



Reimagine a safe and inviting public realm: exploring possibilities around Tensta centrum

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Abstract

Today cities across the world in different scale are struggling to achieve a sustainable living space where children are full of pride to call home. My thesis project inspired by my own journey of searching for a safe and inviting public space where I can spend my leisure time. I grew up in K.S.A where for a long time I have experienced that women are not safe in a public space. Then I came to my home country, a densely built-up city Dhaka, where scarcity of public space including safety issues were major concern. Few green areas we have that are overcrowded and unmaintained as a result people prefer to spend their free time in an indoor space rather than an outdoor. Luckily after coming to Sweden, I was amazed to experience so many beautiful well design public realm. Then again Sweden also faces some challenge of globalization and economic restructuring which creates social gaps. These gaps tend to become more extreme between neighborhood than between cities.



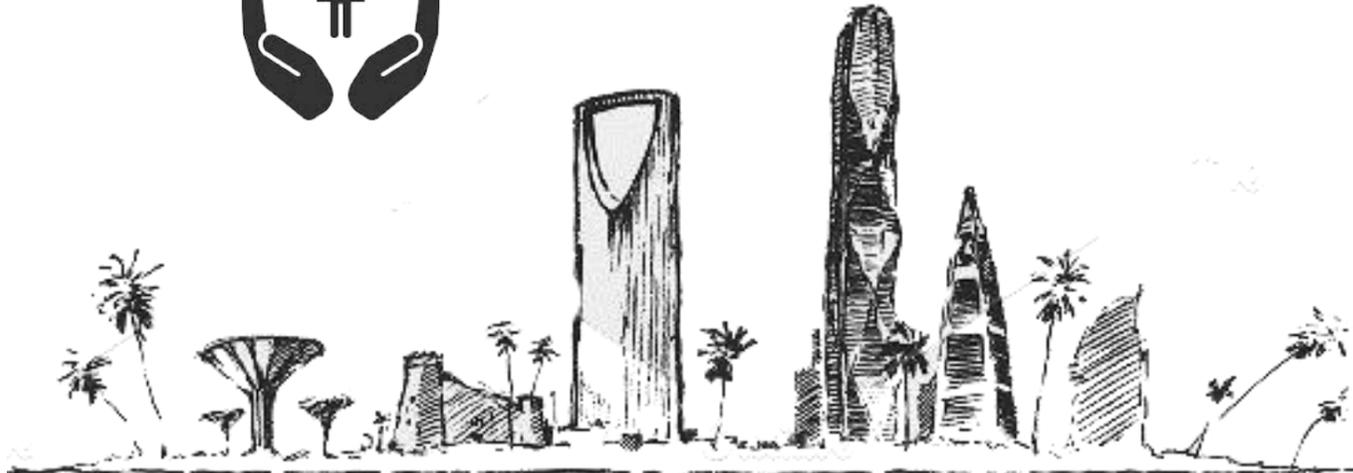
Searching for a safe and inviting public Realm



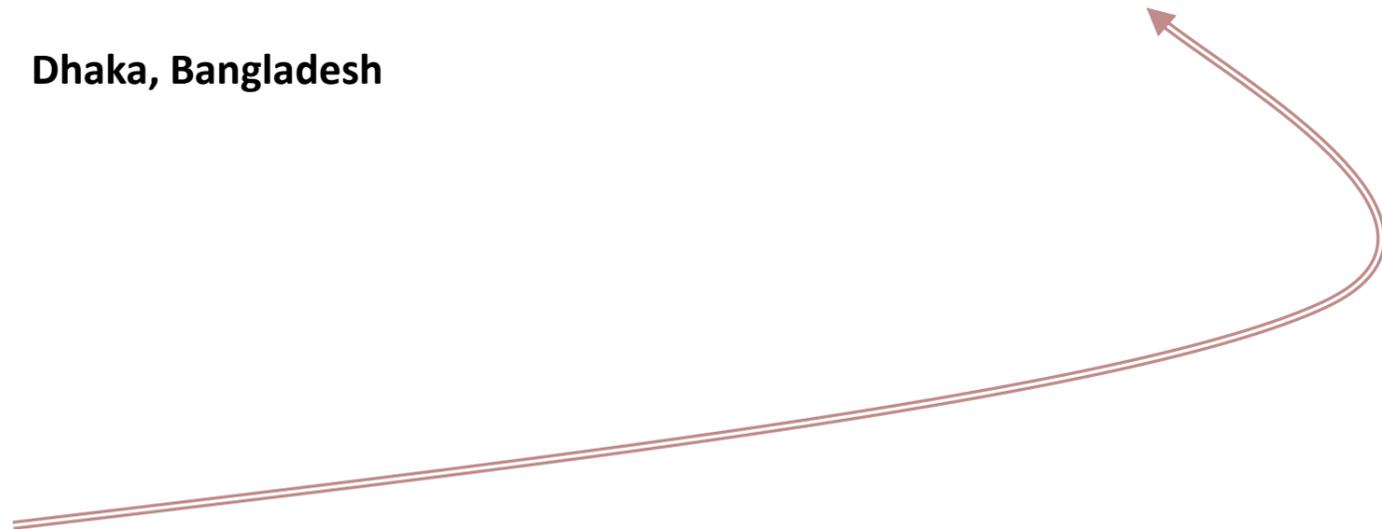
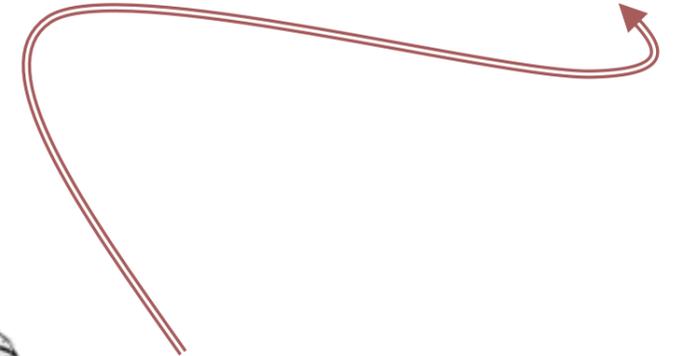
Stockholm, Sweden



Dhaka, Bangladesh



Riyadh, Saudi Arab



Introduction

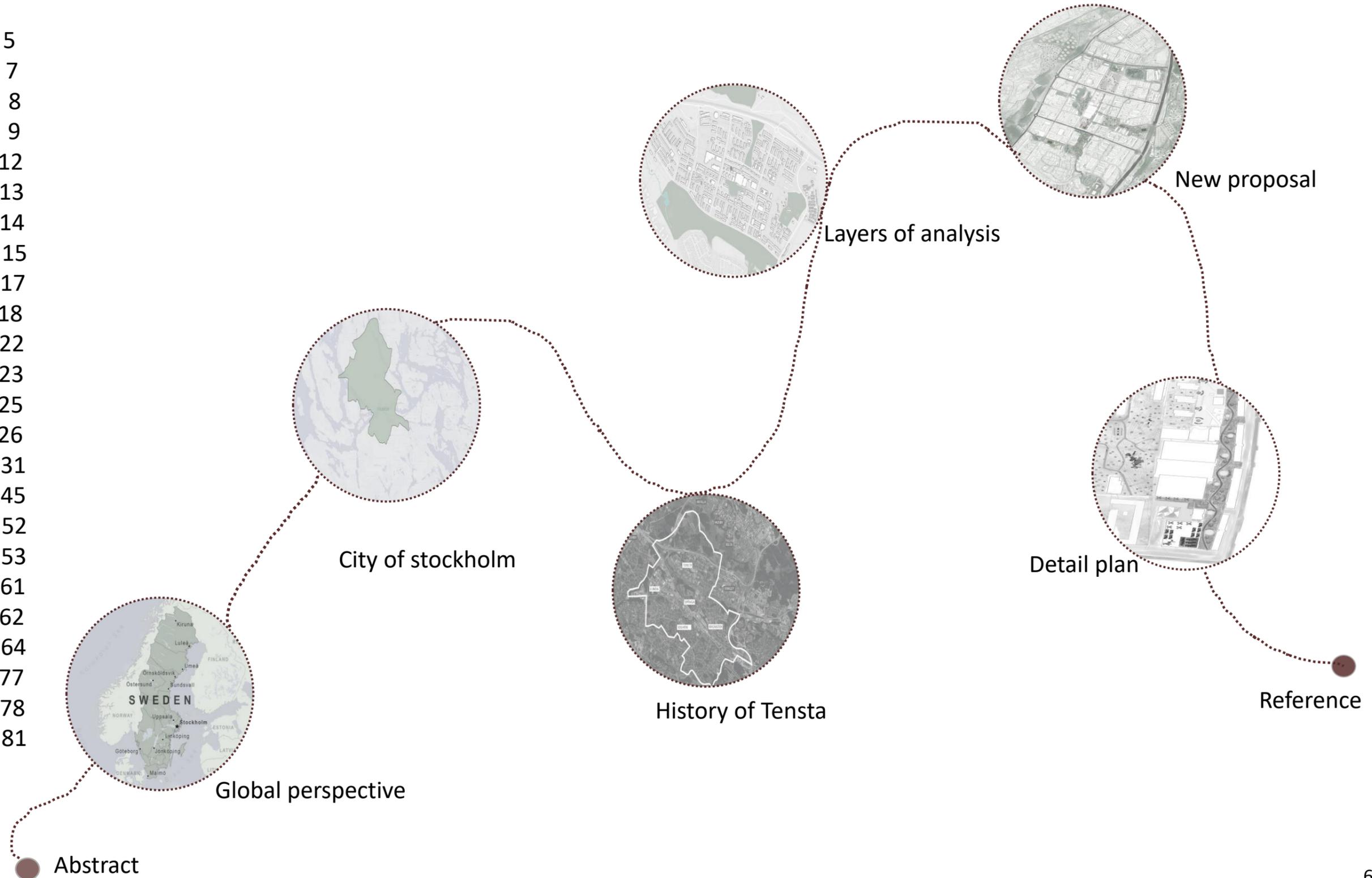
In Stockholm's suburbs, many districts are considered by area discrimination where the socio-economic conditions, attraction of public space, usage of public realm and safety issues fluctuate a lot from area to area. Tensta, a Stockholm suburb built between 1962-1971 was one of the first so-called million program areas however, the result was not successful, and the area had to bear a lot of criticism. Now it is one of the most stigmatized and vulnerable neighborhoods of Stockholm where residents are mostly of foreign background with a high unemployment rate. This area has large issues in the social sustainability sector which partly comes from an overall lack of housing, a feeling of being alienated from the 'Swedish society', common language issues and a negative branding of Tensta as a suburb in the media.

A public space that is considered unsafe, unpleasant and unwelcoming limits the possibilities of people from different backgrounds to meet and make the space more active and vibrant. Designing new meeting places both indoor and outdoor would be a high value design objective to improve public life in Tensta. There are too few places that offer activities for children and youths and few areas for organizations to organize events. Also, a huge lack of potential green space which is resulting in an unsafe space where not many people choose to spend their leisure time. More precisely, public safety and an inviting public space can enhance economic values in the area as well as offers positive benefits in health and business.

The ambition is to improve the quality of life and make the area more attractive, livable and safe where everyone feels invited. A well-maintained environment including proper plantations and functional lighting could help enhance the social sustainability which inspire residents to feel proud and belonging to the area. Furthermore, clearly defined and safe meeting points both for day and night is something that is highly valued in terms of promoting an area's interaction and integration.

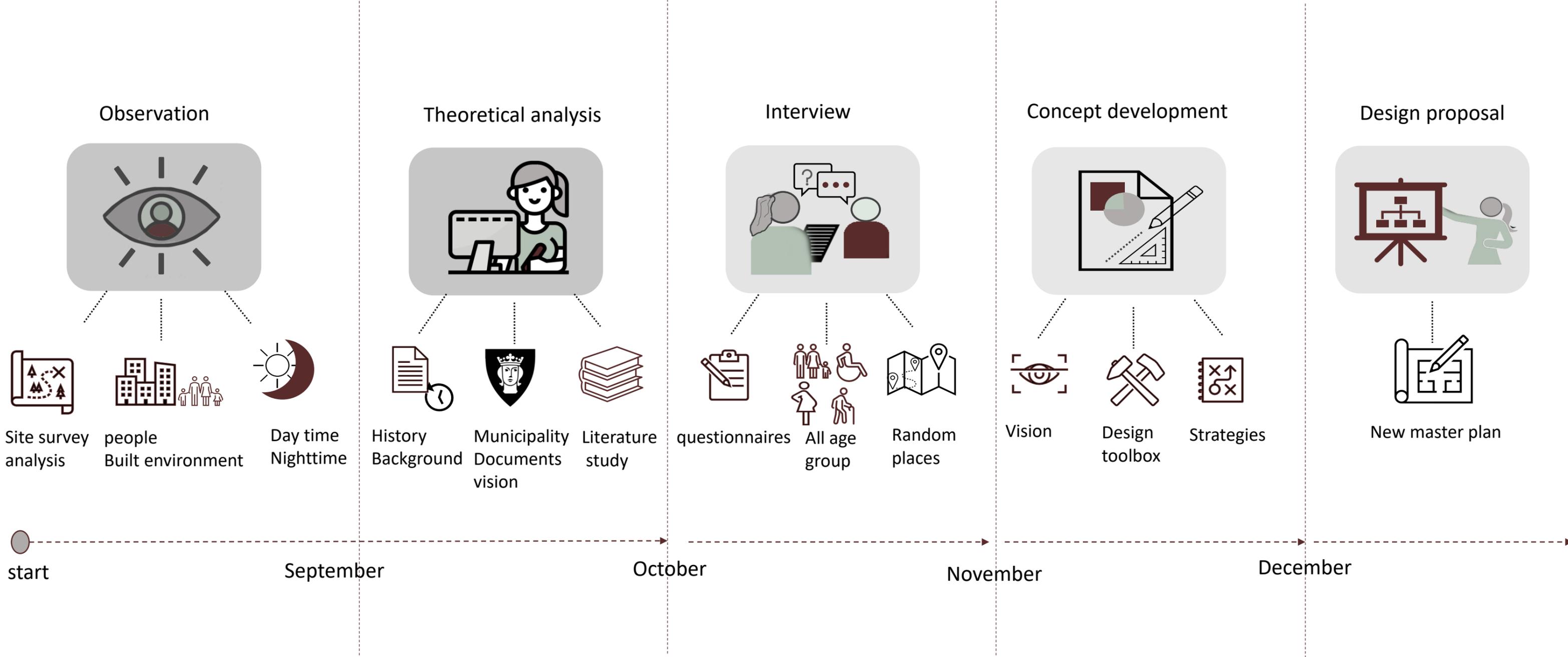
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Framing the work method

To understand the current situation in Tensta and to minimize the problems, an urban design proposal was made. A method of several stage was used to achieve the final result. Starting point was understanding the site, site survey was done both day and night, observed the people and built environment and studying municipal documents was made to understand stockholm stad’s future plan and vision for Tensta. Later on interviews was taken with proper questionnaires to have a better insight. Most helpful step was hearing the people's safety stories and use that as a base to suggest a new development plan for the betterment of Tensta.



01

Literature Study



Public Realm

Public realm is all around us a vital part of everyday urban life: the street we pass through on the way to work, the places where children play or where we encounter nature wildlife, the local parks in which we enjoy sports, walk the dog or sit at lunchtime, or simply somewhere quiet to get away for a moment from the busy daily life. In other words, public space is our open-air living room or outdoor leisure center,(the value of public space ,CABE space,2004)



“Safety, particularly safety in public spaces, is an essential ingredient for the creation of livable and prosperous cities: urban spaces and facilities need to be designed and managed in a way that makes citizens feel safe from violence and crime.” **Integrated Urban Development Framework (2014)**

According to Ontario professional planners institute (OPPI), the public realm is all the space that owned by public which are accessible. These includes streets, squares, plazas, sidewalks, parks, transit system, civic building and institutions.

A public space is a place where anyone has a right to come without being excluded because of economic or social conditions.(webster dictionary)

The OPPI institute classified the public realm into different categories which is important to create a variety of interesting spaces which could attract different group of people in different season.

➤ Passive environment: sitting in a cafe



➤ Interior space: reading a book in a library or recreation center



➤ Active environment: cycling in a bike lane



➤ exterior space: public square



The Importance of Public Spaces

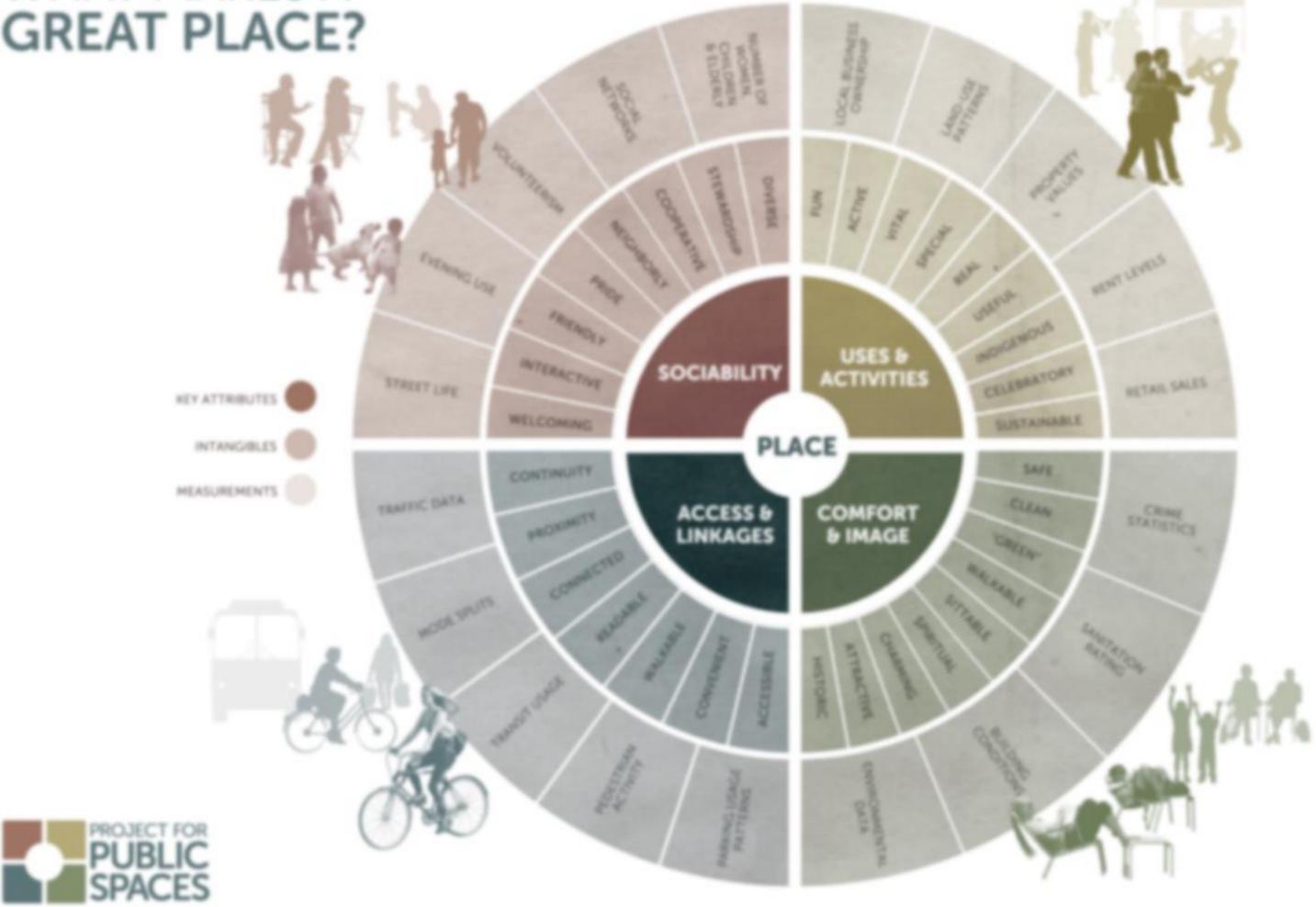
“A good city is like a good party — people stay longer than really necessary, because they are enjoying themselves”
 — Jan Gehl

Public spaces are an important asset to our cities. They provide people many opportunities to come together and engage with the community. If public spaces are successful, they are inclusive of the diversity of groups present in our cities and create a social space for everyone in the society to participate in.

There are many factors that contribute to a successful public space, some factors (supported by Project for Public Spaces) are:

1. The accessibility of the space
2. The comfort of the space
3. Creating sociability

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?



Public space value

Providing a high-grade public realm is an important feature of successful city where the public places is very well connected.

Safe, lively and well-maintained – according to UN-Habitat these should be the three main qualities of public spaces. They are much more than just 'space' that can be used by citizens. They bring economic value, promote social cohesion and often offer environmental as well as cultural benefits.

Reclaiming public spaces – enhancing safety

People's mobility, quality of life, their participation in public life and in sustainable development greatly depends on the safety of public spaces.

There is a direct relation between safety and public space. Upgrading and increasing the quantity and quality of existing public open spaces can help improve urban safety. The goal is to enhance safety in public spaces as a way to reclaim public spaces and therefore resolve the impediments to people's movement.

Quality open spaces have been proven to help reduce insecurity and interventions aimed at improving public spaces call for a new approach through community participation. There is a need for greater individual, community and civil society involvement in reclaiming public spaces that have fallen in disrepair, and converting disused areas into active spaces, such as local public parks.

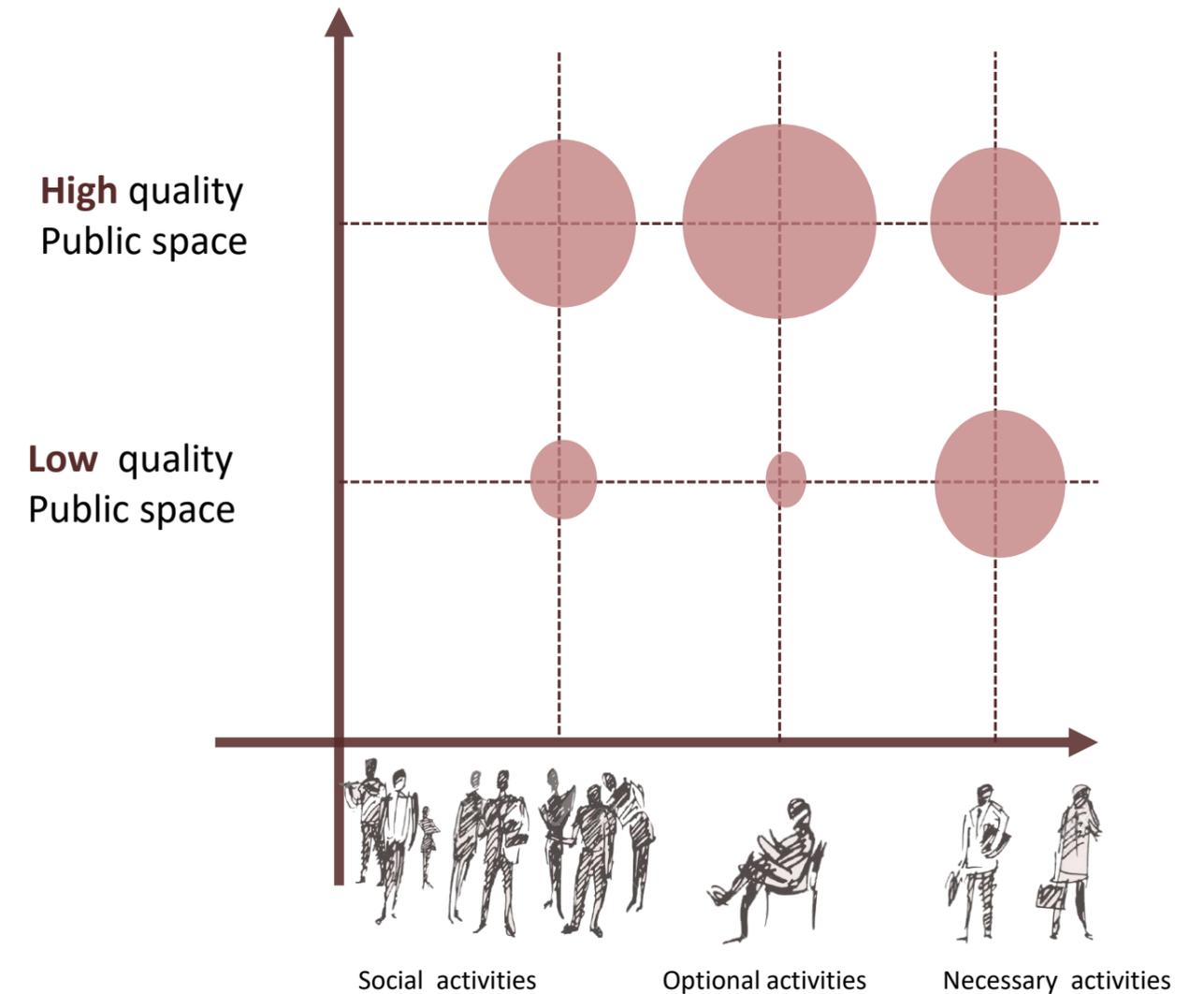
Shared public spaces encourage citizens to participate and become drivers in ensuring the attainment of safety. Through public spaces, cities can promote more inclusive, convivial and safer places for their citizens, which as a consequence will reinforce social inclusion, community organization and participation to prevent insecurity.



Activities in the public space

According to Jan Gehl, activities in the public realm can be classified into three categories

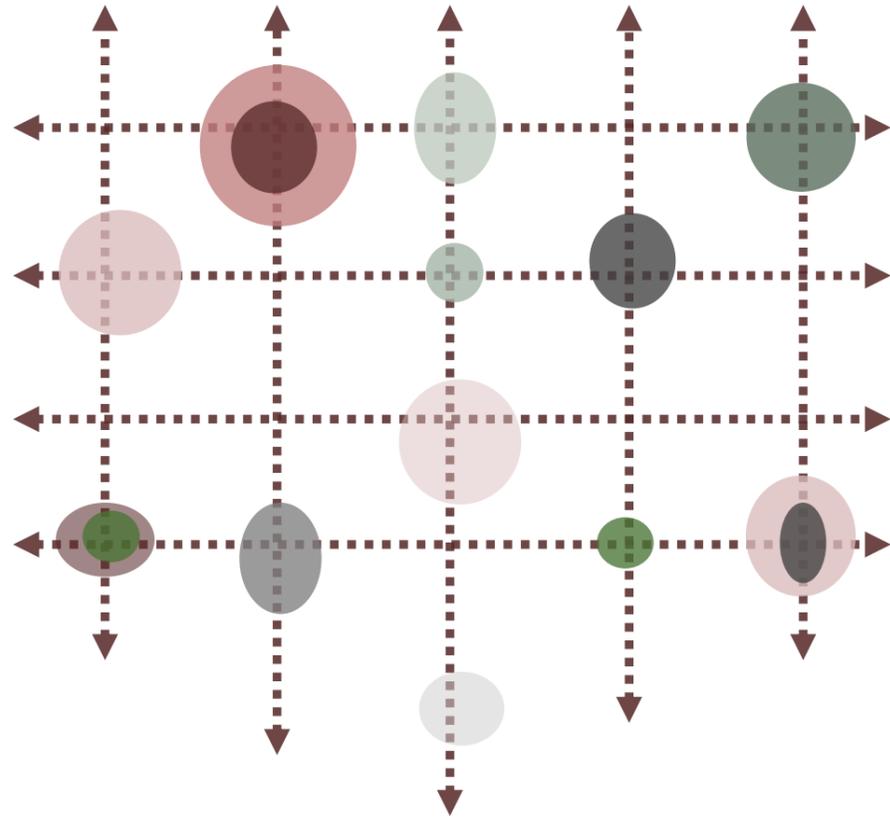
- **Necessary activities:** are more compulsory, such as walking to work, going shopping, going to school and waiting for a bus. Where people have no other option. This could include every day tasks and the quality of the physical environment has less influence on these activities.
- **Optional activities:** are recreational and fun, such as sitting, reading, walking for fresh air and sunbathing. It depends on exterior physical conditions. These activities are most likely to happen when weather and place are inviting. It is highly dependent on the quality of the physical environment.
- **Social activities:** are all types of communication between people. It depends on the existing of other people in the public space. It includes children playing, conversation, friends hangout and greetings.



The relation between the public realm and activities, (Gehl 2010)

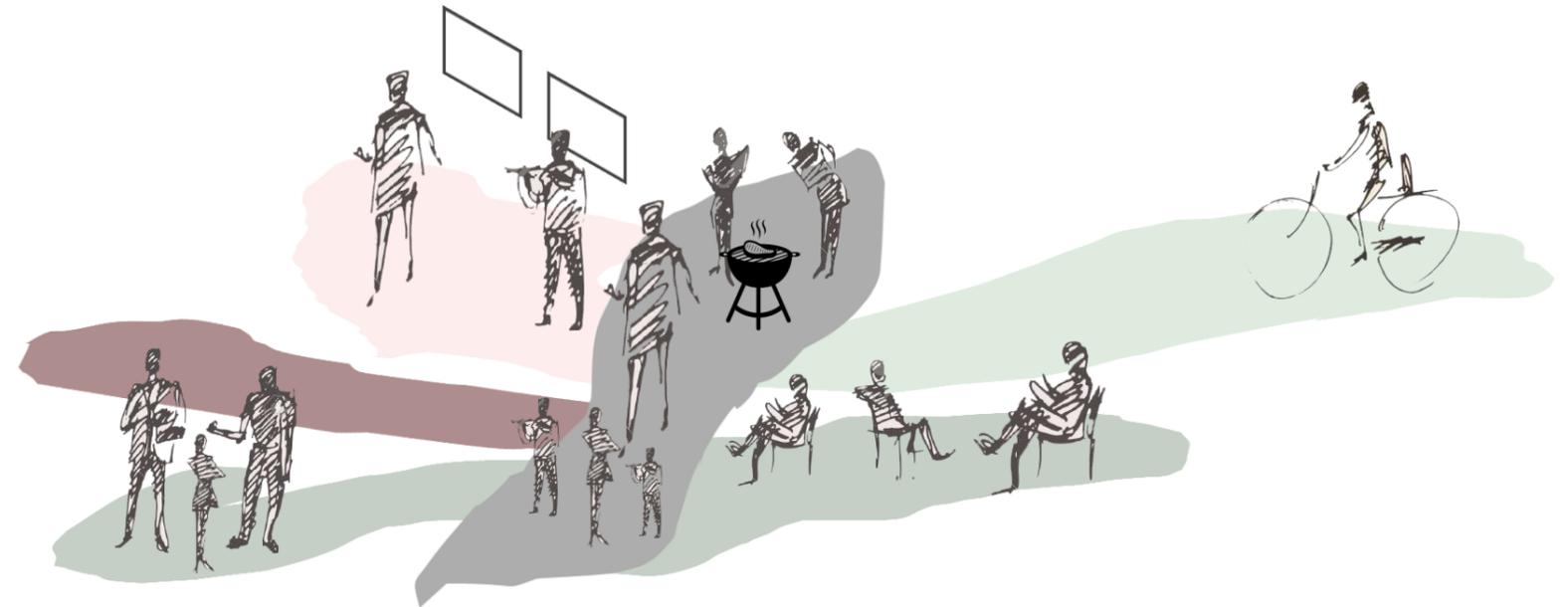
Characteristics of a well design public realm

The suburbs became “bedroom communities” where no one went to do anything but sleep, wake up, leave, and repeat which sparked an intensified focus on the “user” experience in urban public space. (Gehl & Svarre 2013: 49)



Well linked public space

A well functioning network connects all the public spaces in an attractive and inviting way. The public spaces become alive when people are present, so we must invite people from one space to the next.



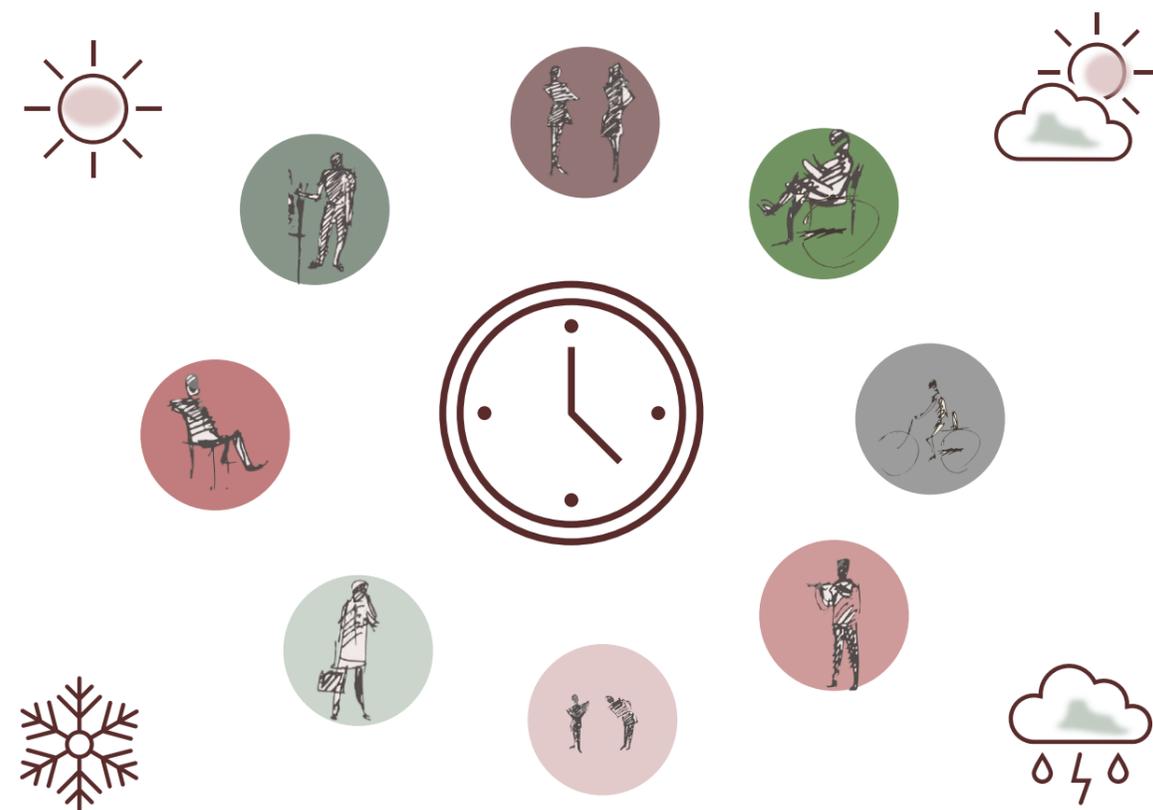
Versatile public spaces

People are likely accept invitation to participate in a variety Of activities in a city,if they feel invited. If they are only invited To a limited number of activities a lower level of participation and use can be expected. Therefore need to plan for a wide variety of activities in the public realm



Good balance of user groups

A fine public space is also a city for all. Some people visit the place because they have necessary or routine activities, but other individuals or user groups must be invited. Plan for activities and spaces that invite more people to use the area more often.



Active throughout the day and year

When upgrading the public realm it is important to consider every aspect of the climate, change of season and day. Plan for a space that is active throughout the season and that offers interesting things to offer both evening and night. An active space where many people can meet and interact feels much more safe than an area where only a few people are using public spaces at night.

Research Question

1. What are the main causes for poor public safety around Tensta centrum? And what planning practices and policies are being done to improve the perception of public safety?
2. How do people in Tensta experience the urban area from a safety point of view?
3. Which tools could the urban planner and designers use to increase public safety and outdoor life quality?

02

Location



Location

Sweden is a Scandinavian nation in north Europe with thousands of coastal islands and inland lakes, along with vast boreal forests and glaciated mountains. Its principal cities, eastern capital Stockholm and southwestern Gothenburg and Malmö, are all coastal. Stockholm is located on Sweden's east coast in encompasses 14 islands and more than 50 bridges on Baltic sea. It's the capital of Sweden which is today a very popular destination for moving to Europe as well as in Scandinavia.



Stockholm



After the Ice Age, around 8,000 BC, there were already many people living in a place what is called Stockholm today, but because of temperatures dropped, people moved to south. Thousands of years later, as the climate became tolerable and the lands became fertile, people began to migrate back to the North. At the intersection of the Baltic Sea and lake Mälaren is an archipelago site where the old town of Stockholm was first built from about 1000 CE by Viking. Around 975,904 people lives in the city, 1.6 million in the urban area and 2.4 million in the metropolitan area. Stockholm is one of the fastest growing city in Europe with a high expected growth rate.

Over the next ten years, almost 350,000 people are expected to relocated to Stockholm, which is an average of 94 people per day, or the equivalent of one full bus. By the current rate, in 2027 the population will have grown to 2.6 million, an increase of 15 percent according to the region's latest population forecast. And by 2060, the expected figure is 3,327,200.

Surely Swedish capital has a lot to achieve from this population growth but with growth there are some challenges too. As of today, it is difficult to find somewhere to live because in the last few years the term Housing crises become a major problem. According to survey done by stockholm housing agency 165000 people claimed that they needed an apartment which puts a great pressure on the city.



The issue of a housing shortage is not a new one in Sweden, In the 1960 Sweden faced the similar situation as today, dealing with high rate of population growth of and housing crises at the same time. To solve this problem Swedish government launched the million program.

Tensta Location

Tensta is a complex suburb located west of Stockholm, its a district in Västerort within Stockholm municipality, in southern Järva . The district borders Akalla, Husby, Rinkeby, Hjulsta and Kista.

Tensta has two metro stations and its is situated at the end of blue line and it takes 20 minute to reach there from central stations by metro. Buses are also frequently available on this route.



20min



15min



40min



50min



03

History Study



Tensta Timeline



-2000



Vikings



1900



1965



1974

History

-2000

People have been living in Tensta for almost 2000 years. Landscape was not the same, that time Stockholm had waterways going deep into the county. Maybe because of this reason there is an assumption that the name origin of Tensta come from a Swedish word Tena which means a specific fishing equipment.

Vikings

Based on the archeological digging information we found that during the Viking age Tensta and the areas surrounded it were considered as a large village with many types of building for different functions like commercial, storage and housing.

1900

During the 1st five decades of the nineteenth century the area was characterized as Farmland and Tensta is named after the farm that was located here before. Järvafältet was bought by the state in 1905 to be used as a training area for the military. Parts of the Järva field, however, came to belong to Stockholm from 1949, through the incorporation of Spånga.



Million Programme



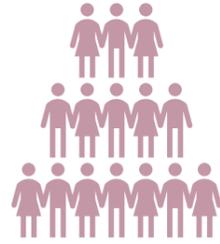
During 1960s, The shortage of housing in Sweden was a major problem. This prompted politicians to formulate the goal of building at least 100,000 new homes each year over a ten-year period. Between the years 1965 and 1974, one million homes were built in Sweden and that is known as the million program.

This program was implemented to satisfy the enormous need for housing which was existed during this time and in tensta aimed to provide housing for middleclass, was a response to the rising number of farmers moving to large urban areas in hunt of better living environments. But the problems was that the apartments being produced with a focus on quantity rather than long-term sustainability in order to be able to quickly establish the number of homes that were necessary. The apartments that were designed were created according to the type family that existed during the record years, which has meant a lack of variation in apartment sizes. Most of the homes are of 2- and 3 rooms and a kitchen, which has limited the diversity. As a result, the design of the apartments has become a reflection of its time, which shows the need that existed then, but which does not meet the standards or requirements that exist today. However, the newly built housing units did not suit the intended target population as many felt the suburbs were too far from the city centers and disliked the architecture. This condition was more intensified by delays in the construction of basic infrastructure and public transport. In Tensta the set-up of provisional bus lines and delays in the construction of the metro line as well as unfinished footpaths and insufficient social service added burden to people's daily life which also discouraged Swedes from moving to the newly constructed suburb. Coincidentally at the same time Swedish migration polices reformed and opened the door for immigrants from the late 1960s. Newly arrived immigrants settled down in the newly built suburbs all over the Sweden's large cities and a large waves of immigrants settled in Tensta in the past three decades because rents were affordable.

Tensta Now

population is aged 16-24, of which 18.6 percent are from Somalia, 15.4 percent from Iraq and 11.8 percent from Turkey

19000
Inhabitants



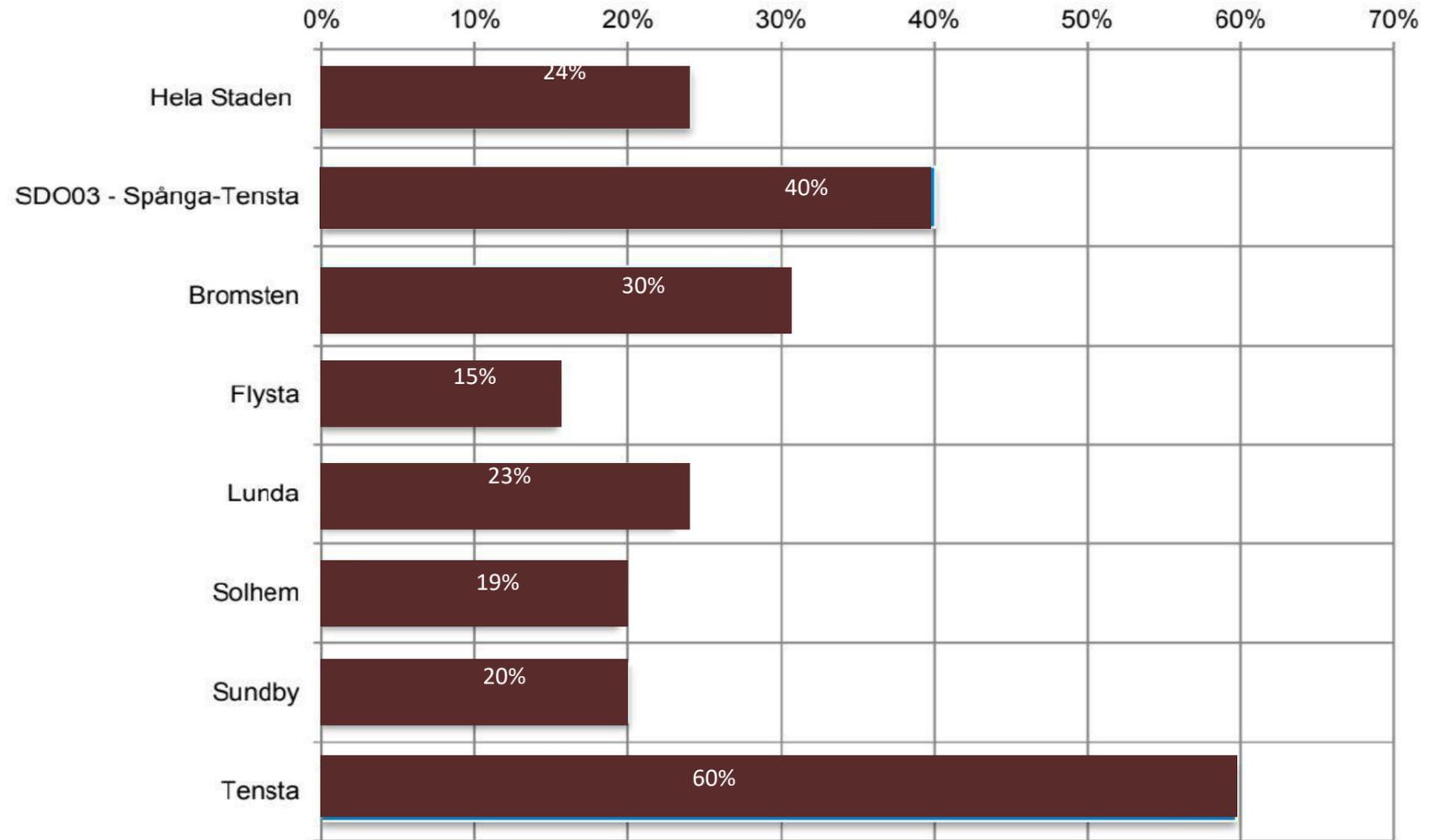
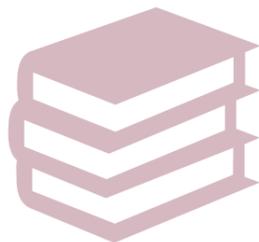
85%
Multicultural



10.6%
Unemployment



Primary-35%
High-33%
Academic-23%
Education



Number of citizen who are internationally born in million programme areas (2016) (SOCIALFÖRVALTNINGEN 2017).

Over the last 30 years, the district of Tensta has consistently received waves of migrants . More than 85 percent of the population has a foreign background, and Tensta counts more than 30 nationalities among its residents. According to a study In January 2018, Somalis represented 15.8 percent of the population in the area of Spånga-Tensta, Iraqi's 13.9 percent, Turk's 9.9 percent and they arrived in Sweden as a refugees or asylum seekers. Among these groups, youth (16-24) represent a large percentage of the population. also shows the segregation in the area where around 60% of the population in Tensta is of international background with a majority from Asia and Africa (See figure 10) (Stockholm stad 2016). Work opportunities in Tensta are mostly state sector while the private sector consist of transport and distribution (Stockholm stad 2016). There are community started advisories through a cooperation between traders in the area (Stockholm stad 2016). Even though there are many work.

Spånga and Tensta: one district, two worlds

Tensta was an independent municipal district until 1997, then in planning Tensta and Spånga merged into the same governmental area and whole area has 39000 citizens covered over 6 city district (stockholm stad 2018). Tensta is the highest with 19000 and has the larger cut of young people(0-24 years old). The area is fighting with large isolation because of the structure. Spånga is a high-income neighborhood with individually designed houses, where the residents are mainly from Sweden on the other hand Tensta is a low-income area where a large part of the population has a foreign background .

At the time of the fusion, it was thought that Tensta could be benefited in merging with Spånga. But according to many, the high expectations were not converted into positive conditions. In fact, many inhabitants of Tensta indicate that the two neighborhoods do not really have much in common on which to build and bring them closer. The clear economic and social difference and lifestyles add to this challenge. Moreover, large roads and a small river geographically separate Spånga and Tensta.



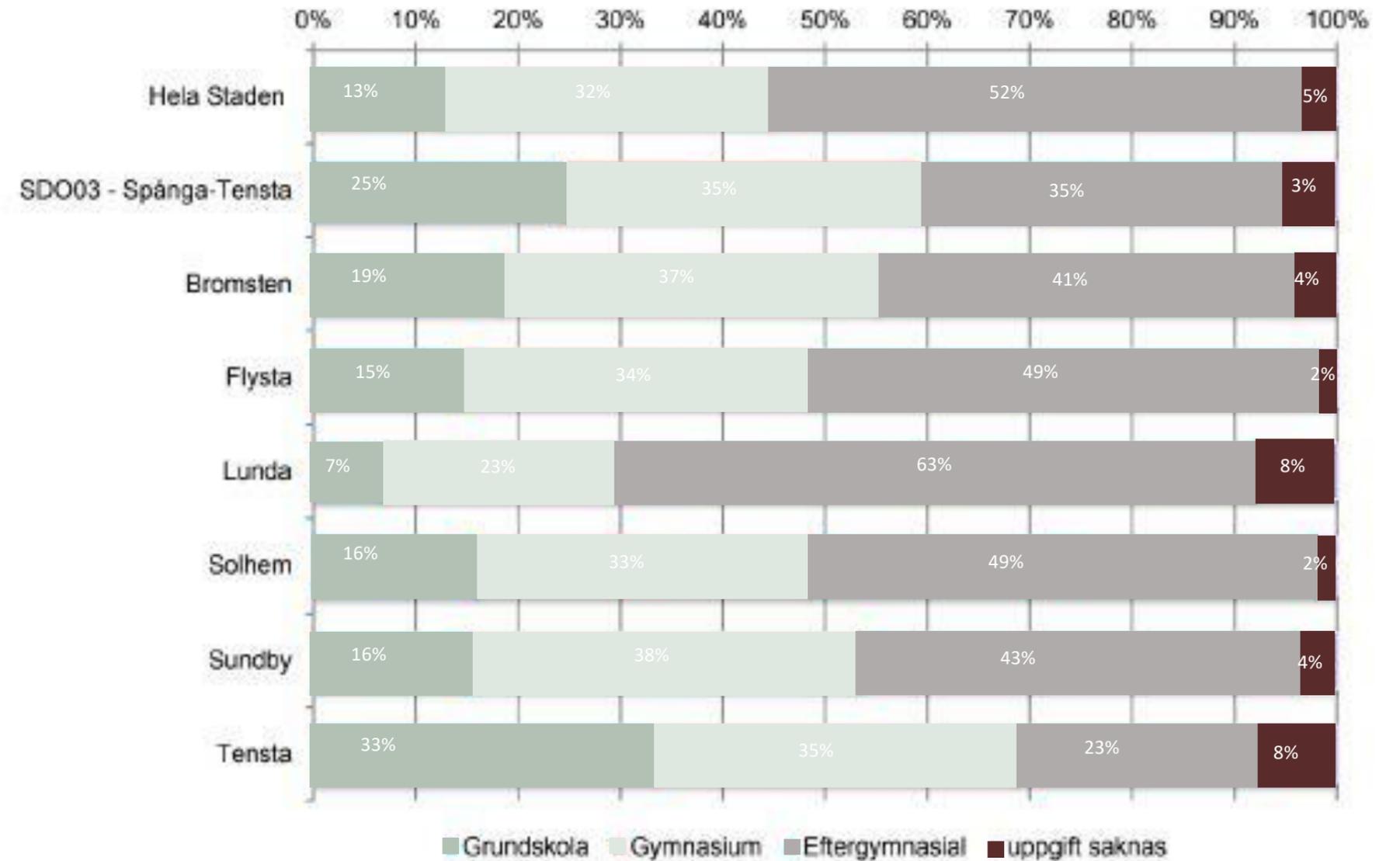
Education

Education is the most important part in municipal planning but unfortunately, Tensta -Hjulsta is the area with lowest number in pre school participation rate in the city. School's results has been low in this area because of newly arrived immigrants and the language barrier. Due to this, it has been decided to integrate more immigrants into different schools in the rest of the city to increase integration (Stockholm stad 2016). Another factor that shows in the student's results are parents knowledge level, in Tensta the post gymnasium knowledge is low, this means that work must be done to increase this (Stockholm stad 2016).

Low levels of education of parents and their limited Swedish language skills is another barrier. The parents disconnect from school life, and more generally from the 'system', also contributed to the perception that parents are not participating in their children's life. However, by looking more closely, it was noted that the reason for this disconnect is not due to lack of interest from parents, but due to language barriers.



studying at university sometimes need for seeking scholarships and student loans. But for Muslims taking loans means payments of interests, which is prohibited in our religion. That's why, young graduates prefer not to apply to university and choose other career paths.

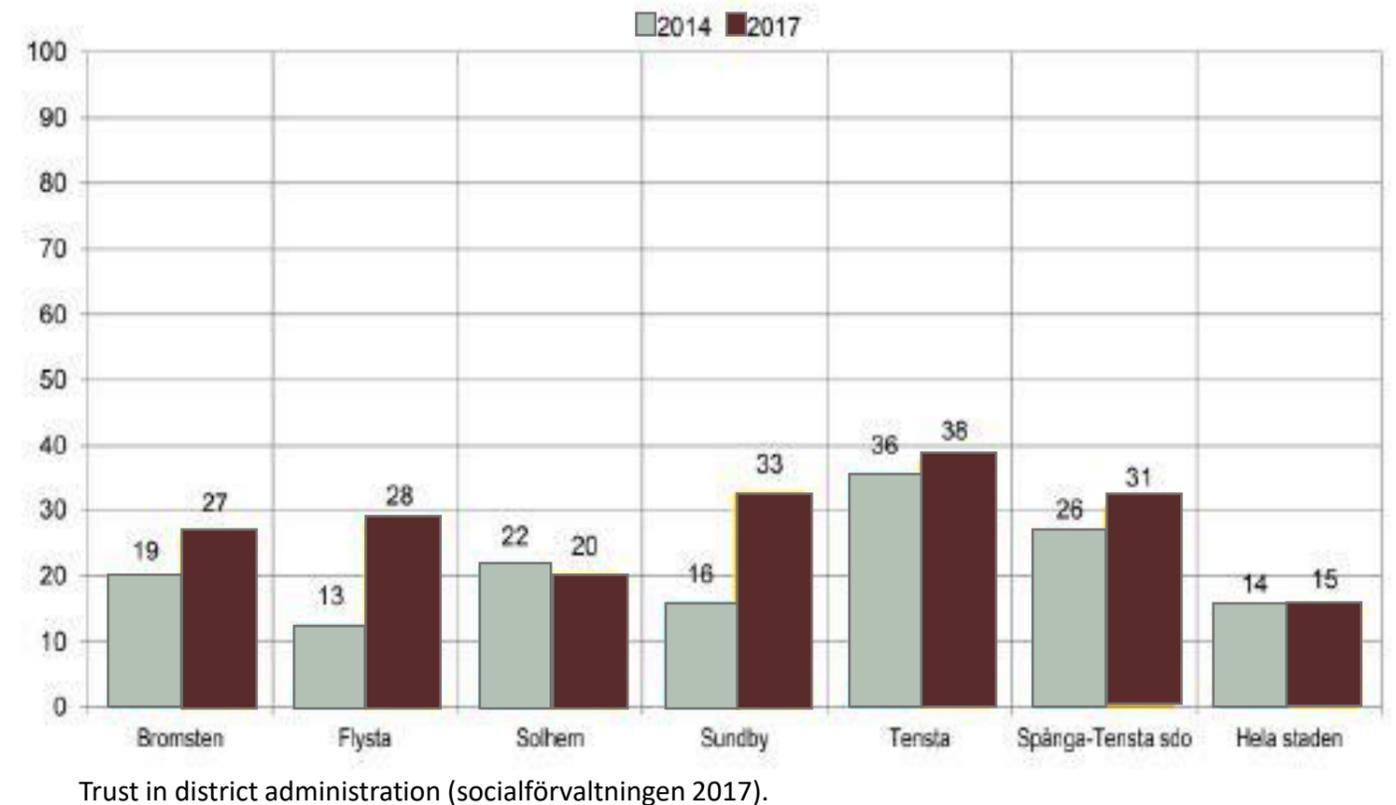
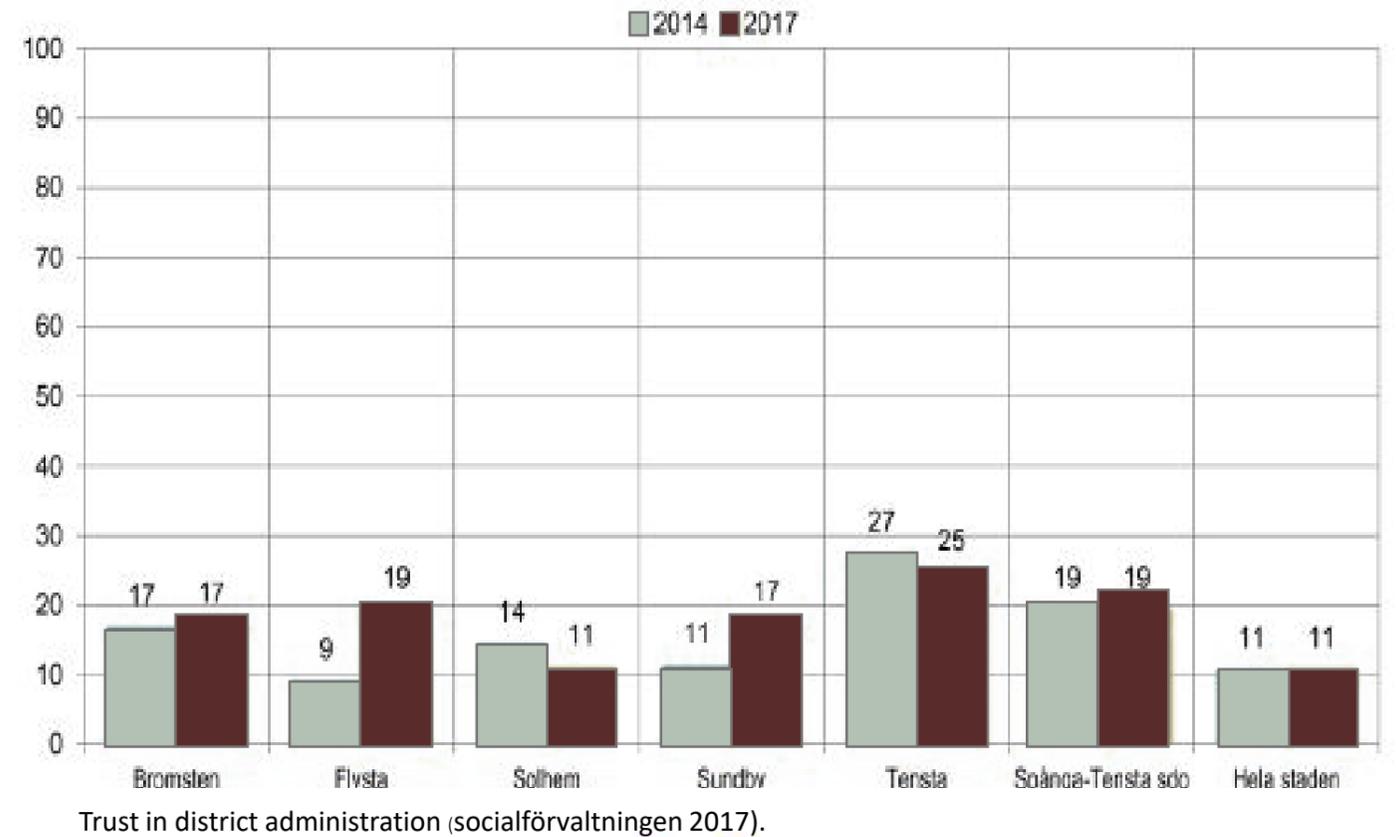


Education Level between Areas. Green represents regular school, light green represents gymnasium, Ash represent post-gymnasium, and maroon is university (SOCIALFÖRVALTNINGEN 2017).

Citizen Trust

Citizens faith for municipalities are very low in Tensta (stockholm stad 2018). Every 4th person has expressed low trust in the police and 38% has low trust in the district administration which is high in comparison to other parts of stockholm city.

Parents are afraid of Swedish laws. They think the police can take their children if they spank them. As a result, parents let their children, especially boys, behave as they want.



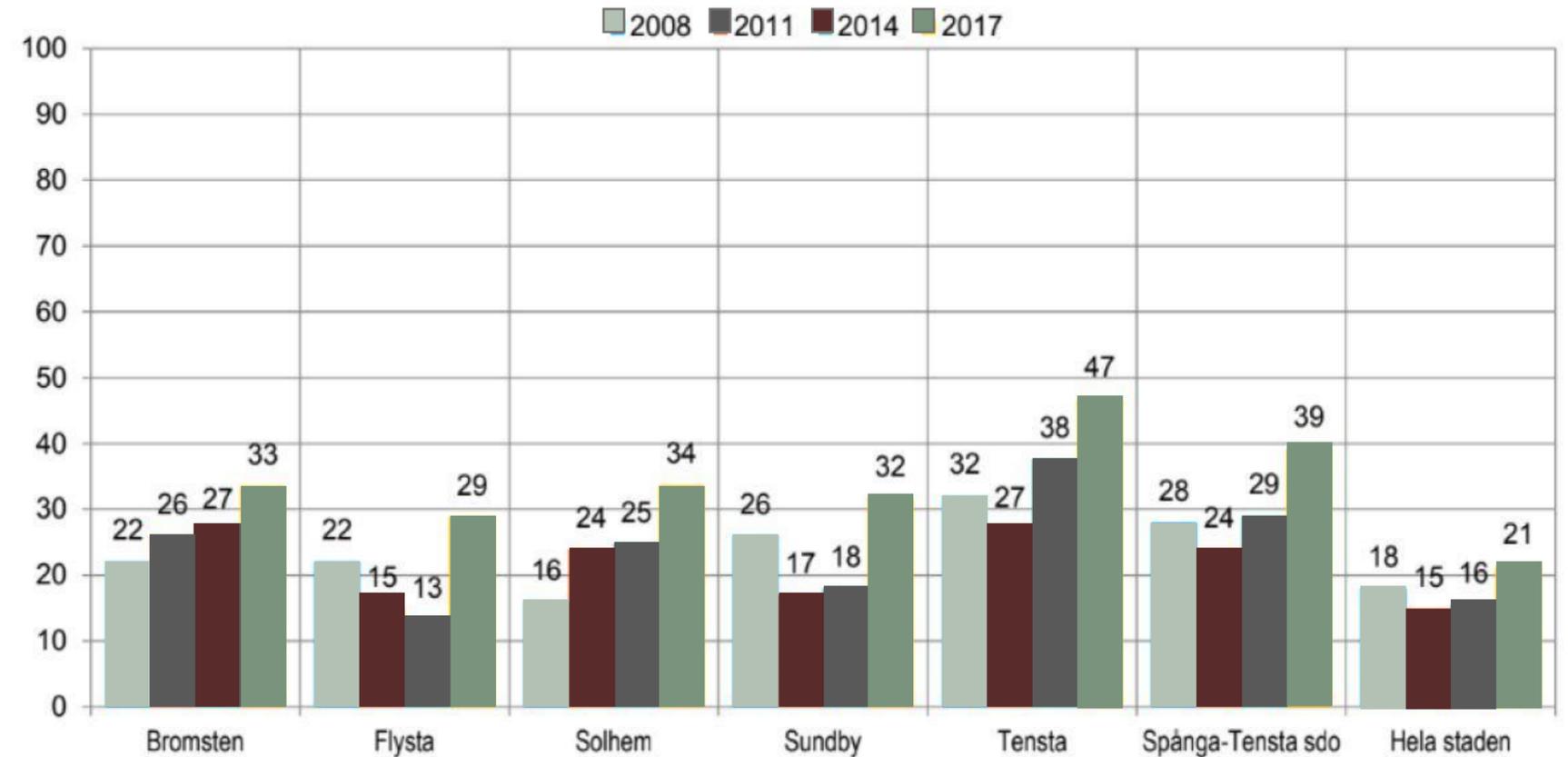
Safety measurement

These complications turns into public safety problem. According to study 47% of Spånga-Tensta inhabitants complain that they feel unsafe in their living area (stockholm stad 2018). This is much higher in Tensta where 22% of men and 30% women feel unsafe.(stockholm stad 2018). Littering, crimes and dark corridors are the reason of this poor public safety .(stockholm stad 2018). Mostly Violence related crime happens in Tensta and mugging, assaulting are very common. Even though the percentage of unsafe citizen in close between man and women but the studies show that in public space, the gap is much higher regardless of age, ethnicity or occupation(stockholm stad 2018). To avoid unwanted situations, women have started to restrict their freedom in public space. They avoid to visit these spaces during nighttime or when the areas are dark. During the nighttime public space around the metro station has larger group of young people surrounding the area which make the women uncomfortable to enter the public transport and roaming around the public space.

	Kvinnor	Män
Skärholmen	9%	20%
Akalla	16%	14%
Husby	20%	17%
Vårbe	21%	20%
Fåsselsby Gård	22%	22%
Tensta	30%	22%
Rinkeby	40%	20%

safety statistics for men and women in the 7 worst districts in stockholm. percent stand for number of citizens who consider the area unsafe. left columns is women and right column is men (bremberg et.al 2017).

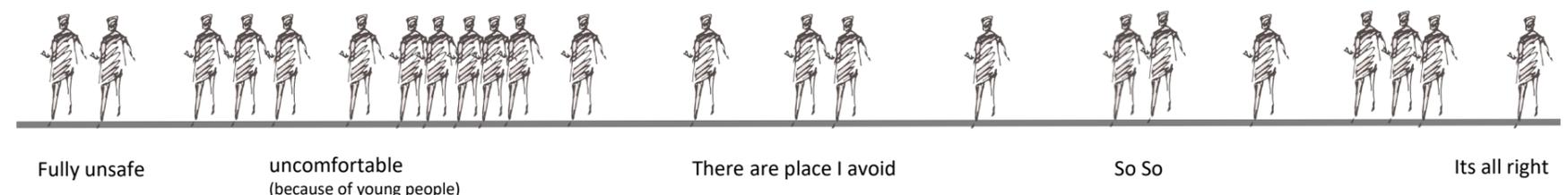
Stadsdelar i Spånga-Tensta sdo



safety measurement for spånga-tensta in stockholm as well as statistics for the entire city. numbers present the amount of people who feel unsafe in different districts in spånga-tensta (socialförvaltningen 2017).

Because of local and global politics, Tensta have attracted many opinions of the negative nature and received a stamp of a “bad neighborhood” filled with crime. Statistics have proven large gaps between Tensta and other parts of Stockholm both in safety between people but also between men and women.

Level of comfort

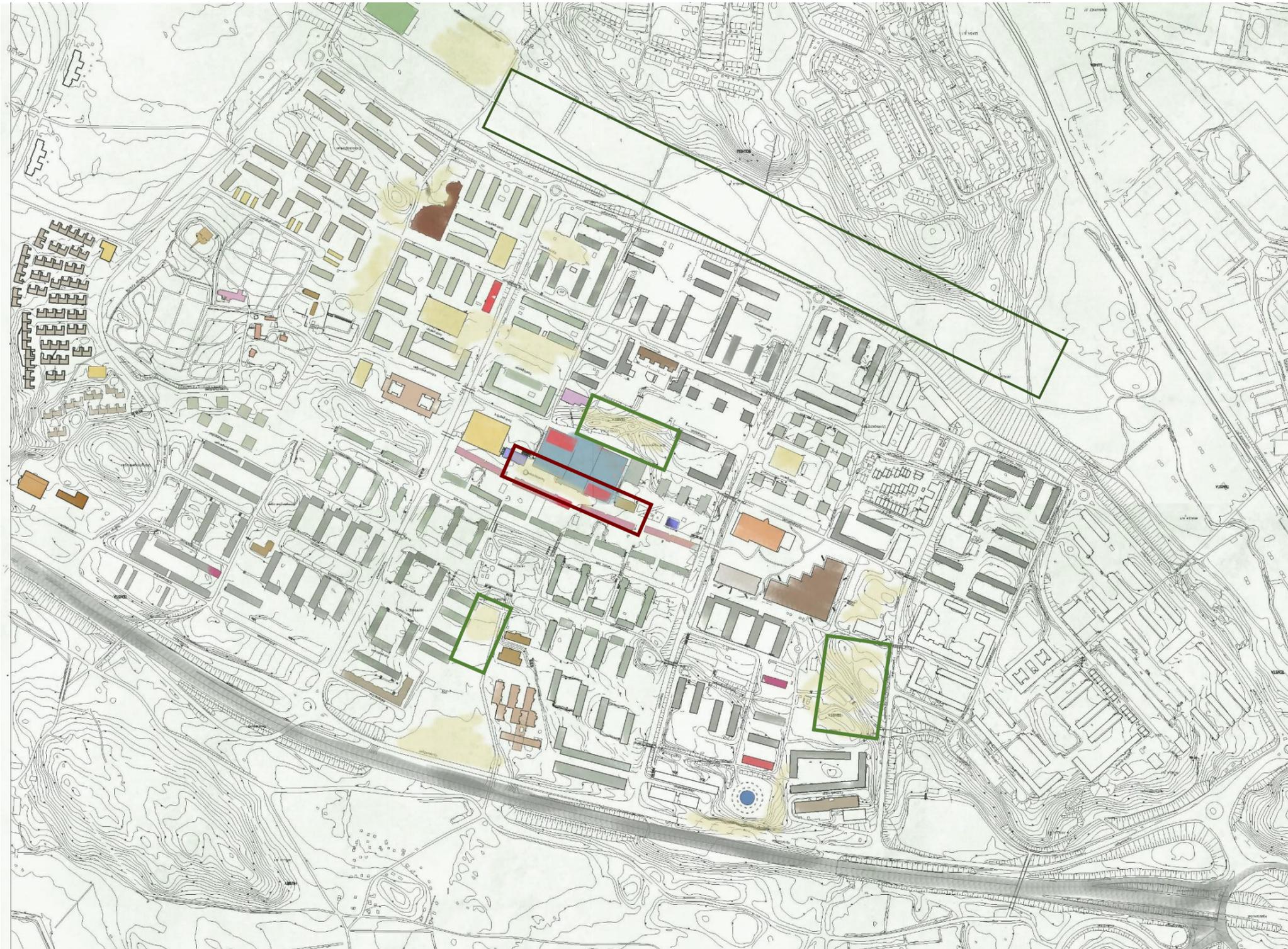


04

Layers of Analysis



Function map



Tensta is built around a center, which contains a metro station, a school, a church, mixed use facilities, shopping area housing, offices and parking lots.

- Office
- Commercial
- Metro
- Residence
- Indoor sports facility
- Primary schools
- Closed high school
- Church
- Mosque
- Library
- Water tower
- Park
- Active square
- Open green belt

Place of interest map



Life in the city is rich when the people enjoy being outside and the activities occur outside the private living areas. When there is a reason for people to be outside, there will be people outside. Supposedly these dynamic flows of people are mutual cause of the magnet in the city, given the active, public, and social space. These map showing the active potential public space in Tensta.

Considering climate condition, the place of interest in Tensta can be categorized into two types of interests related to how often it is being used due to the seasonal change. There are some places to accommodate activities regardless the weather and some other places can only use when the weather is good.

For example, Tensta centrum and indoor sports facilities in Idrottssplats are active all over the year but unfortunately rest of the place remain quite empty.

- Seasonal interest
- Everyday interest

Road network map



Highway
 Main road
 Secondary road



Tensta has very poor bike And pedestrian connection. Main road doesn't have any walk/bike path and zebra crossing. There are foot over Bridge in every 75m. After getting off from bus instead of going straight people have take stairs to go up and cross the road by taking those bridge. Which is annoying and time consuming. These roads need some better solutions. End of Tensta border line there is a highway which leads to Oslo. Underneath the highway Bridge and the surrounding areas are abandoned land. These empty lands could be use For some recreational activity.

Layers of site analysis

Green and blue area



 Lake



Tensta doesn't have any major waterbody in its territory. There is a small Lake at the end of the Tenstadalen are which works as a biodiversity area And invite different kind of species. These waterbody could be extended To idorttsplats and make the place more inviting.

Green and blue area



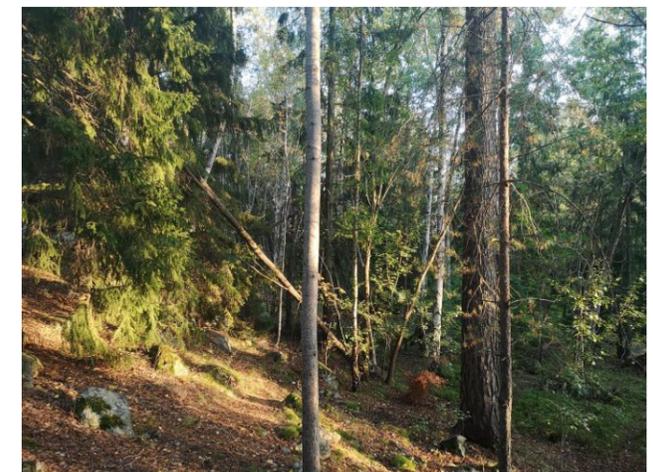
 Indoor outdoor sports facilities



Green and blue area



 Open green area



Layers of site analysis

Green and blue area



 Existing park with well equipped sports facilities with bad lighting condition.

Green and blue area

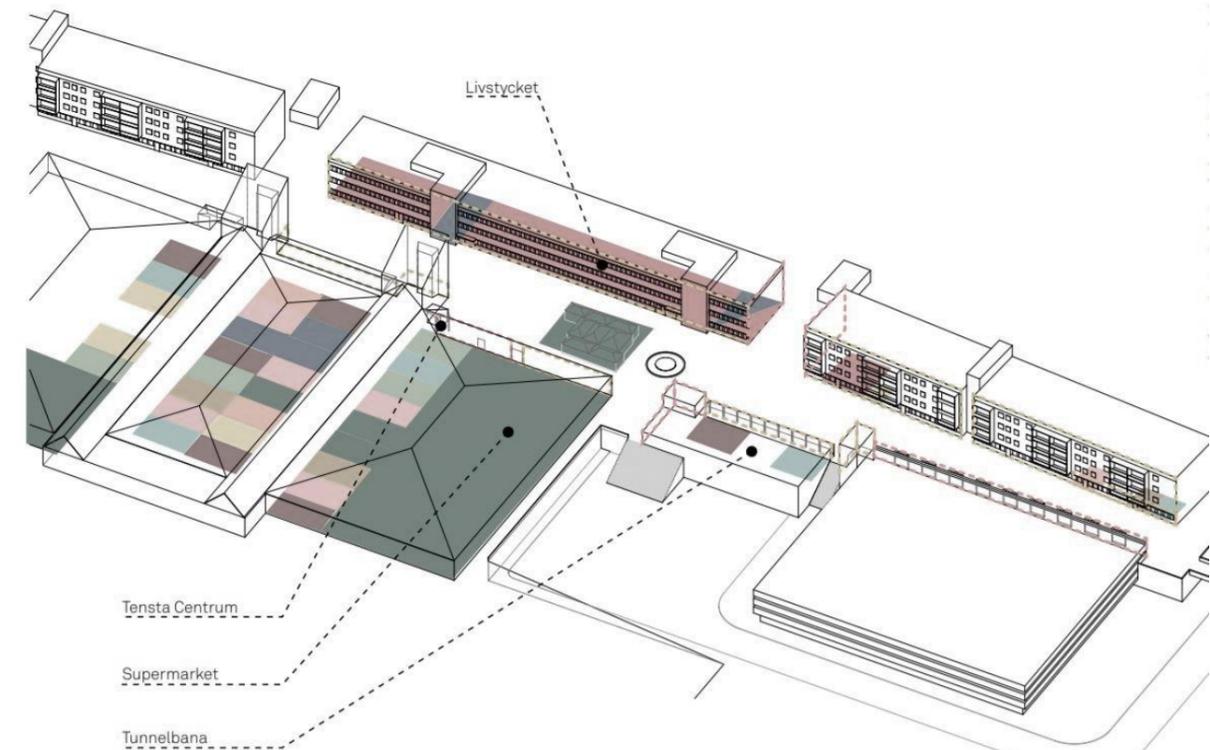


● Unused and unsafe area

○ Empty green area



Tensta centrum



Commercial Activities

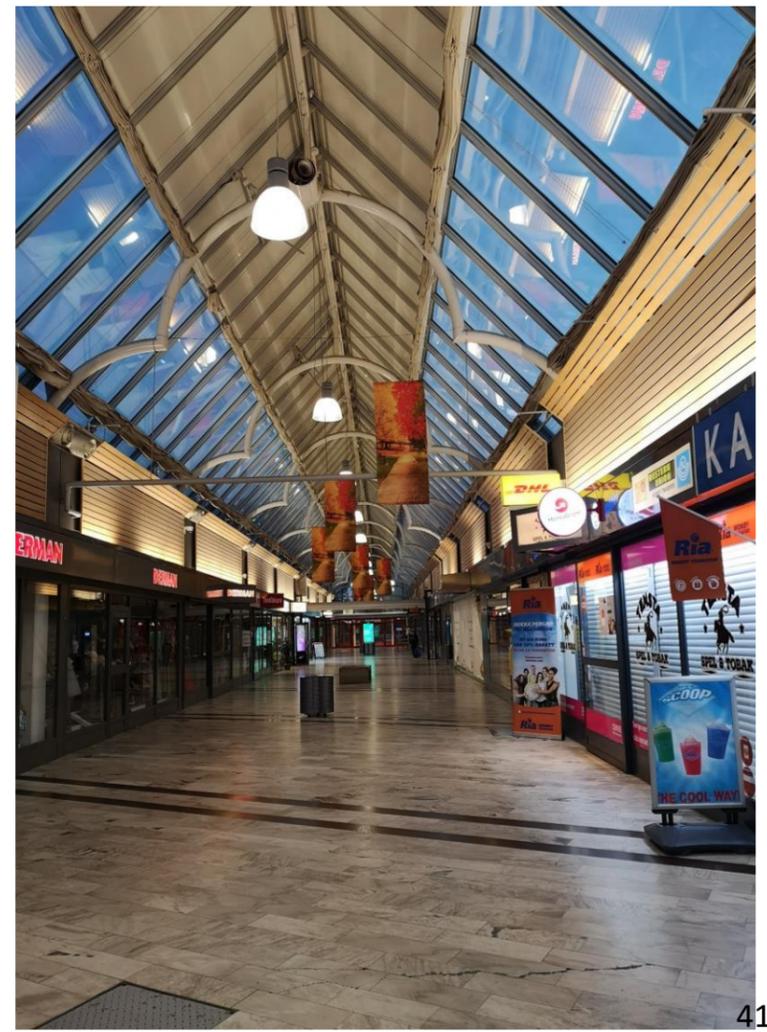
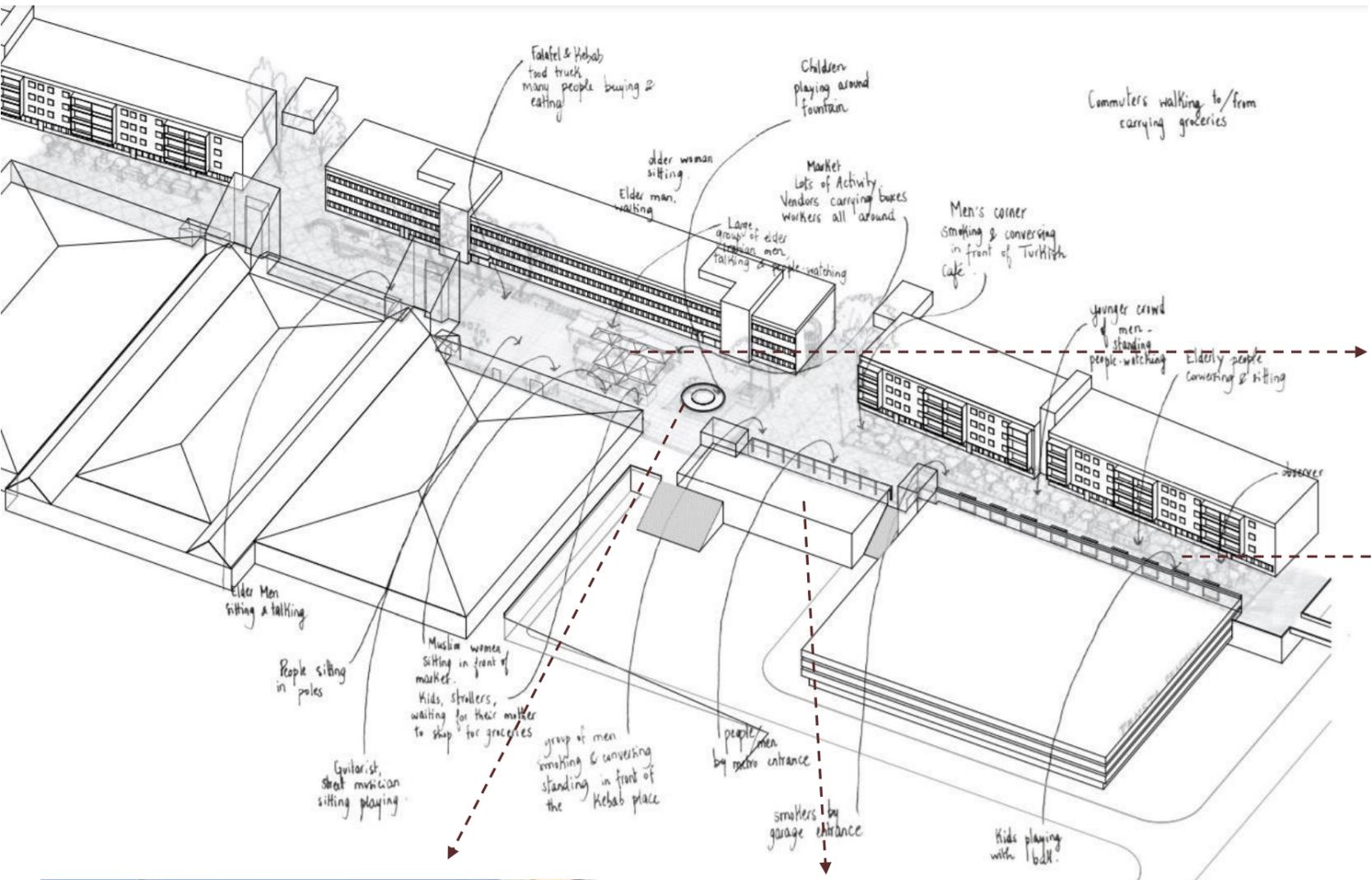
- health / pharmacy
- supermarket
- convenience
- beauty & fitness
- restaurant & coffee
- culture & religion
- clothing
- flower shop
- money transfer
- general services & IT

Façades Rating

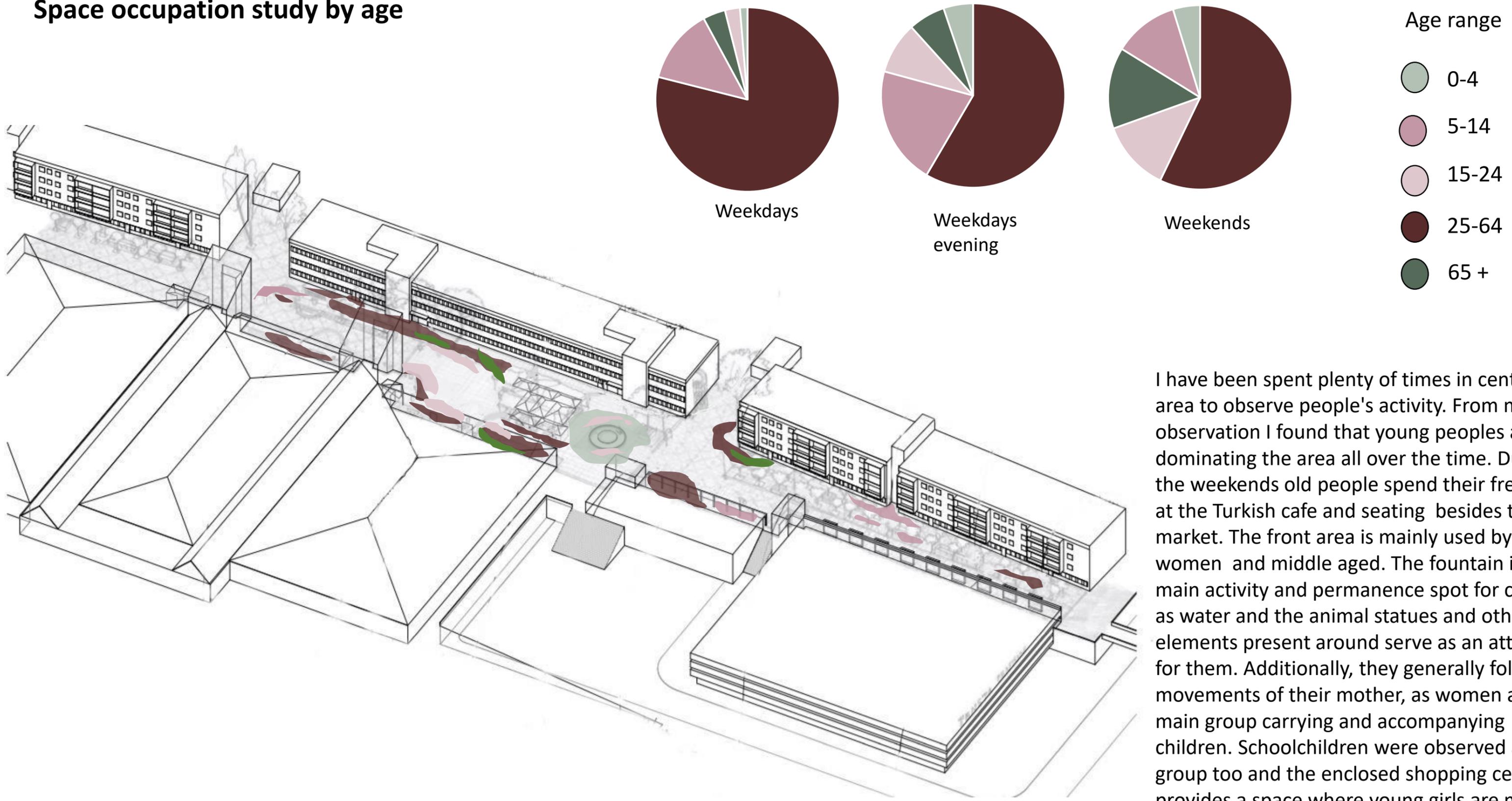
- vibrant
- active
- dull
- inactive

Tensta has a central area in relation to public transport where there are around 30 stores with different types of products but surprisingly the area doesn't have any common Swedish shops like Lidl, hemköp, ica, not even pressbyrån! They have Tensta press which is a privately own shop. Narrow linear centrum area has an open-air temporary fruits and vegetables market in the middle of the corridor which make the area cozier. During the nighttime due to lack of lightings centrum area is not inviting and safe specially for women. A large dull parking building invite people to Testa centrum and this place is known for various crime stories.

Tensta Centrum

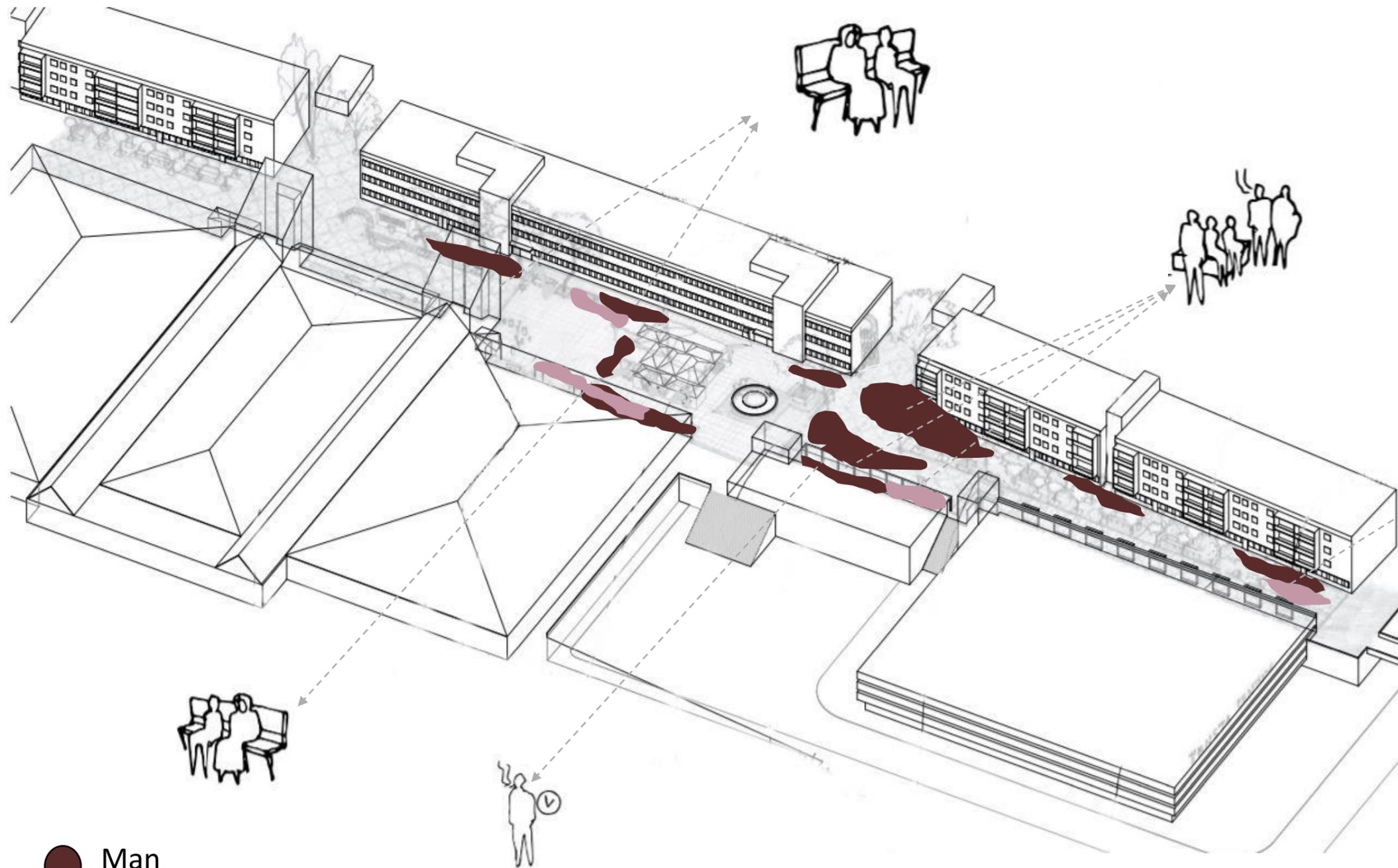


Space occupation study by age



I have been spent plenty of times in centrum area to observe people's activity. From my observation I found that young peoples are dominating the area all over the time. During the weekends old people spend their free time at the Turkish cafe and seating besides the fruit market. The front area is mainly used by old women and middle aged. The fountain is the main activity and permanence spot for children, as water and the animal statues and other elements present around serve as an attraction for them. Additionally, they generally follow the movements of their mother, as women are the main group carrying and accompanying children. Schoolchildren were observed as a group too and the enclosed shopping center provides a space where young girls are moving around.

Space occupation study by gender



The elongated and narrow character of Tensta Centrum's space makes it difficult to differentiate movement patterns related to gender. However, there is still a clear tendency: whereas both men and women use the main circulation corridor (alongside the parking lot and, again, the main commercial areas), only men consistently use and move alongside the opposite façade, which is significantly less active. There are also some strictly men presence space such as Turkish cafe, small corners and pocket spaces. Women mainly stay close to highly active borders such as the supermarket, the metro exit and at the shops.

During The night times scenario is totally different. Women are hardly found at the centrum area. Young people dominating the space that time which makes the place more unsafe. Lighting condition is very poor there and seating areas under the trees are also dark because of tree's shade.

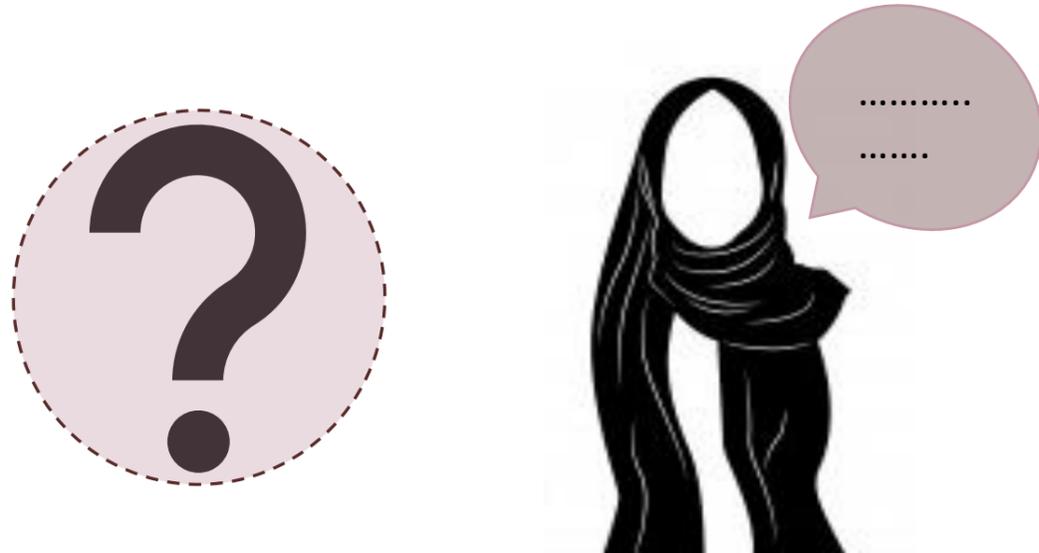
- Man
- Woman

05

Questionnaires

Interview

To achieve a board overview of the citizens opinions about Tensta, I conducted a questionnaire with 8 different questions regarding the site which influenced my further visionary and conceptual process.



- 1.How old are you?
2. Are you live in neighborhood?
- 3.What do you appreciate in this area?
4. What services you feel that is missing in Tensta?
- 5.For what reasons have you often visit Tensta centrum?
- 6.Is the Tensta centrum area is inviting?
- 7.Would you visit the area more often if you knew about interesting events?
- 8.Do you have any idea or suggestions that you would like to see in the Tensta development plan ?

The interviews were made to start up a discussion with local people to get closer to the current situation in Tensta. They talked, shared their stories, suggested their desires and gave feedback.

Took the interviews in different days of week and in the weekend to grab all type of people's opinion: Students, workers, families.

More females are participated than man. Tried to take interviews of all age group. Participants were mainly 11-65 age group. Because of language barrier issue, five different languages have been used to communicate with the local people.

A site map have been showed them to mark the place where they feel safer and more unsafe.

Interviewed Area



● Interview took place

5Language

Arabic
Swedish
Bangla
Urdu
English

Participant's age

11-65

Participants number

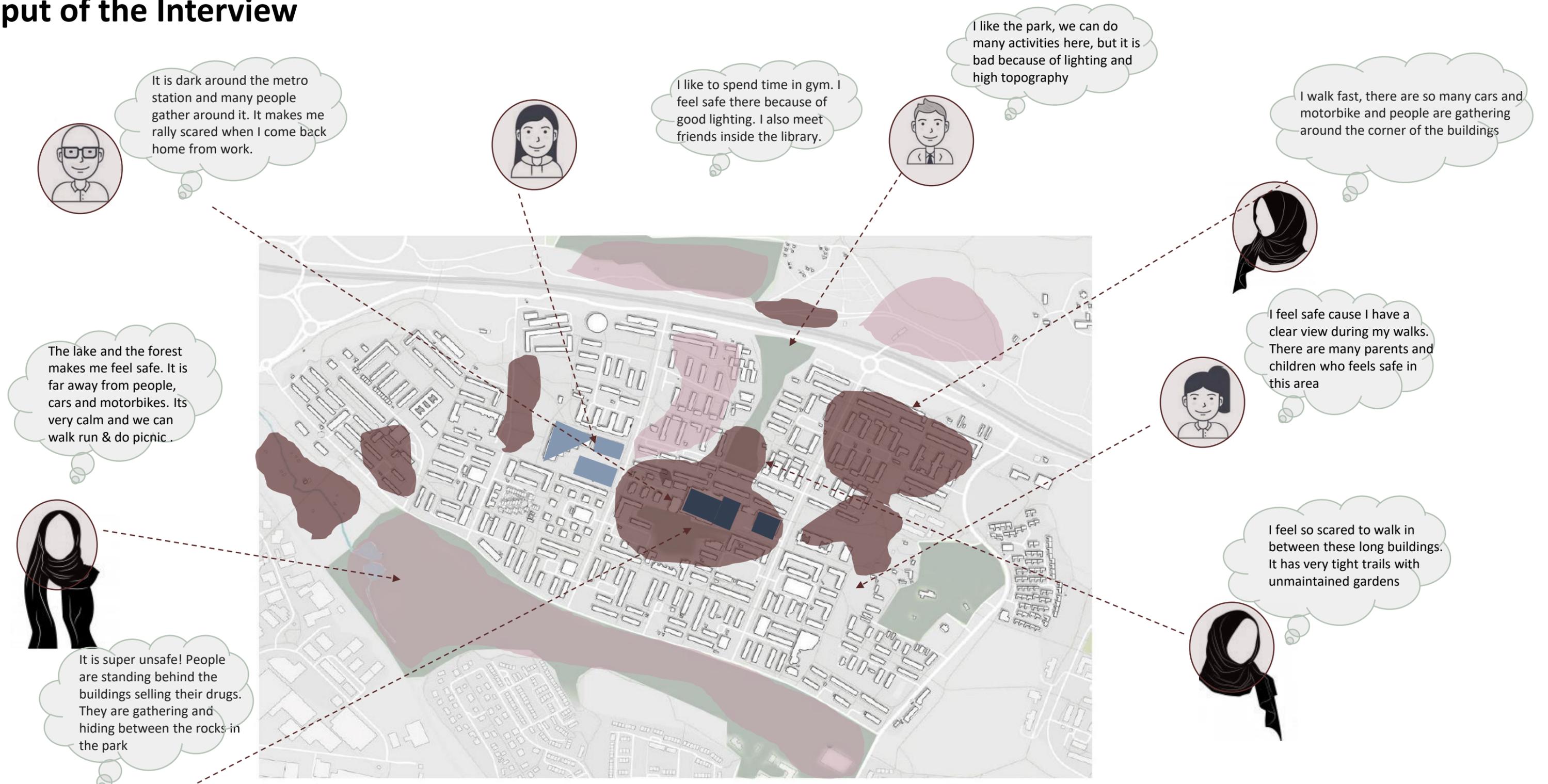
30

Male 10

Female 15

Children 5

Output of the Interview



○ Safe area ● Unsafe area ● Unsafe building ● safe building

Suggestions from the interview



I started noticing trends in drugs and unsafety in and around Tensta due to activities being taken away from youths. They have no place to spend time because schools are being taken away from them.



I Meet friends outside of Tensta because there are no good meeting places in Tensta. People choose Kista instead of Tensta because of the lack of places to meet.



From the entrance there are 5 different escape routes which means that the police have no way of chasing the criminals because they can run in any direction



There are too few places open with activities for children and youths and too few areas for organizations to organize events. There is also a need for meeting places during both day and night. Large groups standing in the area to block paths for other citizens is a big safety issue.



Need to organize more events in Tensta, people need to come here to see that it's not as bad as people say. Municipality needs to show us that they care by contributes to organize more events in Tensta.



Tensta has different topographies, tunnels and bridges which is mostly seen as a dark unsafe space. These areas requires more attention.

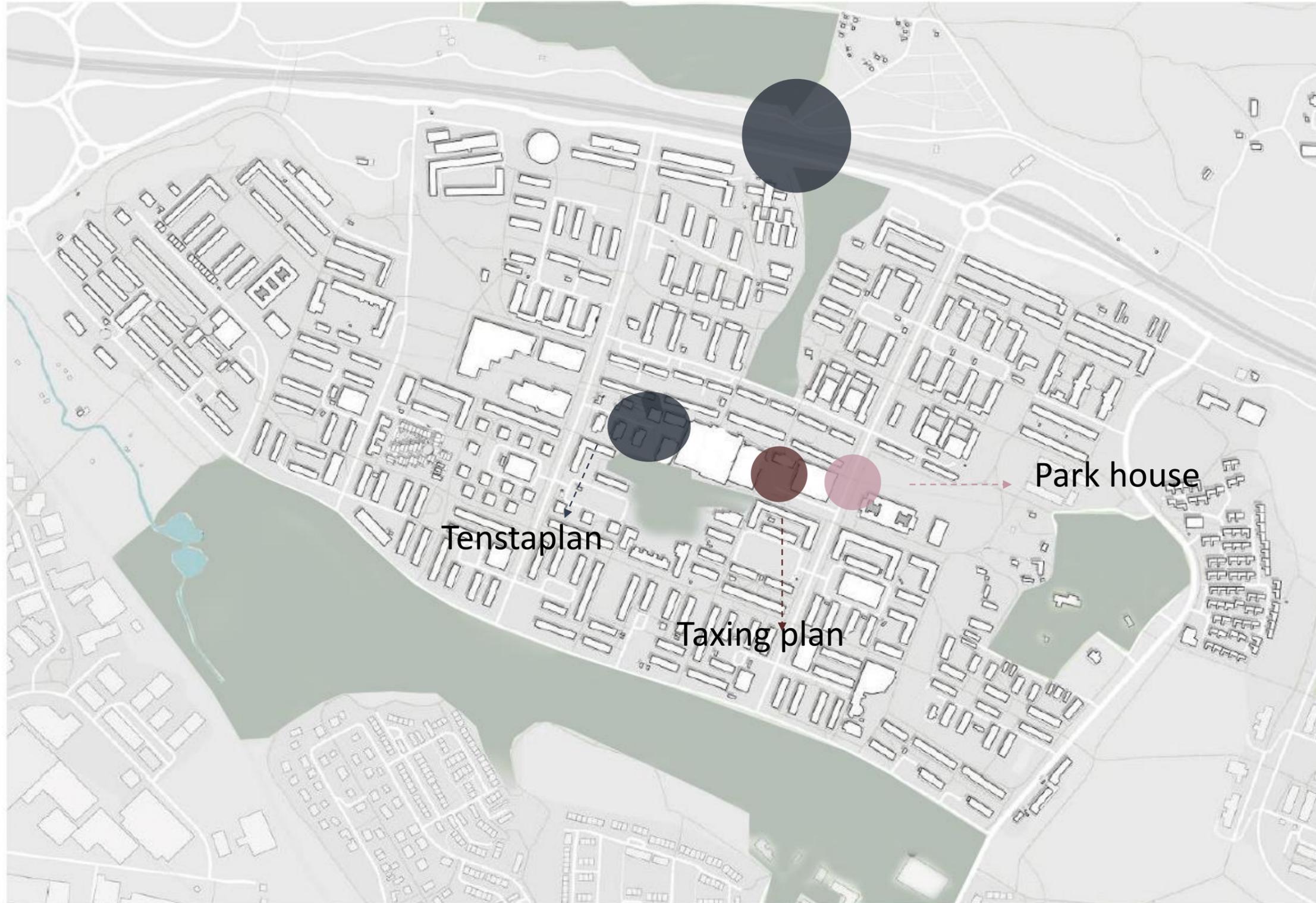


Shootings and other horrific events also creates a problem in Tensta because it makes people scared to enter the public space and that hurts restaurants, shops and other business.



The police are sent to Tensta and they often come many at a time and barely serves any purpose. Instead, it would be better to have localized police officers that work with the community and learn from the community by trying to understand the people.

Challenging area



Based on the interviews and my observation several elements have been highlighted in this project which represent the situations that make people feel unsafe in Tensta. These map showing the most challenging area in Tensta which needs to be improvised. Tenstaplan, taxingplan, unused area and Parkhouse are the major concern areas.

Unsafe elements



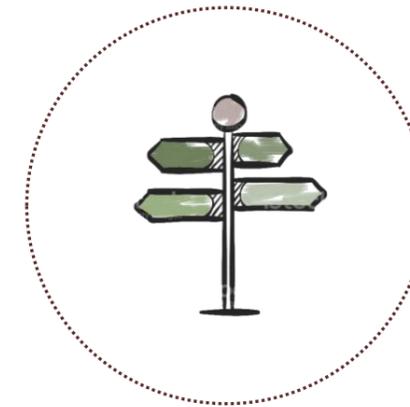
Poor lighting

High poles with spot lights makes Citizens feel that they are on display rather than making them feel invited to the area.



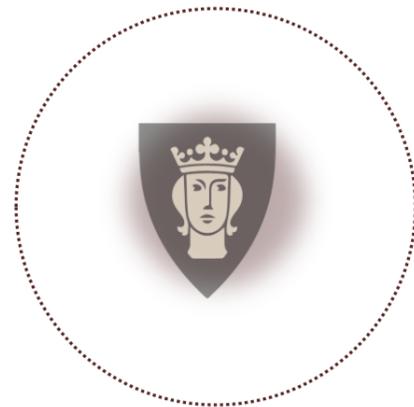
Bushes

Bushes in corner of the pedestrian way are blocking the view and hinders lighting from lamp posts.this makes it an unsafe area



Street sign

sign to lead the people which road is going to which direction is missing specially in green areas.



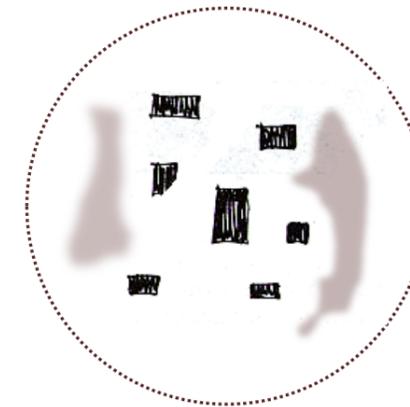
Public service

Many public services moved away from Tensta,even if people in tensta need it.ex.public dentist,employmentoffice,social service office



Youth

All previous conditions lead to young people going out on the streets,to sell drugs



Negative corners

Between the buildings there are some unmaintained negative space which makes it unpleasant to walk through

Peoples wish or the missing elements



Indoor meeting place
For youth and kids



Indoor activity place old



Outdoor public space
For everyone



Social public services
For ex health care, cleaning



High school is missing



Co working space
offices



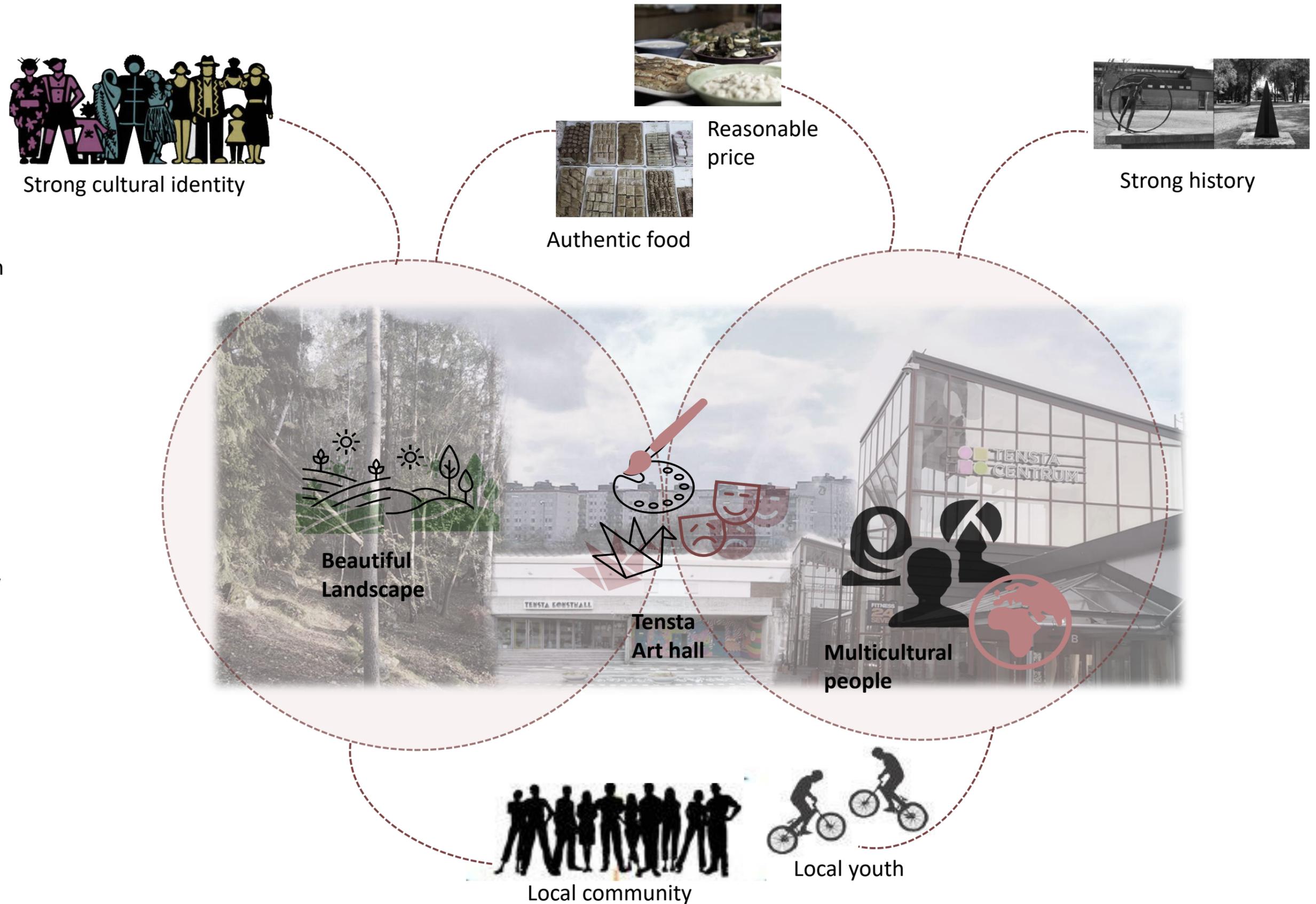
Outdoor-indoor Events



Outdoor café and restaurants

Positivity diagram

Tensta has lots of potential elements which will act as a catalyzed to improving its current situations. Tensta Art hall is very well know place in stockholm which invites different background of people in Tensta. Multicultural people offers a unique cultural identity which makes the place differ from rest of the city. They have really good authentic arab food, Punjab masala restaurant beside Tensta centrum is also very popular and always been crowded. Food price is also very reasonable here compare to other municipality area. They have strong history of farming that could be revitalized again to improve the socio-economic condition of the area. Local communality shared a very strong bond. Which could help to transform the place. Last but not the list they have beautiful landscape to work and play.



06

Vission & Strategy



Vision

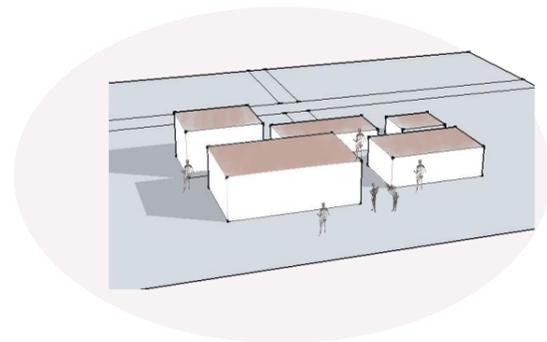
Vision is to improve the quality of life, make the area more attractive, livable and safe. Aim is to Link the different spaces in Tensta together which will make network of various active programs which keep the area livable during daytime and even the evening.

My Dream is to walking around the area and see from every corner people are engaging in conversation, walking outside safely and enjoying the weather. The atmosphere will be easy, space will be flow together and I will be not feeling confused to where I will suppose to take my next turn!

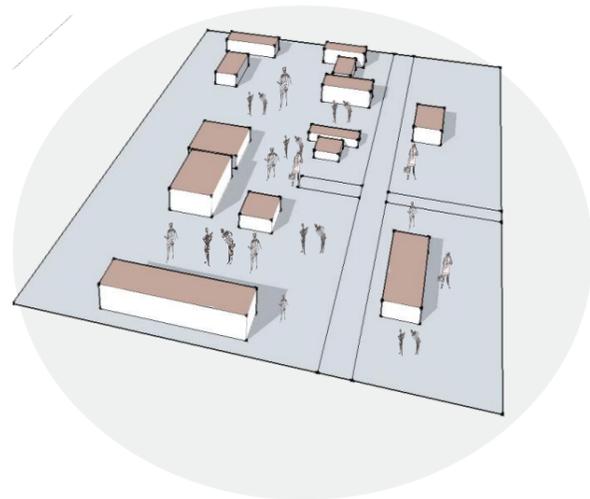


Strategies

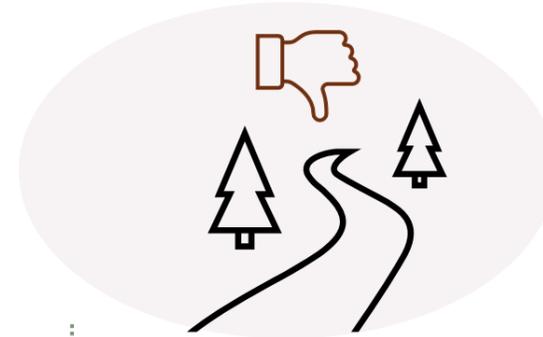
In the design process, I made out four strategies that were my guidance in finding spatial solutions. The keywords were made by observing the existing structures and how the public and private space behaves around them. By these strategies, I have constructed a base on how to plan new into the existing.



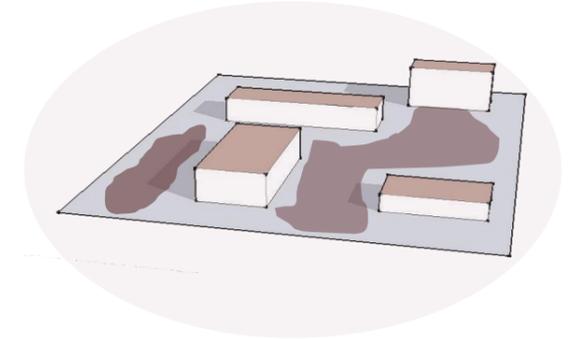
~~Less option~~
Creating more options



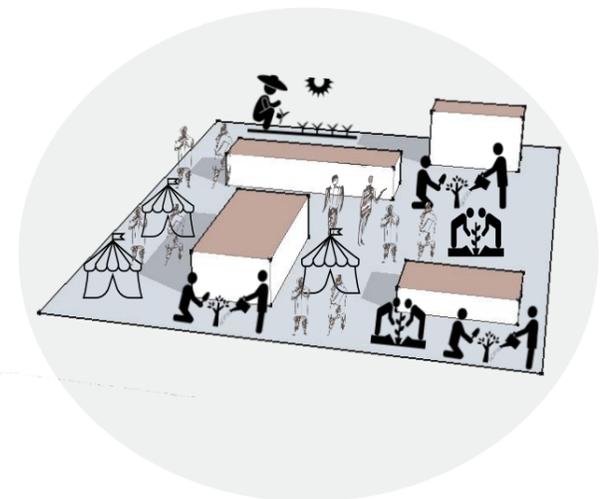
~~Unexploited Topography~~
Integrate the topography



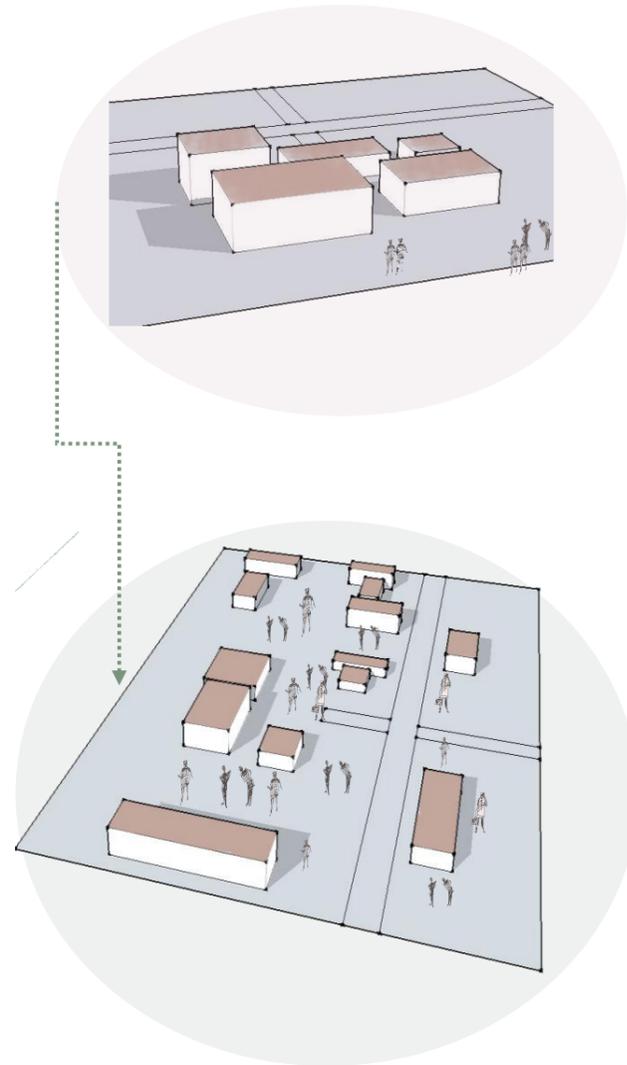
~~Poor connection~~
Improve connection & intersections



~~Unmaintained space~~
Activating the unused space



First strategy Creating more options



Having all the stores in one building
Leaves the rest of Tensta empty and
gives the feeling of emptiness in open
space.

By creating more options with
considerations of how they work in space
and time provides more livability to the area
and make people feel safe because they do
not need to be in one place all the time.



Second strategy

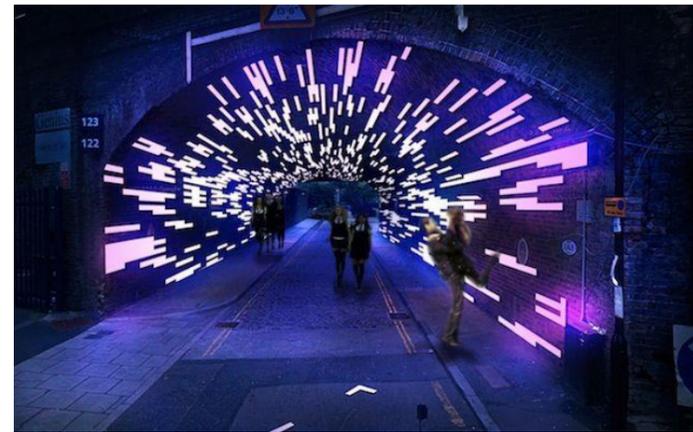
Activating the unused space



 Tight and dark tunnels



By introducing some functions underneath the over bridge could make the place inviting and safe.



One existing tunnel has Beautiful art installation which could be an inspiration to improve other tunnels. Also, some illusion lighting could be added to make these dark unsafe area safer and inviting.



Second strategy

Activating the unused space



Wide unmaintained space between building makes people avoid walking through even though it is faster to their destination.

The close facades with no functions or entrance make people avoid This path even if there is good lighting.

Some Light activity, could be presented next to the façade to make long buildings less unsafe and more livable.

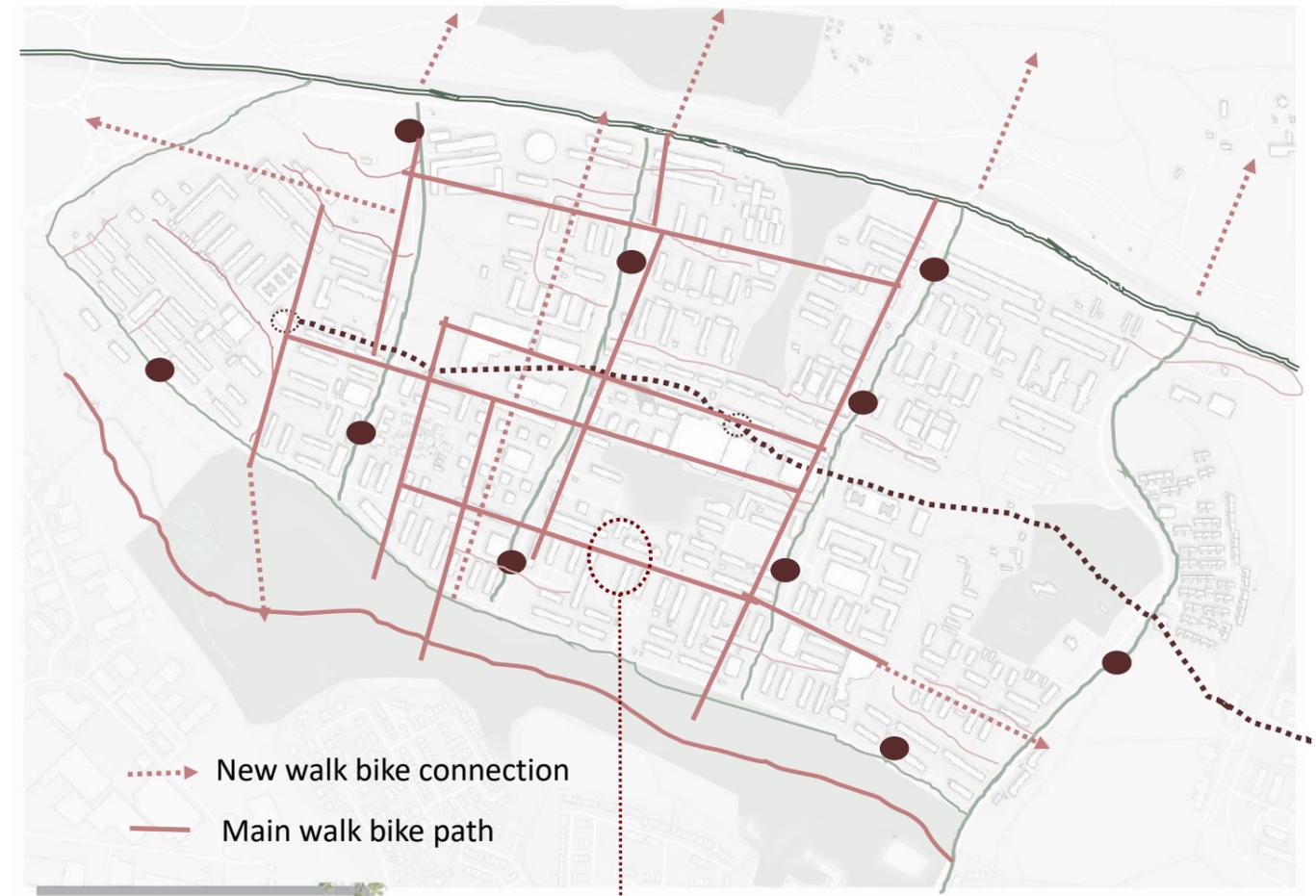


Third strategy

Improve connection & intersections



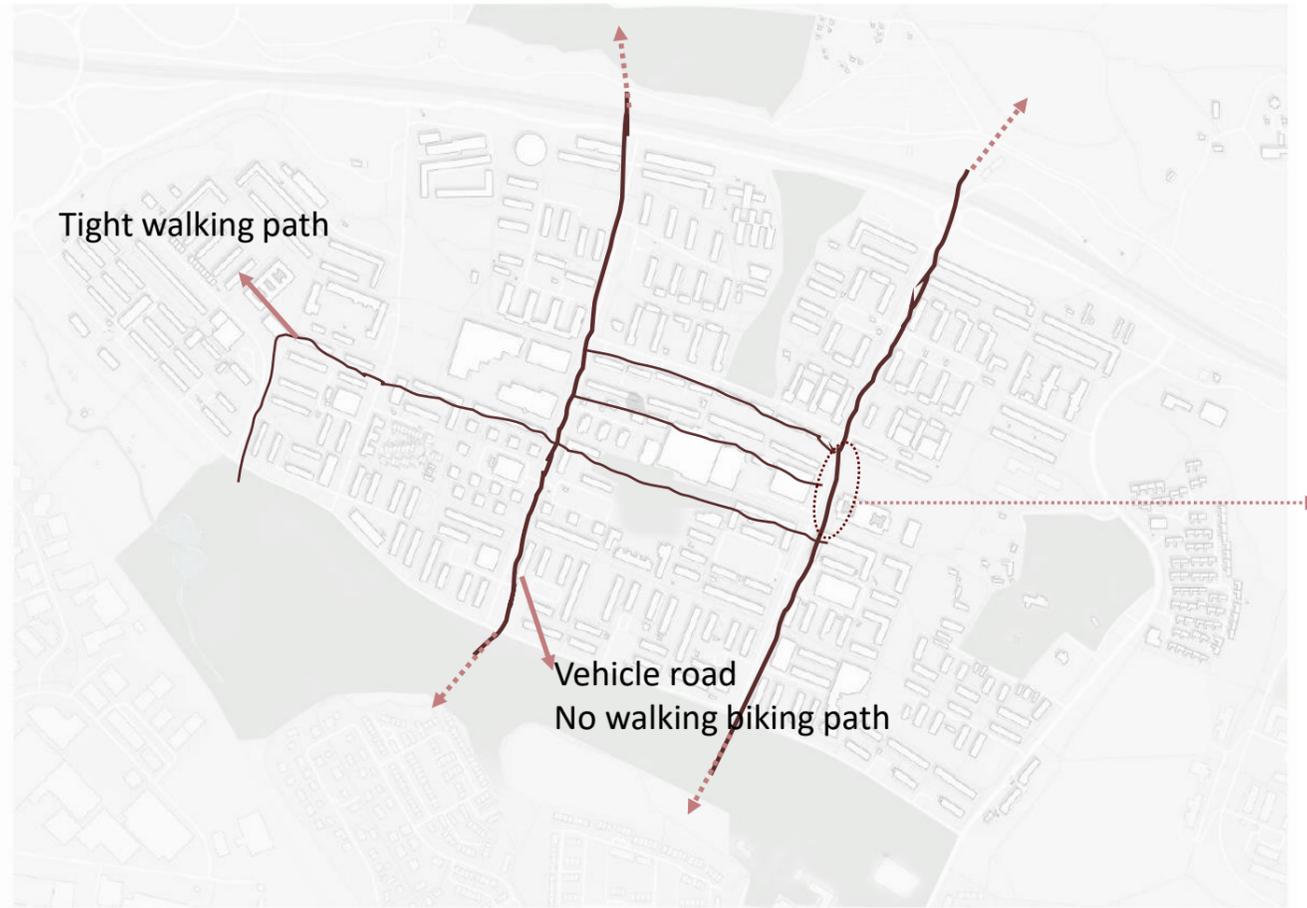
Narrow road



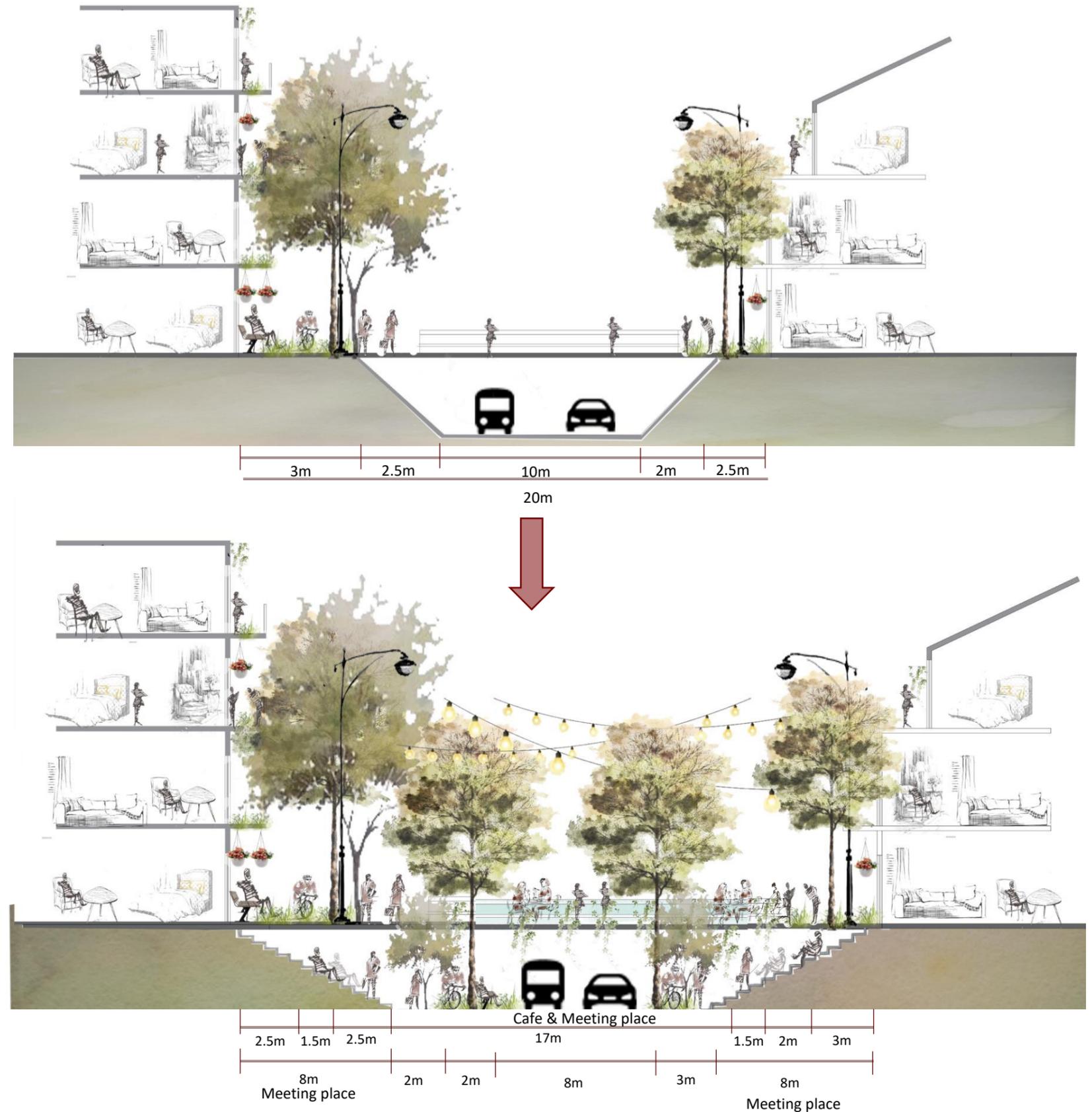
Secondary road

Third strategy

Improve connection & intersections

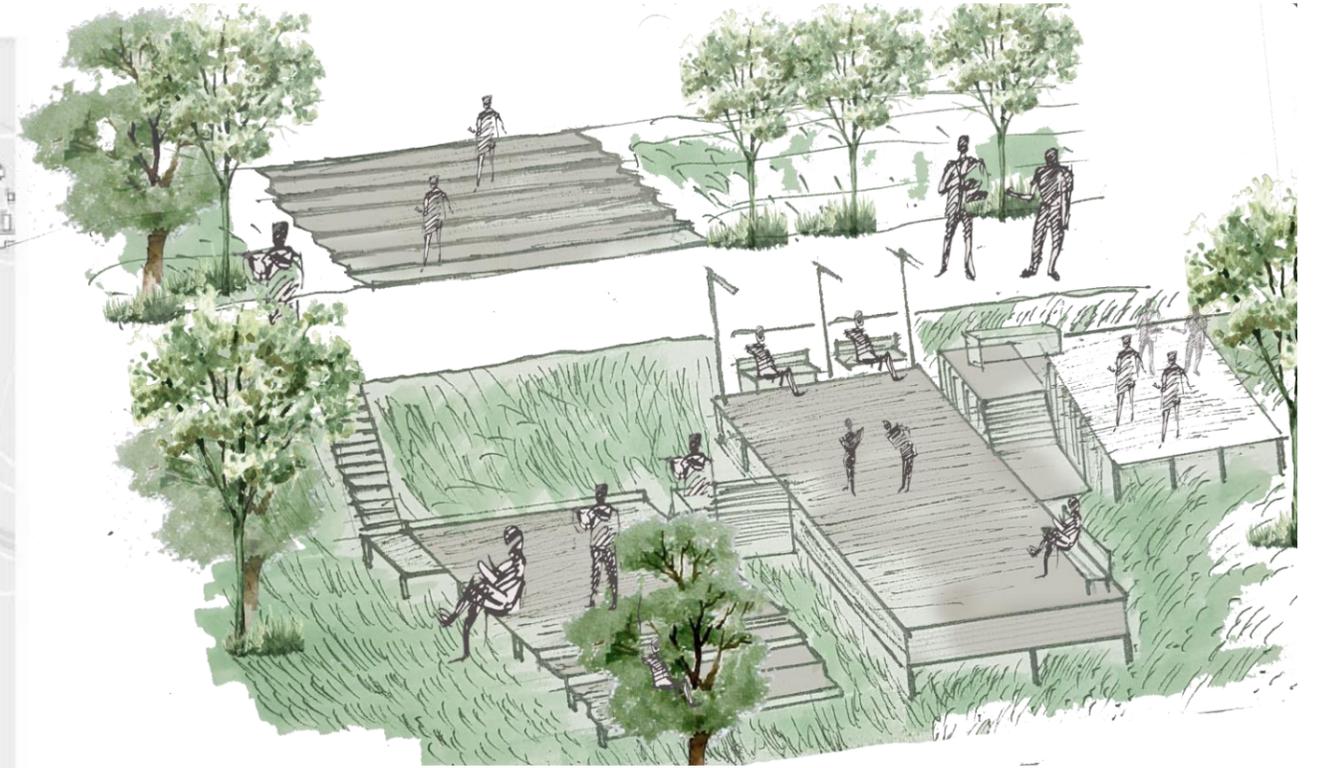


Existing main road doesn't have good walk and bike connection which is why to improve the connection, New masterplan Creates room for pedestrian walkway and cycle path side by main road. Transforming the bridges to a meeting place by putting some seating options and added glass railing to have a better view. Also integrating the slops with public realm.



Fourth strategy

Integrate the topography

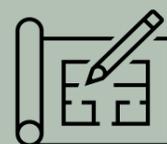


Topography is a big barrier in between two areas in some places. It isolates completely the functions from each other.

Re shape the topography and integrating the area with rest of the park and make it accessible to people and it could be use as a green and white stage.

07

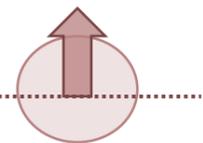
Master Plan



Master Plan

After concluding the analysis and finding a vision and strategies for the Tensta, I continued evaluating the existing built structures on site and decided on buildings and green structures to keep. After this evaluation process, I once again analyzed the site and the spaces that have been created, by adding some new connections. I developed a new masterplan with tree new green spine which connected through different kind of public functions.

-  Existing building
-  Proposed functions
-  Additional functions
-  Farming area
-  Extended waterbody
-  Indoor flower garden
-  Park
-  Active square



Winter flower garden & Active square

Inviting Tensta centrum

Tensta life park

Participatory horticulture

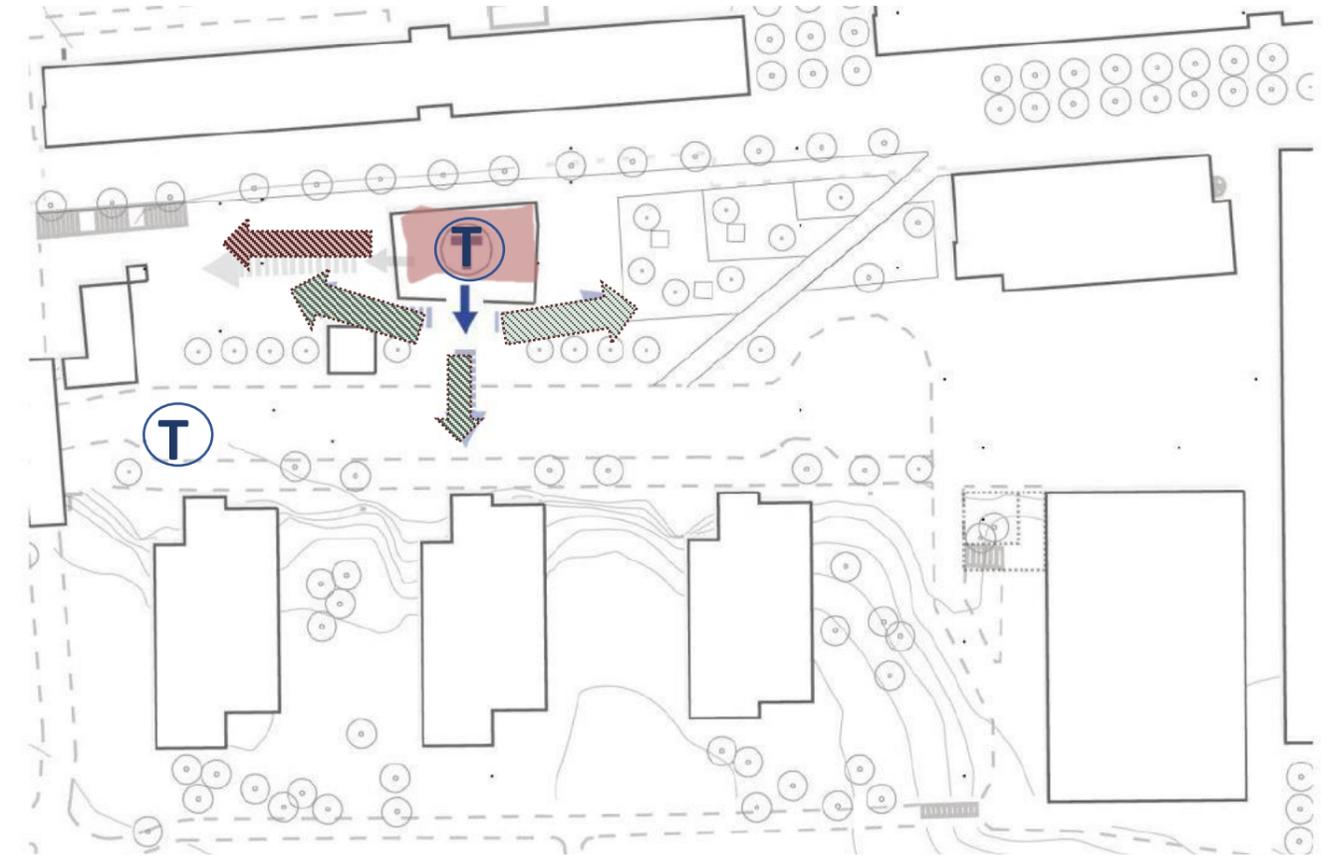
07

Detail Plan & sections



Design proposal for Tensta centrum

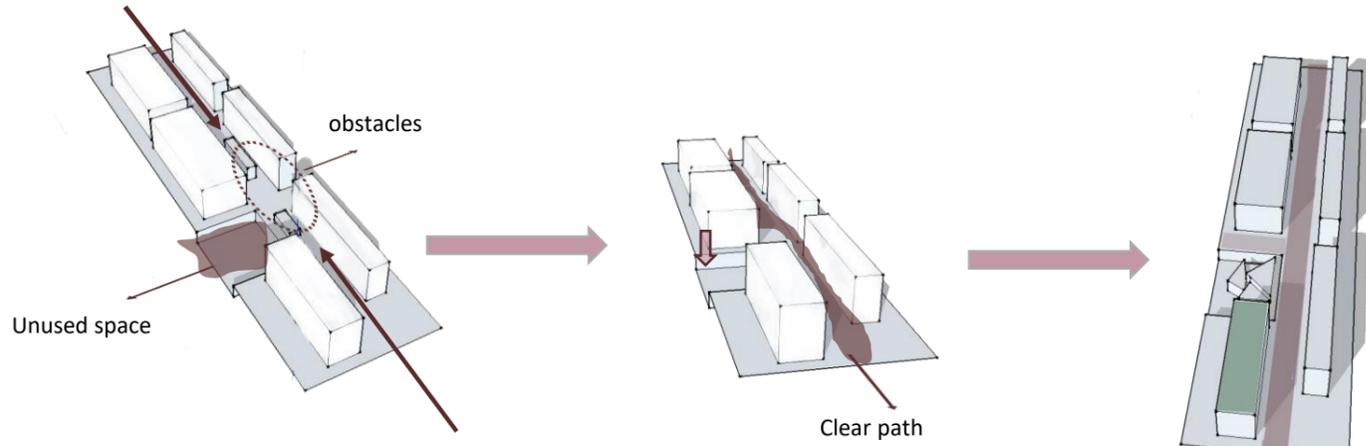
Phase 1



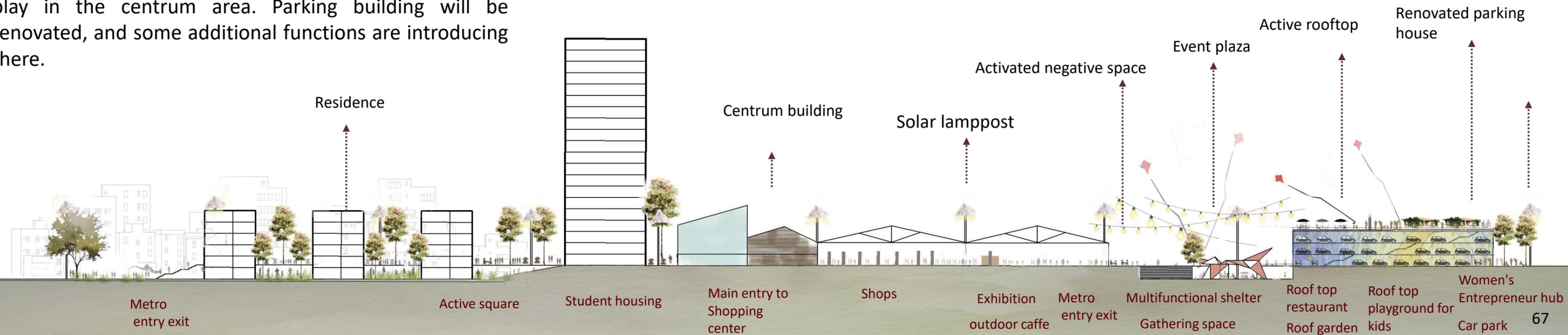
Changing the entrance of the metro station towards the middle of the square. Red arrow showing the existing entry and green arrow showing the new.

Entrance of the metro station has been changed because it becomes a barrier. The entrance to the building is towards one half of the square, while the other half becomes the back side of Tenstaplan and it is the connection to Tenstagången. The entrance of the metro station strategically changed to provide access to the whole square and making it into one big square instead of two. Also facing the main entrance towards the middle of the space instead of to the left area which is narrow and uninviting.

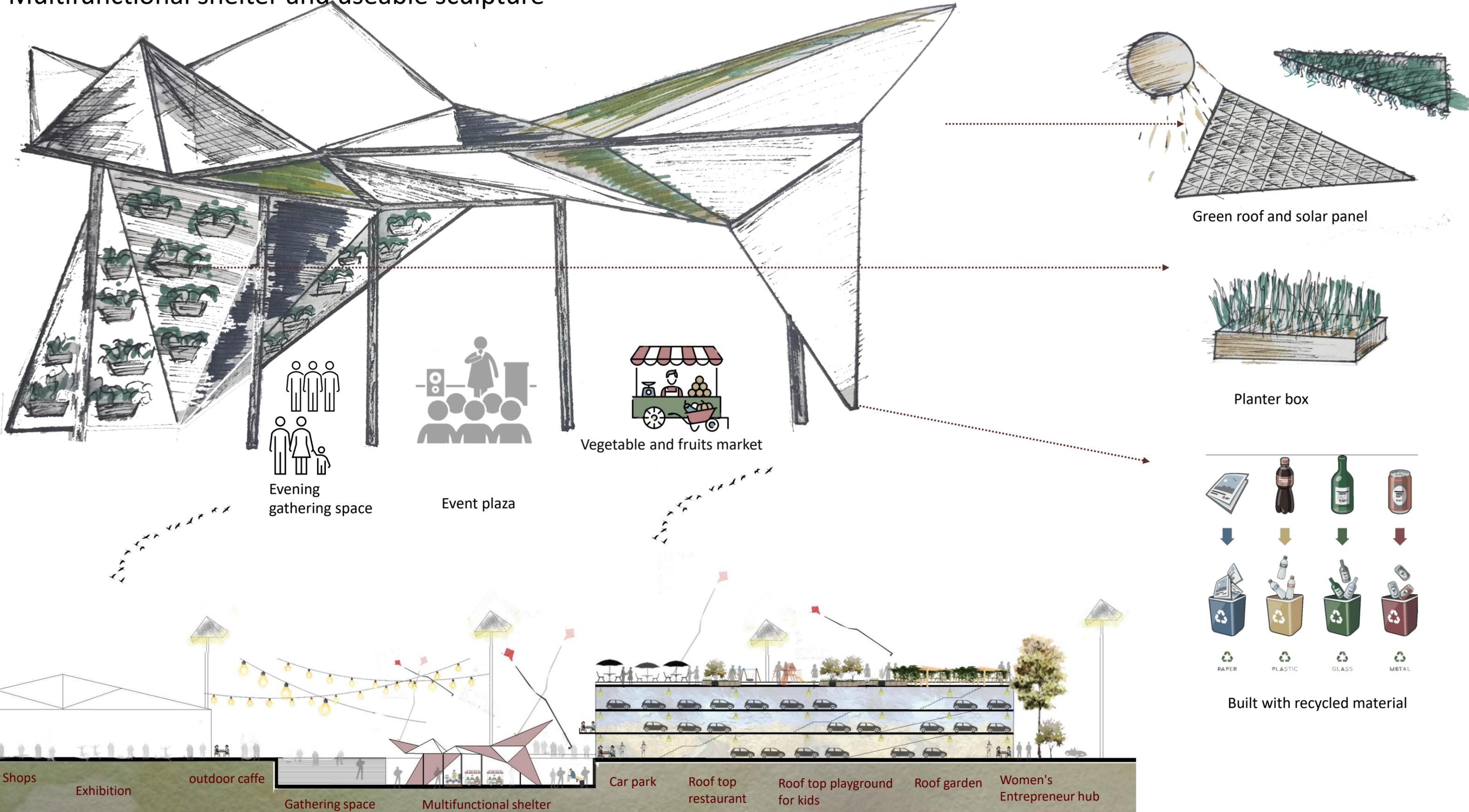
Tensta centrum



In new proposed plan open air fruits market shifted to the unused place in-between the parking house and Måtvarlden. Designed new shelter which works both as sculpture and could be used for multifunction space. During the daytime fruit market will be set under this shelter and In evening it would be transfer to a hangout place. Also, these Would be known as event plaza. It will make with recycling materials and solar roof. Introduce some new restaurant and water functions for children to play in the centrum area. Parking building will be renovated, and some additional functions are introducing there.



Multifunctional shelter and useable sculpture

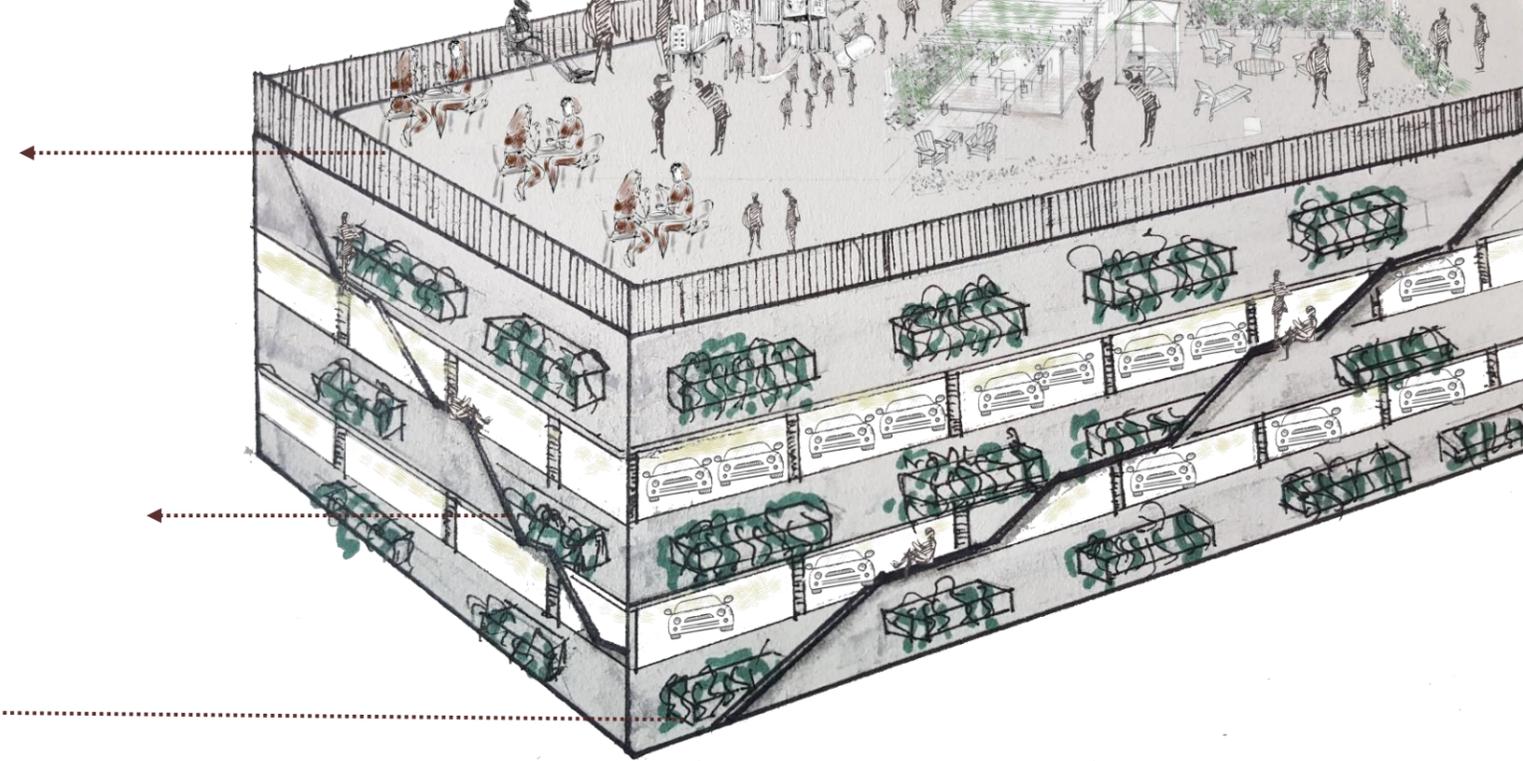
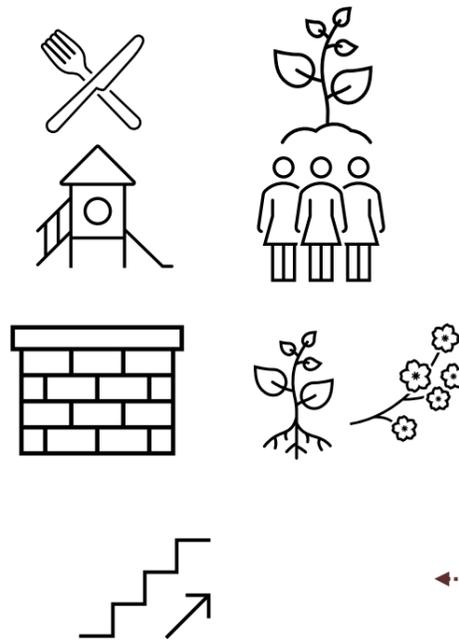


Renovating the Parking building

Roof top gardening, private place for women, children play zone and rooftop hangout place

Install planter box and climbing tree on outer facade

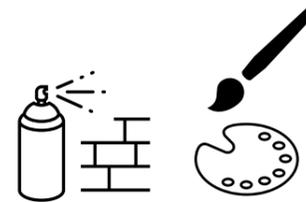
Add outer stair and use landing space as a gathering place



Proposed condition



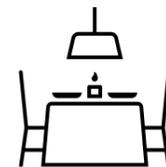
Existing condition



Art installation work for inner facade



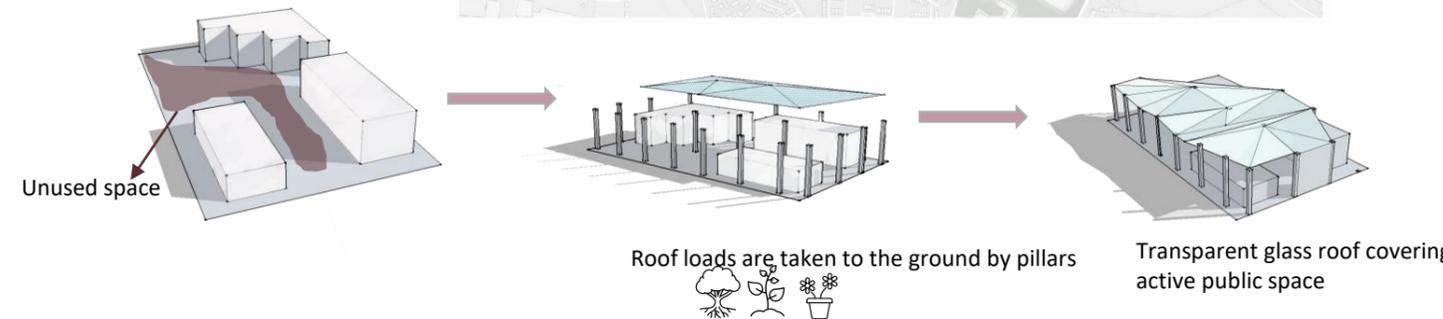
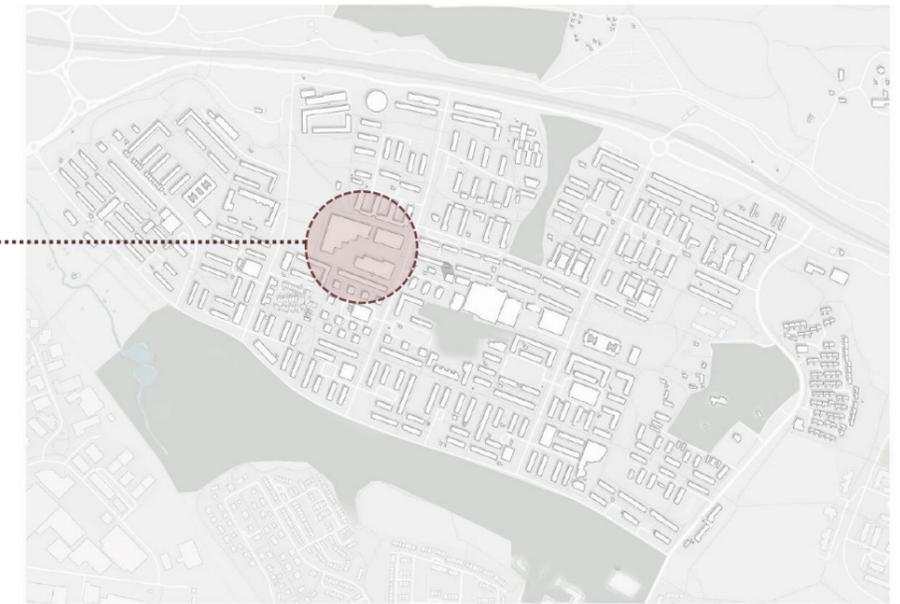
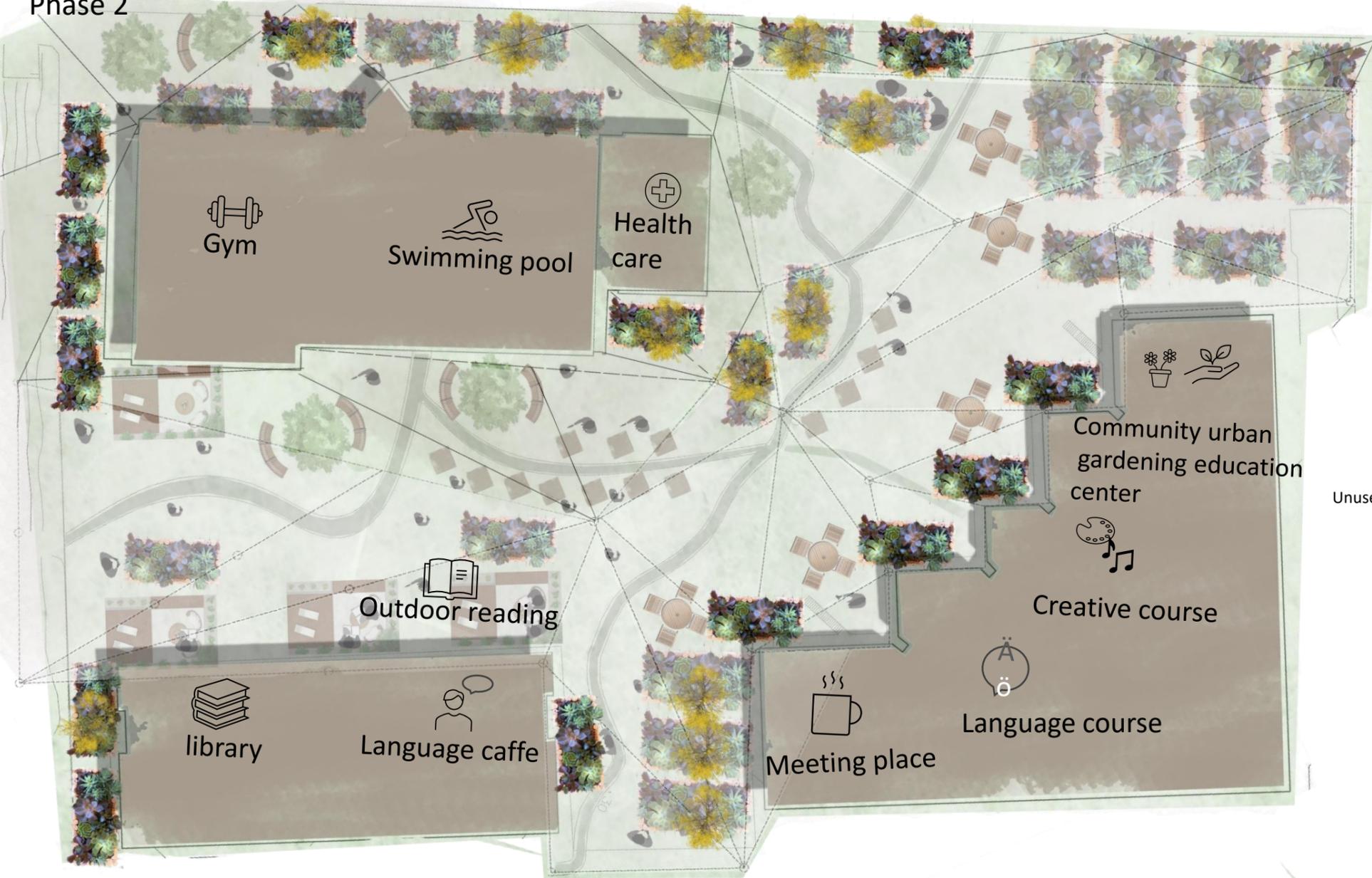
Improve interior lighting condition



Part of ground floor use as restaurant

Winter flower garden and indoor public recreational space

Phase 2



In this unused courtyard place I proposed indoor flower garden. This place has several functions of semi-indoor- outdoor public spaces. the various activities in the surrounding are keeping the area active during daytime and evening. which provides a safe and livable feeling for all people. Creates outdoor reading area for library building and propose various functions in closed gymnasium building.

Collect rainwater and use it for plantation

Using the pillar as lamppost to light up The winter flower garden

Different height of the roof would create a feeling of a realistic nature area





Phase 3

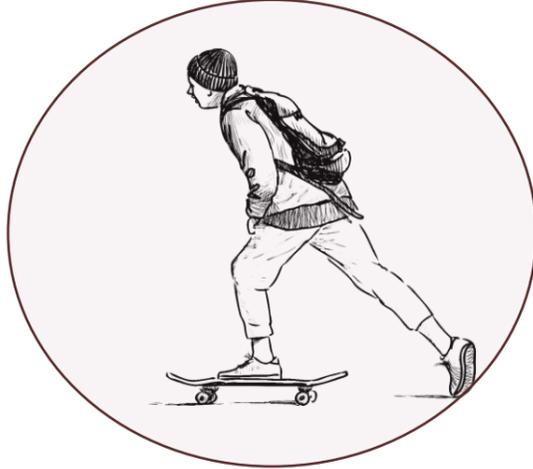


Park for all

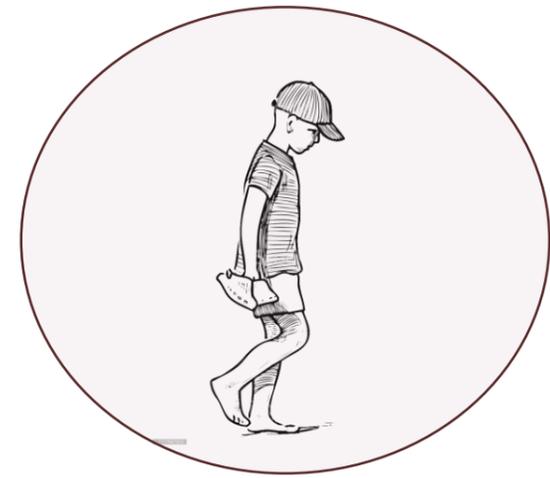
I have divided this linear green area into three parts. 1st part for teenagers with sports facilities according to their age group and a skate park. Second part for kids with playground and the third part for young people with football, basketball and open air gym facilities.

Participatory Horticulture to

create a strong sense of community in the area. Currently it's quite separated and disconnected. The aim is to bring children and adults closer to the topics of ecology, sustainability and healthy nutrition.



Teenager



Kids



young



The second type will be included within the blocks and in the negative space, aiming to create different activities within the block, create more space for urban farming and helping to promote healthy lifestyle.

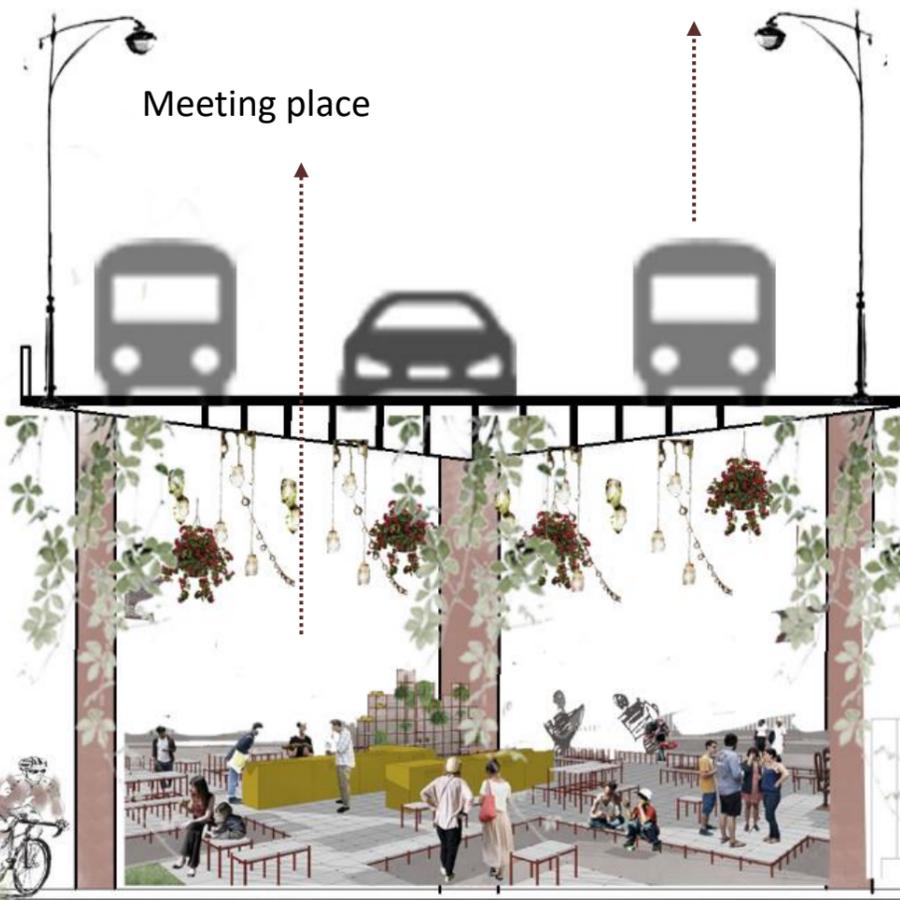


The first type of the urban farming will be included within the public areas. So, it can gather people from different blocks and different backgrounds, aiming for better social interacting and improve the sense of belonging to the area. Also improve the economy.

Urban farming area

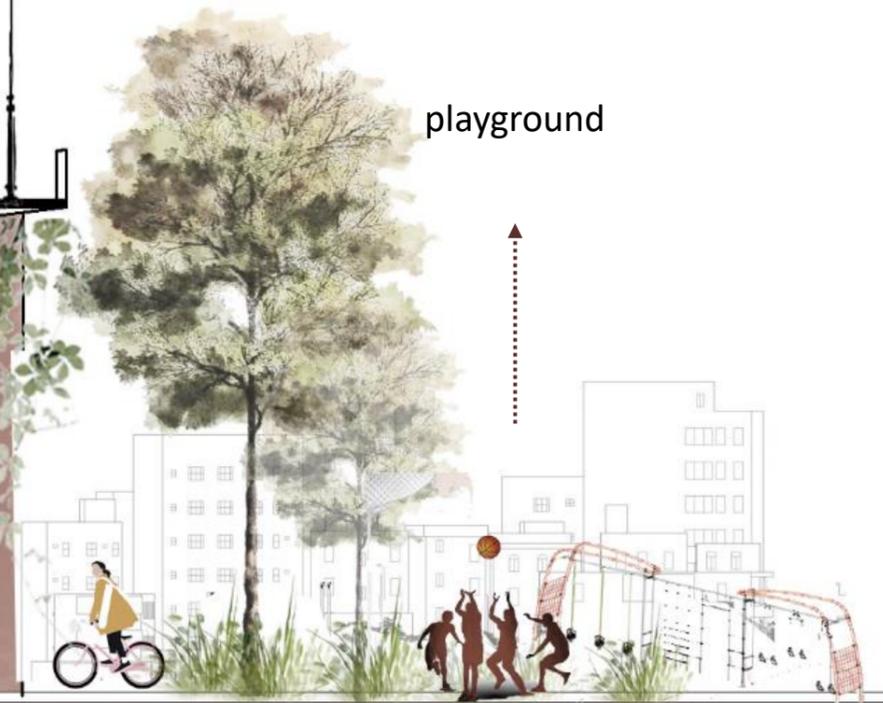


Highway



Meeting place

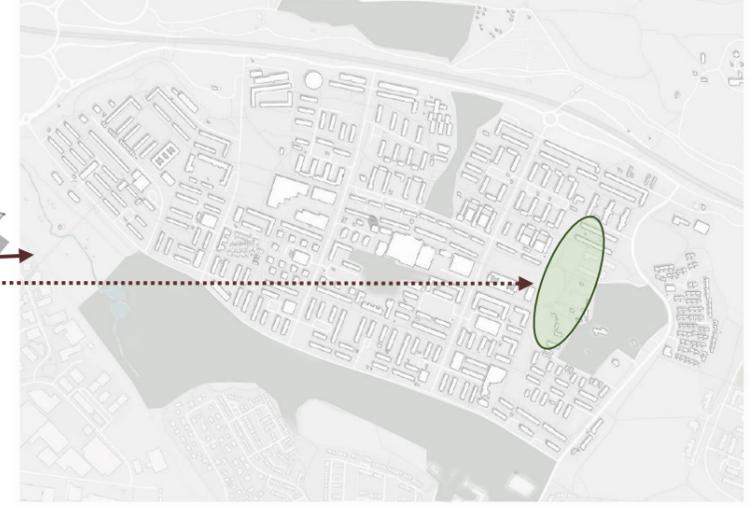
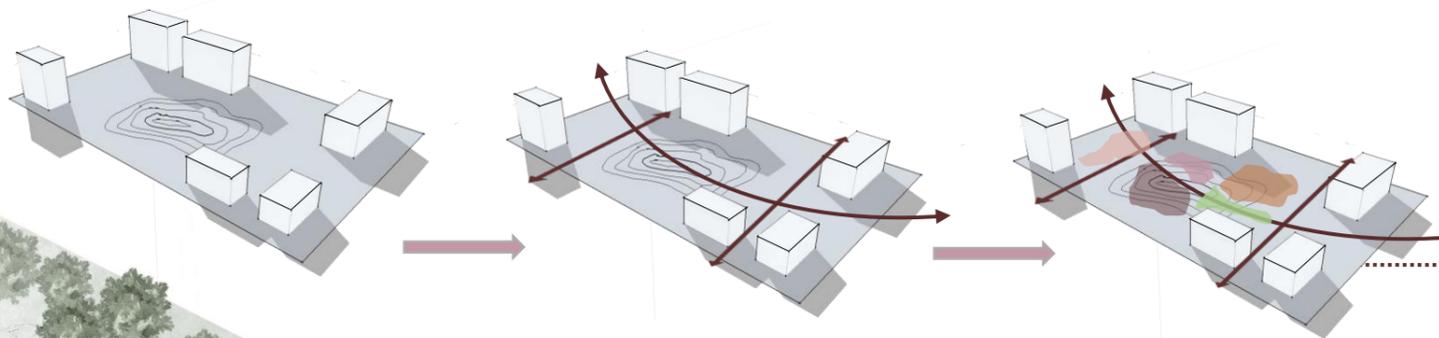
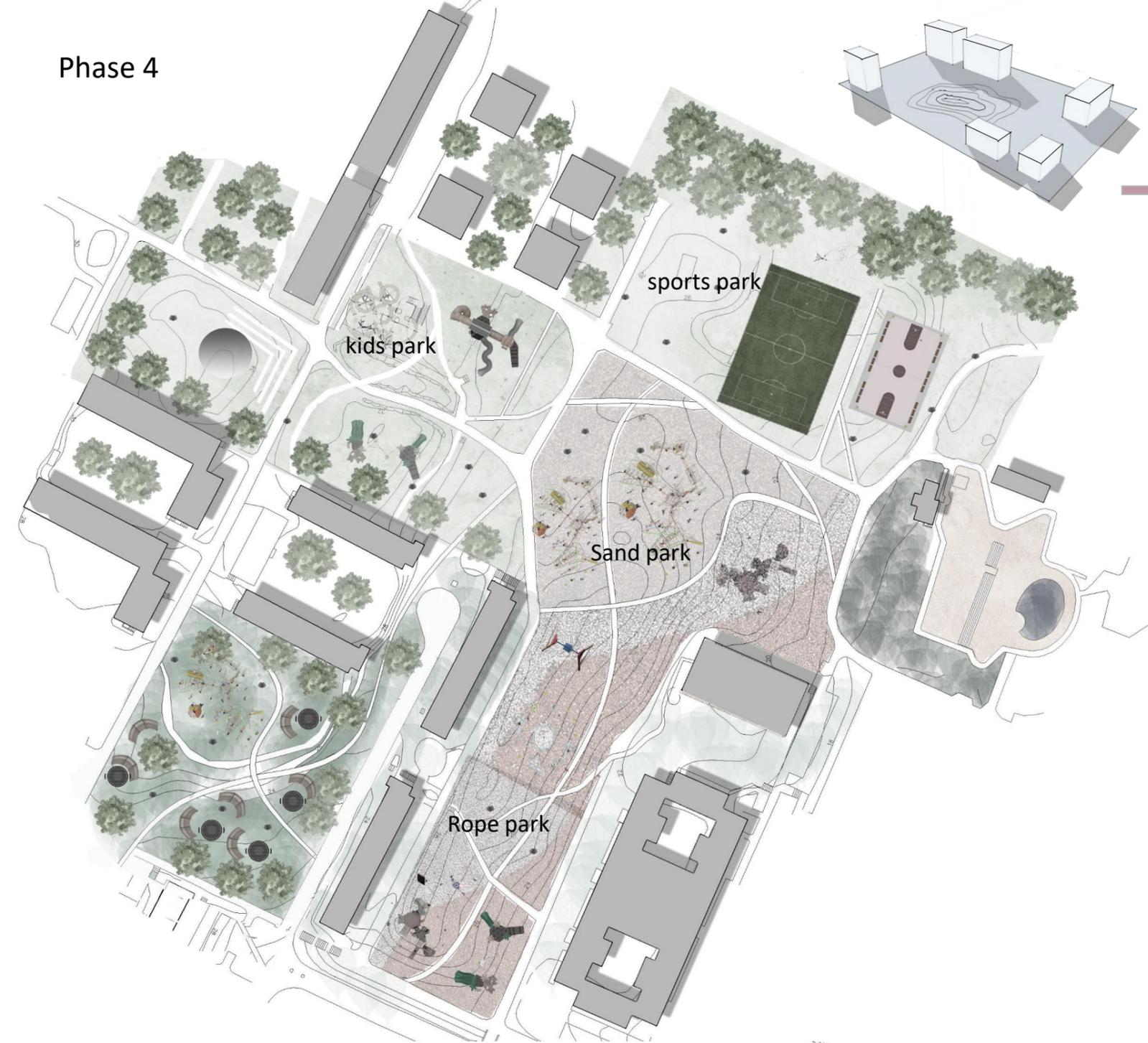
playground



New farming area



Phase 4

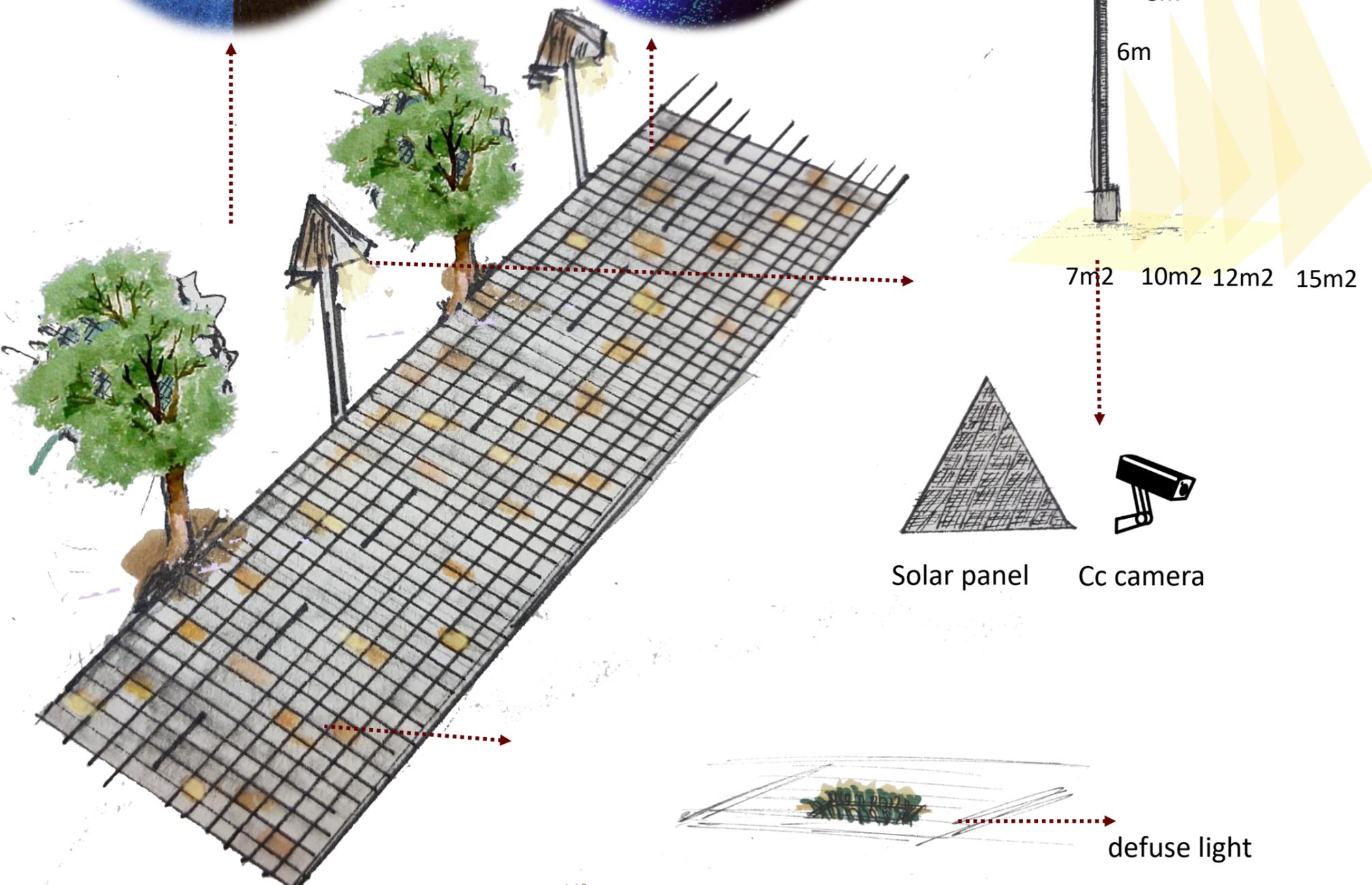


Going into the detailed design, it was first of all most important to me to integrate the existing structures into the new design. This includes the existing asphalt street, the green buffers and the rows of fully grown trees. Adapting to these structures, I integrated bioswales onto the streetscape and in front of buildings, in order to provide more permeable surfaces in the public realm. The existing asphalt street is still in good condition and will not removing. Any The gaps between each stone will be permeable,

Converting the unused topography in-between the buildings to Tensta life park with the facility of Sand park, rope park which would be use as a skating park during the wintertime. Space for picnic and BBQ facilities.



To minimizing the darkness



From the interview, most of the people complain about darkness. To solve the issue and enlighten the area I have proposed solar floor light facilities in narrow street with different pattern which could light up the street during the nighttime. Also provide different height and size lamppost. In some dull areas I proposed large size lamppost with seating area which could also act as a lighted sculpture. People could roam around it, seat on it and young generation could take some good selfies for Instagram.



Example of illuminating street

Proposed Urban furniture

 Protection from rain and wind

 Solar light

 Heated seat

Sensor lighting



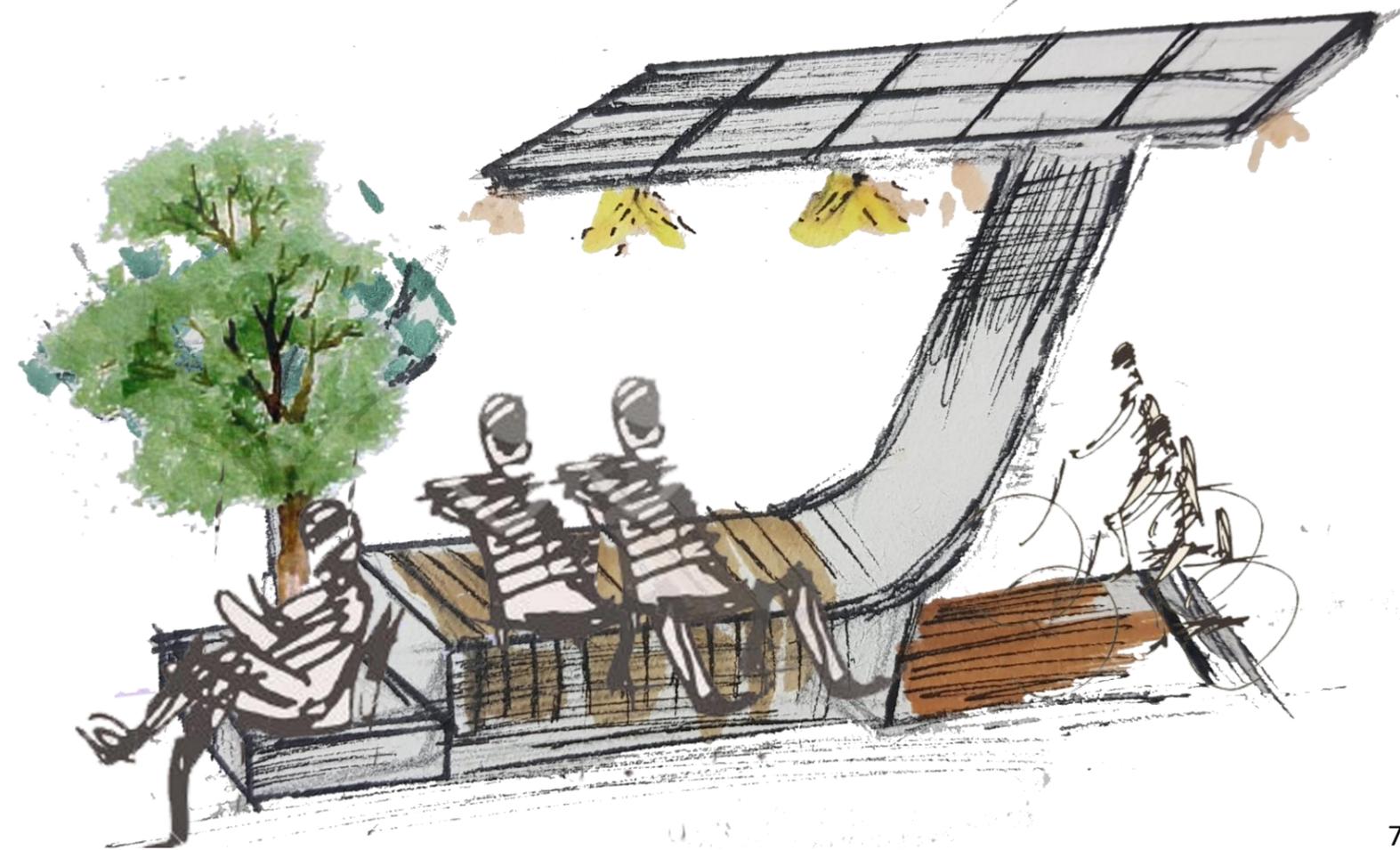
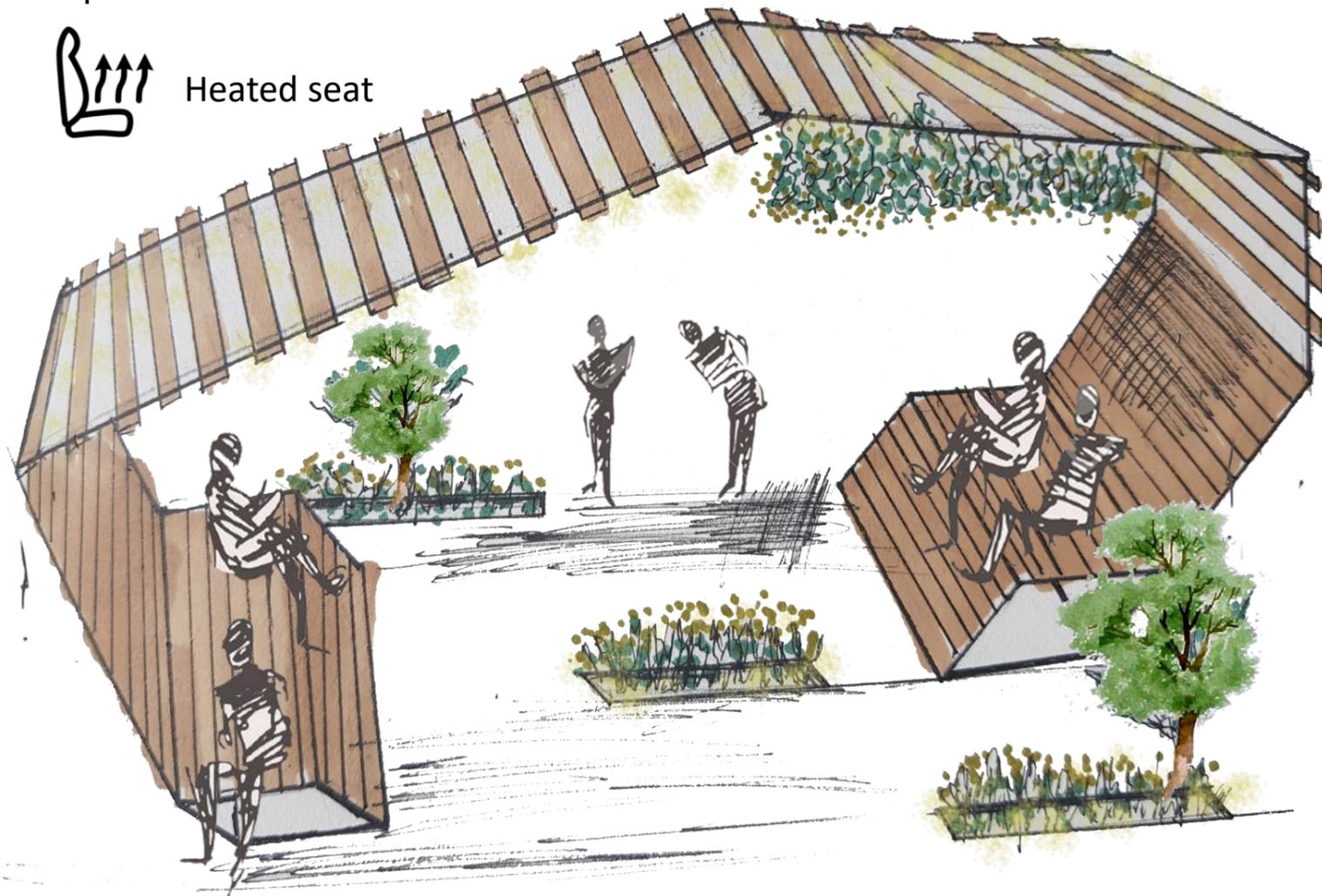
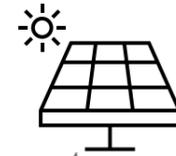
wifi



Wireless charging



solar panel



Comfotable gathering space designed with proper lighting , wifi, charging facility,rain protection and heated seat fecility so that people can hang out in any weather condition.

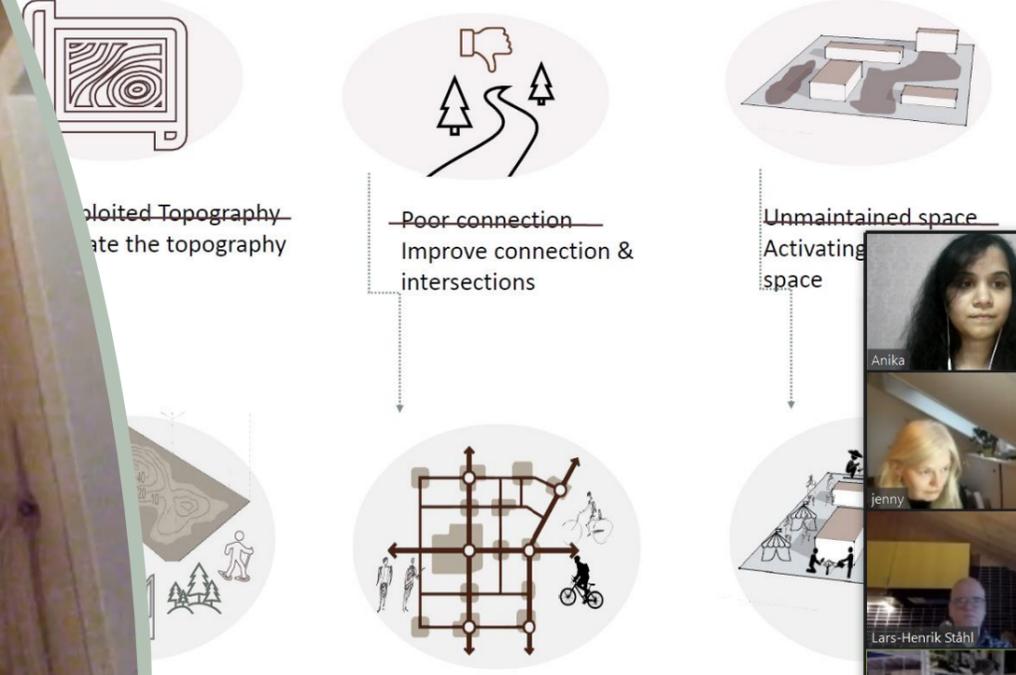
Conclusion

This thesis paper analysis a small part of the entire area of Tensta, the core of one of Stockholm's vulnerable areas. Tensta has lot to work on but its not an unmanageable task. There are many ideas and ambition in the area, but now actions need to speak louder then words. Citizens are growing fed up promises without action. In my thesis I have tried to analyses the current situations deeply and present ideas and some sustainable solutions for Tensta centrum.

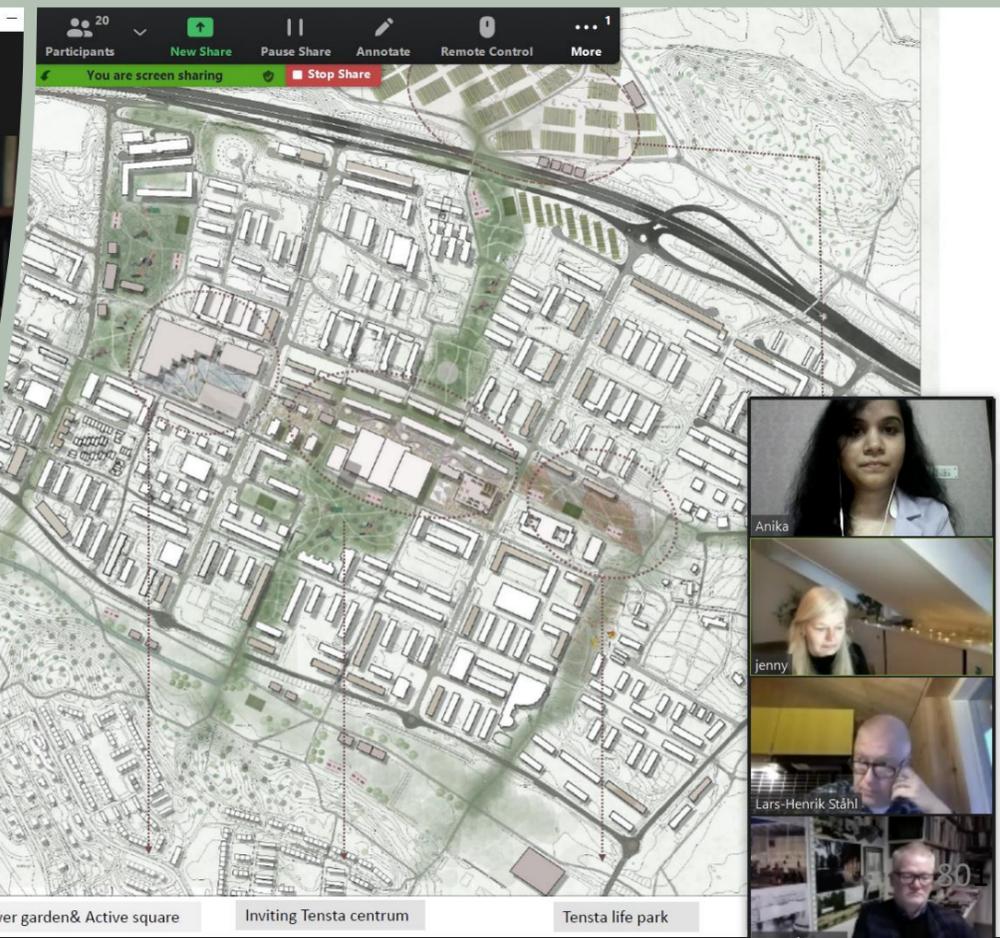
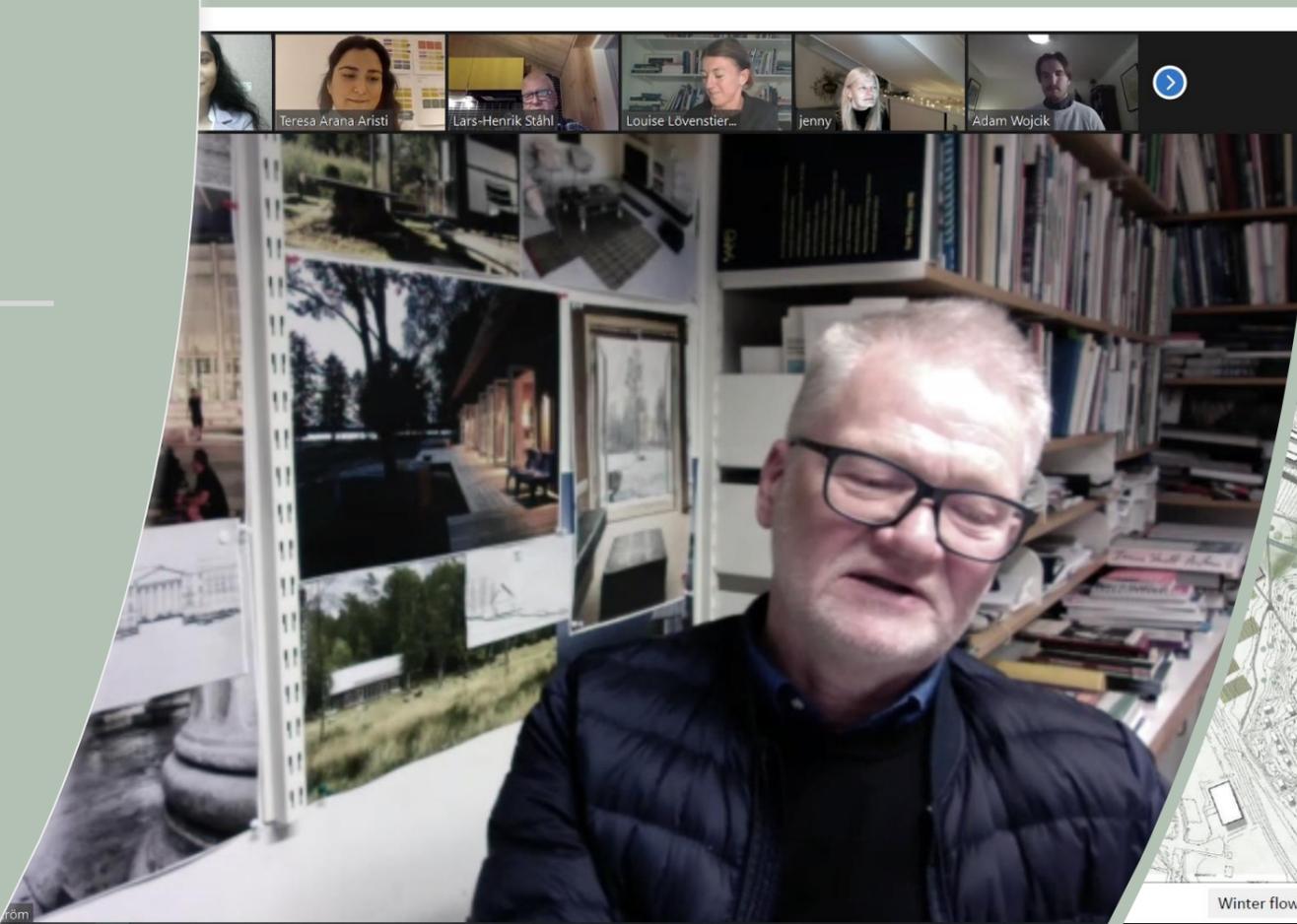
At the end I Would like to say that its not possible to bring social sustainability in Tensta by only design or urban planning. There are lots of political and Socio-economic issues. Urban design and planning might help to promote activities to increase the sense of safety and security, but the city need to work together with all its actors for better result.



that were my guidance in finding spatial solutions. The keywords were made by observing the existing structures and them. By these strategies, I have constructed a base on how to plan new into the existing.



Some screenshots from the final online thesis presentation over Zoom -11th of December,2020.



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I feel safe here

Thank you for reading