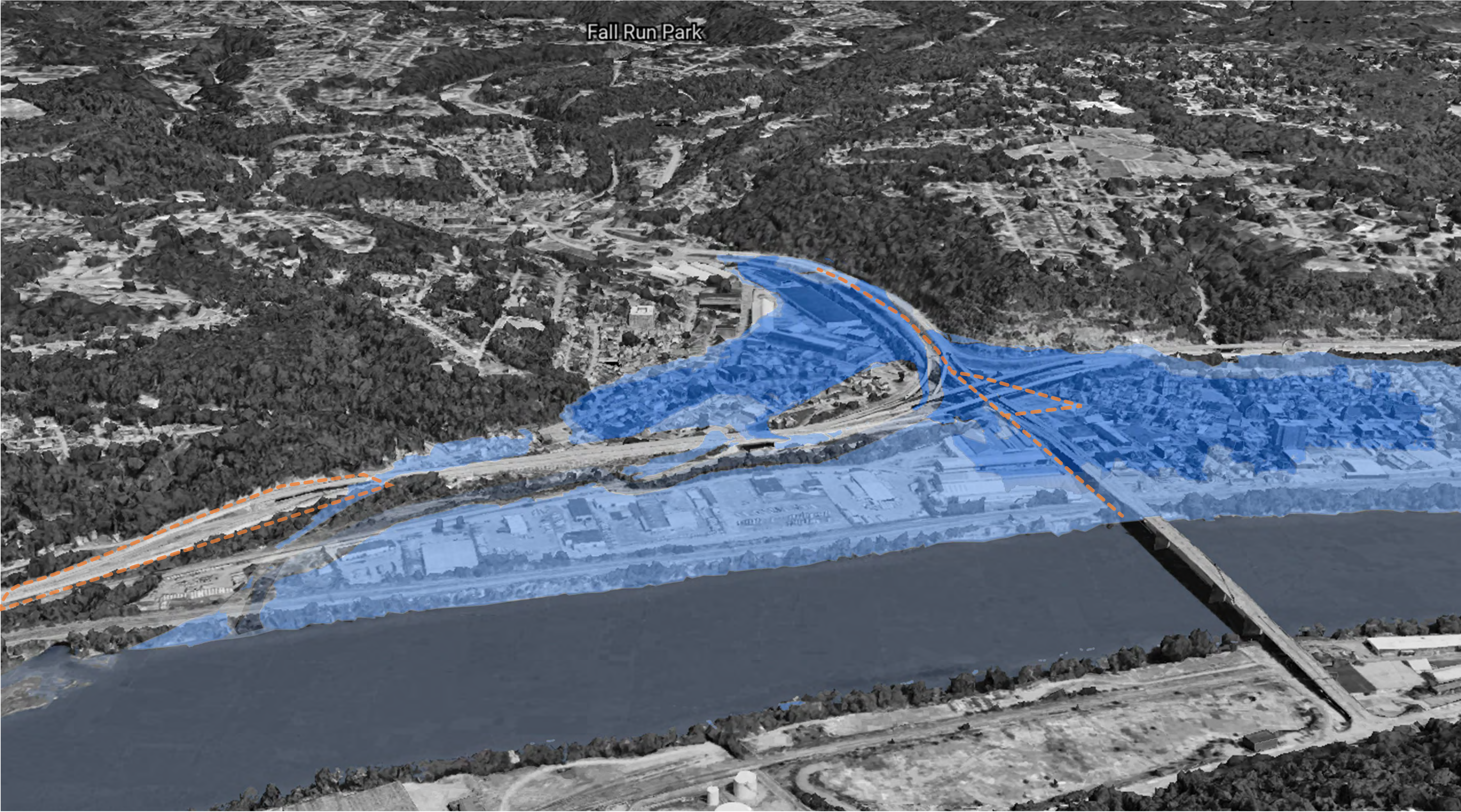


TRIBORO GATEWAYS

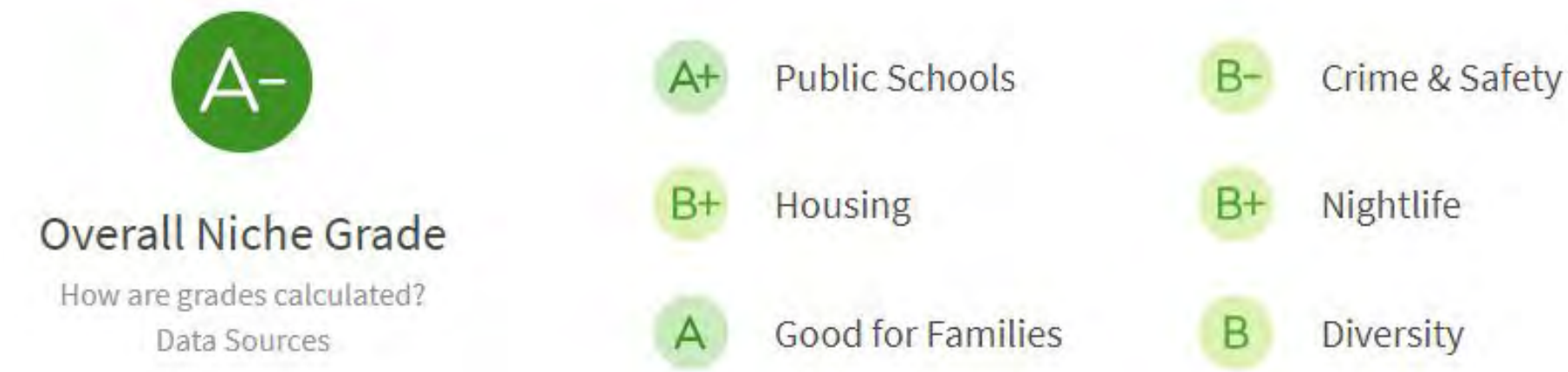
LARCH 414 Pittsburgh Studio Spring 2021 | Abigail Merlos



FOCUS SITES | WEST ETNA GATEWAY AND PORTAL

COMMUNITY INPUT AND ANALYSIS

Etna



Climate is good, home life is nice; stay away from the teens.
Niche User · Mar 1 2016 · Overall Experience

Crime is primarily drug related, can also involve vandalism by wild teenagers, but beyond that, the neighborhood is safe enough to walk around at night.
Niche User · Mar 1 2016 · Crime & Safety

Sharpsburg



It has the potential to be a close nit community. Too many shops c and close within a year. very small town
Current Resident · May 8 2017 · Overall Experience

Etna is a cozy place for new families just starting there lives to live. Etna is a growing little community, Main Street Etna is starting to grow with coffee shops and art galleries with many community events that happen about once a month.

NICHE BOROUGH REVIEWS



COMMUNITY INPUT | Central Portal



COMMUNITY INPUT | Etna Gateway

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Vegetation to enhance aesthetics and mitigate noise | Public art instillations to add color and vibrancy | Stormwater management and best practices |
| Color LED lighting to liven spaces up and make it feel safer at night | Wayfinding and signage | Pedestrian access and safety in and around the site |

CHARRETTE NOTES

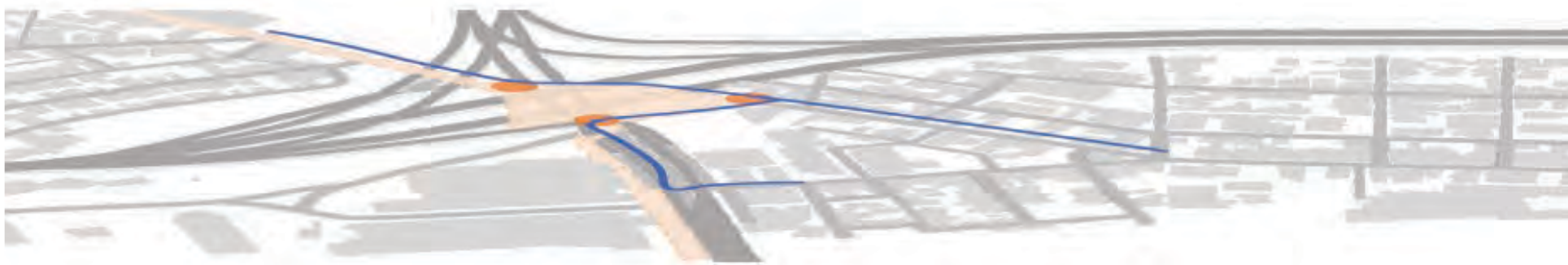
Through weeks of analysis, leading up to the community charrette, we got to know the people of Sharpsburg and Etna primarily through on-line formats. Seeing the biggest concerns from the community along with their vision for the space is what inspired the design of the two gateways.

The primary opportunities to emerge from analysis and charrette were:

- Habitat Restoration
- Stormwater Infrastructure
- Safety and Crime Deterrent
- A place for Teens
- A place for the communities to congregate
- Design that evokes the character of the boroughs

IN-DEPTH LOOK AT THE SITES

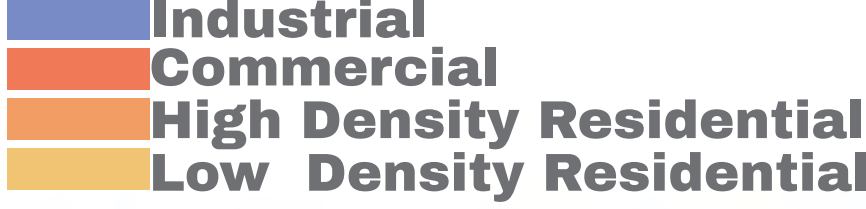
Existing Circulation Patterns and Proposed Traffic Safety Interventions



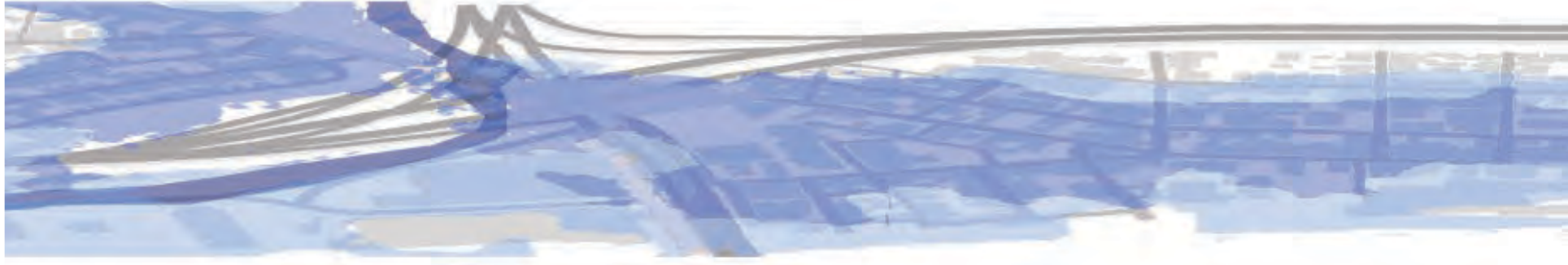
Vehicular Traffic Density



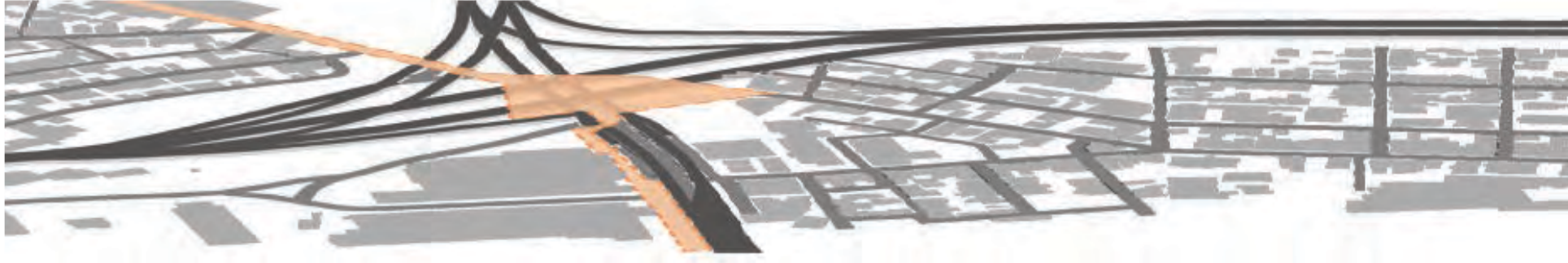
Existing Land Use



Flooding On-Site



Building Density and Roadways



EXISTING SITE SYSTEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE PORTAL



PORTAL CONTEXT

1"=200'-0"



ETNA GATEWAY PLAN

1"=100'-0"



PORTAL PLAN

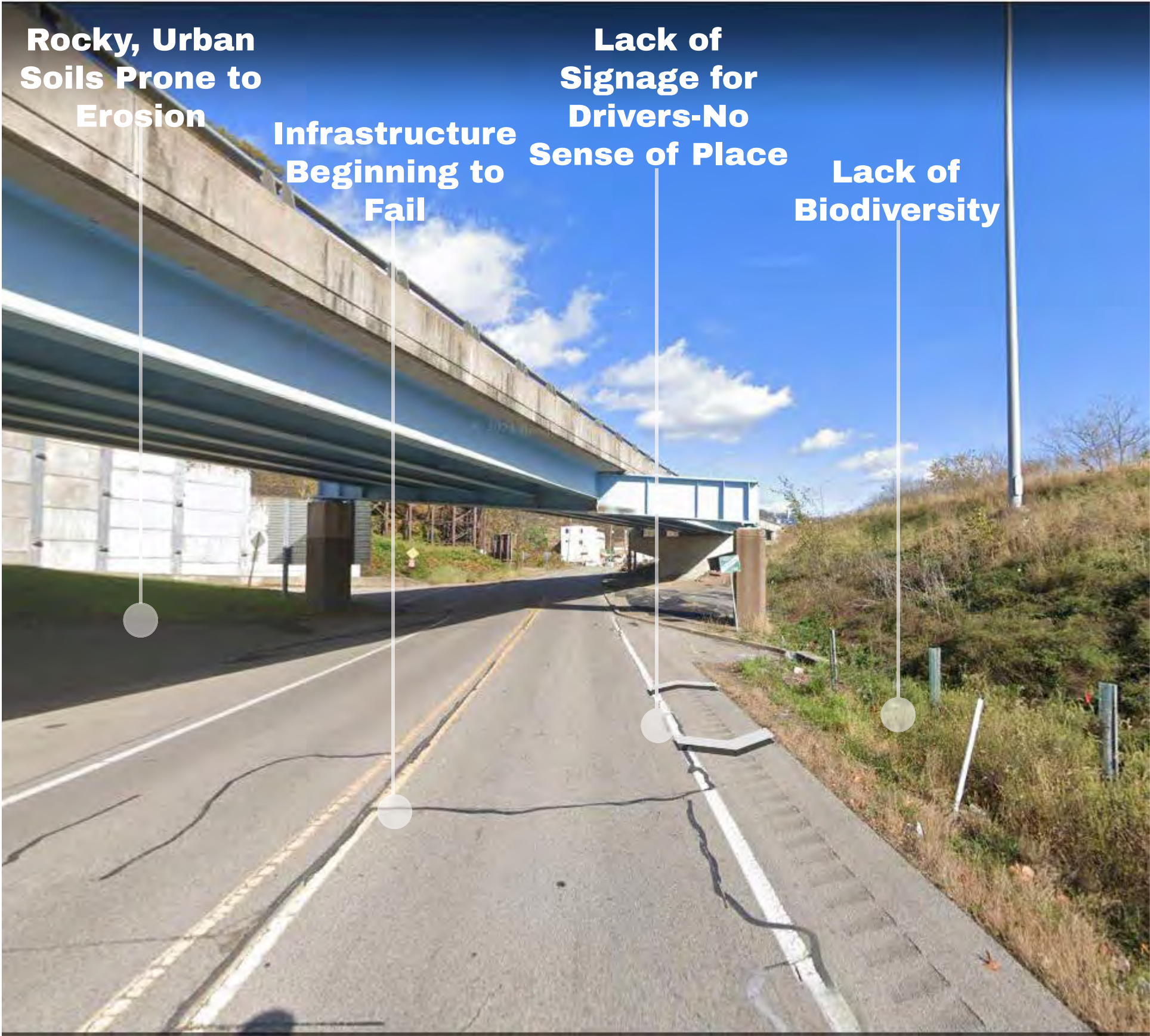
1"=40'-0"



The circulation and paving patterns were adapted from current trends to best link these two boroughs to each other as well as reconnecting them to the Allegheny which follows the larger Eco-District Plan. The borough residents are looking for a place to a place to hold community events. The Portal has the potential to be an ideal location for these events, but would require safety measures like pedestrian-activated stop lights to make the site a viable option.

The middle “room” that serves as a transitional space held in with berms and planting for noise buffers offers respite from the noise and air pollution often associated with underpasses. In the Etna gateway, the use of art for traffic calming, done by a local artist as well as planting for filtration and lane narrowing is used to slow traffic entering Etna and offer a sense of character.

BRINGING ETNA'S CHARACTER TO THE EAST GATEWAY



EXISTING CONDITIONS

SIDE-SLOPE



MEADOW



PHYTOREMEDIATION



PLANT FAMILIES



TRAFFIC CALMING INITIATIVES

TRANSITIONAL ROOM FOR PUBLIC AMENITY



MATERIALS

BERM PLANTING



Black Locust



Eastern Red Cedar



Honey Locust



Arborvitae



Big Blue Stem



Pennsylvania Sedge



Joe Pye Weed

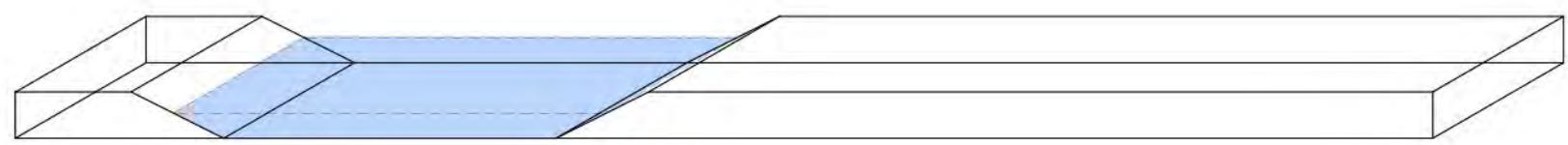
PLANTING



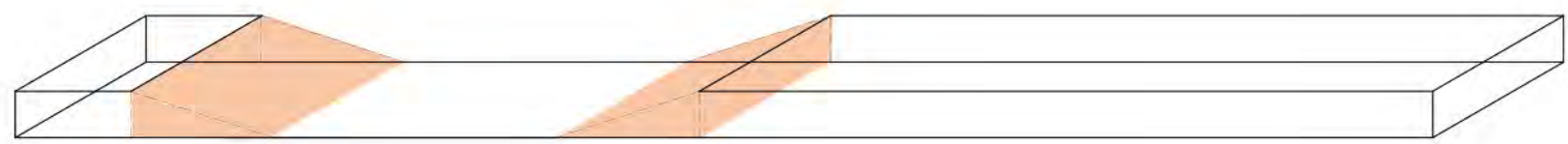
Removable Wooden Platform to create a space that transitions between gathering space for youth and community event space

FOCUS ON FLOODING

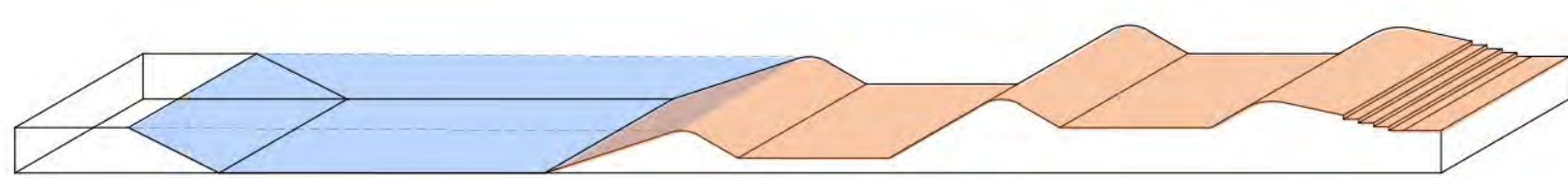
Existing Concrete Channelization



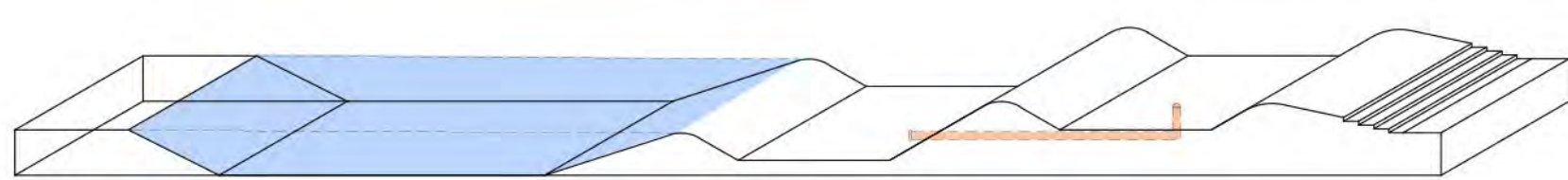
Concrete Removal



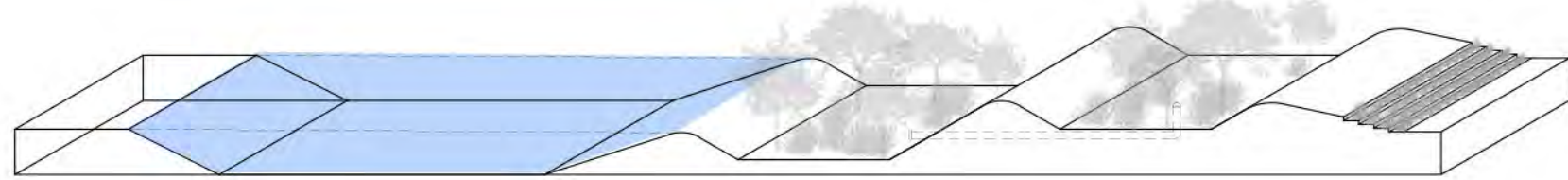
Slope re-graded to Collect and Filter Stormwater



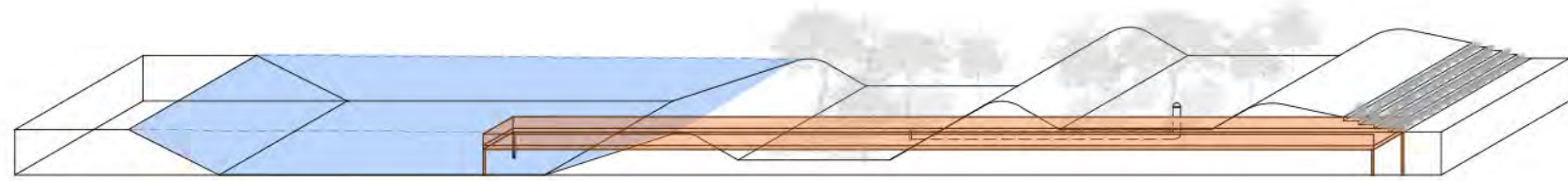
Overflow Piping



Vegetated for Slope Stabilization and Water Filtration



Walkway for Interactive Human Experience



RE-NATURALIZATION OF CHANNELIZED STREAM BANK



REVELATORY STORMWATER DESIGN

Scan to watch video!

LOW-LAND TREES



Riverbirch



Sideoats Grama



Smooth Alder



American Sycamore

LOW-LAND SHRUBS AND GRASSES



Big Blue Stem



Riverbank Wildrye



Red Osier Dogwood



SummerSweet

SIDE-SLOPE GRASSES



Indian Grass



Sideoats Grama



Red Osier Dogwood



Tall Fescue

RIPARIAN PLANTING



WALK THROUGH THE RE-NATURALIZED EDGE

Because of the Portal's chronic flooding, we find the need for stormwater infrastructure. The site is in the base of a flood basin and, in its current state, lacks biodiversity and proper filtration that would ease the effects of flooding. Several forms of infrastructure were designed for the site to serve as both a revelatory and interactive educational opportunity and a space that doubles as habitat and works to collect and filter stormwater.

Stacked Basins that work as a modified riparian buffer is located along the South-western strip adjacent to Pine Creek. This "re-naturalization" creates the space for micro-habitats on-site while processing stormwater, slowing water speed that later eases erosion downstream and creates an immersive space that allows people to experience this natural edge. The Revelatory design works to capture and filter runoff from the extensive overpass system and runs the water through the greenway connecting people to the Allegheny.