

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING LAWN

11.08.2024

Master Plan

OLIN



University of
Pittsburgh

Cathedral of Learning | Pittsburgh, PA | 14 Acres



1,030 FT

930 FT

530 FT

760 FT

200 FT

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Create a holistic Vision for the landscape

Assess and improve accessibility and pathway connectivity

Maintain the iconic nature of the Cathedral through enhancements in the landscape

Implement a landscape that works with a maintenance regime and event calendar

Improve site amenities for recreation

Activate lawn spaces for events

Assess appropriateness of existing site utilities and if improvements or additional ones are needed

Align with the historic nature of the landscape while providing modern elements

Employ sustainability measures for the site and align with longer term University goals

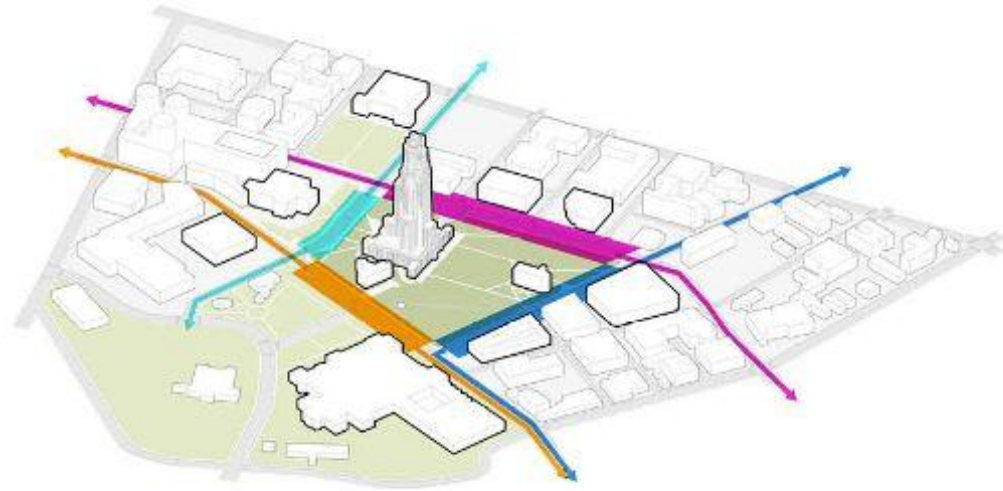
Address current and future elements in the landscape

Incorporate the goals and objectives of the Heinz Chapel and the Stephen Foster Memorial

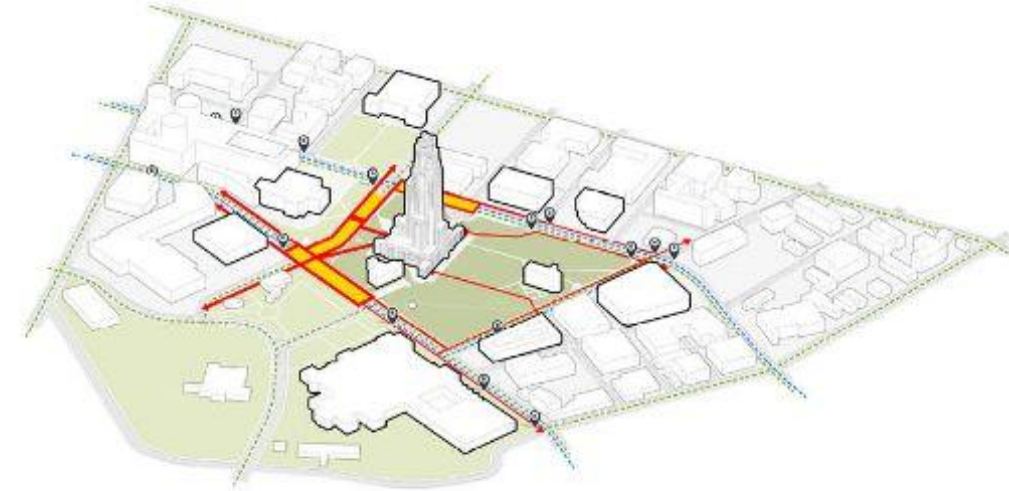
Create a sitewide living systems and planting program that enhances the landscape character

Assess and curate existing mature trees on site and develop a phasing plan for replanting

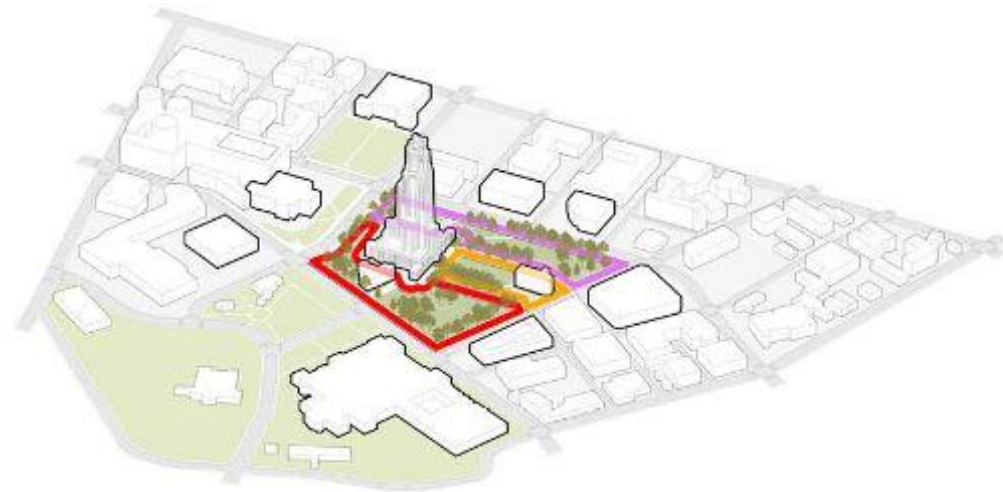
4 Approaches



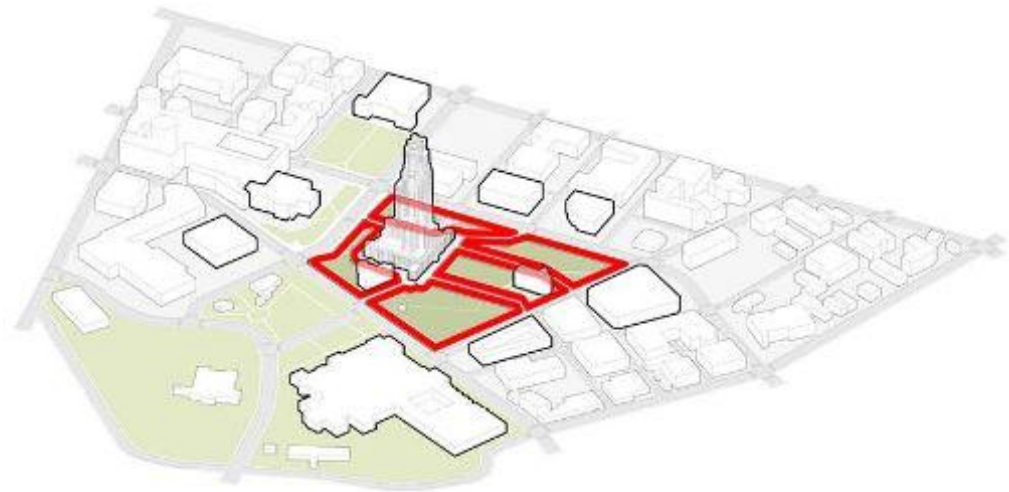
Edges & Access



Connectivity & Mobility



Arboreal Curation



Programming & Identity



OUTREACH SUMMARY

Tabling Session + Online Survey
Focus Groups

Task 4 | Stakeholder Engagement

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER


KICK-OFF

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT


**EARLY
APRIL
STUDENT
TABLING
SESSIONS**


**MAY 6TH
FOCUS
GROUP**


**FOCUS
GROUP**


**STUDENT
ENGAGEMENT**



Cathedral Workshop I Model



14. Additional comments?

- PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS
- PROGRAMMING
- AESTHETICS
- ACCESSIBILITY
- UTILITIES



FOCUS GROUPS (Operations/Academic) TAKEAWAYS

Accessibility/Mobility throughout should be made easier

Power, power, power- There are needs for utilities at events

Need to consider changes coming to Fifth Avenue

The Central Lawn gets the most intensive use, there needs to be broader strategic thinking regarding lawn uses

The cabin can be removed, or repurposed

Continue the language of the current pavers

Coordination is necessary between the Chapel Events (weddings) and the Lawn.

There is a lack of seating, there should be opportunities provided for more

The Chancellor's Lot is the only required parking on site- there is no need to provide more vehicular parking.

Make access for service and set up as easy as possible

Preserve the historic character of the space

Definitions and boundaries for the spaces should be articulated

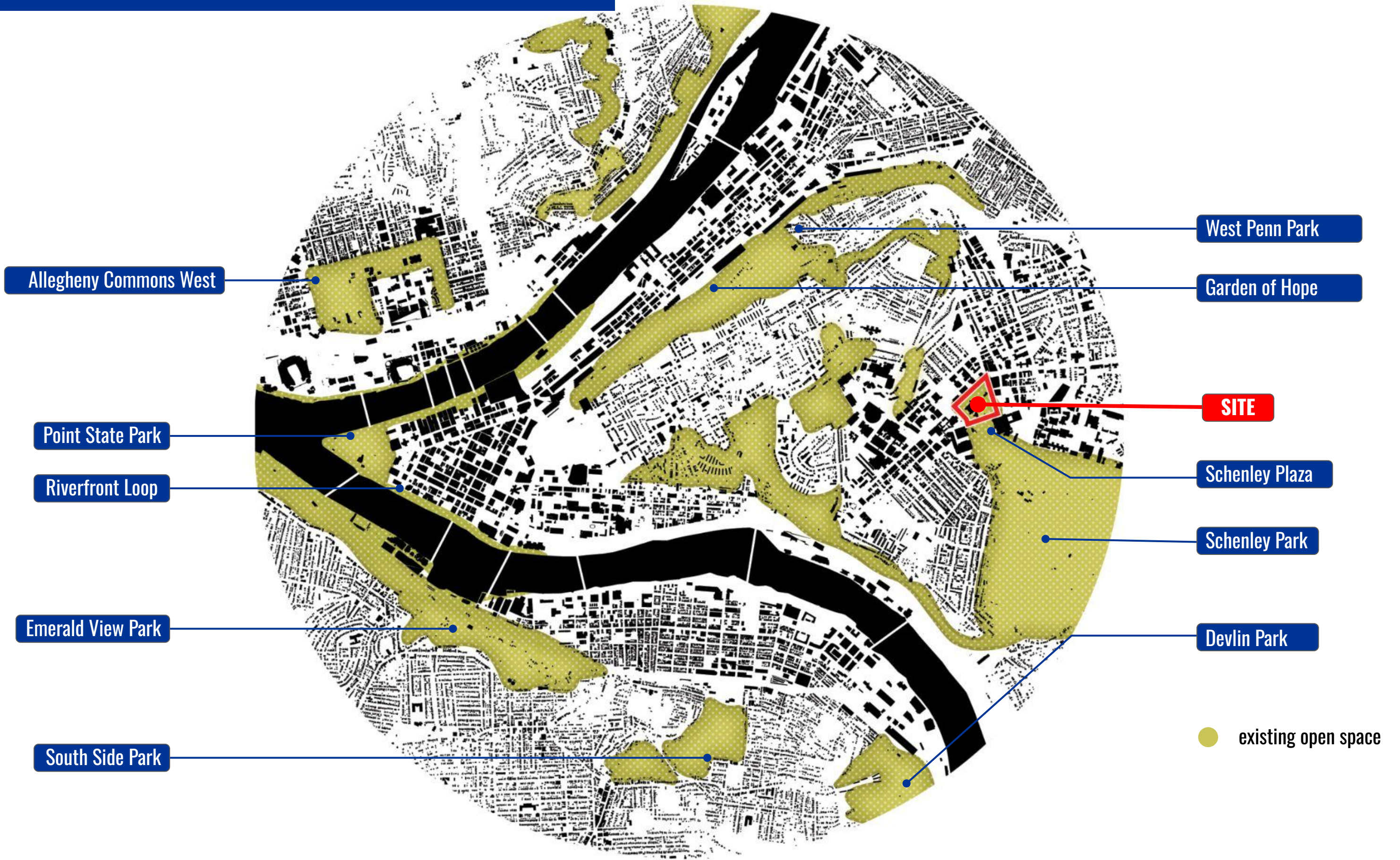
Water access needs to be provided throughout.

Preserve the open access for students

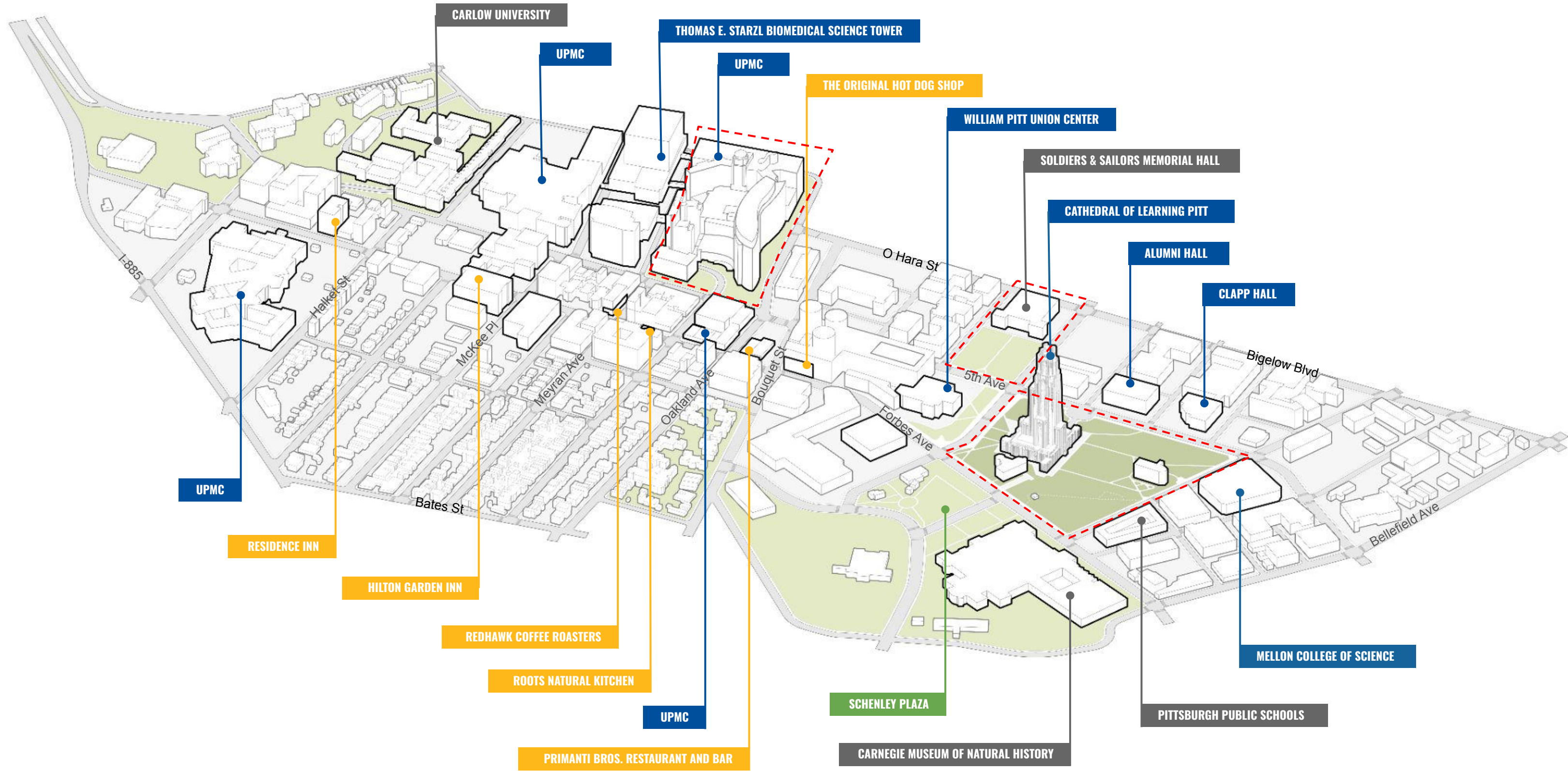
Is there a narrative that can be told on this landscape?

An aerial photograph of a city, featuring a prominent skyscraper in the center. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text "Design Approach" is centered in white, bold font.

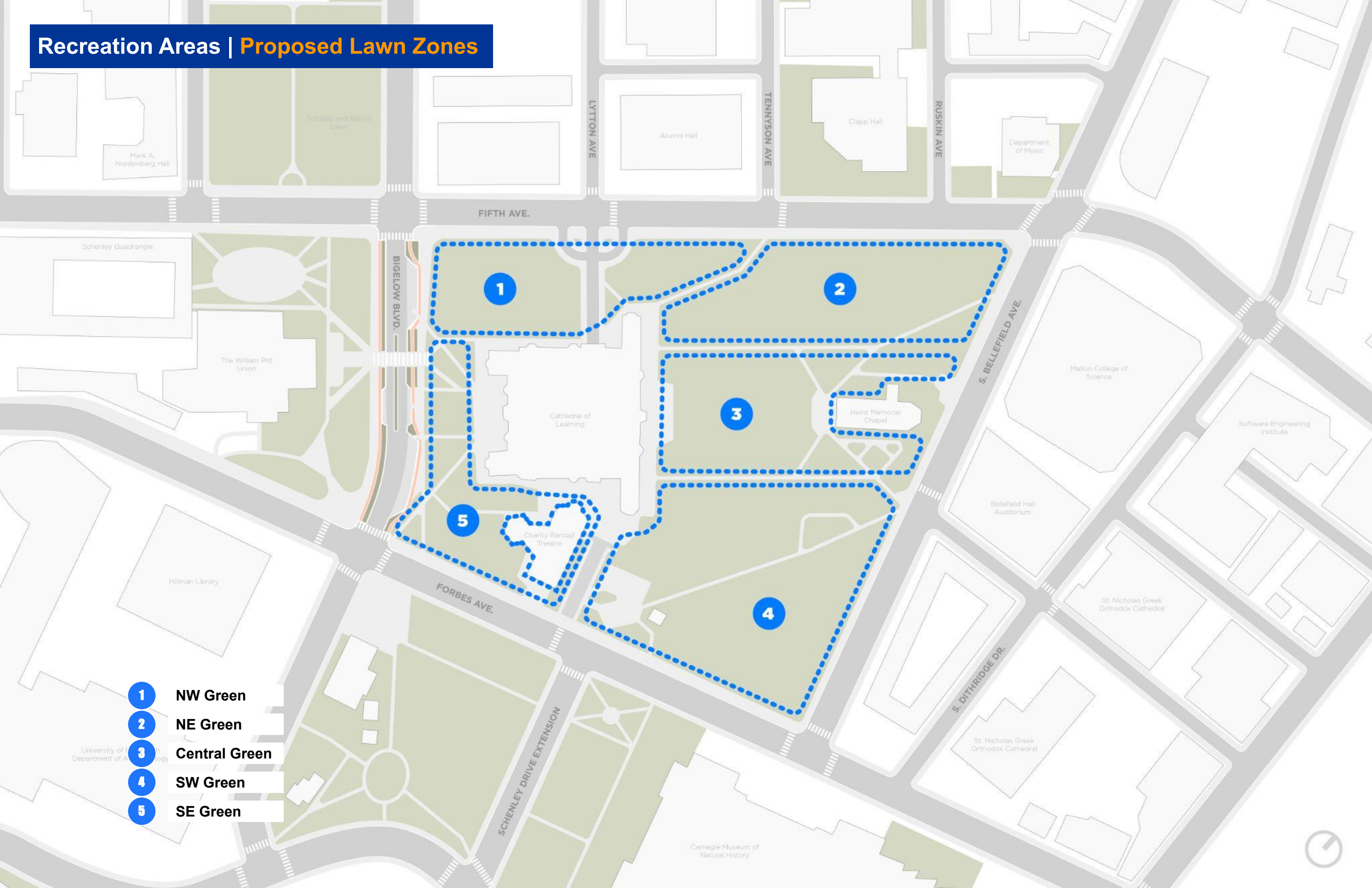
Design Approach



Oakland | Significant Places



Recreation Areas | Proposed Lawn Zones



- 1 NW Green
- 2 NE Green
- 3 Central Green
- 4 SW Green
- 5 SE Green

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING | Site Plan



- 1 Entry Court
- 2 East Terrace
- 3 South Terrace
- 4 Social Theater
- 5 Cathedral Promenade
- 6 Expanded SW Area
- 7 Walled Garden Edge
- 8 Formal Entry Garden
- 9 Dawn Redwood Room
- 10 Hammock Grove

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING | Seven Spaces



Promenade



East Terrace



South Terrace




Social Theater



Hammock Grove



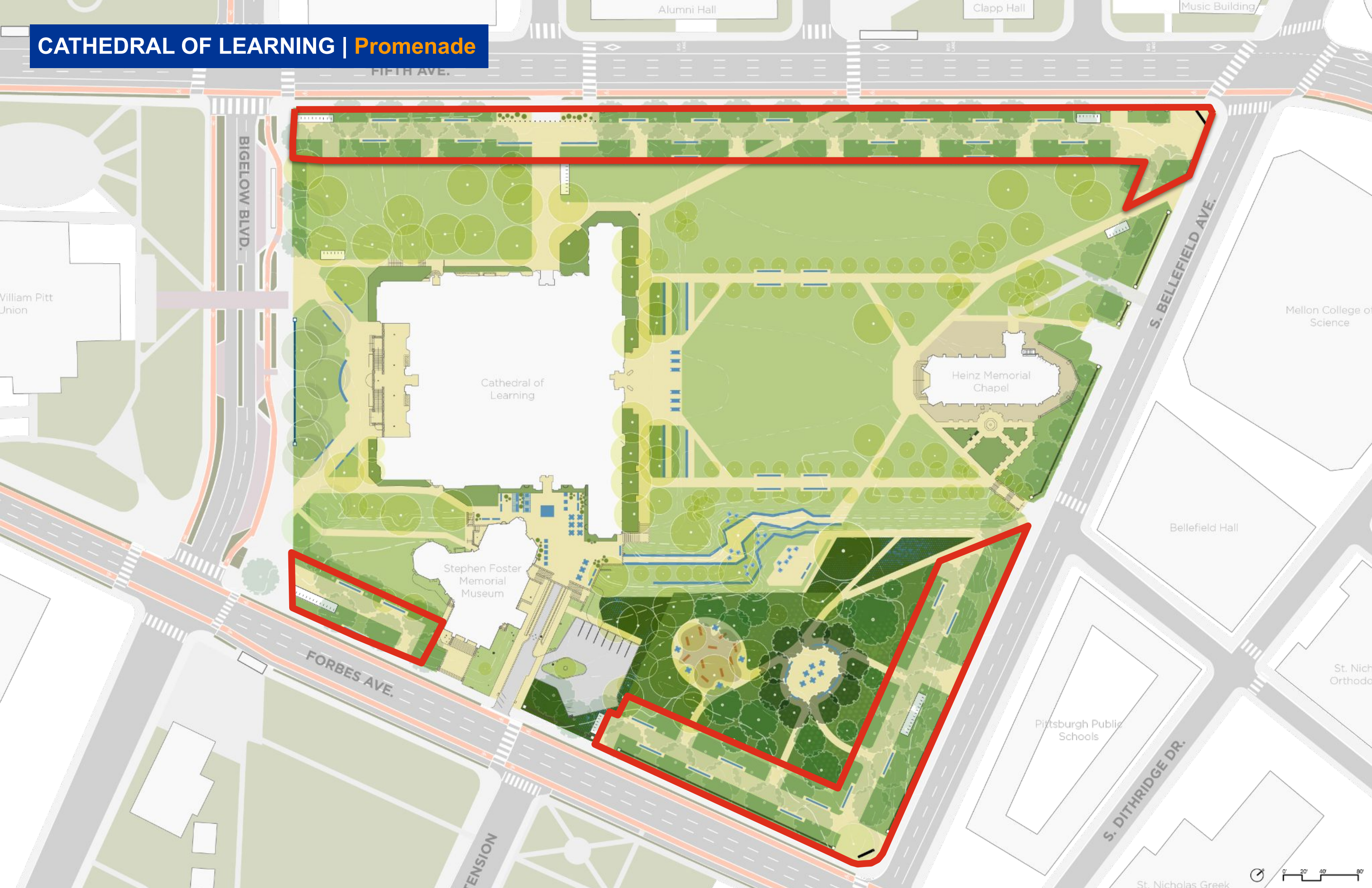
**Dawn Redwood
Room**

An aerial photograph of the University of Pittsburgh campus, featuring several prominent buildings and green spaces. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text is positioned on the left side of the image.

The Cathedral of Learning promenade at the University of Pittsburgh is a **vibrant space for recreation, relaxation, and social interaction**. Its shaded pathways offer a serene setting for students and visitors alike, blending historic beauty with opportunities for physical activity, mental rejuvenation, and community connections. More than just a walkway, **it's a lively hub that transforms everyday campus life into an extraordinary experience.**

PROMENADE

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING | Promenade



FIFTH AVE.

BIGELOW BLVD.

S. BELLEFIELD AVE.

FORBES AVE.

TENSION

S. DITHRIDGE DR.

Alumni Hall

Clapp Hall

Music Building

William Pitt Union

Mellon College of Science

Cathedral of Learning

Heinz Memorial Chapel

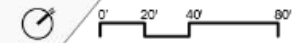
Stephen Foster Memorial Museum

Bellefield Hall

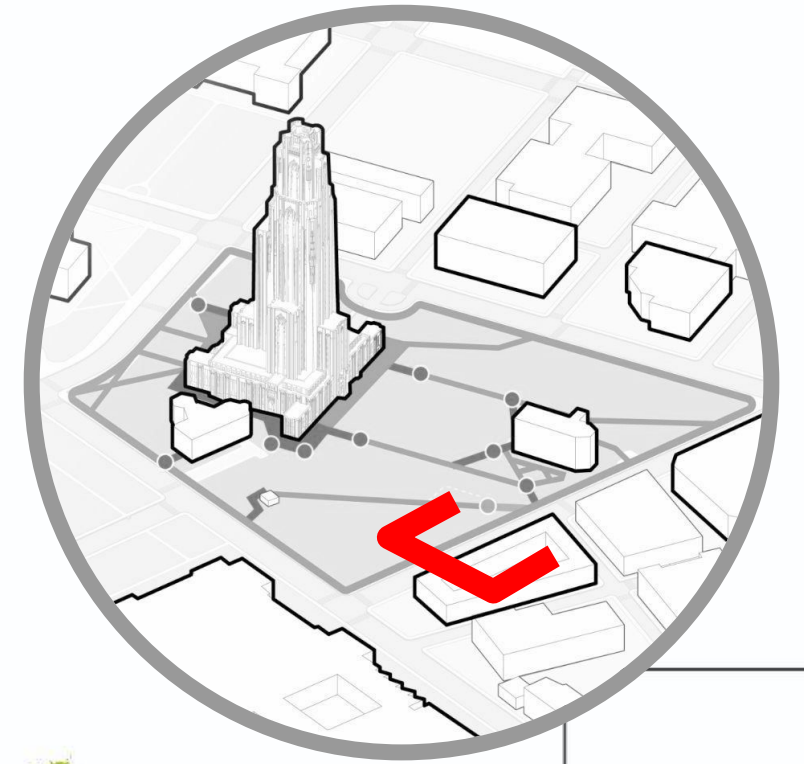
Pittsburgh Public Schools

St. Nicholas Greek

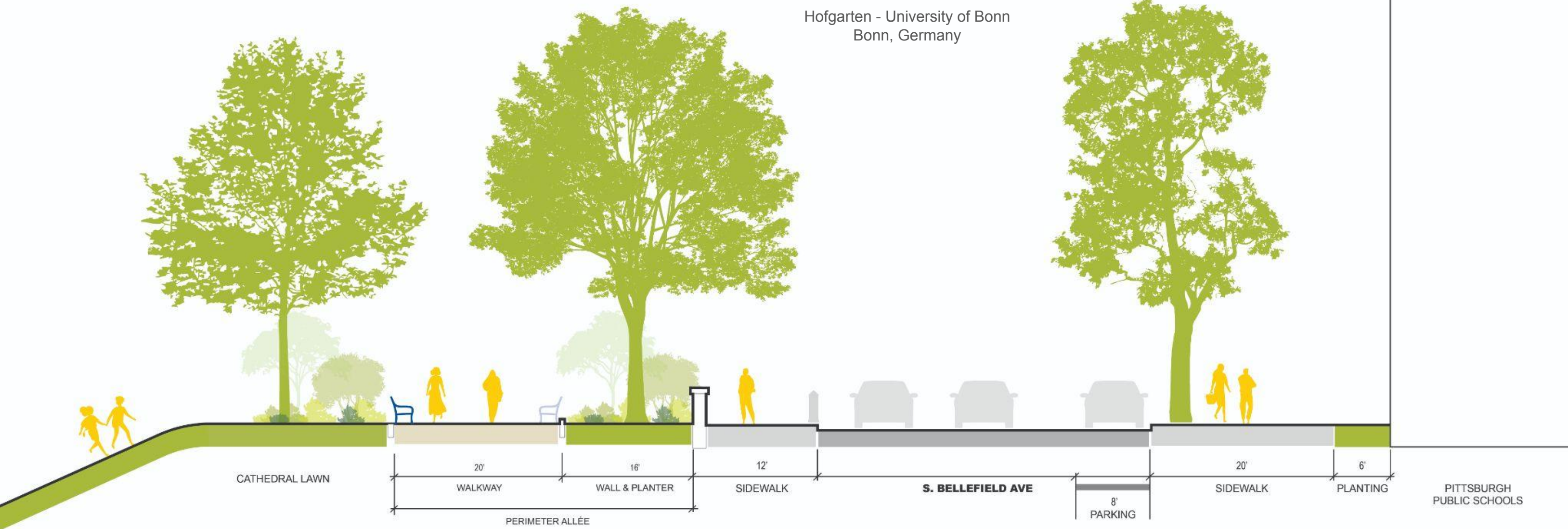
St. Nicholas Greek



Promenade | Bellefield Avenue



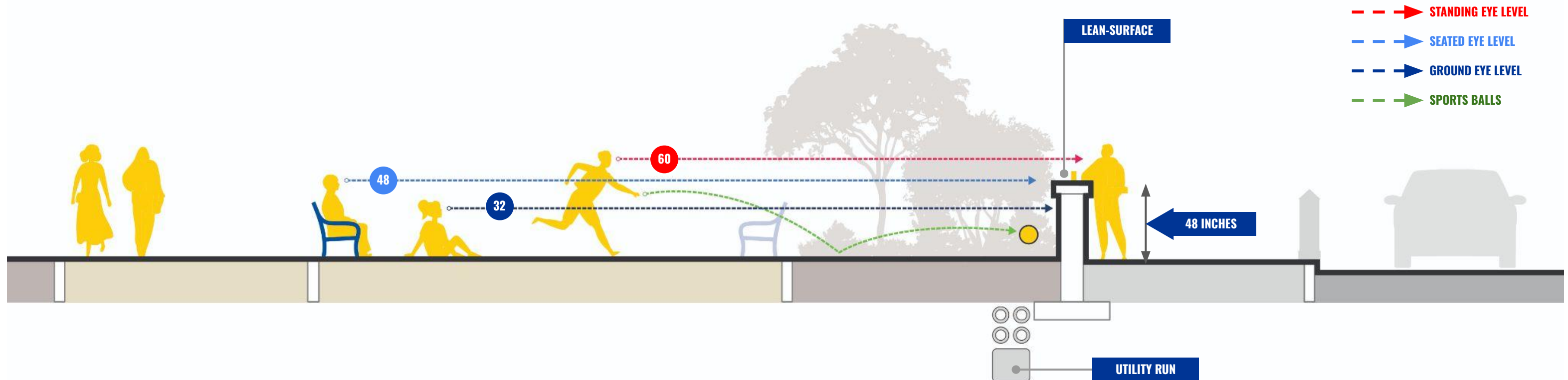
Hofgarten - University of Bonn
Bonn, Germany



Cathedral of Lawn | Park Wall Benefits

There are many benefits to a wall park condition:

- Visual barrier to surrounding vehicle traffic
- Low maintenance
- Occupiable - acts as park furniture - a 'lean-surface'
- Sport Buffer - stops sports most balls from entering the road
- Deterrent for random entry & exit
- A experiential gateway
 - Formal edge condition complementing gothic revival architecture
 - Illuminated edge
- Acts as a utility-run
- Donor Opportunities



Promenade | SE View



GARDEN EDGE

LAWN EDGE


LIMESTONE WALL

CONTINUOUS BENCH

GARDEN EDGE

STONE FINES

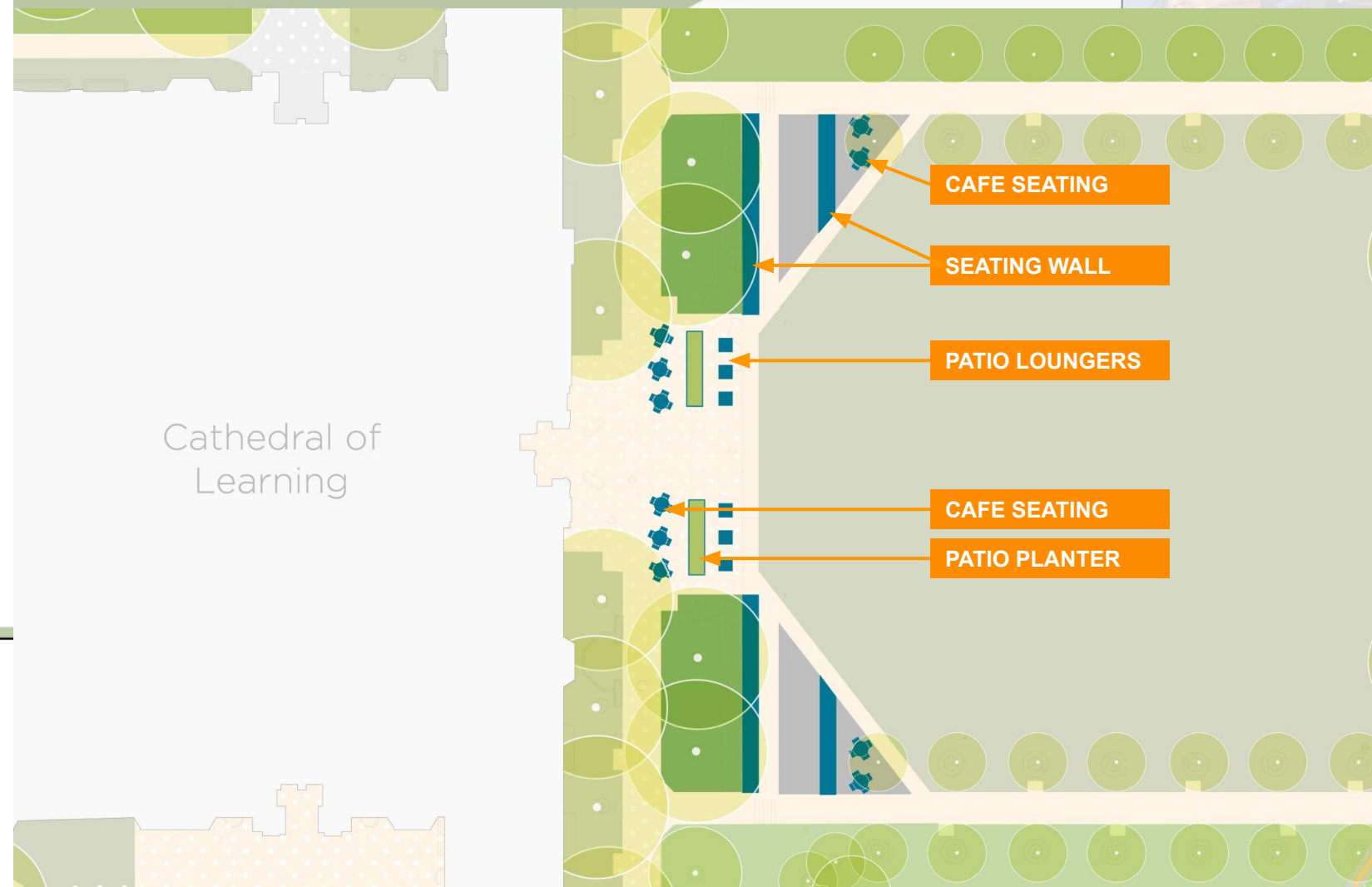
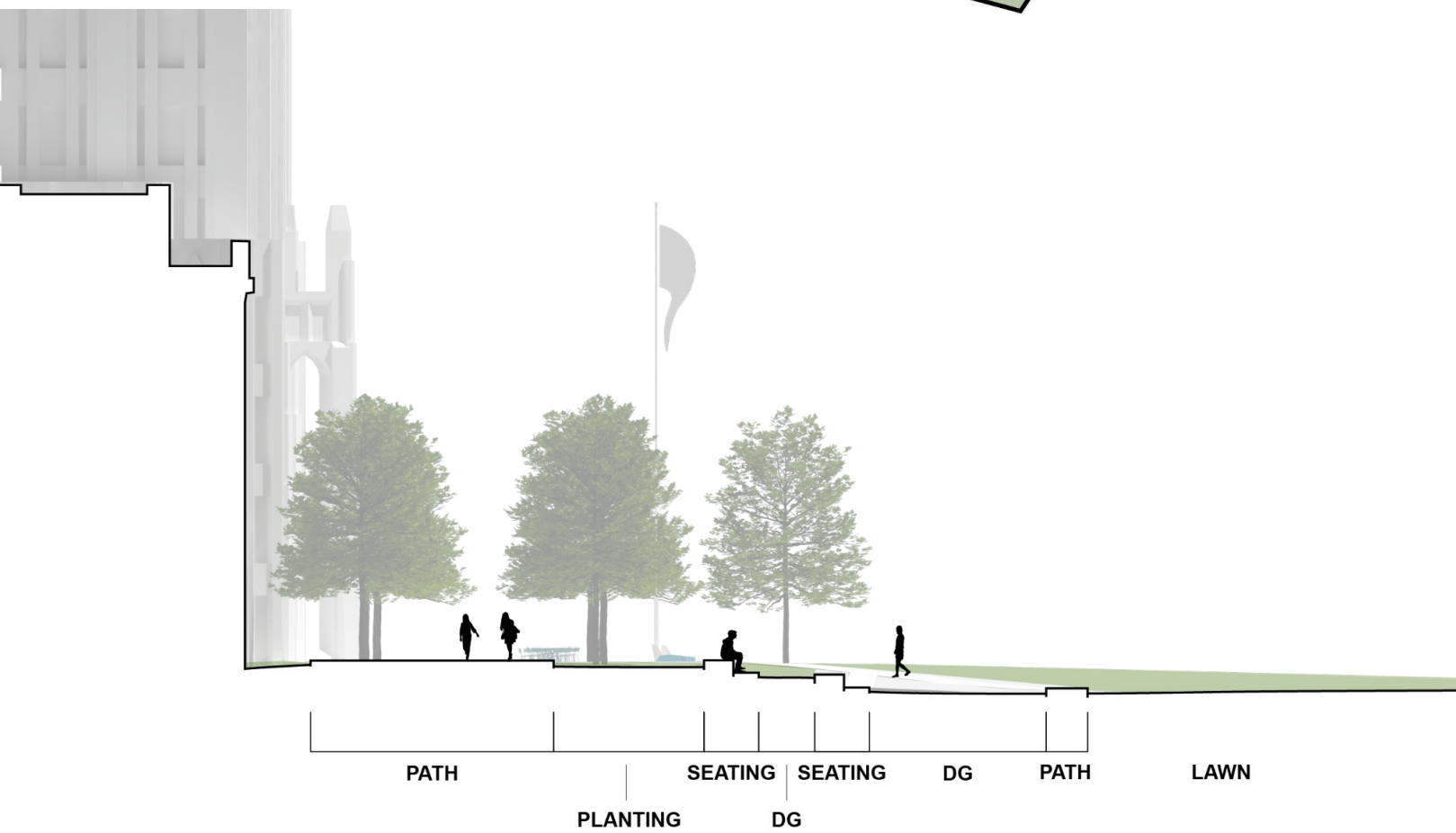
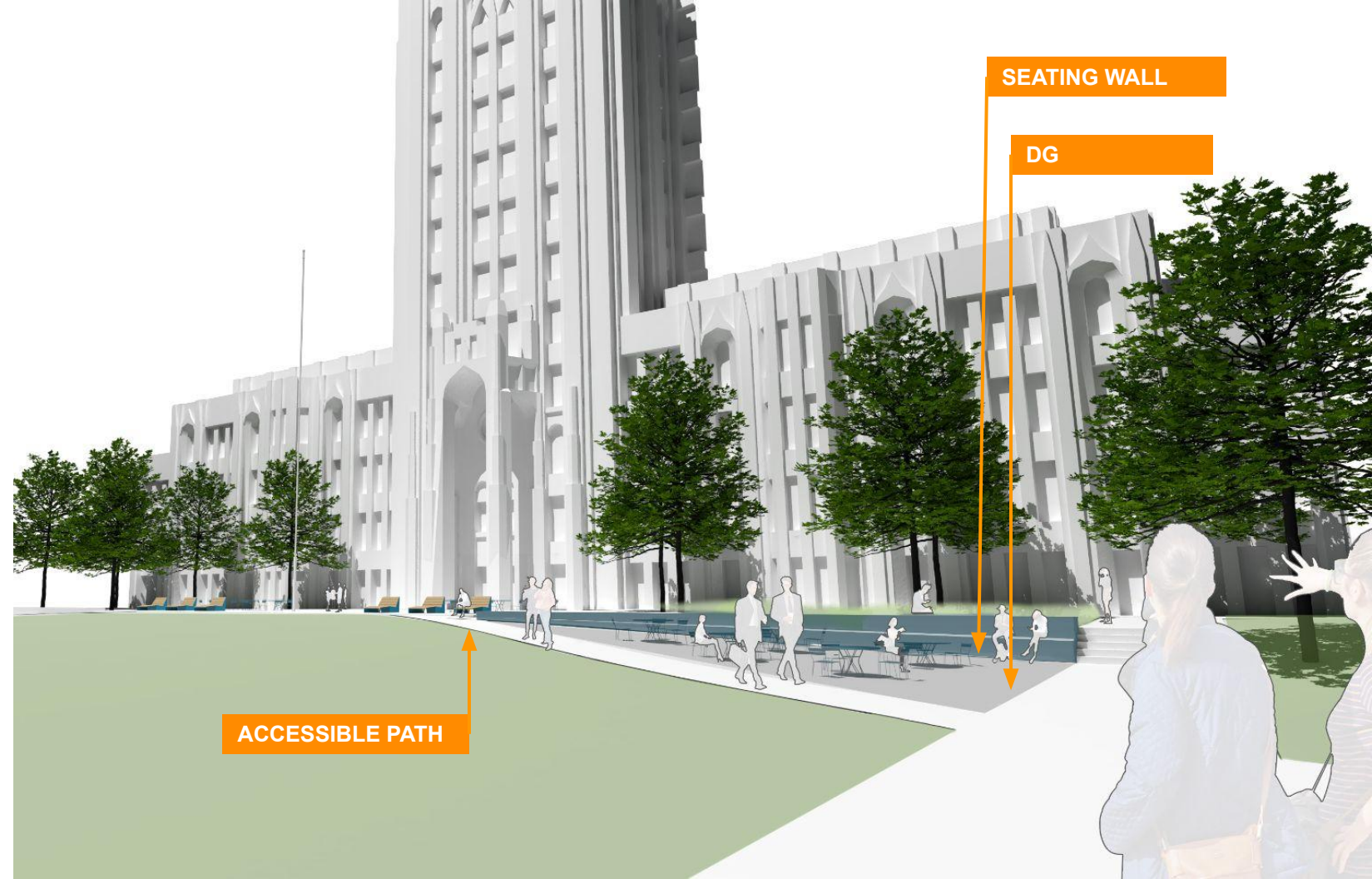
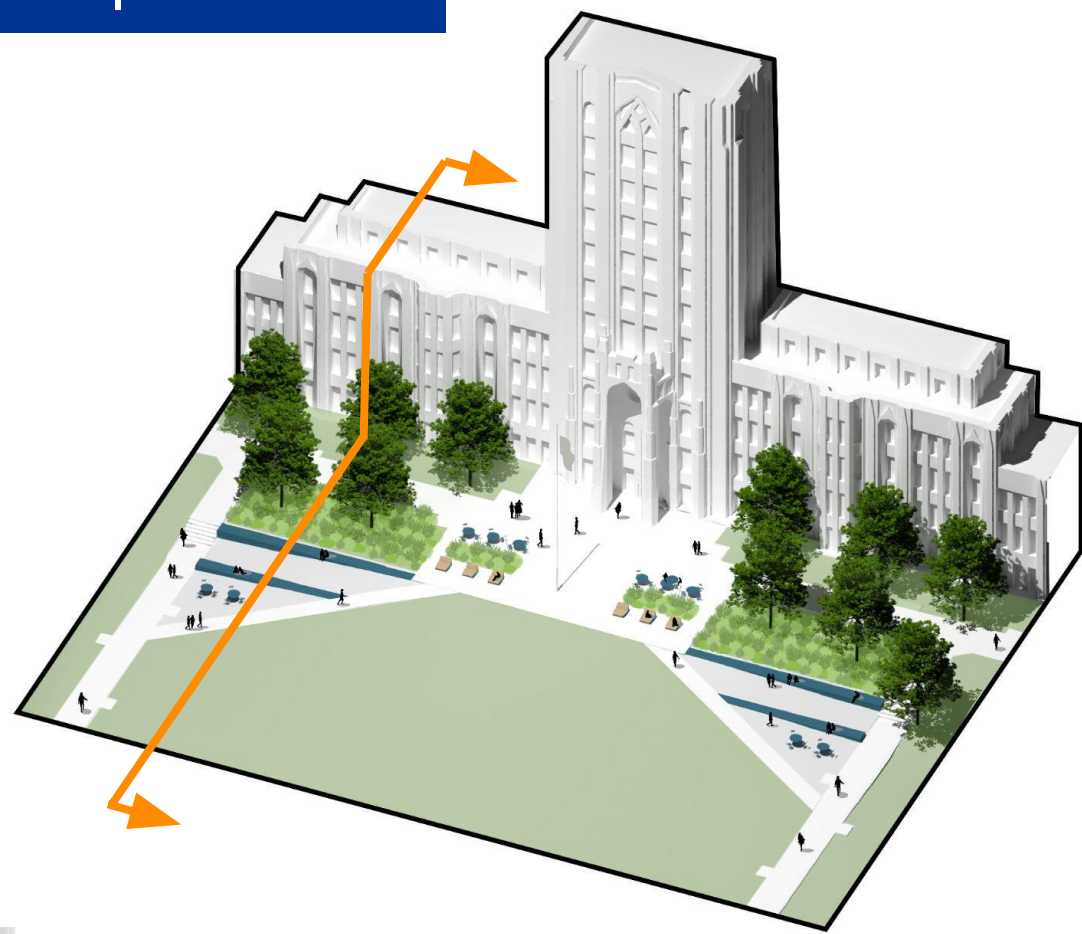


An aerial photograph of a university campus, featuring a large Gothic-style cathedral and surrounding buildings. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text is positioned on the left side of the image.

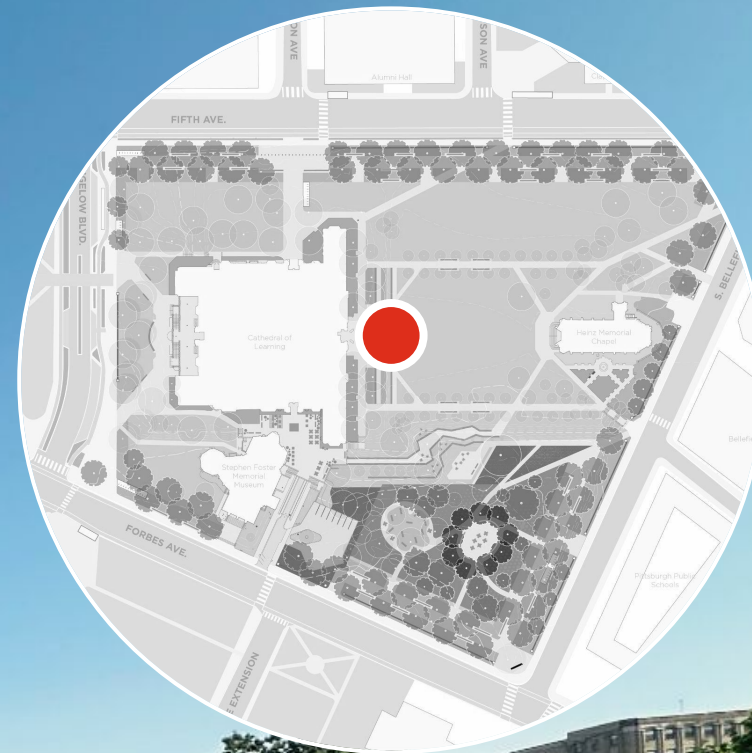
The Cathedral of Learning, East Terrace is a **welcoming gathering space along the east entrance to the Cathedral. The space provides more seating while heightening the grandeur of the view across the main lawn.** This eastward expansion of the terrace provides seating variety with views focused out towards events on the lawn or small clusters for gathering. It is a blend of the formal and historic character of the Cathedral with contemporary social spaces. Access to and from the terrace is improved through the addition of **two universal access paths fostering equitable circulation between the Cathedral and the Heinz Chapel.**

EAST TERRACE

East Terrace | Cafe Deck



East Terrace | Cafe Deck



EXPANDED TERRACE

CAFE TABLES & CHAIRS

CHAISE LOUNGES

East Terrace



SEATING

NEW ACCESSIBLE PEDESTRIAN WALK

STONE FINES



The Cathedral of Learning South Terrace, referred to as the Josiah Lilly Court, is reinvigorated through opportunistic use of **seating, planting, and access.**

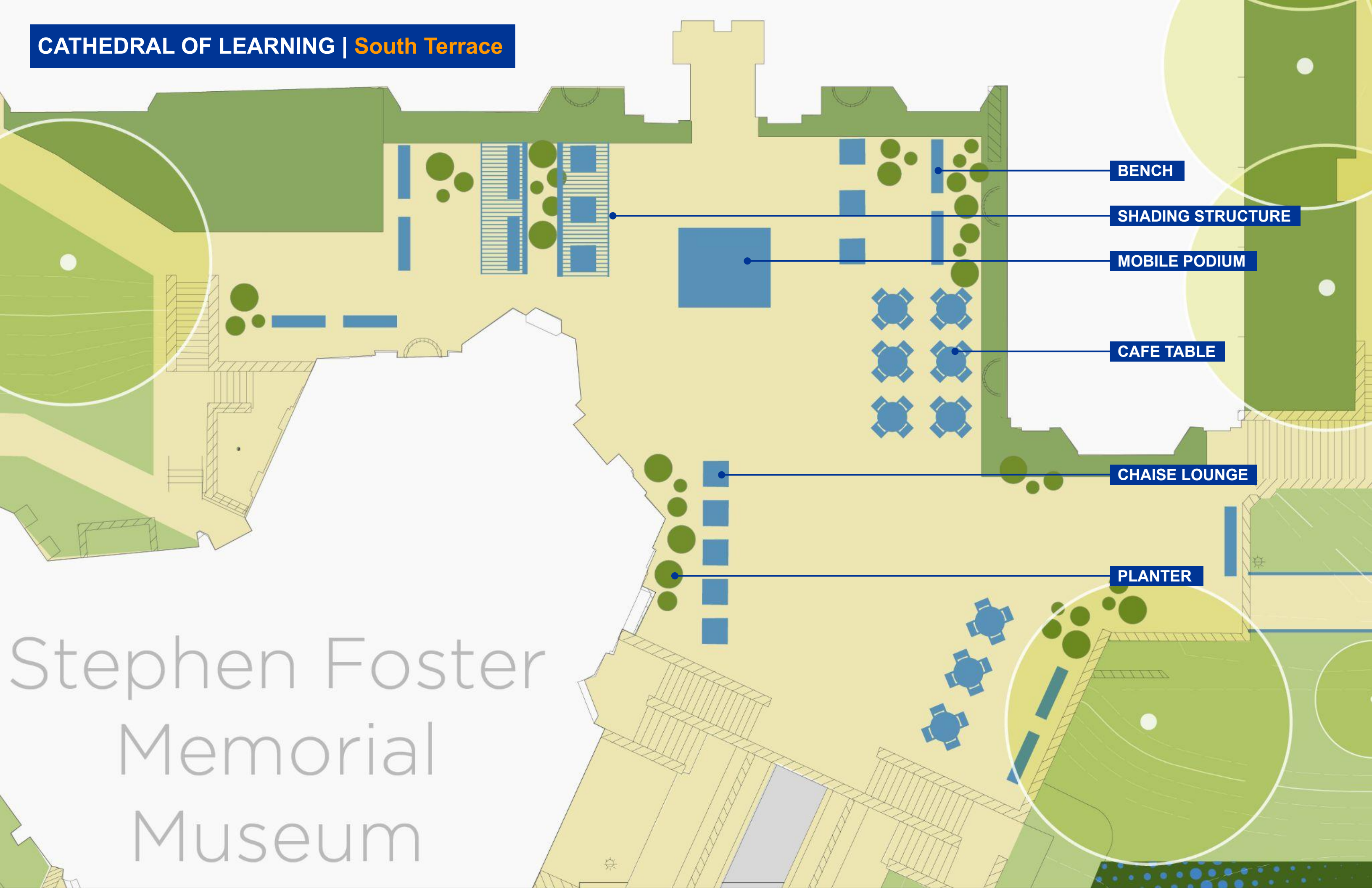
The proposed design takes what was an underutilized space and creates a **comfortable environment for students and faculty sit outside at the Cathedral's south entry.** Existing universal access from Bigelow boulevard is maintained and new corridor is opened with access to the Social Theater just beyond the terrace.

SOUTH TERRACE **(JOSIAH LILLY COURT)**

South Terrace



CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING | South Terrace



BENCH

SHADING STRUCTURE

MOBILE PODIUM

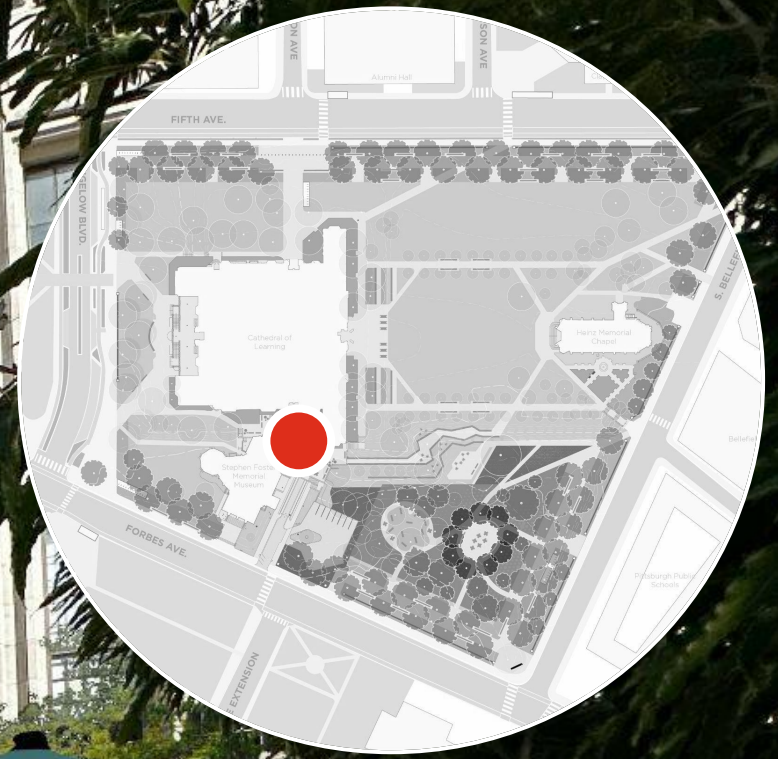
CAFE TABLE

CHAISE LOUNGE

PLANTER

Stephen Foster
Memorial
Museum

South Terrace



PLANTERS

SHADING STRUCTURE

PLANTERS

CAFE TABLES & CHAIRS

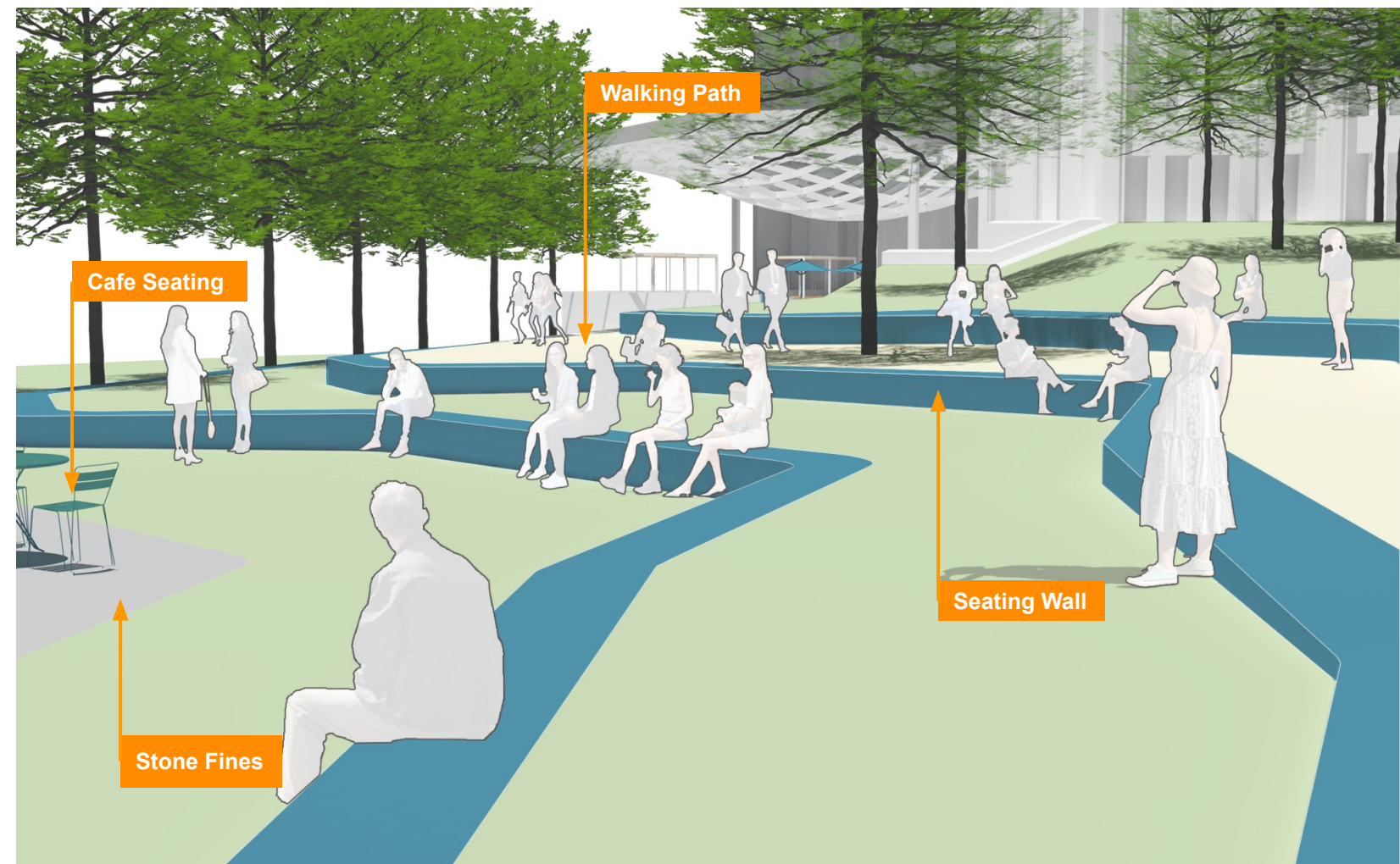
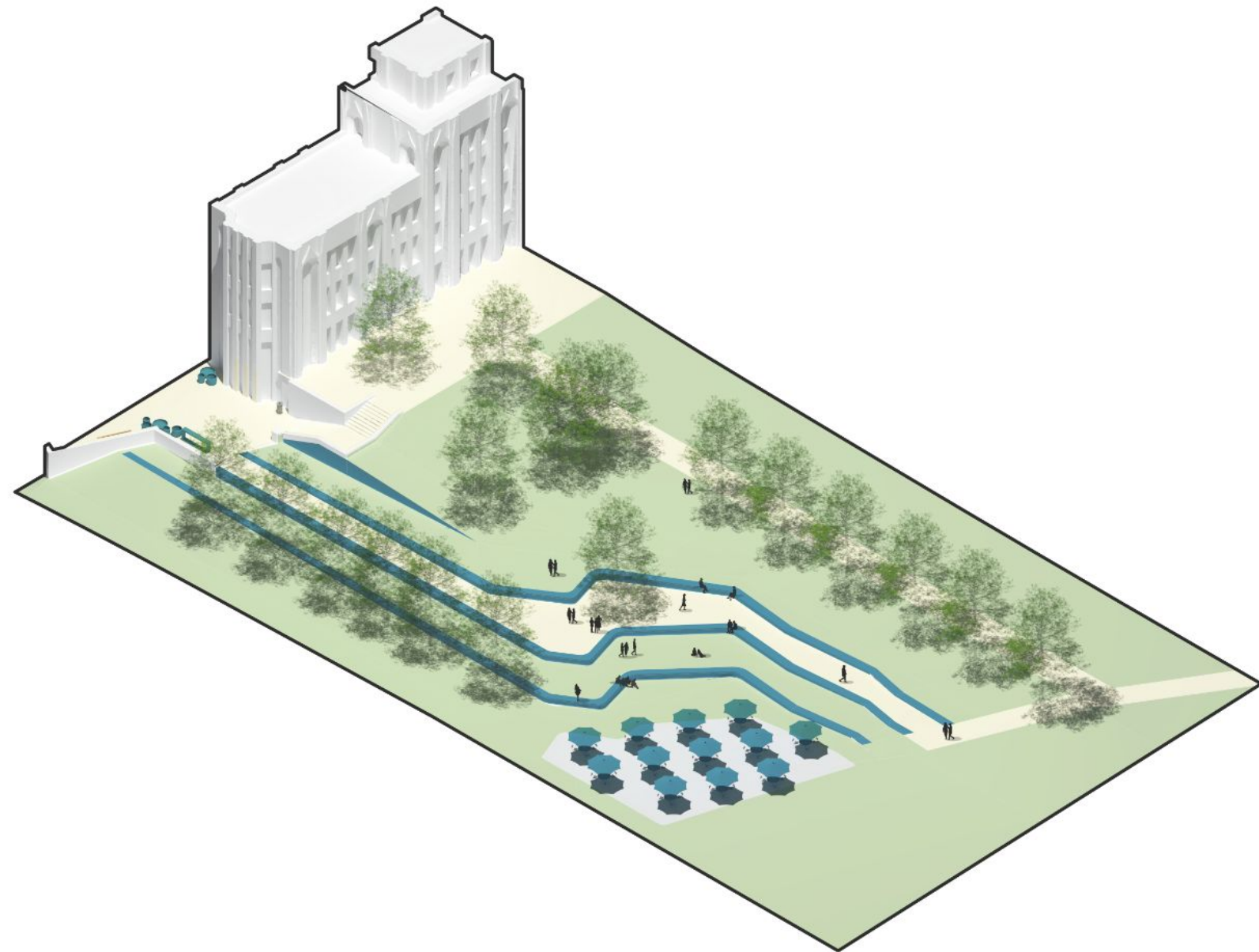


The Cathedral of Learning Social Theater is a **space for social interactions both large and small**. Established along the southern slope of the Cathedral gracefully bending towards Forbes Avenue, the social theater is both a place for casual daily gatherings and experiences, as well a space large groups to congregate either socially or academically.

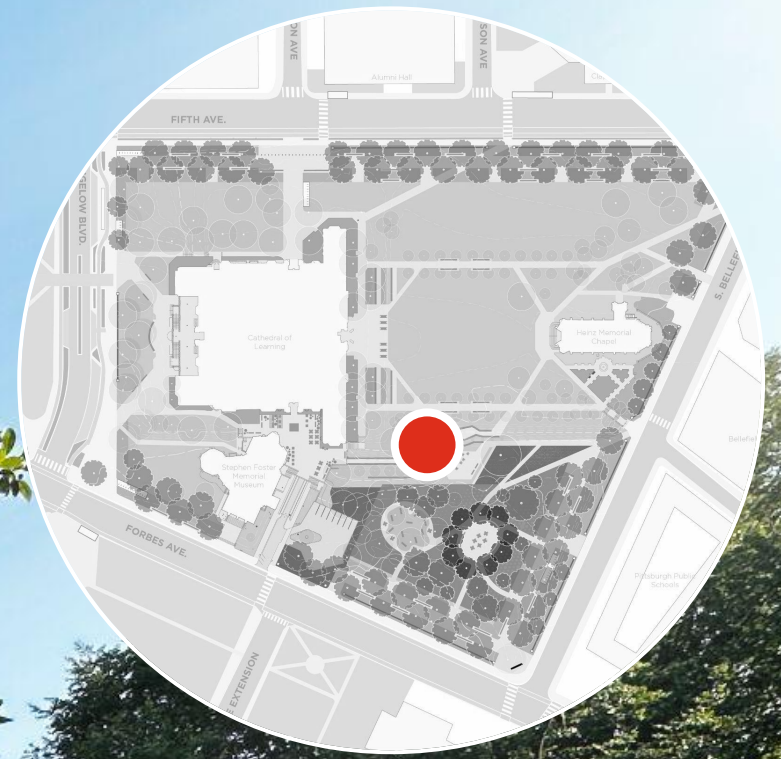
The primary pathway through the space is a universally accessible path bringing together the east and west ends of the landscape. **This important link from the Southern Terrace to the Main Cathedral Lawn** makes the landscape fully accessible for all abilities.

SOCIAL THEATER

Social Theater | Rooms



Social Theater



TERRACED SEATING

TERRACED SEATING

DAWN REDWOOD ROOM

The Dawn Redwood Room is conceived of as **quiet space within the bustle of the urban environment**. Nestled deeper within the Cathedral Landscape, this outdoor room is a place for reflection, study and small gatherings on beautiful days on the campus.

HAMMOCK GROVE

As part of the **engagement process with University students**, OLIN learned that one of their favorite activities is to set up hammocks as way to relax. A space to the south was designated for that very purpose. Inside the grove is a more permanent arrangement of hammocks and a **new place for students to “hammock”**.

CATHEDRAL OF LEARNING | Area 5 Plan



Stephen Foster Memorial Museum

Pittsburgh Public Schools

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Hammock Grove



PERIMETER WALKING PATH

PRIVATELY OWNED HAMMOCKS

FIXED HAMMOCK POLES

MULCH WALKING SURFACE



Dawn Redwood Room



DAWN REDWOOD TREES

CAFE TABLES

CUSTOM CIRCULAR BENCH



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