



# **YOUTH WORKSHOP**

**DOWNCITY DESIGN - DESIGN BUILD STUDIO**

**AUGUST 05, 2024**

**Understanding the importance of youth in the design of public spaces** - and in response to community feedback - the Sustainability Department and the design team (Fuss & O'Neill, Design Under Sky, CIVIC) **met with students in a design program at DownCity Design on August 5, 2024.** The team shared a design presentation and engaged 15+ youth in a conversation about the project design. Their feedback can be organized into the following categories:

### **Environment**

- Habitat + Vegetation
- Odor Control
- Noise Level
- Solar/wind Energy
- Lighting

### **Accessibility + Community**

- Transportation safety
- Parking consideration (vehicles & bikes)
- Educational material
- Suggestions for recreational activities

### **Design Elements**

- Seating
- Mapping & signage
- Organic shapes and bold colors
- Visual Art (murals)
- Aesthetics

## Habitat + Vegetation

- + **Vegetation** to improve flooding conditions and possible water irrigation system
- + Include **native flowers** and attract **local wildlife**
- + Interest in **floating islands idea**.
- + Accountability of **pollinator-friendly** plants & addition of bird feeders

## Odor + Noise Level

- + Suggestion for **natural odor repellent** (placed in trash cans or benches)
- + Concern for **noise level** disruption

## Lighting

- + Suggestion of **solar or wind powered** lighting
- + Consideration for lighting the **space at night**
- + Interesting lighting could attract people



*“What would this space be like when it gets dark?”*



*“What would it look like for people our age to be in this space?”*

## Transportation + Parking

- + Provide **safety** from vehicles
- + Desire for **paths and parking** for bikes
- + Offer parking for civilians and include **dedicated space** for larger trucks

## Education

- + Incorporate etched **educational material** on surfaces
- + Possible educational opportunities with **interaction** of the wildlife and natural environment

## Activities

- + Opportunity for festivals, yoga classes, painting classes, book reading and any **outdoor activities**
- + Prioritization for **meeting and hang out area**
- + Suggestion for recreational activities and interactive **games**

## Design Elements

- + Provide comfortable **seating**, opportunity to look out at the water and relax
- + Include a **map** of the area (you are here!)
- + **Interactive signs** for animals and plants
- + Shapes of the elements should be **organic** and could perhaps resemble nature

## Visual Art

- + Attention grabbing art from **local artist** (murals and sculptures)
- + Interest in fish or ocean related **mural for the underpass** (community involvement)

## Overall Aesthetic

- + Teens desire a **visually appealing space** that can support photography and social media involvement



*“Everything around is very dull, opportunity to make it pop and catch people’s eyes.”*

# DESIGN ELEMENTS





**THANK YOU!**