HOMAM
AL DARAH

ARCH.PORTFOILO
2019

HD

"Recognizing the need is the primary condition for design."

Charles Eames

About Me

I am a fresh graduate, aspiring to create a successful career in architecture. Whether I was playing with building blocks, constructing sand castles or making Lego creations, I have always enjoyed the process of design, which in turn motivated me to pursue this career path.

Architecture has become a way for me to express myself, exercise my passion for design and leave a mark on this world. Because with architecture you can reflect social and cultural values. Therefore, my career objective is to keep pursuing my dream and to reach a position where I can inspire and contribute.

Info

- Age: 15.10.1993
- Syrian
- Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Homam_darah@hotmail.com
- +6018-3238 223 - MY

Education

2017 → 2019
Master's in Architecture
UCSI University
(Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
Graduation: June 2019

2012 → 2015
Bachelor's in Architecture
Limkokwing University
(Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)
Graduation: December 2015

Languages

ARABIC
NATIVE

ENGLISH
EXCELLENT

Interests

Sports   Reading   Travel   Music

Personal

- Hard working
- Fast learner
- Reliable
- Strong skills
- Efficient
- Dynamic

Skills

0% —————— 100%

Editing

Photoshop cc — HIGH

CAD/BIM

AutoCAD — HIGH
Revit Arch. — HIGH
SketchUp — MEDIUM

Rendering

3D Max — MEDIUM
Lumion — HIGH

MS Office

Word — HIGH
Excel — HIGH
PowerPoint — HIGH

Art & Crafts:

Sketching — MEDIUM
Model making — HIGH
Photography — HIGH

Experience

2016
SHAMI Engineering
Assistant Architect (full time)
Responsibilities: Auto-cad drafting, editing, 3D modeling, assisting in design process to develop alternate solutions and organize & maintain project files.
Duration: January to October 2016

- (Damascus, Syria)
- Fawazshami@gmail.com
- +963-933226600/+963-116115092

2013
House of Engineering & Development
Internship program (full time)
1st period: June to August 2013
2nd period: December 2013 to February 2014

- (Damascus, Syria)
- ammarghandour65@gmail.com
- +963-944237001/+963-113213230

2012
Jacadi for Construction & Consulting
Responsibilites: office work, basic Auto-cad drafting, handling documents.
Duration: Januray to July 2012

- (Damascus, Syria)
- jacadi@scs-net.org
- +963-944328283/+963-112321125

Publications

2017
A Criticism of Ministry of Housing building, Putrajaya within the construct of National Architecture Identity.
(CAHSA Academic Monograph Vol: 1)

An Evaluation of abu Bakar Mosque, Bangsar from the Perspective of Architectural Contextualism
(CAHSA Academic Monograph Vol: 2)

03

01

Highrise Residential

02

Community Center

03

Urban Planning

01

Renvigorating Unite' D'Habitation

AutoCad · Revit · Lumion · Photoshop

The project is a Transit oriented residential high-rise located in a 4.2 acres site in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. The objective of this project is to propose a new approach of High-rise that solves the issue of reduced interaction. The title reinvigorating Unite' D'habitation was derived from the famous Unite' D'habitation by Le Corbusier in Marseille, France which was the inspiration for this building.

Sure the view of a high rise can be stunning, but you aren't able to see people in a way that allows for interaction and you end up separated from the streets and the city. Therefore, a new approach of High-rise that diversify and spread the communal spaces, activities and facilities in the building for the residents to interact was implemented as a solution.
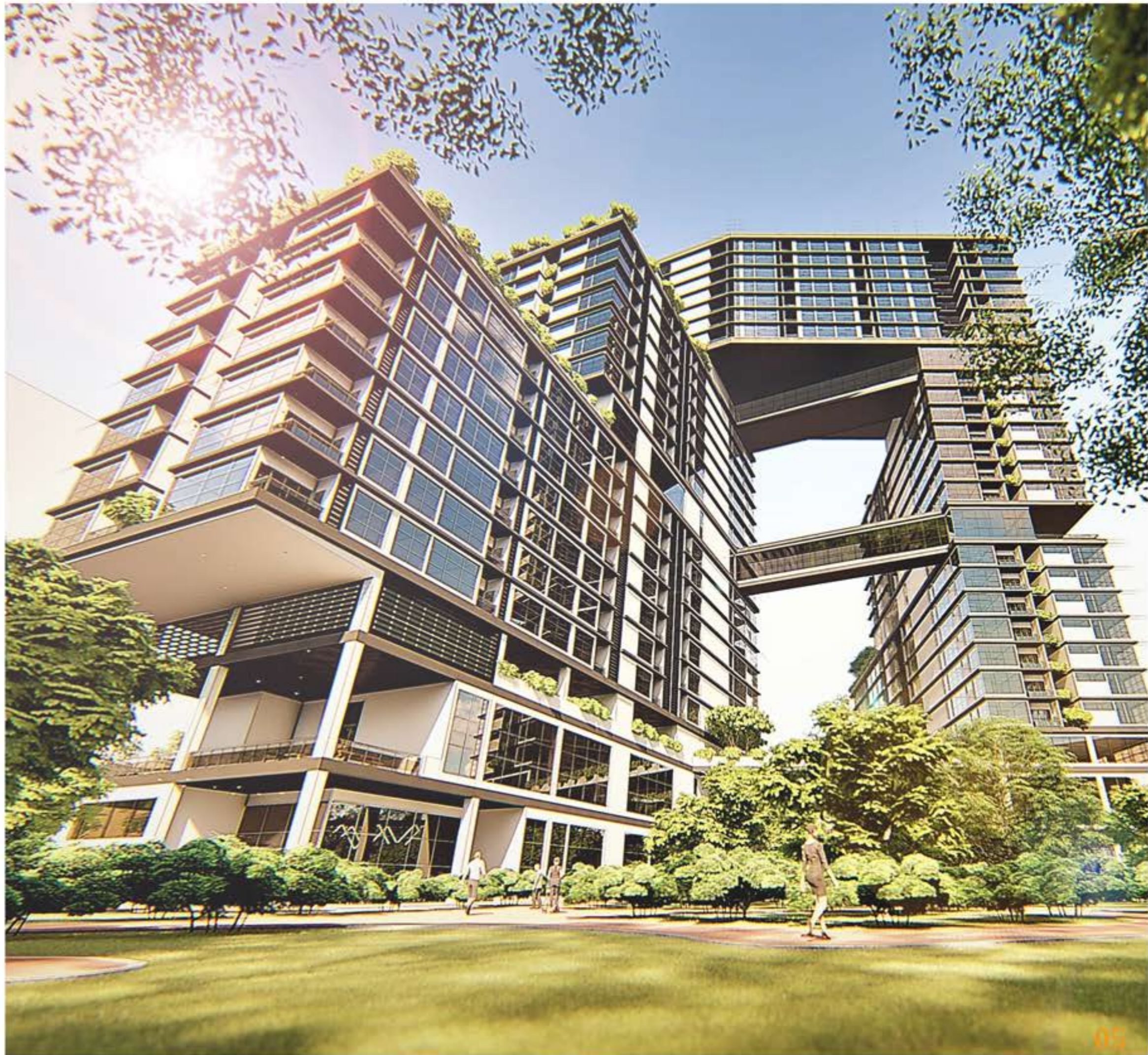
Site
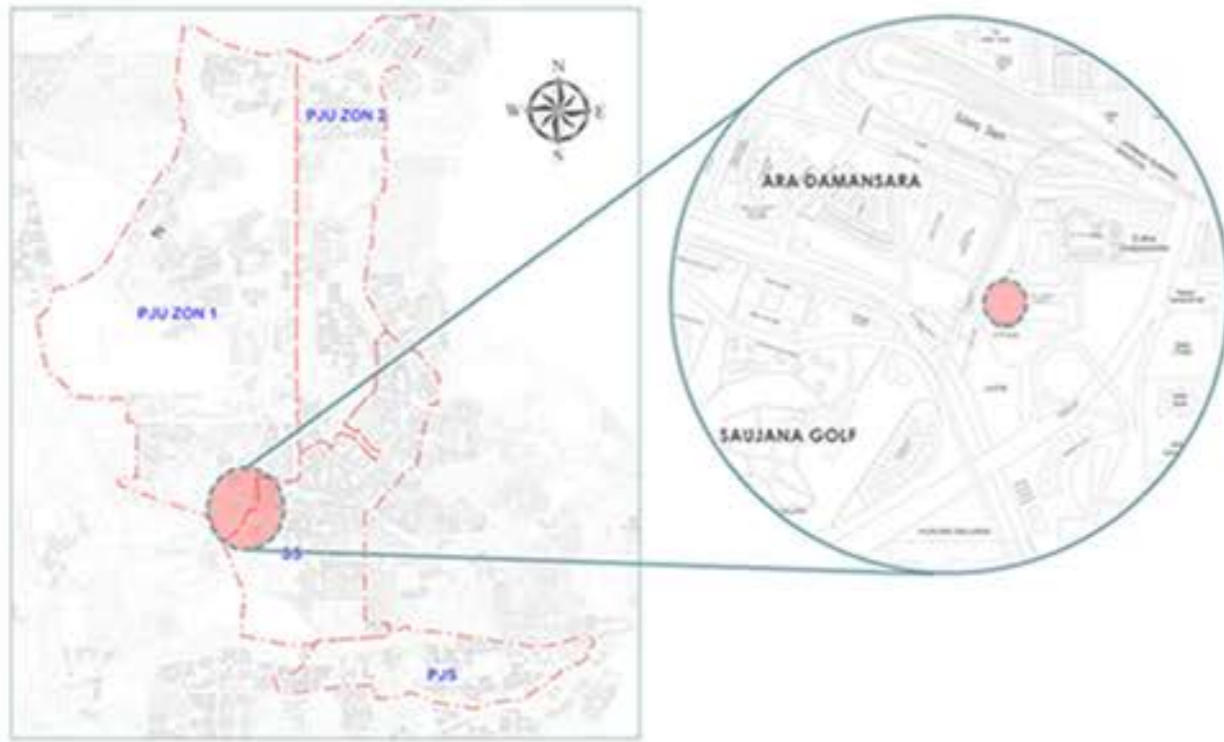
The Issue

"What high-rise does is separate large numbers of people from the street, so we end up with a city that is detached from street life, we end up with a city that is based on enclaves and gated communities,"

Michael Buxton

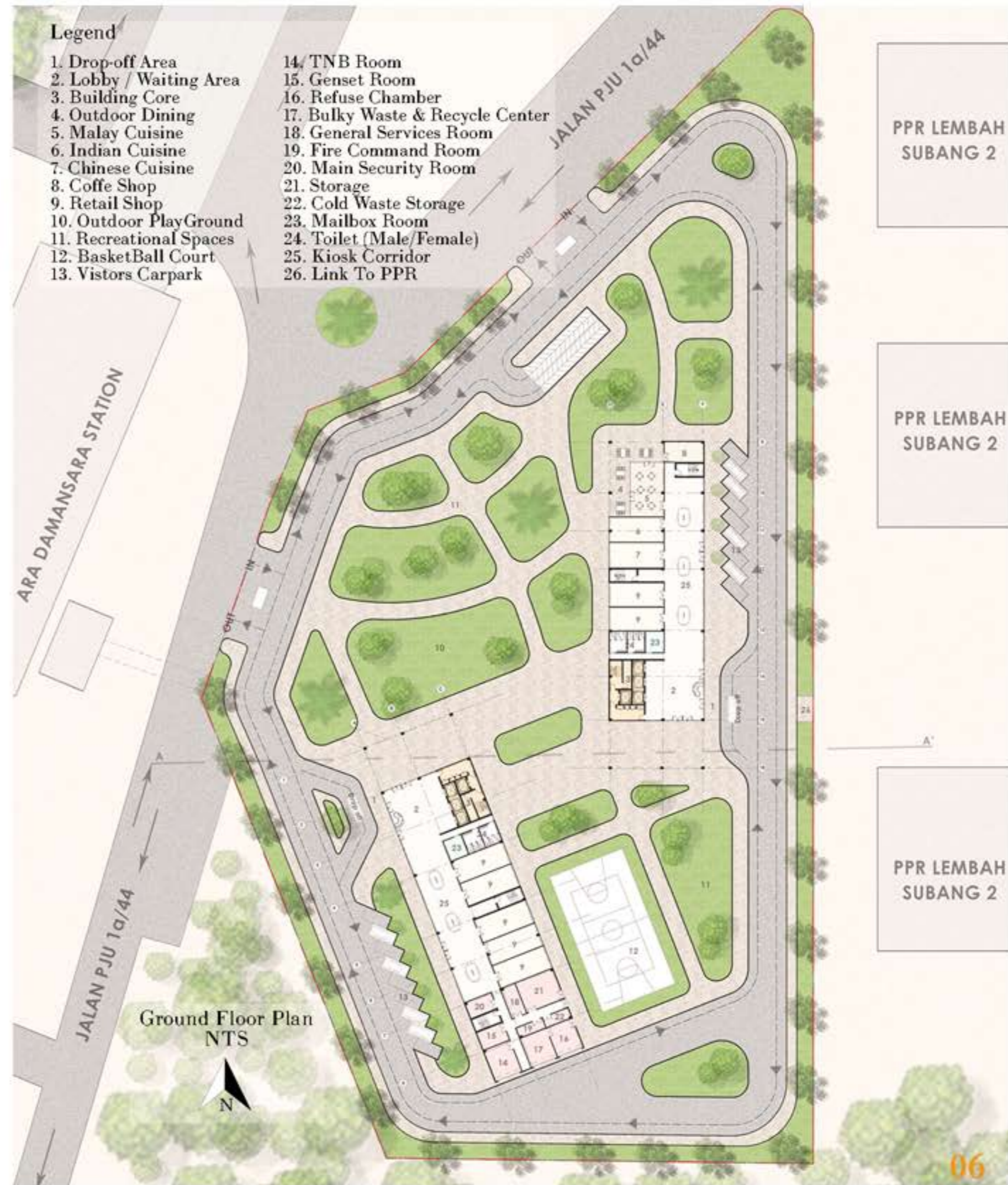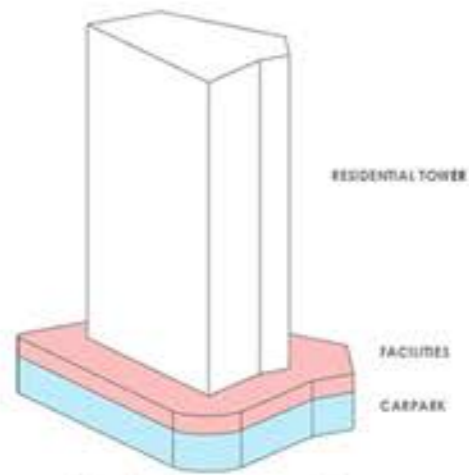## 1.High-rise Seprate People From The Streets

Research has proven that meaningful contact with ground level events is possible only from the first few floors in a multi-story building. Between the third and forth floor, a marked decrease in the ability to have contact with the ground level can be observed. Another threshold exists between the fifth and sixth floors. Anything and anyone above the fifth floor is definitely out of touch with ground level events."

2.Reduced Chance of Enounters & Propinquity

Propinquity is "one of the main factors leading to interpersonal attraction. It refers to the physical or psychological proximity between people. Propinquity can mean physical proximity, a kinship between people, or a similarity in nature between things," according to Wikipedia. Propinquity happens in public spaces on the street, in parks, public transportation and city squares. High-rises diminish people's participation in public spaces and therefore diminish propinquity.

Legend

1. Drop-off Area
2. Lobby / Waiting Area
3. Building Core
4. Outdoor Dining
5. Malay Cuisine
6. Indian Cuisine
7. Chinese Cuisine
8. Coffe Shop
9. Retail Shop
10. Outdoor PlayGround
11. Recreational Spaces
12. BasketBall Court
13. Vistors Carpark
14. TNB Room
15. Genset Room
16. Refuse Chamber
17. Bulky Waste & Recycle Center
18. General Services Room
19. Fire Command Room
20. Main Security Room
21. Storage
22. Cold Waste Storage
23. Mailbox Room
24. Toilet (Male/Female)
25. Kiosk Corridor
26. Link To PPR

Ground Floor Plan
NTS

Typical Compostion

Typical residential block sitting on
podium carpark
=
bulky building
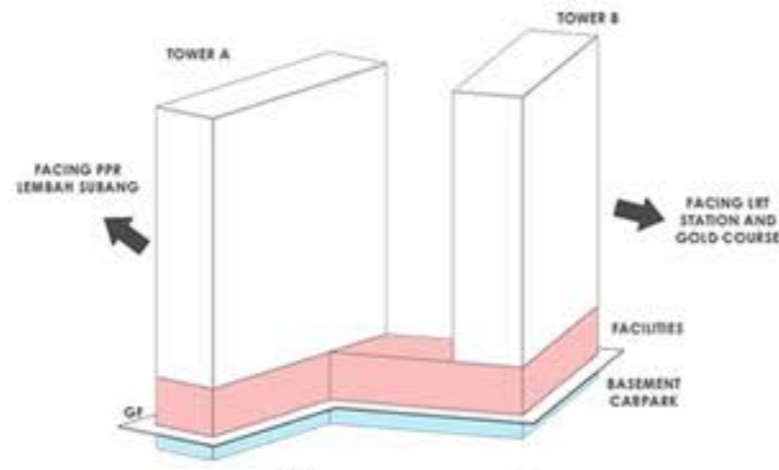
Re-arrangement

Split the residential blocks into 2 identical
blocks sitting on podium that is linked from
inbetween the 2 blocks and has common
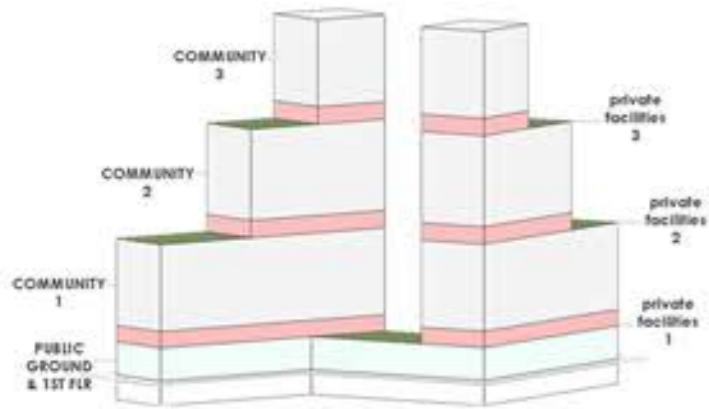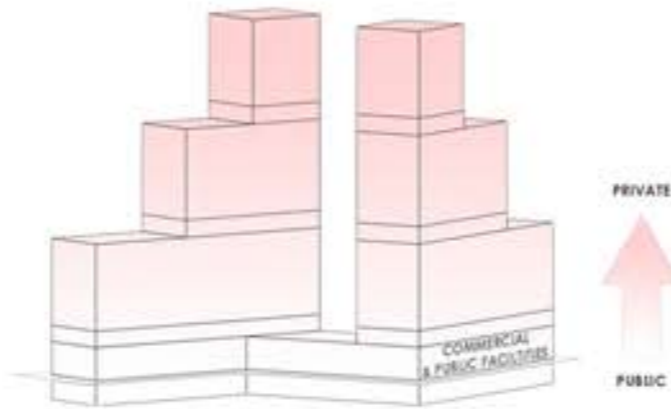faciltities and retail and shift the carpark
into basment level

Mass Breakdown

The mass in each block has been broken down
into 3 smaller components with private facility
level between each one to allow for community
connectivity, each of the components represent
a small community, while the linked podium
remain open for public

Zoning

Commercial elements has
been placed in ground and
first floor therefore, the com-
munities has been shifted to
start from 3rd floor to
ensure privacy.
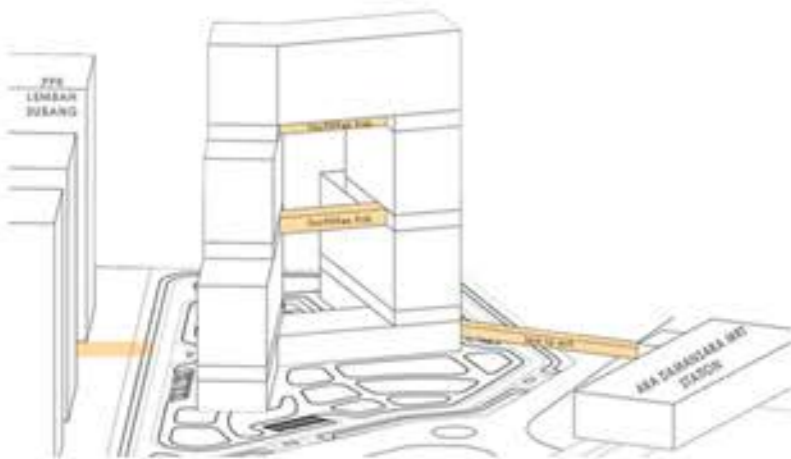
Linkages

Create linkages between the blocks to make a
statement of a strong community and to allow
for a flexible and interactive living, while also
linking with the surrounding context to allow for
public interaction and take advantage of the mrt
station located opposite the site

Views

Towers were oriented in a particular
angle in order to maximize the views
and minimize the units facing to-
wards each other

Level 1
NTS

Level 3
NTS

Level 10
NTS

Legend

1. Building Core
2. Outdoor community Terrace
3. Outdoor Recreational Space
4. Cyber Cafe
5. Class Room
6. Kindergarten
7. Cooking Center
8. Library
9. Retail Shop
10. Clinic
11. Surau (Male/Female)
12. Management Office
13. Laundry Room
14. Hair Salon
15. Pedestrian Bridge to Mrt Station
16. Multi-Purpose Hall

Legend

■ Building Core
■ Corridor
□ Community Space
■ Type A1 (Studio Apartment)
□ Type A2 (2 Bedroom)
□ Type B1 (2 Bedroom)
■ Type C1 (3+1 Bedroom)

Legend

1. Corridor
2. Lobby / Waiting Area
3. Event Hall 1
4. Event Hall 2
5. WiFi & Reading Room
6. Game Room
7. Karaoke Room
8. WorkShop
9. Building Core
10. Sky Cafe
11. Sky Terrace
12. Bambo Sky Garden
13. Herbs Sky Garden
14. Linkage
15. Gathering Sky Garden
16. Community Spaces

Type B1 (850sqft)
2 Bedroom, 2 Bath

Type A2 (850sqft)
2 Bedroom, 2 Bath

Type B2 (850sqft)
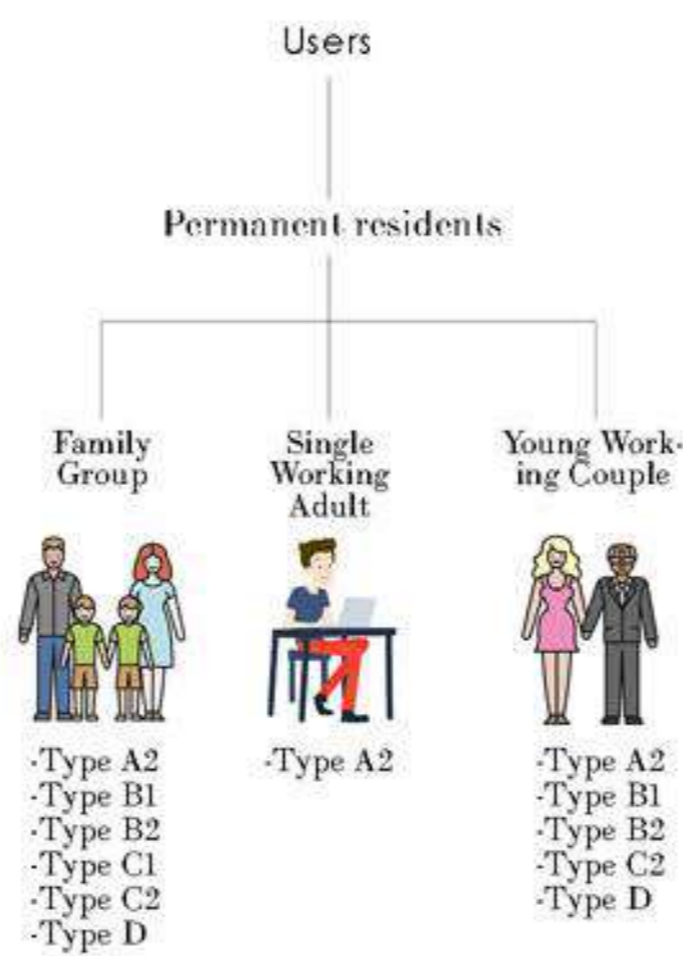2 Bedroom, 1 Bath

Type A1 (600sqft)
Studio Unit, 1 Bath

Type C1 (1075sqft)
3+1 Bedroom, 2 Bath

Type C2 (1075sqft)
2+1 Bedroom, 2 Bath

The typical units were designed to suit different target user group and their respective needs. there are total of 7 typical unit types comprises of 600sqft, 850sqft, 900sqft and 1075sqft with different interior layout and number of bedrooms and bathrooms.

Legend

- Building Core
- Corridor
- Community Space
- Type A1 (Studio Apartment)
- Type A2 (2 BR)
- Type B1 (2 BR)

Target Users Analysis

Users

Permanent residents

Family Group	Single Working Adult	Young Working Couple
·Type A2	·Type A2	·Type A2
·Type B1		·Type B1
·Type B2		·Type B2
·Type C1		·Type C2
·Type C2		·Type D
·Type D		

Unit Number Break Down

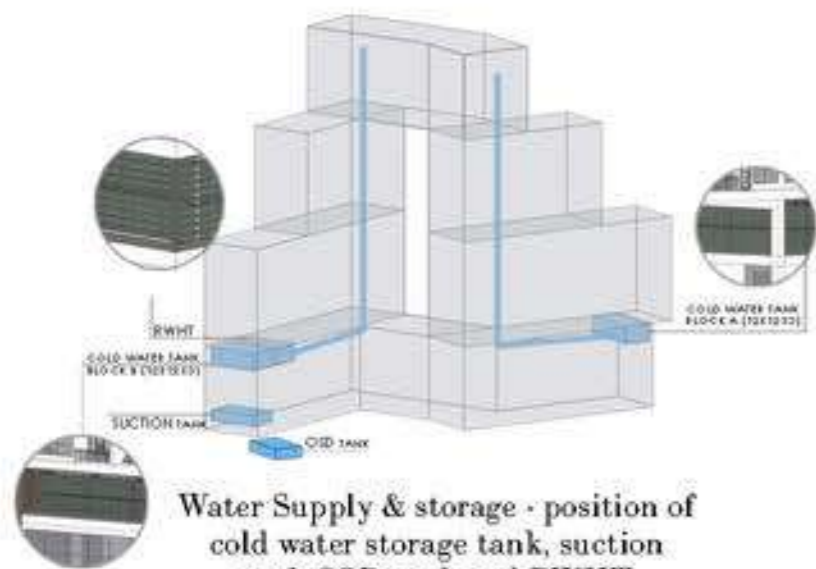|		
Unit Type A1 (600sqft):	196	nos
Unit Type A2 (850sqft):	42	nos
Unit Type B1 (850sqft):	56	nos
Unit Type B2 (850sqft):	28	nos
Unit Type C1 (1075sqft):	42	nos
Unit Type C2 (1075sqft):	7	nos
Unit Type D (900sqft):	7	nos

Level 11
NTS

Level 19
NTS

Legend

- Building Core
- Corridor
- Community Space
- Type B2 (2 BR)
- Type C1 (3+1 BR)
- Type C2 (2+1 BR)
- Type D (2 BR)

09

Water Supply & storage · position of cold water storage tank, suction tank OSD tank and RWHT
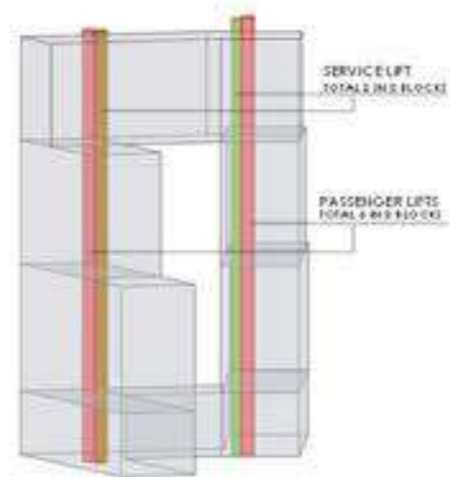
Vertical Transportation Regenerative Lift system · save up to 30% energy
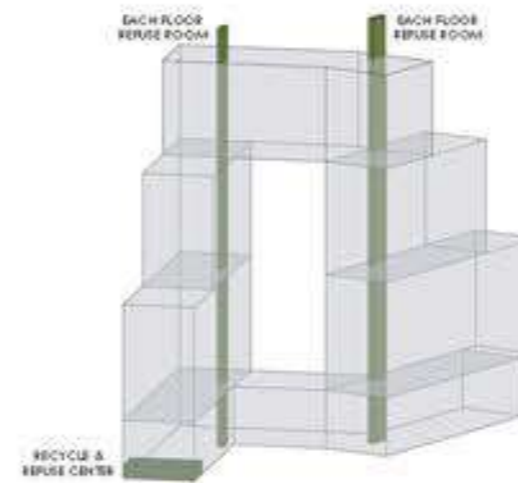
Solid waste management · centralised collection and recycling · collected everyday stored in refuse center · collected 2/week
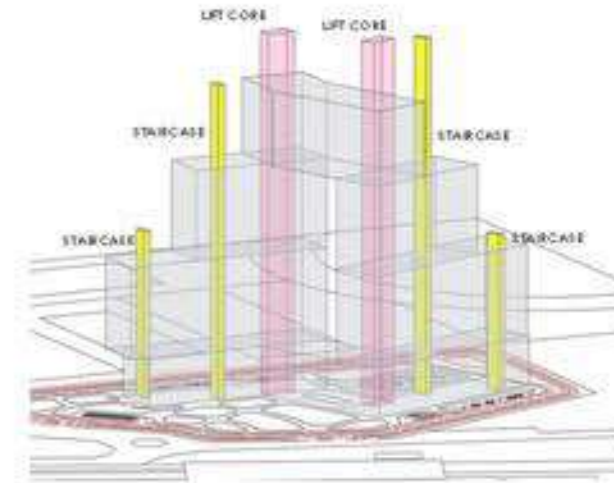
Building core and fire staircases postion in the building in case of fire · island site with 6.1 m width access road around the site

Section AA'
NTS

- ☐ Residential
- ☐ Facilities
- ☐ Sky-Bridge
- ☐ Ground-Floor
- ☐ Basement Parking

Green Strategies

Structiral Strategies Diagram

10

02

Air Panas Community Hub

AutoCad · Revit · Lumion · Photoshop

Urban villages in Malaysia play a vital role in giving the country its identity, however those villages are struggling to co-exist with the rapid development in today's world, which had an enormous effect in reducing the traditional ways of interaction among people especially that those villages are underdeveloped with lack of public facilities and places of interactions which makes it harder for their communities to survive.

Therefore, this project undertakes an analysis on Air Panas Village in Kuala Lumpur in order to evaluate the social, multi-generational and architectural issues the community is undergoing.

Furthermore, this project proposes a Community Hub as an architectural solution to revitalize and reinvigorate communal interaction and inclusiveness between the people of Air Panas village.

The new villages are not new as they were mainly established between 1948 to 1952 around 70 years ago when the British decided to segregate the villagers from the Malayan Races Liberation Army during the Malayan Emergency. By isolating this population into "new villages", the British were able to stem the critical flow of material and information, there is a total of 450 villages distributed across Malaysia and only 3 villages in Kuala Lumpur Area. The majority of their population is Chinese, the new villages were known for their communal living and strong communities.

However, with the rapid decline, underdevelopment and abandonment from youth and growth of modernized and commercialized development their culture and communities are beginning to fade away resulting into a lost communal identity.

Typical Diagrammatic Layout of Urban Villages in Malaysia

Agricultural Farms

Market Area/F&B

Commercial Area

Village Park/Feild

Housing Area

Commercial Area

Play Ground

Educational Facilities

Educational Facilities

Residential Area

LEGEND

Main Focal Point of New Village

Existing River

Road System

Residential Area

Agricultural Farms

Commercial Area

Market Area

Play Ground

Park/Feild

Educational Facilities

Urban Village Characteristics

Macro Issue Statement

Social Issue:

Decline of the new villages and dominance of the rapid development of commercialized projects resulting to a weak communal identity and dissolved communities in the new villages.
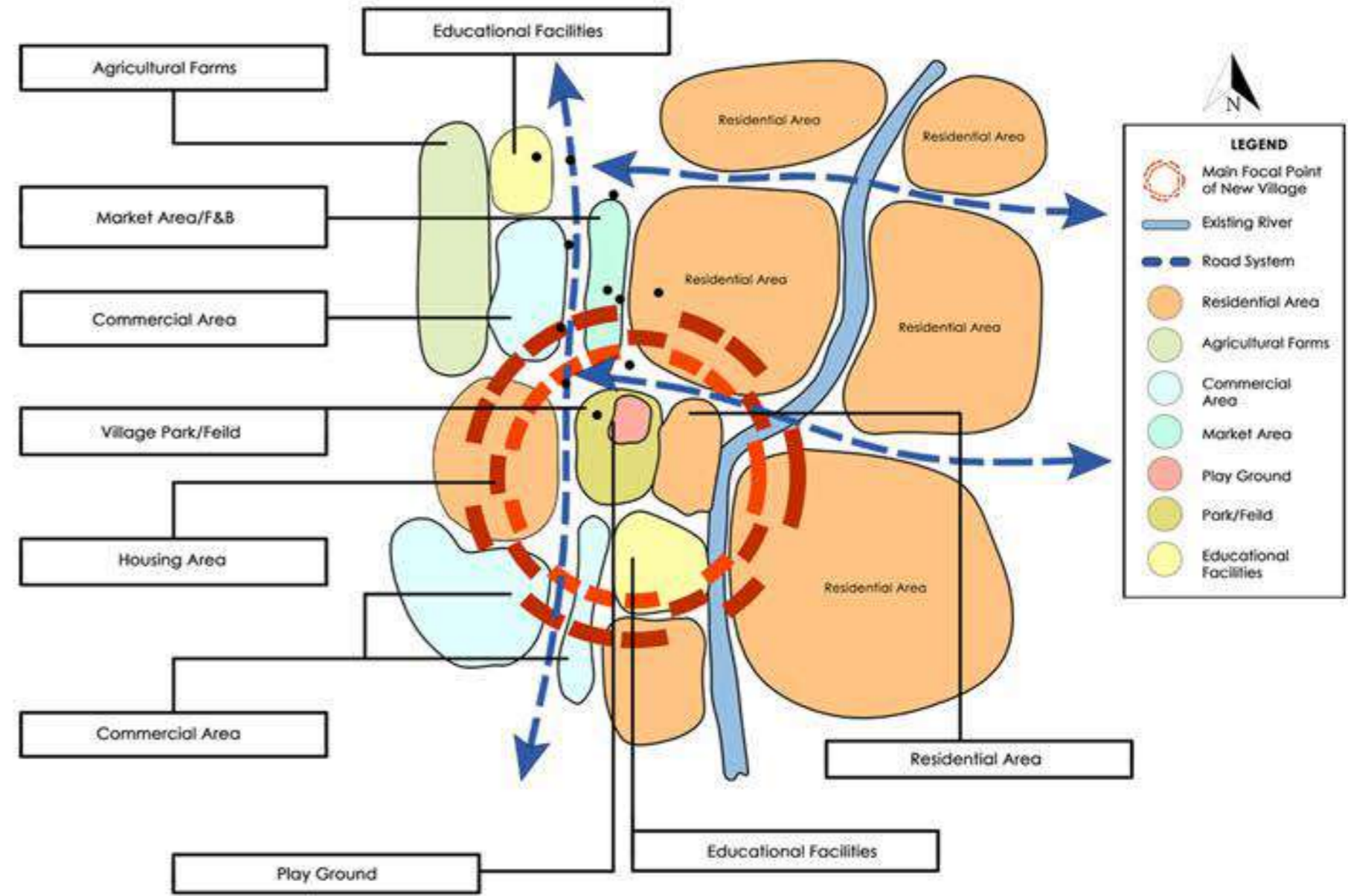
Socio-economical Issue:

Under development and economical breakdown of the new villages in Kuala Lumpur resulting to a multi-generational discontinuity and the youth abandoning the villages looking for a modernized lifestyle and better job opportunity.
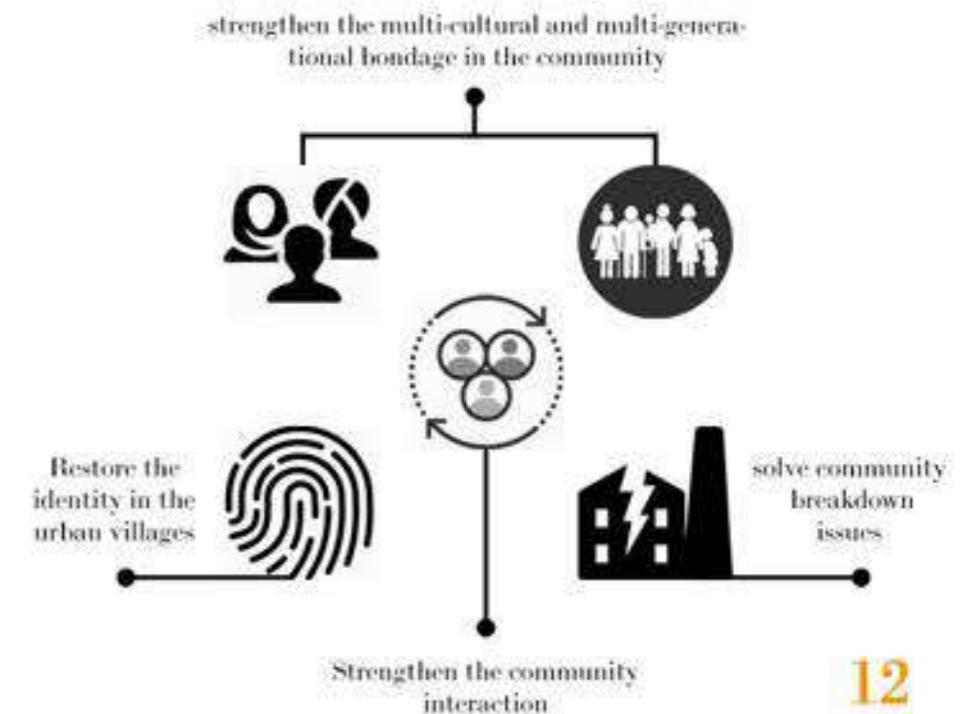
Physical Issue:

Lack of communal public facilities and activities in the new villages resulting to a reduced interaction and an eventual vanish and break of the community and culture.

Aims & Objectives

strengthen the multi-cultural and multi-generational bondage in the community

Restore the identity in the urban villages

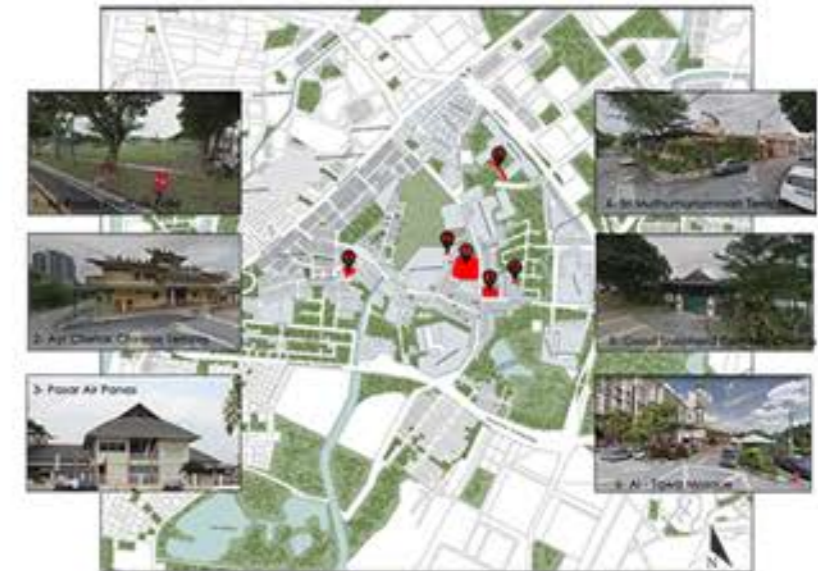solve community breakdown issues

Strengthen the community interaction
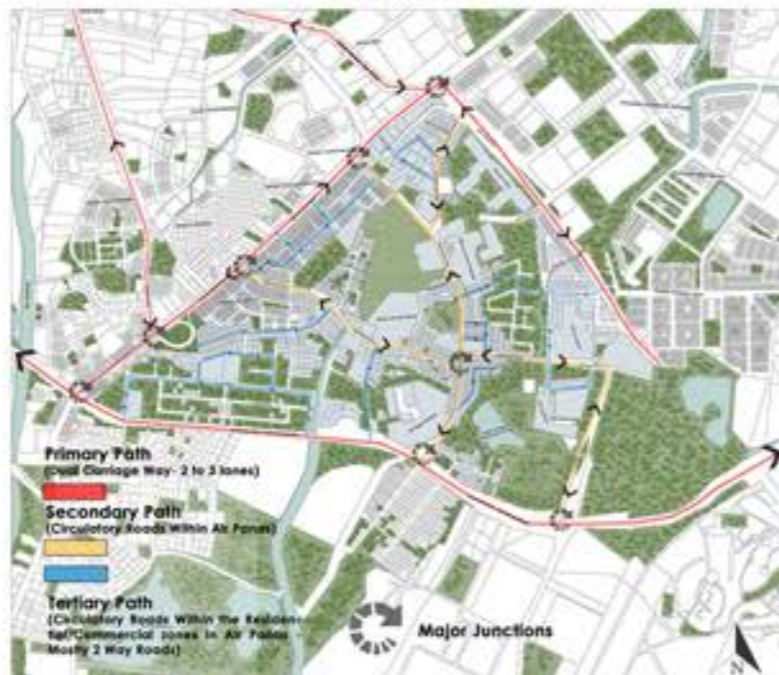
Key Plan

District

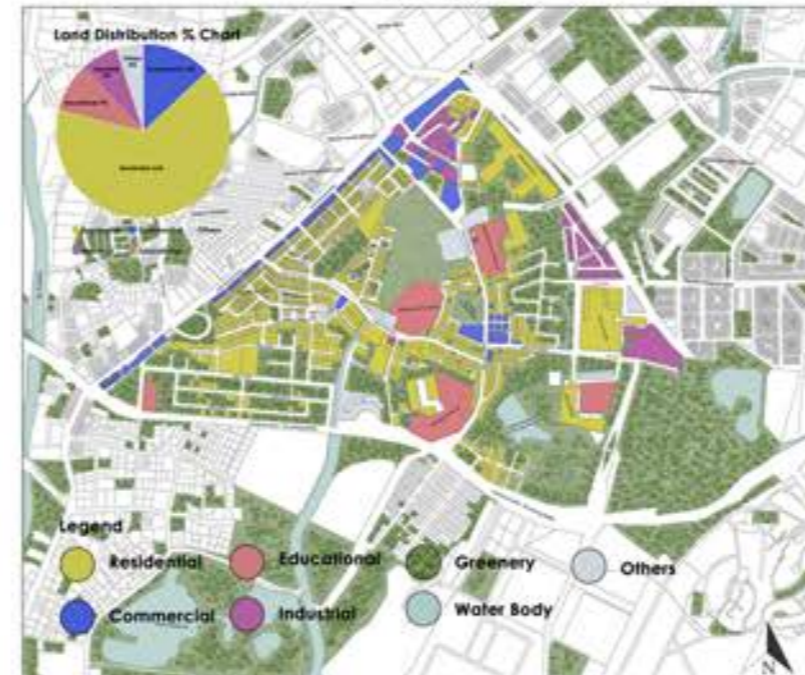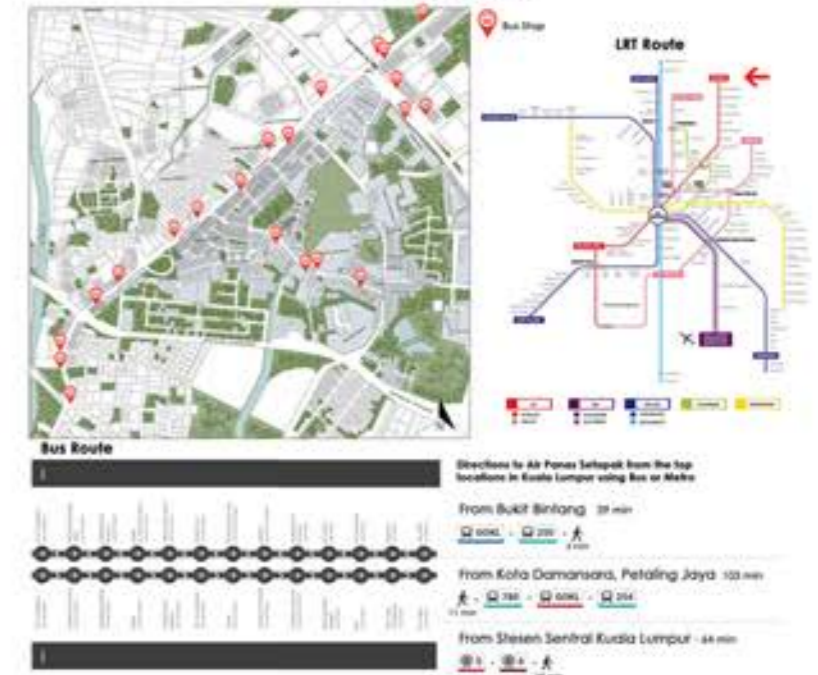Nodes

Landmarks

Location Plan

Vehicular path/circulation

Zoning

Public Transportation

Figure Ground

walkability

Distribution of Ethnic Groups

Commercial Programs

Location: Air Panas, KL
Area: 4.2 acres
Munciple: DBKL
Plot Ratio: 1:8

The site is located in the western side of Air Panas, Surrounded by Residential Development manly occupied by 3 different cultures. The site is Located in the village center next to major nodes such as the village market and football feild.

Why

Connectivity

Proximity

Accessibility

Issues Based on site analysis

Commercial density does not satisfy and sustain the residential density in the village

Generational discontinuity & youth abandonment due to scarcity of jobs.

Disolved Multicultural identity due to zoning and lack of multicultural activities.

Lack of Connectivity Between the Active Spaces and the 3 ethnic groups in Air Panas.

No Exposure to Public Transportation, which makes it diffcult to bring people in and out.

Lack of age targeted facilities and activities to accommodate for the younger generation.
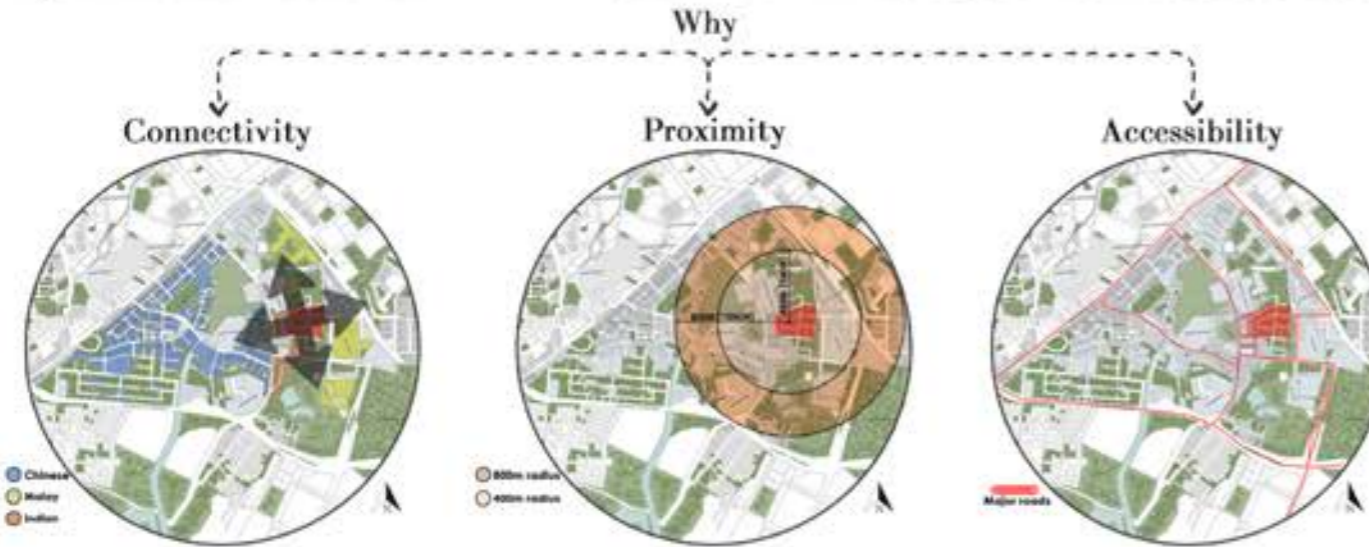
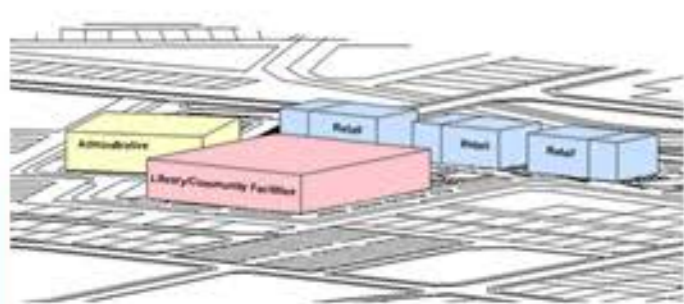Weak Public Realm, Infrastructure & Public Facilities.
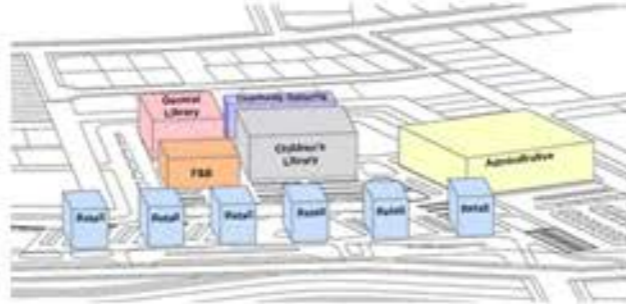
no variety of commercial functions in the village.

No Distribution of Commercial Activities in the Village Center.

14

Massing
Propose Building Massing Based on Activities & Programs Suggested By the Community

Mass Breakdown
Breakdown the massing into blocks to give the site an organic growth identity.

Integration
Integrate other activities in between the blocks to activate the spaces and to allow for community interaction

Orientation
Reorientation of the block to create a healthy environment for the urban farming activity.

Solar Study
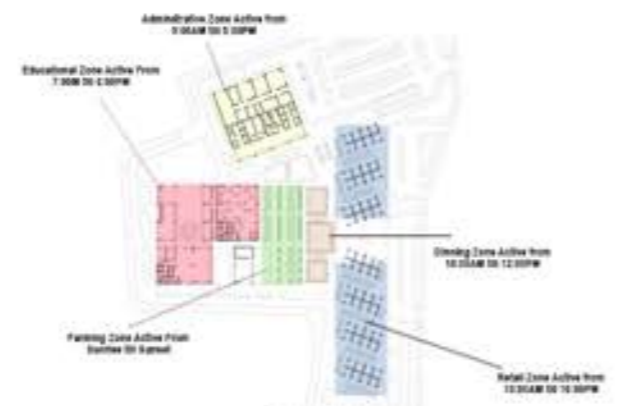
Zoning
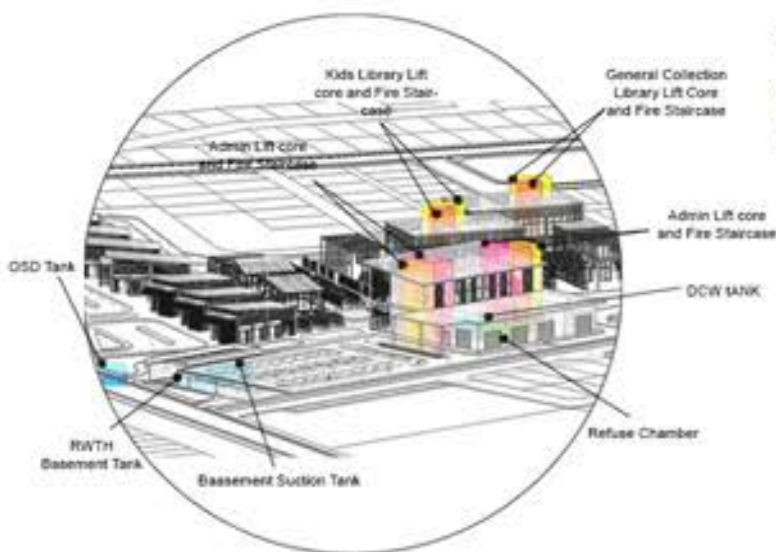
Services Position and Placement

Green Strategies

Legend
1- Car Drop Off
2- Bus Drop Off
3- Adminstrative Parking
4- Urban Farming
5- Retail
6- Community Kitchen
7- Dinning
8- Urban Farming Space
9- Cafe
10- General Collection Library
11- Meeting & Discussion
12- Outdoor Discussion
13- Playground
14- Kids Library
15- Picnic Space
16- Aquaponic Fish Pond
17- Gathering Space
18- Reading Zone
19- Surau
20- Lobby
21- Storage
22- Refuse Chamber
23- TNB sub Station
24- DCW Tank Room
25- DCW Pump Room
26- General Services
27- Fire Command Center
28- Security
29- Genset Room
30- Loading/Unloading Dock
31- Bicycle Parking

Planted Box Detail

**Wood Structure
100mm Column Beam
Thickness**

**Concrete Slab 300mm
Thickness**

**Interior Wall 150mm
Thickness**

**Universal Steel Column
305x305x97mm**

**Steel Truss 100mm
Thickness**

**Universal Steel Beam
305x164x40mm**

Sectional Perspective
NTS

East Elevation
NTS

16

03

Liveable Community Along the River
Jawa Village Master Plan

AutoCad · Sketch up · Photoshop

Jawa village, known as the new town in Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia located on Kinta River which is a Major River, the village's strategic location along the river is a good opportunity for the town to be reinvigorated by taking advantage of the village culture and the river. However, the village is currently deteriorated and it lacks public facilities. Which is resulting to multigenerational, cultural and economic issues and eventually the village started to lose its genius loci identity.

This project requires us to propose a complete master plan for Jawa town to help reactivate the town and its riverfront with the main objective of returning the town to the people and bringing back its identity and sense of place.

Key Plan

Location Plan

Figure Ground

1 Memory lane Sunday Market

2 Waller Court

3 Kinta River

4 Jalan Sultan Idris Shah Birch Bridge

5 SK Coronation Park Ipoh

6 Jalan Veerasamy

7 Garden D.B Seenivasagam

8 Jalan Raja Shophouses

S

Environmental:
· The river being a natural resource that Ipoh town revolves and develop around.

Socio-Economic:
· Sunday morning market (memory lane) promote business and social interaction.
· Exciting Multi-functional shop houses that are robust.
· Traditional family based and generational businesses are preserved in the area.

Behavioral:
· The existing natural and historical resources of the town such as park, river and heritage buildings, have a positive impact on forming the image and identity of the town.

Physical:
· The river and the park are strong natural and physical elements that acts as a clear edge and node to the town.

W

Environmental:
· River converted to a drainage for waste discharge.

Socio-Economic:
· Monotonous and homogenous development patterns.
· Limited quality employment opportunities particularly for younger generation.
· Preservation of traditional economics and lack of adaptability towards the change of times.

Behavioral:
· The isolation of the park and river allows of suspicious activities.
· Lack of visual and physical connectivity between the nodes.

Physical:
· Numerous inactive and void areas throughout the town reduce the sense of territoriality.
· Lack of sense of belonging and enclosure.

O

Environmental:
· Reduce the pollution of the river to promote a healthier life style.

Socio-Economic:
· Encourage variety of economics to make the town self-sustained.
· Extend and take advantage of the activities happening in the surroundings.
· Introduce mixed use developments to activate the town.

Behavioral:
· Visual surveillance and sense of community.
· Integrated township with natural elements.
· Preserve the heritage to enrich the value and character of the town.

Physical:
· Integration of existing natural elements with the town can increase the civic conscious and the sense of belonging.

T

Environmental:
· Total abandonment and neglect of the river.
· Increased pollution with unhealthy lifestyle.

Socio-Economic:
· Unstable economics can cause a threat towards the future of the town.
· The town becoming a hotspot for crime and vice activities.
· Youth abandonment for better opportunities is affecting the town's economic growth

Behavioral:
· Lack of visual connectivity, disorganization and confusion results slowly in diminishing the identity of the town and eventually losing its sense of place

Physical:
· Abandonment can create more inactive and void areas which raise crime and safety concerns.

18

Issue Statements

Physical

The state of deterioration of the natural and physical environment due to the lack of sense of territoriality of the people towards a perceived ownership of the town resulting to an overall sense of abandonment.

Behavioural

The perceptual structure of the town is not legible due to the built form and nature form (disorganized) that acts as a strong physical edge blocking the visual connectivity of the nodes, such as the park, with pathways such as the riverfront, which results in disorganization, confusion of direction and poor sense of identity.
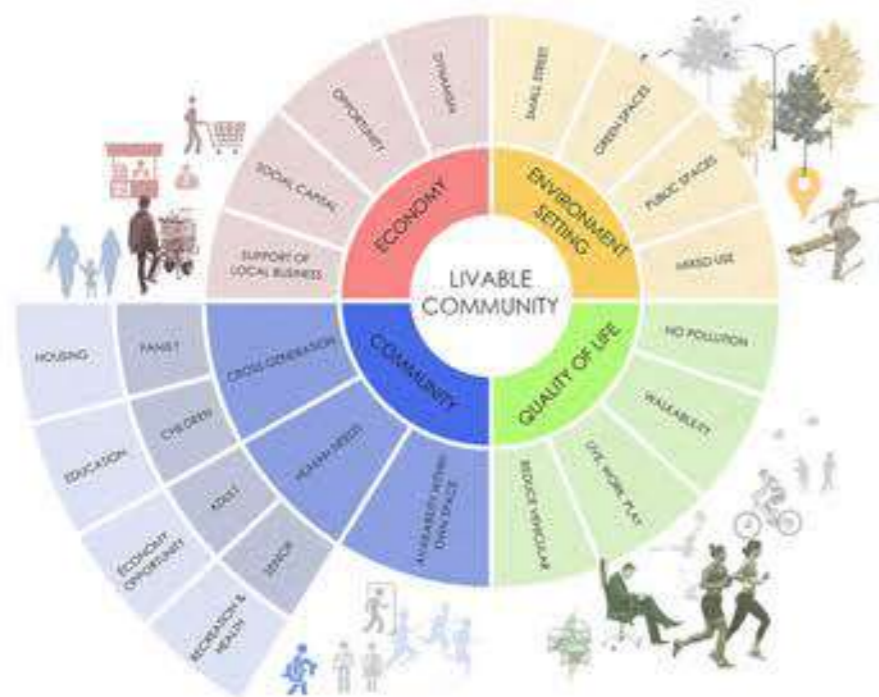
Environmental

The decline of the polluted natural river is an effect of the people's poor perception, appreciation and consciousness towards the river which reflects onto the lack of activity and neglect of the river.
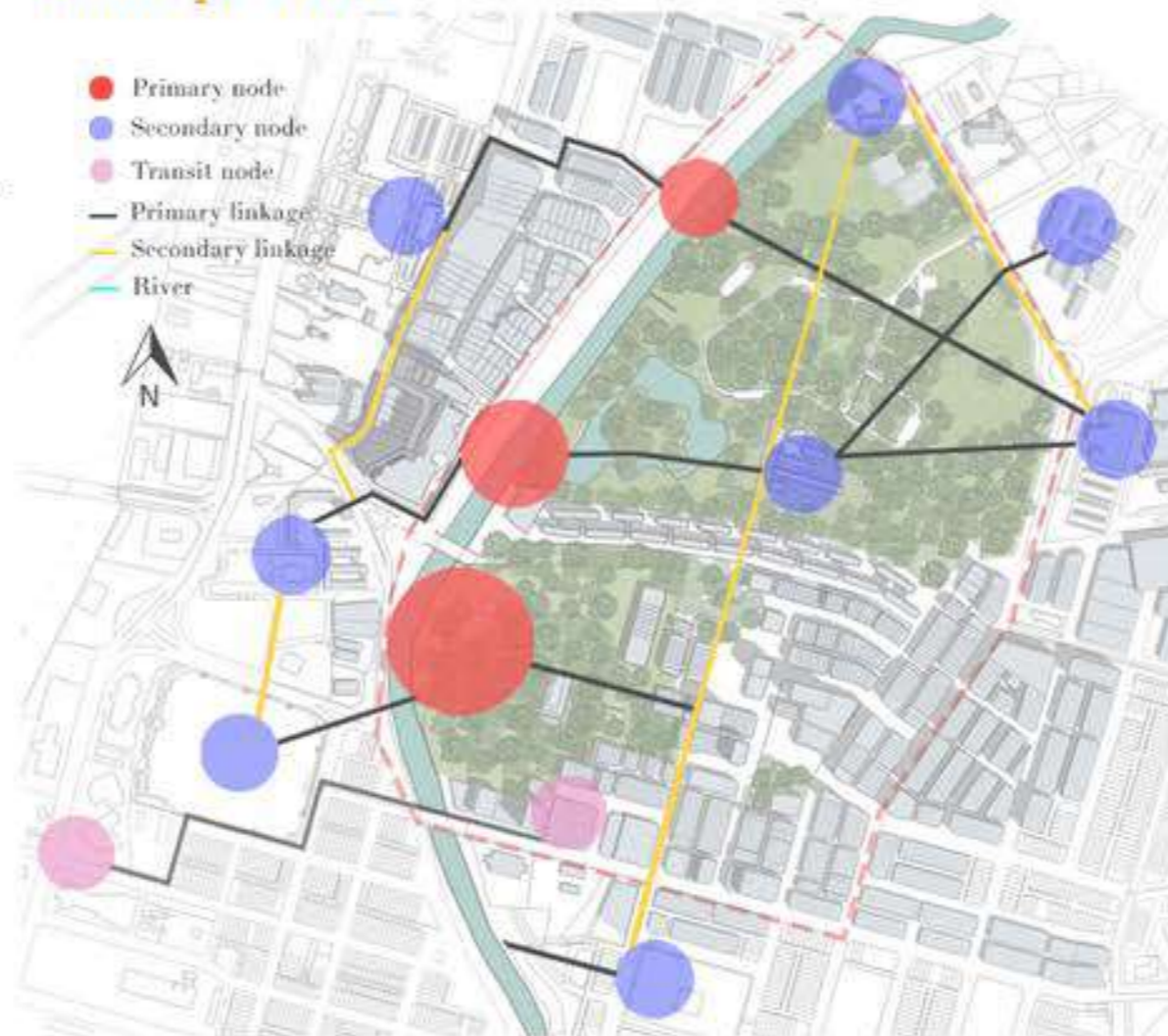
Socio-Economic

The lack of vibrancy, diversity and vitality of the town due to its monotonous and homogenous development patterns where majority of the site consists of similar commercial typologies and patterns resulting to the lack of human activities in the town.

The residents of Kampung Jawa relocating to other cities due to economic stagnation and lack of opportunity results into social deterioration and a hotspot for crime.

The tangible and intangible cultural values are diminishing as the town lacks of generational continuity which results to an aging town.

Concept Plan

- ● Primary node
- ● Secondary node
- ● Transit node
- — Primary linkage
- — Secondary linkage
- — River

Strategies

Extending the market

Introduce mixed use developments

Introduce a vibrant riverfront

Introduce boulevard

Create a multi-generational community

Reclaiming the identity and character

Asset

Restoring, revitalizing and infilling urban spaces by taking advantage of existing streets, services and building and more sustainable to avoid the need of new infrastructure.

Urban Magnet

The urban form need to design to respond to the identity and aesthetic of this activity subculture group. To ensure it visible and actively built around supporting the activity with a rich public realm progatm.
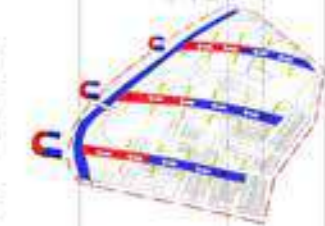
Active-semi Active-passive

Merging the passive and active zone to balance the nature and development to achieve successful and healthy communities.
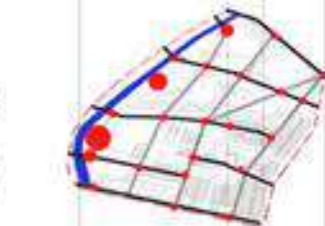
District

Integrating different land uses and varied building in relation with neighbiurhood context creates vibrant, pedestrian friendly and diver communities.

Nodes

Act a journey and reason to walk for the community to walk to shops, services, cultural resources, jobs, can reduce traffic congestion and benefits human's health.

Human & Vehicular Movement

Giving people the option of walking, biking and public transit in addition to driving, reduces in traffic congestion, protect the natural environment and encourage physical activities.

19

Jawa Village Proposed Maset Plan
NTS

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

PAVILION

OPEN AMPHITEATRE

RIVERFRONT ESPLANADE

RIVERFRONT FOOD AVENUE

READAPTATION OF WALLER COURT TO STREET MALL & RESIDENTIAL ABOVE

CULTURAL CENTRE

BOULEVARD WITH SHOPFRONT AND TOWNHOUSE ABOVE

SQUARE

HEALTH AND FITNESS CENTRE

HOLISTIC MEDICAL CENTRE

EDUCATION HUB & ADVANCED TRAINING CENTRE

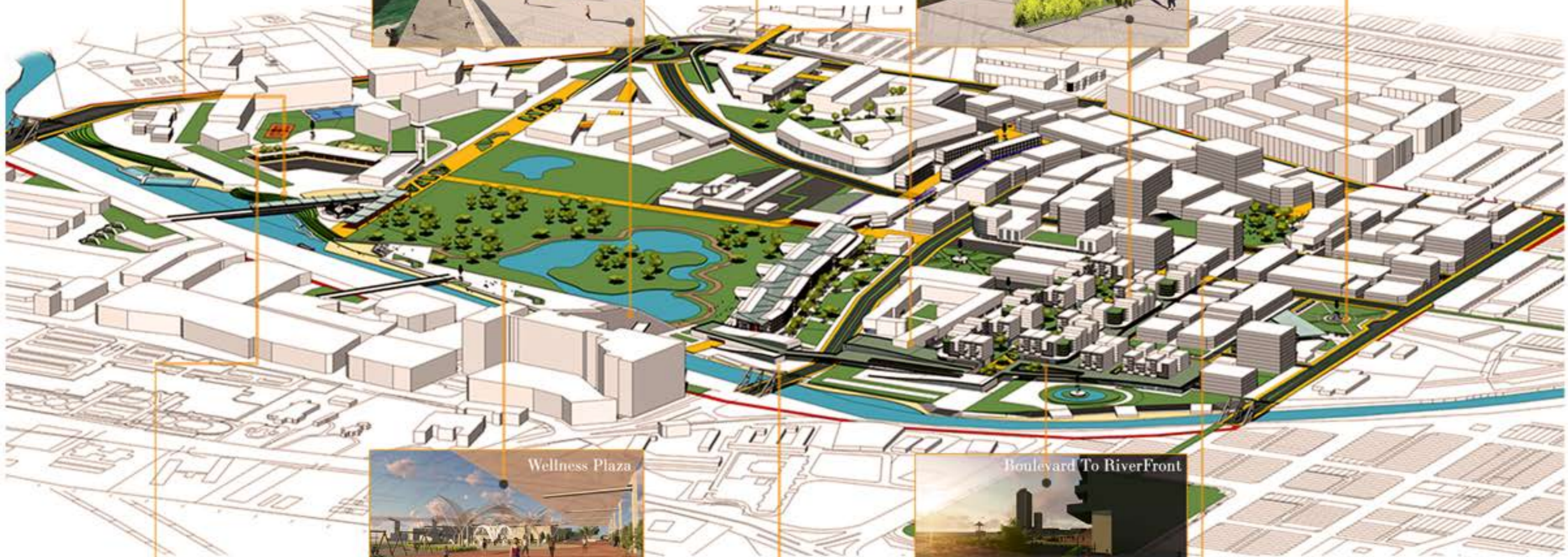EXISTING SK CORONATION PARK

COMMUNITY GATEWAY

READAPTATION OF WALLER COURT TO STUDENT HOUSING

READAPTATION OF EXISTING ABANDONED OFFCE

REVITALIZE EXISTING CINEMA WITH PROPOSED OUTDOOR CINEMA

EXISTING TRADITIONAL SHOPHOUSES

PARK AND RIDE

RiverFront

RiverFront Espalanade

Park and Ride

RiverFront

Boulevard

Wellness Plaza

Boulevard To RiverFront

Linkage to Wellness Center

Linkage RiverFront To Walle Courtr

Main Linkage To Boulevard

21

Section X-X

Section Y-Y

22