



# URBAN + INFORMALITY

## FRAMING RESILIENCE

BE 405/505 Studio | Winter 2020



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We also thank UW CBE faculty and Seattle-area professionals and community leaders who shared their knowledge with the studio:

Bob Freitag, Senior Instructor, *Urban Design and Planning, CBE*

Jeff Hou, Professor, *Landscape Architecture, CBE*

Rebecca Walter, Assistant Professor, *Real Estate, CBE*

Virginia Werner, *urban design professional*

Hayden Campbell, *urban design professional*

Ruby Holland, *founder of Keep Your Habitat*

Ray Williams, *leader of Yes Farm and Black Farmers Collective*

Lizzy Chong Baskerville, *Garden Manager of Danny Woo Community Garden, Interim CDA*

We recognize and appreciate the interdisciplinary graduate and undergraduate students who participated in the studio, and whose research, planning and design work is presented in this report. Their commitment to an inclusive and supportive learning community, rigorous research and critique, and creative planning and design process and proposals made this a compelling and rewarding studio experience.

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# PREFACE

This studio report sets a context for and presents the work of the interdisciplinary BE studio, Urban + Informality: Framing Resilience, taught by Professors Manish Chalana (Urban Design and Planning) and Julie Johnson (Landscape Architecture) in Winter 2020. Fifteen graduate and three undergraduate students participated in the studio and developed compelling analyses of and proposals for informality in Central Seattle. The studio focused on urban informality through interrelated themes of housing, livelihoods, urban agriculture, and arts/culture.

As these students were finalizing their projects for the end-of-quarter presentations, the University of Washington ended in-person learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The resulting upheaval and uncertainty led to canceling the students' final presentations, and instead committing to presenting their work in as a studio report.

This work is organized in 5 sections:

1. Introduction | discussion of studio framing, pedagogy, methods and process
2. Urban Informality Case Studies | group case studies relating to housing, livelihoods, urban agriculture, and arts/culture
3. Mapping Informality in Central Seattle | group analysis of historic and existing patterns of urban informality within areas of Central Seattle
4. Envisioning Informality in Central Seattle | group and related individual proposals engaging urban informality to address local needs and community resilience
5. Reflections | discussion of lessons for practice to engage urban informality; reflection on how the pandemic fostered urban informality and how this may inform post-pandemic urbanity.

We hope that this studio report featuring pedagogical framing, student research findings and proposals, and reflections may catalyze conversations and explorations of how and where informality may be recognized and supported in the city. We welcome and look forward to your thoughts.

While we have endeavored to catch and correct errors or missing information, we recognize that we may have missed some. Please contact us with updates or questions by email: [chalana@uw.edu](mailto:chalana@uw.edu) [jmsama@uw.edu](mailto:jmsama@uw.edu)

Thank you.



# SECTION 1

## INTRODUCTION

### URBAN INFORMALITY FRAMING RESILIENCE

Even as modernism's attempts at formalizing the city through land use and zoning was largely successful, it wasn't able to fully eradicate urban informal patterns and practices. Several such patterns and practices have survived (sometimes even thrived) in the urban context. Formalized systems' response to urban informality has ranged from outright erasure, to tolerance, to coaptation into the respective formal systems such as do it yourself (DIY) or tactical urbanism among others.

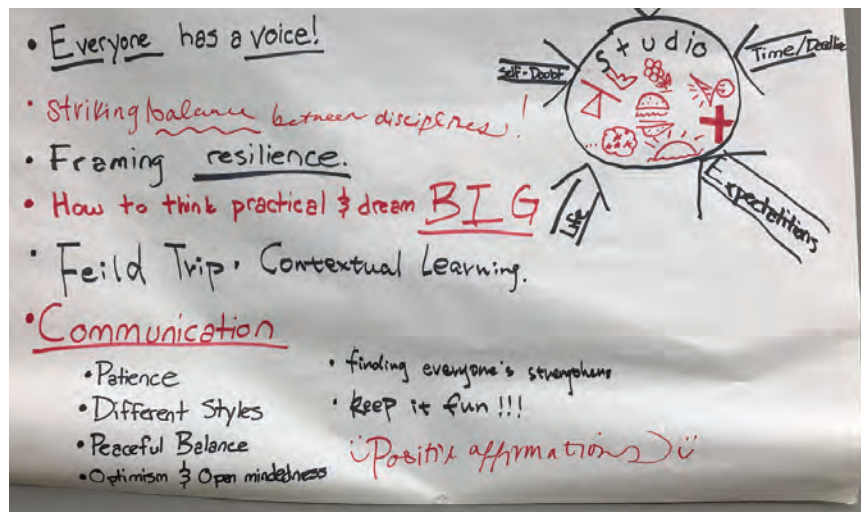
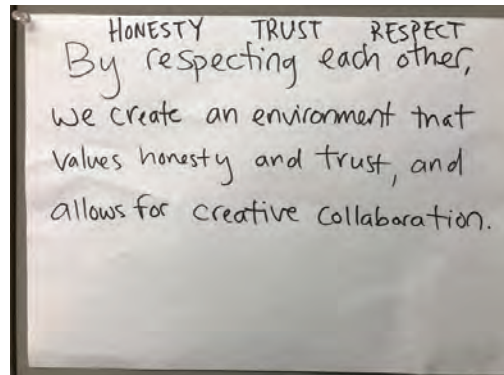
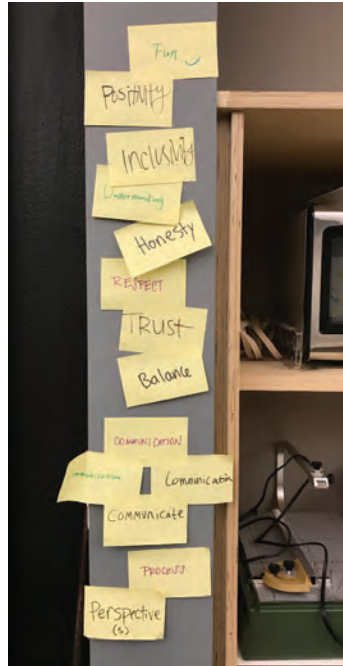
We argue that urban informality offers:

1. a critical lens to understand spatial disparities and inequities;
2. insights into the formalized design/planning systems' inability to fully engage urban complexity;
3. opportunities for individual and collective agency in meeting needs and adapting to change; and
4. a potent means of supporting community resilience through disruptions such as the COVID-19 pandemic and from the climate crisis.

These two images (right) illustrate examples of how urban agriculture manifests across formal to informal practices undertaken by communities and individuals. Seattle's Danny Woo Community Garden, serving primarily elderly Asian residents of the surrounding International District, exhibits both a more formal community-based management and informal individualized garden plots. Here, Garden Manager Lizzy Chong Baskerville describes the garden to the studio. Across the street, a guerrilla garden has taken hold in a vacant parcel.



## PEDAGOGY + METHODS



This studio examined a seeming paradox: how may we plan and design for informality? As climate disruptions challenge the resilience of communities, we see urban informality as playing a relevant role. Our studio sought to frame opportunities for resilience through urban informality as two central inquiries:

- What roles may informality play in supporting a more resilient urban future, and how may equity and social justice be advanced despite stereotypes of such contexts?
- As designers and planners, how do we learn from and integrate these lessons of informality into shaping more inclusive, adaptable, and robust built environments?

There has been a growing interest in urban informality in Global North and in planning education, but that interest has not translated in studio pedagogy barring some exceptions including Loukaitou-Sideris and Mukhija's urban design studio in UCLA (Loukaitou-Sideris and Mukhija 2016). Our studio pedagogy drew from Loukaitou-Sideris and Mukhija's conceptualization for their urban design studio engaging informal urbanism.

We aimed for students to become familiarized with types and underlying causes of urban informality in the Global North through literature and case studies, as well as to explore models of resilience and relate potentials of informality as resilience. Following an introduction to urban informality in the Global North, studio groups critically examined historical and contemporary urban informality in Central Seattle, focusing on housing, livelihoods, urban agriculture, and arts and culture. The students then used a resilience framing to develop planning and design strategies for their chosen urban informality themes.

Students taking part in the studio brought different disciplinary expertise and studio experience. As such, we structured studio discussions and group projects with cross-disciplinary dialogue and collaboration to foster peer-based learning and sense of community. Our first session engaged students in interdisciplinary small groups to develop and share out studio inclusive goals and process. Each group noted and diagrammed their ideas which they shared with peers. These notes and newsprint sheets were then posted in the studio space as a shared reference—some of which are shown at left.



The studio methodology relied on literature review, guest presentations/discussions, case study, and field observations. Students relied on fieldwork as well as apps and blogs to understand the complex urban informal networks around the four themes of the studio: livelihoods, urban agriculture, housing, and art and culture. Field studies were particularly challenging as urban informal patterns are not always “seen” and the “unseen” is equally compelling. In some settings of urban informality, student researchers “stood out” and concern for personal safety outweighed further investigation.

Three projects provided a context for site-based planning and design strategies. They engaged students in collaborative group and individual work. The first assignment -AI Think Piece- engaged students in readings to critically examine and explore connections among North American informality and urban resilience. This involved a shared reading of the first chapter and individual selection of a subsequent chapter in *The Informal American City: Beyond Taco Trucks and Day Labor* (Mukhija and Loukaitou-Sederis, eds., 2014) and reading the paper “Urban resilience for whom, what, when, where, and why?” (Meerow and Newell, 2016). Students’ reflections and dialogue on these readings framed next steps. With A2 Case Study, student pairs investigated a form of informal housing, livelihoods, urban agriculture, or arts and culture with an illustrative case study. Students focused on: policies, programs, places and people involved; how the case study expresses resilience; and lessons for and presence of similar cases in Seattle. Findings were presented by slide show and as a poster displayed in the studio space for reference. We then shifted to geographic areas within Central Seattle to undertake A3-Mapping and Analysis of Seattle informality as small groups, investigating historic and contemporary patterns, which students presented to peers and invited guests, as shown in top right.

Drawing on insights gained from these projects, students identified study areas and informality themes for the final project. They collaborated in small groups on a framework of informality themes and goals, from which each student advanced more detailed planning and design strategies. We got underway with a brief charrette for groups to articulate potentials and get feedback from peers and instructors. Following informal working and critique sessions, all provided feedback on sticky notes in a “gallery walk” pin-up of group and individual work (shown in bottom right).



As COVID-19 became a growing concern, the University of Washington cancelled in-person classes at the end of the ninth week of the quarter. We cancelled the planned studio presentations, and final projects were submitted online. This studio report has been developed to share the students' initial assignments and their planning and design proposals.

Across the quarter, CBE faculty, planning and design professionals, and community leaders shared their expertise with the studio. In the first week, Bob Freitag, faculty in Urban Design and Planning, discussed models of resilience and case studies, and Landscape Architecture Professor Jeff Hou presented examples of “guerilla resilience”. Later, Real Estate Professor Rebecca Walter presented affordable housing programs and considerations. Local professionals Virginia Werner and Hayden Campbell provided feedback on students' A3 Mapping and Analysis of Seattle informality presentations. As we toured parts of Central Seattle, we met with three community leaders, shown in images at left. Ruby Holland, founder of Keep Your Habitat which focuses on preventing community displacement in the Central District, discussed strategies and her efforts to help people retain their homes, types of informal livelihoods at home, and initiatives underway to sustain community art and culture. At Yesler Terrace, Ray Williams, who leads Yes Farm and Black Farmers Collective, described how Yes Farm is growing food with diverse community members. Within Chinatown/International District, Lizzy Chong Baskerville, Garden Manager of Danny Woo Community Garden for Interim CDA, gave us a tour of the garden and of an historic Single Room Occupancy hotel that Interim manages.



### REFERENCES:

- Loukaitou-Sideris and Mukhija 2016. “Responding to informality through urban design studio pedagogy.” *Journal of Urban Design*. v. 21, 2016-Issue 5. pp. 577-595. published online 02 Sep 2015. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13574809.2015.1071650>
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# SECTION 2

## URBAN INFORMALITY CASE STUDIES

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### A2 Introduction

After understanding patterns of urban informality in the North American context and a framework for resilience through selected readings to craft “think pieces” (Assignment 1), the next step was to anchor these insights onto global case studies of informality. Assignment 2 identified a range of informality types to investigate within the four themes engaged in the studio: housing, livelihoods, food, and cultural expression. In exploring a particular type of informality and related case studies, student pairs related various stakeholders, functions, mechanisms, characteristics, and scales of urban informality as well as measures and dynamics of resilience responding to disruptions. The students also distilled lessons from their global case studies for Seattle, where they would eventually locate their interventions. Findings were presented as slide presentations and posters displayed in the studio for future reference.

An overview of students’ findings of informality types and case studies is shown on the following pages:

#### HOUSING

- Co-housing
- Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU)
- Tiny Houses
- Tent Colonies

#### LIVELIHOODS

- In-Home Businesses
- Mobile + Ephemeral Vending Services

#### FOOD

- Cultivating Food
- Foraging Food

#### CULTURAL EXPRESSION

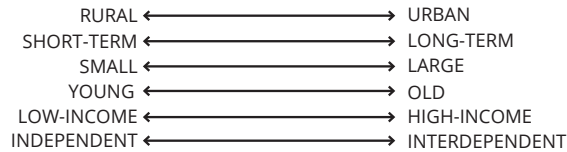
- Art + Craft + Music

# HOUSING

## CO-HOUSING

LAURA KEIL  
JASON STEINBERG

Co-housing can be found across the globe. It has been around for centuries and its modern roots were in Denmark in the early 1970s. Co-housing provides social, economic, and environmental benefits and exists across multiple spectrums.



### COUCH SURFING

- Informal to formal range within couch surfing
- High social and low economic capital



<https://www.tomisla-perko.com/en/couchsurfing/guide/>

### HOMELESS TRANSITION VILLAGE

- Shelter first solution
- Upcycling for reuse and resilience



<http://www.thepolarjournal.com/article/permitting-homeless-transition-village-transactions-between-informal-and-formal>

### CO-LIVING IN HONG KONG

- Independence from family and interdependence with others



<https://www.scmp.com/news/hong-kong/society/article/2187375/why-more-young-people-are-opting-co-living-spaces-hong-kong>

**INFORMAL  
CIRCUMSTANCE  
CIRCUMSTANTIAL COMMUNITY**

- Squatters
- Illegally sublet apartment
- Illegal SROs

Adult daughter/  
son living with  
parents in  
basement

Multigenerational  
housing

Airbnb

Self help

Habitat for  
Humanity

**FORMAL  
INTENTIONAL  
BUILDING INTENTIONAL COMMUNITY**

Senior housing in  
the Netherlands  
open to students

### RESILIENCE

#### STRENGTHS

- Long lasting
- Economic resilience
- Communal growth
- Flexible social and economic structure

#### CHALLENGES

- Airbnb potentially exacerbates affordability issues<sup>4,5</sup>
- Economic exploitation

### LESSONS FOR SEATTLE

- Crossroads of informal and formal
- Formal structural support
- Informal for flexibility
- Homelessness, affordable housing, and social isolation are all issues which rarely can be solved with any one isolated approach

## ACCESSORY DWELLING UNITS (ADU)

HEXIANG WANG  
SHIHUI LIU

An accessory dwelling unit (ADU) is a smaller, independent residential dwelling unit located on the same lot as a stand-alone (i.e. detached) single-family home. ADUs go by many different names throughout the U.S. including accessory apartments, secondary suites, and granny flats. These units are not legal unless they have been established through a permit process. A legally permitted unit in the home is called an attached accessory dwelling unit (AADU). A legally permitted unit on the property (but not within the home) is called a detached accessory dwelling unit (DADU) or backyard cottage. Tiny houses, with foundations, are considered DADUs.

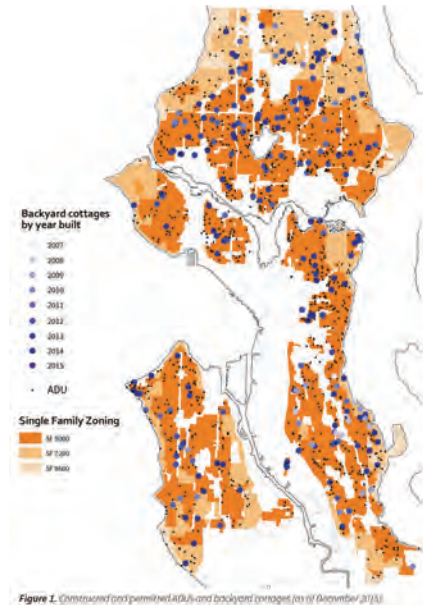
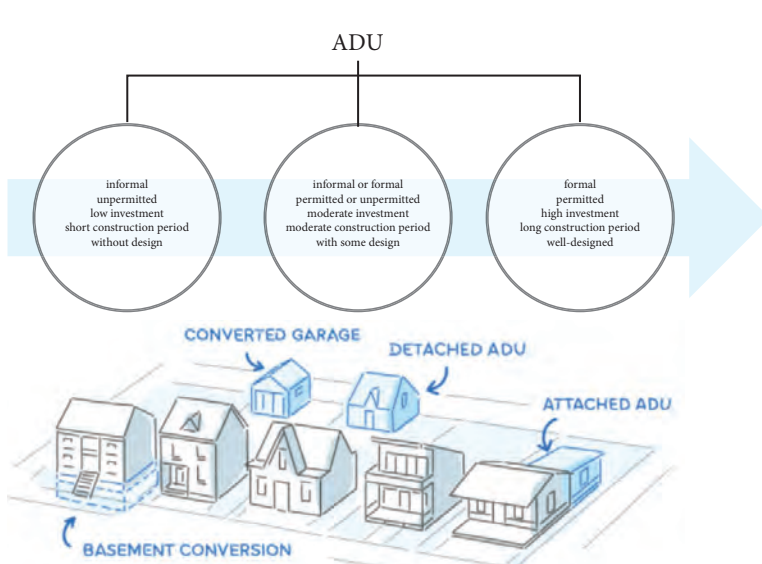


Figure 1. (Un)permitted ADUs and backyard cottages (as of December 2015)

SOURCE: [https://www.spanishfork.org/departments/community\\_development/planning/accessory\\_dwelling\\_units.php](https://www.spanishfork.org/departments/community_development/planning/accessory_dwelling_units.php)

### Case Study #1: Garage Apartments in Los Angeles, CA



**Overview:**  
A survey by The Los Angeles Times in 1987 indicates that "about 42,000 garages are sheltering about 200,000 people in Los Angeles County."

Players	Functions	Mechanisms
Actors: property owners: extra revenue	Living (including sleeping, bathing, cooking, and dining)	Funding: raised by the property owner
Stakeholders: Garage renters: lower rent Community: more diversity City: less tax		Technical support: mostly by their own, some of them hire architects or engineers

**Resilience**

- Affordability
- Construction period
- Area of the unit
- Social justice
- Accessibility
- Application & construction period

### Case Study #2: the Block Project in Seattle, WA



**Overview:**  
The BLOCK Project concept was created by BLOCK Architects in 2016. BLOCK Home was designed with the goal of ending homelessness. The vision is to help end homelessness by building a BLOCK Home and thriving community on every residential block in Seattle.

Players	Functions	Mechanisms
Actors: property owners	Small living units for homeless people	Funding: construction labor donated by subcontractors, and community donations
Stakeholders: Operator: BLOCK Architects Renter: no payment needed Community: more equitable City: less homelessness		Technical support: BLOCK Architects

**Shocks:**

- Feeling of less autonomous
- Undesirable status caused by social isolation

**Dynamics of readjustment:**

- Backyards as platforms for social justice
- Cross-class integration and social inclusion
- Social and mental health services provided
- Lease Agreement and Code of Conduct

**Strengths or challenges to adaptability:**

- Easy to build
- More affordable
- Supported by an intentional network

### Case study #3: Santa Cruz, CA



**Overview:**  
Santa Cruz, with its scenic location and its proximity to the Bay Area, becomes one of the most expensive city to live in. A large employer - UC Santa Cruz - and a small amount of land to develop due to the green-belt preservation also contribute to the high demand and high price of housing.

Players	Functions	Mechanisms
Actors/agent: Property owners: submit the application City of Santa Cruz: issue the permit	Living (including sleeping, bathing, cooking, and dining)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Technical support - ADU Plan Sets Book &amp; ADU Manual</li> <li>• Professional assistance - ADU prototype architects</li> <li>• Funding - wage subsidy and apprentice program &amp; ADU loan program</li> <li>• Permit - certain zoning code &amp; community meeting</li> </ul>
Stakeholders: Neighbors: less privacy & more disturbance City: protect the greenbelt from new development and promote public transportation		

**Values:**

- ADU ordinance & policy
- Financial & technical support

**Resilience:**

- Prevalence
- Diversity

**Lessons:**

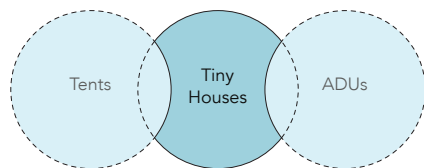
- A program by the city government
- Collaboration between different departments

# HOUSING

## TINY HOUSES

EMILIO CRADDOCK  
SAM LEVIN

The term tiny house can relate to a multitude of dwelling types, from luxury camper vans to shelters in the homeless encampments. This study gathers a large range of tiny home examples and highlights a few specific case studies. Their resilient qualities and how they may relate to Seattle's urban form are investigated.



Lessons for Seattle

Informal



Waianae Homeless Camp - Waianae, HI

Waianae holds a high concentration of the island's house-less population and many have set up small shelters on property that belongs to the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Many of the residents are just house-less, not homeless and have full time jobs and careers. This community shows resilience through the strong social connections among residents and their ability to adapt to changes, like being forced to move. Structurally, the shelter are vulnerable to harsh weather conditions, however they are easily moved and repaired with found materials.

Formalized



Dignity Village - Portland, OR

Dignity Village began as a mobile group of homeless activists and over time became an intentional community established on land that the city of Portland later designated as a campground. The community offers transitional housing and work opportunities for those in need. Despite being stationary since the early 2000's, the encampment shows resilience in its ability to adapt to change and maintain a sense of community through adversity. By using found and donated material the residents are able to customize their homes and be part of a democratically governed group that fosters self-empowerment.

Designed



Villa Verde Social Housing - Constitución, Chile

Villa Verde is a social housing project designed for low income works in central Chile. The project is uses a simple, repeatable module to create a small, but comfortable living space for families. However, on the footprint of each site only half a house has been built, with the other half left unfinished. The goal of this design is to allow the future residents of the space take ownership of the space and adapt it to their needs. This approach to tiny living allows for a large scale housing project to be built inexpensively from a single form, but with an end result that is unique to every household. Communities like this are resilient because they can be established quickly and efficiently while encouraging resident to form a valuable bond with the community and surrounding built environment.

### SMALL ORGANIC UNSANCTIONED



520 BRIDGE, SEATTLE, WA



SHOPPING CART, DENVER, CO



TENT MANSION, SEATTLE, WA



GOV TENT HANDOUT, BANGOR, ME

### ORGANIC UNSANCTIONED



PU'UHONUA O WAIANA'E, HONOLULU, HI



MIGRANT CAMPS, PARIS, FRANCE

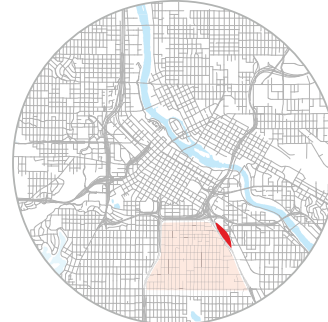


SKID ROW, LOS ANGELES, CA



MARTIN PLACE, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

## CASE STUDIES



WALL OF FORGOTTEN NATIVES  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN

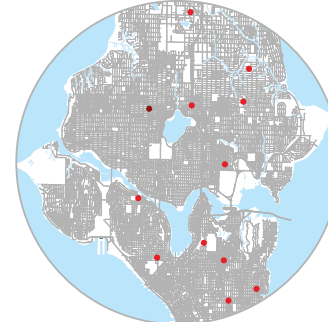


The Wall of Forgotten Natives encampment consisted of up to 300 individuals, mostly of Native American descent, who occupied public land adjacent to a busy Minneapolis highway in the heart of the Native American district. While only 1% of the total Minnesota population is Native American, they account for 8% of the homeless population, in effect "homeless on their own homelands". The encampment blurred the line between protest and survival. Instead of taking legal action on the residents, the police department made a statement saying that homelessness is not a crime, sending "homeless liaisons" to try and understand the residents' needs and then providing showers, tents and medical facilities. Many community and tribal groups provided support and participated in advocacy, while the City of Minneapolis worked with the encampment to find housing solutions, eventually opening a navigation center aimed at providing housing and social services for this houseless population.

**Resilience:** How well is the larger community able to come together and respond to a crisis, providing both short and longterm solutions.

shocks	readjustments
<b>LEGAL SANCTIONS</b>	The City declared it would not prosecute homelessness and community advocated for them
<b>UNSAFE BEHAVIORS</b>	After multiple overdose deaths, the community threw out heroine dealers
<b>WEATHER</b>	Fire department did fire watch in the cold, City and community successfully sheltered people by the winter time
<b>RESOURCE &amp; INFRASTRUCTURE</b>	Community provided food and material donations, police dept set up showers and toilets
<b>CONTINUED MARGINALIZATION</b>	'Navigation Center' built, continued advocacy, tribe bought land to build temporary shelter for the community

### SEMI-ORGANIZED SEMI-SANCTIONED



TENT CITY 3  
SEATTLE, WA



Lasting over 20 years and surviving over 90 moves, Tent City 3 homeless encampment in the Seattle region is one of the longest continually running tent cities in Seattle. To combat neighborhood resistance, the encampment only stays at any one location for a maximum of 90 days, even choosing self-eviction when a host would permit them to remain. Facilitated by the non-profit SHARE/WHEEL, the encampment is a self-managed model run by democratically elected leadership. The City of Seattle has adopted this and even come up with a temporary land use permit to facilitate the encampment. The encampment has been hosted largely in church parking lots, representing strong temporary community partnerships. Structures within the camp are temporary, having to be packed and moved continuously, mostly comprising of camping tents and other movable structures.

**Resilience:** How well is the community able to adapt to impermanence and create stability in a context of continuous movement.

shocks	readjustments
<b>LEGAL SANCTIONS</b>	Itinerant model; nonprofit partnership; the City has adopted a temporary land permit to facilitate encampment
<b>UNSAFE BEHAVIORS</b>	Residents must agree to a code of conduct and undergo a trial period before accepted
<b>OVERGROWTH</b>	A 100 person cap on the camp makes it remains itinerant and manageable
<b>COMMUNITY DISAPPROVAL</b>	Continuous movement and building relationships with the community to foster social capital
<b>NOWHERE TO GO</b>	Constant efforts to garner support of host organizations, including a website

### ORGANIZED SANCTIONED



MOES, MODOSTO, CA



EMERGENCY SHELTER, TACOMA, WA



MIGRANT DETENTION, TORRILLO, TX



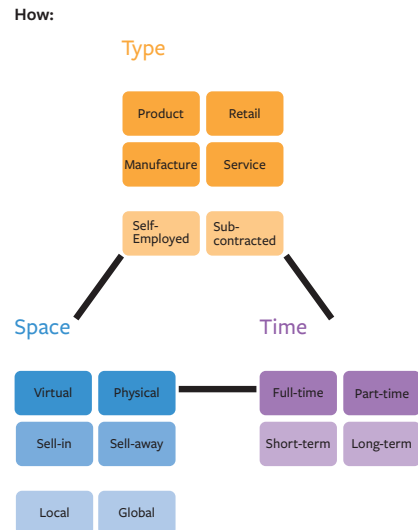
MARICOPA COUNTY JAIL, AZ

# LIVELIHOODS

## IN-HOME BUSINESSES

ASELA CHAVEZ  
CHARLIE SIMPSON

In-home businesses are defined as paid work conducted from a residential dwelling on a full-time or part-time basis. These types of businesses exist in many urban contexts across the globe. In-home businesses provide the opportunity for a lower cost of doing business, utilization of efficient digital platforms, and flexibility. Often these businesses exist in response to highly competitive job markets, the high cost of living in cities, and the over-regulation of more formal businesses in the form of permits and taxes.



### Online Services



#### Players/Functions/Characteristics

- **Players:** Entrepreneurs; freelancers; graphic designers; teachers; web developers; writers; social media specialists; etc.
- **Clients:** other freelancers; small businesses; students; non-profits; individuals.
- Participants need a computer and most likely wifi.
- Requires minimal space

#### Resilience

- **Resilience:** Continuous access to reliable wifi, computer and clients (demand) to sustain the business.
- **Shocks:** internet crash, hackers, limiting regulation, exploitation by employer
- **Readjustments:** if relying on one product then diversifying the business to appeal to a wider client based.
- **Strengths:** flexibility & lack of physical space.

#### Lessons for Seattle

Working from home in the Seattle metropolitan area has increased by 50% in the last ten years and was around 125,000 people according to the census in 2017. That increase only represents a small number of people who make money from online services more informally.

### Garage Sales



#### Players/Functions/Characteristics

- **Sellers:** homeowners or renters
- **Buyers:** individuals or families.
- Sellers occupy space in front of their house including the fence, yard, garage, or driveway.
- Garage Sales can occur along any time scale from very infrequent to permanent and they can range from very small to very large
- Motivations for buyers range from entertainment and cleaning to economic necessity

#### Resilience

- **Resilience:** to be able to continue operating their sale whenever they want.
- Legislation can eliminate garage sales or make them infeasible with permits.
- Garage sales are easy to operate and are not typically regulated like flea markets.
- Challenges typically arise for more permanent garage sales, which city governments have been known to try to eliminate.

#### Lessons for Seattle

In Seattle, garage sales typically happen between May and September. Frequent rain can limit the frequency of garage sales. Different neighborhoods, such as West Seattle and South Seattle, hold community garage sales where they happen all over the neighborhood and occur as a collective community event. West Seattle Blog coordinates the event in West Seattle.

### Child Care



#### Players/Functions/Characteristics

- **Players:** Parents, (middle to low income), non-family caregivers who view child care as an occupation, trusted essengers, institutions.
- Provide childcare to parents with scheduling demands related to work, school, or personal needs.
- Care provided on a regular schedule, as needed or both.
- Parents set the tempo and rules to follow.

#### Resilience

- Enough caregivers available to cover demand.
- Caregivers able to adapt to new schedules.
- Constant access to information and support networks.
- Being able to provide basic needs: food, shelter, safety
- Word of mouth advertising can work as a strength or a challenge.

#### Lessons for Seattle

Informal providers could offer opportunities to cover the demand for childcare in the Seattle area. Source of income and opportunity for women with no other professional prospects.



**FOOD VENDING IN PORTLAND  
INFORMAL TO FORMAL**



**HISTORY OF SUPPORT**  
**A TOLERANT ATTITUDE FROM THE CITY GOVERNMENT**  
**INNOVATION BY PRIVATE ACTORS**  
**FUNCTIONS: GIVE LOW-INCOME PEOPLE AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET JOB AND PROVIDE FLEXIBLE FOOD OPTIONS FOR PEOPLE**

**MOBILE VENDORS**  
**RESTAURANTS AND RESTAURANT ASSOCIATIONS**  
**THE COMMUNITY**  
**CITY GOVERNMENT**  
**PRIVATE ACTORS**

**PERMITS AND LICENSES: COST \$6211 IN SEATTLE ; 29 PROCEDURES; 20 TRIPS TO GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

**MOBILE + EPHEMERAL VENDING SERVICES**



**PORTLAND OFFERS THE LOWEST ONGOING COSTS (\$5410) AND HAD THE FEWEST PROCEDURES AND TRIPS (SEVEN)**

XINMAN LIU  
YUCHEN WANG

**MOBILE HEALTH CLINICS (MHCS)  
FORMAL TO INFORMAL**

MHCs could increasing healthcare access, help alleviate health disparities in vulnerable population and individuals with chronic diseases. MHCs can offer tailored, high-impact and affordable health care that responds dynamically to the community's evolving needs.



**NGO-SMILE FOUNDATION**  
**SOCIAL VENTURE PHILANTHROPY (SVP) MODEL**  
**COMMUNITIES WELL-INFORMED ABOUT THE PROGRAM FREE FOR ALL**  
**TIME AND LOCATION ARE TAILORED FOR DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES**  
**GOVERNMENT SUPPORT**



**RIGHT IN YOUR COMMUNITY**  
**MANDATORY FOR DOCTORS TO INVOLVE**  
**WELCOME SETTINGS AND FLEXIBLE SPACE FOR DIFFERENT PATIENTS' NEED**  
**TRANSLATORS FOR PEOPLE WHO SPEAK LIMITED MANDARIN**

**NGO**  
**VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES THAT HAS LIMITED ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE**  
**VOLUNTEERS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
**DOCTORS IN ALL PUBLIC HOSPITAL SYSTEM**  
**ELDER AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY**  
**EVERY COMMUNITIES**

**KING COUNTY 'S FIRST HEALTH NEED STILL ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE EXISTING MOBILE CLINIC ARE TAILOR FOR HOMELESS POPULATION WHICH MIGHT NOT SUPPORT LARGER VULNERABLE POPULATION.**



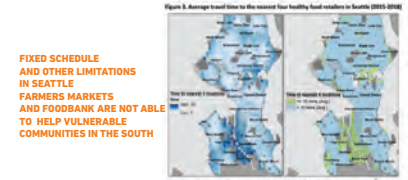
**ACCESSIBLE FOR MORE VULNERABLE POPULATION**  
**BETTER WAYS TO ADVERTISE THE PROGRAM FOR ELDERLY AND PEOPLE HAVE LIMITED ACCESS TO SMART DEVICES**  
**MORE FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE AND SPACE DESIGN THAT TAILOR FOR DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES**  
**LANGUAGE SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES**  
**PLAN FOR ENCOURAGE MORE EXPERIENCED DOCTOR INVOLVED**

**ABOUT FRESH, BOSTON  
MOBILE FOOD MARKET  
REMAIN INFORMAL**



**NPO (2013) KEEP WHOLE PROCESS FLEXIBLE FOR CHANGES**  
**OPEN 5DAYS/WEEK W MULTIPLE LOCATIONS**  
**HELP 12 MOST VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL FARMERS**  
**MULTIPLE SECTORS/STAKEHOLDERS INVOLVED THE PROGRAM KEEP THE MODEL HIGHLY RESILIENT AND SENSITIVE FOR CHANGES**

**NPO-ABOUT FRESH**  
**VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES THAT HAS LIMITED ACCESS TO FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE,**  
**LOCAL FARMERS**  
**VOLUNTEERS FROM LOCAL UNIVERSITIES/ SCHOOLS.**



**FIXED SCHEDULE AND OTHER LIMITATIONS IN SEATTLE FARMERS MARKETS AND FOODBANK ARE NOT ABLE TO HELP VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES IN THE SOUTH**

**BETTER ACCESSIBILITY FOR LOW-INCOME AND MARGINALIZED NEIGHBORHOODS TO HELP ELIMINATE URBAN FOOD DESERT AND IMPROVE EQUITY.**  
**MORE AVAILABLE TIME/FLEXIBLE SCHEDULE THROUGHOUT THE WEEK.**  
**RESILIENT MODEL THAT INVOLVE AND BENEFIT MULTIPLE STAKEHOLDERS AT THE SAME TIME**

A mobile or ephemeral vending service is defined as any vendor or organization providing any goods or service without a permanent location that can be viewed as mobile or temporary. For this type of service to be resilient, degrees of informality and formality must be considered as factors to maintain, adapt, and transform mobile and ephemeral vending services under different cultural, social, and political contexts. This case study looks at examples that fit within these different combinations of informality and formality.

# FOOD

## CULTIVATING FOOD

HELEN GANAHL  
YINGJIE LUO

Urban agriculture, urban farming, or urban gardening is the practice of cultivating, processing and distributing food in or around urban areas. Urban agriculture can also involve animal husbandry, aquaculture, agroforestry, urban beekeeping, and horticulture. These activities occur in peri-urban areas as well as urban spaces. Other types of urban agriculture include tactical gardens, street landscaping, vertical gardens, aquaponic gardens, permaculture gardens, yard gardens, greenwalls, greenhouses, and rooftop gardens. The informality of urban food cultivation varies in scale from municipal or regional action to community action to individual action.

### LESSONS FOR SEATTLE

#### Lessons From Cairo

Pigs are excellent organic waste disposal. Not only does their eradication from Cairo give us a lesson about rash decisions, it also reminds us of the interconnections urban humans often fail to see. In the case of Cairo, certain animals were integral to maintaining the system's resilience. Serious consequences come when a system is disrupted.

In addition, animal welfare needs to be accounted for as well as human welfare—taking urban animals into account in the city planning processes makes this more feasible. The attitudes of those in charge matter for urban informality—considering how perceptions can be shifted is worthwhile.



ECONOMIC



EDUCATIONAL



ECOLOGICAL

#### Lessons From Somaliland

It has been helpful for milk cooperatives to register with the government. This does not mean that the level of formality demanded by countries like the United States makes sense. Self-organization, agency, and community, often antithetical to formality, are fundamental to cooperative success.

This is a lesson on scale—a small Seattle Co-op does well without regulation, but if enough players are involved, it struggles to maintain the same functionality. One of the best ways to know and trace the supply chain on a small scale is by talking to each other. As the scale enlarges, it behooves us to continue this important practice.

### CASE STUDIES

#### Animal Husbandry and The “New Ruralism” of Greater Cairo

Cairo, pop. of over 20 million, is situated in area of rapidly depleting farmland. Questionnaires were given to officials, experts, and residents of expanding informal areas. Source material make recommendations for types of support to prioritize.<sup>[1]</sup>

<https://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/25/world/africa/25cairo.html>



- Immediately consumable capital
- Investment
- Companionship
- Waste disposal

- Comparatively minimal authority over free-range livestock
- Lack of interference from officials
- Rapid loss of farmland, formerly rural people pushed into city
- Tradition



<https://www.broer.com/13496-cairo-egypt>

- Governments in Africa take restrictive approach + “Purposeful ignorance and unwillingness of officials to sustain animal husbandry”<sup>[2]</sup>.

- Post-production constraints. e.g. slaughter and processing.

- Health, sanitation, esthetics + Overreaction to fears

- Lack of proper accommodations

- Animal welfare



<http://www.starr.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Urban-Agriculture-Cairo.pdf>

- Maintains community ties

- Traditional roles and livelihoods

- Some formalization is being sought in form of legalization



<http://www.starr.com/wp-content/uploads/2010/03/Urban-Agriculture-Cairo.pdf>

- Inevitable urban animal husbandry leads to innovation and resilience

- Multiple functions of animal as investment, food, companion, status, and embarrassment.

#### Milk Cooperative<sup>[6]</sup>

In Somaliland, livestock is the #1 source of livelihood for pop. of 4 million. Up to 60 % of pop. depends on milk for food security & income.



The marketing system is largely informal, but the cooperative movement is growing, even as country opens up to Transnational corporation.

<https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/stories/2017/3/20170316/story-start-up-empowers-somal-women-refugees.html>

- Distribution
- Empowerment of women
- Preservation way of life
- Insurance, e.g. Safety net
- Supply chain Communication
- Formation economic pathway
- Preservation greater amount of nutrients found in fresh local milk

#### Mechanism

- Cooperative business
- Registration with government
- Retail marketing (hawking and vending in shops/markets) (primarily women)
- Collection and transportation of milk (primarily men)



<https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/stories/2017/3/20170316/dairy-start-up-empowers-somal-women-refugees.html>

- Minimal refrigeration
- Drought
- Long distances to market
- Hot weather
- Transnational corporations
- Rough roads
- Gaining policy support
- Milk spoilage
- Irregular electricity
- Dependency of diet on milk



<https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/stories/2017/3/20170316/dairy-at-art-up-empowers-somal-women-refugees.html>

#### Resilience

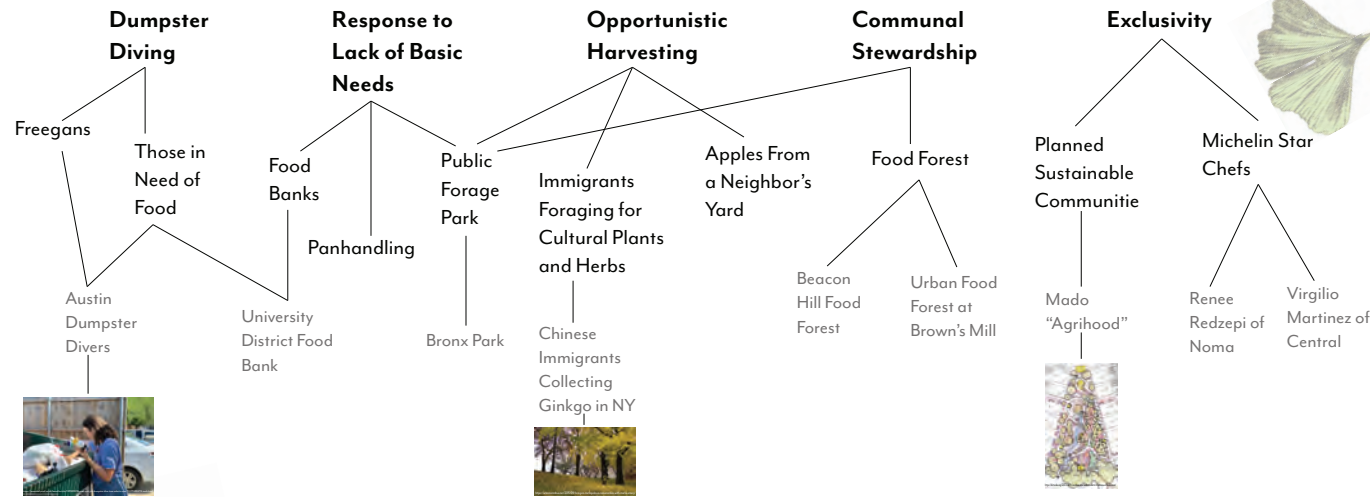
- Divvying of labor
- Solar powered refrigeration
- Formalizing in form of grants
- Empowerment of women and communities International aid



<https://www.unhcr.org/en-us/news/stories/2017/3/20170316/dairy-at-art-up-empowers-somal-women-refugees.html>

FORAGING FOOD

ALEX BURGOS  
ELLIE MURRAY



Urban food foraging is defined as an informal gathering, harvesting, sharing, and use of edible plants, herbs, and fungi in and around cities, including the collection of donated or unused food. This can happen anywhere, in any urban context, where anything grows including sidewalk cracks, parks, cemeteries, and tree pits. Those who value sustainability, the environment, and/or food sovereignty take part in urban food foraging as the population of participants crosses all boundaries of demographics, ethnicity, gender, age, and income. People forage for recreation, sustenance, cultural reasons and/or to generate income. Urban food foraging happens regardless of whether or not something was planted intentionally, and whether or not it is on public land. This case study examines the types of urban food foraging and identifies examples.

**RESILIENCY**

- Anit-foraging laws
- Legality
- Climate change
- Development

**LESSONS**

- Plant edible and culturally appropriate species in diverse neighborhoods
- Legalize urban food foraging
- Solutions to food waste problems
- Educate residents on what/when/how to forage around the city

**PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE**

- Bronx River Foodway | Goals*
- Feeding the community
- Encouraging park use
- Promoting food education
- Creating a cleaner environment



# CULTURAL EXPRESSION

## ART + CRAFT + MUSIC

NORA XUTING YAO  
SARAH PULLMAN

This case study looks at urban art from around the world. The arts are looked at as intangible and tangible, both of which exist on a spectrum of formality. Formal, intangible arts require a business entity, a venue, and are facilitated by private entities. Examples of this include theatres and concert halls. Informal, intangible arts utilize self-promotion and public space. This includes activities like busking and street parties. Formal, tangible arts change the built environment to affect the private realm, use sanctioned space, and, if sold, are sold with tax. Examples include museums, galleries, and commissioned work. Informal, tangible arts change the public realm, are unsanctioned, and sold without tax, including paintings on building walls and unsolicited posters. Three specific places are highlighted and a few lessons are drawn to be applied to the Seattle context.

## Seattle Context

1. Graffiti is important to identify the characteristics of neighborhoods, especially ones who have been displaced; however, it is integral to distinguish place-making from tokenism.
2. The removal of graffiti is just as poignant as the graffiti itself.
3. Graffiti can improve the quality of life for the neighborhood and has more of a message and critique than its outer layer.



<https://theeveryday.com/seattle-icomic-mural-history/>



Busking on the Streets



Dance Church  
Velocity, Capitol Hill



Dance Party in Public Space  
parks and plazas

- Lessons for intangible art informality in Seattle:**
1. Positive government interventions;
  2. Recognize the art informality as part of identity of the space, in certain neighborhoods;
  3. Support artist group and community;

### 1. Hongdae District, Seoul, South Korea

Source: Google Earth



Hongdae District is a university district of Hongik University in Seoul. Since the Hongik University is known as its one of the best art institutions in the country, the district is immersed in a fruitful young culture and underground art scene. Nowadays, Hongdae District is famous of its vibrant young culture, public music and art scene, which constructed a popular place for both local and tourists from the world.



**Players:**  
Performers: musicians, dancers, singers, trainees  
Supporters: audience/young people, tourists/passer-by, local businesses/neighbors, public entities.

**Functions:**  
Open space for gathering crowds and performance; standing, seating, hover

**Mechanisms:**  
1. underground art and music scene  
2. online platform  
3. government intervention in street upgrading

Image Source:  
[https://dailytravelipili.com/things-to-do-hongdae-seoul/?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=pinterest&utm\\_campaign=travel&utm\\_content=best&utm\\_term=602764784\\_22801002\\_562794](https://dailytravelipili.com/things-to-do-hongdae-seoul/?utm_medium=social&utm_source=pinterest&utm_campaign=travel&utm_content=best&utm_term=602764784_22801002_562794)  
<http://www.koreatourism.com/eng/ptp/?utm=20180920000460>

#### Characteristics + Scales:

1. What: performances
2. Where: pedestrian strips and open space platforms; surrounded by businesses and restaurants.
3. When: afternoon - 9pm (noise control)
4. Other informalities: street foods, on-street eating and drinking, art crafts market
5. Temporal dynamics: thriving of K-wave; street upgrading/redevelopment program.

### 2. New Orleans, United States



Map of the Aftermath of Katrina. <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/151612014346360/>



Map of New Orleans, Google Earth (2015)  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02703320.2014.943260>



Map of New Orleans, Google Earth (2015)



Map of New Orleans, Google Earth (2015)

**Players:**  
Vulnerable populations, Government, Rex Dingler (Graffiti artist promoting NOLA Rising movement), private property owners, the Grey Ghost (graffiti remover and local "hero")

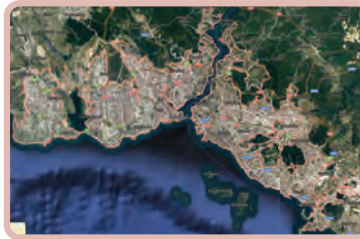
**Functions:**  
To demonstrate how the culture of the city has changed since Katrina and emphasize the inequality in support towards under-served populations.

**Mechanisms:**  
Paint on building walls, posters tagging the neighborhood, using Dingler's signature tagging to reclaim neighborhoods

#### Characteristics + Scales:

1. What: Spray paint on buildings + poster tagging
2. Where: Neighborhood ROW, private buildings
3. When: Usually at night to avoid being seen but the artwork lasts 24/7
4. Other informalities: Food carts

### 3. Istanbul, Turkey



Source: Google Earth



**Players:**  
Craftsmen, designers

**Functions:**  
Workshops, Bazaars, raw materials market

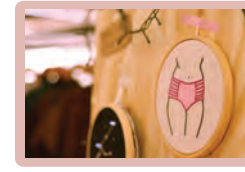


**Mechanisms:**  
1. Historic context of Bazaars and craft trading  
2. Neighborhood-based craft community  
3. Informal education process  
4. Production - neighborhood collaborations and inspirations.

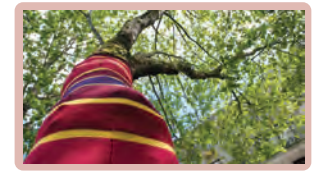
Images source: <http://www.istanbulhikes.com/bazaars-in-istanbul-the-historical-arts-bazaar-for-shopping-crafts-Citation>

#### Characteristics + Scales:

1. What: Craft production and sales
2. Where: artists workshops, neighborhoods
3. Other informalities: raw materials trading and sales, educational process to the new crafters
5. Temporal dynamics: Resources + demand



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/151612014346360/>



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/151612014346360/>

1. An Informal education process is key to integrating the variety of crafts together.
2. Emphasizing the "improvisational nature of crafts" (64) helps promote process over product.
3. Places of equity are important when creating crafts, as the process should be bottom-up.

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<https://julianagyeman.com/2016/12/17/urban-foraging-health-cultural-ties-food-justice/> | foraging + food justice

<https://www.foodswell.org.au/> | security and sovereignty for Australians

<https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/9/10/1884/html> | foraging overlooked by city planners

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13549839.2013.841659?scroll=top&needAccess=true> | rethinking urban foraging in the ecosystem <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S001671851830304X> | urban foraging in London

<https://nextcity.org/features/view/foraging-and-forging-connections-in-cities> | the importance of foraging in cities

<https://www.fs.fed.us/research/urban-webinars/food-foraging/> | US Forest Service + food foraging

<https://civileats.com/2019/01/01/the-bronx-city-park-that-is-part-of-a-wave-of-forage-friendly-public-lands/> | Bronx City Park

<https://regenerativetravel.com/wellness/foraging-the-andes-redefining-peruvian-cuisine-with-virgilio-martinez/> | chef of Central foraging

<https://dirt.asla.org/2017/04/19/serenbe-new-wellness-district-features-a-food-forest/> | Mado community, agrihood

<https://serenbe.com/about/about-serenbe> | more about Serenbe + Mado agrihood communities

<https://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2013/04/23/178603623/want-to-forage-in-your-city-theres-a-map-for-that> | Falling Fruit App

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<https://robgreenfield.tv/dumpsterdiving/> | more about dumpster diving

<https://www.wired.com/2015/02/high-end-dumpster-diving-matt-malone/> | Austin, Texas dumpster diving <https://d-diver-elite.livejournal.com/4833.html> | dumpster diving rules and tips

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#### art + craft + music

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# SECTION 3

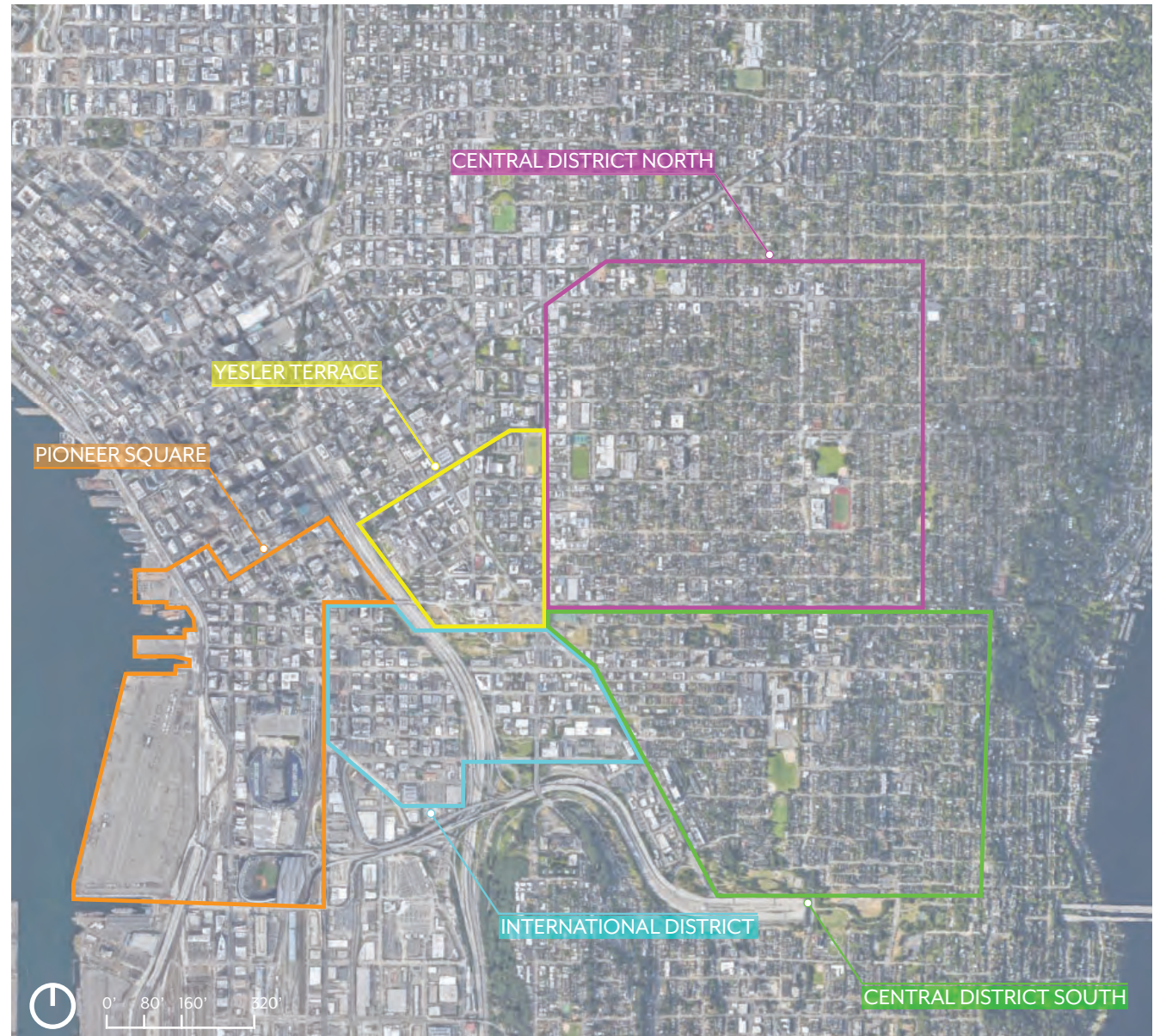
## MAPPING INFORMALITY IN CENTRAL SEATTLE

### A3 Overview

Assignment 3 explored urban informality types and patterns in Central Seattle. Building from insights gained through Assignment 1 readings and Assignment 2 thematic case studies, students formed small groups to investigate selected study areas of the Central District, Yesler Terrace, International District, and Pioneer Square. Given the spatial scale of the Central District, two groups split this area to focus on north and south sections.

Each study area was investigated for built form, land use, and demographic characteristics as well as informality—past and present. Students explored their study area to locate types, patterns, and qualities of urban informality. They also identified opportunities where urban informality could improve community resilience.

Highlights of this study area research are presented on the following pages.



Base Image Source: <https://earth.google.com/web/@47.60556601,-122.3101048798,89125805a,7684.81305313d,35y,-0h,0t,0r>

## CENTRAL DISTRICT NORTH

### URBAN FORM

ASELA CHAVEZ BASURTO  
SAM LEVIN  
HEXIANG WANG  
YUCHEN WANG

The north end of the Central District is a historically diverse residential area, bordered to the west by downtown and Capitol Hill to the north. Historically, this neighborhood was the center of Seattle's Black community and a major hub of African-American businesses. Today there are a number of small, locally owned shops and restaurants in the neighborhood and the area is known for its convenience and walkability. Over the last few decades, the neighborhood has undergone gentrification as more people and businesses move in.

*Images clockwise from top:*

**Ezell's Famous Chicken**, a family owned business, which has been at this location on 23rd Ave and Cherry since 1984.

**Powell Barnett Park**, located on the east side of Martin Luther King Jr. Way, provides many opportunities for children of all ages to play outside.

**A variety of architectural styles** can be seen throughout this neighborhood.



*Image Source: <https://www.seattletimes.com/business/real-estate/seattles-central-district-is-changing-but-it-remains-eminently-convenient-and-walkable/eminently-convenient-and-walkable/>*



*Image Source: <https://www.seattletimes.com/business/real-estate/seattles-central-district-is-changing-but-it-remains-eminently-convenient-and-walkable/>*



*Image Source: <https://www.seattletimes.com/business/real-estate/seattles-central-district-is-changing-but-it-remains-eminently-convenient-and-walkable/>*



# CENTRAL DISTRICT NORTH

## LAND USE



Image Source: GIS data

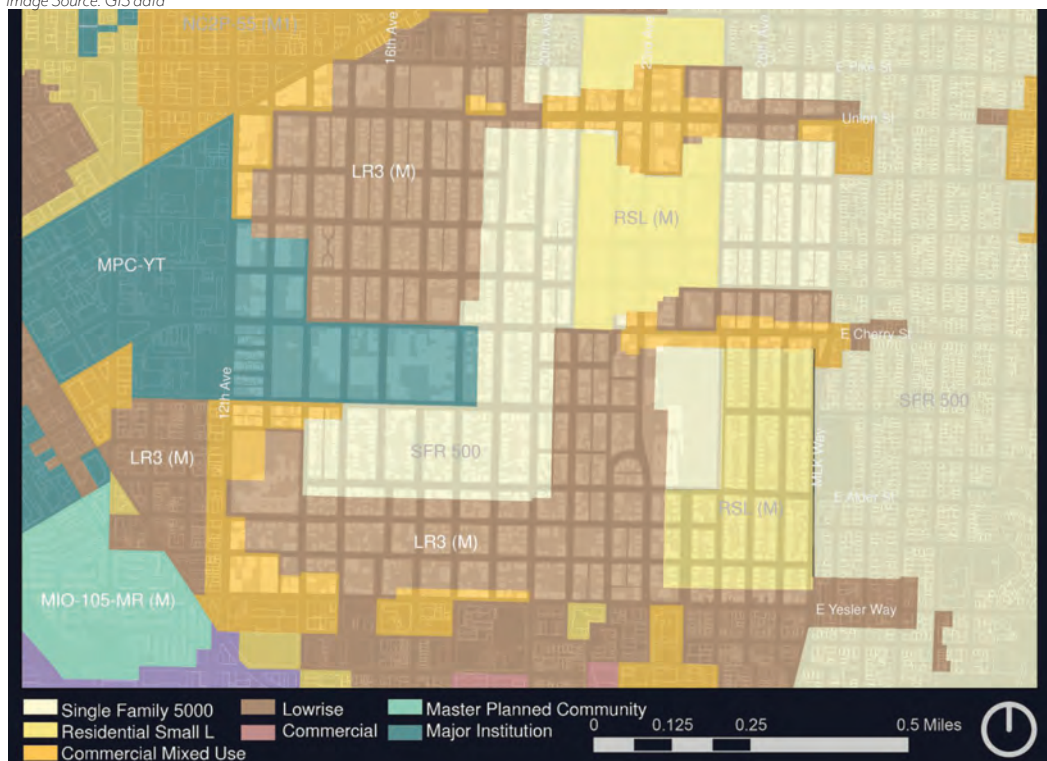


Image Source: GIS data

Images from top:

### **Built Form:**

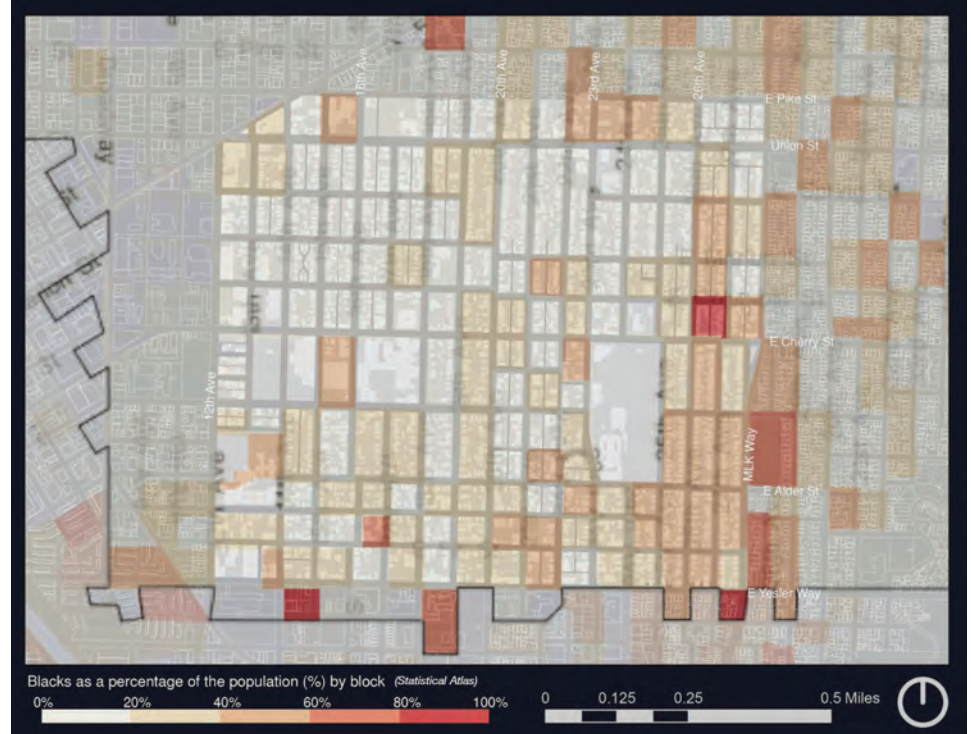
The Central District is largely built up with little open green space left.

### **Zoning:**

This neighborhood is mainly residential. The area was rezoned in 2017, allowing for more lowrise, multi-unit housing structures.

# CENTRAL DISTRICT NORTH

## DEMOGRAPHICS



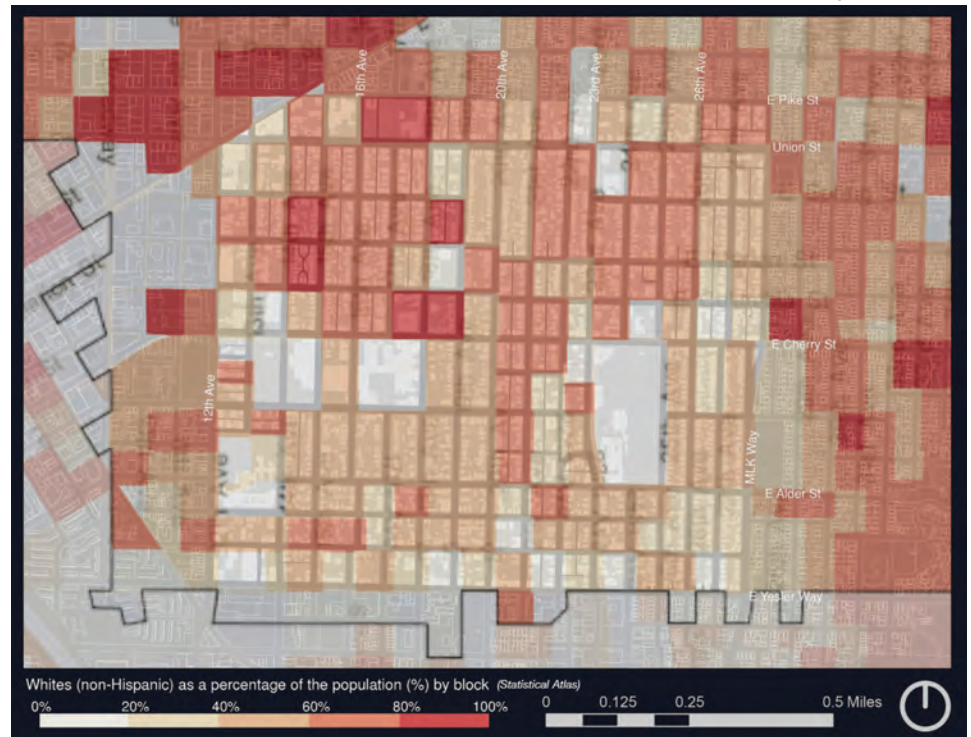
Images from top:

### Black Population:

The highest concentration of the black population is located around S Cherry St and E 20th St. While a historically Black neighborhood, many of these residents have been pushed further south due to gentrification.

### White Population:

The highest concentration of the white population is located around N Cherry St and W 19th St. It is clear that many white people have started to move into the area and the black and white populations do not overlap much.



# CENTRAL DISTRICT NORTH

## HISTORIC INFORMALITY



Image Source: Chew, 1923



Image Source:



Image Source:

*Images from top:*

### **Housing:**

A field and farm at 1817 21st Ave S, pictured May 7, 1923.

### **Livelihood:**

Protestors demonstrate outside Atlas Grocery at 14th Ave and Yesler Way, pictured in 1947.

### **Food:**

Backyard vegetable gardens were popular for years in this area. However, they were especially common during World War II when people turned unused yard space and vacant lots into Victory Gardens to raise fresh produce.

# CENTRAL DISTRICT NORTH

## CURRENT INFORMALITY

Shown here is a map of the group's observed informalities. Each category is expanded on below.

### Housing:

A tiny house village is located in this area and some homes look to have informal ADUs.

### Livelihood:

Flyers advertising services, a barbershop that also informally buys gold, a truck advertising their hauling service.

### Food:

Squire Park P-Patch, pollinator habitat projects, and informal RainWise projects.

### Arts + Culture:

Many murals painted on buildings.

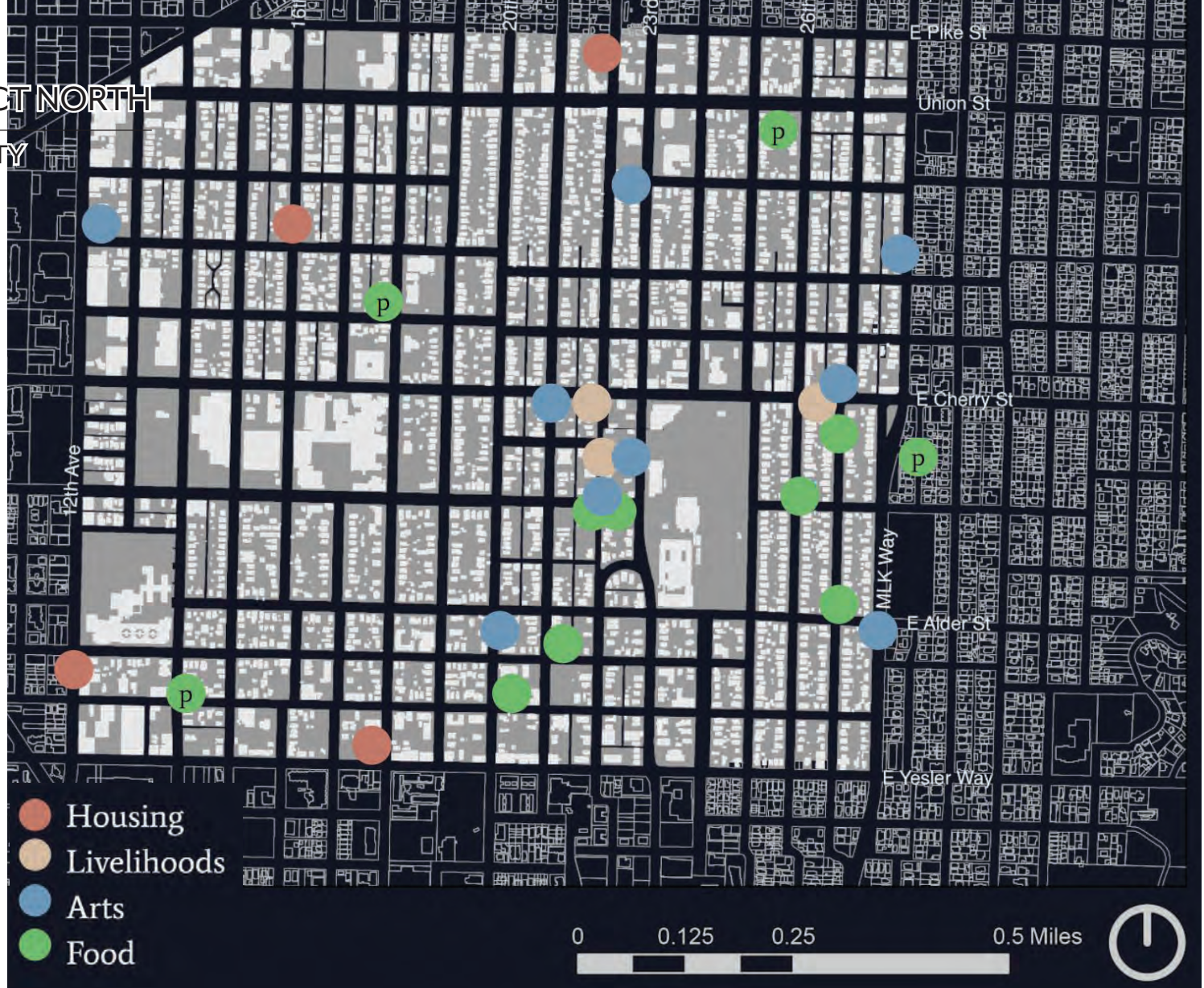


Image created and taken by students

# CENTRAL DISTRICT NORTH

## OPPORTUNITIES

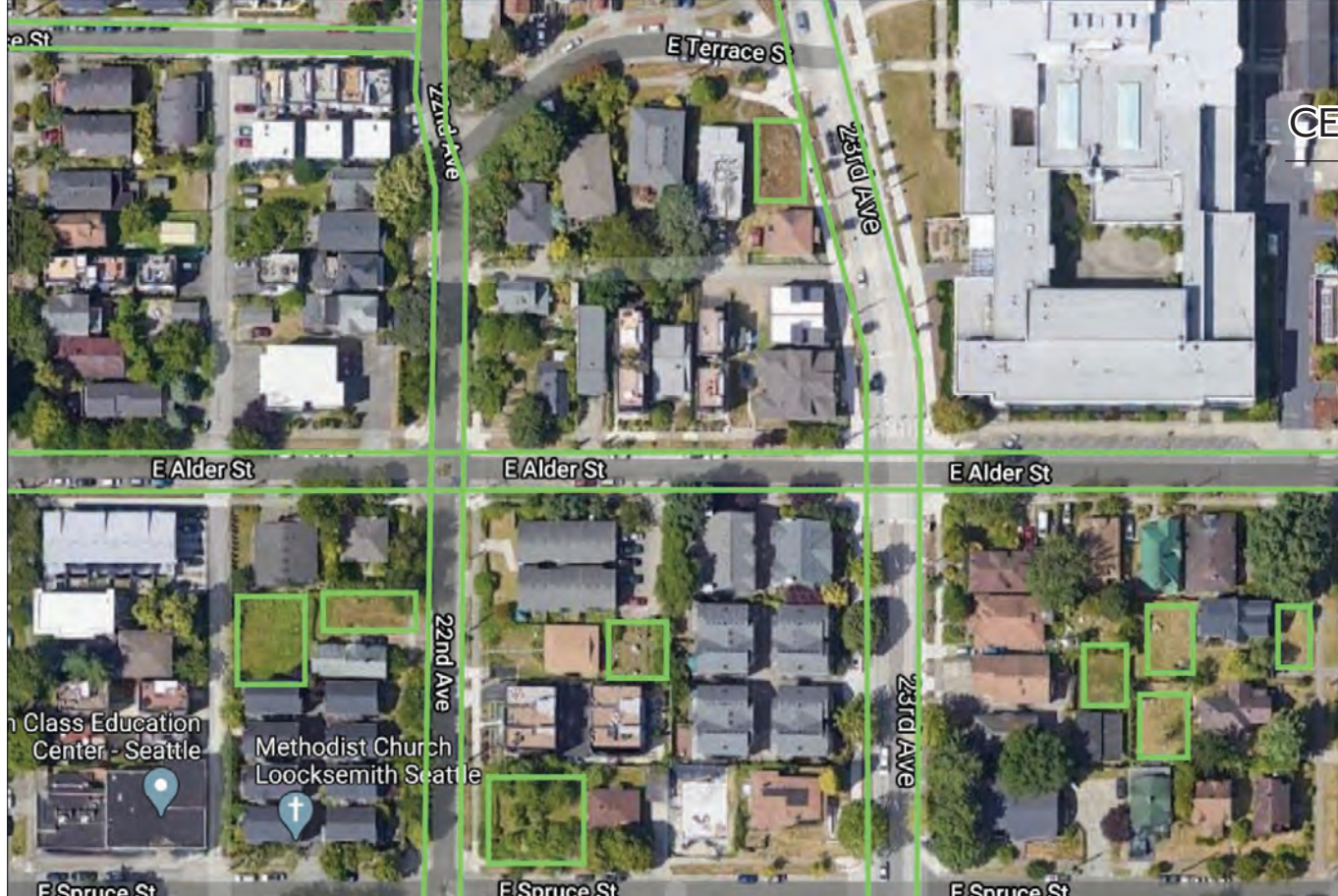


Image Source: <https://www.google.com/>

Shown here are potential areas of opportunity for future informal activity within the area at the southwest corner of Garfield High School. The green lines represent places of opportunity along the street, and the squares are places within properties. Ideas are expanded on below.

### Housing:

Informal housing could reduce the possibilities of gentrification in the Central District and increase collaboration and diversity. For example, five tiny homes can fit within the property lines of the average single-family home in this neighborhood.

### Food:

Urban agriculture could be a way of increasing access to resources, increasing community participation, and re-envisioning the black farming imaginary. Educational programs and volunteers would be needed to make these informal changes last long-term.

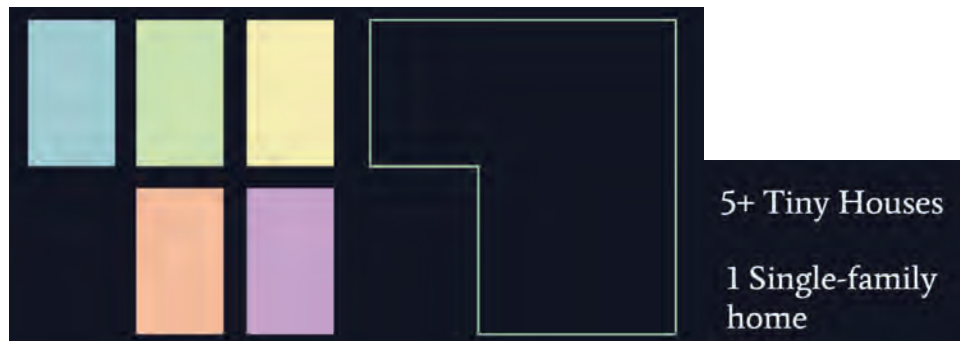


Image created by students

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# CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH

## URBAN FORM

ALEX BURGOS  
DREW CUNNINGHAM  
SHIHUI LIU  
ELLIE MURRAY

The Central District is a diverse residential cluster of historically African-American neighborhoods. Culture, art and history exhibits are on display at the Northwest African American Museum. The 1915 Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, a former synagogue, is an arts hub showing films, plays and musicals. Ethiopian and soul food eateries dot the district, along with an increasing number of hip bars and cafes. This area is facing a wave of gentrification with new construction and rising home prices, resulting in the displacement of long time residents.

*Images from top:*

**Redevelopment** takes form in one of many new mixed-use buildings featuring apartment units priced at market rate.

**Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute** serves as a place for African American's to assert their heritage through art.



Image Source: <http://www.urbanash.com/blog/dep-homes-jackson-central-district/>



Image Source: <https://kuow.org/stories/can-art-save-soul-central-area/>

# CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH

## LAND USE

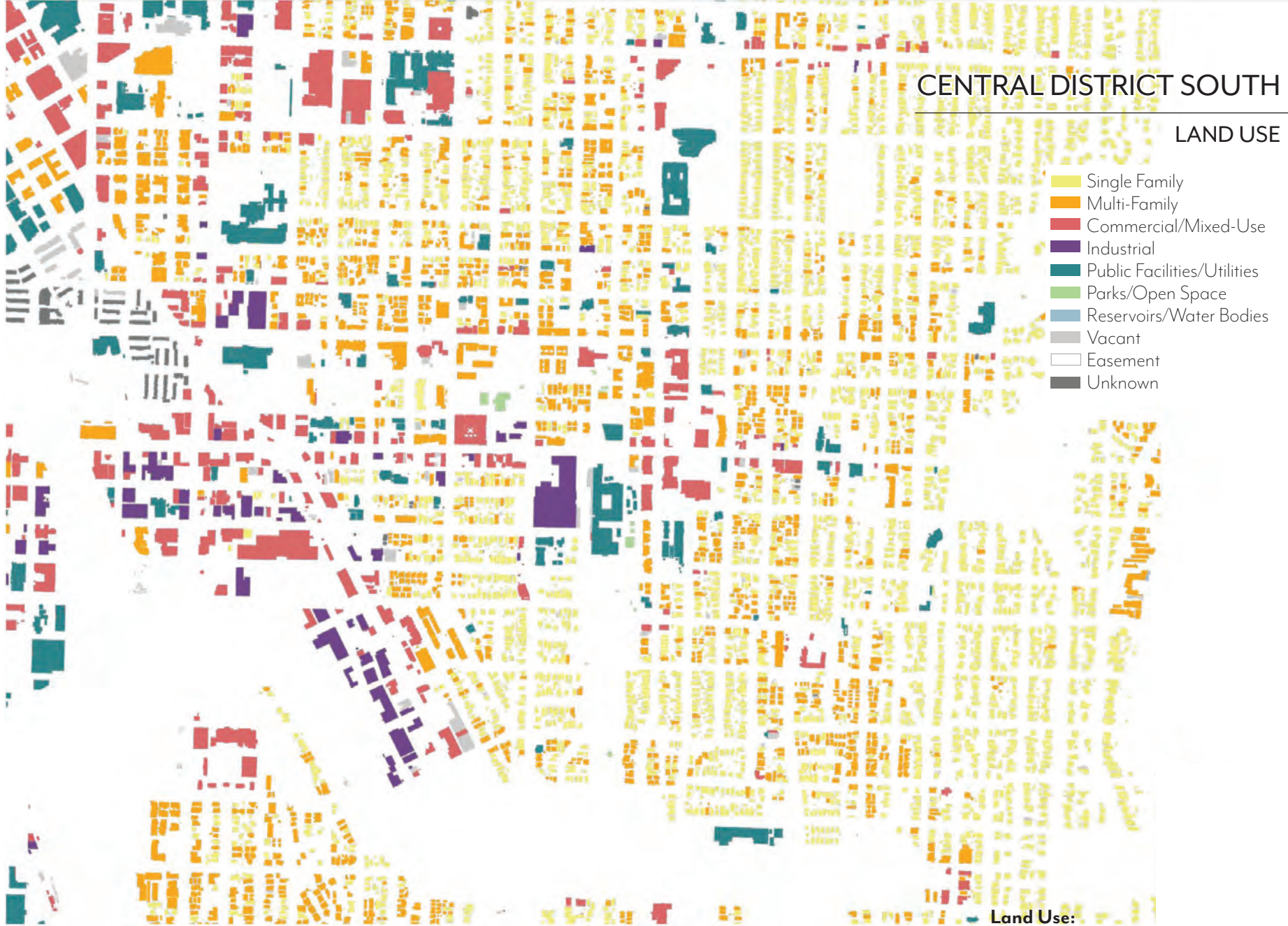


Image Source: City of Seattle GIS data

**Land Use:** Central District South is largely designated as single family lots with a number of multi-family units and clustered industrial/commercial areas. Note the lack of green space.

# CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH

## DEMOGRAPHICS

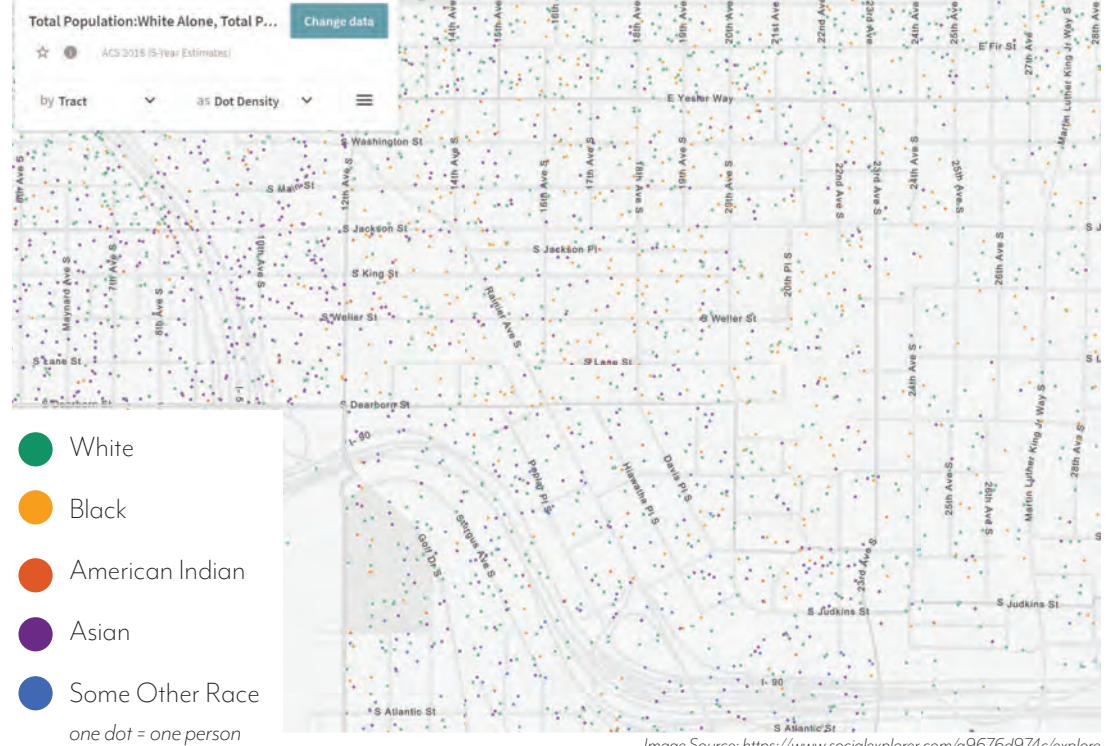


Image Source: <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/explore>

Images from top:

### Race:

While the Central District has historically been a Black neighborhood, the majority of residents in this area are now white.

### Income:

There is a wide range of incomes throughout this area although a large disparity can be seen - a good portion of people in this area make less than \$20,000 per year while an equally large amount of people make between \$100,000 and \$200,000 per year.

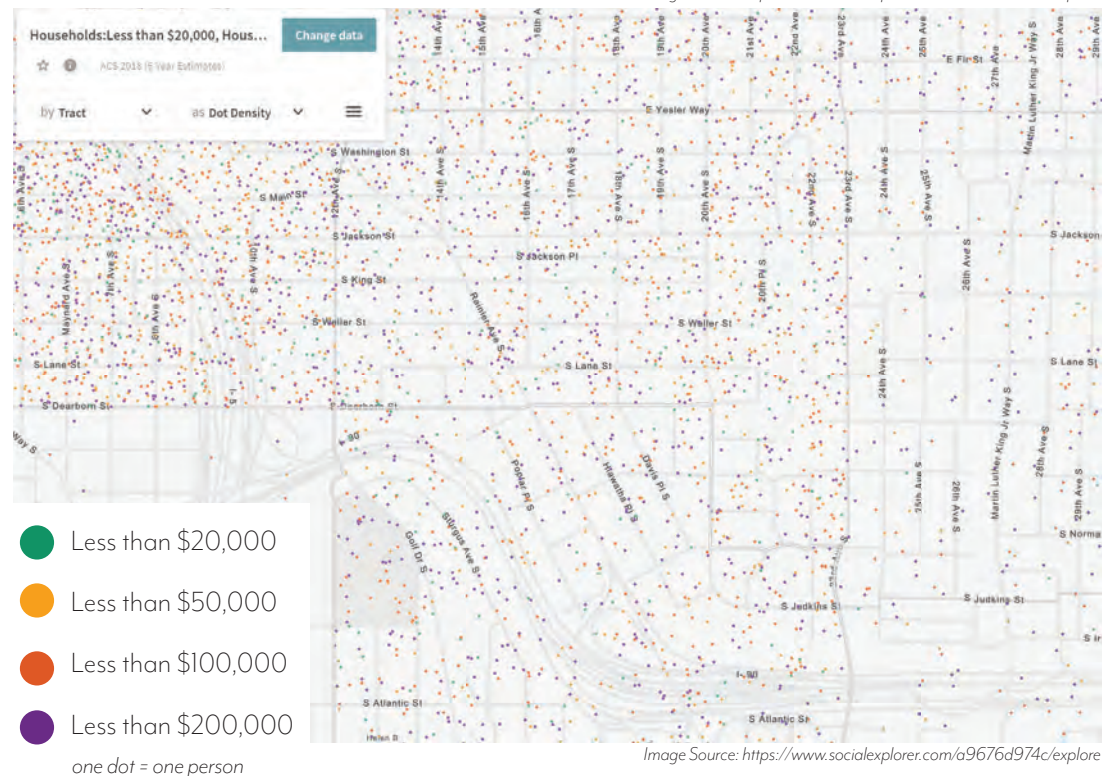


Image Source: <https://www.socialexplorer.com/a9676d974c/explore>



# CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH

## HISTORIC INFORMALITY



*Images from top:*

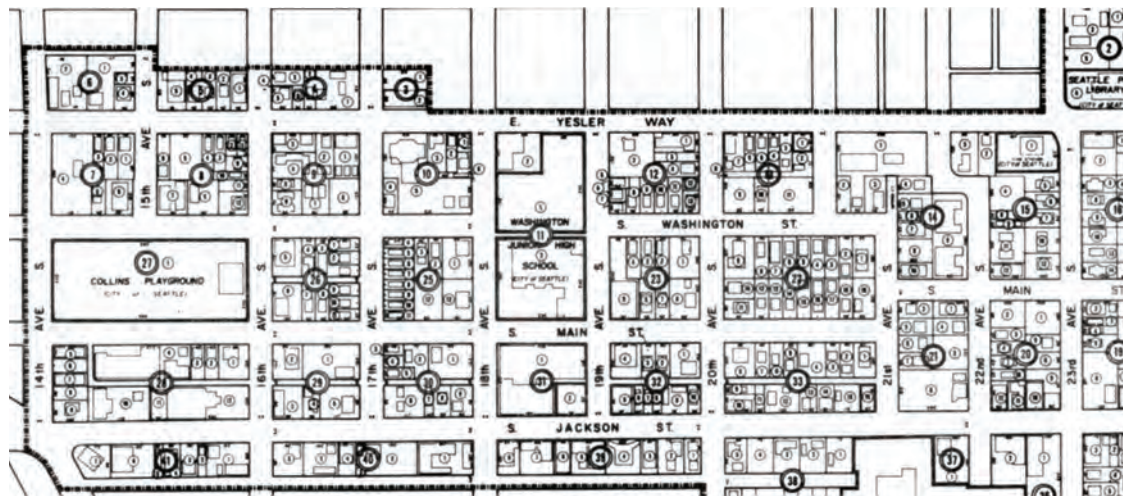
### **Black Panther Party:**

The Seattle Black Panther Party created a free breakfast program in 1970 for children and established a free medical clinic, the Carolyn Downs Medical Center, in the south Central District neighborhood.

### **Land Use + Urban Renewal:**

Historically a red-lined neighborhood, the Central District faced decay as a result of white flight. During Urban Renewal in the 1970's, a 340-acre piece of this area was designated as the site to demolish decaying structures and make way for a new "Atlantic T" neighborhood. This project effectively cleared "slums" along with many informal living situations which had taken the form of adapted single family and duplex houses to make way for playgrounds, parks, and schools meant for a new wave of residents to access. The urban form was forever changed with this development as the new urban form was forcibly introduced.

*Image Source: <https://medium.com/california-countercultures/the-black-panther-party-b7ce0268002b>*



*Image Source: <https://www.seattle.gov/cityarchives/exhibits-and-education/seattle-segments/urban-renewal>*

# CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH

## CURRENT INFORMALITY

This map locates and illustrates informality observed by the group. Each category is expanded on below.

### Housing:

People reside in cars and tents and some homes appear to have informal ADUs.

### Livelihood:

Selling Real Change newspapers and flyers advertising services.

### Food:

A culturally appropriate community garden and communal raised garden beds utilize unused public space.

### Arts + Culture:

Graffiti artwork alongside retaining walls and painted cross walks.

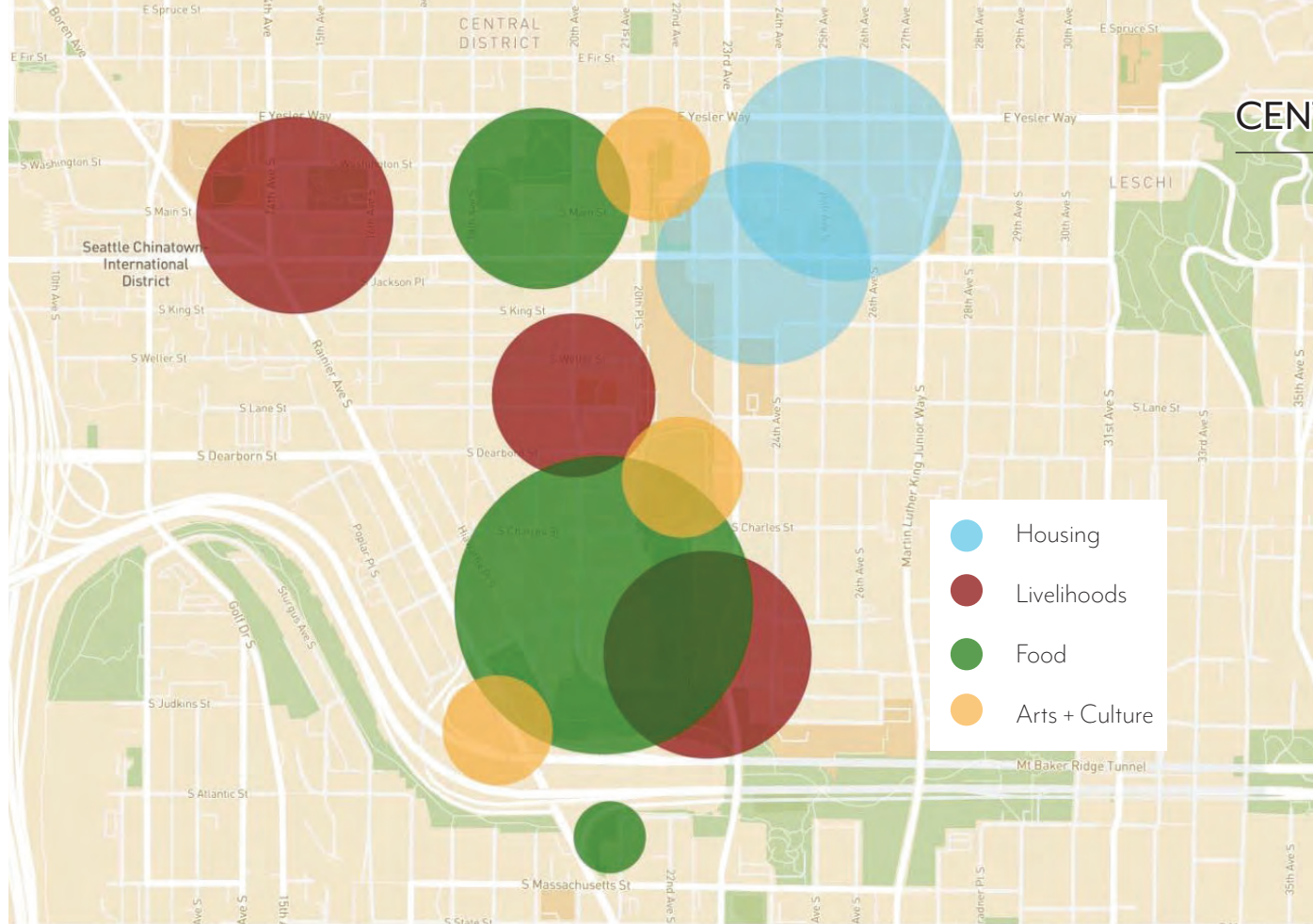


Image Source: <https://www.mapbox.com/> + personal photos

- Housing
- Livelihoods
- Food
- Arts + Culture

# CENTRAL DISTRICT SOUTH

## OPPORTUNITIES



Shown here are potential areas of opportunity for future informal activity. Ideas for each category are expanded on below.

### Housing:

Mobile amenities can be created for people living in their cars/tents while existing garages can be utilized for overnight car/rv camping. More ADU's can be built to create more affordable housing and co-housing. Multigenerational housing should be encouraged.

### Livelihood:

Parks and open lots can be utilized for food and art markets where anyone is able to sell goods.

### Food:

Existing garden beds can be expanded while park space can be used to build food forests and opportunities for food foraging. The Black Panther Party Breakfast Program can be reinstated.

### Arts + Culture:

Concerts with local artists can be held in the park or open parking lots and public spaces can be sanctioned as informal art zones.

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Image Source: <https://www.mapbox.com/>

# YESLER TERRACE

## URBAN FORM

SARAH PULLMAN  
HELEN GANAHL  
LAURA KEIL

Yesler Terrace is a 22-acre public housing development located just east of the I-5 highway. When this project was completed in 1941, it was the state's first public housing development and the country's first racially integrated public housing. Seattle Housing Authority has begun redevelopment of the area in recent years as the buildings begin to age. Historically, the neighborhood has been characterized as a lively, playful neighborhood.

*Images clockwise from top:*

**Children play** at Yesler Community Center. The community center is focused on creating a safe space for children of all backgrounds to experience creativity and freedom.

**Redevelopment** in the area includes plans to replace the low-income homes with mixed-income, multi-story buildings and community amenities.

**The typical housing structure** of the area currently features two-story rowhouses with their own private yards making up a total of 561 residential units.



Image Source: <https://www.knx.org/post/it-s-not-going-be-same-how-kids-yesler-terrace-feel-about-leaving>



Image Source: Joe Mabel



Image Source: <https://news.theregistryps.com/354-unit-residential-project-known-as-yesler-terrace-moves-to-final-phase-of-design-review/>

# YESLER TERRACE

## LAND USE



Image Source: City of Seattle data

**Land Use:**  
This neighborhood is largely designated as multi-family housing. While there are also large areas dedicated to public facilities, there is a lack of open green space.

# YESLER TERRACE

## DEMOGRAPHICS

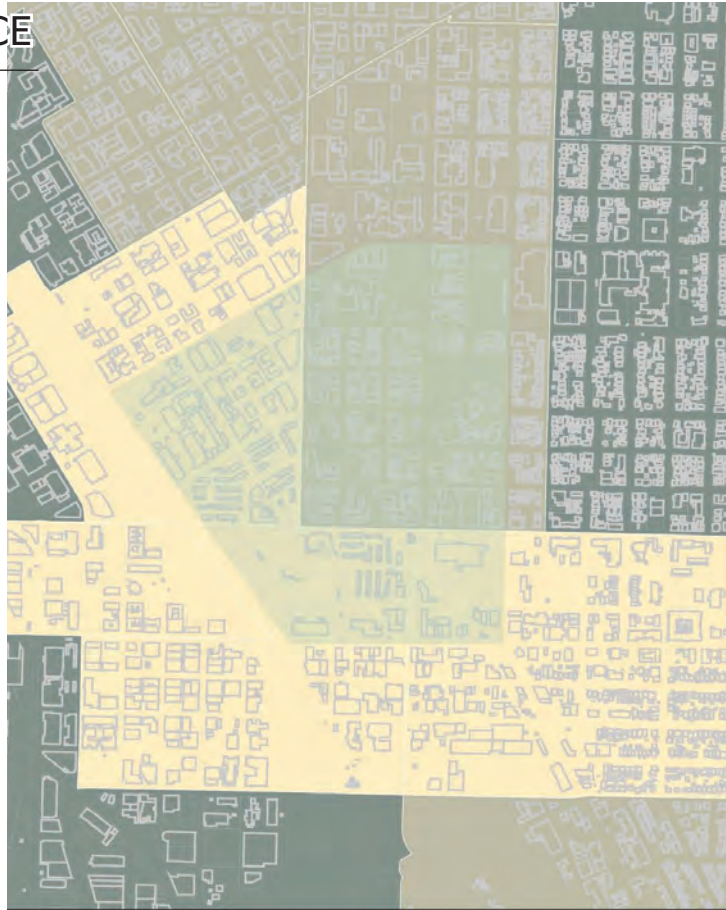


Image Source: City of Seattle data

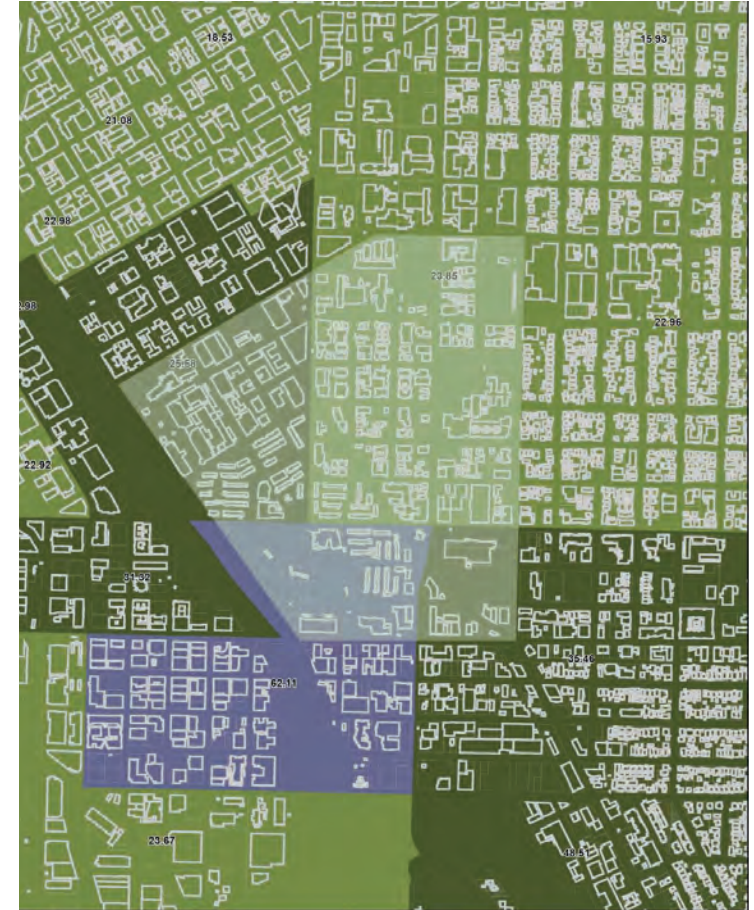


Image Source: City of Seattle data

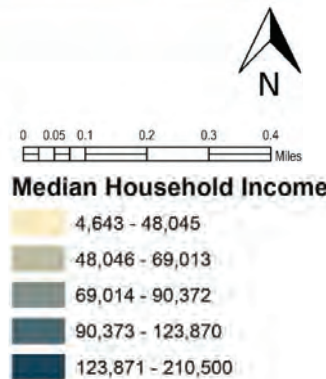
Images from left:

### Income:

Before redevelopment, Yesler Terrace was a very low-income area as every household in the neighborhood made less than \$69,000 per year. A significant portion of these residents made less than \$48,000 per year.

### English Speakers:

Less than 50% of the population of Yesler Terrace spoke English. This speaks to the diversity of the area.



# YESLER TERRACE

## HISTORIC INFORMALITY



Image Source: MOHAI

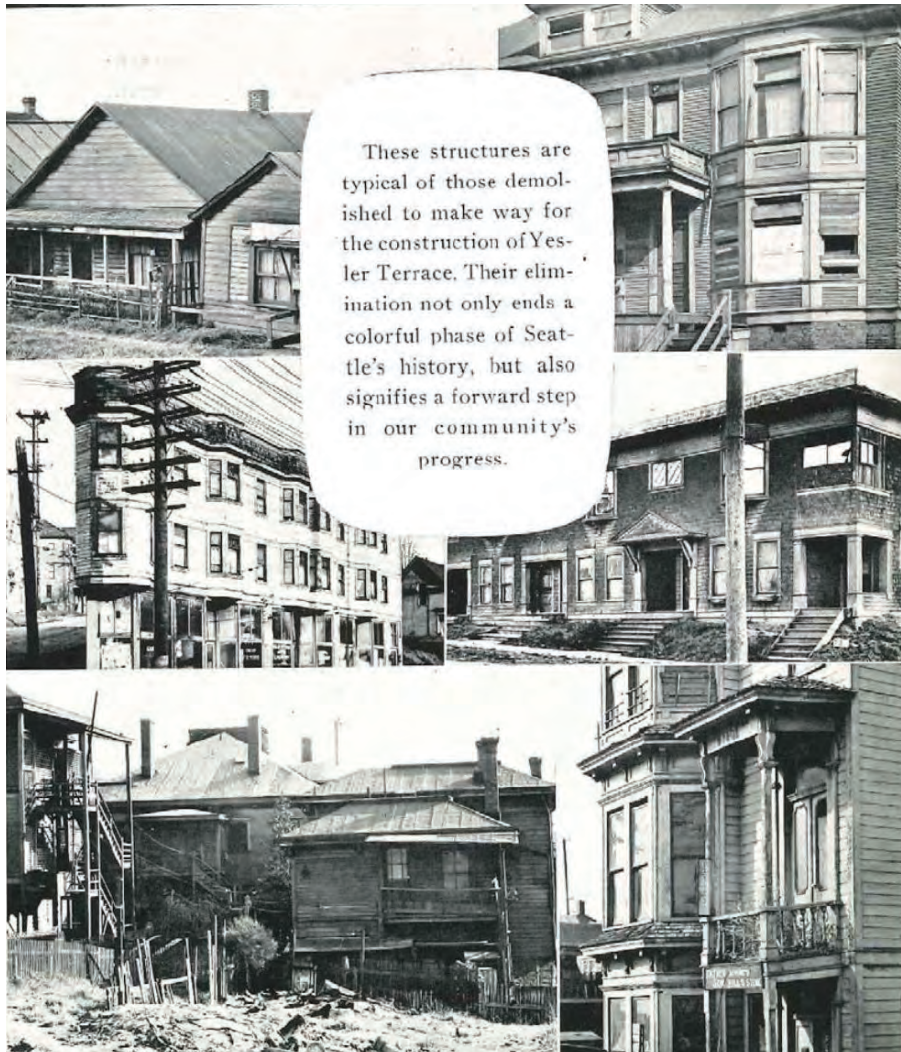


Image Source: Seattle Housing Authority Annual Reports (1940-2004), Record Series 1802-14, Box 1, Folder 1, Seattle Municipal Archives.

*Images from top:*

### **Children of Yesler Terrace:**

When the housing development first opened in 1942, children made up almost 40% of Yesler Terrace residents. At the time, this more than doubled the number of children in the city (16%).

### **Profanity Hill:**

During the 1920's, this area was known as the Profanity Hill Slum. Many of the homes were shack-like or in disrepair. When the Seattle Housing Authority took ownership of the area in 1939, they used the Yesler Terrace project as a sign of forward progress in the growth of Seattle. Before the more recent demolition of Yesler Terrace began, the area housed a population that consisted of only 12% caucasians and people who made an average annual income of \$14,000.

## YESLER TERRACE

### CURRENT INFORMALITY

These images are examples of informality observed by the group. Each category is expanded on below.

Images clockwise from top:

#### Livelihood:

Flyers posted on telephone poles advertise services that are rarely visible to community outsiders. These flyers exist under tension.

#### Food:

Prior to redevelopment, yards were a key component of the housing project and a place where many grew their own food. Food sovereignty has been greatly reduced by this redevelopment however, Yes Farm (pictured here), run by the Black Farmers Collective, is one antidote.

#### Arts + Culture:

Graffiti and murals like this one can be seen in many areas. These art pieces are a way for long time residents to leave their mark on a newly changing neighborhood.



All images taken by students



# YESLER TERRACE

## OPPORTUNITIES

There were 493 families living at Yesler Terrace in 2012, when redevelopment of the Seattle Housing Authority community began.

**493\***

**76** households are still living in old Yesler Terrace buildings

**196** households are now living elsewhere

- 119 households are in other Seattle Housing Authority communities
- 9 households are in other housing in Seattle
- 68 households are outside Seattle

**203** households are now living in new Yesler Terrace buildings

- 43 moved offsite and then returned

Average Wait Time	1 bedroom:	7-8 years
	2 bedroom:	4-5 years
	3 bedroom:	2-3 years
	4 bedroom:	7-8 years

\*Some residents have passed away  
Source: Seattle Housing Authority

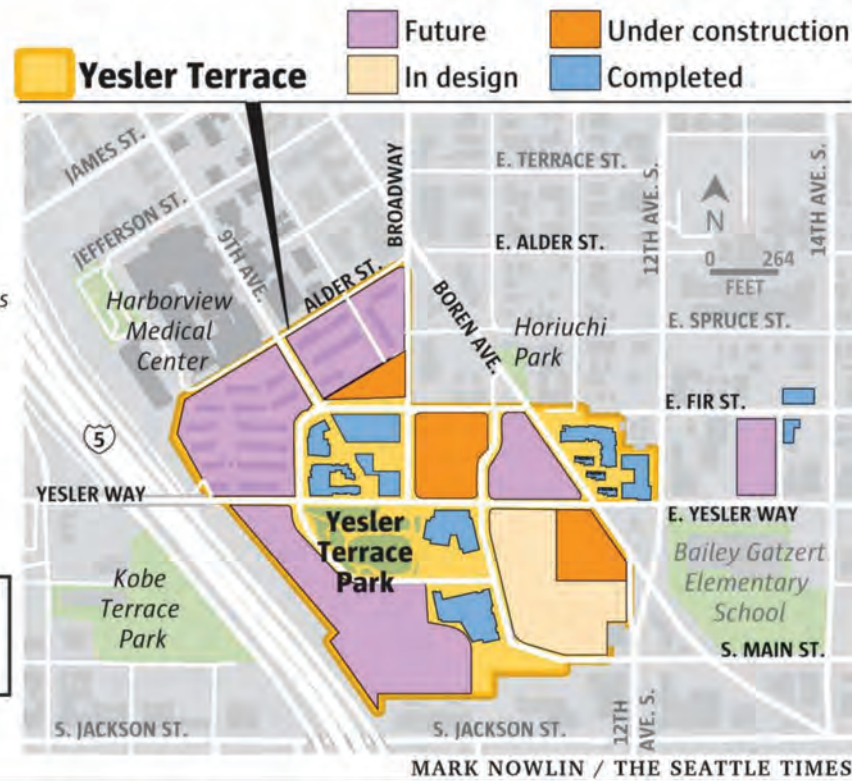


Image Source: <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/seattles-new-yesler-terrace-park-opens-at-heart-of-mixed-income-redevelopment/>

Shown here is a graphic depicting where the Yesler Terrace families have gone since redevelopment. The return of many of the original residents presents many opportunities for the area. These opportunities are expanded on below.

### Housing:

Getting input from residents on what forms of assistance are most useful.

### Livelihood:

Introduction of business incubator programs to build food related businesses and promote ethnic food options.

### Food:

The presence of Yes Farm and further collaboration with Seattle University.

### Arts + Culture:

Creative participatory projects that bring the community together.

## SELECTED SOURCES

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# INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

## URBAN FORM

EMILIO CRADDOCK  
YINGJIE LUO  
RY YAHN  
NORA XUTING YAO

The International District is the center of Seattle's Asian American community. With compact blocks, public spaces are often used for community events, festivals, celebrations and everyday gatherings, contributing to the lively, energetic feel of the neighborhood. Several landmarks can be found throughout the area along with many ethnic Asian businesses and restaurants, attracting tourists and locals alike.

*Images clockwise from top:*



*Image Source: Joe Mabel*

**Hing Hay Park** is situated at the heart of the International District and is host to many community events such as the night market pictured here.

**Many iconic restaurants**, whether they be family-owned or operated by world famous chefs, have long legacies in this neighborhood. The diversity of the area is reflected in the wide variety of noodles, dumplings, soups, and pastries offered.

**The Wing Luke Museum** is a history museum focused on the culture, art and history of Asian Pacific Americans and is a Smithsonian Institution affiliate. A featured exhibit is shown here.



*Image Source: <https://visitseattle.org/neighborhoods/international-district/>*



*Image Source: <https://visitseattle.org/neighborhoods/international-district/>*

# INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

## LAND USE



International District    National Historic District  
 Historic District

Image created by students



Landmarks    Community  
 Foodbanks    Schools

Image created by students

Images from top:

**Historic District:**

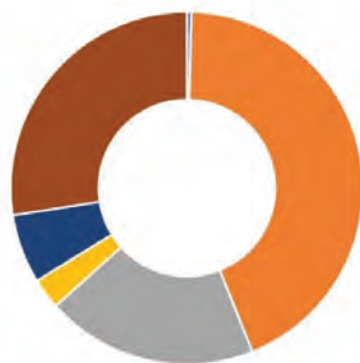
The whole neighborhood sits within a historic district and the highlighted area is a national historic district.

**Public Support:**

There are a number of landmarks and community spaces located throughout the neighborhood along with two schools. Note there is only one foodbank in the area.

# INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

## DEMOGRAPHICS



### RACE/ETHNICITY:

- American Indian + Alaska Native 0.4%
- Asian 43.5%
- Black or African American 19.4%
- Hispanic or Latino, any race 2.8%
- Native Hawaiian + Pacific Islander 0%
- Some other race 0%
- Two or more races 6.3%
- White 27.3%

### Housing:

A tiny house village is located in this area and some homes look to have informal ADUs.

**17**  
Total Languages Spoken

**Commonly Spoken:**  
Mandarin /Cantonese  
Vietnamese

		Chinatown- International District	Citywide
Renter households	%	<b>81.6</b>	<b>53</b>
People under 18 years of age	%	<b>13.2</b>	<b>15</b>
People age 65 and over	%	<b>19.5</b>	<b>11</b>
Persons of color	%	<b>71.7</b>	<b>33</b>
Language other than English spoken at home	%	<b>56.2</b>	<b>22</b>
High school or higher	%	<b>75.5</b>	<b>93</b>
Bachelor's degree or higher	%	<b>35.7</b>	<b>57</b>
Median household income	\$	<b>33,495</b>	<b>65,277</b>
Unemployed	%	<b>6.2</b>	<b>7</b>
Population below poverty level		<b>29.7</b>	<b>14</b>

Source: 2009-2013 American Community Survey

Image Source: Seattle Department of Neighborhoods

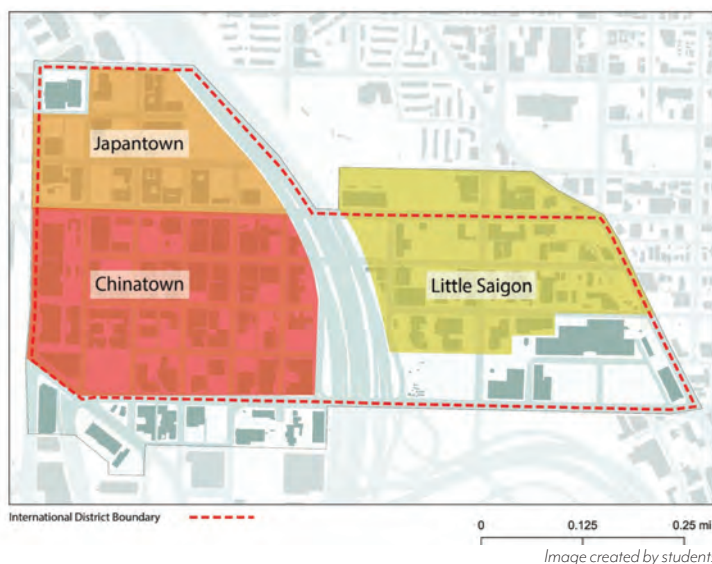
Image at top:

### Race:

The International District population is predominantly Asian with 43.5%, followed by the Black population at 19.4%.

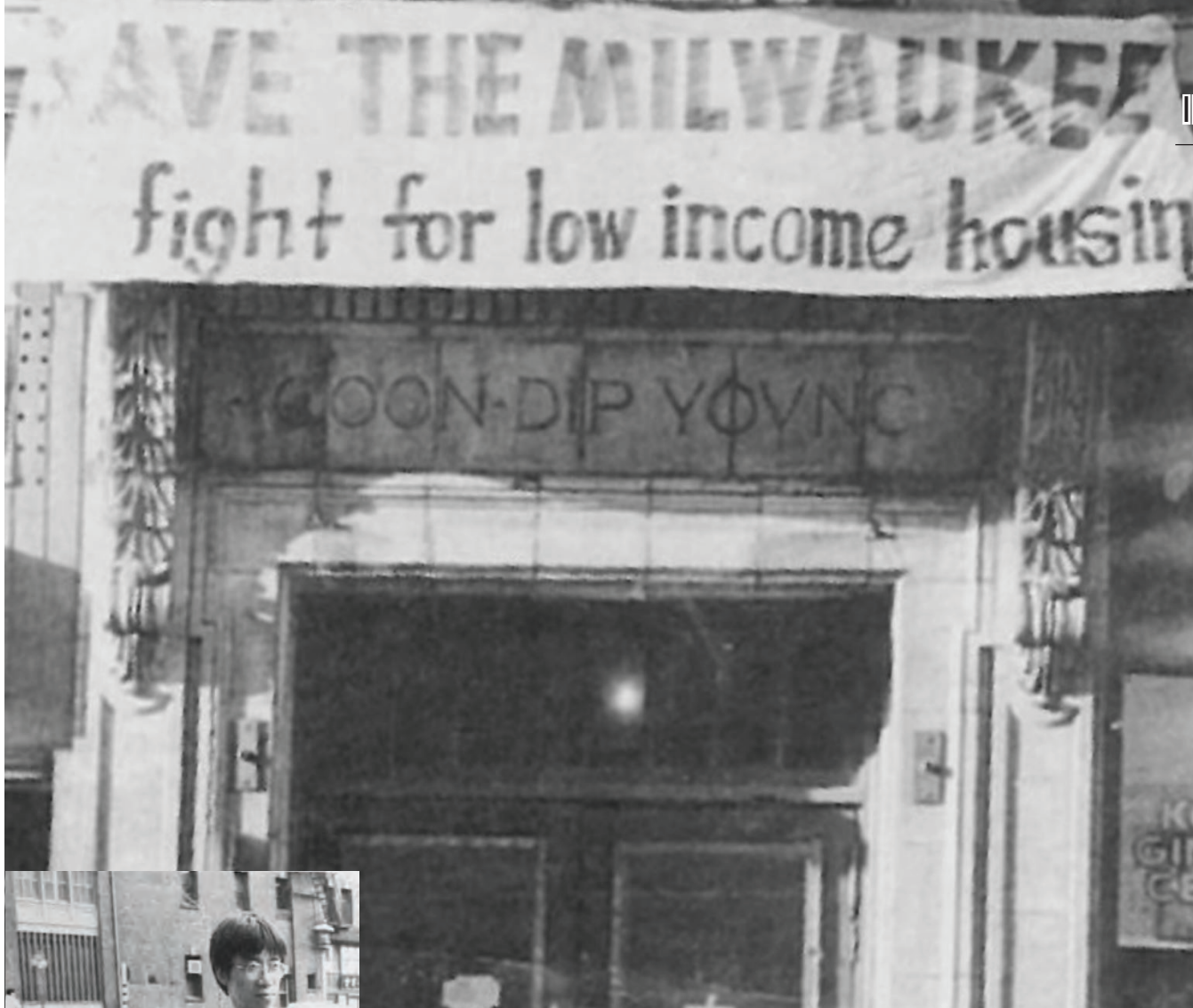
### Statistic Comparison:

Note there are more renters, more elderly people, more persons of color, more people speaking languages other than English, and more people living below the poverty line in this area compared to the rest of Seattle.



### Neighborhood Areas:

The International District is sub-divided into three areas including Japantown, Chinatown, and Little Saigon, named for the concentration of businesses owned by people of Japanese, Chinese, and Vietnamese descent. These areas are also represented through the commonly spoken languages of the area (Mandarin/Cantonese and Vietnamese).



*Images from top:*

**Milwaukee Hotel Occupation:**

In 1977, a group of housing activists occupied the Milwaukee Hotel. The dilapidated hotel was a prime candidate for closure and redevelopment. Activists protested in opposition and worked to stop the closure, and subsequent eviction of tenants, by agreeing to help the owner bring the building up to code. This was an informal attempt to preserve low income housing.

**Donnie Chin:**

In 1968, Donnie Chin founded the International District Emergency Center to respond to medical, emotional, and personal traumas. This center was created in response to the lack of support for immigrants in the area.

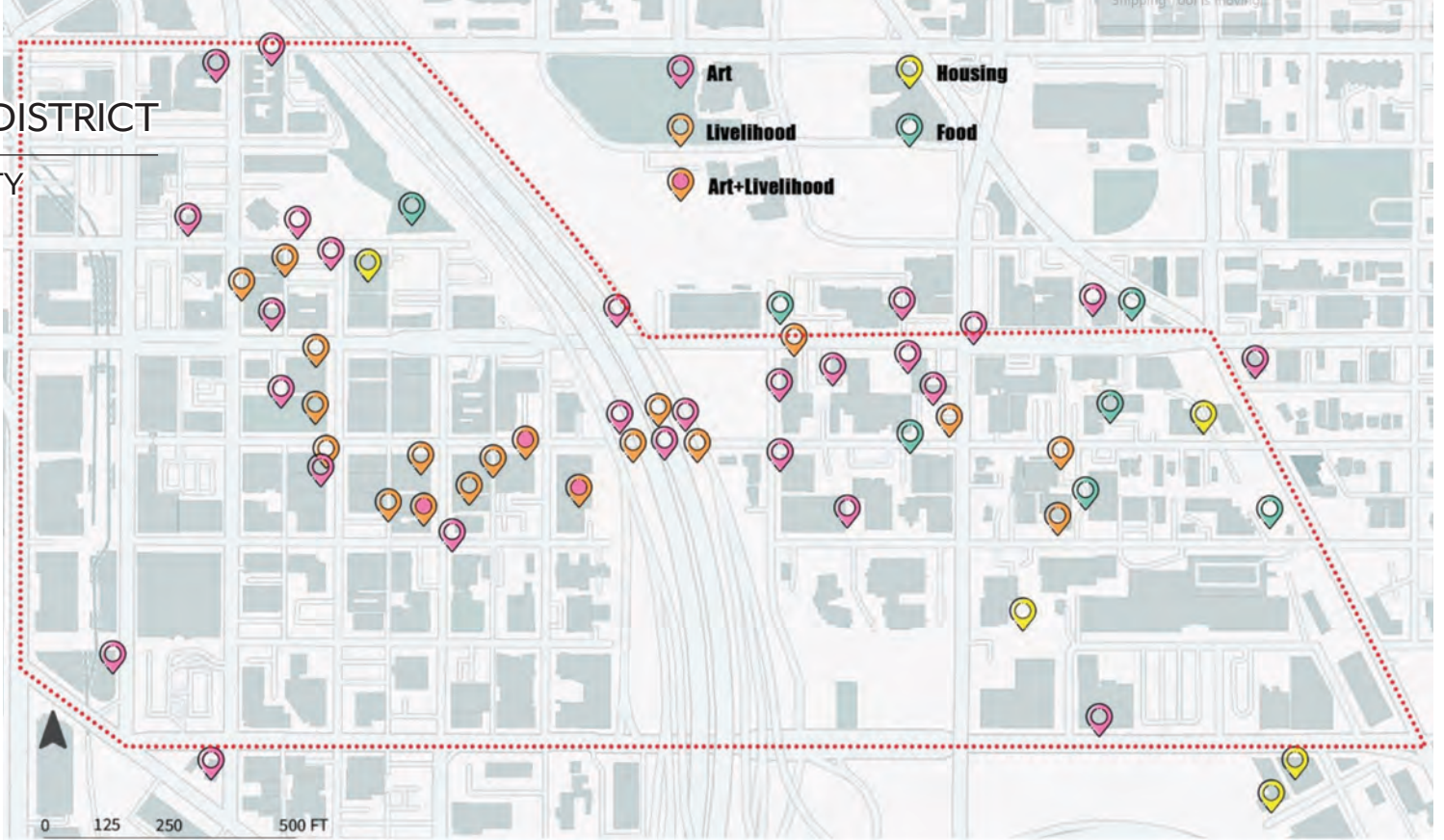


*Image Source: Department of Neighborhood. (2018). Chinatown/International District Neighborhood Snapshots. Seattle.*

*Image Source: Department of Neighborhood. (2018). Chinatown/International District Neighborhood Snapshots. Seattle.*

# INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

## CURRENT INFORMALITY



This map indicates the group's observed informalities. Each category is expanded on below.

### Housing:

SRO hotels offer single rooms with shared kitchen and toilets, catering to low-income single residents.

### Livelihood:

Using public sidewalks to extend store space and attract buyers.

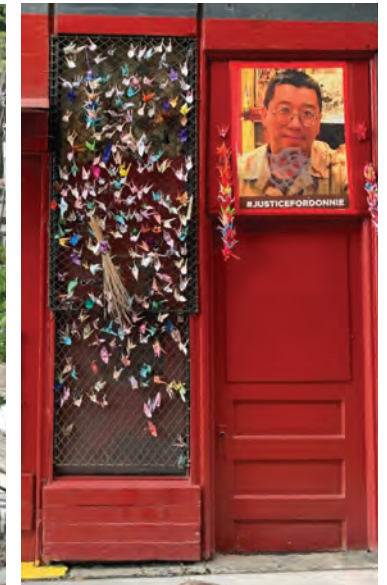
### Food:

Danny Woo community garden for Asian immigrants to grow culturally appropriate food.

### Arts + Culture:

Folded cranes line a sidewalk in memoriam of a local man.

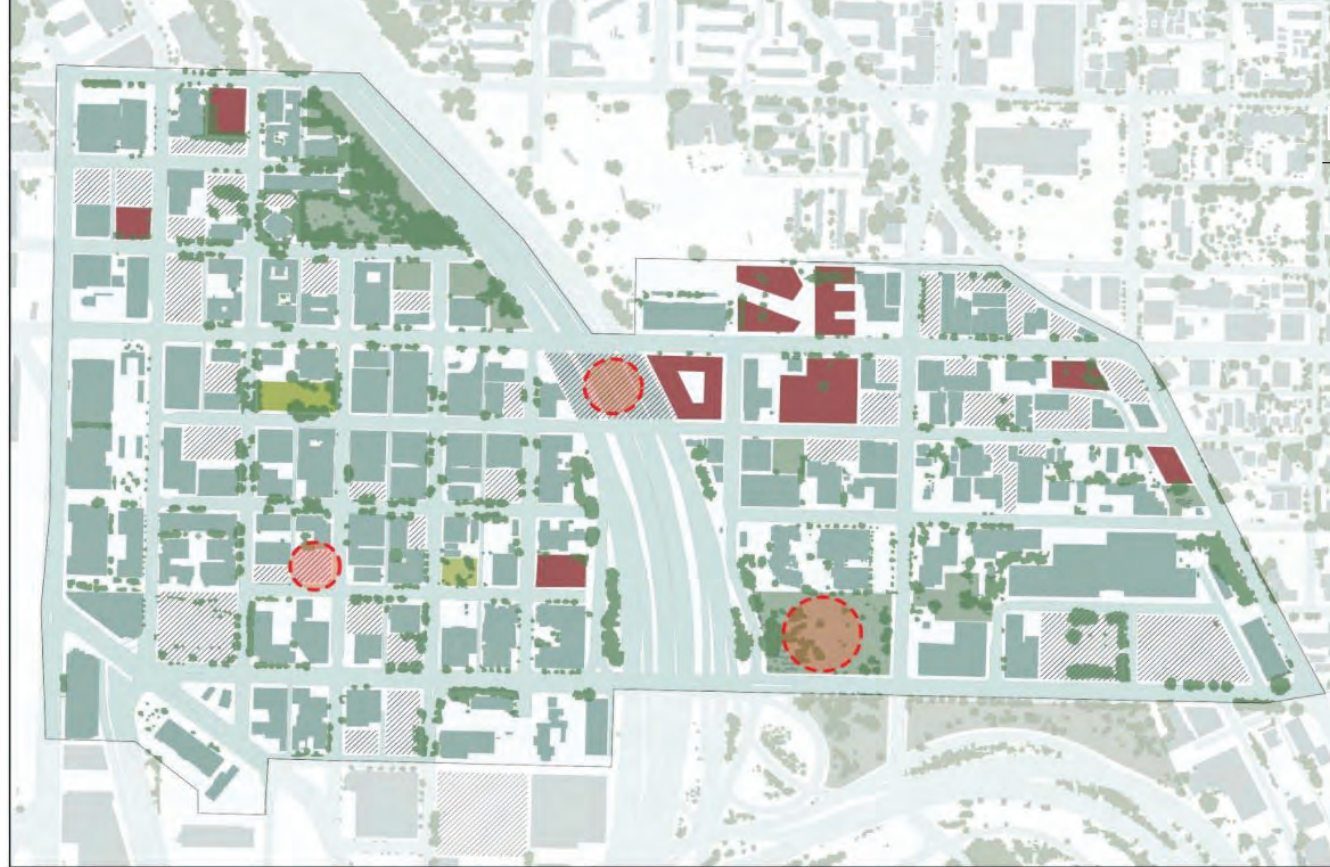
Image created by students



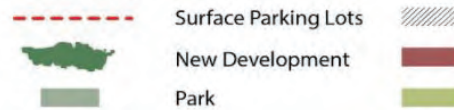
Images taken by students

# INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT

## OPPORTUNITIES



Opportunities  
Tree Canopy  
Open Space



0 0.125 0.25 mi

Image created by students

Shown here are potential areas of opportunity for future informal activity. Ideas for each category are expanded on below.

### Housing:

Vacant land and abandoned/neglected buildings offer an opportunity for low-income housing, particularly for the elderly.

### Livelihood:

Policies create strict formalization within the area; relaxing these policies can allow for more street vendors and increased street closures for festivals and markets.

### Food:

Vacant land can be used to expand the Danny Woo Community Garden.

### Arts + Culture:

Relaxed policies around public art can allow for more informal expression.

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# PIONEER SQUARE

## URBAN FORM

XINMAN LIU  
JASON STEINBERG  
CHARLIE SIMPSON

Pioneer Square, once known as the heart of the city, has a rich history and vibrant public life. This area holds significance as the ancestral land of the Coast Salish people, a part of the Gold Rush, and a landing for pioneers. Today, Pioneer Square is a melting pot of demographics and businesses, where the old integrates with the new.

*Images clockwise from top:*

**The First Thursday Art Walk** is a free, self-guided art gallery tour through Pioneer Square that happens every month on the first Thursday. Pioneer Square is home to the largest concentration of art galleries in the city.

**Pioneer Park** is the place to experience Seattle's early history. The iron pergola was built as a shelter over an underground restroom and the nearby Tlingit totem pole was the region's first landmark.

**Occidental Square Park**, a brick-paved, tree-lined block, hosts public art, activities, games and ongoing events.



Image Source: <https://savingplaces.org/stories/preserving-pioneer-square-history-seattle#.X8QgImhKjOg>



Image Source: <https://www.pioneersquare.org/about>



Image Source: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pergola\\_Pioneer\\_Square,\\_Seattle,\\_WA.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Pergola_Pioneer_Square,_Seattle,_WA.jpg)



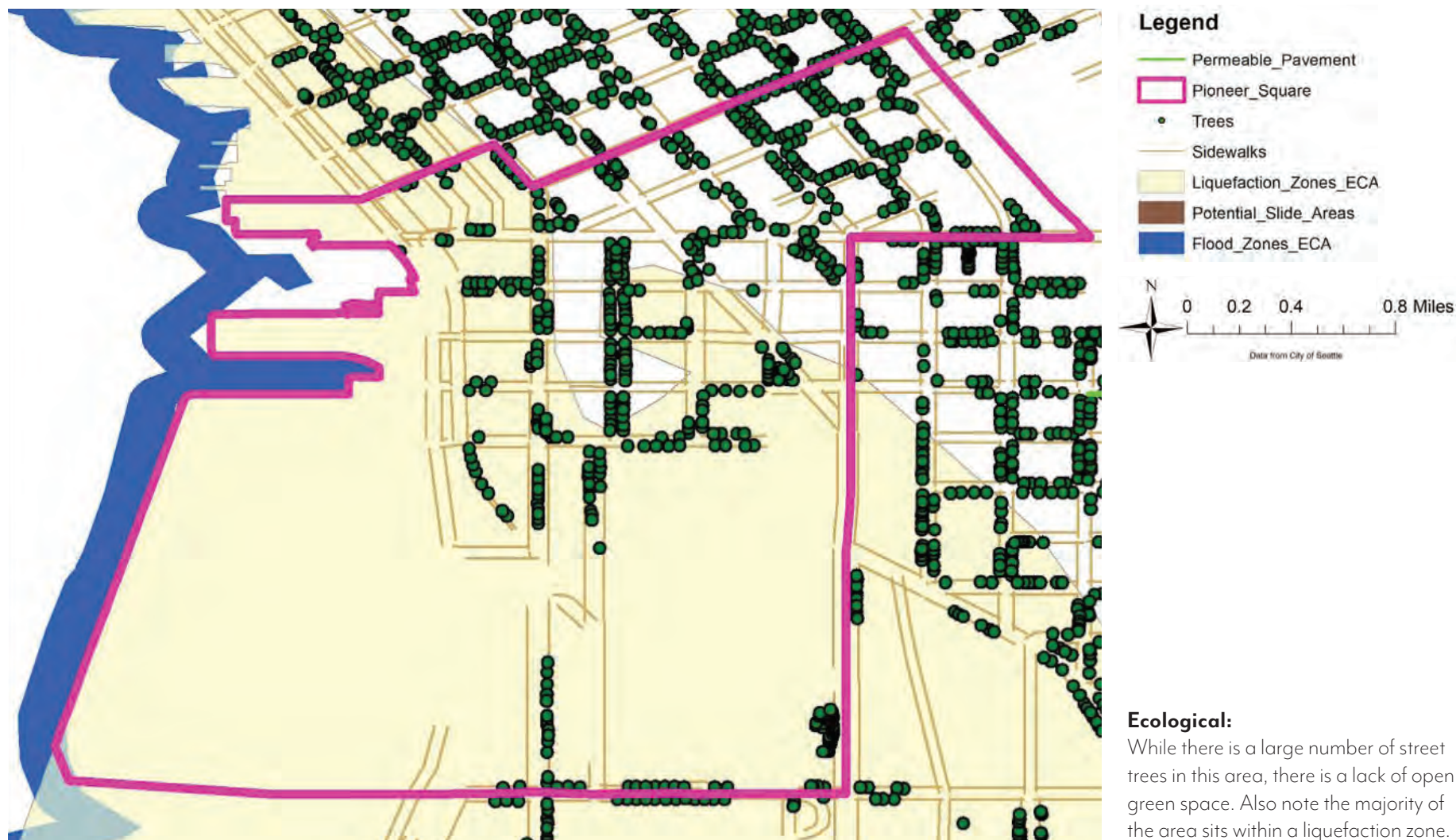


Image Source: GIS data

### Ecological:

While there is a large number of street trees in this area, there is a lack of open green space. Also note the majority of the area sits within a liquefaction zone.

# PIONEER SQUARE

## DEMOGRAPHICS

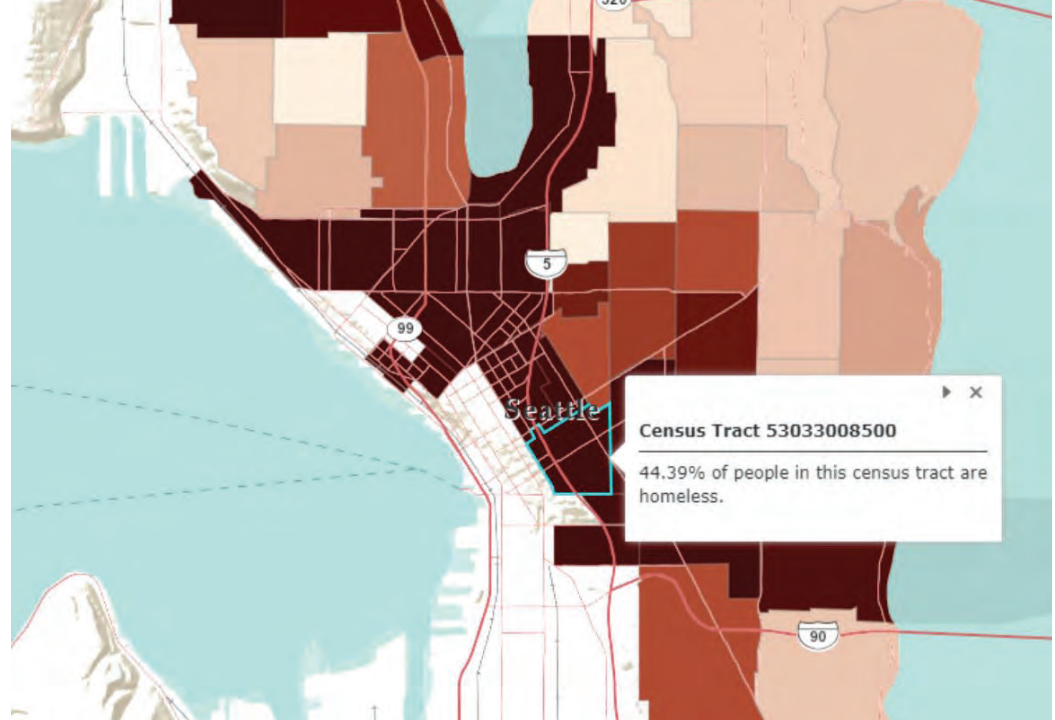


Image Source: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=e78561b875034a279259ef21dada08c7>

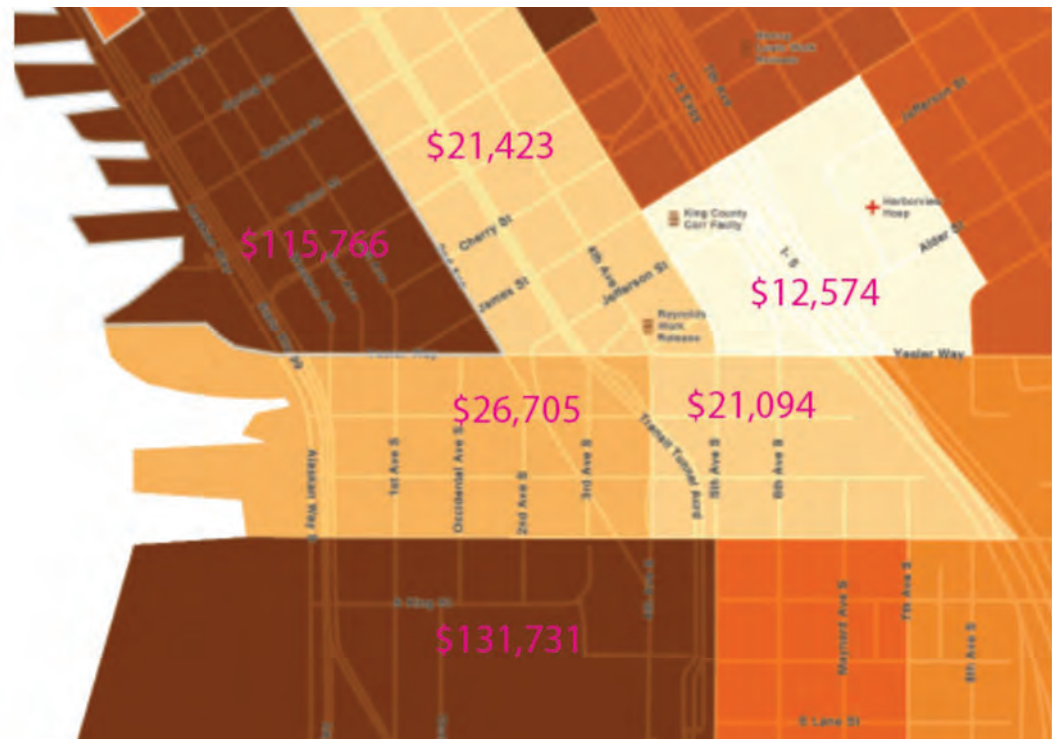


Image Source: <https://www.socialexplorer.com/>

Images from top:

### Homelessness:

In comparison to other neighborhoods, Pioneer Square faces one of the highest rates of homelessness at 44.39% of people.

### Income:

With this area, the income gap is very stark, ranging from \$26,705 to \$131,731 median income.

# PIONEER SQUARE

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## HISTORIC INFORMALITY



Image Source: Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society

Images clockwise from top:

### Hooverville:

In 1931, the Seattle Unemployment Citizens' League, a self-help organization of workers without work, was formed. At its peak, there were more than 50,000 members in Seattle that lived in shacks constructed of found materials on a 9-acre plot nearby the Pioneer Square neighborhood.

### Ballast Island:

Ballast Island was a massive pile of rock, brick, and debris dropped by ships. From 1850 to 1885, it was one of the few places in town where large groups of Native people were tolerated and thus many took refuge in the area.

### Afermath of the Seattle Fire:

After the Great Seattle Fire of June 6, 1889, businesses continued to cater to customers by selling from informal tents.



Image Source: University of Washington libraries



Image Source: Wilse, Anders B.; MOHA via UW Libraries

# PIONEER SQUARE

## CURRENT INFORMALITY

This map locates the group's observed informalities. Each category is expanded on below.

### Housing:

People reside in tents or sleepingbags, and gather on the sidewalks or around the mission and organizations providing services.

### Livelihood:

Busking, panhandling, and selling newspapers.

### Food:

Goat Hill Giving Garden and P-Patch, food truck vending space by the stadiums.

### Arts + Culture:

Murals, pop up art events, and graffiti.

- BROWN- HOUSING**
- PINK-PURPLE -LIVELIHOOD**
- BLUE- FOOD SYSTEM**
- YELLO-ORANGE - ART +CULTURE**

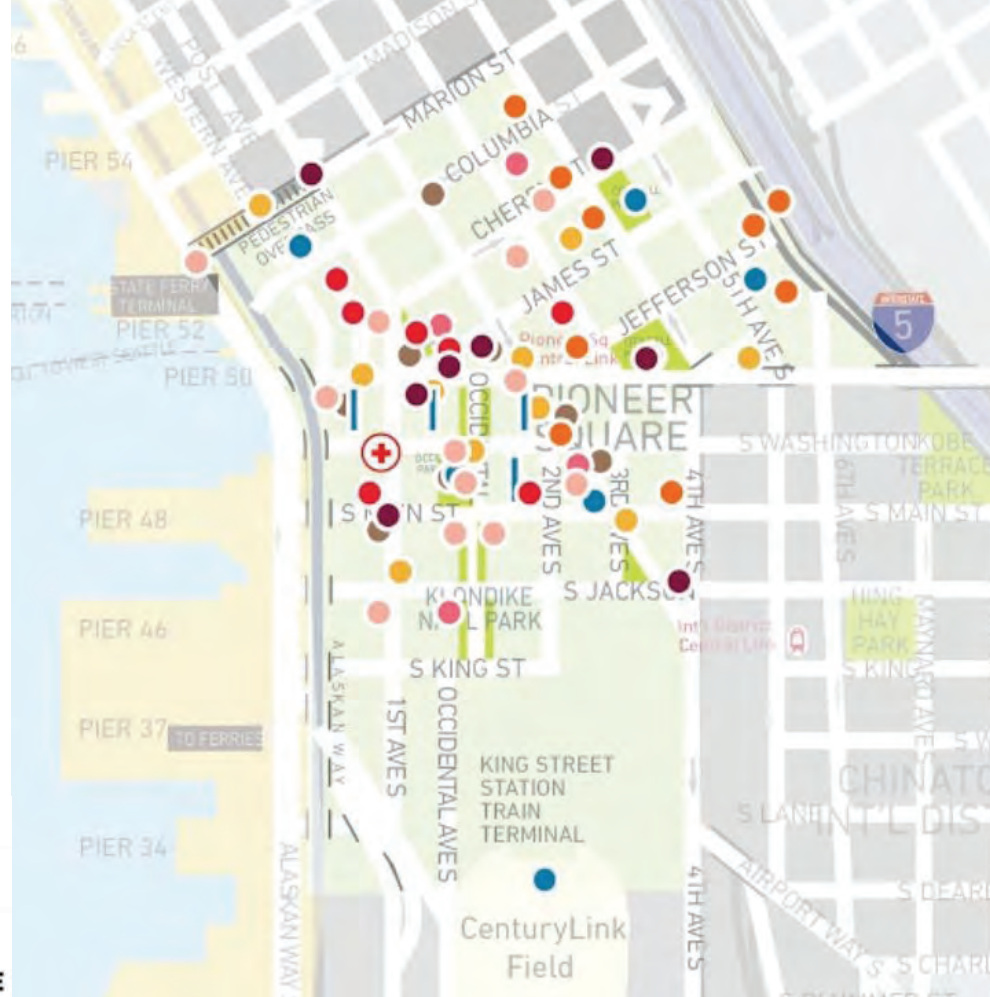
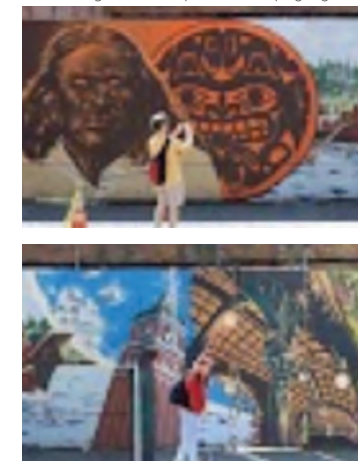


Image Source: <https://www.maps.google.com>



Images taken by students

# PIONEER SQUARE

## OPPORTUNITIES

Image at left:

### Chief Seattle Club:

Chief Seattle Club will receive several million dollars to help build 75 studio apartments in Pioneer Square for homeless and low-income individuals, with a focus on serving Native American people.

Projects like this could be used as a precedent for future development in the area as well as a jumping off point for informal activity. Ideas for each category are expanded on below.

### Housing:

Support for shelters and soup kitchens in the area while also developing affordable housing would be beneficial.

### Livelihood:

Enhance opportunities for economic stability by enhancing social services with an emphasis on permanent solutions such as job opportunities.

### Food:

Connecting the restaurant industry in the area more closely with the homeless population could improve food security.

### Arts + Culture:

Allowing street activity to take place for more hours of the day could allow for more activity to take place.



Image Source: Alicia Diamond via chiefseattleclub.org

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# SECTION 4

## ENVISIONING INFORMALITY IN CENTRAL SEATTLE

### FINAL ASSIGNMENT OVERVIEW

For the final project, small groups engaged a primary theme of urban informality along with intersecting themes to develop strategies that would advance resilience within Central Seattle. This project got underway with a brief afternoon charrette, to creatively generate multiple visions and framings for informality (shown at top right), and to share ideas and insights through a pinup. Thematic groups revisited the findings from previous assignments for inspiration, and explored potential synergies and opportunities around intersectionality of themes as well as hybrid levels of informality. In scoping their resilience strategies, groups identified goals, contexts, and approaches for prototypes. Groups proposed locations in which variations of their prototype would hold/unfold across the study areas (and possibly beyond). Individual students then developed these ideas as an intervention for one or more sites, with conceptual designs and considerations for how it may operate and evolve. While focused on a particular site context, each student's proposal developed in relationship to those within their group and occasionally integrating student proposals from other groups. A pin-up for peer and instructor feedback with sticky notes (such as those on projects shown at right) afforded opportunities for mutual learning.

The following pages feature highlights of the group and individual proposals, organized by their group strategies of:

Housing First, Hygiene Second

Multifunctional Housing First

Community Land Trusts

Mobility + Temporality in Growing, Living, Selling

Urban Food Network

Ecological Food Corridor



# HOUSING FIRST, HYGIENE SECOND

## GROUP STRATEGY

ASELA CHAVEZ BASURTO  
DREW CUNNINGHAM  
XINMAN LIU

This group's project seeks to counter the existing shortage of hygiene opportunities for some of the most vulnerable populations. It is estimated that 11,199 people in King County are experiencing homelessness, of which 5,228 are unsheltered<sup>1</sup>. In Seattle, there are 141 public hygiene facilities. All of these provide toilets, 26 provide showers, and 16 have laundries<sup>2</sup>. However, of the 141 facilities, only 17 are aimed at people experiencing homelessness and only six are open 24/7<sup>2</sup>. These public hygiene facilities include public libraries, community centers, pools, and parks, which all have operational hours or seasonal closures.

*Image from top:*

### Dignity Concept Diagram:

This group's vision promotes dignity through hygiene. Social dignity is generated in the interaction between individuals, collectives, and societies. This dignity can be either promoted or violated. The group's prototype works to promote dignity by including washing, dressing, toilets, laundry, and storage opportunities.

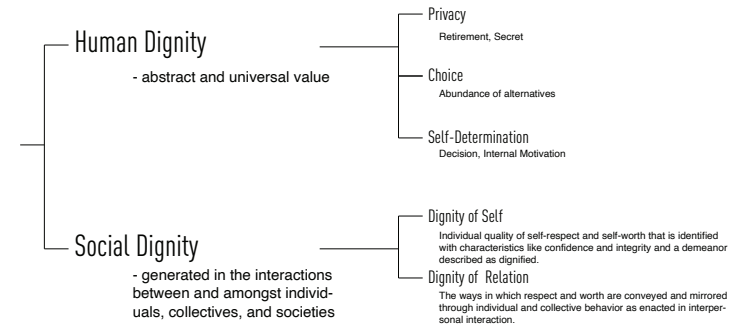
### Analysis Map of Seattle:

This map reveals the gaps between where homeless encampments are commonly found and hygiene facilities and infrastructure including public parks and drinking fountains.

<sup>1</sup>King County Homeless Management Information System  
<sup>2</sup>City of Seattle

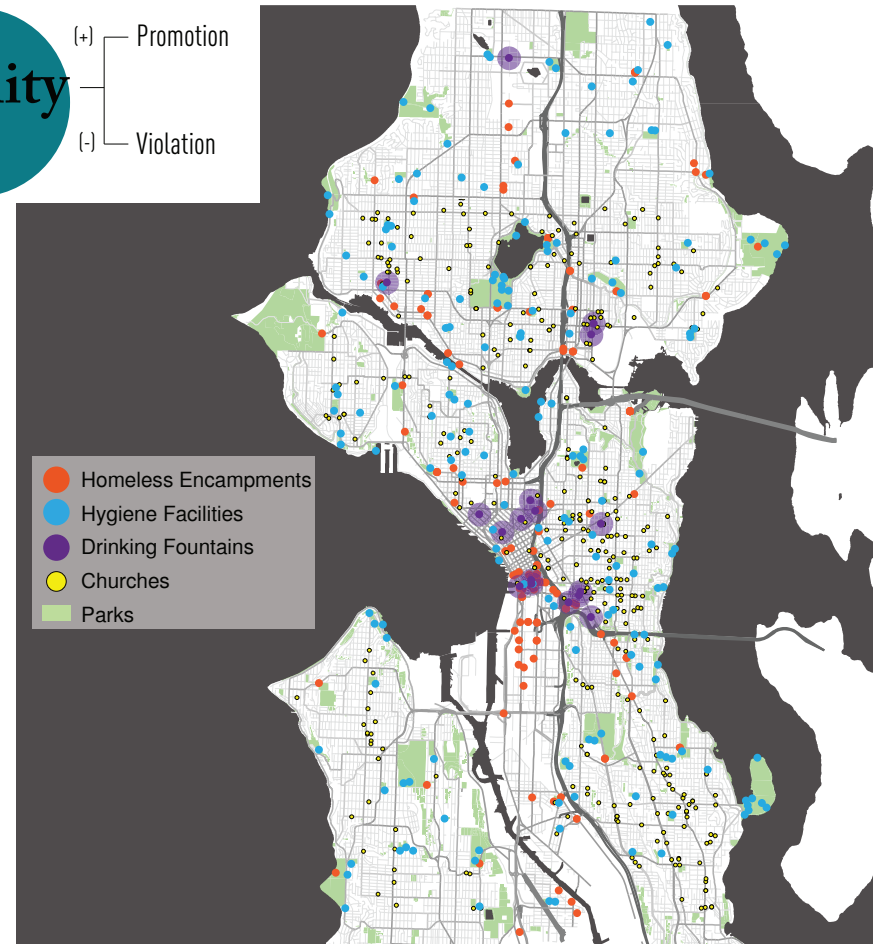
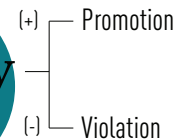
## Definition

# Dignity



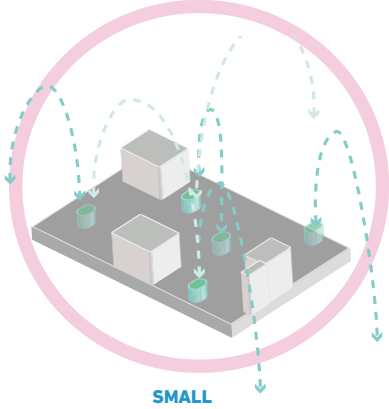
## Finding

# Dignity

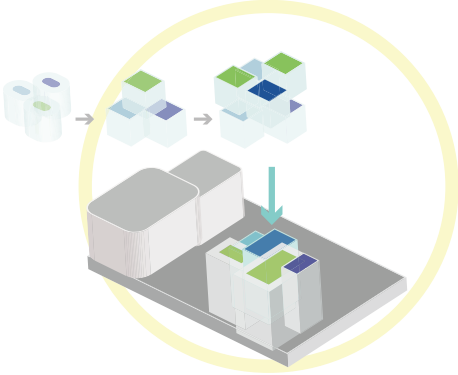


*Images created by group*

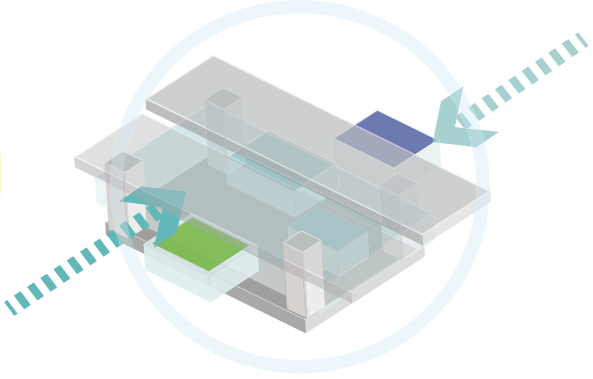




SMALL



MEDIUM



LARGE



Image created by group



Images from top:

**Individual Project Scale:**  
 Each individual proposal responds to climate, engineering thinking, flexibility, self-sufficiency, and social empowerment at various scales, from small to medium to large.

**Hygiene Scope:**  
 Each individual project varies in scope, ranging from focused to selective and comprehensive interventions.

# HOUSING FIRST, HYGIENE SECOND

## ANCHORING MOBILE HYGIENE SERVICES

ASELA CHAVEZ BASURTO

### Goals + Strategy

The goal of this project is to increase personal dignity through the provision of hygiene opportunities. Privacy, choice, and self-determination are elements that contribute to urban dignity. The project follows these elements through the design, providing privacy through secrecy, safety and choice through an abundance of opportunities affording personal motivation. The design provides spaces for washing, dressing, and showering, consistent with the teams's vision of 'housing first, hygiene second'.

*Images clockwise from top:*

### Vision:

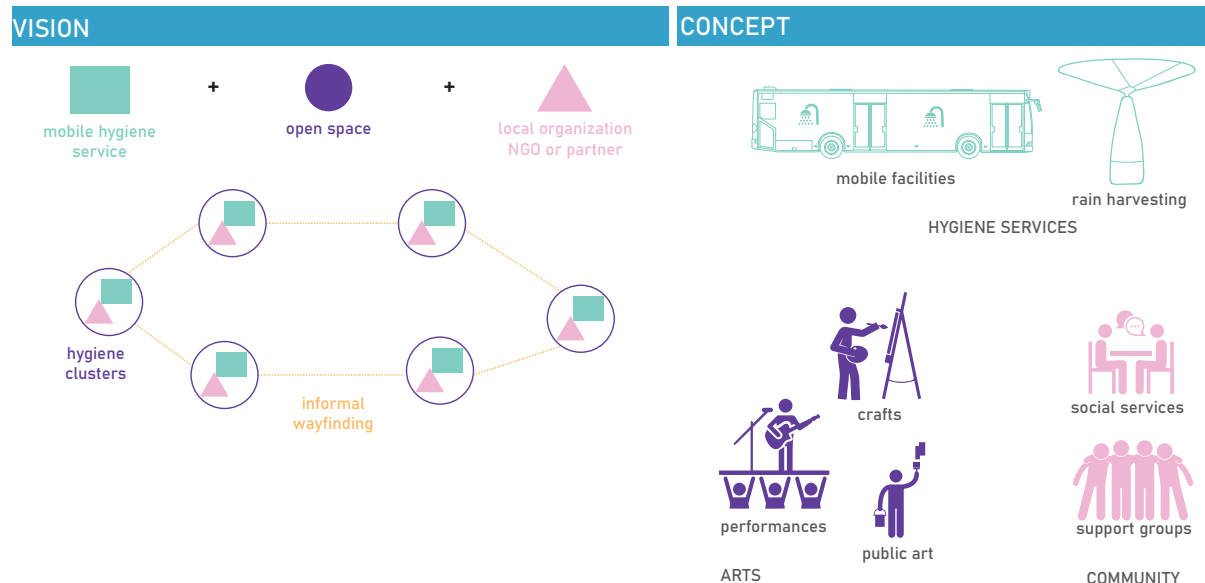
The project's vision was to create a network of hygiene services and opportunities for people experiencing homelessness. The model consists of bringing a mobile hygiene service to an open space close to a local NGO or partner organization.

### Concept:

The prototype for this intervention is a combination of hygiene services with arts and community opportunities. Mobile showers and rain harvesting elements provide washing, dressing and showering options. A stage area allows for performances and crafts. The back of nearby buildings provide spaces for public art.






### Site Context:

This context map shows the locations selected to form the network of mobile services. The criteria for selecting these sites included open space, a partnering organization or service, a sense of privacy and safety, and closeness to public transit.



## CONTEXT MAP

**SELECTED SITE**  
2425 4th Ave S  
22,500 ft

-  clothing store
-  wellbeing clinic
-  fast food
-  school district
-  postal services

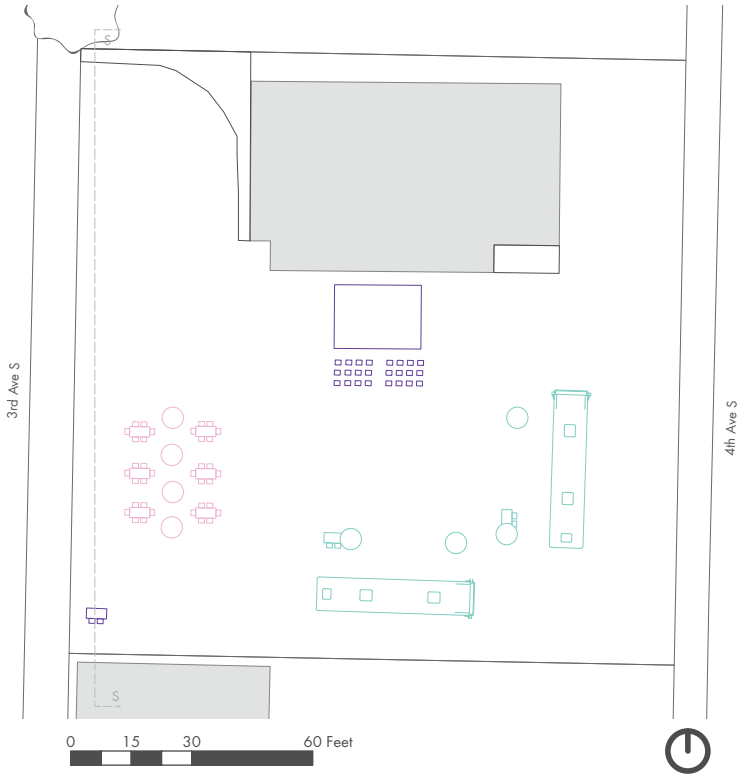


# HOUSING FIRST, HYGIENE SECOND

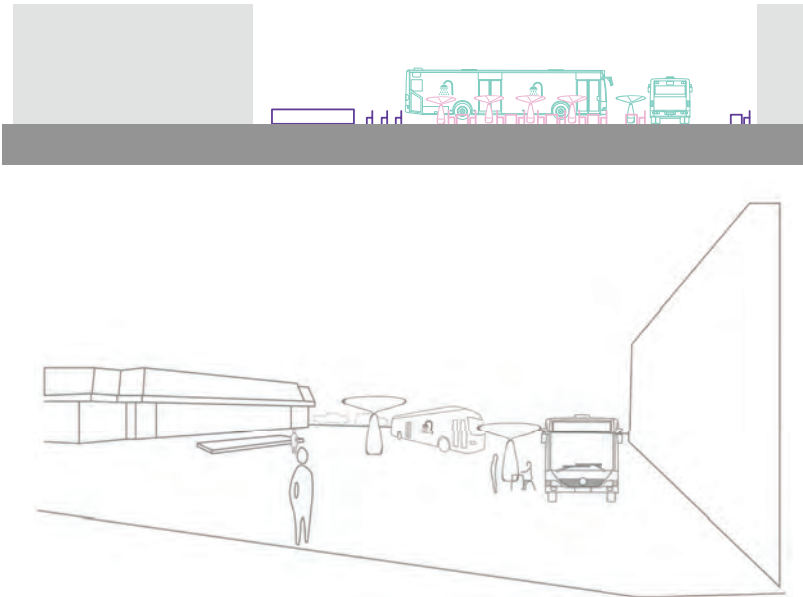
## ANCHORING MOBILE HYGIENE SERVICES

ASELA CHAVEZ BASURTO

### SITE PLAN



### PERSPECTIVE



Images from left:

**Site Plan:**

This plan shows how hygiene services, art interventions, and community spaces are organized on the site.

**Perspective:**

This perspective shows how these elements of hygiene, art, and community are related to one another spatially.

# HOUSING FIRST, HYGIENE SECOND

## UNDER THE BRIDGE

DREW CUNNINGHAM

### Goals + Strategy

Overpasses and highways provide many people with opportunities for shelter. However, these spaces are often not easily accessible and have precarious relationships with surrounding communities. Informal communities that thrive in these spaces experience repeated shocks that challenge their livelihoods. While the isolated nature of these spaces make them attractive for informality, their proximity to infrastructure correlate with increased exposure to pollution and particulate matter. This project posits using infrastructure as an anchor for informality, and an attempt to mitigate for pollution.

*Images from top:*

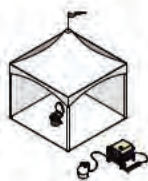
### Intervention Phasing:

This diagram shows how toilet facilities can be phased into the spaces beneath highways and overpasses.

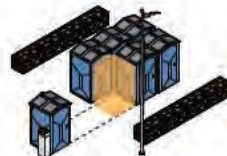
### Environmental Considerations:

This diagram illustrates a number of strategies to deal with environmental problems related to water, pollution, and energy.

1) Emergency Tent Latrines



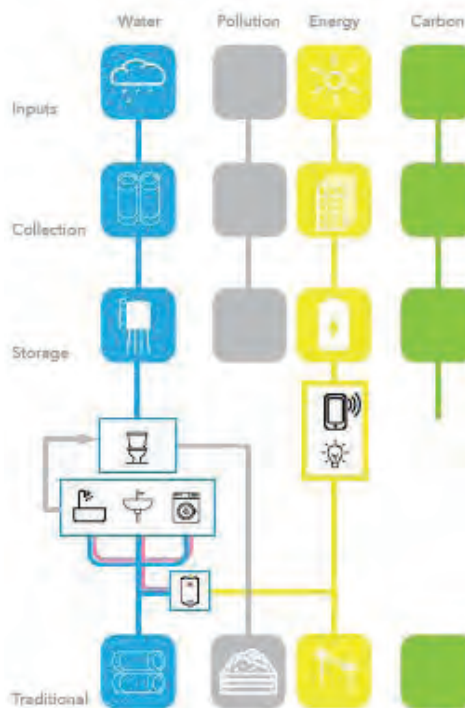
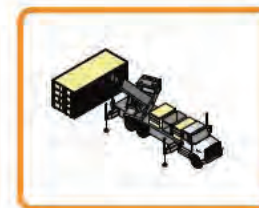
2) Temporary Porta Potty



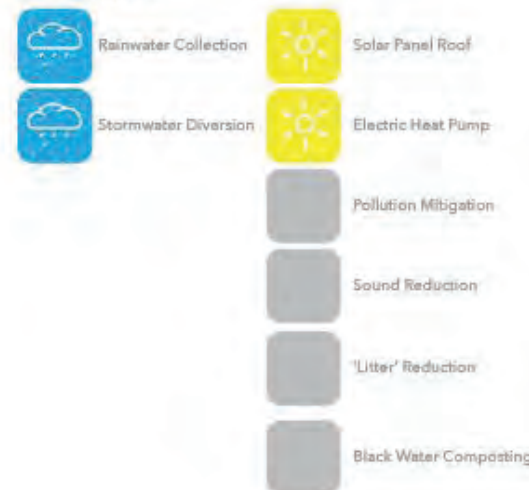
3) Temporary Porta Potty



4) Long Term Intervention



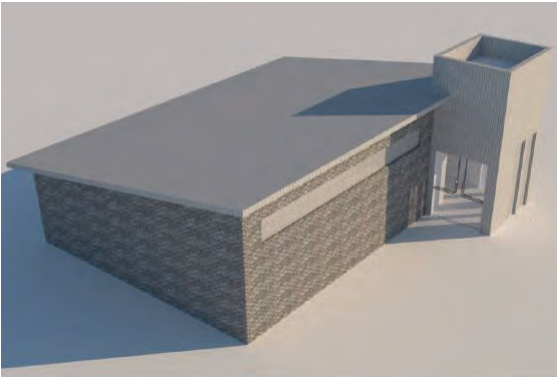
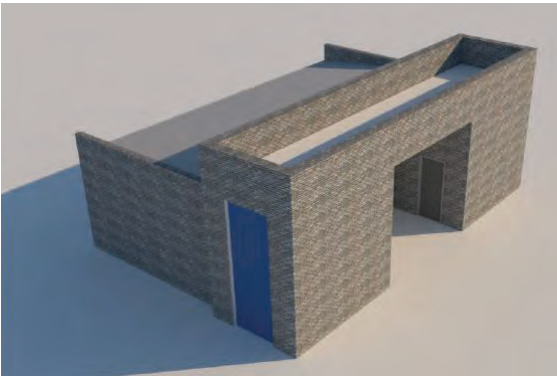
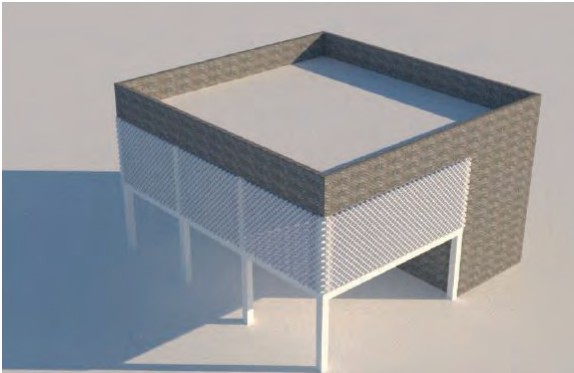
### Strategies



# HOUSING FIRST, HYGIENE SECOND

## UNDER THE BRIDGE

DREW CUNNINGHAM



### Below the Highway Prototypes

These prototypes can be implemented underneath overpasses and highways to provide shelter, hygiene facilities, and protection from the surrounding pollution. These interventions relate to the fourth phase, long term intervention, depicted previously.

*Images from top:*

### Community Building:

This model and sections show a prototype of a community building.

### Hygiene Building I:

This model and sections show a prototype of a hygiene building.

### Hygiene Building II:

This model and sections show a prototype of a hygiene building which takes on a different form.

# HOUSING FIRST, HYGIENE SECOND

## MORE THAN LAUNDRY

XINMAN LIU

### Goals + Strategy

Laundry is a tool that can help people experiencing homelessness bring back dignity. This project aims to make laundry an experience that can bring communities together to help one another as well as the planet through three phases.

*Images from top:*

### Phase I - Laundry Together:

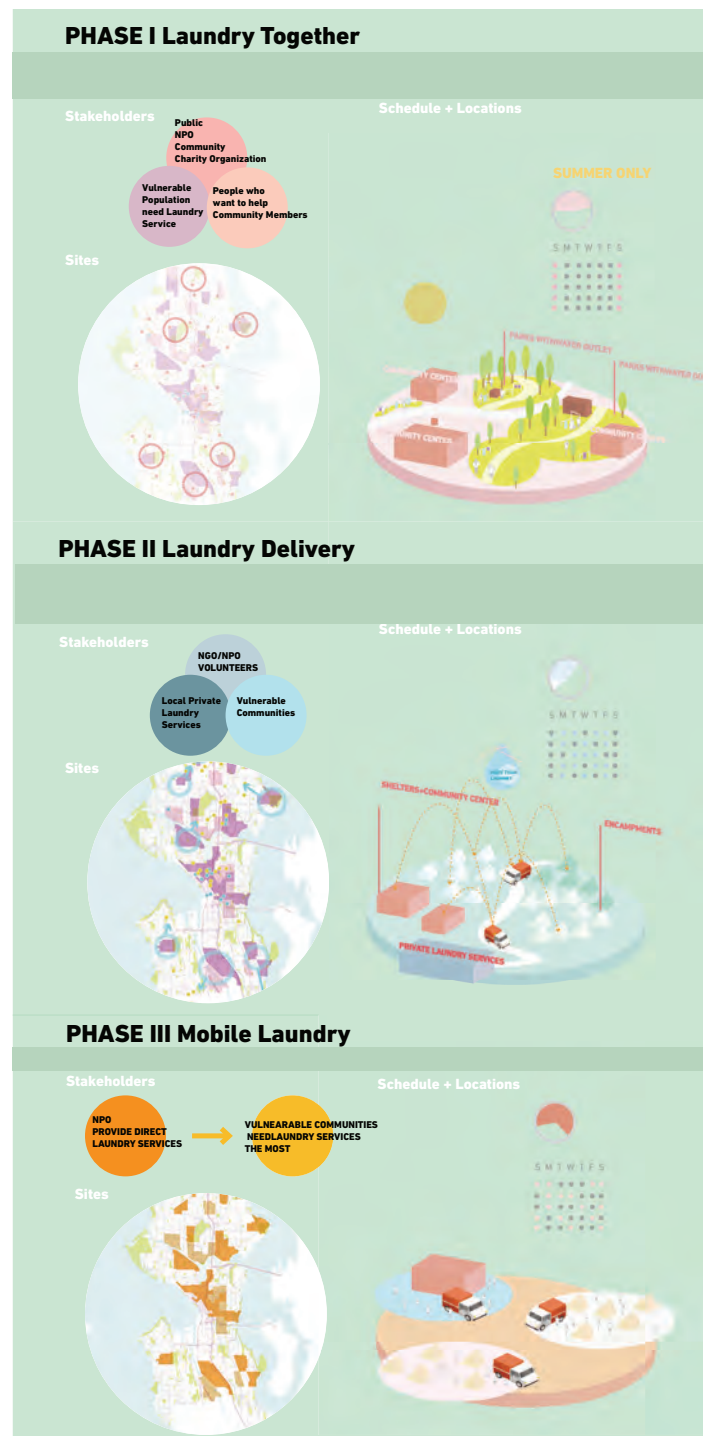
This phase works to raise community awareness through low cost and innovative laundry approaches by creating public space for social gathering, connecting people from different backgrounds, and fundraising for further development.

### Phase II - Laundry Delivery:

This phase begins to help small local businesses during off-peak hours, reach out to vulnerable community members to offer help, and collect primary data about where, who, and when future mobile laundry services will land.

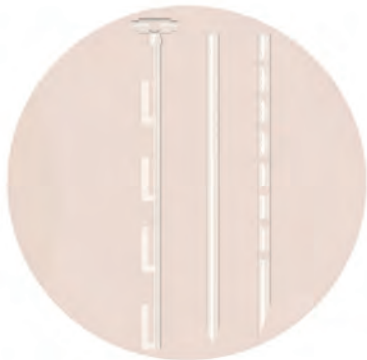
### Phase III - Mobile Laundry:

This phase deploys mobile laundry services in the most needed neighborhoods.





Hand+Foot Powered Washing Machines



3 Pieces Modular Cloth Rack



Variation of Modular Pieces and Community Event

**Portable + Energy Efficient Laundry Tool Kits:**

These kits will be utilized in the first phase of this prototype. The modular pieces can be configured in various ways to create flexible systems that work for any user.

# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## GROUP STRATEGY

YINGJIE LUO  
 JASON STEINBERG  
 SAM LEVIN

Seattle's Low Income Housing Institute's (LIHI) Tiny House Villages have been a great success at tackling homelessness in the Seattle area. Having a house, with a locking door, is a luxury that is often overlooked. However, for many people, having a locking "base" to keep their belongings and work from creates opportunities for livelihoods and safety that other encampments and shelters simply do not. This group's project aims to emphasize independence, autonomy, individualized care, and the strengthening of social networks by putting housing first.

*Images clockwise from top:*

### Space and Scales:

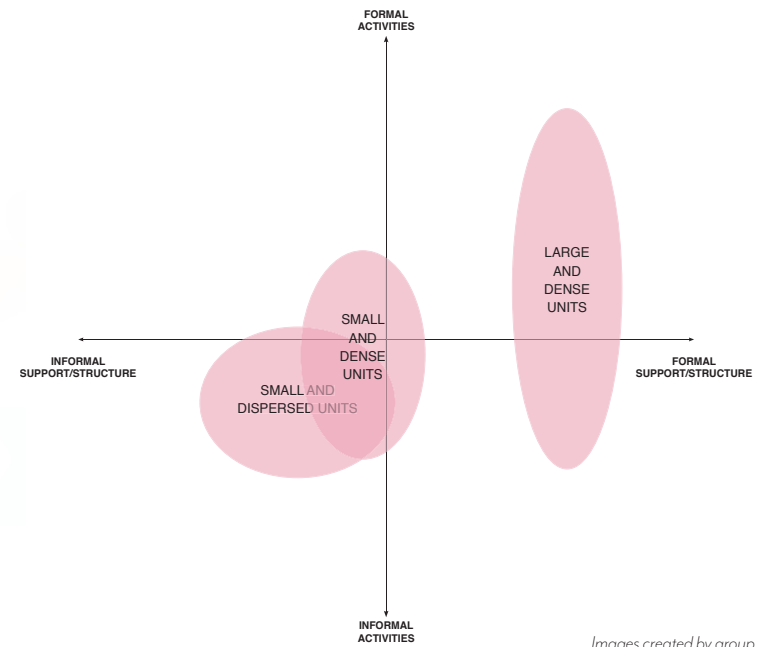
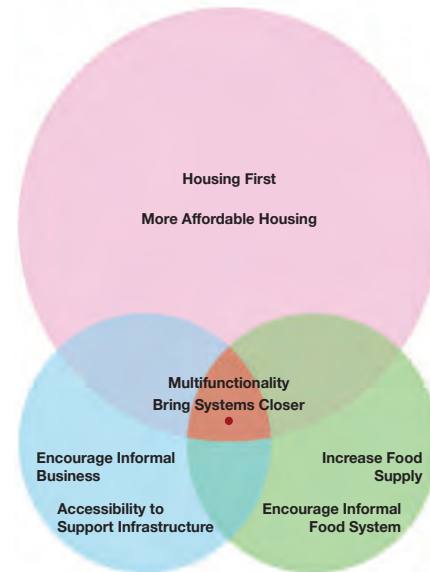
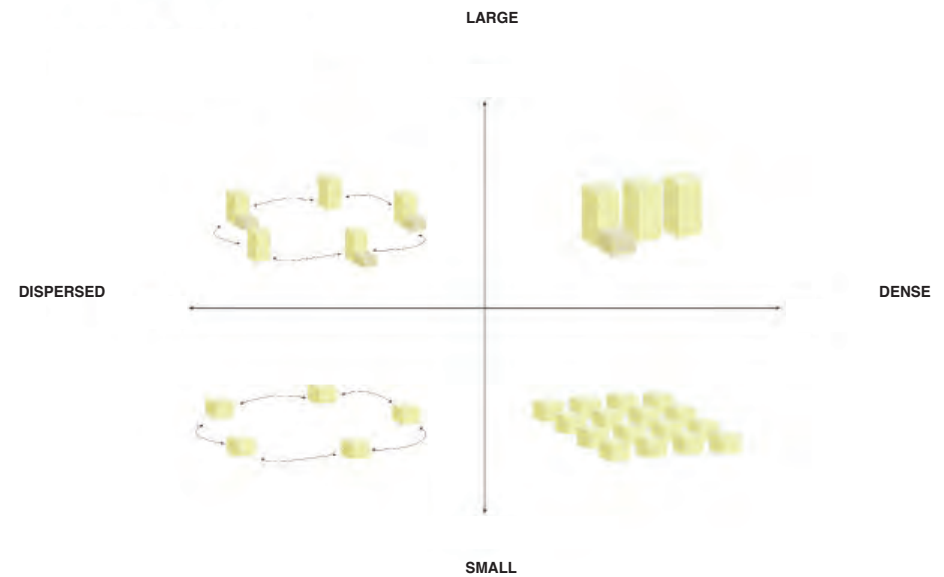
There are different scales to housing and where this model of intersectional housing first may be located. This diagram illustrates how these scales can vary.

### Spectrums of Formality:

Different spatial orientations of development are prone to being in certain ranges in the spectrum of formality, both in terms of the activities performed, as well as the socio-political-economic and physical support structures.

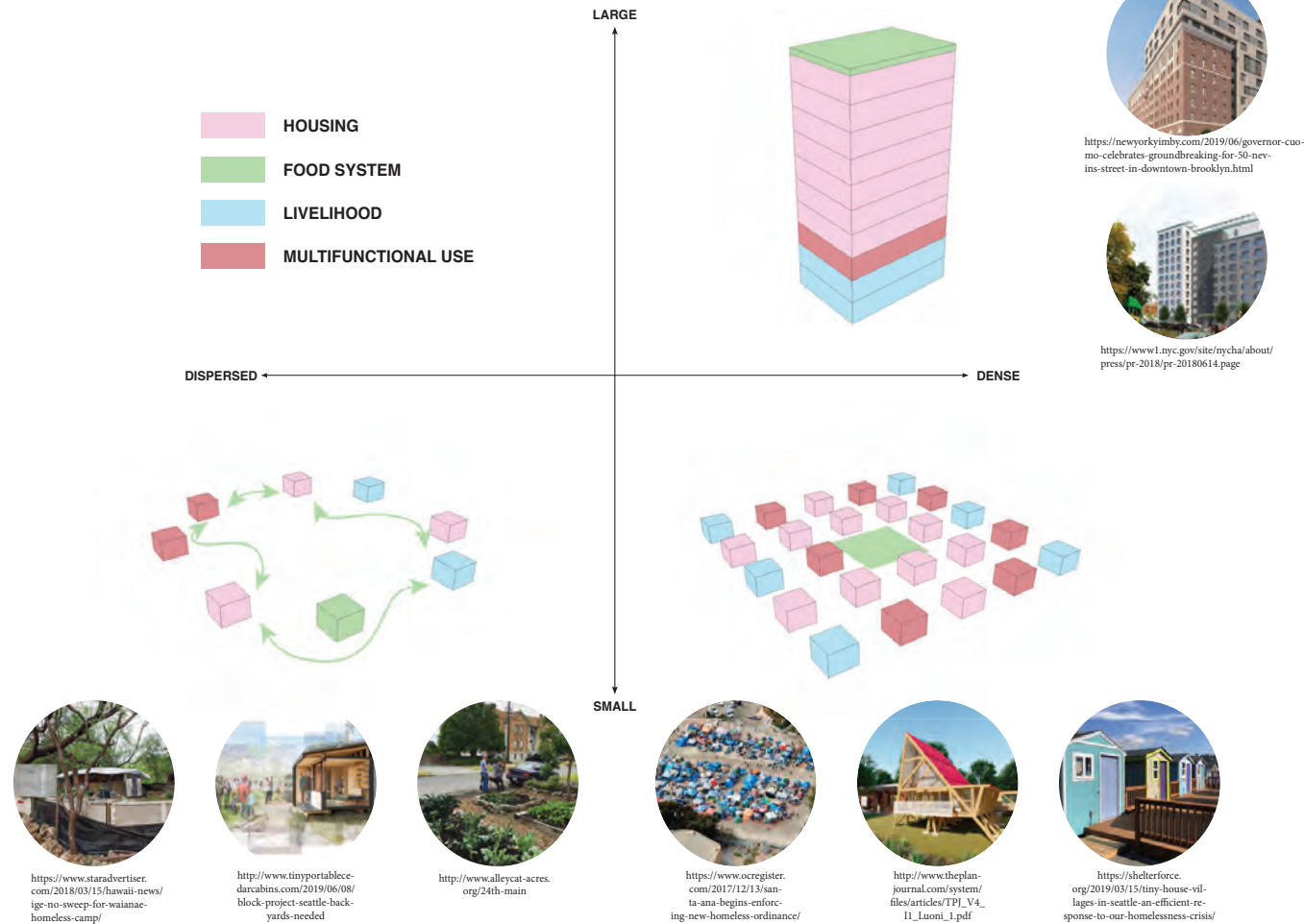
### Intersectionality:

Focusing on housing first allows for stable food supplies and livelihoods to take place. The intersection of these three brings these systems closer and fosters multifunctionality.



*Images created by group*





### Resilience

This group focused on resilience through multifunctionality and the intersectionalities inherent within it. If the system created is multifunctional, then the system as a whole will be redundant enough to fill the role of any one piece should it fail. By concentrating these systems together, people won't have to struggle to find housing, food, or places to do their work because they will have access to all of these networks.

*Image at left:*

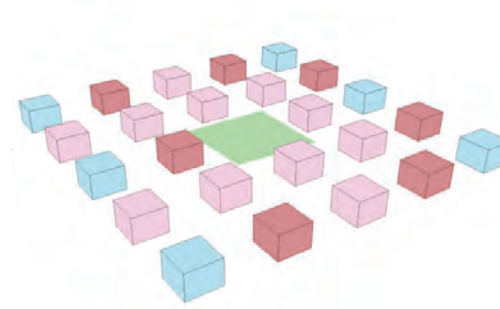
### Group Prototypes:

Each group member focused on a different configuration of the system, including housing, food, and livelihood. Throughout all projects, housing was the first priority.

# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## MULTIFUNCTIONAL DENSE + SMALL HOUSING IN CID

YINGJIE LUO



### Goals + Strategy

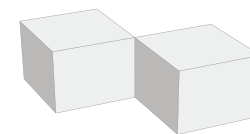
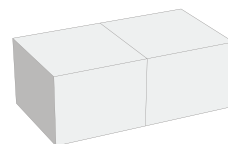
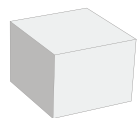
This project seeks to make full use of small, urban spaces such as parking lots, rooftops, and unused lands to create shelter for vulnerable populations. Additionally, this prototype works to provide vulnerable populations with food and potential job opportunities around the city.



*Images from top:*

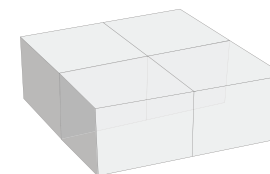
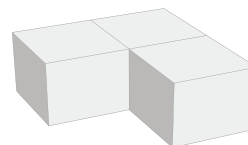
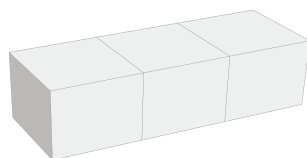
### Prototype:

This prototype focuses on multifunctional dense and small units.



### Permanent Movable Housing:

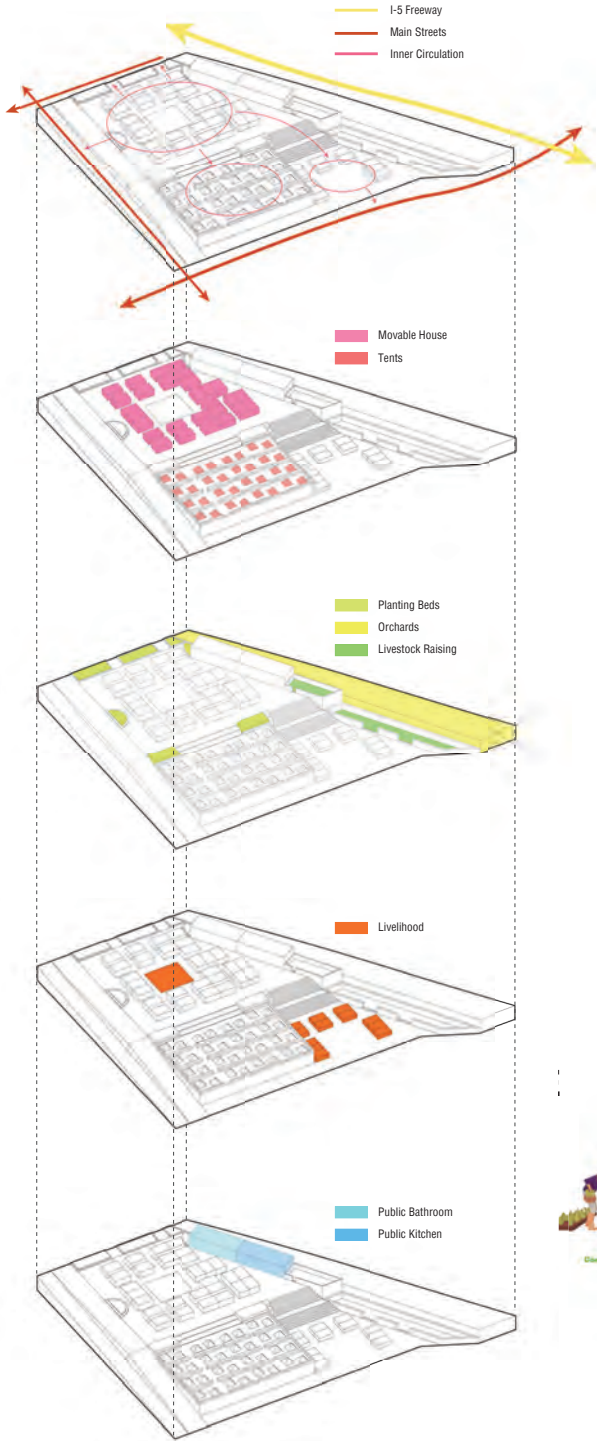
This moveable house prototype is designed as a permanent house module with the scale of 8 feet by 12 feet and can be placed on small parking lots. These houses can be used for singles as well as various family sizes by combining modules. The modules can also be used for business endeavors or moved apart to create larger spaces for community activities.



# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## MULTIFUNCTIONAL DENSE + SMALL HOUSING IN CID

YINGJIE LUO



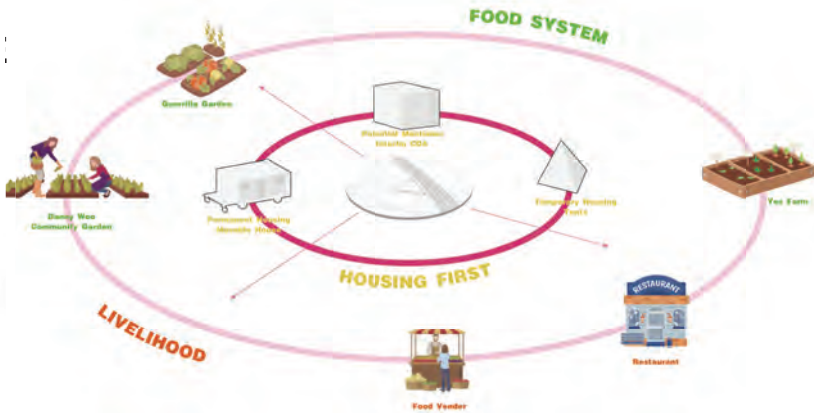
Images from left:

**Master Plan Analysis:**

In addition to housing, this prototype creates livelihood and agricultural opportunities. Planting beds are integrated into the design to provide people a place to grow their own food. Fruit trees are also planted along the freeway to help mitigate noise pollution while also providing sustenance. Further, the movable modules can be combined to create business space to enable people to start their own in-home or venter business.

**Resilience:**

Permanent and temporary houses are both provided through this prototype. The gardens integrated into the design are connected to the greater community through relations with existing gardens including Danny Woo Community Garden and Yes Farm. Restaurants can help improve the resilience of urban food systems in the area as well.



# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## LARGE + DENSE MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING

JASON STEINBERG

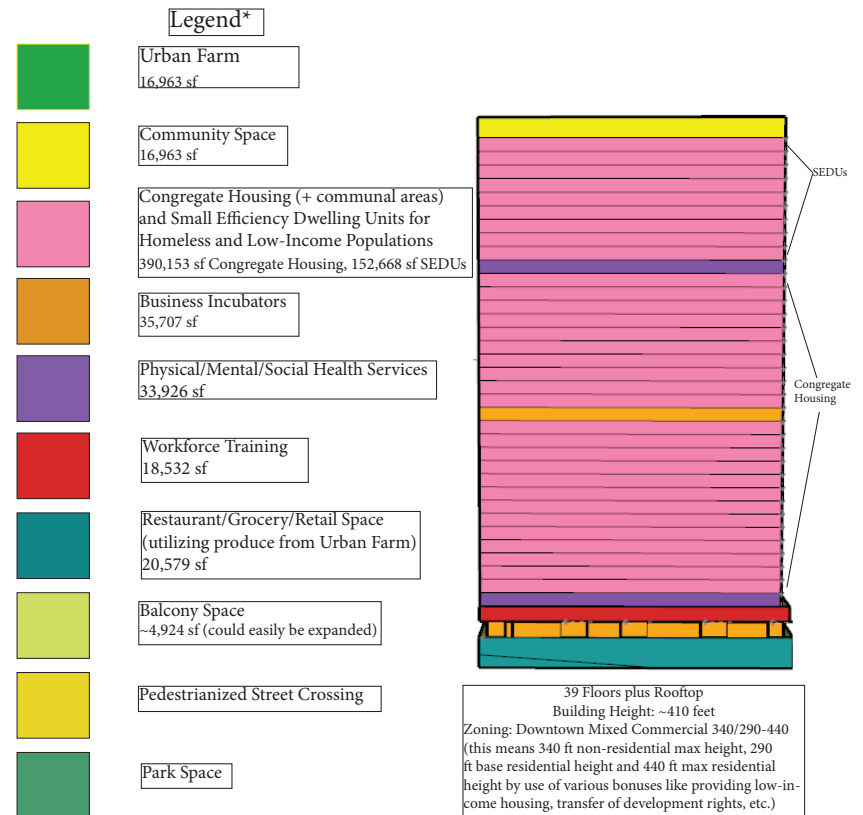
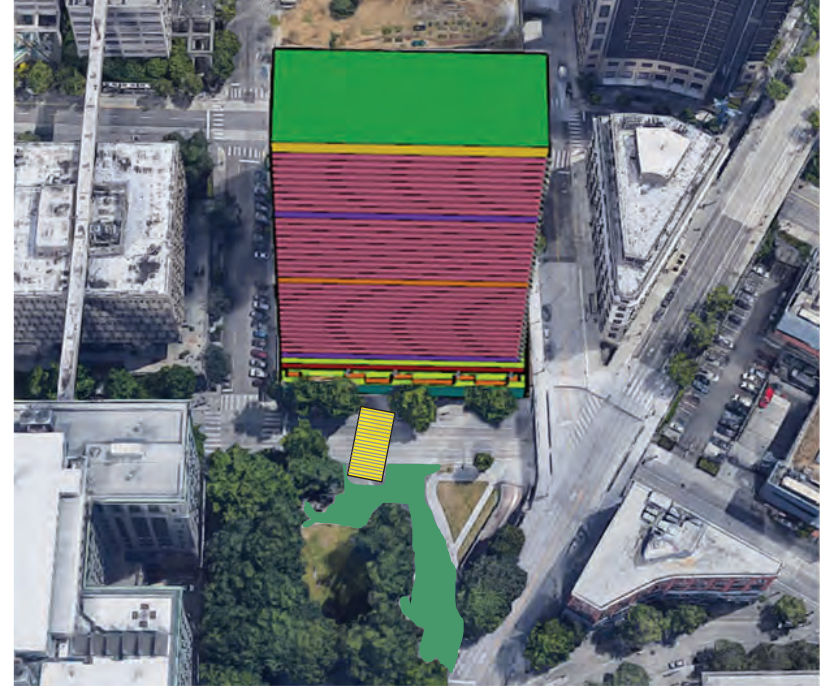
### Goals + Strategy

This project's goal is to provide support structures with housing units designed for people facing homelessness, including: physical, mental, and social health services; workforce training; job opportunities; community space allowing for sociability and artistic expression; immediate access to affordable and healthy food; and close proximity to nature. These elements all aid in both the larger collective well-being as well as the individual autonomy whose initial foundation is provided through housing. This project accomplishes this by creating a large, dense, multifunctional high-rise development. Further, this project is coupled with programming ideas to activate the adjacent sidewalk while also creating a large pedestrian crossing to better connect residents to nearby City Hall Park. With 2,447 units, this development could house 20% to 25% of Seattle's homeless residents.

*Image at right:*

### Building Programming:

Providing housing for homeless and very low-income people is a first step in providing stability for improvement of their circumstances, but this prototype is designed to offer more. The development provides immediate proximity to job skills training, job opportunities via business incubators, restaurant/grocery/retail space, an urban farm, physical/mental/social health services to provide help for issues affecting both personal and professional aspects of residents' lives, and community space occupying both the top floor and 30% of the area of each housing floor.



# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## LARGE + DENSE MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING

JASON STEINBERG

BEFORE



### Resilience

This particular hybridity of informal and formal features lends strength to this project. There are a multitude of formal support structures to provide a solid foundation while informality exists through simultaneous encouragement of flexible common and business space usage, casual resource-sharing and collaboration, community-building, autonomy, and self-expression in both semi-public and public spaces. This combination of strength and flexibility increase the resilience of this prototype.

AFTER



*Images at left:*

### Streetscape Before and After:

This project proposes the installation of a sidewalk cafe, to provide employment to residents, and space adjacent to the sidewalk to allow for food and merchandise vending. A large, artistic pedestrianized crossing between the development and City Hall Park would provide more space for artistic performances and creative gatherings. Additionally, this project advocates for the extension of City Hall Park to provide more greenspace in place of the existing parking lot.

# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## NETWORK RESILIENCE IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

SAM LEVIN

### Goals + Strategy

This project intends to create a framework based system. This system is implemented in the Central District, where houses and resources are more spread out. The aim is to create resilient networks that can bounce back as well as take over the functionality of missing pieces when necessary.

*Images from top:*

### Multifunctional Networks:

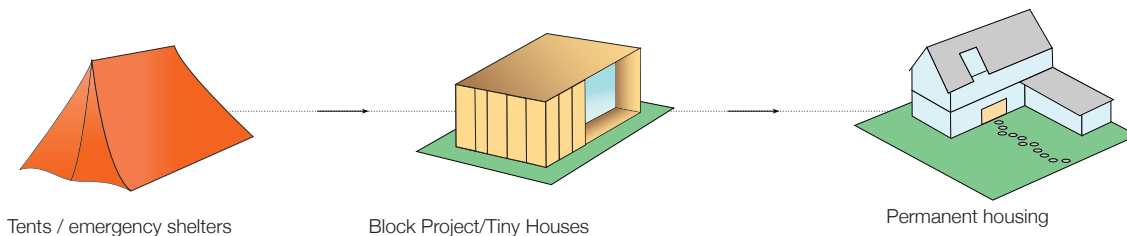
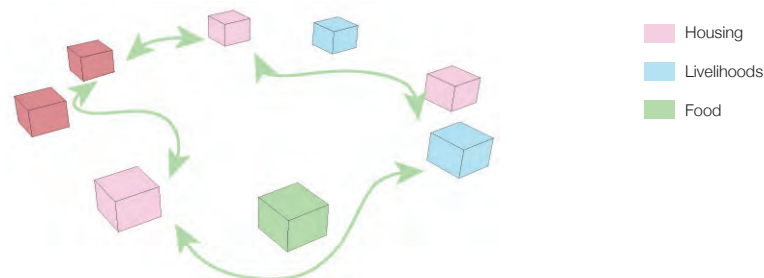
This prototype focuses on making the housing units, whether permanent or impermanent, a “homebase” where users could leave their belongings in order to do other things such as find or go to work, acquire food, or access other resources.

### Housing Hybridity:

Housing can vary from temporary to permanent. This project tackles the hybridity of this issue by looking at both temporary shelter and more permanent block housing. Having a slightly more permanent place to keep one’s things allows for a lot more opportunity and freedom. This prototype is designed to help people move from basic shelter to block housing to permanent housing, should they desire it.

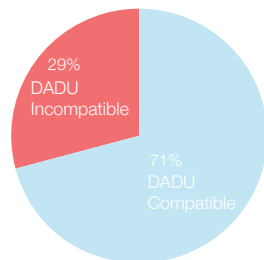
### Sample Block Case Study:

Churches and parking lots can open their spaces at night to allow people a designated space to stay overnight to address the need for space to accommodate temporary housing. Incorporating more DADUs would greatly increase the amount of permanent housing available and there is plenty of space readily available for these types of units.



- DADU Compatible
- DADU Incompatible
- Seattle Housing Authority Low Income Housing
- Churches
- Parking Lots
- Duplex/Triplex
- Services (Douglass Truth Library)
- Unknown

Source: Seattle Parcel Map



# MULTIFUNCTIONAL HOUSING FIRST

## NETWORK RESILIENCE IN THE CENTRAL DISTRICT

SAM LEVIN



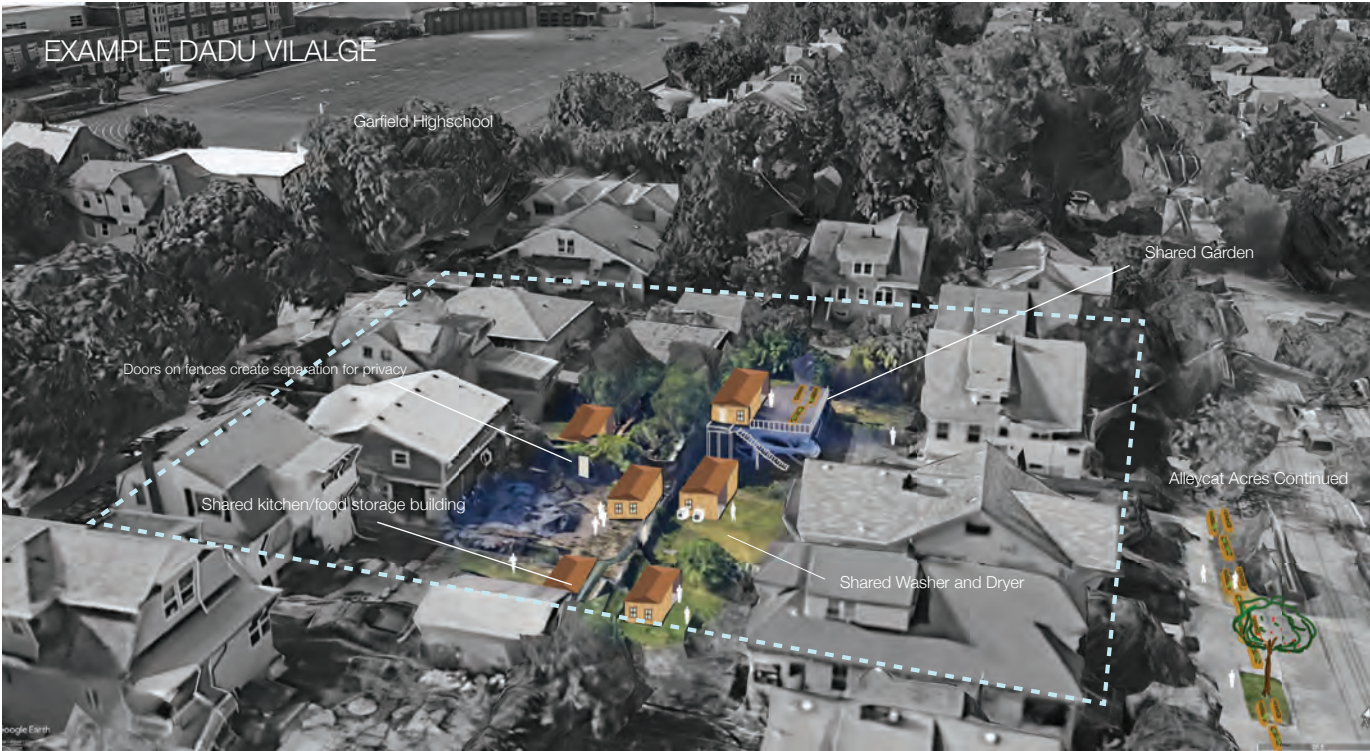
Images from top:

**Overnight Parking Lots:**

Using parking lots to provide people with a designated space to stay overnight in their tents or cars would allow them a sense of security. These types of spaces can also provide other resources such as shower trucks and storage space.

**DADU Co-Housing Village:**

This project focuses on an area of six residential homes to further explore a smaller-scale design. All six of these properties are DADU eligible, allowing for the combination of DADUs and co-housing to create the DADU Co-Housing Village prototype. This is a space where resources can be shared and a community is created, bringing social capital and resilience to the residents.



# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## GROUP STRATEGY

CHARLIE SIMPSON  
YUCHEN WANG  
RY YAHN

This group sought to advance equity and sustainability through a network of community-owned land. Seattle is one of the fastest growing cities in the U.S. resulting in rent increases of 57% over the past six years. In turn, 47% of households that rent in the Seattle metro area are 'housing cost burdened' and King County has the third-largest concentration of homeless people in the country<sup>1</sup>. This group addressed these issues by scaling up community ownership of land in Seattle for all types of permanently affordable housing. With housing as a foundation for stability, this network of community-owned land would also support sovereignty and the cultural and economic needs of the community.

Image at right:

### Prototype:

This diagram represents how the proposed community land trusts could function. After identifying significant community issues, community members can work together to form a Community Land Trust (CLT) which facilitates community driven planning of immediate and long-term needs.

<sup>1</sup>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## HOW IT WORKS:



image credit: NYC Community Land Initiative

Image Source: NYC Community Land Initiative



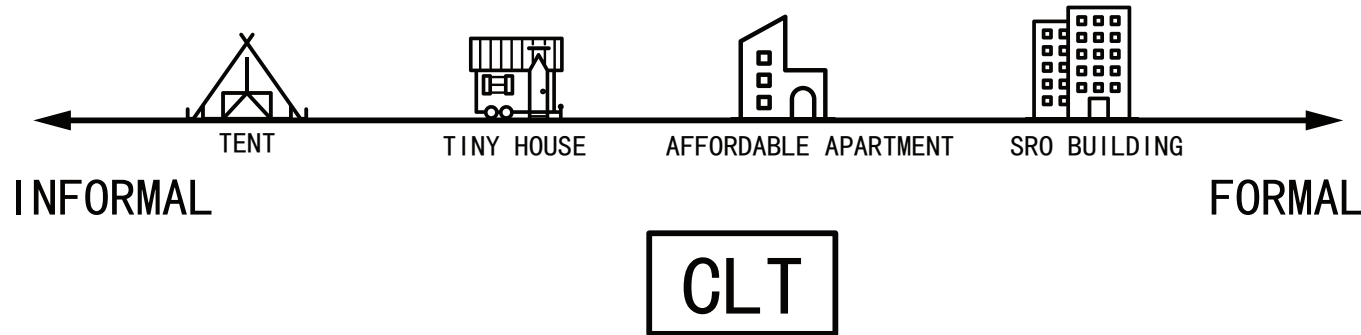


Image created by group



Image created by group

### Resilience

This project works to create resilience in the face of potential shocks including the market and affordability, lack of city support, lack of community support, and climate change. Community Land Trusts are resilient in these situations as they create permanent affordability, address underlying causes and historical injustices, and focus on equity and sustainability to prepare for uncertain futures. Further, the mixed uses allow for multi-faceted solutions across scales, leading to many diverse solutions. Getting the community involved also leads to adaptability and flexibility.

Images from top:

### Hybridity:

The Community Land Trust mechanism can accommodate various types of housing. Since the land owner can lend the land use right for a long period of time and specify its purpose, a building can be used for affordable housing. Within the Community Land Trust prototype, this affordable housing can exist anywhere on the spectrum from informal to formal.

### Intersection:

Community ownership takes land off the speculative market and utilizes it for the benefit of the entire community.

# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## COMMUNITY CONTROL OF THE SINGLE FAMILY LOT

CHARLIE SIMPSON

### Goals + Strategy

In the Central District, the Black population has been dramatically declining due to gentrification and displacement. Renters are at risk as well as Black homeowners who are facing rising property taxes and persistent pressure from speculative developers. Many Black homeowners are seeking creative ways to earn extra income through their properties.

This project proposes Community Land Trusts have the first right to purchase any single family home property in the Central District when it comes on the market. Once the land is owned by a Community Land Trust, the community can then densify and expand the uses of the land as the community needs. This would be land developed under permanent community control for assets such as affordable housing, community gardens, business or studio space, and gathering space.

*Image at right:*

### Reimagined Single Family Lot:

In single-family zoning, up to 8 unrelated people can live on a lot and up to 12 if there are also 2 Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). The uses may change depending on the number of people, zoning, and dimensions of the lot. Shown here are a few of the many possibilities.

### Work / Studio Space



Source: Blaine Shahan via lancasteronline.com

### Community Space

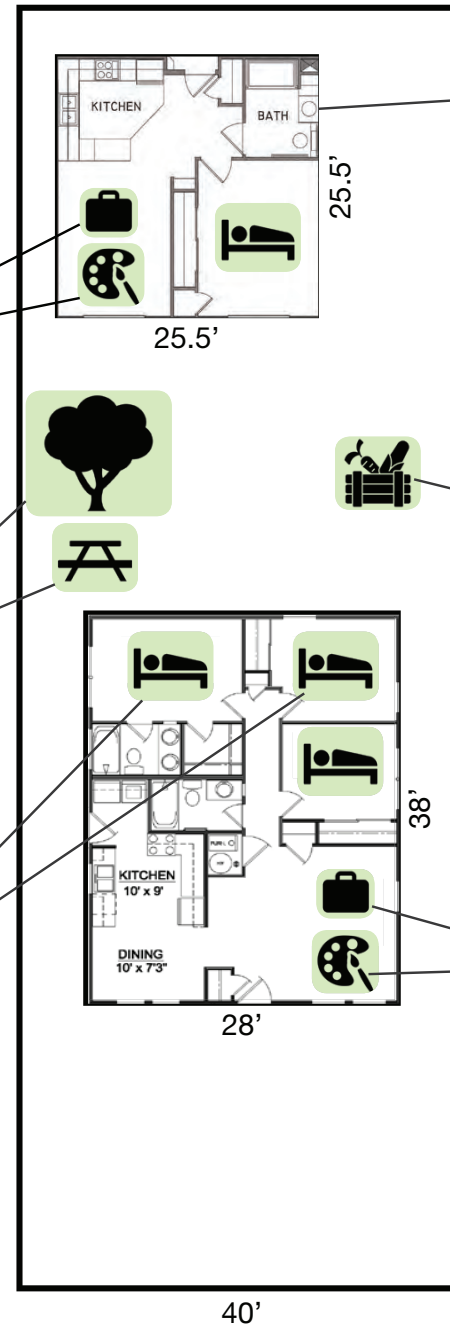


Source: nyrp.org

### Co-living / Subletting



Intergenerational living by renting out a room.  
Source: Popucity.net



### DADU



Source: Hammerandhand.com

### Edible Garden



Source: kimsmithdesigns.com

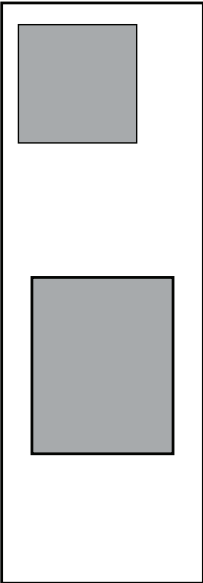
### Work / Studio Space



Source: merla - fotolia.com

Multiple Lots on a Block

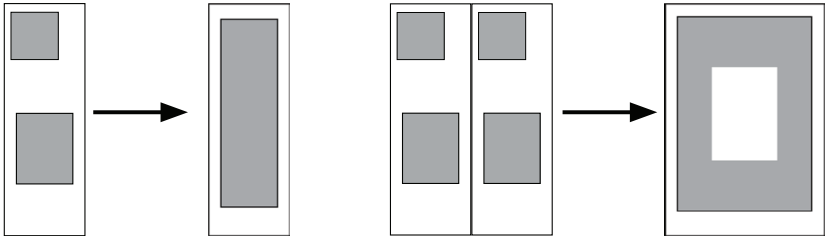
Single Lot



Data used from City of Seattle Open Data Portal

Images at left:

Adding Density



Scaled Up Over Time:

As more lots become community owned, they can begin to share resources and spaces. Further, this model of varied types of housing and uses on community owned land can scale up from a single family structure to townhomes to condos. This can happen on the same lot or once multiple adjacent lots become community-owned, resulting in increased density.

# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## PERMANENT TINY HOUSING VILLAGE

YUCHEN WANG

### Goals + Strategy

Most tiny house villages are located next to parking lots that are little used, and these villages have disordered layouts resulting in isolated feeling spaces. This project's goal is to make the introverted tiny housing village open to the outside neighborhood in order to eliminate the public's prejudice against homeless people, reduce the gap between them, and improve the self-confidence and dignity of homeless people. At the same time, this project will use the free adjacent parking lot to carry out pop-up events related to the culture of the tiny house village, such as concerts or markets with hopes of connecting the tiny housing village to the surrounding neighborhood.

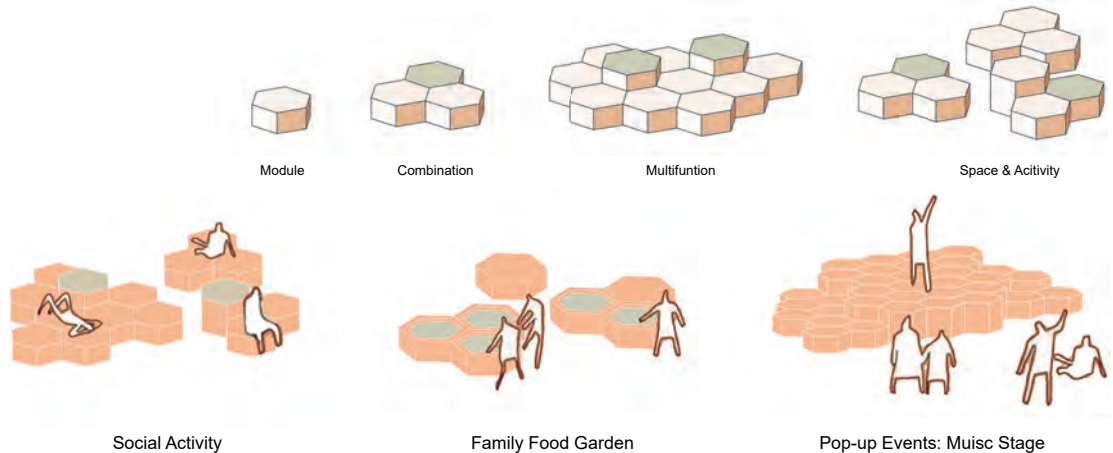
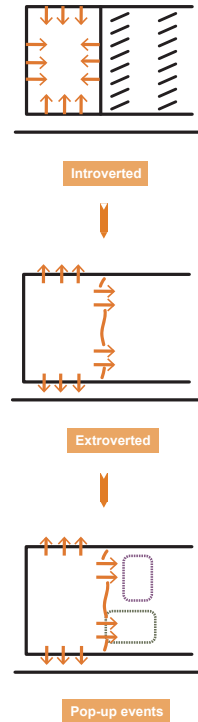
*Images from top:*

### Conceptual Vignette:

A look at how tiny house villages can be successfully integrated into the neighborhood network.

### Module Program + Resilience:

The adjacent parking lots will utilize a module system to support various activities related to the health and wellness of the tiny house community such as gardens or pop-up events and give people in the community a chance to create the space they need. This results in endless informal possibilities and the flexibility that contributes to resilience.

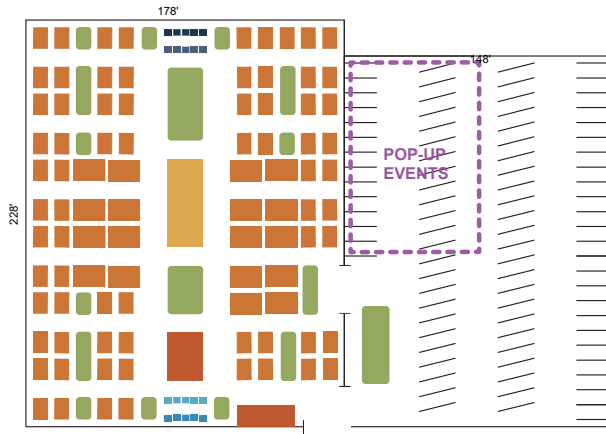


# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## PERMANENT TINY HOUSING VILLAGE

YUCHEN WANG

### PROTOTYPE #1



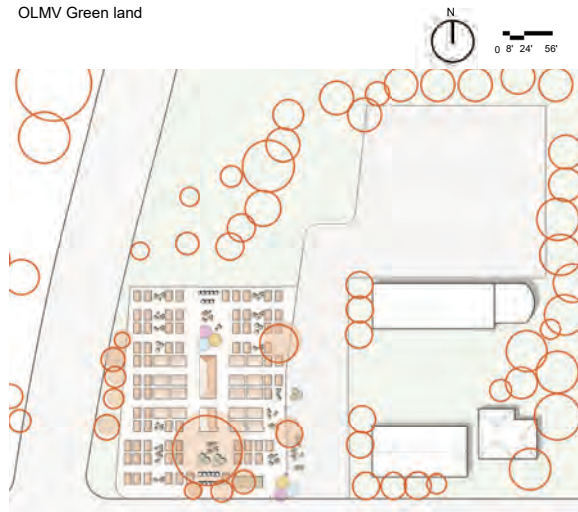
### PROTOTYPE #2



### MASTER PLAN #1



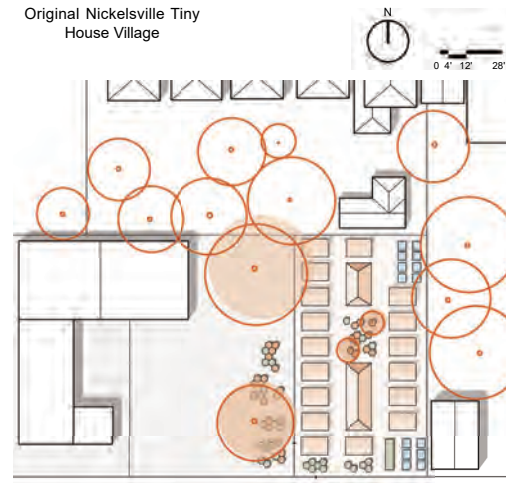
OLMV Green land



### MASTER PLAN #2



Original Nickelsville Tiny House Village



These two plans referenced John Owen's plan on "A Proposal for: A System of Tiny House Villages"<sup>41</sup>

Images from top:

#### Prototypes:

Movable food gardens and some pop-up events will borrow surplus parking space, which also functions as a bridge to improve connection between tiny housing villages and the surrounding neighborhood comprised of primarily single-family home residents.

#### Master Plans:

The original site chosen is a green space belonging to the city of Seattle. It was chosen as a tiny house village location because of its proximity to a church. These master plans show the typical size and type of tiny housing village in Seattle as they exist today.

# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## FROM PARKING LOTS TO CLTS

RY YAHN

### Goals + Strategy

Seattle faces a housing crisis as land values rise and more people are displaced or left without homes. At the same time, Seattle has 1.6 million parking spaces, equivalent to 5.2 spaces per household<sup>1</sup>. An excess of parking leads to increased driving and emissions, increased housing prices, as well as contributes to the urban heat island effect and polluted stormwater. Turning parking lots into Community Land Trusts is a sustainable solution that is rooted in community, equity and sustainability. This model can also address historic injustices by returning stolen land.

Images from left:

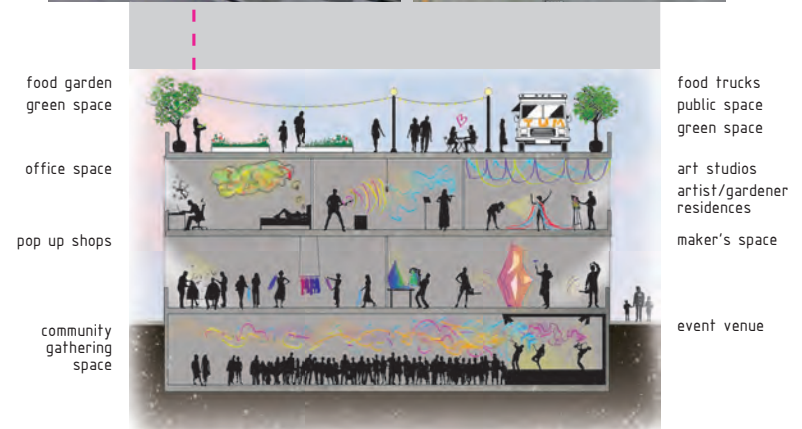
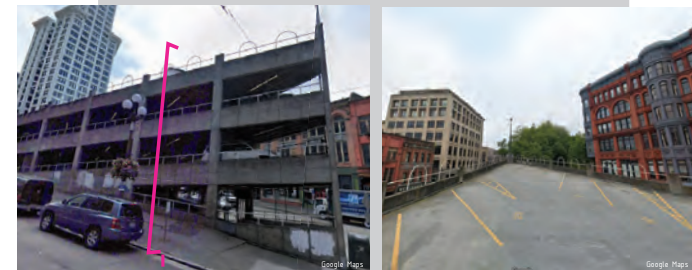
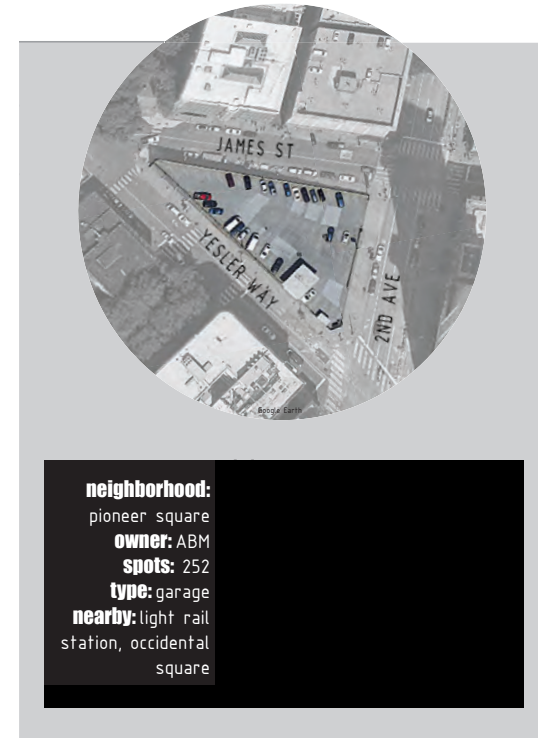
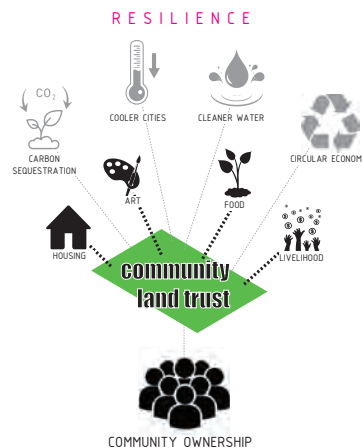
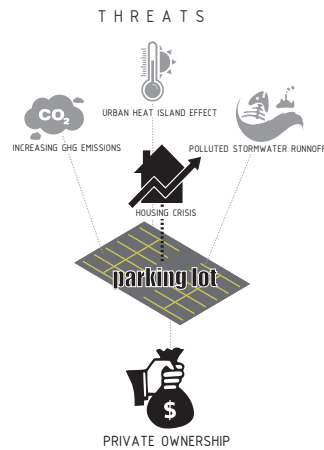
### Vision:

This project aims to transform the threats and private ownership, who pay a low tax rate and collect money until the lot is profitable to sell, of parking lots into resilient Community Land Trusts that take the land off the speculative market and put it to use to benefit the community.

### Parking Garage Example:

Each level serves different purposes that vary temporally: artists find studio space, residence, performance venues, and market space.

<sup>1</sup>Scharnhorst, E. et al. (2018) "Quantified Parking: Comprehensive Parking"



# COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

## FROM PARKING LOTS TO CLTS

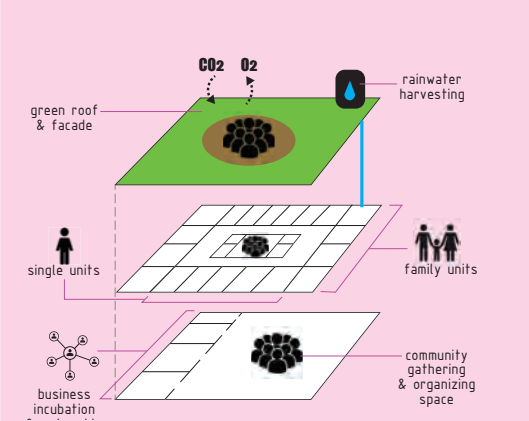
RY YAHN



**neighborhood:** chinatown  
international district  
**owner:** diamond  
**spots:** 24  
**type:** small surface lot  
**nearby:** danny woo garden, NP hotel



**neighborhood:** central district  
**owner:** diamond  
**spots:** 60  
**type:** large surface lot  
**nearby:** king county juvenile detention, squire park p-patch, washington hall



Images from left:

**Small Parking Lot Example:**  
This type of lot will be used for emergency short term-long term housing, food gardens and art. City and resident waste will be upcycled to create living structures ranging in performance and formality, as well as art to sell. The makers space in Pioneer Square will be utilized as well and a composting toilet installed.

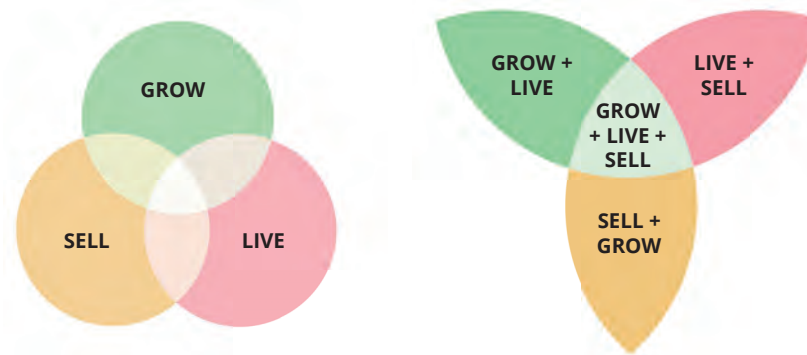
**Large Parking Lot Example:**  
This type of lot will be used for singles and family housing, community organizing, carbon sequestration, rainwater harvesting, food gardens and event space. Dilapidated properties surrounding the lot will also become land trusts and homes will be refurbished while the adjacent church will be converted to community space.

# MOBILITY + TEMPORALITY IN GROWING, LIVING, SELLING

## GROUP STRATEGY

LAURA KEIL  
SHIHUI LIU  
SARAH PULLMAN

This project focused on mobility and temporality in three functions: growing, living, and selling. The space where each of these elements overlap creates opportunities to utilize more typologies and explore more options. The prototype draws on existing programs that provide mobile facilities to grow and sell food while utilizing unused urban space as potential sites for integrated growing, selling, and living. Each individual project works to actualize these interventions by creating their own networks that can be deployed in congruence with the other hybridities or thrive on their own.



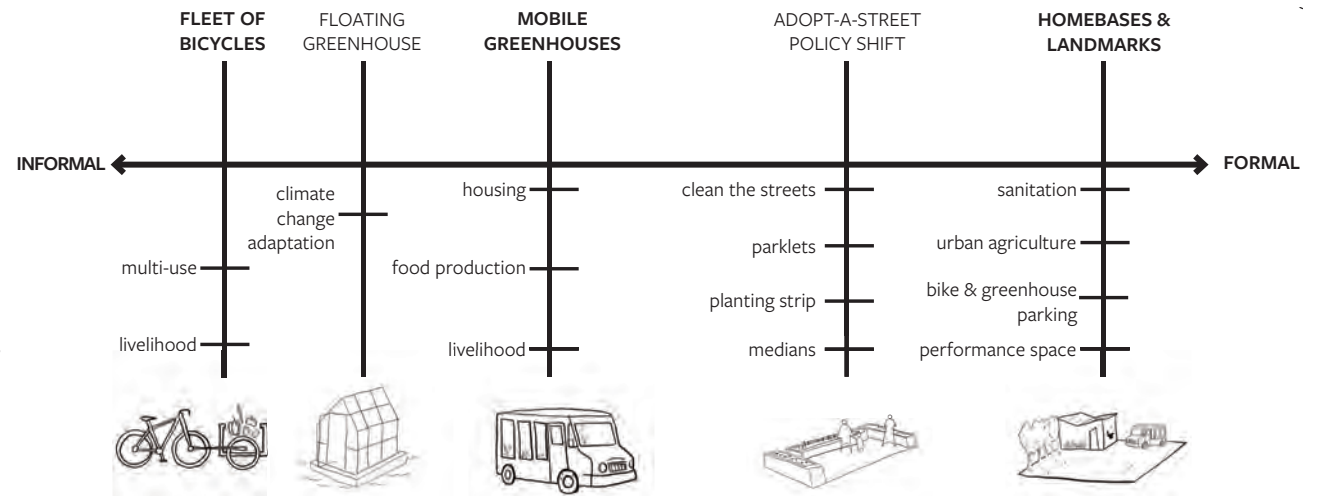
Images from top:

### Intersectional Intervention:

The intersection of growing, living, and selling is where this group placed their intervention.

### Hybridity Spectrum:

The hybridity spectrum follows the informal spectrum. The more informal pieces are the parts of the intervention that are the most mobile and temporal. As the spectrum becomes formalized, the hybrid responses are less mobile and more permanent but maintain their ability to be easily manipulated in form.



Images created by group



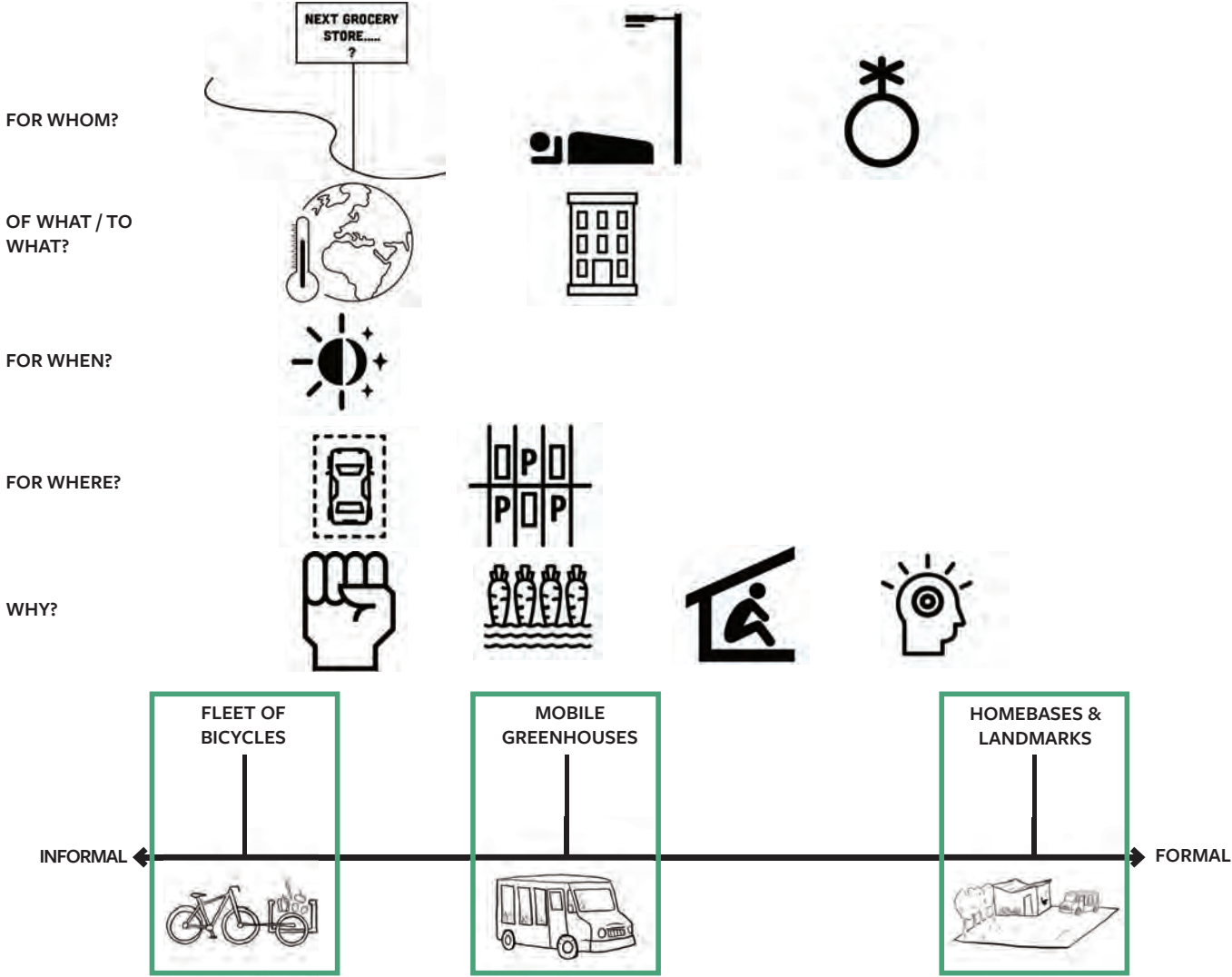


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**5 W's of Resilience<sup>1</sup>:**

Resilience is integral to maintaining this group's intervention strategies. Their prototype targets vulnerable populations; both those who have been historically marginalized as well as those losing their resources as a result of intense development and climate change. These include people in food deserts, people experiencing homelessness, the LGBTQIA communities, and transient women. This intervention aims to give these people access to growing, living, and selling in order to maintain their human rights. Temporality is key to the hybrid model this intervention utilizes. Therefore, this prototype is 24/7, running on pop-up structures within parking spots, city blocks and parklets, and full parking lots.

<sup>1</sup>Meerow, Sora & Joshua P. Newell. 2016. "Urban resilience for whom, what, when, where, and why?" Urban Geography, published online 12 July 2016. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/02723638.2016.1206395>

Images created by group

# MOBILITY + TEMPORALITY IN GROWING, LIVING, SELLING

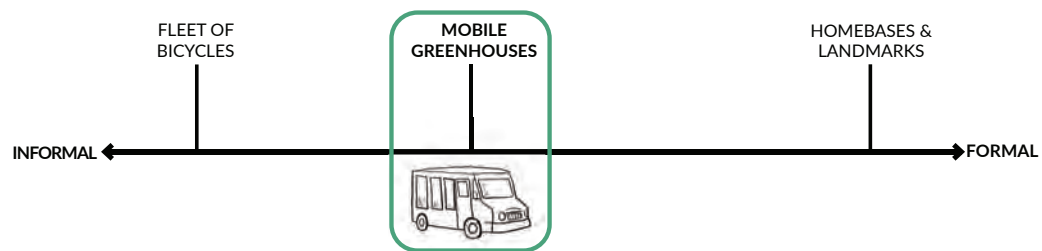
## VEHICULAR MOBILE HYBRIDITY

LAURA KEIL

### Goals + Strategy

This project rethinks urban agriculture in terms of where and how food can be grown. This is done through the use of aquaponics. Aquaponics are growing globally as an emerging technology to revolutionize sustainable urban food systems. Combining them with a mobile vision has the potential to make this new form of growing accessible to a greater audience while addressing issues related to food systems and social networks.

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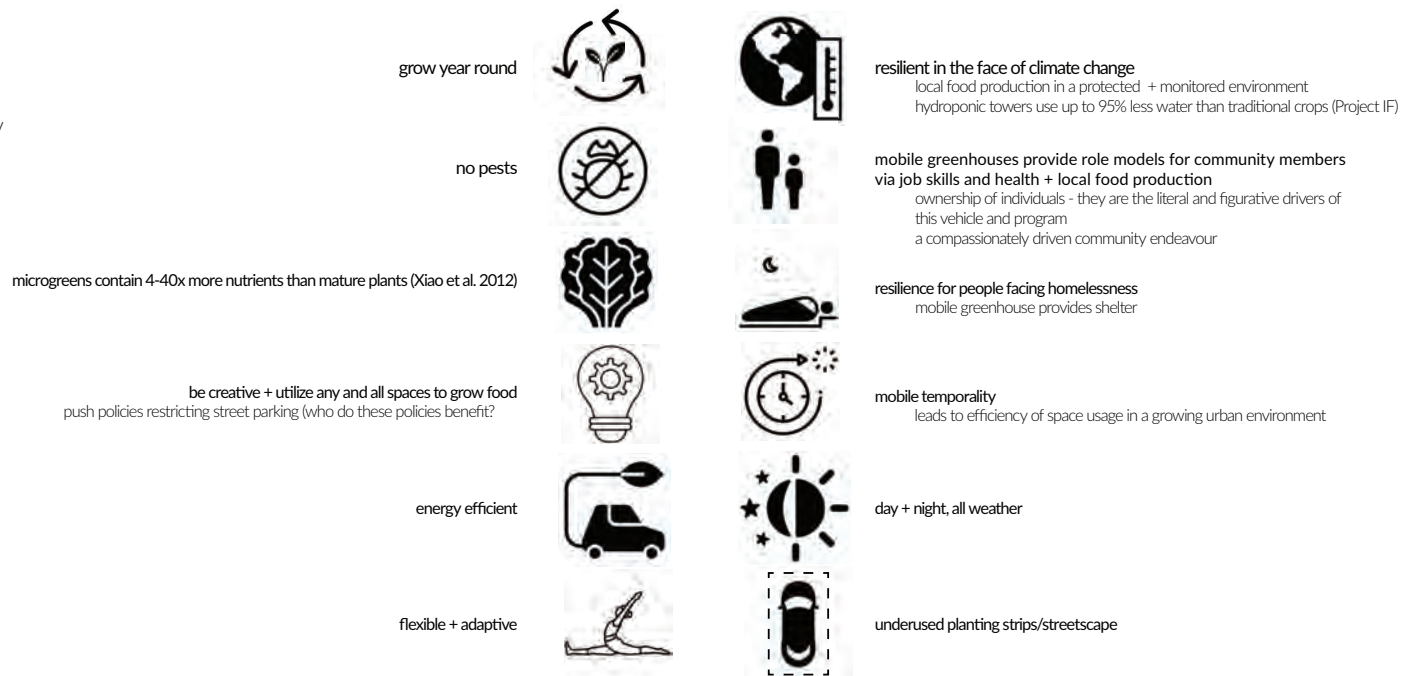


### Formality Spectrum:

This mobile greenhouse intervention lies somewhere in the middle of the formality spectrum, remaining flexible while also providing a sense of permanence.

### Mobile Greenhouse Goals:

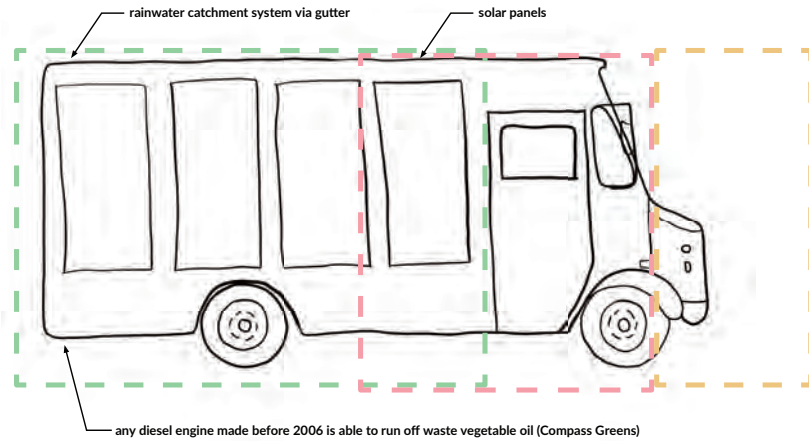
Why create mobile gardens when there is much unused city land? These mobile gardens can grow crops year round without pests, create a better growing environment for microgreens (which contain more nutrients than mature plants), allow for creative utilization of space, and are energy efficient. These vehicles are powered by reused vegetable oil from restaurants and are equipped with solar panels and rainwater collection.



# MOBILITY + TEMPORALITY IN GROWING, LIVING, SELLING

## VEHICULAR MOBILE HYBRIDITY

LAURA KEIL



**GROW**  
year round  
education  
ownership

**LIVE**  
in vehicle  
parking strip  
safe lots

**SELL**  
network  
mobile  
local



### Resilience

This prototype creates resilience in several ways. In the face of climate change, growing food locally, in a protected environment fosters resilience. The hydroponic towers also use up to 95% less water than traditional crops. These mobile greenhouses also provide resilience for people facing homelessness as they provide shelter in a space bigger than a car. Further, they are useable day or night, in all weather, and make use of underused planting strips and parking spaces.

*Images from top:*

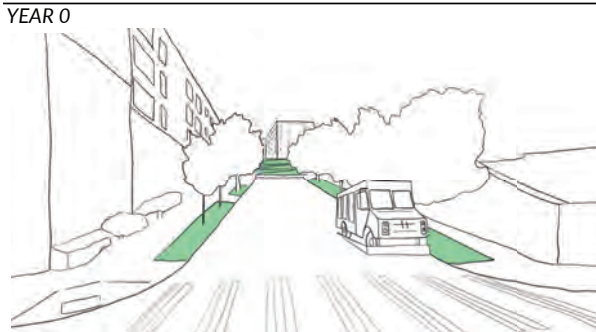
### Programs:

Growing, living, and selling are all facilitated in this prototype. The mobile greenhouses provide educational space focused on growing food and provides ownership of where food comes from. People can live in the vehicles in a loft or hammock and can be parked in safe lots. By integrating this intervention into the network created by the group's vision, there are plenty of opportunities for people to sell their produce anywhere the demand is.

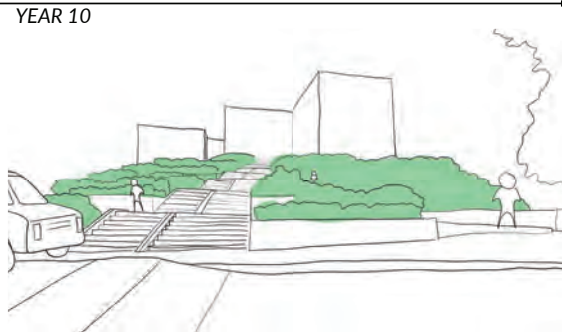
### Unfolding Over Time:

This prototype is first introduced as overnight parking spots in spaces not often used and during off peak parking times. Over time, more permanent bases for the vehicles can be identified and the vehicles can travel around to raise awareness of how any space can be transformed into urban agricultural hotspots.

10TH AVE / YESLER TERRACE  
HILLCLIMB



10th Ave parking showing mobile greenhouse dwellers becoming caretakers of the planting strips



Yesler Terrace Hillclimb as an extension of the mobile greenhouse network where edible plants are grown

S LANE ST / BEACON  
PLACE



S Lane St during the day while the mobile greenhouse is parked and used as an educational and gathering space



S Lane St "farmlet" still hosts mobile greenhouses but has transformed Beacon Place into an orchard and the growing food has been pushed onto the streetscape

# MOBILITY + TEMPORALITY IN GROWING, LIVING, SELLING

## HOME BASE

SHIHUI LIU

### Goals + Strategy

This project seeks to increase accessibility to food and shelter as well as diversity and vibrancy. These goals are achieved through food sovereignty, safe and clean shelters, and informal livelihoods. The prototype focuses on creating homebases that connect to various aspects of the cityscape. This provides homeless people with access to food, shelter, and other opportunities; local residents with access to healthy food and arts opportunities; retailers with a supply of local food; educational institutions with real-world learning experiences; and the community with diversity and vibrancy.

*Images clockwise from top:*

### Programs:

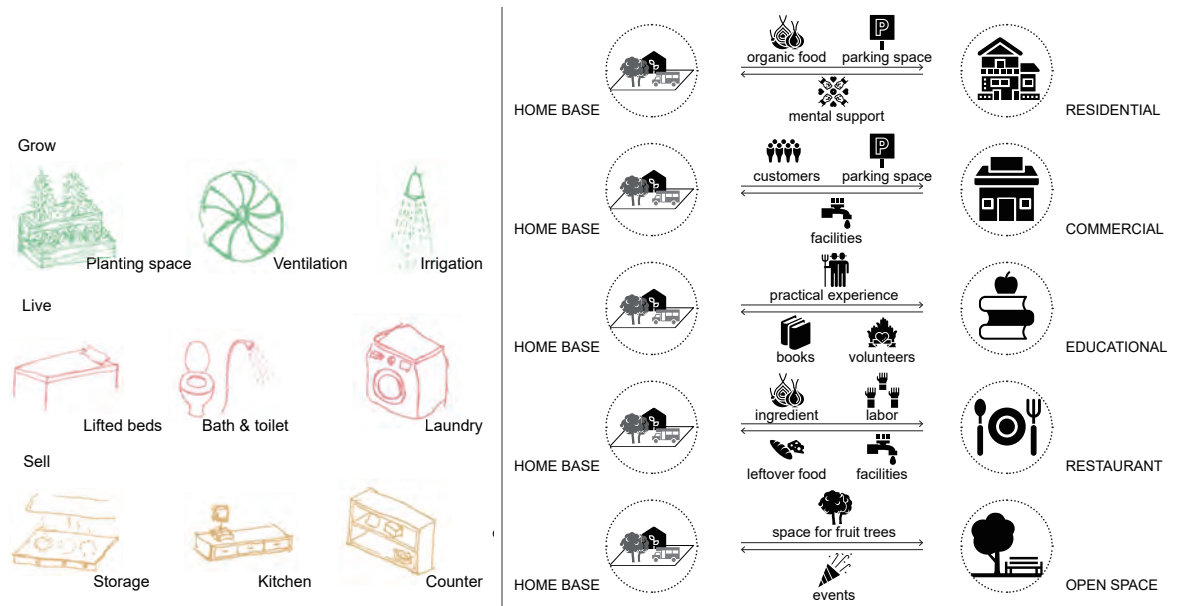
The programs included in this intervention fall into the three categories of growing, living, and selling. Planting space, ventilation, and irrigation support food production while lifted beds, baths, toilets, and laundry support life. Storage, kitchens, and counter space are provided to support selling efforts.

### Cityscape Connections:

The homebases created can be connected to different parts of the neighborhood through various activities.

### Site Plan:

This site plan demonstrates how the interventions can be implemented in space. Prototype A is situated in the orange areas and prototype B occupies the blue area.



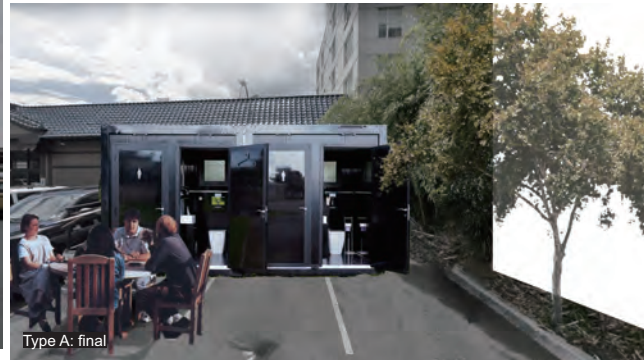
# MOBILITY + TEMPORALITY IN GROWING, LIVING, SELLING

## HOME BASE

SHIHUI LIU



Type A: preliminary



Type A: final



Type B: market + event



Phase I: mobile structure



Phase II: temporal shelter



Phase III: permanent shelter + landmark

Images from top:

### Prototype A:

This prototype transforms these areas from parking spaces to sites for greenhouses on buses during the day and bicycle hubs at night.

### Prototype B:

The space occupied by Prototype B exists as parking spaces most days of the year. However, during cultural festivals and special events, it transforms into space for markets and art galleries. This allows the space to interact with the activities of nearby Hing Hay Park as well as the entire neighborhood.

### Phasing:

Over time, Prototype A takes on more mobile functions in addition to the greenhouses, such as toilets and gathering facilities to create interaction between the site and the surrounding buildings.

# MOBILITY + TEMPORALITY IN GROWING, LIVING, SELLING

## FLEET OF BICYCLES

SARAH PULLMAN

### Goals + Strategy

This project engages a wide catchment area to serve as advertisement for the group's intervention as a whole, and to create an easily packageable design. With these goals in mind, this project creates an unfoldable bicycle with basket to carry fresh fruits and vegetables.

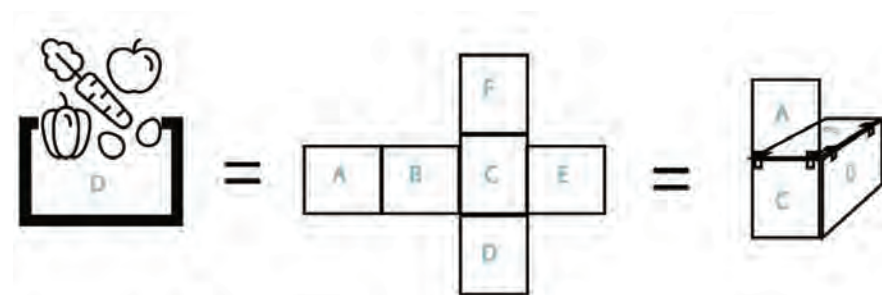
*Images from top:*

### Unfolding the Bike:

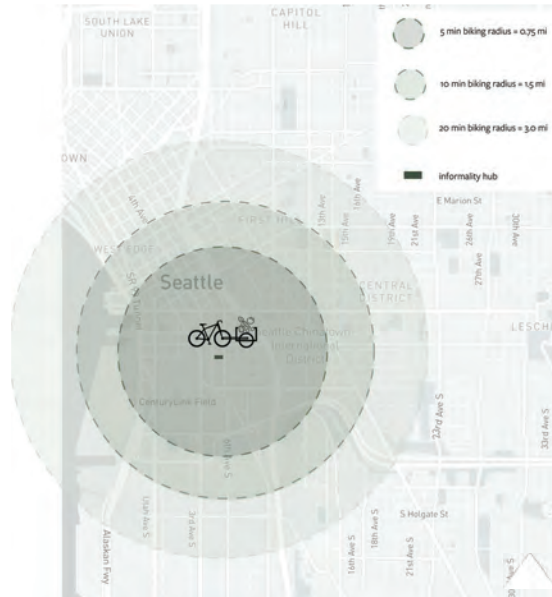
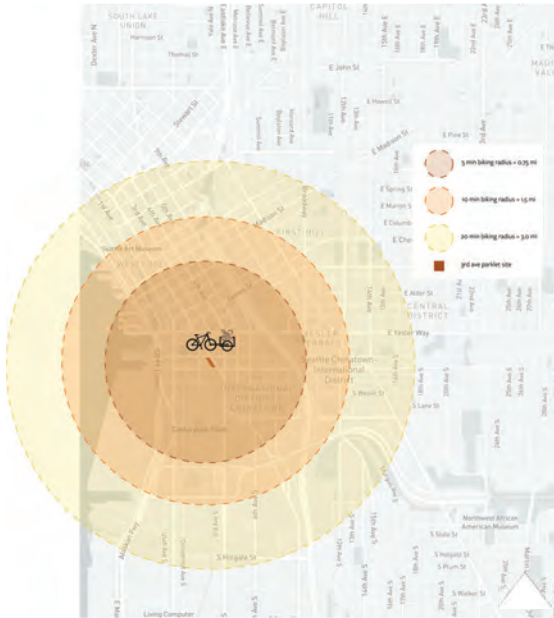
The structure of the bicycle is important to be multi-faceted. The bike serves as the tool to deliver produce and carry a box that can also welcome sitting and relaxing in public.

### Location Possibilities:

Sites selected for implementation of this prototype should be situated close in proximity to existing living informality, transit hubs, open space, and high foot traffic. Creating interventions in these places allows people to stop by for food that is grown in the mobile greenhouses and transported by bicycle. It can also provide space that welcomes people living outside.



SARAH PULLMAN



Images clockwise from top:

### Bike-Only Site:

The network around the bike-only site illustrates how far the bike can transport the boxes and give spaces to promote relaxing in public. As well, the ability to span in the 20 minute biking radius allows intersection with the other networks.

### Homebase Network:

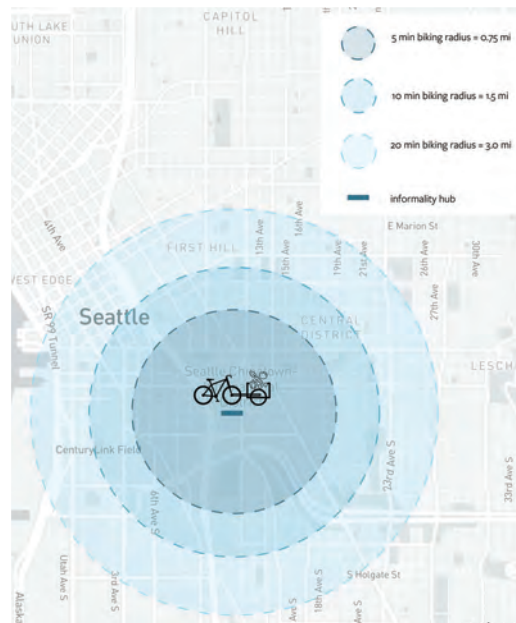
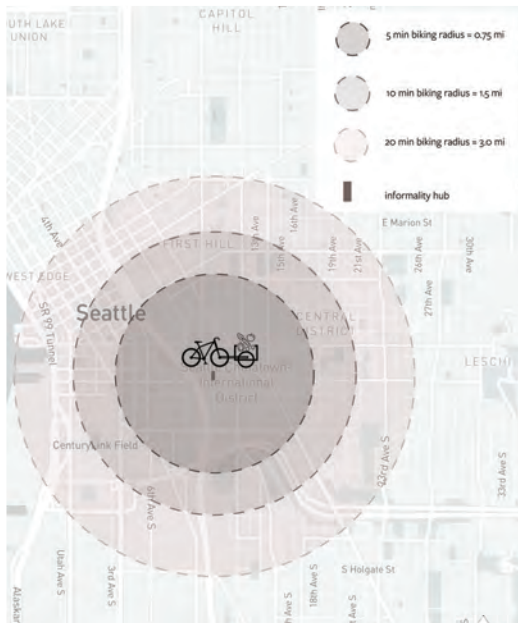
The homebase network allows the bike to travel further biking into South Seattle and advocate for the growing, living, and selling model. It can bring goods such as produce or amenities, a great distance from its original location.

### Mobile Greenhouse Network:

One of the mobile greenhouse networks demonstrates how expansive the matrix that the produce grown inside the greenhouse can reach is.

### Providing Produce:

Like the first mobile greenhouse, this is important to provide sustainable produce to homeless encampments around the city.



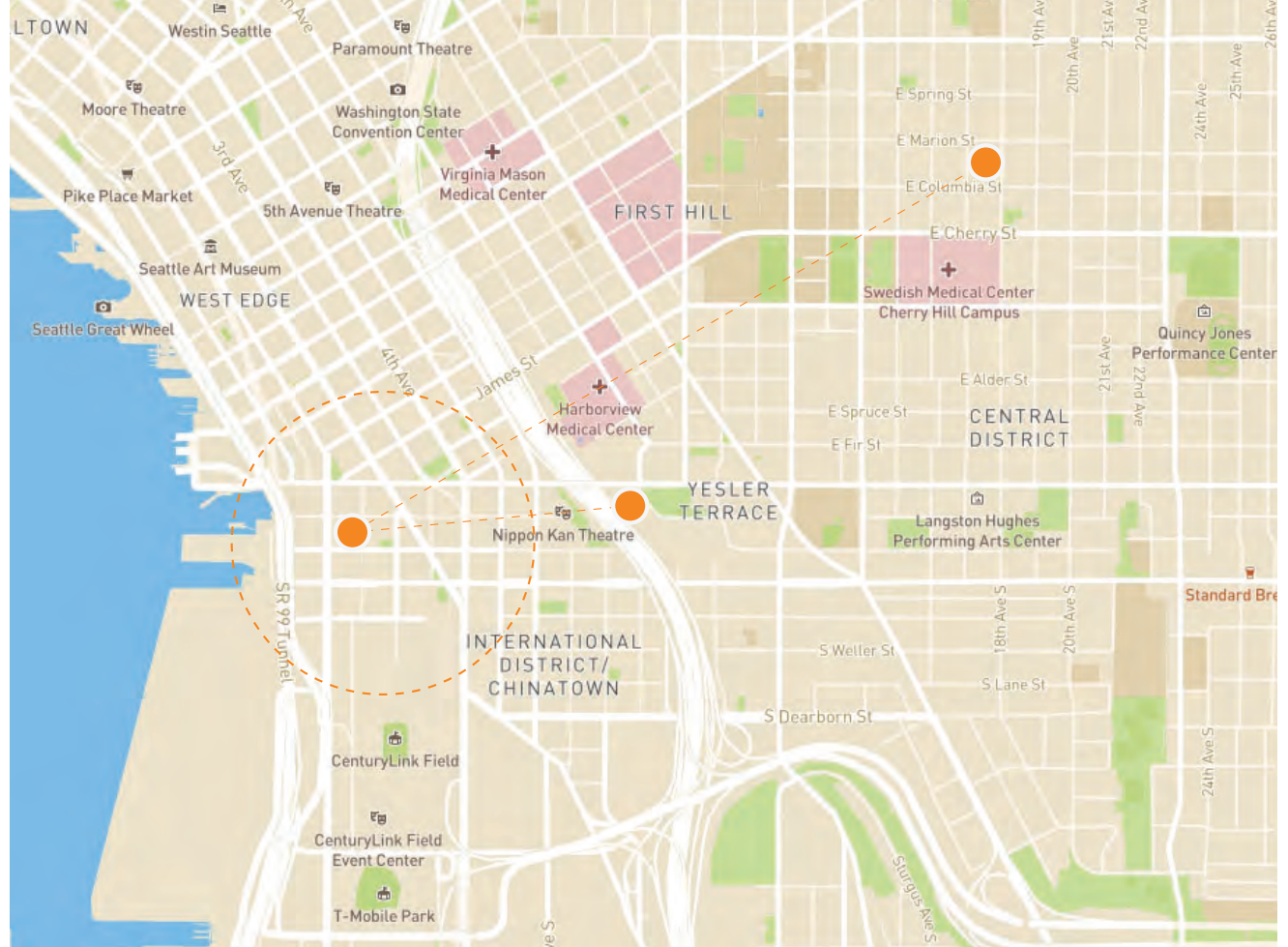
# URBAN FOOD NETWORK

## GROUP STRATEGY

ELLIE MURRAY  
HEXIANG WANG  
HELEN GANAHL

This group's overarching goal was to bolster food security and improve food sovereignty throughout the studied neighborhoods. In order to achieve this, they proposed an intervention consisting of a network of "hot spots" that operate at the intersection of formality and informality. These "hot spots" were intended to function at all scales and remain flexible and responsive to the local needs and culture while increasing connectivity between neighborhoods. By creating a network of "hot spots" that utilize the strengths of each neighborhood, the whole system could be greater (in terms of sustainability, financially, culturally and socially) than the sum of its parts.

*Images clockwise from top:*



Base Map Image Source: <https://www.mapbox.com/>

### Physical Landing:

This map shows where each team members' "hot spot" intervention would be located within the city and how they are connected.

### Goals:

This flow chart breaks down the team's goal into potential interventions that can be utilized to bolster food security. These strategies are tested through the individual projects.

### Approach:

A graphic representation of the theoretical framework, a network of hot spots, is shown.

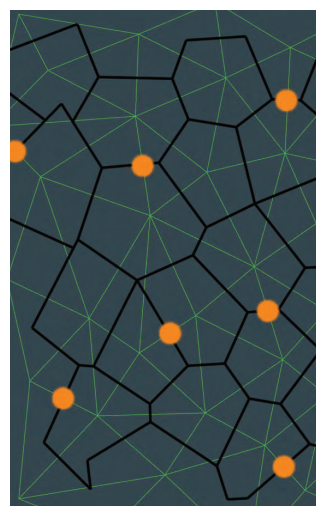


Image created by group

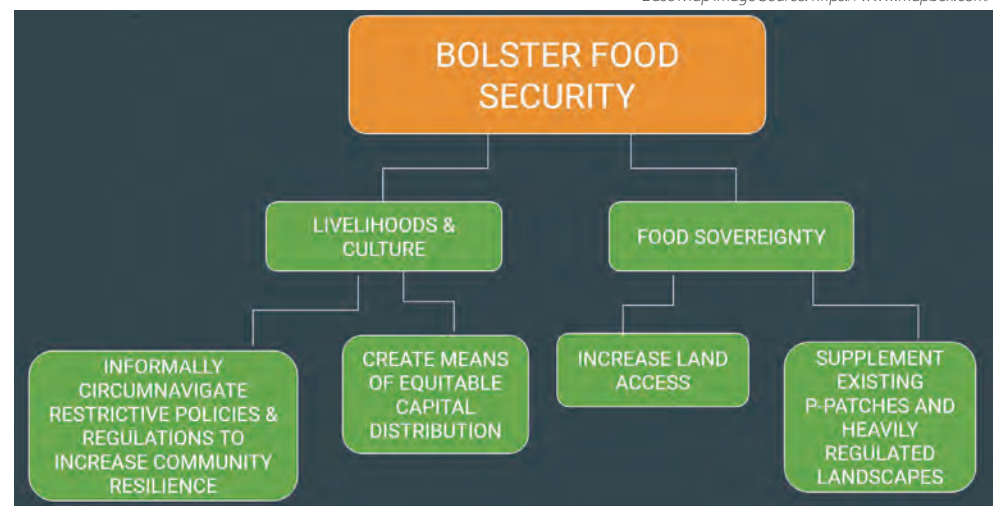


Image created by group



# FOOD SYSTEM REENVISIONED

# URBAN FOOD NETWORK

## GROUP STRATEGY



Images counterclockwise from top:

**Program:**

A closed-loop food system where each hot spot focuses on programming that incorporates a few pieces of the food system in order for the entire food system to be represented across the network.

**Hybridity:**

Informality meets formality along a spectrum in which each “hot spot” has some legal recognition and benefits from aspects of formality while it also maintains the fluidity of informality.

**Intersectionality Leads to Resilience:**

Diagram illustrates the relationships maintained between primary focus and subfocuses of the group’s proposal.

Image created by group

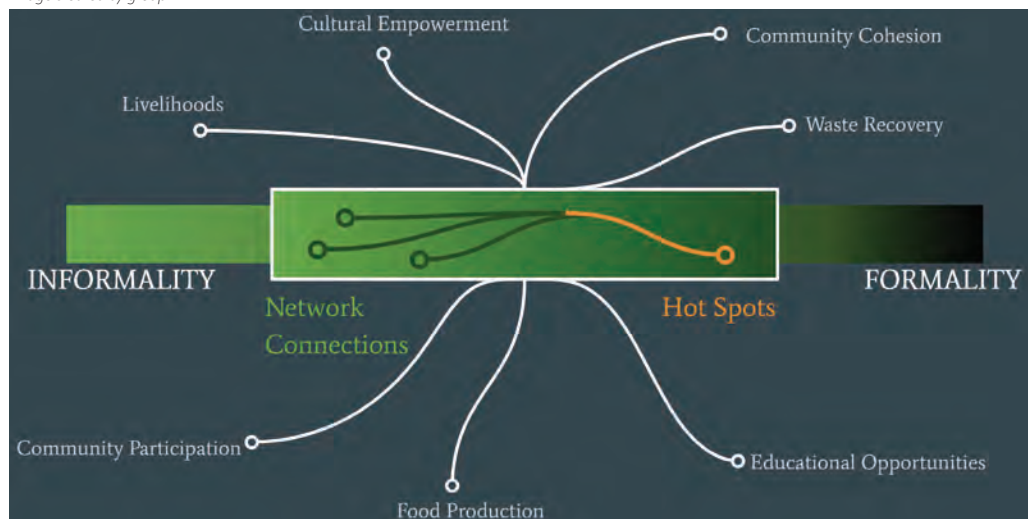


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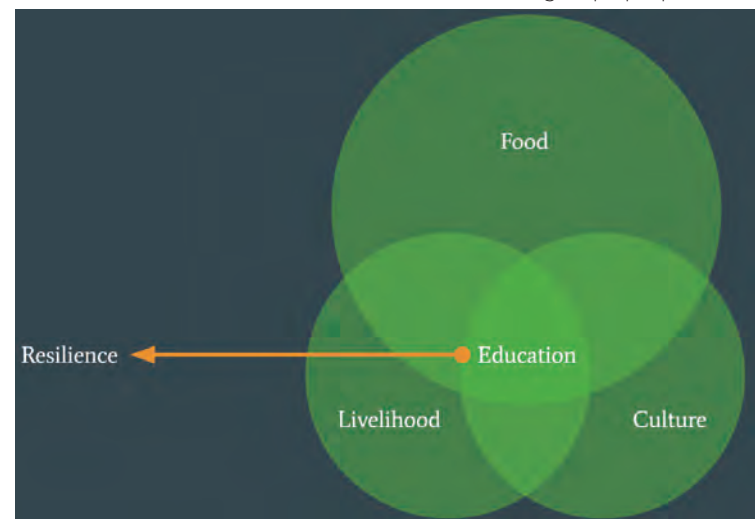


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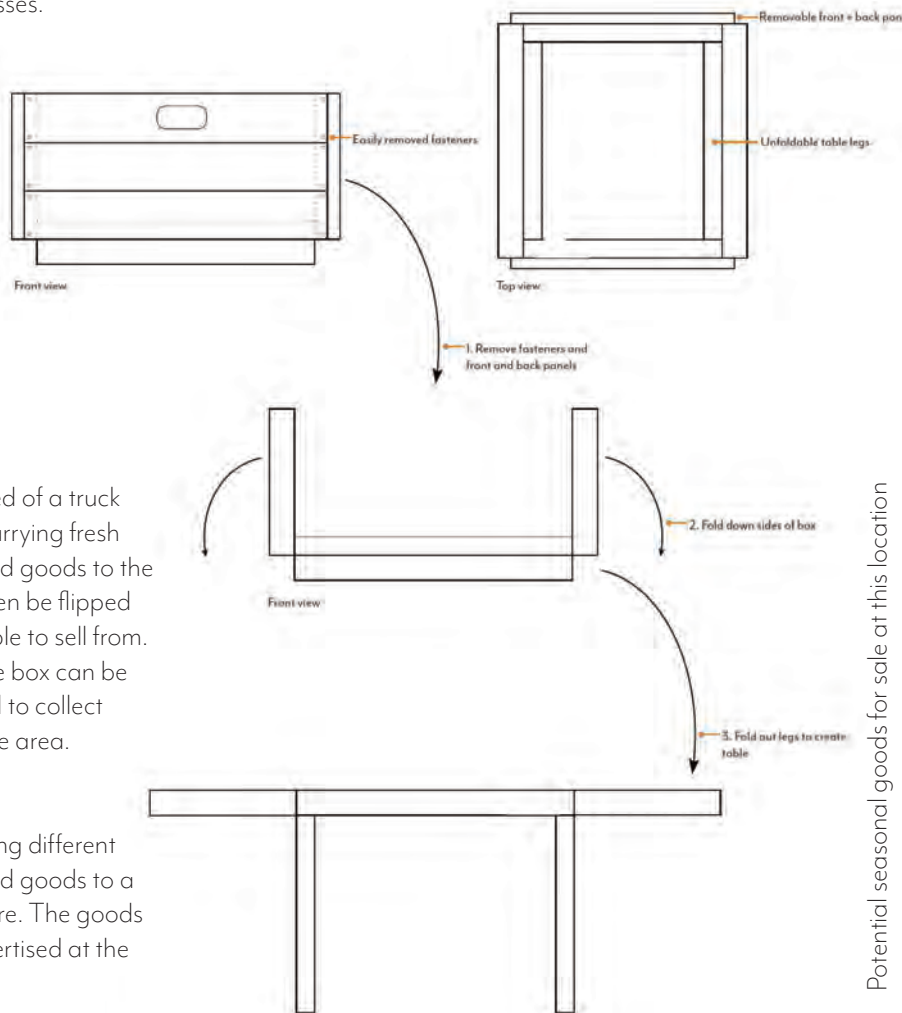
# URBAN FOOD NETWORK

## DISTRIBUTION HOT SPOT | PIONEER SQUARE

ELLIE MURRAY

### Goals + Strategy

The goal of this project is to assist people facing food and job insecurity through an ephemeral and flexible model similar to a Farmers Market. Farmers Markets exist in the area but are limited in season and present several barriers to entry. This project utilizes formal structures and events that happen in the area to generate customer base for the informal selling of local produce while also creating connections between the other two hot spots and formal businesses.



Images from left:

### Prototype:

The box fits within the bed of a truck in order to be used for carrying fresh produce and value added goods to the selling location. It can then be flipped and folded out into a table to sell from. At the end of the day, the box can be folded back up and used to collect compost from around the area.

### Seasonal Selling:

Different seasons will bring different produce and value added goods to a location in Pioneer Square. The goods of the month will be advertised at the selling location.



Selling location

Seasonal advertising

Potential seasonal goods for sale at this location

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>FRESH PRODUCE</b>												
APPLES												
APRICOTS												
ARTICHOKES												
ARUGULA												
ASPARAGUS												
BASIL												
BEETS												
BELL PEPPERS												
BLACKBERRIES												
BLUEBERRIES												
BOK CHOY												
BROCCOLI												
CABBAGE												
CARROTS												
CAULIFLOWER												
CHARD												
CHILES												
COLLARD GREENS												
CORN												
EGGPLANT												
GARLIC												
GREEN BEANS												
HONEY												
KALE												
ONIONS												
PLUMS												
PUMPKINS												
RADISH												
RASPBERRIES												
RHUBARB												
STRAWBERRIES												
TOMATOES												
WINTER SQUASH												
<b>VALUE ADDED GOODS</b>												
BERRY JAMS												
PICKLED VEGGIES												
RHUBARB CHUTNEY												
SALSA												



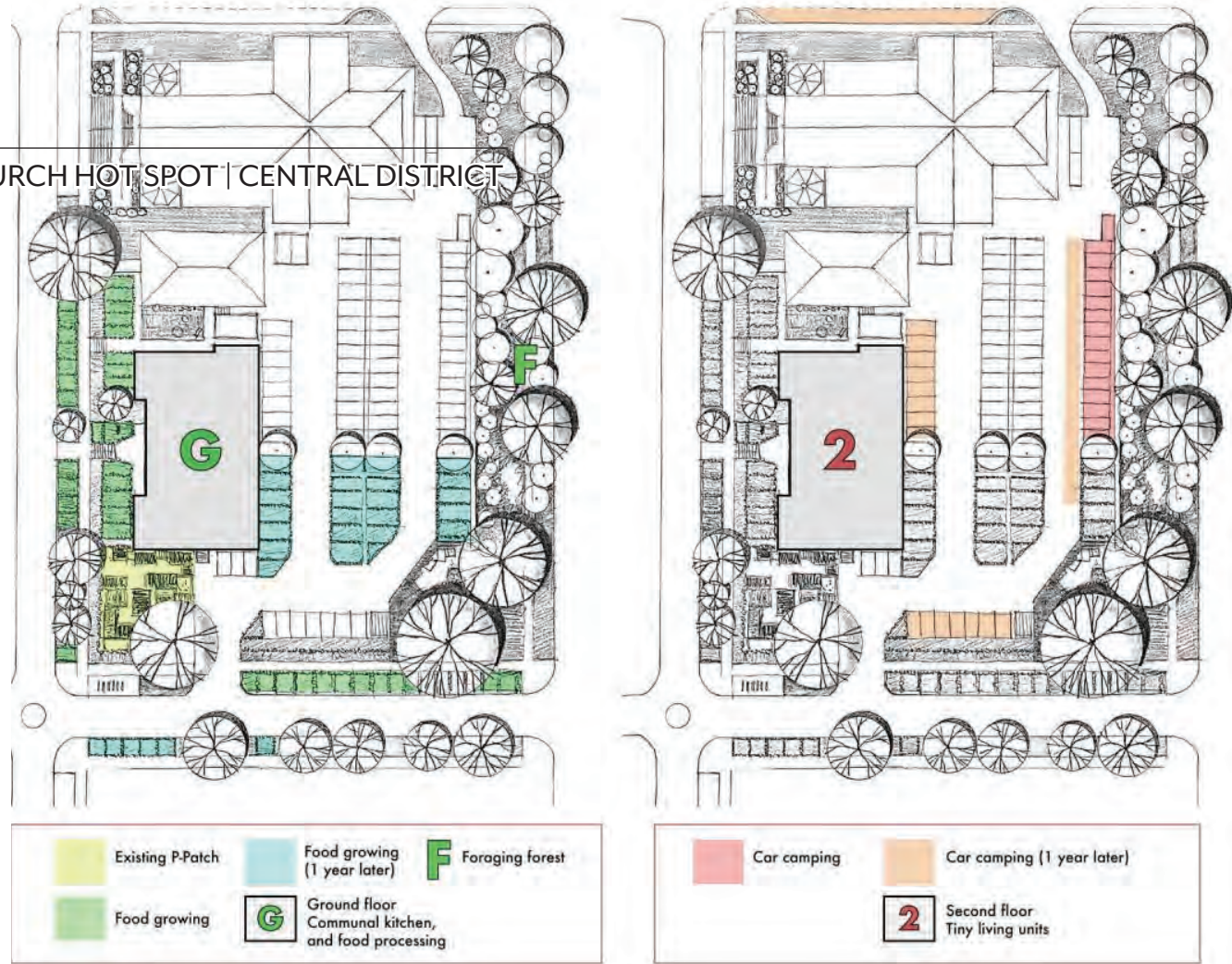
# URBAN FOOD NETWORK

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH HOT SPOT | CENTRAL DISTRICT

HEXIANG WANG

### Goals + Strategy

The goal of this project is to form a sustainable food system, and explore the possible transformations of urban space that could foster more efficient social services. The vacant land, underutilized building, and parking lot in this church block presents many opportunities. This project contributes to the group's goal of a connected food system by focusing on food production and the intersectionality of housing and livelihoods. Further, this design can be regarded as a prototype for future planning in the neighborhood as this spatial pattern is quite common in the area.



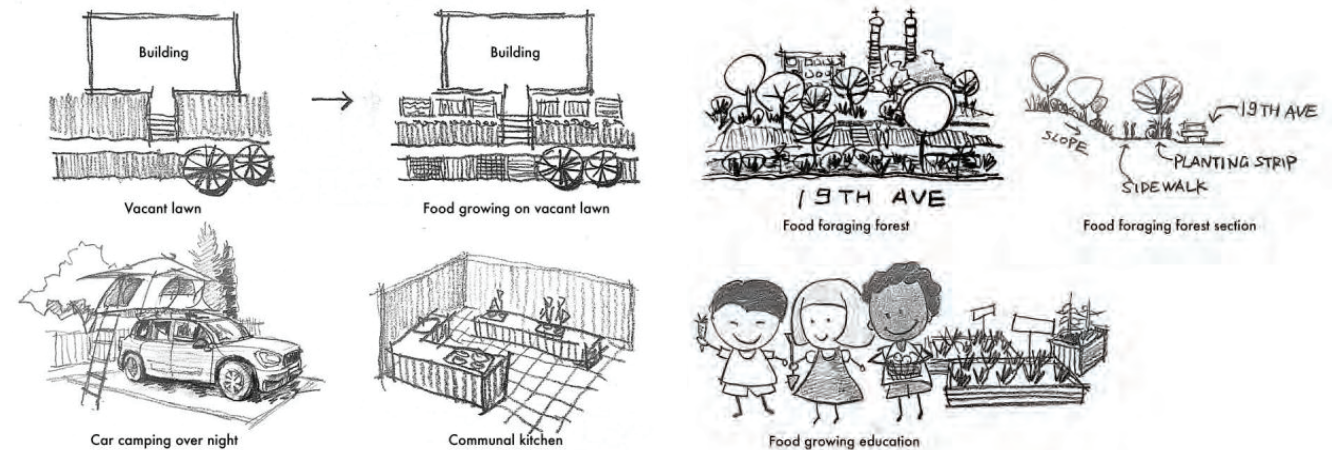
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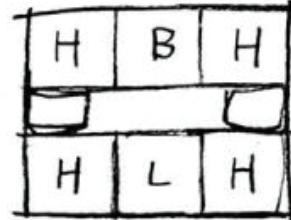
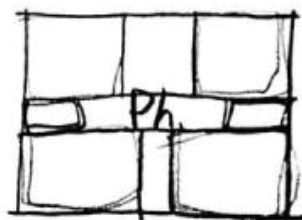
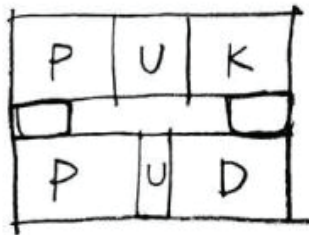
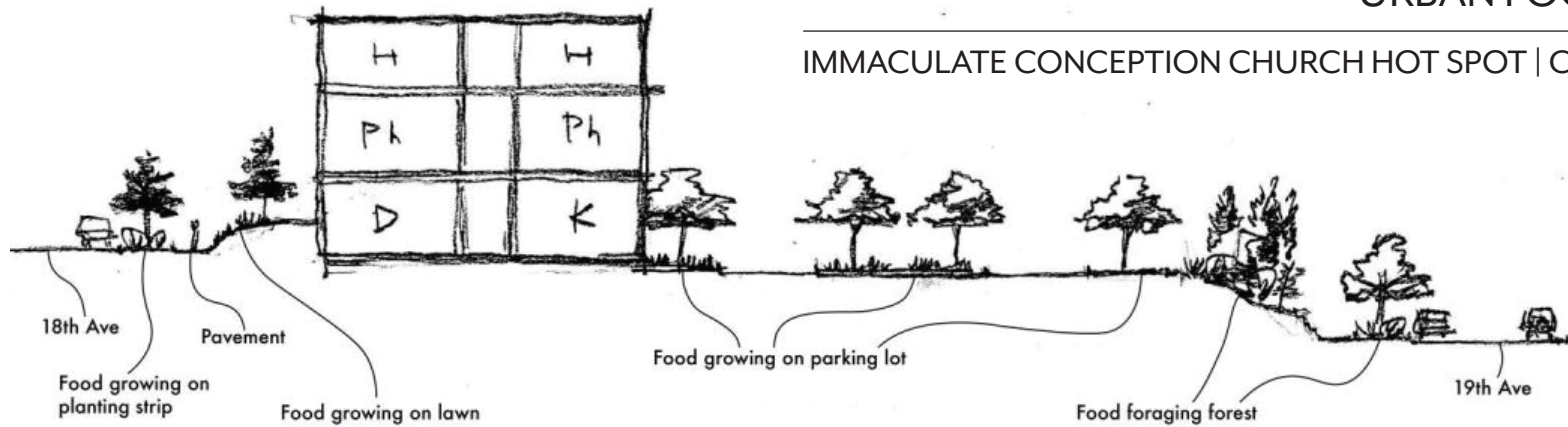
### Master Plan:

The two plans illustrate the phased implementation of interventions on the ground floor and second floor of Immaculate Conception's former school building.

### Program:

The hand sketches depict in further detail the various interventions laid out in the plan.





**P** Food processing  
**D** Food delivering  
**U** Utility

**Ph** Filipino American National Historical Society

**H** Housing area  
Tiny apt units  
**L** Shared living room  
**B** Bathroom



### Resilience

Livelihoods and housing work as satellites of the primary focus of food production on this site. The resilience of this design comes from its flexibility - the stakeholders can determine the degree of formality or informality by controlling the number and forms of programs happening in this site; e.g., do they hope to occupy more land for planting, or are there more people suffering from homelessness that need assistance at a particular time?

*Images from top:*

### Function:

Distribution of uses for the underutilized building on site in section and plan.

### Planting Vignette:

View of the garden beds alongside the east parking lot of Immaculate Conception's former school building.

# URBAN FOOD NETWORK

## YES FARM HOT SPOT | YESLER TERRACE

HELEN GANAHL

### Goals + Strategy

This project seeks to implement a series of small physical interventions on Yes Farm to increase programmatic opportunity. This site was chosen because of the existing community investment, relationships with the city and local organizations, and infrastructure. These interventions facilitate the expansion of the Black Farmers Collective and increase the connectivity of the farm with adjacent subsidized and market rate residences. The connection to the other hot spots fosters additional connection to other neighborhoods as well. This is done through the site via compost distribution, community art events, informal native pollinator education, and creating and selling value-added products.

*Images from top:*

### Program:

This site is meant to function as a compost hub that supports education, waste reduction, and soil rebuilding. There is also a communal firepit for socializing, events, and cooking, community art on display, and water harvesting on site.

### Plan:

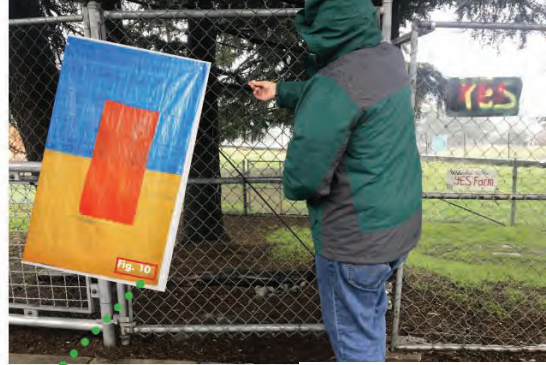
Plan depicts locations of each material chosen to implement informal changes to the existing site.



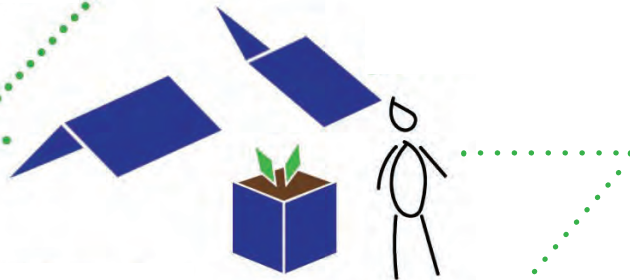
# URBAN FOOD NETWORK

## YES FARM HOT SPOT | YESLER TERRACE

HELEN GANAHL



### TARPS



### POLLINATOR PLANTS



### Resilience

Flexibility, inherent to resiliency, is present at all times on this site. As experiments and changes are undertaken, the resiliency of the urban farm remains strong as it is supported by the network of sites proposed.

*Image:*

### Materials:

Four materials were chosen for initial interventions based on their prevalence and multifunctionality. These materials can be considered as catalysts for informality and have an abundance of uses. The chosen materials are tarps, pallets, cob and cinder blocks, and pollinator plants.

# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## GROUP STRATEGY

ALEX BURGOS  
EMILIO CRADDOCK  
NORA YAO

The goal of this group's project was to create a corridor that addressed gaps in the existing system which currently work to constrain informalities. The corridor works to better utilize public, open spaces to support informal action and strengthen diverse communities while creating healthier spaces. The hope is that this concept will inspire future action that ensures everyone has access to food, nature, and community space.

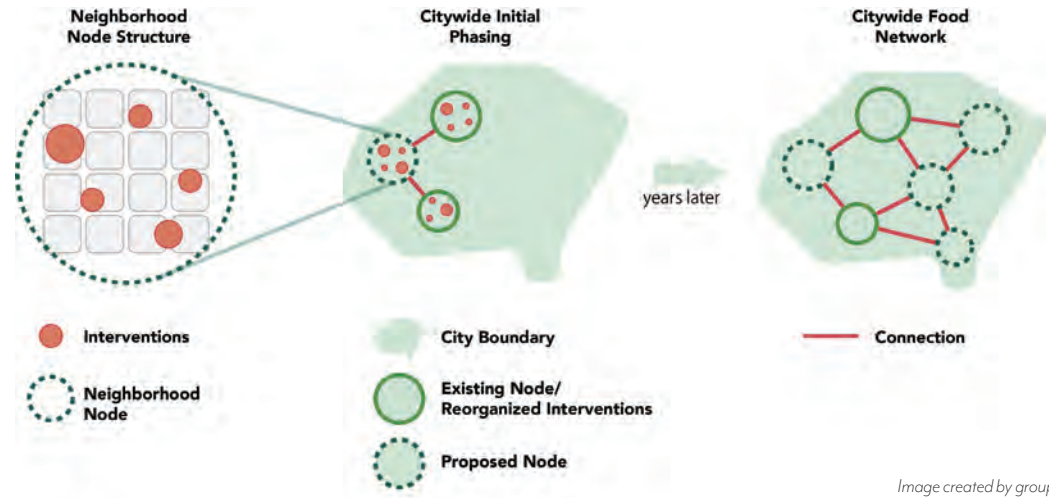
*Images from top:*

### Neighborhood Node Structure Concept Diagram:

This diagram represents the structure of the prototype where several interventions take place in a single node within multiple neighborhoods. These nodes are then connected across the city to create a network of connections and resources.

### Individual Design Narratives:

Each group member addressed a specific area and the types of interventions that could be supported. The Canton Alley Parking Lot is host to lighting installations, colorful paving, food vendors, and community storage. Beacon Place utilizes vacant space for community gardens, an education center, stormwater retention, and urban habitat. Judkins Park acts as a place to implement a food forest, pollinator meadow, and tiny house village.



*Image created by group*



*Image created by group*



# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## GROUP STRATEGY



Food Foraging



Mobile Gardens



Food Markets



Food Banks



Food Co-ops



Community Gardens



Food Forests



Community Bulk Buying



Compost

### Resilience

While informalities cannot be designed, the connections between and the spaces that welcome these activities can be. The connections between different neighborhoods found in this prototype strengthen ties between diverse communities and create opportunities to share knowledge and resources in the face of rapid development and climate change.

*Images counterclockwise from top:*

### Interventions Through Nodes:

Several different types of informal activities can take place within each node. This image depicts a few examples.

### Connections:

Connections between nodes can be made in several ways including bus routes, way-finding, plantings, street art, and painted bike paths.



**Bus Route Connections**  
Using buses, stops and bus routes to connect each neighborhood nodes periodically.



**Way-finding**  
Signage will not only lead those to other nodes, it will also help guide people to understand the plants' significance, how to forage them, and any other important program in the intervention.



**Planting**  
Along the paths to different nodes, there will be pollinator/edible plantings to strengthen these connections as well as ensure edible landscapes are distributed equitably throughout the city.



**Street Art**  
Art plays an important role in the corridor. It is a way for communities to express themselves and inspire a sense of place.



**Painted Bike Paths**  
Bike paths make for stronger connections between communities. Similar to street art and way-finding, bike paths help guide folks throughout the corridor and also keep bikers safe along the way.

# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## UNLAWNING JUDKINS PARK + RETHINKING PUBLIC SPACES

ALEX BURGOS

### Goals + Strategy

The goal of this project is to activate underutilized lawn space to create a functional and integrated landscape for under-served communities by challenging the ways we think of public spaces. Instead, this project aims to design an edible, livable landscape that inspires optimism. This project uses the empty lawn adjacent to Judkins Park to create a food forest, foraging park, and a tiny house village, thus transforming the park into a place for humans and pollinators to call home.

*Images from top:*

### Site Plan:

The plan illustrates the locations of the tiny home village (designed by Yuchen Wang, another classmate), food foraging park, community food forest, and pollinator meadow within the park and how these spaces relate to one another.

### Tiny Home Vignette:

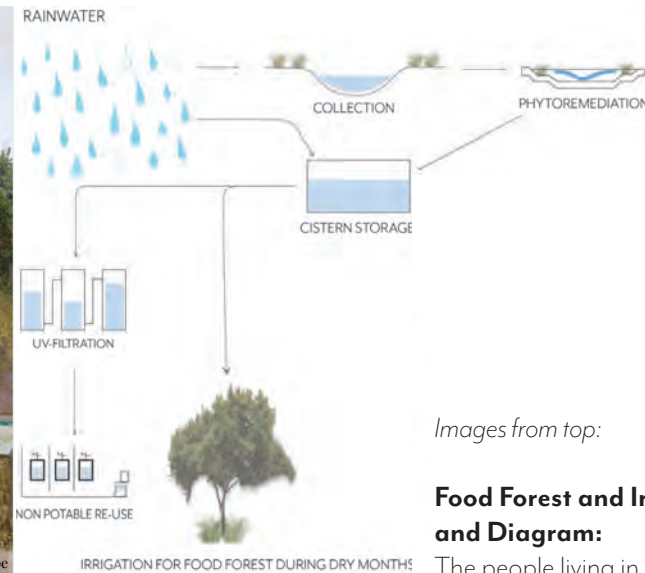
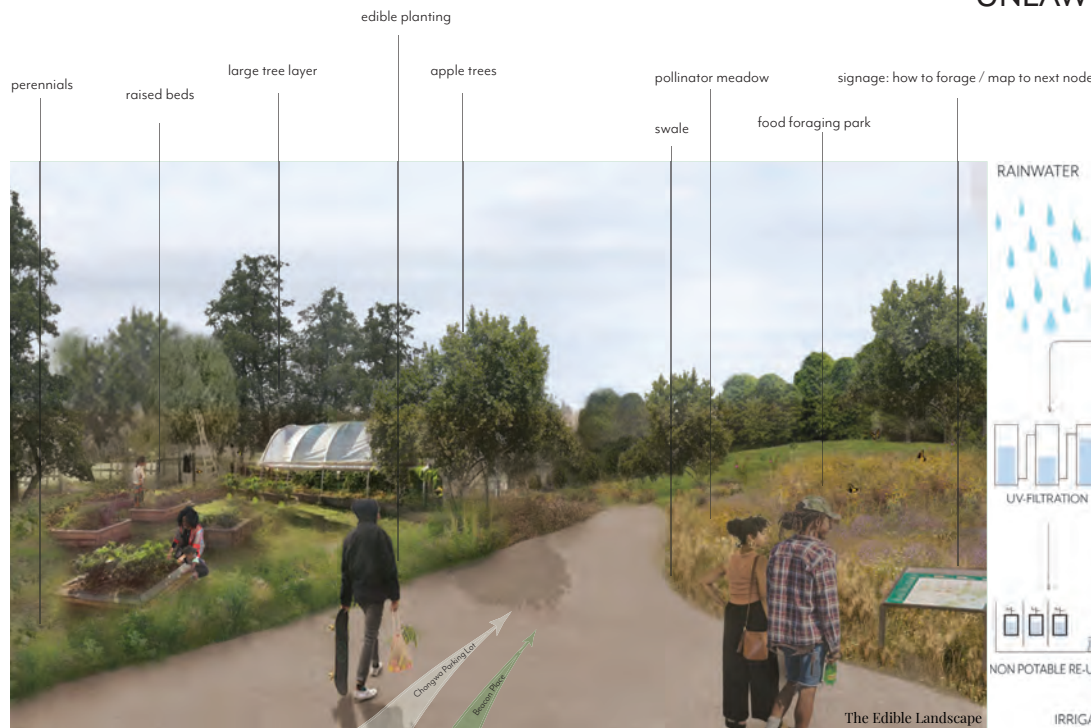
This vignette exemplifies the Judkins Lawn with tiny homes integrated into the food foraging area and pollinator meadow. This creates an opportunity for residents to steward the land, creating livelihoods as well as a sense of place.



# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## UNLAWNING JUDKINS PARK + RETHINKING PUBLIC SPACES

ALEX BURGOS



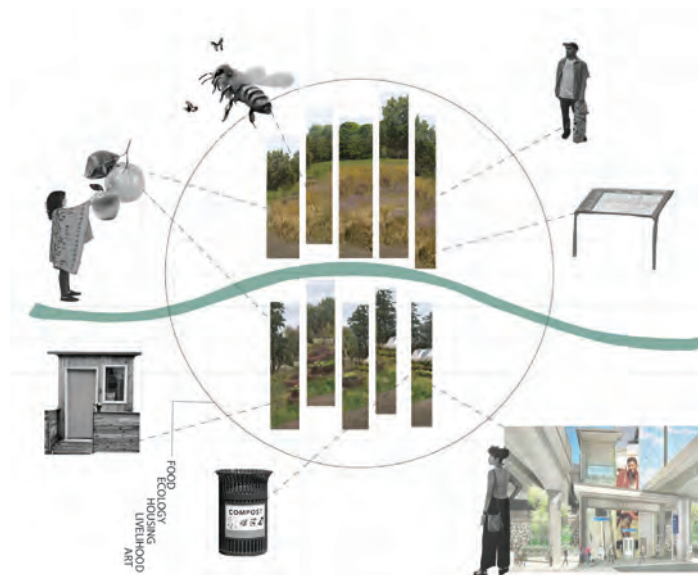
Images from top:

### Food Forest and Irrigation Vignette and Diagram:

The people living in the Central District who have resisted the changes resulting from gentrification are surrounded by pricey, inaccessible grocery stores. With climate change, fresh food will only be harder to obtain as prices rise even higher. This self sustaining space's resiliency lies in its strengthened urban food cycle and inclusivity of those who have been marginalized.

### Resilience:

Eventually, policies will allow for integrated landscapes to be woven into the entire city of Seattle. It will not matter who you are, you will have access to fresh food, affordable living, and open green space.



# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## BEACON PLACE COMMUNITY GARDEN

EMILIO CRADDOCK

### Goals + Strategy

The Beacon Place Community Garden is the main intervention in the west International District node. This project envisions a transformation of a vacant, Seattle owned parcel into a productive member of the urban food system. The design uses modular shipping containers sourced from the nearby port to mold a series of terraces into the steep site. Terracing the site creates level spaces for small farm plots and other multi-functional spaces. The interior spaces inside the shipping containers can be transformed to fit any function the garden's users wish.

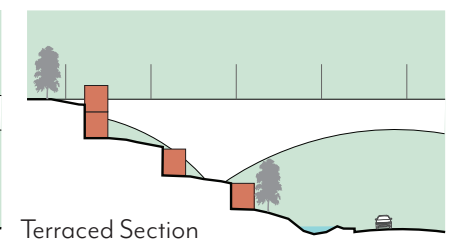
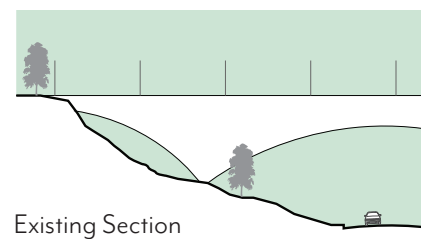
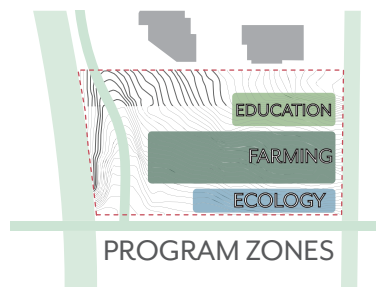
*Images from top:*

### Site Plan:

The site is organized into three zones: community and education, farming, and ecology. The community and education center, the most formal part of the intervention, sits at the top of the hill. This building also acts as a storage space for garden supplies and food preparation. Below the community center is a series of less formal shipping container terraces. Keeping this space unprogrammed allows the space to be adaptable to the needs of users. The least formal space is at the base of the site - the ecological zone, providing environmental benefits.

### Sections:

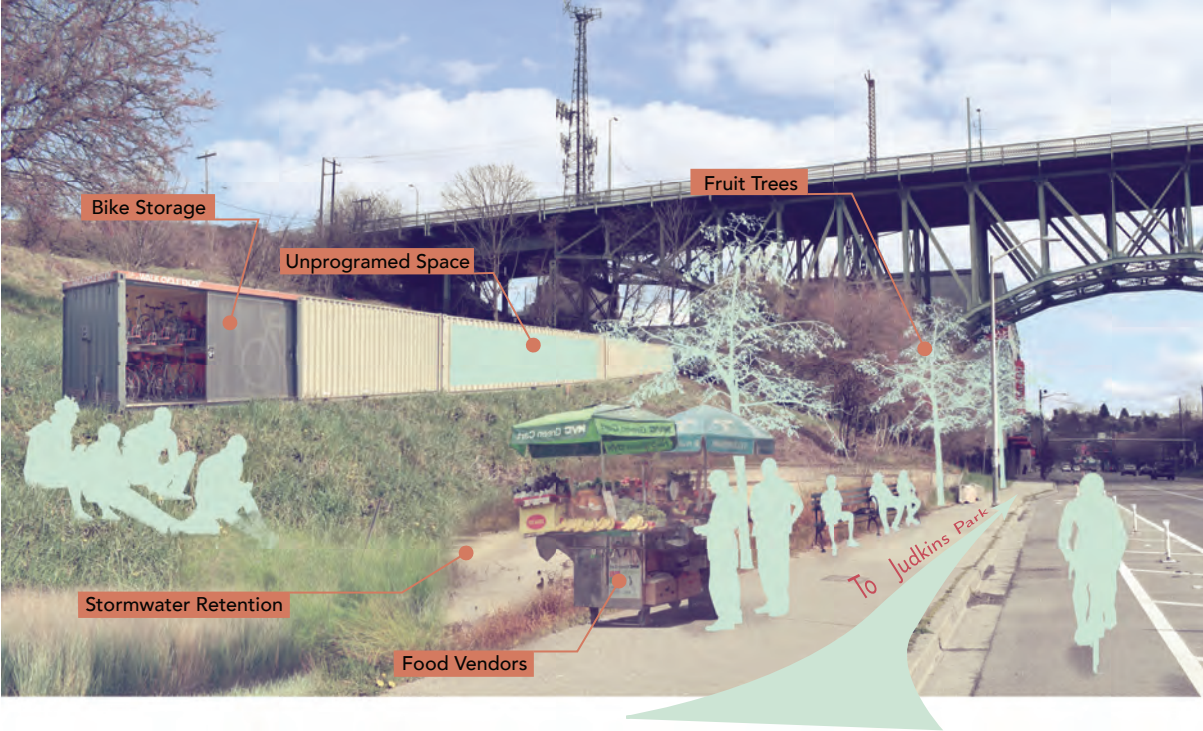
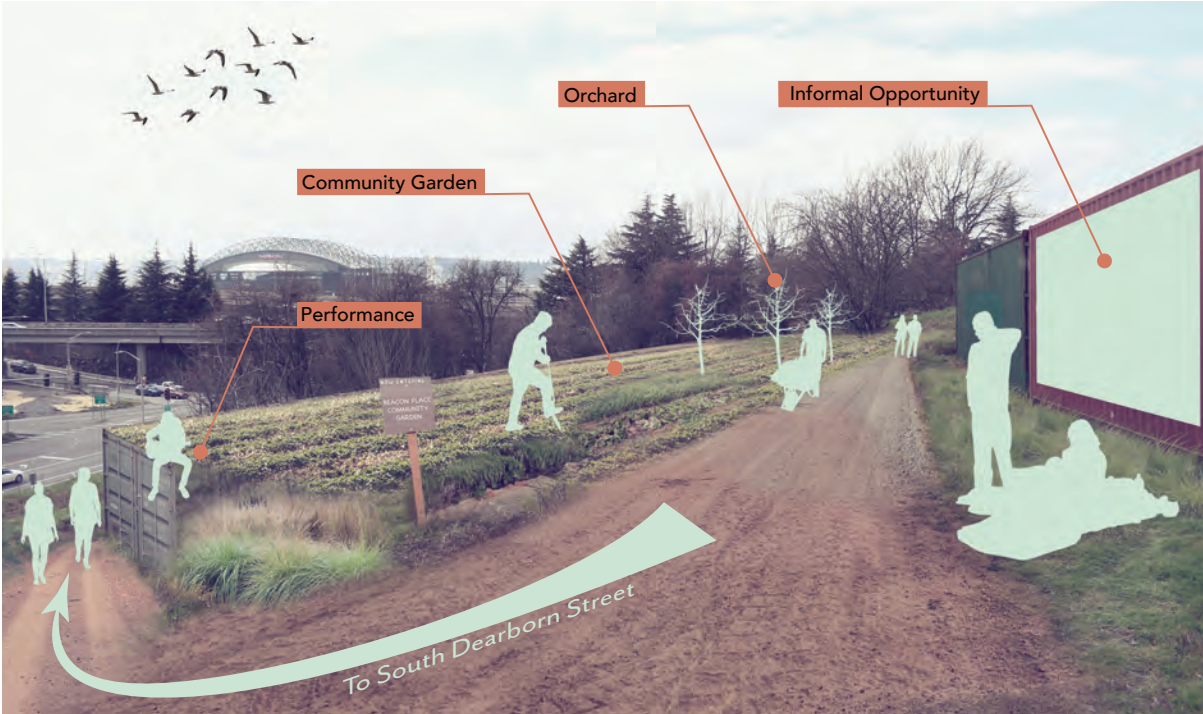
The shipping container terraces transform the hillside into gardening spaces as well as flexible sheltered areas.



# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## BEACON PLACE COMMUNITY GARDEN

EMILIO CRADDOCK



**Resilience**

The goals of this project include creating a circular food system, growing local food for local residents, empowering under-served residents, and fostering positive ecological benefits. These all work together to increase resiliency by strengthening community ties through urban agriculture.

*Images from top:*

**View Looking West:**

This vignette illustrates the view from the community garden and shows how the site is connected to the rest of the food corridor.

**View Looking East:**

This vignette illustrates the view from South Dearborn Street looking east showing the shipping container terraces.

# ECOLOGICAL FOOD CORRIDOR

## INTEGRATION | REVISIONING COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND

NORA YAO

### Goals + Strategy

This project aims to create a community playground within a private parking lot. The design attempts to minimize the impact on daily parking use while accommodating multi-functional community space. The project is intended to create the space and facilitate possibilities for neighborhood residents, local retail owners, artists, ethnic minorities, and the intergenerational population.

*Image at right:*

### Design Intervention:

This proposal strives to create space for multi-users and multi-functions, from livelihoods to food systems to art. By collaborating with city programs and private entities, the space accommodates both formal and informal sectors.



### 1 COMMUNITY STORAGE ROOM AND STAIRCASE

This facility is the only sheltered structure, which provides space to community storing logistics and stuffs. The staircase would enhance the connectivity between 2 parking lots.



### 2

### LIGHTINGS & ARTS

The parking lot will be equipped with lightings to support all day activities. The wall would transfer to a free-expression canvas to the whole community and local artists groups. There is a community bulletinboard to enable neighborhood inform, notice, promote and free-express. The basketball hoops and the playground underneath are sustained for multi-events.



### 4

The parking lot would be equipped with foundation support of booths and vendors, which will have very little impact on daily parking uses. It helps event and vendors set up the site conveniently and rapidly. Also, the mobile electricity and hygiene tools are equipped as well. The installations help the flexibility of the usage of the future parking lot.



### 3

INTEGRATION | REVISIONING COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND

NORA YAO

BUS FACILITIES

COMPOST BUS



The compost bus help collect the community composting materials. Instead, the bus will compensate grocery package to those who contribute the composts.

PLANTER'S BUS



The planter's bus is a tourism and vending bus selling seeds and plants inside and holding planting lessons while driving on the way. The roof garden is its symbol.

SERVICE BUS



The service bus is taken charged by public sector who could provide mobile community outreach, coaching, and public services to neighborhoods.

PLACES

ON THE ROAD



PARKING LOT

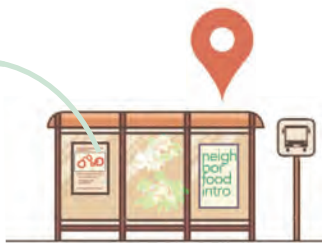


CURB SPACE (MOBILE PARKLET)



The buses are allowed to drive on the road to travel between neighborhood nodes, as well as the parking space. The buses could also serve as one of the interventions in the neighborhood nodes -- staying in the parking lot to provide services, community events and vendings.

CONNECTION AND STOP



The bus stop is the only permanent installation in this periodic bus system. The connections (Bus Routes) will be running under certain period or situations. And the system is working with King County Metro as well. Therefore, the stops could work with art works and creativity, providing informations and aesthetic component to accommodate in urban environment, which consist to the whole food network system.

Image at left:

**Bus Route Connections:**

This diagram depicts how various bus typologies are used to create connections to the other nodes within the greater network.





# SECTION 5

## REFLECTIONS

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The COVID-19 pandemic hit as the studio was in its closing weeks. We weren't able to host a final review to share the work with various stakeholders, some of whom had participated in the midterm reviews and development of the projects. The pandemic followed by racial justice movements also delayed the production of the studio report, but both occurrences confirmed our assumptions about the value of urban informality during disruptions and in furthering equity and justice.

The insights and visions developed by the students in this studio reveal the diverse catalysts and types of urban informality in a North American, and more specifically Seattle context. With a focus on housing, livelihoods, urban agriculture, and art, the students identified urban informality precedents broadly as well as within Central Seattle. The studio framing of resilience challenged preconceptions of roles and limitations of urban informality, and afforded creative planning and design proposals that engage alternative networks and resources. As faculty, our reflections on this studio explore lessons for practice and next steps.



## LESSONS FOR PRACTICE

Urban Informality is part of the urban condition of metropolitan Seattle. The student teams' work in the areas of livelihoods, urban agriculture, housing and public art clarified the need to recognize urban informality as a legitimate urban condition that has roots in history and serves all demographics, including unhoused people. We have begun to articulate some lessons from the studio that merit further development and testing to confirm their efficacy. Three perspectives emerged from our studio that inform lessons:

1. Urban informality is created by people in particular conditions as a form of resilience within oppressive systems. As such, urban informality informs where and how systems need to adjust to serve the constituents better.
2. Urban informality operates across spatial and temporal scales that may manifest as a spectrum including isolated/ephemeral to collective/temporal to organized/enduring. And these patterns are dynamic in how they may become more formal, centralized or dispersed, and sanctioned or unsanctioned.
3. Formalized design and planning should embrace urban informality without taking from it the spontaneity, creativity and opportunity, which are its key strengths. Co-opting informality within the fold of the formalization may defeat the purpose; yet not addressing urban informality is also not a solution.

Specific lessons for the four themes the students investigated through design include:

### 1. Housing

Multiple types of informal housing exist in Seattle such as backyard cottages, mother-in-law units, trailer housing, car camping, tent cities, and camping, etc. Such options for populations who are priced out or do not want to be part of formalized housing systems need to be recognized not penalized. Supportive and flexible infrastructure for hygiene, food and other social services should be provided, recognizing not all informal housing patterns are necessarily permanent.

### 2. Livelihoods

Opportunities for livelihoods can be directly tied to other types of informality. Mobile housing or tiny house villages may be co-located with temporal marketplaces, such as weekly farmers' markets or smaller pop-up vending or services stands. Similarly, informal housing may be co-located with urban agriculture sites and supportive facilities, where residents may steward, prepare, and sell products. Informal art can identify and celebrate informal livelihoods as temporal/portable and more permanent installations.

### 3. Urban Agriculture

Public open space—such as street or freeway rights-of-way, utility corridors, and parks or plazas—hold untapped potentials to support informal urban agriculture. Seattle has City and non-profit based urban agriculture programs with gardens, orchards, and a food forest. These models may inspire informal and temporal food production such as guerilla gardens, as well as places that afford foraging and may not necessarily appear as an agricultural landscape. Berry bushes, fruit and nut trees, and edible native plants in public lands can and do provide informal food sources in the city. The keeping of animals for urban agriculture is sanctioned by the city, with certain limitations. Where informal housing occurs, opportunities for keeping animals such as chickens as well as growing food crops could support food security.

### 4. Art

Informal performative and visual arts vary from random singular events to more organized contexts that animate the culture of districts and particular locations. Informal art is essential to city life—expressing opportunities, struggles, and joy. As noted, informal art holds synergistic potentials with other types of urban informality.

We also highlight a mechanism and land use that was explored in students' projects as compelling opportunities for supporting urban informality:

1. Community Land Trusts. While much urban informality emerges organically through unsanctioned means, there are more formalized mechanisms that can support informality with greater resilience by virtue of controlling the land. Community Land Trusts are a potent mechanism for empowering local communities to resist gentrification and create needed housing, livelihoods, food production, and art.

2. Parking lots and structures. While profitable land uses, parking lots and structures often experience low-use periods, such as evenings or weekends, when informal housing or livelihood uses could occupy them. Similarly, underutilized private or public parking areas could have spaces set aside as sanctioned locations for periodic or more permanent livelihoods, housing, urban agriculture, and/or art.

As we complete this studio report in March 2021, we have witnessed the ways in which the COVID-19 pandemic amplified economic and social disparities, and how tragedies caused by police catalyzed international activism for racial justice. Certain responses to these conditions have emerged informally. These phenomena illustrate to us that enabling and advancing urban informality within the folds of the formalized systems can expand equity and spatial justice in our increasingly divided cities, particularly in pandemic-driven and climate crisis realities.

Climate-based disruptions are only likely to increase in the future, challenging the resilience of cities and their inhabitants. How can we better prepare current design and planning students to creatively and effectively respond to their future? We see the processes, learning, and outcomes of this studio laying a foundation for continued research and teaching that engages students in better understanding and supporting urban informality through urban design and planning practice. And we hope that this studio report may catalyze conversations and explorations of how and where informality may be recognized and supported in the city, to advance a more resilient and just urban form.