



NOURISH engages the neighborhood through community gardens, food pop-ups, teaching studios, and flexible events spaces to transform East Austin from a food desert to a food oasis. The project creates an urban arcade that transitions to an adaptive natural landscape capable of taking on environmental stresses while revitalizing urban life.

# NOURISH

## Designing a Public Platform for Food Engagement in Crisis and Post-Crisis East Austin

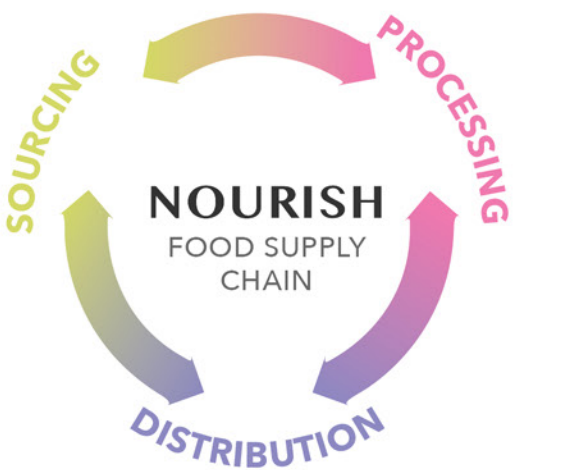
The future of food crisis is food engagement. The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the vulnerabilities in the nation's food supply chain, the disruption of which has created ripple effects across local communities. Combined with economic fragility, the health crisis has amplified food insecurity in East Austin, a neighborhood already underserved by groceries and quality food establishments. NOURISH, a community crisis resource center in pandemic times, will transform into a self-sufficient and public platform for food engagement post-crisis, leveraging regional food distributors, Austin's rich restaurant culture, and the strength of neighborhood institutions. Anchoring the program with a publicly accessible park and events space, NOURISH draws the local community, restaurateurs, and regional farmers to bring fresh produce and meals to East Austin.

In Crisis mode, the flow of goods and people is protected and circumscribed, much like a streamlined food production and distribution chain. In Post-Crisis mode, freedom of movement is enhanced by literally opening up the buildings and occupying the interstitial spaces as well as the landscape. Spaces formerly reserved for the health crisis are scaled back and transformed into pop-up engagement programs: Event Stage, Food Hall, Farmer's Market, Chef's Table. Retail spaces provide opportunities for independent grocers to serve the neighborhood.

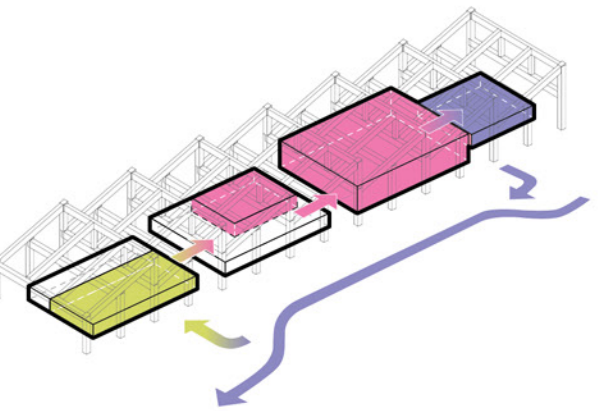
Architecturally, the development of the site focuses on resiliency, flexibility through modularity, and the creation of public space. The crisis center hugs Tillery Street, preserving the park for community access and programming. Formally inspired by the vernacular Texas dogtrot, the buildings aggregate linearly with breezeways to cool outdoor spaces. Sawtooth roofs shed rainwater for collection, harvest solar power on the southern exposures, and provide natural daylighting for interiors through north-facing clerestories. Structurally, a robust and regionally sourced mass timber system can withstand other crises, such as fires and hurricanes. The modularity of the system further allows for programming to be scaled accordingly, whether for intimate or large gatherings.

### SCENARIO "C"

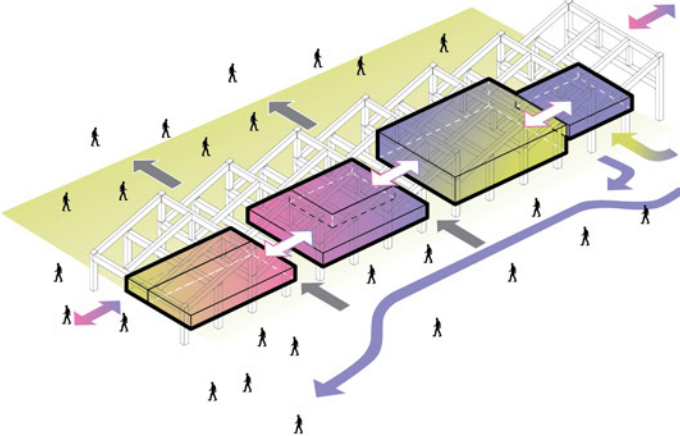
ENVISIONING A RESILIENT FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN



CRISIS MODE: EFFICIENT & PROTECTED FLOW OF FOOD AND ESSENTIAL GOODS



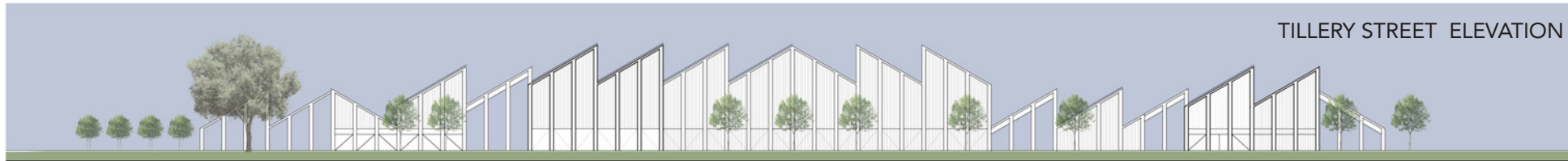
POST-CRISIS MODE: CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY THROUGH FOOD ENGAGEMENT



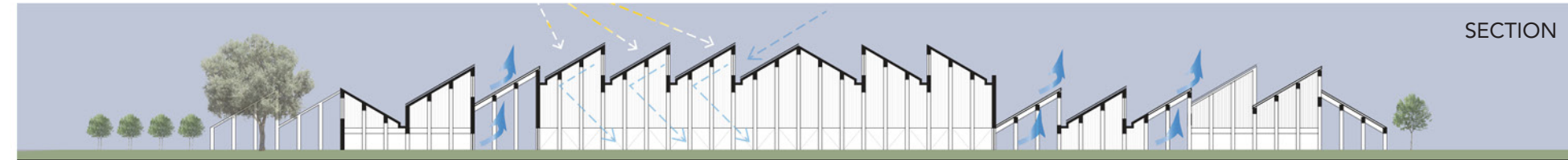
CRISIS MODE: Safety and accessibility are promoted through efficient circulation and the use of technology.



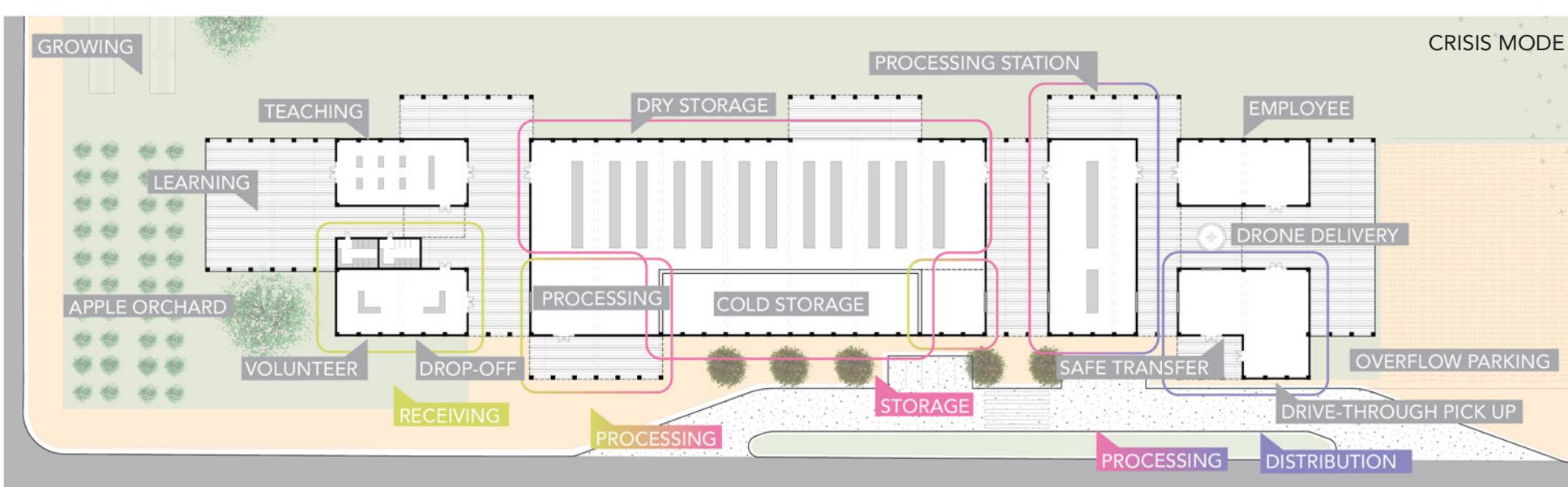
POST-CRISIS MODE: Food continues to engage the neighborhood through community-based programming and pop-ups, such as farmers' markets and food trucks.



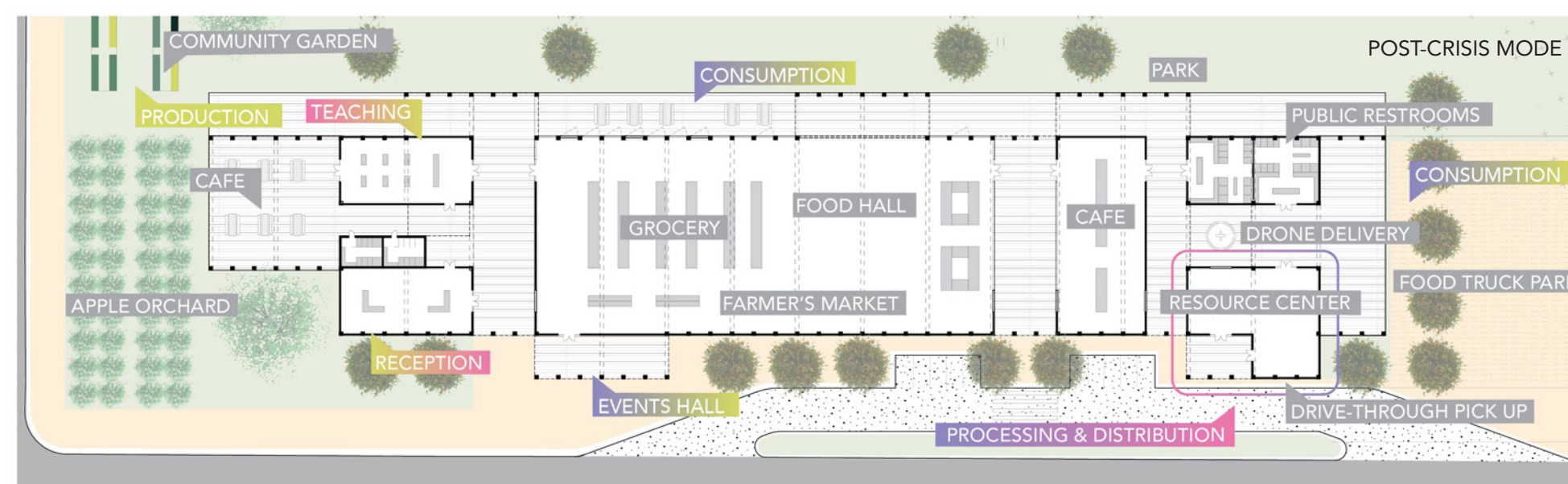
TILLERY STREET ELEVATION



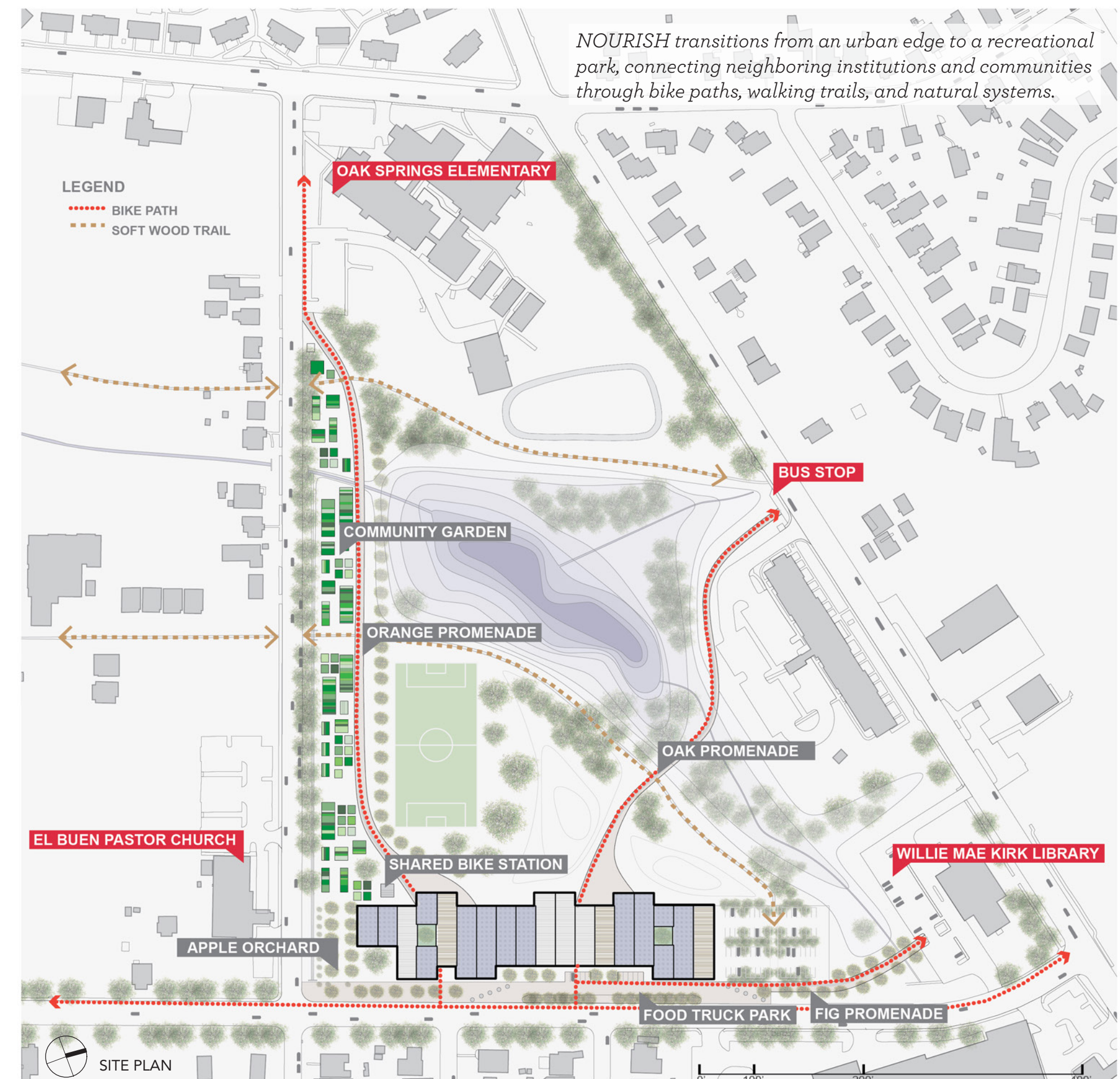
SECTION



CRISIS MODE



POST-CRISIS MODE



LEGEND  
 BIKE PATH  
 SOFT WOOD TRAIL

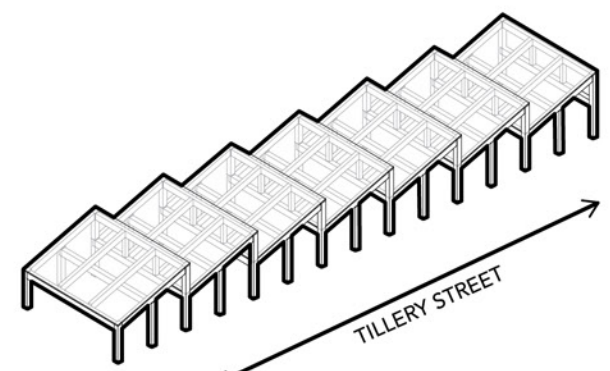
NOURISH transitions from an urban edge to a recreational park, connecting neighboring institutions and communities through bike paths, walking trails, and natural systems.

SITE PLAN

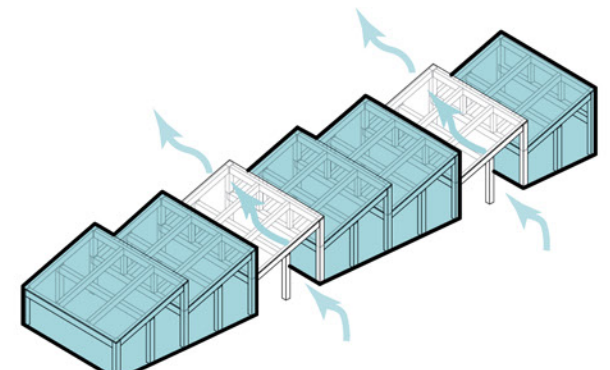
### FORMAL EVOLUTION



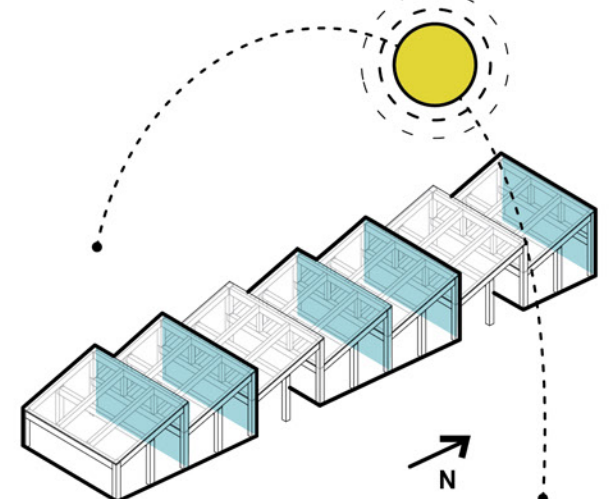
MASS TIMBER MODULE



ARRAY



ENCLOSURE AND BREEZEWAYS



SOLAR ORIENTATION