

Urban and Landscape Design

Award of Distinction



Project Title: 35 ° | 106°

Student Name: Antonio Vigil

Level, Course: March candidate, Studio M

Advisor/ Instructor: Tim B. Castillo, Rana Abu-Dayyeh, and Karen King

Principal Investigator: Tim B. Castillo

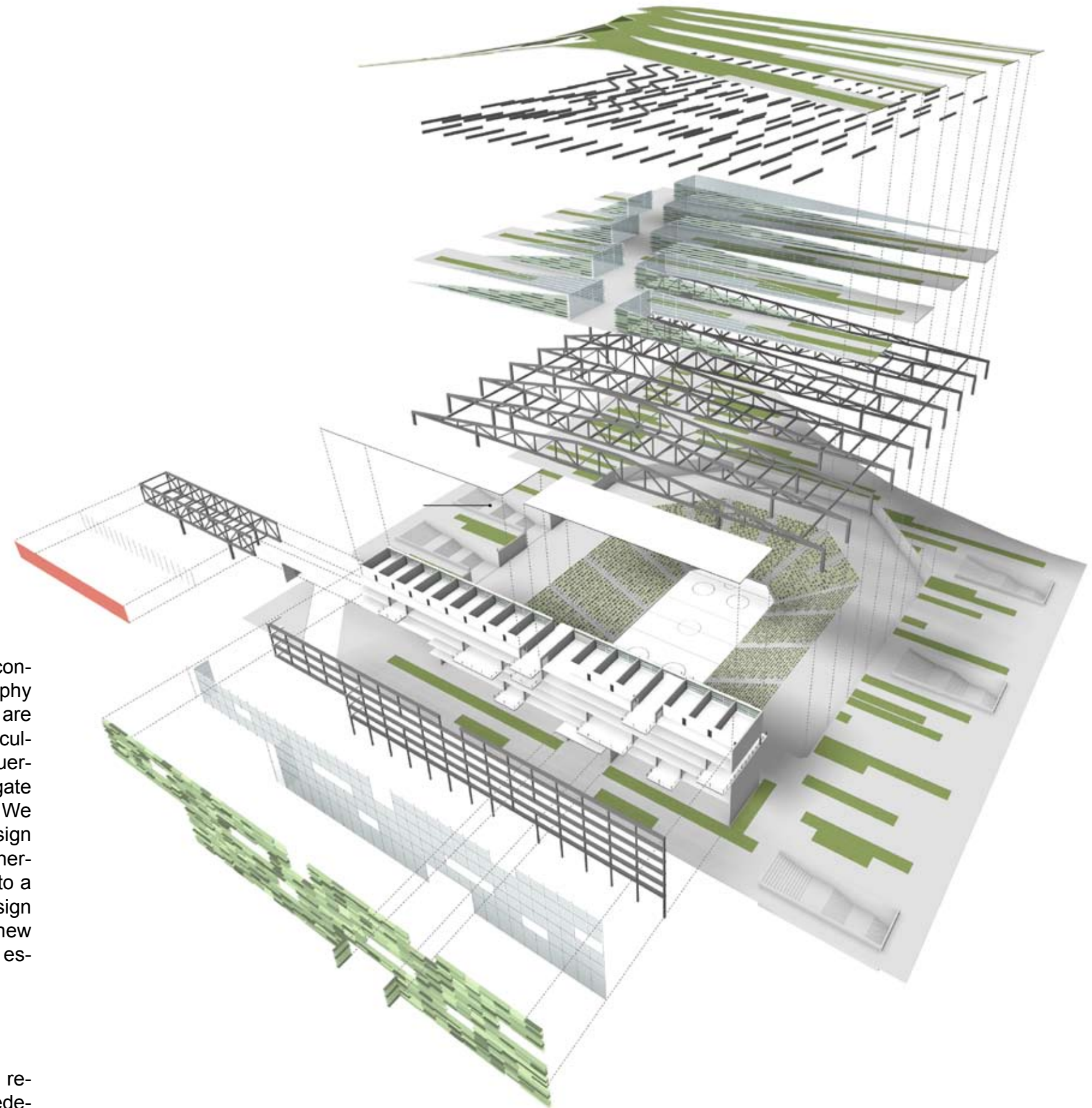
Department: School of Architecture, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Summary Description of project:

The spatial environment that comprises the metropolis of Albuquerque [35° | 106°] is a unique condition that has evolved as a crossroads of culture, architecture and infrastructure. The geography and urban morphology created here is a condition unlike any other in the world. As designers we are faced with the development of new technologies, global information systems and the dilution of cultural specificity. This studio will embark in an architectural study utilizing the metropolis of Albuquerque as a laboratory to probe for conditions that define this unique context. This studio will investigate the context of Albuquerque and produce speculations that challenge our current urban fabric. We are interested in analytically probing the urban context and searching for opportunities where design can improve our environment. Through this reading a series of cartographic mappings will be generated that explore these conditions and a design problem will be formulated that will manifest into a program for development in studio. As designers we have to be fluid in how we operate and design at a multiplicity of scales. The ability to understand how virtual and analog systems are creating new spatial conditions in our environment is critical for designers to understand. This knowledge is essential for developing new design strategies for a better more sustainable social environment.

Reasons for which this student and his/her project should be awarded:

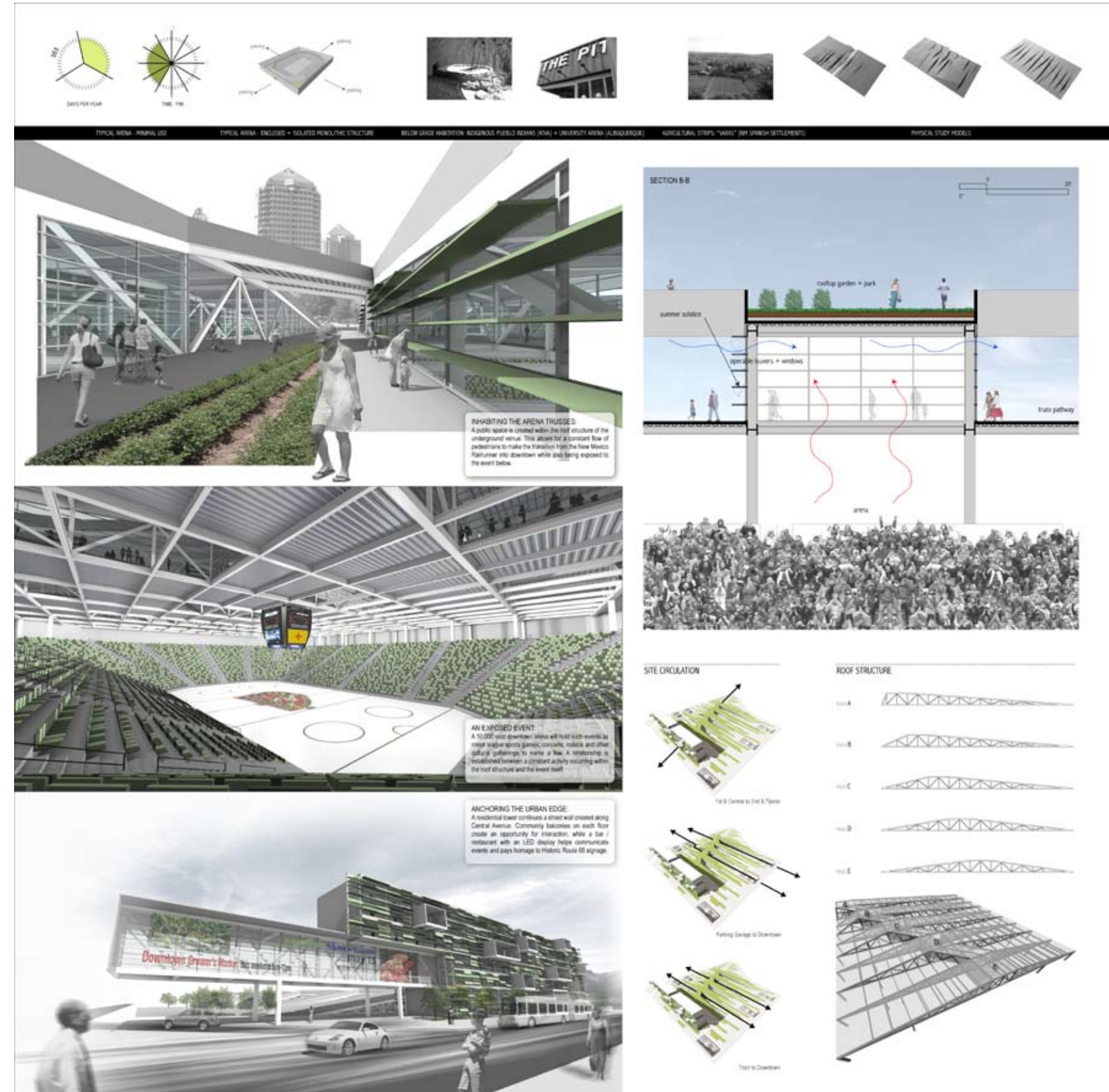
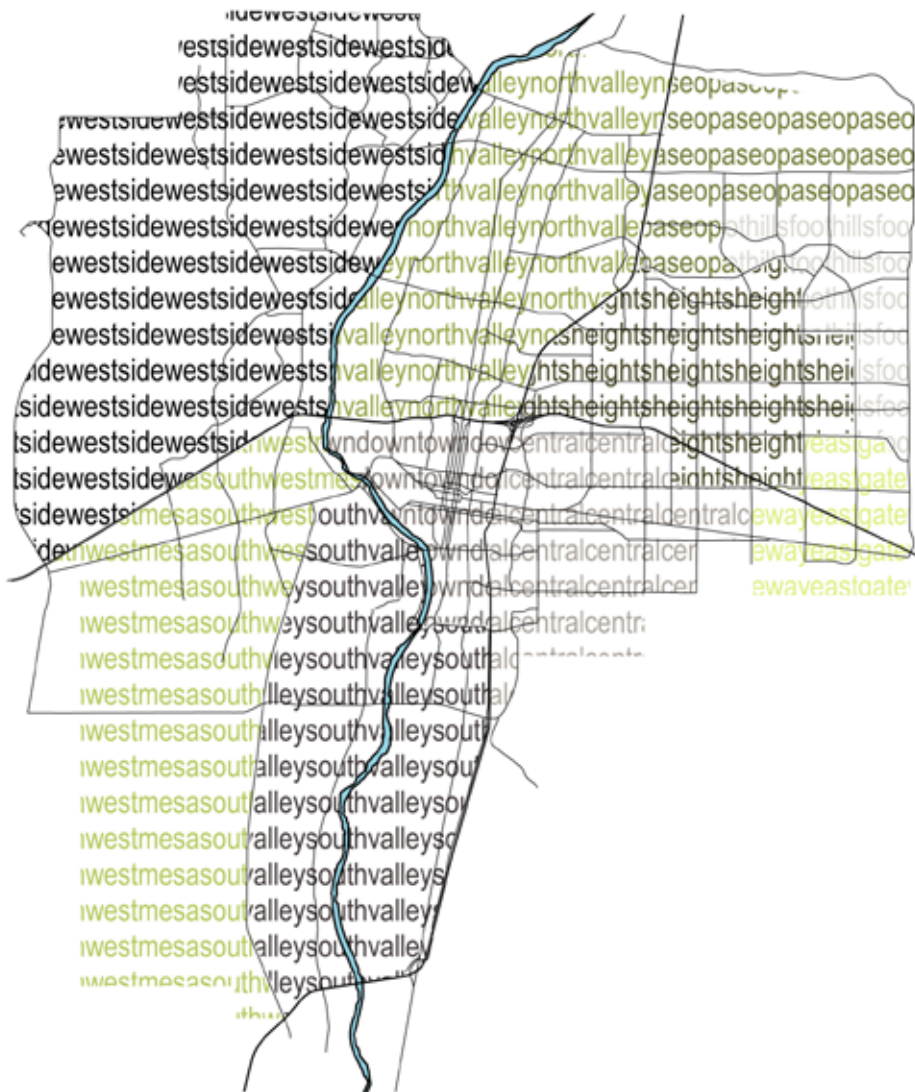
This project deserves recognition because of its innovation in rethinking architectural program, rethinking urban space and the use of strong visualization to create a convincing argument for redevelopment of the downtown corridor in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The challenge in developing this



project was to understand the complexity in the downtown area. Albuquerque is a city that is currently experiencing urban revitalization and generating a program that could serve as a catalyst for revitalization. This was a primary focus for this project's thesis. The program that was created through a cartographic analysis that investigated programmatic voids in the urban fabric. The result of this analysis indicated the need for a large special event arena in the downtown area. The final resolution of the project integrated the new commuter rail station and provided a much needed park/green space for the inhabitants of the downtown community. The use of **form•Z** to illustrate the cross programmed space allowed a new vision of what an arena could become and gave a new and innovative reading to the urban fabric of Albuquerque.

Jury Comments:

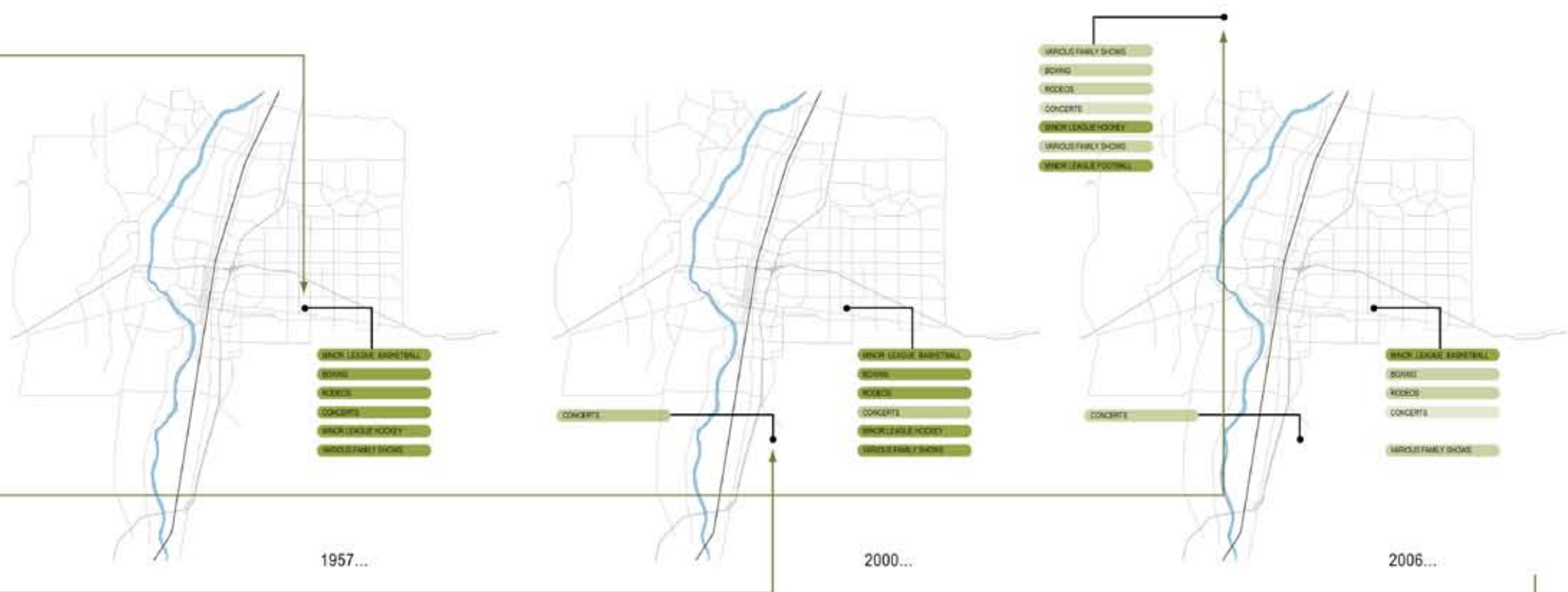
After a rather insightful analysis of an urban environment, an imaginatively designed arena becomes a catalyst for the revitalization of a downtown. While the study is applied to a specific city, its validity is almost universal, at least within the content of the USA. This project succeeds on the urban as well as on the building scale. The graphic presentation is beautifully crafted and could easily pass for a professional project. It is all done through an effective use of digital tools, which is one more reason that this project deserves recognition.





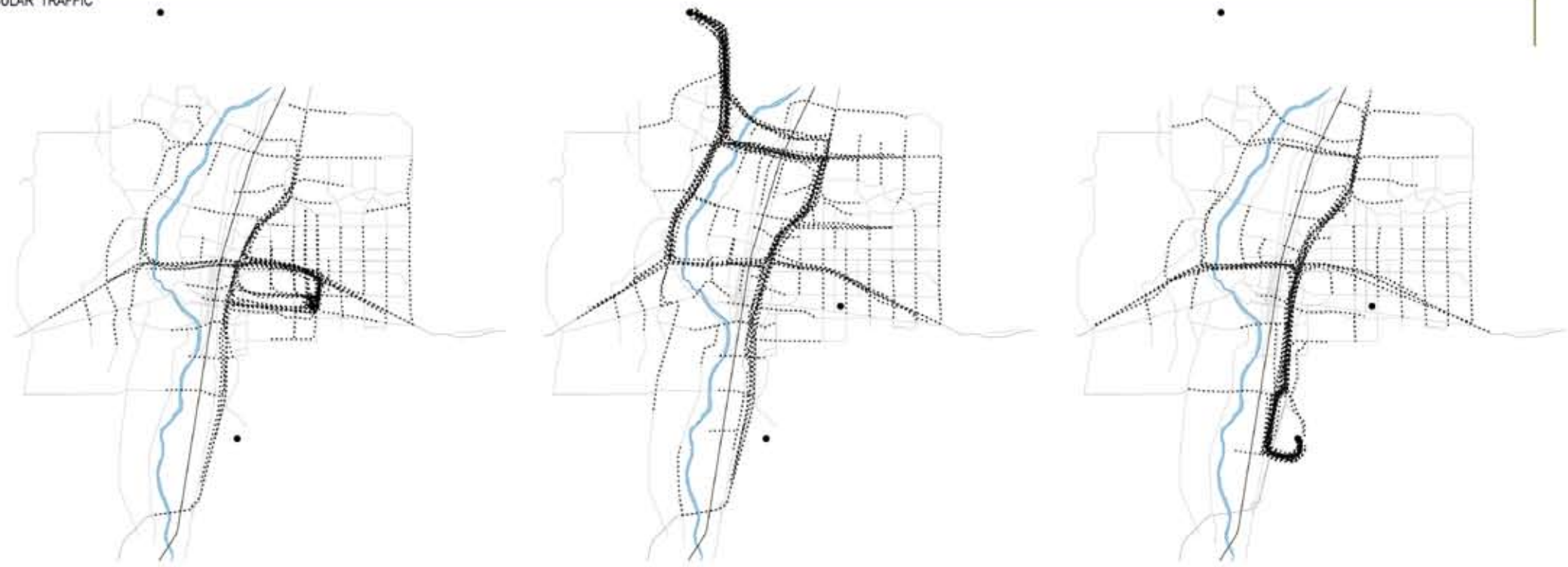
HOTELS / LIVING

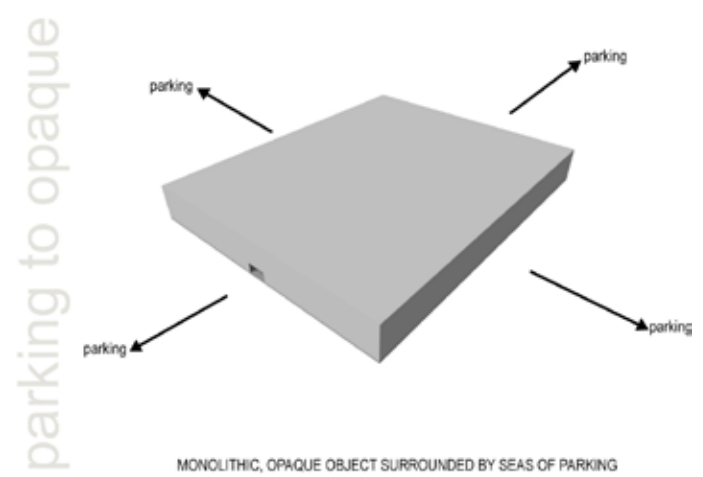
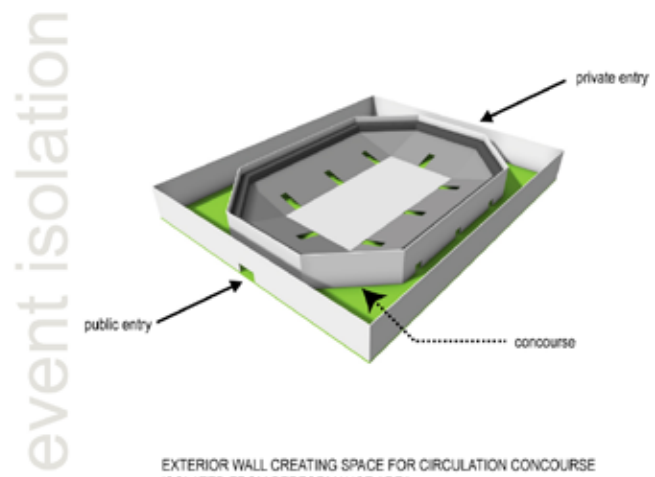
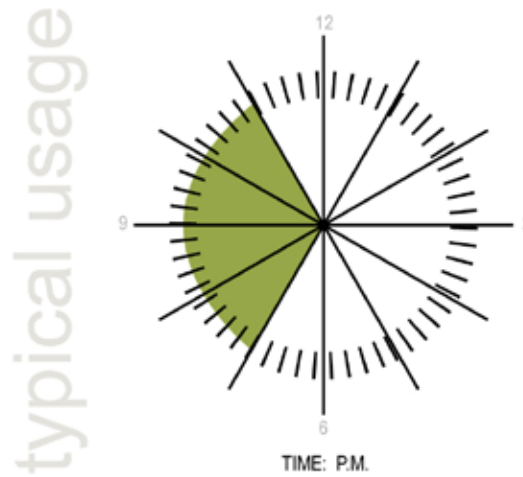
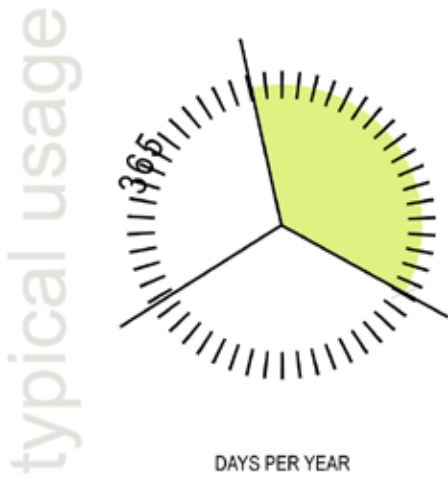
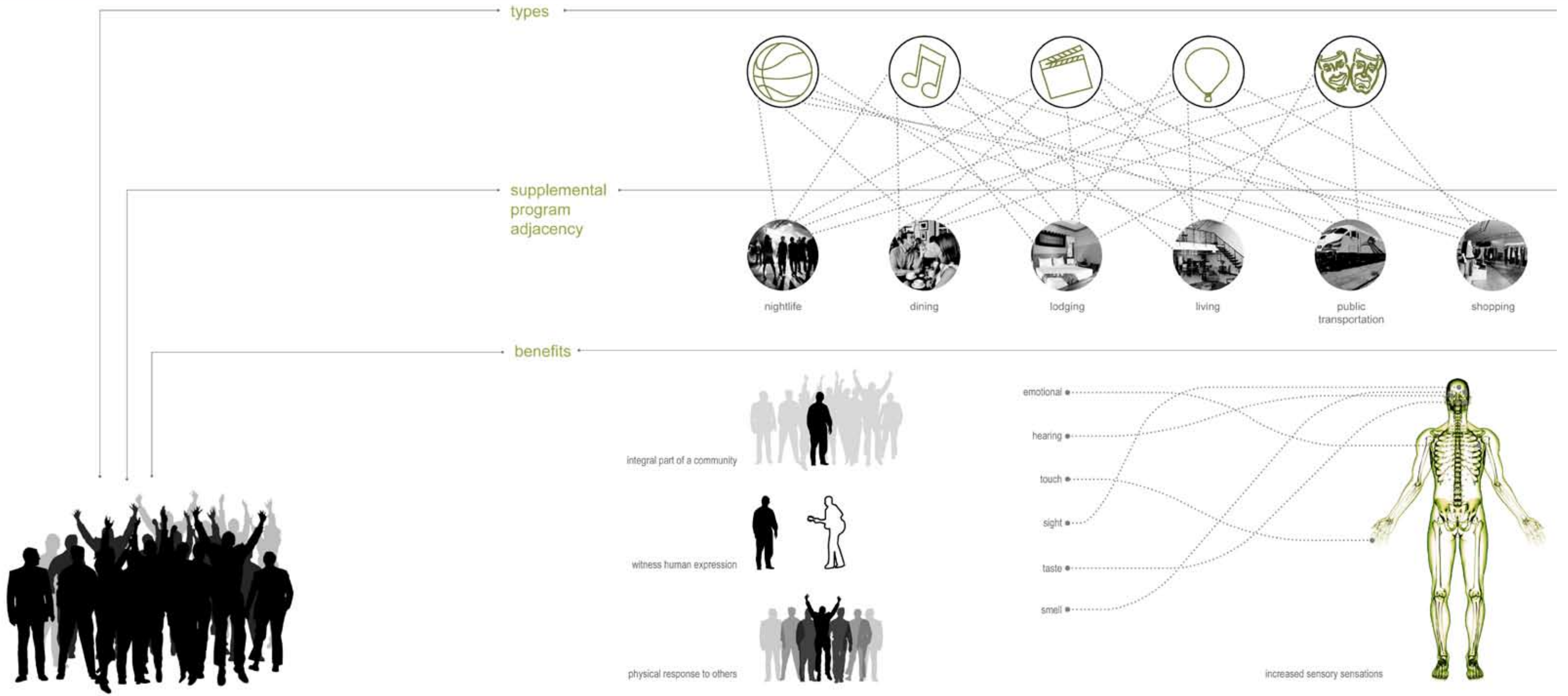
DINING / RETAIL

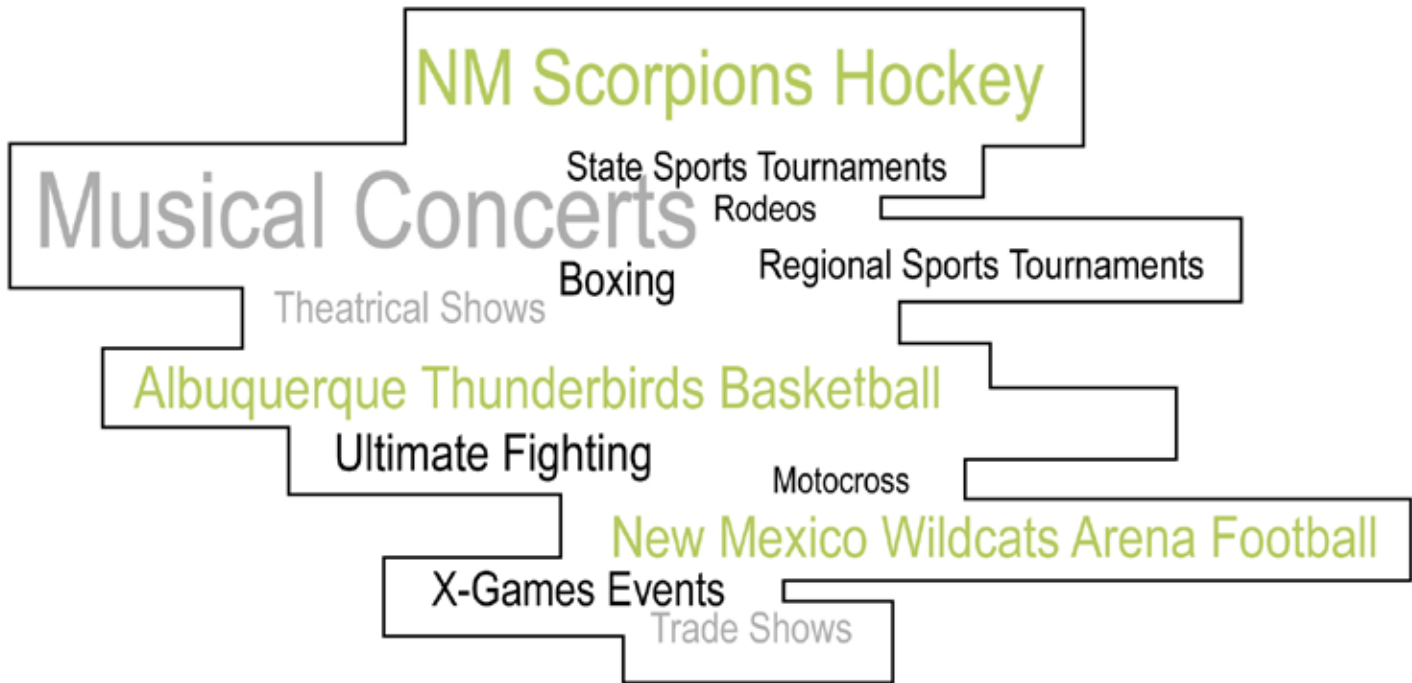


EVENTS RE-LOCATION

VEHICULAR TRAFFIC



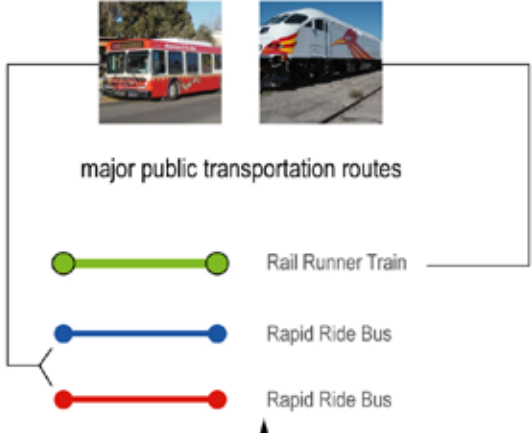


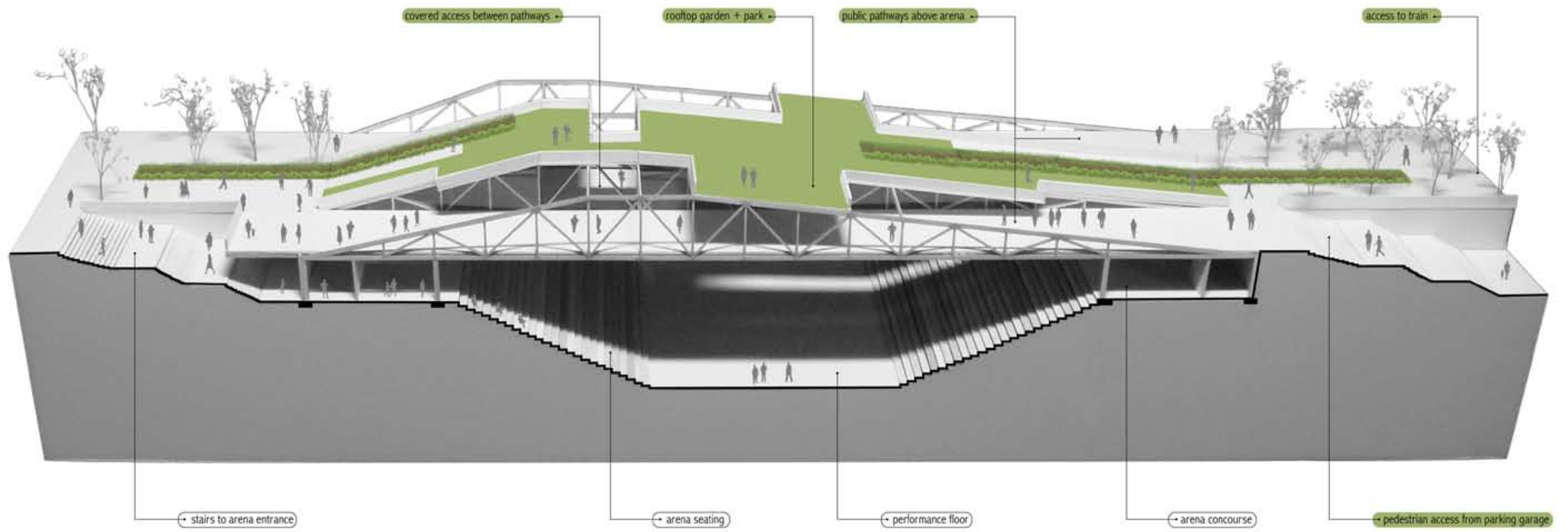
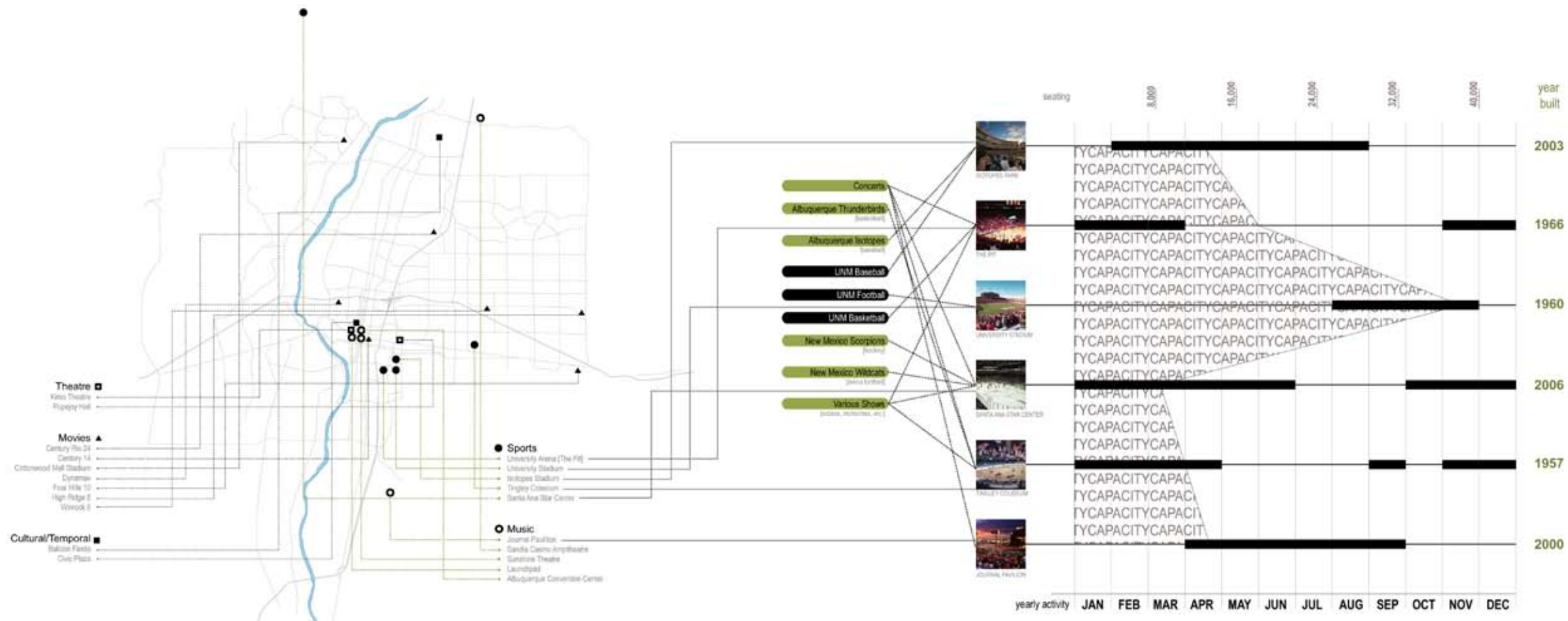


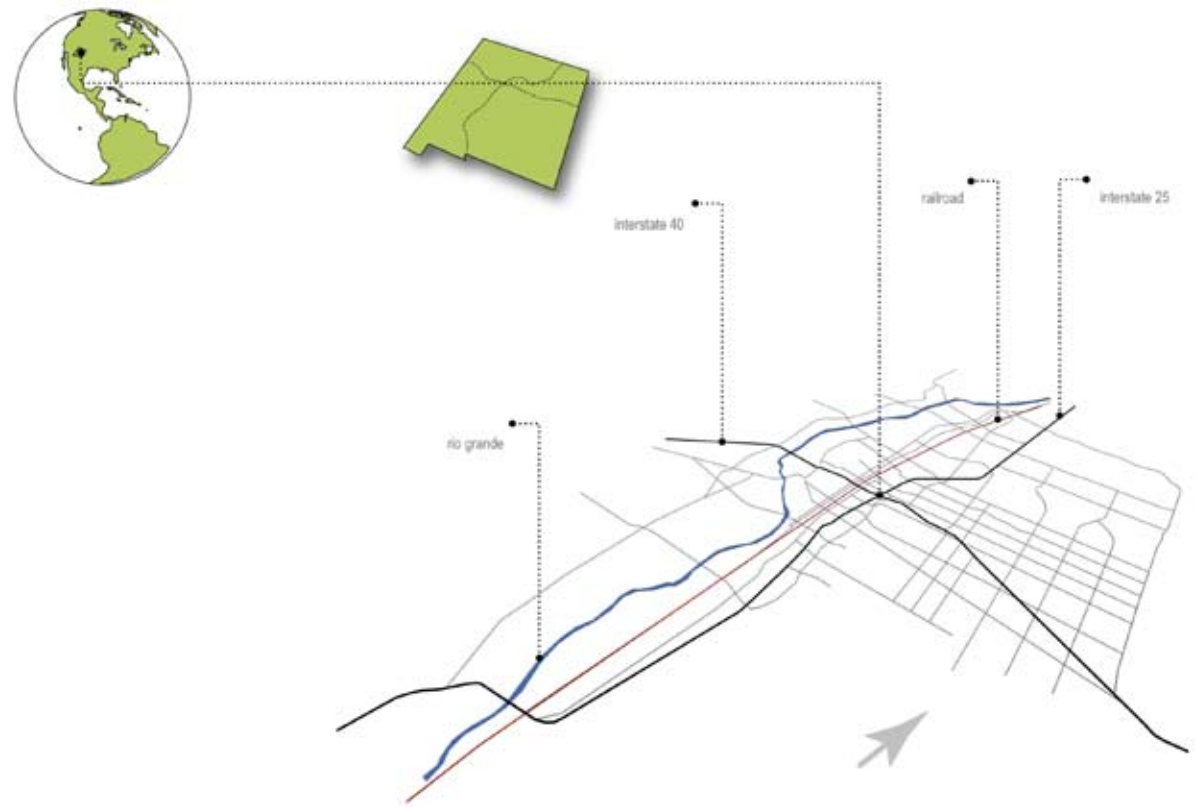
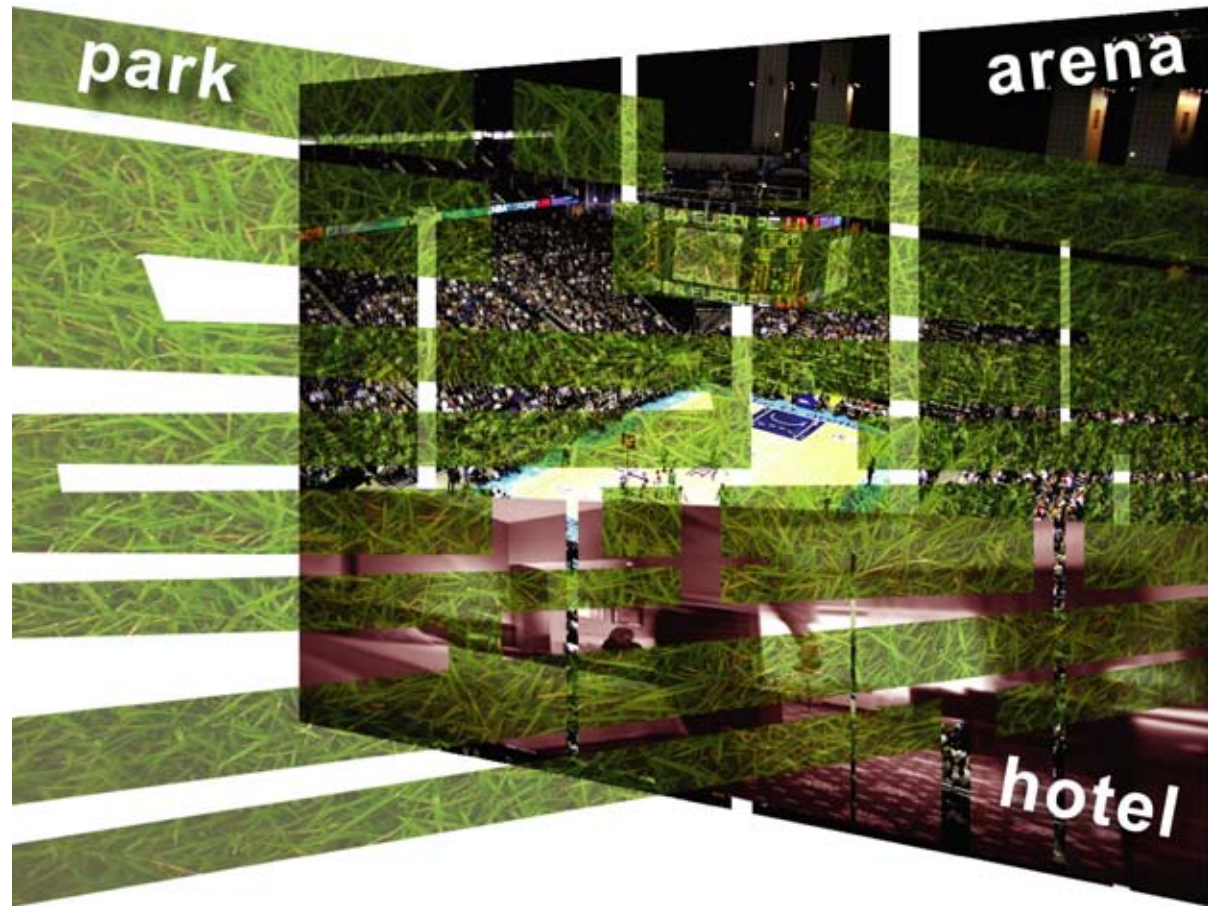
ARENA

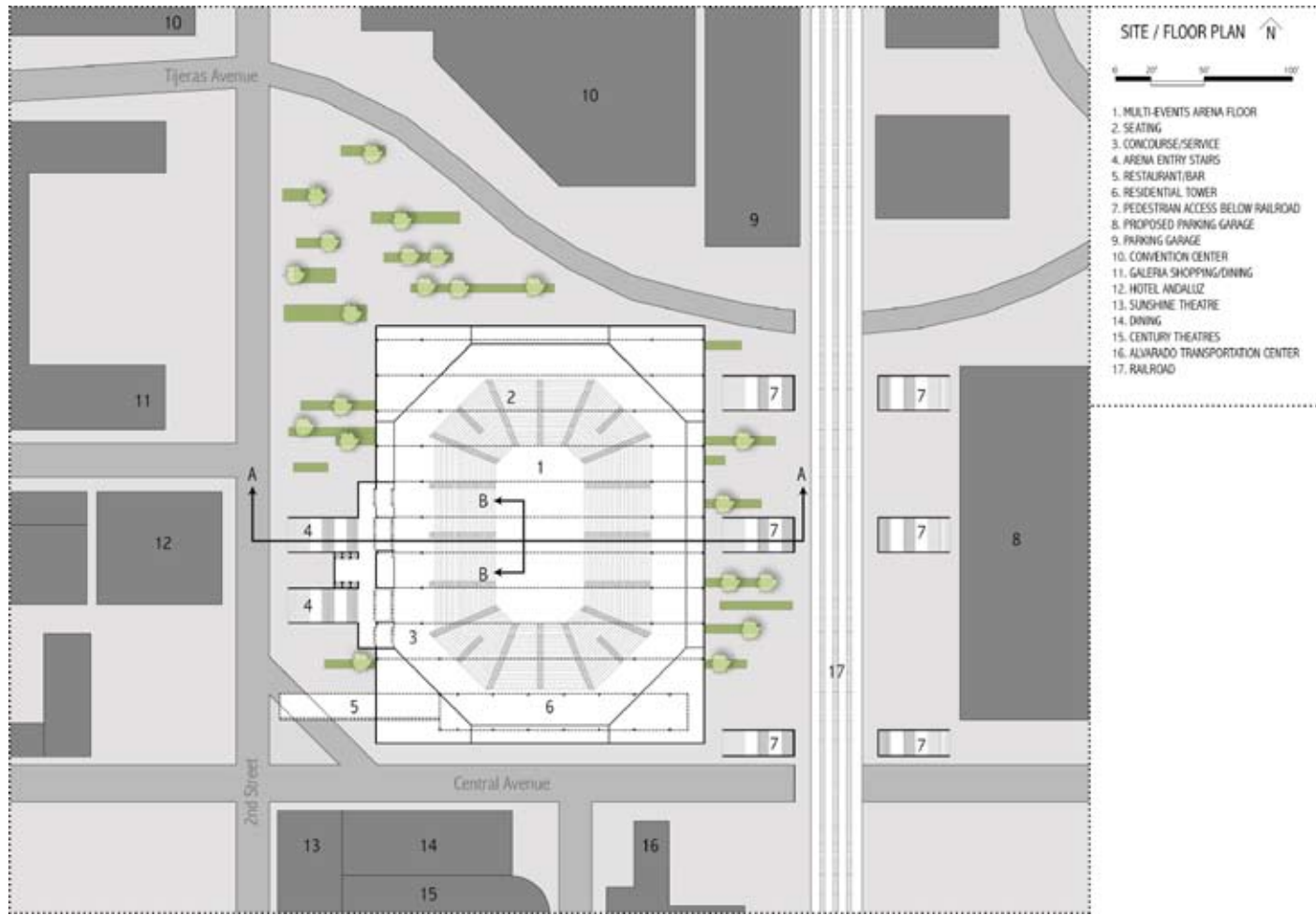
- nightlife
- dining
- lodging
- living
- public transportation
- shopping

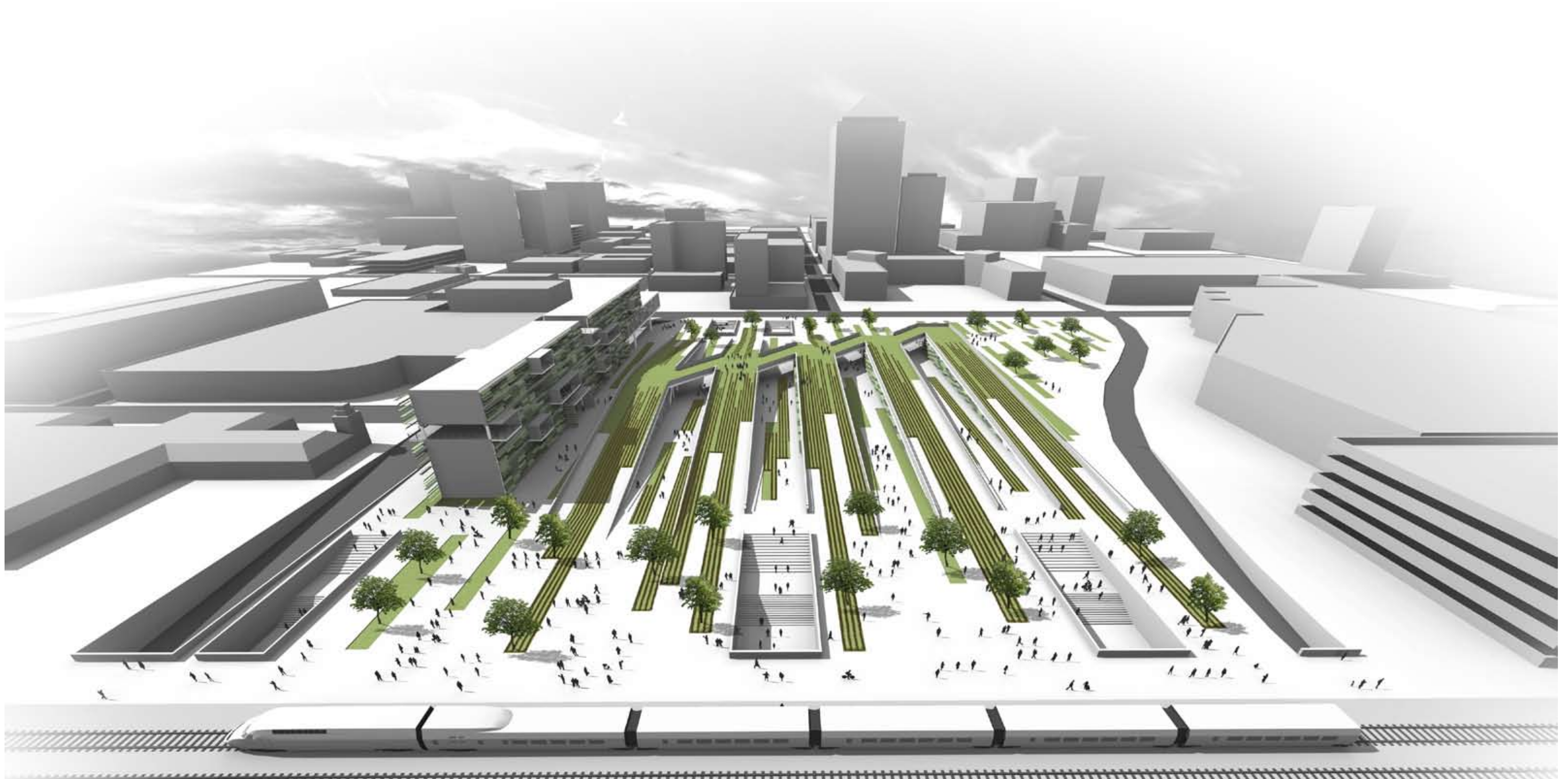
DOWNTOWN





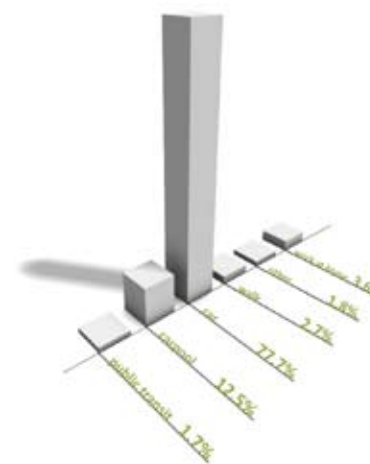








how do people get to work



vehicles per household



