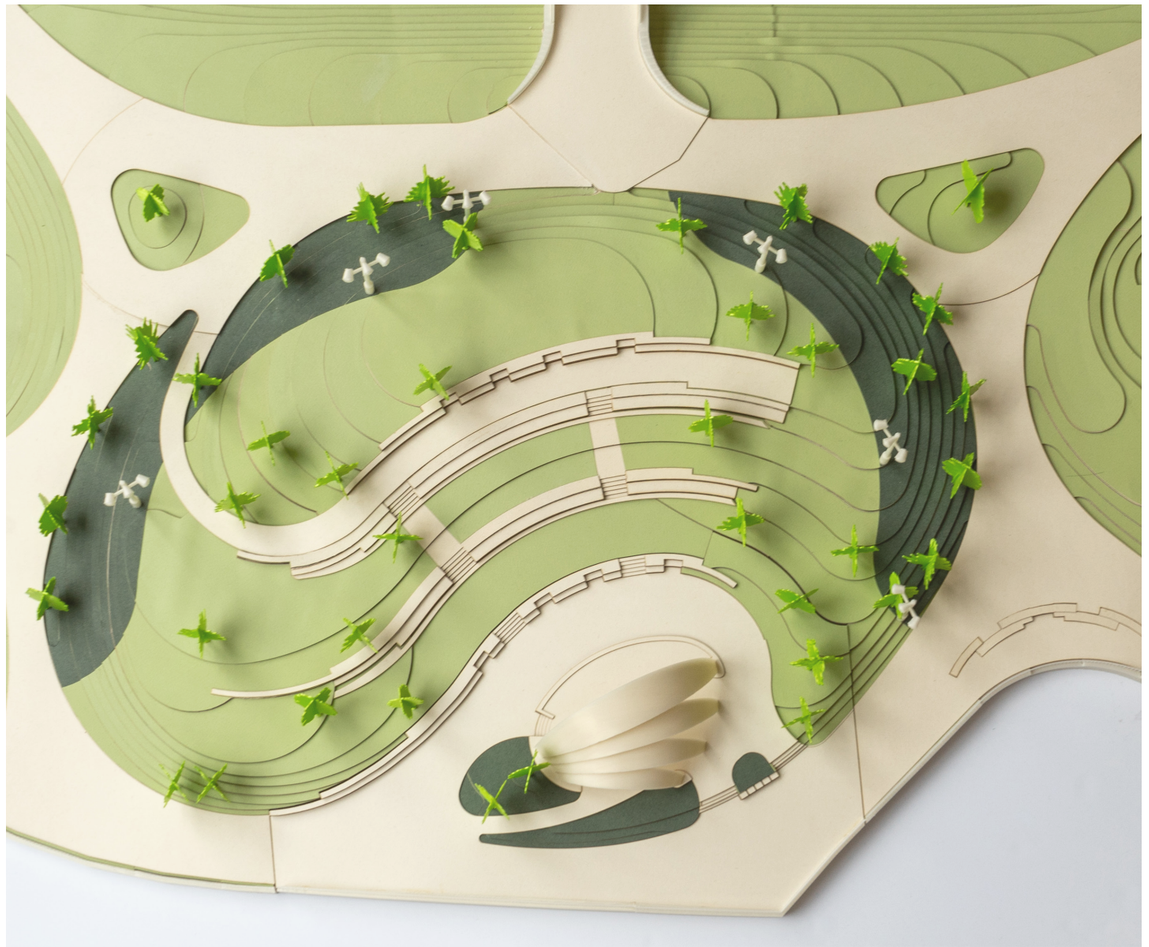
VIEW FROM ACROSS EMBAYMENT

AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

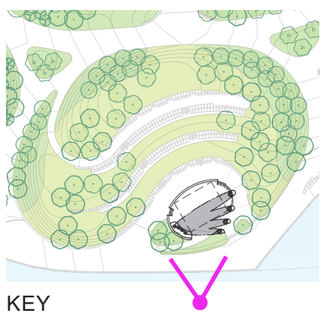
MODEL PHOTOS



Model Photo: Overall Aerial



Model Photo: Top View



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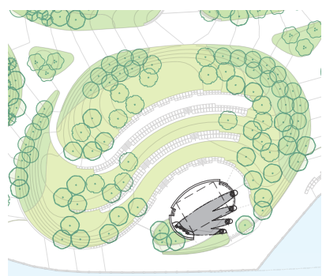

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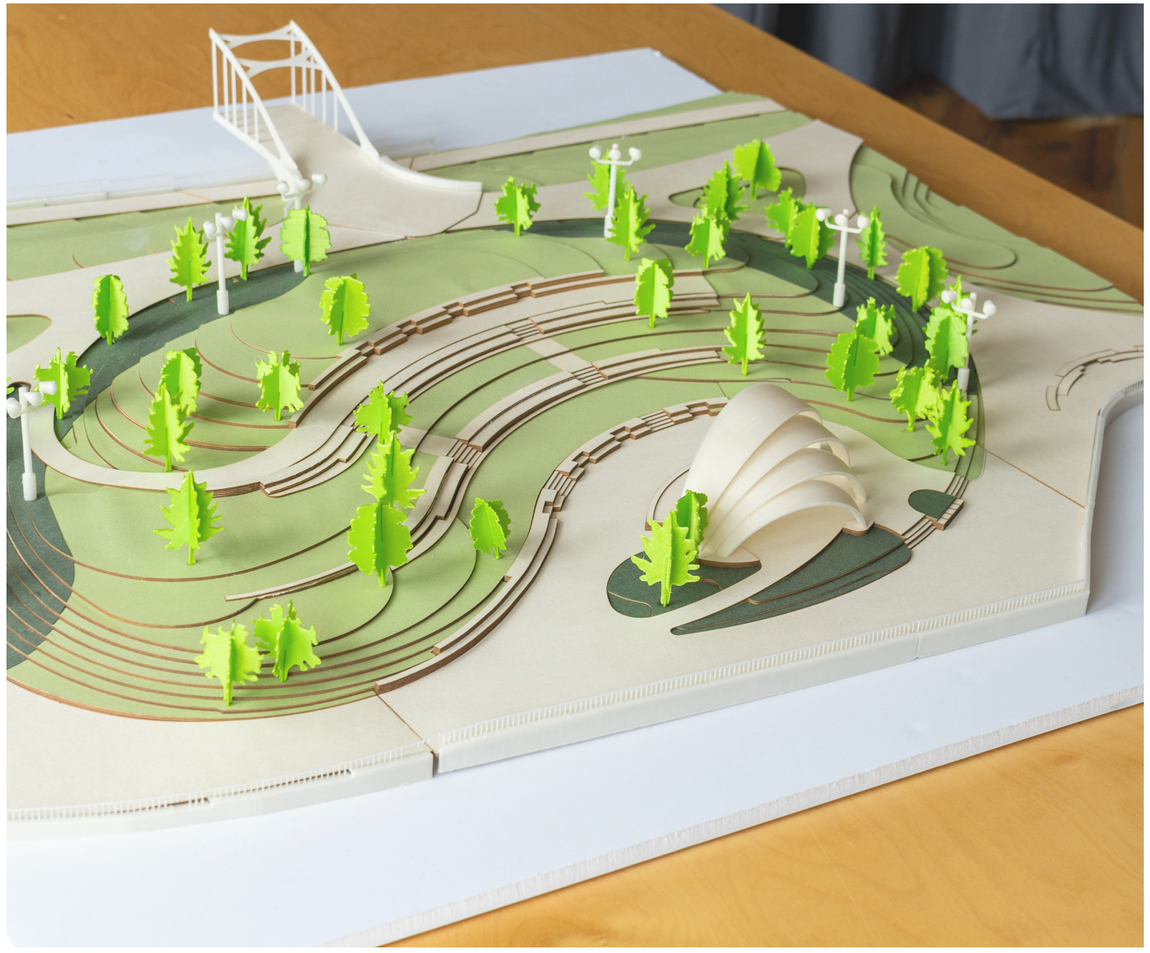
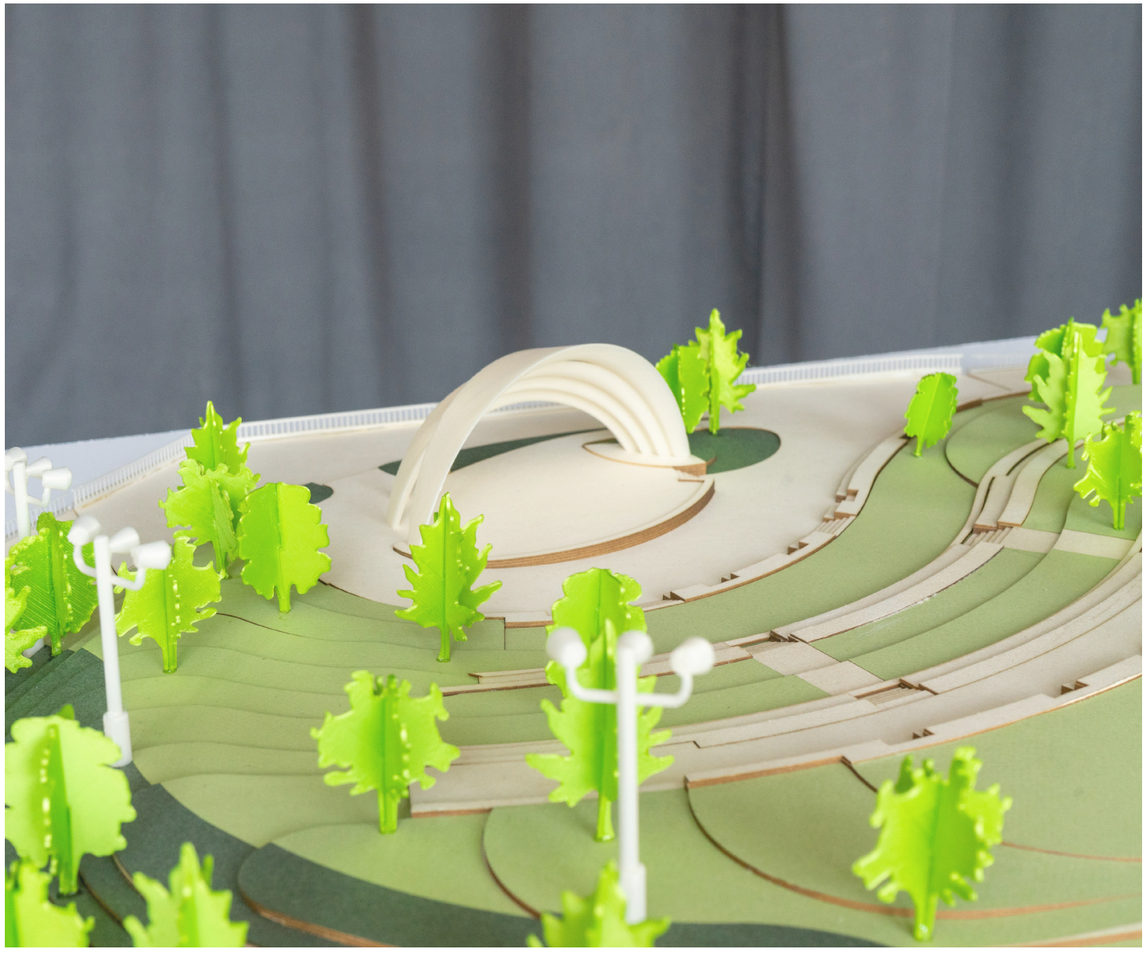
AMPHITHEATER STRUCTURE

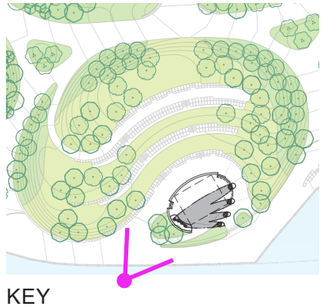
MODEL PHOTOS



Model Photo: South Aerial



Model Photo: North Aerial



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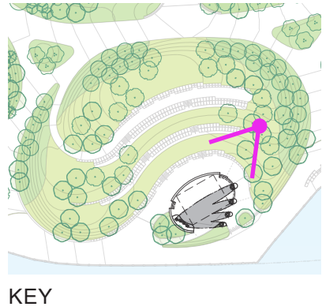

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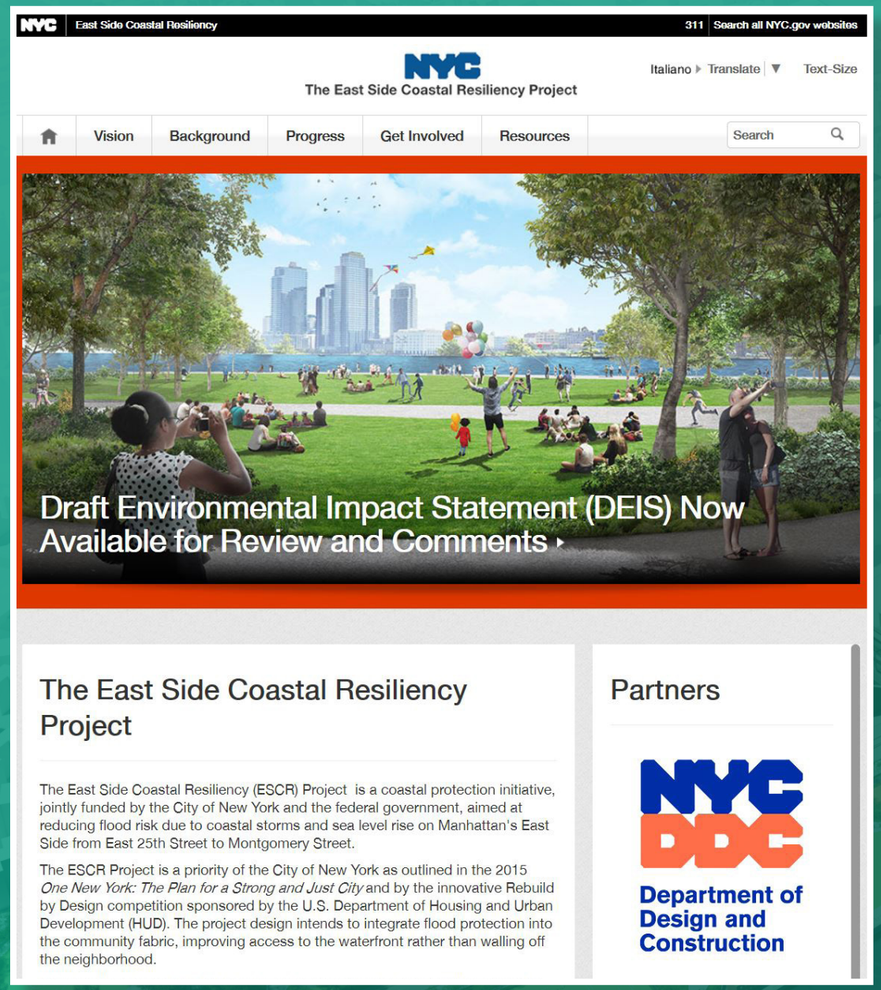
DISCUSSION

Website



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