

THE
ST. CHARLES
INITIATIVE

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
— OF THE FOX RIVER VALLEY —



St. Charles Initiative Update

In Partnership with the Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley

St. Charles Initiative

- City Council approved a memorandum of understanding with Community Foundation of the Fox River Valley in November 2018.
- An independent advisory committee comprised of St. Charles community leaders and residents.
- This public-private partnership provides funding for capital projects, programs and other improvements through charitable donations and endowments as an alternative to tax-based sources.



St. Charles Initiative

- Members

Emir Abinion	Conrad Hurst
Cris Anderson	Raymond Rogina
Ed Bessner	Tom Russe
Julie Christman	Lora Vitek (Chair)
Sara Corcoran	Steve Waszkowiak
John Hoscheit	

- Activities

- Meeting monthly since October 2019.
- Identified projects of interest.
- Website created for donations.
- Immediate focus on the First Street Plaza.

(630) 896-7800
info@cfrfv.org

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF THE FOX RIVER VALLEY

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1st Street East Plaza Fund

Established 2019

DONATE NOW

Note: If you are using Internet Explorer and attempting to make an online donation, please switch to another modern browser such as Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome. If you are still experiencing a technical difficulty, please contact the CFFRV offices at 630-896-7800.

The 1st Street East Plaza is a brick-paved pedestrian plaza that will sit across 1st Street from its sister plaza to the west. It will offer additional community gathering space and engaging public art. The East Plaza also will be accessible from the bi-level riverwalk along the west bank of the Fox River.



Plaza Concept

Goal of the Fund

This fund supports beautification of the plaza and installation of public art to enrich plaza aesthetics and encourage interaction for an enjoyable visiting experience.

First Street Plaza



Property Purchase

City Council made the decision to purchase the Manor Hole property for public use.

Fundraising Strategy

It was recognized that in order to raise funds, a drawing/concept would facilitate communication regarding the opportunity for potential donors.

Design Concept

Contract with Serena Sturm Architects and St. Charles Initiative Advisory Committee members meet weekly to develop a design concept for review by City Council.

City Council Feedback

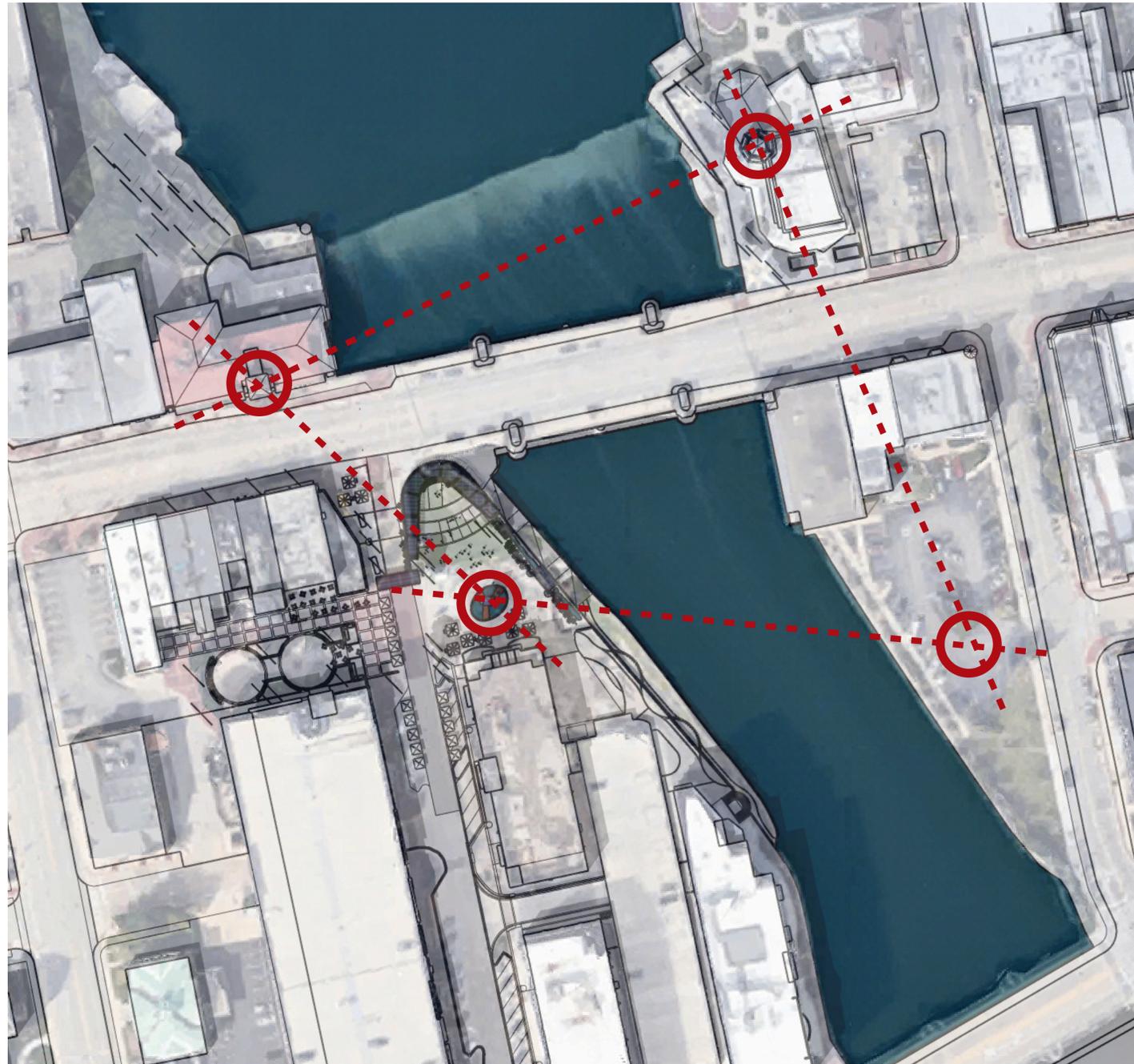
City Council members provide feedback on the plaza concept and approach.

Vision statement:

“A unique gathering place that celebrates the natural beauty and heritage of St. Charles.”

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First Street Plaza emphasizes cultural continuity, urban regeneration, environmental responsibility and community engagement.



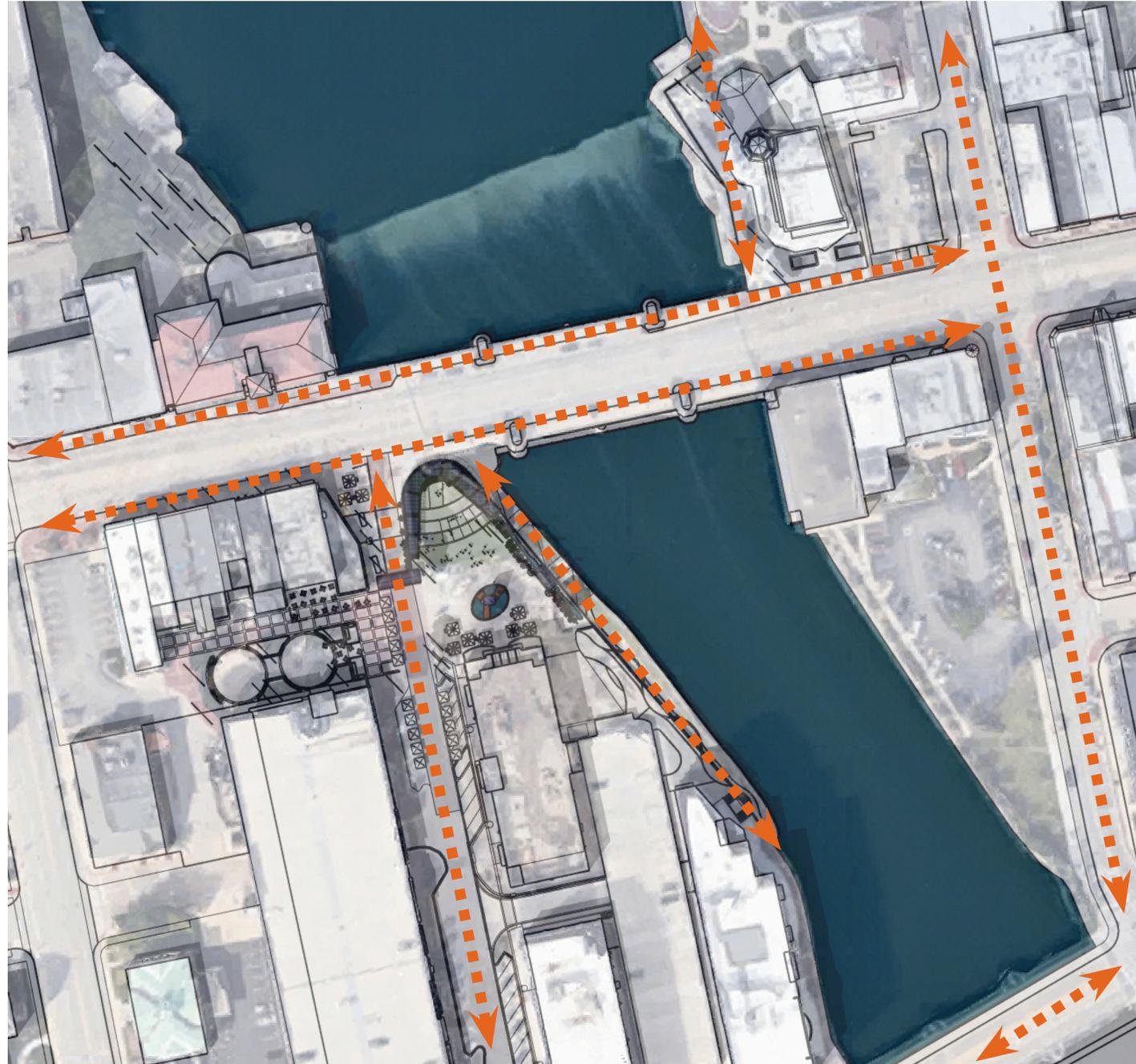
VISION AND URBAN ANALYSIS - ELEVATED PLACES



VISION AND URBAN ANALYSIS - GATHERING PLACES

“A unique gathering place that celebrates the natural beauty and heritage of St. Charles”

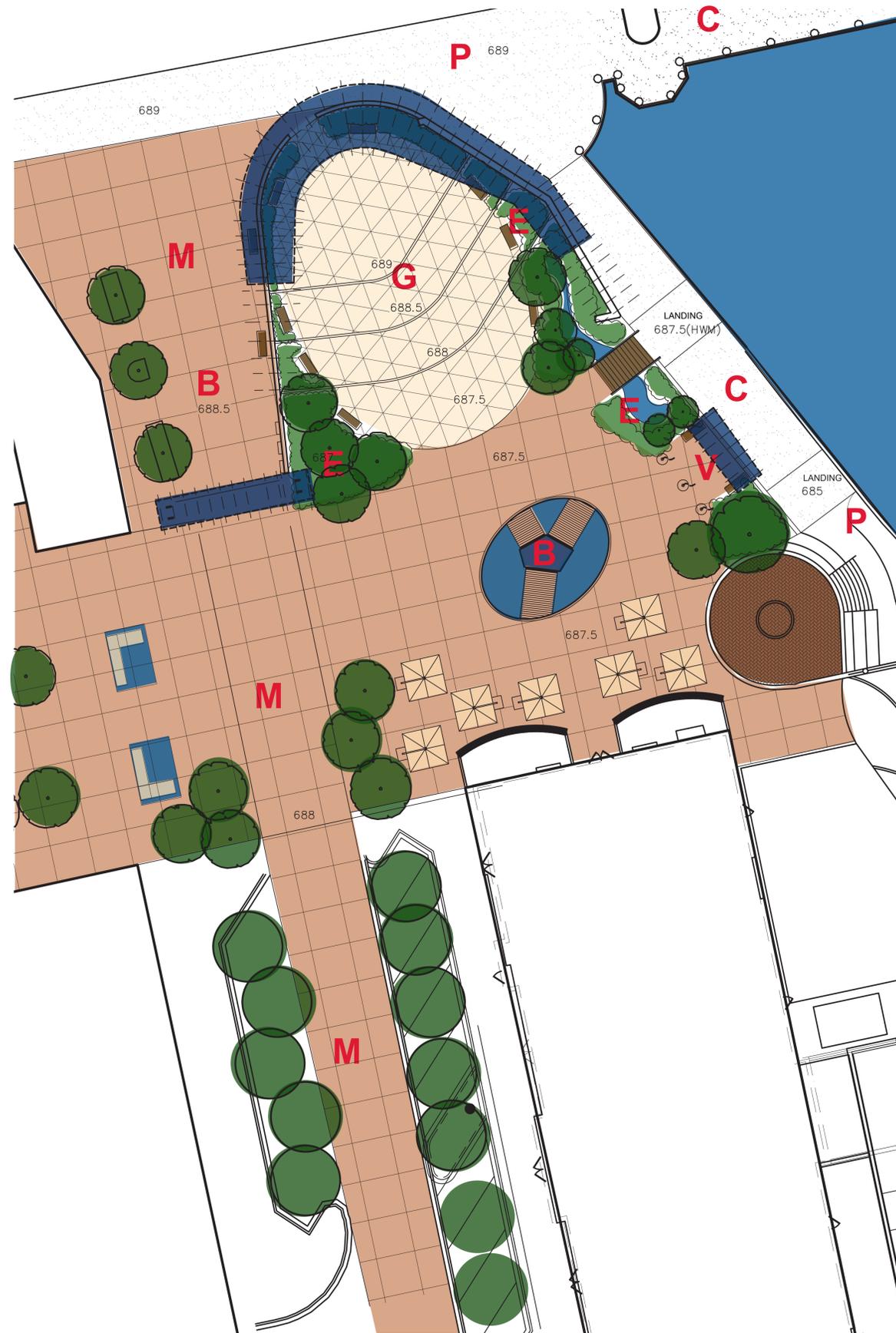
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VISION AND URBAN ANALYSIS - PEDESTRIAN CONNECTORS

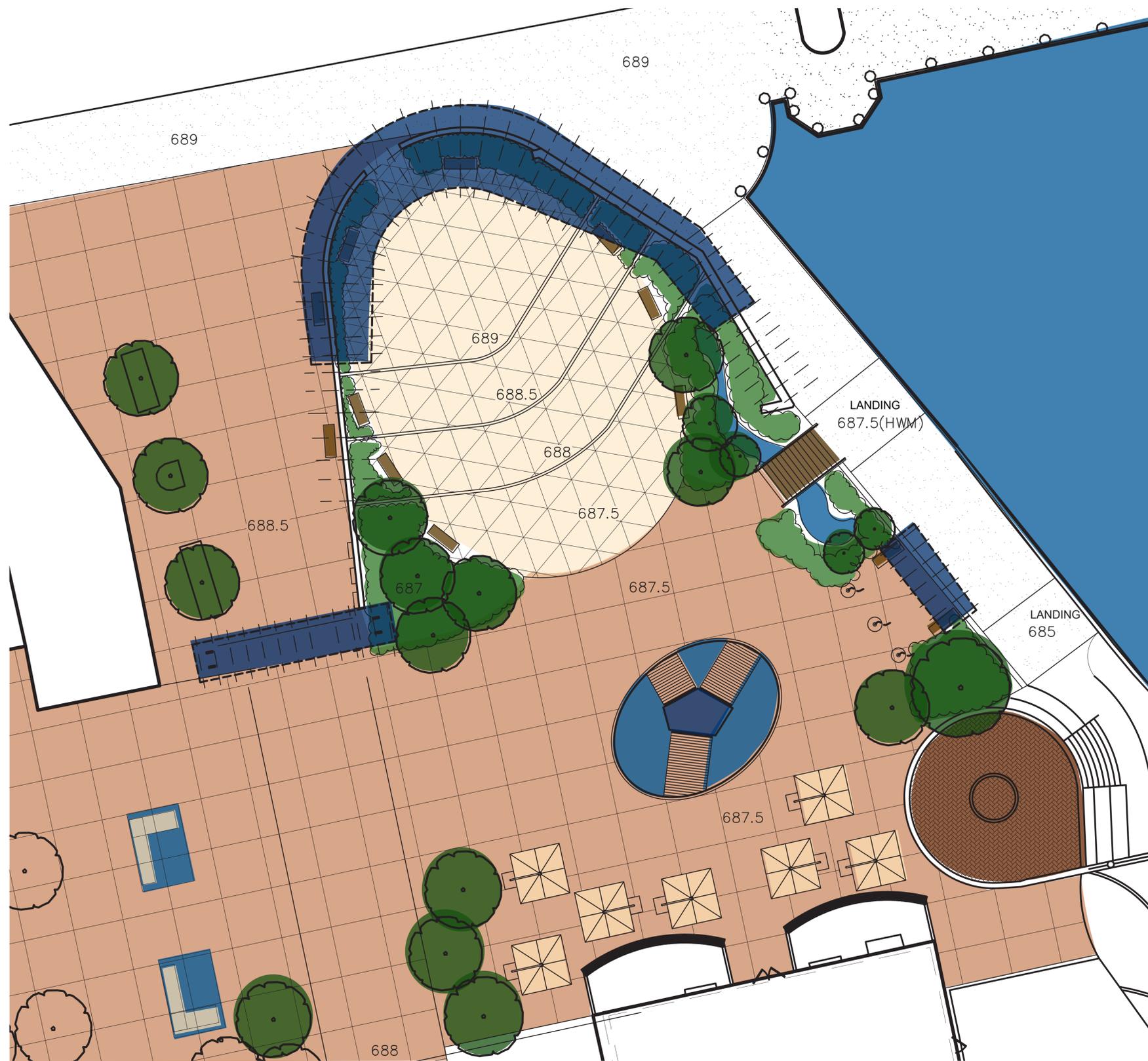


VISION AND URBAN ANALYSIS - CYCLING CONNECTORS



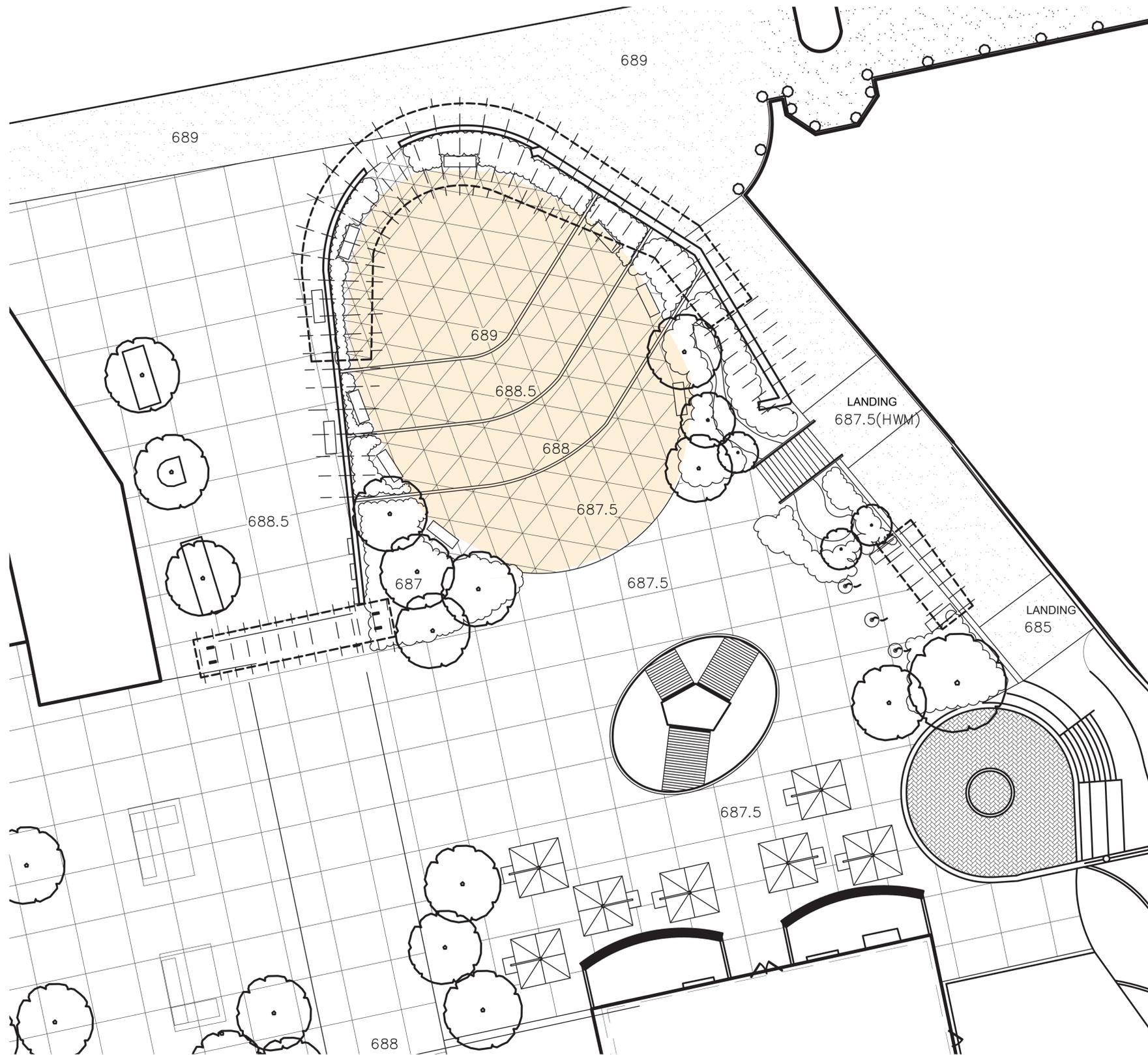
KEY

- E** - Enhance quality of local ecology
- G** - Supports various forms of gathering
- B** - Reinforcement of city heritage and beauty
- C** - Connectivity between river and bridge
- C** - Connectivity between each side of the river
- C** - Connectivity of north/south sides of Main St
- V** - Visual connectivity of multiple high value sites
- P** - Encourage pedestrian and cyclist traffic
- M** - Encourage street markets and activity



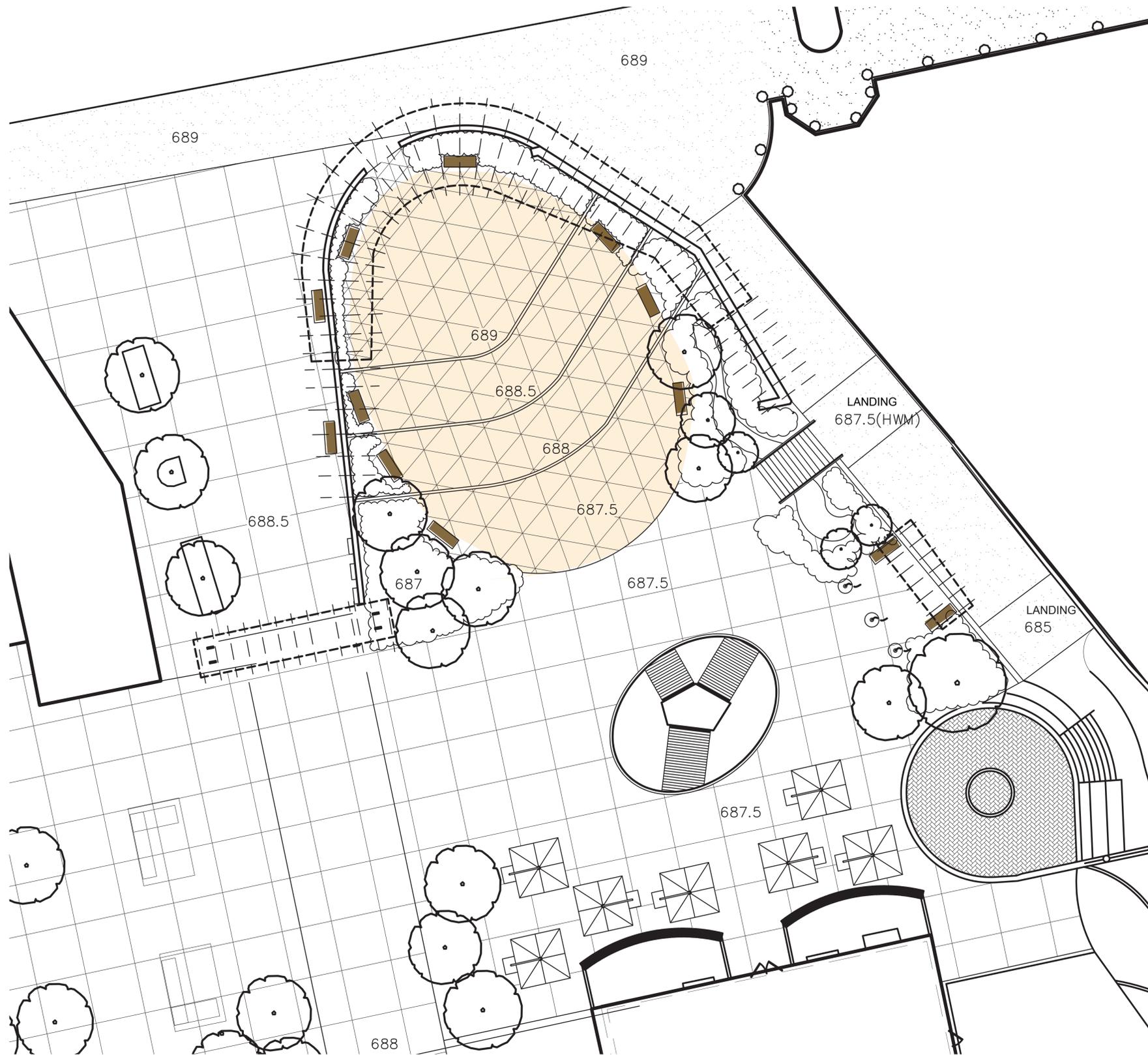
Synthesis Concept

- . **Ramping riverwalk** connects to Main Street Bridge
- . **Expanded bridge** Walkway improves pedestrian and cycling connectivity to East Side of River
- . **Ramp and bridge walkway** expansion provide expanded pedestrian platform at Plaza and Main Street
- . **Retains the history of the Green Mill café** by retaining it's wall holding the new park in place
- . **Graceful sweeping terrace** provide space for gathering and community events
- . **Raingardens and mini-swales** provide stormwater collection and cleansing opportunities
- . **Solar panel canopies and shade trees** provide comfortable seating and local energy
- . **Entry element** located at the First Street/Main Street marks the place and welcomes the community and it's visitors.
- . A strong focal statement **reflects the elevated places** of the Community - City Hall and the Heritage - Baker Hotel
- . **Extension of plaza** First Street from Main to Walnut envisioned as a vehicle-free place making way for leisure and community activities.



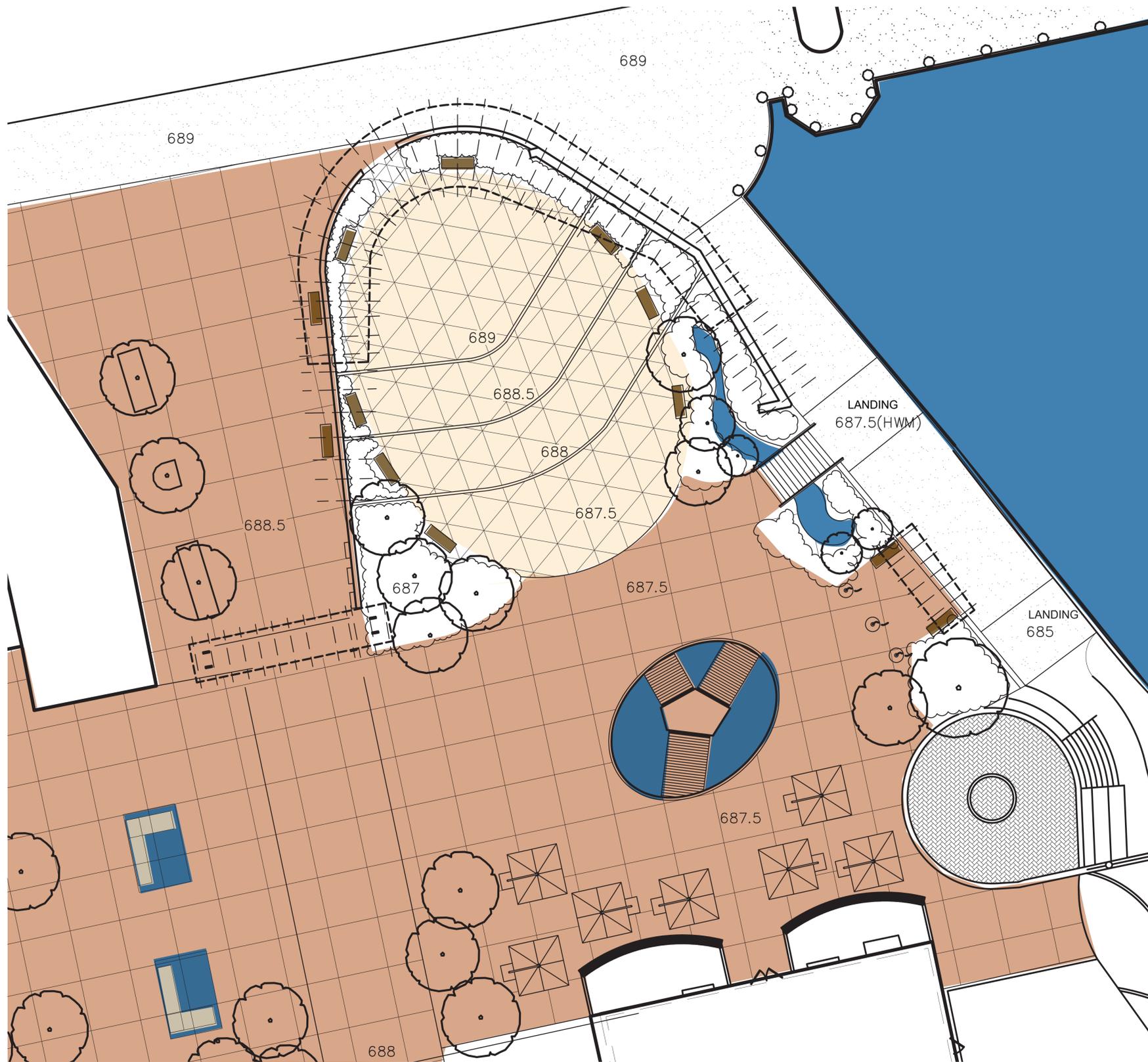
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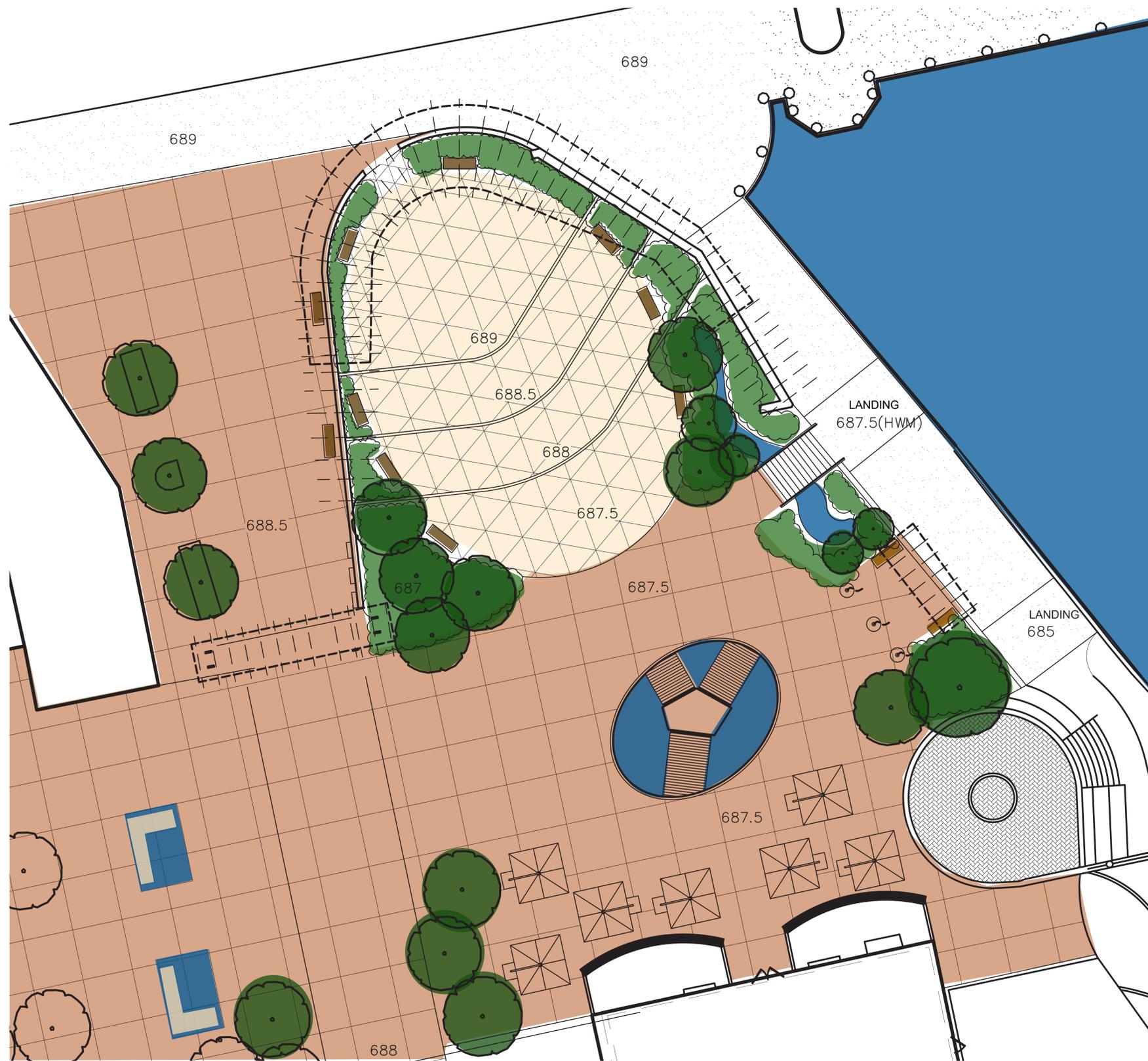
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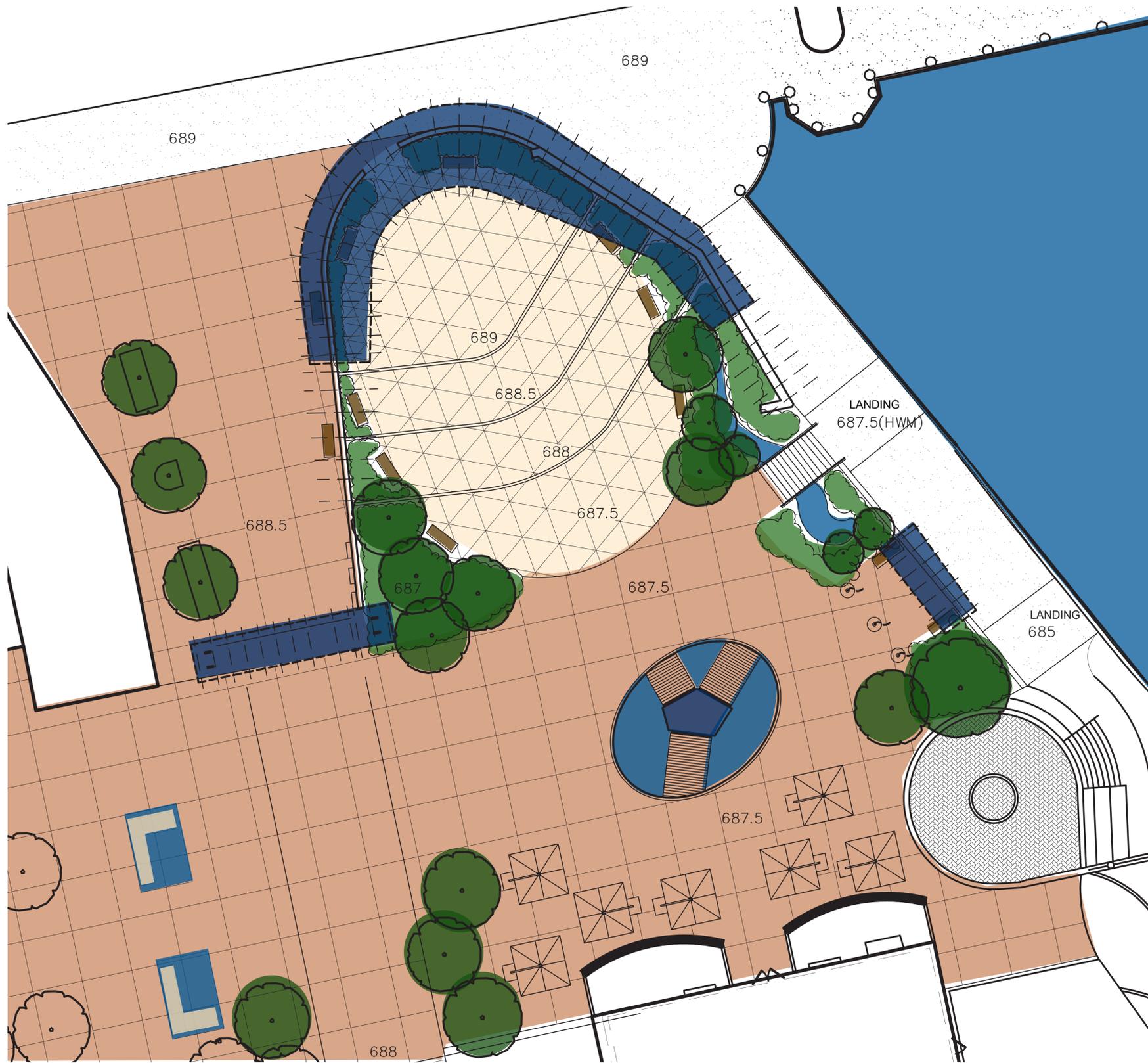
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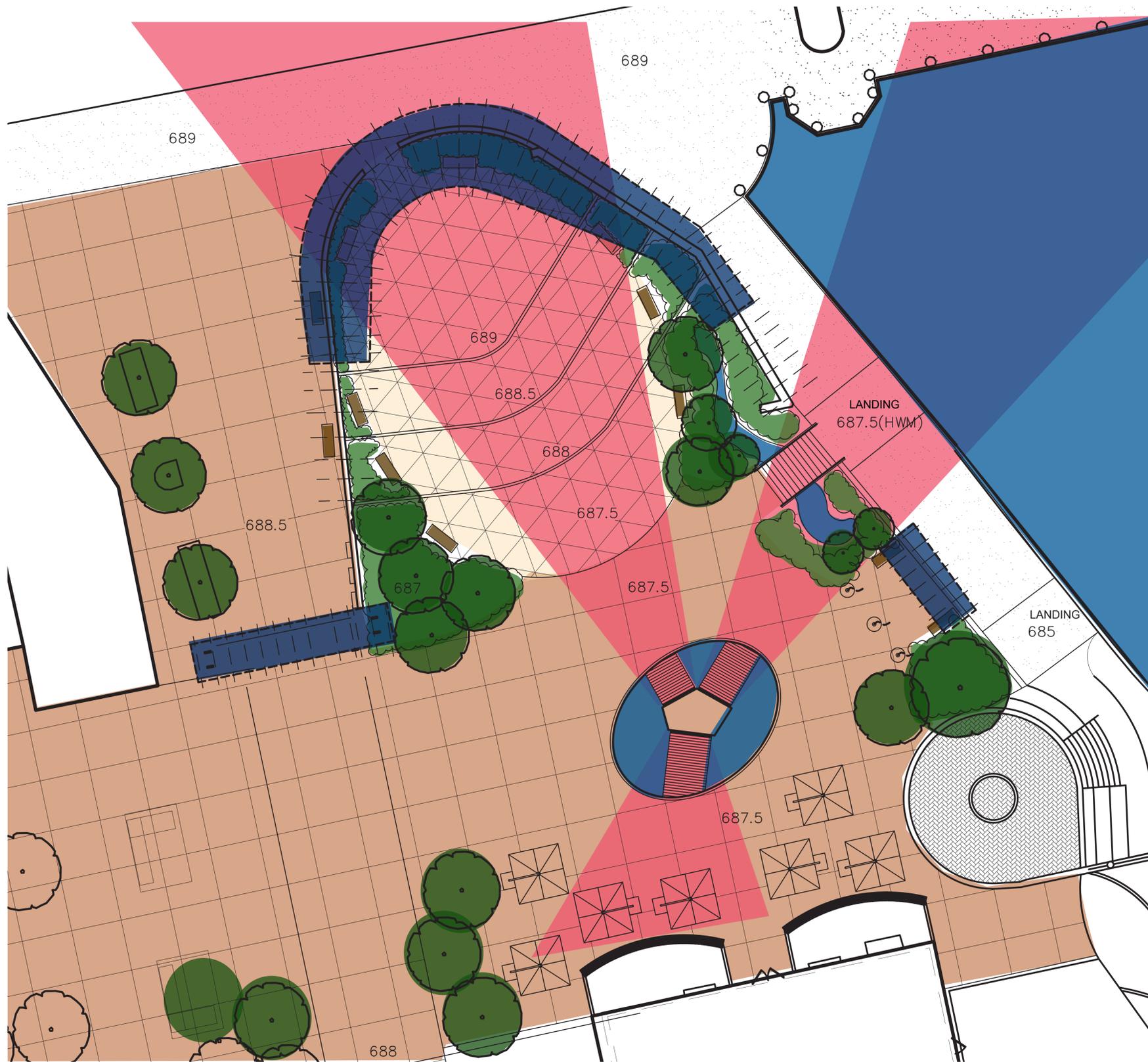
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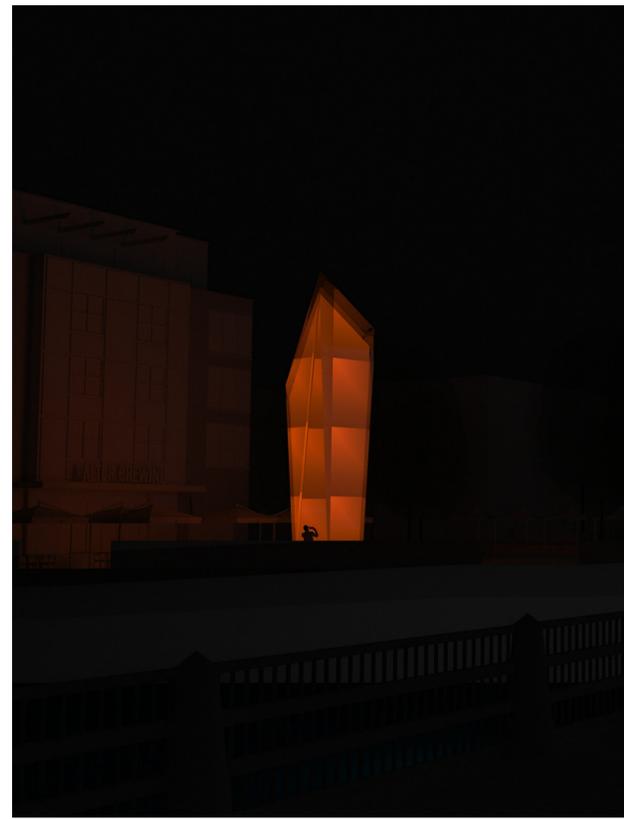
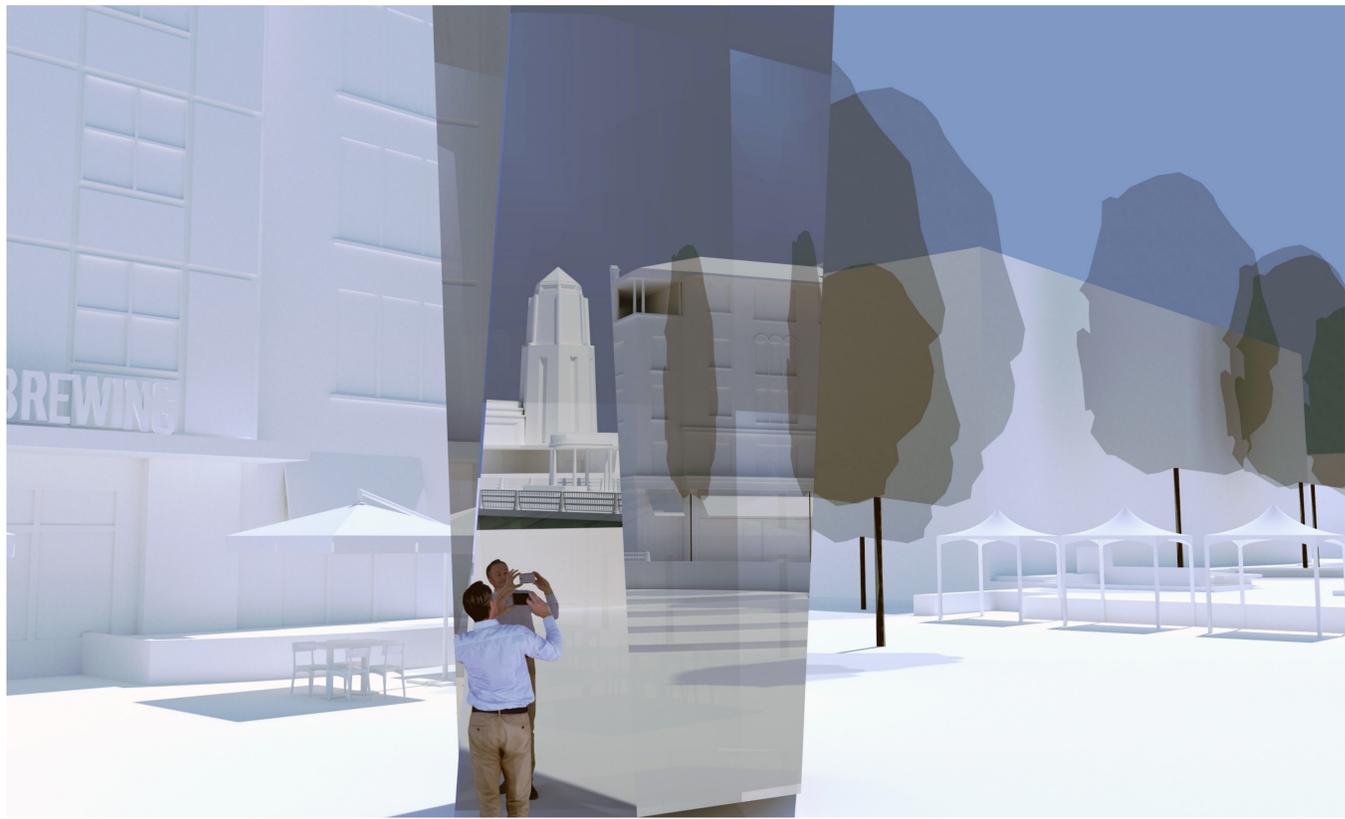
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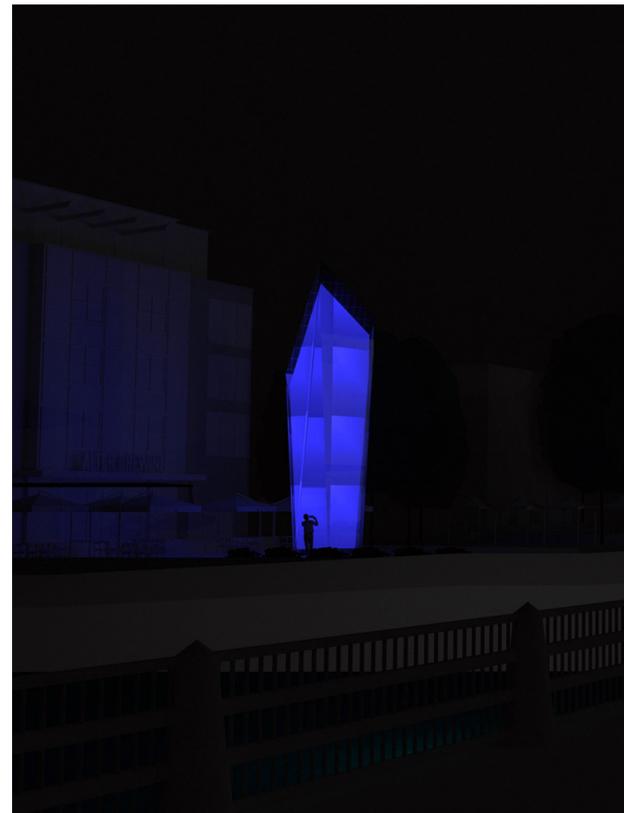
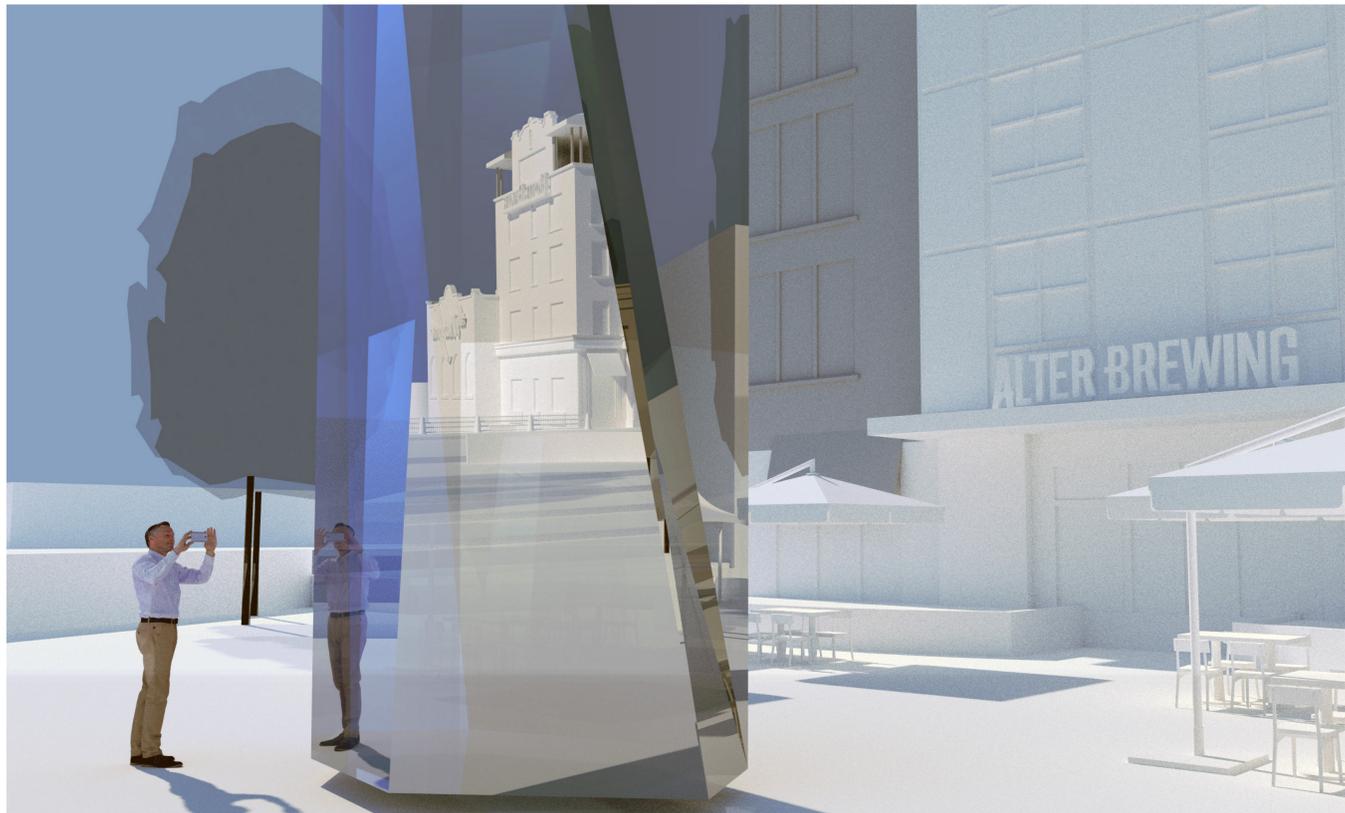


Honoring Community and Heritage by Creating an “Elevated Place”

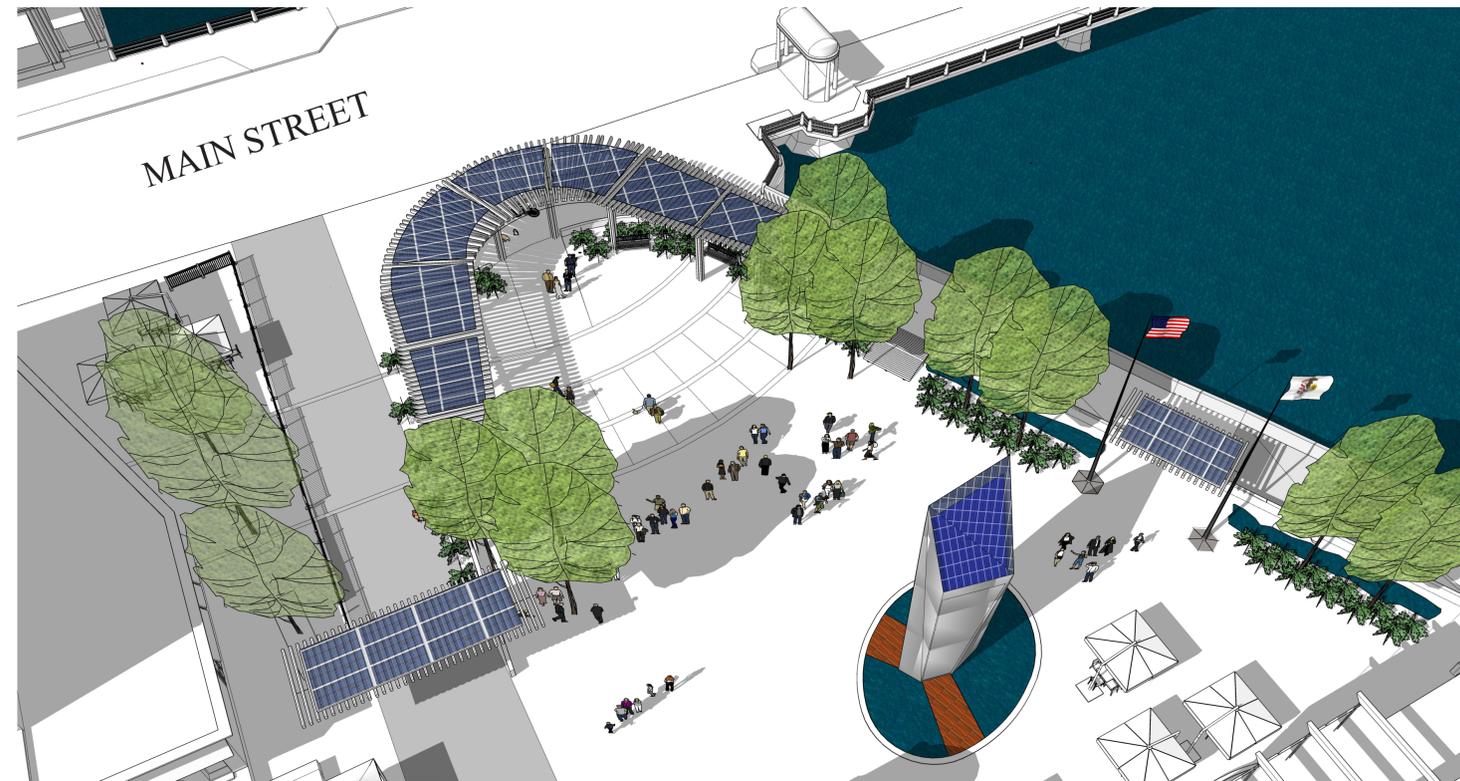
Drawing inspiration from the Vietnam memorial in DC, and Cloud Gate (the “Bean”) in Chicago:

The unique idea behind this iconic glass sculpture is the combination of reflectivity during the day glowing flame at night.

During the day, one can simultaneously see the old and the new. During the night, the tower illuminates the plaza with festive color to commemorate special activities and holidays.



“A unique gathering place that celebrates the natural beauty and heritage of St. Charles”



First Street Plaza emphasizes cultural continuity, urban regeneration, environmental responsibility and community engagement.

Next Step

- City Council input on First Street Plaza design concept and approach

Future Work Efforts

- Refinement of the design
- Engineering/Permitting
- Establish cost estimates for amenities and timing for project
- PUD plan review by Plan Commission, P&D Committee, City Council approval
- Determine which aspects the City will financially support
- Fundraising
- Construction



Estimated 12
months until
functionally
useful