

The image shows two large, cylindrical concrete water towers standing on a grassy field. In the background, there are several houses and bare trees, suggesting a suburban or rural setting. The sky is overcast. The text is overlaid in the center of the image.

THE GATHERING STACKS

A Mercer Island Community Space



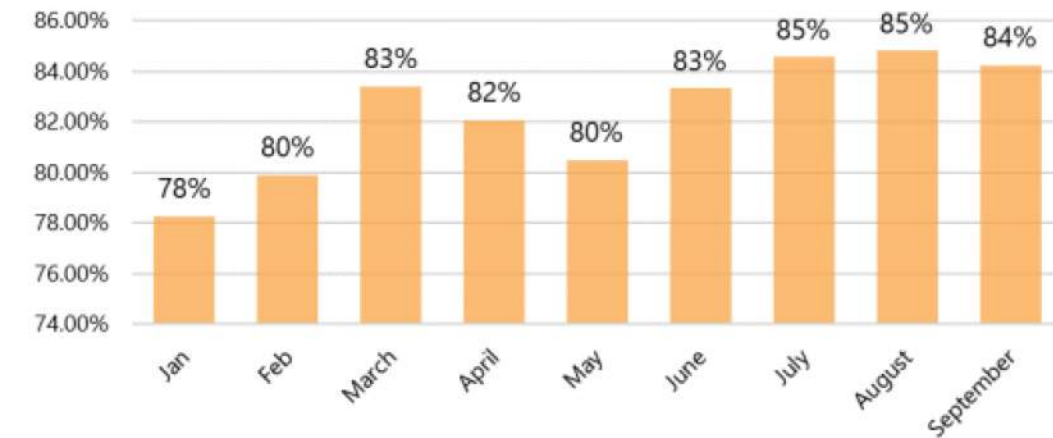
AN OPPORTUNITY

A need has been identified for a passive place of
inspiration and introspection,
as well as
congregation and community,
on the island.

A COMMUNITY IN NEED

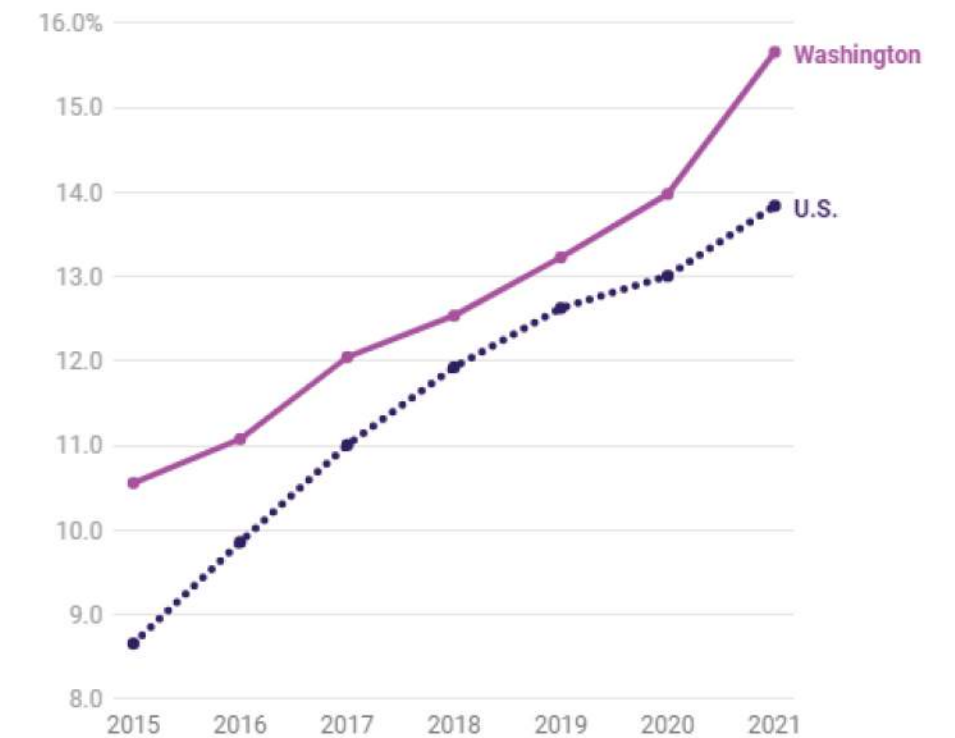
- Mercer Island is a community of abundance, yet there is a surprising amount of struggle
- The trend of struggle is worsening, especially with the effects COVID-19
- Disease management literally developed a culture of apartness, now we must retrain ourselves to engage

Percent Scoring Moderate to Severe Depression (PHQ-9) January - September 2020



“Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, youth ages 11 - 17 were more likely than any other age group to score for moderate to severe symptoms of anxiety and depression.”

12- to 17-year-olds Reporting One Major Depressive Episode Within the Last Year



Source: Mental Health America, 2021

PROPOSED SITE AN INTRIGUING PLACE



THE STACKS THE POWER OF THIS PLACE



HIDDEN DISCOVERY
PROMONTORY
PERCH
ELEVATED
VIEWS TO AFAR
UNNATURAL LANDSCAPE
UNINSPIRED UTILITY
PASSED BY PLACE
POWERFUL SCALE
A CHERISHED PLACE

AUBREY DAVIS PARK MASTER PLAN ARTS + PLACEMAKING



PLAY AND INTERACT
Interactive installations that enhance play and encourage all ages to engage

ENGAGE WITH THE OUTDOORS
Art that complements and integrates with the park's natural landscape

ART-INSPIRED OPPORTUNITIES FOR COMMUNITY
Year-round experiences with public art, seasonal foliage, and art that embraces the weather

CREATE AMBIENCE AND EXPERIENCE
Artistic elements that incorporate lighting, sound, and other features to enhance safety and mitigate noise

EXPERIENCE NATURE AND ART THROUGH ALL SEASONS
Creative wayfinding, gateway, and safety elements that create/enhance connections and tell the story of a place

VISION

Create and strengthen community connections through arts and culture.

CORE TENETS:

- Provide welcoming & inclusive spaces to express & experience creativity.
- Experience nature and art through all season.
- Cultivate an art-inspired environment.
- Celebrate our Island - past, present, and future.

Building on the history of arts and culture in the park, the Mercer Island Arts Council has worked to identify an updated vision for using arts and culture to deepen community connections to the park and further enhance it as a place that community members want to spend their time. Through site visits, community input, and board working sessions, the Arts Council drafted a vision and core tenets to guide how art could create and maintain a sense of place in Aubrey Davis Park. This graphic presents the vision and tenets. It also provides examples of how the vision could be put into practice. The City's public art process is guided by existing policies that will be followed to make decisions on future arts and culture projects in the park. Further discussions will be had with the community to define more in-depth locations and art opportunities as part of future phases.

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AUBREY DAVIS PARK MASTER PLAN COMMUNITY INPUT

“The Stacks are an **amazing, unique community asset** that can be projected or painted on or provide an interactive stage for performances at the site that create **community gathering** and new shared community events at the site.”

- Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan Appendix J: Arts & Culture Opportunities

“Art that **ties into public utilities** and functional aspects of the site.”

- Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan Appendix K: Community Outreach Events: Public Forum

“Immersive art experience;
moving through the stacks for example...”

- Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan Appendix K: Community Outreach Events: Public Forum

THE EXPERIENCE IT STARTS WITH THE STACKS



EMBRACING BOLD COLOR DRAW PEOPLE IN!



THE POWER OF A WORD DRAW PEOPLE IN!



THE POWER OF A WORD

PHILOSOPHY REFLECT
RELAX PROGRESS COMMUNITY
THINKING COMTEMPLATION
NATURE POETRY
REMEMBERANCE LANDSCAPE COURAGE THOUGHT
CONVERGENCE CHANGE IMPACTFUL PEACE
ENGAGE PARK

THE POWER OF THOUGHT

CHANGE

"Once we have tasted far streams, touched the gold, found some limit beyond the waterfall, a season changes and we come back changed but safe, quiet, grateful."

- William Stafford
(PNW Poet)

STRENGTH

"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence then, is not an act, but a habit."

- Aristotle

UNITY

"A healthy social life is found only when, in the mirror of each soul, the whole community finds its reflection, and when, in the whole community, the virtue of each one is living."

- Rudolf Steiner

PERSEVERE

"You may not control all the events that happen to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them."

- Maya Angelou

HOPE

"Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul and sings the tune without the words and never stops at all."

- Emily Dickinson

REMEMBER

"But as long as you remember what you have seen, then nothing is gone. As long as you remember, it is part of this story we have together."

- Leslie Marmon Silko
(Native American Poet)

ENDURE

"It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop."

- Confucius

COURAGE

"To be yourself in a world that is constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

LEARN

"Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence."

- Robert Frost

LOVE

"Love is such a powerful force. It's there for everyone to embrace - that kind of unconditional love for all of humankind. That is the kind of love that impels people to go into the community and try to change conditions for others, to take risks for what they believe in."

- Coretta Scott King



TACTILE DISCOVERY INTERACTION WITH WORDS

LOVE

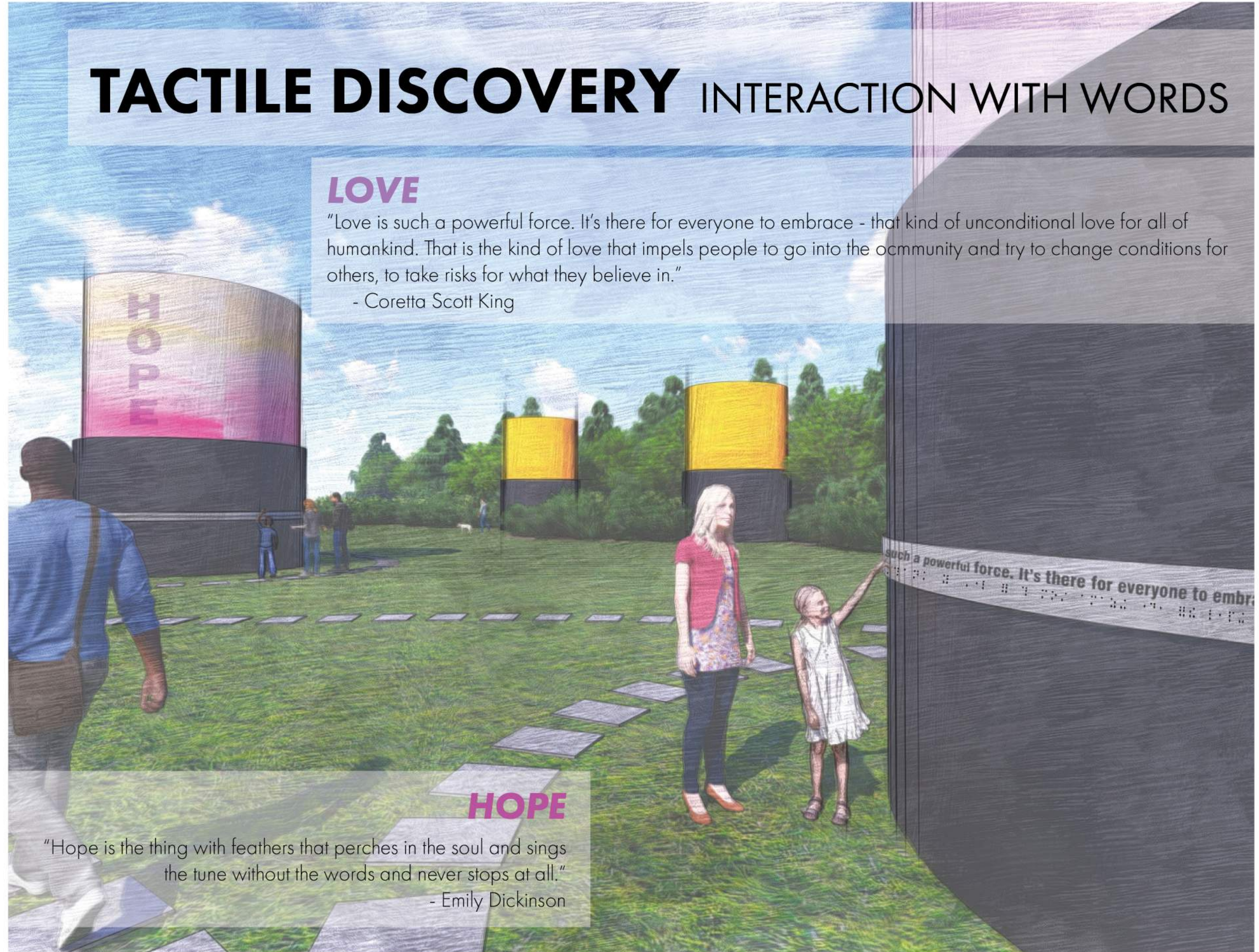
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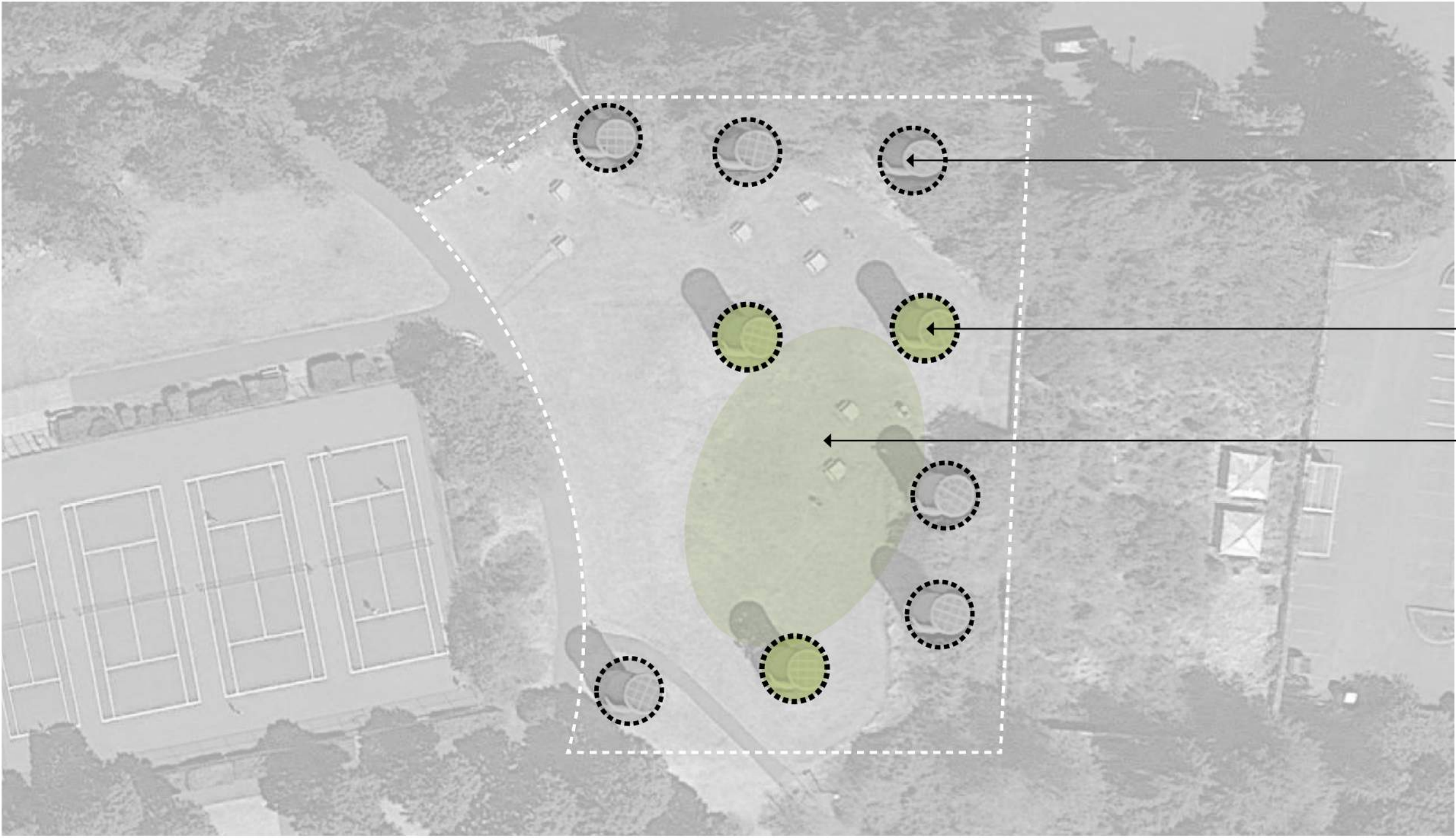
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SHAPING A JOURNEY PLACEMAKING WITHIN THE STACKS



BACKGROUND STACKS

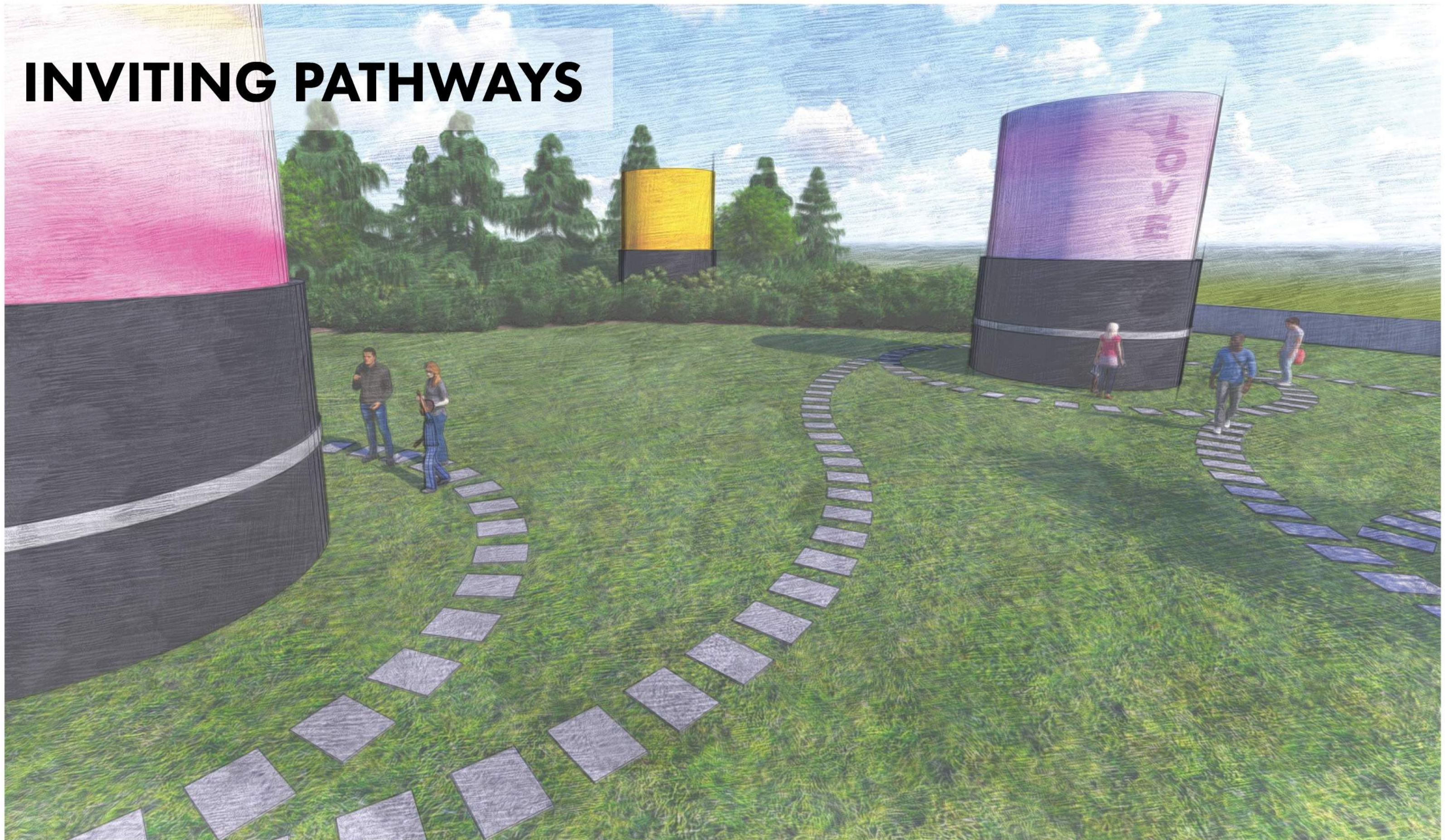
FEATURE STACKS

GATHERING AND
CIRCULATION SPACE

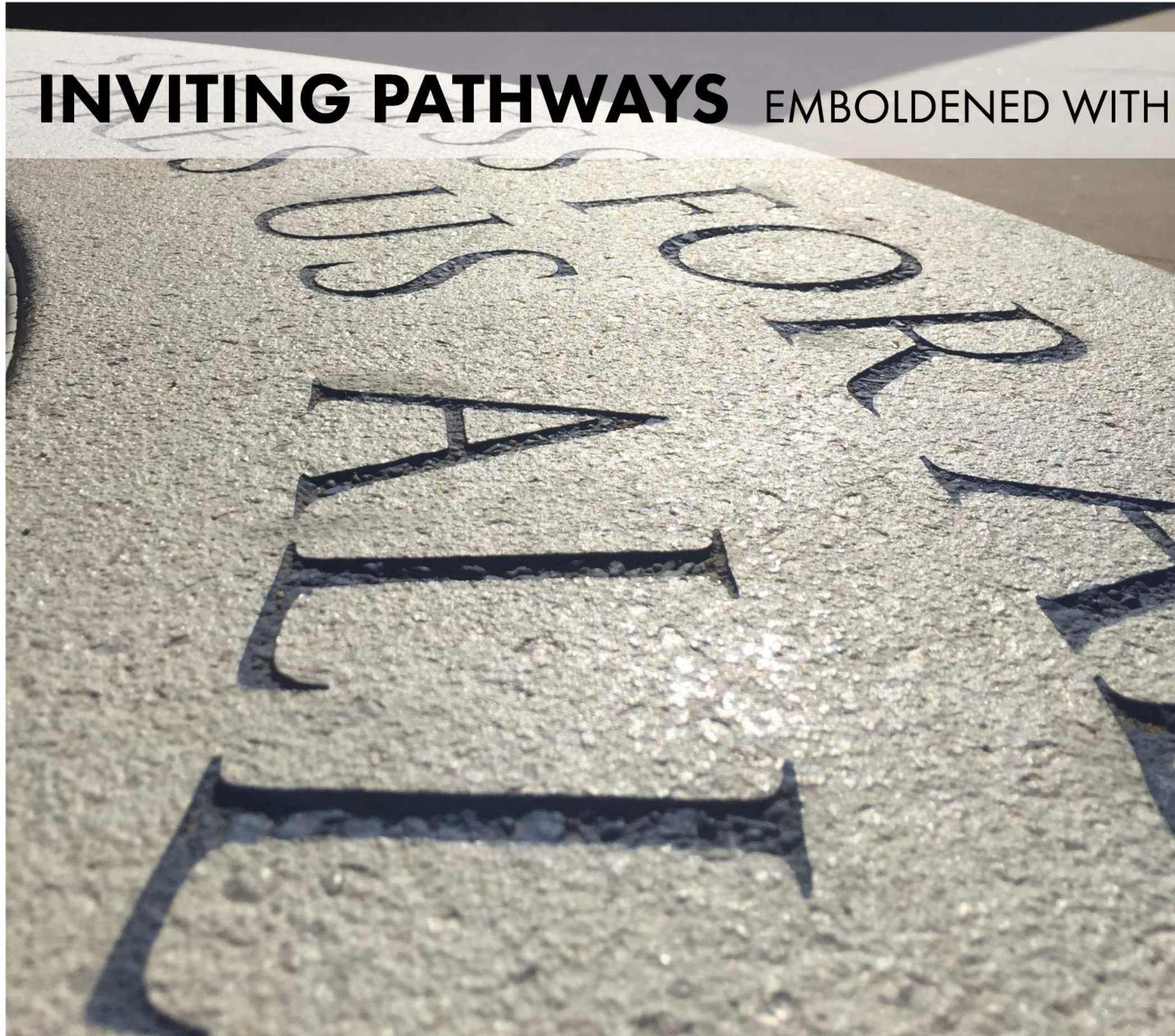
SHAPING A JOURNEY



INVITING PATHWAYS

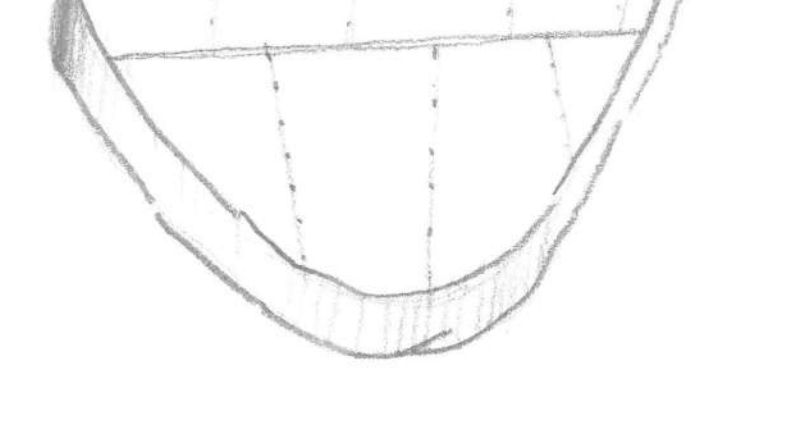
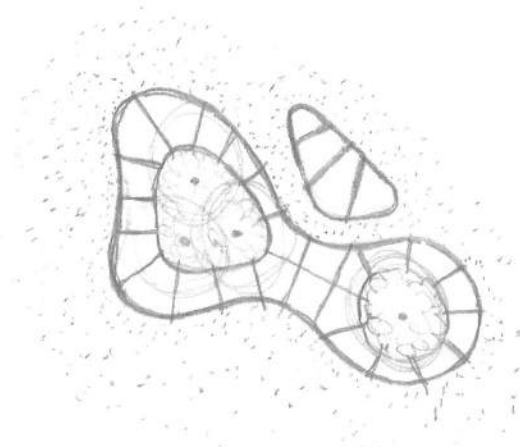
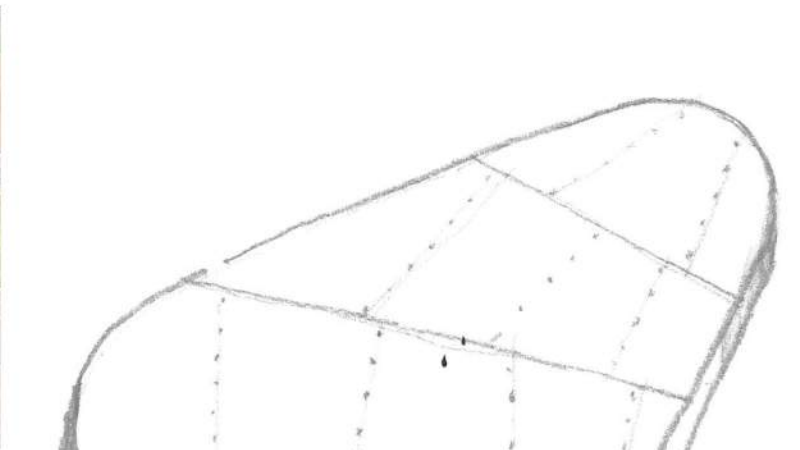


INVITING PATHWAYS EMBOLDENED WITH WORD AND THOUGHT

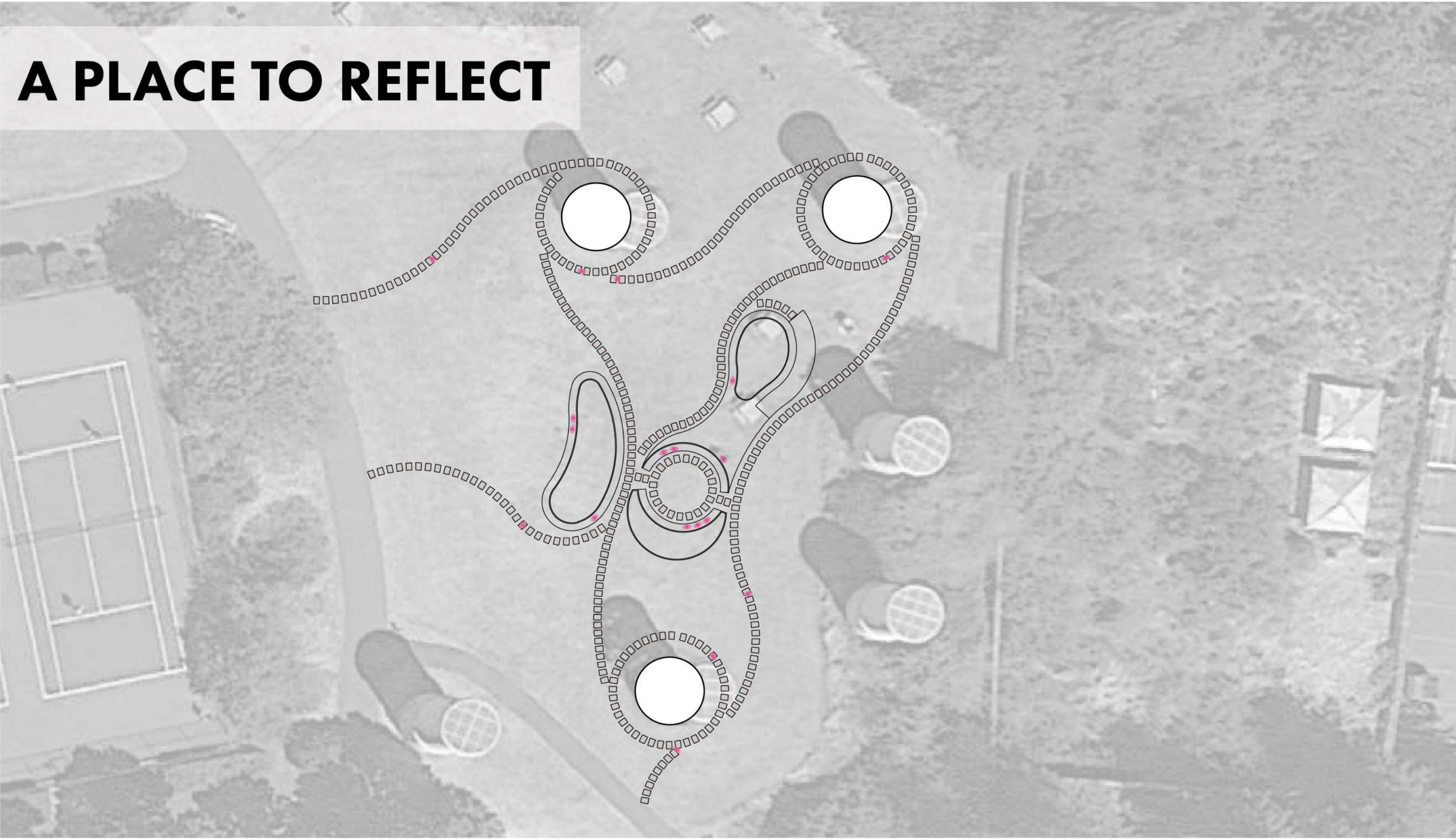


ADDING AMENITY

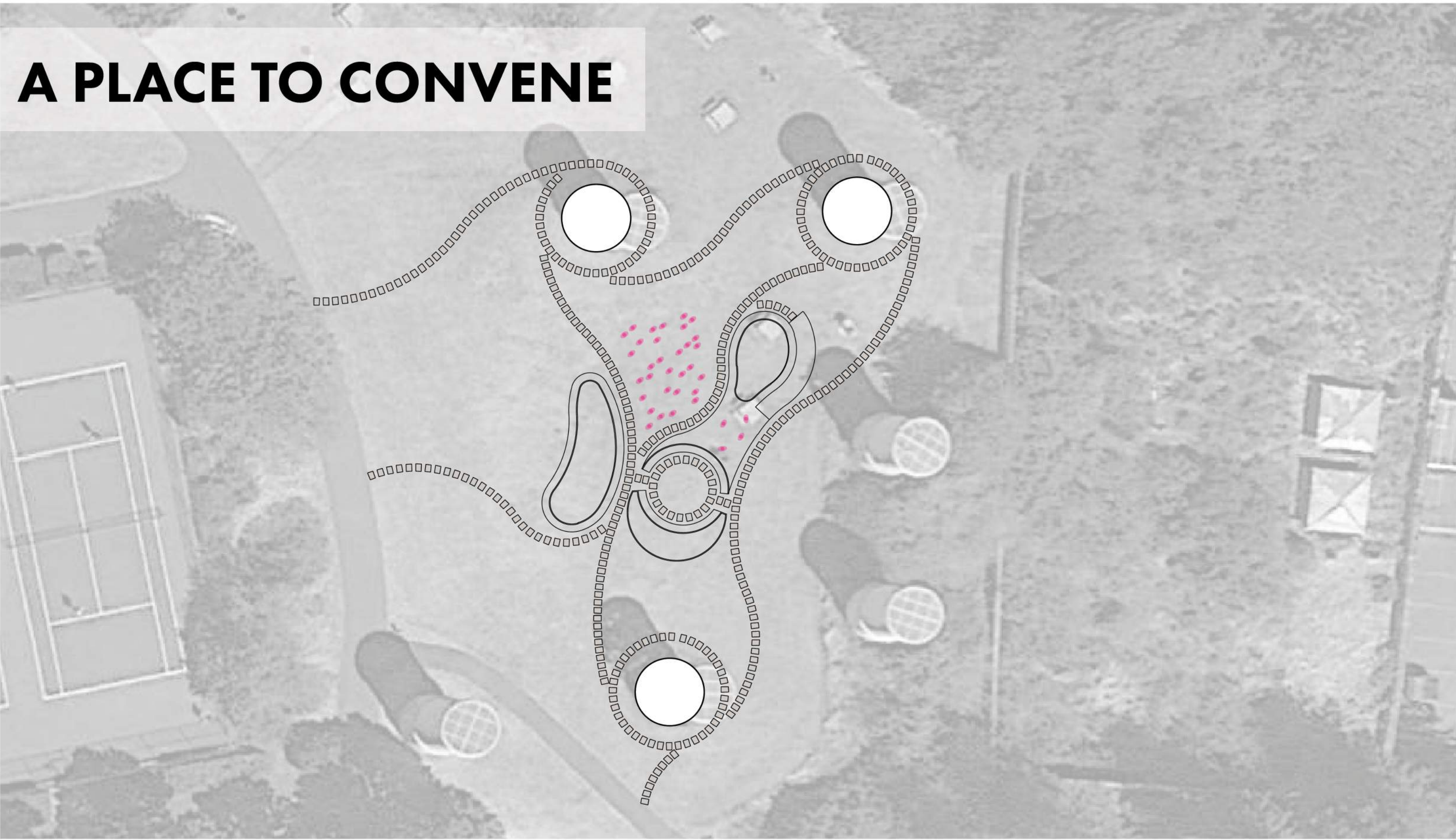
GATHERING ALONE... OR TOGETHER...



A PLACE TO REFLECT



A PLACE TO CONVENE









The background image shows two large, cylindrical concrete water towers standing in a grassy area. In the background, there are several trees and a two-story house with a white garage door. The sky is overcast with light clouds.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Confirm Donation Amount
- Right-Size the Project - it's Designed to Grow!
- Coordination with the City and WSDOT