



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Certificate of Appropriateness Case Report

HEARING DATE: APRIL 6, 2016

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Filing Date: January 27, 2016
Case No.: **2014.0462CWP**
Project Address: **United Nations Plaza**
Project Name: **United Nations Plaza Living Innovation Zone**
Landmark: Civic Center Landmark District
Zoning: P (Public), C-3-G (Downtown General)
OS (Open Space) Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: Assessor's Block 0351 / No lot exists. Project is sited in a park built on former in the public ROW
Applicant: Josh Bacigalupi, Exploratorium
Pier 15 (Embarcadero at Green Street)
San Francisco, CA 94111
Staff Contact Paul Chasan - (415) 575-9065
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Reviewed By Tim Frye - (415) 558-6625
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PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The subject site is a vacated portion of the public right-of-way, known as United Nations Plaza (UN Plaza), which runs between two buildings in Assessor's Block 0351 and was once part of Fulton Street. It is located within the Civic Center Landmark District and a P (Public) Zoning District.

UN Plaza was designed by master landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. The Plaza established Fulton Street/Fulton Mall as a pedestrian-only space between Market and Hyde Streets. UN Plaza's distinct palette of landscape features links to and complements Market Street on one side, while its other side is linked to the Civic Center. Fulton Mall provides a significant view shed of City Hall. Landscape elements that date to the period of significance include granite curbs of varying width, and Market Street pedestrian lighting. The character-defining features identified in the Cultural Landscape inventory are included in this packet for reference. Character-defining features associated with the Halprin design are currently under study as part of the larger Civic Center Public Realm Plan and have not been identified.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project involves the installation of a temporary (2-year) Living Innovation Zone (LIZ), which will be designed as a self-supporting structure that will not require footings and mounting hardware that might damage the existing plaza infrastructure.

According to the Project Sponsor, the LIZ will be composed of several elements installed throughout the four raised planters lining the United Nations Plaza Fulton Street axis and pedestrian thoroughfare. These elements include wooden pathways – accessed from the plaza – that lead pedestrians from the plaza, over the granite curbs and into the raised planter beds where they will wind in between the trees. These pathways will be punctuated by installations featuring ‘acoustic phenomena.’

Inspired by the UN Charter, the acoustic phenomena will create a series of circumstances that encourage self-agency through curiosity, exploration and social engagement. These experiences will afford hands-on sound exhibits where visitors can create, mold and share their own sonic landscape, a design informed by the Exploratorium Studio for Public Spaces’ approach to informal and hands-on learning. Like the first LIZ on Market Street, the architecture - including intimate, social and performative spaces - will encourage social interactions while simultaneously facilitating more intimate explorations into the often unnoticed world of sound.

Materials are proposed to be unpainted and punctuate the path with color to reinforce the rhythm of the space.

OTHER ACTIONS REQUIRED

A building permit issued by the Recreation and Parks Department will be required.

COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLANNING CODE PROVISIONS

The proposed project is in compliance with all other provisions of the Planning Code.

APPLICABLE PRESERVATION STANDARDS

ARTICLE 10

Pursuant to Section 1006.2 of the Planning Code, unless exempt from the Certificate of Appropriateness requirements or delegated to Planning Department Preservation staff through the Administrative Certificate Appropriateness process, the Historic Preservation Commission is required to review any applications for the construction, alteration, removal, or demolition of any designated Landmark for which a City permit is required. Section 1006.6 states that in evaluating a request for a Certificate of Appropriateness for an individual landmark or a contributing building within a historic district, the Historic Preservation Commission must find that the proposed work is in compliance with the *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties*, as well as the designating Ordinance and any applicable guidelines, local interpretations, bulletins, related appendices, or other policies.

ARTICLE 10 – Appendix J – Civic Center Landmark District

In reviewing an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness, the Historic Preservation Commission must consider whether the proposed work would be compatible with the character of the Civic Center Landmark District, as described in Appendix J of Article 10 of the Planning Code, and the character-defining features specifically outlined in the designating ordinance.

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR’S STANDARDS

Rehabilitation is the act or process of making possible a compatible use for a property through repair, alterations, and additions while preserving those portions or features that convey its historical, cultural, or architectural values. The Rehabilitation Standards provide, in relevant part(s):

Standard 1: A property will be used as it was historically or be given a new use that requires minimal change to its distinctive materials, features, spaces, and spatial relationships.

The proposed project would retain the subject property's use as a public open space, and would maintain the area's civic character. The project would be designed in such a way as to not damage any of the existing features in United Nations Plaza.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 1.

Standard 2: The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

The proposed project will be designed as a self-supporting structure that will not require footings and mounting hardware that might damage the existing Plaza infrastructure. This work will not involve the removal of any historic features and will not alter features or spaces that characterize the district or United Nations Plaza.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 2.

Standard 3: Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

The proposed project does not involve conjectural features that create a false sense of historic development of the subject property. In general, all additions to the property will be rendered as contemporary alterations that are compatible with the historic character of the site and clearly differentiated as contemporary features.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 3.

Standard 4: Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right shall be retained and preserved.

The proposed project will not alter any changes to the plaza that have acquired historic significance – additionally, all portions of the installation are self-supporting and temporary.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 4.

Standard 5: Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of fine craftsmanship that characterize a property will be preserved.

The proposed project would preserve all distinctive materials, features, finishes and construction techniques that characterize the United Nations Plaza and the district, including the overall form and use of the plaza and the adjacent public right-of-way. This change will not alter any distinctive features, features, construction techniques, or examples of fine craftsmanship that characterize the district and plaza.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 5.

Standard 9: New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

The proposed project will feature a cohesive materials palette of aluminum, redwood decking and concrete in neutral colors. These materials are consistent with the character of existing features of United Nations Plaza and the district. New features will provide minimal visual intervention in order to avoid competition with the important east-west axis from City Hall to Market Street. The LIZ is designed to be open and airy in character and will read as a cohesive system through the use of consistent color, materials and style.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 9.

Standard 10: New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

The LIZ is being proposed as a two-year installation. When the LIZ is removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the plaza and its role as an open space within the district will be unimpaired. The LIZ is intentionally designed as a free-standing, removable structure. This change will not alter the overall form and integrity of the plaza and will not affect the overall historic character of the Civic Center Landmark District.

Therefore, the proposed project complies with Rehabilitation Standard 10.

PUBLIC/NEIGHBORHOOD INPUT

Prior to the date of this report, the Department conducted extensive outreach to the Heart of the City Farmers Market and received letters of support for the project from key stakeholders and neighboring institutions including the Heart of the City Farmers Market, and the General Service Administration.

ISSUES & OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The proposed project must comply with Historic Preservation Commission Resolution No. 650, which requires that “sufficient public access is included in historic properties that house City government services, programs or activities, prior to any HPC approval, either the ADA Coordinator from the Department of Public Works, or the Compliance Officer from the Mayor’s Office on Disability, shall review the proposed work and determine that the design of those areas open to the public are accessible to and useable by people with disabilities.” The project sponsor consulted with Carla Johnson, Director of the Mayor’s Office on Disability during the design of the proposed project to ensure that all areas open to the public are accessible to and useable by people with disabilities. This process is still ongoing. A representative from the Mayor’s Office on Disability must approve the project before the Recreation and Parks Department can issue the permit.

Furthermore, the LIZ project team has conducted a robust outreach program to UN Plaza stakeholders within and outside of the City Family. This includes:

- The Project Sponsor and Department have conducted extensive outreach and coordination with the Heart of the City Farmers Market, including multiple presentations to their Board of Directors and one-on-one conversations with each vendor. Attached is a letter of support from the Heart of the City Farmers Market corroborating this outreach and coordination as well as their general support of the LIZ.
- The Department met with the City Arborist who has reviewed the proposed project and has stated the LIZ would neither damage the trees in UN Plaza nor impact their routine maintenance. Attached is a letter from the City Arborist confirming this review.
- The Project Sponsor and the Department have presented the proposed project to the San Francisco Arts Commission’s (SFAC) Executive Committee for approval. See attached.
- Other outreach within the City Family includes:
 - Department of Real Estate (UN Plaza Gift Gallery, property owner)
 - Recreation and Parks Department (permit authority)
 - Department of Public Works (maintenance)
 - Office of Economic and Workforce Development (stewardship)
 - Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs’ Community Ambassadors Program
 - San Francisco Police Department
 - The Asian Art Museum
 - The Central Library
- Other outreach within outside of the City Family includes:
 - Heart of the City Farmers Market
 - Tenderloin Community Benefits District (project partner, maintenance)
 - The General Services Administration (US Federal Building)
 - SHN (Orpheum Theatre)
 - Market Street Association
 - Off the Grid

STAFF ANALYSIS

Staff has determined that the proposed work will be in conformance with the requirements of Article 10 and the *Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation*. Proposed work will not damage or destroy distinguishing original qualities or character of the Civic Center Landmark District or United Nations Plaza. The proposed project will maintain the essential form and integrity of the plaza and district, and it will not impair the significance of the landmark – the historic character of United Nations Plaza will be retained and preserved.

The LIZ installation will feature a cohesive materials palette of aluminum, redwood decking and concrete in neutral colors. These materials are consistent with the character of existing features of United Nations Plaza and the district.

The design of the LIZ draws inspiration from the surrounding district. Examples include a weaving pathway that responds to the layout of the trees in the raised planter beds, colored accents that reference the cerulean in the United Nations flag and an interactive organ pipe exhibit. New features will provide minimal visual intervention in order to avoid competition with the important east-west axis from City Hall to Market Street. The LIZ designed to be open and airy in character and will read as a cohesive system through the use of consistent color, materials and style.

The proposed project will provide access to the raised granite beds that flank the primary axis and pedestrian thoroughfare in the plaza, an element of the plaza which was previously inaccessible to wheel chair users and underutilized by the general public.

At the request of the Planning Department and Project Sponsor, the proposed UN Plaza Living Innovation Zone (LIZ) was brought before the Architectural Review Committee (ARC) for review and comment.

At the ARC meeting, the Planning Department requested review and comment regarding conformance of the proposed design with the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards* and with Article 10, Appendix J (Civic Center Landmark District designation). Specifically, the Planning Department sought comments on the conceptual design for a proposed UN Plaza LIZ which will be installed in UN Plaza for approximately two years in April.

Planning Department Preservation Staff has prepared a summary of the ARC comments from that meeting.

ARC COMMENTS

1. **Heart of the City Farmer's Market.** The Commissioners requested the project continue outreach and coordination efforts to the Heart of the City Farmers Market to ensure the LIZ is compatible with Farmers Market Operations.
 - o The Project Sponsor has continued to meet and coordinate with the Heart of the City Farmers Market.

2. **Access Points.** The Commissioners asked the design team to consider including entry points to the raised pathway from building side of the tree planters to avoid conflict with farmers market booths when the farmer's market is activating the Plaza.
 - o The Project Sponsor has adjusted entry points to the raised pathways per the recommendation of the ARC. These changes are reflected in the attached packet.
3. **Halprin Fountain.** The Commissioners commended the design team for their decision to avoid installing the LIZ near the Halprin Fountain.
 - o The Project Sponsor has moved forward with the four raised planter beds as the site for the LIZ and not a site near the Halprin Fountain.
4. **Temporary Installation.** The Commissioners acknowledged as a temporary installation it appears the LIZ will not permanently affect character-defining features of UN Plaza and the Civic Center Landmark District.
 - o The Project Sponsor has ensured that the design will not permanently affect character-defining features of UN Plaza and the Civic Center Landmark District.
5. **Illustrative Renderings.** The Commissioners requested the design team provide clear illustrations, 3-D renderings, plans, sections etc. for the request for Certificate of Appropriateness hearing before the full Historic Preservation Commission.
 - o The Project Sponsor has included illustrated renderings in the attached packet.
6. **Tranquil Sounds.** Based on the immediate context of the LIZ, the Commissioners stressed that sounds features of installation should have a calming effect on the environment. The design team should avoid abrasive and discordant sounds.
 - o The Project Sponsor has included detail of the sounds featured in the LIZ in the attached packet, all of which have been designed to have a calming effect on the environment.
7. **Civic Center Public Realm Plan.** The Commissioners requested the design team coordinate the design, outreach and installation of the LIZ with the City's recently initiated Civic Center Public Realm Planning effort.
 - o The Project Sponsor and the Department have coordinated the design, outreach and installation with the Civic Center Public Realm Planning effort through regular meetings and communication with Nicholas Perry, the Civic Center Public Realm Plan Project Lead.
8. **Design Precedent.** The Commissioners encouraged the design team to look at the design for the pending Civic Center Playground Plaza project as an example of a design strategy that employs contemporary design within the Beaux-Arts plan of the Civic Center Landmark District.
 - o The Project Sponsor has reviewed the Civic Center Playground Plaza project prior to the completion of this Case Report as well as the packet and other attached materials.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW STATUS

The Planning Department has determined that the proposed project is exempt/excluded from environmental review, pursuant to CEQA Guideline Section 15301 (Class One-Minor Alteration of Existing facility) because the project is a minor alteration of an existing structure and meets the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards*.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Planning Department staff recommends APPROVAL WITH CONDITIONS of the proposed project as it appears to meet the *Secretary of the Interior Standards for Rehabilitation*. Staff recommends the following conditions of approval:

- Review and approval of all final design details, materials and finishes as part of the Building Permit Application

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Motion

Exhibits

Letter from the Director of the Mayor's Office on Disability

Letter from the City Arborist

SFAC Letter of Approval

Letters of Support

Plans and renderings



SAN FRANCISCO PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Historic Preservation Commission Motion No. XXXX

HEARING DATE: APRIL 6, 2016

Filing Date: January 27, 2016
Case No.: **2014.0462CWP**
Project Address: **United Nations Plaza**
Project Name: **United Nations Plaza Living Innovation Zone**
Landmark: Civic Center Landmark District
Zoning: P (Public)
OS (Open Space) Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: Assessor's Block 0351 / project sited in a city park built in the public ROW
Applicant: Josh Bacigalupi, Exploratorium
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ADOPTING FINDINGS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS FOR PROPOSED WORK DETERMINED TO BE APPROPRIATE FOR AND CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSES OF ARTICLE 10, TO MEET THE STANDARDS OF ARTICLE 10 AND TO MEET THE SECRETARY OF INTERIOR'S STANDARDS FOR REHABILITATION, FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY IN ASSESSOR'S BLOCK 0351, WITHIN A P (PUBLIC) ZONING DISTRICT, AN OS (OPEN SPACE) HEIGHT AND BULK DISTRICT, AND CIVIC CENTER LANDMARK DISTRICT.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2016, Josh Bacigalupi of the Exploratorium (Project Sponsor) filed an application with the San Francisco Planning Department ("Department") for a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a temporary (two years) Living Innovation Zone on the subject property located in the public right-of-way on United Nations Plaza in Assessor's Block 0788. The work includes self-supporting wooden pathways and interactive 'acoustic phenomena' in the raised planter beds.

WHEREAS, the Project was determined by the Department to be categorically exempt from environmental review. The Historic Preservation Commission (hereinafter "Commission") has reviewed and concurs with said determination.

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2016, the Commission conducted a duly noticed public hearing on the current project, Case No. 2014.0462CWP (“Project”) for its appropriateness.

WHEREAS, in reviewing the Application, the Commission has had available for its review and consideration case reports, plans, and other materials pertaining to the Project contained in the Department’s case files, has reviewed and heard testimony and received materials from interested parties during the public hearing on the Project.

MOVED, that the Commission hereby grants the Certificate of Appropriateness, in conformance with the architectural plans dated March 30, 2016 and labeled “Sonic Engagements Living Innovation Zone, 100% Schematic Design” on file in the docket for Case No. 2014.0462CWP based on the following findings:

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

- That prior to construction, the following will be forwarded for review and approval by Planning Department Preservation Staff:
 - Review and approval of all final design details, materials and finishes as part of the Building Permit Application

FINDINGS

Having reviewed all the materials identified in the recitals above and having heard oral testimony and arguments, this Commission finds, concludes, and determines as follows:

1. The above recitals are accurate and also constitute findings of the Commission.
2. Findings pursuant to Article 10:

The Historical Preservation Commission has determined that the proposed work is compatible with the character of the Civic Center Landmark District as described in the designation report dated December 1994.

- That the proposal is compatible with, and respects the character-defining features within the Civic Center Landmark District;
- That the proposed Living Innovation Zone will not remove or damage any character-defining features of the Civic Center Landmark District; and
- The proposed project meets the following applicable *Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for Rehabilitation*:

Standard 1.

A property shall be used for its historic purpose or be placed in a new use that requires minimal change to the defining characteristics of the building and its site and environment.

Standard 2.

The historic character of a property shall be retained and preserved. The removal of historic materials or alteration of features and spaces that characterize a property shall be avoided.

Standard 3.

Each property will be recognized as a physical record of its time, place, and use. Changes that create a false sense of historical development, such as adding conjectural features or elements from other historic properties, will not be undertaken.

Standard 4.

Changes to a property that have acquired historic significance in their own right will be retained and preserved.

Standard 5.

Distinctive features, finishes, and construction techniques or examples of craftsmanship that characterize a property shall be preserved.

Standard 9.

New additions, exterior alterations, or related new construction will not destroy historic materials, features, and spatial relationships that characterize the property. The new work will be differentiated from the old and will be compatible with the historic materials, features, size, scale and proportion, and massing to protect the integrity of the property and its environment.

Standard 10.

New additions and adjacent or related new construction shall be undertaken in such a manner that if removed in the future, the essential form and integrity of the historic property and its environment would be unimpaired.

- 3. General Plan Compliance.** The proposed Certificate of Appropriateness is, on balance, consistent with the following Objectives and Policies of the General Plan:

I. URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT

THE URBAN DESIGN ELEMENT CONCERNS THE PHYSICAL CHARACTER AND ORDER OF THE CITY, AND THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THEIR ENVIRONMENT.

GOALS

The Urban Design Element is concerned both with development and with preservation. It is a concerted effort to recognize the positive attributes of the city, to enhance and conserve those attributes, and to improve the living environment where it is less than satisfactory. The Plan is a definition of quality, a definition based upon human needs.

OBJECTIVE 1

EMPHASIS OF THE CHARACTERISTIC PATTERN WHICH GIVES TO THE CITY AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS AN IMAGE, A SENSE OF PURPOSE, AND A MEANS OF ORIENTATION.

POLICY 1.3

Recognize that buildings, when seen together, produce a total effect that characterizes the city and its districts.

OBJECTIVE 2

CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES WHICH PROVIDE A SENSE OF NATURE, CONTINUITY WITH THE PAST, AND FREEDOM FROM OVERCROWDING.

POLICY 2.4

Preserve notable landmarks and areas of historic, architectural or aesthetic value, and promote the preservation of other buildings and features that provide continuity with past development.

POLICY 2.5

Use care in remodeling of older buildings, in order to enhance rather than weaken the original character of such buildings.

POLICY 2.7

Recognize and protect outstanding and unique areas that contribute in an extraordinary degree to San Francisco's visual form and character.

The goal of a Certificate of Appropriateness is to provide additional oversight for buildings and districts that are architecturally or culturally significant to the City in order to protect the qualities that are associated with that significance.

The proposed project qualifies for a Certificate of Appropriateness and therefore furthers these policies and objectives by maintaining and preserving the character-defining features of the landmark for the future enjoyment and education of San Francisco residents and visitors.

4. The proposed project is generally consistent with the eight General Plan priority policies set forth in Section 101.1 in that:

- A) The existing neighborhood-serving retail uses will be preserved and enhanced and future opportunities for resident employment in and ownership of such businesses will be enhanced:

The proposed project will not impact existing neighborhood serving retail uses.

- B) The existing housing and neighborhood character will be conserved and protected in order to preserve the cultural and economic diversity of our neighborhoods:

The proposed project will strengthen neighborhood character by respecting the character-defining features of the landmark in conformance with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

- C) The City's supply of affordable housing will be preserved and enhanced:

The project will not have any impact on the City's supply of affordable housing.

- D) The commuter traffic will not impede MUNI transit service or overburden our streets or neighborhood parking:

The proposed project will not result in commuter traffic impeding MUNI transit service or overburdening the streets or neighborhood parking.

- E) A diverse economic base will be maintained by protecting our industrial and service sectors from displacement due to commercial office development. And future opportunities for resident employment and ownership in these sectors will be enhanced:

The proposed will not have any impact on industrial and service sector jobs.

- F) The City will achieve the greatest possible preparedness to protect against injury and loss of life in an earthquake.

All construction will be executed in compliance with all applicable construction and safety measures.

- G) That landmark and historic buildings will be preserved:

The proposed project is in conformance with Article 10 of the Planning Code and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards.

- H) Parks and open space and their access to sunlight and vistas will be protected from development:

The proposed project will not impact the access to sunlight or vistas for the parks and open space.

5. For these reasons, the proposal overall, is appropriate for and consistent with the purposes of Article 10, meets the standards of Article 10, and the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, General Plan and Prop M findings of the Planning Code.

DECISION

That based upon the Record, the submissions by the Applicant, the staff of the Department and other interested parties, the oral testimony presented to this Commission at the public hearings, and all other written materials submitted by all parties, the Commission hereby **GRANTS WITH CONDITIONS a Certificate of Appropriateness** for the property located in the public right-of-way on United Nations Plaza in Assessor's Block 00351 for proposed work in conformance with the renderings and architectural sketches dated May 6, 2015 and labeled Exhibit A on file in the docket for Case No. 2014.0462CWP.

APPEAL AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF MOTION: The Commission's decision on a Certificate of Appropriateness shall be final unless appealed within thirty (30) days. Any appeal shall be made to the Board of Appeals, unless the proposed project requires Board of Supervisors approval or is appealed to the Board of Supervisors as a conditional use, in which case any appeal shall be made to the Board of Supervisors (see Charter Section 4.135).

Duration of this Certificate of Appropriateness: This Certificate of Appropriateness is issued pursuant to Article 10 of the Planning Code and is valid for a period of three (3) years from the effective date of approval by the Historic Preservation Commission. The authorization and right vested by virtue of this action shall be deemed void and canceled if, within 3 years of the date of this Motion, a site permit or building permit for the Project has not been secured by Project Sponsor.

THIS IS NOT A PERMIT TO COMMENCE ANY WORK OR CHANGE OF OCCUPANCY UNLESS NO BUILDING PERMIT IS REQUIRED. PERMITS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING INSPECTION (and any other appropriate agencies) MUST BE SECURED BEFORE WORK IS STARTED OR OCCUPANCY IS CHANGED.

I hereby certify that the Historical Preservation Commission ADOPTED the foregoing Motion on April 6, 2016.

Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

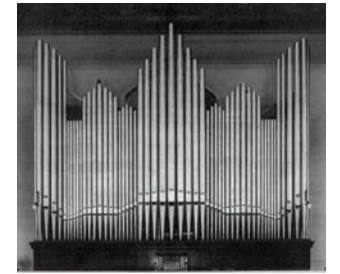
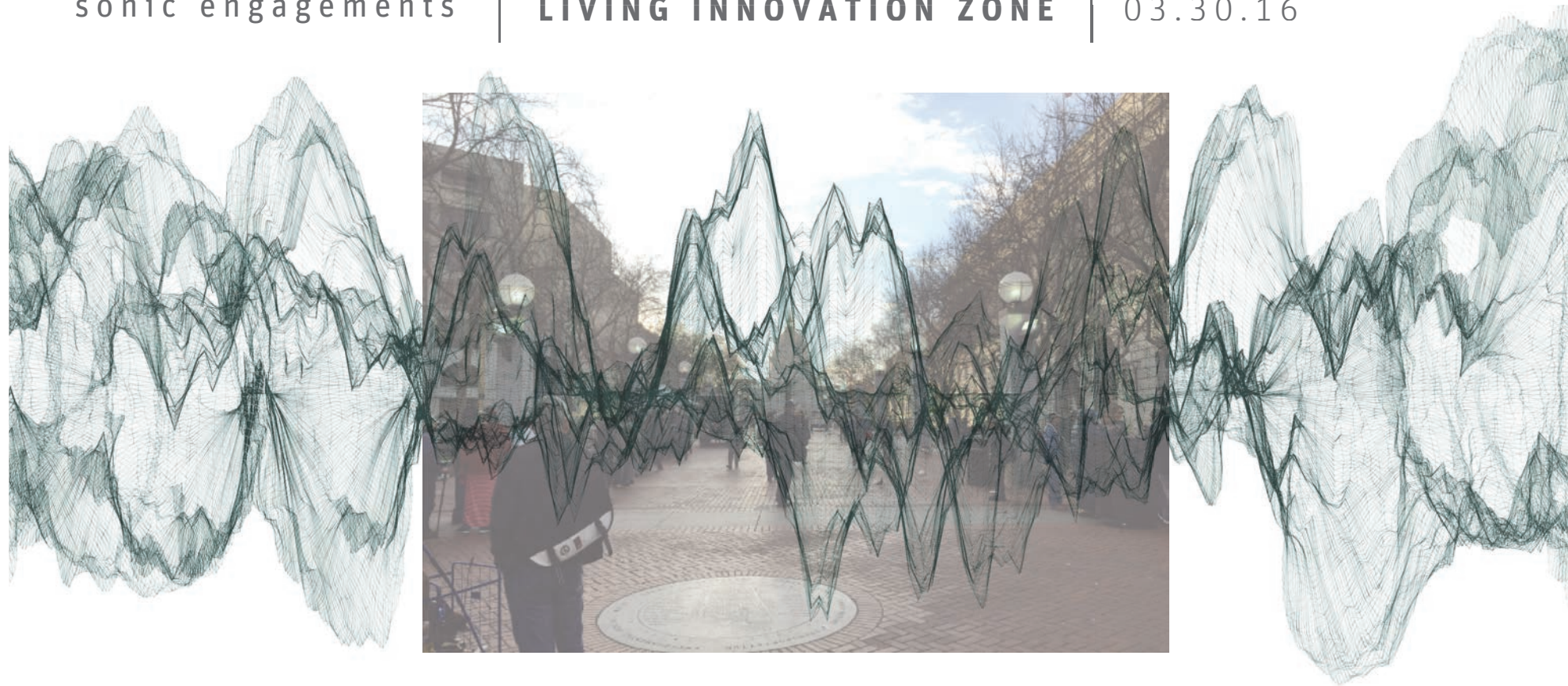
AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

ADOPTED:

sonic engagements | LIVING INNOVATION ZONE | 03.30.16



INSPIRATIONS

Sonic Engagements

WHEREAS the Commission of the District of Columbia and the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia, in their capacity as the governing body of the District of Columbia, and the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the report of the Commission of the District of Columbia and the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia, as the same appears on the records of the Commission of the District of Columbia and the Board of Public Works of the District of Columbia, and that the same is hereby published for the information of the public.

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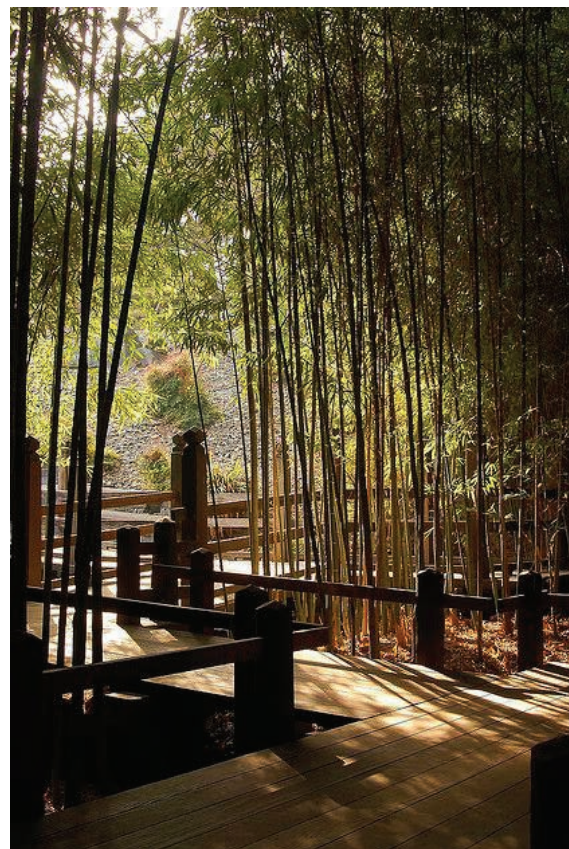
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Providing a pathway through newly activated terrain, *Sonic Engagements* creates opportunities for visitors to creatively explore sound in a unique urban setting. Curving paths invite people into previously less inhabited, formal spaces framed by trees and granite curbs. Converting these spaces into places of learning and exploration, these installations are drawn from some of the Exploratorium's most successful sound exhibits.

Utilizing these sonic engagements as a means of bridging social divides, our goal is to connect people through a combination of creative placemaking and place-based learning. Sound connects us and grounds us in our sense of place as we struggle to find human-scale experiences. *Sonic Engagements* seeks to humanize UN Plaza, making it a place of connection, communication, and exploration.

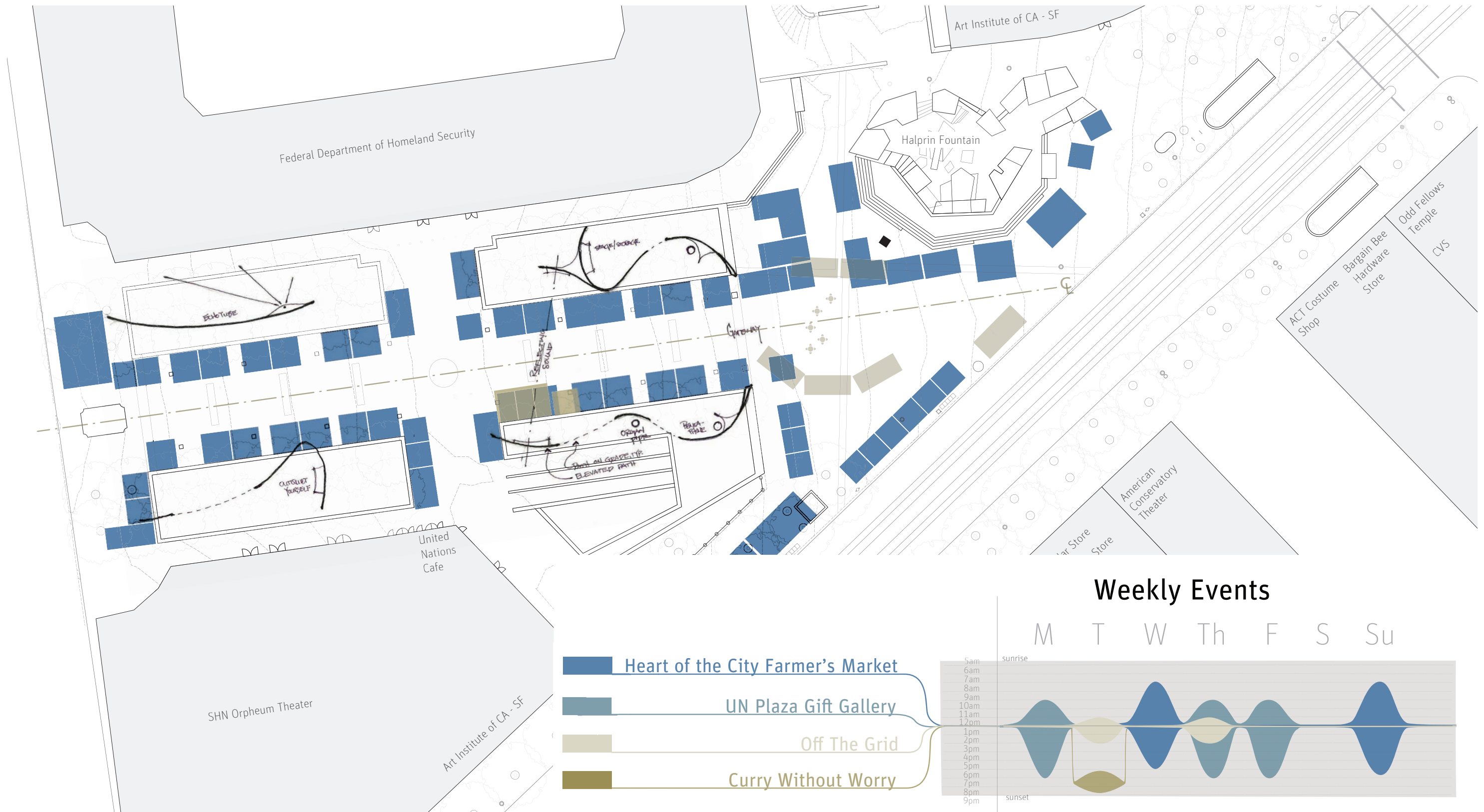
SITE CONTEXT

Scope of Work



SITE ANALYSIS

UN Plaza Events & Preliminary Site Plan



SITE CONTEXT

Views of Existing Site



CAPITOL VIEW LOOKING WEST

SITE CONTEXT

Views of Existing Site



NORTHEAST TREE BED LOOKING EAST



NORTHWEST TREE BED LOOKING WEST



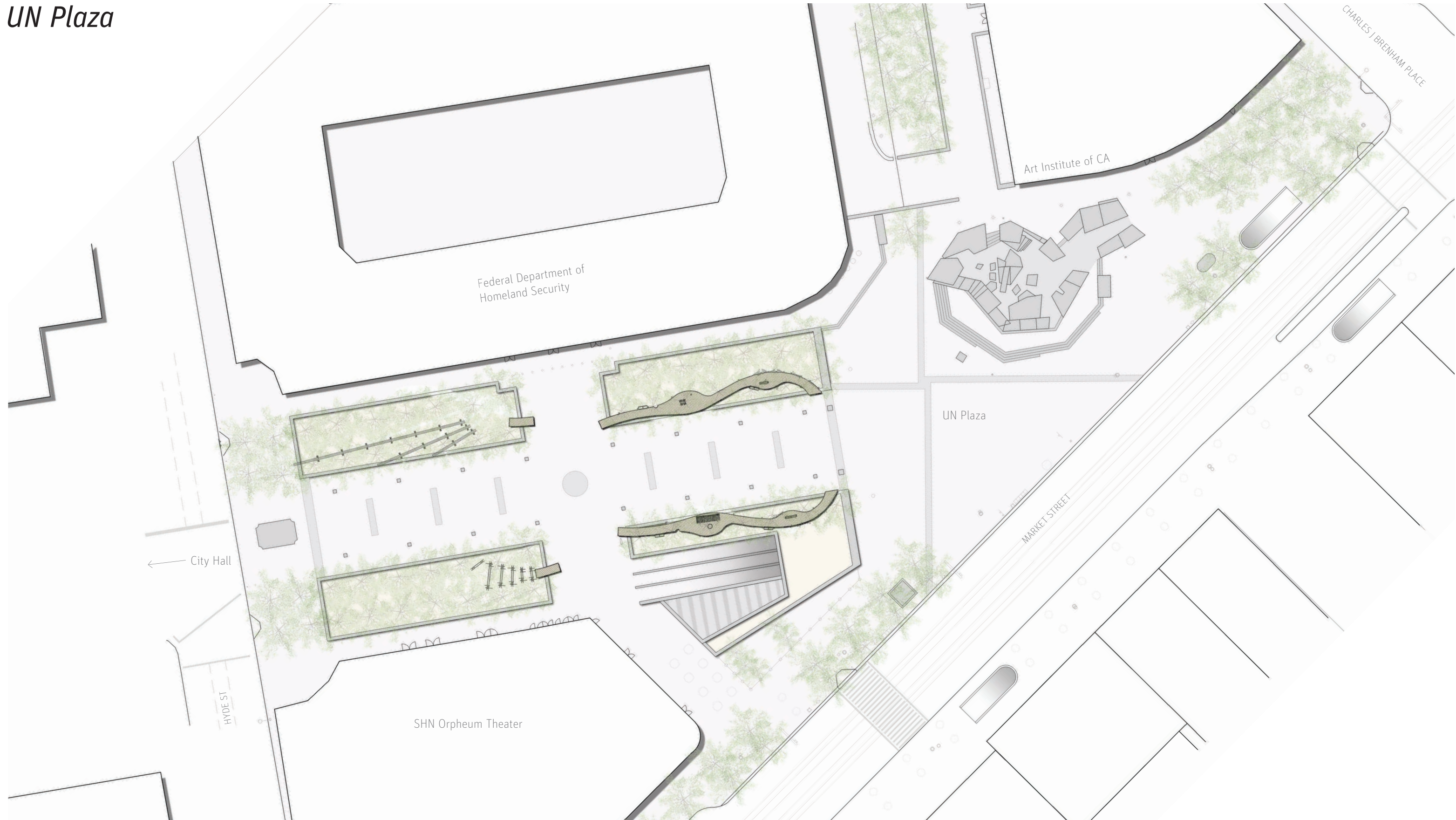
SOUTHWEST TREE BED LOOKING EAST



SOUTHEAST TREE BED LOOKING WEST

SITE PLAN

UN Plaza



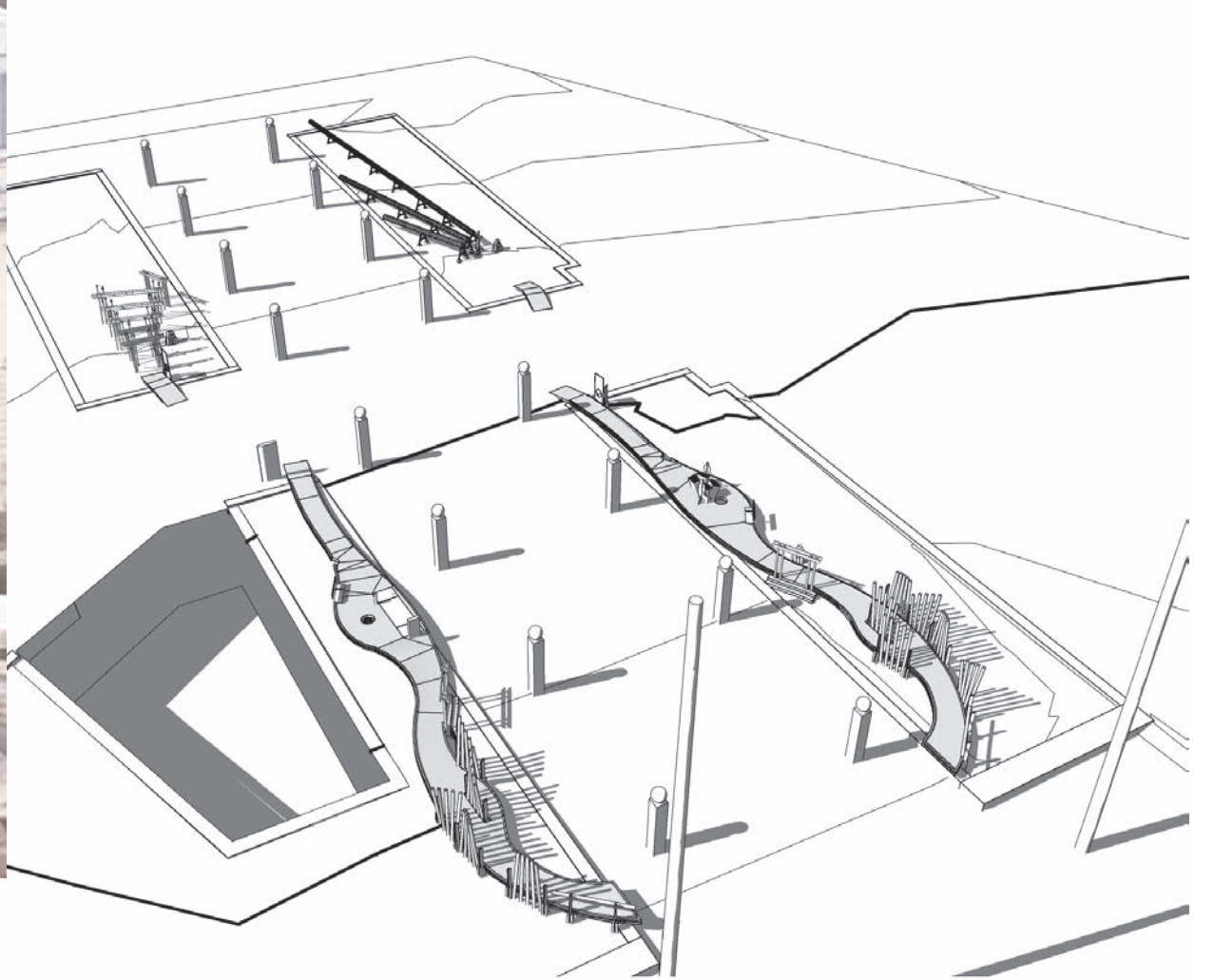
INSTALLATION IN CONTEXT

Capitol View



INSTALLATION IN CONTEXT

Bird's Eye View



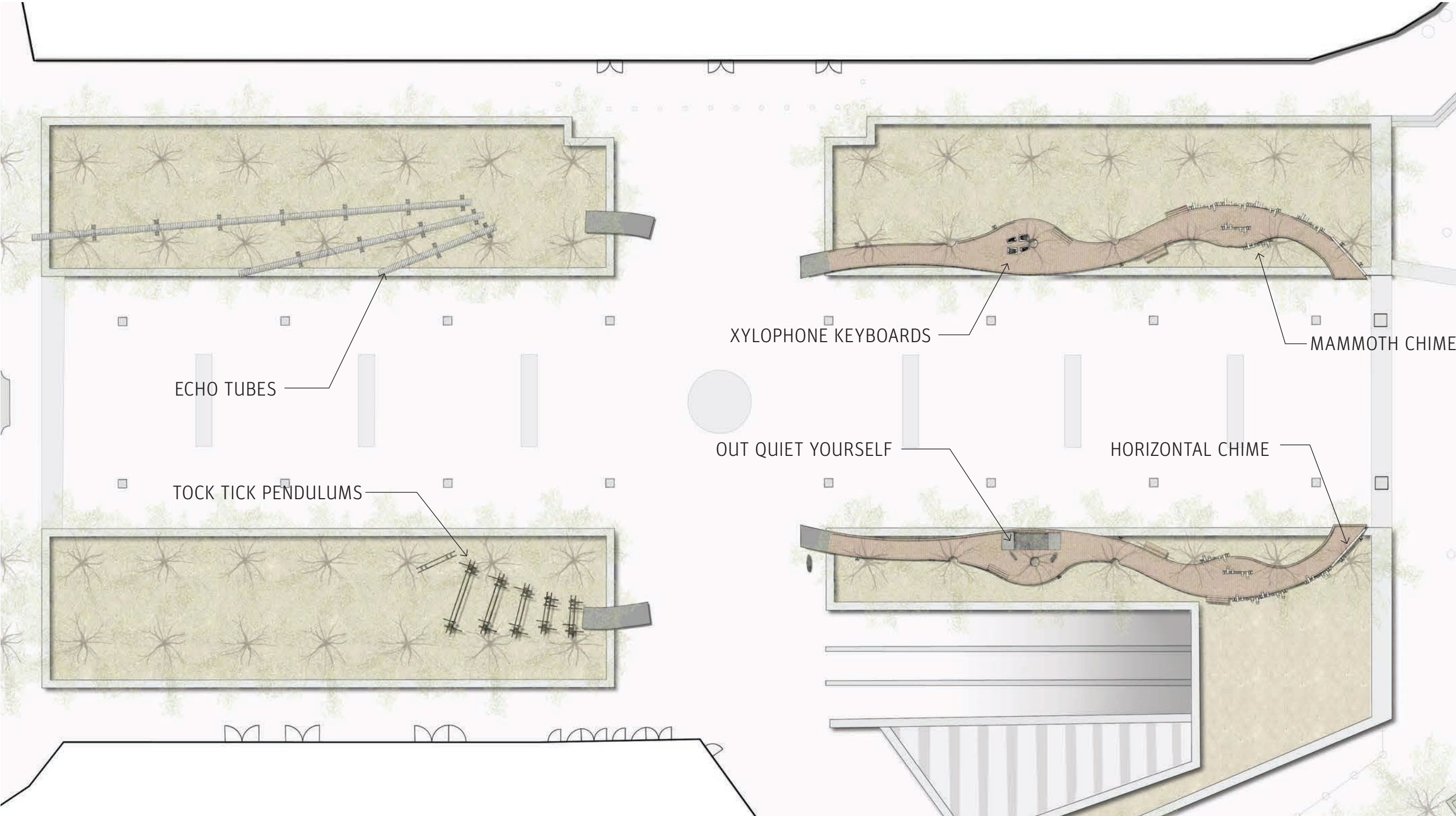
INSTALLATION IN CONTEXT

Installation View



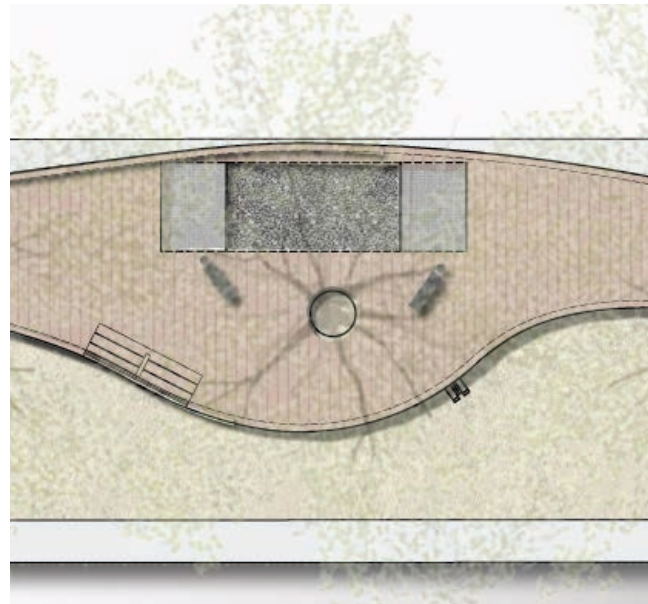
INSTALLATION

UN Plaza



EXHIBITS

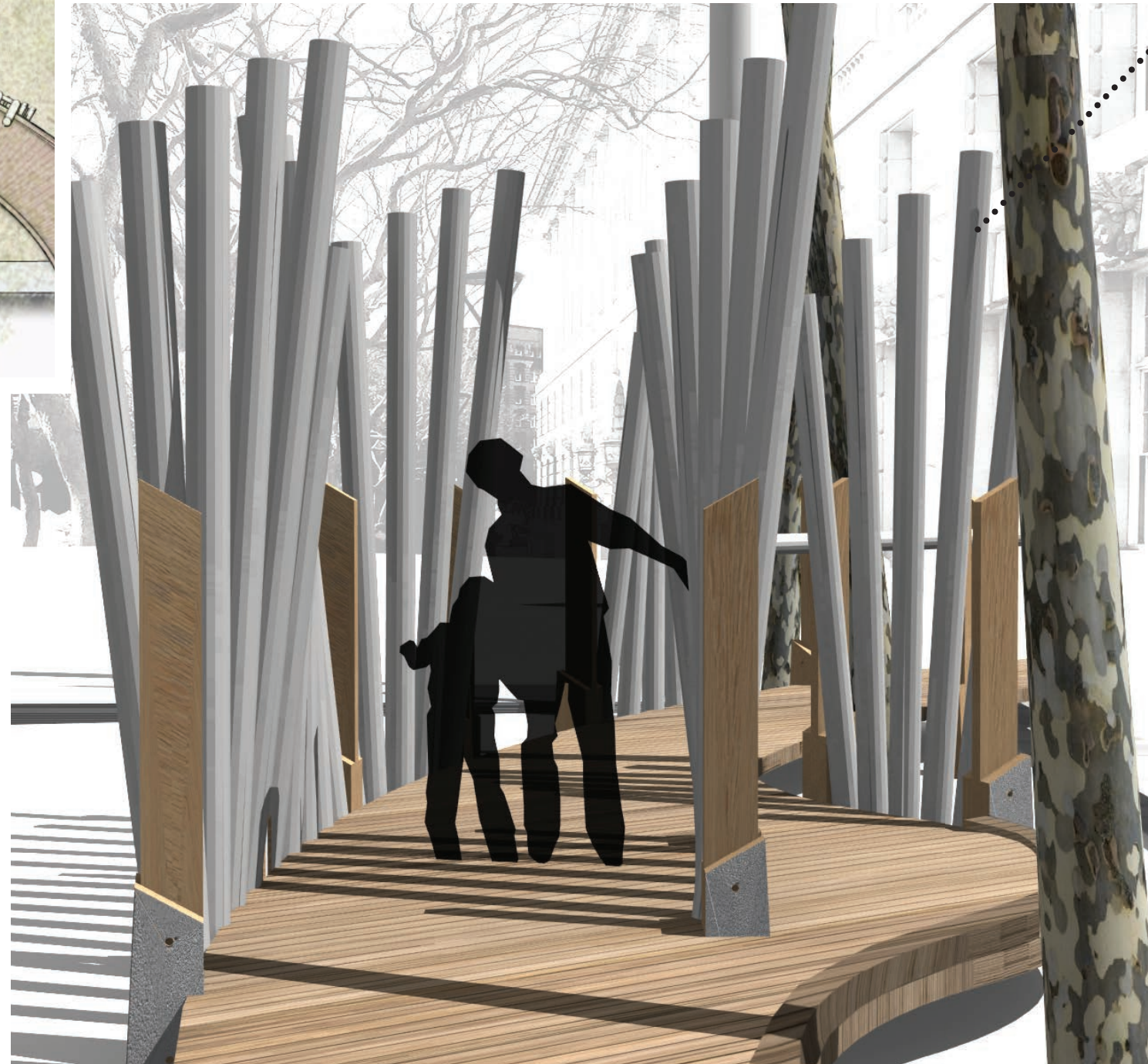
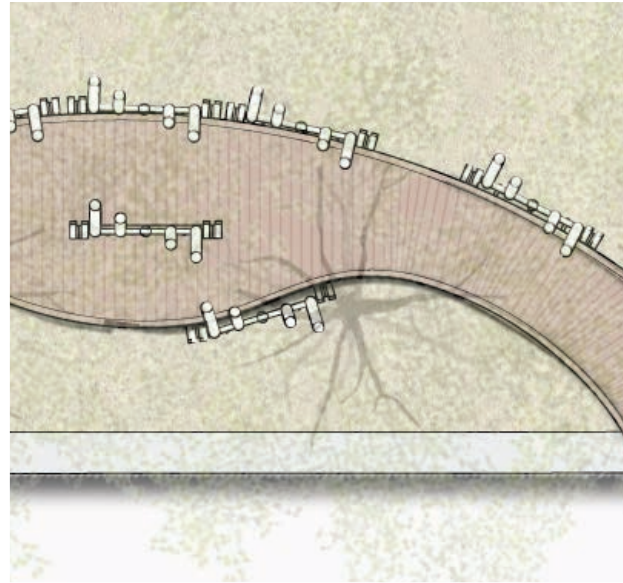
Out Quiet Yourself



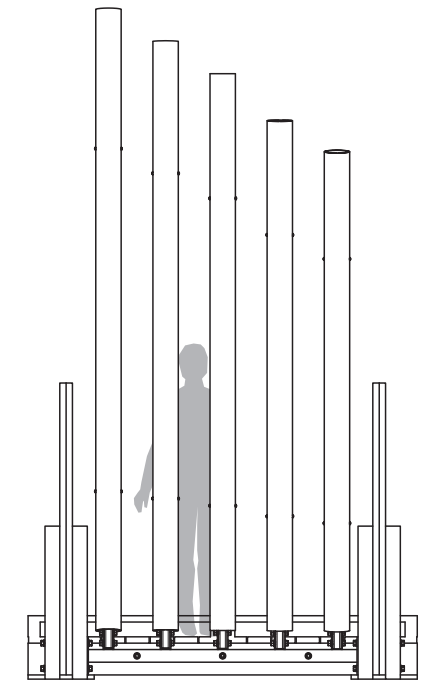
Visitors are challenged to cross a gravel path while making as little sound as possible. Piezoelectric microphones pick up the slightest sound as people carefully test their ability to pass over terrain quietly. A single or multi-use experience, *Out Quiet Yourself* creates a bit of social theater, an opportunity to play, and an excuse to test your very best sneaking abilities in a very public setting.

EXHIBITS

Mammoth Chimes



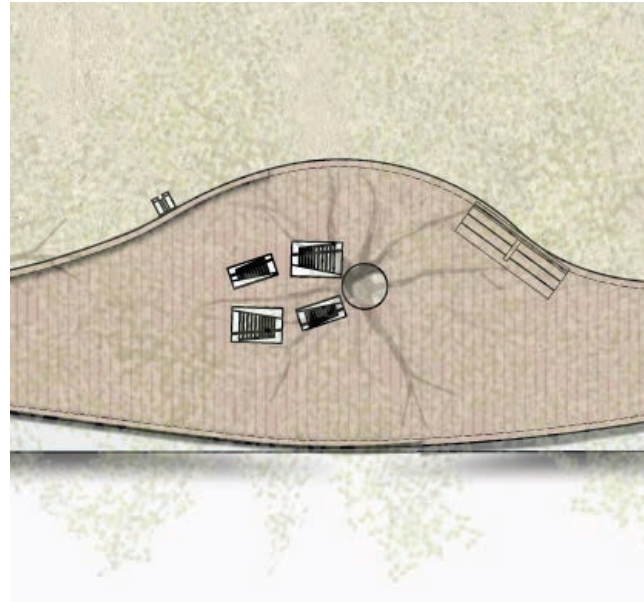
Deeply resonant and soothing, these large aluminum chimes* were designed to bathe visitors in sound as they play these unusually large musical devices.



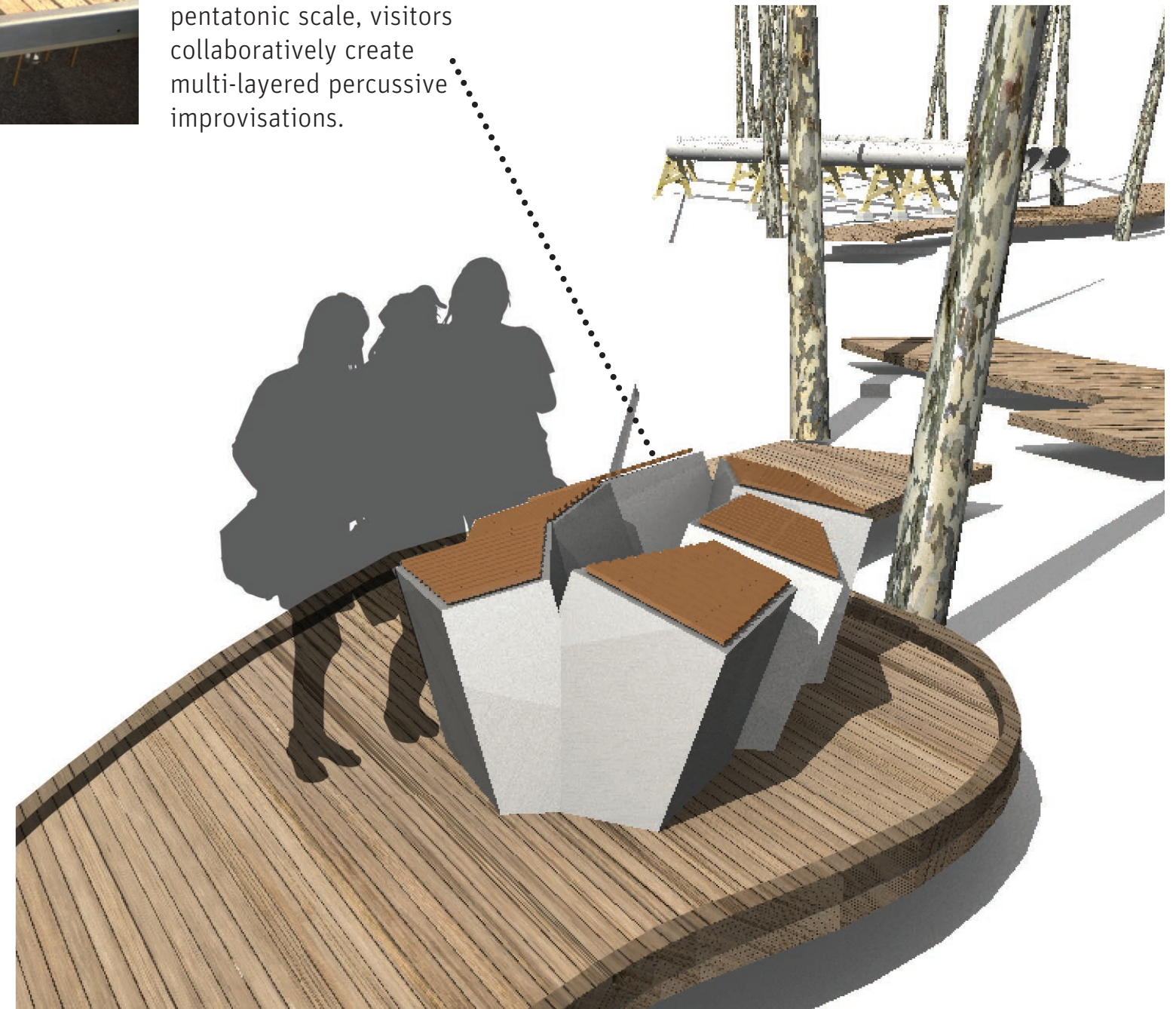
* For security, chimes will be spaced to prevent opportunities for hiding.

EXHIBITS

Pentaphone Keyboards

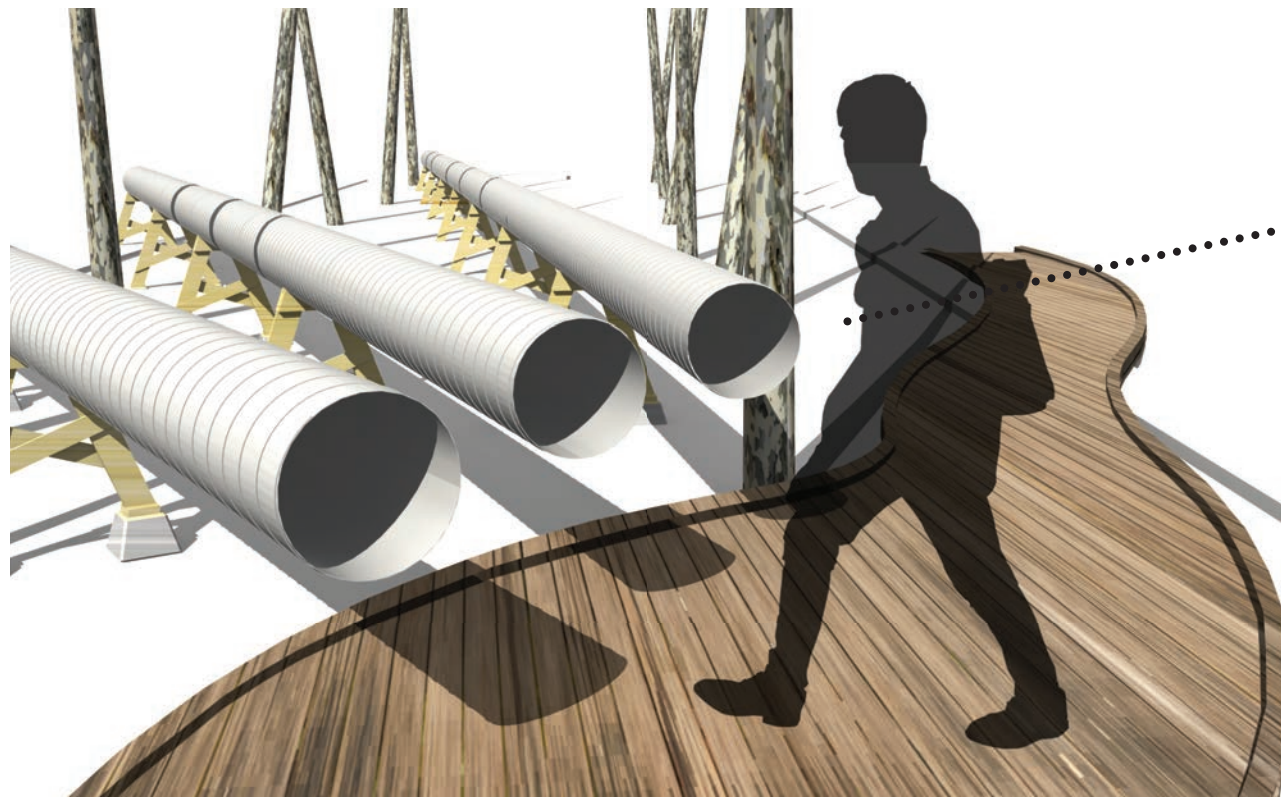
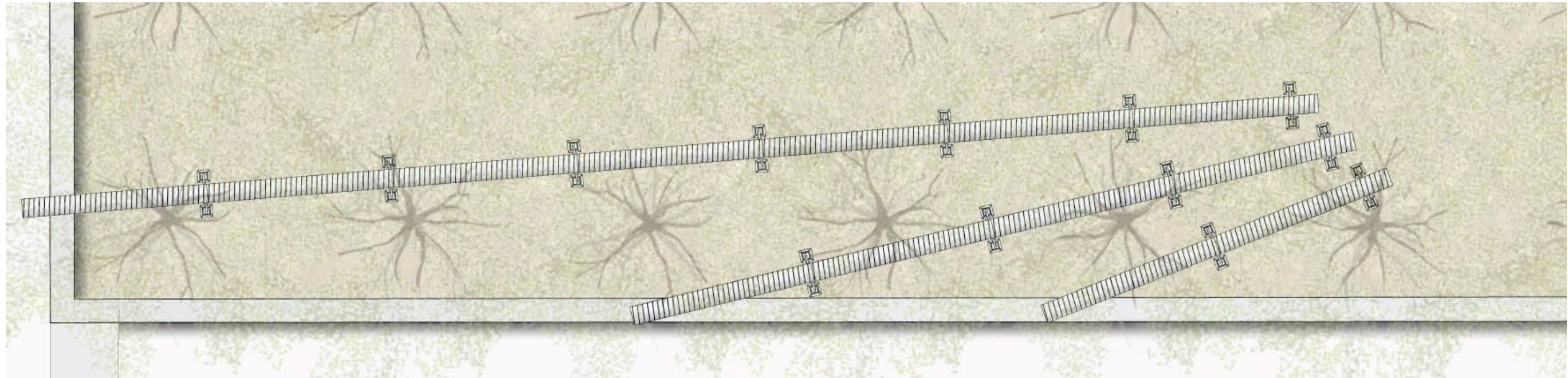


The beautiful thing about the pentaphone is that it's impossible to play an off note. Tuned to the pentatonic scale, visitors collaboratively create multi-layered percussive improvisations.



EXHIBITS

Echo Tubes

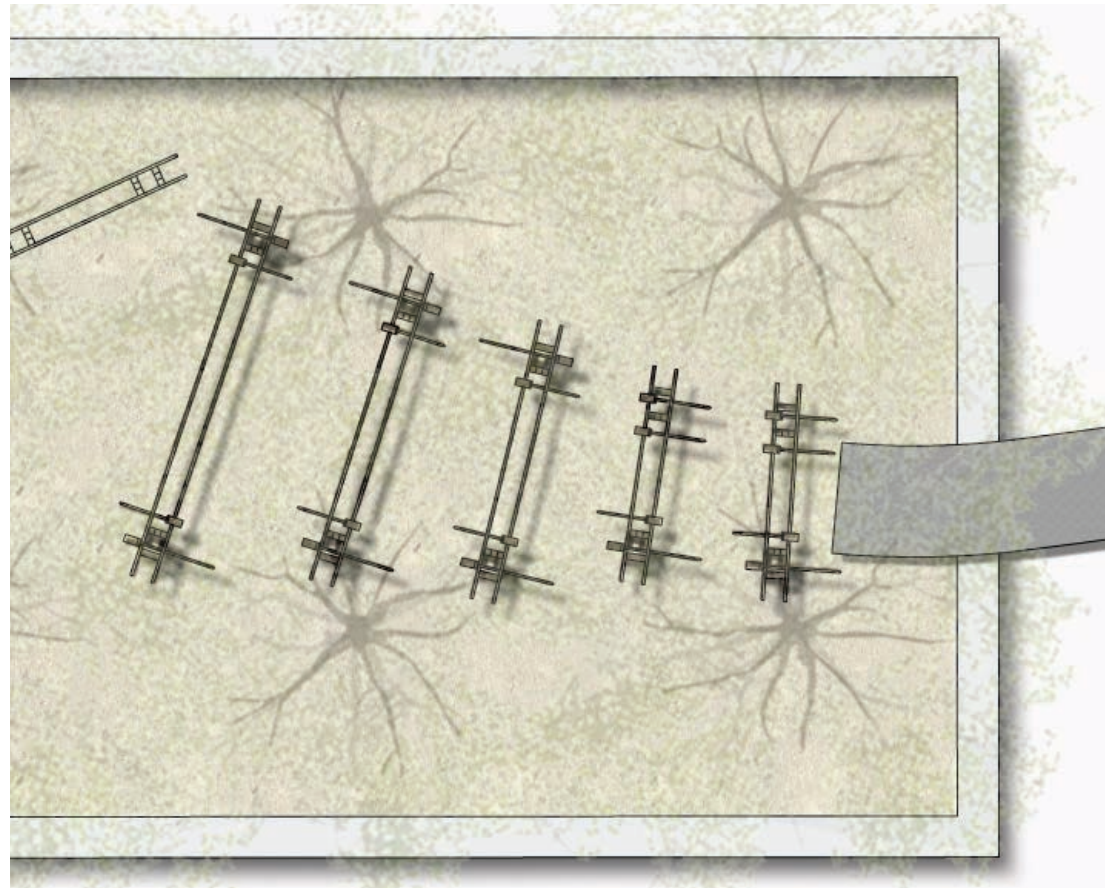


The echo tube transforms normal speech and clapping into surprising multi-layered sound experiences. Offering an ideal excuse to talk to one another, Echo Tube is a long-time Exploratorium favorite.

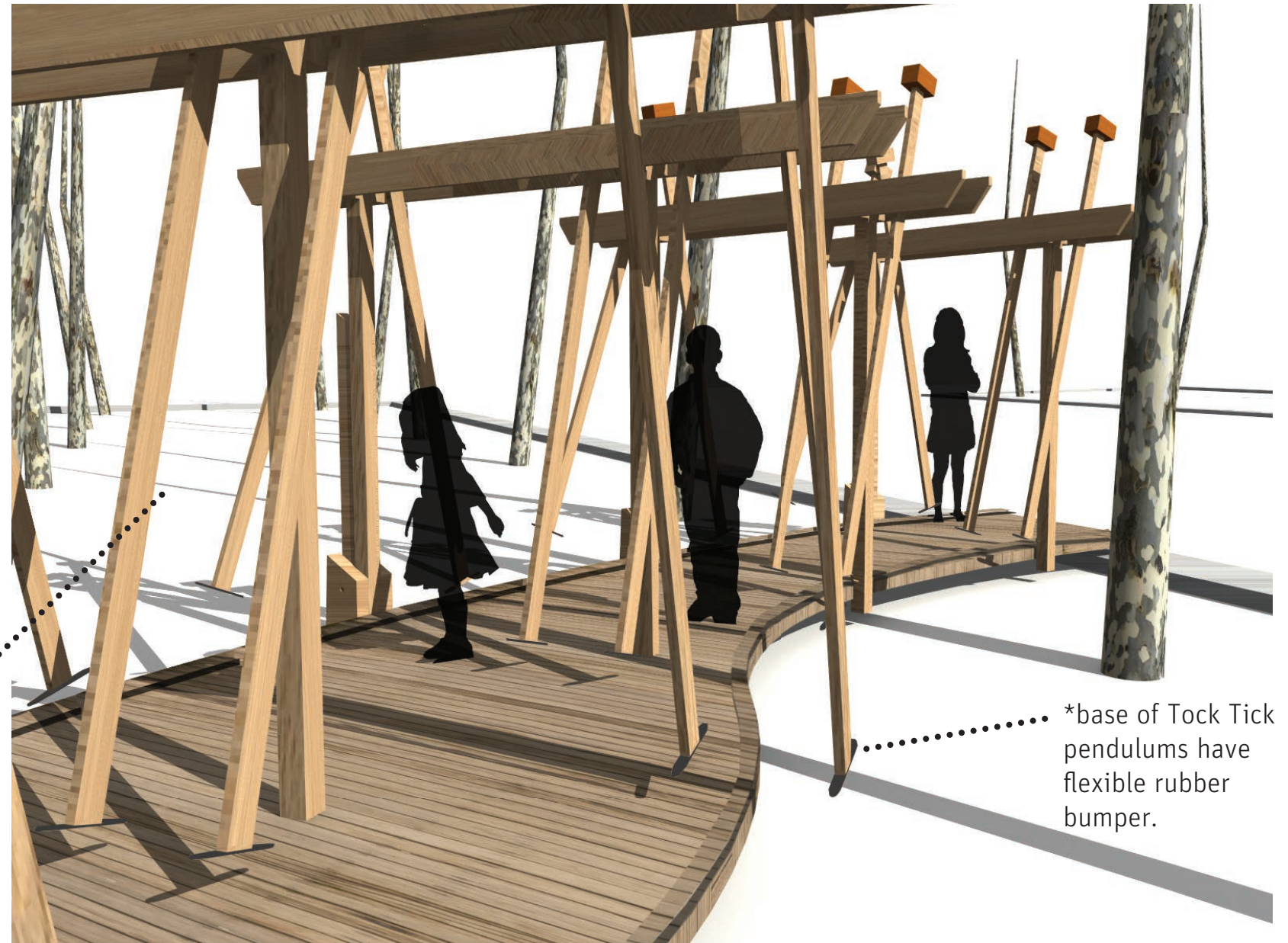


EXHIBITS

Tock Tick Pendulums



Tock Tick pendulums* are an array of pendulums that allow visitors to activate a syncopated beat using a series of pendulums with varying periods and beats.



*base of Tock Tick pendulums have flexible rubber bumper.

MATERIALS

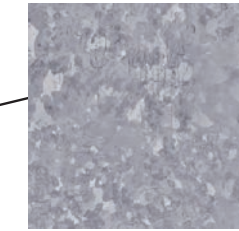
Exhibits



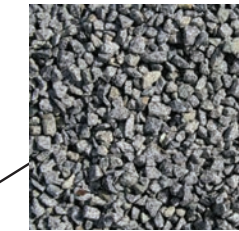
ALUMINUM CHIMES



MARINE GRADE PLYWOOD



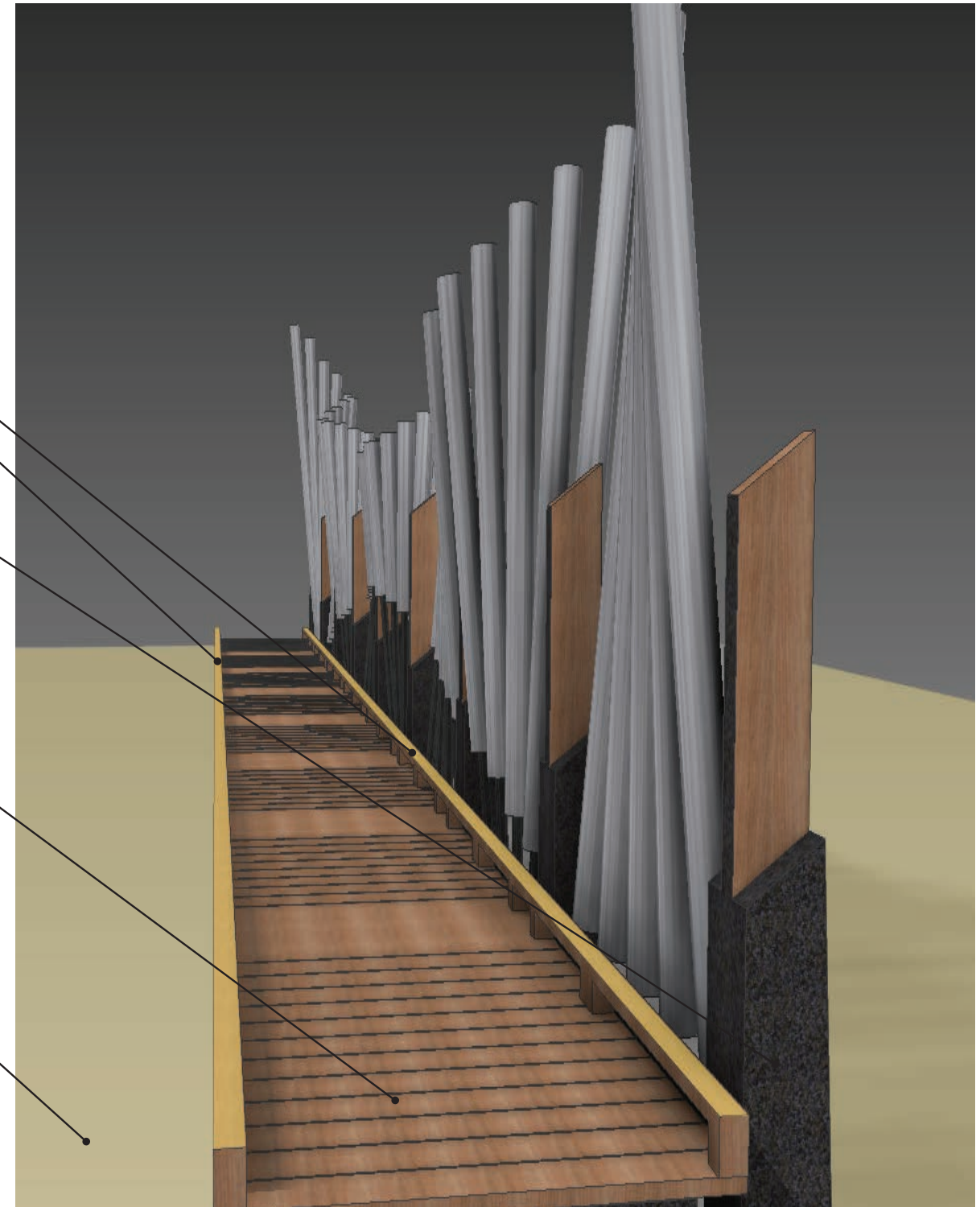
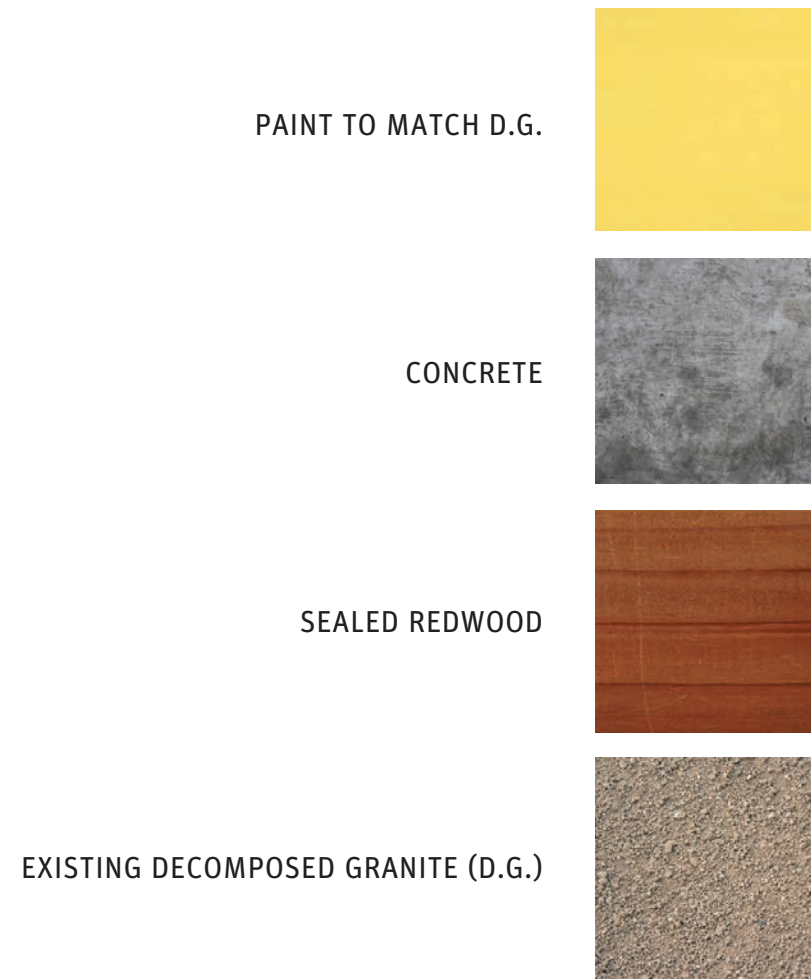
GALVANIZED STEEL



GRAVEL

MATERIALS

Installation

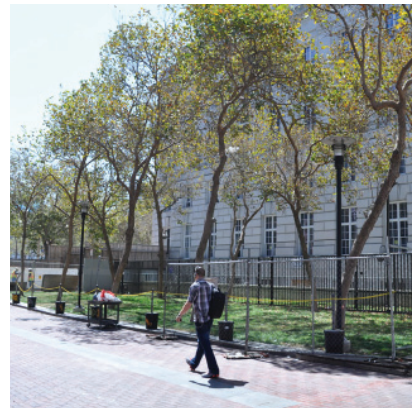


AUXILIARY DOCUMENTS

Cultural Landscape Report Selects

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ANALYSIS, BLOCK #0351
PAGES 81-83

SEE ATTACHED



Plantanus x acerifolia/London Plane trees in turf planting area along Leavenworth St



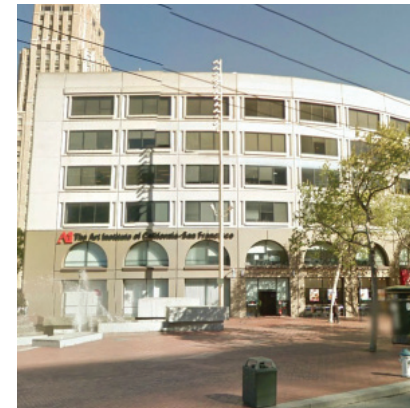
Granite bollards with chain along McAllister St east of Federal Building



Market St three arm street light with globe pendants



Square granite column lights with frosted globes along Fulton Mall



Commercial building at 10 United Nations Plaza*



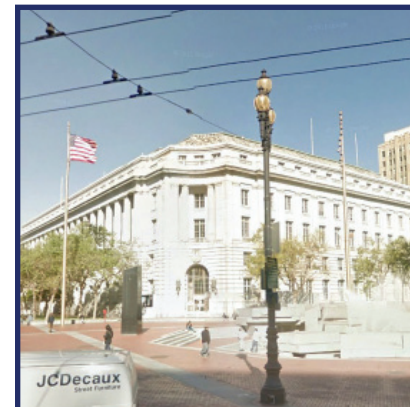
Double row of Platanus x acerifolia/London Plane trees in elevated planting area along Fulton Mall



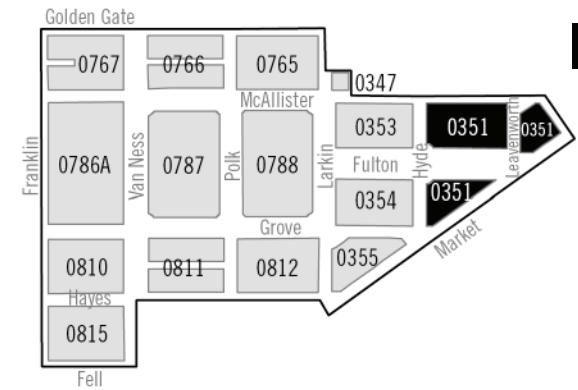
Decorative metal covers over tree wells near BART entrance at UN Plaza



Simon Bolivar bronze statue along Fulton Mall at Hyde St



Federal Building*



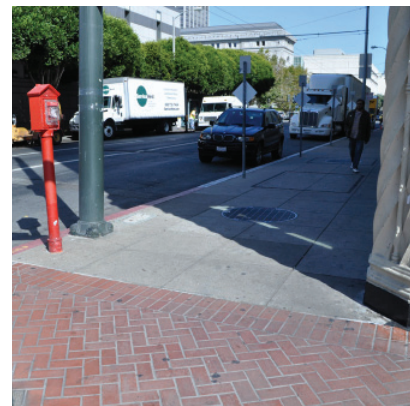
The three city blocks that comprise block #0351 form an open space known as the UN Plaza, designed by master landscape architect Lawrence Halprin. The Plaza established Fulton Street/Fulton Mall as a pedestrian-only space between Market and Hyde Streets. UN Plaza's distinct palette of landscape features links to and complements Market Street on one side, while its other side is linked to the Civic Center. Fulton Mall provides a significant view shed of City Hall.

Landscape elements that date to the period of significance include granite curbs of varying width, and Market Street pedestrian lighting.

The UN Plaza will require a future study to fully understand how it contributes to the significance of the larger Civic Center district. More information about UN Plaza is in the Evaluation section.



Plantanus x acerifolia/London Plane trees in circular tree grates along Hyde St



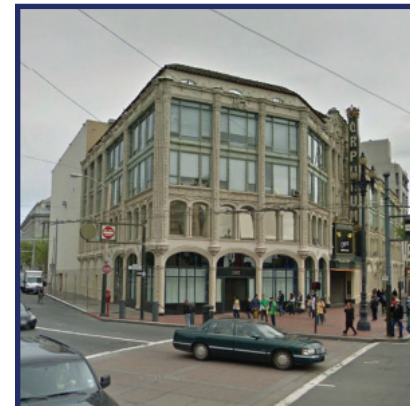
Limit of Market St brick paving at Grove St



Gold spotlights at UN Plaza fountain



Fire box at UN Plaza and base of gold flag pole



Orpheum Theater at Hyde and Grove Streets*



Double row of Platanus x acerifolia/London Plane trees along Market St



Circular tree well with radial metal tree grate along Market St



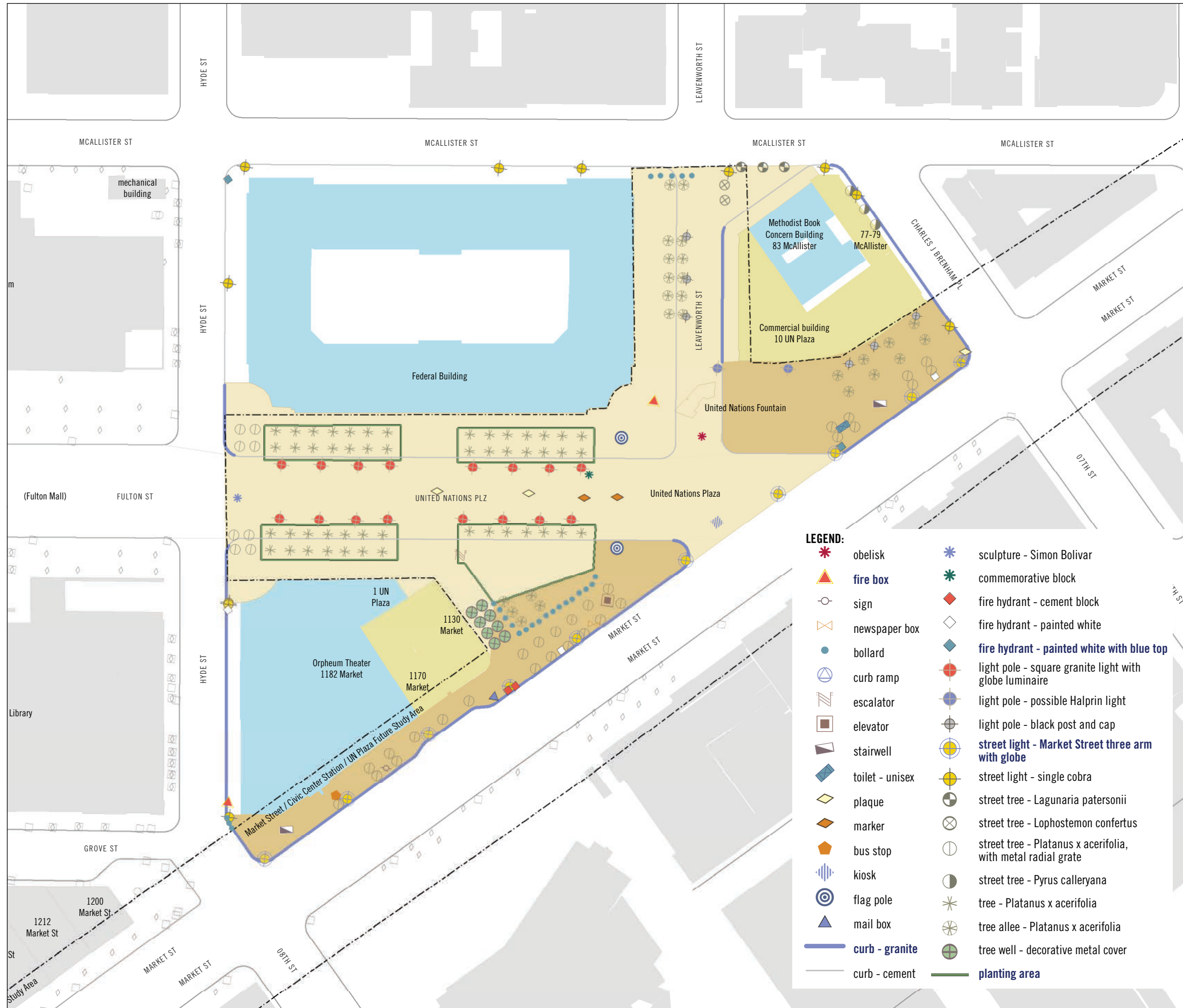
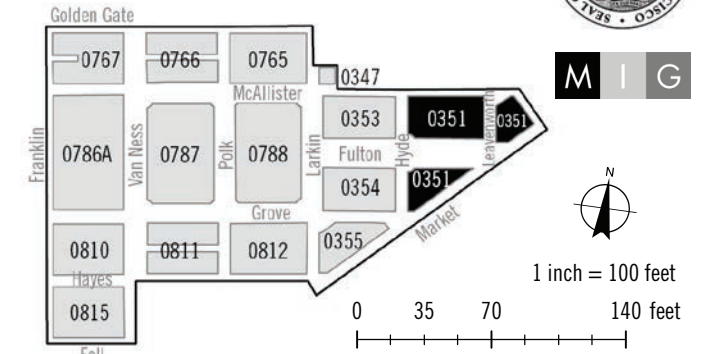
UN Seal embedded in brick at UN Plaza



United Nations Plaza Fountain

Cultural Landscape Report

BLOCK #0351



- LEGEND:**
- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| obelisk | sculpture - Simon Bolivar |
| fire box | commemorative block |
| sign | fire hydrant - cement block |
| newspaper box | fire hydrant - painted white |
| bollard | fire hydrant - painted white with blue top |
| curb ramp | light pole - square granite light with globe luminaire |
| escalator | light pole - possible Halprin light |
| elevator | light pole - black post and cap |
| stairwell | street light - Market Street three arm with globe |
| toilet - unisex | street light - single cobra |
| plaque | street tree - Lagunaria patersonii |
| marker | street tree - Lophostemon confertus |
| bus stop | street tree - Platanus x acerifolia, with metal radial grate |
| kiosk | street tree - Pyrus calleryana |
| flag pole | tree - Platanus x acerifolia |
| mail box | tree allee - Platanus x acerifolia |
| curb - granite | tree well - decorative metal cover |
| curb - cement | planting area |

SOURCES:

1. MIG field work, September 10-14, 2012
2. Hand drawn inventory field maps, September 2012
3. Bing aerial imagery online for ArcGIS, 2012
4. San Francisco Utility Commission light pole data, 2012
5. San Francisco publicly available GIS city lot, block and curb data, 2012

DRAWN BY:

MIG: Rachel Edmonds, Steve Leathers and Heather Buczek using Arc GIS 10.

DRAWN DATE:

March 2013, updated July 2014

LEGEND FOR SURROUNDING LANDSCAPE FEATURES:

- vegetation
- small scale feature
- circulation
- circulation - curb
- building or structure

LEGEND BLOCK N, O, P (cont.):

- Market Street / Civic Center Station / UN Plaza Future Study Area
- contributing building or structure
- United Nations Plaza
- non-contributing building or structure
- sidewalk - brick with herringbone pattern

BLOCK #0351 - UNITED NATIONS PLAZA									
CHARACTERISTIC	QTY.	FEATURE	DESCRIPTION	ADDRESS/LOCATION	DATE BUILT	PRIMARY SOURCE	JURISDICTION	CHARACTER	DEFINING
buildings & structures	1	Commercial building	Commercial building	10 United Nations Plaza	1982	1994 SFLD	private	NC	
buildings & structures	1	Commercial building	Commercial building	1 United Nations Plaza	1927	1994 SFLD	private	C	
buildings & structures	2	Commercial buildings	Commercial buildings	1130-1170 Market	1983	1994 SFLD	private	NC	
buildings & structures	1	Commercial building	Commercial building	79 McAllister	1906	1994 SFLD	private	NC	
buildings & structures	1	Residential building	Methodist Book Concern Building	83 McAllister	1907	1994 SFLD	private	C	
buildings & structures	1	Federal Building	Federal Building	50 United Nations Plaza	1936	1978 NR, 1987 NHL, 1994 SFLD	US Govt	C	
buildings & structures	1	Orpheum Theater	Orpheum Theater	1182 Market Street	1925	1978 NR, 1994 SFLD	private	C	
circulation	4	curb	12" granite curb	Block #0351 on Charles J. Brenham Place, Hyde, Market	-	site visit	DPW	C	
circulation	8	curb	6" cement curb	Block #0351 on Hyde, Leavenworth, McAllister, UN Plaza	-	site visit	DPW	-	
circulation	4	curb	6" granite curb	Block #0351 on Hyde, Leavenworth	-	site visit	DPW	C	
circulation	1	curb ramp	curb ramp - brick	Block #0351 on Market	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
circulation	1	elevator	elevator into the BART substation	United Nations Plaza	1973-1975	site visit	BART	U**	
circulation	1	escalator	escalator - down into to BART subway station	United Nations Plaza	1973-1975	site visit	BART	U**	
circulation	1	sidewalk	sidewalk - brick sidewalks with a herringbone pattern	Block #0355 on Market	1973c	site visit	DPW	U**	
circulation	2	stairs	stairwell - down into to BART subway station	Block #0351 on Market, United Nations Plaza	1973-1975	site visit	BART	U**	
small scale feature	25	bollard	bollard - cement linked with chain	Block #0351 on Hyde, McAllister, United Nations Plaza	1976c	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	1	bus stop	bus stop - covered with bench	Block #0351 on Market	2010	site visit	MUNI	-	
small scale feature	1	commemorative block	commemorative block - stone with UN emblem and text	United Nations Plaza	1995	site visit	DPW	-	
small scale feature	2	fire box	fire box - red metal on single post	Block #0351 on Hyde, United Nations Plaza	1899c	site visit	SFDT	C*	
small scale feature	2	fire hydrant	fire hydrant - cement block with two spouts	Block #0351 on Market	1970c	site visit	SFFD	U**	
small scale feature	3	fire hydrant	fire hydrant - painted white	Block #0351 on Hyde, Market	-	site visit	SFFD	-	
small scale feature	2	fire hydrant	fire hydrant - painted white with blue top; one embossed 1909	Block #0351 on Hyde, Market	1909	site visit	BEWS	C*	
small scale feature	2	flag pole	flag pole - metal base in radial pattern	United Nations Plaza	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	1	fountain	fountain - located in plaza, large stones	United Nations Plaza	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	1	kiosk	kiosk - advertisements	Block #0351 on Market	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	1	mail box	mail box - two army green embossed U.S. Mail	Block #0351 on Market	-	site visit	USPS	-	
small scale feature	1	marker	marker - lettering noting the latitude coordinates	United Nations Plaza	1995	site visit	DPW	NC	
small scale feature	1	marker	marker - stone with text	United Nations Plaza	1995	site visit	DPW	NC	
small scale feature	1	newspaper box	newspaper box	Block #0351 on Market	2006	site visit	DPW	NC	
small scale feature	1	obelisk	obelisk - black stone with the UN emblem	United Nations Plaza	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	1	plaque	plaque - in walkway "C.J. Brenham Pl."	Block #0351 on Charles J. Brenham Place	-	site visit	DPW	-	
small scale feature	1	plaque	plaque - inlaid in pathway	United Nations Plaza	-	site visit	DPW	-	
small scale feature	1	plaque	plaque - United Nations emblem	United Nations Plaza	1995	site visit	DPW	NC	
small scale feature	1	sculpture	sculpture - bronze Simon Bolivar	United Nations Plaza	1984	site visit	DPW	NC	
small scale feature	1	sign	sign - advertisements	Block #0351 on Market	-	site visit	DPW	-	
small scale feature	1	toilet	toilet - green painted metal with gold detail - unisex	United Nations Plaza	1995	site visit	DPW	NC	
small scale feature	36	tree well	tree well - metal grate with radial pattern	Block #0351 on Market	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	8	tree well	tree well - no tree, filled in with decorative metal cover	United Nations Plaza	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	2	light pole	gold spotlight pole with 12 lamps - possible Halprin light fixture	United Nations Plaza	1975	SF PUC	SF PUC	U**	
small scale feature	6	light pole	light pole - black post and cap	United Nations Plaza	-	SF PUC	SF PUC	-	
small scale feature	16	light pole	UN Plaza square granite light standard with sphere globe luminaire	United Nations Plaza	1975, 1995	site visit	DPW	U**	
small scale feature	10	street light	street light - Market Street three arm; globe luminaires on cast iron post	Block #0351 on Market	pre 1928	Bancroft image	SF PUC	C	
small scale feature	11	street light	street light - single cobra	Block #0351 on Charles J. Brenham Place, Hyde, McAllister	-	SF PUC	SF PUC	-	
spatial organization	1	United Nations Fountain	United Nations Fountain	United Nations Plaza	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
spatial organization	1	United Nations Plaza	United Nations Plaza; brick plaza with granite borders, rows of trees, bronze flag pole	United Nations Plaza	1975	1994 SFLD	DPW	U**	
spatial organization	1	Fulton Street Mall	Fulton Street Mall - associated with Blocks #0351, #0353, #0354, #0788	Block #0351	c. 1916	c. 1918 SF Planning image	DPW	C	
vegetation	1	planting area	planting area with stairs and escalator	Block #0351 on United Nations Plaza	1936, 1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
vegetation	3	planting area	planting area with tree alley	Block #0351 on United Nations Plaza	1936	site visit	DPW	C	
vegetation	3	tree	street tree - Lagunaria patersonii, Norfolk Island Hibiscus	Block #0351 on McAllister	2010-2012	site visit	DPW	NC	
vegetation	2	tree	street tree - Lophostemon confertus, Brisbane Box	Block #0351 on Leavenworth	-	site visit	DPW	-	
vegetation	36	tree	street tree - Platanus x acerifolia, London Plane, with metal radial grate	Block #0351 on Market, Hyde and United Nations Plaza	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
vegetation	3	tree	street tree - Pyrus calleryana, Callery Pear	Block #0351 on Charles J. Brenham Place	-	site visit	DPW	-	
vegetation	8	tree	tree alley east of fountain - Platanus x acerifolia, London Plane	Block #0351 on Market	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
vegetation	49	tree	tree in planting area - Platanus x acerifolia, London Plane	United Nations Plaza	1936	site visit	DPW	C	
vegetation	12	tree	tree alley north of fountain - Platanus x acerifolia, London Plane	Block #0351 on Leavenworth St	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	
vegetation	5	tree	tree alley protected by bollards with chains - Platanus x acerifolia, London Plane	Block #0351 on Market	1975	site visit	DPW	U**	

*This feature has been determined to be a contributing feature of the Civic Center Historic District. Features similar to this one located outside the district boundaries were not evaluated as part of this project.

**The United Nations Plaza, Halprin Fountain and Market Street will require a future study to fully understand how it contributes to the significance of the larger Civic Center district.



**Mayor's Office
on Disability**

City and County of San Francisco

Edwin M. Lee
Mayor

Naomi Kelly
City Administrator

Carla Johnson, CBO, CASp.
Director

March 30, 2016

San Francisco Planning Department
1650 Mission Street, Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94103

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to affirm that Carla Johnson, Director of the Mayor's Office on Disability (MOD) has met with the Living Innovation Zone (LIZ) Program team and the Exploratorium Design team to review the design of the proposed installation at the UN Plaza.

The Exploratorium provided MOD with an initial "ADA submittal" to review and comment on the design for accessibility. Going forward, the project sponsor will work together with MOD to ensure the final design is ADA compliant.

We support the LIZ Program team and the Exploratorium Design team in their endeavor to design and deliver this accessible installation at UN Plaza, to be enjoyed by one and all.

Thank you,

Arfaraz Khambatta
Deputy Director
Mayor's Office on Disability



March 14, 2016

To Whom it May Concern:

The Living Innovation Zone (LIZ) Project and the Exploratorium have been very proactive in their outreach with Heart of the City Farmers Market (HOCFM) to assess the impact of the “Sonic Engagements” installation on our market, which has operated at the United Nations Plaza for 35 years. Representatives have visited the market to discuss early design phases with affected HOCFM vendors and assess vendor and customer traffic patterns, visited two HOCFM board meetings to present developing plans including the newest phase of the design on February 24, 2016, met at the March 2 farmers market with our Executive Director, Board President, and HOCFM security team to discuss how the current design of the installation will affect our operations, and provided updated design plans as of March 14 that reflect changes made to address our concerns.

HOCFM has expressed concerns about the security of the installation in a high crime area where managing homelessness, drug use, and needle disposal is a daily struggle for our non-profit. LIZ representatives have been responsive to these concerns and are proposing monitors for the installation when activity it attracts will pose a threat to the market. HOCFM has also expressed concerns about the installation affecting our vendors’ ability to park vehicles behind their stalls, which is crucial in a high crime area where product is vulnerable to theft from behind as well as necessary to store perishable products in an outdoor environment. LIZ has addressed these concerns by modifying their design to remain within the boundaries of the granite ledges (with the exception of low, wheelchair accessible metal ramps in four locations which may be driven over) or extending over the ledges no more than a few inches.

With these concerns addressed, we support this project. We appreciate the lengths the LIZ team has gone to accommodate our operations.

Thank you,

Kate Creps
Executive Director
Heart of the City Farmers Market

1182 MARKET STREET • SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102
(415) 558-9455 • HOCFARMERSMARKET@GMAIL.COM