



**AFRICAN FORUM**  
ON URBAN FORESTS

# 2nd African Forum On Urban Forests

*Green Horizons: Shaping the Future Resilience of African Cities through Urban Forests*

**18 March 2025 - 21 March 2025**



*in partnership with:*



# Fostering a sense of belonging through green infrastructure and community integration, in Cape Town's Central Business District, South Africa

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# Introduction

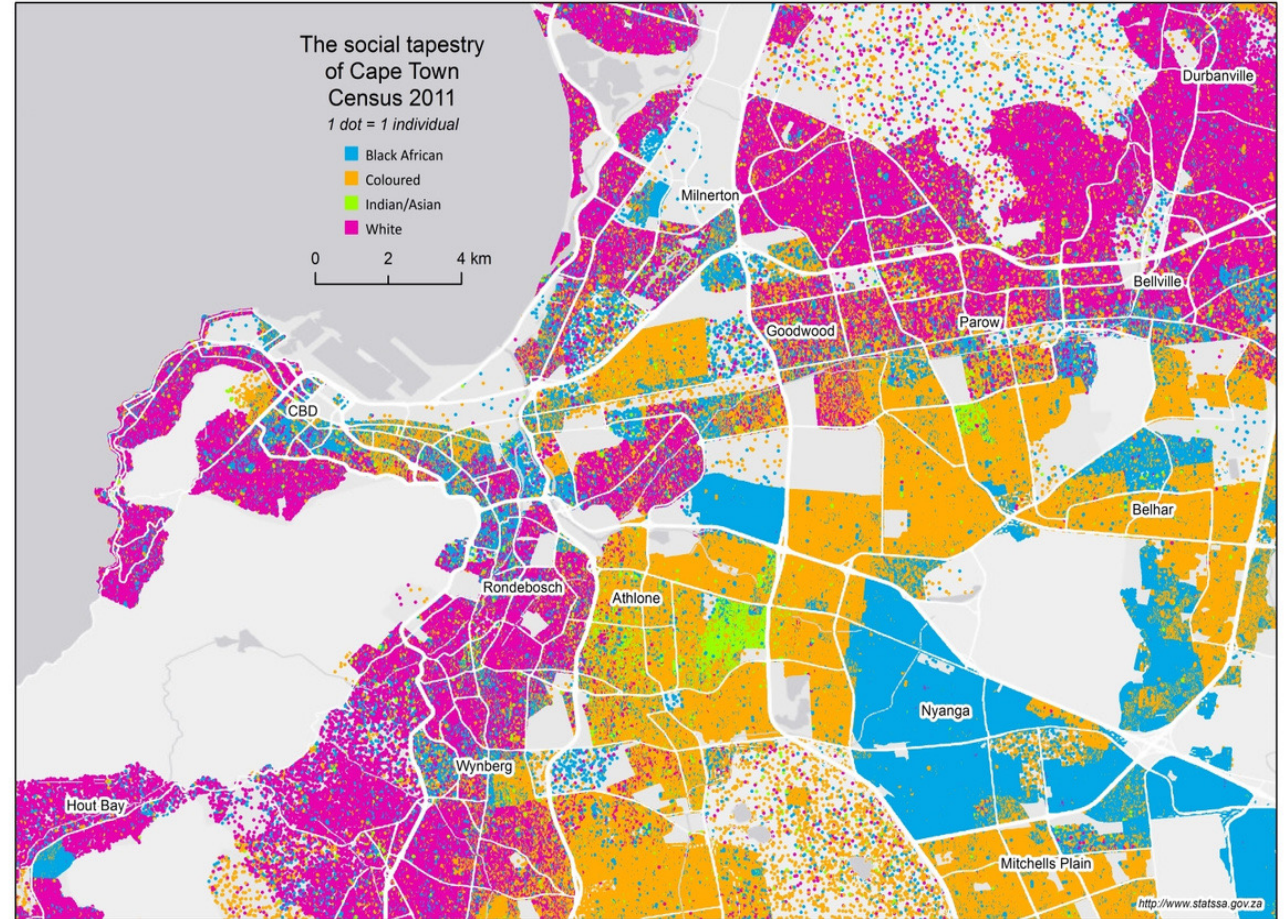
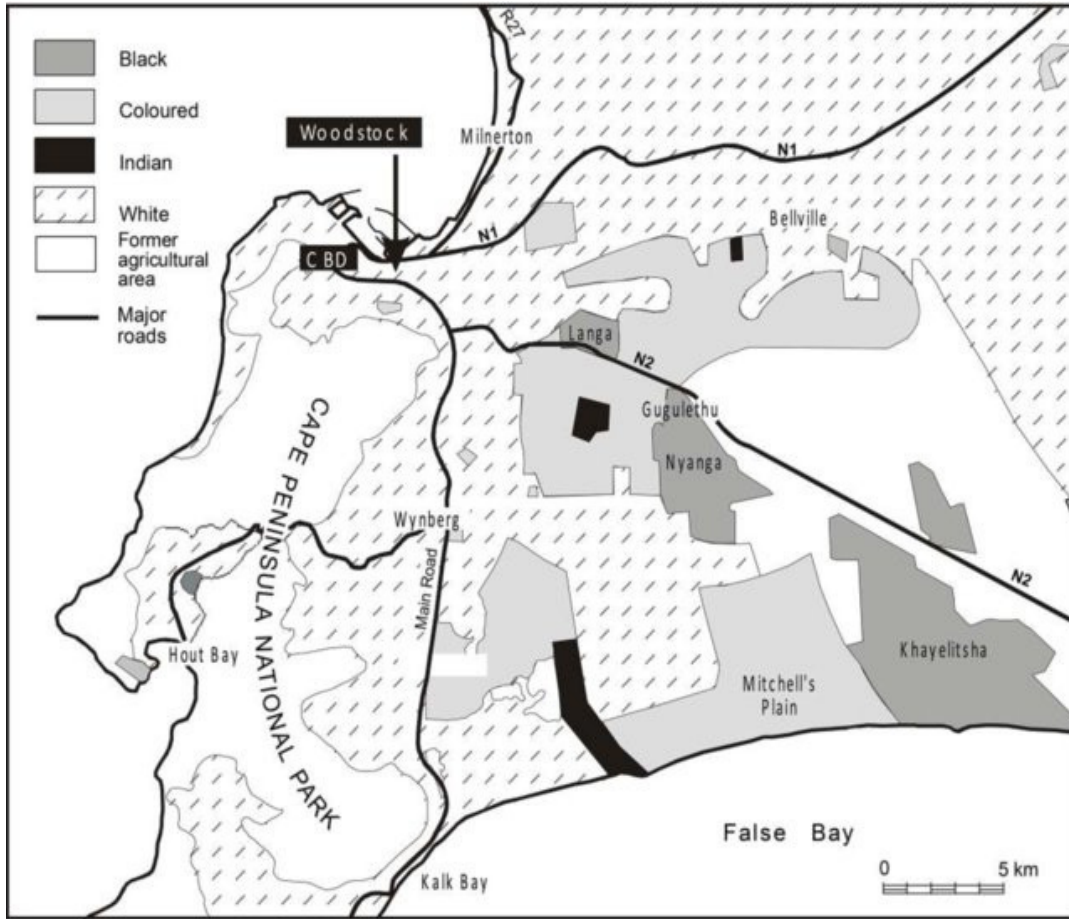


Fig 1: The City of Cape Town layout under the Group Areas Act.  
Fig 2: The City of Cape Town layout from the 2011 Census.



# Purpose of Study



Fig 3: Photomontage of Cape Town's Central Business District



# Challenge

How can a **sense of belonging** be created in a neighborhood that was the **site of the first settler colonization**, which later became a **business hub** that *excluded* many due to **car-centric infrastructure, high land values, and a design focused on short-term movement** rather than **long-term community**?



Fig 4 & 5: Contemporary vs Historical Image of Cape Town's Central Business District



# Case Study: Reclaim CAMISSA

**Camissa** is the creolized form of *lIkhamis sa*, meaning “**sweet water for all**” in Kora the Xhosa language of the Cape. This river system has over 40 tributaries and springs. Today the river runs beneath the city of Cape Town. Symbolically, Camissa represents **life** because without water, life cannot be sustained.

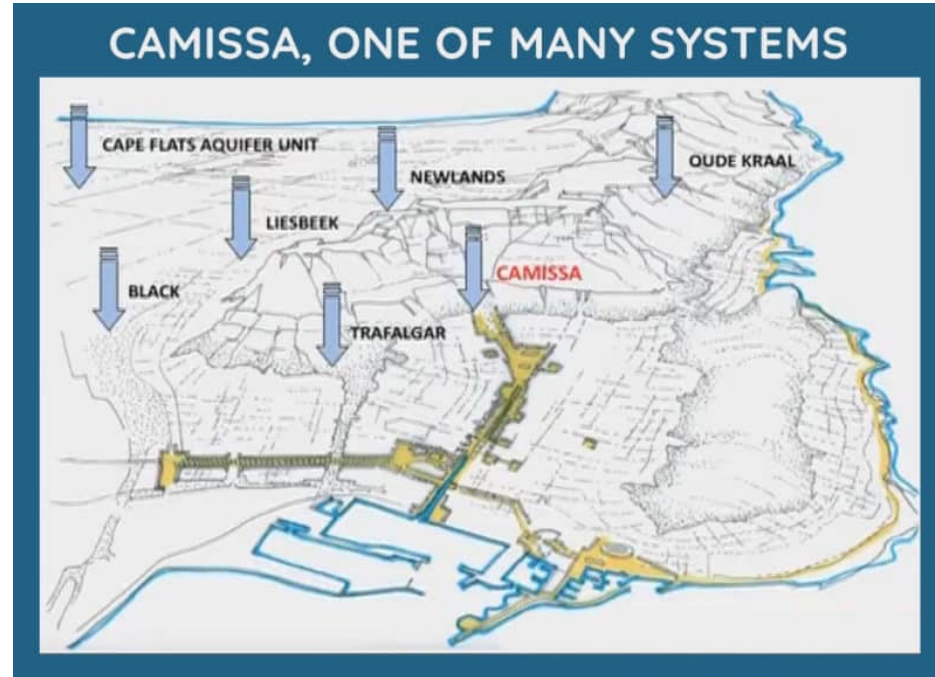
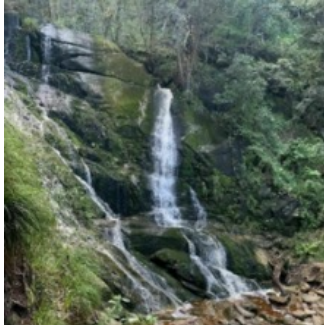
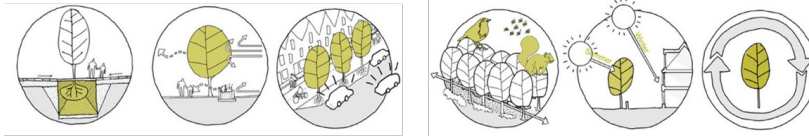


Fig 6: The natural water systems and underground tunnels of Cape Town  
Fig 7: The Table Mountain Aquifer Systems



# Proposal: Creating Green Networks and Nodes



1. Molteno Reservoir



2. De Waal Park



3. Company Gardens



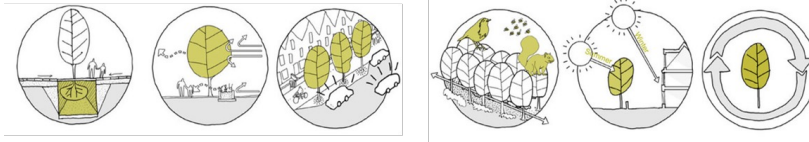
Central Business District: Local Area Action Plan



Fig 8: The Molteno Reservoir  
Fig 9: De Waal Park  
Fig 10: The Company Gardens



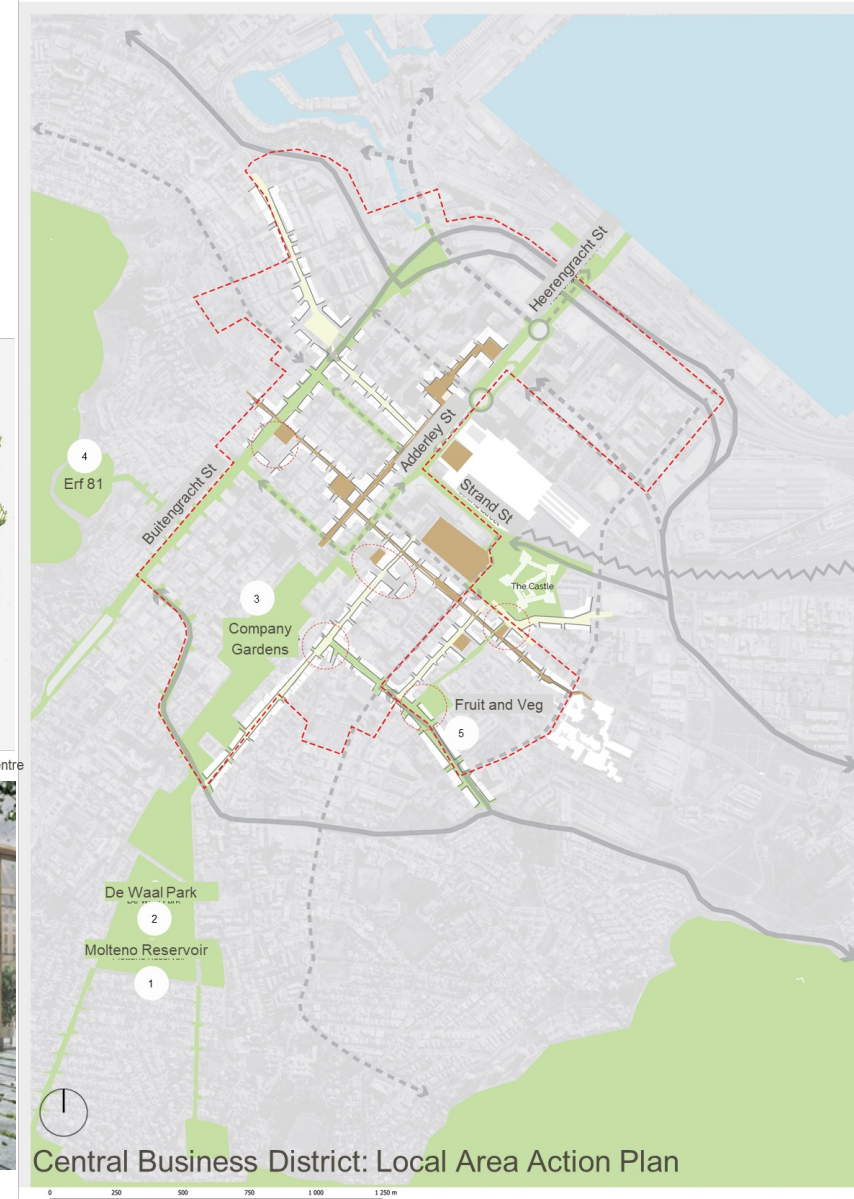
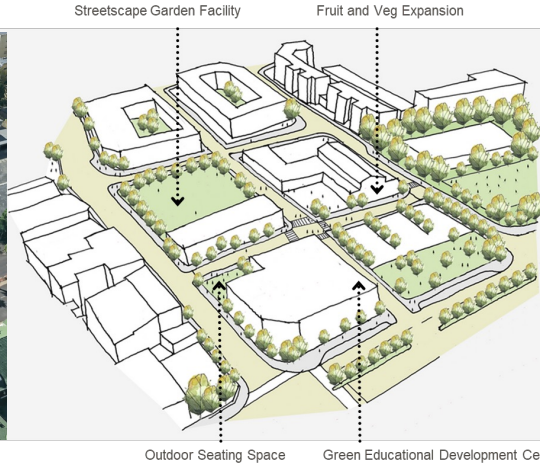
# Proposal: Creating Green Networks and Nodes



## 4. Erf 81 Site

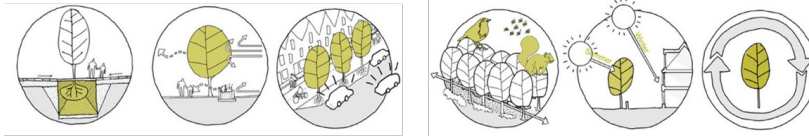


## 5. Fruit and Veg Site





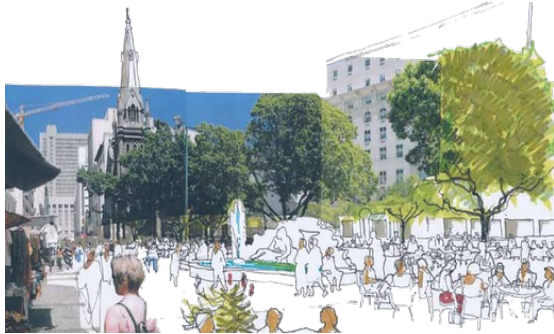
# Proposal: Enhancing Public Squares



1. Riebeeck Square



2. Greenmarket Square



3. Grand Parade Square



Fig 13, 14 & 15: A vision of a future Cape Town.  
Fig 16, 17 & 18: Examples of Public Squares



# Proposal: Creating Pedestrian Friendly Streets

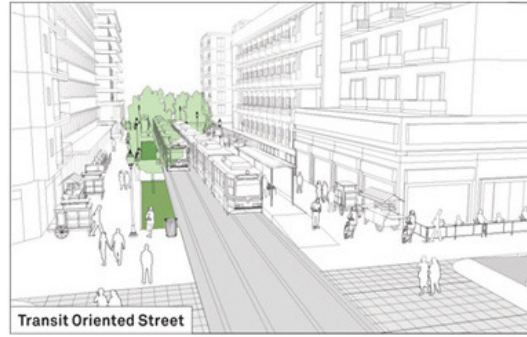
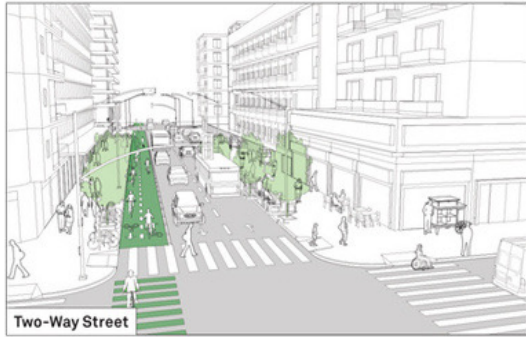
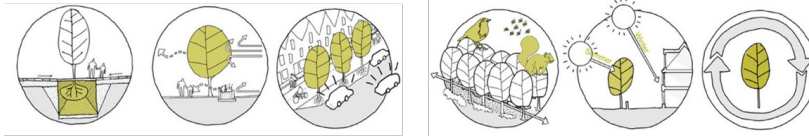
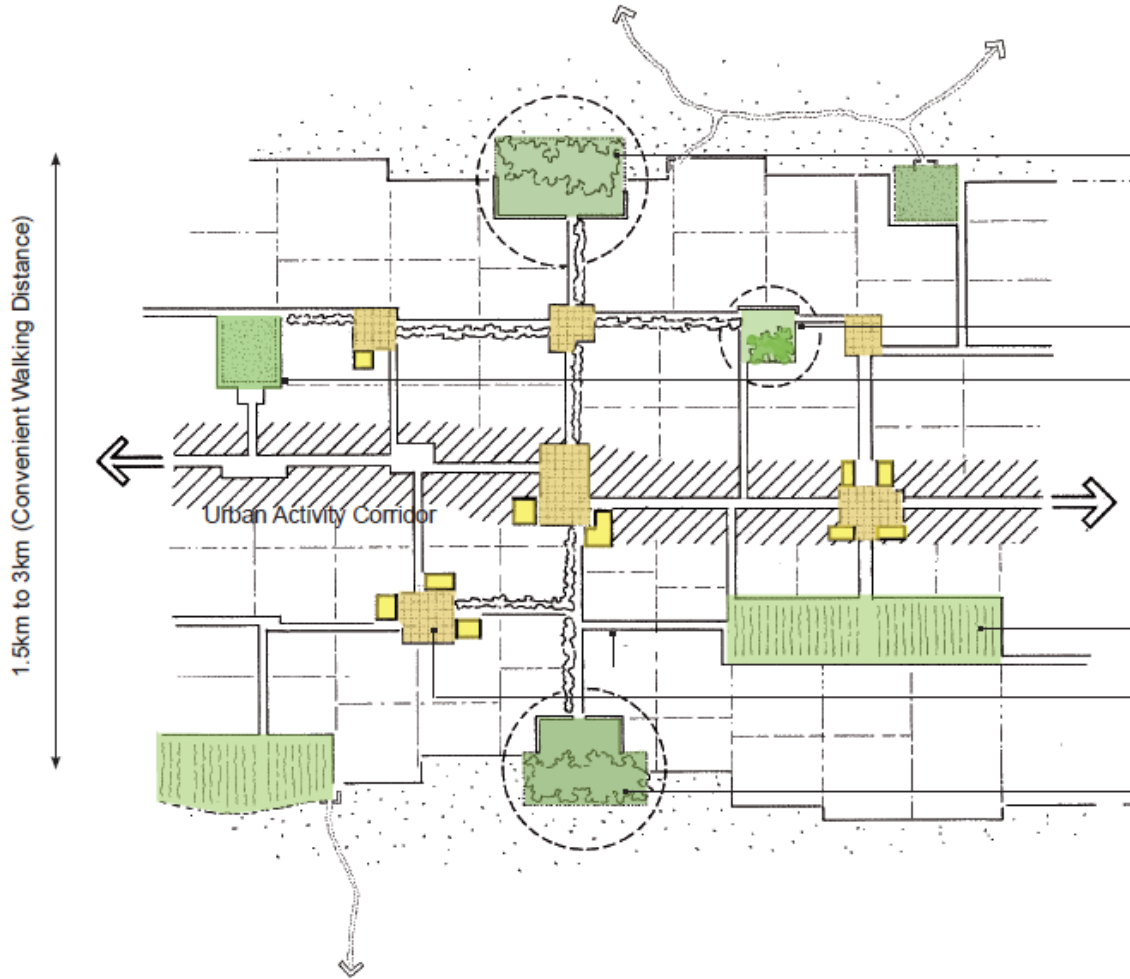
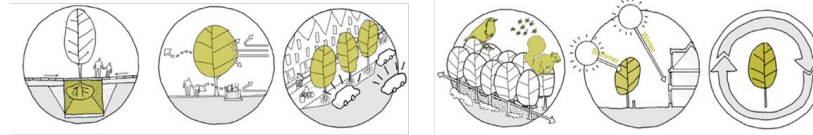


Fig 19, 20 & 21: NACTO Global Street Design Guide.  
Fig 22, 23 & 24: Examples of Pedestrian Friendly Streets



# Summary



Water Structure

Water/Ecological Structure

Movement Framework

Tendencies towards Linear Urban Activity Corridor Formation

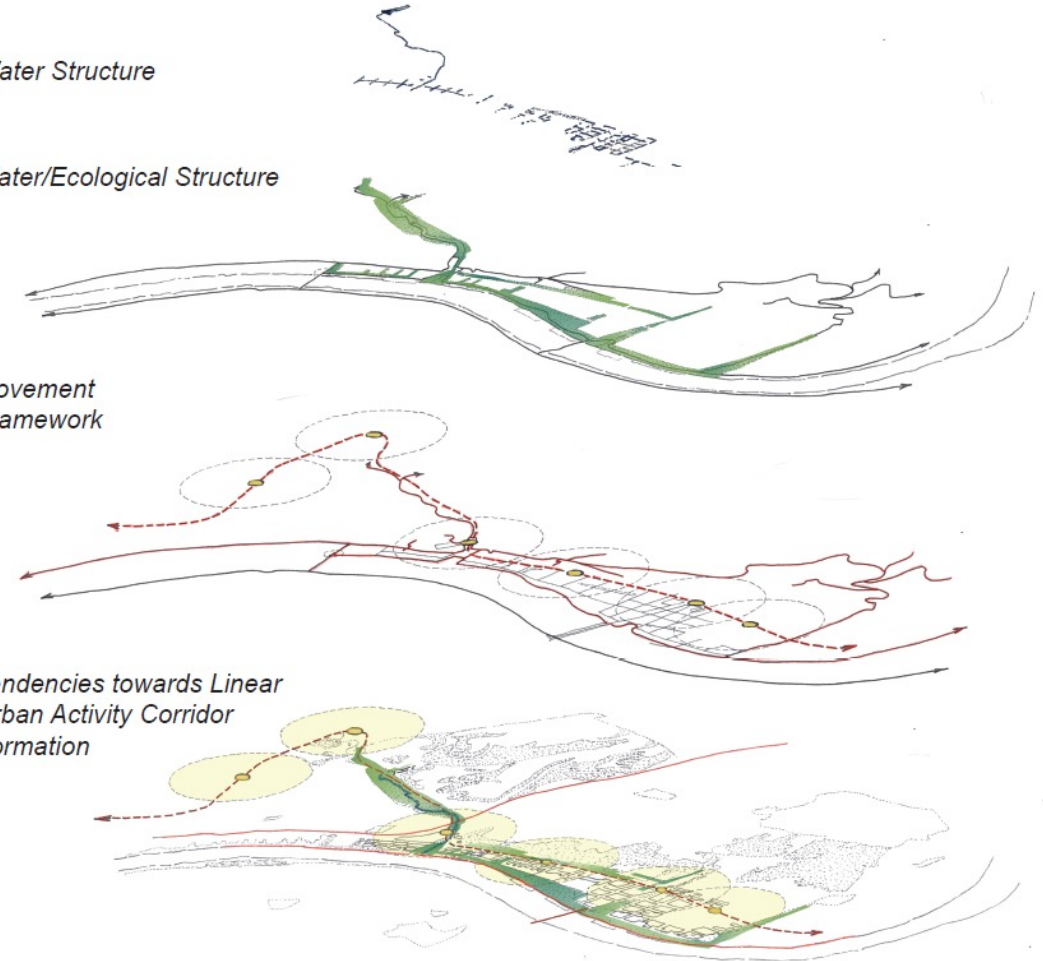


Fig 25: Open spaces of various functions and forms distributed & interlinked within the urban activity corridor concept

Fig 26: The basic integrated layers of settlement formation: Tendency towards linearity

Thank You.





# References

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