

One Commonwealth – Two Approaches for Youth Design



20th Annual Conference
14-17 November 2018
New Jersey, NJ

Academy of Architecture for Justice



Presenters

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Have we already gone beyond prisons for youth?

- Is societal tolerance for alternatives strong enough to reduce incarceration for very few youth?
- In most western cultures, the number of incarcerated youth continues to decline, including the USA.
- Can we find a new way forward for the design of youth facilities if we are bound by the “inertia” of the adult prison model, and even our historic model for youth incarceration?
- Examine this by addressing the different approaches used in Ontario, CA and Victoria, AU.

Overarching Philosophy for Design: A Place for Change

In Ontario and Victoria, the mission for new youth justice facilities is to positively change the lives of young people and reduce their motivation to reoffend by emphasising pro-social programs within a safe and secure environment that supports human dignity and fosters positive socialisation.

Design Decisions Based on Therapeutic Lenses!

The management and care of young people in custody relies on four overarching principles, referred to as therapeutic lenses:

- 1. *Case Management*** - Case management is both a process and an outcome that supports all decisions for a structured life during the period spent in custody and upon transition into the community.
- 2. *Social Interaction*** - Foster pro-social behaviour by offering opportunities for constructive interaction with a range of facility staff, other young people, families, care-givers, and volunteers who can perform an instrumental role in assisting the young person to recognize and adopt the life changes that promote making better choices.

Design Decisions Based on Therapeutic Lenses!

3. ***Adolescent Development*** - Recognize the social, emotional and physical developmental stage during the initial assessment process and define a case management plan that acknowledges the typical developmental pathways of young people and the typical indicators of trauma at differing ages and stages.
4. ***Safety and Security*** - Provide high levels of safety and security as well as a stable custodial environment that promotes young people's participation and encourages pro-social behavior is a key element for promoting a therapeutic approach to design.

Areas of Strategic Design Focus to Promote the Goal of Desistance.

1. ***Risk and Needs Assessment*** – The pathway to desistance begins with a thorough individualized assessment of offending risk and individual needs as to inform the most effective support and programs required to ensure positive reintegration.
2. ***Behaviour Management*** - A targeted approach for young people provides consistent programs and services to minimize and reduce challenging behavior.
3. ***Youth Offending Programs*** - A range of treatment and structured programs and services reduces reoffending, encourages positive behavioral change and develops self-improvement.
4. ***Progression – Regression*** - Movement through a facility's functional components should be determined by risk classification, incentives based behaviour management and transparent periodic review.
5. ***Physical Diversity*** - Building design supports rehabilitation and community reintegration objectives of youth justice provides for their physical and developmental needs, while being robust and secure and protecting the rights of children and young people.

Areas of Strategic Design Focus to Promote the Goal of Desistance.

6. **Technology** - An integrated and modern service delivery approach employing a range of technological applications that are appropriate for young people enhances rehabilitation programming, self-management and security.
7. **Education and Employment** – Education, training and employment placements establish pathways to productive and purposeful future opportunities.
8. **Clear Roles and Support for Staff** - Support for staff through carefully articulated roles; role-specific initial and in-service training; spaces to interact with other staff and young people; and opportunities for periodic retreat from routine activities will enable staff to guide the development of young people.
9. **Transition Services** – Pre- and post-release reintegration services that are needs based and supported through the case management plan will improve the opportunity for a successful return to community.



Ontario, Canada



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Canadian Context

- 9,984,670 sq. km.
- Second largest country
- 5 ½ time zones
- 37 million – Canadian Population
- 915 million– European and Mid East population shown on map



Canadian Context

- 1.2% – Rate of population growth
- 85% of growth due to immigration
- 1.7 million are indigenous – 4.9% of Canada's population; 37% of incarcerated population
- 4% annual growth in indigenous population
- 40% of youth are 1st or 2nd generation immigrants
- 117/100.000 – Adult incarceration rate
- 37% decline in youth custody or community supervision since 2012



Ontario Context

- Ontario 5 times bigger than UK
- 66M – Population of UK
- 14M – Population of Ontario
- Wide range of socio/economic/ environmental conditions
- Ethnically diverse population
- Good access to education/ health care/social services



Ontario Context

- 1 million sq. km. (2nd largest province)
- 2 time zones
- 14 million – population rising 1.1/year
- 390,000 – Indigenous Population, 2.8% of population, xx% of incarcerated pop
- 75% of youth in Toronto are 1st or 2nd generation Immigrants
- 68/100,000 – Provincial adult incarceration rate
- Crime rate is decreasing



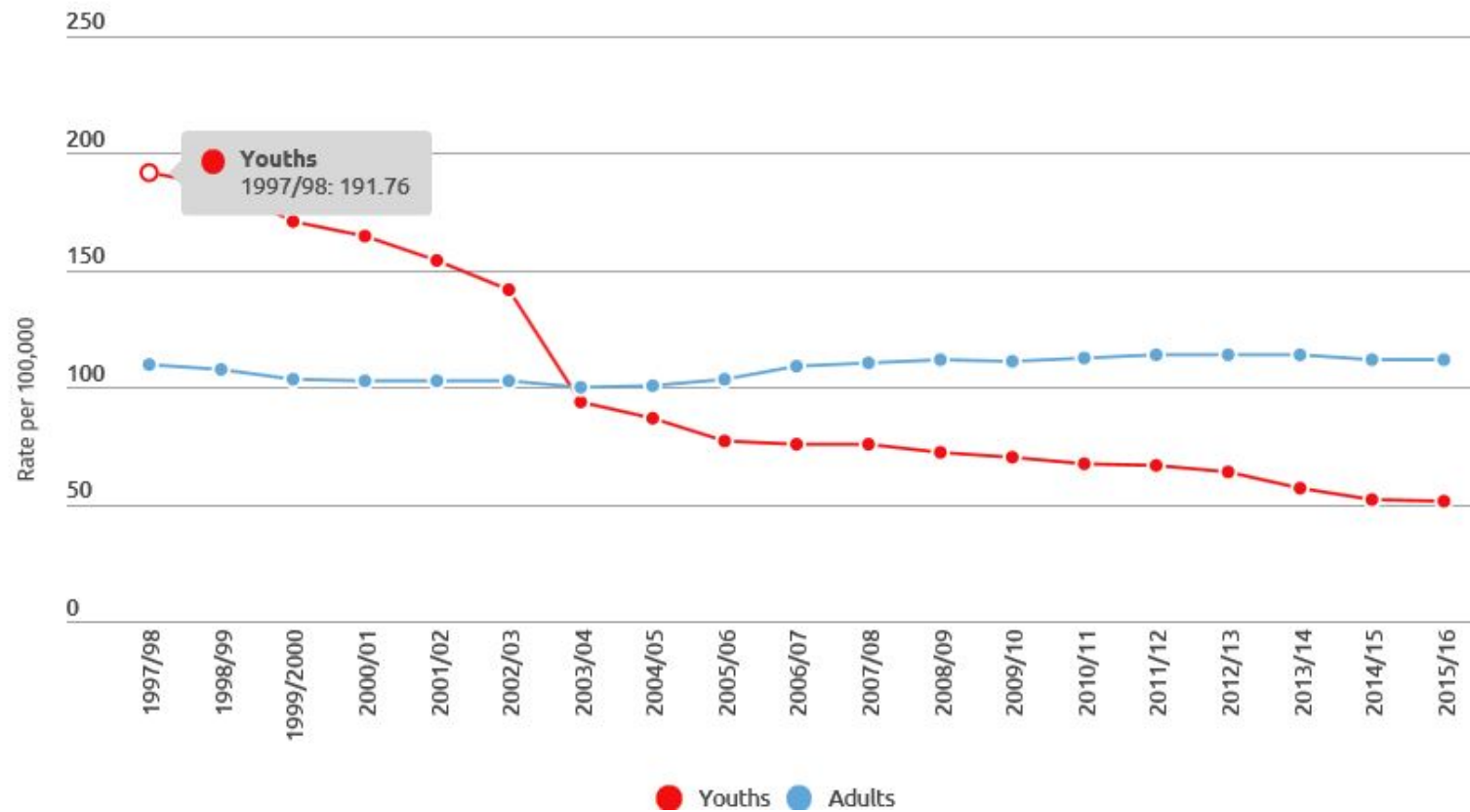
Corrections Context

- Canadian adult population relatively stable.
- Youth population has seen dramatic reductions.
- Youth population includes open and secure custody.

| Jurisdiction | Confinement / 100,000 | | | |
|--|-----------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | 1980 | 2008 | 2012 | Current |
| Norway (Adult) | 44 | 71 | 72 | 74 |
| Sweden (adult) | 55 | 75 | 67 | 54 |
| Netherlands (adult) | 27 | 100 | 82 | 59 |
| USA (adult) | 220 | 755 | 707 | 655 |
| Scotland (adult) | 94 | 150 | 155 | 143 |
| Australia (adult) | 66 | 130 | 130 | 167 |
| Canada Adults (Prov. and Fed) | 96 | 117 | 118 | 114 |
| Avg. Prov. Adults (up to 2 years) | | 90 | 90 | 87 |
| Ontario (Adults) (up to 2years) | 60 | 87 | 76 | 68 |
| Ontario (Youth 12-17) | 194 (2000) | 94 | 55 | 43 |
| Canada (Youth 12-17) | 170 (2000) | 76 | 72 | 52 |

Youth Detention Rates in Canada

- A significant, sustained decrease in youth detention in spite of 9% increase in violent crime sentences
- Of youth incidents, 63% charged in 1998, 45% in 2015
- 29 percent of those found guilty were sentenced to custody in 1998, compared with 16 percent in 2015
- What occurred in 2002?



Youth Criminal Justice Act (2002) Federal Legislation

- 1975- Department of Justice committees – imprisonment of youths be “a last resort”
- 1982 – Young Offenders Act (YOA)
 - Legislated restraint in the use of imprisonment; largely unsuccessful
 - Aspirational language
- 1998 – Decision to create new approach to youth imprisonment rather than amending existing, non effective legislation
- 2002 – Enactment of Youth Criminal Justice Act (YCJA)



Youth Criminal Justice Act (2002) – Federal Legislation

- Legislation embeds the recognition of the greater dependency and reduced maturity levels of young people
- Deterrence
- Rehabilitation
- Proportionality
- Incapacitation (use of custody as a last resort)
- Restoration



Youth Criminal Justice Act (2002) – Federal Legislation

- Provinces ordered to be in compliance with the law
- Extensive education programs were established – Funding for judges
- New programs designed to be substitutes for formal court processing
- Restraint in the use of youth court and custody
- Award was established for innovative police programs to keep youths out of court



Provincial System - Historically

- Youth Justice Services in Ontario was split between two provincial government Ministries
- Ministry of Correctional Services for youth aged 16 and 17 (Adult Act)
- Ministry of Community and Social Services for youth aged 12 to 15 at the time of their offence
- Ontario Child and Family Services Act combined the split delivery system into one



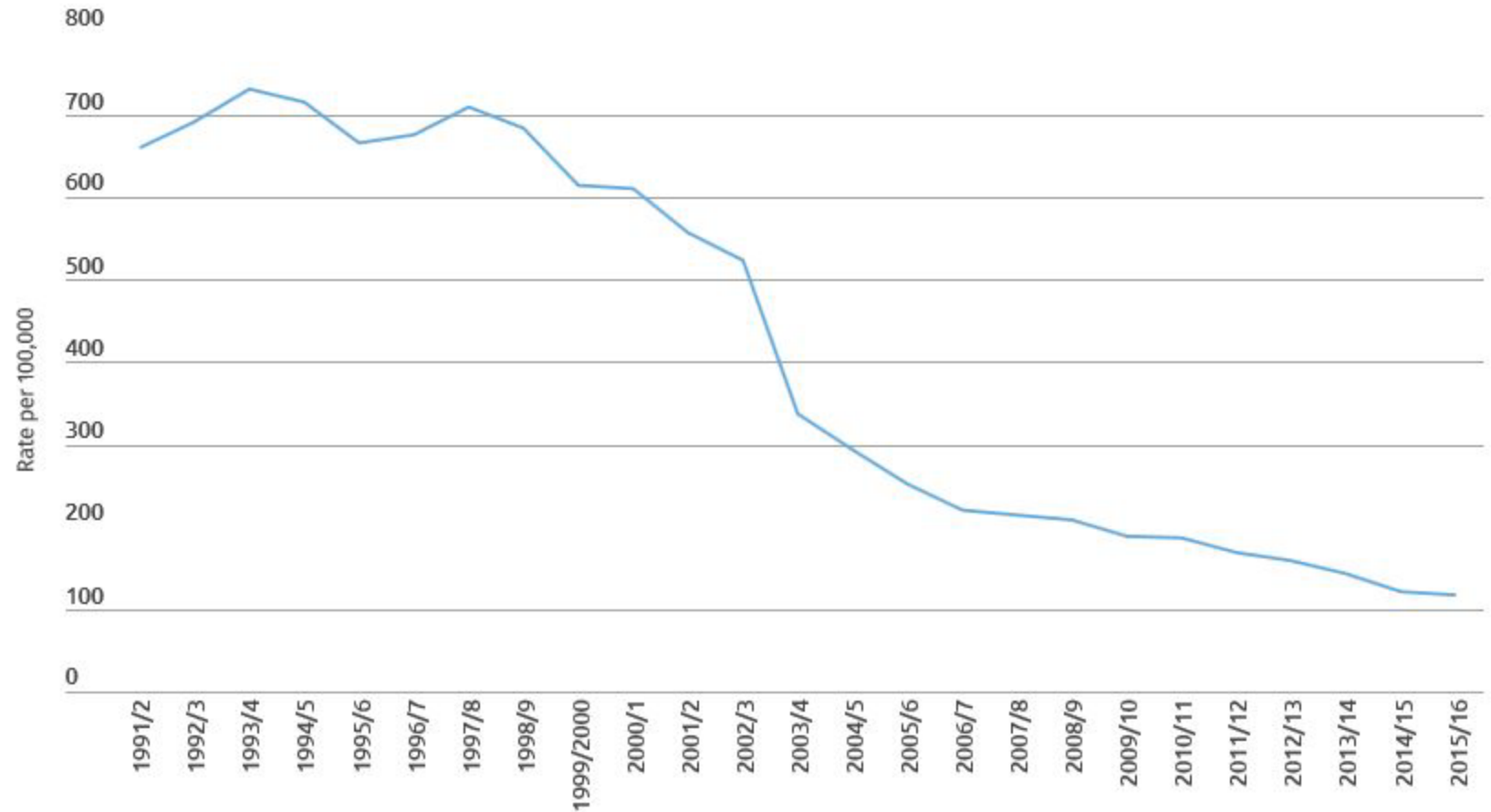
Ontario Child and Family Services Act (CFSA)

- Prevention and diversion
- Alternatives to custody and community-based interventions
- Provision of rehabilitative programs for youth who are under supervision and care
- Reintegration programs for youth being released from custodial sentences into the community
- Least restrictive custody level



Youth Entering Justice System in Ontario

- Currently community sentence (93%)
- Detention and custody (7%)
- Open custody
- Secure custody



Source: Calculations by authors based on Statistics Canada CANSIM database ([Crime and Justice, Youth](#)).

Note: Youths aged 12-17 years.

Community Sentence (Probation)

- Approx. 93% of youth serve community sentences
- Probation officers have responsibility for all case management
- Risk assessment classification occurs immediately to identify strengths and criminogenic tendencies
- Community service providers lend support



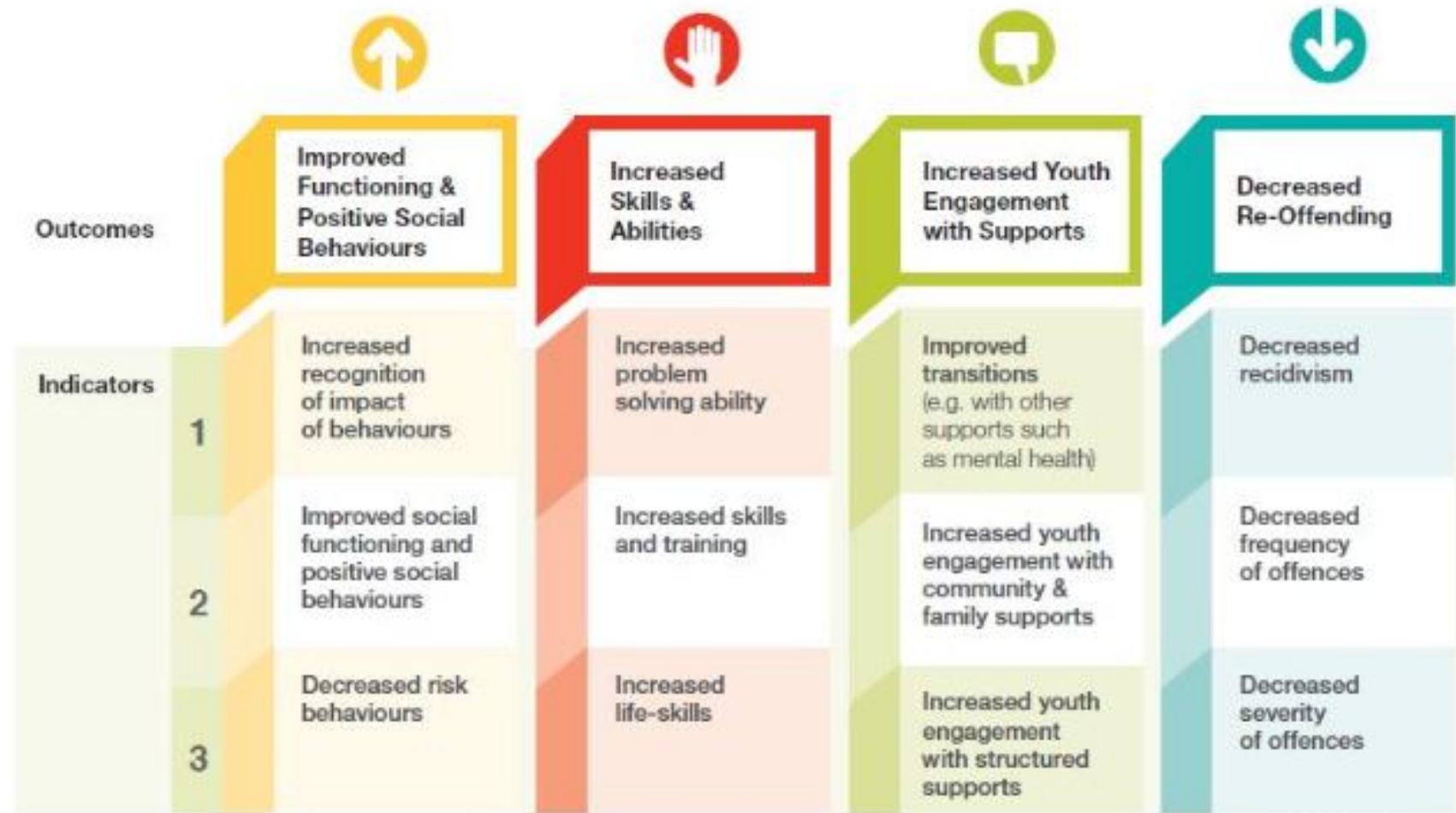
Community Sentence (Probation)

- Proportion of youth receiving a community sentence following a finding of guilt has increased 18%
- Over 8,000 youth were diverted from formal court proceedings in 2013-2014
- In 2013-14, 28,981 youth were served in the community
- **Ontario's youth crime rate has decreased by 46% between 2003 and 2014**



Community Based Programs

- Ministry has developed a broad and extensive range of community-based alternatives to detention
- Over 400 community based programs across the system in 2014
- Variety of programs



Open Custody Detention Accommodation

- No fences or restraints
- Youth access community services such as education, health or employment
- Open custody/ detention beds have been reduced from 1,022 in 2003 to 332 in 2016
- Average counts in September 2015 from 117 to 136



Detention

- In custody awaiting trial and sentencing
- Risk assessment classification
- Probation officer acts as support person for up to 30 days after release
- Reintegration planning based on meeting immediate and basic needs of youth



William E Hay Detention Centre

Secure Custody and Detention Beds

- Youth cannot leave the grounds
- Probation officers have responsibility for all case management
- Risk assessment classification occurs immediately to identify strengths and criminogenic tendencies
- Education (MoE) and primary health are delivered in facility



William E Hay Detention Centre

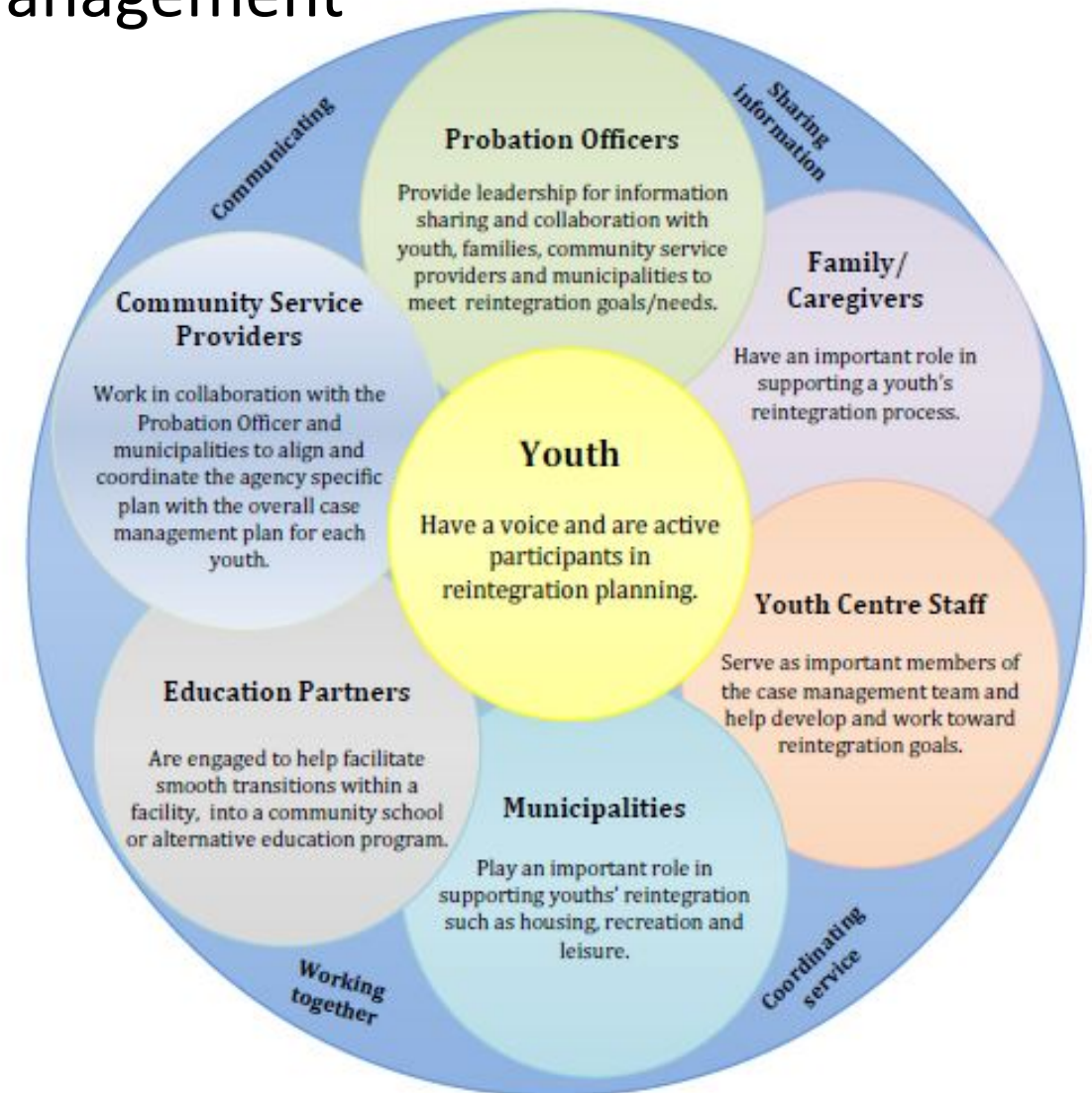
Secure Custody and Detention Beds

- Northern Ontario – 8 centres
- Southern Ontario – 12 centres
- Secure custody/detention beds have been reduced from 1,113 province-wide in 2003 to 418 in 2017-2018
- **Less than 320 youth were in secure custody/detention per day in 2017**



Relationship Custody – Individual Case Management

- Immediate classification upon entry
- Directed at fostering respectful, caring relationships between staff and young people and enabling staff to provide effective, evidenced based interventions to benefit youth
- Smaller facilities often better able to accomplish these objectives
- The numbers of high risk, gang-affiliated, youth peer-on-peer violence is increasing
- The staff in some facilities were described by young people as being more caring overall and the youth experience at RC facilities were more positive as a result

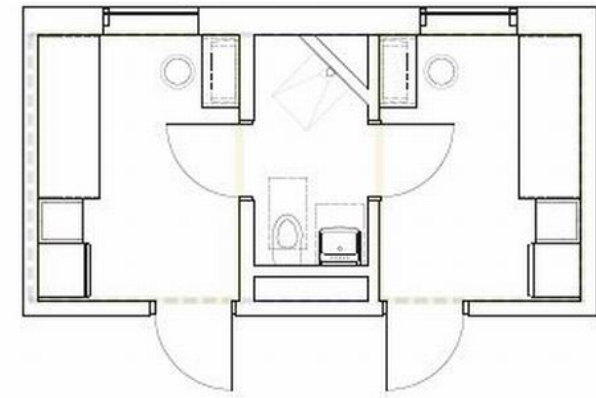
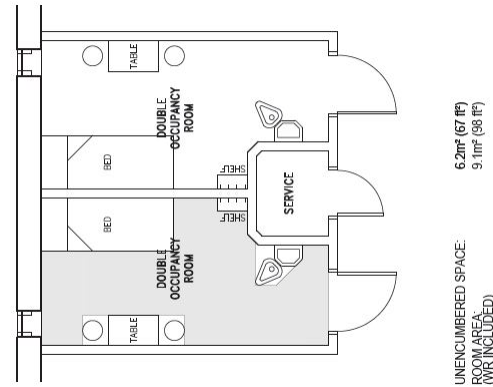
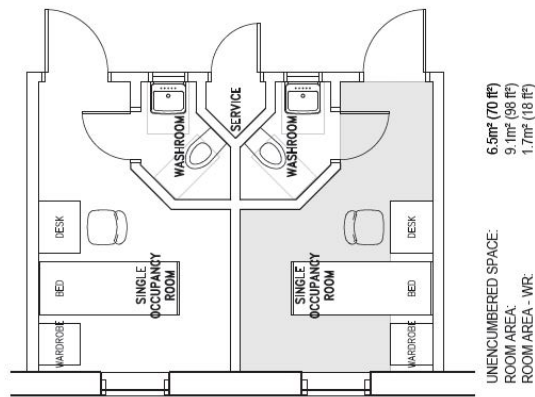
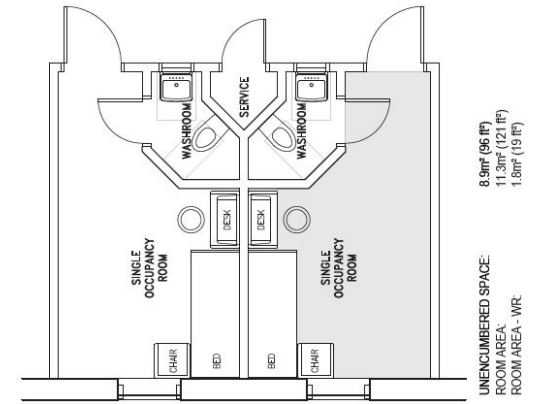
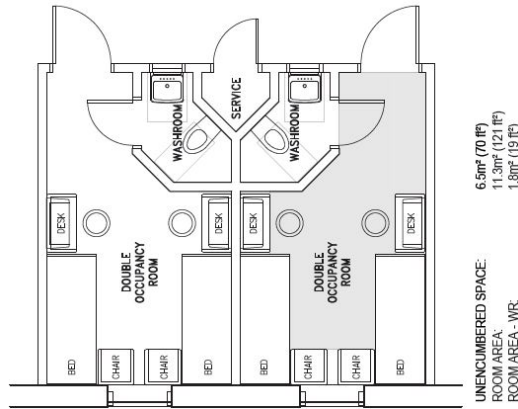
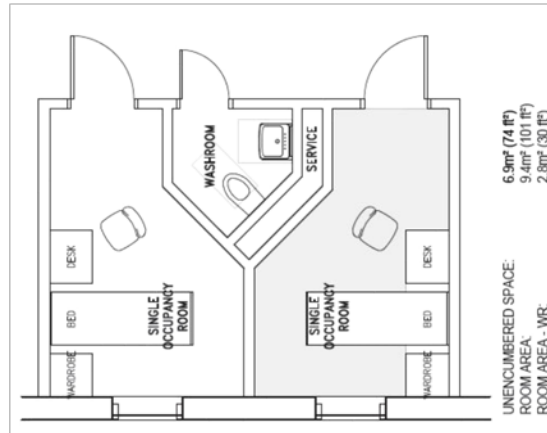


Current Numbers

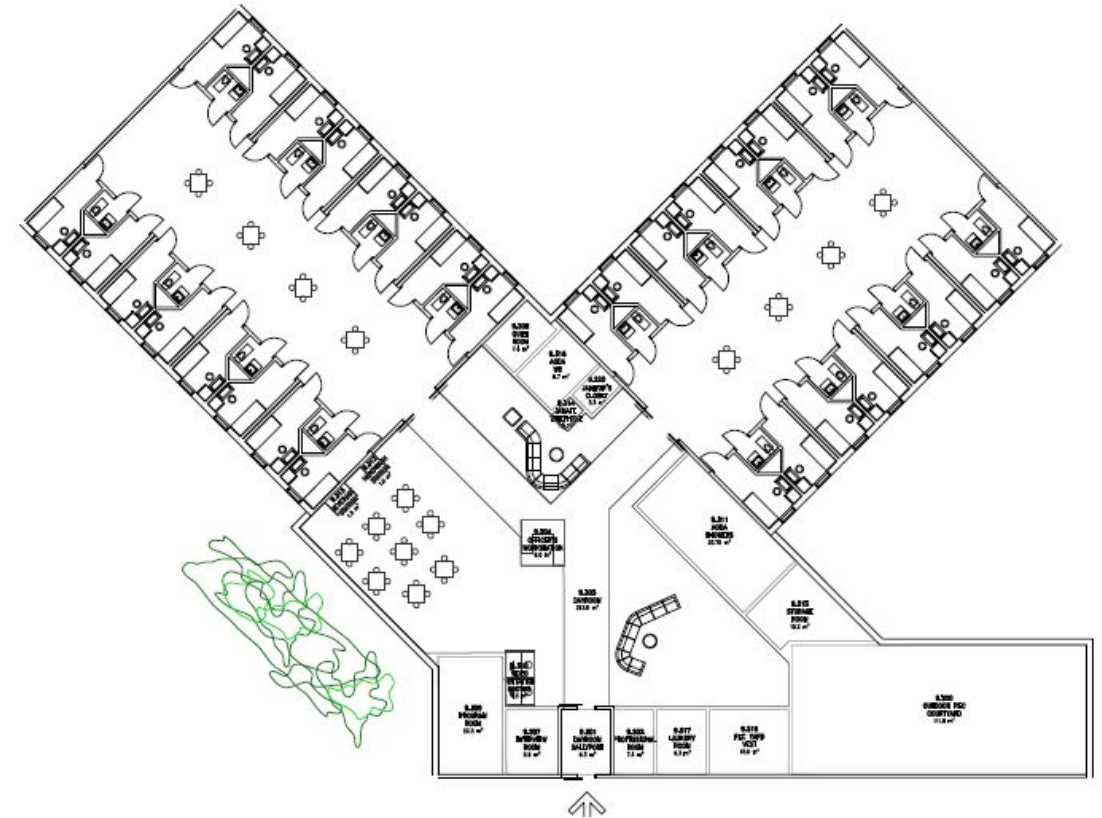
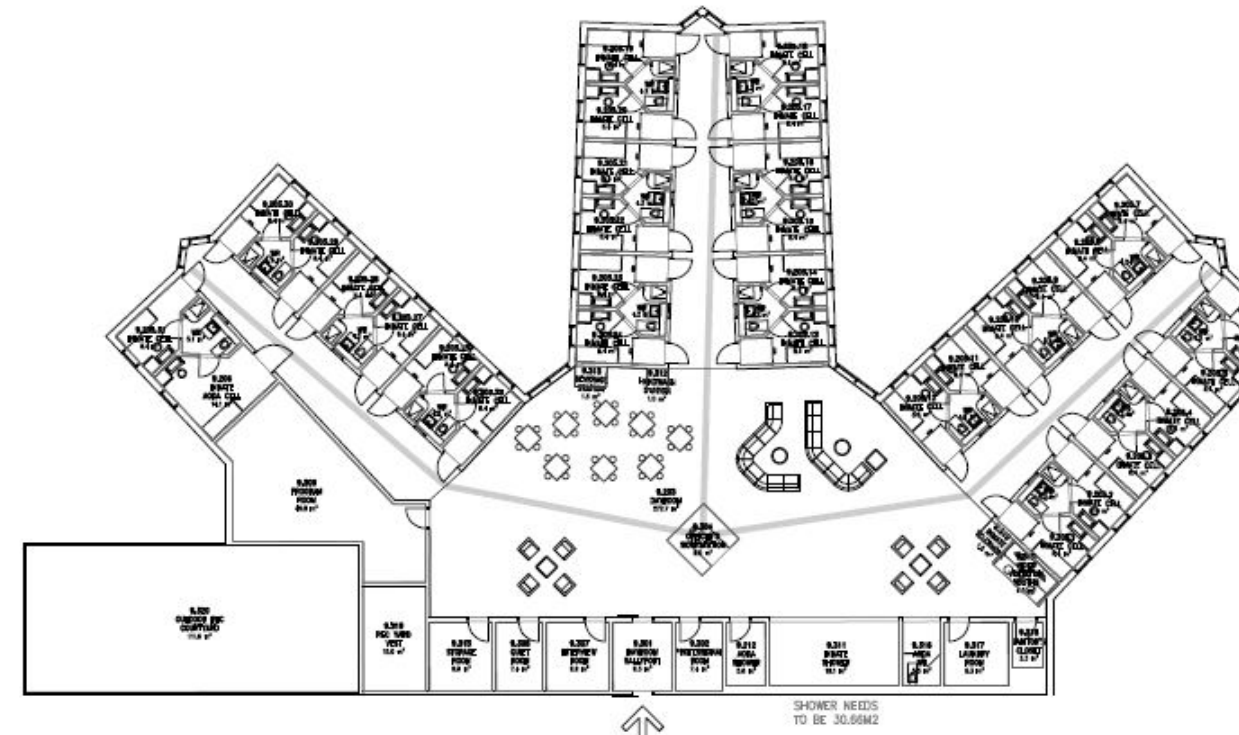
- On November 8-10, 2015, secure custody counts ranged from a high of 52 to a low of 2
- Secure custody and detention facilities operating at approximately 50% capacity
- Minor regional disparities
- Female youth experiencing more consistent underutilization
- Open custody counts showed a similar pattern of utilization



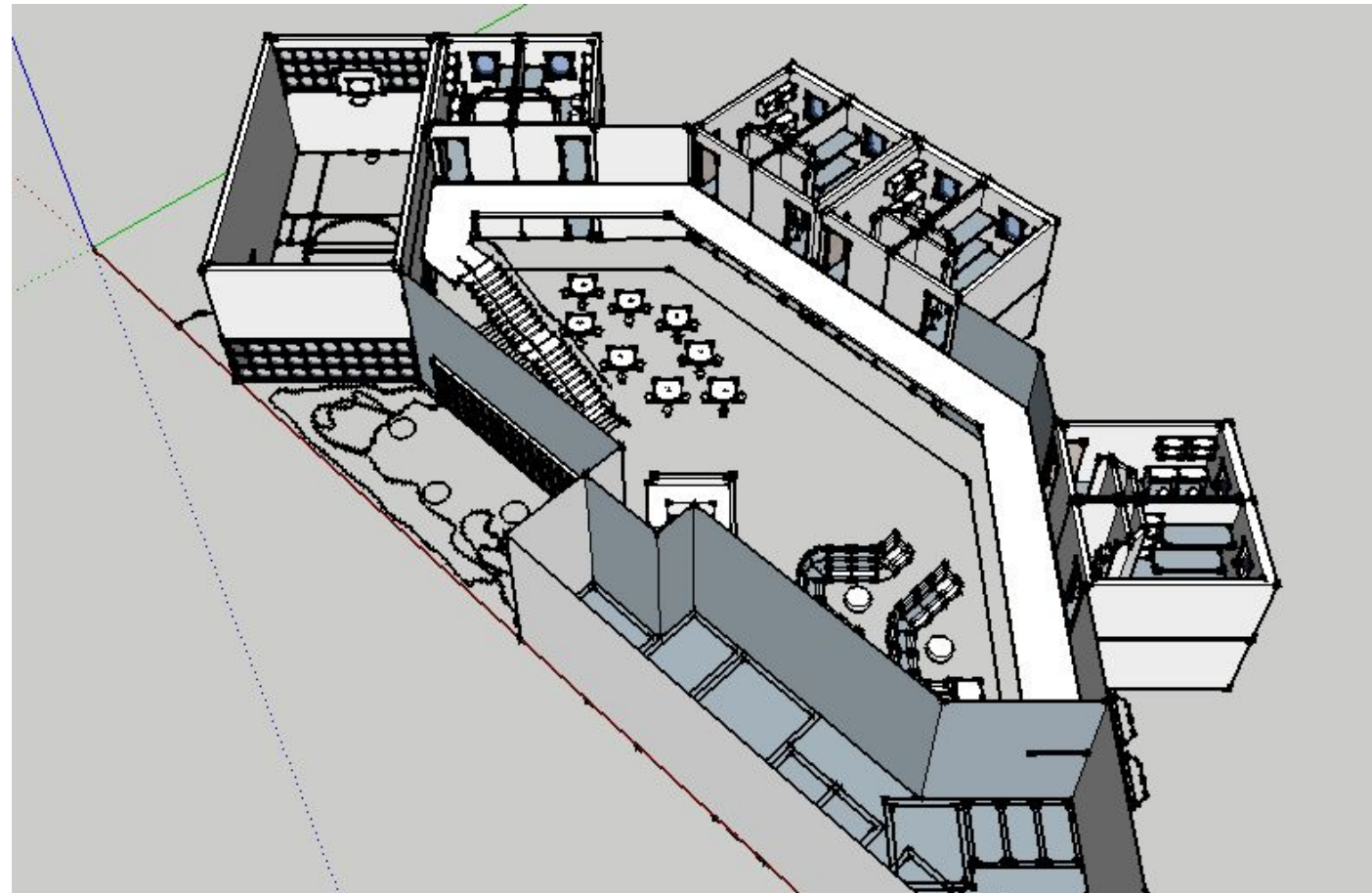
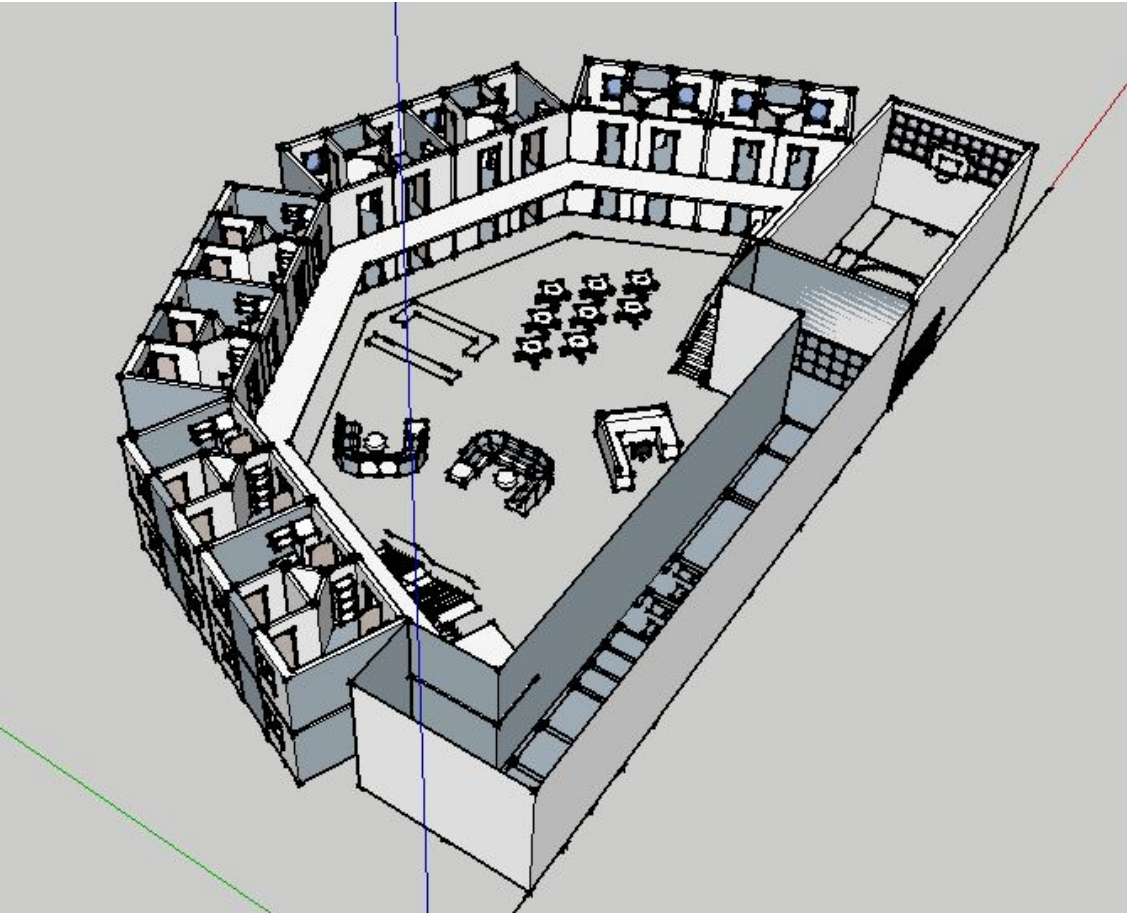
Approaches to Room Designs



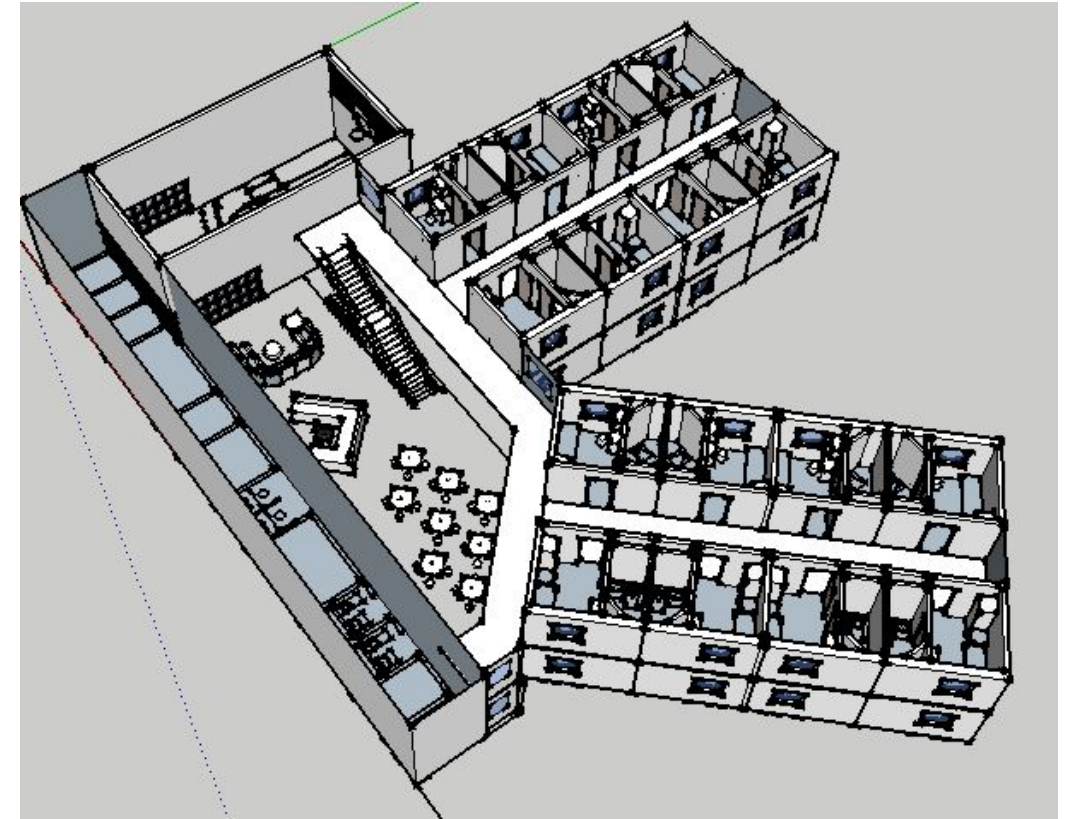
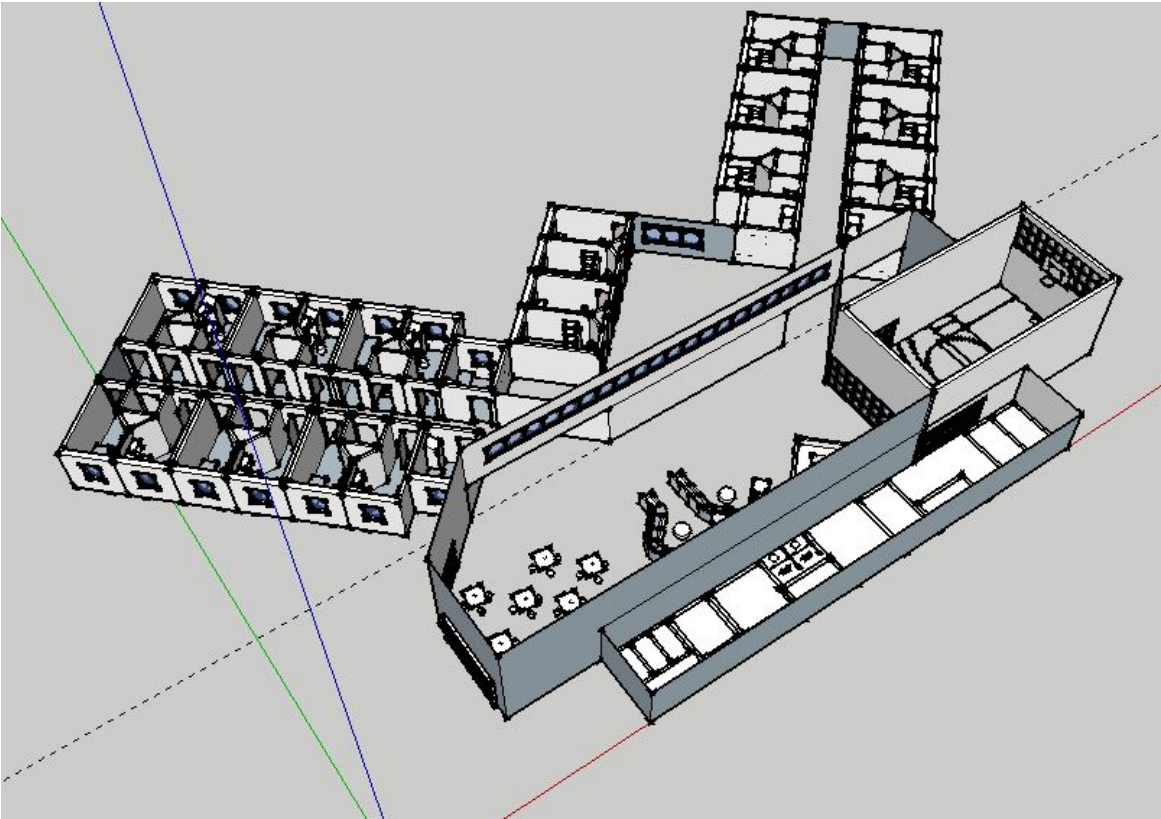
Approaches to Unit Designs



Approaches to Unit Designs

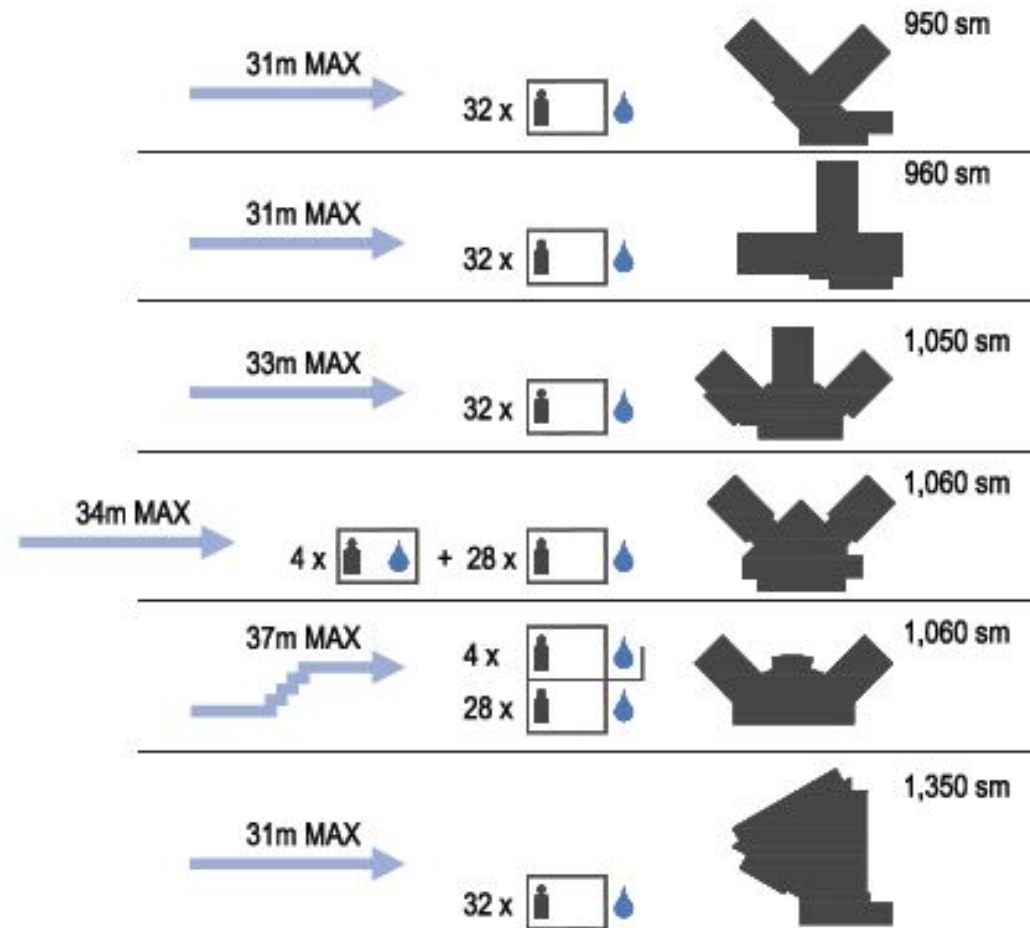
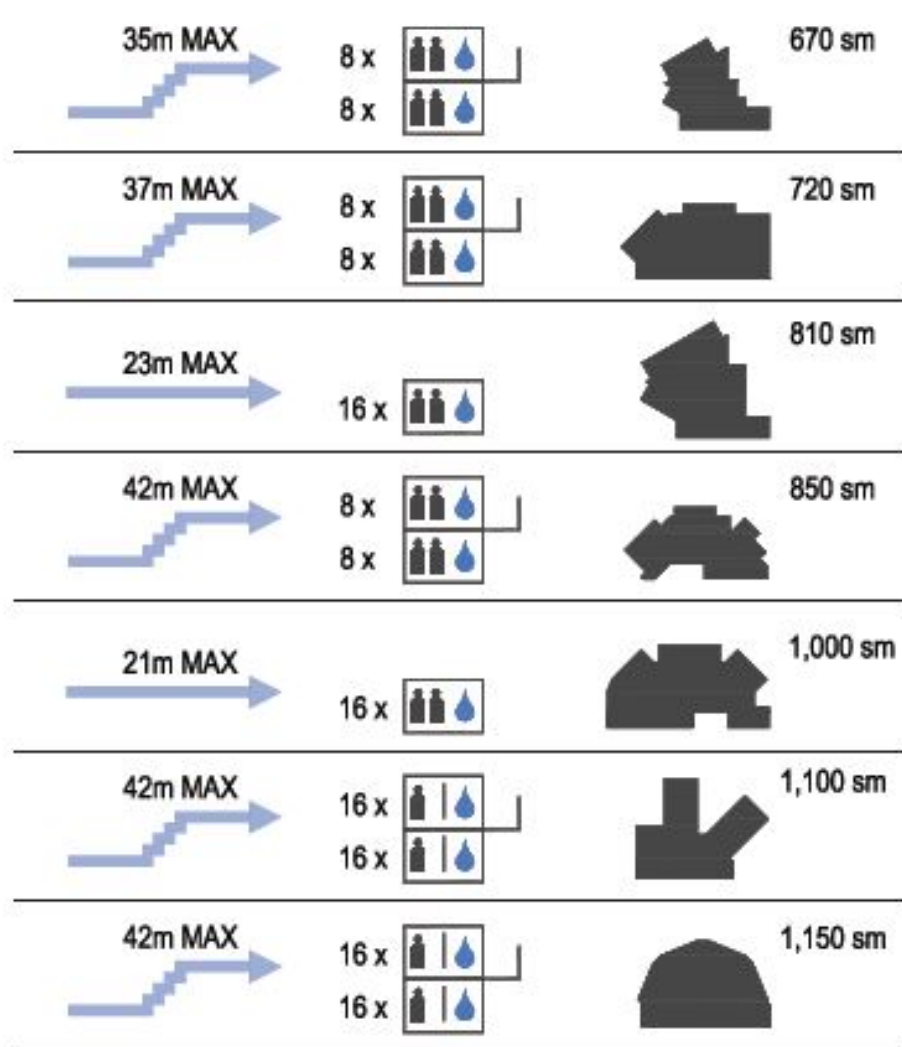


Approaches to Unit Designs

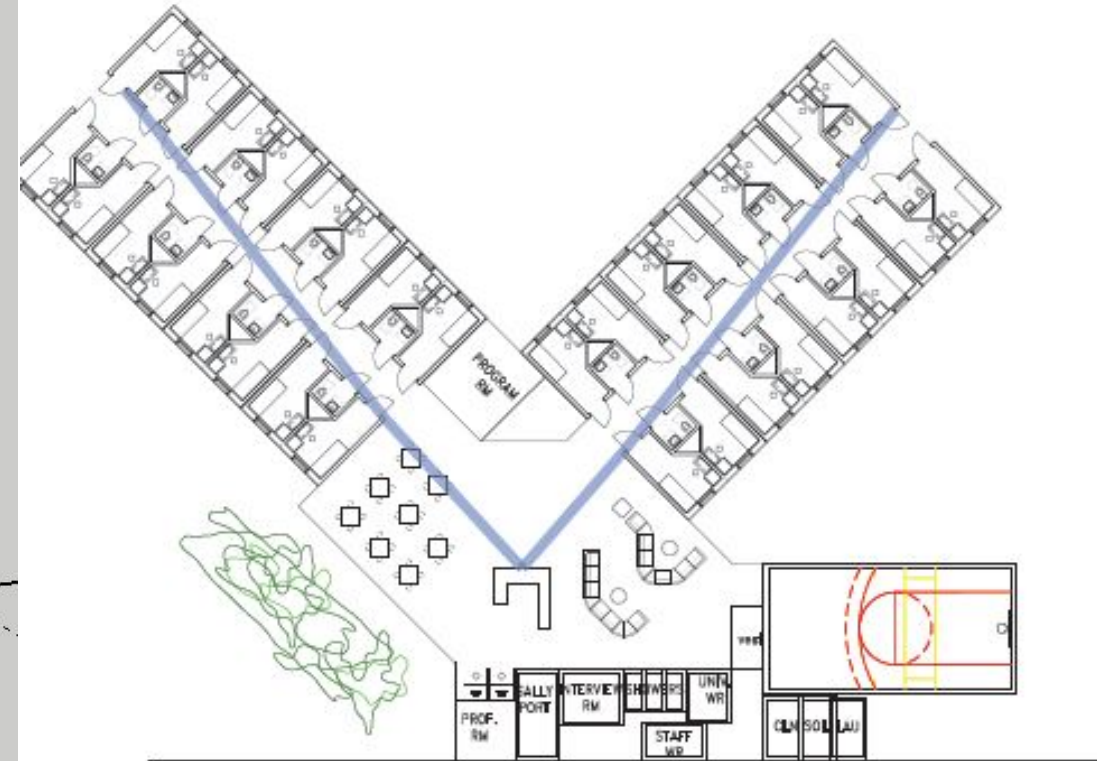
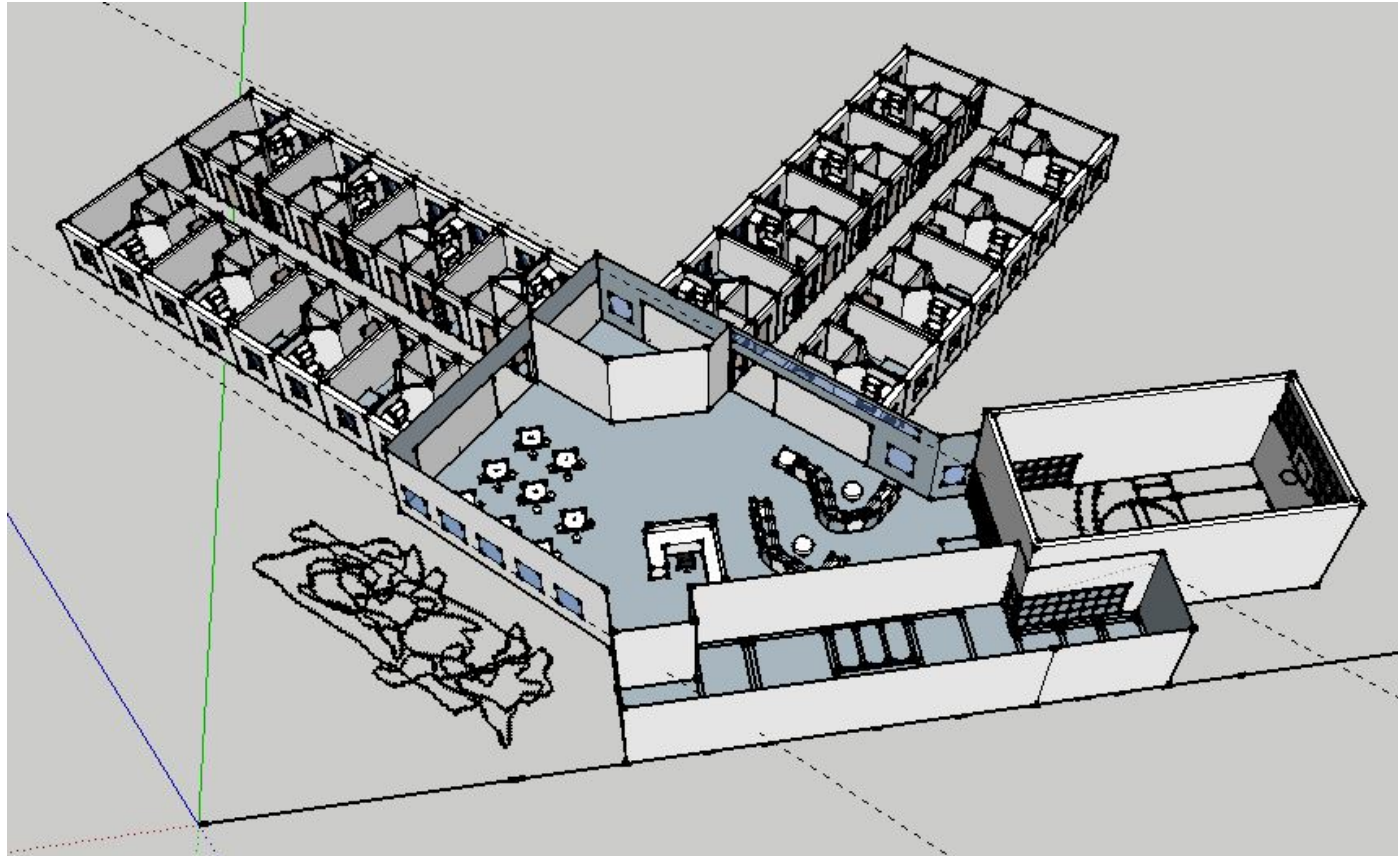


One Commonwealth- Two Approaches for Youth Design

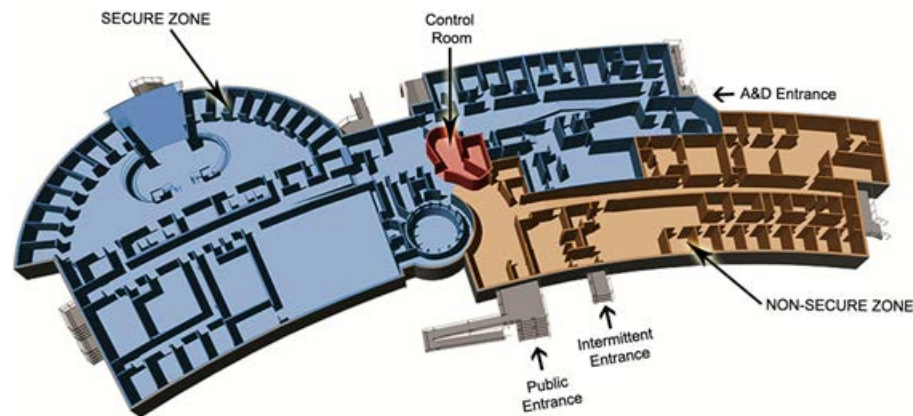
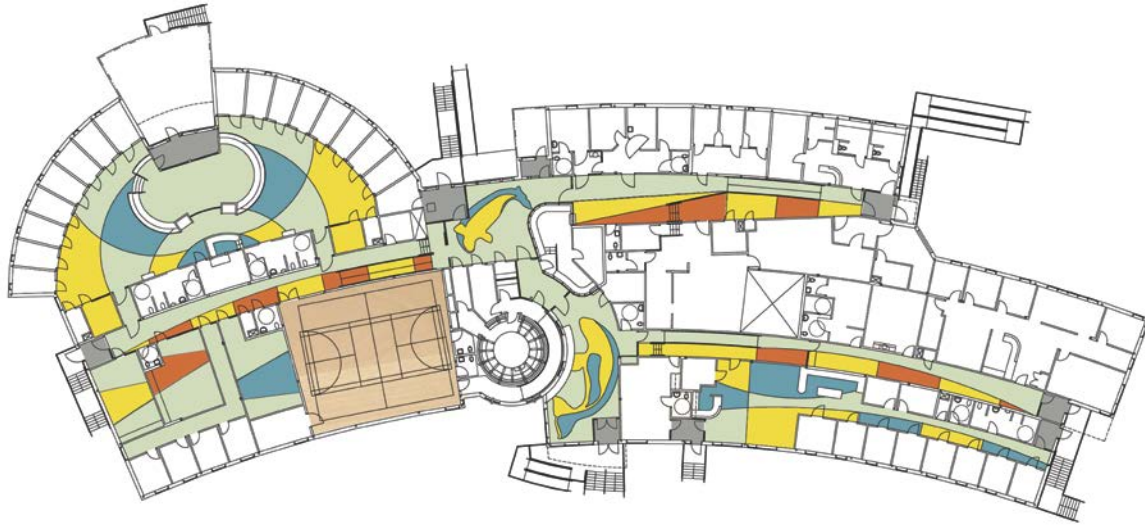
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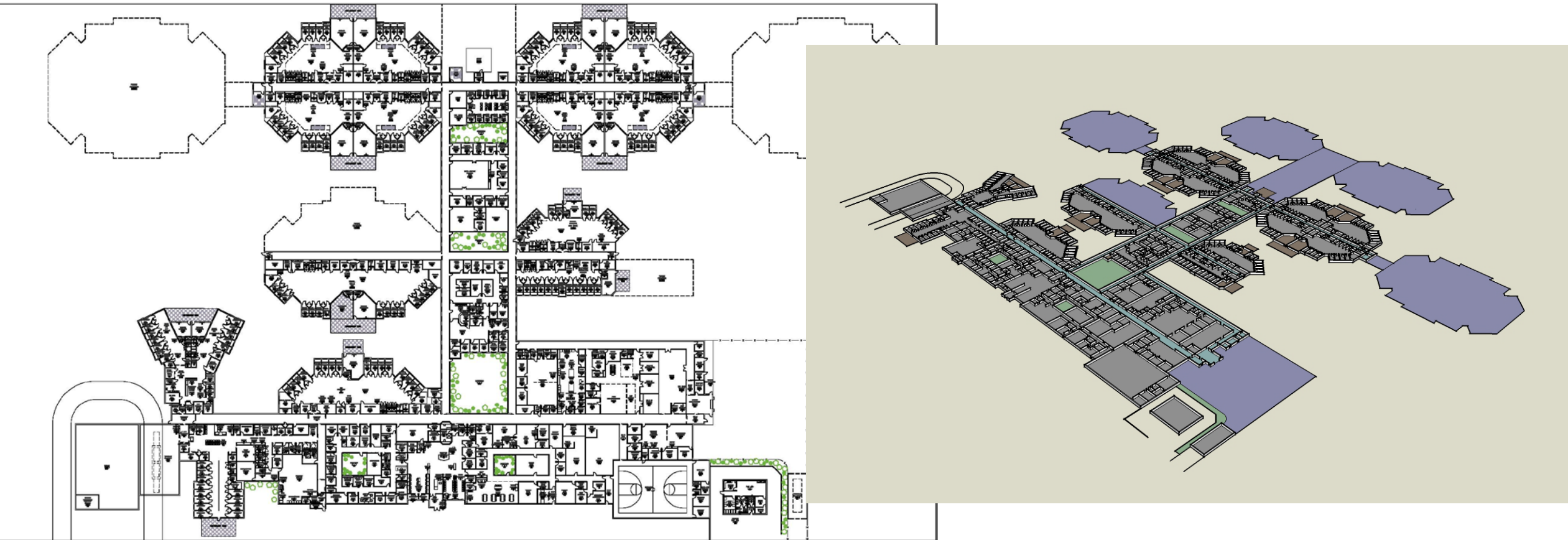
Approaches to Unit Designs



Normalization - Rankin Inlet Healing Centre



Approaches to Facility Design– Precedents – HMP Newfoundland



An Approach to Youth Design - Philosophy

- Single Level, Non Tiered
- Early Classification
- Primarily Single Bedrooms with Ensuite Bathrooms
- Multiple Security Levels Consistent with Classification
- Public Access to Facility
- Focus on Staff Needs
- Wireless, Integrated Security System
- Individual Case Management
- Normalized Environments
- Inmate Privacy
- Greenhouses, Ice pads



Rankin Inlet

Lessons Learned

- Smaller Facilities
- Normalisation
- Population Separation
- Staff Training
- Case Management
- Diversion if Possible
- Community Support
- Human Dignity





Victoria, Australia



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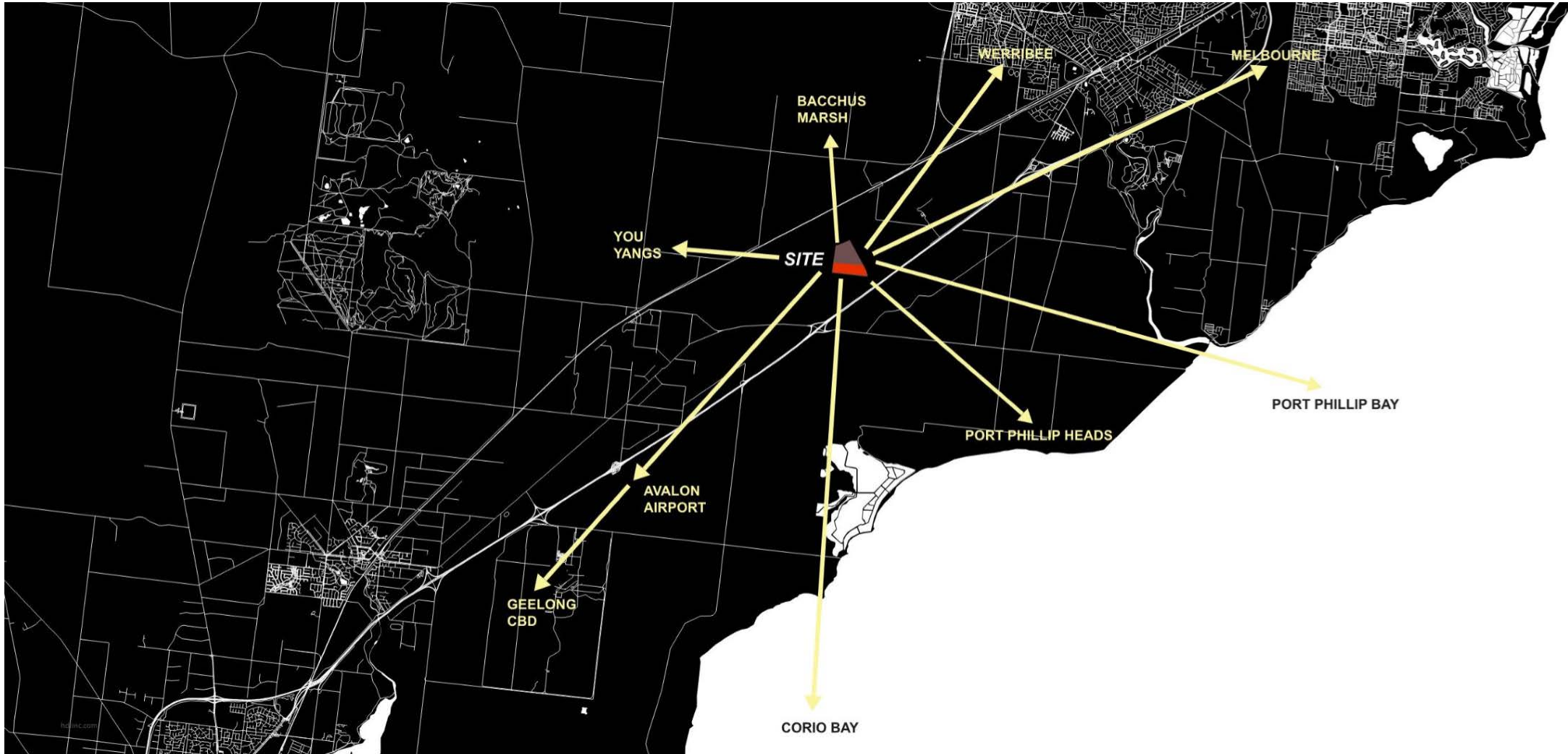
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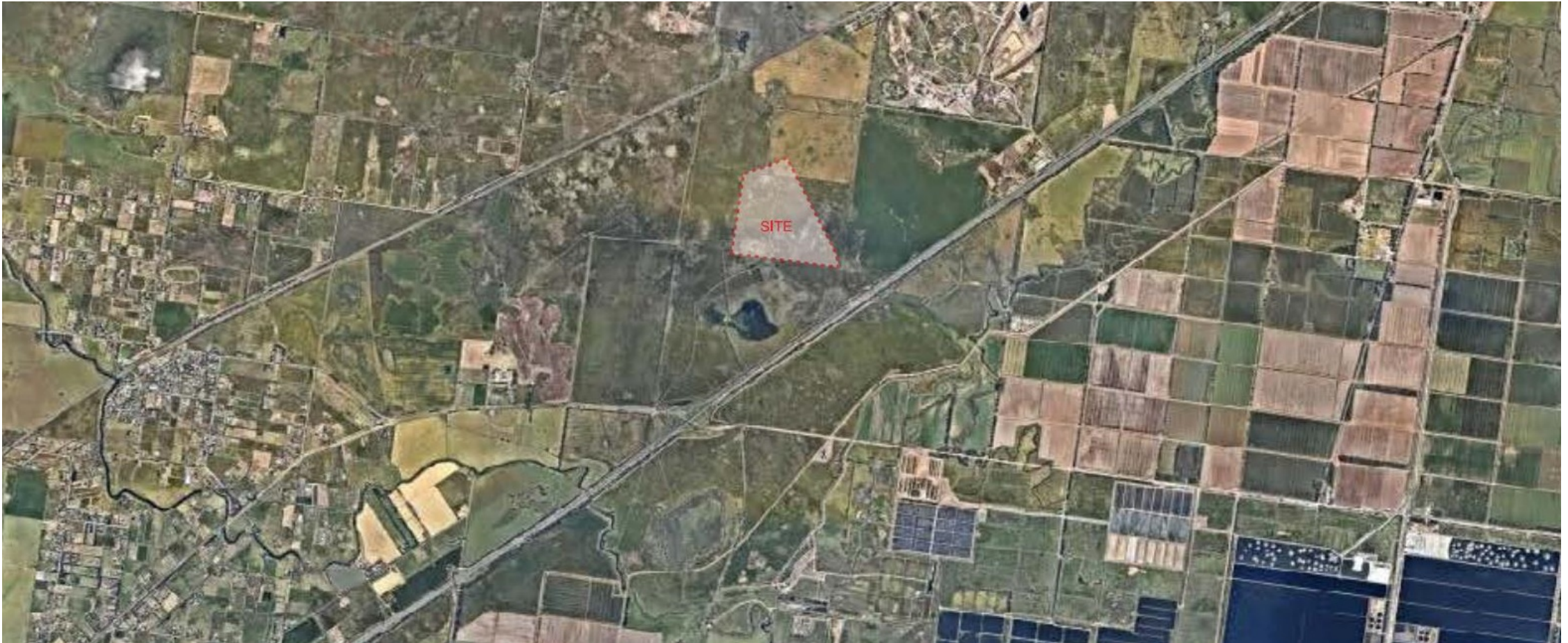
YOUTH JUSTICE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT



YOUTH JUSTICE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT

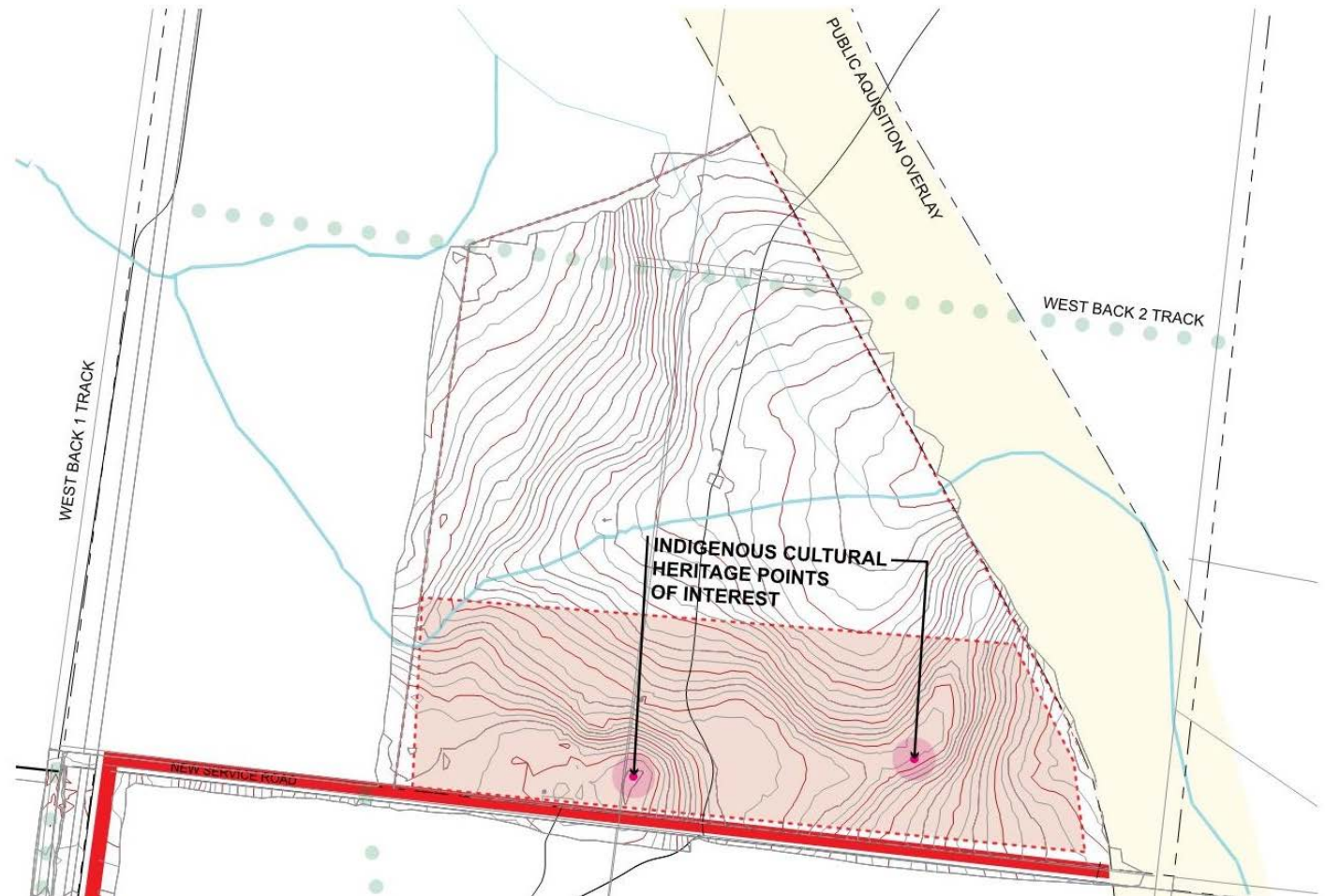


SITE & CONTEXT



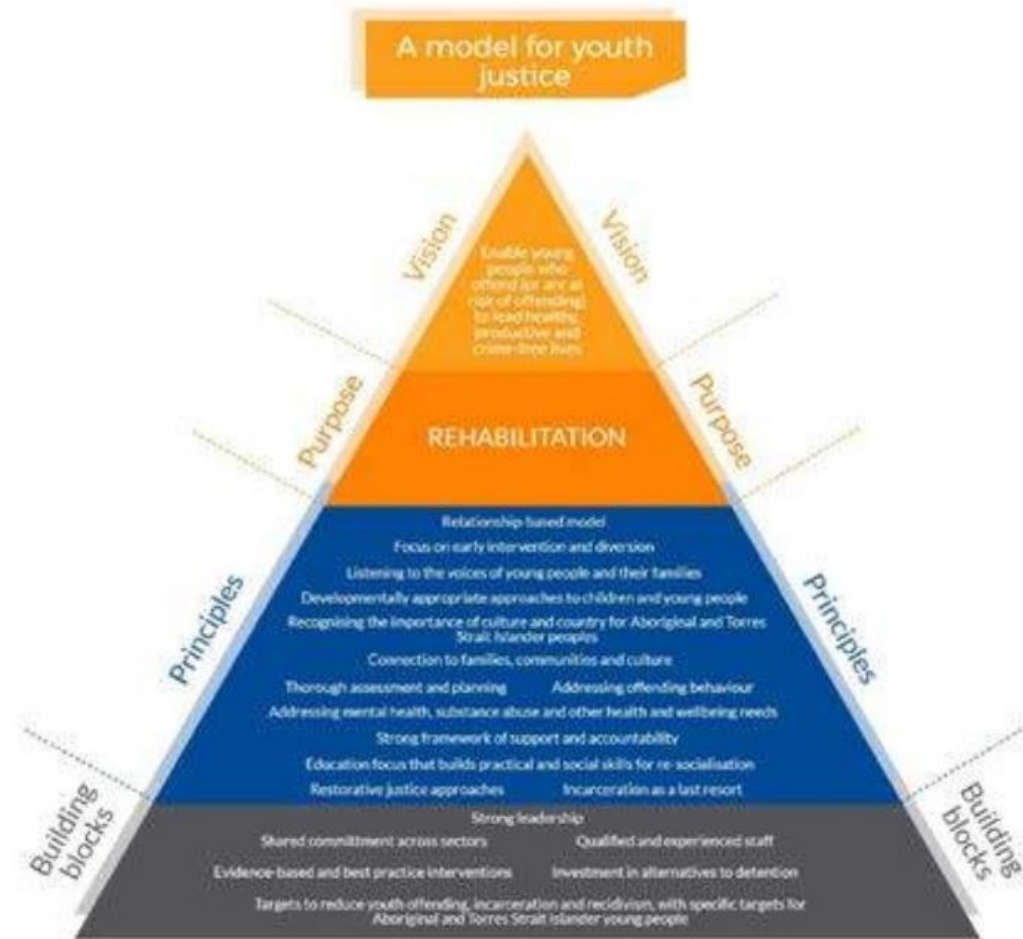
SITE & CONTEXT

A cultural heritage assessment of the site, which is within an area of recognised cultural sensitivity, was undertaken, and a new Aboriginal place was recorded that covers two low, rocky rises.



PROJECT VISION

- Welcoming, familiar, humane
- Supportive of pro-social behaviors
 - Communication
 - Participation
 - Personal Growth
 - Rehabilitation
- Gender responsive
- Culturally appropriate
- Safe & secure
- Flexible & mission specific



PROJECT THEMES

- Safety & security
- Visual harmony
- Materiality
- Landscape
- Built form



PROJECT THEMES



CREATING A COMMUNITY – SOCIAL PROXIMITIES AND SCALE

CAMPUS

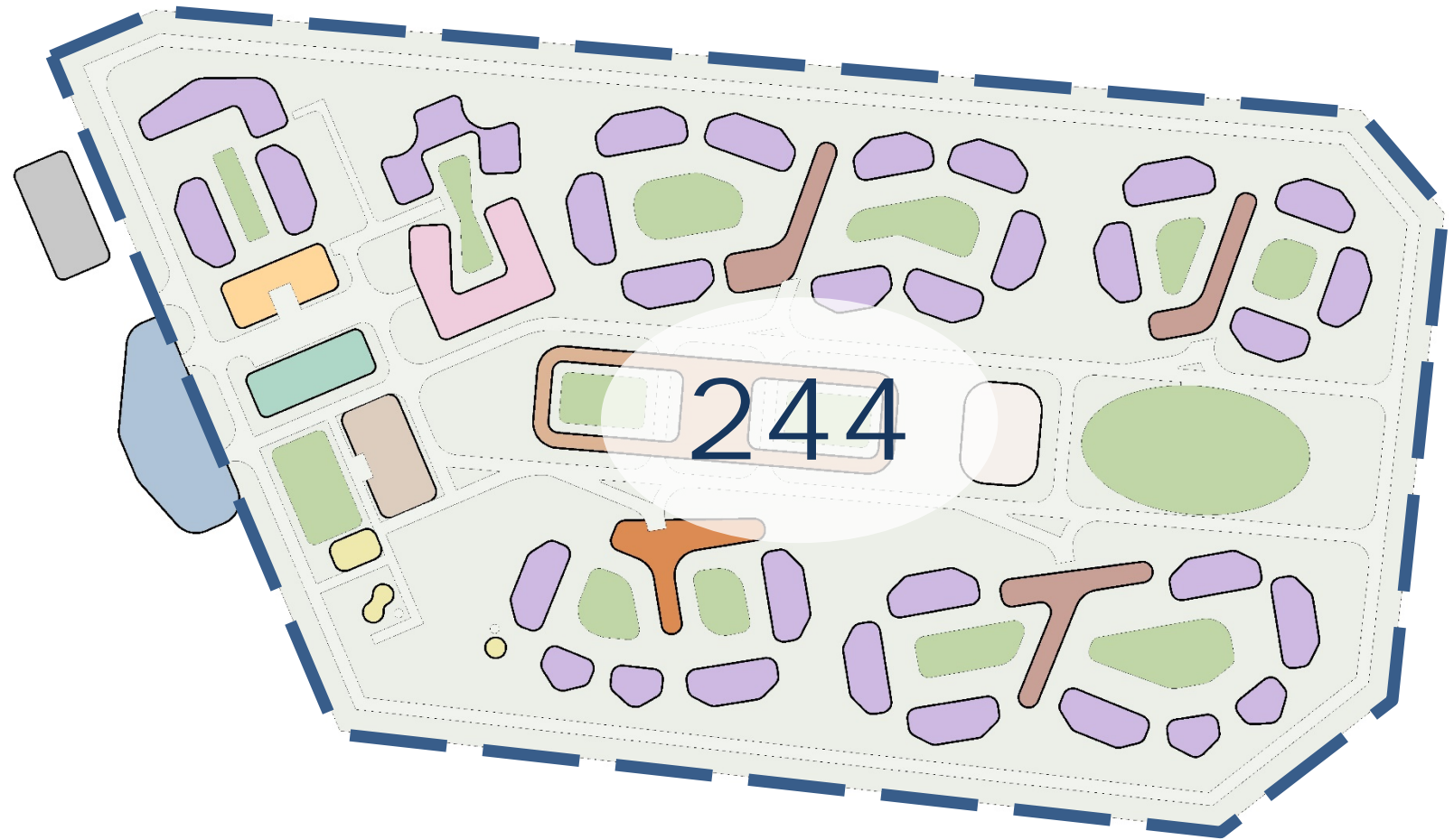
HUBS

NEIGHBORHOODS

RESIDENCES

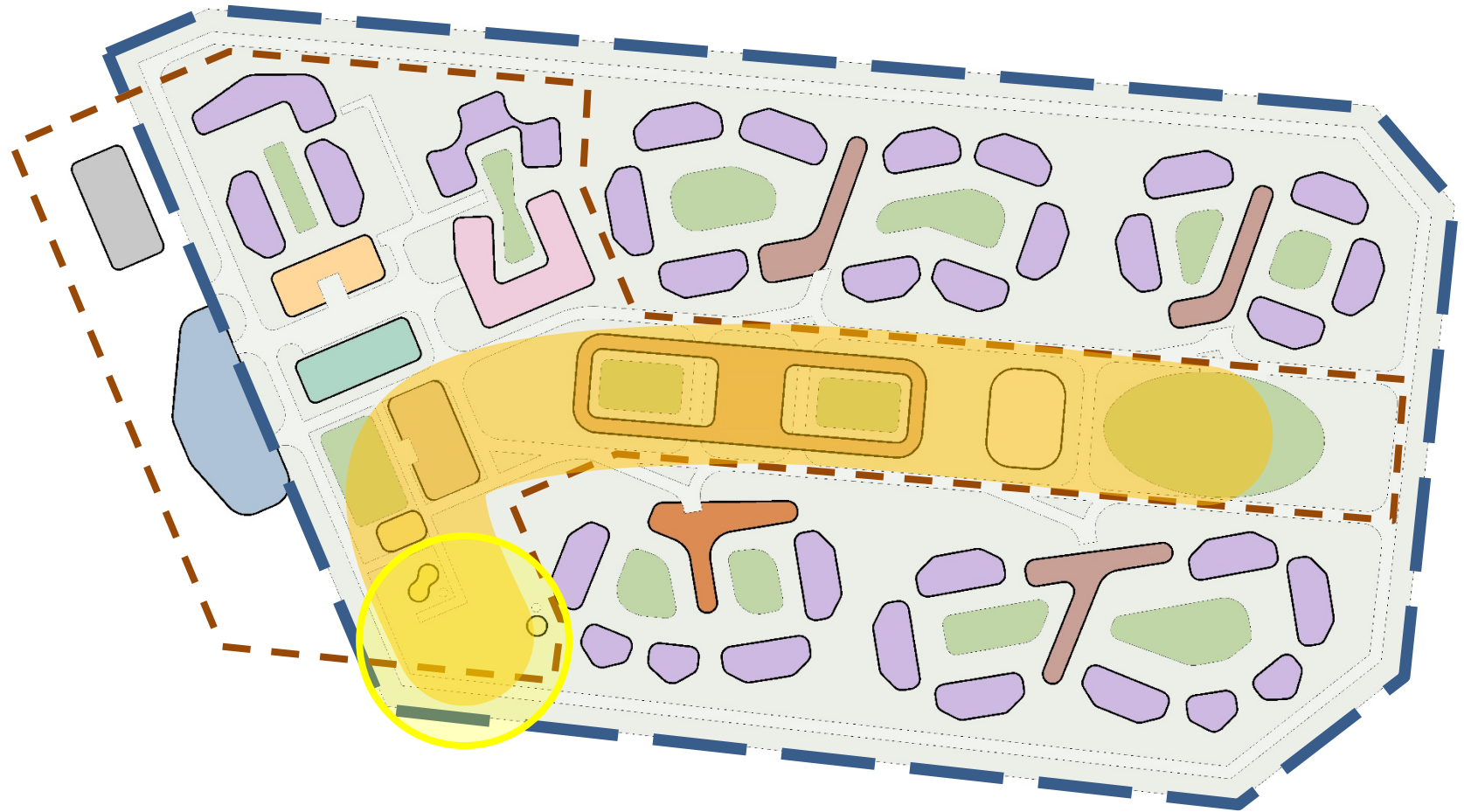
QUARTERS

CREATING A COMMUNITY – CAMPUS



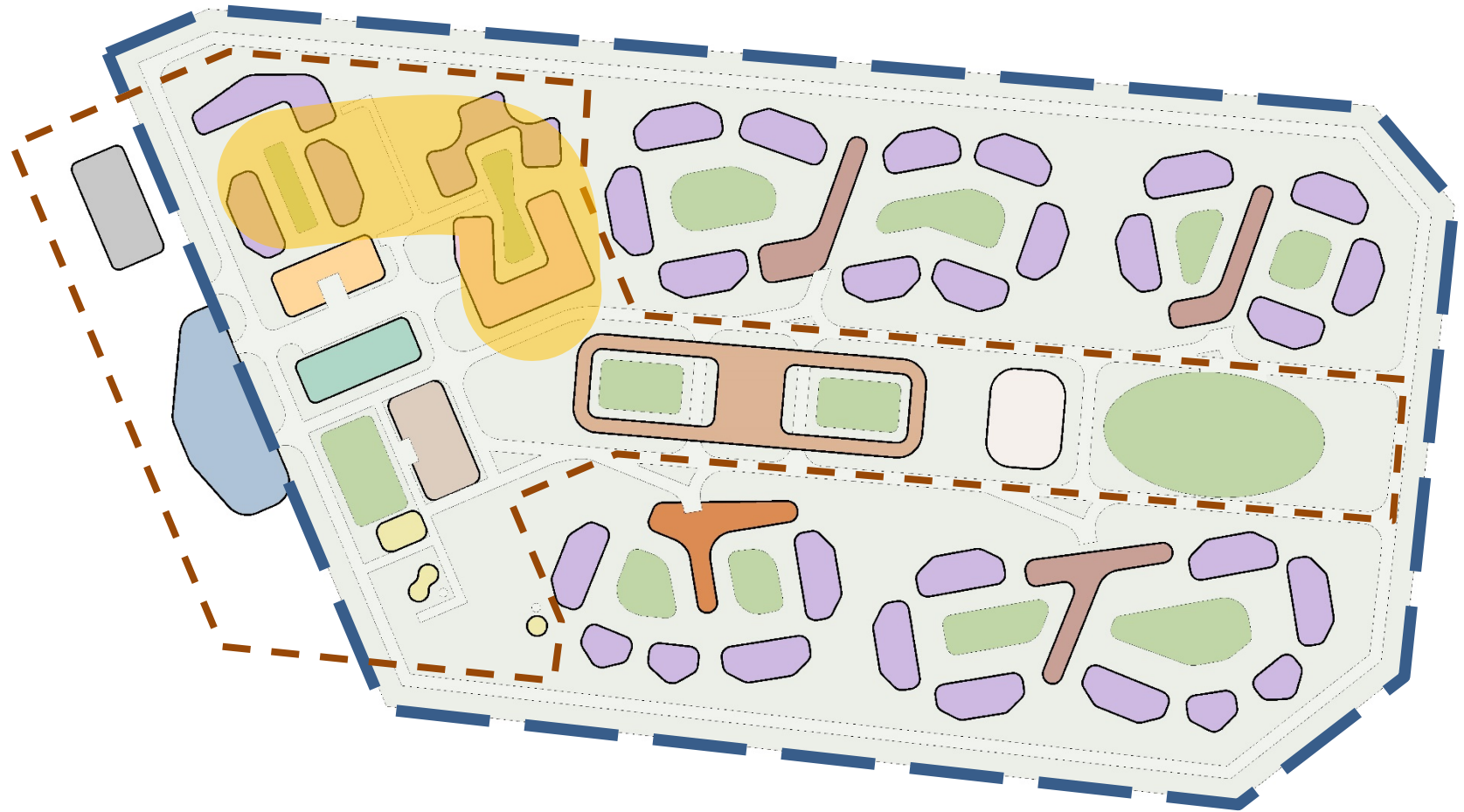
CREATING A COMMUNITY – CAMPUS

- Recreation
- Education
- Spiritual Centre
- Visiting



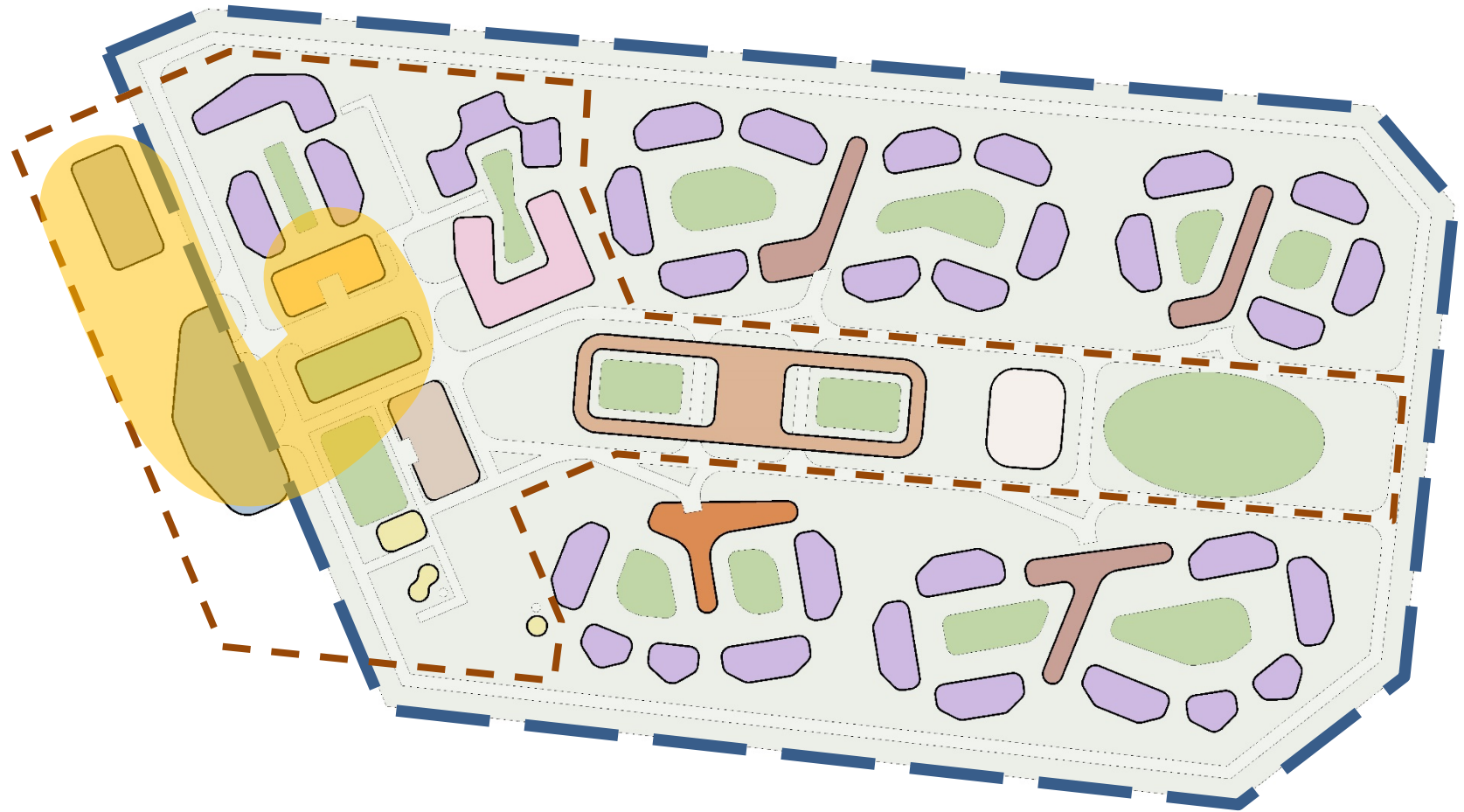
CREATING A COMMUNITY – CAMPUS

- Health Services
- Special Housing

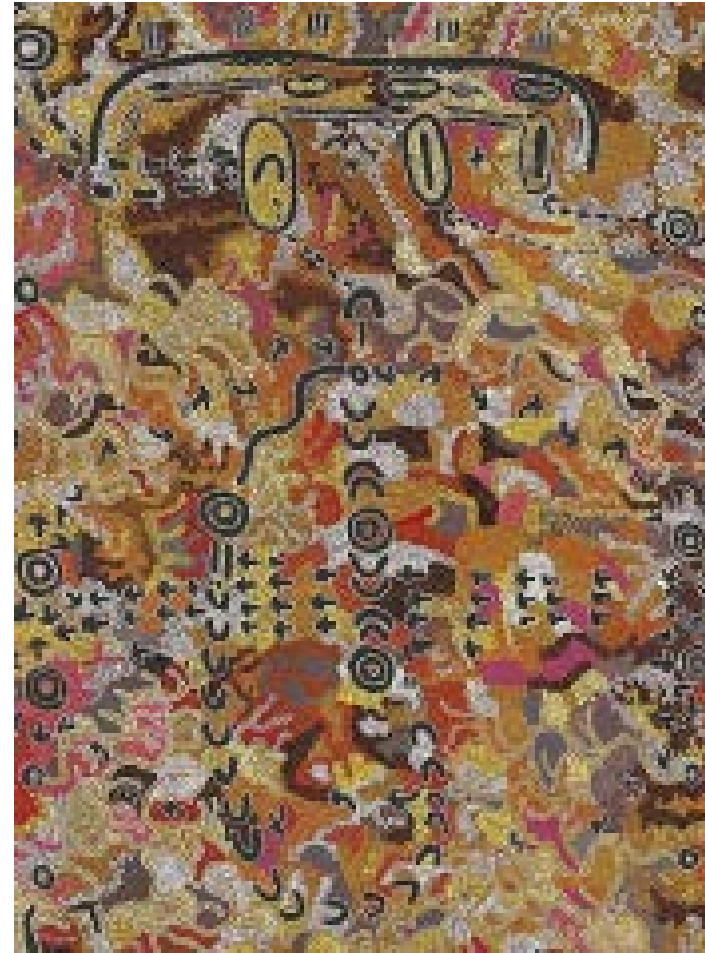


CREATING A COMMUNITY – CAMPUS

- Administration
- Facility Support

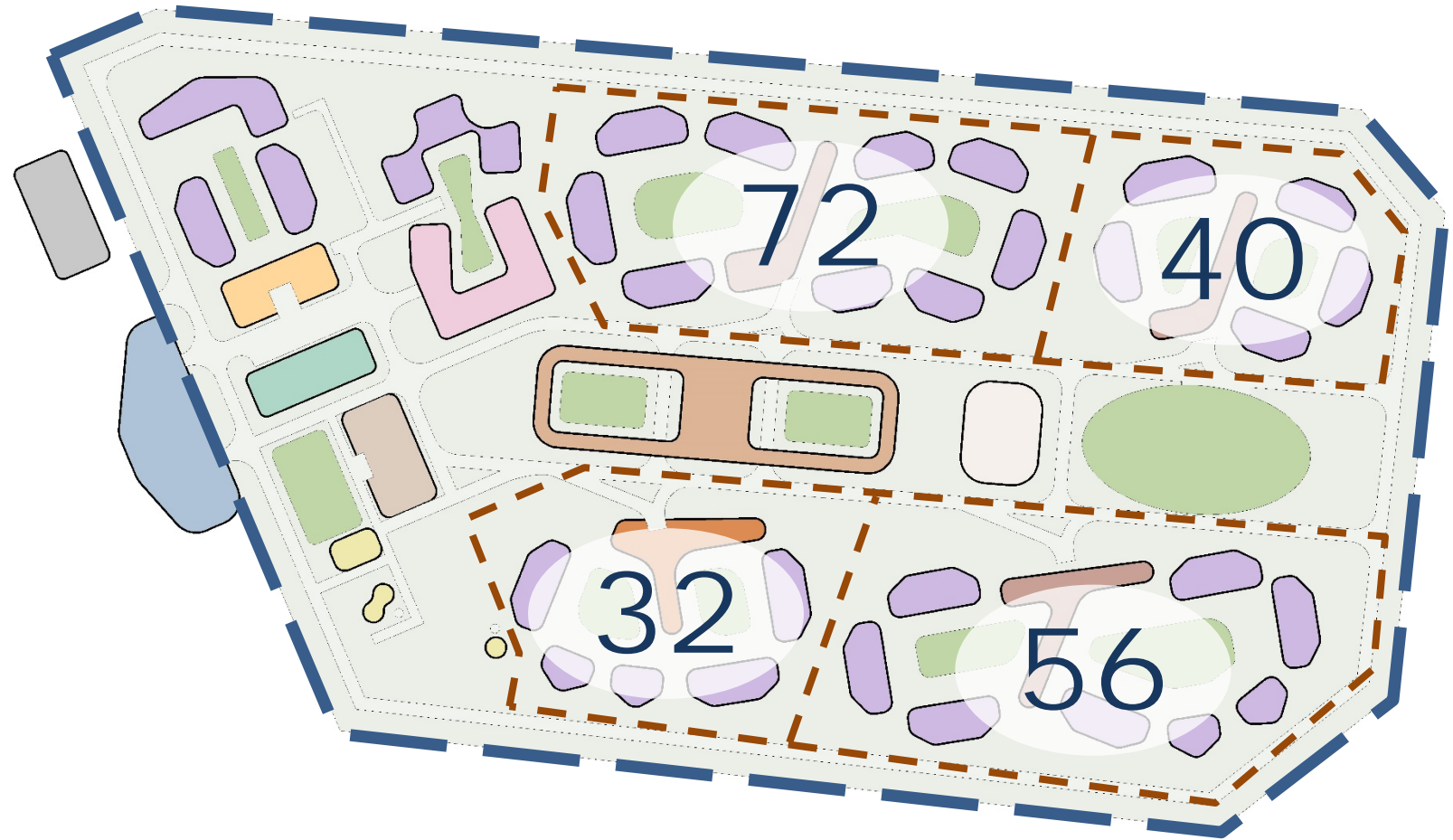


CREATING A COMMUNITY – CAMPUS



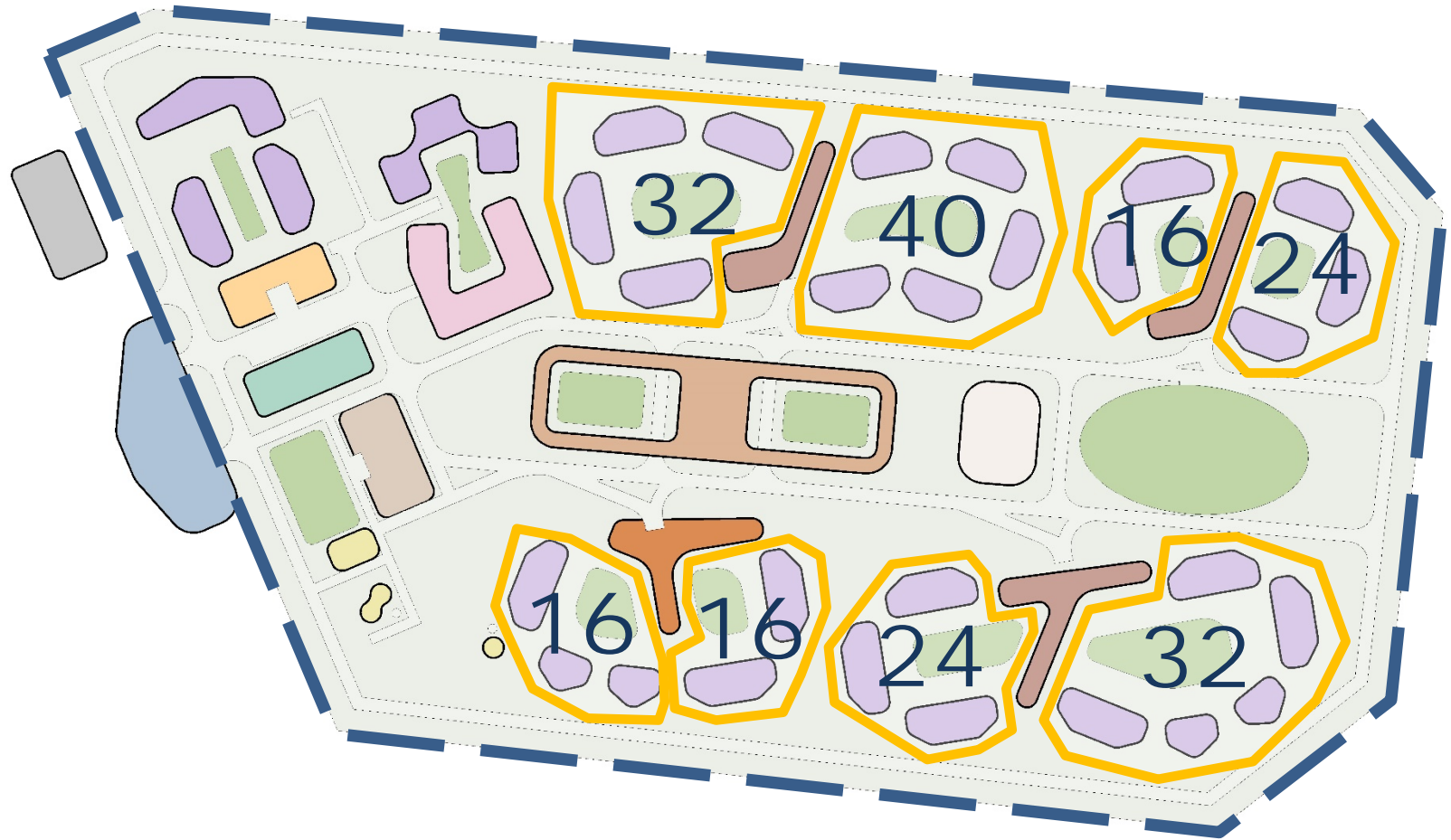
CREATING A COMMUNITY - HUBS

- Administration
- Programs



CREATING A COMMUNITY - NEIGHBORHOODS

- Common Space

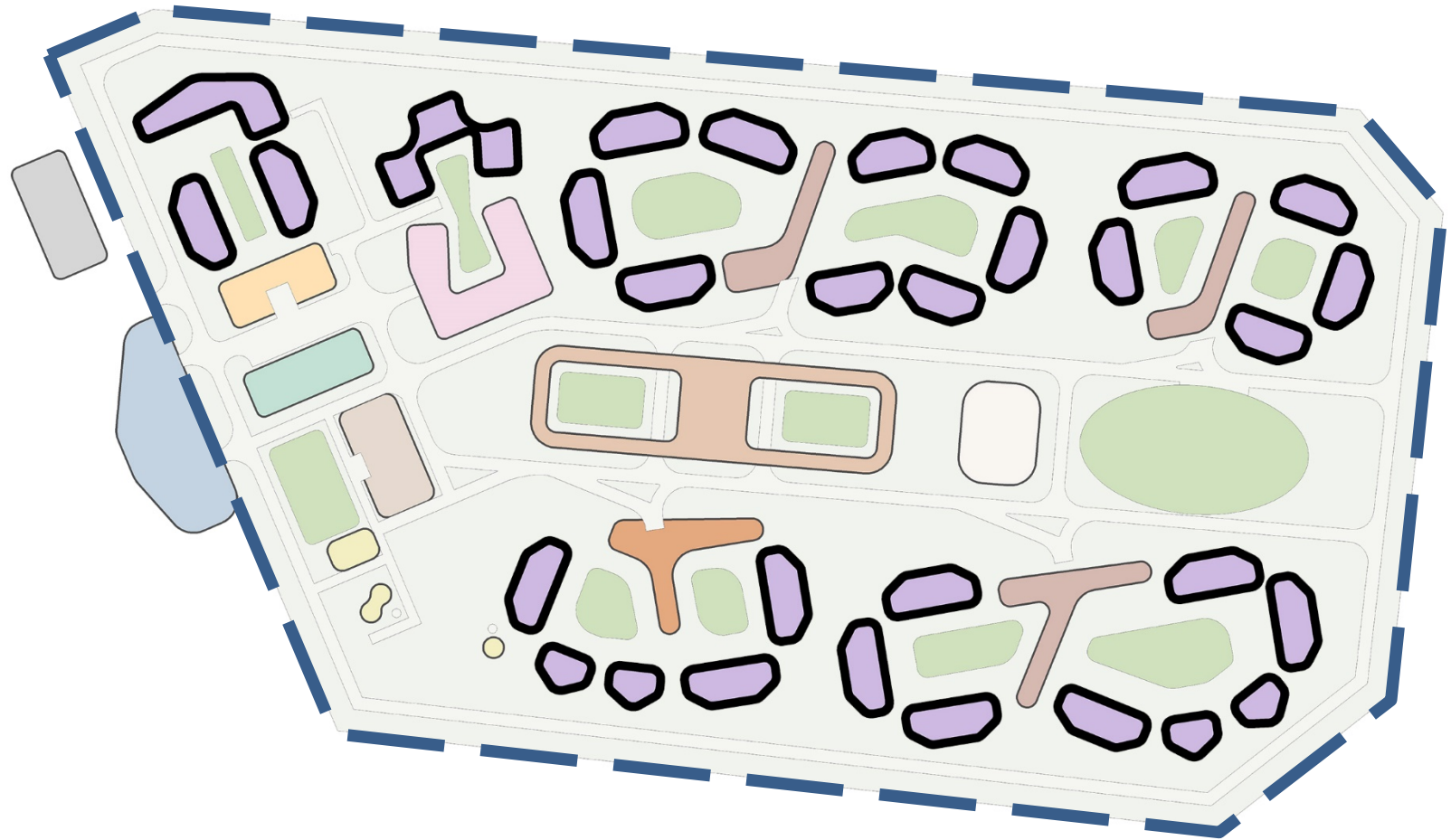


CREATING A COMMUNITY - NEIGHBORHOODS

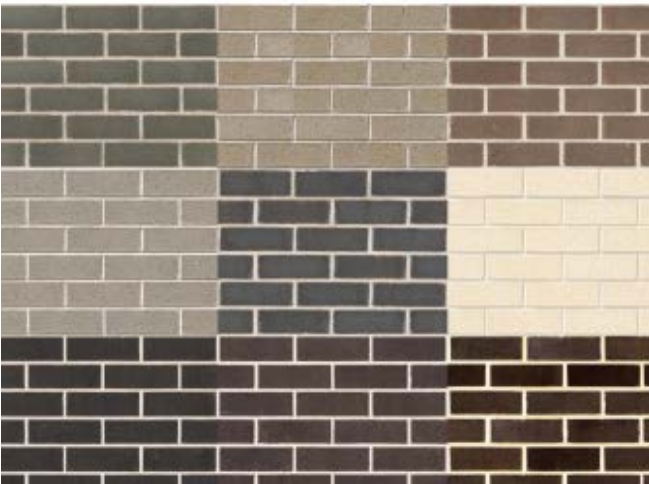


CREATING A COMMUNITY - RESIDENCES

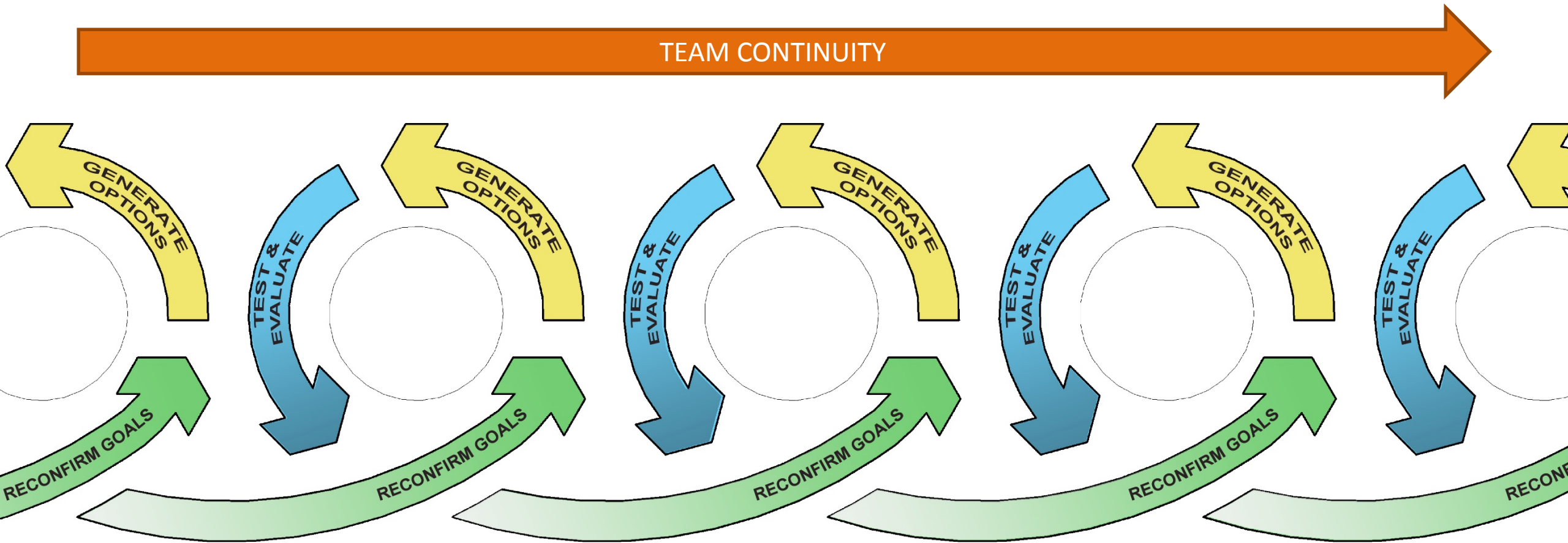
- 4-bed quarters
- 1 or 2 beds per residence



CREATING A COMMUNITY - RESIDENCES



ALIGNMENT WITH THE VISION



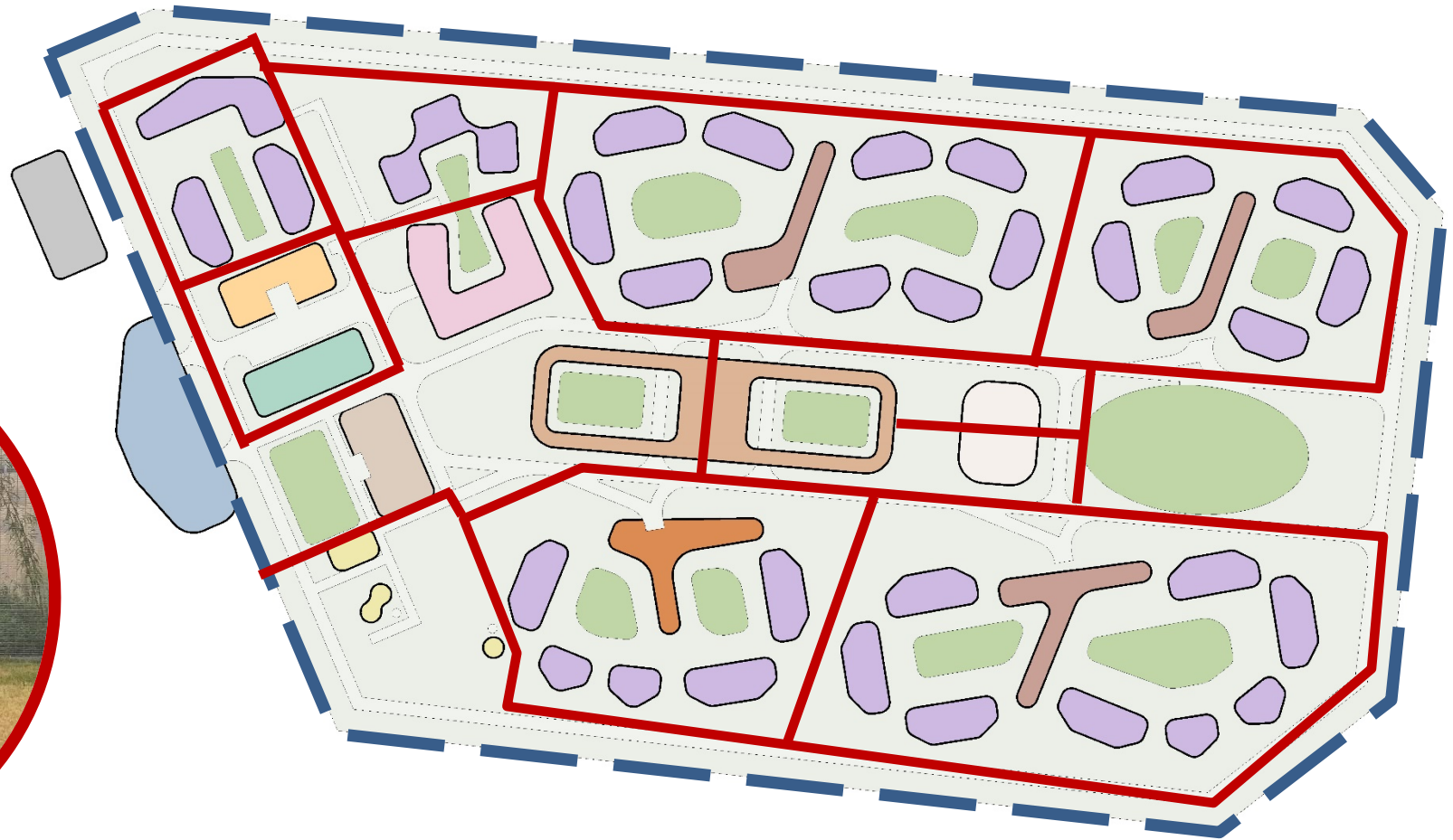
ALIGNMENT WITH THE VISION

- Welcoming, familiar, humane
- Supportive of pro-social behaviors
- Gender responsive
- Culturally appropriate



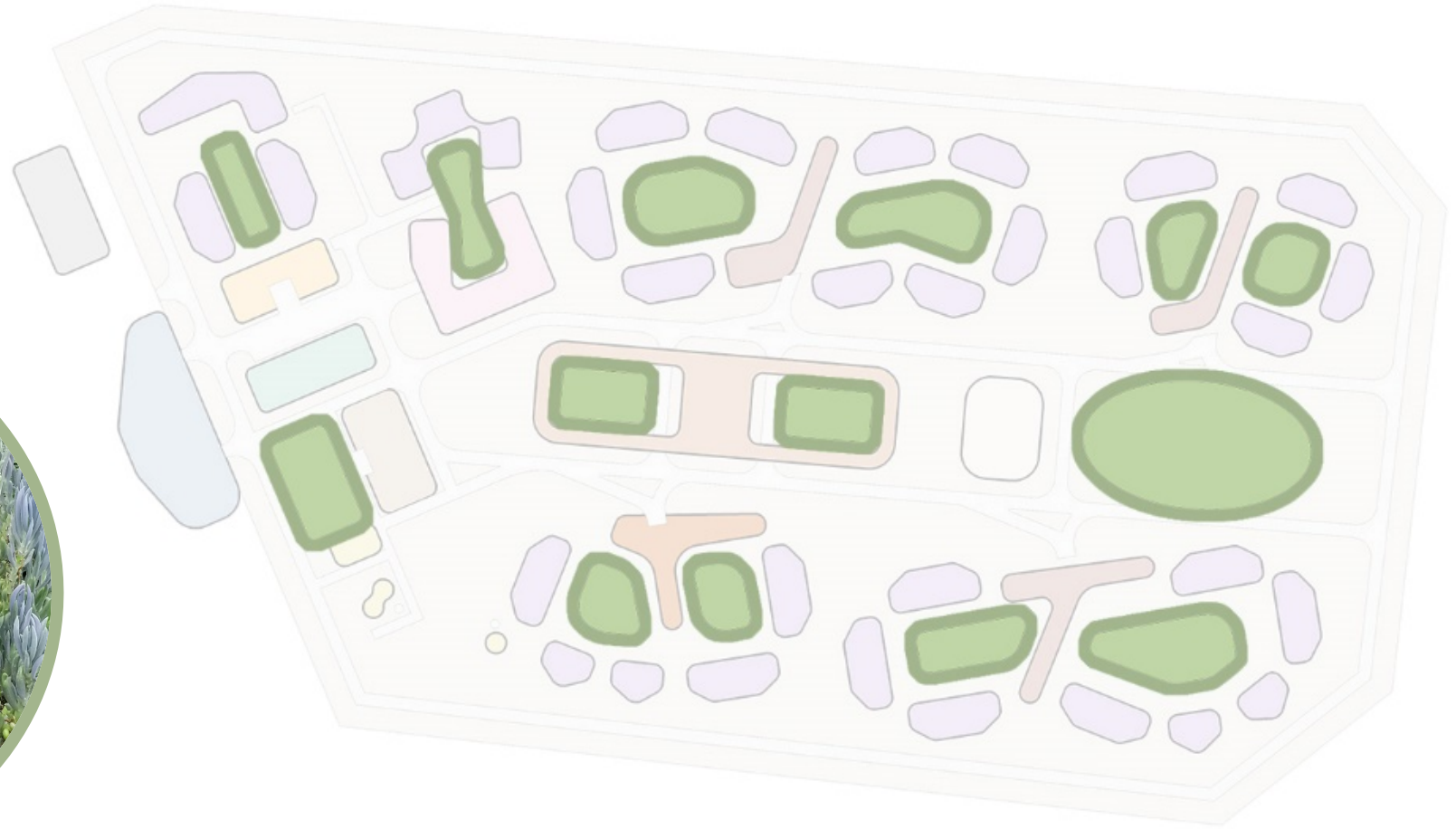
ALIGNMENT WITH THE VISION

- Safe & secure
- Flexible & mission specific



ALIGNMENT WITH THE VISION

- Visual harmony
- Materiality
- Landscape
- Built form





Questions for America?



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Are We Bold Enough to Change the Discussion?

- Should youth facilities be located in the neighborhoods they serve?
- Do we tend to build youth facilities too large to be transformational?
- Are we courageous enough to advise that single accommodation is more humane and safer?
- Should we support the European and Australian model of attached washrooms?
- Can we define a better vernacular for youth that discourages the use of a detention model?