



GATEWAYS TO CHINATOWN

Manhattan Community Board 3

Transportation, Public Safety, & Environment Committee Meeting

9 July 2019

唐人街
GATE
WAYS
TO
CHINA
TOWN
之道

Gateways to Chinatown would provide an iconic marker for Chinatown, Little Italy, and the surrounding neighborhoods in Lower Manhattan.



The overall aim of the project is to engender pride of place, foster connectivity, reinforce cultural and social identity, and stimulate economic development.

Decades in the making . . .



A framework for neighborhood resurgence and economic development . . .

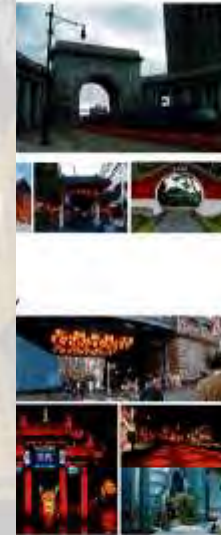


Chinatown 2012



Chinatown Partnership
Master Plan
21 February 2012

Introduction



SCULPTURE



LIGHTING



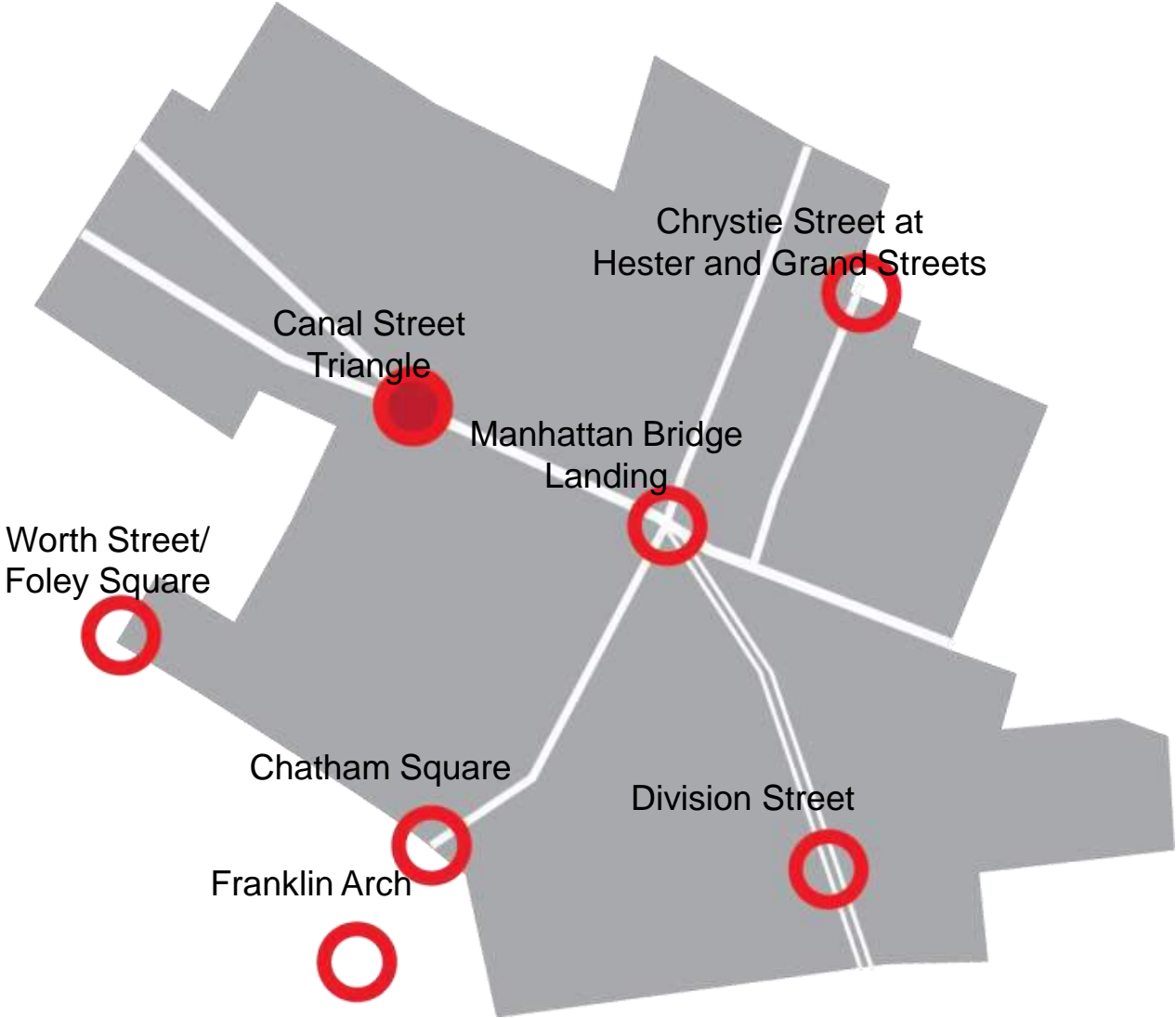
ARCHITECTURE



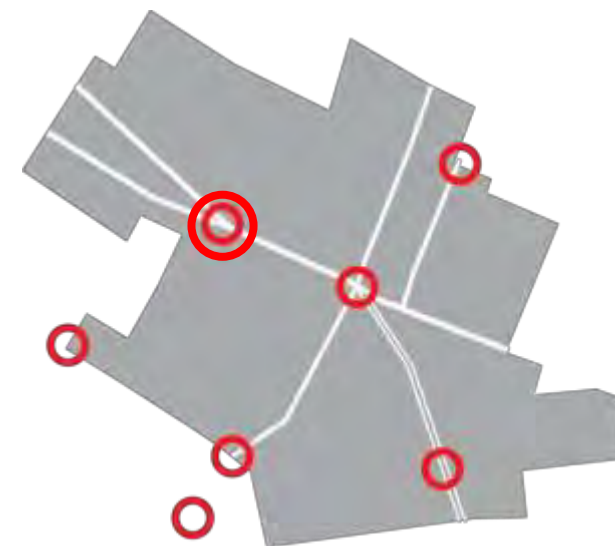
CHINATOWN GATEWAY

Traditional and Contemporary Building, Chinese Art, and other types of space-making elements.

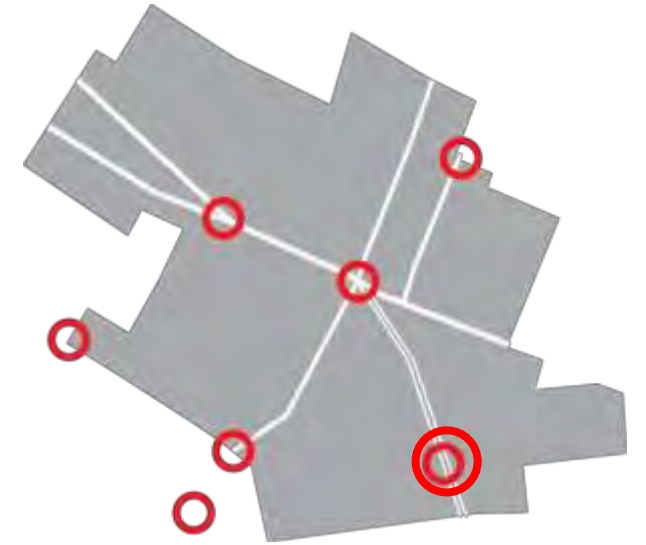
“Take me to the seven points.”



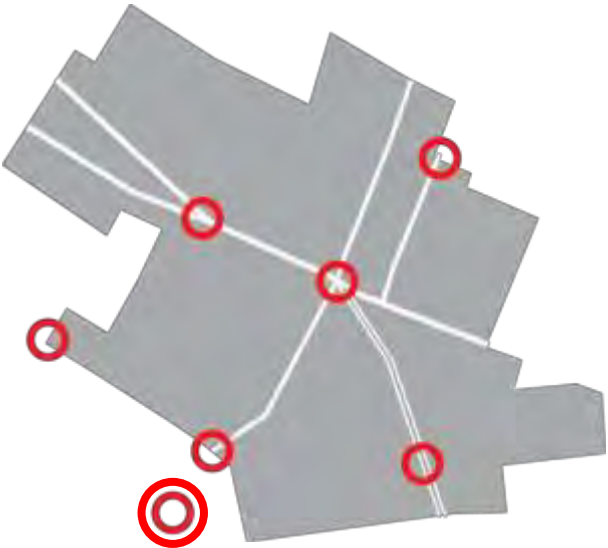
Multiple Site Activations: Canal Street Triangle Kiosk



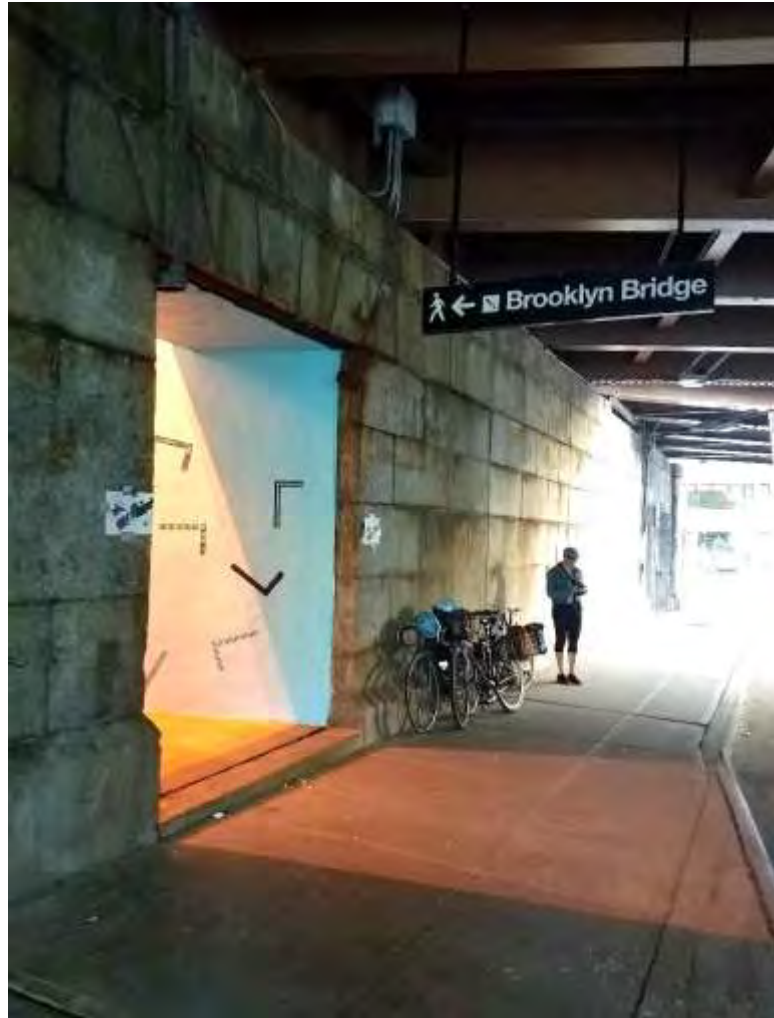
Multiple Site Activations: Division Street “Space of Exchange”



Multiple Site Activations: “Welcome to Chinatown” @ Franklin Arch



Multiple Site Activations: Brooklyn Bridge/Chinatown Wayfinding



Multiple Site Activations: Park Row Connection



Ann Tarantino

Funding and Partners



**VAN
ALEN
INSTITUTE**



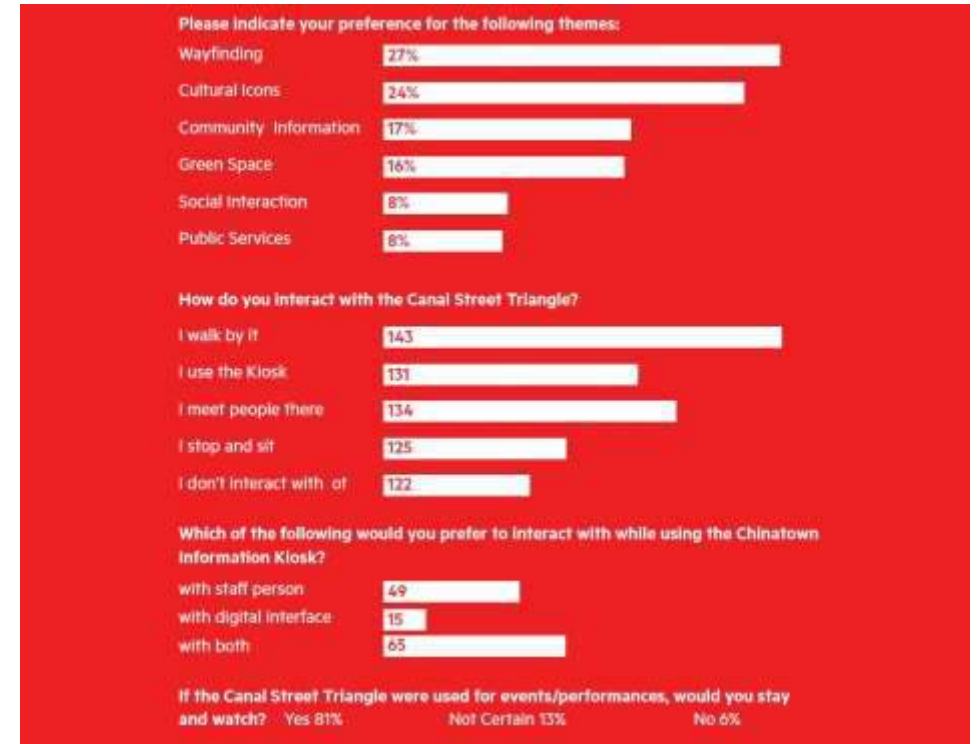
Community Engagement



Public Forum
August 2016



Stakeholder Advisory
Committee Meeting
June 2016



Community Forum
Survey

Request for Proposals



WAYFINDING AND ORIENTATION



CULTURAL IDENTITY



**COMMUNITY INFORMATION
AND DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY**



GREEN SPACE



SOCIAL INTERACTION

Team Selection

UAP ♦ Lindy Lee ♦ LEVENBETTS

1. Demonstrated Quantity and Quality of Successful Relevant Experience
 - Suitable team configuration and individual team member experience
 - Experience executing design AND implementation of public art, architecture and/or public spaces
2. Demonstrated Level of Organizational Capability
3. Quality of Proposed Approach
 - Concept
 - Process



Relevant Experience

LINDY LEE

Lindy Lee with UAF STUDIO — The Life of Stars — Tenderness of Rain — Zhengzhou, China



NYC - LINDY LEE - LEVENBETTS



GATEWAYS TO CHINATOWN

BOULDER SEATING - SYDNEY CHINATOWN



NYC - LINDY LEE - LEVENBETTS



LEVENBETTS FOUNDATION

Relevant Experience

LEVENBETTS

Chengde Binhuai - Chengde, China



BP | LEVENBETTS



GATEWAYS TO CHINATOWN

LEVENBETTS

LEVENBETTS with UAF FACTORY - Cornell University Well Hall - Ithaca, NY



BP | LEVENBETTS



GATEWAYS TO CHINATOWN

Relevant Experience



Conceptual Approach



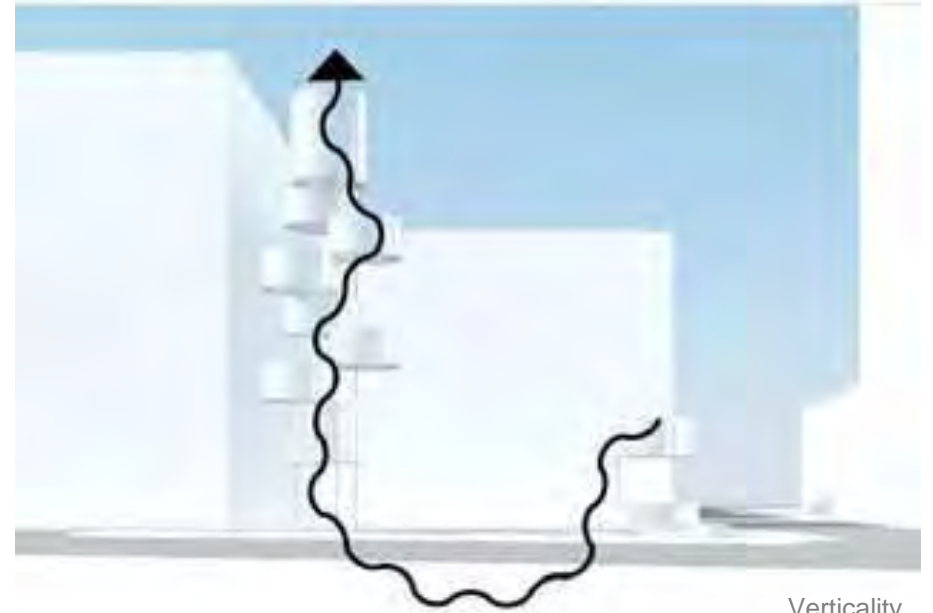
Conceptual Approach



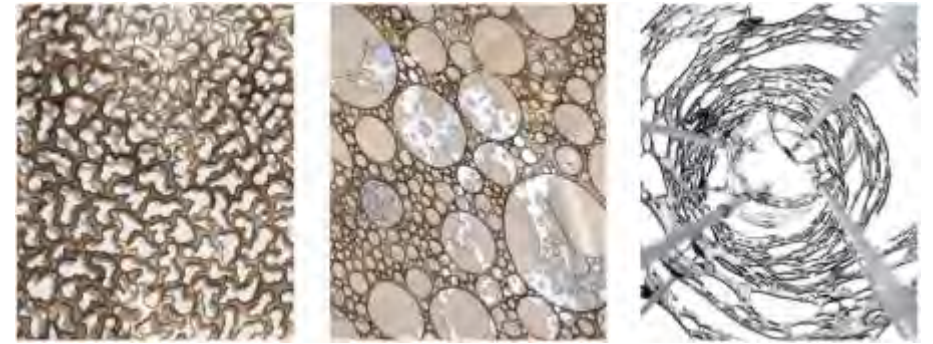
Chinese Drum Tower



Italian Campanile



Verticality



Porosity

Conceptual Approach



HAP - LINDY LEE + LEVENBETTS



GATEWAYS TO CHINATOWN

Proposal



Proposal



Proposal



Proposal





WAYFINDING AND ORIENTATION





CULTURAL IDENTITY



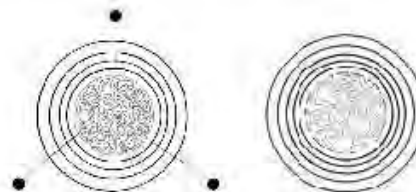
CONCEPTUAL APPROACH INTERCONNECTING CONCENTRIC CIRCLES

Interconnecting concentric circles are a central motif in *The Dragon's Roar*, linking the ground plane and the vertical structural elements.

The circle's significance stems from its symbolism within Chinese religion, culture, and philosophy. As the most democratic of geometric forms, it is a transcultural symbol of radiance.

In Chinese culture, concentric circles are used as a powerful visualization of the state of 'being' in the world; the self and the individual are positioned at the center of a series of concentric circles, with ever increasing dimensions symbolic of family, social groups, culture, country, earth and ultimately cosmos. These circles embody an energy that is both centrifugal and centripetal; energy flows inwards and outwards.

When concentric circles connect, they exemplify the ripple effect of interactions in life and in being, on earth and beyond. This story of interconnectivity of all things is also witnessed in other powerful symbols present in Chinese culture, including the Buddhist story of the Net of Indra.

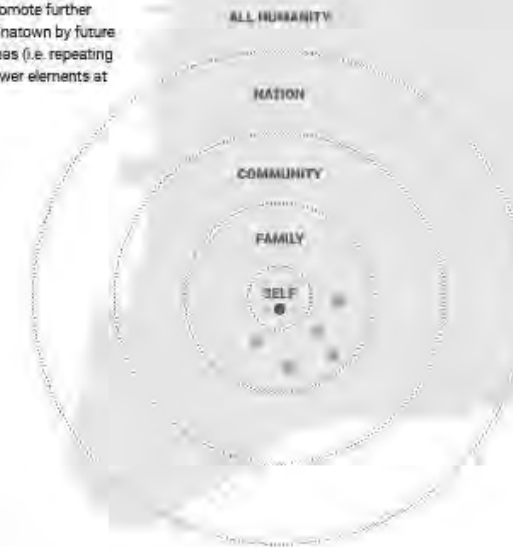


INDY LLC - LEVENBETTS • Guy Nordenson and Associates

PART C: PROPOSED DESIGN APPROACH

Interconnecting concentric circles provide an analogy for the spirit of New York City's Chinatown—a place defined by the intermingling of diverse social and cultural groups, moving, mingling, mixing and dancing together to produce a unique vibrancy. The circle's notion of reciprocal exchange between inner and outer further mirrors the vitality of social transactions within the vicinity of New York's Chinatown.

While the concentric circle is present in both *The Dragon's Roar* ground plane and the skin of the tower structure's drum-like cylinders, the motif can also promote further interconnection to other Gateways to Chinatown by future incorporation into the design of these areas (i.e. repeating the ground plane motif and potentially tower elements at these sites).



GATEWAYS TO CHINATOWN 121 of 144



COMMUNITY INFORMATION AND DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY



UAP ♦ Lindy Lee ♦ LevenBetts



34th Street Partnership Info Kiosk



Street Charge, AT&T



SOCIAL INTERACTION



Stakeholder Feedback



Proposal “captures the flavor of the surrounding area in a unique way and will welcome visitors to Chinatown for years to come.”



Further probe understanding and manifestation of “Cultural Identity” particularly with regard to Chinese-American and Italian-American immigrant experience.



Develop options for incorporating mobile information kiosk to ensure activation and social interaction.



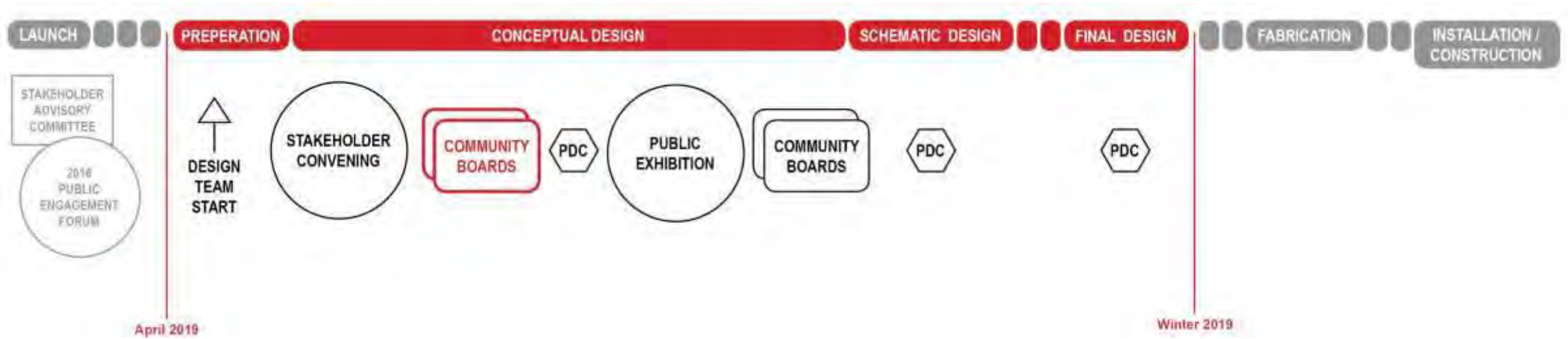
Expand tree planting “beyond the boundaries of the triangle so that the whole area can become a sort of urban park.”

Project Challenges

- Physical constraints
- Budget
- Timeline



Project Timeline





唐人街
GATE
WAYS
TO
CHINA
TOWN
之道

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