

# Welcome!

The meeting will begin momentarily.

The image shows a Zoom webinar interface with a black background. At the top, there is a green status bar that says "You are viewing Carly Bond's screen" and a "View Options" dropdown menu. In the top right corner, there is an "Exit Full Screen" button. The main content area features the following text and logos: "Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center" on the left, a large blue and yellow sun logo in the center, "Smithsonian Institution" below the sun, "National Capital Planning Commission" below the Smithsonian logo, and "Perkins&Will" at the bottom center. To the right of the sun logo, it says "Consulting Parties Meeting #3" and "02.26.2024". At the bottom of the interface, there is a dark grey bar with "Audio Settings" on the left, a "Leave Meeting" button on the right, and two icons in the center: a hand icon labeled "Raise Hand" and a speech bubble icon labeled "Q&A". These two icons are circled in red.

## How to Use Zoom Webinar:

- Zoom webinar will not permit access to your camera.
- Please submit comments/questions in writing through the Q&A function.
- Written comments/questions can be submitted at any time and will be answered or discussed at designated points during the meeting by the panelists.
- Click "Raise Hand" if you would like to speak your comments/questions at designated points with the panelists. A moderator will grant temporary access to your device's microphone.

Thank you for participating in our virtual public consultation meeting!

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Bezos Learning Center**



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**Perkins&Will**

**Consulting Parties Meeting #3**

02.26.2024

# Panel of Speakers

## Moderator

**Carly Bond**, Acting Associate Director, Historic Preservation, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

## Panelists

**Dr. Tina Menendez**, Bezos Learning Center Director

**Charles Obi**, Program Executive, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

**Mike Henry**, Senior Design Manager, Smithsonian Office of Planning, Design, and Construction

**Zena Howard**, Project Principal, Perkins&Will

**Ralph Johnson**, Design Principal, Perkins&Will

**Bryan Schabel**, Design Director, Principal, Perkins&Will

**Elizabeth Kennedy**, Principal, Elizabeth Kennedy Landscape Architects



**Carly**



**Tina**



**Charles**



**Mike**



**Zena**



**Bryan**



**Elizabeth**

- I. Project Introduction**
- II. Section 106 and NEPA Process**
- III. Context and Genesis of Form and Space**
- IV. Exterior Design Evolution**
- V. View Sheds**
- VI. Alternatives**
- VII. Next Steps**

### **Q&A Process**

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# Project Introduction

# Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center Scope

- Largest philanthropic gift since SI's founding gift from James Smithson in 1846
- Gift designs, constructs, and supports a premiere space for education across Smithsonian, housed at the NASM, at the heart of the National Mall
- Smithsonian will supplement these efforts to include:
  - Demolition of restaurant addition aligned with NASM Revitalization construction
  - Address loading dock functionality providing proper height clearances and separation of delivery areas
  - Construct a restaurant facility
  - Design and construct permanent location for the Phoebe Waterman Haas Public Observatory
  - Design and construct the Phoebe Waterman Haas Astronomy Park
  - Landscape east terrace



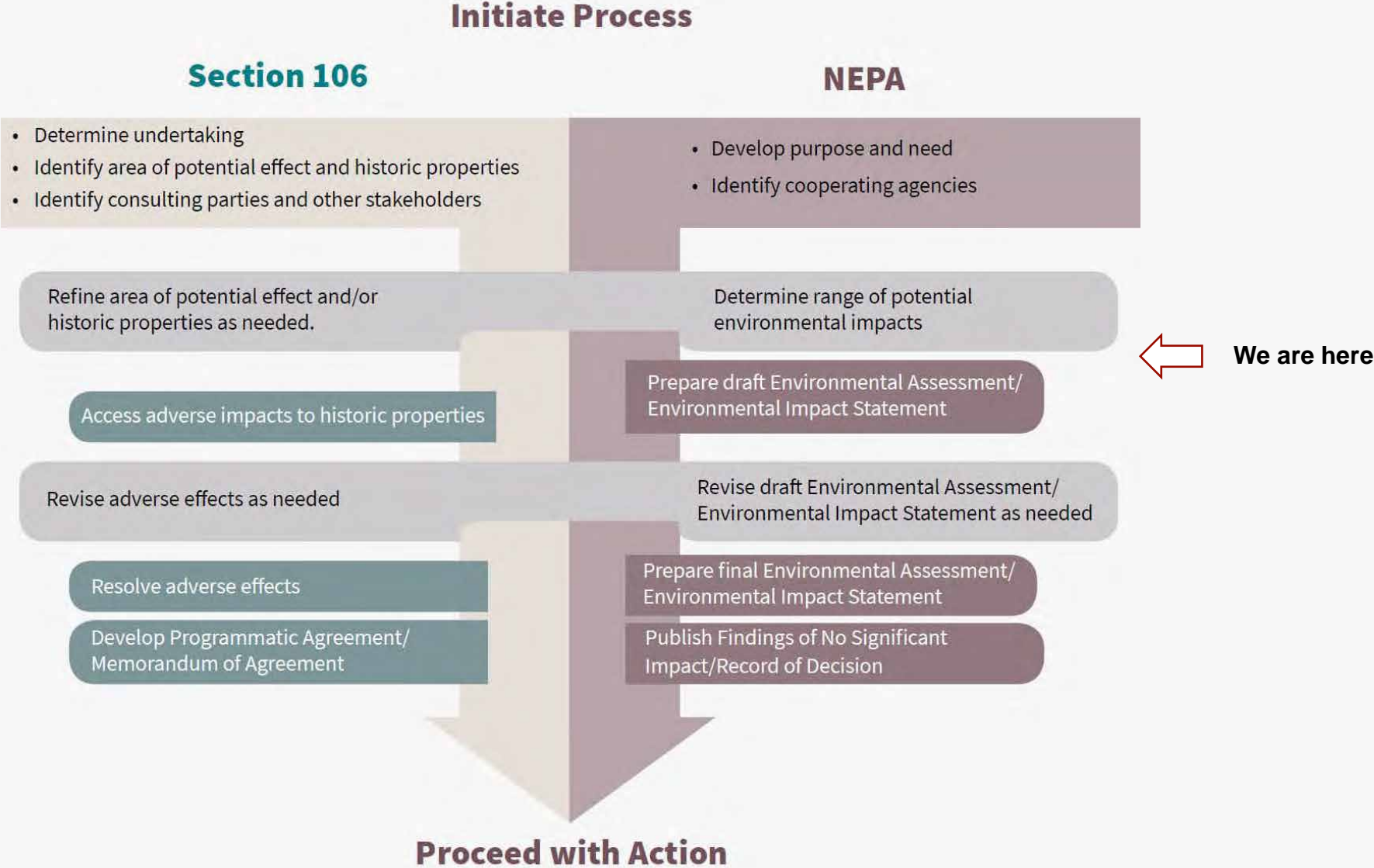


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# Section 106 and NEPA Process

# Section 106/NEPA Process Overview



Graphic courtesy of the National Capital Planning Commission.



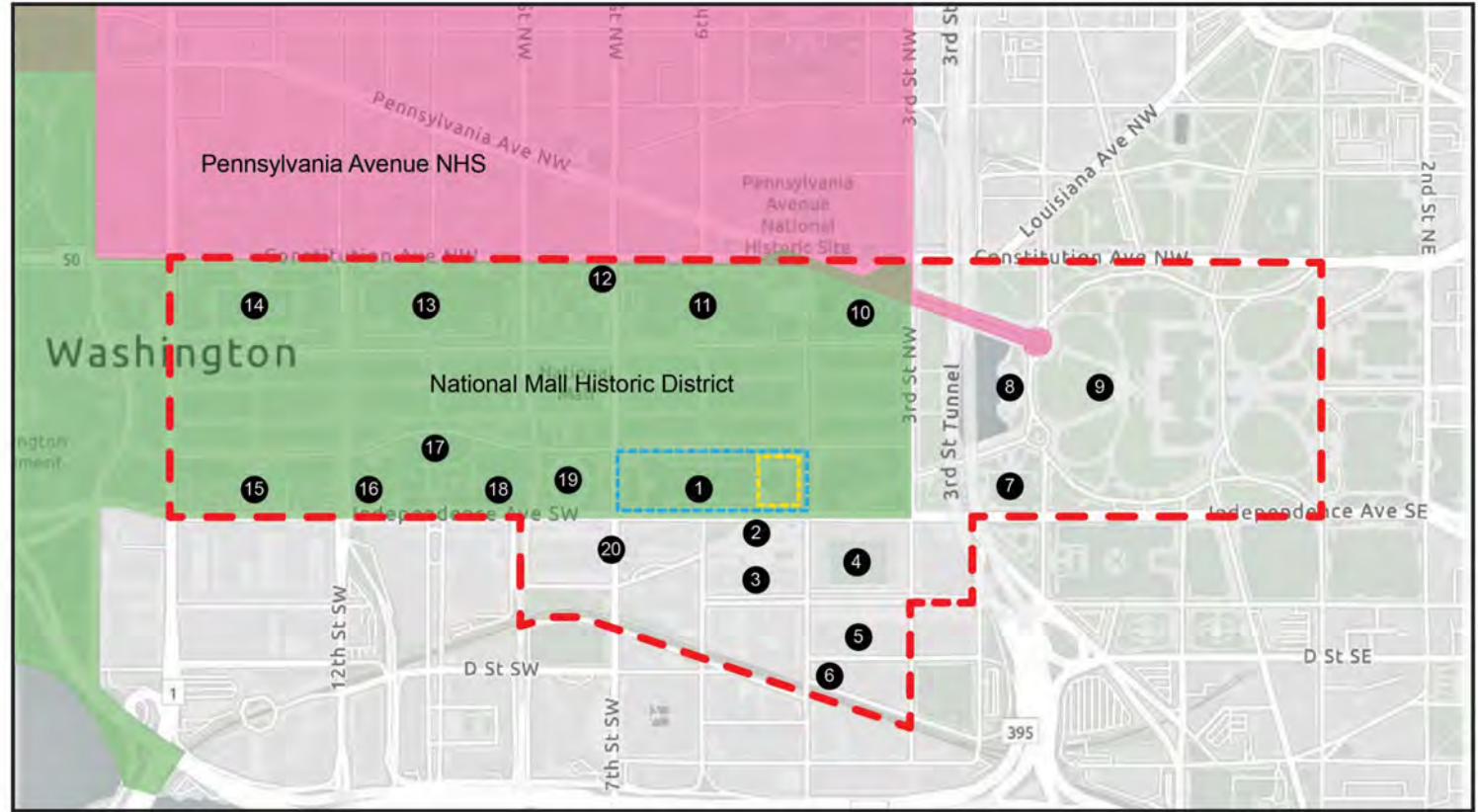
# Consulting Parties Meeting #02 Summary

## Meeting Content:

- Project Introduction and Mission Overview
- NEPA and Section 106 processes integration
- NEPA Scoping
- Context and Genesis of Form and Space
- Architecture and Landscape Design
- Viewsheds

## Comments Summary:

- Support for the conceptual building form relative to NASM, McMillan Line and context setbacks, and spiral galaxy inspiration reflective of the BLC program
- Support for the proposed Astronomy Park
- Give equal consideration to the appearance of the BLC and approach from the south
- Evaluate trees in Environmental Assessment
- Connection to NASM should be to the former restaurant addition



Key		5	14
NASM Site	Project Area	5 Mary E Switzer Federal Building	14 National Museum of American History
Area of Potential Effects		6 Terminal Refrigerating & Warehousing Co.	15 US Dept of Agriculture
National Mall Historic District		7 US Botanic Gardens	16 Freer Gallery
Pennsylvania Avenue NHS		8 Ulysses S Grant Memorial	17 Smithsonian Castle
1 National Air & Space Museum (NR Eligible)	10 National Gallery of Art East Wing (NR Eligible)	9 US Capitol and Grounds	18 Arts & Industries Building
2 Dwight D Eisenhower Memorial	11 National Gallery of Art West Wing	12 Bulfinch Gatehouses and Gateposts	19 Hirshhorn Museum (NR Eligible)
3 Lyndon B Johnson Dept of Education	13 Natural History Museum	20 Orville & Wilbur Wright Federal Buildings (NR Eligible)	
4 Social Security Administration			* Plan of the City of Washington (Not Shown)

Final Area of Potential Effects and identified historic resources



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# Context and Genesis of Form and Space

# Site Aerial

1980 Pre-Restaurant

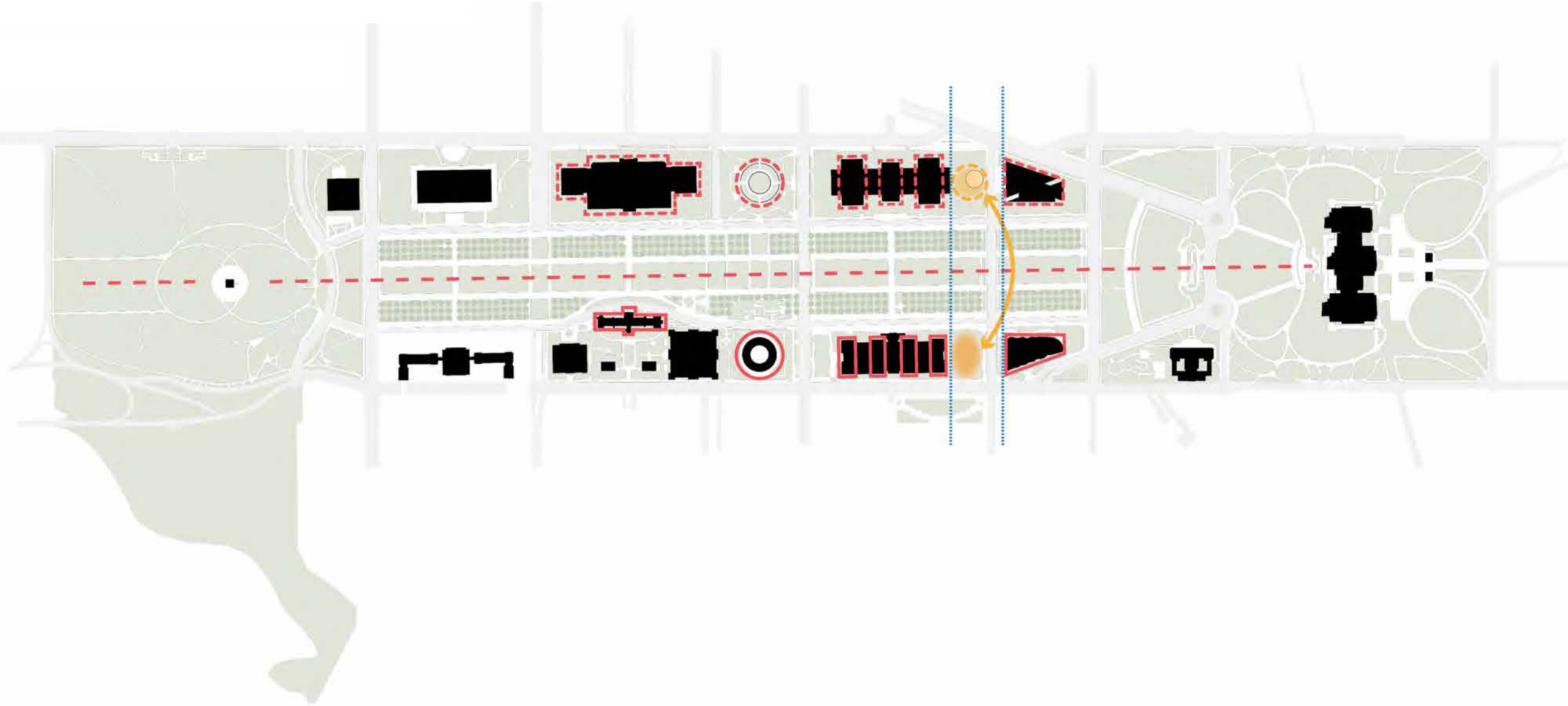


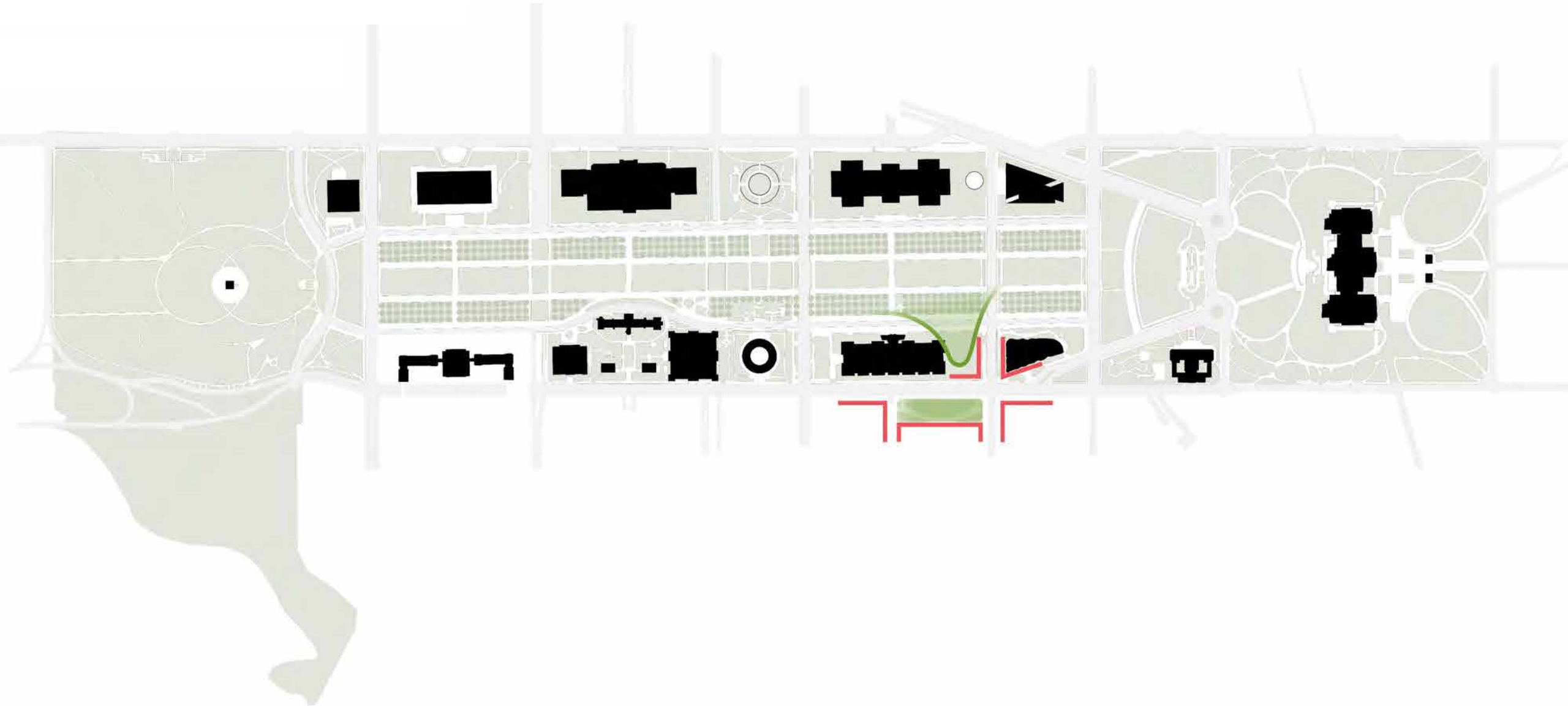
Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center



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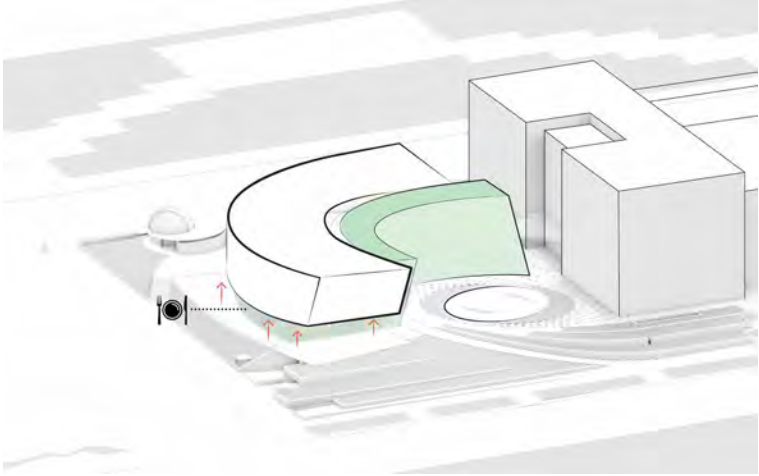
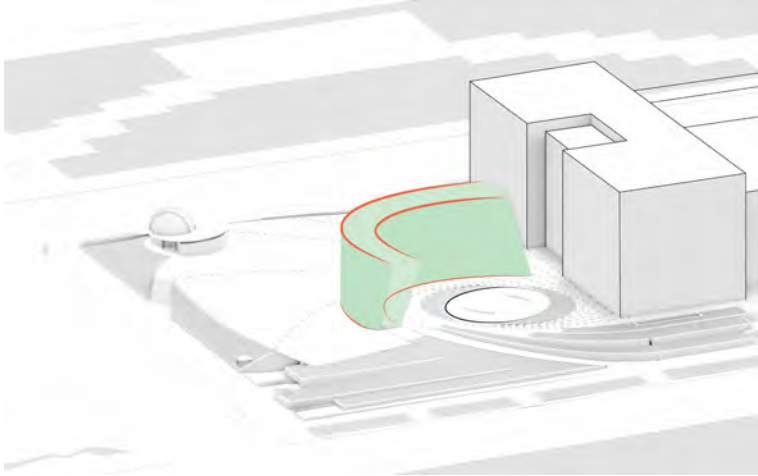
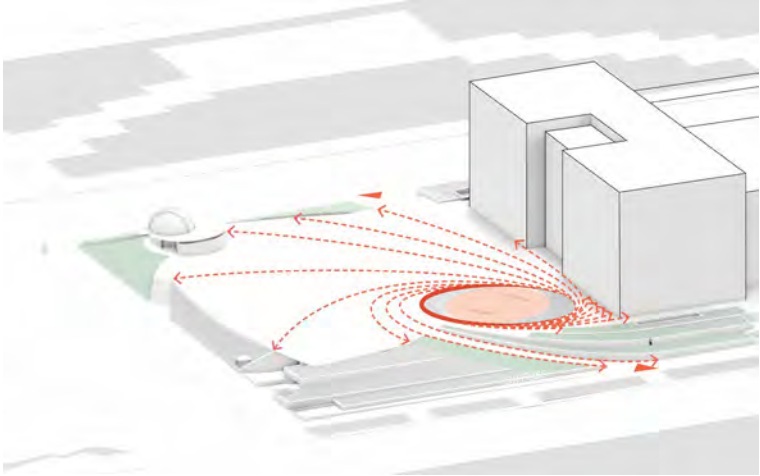
# Site Context Pattern – Open Space Reflection



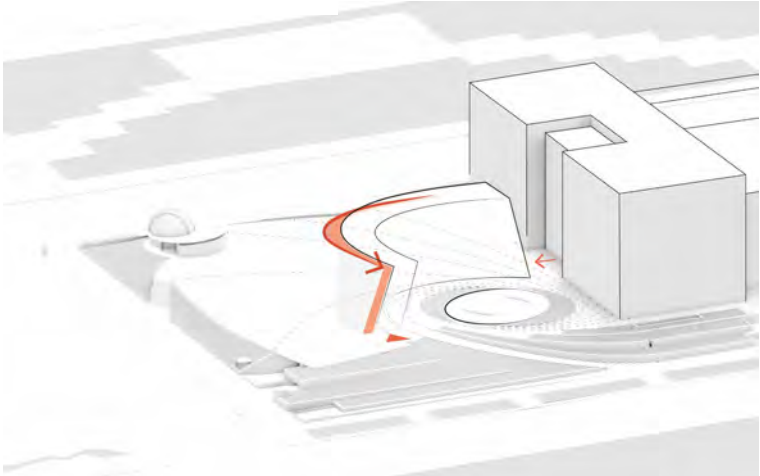




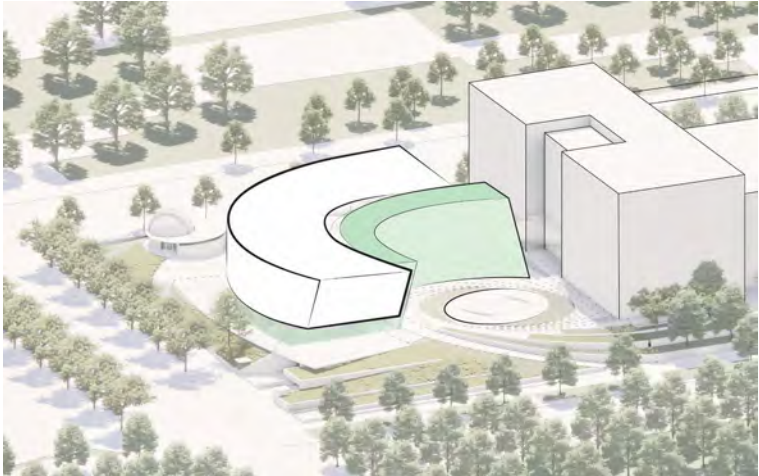
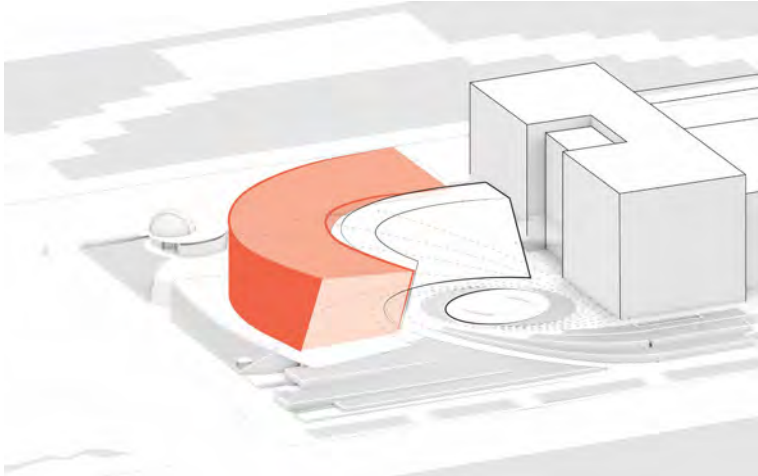
# Massing Diagrams



Circulation Spine



BLC Program Bar



Pavilion in the Garden





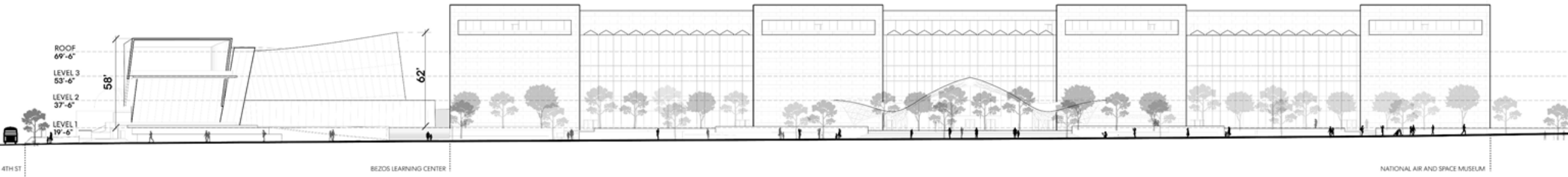
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# Exterior Design Evolution

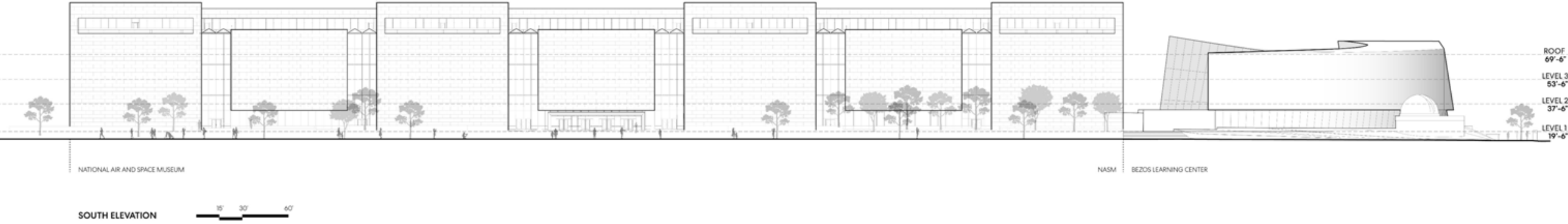
# North Elevation Comparison

## Previous



# South Elevation - Comparison

## Previous



# North Aerial - Previous



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# North Aerial - Update



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# North Aerial – Update



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# North Aerial Comparison



Previous

# Northeast Aerial – Previous



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# Northeast Aerial – Update



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# Northeast Aerial Comparison



Update



Previous

# Southeast Aerial - Previous



# Southeast Aerial - Update



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# Southeast Aerial Comparison



Update



Previous

# South Aerial - Previous



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# South Aerial - Update



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# South Aerial Comparison



Update



Previous



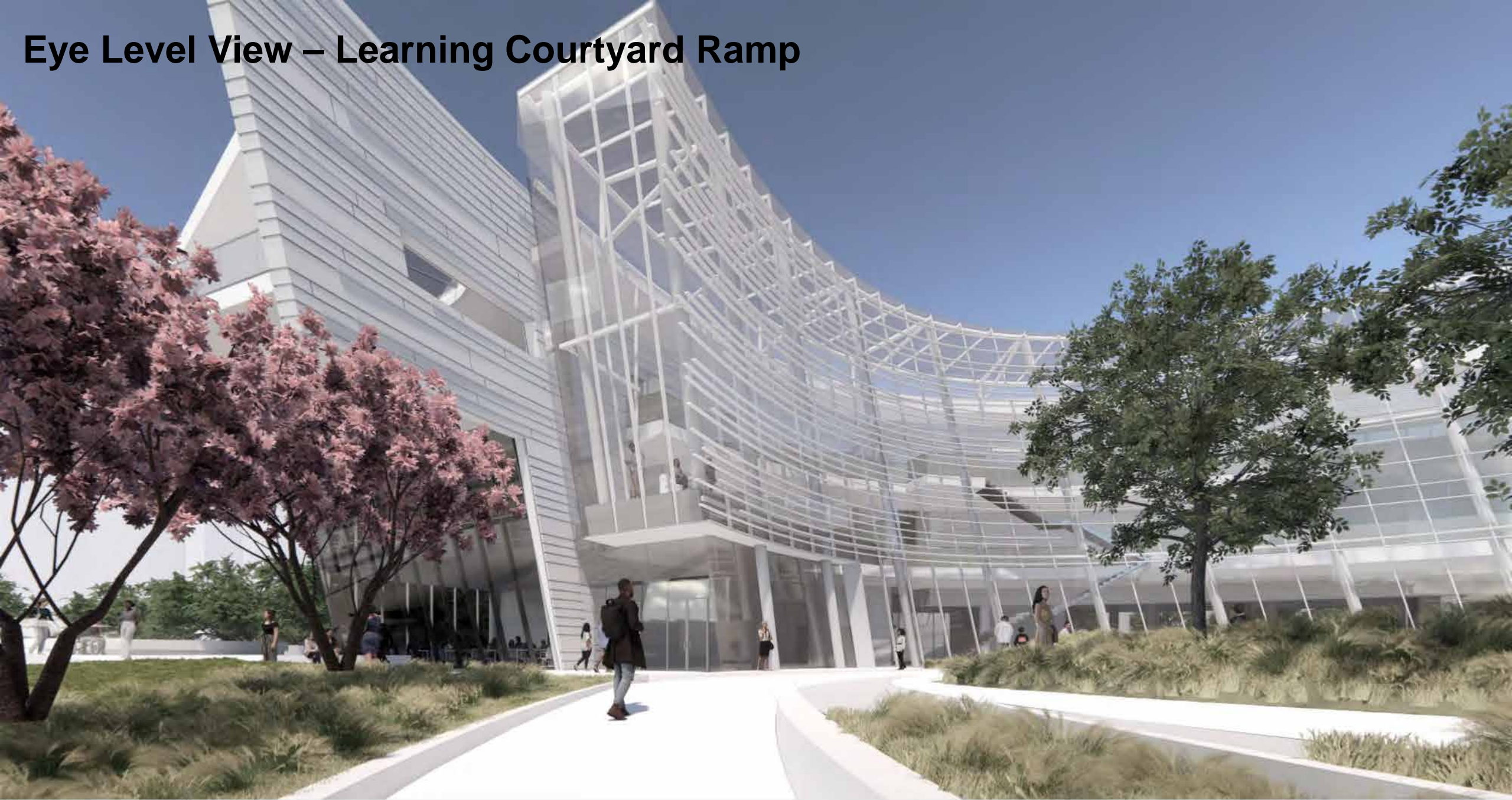
# Eye Level View – East



# Eye Level View – Jefferson Drive



# Eye Level View – Learning Courtyard Ramp

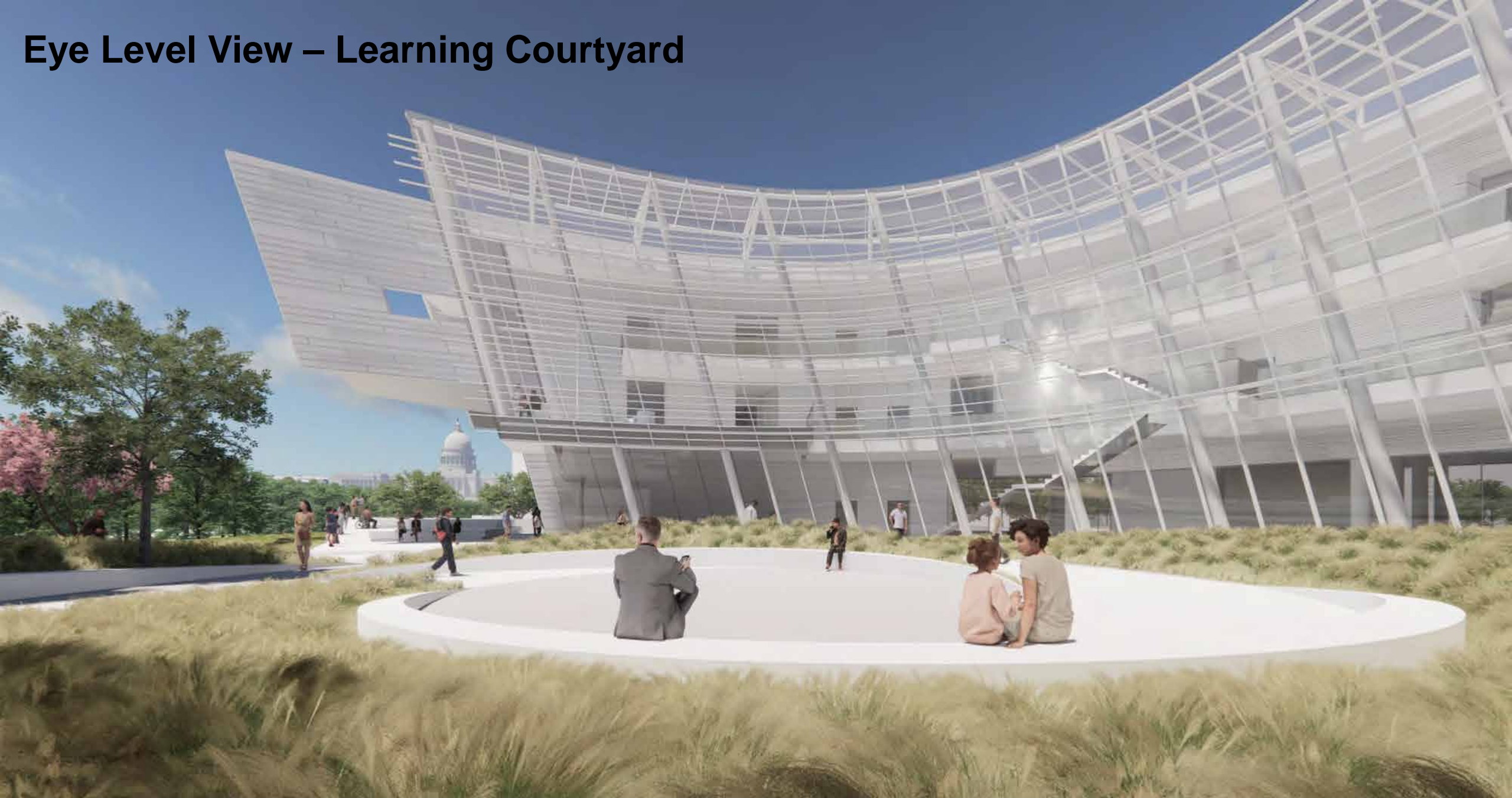


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# Eye Level View – Learning Observation Deck



# Eye Level View – Learning Courtyard



# Eye Level View – Astronomy Park Entry



# Interior View – Spiral Concourse



# Interior View - Dining Entry





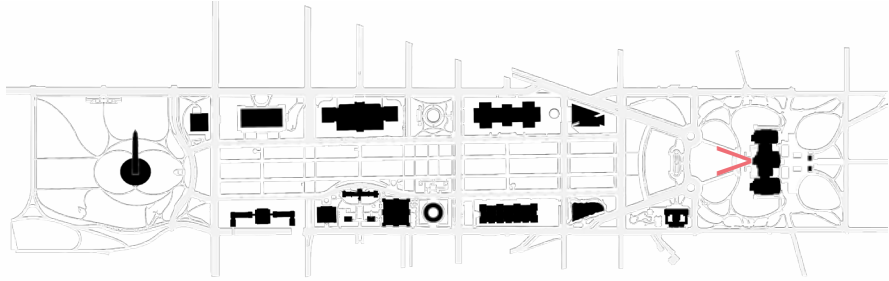


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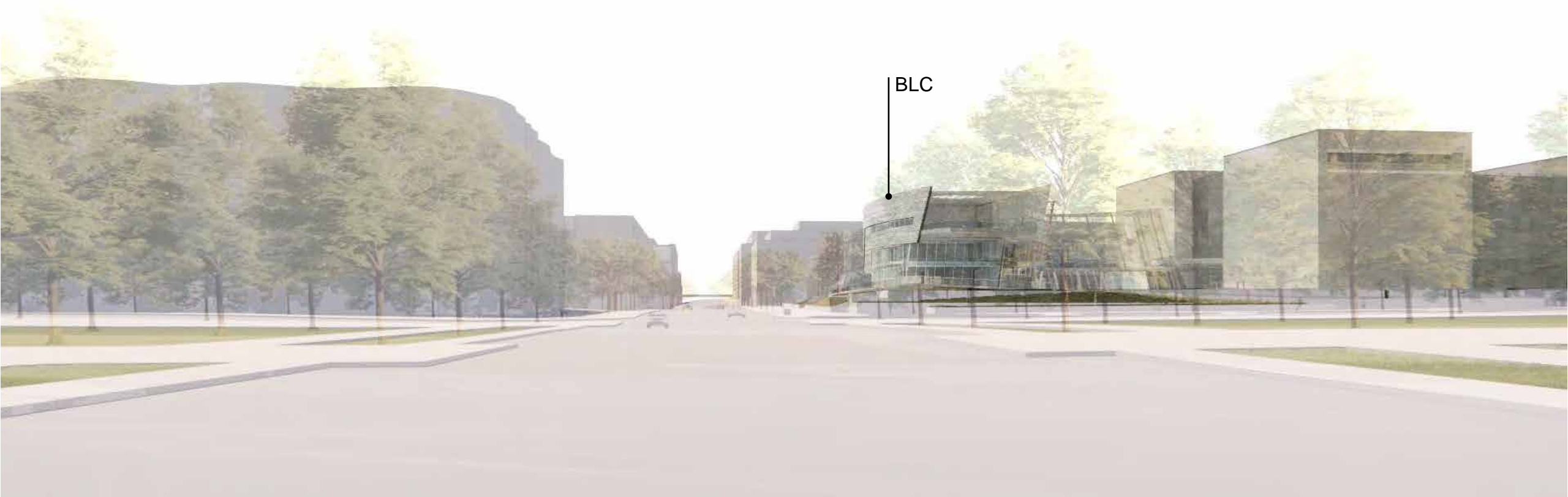
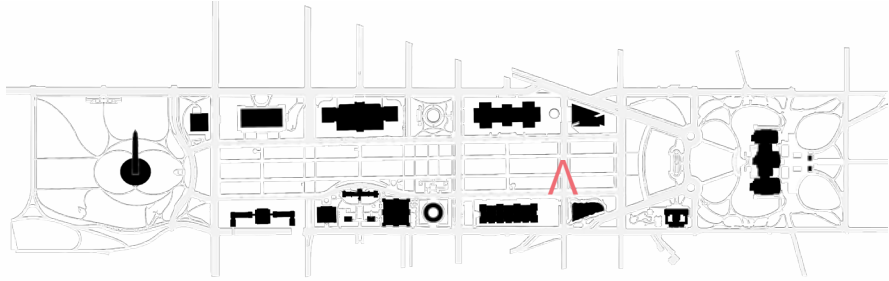


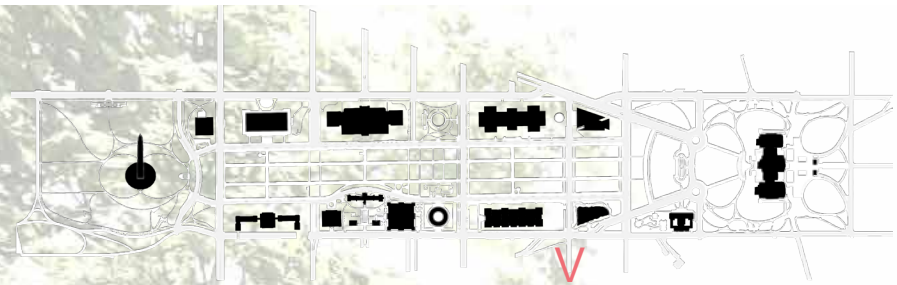
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# Viewsheds

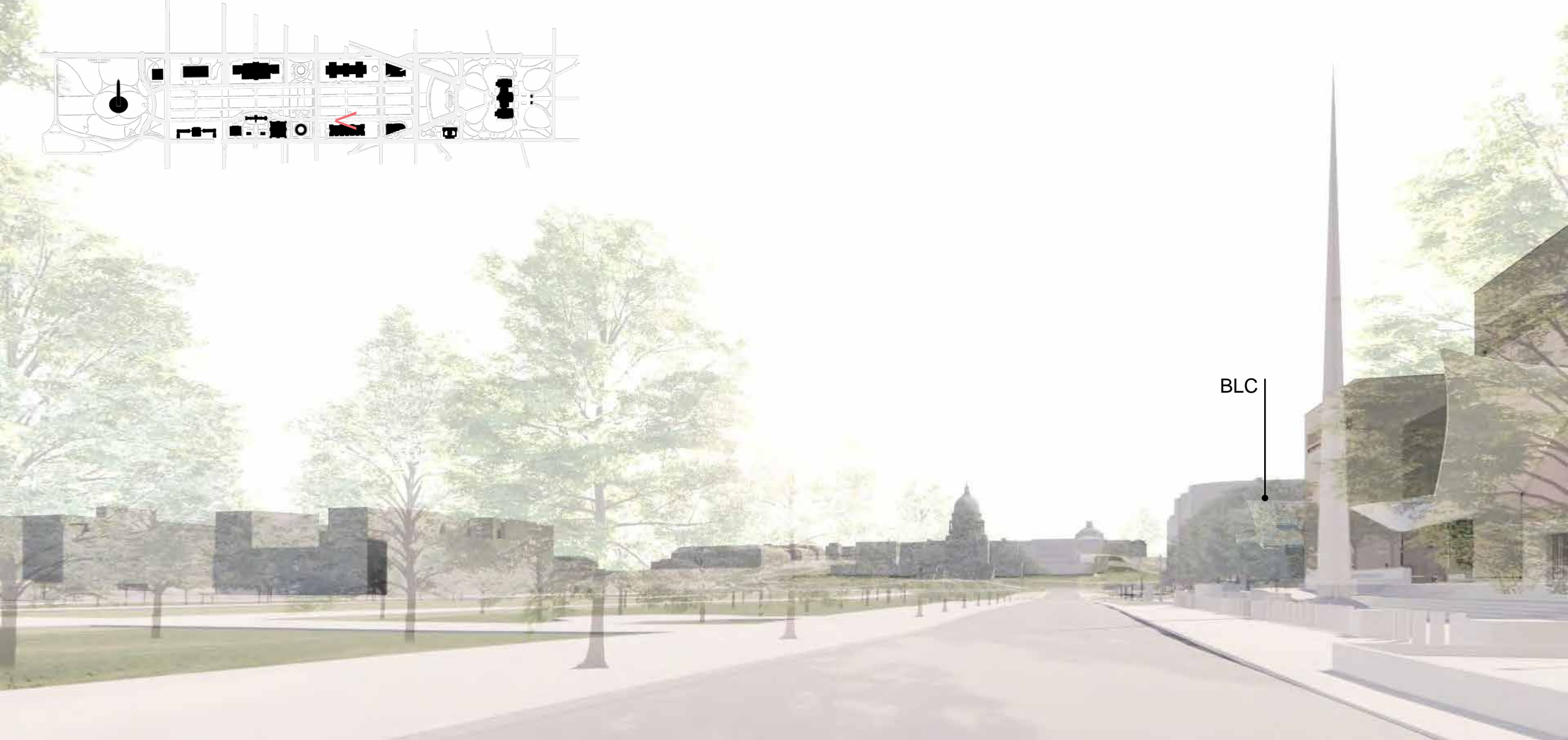
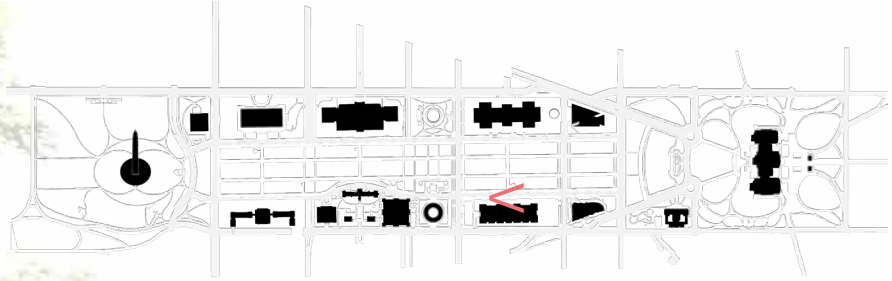


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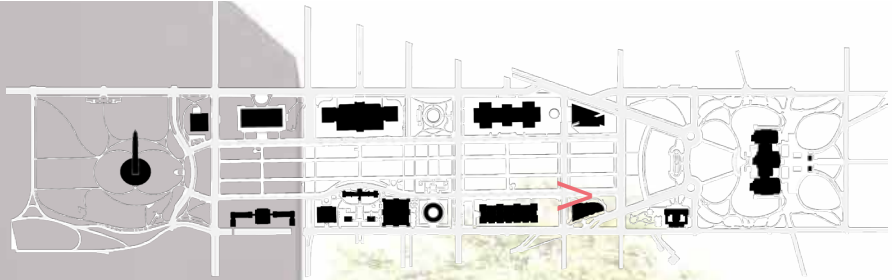




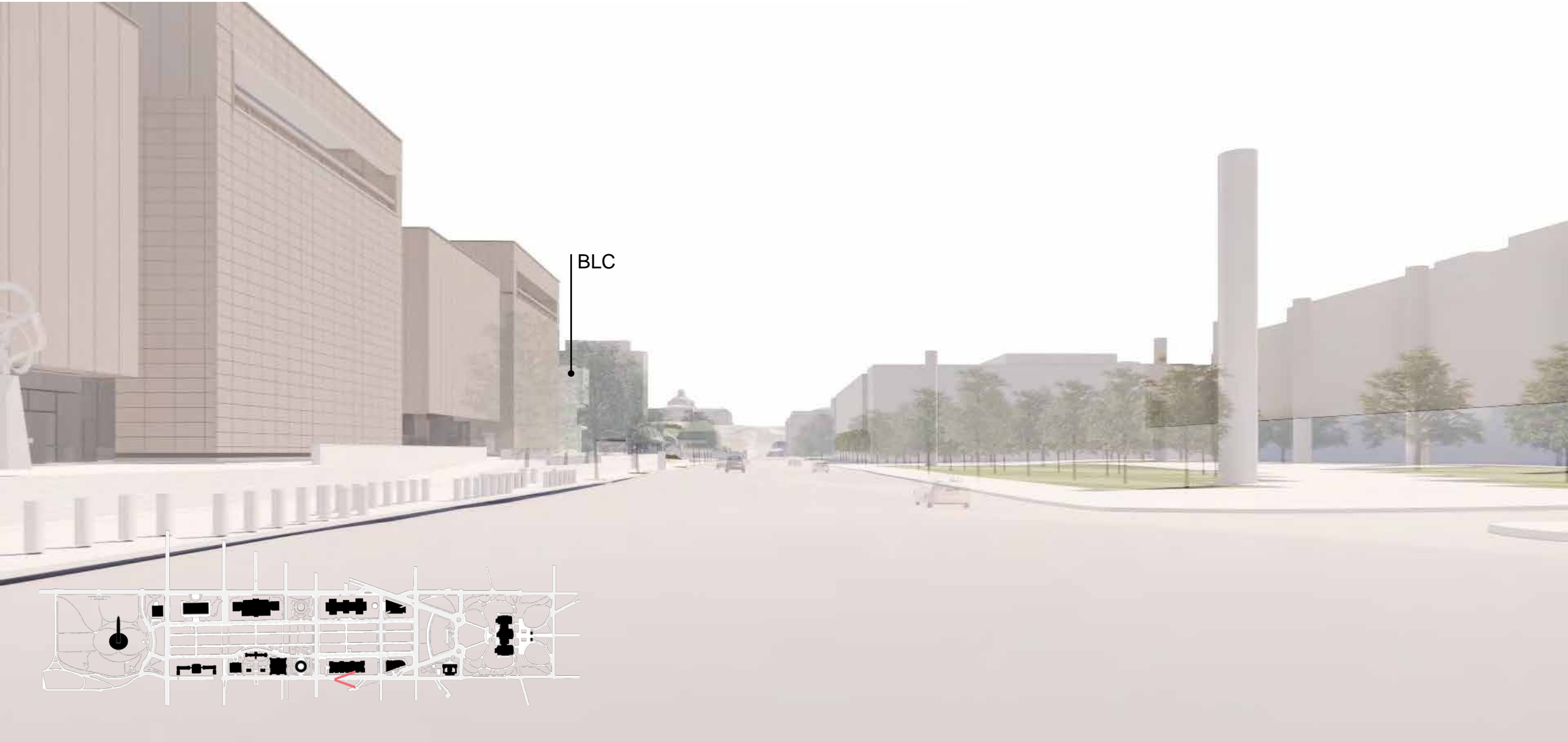
BLC



BLC



BLC

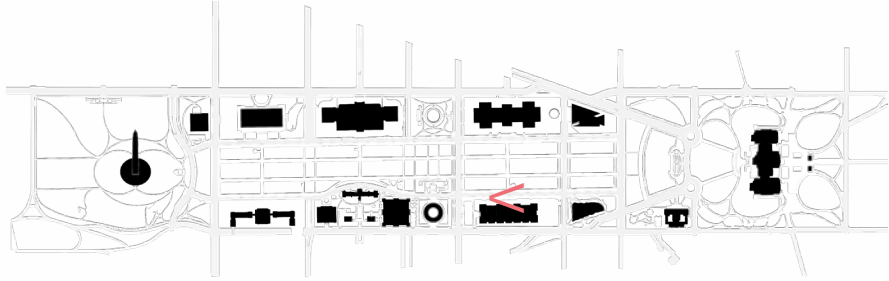


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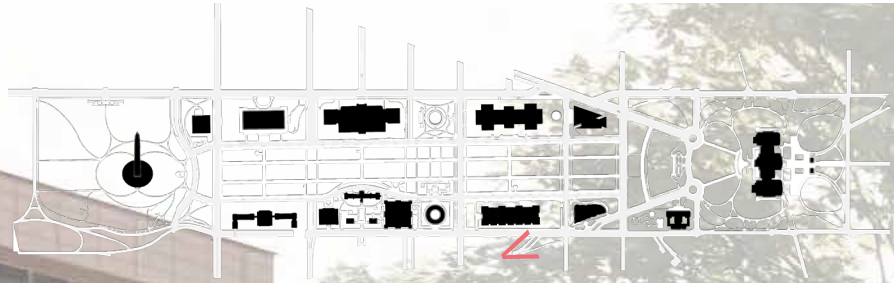


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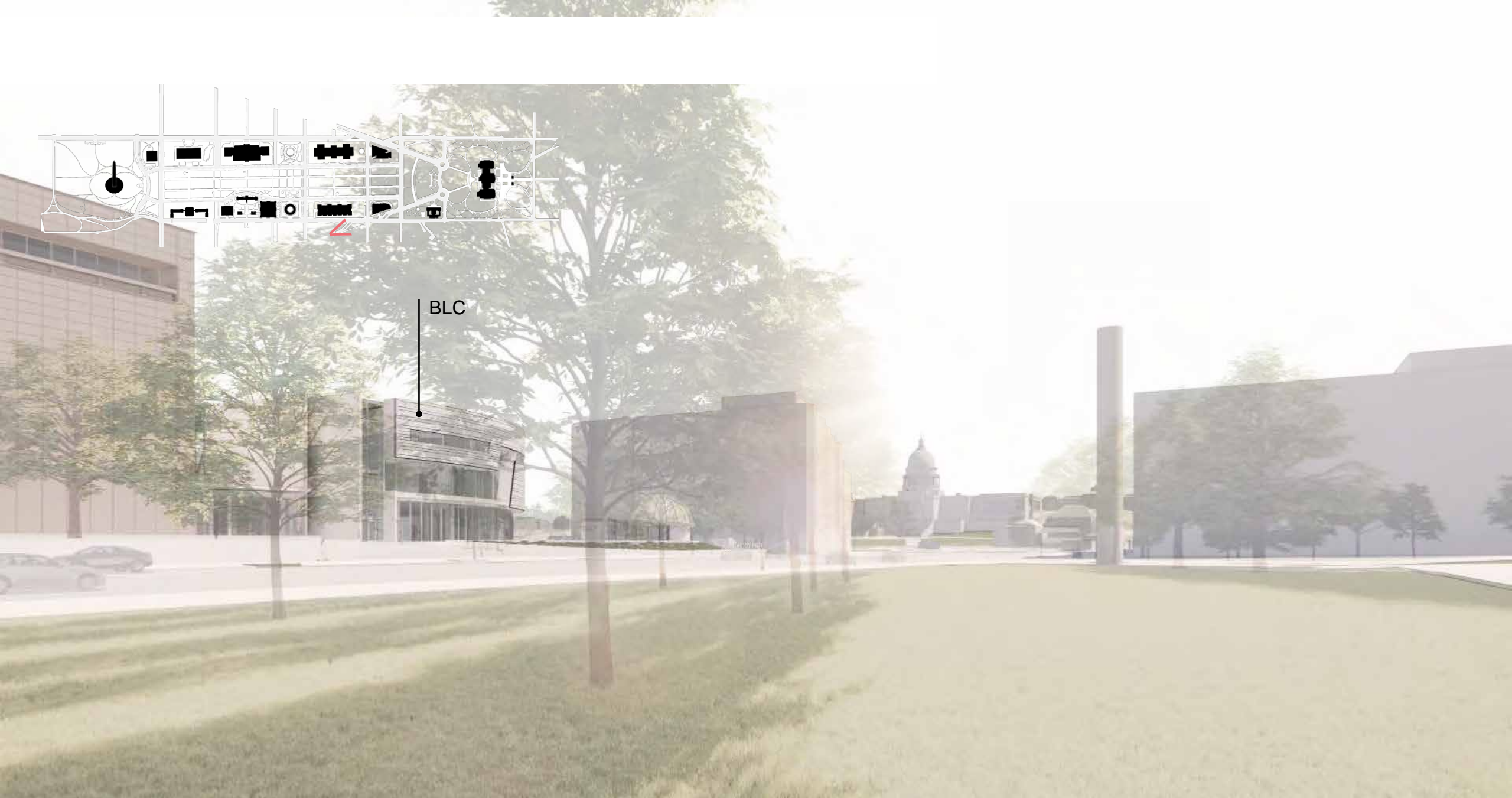




**Construct Integrated Bezos Learning Center**



BLC



# Questions and Comments

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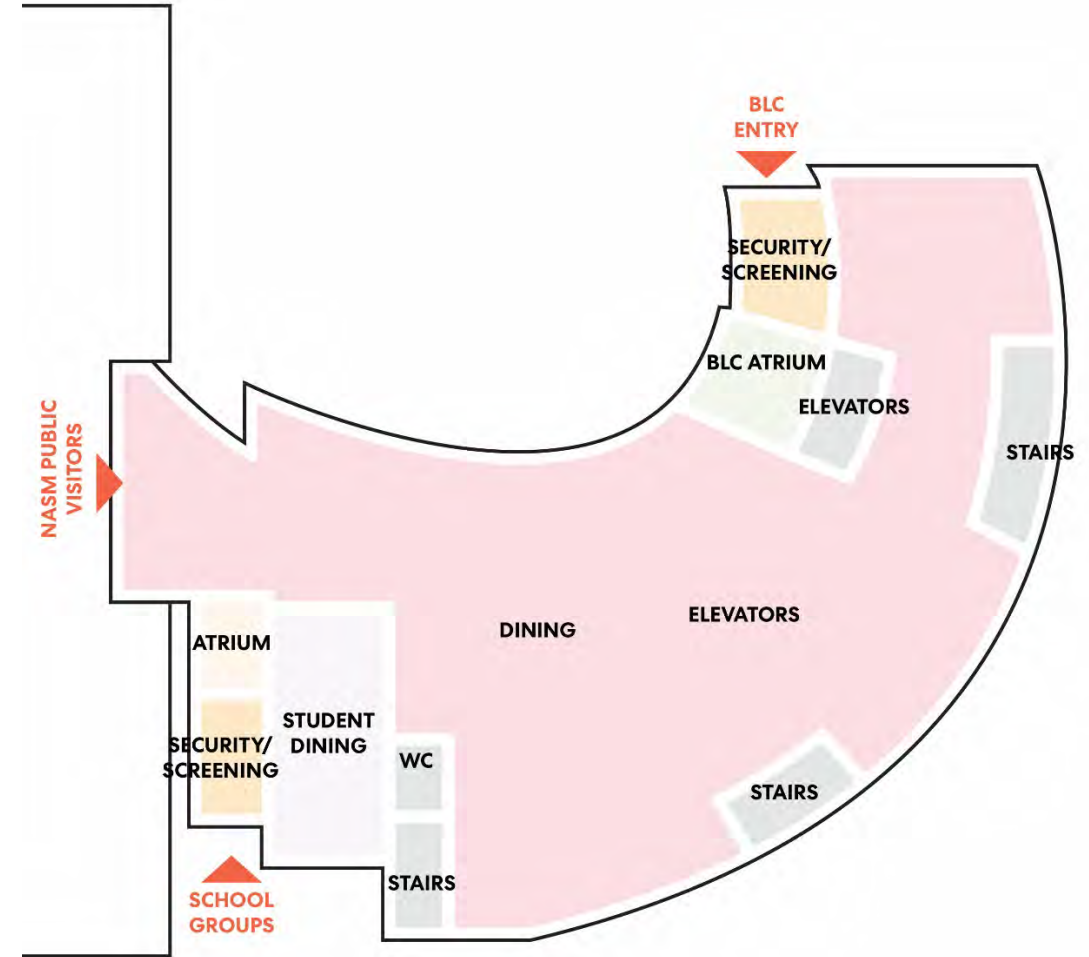
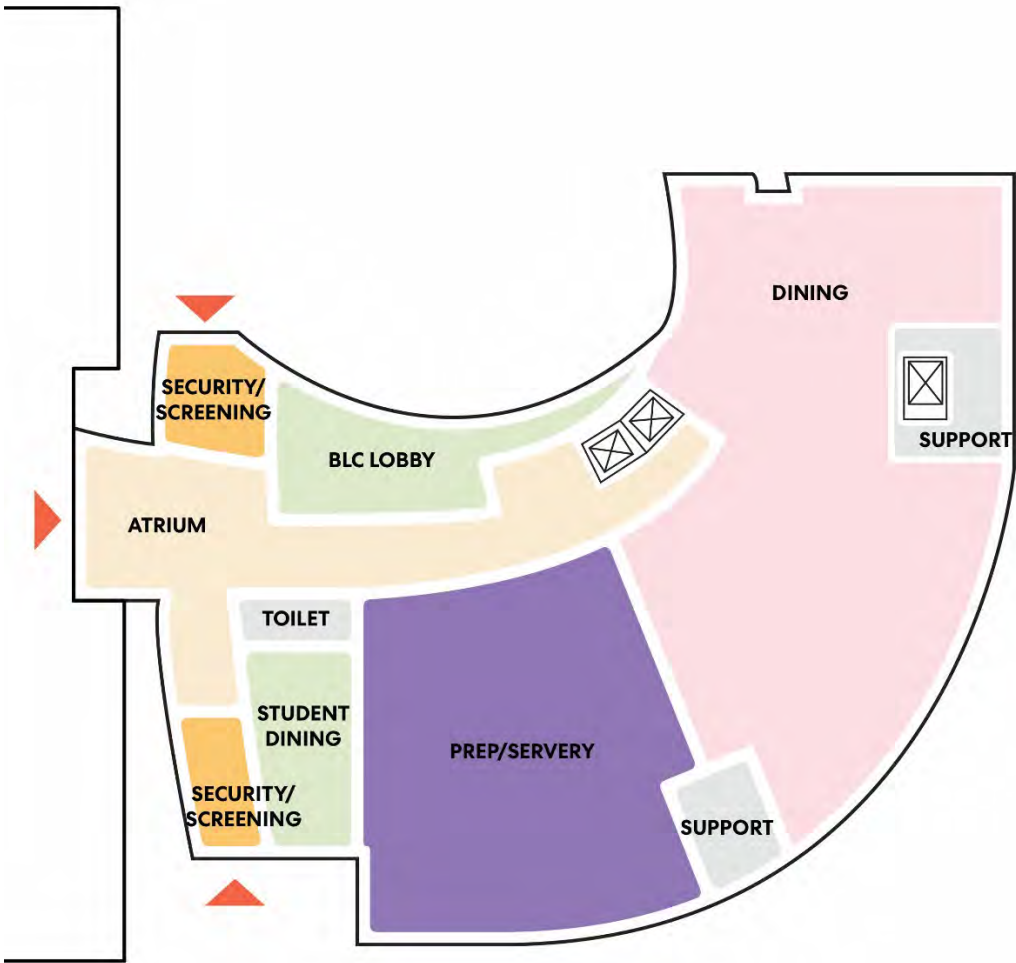


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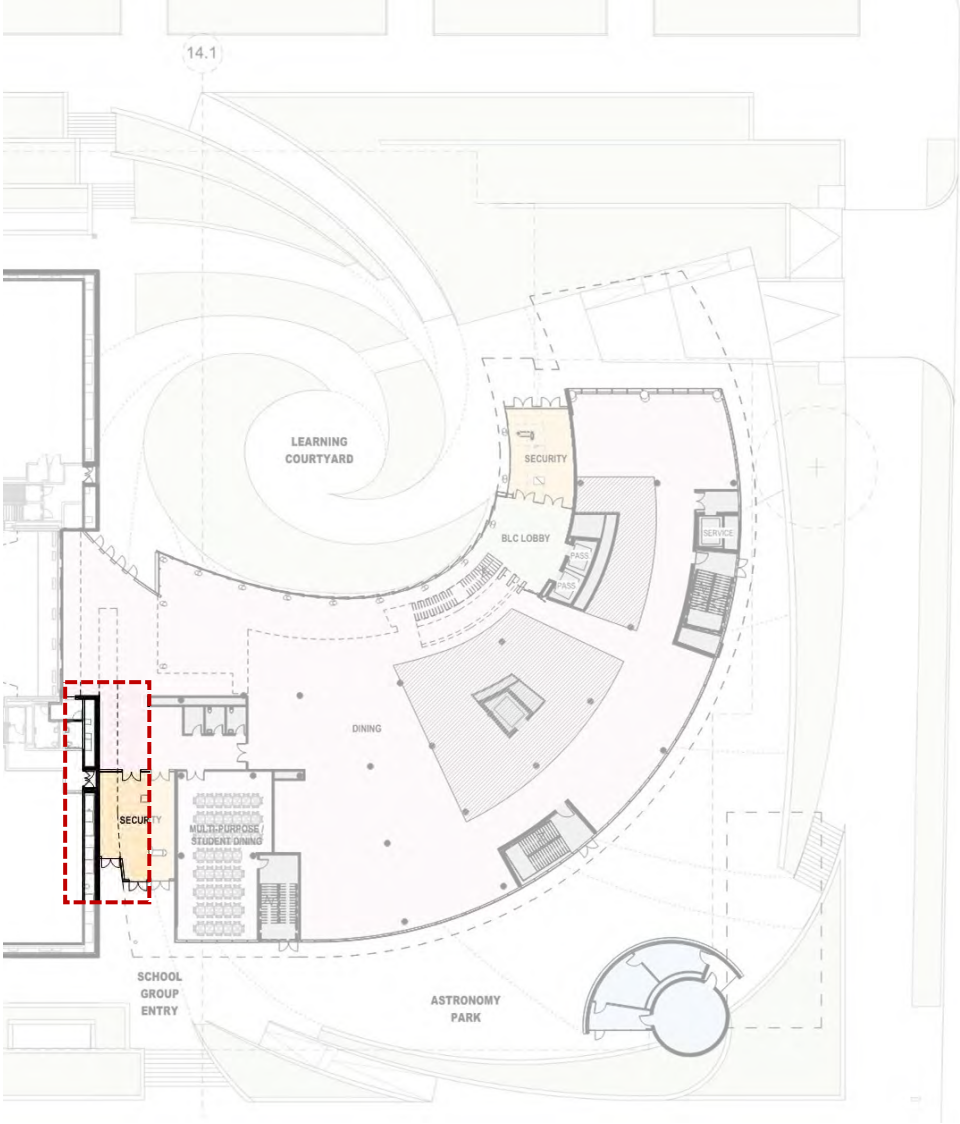
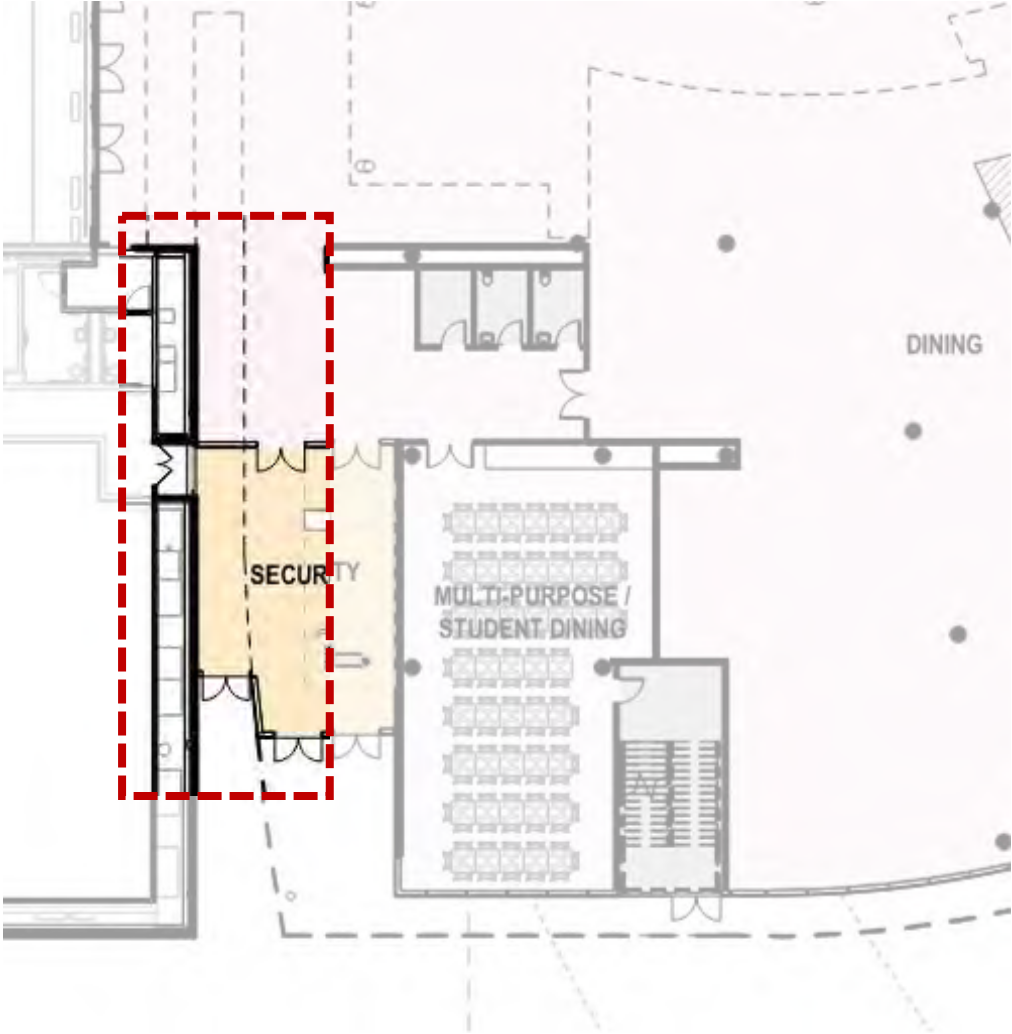
# Alternatives

1. BLC Connection to NASM
2. Landscape Design
3. Façade Materiality
4. Building Composition



# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 1 – Infill at NASM



# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 1 – Infill at NASM



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# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 1A – Infill at NASM



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# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 1 – Infill at NASM



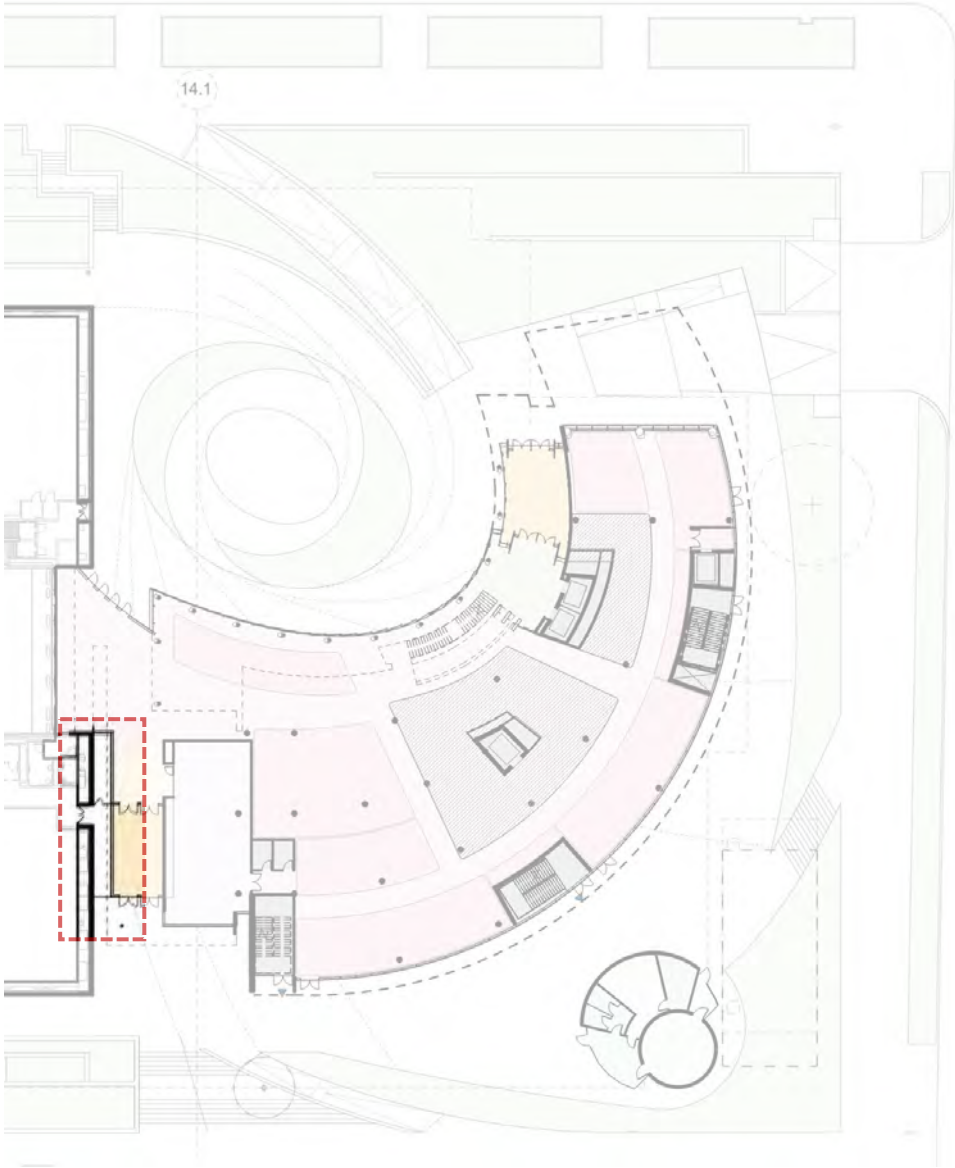
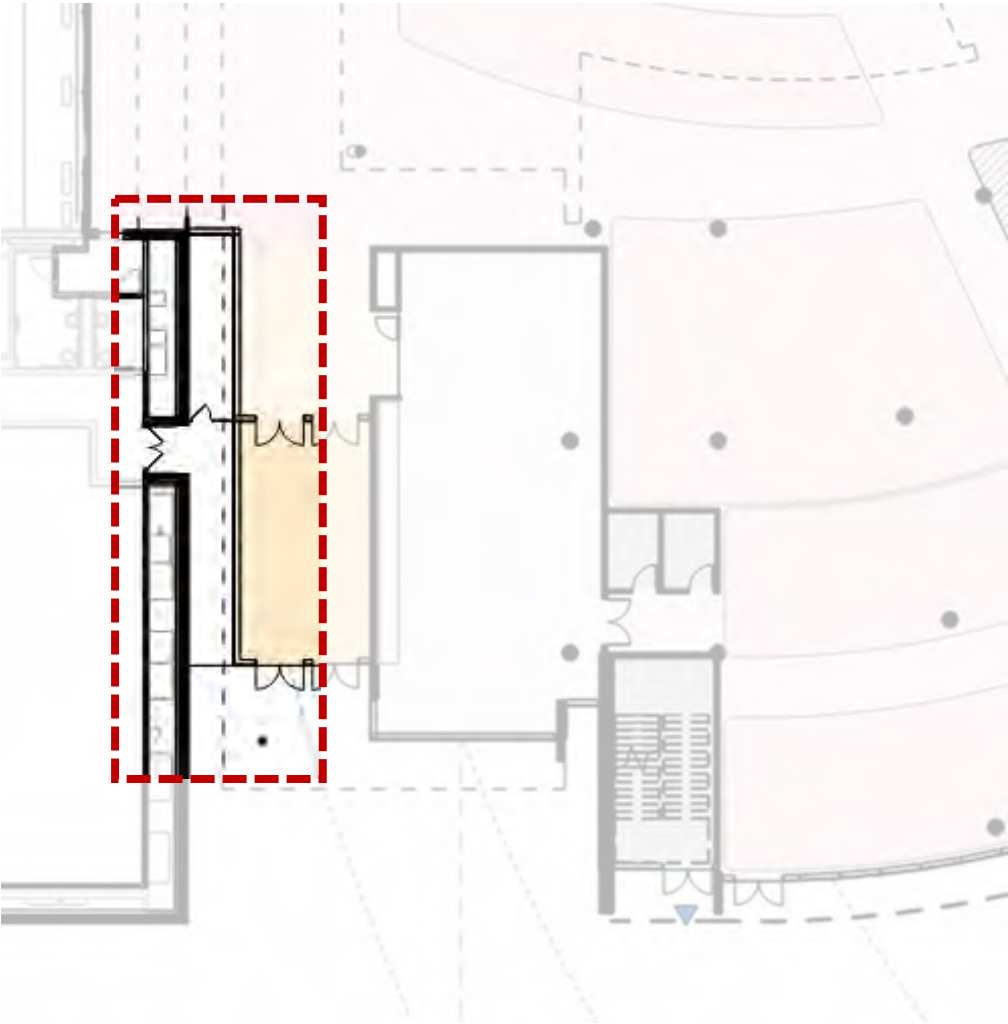
# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 1A – Infill at NASM



# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 2 – Gap at NASM



# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM

## Option 2 – Gap at NASM



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# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM



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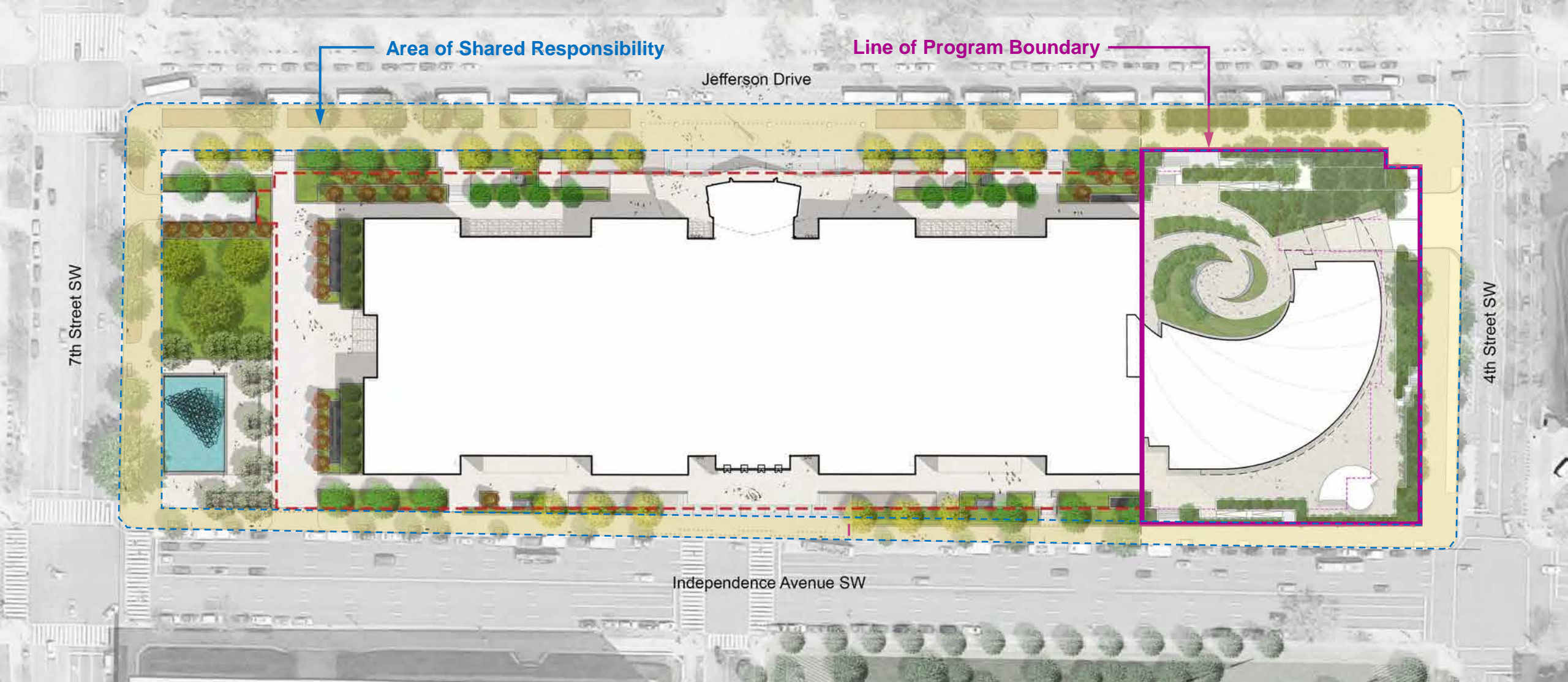
# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM



# Alternative 1: BLC connection to existing NASM



# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 1 Orthogonal

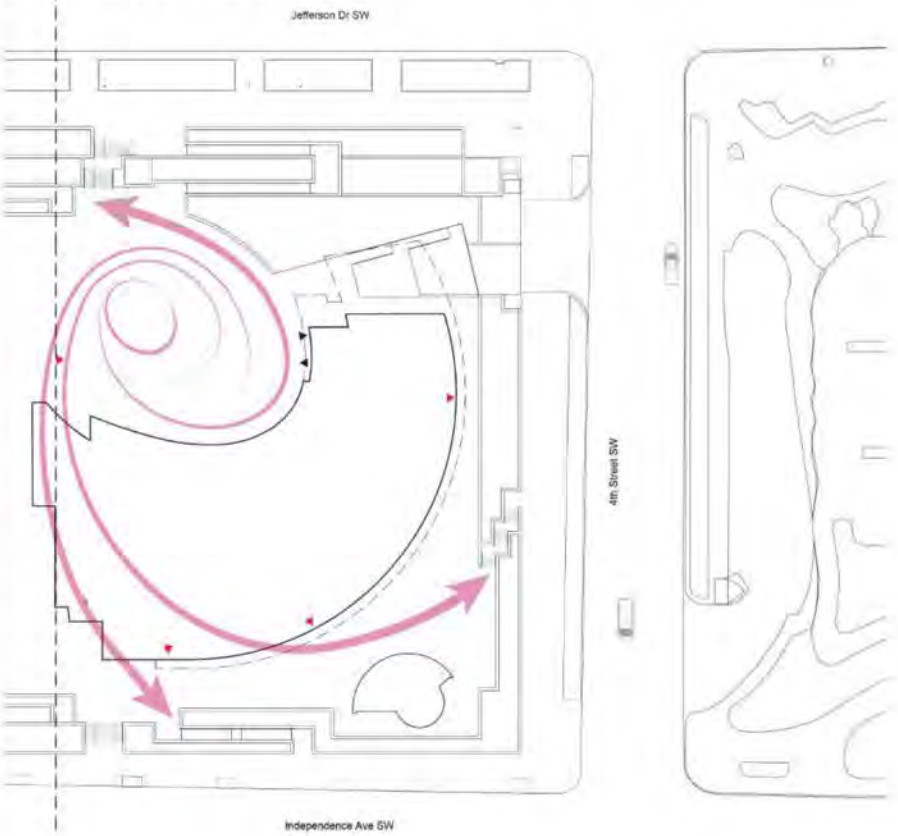


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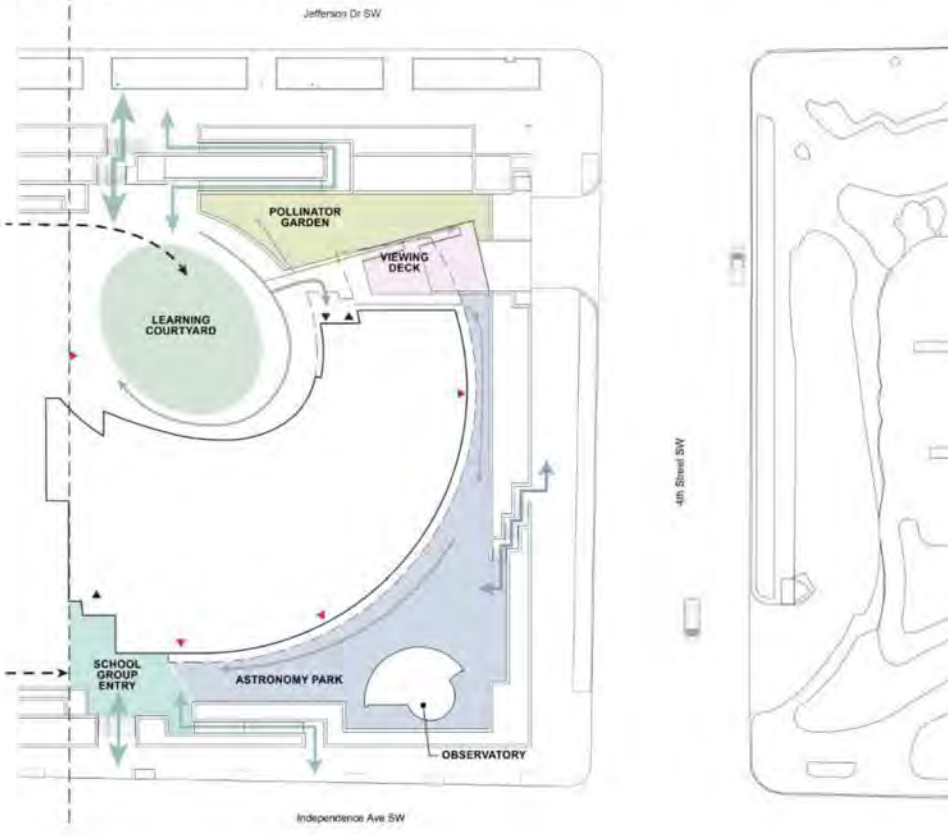


# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 1 Orthogonal

The Learning Courtyard and Astronomy Park spaces, which expand outwards towards the National Mall and Eisenhower Park to “spread the knowledge” of the Smithsonian Institution, must transition to the Revitalization Landscape Plan’s rectilinear planter geometry to maintain the approved plan’s continuity.



Option 1 BLC Orthogonal Landscape Concept maintains the Major Revitalization Landscape Plan’s orthogonal parti and adds green roof areas over the parking ramp and loading dock. The BLC’s footprint reduces the depth of the east-facing planting area. In response, the steps leading to the upper terrace from 4th Street are reoriented north-south.



# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 1 Orthogonal

The galactic spiral that informs the placement of program elements and paving design within the Learning Courtyard and Astronomy Park ends at the terraces' orthogonal boundary. The scheme adds trees to increase the vegetative canopy.

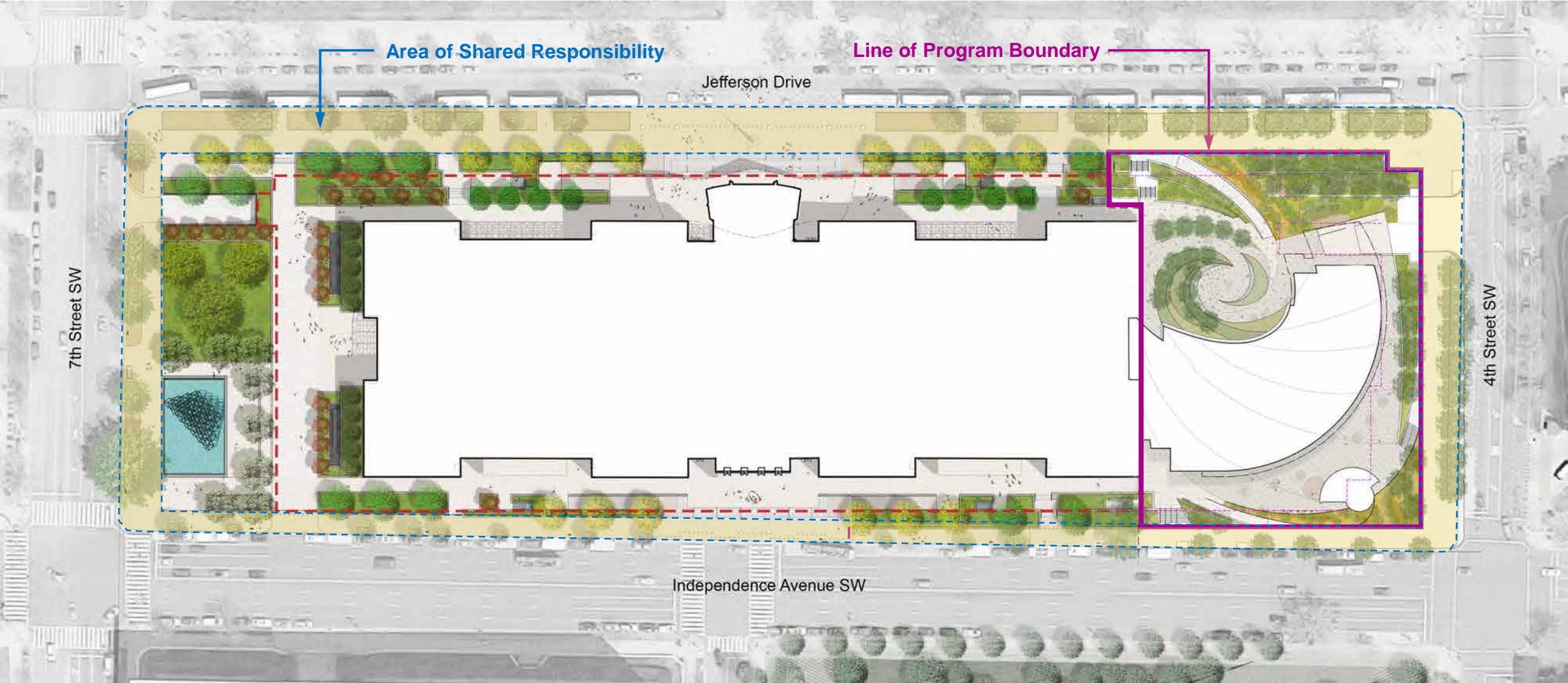


# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 1 Orthogonal



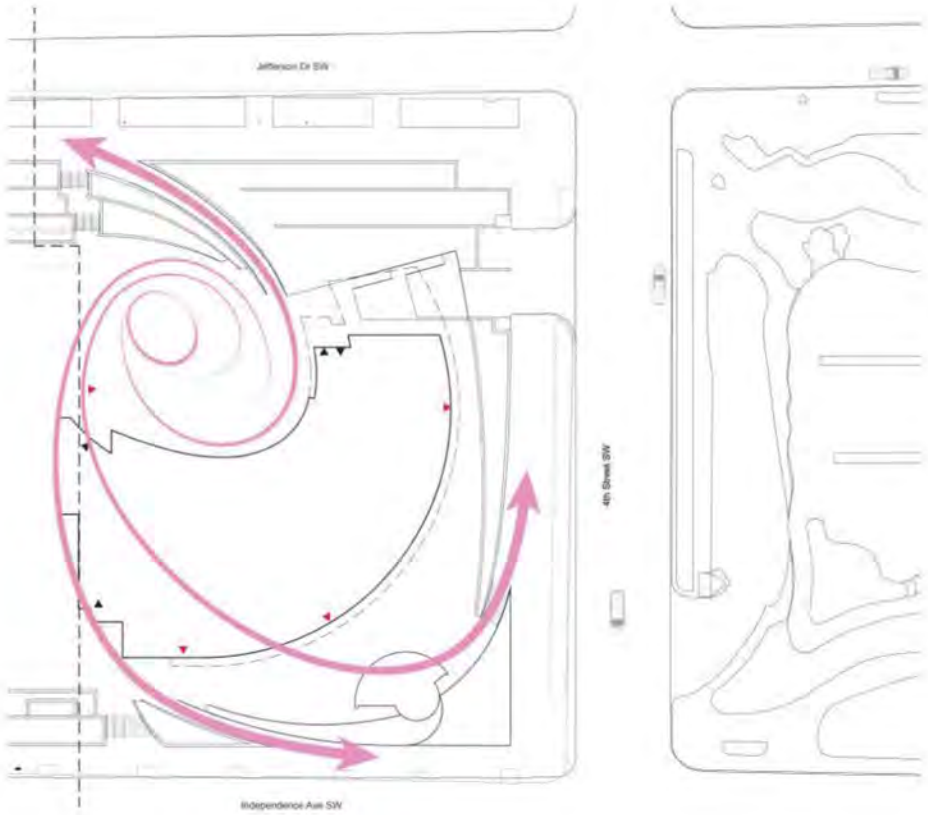
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# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 2 Spiral

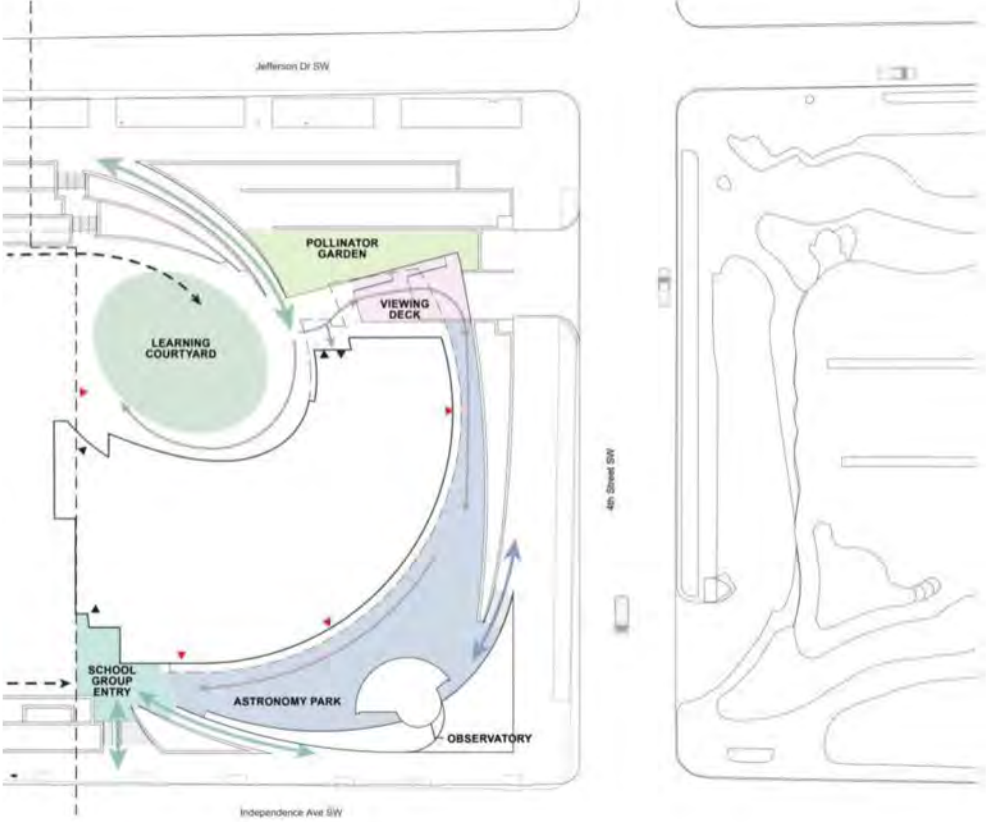


# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 2 Spiral

The galactic spiral derived from the Learning Courtyard vortex element informs architectural and open space configurations to extend into and over the revitalized landscape.



The galactic spiral defines circulation, the ability to perambulate outdoor program areas, and the BLC's architectural form.



# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 2 Spiral

The spiral concept shapes the paving design, ramps, new plantings, and program elements, including the green roofs over the parking ramp/loading dock and on Level 02. Extending the spiral voids north and south to overlay the revitalized landscape opens the Learning Courtyard and Astronomy Park to broader public participation in open space programming per the Smithsonian Institution's intent to share knowledge. The planting concept builds upon the Cullina palette to recall American landscapes where stargazing and space exploration grab young imaginations.



# Alternative 2: Landscape Design- Option 2 Spiral



# Alternative 2: Option1 / Option 2 Comparison

Option 1 – Orthogonal



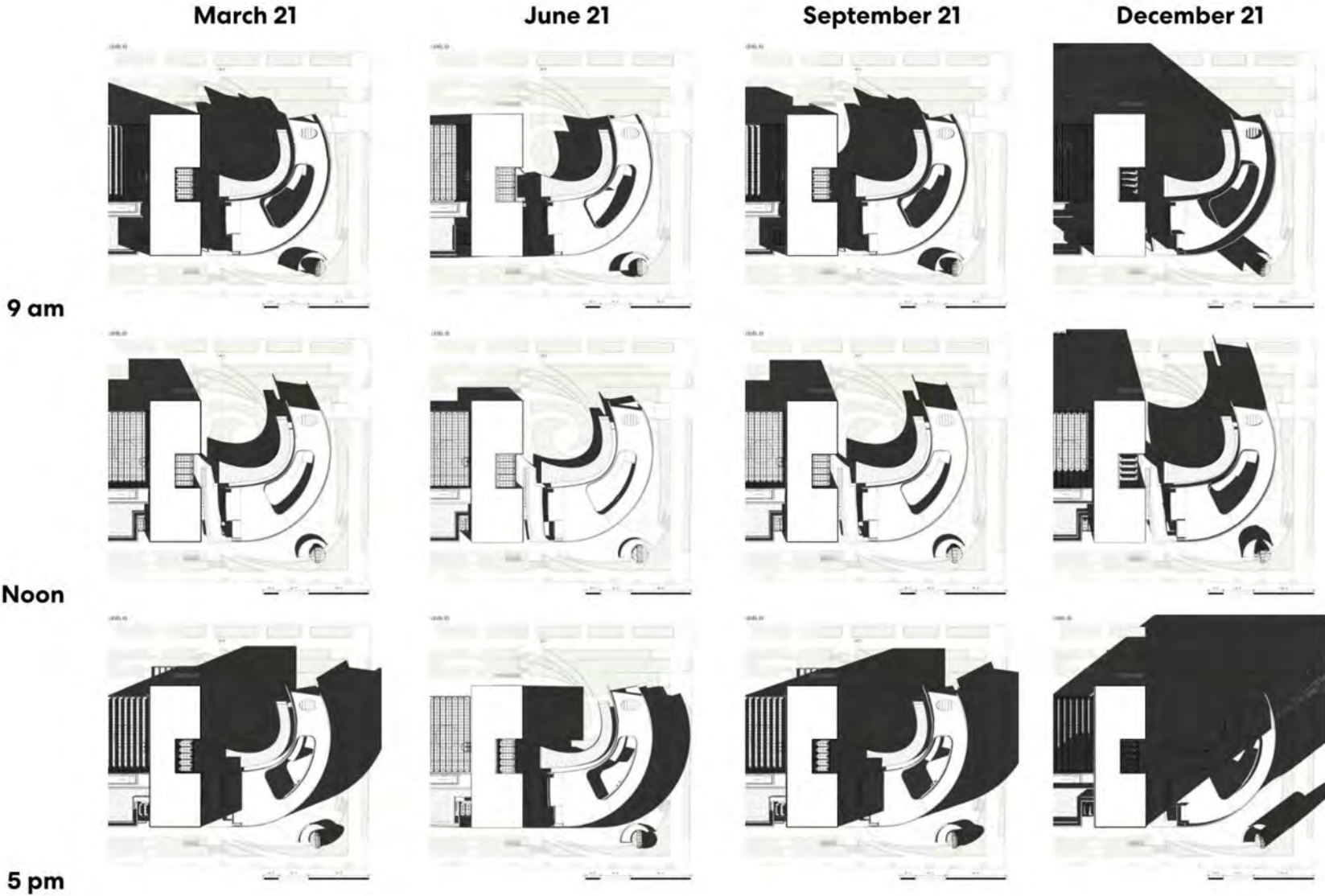
Option 2 – Spiral





# Alternative 2 – Landscape Design

## Solar Mapping



# Alternative 3: Façade Materiality

## Façade Materiality

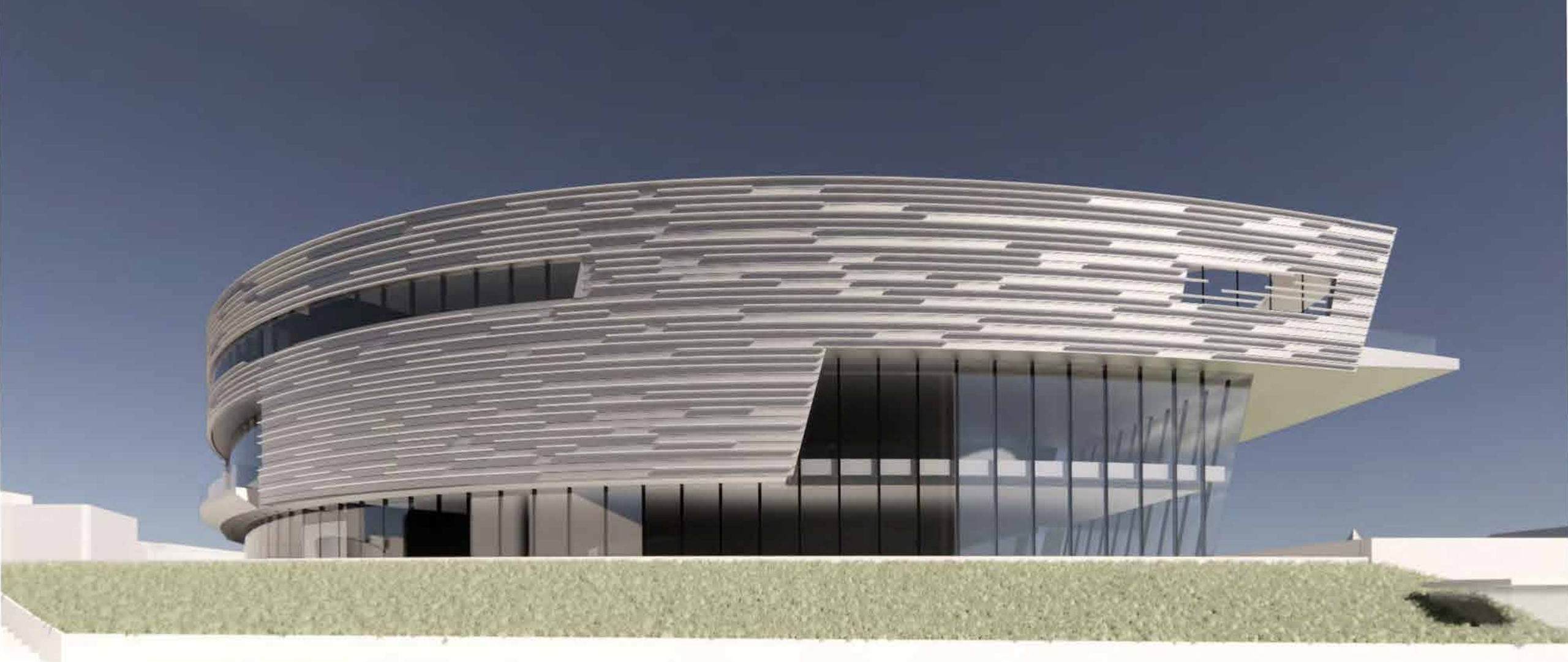
Streaking Cosmos



Qualities: Dynamism, Directionality, Energy

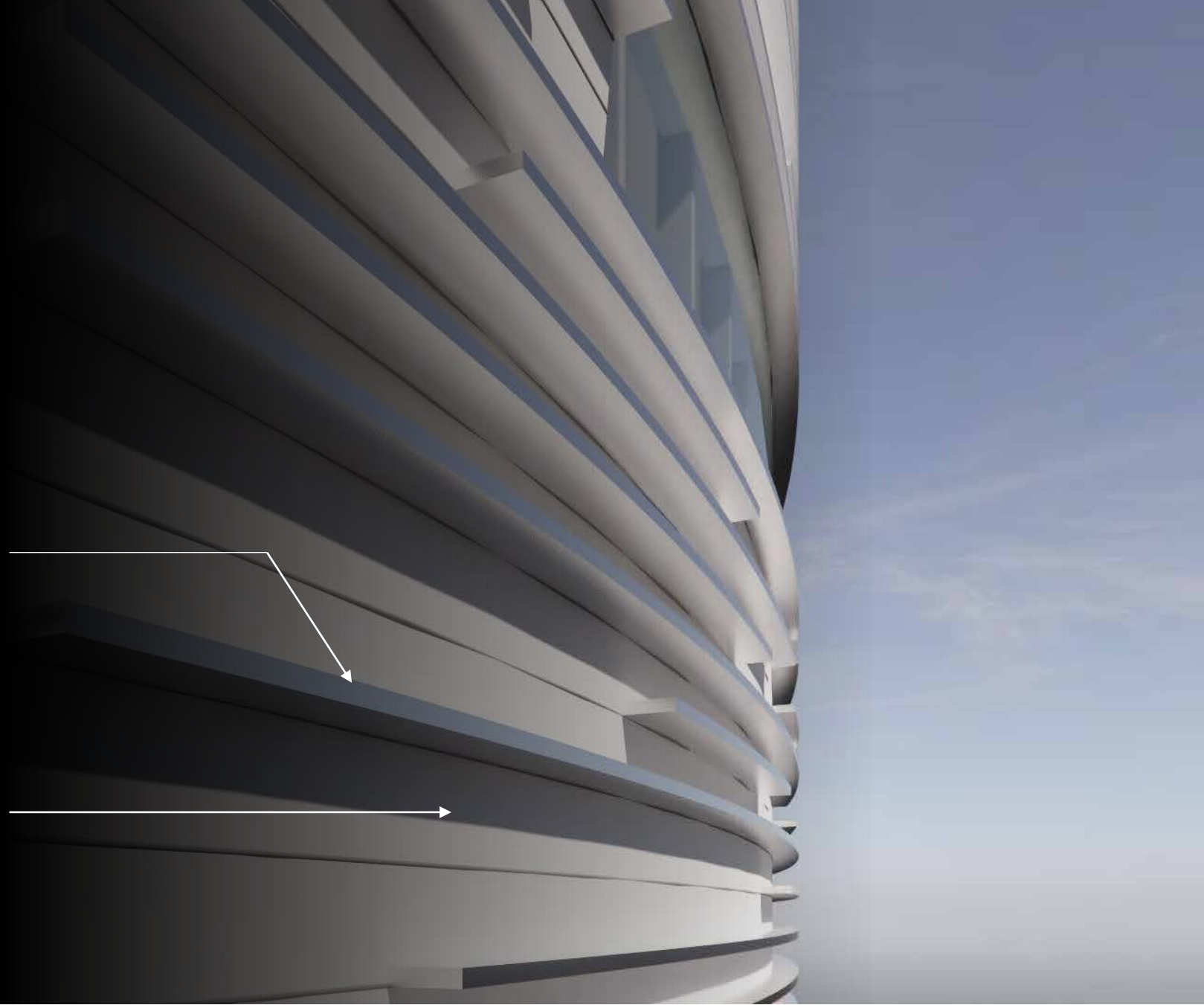
# Alternative 3: Façade Materiality

## Study Scheme 1 – Dense Fin



**Aluminum Box Fin**  
**8" Deep 2" Tall**

**Aluminum Plate Rainscreen**



# Alternative 3: Façade Materiality

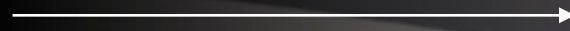
## Study Scheme 2 – Tube Fin



**Aluminum Tube Fin  
3" Diameter**



**Aluminum Plate Rainscreen**



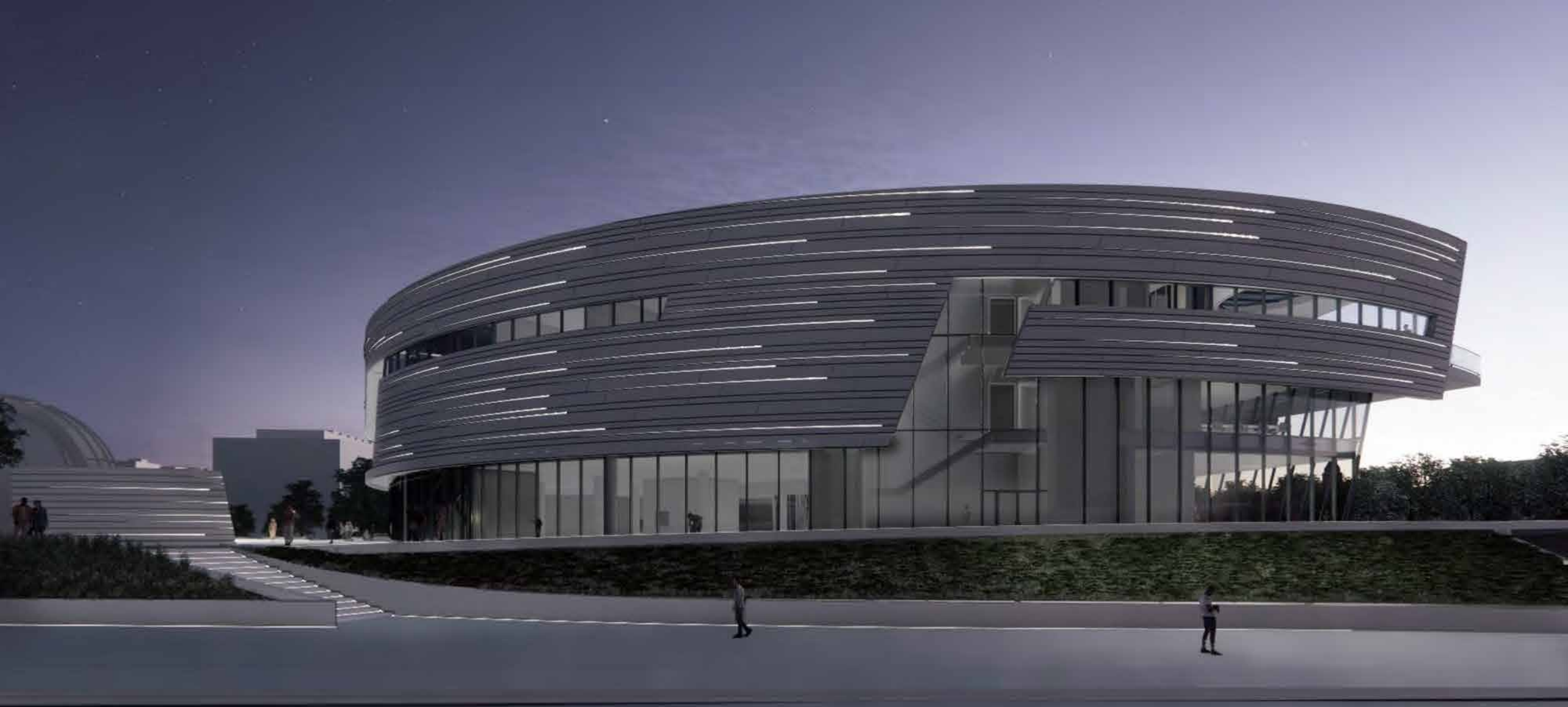
# Alternative 3: Façade Materiality

## Study Scheme 3 – Tapered Fin (preferred)



# Alternative 3: Façade Materiality

## Study Scheme 3 – Tapered Fin (preferred)





# Alternative 3: Façade Materiality

Study Scheme 3 – Tapered Fin (preferred)

Continuous 2" Tall Reveal  
for Lighting Fixtures

Tapered Aluminum Plate Fin  
0-8" Deep

Aluminum Plate Rainscreen

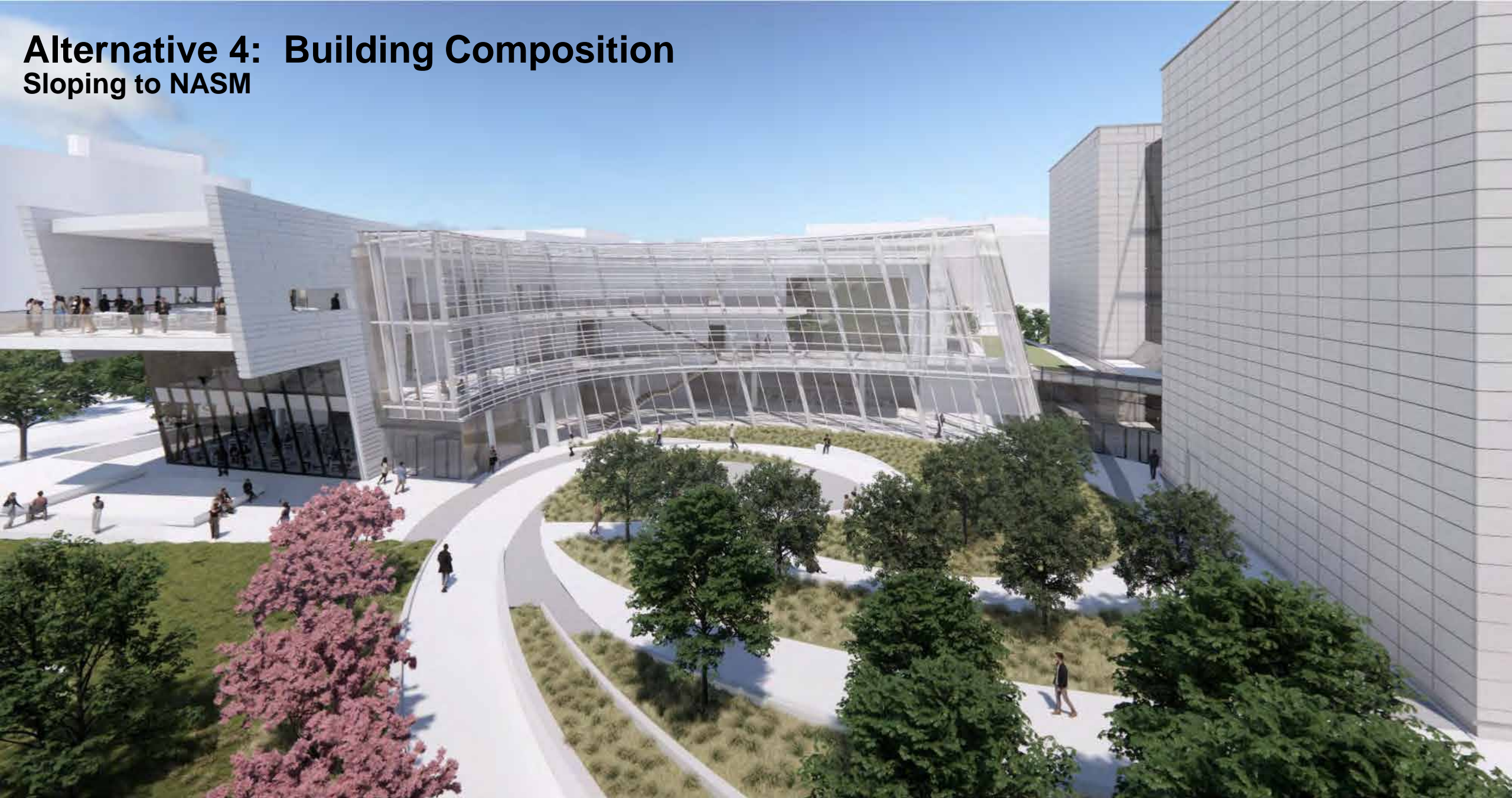
Mineral Wool Insulation

Backup Wall



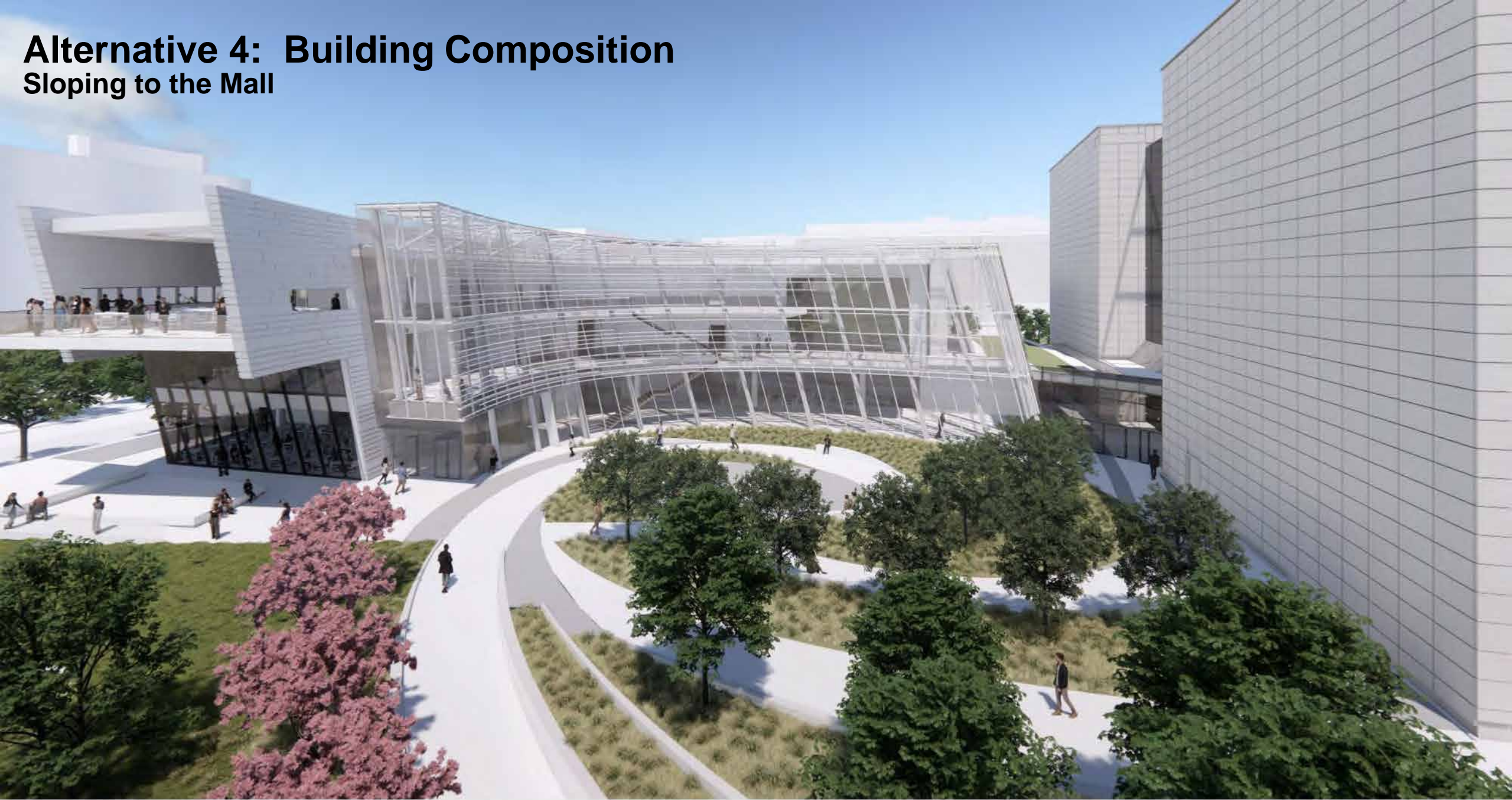
# Alternative 4: Building Composition

## Sloping to NASM



# Alternative 4: Building Composition

## Sloping to the Mall



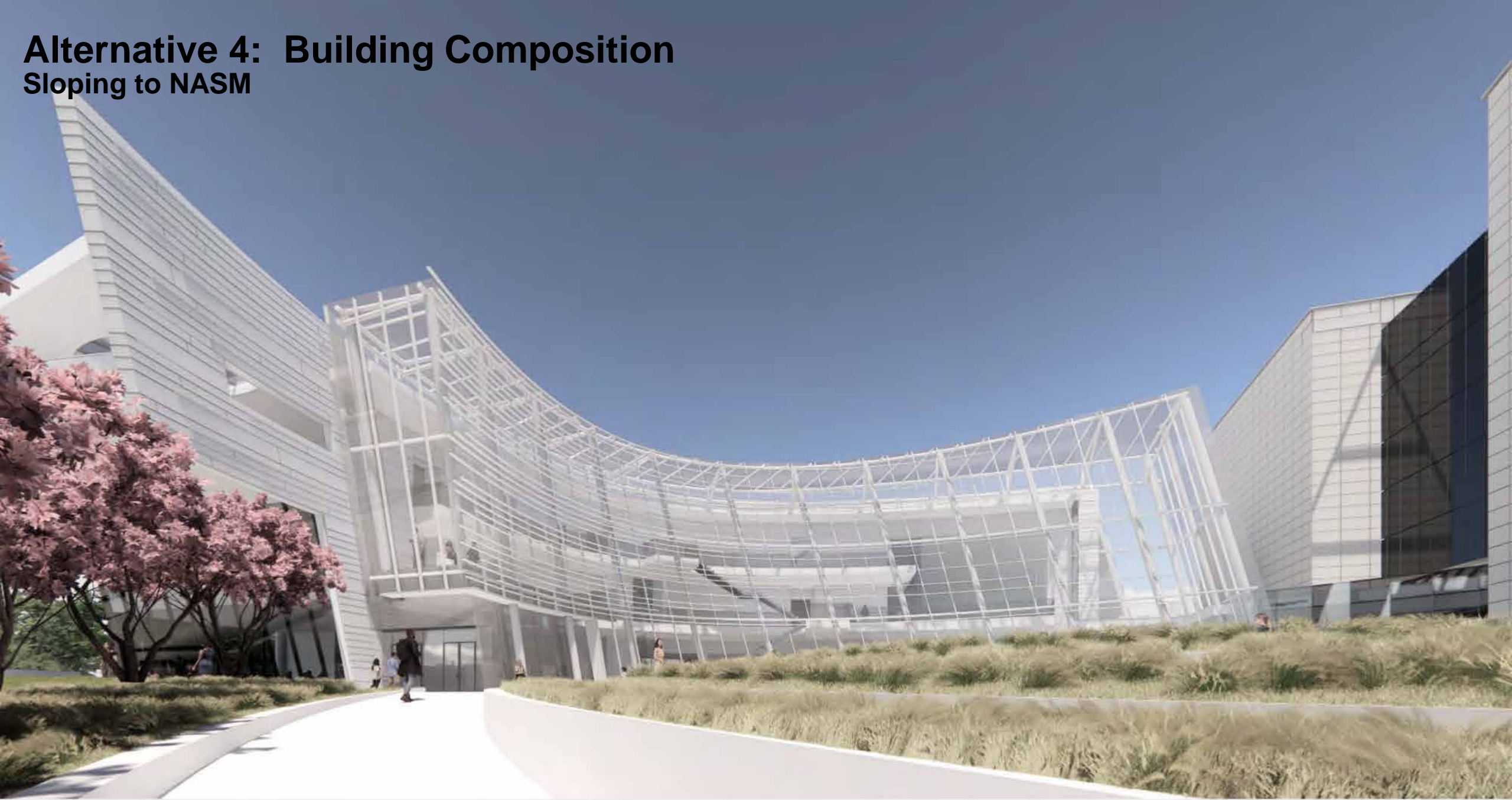
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# Alternatives 4: Building Composition



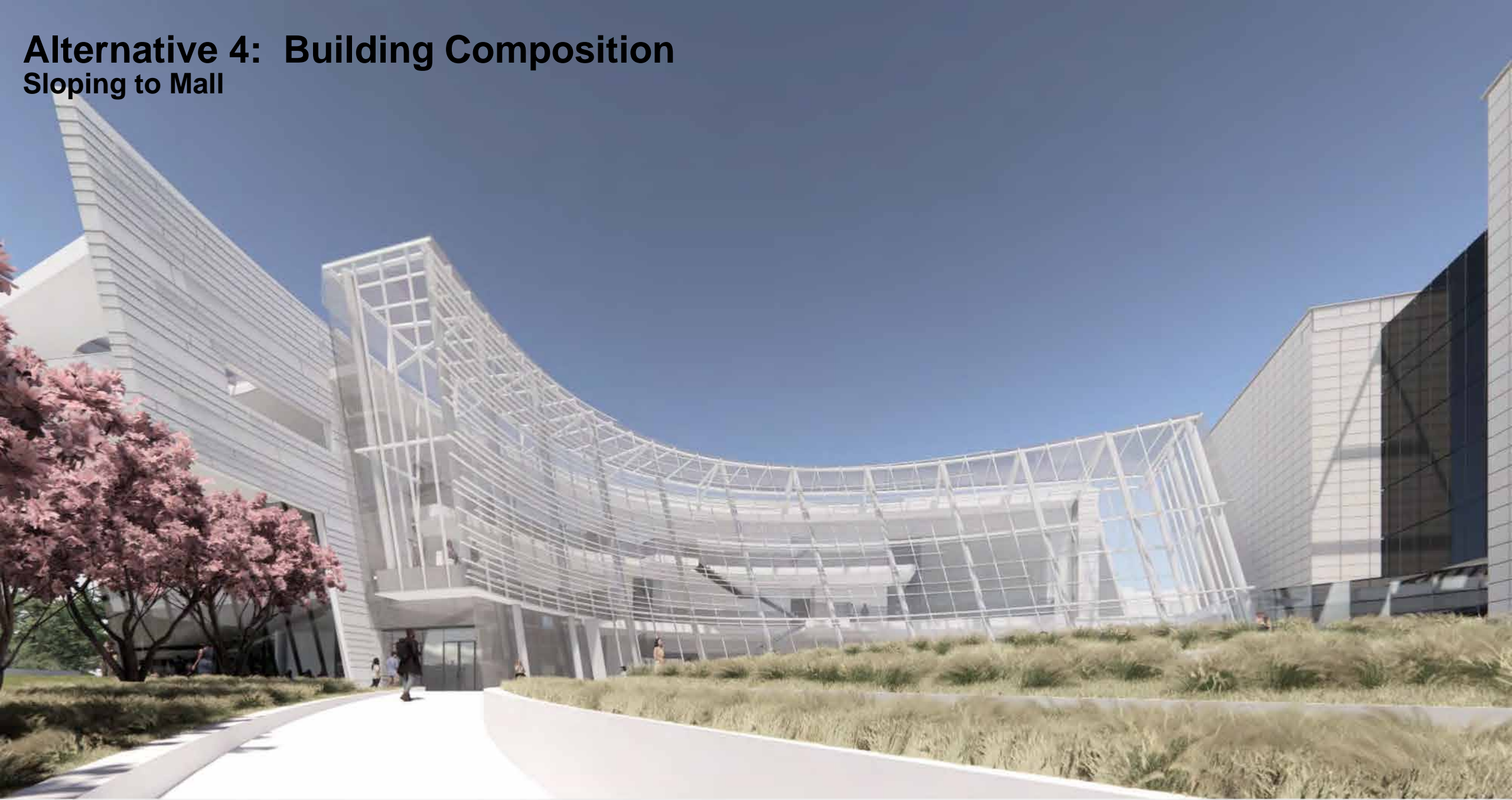
# Alternative 4: Building Composition

## Sloping to NASM



# Alternative 4: Building Composition

## Sloping to Mall



# Alternative 4: Building Composition

Sloping to NASM



Sloping to Mall





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## Next Steps



# Section 106, NEPA and Project Schedule

Date	Milestone	Notes
November 1, 2023	Consulting Parties Meeting #2 NEPA Scoping	Review purpose and need Review potential environment impacts Review concept design alternatives
February 26, 2024	Consulting Parties Meeting #3	Consultation on Schematic Design
March 29, 2024	NCPC Submission	Concept Design
April 4, 2024	CFA Submission	Concept Design
May 2024	Consulting Parties Meeting #4	Preliminary Effect Assessment
August 2024	Draft EA Review	NEPA analysis ongoing
Spring 2025	Final Design Submissions	NEPA FONSI and Section 106 MOA complete

- Parties will receive a minimum 30-day email notice of a public meeting
- Section 106 consultation and NEPA process will run concurrently

# Next Steps

**Please visit the project webpage:**

**<https://airandspace.si.edu/about-transformation/bezos-learning-center/106>**

Today's presentation material will be available on the project webpage by February 28, 2024.

**Written comments are welcome through March 26, 2024.**

**Submit comments via email to [preservation@si.edu](mailto:preservation@si.edu).**



# Questions and Comments

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**Perkins&Will**

**Thank you!**