

THE LOOP

REINVENTING OUR RIVERS

“One stitch does not mend a tear”

It takes more than one stitch to mend torn urban fabric. Urban fabric is like an intricate, pulsating patchwork of different textiles, spread out on several layers. In some cities like Quebec, rivers slice through the fabric like scissors, separating and isolating the elements of one side from the other. Typical riverfront regeneration focuses on one particular point, or one “stitch” on the river, failing to take into account the effect that the point will have on the surrounding fabric over time. In most cases this single stitch is gradually weakened and eventually torn apart by the strain of separate textiles. In other cases, the stitch is isolated from the neighboring context, having no impact on its surroundings. Thus an entirely new approach is needed to patch the river deeper and tighter into the urban fabric, therefore resisting the tensional forces of conflicting elements, in some cases, even reversing those forces to bring separate elements together to create new possibilities.

“Coexistence of river and city throughout history”

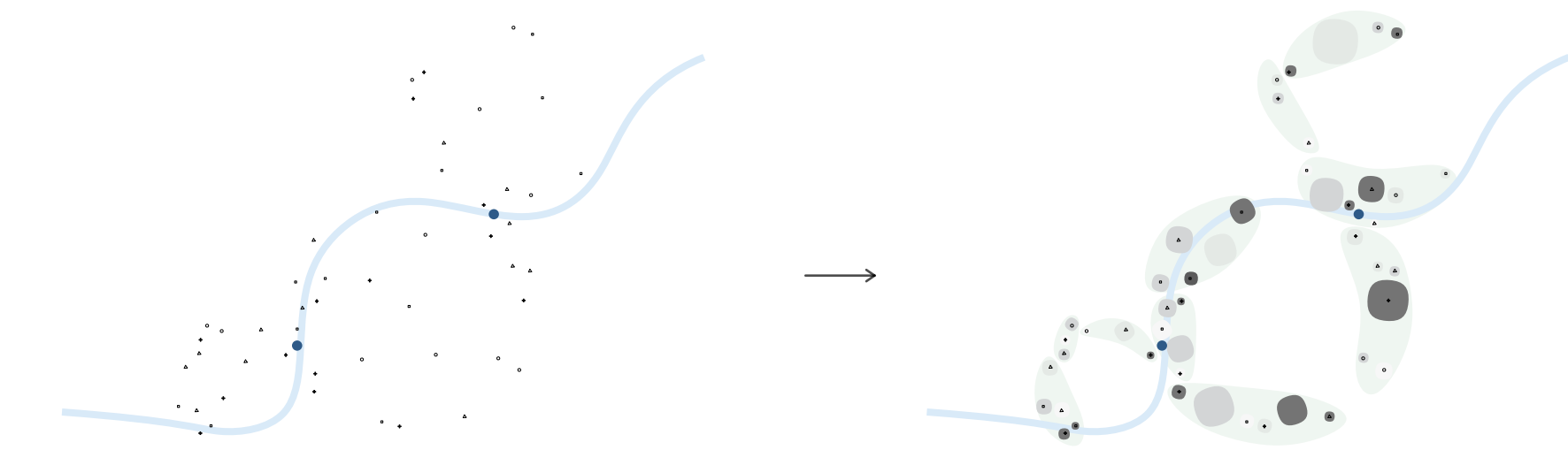
The four rivers thrived as major arteries throughout the early history of Quebec, providing routes for trade and nourishment for towns that sprouted along their peripheries. As the modes of trade shifted and pollution took its toll, the relevance of the four rivers faded and the rivers became more and more neglected. The rivers, which used to function as arteries, started to function as walls. The riverside space, usually the most valuable parcels of land, were subject to years of decay until they were rediscovered in the recent years.

“Culture flows where the rivers flow”

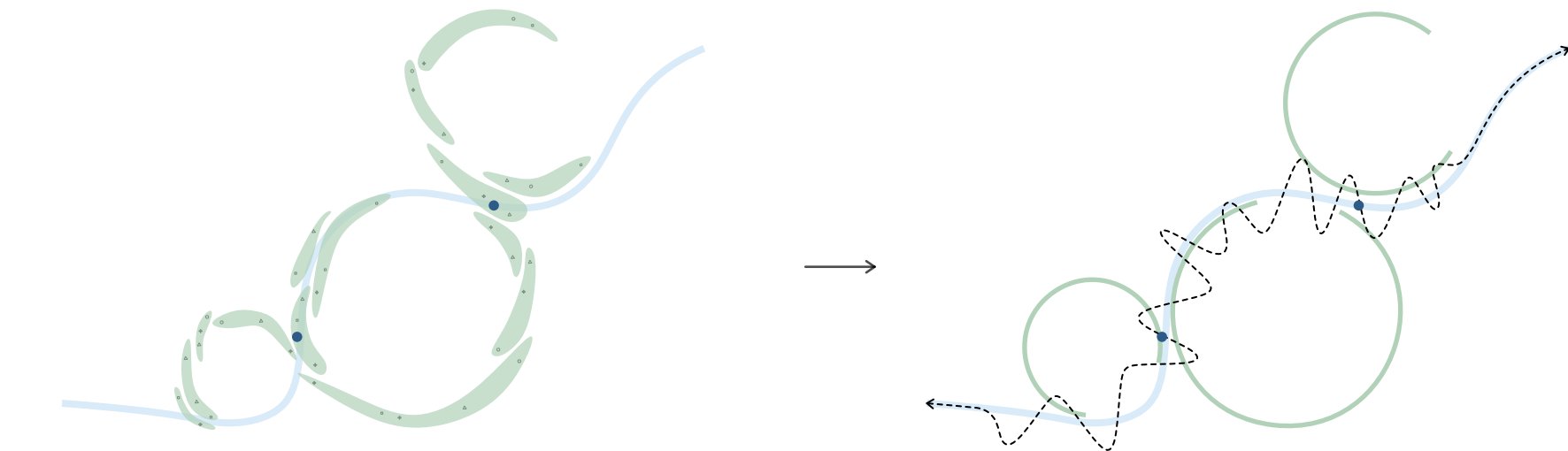
Immense potential was found in these neglected spaces that could be further amplified when connected with the potential found in areas surrounding the rivers. These surrounding areas are currently cut off from the rivers by poor urban planning and measures are needed to dilute the distinct borders. We thus propose a series of interwoven cultural “estuaries,” that will join several points of interest into groups and connect those groups to the river nodes. The rivers will thus be able to penetrate deeper into the fabric of Quebec city and therefore the broken connections between river and city, east bank and west bank, zone and zone, element and element, will be mended as one sustainable entity, breathing and interacting as one. The rivers will regain their function as arteries, culture, instead of traffic coursing through their veins. Points that are in need of regeneration will be revived in relation to other points. Points that are isolated will be connected to other points, promoting synergy. It is this “joining of the dots” that makes our proposal more sustainable, resilient and potent than simply working on the dots themselves. This strategy will restore and enhance the roles of the rivers, rediscovering their purpose in such a beautiful and diverse city. Our vision of Quebec is one that is vibrant and embracing; it is unprecedented yet promising and powerful.

LOOP FORMATION PROCESS

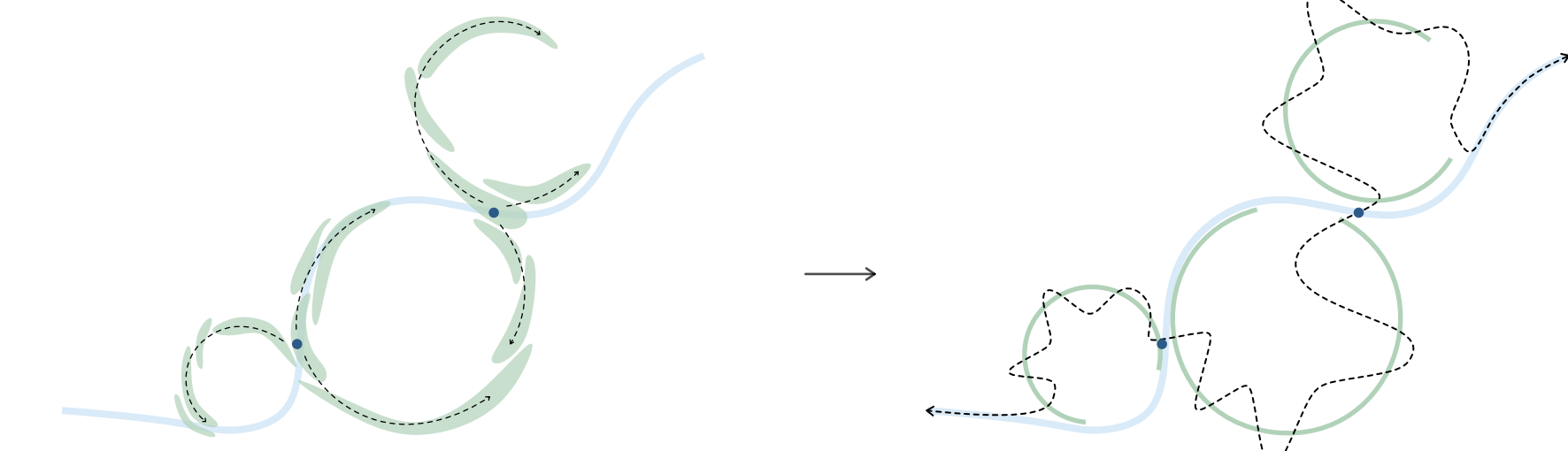
1. Mapping areas of interest reveal interaction between each area and these are grouped into “zones.”



2. The zones are refined according to the surrounding urban context and the river resonates in response to the zones.

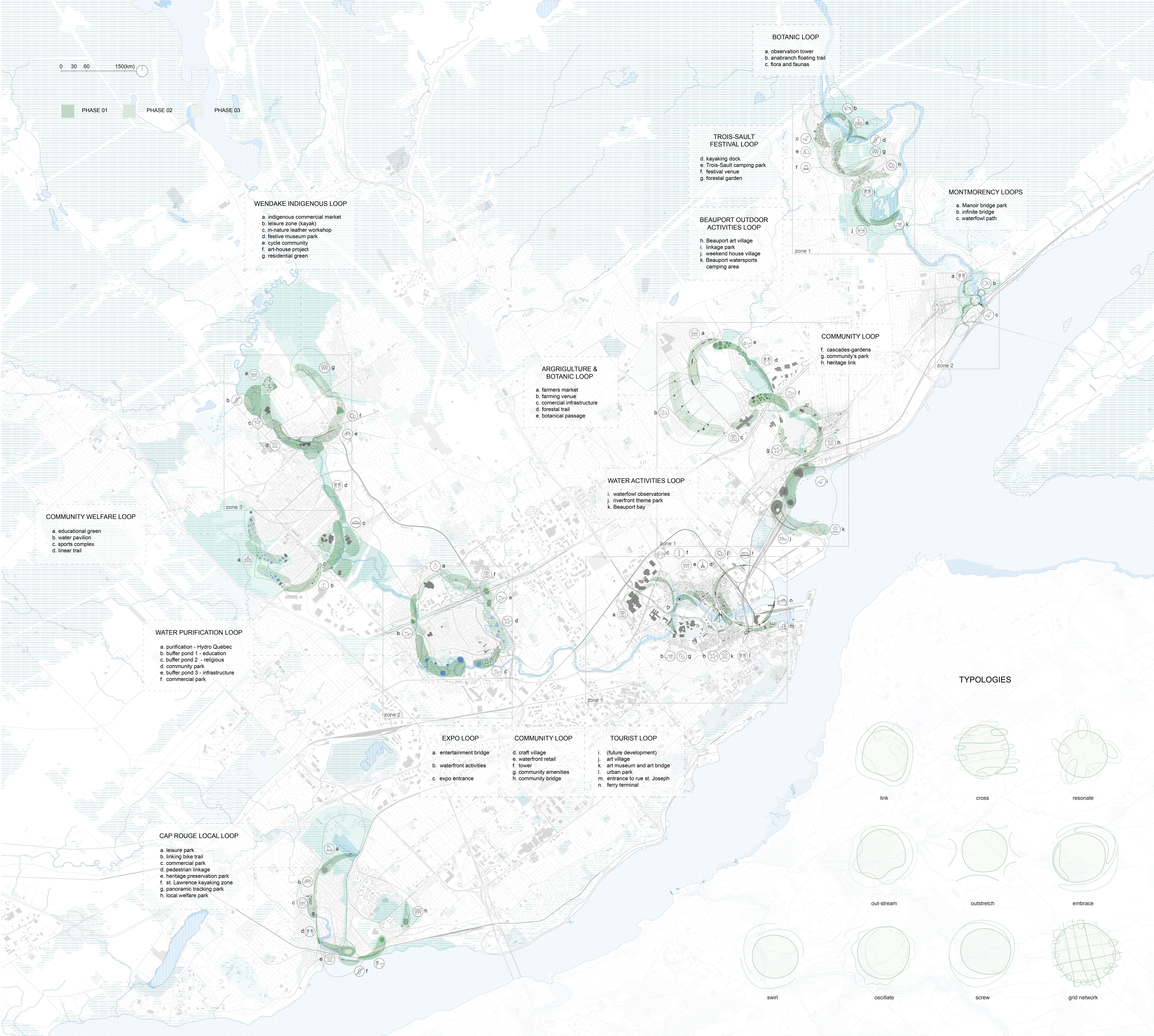
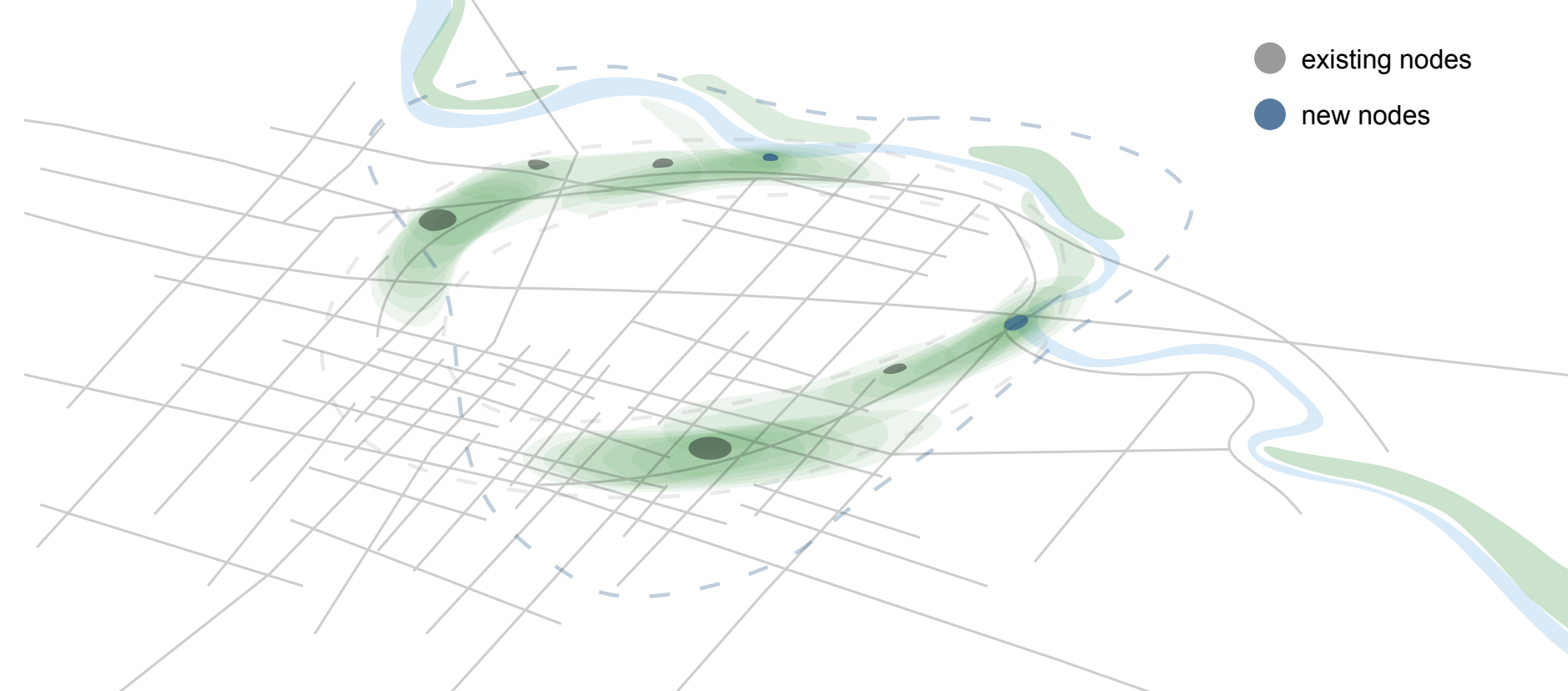


3. The impact from the nodes spread through the zones, and the loops gradually penetrate into the urban fabric.

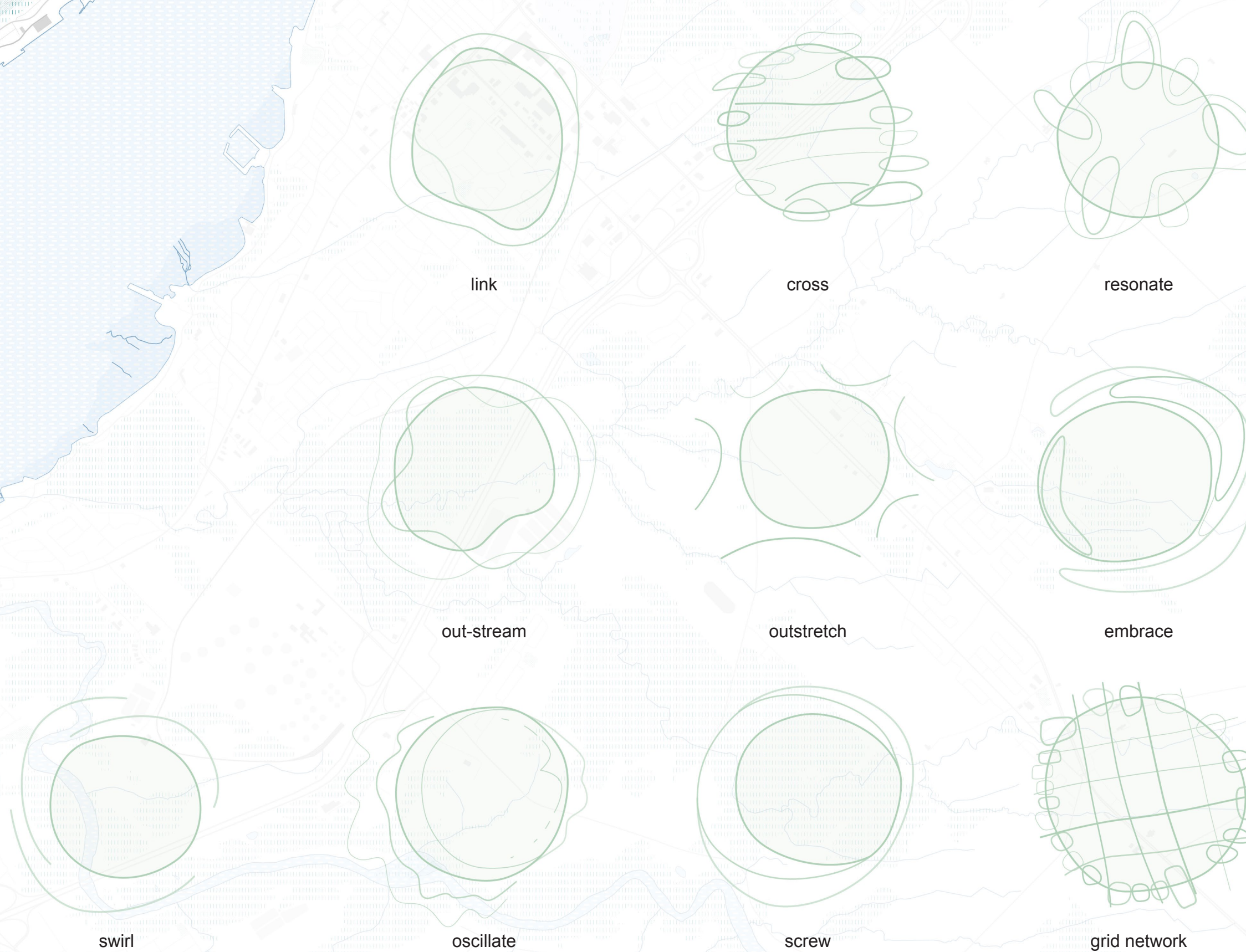


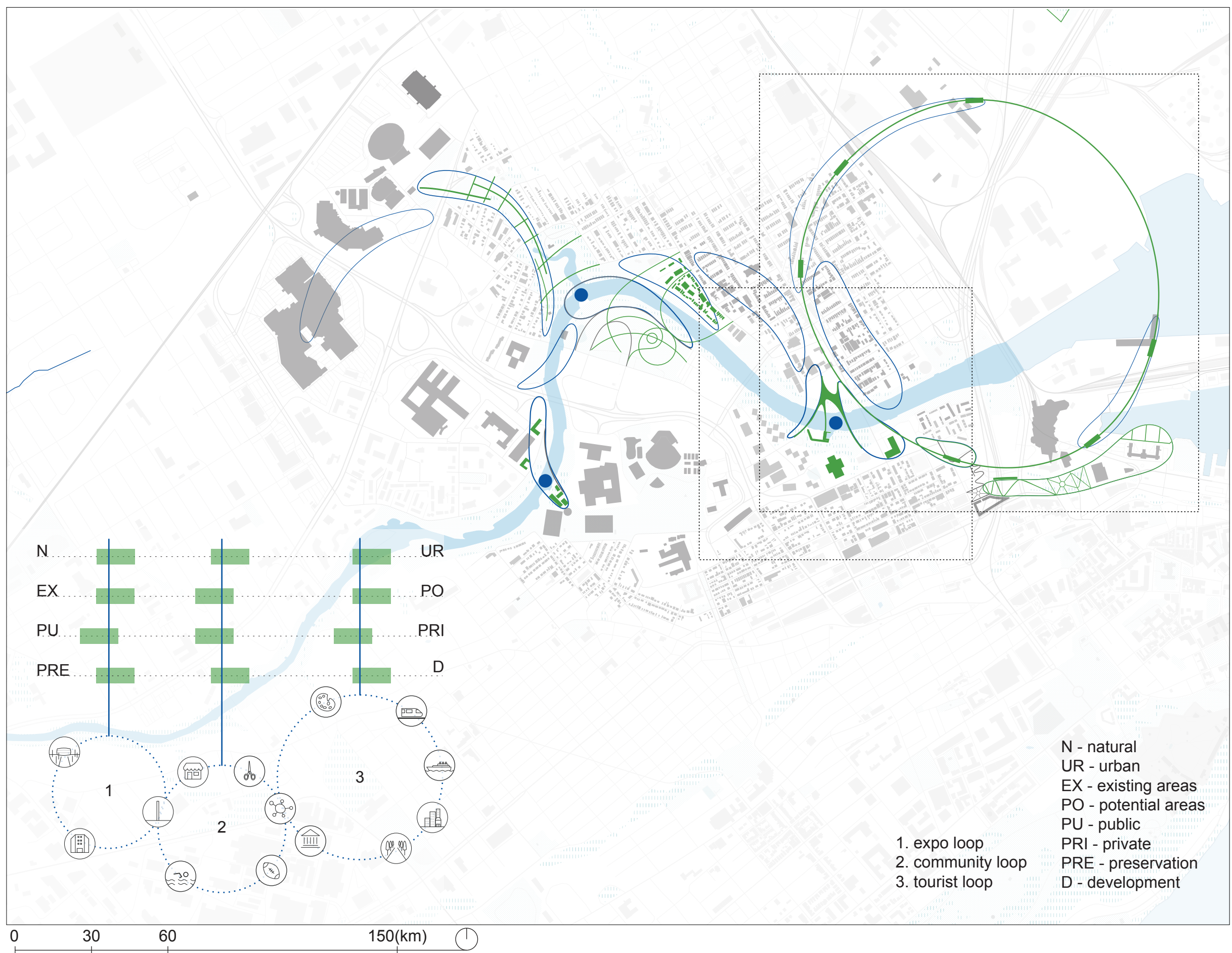
PHASING OF NODES

The nodes are interlaced into each other creating a stronger urban-river network.

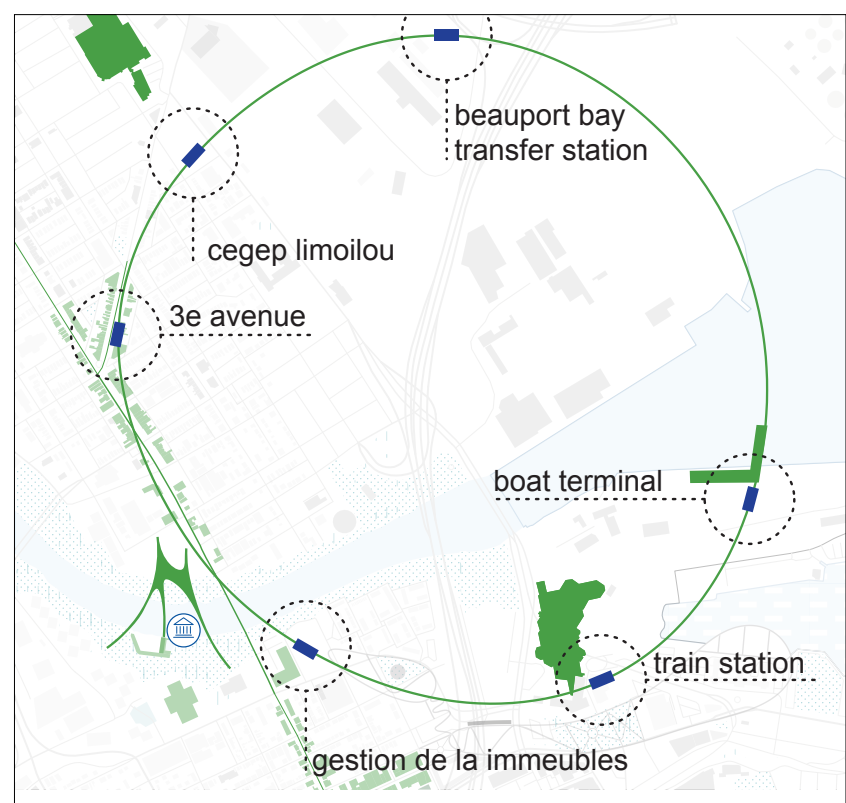


TYPLOGIES

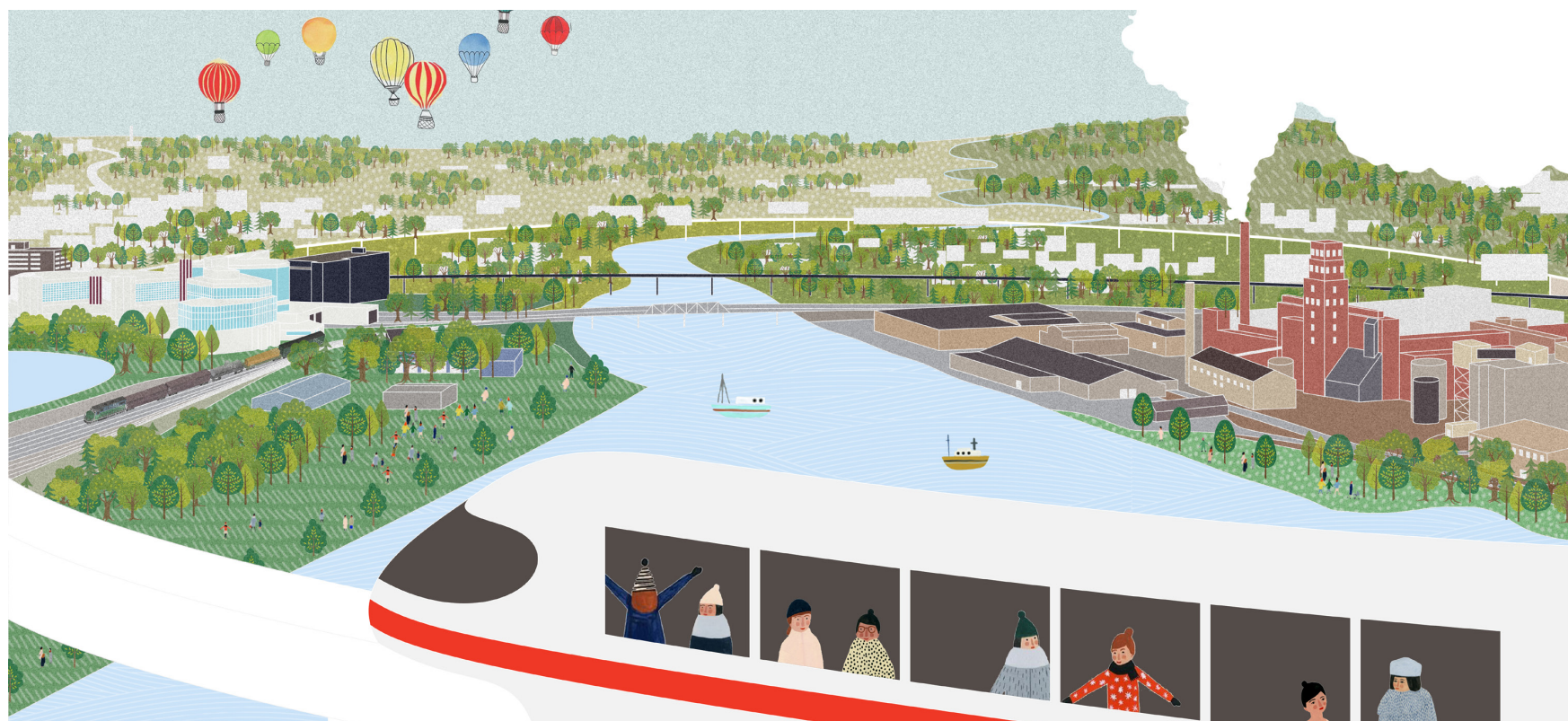




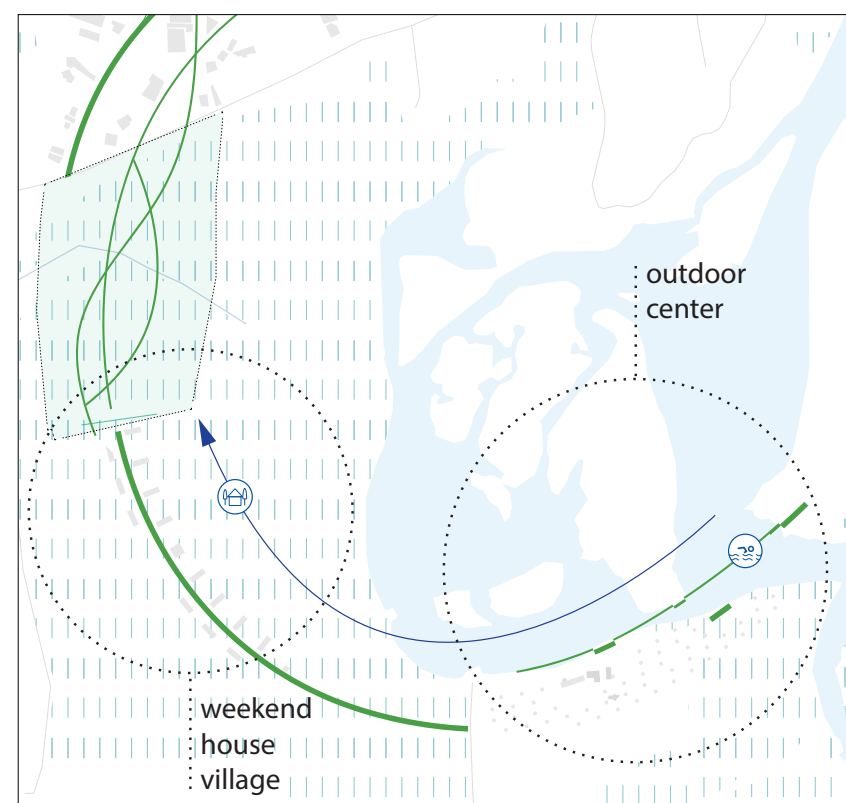
THE 'ART BRIDGE' INDUCES THE COMMERCIAL FLOW OF RUE ST. JOSEPH INTO THE LIMOULOU AREA WHICH WILL BE DEVELOPED INTO AN ARTS DISTRICT.



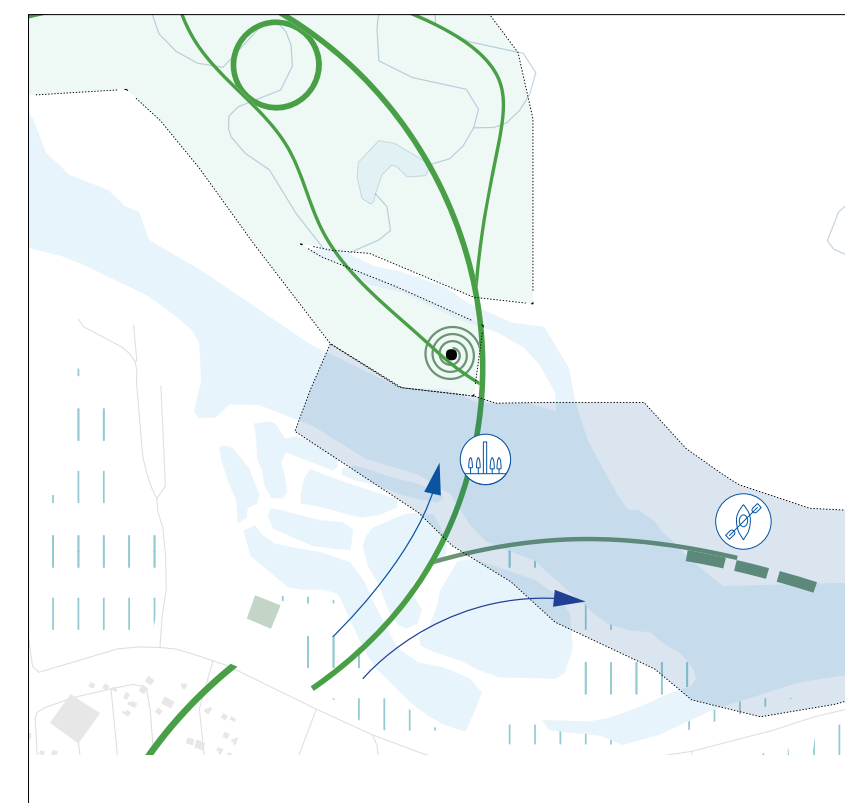
MONORAIL CONNECTS URBAN VENUES WHICH WERE FRAGMENTED BY THE RIVER AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE.



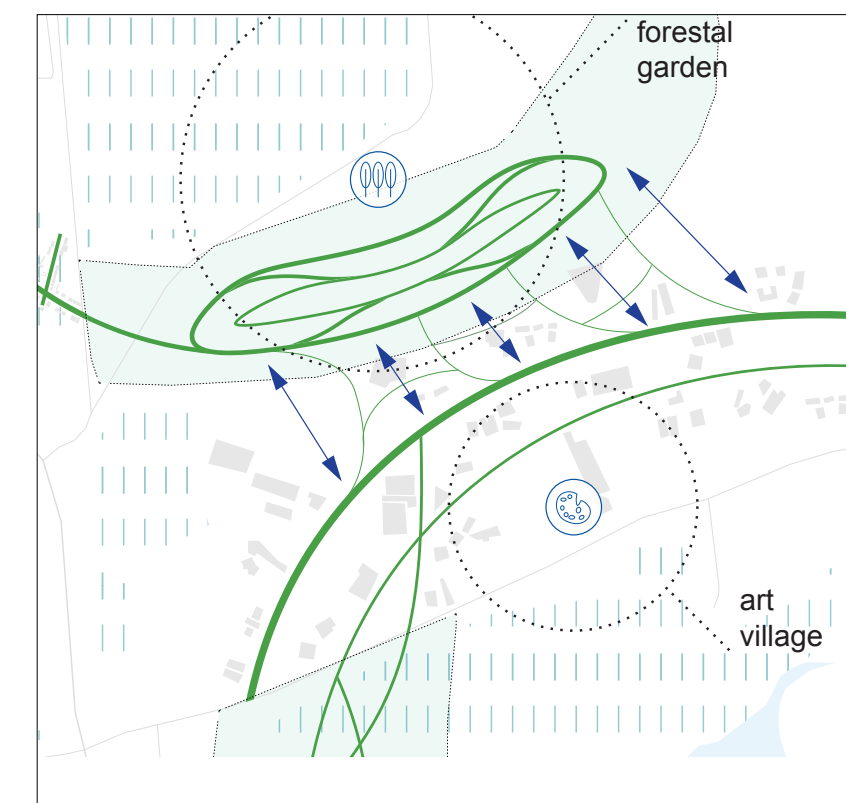
THE MONORAIL STRENGTHENS THE ACCESSIBILITY OF THE EXISTING URBAN FABRIC



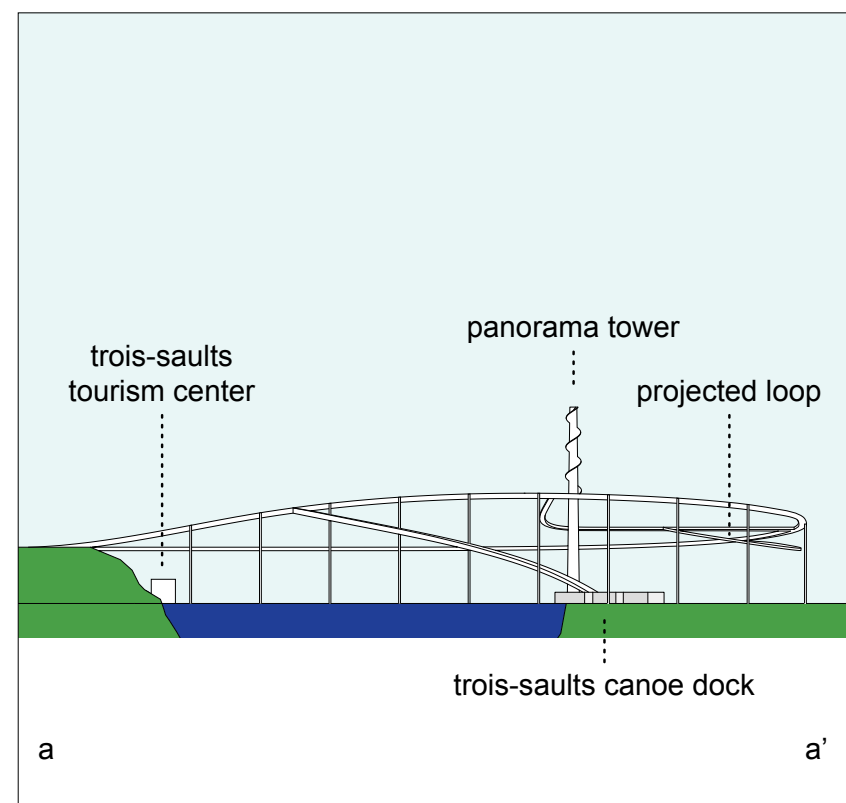
THE EXISTING OUTDOOR CENTER IS STRETCHED BY THE WEEKEND HOUSE VILLAGE WHILE HAVING A POTENTIAL OF CONNECTION TO THE LINKAGE PARK.



THE CHARACTERISTICS OF TROIS-SAUTS EXPAND THROUGH A SERIES OF ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY MOTHER NATURE.



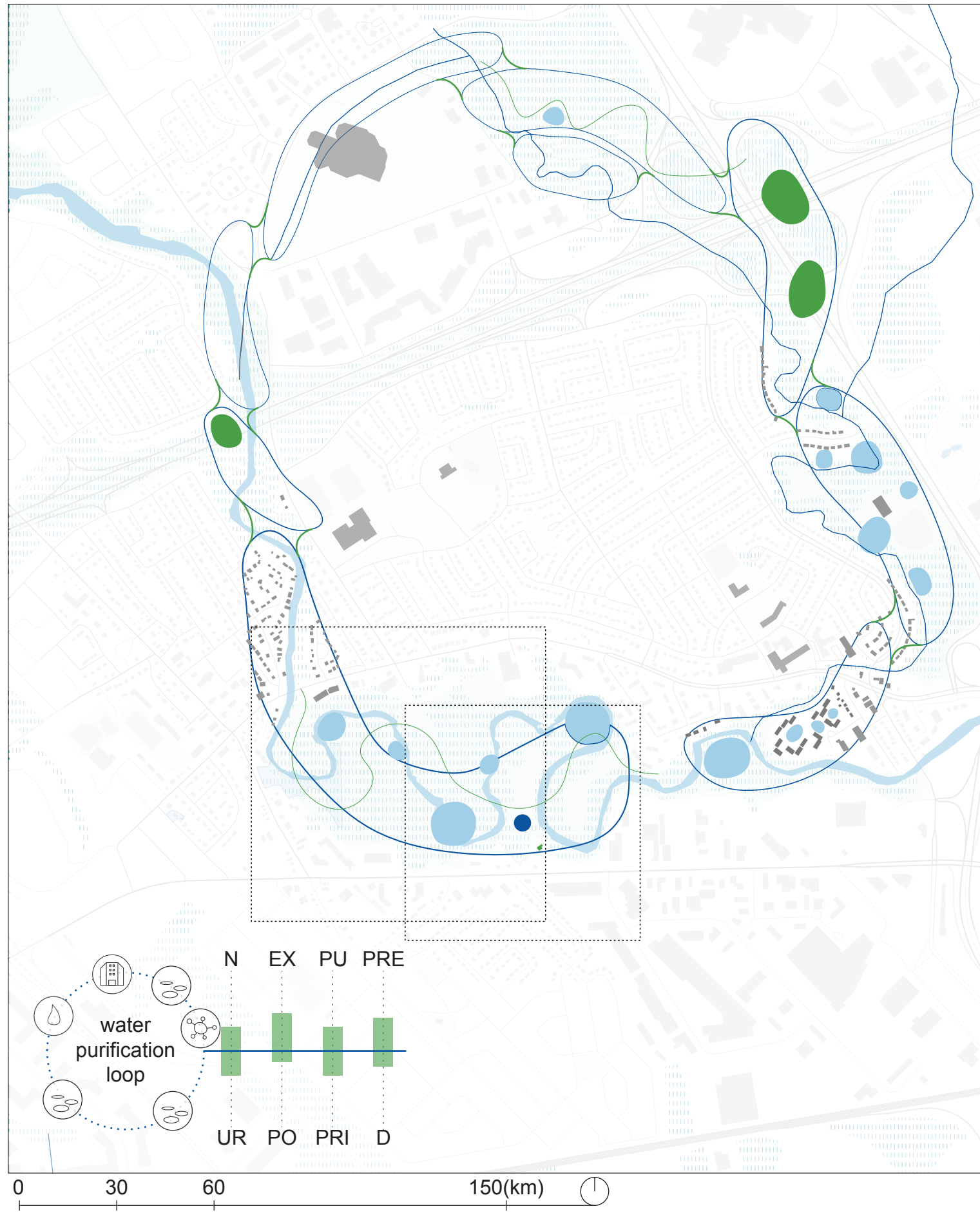
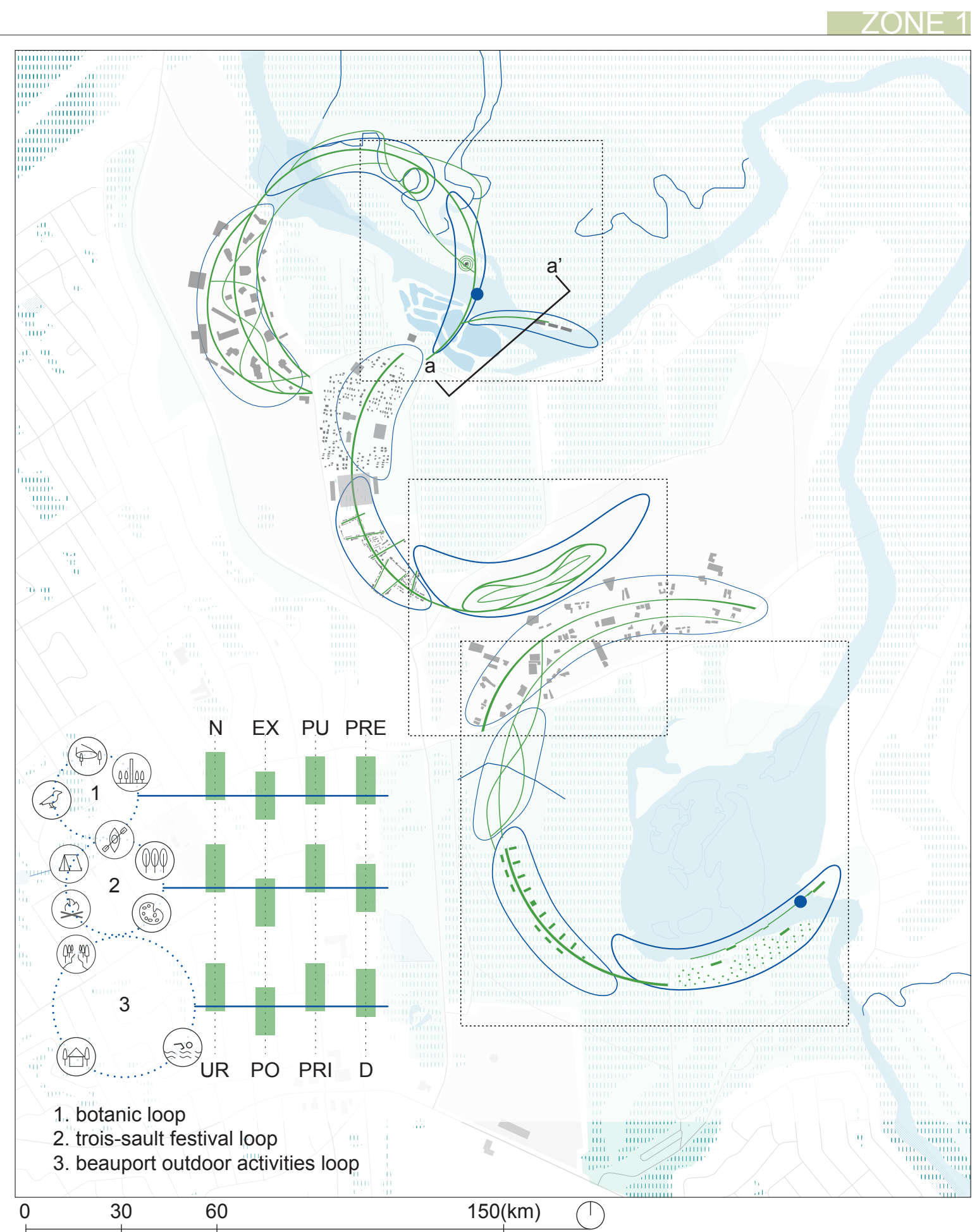
THE ART VILLAGE REACTS WITH THE FOREST WHICH STANDS AS A BACKGROUND. IT HELPS DISCOVER INDIRECT NETWORKS BETWEEN THE FABRICS.



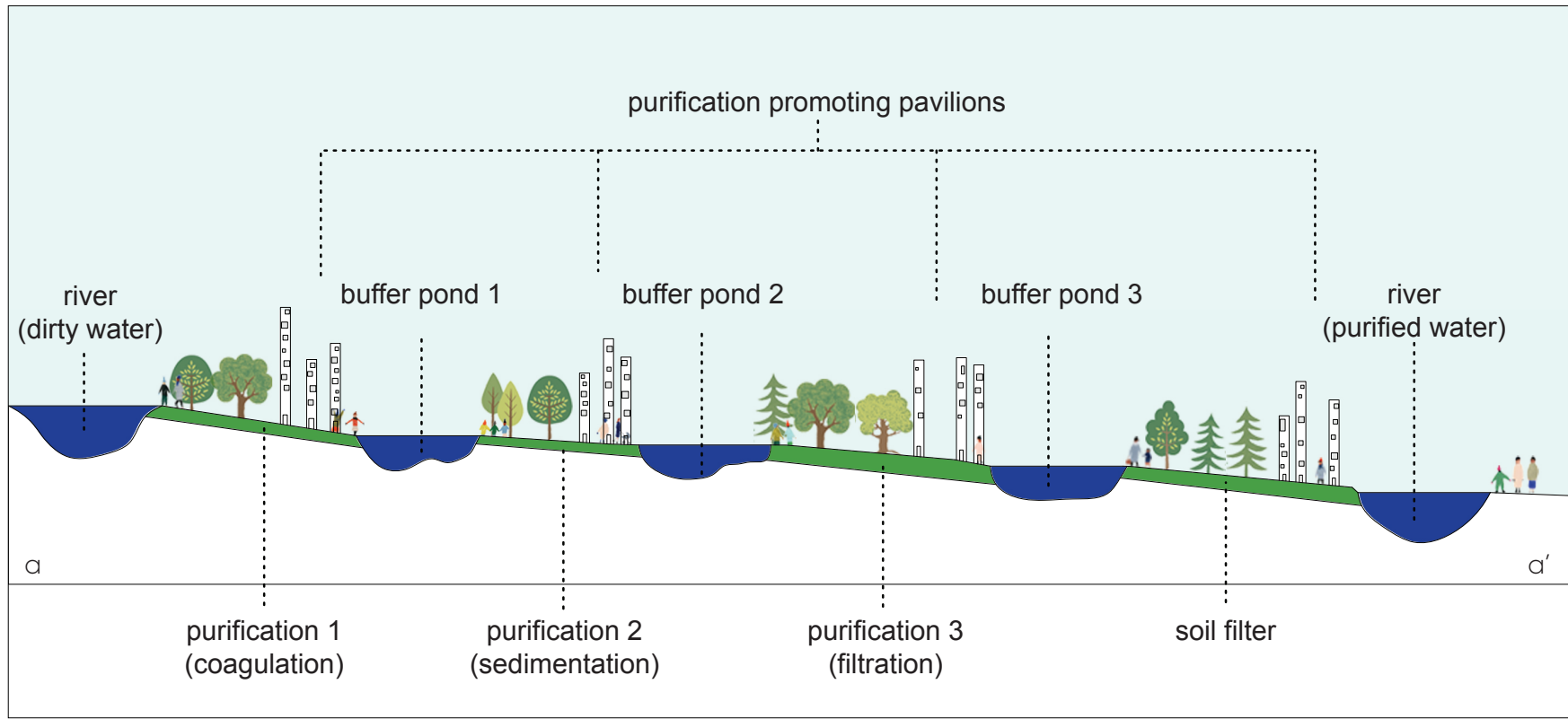
SECTION OF THE 'FLOATING TRAIL' LOOP



PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE 'FLOATING TRAIL' FROM THE CLIFF



PURIFICATION SYSTEM PASSES THROUGH THE EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE CITY.



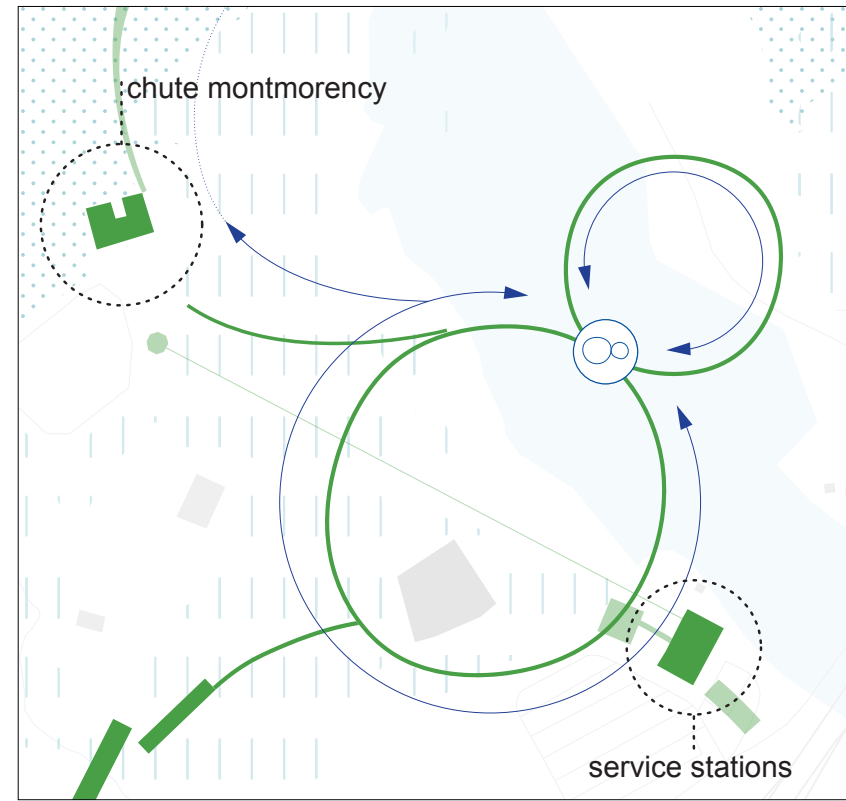
PURIFICATION SYSTEM OF THE RIVER INTEGRATES THE NEEDS OF CLEAR WATER AND THE NEED FOR NEW PUBLIC PROGRAMS FOR PEOPLE INTO A NEW TYPOLOGY. VERTICAL ELEMENTS CAN BOTH PROMOTE THE SYSTEM AND AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDE SERVICES FOR THE VISITORS.



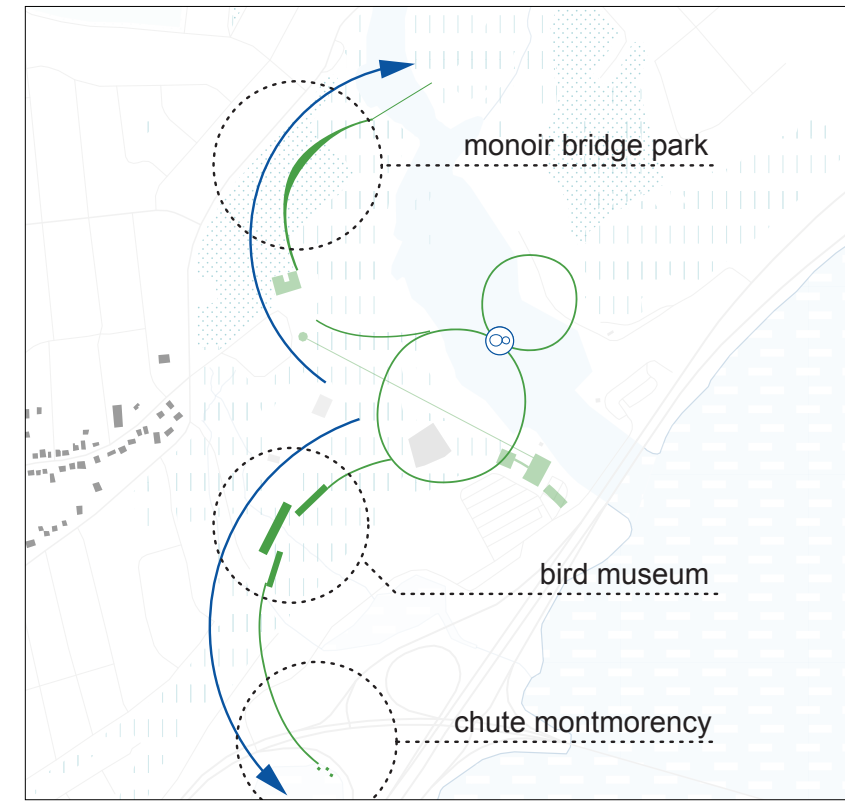
VISUAL CONNECTION FROM THE ARCH BRIDGE



THE ARCH BRIDGE WATER BECOMES BOTH THE WATERWAY AND THE TRAIL.



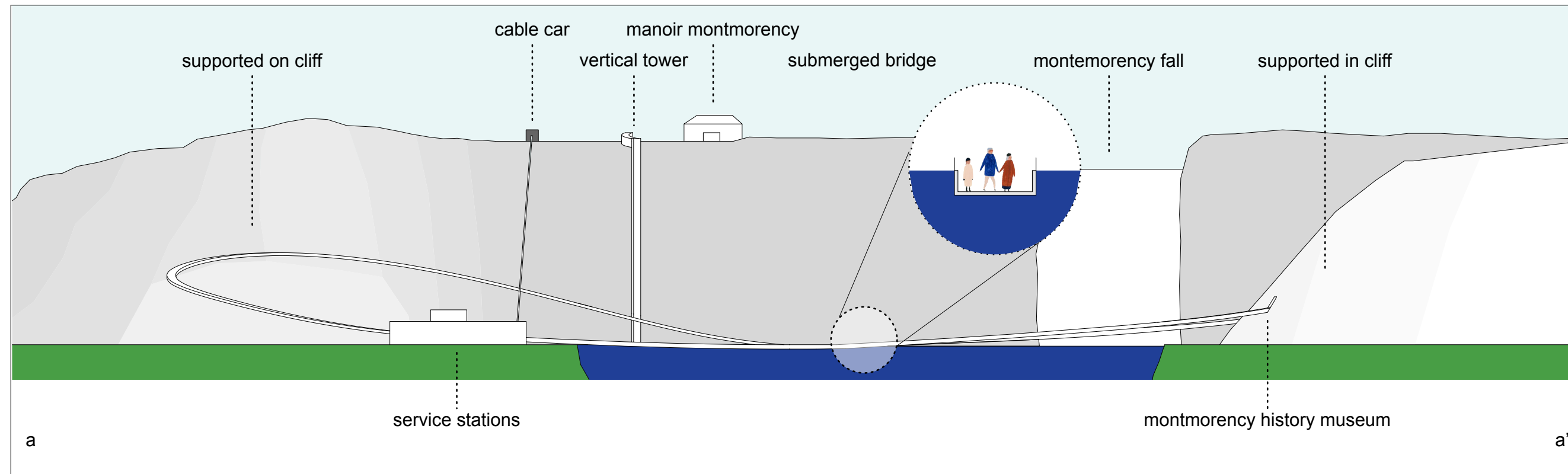
THE 'INFINITY BRIDGE' CONNECTS THE TWO CLIFFS WHILE REACHING BOTH MANOIR MONTMORENCY AND SERVICE STATIONS.



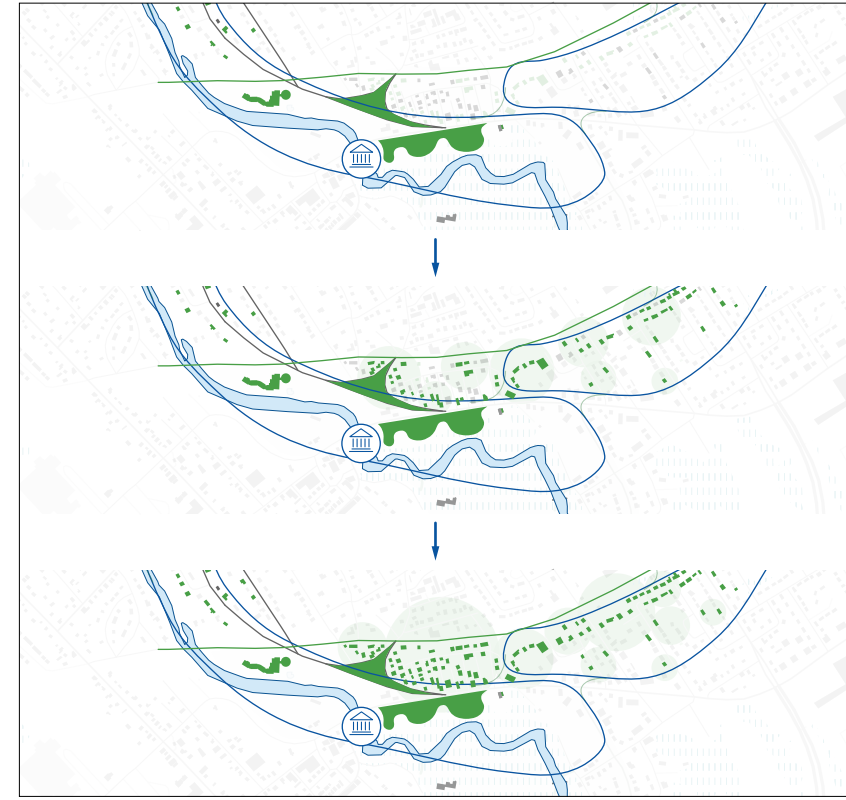
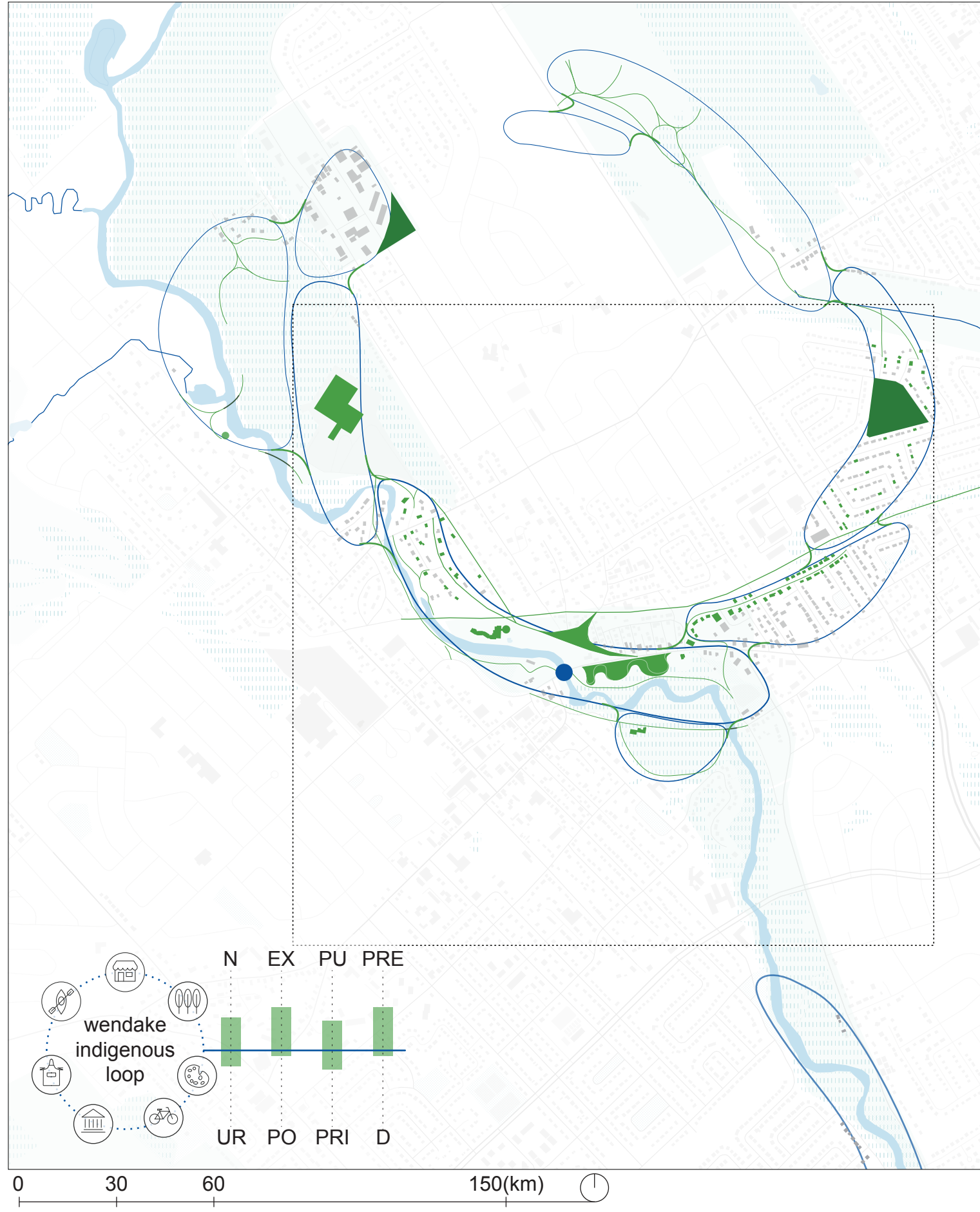
THE LOOPS STRETCH TO MONTMORENCY FALLS BRIDGE AND BIRD OBSERVATORIES THROUGH THE BIKE TRAILS.



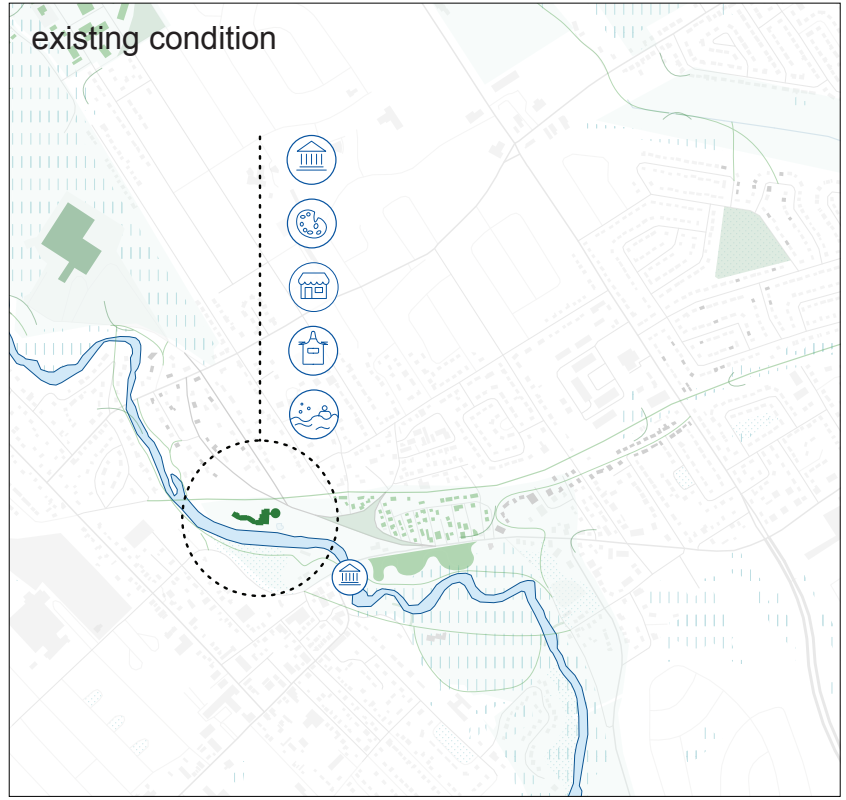
FURTHER, THE LOOPS STRENGTHEN THE ACCESSIBILITY FROM THE HIGHWAY, THE RAILWAY AND THE BIKE TRAILS.



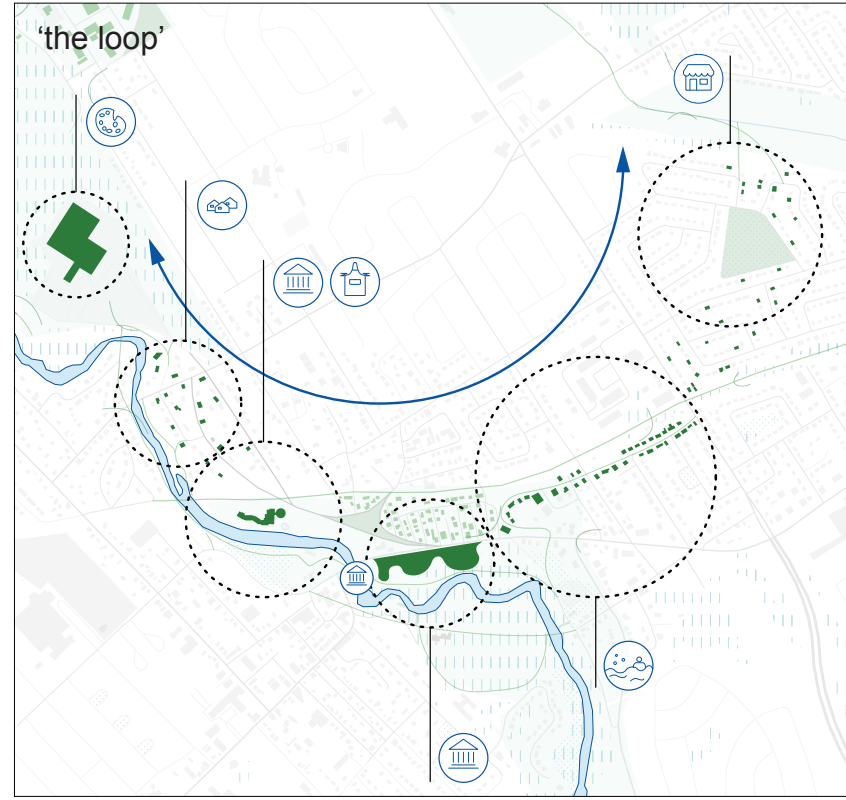
THE 'INFINITY BRIDGE' MAXIMIZE THE RIVER EXPERIENCE BY SUBMERGING INTO THE LEVEL BELOW THE RIVER.



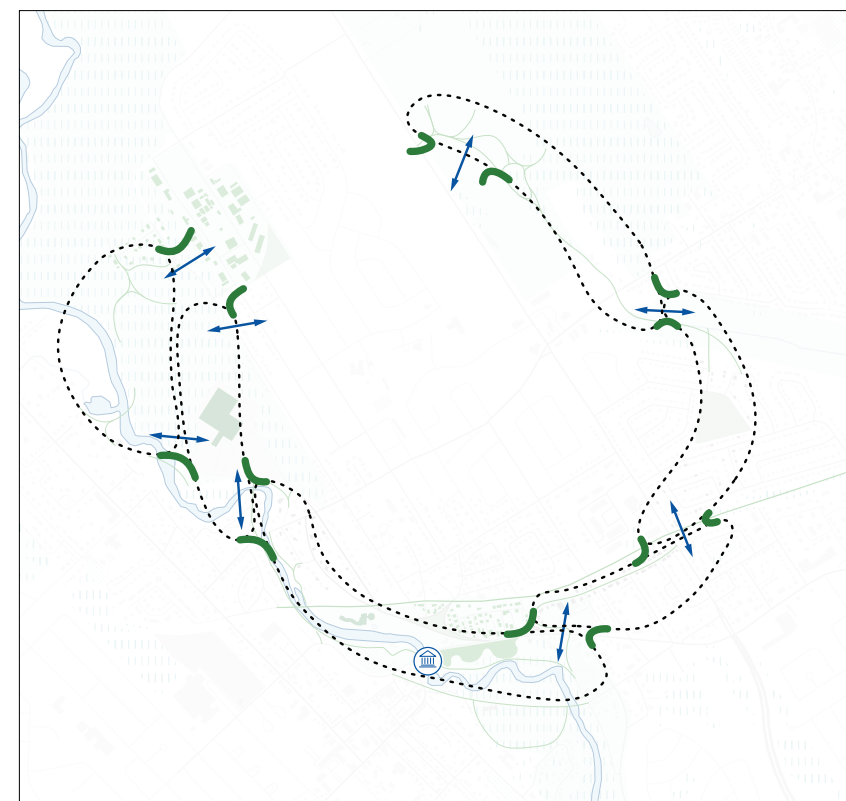
THE DEVELOPMENT PHASE OF WENDAKE REGION TAKES A VERY GRADUAL APPROACH WHICH IS SIMILAR TO POINTAGE DEVELOPMENT.



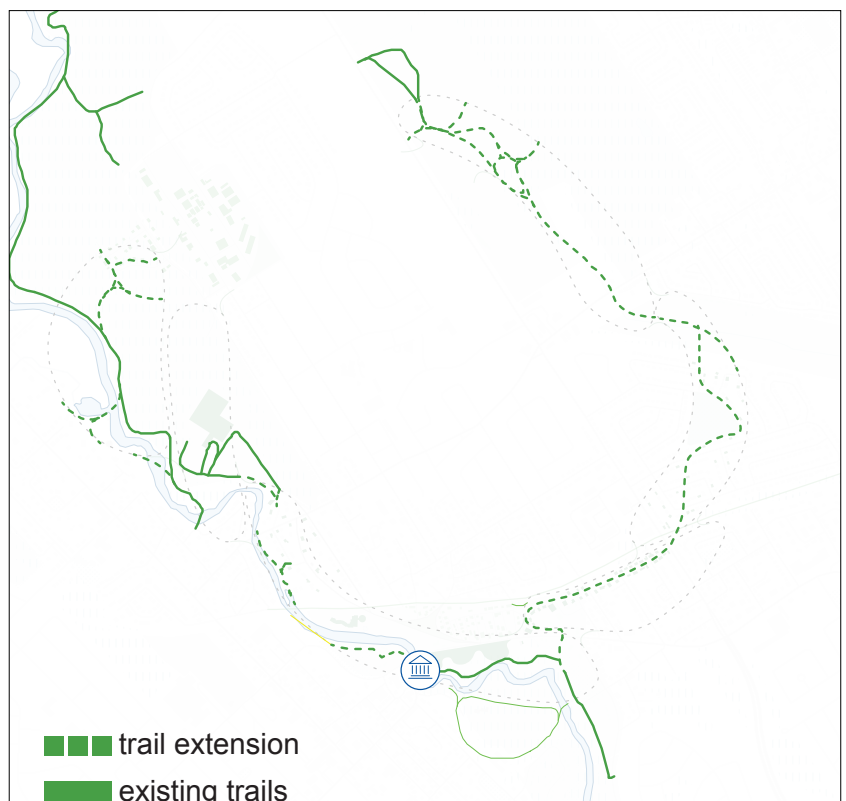
PROGRAMS ARE DENSELY CONCENTRATED IN THE AREA. ALSO, THEY ARE NOT TIGHTLY INTERLACED WITH THE RIVER.



THE EXISTING PROGRAMS ARE SPREAD OUT TO NEARBY AREAS AND EXPAND THE RANGE OF EXPERIENCE BY INTERWEAVING THE RIVER AND THE CITY.



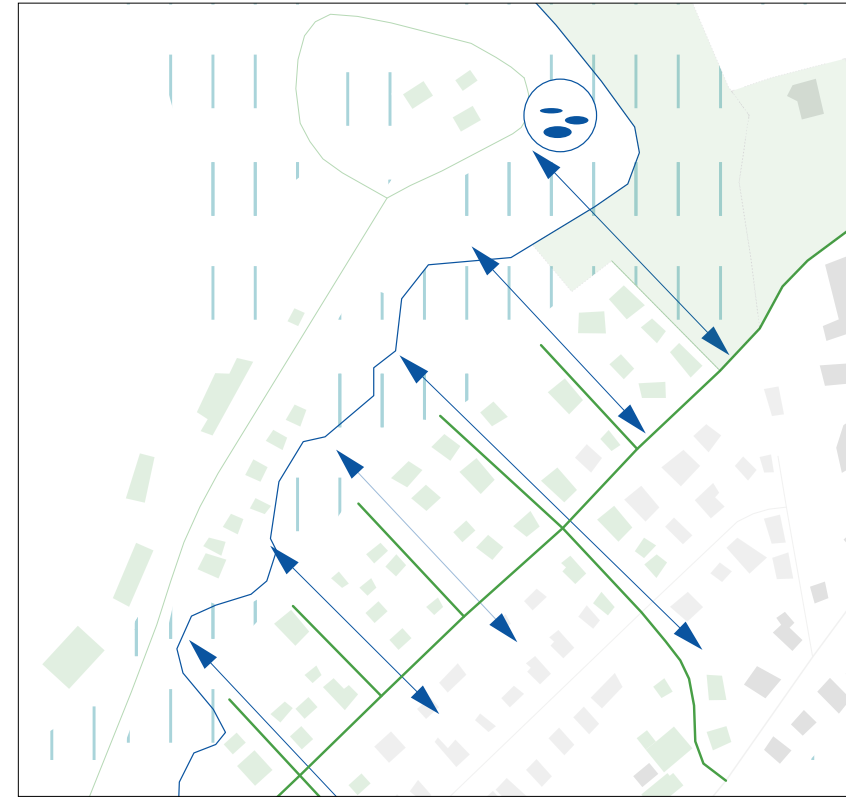
LOOP JOINTS CREATE STRONGER RELATIONS.



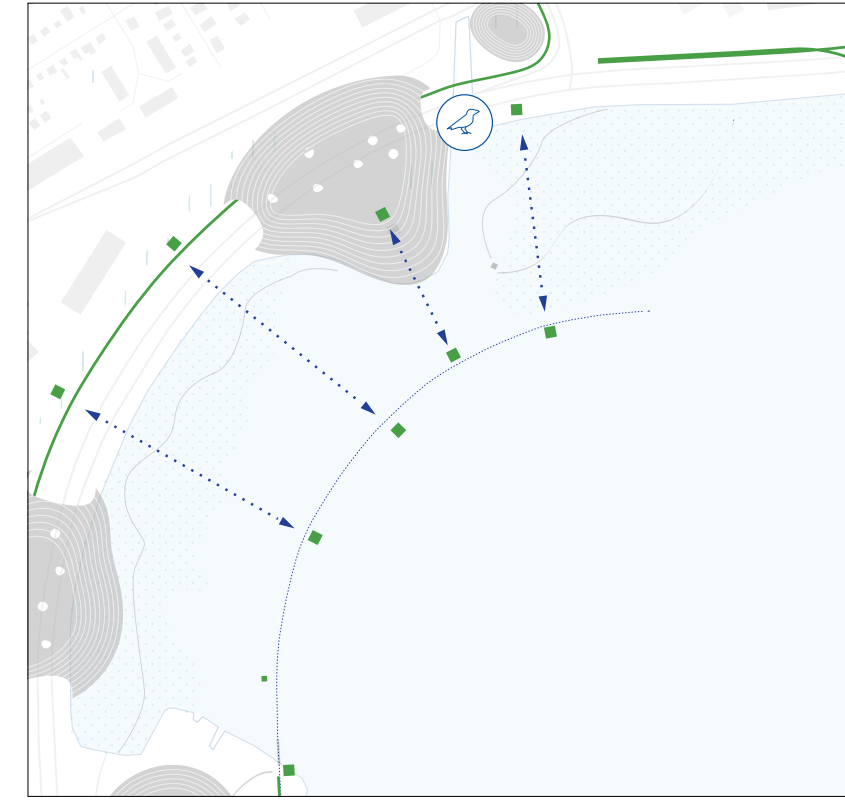
EXTENDING THE TRAILS IMPROVES CONNECTION



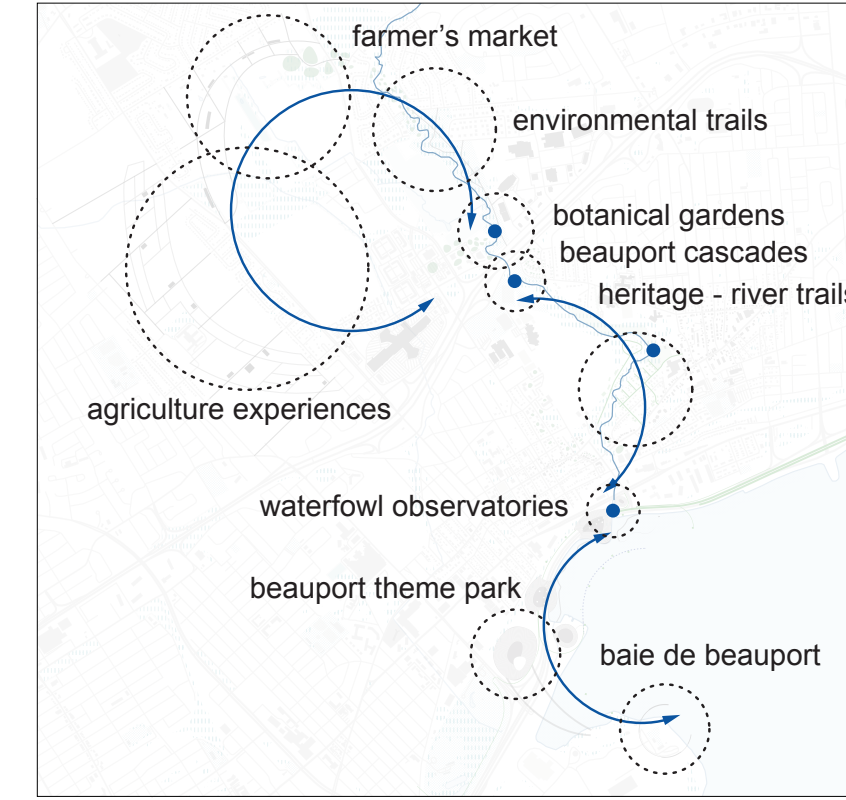
VIBRANT TRAILS ENCIRCLE THE WENDAKE REGION



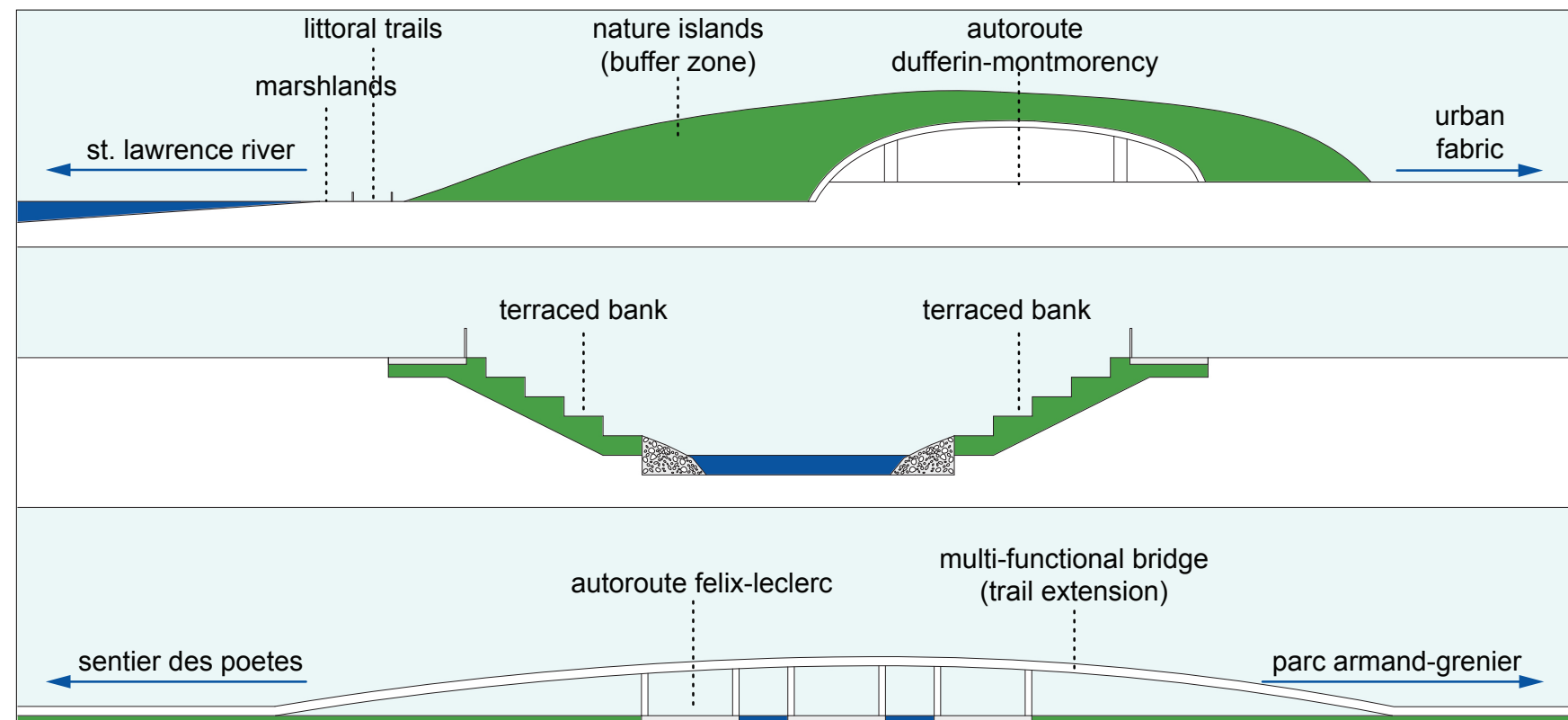
PRIVATE COURTYARDS OF RESIDENTIAL AREAS ALLOW STRONGER CONNECTION BETWEEN THE NATURE AND THE URBAN CONTEXT.



OBSERVATORY CUBES EXPAND RECREO-TOURISTIC EXPERIENCE WHILE RESPECTING THE EXISTING WATERFOWL GATHERING AREAS.



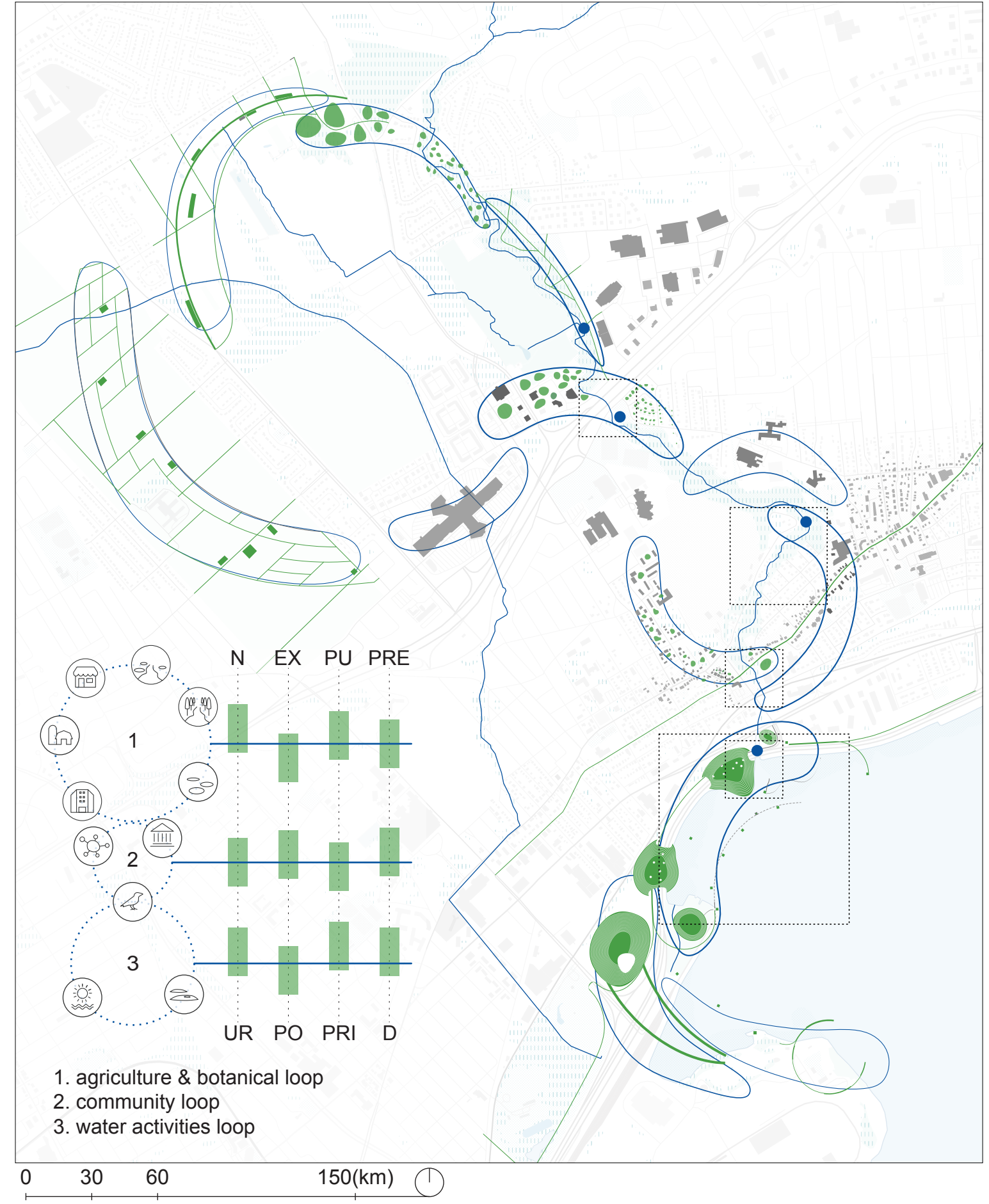
CREATED LOOPS ALLOW PEOPLE TO EXPERIENCE A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES WHICH RESONATE WITH THE RIVER.



VARIOUS TYPOLOGIES OF RE-CONNECTING THE DIVIDED URBAN AND NATURAL NETWORK.



WATER ACTIVITIES OF BAIE DE BEAUPORT





in order to interlace the broken link between the urban condition and nature, an off-set curve from the river is drawn out, leveled up cross-ways and split, this results in an interesting communication between oscillating volumes from the two different conditions.

the boundaries of site des sports d'hiver de la pointe-aux-lievres are expanded to include the video centre, eco-quarter and the craft village, thus a new focal point is needed.

the focal point is extruded vertically into the form of a tower that can be recognized as a landmark even from distant locations.

from a 4x4 grid the cube mass is carved out, simple design allows these cubes to have many different modes that can be efficiently constructed, modularized cubes consists mainly of two parts - punched metal cladding as skin and criss-cross stacked wood as structure and interior.

due to its porosity combined with the changing level caused by the tide of flows, the spacial values of the interior experiences differ depending on the time

a three-dimensional, vertically raised structural bridge is inserted as a connecting loop, providing a new pedestrian walkway.

further connection is made through the context both horizontally & vertically to create a complete system.

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