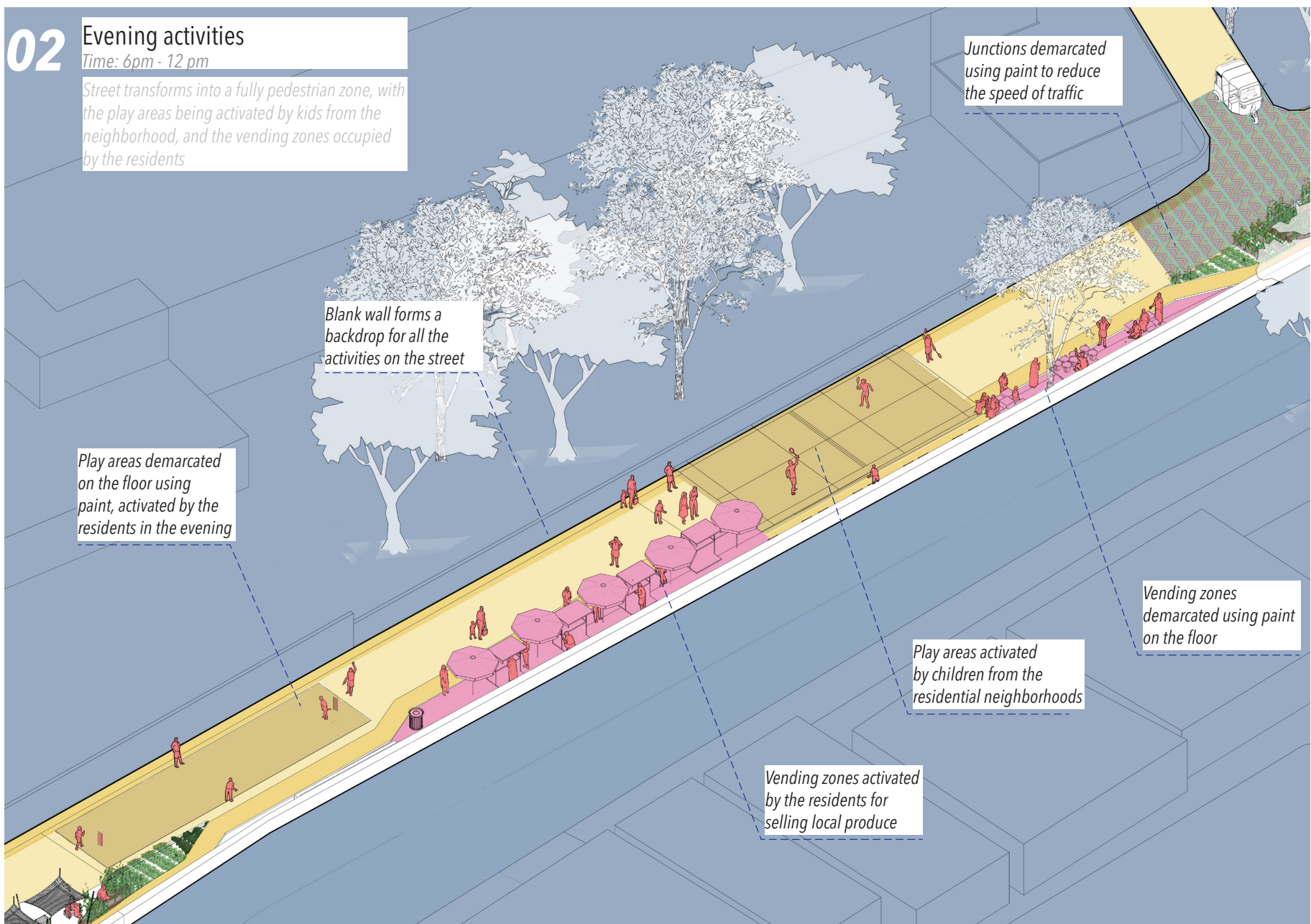
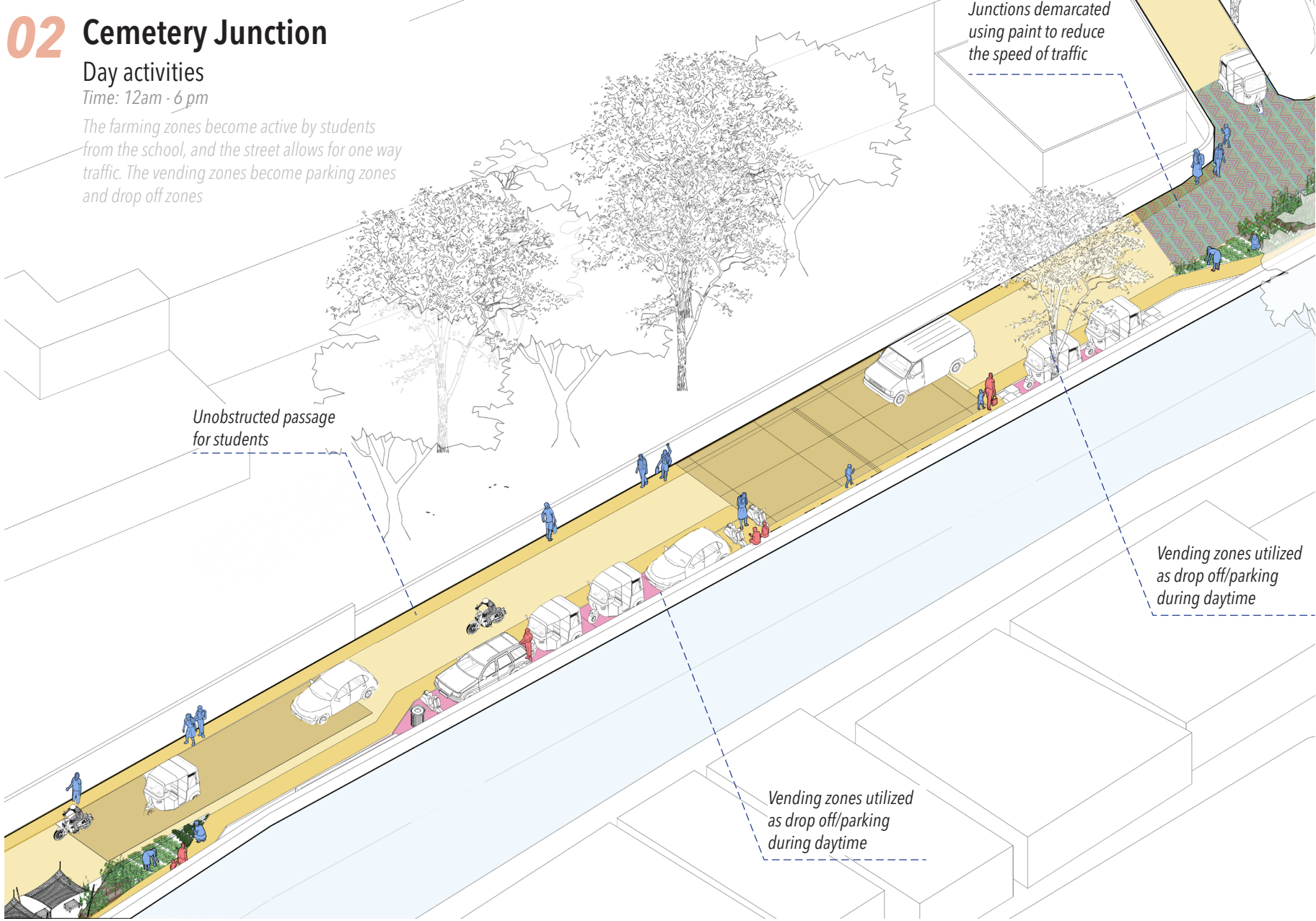
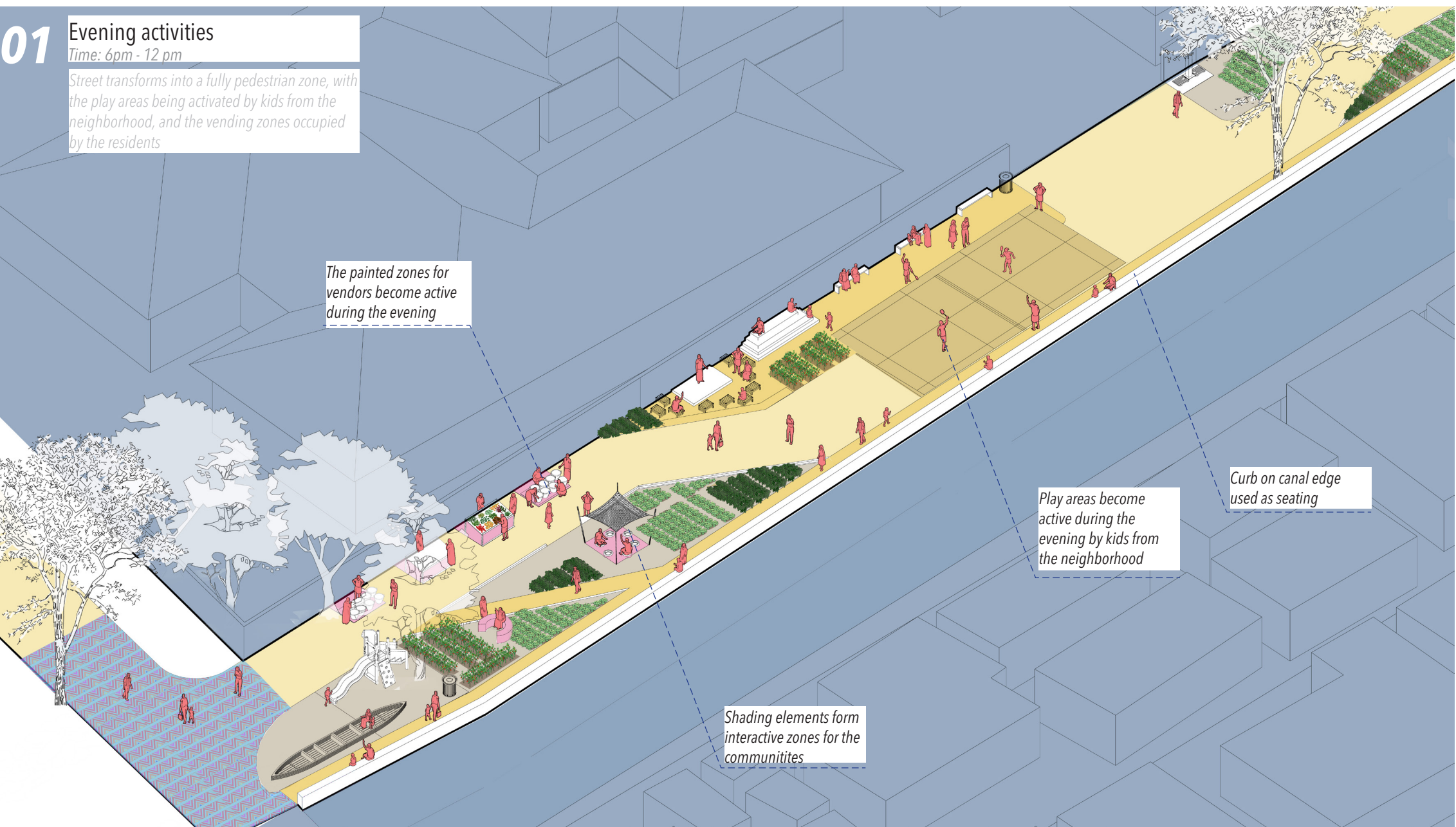
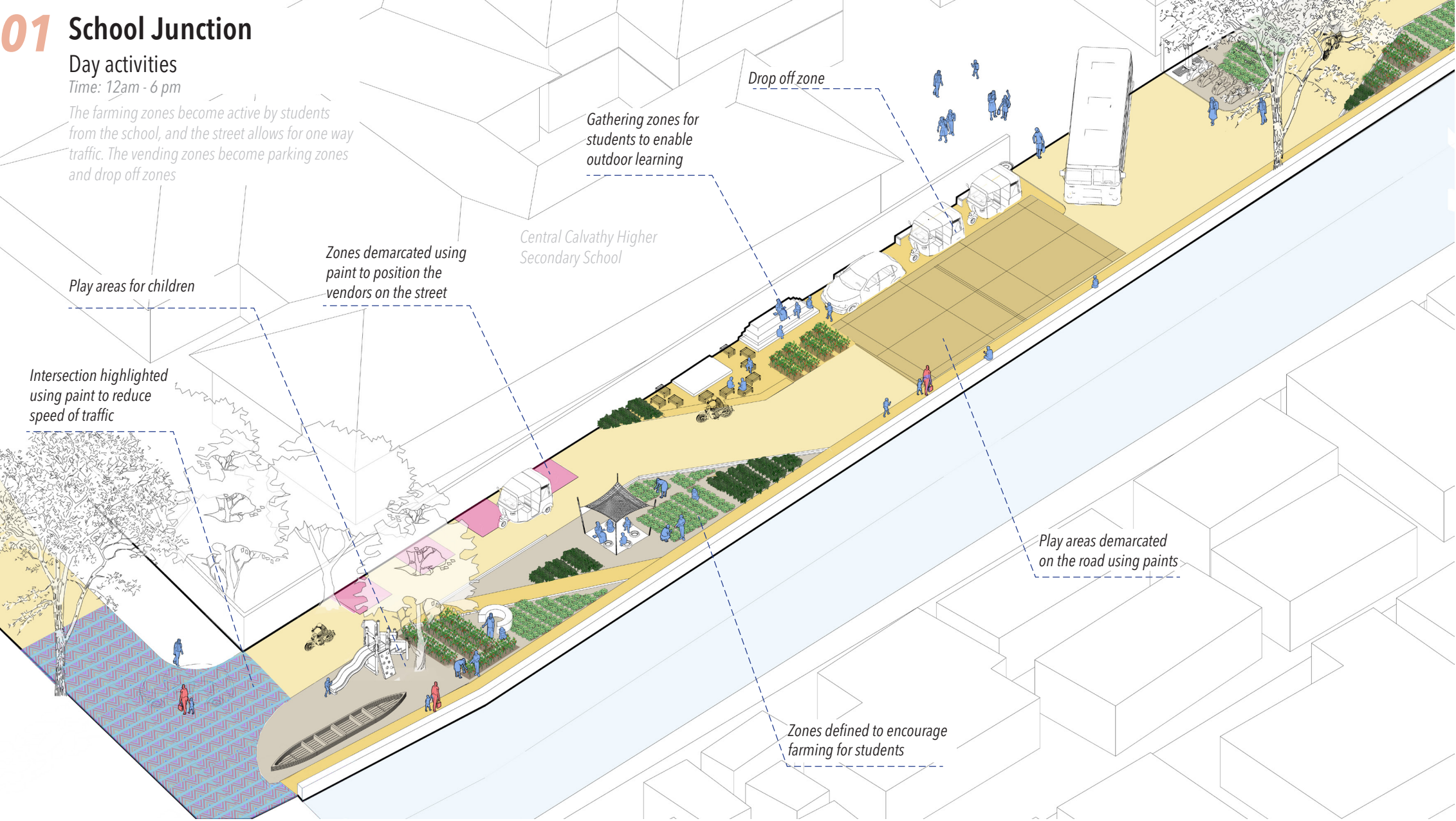
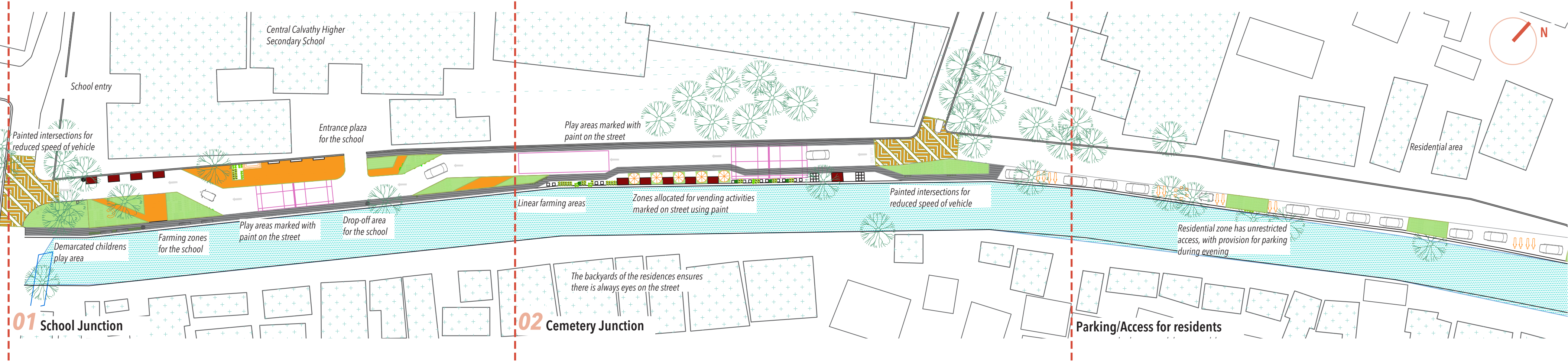


STREET A

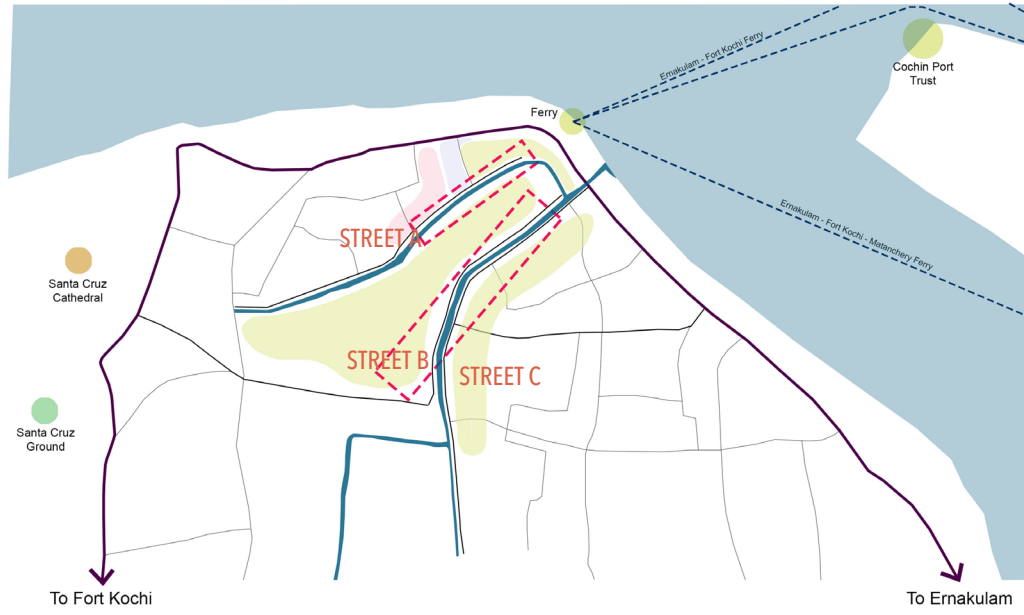
Street A starts from a major node in the locality comprising of the school, community hall, anganwady ends in a Cul de sac, graduating through a nearly dead street. It is a vantage point towards the canal and the rear façade (also backyards) of households on the opposite edge. Though paved, the pedestrian pathways are discontinued. The active use prompted by the public institutions magnifies the necessity for a well pedestrianized access. The street is characterised by a long dead wall that acts as a backdrop for the activities coming in the street. Apart from peak school hours, the traffic is meagre in the street. Thus, the street is a potential market space.

Being the node comprising school, community hall etc. the proposed street is a pedestrian priority street with bicycle pathway shared with pedestrian pathways. The street shall also restrict vehicular access to one way during school hours and restrict vehicular entry post school hours to transform it into an activity centre. Being an adaptive street, the proposed street acts as a safe commutable street during school hours, while in the evening the street character transforms into an active neighbourhood area by reducing permeability of vehicles, providing flexible market spaces, street furniture enabling interactive spaces and play area for the residents. The lack of activities for the students is identified, thereby providing opportunity for group farming and sufficient play area for recreation. On understanding that majority of the population undertakes day jobs, the attempt is to provide inclusive recreational spaces in the evening hours. The streets are already safe for women and children. Beyond safety, the initiative is to bring people to the front yards and facilitate a platform to indulge in activities irrespective of gender or age.

STREETS FOR PEOPLE



A Glimpse of the Project

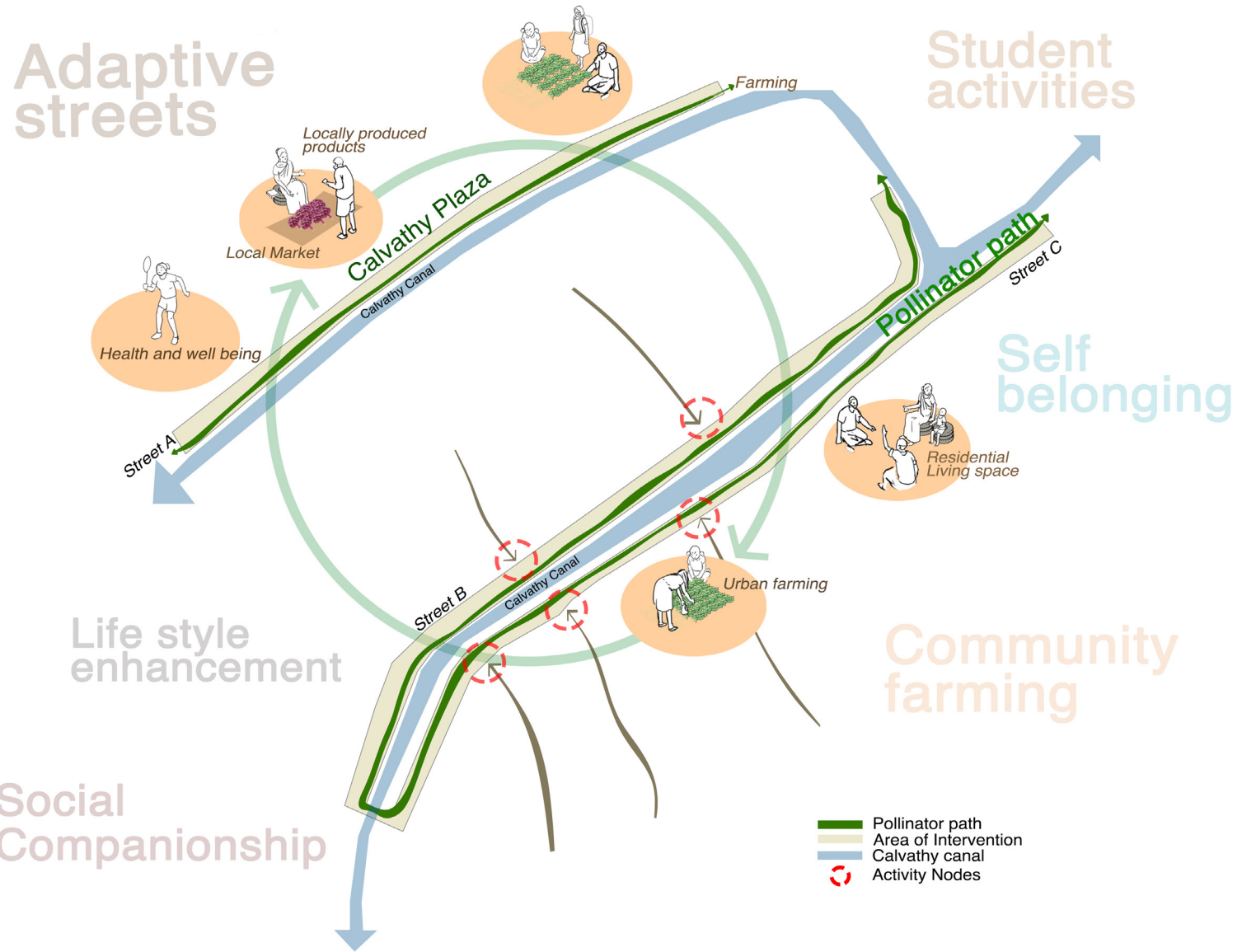


Reimagining the inert streets as “Streets for People”, the project intends to arrive at fast economic practical solutions to awaken the life and activate the public realm in a crucial street in Kochi city, promoting self-reliance through community farming and activities that cater to individual and societal well-being. The site C chosen for the project, streets along the Eruveli and calvathy canals, Mattancherry, is predominantly defined by low-rise high density low income residential area long the canal edges. The existing substandard quality of street life in the neighbourhood is in dire need of a revamping to catalyse the presently dead/ abused streets into an inclusive public space.



VISION

To cultivate a new relationship between the street and the residents creating a healthy self-reliant community using farming as a catalyst.



CROPPING PATTERN



The farming is introduced by means of mixed cropping and intercropping. In mixed cropping, two independent crops are mixed together and grown in an area, and in intercropping multiple cropping techniques where two or more crops are grown in proximity. Mixed cropping and intercropping are essentially two separate farming techniques with specific goals which are brought together here for better productivity.

Shops creating hangout points along the street

Section A

Creation of plazas to facilitate additional activities by the shops

Section A

The presence of Anganwadi may result in multiple collisions on street due to lack of safety measures on street

Existing condition

Clubs act as a major activity hub on the streets, but currently the streets are unsafe

Existing condition

Existing condition

Shops along the residential neighborhoods function as hangout zones

Diagram illustrating the existing condition of the retaining wall. A break in the retaining wall results in waste accumulation during high tide. The diagram shows a cross-section of the wall and the surrounding area, including a road, a parking lot, and a body of water. A red area indicates the waste accumulation.

Streets forming an extended living room for the residences

Section B

Large areas dedicated for community farming

Section B

Street adjoining a residence with a blank boundary wall

Undefined edge, and parking resulting in wastage of space

Section C

Large dedicated areas for farming

Section C

Section D shows a street scene with a blue sky, a red tree, a white building, and a person standing near a wall. The street is labeled 'Street adjoining a blank wall causing waste accumulation'.

Blank wall forming a backdrop for the functions on the street

Section D

street using paint

Proposed condition

Provision for additional shopping units to facilitate additional activities on the street

Intersection is painted to ensure that vehicle slows down to turn during

Carving out play spaces for the kids from the street

Proposed condition

Plaza: turned to support additional activities on the street

Crossing painted for slowing down traffic

Proposed condition

community farming areas

Intersection painted to reduce the speed of traffic

Proposed condition

The edge transformed into a hangout spot

01

02

03

04

05

STREET B

STREET C

Strip gardening along the canal edge

Defined parking zones

Facilitating activities associated with the religious building using designed intersections

Anganwadi along the canal edge

Community garden space for the residents

Plazas created to promote existing shops

Green zone to enable farming of crops that require shade

Private plot used by children in the evening as a playground

Defined plazas for enabling additional activities on the street for the clubs

Provision for additional shops to promote self employment opportunities

Existing Streets

Street B is a high density residential area characteristic of an active frontage. The street acts as the living space for the limited space households providing informal surveillance opportunities, improving vitality & safety of the area. The barrier edge enables active interaction acting as a street lobby. The inclusion of compound walls, comparatively bigger massing due to better living conditions and the slightly inward building line from street edge in Street C, makes a substantial difference to the street character with respect to street B. Both streets are characteristic of stagnant spaces often forming dumping grounds.

The Proposal

Curb side public spaces adjacent to the sidewalk create parklets. The traffic and parking are organized so that streets are made safe for commute. Flexible, easy to install street furnitures are provided to facilitate interaction. The important nodes are activated to ensure secure community gathering opportunities. The edges are utilised for cultivation. Common spaces are allotted to

Community farming areas demarcated for the residents to extend the functionality of "streets as living room"

Curb on the canal edge utilised for seating and cultivation using grow bags

Street functioning as an extended living room for the residents

Streets functioning as an extended living room

Defining the edge using scrap vegetable boxes and using them as planters

Defined parking spaces on the street

Curb on canal edge acting as interactive zones

Defined parking creates additional space on streets

Edge defined using scrap vegetable boxes used as planter

Plazas created to enable activities around the shops to facilitate

Shops generating activities on the street

Painted crossing to ensure vehicle slowdown

Blank wall forming a backdrop for the activities on street

Curb on canal edge acting as interactive zones

Defined green zones to enable maximum land for farming

Creating interactive zones for promoting activities on the street

Street functioning as active urban farming zone