lake city

envisioning healthier neighborhood design

University of Washington Dept. of Landscape Architecture | Neighborhood Design | Winter 2013
With the Lake City Greenways group as the initiating stakeholder for UW Landscape Architecture’s Neighborhood Design Studio studio, 16 students (from landscape architecture, urban design and planning, and architecture) learned about Lake City and envisioned its potentials as a healthier neighborhood. Landscape Architecture Associate Professor Julie Johnson led the students through a participatory design process, such that the students gained insights about the varied places and needs of this neighborhood, as well as their own design responses, through community interactions.

Greenways leaders gave students an overview and led walking tours. Students facilitated small group discussions at a community meeting, and some undertook a workshop with youth, to learn more about the neighborhood and potentials. Students undertook site visits and thematic analysis of the neighborhood to enrich their understandings. Two students participated in an event led by a Public Health class involved in the Little Brook neighborhood of Lake City, and one of these students created an online survey for Lake City residents.

As they developed conceptual ideas for particular places or connections, students received feedback from community members, a city staff member and designers in the design studio. Studio visits from agency staff and a designer also helped guide their design ideas. Later in the quarter community members and others returned to discuss students’ schematic designs with them, which informed the development of their final design work. This work was presented to a range of community members, agency staff, and faculty in March 2012.

The studio projects grow from the proposed network of greenways identified by Lake City Greenways. Students have extended these to make connections among civic and open space destinations, including schools and parks. Some students focused on new civic spaces, while others are revitalize existing ones with ecological, cultural, agricultural, and play-oriented interventions. Wayfinding and identity are central to several projects, including one focused on the Lake City Way spine and another charting a loop trail system. Another offers typologies and places for urban agriculture throughout Lake City. These projects connect with one another to create a synergy of community places and connections. Eight interrelated themes that contribute to making a healthier Lake City are addressed among the projects:

- Greenways
- Wayfinding
- Urban Agriculture
- Wayfinding
- Learning
- Green Infrastructure
- Culture
- Play

Special thanks to several people who shared insights with the studio, including:

**Community & Greenways representatives**
- Ruth Anderson
- Janine Bialostoch
- Dave Morris
- Tim Motzer
- Phil Shack
- Cathy Tuttle
- Mark von Walter
all who participated in the January 17 Community Meeting small groups

**UW faculty and students**
- Dan Abramson
- Marty Curry
- Jeff Hou
- Lynne Manzo
- Nancy Rottle
- Luanne Smith
- Amber Trout
- Daniel Winterbottom
- Jack Thompson
Tiffany Sin and the rest of the Master’s in Public Health students working in Little Brook

**Design professionals**
- Jason Breitling
- Cameron Duncan
- Betsy Jacobson
- Jennifer Richter
- Dave Rodgers
- Kara Weaver
- Benjamin Barrett
- Elizabeth Umbanhowar

**Agency representatives**
- Dongho Chang
- Rebecca Deehr
- David Graves
- Colin Drake
- Gretchen DeDecker
- Pam Emerson

**Special thanks**

By Julie Johnson, Faculty
designer: janice chen

type: park

design goals:
+ create a permanent farmer’s market - a destination
+ provide greenspace
+ encourage the development of a thriving business hub
Lake City Market is envisioned as a new neighborhood attraction in Lake City civic core that celebrate diverse cultures and activities. It encompasses four main facilities: The market park, The market street, The market plaza, and The permanent market place. These facilities incorporate sustainable practices such as green infrastructure, urban agriculture, and stormwater treatment. The metaphor of creating a ‘core cycle’ on the site will gather the communities together and celebrate the diverse cultures of the Lake City neighborhood with permanant market place, outdoor activities, cultural restaurants, and water engagements. This site also provides east west connections from Lake City way to Albert Davis Park that the core has always been lack of.

SITE LOCATION:
CURRENT BANK OF AMERICA PROPERTY
(28TH AVE NE & NE 125TH ST)

LARC402 Neighborhood Design Studio
Final Project Proposal | Janice Chen
ANALYSIS #1 | TRANSPORTATION HUB

There are many bus stops around the site. It gives transportation connection to the surrounding neighborhood such as Little Brook, Wedgewood, Nortop, or even to Downtown Seattle. This is great opportunity to bring diversity of people and events to the market as well as increase tourist interest.

ANALYSIS #2 | VIEWS + CONNECTIONS

Currently there are no pedestrian connections from Lake City commercial core (along Lake City Way) to Community facilities (Library & Community Center). Property of Bank of America can be a potential site to establish both pedestrian and visual connections to both side of the civic core.

The views from 125th Ave NE is also important to draw people’s attention when driving through.

ANALYSIS #3 | EXISTING TREES

There are many fabulous old growing oak trees on the site. They are acting as a gateway while walking onto NE 28th St. The proposed design should be aware of keeping the existing tree to maintain the current amount of tree canopies on site.
I. FOOD SYSTEMS

Short-term Achievements
- Using underutilized space to grow food and apply urban agriculture systems
- Establishing more programs on Albert Davis Park to generate community interests and involvements in the core area.

II. DISTRICT CONNECTIONS

Short-term Achievements
- Using signs, lightings and murals to establish better wayfinding and east-west connection from shopping center to library.

Medium-term Achievements
- Installing Crosswalk pavers to enhance pedestrians’ experience for farmer’s market.
- Installing planters and bio-swales to create buffers from traffic as well as providing visual aesthetics.

Medium Long-term Achievements
- Developing current Pier property (north of BoA site) into mix commercial/residential housing complex that holds the center district together.

Connecting to:
- Toyota Sushi alley way & the east side (Lindsey)
- Albert Davis Park
- 27th Ave NE Green Way (Eunice)
- Pier Park (Jun & Caitlin)

III. LAKE CITY MARKET

Long-term Achievements
- Creating an icon and attraction for Lake City neighborhood at the core of the civic center.
- Celebrating the diverse characteristics of Lake City with year-long markets, community events, and ethnic food.
- Providing a gathering space for Lake City community with various amenities.
- Practicing sustainable living by treating stormwater, generating solar energy, and growing vertical farming.

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Final Project Proposal | Janice Chen

### LAKE CITY MARKET

**Programs + Day View**

- **Market Stall Space**: Consider placing the market stalls (10'x10') as well as additional permanent market spaces inside the building.
- **Stormwater Treatment**: The site will treat the stormwater from the structure’s rooftop and pipe underground to bio-swales and rain gardens.
- **Public Gatherings**: The north side of the site will be community park space that provides area for large events and gatherings as well as outdoor sport activities.

- **Market Park**
  - Canopy Refuge
  - Intimate Experience
  - Rain Garden
  - Ecological Awareness
  - Open Lawn
  - Community Events & Activities
  - Wood Decking
  - More Resting Spots

- **Market Street**
  - Pedestrian Promenade
  - Civic Connections
  - Linear Open Space
  - New Farmer’s Market
  - Tree Colonades
  - Green Visual Connection

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LAKE CITY MARKET

PROGRAMS + NIGHT VIEW

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Outdoor Dining
The plaza space adjacent of the permanent struc-
ture provides space for outdoor dining such as
canopied tables and planter benches.

Night Light
Light installations provide safe access across the
day or night as well as creating a vibrant night life
within the neighborhood.

Market Plaza
Outdoor Dining | Dining & Social
Oak Grove | Natural Preservation
Open Plaza | Outdoor Dining
Play Fountain | Active Engagement

Sustainable Market Place
Cultural Markets | Diversed Variety
Solar Roof Top | Energy Cycle
Green Walls | Urban Farming
Market Atrium | Natural Light
Ethnic Restaurants | Healthy Eating
Coffee & Bar | Vibrant Night Life
designer: bethânia boaventura

type: park

design goals:
+ encourage the use of green infrastructure
+ provide greenspace
+ foster the development of urban agriculture
Proposal: Lake City Core Park

The aim of this intervention is to create a more walkable neighborhood and with more opportunities that can provide a community building. This intervention consists in an intervention in one of Pierre Properties, the parking lot next to it and the Bank Of America Building. The proposals are to make an open space in lot, with a permanent market and with restaurants, commercial buildings and residential.

Concept

- **Connection**
- **Interactivity**
- **Sense of Community**

Seasonal Change
- Relaxation
- Social
- Destination

Short-term: Food Trucks, redesign of parking lot and pseudoconnection.

Medium-term: Permanent Market in the place of Bank of America.

Long-term: New mixed use buildings, design of park, redesign of NE 127th st and community center.

References:
- [http://www.tsaidesignstudio.com/architecture/moyo_vue/](http://www.tsaidesignstudio.com/architecture/moyo_vue/)
- [http://images.devilfinder.com/go.php?q=Mango+Bay+%7C+Destination+Relaxation+&t=1366&n=2](http://images.devilfinder.com/go.php?q=Mango+Bay+%7C+Destination+Relaxation+&t=1366&n=2)
designer:  
jun whang

type:  
park

design goals:
  + gathering: neighborhood events
  + transportation: bicycles|buses
  + identification: culture + history

existing conditions  
google maps

Lake City Market  
125 & 28th St

Lake City Flow  
125th & Lake City Way

(mini park)

Virgil Farm  
123rd & Lake City Way
The design concept is to transform a dead-end park into a vibrant pedestrian space and festival place by making minor changes to the existing conditions. Pedestrian-related public space for the community and local activity at simple to rich social events, such as outdoor dining and long-term social activity. The ground-level layout is seen as a concrete piazza, which is where visual and social integration into the pedestrian-friendly streetscapes of nine members or members in different languages. The installation was inspired by the cultural diversity of the city and made in a vibrant culture for the new landscape.

In addition, the space is decorated with light strings which encourage nighttime use, such as night markets, outdoor music events, and the like. We open the parking lot allowing for truck access to site and add outdoor shopping and in-store projects opportunities.

In the future, the design becomes more sustainable, and gardens are added among the trees to capture stormwater runoff and to create new access to the park, while the area remains a functional open space to serve local events.

The goal of the plan for the 125th St site is to improve the bicycle and pedestrian environment and to create a safe and enjoyable experience when people walking or biking overlook the current area of the city. Completing bicycle facilities and extending bicycle and pedestrian facilities to the treatment is also needed. The overall design is to enhance the pedestrian environment with clearly defined pedestrian facilities and services.

Lake City Light Park
125th & Lake City Way
(Mini Park)

Lake City Market
125th & 28st

Lake City Pond
125th & 35th
Lake City Way

Virgil Flaim
123rd & 26th

designer:
ciaitan lockhart

type:
park

design goals:
+ light
+ programming
+ central hub
Lake City Light Park

Daylighting revealing systems, flows, and the downtown core of Lake City

Nightlighting Providing security and opportunity for activity at all times.

Lake City

Light Park

125th & Lake City Way

(Mini Park)

Lake City Market

125th & 28st

Lake City Pond

125th & 35th

Lake City Way

Virgil Flaim

123rd & 26th

Lake City Civic Park Plan: Janice Chen

Image Credits:
- Original Basemap: GIS
- Before Perspectives: Caitlin Lockhart
- After Perspectives & Sections: Google Sketchup
- Lake City Civic Park Plan: Janice Chen

- Image 2 - [http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_g1QYyfo](http://3.bp.blogspot.com/_g1QYyfo)
- Image 3: [http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_qpE5hNwi618/TMxP78dPs9I/AAAAAAAAKzI/ZFWJ6S_Cd5I/s1600/jack.jpg](http://1.bp.blogspot.com/_qpE5hNwi618/TMxP78dPs9I/AAAAAAAAKzI/ZFWJ6S_Cd5I/s1600/jack.jpg)

1"=24'

1 2 3 4
little brook park

designer: biruk belay

type: park

design goals:
+ connection to local destinations
+ education | exploration
+ build a vibrant community

googlemaps

143rd & 32nd
37th Greenway
27th Greenway
Olympic Hills
Lake City Market
Virgil Flaim
Living Street
Lake City Pond
Lake City Way
Observation Deck of Nature

End of 135th
OVERVIEW

Located on the northern edge of Lake City, Little Brook is one of the most dense and heavily populated neighborhoods in the Seattle area. The community is made of people from around the world and is known for its diverse cultures. Although many people live in this community, Little Brook has been ignored by the city and is struggling with crime, traffic safety, density and also lack of identity. The design that I have proposed looks closely at way finding and greenways to allow residents to move and circulate to different destinations. Designing with ecological systems not only provide a learning opportunity for kids and people of all ages but it also integrates the element of play. The design of the Little Brook also incorporates these different systems and provides a space to celebrate cultures of all kinds.

SHORT TERM GOAL
- Bring vibrant colors to the streets
- Display our unity and diversity
- Musical for way finding

MEDIUM TERM GOAL
- Build stronger connection
- Repair potholes
- New bus stops

LONG TERM GOAL
- Walkable and bikeable streets
- Safe school routes
- Curb cuts for safe crossing, slow traffic and storm water treatment

Short Term Goal
- Hosting different events in the park
- Cultural events

Medium Term Goal
- Creating a gathering space
- Restoring riparian edge of Little Brook Creek
- Adding multiple access to the park

Long Term Goal
- Space for education, art, exploration and discovery
- Connection to other green spaces
- Enhancing Little Brook Creek
designer: lawrence chung

type: pocket parks

design goals:
+ highlight spaces throughout the community
+ bring awareness to the water
+ encourage interaction

existing conditions

googlemaps

the blue necklace
From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

system overview...

Phasing...
short-term target
- visually and systematically link together the sites within blue necklace
- increase area for urban agriculture
- increase ecological literacy via exposure to wetland habitat
- install permanent play elements that also stimulate learning
- class field trips to encourage students to be visitors how they would like to use the space.

mid-term goal
- blue agriculture greenways
- water quality improvement
- wetland restoration and creation
- natural playgrounds
- blue necklace riverwalk

long-term vision
- greenways
- green infrastructure
- learning

Objective...
- learning
- play

Health-Related Themes...
- mid-term goal
- class field trips to encourage students to brainstorm how they would like to use the space
- removal of non-native plants by Olympic Hills students
- impact installations such as rocks, mulch, and LED lighting
- encourage people to spend time in these spaces by having low
- children to experience and enjoy Thornton Creek's tributaries
- greenways
- urban agriculture
- greenways
- urban agriculture

Broaching the narrative - 133rd

Phasing...
long-term vision
- birdwatching
- wetland habitat showroom or educational center
- collobrate with RainWise to construct rain gardens in Olympic Hills
- build the Olympic Hills stormwater treatment park
- utilize the full potential of local wetland system to provide enriching educational and leisure experiences to Lake City residents
- provide a seamless commute experience between Little Brook and Olympic Hills
- system and network...

Inspired by the tributaries of Thornton Creek, concept blue necklace connects various design ideas generated by the studio. Using the predetermined area on NE 135th St. for Little Brook Park, the blue necklace becomes a pedestrian corridor of Thornton Creek that connects the 135th Wetland in the Lake City Neighborhood, designed by Bird Anderson. Concept blue necklace also links the waterfront and the site to the stormwater treatment park in Olympic Hills, which is connected with the Narrative in Seattle's vision "Senses & Adventures" on NE 124th St.

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From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

Existing Condition (facing south)

135th Wetland

133rd Stairs

135th Wetland Water Flow

135th Wetland

Olympic Hills

Mid-Term Renovation

Short-Term Intervention

Base Map Source: http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/
Soft blue-hued lighting and wooden boardwalk serve as a unifying theme and wayfinding features to visually connect various sites within the blue necklace.

From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

Option 1

Potential site to grow huckleberry

Option 2

Existing Condition
(facing west - 27th Ave NE)

133rd Wetland Water Flow

Short-Term Intervention

Mid-Term Renovation

Option 2

Mid-Term Renovation

Option 1

Mid-Term Renovation

Potential site to grow huckleberry

Existing Condition
(facing west - 27th Ave NE)

133rd Wetland Water Flow

Short-Term Intervention

133rd Wetland

135th Wetland

133rd Wetland

133rd Wetland

Little Brook Park

133rd Stairs

Base Map Source: http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/
From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

Bike runnels facilitate bike movement through steep hills

Fruit trees can replace the existing ivy on both sides of the stairs

Existing Condition (facing west)

Short-Term Intervention

133rd Stairs Water Flow

LED lighting improves perception of safety while minimizing light pollution

http://macguffinandpuffin.wordpress.com/tag/tree-house


http://www.phatbeetsproduce.org/products-page/fruit-trees/fruit-tree-donation/

http://sdotblog.seattle.gov/2011/06/01/roll-your-bike-up-the-staircase/

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http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/03/12/uk-fitness-cycling-idUSLNE82B02B20120312

Lake City Way NE

23rd Ave NE

NE 34th Street

NE 35th Street

NE 36th Street

NE 37th Street

NE 38th Street

NE 18th Avenue NE

NE 19th Avenue NE

NE 20th Avenue NE

NE 21st Avenue NE

NE 22nd Avenue NE

NE 23rd Avenue NE

NE 24th Avenue NE

NE 25th Avenue NE

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NE 3rd Street

NE 2nd Street

NE 1st Street

NE Lake Street

NE 45th Street

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NE 11th Street

NE 10th Street

NE 9th Street

NE 8th Street

NE 7th Street

NE 6th Street

NE 5th Street

NE 4th Street

NE 3rd Street

NE 2nd Street

NE 1st Street

NE Lake Street

Base Map Source: http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/
From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

Olympic Hills Water Flow

Rain Garden: Section - Facing North

Stormwater Treatment Park: Section - Facing North

Base Map Source: http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/
From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

Design Inspiration - Tanner Springs Park, Portland, by Atelier Dreiseitl and GreenWorks, P.C.

http://www.pdxcityclub.org/content/tanner-springs-park
From Little Brook to Olympic Hills... the blue necklace

Inspired by Tanner Springs Park, Olympic Hills can convert the existing vacant space immediately north of NE 130th St into a stormwater treatment facility that serves as both an educational and entertainment venue. The Park will showcase wetland habitats and wind energy harvest technology.

Base Map Source: http://wagda.lib.washington.edu/
designer: Eunice Lo

type: Greenway

design goals:
+ Develop a path of sensory interaction
+ Utilize green stormwater management techniques
+ Provide a safe passage
**Landscape | Explore | Connect**

The concept of my design area is to create an outdoor sensory exploration adventure for the neighborhood. A series of PLAY elements will be implemented throughout the design areas and together will construct an outdoor ECOLOGICAL LEARNING campus for kids. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURES will be installed to reveal different ways to treat, clean, and recycle rainwater. Signages along the GREENWAYS will provide WAYFINDING cues to connect pedestrians from the Olympic Hills neighborhood to the Lake City Urban Center and the nearby neighborhoods.

**Olympic Hills Elementary Parking Lot**

1. Rainwater Collecting Funnels
2. Seating
3. Bioswales
4. Orchard Trees
5. Bike Parking Rainwater Harvesting Structure
6. Rainwater Harvesting Shelter
7. ADA Parking Spots
8. Wayfinding Sign
9. Patterned Perforated Sidewalks
10. Street Parking
11. Bike Lanes
12. Vehicle Lanes

**Rainwater Harvesting Structures**

1. Boston Harbor Island Pavilion, Boston MA
2. William Carter School Playhouse, Boston MA

**Rainwater Collecting Funnels**

1. Northeastern University, Boston MA
2. Aquatic Vue Rainwater Collection System, by Arup de la Pare

**Short Term Interventions**

- Designate sidewalks, bike lanes, street parking lanes, and vehicle travel lanes with paint
- Launch educational and community-building programs for kids and neighborhoods
- Engage neighborhood and kids to create temporary speed limit signs, kids zone signs and stop signs
- Engage neighborhood and kids to create wayfinding signs
- Engage neighborhood and kids to plant native plants in bioswales and plant orchard trees along sidewalks
- Engage neighborhood and kids to paint murals and patterns on pavement to reclaim neighborhood assets
- Install bike parking racks in school

**Long Term Interventions**

- Install public, pedestrian, streetside, stop signs and traffic signals
- Replace paint with smaller bumpers to designate sidewalks, bike lanes, street parking lanes and vehicle lanes
- Install curbs with bioswales
- Install pervious paved pavement sidewalks
- Install permanent stop signs and speed limit signs
- Install wayfinding signage
- Install ecological education elements in school
- Install rainwater harvesting bike parking structure
- Install rainwater harvesting shelter
- Install rainwater collecting funnels in walls
- Install bioswales in parking lot
Short Term Interventions
Designate sidewalks, bike lanes, street parking lanes and vehicle travel lanes with paint
Establish community-building program.
Engage neighborhood to create temporary speed limit signs, tools, zone signs and stop signs
Engage neighborhood to create temporary wayfinding signs
Encourage neighborhood to plant orchard trees along sidewalks
Encourage neighborhood to paint an pavement to reclaim neighborhood assets

Concrete Imprinted Patterns
Patterns will be a wayfinding cue. Patterns could be parts of different community infrastructure.

Wayfinding Signs
Signs will be installed to guide directions. They will be placed near major stopping points along the road where different sensory attractions are implemented.

Rainwater Instruments
These rain instruments display an interactive and playful side of rainwater. When rainwater hits the surface of the instruments, it creates a rhythmic sound.

Long Term Interventions
Install public necessities: streetlights, tools, signs and traffic signals
Engage public artists to create wayfinding signs
Replace paint with small bumpers to designate sidewalks, bike lanes, street parking lanes and vehicle lanes
Reduce NE 125th ST to two-lane traffic
Install curbs with bioswales
Install pervious patterned pavement sidewalks
Learning takes place beyond the classroom, whether at recess, walking home, or somewhere in between. Site design is crucial to a child’s education because of the way the landscape aids in learning by calming young minds and encouraging active exploration. Our project emphasizes landscape programs, safety and surveillance, education through hands-on experience, and provides for a variety of gathering spaces and opportunities for social interaction for the community. Therapeutic elements from the clinic will be carried into the site through establishing sensory garden plots accessible to the disabled. Rain gardens along the boundary of the park will collect stormwater and water will eventually be reused for irrigation at the garden plots. The design through the park will show kids simple and sustainable solutions in dealing with stormwater.

Programs:
- Play in playground
- Play basketball
- Stroll, jog through park
- Picnicking
- Gardening
- ADA accessible therapeutic sensory walk
- Learning about stormwater systems
- Community events
- Community Gathering

Irrigation Pumps for Gardening

Virgil Flaim will be the venue for pure play through integrating recreation into the natural environment. It features mounds with play elements and big climbing rocks that provided another sensory experience for users.

Sensory Garden

The sensory garden will provide a safe and secure place for the neighborhood and kids to relax and grow their own vegetables. Schools can hold gardening sessions and children and the community will be able to design their own sensory garden down to what plants they want, thereby encouraging ownership and stewardship of their community. The area will be fully wheelchair accessible and feature a variety of textures, smells and sounds to stimulate all of the senses.

Water Flow

Active Recreation

Therapy

Education

Stormwater Treatment

Concept

Schematic Site Plan

1. Bioswales
2. Pocket Garden with seatings
3. Sensory Garden Plots
4. Open Lawn
5. Existing Play Structures
6. Mounds for Natural Playscape
7. Existing Basketball Courts
8. New Entrance from Clinic
9. Aromatic Plants
10. Thinned out Existing trees

See http://www.google.com
designer: ann dinthongsai
type: greenway
design goals:
+ greenways as tributaries
+ community identity
+ healthier neighborhoods
123rd Street Greenway Virgil Flaim Park to Burke Gilman Trail
designer: jae chang

type: greenway

design goals:
+ bring awareness to the water
+ create a sense of continuity
+ incorporate artistic interpretations along lake city way
CITY OF THE VIBRANT CREEKS

SHORT TERM GOAL
The objective of this is to bring the community together by uniting them to a place where they can interact and work together in a peaceful manner. In this site, I will design gathering space with seating, P-patches that they can grow vegetables, which at the same time they can be educated on agriculture and hydrology. There will be a natural fountain where little brooks will pop out - providing natural water to water their crops!

LONG TERM GOAL
...to provide a place where people can once again celebrate the two creeks Little Brook and Thornton.

SHORT TERM GOAL
As for the Fred Meyer parking lot the idea is to have a safer, less hazard parking lot. The current design lacks safety aspect and has a poor grading system. Hence, my goal is to re-grade and direct water into bio-retentions swale so runoff water from the pavement can drain into the swale instead of running into the sewer untreated. The design will also incorporate curbs to help facilitate driving, to reduce traffic hazard.

This is the concept of trying to "vibrant" the city center core and to connect the city elements together. Currently, the LCW is this big barrier structure that divides the city connection between the two sides. In a psychological sense people are intimidated and overwhelmed by the heavy dense high-speed traffic that circulate the area daily. As a consequence, my goal is to think of a way to connect them both, while at the same time creating a dynamic sense of feeling to the region. The proposal that I had made was to create this aesthetic looking element sculpture of the creek to help calm the place down. In addition to playing with lighting poles to create attractions and safety, at the same time the sculpture will enhance the identity that the city had long forgotten, the Thornton and Little Brook creeks.
designer: lindsey gadbois

type: greenway

design goals:
+ social corridors
+ ecological corridors
+ transportation corridors
Located in the heart of Seattle’s Lake City neighborhood, the 33rd Avenue Living Street is dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of its residents and their environment. Already established as a proposed Greenway, this design continues to build on the idea of offering spaces for safe and positive interactions between neighbors as well as mending impaired ecological systems.

The goal of this design is to create a new identity for 33rd Ave. Dominated by concrete and cars, the street today feels intimidating and unsafe. Residents of this street include veterans, families with young children and people coping with mental illness. Through careful design considerations, the focus shifts to pedestrians and provides comfortable movement on 33rd as well as safe connections to the larger neighborhood. The street becomes therapeutic in that it provides fun and playful social experiences as well as moments for reflection in new green spaces.

The new identity of 33rd is guided by three system corridors: transportation, ecological and social. The synergy of these systems brings to life a new way of thinking about our urban environment.

33rd today

33rd today

33rd today

LAKE CITY VILLAGE PLAYGROUND

DEAD-END SIDEWALKS

LITTLE BROOK OVERGROWN

EXISTING PEDESTRIAN PATH

EMPTY PARKING LOTS

TRANSPORTATION

ECOLOGICAL

SOCIAL

CONTINUE ON: 33RD AVE GREENWAY

TO: FRED MEYER // LAKE CITY WAY

TO: LIBRARY // COMMUNITY CENTER

TO: BARTELLS // KAFFEEKLATSCHE

TO: LITTLE BROOK WETLAND

WOOENER THE NETHERLANDS

PRECEDENT STUDY

BIOSWALE PORTLAND, OR

JAMISON SQUARE PORTLAND, OR
The 33rd Ave Living Street is designed to have easy, fluid movement between social spaces. The dividing line of the street dissolves into pathways that consider the needs of children, elderly and the disabled.
REVITALIZATION

33rd Ave has many pockets of forgotten and unused spaces and massive paved parking lots. This design takes advantage of these spaces and re-purposes them to meet the needs of the community. Dead space becomes alive and active by neighbor use, and draws people in from other parts of the city. Well designed and functioning open spaces, with the good accessibility for all, are crucially important for urban identity. They benefit the neighborhood socially and economically and improve the quality of our urban environment.

MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENTS

enclosing the plaza with multi-story, multi-use buildings brings physical and visual awareness 24/7. Local businesses draw people in to make the space vibrant and active. Residents take ownership of the shared community spaces.

ALLEY ART WALK

colorful glass panels create an interactive link across lake city way and encourage positive interaction within the space.

GREEN PARKING LOT

permeable parking and bioswales offer Low Impact Development solutions in a concrete heavy environment.

SKATE PARK // PLAZA

terraced patio and lawns offer seating for local business and a view of the skate park. the plaza becomes an active and positive space for different user groups.

VARITY PLAZA HALF-COURT // SHORT-TERM INSTALLATION

PLANter boxes // BENCHES

provide seating and shade for those watching the game, creates a physical and visual barrier from the road.

SHED

tennis court equipment check-out and first aid. fits the dimensions of one parking space.

HALF-COURT

portable basketball hoop and painted half-court.

BLEACHERS

seating to cheer on your team, designed to accommodate the slope of the lot.

RAMP // STAIRS

replacing the car ramp with stairs and an ADA ramp makes traveling between amenities safe for pedestrians.

VARSITY PLAZA HALF-COURT

ACTIVEly Unused SPACES // VARSITY PLAZA HALF COURT
**Designer:**
Alyse Wright

**Type:**
Greenway

**Design Goals:**

+ Create a safe and interesting pedestrian/cycle route
+ Highlight Little Brook creek
+ Strengthen community identity
This map shows important connections facilitated by the Greenway, such as Little Brook Park, Cedar Park, Lake City Pond, Meadowbrook Pond, Jane Addams K-8 School, Nathan Hale High School, and John Rogers Elementary. The Brook to Brook Greenway connects to several other projects being explored this quarter, including the Little Brook neighborhood, Observation Deck of Nature, Living Street, Virgil Flaim, and 123rd Greenway.
BROOK TO BROOK GREENWAY:
Safely Connecting Pedestrians and Cyclists to Parks, Schools, and Green Space from Little Brook to Meadowbrook

The circular pattern throughout the design was inspired by the threshold of the Lake City Branch of the Seattle Public Library, and the library’s mission to encourage community and education.

As the pattern leads community members throughout the neighborhood, it acts as a reminder that:

Community meetings happen wherever neighbors meet and talk, and education can happen in your own backyard.

The Brook to Brook Greenway would provide a means of connection and wayfinding for pedestrians and cyclists. The greenway connects several places of learning and ecology such as; schools, parks, waterways and green spaces, as well as a connection across Lake City Way to Little Brook Park.
Current 37th Street Users
Students traveling to school
Pedestrians
Vehicles
Joggers
Cyclists

Goals
Safety
Fitness
Connections
Passive Education
Community Building

“This Fear and Comfort Map illustrates input from Little Brook residents regarding perceptions of safe and unsafe sections of roadway in the neighborhood.” - UW School of Public Health

37th street listed by residents as “Most Comfortable”
Current Conditions

Proposed Changes

The greenway uses stop signs to stop cross traffic, speed humps to slow vehicles, mural painted road surfaces, sharrows, and signage to create a safe shared street environment.

Possible Future

In the future, sidewalks and bioswales could be added to create layers of safety, ecosystem services, and beauty along the greenway.
ERICKSON & LAKE CITY WAY CROSSING
Proposed Changes

Possible Future
NE 125th ST is a major route into Lake City and has high levels of traffic. There is currently no marked pedestrian crossing at 37th AVE NE or 38th AVE NE. Sidewalks are planned for the street in the near future, and crosswalks and/or murals at these intersections would greatly increase the safety and use of the Greenway.
LAKE CITY POND
Highlighting Lake City's natural wonders through art and visual access

Current Conditions

Chain-link fence and overgrown shrubs make the pond site fairly invisible, and an easy place for undesirable activities to occur.

Proposed Changes

Day View

Phase 1: Fabric art piece representing Little Brook, hung above the path of the creek
Phase 2: Boardwalk over the pond

Night View

By using uplighting and path lights the space can be visible, safe, and interesting at night.

Precedents:

Meadowbrook Pond
http://www.familiesforlakecity.com/meadowbrook-pond-dredging-project/

Art of Janet Echelman
http://www.echelman.com/portfolio/sydney.html

LAKE CITY POND PLAN

Alyse Wright

Google Maps
Observation Deck of Nature

End of 135th Brook to Brook Greenway

Little Brook Neighborhood
Lake City Pond

Existing conditions

Designer:
nobu sudo

Type:
pedestrian greenway

Design Goals:

+ stabilize slope
+ create usable space
+ immerse residents into nature

Google Maps
This site is covered with trees and steep slope area. Residential area is divided by steep slope. So, this project proposes to make observation deck where you can see a beautiful view of Lake Washington, St. Edwards state Park, and nature. That observation deck becomes place where people can enjoy nature and communicate with neighborhood.

This site is potential landslide area. By filling deep underground pillar that supports the observation deck and trail, suppress landslide.
designer: allen wang

type: park

design goals:
+ raise awareness about habitat
+ create useable space
+ improve visibility
THORNTON CREEK is 18 miles (29 km) of urban creeks and tributaries from southeast Shoreline through northeast Seattle to Lake Washington. The creek is the largest watershed in Seattle, draining a 12-square-mile (31 km²) region of relatively dense biodiversity for an urban setting, home to frogs, newts, ducks, birds, and an occasional beaver, in addition to over 200,000 people.

LAKE CITY WAY is centred in Lake City, also called SR-522. It’s 7–8 miles (11–13 km) long with heavy traffic everyday and cut the lake city into two separate parts. It brings conveniences to the neighborhood but meanwhile block the two parts to connect with each other well because of the traffic. Comparing to the natural arterial creek, this man-made arterial needed more intersection and engagement.
CONTEXT & SITE MAP

The site locates at the core area linking different neighborhood in Lake City. And also it has the equal distance to schools on both north and south sides. On the map, the green line is potential trail connecting Little Brook, Olympic Hill, the site and south to Meadowbrook Park. Obviously, the key location of the site is vital for the whole neighborhood network.
Precedents

- Platform above the wetland for people to observe and experience meanwhile protect the fragile natural area
  - Signs on poles to tell people the directions and the distance to sites and other places
- Walkway along the wetland to bring people close to the nature
  - Signs painted on the ground to guide people to the site

Design Concept + Program

- Emphasize the Intersection
- Homewood Park Improvement Plan

Lake City Way Above the Creek
- Thornton Creek
- Divide the space into two parts
  - Form the above-wetland and along-creek spaces linked by the trails
Emphasize the Intersection
Homewood Park Improvement Plan

SHORT-TERM
Short-term: Wake up people and remind the existence of the Thornton Creek (DPD; Lake City)

Programming:
- Wayfinding system for the whole Lake City
- Sighs or symbols to remind people and guide people to the site

MEDIUM-TERM
Structure

Platform
Above-the-wetland
Walking-through-forest

Tree canopy/forest

Trails
In-the-Canopy
Walking-along-creek

Creek Valley/wetland

PERSPECTIVES
1. View on the platform. People walking on the platform meanwhile reading the Creek's history board and getting close to trees.
2. Bird view of the whole site. The platform above the wetland and trails along the creek; besides the Lake City Way, easy access around the site.
3. View at the bottom Trail along the creek, world of light and silence, different shadow from the above platform
The holes on the platform provide room for trees to keep growing and meanwhile provide two distinctive methods of observation: 1) Tree Canopy observation: from top, middle and bottom to observe the trees; 2) Wetland observation: from the above to observe the creek.

In addition, holes make bottom a world of light and shadow: sunshine through the holes and shadows of the platform.
Lake City Identity

- existing conditions
- google maps

Designer: Eddie Planas

Type: Greenway

Design Goals:
- Identity
- Sense of Place
- Safety
During the month of February, I released a survey available to anybody who lived in Lake City. Over seventy different people responded to the survey. These are two questions asked in the survey. The size of the text reflects how often an answer was repeated (IE the larger the text, the more often that same response was given).
“There’s water in Lake City!” said a resident at a community meeting. The entirety of Lake City is within the Thornton Creek Watershed. The watershed feeds Lake Washington and is historically home to salmon and many other animals. Providing these faux bridges give an opportunity to increase pedestrian safety while providing a stamp helping the people identify that they are in an important watershed.

Since the Lake City community started at the turn of the 20th century it has been an area without any consistency. It started as a community of rural summer homes for wealthy city dwellers. The neighborhood now seeks a common identity or sense of place.

Separate but vibrant neighborhoods

Two large transportation avenues: LCW and BGT

Entire area is within the urban watersheds of Thornton Creek and Little Creek that feed Lake Washington
“There’s water in Lake City!” said a resident at a community meeting. The entirety of Lake City is within the Thornton Creek Watershed. The watershed feeds Lake Washington and is historically home to salmon and many other animals. Providing these faux bridges give an opportunity to increase pedestrian safety while providing a stamp helping the people identify that they are in an important watershed.

Lake City Way & 117th
This rendering of a new pedestrian crossing and faux bridge art installation announce to the traffic that they are entering a different space that requires attention. This provides safety for pedestrians. These crossings are proposed at creek crossings, which coincide with popular pedestrian travel routes.

Lake City = Urban Watersheds
Little Creek Crossings:
- NE 130th & LCW
- NE 125th & 33rd Ave NE

Thornton Creek Crossings:
- NE 95th & LCW
- NE 117th & LCW
- NE 125th &
Currently, when asked how you know you’re in Lake City, the common response is “When you pass a strip club…” Changing the welcoming entrance to the community can provide immediate benefits and positive responses to the improved entrances. Adding welcoming signs to other popular entrances to LC can help provide a new sense of place.

Envisioning Healthier Neighborhood Design | Lake City

**WARM WELCOME**

Lake City Way & 95th
Community Painted Murals along LCW bring colorful visuals to large blank walls along LCW.

**Common Lake City Entrances:**
- NE 95th & LCW
- NE 145th & LCW
- NE 125th & 15th Ave NE
- BGT @ Matthew’s Beach
- BGT & NE 125th
- BGT & NE 135th

**Precedent:** Murals add color to blank walls and help give community express identity.

**Precedent:** Way-finding tools allow for easier and better pedestrian access.

**Precedent:** Bright pavers, neon art & entrance signage announce visitors entry to Lake City.

I’m in Lake City!
Lake City Loop

Existing conditions

Designer: Eliot Muening

Type: System

Design goals:
+ develop a route for pedestrians and cyclists
+ create connections
+ improve wayfinding

Google Maps
Lake City Loop

Pathways As Places
Typological Approach to Wayfinding

Eliot Macke

Lake City Urban Agriculture

Existing Conditions

GoogleMaps

Designer:
Cami Culbertson

Type:
System

Design Goals:
+ Foster a sense of community
+ Develop community interaction
+ Initiate a closed-loop food system

The following are experts from a larger booklet addressing urban agriculture within Lake City; for more details follow the additional link.

Three Types

1. Placement

2. Concept section School to School connection along 17th Ave NE

3. Structure Concept

- The desire to integrate a contextual abstraction of historical elements at a scale of 1:1000 in architecture.
- The emphasis is on the role of public and private spaces to enhance the sense of place.

Before

- 17th Ave NE is a street with low pedestrian activity, low visibility, and a lack of pedestrian and vehicular safety.

After

- The pathway has been integrated with street furniture and pedestrian-friendly design elements to enhance the pedestrian experience.

Structure Concept

- The design emphasizes the integration of built and natural elements to create a sense of place.
- The use of materials and colors is guided by the local context and cultural elements.

Natural

- The use of natural materials and elements to create a sense of place and identity.

Bland

- The design is focused on creating a sense of place through the use of natural materials and elements.

Before

- The pathway is narrow and lacks visual interest.

After

- The pathway has been widened and integrated with natural elements to create a sense of place.

Before

- The pathway is narrow and lacks visual interest.

After

- The pathway has been widened and integrated with natural elements to create a sense of place.

Before

- The pathway is narrow and lacks visual interest.

After

- The pathway has been widened and integrated with natural elements to create a sense of place.
designer: cami culbertson

type: system

design goals:
+ foster a sense of community
+ develop community interaction
+ initiate a closed-loop food system

The following pages are excerpts from a larger booklet addressing urban agriculture within Lake City; to view the booklet in its entirety follow the link provided on the department website.
EXISTING Agriculture

- 3 Bees City Farm
- Redfern Yardfarm
- Bastille Rooftop Garden
- City Grown
- Future site of UW + SYGW
  [University of Washington + Seattle Youth Garden Works]

EXISTING SEATTLE URBAN FARMS

- Alleycat Acres
- City Art Farm
- Transitional Resources
- Future site of Beacon Hill Food Forest
- Future site of Rainier Beach Urban Farm
- Magic Bean Farm
- Amaranth Urban Farm
- Marra Farm

POTENTIAL EXPANSIONS OF Agriculture

- Potential sites for future urban farms and gardens
- Potential for community engagement and learning
- Potential for food distribution networks

EXISTING DISTRIBUTION

- Fred Meyer
- Grocery Outlet
- Manila Manila
- Kilimanjaro Market
- Pakistani Indian Market
- CSA [Community Supported Agriculture]

POTENTIAL DISTRIBUTION

- Permanent Farmer’s Market
- Meadowbrook Community Center
- Nathan Hale High School
- Jane Addams K-8

EXISTING PRODUCTION

- Victoria Park 4.09 acres
- Cedar Park 5.75 acres
- Meadowbrook City Orchard
- Lake City Court P-Patch
- Nathan Hale Horticulture Program

POTENTIAL PRODUCTION

- Nathan Hale High School
- Jane Addams K-8
- Olympic Hills Elementary
- Virgil Flaim Park
- Cedar Park
- Little Brook Park

LEARNING, COMMUNITY, FOOD
COMMUNITY GARDEN [co.mmun.ity.gar.den] n.
A single piece of land gardened collectively by a group of people.

Moving beyond the preconceived notion that community gardens are composed of rigid, immobile raised beds, there lies a future of mobiliity and flexibility, allowing valuable space to serve multiple functions. What could the future bring? Trailer bed gardens parked along the street? Wheeled planters? What ultimately serves the needs of a given community? Blur the line between public and private land ownership, spill out into those streets and alleyways that one engages with on a daily basis - make space.

Many of these urban agriculture typologies are linked to school sites due to their inherent connectivity to the community; implementation at these hubs of learning can initiate a shift in the current model of food security, as well as an alteration in community relationship dynamics.

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES
Sustainable NE Seattle Tool Lending Library
The NE Seattle Tool Library is a community-led project to provide pay-what-you-can community access to a wide range of tools, training, and advice.

Volunteer at Local Schools
Although community gardens are not allowed on school property, individuals could go through a verification process in order to become school volunteers invested in the production, harvest and distribution of food products. Perhaps even job opportunities could arise from a need of employees dedicated to the Career Technical Education (CTE) Program, or the maintenance of food safety procedures. Successful models rise from integrating systems into the structure of a community.
lake city
2013 + beyond

Booklet compiled and presented by: Alyse Wright, Ann Dinthongsai, Biruk Belay, + Cami Culbertson