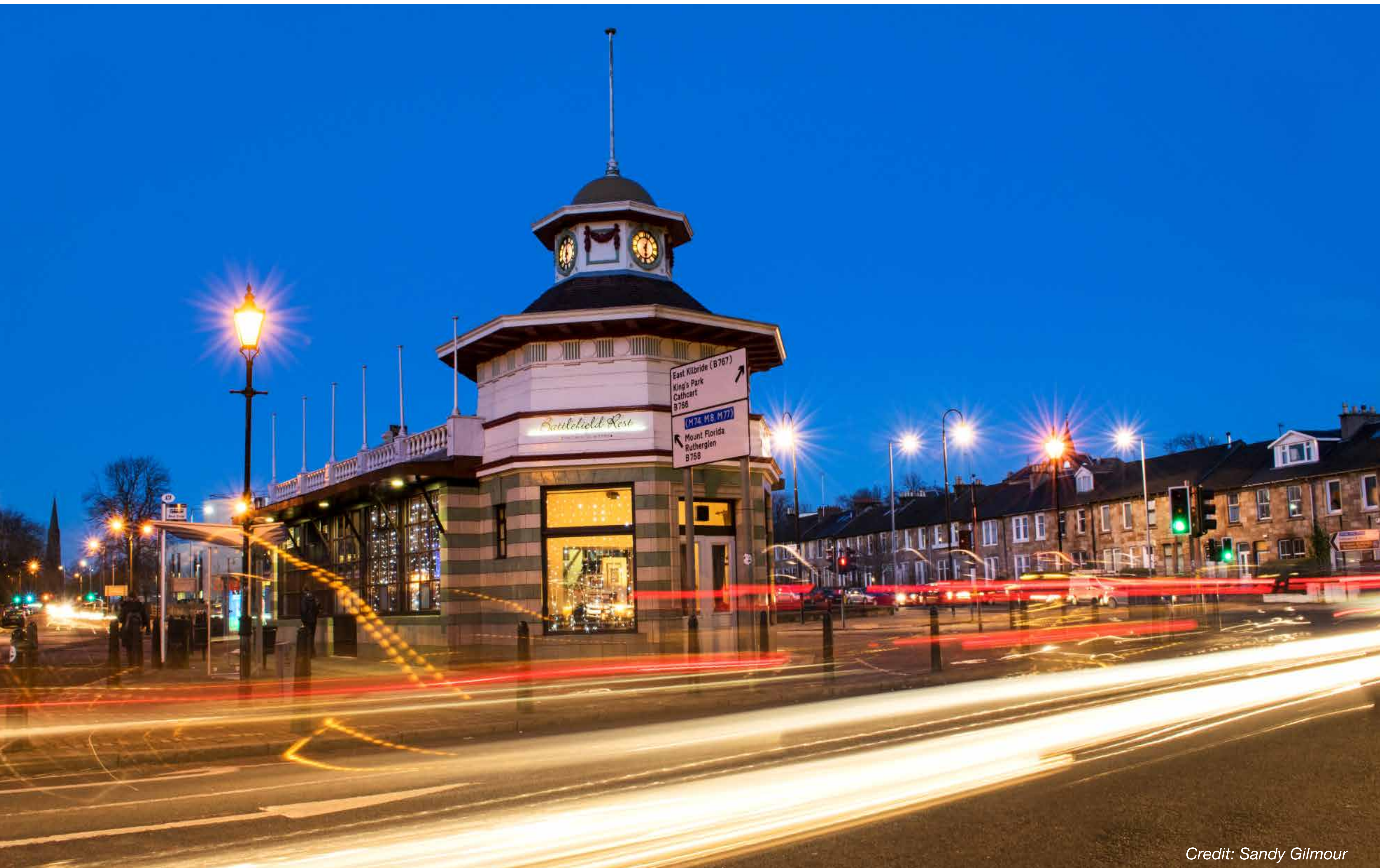


Battlefield: Creating a Place for People



Credit: Sandy Gilmour

Street design project background:

Who we are:

We are the **Sustrans Scotland Street Design** team and empower communities to reimagine streets and public spaces to make them feel safer and more attractive places to live, work and travel through.

Funded by Scottish Government, we work in partnership with local authorities and communities through a collaborative design process to develop ideas that improve neighbourhoods and urban areas.

By involving local residents and groups from the start, we create stronger communities and well informed outline designs that reflect the aspirations of the community.

What is the Project about?

The project came about as a result of Battlefield resident's response to the Victoria Infirmary development.

Sustrans Scotland has partnered with Glasgow City Council on a one year project to develop design proposals for the area around Langside and Battlefield. The project builds on:

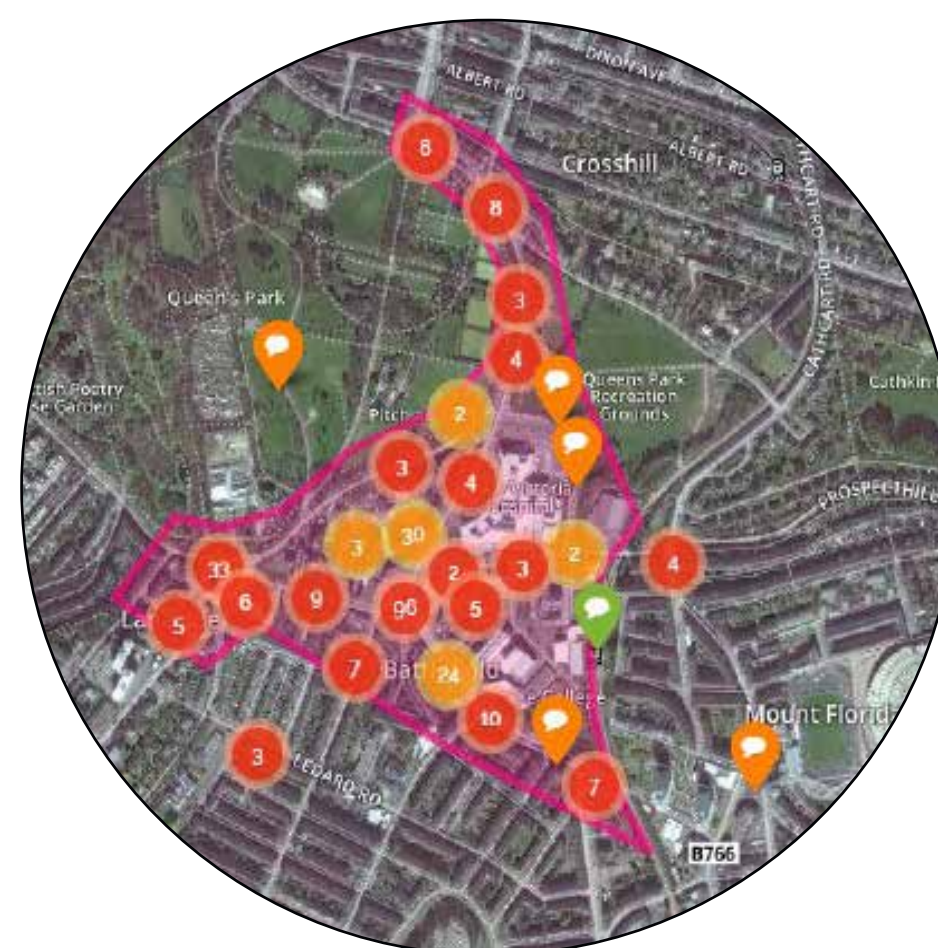
- **The existing designs around Battlefield Rest;**
- **Improving safety on Battlefield Road;**
- **Making the area feel safer and more attractive to spend time in or travel through.**

What Have We Done So Far?



August 2018: Public life studies

The Street Design team carried out a series of public life studies in the Battlefield area to observe the social activity and movement that takes place and understand what changes might provide. The team was placed in 5 different locations in the project area to trace people's movements, tally bike users and pedestrians and record activities (sitting/talking/standing).



September 2018: Commonplace launch

During September we launched our online platform, Commonplace to collect public feedback on the area. We received a total of 1,394 visitors to the site with 223 respondents and 122 comments. These comments and the feedback collected at the launch event will be fed into the design process of Battlefield Street Design.



September 2018: Public session 1

The project was launched on 4 September and we spoke to over 400 people who live, travel and work in the Battlefield area. We held a stall on the street at Battlefield Junction and an evening drop-in event at Langside Library. The event introduced the background to the project and invited the public to share their thoughts on the existing area and suggestions for change.



September 2018: Engaging with students

During the welcome week at Langside College we held a drop-in event to talk to the students and staff about how they travel to and from the college. We spoke to 35 students who travelled by mostly car and bus but were keen to learn more about cycling and walking opportunities. We also held a Dr Bike session by Bike For Good where people brought along their bike for a free maintenance check.

Overview of engagement so far

1,394

Visitors to the project website

437

People attended events and activities

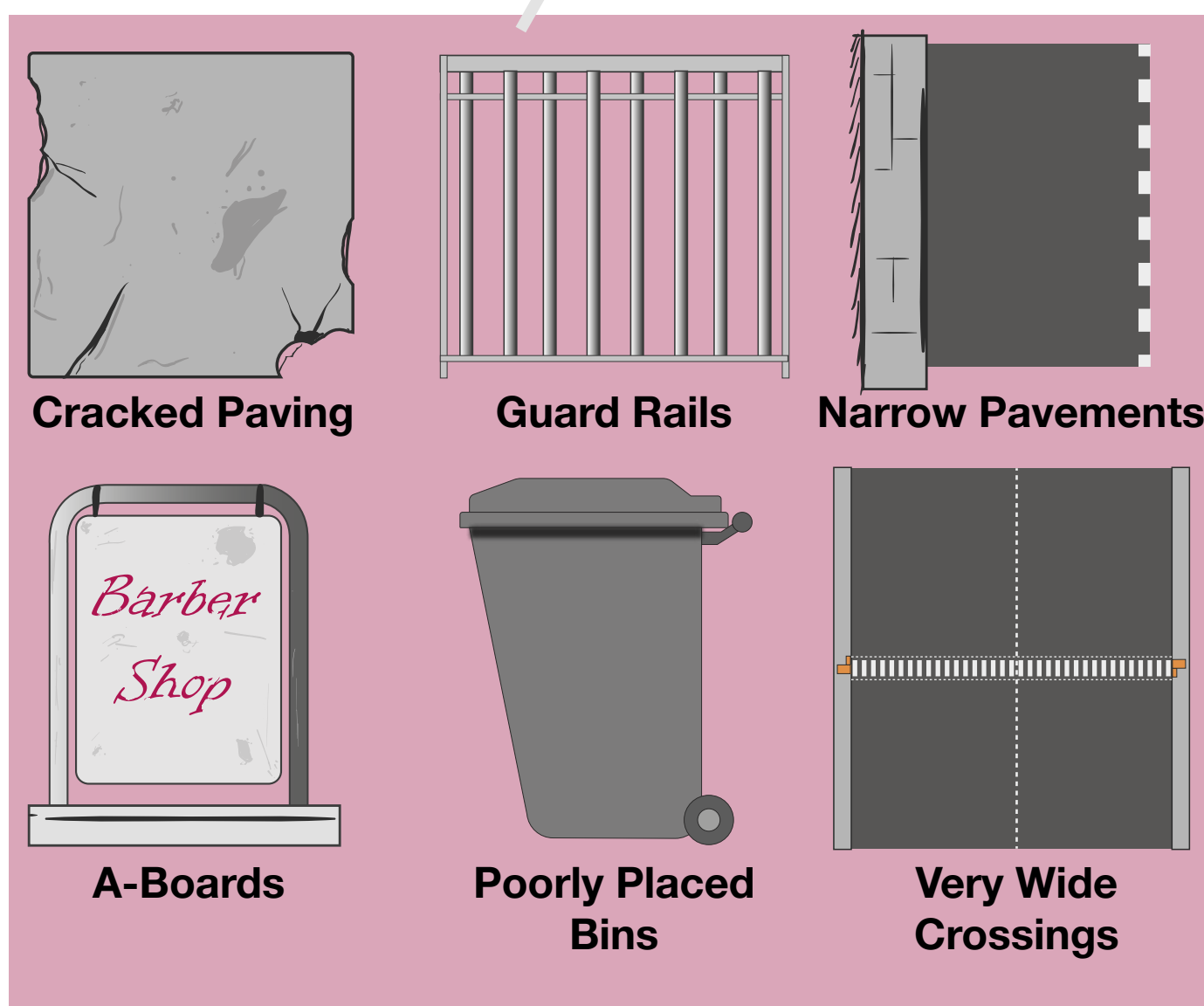
122

Comments were made online

159

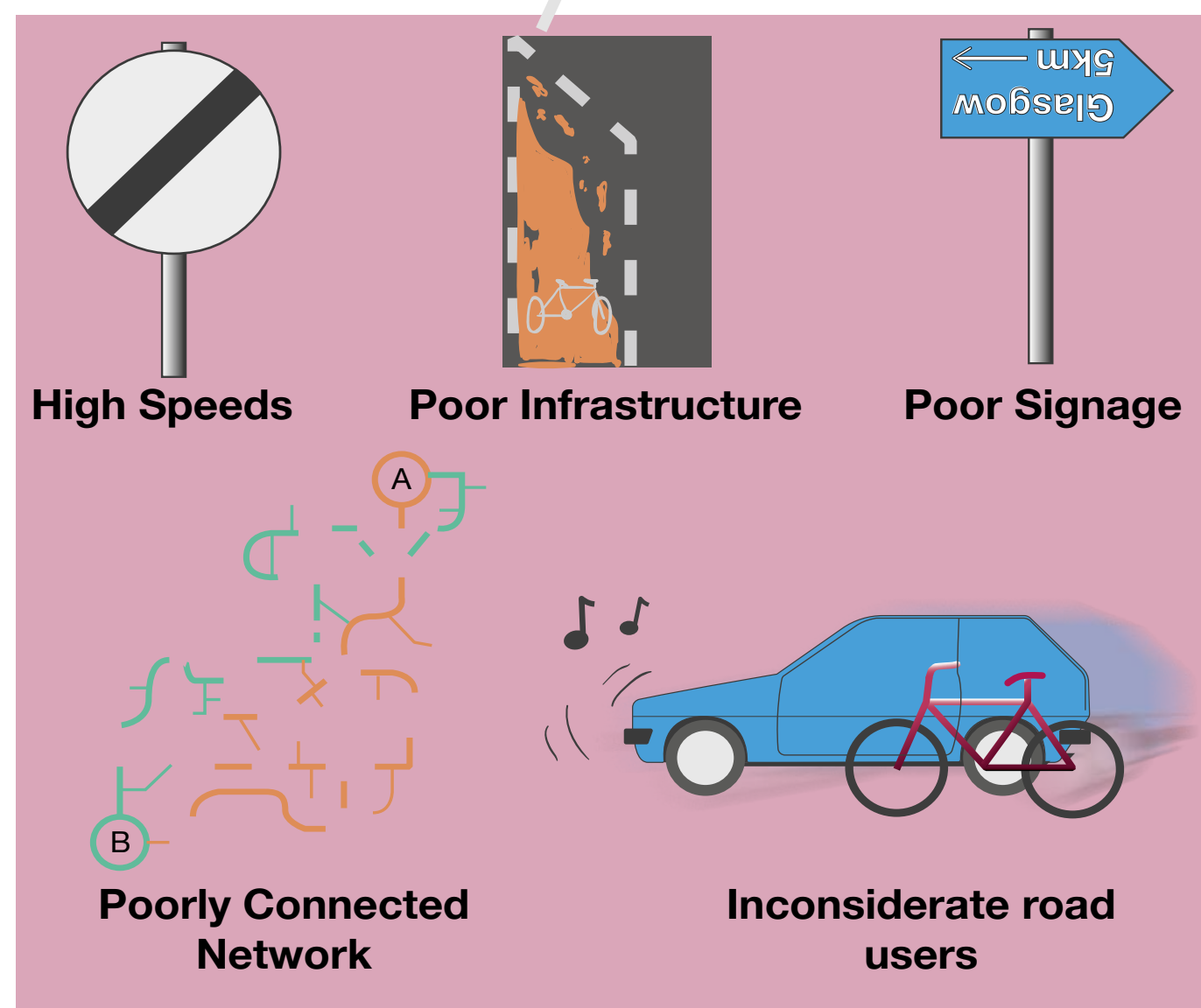
Written comments from the launch event

Challenges Presented



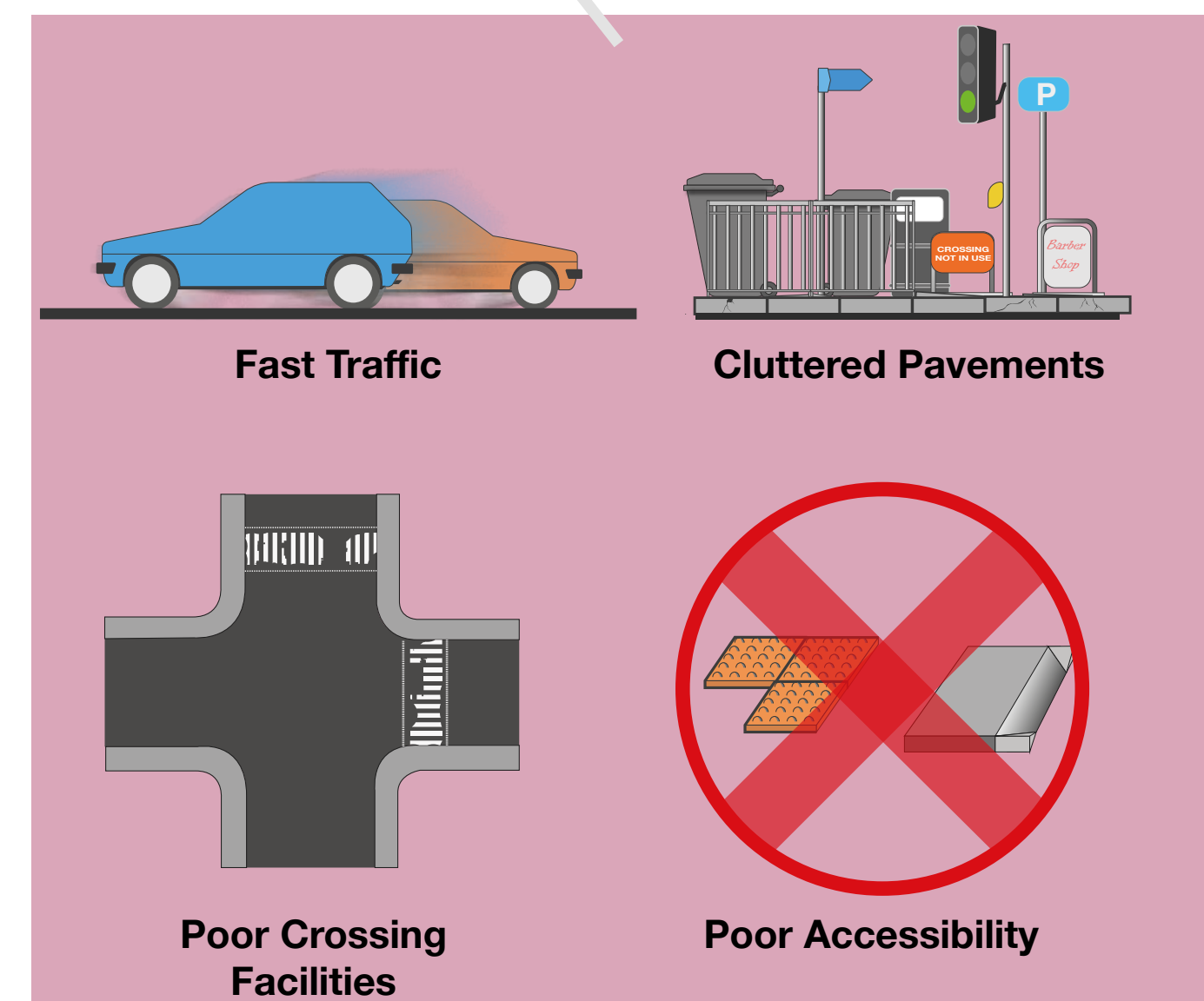
1. Poor for pedestrians

- A large proportion of people who responded on Commonplace said that the area was poor for pedestrians, particularly around Battlefield Rest
- The conditions of pavements on the roads around the area was raised as an issue, because people were tripping on them and it they were uncomfortable for some wheelchair users.
- Narrow pavements along with poorly placed bins and advertising A-Boards were an issue for people, particularly those with physical impairments, as it made navigating the area more difficult than it should be.
- Finally, very wide crossings and a short amount of time to cross the road was an issue for people, particularly the elderly, or people with children and prams.



2. Poor for cycling

- People cycling through the area also responded that the area was poorly equipped to help them in their everyday journeys.
- High speeds, or the perception of high speeds along the main Battlefield Road, Grange Road and Langside Road made cycling in the area feel uncomfortable.
- Lack of dedicated cycling infrastructure and a poorly connected dedicated cycling network made it more difficult to easily navigate the area, particularly for people who were not necessarily experienced road cyclists.
- Inconsiderate road users, both vehicles and other cyclists, was also noted as making cycling an unpleasant experience in the area as it made people feel intimidated and unsafe.



3. Feels unsafe

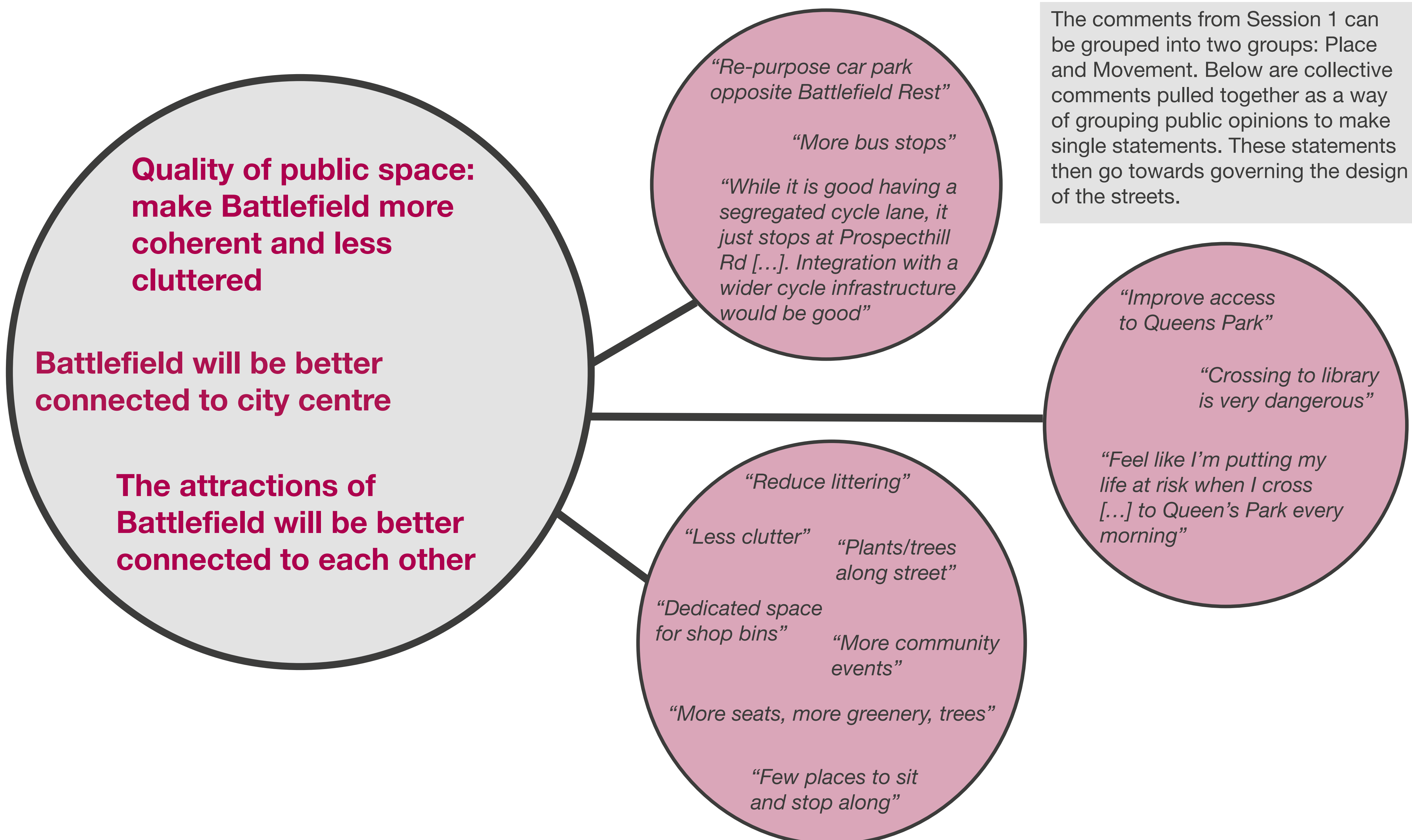
- People said they felt uncomfortable with the speeds that some drivers were travelling through the area at, particularly at crossing points.
- Once again, pavements cluttered with advertising boards, poorly placed bins, guardrails and signposts made pavements feel narrow and unsafe to move around for the elderly and people with physical or visual impairments.
- Some people responded that crossings in Battlefield were generally poor quality; being peculiarly placed, too narrow or taking too long to allow them to cross.
- For people with visual impairments, the lack of tactile paving at junctions along Battlefield Road makes people feel unsafe moving around the area.

Design Opportunities

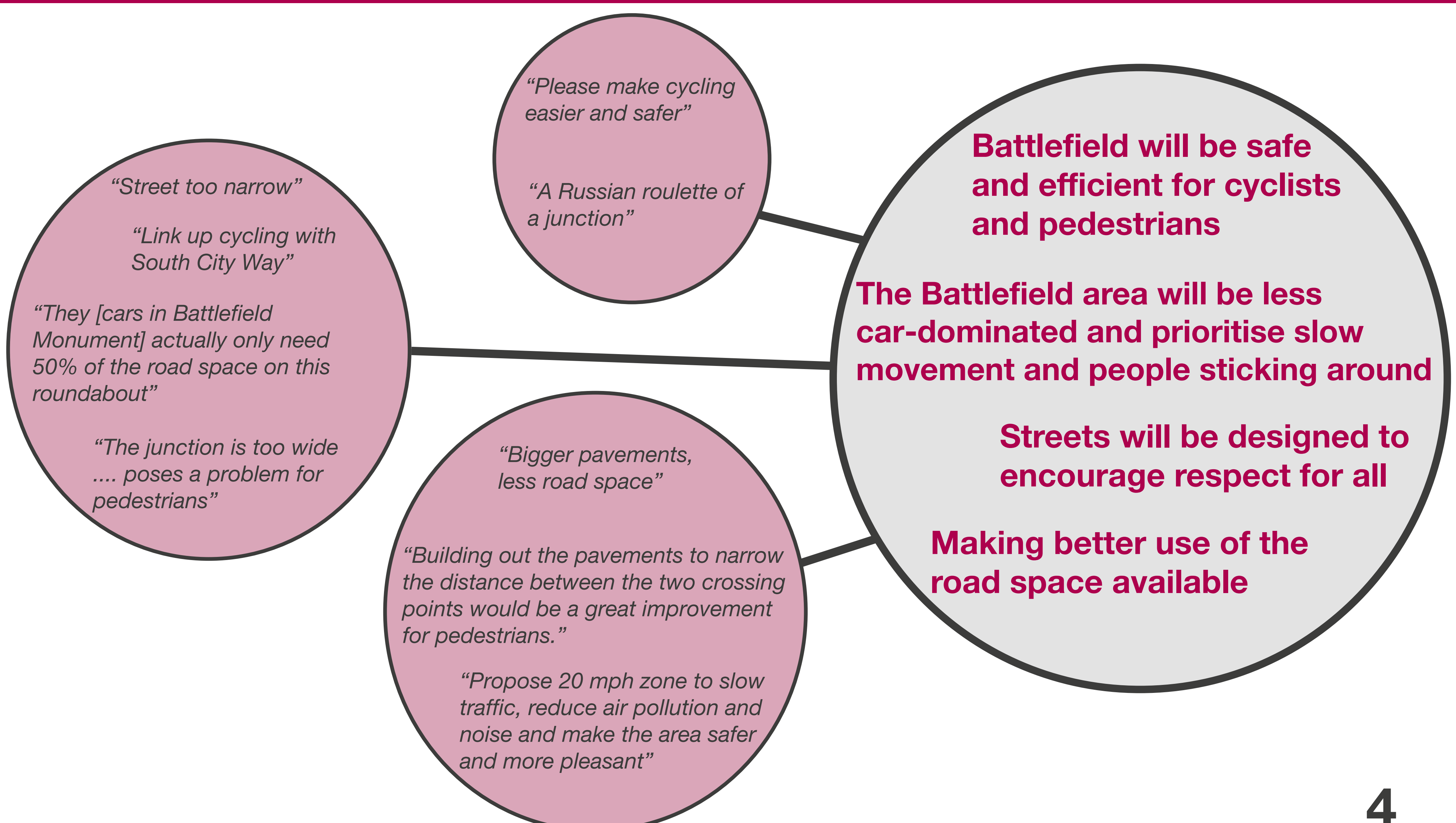
Design statements from Session 1 comments

Place

The comments from Session 1 can be grouped into two groups: Place and Movement. Below are collective comments pulled together as a way of grouping public opinions to make single statements. These statements then go towards governing the design of the streets.



Movement



What We Observed

People counts and demographic studies

What is a Public Life Study?

In August we spent time on the streets of Battlefield to gain an understanding of how people used the streets. By observing specific aspects of public life we can see patterns of who uses spaces and when; identify opportunities to use these spaces better, and how people move through the area.

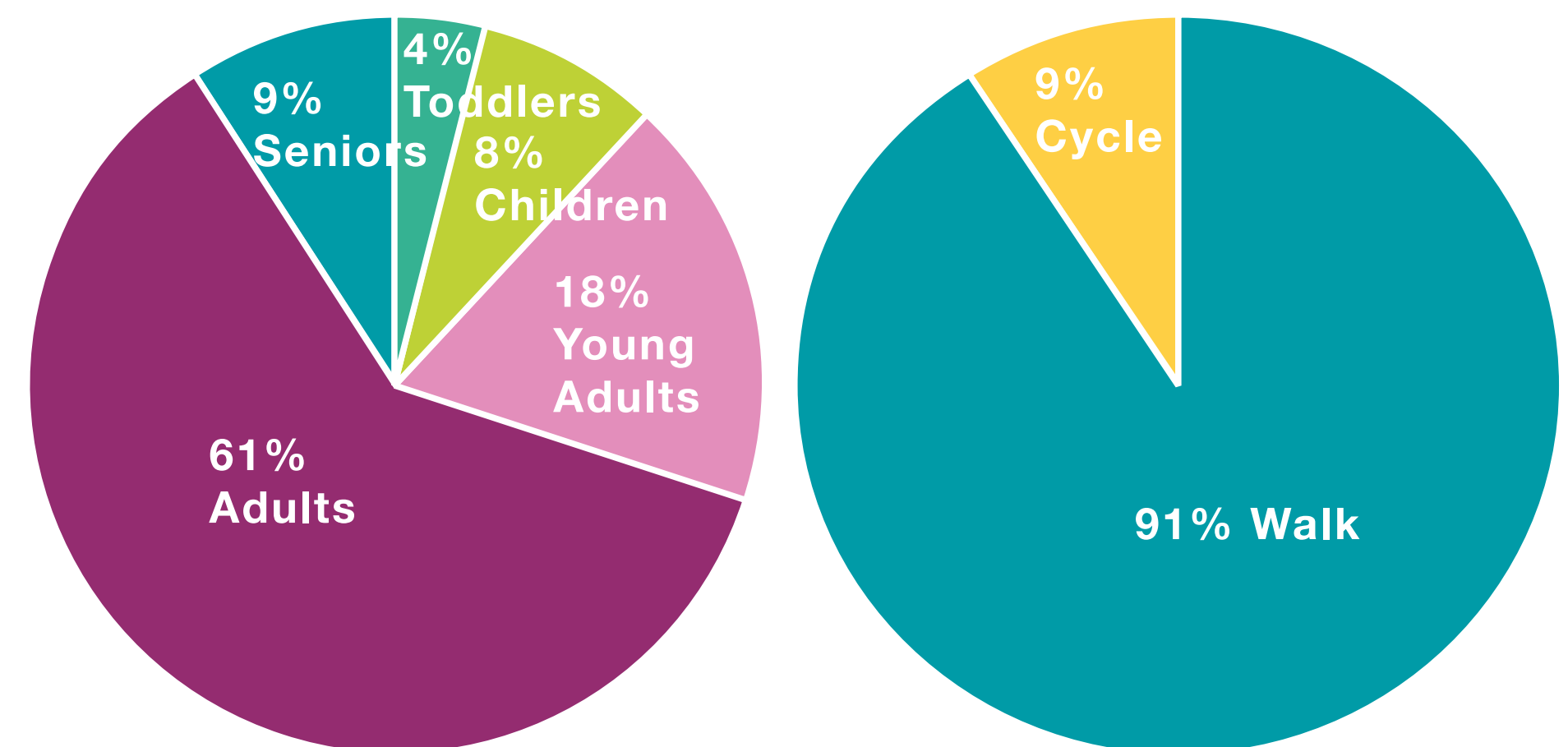
We did this by choosing 5 locations in Battlefield: Battlefield Rest and Monument, the top of Grange Road, outside Mount Florida station and across from the college on Battlefield Road. We then stood and measured over 12 hours who was there, where they were and what they did. We did this on a week day and a weekend day to get a snapshot on Battlefield street life.

What We Found

On both days, the number of people walking through the area far outweighed the number cycling. This might indicate that people feel safer walking around the area or getting the bus than they do cycling. However with 9% of people cycling vs 91% walking, the share of cyclists was higher than we originally anticipated for the area.

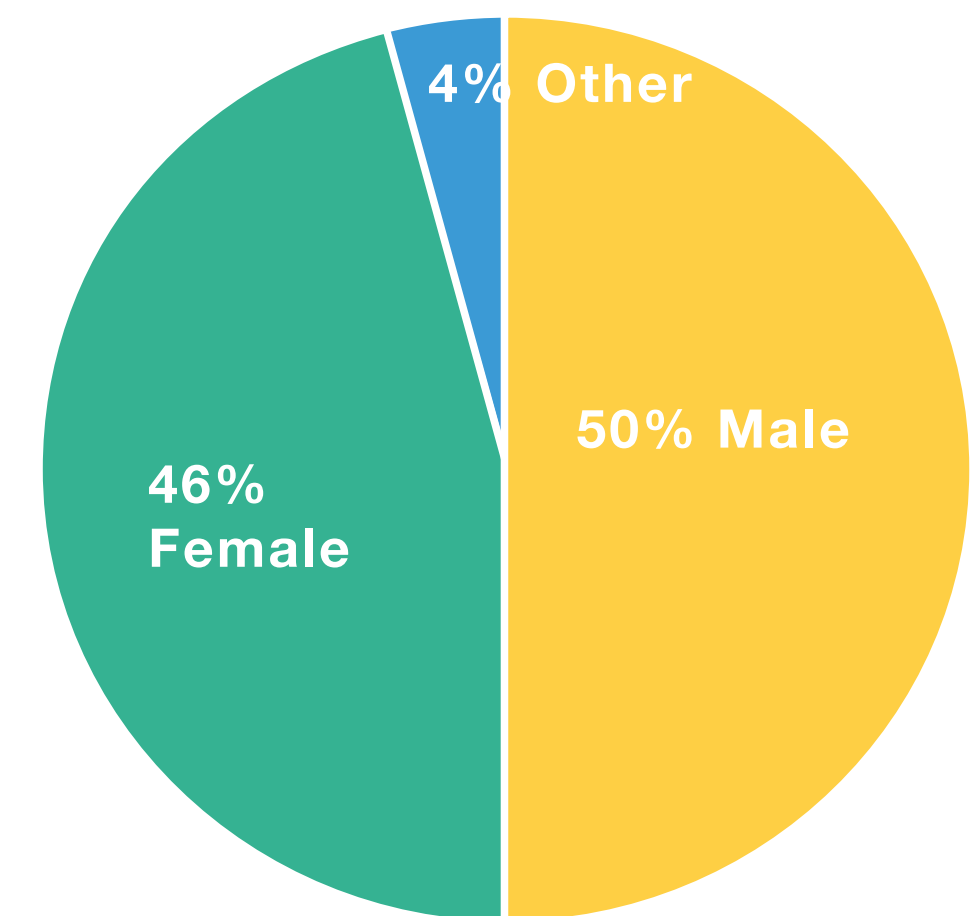
On both days, we found that it was mostly adults using the area, with the second largest group being young adults. We concluded that this was probably the result of the high number of adults working and living in the area, with the College contributing to the significant number of young adults in the area.

In terms of gender, we observed that there was a fairly good mix of men and women using the area, with men making up 50% of the observations, women 46% and non-specific at 4%. This might indicate to us that people of all genders feel safe using the area throughout the day and into the night.



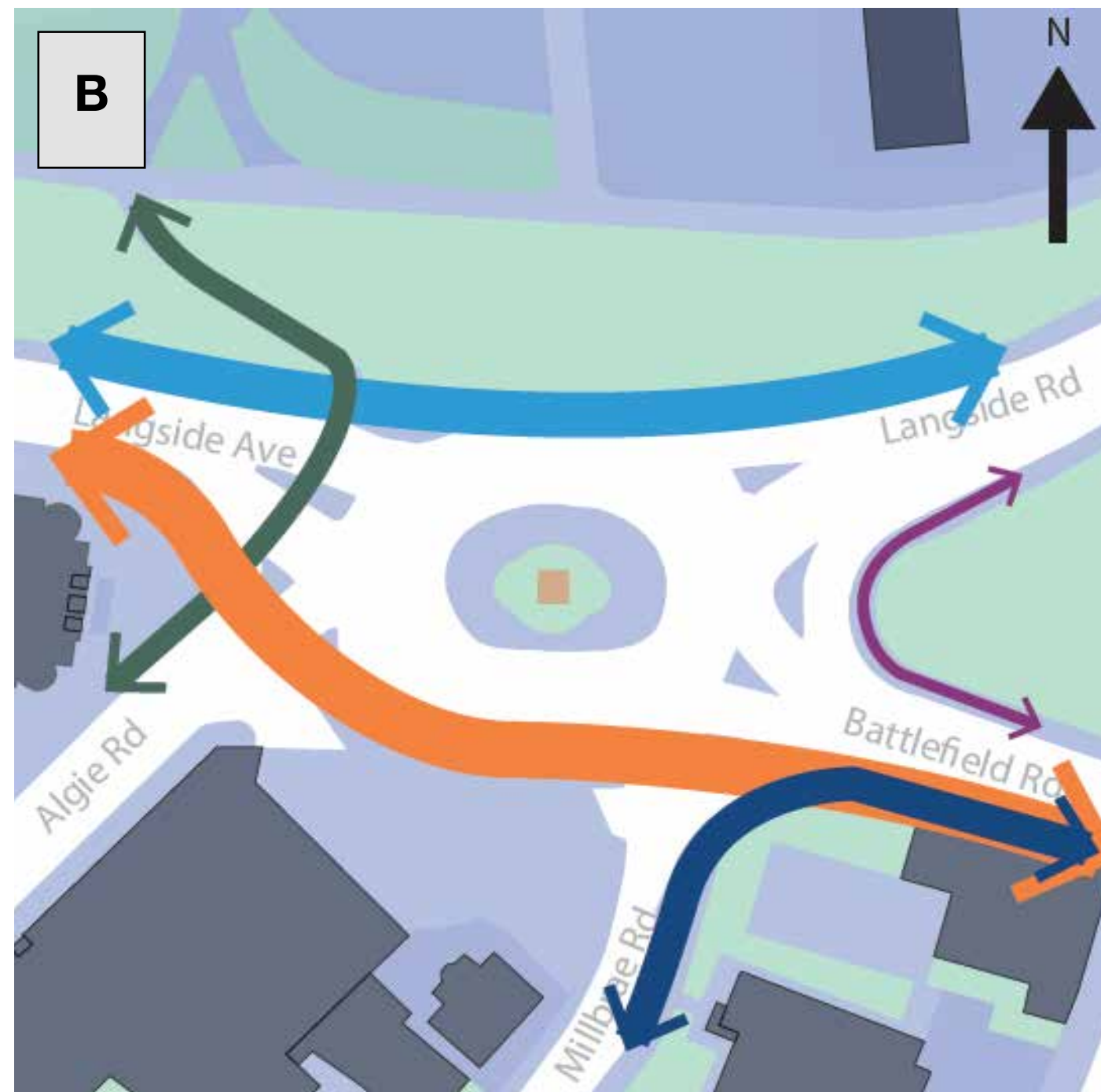
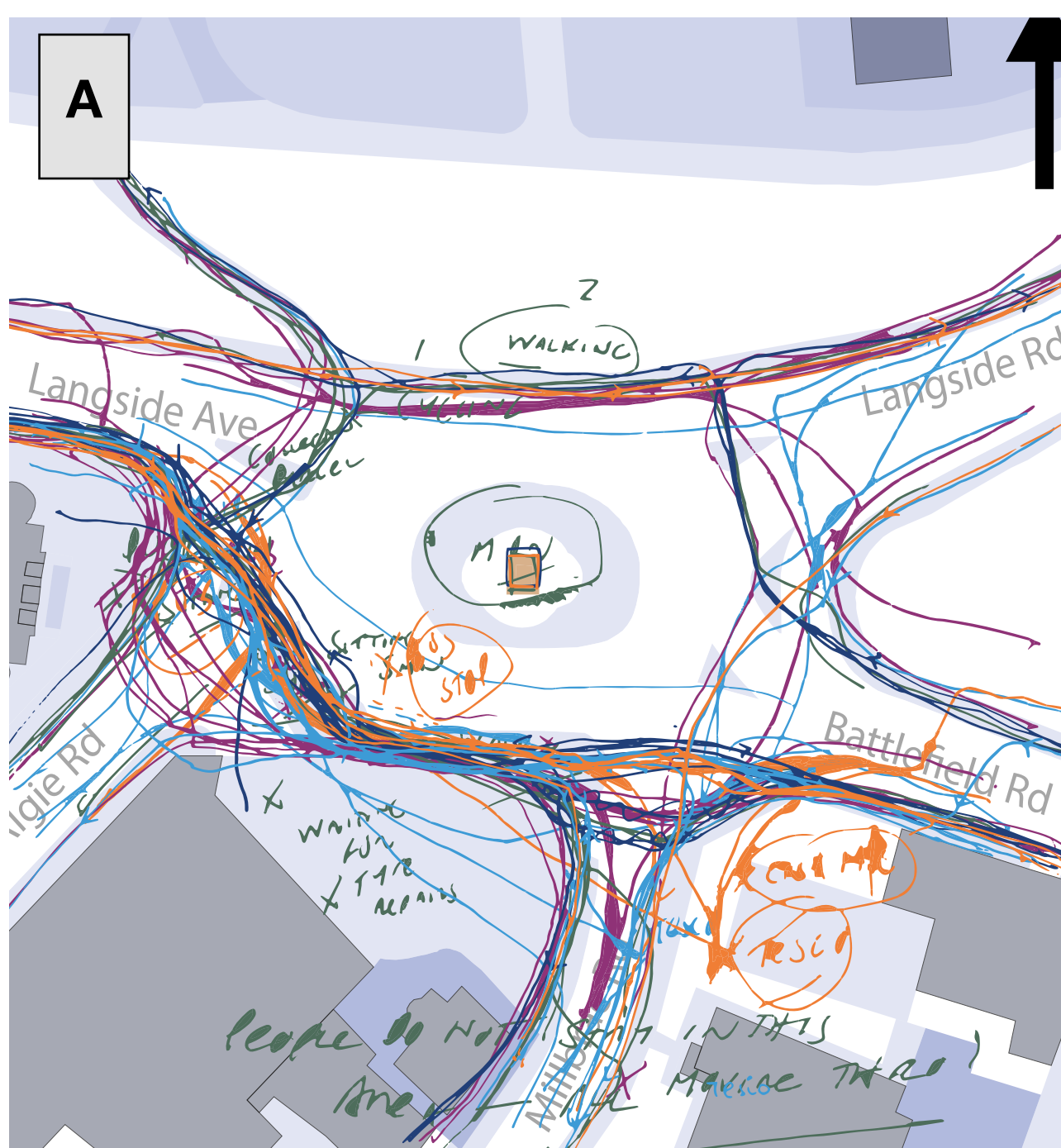
Demographic count

Movement count



Gender count

Movement tracing studies

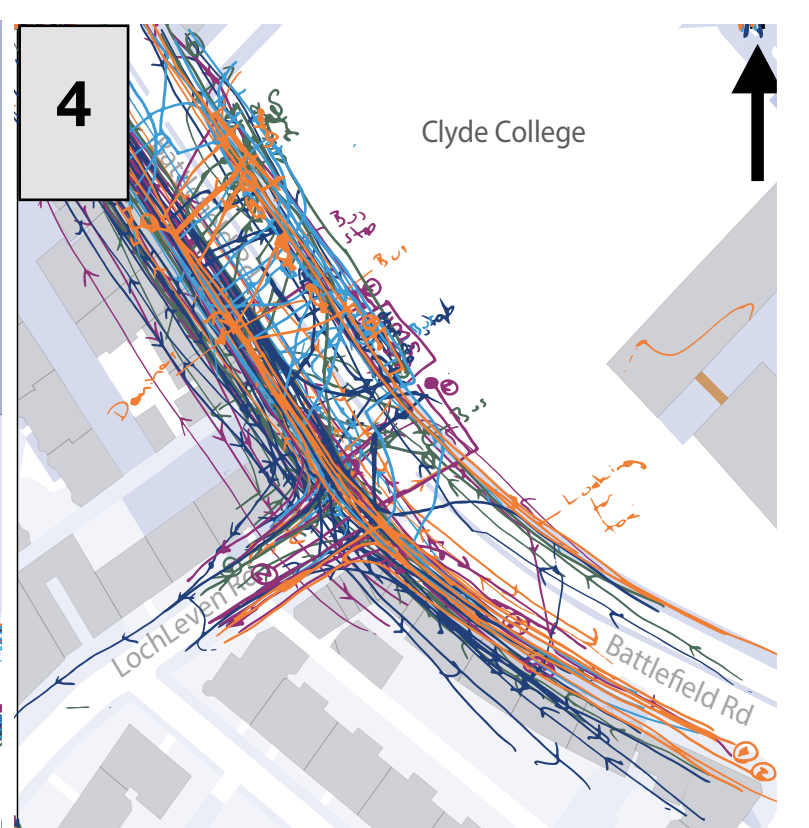
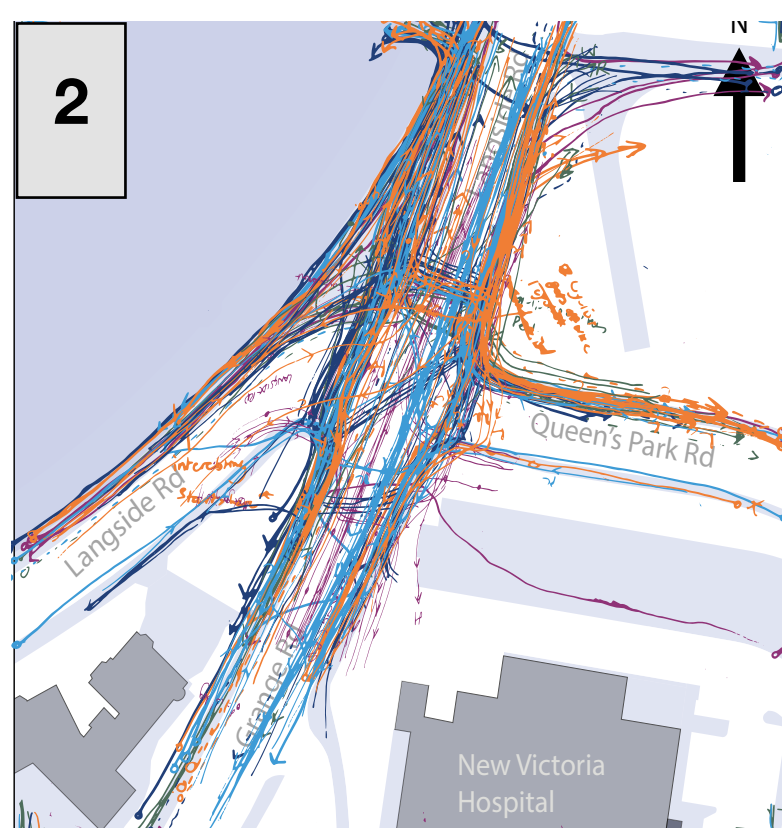
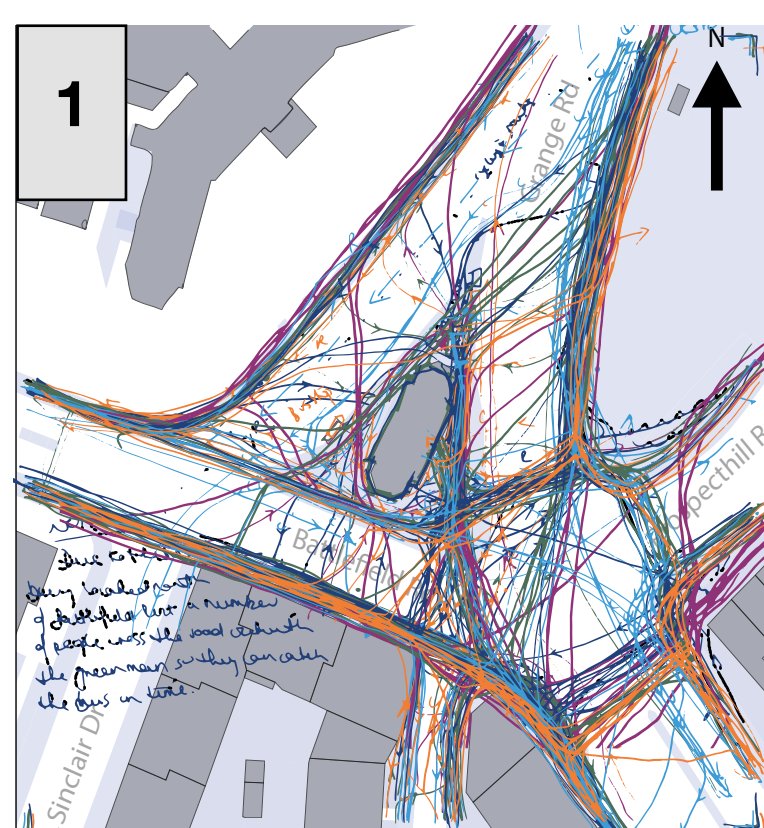


Tracing Studies

We wanted to understand exactly what lines of movement within the space were being taken. Taking Battlefield Monument for example by tracing on paper (A) exactly the line of desire taken by individuals at any one time we could see the routes and density of desire lines. A simplified diagram (B) let's us see which routes are the most popular and allows us to look at opportunities to improve the street in these areas.

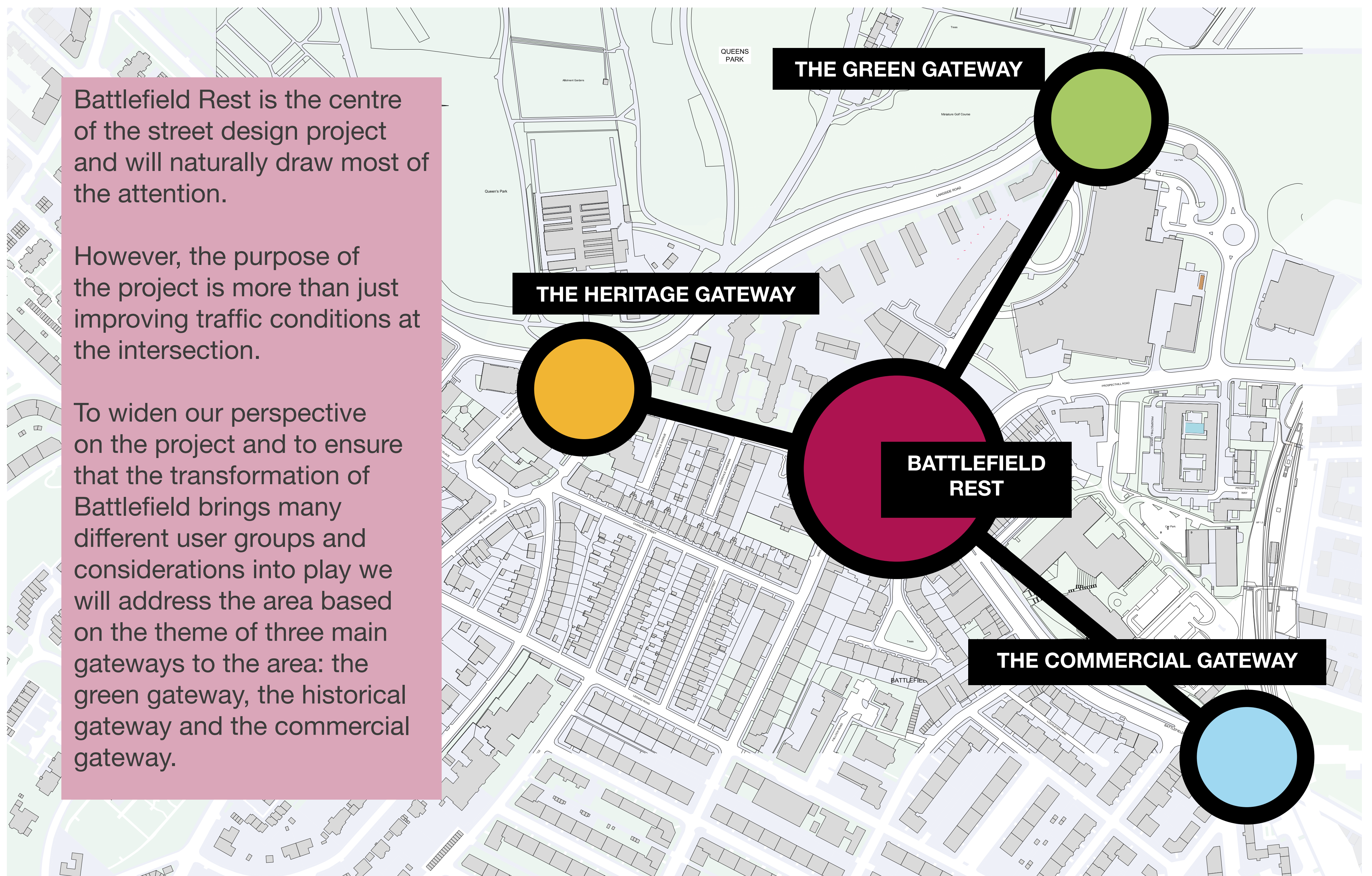
Tracing results maps from:

1. Battlefield Rest
2. Grange Road
3. Mount Florida Station
4. Clyde College



Design Approach

Three gateways to the Battlefield area



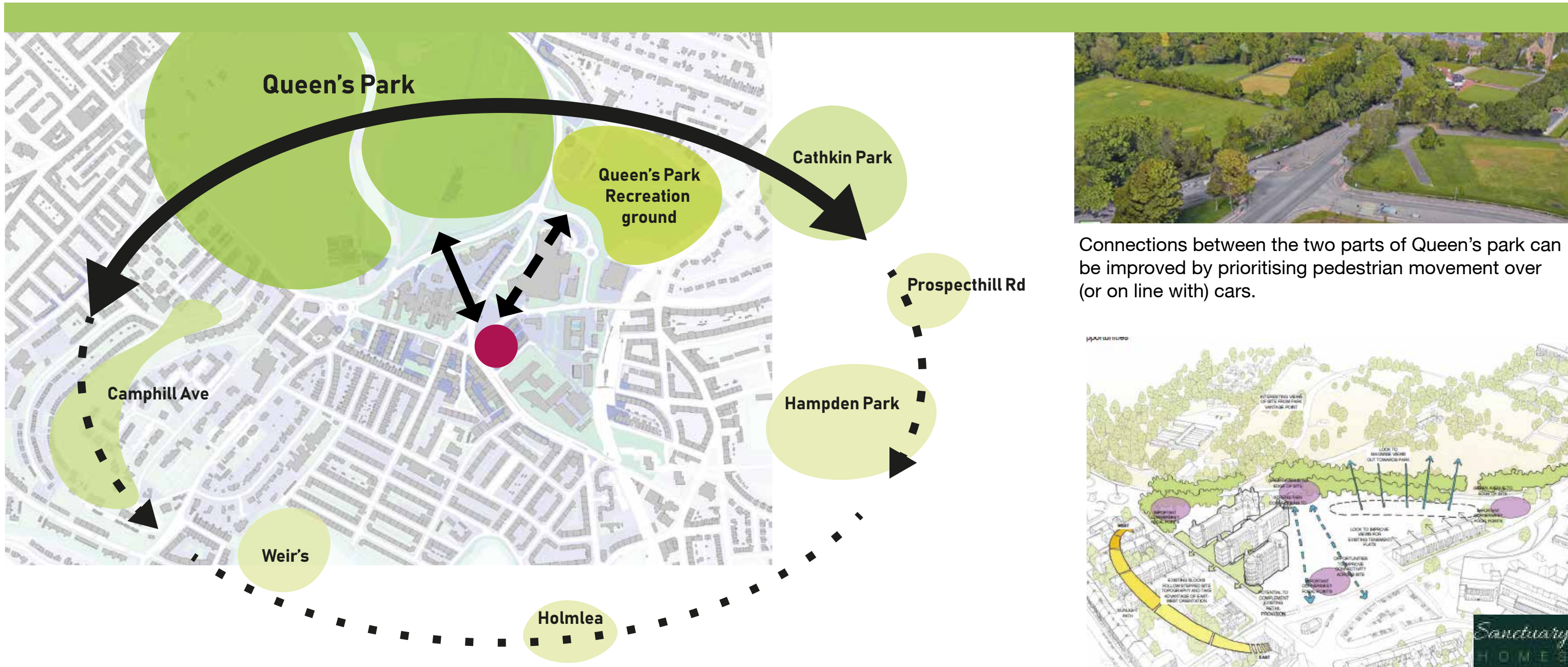
Design Assumptions Based on Your Feedback

The re-design of the Battlefield area is based on a number of assumptions and propositions about how to create the best public space. During the coming months the proposals will be reviewed from a technical point of view.

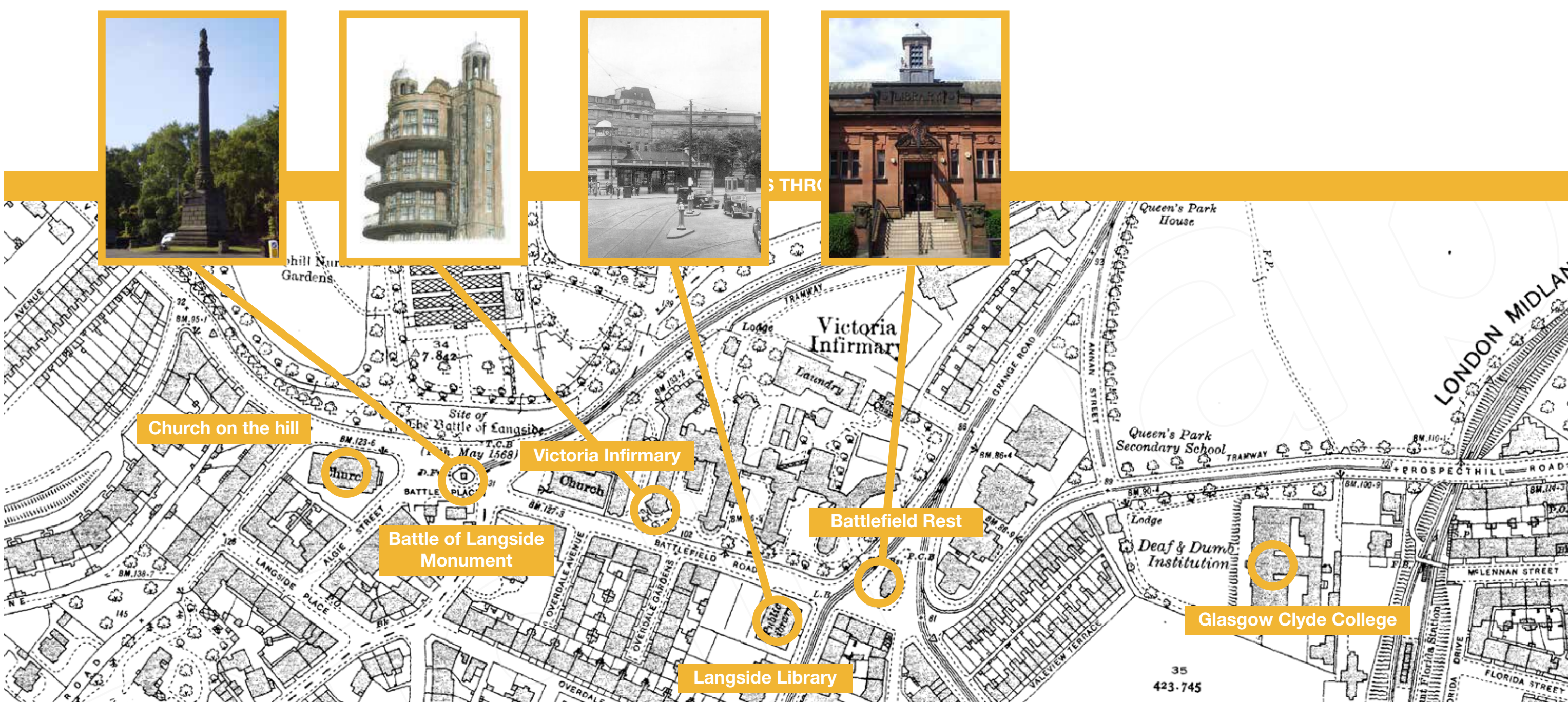
- We will create new “entrances” to the Battlefield area to signify to visitors that the area is no longer prioritising cars over other modes of transport.
- We will slow down traffic. We will remove long straight stretches of road that make speeding easy. Instead there will be narrower streets and more turns.
- We will strengthen the connections between Battlefield and Glasgow City centre by proposing a segregated bike path that connects the South City Way with Mt. Florida Station.

- We will no longer prioritise cars above other modes of transport. The sketches present a model of public space where cycling, walking and public transport are considered equal to private cars.
- Battlefield Road does not need to be a dual carriageway. Based on the fact that all the connecting roads are single carriageways our assumption is that the adjacent capacity of roads will support a single carriageway on Battlefield Road.
- We will close one of the streets surrounding Battlefield Rest. There will still be vehicular access to all addresses but the street design will be optimised to allow for other use than motorised traffic.
- We will close Prospecthill Rd to allow the design of a less complex intersection at Battlefield Rest.
- We will prioritise residential parking in the side streets over the current parking on Battlefield Road based on studies that show that people moving through the area on foot will spend equal to or more than those arriving by car.

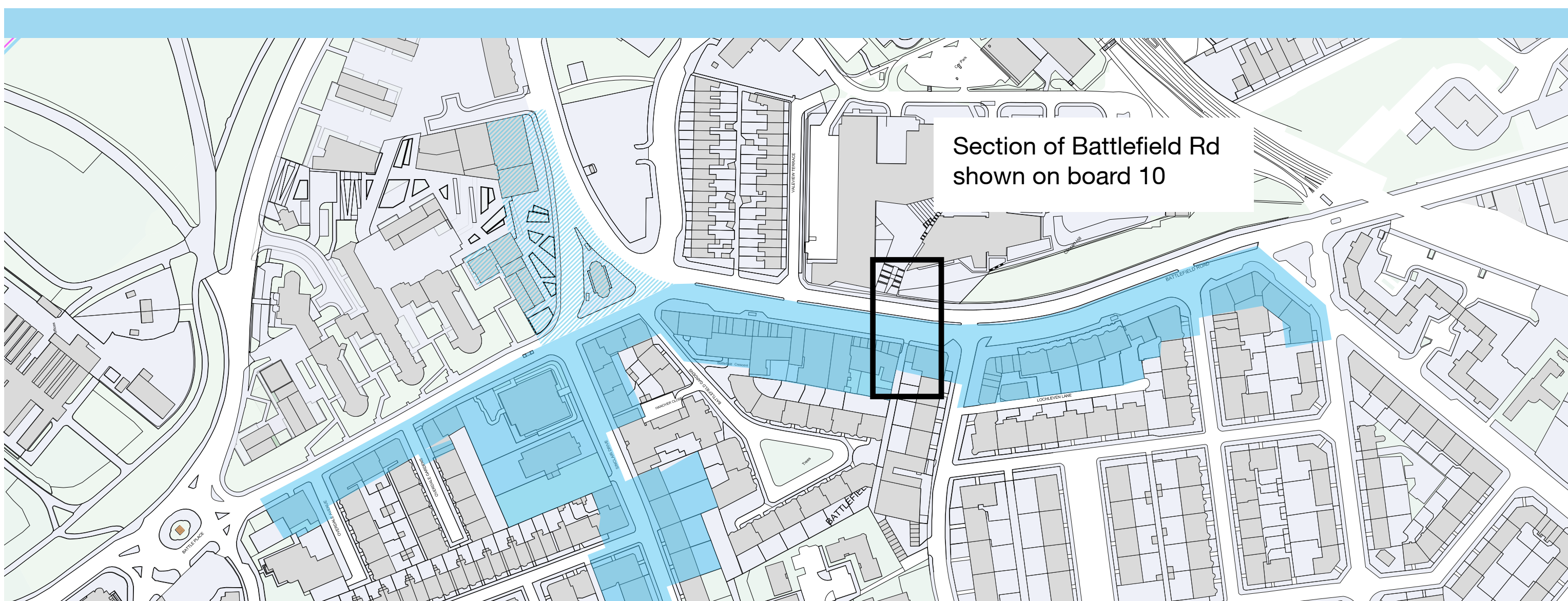
Battlefield Gateways



Theme 1 - Recreational spaces and parks



Theme 2 - Heritage and culture



Theme 3 - Commerce and street life

Queen's Park attracts people from all parts of Glasgow. The park could be part of a wider green network in the Southside but the connections between green spaces are not good.

The Old Victoria project will connect Battlefield to Queen's Park but the street design project is also an opportunity to create greener streets and squares in Battlefield.

How big a part should street trees and green infrastructure play in the Battlefield area?

The transformation of Battlefield will improve connections between cultural/heritage landmarks in the area and the main destinations like schools, the college, library and hospital.

How should the historical built environment influence the design of the new urban realm?

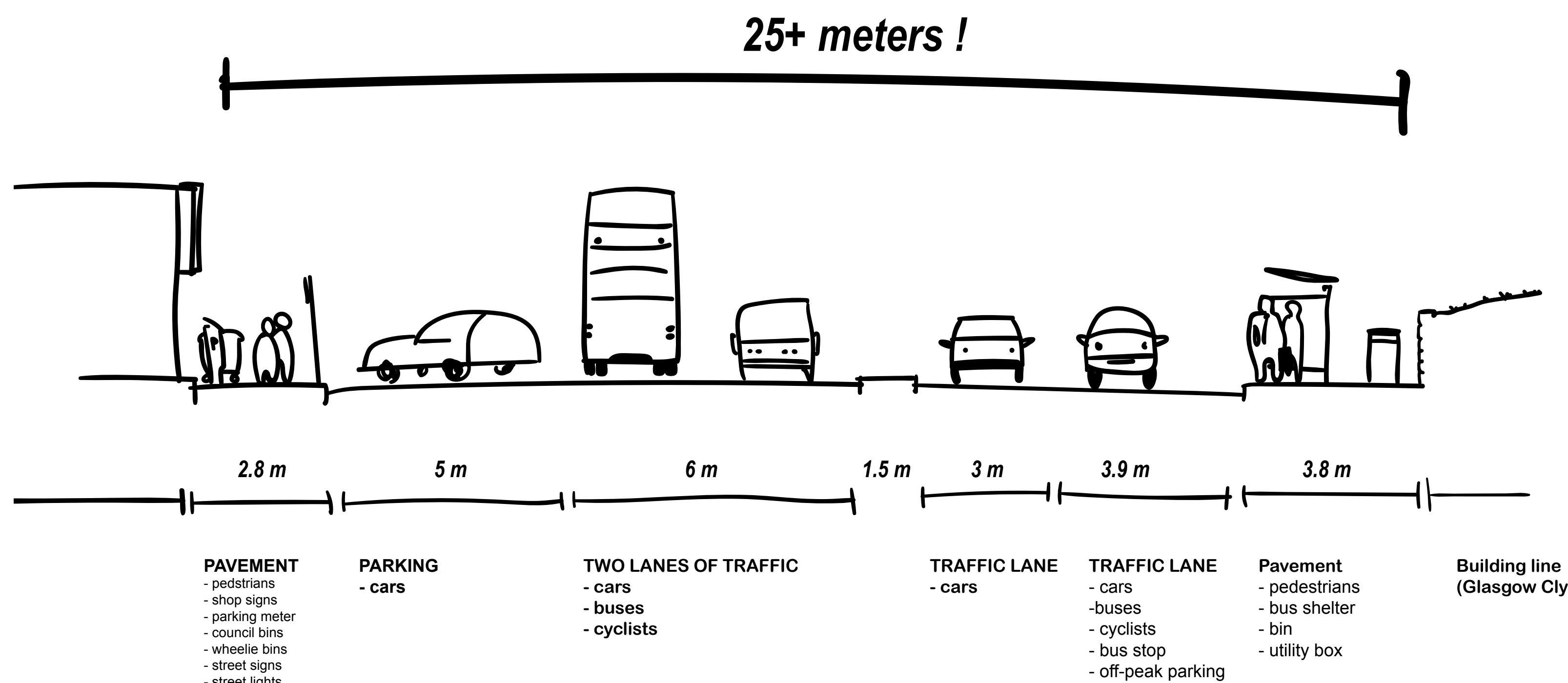
The stretch between Mt. Florida station and Queen's park is the main commercial hub of Battlefield with shops, cafés and street life. Further commercial activity will follow with the Old Victoria Infirmary development. However conditions for pedestrians could be improved to support local businesses. How should business and commerce affect the street life and identity of the area?

Promoting Street Life

Street life and street design

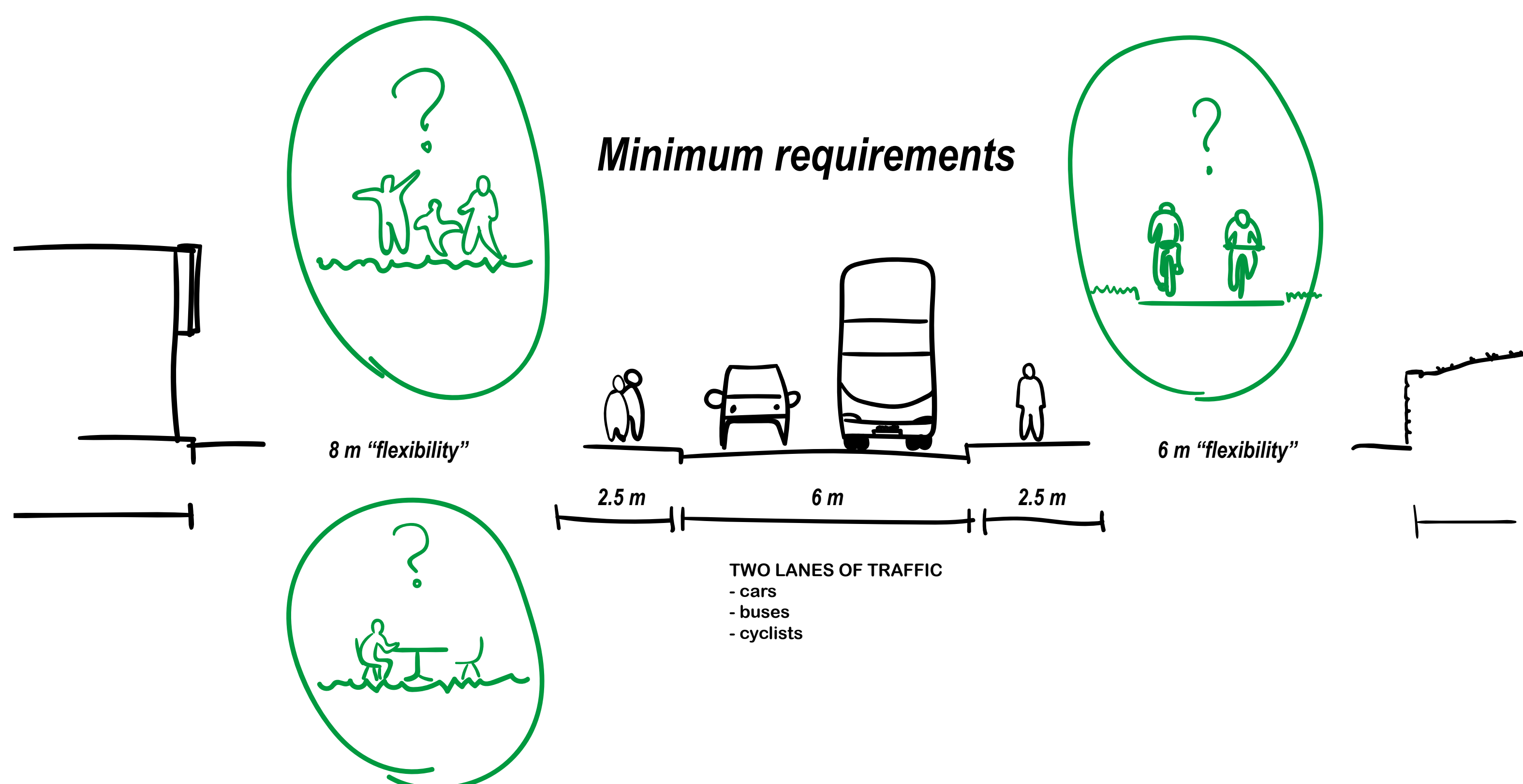
Battlefield Road Today

Battlefield Road is a wide road but the vast majority of the space is reserved for cars. Pedestrians have less than 3 m pavement space and the busy stretch in front of the shops also contains wheelie bins, bus shelters, parking meters, road signs and street lamps which makes the pavement feel cluttered and unattractive.



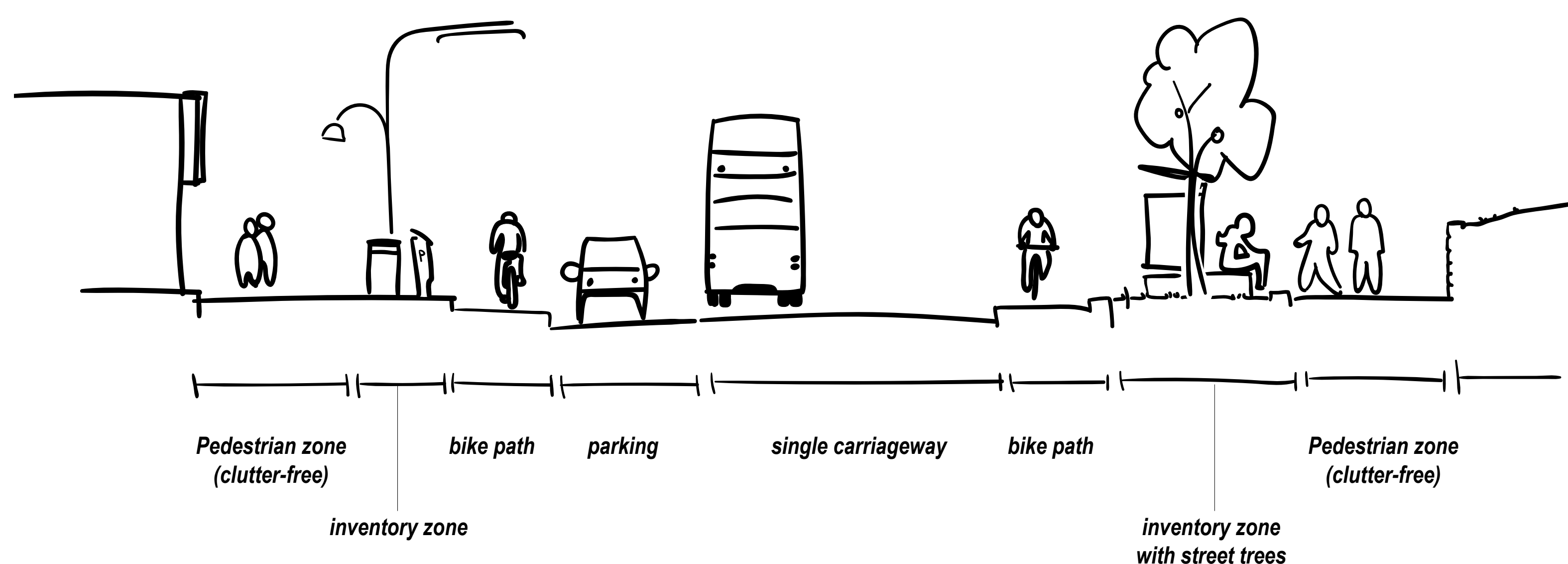
Minimum Requirements

By reducing the street to an absolute minimum almost half the road width could be re-purposed to fit in bike paths, outdoor catering, street trees or x depending on what the local residents think will create the best conditions for street life and leisure.



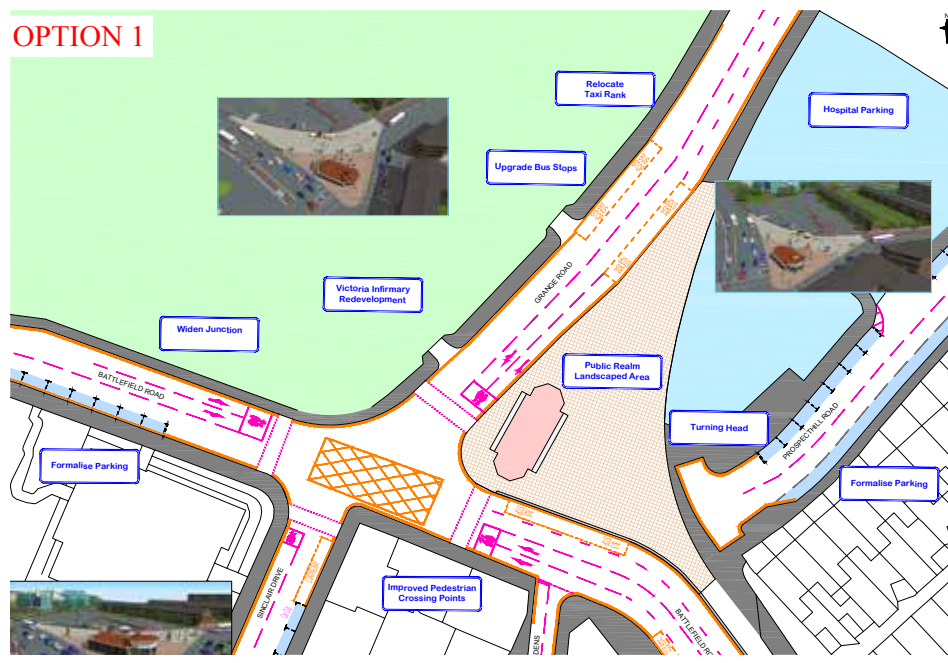
A Greener Street

With a single carriageway Battlefield St could fit in bike paths, parking and wider pavements while creating a separate zone with space for street trees, bus shelters, bins, signs and lighting. This creates a clear hierarchy in the street and improves experience for all users.

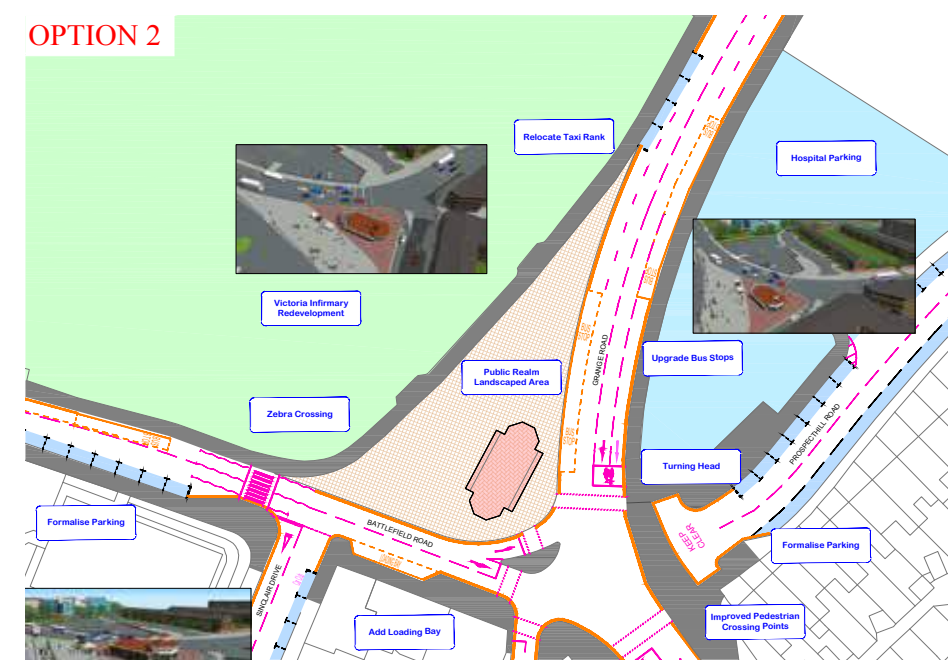


Optimising the Street

Design proposals for Battlefield Rest



GCC consultation option 1
Connecting Battlefield Rest to
hospital car park.



GCC consultation option 2
Connecting Battlefield Rest
to Old Victoria Infirmary



GCC consultation option 3
Connecting Battlefield Rest to
southern part of Battlefield Rd.

Re-designing Battlefield Rest for all user groups

Glasgow City Council has previously presented a number of solutions for improving the design of the Battlefield Rest area.

While the designs do bring significant benefits to the public space by simplifying the junction and opening up new space for public realm, it is still dominated by motorised traffic.

To further the discussion on what the Battlefield area could be in the future, the three main options have been illustrated with bike paths to show how this would impact the street design.

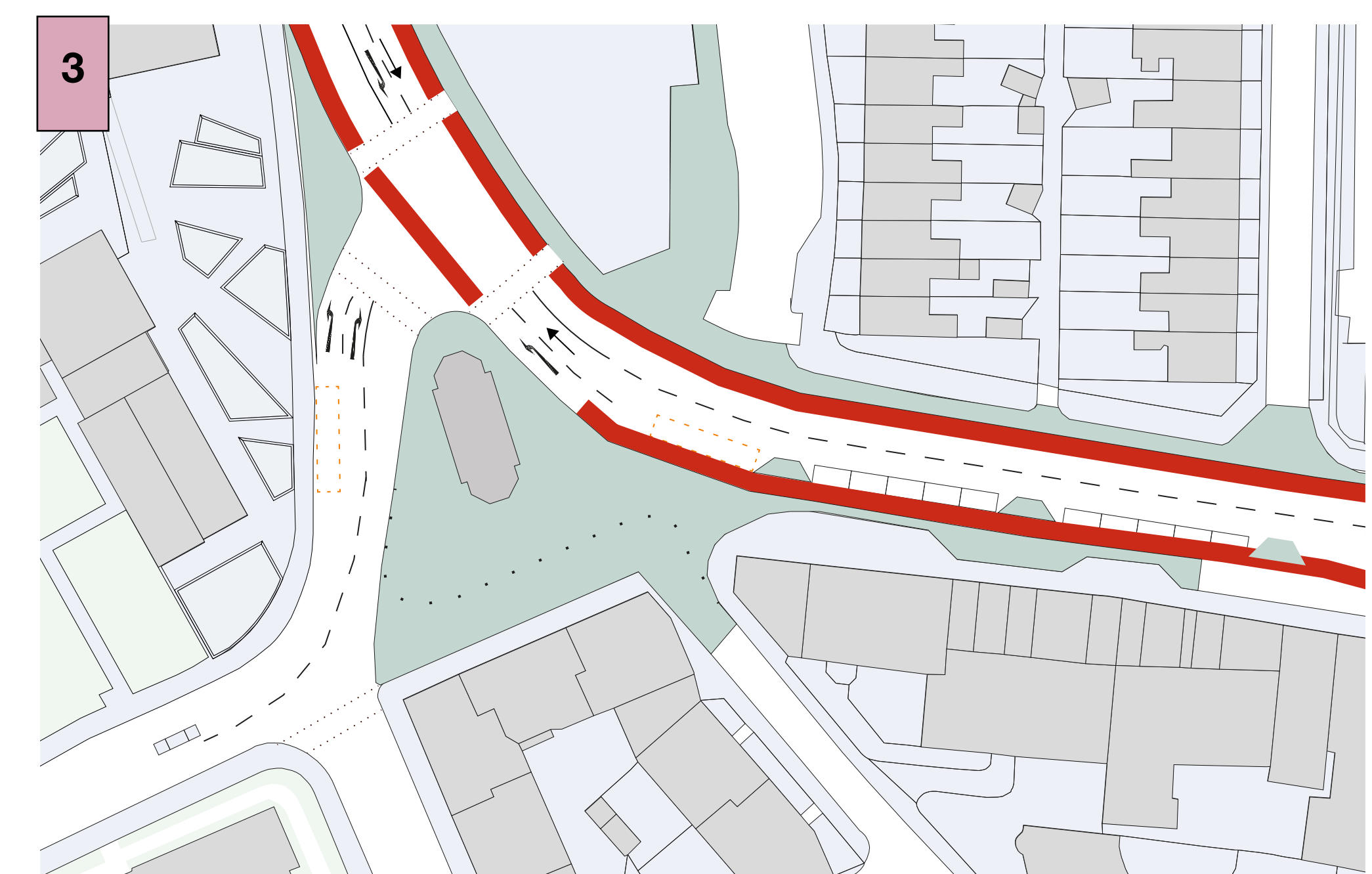
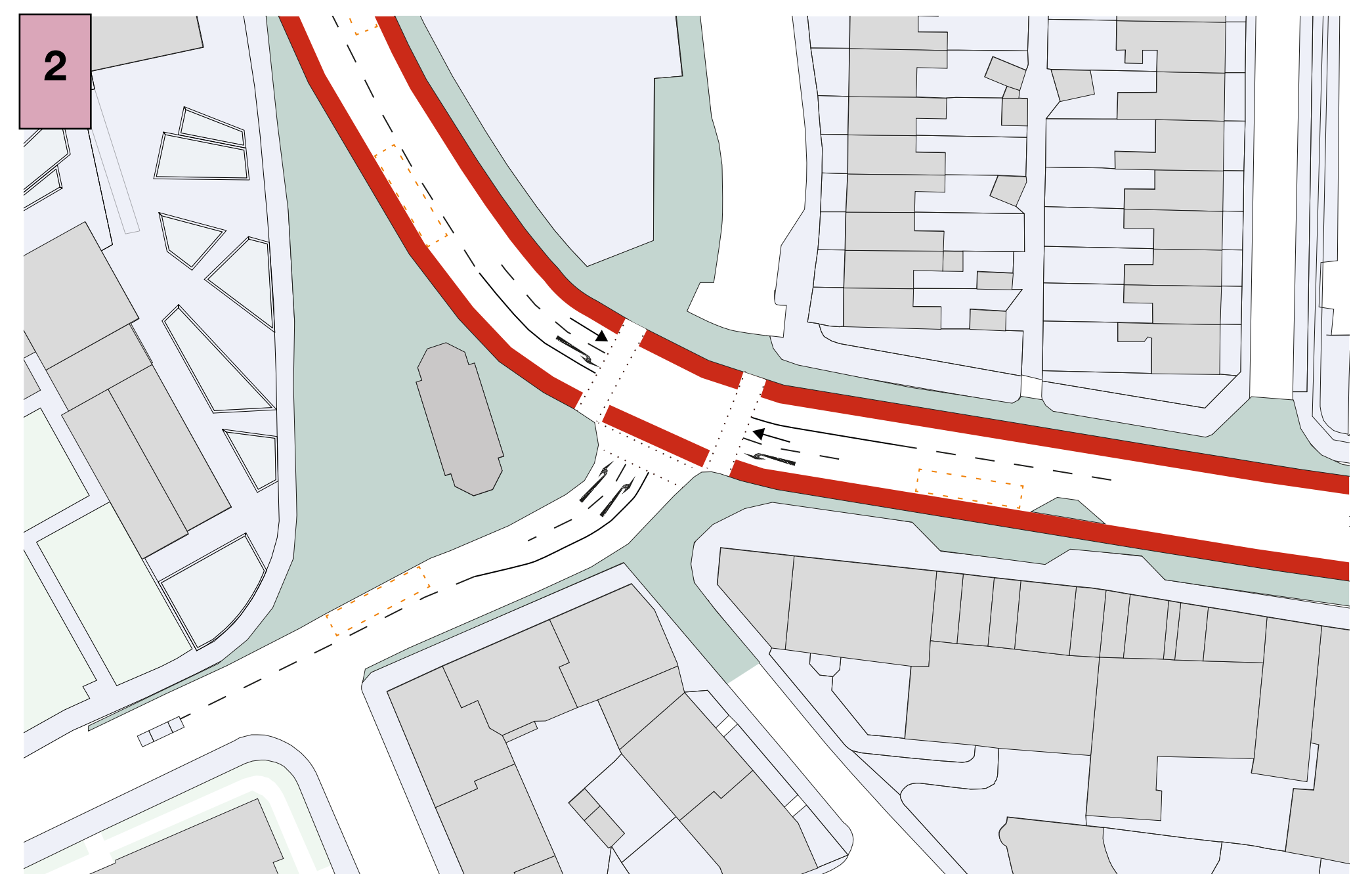
The options have not been revised by traffic authorities and should not be read as final design proposals - rather they are part of framing a discussion on how we should prioritise between cars, buses, cyclists and pedestrians in the future design of Battlefield Rest.

All options create a separated bike path between Mt. Florida St. and the South City Way.

OPTION 1
Connecting Battlefield Rest to the current hospital car park.

OPTION 2
Connecting Battlefield Rest with the Old Victoria Infirmary site.

OPTION 3
Connecting Battlefield Rest with the southern side of Battlefield Rd.



Travel Actively for Your Everyday Journeys

Walking

Did you know?...

There are a number of Health Walks right across the city which are suitable for all ages and abilities. These are a great way to take the first steps towards a healthier lifestyle and meet new people. The walks are all led by trained volunteers.

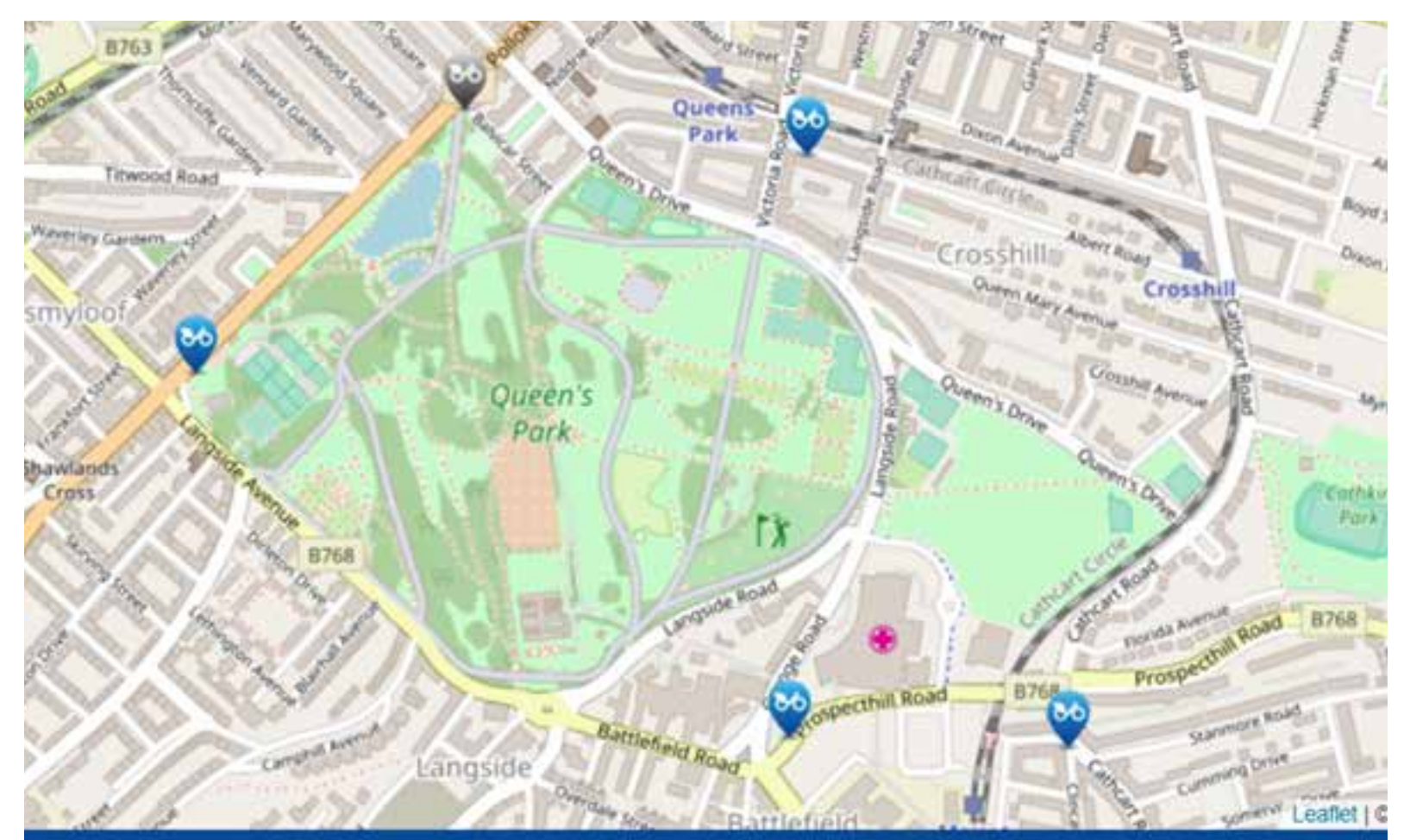
Your local Queens Park Health Walk, runs every Monday at starts at the main foyer at New Victoria Hospital at 11.00am. Walks are followed by a cup of tea or coffee and a chat at Finn's Place.



Cycling

Did you know?..

- Almost half of the journeys to work and education in Glasgow are under 3 miles (5km).
- 3 miles (5km) is considered to be an easy and realistic distance for people to cycle that on average will take under 20minutes.'
- Glasgow Cycle Network has grown from 116km in 2006 to 310km in 2015 - that's an increase of over 165 in less than 10 years%
- 6% of people in Glasgow usually or regularly travel to work by bike. (Glasgow's Strategic Plan for Cycling 2016-2025).
- Glasgow Cycle Hire Scheme has currently 62 bike stations including few around Battlefield and Langside.



Above: Next bike hire stations in Glasgow

Great cycling stories

We're looking for personal stories about walking and cycling to be shared with your local community during the project.

Would you like to share your experience of walking or cycling in Battlefield with us?

Please speak to our members of staff to leave your contact details.

A cycling workshop is taking place here today at 6:15pm.

Come and share your experiences, aspirations and ideas on how to make cycling for everyday journeys more popular.



Do you have a positive cycling story to share? Maybe you commute to work, travel to school with kids on bikes or simply like a dander out at the weekend? We're compiling stories and would love to hear from you, please catch a member of the project team and we'll take your details.

Next Steps

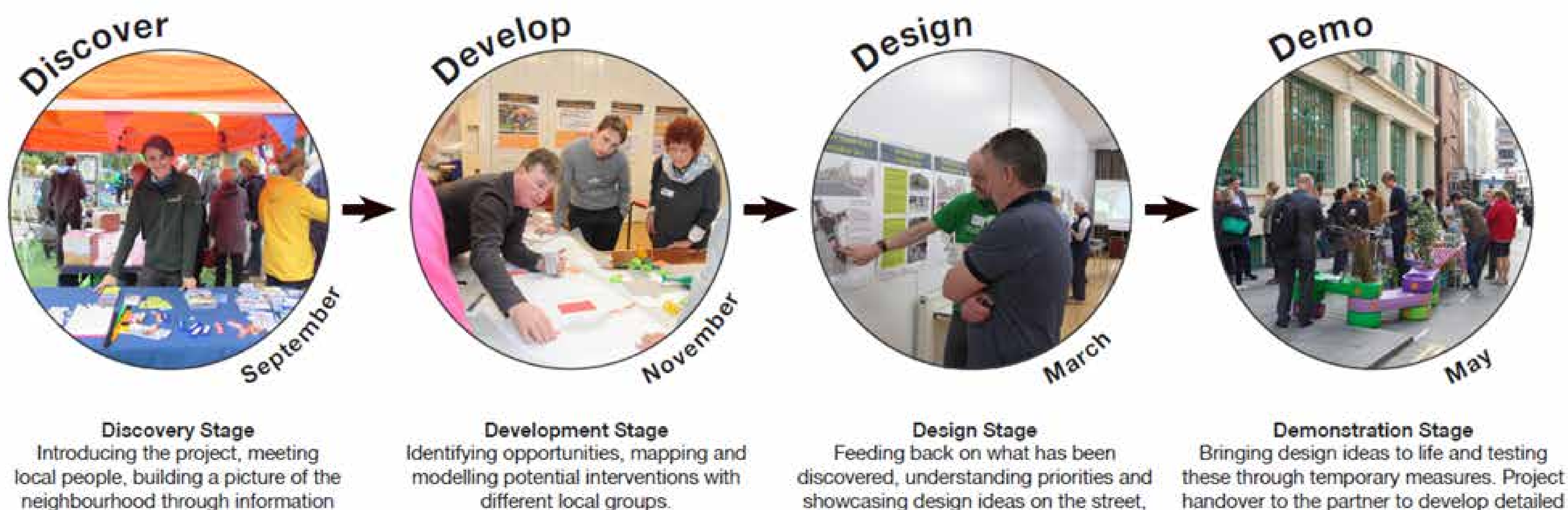
What happens next?

This session forms a major part of our information collection in the **develop** stage of this street design project.

With the comments and ideas from this event and with the background data, material and facts gathered in the **discover** stage we will be looking to commence forming the outline design for the area.

Over the winter and early spring we will continue to work with the design working group, the steering group, Glasgow City Council and SPT to create proposals.

These proposals will then be open to your comment in March where we will hold another drop in event with a consultation period where the designs can be looked at in allocated venues and through the Commonplace website

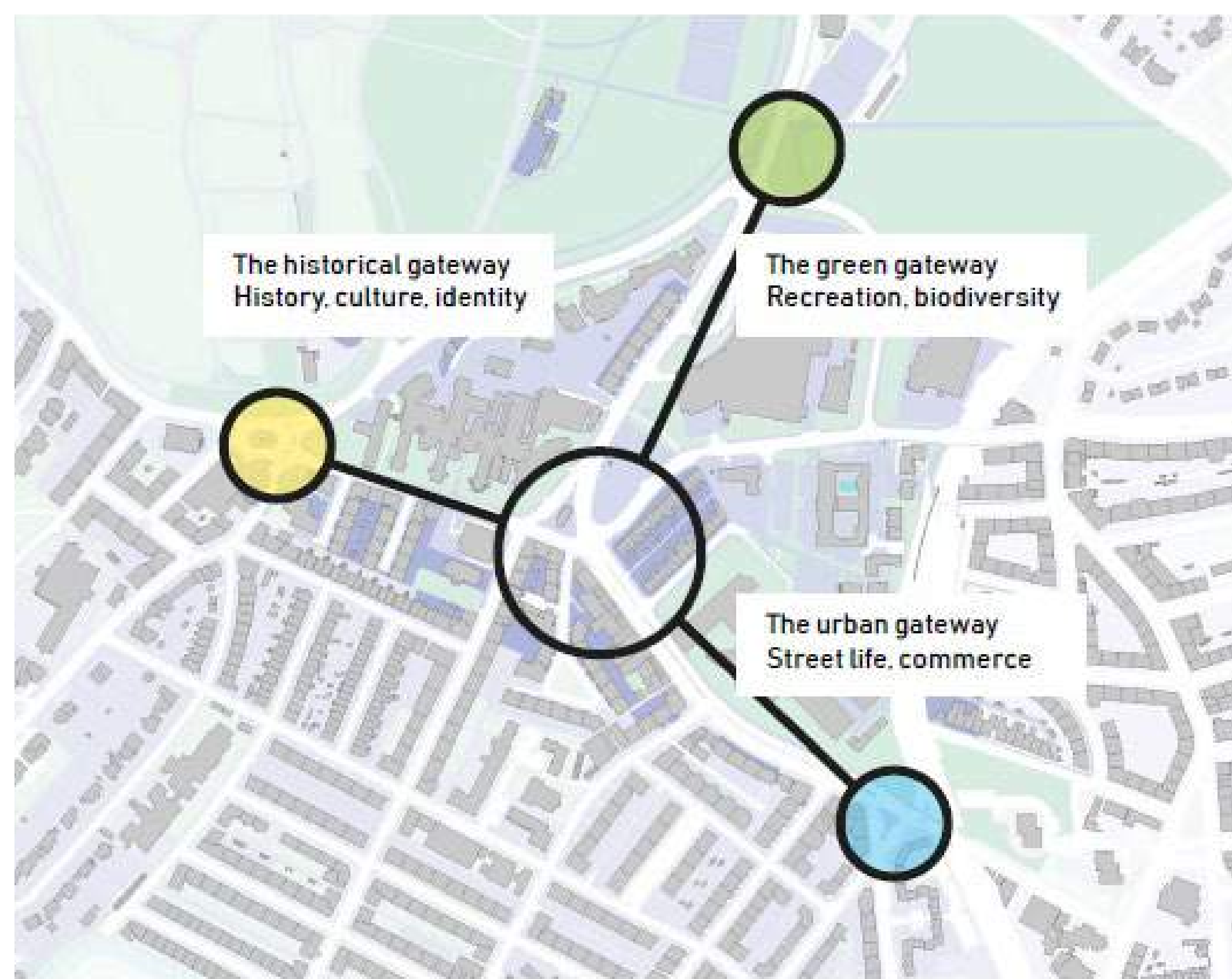


Cultural Heritage

We also have an opportunity to look closer at the cultural heritage and see ways in which we can pull it into the heart of Battlefield.

This is an idea that we would very much like the community to be involved with. Working with Historic Glasgow and potentially an experienced artistic resource there is a great opportunity here to develop ideas that can be incorporated into the detail design.

If you are interested please contact Emily Gait below.



We'd like to hear from you

If you have any questions about the project or the upcoming event please contact our Community Engagement Officer Emily: emily.gait@sustrans.org.uk.

 Street design@sustrans.org.uk

 [@SustransScotland](https://www.facebook.com/SustransScotland)

 [@SustransScot](https://twitter.com/SustransScot)



Follow the project
battlefield.commonplace

