



*Welcome!*

Congress Square | Public Meeting 02.28.14

**kmdg**  
KLOPFER MARTIN DESIGN GROUP  
**utile**



# Today's AGENDA

- *Welcome + Introduction and reading of Vision Statement*
- *Landscape Architecture + Urban Design Primer*
- *Group Assignments*
- *Site Assessment w/ Groups (Outside) - 40 minutes*
- *Discussion (Inside) - 40 minutes*
  - *Individual Group Recap*
  - *Full Group Discussion*
- *Wrap-up*



## ***Vision Statement:***

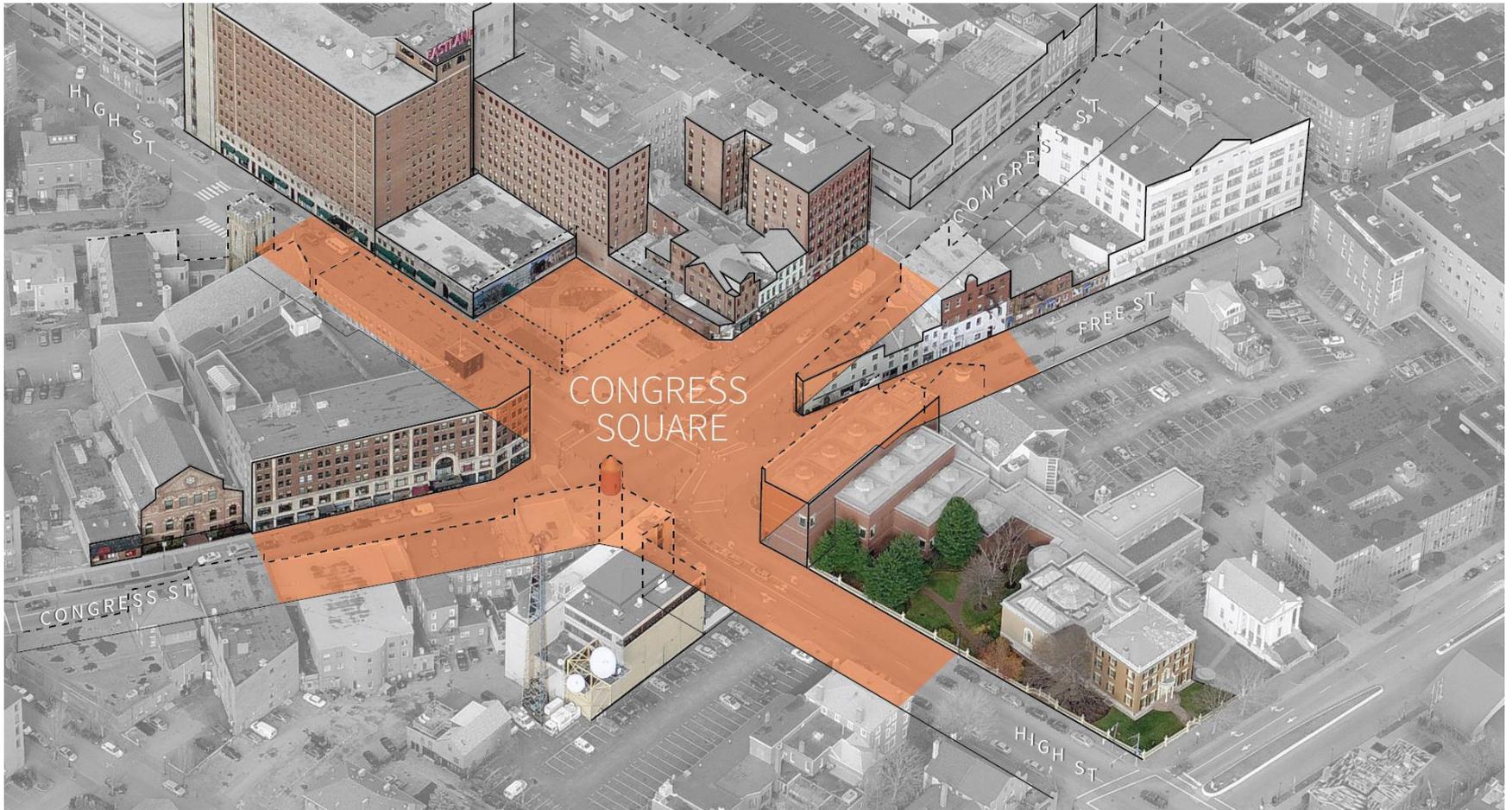
*Congress Square is a high quality, distinctive urban space that epitomizes the Arts District while remaining accessible and inviting to all. Year-round, the Square provides a welcome break in the dense, historic district street wall where one encounters a range of activities including events and installations that celebrate local arts and culture, and fosters spontaneity, informal gathering, and fun. As a gateway intersection, the redesigned Congress Square places priority on the pedestrian experience and safety while accommodating all transportation modes in an efficient manner.*



*...how might we assess Congress Square's uniqueness within the city and among the Congress St. plazas?*



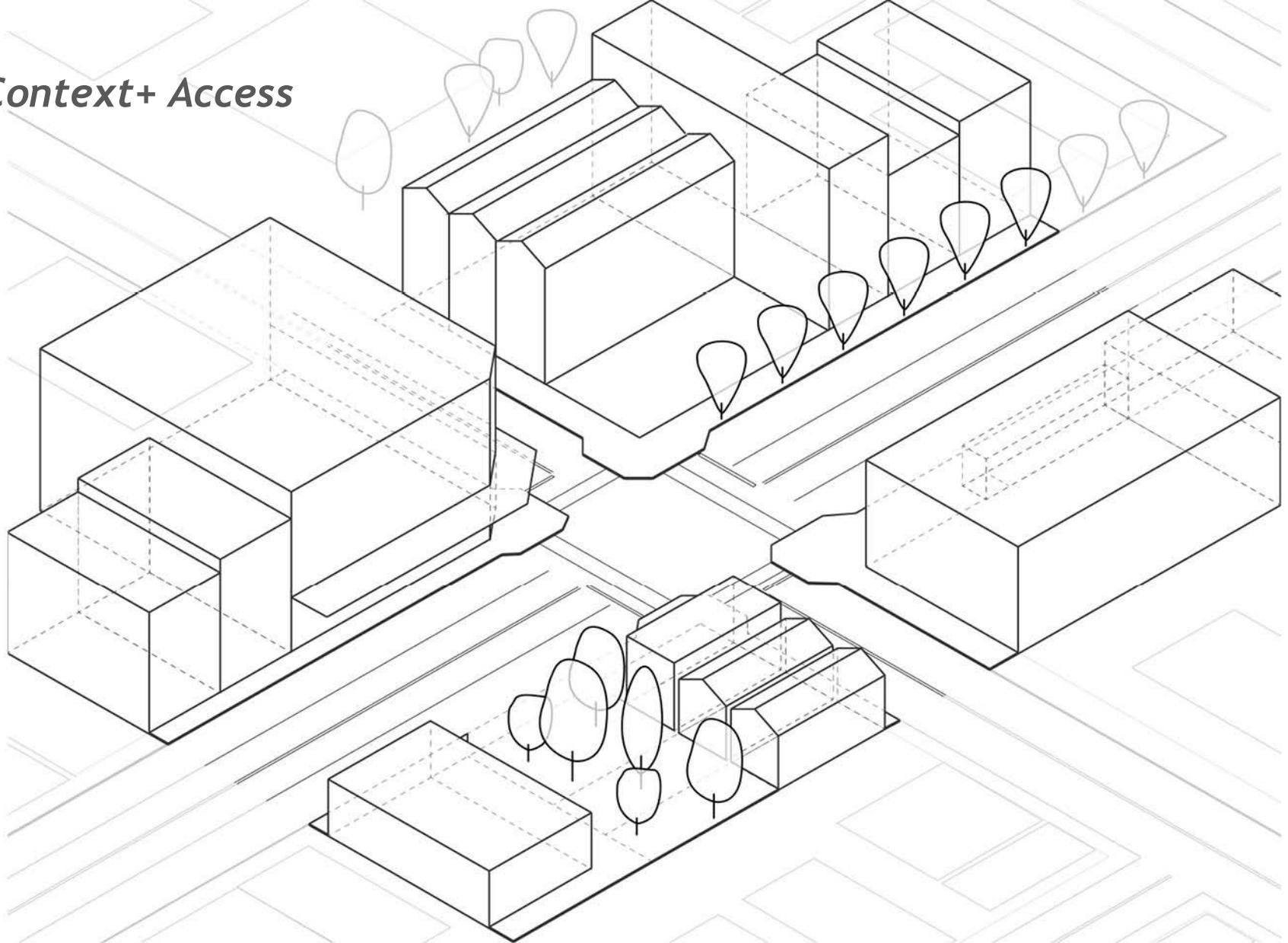
...how might we assess Congress Square's uniqueness unto itself?



*...we ask a series of questions and do a lot of looking*



# Context+ Access



# Context + Access: Topography

Where is the high point?

HP

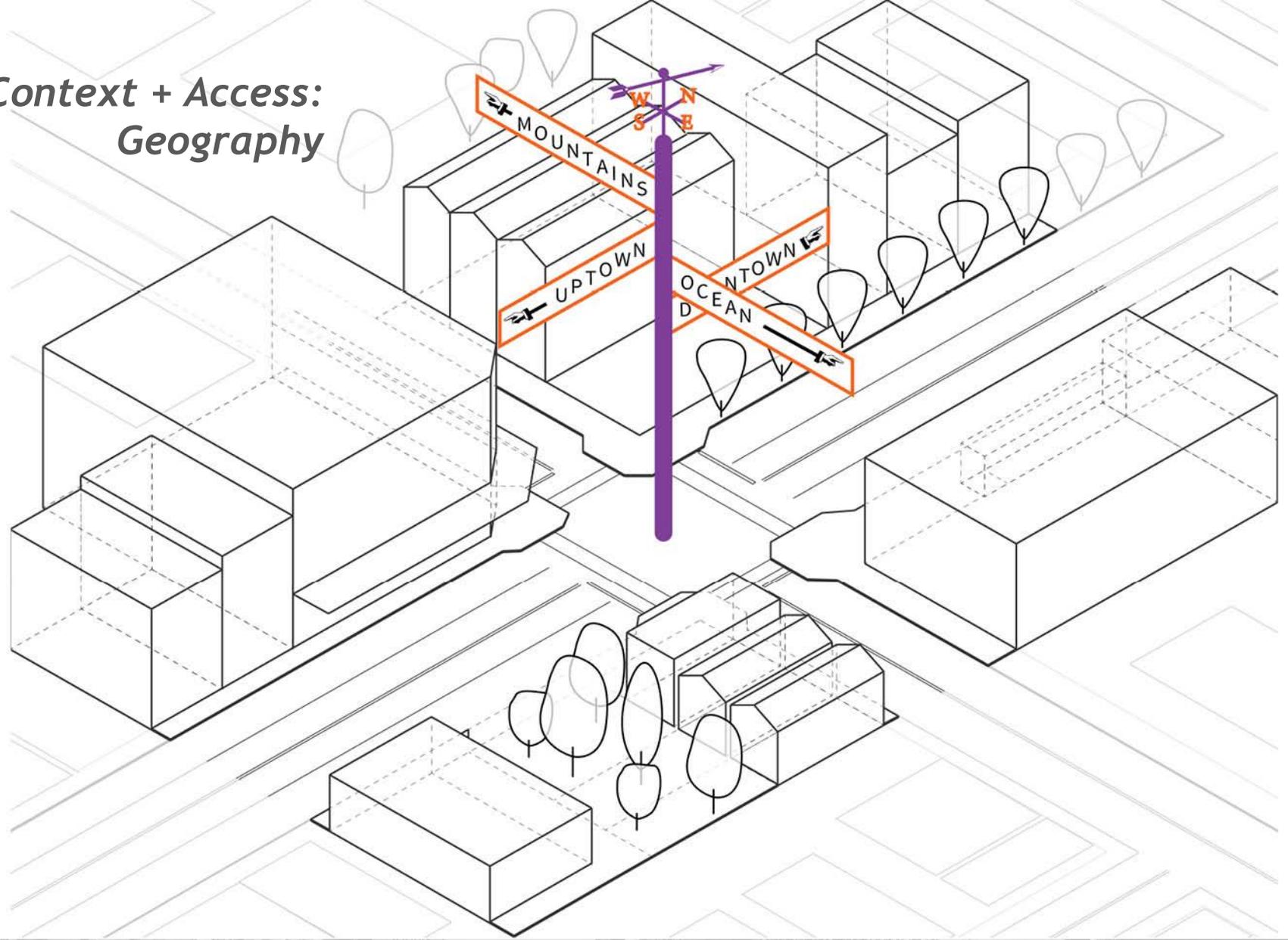


Where is the low point?

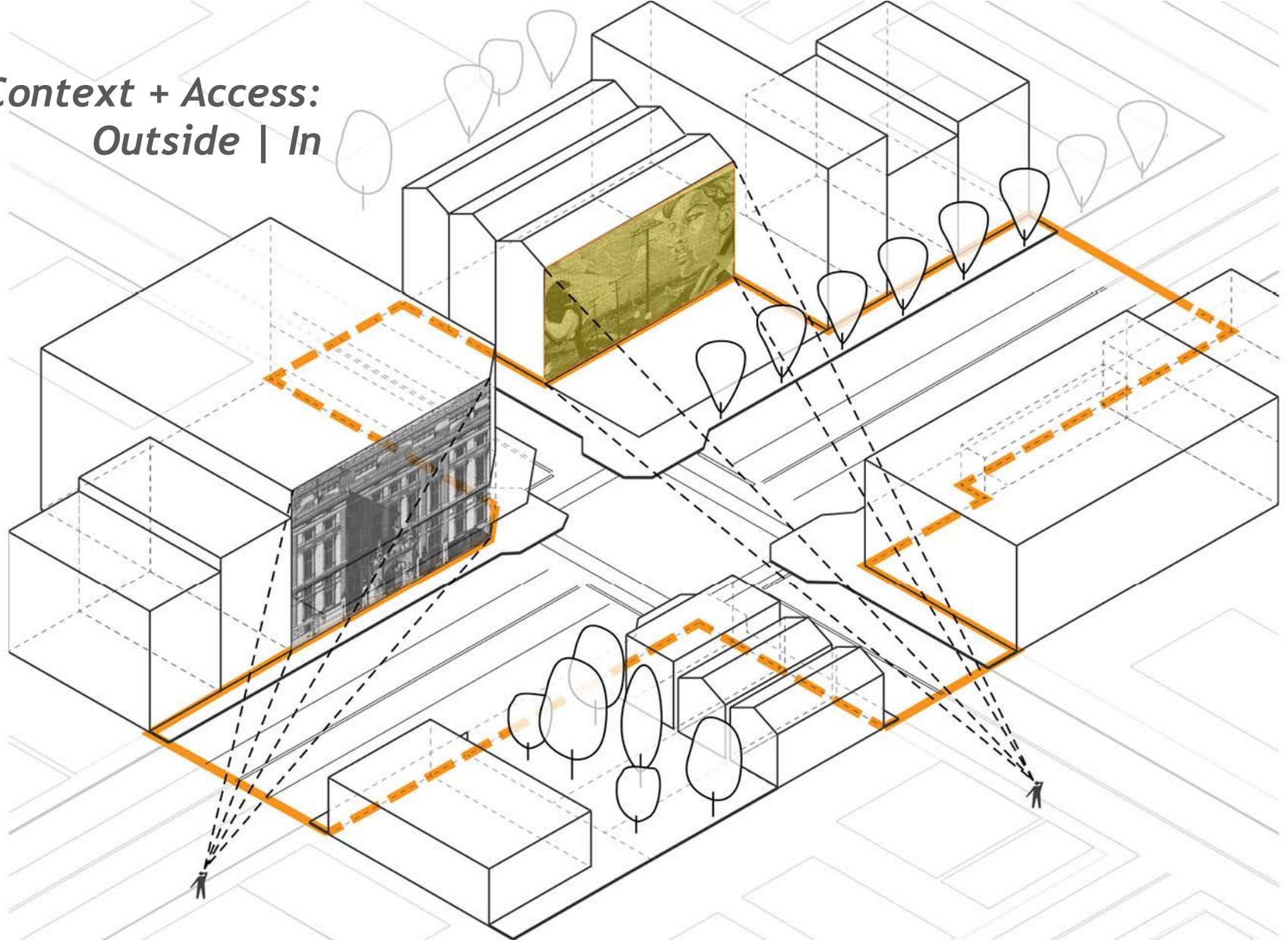
LP



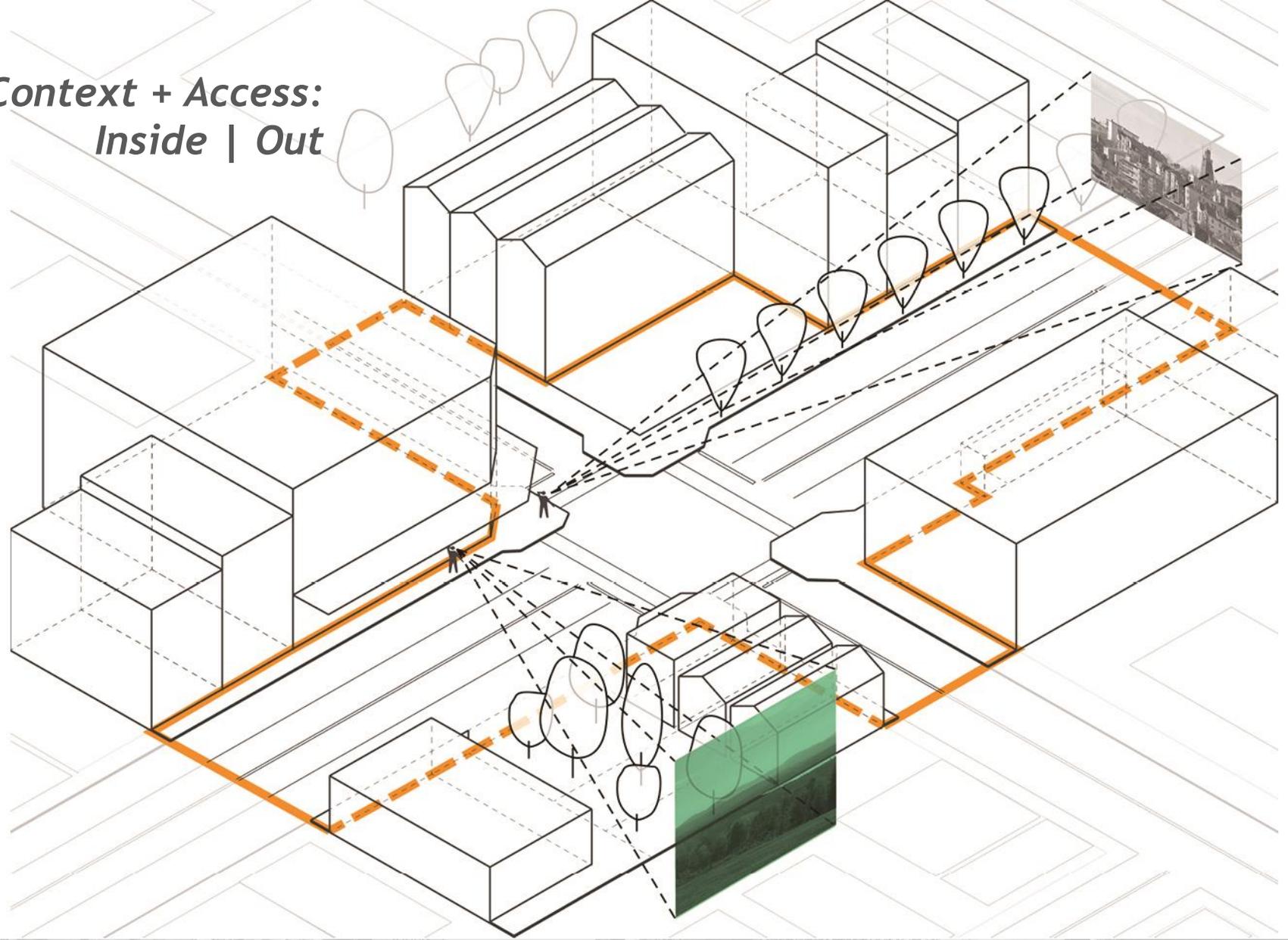
**Context + Access:  
Geography**



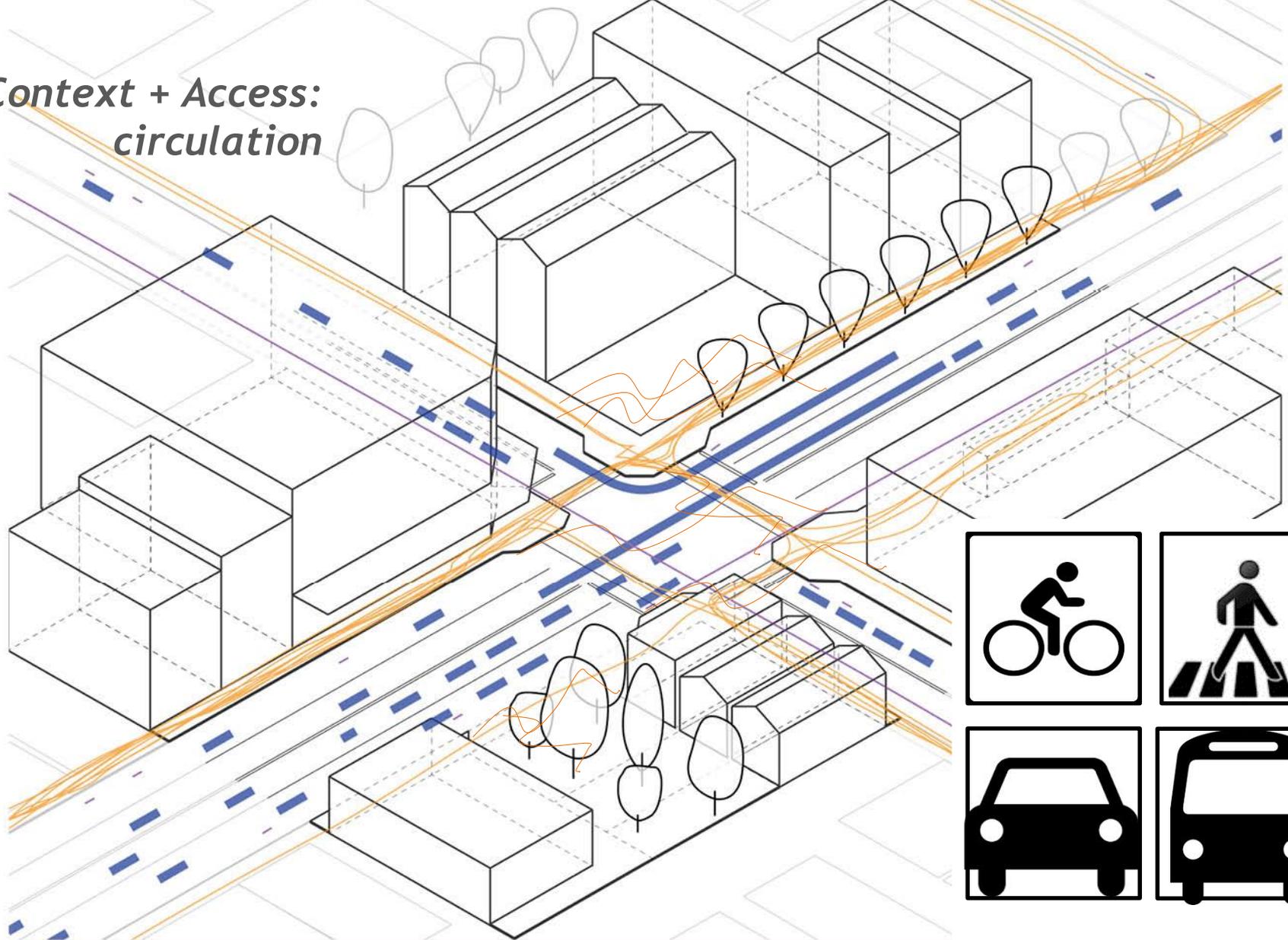
**Context + Access:  
Outside | In**



**Context + Access:  
Inside | Out**



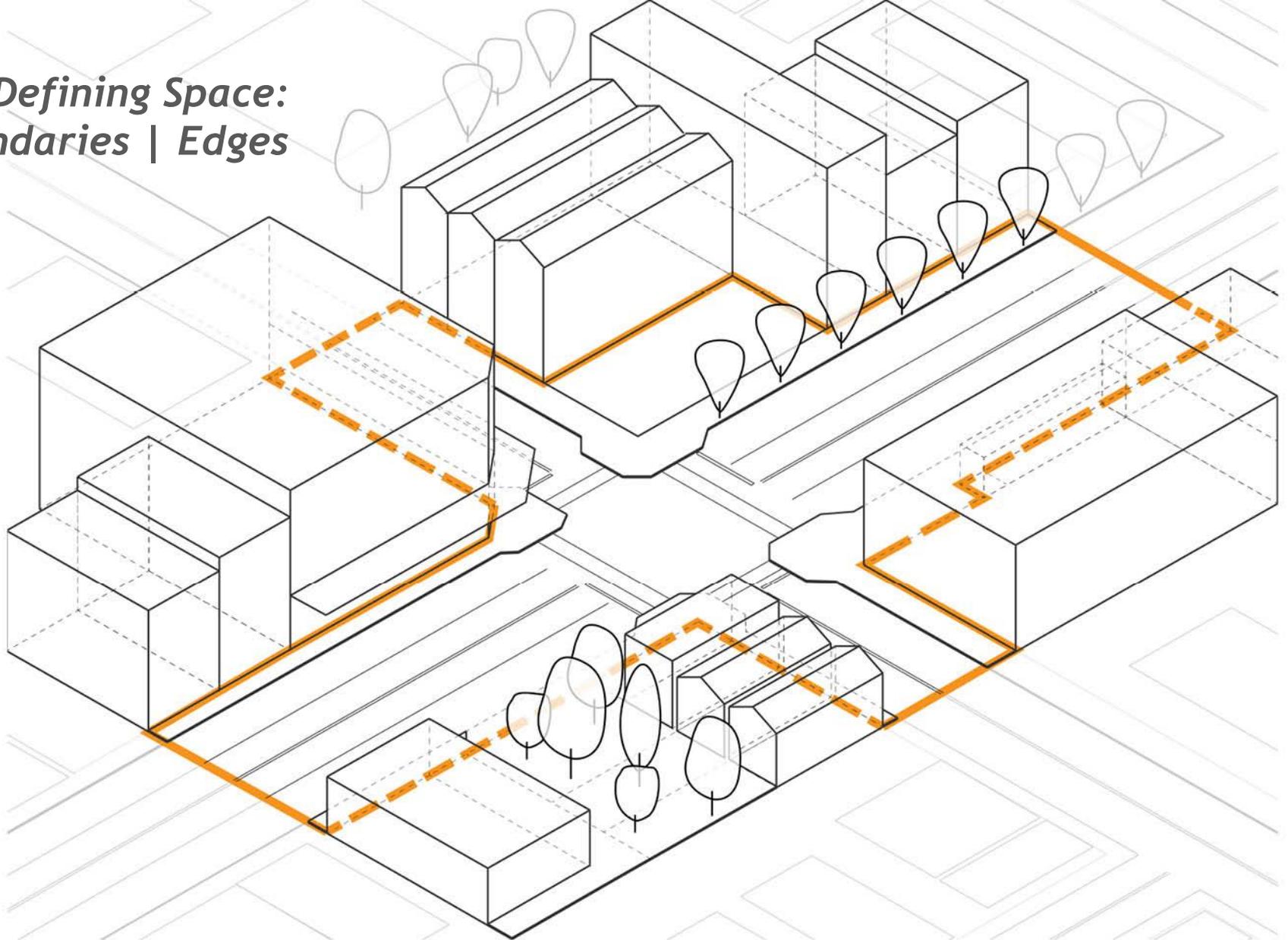
**Context + Access:**  
*circulation*



# *Defining Space*



# Defining Space: Boundaries | Edges

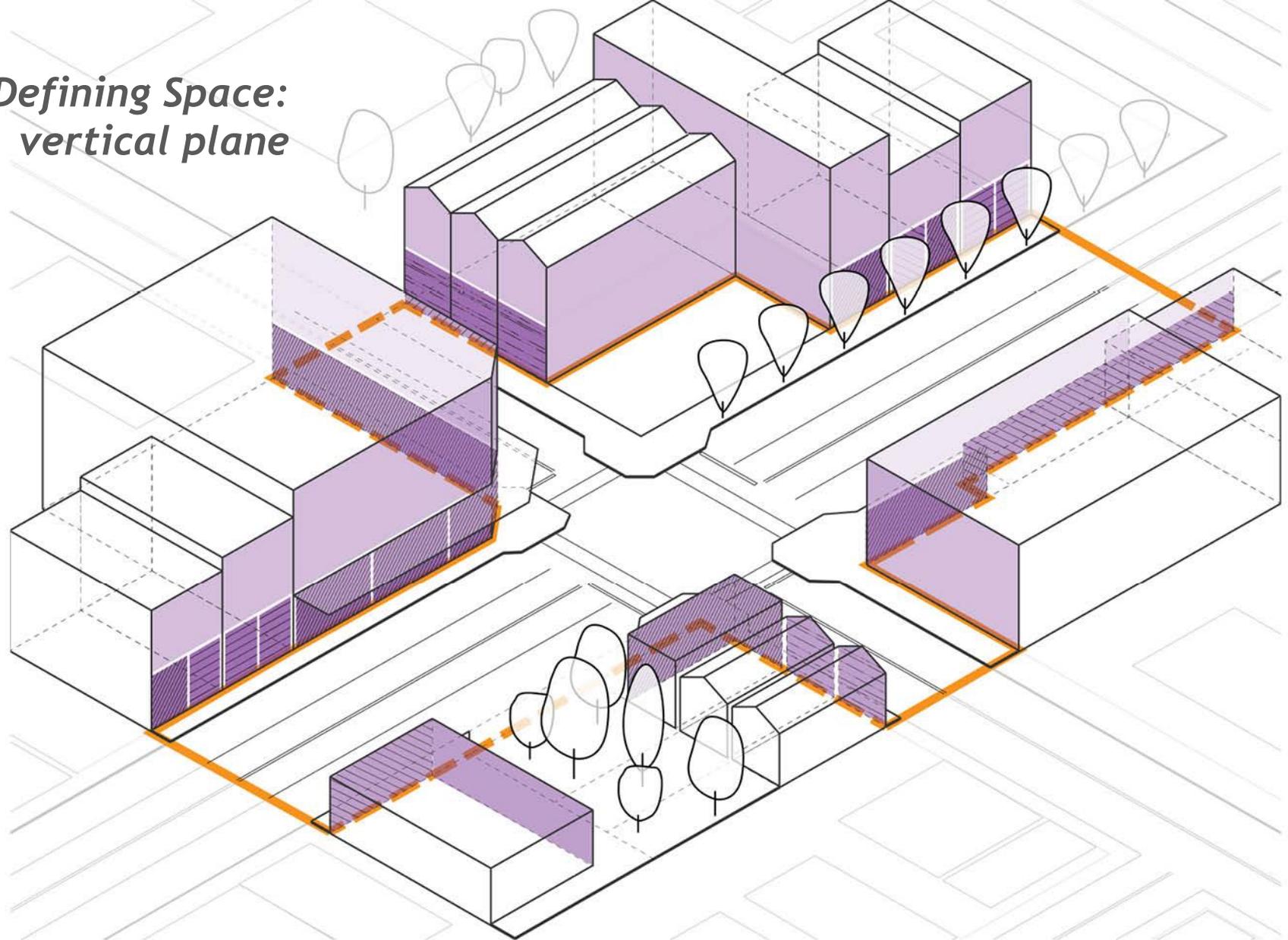




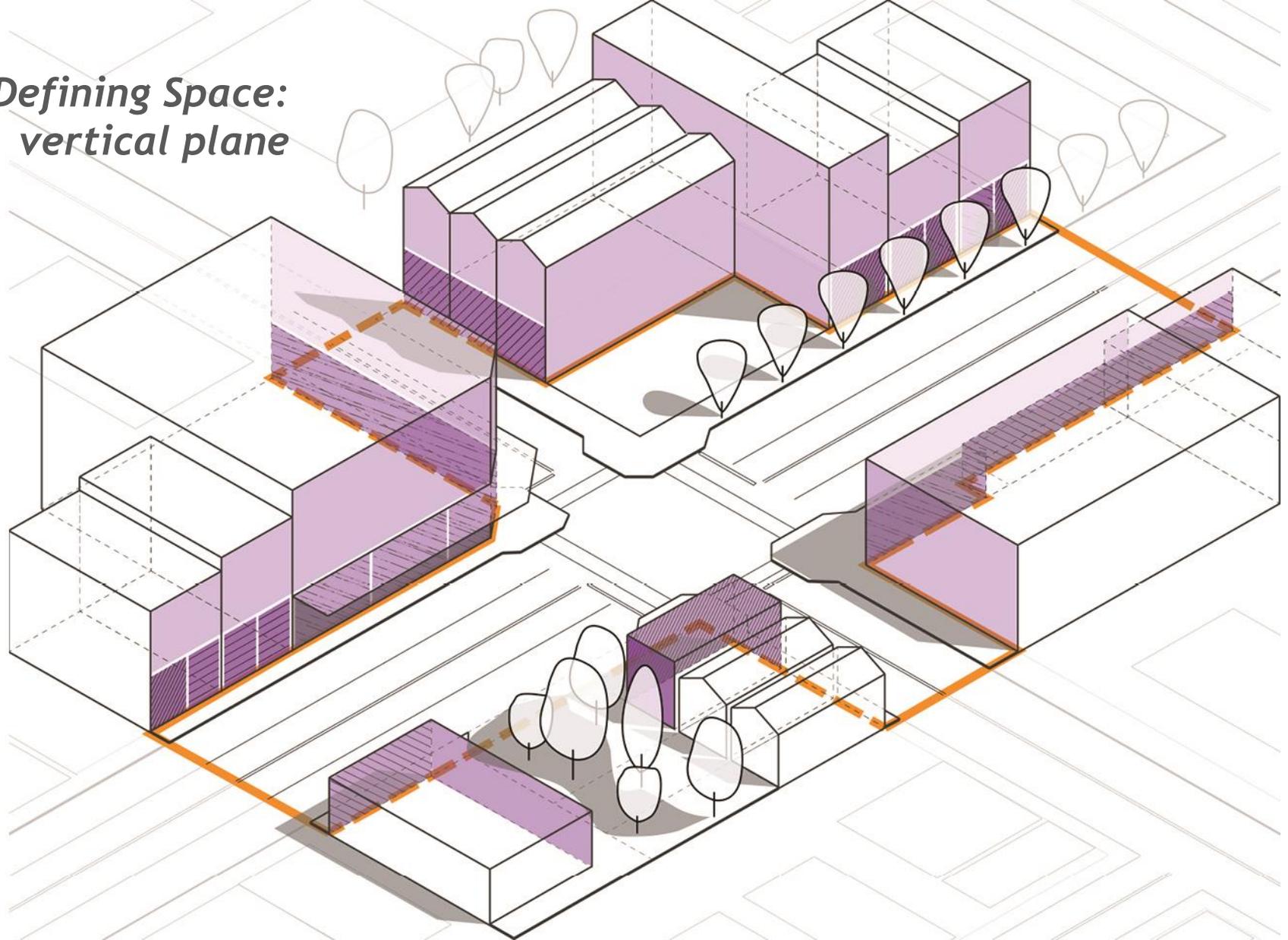
# Defining Space: Boundaries | Edges



# Defining Space: vertical plane

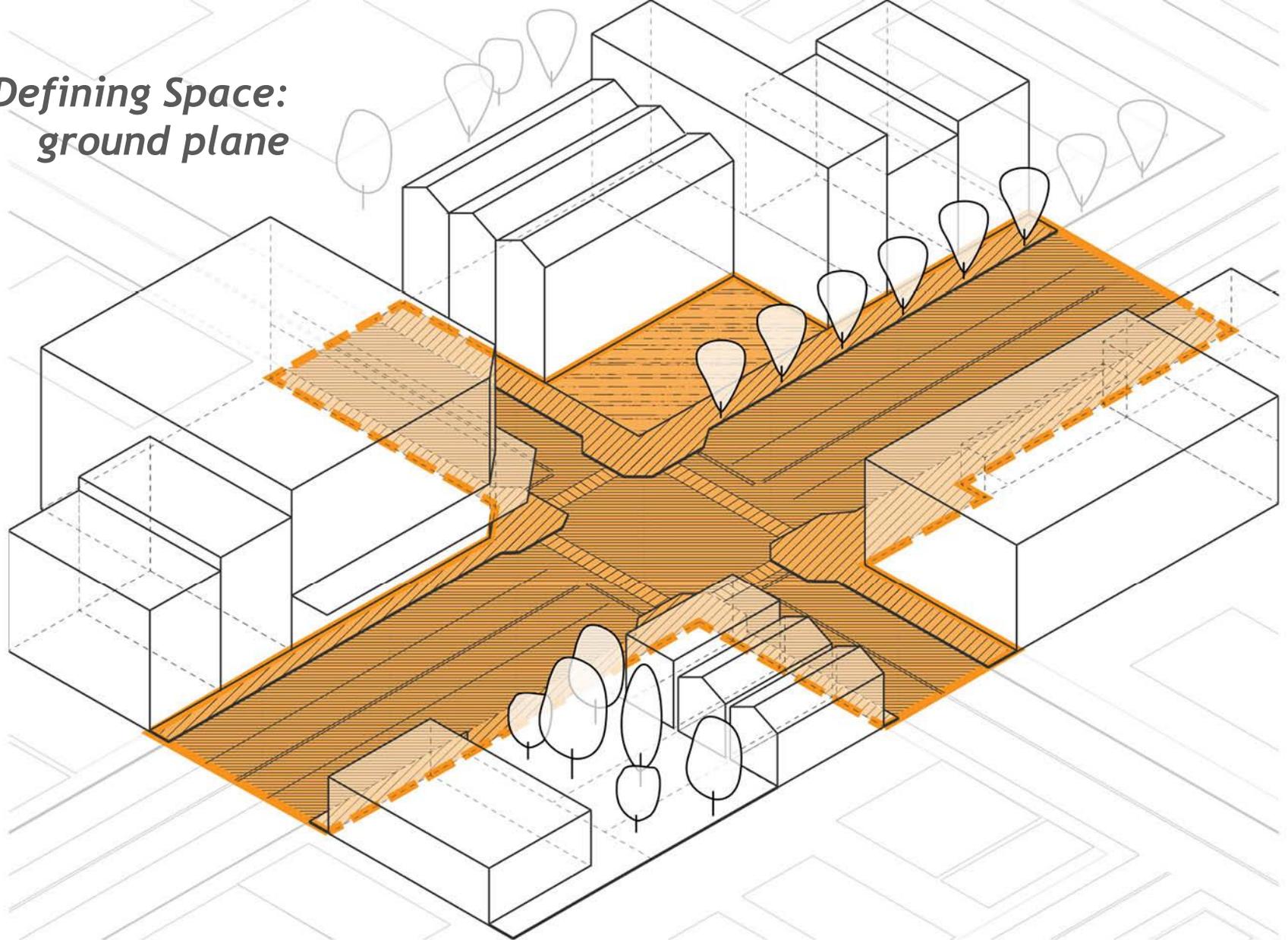


# Defining Space: vertical plane





**Defining Space:  
ground plane**



*Defining Space:  
ground plane*



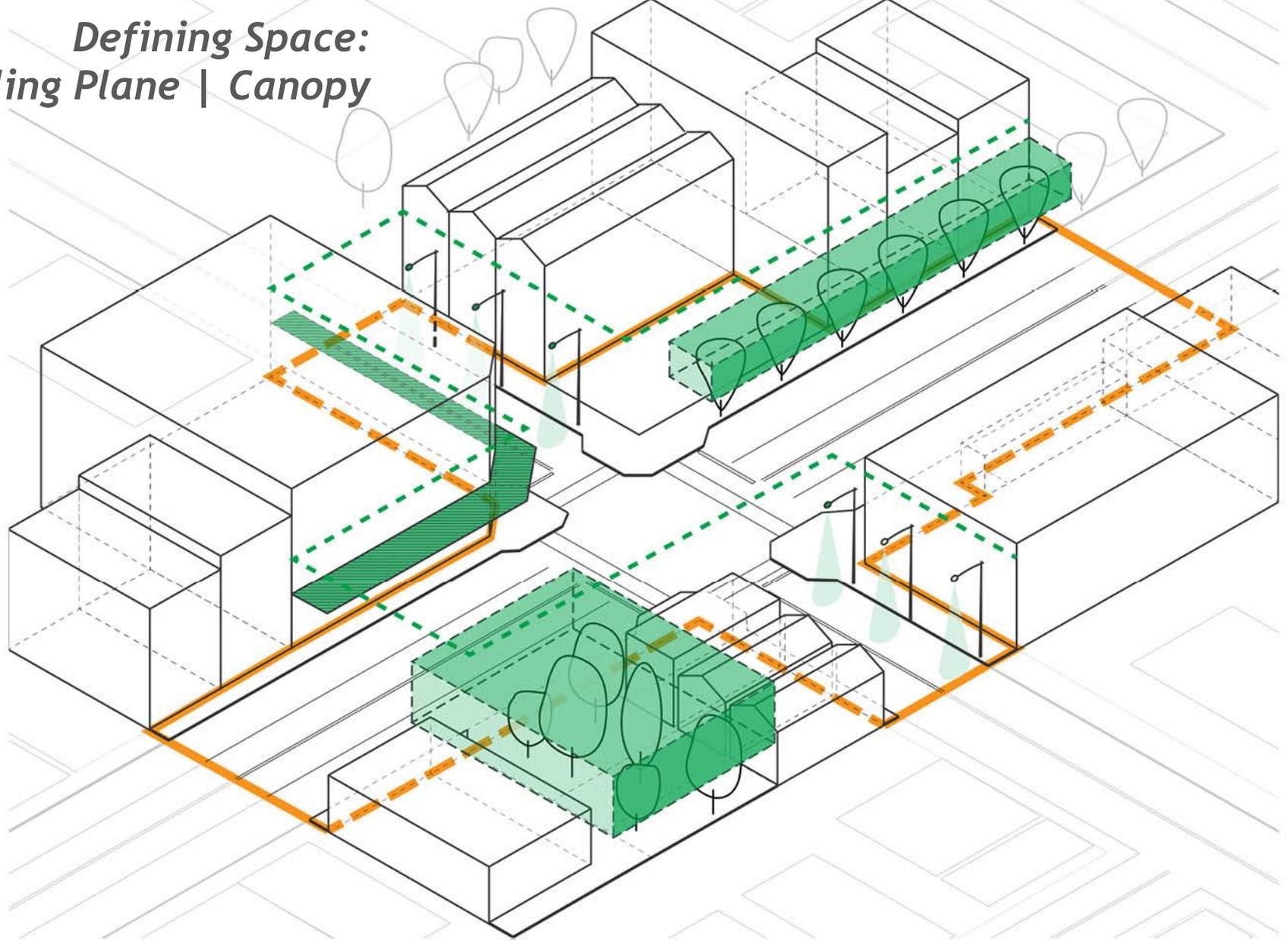
# Defining Space: ground plane







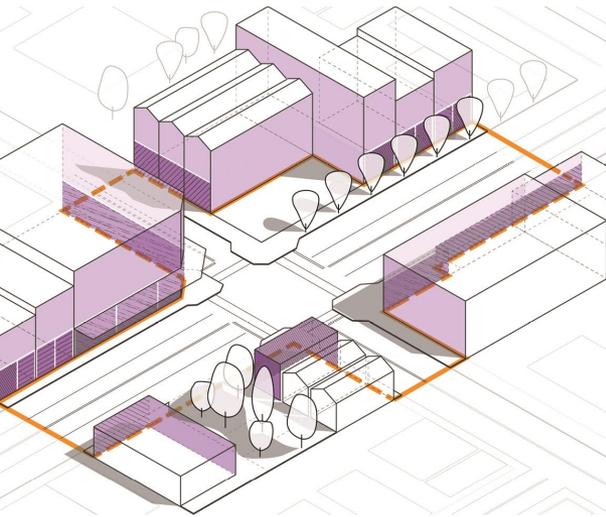
# Defining Space: Ceiling Plane | Canopy



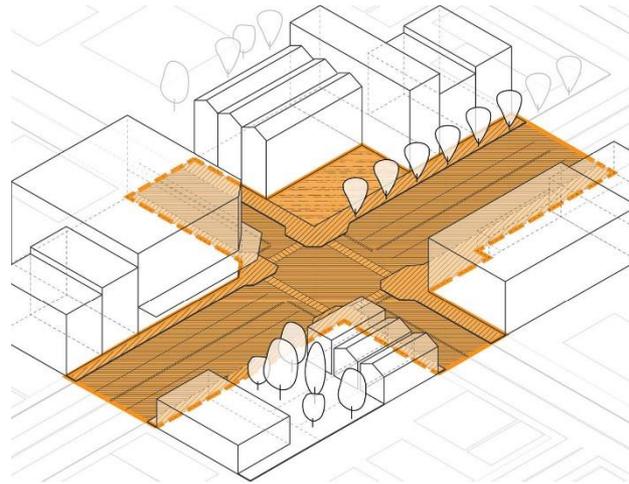




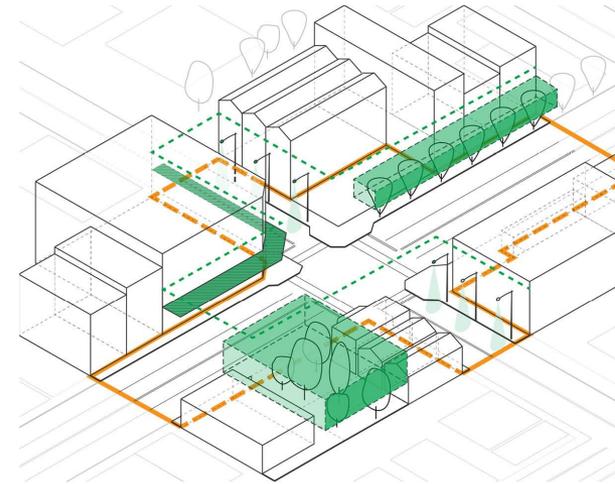




*Vertical*

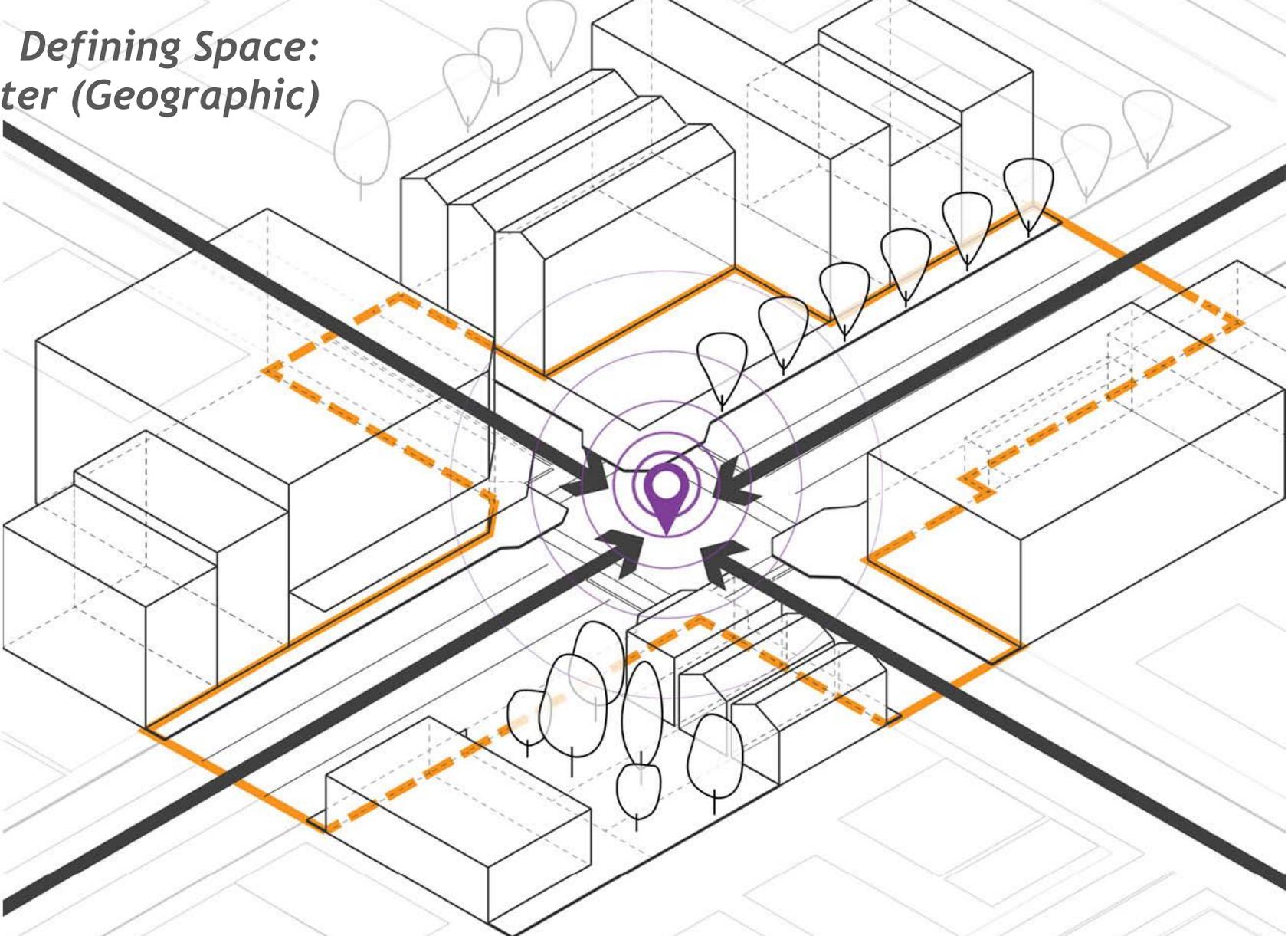


*Ground*



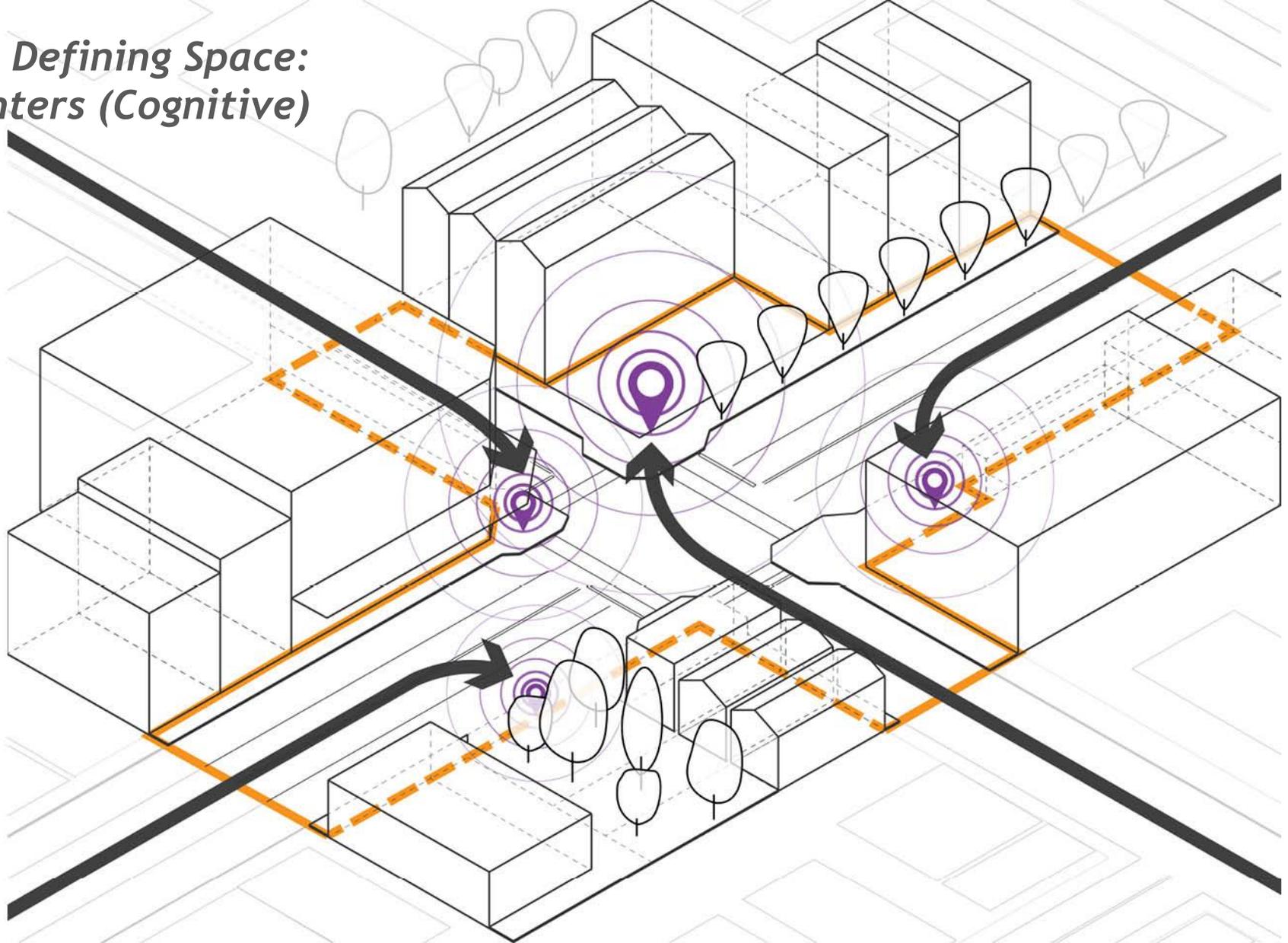
*Canopy*

# Defining Space: Center (Geographic)

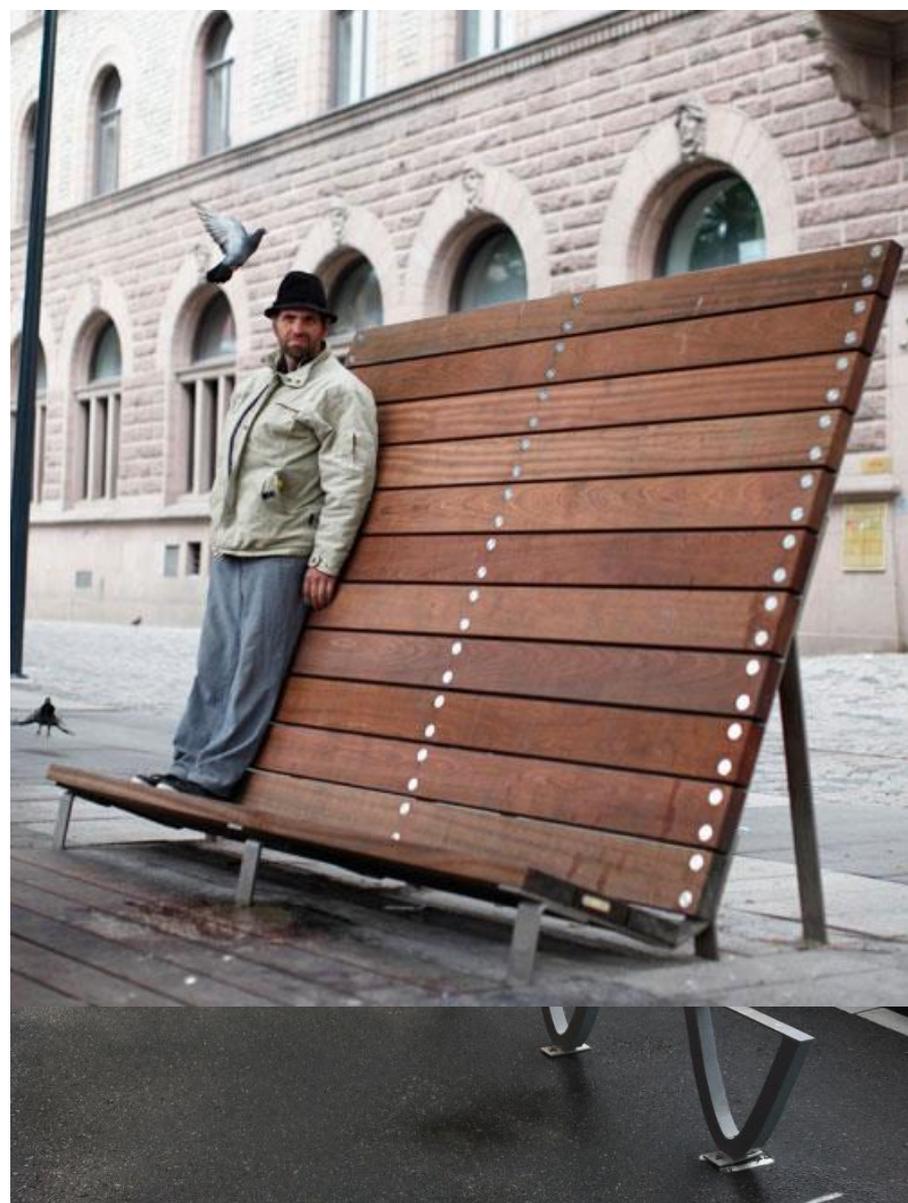




# Defining Space: Centers (Cognitive)



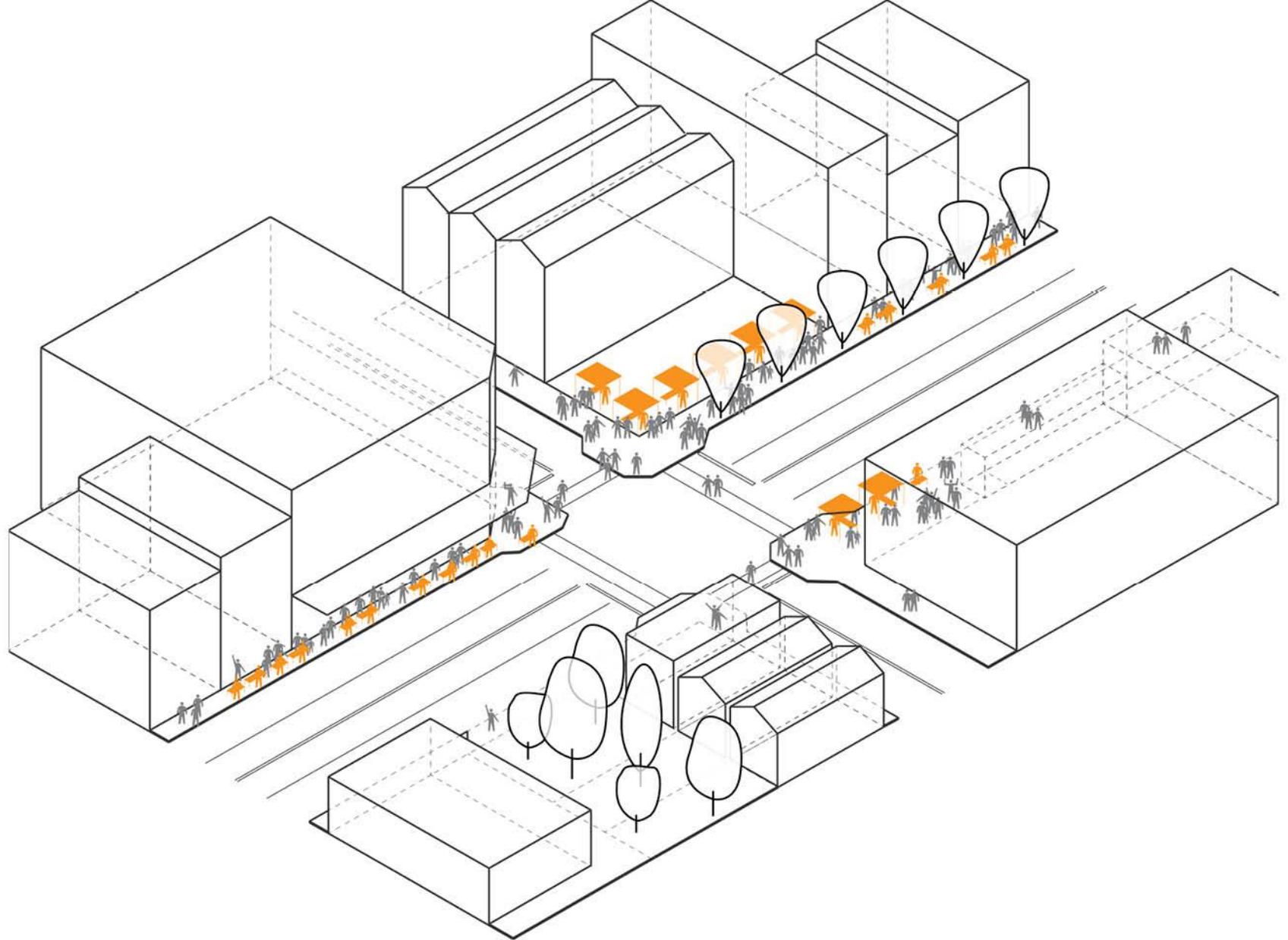




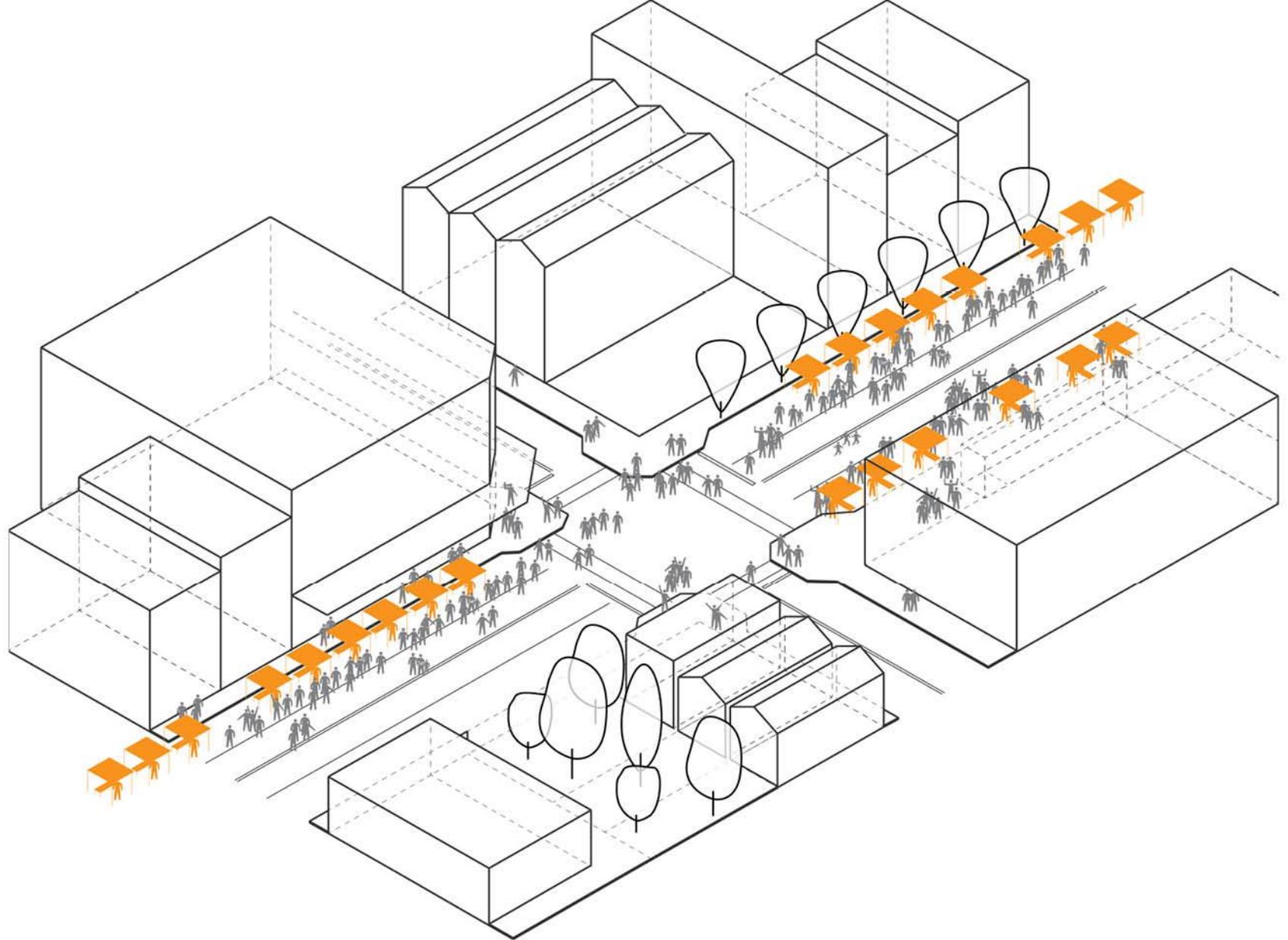


Flatiron Bldg., Asheville, NC

Downtown Mall, Charlottesville, VA







*defining space for:  
festival programming*



Union Square, Somerville, MA





# Congress Square Evaluation Tool

Rate the following statements on the scale of 1-5.

1= strongly disagree 2= disagree 3= neutral 4=agree 5=strongly agree

## A. Evaluate Congress Square (40 minutes)

### Access

The square is easily visible from a distance.	1	2	3	4	5
The edges of the square are clear and reinforce the square's identity.	1	2	3	4	5
There is adequate wayfinding (directional signage, location information).	1	2	3	4	5
Automobiles do not detract from the pedestrian experience.	1	2	3	4	5
Bicycling facilities are provided in the travelway.	1	2	3	4	5
Bicycle routes are well marked.	1	2	3	4	5
Public Transit stops and routes are convenient to the square.	1	2	3	4	5
Automobiles are able to move safely and efficiently.	1	2	3	4	5
High parking turnover is provided.	1	2	3	4	5
Pedestrians can easily walk throughout the area.	1	2	3	4	5
All parts of the square are accessible for differing levels of mobility.	1	2	3	4	5
Pedestrian access is safe and convenient:					
- Each area of the square is well connected	1	2	3	4	5
- Crosswalks are well located	1	2	3	4	5
- Crossing distances are minimal	1	2	3	4	5

### Comfort and Image

The square is attractive and fits its surroundings.	1	2	3	4	5
The square reflects and highlights its position within the Arts District.	1	2	3	4	5
The square is a meaningful destination.	1	2	3	4	5
The square respects and highlights important cultural and historic features (historic landmarks, Union Station clock, museum, theater).	1	2	3	4	5
The space feels safe and well cared for.	1	2	3	4	5
The square provides a comfortable environment to occupy the space.	1	2	3	4	5

The materials that create the square properly reflect its image.	1	2	3	4	5
The square reflects the seasonal changes of the Portland climate.	1	2	3	4	5
There is adequate sun and shade accommodation in winter and summer (trees, shade structures, open space)	1	2	3	4	5

### Uses and Activities

Different experiences are provided within the square.	1	2	3	4	5
There are enough places to sit.	1	2	3	4	5
There are gathering points within the square.	1	2	3	4	5
Bicycle parking is adequate.	1	2	3	4	5
Existing features encourage interaction and use.	1	2	3	4	5
Activity happens throughout the square.	1	2	3	4	5
Planned programs and events take place in the square.	1	2	3	4	5
The edges of the square contribute to activity and use.	1	2	3	4	5
The square supports flexibility of programming and activity.	1	2	3	4	5

### Sociability

Different groups of people feel comfortable occupying the space.	1	2	3	4	5
The square is used all times of day.	1	2	3	4	5
The square contributes to neighborliness and unplanned interaction.	1	2	3	4	5
The square encourages social interaction.	1	2	3	4	5
The square has places for larger and smaller groups and single people to gather.	1	2	3	4	5

### Spatial

The edges of Congress Square create a legible space.	1	2	3	4	5
The buildings are supported with adequate open space to support flow between inside and outside	1	2	3	4	5
Facades of buildings play an active role in the identity and feeling of the square.	1	2	3	4	5



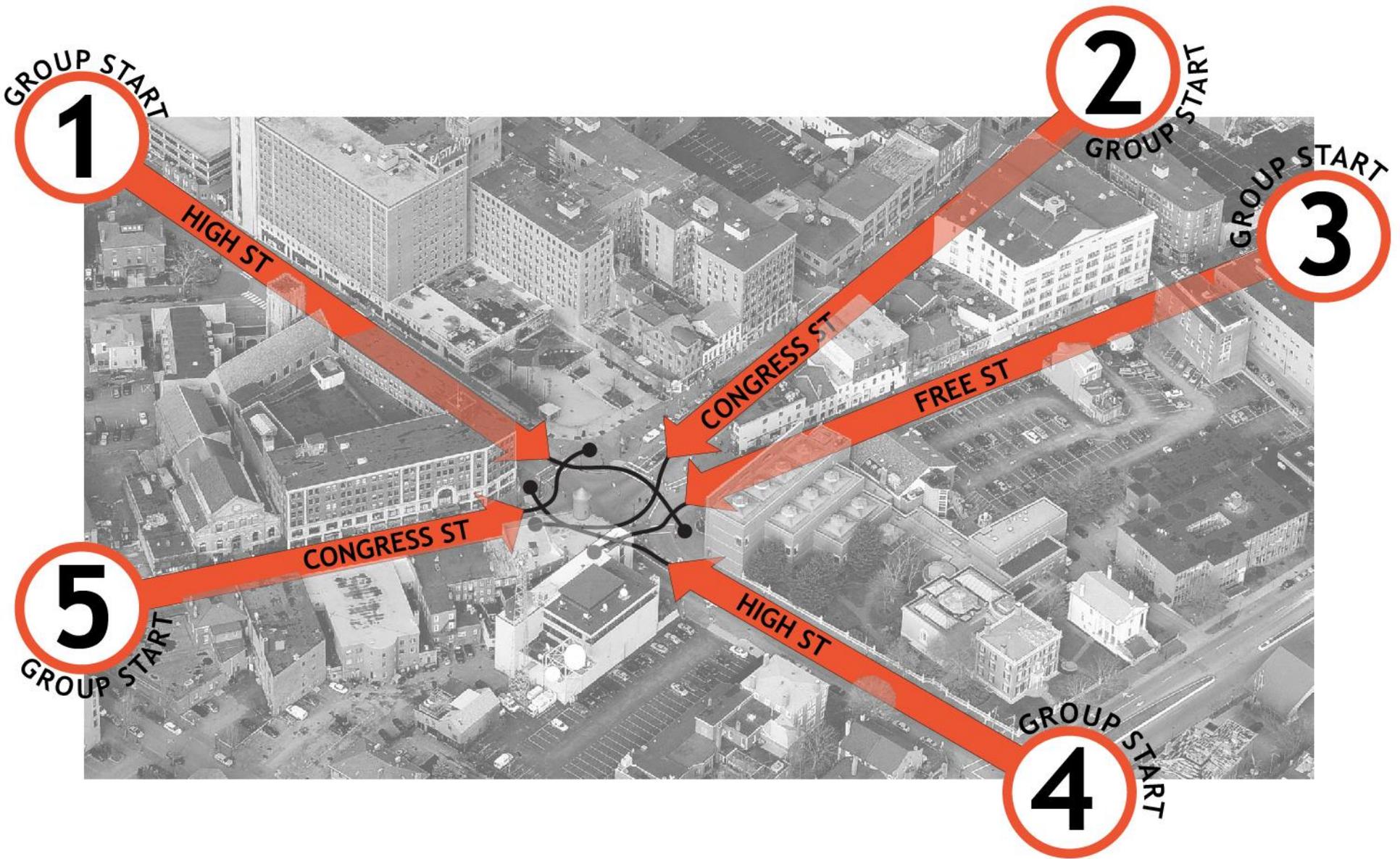
**B. Note any additional problems/needs you see**

**Now GO BACK INSIDE and warm up!**

**Once inside, YOU WILL HAVE 30 MINUTES TO DISCUSS THE  
QUESTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGES.**







THANK YOU!

