

# **SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**

A Proposed Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban

By

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for the degree of

**Master of Architecture**

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## DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this dissertation is my own, unaided work and carried out exclusively by myself under the academic supervision of Mr Lawrence Ogunsanya for the partial fulfilment for the degree of Masters in Architecture (MArch) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Durban, RSA. It has not been submitted for any other qualification or examination in any other educational institute whatsoever.

.....

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Finally, to all those who have played an integral role in the compiling and investigative analysis of such research listed in this document, I thank you.

## DEDICATION

Due to my existence and ability to live life on this earth, I thank my Lord and my God, Jesus Christ for affording me this opportunity to pursue this journey for excellence.

The credit for all the love, prayers and efforts taken to bring me to the young man I stand to be today, rest well as a chip on the shoulders of those dearest to me. Namely my grandmother Mrs S. Pillay, my parents Mr and Mrs Govender and my little sister and editor to this document, Gabrina Govender (B.Hons.CogSc), who have stood by me through every hurdle and obstacle that needed the utmost amount of motivation, encouragement and heartfelt prayers to fulfill the intention of such research together with the successful completion of this Master's qualification.

I sincerely thank each one of you for all your efforts and therefore dedicate this dissertation to you.

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research dissertation is to determine the impact of 'lost spaces' as a problem to the urban context. The project will therefore investigate issues around how these 'lost spaces' affect the relationship between people and space by its overall lack in the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context.

The aim of this research topic is to understand the existence of these 'lost spaces' in the urban context of Durban and how to revitalize it via a catalytic tool of sport in the aid of an architectural response in the built form. The objectives of this research will suggest outcomes of how an architectural response such as a Sporting Facility (ie: Soccer Academy) will address issues centred on adolescent youth development as a means to catalyse urban revitalization.

These responses to the social, economic and architectural aspects of urban revitalization will be harnessed by a thorough investigative study of theories, concepts, literature and relevant fieldwork in the form of questionnaires and interviews that will enforce the ideal approach towards **Sport as a tool to Revitalize Urban 'Lost Space.'**

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# **PART ONE**

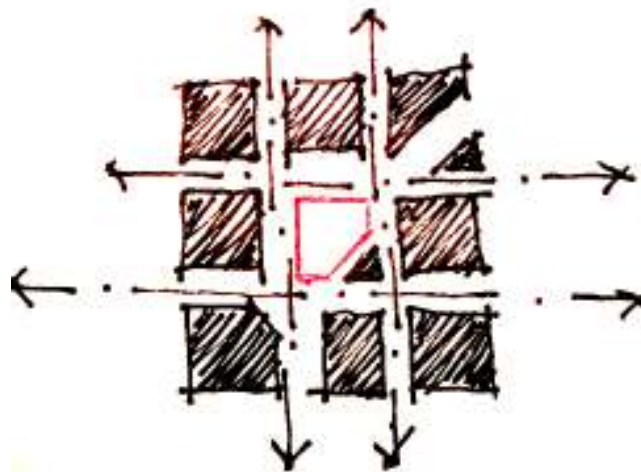
## **CHAPTER 1**

### **BACKGROUND RESEARCH**

#### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

##### **1.1.1 Background**

In analysing the mundane day to day relationship between people and space, it is understood, through various data analysis and research findings listed in this document. That the integration of spaces into its surrounding urban context is of vital importance when responding to the following factors that create successfully working cities: Social, Economic, and Architectural responses in the urban context. (Leatherbarrow: 2005) However when these responses do not work cohesively, various issues, due to the lack of social and economic activity within a given built up urban context, lead to inactive voids or forgotten spaces known as 'Lost Spaces' in the urban fabric. (Trancik: 1986)



**Figure 1:** Diagrammatic sketch interpreting 'Lost Space' in a built up Urban Context.

Sketch by Author, (Govender R: 2015)

The purpose of this research is to understand how these lost spaces, due to the lack of social cohesion and urban activity, impact its surrounding urban context and how it can therefore be

revitalized into a successful urban response in the built form to further enhance the relationship between people and space towards a socially cohesive city.

In order to facilitate this revitalization process, the research will direct itself towards finding a suitable tool relating to the social, economic and architectural contexts to optimize valuable spaces by the proposal of an architectural response in the built form. The purpose of this tool will aim towards a catalytic social response that will easily draw all walks of life and various age groups promoting the breaking down of various social and economic barriers that prevent the essence of social cohesion needed to enhance the use and potential of a given space.

Through analysis and collection of data in this research, the significance and importance of sport as a possible tool sheds light on its major influence on the social, economic and environmental contexts of the urban fabric and how it is so likely to be used as an expression of diversity in order to promote an improved usage of space.

The purpose of this research is to determine the existence and impact of 'Lost Spaces' in an urban context and how Sport can be used as a catalytic tool to revitalize urban 'lost space'.

### **1.1.1 Motivation and Justification of the study**

The significance and importance of sport in society in its social aspects help enlighten us of its major influence on the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context. The relationship between the built form and sport as a tool allows the insight into a reasoning of how it is possible for this tool to revitalize various lost spaces thus promoting better social cohesion and further developing the Youth at foundation stages towards a better future aided by Sport as a catalytic tool.

## **1.2 DEFINITION OF THE PROBLEM, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **1.2.1 Definition of the Problem**

Through investigative research into the relationship of people and space in the urban context, various issues of urban activities are therefore uplifted to help shed light on the outcomes that lead to barriers in the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban contexts.

These factors form the vital roles of what is needed to create successful cities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. (Moor: 2006) However when these factors are not working in a cohesive manner, inactive voids

and 'lost spaces' are created that give way for urban decay and unutilized urban contexts that disrupt the working order of the urban fabric of the city. (Trancik: 1986) It is this problem of 'lost space' that will be further studied and investigated in this research in order to ascertain what catalytic tool may be used to combat the aim of urban revitalization and reintegration of such 'lost spaces' back into its surrounding urban context.

### **1.2.2 Aims**

The aim of this research is thus to determine the impact of 'Lost spaces' in a given urban context that could be revitalized by Sport as a tool focused on the development of Youth as the foundation component to urban fabric of the city.

### **1.2.3 Objectives**

- To revitalize 'Lost spaces' using the youth and integrating them into the Social and Urban context of Durban by the means of Architecture in the built form.
- The outcome of this research will aid in the proposal of a Facility specific to a certain type of sports, that will address and develop the Youth at their foundation stages through sport as a common tool.
- To understand the relationship between Sport and the built form.
- To create a catalyst for future activity in the Durban thus revitalizing existing Lost Spaces.

## **1.3 SETTING OUT THE SCOPE**

### **1.3.1 Delimitation of Research Problem**

The research will introduce problems of cultural-identity and socio-economic identity as social bonds and how they impact the urban context of Durban. These problems will help identify various barriers that prohibit the social bonds needed to make a given space function to its optimum potential in the urban context. (Smith: 2013) The focus of this research is to understand aspects expressed by the relationship between people and space.

The research lends itself to the further understanding of how negative and positive spaces exist within a given urban context and how these negative spaces specifically create inactive voids or 'Lost Spaces' prone to influence further 'Urban Decay' in need of revitalization.

Sport will be studied as a tool in the social, economic and architectural contexts and how it can help create the social bond needed to enhance the relationship between people, space and architecture in the built form. This research is envisaged to have a positive impact of the social aspects of the people of Durban and therefore does not attempt to redefine or eradicate any cultural diversity in any way, but rather to bring people of all races, traditions and cultural backgrounds together under one common benefit. Sport will be further studied to focus on its ability to break down social barriers and unite nations together in the aim of revitalizing the urban 'lost spaces' of Durban one at a time.

Theories and Concepts will be used in order to develop the knowledge surrounding the topic of urban revitalization, whereby, the need of a common catalytic tool to ignite revitalization within the urban context gives the understanding of how spaces interact with each other through various components of the urban realm.

The understanding of this process of urban revitalization through sport will be used in the aid of a proposal as an architectural response in the built form.

### **1.3.2 Definition of Terms**

**Adolescent Youth:** 10-21 years of age (early adolescence 10-14; late adolescence 15-19)

**Catalyst:** Currently development of the Youth in Rural areas is defined by the researcher as stagnant or regressive from the quantitative data available. Catalyst in the context of this thesis refers to an architectural solution that incorporates all the principles necessary to develop the Youth. The design principles will enhance and speed up the development of the Youth in comparison to having this being left to natural circumstances / normal processes.

**Community:** a body of people living in the same area

**Cultural Mobility:** Places where people with different cultures and lifestyles can meet and share new experiences - spaces where a change of perception is possible (Foster, 2008: 68).

**Eco-Design:** is environmentally-conscious design which uses ecological design Principles and strategies to design our built environment so that they integrate benignly and seamlessly with the natural environment.

**Ecology:** The study of the relationship between living things and their environment

**Environment:** the built and natural surroundings

**Landmark:** a recognisable element in the landscape, used for orientating purposes. This can be an icon but is not always.

**'Lost Space':** An area that has been left over or forgotten amongst the fabric of a given context in the built form, thus a place in need of revitalization. (Transik:1986)

**Social Identity:** The identity of the people from an individual to an entire community. This predominantly looks at the culture of people which is made up of many elements that provide an image or reflection of an individual or community. These elements are such as religion, race, nationality, gender and age.

**Sport:** The oxford dictionary definition of sport is: "Sports is an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment (Oxford, 2015)." The research in this thesis focuses on developing an architectural solution that incorporates Sport. The type of Sport incorporated into the facility will be defined by further research.

**Sport-Scape:** An area focused toward sport and recreation in a region.

**Sustainability:** The ability to support, endure, or keep up. Meeting present needs without compromising future resources.

**Urban Revitalization:** A comprehensive and integrated vision and action which leads to the resolution of urban problems and which seeks to bring about a lasting improvement in the economic, physical, social and environmental condition of an area that has been subject to change

### 1.3.3 Assumptions

Through this research, it is assumed that Lost Space exists in the urban context that has a need to be revitalized. The assumption leads to the idea of having a common tool used to revitalise this space.

### 1.3.4 Key Questions

**Main Question:**

**HOW CAN SPORT BE USED AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN ‘LOST SPACE’?**

**Subsidiary Questions:**

1. What is Urban Revitalization?
2. Why do ‘Lost spaces’ exist in the urban fabric?
3. How can Urban ‘Lost Space’ be revitalized?
4. What criteria identifies the characteristics of a specific ‘Lost Space’?
5. What Tool can be used to Revitalize Urban ‘Lost Space’?
6. What Sport can be used to Revitalize Urban ‘Lost Space’?
7. What is the relationship between Sports and the Built Form?

## 1.4 RESEARCH METHODS AND MATERIALS

In determining the existence of ‘Lost Space’ in an urban context, the research will be carried out using the **Qualitative method**. These research methods of data capturing will be required in analysing variables and factors in the urban context and how one can be able to combat the problem of the existence of Lost Spaces. The purpose of this research is to critically investigate all variables that are influential in a given urban context namely: people of all age groups, Spaces and Places in the urban context, social Activities, Built Form, negative and positive Urban Intervention projects and various official personnel involved in Urban related activities that give rise to the Social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context.

### **1.4.1 Justification of the Research Method**

The use of qualitative research method will assist in capturing data of quality and value rather than that of statistics in respect of the opinions and heart-felt mind sets and experiences of various focus groups relating to the given urban context. In the existence of various 'Lost Spaces', the research will be based on the experiences of people in and around this given space and how they are influenced in a negative or positive manner by this void within the urban fabric. This will in turn direct the research towards finding a specific sample group of people of specific age groups relating to the concept section of this document.

### **1.4.2 PRIMARY RESEARCH**

Through precinct and data analysis, Durban will be selected as a suitable urban context to be researched. This will direct the research towards investigative analysis to find spaces relating to Author Roger Trancik's theory of locating lost spaces in the urban context. (Trancik: 1986) These lost spaces will be analysed using various research instruments and devices relating to photographic images and recorded documents that will enhance the direction of the research in locating the appropriate space to investigate further.

#### **Sampling**

The research will entail a series of questionnaires and interviews that will be carried out in and around these pockets of lost spaces which will assist in shedding light on how these lost spaces were created and how they impact the existing social, economic and architectural contexts of Durban. This sampling process will be broken down by a set of criteria needed to understand how the urban context was created and how it works in its existence. Therefore, this sampling process will be laid out according to the key questions listed in the background section of this document where various groups of people will be selected according to the following categories of people:

- Local residents of the Durban city in relation to a suitable pocket of 'lost space'
- Focussed group of people depending on the age bracket subjected to the given research space. I.e.: Adolescent Youth Age Bracket- Discussed further in the Literature Review section of this document.

- Official Town and Regional planning personnel involved in the overall urban-scape of the city.
- Local Urban designers involved in projects relating to urban renewal designs and spatial designs in the urban context.
- In the assumption of sport as a possible tool, a group of sporting personnel and youth involved in this sector will be interviewed to understand the impact of sport on society.
- Architects involved in the designing of sporting facilities will be interviewed to understand the aim of the architectural response of this research proposal.

**Case Studies** such as the existing Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre may be used as it finds itself as a successful example of how sport was used in the past to present (up to today) to revitalize, not just a physical 'lost space' but how it has influenced the surrounding economic, social and urban contexts of the area from a local and global scale. The justification of this case study is understood by the influential factor that a centre as such has had on the surrounding people of all ages and racial barriers.

The investigation of case studies of large scale urban revitalization or renewal designs carried out in urban contexts globally will be analysed in order to understand the process of revitalization and how this process can be used to revitalize lost spaces in a given urban context. (i.e.: Curries Fountain Sports Centre and the Durban Beach front Promenade will all assist in the understanding of how certain 'lost spaces' can be revitalized to its optimum usages.) This is where the research will express the experience of spaces to understand how the theories of phenomenology and place-making play a vital role in the design of urban and public spaces.

## **1.5.2 SECONDARY RESEARCH**

### **Literature Review**

This section of the research in this project will tackle literature pertaining to issues that follow the framework of the key research questions laid in the background section of this document. These questions will be answered by a series of sub-heading listed in the literature review section which will include social theories and concepts, urban revitalization, sport as a catalyst and youth development. This information generated will inform the process of sampling in the interview



process and further direct the research to particular precedent research components of this research proposal.

**Precedent Studies** of successful Urban Renewal Designs and Sporting Facilities in international contexts will assist in understanding how such interventions and facilities may differ depending on certain variables in the social and economic contexts that we may or may not face in the given built environment or urban context in comparison to those studied. The New York High Line will be studied for complete understanding of how existing spaces become lost spaces that promote urban decay as an inactive space in need of revitalization. The High line will therefore be looked at in its influence on its surrounding context as an urban renewal intervention where existing infrastructure has been reused and revitalized.

Further sporting precinct designs and proposals will be investigated for their social, economic and urban impacts where sport has been used to revitalize existing contexts. Here is where the Berlin, Germany Square3 urban design proposal will be analysed as an example of urban revitalization through sports.

### **Research Material**

- Questionnaires
- Photographic and Audio / Visual instruments
- Sketch book
- Electronic research instruments – Internet, Cellphone, email etc.
- Library and Municipal Archive information services

## **1.5 SUMMARY OF CHAPTERS AND CONCLUSION**

### **Chapter 1: Background Research**

A presentation of the background research indicating the problem statement will aid in identifying suggested aims, objectives, assumptions and key questions. This chapter will enforce the overall direction of the study to investigate these research factors in accordance to the research methodology described herein.

## **Chapter 2: Theories and Concepts**

Key theories and concepts are discussed and critically analysed for relevance to this study in order to delineate the background problem indicated in chapter one.

## **Chapter 3: Literature Review**

This chapter is a review of existing literature regarding Urban Space, Sport and Youth Development to identify the gap in information that requires further research.

## **Chapter 4: Precedent Studies**

This chapter reviews, investigates and analyses existing building projects that have been informed by the literature review. The projects are critically analysed against the key theories and concepts of this study.

## **Chapter 5: Case Studies**

This chapter reviews, investigates and analyses existing local case studies of building projects within the South African context.

## **Chapter 6: Analysis and Discussion**

This chapter analyses and summarises the key findings that have resulted from focus group discussions and interviews with key informants.

## **Chapter 7: Conclusions and Recommendations**

This chapter summarises the findings of this research document, it outlines the conclusions, and compares it to the aims stated at the onset of this research project. The conclusions made are presented with recommendations.

This research document is laid out in accordance to the chapter summary listed above to facilitate the understanding of revitalizing urban 'lost space', its impact on the social, economic and architectural contexts, and how this space may evoke characters of enhanced social cohesion. Furthermore the presumption of sport being able to contribute to urban revitalization and youth development will be investigated as a possible catalytic tool. (ILAM: 1999)

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **THEORIES AND CONCEPTS**

This dissertation explores the means of urban revitalization through the use of sport as a catalytic tool. Therefore the theories and concepts utilized in this research are set out in detail in the literature review section of this document. This will be used to investigate possibilities of how this process may be carried out towards revitalizing urban 'lost space', and how this process impacts the social bonds of a given community around this 'lost space.'

#### **2.1 THEORIES**

##### **2.1.1 Phenomenology**

The literal definition of phenomenology is the study of "phenomena": appearances of things, or things as they appear in our experience, or the ways we experience things, thus the meanings that things have in our experience (Smith: 2013). Therefore this theory will be studied to understand the varying experiences of people within a given space to combat issues relating to how 'lost spaces' are created and how this impacts their surrounding environment in the built form. (Thomas: 2002)

##### **2.1.2 Place Making**

In order to combat the revitalization process in the urban context, the study of Place Making will allow insight into the process of how successful urban spaces are created. The major challenge in this aspect is to be able to design urban public spaces that people actually want to use and experience, as this is the measure of success of any method of place making. (Carmona: 2003) This study will shed light on how the designing of successful urban spaces will impact the social, economic and architectural context towards creating working cities.

##### **2.1.3 Social Cohesion**

Social cohesion refers to the various social bonds that bring people together based on peoples' certain needs and wants within a given space at a given time. (Kintrea:2004) Therefore this theory will be researched to further identify how people use these urban spaces and what type of social bonds will be needed to attract people towards creating successful urban space.

#### **2.1.4 Trancik's theory of 'Lost Space'**

Author Roger Trancik (1986), identifies that lost spaces are areas that are left over, forgotten or disjointed from the overall urban fabric of the city. Trancik uses an analysis of a set of supporting urban factors as a method or strategy to both: Locate and understand the existence of lost spaces. These are namely Figure Grounds, linkages and Places that will be studied further in the literature section of this document. (Trancik: 1986) He goes on further to acknowledge that these lost spaces impact the cities working order and disrupt the continuity of the urban fabric affecting the various social bonds that lead to gaps, broken movement routes and overall urban decay in pocket-like areas in desperate need of revitalization. This research will enhance the process of revitalization of lost spaces in Durban's urban fabric.

## **2.2 CONCEPTS**

### **2.2.1 Urban Revitalization**

Urban Designer and author Malcolm Moor defines Urban Design as: "The art of making and designing places for people. . . It concerns the linkages between people and places, movement routes and urban form, nature and the built fabric, and the processes for ensuring successful working villages, towns and cities. Urban design is a key to creating sustainable developments and the conditions for an ever- flourishing economic life, for the use of natural resources and for positive social progress. Therefore successful designing can help create active places with distinctive social character; streets and public spaces that are safe, accessible, pleasant to use and human in scale" (Moor, 2006: 30). This concept will be discussed in detail in the literature section of this document to further understand how this urban renewal process will be used to impact the urban realm from its social, economic and architectural contexts.

### **2.2.2 Urban Catalysts**

Catalysts in the urban contexts are "an activity generator" or "anchors" that can be identified as examples of creating pedestrian traffic as the most important way that an intervention can encourage development. Sternberg (2002: 33). These catalysts relate to social bonds that are needed to give a certain space the potential needed to promote urban activities.

The research indicated in the urban revitalization process assist in setting a foundation of identifying various response factors that may relate to the social, economic and architectural contexts. However in order to combat these contexts holistically, the need for a catalytic tool gives rise to certain social bonds that may be used to enhance the relationship of people and space in the urban context. (Keim: 2003) Social bonds will be required within this space in order to start the revitalization process. Therefore this research will direct towards finding one major socially orientated catalyst that may form as the basis to revitalize 'lost space'.

### **2.2.3 Sport as a tool for Urban Revitalization**

This concept is used as the direction towards finding a suitable social bond that would be used to revitalize urban 'lost space.' Author Roger Trancik (1986) emphasises the ever-growing need for urban catalysts to be used in the revitalization process in order to combat inactive voids in the urban context. However supporting authors in relation to sport being that possible tool are namely Marion Keim (2003) and John Nauright (1997) who express the importance of sport in society and how sport can be used as a means of exchange and understanding of people's backgrounds, nationalities, beliefs and ability for expression of diversity across all social barriers. (Nauright: 1997) This concept will be studied further to understand how sport can be used as a specific tool in transgressing social differences and further be described as a medium to transcend class divisions in the social and economic contexts of the urban realm. (Keim: 2003)

This concept will be further analysed in its ability to identify various social bonds in the urban contexts relating to different people under the sporting umbrella of activities. I.e.: Spectator – Participator relationships and how this relationship can be enhanced in its social, economic and architectural responses. The research data will be analysed towards finding a suitable sample group of individuals who have major influence in the sporting sector to facilitate the social bonds needed to catalyse the urban revitalization process of 'lost space.'

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **LITERATURE REVIEW**

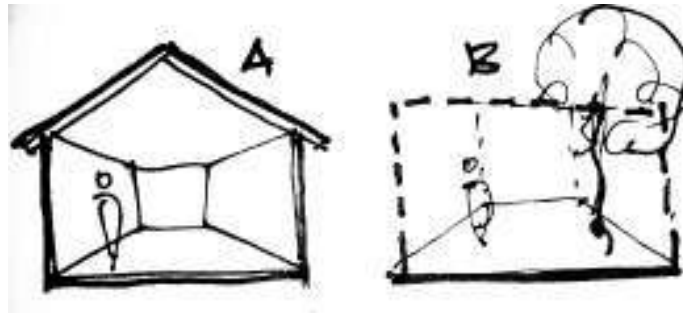
#### **3.1 INTRODUCTION**

A narrative literature review which is useful in identifying gaps and inconsistencies in a body of knowledge will be used to provide the necessary background information and context to inform both the theoretical and conceptual framework of this research study.

The research will disclose a collection of information from both academic and professional sources to help bridge a number of academic disciplines pertaining to the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban contexts. This study will be used to develop indicators such as the relevant theories and concepts, precedents and case studies listed in the background research, together with relevant literature pertaining to the key questions. The principles derived from the research will be used to inform the appropriate architectural and urban design intervention in the built form in the aim of revitalizing 'lost space.' The theories, concepts and literature listed in this research will be carried out in such sequence to understand the relationships of people, space and building in the urban context in order to identify suitable responses and answers to the key questions listed in the background section of this research document.

#### **3.2 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND SPACE**

The relationship of people and space allows us the ability to understand how a space should work and what qualities it may or may not have. Looking at large scale spaces in urban environments can be understood in like manner where the connection of people to a given space can be related in various methods of how one interacts with this space from the outside and from the inside. (Moor, 2006).



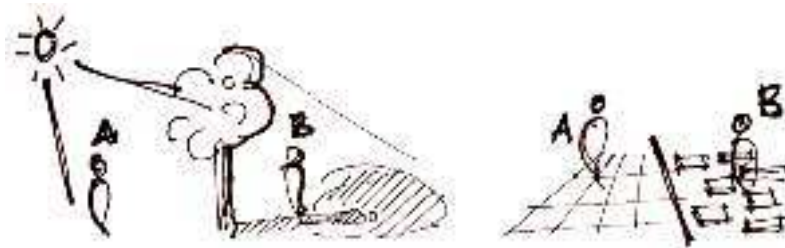
**Figure 2:** 'The relationship between people and Space: A- Defined within an infrastructure, B- Defined in the Urban Context.' Sketch by Author. (Govender R: 2015)

By this information conveyed we learn that social interaction needs not only a time but a space to be expedited. By this understanding that architecture in the built form, finds itself working for the people and with the people to create a space well suited for its functions and potential. Using a common social activity like sporting activities as a language well conversed in its sector across all cultures and racial barriers, it is noted that this could be used as one binding ingredient to promote further social integration in one space at a specific time. Therefore the urban context forms as a platform to promote this social cohesion. It is at this point where it is taken note that the difference between an urban fabric, that is well integrated to its surrounding context, versus the likeliness of a space that may not find itself influential to its surrounding social, economic and architectural context at all thus evoking voids or 'Lost Space' in need of revitalization . (Andrew M. and Liudmila K. 2007)

By this research study, it is understood that the activity of a given space can only be successful upon variables that allow for this space to evoke further activities and interactions within itself and also with its surrounding social, economic and urban context. The research and investigation will enhance the idea to form a platform of understanding in the relationship between these variables: people and space with a common activity generator namely Sport which can be used as a tool to revitalize a given 'Lost Spaces' in an urban context. This relationship of people and space will be further studied through various theories listed in this literature review that will indicate factors and social bonds relating to the key aims and objectives listed in the background research section of this document.

### 3.1.1 Understanding the Phenomena of spaces

The literal definition of phenomenology is the study of “phenomena”: the appearances of things, or things as they appear in our experiences, or the ways and manners in which we experience things, thus the meanings things have in our experiences (Smith, 2013). This theory will be interpreted in the relation to the proposed architectural design response of this study and the psychological experiences enhanced by the built form.



**Figure 3:** ‘The interpretation of Space according to Light & Shadow’ & ‘The experience of Spaces with different surfaces’- Sketch by Author- (Govender R: 2015)

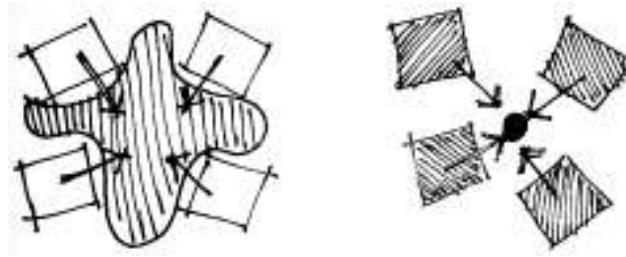
Designing an experience is a unique responsibility and expertise of varying designers of the built environment namely: Architects or Urban Designers. The theory of Phenomenology therefore acknowledges this responsibility by implementing sensory design factors in order to establish successful experiential spaces. Phenomenology demonstrated in the built form is therefore the manipulation of space, material, and light and shadow to create a memorable and more enhanced experience through an impact on the human senses when moving through a given space at a given moment in time. (Smith, 2013) This theory promotes the integration of sensory perception as a function of a built form and how it improves better social bonds within a given urban space. Therefore creating an experience that is beyond tangible and abstract, observed and perceived which will aid in understanding how people distinguish a given space when encountered across various senses. Sensory design is a way of designing buildings that places a building occupant at the focus point of the design, with careful attention of how a space may impact them in the short or long term experience (Lehman, 2012).



The research into this theory will therefore aid in the understanding of how people perceive a given space and what characters are expected of a given space to impact the experience felt by its occupant at a given time. By the analysis of this data it is further understood how one can point out the negative and positive characteristics of a given space in order to determine the need of revitalization of significant 'lost spaces.' This theory will however be supported by place making as an ideal study of how certain design steps are taken in the aim of creating successful urban spaces.

### **3.1.2 Identifying successful Places**

According to the team of urban designers for 'Project for Public Spaces' in the United States of America founded in 1975, Place Making refers to a solid community –based participation that capitalizes on effective local community assets, inspirations and social potentials that may result in the creation of quality public spaces that therefore contribute to the overall good health, wealth and prosperity of the community at large. (PPS: 2011) The problem that cities face today is that urban spaces are continuously taken over by ever-growing residential, commercial and administrative developments that increase barriers between the social, economic and urban bonds that are needed to create successful public space. (Carmona, 2003) Therefore people in and around these developments suffer a poor life quality and have few or no public spaces and amenities which hamper their social influence in the overall running of the city. The aim of place making is therefore to create and revitalize the public life that can contribute to the quality of urban life in cities. However this would always remain as a major challenge for architects and urban designers today as the challenge is to design urban spaces that people will want to use rather than what people are obligated to use. (Carmona, 2003) Place Making will therefore be used as a theoretical underpinning of this research towards finding various bonds that are required to enhance 'lost spaces' into places that make people go to, rather than just pass through. (PPS, 2011)



**Figure 4:** ‘The interpretation of Place-Making Defined by the varying relationship between the built form and the urban space’- Sketch by Author: (Govender R: 2015)

Successful public places are well designed spaces that allow people to flourish socially and economically, and more importantly to attain the success of long life thus contributing to the overall good quality of urban spaces through sustainable living. (Moor, 2006) In order to achieve such successfully designed urban realms, a set of design response will be needed to direct the aim of this research document towards an architectural response in the urban context (PPS: 2011, Carmona: 2003):

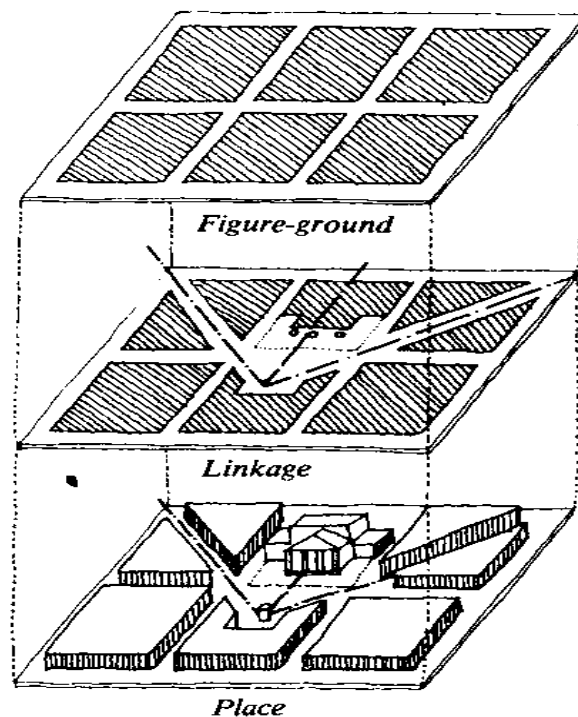
- Improve street-scapes into places rather than only movement routes
- Create public squares and parks as multi-use destinations
- Build local economies through trade and market facilities
- Enhance building and street relationships to support better value of places
- Improve on shorter linkages between public spaces to increase easy accessibility

These set of design factors will be further studied in the Part Two section of this document towards a proposal in the built form which will enhance the research of steps taken to revitalize urban ‘lost spaces.’ These factors will enhance the response to the social, economic and architectural contexts of urban spaces.

Place Making is an important urban renewal process that adds to the overall integrity and meaning of a public space. However great public spaces are not only measured by physical attributes, but also by the response of the people either coming to, or moving through a given space. (Steel: 1981) Therefore the understanding of how these voids or ‘lost spaces’ created over time needs to be studied to fulfil the revitalization process of this research.

### 3.1.3 Identifying 'Lost Space'

Author Roger Trancik (1986), identifies this 'Lost Space' as an area that has been left over or forgotten amongst the fabric of a given urban context, thus a place in need of revitalization. These 'Lost Spaces' create voids within the fabric, where either buildings are observed as isolated forms in the landscape, not part of the overall urban fabric or open spaces find themselves towered by buildings therefore disjoining and preventing any social cohesion of this space whatsoever. These gaps disrupt the continuity of the urban form, disconnecting person from building and street edge which create poorly defined spaces that fail to connect elements in a coherent manner (Trancik, 1986). In order to resolve this problem, Trancik uses supporting urban theories that help identify and locate these spaces and thus offering the understanding to reintegrate these 'Lost Spaces' back into the surrounding urban fabric by revitalizing these voids into catalytic processes to the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban realm. These supporting urban design components namely: **Figure Ground, Linkages and Places** form as a basis that work together to understand the potential working order of the urban fabric. (Trancik, 1986).



**Figure 5:** 'Trancik's Interpretation of defining 'Lost Space' by use of the main urban design components- Figure ground, Linkage and Places (Trancik: 1986)

### **3.1.3.1 Figure Ground**

This is the study of the relationship and contrast of the land coverage of buildings as 'solid mass' versus the open void spaces. This graphic tool or analysis process indicates the relationship between the solid and void that forms as the starting point of city form designing and becomes an essential tool to identify the textures and patterns of the urban fabric. Trancik notes that, "when the dialogue between the urban solids and voids is complete and perceivable, the spatial network of the city thereafter much easier to understand and point out its successful networks versus the incomplete or disorderly networks" (Trancik, 1986). By identifying these 'gaps' in the spatial network of the city, fragmented spaces or 'Lost Spaces' are noticeable and therefore easier to be studied and incorporated into the overall structure of the city's urban fabric to promote the effective coexistence of building and space.

### **3.1.3.2 Linkages**

Once identifying the gaps in the figure ground process of analysis, the network of the city not only enhances the existence of solid mass but the network routes in between become that of a prominent element to the urban fabric. These routes form as connections and linkages between spaces and solid masses that give meaning to the destination of a journey from one point to another. (Trancik, 1986) In the urban context, these links take the form of pedestrian ways, streets, linear open spaces or other elements that physically link the space back to the surrounding urban fabric. These serve as movement channels through the urban fabric in order to link together different nodes of activity, thereby creating a network of interconnected nodes that enhance the dynamics of circulation and permeability through spaces as design generators for the urban form. Trancik's linkage theory will therefore be used as a means to analyse how people move in the urban context and how destinations and movement routes are differentiated in creating successful urban spaces.

### **3.1.3.3 Places**

Trancik uses lastly the process of understanding the significance of places in cities. Places are identified as areas known to the neighbouring environments that draw people in to the city due to an overall attraction that gives meaning to the need to travel and move to a specific destination point. (Trancik: 1986) The aim of understanding places in the urban context, is to create sense

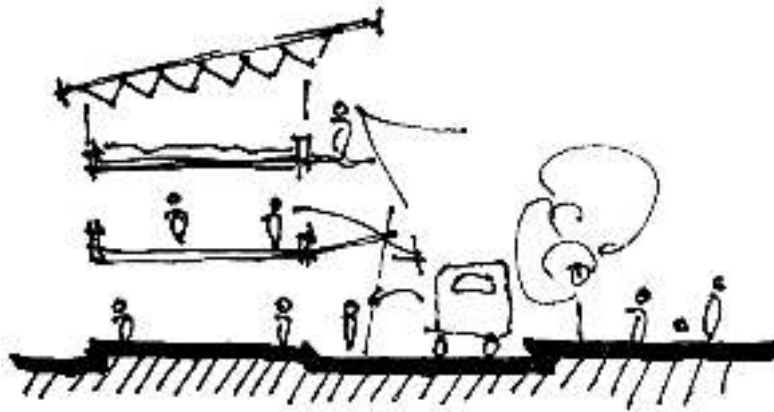
of identity and image within the city that will enhance both the interaction of people coming from outer suburbs into the city and also the interaction of local people within the city and its spaces. However, due to increased global influences, cities are becoming increasingly indistinguishable in terms of their architectural language and identity, thus relying on the stringent designing of the image of the city as a site in order to generate an identity independent of other similarly urban contexts. (Bale, 2004). In analysing Durban as an example of a suitable urban context, Author Van Den Bergh (1989) goes on to state that far too much of the city of Durban exists as part of somewhere else lacking empathy with time, place and cultural context relevant and specific to Durban itself.

Trancik overlays the component of places into his model of defining 'lost spaces' in order to understand that location to relevant places is of vital importance when designing successful urban schemes as this factor forms as the basis to creating meaning to the movement of people from one point to another within the city. (Trancik: 1986)

Each urban design component carries much value although considering all three collectively contributes to an overall cohesive city. Therefore, the study of how people use and create successful public space will be studied in order to ascertain what social bonds are required to draw people of all social and economic backgrounds into one place at any given time. This is where the study of Social Cohesion sheds light on the nature and design of successful urban spaces.

### **3.1.4 Establishing Social Bonds**

Social cohesion refers to the social bonds that bring society together based on material conditions such as employment, income, health, education and housing, which facilitate good relations between and within communities at large. These factors form the social fabric of society and indicate social progress. (Kintrea: 2004)



**Figure 6:** 'The Interpretation of a Socially Cohesive Model where interaction between People, Urban Space and Buildings are understood'- Sketch by Author – (Govender R: 2015)

Social & cultural values, visual perceptions of users & an individual's control over the public space are just as important as design principles of enclosures & linkages that assist in relating one public place to another. (Moor: 1981) However an environment is composed of a combination of physical and social barriers that enhance the overall mutual relationship between people and space. When a people are subjected to a public place, the space experienced should evoke a sense of meaning or what is described by author Fritz Steele as a 'sense of place.' Steele explains that a sense of place is the experience of all that things which people induce to places (Steele, 1981). This is the understanding of the social impact that is both required by the space together with the social impact induced by the person using the space at any given time.

In order to understand the characteristics of social cohesion, the study of social inclusion as the inception process to cohesion will be required to facilitate the revitalization process of 'lost spaces.' (Kintrea: 2004)

Social inclusion is seen as the necessary factor for achieving a high quality of cohesion and therefore requires all types of people of society, irrespective of their race, sex, beliefs, or cultural backgrounds are to participate within the public realm of this process. This includes sharing in the community resources and assets of society thus aiding in the provision for better opportunities for the less fortunate of people to be able to progress in the better quality of life as a whole.

This process requires active participation within a given space in order to facilitate the revitalization process. (Adato: 2006)

At the for-front of social cohesion, is the social order which relates to the tolerance and safety of a given urban space that evoke a more harmonious and peaceful society to live and flourish in. (Atkinson: 2004) This social bond helps promote a better platform of comfort in the character of places that are created to optimize the relationship of people and space. The key to social cohesion is therefore understood as a process that will allow the breaking down of all social and economic barriers in order to enhance the likeliness of a better working city. This is where the need for a catalytic tool to promote better socially active spaces is needed.

The factors that influence social cohesion relate to the necessities and requirements of what is needed within a given space to respond to the social, economic contexts of urban spaces. These pertain to factors such as: employment opportunities, trade facilities, accommodation, social facilities, educational facilities and overall safety. (Kretzman: 1993) Therefore in order to combat all these factors towards a better socially cohesive environment, the need for a specific socially orientated bond is needed to catalyse the revitalization process.

One main example of a catalytic social bond is that of Sport as it plays a vital role in the overall character of the social mind of people where sporting activities relate to the social, economic and architectural contexts of urban spaces. (MacDonald and Marsh:2005) The assumption of sport as a possible tool in the revitalization process will be studied further in the Literature section of this document as it positively contributes to factors which aid in building social cohesion. These factors relate to better physical and mental health, better educational opportunities, reducing of crime and antisocial issues, offering of better employment and earning potential, and further ensuring a fit and healthy workforce for the community at large.(Atkinson and Kintrea: 2004)

The study of Social Cohesion will help understand existing social bonds in relation to sport as suitable tool to further enhance the concept of urban revitalization and how public spaces are created in cities.

## **3.2 URBAN REVITALIZATION**

Urban Designer and author Malcolm Moor defines the process of urban design as the art of making places for people. He confirms that it concerns the connections between people and places, movement and linkages, nature and the built form, and the processes for ensuring successful villages, towns and cities that promote overall social and economic growth. (Moor, 2006)

Urban design is therefore expressed as a key instrument in creating sustainable developments that promote flourish conditions for the social and economic progress of the built environment. It is the understanding of how this design process aids in creating lively and meaningful places with distinctive identities pleasant to use at human scale (Moor, 2006).

By this information conveyed it is learnt that social interaction needs not only a time but a space to be expedited. By this understanding that architecture finds itself working for the people and with the people to create interactive spaces well suited for its functions and potential, the process of urban revitalization is realised as a means to revive what once was inactive to what can be a space of thriving social bonds. These social bonds that create successful urban spaces are identified according to the social, economic and architectural responses in the revitalization process. (Kretzmann, 1993)

### **3.2.1 Social Response**

The social aspect of urban revitalization addresses issues of social equity, social inclusion and community building - alternatively community cohesion or social capital (Litman, 2009). This is where it is understood how the social impact of people within a given space; evoke activity generators that assist in creating successful urban spaces.

### **3.2.2 Economic Response**

In order to sustain a good successful space, the notion of growth in the economic response must be adhered to when understanding its major influence on the overall social cohesion of the city. (Kretzmann: 1993) Urban revitalization therefore gives rise to many economic sectors that aid in



influencing employment opportunities within a given space together with growing investment opportunities that evoke further increase in economic competitiveness needed to grow the overall potential of the community at hand (Litman: 2009).

### **3.2.3 Architectural Response**

The physical aspect of urban revitalization is related to the deterioration of the built environment that the urban fabric is developed on (Doratli: 2004). The revitalization of a given space thus always lends itself to the relationship of this redevelopment process to its surrounding built environment and its influence on its urban context. This is where the need to identify the relationship between people and buildings is of vital importance as this is the means to creating successful spaces in the urban form.

### **3.2.4 Urban Catalysts**

Catalysts are essentially the use of “an activity generator” or an “anchor”. These factors can be identified as example of pedestrian traffic as a means to catalyse the relationship between people and street. This revitalization process occurs when a catalyst acts as a primary destination or “anchor” that prompts people to interact within a given space at a given time, further creating demand for secondary uses that fuel adjacent developmental processes. (Sternberg: 2002).

Where spaces lack the impact on social, economic and architectural responses its urban context, the need for catalytic tool is integral to promote actions of revitalization. The notion of an urban catalyst is what forms as a basis for the urban revitalization process. (Moor: 2006)

Urban catalysts are redevelopment strategies comprised of a series of projects that guide and drive urban development holistically. Sternberg acknowledges that past redevelopment efforts made, were that of proposal compromised to redesign the authenticity of cities rather than enhance what exists. The difference between these two redevelopment strategies is that catalytic redevelopment is a holistic approach, not a clean-slate approach when revitalizing the urban fabric. (Sternberg: 2002).

However this catalytic process should enhance the existing potential factors that once thrived within a given urban space. For example: Changing one’s perception of an area previously noted

as derelict pertaining to the relevance of the project suitable to its location—for example, a sports stadium in a district known for its sport activities. (Bohannon, 2004).

The study of urban catalyst will be acknowledged in the analysis section of this document towards an Architectural response in the built form relevant to its surrounding urban context.

According to the research of urban revitalization and how the above listed components play a vital role in understanding the urban fabric, much emphasis will be made on the idea of how Sport can be used as catalytic tool towards the revitalization of urban ‘lost spaces.’

### **3.3 THE ROLE OF SPORT IN URBAN REVITALIZATION**

#### **3.3.1 The Importance of sport in society**

“Sport is one of the most significant activities of the late 19th century. Its significance was further acknowledged in the late 20th century and will continue to grow in importance as the world develops into a ‘global village’ sharing the English language, technology and sport” (Bale, 2004).

Sport has formed part of society for centuries both as an educational element and for leisure or entertainment. It forms part of human and social development strategies that contribute to social cohesion, integration and tolerance to enhance an effective channel for both the socio-economic and physical contexts. It can be easily used as a bridging element for social and cultural gaps in society further assisting in resolving conflicts of social barriers and therefore educate people in ways that many other social activities cannot. (Houlihan: 2008)

Due to the mere simplicity of the language of sport, many social barriers are overcome as sport has been used as a common platform for expression that aids in promoting much integration of all social and economic classes. (Carey: 2004) It has been known to be a means of exchange and understanding among people of all nationalities, beliefs, gender and cultural backgrounds, where its purpose has therefore showcased its unique vehicle in transgressing social differences. (Carey: 2004)

The Department of Sport and Recreation of South Africa (2002) announced in a sporting proposal that: “It is about time that the vital role which sports aids in the process of nation-building is acknowledged as: Primarily, an investment in the vitality, health and productivity of the nation’s people. Secondly, an investment in the nation’s future, i.e.: one person at a time. The social

benefits of sport pertain to the overall development in the quality of life relating to its physical, mental and moral well-being of the nation at large.” (DSRSA: 2002)

By this statement it is conveyed that the use of sport in nation-building and creating communities is a method well conversed and understood across all social and economic barriers.

In studying the characteristics of sports, Author Clark (2010) conveys information of how participating in group activities such as sporting events, aid in the development of leadership skills and team building morals and ethics. These characteristics are well communicated in the younger age brackets in terms of building and developing future role players of the city. These characteristics are beneficial in educating about healthy living, fitness levels, learning skills, social skills, teamwork, self-confidence and an overall positive outlook of life as a whole. (Clark: 2010) Sports will therefore be looked at in terms of its impact on the lives of youth as a target group of individuals as future leaders of the nation’s tomorrows.

### **3.3.2 The History of Sport in South Africa**

In understanding the importance of sport in society mentioned above, the history of sports will be studied in South Africa as a nation and thereafter Durban as a suitable urban fabric and as a local community in order to realise how sport has been used over the years as an activity generator in its urban context.

Over many decades, Sporting activities were designed and promoted as meritocratic structures where irrespective of any social influence, privilege, race or status, all rules and regulations apply equally to all sides competing. However during the 19th century, and first half of the 20th century, the notion of the sports field as a canvas of equality, fell away. (Booth: 1998)

It was during these periods that sports were played between those of the same social, economic and racial classes. Mixed-class sports was tabooed throughout much of the globe until various countries of varying social and economic backgrounds, abolished segregating policies and laws that prohibited this. (Booth: 1998) Sports throughout the world slowly became that of ideologies reckoned to unify social and economic classes.

However, South Africa remained an exception from the rest of the world as Apartheid’s racial segregation fixed social barriers that hampered the growth of the sporting sector. Sporting opportunities were prone to white dominated areas and classes therefore reducing sport

development opportunities within non-white communities which made it difficult to grow this industry. (Witz: 2003) Over time, South Africa had been seen to grow through the abolishing of such segregation issues and has aimed towards being that of a 'rainbow nation' seeking opportunities of an ever-growing integration of all social, economic and cultural classes. (Keim: 2003) This has been noted through the study of sports and how it has played a role in the social integration of all classes in South Africa. Author Keim (2003) identifies that, should South Africa choose to continue on embarking on the road to integration across all barriers, the concept of integration should pay respect to cultural identities of all types of people in society. He further states that should this process be acknowledged, a celebration of diversity in our 'rainbow nation' should form as the basis of social inclusion that would draw much benefit from participation of people of all classes. This is where sport has been noted as that major influence on the social, economic and political contexts of the country over time. (Sharp: 1995)

South Africa has seen much success in how sports have been used to unite people of all races, social and economic barriers under one common benefit. Examples of these scenarios to name a few, have been recorded in history as that of the Rugby World Cup 1995 (South African team as the winner) on a global scale and also the history and current usage of the Durban's Curries Fountain as a Local and National Sporting Development Centre for the non-whites during the Apartheid period including its current usage. (Nauright: 1997)

Durban has always found itself well associated to Sports in its history by the establishment of the Durban's Curries Fountain Sports Centre that has set itself as a historical background well-known for its impact on the non-white nation for decades prior to South African Democracy. (Nauright: 1997) It was during these periods that its space created that of an holistic experience by its diverse age bracket and all types of people coming together upon one common benefit of Sport.(i.e.: **Soccer** and other related team sports) This Curries Fountain Precinct became a link to various factors in the surrounding urban context, namely: the preschools, primary and secondary schools, tertiary institutes, the commercial sector of the central business district of Durban, major transport interchanges and various surrounding residential areas including that of many suburbs on the outskirts of Durban city. (Keim: 2006)

Over time, Durban's sporting industry had evolved from Curries Fountain as one of its major Community Sporting arenas to now pockets of sporting activities scattered around the urban fabric of the city today. This sporting industry has impacted the overall urban form of the city by its locations and spatial relations to its surrounding urban context where communities and amenities have grown with sports at the centre focus of its urban form. This formation has been suggested as a means of sports being the catalytic tool for creating urban spaces. (Moor: 2006) However this purpose of this research is to ascertain how lost spaces were created in and around the Durban city scape and how the existing concept of sport can be enhanced and used further to revitalize these existing lost spaces. The history and existence of Curries Fountain together with its surrounding urban context will therefore be analysed in further detail as a Case Study in order to fully understand its impact on the city from its social, economic and architectural responses relating to the urban context using sport and soccer specifically as a catalytic tool.

Through investigative research methodologies, it has been acknowledged that Durban's involvement in sports over the years has been an integral part of youth development. This has been seen dating back to the inception of sporting facilities like Curries fountain where the youth flourished in their social response to the centre as public gathering space. This is where the understanding of how sport can be used to promote educative and social developments at foundation age brackets, help assist in enhancing the idea of how specific sports can be used for urban revitalization.

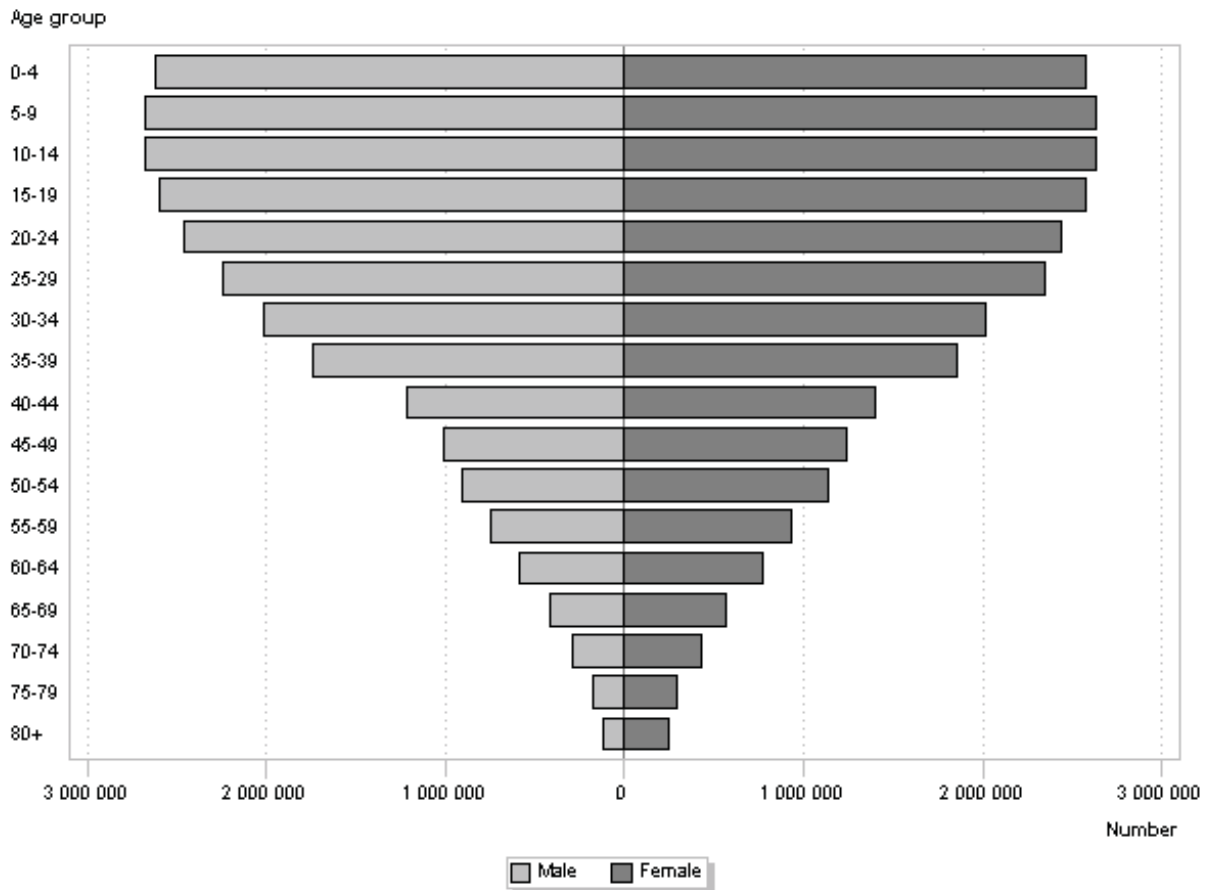
### **3.4 THE IMPORTANCE OF SPORT IN YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

#### **3.4.1 The Role of Youth in Society**

In understanding that developmental strategies are required at foundation age brackets, the aim of this research is thus to acknowledge the importance of the Youth and their integral role that they play in society within a given urban context.

Approximately half of all people in the world today are under the age of twenty-five. Effectively addressing the vital needs of these youth at their early developmental stages is a critical challenge for growing future leaders of cities. (MacDonald: 2005) Youth, i.e.: individuals between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four, make up over one-sixth of the world's population, but are

seldom recognized as a distinct group for the important role they will soon play in shaping the future of cities to come. (Marsh: 2005)



**Figure 7:** Mid-year population estimates, (South Africa Statistics: 2011)

The meaning of the terms “youth,” “adolescents,” and “young people” varies in different societies, as do the different roles and responsibilities ascribed to members of each group. (ICRW: 2001)

**Adolescents: 10-21 years of age (early adolescence 10-14; late adolescence 15-19)**

Youth: 15-24 years of age

Young People: 10-24 years of age

More than any other age group, today’s youth will soon impact how people in rich and poor countries live in the 21st century. Unfortunately, many youth in South Africa lack important opportunities like education, skills and job training, employment opportunities, and effective health services eventually limiting their futures at a very early stage. (Wyn: 1997) As a result, youth may react by unleashing risky or harmful behaviour against themselves or the society they

live in. It is therefore often noted that the Youth have ever so often been a major contributing factor to society's ever growing problems relating to the social, economic and political issues of the urban context. (Wyn and White: 1997)

Through this information convey, this research will direct itself to the Adolescent Youth Age bracket in order to combat issues relation to developmental strategies required at these foundation stages using sport a tool to educate, train and develop them towards being the ideal future leaders needed to build successful urban spaces and lifestyles.

### **3.4.2 The Impact of Sport at Developmental Stages**

Involvement in sporting activities educates youth to lead active, healthy lives while developing an ample amount of fundamental skills necessary for a child to succeed from early developmental stages. (Wyn: 1997) Numerous studies of social cohesion in the urban context have found that sport and community recreation play a vital role in creating successful urban spaces, and that recreational and sporting facilities contribute to the youth's overall integration into his or her surrounding communities. (Kintrea: 2004) Sport provides leisure filled experiences for youth and grant them the opportunity to meet varying people outside their own social and cultural barriers. Youth develop a sense of self-belonging and confidence through the social characteristics of sport. Furthermore, participation in sport improves the development of friendship-making, establishing the notion of trust and therefore builds better teamwork skills. (White: 1997) Sporting activities overall character is to challenge youth to excel physically and mentally, teaching valuable skills such as leadership, and perseverance which translate beyond the playing field and into all aspects of life, therefore assisting in building better individuals to grow into trustworthy leaders for the community at large. (Ottawa: Sport Canada, 2003)

In order to achieve this developmental process through sport, the youth are subjected to an experience of high degrees of interaction with other individuals within their community, which in turn, not only benefits the youth as individuals, but also translate into the community's social and economic development holistically. By creating a relationship between sports and youth development, participation in sport can be used as a positive direction on reducing the involvement and exposure of youths to violence and unethical activities prone to youth behaviour. (MacDonald: 2005) Sports will therefore offer the youth a positive alternative to idleness and

complacency, which will aid in keeping the youth off the street and out of unnecessary social activities in the negative aspects of the city. (Marsh: 2005) A lack of activity and idleness thereof, can lead to a lack of understanding between different ethnic groups which will hamper the breaking down of social barriers. Team sports will therefore be used to eliminate these social and cultural barriers by the use of community-enforced strategies proposed in the urban context. (Toronto: Active Health Kids Canada, 2007)

### 3.4.3 The Importance of Team Sports in Youth Development

In the research of youth in a given area, it is acknowledged of their 'past time' activities off which give rise to varying types of activity generators that promote much social activity within a given space. This activity is seen to give a space a certain character in accordance to the type of activity carried out at a given time. (MacDonald: 2005)

Through investigative analysis and research in the urban context of Durban amongst the residential areas hidden under the towering skyline of the city, many young children and youth seek spaces to congregate and commune in the streets. It is in these spaces that the desire of youthful activities and leisure takes place. (MacDonald and Marsh: 2005) Often it is the likeliness of a piece of litter or empty plastic bottle that may be tossed and kicked around by these groups of youth as a means of a simple leisure. It is therefore noted that the notion of team sports such as **Soccer** is often and almost always taken as a natural form of leisure amongst the youth in an unknowing manner. It is this form of physical activity as a sport in a 'past-time' manner where the impact of social cohesion within a given urban space is much appreciated. (Keim: 2003)

The beauty of team sports such as soccer, also known as English Football, lies mainly in the simplicity of the game. Soccer and allied team sports have been noted for centuries being games that have allowed the expression of diversity on a common platform where all languages and ethical boundaries are dissolved. (Nauright: 1997) Its simplicity has the ability to allow people known and not known to the sport to immerse themselves in the game with confidence of understanding the simple rules and characters of the sport like soccer and its purpose from both the participant and the spectator's perspectives.



By using soccer as the ideal team sports towards a tool for adolescent youth development within a given space and time, the impact of its social activity is enhanced for revitalizing urban 'lost space'. (Horst Wein: 2010 and Moor: 2006)

### **3.5 CONCLUSION**

Through the unpacking of the research problem mentioned in chapter one together with the analysis of research studied in the literature review section of this document. The material studied suggests that the relationship of people and space can only work hand in hand when carried out under varying factors relating to the social, economic and architectural responses in the urban context. (Moor: 2006)

It is through the analysis of such information provided by this relationship that it is further understood to achieve such positive relationships in the urban context, a complete study of the process of creating urban forms is to be carried out. This is where authors Roger Trancik (1986) and Malcolm Moor (2006) explain how the urban forms of cities are created and used by people. However, when unpacking Trancik's urban theories, the negative impact of inactive spaces void of positive Social Cohesion and successful places in the urban context, give rise to what Trancik calls 'Lost Space' in vital need of revitalization. (Trancik: 1986)

Through further analysis and research of literature, it is understood how the process of urban revitalization is carried out. This process has shed light on specific factors pertaining to the need of a catalytic tool required to enhance this urban revitalization process. However through further research, it is suggested that this tool must be that of an ideal element that responds to the social, economic and architectural characteristics of the urban context. (Sternberg: 2002) This ideal tool has been assumed as Sport specific to team sports (i.e. Soccer) to be the catalytic component to the urban revitalization process.

The study of sport and its major influence on society has enlightened possibilities on how it relates to urban revitalization and the overall creation of the urban form of Durban as the subject urban fabric. The study of sport as an activity generator has therefore enhanced the idea of attaining social cohesion within the urban context. (Kintrea: 2004) It is therefore the understanding of the

characteristics of sport that give better reason of how sports influence the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context. In the study of the history of sport alone together with its historical background in South Africa and Durban's urban context, Sport has been suggested as the ideal component in the development of youth at their adolescent stages towards building them as future leaders in shaping urban forms of future cities. (MacDonald and Marsh: 2005)



**Figure 8:** Diagrammatic Sketch Representation of the Design Model of the Research topic by the Author (Govender R: 2015)

Through the studying and analysis of all literature provided in this research; the aim of this dissertation is to understand the impact of 'lost spaces' in the urban context and use sport as a common catalytic tool to revitalize these spaces in the aid of an architectural response in the built form. In order to facilitate the idea of an architectural response in the built form, architectural precedent and case studies relating to urban revitalization and sport as a tool will be studied and analysed in the next chapter towards the proposal of a sporting facility for the adolescent youth of Durban.

## CHAPTER 4

### PRECEDENT STUDY

#### INTRODUCTION

In order to fully understand the relationship of people to space, the use for data in the form of precedent studies allow for the essential knowledge of what has been done previously and the ability to implement such design outcomes going forward.

Therefore to reflect on the details listed in the literature review, the conclusions of the Literature Review directed itself towards finding a precedent study that had significance to the topic of urban revitalization. The precedent studies will be analysed according to the following criteria:

**Social, Economic, Architectural responses** to the overall urban context.

#### 4.1 THE HIGH LINE, NEW YORK USA Designed by Patrick Hazari Architects

##### 4.1.1 Justification of Study

The study of the New York High Line Bridge sheds light on the idea of urban revitalization interventions and the potential it has on the urban context as a whole. As discussed in the theoretical framework section of this document, the study of phenomenology has helped direct the research towards finding a solution to identify how one can revitalize the existence of 'Lost Space' in the urban context using the experiential design as a tool. This is where the relationship between people and space is acknowledged by the experience created by various components that create the urban realm around the High Line.

##### 4.1.2 Social and Economic Response

This is where the New York High line has been used to depict how the use of Phenomenology in the built form creates an impact on people in a given space as they move along this route. This sensory design has been used to impact the social and impact response by its means of enhancing the people- space relationship towards socially cohesive spaces within the urban context. These well-designed experiential spaces evoke social bonds that enhance the

experience of people moving along a single route under one catalytic tool of socialization. These spaces are created as pocket areas along the High Line Bridge as pause areas where rest areas are designed with cafeteria and allied trade facilities to further enhance its economic response to the urban context as a whole. This is where the High Line stands as an ideal example of space well designed to impact the urban form in its social and economic response.



**Figure 9:** Aerial Perspective View of the High Line from the West Side end indicating how one end of the city links itself to the next by the use of a pedestrian friendly route.

Source: [www.darien.org](http://www.darien.org)

### **4.1.3 Architectural and Urban Responses**

The High Line is located in New York's Manhattan Precinct on an elevated section of an inactive and unused New York Central Railroad spur known as the West Side Line. The High Line stretches up to 2.33km of inspired 'tree-line walkways' taken precedence from the Paris Walkways done in 1993.



**Figure 10:** 'Urban Plan of the New York High Line'-

Source: [www.thehighline.org](http://www.thehighline.org)

The High Line has been designed to activate the disused southern portion of the West Side Line running to the Lower West Side of Manhattan. By this mere notion of its use of existing dormant infrastructure, it is acknowledged by its aim to revitalize existing 'Lost Space' in the form of an old railway road stretching from one end of the city to another. By its location it is understood how the implementation of creating better urban activity has therefore promoted better social cohesion around this once inactive space.



**Figure 11:** New York High Line as an intended Railway Track in the 1930's

Source: [www.new-york-city-travel-tips.com](http://www.new-york-city-travel-tips.com)

From the late 1800's the movement of freight was done on ground level until this became a hazard to the city by its impact on the rate of accidents that increased by the days. The city therefore took a stand to incorporate the idea of elevating the freight line above the street level thus eliminating the potential of accidents occurring. As time progressed into the early 1900's the use of trucking freights became more of a convenient and cost effective method of delivering goods. This therefore left the High Line railways out of business and dormant in its purpose.



**Figure 12:** 'The existence of the High Line until the late 1900's after abolishing its intended use thus promoting 'lost spaces'

Source: <http://www.npr.org/2011/09/03/140063103/the-inside-track-on-new-yorks-high-line>

By the mere notion of the Railway losing essence of its intended function as time went along, thus brought to the understanding of the process of resulting urban decay and how spaces can become inactive voids or 'lost spaces' in the surrounding urban fabric. This is at the point where the New York Municipal Officials involved in this sector of city renewals saw it fit to design a brief to combat the existence of this railway as a dormant and inactive infrastructure as an unused space.

The architectural response is enhanced by the manner in which the existing structure has been reused and effectively redesigned in the most simplistic manner into that of an urban intervention route running through the city. Its material character has thus impacted the urban context in terms of the need for more green spaces in the form of pocket parks required in the urban fabric of New York.

#### 4.1.4 Evaluation and Analysis

The use of the High Line as a precedent study further enlightens the idea of how spaces are revitalized and reintegrated back into its urban context. The existing railway has been enhanced as a pedestrian-friendly zone that exists today as route linking one end of the city to the next by a series of parks and urban furniture that creates pause areas for further experiential spaces that evoke the appreciation of the city's urban fabric from various vantage points along the high line route.

One of the High Line's major design principles that has brought great potential to the aim of revitalizing this lost space as a railway track, has been the use of visibility along the pedestrian friendly zone that has been created. Therefore, the further understanding and direction in this research towards finding design principles to combat the existence of 'Lost Spaces': The study of **Visibility** as a design principle in the architectural context will be studied in the design development section of this document in order to implement it in the built form towards an architectural response.



**Figure 13:** Perspective of the High Line indicating its design principle of **Visibility** used to promote more socially cohesive and experiential urban spaces.

Source: [www.npr.org](http://www.npr.org)

**Figure 14:** Sketch by Author indicating the Visibility Principle used from various levels of the High Line. (Govender R: 2015)

## 4.2 THE ALLEGRA GSP SPORTS CENTRE, NICOSIA, CYPRUS ISLAND- (Off the Coast of Lebanon) Designed by Theo David Architects.

### 4.2.1 Justification of the Study

The Allegra GSP Sports Centre has been selected as an ideal precedent study to further understand how sport can be used to enhance better social cohesion within a given urban context and how the study of sports forms as basis for youth development. The design brief was to enhance the requirements for sport as an influential factor to the surrounding precinct. As discussed in the literature section of this document, it is noted that sport plays a vital role in the social and economic response to its surrounding contexts. (Keim: 2006) Therefore this precedent study will be used to harness the idea of how sport can be used for both youth development and urban revitalization.



**Figure 15:** Perspective image from the sports court indicating the spectator – participator interaction

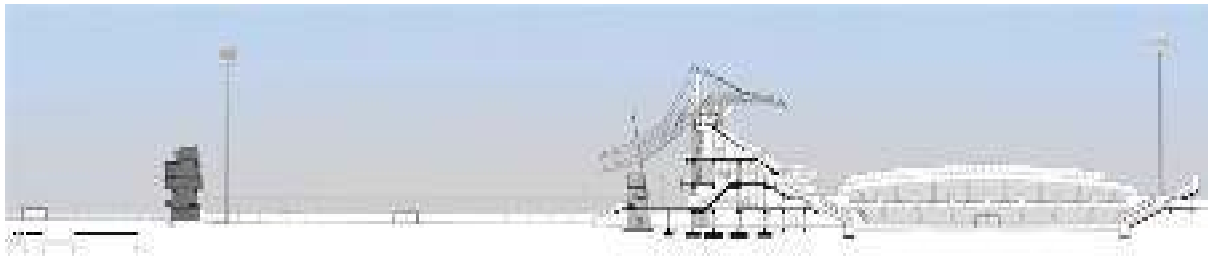
Source: [www.tdanyc.com](http://www.tdanyc.com)

### 4.2.2 Social and Economic Responses

The purpose of this building was therefore to provide for these two main responses by the inclusion of facilities such as trade facilities, athletes and student accommodation, sports skills training facilities and sporting courts. The driving concept to the design is titled: **‘A Life of Teaching, Learning and Action.’** This list of accommodation has been designed to impact the



social and economic responses to the surrounding urban context by its potential to increase social cohesion through sport. The vision of the client was to create an athletic organization that provides attractive, dedicated sport training and accommodation facilities for both visiting teams and local teams within an efficient sporting environment.



**Figure 16:** Sectional view indicating the relationship of the building to the main sporting courts and how the functions of the various spaces work in sectional view to the surrounding sporting precinct

Source: [www.tdanyc.com](http://www.tdanyc.com)

### 4.2.3 Architectural and Urban Response

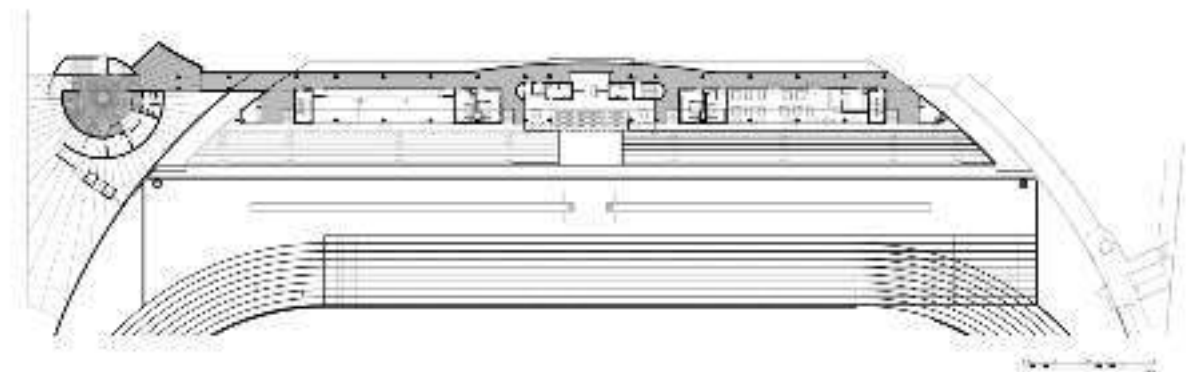
According to the requirements of the client, the accommodation schedule designed for this centre enhanced the idea of how sport can be used as an overall tool to impact the surrounding urban context.



**Figure 17:** Aerial Image indicating the location of the Centre in relation to its surrounding urban context.

Source: [www.google.co.za/maps](http://www.google.co.za/maps)

The Allegra Sports Centre was designed as an integral part of the overall urban intervention for the existing Athletic Centre located in close proximity to the main movement route of the surrounding urban fabric. By its location indicated in Figure 18 above, the relationship of the centre to its major influential urban and architectural contexts assist in enhancing an overall urban revitalization. The aim of the client was to create a centre for the surrounding community that would further promote better social integration via the use of sport an influential social bond. This character is acknowledged by its establishment upon an unused urban space that was once inactive. This is notified by the use of Trancik's method of locating lost spaces indicated by the centre's location to major transport routes and places surrounding the actual site. (Trancik: 1986) The location and influence to its surrounding context was further enhanced by the manner in which the architectural form and spaces were designed. This is understood by the layout of spaces both in plan and in section where, the schedule of accommodation and necessary spaces was allocated for with sport as the main focus at all levels.



**Figure 18:** Ground Floor Plan image indicating the design of spaces relevant to the main sporting component.

Source: [www.tdanyc.com](http://www.tdanyc.com)

The architectural form of the building impacts the surrounding environment by its large scale structures that are significant to public style buildings specific to sporting facilities. These are expressed by exposed steel truss like systems that form both the roof of the main building and the cover over the stands. This further expresses the function of the centre as an architectural form and the purpose of such structure which gives the urban context an image or identity relating to Place Making as a vital essence to the function of such a facility.

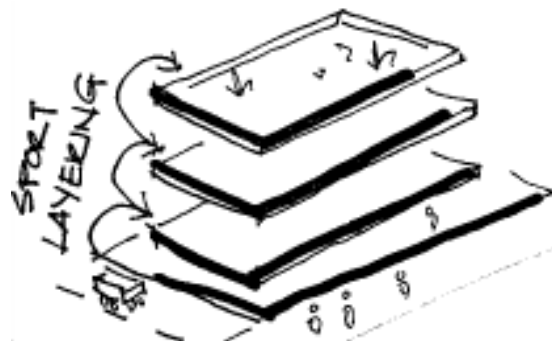


**Figure 19:** Perspective image indicating the Architectural form of the centre that impacts the overall identity of the surrounding urban context using Sport as driving concept to the form.

Source: [www.tdanyc.com](http://www.tdanyc.com)

#### 4.2.4 Evaluation and Analysis

In the analysis of data provided by this precedent study, the Allegra Sports Centre is an ideal example of how sport has been used to impact the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context. From the study of its purpose and intent both locally and globally, the centre stands as an architectural response well suited to its surrounding urban context with its influence on its education, accommodation and recreational facilities centred on sports.



**Figure 20:** Sectional image of the spaces designed in the main building of the centre indicating the layering of functions in the vertical dimension.

Source: [www.tdanyc.com](http://www.tdanyc.com)

**Figure 21:** Sketch by Author indicating the design principle of Layering and how sports can be a tool used on various levels. (Govender R: 2015)

In order to enhance the essence of sport in the urban context, the design principle of layering will be studied further in Part Two of this document towards a facility centred on sports.

### **4.3 CONCLUSION**

The study of these design precedents have assisted in the understanding of how people perceive space and places are created. This therefore gives a better understanding and link to the theory of Phenomenology and Place Making where the New York High Line was implemented as an urban intervention to create better communal and social spaces by the use of a 'lost space' left over in the urban fabric. The Allegra Sport centre and Precinct thus gave the understanding of how places are created in the urban fabric by the use of one common tool as sport which has played a role in the urban revitalization process. These precedents thus conclude on being accurate examples linking to the key questions listed in the background research section of the document.

## **CHAPTER 5**

### **CASE STUDY**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Through investigative interviews and data analysis as mentioned in the research methodology section of this investigation, further analysis will be done in the form of Case Studies in the built form. This will aid in the personal experience and analysis to understand how sport can be used to revitalize urban 'lost space' and how people experience these spaces when encountered as both participant and spectator to a given sport. These case studies will be used to identify integral social bonds needed to inform successful urban spaces in relation to the people using them.

#### **5.1 THE CURRIES FOUNTAIN SPORTS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE, RSA** Designed by the City Architects of Durban

##### **5.1.1 Justification of the Study**

Curries Fountain in its existence today, stands as a sports centre utilized for various different sporting sectors. However, from its inception it had been intended sports such as soccer together with various other team sports. This case study has been chosen in this data analysis process in order to understand how sport has played a role in the urban fabric of Durban and how it has been used as a tool to promote social cohesion in and around its existing context.

##### **5.1.2 Social and Economic Response**

"Curries" a name associated to the vibrant stadium in the struggle days, particularly in the 1960's and 1970's, influenced the interaction of Black people within a socio-political and cultural environment in Durban and South Africa. The historical and socio-cultural experiences of all the people that used Curries Fountain, created non-racialism and a popular culture that needs to be preserved in the context of change and transformation during the Apartheid era in South Africa.



**Figure 22:** Image of Curries Fountain today used for a soccer events. (Image by Author)

**Figure 23:** The Centre used for multi purposed activities outside sports.

Source: [www.uckg.org.za](http://www.uckg.org.za)

The venue was well-used with social and political activists, gang leaders, sports persons, cultural activists, including those that represented apartheid forces. Curries Fountain was a venue for the disadvantage black population of Kwa-Zulu to organize social and political events that assisted the integration of Black people in their quest for equality and freedom of expression. In its social and economic contexts, the stadium has stood as a symbol of the Liberation Struggle in South Africa pertaining more towards the political response of the people using sport as a means of expression.



**Figure 24:** Aerial View of the Curries Fountain Centre during a soccer match in 1960's indicating the relationship between participant and spectator from all vantage points around the field.

Source: [www.ukzn.ac.za](http://www.ukzn.ac.za)

As the centre grew through the abolishing of apartheid, many different people of various race groups and ages have made much use of the space as a whole. However through further investigative analysis, the downside to the ever growing population of the Curries Fountains Precinct has led to the incapability of the centre to house and accommodate a suitable amount of social activities within a relative space of time for the size of the immediate community as a whole. This will therefore be studied further in Part Two of the document as a macro and micro analysis of the urban context of Durban as a possible urban revitalization process.

### 5.1.3 Architectural and Urban Response

The Curries Fountain sits within, what is known as the Warwick Precinct of Durban further flanked by the Botanic Gardens and the Greyville Racecourse. Its location bears many links to public transport and educational nodes such as the Durban University of Technology and allied tertiary, secondary and primary educational institutes.



**Figure 25:** Aerial View of the Durban Warwick Precinct indicating the location of Curries Fountain.

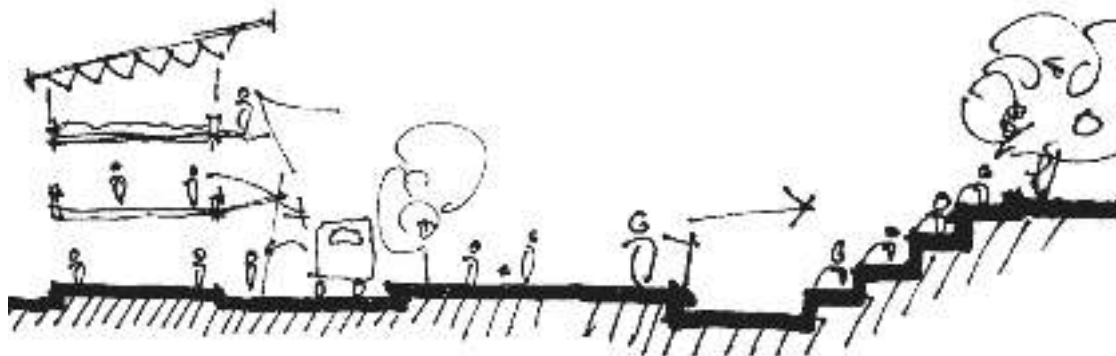
Source: Google Earth Image edited by Author (Govender R: 2015)

Due to the historical influence of the centre on the city, the urban form had developed radially centred on the Curries Fountain Field. This impact on the architectural and urban context allowed major influence on the surrounding areas in terms of the types of amenities and facilities that developed over time in relation to the purpose of the centre. These being, educational, health and residential development that fed of the impact of the centre as an urban catalyst. These facilities gradually developed using the field as a vantage point from their locations. The centre

therefore stands as an ideal example of how sporting activities impact the architectural and urban form of city designs.

#### 5.1.4 Evaluation and Analysis

The use of this case study has allowed the understanding of how the Centre has evolved over time and how a given space has evoked characters of timelessness and easy adaptability to various types of people that walk in and around this space when sport plays a vital role as an activity generator within this space. During this analysis process, the study of pedestrians and people in various buildings that surround the Curries sports pitch help enlighten how the design principle of **Transparency** from various vantage points help promote better socially cohesive spaces within the urban context. This design principle assists in the approach of having various residents of surrounding buildings as well as pedestrians walking pass as major potential spectators and major role players to create active and purposeful spaces.



**Figure 26:** Sketch by Author indicating the Design Principle of **Transparency** from various vantage points into the main sporting space. (Govender R: 2015)



## **5.2 THE BEACHFRONT PROMENADE AND WATER SPORT ATTRACTION, DURBAN, RSA**

Renovated by Iyer Urban Designers

### **5.2.1 Justification of the Study**

For the full understanding of the urban context, the study of public spaces created in Durban will aid in enlightening the study of how people move and navigate themselves between spaces and buildings. Here it is where the research will inform experiences through spaces that anchor the study of phenomenology and place making listed in the literature review section of this document which also enforces the theory of Social Cohesion. This is where the study of spaces helps analyse how people move along an urban route that promotes active public spaces. Durban's major urban designed route stands out as the Beachfront Promenade which will be studied to further analyse the experience of this journey from one point to another and how sports i.e.: Water Sports, has played a vital role in the urban revitalization process of the City's major Tourist attraction.

### **5.2.2 Social and Economic Response**

The reason for the choice of such case study derives from the need to understand the experience and subjection of people to space along a given route in the urban context. This is where the Promenade stands as an ideal example of an urban design intervention that comprises of a route linked to various components that help create the urban realm. The promenade is further studied to understand how this public space and urban intervention route has been designed around various activities of Sport (Namely: water sports specifically) which has played a major role in the revitalization and activation of such public spaces created along this route.

When talking about Durban, the first note that comes to many tourists that intend on visiting: is the world attraction of the City's Beaches and Harbour. When acknowledging its existence as it stands today, one has to understand the history of this urban strip and how it has created an impact on its surrounding context up to this very day.



**Figure 27:** Aerial Perspective image of the Durban Beachfront dating back to early 1900s indicating its early formation as an urban route in relation to the Durban Harbour and the CBD.

Source: [www.fad.co.za](http://www.fad.co.za)

Through its history, Durban has formed its mark in globally as an established city by its initial formation around the inception of the Durban Harbour. This trade aspect of the city created a catalyst for many activities that have sprouted on its periphery thereafter. One of these major activities that coincided with the harbour was the Beachfront. Over the centuries, the Beachfront evolved into a strip of various activities centred on sports and recreation which was related much to that of water sports.



**Figure 28:** Aerial Perspective of the Durban Beach Front Promenade indicating its urban existence as a public space centred around water sports in relation to the sea edge and the surrounding built environment of the Durban CBD.

Source: [www.tikzn.co.za](http://www.tikzn.co.za)

This analysis thus informs how water sports has been used as the integral concept to draw people in from surrounding areas thus promoting better social cohesion within this space.



**Figure 29:** Aerial Perspective of the 2010 FIFA World Cup Fan Park along the Promenade indicating the gathering of spectators in aid of soccer as the integral social bond.

Source: [www.mmstadium.com](http://www.mmstadium.com)

However, as time progressed the Promenade found itself giving birth to more tourist opportunities which created an impact on the city's socio-economic contexts thus making its mark locally and globally through its major tourist influences.

The Promenade has thus further evolved over the last decade since the country's announcement of hosting the FIFA Soccer World Cup in 2010. This occurred when the city had taken the steps in spending much thought and efforts in the upgrading and renewal of the major city attractions, one being the Durban Promenade. This strip of urban activity played a major role in the city's image and focus around being the city's ideal public space that helped break down various social barriers where one common sport such as soccer was used as a tool to activate a public spaces. This gave much more meaning to social responses when the chosen sport of soccer was outside the allied sport of the precinct being that of water sports.

### 5.2.3 Architectural and Urban Response

The Promenade exists today as well maintained strip of artistically designed paved walkway flanked by the Eastern shore with various water sport activities along the way that has been further activated by an ample amount of trade facilities ranging from food outlets to rentable bicycle and quad-bike vendors. This urban strip stretches from the South end of the beach front at the UShaka Marine World running all the way through various beach sport amenities and allied facilities thereafter terminating at the Blue Lagoon Umgeni River Mouth. The Promenade finds itself well accessible from the outer lying areas of the Beachfront being well located to easy public transport routes, major freeways and highways, private parking facilities, tourist hubs relating to hotel accommodation and a great amount of pedestrian routes that direct themselves straight onto this world renowned beach front strip. By this mere notion of its location to its surrounding context, the Promenade stands as an ideal example of a public intervention route and space positively influencing its urban fabric as an activity generator around water and beach related sports.



**Figure 30:** Graphical Aerial Perspective of the Durban Beachfront by Don Albert Architects indicating the proposed urban route to be investigated and upgraded to the Promenade as it stands today.

Source: [www.albertandpartners.com](http://www.albertandpartners.com)

## 5.2.4 Evaluation and Analysis

Through further investigation into the Beach front Promenade as a Case study, the idea of how sport and recreation has been used as a tool to revitalize this once inactive space in its history towards a tourist bound attraction centred around many water and beach sports further activated by various public amenities that promote a sense of social cohesion between people and space.

The Promenade's image of city has been portrayed as that of an urban intervention route that has evolved over time by its many characteristics of public accessibility to many public facilities that promote trade in the form of tourism. Therefore one of the main design principles derived from this case study is that of **Accessibility** that will be further investigated how it can be used and implemented in the form of an architectural response towards the proposal of a facility to revitalize urban 'lost space'.



**Figure 31:** Perspective image of the Promenade indicating the movement of people along the route being accessible to various amenities along the way.

Source: [www.southafrica.net](http://www.southafrica.net)

**Figure 32:** Sketch by Author indicating the Design principle of **Accessibility** showcased by the urban route of the Promenade using sport as a common tool to create successful public spaces. (Govender R: 2015)

### 5.3 CONCLUSION

Through the use of precedent and case studies done as research methods into understanding the relationship of people and space, the idea of how spaces are experienced are understood by the researcher in terms of what is expected of a successful public space that promotes better social cohesion. These studies have allowed the researcher the opportunity to experience these spaces from that of a layman thus understanding what could be the outcome from a professional architectural perspective resulting in a proposal in the built form. The use of such studies have therefore lead to the implementation of characteristics as design principles that will be further studied and used in the design section of this document towards an architectural response to revitalize 'lost space'. These design principles namely: **Visibility, Layering, Transparency and Accessibility** will be studied further in the Analysis and Discussion Chapter of this document in the aid of understanding possible methods of implementing an architectural response in the built form. This is where the identifying of suitable spatial functions relevant to sporting facilities specific to team sports such as soccer will enforce the research investigated in this document.

## CHAPTER 6

### ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

#### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, all the research data collected through the document through the primary and secondary research methods listed in the Background information: literature, field work and various data analysis will be analysed and discussed further to assist on a concise understanding of the negative and positive impact of specific 'lost spaces' in the urban context and how these spaces can be revitalized.

As indicated in the research methodology, the use of investigated interviews and precinct analysis captured through recording devices and photographic instruments will allow an accurate analysis in the qualitative method to obtain information of substantial quality that will allow a better reason for the implementation of an architectural response in a given urban context via the use of sport as this catalytic tool. This analysis will be broken down by a step by step analysis of the literature review section of this document in order to fully understand how the key questions of this document will lead to the solution of a proposed sporting facility as an architectural response in the built form.

#### 6.1 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND SPACE IN THE URBAN CONTEXT

The information studied in the literature section of the document suggests that positive relationships between people and space in cities only flourish with enhanced social, economic and architectural responses to the surrounding urban context. (Moor: 2006) By this research criterion, the analysis of people in Durban as a suitable subject urban environment will be analysed accordingly using the theories and concepts listed in the literature.

The theory of **phenomenology** has been studied to shed light on how to define positive and negative spaces in the urban context. This therefore enlightens the understanding of how people interact within a given space which leads to methods of locating spaces in need of revitalization. It is however learnt that spaces need not only be confined by solid enclosures but by various

characteristics that evoke experiences within the space itself. The success of a given space is thus only measured upon the positive or negative responses of the people who experience it (Smith: 2013). Smith further suggests that in understanding the idea behind 'phenomena', it defines how people experience spaces not just physically but psychologically by the very senses that a person uses on a day to day life long experience. This is where the use of spatial characteristics in the urban context is needed to suggest experiential spaces. These are examples of play on light and shadow, textured surfaces and the play on solids and voids which can be implemented in the architectural and urban form which will assist with revitalizing urban 'lost space'.

However, in understanding the unique characteristics of spaces, it is further required to analyse how spaces make places. This therefore informs the relationship between people and the built form which play a vital role in the creation of cities through place-making. However, the theory of **Place making** can only be implemented successfully when the opportunity for flourishing social and economic responses is adhered to. It is understood that in order to achieve this impact, spaces need to possess elements that form the characteristics of the urban environment and further meet the requirements of the people using these urban spaces. (Carmona: 2003) The information conveyed by the study of place making has thus informed how the location and characteristics of places form the basis to the overall working order of cities that live today. Therefore it confirms that in order to design and create successfully working cities, people need places to go to, rather than places to go through. (Steel: 1981) This in turn gives meaning to various components of the urban form that facilitate this purpose which informs movement routes, public squares, public amenities and other required facilities. (PPS: 2011) This is where the understanding of place making confirms the need for facilities in the urban form relevant to the needs of the people using a specific urban space within a specific timeframe. In order to achieve such successfully designed urban realms, a set of design response will be needed to direct the aim of this research document towards an architectural response in the built form that responds to the specific needs of the context that surrounds an ideal 'lost space' (PPS: 2011, Carmona: 2003):

These responses may be categorised by the following criteria:

- Improve street-scapes into places rather than only movement routes or thorough-fares
- Create public squares and parks as multi-use destinations



- Build local economies through trade and market facilities
- Enhance building and street relationships to support better value of places
- Improve on shorter linkages between public spaces to increase easy accessibility

These set of design factors will be implemented in the Part Two design section of this document towards a proposal of a facility as an architectural response taken to revitalize urban 'lost spaces.'

In order to achieve place making, the study of **social cohesion** in the urban context has confirmed that people only flourish and progress in urban environments if the society they live in, thrive on ideal social bonds relating to examples of employment, health, education, housing and ever growing relations with surrounding communities. (Kintrea: 2004) It is of vital importance that when tackling an urban renewal or revitalization process that the overall integrity and meaning of a public space is enhanced by the social bonds that draw people in, to build the social fabric of the city holistically. However the positive attributes of social bonds can only work effectively when a harmonious society is created under the response of social order. (Atkinson: 2004) This is confirmed where the study of social cohesion in urban contexts, has informed how the idea of urban activities such as sports and leisure can assist in breaking down barriers that induce social exclusion and inequalities that would affect the social order of a given space that result in antisocial behaviour, crime, unemployment and overall urban decay. (Kintrea: 2004)

Therefore the analysis of these theories thus inform the understanding that the relationship of people and space is the vital component to promote a better working order of the urban context when positively impacting the social, economic and architectural responses to the city as a whole. This suggests, that should the relationship not coincide in a cohesive manner, resulting issues of urban decay promote the existence of inactive spaces that sprout and affect the overall social order of the surrounding context thus requiring an urban revitalization strategy. (Moor: 2006)

## 6.2 THE PROCESS OF URBAN REVITALIZATION

Urban design as a means of making successful places for people relies integrally on the connections between people and places, movement routes and urban forms, and the overall nature of the urban fabric that ensures the progress of successful communities, towns and cities at large. (Moor: 2006) When this design intention is not achieved, urban spaces are prone to creating inactive voids or forgotten spaces that author Roger Trancik (1986) titles as: 'Lost Spaces' in the urban context. This is an example where spaces, if not designed in a socially cohesive manner with the surrounding urban context, impact the social, economic and architectural characteristics of the city preventing flourishing communities. (Kintrea: 2004)

**Trancik's theory of 'lost space'** has thus helped identify the existence of 'lost space' which shed light on how the urban fabric works. This process will be used on the urban context of Durban as a subject city to understand how issues have risen in creating ever-growing sprouts of 'lost spaces' that has negatively impacted the overall working order of the city.

To allow a complete identification of issues specific to the city of Durban, investigative interviews and questionnaires were used to form a concise suggestion on how to tackle the urban revitalization process in order to identify characteristics of 'lost spaces'.

This is where various Municipal Town Planning Officials and urban design personnel have been interviewed in order to fully exploit all avenues relating to the design of successful public and urban spaces and how people experience them in Durban. This process will help form a platform to identify areas in need of revitalization.

Due to personal requests, certain interviewed candidates remain Anonymous in this research.

**Interview 1:** Anonymous- A - of the Land Use Management Department of Ethekeeni Municipal Offices- Durban

The impact of a given space on the experience of people using this space has been the responsibility of those having designed the layout of such spaces in its inception. Anonymous A has further enlightened on the process of how these spaces and areas were designed.

“Designing towns and cities are only possible when understanding the needs of the people who are going to use these spaces. By understanding these needs, the functions of spaces are then understood and implemented as zonings and functional areas allocated to work together towards the social, economic and environmental needs of a town or city.”

By this information it is understood how places are created in the city and how it is understood where different functional spaces are best located in order to create a better network within a greater cohesive model. This in turn relates much to place making and how social cohesion is achieved in cities. Town planning is thus a process required at the inception of urban forms to determine zonings of functions of spaces that will aid on a cohesive model for Urban Designers and Architects to correspond to.

In conclusion to Anonymous A’s feedback, it is suggested that in order to identify specific characteristics of spaces in the urban context. One needs to have a concise description of the zoned areas as they were intended to be. This will inform a network of spaces that will assist in the process of having to knit these ‘lost spaces’ back together using the existing surrounding context’s urban characteristics or zoning information.

**Interview 2:** Anonymous-B Durban based Urban Designer.

Once the idea of place- making is understood, the question of how these public spaces are designed is of vital importance. Anonymous B as a well-established Urban Designer in the industry of the built environment has been interviewed to understand what the procedures are to follow when tackling the urban context and what elements there would be to look for to design successful public spaces.

Anonymous- B has stated that: “When understanding how people and space relate and interact, one is able to further apply the mind in thinking both two and three dimensionally in order to inform a spatial design that compliments the relationship between people and space.”

Author Malcolm Moor further seconds the information relayed by Anonymous B where Moor expresses that the art of making places for people concerns itself with these connections between people and places, movements and the urban form made up of the built form, and various processes that work towards a successful town or city. (Moor, 2006:30) It is through this information conveyed that a concise analysis of the urban form can be done in the context of

Durban in order to strategically relate to existing urban fabric thus enhancing the existing positive characteristic rather than working in an isolated scenario, void of any cognisance of the existing working order of the city as it stands.

Once analysing the urban context through the information and strategies informed by Trancik's urban theories complimented with the urban analysis of Durban, the process of macro and micro urban analysis while aid in identifying specific 'lost spaces' and thereafter analysing the people and spaces around it. Trancik's theory of 'lost space' has thus informed processes in analysing urban design through his supporting factors of figure ground, linkages and places which will assist in understanding how Durban's urban fabric works in its relation to the social, economic and architectural contexts. (Trancik: 1986)

**Social response** is the aspect of social bonds required to inform equality, social inclusion and community building which promotes better activity generators in the urban form between people and spaces. (Litman: 2009)

**Economic response** however refers to the essence of community growth and progress where social bonds are used to influence the overall investment opportunities in building the community in examples of job employments, and trade industries that increase the economic competitiveness required to build successful working cities (Litman: 2009)

**Architectural responses** lastly are the physical aspect of the urban context where social and economic responses are able to flourish through the implementation of well-designed infrastructure and facilities in the built form which form a platform for flourish urban activities (Doratli: 2004)

The understanding of these three urban responses therefore inform what author Malcolm Moor (2006) states about how these specific responses to the urban context allow opportunities of urban revitalization when the three do not exist in a cohesive manner.

The key to this analysis is therefore to point out issues in the urban context that allow the lack in these three responses which evoke 'lost spaces' in need of revitalization. This analysis will be

carried further in the design section of this document to study what specific social bonds will be required in and around a given 'lost space' that will relate to the needs of its immediate surrounding urban context.

By the understanding that a social bond aims at achieving a harmonious society that builds socially cohesive urban spaces. The study of social bonds such as sports will be used as a platform or urban activity that can contribute to many factors that build social, economic and architectural responses to the immediate urban context of a specific 'lost space'. (Kintrea: 2004)

Through Tranciks urban theories (Trancik: 1986), many networks of 'lost space' will be identified in the design section of this document specific to the Curries Fountain Precinct where characteristics of sport as a social bond have been studied further to enhance the process needed to catalyse the urban revitalization required in this area.

### **6.3 SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**

Through the review of literature in respect of the social bond of sports as an ideal activity generator, it is understood that its characteristics of physical health, education, skills development, job employment and overall equality, holistically enhance positive social order. This suggests that sport is the ideal tool to be used in the urban revitalization process of a given 'lost space' specific to a certain urban context. (Kintrea: 2004)

The study of the literature in sport as an urban catalyst has informed the aim of the study towards finding a suitable social bond relevant to an immediate community within the urban context. This is suggested by author Bohannon (2004) where he uses the example of inserting a soccer stadium into a specific location where this district is known for its team sports. Therefore the study informs the process of analysing urban contexts and their social bonds in order to ascertain how specific sports may be used as a tool to impact the lack of social, economic and architectural responses to a given lost space. When understanding the social norms of society, author Pillemer (2000) states that social bonds are integral in the way people interact with each other and with space. Therefore the research of sport informs the influence on the overall social integration that

promotes better mutual respect, tolerance and harmony across varying cultural and traditional barriers which is required when trying to build better socially cohesive cities. (Keim: 2003)

Through the analysis of the literature it has indicated various historical and social facts that enhance the meaning and intention of sport as a social activity that has much influence on the character of societies at large. This has been noted through the analysis of places such as the Durban's Curries Fountain Sports Centre and its urban context that evolved around it as mentioned in the Case study section of this document. The study of Curries Fountain complimented with the study of the Allegra Sports Centre as a precedent, further suggests that sport is the ideal tool used to promote better urban spaces where people flourish socially and economically. (Keim: 2003)

Therefore the study of how specific sports have influenced the community of Curries Fountain over time in varying societies has been noted to be vital at developmental stages of society. Thus the study into its influence at the younger age bracket namely: the Adolescent Youth of the Curries Fountain Precinct will be studied to enhance the needs of the community.

#### **6.4 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SPORT AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

When understanding the social influence that sport had on its people in the history of Durban specific to Curries Fountain, the notion of sport as a foundation component to ideal social bonds is of vital importance. (Keim: 2003) The literature of sport thus further enhances the understanding of how its social activity evokes such potential in its relationship between people and space. (Sternberg: 2002) Through the studying of the characteristics of sport, it suggests that sport is a subliminal language that creates platforms for expression that dissolves any and every social, cultural, traditional, racial and economic barrier. (Keim: 2003) Therefore, the need to understand its influence at developmental stages of people is integral in building cities for future sustainability. (Nauright: 1997)

During the investigative section of this research, the use of questionnaires has assisted in understanding how people of all age groups have been influenced by sport.

Interviews were carried out in and around the Curries Fountain Precinct of Durban due to its close proximity to various 'lost spaces' identified through Trancik's urban theories in the design section of this document. (Trancik: 1986)

**Interview 3:** Mr Ismail Mohamed (Age: 42) - Resident Owner and past Youth of the Carlisle Street District near the Curries Fountain Sports Centre.

Mr Mohamed has been a resident of the Carlisle Street District since birth as his parents have been staying in this area since the early 1900's. Having experienced the area since childhood he has explained how the area and its social order have evolved over time due to the ever growing community and its infrastructure.

"I have seen people come and go from this area from a very small child, although I must say that I will not leave this district as I have made it my home and Curries Fountain has been part of my childhood experience through sport."

By this mere notion of how this area as a space has become his own personal experience over the years. It has been realised that when a person gives meaning to a space on his or her own personal capacity due to his or her experience, this in turn creates a sense of ownership to this space and therefore a purpose to a given space. This information further conveys the essence of social cohesion where communities are centred on specific needs of people thus giving them a perception of comfort and convenience to using spaces to their benefit. (Kintrea: 2004) This further informs the notion that sport can be possibly used as an integral role to catalyse social bonds that promote better social cohesion within a given community in order to promote a sense of 'home' where people add to the overall sustainability of urban spaces (Sternberg: 2002)

The Study of the Curries Fountain Sports Centre and its immediate surrounding precinct has thus formed as a means to enhance the suggestion of how the social bonds of sports are able to create lasting communities. However, when analysed beyond its immediate context, the notion of the essence of sport becomes dissipated as indicated by further investigative interviews.

**Interview 4:** Miss Nikiwe Zulu (Age 15) – Resident Youth of the Curries Fountain Residential vicinity.

In order to fully understand the experience of people through these spaces, the research has been carried out on youth age groups. Miss Zulu has been a youth that has relocated from outside of Durban at a very young age and has found it somewhat difficult to adapt to her surroundings over time by her feedback.

“It has taken me time to find my way around this area without being with my parents most of the time and I have been told to be very careful because there are many quiet and dangerous areas that people get caught in. But we hardly have places to play in when we are not at school or waiting for our parents to finish work. So we find anything on the street to kick around wherever we can find a corner hoping it is not dangerous to play in.”

This has further help understand how spaces have been created in the urban fabric that have become prone to crime and disorderly behavioural patterns that have promoted a negative connotation to these spaces due to the lack of spaces involving positive social activity. This has left many youth playing in the street where it is not safe and without parental or adult supervision. This is noted by a lack of a space or infrastructure that are easily accessible relating to the social needs of the youth.

**Interview 5:** Mr Nicholas Menze (Age 25) – Durban University of Technology (DUT) Student and Renting Resident of the Curries Fountain Greyville Area.

Mr Menze has been a student of DUT for the last 6years and has been residing in the area since relocating for study purposes from outside Durban. His experience as a student in the youth age bracket and as a temporary resident of the area has allowed him to experience many positive and negative aspects that have influenced his approach to how he has been a part of his surrounding local community.

“In order to survive as a student I have had to get part time jobs to pay expenses. This has in turn allowed me to experience life on street level together with public transport to and fro from my destinations. Although due to lack of many job employment opportunities, I have found myself



always settling for ways to make it through the month that has made it a miserable means of surviving. I would rather prefer doing something enjoyable that is fruitful both financially and socially which could help me survive more happily.”

Through the analysis of Mr Menze’s feedback, the lack of social and economic responses in the Curries Fountain Precinct is further noted to add to the overall influence on the negative characteristics of urban contexts where people are not able to flourish holistically. This forms basis of the understanding for a need of an architectural response that will harness the intent of an urban revitalization strategy that will promote better social cohesion in this area of the Curries Fountain Precinct.

**Interview 6:** Mr Ronnie Govender (Age 60) – current Sport Activity Coordinator of Curries Fountain Sports Development Centre

Mr Govender has conveyed his experience as a youth soccer athlete who participated in the past Curries Fountain sporting activities during the apartheid era. Further informing how his experience with sports at the time had been enhanced by the many social and community gatherings held at Curries Fountain Sports Centre. Through further historical analysis it has been confirmed how Curries Fountain had been a major influence in the sporting industry of Durban thus suggesting that sports is the ideal tool to impact the social, economic and architectural responses to its surrounding urban contexts.

However, Mr Govender goes on further to inform that the centre as standing today is facing a problem of not being able to control the amount of activities that it ought to be. This has been an issue due to the over populated growth of people around the centre and from outside suburbs that affect the carrying capacity of Curries Fountain as a public gathering spot. Therefore the centre has been unable to accommodate every immediate community gathering and various sporting activities relative to that of the surrounding educational facilities such as Durban University of Technology and allied educational primary and secondary schools and institutes in the area. Therefore the lack of a suitable community sports facility is noted which will be studied further in the design section of this document.

The notion of a community sports centre within the Curries Fountain Precinct forms as the ideal urban response to study possibilities of enhancing the existing essence of sports as means to revitalize existing urban 'lost spaces.' This will be analysed further in the next chapter towards a suitable facility that will harness the essence of team sports such as soccer in response to the information gathered throughout this research in the literature section.

## **CHAPTER 7**

### **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

This study set out to understand the impact and existence of 'lost spaces' in the urban context and how these spaces can be revitalized. Therefore this chapter is set out to test the assumption that sport can be used as a catalytic tool to revitalize an urban 'lost space' thus drawing conclusion and recommendations towards a proposal of a sports facility relevant to the study of literature analysed in this research document.

#### **7.1 CONCLUSIONS**

##### **7.1.1 Criteria for an Architectural Response in the Built form**

By the research analysed and discussed in this chapter, the literature reviewed goes on to confirm that due to the lack of social bonds needed in society, social barriers form issues that prevent positive influences on the social, economic and architectural responses to a given urban context. (Moor: 2006) However when these bonds do not exist in a cohesive manner between people and space, inactive voids or gaps in the urban fabric known as 'lost space' impact the overall working order of the city (Trancik: 1986) Therefore creating further urban decay issues that require urban revitalization. Through investigative analysis in the primary and secondary research methodologies, catalytic social bonds are required to form this revitalization process. (Sternberg: 2002) Through constructive analysis of the literature it is confirmed that team sports such as soccer is the ideal tool needed to catalyse this process by its major influence on the social, economic and architectural responses of the urban context. (Keim: 2004)

Through the understanding of the literature review, it is noted that in order to use sport as tool to revitalize 'lost space', the understanding of community building is of vital importance. This is where the breaking down and analysis of social bonds in communities plays an integral role in combatting issues relating to possible social activities. (Sternberg: 2002) Through the understanding of the literature discussed, it has been found that sport portrays a unique set of characteristic that aid in bringing people together through excitement, participation, spectating and involvement across all aspects of its nature as a social bonds.

The literature has informed that these social bonds of sport play a major role in the developmental stages at the adolescent age bracket. (Marsh: 2005) Through the data analysis of Durban specific to the Curries Fountain Precinct as a subject urban context, youth are currently being taken for granted for their integral role that they possess in society. (MacDonald: 2005) Therefore confirming that the aim of this study into the essence of Soccer will aid in developing the Adolescent age bracket of youth towards conformed future leaders through the aid of sport as an ideal social bond required to build positively impacted communities.

The aim of this research is to exploit the social, economic and architectural responses to sport as a tool and how it can influence the assumption of a sporting facility as the ideal catalytic tool to revitalize existing urban 'lost spaces.' In order to respond to the information relayed by the analysis and discussion chapter. The urban and precinct analysis further carried out in the design section of this document will assist in understanding the existing working order of the Curries Fountain Precinct where social bonds and the lack thereof will form a platform to implement an architectural response relevant to the existing needs of the surrounding community. Therefore a concise study of the educational zoning together with the existing social characteristics of the precinct will confirm on a design direction that will enhance the revitalization process required to eradicate any existence of 'lost spaces' in this precinct. The proposal of this facility should ideally respond to a set of criteria that enforce the holistic response to the existing community that will help create successful places where community development at the adolescent age group can promote better socially cohesive sustainability. The revitalization of any 'lost space' must therefore conform to a concept of a **'Trade, Live and Learn model through Sports.'** Therefore informing that the typology of this architectural response in the built form will be that of a facility which will harness the approach towards youth development as a **Soccer Academy** responding

to specific characteristic of relevant team sports that will aid the concept of revitalizing urban 'lost space' using the Adolescent youth as a foundation component to the social order of the surrounding urban context of Curries Fountain.

## **7.2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

The research carried out and analysed in this document confirms that in order to provide such a facility as a Soccer Academy to the process of revitalization, the understanding of its influence to the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context is of vital importance when designing such an architectural response in the built form. (Moor: 2006)

Sport is an ever-growing industry that has been tested to last timeless factors through the centuries. (Keim: 2004) Therefore the design of such a facility needs to harness this approach towards finding ideal social bonds that sustain people and space relationships that grow holistically. In order to revitalize urban 'lost space' through sports, existing sporting activities in the given urban context need to be acknowledged in order to tackle negative issues of repetitiveness and limitations in the sporting sector relevant to soccer that could affect the overall place making purpose of the facility. This is where relevance to an existing community's needs is integral to designing community facilities relating to team sports such as soccer as an ideal social bond. In impacting its social response, the idea of design factors relating to place making allow for the impact on the economic responses to the urban context. This therefore allows for a facility able to sustain itself over time due to its foundation of sport as an integral role to achieving social cohesion within a given space. In order to harness this approach to the social and economic responses, the physical order of its built form will lastly, enhance its architectural response to how spaces are designed and how people experience these spaces either as spectators or participators to the sports within this given urban space.

Therefore the aim of such a sporting facility will direct at being a catalytic process of urban revitalization to combat the existence of lost spaces through the spectator and participator relationship that will be harnessed across all levels in this facility's accommodation schedule relevant to the needs of people relative the urban context of the Curries Fountain Precinct.

### 7.2.1 Criteria for a Schedule of Accommodation

As sport is identified as a positive social bond, it not only attracts people to a specific urban space but also provides opportunities for further social and economic progress. The research suggests that sport is able to enhance this opportunity of progress in these responses by its spectator and participator relationship. This relationship should form a basis to the aim of the architectural response of the facility. This response will be noticed in spaces that will be enforced by the design principles identified in the precedent and case study section of the document. These are namely: **Visibility, Layering, Transparency and Accessibility**, which will be the vital design principles that assist in driving the overall concept of sport as a tool for urban revitalization. These principles will be used to enhance the spectator-participator relationship across all designed spaces of the facility in the built form both in section and in plan layout design.

However, when looking at these two types of people using and moving through the building, it is noticed that their experiences are very different at times. Namely: Spectators require spatial factors that allow them to move freely and linger around before, during and after sporting events. Whereas, in retrospect, participators have one definite movement to get to their dedicated playing courts specific to their sports. This analysis enhanced by the study of the Allegra Sports Centre as a precedent, allows better understanding of how the barrier between spectator and participator in sports is well respected and identified in the architectural response of the facility in the built form. In order to harness the experience of the urban realm around the facility, designed urban and architectural linkages will be used to enhance the experience of spectators' movement patterns. Thereafter, when looking at spectators who come to watch the game and also people who enjoy just the atmosphere of the sporting activity, various social spaces will be used to keep them occupied accordingly. These being recreational spaces, restaurants, sporting bars and cafés, sporting lounges and various 'spill-out' spaces that will allow leisure and pleasure-filled experiences centred on sport.

To further impact the economic response of the building, various types of trade components: shops and kiosks relative to sporting equipment and apparel, will be incorporated along the street edges to focus on trading opportunities that will impact the overall economic sustainability of the facility. Lastly and most importantly, the use of the grand spectator's stands and bleachers with allied movement and circulation spaces will form as the main spatial experiences that enhance

the overall architectural and urban response of the building in relation to its surrounding context. This is where the aim of creating a successful landmark icon or image will enhance the overall catalyst as a well-designed 'place' sited in the urban context of Durban specific to the Curries Fountain Precinct.

Through the urban analysis carried out in this precinct as a subject context, and various investigative interviews and questionnaires, the notion of living conditions such as student accommodation finds itself as a much needed response to the social order of this given urban context. Therefore in further review of the literature of social bonds needed to promote better social cohesion in urban contexts, accommodation has been noted as that of an integral requirement to impact both the social and economic responses to the urban context. (Kintrea: 2004) The study of the Allegra Sports Centre as a precedent also sheds light on the component of accommodation and how its relevance to sports, plays a vital role in the designing of community sports facilities for urban contexts. This component will be included as part of the schedule of accommodation in response to its needs of the existing youth of the area and outer suburbs.

In order to form a concise understanding of the schedule of accommodation required to design a sporting facility such as a Soccer Academy. The use of the design principles together with the list of spaces and requirements mentioned above will be carried out accordingly in the overall design of the facility to impact the social, economic and architectural responses to revitalize urban 'lost space' specific to the Curries Fountain Precinct.

These principles will be implemented as follows:

**Visibility-** The study of the New York High Line has thus allowed an understanding of the need to design all spaces centred on the main sports court of the facility which will further enhance better social experiences relating to the purpose of the facility always having visual to main sports court. This will enhance the spectator-participator relationship.

**Layering-** By understanding the relative requirements needed by the community as social bonds towards social cohesion. The study of the Allegra Sports Centre has further enhanced the design idea of how these spaces can be layered both in section and plan layouts in order to thrive on experiential spaces that can harness the essence of sport on all levels and from all vantage

points. This is where trade facilities, educational facilities and accommodation will be layered to form the overall architectural response in the built form promoting better movement between spaces.

**Transparency-** The study of the Curries Fountain Sports Centre and precinct has been noted for its impact on its surrounding urban context. The radial formation that was enhanced by the initial existence of the centre was used as the focus of urban design that sprouted developments around it over time. Its design principle of transparency will be implemented as an architectural response by the facility to enhance the spectator and participator relationship from all vantage points within the building confines and also from street edge into the building. This will express the essence of overall purpose of the building which will make people want to proceed further into the facility from surrounding areas and movement routes thus promoting better urban spaces leading up to the facility.

**Accessibility-** By the study of the Durban Beachfront Promenade as an urban intervention centred on water sports. The principle of easy accessibility will be implemented in creating successful urban spaces around the building which will promote easy flowing movement routes around, into and through the facility on a twenty four basis complimented by relevant access control wherever need be. This will therefore emphasise on much social and economic progress.

The purpose of these design principle is to harness the intention of the research towards a facility that impacts the social, economic and architectural responses to its urban context in the aim of being a well sustainable response in the built form using the overall essence of a '**Trade, Live, Learn' concept centred on Sports** where accessibility plays a vital role in creating better urban responses to combat the existence of inactive voids or 'lost spaces'.

### **7.2.2 Criteria for the process of Site Selection**

In order to enhance the concept of this research towards urban revitalization, the study of Durban's urban fabric specific to the Curries Fountain Precinct as a subject urban context, will be done using Roger Trancik's (1986) theories of 'lost space.' The process of selecting a relevant site will be carried out using the analysis of Figure grounds, Linkages and Places in the urban fabric which will help in identifying ideal 'lost spaces' as inactive voids in need of revitalization.

Once identifying the existence of these lost spaces, the pointing out of existing sporting facilities will allow better understanding through investigative interviews and precinct analysis discussed in chapter seven. The ability to ascertain communities in need of revitalization across all social bonds that are required to achieve better social cohesion, will further classify one space more desperate for revitalization than another. This process of analysis will be carried out in detail in Part two design section, both in the macro and micro analysis in the urban context.

Using Trancik's theory of lost space together with the informed study of social cohesion, the site selection process will be strategically directed to identify 'lost spaces' that lack social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context. This will be analysed through an architectural design process detailed in part two of this document towards a design of an ideal sports facility such as **A Proposed Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban.**



## **PART TWO**

### **CHAPTER 1**

#### **DESIGN REPORT**

##### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

In order to harness the justification of this research towards an intervention in the built form, the literature together with the analysis and discussion section of this document form as a basis to understand what typology of an architectural response is required to revitalize an urban 'lost space'. As suggested in the conclusions and recommendation section of the document, it is confirmed through the research captured in the literature using all the theoretical and conceptual background that informs a calculated and concise method of locating the ideal type of 'lost space' to be revitalized.

Therefore, this design report section of this document will be structured to allow a full understanding of how this process of revitalization is constructed to inform the design of a Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban.

This section of the document will form a definite direction on the design brief required to implement such an architectural response in the built form towards a facility centred on sport development as a catalytic tool for urban revitalization of a 'lost space.'

##### **1.2 THEORETICAL AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK**

Through an investigative process of the theories and concepts studied in Part One of this document, it is understood that a series of steps are to be taken to inform a strategic approach towards a proposal of a facility in the built form. This is concluded by the analysis and discussion section covering of all areas of the literature and fieldwork which suggests that the facility should entail a social, economic and architectural response to the urban revitalization process of a specific 'lost space.'

Therefore using the theories studied such as Phenomenology, Place Making and Social Cohesion, the intent of the design should be towards that of an holistic approach towards a social cohesive model conceptualized in an architectural response. Through much understanding of the

theories and concepts in the literature and fieldwork, this conceptual design strategy will be concluded as a: **'Trade, Live and Learn model centred on Sports.'** This concept will be further detailed in the design brief relating to an extensive list of spaces that cover the requirements of such a facility. This model will be further broken down and described according to the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context of this proposed facility as a Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of the Durban.

Using this conceptual model as a guide for the design process of such a proposal, a descriptive brief together with a set of client objectives will be detailed to set a platform for an ideal socially cohesive model used to revitalize a given 'lost space' of which is yet to be located through this design process.

### **1.3 BRIEF AND ACCOMMODATION SCHEDULE**

#### **1.3.1 Client**

The process of selecting the ideal client to carry the responsibilities of this architectural response to the urban context, will be proposed through an extensive tender process detailing requirements and financial implications that may set a platform for opportunities and potential of such a facility for the surrounding community of Curries Fountain which forms part of the overall Warwick Precinct.

In understanding the intent of the conceptual model of a 'Trade, Live, Learn' design framework, many avenues of client objectives will be derived in setting a precise design brief relative to a surrounding urban context specific to the Curries Fountain Precinct as the ideal context to be investigated. Therefore through much investigation of the Curries Fountain Precinct and influential factors to the local community and the surrounding urban context. The ideal client with sufficient knowledge and financial background to fund and manage such a facility would be none other than the Durban University of Technology. (ie: DUT) This is further supported through an urban analysis of how DUT has set a platform for development of the community through education which forms as an ideal foundation to youth development. Therefore through an investigative analysis of DUT's influence on the surrounding context from a social, economic and architectural response to the Curries Fountain Sporting Precinct. It is ideal for such an institute to head this facility under the guidance of the Curries Fountain Development Centre in

collaboration with the overall Warwick urban context. Through further urban analysis investigated in the design development section of this document, it is informed that the facility is to serve not only the immediate community of Curries Fountain but to serve on a macro response to the overall Warwick Precinct. Therefore, in order to avoid any further confusion of the existing Curries Fountain multipurpose sports centre, the proposed facility is to be titled and registered as the **Warwick Soccer Academy** serving as a sports development centre focused towards the adolescent youth age bracket as the ideal target market. This Academy is portray an overall sense of community and youth development by using Soccer as a means of expression as a common benefit.

### 1.3.2 Client Objectives

The brief will be designed around the conceptual model of the Trade, Live, Learn platform which will be structured according to the social, economic and architectural response of the facility to the surrounding urban context. Therefore the client objectives will be to ensure that the facility is centred firstly on optimising space in the urban context. The location of the facility is of vital importance in eradicating any negative perception of inactive voids that disrupt the overall working order of its surrounding urban context. The client objective is to enforce on a strategic urban analysis that comprises of an informed site selection process that is to catalyse the ideal urban revitalization process required to make a successful place such as a sports facility centred on youth development where the people of the surrounding community can flourish socially and economically.

**1.3.2.1 Social Response:** The role of the facility is thus to enrich positive social bonds that exist in the area together with introducing new social bonds that may add to the overall positive nature of the surrounding urban context. Social bonds such as existing sporting elements, educational components and recreational spaces that give the urban context unique character are to be investigated to understand how to point out faults in the social order of the urban context that have allowed the sprouting of 'lost spaces.' The social response of the brief will accommodate the following:

- Create more communal recreational spaces that add to the overall urban activity of the surrounding urban context.

- Allow for more sporting facilities and activities centred on team sports and skills that promote more community and youth development.
- Create positive educational facilities that add to the developmental atmosphere required to promote better developmental strategies.
- Enhance the spectator-participator relationship which adds to the overall urban activity required to create successful urban spaces where people flourish holistically.
- Promote a health conscious approach centred on sports development using healthy food outlets, sport nutritional stores and sports medical facilities that also form as an economic response.

**1.3.1.2 Economic Response:** In order for the facility to promote a sense of sustainability for future communities to come, the objective of the client is to ensure a concise network of facilities that harness the overall working order of the building typology. This response will add to the overall image of the surrounding area where people flourish financially as much emphasis will be showcased through job employment, residential accommodation and trade facilities that will aid in the meaningful sustainability of the facility in the built form. These responses are as follows:

- Informal and Formal trade components that allow varying income brackets to positively impact the running order of the facility together with forming as an integral growth component the community at large.
- Create informed linkages to all modes of transport from private to public vehicles which assist in easy accessibility to all types of people from all surrounding communities therefore allowing the opportunity for growth on a macro scale.
- Create trade facilities for all forms of merchandise centred on sports equipment and allied requirements in order to give the facility a sense of place as a sports facility.
- Allow for rentable sports courts and allied facilities which add to the financial stability of the facility and further exposure to surrounding communities.
- Allow for a rentable residential component specific to affordable student accommodation for the youth of the surrounding area as sporting athletes to the facility.
- Allow for an educational component managed by the Durban University of Technology where Sports Education is used as a platform for skills training for the youth as future

leaders. Educational venues may be rentable to outside events for further economic response.

**1.3.1.3 Architectural Response:** In order for a facility to flourish socially and economically, a set of guidelines are to be implemented as an architectural response to inform the design of a facility in the built form. Therefore the building typology in relation to its location and urban analysis will be structured to respond architecturally through the design process to produce a building that flourishes architecturally. The architectural responses will be structured according to the design principles described through the analysis and discussion section of the document. These responses will be listed as follows to form a concise understanding of what is required to design a building that is well suited to its surrounding urban context:

### **Visibility**

- All spaces to be easily visible to a main sporting activity to add to the overall nature of the building typology.
- All spaces to ensure a shallower floor plate to reduce visibility distance from one point to another.
- Circulation routes to be more interactive rather than predominately movement as this will add to be meaningful spaces prone to interactive visibility,

### **Layering**

- To ensure optimised usage of spaces across different levels which allow additional control over access.
- Promote better zoning of functions within the building in order to focus on areas in isolation wherever need be.
- Allow for different vantage points from different level changes to promote better interactive spaces across different platforms. Eg: Educational Sports training facilities to over-look sports courts.
- Allow for separation from social spaces to service spaces in order to control different forms of access.

## **Transparency**

- Creates better interaction between the interior and exterior of the building thus promoting an overall spectator-participator relationship from many vantage points.
- Much usage of glazing elements add to the characteristic of visibility.
- Allows for complete transparency of the overall nature of the building where all functional spaces are showcased in a 'fish-bowl' affect in order to promote the buildings process of youth development through sports on all levels of the building.

## **Accessibility**

- Create easier and more natural forms of movement routes around the building for pedestrians and vehicles to allow easy filtration of people in and out of the building at all times.
- Location of the site is to allow for easy permeability of people from surrounding amenities in order for the building to respond well to its urban context.
- Easy accessibility thus promotes a better sense of place where people have better interaction with the building as a destination rather than a mere thoroughfare.
- Accessibility to public transport is of vital importance for interaction of all types of people from surrounding suburbs.

## **Sustainable Technologies**

- Recyclable and locally sourced materials are to be implemented as design principles to help reduce the overall carbon footprint of the building.
- Reduced floor plates are to allow easy natural ventilation and airflow through the building.
- Substantial amount of glazing is to be used to promote natural lighting through the building.
- Investigative site analysis to inform ideal building orientation for optimised natural lighting and ventilation at all times.
- Rainwater harvesting technologies to be implemented to increase natural environmental response of the building.

These lists of design principles and design technologies are to be further investigated to inform concise design strategies needed to produce a facility well suited and specific to its immediate surrounding urban context and environment where it may flourish holistically.

### 1.3.3 Accommodation Schedule

The following accommodation schedule has been designed as a guideline in accordance to the requirements of a Soccer Academy relative to responses to the urban context of the Curries Fountain and Warwick Precinct.

BASEMENT FLOOR 'SERVICES'	GROUND FLOOR 'TRADE'	FIRST FLOOR 'SPORT'	SECOND FLOOR 'LEARN'	THIRD FLOOR 'LIVE'
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public Parking</li> <li>- Private Parking</li> <li>- Paraplegic Parking</li> <li>- Bicycle Parking</li> <li>- Transformer Room</li> <li>- Meter Rooms</li> <li>- Solar Systems</li> <li>- Rain Water Harvesting</li> <li>- Refuse Area</li> <li>- Loading Zone</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main Sports Pitch</li> <li>- Entrance Ramps</li> <li>- Team Change Rooms</li> <li>- Exhibition Centre</li> <li>- Welcome Centre</li> <li>- Kiosks</li> <li>- Trade Facility</li> <li>- Sports Trade</li> <li>- Restaurants</li> <li>- Sports Café</li> <li>- Service Areas</li> <li>- Delivery Zone</li> <li>- Public transport drop off and pick up zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- High Line Park / Recreational Spaces</li> <li>- Gymnasium</li> <li>- Sports café</li> <li>- Public Entertainment Spaces</li> <li>- Ablutions</li> <li>- Rentable Sports courts</li> <li>- Public Circulation and park spaces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Lecture venues and skill training facilities</li> <li>- Ablutions</li> <li>- Sports courts</li> <li>- Sports medical rooms to work hand in hand with skills training</li> <li>- Double volume overlooking sports courts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Private circulation core</li> <li>- Controlled access</li> <li>- Separate male and female accommodation units</li> <li>- Student residence</li> <li>- Common rooms</li> <li>- Ablutions and change rooms</li> <li>- Study areas</li> <li>- Lounging spaces</li> <li>- Kitchens</li> <li>- Recreational spaces</li> </ul>

**Table 1: Accommodation scheduled tabulated by Author. Govender (2015)**

All spaces of the proposed accommodation schedule are to be analysed and informed according to the structured design principles derived through the literature section of the document. This will be detailed further in the design development process of the proposed architectural response of this document to follow.

## **CHAPTER 2**

### **DESIGN FRAMEWORK**

#### **2.1 INTRODUCTION**

Using an informative understanding of the process of locating 'lost space' through Trancik's urban theories. A concise urban analysis of Durban as the subject context will be conducted to proceed in locating areas prone to inactive voids in the overall urban fabric in need of revitalization. Trancik's urban theories namely: Figure ground, linkages and place theory will be used to determine factors that have influenced a substantial amount of urban decay that form basis of an immediate precinct to be further investigated.

An investigated analysis will be used in this chapter using a series of recording devices and research material as described in the research methodology section of this document where the findings and analysis will be portrayed graphically for the clear representation of the intent of this proposal towards the design of a Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban.

#### **2.2 URBAN ANALYSIS**

In order to formulate an understanding of the process of locating the ideal 'lost space', an investigative analysis of the urban context of Durban will be conducted. The process of analysis will be formulated from the macro to the micro analysis of the urban fabric using Trancik's theories of locating lost space through figure ground, linkages and place theory. (Trancik:1989)

This process of locating specific lost spaces has been initiated through a series of steps in acquiring an understanding of the existing working order of the urban fabric of Durban.

Firstly, a figure ground analysis of Durban has been taken to understand the relationship between voids and built up forms.

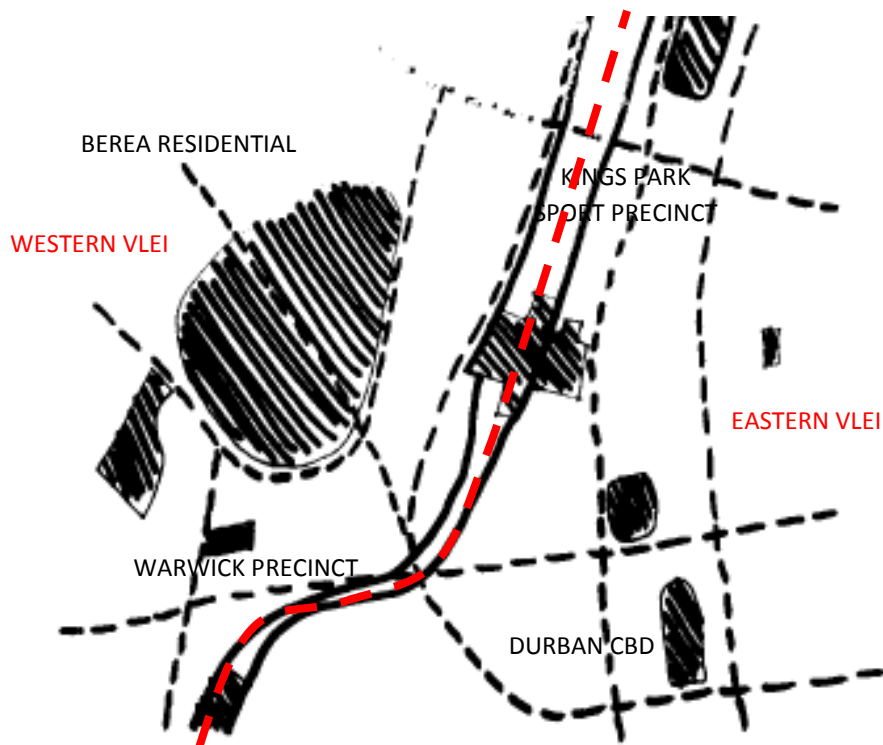




**Figure 33:** Graphic representation by Author indicating the urban fabric of Durban to be analysed further to locate ideal lost spaces. (Govender R: 2015)



**Figure 34:** Sketch representation by Author using Trancik's Figure Ground Theory to locate inactive voids known as lost space. (Govender R: 2015)

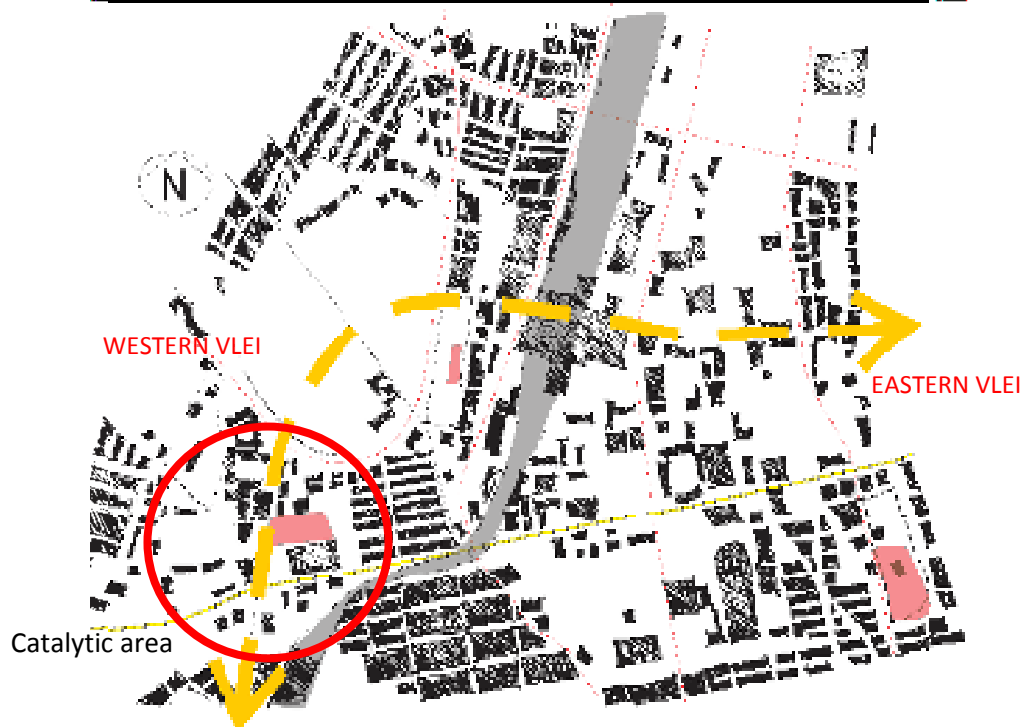


**Figure 35:** Sketch representation by Author using Trancik’s Linkage and Place Theory to locate main movement routes and meaningful places to respond to. (Govender R: 2015)

Main movement routes that promote easy linkages to public and private vehicular routes with pedestrian friendly areas will be analysed further to extract characters of disjointed places. Thereafter an informed analysis of important places relevant to Sporting facilities have been indicated to allow a full understanding of how Trancik’s urban theories work all together to point out gaps or inactive voids in the urban fabric of Durban.

These sketch analysis will therefore be combined to allow an informed direction of the urban framework towards a proposed urban intervention route that may be implemented to knit the urban fabric back together using sport as common catalytic tool for urban revitalization.

According to Author Malcom Moor (2004) it is confirmed that all spaces of the urban context are to only work cohesively when the character of the spaces are well knit back into its surrounding context through an informed response to the social, economic and architectural context. This investigation will lead to various key findings that will be analysed further in the design development section of this document.



**Figure 36:** Sketch representation by Author combining Trancik's Figure Ground, Linkage and Place Theories to locate areas to catalyse the urban revitalization process. (Govender R: 2015)

Using the urban analysis process of Trancik's urban theories has thus assisted in identifying spaces in need of revitalization in the urban fabric of Durban. However as graphically shown in Figure 36, it is identified that a catalyst is required in the Warwick Precinct to ideally catalyse the urban revitalization process required to combat the existence of 'lost spaces' throughout Durban. The aim of the urban framework is therefore to form a network of processed that allow an easy knitting of the urban fabric linking the western and eastern vlei using a catalytic tool of sport. The proposed urban route will thus allow for this proposal as graphically represented in Figure 37 to follow.

These urban intervention routes will allow a catalytic approach to be taken at one phase at time. This will entail a detailed conceptual urban framework that will be carried through the design development section of this research which will respond to the overall urban fabric of Durban from a social, economic and architectural response using sport as a common catalytic tool. From the analysis of the lost spaces derived from this urban framework, ideal lost spaces detailed as site one, two and three will be investigated further to form a concise analysis of which site is to form the inception of this catalytic revitalization process.



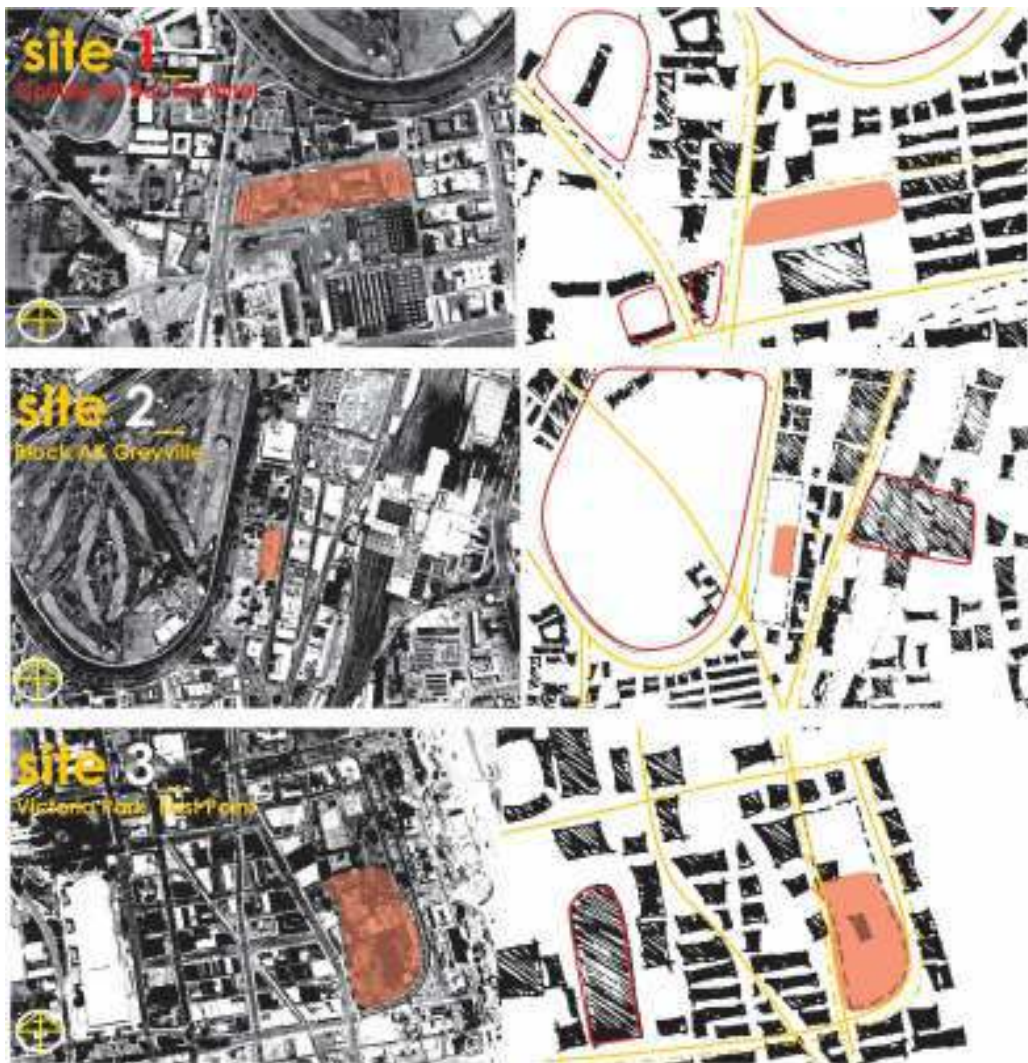
**Figure 37:** Graphic representation by Author indicating the proposed urban design framework derived from the urban analysis using Trancik’s Urban Theories (Govender R: 2015)

This intervention is proposed through urban linkages and responses using sport as a catalyst.

### 2.3 SITE SELECTION PROCESS

Once the conceptual urban process is derived, the three ideal 'lost spaces' characterised by their identity as a space in need of revitalization. Will be analysed further to form direction on understanding which site is to catalyse this entire urban intervention framework.

Each site is to be investigated according to a certain criteria of Trancik's (1989) and Moor's (2004) definition of inactive voids or gaps in the urban fabric also known as 'lost spaces' in need of revitalization. This investigation will be carried out through Trancik's urban theories strategy of figure ground, linkages and place theory which will grade one site more prone to revitalization than the other. This site selection process will be detailed further in the design development process of this document.



**Figure 38:** Graphic representation by Author indicating the site selection process and analysis using Trancik's urban theories method of locating Site-1 as ideal lost space. (Govender R: 2015)

## 2.4 JUSTIFICATION OF SITE SELECTION

Using the prescribed method of analysis for locating lost space, Site-1 has been selected as the ideal space to be revitalized. This has drawn conclusion through an informed analysis informed by the literature where certain site characteristics have been noted to give the site more identity prone to catalyse this urban revitalization process using sport. This justification has been given weight by the immediate site analysis carried out by each site in detail in the design development section of this document.



**Figure 39:** Graphic representation by Author indicating the site-1 analysis process showing relationship between zonings and movement routes (Govender R: 2015)



**Figure 40:** Graphic representation by Author indicating the site-1 analysis using Trancik's urban theories method of locating lost space. (Govender R: 2015)

This site analysis process will be carried further in the design development section of this document to form a proposed architectural response that impacts the social and economic responses to the urban context of the Curries Fountain and Warwick Precinct. The aim of this site selection is to therefore catalyse this urban intervention route as an urban response to revitalize urban 'lost spaces' in Durban.

## 2.5 CONCLUSION

The research and literature section of Part One of this document has thus informed a concise direction of the proposed architectural response of this design process to follow. This has been informed by an understanding of the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context of Durban using sport as the ideal catalytic tool to initiate this urban revitalization process. The design development section of this proposal has thus been structured to allow an informed series of steps that have been taken to propose a facility such as a Soccer Academy which has been proved through the research to respond to all the specific social bonds required in the immediate surrounding context of the selected site.

Through much investigation and analysis as detailed in this document, it is confirmed that **sport can be used as a tool to revitalize urban 'lost space'** specific to adolescent youth development in Durban.

## APPENDICES



### COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

#### MASTERS RESEARCH PROPOSAL

#### (HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES)

### **A0. Participant Informed Consent Form**

**Researcher:** Mr Robbane Govender

**Proposal:** SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE' -

**A Proposed Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban**

#### **Project aims**

The purpose of this research dissertation is to determine the impact of 'lost spaces' as a problem to the urban context. The project will therefore investigate issues around how these 'lost spaces' affect the relationship between people and space by its overall lack in the social, economic and architectural responses to the urban context.

The aim of this research topic is thus to understand the existence of these 'lost spaces' in the urban context of Durban and how to revitalize it via a catalytic tool of sport in the aid of an architectural response in the built form. The objectives of this research will suggest outcomes of how an architectural response such as a Sporting Facility (ie: Soccer Academy) will address issues centred on adolescent youth development as a means to catalyze urban revitalization.

The research will contribute to enhancing knowledge and understanding in this area, through assessing how effective these policies, programs and structures are at building social cohesion, breaking down social and cultural barriers and reducing discrimination; and how they can be used for wider social change in the areas of reconciliation and multiculturalism. The project will be carried out in accordance with the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Research Involving Humans.

#### **What is involved if I participate?**

Your participation will involve filling out a questionnaire in which you will be asked to discuss what policies, programs and structures your agency and/or your sport influence has set up to ensure a safe, fair and inclusive sporting experience, particularly in relation to those from Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. Any information which might potentially identify you will not be used in any published material.



**Who is conducting the research and organising the questionnaire?**

Robbane Govender will be organizing the questionnaire and using the responses as part of his Masters thesis research conducted through the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal- School of the Built Environment and School of Architecture.

**Can I change my mind?**

Yes, participation is voluntary. It is your right to have your questionnaire excluded from the project at any time. Following submission of the questionnaire, if you wish to change, clarify, correct or amend anything you can do so by contacting me.

**What happens with the information I provide?**

Your consent to the questionnaire will enable me to make use of the responses, and (unattributed) quotations from it in any publications, articles or conference papers. Subject to any legal obligations, the questionnaire will not be made available to anyone else without your consent. The information will be secured for 5 years as required under the Australian Code for Responsible Conduct in Research. A summary of the results of the project will be made available online to participants at the end of the project.

**Further information?**

This study has been approved by the University of Kwa-Zulu Natal – School of Humanities- The Human and Social Sciences Research Ethics Committee. The Committee is comprised of members of the public, academics, lawyers, doctors and pastoral carers. Its main role is to protect participants. If needed, verification of approval can be obtained either by writing to the University Human Research Ethics Committee, c/- Office of Research and Development, UKZN.

**CONTACT DETAILS**

**Researcher: Mr Robbane Govender**

Contact: [robbanegovender@gmail.com](mailto:robbanegovender@gmail.com) / +270743684133

Postal: 12 Key West, Ilala Ridge Estate, La Lucia, 4016

**CONSENT FORM**

I .....(print name),

have read the attached information sheet and agree to participate in this research project, with the understanding that:

- The project’s purpose and my part in the research have been fully explained to me and I understand the explanation.
- I have been given the opportunity to ask questions.
- I understand that my involvement is voluntary and I can withdraw at any time without problem.
- I understand that no personal identifying information (such as my name and address) will be used.
- I understand that all information will be securely stored for five years before being destroyed.

**Signature of participant:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Print name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Details (Non-compulsory):** \_\_\_\_\_



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INYUVESI  
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

## COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

MASTERS RESEARCH PROPOSAL  
(HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES)

### **A1. General Participant Questionnaire**

**Researcher:** Mr Robbane Govender

**Proposal:** SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

**A Proposed Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban**

1- How has your City influenced your social and economic capabilities?

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2- Have you noticed Underutilized Areas or spaces in your surrounding environment and how has this space impacted you?

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3- What would you use this underutilized or otherwise known as: 'Lost Space' for?

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4- Do you think sport has a way of promoting more interaction within this given space? If Yes then why?

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5- What Sport interests you the most and do you participate in any sporting activities?

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6- What type of Facility would you say could help promote a better social response to this Lost Space?

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Signature of General participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Print name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Details (Non-compulsory): \_\_\_\_\_



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## COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

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(HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES)

### **A2. Professional Participant Interview**

**Researcher:** Mr Robbane Govender

**Proposal:** SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

**A Proposed Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban**

1- How has your expertise influenced your understanding of the urban context?

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2 - Have noticed issues of inactive voids otherwise known as 'lost spaces' in the urban context?

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3- What would you suggest is the ideal manner in which to respond to these 'lost spaces?'

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4- Do you think sports could be used as the ideal tool to revitalize these 'lost space?' If yes, then why?

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5- How has sport impacted you in life from early developmental stages until adulthood?

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6- What influence does your expertise suggest to harness the idea of sport as a means to respond to the social, economic and architectural aspect of urban context?

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**Signature of Professional participant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

**Print name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Details (Non-compulsory):** \_\_\_\_\_



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## COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES

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(HUMAN AND SOCIAL SCIENCES)

### **A.3 Youth Participant Interview**

**Researcher:** Mr Robbane Govender

**Proposal:** SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

**A Proposed Soccer Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban**

1- Do you enjoy living in the city? If Yes, then why?

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2 – Do you feel that there are many unused places in the city? How have these spaces made you feel?

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3- What would you do to make these spaces better?

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4- Do you think sports could be used to make these space better for you to use these spaces?

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5- Do you play sports? If yes, then why and how has it made you feel to play?

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6- Would you use this space if a Sports was there? If yes, then why?

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**Signature of Youth participant or Legal Parent/ Guardian:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

**Print name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Details (Non-compulsory):** \_\_\_\_\_



## **A.4 Gatekeepers Consent Form**

To whom it may concern

**Mr Robbane Govender, Student No.: 207750470, a Masters of Architecture** student in the School of Built Environment and Development Studies, formally requests permission to interview staff in your institution/department and use the data collected and / or produced by your institution in aid of his Masters dissertation research entitled:

**“SPORTS AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN ‘LOST SPACE’ - A Proposed Sports Academy for the Adolescent Youth of Durban”**

The dissertation will acknowledge your institution and name and will be shared with your institution upon request.

Thank you and Kind regards

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Mr Lawrence .B Ogunsanya**

**Supervisor**

**School of Built Environment and Development Studies**

**Email: ogunsanya@ukzn.ac.za**

**Tel number: +27 31 260 2050**

Permission to use data Granted by:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF DEPARTMENT \_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_



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# BACKGROUND RESEARCH

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

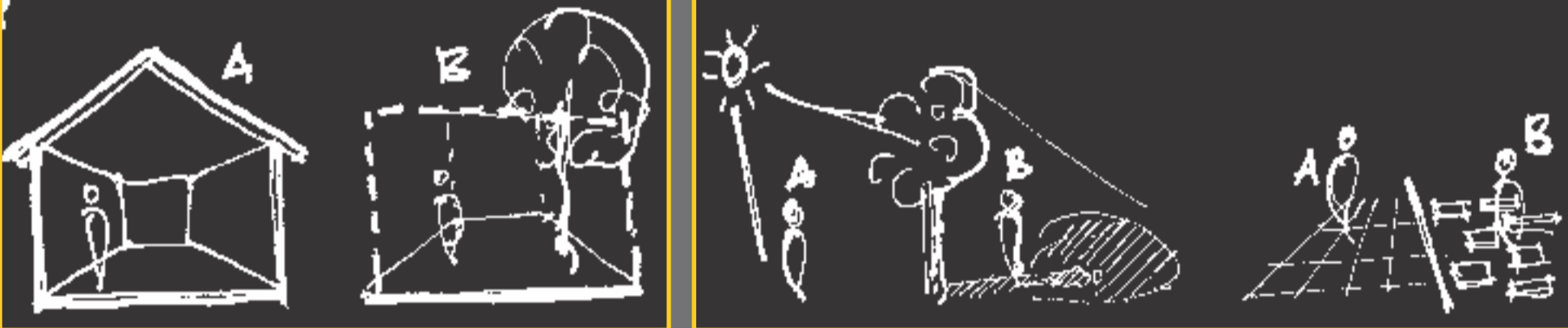
**THE INTERACTION OF PEOPLE & SPACE** in a given urban context, is of vital importance to the socio-economic realm **to prevent Urban Decay**. The **lack of social cohesion and urban activity** thus promote **'LOST SPACES' in need of Revitalization**



Socially Cohesive City

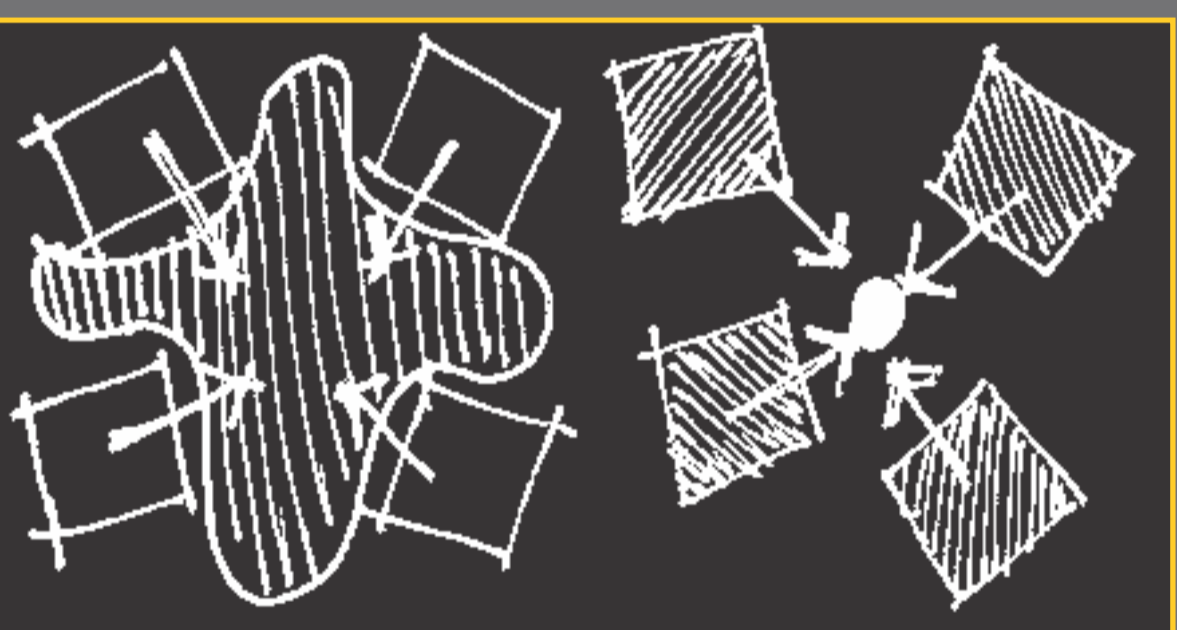
## THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

### THE THEORY OF PHENOMENOLOGY



**"the way we experience things"**, (Smith,2013).  
It is the responsibility of **implementing sensory design in order to establish experiential spaces perceived by people**.  
The manipulation of space, material, light & shadow to create memorable experience through an impact on human senses **to promote integration of sensory perception as a function of a built form**. (Lehman, 2012).

### THEORY OF PLACE-MAKING



**To design urban spaces that people will want to use** (Carmona M. et al. 2003),  
Successful public places are **measured by social and economic context determined by its sustainability**.  
**Human needs, cultural, historical & natural Contexts** that give physical space additional richness by incorporating unique forms and details in its context.  
Principles of **enclosures & linkages** assist in the **perception of an individuals** understanding of space.

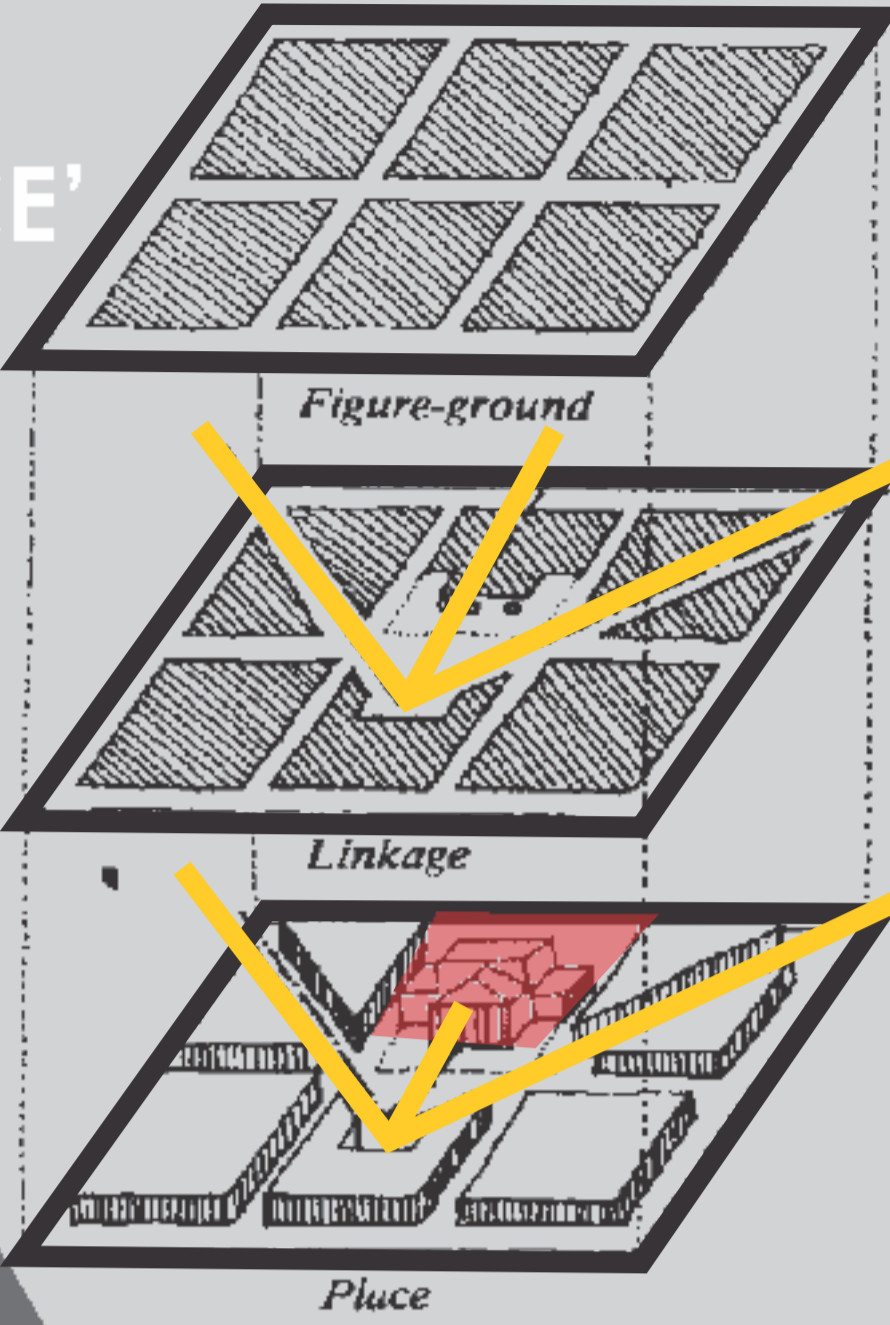
### SOCIAL COHESION



Refers to the **bonds that bring society together**: employment, income, health, education and housing, which **facilitate good relations between and within communities**. These factors **form the social fabric of society and indicate social progress**. (Kintrea:2004)  
**Eg: Sport and recreation** positively contribute to building social cohesion\_ physical and mental health, high educational attainment, reducing crime & antisocial behaviour, creating employment opportunities and earning potential, and ensuring a healthy workforce.

# CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

## FINDING 'LOST SPACE'



Transik develops the model to locate & Revitalize Lost Space with the supporting theories of **LINKAGE, FIGURE GROUND AND PLACE THEORY**.

Malcolm Moor defines Urban Design as: **"The art of making places for people"**  
- **connections between people and places**, movement and urban form, nature and the built fabric, and the processes for ensuring successful villages, towns and cities.

Creating **sustainable developments** and the conditions for a flourishing economic life, for the prudent use of natural resources and for social progress.  
Can help create **lively places with distinctive character**; streets and public spaces that are safe, accessible, pleasant to use and human in scale" (Moor, 2006: 30).

**ROGER TRANSIK'S THEORY OF 'LOST SPACE'**  
**Area left over or forgotten amongst the urban fabric** in need of revitalization.  
**Buildings are treated as isolated objects** sited in the **landscape**, not part of the broader urban fabric.  
These gaps disrupt the continuity of the urban form, **disconnecting person from space and built form**. (1986)

## SPORT AS A TOOL

**"Sports is an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment (Oxford, 2015)."**

The presumption that **Sport can contribute to community development, urban revitalization and social cohesion**, further allows the understanding that **participation and spectating** in sport can promote positive characteristics to combat urban Lost Spaces.

**Team sport promotes the art of Teamwork to understand one's limits and skills**(ILAM: 1999)

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

**Youth, ages of 15 to 24, make up over 6% of the world's population**, but are seldom recognized as important roles used to shape the future.



# DELIMITATION OF THE PROBLEM

**PROBLEM STATEMENT:**  
The existence of **LOST SPACE** in the Urban Context of Durban.

**PURPOSE?**  
To Revitalize this space back into its surrounding context.

**AIM?**  
To determine the impact of 'Lost spaces' in a given urban context that could be revitalized by a tool of Sport focused on the development of Youth as the foundation component to urban fabric of Durban.

- OBJECTIVE?**
- To revitalize 'Lost spaces' using the youth and integrating them into the Social and Urban context of Durban by the means of Architecture in the built form.
  - The outcome of this research will aid in the proposal of a Facility that will address and develop the Youth at their foundation stages through education using a sport as a common tool.
  - To understand the relationship between Sport and the built form.
  - To create a catalyst for future activity in the Durban Curries Fountain Precinct thus revitalizing existing Lost Spaces.

**WHAT?**  
Using Sport as a tool for the development of the Youth at their foundation stages.

**WHO?**  
For the Past, Present and Future Community of the Durban Curries Fountain Precinct\_Specific to the Adolescent Youth.

**WHY?**  
To create a catalyst for further social activities within the precinct.

**HOW ?**  
To provide a facility in the Built Form to promote many opportunities for the educative development of the Youth.

**NOTIONAL CLIENT?**  
ETHEKWENI MUNICIPALITY AND THE DUT / CURRIES FOUNTAIN SPORTS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

# SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

**1** Primer Information\_ A PROPOSED **SPORTS FACILITY** FOR THE YOUTH OF DURBAN





# KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

**EDUCATION**

## COMMON THREADS & NEEDS INVESTIGATIVE INTERVIEWS AND PRECINCT ANALYSIS IN & AROUND THE DURBAN CBD

**INTERVIEW 01:** Young Black lady(21)\_student at Local College\_

- CRIME
- MORE POLICING
- WISH TO RELOCATE
- INCREASED FOOD EXPENSES

**SAFETY**

**INTERVIEW 02:** Indian Male Shop owner(58)\_Takeaway Franchise store\_ RESIDENT AND STORE OWNER

- THRIVES OF STREET ACTIVITY FOR BUSINESS

**RECREATION**

**INTERVIEW 03:** Young black boy(14)\_street kid\_

- INTEREST IN CITY MODEL
- RESIDENT OF THE AREA / STREET
- INTEREST IN RESCREATION - SURFING
- LEARN FROM LIFE EXPERIENCES
- MORE FOOD RESOURCES

**EMPLOYMENT**

**INTERVIEW 04:** Old white man(late 60's)\_ RESIDENT OF THE AREA

- ENJOYS STREET ACTIVITY & INTER-RACIAL INTERACTION
- ENJOYS 'POCKET PARKS'
- THRIVES ON CHEAPER FOOD RESOURCES

**FOOD RESOURCES**

**INTERVIEW 05:** Young Black woman(28)\_ RESIDENT OF THE AREA AND STREET VENDOR

- DISAPPOINTED OF LAND CLAIM AND INFLUX OF ILLEGAL FOREIGNERS
- AGAINST INFLUENCE OF BARS/PUBS, ALCOHOL/WOMAN AND DRUG ABUSE ACROSS ALL AGES.

### SPORT AS A TOOL

## WHAT TYPE OF SPORTS positively influence youth development?

**TEAM SPORTS**

help develop the youth in aspects of **skills and social cohesion**

**SOCCER ( Football )**

The art of easy social activities comes from the **simplicity of participation**

**ALLIED SPORTS**

Various other sports will help develop **physical and mental abilities at foundation age bracket ( Youth )**

# PRECEDENT & CASE STUDIES

## NEW YORK USA\_ High Line Park\_ Urban Renewal Project\_ Patrick Hazari Architect, James Corner Field , Diller Scofidio.



**"FOSTERING A STRONG COMMUNITY & NEIGHBOURHOOD"** FOHL (2002)

- Optimized usage of space
- creating active spaces above ground
- promoting better social cohesion within an urban environment
- good use of Urban Furniture
- Layering of Functions\_ creating social spaces on different levels

## NICOSIA CYPRUS\_ The Allegra GSP Centre\_ New Sports Centre & Precinct\_ Theo David Architects



**"SPORT, ACCOMODATION & TRAINING"** Moritz Gruppe (2011)

- Sport used as a Tool for Urban Revitalization
- Layering of Functions from street edge up into Building
- Active Street edges for social realm
- Pedestrian friendly Urban Framework
- Good Orientation for solar gain

## DURBAN RSA\_ The Curries Fountain\_ Sports Development Centre\_ Durban City Architects.



**"THE PEOPLE'S CENTRE"** CFSDC

- Sports used as a Tool for Community Empowerment - HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO SPORT & POLITICS
- good use of open Space
- good link to Public Transport and allied Educational Facilities
- NOT ENOUGH INFRASTRUCTURE TO CARRY AMOUNT OF SPORTING FUNCTIONS

## DURBAN RSA\_ The Promenade\_ BeachFront Urban Strip\_ MTA Bloc Architects.



**"DURBANS WATER SPORT ATTRACTION"** SA Tourism

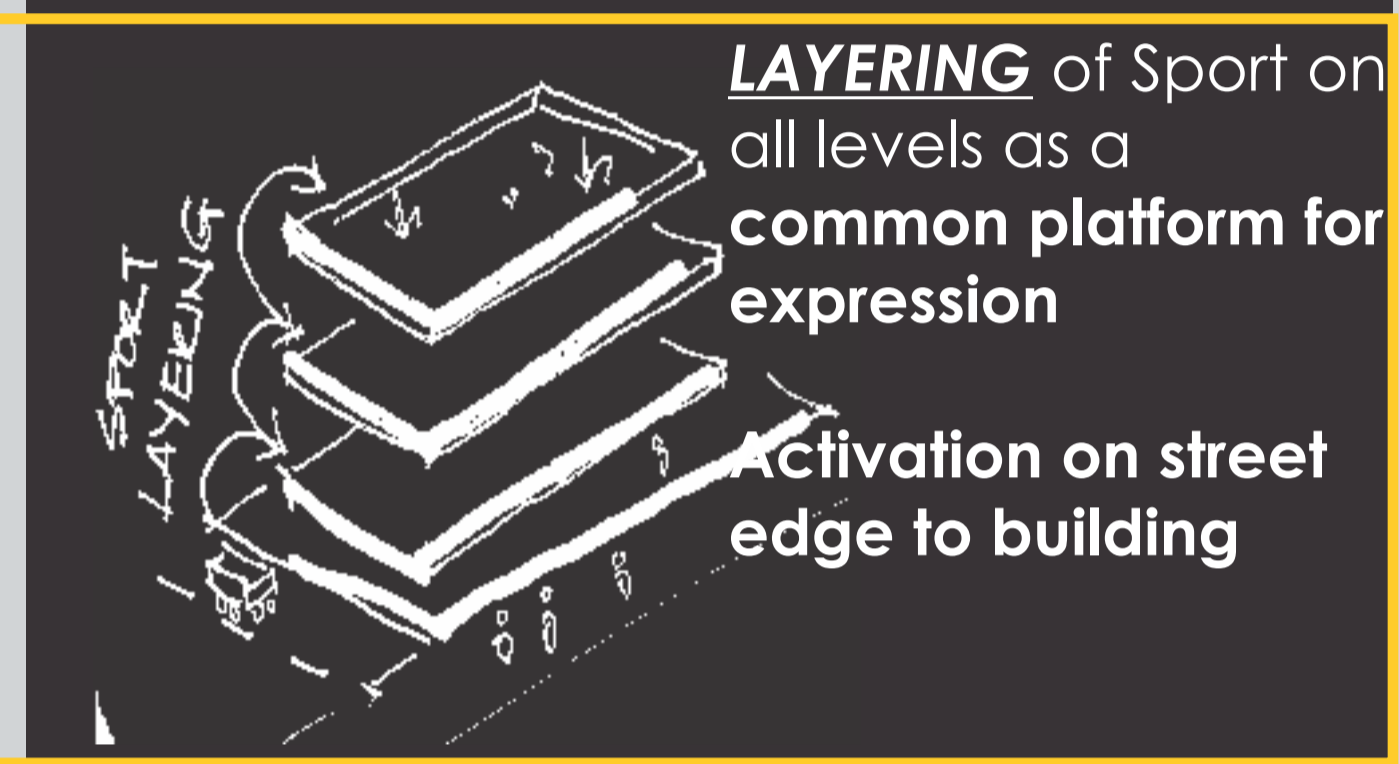
- Sports (ie: Water Sports) used as a Tool for Community RECREATION & Tourism
- good usage of space relating to surrounding context
- Very pedestrian friendly
- Much Social & Trade Activities
- Unlimited access
- NEED MORE ACTIVITIES IN DEAD AREAS

# DESIGN PRINCIPLES

## VIBILITY



## LAYERING



## TRANSPARENCY



## ACCESSIBILITY



# SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

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# URBAN CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

# SITE SELECTION PROCESS

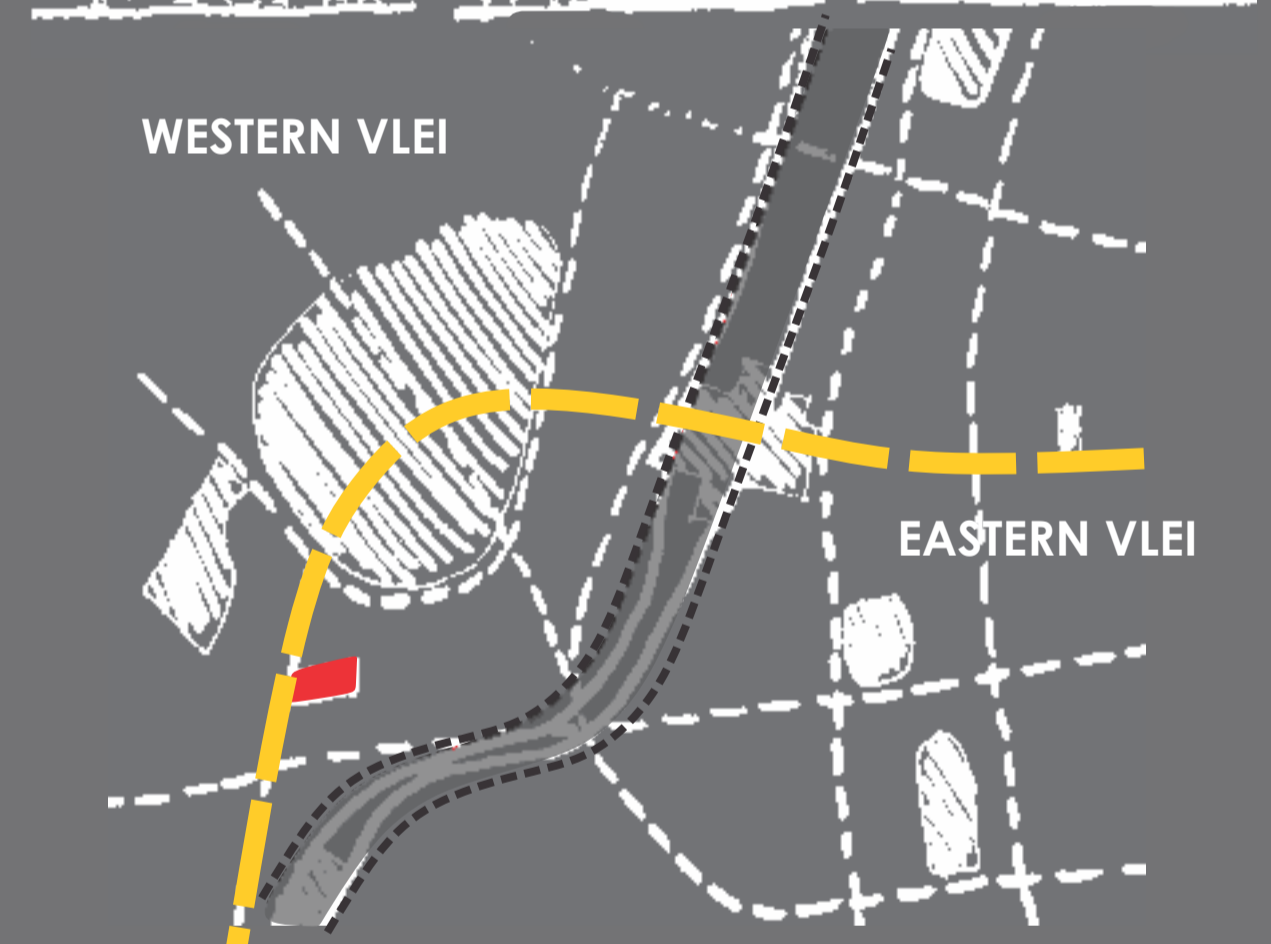


IMPLEMENTING TRANSIK'S LINKAGE, FIGURE GROUND AND PLACE THEORY TO IDENTIFY POSSIBLE SITES

## ARCHITECTURAL RESPONSE

LOCAL ROLE PLAYERS ARE INVOLVED AS FUNCTIONAL COMPONENTS TO SOCIETY IN ITS CONTEXT-

## PEOPLE, STREET & BUILDING



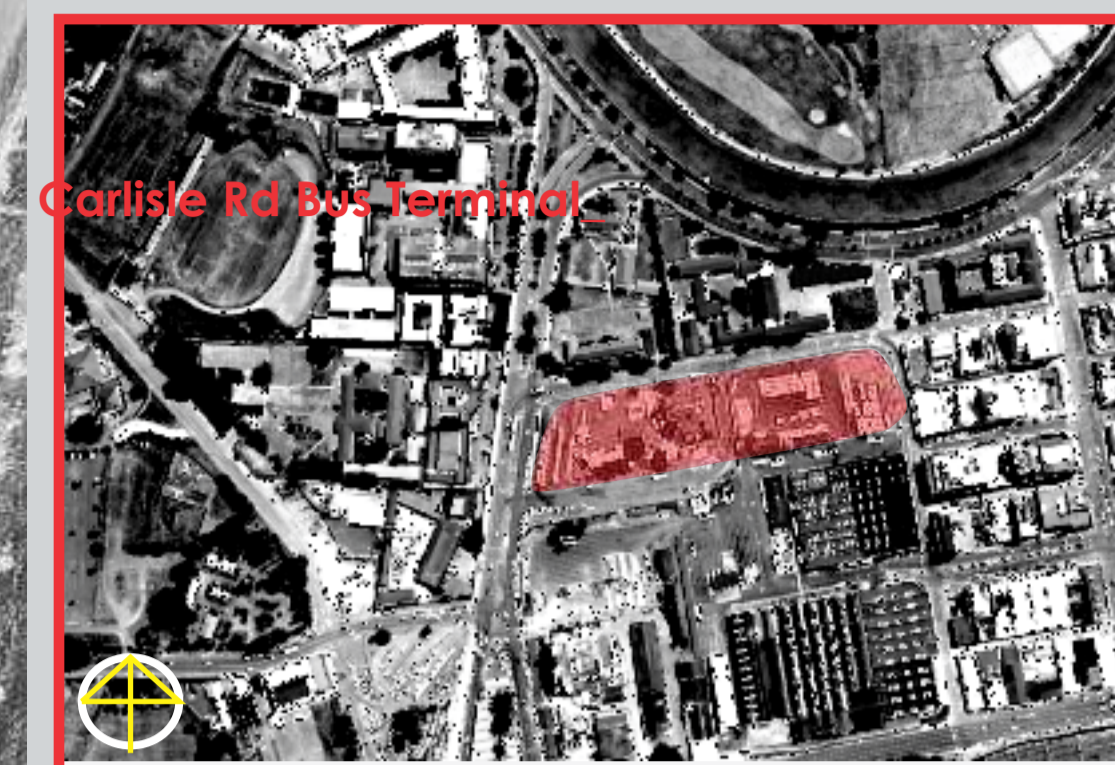
IDENTIFYING MAJOR ROUTES AND EXISTING SPORTING FACILITIES IN THE URBAN CONTEXT

## URBAN INTERVENTION ROUTE

PROMOTE BETTER PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITIES  
LINK TO MORE PUBLIC TRANSPORT  
REVITALIZATION STRATEGY FOR EXISTING LOST SPACES  
LINKING DISCONNECTED AREAS OF THE URBAN FABRIC  
BETTER OPTIMISED USAGE OF LAND (GREYVILLE RACECOURSE)  
CAN USE SPORT AS A COMMON BENEFIT TO CONNECT ALL SECTORS OF THE URBAN CONTEXT OF DURBAN.



IDENTIFYING AND LOCATING POTENTIAL "LOST SPACE" THROUGH TRANSIK'S FIGURE GROUND, LINKAGE & PLACE THEORY



## SITE 1 ANALYSIS

- 90%**
- PROS:**
- NORTH ORIENTATION
  - PEDESTRIAN ACCESS
  - PUBLIC TRANSPORT POSSIBLE BRT ROUTE
  - SERVICE ROAD
  - POSSIBLE PEDESTRIAN THOROUGHFARE
  - PRIVATE / PUBLIC LAYERING
  - PROPORTION OF SPACES ON SITE
  - CLOSE TO PUBLIC ACTIVITIES / TRADE
- FACILITIES**
- CONS:**
- EXISTING DENSIFICATION (SHADOWS?)
  - NOISE FACTOR
  - CONTROL OF TRAFFIC

## SITE 2 ANALYSIS

- 75%**
- PROS:**
- QUIETER SITE
  - PUBLIC TRANSPORT ON EAST-LINK TO TRAIN ST.
  - SERVICE ROAD
  - POSSIBLE PEDESTRIAN THOROUGHFARE
  - CLOSE TO PUBLIC ACTIVITIES / TRADE
- FACILITIES**
- CONS:**
- WEST ORIENTATION
  - NO ACTIVATION OF EDGES
  - NOT PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY
  - DISCONNECTED FROM PUBLIC TRADE
- ACTIVITIES**
- TOO MUCH UNUSED SPACE SURROUNDING SITE
- SITE ACT**
- SITE UNDER INVESTIGATION-GROUP AREAS

## SITE 3 ANALYSIS

- 60%**
- PROS:**
- QUIETER SITE
  - PUBLIC TRANSPORT WEST END TO TAXIS
  - EXISTING STRUCTURE TO REUSE
  - CLOSE TO PUBLIC ACTIVITIES / TRADE
- FACILITIES**
- SUFFICIENT UNUSED LAND
- CONS:**
- WEST ORIENTATION
  - NO ACTIVATION OF EDGES
  - NOT PEDESTRIAN FRIENDLY
  - DISCONNECTED FROM PUBLIC ACTIVITIES
- TO**
- HEIGHT OF STRUCTURE
  - NEED MORE LINK TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT

## RESPONSES TO KEY FINDINGS



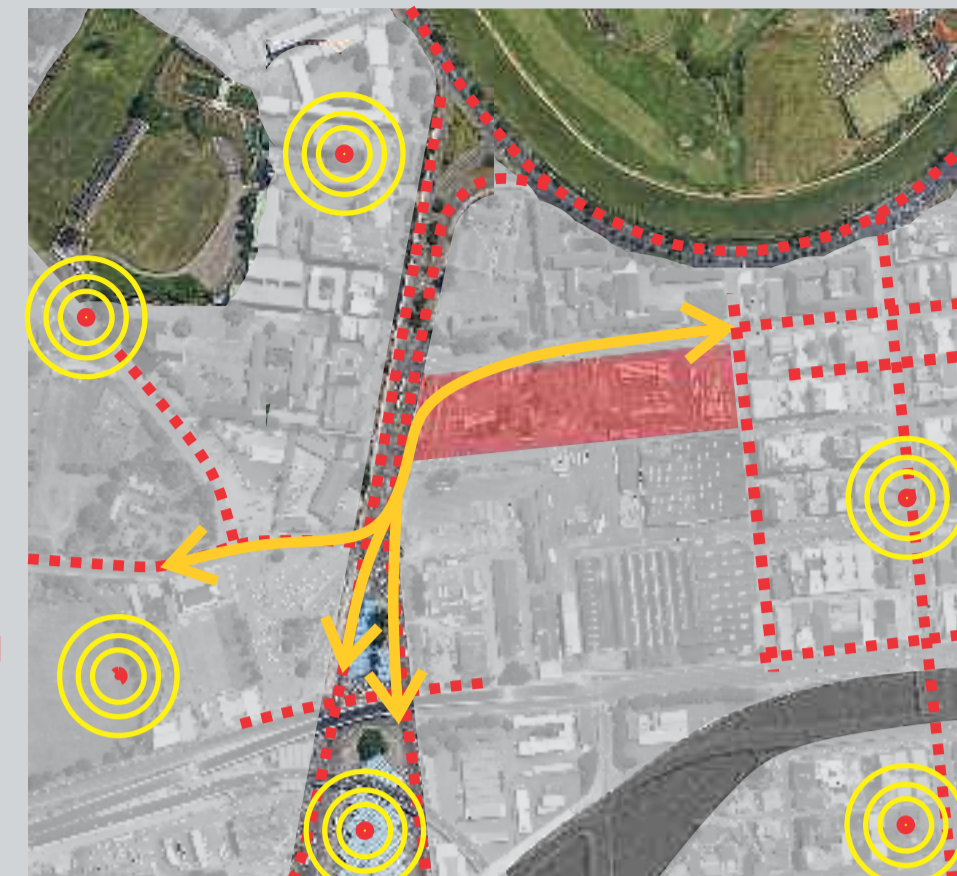
## SPORT AS A CATALYST → TRADE LEARN LIVE



MACRO Analysis



PRECINCT Analysis



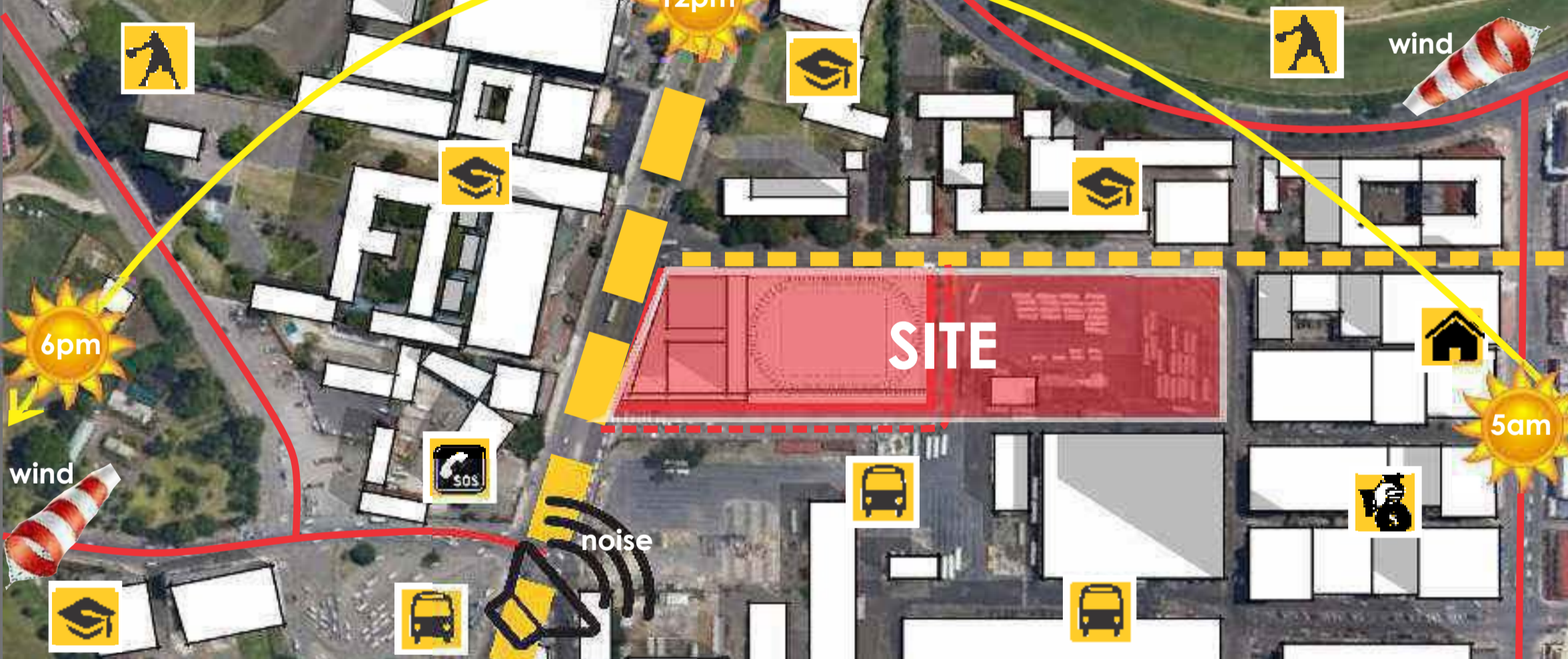
VEHICULAR MOVEMENTS & MAJOR TRANSPORT NODES

MAJOR PEDESTRIAN ROUTES & NODES

KEY LEGEND

- Major Trade Zone
- "Influential PLACE"
- Major Ranks
- ◎ Major People Nodes
- Major Movement
- - - Minor Movement
- Influential Route
- Transport Node
- "LOST SPACES"
- - - PROPOSED ROUTE
- ✕ Sport Precincts
- TRAIN STATION
- SAFETY ZONE
- COMMERCIAL
- SPORT ZONE
- RESIDENTIAL
- STREET TRADE
- TAXI / BUS RANK
- EDUCATIONAL

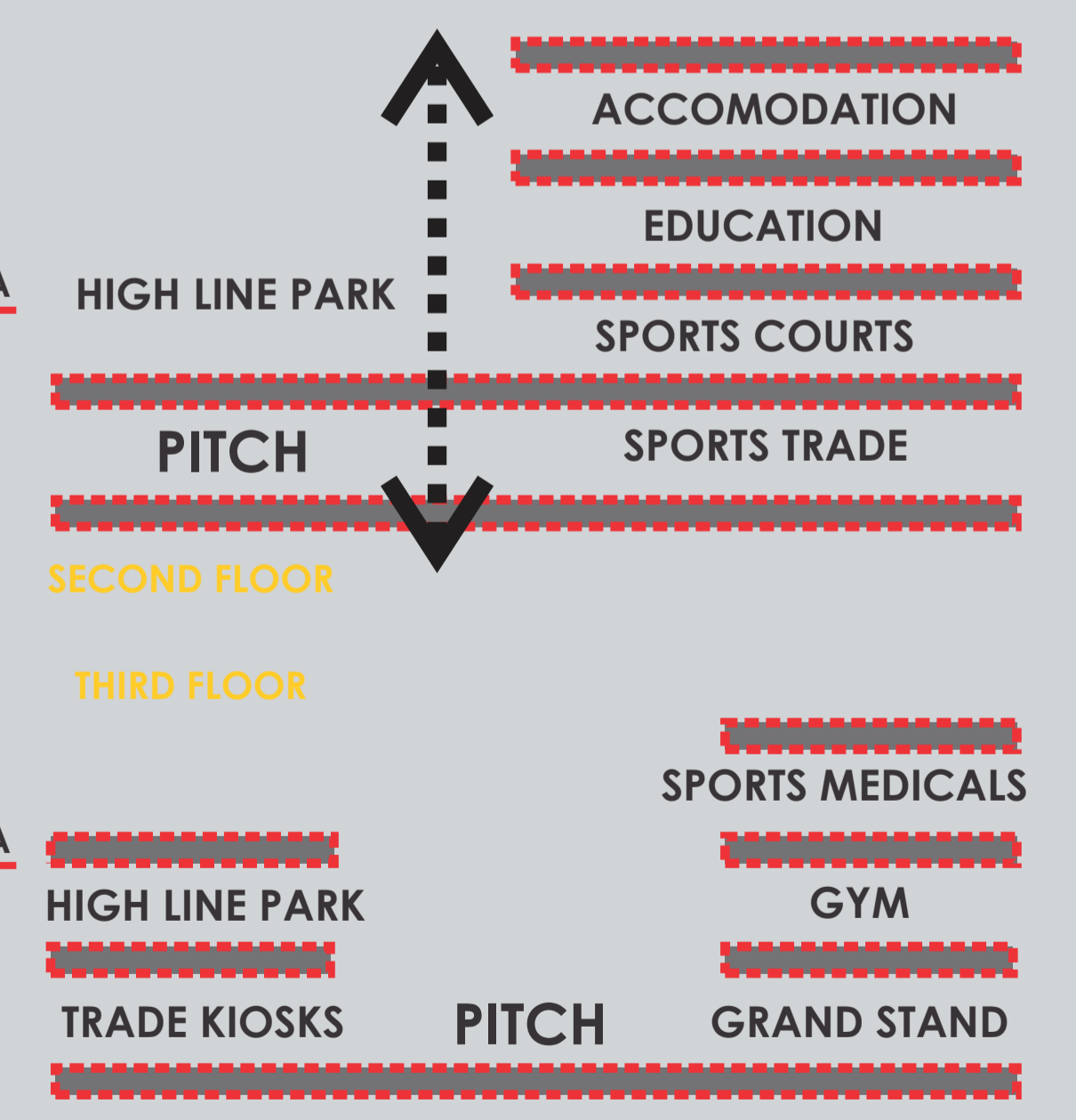
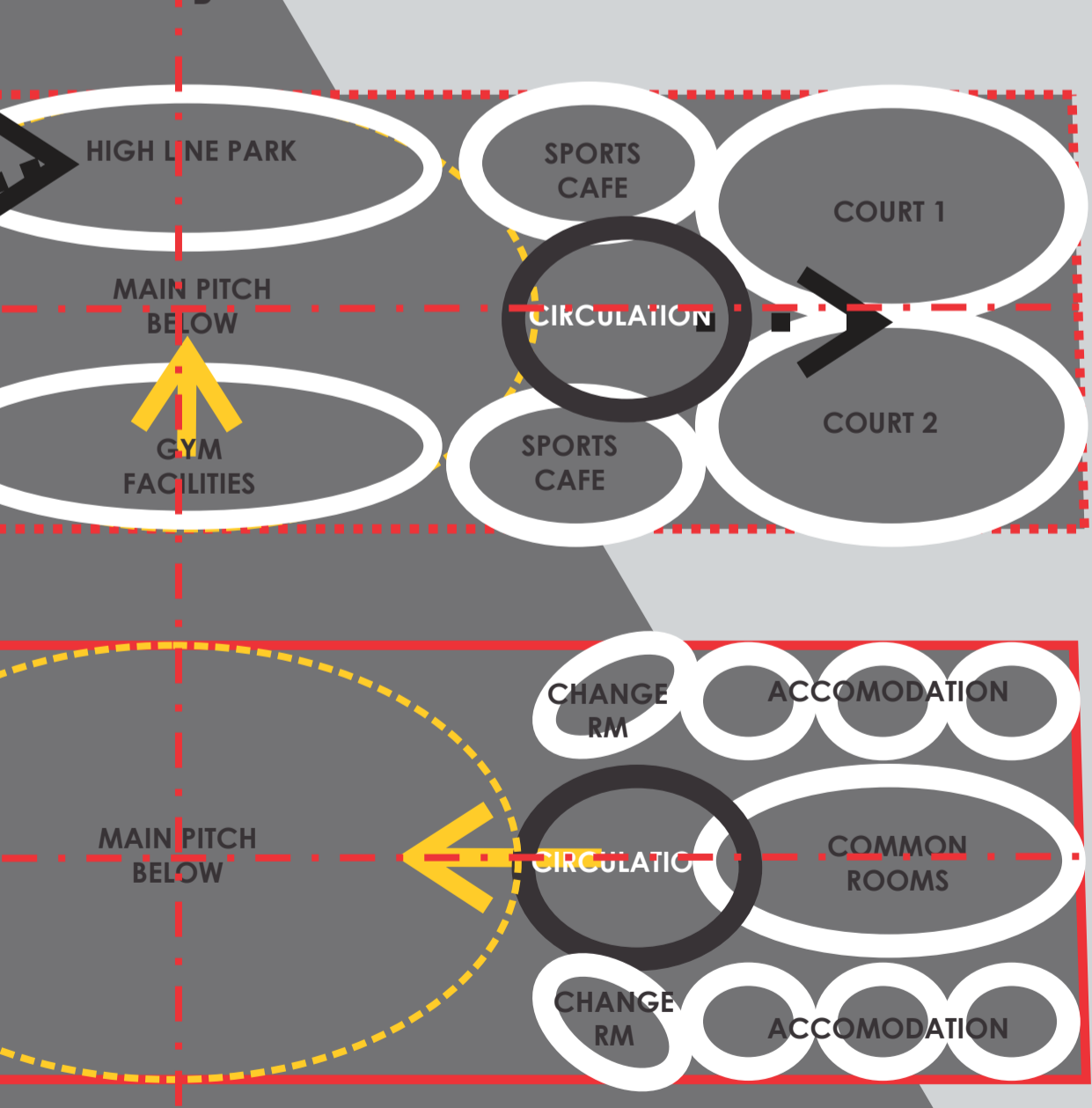
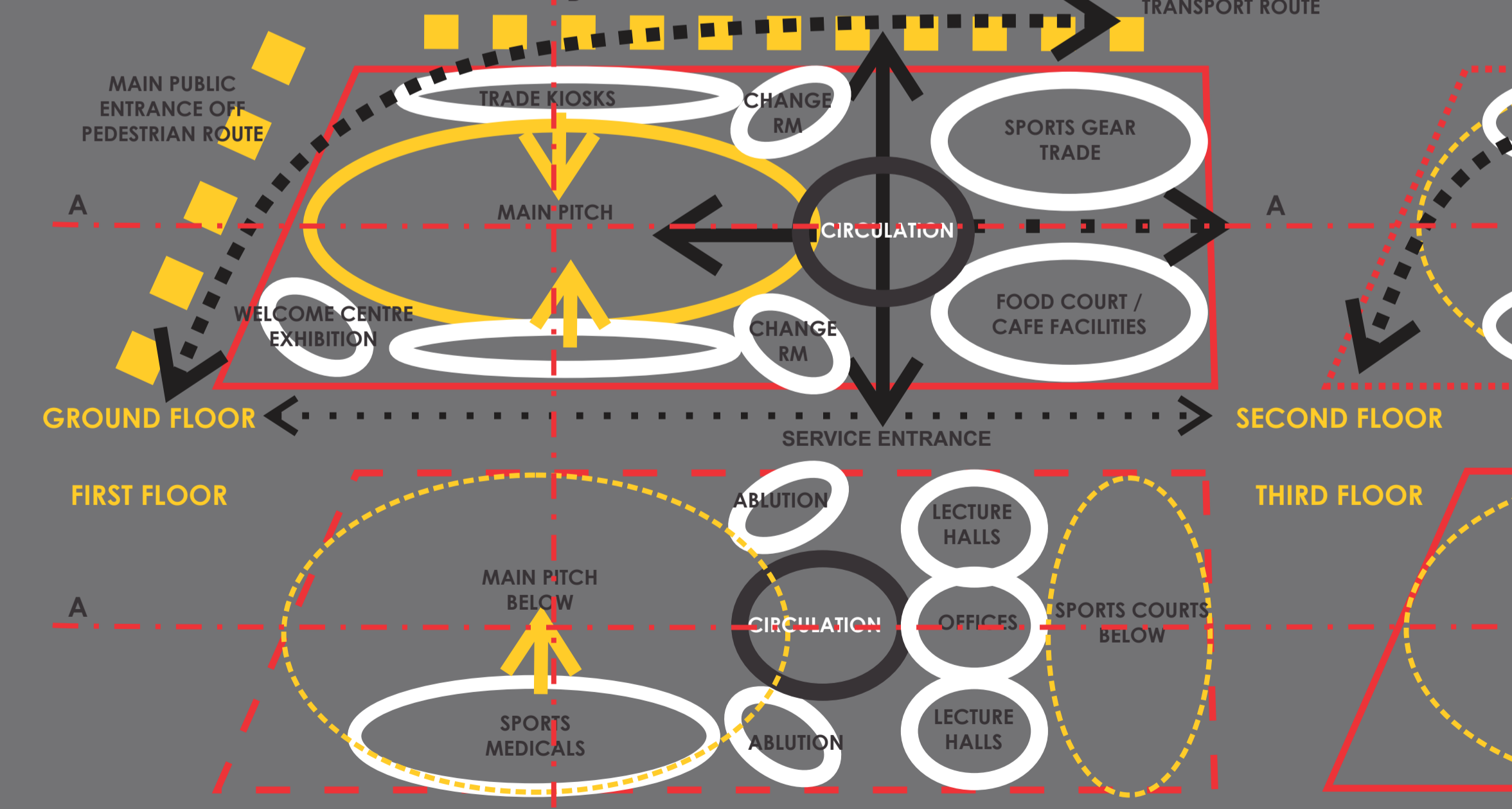
MICRO Analysis



MAJOR TRADE ROUTES & TRADE ZONES

APPLYING TRANSIK'S THEORY TO FIND 'LOST SPACE'

SPACIAL ANALYSIS



SOCIAL



PARKS, RECREATIONAL AND COMMUNAL EATING SPACES



SPORTING FACILITIES THAT INFLUENCE TEAMSILLS



STUDENT ATMOSPHERE PROMOTES EDUCATIONAL SOCIAL SKILLS



SPECTATOR / PARTICIPATOR RELATIONSHIP

ECONOMIC



INFORMAL AND FORMAL TRADE ELEMENTS



LINK TO ALL MODES OF TRANSPORT

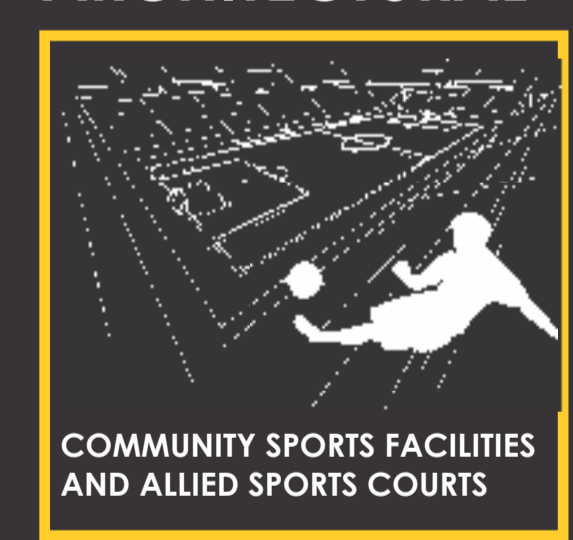


TRADE OF SPORT GEAR AND EQUIPMENT



RENTABLE SPORTS COURTS AND ALLIED FACILITIES

ARCHITECTURAL



COMMUNITY SPORTS FACILITIES AND ALLIED SPORTS COURTS



SPORT MEDICALS, FITNESS & HEALTHY LIFESTYLE FACILITIES

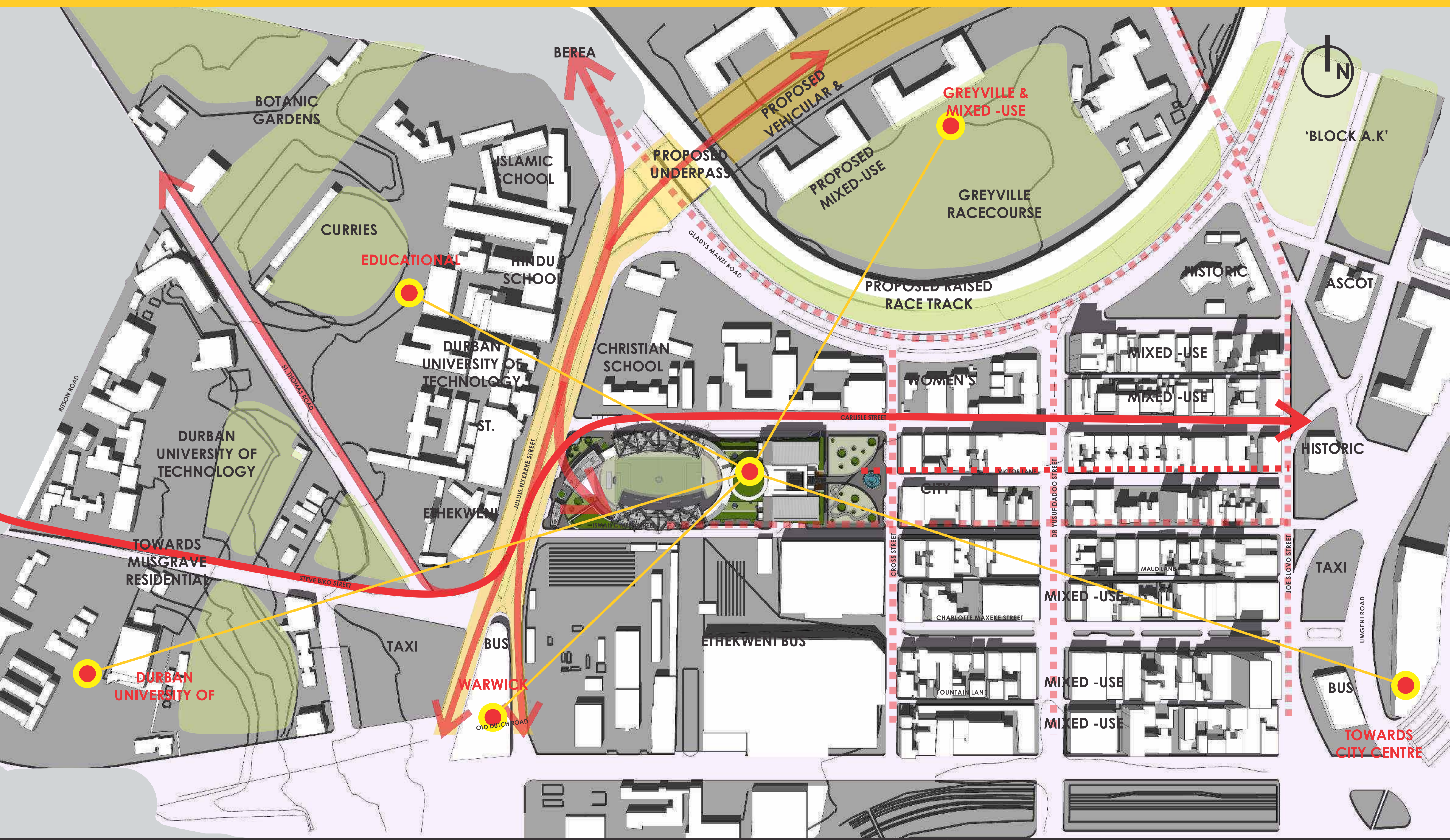


EDUCATIONAL AND SKILLS TRAINING FACILITIES



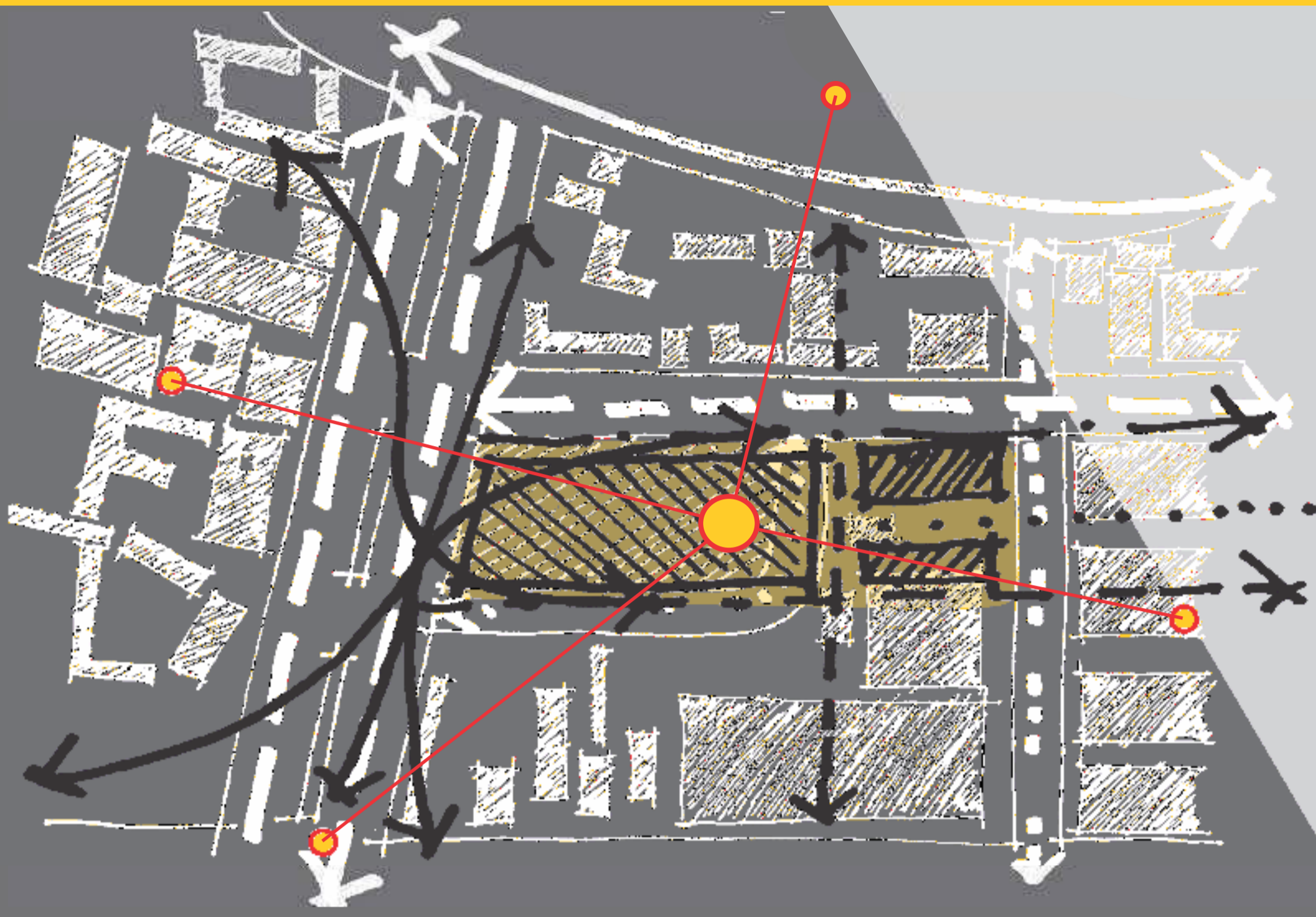
STUDENT ACCOMMODATION AND RELATED FACILITIES





**SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**  
 A PROPOSED **SPORTS FACILITY** FOR THE YOUTH OF DURBAN





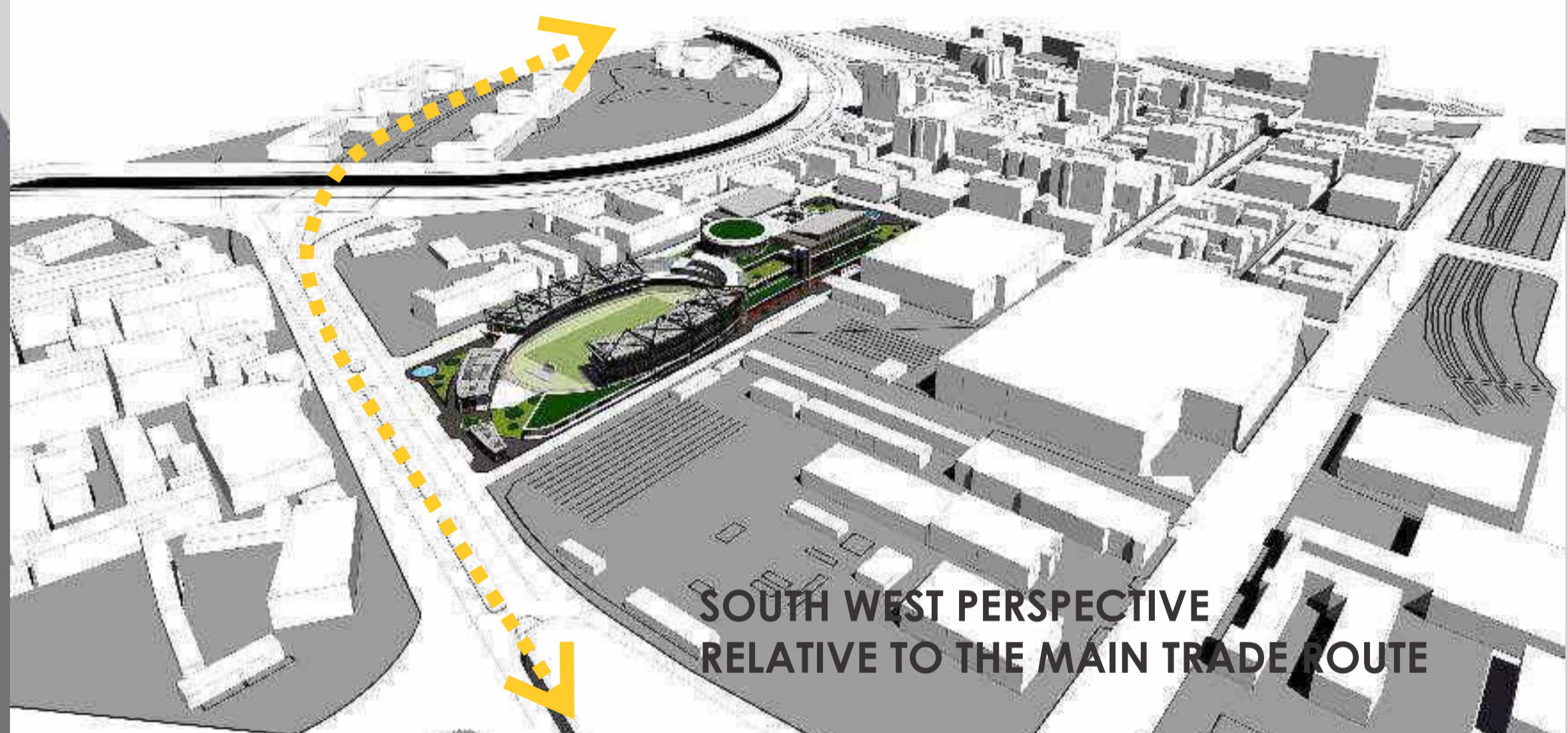
**TRANSIK'S URBAN THEORIES** OF PLACE, LINKAGE & FIGURE GROUND TO UNDERSTAND AND LOCATE "LOST SPACES" IN NEED OF REVITALIZATION

**WHAT TYPE OF SPORTING FACILITY WILL HARNESS THE ESSENCE OF THE RESEARCH FINDINGS TOWARDS A SUITABLE ARCHITECTURAL RESPONSE ?**

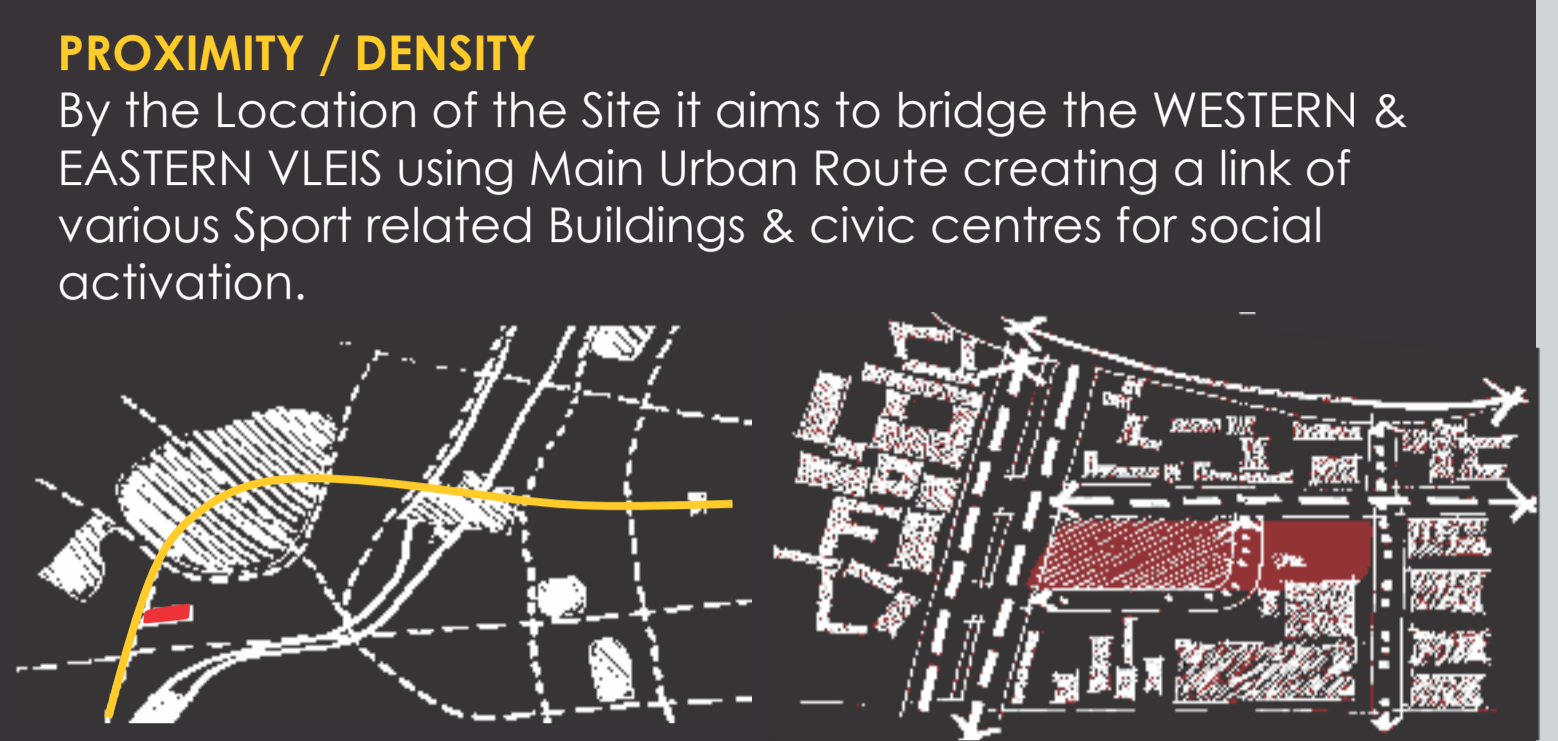
- RELATIONSHIP TO THE SURROUNDING EDUCATIONAL PRECINCT
- FOCUS ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SPORT. IE: SOCCER AS A DEVELOPMENTAL TOOL
- RELEVANCE TO THE HISTORICAL BACKGROUND OF THE PRECINCT TOWARDS SOCCER & ALLIED TEAMSPORTS
- A FACILITY FOCUSED ON ALL ASPECTS OF THE KEY FINDINGS AND RESEARCH OUTCOMES
- A CATALYST FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT (SOCIALY, ECONOMICALLY & ARCHITECTURALLY)



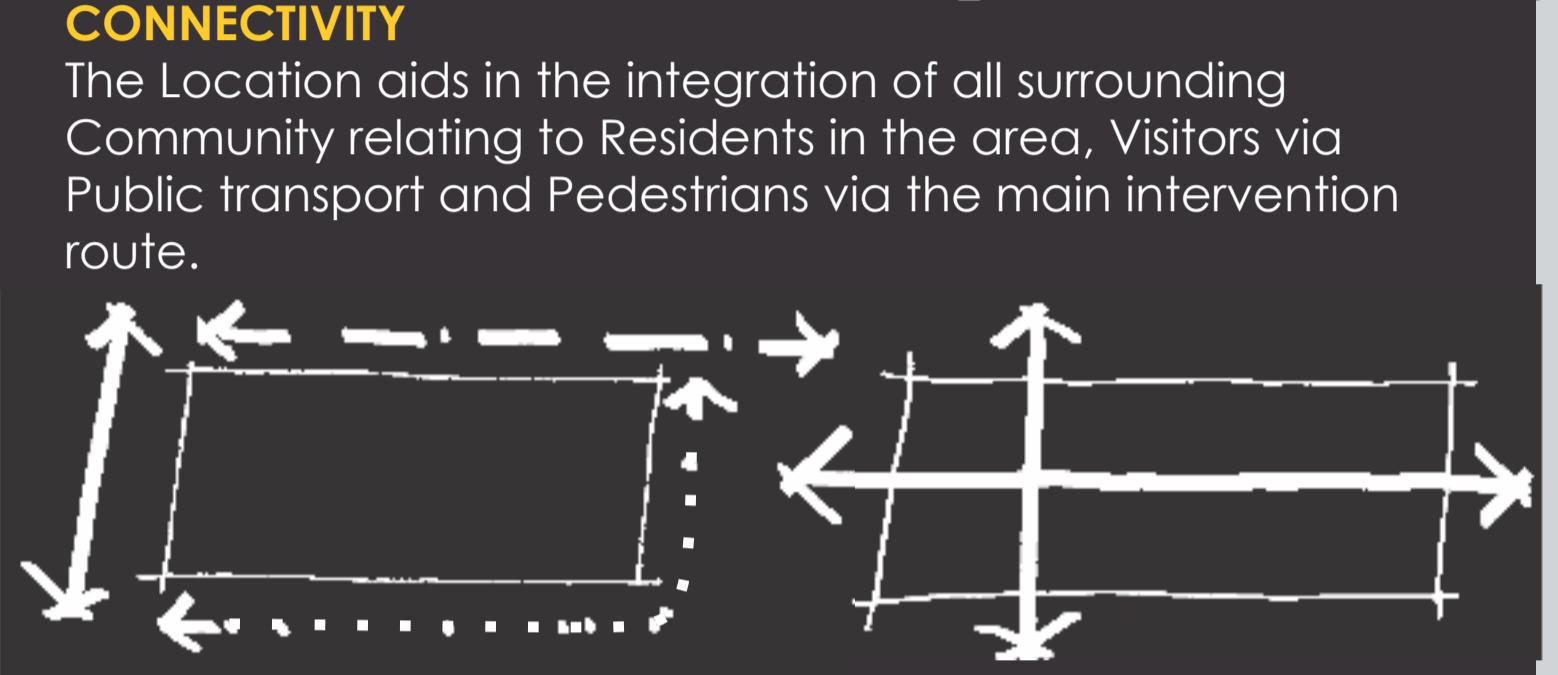
**NORTH EAST PERSPECTIVE**  
RELATIVE TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR



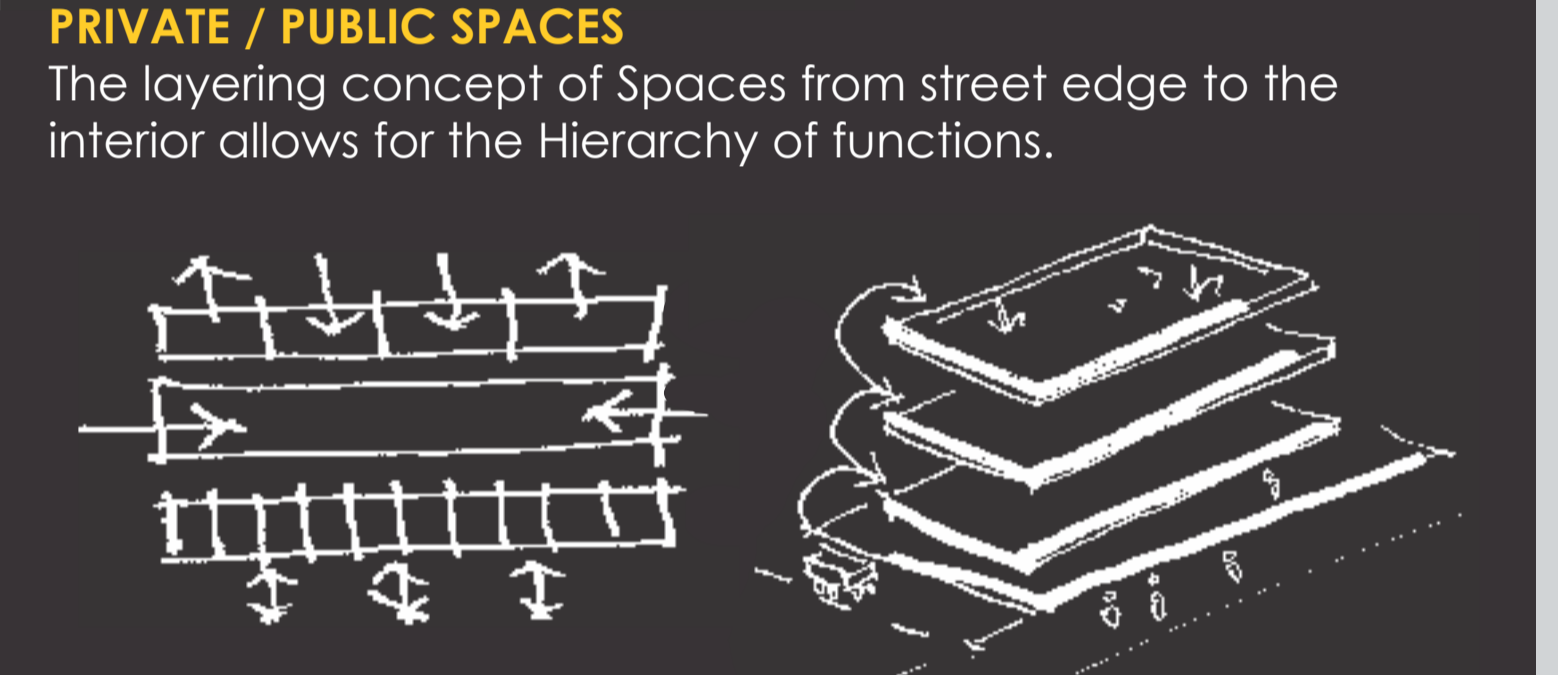
**SOUTH WEST PERSPECTIVE**  
RELATIVE TO THE MAIN TRADE ROUTE



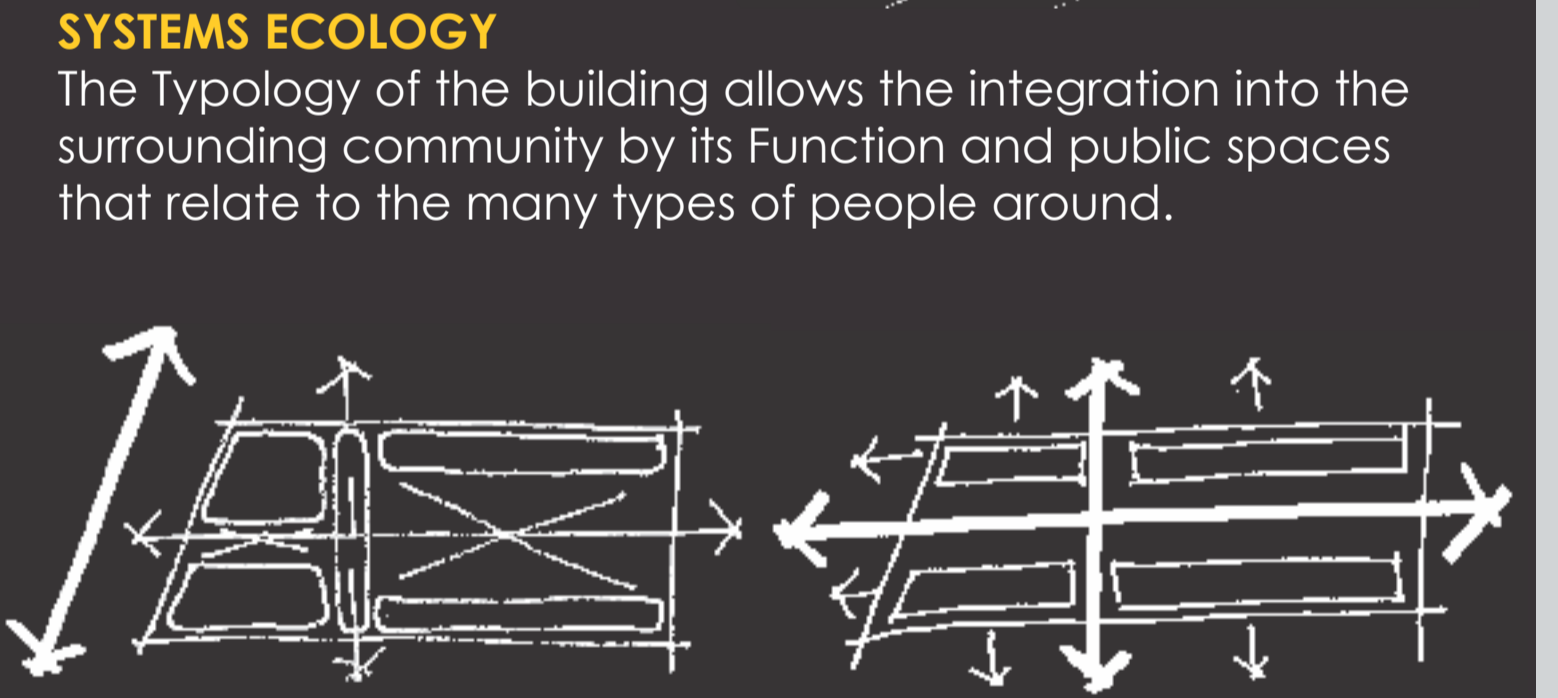
**PROXIMITY / DENSITY**  
By the Location of the Site it aims to bridge the WESTERN & EASTERN VLEIS using Main Urban Route creating a link of various Sport related Buildings & civic centres for social activation.



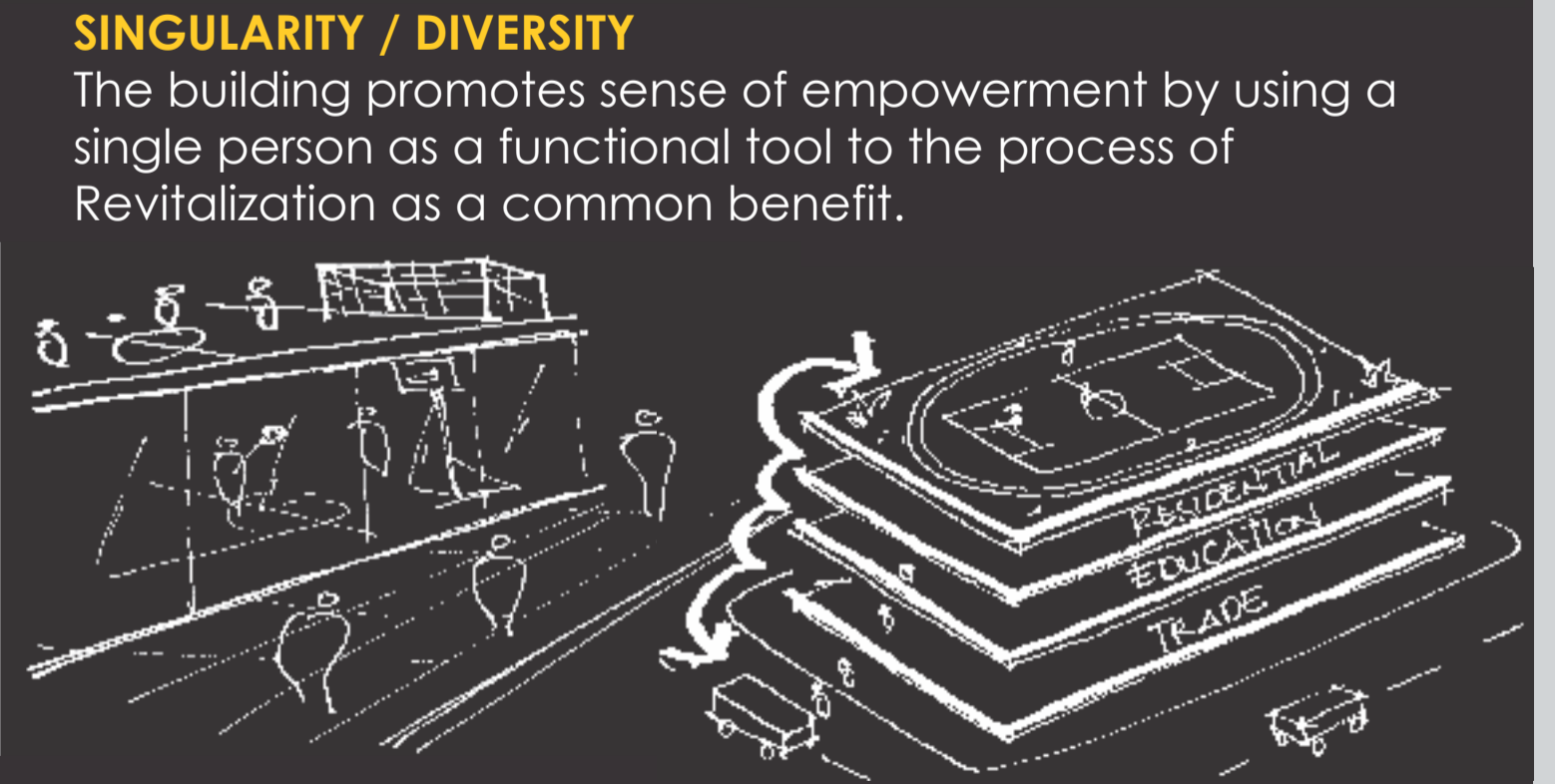
**CONNECTIVITY**  
The Location aids in the integration of all surrounding Community relating to Residents in the area, Visitors via Public transport and Pedestrians via the main intervention route.



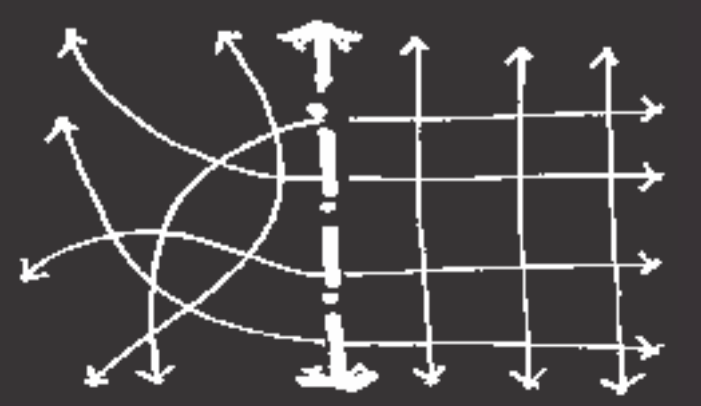
**PRIVATE / PUBLIC SPACES**  
The layering concept of Spaces from street edge to the interior allows for the Hierarchy of functions.



**SYSTEMS ECOLOGY**  
The Typology of the building allows the integration into the surrounding community by its Function and public spaces that relate to the many types of people around.



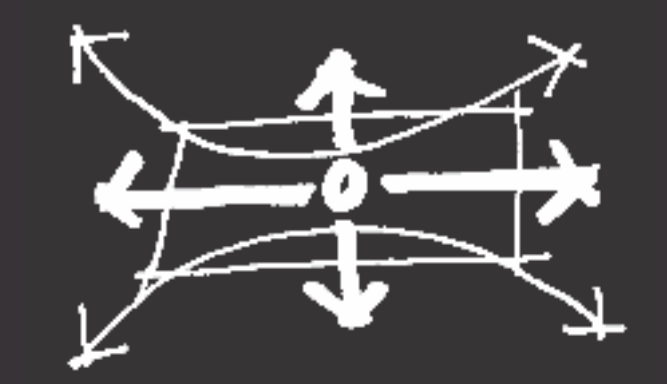
**SINGULARITY / DIVERSITY**  
The building promotes sense of empowerment by using a single person as a functional tool to the process of Revitalization as a common benefit.



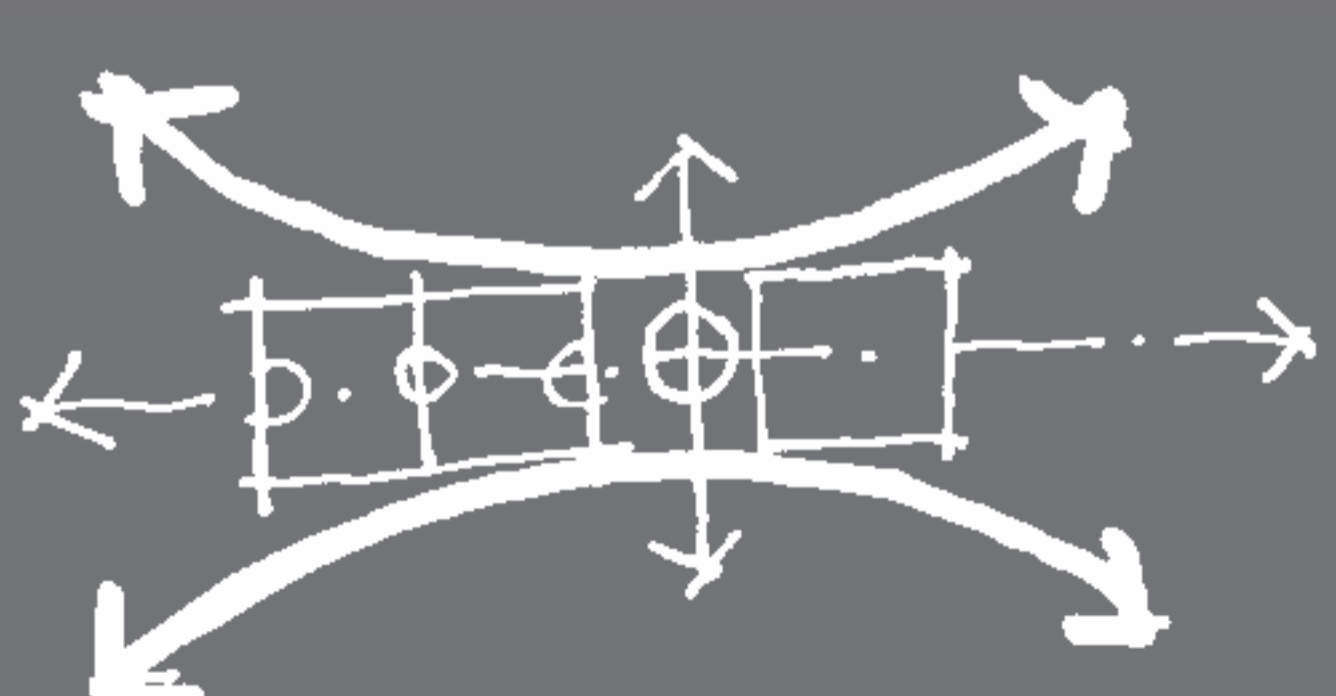
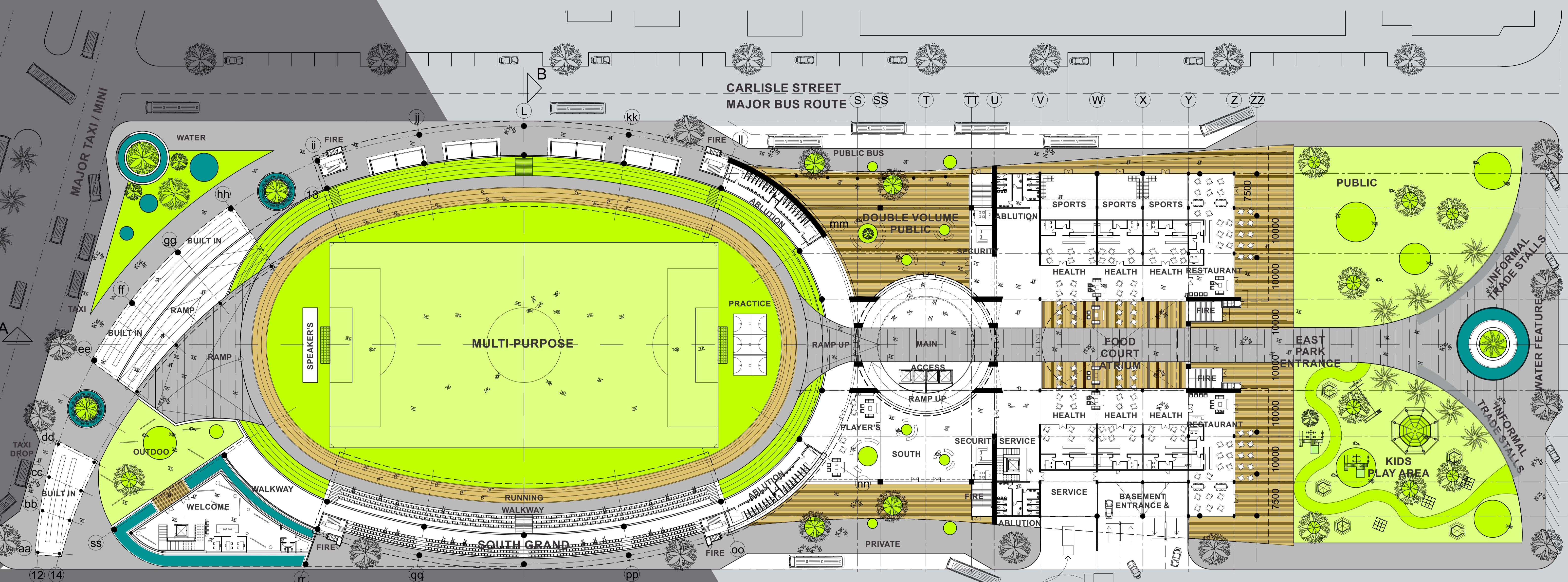
**MERGING TWO DIFFERENT CITY GRID SYSTEMS THROUGH LINKAGE THEORY**



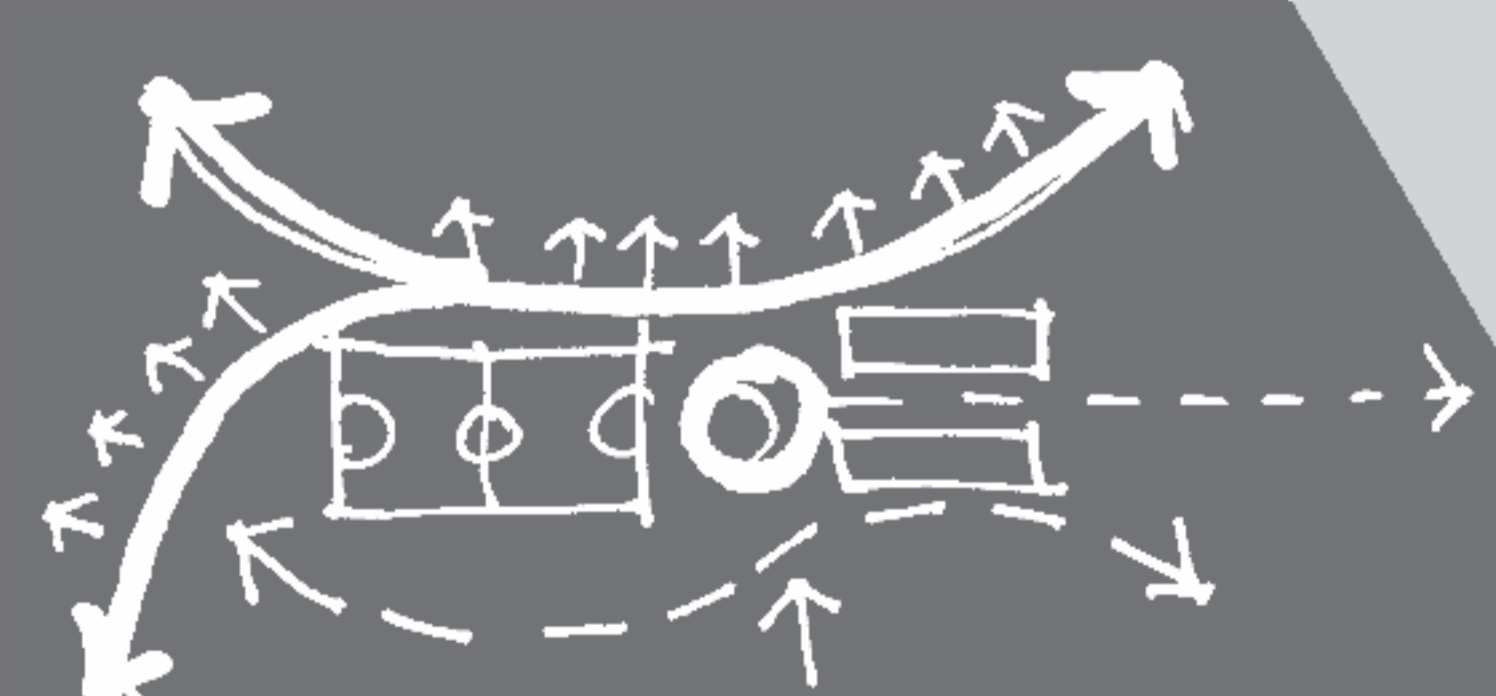
**INFLUENCING PEDESTRIAN ACTIVITY AND MOVEMENT ROUTES**



**RESPONDING TO STREET EDGES THROUGH AXIS AND FUNCTIONAL ROUTES**



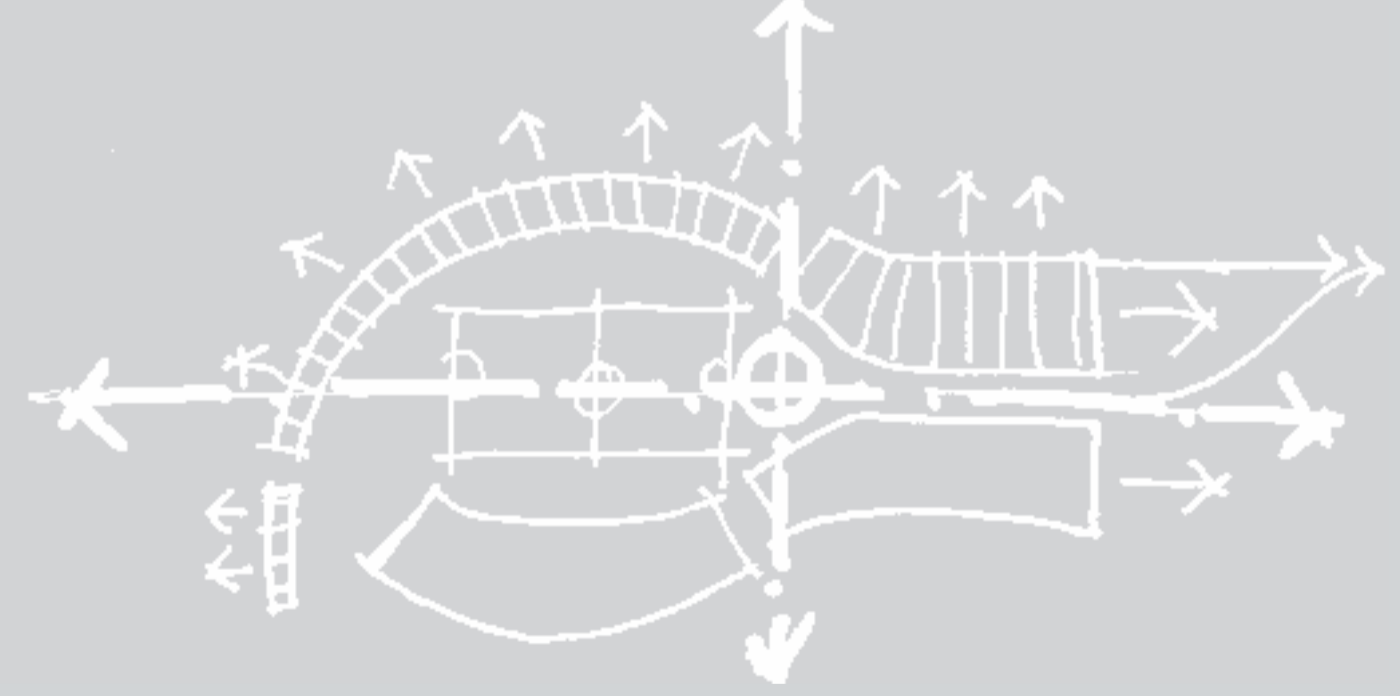
LAYERING OF PUBLIC TO PRIVATE SPACES



ACTIVATED STREET EDGES WITH TRADE



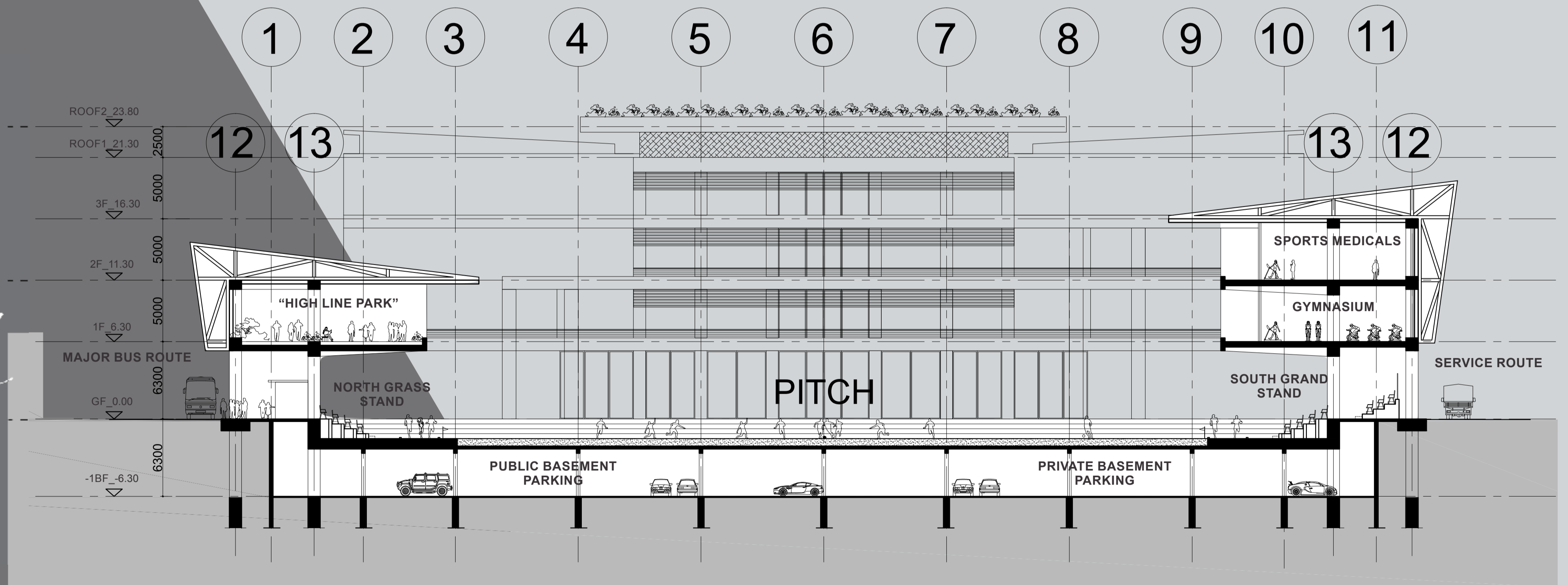
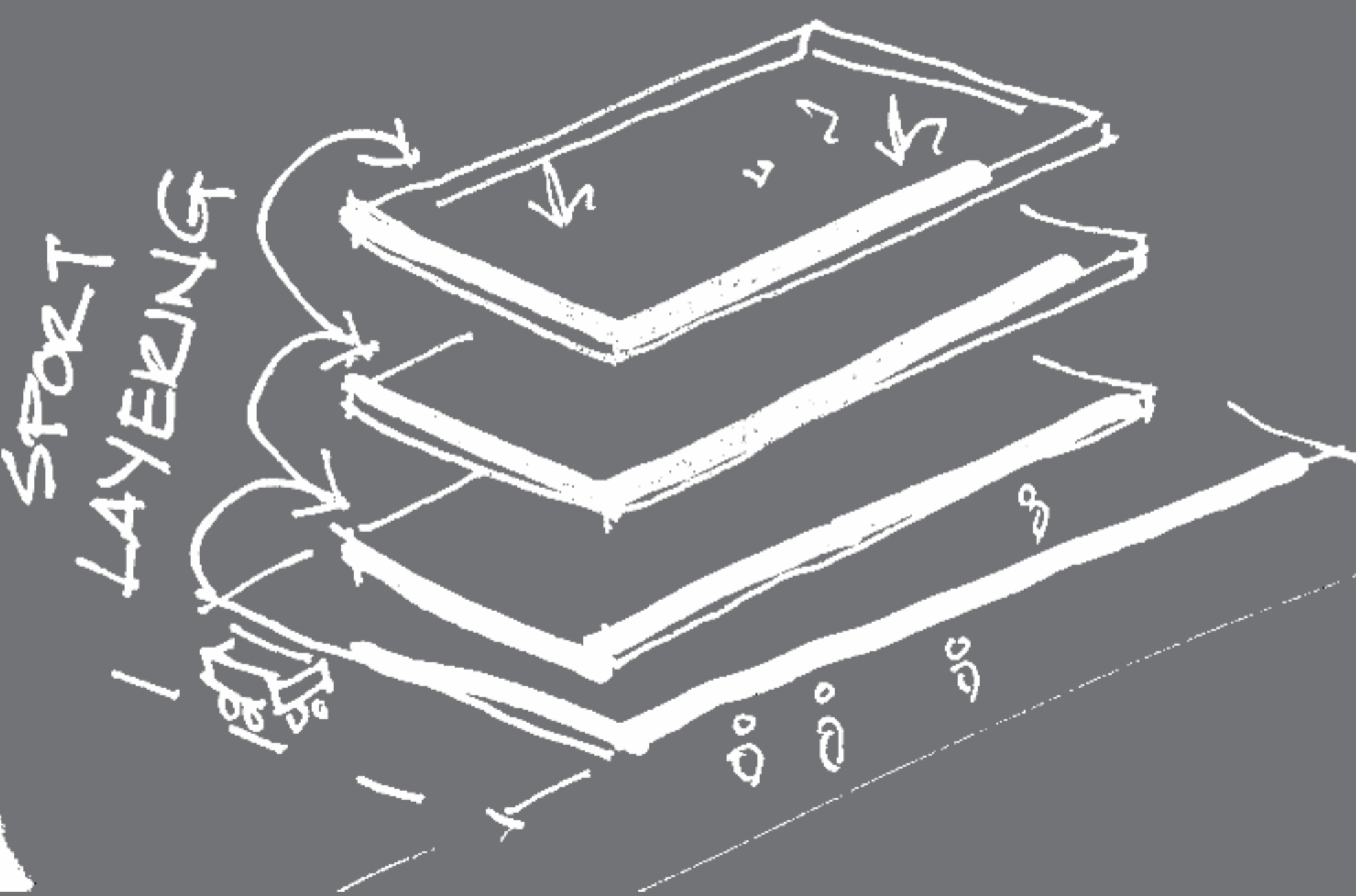
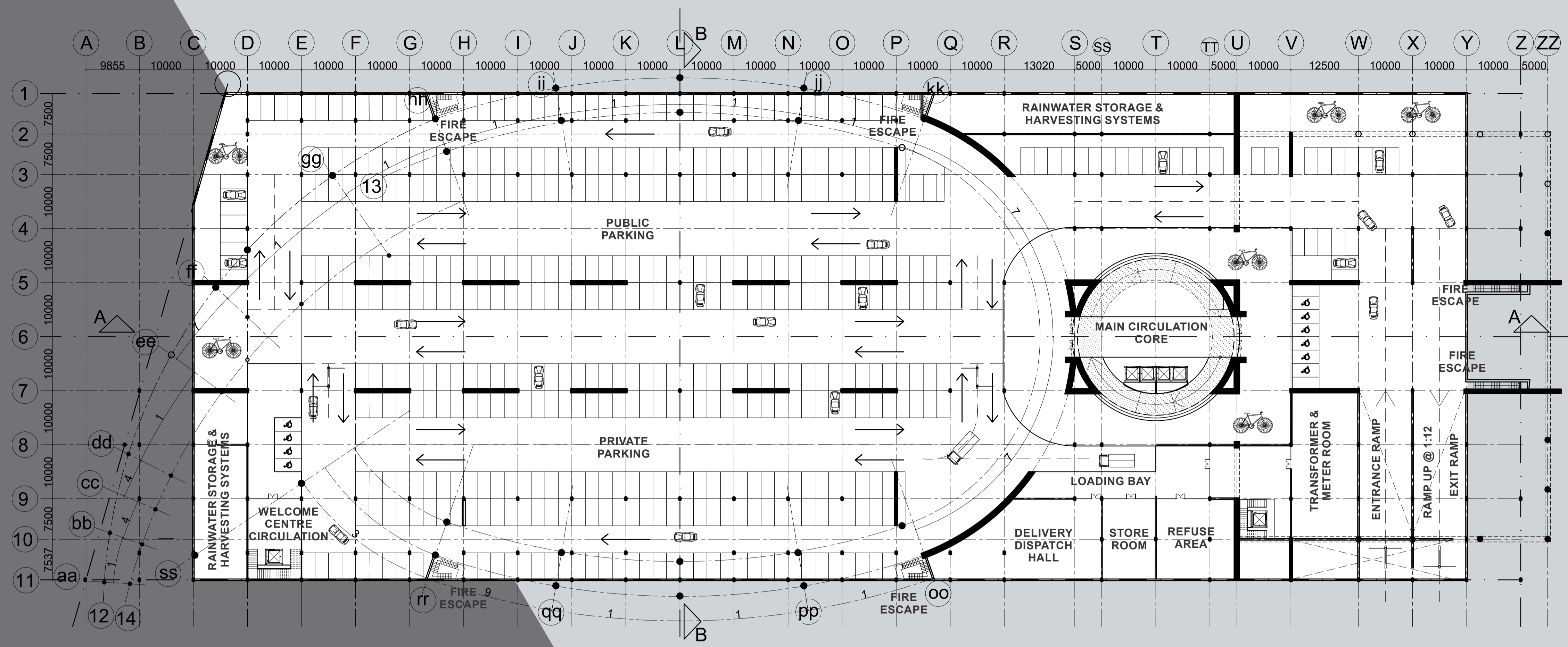
EMPHASISE ORGANIC FORM SPORT ELEMENT



MERGE ORGANIC GRID WITH LINEAR

**SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**  
 A PROPOSED **SPORTS FACILITY** FOR THE YOUTH OF DURBAN





SECTION B-B Scale: 1.500

**SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**

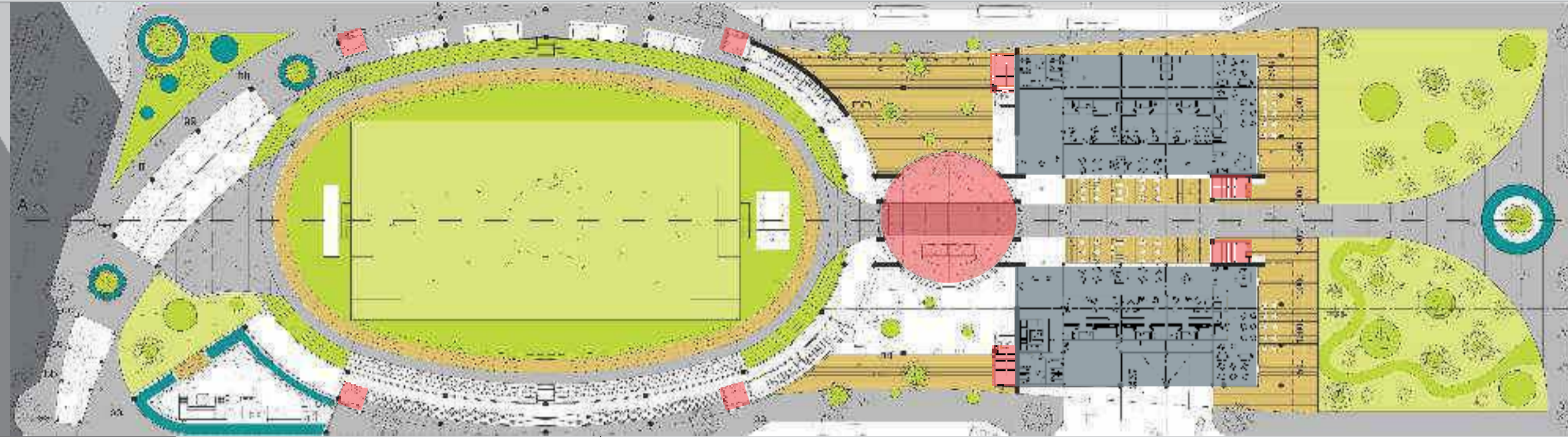
A PROPOSED **SPORTS FACILITY** FOR THE YOUTH OF DURBAN



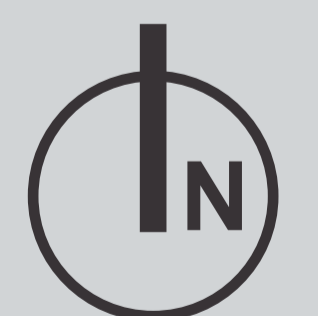
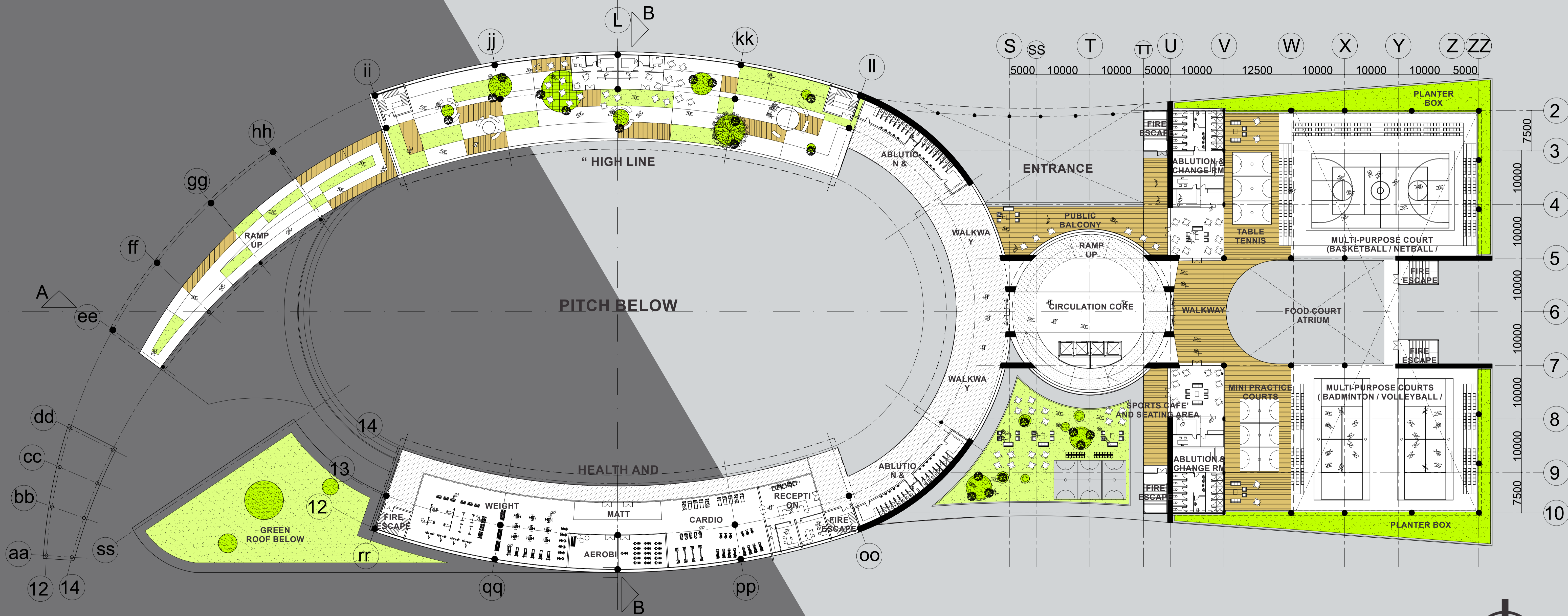
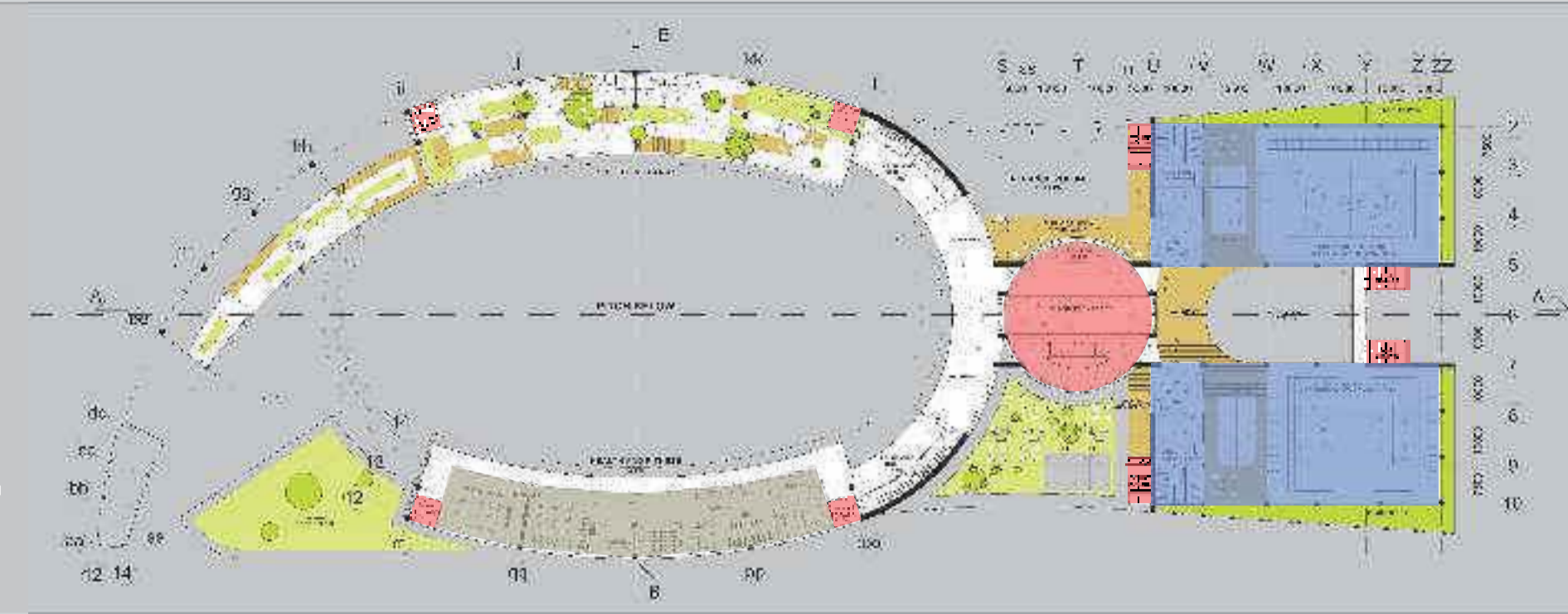
ZONING DIAGRAMS

- FIRE ESCAPES & CIRCUL.
- SPORT AND RECREATION
- HEALTH & FITNESS
- GREEN ZONES

GrndF



1stF



**SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**

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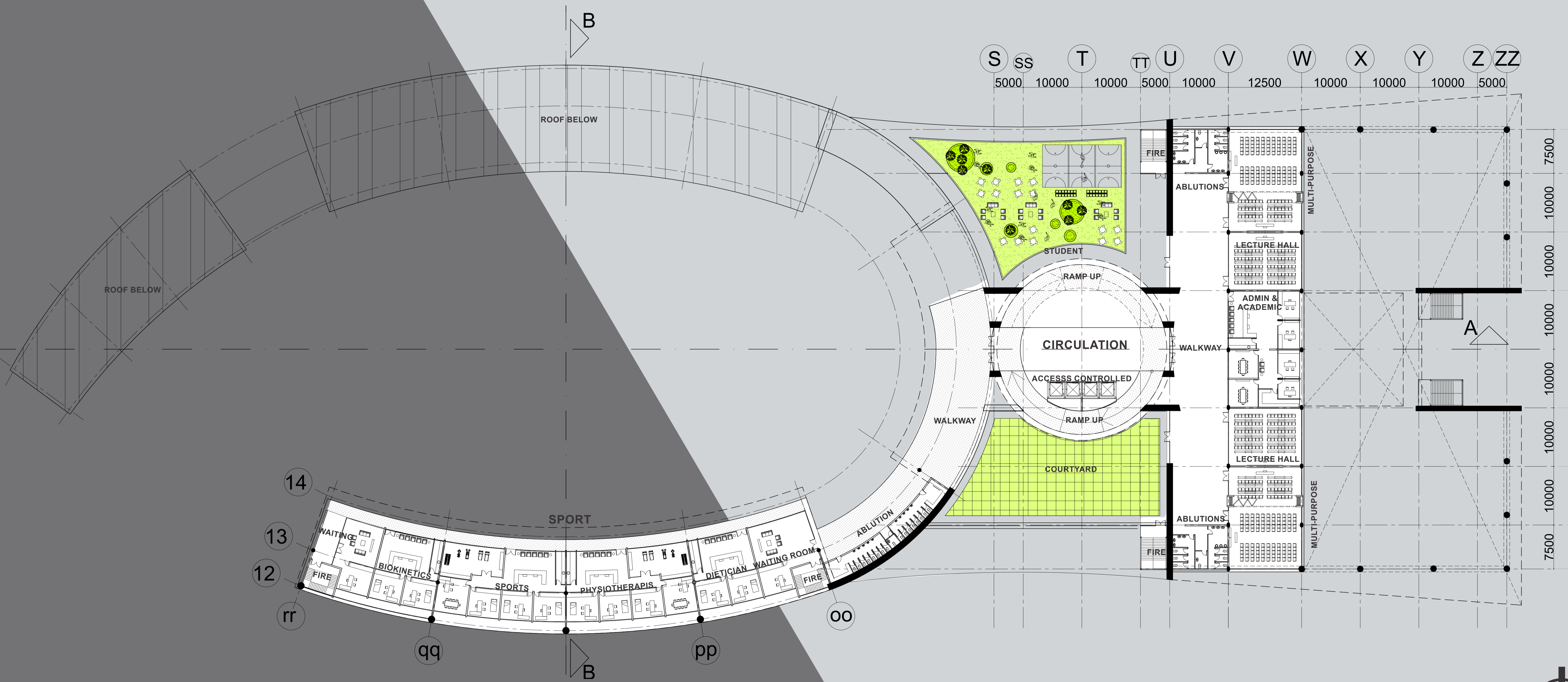
# CONCEPTUAL 3D AERIAL PERSPECTIVES

## ZONING DIAGRAMS

- FIRE ESCAPES & CIRCUL.
- SKILLS TRAINING
- SPORTS MEDICALS
- GREEN ZONES
- ACCOMMODATION

2ndF

3rdF



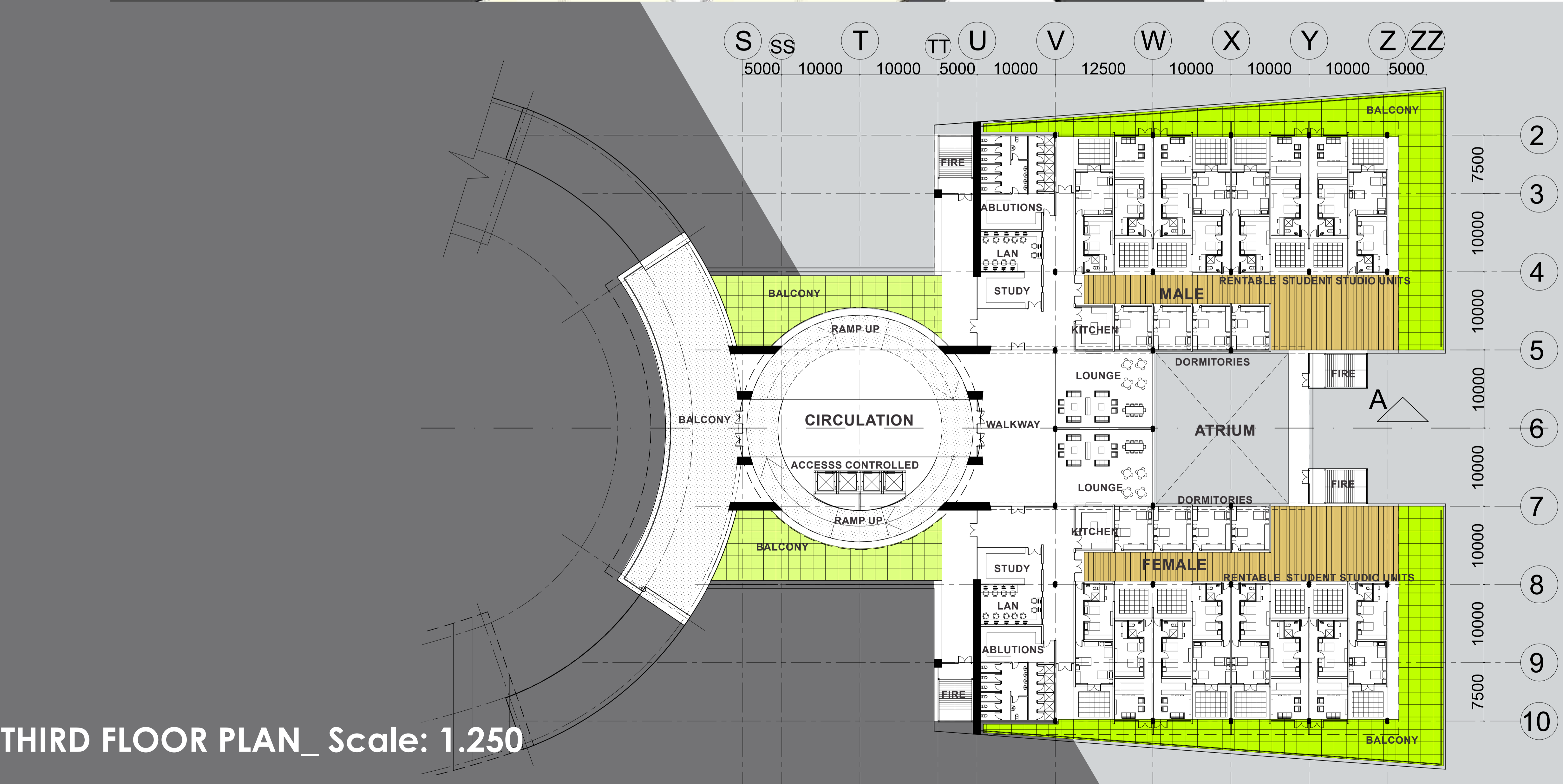
SECOND FLOOR PLAN\_ Scale: 1.250

## SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

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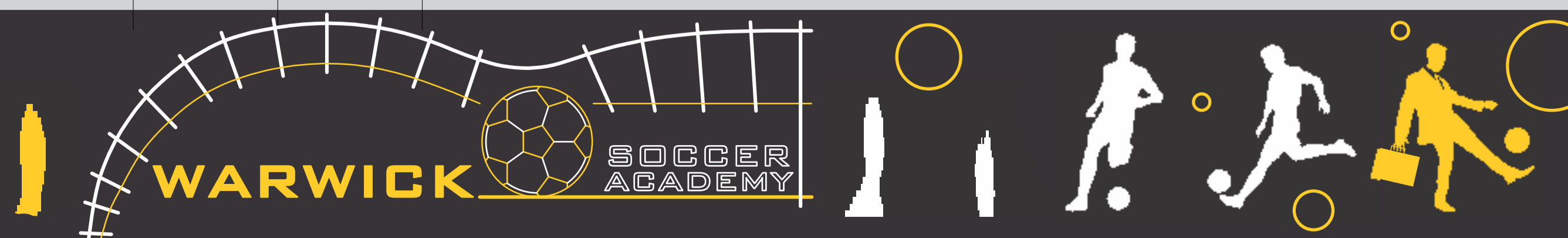


# CONCEPTUAL 3D AERIAL PERSPECTIVES

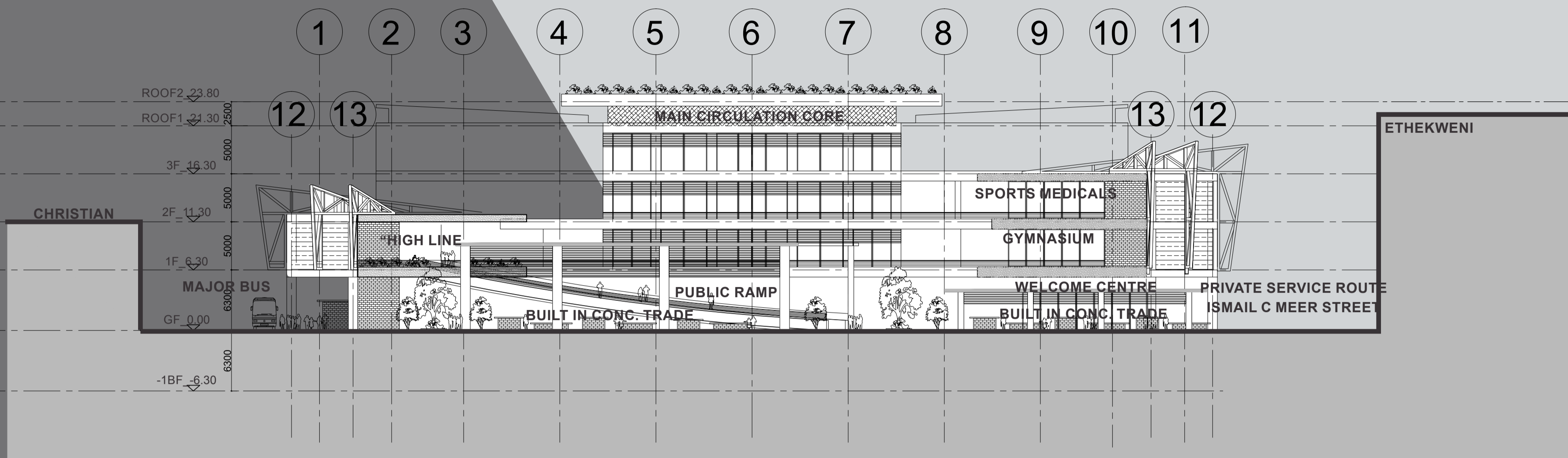


## SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

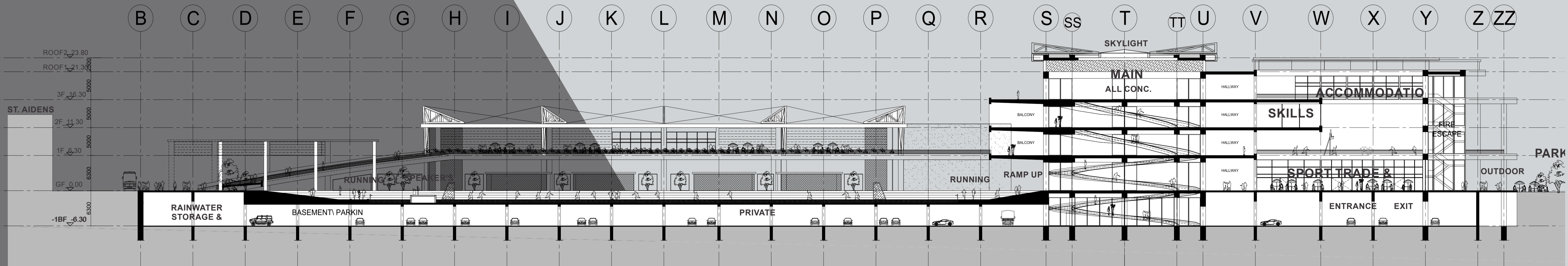
A PROPOSED **SPORTS FACILITY** FOR THE YOUTH OF DURBAN



# WEST ELEVATION\_ Scale: 1.250



# SECTION A - A\_ Scale: 1.250



MARKET SPACES COVERED BY LATTICE AND TRUSS STRUCTURES THAT PROMOTE BETTER MOVEMENT ATMOSPHERE ACCOMMODATING MASSES OF PEOPLE



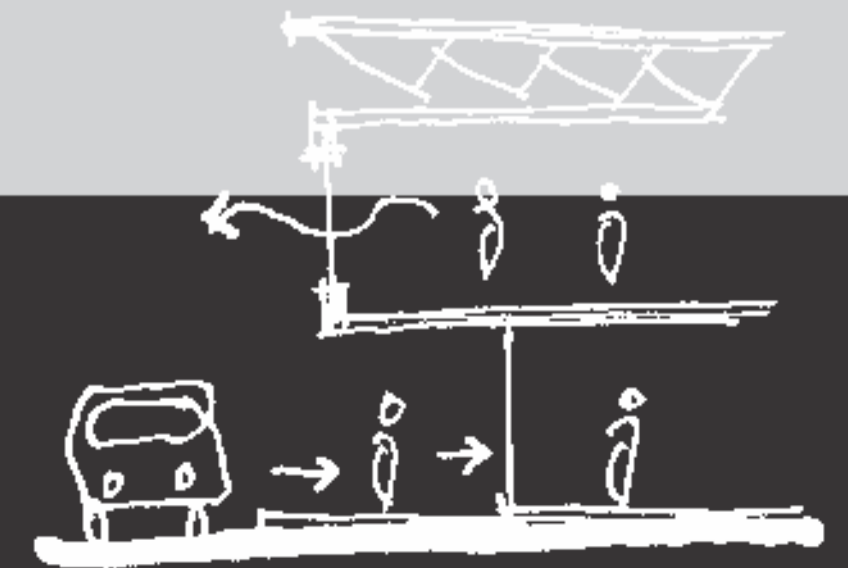
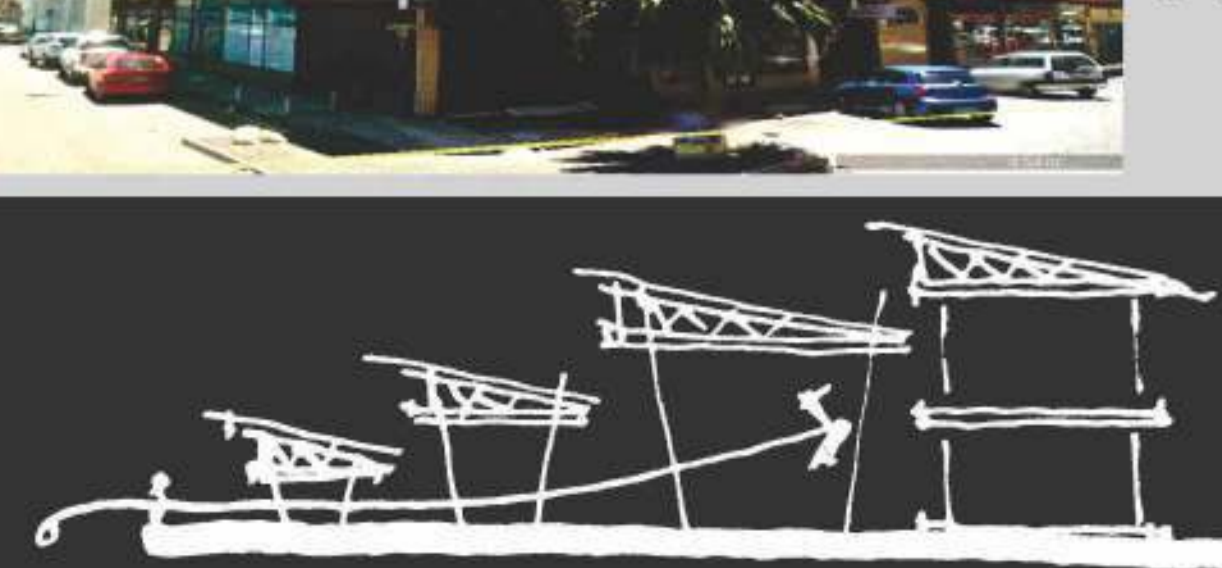
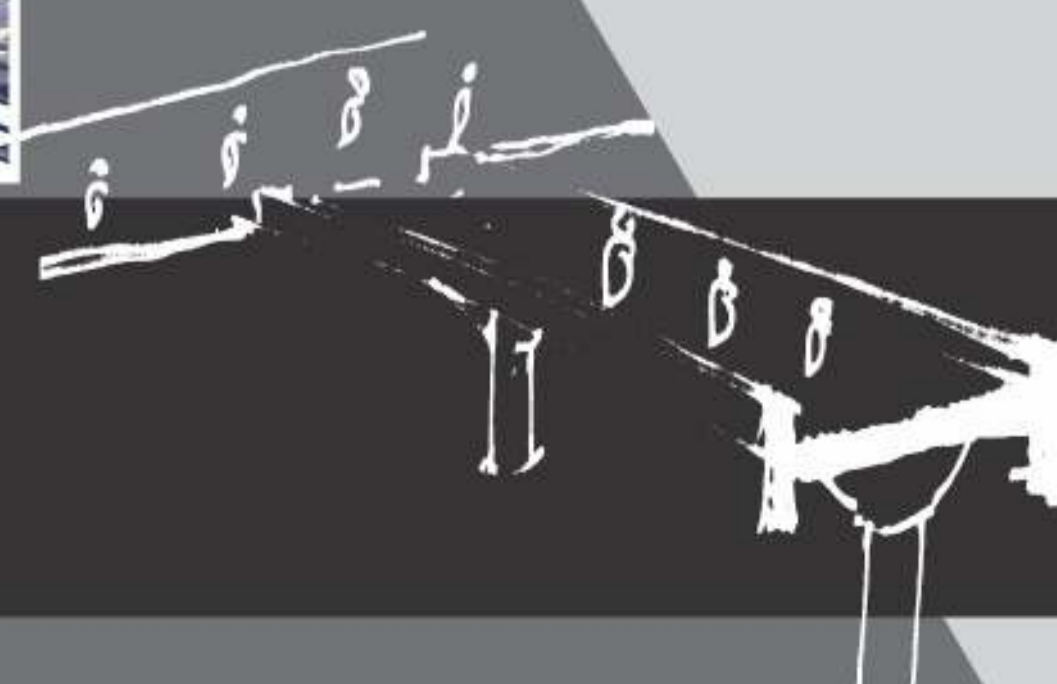
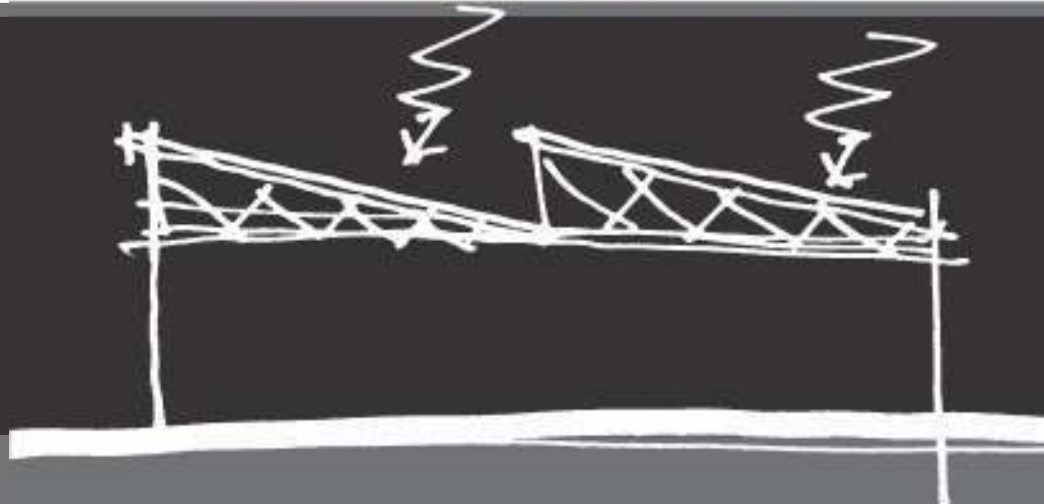
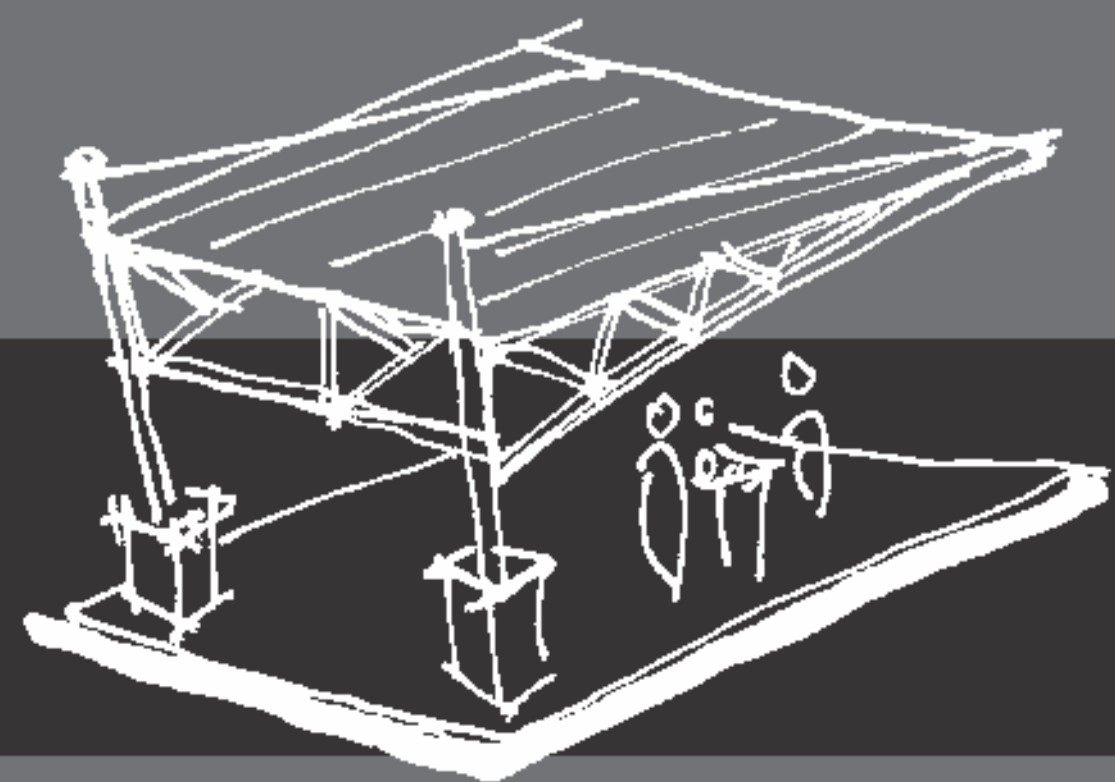
FLYOVERS AND RAMP-LIKE SYSTEMS USED TO GRADUALLY MOVE PEOPLE ACROSS LEVEL CHANGES- USING TRADE AS A CATALYST TO MOVEMENT ROUTES



MIXED-USE COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS ASSOCIATED WITH MORE GEOMETRIC AND FORMALISED / LINEAR DESIGNS RELATING TO THE OVERALL CBD APPEAL.



MONO-PITCHED ROOFS WITH NORTH FACING ORIENTATION PROMOTE BETTER SOLAR GAIN





ALLEGRA SPORTS CENTRE\_ CYPRUS NICOSIA  
 - ICONIC STRUCTURE (STEEL FRAME & CLADDING)  
 - CLEAN CUT CANTILEVERED CONCEPT



TELSTRA STADIUM\_ SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

- BETTER MOVEMENT OF MASSES OF PEOPLE
- EASILY UNDERSTOOD CIRCULATION CORE
- ICONIC ELEMENT
- RELATIVE TO BIGGER SCALE FACILITIES. IE: SPORTS STADIUMS ETC.
- PARAPLEGIC FRIENDLY

SUSTAINABLE ARCHITECTURAL TECHNOLOGIES

MATERIALS



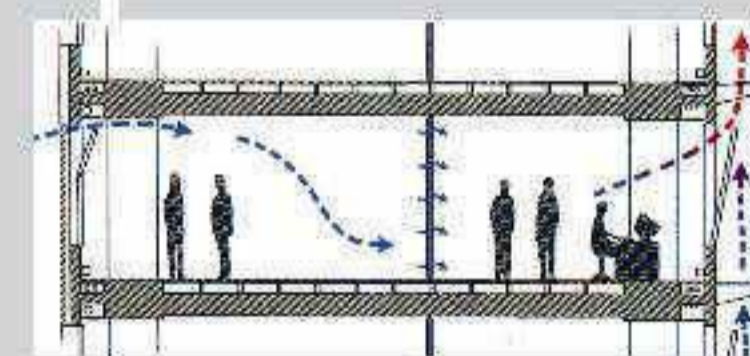
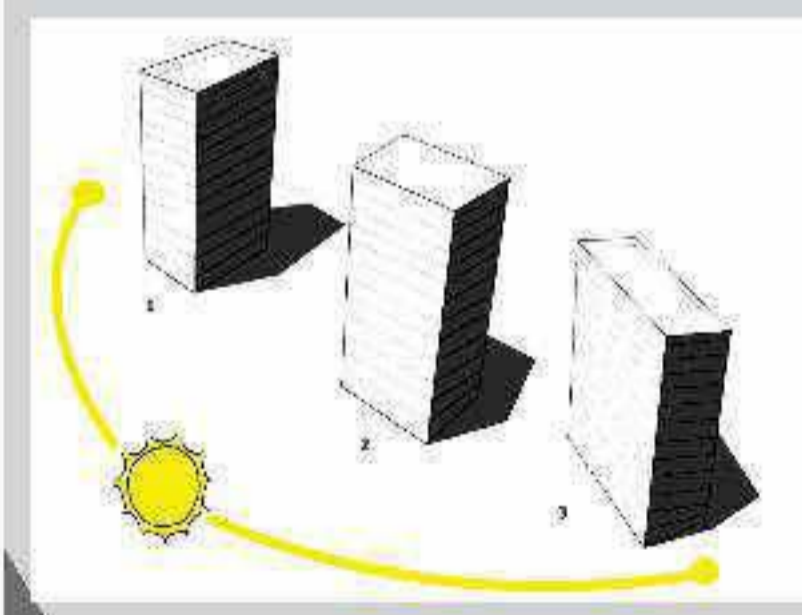
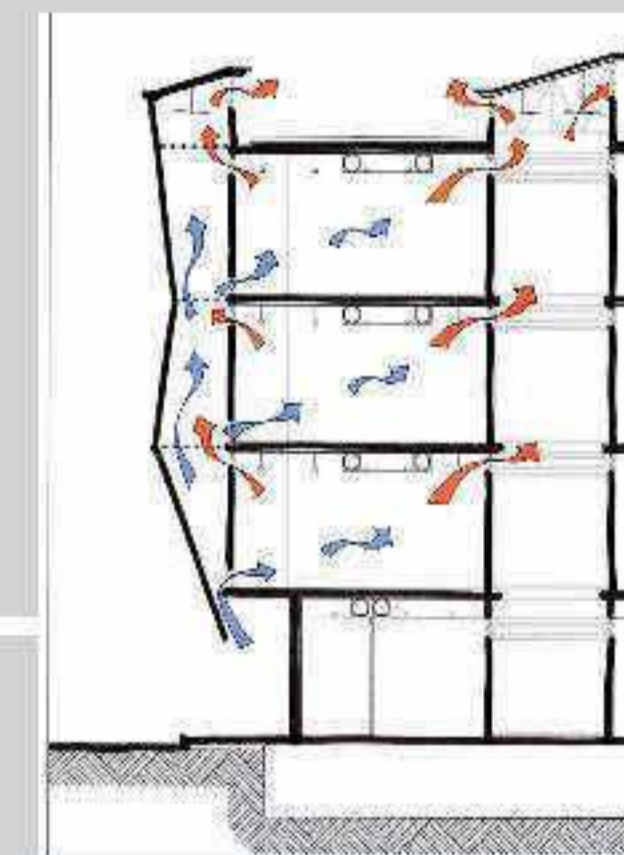
**RECYCLED MATERIALS**  
 RECYCLED MATERIALS FROM LOCAL RESOURCES THAT WILL INFLUENCE THE OVERALL CARBON FOOTPRINT OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT



ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE



- SOLAR ELECTRICITY
- RAINWATER HARVESTING
- NORTH ORIENTATION
- REDUCED FLOOR PLATES
- EASY CROSS VENTILATION
- PROMOTE BETTER UPWARD AIR FLOW



HIGH LINE PARK, NY-USA  
 - RAISED PARK DESIGNS  
 - URBAN ACTIVITY  
 - RECREATIONAL DESIGNS  
 - MOVEMENT ROUTES



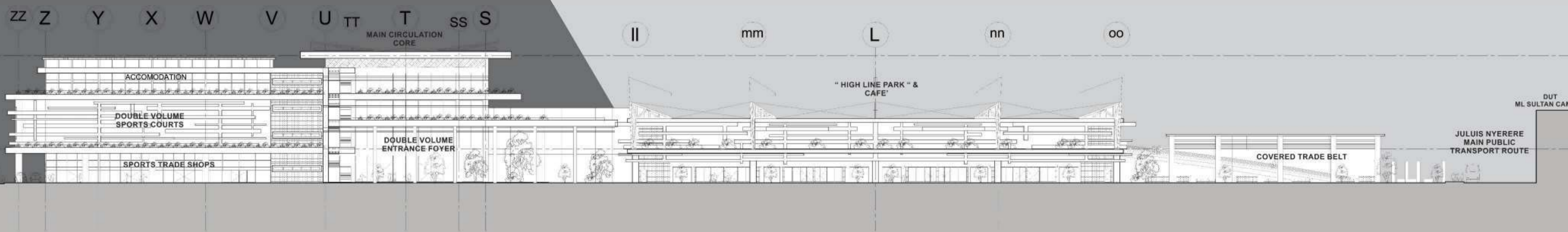
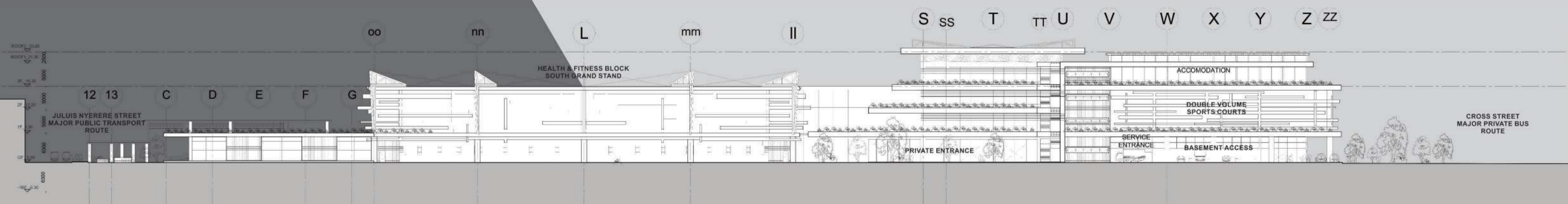
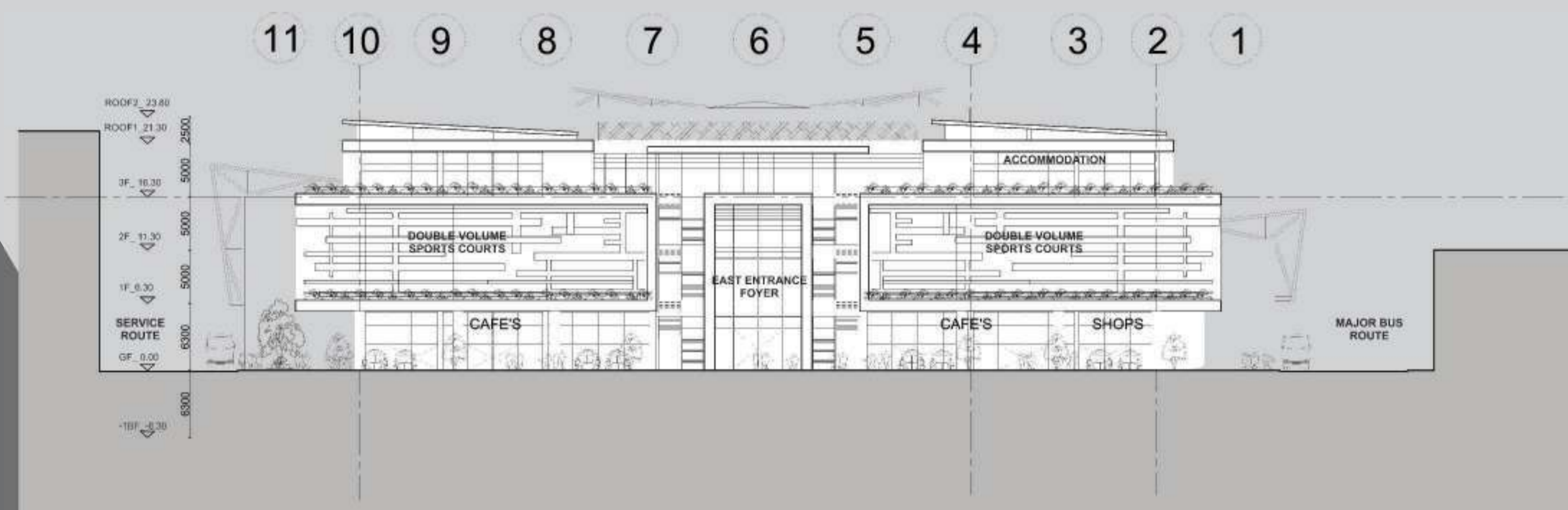
ROTHERHAM SOCCER STADIUM NY-USA  
 - USE OF SIMPLE TRUSS CONCEPT  
 - TRANSPARENT INFILL  
 - CLEAN CANTILEVER  
 - SYMBOLIC OF SPORT

NORTH ELEVATION\_ Scale: 1.250

SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'

A PROPOSED **SPORTS FACILITY** FOR THE YOUTH OF DURBAN





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**SOUTH EAST PERSPECTIVE**  
INDICATING RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMMERCIAL SECTOR AND RECREATIONAL SPACES LEADING INTO THE MAIN FOOD COURT



**NORTH FOYER ENTRANCE PERSPECTIVE**  
INDICATING RELATIONSHIP TO MAIN PUBLIC BUS ROUTE AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENT



**INTERNAL EAST ATRIUM PERSPECTIVE**  
INDICATING GATHERING OF PEOPLE IN THE FOOD COURT AREA RELATIVE TO THE SPORTS ATRIUM



**INTERNAL EAST FOYER PERSPECTIVE**  
INDICATING RELATIONSHIP OF THE MULTI-PURPOSE SPORTS COURT TO THE MAIN ATRIUM AND VIEWS FROM THE LECTURE HALLS



**JULIUS NYERERE AERIAL PERSPECTIVE**  
INDICATING RELATIONSHIP TO SURROUNDING CONTEXT AND OVERALL DURBAN CBD

**SPORT AS A TOOL TO REVITALIZE URBAN 'LOST SPACE'**



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ROBBANE GOVENDER MArch\_5B\_2015\_207500470