



PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

27th Baris Eyikan Kılınç Senior Design Studio Student Competition

Project No: 785

LAUD402

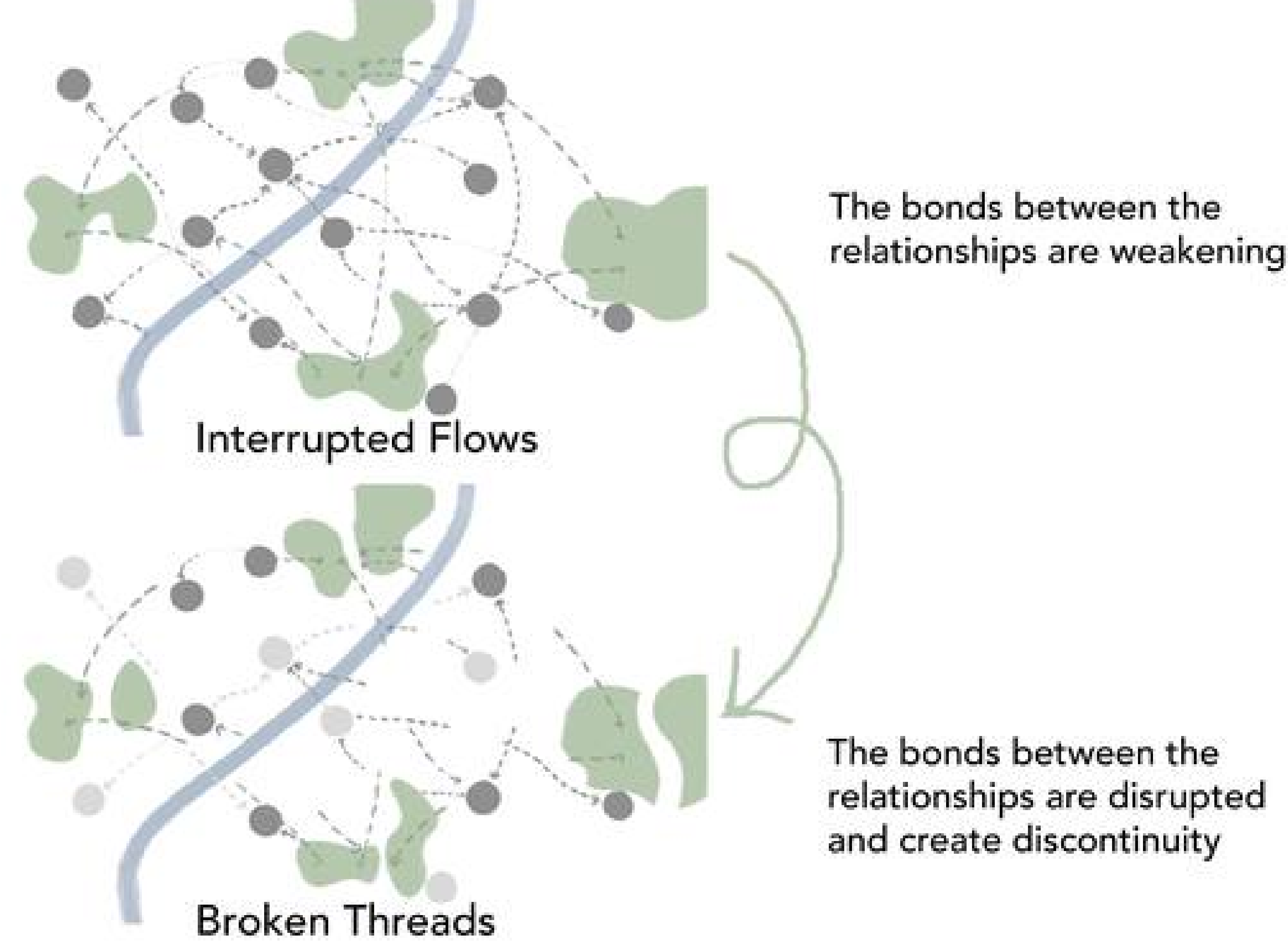
PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

WHAT DOES ANASTOMOSIS MEAN?

The connection or opening between two structures that were previously separate, allowing flow, exchange, or continuity between them.
In this project, anastomosis is reinterpreted as an urban condition: a system of multiple spatial connections that enable exchange between fragmented territories through the **river interface**.

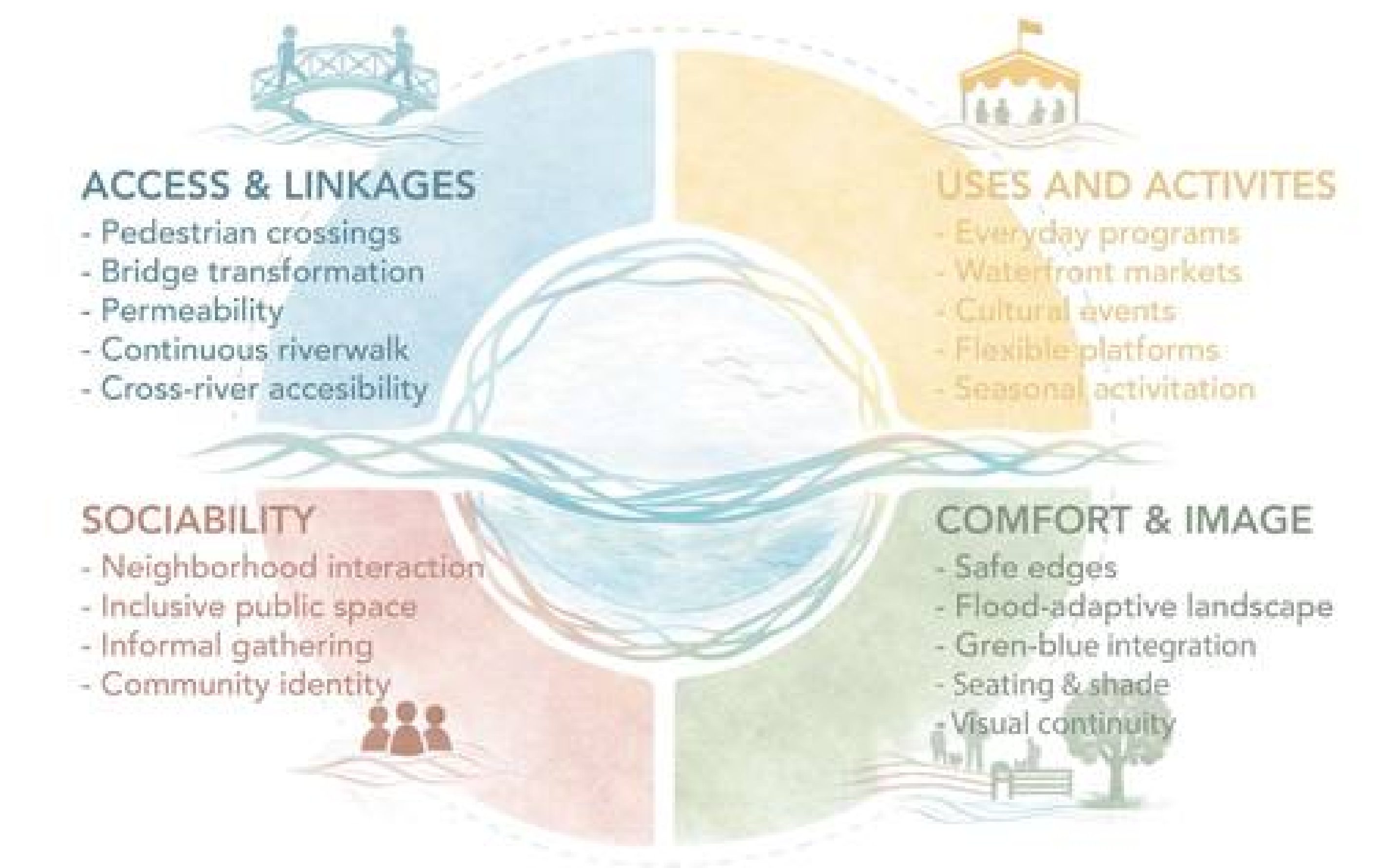
1. CITY AS A FRAGMENTED SYSTEM

Belgrade is shaped by rivers, infrastructure, large-scale developments, and rapid transformation, resulting in spatial and social fragmentation between Old Belgrade, New Belgrade, and the waterfront.



4. THE RIVER AS INTERFACE

The Sava River is approached as an urban interface: not a dividing line, but a negotiable spatial field where contrasting urban fabrics can overlap, intersect, and reconnect.



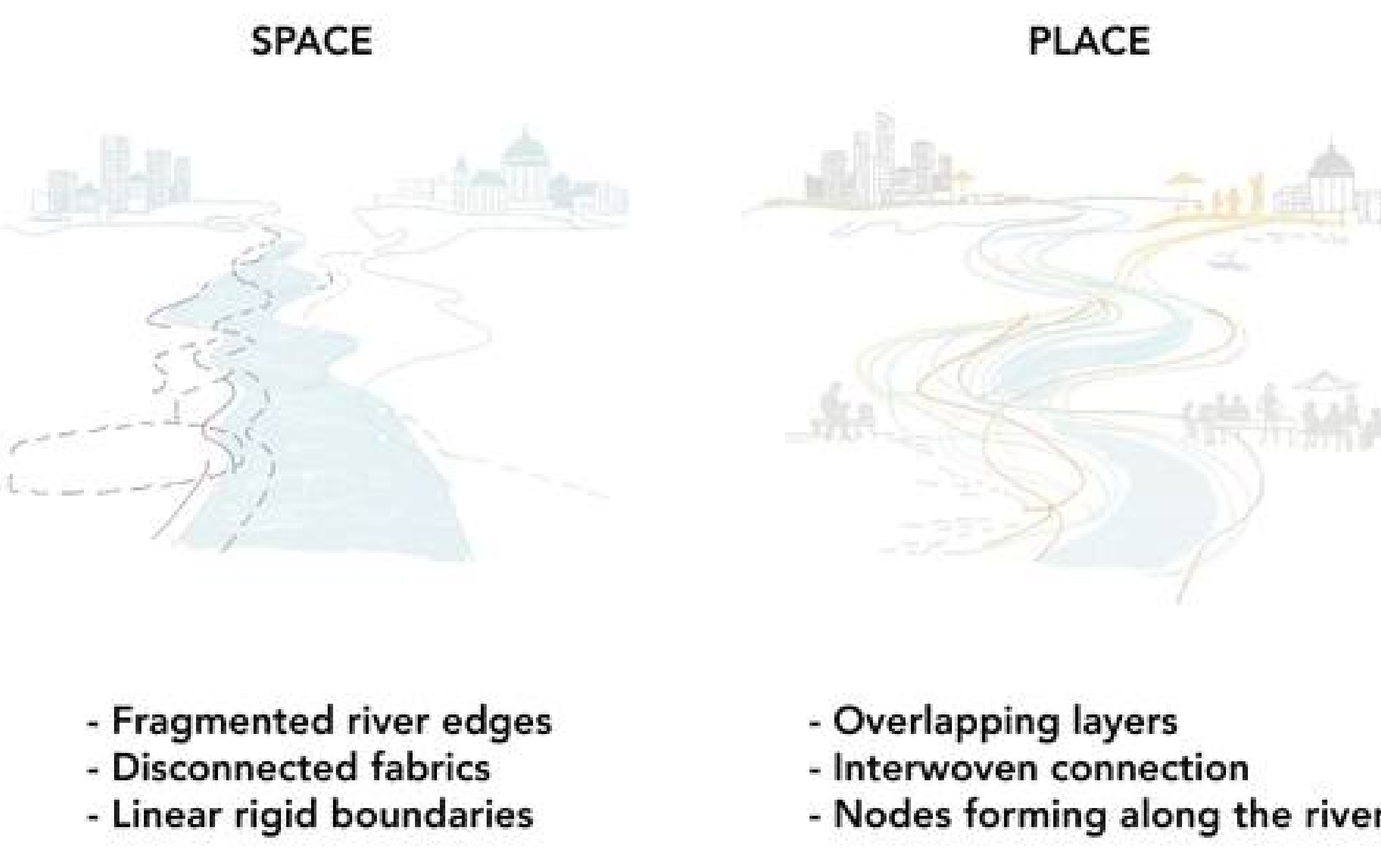
2. FROM CONTINUITY TO DISCONNECTION

Industrialization, infrastructure corridors, and real estate-driven waterfront development have weakened ecological continuity and reduced the river's role as an accessible public realm.



5. PLACE - MAKING AS STRATEGY

Place-making is used as an operative strategy to transform underperforming spaces into meaningful public places. Through accessible crossings, ecological repair, and everyday programming, the



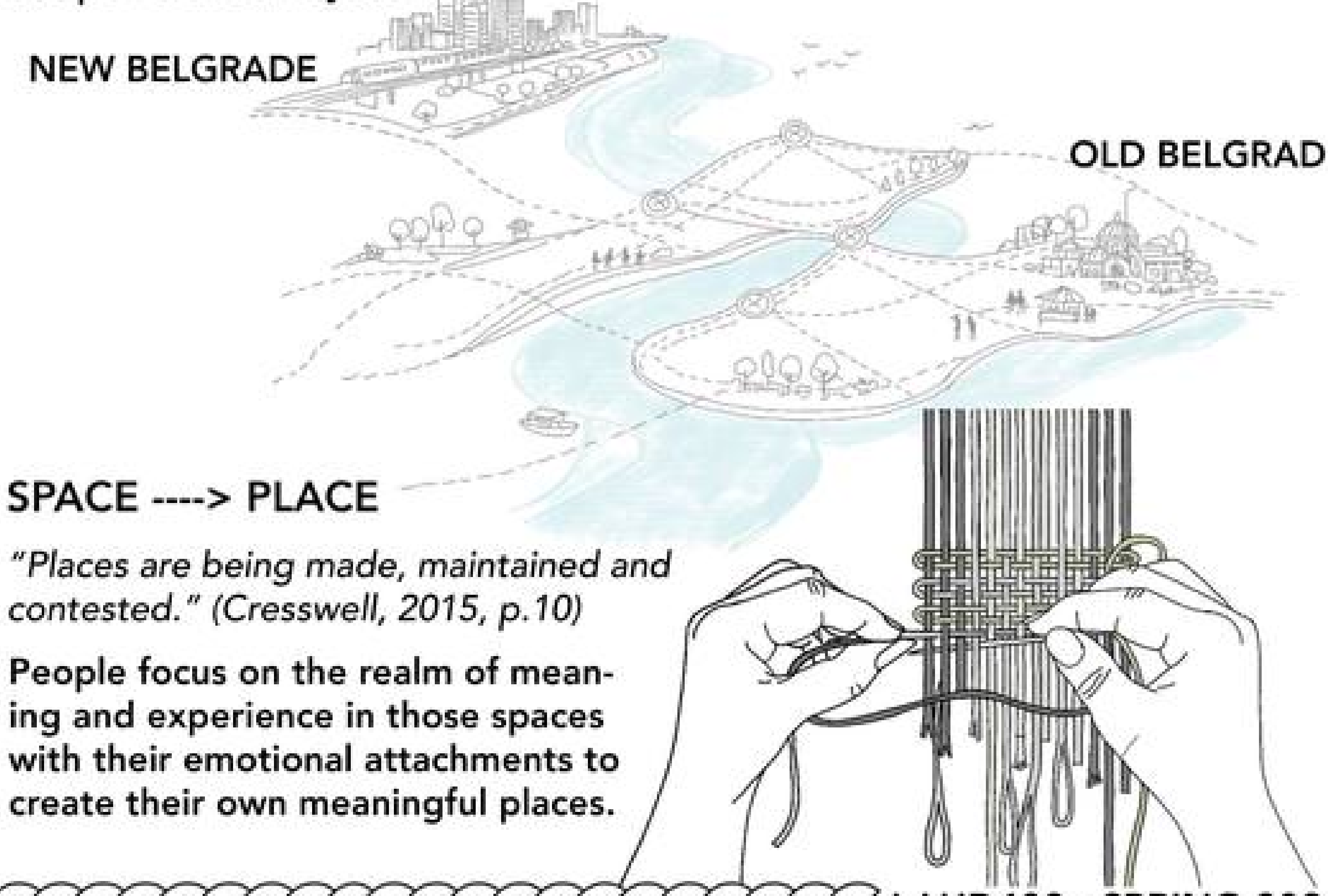
3. FRAGMENTATION AS URBAN POTENTIAL

Rather than framing fragmentation as failure, it is reinterpreted as a condition that reveals gaps; gaps that can be strategically activated to produce new spatial and social connections.



6. SAVA AS A PATCH - AN URBAN NETWORK

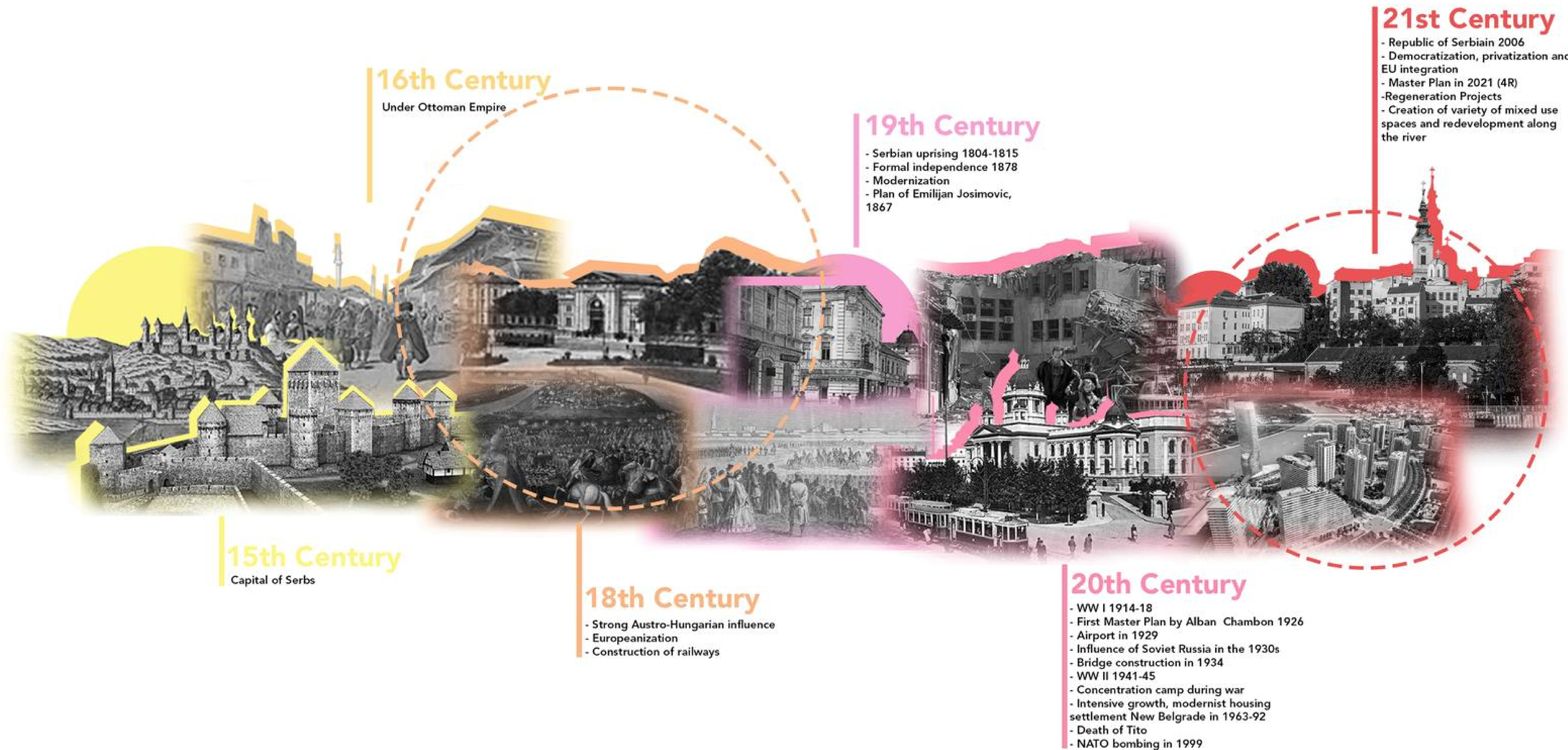
Through localized yet interconnected interventions, the Sava operates as an urban patch; stitching together infrastructural edges, waterfront developments, and neighborhood fabrics into a flexible and adaptive urban system.



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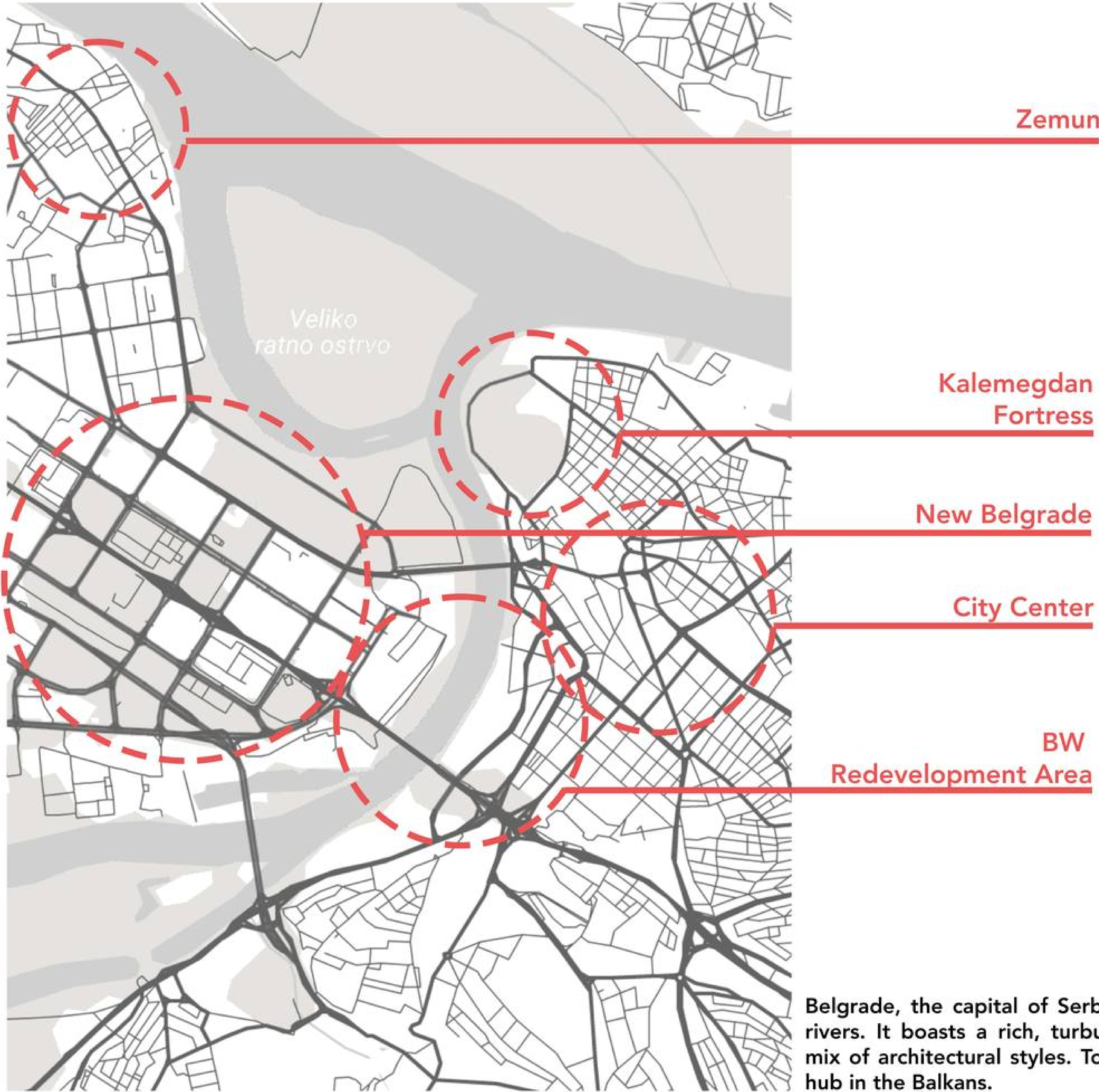
Serbia/Belgrade
Urban Context Analysis

URBAN DEVELOPMENT OF BELGRADE



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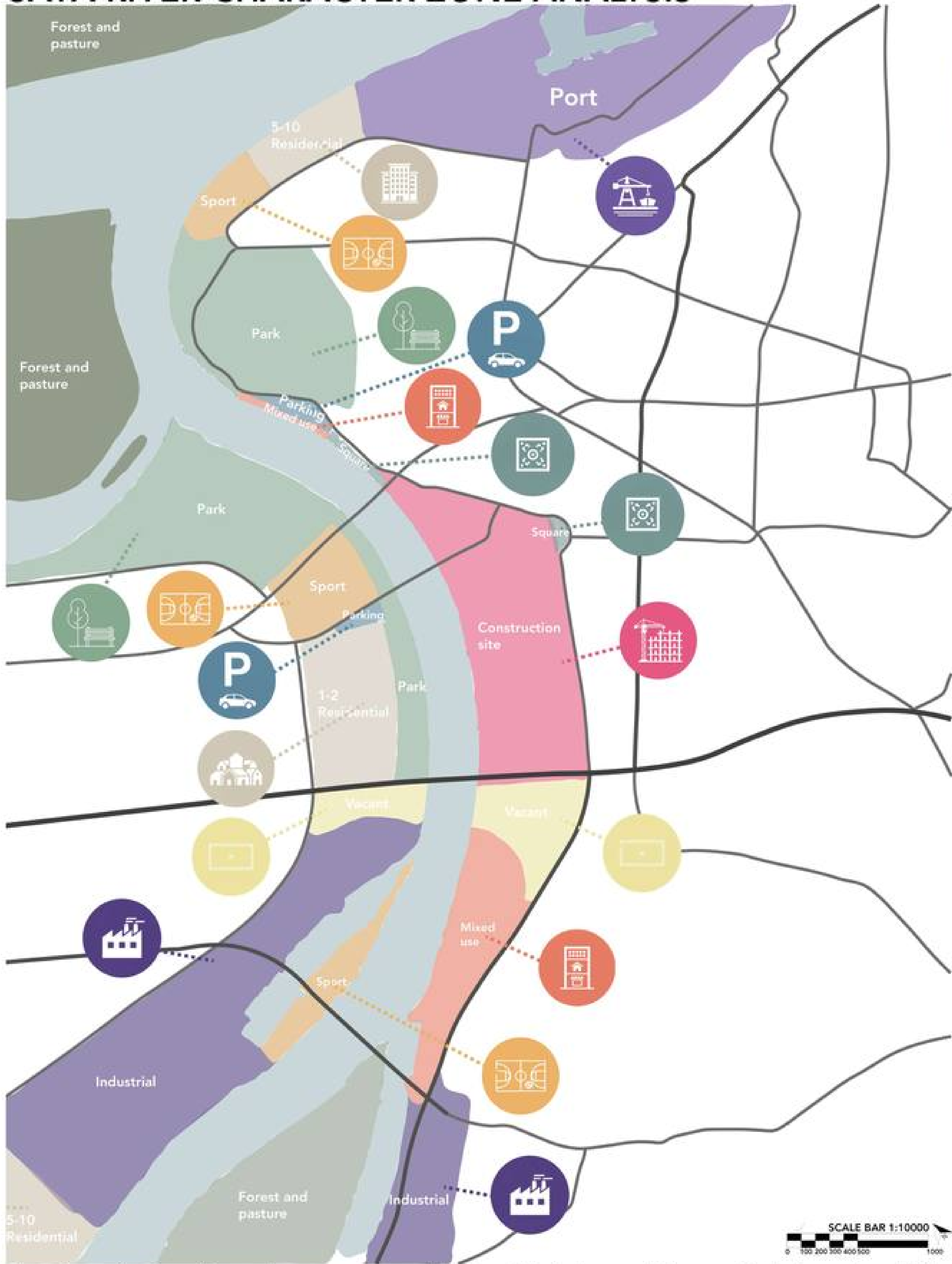
URBAN DEVELOPMENT OF BELGRADE



Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, is a city located at the confluence of the Sava and Danube rivers. It boasts a rich, turbulent history, featuring the ancient Kalemegdan Fortress and a mix of architectural styles. Today, it is renowned as a major cultural, economic, and nightlife hub in the Balkans.

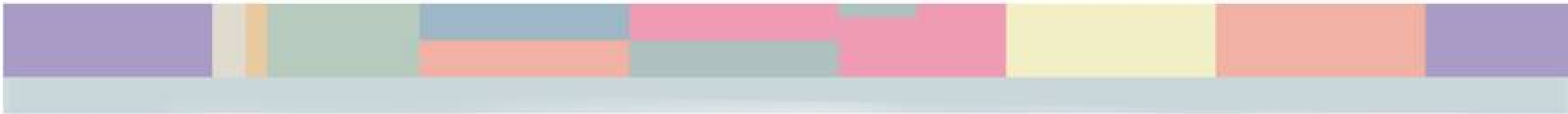
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SAVA RIVER CHARACTER ZONE ANALYSIS

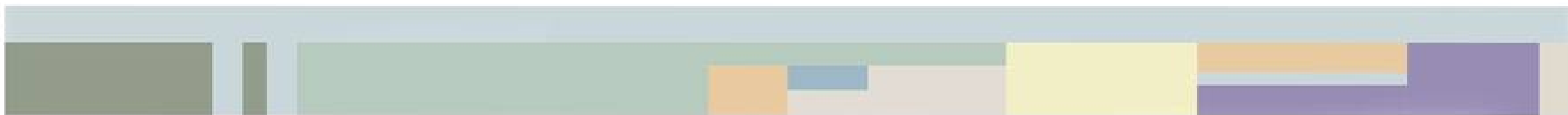


A series of prior site analyses were synthesized to interpret the spatial character of the Sava river corridor. By abstracting existing land uses, infrastructural systems, open spaces, and development patterns into layered bands, the study reveals the relationships between the riverbanks and their adjacent urban fabrics. This layered reading highlights contrasts, discontinuities, and latent connections, forming the basis for understanding the area's interface conditions.

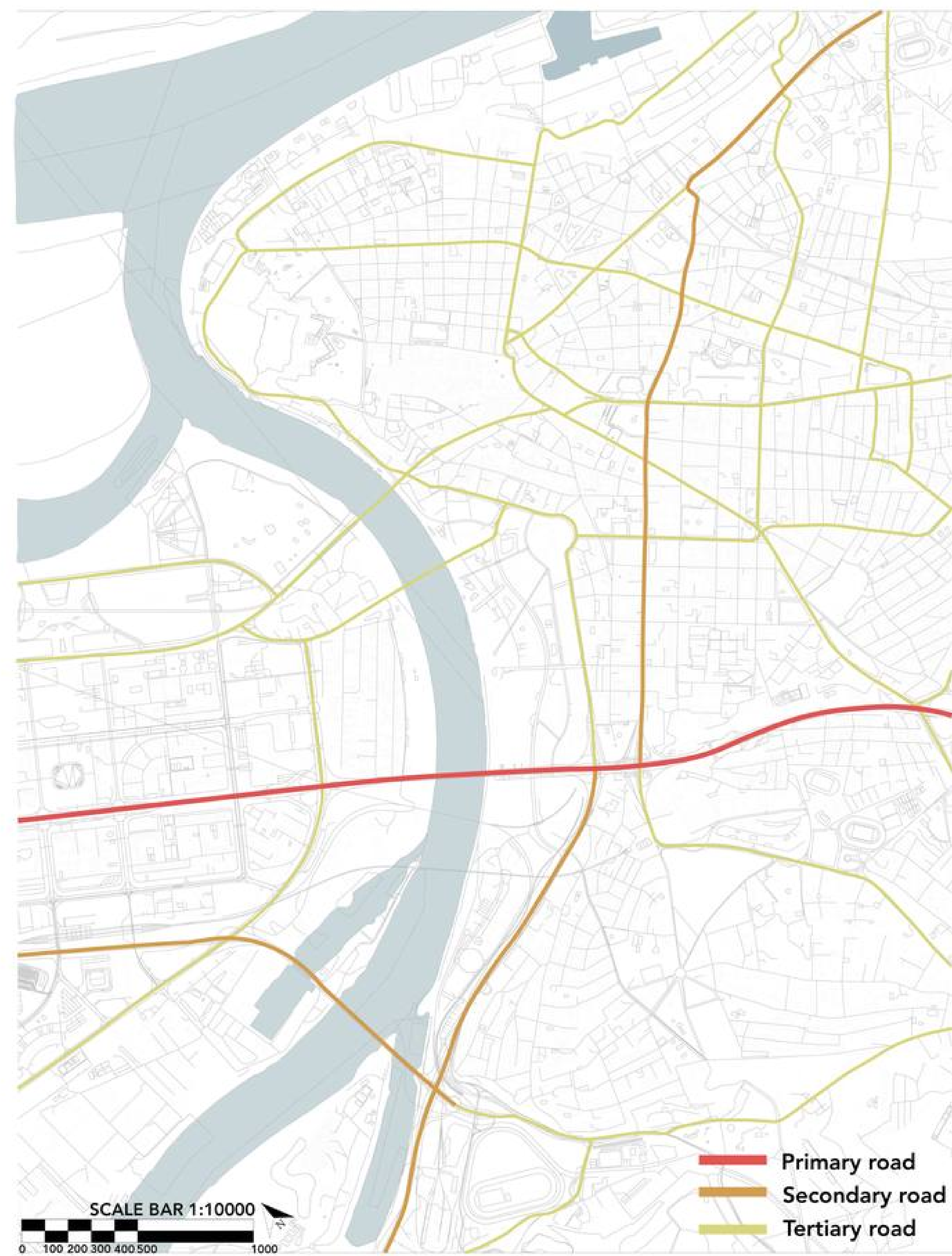
CHARACTER ZONE: OLD BELGRADE COAST



CHARACTER ZONE: NEW BELGRADE COAST



ACCESSIBILITY ANALYSIS



GREEN NETWORK ANALYSIS



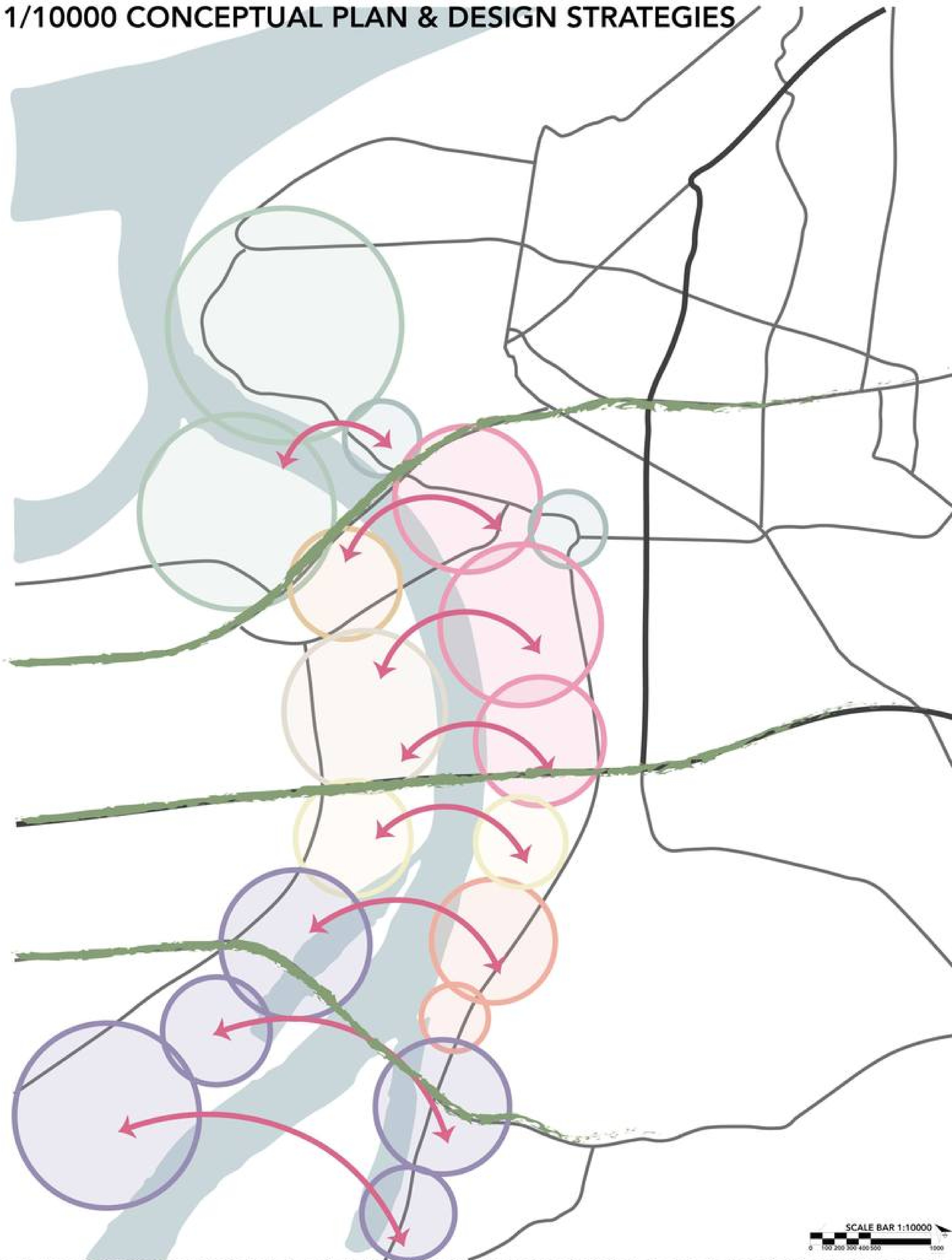
The accessibility and green network analyses indicate that the Sava waterfront has the potential to become a continuous public landscape system. Yet, this continuity is currently interrupted by urban barriers, level differences, infrastructural edges, and disconnected pedestrian routes. The project therefore focuses on transforming the fragmented waterfront into an integrated system that reconnects the city, green network, and river edge.

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Serbia/Belgrade

1/10000 Conceptual Plan & Design Strategies

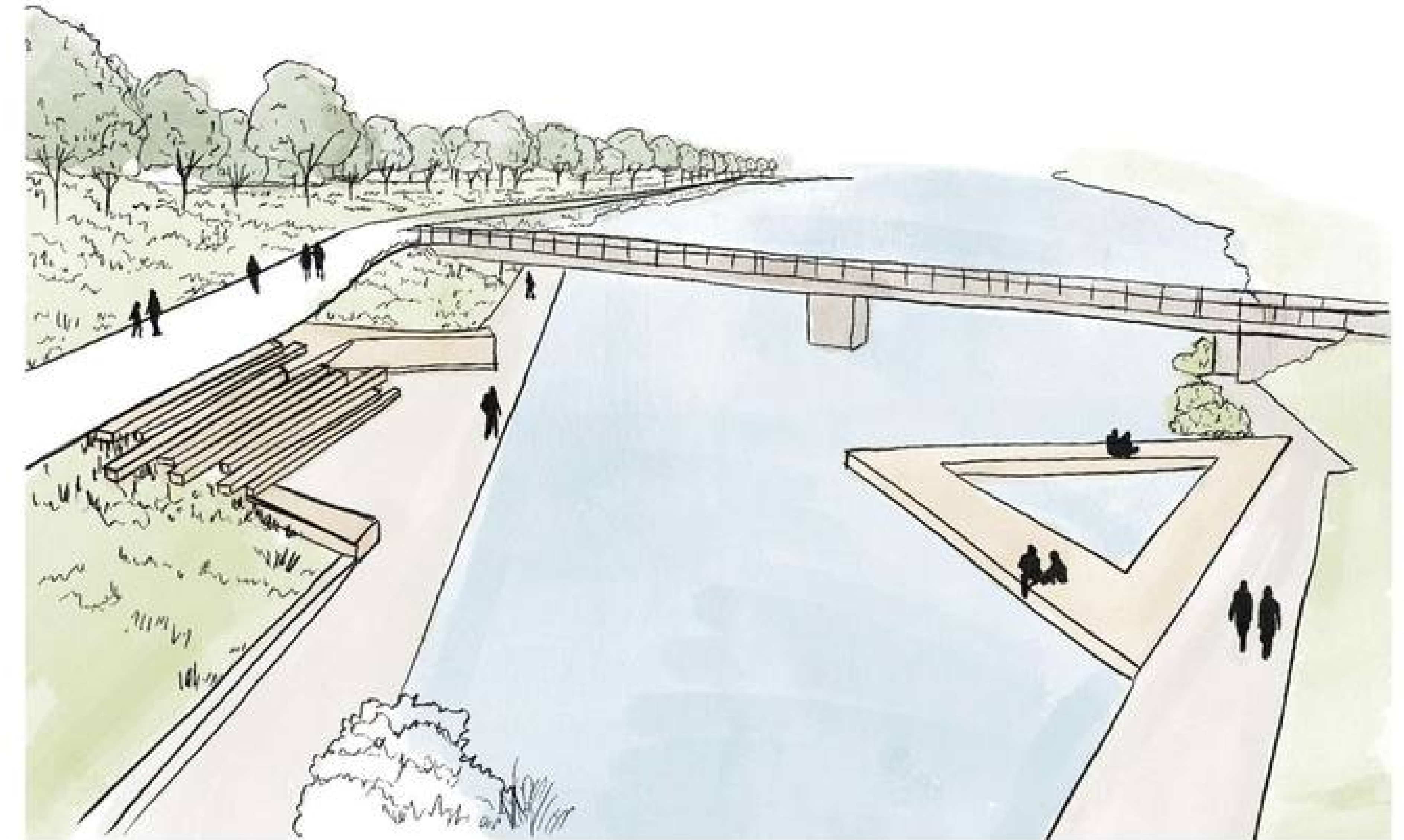
1/10000 CONCEPTUAL PLAN & DESIGN STRATEGIES



1. Reclaiming the River Edge as an Active Interface

(From barrier to accessible, layered edge)

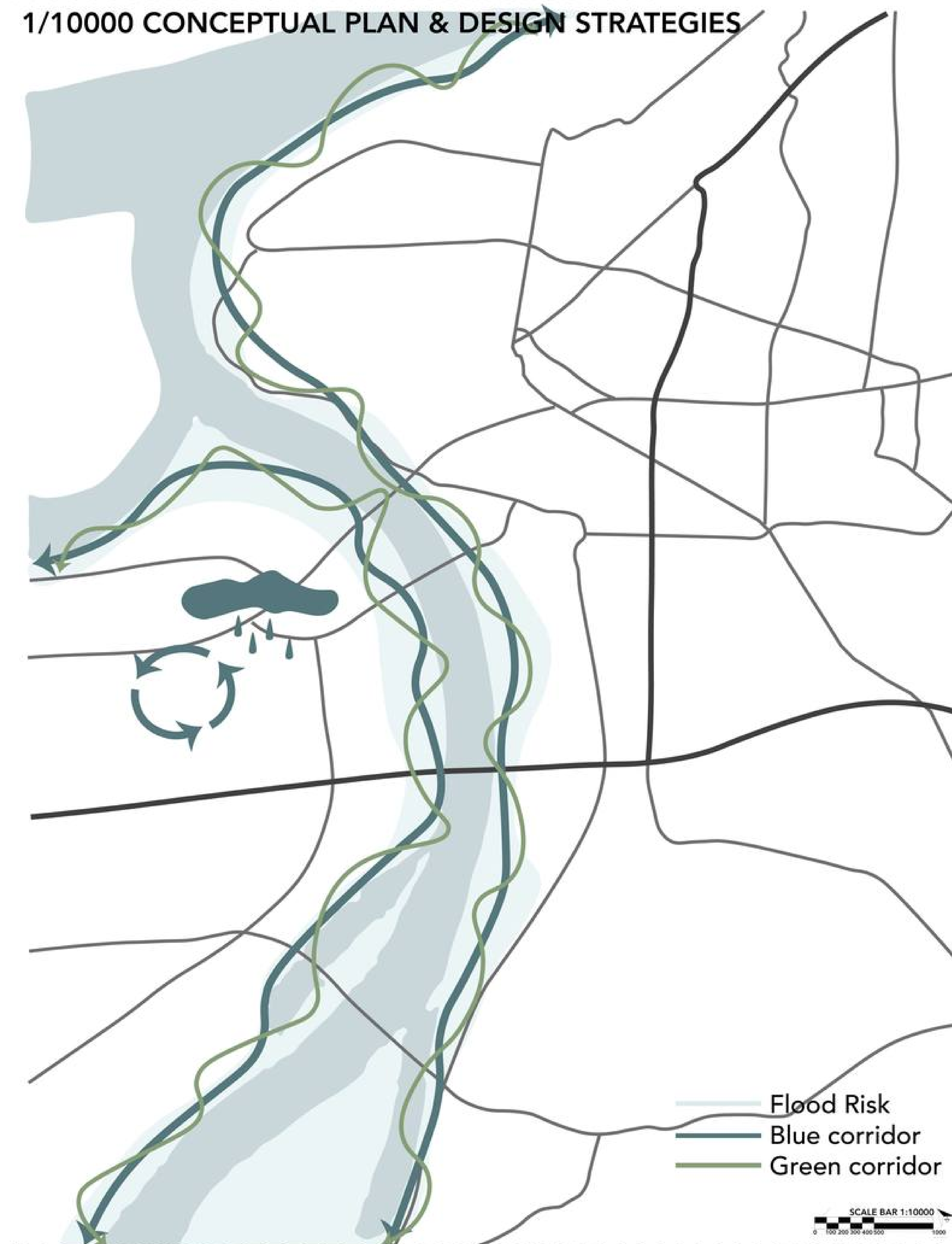
- Introducing stepped platforms, terraces, and sloped topographies
- Transforming the level difference into a multi-layered spatial system



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Serbia/Belgrade
1/10000 Conceptual Plan & Design Strategies

1/10000 CONCEPTUAL PLAN & DESIGN STRATEGIES



2. Flood Risk as a Spatial Opportunity

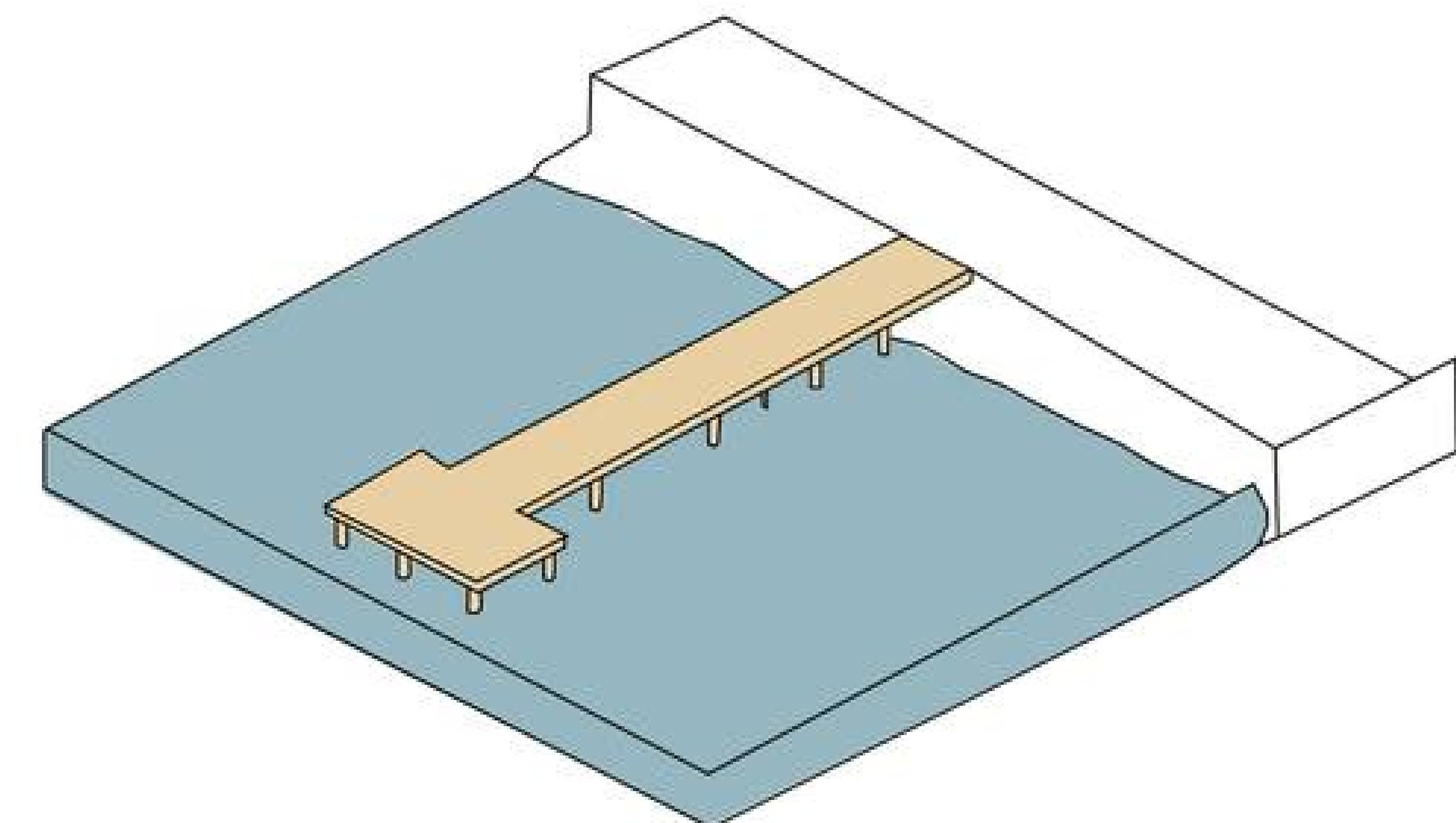
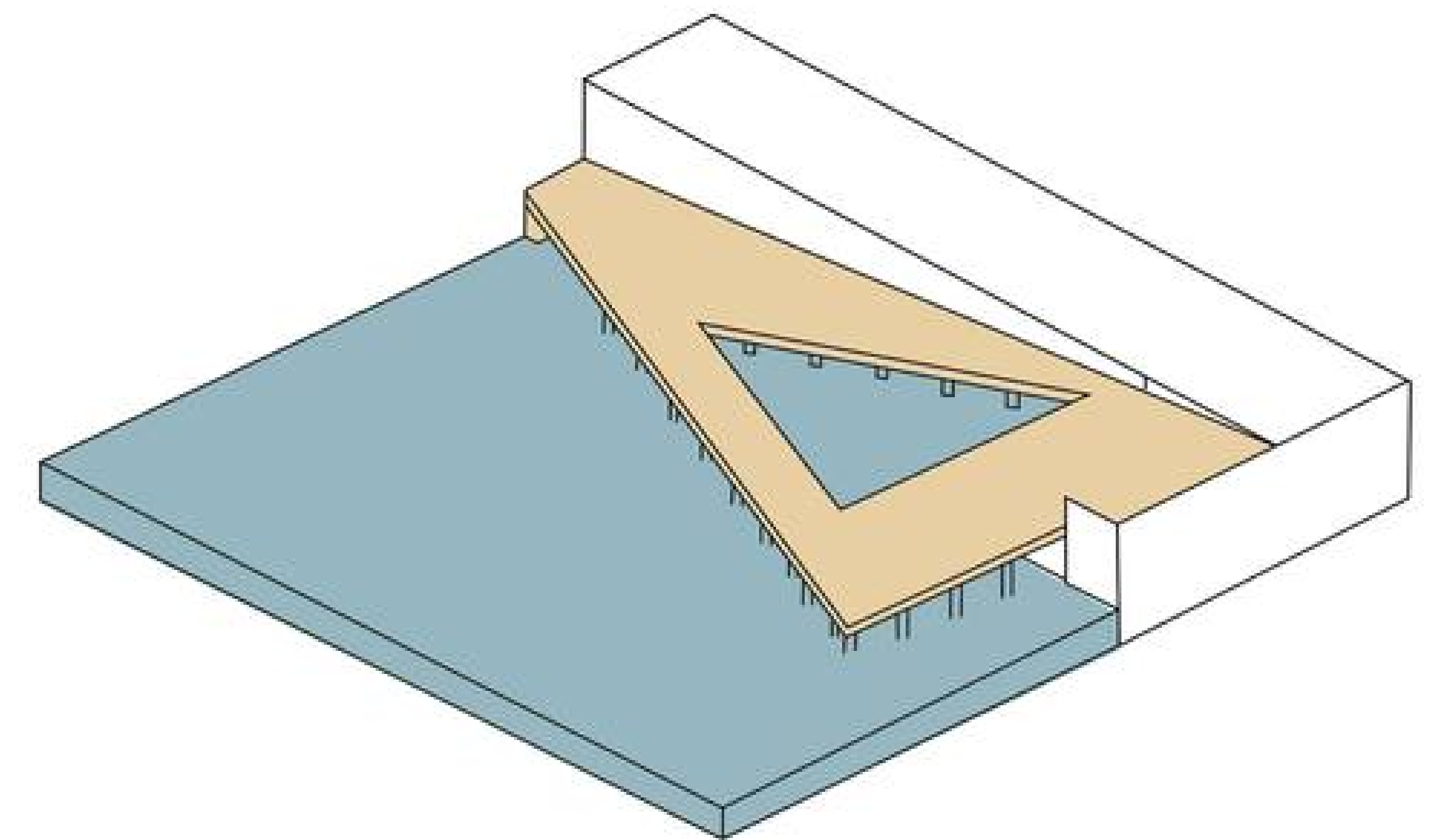
(From risk to adaptive landscape)

- Designing water-resilient public platforms
- Integrating seasonal use scenarios (dry/wet conditions)

3. Strengthening Water Interaction

(From visual relation to physical engagement)

- Introducing piers, platforms, and stepped seating
- Diversifying experiences through different heights and proximities
- Creating spaces where users can touch, approach, and experience water



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1/10000 CONCEPTUAL PLAN & DESIGN STRATEGIES

Serbia/Belgrade
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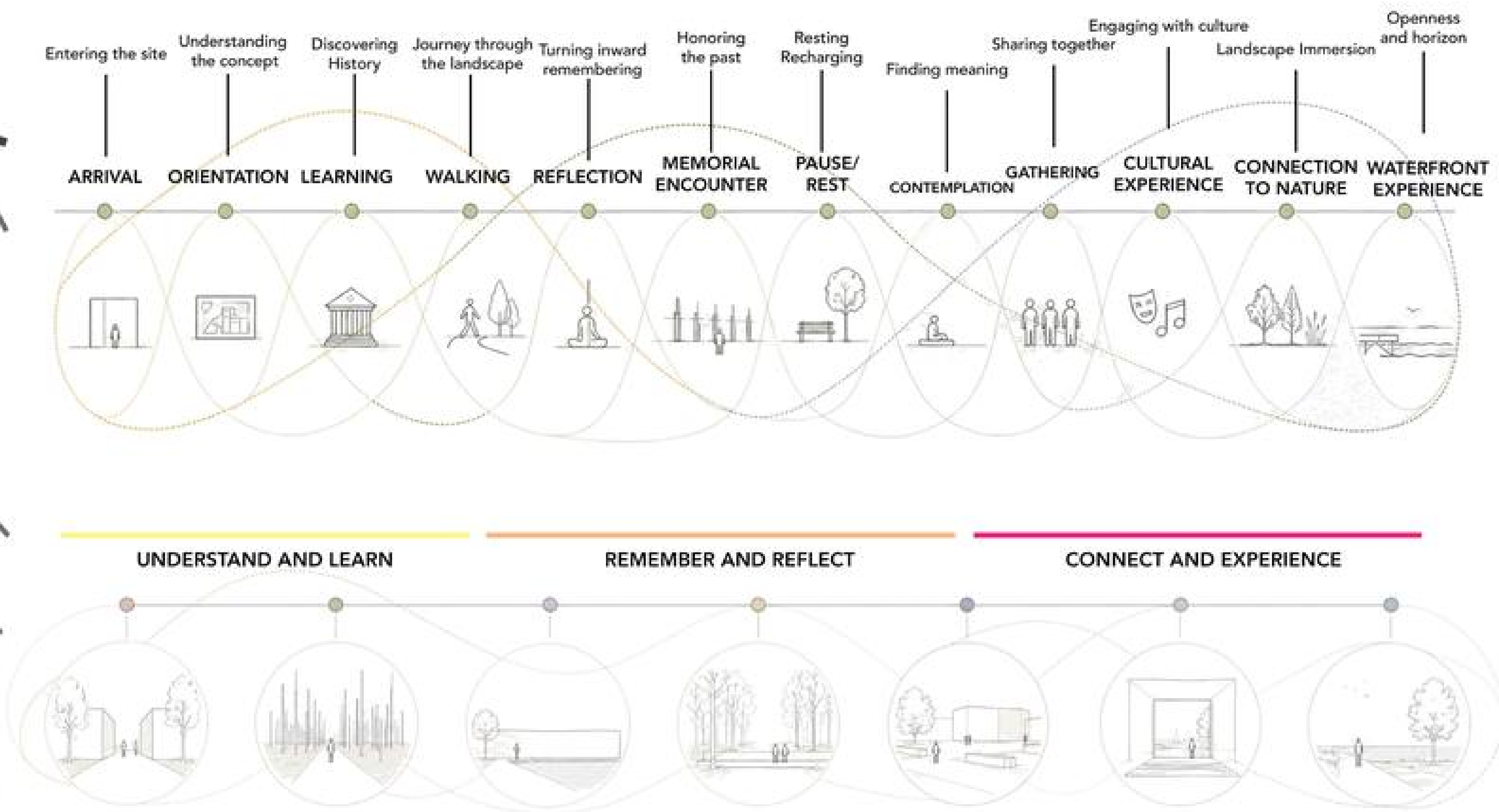
4. Community Memory Space - Linking Past and Present

(From isolate memorial to living memory environment)

- Transforming the site into a community memory space
- Integrating cultural, educational, and social functions

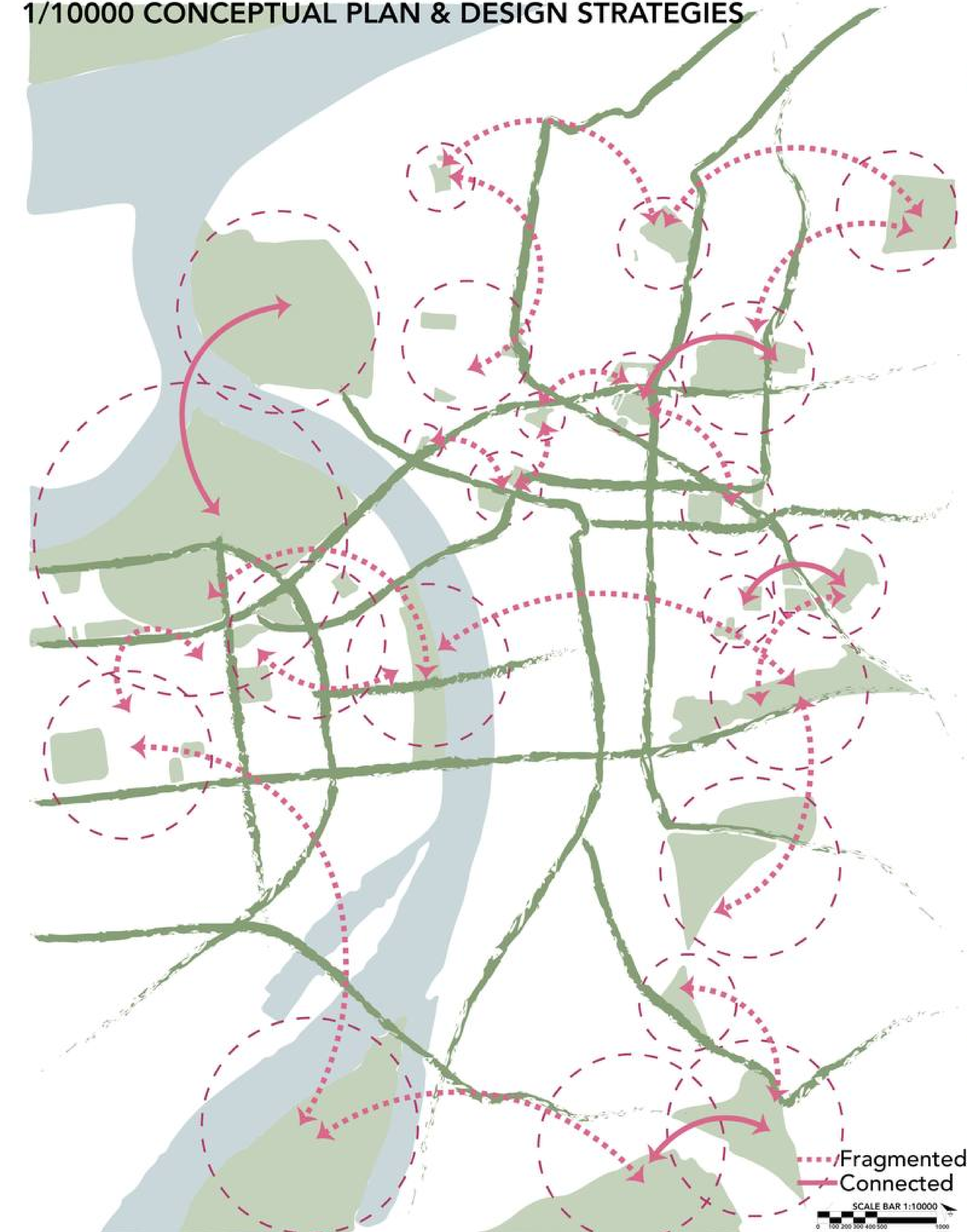


VISITOR EXPERIENCE



A journey through memory, nature, learning and contemplation

1/10000 CONCEPTUAL PLAN & DESIGN STRATEGIES



5. Overcoming Urban Barriers

(From disconnected fabric to integrated urban system)

- Introducing new pedestrian connections through and across the area
- Linking residential areas into permeable urban fabrics

6. Continuous Pedestrian Network

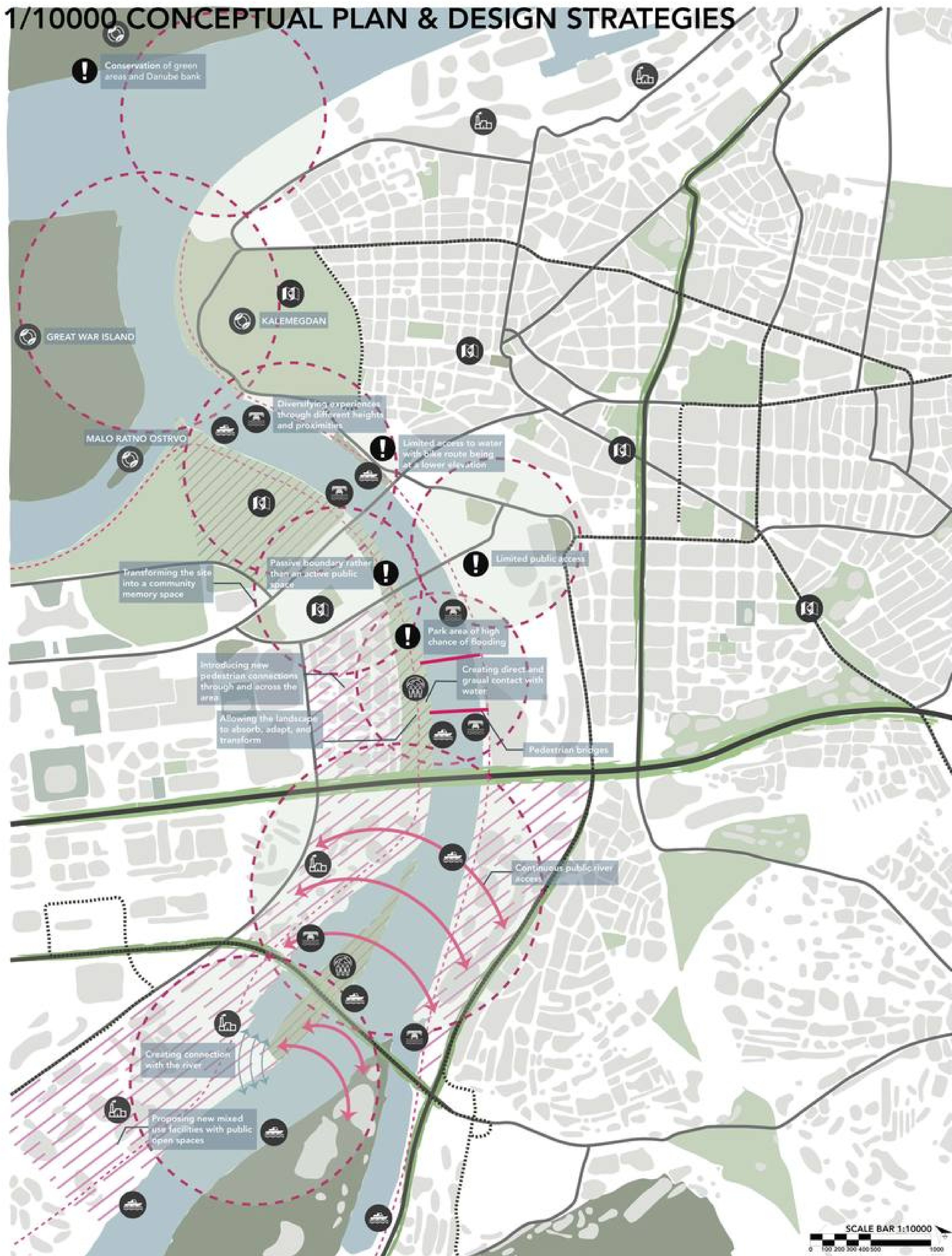
(From fragmented paths to continuous flow)

- Creating a continuous pedestrian axis with bicycle route along the Sava River
- Connecting urban fragments, green areas, and waterfront
- Strengthening walkability and accessibility across scales



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1/10000 CONCEPTUAL PLAN & DESIGN STRATEGIES



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6. Continuous Pedestrian Network

(From fragmented paths to continuous flow)

Existing

- Industrial Zones
- Protected Areas
- Tourism
- Park
- Private Garden
- Square
- Forests and pastures
- Urban land
- Main Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Tertiary Roads
- Railway

Proposed Using

- Pier
- Water Taxi
- Community base open space
- Area of Concerns
- Bicycle route
- Renewal areas
- Green infrastructure improvement

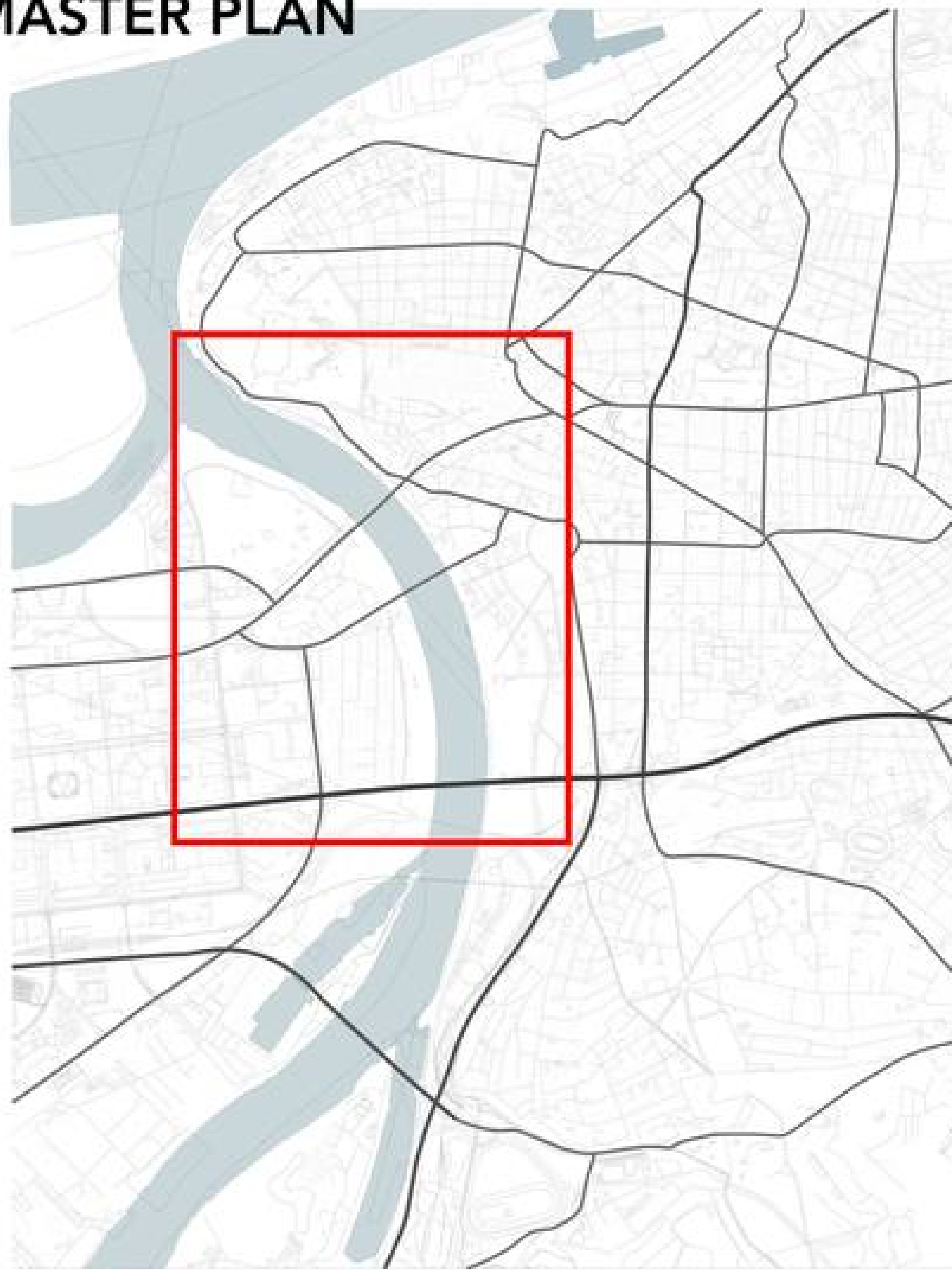
The conceptual diagram translates the six design strategies into an interconnected patching system for the Sava waterfront. Each strategy responds to a specific layer of disconnection, such as inaccessible river edges, flood risk, interrupted pedestrian movement, urban barriers, fragmented green areas, and weakened memory spaces. By overlapping these spatial, ecological, and social interventions, the diagram defines the river edge as a restorative interface rather than a fixed boundary.

Within this system, the Sava River becomes a connective patch that links the urban fabric, public landscape, ecological corridors, and water interaction zones. The diagram therefore represents the main logic of the project: repairing fragmented edges, creating continuous movement, and establishing a resilient relationship between Old Belgrade, New Belgrade, and the river.

PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

Serbia/Belgrade
1/2000 Master Plan

1/2000 MASTER PLAN



1/2000 plan reinterprets the Sava riverfront as a continuous urban interface that transforms fragmented edges into an integrated public landscape. Responding to existing disconnections, flood risks, and inaccessible waterfront conditions, the design introduces a layered spatial system where topography becomes an active design tool rather than a barrier.

Through multi-level platforms, terraces, and piers, the project enhances physical and visual access to water, creating diverse points of interaction at different elevations. A continuous pedestrian network connects previously isolated districts, linking residential areas, the memorial site, and the waterfront into a cohesive urban experience while integrating with the broader Belgrade waterfront system.

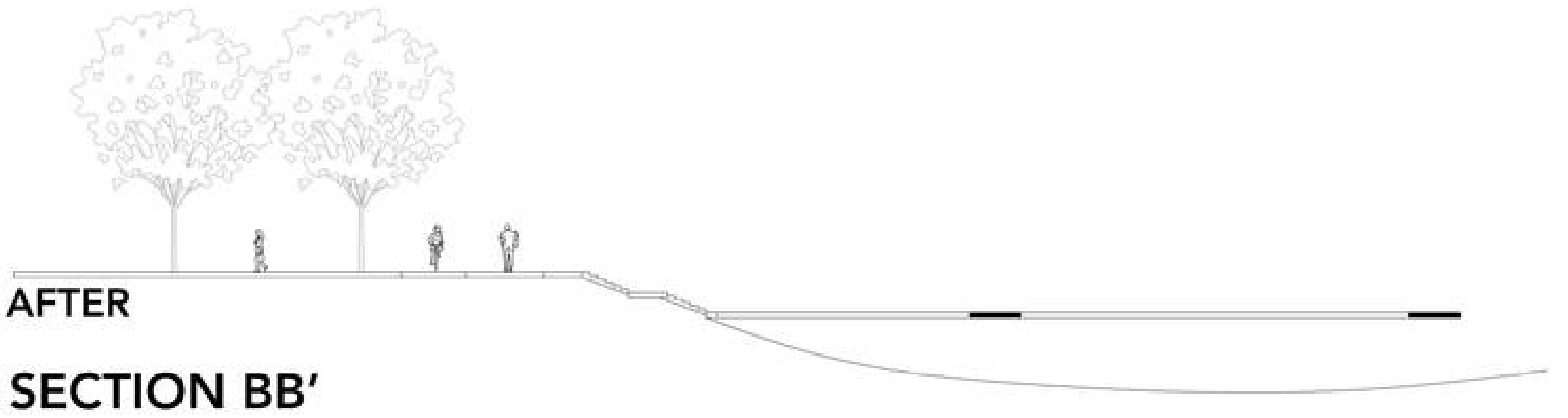
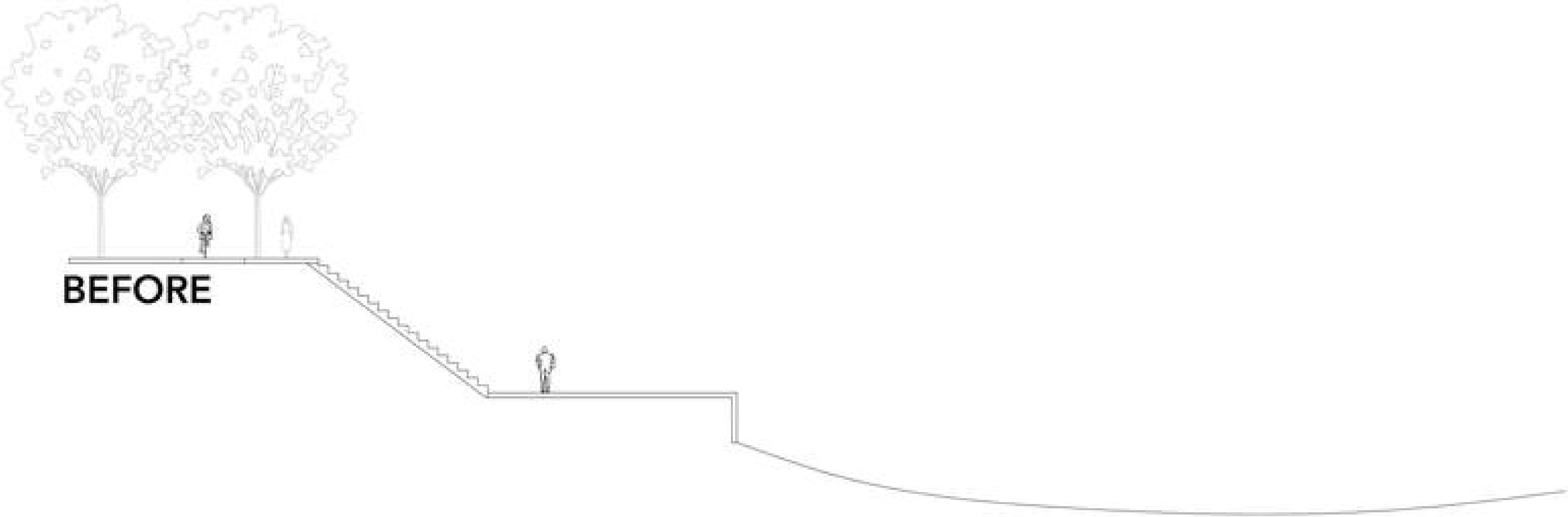
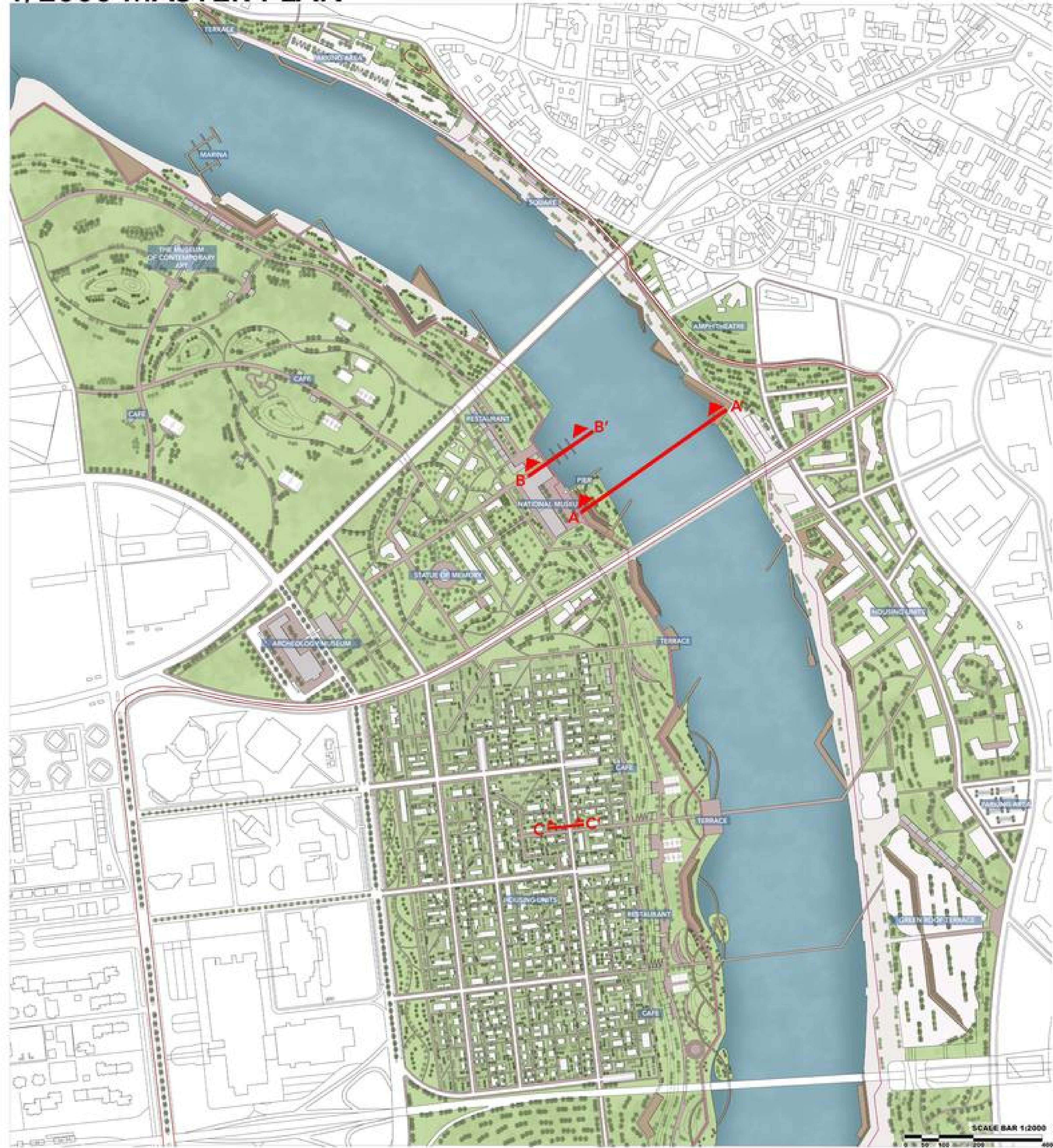
At its core, the proposal establishes a Community Memory Space that bridges past and present, embedding remembrance within everyday life through cultural, social, and public programs. Simultaneously, new waterfront functions such as public platforms, gathering spaces, and ecological landscapes activate the river edge as a social, environmental, and experiential corridor.

Together, these interventions transform the Sava river from a dividing line into a living, adaptive urban patch, where movement, memory, ecology, and public life are interwoven.

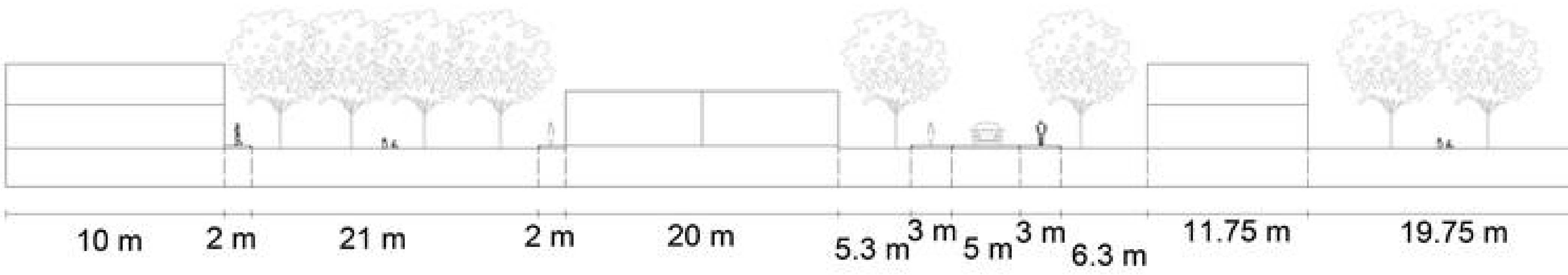
PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

Serbia/Belgrade
1/2000 Master Plan & Section

1/2000 MASTER PLAN



SECTION BB'



SECTION CC'



SECTION AA'

PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

Serbia/Belgrade
1/200 Selected Area

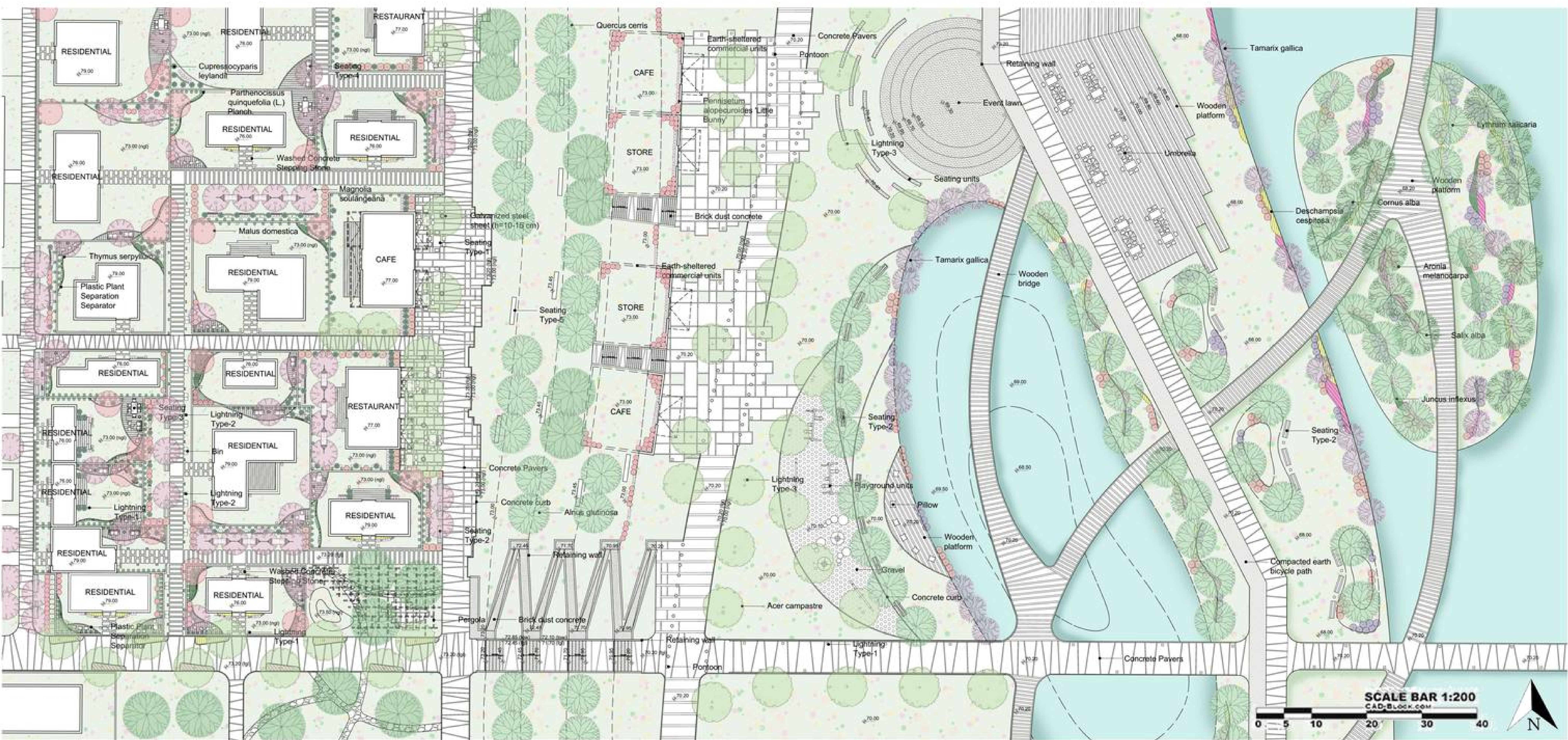
1/200 SELECTED AREA



PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

Serbia/Belgrade
1/200 Plan

1/200 PLAN

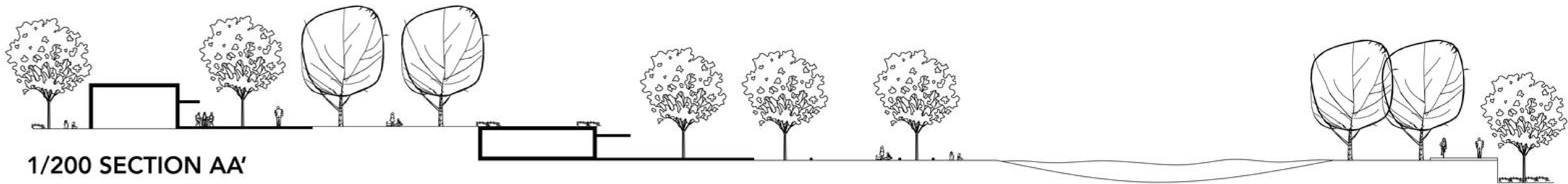
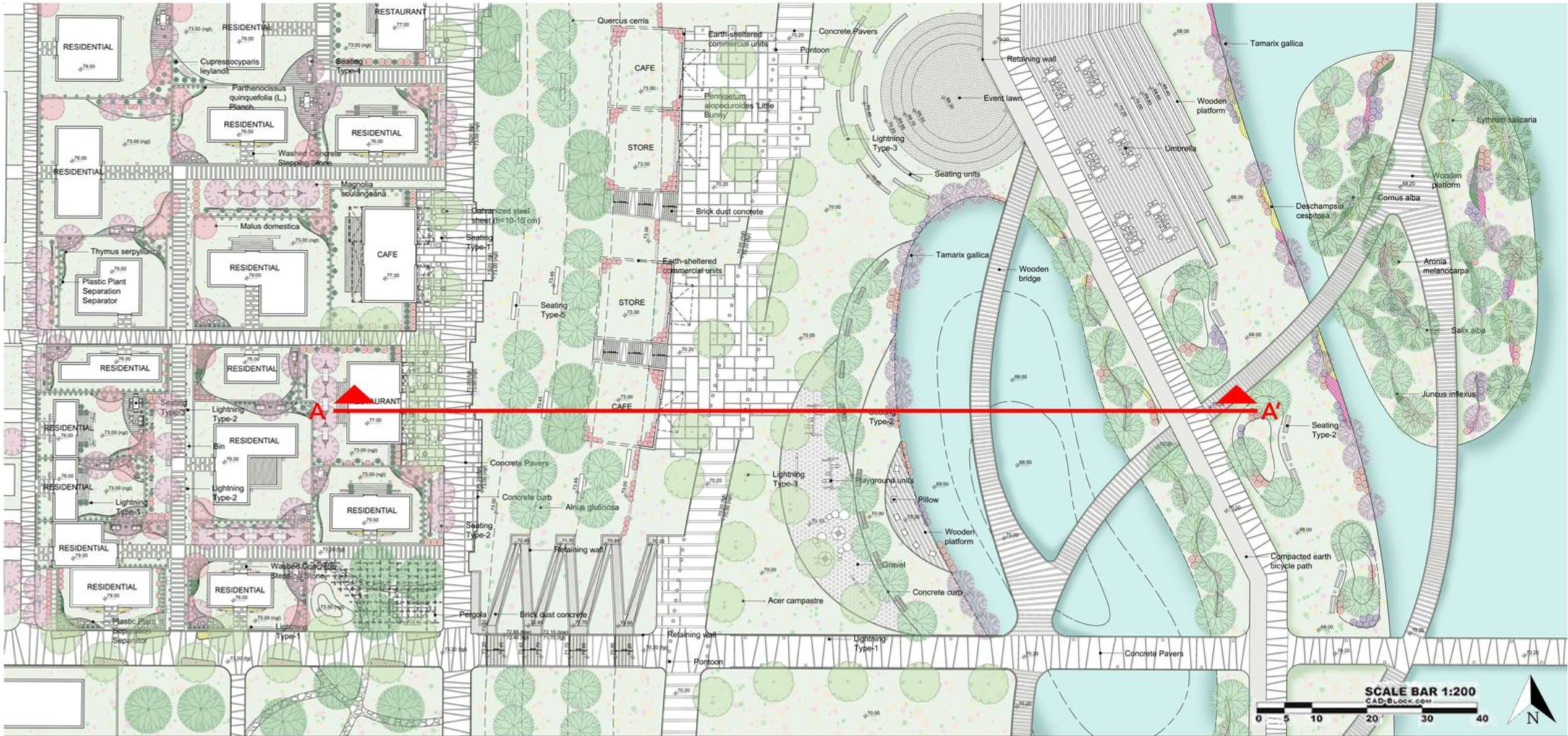


The 1/200 plan is structured as an integrated spatial sequence that connects the urban fabric to the Sava River through four complementary zones. The Urban Threshold forms a permeable transition between the residential area and the public waterfront, guiding pedestrian movement through paths, planting, and open spaces. This transition continues into the Topographic Interface, where the existing level difference is preserved and transformed into an active design element. Instead of concealing the slope with hard retaining structures, programs are embedded into the terrain, while green roofs operate as walkable public surfaces. Toward the lower level, the Ecological Corridor introduces elevated wooden boardwalks that allow movement through the landscape while minimizing impact on the ground condition. This zone supports flexible public activities and functions as a filtering landscape by slowing and cleansing urban runoff. Finally, the Riparian Edge and Biological Islands establish a resilient relationship with the river through water-sensitive planting, habitat creation, and controlled public access, allowing the waterfront to operate as both an ecological infrastructure and an experiential public space.

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Serbia/Belgrade
1/200 Plan

1/200 PLAN



PLACE MAKING: SAVA AS A PATCH

Serbia/Belgrade
1/200 Plan

1/200 PLAN 3D DIAGRAMS



The 1/200 plan operates as a prototype of the overall masterplan, translating the conceptual framework of "Sava as a Patch" into a tangible spatial experience. Through sequences of walking, sitting, gathering, learning, observing, and interacting with water, the project demonstrates how the waterfront can function as both a public landscape and an ecological infrastructure. By redefining the Sava waterfront as a living interface rather than a fixed boundary, the proposal reconnects the city with the river, transforms flood risk into spatial potential, and repairs fragmented urban edges through a continuous public and ecological system. In this sense, "Sava as a Patch" becomes both a place-making strategy and a resilient landscape infrastructure for Belgrade.