



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING + LANDSCAPE (SAPL)

# The Future of Stephen Avenue: Activate + Experiment

An Urban Alliance Summary Report

October 1, 2023

By Joshua M. Taron, SAPL Associate Dean Research + Innovation

# Introduction

This report compiles reports from the 5 research teams who lead their respective FoSA: A+E projects including an executive summary that includes totals and presents a number of key conclusions and recommendations. At SAPL, we are committed to preparing future-ready design innovators and co-creating high-impact solutions. The Future of Stephen Avenue: Activate + Experiment projects are consistent with this mission but are just an early step toward making Calgary a vibrant, inclusive and sustainable city capable of meeting the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Calgary is city that exemplifies some of Canada's most pressing problems and opportunities with Stephen Avenue at its nexus. Activation and experimentation are vital components toward discovering and realizing a viable future for all and the University of Calgary understands that it has a critical role to play in helping to deliver on that shared vision. So too will the design disciplines of architecture, planning, and landscape architecture contribute. But they are only part of the equation as an engaged, informed, and enabled public is also an essential element in finding lasting success. Design-based research, such as the work in this report, is uniquely positioned to work across all disciplines in ways that includes the development of future leaders when co-creating possible ways forward. A culture of design-based research experimentation makes for a vibrant and inclusive city that values creative ideas, supports knowledge generation, incorporates lived experiences, fosters collaboration, and shares both risk and prosperity. So for as much as any of the individual project findings in this report matter, it is also important to keep in mind that there are so many more projects to be undertaken in support of the City of Calgary's ongoing efforts to make this a more livable, accessible and sustainable place moving forward.

On behalf of SAPL and the University of Calgary, it is my sincere hope that projects like these can serve to anchor and enhance undergraduate and graduate level education in this city and across Canada. And on behalf of all those involved, we believe the project was a tremendous learning experience and are grateful for the opportunity to share the results in this report.



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# Executive Summary

Over the past 2+ years, the Future of Stephen Avenue: Activate + Experiment Urban Alliance research project (FoSA: A+E) has enabled the City of Calgary in partnership with the University of Calgary's School of Architecture, Planning + Landscape (SAPL) to take a transdisciplinary design-based approach to understanding one of its most historical pieces of social infrastructure. As discussed in the Urban Alliance Charter (included in the appendix of this document), this set of projects has provided a foundation for the City to collaborate with stakeholders to consider and implement strategic improvements to Stephen Avenue that would make for a more vibrant and successful downtown. It should be noted that this is a first-of-its kind Urban Alliance project - enabling multiple teams of researchers to collaborate with community, industry and one another in a way that design-based research is uniquely capable of doing. This has translated into 5 projects that have engaged multiple community and industry partners, provided UCalgary graduate students with funded positions, and created high-quality real-world learning experiences for all involved as we move toward a more inclusive future of Stephen Avenue.

Much has been learned throughout these projects including the value of art when engaging community, the importance of social infrastructure both as physical objects and as active programming, the need for diverse voices and perspectives when designing cities, and the essential role that inclusivity has to play in the creation of public life. The overarching story that this tells is that the University of Calgary has a plethora of projects ready for application and that Calgary is a city hungry for new and innovative ideas that add to the health, vibrancy, and inclusivity of this place that we all strive to live in together.

This document includes an executive summary that addresses the research team, maps the various projects to their respective FoSA Strategic Moves, briefly discusses the history and process of the projects themselves, compiles the partnerships and additional support garnered through each project followed by a budget summary, and then finally a series of overarching conclusions/recommendations. In addition to the executive summary, each project team's individual application/proposal and subsequent report is included as well as the financial reports. Please note that some final expenses for the Bike Rack and LRT projects are accounted for but are still being processed – leaving the entire set of projects coming in precisely on budget as a whole.

## Team Strengths

The FoSA: A+E project is a first-of-its-kind way of using the Urban Alliance, whose mission is “to enable research and education that will help improve the overall quality of life for Calgarians. Its purpose is to attract and engaging top researchers who will seek out and implement solutions to pressing municipal issues through high quality research. The intent of Urban Alliance is to foster closer ties between The City of Calgary and the University of Calgary, and to develop the human talent that Calgary needs to ensure a robust economy and a healthy, vibrant and caring city.”<sup>1</sup> Prior to this project, the Urban Alliance had only ever supported a single project at a time. However, in order to support the FoSA: A+E,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://research.ucalgary.ca/urban-alliance/about>

we were able to leverage the responsiveness and breadth of SAPL’s research network to craft individual projects in accordance with an umbrella charter. This allowed us to connect strengths and opportunities of both UCalgary researchers and the community for the duration of the project while ensuring accountability and agility throughout.<sup>2</sup>

The School of Architecture, Planning, and Landscape is uniquely suited to deliver on this challenge as it takes a declaratively inclusive approach to climate action, social justice, community impact and value-informed innovation. SAPL’s inclusive design-based approach to research and post-secondary education functions as an integrative platform for interdisciplinary collaboration across the university.<sup>3</sup> The SAPL researchers involved in this set of projects bring expertise in digital design, landscape architecture, robotic fabrication, and data + urbanism which has served to support researchers in arts, social work and engineering to apply their expert knowledge in community-based art practices, social justice, sustainable energy technologies and multi-modal transportation infrastructure. Entities such as SAPL’s Center for Civilization and the Laboratory for Integrative Design further work to explore, share, celebrate, and advance the ways in which we understand and produce the very city we live in.

The University of Calgary is also equipped to meet this challenge through its framework for growth - taking a future-focused approach that prioritizes deeper community partnerships and transdisciplinary scholarship for more just, equitable, healthy and sustainable cities. The FoSA: A+E projects are examples of this approach put into practice. And while these projects serve as a starting point for what might be possible through ongoing research partnerships and capital development, so much more will have to take place if we are to discover and then fully realize a viable future for ourselves.

We are incredibly thankful to the amazing group of individuals in the community as well as at the City and University of Calgary who delivered on this ambitious and innovative body of work that has taken place here on Treaty 7 lands. It is projects like these that make real change possible and celebrate the uniqueness of Calgary as a place where the future can be discovered and realized through applied design-based research. We also acknowledge that this set of projects represent a beginning of longer-term endeavors that, with ongoing support, are now firmly embedded in the community and will continue to educate, inspire and grow along with the city itself.

### Alignment with FoSA Strategic Moves

FoSA: A+E also makes a case for integrating post-secondary education with real and quantifiable action that positively transforms our city. We know we must find ways to make our cities more sustainable – socially, environmentally and economically. Researchers from across the University in Arts, Sociology, Social Work, Engineering, Architecture and Landscape Architecture have collaborated to deliver an innovative set of projects that deliver on the challenge presented by the Activate + Experiment program. This report includes their initial applications, individual project reports prepared by each research team, the financial report and this executive summary. Each project varies in type, scale and questions – but

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<sup>2</sup> This process is elaborated upon in the ‘Project Creation and Tracking’ section.

<sup>3</sup> To view SAPL’s strategic plan, please visit: <https://sapl.ucalgary.ca/about>

importantly they all focus on inclusivity and an engaged approach to imaging the future of Stephen Ave and the City of Calgary at large while mapped against the FoSA strategic moves (Figure 1).

	Branding	Connecting	Activating	Opening	Repositioning	Governing
Informing/ Situating (Baselining)	Solar Bench	Solar Bench Bike Racks	Solar Bench		Design Clinic	
Prototyping	Bike Racks [Solar Bench]	Urban Furniture Bike Racks [Solar Bench]	YYC/LRT Urban Furniture Bike Racks [Solar Bench]	YYC/LRT Urban Furniture	Design Clinic	
Measuring/ Monitoring	Design Clinic Bike Racks	Bike Racks	YYC/LRT [Solar Bench]		Design Clinic	
Evaluating	Design Clinic [Solar Bench]	Bike Racks	YYC/LRT Design Clinic [Solar Bench]		Design Clinic	
Recommending	Design Clinic		YYC/LRT [Solar Bench]		Design Clinic	YYC/LRT Design Clinic Solar Bench Bike Racks

Figure 1: Projects mapped against FoSA Strategic Moves

### Project History + Processes

On March 26, 2021, a project crafting workshop with 33 attendees from both the University and City of Calgary was held representing the start of the project after nearly a year’s worth of efforts getting the Urban Alliance charter in place. A presentation (in Appendix) was given briefing the attendees on the Activate + Experiment program culminating with a call for expressions of interest by April 15, 2021. The workshop spawned a number of productive discussions that across the coming year became the first 4 Activate + Experiment projects: YYC/LRT; Transformative Racial + Spatial Justice: Black Youth Leadership Workshop (Design Clinic); Inhabitable Urban Furniture; and Solar Thermal Furniture/Solar Bench. While the Solar bench project was not ultimately realized for reasons discussed later in this report, all 4 projects demonstrated the value of transdisciplinary teams coming together to produce novel design-based research projects. Each project was developed in collaboration between the principle investigator(s) as well as Kate Zago and Michael Magnan (City of Calgary) and Josh Taron (SAPL/UCalgary) acting as the A+E Stage Gate Committee. Once a project was sufficiently developed in accordance with the A+E charter, the project was submitted for approval by the Stage Gate Committee and added as an amendment to the project agreement. Upon initial approval, a project-specific activity code was assigned which allowed each project’s finances to be individually tracked with a stage-gated, 2-phase budget. Phase 1 would clarify design parameters and secure project permissions. Phase 2 (typically material costs for full build and programming) would be made available once it was deemed

that phase 1 had been sufficiently completed. In total, 5 projects were initially approved with 1 of the 5 projects (Solar Bench) not able to secure permission to install and thus was not allowed to move forward with the balance of remaining funds used to support other projects (Figure 2). The financial reporting is included in the Appendix.

	Winter '21	Summer '21	Fall '21	Winter '22	Summer '22	Fall '22	Winter '23	Summer '23
YYC/LRT	1	2	2	3, 4	4, 5	5	5	5, 6
Urban Furniture				1, 2	3, 4, 5	5	6	-
Design Clinic				1, 2	3, 4, 5	5	5	6
Solar Bench			1	2	2, 6	-	-	-
Bike Racks							1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6

**LEGEND**

1. Strategize 2. Preliminary Research + Design 3. Final Design + Implementation 4. Project Launch 5. Operate + Measure 6. Close-out, Report + Refine

*Figure 2: Project Timelines*

## Partnerships + Project Support

Against the \$200,000 commitment from the City of Calgary, the FoSA: A+E projects in turn generated over \$220,000 of in-kind support in various forms including but not limited to heavily discounted commercial space on Stephen Avenue, graduate student research assistant positions, industrial fabrication services and material costs, dedicated UCalgary administrative support, pro-bono instructional time, and funding to support programmed events (Figure 3).

	Partnerships	FoSA-funded Hires	Matching/ Aligned Hires	Participants	UCalgary Course Enrollments	UCalgary Faculty	Outside Faculty
YYC/LRT	5	-	6	303	20	3	3
Urban Furniture	1	-	2	[PSPL]	-	2	-
Design Clinic	4	5	2	24	-	5	-
Solar Bench	1	-	4	-	-	1	-
Bike Racks	2	5	-	[TBD]	-	1	-

*Figure 3: Partnerships + Participants*

	Community and Industry Partners	Forms of Support	UCalgary Support	Total Approximate Value
YYC/LRT	Contemporary Calgary, Loophole Coffee Bar, Unison at Kirby Centre, Sigla Books, White Rabbit Atelier	Electricity, programming, cash	Administrative support (SAPL), cash	\$47,324
Urban Furniture	Barkman Concrete, Globe Theatre	Materials and fabrication	Administrative support (SAPL), computational tools	\$15,000
Design Clinic	Allied REIT, Calgary Downtown Association	Commercial Space	Administrative support (SAPL and Faculty of Social Work), SAPL Center for Civilization	\$159,873
Solar Bench	-	-	Administrative Support (SAPL)	-
Bike Racks	Calgary Downtown Association, SAPL Center for Civilization	5	Administrative Support (SAPL), SAPL Center for Civilization	[TBD]
				<b>\$222,197</b>

Figure 4: Additional Project Support

## Budget Summary

	Proposed Budget	Actual Spent	Justification for Difference
YYC/LRT	\$20,000	\$57,251	Additional time on site translated into additional hoarding costs plus unexpected relocation cost at end of project
Urban Furniture	\$15,000	\$2,228	Industry partner covered bulk of costs while project size was drastically scaled back due to change in project site. Application of computational tools streamlined design process.
Design Clinic	\$40,000	\$40,081	On budget.
Solar Bench	\$54,584	\$8,025	Failure to secure site permissions thus funding gate 2 not cleared. Unused funds used to create fifth project.
Bike Racks	NA	\$43,000	Project created out of remaining budget from solar bench
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$132,584 (balance remaining for contingency)</b>	<b>\$150,585</b>	<b>\$150,592 (Target)</b>

Figure 5: Aggregated Balance Sheet

## Key Conclusions

The Activate + Experiment projects have revealed a remarkable body of knowledge that both maps onto the 6 Future of Stephen Avenue strategic moves while providing insight into some unforeseen gaps that will likely also prove crucial to finding success moving forward. The following recommendations come from having been engaged in the project crafting and oversight and should be understood to complement/support any recommendations being made by individual project teams.

**Conclusion 1: Active experimentation is vital to city building because it enables learning about cities in real-time and with real impacts. A culture of constant experimentation is essential to a city's vitality.**

In recent years, community-engaged research has been proving its value by democratizing knowledge creation, building the capacity of communities, broadening the impact of stakeholders, influencing public policy, enhancing support for initiatives, deepening and diversifying public engagement efforts, and amplifying the voices of community members and researchers alike<sup>4,5</sup>. Active experimentation is an example of this whereby the combination of expertise between real citizens and UCalgary researchers makes for vibrant, creative and accessible activities that are informed and documented for the purpose of making the Calgary a better place for all both now and into the future. These projects require

<sup>4</sup> Mahoney et al, (2021). *Community Resource Handbook 2021: A Guide to Community Engaged Research*. ISBN: 978-1-77287-081-7.

<sup>5</sup> Ladson-Billings & Tate, (2006). *Education research in the public interest: Social justice, action, and policy*. New York, NY: Teachers College Press.



investments of energy, time and capital that manifest in tangible ways that teach us about ourselves and others in safe, collaborative and inclusive contexts. They function as learning opportunities for everyone who engages them in ways that go beyond the common and familiar. This means imagining new forms of individual and community-based expression through in projects like YYC/LRT and the Transformative Racial and Spatial Justice Youth Leadership Workshop where highly visible spaces are repurposed in order to celebrate a more diverse set of voices in a city that has not always found a way to do so. This means urban infrastructure that trains and encourages us to both express ourselves and to be open to listening and learning from others becomes a defining cultural attribute of activation and experimentation itself. We can see the positivity and foundations of lasting communities evidenced by the programmed activities, documented ideas, lists of partners and collaborators, and even testimonials from participants.

We recommend a commitment to building a culture of and appetite for experimentation that inspires participation, supports the development of future leaders, and enables communities to shape and prosper from futures they find joy in making.

**Conclusion 2: Arts-based activities are uniquely suited for community engagement in pursuit of just and inclusive place-making.**

Each FoSA: A+E project was rooted in creative practice. In a context where our existing urban systems are demonstrably falling short environmentally, economically, and socially, we know that new, innovative and imaginative solutions must be co-created with the people they are meant to serve. Arts-based activities provide a means of engagement that can include and be led by historically marginalized communities that “aims explicitly to challenge, rather than reproduce, structural inequalities”<sup>6</sup>. This was most evident in the Transformative Racial and Spatial Justice Youth Leadership Workshop where black youth from across Calgary both evaluated and reimagined Stephen Avenue as a place where space could be reclaimed with Black Excellence and Black Joy being rightfully celebrated. It is also worth noting that art-based activities are both a first step and an ongoing practice. We can see in projects like YYC/LRT and that these kinds of spaces can be leveraged for additional projects and activities that, for example, might acknowledge the land, explore community-based wayfinding strategies, or catalyze conversations around the future of communities.

We recommend the application of arts-based activities as a way of engaging any challenge requiring public input. Understanding art as an essential practice in city-building is encouraged as it provides non-traditional and even de-colonialized forms of expression to help shape the conversation of how our city might be. Recognizing the importance of and finding ways to partner with existing and emerging arts-based entities like Alcove, BUMP, NVRLND Arts Foundation, C-Space and Contemporary Calgary (to name a few) in future activations and experiments would likely prove beneficial particularly as Canadian cities welcome greater numbers of immigrants in the coming years.

**Conclusion 3: All projects revealed otherwise unseen barriers to inclusivity that need critical attention.**

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<sup>6</sup> Costanza-Chock, (2020), *Design Justice: Community-led Practices to Build the Worlds We Need*, MIT Press.

A number of the FoSA: A+E projects ran into barriers that should be addressed. The most common issue that the teams ran into had to do with site selection, particularly when producing designs that provided seating or shelter from the elements. In these instances, business owners often expressed reluctance or even outright rejected the placement of forms that could be used by more vulnerable individuals in the community. While these concerns are understandable, we would like to reiterate the importance of habitable and social urban spaces where people do have the infrastructure available to occupy space for longer durations thus adding to the vibrancy and safety of Stephen Avenue. To address this issue, we recommend coupling support for programmed activations with physical infrastructure. An example of this was the bike rack project which helped support activations such as Sled Island, the Calgary Stampede, BUMP's alley party – as it would any other pop-up events.

A second issue along Stephen Avenue has to do with its historically exclusive and relatively limited program (restaurants and retailers operating during normal business hours serving white collar workers). In the future, Stephen Avenue must find ways to serve and include a wider demographic spectrum and in more ways than just restaurants and shops. This means that buildings should invest in retrofits that better isolate sound as well as acclimating to wider ranges of programmatic use. It also means that it must now serve a more diverse public across a greater period of time. For example, projects such as the Transformative Racial and Spatial Justice Workshop received a fair amount of push-back from adjacent tenants due to noise related to occupying the space. In order to realize a more inclusive Stephen Avenue that works for all, priming the social and physical environment will be necessary. For visions of this future, please see the design proposals coming out of the aforementioned Racial and Spatial Justice Workshop.

We recommend acknowledging and addressing barriers to inclusion rather than ignoring them. This can take place through design-based research activities as well as any other platforms that open a dialog about diversity and inclusion. We also recommend rezoning/repositioning commercial space so that a wider range of activities can take place along Stephen Avenue and its immediately surrounding areas. Reprogramming alleys as amenity spaces rather than service corridors or repositioning commercial space as community hubs are just two examples of this in action. While possibly difficult at first, we would expect that a more connected, supportive, resilient, prosperous and inclusive community would emerge.

**Conclusion 4: Design-based research activations create a practical connection between community engagement and investment in social infrastructure.**

Unlike conventional forms of capital development that rely on unimaginative financial metrics and cumbersome procurement processes that delay and discourage urban transformation, design-based research activations function as an agile mechanism for transforming the built environment in real and practical ways. This equates to industry partners being able to demonstrate their value. Communities are often wary of urban transformation. However, these projects have shown how design-based research can unlock both an appetite for community engagement, co-creation, and willing partners who have resources to offer to the endeavor. So not only has the City's investment toward the FoSA: A+E project been of value itself, it has also yielded more than \$200,000 of value in return in ways that people make real use of. The arts-based programming associated with the YYC/LRT project, the conversations

and experiences coming out of the Racial and Spatial Justice Workshop, the placemaking of the urban furniture and bike rack projects and even the lessons learned from the solar bench project have helped to invigorate and advance the inclusivity and social vibrancy of the city.

We recommend the inclusion of design-based research and community-based co-creative processes when transforming the city. This will make for more just and innovative outcomes even in small steps.

**Conclusion 5: It is inherently difficult to measure the social impacts of short-term activations but they do give clues as to what *might* work in the future.**

The need to validate the effects of design-based activations and experiments is important. Toward that end, projects have strived to demonstrate their value in a variety of ways. In some cases, projects have made use of the Public Space Public Life (PSPL) cohort. However, with short term activations, a number of factors come into play that might skew longer term performance such as unfamiliarity vs familiarity/routines of use over time, the impacts of programming vs unprogrammed activations, and the need for more broad and far-reaching social policies – for example programs and policy that support vulnerable communities and individuals that might make for a more inclusive, safe and vibrant Stephen Avenue.

One recommendation is to understand and build support for the scale of investment needed to tackle complex social challenges. No single installation will make a meaningful or measurable difference at scale, but a culture that supports and celebrates an urban environment that is about activation and experimentation itself may be able to deliver on any challenge.

A second recommendation is a reminder that we should not believe that any activation or experimentation would function like a silver bullet to any of our challenges – social, economic, or environmental. Design is about discovery, adaptation, and innovation - a process that is necessarily collaborative and as an act generates the public itself. Committing to any single solution at the expense of ongoing experimentation would be a mistake. We live within an ecosystem of ideas, practices and patterns of behavior. We should embrace the idea of trying new things while building up our appetite for risk and a collective resilience to failure. The future is presenting us with daunting challenges. Creating public space that enables us to face those challenges together while building a brighter future is essential – and one that an activated and experimental Stephen Avenue could deliver on.

# Project Reports

Project 1: YYC/LRT

An adaptable avenue that responds to pressing needs

# YYC/LRT: Community Based Art (CBA) as Community Engagement Project

**Project Leads**

Jennifer Eiserman (PI) and Bryan Faubert

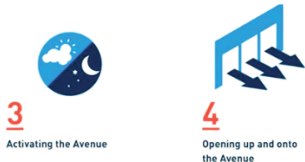
**Project Description**

We propose moving YYC/LRT to the west end of Stephen Ave, to 8th Ave and 10th St SW, “The Village” area. Further, we propose to retrofit the interior into a space for community-engagement projects that would represent the voices of those that are often not heard, or those whose voices are often raised in conflict, within The Village area of Stephen Avenue, ‘to be recognized, to be satisfied, and to be heard’.

**Key Questions**

- How can CBA facilitate a community-engaged model of development?
- How can CBA activate a space to evolve placemaking?
- What are the partnership needs for future planning?

**Strategic Moves**



**Triple Bottom Line**



**Area**

The Village / The Core / The Commons  
Stephen Ave @ 10<sup>th</sup> St SW



**Report to Future of Stephan Avenue Project  
On  
YYC/LRT: Community Based Art as Community Engagement Project  
June, 2023**

**Submitted by  
Jennifer Eiserman  
Project Lead  
YYC/LRT: Community Based Art as Community Engagement**

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## RESEARCH TEAM

Jennifer Eiserman (PI), Department of Art and Art History, UCalgary  
 Beaumie Kim (Co-investigator), Werklund School of Education, UCalgary  
 Farazan Baradaran Rahimi, Post-doctoral Fellow, Laval University  
 Janet Blatter, Independent Researcher  
 Ryan Doherty, Senior Curator, Contemporary Calgary

## OVERVIEW OF GOALS AND OUTCOMES

Researcher	Smart Goals	Research Questions	Measuring Change	Success Looks Like...
<b>Eiserman</b>	-Test Community Based Art (CBA) model for community-engagement in development using YYC/LRT; -establish and develop working relationship that “let non-academic organizations and postsecondary researchers access each other’s unique knowledge, expertise and capabilities”.	- How can the unique affordances of CBA act as a means of community-engagement to identify constituency for a CBA engaged model of development? -How can a sustained program of CBA activate a space and what are the affordances for organic, evolving placemaking? -What are the optimal partnership needs for future planning and development?	- <b>Who are partners? How are they contributing?</b>  <i>YYC/LRT developed the following partnerships: <u>Loophole Coffee Bar</u> *provided electricity and sometimes wifi to the car. *provided carafes of coffee at discount during workshops. <u>Unison at Kerby</u> *worked together to create two engagements for seniors: Identity: Self-Portraits Zines: Telling our Stories *55+ Open Studio program</i>	<b>Community needs for future development have been identified.</b> - At the time of submission of this report, there are still two engagements to complete, data to be collected, and an analysis to be completed. It is difficult to speak to this at this time. -An very general observation is that if program is offered at the right time, and is free or has a low cost, people will come to the neighborhood to make art, even in the coldest weather!



			<p>collaboration with Contemporary Calgary at the gallery (occasionally at Kerby if gallery workshop not available). Free to Kerby and Contemporary Calgary members. On-going program.</p> <p><u>White Rabbit Atelier</u> *Collaborated on Street to Studio project, providing funding and leadership. *Plans to secure funding to offer program yearly at Contemporary Calgary. *Sigla Books collaborated in the development of the Book It! engagement. Owner David Sidjack met numerous times with Eiserman and gave two</p>	<p><b>-An understanding of the use of CBA as a means of community engagement to identify those needs has been achieved;</b> -Preliminary results from questionnaires and interviews reveals that engaging people in careful looking and thinking about the neighborhood can reveal understandings about how it is perceived, how people relate to it, how the Downtown West is valuable to them.</p> <p><b>-An understanding of how to use CBA as a means to support ongoing, organic placemaking for a community has been achieved.</b> - Preliminary results suggest that the careful looking and thinking that artmaking</p>
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			<p>talks to the students who led the program. He also hosted visits to the shop by Book It! participants during the engagement.</p> <p><b>-CBA engagements are identifying needs for future community development ?</b></p> <p>* The engagements revealed that most participants were First Timers in the Downtown West. Residents, Explorers and Regulars participated in programs, but at in much lower numbers (each less than a third). Few workers participated (see below for discussion).</p>	<p>requires does provide participants with a sense of place.</p> <p><b>-An understanding of an optimal partnership constituency for CBA projects has been achieved.</b></p> <p>- The partnership with <u>Contemporary Calgary</u> has proven meaningful. The gallery has provided communication for the events, meeting and work spaces when YYC/LRT was too small or the weather was too hot or too cold to use the studio, and exhibition space to share the work created by the engagements, disseminating initial results to the visitors to the gallery.</p> <p><b>-Unison at <u>Kerby</u>, located around the corner from YYC/LRT and</b></p>
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			<p><b>-Community members are participating in and are excited by the projects throughout the year, measured by: (1) attendance (2) Media coverage (3) Likes and Shares on social media.</b></p> <p>-Community members attended at a much lower rate than First Timers to the neighborhood (see discussion below).</p> <p>-Media coverage tapered off after YYC/LRT was moved on sight. However, the likely cause of this was the lack of a dedicated communications person for the project. The PI was just not able to attend to this as much as it should have been.</p>	<p>across the street from Contemporary Calgary, has proven to be a fruitful partner. We have been able to introduce their members to the neighborhood. We have reports that participants in our engagements are now visiting Sigla Books, Loophole Coffee Bar, and Calan Noodle House, as well as Contemporary Calgary. Kerby has formed a long-term partnership with Contemporary Calgary for the 55+ Open Studio Project. Kerby's Educational Programmer, Aditi Sharma is interested in pursuing further programming with the gallery.</p>
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			-Similarly, there were few likes on social media. Most probably, again, due to lack of attention to the platforms.	
<p><b>Kim</b></p> <p>Due to serious health issues that led Dr. Kim to be on medical leave for most of the duration of the YYC/LRT project, she was not able to address her goals. She did act in an advisory capacity when she was able. The Community Quilt project that was developed over the course of the Free First Thursdays was the result of her suggestion.</p>	<p>-Develop YYC:LRT as the catalyst for public pedagogy: Public spaces are often shaped by the interests of authorities, which may dominate the discourse and distort the identity of the city.</p> <p>-Reconfiguring the public spaces' visuals and activities through participatory designs (i.e. creating public arts that represent marginalized voices), we activate the Avenue to improve the quality of life (living together), built on diversity and plurality.</p>	<p>-How can the public art-making events become the social actions of problematizing and reshaping the politics of urban spaces?</p> <p>-How do artists, the public, and the authorities negotiate whose voices are highlighted at any given moments in time and how do such negotiations represent growth in the community?</p>	<p>-The public art-making events as the social actions: (1) artists, the public, and the authorities' growing conversations on problematizing the politics of urban spaces; and (2) the voices of the artists and the marginalized reflected in art-making.</p>	<p>-The ways of encouraging diverse voices in the public art-making events are explored and identified;</p> <p>-The tentative plans and joint actions of the authorities, the researchers, the artists and the community members are identified for reshaping urban spaces through artistic expressions, considering the values of the marginalized in the community.</p>
<p><b>Rahimi</b></p> <p>Dr. Rahimi secured a post-</p>	<p>-Connect people to the context of Stephen Avenue</p>	<p>-In what ways can the CBA activities within the LRT car</p>	<p>-Diversity of the people being</p>	<p>-Foundations being laid for diverse groups</p>

<p>doctoral fellowship at Laval University in Quebec for the duration of the project and was not able to address his goals. He did however provide feedback and suggestions regarding programming.</p>	<p>through participatory and curated activities; -Revitalize Stephen Avenue spirit through novel ways of storytelling and digital placemaking.</p>	<p>connect people to the context? -How can the stories being told by people through their art provide the grounds for digital placemaking on Stephen Avenue from the small scale of mobile AR to the large scale of projection mapping on the Calgary Contemporary dome?</p>	<p>connected to the context; -Diversity of the ways that the LRT project facilitate those connections to the context; -Diversity of the meanings being created by people in relation to the context.</p>	<p>of people to get engaged with the context using the LRT as a facilitator. -Identifying meanings created by people in relation to the context and developing alternative stories based on these meanings for later stages of digital storytelling and placemaking.</p>
<p><b>Blatter</b> Dr. Blatter is still analyzing the hours and hours and hours of zoom recording and meeting notes. She will not be able to report on her goals at this time.</p>	<p>- Create prototype that can be used to specify resources, goals, rules, tools needed for a detailed, effective, problem-finding and problem-solving design-based Activity.</p>	<p>-What are the individual and collective objectives in participating in this Project and in a potential lab? -How do the actions of spontaneous, multi-agent, group result in creating a valid Activity-level model of the collaborative design research lab? -What are the problems and unexpected potentials emerging from designing this prototype?</p>	<p>-What are the orienting commitments and constraints of the Project in terms of an interventionist CHAT design research lab? -What are participants' concerns, interests. And desires regarding a potential lab, what are existing tools, etc.; what are the existing CHAT-framed nodes -Present, refine,</p>	<p>-Participant's individual and collective interests and concerns are identified -The Cultural Historical Activity Theory system is defined using existing recorded sessions and targeted interviews as template -The prototype is approved by the participants</p>

			evaluate prototype	
<b>Contemporary Calgary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Build Visitorship;</li> <li>- Build Ownership in the community;</li> <li>- Create Donor Base.</li> </ul>	<p>-In what ways can community engagement through CBA:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Build visitorship;</li> <li>2. Create a sense of ownership in community members.</li> </ol>	<p><b>-Has visitorship increased?</b> Due to the use of the facility for YYC/LRT engagements (tours of Contemporary Calgary's exhibitions, openings for YYC/LRT openings, meetings and engagements held in the facility) there has been a rise in visitorship. This suggests that a robust, "radical" gallery education program based on community engagement will increase visitorship.</p> <p><b>-Have donations increased?</b> There is no data on this at this time.</p> <p><b>-Do we have new partners for</b></p>	<p><b>-Success measured by number of (1) visitors;</b> Modes success that provides rationale for a gallery educator/team.</p> <p><b>(2) donations;</b> Unknown at this time</p> <p><b>(3) partnerships over the year of the project.</b> Established partnership with University of Calgary and Unison at Kerby.</p>

			<b>programming and funding?</b> *University of Calgary *New partner: Unison at Kerby *Funding through grants secured by UCalgary research team in partnership with Contemporary Calgary.	
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**FINAL FUNDING SECURED:**

Future of Stephen Avenue funding \$37,958

**Funding from other sources:**

Vice-President (Research) Catalyst Funding 13,827

Social Science and Humanities Research Council Partnership Engage grant 24,997

Faculty of Arts 3,500

Tegan “Lefty” Copeman Memorial Fund (White Rabbit Atalier) 5,000

**Total from other sources \$47,324**

**Total funding \$85,282**

It is apparent from this report of funding that the project was successful in leveraging the FoSA funding to secure funds that equally slightly more than the FoSA funding. This would suggest that providing initial support for faculty to engage in exploratory studies for community development is meaningful.

**PARTNERSHIPS:**

Contemporary Calgary – In Kind Funding

Loophole Coffee Bar – Electricity for YYC/LRT

Unison at Kerby Centre – In Kind Funding

Sigla Books – In Kind Funding

White Rabbit Atalier - \$5,000

## PAST PROGRAMMING

### Participant Definitions

*Resident* refers to participants who live in the Downtown West.

*Worker* refers to participants who are business owners, service providers, professionals or employees whose work brings them to the Downtown West.

*First Timer* refers to participants who came to the Downtown West for the first time to participate in one of the YYC/LRT programs

*Explorer* refers to a participant who came to the Downtown West for the first time for a program, is now returning for program, and has reported that they have visited the neighborhood voluntarily since that first time.

*Regular* refers to participants who regularly come to the Downtown West to use services, patronize businesses, visit residents.

## 2022

### March – June

#### Kerby Centre Seniors Program

- 6-week program exploring portraiture through diverse media and technique offered through ART491 by University of Calgary students.
- 3 month exhibition at Contemporary Calgary of works created.
- 27 participants, including 10 Kerby Members (*Regulars*), 1 Kerby Staff (*Worker*), 16 UCalgary students (12 *First Timers*, 4 *Explorers*)

### March 26<sup>th</sup> - April 30<sup>th</sup>

#### Particle + Wave Festival

- Shadow Bombing Tour with Bryan Faubert
- after party for opening of Particle + Wave Festival
- Projections from YYC/LRT on surrounding buildings w/gobo projectors-rotating sites by Bryan Faubert
- 10 Shadow Bombing participants (2 *Residents*, no information on other 8 but probably *First Timers*), 20 after-party (no information, but probably all *First Timers*)

### May 14

#### DJ Alex Tardieu Dance Party

- 19 attendees (no information, but probably all *First Timers*)

### June 21 – July 12

#### Land Acknowledgement Project

- 8 instructional sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- 2 open studio sessions on Sundays
- Workshop leaders Bryan Faubert and Nicole Tritter
- Teachings by: Knowledge Keeper Cheryle Chagnon Greyeyes; and Indigenous artists Nicole Tritter, Tamara Cardinal and Seth Dodging Horse
- Exhibition at Contemporary Calgary January 5 – Feb. 12, 2023.



- This is the first program in which participants are also engaged in research through questionnaires and interviews.
- 7 participants (2 *Residents*, 1 *Worker*, 3 *First Timers*, 1 *Downtown West Regular*)

**July 8**

**Stamped Parade “Memories of Stampede” Mural Activity**

- Downtown West resident and artist Tayabe Joodaki exhibited her horse portraits and provided oil painting demo.
- 14 participants to the mural project (*First Timers*)

**July 25**

**Harvey Nicol nvrInd exhibition afterparty**

- Featuring DJ's and dancing.
- Number of participants not known, relationship with Downtown West unknown

**July – July, 2023**

**Saturday and Sunday Art Classes with Tayabe Joodaki**

- Downtown West resident Tayabe Joodaki offers painting and drawing classes from YYC/LRT. She also uses YYC/LRT as a studio on Fridays, doing her own work. She reports that when she is working, people often stop by and chat, asking about the studio and the project.
- 7 participants in classes (*Explorers*)

**October 21 – November 25 Free Art Fridays**

- Free workshops with demonstrations by Bryan Faubert;
- Participants create small artworks to “release” into the community for others to “adopt”.
- 71 total attendances over the 6 workshops, with repeat participants (2 *Resident* X 6 visits, 8 *Workers*, 29 *First Timers*, 7 *Explorers* X 2 or 3 visits,)

**2023**

**February – May**

**First Thursdays**

- YYC/LRT participated in the Free First Thursday events at Contemporary Calgary. A booth at Contemporary Calgary introduced visitors to YYC/LRT and the Community Quilt project. Invitations were offered to visit YYC/LRT that evening and create a square for the community quilt.
- Workshop at YYC/LRT led by Bryan Faubert.
- Participants to be included in the research through questionnaires and interviews.
- 34 participants over 4 events (28 *First Timers*, 2 *Explorers*, 4 *Regulars*).

**January/February****Telling Our Stories**

- Engaging members with *Human Capital* and *Chitra Ganesh* exhibitions through in-gallery activities and artmaking.
- Participants create artists books that told the stories of their families' stories.
- Program created and to be implemented by MFA student Gail Hincliffe.
- Exhibition at Contemporary Calgary May 3 – 15.
- Participants to be included in the research through questionnaires and interviews.
- 8 participants ( 5 *Regulars*) including 5 Kerby Members (*Regulars*), 1 UCalgary graduate student (*Resident*), 2 UCalgary undergraduate students (*Explorers*)
- 

**Racialized Immigrant Artist Program**

- Pilot study for PhD student Nürgül Balaç's doctoral thesis study.
- Participation of racialized immigrant women who are re-emerging as professional artists in Canada.
- Artists will make work about their experiences trying to re-establish their professional practices in Calgary.
- Work to be exhibited at Contemporary Calgary TBD
- Meetings between artists and curators, grant officers and other "gatekeepers" of the arts industry to discuss barriers and brainstorm supports and more inclusive policies and procedures.
- Participants to be included in the research through questionnaires and interviews.
- 7 participants (2 *Regulars*, 5 *Explorers*)

**March/April****Book It! with Sigla Books**

- Program to be developed through collaboration between David , Sidjak, owner of Sigla Books and ART 344 students.
- Participants to be recruited from Downtown West.
- Participants to be included in the research through questionnaires and interviews.
- Participants, including workshop 7 participants (4 *Regulars*, 1 *First Timer*, 3 *Explorers*), 24 UCalgary students (19 *First Timers*, 5 *Explorers*)

**April/May****Street to Studio**

- funded through the Tegan "Lefty" Copeman Memorial Fund.
- series of workshops providing street and tattoo artists with the skills to establish careers as contemporary, professional artists.

- Studio workshops led by Bryan Faubert and Bramble Lee Pryde.
- Professional practice workshops by Ryan Doherty, Senior Curator, Contemporary Calgary, AFA and Canada Council grant officers, CARFAC representatives, etc.
- Exhibition of works at Contemporary Calgary June/July.
  - Participants to be included in the research through questionnaires and interviews.
- 4 participants (*Regulars*)

### May - ongoing

#### 55+ Open Studio

- An open studio program for people 55 years and over held at Contemporary Calgary. This program grew out the "Telling Our Stories" and the "Book It!" projects that were attended by a core group of seniors. They are engaged artmakers and bonded closely over the weeks of working together. They engaged in peer teaching spontaneously and developed friendships.
- Held at Contemporary Calgary to provide more space for the participants to work, and space for more participants. Also creates comfort and familiarity with the space as the YYC/LRT will not be available after July 31 and the studio would need to be located in the gallery thereafter.
- May through August open studio is facilitated by BFA/BEd student Sophie Garcia. September onward it will be facilitated by art education students and members of the student clubs, the Fine Arts Society.
- Free for Contemporary Calgary (\$20) and Kerby members (\$30); \$11 drop-in fee for non-members.
- The first three sessions have had a total of 22 attendances over three sessions (19 *Regulars* + 3 *Explorers*)

### May-June

#### Western Canada High School After School Program

- Six-week program wherein grade 12 AP art students learn about street art in the Downtown West, create stickers inspired by the art they have seen, and visit Contemporary Calgary to become acquainted with the gallery and its programming.
- Led by Esther Fung, BFA/BEd student, UCalgary for a directed study course in Community-Based Art.
- 6 students + teacher (*First Timers*)
- 

## CURRENT PROGRAMMING

## Quilt Project

On First Thursdays, visitors to **Contemporary Calgary** and YYC/LRT have been working on “quilt squares” that explore their relationship to the Downtown West community. These quilt squares will be sewn together and the piece will be exhibited in different sites within the Downtown West, e.g. Downtown West UCalgary campus windows, foyers of City University, the design school, the cosmetology school, etc. The quilt will find its permanent home at Contemporary Calgary.

## July

### Stampede YYC/LRT Open House

- Examples of work that has been done at YYC/LRT workshops;
- Tayebe Jodaki will paint on the deck;
- Program leaders will be present with documentation to share with visitors;
- Other FoSA program leads invited to share their projects with the visitors
- Jennife Eiserman to host.
- Based on 2022, we are projecting 20 participants maximum (*First Timers*).

### Drop-in Summer Art Workshops for Kids

- Thursday, July 6, evening family drop-in event to introduce the community to the program.
- Saturday mornings July 8 – 29, free 2-hour children’s art workshop will be held at YYC/LRT for the Downtown West community. Families will also be introduced to programming and other services at Contemporary Calgary and the Central Library.
- Led by BFA/BEd student Sophie Garcia.
- 12 child participants X 4 (projecting *Residents*)

## PROGRAMMING ATTENDANCE STATISTICS

*Residents* – 65

*Workers* – 9

*First Timers* – 179

*Explorers* – 52

*Regulars* – 49

## PRELIMINARY INTERPRETATION OF STATISTICS

While these statistics are not complete (some programming did not record statistics and we do not know about the number or status of those who dropped in to chat when the studio was open), **by far, most participants were *First Timers***. Of these, **30% of participants in multiple programs reported that they had returned** to the Downtown West after their initial visit to explore what the neighborhood had to offer. They also returned to programming, indicating that people will return to the neighborhood when there is something engaging to do. It should be noted that these *Explorers* were UCalgary students,

in other words, young adults. It is possible there were more *Explorers* than recorded. Other participants may return to the Downtown West, but not participate in YYC/LRT programming, so we do not have an opportunity to document their visits. The *Explorers* report that participating in YYC/LRT program changed their perception of the neighborhood from a place that is unsafe, “sketchy” and “empty” in the words of several participants, to a place in which they can feel comfortable and find interesting and meaningful experiences.

Of important note, one participant moved to the Downtown West because of their participation in the Land Acknowledgement project. Spending four weeks, and 24 hours in the neighborhood, actively developing a relationship with the Downtown West led them to decide to move there when their lease was up in their former residence. They report that they are developing a deep appreciation for its unique character, especially the “liminal, transient spaces” that they perceive characterize the neighborhood. If indeed others feel the same way (this will be explored in the interviews we will be doing over the next two months), we suggest that perhaps these spaces might be addressed to bring out their unique affordances, rather than eliminate them.

**Residents seem less inclined to participate.** Programs were promoted on the Downtown West facebook page, Loophole’s Instagram, and flyers were posted in the neighborhood. Residents who joined programming learned of it through the flyers. While we engaged the Downtown West Community Association president early in the project (before the studio was even put in place), had three meetings with them, and we reached out to them regularly, we were not able to build a meaningful relationship with this organization. We do know that the president had several serious personal challenges during the time that YYC/LRT has been in place. This may have been the reason for the lack of engagement. Whatever the cause, though, this lack of promotion by the Downtown West Community Association may have contributed to low engagement by residents.

Another possible deterrent may have been that many residents of Westmount Place opposed the location of YYC/LRT on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave and 8<sup>th</sup> St SW, adjacent to their condominium building. A petition was circulated to the residents of the building, at least, to have the studio removed. Josh Taron (Calgary Urban Alliance and Assoc. Dean Research, UCalgary), Kate Zago (Future of Stephen Avenue, City of Calgary) and Jennifer Eiserman, (Principal Investigator, YYC/LRT) met with Harrison Galalay, the condo board president, on June 9, 2022. We had a robust discussion regarding the residents’ concerns, offered solutions to those concerns and programming tailored for their needs. Eiserman left numerous emails and voice messages for Galalay to set up a meeting with residents to identify programming. These were not returned.

On one occasion, during the Land Acknowledgement project in July, Eiserman was chatting with two very elderly longtime residents of Westmount Place who had stopped by the studio to see what was going on. They toured the studio, spoke with the workshop leaders, Cheryle Chagnon Grey-Eyes (Knowledge Keeper) and participants. Upon leaving one of the residents angrily told Eiserman that they did not like YYC/LRT. When Eiserman suggested that the resident might enjoy creating programming that was meaningful to them and their neighbors, the individual replied that they would never participate in any programming and would never support its presence in the neighborhood.

This was an interesting encounter, especially because two Westmount Place residents of Westmount Place in the Land Acknowledgement project and one of these attended Free Art Fridays regularly. Further, Taybebe Joodaki is a resident of Westmount Place. These participants are new Canadians. It may be that the newer residents were more open to the change that YYC/LRT brought to the neighborhood, while the elderly, original owners to the condo complex were less open to change. We suggest that resistance to change by current longtime residents must be considered moving forward with development in the neighborhood.

Interestingly, **Unison at Kerby members (also seniors), comprised the majority of *Regulars*.** They are excited to learn about new opportunities to engage in the arts and things to do in the Downtown West. They report visiting Contemporary Calgary outside of program, enjoying meals at Calan Beef Noodle restaurant, and visiting Sigla Books and Loophole Coffee Bar with its new exhibition space. These participants told us that the free parking their membership at Unison at Kerby provides them contributes to their openness to engaging in the neighborhood. When they attend a Kerby program, they can then spend time in the neighborhood without having to find and pay for parking.

Admittedly, YYC/LRT formed a partnership with the Unison at Kerby. What this indicates is that engaging organizations that already bring people into the neighborhood, and thus create a sense of comfort, safety and familiarity with the neighborhood, is important to engaging people in the other businesses and services the Downtown West has to offer. We suggest that the Downtown Mosque and the post-secondary campuses are organizations to approach. YYC/LRT did reach out to these organizations several times through email and voice messages to try to initiate engagement. We were not successful in meeting with representatives. More effort needs to be made to engage these communities in the Downtown West. Eiserman will follow up to try to identify the best way to engage them.

Other *Regulars* include people who use businesses and services in the Downtown West regularly. They participated in YYC/LRT programming because they are familiar with the neighborhood and feel safe there. Four *Regulars* were young adults who are supporters of Contemporary Calgary, attending the gallery's events and spending time in the neighborhood when they do so. As a result of these reports, and those from *Explorers*, we suggest that when people come regularly to the neighborhood and find engaging, meaningful experience their perception changes of the Downtown West changes from a place that is "unsafe", "sketchy", "barren", "empty", and "grey" to one that is "a mosaic of colour and activity" that they want to spend time in regularly.

Few *Workers* participated in programming. One of the workers who participated in the Land Acknowledgement project only attended half the sessions. They declined to be interviewed and their questionnaire does not shed light onto why they were not committed to this program or if they spend time in the neighborhood beyond their work commitments. We have yet to interview the other *Workers*. We will be asking why they chose to participate in programming and if they spend time in the neighborhood beyond their work commitments. Their responses may provide information useful to keeping *Workers* in the neighborhood after their workday has ended.

## KNOWLEDGE MOBILIZATION

July 26

### **YYC/LRT in the Downtown West: Sharing with our Community**

An evening event to share the successes of the YYC/LRT project with the Downtown West community. Leaders, artists and participants will share their experiences. Community members will be invited to share their experience of having YYC/LRT in their community and aspirations for future community-based art projects.

October 2023

### **University Art Association of Canada Conference**

Banff, Alberta

-Jennifer Eiserman will be chairing a roundtable inviting participants exploring contemporary art museums' roles in community engagement and social change to share their practices with the goal of forming a research network to pursue common goals. Work of the resulting network will be shared with UAAC in 2024. Round table will include the presentations about "Telling Our Stories Project" and "Re-imagining Integration Project" from YYC/LRT.

-Jennifer Eiserman, *YYC/LRT: Community-based Art as Community Development*. This presentation will describe how three key community engagements brought the university, the art gallery and a community together to collaborate in the creation of bodies of work to learn from each other about what the Downtown West community needs to thrive.

March, 2024

### **National Art Education Association Conference**

Minneapolis, Minnesota

-Will be proposing a paper to the Research SIG about engaging students in research about community-based art. The different ways that undergraduate, masters and doctoral students can contribute to the research project.

2023-24/25

### **Conference Presentations and Published Papers**

3 more conferences and at least 3 papers in scholarly journal on themes that come out of the analysis of the data

#### **Movie documenting the project.**

Using documentation of the artwork, excerpts from questionnaires and interview transcripts and narration from the workshop leaders, researchers and community partners, we will create a short movie about *YYC/LRT: Community-based Art as Community Development*.

## COMMUNICATION

<b>Project Website</b>	<a href="https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/research/yyc-lrt/yyc-lrt-home">https://live-ucalgary.ucalgary.ca/research/yyc-lrt/yyc-lrt-home</a>
<b>Project Facebook Page</b>	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083034926656&amp;sk=photos">https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100083034926656&amp;sk=photos</a>
<b>Project Instagram</b>	<a href="https://www.instagram.com/YYC_LRT">https://www.instagram.com/YYC_LRT</a>
<b>Other Social Media</b>	Postings on University of Calgary Instagram and Facebook

### Stories

UCalgary News: *Can an old LRT car inspire a renaissance in the Downtown West? A vision emerges*

<https://ucalgary.ca/news/can-old-lrt-car-inspire-renaissance-downtown-west-vision-emerges>

City of Calgary, *YYC/LRT: Community based art as a form of community engagement.*

<https://engage.calgary.ca/stephenavenue/stephenave-lrtcar>

Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Calgary: *What this colourful LRT is doing in Calgary's west downtown*

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/yyc-lrt-public-art-west-downtown-stephen-avenue-university-of-calgary-1.6265924>

Department of Art and Art History, University of Calgary: *UCalgary students offer contemporary art experience to Kerby Centre members*

<https://arts.ucalgary.ca/news/ucalgary-students-offer-contemporary-art-experience-members-kerby-centre>

Calgary Herald: *From Old Trains to Mount Royal Mansions: Alternative venues create opportunity for artists and musicians*

<https://calgaryherald.com/entertainment/local-arts/from-old-trains-to-mount-royal-mansions-alternative-venues-create-opportunity-for-artists-and-musicians>



## WORKING MODEL FOR ARTISTS AND RESEARCHERS INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY RESEARCH

The following is based on preliminary findings. Not all the data for YYC/LRT has been gathered and analysis still needs to be completed. However, there are some recommendations that we can make at this time:

### 1. Calgary Arts Development Community Arts Liaison Position Created

The engagements that were offered by artists to street artists and racialized immigrant women artists were valuable to the participants. They supported the participants in the evolution of their confidence to pursue their careers and each program has created a network for the participants to support their ongoing efforts. And while these engagements brought people to the neighborhood, they did not provide support or build community in the Downtown West. (This said, one participant of the racialized immigrant women artists project was a resident of the Downtown West.)

We recommend that the City of Calgary work with Calgary Arts Development to create a Community Liaison to work with community associations to identify community needs. Working together, the community associations and the liaison can conceptualize engagements that will engage community members in meaningful ways. Once these needs are identified, and a general concept for an engagement has been outlined, calls to artists can be made and communities can identify the best artist for their needs.

### 2. City of Calgary provides funding to Community Associations specifically for Arts Engagement

While funding from Calgary Arts Development is available to support community public art projects, this funding is available through competition and only a limited amount of funding is available. Regular community art engagements that can be located within each community's centre make participation accessible and meaningful. The Calgary Arts Development Community Arts Liaison proposed above would work with community associations to learn how to identify community needs, conceptualize an engagement, generally and how to hire artists that can support that engagement.

### 3. Researchers and Artists partner with community associations, organizations and services.

The YYC/LRT programs that most successfully engaged community members were those that were developed in collaboration with community organizations and services prior to identifying program leaders. The nature of the engagement was determined first and then program leaders (either artists or art education students) were brought on board to fully develop the programs. These include Contemporary Calgary (Free First Thursdays), Unison at Kerby (Identity: Self-Portraits and Zines: Telling Our Stories), Sigla Books (Book It!). We project that the Drop-In Art classes

will be successful as they are responding to a need expressed by the Downtown West Community Association president.

Further, engaging community associations, organizations and services as funding partners (at least through meaningful in-kind commitments) will contribute to the success of the community based engagement. The significant commitment that Contemporary Calgary made to YYC/LRT as required by the grants we secured ensured that they worked to help the project succeed. Over the past 18 months, we have established a strong, respectful and reciprocal relationship that promises to provide mutual support into the future. Unison at Kerby was able to make a profit from the engagements we collaborated on, as grant funds and student program leadership covered costs. Their appreciation for this opportunity has made them enthusiastic supporters. Sigla Books owner David Sidjack was skeptical being involved with YYC/LRT initially. After many visits to the shop, and long conversations about what he would like to achieve from an engagement, Sidjack became interested in pursuing an engagement. He reported afterward that he felt that it was a meaningful experience because he felt that he was able to pass on a value for books in some of the participants.

In summary, we suggest that best practice for community art engagement starts with the community need. In order to provide opportunities for communities to grow and evolve through art engagement, artists and researchers must respond to the nature of the need as articulated by the community. Then, in collaboration with the community develop engagements that can best address this.

#### 4. Communications requires dedicated personnel

Finally, we recommend that all projects ensure that there is funding (either cash or in-kind) for dedicated communications personnel. Successful programming requires successful communications. YYC/LRT partners Contemporary Calgary and Unison at Kerby were able to provide excellent communications for engagements done in collaboration with these organizations. However, the project was not able to update its website regularly, did not disseminate communications adequately on social media platforms, or send out press releases announcing its activities. This work cannot be adequately completed by the project lead or program leaders. It is necessary to secure funding for support for communications.

## Project 2: Inhabitable Urban Furniture

A safe avenue with multifunctional infrastructure

# Inhabitable Urban Furniture

### Project Leads

Alicia Nahmad Vasquez and Kris Fox

### Project Description

Designing with material saving techniques that result in unique, identifiable and repeatable elements could offer a urban solution that can get deployed around the city of Calgary while being identified and reminiscent of downtown and Stephen Avenue. Through the early integration of digital fabrication constraints, the analytic capabilities of topology optimization can be turned into generative design tools that produce novel, materially efficient, and fabrication informed architectural forms.

### Key Questions

- Can traffic calming infrastructure make urban space more socially inhabitable?
- Can Stephen Avenue serve as a demonstration territory for construction and material innovation?

### Strategic Moves



Connecting the Avenue



Activating the Avenue



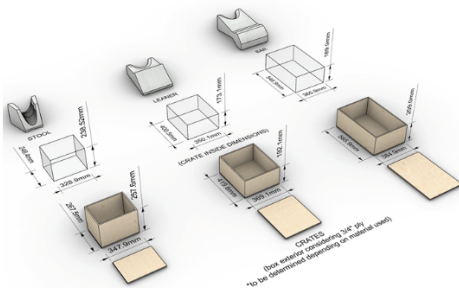
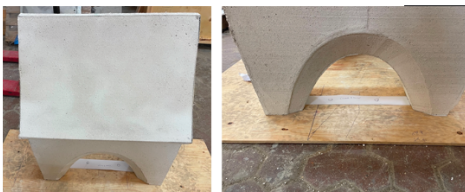
Opening up and onto the Avenue

### Triple Bottom Line

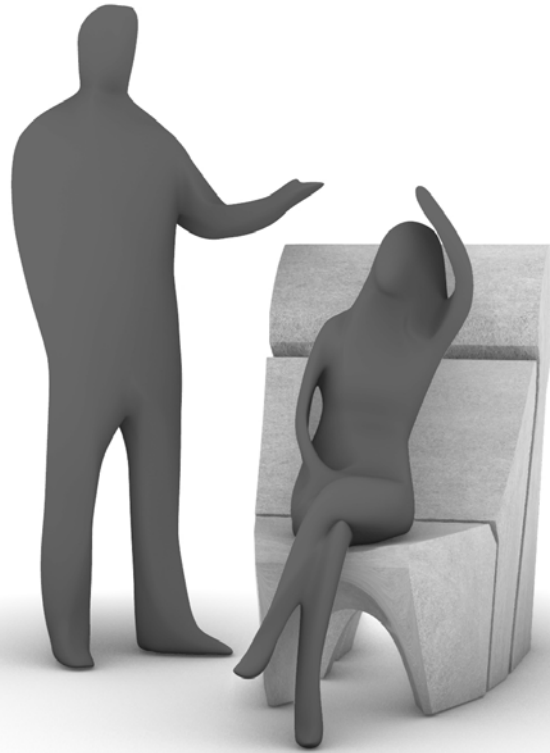


### Area

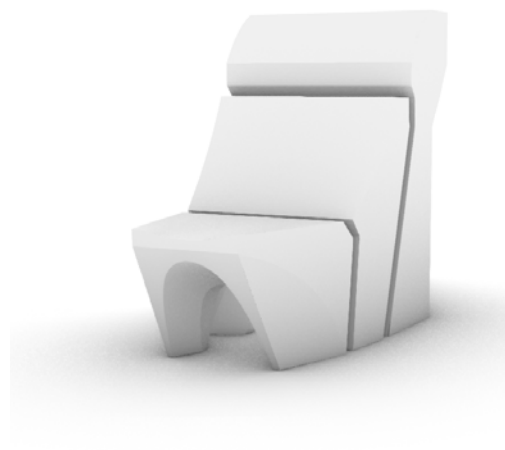
The Village / The Core / The Commons  
Stephen Avenue @ the Globe Theatre



# FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE: SPECIFICATIONS BOOK



Front View



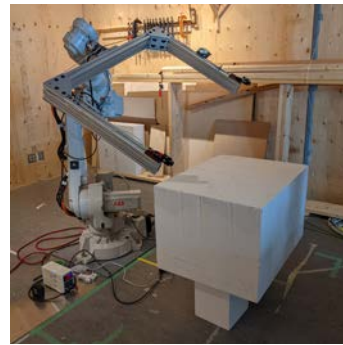
Perspective View

**LID**

# MATERIALS

# FOAM SPECS

## EPS FOAM : PLASTI-FAB - PLASTISPAN INSULATION TYPE 1



- PlastiSpan Insulation is a Type 1, moulded expanded polystyrene (EPS) closed cell rigid foam plastic insulation.
- Compressive resistance of 10 psi.
- Thermal resistance - RSI 0.65/25 mm (R-value 3.75/inch)
- Density (C303) pcf 0.90
- EPS foam is ordered pre-cut into 64" x 48" x 38" blocks for easier transportation
- PlastiSpan EPS foam is easily hot wire cut using a hot wire cutter fitted to a ABB robotic arm.

### SPEC SHEET

Thermal Resistance <i>Minimum RSI per 25mm (R per inch)</i>	ASTM C518	$m^2 \cdot ^\circ C/W$ ( $ft^2 \cdot h \cdot ^\circ F/ BTU$ )	0.65 (3.75)
Compressive Resistance <i>Minimum @ 10% Deformation</i>	ASTM D1621	kPa (psi)	70 (10)
Flexural Strength <i>Minimum</i>	ASTM C203	kPa (psi)	170 (25)
Water Vapour Permeance <i>Maximum</i>	ASTM E96	$ng/(Pa.s.m^2)$ (Perms)	300 (5.0)
Water Absorption <i>Maximum</i>	ASTM D2842	% By Volume	6.0
Oxygen Index <i>Minimum</i>	D2863	volume %	24
Density <i>Minimum</i>	C303	pcf	0.90

# ADHESIVES & COATINGS SPEC



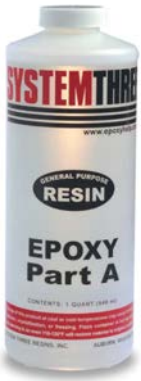
## FOAM ADHESIVE: LEPAGE - PL300

**Tested for gluing foam mould pieces together**  
**APPROVED OPTION**

- Designed to bond foam board without attacking or burning through foam material
- Resistant to water for a strong, durable bond the during concrete casting process.
- Will fill or bridge minor gaps in the foam mould.



Tests @LID



## SYSTEM 3 GENERAL PURPOSE 2 PART EPOXY RESIN

**Tested: Failed test reaction results in melted foam mould**  
**(images below)**

### FAILED OPTION

- 2:1 mixing ratio 2 part epoxy
- Solids based, solvent-free, unfilled, epoxy safe for foam applications
- Resin formulated for use with three different hardeners (varied curing speed).



Tests @LID



## DUPLI-COLOR BED ARMOR TRUCK LINER, BLACK (Non-Carb Compliant), Black

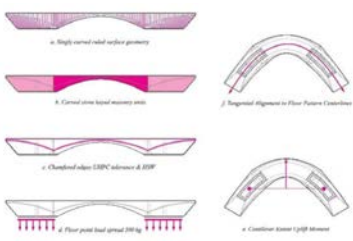
**Canadian equivalent for LINE-X isocyanoxide. Product recommended and typically used to coat foam for concrete casting (Source: Odico formwork robotics. Concrete benches cast on foam for the mathematics gallery on the science museum)**

### APPROVED OPTION

- Water-based polyurethane coating
- Durable and rubberized finish extends the life of the foam molds.
- For use on metal, wood, fiberglass, and concrete



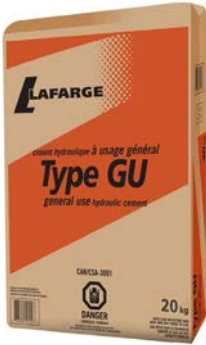
Tests @LID



Source: ODICO

# CONCRETE MIX SPECS

## CEMENT: LAFARGE - TYPE GUL GENERAL USE PORTLAND CEMENT



- General-use portland-limestone cement
- Manufactured using less CO2 emissions (-10% GHG)
- Cementitious Materials Compendium: CAN/CSA-A3000-13

## REINFORCEMENT: BUDDY RHODES FIBRE AC50



- 5mm / 1/4" (length) Acrylic Fibre
- Stealth fibers provides sufficient workability, while reducing shrinkage and stress cracking.
- Improves the overall durability and tensile strength of the concrete mix.

## SUPER PLASTICIZER: BUDDY RHODES- REDUCER 420 LIQUID



- Water reducer for concrete mix increases flowability off the mix without the addition of water, creating a stronger mix and ease of mixing.
- Water Reducer 420 used at a dosage of 0.25-2.00% of cement weight in the concrete mix.
- Must be added to the mix water or at the end of mixing
- This plasticizer is designed to be especially effective with concrete mixes high in fine aggregate (fine sand) in order to achieve a homogeneous mix flow.

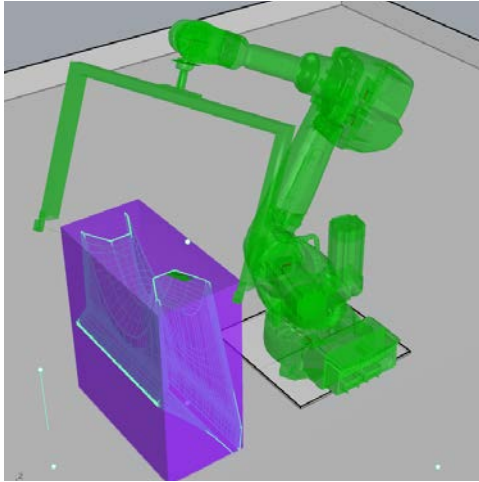
## CEMENT MIX:

INGREDIENTS	% WEIGHT	KG/M3	KG / UNIT (1KG CEMENT)	SUPPLIERS
TYPE GUL Cement	61.72%	1400	1	LAFARGE
Fibre Glass Acrylic	0.03%	1.02	0.0007256	UNICON
Water Reducer 420	0.25%	3.5	0.0625	UNICON
Water	38.00%	532	0.38	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>1936.52</b>	<b>1.4432256</b>	



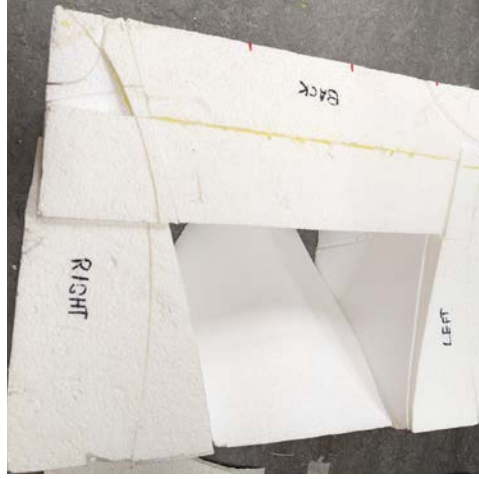
# FABRICATION PROCESS

# FABRICATION PROCESS



## HOT WIRE CUTTING

- Hot wire cutting paths / machine code are prepared for the 6-axis ABB robotic arms using ruled surfaces linked in Grasshopper via Rhinoceros.
- In between hot wire cuts hot glue and green tape is used to secure loose parts of the mould for foam registration.
- The robot fabrication process is constrained by the maximum width of the hot wire "bow" at 800mm.



## MOULD ASSEMBLY

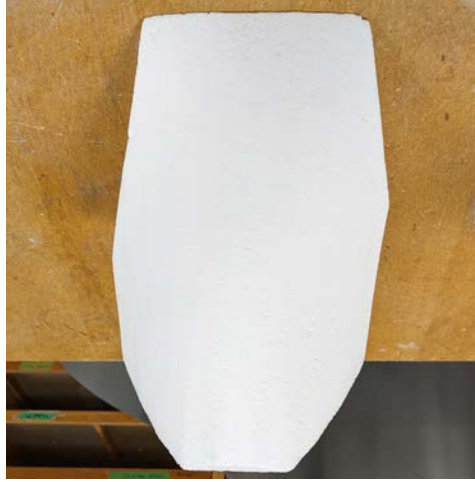
- Following the hot wire cutting process the foam positive is removed from inside the mould and the mould parts are hot glued together to form the multi-part mould

# FABRICATION PROCESS



## FOAM MOULD GLUING

- The multiple foam mould parts are glued using foam board adhesive (LEPAGE - PL300) to secure the foam parts.



## FOAM MOULD FINISHING

- The glued foam mould parts are sanded down using 220 grit sand paper to achieve a smooth finish.

# FABRICATION PROCESS



## FOAM MOULD FILLER

- Seems and surface Imperfections of the foam parts are filled and sanded using wood filler and/or automotive wax (green wax).



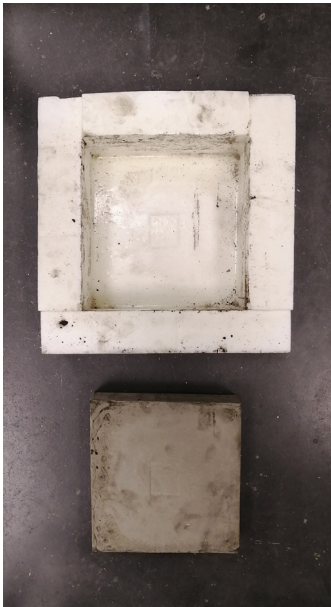
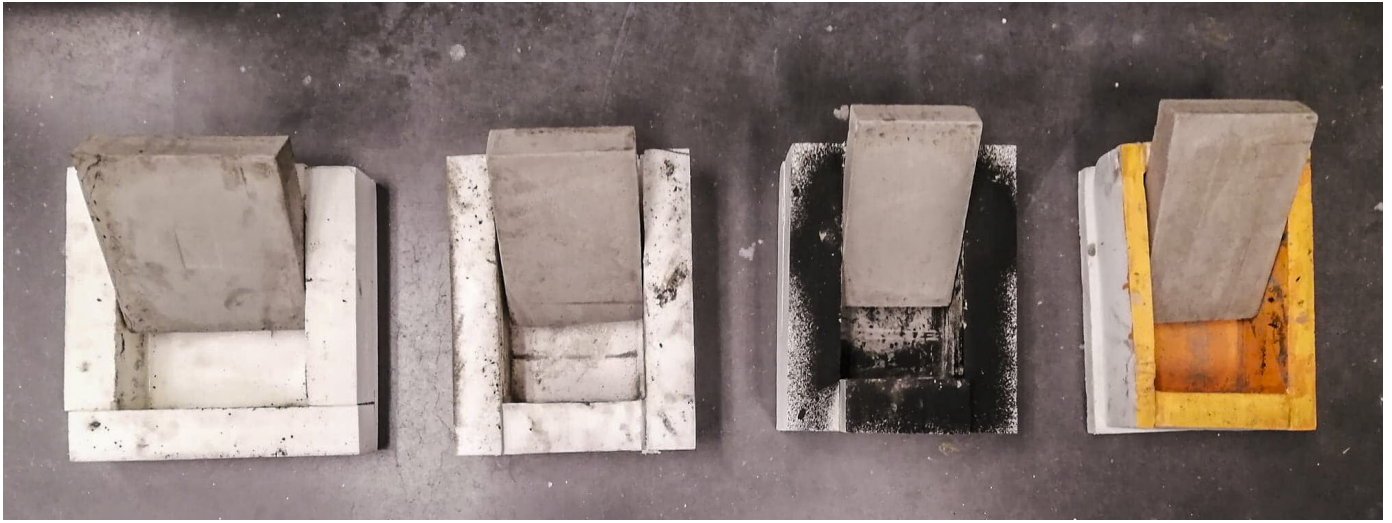
## FOAM MOULD COATINGS

- Truck bed liner is applied to the surface of the mould.
- Once the polyurethane coating is dried the seams of the mould are filled with latex caulking (DAP - Alex Fast Dry) to create a water tight mould seams.
- Once the latex is dry the mould is spray-applied with cooking spray to act as a mould release between the foam mould and concrete.

\* All three cast concrete furniture modules are "solid" / no voids are present.

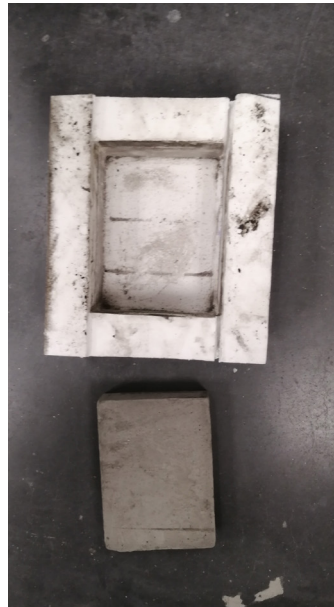
# FABRICATION PROCESS

## FOAM MOULD COATING TESTS



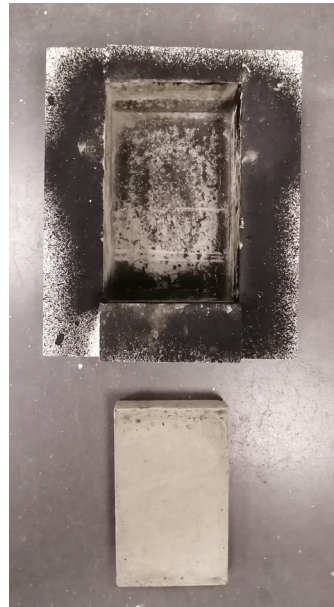
SYSTEM 3 GENERAL PURPOSE 2 PART EPOXY

- Mould is conserved
- Positive releases easily
- Cooking spray applied



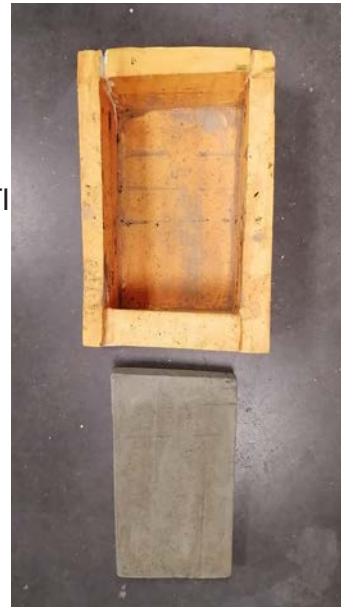
MOULDED EXPANDED POLYSTYRENE (EPS) ONLY

- Positive does not release easily and mould is not conserved
- Cooking spray applied



DUPLI-COLOR BED ARMOR TRUCK LINER, BLACK

- Mould is conserved
- Positive releases easily
- Cooking spray applied



LATEX PAINT

- Mould is conserved
- Positive releases easily
- Cooking spray applied

# FABRICATION PROCESS



## WOOD FORMS

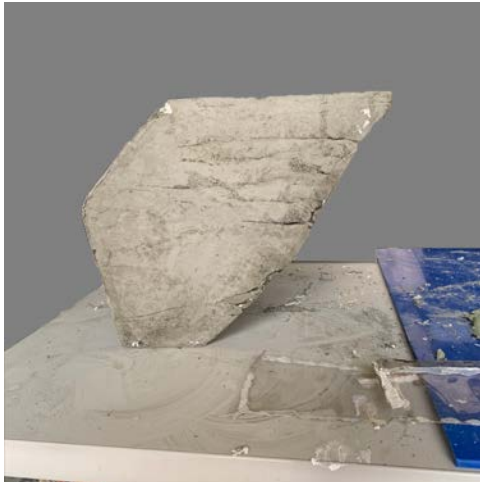
- The foam mould is placed in a wood frame clamped down with metal clamps to create leak proof container for the concrete pour.



- The concrete is poured into the mould and left to cure for 48-72hrs

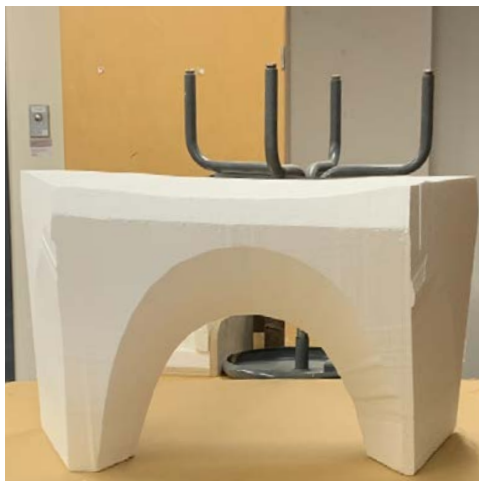
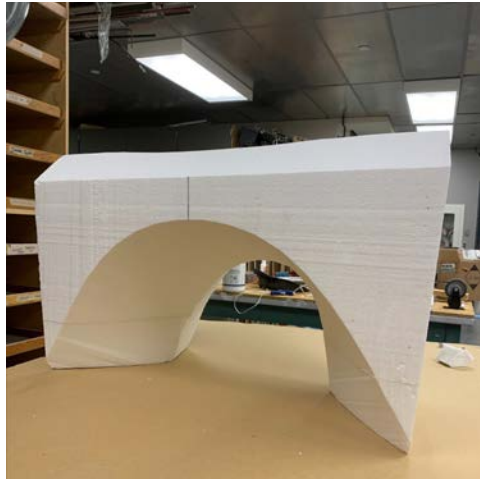
\* All three cast concrete furniture modules are "solid" / no voids are present.

# FABRICATION PROCESS



## FIRST CASTING TEST

- Once the concrete is cured the concrete positive is carefully demoulded from the foam mould.



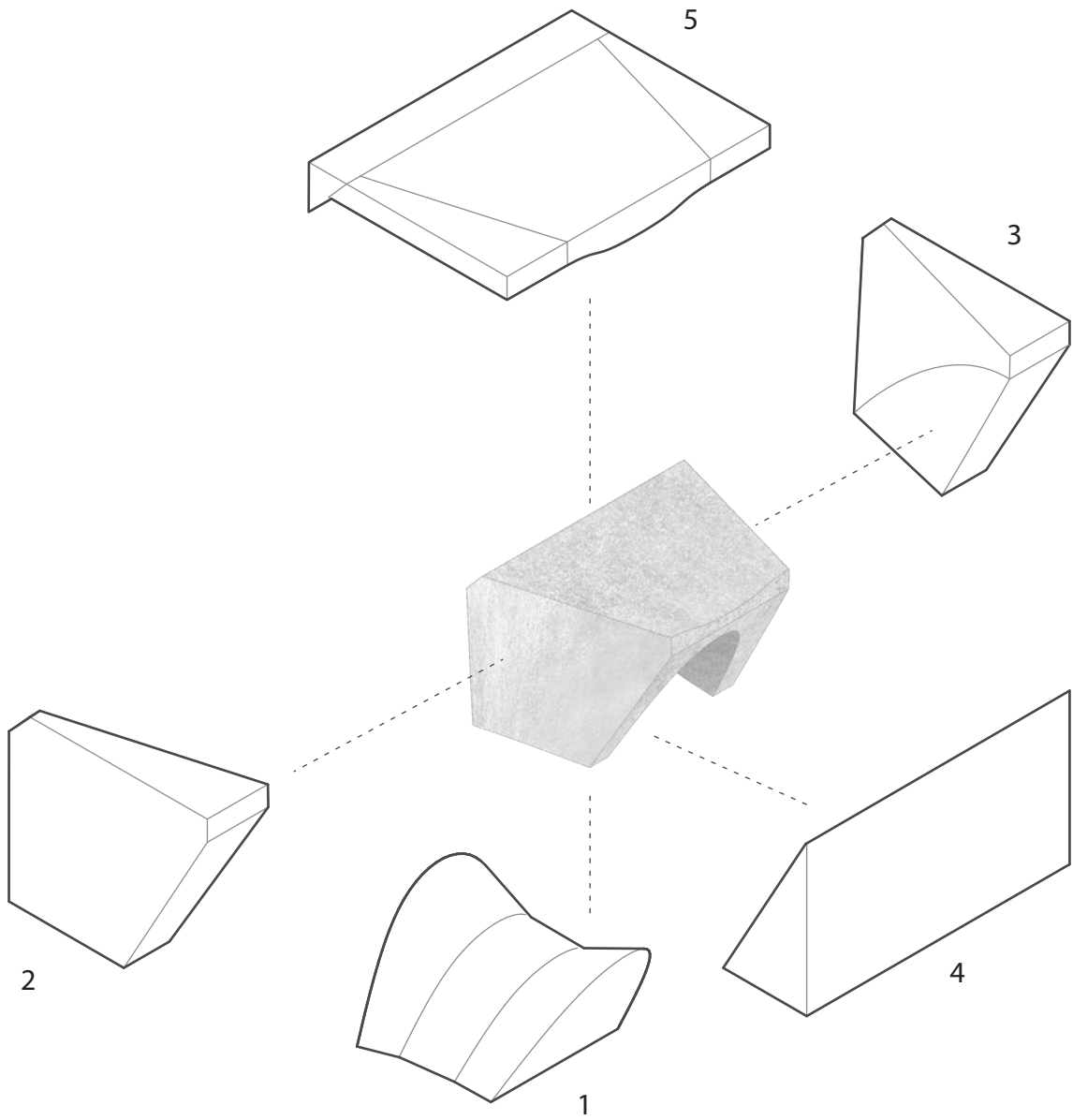
## FOAM STOOL POSITIVE

- (Pictured) full scale foam positive of stool concrete bench element.
- Finished foam moulds with associated wood forms will be fabricated and sent to Barkman for concrete casting.

# MOULD ASSEMBLY PROCESS

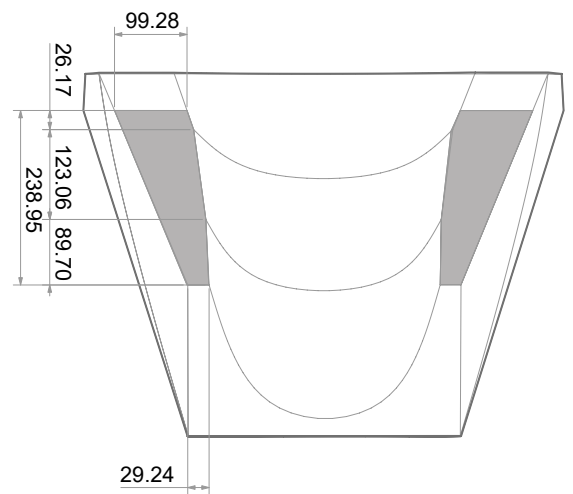
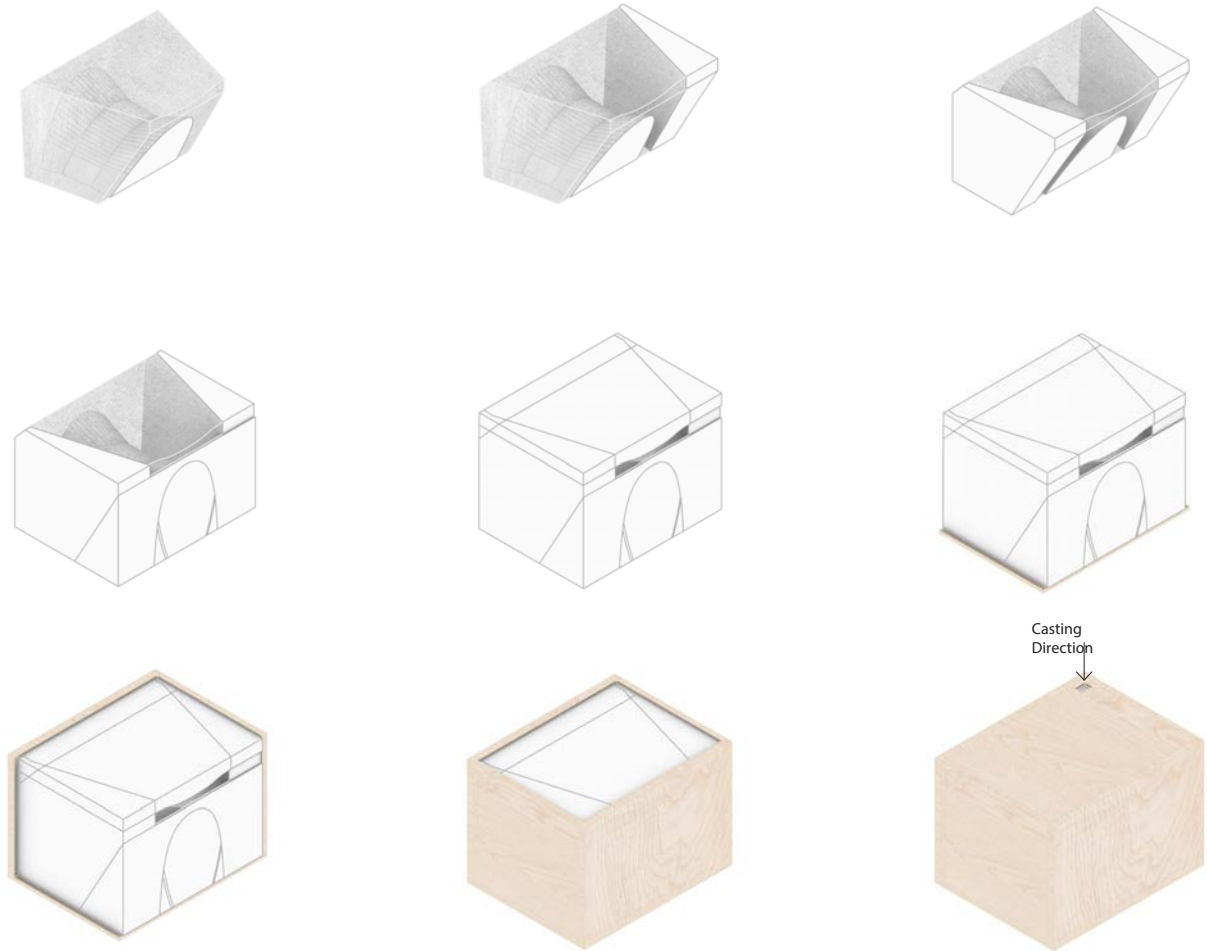


# STOOL



# ASSEMBLY PROCESS: STOOL

2

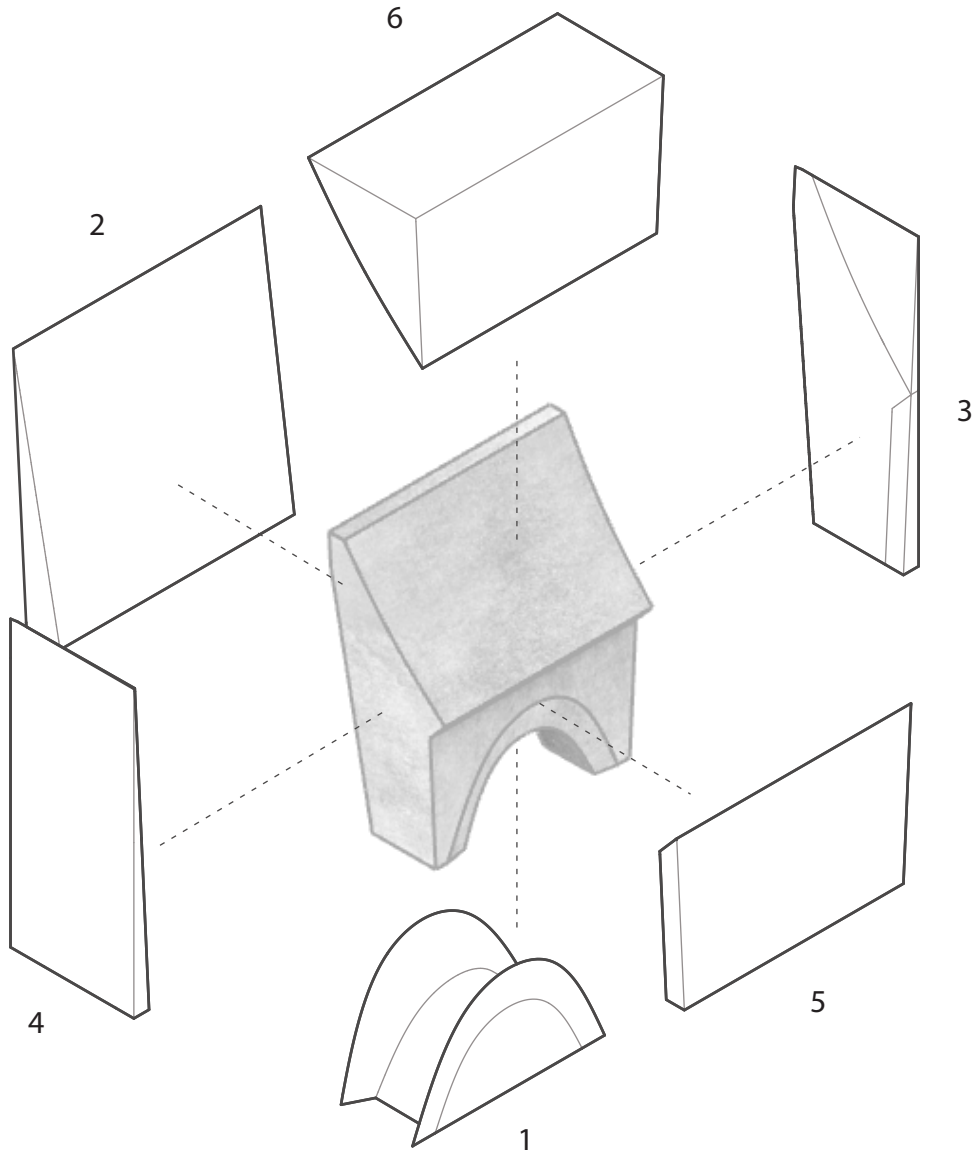


\* Dimensions in millimeters

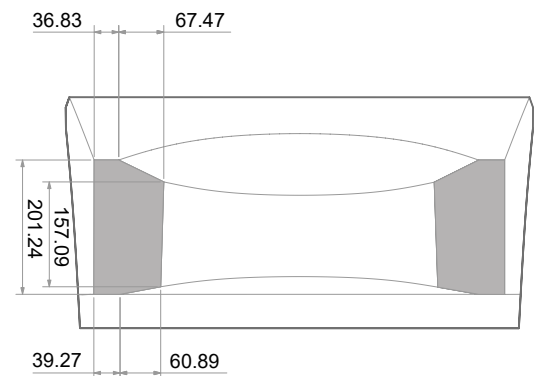
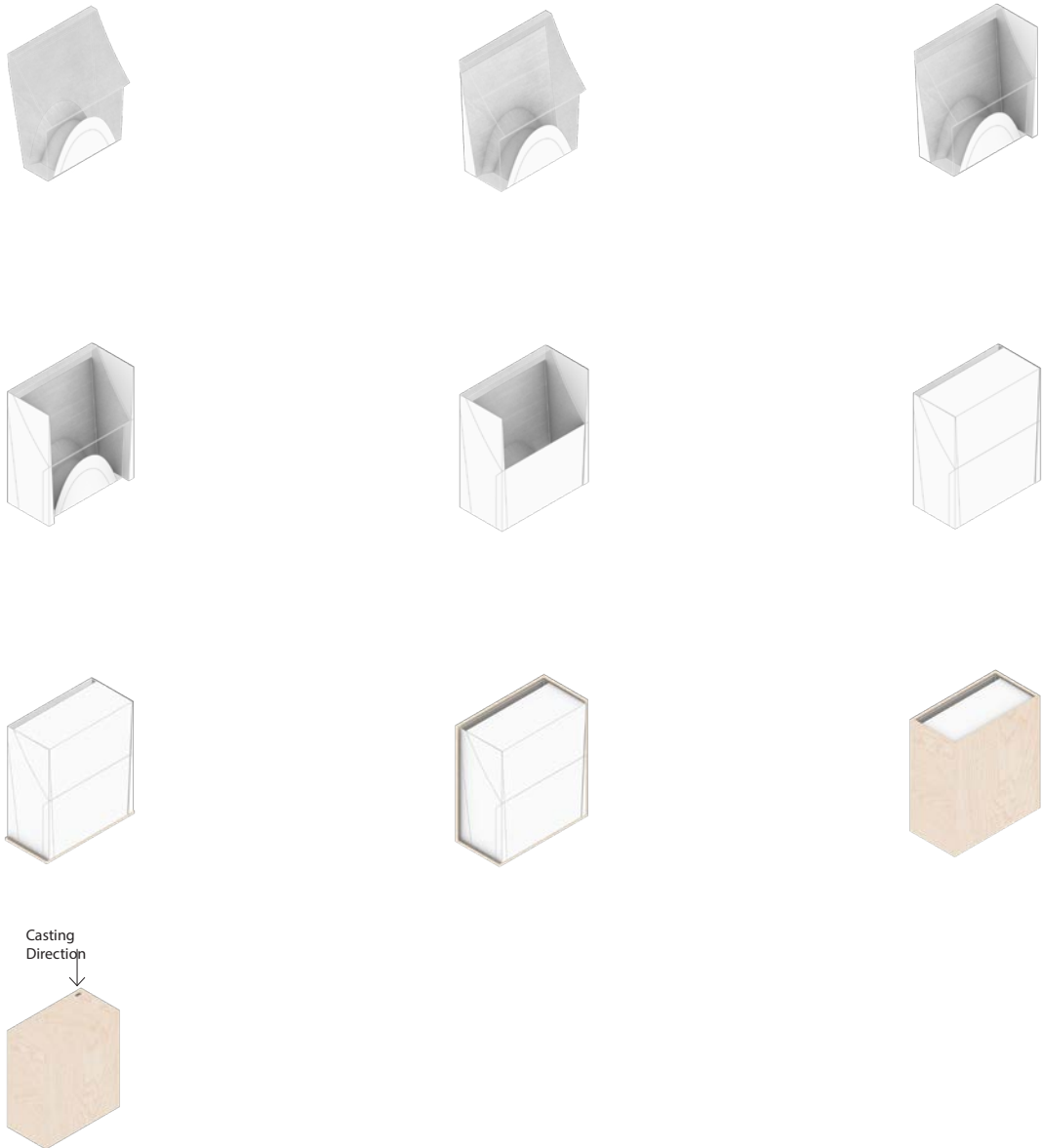
Volume: 0.0598m<sup>3</sup> / 2.112 cubic feet

\* The weight of the final piece will depend on the density of the concrete used for casting. Concrete mix to be specified by Barkman.

# LEANER



# ASSEMBLY PROCESS: LEANER

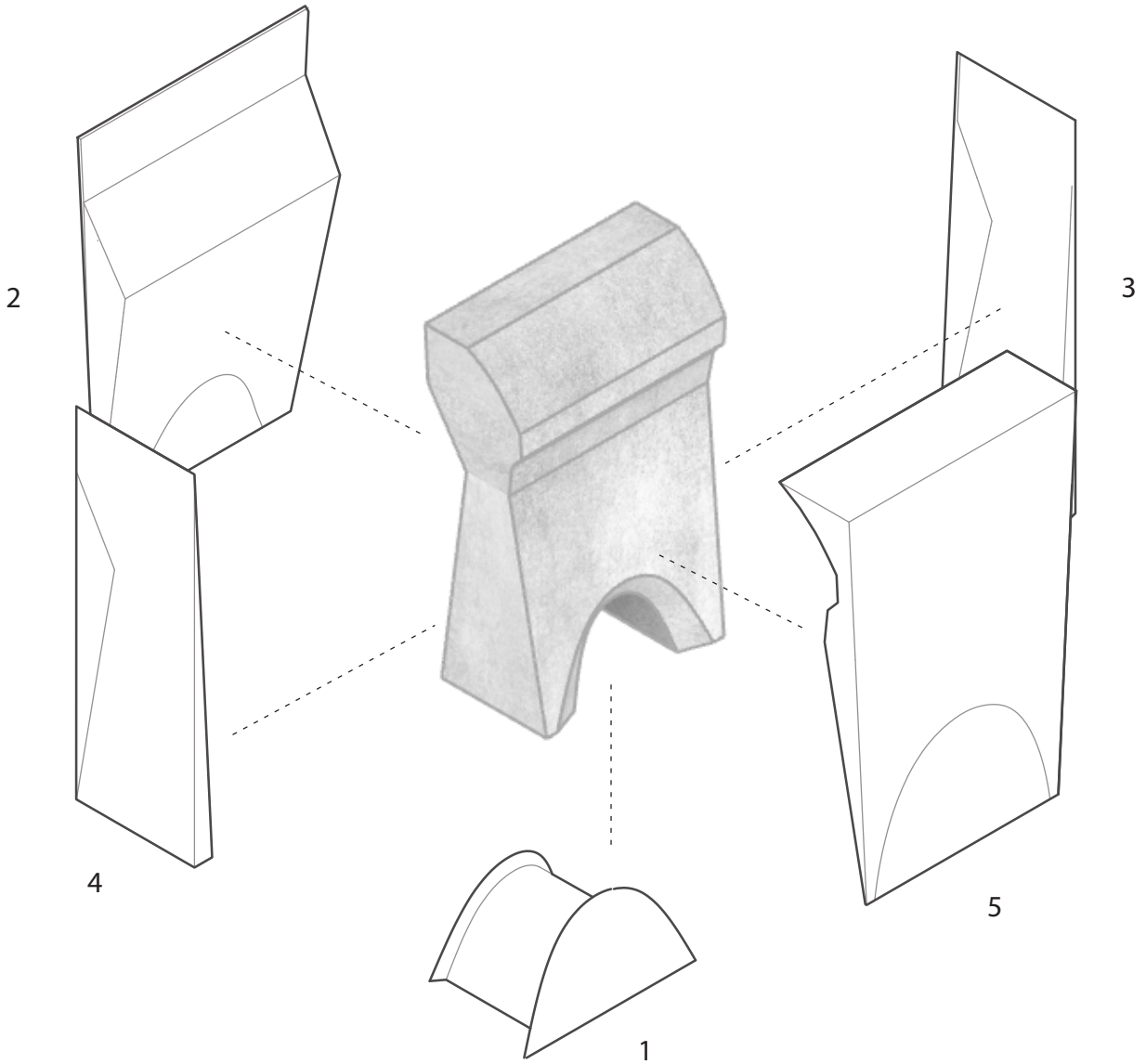


\* Dimensions in millimeters

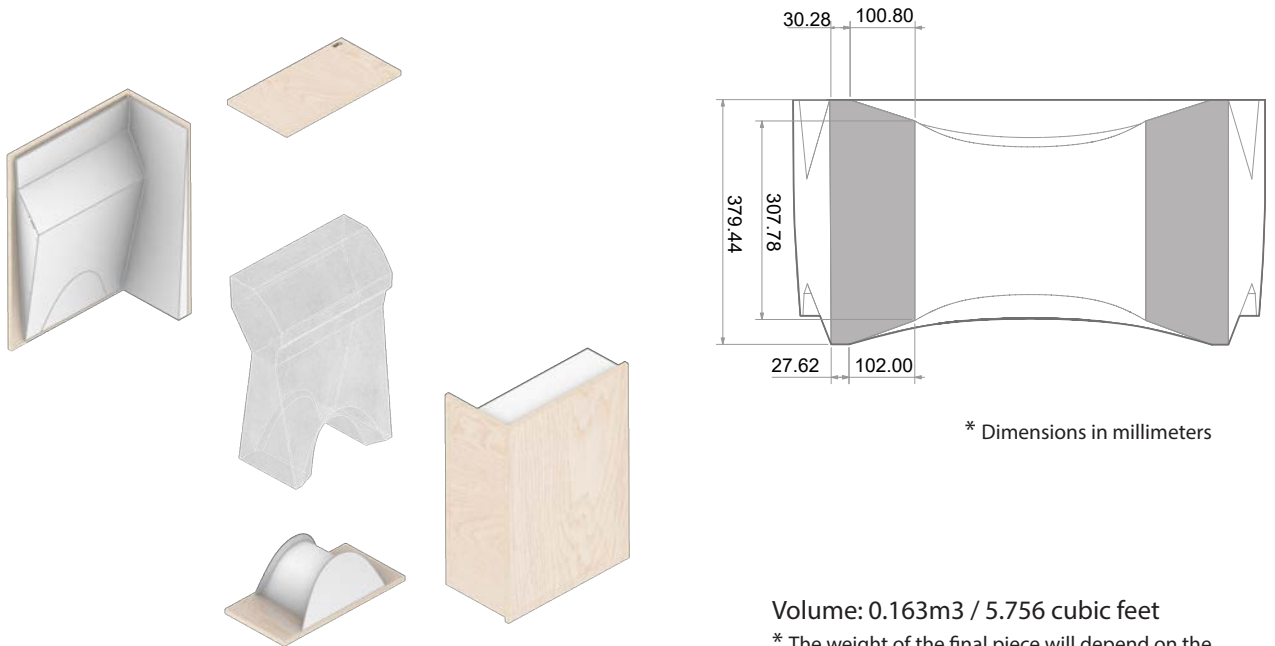
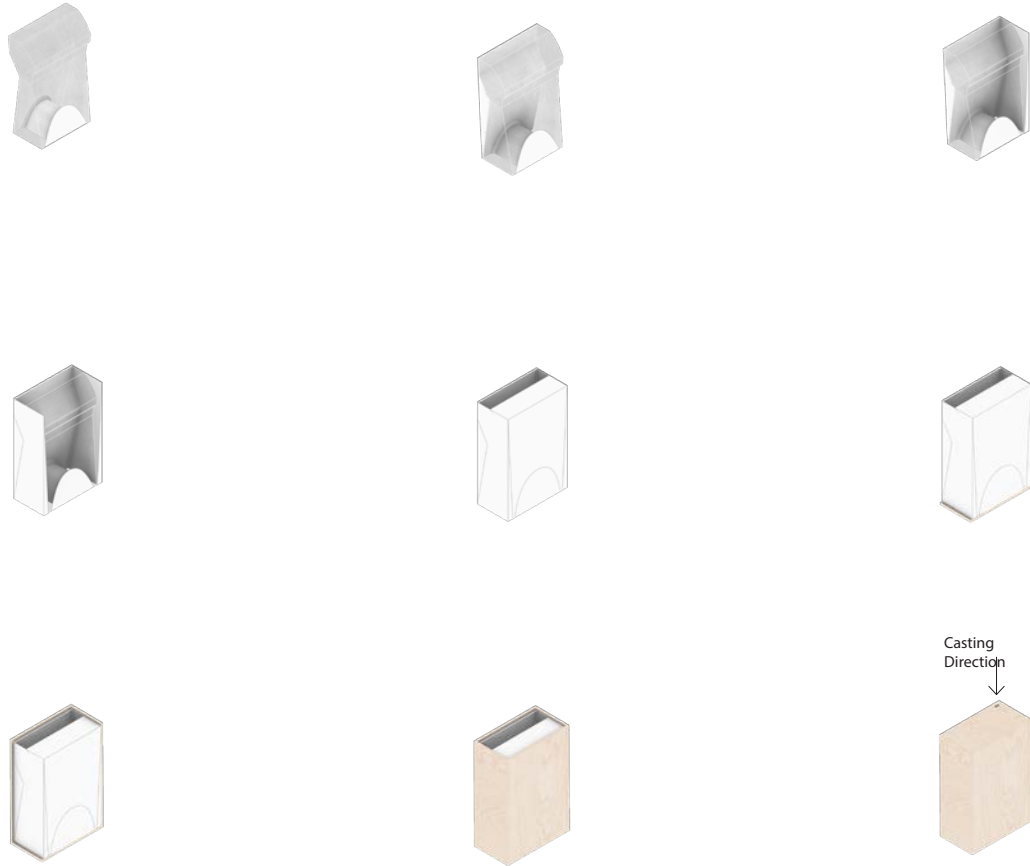
Volume: 0.0915m<sup>3</sup> / 3.223 cubic feet

\* The weight of the final piece will depend on the density of the concrete used for casting. Concrete mix to be specified by Barkman.

# BAR TABLE



# ASSEMBLY PROCESS: BAR TABLE



\* Dimensions in millimeters

Volume: 0.163m<sup>3</sup> / 5.756 cubic feet

\* The weight of the final piece will depend on the density of the concrete used for casting. Concrete mix to be specified by Barkman.

# POTENTIAL CONFIGURATIONS

# CONFIGURATION STUDIES



3 stool configuration





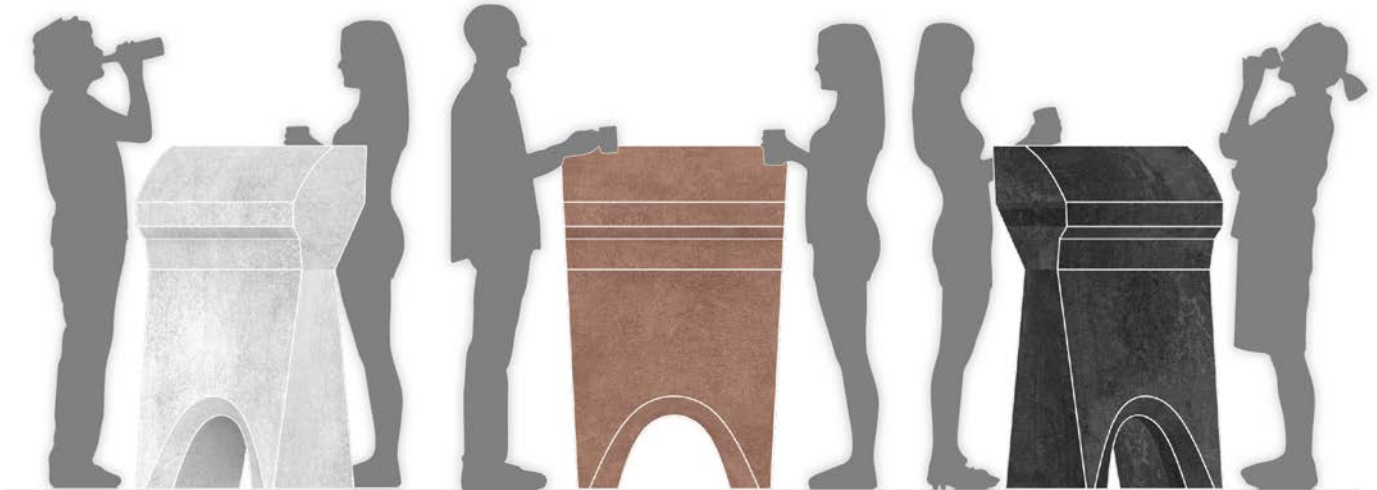
# CONFIGURATION STUDIES



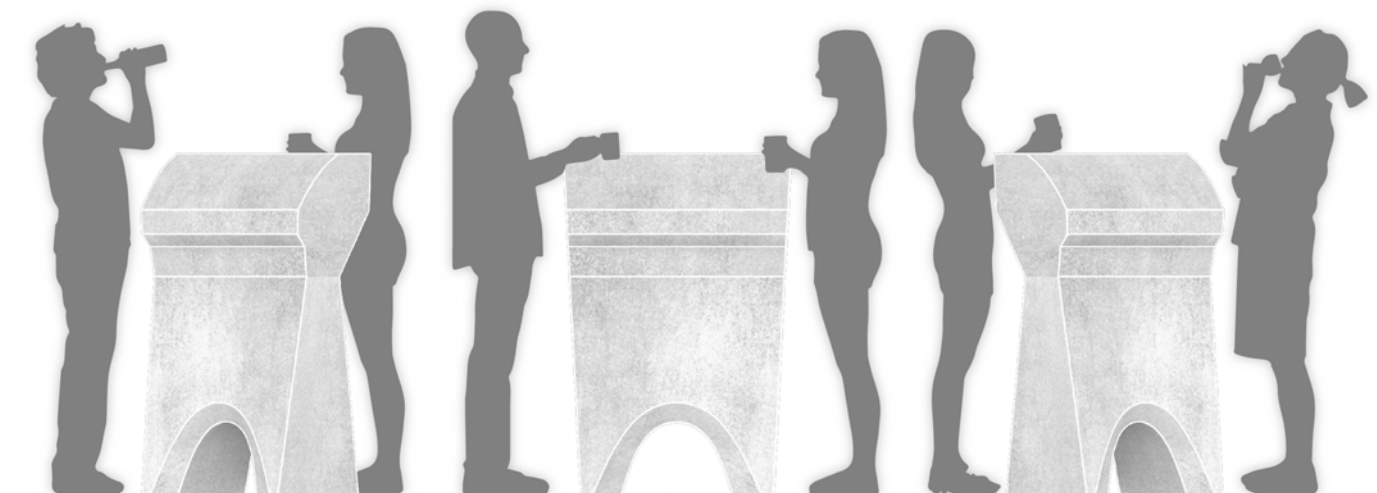
3 leaners



# CONFIGURATION STUDIES



3 bar tables showing colours and use



# CONFIGURATION STUDIES



Compressed Set before extension



FOAM MOULDS FOR CASTING BY  
INDUSTRY PARTNER **BARKMAN**  
CONCRETE AND FOAM NEGATIVES

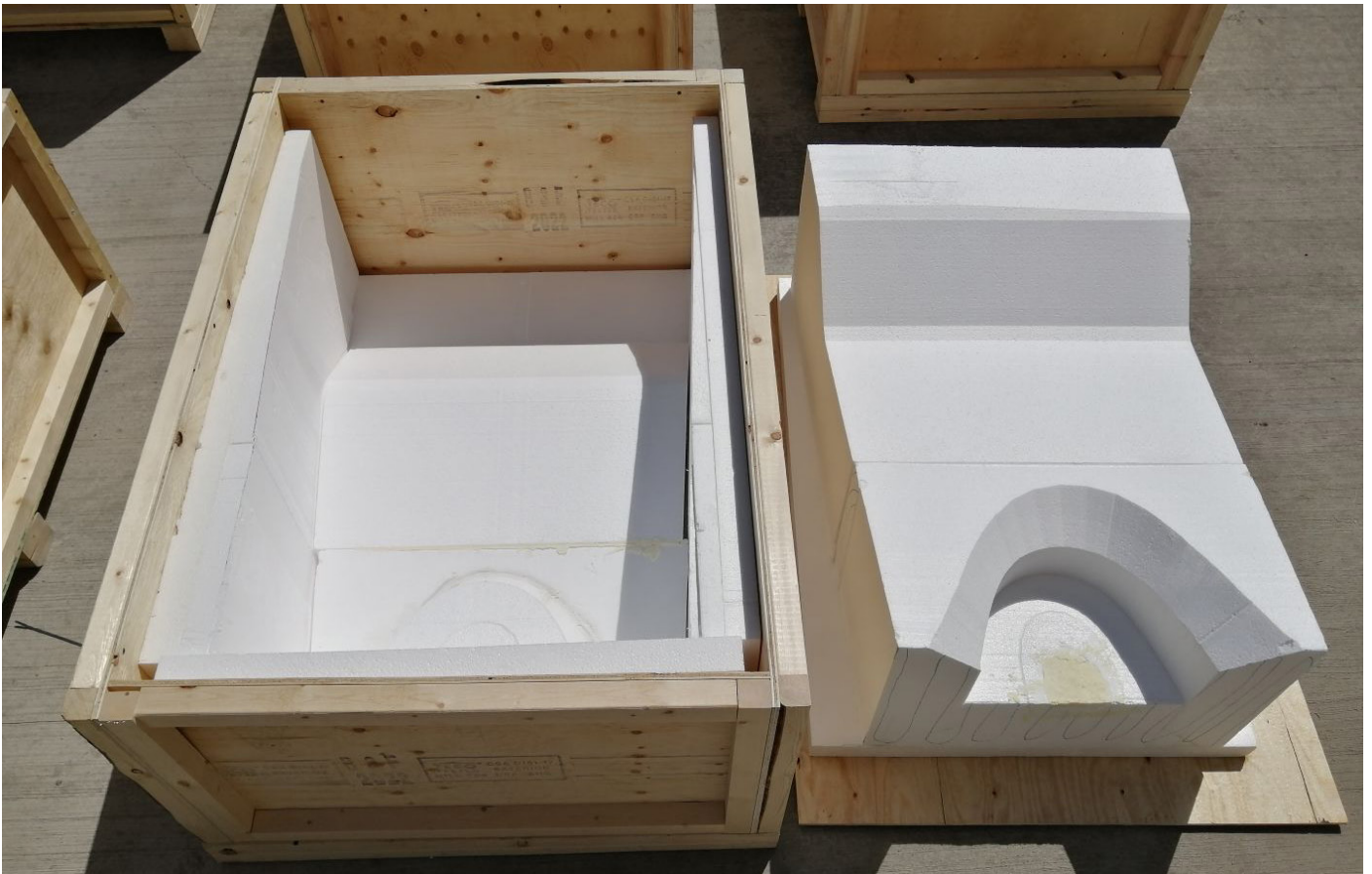
# FOAM NEGATIVES



# FOAM NEGATIVES



# MOULDS FOR CASTING BY INDUSTRY PARTNER BARKMAN



# MOULDS FOR CASTING BY INDUSTRY PARTNER BARKMAN





CASTING PROCESS  
BY  
INDUSTRY PARTNER  
BARKMAN CONCRETE



BASE PLATES TO ATTACH  
FURNITURE TO THE PAVEMENT

BASE PLATES ARE PAINTED BLACK,  
DOWELED AND EPOXIED TO THE  
FURNITURE

5/8" DIAMETER WEDGE ANCHORS  
ARE USED ON EACH HOLE





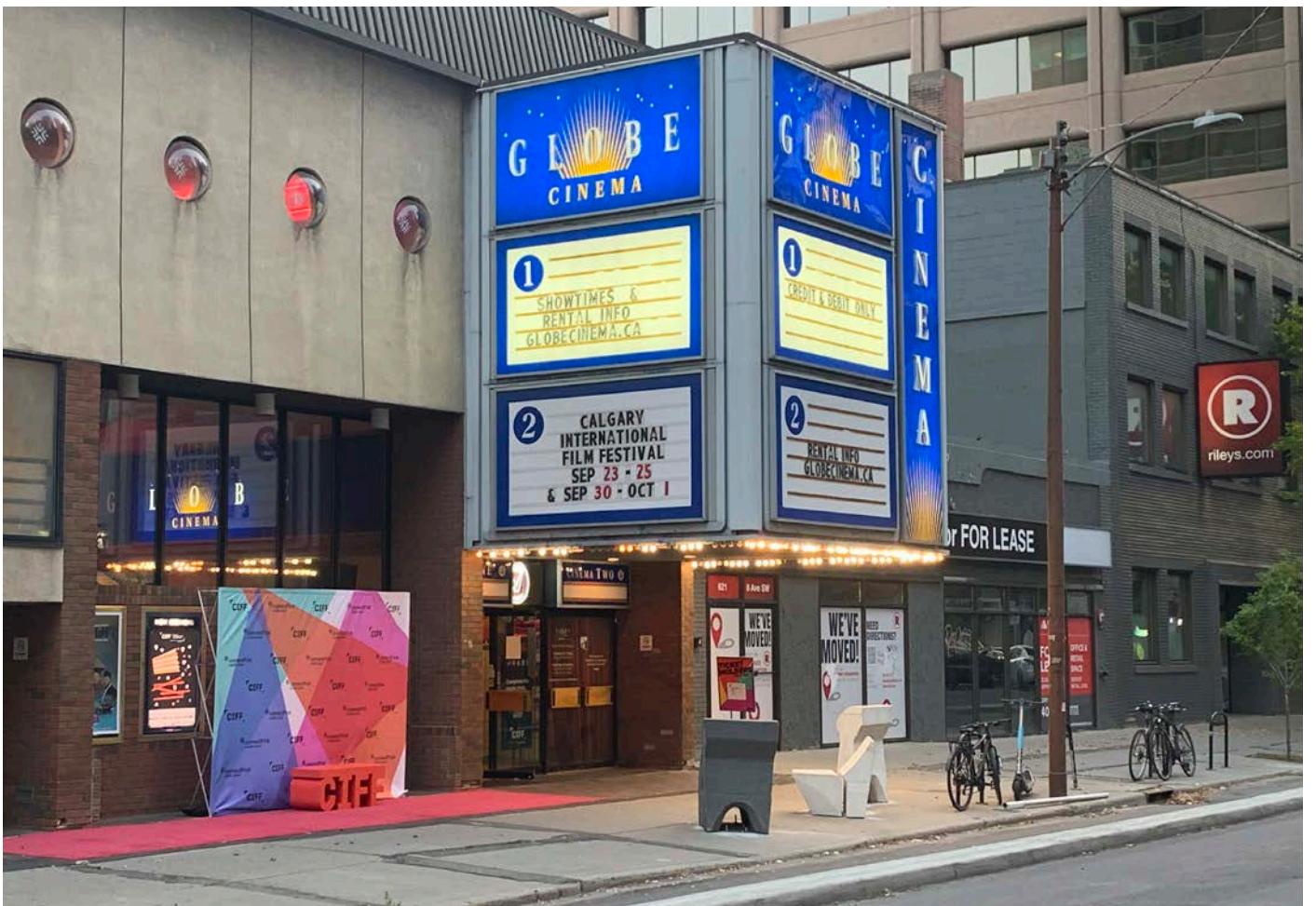
TRANSPORT, DEPLOYMENT  
& INSTALLATION OF  
CONCRETE FURNITURE













# Activate and Experiment: Public Life App Data Memo

Spring, 2023

<b>Introduction:</b>	<b>2</b>
Description of the Activation and Experiment (A&E) Program	2
A&E Projects on Stephen Ave	2
Days of Data Collection and Time	3
Site Map	3
<b>Installation Analysis:</b>	<b>4</b>
1st Street S.W. Corner Pollinator Bed + Bleacher Seating and Centre Street Corner Seating Installations	4
Winter City Design Competition	6
YYC LRT	9

Introductory Note: The following is a data analysis of select blocks of Stephen Ave/8th Ave in Downtown Calgary. The data was collected as part of the Activate and Experiment Program using the Gehl Public Life Web Application. The following is a high level analysis, not a holistic Public Life Public Space Narrative.

# Gehl

Gehl – New York  
395 Hudson St, 8th Fl  
New York, New York  
USA

gehlpeople.com  
mail@gehlpeople.com  
+(45) 32 950 951

## Urban Furniture

### Data Collection

This data was collected from survey site A3 and mapped stationary activity.

Counts were conducted the following dates:

1. Pre-installation count on August 11th (Th) and 13th (Sat)
2. Day of installation count on September 15th (Th) and 17th (Sat)
3. Post-installation count on October 13th (Th) and 15th (Sat).

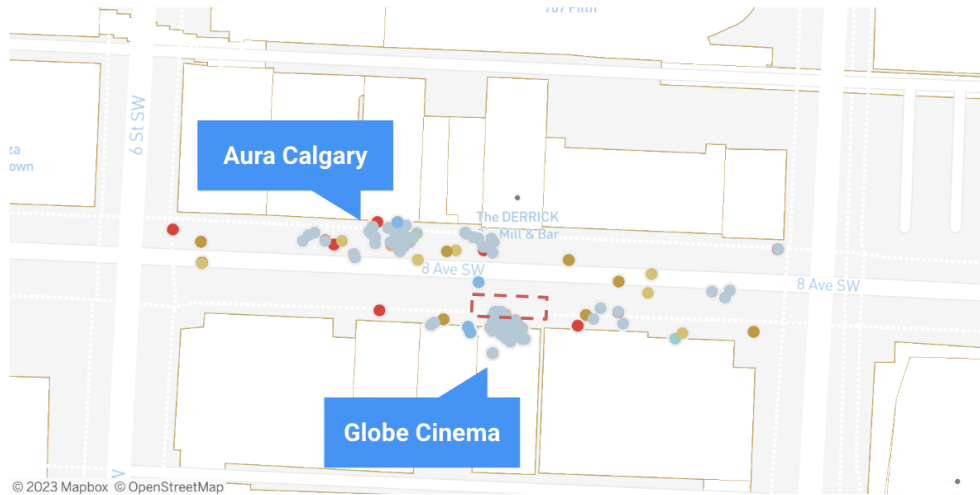
Both pre and post-installation counts were conducted at the following times of day:

- 12pm, 2pm, 5pm, and 8pm

Note: Though additional A+E counts for this block have been collected before August and after October, they have been excluded from this specific analysis to control for seasonality and represent the conditions directly before and after the installation.

### Data Observations

- As of the most recent datasets, the data does not indicate a shift in seating habits at the installation site.
  - Across all three counts, the predominant recorded posture has been standing followed by commercial seating, (60% and 36% in August, 67% and 33% in September, and 98% and 2% in October).
  - As the seating installation was conducted during October and at the beginning of the colder season, future counts in warmer months will provide a clearer understanding of the installation impacts.
- The Globe Cinema – where the seating has been installed – is a major cluster of standing activity.
  - Given the clustering of people standing in front of Aura Calgary, that area might be another prime location for additional seating installations.
- Compared to other parts of Stephen Ave, this block sees notable activity in the evening thanks to its cultural amenities.
  - During the August pre-installation count, 20% of recorded individuals were on the street during the 8pm count. This number increases to 52% during the September pre-installation count and 78% during the October post installation count.



People recorded standing during August, September, and October counts, indicating that the right of way in front of Aura Calgary might also benefit from additional seating. Urban furniture installation area is marked in red.



Photos of the Urban Seating installed in front of the Globe Cinema.

Project 3: Black Youth Leadership Workshop (Design Clinic)

# An inclusive avenue that recognizes all voices Transformative Racial and Spatial Justice: Black Youth Leadership Workshop

**Project Leads**

Dr. Patrina Duhaney and Joshua M Taron

**Project Description**

Informed by the concept of spatial justice and design justice, we aim to create and co-design workshops and activities to help foster equitable access and use of public spaces for Black youth and Black communities on Stephen Avenue.

**Key Questions**

- How can awareness be built around anti-Black racism and other social issues that impact Black communities?
- How can Black individuals be supported through more inclusive spaces that help build/increase their capacity and foster their physical, mental, and social well-being?
- How can opportunities be created to further mobilize to bring about social and racial justice?

**Strategic Moves**



**Triple Bottom Line**



**Area**

The Village / The Core / The Commons  
Stephen Ave @ 1st St SW





# **Transformative Racial and Spatial Justice: Celebrating Black People's Knowledges and Contributions**

Youth Leadership Program  
Presentation and Graduation Ceremony

August 26, 2022





# Overview

- **Welcome**
- **Land Acknowledgement**
- **Purpose of the Project**
- **Structure and Objectives of the Workshop**
- **Workshop**
- **Next Steps**
- **Call to Action**
- **Graduation ceremony**

# Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

# RESEARCH AND PROGRAM LEADERS



**Peace Aladesemipe**  
Bachelor of Social Work



**Victory Abraham**  
Law and Society



**Pragma Salhan**  
Master of Architecture



**Shreya Wilson**  
Master of Architecture



**Gen Haveria**  
Bachelor of Fine Arts



**Victoria**  
Master of Social Work



**Josh Bateman**  
Master of Planning

# RESEARCHERS

Dr. Patrina Duhaney (FSW)

Dr. Liza Lorenzetti (FSW)

Dr. Jennifer Hewson (FSW)

Professor Joshua Taron (SAPL)

Professor Alberto de Salvatierra (SAPL)

# Project: Future of Stephen Avenue

## How can Urban Alliance enact change on Stephen Avenue?

In Fall 2020, *The Future of Stephen Avenue Public Realm Study* was finalized. Out of that plan, a roadmap for short, medium and long-term actions was developed. Many of these actions are well-suited for Urban Alliance.

### Opportunity highlights:

- There is an immediate need to enact PHYSICAL + SOCIOECONOMIC CHANGE to the avenue through design, engineering, programming + operations prototypes.
- There is a strong desire to continue to STUDY + MEASURE the avenue to better understand a variety of key performance indicators and metrics.
- The Public Realm Study has identified several KNOWLEDGE GAPS that require additional research that span numerous disciplines.

# Program Summary

The Future of Stephen Avenue project provides a foundation for The City to collaborate with stakeholders to consider and implement strategic improvements – whether near, medium or longer term – that will reposition Stephen Avenue, and ensure its future as Calgary’s hallmark downtown main street.



# City Objectives

*The Future of Stephen Avenue project aim to:*

- Extend the energy and liveliness of the pedestrian mall westward along 8 Avenue S.W.
- Establish a new vision for Stephen Avenue that creates opportunities for private investment and redevelopment.
- Create short and long-term strategies that can be implemented over time to make Stephen Avenue better for Calgarians and visitors.



# University Objectives

- Provide real-world academic research opportunities for faculty and students in a wide variety of disciplines.
- Align the University's research focus on city-building with the City of Calgary and Calgary's most iconic street.
- Test ideas and enact design changes that align with the Public Realm Study and its Strategic Moves.
- Investigate solutions for medium and long-term strategies identified in the Public Realm Study.





# Design Clinic Idea/FoSA



# FSW + SAPL COLLABORATION

# Purpose of Project

Informed by the concept of spatial justice and design justice, we aim to create and co-design workshops and activities to help foster equitable access and use of public spaces for Black youth and Black communities on Stephen Avenue.

# OBJECTIVES

- Build awareness around anti-Black racism and other social issues that impact Black communities
- Establish and nurture positive relationships with Black youth and Black communities
- Foster positive relationships with community partners in and around Calgary
- Support Black individuals by creating more inclusive spaces that help build/increase their capacity and foster their physical, mental, and social well-being.
- Create opportunities to further mobilize to bring about social and racial justice.

# Structure of Workshop

**Module 1:** Honoring Black History and Knowledges

**Module 2:** Celebrating Black contributions and excellence through poetry, dance, art and/or music

**Module 3:** Identifying emerging social issues in Black communities/Building Capacity and Leadership Skills

**Module 4:** Advocating for Change

**Module 5:** Presentations/Wrap-up

# MOTTO



**LEARN**

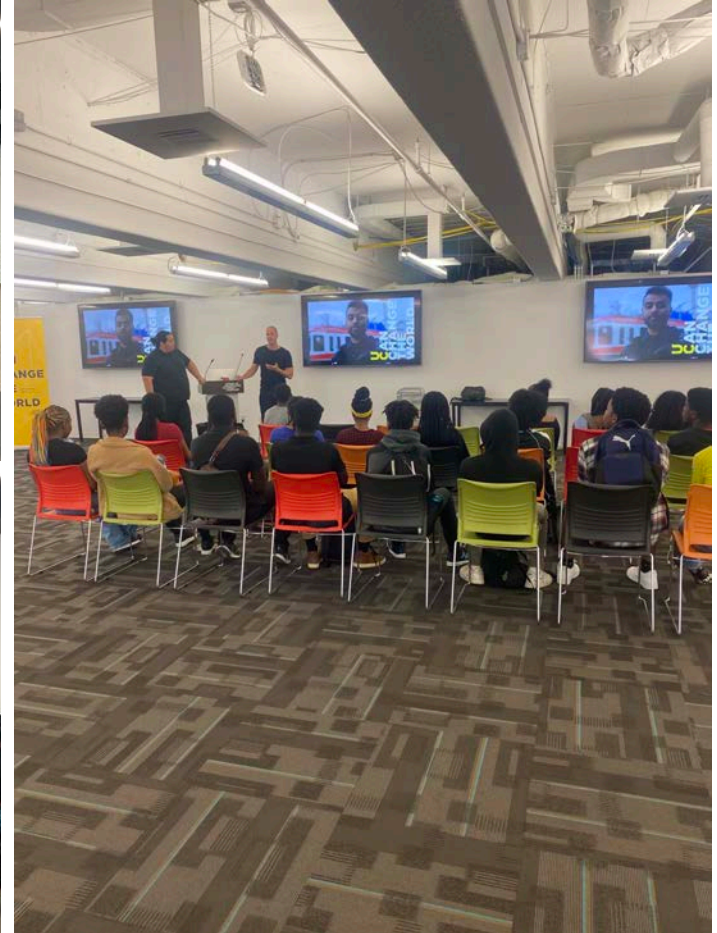


**GROW**



**INSPIRE**

# OUR PROCESS (LEARN)

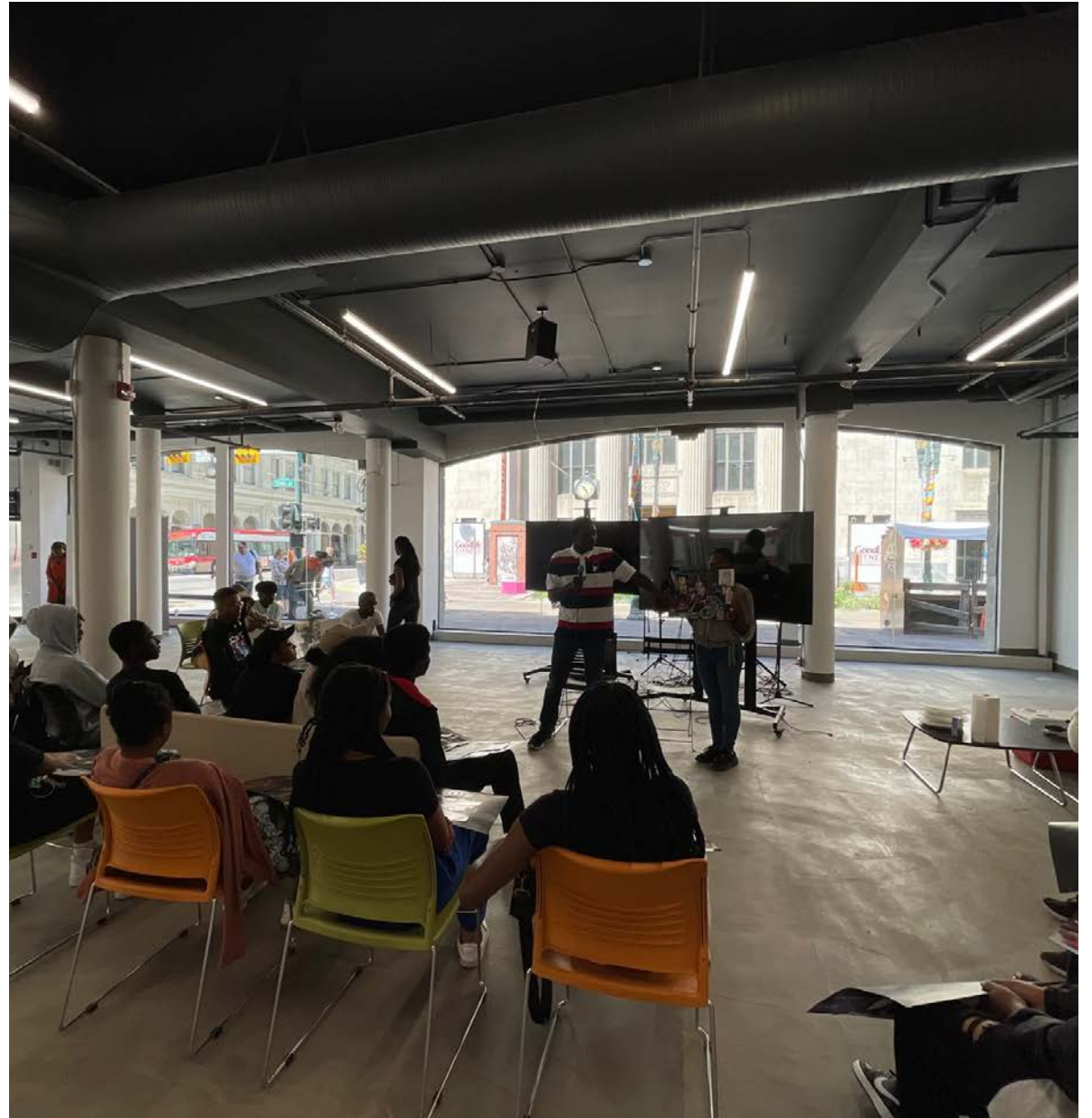






INSPIRE

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# Project Planning

- General why? – Need assessment
- What is the project? What is the idea?
- Who is the audience? – Target group
- Who is involved to make it happen?
- When (start date, frequency of public events, frequency of planning mtgs, date of inaugural event)
- Why are we doing this idea? What's the point or purpose? (check-in)
- Where would this happen?
- How can it get done? What needs to get done as first and next steps?

# The Need for a Black Youth Leadership Workshop

Provides empowerment to Black youth to work towards change for the future

Gives us voices and opportunities to be heard

Unites us

Provides a sense of community

Connect with like-minded youths

Provides safe space to share thoughts and ideas

Encourage youth to be positive role models for other youth

Create building block to bring about change

Educates youth on Black people's experiences

Spurs critical conversations and engagement

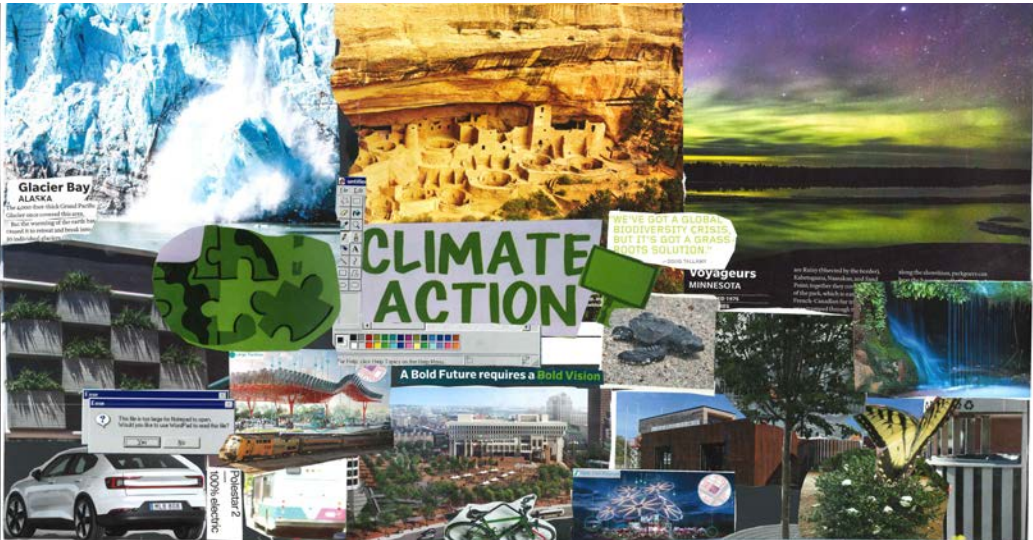
Build/increase Black youth's confidence

## What problem are we trying to address?

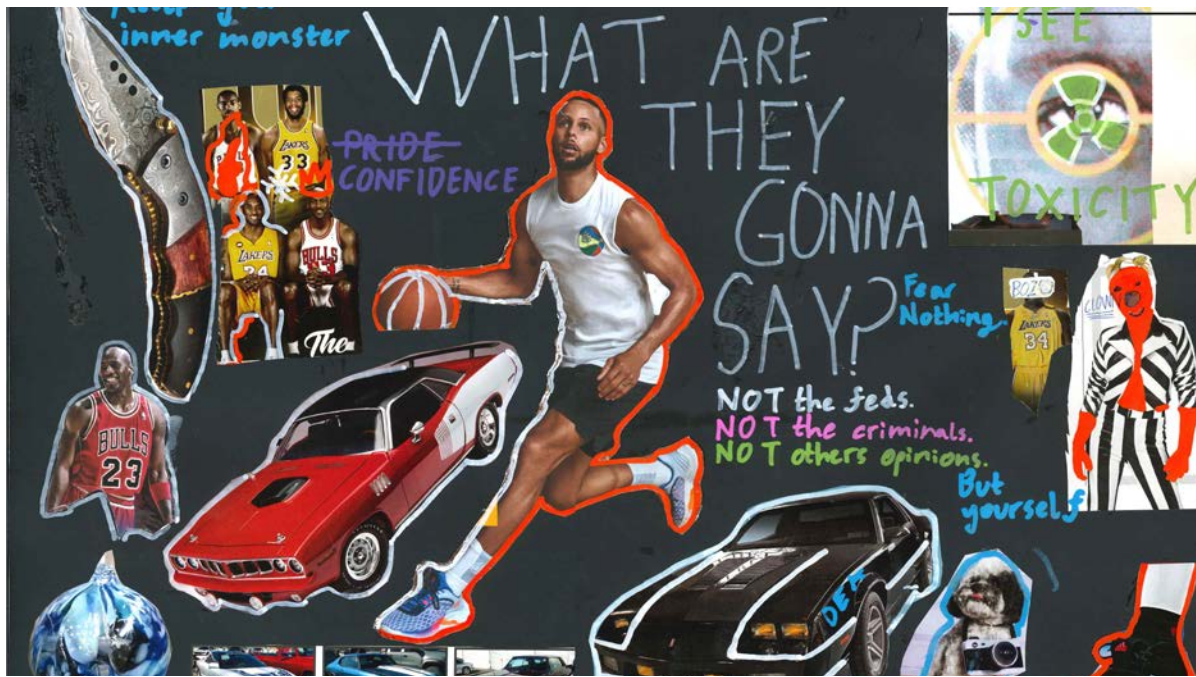
- Lack of representation and inclusivity
- Education, genre of music, leadership positions, business owners, SES
- Stephen Ave. connection- lacking leadership positions around the area
- Connected also to education
- Misrepresentation
- Negative stereotypes of Black people
- Marginalized
- Not always credited
- Dismissal of Black people's experiences, issues, and histories
- Lack of access and resources
- Black joy/self- security within ourselves is what we're improving
- Black mental health and well-being
- Offer diverse perspectives of Black people's experiences

# Project Planning Need Assessment

# Youth's Design Output





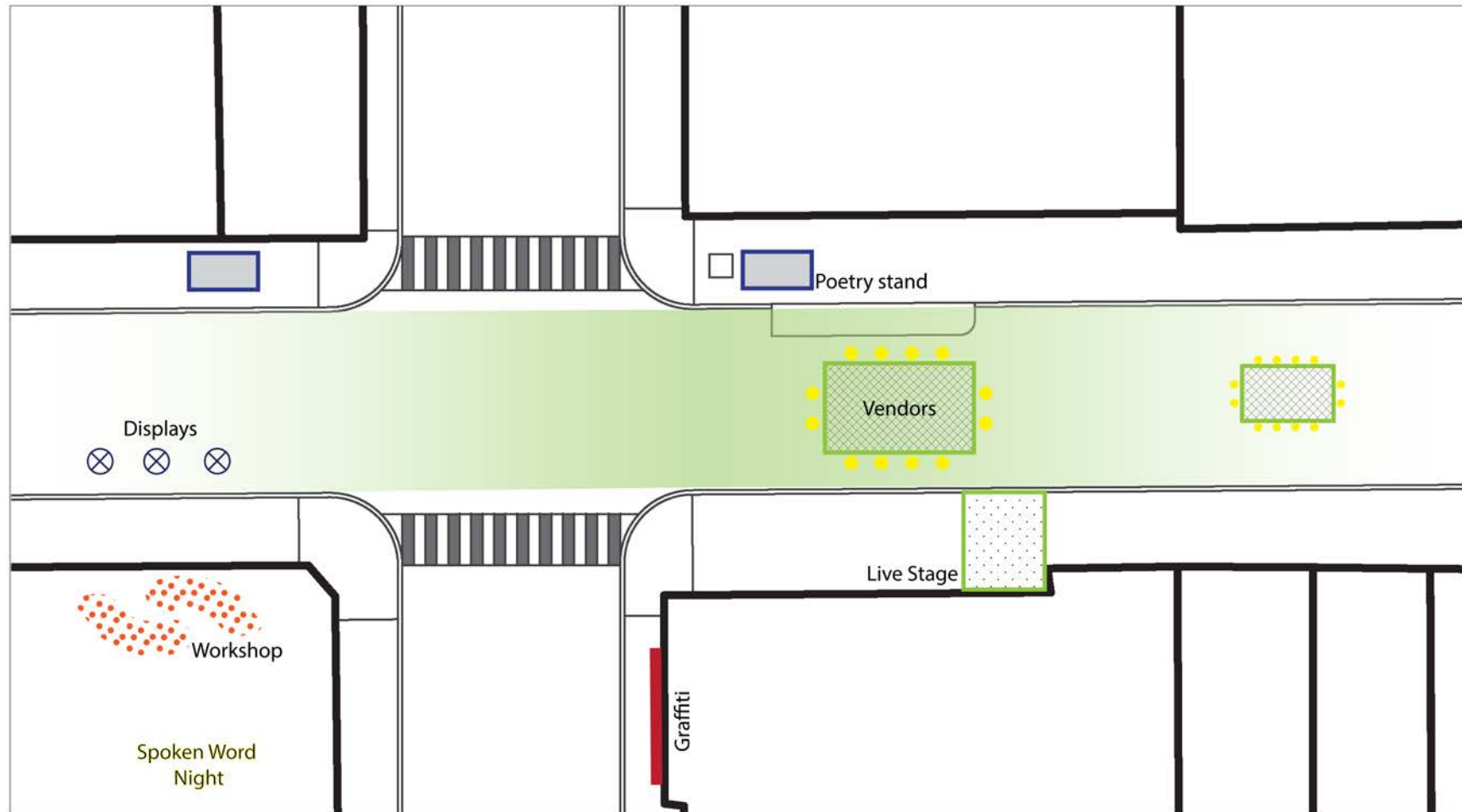


# SPATIAL JUSTICE: ELEVATING BLACK LEADERS OF TOMORROW

- A manifesto/ website
- Present ideas to different organizations
- Organize one event which includes Black individuals, Black performances and Black vendors + Scale up
- Dance and Art
- The goal is to "Take up Space".



# SPOKEN WORD GROUP



- Lack of creativity to showcase black youth
- Empty spaces
- Lack of representation

- Lack of vibrancy at places
- Lack of stories

- Poetry wall and stands
- Public displays
- Graffiti poem painted

- Spoken word workshop
- Funding from workshop distributed to homeless population

- Randomised game where they make poem from certain words
- vacant area poetry/ spoken word night

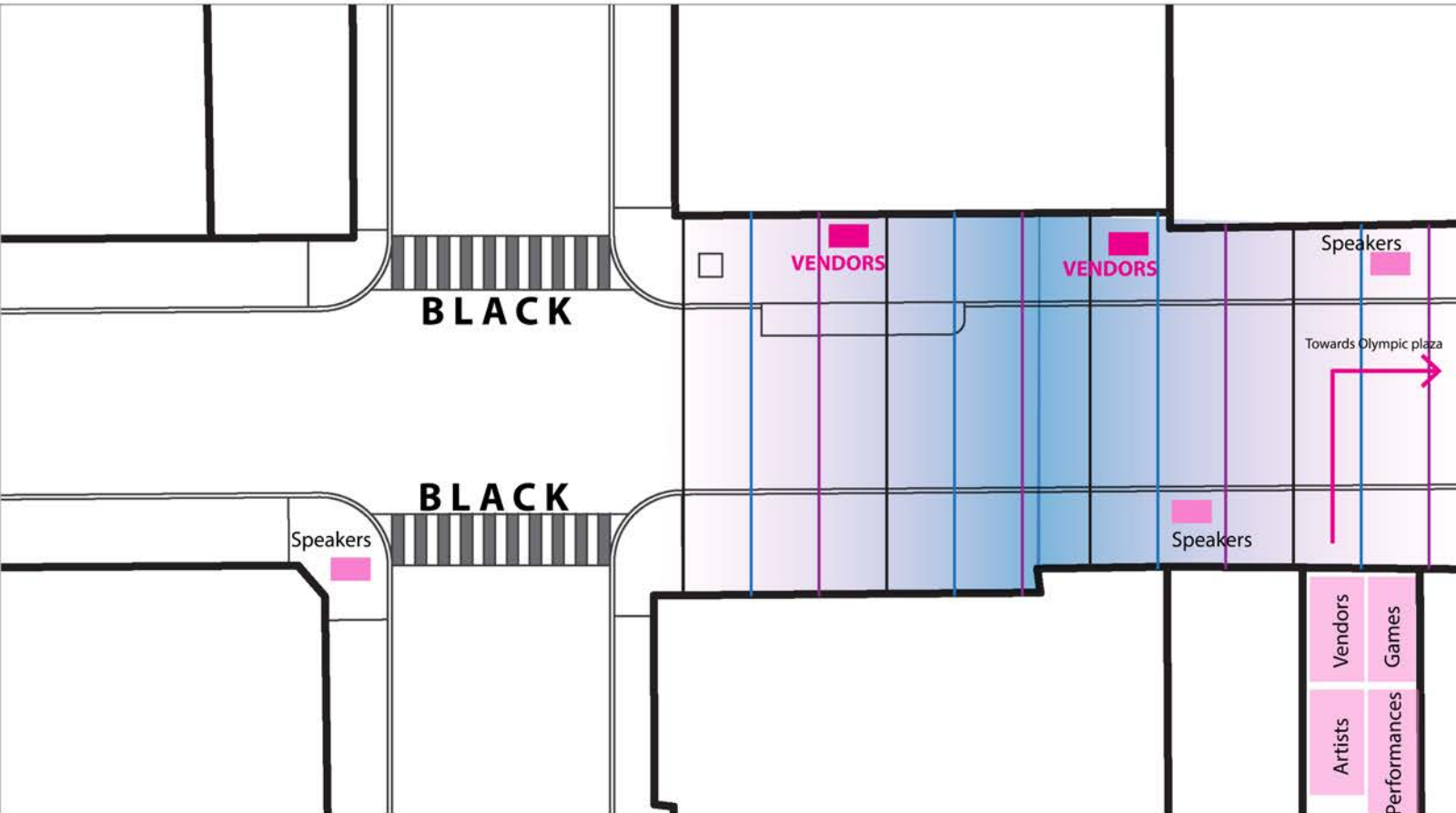
- Drop-in center for public safety and providing resources
- Create opportunities

- Lack of representation
- Lack of Community
- Not enough seating

Calgary a city of Words  
 Word of the day- create art of that and make a poem collage "365 days" of spoken word to generate funding for black businesses.

- Live Stage
- Diversity Summer-vendors- food and drinks.

# MUSIC GROUP



NEW	UPBEAT	ENGAGING
YOUNG	PEACE	BLACK
MIXED CULTURES	JOYFUL	DIVERSITY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black Artists</li> <li>• African/ black wear</li> <li>• Spoken word</li> <li>• Dance</li> <li>• Artistic element</li> </ul>	YOUTHFUL	EMPOWERMENT

- Events
- central performance area on Steph. Ave

- Consistency
- area around steph ave

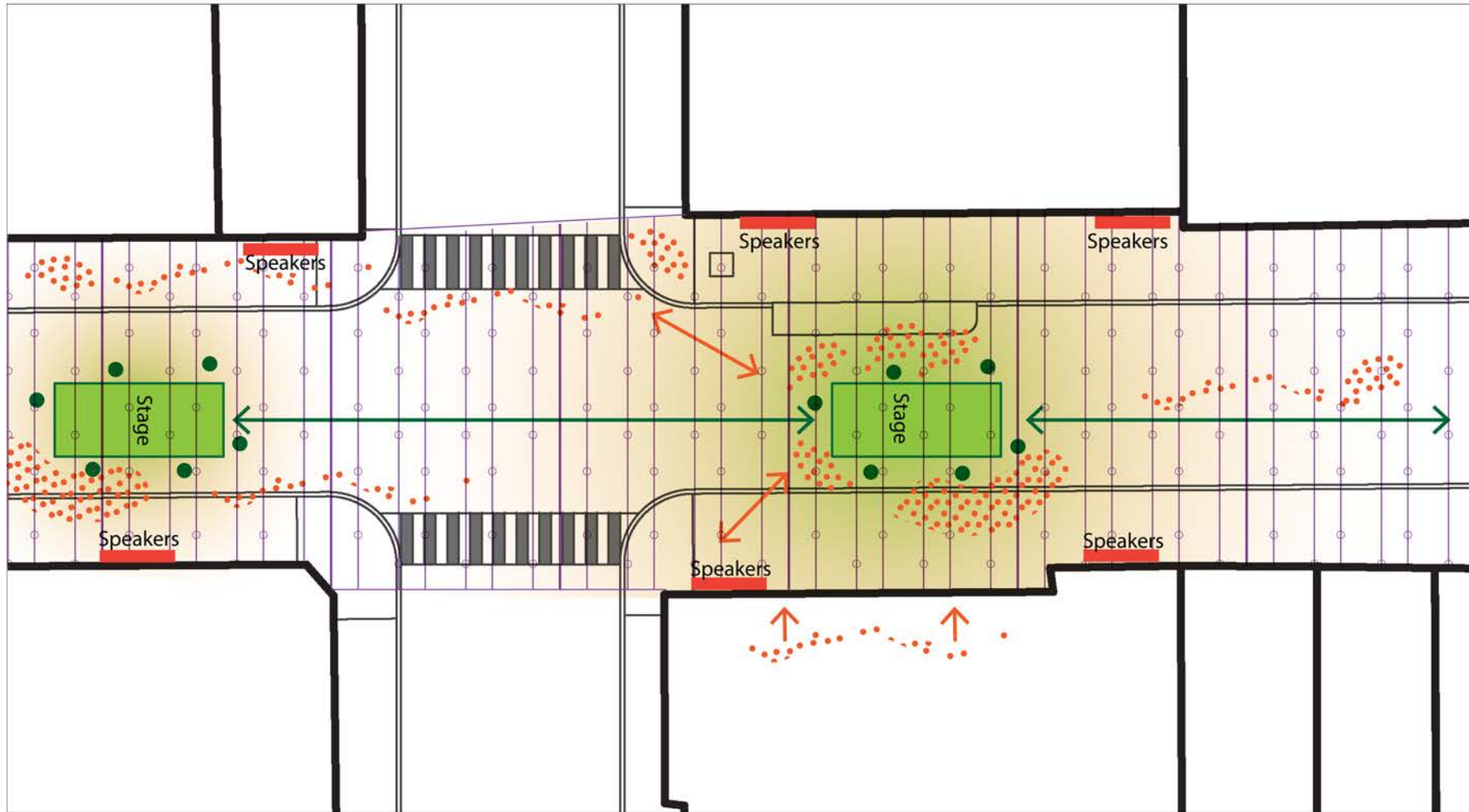
- Attractions
- how to get black people to be intrested in the event first (i.e. Black Fest)

- More black ownership
- black restaurants
- Cultural music

- Black/African
- Indigenous
- Music
- Culture

- Lack of inclusivity
- more black representation

# DANCE GROUP



## 1. Most important conditions on site

- Having police on standby for people who misbehave
- crowd control

- Volunteers to prevent random from trying to disrupt the activity
- tent, incase it rains

- Seating if people get tired and want to site down
- tent, incase it rains
- food if people get hungry they can eat while enjoying the performance

## 2. Desired culture/ specific themes

- Beating
- Afro
- Hip hop
- Spanish
- Rap
- Music that everyone can relate too
- (except country music and rock)

## 3. Desired qualities that the performance would express

- welcoming
- creative
- breaking
- popping
- contemporary
- lively

### SITE OBSERVATION

- Taking photos
- Welcoming (music playing)

### TOPICS

- Music History
- story telling
- culture clothing
- dance circles
- upbeat making people participate

### WAYS TO ORGANISE SPACE

- In the center so people stop and join
- people coming either way can see and participate
- Have seating when people get tired

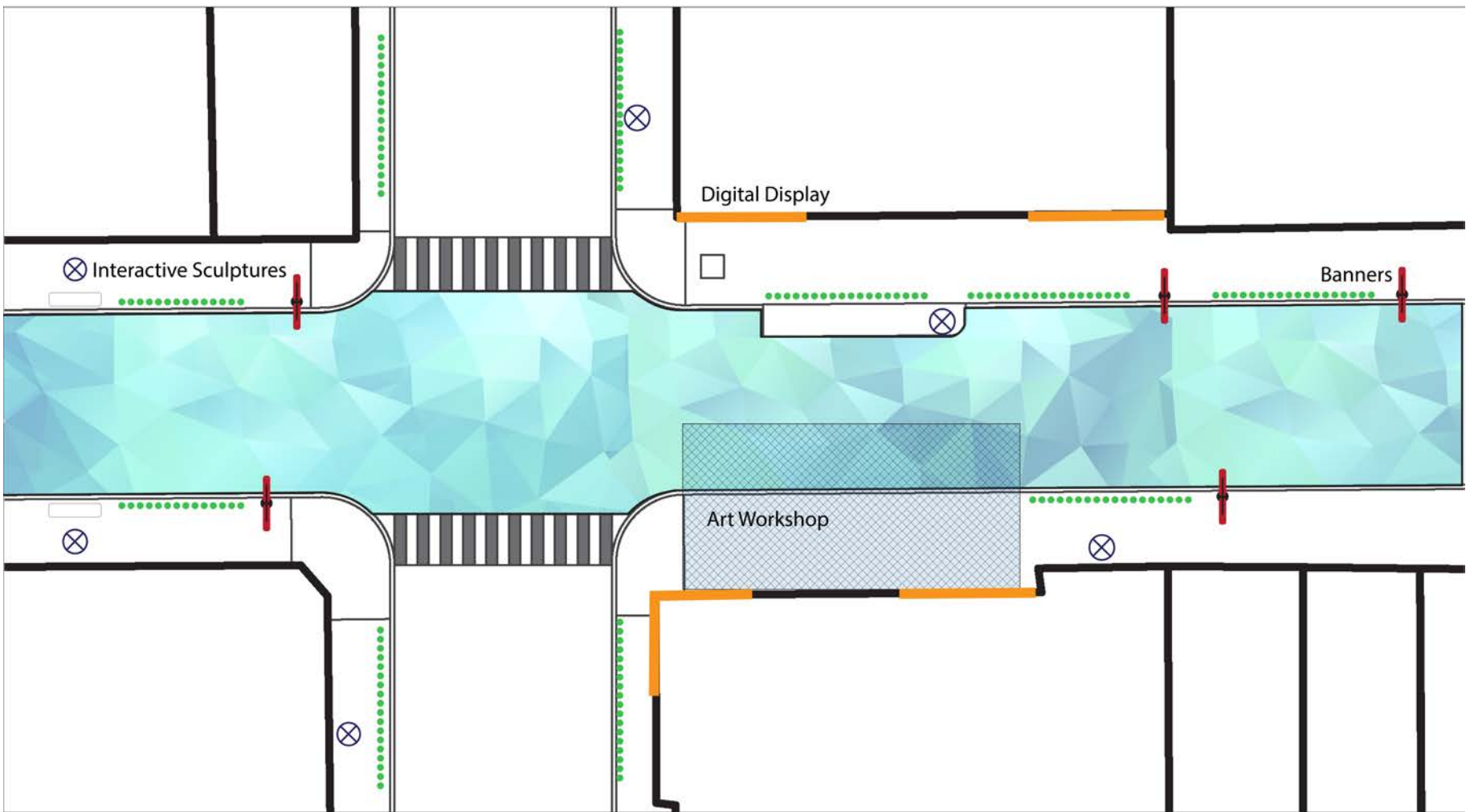
### FURNITURE PROPS

- Props (drums, etc)
- Drum sticks
- Night time bright light
- Have screen that displays just dance that way it attracts children

- Inclusivity
- Happiness
- Community
- Liveliness

- Vibrant
- Hip hop
- west african music
- upbeat
- Desi music
- Contemporary

# VISUAL ARTS GROUP



## 1. Most important site conditions to respond to

- Empty spaces
- Lack of culture-specific entertainment
- Lack of inclusivity

- Lack of seating and small gathering public spaces
- Unwelcoming building facades

- Lack of vibrancy at places
- Lack of day/night round activities
- Lack of representation

## 2. Desired culture/specific themes

- Artwork from black artists representing their culture
- On pathways
- digital displays on building facades and windows

## 3. Desired qualities that the performance would express

- Welcoming
- Inclusive
- Active
- Inviting

- Open spaces for art workshop on Stephen Ave to invite black individuals
- Culture specific interactive sculptures to display culture

- Representative
- Culture sensitive
- Community engagement

- Lively
- Vibrant
- Attracting crowd

- Providing voice and space
- Sensitive
- Youthful



### Who is the audience? – Target group

- Everyone (all age group, newcomers, etc.)
- Black youths
  - Chain reaction from friend groups
  - Through social media

### What are you aiming to communicate to them?

- The idea of learning about black social topics, , history, stereotypes and our ability to make change
- Youths can make change as we have bright ideas
- The happiness and joy that comes with being Black.
- Challenging and expressing the complexities of Blackness and the layers of Blackness
  - *We are deserving of the spaces we take up*

Who and what needs to be involved to make it happen?



**MANIFESTO & WEBSITE**

Nov '22



Creating a team responsible for curating, scheduling and market the event.

**CURATING A COMMITTEE**

Jan '23



Creating a team responsible for curating, scheduling and market the event.

**CONTACTING/ COLLABORATING WITH COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

Jan-Feb '23



Creating a team responsible for curating, scheduling and market the event.

**PLANNING THE EVENT/ ACQUIRING VENUE**

Planning the events, types of performances, venue and itinerary



**FUNDING**

Jan- March '23



Seeking funding, donations, grants and partner with organizations that bring inclusivity and liveliness to the project

**CONTACTING PERFORMERS/ VOLUNTEERS AND BUSINESSES**

Reach out to artists, businesses, vendors and volunteers and confirm attendance



**ACQUIRING PERMITS**

April '23



Acquiring permits and permissions from concerned authorities for venue, time and schedules.

**SCHEDULING EVENT**

May '23



Creating the itinerary based on final attendees and participants, and booking furniture and equipment for event set-up

**MARKETING: SOCIAL MEDIA**

May '23



Advertising and marketing the event through social media and print media

**Project Planning**





Where could/should this happen?









Engage with us. Support us.

Give us the space and platform to grow. To be.

To amaze the World with our skills talent's ideas and inspiration. We know who we are, and we know what we can do. Stand with us!

## Call to Action

# Performance



INTERMISSION  
10 mins

---



# GRADUATION CEREMONY

***Fashionable  
&  
Supportive***

**Lorecia  
Acheampong**





***Thoughtful  
&  
Engaging***

**Temí Ajayi**



***Vibrant  
&  
Energetic***

**Tise Ajayi**



***Lively  
&  
Active***

**Fawaz  
Ayinla**



***Generous  
&  
Caring***

**Kareema  
Ayinla**



***Meek  
&  
Soft-Spoken***

**Diana Chizoba**



R  
S

***Evaluative  
&  
Attentive***

**Kalkidan  
Debele**



***Friendly  
&  
Kind***

**Selam  
Demelash**



***Gentle  
&  
Humble***

**Angelo  
Fahnbulleh**





***Stylish  
&  
Respectful***

**Dior  
Kayinamura**



***Persistent  
&  
Tenacious***

**Melat  
Ghebreha**



***Versatile  
&  
Witty***

**Ka-shadi  
Graham**



***Passionate  
&  
Committed***

**Sami  
Ibrahim**



***Caring  
&  
Humorous***

**Terrence  
Ofodile**



***Insightful  
&  
Focused***

**David Oni**



***Confident  
&  
Positive***

**Stephanie  
Omorotionmwan**



***Knowledgeable  
&  
Inquisitive***

**Abdurahman  
Omotunde**





***Composed  
&  
Flexible***

**Abdurazaq  
Omotunde**



***Outspoken  
&  
Intuitive***

**Adauche  
Opene**



***Inclusive  
&  
Genuine***

**Ese  
Otomewo**



Good Natured  
&  
Collected

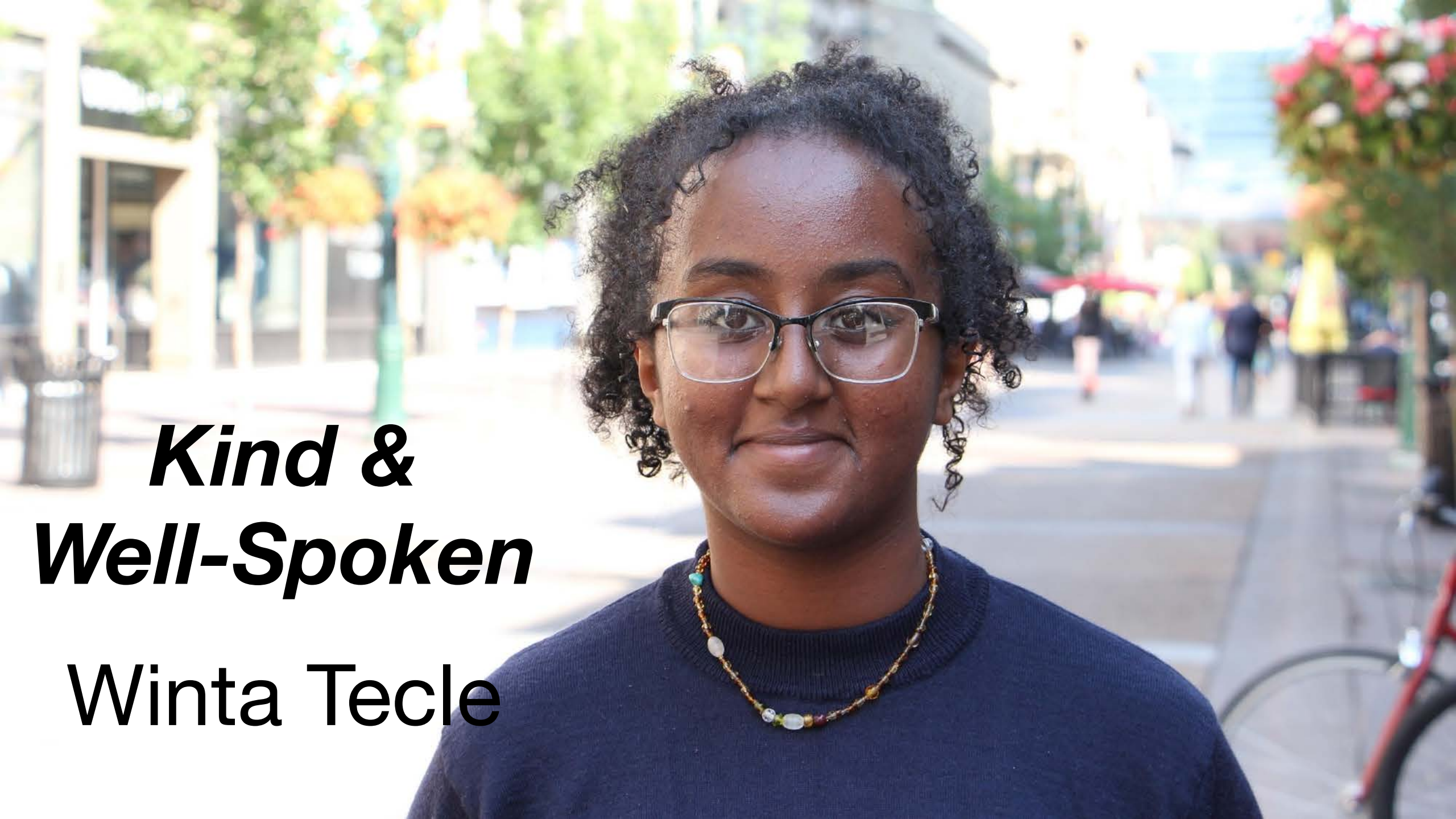
Uthman Sadiq



***Warm  
&  
Observant***



**Milka Tecele**



***Kind &  
Well-Spoken***

**Winta Tecele**

Amusing  
&  
Embracive

Najim  
Oritola



# CLOSING REMARKS

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THANK YOU FOR  
ATTENDING!

## Project 4: Solar Bench

An innovative avenue with flexible furniture

# Solar Thermal Outdoor Furniture

### Project Leads

Trina Listanco and Roes Arief Budiman

### Project Description

Solar Thermal Outdoor Furniture Project is a green technology innovation series that involves prototyping and developing solar thermal micro infrastructure solutions that will address heating challenges of “placemaking” in outdoor public/ private spaces year-round along Stephen Avenue.

### Key Questions

- How can sustainable energy sources be used to improve the usability and quality of Steohen Avenue year round?

- How can Solar Thermal Outdoor Furniture enhance existing safety and security strategies in public spaces?

### Strategic Moves



**1**  
Branding the Avenue



**2**  
Connecting the Avenue



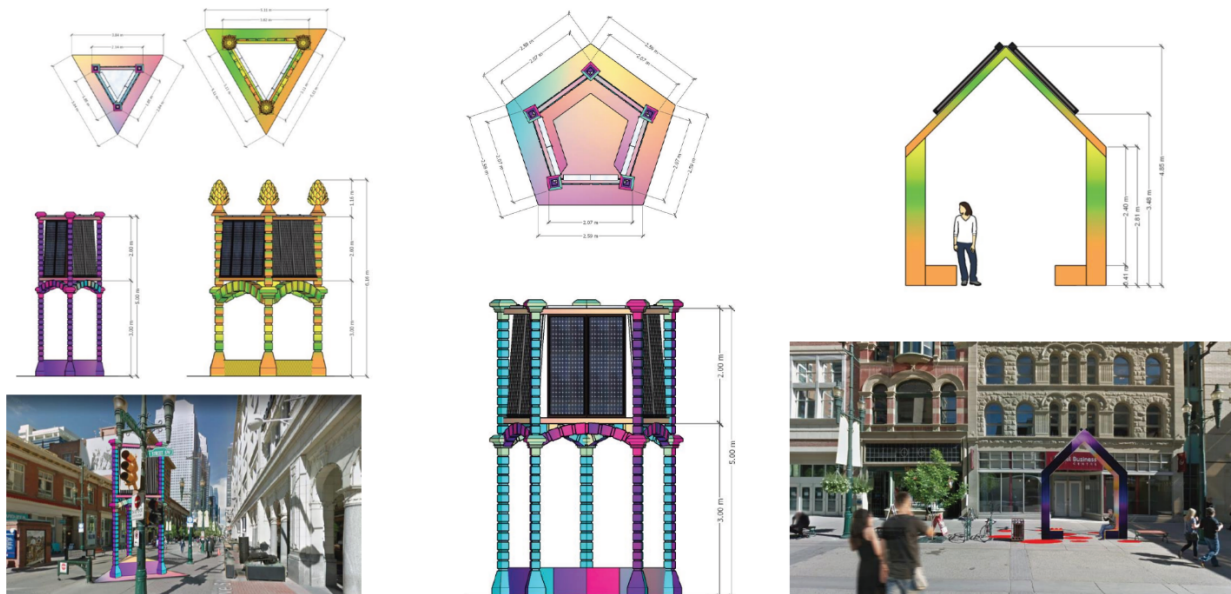
**3**  
Activating the Avenue

### Triple Bottom Line



### Area

The Village / **The Core** / The Commons  
[No site was secured]



The  
**Future of Stephen Avenue**

with

**Solar Thermal Furniture  
/ Infrastructure**

Report by:

Trina Go Listanco MSc RMT x Roes Arief Budiman PhD

Design Team:

Lealyn San Juan MArch

Lilian Huang Wang MArch

S.P.A. AQUA PRIMA

Benjamin Zinkan

Cody Lassiter

Kyle Li

Matthew Henderson

SCHULICH SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING





S.P.A.  
**Aq<sup>1</sup>**  
AQUA PRIMA

## The HEATING RATIONALE:

*“In both our individual lives and our human evolutionary history, the physical sensation of **warmth** has been associated with security, trust, and an absence of threat...”*

– David Linden PhD, *“Touch, The Science of Hand, Heart, and Mind”*

## FOSA Strategic Moves Alignment

### #1 BRANDING

SOTOFI can contribute to safety year-round, making Stephen Avenue an all-season destination

### # ACTIVATING

SOTOFI can provide heating for winter outdoor events or for extended “patio season”

### #OPENING + CONNECTING

SOTOFI transitional space connecting the indoors with the outdoors through heat corridors

## Warmth and Placemaking

The experience of physical warmth generates a physiological response primarily through the dilation of blood vessels and the resulting increase in blood circulation i.e. to the distal parts of the body / limbs. This response is associated with autonomic neurological activation of the parasympathetic system: a sense of safety, care, and recovery.

Our sense of touch is one of the main generators of emotions and perceptions. Thus, our collective experiences through “touch” or “warmth” provide an opportunity for creating strong social bonds and community cohesion.

SOTOFI serves as an urban design intervention to promote “feelings” of safety and belongingness in public spaces or in learning institutions. By optimizing light energy and collecting heat from the sun, SOTOFI aims to be a literal and metaphorical “touchstone” for inclusive urbanism and a caring and healthy built environment through the sensory input of warmth.

Along with other urban design initiatives and placemaking processes, SOTOF reinforces a culture of cooperation, collectiveness, and social justice in the public realm.

## STEPHEN AVENUE SOLAR HEATING PROFILE

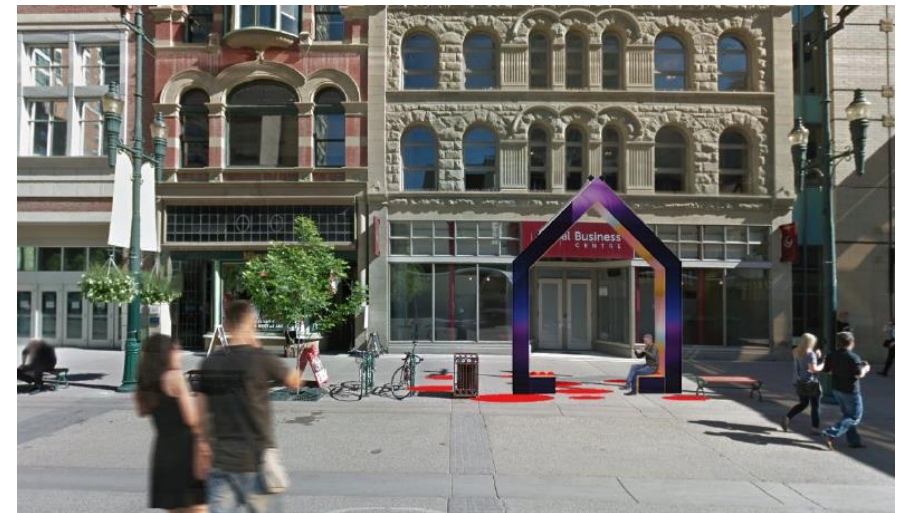
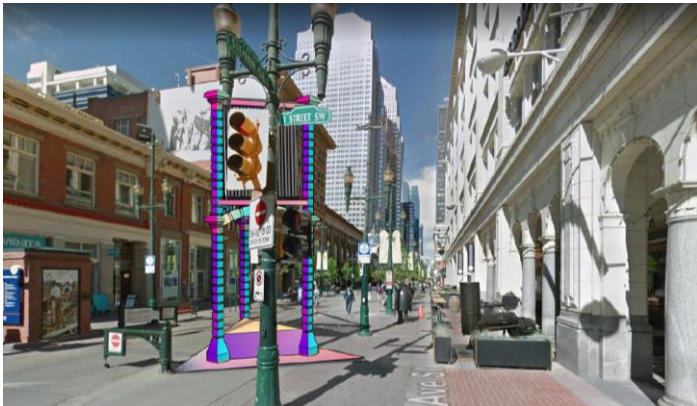
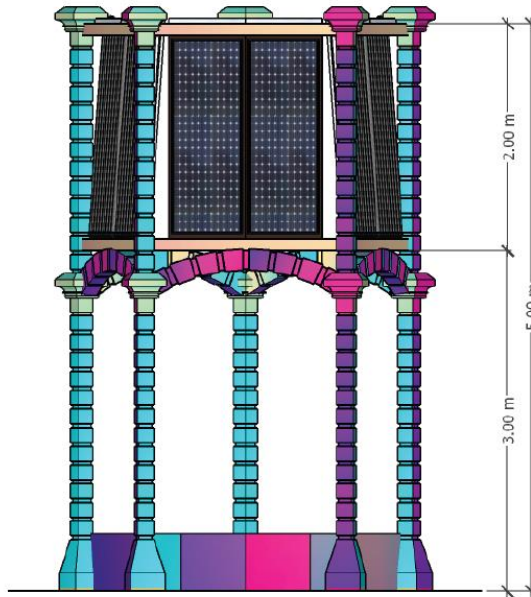
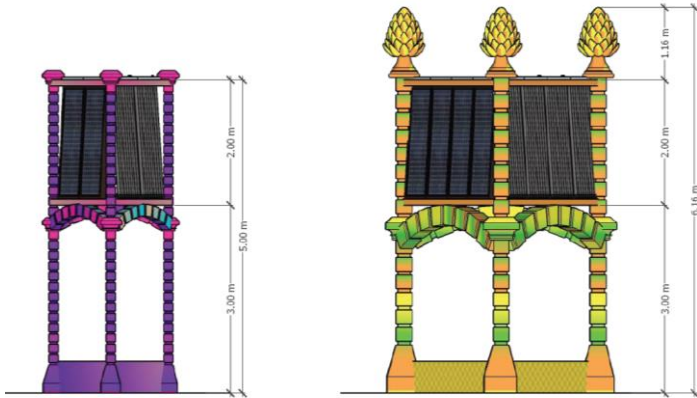
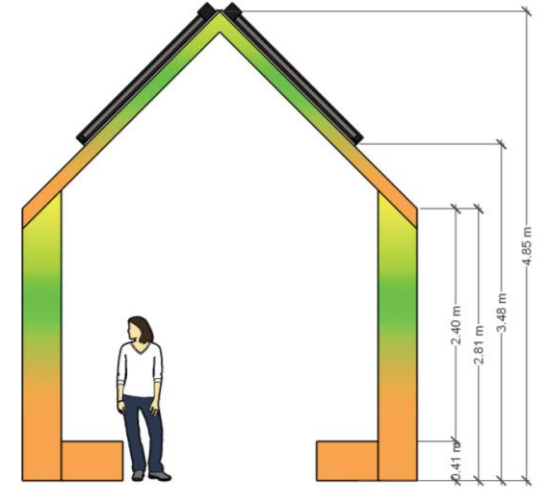
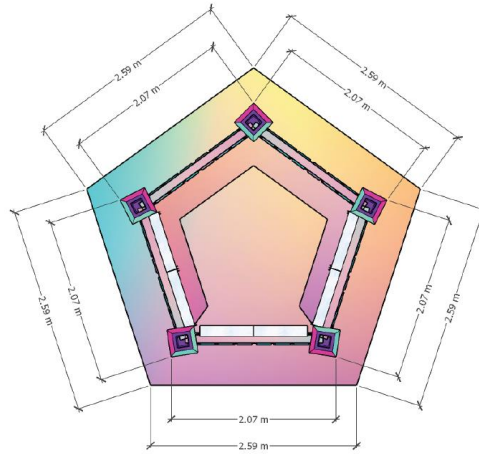
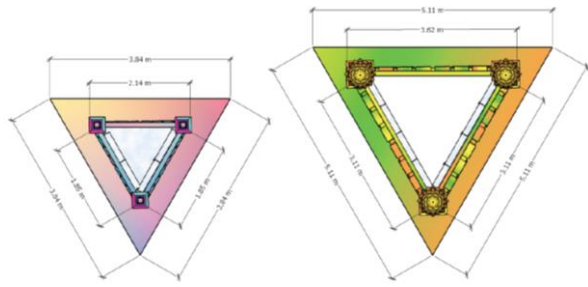
*Annual Potential Solar Gain = N watts = N BTU*  
*Total number of daylight hours =*

## SOLAR THERMAL SYSTEM OVERVIEW

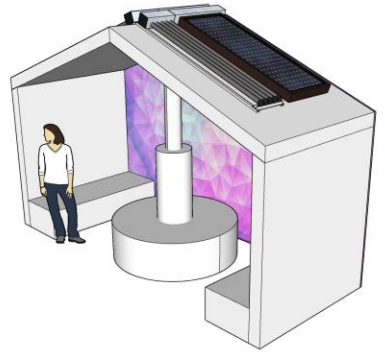
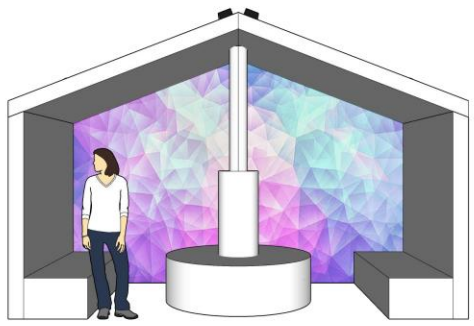
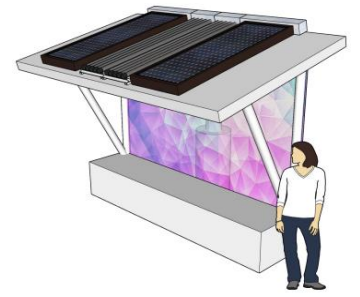
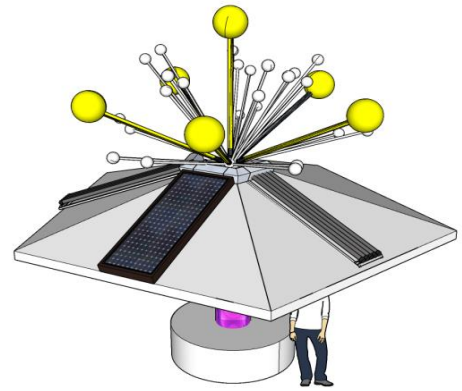
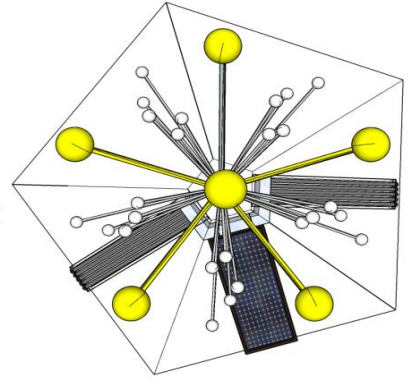
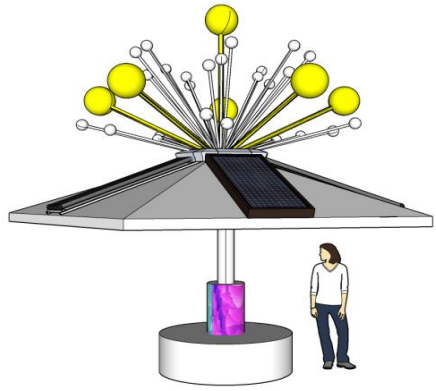
*Solar Collector > Heat Transfer (x mechanical pump) > Storage > Heat Exchanger = warmth 24/7*



# VARIATIONS: Gazebos or Arches with Seating



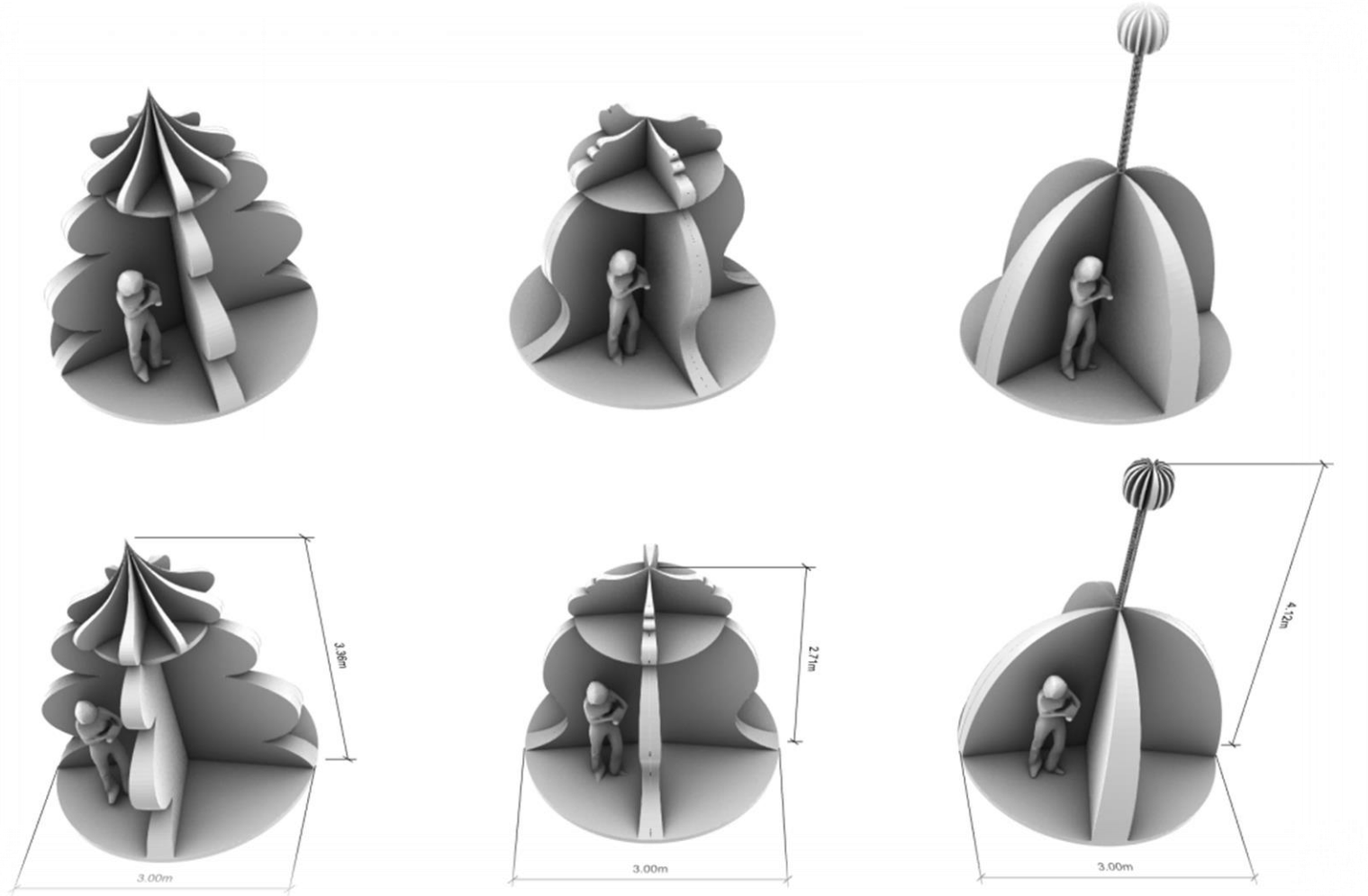
# VARIATIONS: Sheds and Transit Stops



VARIATIONS: Tea Huts and Kiosks



# VARIATIONS: Sculptural Wind Shelters

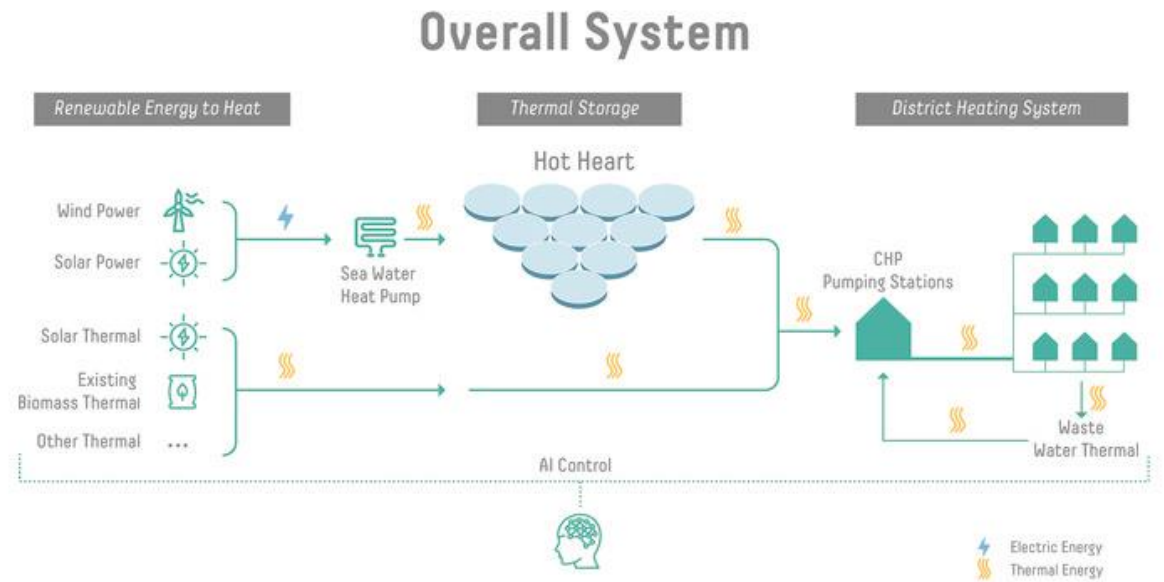


## VARIATION: Hyperlocal Objects



Heated canopies and chandeliers + floor/ pavement accents + street décor + warming pits + portable/ rechargeable hand warmers etc.

# VARIATION: District Solar Heating Solution

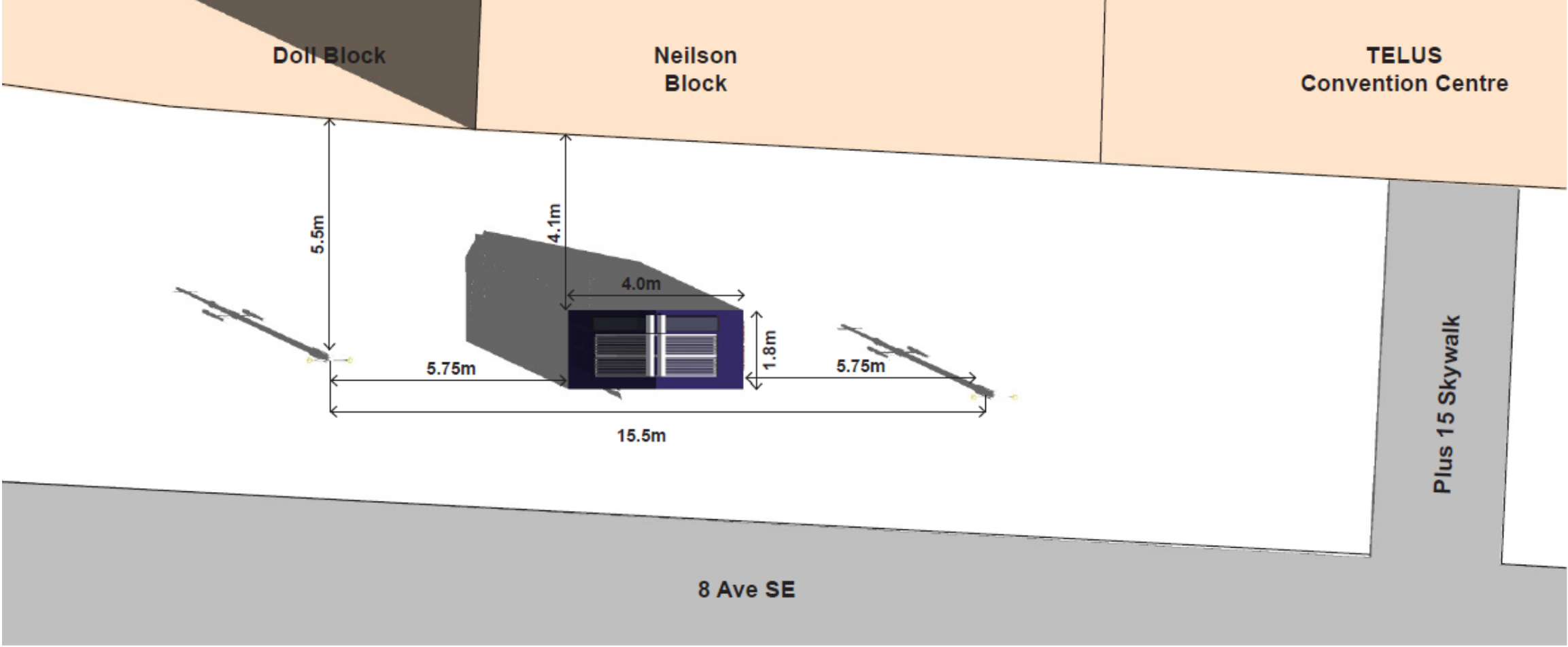


“Hot Heart” x Carlo Ratti for Helsinki

## MULTI CRITERIA SITE EVALUATION

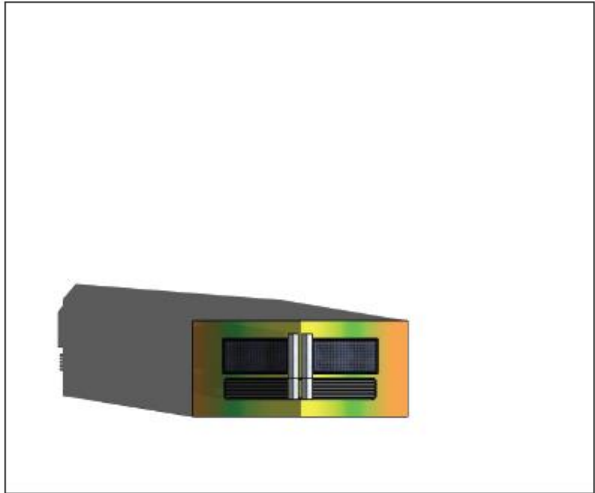
Site #	Pedestrian Mall	Sun exposure	Potential User Visit Summer	Potential User Visit Winter	Supporting Installations	Concrete Pad	Likely Owner Agreement	Sum Score
1	Near Kanata facing CDA concert stage (City Owned)	3	5	4	4	0	1	17
2	ATB Hudsons Block NW corner of intersection	4	4	4	3	1		16
3	Winners / Stephen Ave Centre	3	4	4	4	0		15
4	Near Dollarama 228 8th Ave SW (Safety Hub)	4	4	4	4	0	1	17
	<b>Non Ped Mall</b>							
5	Temporary Bus stop across Univ Calgary Downtown	4	4	3	3	1		15
6	8Ave + 9th St SW	4	3	3	3	1		14
7	Holiday Inn Front	4	3	3	3	1		14
8	Westmount Place Seniors Home (?) Front	4	3	2	4	1		14
9	Rumble Art House Front	3	4	4	4	1		16
	Score Range							
	1 - 5; 5 Ideal							

# SOLAR BENCH SITE PLACEMENT

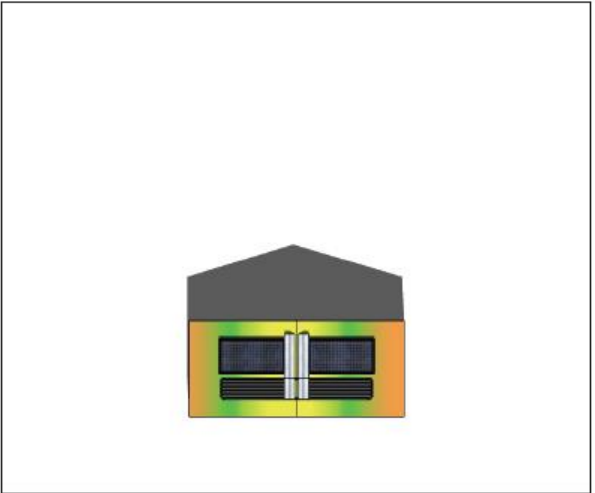




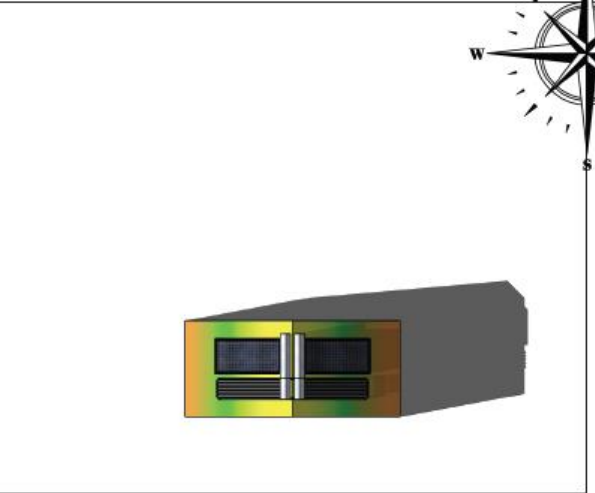
# SHADOW STUDY SOLAR BENCH



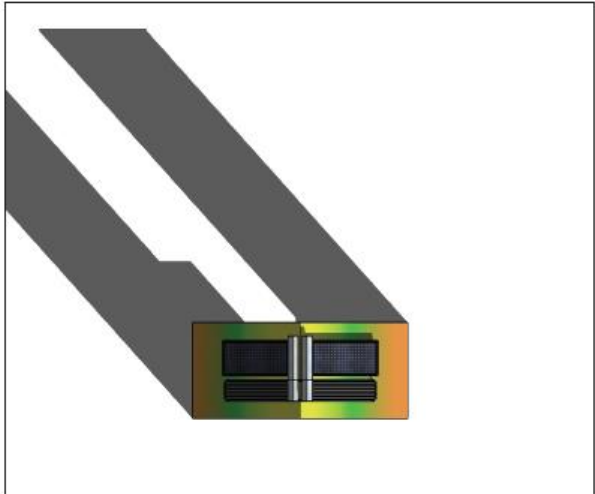
Summer Solstice: June 21st at 9am



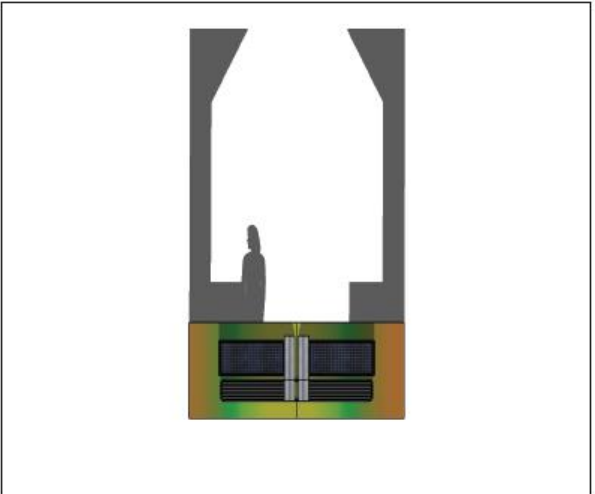
Summer Solstice: June 21st at 12pm



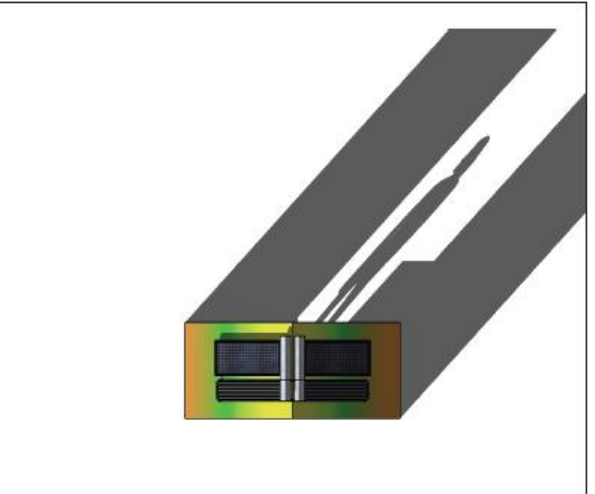
Summer Solstice: June 21st at 3pm



Winter Solstice: December 21 at 9am



Winter Solstice: December 21 at 12pm



Winter Solstice: December 21 at 3pm

# SHADOW STUDY FOR SITE INSTALLATION



Summer Solstice: June 21st at 9am



Summer Solstice: June 21st at 12pm



Summer Solstice: June 21st at 3pm



Winter Solstice: December 21 at 9am



Winter Solstice: December 21 at 12pm



Winter Solstice: December 21 at 3pm

## SUMMARY OF BENEFITS

### TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION:

The SOTOF Pilot is a first of its kind off grid solar thermal application and is meant to be a series of systems innovation for small scale or large scale space heating.

### RESEARCH COLLABORATION:

The SOTOF Pilot celebrates collaborations and research across various disciplines of study i.e. design + engineering + architecture + neuro + psychology etc. The project invites pioneering research partners and experiment that could contribute to the branding and marketing strategy of site partners.

### OFF GRID AMENITY:

The SOTOF Pilot provides a custom outdoor amenity for various users i.e. transit riders, tourists, students etc.

### ALL SEASON ACTIVATION OPPORTUNITY:

The SOTOF Pilot is a year-round opportunity for programming e.g. exhibitions and displays, curated events or performances etc.

### BRANDING & MARKETING SURFACE:

The SOTOF can offer surface area for public information campaigns, marketing communications etc; and opportunities to create a landscape icon in a public space.

## SUMMARY OF SITE HOST FEEDBACK

### SCALE OF INSTALLATION & INTERACTIONS WITH EXISTING BUILDING FACADE:

Site hosts expressed concerns about pilot solar heating installation design i.e. scale and aesthetics, that could potentially detract from their property's existing façade, "brand and design". For future solar thermal interventions, a collaborative process with site host/s could facilitate an integrated / co-created final design/ branding and messaging of the solar thermal installation.

### SECURITY & GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT:

All consulted potential site partners have expressed apprehensions on providing "free heat" to vulnerable populations near their properties. All have raised concerns about encouraging loitering and attracting vandalism to their area. For future solar heating intervention, it seems that a fully-managed and programmed installation i.e. concierge / ambassador kiosk, can help alleviate reservations of site hosts.

### MAINTENANCE & ACTIVATION PROGRAM:

Site host has suggested having a monitoring system for the installation to have a level of surveillance of site activities. A monitoring system could be part of crime prevention and safety promotion strategy for future solar heating infrastructures.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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W: [www.SpaAquaPrima.com](http://www.SpaAquaPrima.com)



Project 5: Bike Racks

A vibrant avenue that supports multi-modal transportation

# Cycling-centered Social Infrastructure

**Project Leads**  
Alberto de Salvatierra

**Project Description**  
The Project Proposal calls for the design and installation of a piece of cycling-centered infrastructure to enable and facilitate active transportation in the blast radius around the project's site. This would not only activate the area in which the project is sited, but also create an opportunity for an observational and survey study to understand how this proposed piece of cycling infrastructure can catalyze activation on the Avenue.

- Key Questions**
- When and where should this kind of infrastructure be deployed?
  - What kinds of uses will the public make of the bike racks beyond storing bikes?

**Strategic Moves**



**Triple Bottom Line**



**Area**  
The Village / **The Core** / The Commons  
Stephen Avenue @ the Globe Theatre



# C i v i c Commons Catalyst

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BRIEFING REPORT:

## CCCXFOSA\_STRATA

This briefing report was prepared by the **Center for Civilization**, a design research lab and international think tank based at the **University of Calgary School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL)**.

This project was made possible by the **City of Calgary** through grants as part of the Future of Stephen Ave (FoSA) Initiative and the Civic Commons Catalyst (CCC) Initiative. The project is also supported by the **Calgary Downtown Association (CDA)**.



## Contact Information

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School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL)

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**Center for Civilization**  
[centerforcivilization.org](http://centerforcivilization.org)



Cover Image, Top: **Center for Civilization**, *Strata*, 2023. Photo: Max Krewiak.



# Civic Commons Catalyst

## About the Catalyst

In 2020, the Center for Civilization (CFC) at the University of Calgary School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) led the creation of the Civic Commons Catalyst (CCC) Initiative (i.e. “The Catalyst”)—a transdisciplinary design research and innovation platform focused on questions of the built environment. Seed-funded by the Alberta Real Estate Foundation (AREF) through two grants, the Catalyst is consciously designed as a vehicle for transformational and long-term change for the real estate and other city-building industries, organizations and sectors. Aimed at taking underutilized spatial assets in Canadian cities and catalyzing them into positive assets for the community that can revitalize their downtowns, the Catalyst is identifying zones of opportunity so that assets can be networked together and help focus strategies for economic development and impact investment. The Catalyst complements the work being done by partner municipalities and industry collaborators to maximize the impact and transformational long-term change across project geographies.

The Catalyst is currently focused on projects that address downtown revitalization across all scales, from urban furniture projects to urban design proposals. The Catalyst deploys the CFC’s transdisciplinary research and production methods which combine sociology, strategic foresight, human geography, critical cartography, public policy, finance innovation, and design (architecture, planning and landscape architecture). This work is augmented by robust geospatial data analysis and visualization strategies. Through its employment of graduate researchers, the Catalyst is also contributing to the training of future built environment and real estate industry professionals—helping promote a pipeline of young talent with developed core competencies that can advance the sector. This is in line with the *Alberta 2030* long-term strategic plan for Alberta’s post-secondary system.

## Project Team

This Briefing Report is a summative text of the “Civic Commons Catalyst x Future of Stephen Ave (CCCxFoSA): Strata” Project. Its production is the collective effort of the Center for Civilization and its graduate researchers and collaborators.

**Principal Investigator (PI):** Prof. Alberto de Salvatierra.

**Project Lead:** Tom Brown (MLA ‘23).

**Design Team:** Tom Brown, Ji Song Sun (MArch ‘21), Maneet Singh Duggal (MPlan ‘24), with Prof. Alberto de Salvatierra.

**Production Team:** Tom Brown, Chris Lin (MArch ‘24), Francisco Labastida (MLA ‘25), Yiming Yang (MArch ‘24), Maneet Singh Duggal.

**Build Team:** Tom Brown, Chris Lin, Francisco Labastida, Yiming Yang, Connie Tran (MLA ‘20, MEDes ‘24), Soumya Shashidharan (MPlan ‘24).

**Observational Study Team:** Tom Brown, Chris Lin, Maneet Singh Duggal, Yiming Yang, Deepali Dang (MPlan ‘23), Pranshui Dangwal (MLA ‘23), Soumya Shashidharan, Francisco Labastida.

**Data Visualization Team:** Ji Song Sun, Sukhneer Sidhu (MArch ‘23), with Prof. Alberto de Salvatierra.

**Photography:** Max Kewiak.

**Report Team:** Prof. Alberto de Salvatierra, with Daniel Wray (MArch ‘24).

**Patrons:** City of Calgary.

**Supporters:** Calgary Downtown Association (CDA).

**Special Thanks:** Kate Zago (City of Calgary), Prof. Joshua Taron (SAPL), Mark Garner (CDA), Heather Mcrae (CDA), Danny Esthephan (CDA).

# Executive Summary

## About the CCCxFoSA: Strata Project

The Center for Civilization (CFC) at the University of Calgary School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) collaborated with The City of Calgary and the Calgary Downtown Association (CDA) to create and deploy a unique cycling-centered infrastructure to enable and facilitate active transportation on Stephen Avenue. This installation, Strata, was designed and manufactured at the University of Calgary SAPL and is intended to create a node of pedestrian activity. Strata brings together the functionality of a bench, a bike rack, a leaning implement, a play structure, and a sculpture. Strata enables a variety of uses. It aims to respond to the needs of cyclists and pedestrians alike by creating a space to lock bicycles and rest while enhancing the public realm. Strata draws inspiration from The Avenue’s material choice during its “Sandstone Era”—mirrored in the layered morphology of the hybrid bench.

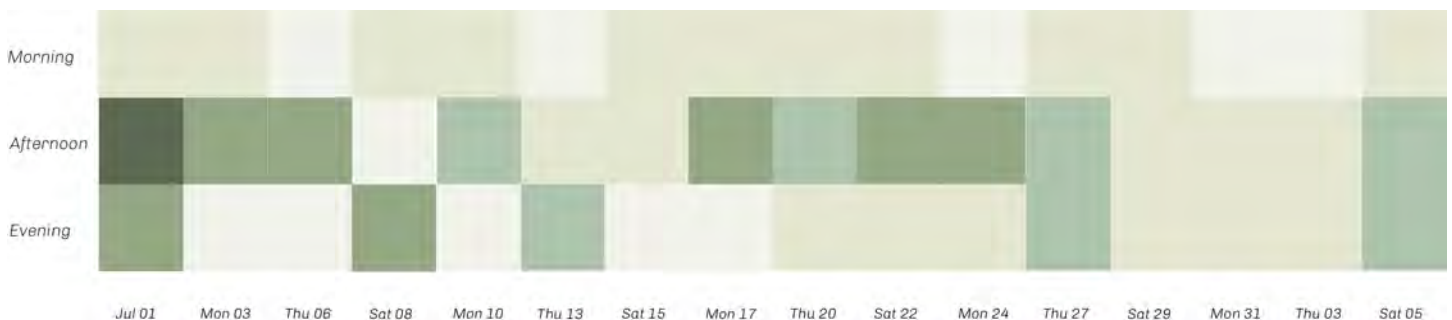
Strata (i.e., the Project) aims to have an impact on the future of Stephen Avenue in a number of ways. First, in the short-term, the Project—as piece of infrastructure—aims to provide a node of urban, pedestrian activity at the Project’s site (particularly during high traffic events). In the mid-term, the Project aims to work in concert and augment other initiatives of urban Activation and Experimentation along the Avenue. Through this collective accumulation of interventions (whether physical, such as an installation, or temporal, such as programming), the urban can reveal its potentials for new activity while signaling to the community and business owners the viability for these types of urban acupuncture. In the long-term, the Project aims to facilitate greater interest, cooperation and enthusiasm in the community for engagement with urban activation initiatives and projects—while revealing potentials for future more-permanent urban design strategies.

In this context, the Project targeted three Strategic Moves: Connecting the Avenue (primary), Activating the Avenue (primary), and Branding the Avenue (secondary). Additionally,

the Project operates within three categories: Prototyping/Intervening (physical installation; augmentation of programming + events); Measuring/Monitoring (survey; observational study); Evaluating (making sense of the data).

As part of this Project, an Observational Study was conducted across five weeks. Data was recorded in two-hour slots three times a day (08:00-10:00, 12:00-14:00, and 17:00-19:00) on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Through the Observational Study (**the Summary of Findings is located on pp. 40**), the CFC team was able to take away some key learnings from the Project:

- Certain patterns of behavior across time suggest a community-based awareness/knowledge of the installation (such as increased instances of the installation as a site for drinking coffee/eating as time went on, and decreased instances of looking/taking pictures of the installation as time went on).
- Children were some of the most enthusiastic users of the installation. Future iterations could consider them as a design client (in addition to pedestrian adults and cyclists).
- The installation contained spacing (in the middle) that was not hugely comfortable to smaller-framed users. Future iterations need a slightly decreased spacing rhythm.
- Pedestrian awareness/understanding of the installation as a possible bike-parking site was not immediately apparent; more clear signage determining the installation as such is needed for future iterations.
- Overall, the installation had a net-positive effect on activity/engagement (measured as increased number of interactions across time).
- Most notably, the installation successfully served as a node to pause pedestrian flows and convert them into activities/engagement (including during inclement weather).



Center for Civilization, Strata Users' Heatmap Diagram, 2023.



# Introduction

## About the Future of Stephen Avenue

The following section is courtesy of the City of Calgary:

The City is investing in the future and transforming, modernizing and reinventing Stephen Avenue.

We are on an exciting journey to reimagine Stephen Avenue and position it for a renewed era of success. As a flagship project for Calgary's *Downtown Strategy*, The Stephen Avenue project provides a foundation for The City to collaborate with Calgarians to consider and implement strategic improvements—whether near, medium or longer term—that will re-position Stephen Avenue, and ensure its future as Calgary's hallmark downtown main street:

*“Stephen Avenue is Calgary's main connector to arts, culture and commerce and offers a stage for experimentation and innovation. A 21st century street, Stephen Avenue links Calgary's walkable urban core to its neighbourhoods through a great public realm. Active day and night, and throughout the year, Stephen Avenue is a catalyst for a resilient economy, enabling adaptation towards Calgary's future. As Calgary's premier local and tourist destination, Stephen Avenue fosters social interaction, civic gathering, and community pride.”*

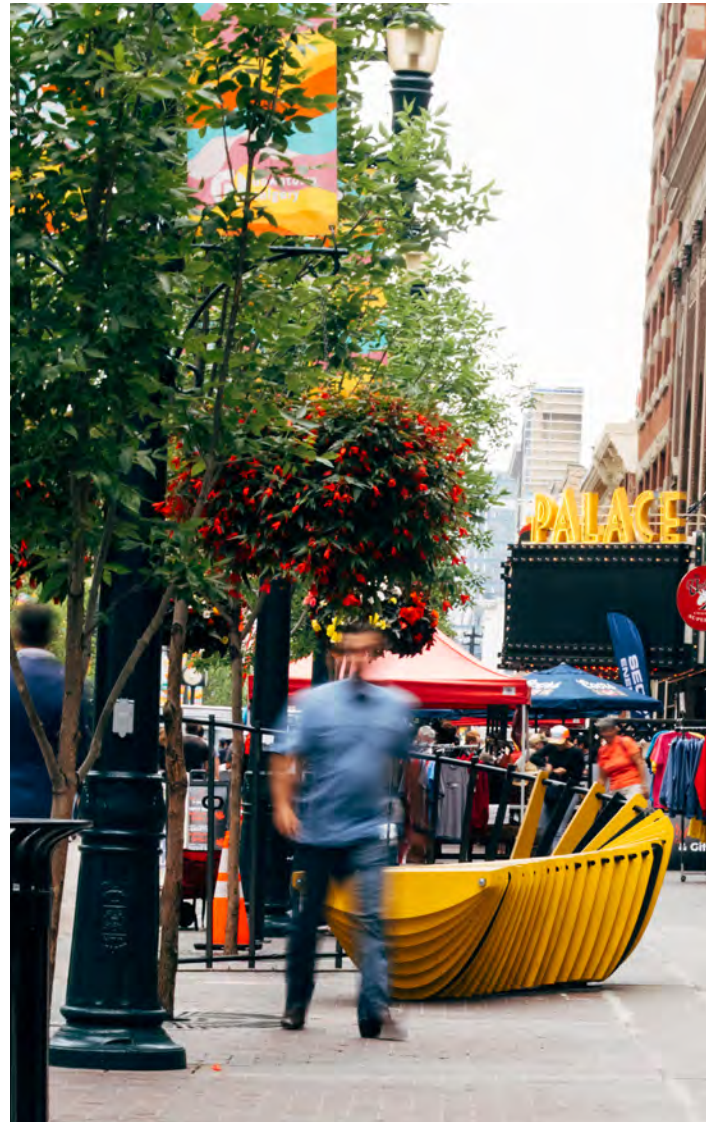
Strata is part of Phase 1B: Activate and Experiment of the Future of Stephen Avenue Project. The following section is also courtesy of the City of Calgary:

The Activate and Experiment phase envisions long-term change on Stephen Avenue by testing ideas to better understand and measure the impacts of change along downtown's main street. Through this phase, the City of Calgary will be making temporary changes to the Avenue. The goal is to bring Calgarians on board throughout the process, before making any investments in a permanent redesign. The City will accomplish this by:

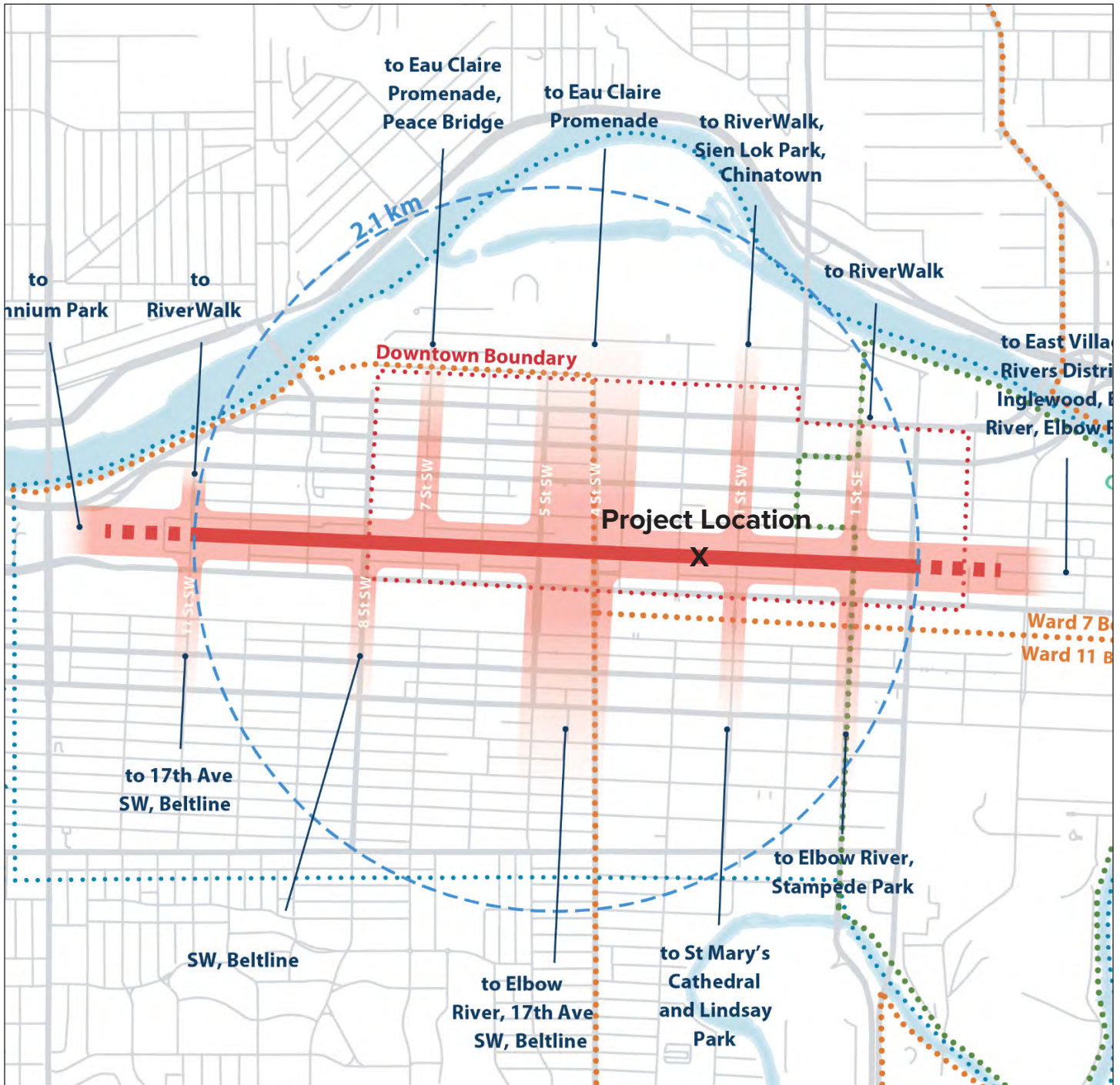
- **Enacting change** – working with downtown partners to test ideas through public space activations, design ideas, and public safety improvements
- **Quantify change** – measure the impacts of each idea/experiment and use the findings to help determine long-term solutions
- **Communicate change** – engage with Calgarians and visitors to help determine the success of these ideas and experiments

## CCCxFoSA: Strata Project Objective

The objective of this installation project is to propose an elegant but innovative active mobility piece of urban infrastructure which integrates *with and* strengthens the identity and streetscape of Stephen Avenue. The structure aims to be a secure and desirable place to park a bicycle—combining cycling infrastructure with urban furniture, increasing its capacity for everyday use by all Calgarians. The Project also creates an opportunity for an observational study to understand how this proposed piece of cycling infrastructure can catalyze activation on the Avenue.



Center for Civilization, *Strata*, 2023. Photo: Max Krewiak.



City of Calgary, *Future of Stephen Ave Project Map*, 2023. Courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# Design Process

## Considerations

During the design development of the Project, a number of considerations guided our iterations:

### Bicycle Parking Struggles

Parking a bicycle in a city often entails a search for an appropriate structure, which most commonly leads to two objects: the Sheffield Cycle Stand, or a street sign. These two objects differ very little from the perspective of a cyclist, having the same bicycle-storage capacity and possessing the same general safety.

### Existing Creative Bike Parking Limitations

Other creative bike rack designs seen around the city fulfill the mandate of strengthening identity, but do not improve on cycle capacity or enhancing other modes of interaction, such as seating or lighting, over the standard Sheffield Cycle Stand.

### Standard Bicycle Dimensions

A functional bike rack must take into consideration the dimensions of bicycles, and u-locks, specifically of the rear forks of the bike as this is the preferred locking point.

### Infrastructure Opportunities

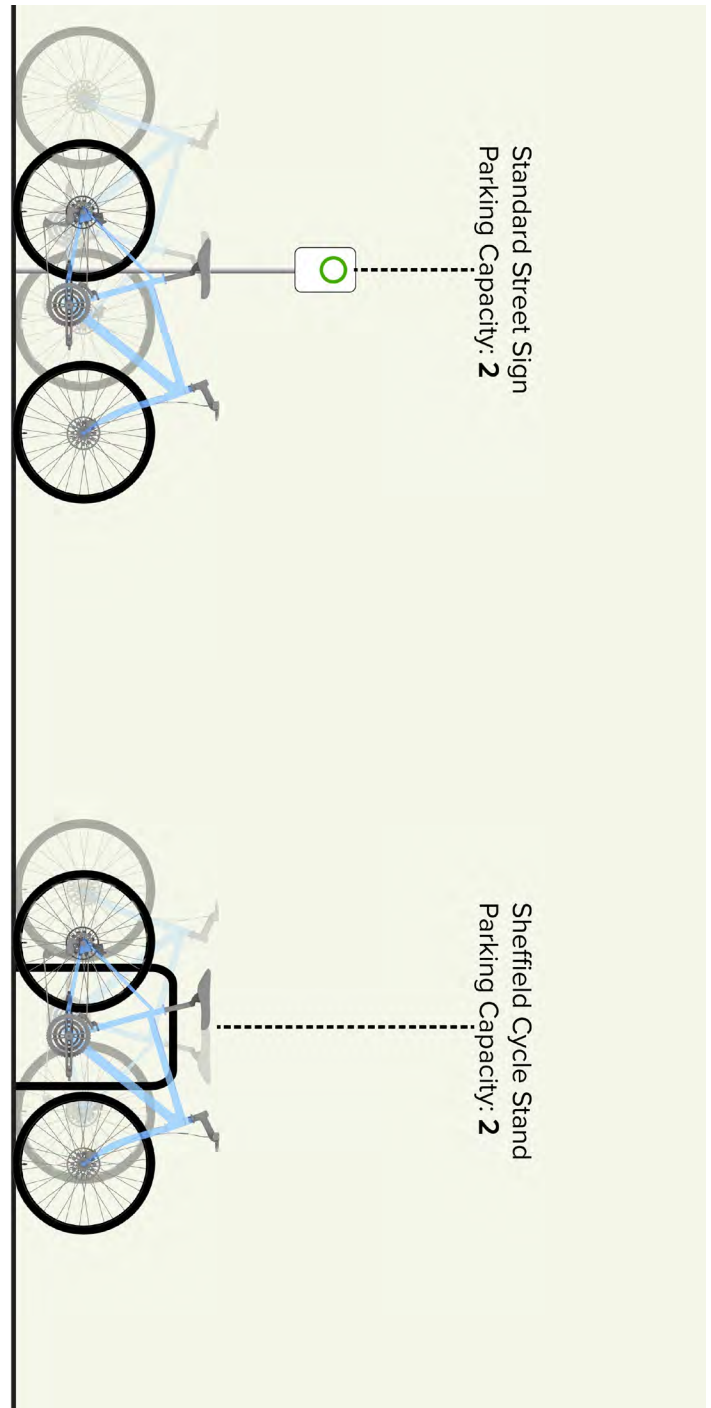
Bicycle infrastructure design represents an opportunity to facilitate additional modes of interaction, such as seating.

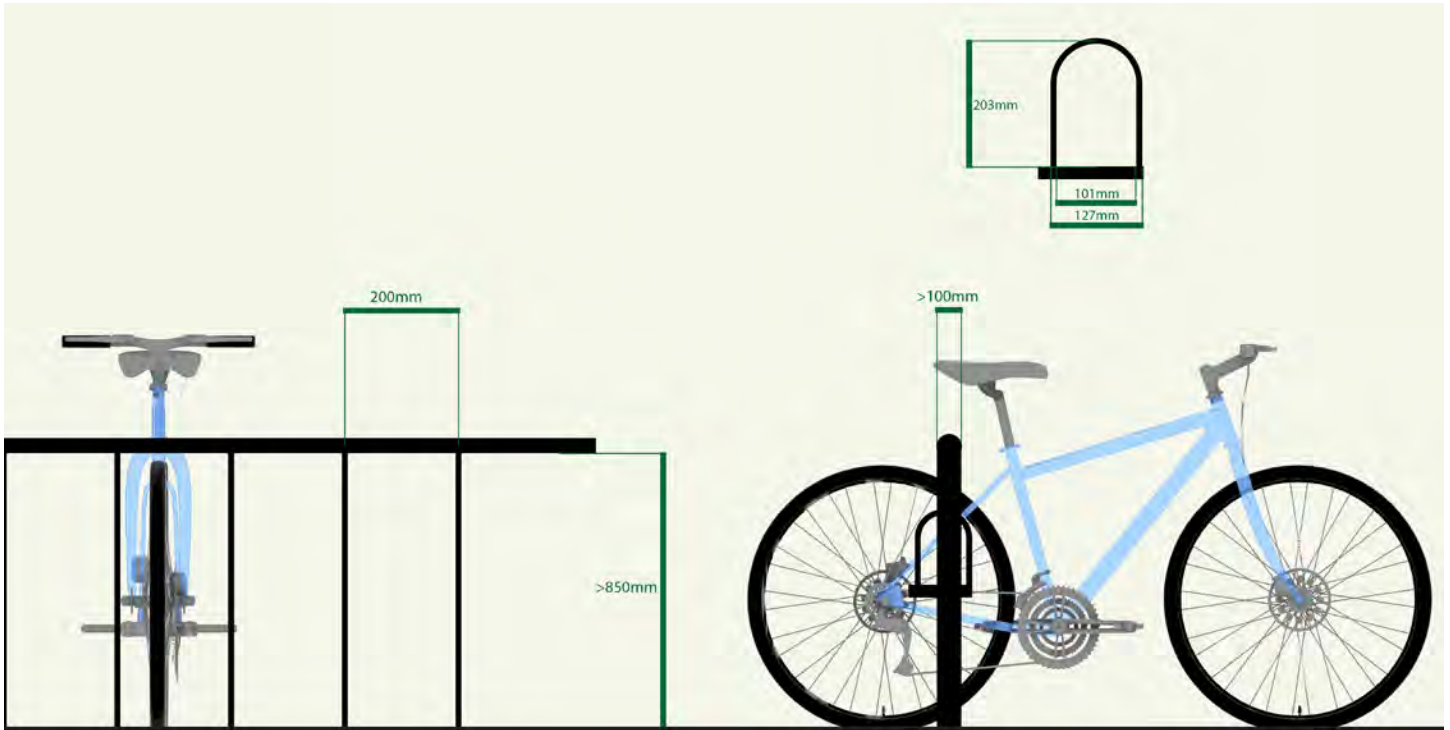
### Material Opportunities

Bike racks are often made of metal, which are secure but heat-up easily during the summer. Bicycle infrastructure design represents an opportunity to explore different types of materials.

### Cost and Modularity

The finished design must also be cost-effective and modular—allowing for easy assembly and disassembly as needed.





Left, Top, Bottom: **Center for Civilization**, *Strata: Early Consideration Diagrams and Sketches*, 2023.

# Design Process

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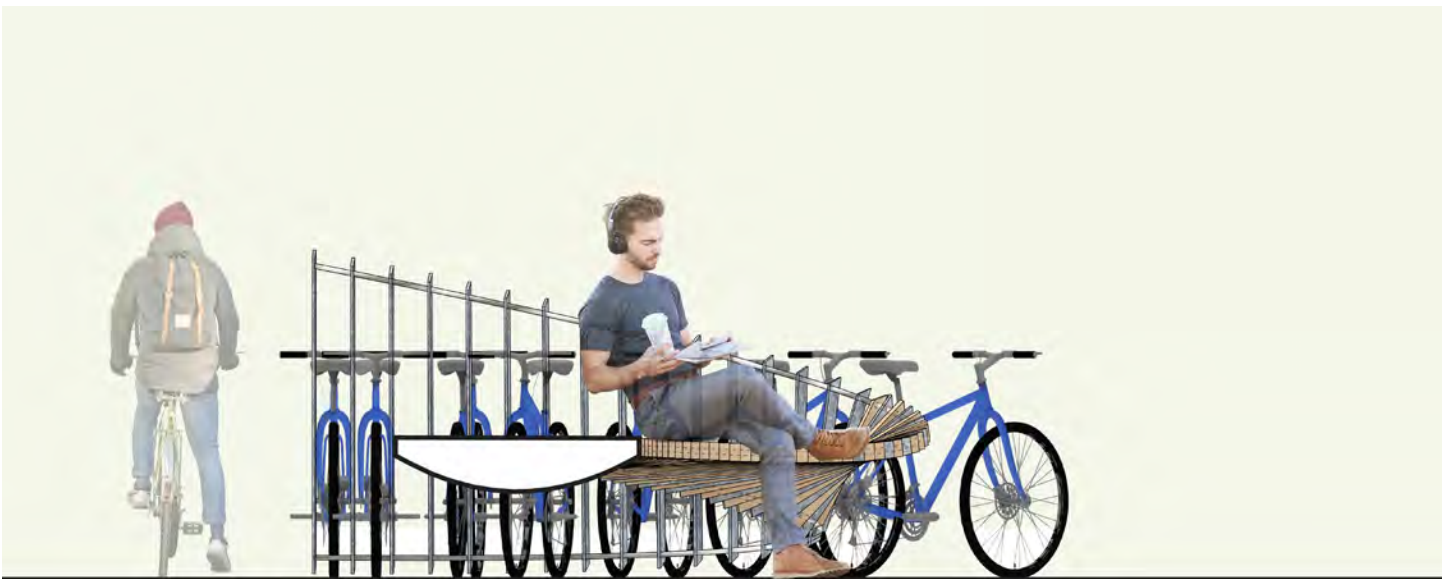
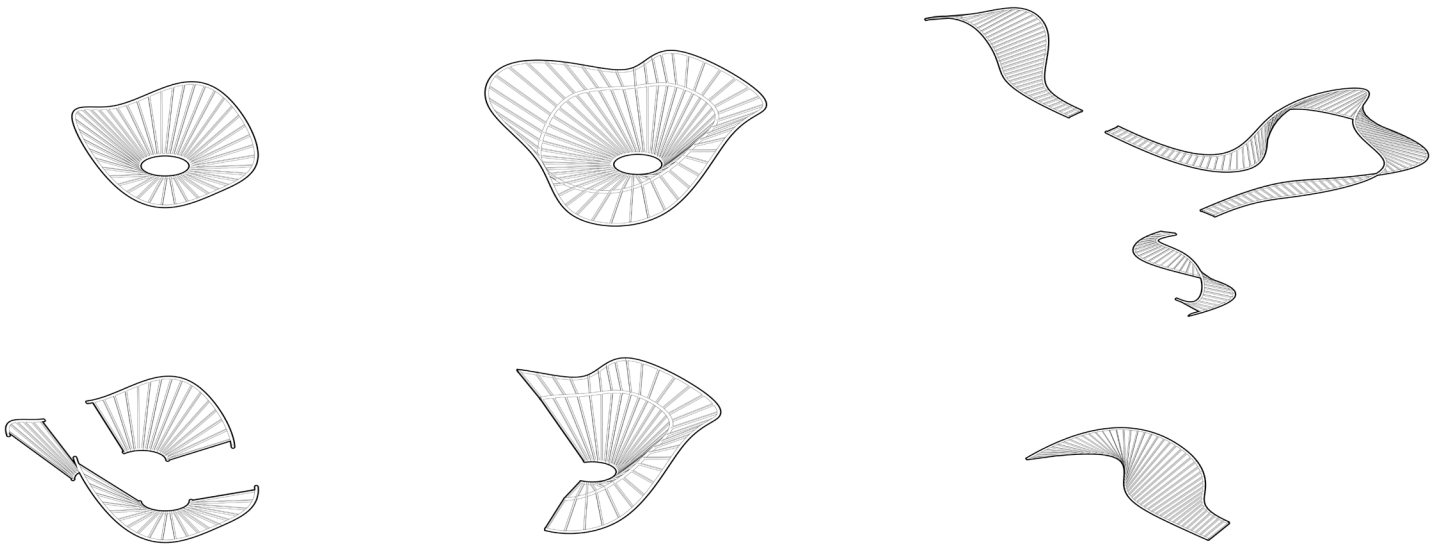
Center for Civilization, Strata: Early Iteration Section, 2023.



## Iterations

Initial iterations explored the use of urban vegetation, like trees, as elements around which to unfurl surfaces with radial spokes—evoking the visual language of bicycles. Ultimately however, it was determined that such vegetative elements would face

increased weathering and damage, while also limiting the location of the installation. So, a free-flowing version was selected to move forward.



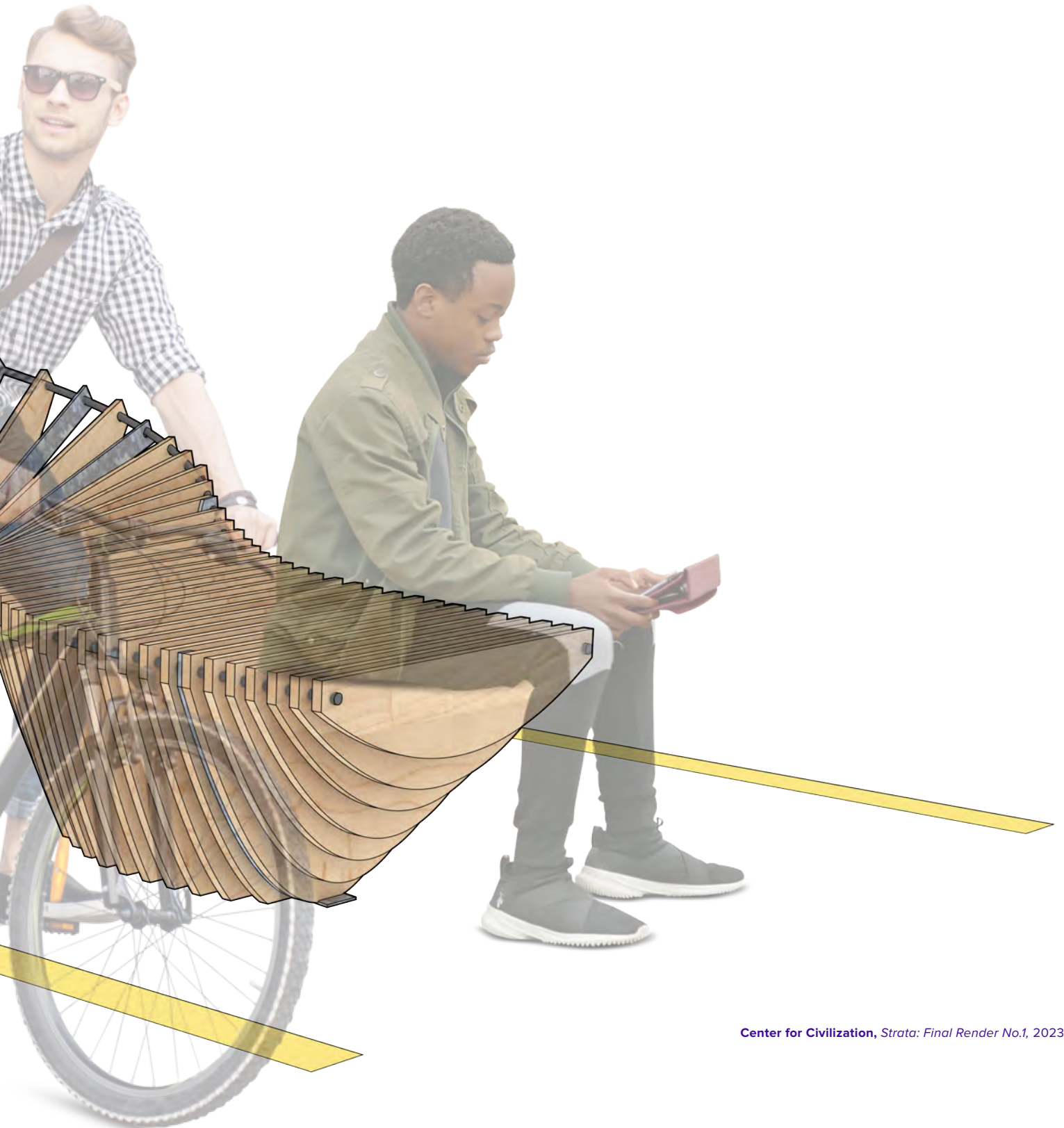
Top: Center for Civilization, *Strata: Early Iteration Diagrams*, 2023. Bottom: Center for Civilization, *Strata: Early Pre-final Iteration Section*, 2023.

# Final Design

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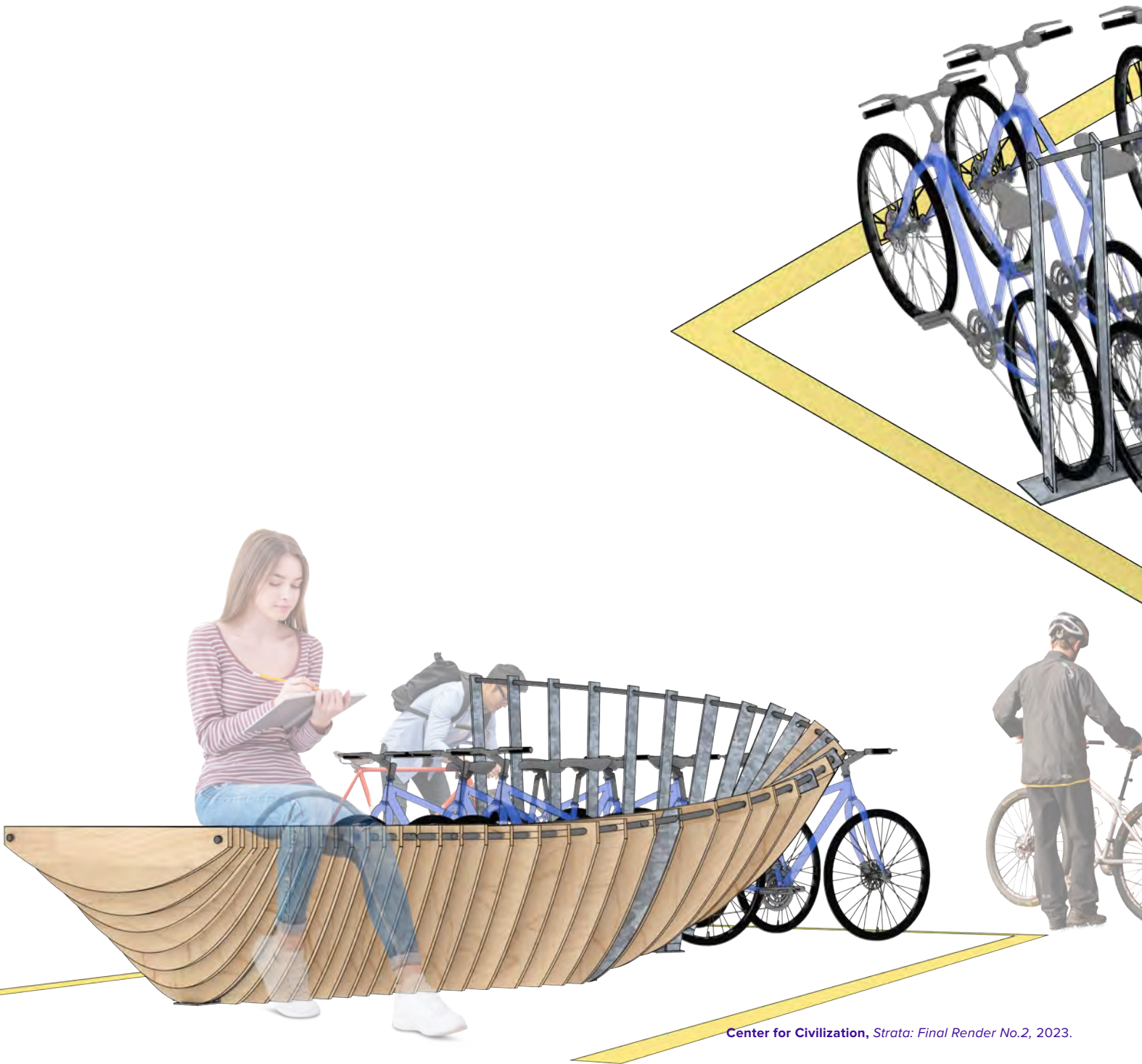
## Renders



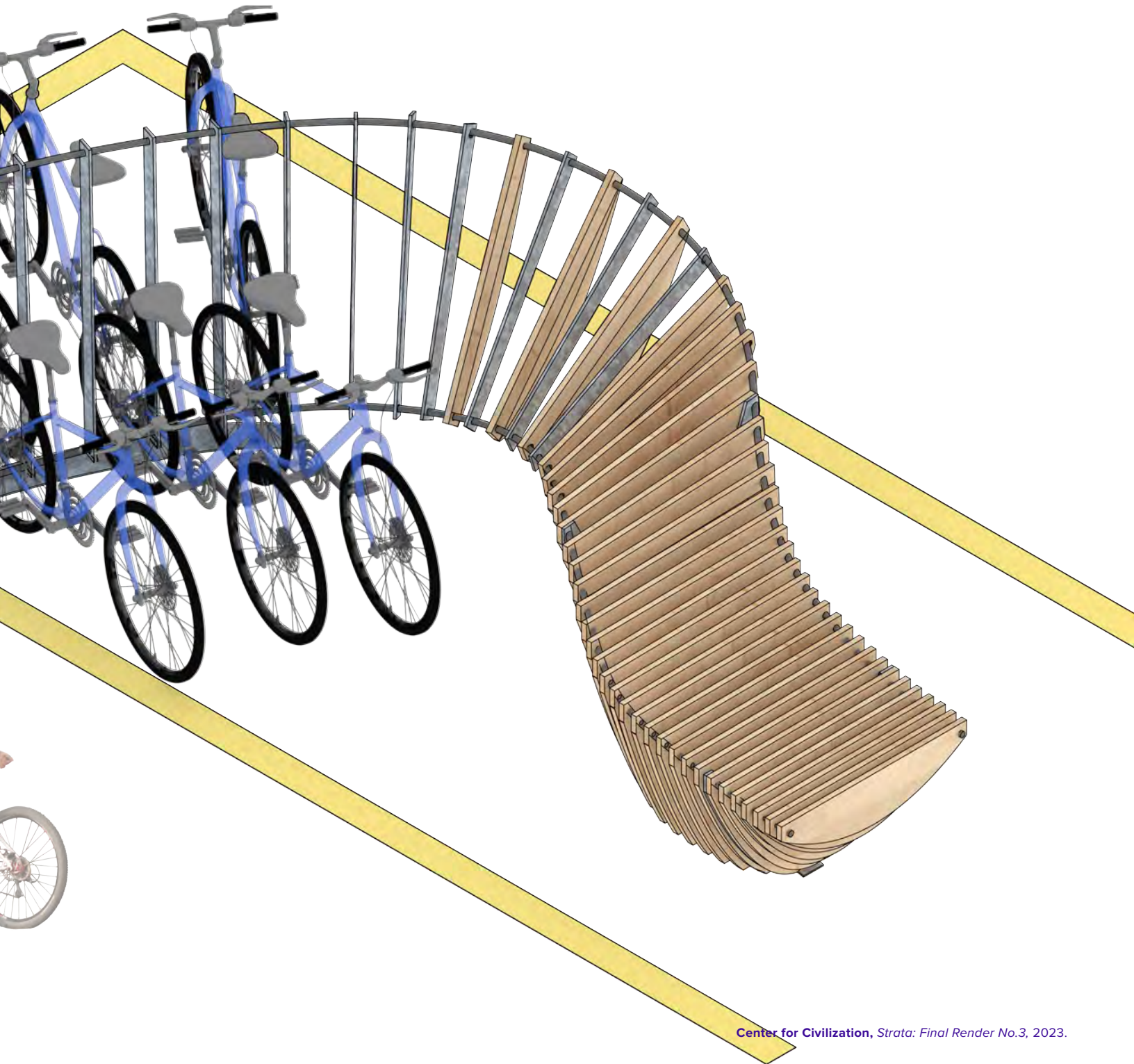


# Final Design

Renders (continued)

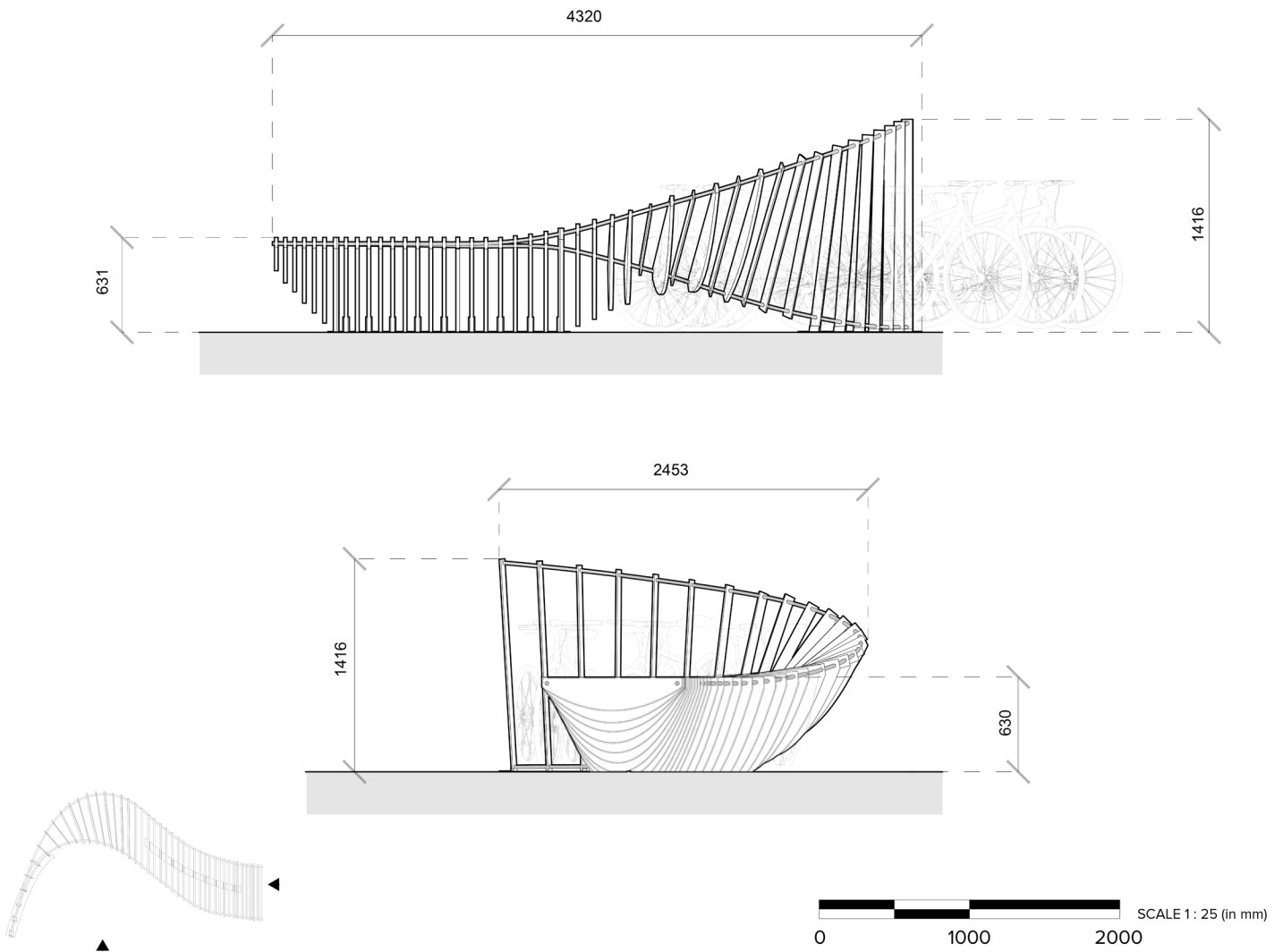


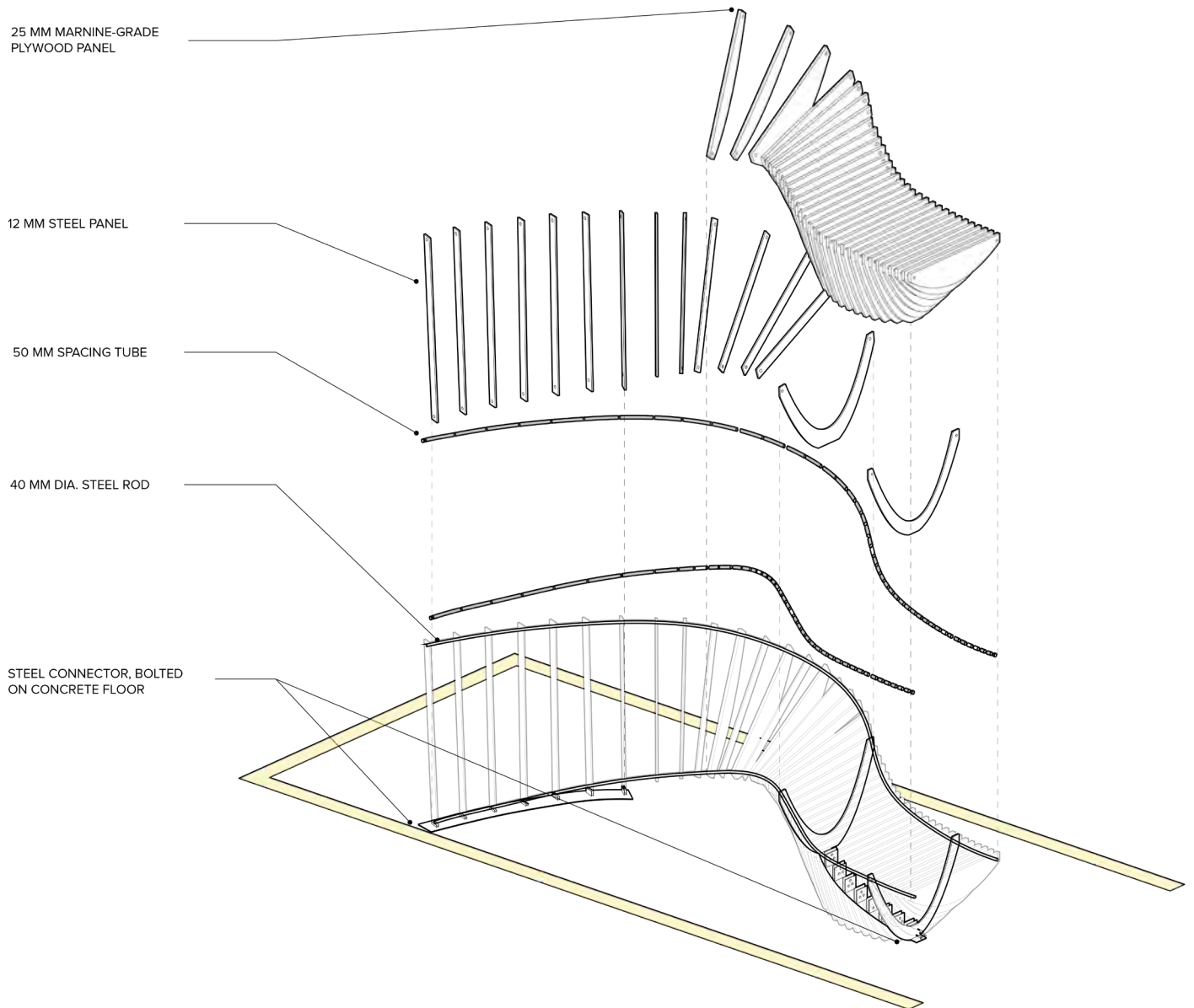
Center for Civilization, Strata: Final Render No.2, 2023.



# Final Design

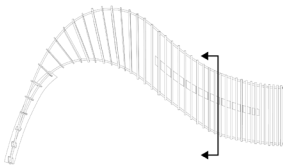
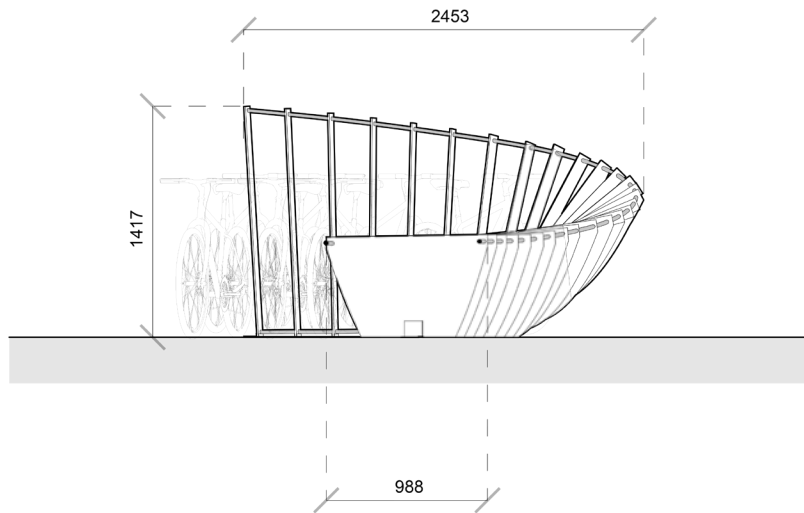
## Drawings



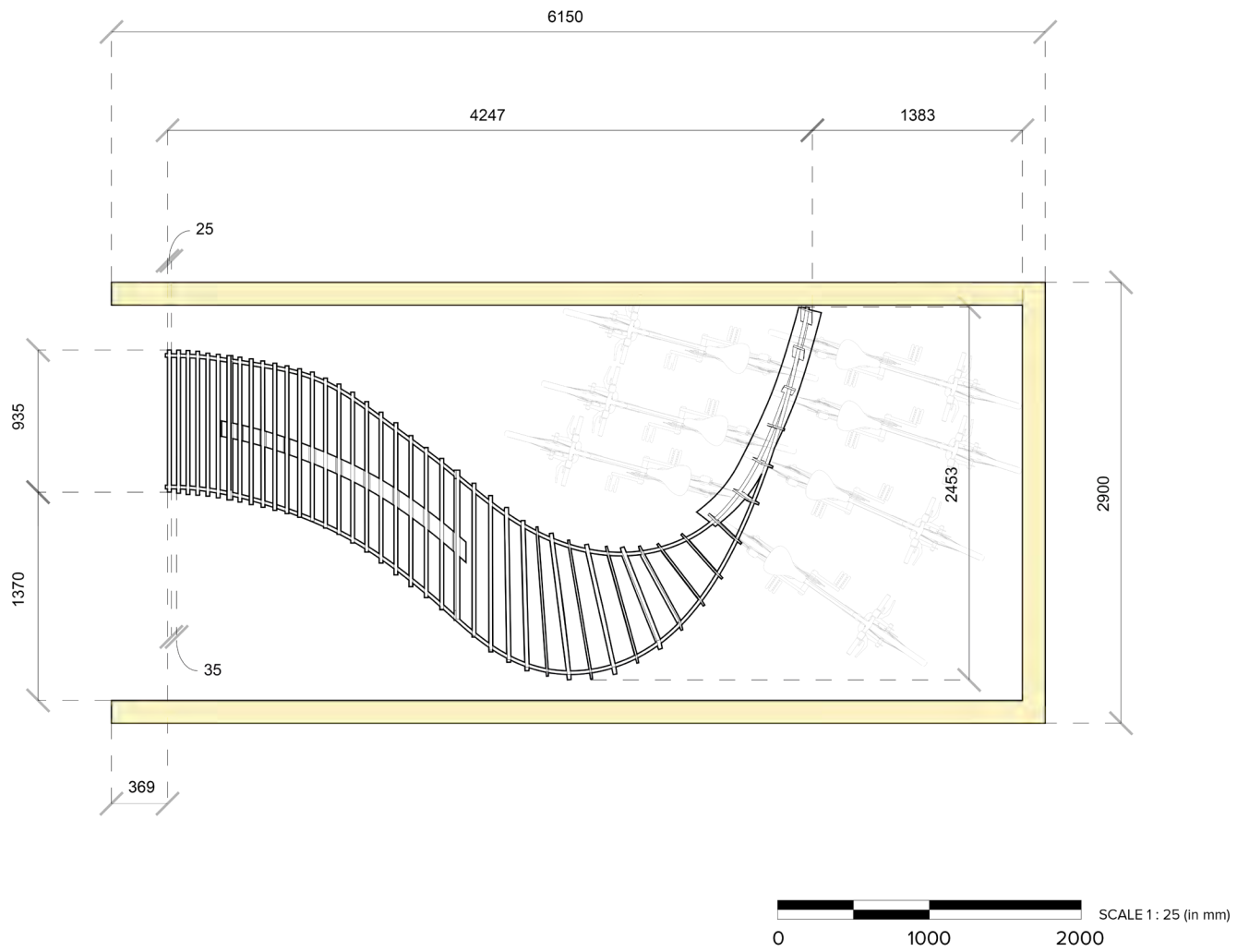


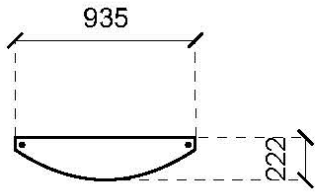
# Final Design

## Drawings (continued)

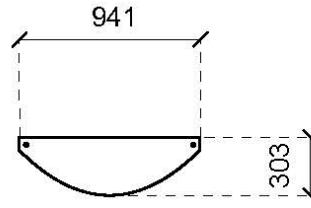




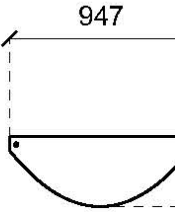




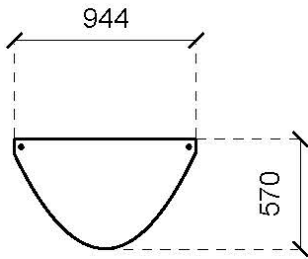
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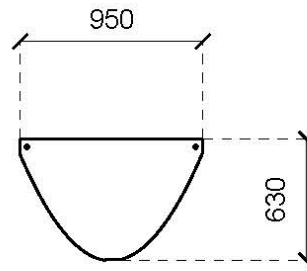
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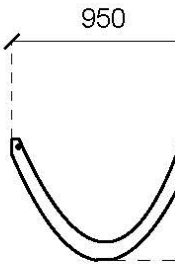
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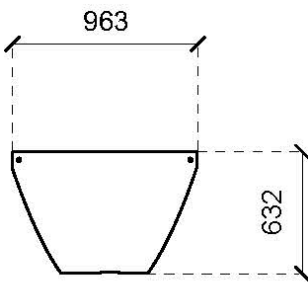
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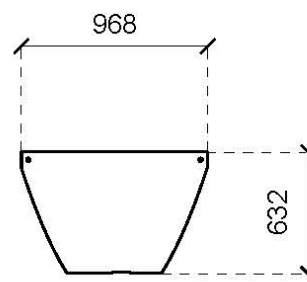
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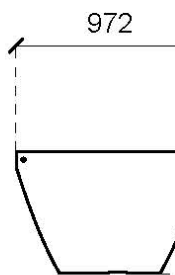
STEEL



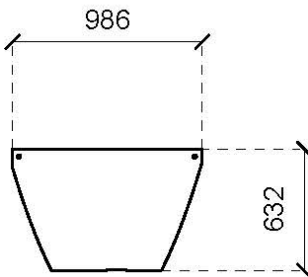
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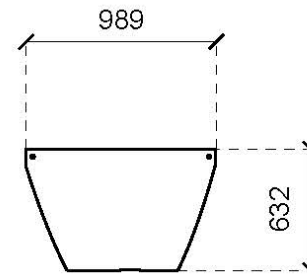
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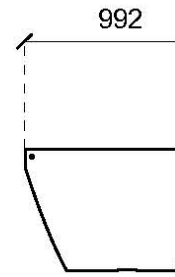
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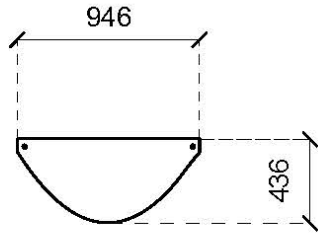
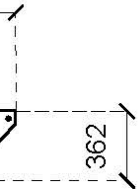
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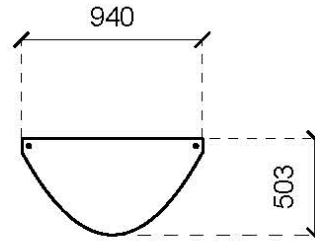
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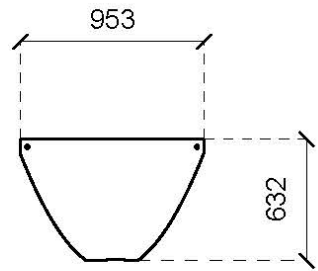
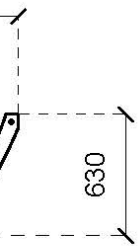
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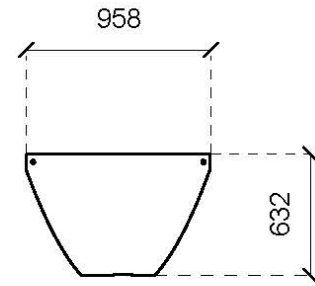
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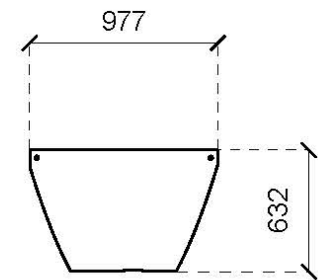
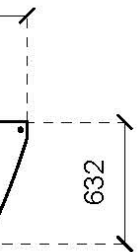
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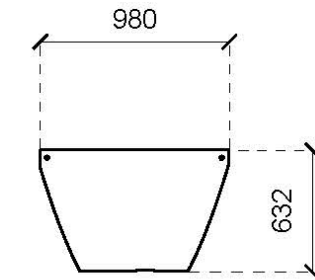
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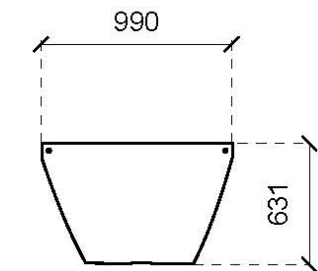
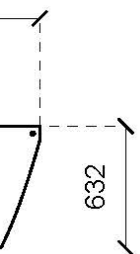
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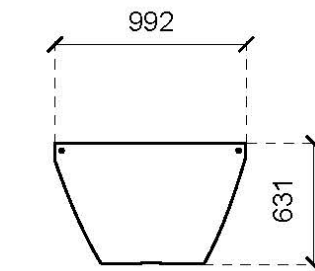
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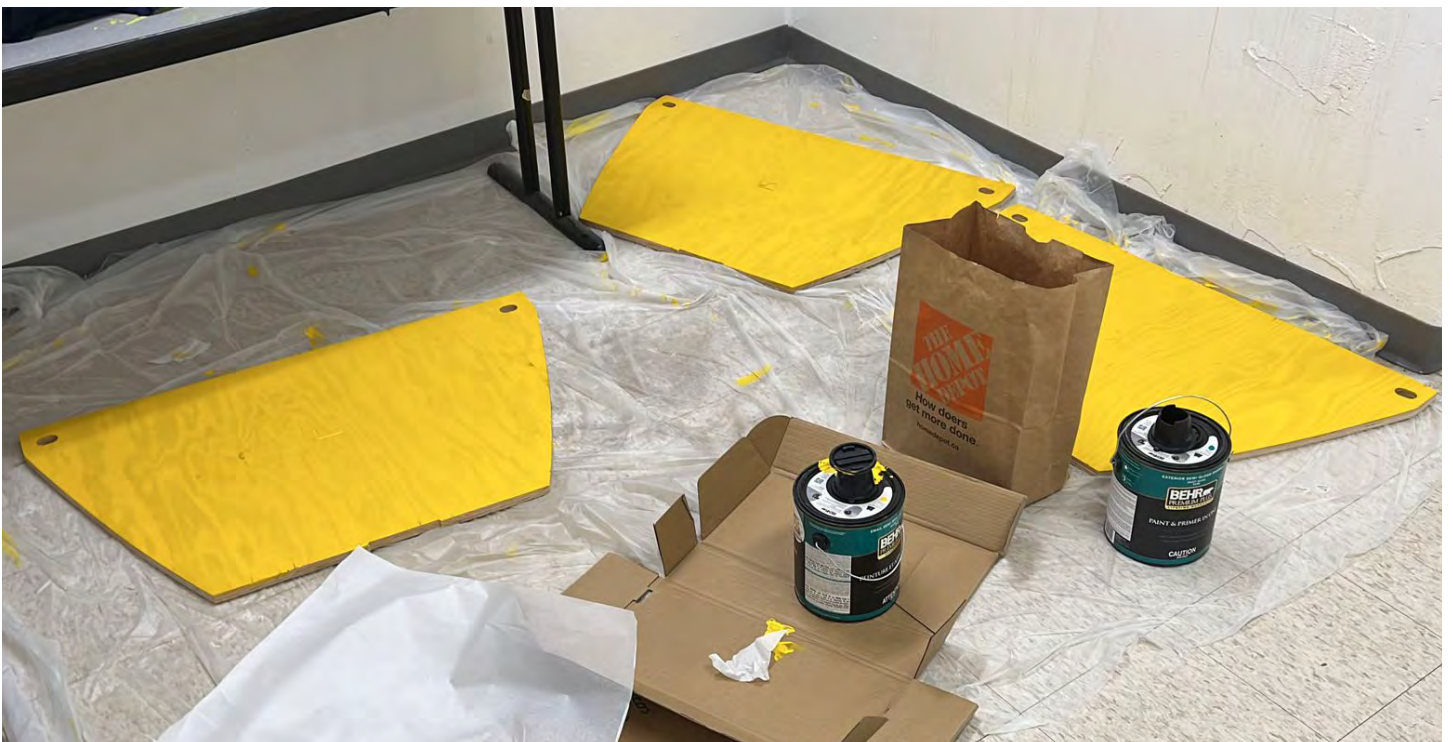


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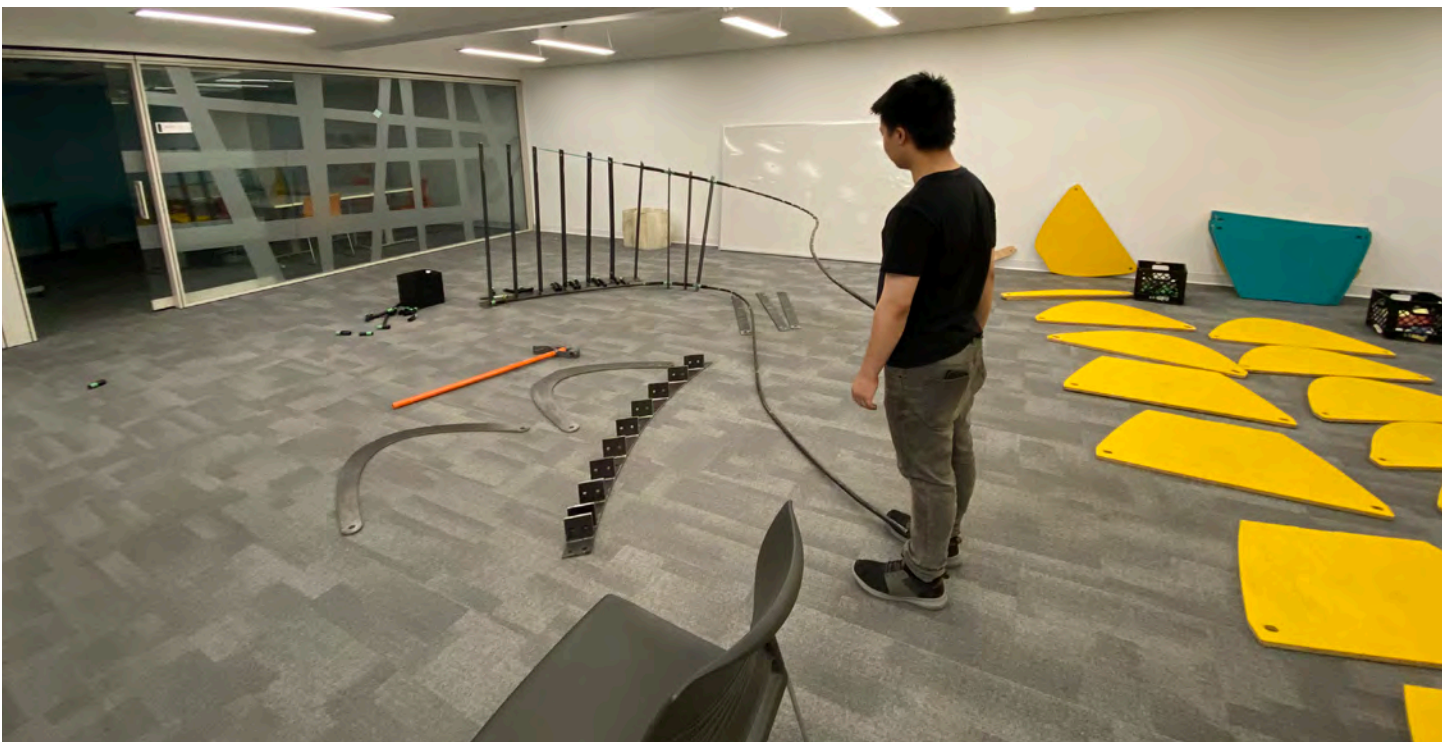
# Production Process





Left-Top, Left-Bottom, Top, Bottom: **Center for Civilization, Strata: Assorted Production Photos, 2023.**

# Production Process





Left-Top, Left-Bottom, Top, Bottom: **Center for Civilization, Strata: Assorted Production Photos, 2023.**

# Installation

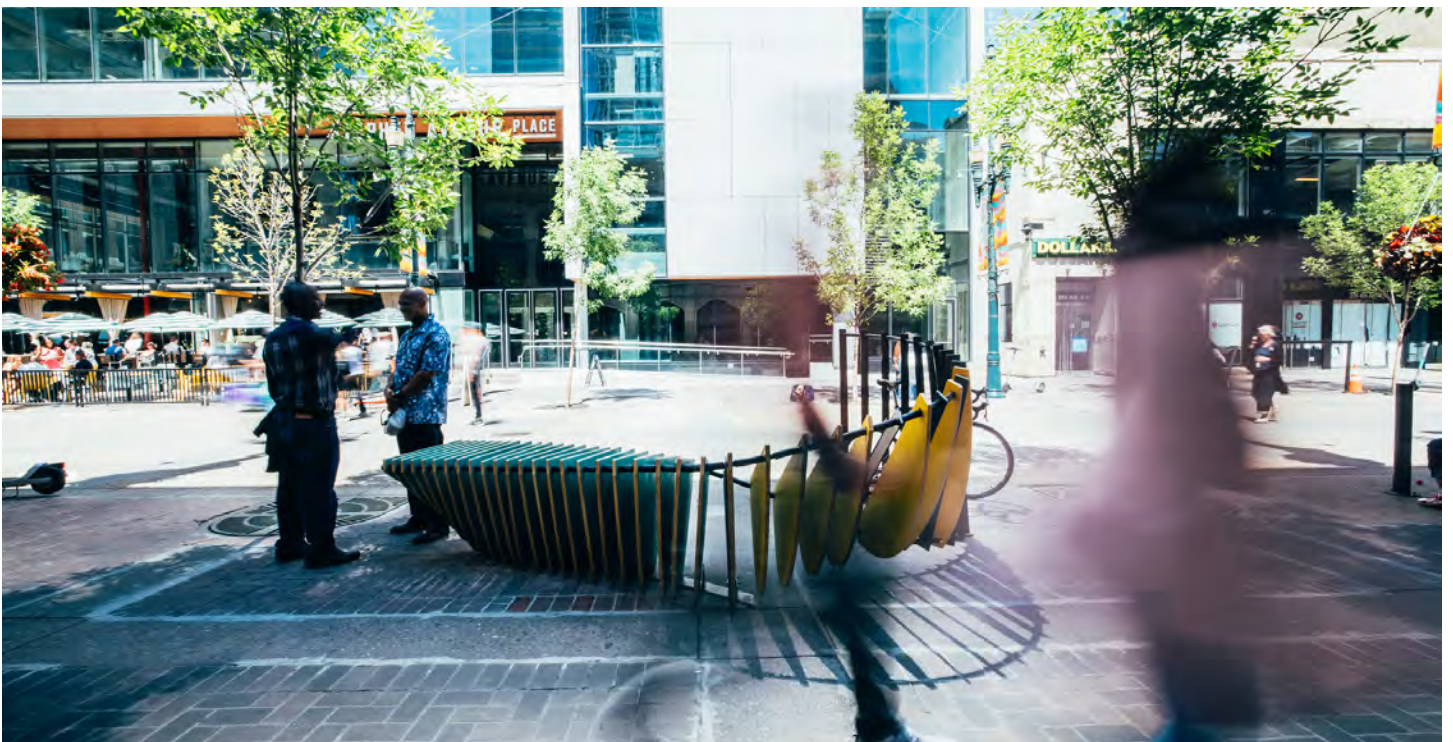


Center for Civilization, Strata: Installation Photo, 2023.





# Final Documentation





Center for Civilization, *Strata*, 2023. Photos: Max Krewiak.





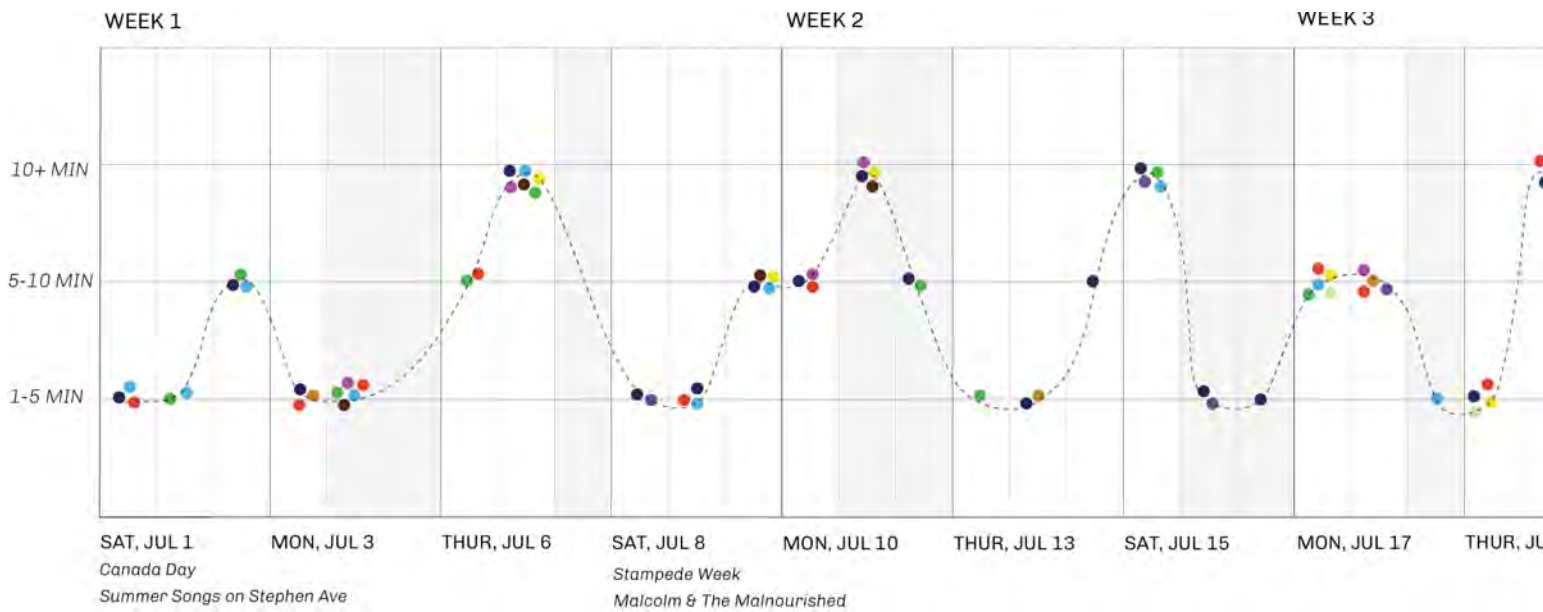
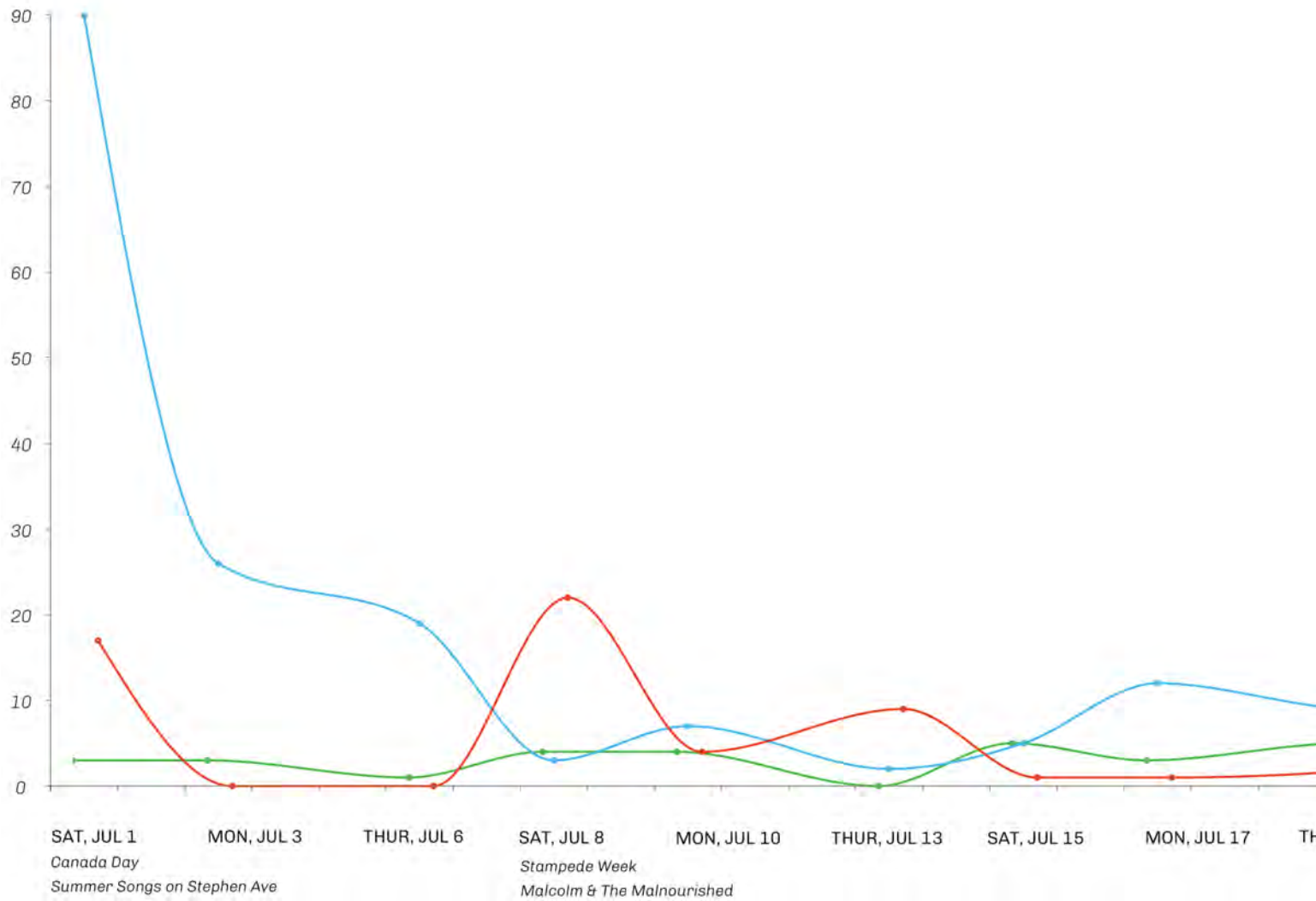
# Final Documentation





Center for Civilization, *Strata*, 2023. Photos: Max Krewiak.

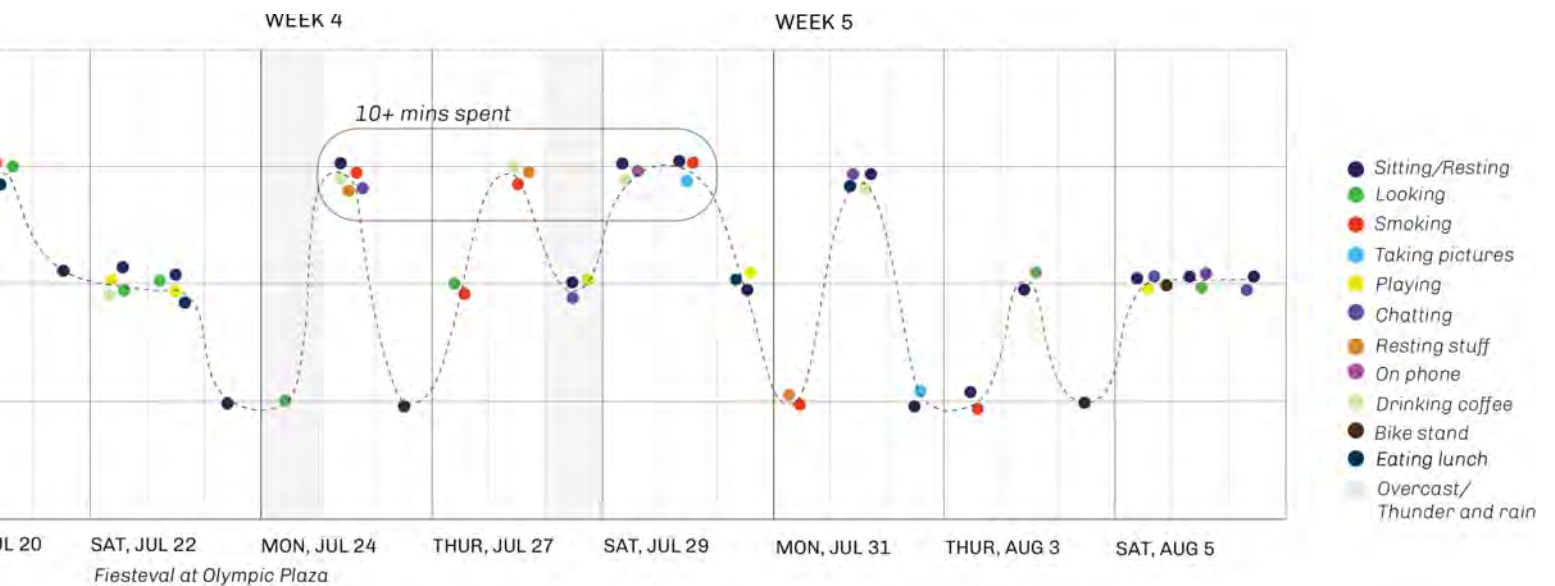
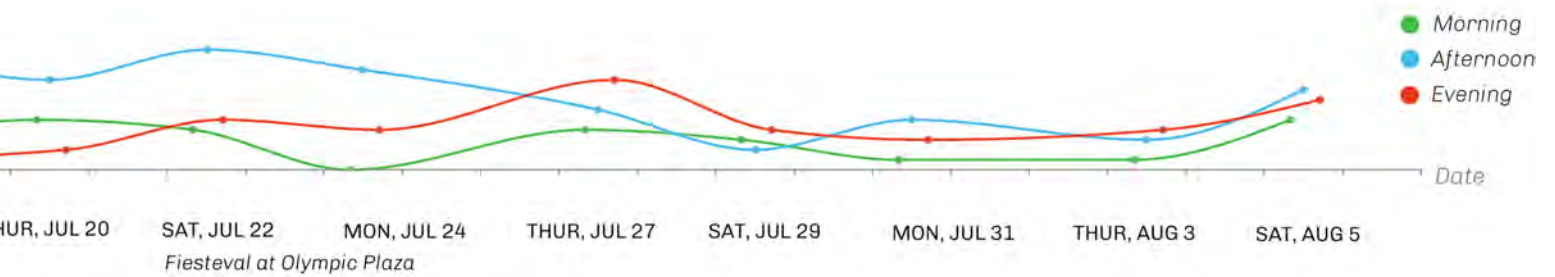
# OF PPL





# Observational Study

## Summative Diagrams

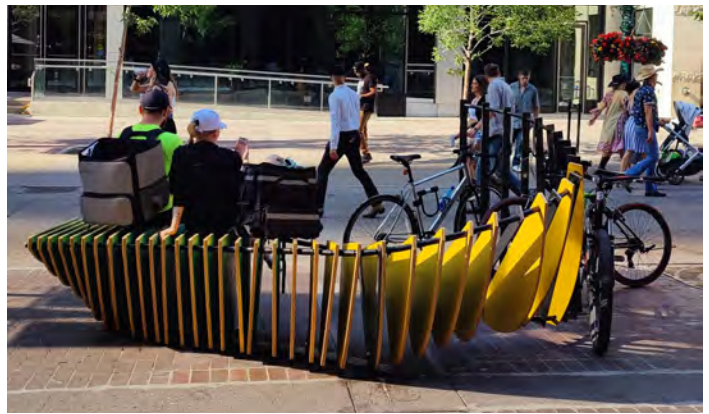


Top: Center for Civilization, Strata: Amount of Users Graph, 2023. Bottom: Center for Civilization, Strata: Activities Diagram, 2023.

# Observational Study

## Summative Diagrams (continued) + Photos





Top: Center for Civilization, Strata: Weekly Data Metrics, 2023. Bottom (all 8 photos): Center for Civilization, Assorted Observational Study Photographs, 2023.

# Observational Study

## Summary of Findings

As part of this Project, an Observational Study was conducted across five weeks. Data was recorded in two-hour slots three times a day (08:00-10:00, 12:00-14:00, and 17:00-19:00) on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Based on the Observational Study, and as further highlighted by the included summative visualizations, we made the following findings:

- The busiest days of those surveyed were Saturdays.
- The busiest time of those surveyed were afternoons (12:00-14:00).
- Observed types of pedestrian activity/engagement with the installation included: sitting/resting, looking, taking pictures, smoking, talking on the phone, chatting with other pedestrians, playing, bike parking, resting objects, drinking (e.g., coffee), and eating.
- The most popular activity/engagement with our installation was sitting (71% of instances), followed by looking (35% of instances) and smoking (29% instances).
- The least popular activity/engagement was eating food (8% of instances), followed by parking a bike (10%) and resting objects (13%).
- Certain types of activity/engagement had zero instances in the first two weeks, but increased instances in weeks 3-5 (namely drinking and eating; suggesting increased community-based familiarity with the installation).
- Certain types of activity/engagement had multiple instances in the first few weeks and decreased over time (namely looking and taking pictures; also suggesting increased community-based familiarity with the installation).
- Children were attracted to the installation and found multiple ways to treat it as a miniature playground.
- Between July 15-20, the morning (08:00-10:00) saw the 2nd highest amount of pedestrians. However, from July 22 onward (until the Observational Study ended on August 5), the evening (17:00-19:00) saw more activity.
- Every week after Stampede Week (weeks 3-5) saw increased *numbers* of pedestrian activity/engagement when compared to Stampede.
- The amount of *time* spent engaging with our installation was highest during week 1 (sandwiched between Canada Day and the start of Stampede). However, the second highest score for total time engagement was week 4 (approx. an 11% increase from the previous week 3).
- The impact of inclement weather on pedestrian activity/engagement with our installation *decreased* as time went on. In other words, over time, more and more people used our installation *in spite* of inclement weather (e.g., rain).





Center for Civilization, *Strata*, 2023. Photo: Max Krewiak.

# Conclusion



Center for Civilization, *Strata*, 2023. Photo: Max Krewiak.



## Learnings and Next Steps

*\*Note: The section below is replicated verbatim in the Executive Summary (pp. 06).*

Through the Observational Study, the CFC team was able to take away some key learnings from the Project:

- Certain patterns of behavior across time suggest a community-based awareness/knowledge of the installation (such as increased instances of the installation as a site for drinking coffee/eating as time went on, and decreased instances of looking/taking pictures of the installation as time went on).
- Children were some of the most enthusiastic users of the installation. Future iterations could consider them as a design client (in addition to pedestrian adults and cyclists).
- The installation contained spacing (in the middle) that was not hugely comfortable to smaller-framed users. Future iterations need a slightly decreased spacing rhythm.
- Pedestrian awareness/understanding of the installation as a possible bike-parking site was not immediately apparent; more clear signage determining the installation as such is needed for future iterations.
- Overall, the installation had a net-positive effect on activity/engagement (measured as increased number of interactions across time).
- Most notably, the installation successfully served as a node to pause pedestrian flows and convert them into activities/engagement (including during inclement weather).

As part of next steps, the CFC Team is designing Strata II, a Project that improves on the design shortcomings of its predecessor, while locating it in a completely different site for increased catalytic potential.

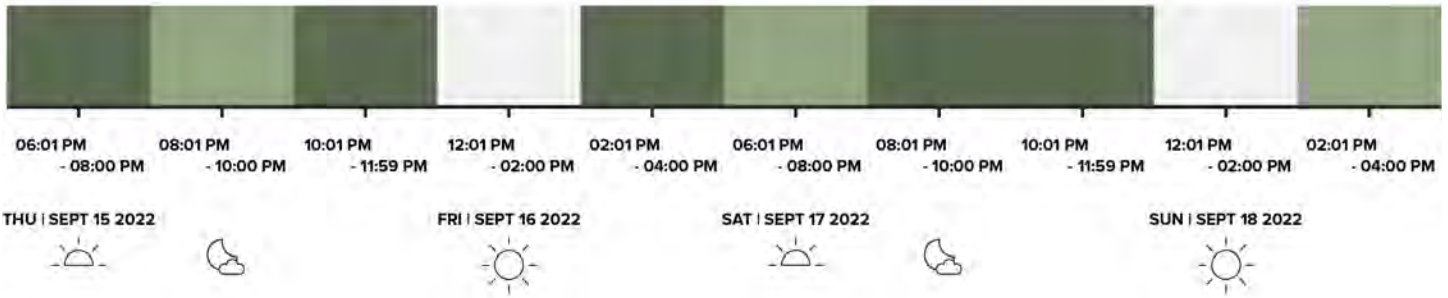
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## September 2022

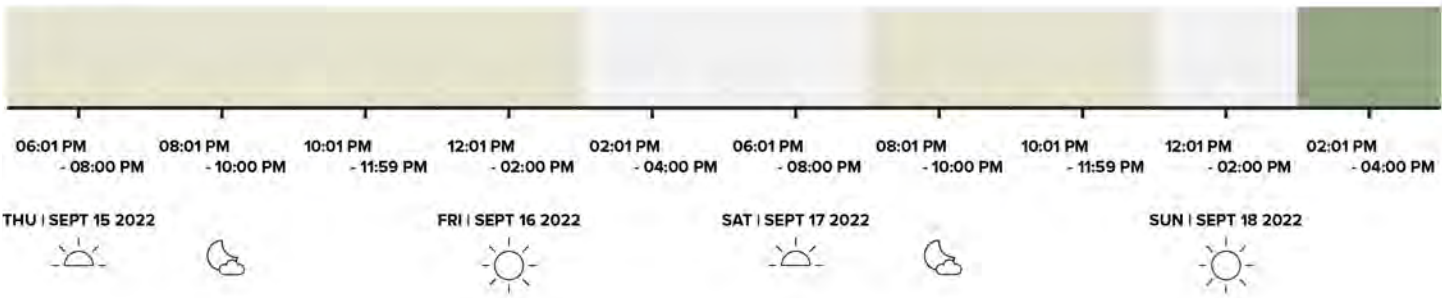
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary



A3 Stationary



Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2022-09), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2022-09), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



# SEPTEMBER | 2022



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Number of Individuals

●●●● A2 Stationary

●●●● A3 Stationary

Time Spent

1-5 min

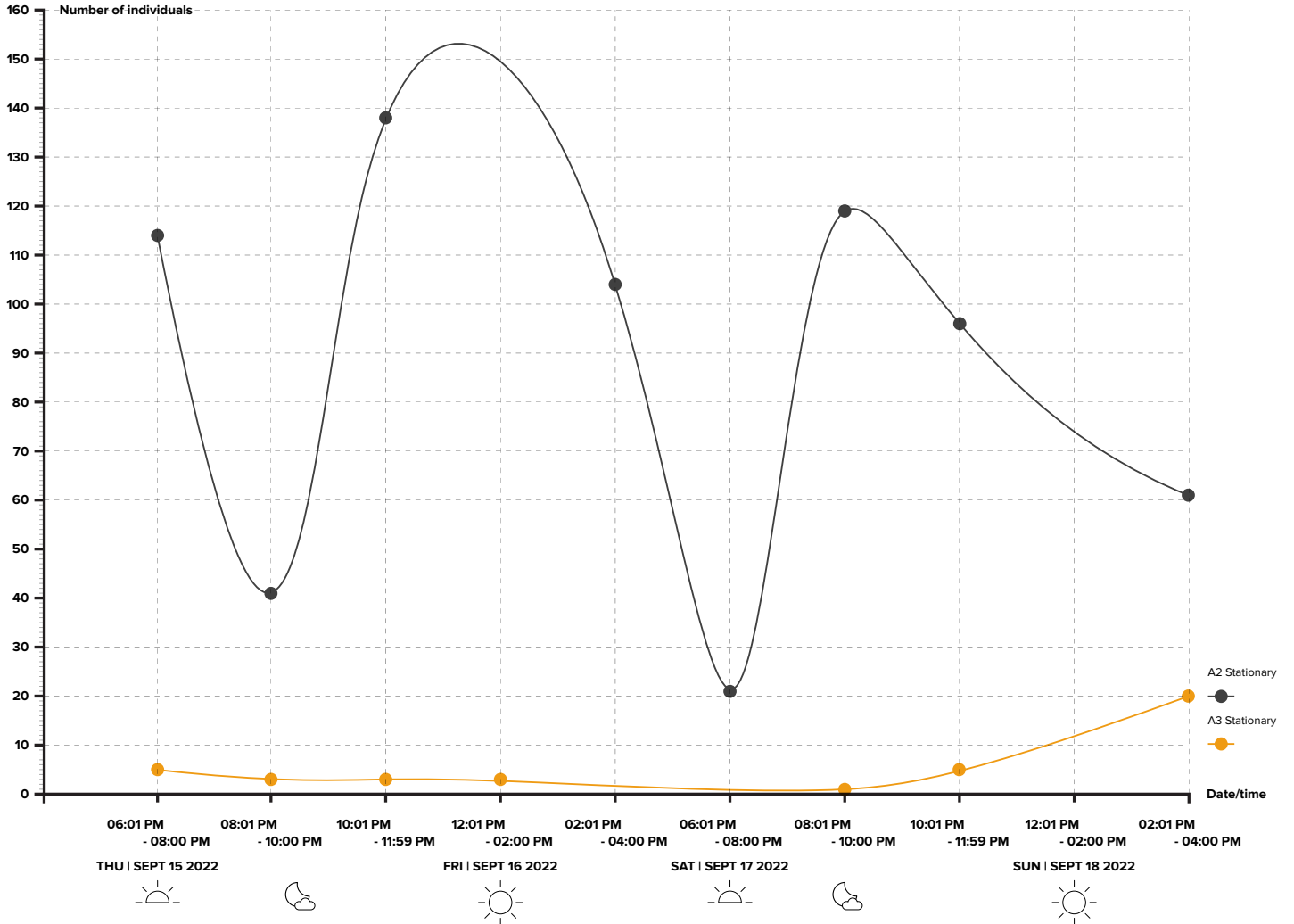
5-10 min

10+ min

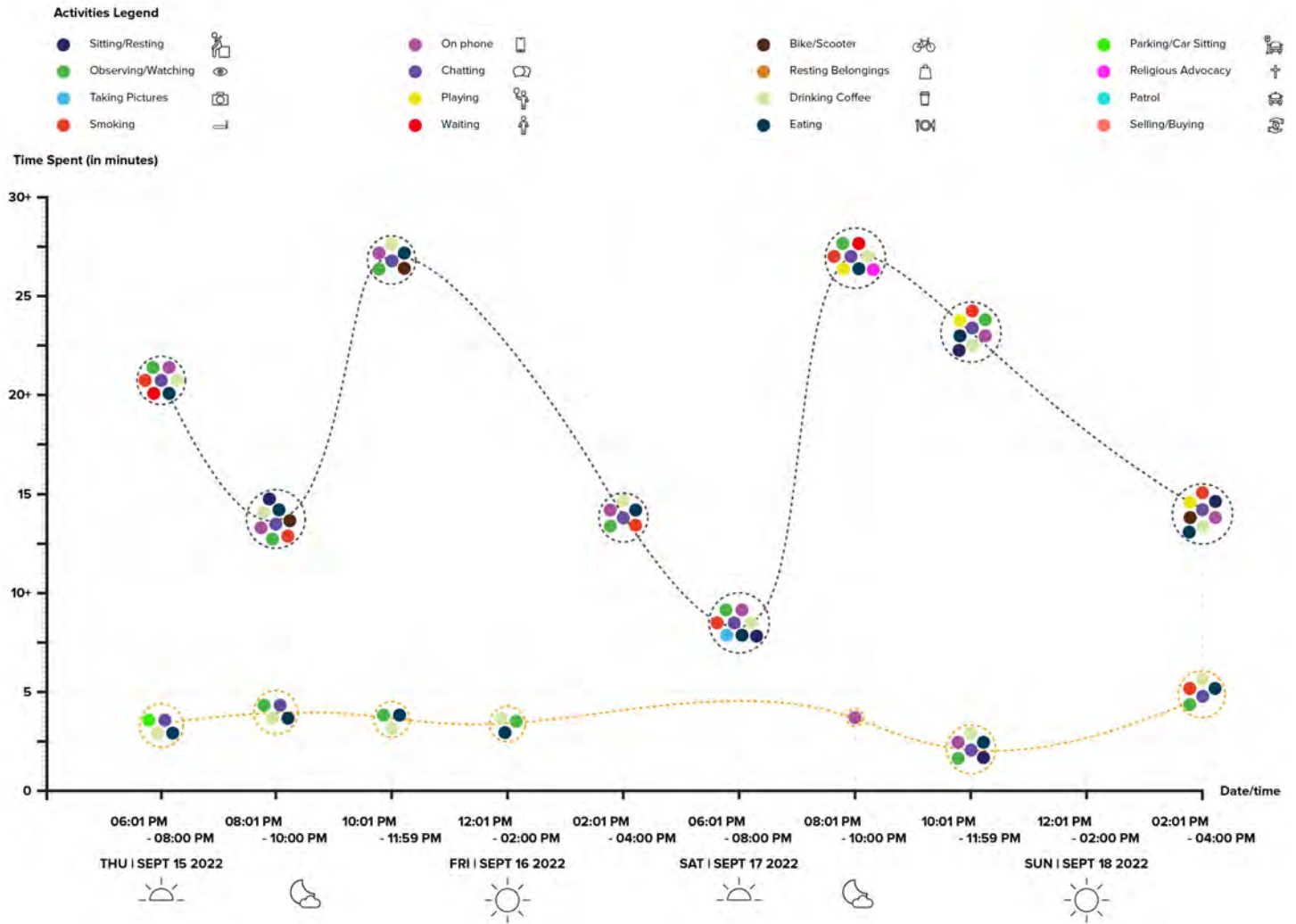
- Sitting/Resting
- Observing/Watching
- Taking Pictures
- Smoking
- On phone
- Chatting
- Playing
- Waiting
- Bike/Scooter
- Resting Belongings
- Drinking Coffee
- Eating
- Parking/Car Sitting
- Religious Advocacy
- Patrol
- Selling/Buying

# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## September 2022 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2022-09), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2022-09), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

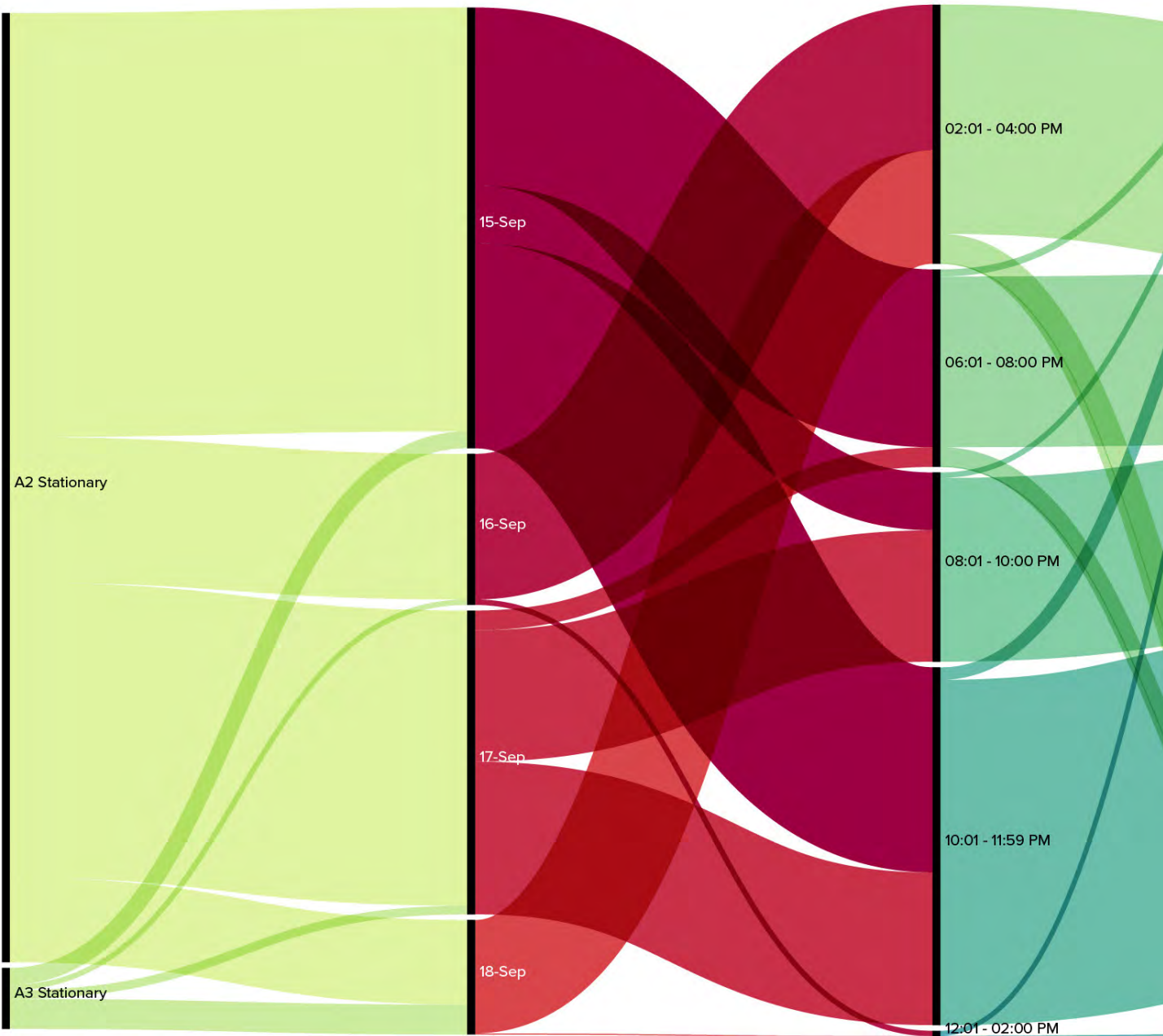
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

September 2022 (continued)

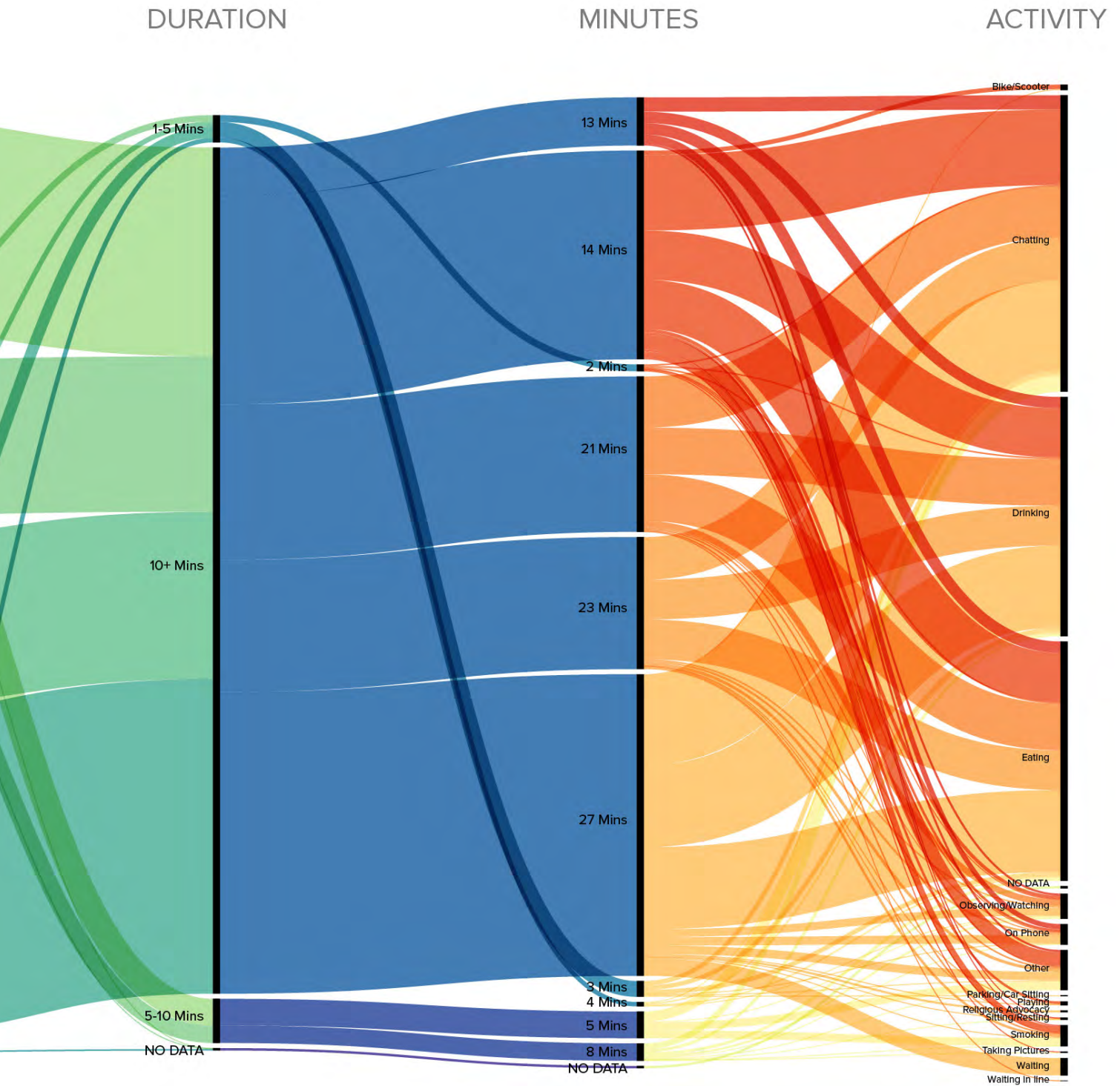
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2022-09), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



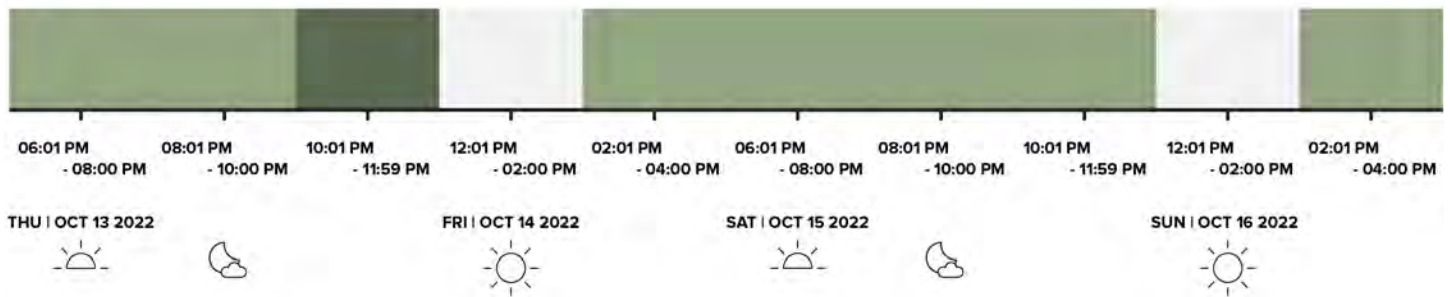
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## October 2022

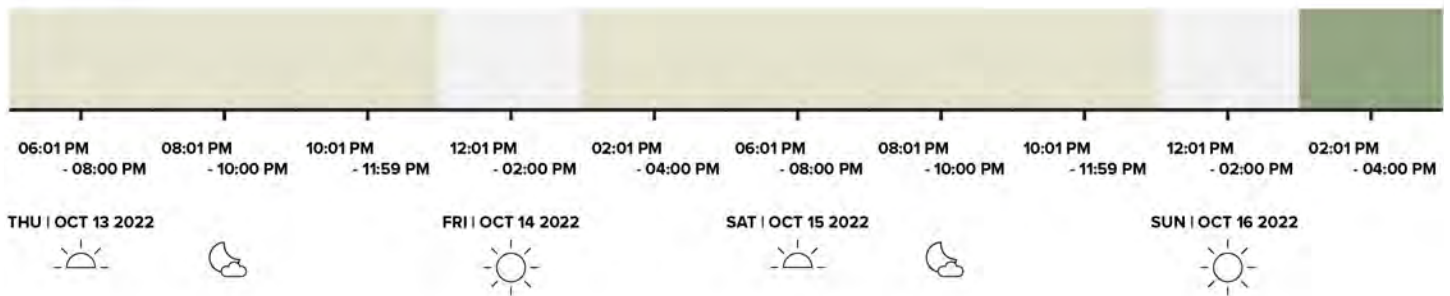
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary

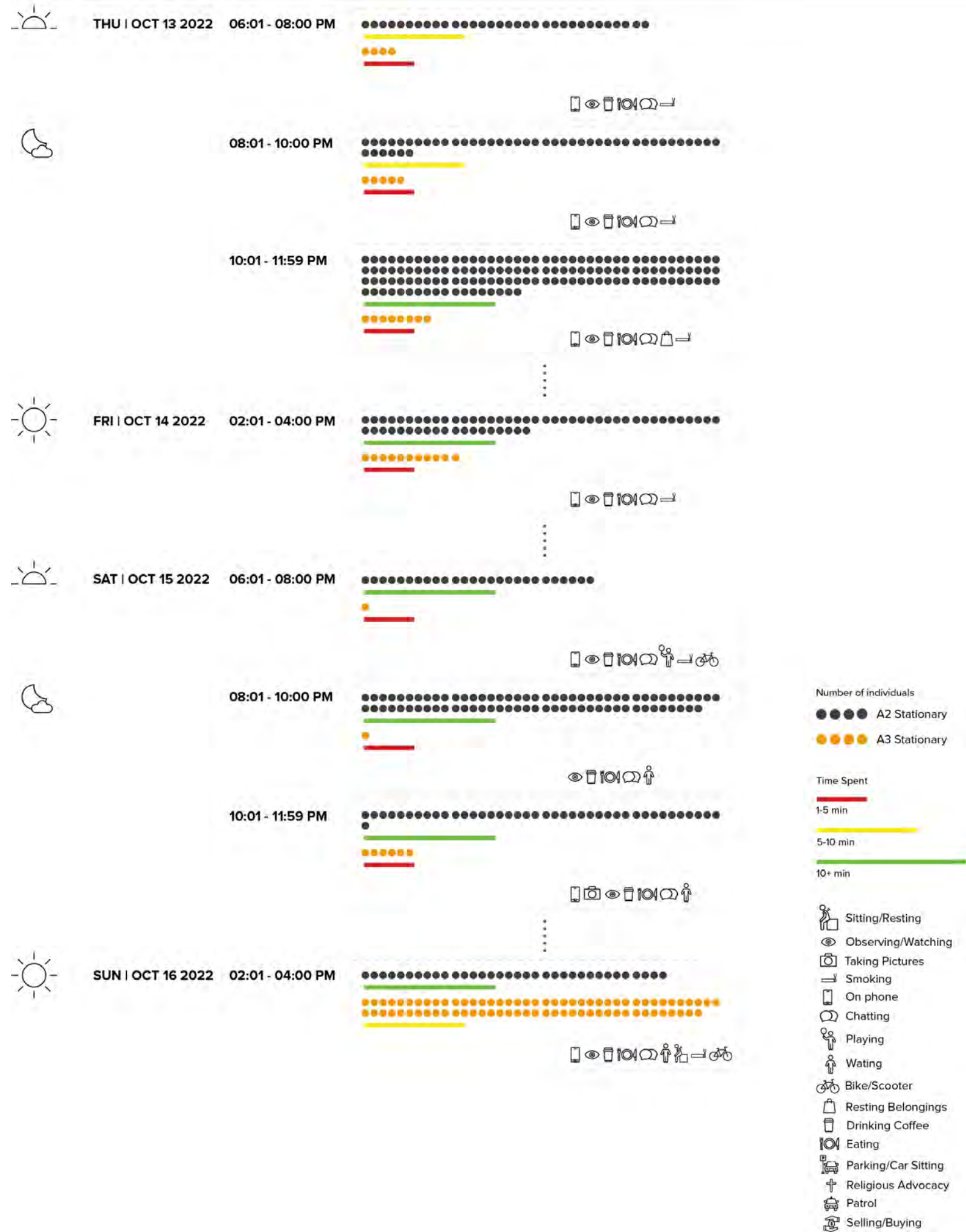


A3 Stationary



Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2022-10), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2022-10), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# OCTOBER | 2022



Number of individuals

- ● ● ● ● A2 Stationary
- ● ● ● ● A3 Stationary

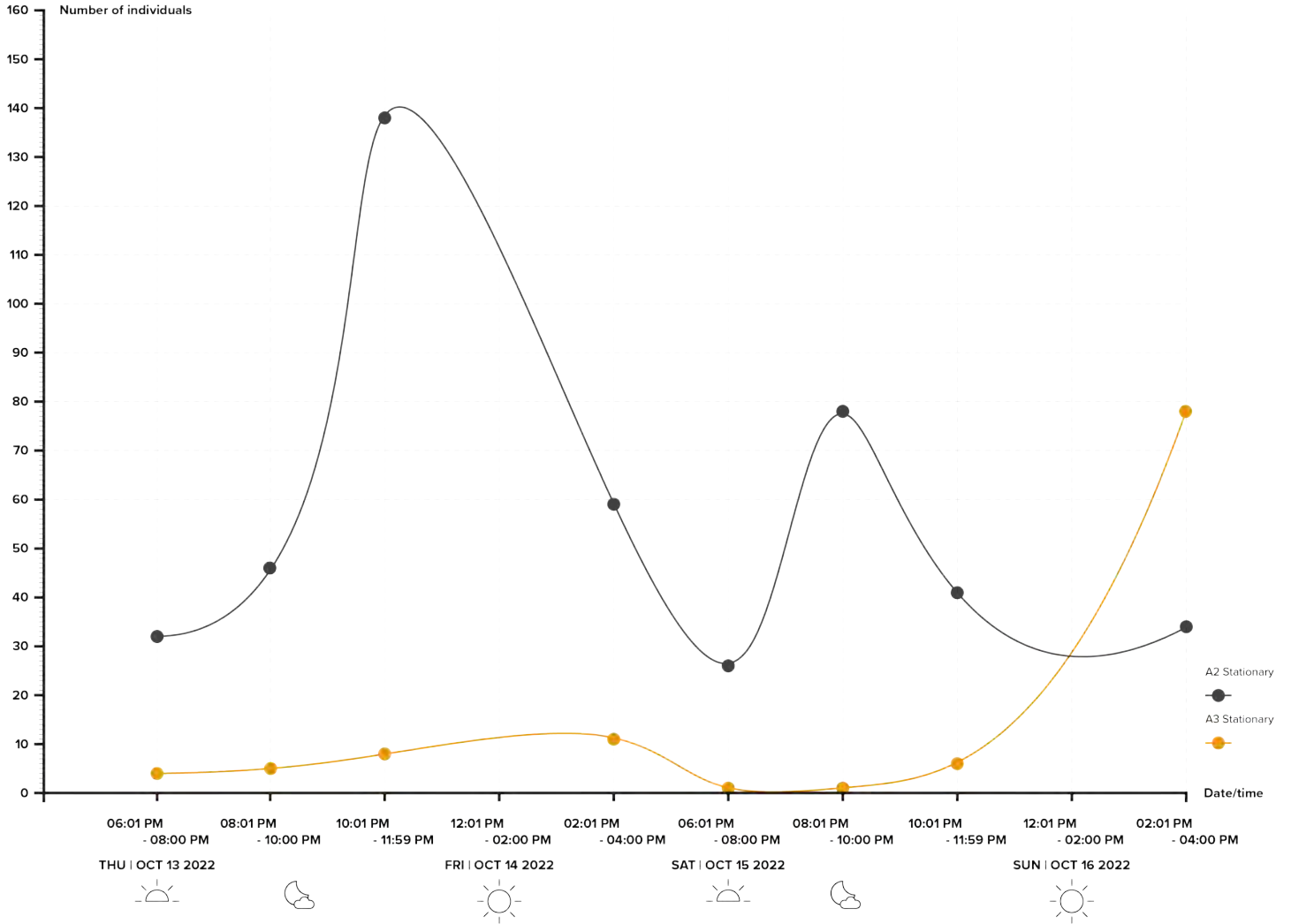
Time Spent

- 1-5 min
- 5-10 min
- 10+ min

- Sitting/Resting
- Observing/Watching
- Taking Pictures
- Smoking
- On phone
- Chatting
- Playing
- Wating
- Bike/Scooter
- Resting Belongings
- Drinking Coffee
- Eating
- Parking/Car Sitting
- Religious Advocacy
- Patrol
- Selling/Buying

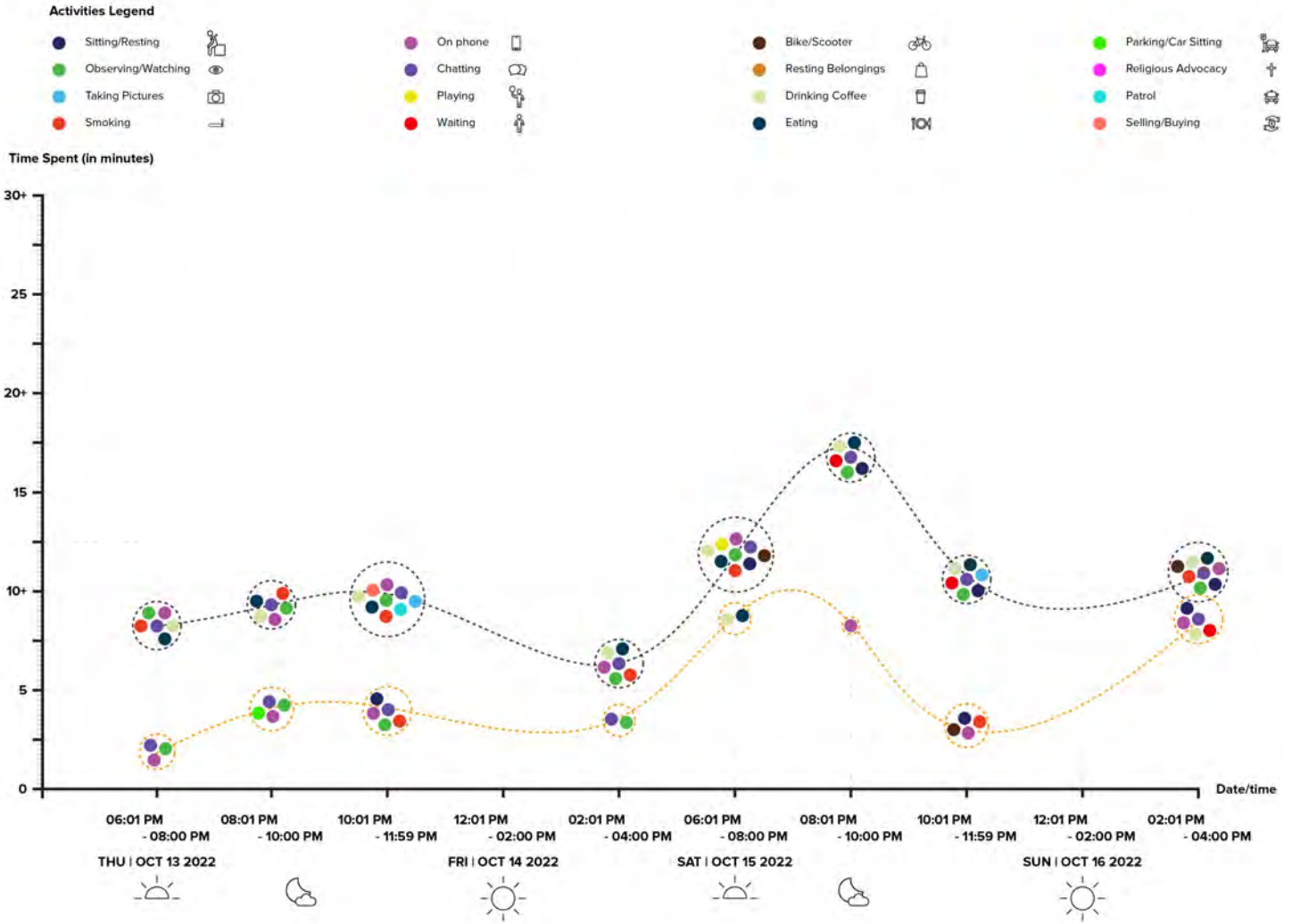
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## October 2022 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2022-10), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.





Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2022-10), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

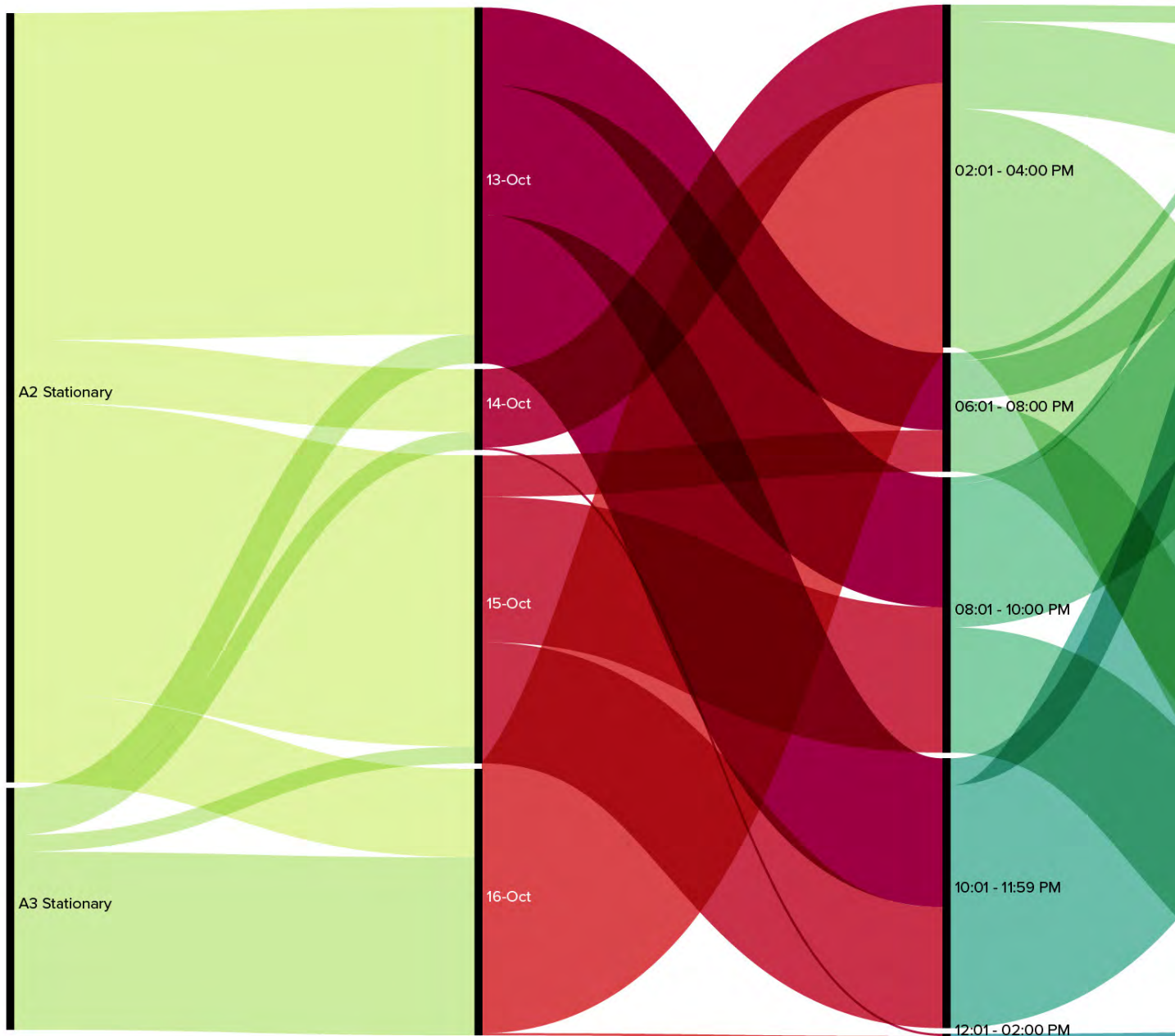
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

October 2022 (continued)

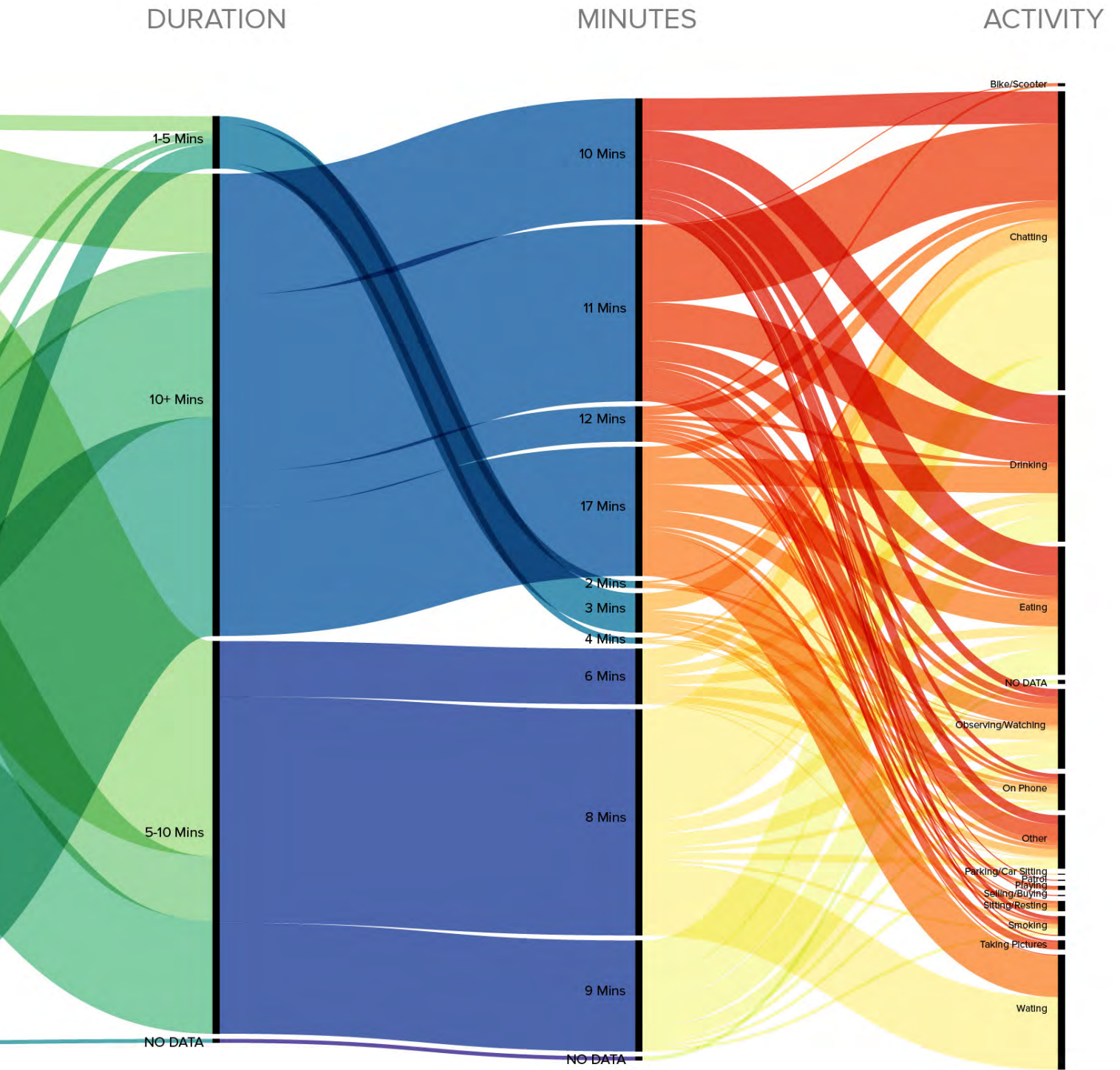
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2022-10), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



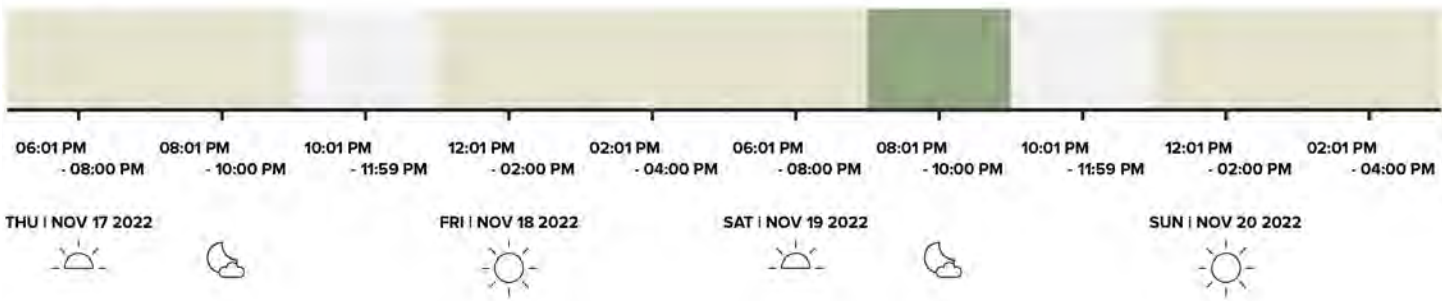
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## November 2022

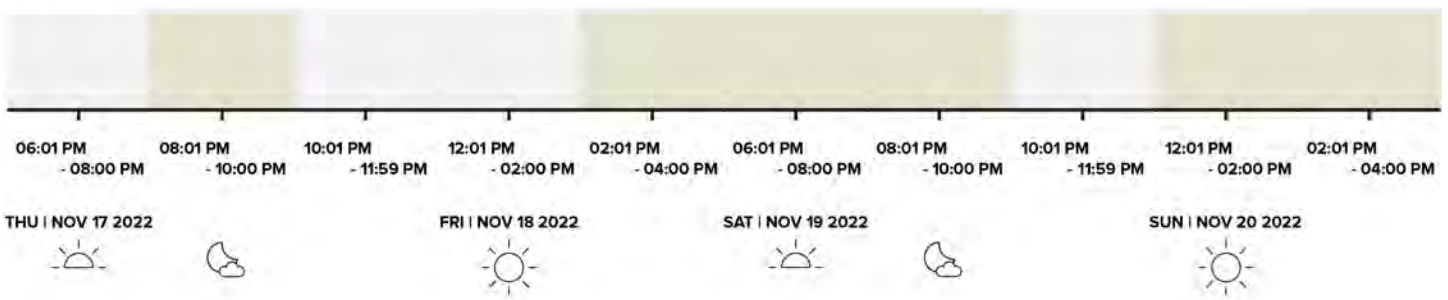
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary

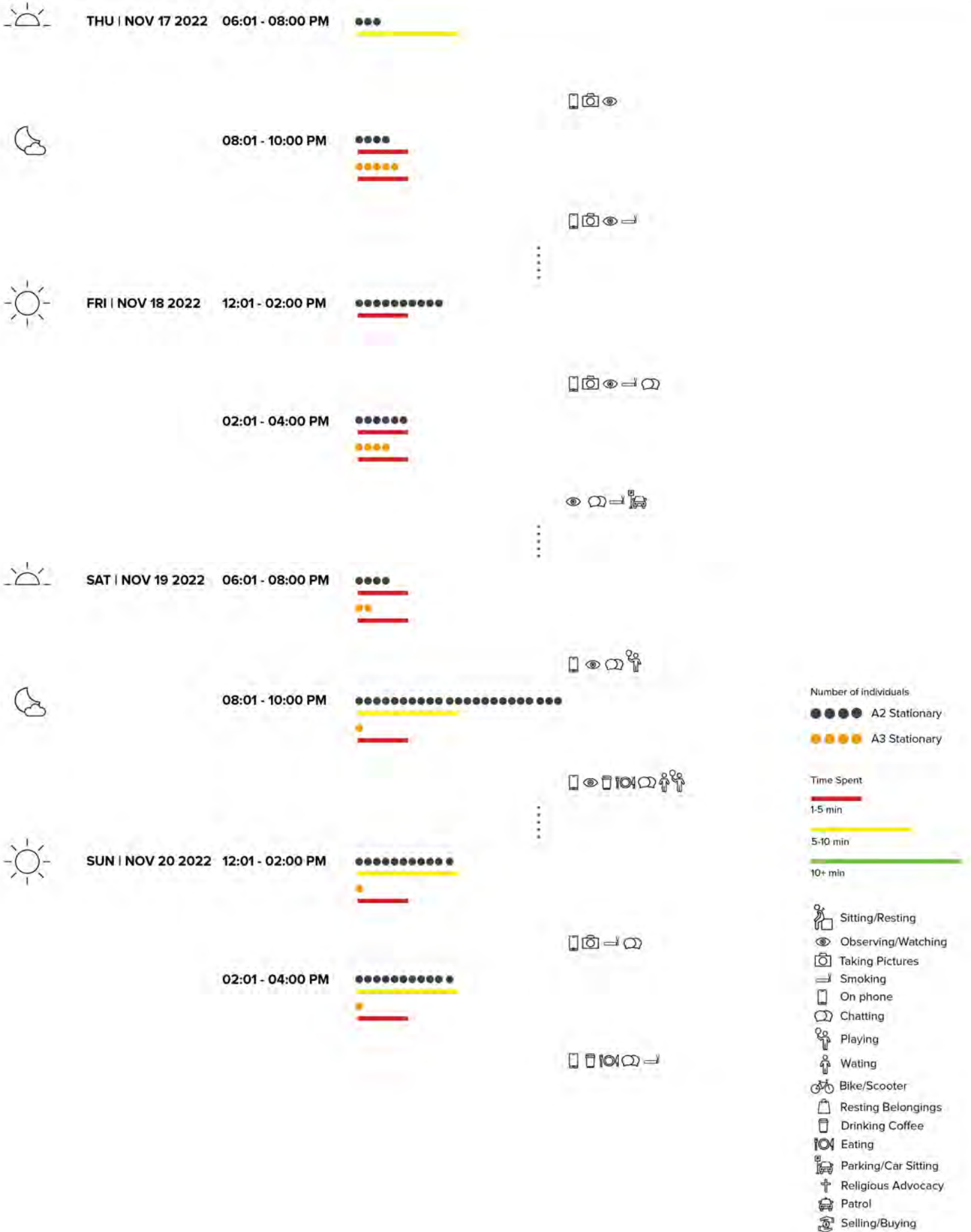


A3 Stationary



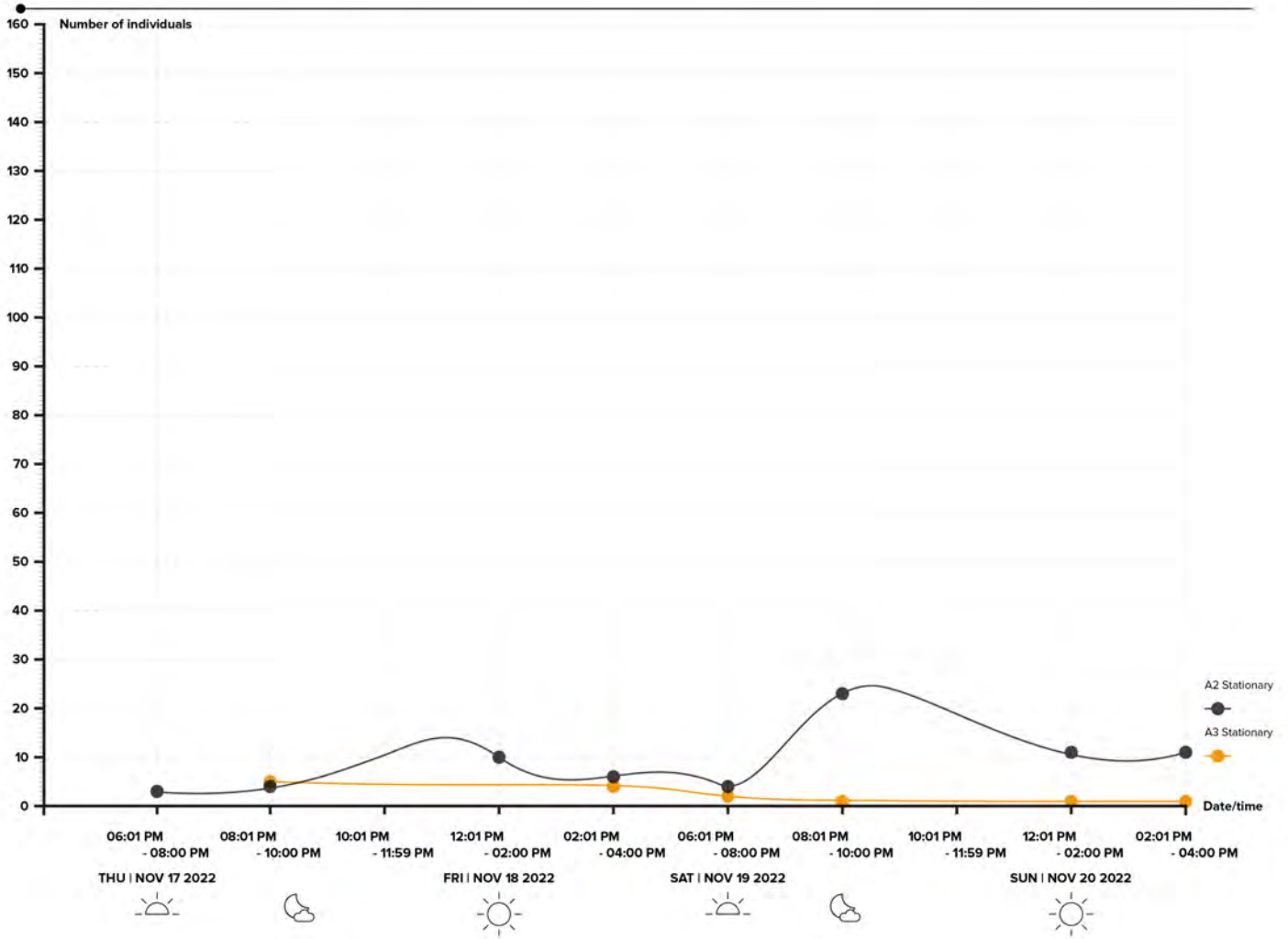
Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2022-11), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2022-11), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# NOVEMBER | 2022

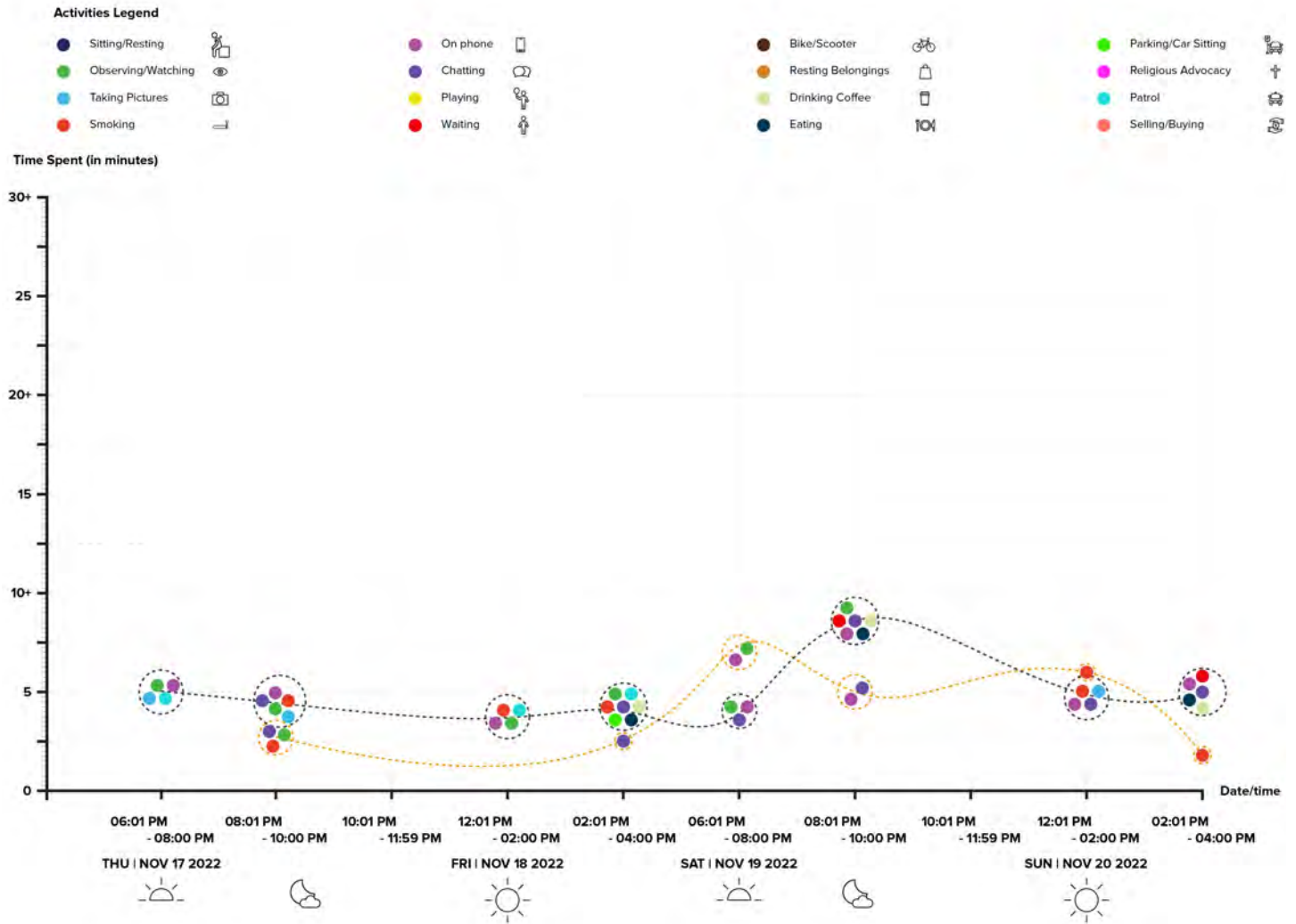


# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## November 2022 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2022-11), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



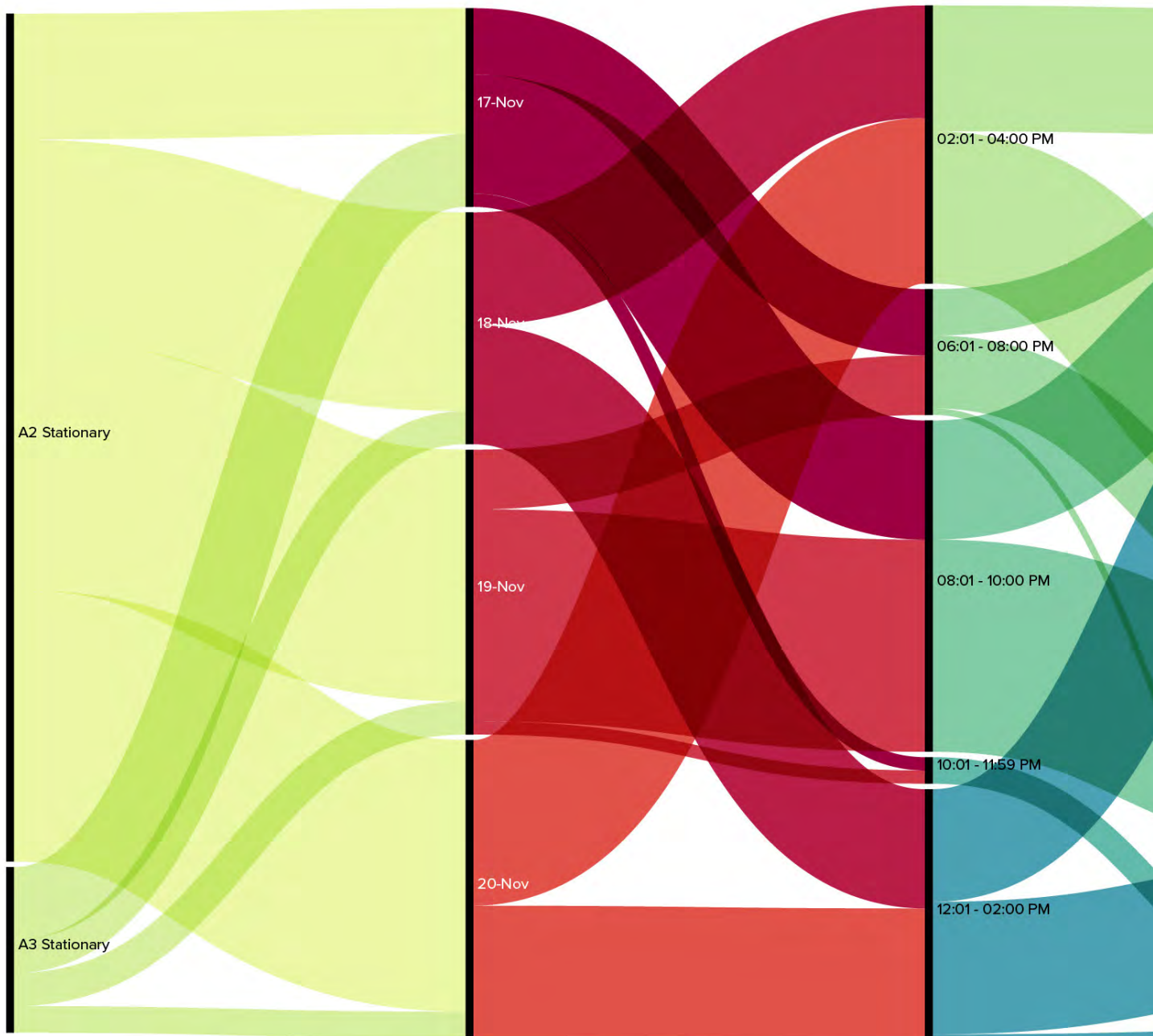
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

November 2022 (continued)

SITE

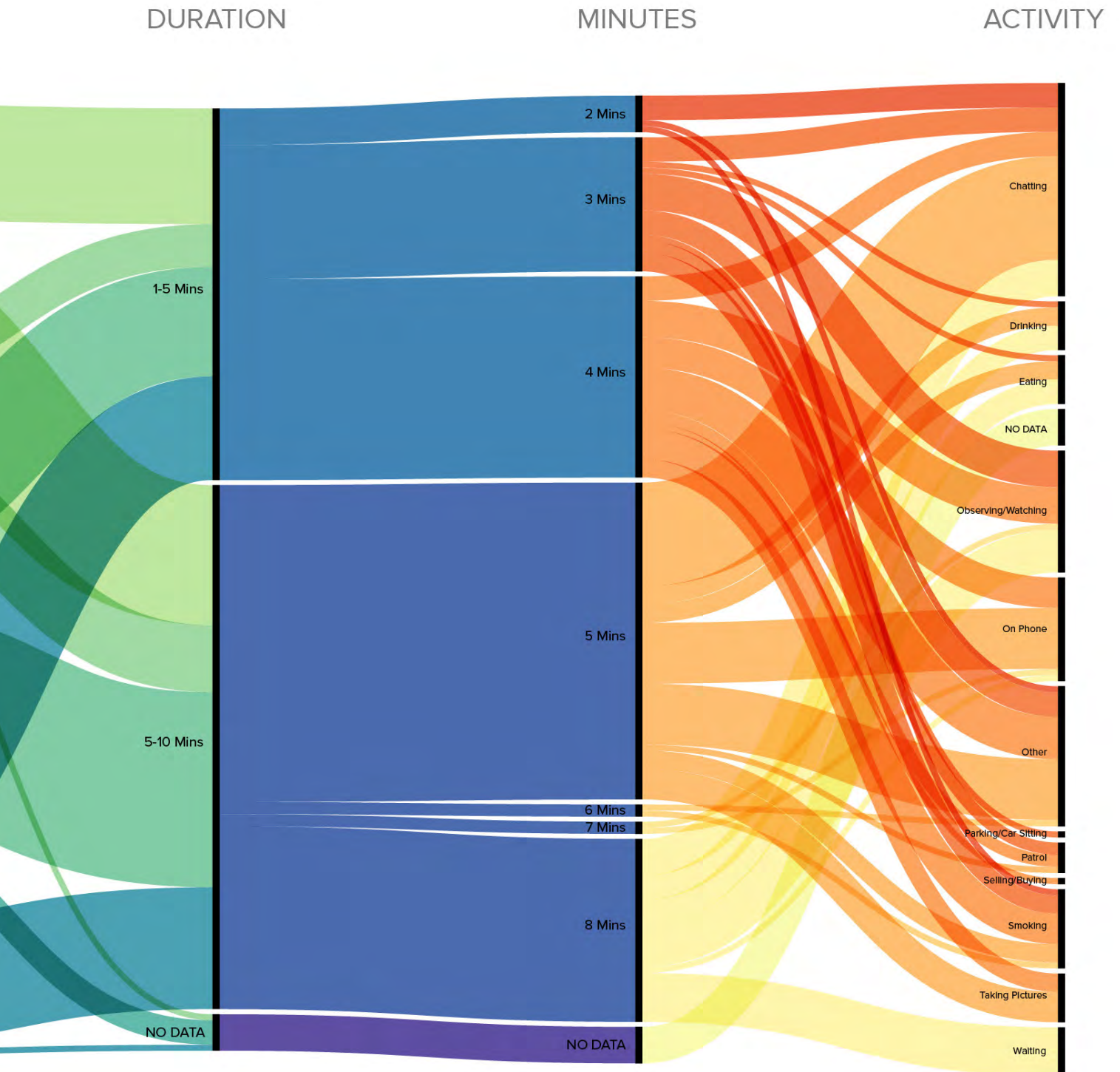
DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2022-11), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.





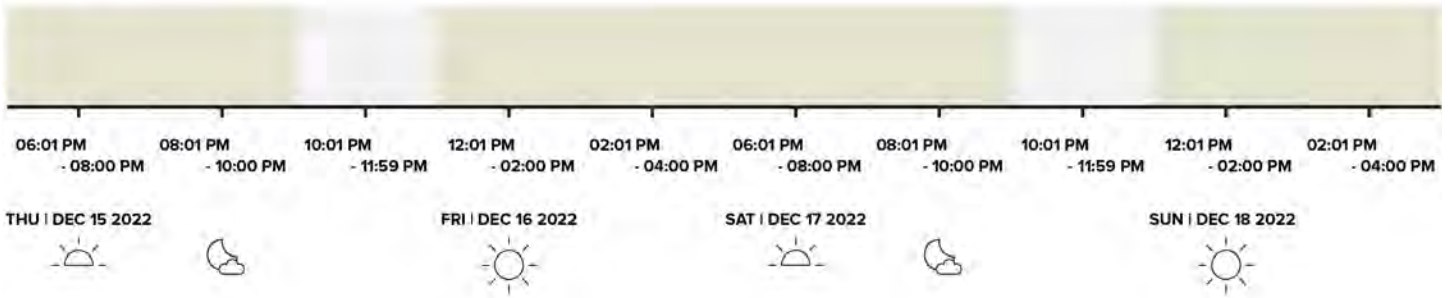
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## December 2022

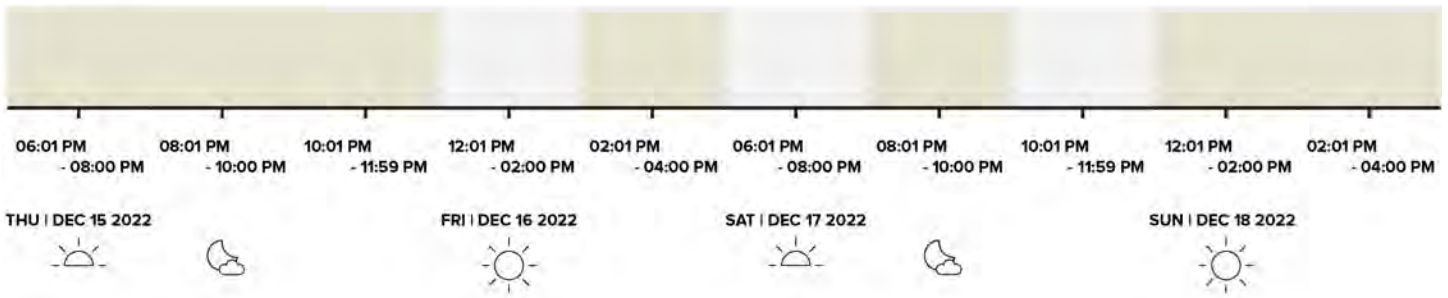
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary

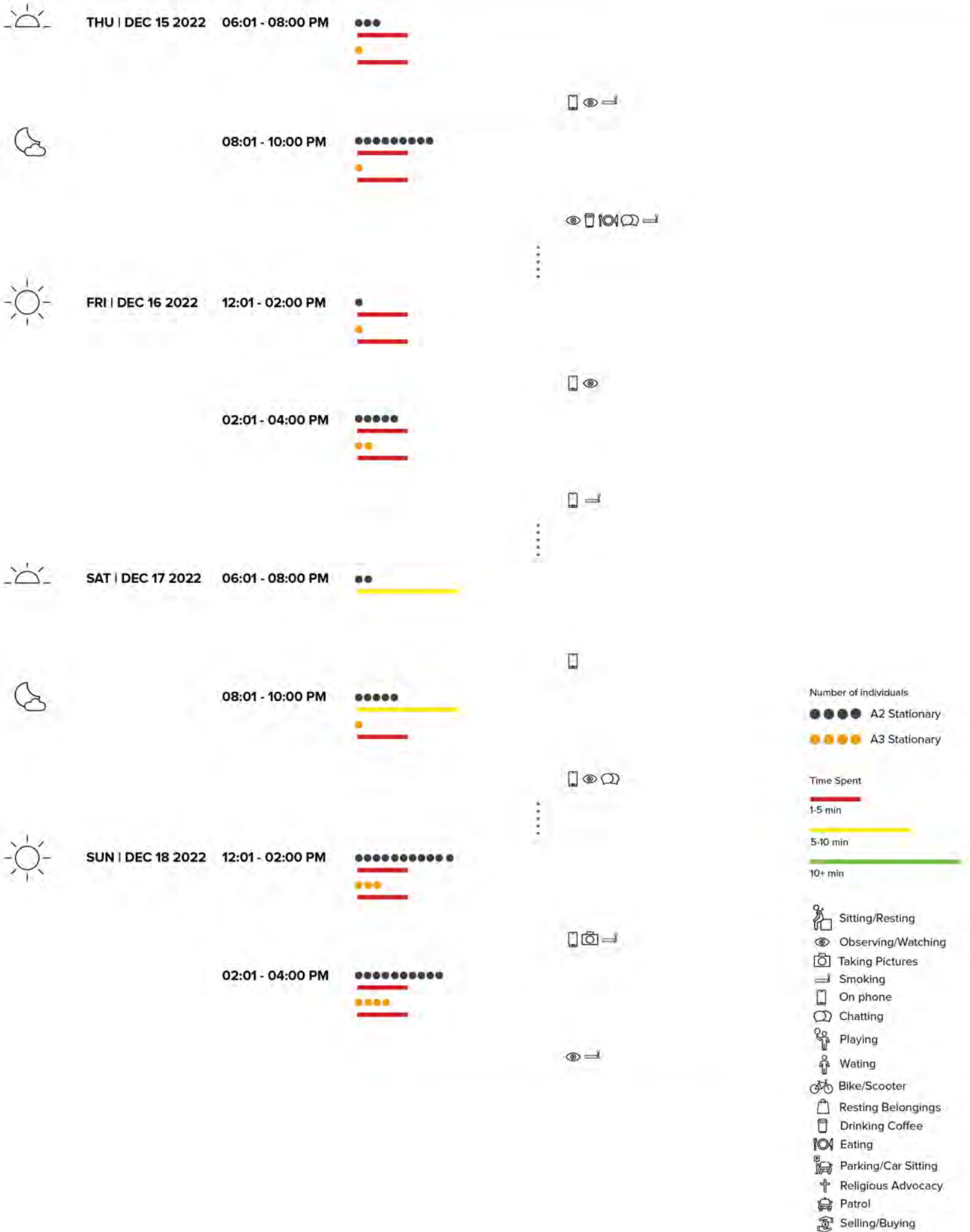


A3 Stationary



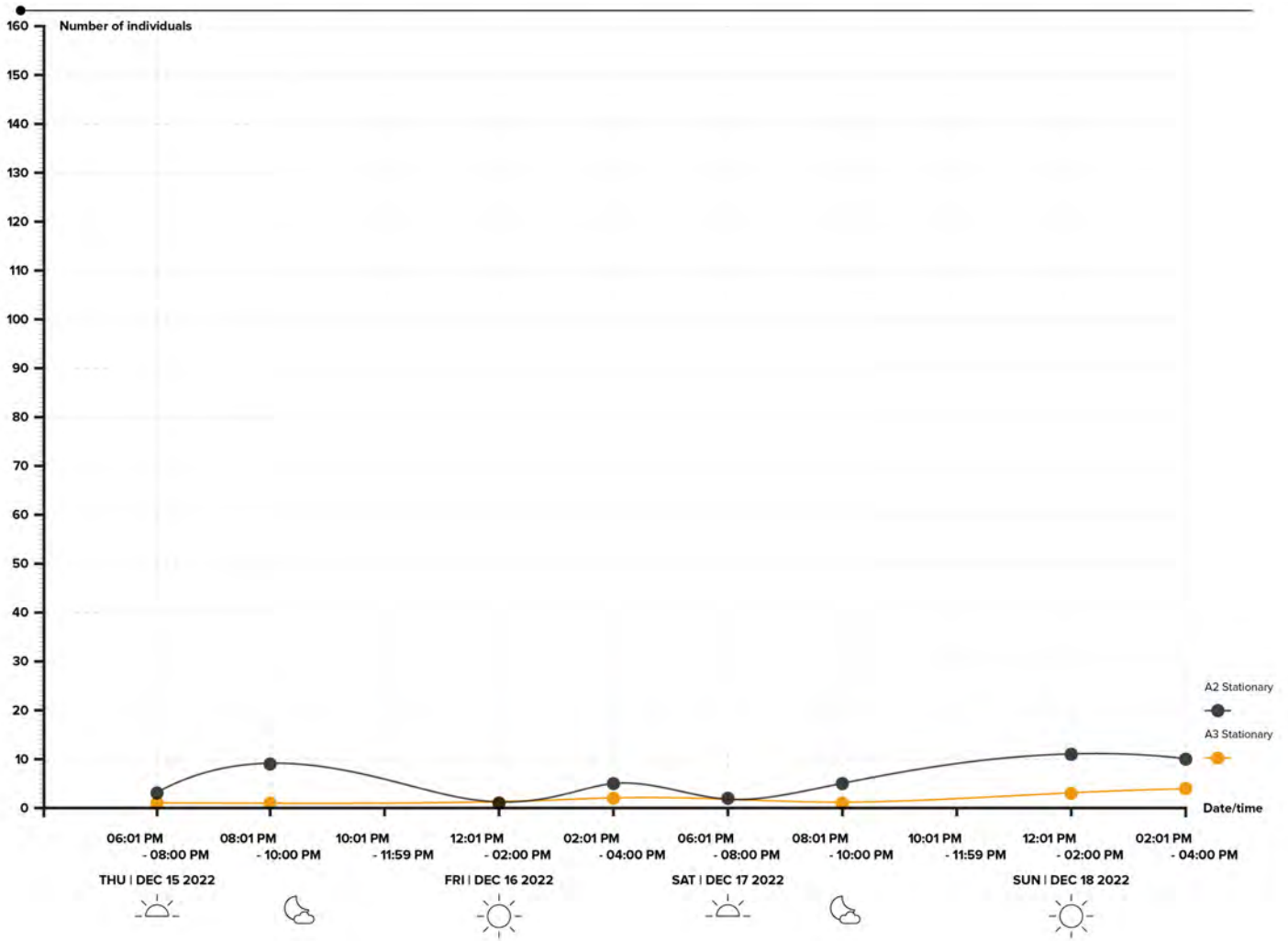
Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2022-12), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2022-12), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# DECEMBER | 2022

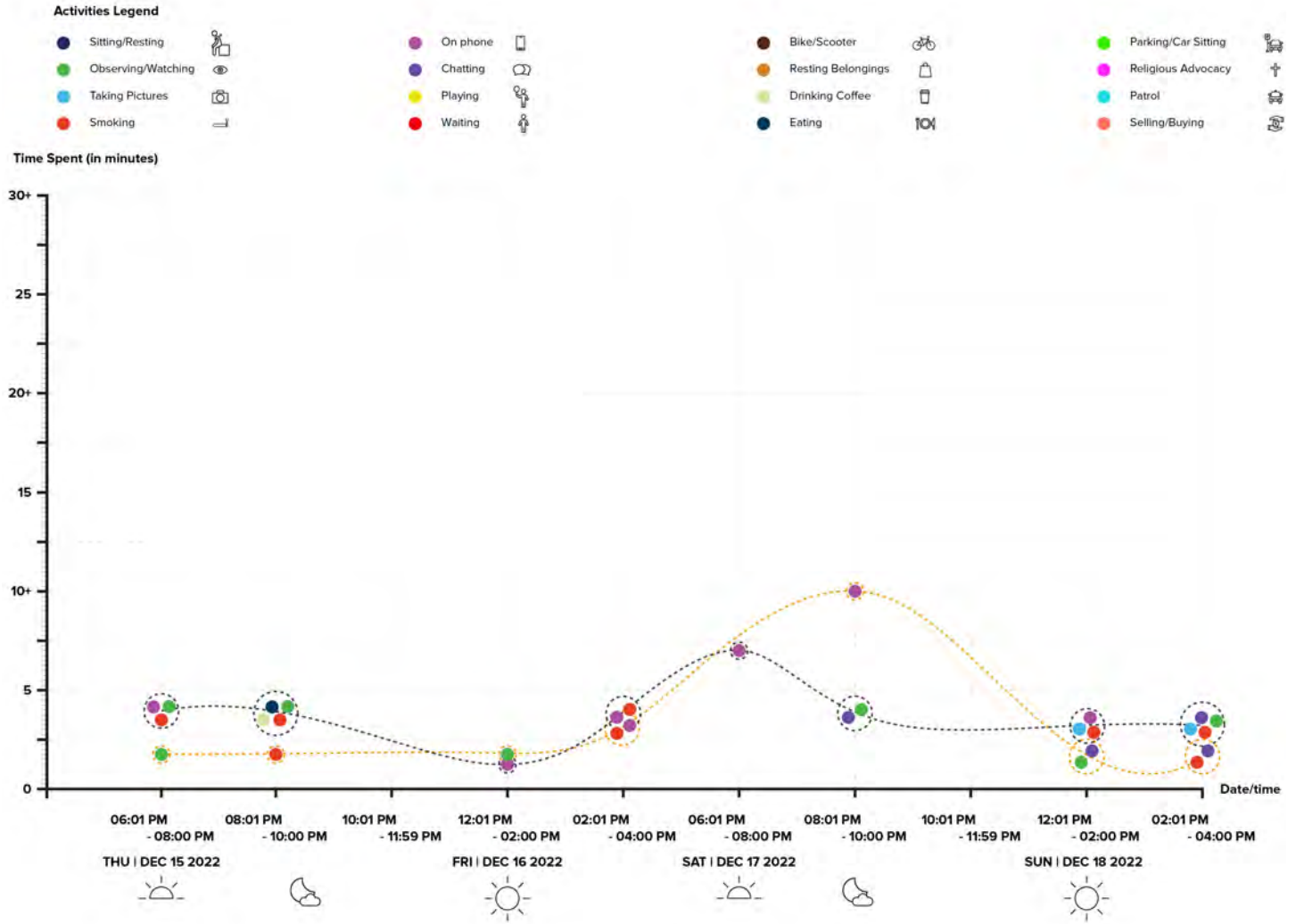


# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## December 2022 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2022-12), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2022-12), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

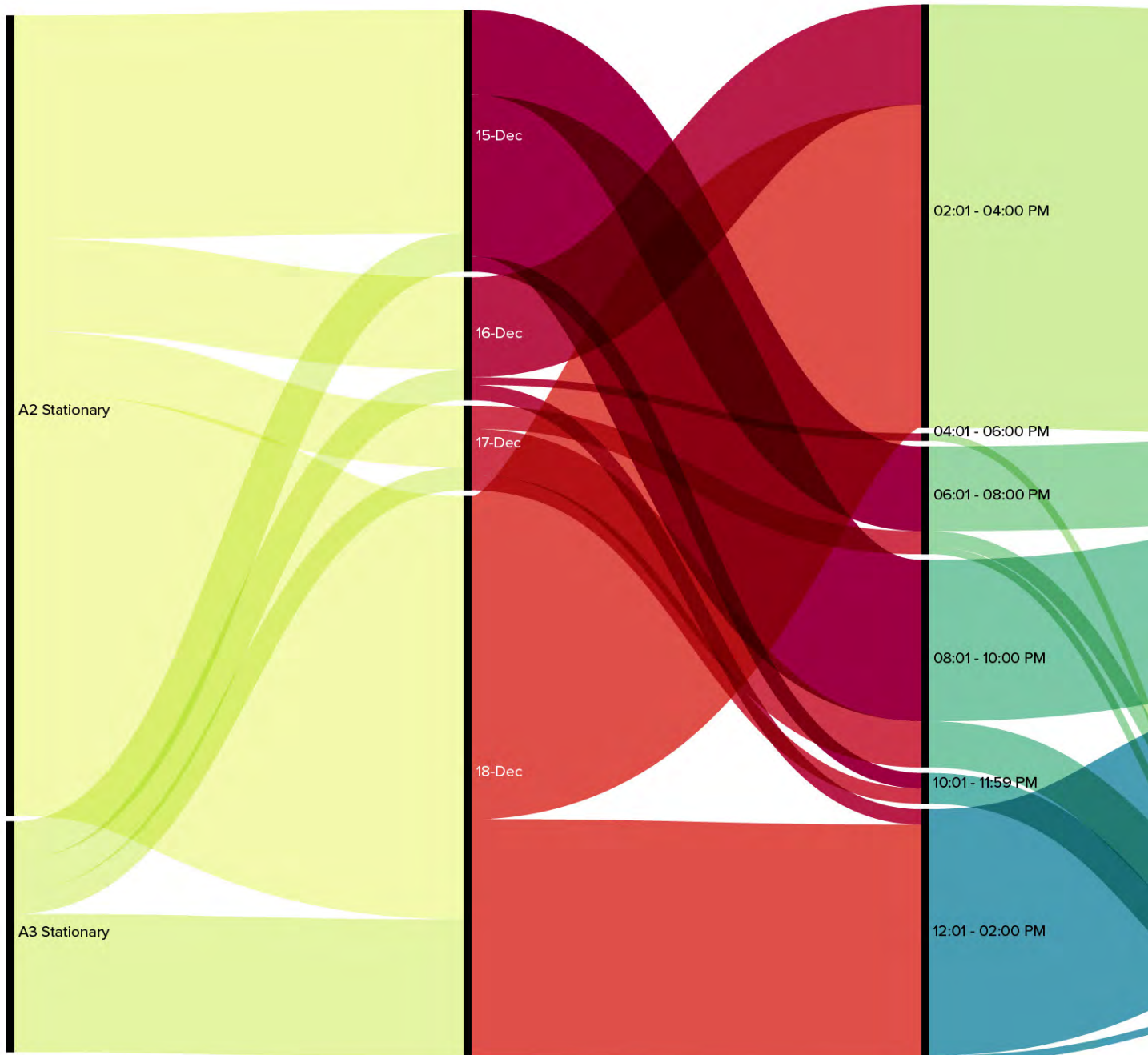
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

December 2022 (continued)

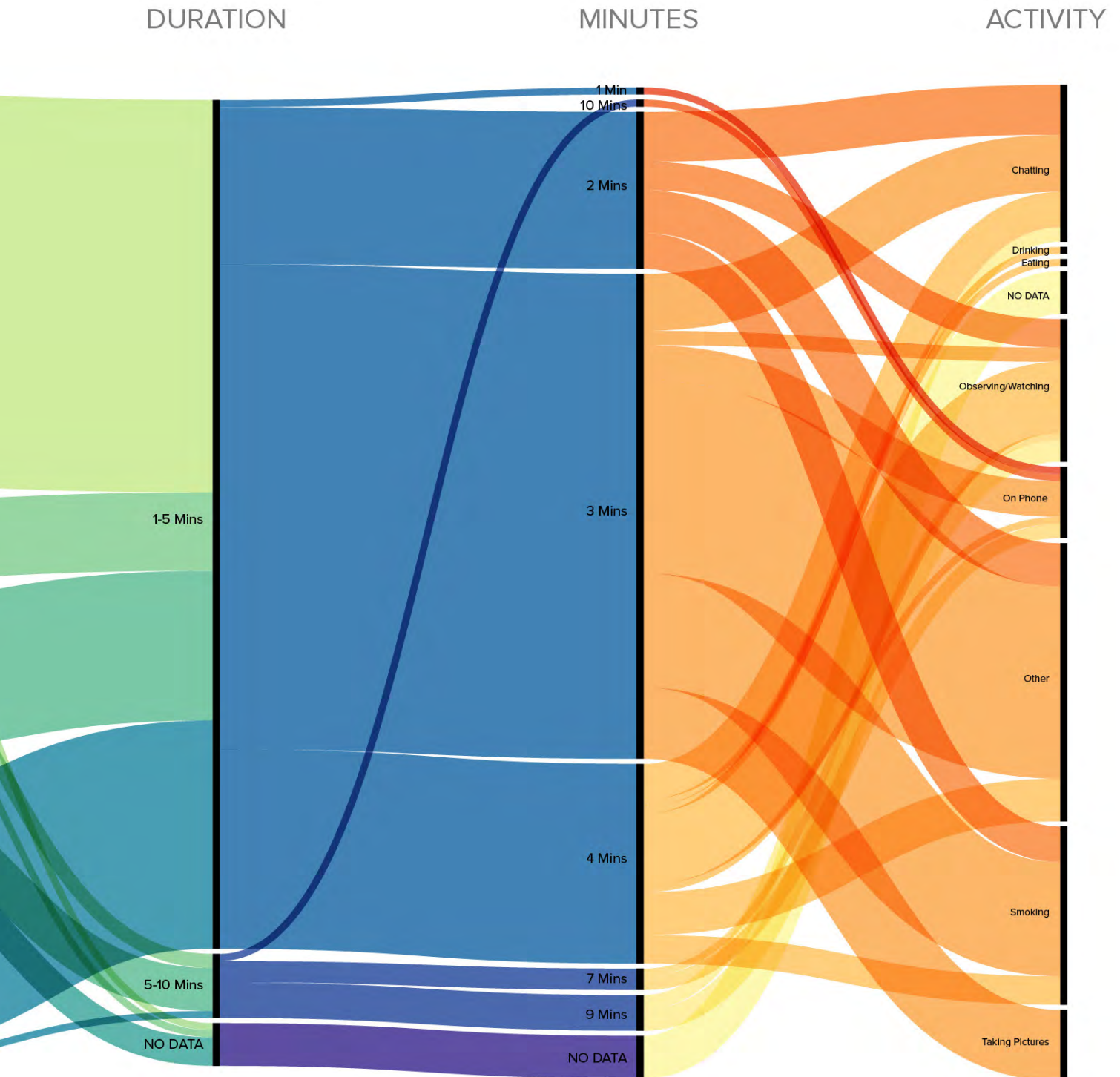
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2022-12), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



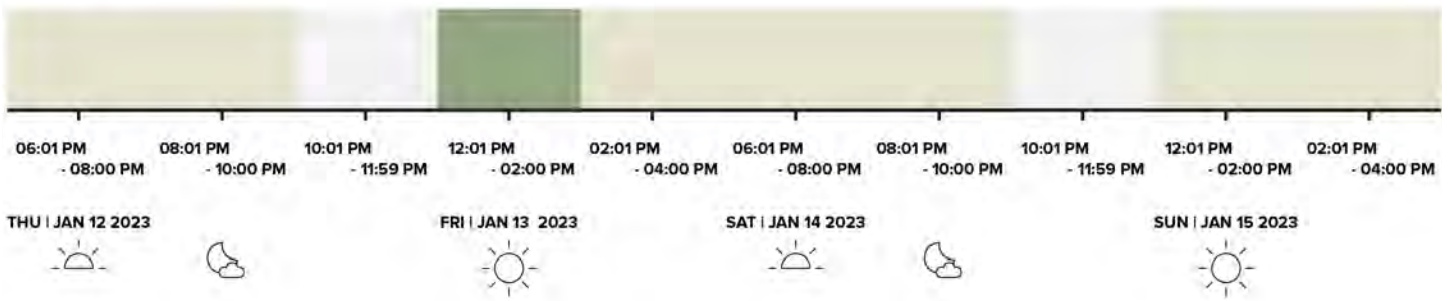
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## January 2023

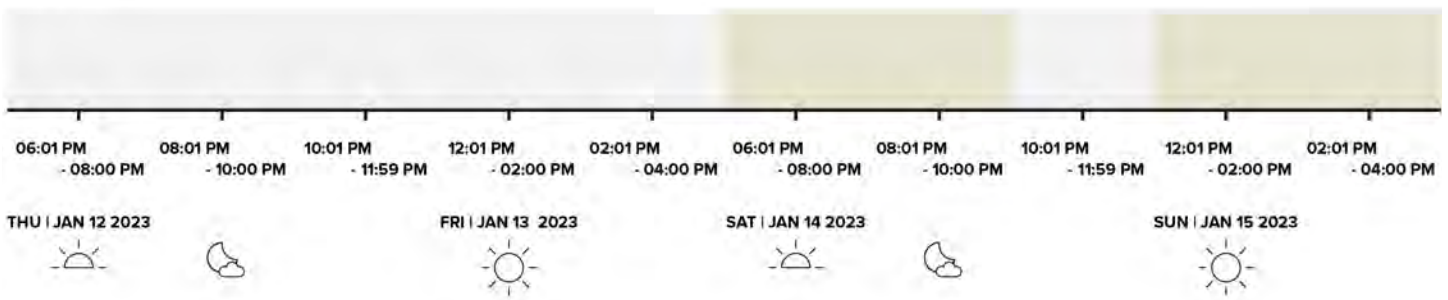
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary



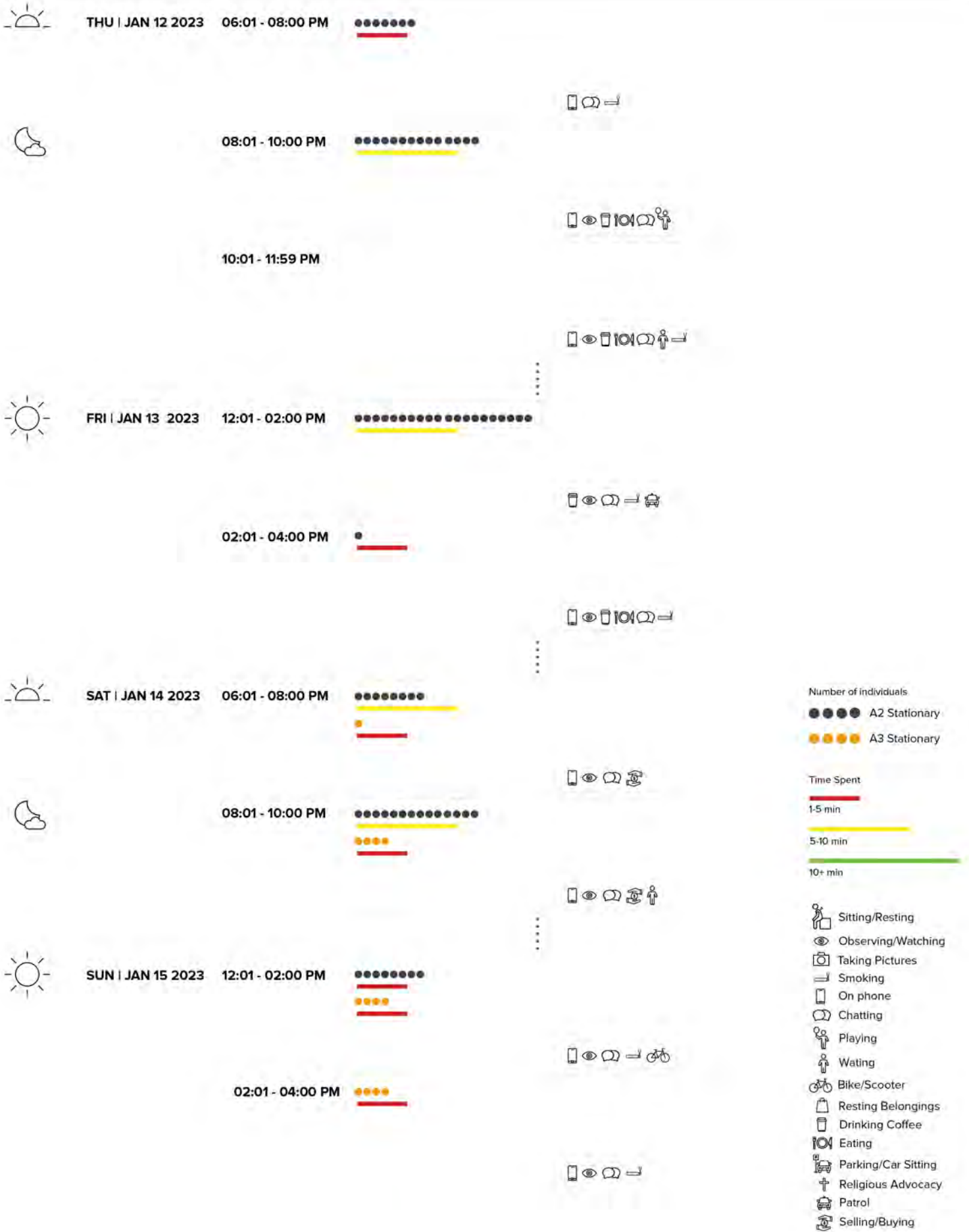
A3 Stationary



Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2023-01), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2023-01), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

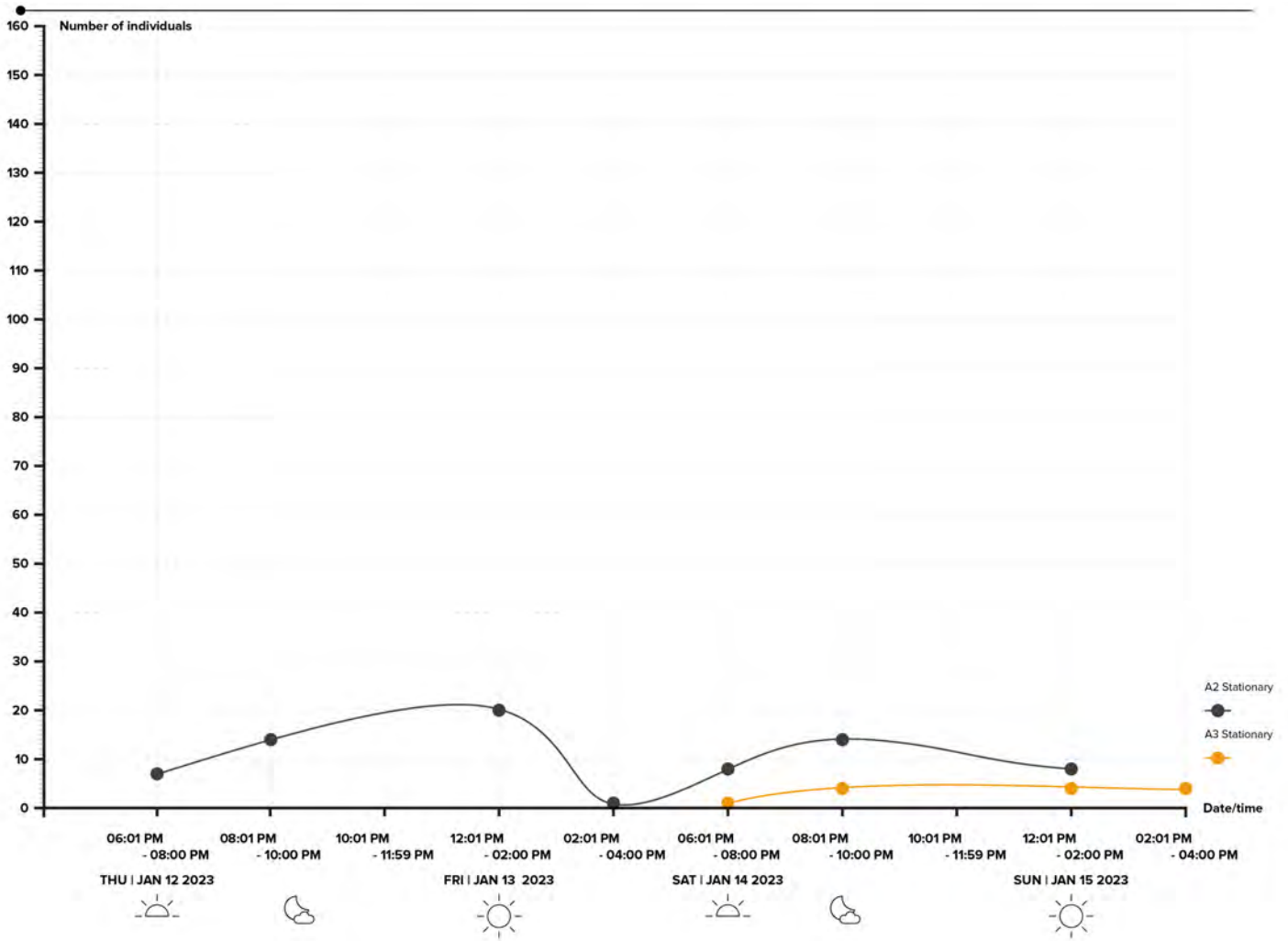


# JANUARY | 2023

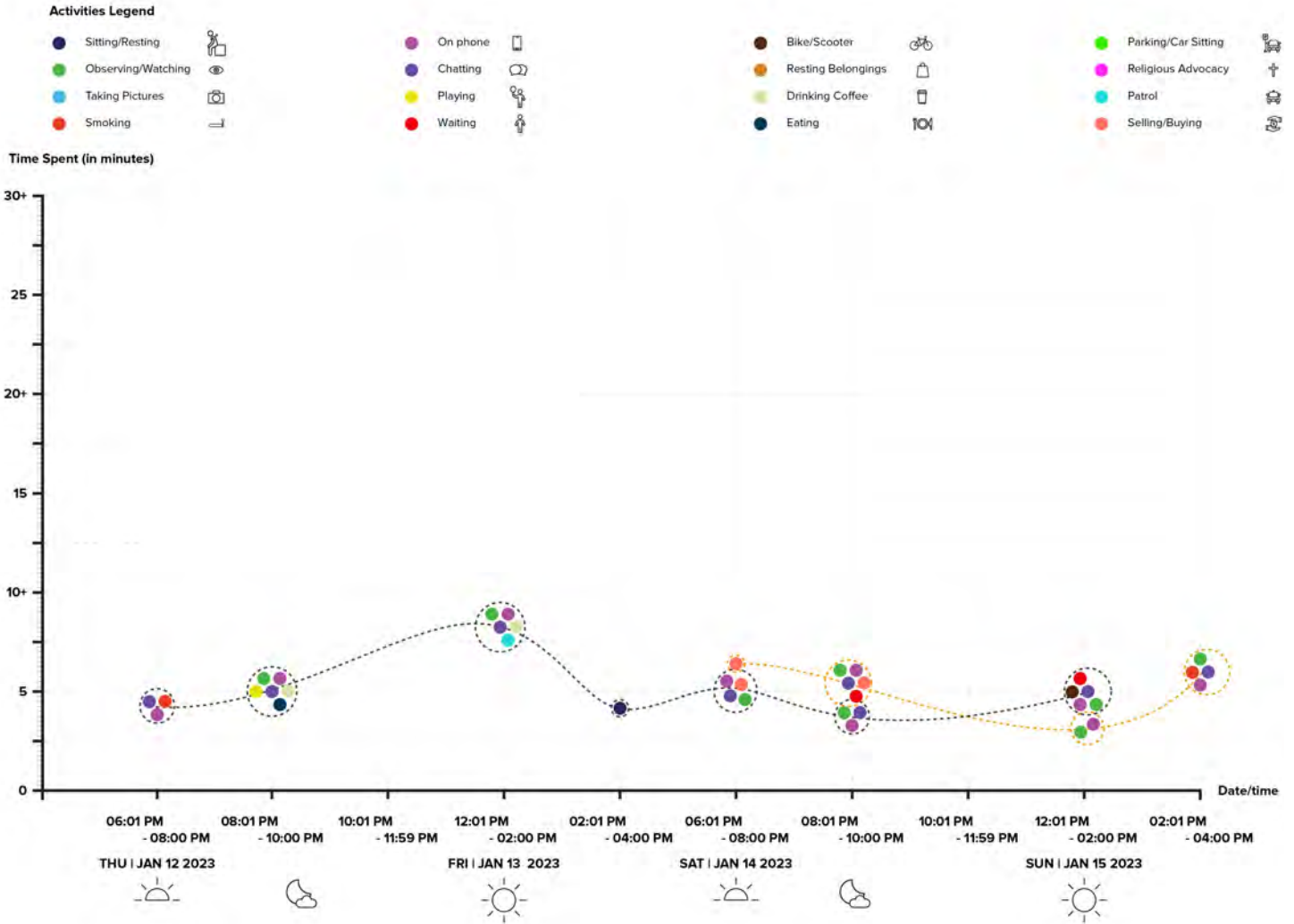


# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## January 2023 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2023-01), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2023-01), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

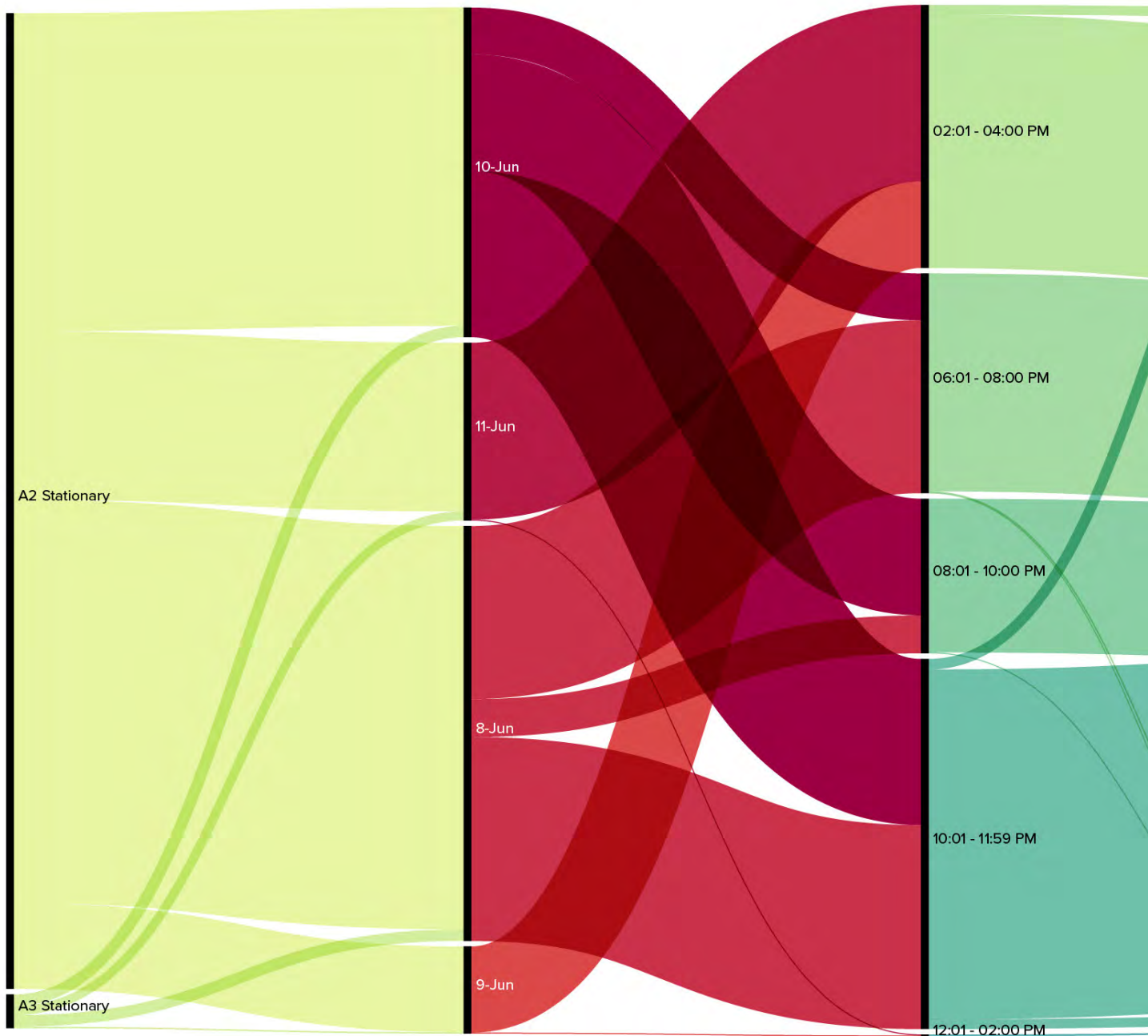
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

January 2023 (continued)

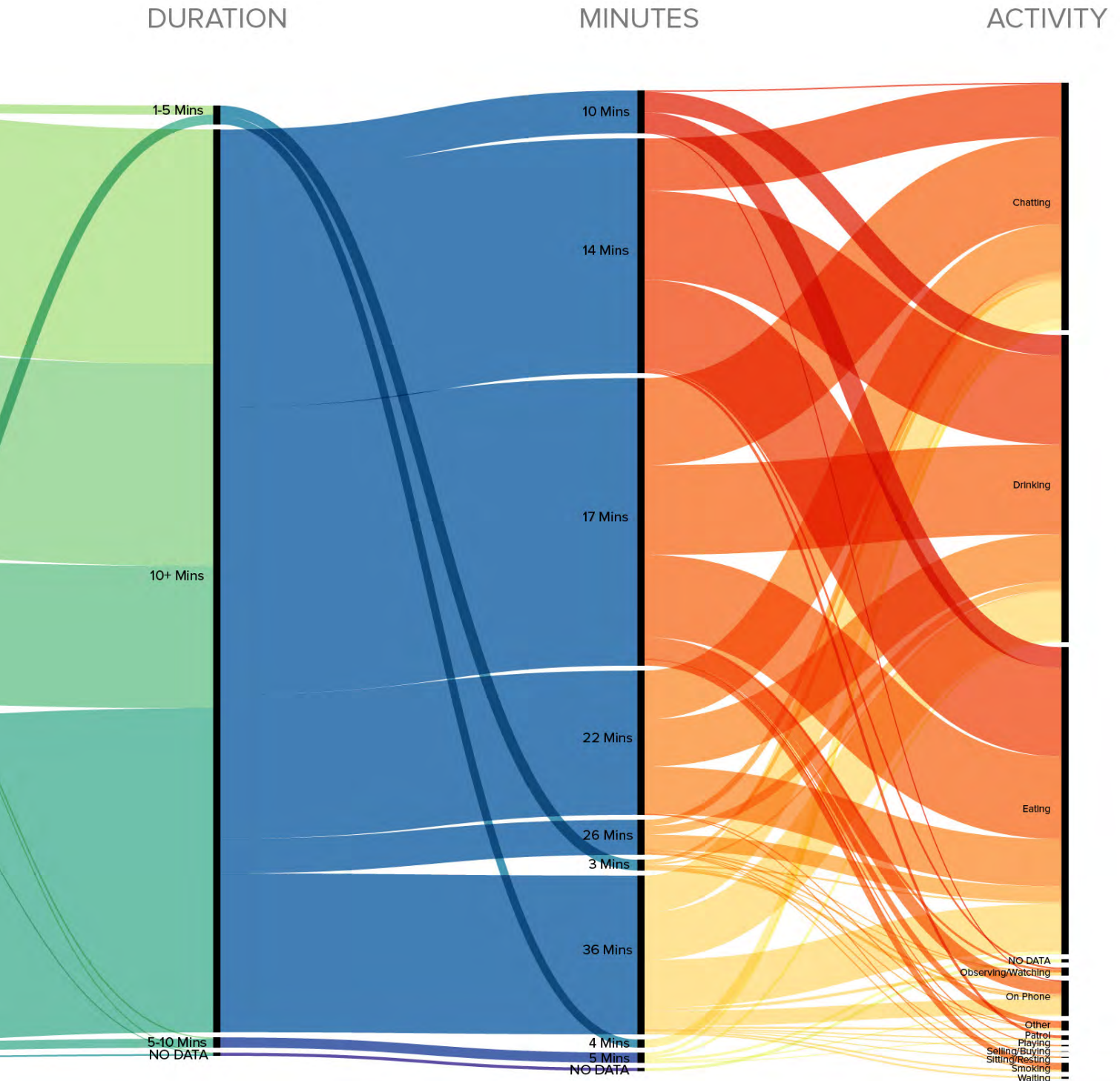
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2023-01), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



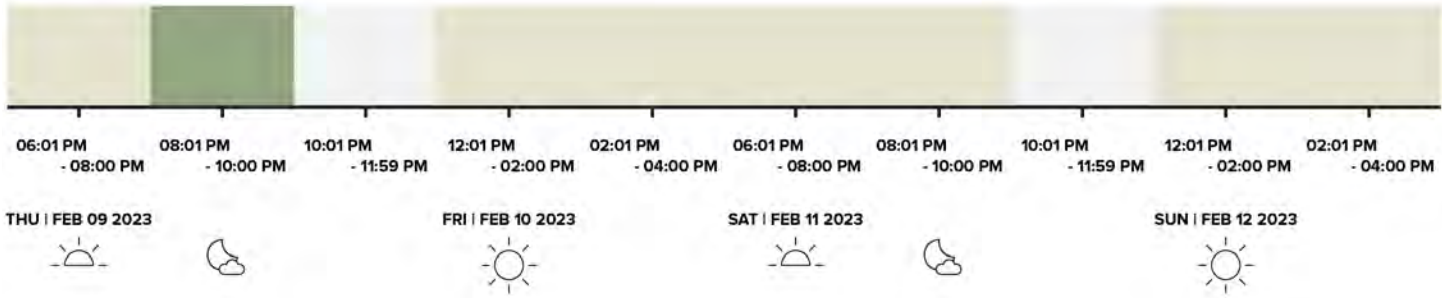
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## February 2023

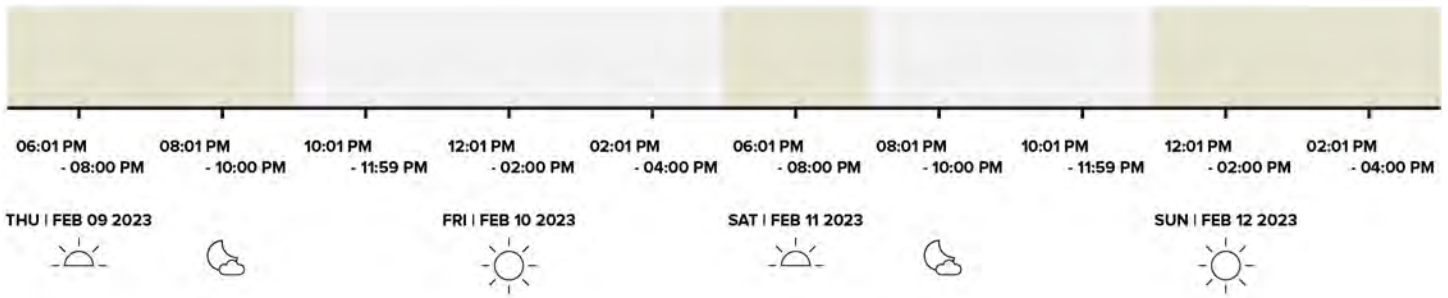
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary

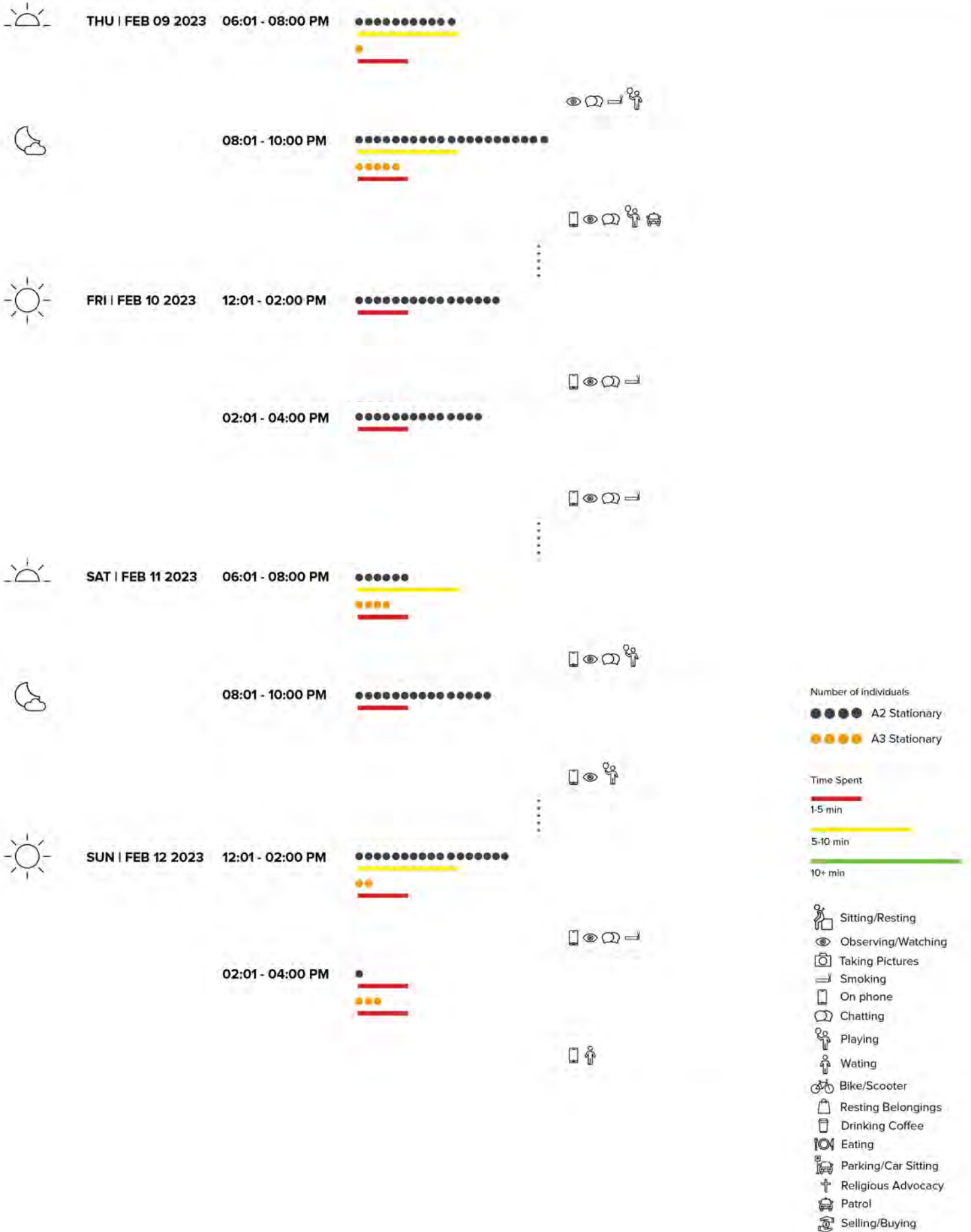


A3 Stationary



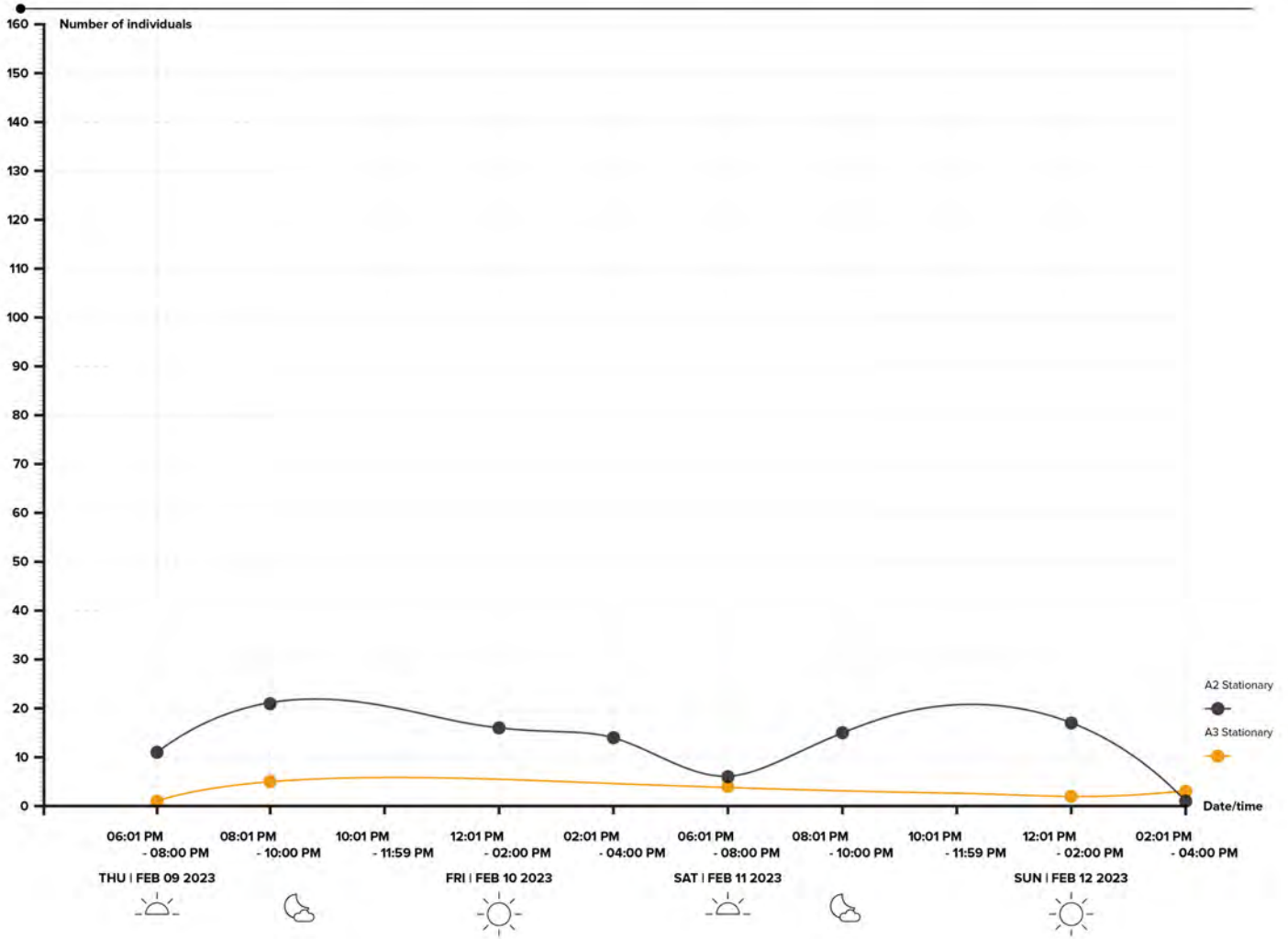
Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2023-02), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2023-02), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# FEBRUARY | 2023



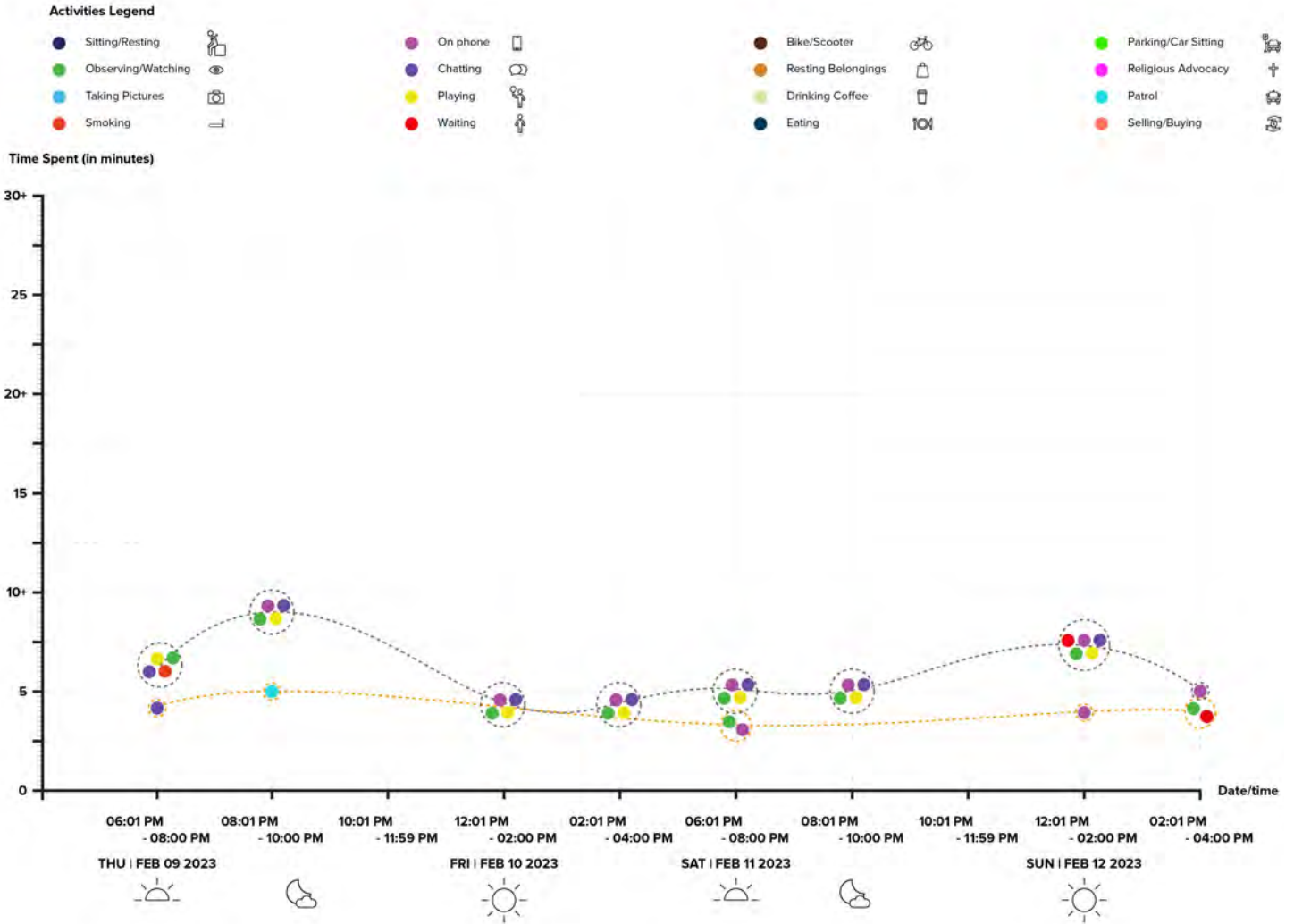
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## February 2023 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2023-02), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.





Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2023-02), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

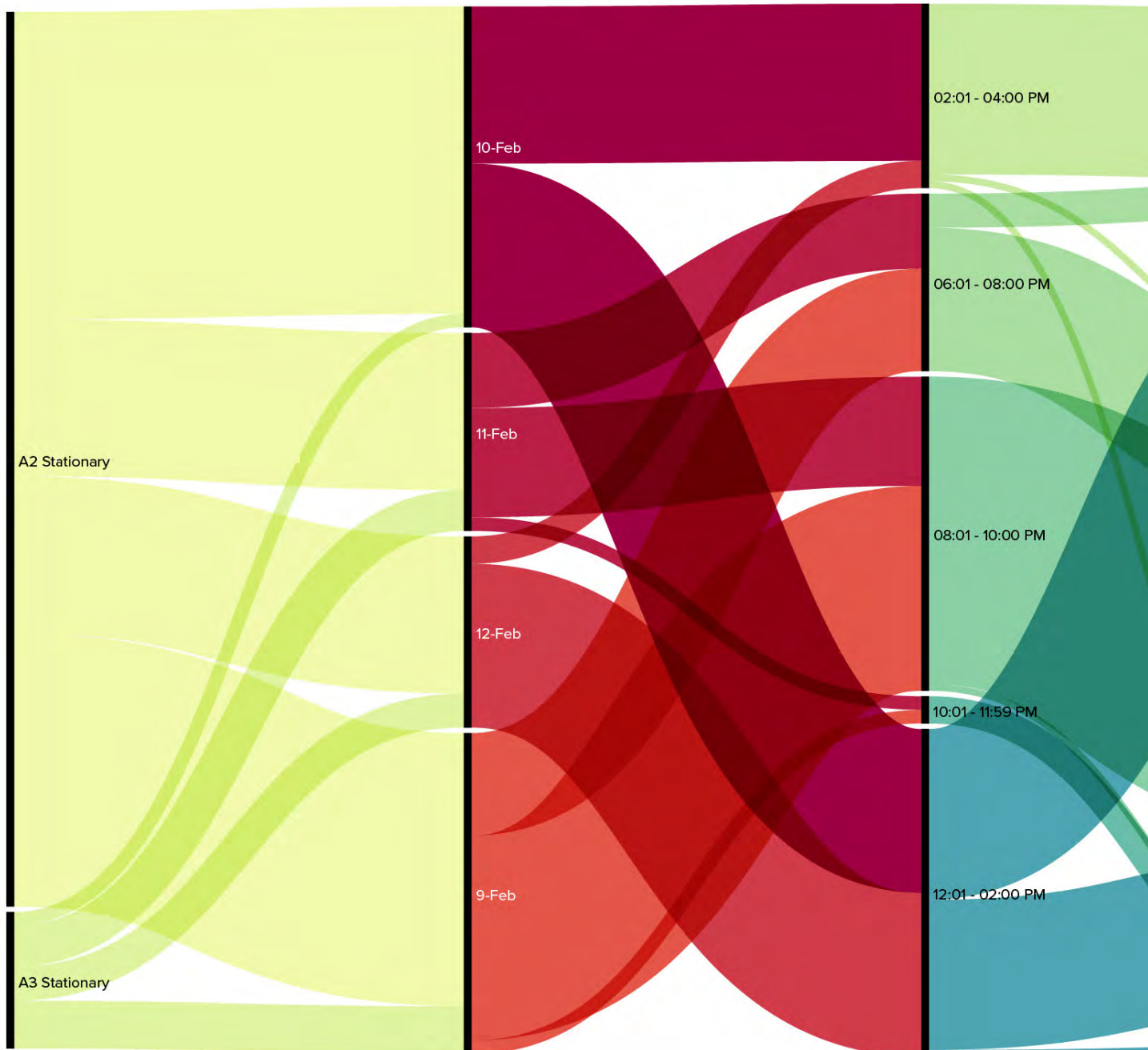
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

February 2023 (continued)

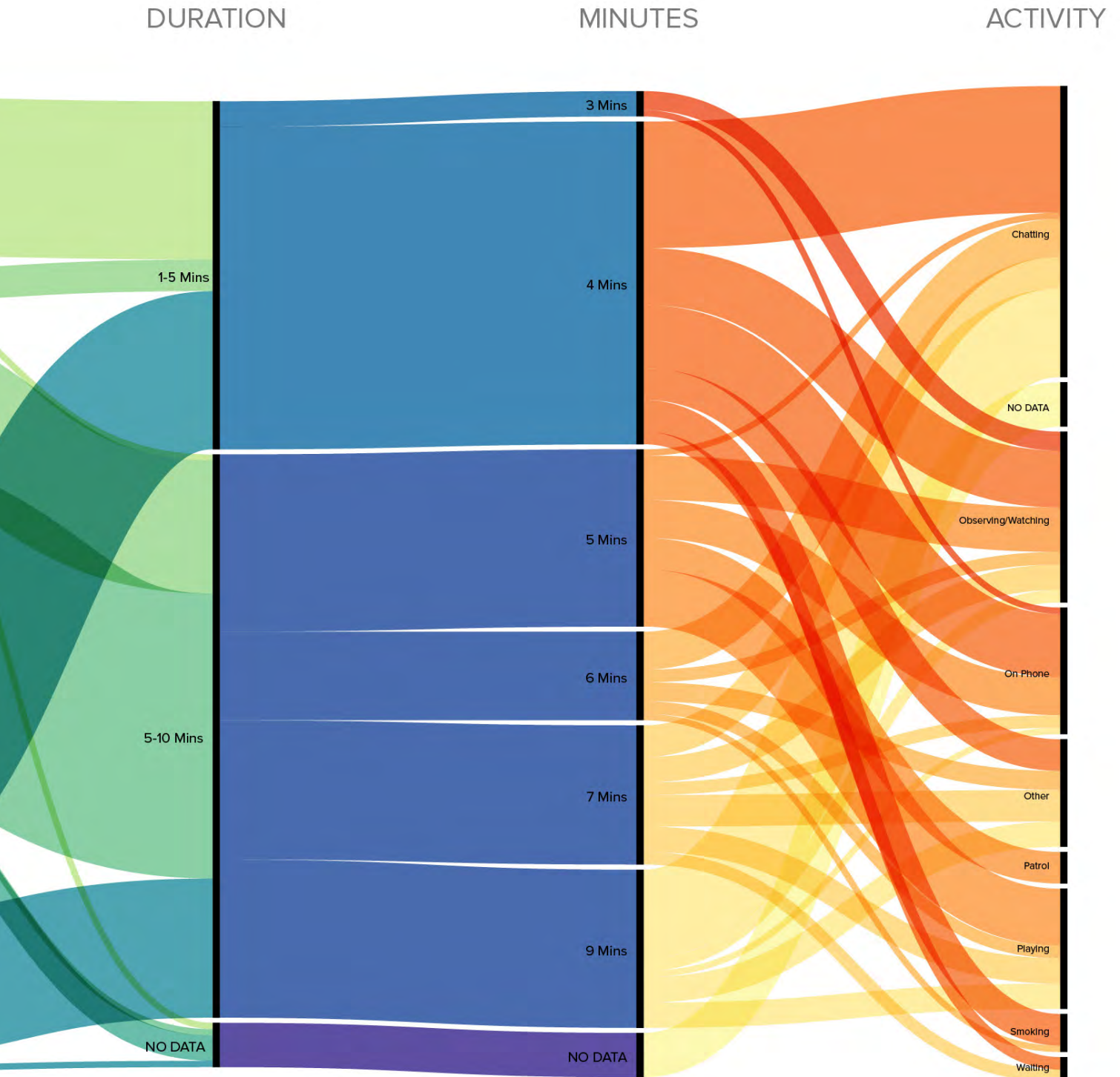
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2023-02), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



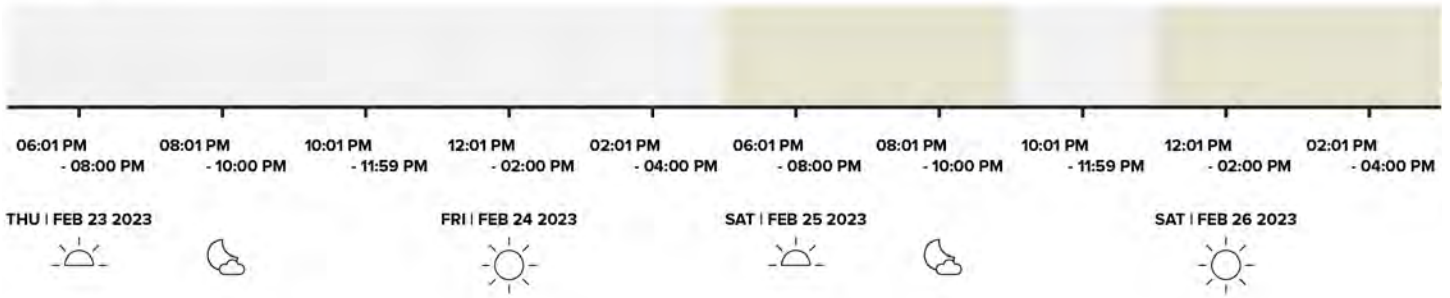
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## February II 2023, No March

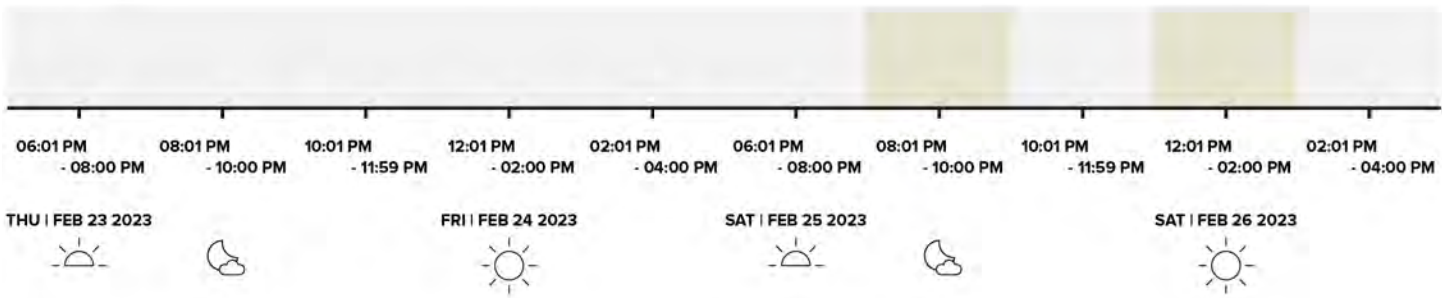
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary



A3 Stationary



Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2023-02b), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2023-02b), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# FEBRUARY | 2023



SAT | FEB 25 2023 06:01 - 08:00 PM



08:01 - 10:00 PM



...



SAT | FEB 26 2023 12:01 - 02:00 PM



02:01 - 04:00 PM



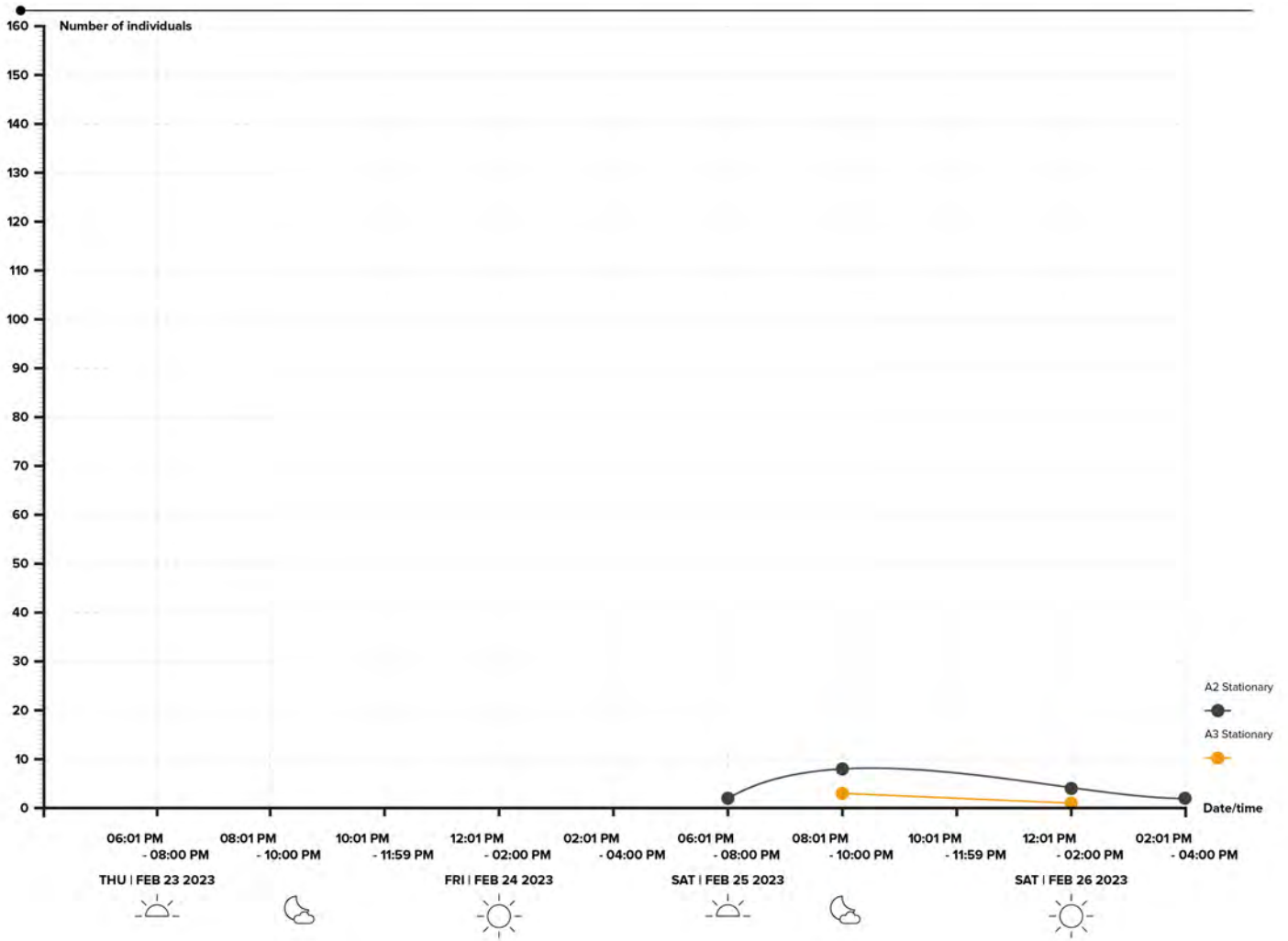
Number of individuals  
 ●●●● A2 Stationary  
 ●●●● A3 Stationary

Time Spent  
 1-5 min  
 5-10 min  
 10+ min

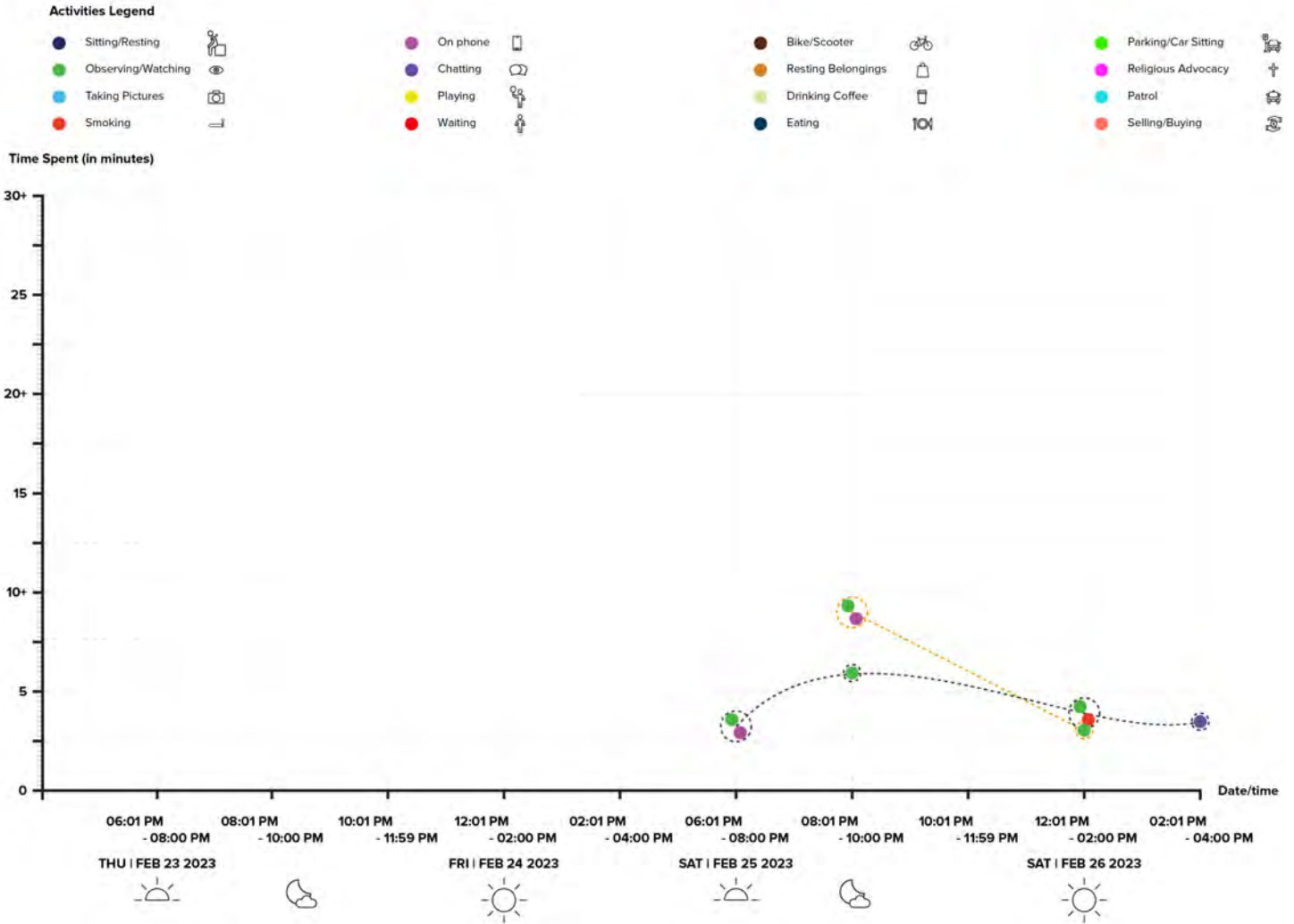
- Sitting/Resting
- Observing/Watching
- Taking Pictures
- Smoking
- On phone
- Chatting
- Playing
- Waiting
- Bike/Scooter
- Resting Belongings
- Drinking Coffee
- Eating
- Parking/Car Sitting
- Religious Advocacy
- Patrol
- Selling/Buying

# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## February II 2023, No March (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2023-02b), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

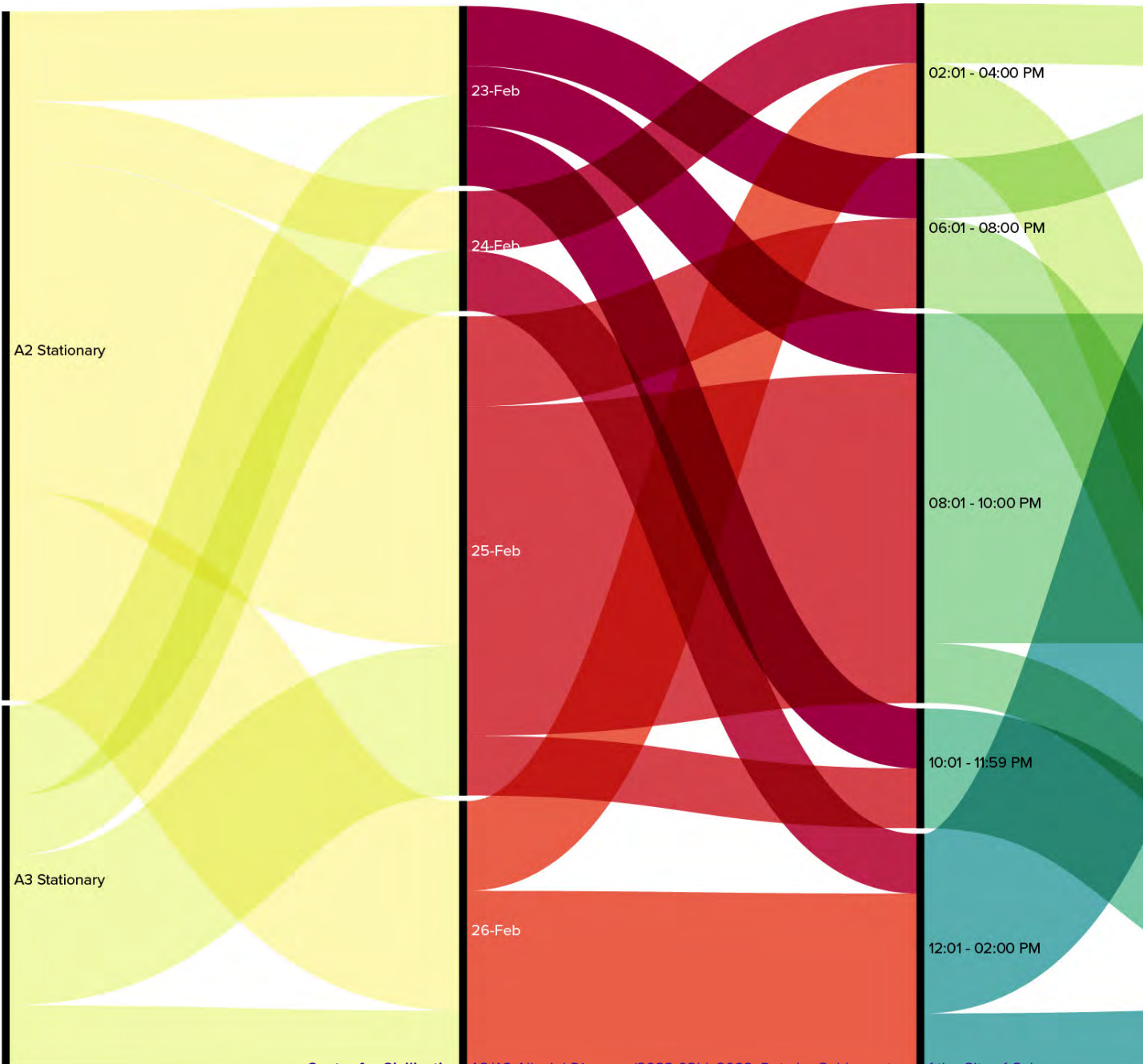


Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2023-02b), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# Appendix (Gehl Data)

February II 2023, No March (continued)

SITE DATE TIME



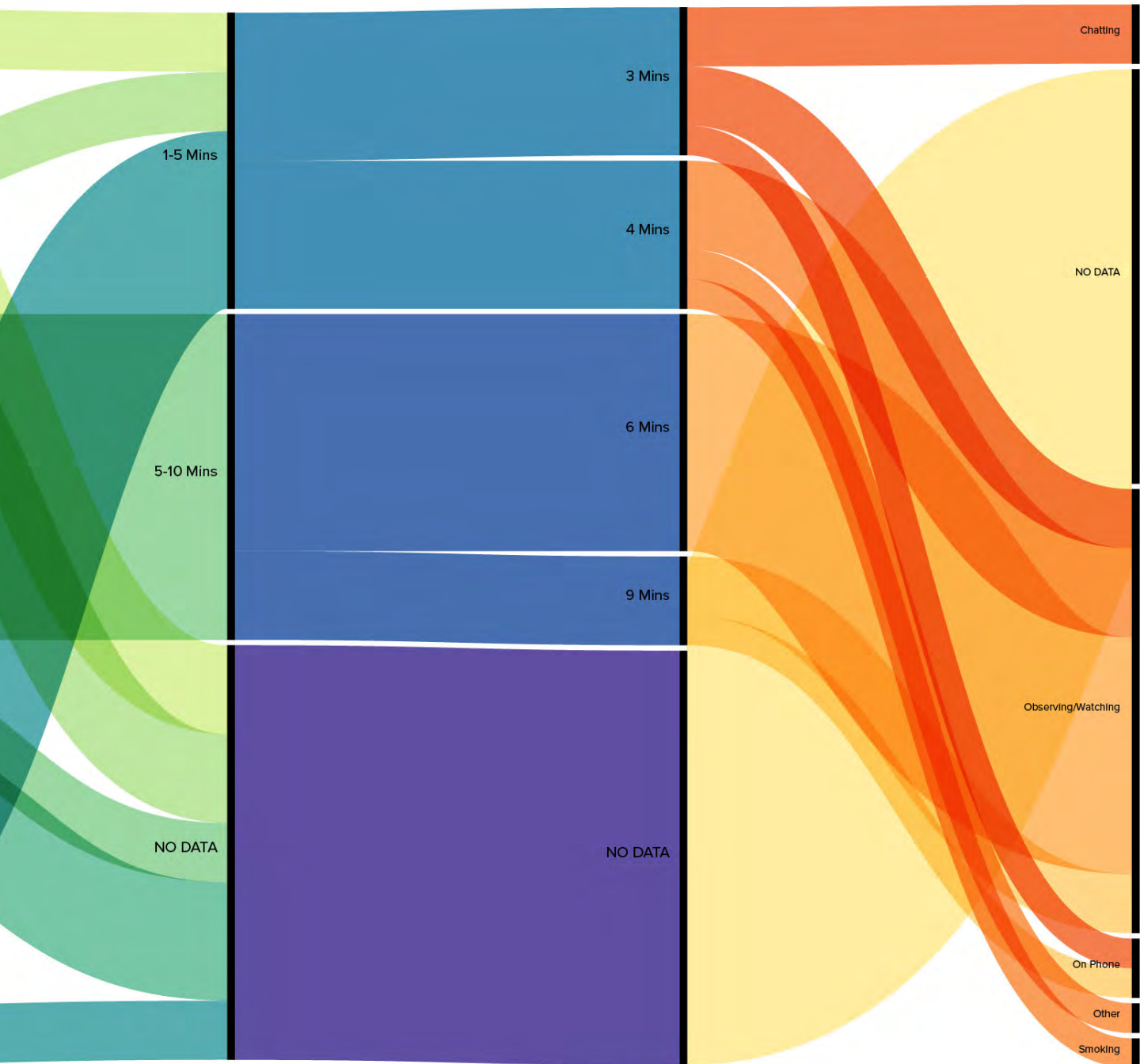
Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2023-02b), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



DURATION

MINUTES

ACTIVITY



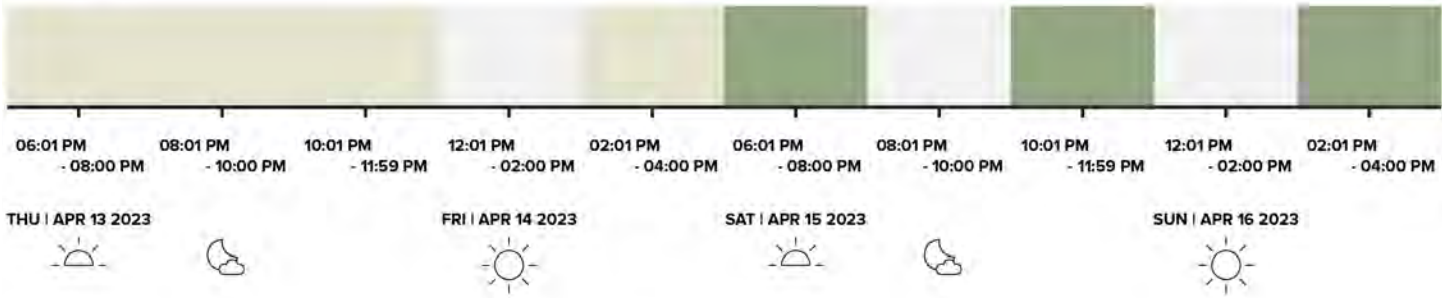
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## April 2023

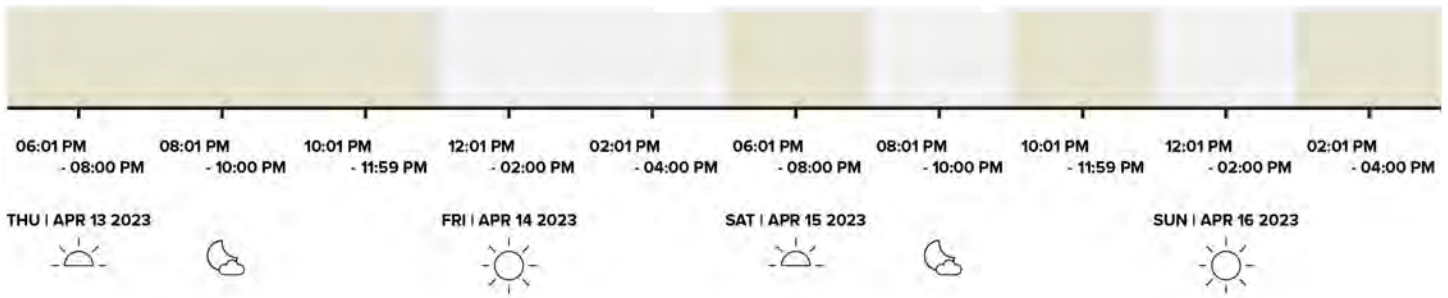
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary

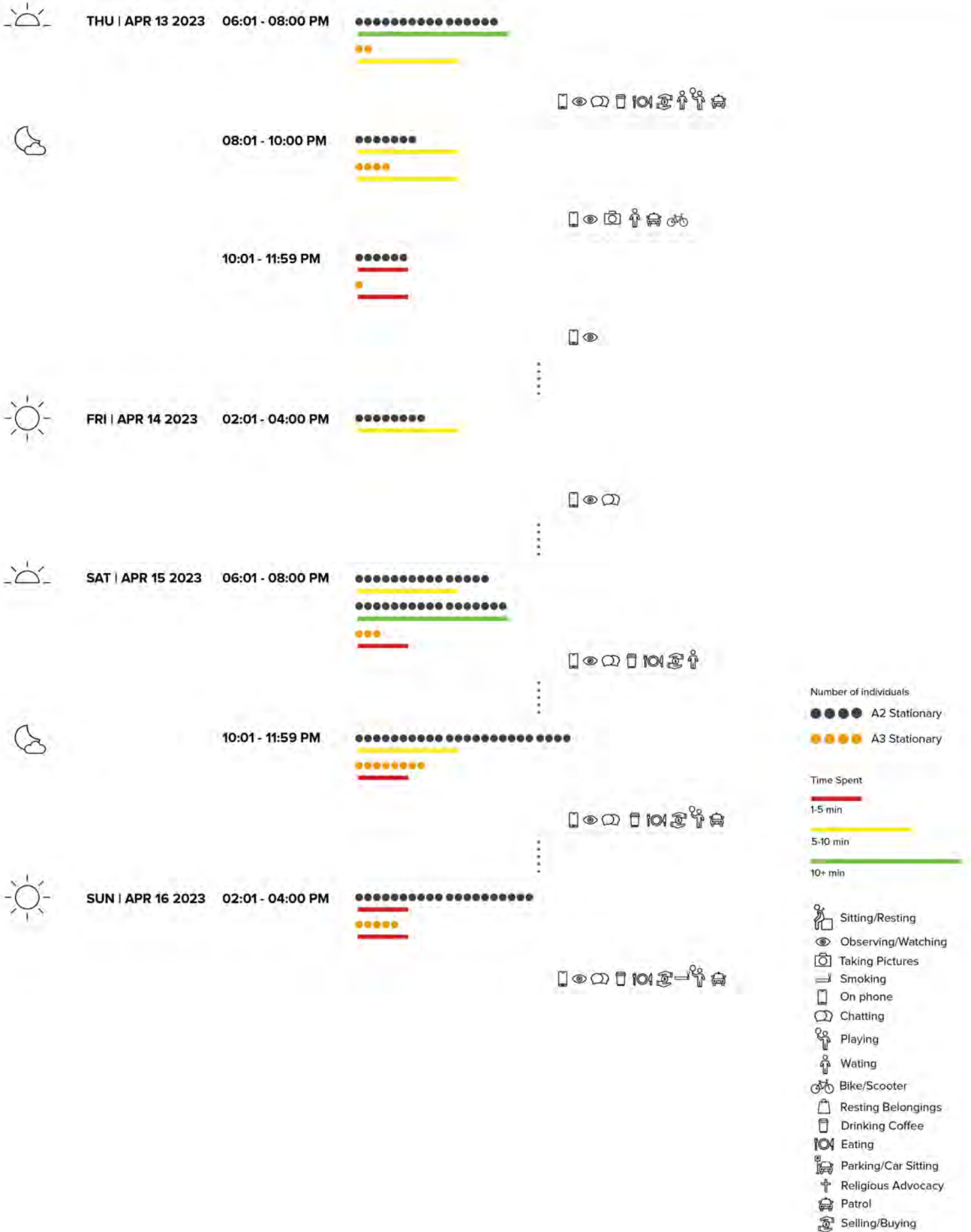


A3 Stationary



Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2023-04), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2023-04), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# APRIL | 2023



Number of individuals

●●●●● A2 Stationary

●●●●● A3 Stationary

Time Spent

1-5 min

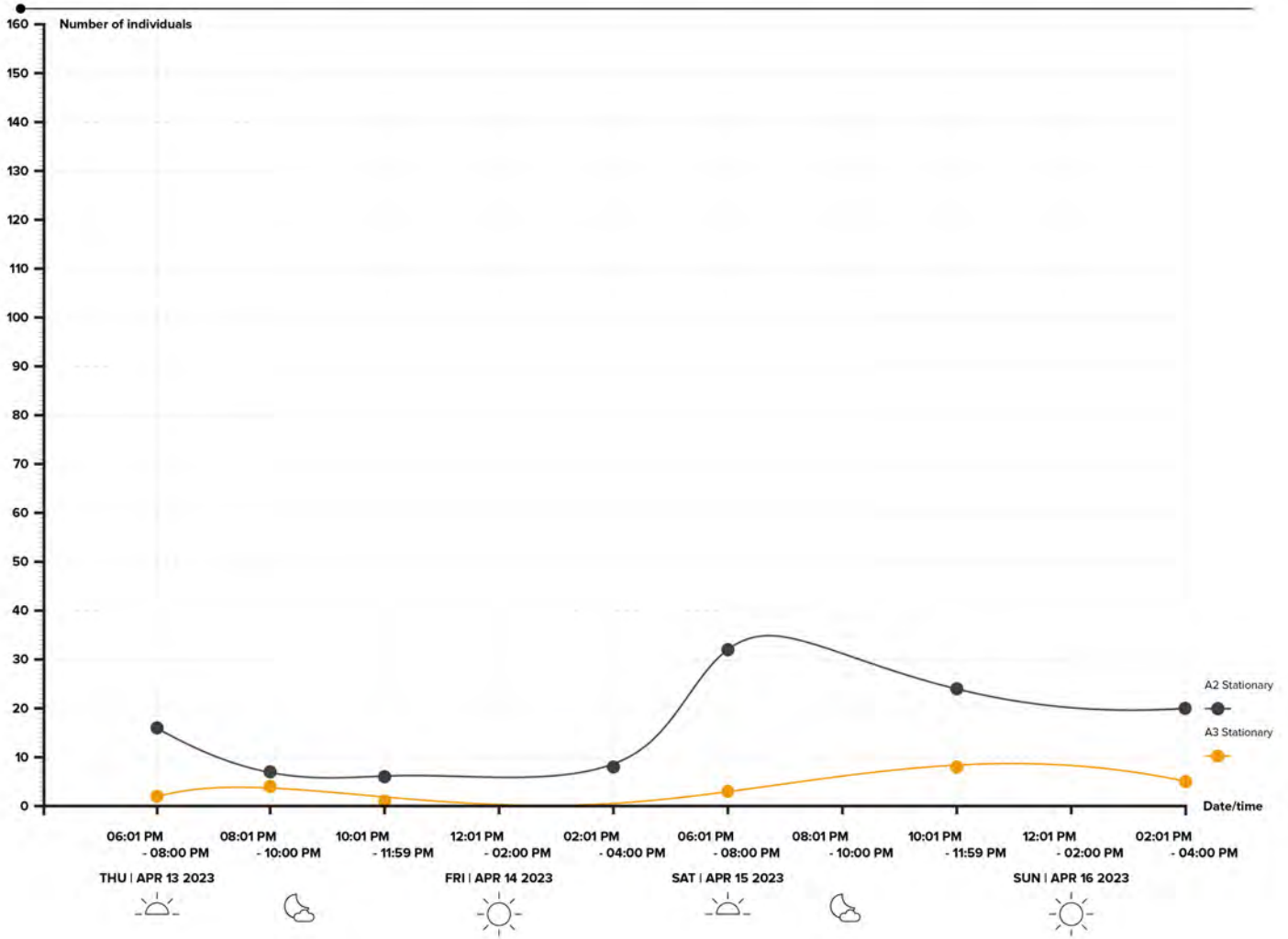
5-10 min

10+ min

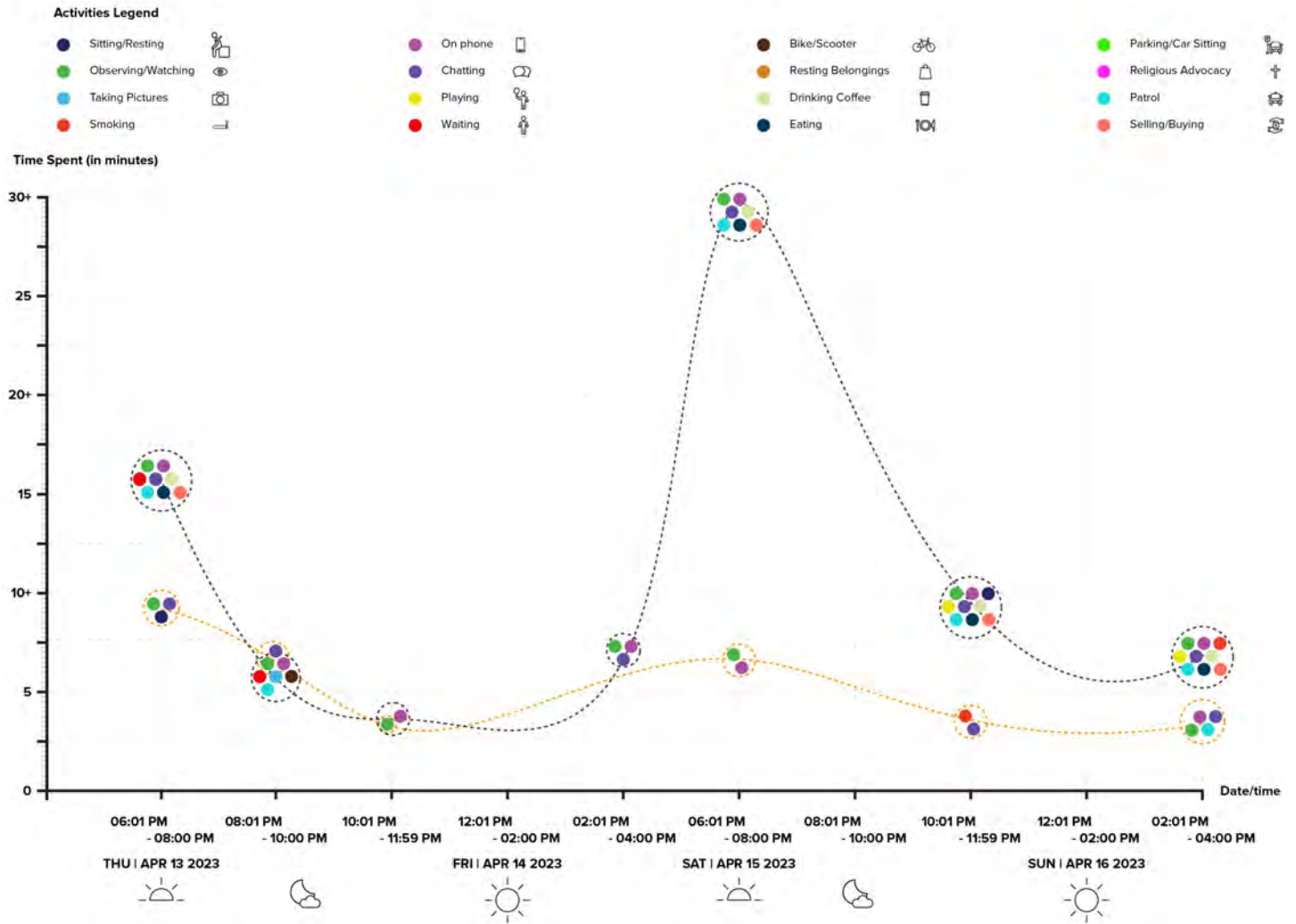
- Sitting/Resting
- Observing/Watching
- Taking Pictures
- Smoking
- On phone
- Chatting
- Playing
- Wating
- Bike/Scooter
- Resting Belongings
- Drinking Coffee
- Eating
- Parking/Car Sitting
- Religious Advocacy
- Patrol
- Selling/Buying

# Appendix (Gehl Data)

April 2023 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2023-04), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2023-04), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

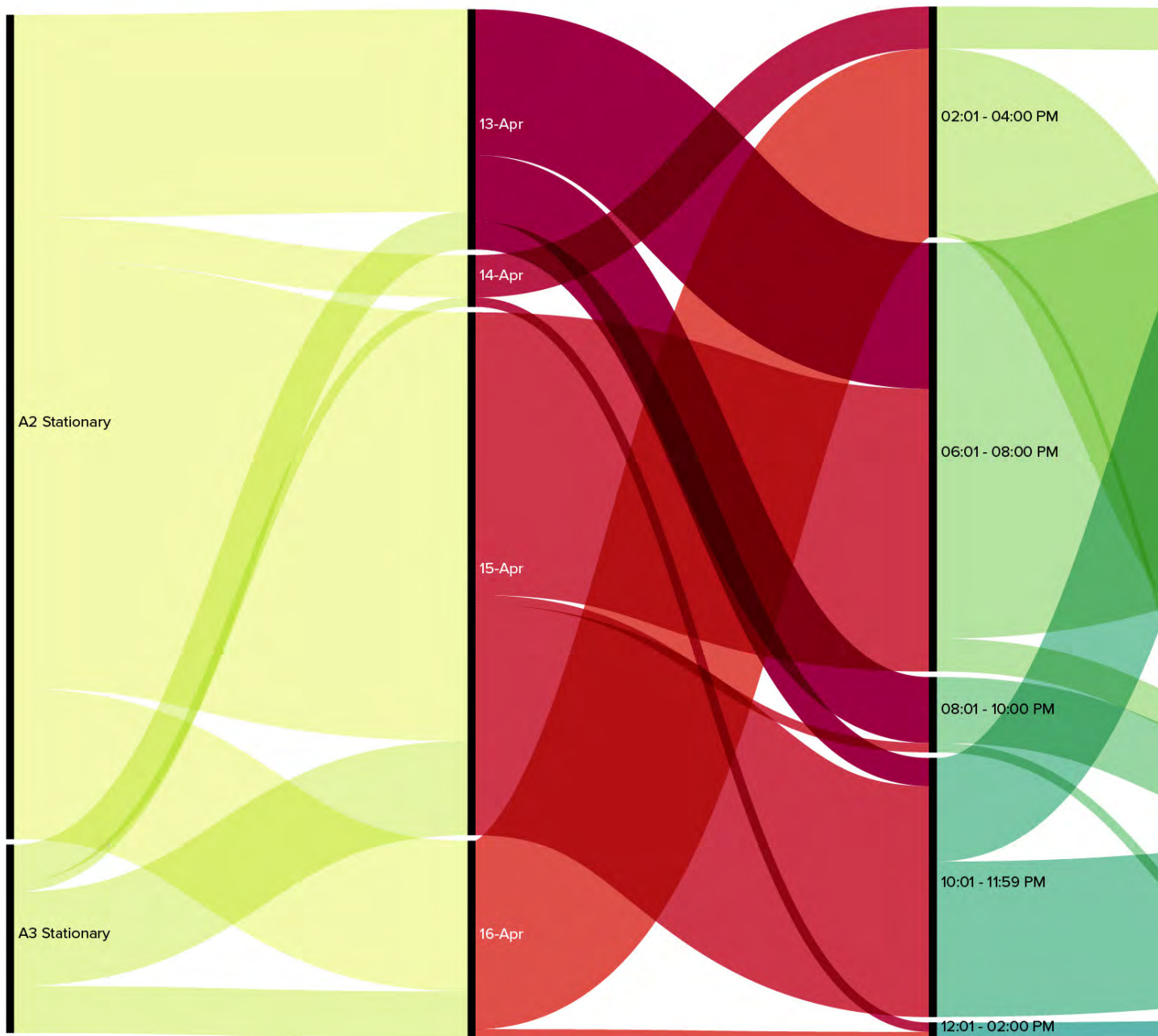
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

April 2023 (continued)

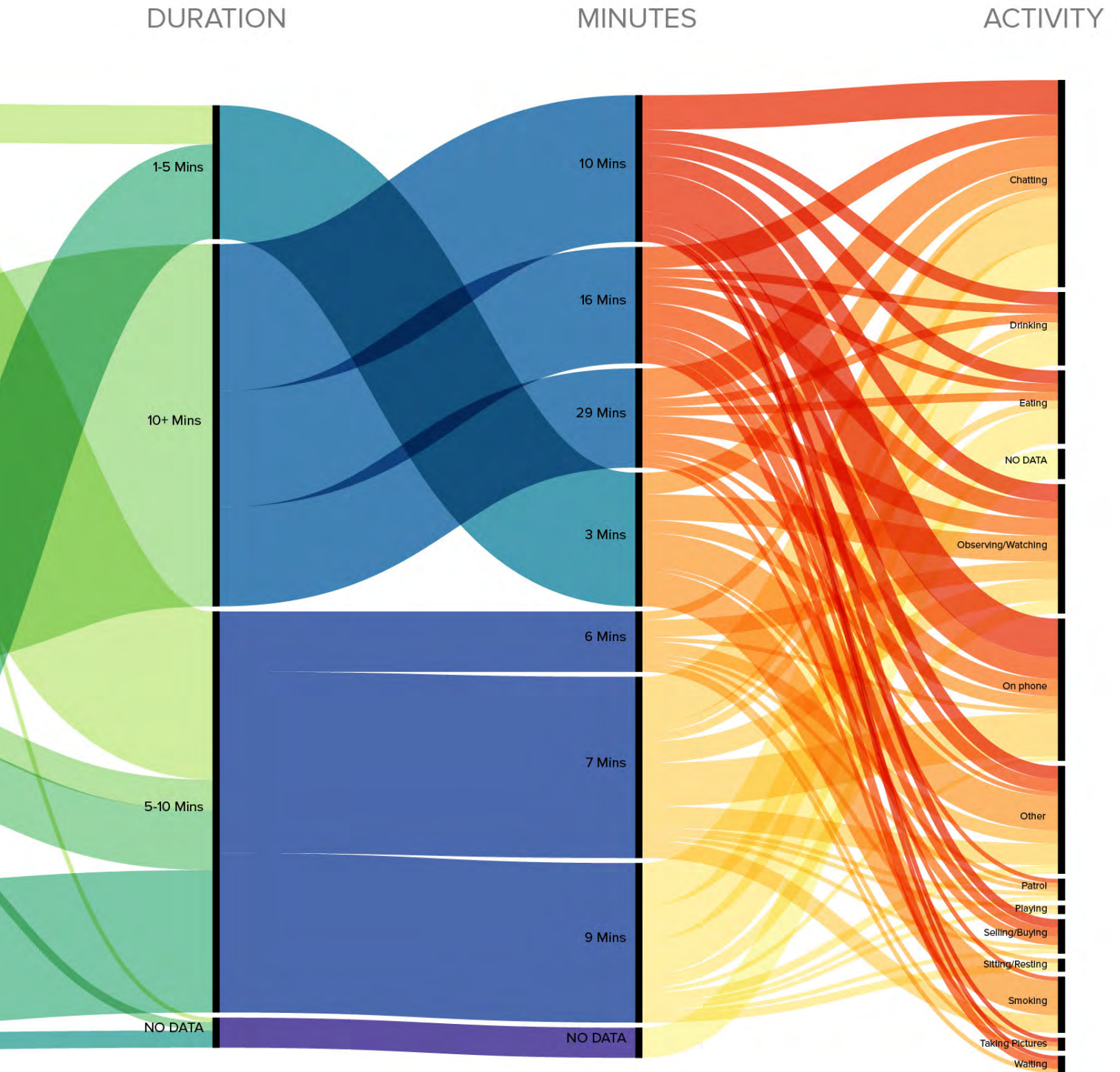
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2023-04), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



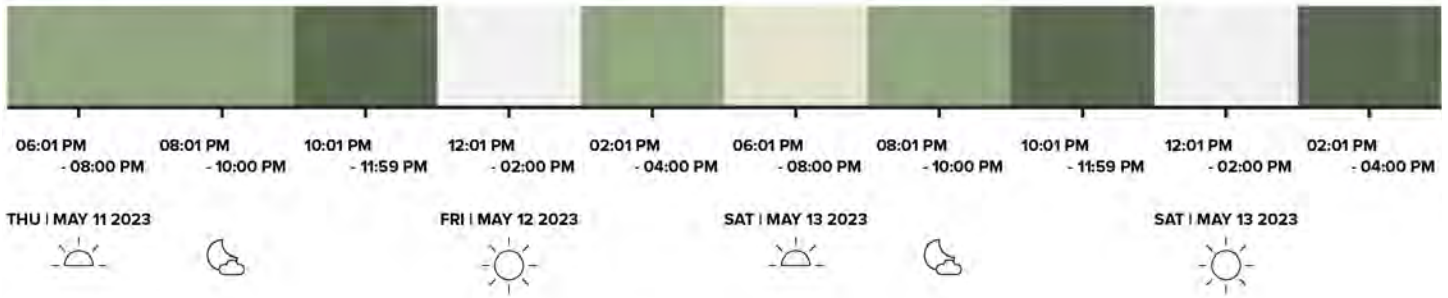
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## May 2023

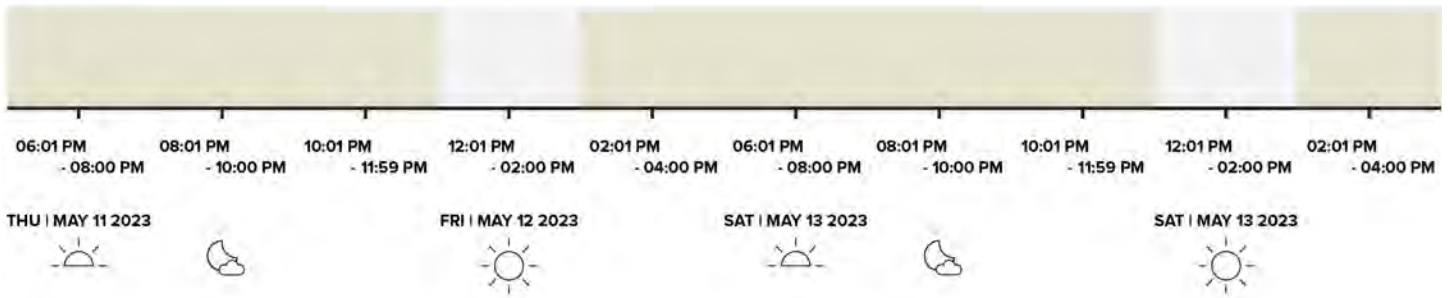
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary



A3 Stationary



Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2023-05), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2023-05), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



# MAY | 2023



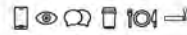
THU | MAY 11 2023 06:01 - 08:00 PM



08:01 - 10:00 PM



10:01 - 11:59 PM



FRI | MAY 12 2023 02:01 - 04:00 PM



SAT | MAY 13 2023 06:01 - 08:00 PM



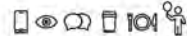
08:01 - 10:00 PM



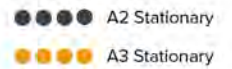
10:01 - 11:59 PM



SUN | MAY 14 2023 02:01 - 04:00 PM



Number of individuals



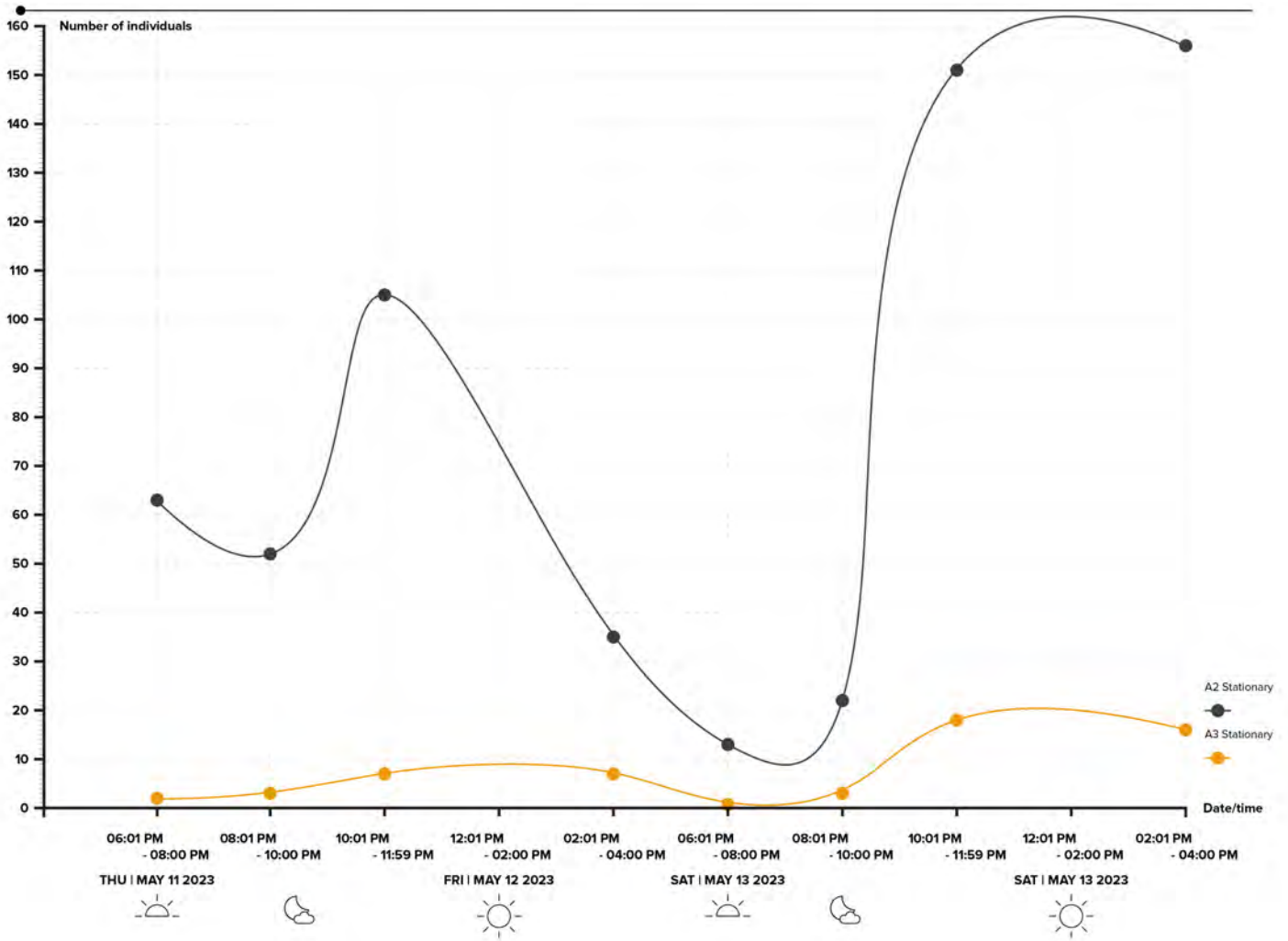
Time Spent



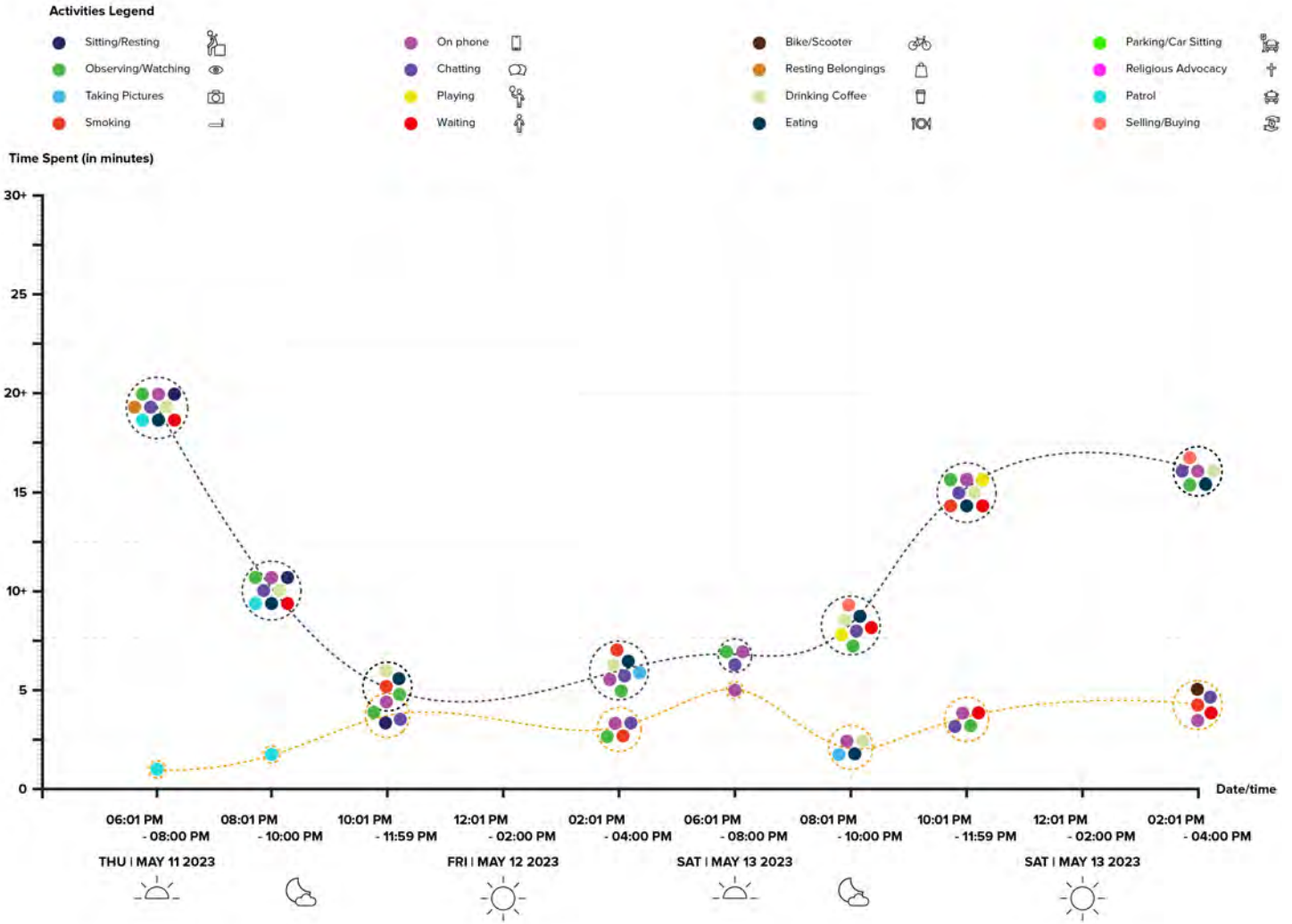
- Sitting/Resting
- Observing/Watching
- Taking Pictures
- Smoking
- On phone
- Chatting
- Playing
- Wating
- Bike/Scooter
- Resting Belongings
- Drinking Coffee
- Eating
- Parking/Car Sitting
- Religious Advocacy
- Patrol
- Selling/Buying

# Appendix (Gehl Data)

May 2023 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2023-05), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2023-05), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

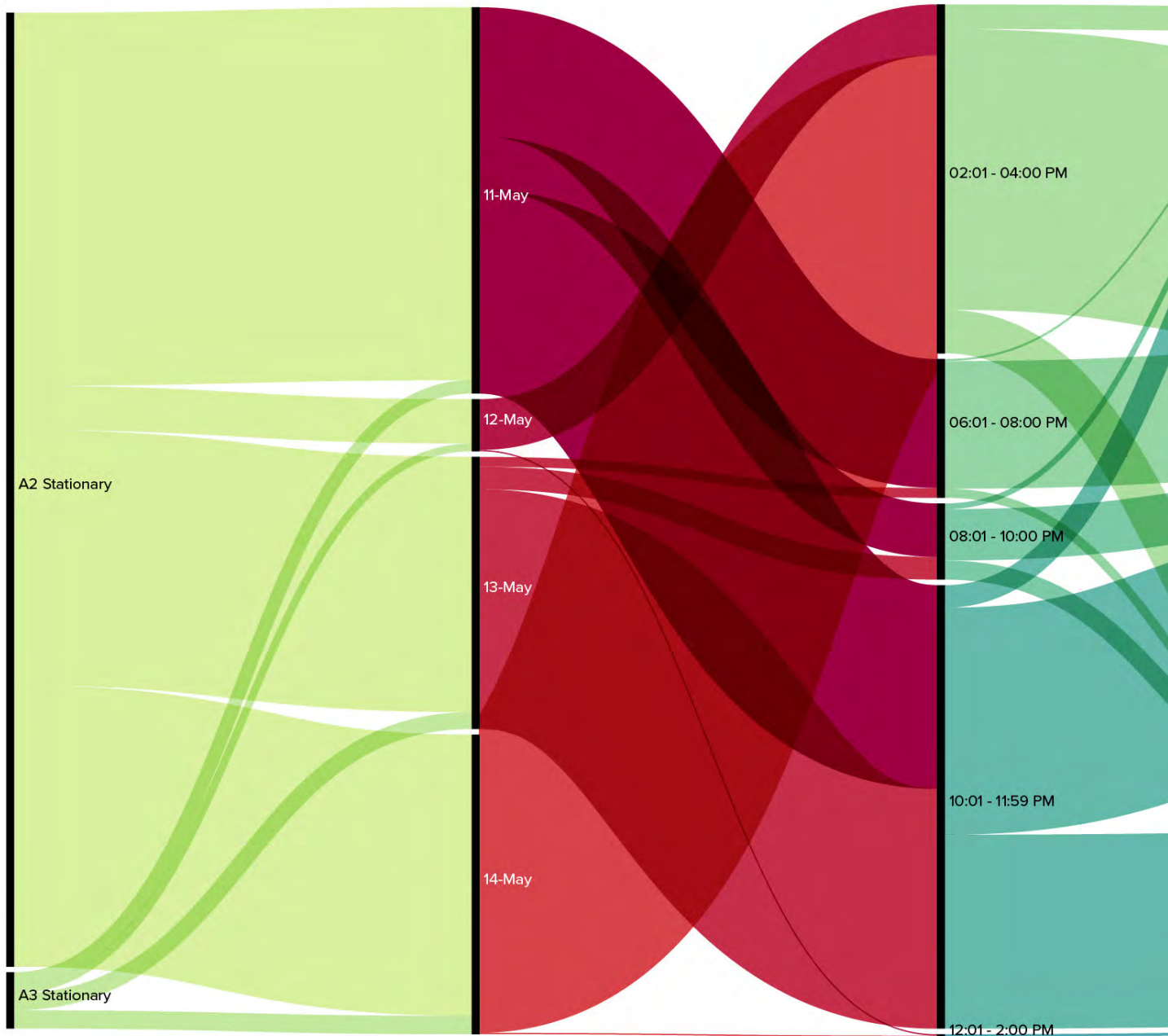
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

May 2023 (continued)

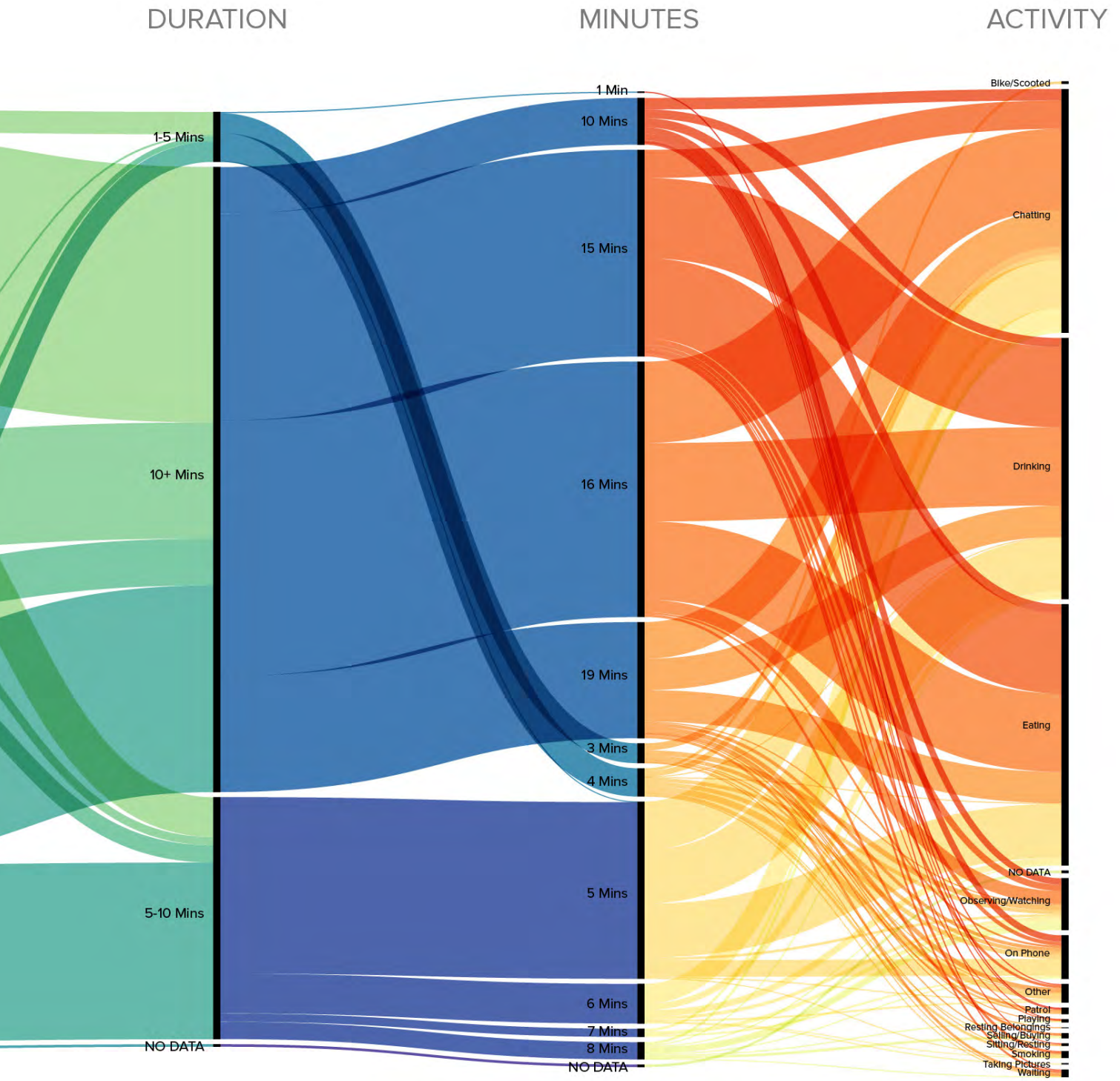
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2023-05), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



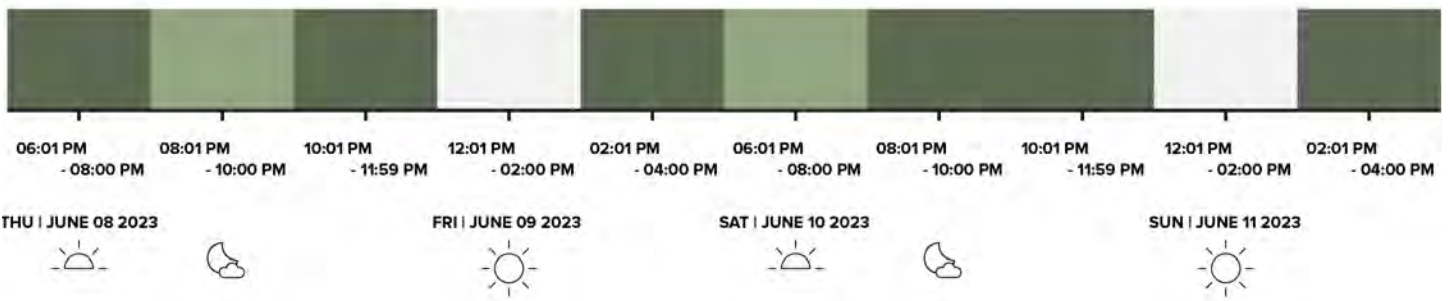
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

## June 2023

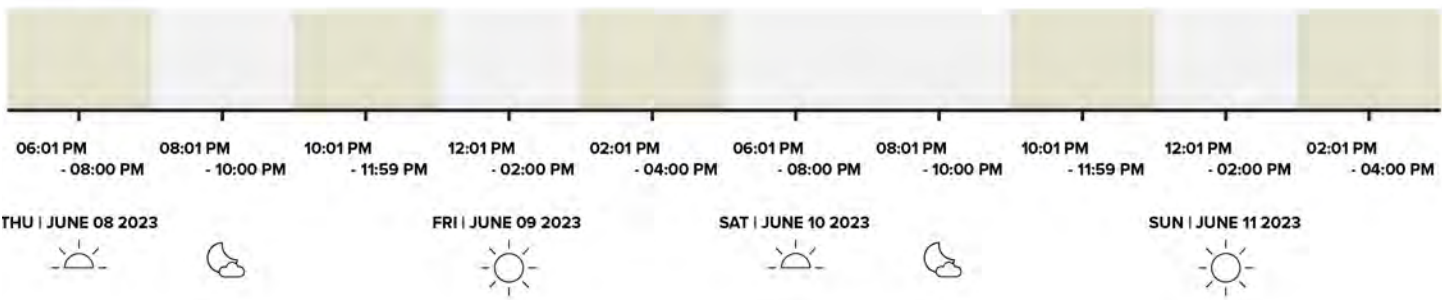
Number of individuals - Heat Map



A2 Stationary



A3 Stationary

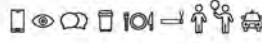


Top: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Heatmap Diagram (2023-06), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.  
Left: Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Summary Table Diagram (2023-06), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

# JUNE | 2023



THU | JUNE 08 2023 06:01 - 08:00 PM



08:01 - 10:00 PM



10:01 - 11:59 PM



...



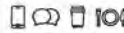
FRI | JUNE 09 2023 02:01 - 04:00 PM



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SAT | JUNE 10 2023 06:01 - 08:00 PM



08:01 - 10:00 PM



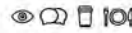
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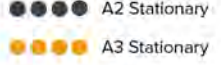
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Number of individuals



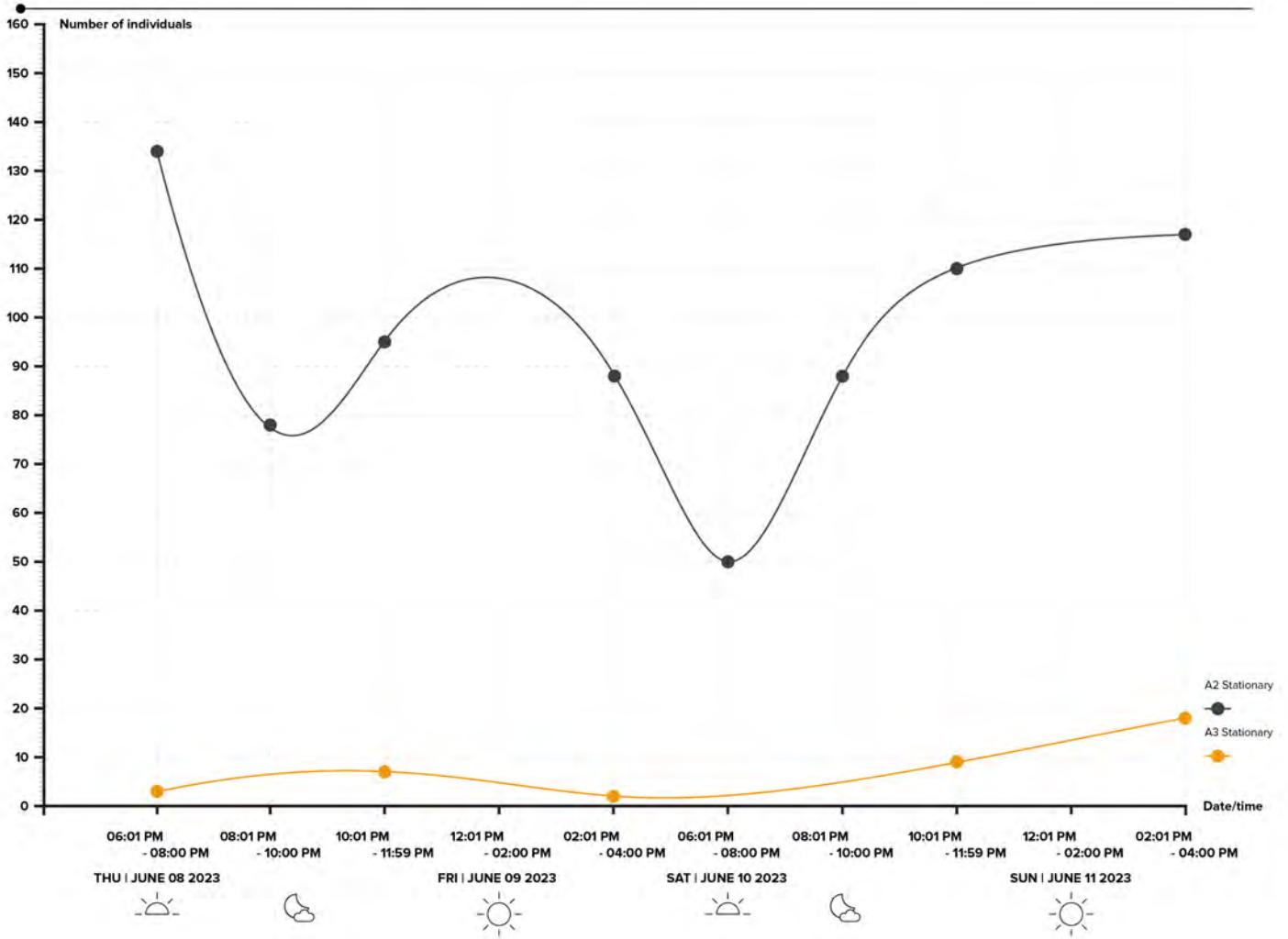
Time Spent



- Sitting/Resting
- Observing/Watching
- Taking Pictures
- Smoking
- On phone
- Chatting
- Playing
- Wating
- Bike/Scooter
- Resting Belongings
- Drinking Coffee
- Eating
- Parking/Car Sitting
- Religious Advocacy
- Patrol
- Selling/Buying

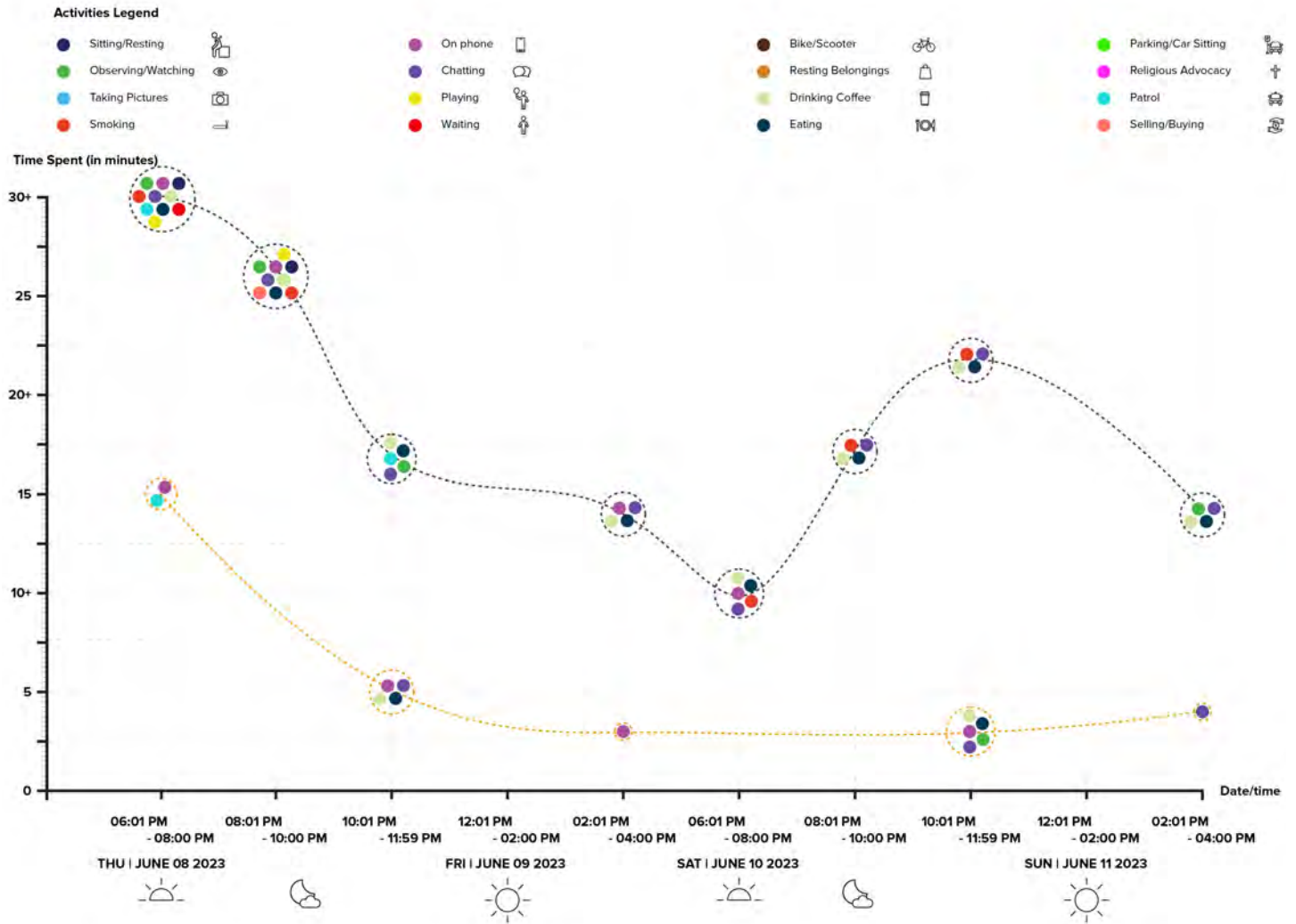
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

June 2023 (continued)



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Pedestrian Numbers Graph (2023-06), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.





Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Activities Graph (2023-06), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.

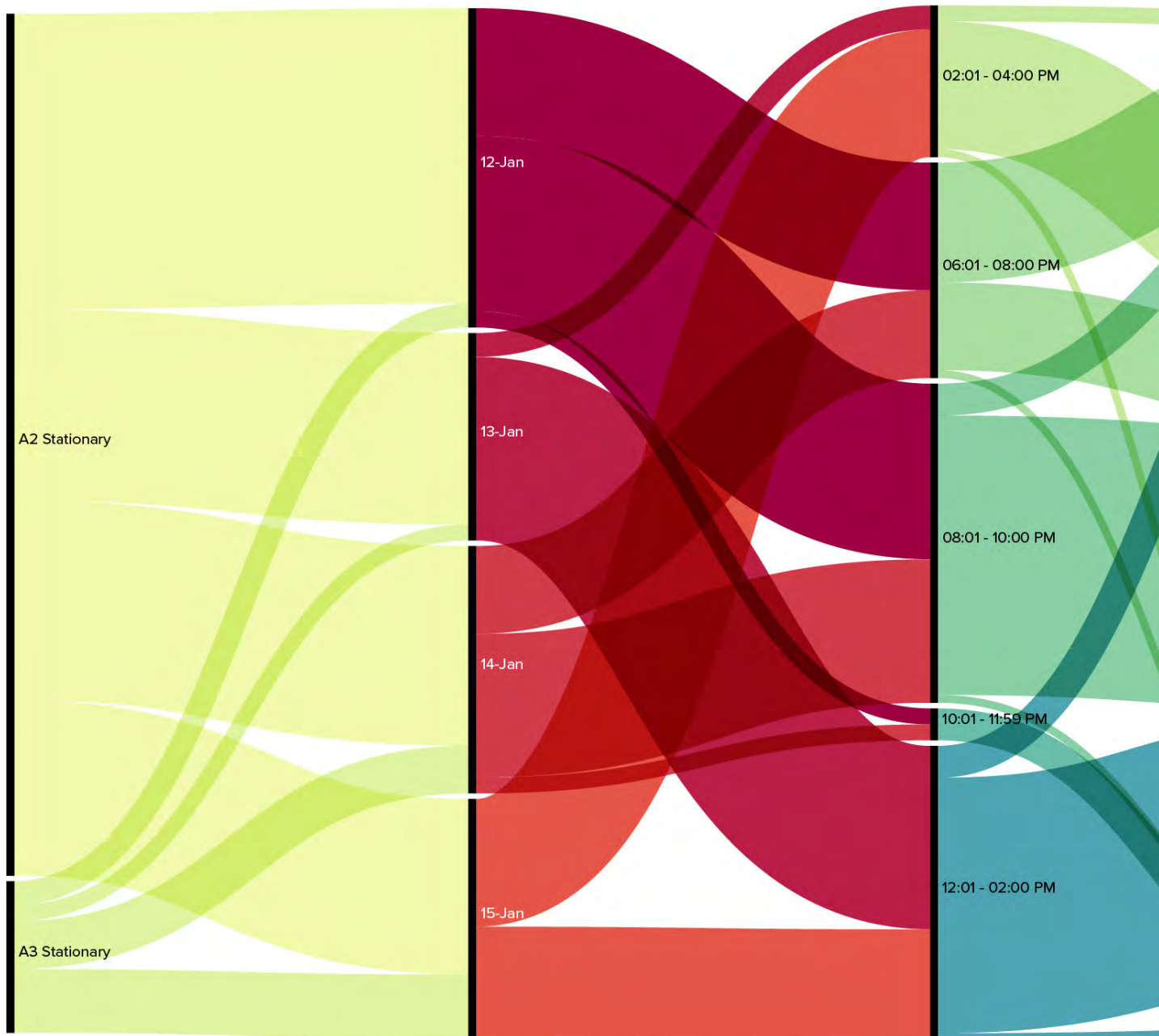
# Appendix (Gehl Data)

June 2023 (continued)

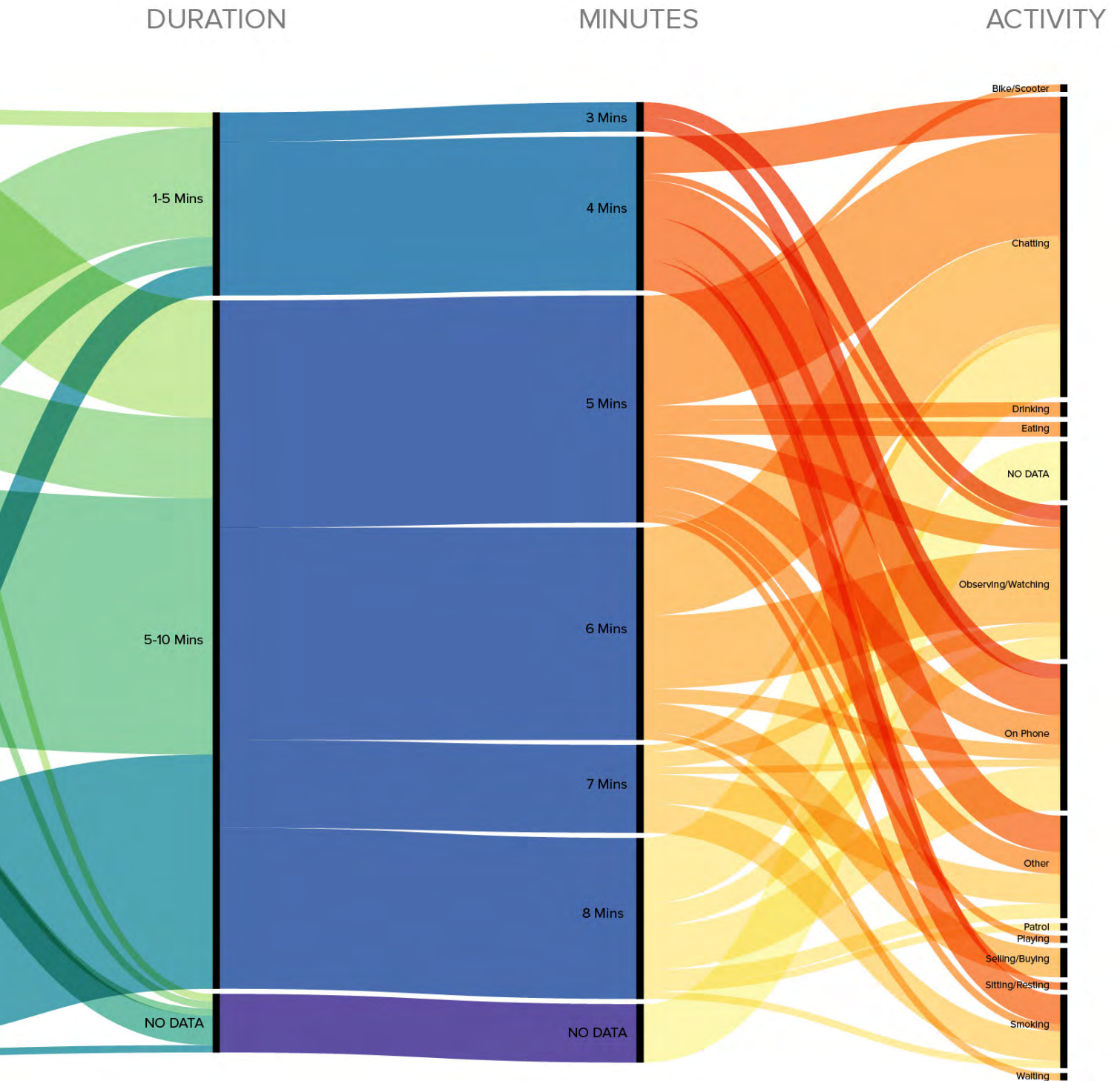
SITE

DATE

TIME



Center for Civilization, A2/A3 Alluvial Diagram (2023-06), 2023. Data by Gehl, courtesy of the City of Calgary.



# Appendix

# Project Applications

## **Future of Stephen Ave. Urban Alliance project: Project Plan**

### **Title of Research Project:**

YYC/LRT: Community Based Art as a Form of Community Engagement

### **Term of Project:** (estimated start and end dates)

Immediately – March 2023

### **University of Calgary Researcher(s):** (name, position, faculty / department, email, phone)

Indicate primary or lead researcher if more than one.

Jennifer Eiserman, Lead  
Associate Professor  
Department of Art and Art History  
[jreiserm@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jreiserm@ucalgary.ca)  
587-998-1853

Beaumie Kim  
Professor  
Werklund School of Education  
[beaumie.kim@ucalgary.ca](mailto:beaumie.kim@ucalgary.ca)  
403-210-7763

Farzan Bardaran Rahimi, Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary

### **Other Partner(s):**

Bryan Faubert, Artist  
Ryan Doherty, Senior Curator, Contemporary Calgary  
Janet Blatter, Independent Researcher and Scholar-in-Residence, National Film Board of Canada

### **Project Description and Statement of Work:**

#### **Our Idea**

‘There are a lot of us and we all live together and we all need to be recognised and satisfied and heard.’ – Iggy Pop (as quoted in Campion, 2019)

When considering the future of Stephen Avenue, one is struck by the plethora of issues that face the City of Calgary. There are prosaic and practical issues like the roadbeds and sidewalks, or issues that allow for some imaginative flights of fancy, such as greening the Avenue, spaces for playful moments, places to rest and people watching, a spot for lunch and a chat. However, before we begin the work of creating this future that we have dreamed up, we should consider

who we are creating this Stephen Avenue for and why. While we can pull out the data about the uses of the Avenue, as Biljana Savic (2014) advised,

‘nothing can replace face-to-face communication and joint decision making through structured, collaborative design processes, where concerns and ideas are shared ... enabling local people to have a greater understanding and sense of ownership of the resulting policies and proposals.’ (as quoted in Campion, 2019).

Charrettes, or “multiday collaborative events that connect local people with expert facilitation in co-creating spatial designs and action plans,” (Campion, 2019) have proven to be strong approaches to providing this face-to-face, collaborative, structured engagement that involves the communities implicated in the proposed project. We suggest that a charrette that is designed through an artmaking experience, wherein participants collaborate on the creation of an artwork can be a non-threatening, highly productive format for this process. We propose that *YYC/LRT*, a public artwork created by Bryan Faubert, can act as a space for such charrettes to occur for the development of the Future Stephen Avenue project/s.

Created for Faubert’s MFA thesis project, *YYC/LRT* is presently located at nvrInd, in the neighborhood of Ramsey in Calgary. It is now the oldest surviving LRT car in existence in the city. Faubert acquired it in 2019 when the City of Calgary was decommissioning old cars. He articulated its surface, window and conductor spaces using a combination of spray paint, torch cutting and welded steel rod that use his personal street art vocabulary to express themes of community and connection. Further, by installing high intensity lights inside the car, at night the space around it is articulated by an elegant network of shadow play.

The interior of the car was rudimentarily refitted as a metal shop/studio and is currently being gutted to be refitted as a community art studio.

We propose moving *YYC/LRT* to the west end of Stephen Ave, to 8<sup>th</sup> Ave and 10<sup>th</sup> St SW, “The Village” area. Further, we propose to retrofit the interior into a space for community-engagement.

### **The Team**

The community-engaged art projects that would be held in *YYC/LRT* will be developed and programmed by (1) researchers at the **University of Calgary** (Jennifer Eiserman, Department of Art and Art History; Beaumie Kim, Werklund School of Education; Farzan Baradaran Rahimi, Haskayne School of Business); (2) **artist** Bryan Faubert; (3) **Contemporary Calgary** (Ryan Doherty, Chief Curator; and (4) Janet Blatter, **independent researcher**.

### **Initial Community-Engagement Projects**

The intention of these projects is to represent the voices of those that are often not heard, or those whose voices are often raised in conflict, within The Village area of Stephen Avenue, ‘to

be recognized, to be satisfied, and to be heard'. We have three specific projects in mind to start with:

### Land Acknowledgement Project

Working with Indigenous artist Terrance Houle and artist Bryan Faubert, community members will explore the surroundings of YYC/LRT through a uniquely grassroots, DIY, punk rock, street art photography workshop. Participants will be introduced to the techniques needed to create the works in dedicated workshops led by Faubert and Houle. Houle will bring elders from his community to work with participants, including sundancers and third generation residential school attendees Maxine Weaselfat, Vern Houle, Joe Eagle Tail Feathers. Emil Starlight will share experiences revitalizing the Tsuut'in language. He and Knowledge Keeper Cheryle Chagnon Greyeyes will share a contemporary outlook on Knowledge Keeping and traditions of Indigeniety that move towards reclamation of the Land. Vern Houle will offer his unique perspective as an Indigenous veteran, who served for 25 years and trained cadets at the Mewata Armouries, located adjacent to the proposed site for YYC/LRT. Participants will use the knowledge and understanding they gain from these encounters to inform their creative process and to construct the narratives they will develop in their works. Upon consultation with Houle and the Elders, works created will be exhibited at Contemporary Calgary, following appropriate First Nations protocols. Free admission will be given to those who worked on the mural and to their invited guests.

This will be the inaugural engagement, projected to be held in September, 2021. This project has received full funding from a Catalyst Grant from the University of Calgary.

### Art 491: Community Based Art Course (University of Calgary)

In March, 2022, University of Calgary's ART491 students will be completing their four week practical experience in community-based art education with Bryan Faubert in YYC/LRT. As a result of the Land Acknowledgment Project, and a townhall to be organized by the Downtown West Community Association, Faubert and Eiserman will develop an engagement appropriate to the needs of the community and the skills and expertise of the students registered in ART491. An exhibition of the work create will be displayed appropriately in the community, in collaboration with Contemporary Calgary.

### Bridging the Generational Divide

Three communities that find themselves in conflict in this space are the youth that enjoy Shaw Millennial Skate Park and those who use the Mewata Armouries and the seniors from the Kirby Centre. Bringing these three communities together in an arts-based program to address a need that exists for The Village area. The project will require that the individuals identify a goal, create a plan, obtain and share resources, and achieve that goal together. With this experience of cooperation to build on, perhaps a foundation for understanding and respect will be established. Documentation of the project will be exhibited at Contemporary Calgary. Free admission will be given to those who worked on the mural and to invited guests.



### Street Art Mural Project

In conjunction with the BUMP (Beltline Urban Mural Project) festival, we propose to lead a series of workshops with mixed constituent groups from The Village (residents, business owners, people who live on the street, people who work in The Village, the skateboarders at Shaw Millennium Park, those who use Mewata Armouries) in the creation of a mural using stencils created by the participants. In working together to create the mural, members of the workshops will become acquainted with each other, share common resources, set a common theme and accomplish a common goal; creating a community lexicon of varied personalized symbols, signs and motifs. BUMP will be approached to include the mural in their festival.

Other projects will emerge as we begin to form partnerships within the community.

### **Alignment with Future of Stephen Avenue Public Realm Study**

YYC/LRT aligns with the “Activate the Avenue” strategy. Both through its objecthood and its programming affordances, YYC/LRT contribute to placemaking in the west end of “The Village”, acting as both a gateway to Stephen Avenue and a wayfinder.

Faubert’s work is highly concerned with placemaking. For him this process is the creation of a intervention unique to each location to affirm meanings specific to that place, always leaving room for further critique and confirmation as the context shifts. It is embedded in the process of doing and is driven by what impresses, excites, saddens, fulfills, or otherwise provokes him. It is about the critical capacity of this process to confirm and interrogate the place-becoming. Most importantly for his practice, placemaking is a dialogic space where the people-in-place construct meaning (Schneekloth & Shibley, 1995). Hence, the relationship between the viewer and the shadow play fully synthesizes the artwork. The artwork engages the public year-round, both when at rest and after a day of programming within the car.

Thusly located, YYC/LRT could provide an active place where things happen regularly, where one might want to stop by to check out what is going on any given day. Further, at night, the projection would animate the space, creating a safer zone around the car for pedestrians moving through that end of the avenue.

As described above, residents, business owners, employees, and users of The Village area of Stephen Avenue would be specific beneficiaries of the projects that are outlined here and others that would evolve. This community-engagement space is meant to provide space for workshops, lectures, artist talks, or artist-in-residences as well as ongoing community-engagement for Stephen Avenue community development. We envision a process through which community members would submit proposals to the team who would vet these according to a rubric developed by the Urban Alliance and research team.

## Research Plan

Researcher	Smart Goals	Research Questions	Measuring Change	Success Looks Like...	Methodology Overarching: Research Creation
<p><b>Eiserman</b></p>	<p>-Test Community Based Art (CBA) model for community-engagement in development using YYC/LRT; -establish and develop working relationship that “let non-academic organizations and postsecondary researchers access each other’s unique knowledge, expertise and capabilities”.</p>	<p>- How can the unique affordances of CBA act as a means of community-engagement to identify constituency for a CBA engaged model of development? -How can a sustained program of CBA activate a space and what are the affordances for organic, evolving placemaking? -What are the optimal partnership needs for future planning and development?</p>	<p>- Who are partners? How are they contributing? -CBA engagements are identifying needs for future community development? -Community members are participating in and are excited by the projects throughout the year, measured by: (1)attendance( 2) Media coverage (3) Likes and Shares on social media.</p>	<p>Community needs for future development have been identified -An understanding of the use of CBA as a means of community engagement to identify those needs has been achieved; -An understanding of how to use CBA as a means to support ongoing, organic placemaking for a community has been achieved. -An understanding of an optimal partnership constituency for CBA projects has been achieved.</p>	<p><b>Research Creation</b> methodology (type: creation for research): artmaking occurs in order for data to be generated. Data includes artworks, exhibitions, fieldnotes made by researchers observing workshops, interviews with participants and artists, questionnaires completed by participants and artists, as appropriate for a given workshop. This data is then analyzed and interpreted through ethnographic methods to understand the culture of the YYC/LRT workshops,</p>

					addressing the research questions, generating rich descriptions of the situation.
<b>Kim</b>	<p>-Develop YYC:LRT as the catalyst for public pedagogy: Public spaces are often shaped by the interests of authorities, which may dominate the discourse and distort the identity of the city.</p> <p>-Reconfiguring the public spaces' visuals and activities through participatory designs (i.e. creating public arts that represent marginalized voices), we activate the Avenue to improve the quality of life (living together), built on diversity and plurality.</p>	<p>-How can the public art-making events become the social actions of problematizing and reshaping the politics of urban spaces?</p> <p>-How do artists, the public, and the authorities negotiate whose voices are highlighted at any given moments in time and how do such negotiations represent growth in the community?</p>	<p>-The public art-making events as the social actions: (1) artists, the public, and the authorities' growing conversations on problematizing the politics of urban spaces; and (2) the voices of the artists and the marginalized reflected in art-making.</p>	<p>-The ways of encouraging diverse voices in the public art-making events are explored and identified;</p> <p>-The tentative plans and joint actions of the authorities, the researchers, the artists and the community members are identified for reshaping urban spaces through artistic expressions, considering the values of the marginalized in the community.</p>	<p><b>Ethnography</b> Analysis and interpretation of the artifacts of a "culture" (in this case, the culture that is created around YYC/LRT) including: artworks, exhibitions, fieldnotes made by researchers observing workshops, interviews with participants and artists, questionnaires completed by participants and artists, as appropriate for a given workshop. The goal of this analysis and interpretation is to address the research questions, generating rich descriptions of the situation.</p>
<b>Rahimi</b>	<p>-Connect people to the context of Stephen Avenue</p>	<p>-In what ways can the CBA activities within the LRT car</p>	<p>-Diversity of the people being</p>	<p>-Foundations being laid for diverse groups of</p>	<p><b>Ethnography</b> Analysis and interpretation of</p>

	<p>through participatory and curated activities; -Revitalize Stephen Avenue spirit through novel ways of storytelling and digital placemaking.</p>	<p>connect people to the context? -How can the stories being told by people through their art provide the grounds for digital placemaking on Stephen Avenue from the small scale of mobile AR to the large scale of projection mapping on the Calgary Contemporary dome?</p>	<p>connected to the context; -Diversity of the ways that the LRT project facilitate those connections to the context; -Diversity of the meanings being created by people in relation to the context.</p>	<p>people to get engaged with the context using the LRT as a facilitator. -Identifying meanings created by people in relation to the context and developing alternative stories based on these meanings for later stages of digital storytelling and placemaking.</p>	<p>of the artifacts of a “culture” (in this case, the culture that is created around YYC/LRT) including: artworks, exhibitions, fieldnotes made by researchers observing workshops, interviews with participants and artists, questionnaires completed by participants and artists, as appropriate for a given workshop. The goal of this analysis and interpretation is to address the research questions, generating rich descriptions of the situation.</p>
<p><b>Blatter</b></p>	<p>- Create prototype that can be used to specify resources, goals, rules, tools needed for a detailed, effective, problem-finding and problem-solving design-based Activity.</p>	<p>-What are the individual and collective objectives in participating in this Project and in a potential lab? -How do the actions of spontaneous, multi-agent, group result in creating a valid Activity-level model of the</p>	<p>-What are the orienting commitments and constraints of the Project in terms of an interventionist CHAT design research lab? -What are participants’ concerns, interests. And</p>	<p>-Participant’s individual and collective interests and concerns are identified -The Cultural Historical Activity Theory system is defined using existing recorded sessions and targeted</p>	<p><b>Cultural Historical Activity Theory (CHAT)</b> is a way of studying human systems of interaction. Blatter will use Activity Theory to conceptualize and describe the way in which</p>

		collaborative design research lab? -What are the problems and unexpected potentials emerging from designing this prototype?	desires regarding a potential lab, what are existing tools, etc.; what are the existing CHAT-framed nodes -Present, refine, evaluate prototype	interviews as template -The prototype is approved by the participants	the partners have functioned, providing insight in best practices for CBA partnerships in the future.
<b>Contemporary Calgary</b>	- Build Visitorship; - Build Ownership in the community; - Create Donor Base.	-In what ways can community engagement through CBA: 1.Build visitorship; 2.Create a sense of ownership in community members.	-Has visitorship increased? -Have donations increased? -Do we have new partners for programming and funding?	-Success measured by number of (1) visitors; (2) donations; and (3) partnerships over the year of the project.	

### Resources, Budget, Funding Stage Gate 1 - Expenses

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	*Cost
Electrical Permit			\$ 200
Building Permit			\$ 1000
Street Closure Permits	2	200	\$ 400
Window reframing and installation to conservators standards (City of Calgary Conservator Sophia Zhang)			\$ 525

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	*Cost
Electrical installation by certified electrician. Cory Nespor-Master Electrician, Quoted materials and installation.		3,000	\$3,000
Interior lighting system-(higher lumen production than current system installed in the first half of the carriage)		600	\$ 630
19/32x4x8 Oriented Strand Board (OSB)	12 sheets	76	\$ 958
Epoxyshield Premium Clear Coating in High Gloss Clear with Anti Skid Additives, 3.55L (covers up to 249 Sq. Ft.)	2	184	\$ 368
Orange Enamel	1gallon	104	\$ 109
Black Enamel	1gallon	104	\$ 109
Metal Clad Enamel-Stainless Steel	1gallon	104	\$ 109
Painting consumables-various			\$ 262
Construction consumables-various-screws, self-tapping, brackets, grinder wheels...			\$ 787
Side-Door Bar Lock Assembly - 36" Long and puck lock			\$ 210
Project Management - Bryan Faubert (Stage 1 execution and Stage 2 preparation)			\$ 2,000
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 10,667</b>

\*Differences between unit pricing and cost reflect the inclusion of GST.

### Stage Gate 2 Expenses

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
Northern Mat and Bridge-Heavy Duty Rig Mat (temporary infrastructure) 40ftx10ft		\$ 3,850	\$ 4,043
Mobilization of Rig Mat by Econofast			\$ 1,260
Installation of Rig Mat by Northern Mat and Bridge			\$ 1,875

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
LRT Move by Econo Fast*			\$ 4,200
Furnishings - cabinets, book cases, stools, worktable, art carts			\$ 2625
Heaters	2		\$ 788
Vandalism Repair and Unforeseen Overages			\$ 1500
Project Management - Bryan Faubert			\$ 6,000
Deck Materials			\$ 4,000
Site repair			\$ 1,000
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 27,291</b>
		<b>Total for FoSA Request for Project</b>	<b>\$ 37,958</b>

\*Please see attached quotes and notes regarding these items (Appendix I).

**Other Funds directed contributed to the creation of YYC:LRT, its retrofit and move:**

CADA Individual Projects Grant to Bryan Faubert	\$10,000.00
Personal Funds of Bryan Faubert	\$12,000.00

**Other funds supporting programming and research:**

Catalyst Grant, University of Calgary, Confirmed	\$14,554.00
SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant, TBC	\$25,000.00
City of Calgary additional funding for engineered drawings & hoarding fees	\$28,000.00
Contemporary Calgary, Confirmed	
- Administration, Promotion, Program, Exhibition	In Kind

**Project timeline**

Year	Month	Event	Other Activity
2021	September	Move LRT car to site.	Team begins preparing SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant
	October	Land Acknowledgement	
	November	Artist Talks w/ Contemporary Calgary	Assessment of Partnership Structure  Begin process of developing assessment

			protocol and rubric for community engagement proposals by community members.
	December	Artist Talks w/ Contemporary Calgary	Team submits SSHRC Partnership Engage Grant
2022	January	Artist Talks w/ Contemporary Calgary	
	February	Artist Talks w/ Contemporary Calgary	
	March	Community Engagment w/ UCalgary ART491 Class	Protocol and Rubric for community generated proposals completed
	April, 2022 –2023	Community Engagement – As evolves with consultation with community, including Artist-in-Residence with Bryan Faubert, NVRLND artists, Street Art Mural Project, Bridging the Generational Divide, Digital Storytelling and Projection until June, 2023	
2023	March	Decommissioning of YYC/LRT, unless permanent arrangement has been made for the structure to remain.	
2023	September		Research Report  Team begins to prepare SSHRC Partnership – Stage 1 grant application



## **Milestones, deliverables, expected outcomes**

### **Milestones**

Beginning of September, 2021 - Getting the LRT on Site  
-the logistics of moving this art object to an urban location

End of September, 2021 – LRT settled on site; ramp constructed; interior completed.

October, 2021 – April, 2023 – Inclusive Programming beginning with Land Acknowledgement that engages a diverse cross section of the Downtown West community.

April, 2022 – Protocol and Rubric for community generated proposals for community art engagements completed. YYC/LRT able to accept community generate proposals.

March , 2023 - Decommissioning of YYC/LRT

September, 2023 – Report of findings of research to City of Calgary to inform future projects engaged in activation of space, community engagement, and access, among other questions addressed by YYC/LRT.

### **Decommissioning of YYC:LRT**

Upon termination of the project, if arrangements for a permanent community studio have not been secured, Bryan Faubert will scavenge parts of structure that he can reuse in future art projects. The rig mat will be sold; the funds from this used to defray the costs of removal of the materials that remain from YYC:LRT after scavenge is complete. Any cost not covered by the sale of the rig mat will be covered by Faubert with funds he has set aside for this purpose.

The boulevard will be returned the same state it was before YYC/LRT was located there. Please refer to pictures appended to this submission for reference to the state of the boulevard along the south side of 10 St SW at the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Ave SW in September, 2021.

### **Deliverables**

Public sculpture that functions to:

1. Engage in Placemaking;
2. Enhance security at night through its lighting feature.

Community Art Studio that will activate “The Village” area of Stephen Avenue through the community art engagements that will occur therein.

More than Four workshops that engage cultural, economically, and socially diverse groups from “The Village” in learning about who they are as a community, what they need, what they hope to become.

Protocol and rubric for community generated community art engagements.

A network of partnerships in Downtown West that can be mobilized for future development.

The potential for a space for on-going community-engagement where developers and the City of Calgary counsellors and planners could meet with and learn about the needs of those who live and work in the area of Stephen Avenue through community art engagement (should YYC/LRT be able to able to made a permanent community studio).

Report of findings of research to City of Calgary to inform future projects engaged in activation of space, community engagement, and access, among other questions addressed by YYC/LRT. This report would include a working model for working with artists and researchers who are involved in community engagement.

### **Expected Outcomes**

Putting this C-Train back in service to Calgarians

Extending the purview of Stephen Avenue and opening a gateway to Contemporary Calgary.

Making the area surrounding 8<sup>th</sup> Ave and 10<sup>th</sup> St SW more safe at night through the lighting feature of YYC/LRT.

Enhancing the live-ability of the area surrounding 8<sup>th</sup> Ave and 10<sup>th</sup> St SW through the aesthetic improvements brought about by the placement of YYC/LRT, as well as the art engagements that will be occurring there. Making authentic connections with the community at large.

As part of the Land Acknowledgement Project, recognizing Truth and making an act of Reconciliation.

Recognizing, hearing and listening to the diverse voices of the people who live, work and move through The Village daily.

Providing opportunities for the culturally, socially and economically diverse members of The Village community to tell their stories.

Workshops generate useful data regarding community needs, vulnerabilities, build community, place making, etc.

A model for Community Art Engagement to guide future work with artists and researchers.

A protocol and rubric for community generated art engagements.

Better integration of Contemporary Calgary into The Village.

### **Appendix I**

## Quotes for Rig Mat and LRT Move

### Rig Mat Purchase, Mobilization and Installation

40' Rig Mat External Inbox x

**Rick Girard** <RGirard@northernmat.ca>

Wed, May 19, 3:42 PM

to me ▾

Bryan,

Thank you for reaching out to Northern Mat and Bridge for your 4 beam 40' rig mat. Please see our pricing below.

40' rig mat (4 beam)	\$ 3850.00
Mobilization	\$ 2750.00
Installation	\$ 1785.00

Contact me with any questions.

**RICK GIRARD**  
Alberta Business Development

---

**A:** 8001 99 Street, Clairmont, AB T8X 5B1, CA

**P:** 780-933-6301

**E:** [rgirard@northernmat.ca](mailto:rgirard@northernmat.ca)

**W:** [www.northernmat.ca](http://www.northernmat.ca)

This email and any attachments may contain material for the sole use of the intended recipient. If you are not the intended recipient, please be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or any attachment is prohibited. If you have received this email in error please contact the sender and delete all copies. Thank you for your cooperation.

The rig mats I have are 12" tall by 4 ft wide by 20ft long. You would need 2.

Myshak rents them each for \$200 per month or purchase for \$3200 each. I have 2 new ones. You can come and look at them in my yard anytime.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reed  
 Operations Manager  
 Prime Movers Rigging & Industrial Services Inc.  
 C: 403-978-8072  
 P: 403-663-0960  
 F: 587-538-6988  
[www.primemoversinc.ca](http://www.primemoversinc.ca)

1484659563804\_corporate-new.png

***Prime Movers is excited to announce that we have expanded our operation to now offer 15,000 sq/f of indoor heated storage and 1 ACRE of outdoor storage. Ask us about our new capabilities and how they mutually compliment our industrial moving business!***

The following is a quote for rig mat mobilization:

Rig Mat External Inbox x



Kyle Turner | Econofast <kyle@econofast.com>  
 to me ▾

Fri, May 21, 10:56 AM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Worst case \$1812.50  
 Best Case \$1125.00

*"As a result of Covid-19, many businesses are closing or reducing operating hours making delivery of your freight difficult if not impossible. For that reason we are asking shippers to confirm that a receiver will be available prior to dispatching your shipment with Econofast.*

*With limited available space in our carriers terminal facilities, they will have no choice but to return undeliverable shipments to the shipper, or charge daily storage for the freight, either of which will be at the expense of the bill-to party on the shipment."*

**Thank you, Have a Great day.**

**Kyle Turner**

**Logistics Consultant**

Econofast Shipping Systems  
 9742 54 ave T6E0A9  
 Edmonton, AB  
 Office # (780) 461 0578 ext 238

Direct Line # (780) 497 1035

**LRT Move**

Hi Bryan,

I think the 4" by 40' will work better for you. I sent the estimate earlier.

If we use a forklift \$10,740.00

If we use a crane \$11,190.00

Would you like to meet and go through the work scope, or would you like a formal quote ? I figured I would send you the budget and if the numbers work for you, we can meet on site, go over plans and get you a formal.

Sincerely,

Daniel Reed  
 Operations Manager  
 Prime Movers Rigging & Industrial Services Inc.  
 C: 403-978-8072  
 P: 403-663-0960  
 F: 587-538-6988  
[www.primemoversinc.ca](http://www.primemoversinc.ca)



**Cory Turner | Econofast Logistics Consultant**

Wed, Jun 23, 4:47 PM (2 days ago)

to me ▾

Hey Brian, I didn't forget about you it was just challenging to get pricing on these type of shipments, now the carrier we wanted we got but the method of loading has changed since his truck that I told you about won't be able to handle the weight. I do know that this guy is booking weeks in advance. All the rates I received are based on hourly rates and the owner informed me that this option is the quickest option for in city moves.

Transport Truck: \$200.00 per hour  
 Crane Truck: \$235.00 per hour per Crane ( requires 2 Cranes )  
 Rigger Fee's: 90.00 x 2

Give me a call if you have any questions, **Thank you, Have a Great day.**

*"As a result of Covid-19, many businesses are closing or reducing operating hours making delivery of your freight difficult if not impossible. For that reason we are asking shippers to confirm that a receiver will be available prior to dispatching your shipment with Econofast.*

*With limited available space in our carriers terminal facilities, they will have no choice but to return undeliverable shipments to the shipper, or charge daily storage for the freight, either of which will be at the expense of the bill-to party on the shipment."*

Cory Turner  
 Logistics Consultant  
 Econofast Shipping Systems  
 9742 54 ave T6E0A9  
 Edmonton, AB  
 Office # (780) 461 0578 ext 227  
 Direct Line # (780) 964 8653

**Notes on Quotes for Rig Mat Mobilization, Install and LRT Move****Rig Mat Cost**

- Prime Movers\*: \$6,400
- Northern Mat: \$3,850 – amount quoted in budget

**Rig Mat Mobilization**

- Northern Mat \$2,750
- Econofast \$1,125 – amount quoted in budget

**Rig Mat Install**

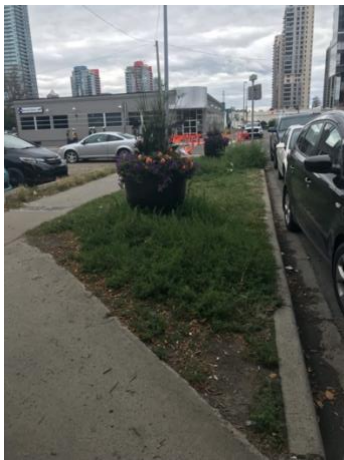
- Northern Mat \$1,785 – amount quoted

**LRT Move**

- Prime Movers \$11,000
- Econofast \$ 4,000 – amount quoted

\*Prime Movers are the City of Calgary preferred suppliers of this service.

**Appendix II**  
**Photographs of Present Condition of Boulevard**



## Future of Stephen Ave. Urban Alliance project: Expression of Interest

Want to explore a project idea for the Future of Stephen Avenue? Please fill out as much of the form below as you can—if you don't have all the answers that's okay. We can work with you to develop your idea!

Please return your form (and any comments/questions) to the SAPL Research Facilitator Jonathan Jucker: [jonathan.jucker@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jonathan.jucker@ucalgary.ca) by noon on **Thursday, April 15<sup>th</sup>**.

<b>NAME:</b>			
Alicia Nahmad Vazquez & Kris Fox			
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>			
School of Architecture Planning and Landscape			
<b>RANK/POSITION:</b>			
Assistant Professor / Assistant Professor			
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	alicia.nahmadvazquez@ucalgary.ca	<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	587 215 9119 /
	ry.ca		403.220.7428
	mk.fox1@ucalgary.ca		
<b>CO-APPLICANT:</b> Are there co-applicants: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			
If yes, please provide the information requested above on a second page.			
<b>PROJECT TITLE:</b>			
Traffic Calming Inhabitable Urban Furniture			
<b>DATES OF PROJECT (optional):</b>	<b>FROM:</b>	28.03.2022	<b>TO:</b> 23.07.2022
<b>SUMMARY BUDGET (optional):</b>			
	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>		<b>VALUE</b>
<b>Personnel:</b>	2 – 3 Research Assistants working on the site analysis, urban furniture design, algorithmic experimentation and digital prototyping of urban furniture (19.26 per hour as per University Regulations) 85 working days  1 x digital fabrication expert to assist during set up (0.1 day a week)  2 x research assistants during installation period(1 or 2 days)		\$15,500
<b>Equipment/Materials/Supplies:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 3D printing pellets for the furniture prototypes and mock ups</li> <li>- Gravel and other materials to test graded weight on the pieces as a performance characteristic</li> </ul>		\$1,500 <b>TBD based on deliverables (number and size of elements)</b>
<b>Transportation:</b>	SAPL Van to transport the pieces to their final location		\$500
<b>Other:</b>			\$
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>\$ 17,500</b>



**PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR IDEA OR AREA OF INTEREST:**

Be as specific as you want, or simply share initial thoughts so we can work to develop them.

Urban site / street furniture and traffic calming bollards have the potential to become design elements that identify, give character and are iconic to a place. The extensive requirement of them around different streets with specific customization and identity requirements additional to their scale makes them an ideal testing ground for novel design and material configurations. Designing with material saving techniques that result in unique, identifiable and repeatable elements could offer a urban solution that can get deployed around the city of Calgary whilst being identified and reminiscent of downtown and Stephen Avenue. Our approach to novel design will revolve around the application of topological optimization (TO).

The application of topological optimization (TO) as a constitutive design tool has obtained widespread adoption within the aeronautic, automotive and naval industries (Bendsøe, M. P, and Sigmund O. [1]). While initial research on the application of TO to architectural structures indicates the possibility for both significant performance gains - in terms of reduction of material consumptions – and the infusion of particular design qualities specific to the process (Dombernowsky, P, and Sondergaard, [2], Dombernowsky, P, and Sondergaard, [3], Stromberg, L. L. et al.[4]), the topic in its relation to architectural construction remains widely unexplored, an aspect that can be attributed to the complex formwork required for their realization. Through the early integration of digital fabrication constraints, the analytic capabilities of topology optimization can be turned into generative design tools that produce novel, materially efficient, and fabrication informed architectural forms.

**References**

- [1] Bendsøe, M. P, and Sigmund O. 2003 Topology Optimization - theory, methods, and applications. Springer
- [2] DOMBERNOWSKY, P, and SØNDERGAARD, A. 2011. Unikabeton prototype. In FABRICATE: Making Digital Architecture. Riverside Architectural Press.
- [3] DOMBERNOWSKY, P., and SØNDERGAARD, A. 2012. Design, analysis and realization of topology optimized concrete structures. International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures 53, 209-216.
- [4] STROMBERG, L. L., BEGHINI, A., BAKER, W. F., and PAULINO, G. H. 2012. Topology optimization for braced frames: combining continuum and beam/column elements. Engineering Structures 37, 106-124.
- [5] Nahmad Vazquez, A. et al. 2014. Design , Analysis and Fabrication of Expressive , Efficient Shell S tructures : A Prototype exploring synergy between architecture , engineering and manufacture. In: PAULETTI, R. M. O. and M.L.R.F., R. eds. International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures, IASS - SLTE. Brasilia

**PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOUR PROPOSAL WILL IMPACT STEPHEN AVENUE and/or aligns with the Future of Stephen Avenue Public Realm Study:**

Outline the near- and long-term changes you are hoping to bring about with this idea, both from a physical perspective (built environment) and a human one; identify the group(s) who will benefit.

The City of Calgary is very interested in positioning Stephen Avenue in downtown Calgary as a new hub for interaction, urban connectivity and a vibrant, multifunctional place and this innovation supports that goal.

Urban furniture has been identified as a key player towards engaging people to remain downtown. The multifunctional urban furniture can work as traffic calming bollards while having inhabitable characteristics that make it attractive and a useful piece for pedestrians and restaurants extending their outdoor spaces.

The scale of the furniture makes it the perfect playground to test various design methodologies such as topology optimized concrete structures and their corresponding robotically fabricated formworks. We aim to design and fabricate multifunctional urban furniture that is expressive in its design and efficient through its fabrication. We will use our expertise in digital design and robotic fabrication. We are looking for partners on this venture.

The City has provided the team with different street intersections as test ground to deploy the urban furniture, with the exact site to be identified by the City. We are looking for funding and additional industry partnership for testing these concepts.

#### **WHAT RESOURCES WILL BE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT YOUR PROJECT?**

Consider what personnel, materials, and ongoing expenses (programming etc.) are needed; list any actual or potential sources of additional fund.

- Digital Fabrication Facilities for the mock-up of the prototypes
- Raw materials such as 3D printing pellets
- Transport Vehicle to move the prototypes to their intersection
- Designated area to deploy the urban furniture
- After care of the urban furniture to prevent vandalism and other damaging activities during the deployment period.

**Future of Stephen Ave. Urban Alliance project: Expression of Interest**

*Want to explore a project idea for the Future of Stephen Avenue? Please fill out as much of the form below as you can—if you don't have all the answers that's okay. We can work with you to develop your idea!*

*Please return your form (and any comments/questions) to the SAPL Research Facilitator Jonathan Jucker: [jonathan.jucker@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jonathan.jucker@ucalgary.ca).*

<b>NAME:</b>		
Dr. Patrina Duhaney		
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>		
Social Work		
<b>RANK/POSITION:</b>		
Assistant Professor		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	patrina.duhaney@ucalgary.ca	<b>TELEPHONE:</b> (403) 220-7309
<b>CO-APPLICANT:</b> Are there co-applicants: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please provide the information requested above on a second page.		
<b>PROJECT TITLE:</b> Transformative Racial and Spatial Justice: Celebrating Black People's Knowledges and Contributions		
<b>DATES OF PROJECT (optional):</b>	<b>FROM:</b> June 1, 2022	<b>TO:</b> September 30, 2022
<b>SUMMARY BUDGET (optional):</b>		
	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>VALUE</b>
<b>Personnel:</b>	Project Coordinator Research Assistant (s) (Social Work and School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape) Youth (honorarium) Speakers/artists	\$34,600
<b>Equipment/Materials/Supplies:</b>	Tv/Computer Screens Pole Banners Art Supplies (Mural) Marketing Materials Office Supplies	\$5700
<b>Transportation:</b>	N/A	\$0
<b>Other:</b>	Refreshments for events and monthly workshops	\$2000
<b>TOTAL:</b>		*\$42,300

**PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR IDEA OR AREA OF INTEREST:**

Be as specific as you want, or simply share initial thoughts so we can work to develop them.

In July 2020, the [Anti-Black Racism Task Force Task in the Faculty of Social Work](#) at the University of Calgary was established in response and solidarity to ongoing calls for racial equity and justice. Our mandate is to uplift Black individuals, promote Black contributions and excellence and implement mechanisms to eradicate anti-Black racism. There is a growing body of research that shows that Black communities experience structural and systemic barriers that have deleterious psycho-social impacts and influence their upward mobility and success in society. A key mandate for the Task Force is to address systemic barriers that thwart Black people’s well-being and success and strengthen community engagement. In its plight to eradicate anti-Black racism, the Task Force is committed to building interdisciplinary partnerships with the broader university community and Black communities, leaders, and community organizations. Over the past few years, the Faculty of Social Work has organized various community events to celebrate Black history and contributions. Building on these early efforts, Dr. Duhaney, members of the Anti-Black Racism Task Force, Dr. Fabian Neuhaus work collaboratively to nurture relationships, foster engagement, and participation with Black communities by hosting a series of activities to take place at the Calgary Design Clinic located at 808 1<sup>st</sup> St SW.

Here we aim to co-create and co-design various activities and participatory design approaches to highlight the intersections between race and urban spaces and unearth the ways in which Black individuals have been excluded from public spaces with an emphasis on Stephen Ave when possible. Informed by the concept of spatial justice, we endeavor to organize and facilitate these activities, programs, and workshops to help foster equitable access and use of public spaces for Black communities on Stephen Avenue. The program will repeat on a monthly basis culminating in a design proposal co-created by the Duhaney and Taron teams using information gathered and content created through the weekly workshops (see schedule). The group will meet M/W/F July-August (9 hours per week in total).

There are five key activities of this project:

1. Information sharing between the Duhaney and Taron research teams;
2. Community-engaged participatory workshops involving Calgary-based black youth with an emphasis on black history and knowledge;
3. Celebrating Black contributions and excellence through poetry, dance, art and/or music;
4. Co-creating actions for political advocacy and social change;
5. Knowledge dissemination (e.g., presentation, journal articles)

**PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOUR PROPOSAL WILL IMPACT STEPHEN AVENUE and/or aligns with the Future of Stephen Avenue Public Realm Study:**

Outline the near- and long-term changes you are hoping to bring about with this idea, both from a physical perspective (built environment) and a human one; identify the group(s) who will benefit.

This project will have several impacts including cultural, social, health and well-being economic and academic.

This project will have a positive impact on Black communities and broader communities across Calgary and surrounding areas. Our target population are Black individuals; all project initiatives and activities are intended to support Black individuals by creating more inclusive spaces that help build/increase their capacity and foster their physical, mental, and social well-being. We plan to establish and nurture relationships with community partners in and around Calgary. For example, there are several community partners that could be approached to collaborate on this project; some of which include Alberta Network of Immigrant Women, African Canadian Immigrant Society (ACIS), Black Lives Matter YYC Society, Action Dignity, Calgary Black Chamber, Jamaican Canadian Association Alberta (Calgary). These collaborations are intended to create opportunities to further mobilize to bring about social and racial justice. In addition, this project seeks to actively engage Black youth as research assistants (e.g., FSW BSW, MSW and PhD students), co-creators of projects (e.g., FSW students and youth from the Calgary community) and as participants in community events.

Our inter-disciplinary collaboration will be beneficial to researchers in the Faculty of Social work and School of Architecture as it will help enhance our research and practice approaches. Racism is deeply embedded in architecture; urban spaces are often reserved for middle- and upper-class individuals who are predominantly white. Through this partnership, we will question the social, cultural, economic, or political context in which architectural structures have been conceptualized, designed, and constructed. We will deepen our understanding of the ways in which “racialized others” have been excluded from public spaces and implement mechanisms to address these institutional and systemic barriers. We will analyze and disseminate our key takeaways from the project through presentations, magazines (e.g., Architecture magazine) and journals.

The activities planned for this project align well with the City of Calgary’s [commitment to addressing anti-Black racism](#), the [Anti-Black Racism Task Force’s Action Plan](#), and the [Future of Stephen Avenue Project](#). They are intended to illuminate the intersections between race and space, celebrate Black people’s rich cultures and dismantle and transform oppressive spaces that minimize or exclude Black contributions. Given its iconic history in the downtown core of Calgary, locals and tourists will also appreciate the vibrant infusion of Black art and culture.

The residual effects of historic and ongoing systemic racism, necessitate both short-term and long-term actions and approaches to achieve transformative racial justice. The proposed project is a starting point to begin to impact spatial and racial justice in Calgary. Additional resources and time would be required to deliver these activities in the future and to make a more profound and comprehensive contribution to Stephen Avenue, the broader community, and systemic change beyond the initial pilot project.

The project specific aligns with the activating and repositioning strategic moves by inhabiting a high-visibility commercial space on Stephen Ave and hosting activities and displaying content in that space in a way that adds to the vitality of the avenue. It will likely provide key insights as to how Stephen Avenue can be improved in terms of its inclusiveness which may have the secondary effect of impacting the governing strategic move.

The key question of the project will focus on the experience of Stephen Avenue (and the city at large) by black youth with an emphasis on inclusivity of Stephen Avenue through the perspective of black Calgarian youths. These experiences will be translated into design-based proposals for physical transformations and spatial activities/programming that both share experiences while raising critical awareness of how the built environment works for/with/against black youth.

Participants will be surveyed at the end of the project to gauge impact. Both the products of the workshop (visually displayed in the Stephen Avenue storefront) and the results of the survey will be included in the final project report to be included in the larger FoSA Activate and Experiment report presented to Council.

#### **WHAT RESOURCES WILL BE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT YOUR PROJECT?**

Consider what personnel, materials, and ongoing expenses (programming etc.) are needed; list any actual or potential sources of additional fund.

There are several human and financial resources that are required to implement this project.

Funds from this project will be used to hire a project coordinator and research assistants. The **project coordinator** is a key part of the project as they will work with the project lead and other members of the team to ensure that we achieve our deliverables and that the project runs smoothly. They will also plan and coordinate the various activities that will be delivered.

**Research assistants** from the Faculty of Social work and the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape play an essential part on this project as they will assist with all aspects of the project from communicating with community partners, helping to facilitate events, and disseminating key findings from the project. Undergraduate research assistants will assist with recruitment, data collection, transcription, coding, and analysis. They will have access to appropriate training (i.e., principles of anti-Black racism) and development opportunities so that they can contribute in a meaningful way, equipped with the tools and skills to fulfill required tasks, and contribute to the dissemination of knowledge. Research assistants will also have professional developmental opportunities to advance their knowledge by attending workshops and conferences and assist with the development of manuscripts and presentations.

We aim to empower **Black youth** to be actively engaged in the project and make a positive change in their communities. To honor their time and contributions, youth will receive an honorarium.

We plan to engage our communities by inviting **local speakers/artists** to participate in our various activities and enrich the program. In partnership and collaboration with community members, workshops will be delivered to allow for critical dialogue about key issues relevant to Black communities. Honorariums will be provided to local speakers/artists involved in this work.

**Mural Creation**

Funds will be allotted to cover the cost of artists' fees and training, supplies for art, transportation, and refreshments for youth.

**Celebrating Black Contributions and Excellence**

We plan to display images, videos and create pole banners, and posters of Black individuals to celebrate their rich cultures and disrupt negative and distorted representations of them. Electronic visuals will be displayed to transmit relevant information and activities. Youth involved in the project will receive T-Shirts. Funds will also be set aside for materials.

**Black History and Knowledge Workshops**

We intend to deliver an event or workshop weekly in collaboration with community partners. These may include educational workshops, spoken word, drumming, storytelling, singing or dancing. Honorariums will be provided.

**Political Advocacy and Social Change**

To [enact, quantify, and communicate change](#), we intend to invite policymakers and elected officials to our various events. This will help us create a community action plan that recognizes the strength, resilience and plight of Black people while advocating for Black inclusion through spatial justice opportunities. This political advocacy activity also aims to challenge pervasive anti-black racism. Honorariums will not be provided to policy makers and elected officials given that this is within the scope of their professional work.

**Anti-Black Racism Task Force Funds**

Funds (\$1500) from the anti-Black Racism Task Force will be allotted to help facilitate the workshops and presentations by local leaders and artists.

**In-Kind Services**

We anticipate the in-kind services provided by researchers from the Faculty of Social Work and the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape will be approximately \$10,000.

## Co-Applicant Details

<b>NAME:</b>			
The Anti-Black Racism Task Force (including Dr. Liza Lorenzetti and Dr. Jennifer Hewson) Prof.. Joshua Taron			
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>			
Faculty of Social Work; School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape			
<b>RANK/POSITION:</b> N/A			
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	patrina.duhaney@ucalgary.ca; <a href="mailto:antiblackrtf@ucalgary.ca">antiblackrtf@ucalgary.ca</a> ; jmtaron@ucalgary.ca	<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	(403) 220-7309

### BUDGET 2022

	May	June	July	August	September	TOTAL HOURS
<b>Personnel</b>						
Student A	40 hours	40 hours	40 hours	40 hours	40 hours	200 X \$23/hr = \$4,600
Student B	40 hours	40 hours	40 hours	40 hours	40 hours	200 X \$23/hr = \$4,600
Research Coordinator	60 hours	60 hours	60 hours	60 hours	60 hours	300 X \$32/hr = \$9600
Youth	130 hours	130 hours	130 hours	130 hours		520 X \$15/hr = \$7,800
Speakers/Performers		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$2, 000
<b>Material</b>						
Tv/Computer Screens & mounts	\$2200					\$2200
Pole Banners (10) & installation	\$1000					\$1000
Art Supplies	\$1500					\$1500
Marketing Materials	\$500					\$500



Office Supplies	\$500					\$500
Intervention Budget		\$1500	\$1500	\$1500	\$1500	\$6000
<b>Miscellaneous</b>						
Refreshment		\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$2000
					TOTAL	\$42,300.00

**Rate of Pay**

Research Assistants: \$24/hour  
 Research Coordinator: \$32/hour  
 Youth: \$17/hour

\* Amounts exceeding \$40,000 will be covered (up \$1500) by the Anti-Black Racism Task Force  
**PROJECT SCHEDULE 2022**

**MAY/JUNE: Project Planning, Preparation and Outreach**

- Hire project coordinator and research assistants
- Meet with community partners
- Schedule artists/musicians/speakers
- Organize media release of events
- Recruit youth
- Purchase equipment supplies
- Prepare ethics documents/submit
- Conduct literature review
- Develop assessment tools
- Compile all resources for workshops + catering

**JULY**

**Module 1:** Community-engaged participatory workshops involving Calgary-based Black youth with an emphasis on black history and knowledge.

**Workshop 1 (July 5-8) (led by social work):** Introduction, learning and knowledge exchange  
 8-12 youth (ages 15-17)  
 3-5 knowledge keepers/historians/storytellers

**Workshop 2 (July 11-15) (led by SAPL):** Activity development: From the collective knowledge gained through workshop 1, Black youth will work with guide/leads to create a Black history knowledge commons (in a design form, visible, tangible)

\*Conduct assessment of activities

**Module 2:** Celebrating Black contributions and excellence through poetry, dance, art and/or music

**Workshop 1 (July 11-15) (led by social work):** Learning and Expressions (youth will be taught skills and prepare their own street performance and public canvas painting)  
 8-12 youth (ages 15-17)

- 1 spoken word
- 2 Artist
- 1 drummer

**Workshop 2 (July 18-22)** (led by SAPL): Capacity building and activity: Street performance

\*Conduct assessment of activities

**Module 3:** Co-creating actions for political advocacy and social change

**Workshop 1 (July 25-29) (led by social work):** Learning political advocacy (levels of government, key advocacy issues for Black communities, who and how)

8-12 youth (ages 15-17)

Black politicians, thought leaders advocates

**Workshop 2 (August 1-19) (led by SAPL):** Creating and designing an advocacy plan

8-12 youth (ages 15-17)

Black politicians, thought leaders/advocates

Define issue

Establish goals/Objectives (Short term/long term)

Determine target audience

Create concrete advocacy plan

\*Conduct assessment of activities

**SEPTEMBER:** Knowledge dissemination of activities from workshops 1-3 (e.g., presentation, journal articles)

Compile data, evaluate, disseminate (Utoday article, architecture magazine, media release)

## Future of Stephen Ave. Urban Alliance project: Expression of Interest

Want to explore a project idea for the Future of Stephen Avenue? Please fill out as much of the form below as you can—if you don't have all the answers that's okay. We can work with you to develop your idea!

Please return your form (and any comments/questions) to the SAPL Research Facilitator

Jonathan Jucker: [jonathan.jucker@ucalgary.ca](mailto:jonathan.jucker@ucalgary.ca).

<b>NAME:</b>			
(1) Trina Listanco + (2) Roes Arief Budiman			
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>			
(1) Private Corporation (2) School of Engineering, Department of Mechanical Engineering			
<b>RANK/POSITION:</b>			
(1) Owner/ Director (2) Lead Instructor and Advisor, ENGG 501/502 Capstone Project			
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	(1) <a href="mailto:Trina@SpaAquaPrima.com">Trina@SpaAquaPrima.com</a> (2) <a href="mailto:RBudiman@UCalgary.ca">RBudiman@UCalgary.ca</a>	<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	(1) 403 992 8495 (2) 587 433 8428
<b>CO-APPLICANT:</b> Are there co-applicants: If yes, please provide the information requested above on a second page.			
<b>PROJECT TITLE:</b> Solar Thermal Outdoor Furniture			
<b>DATES OF PROJECT</b> (optional):	<b>FROM:</b> December 2021	<b>TO:</b> December 2022	
<b>SUMMARY BUDGET</b> (optional): <i>SEE EXCEL File Attached</i>			
	DESCRIPTION	VALUE	
<b>Personnel:</b>	Engineering Design	\$4665	
<b>Equipment/Materials/ Supplies:</b>	Materials + Data Collection system	\$16520	
<b>Transportation:</b>	Mobilization and Installation on Site c/o City of Calgary	(\$2930) excluded	
<b>Labor and Consultant:</b>	Capstone Project Student Team and Project Sponsor	\$26280	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>Total + 15% Contingency (\$7119.75)</b>	<b>\$54584.75</b>	

### PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR IDEA OR AREA OF INTEREST:

Be as specific as you want, or simply share initial thoughts so we can work to develop them.

Solar Thermal Outdoor Furniture Project is a green technology innovation series that involves prototyping and developing various solar thermal micro infrastructure solutions that will address heating challenges of “placemaking” in outdoor public/ private spaces year-round in Calgary i.e. Stephen Avenue (and other spaces in cities around the world):

- 1) Solar thermal radiant surfaces e.g. furniture benches / walls / sculptures  
*(Iteration #1) Year 2022*
- 2) Solar thermal with enclosures or distributed hyperlocal / objects  
*(Iteration #2 + #3 + #4) Year 2022 - 2023*
- 3) Solar thermal heated cement / pavement  
*(Iteration #5) Year 2023 – 2024*
- 4) Solar thermal + Air heating (without glycol circulation)  
*(Iteration #4) Year 2023*

**PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW YOUR PROPOSAL WILL IMPACT STEPHEN AVENUE and/or aligns with the Future of Stephen Avenue Public Realm Study:**

Outline the near- and long-term changes you are hoping to bring about with this idea, both from a physical perspective (built environment) and a human one; identify the group(s) who will benefit.

Near Term Year 1: 2022 - 2023

- 1) Contribute to the active and collective visioning and experimenting for strategies to make the Future of Stephen Avenue and other public spaces “inviting and desirable” all year-round. Prototype Iterations #1 of several off-grid design solutions.  
Target Output / Deliverable: Usable Prototype of system design Iterations #1
- 2) Facilitate an inclusive and eco-conscious transformation of Stephen Avenue by providing safe and reliable renewable energy for heating public spaces and/or events; and business district, and cultural hub destination through passive solar heating systems.  
Target Output / Deliverable: Qualitative report on user feedback + incorporated public engagement events etc.
- 3) Develop, test (collect and analyze primary data) and demonstrate renewable energy technologies that can enhance outdoor experiences in public spaces through tactile sensory input such as warmth. (*neuro-psycho-physiology and sociology of warmth*)  
Target Output / Deliverable: Refined design Iterations #1- #5 + design responses to address findings and user input from design Iterations #1.

Mid Term Year: 2023 - 2024

- 4) Encourage other creative and design teams to re-imagine use and function of our initial 2022 technology and design iterations e.g. student design competitions
- 5) Further develop and adapt technologies for application in various public or private infrastructure networks e.g. Bus / LRT Transit Stations + Residential + Commercial districts etc. e.g. working with Calgary Transit / Green Line
- 6) Incorporate lighting design (and other security features) to enhance existing safety and security strategies in public spaces / private properties.
- 7) Innovate and collaborate with other urban designers/ placemakers/ developers to create new and green urban tourism destinations and green urban forms and movements i.e. Net-Zero winter festivals, Transit-Oriented Developments, Smart Cities with localized heating systems e.g. CMLC East Village.

Long Term Year: Strategic and Cultural Energy Transformation

Create cultural touchstones and urban icons of “new energy” and of responsible and inclusive innovation, collaboration, community, and care.

Become an inviting platform for young designers, architects, artists, and innovators to experiment in solar thermal energy systems and its applications.

Systematically study interphase of health (parameters) and the built environment (and propose essential infrastructure system on touch and the tactile sense.

**WHAT RESOURCES WILL BE REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT YOUR PROJECT?**

Consider what personnel, materials, and ongoing expenses (programming etc.) are needed; list any actual or potential sources of additional fund.

Other Potential source of additional funding:

- 1) Calgary Arts Development Program “Artist Initiated” Project (40,000 CAD)
- 2) Private Commercial Early Technology Adopters: Restaurant Owners + Hotel Lounges  
+ Nature Reserve Lodges
- 3) Emissions Reduction Alberta (various programs for private and public organizations seeking approved energy efficient solutions retrofit and new-builds)
- 4) City Calgary Capital Projects Funds

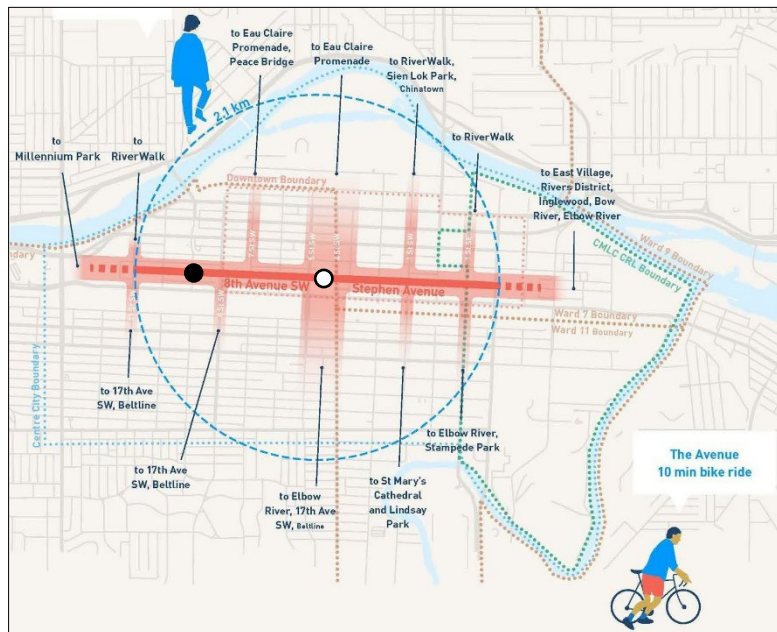
**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
 Summer Installation @ Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023

Project Proposal

The **Center for Civilization** at the University of Calgary School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) is seeking funding to execute a 6-month project that aims to create synergies with upcoming programming Downtown (Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023) to catalyze and ultimately advance knowledge and best practices for experimentation, innovation and activation of the Future of Stephen Ave.

The **Project Proposal** calls for the design and installation of a piece (or series of pieces) of cycling-centered infrastructure to enable and facilitate active transportation in the blast radius around the project's site. Taking advantage of the upcoming downtown programming by the annual Sled Island Music & Arts Festival, the Project would create a "node" for use by the Festival's attendees. This would not only activate the area in which the project is sited, but also **create an opportunity for an observational and survey study to understand how this proposed piece of cycling infrastructure can catalyze activation on the Avenue.** Therefore, the Project would be a combinatory effort: tackling both the design, construction and installation of a built intervention, but complemented with a CFREB-approved survey and observational study to understand and establish benchmarks of use before, during and after Sled Island 2023.

- **Proposed Project site**  
(corner of 8<sup>th</sup> Ave + 9<sup>th</sup> St)
- *Alternate Project site*  
(Globe Cinema)



**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
Summer Installation @ Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023

Project Definitions

**“Cycling-centered infrastructure:”** A piece of outdoor urban furniture that integrates a bicycle rack to safely store/lock a bike. This piece of urban furniture could provide space to sit, lean, or have a space to have a quick sandwich or coffee (sort of like a high-top table). **The specifics of the Project will emerge *after* the design process is completed, but a set of project precedents (pp. 5) are being used as conceptual starting points.**

**“Node” Location:** The Project aims to create an anchor point for pedestrian activity facilitated by Sled Island. The *proposed* location is in the corner of 10<sup>th</sup> St and 8<sup>th</sup> Ave, adjacent to **Loophole Coffee Bar** and the **Comedy Cave**, and 1-block away from **Dickens**, a 2023 venue for Sled Island. However, post-event, the *Project-as-Node* is **proposed to remain in place until the end of the summer (Sept. 21<sup>st</sup>)**, upon which an evaluation of whether to retain, remove or relocate the Project can be made.

CFREB: Conjoint Faculties Research Ethics Board.

**“Survey and observational study:”** The purpose of the survey and observational study is to understand the needs of cyclists and pedestrians, and to understand how cycling-centered infrastructure elements (or other types of urban furniture) can facilitate or inhibit activation and activity on the Avenue. The survey becomes an opportunity to engage with experienced cyclists and ask and understand the sort of needs they have within the area and within City. **While the final scope of questions will take time to develop, and subsequently be approved by the CFREB, some of the starting questions include:** *Are the number of temporary bike racks provided for Sled Island sufficient? Are the locations of the bike racks ideal? Could more bike racks be placed elsewhere (ie near coffee shops or eateries not identified as official venues for Sled Island)? Would retaining some (or many) of the bike racks deployed during Sled Island encourage further active transportation methods after the conclusion of the event?* The observational study becomes a 2<sup>nd</sup> opportunity—a foil—to witness how the Project is being used (or not used). The observational study might also reveal how people or groups of people are swayed or directed towards certain geographies based on the street amenities present. Observations of “traditional” bike racks elsewhere might be incorporated. **Ultimately, both the insights from the survey and the observational study can be used to iterate and better design future cycling-centered infrastructure pieces that can be deployed along the Avenue.**



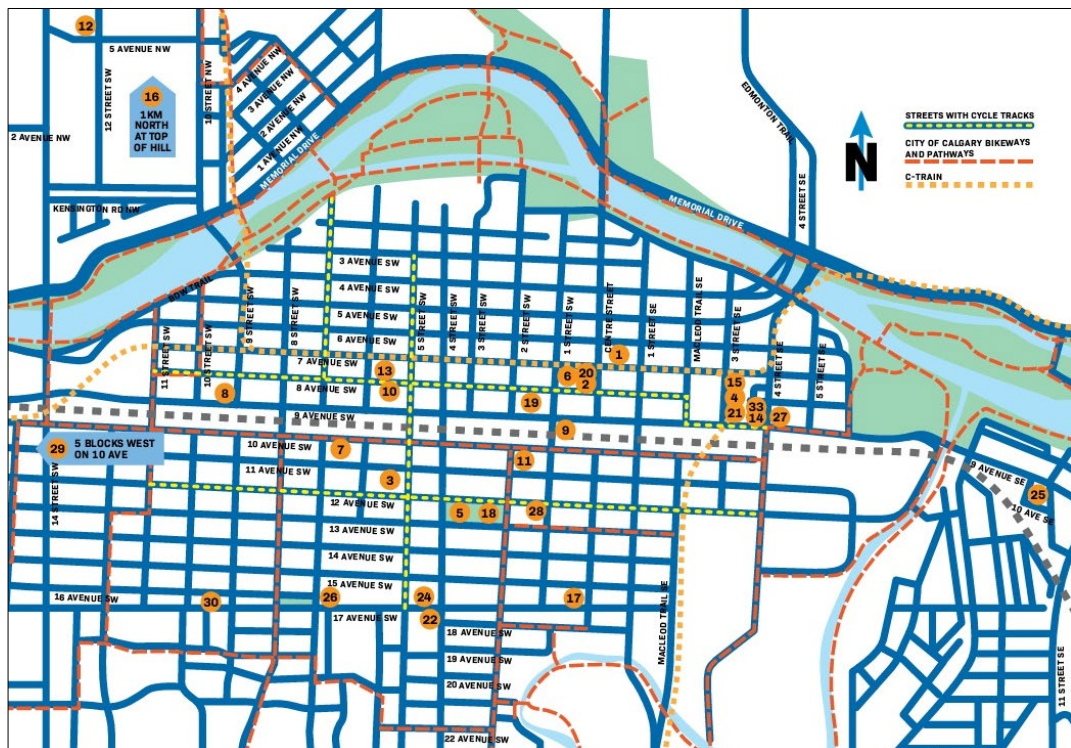
**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
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About Sled Island

From the website: <https://www.sledisland.com/about>

*“Since 2007, Sled Island's thoughtful, eclectic programming and independent spirit have produced a one-of-a-kind festival experience. Each June, the five-day music and arts festival brings together a community of music, comedy, film and art as well as over 40,000 attendees across multiple venues, earning rave reviews from attendees, artists and media across the globe.”*

What is important to note is that the Festival attendee’s are encouraged to move between venues using active transportation methods, particularly cycling. In fact, cycling is inextricably tied to the identity of the Festival.



*Sample of previous Sled Island Music & Arts Festival Map (2019) of venue locations.*

**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
Summer Installation @ Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023Alignments with Future of Stephen Avenue Initiative

*"The Avenue is Calgary's main connector to arts, culture and commerce, and offers a stage for experimentation and innovation."*

In this context, **the Project aims to target 3 Strategic Moves:**

- **Connecting** the Avenue (primary)
- **Activating** the Avenue (primary)
- **Branding** the Avenue (secondary)

Additionally, the Project operates within 3 categories:

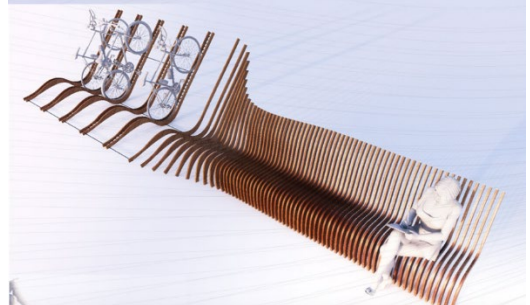
- **Prototyping/Intervening** (physical installation; augmentation of programming + events)
- **Measuring/Monitoring** (survey; observational study)
- **Evaluating** (making sense of the data)

How will the project impact the *future* of Stephen Ave?

The Project aims to have an impact on the future of Stephen Avenue in a number of ways. First, in the short-term, the Project—as piece of infrastructure—will provide a node of urban, pedestrian activity at the Project's site during an event of high traffic and public engagement. This will enable the study of the Project's use before, during, and after this event. Creating a baseline of understanding for activity in the area, and observations of the Project's use, will enable the integration of lived experience insights into the design of future projects. In the long-term, the Project aims to work in concert and augment other initiatives of urban activation and experimentation along the Avenue. Through this collective accumulation of interventions (whether physical, such as an installation, or temporal, such as programming), the urban will reveal its potentials for new activity while signaling to the community and business owners the viability for these types of urban acupuncture. In the best-case scenario, the Project, in the long-term, facilitates greater interest, cooperation and enthusiasm in the community for engagement with urban activation initiatives and projects.

**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
Summer Installation @ Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023

Project Precedents



**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
Summer Installation @ Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023

Project Dates: **27 February 2023 - 21 September 2023**

Proposed Schedule

SG1 **MON FEB 27: CCCxFoSA Project Launch**

- Track 1: Begin installation design.
- Track 2: Begin delineation of survey questions to be used during Sled Island 2023.

**MON MAR 13: Milestone 1**

- Track 1: Installation design draft concept submitted for comments.

**MON MAR 20: Milestone 2**

- Track 1: Comments due back to design team.

SG2 **WED MAR 29: Milestone 3+4**

- Track 1: Submit installation design for permitting to The City.
- Track 2: Submit first draft of survey questions to IRISS for CFREB approval.

**MID APRIL: Milestone 5**

- Track 1: Upon approval of City Permits for installation design, submit materials order.

**EARLY MAY: Milestone 6 + 7**

- Track 1: Begin construction of installation and prep of materials for transport to installation site.
- Track 2: Upon receiving CFREB approval of survey questions, finalize strategy of community engagement and study of the use of the installation by the public.

**WED JUN 07 – SUN JUN 11: Milestone 8**

- Track 2: On site, begin survey and observational study in the absence of both the project installation and Sled Island 2023 to establish a comparative benchmark.

**WED JUN 14: Milestone 9**

- Track 1: Complete installation; move to site.

**WED JUN 21 – SUN JUN 25: Sled Island Music & Arts Festival 2023**

- Track 2: Engage with the public and event participants through CFREB-approved survey and through observational study of the use of installation during Sled Island 2023.

**WED JUL 05 – SUN JUL 09: Milestone 10**

- Track 2: Return to site, repeat survey and observational study in the absence of Sled Island 2023 to establish a 2<sup>nd</sup> comparative benchmark; begin report writing.

**WED AUG 02: Milestone 11**

- Track 1+2: Complete first draft of project report, share internally for feedback,

**FRI SEP 01: Milestone 12**

- Track 1+2: Submit final report and study findings.

**MON SEP 18: Milestone 13**

- Track 1: Decision deadline by the city on whether to retain, remove or relocate project.

**THU SEP 21: Milestone 14**

- Track 1: If the City renders a decision to remove or relocate the project, it would happen on this date.

*This area is intentionally left blank.*

**CIVIC COMMONS CATALYST x FUTURE OF STEPHEN AVE (CCCxFoSA)**  
Summer Installation @ Sled Island Music & Arts Festival

Funding Proposal

The Future of Stephen Avenue Initiative Project Fund will provide \$40,000 to the Center for Civilization at the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape (SAPL) to facilitate the execution of this project.

**Stage Gate 1 Total: \$8,632**

**Personnel (Primary Team): \$4,632**

- One GAR @ \$26 per hour x 12 hrs per week x 6 weeks = \$1,872
- One GAR @ \$24 per hour x 10 hrs per week x 6 weeks = \$1,440
- One GAR @ \$22 per hour x 10 hrs per week x 6 weeks = \$1,320

**Equipment/Materials/Supplies: \$2,000** (for design prototyping and testing)

**City Permits (estimate): \$2,000**

**Stage Gate 2 Total: \$31,368**

**Personnel (Primary Team: Installation Design, Material Procurement, Survey Design, Data Collection, Installation Construction, Report Writing ): \$15,440**

- One GAR @ \$26 per hour x 12 hrs per week x 20 weeks = \$6,240
- One GAR @ \$24 per hour x 10 hrs per week x 20 weeks = \$4,800
- One GAR @ \$22 per hour x 10 hrs per week x 20 weeks = \$4,400

**Personnel (Survey Team): \$3,960**

- Five GARs @ \$22 per hour x 12 hrs per week x 3 weeks = \$3,960

**Personnel (Build/Installation Assistance): \$528**

- Two GARs @ \$22 per hour x 12 hours per week x 1 week = \$528

**Personnel (Project Photography): \$300**

**Materials/Supplies: \$10,000** (for installation)

**Transportation (estimate): \$1,000**

**Equipment (incidentals): \$140**

**Project TOTAL: \$40,000**

Workshop Presentation



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

# The Future of Stephen Avenue

**Activate + Experiment:  
A new opportunity for the Urban Alliance**

Josh Taron  
Associate Dean Research + Innovation  
School of Architecture, Planning + Landscape

March 26, 2021





# Strategic Moves

Successful initiatives should consider these strategic moves as themes for further inquiry.



1

Branding the Avenue



2

Connecting the Avenue



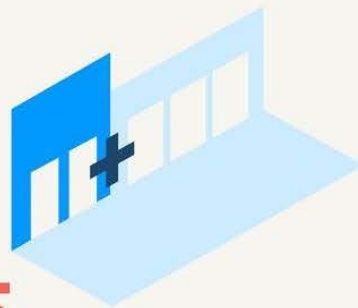
3

Activating the Avenue



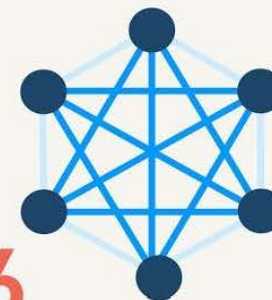
4

Opening up and onto  
the Avenue



5

Repositioning the Avenue



6

Governing the Avenue

# Project Categories

- Informing/Situating
  - Literature Reviews; Existing/Best Practices; Defining problems; Scalar Connections; Cases for Intervention
- Prototyping/Intervening
  - Physical Installations; Programming + Events; Policy Augmentation/Innovation
- Measuring/Monitoring
  - Sensors; Surveys; Mapping
- Evaluating
  - Making sense of the data
- Recommending
  - Oriented toward one or a combination of City/Industry/Academy/Public



# Cross-cutting Research Partnership

		STRATEGIC MOVES					
		Branding	Connecting	Activating	Opening	Repositioning	Governing
ACTIVATING + EXPERIMENTING PROCESS	Informing/Situating						
	Prototyping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Individual project proposals will be mapped against this matrix to ensure the mix of approved projects is balanced over all of the strategic moves.</li> </ul>					
	Measuring/Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prototyping includes the temporary creation/operation of <b>physical artifacts</b> e.g. a Sidewalk Canopy constructed by SAPL), <b>social programs</b> (e.g. an Ambassador Program for assisting vulnerable populations and increasing perceptions of safety developed by Social Work and OIPH, and <b>policy pilots</b> (e.g. an expanded outdoor restaurant terrace use permit developed by Law and SPP).</li> </ul>					
	Evaluating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the meta-level of project engagement with the City, the University can work to coordinate various projects so that a particular prototype could be used to evaluate different strategic moves and a variety of research questions.</li> </ul>					
	Recommending						

# Objectives

- Engage Researchers Across the Academy
  - Interdisciplinary teams addressing meaningful challenges
- Use Stephen Avenue as a Territory to Apply Existing Research
  - Exploit high-profile nature of Stephen Ave to showcase UofC expertise
- Leverage Partnerships Toward Tri-council Funding
  - Adding lasting and sustainable value to public investment
- Undertake Study of the Endeavor as a Whole
  - Researcher(s) needed to monitor and evaluate the UA partnership
- Engage Undergraduate Students in WIL and Service Learning
  - Extending research to provide unique high-quality learning experiences

# Project Structure

- Funding for Research Assistants
  - [Value add] Connect existing research projects to Stephen Ave venue
  - [Value draw] Seed Funding – precursor to funded projects (future grants)
  - Supplemental funding for experiential WIL for existing graduate students

# Project Streams/Origins

- City Generated
  - 9-block projects; 10th Street Intersection Treatments/Activation; 2nd Street SW Parking Reconfiguration; Furniture Pods; Creative Wayfinding
- UofC Generated
  - ADR/facilitator outreach/workshops
- Private-sector Generated (CDA)
  - Ambassador Program, 1M, etc...

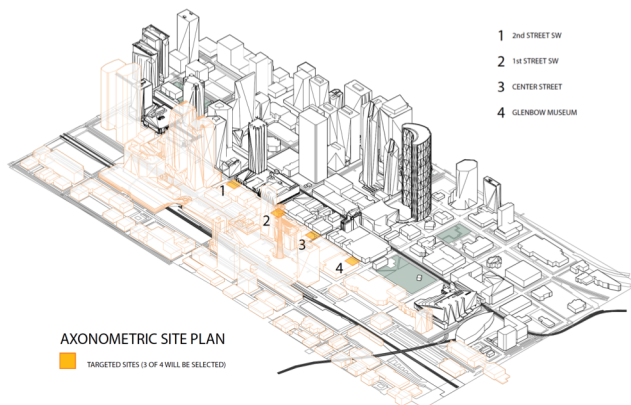
Achieved through Periodic Networking + Project Crafting Workshops

- March 26 is first instance



# Example Project: Healthy Communities Initiative

- Shared Vulnerabilities Project Application
  - Uses \$40k of FoSA funding to access \$250k to build 3 outreach pavilions
    - Support the City of Calgary's Ambassador Program along Stephen Ave
    - Function as a platform for digital storytelling for vulnerable and marginalized groups and individuals impacted by COVID-19
  - Engages researchers from the faculties of: Arts, Social Work, Medicine (MakeCalgary), SAPL
  - Partners include: City of Calgary (FoSA), Calgary Arts Development, Calgary Downtown Association, Alpha House, SORCe



## Next Steps

- Shared results from workshop
- April 15 project submission deadline