Public space is not truly ‘public’ unless it is appropriated by all at any given time.

The first move in the project is to disrupt the gridiron layout by raising the road to the level of the pavement with brick pavers. Due to the new traffic condition the car surrenders, in effect, the road to the pedestrian and the cyclists by needing to slow down.

The proposal celebrates the open areas by making the large surface available to the Harrison neighborhood community. The transformation is to remove sidewalks fully while adhering to the given programme. The overall approach of the architects at proposal level is to use a more informal approach towards the neighborhoods and visitors throughout the site.

CREATING COMMUNITY

Bollards and canape structures delineate the site to narrow the road and safeguard pedestrian and bicyclist areas. Temporary public activities are invited to occupy the reclaimed public space, such as ‘Sunnyside’ food trucks, neighborhood BBQ’s, farmer’s markets, flea markets and musical events. This allows for programmatic intersections between the site and neighborhood activities.

CREATING THE BUILDING

All three structures that book-end the site, The Public Interest Design Center, The Food Market and the Makerspace, are two-story-high mass timber framing systems with prefabricated CLT flooring. Typical bays span 18’ by 18’. The parking garage is a concrete basin that houses technical rooms and lift cores. The second levels consist of equitable housing schemes that activate the given programme.

Photovoltaic panels in tandem with solar boilers will provide the power, while buffering solar gains in-vats to service high performance hours. The thermal envelope is a 40cm thick PIR insulation sheet sandwiched between charred cedar cladding on the exterior and engineered wood panels on the interior. A combination of rigorous air tightness with a smart HVAC system will ensure that Passive standards are met.

All are welcome here.