

Community design in Høje Taastrup



3 semester

Presentation 2023-01-20



**Høje-Taastrup
Kommune**

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My project in short:

This project aims to explore how architects can design for social sustainability through a case study in Høje Taastrup.

The proposal exemplifies how theory can be applied in practice but is also specified to fit the site.



Why do we need to design for community?

Harvard Study of Adult Development:

Harvard study, almost 80 years old, has proved that embracing community helps us live longer, and be happier



Why do we need to design for community?

National Institute on Aging:

“The health **risks of prolonged isolation** are equivalent to smoking **15 cigarettes a day**. Social isolation and loneliness have even been estimated to **shorten a person’s life span** by as many as 15 years.”



**Larger trend towards long term thinking
on sustainability caused by climate crisis.**

Social sustainability

Developer

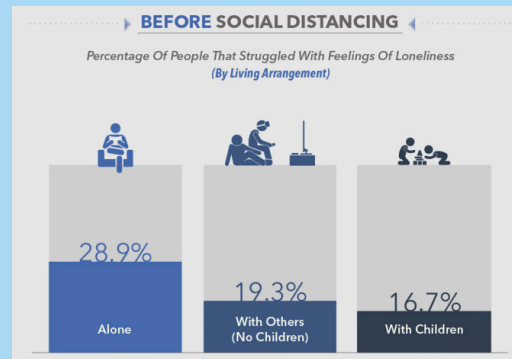
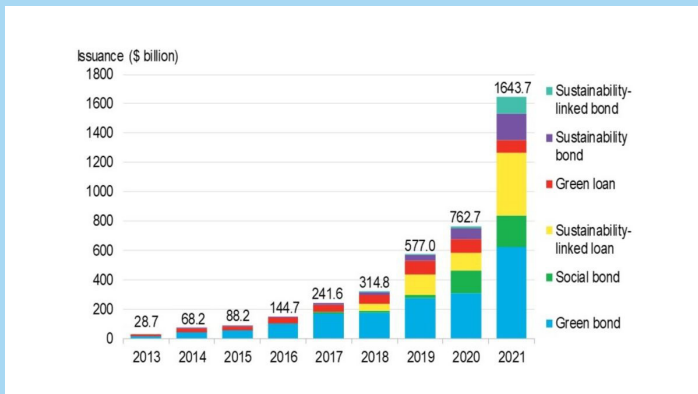
Get good ESG rating

Citizen

**Increase quality of life /
mitigate loneliness**

Municipality

**Attract citizens / keep
them from leaving**



Socially sustainable architecture

Site motivation

Høje Taastrup municipality needs social solutions



Nærheden

Aiming to build the future suburb with the goals “community” and “easy everyday life”



Høje Taastrup C

Aiming to create a lively city center



Rådhusgrunden

New lower density development with common houses



Reviving their 12 year plan

May include social focus

“Den gule by” - A smart place to start

Road connections



Train connections

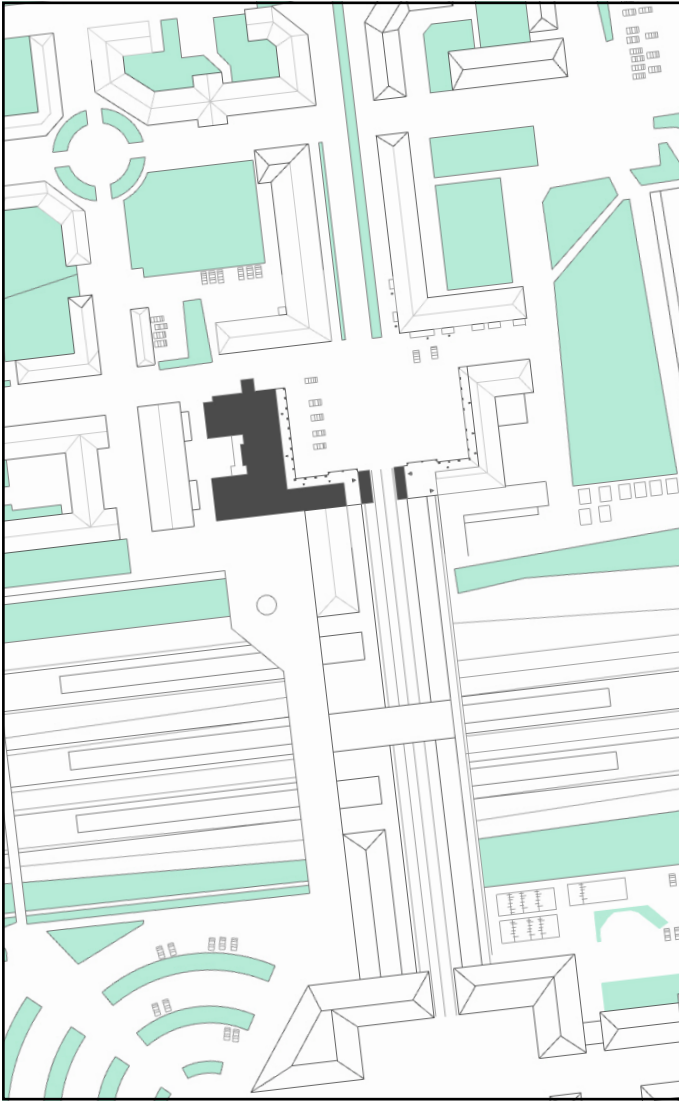


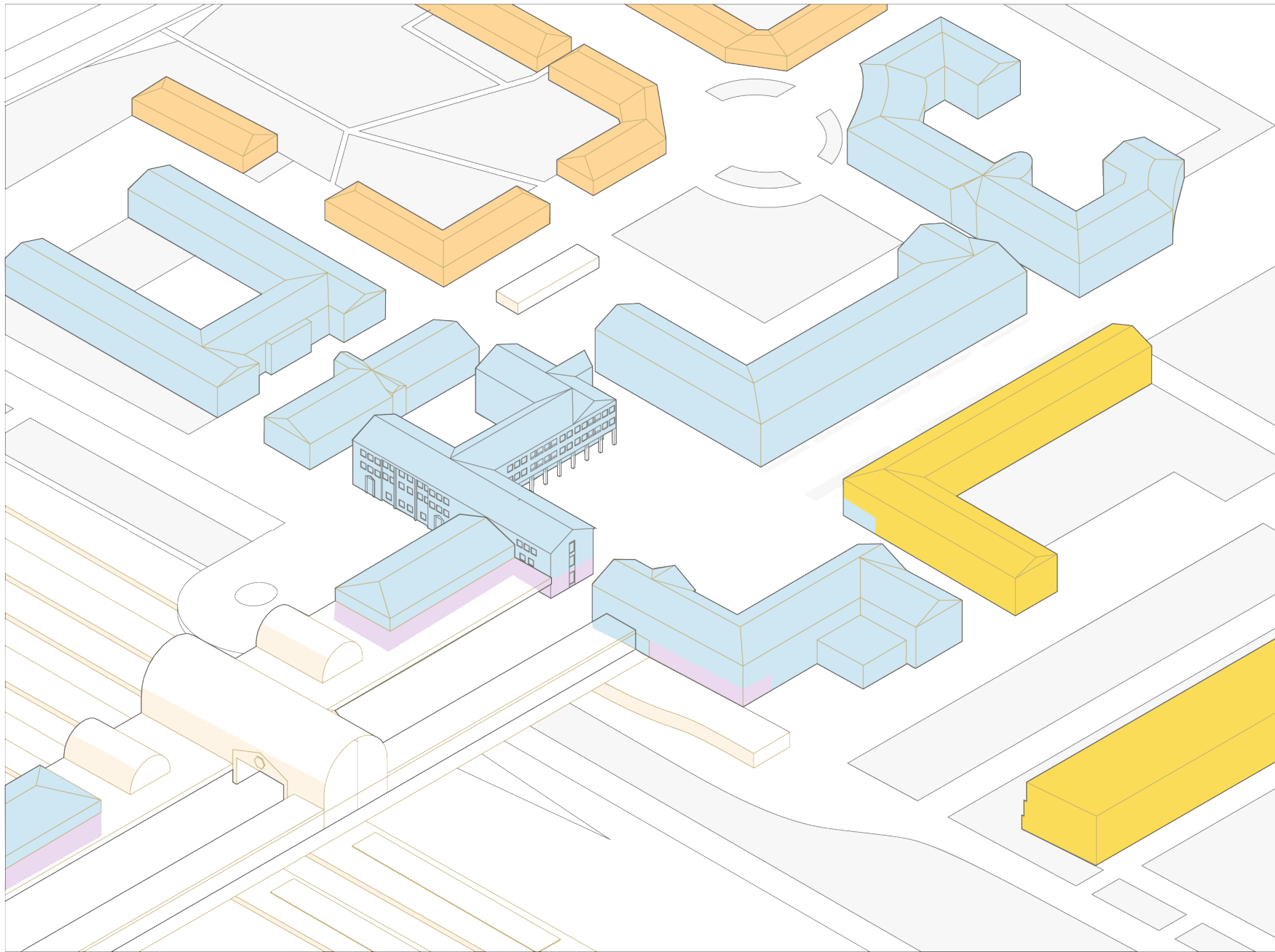
An area between
two developments



**The site is a neglected place many people
see every day!**

The site



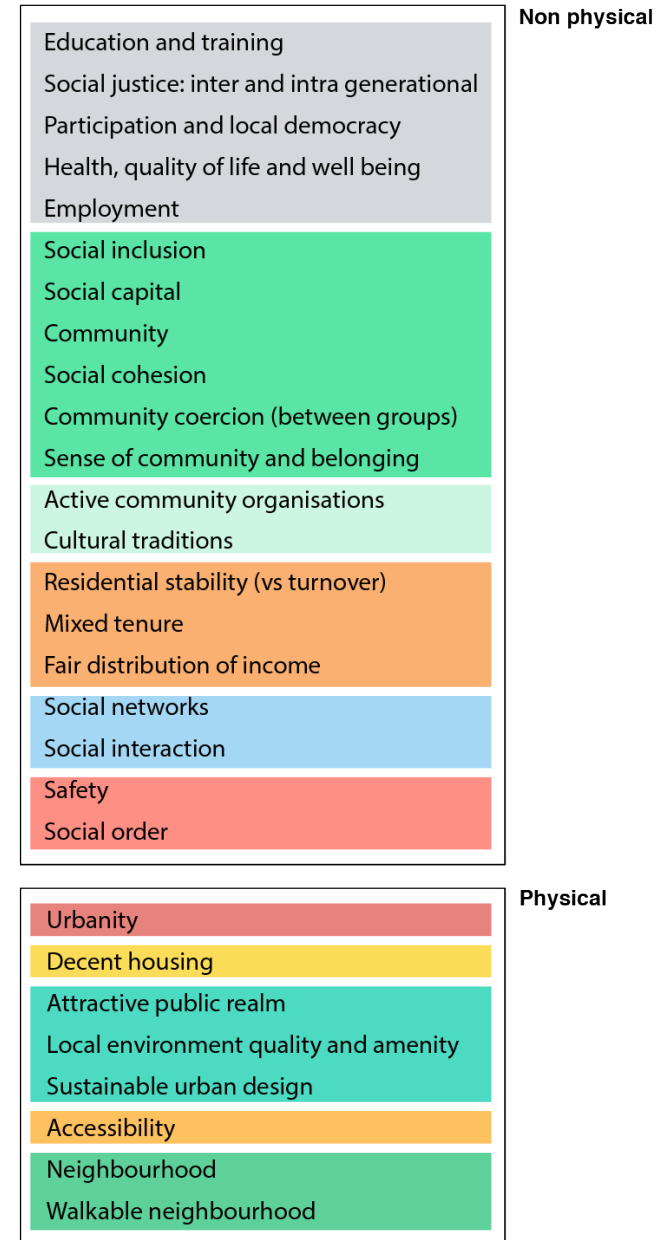


Theory

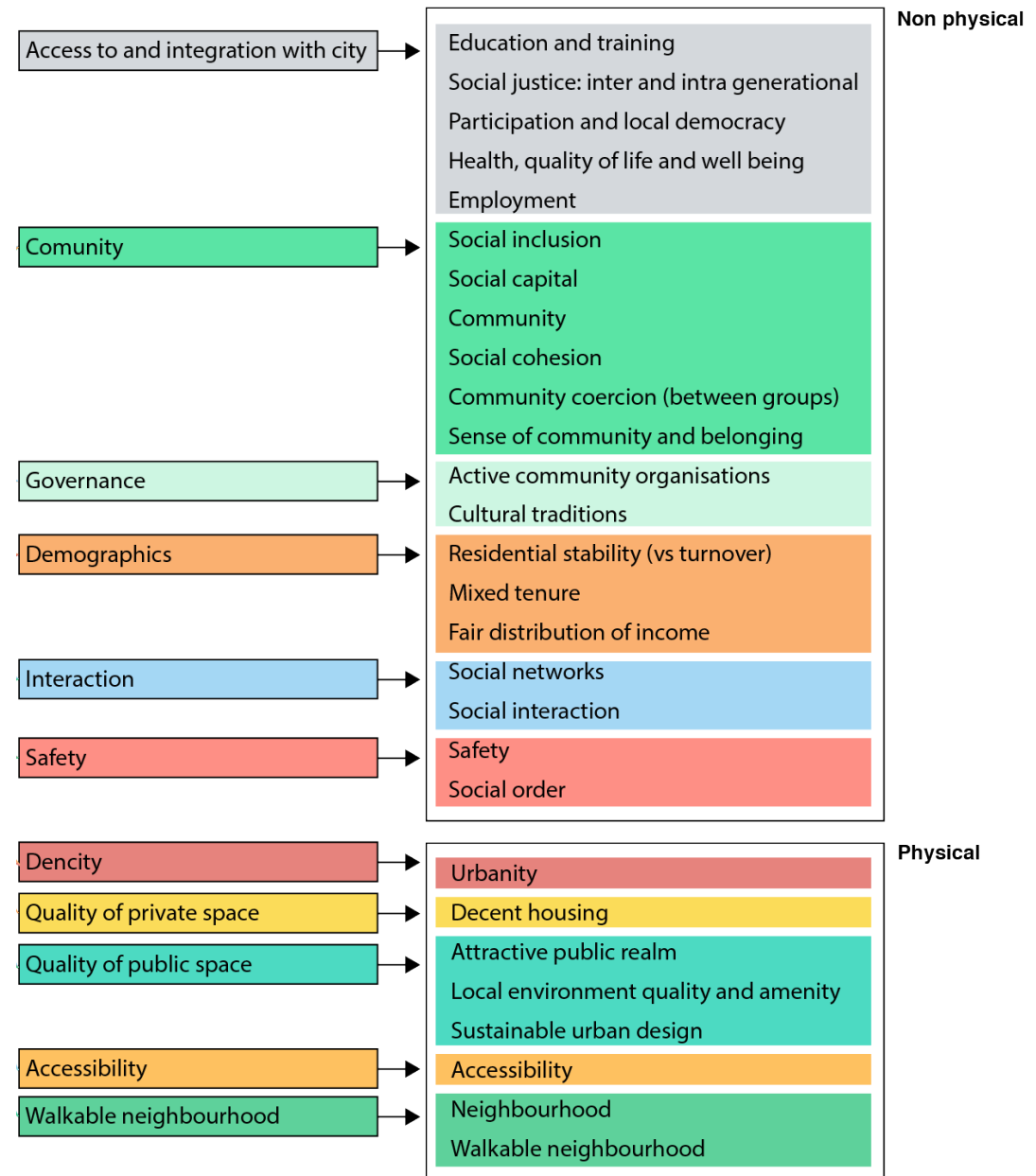
Nicola Dempsey 2009

The Social Dimension of Sustainable Development: Defining
Urban Social Sustainability

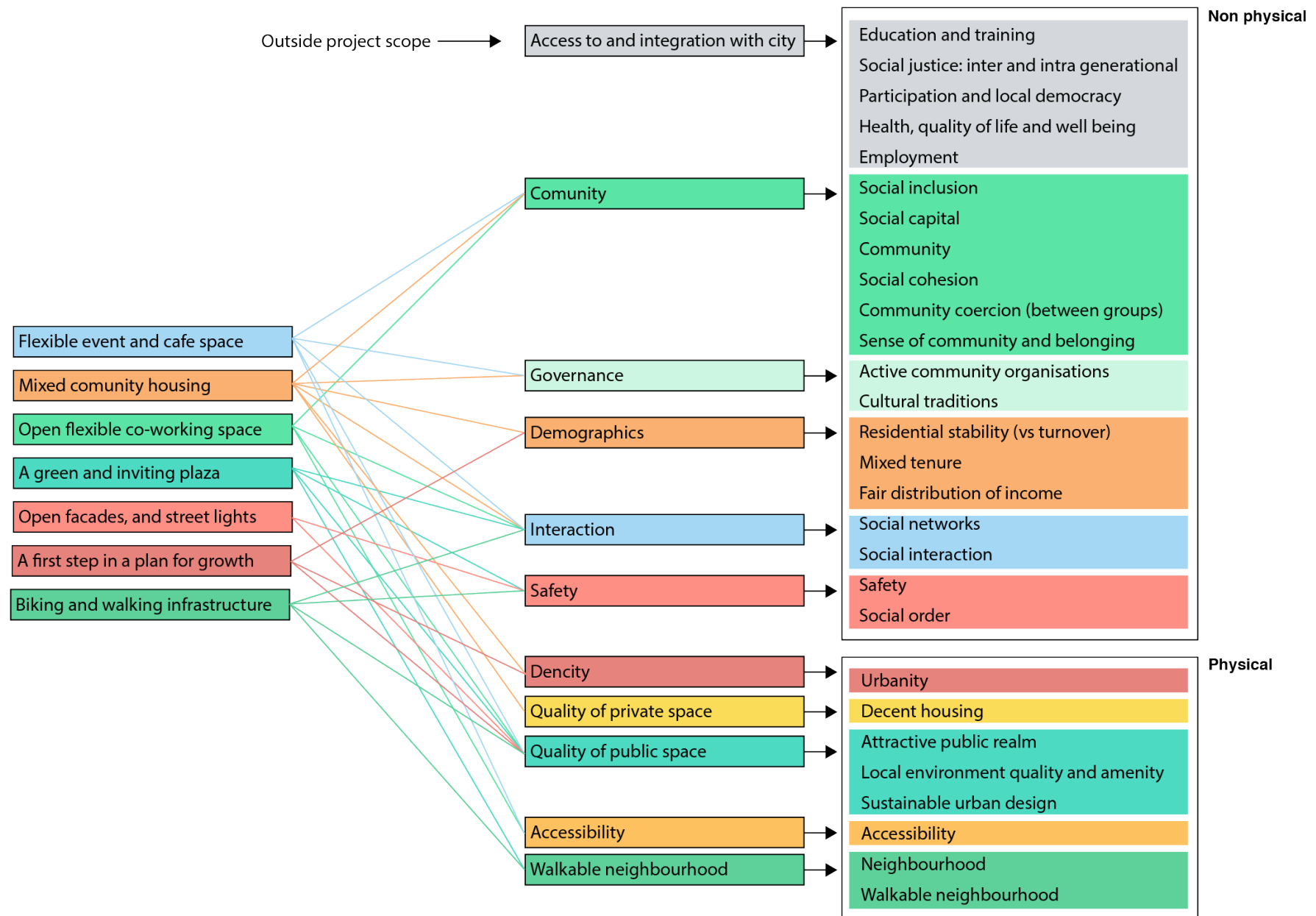
Dipsey - Social sustainability factors



Project interpretation - Social sustainability factors



Project interpretation - Potential solutions



Site problems

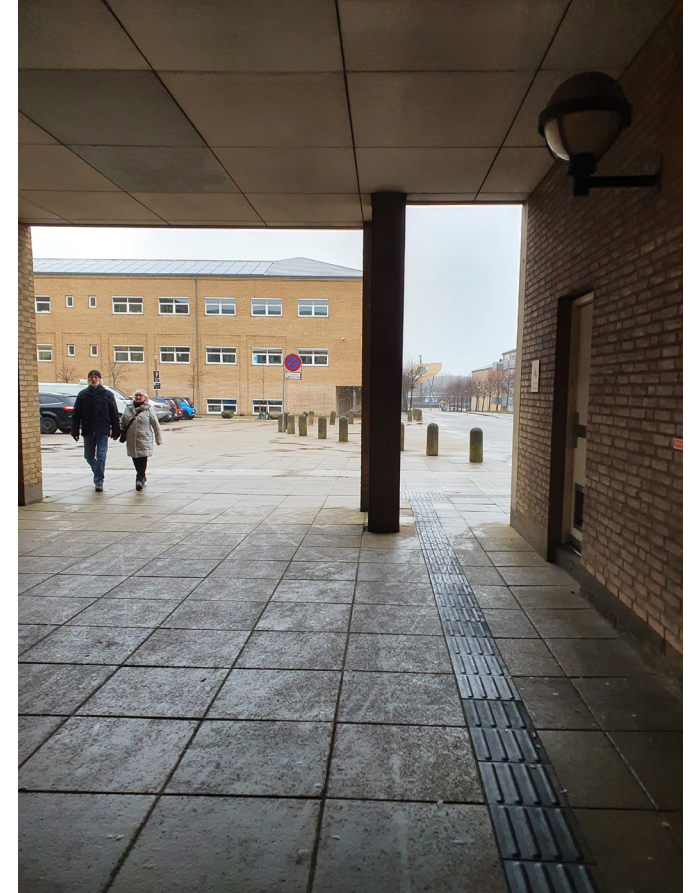
Problems - The site feels too large and empty!



Problems - The life that exists is hidden!



Problems - Dark unsafe feeling spaces!



Problems - Made for cars, not people...



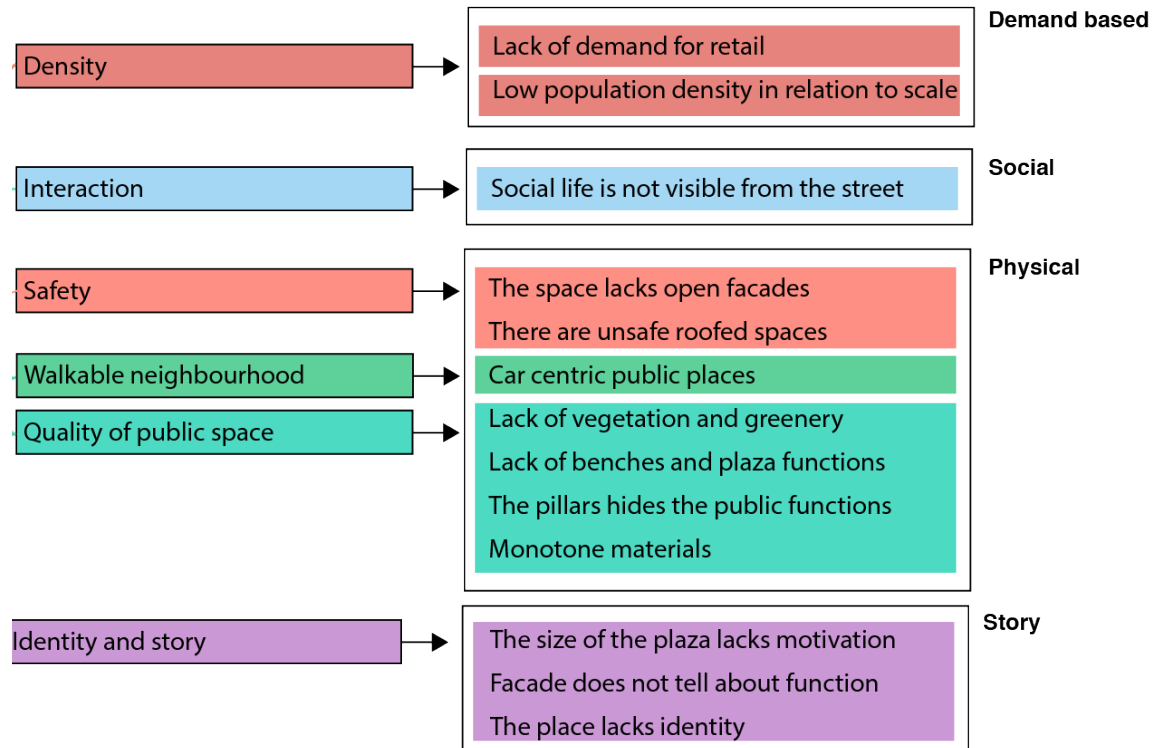
**More problems:
closed facades!
and too much yellow brick!
No trees...
No benches...
No people...**



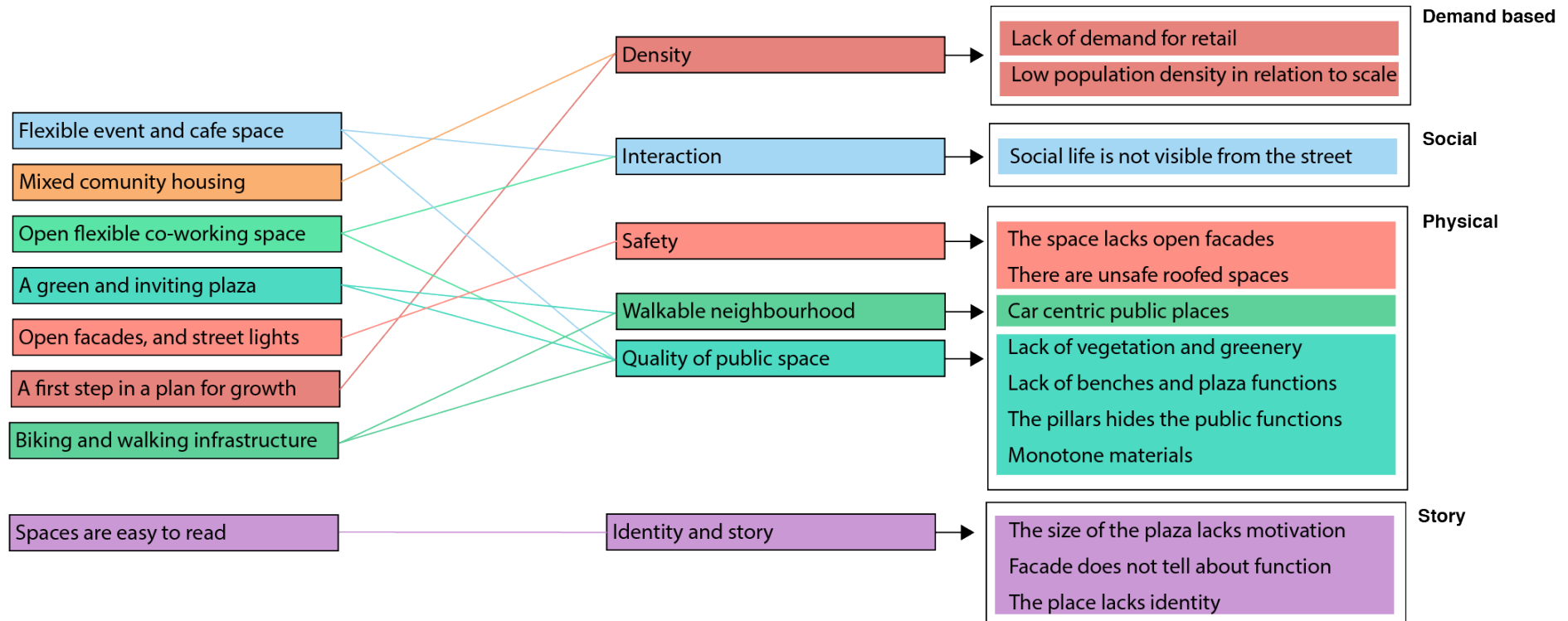
The problems in short:

Lack of demand for retail Low population density in relation to scale	Demand based
Social life is not visible from the street	Social
The space lacks open facades There are unsafe roofed spaces Car centric public places Lack of vegetation and greenery Lack of benches and plaza functions The pillars hides the public functions Monotone materials	Physical
The size of the plaza lacks motivation Facade does not tell about function The place lacks identity	Story

Is this a social sustainability problem?

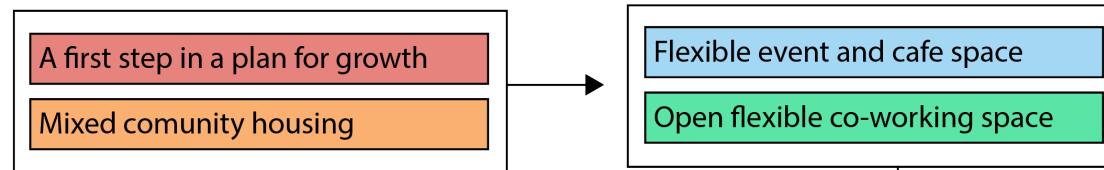


Do our solutions adress the problems?



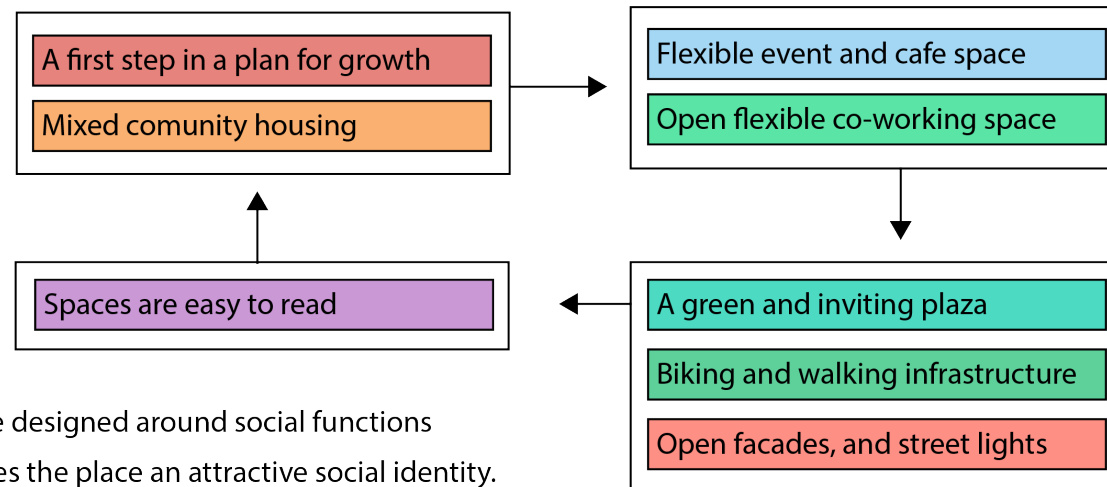
Strategy for bringing life

Build demand for public functions
by bringing social people to the place



Strategy for bringing life

Build demand for public functions
by bringing social people to the place



Spaces are designed around social functions
which gives the place an attractive social identity.
This increases demand for growth in the area.

Public functions with open facades
creates activity in the plaza and
makes it feel safe.

Implementation



A first step in a plan for growth!



A first step in a plan for growth

Mixed community housing

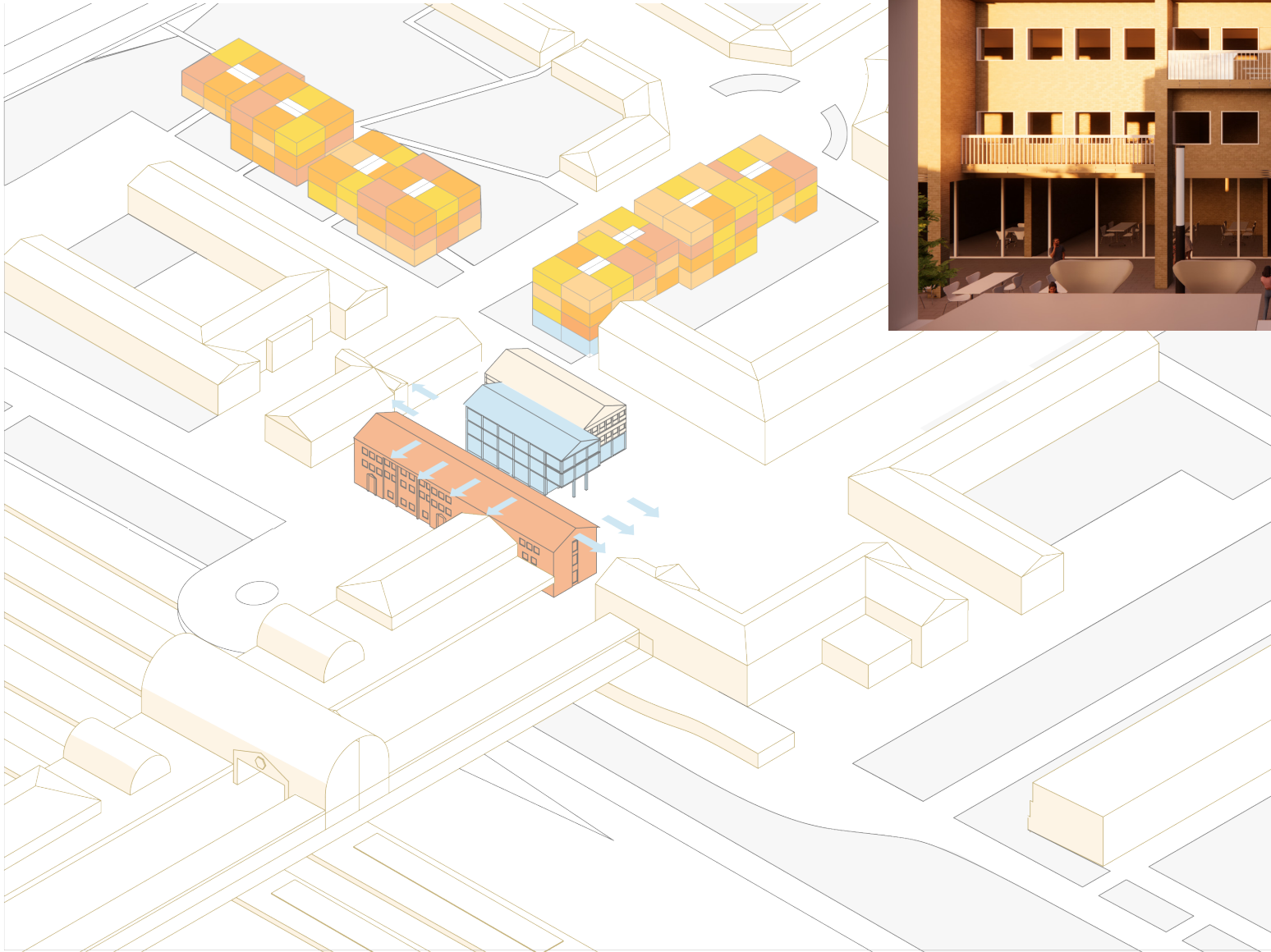
A first step in a plan for growth!



A first step in a plan for growth

Mixed community housing

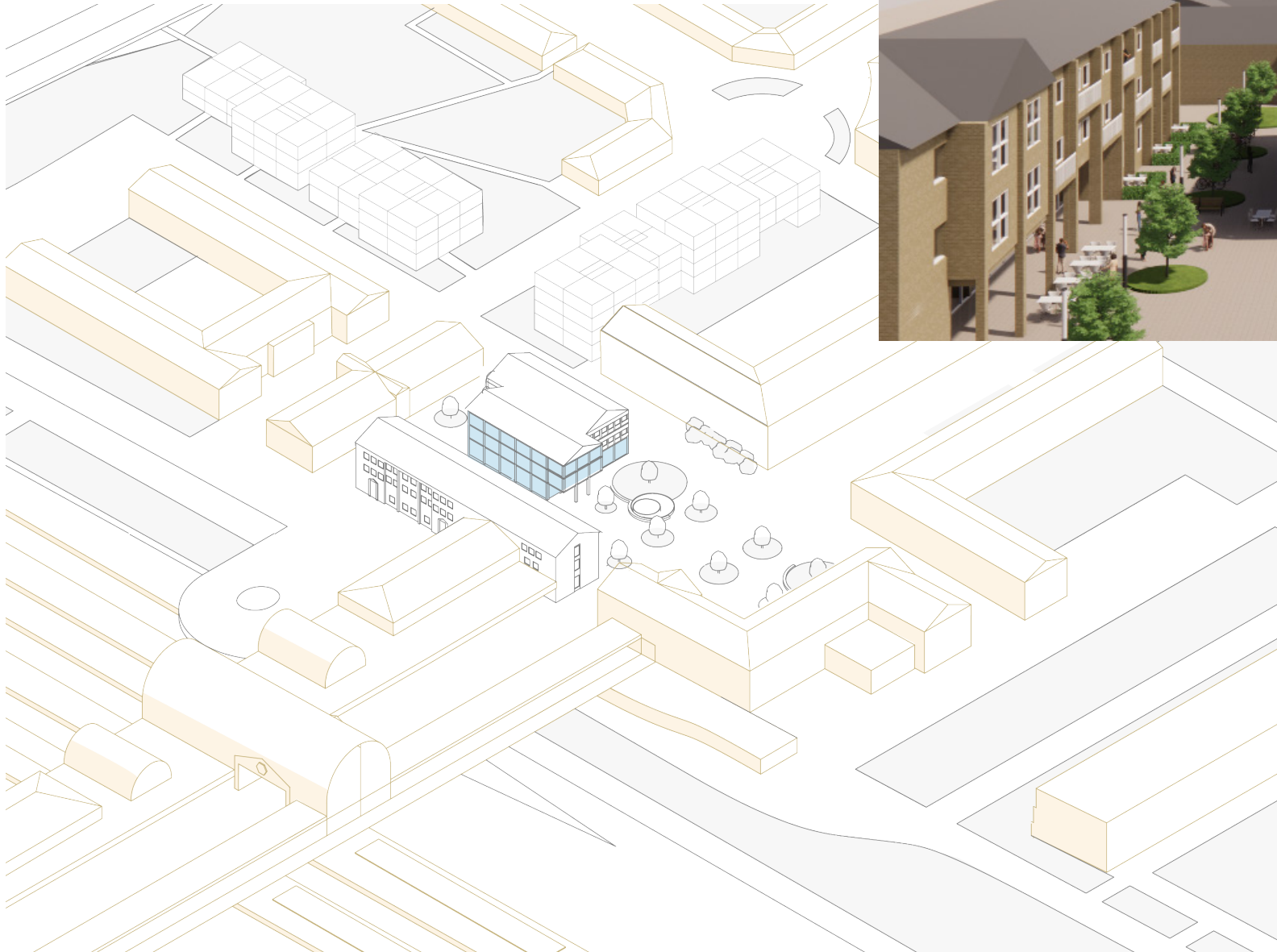
A new demographic to create demand for public functions



A first step in a plan for growth

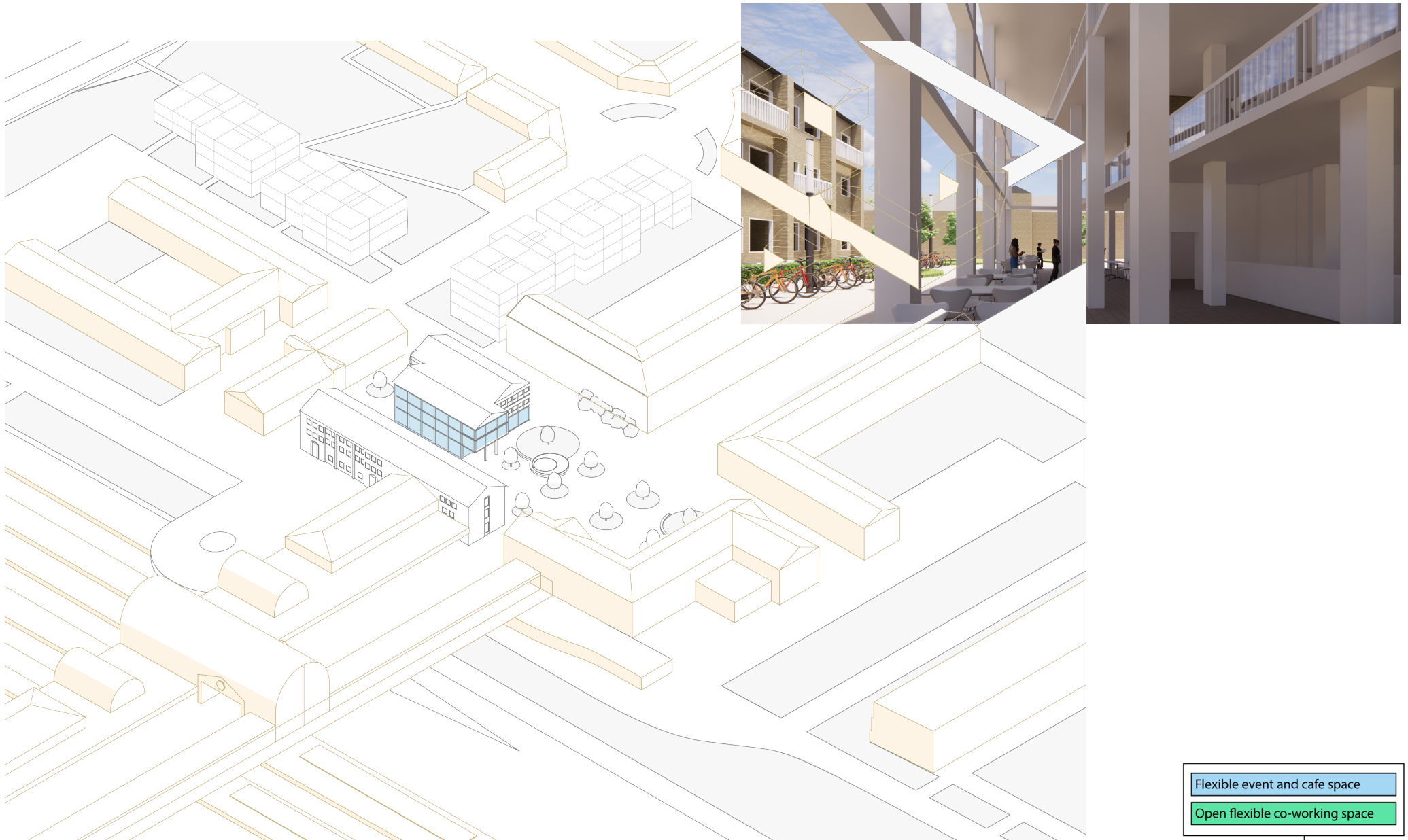
Mixed community housing

A space situated between co-working and co-living

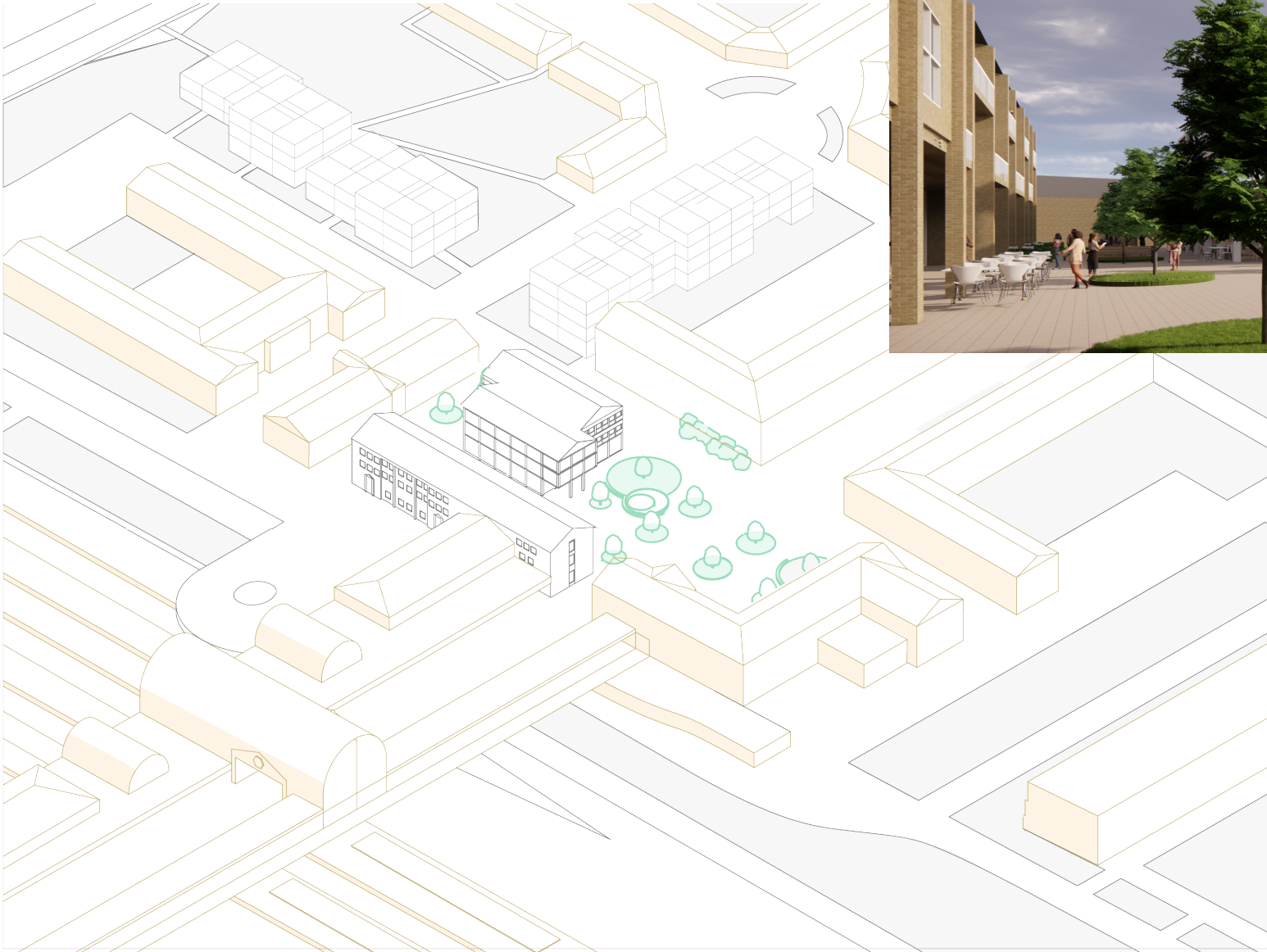


- Flexible event and cafe space
- Open flexible co-working space

A large flexible “urban living room” for everybody

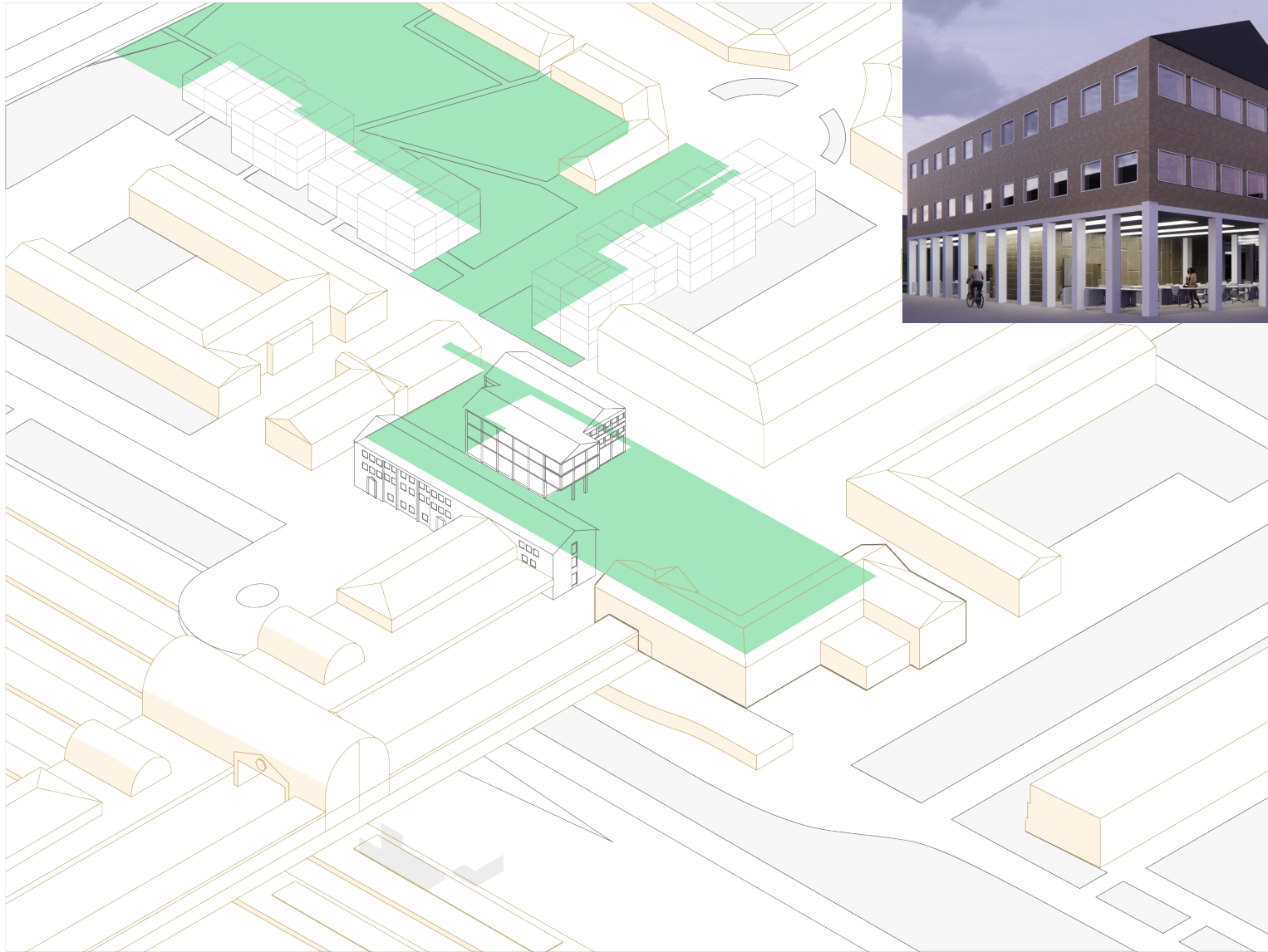


A green and inviting public space



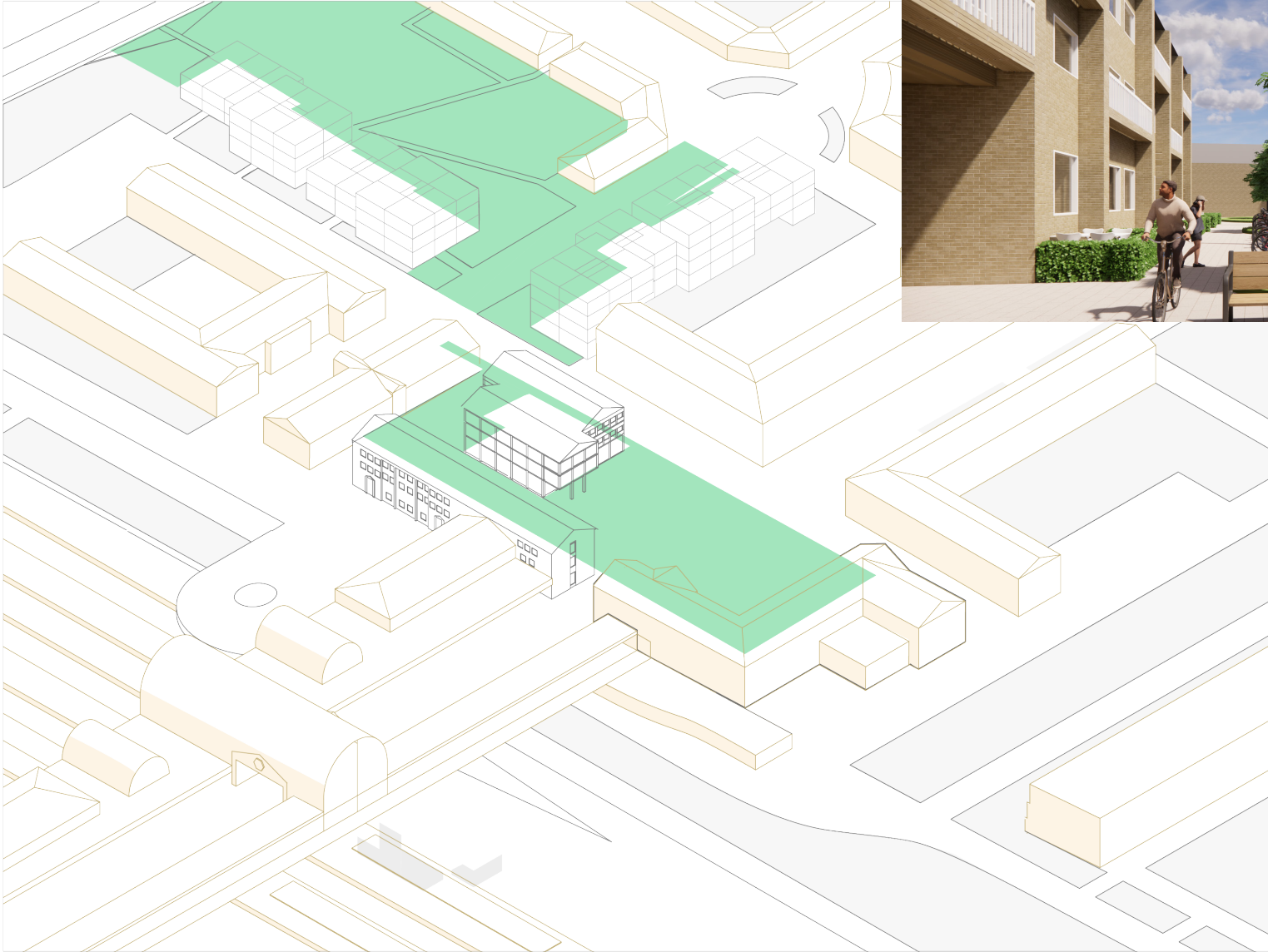
- A green and inviting plaza
- Biking and walking infrastructure
- Open facades, and street lights

Making this place inviting will help connect spaces



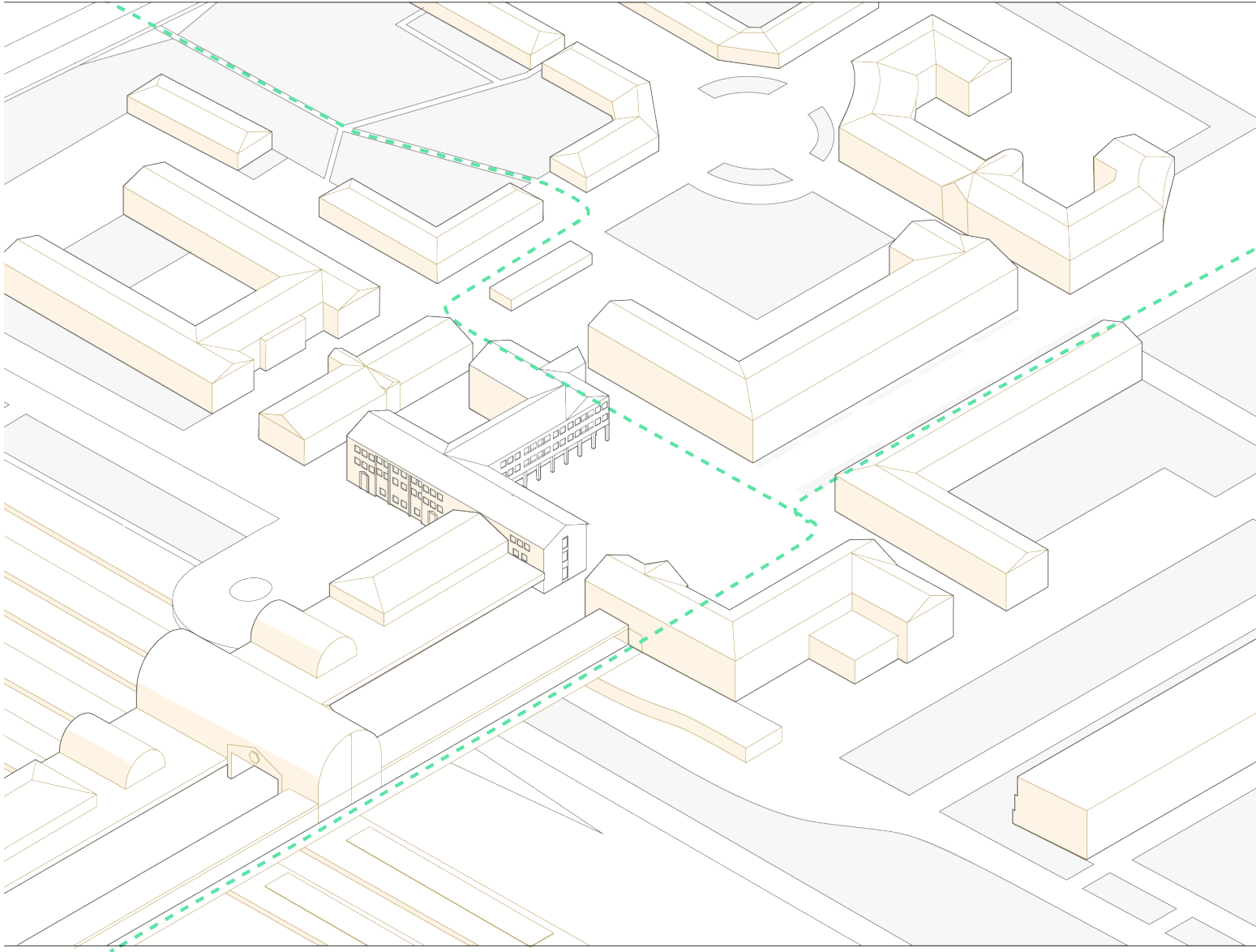
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Creating a smaller scale human centered space



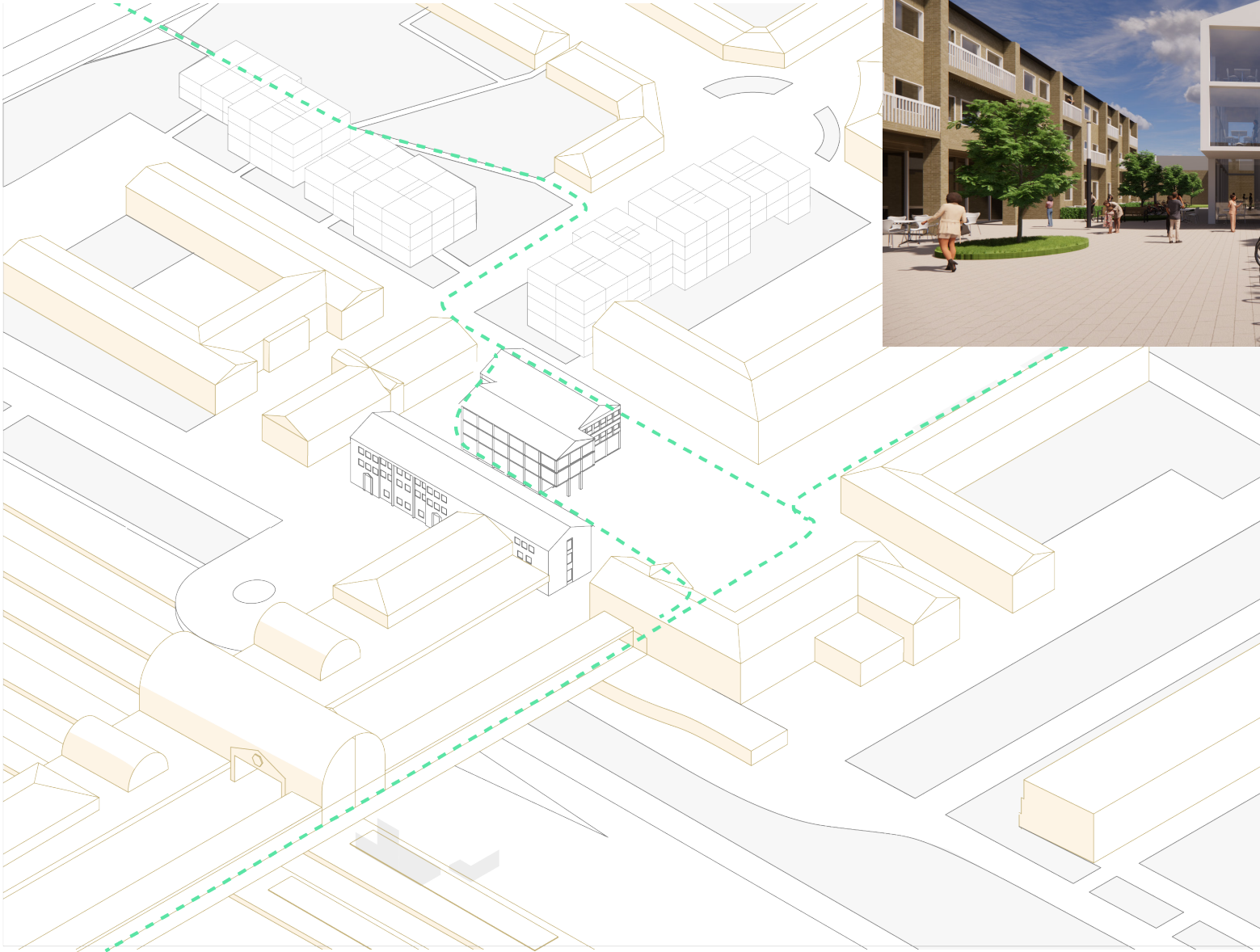
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Biking and walking infrastructure



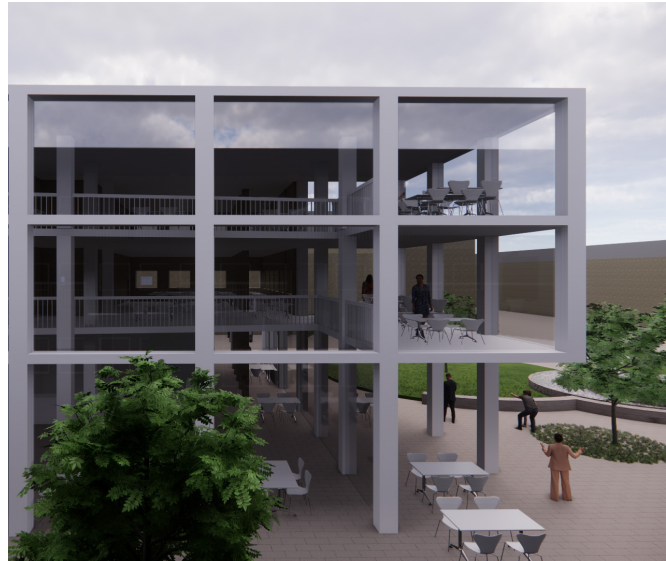
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Biking and walking infrastructure

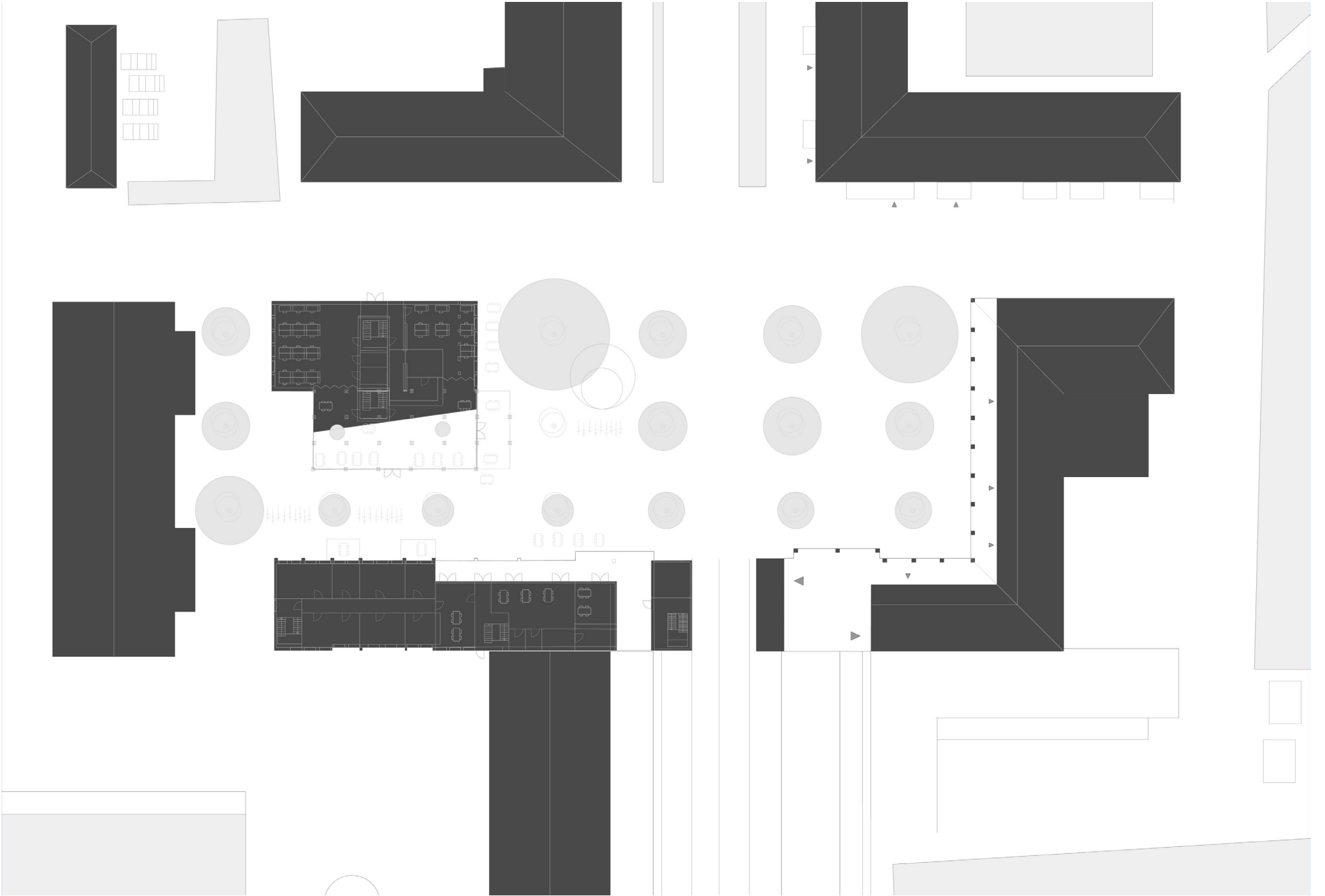


- A green and inviting plaza
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- Open facades, and street lights

Readable facades and concept



Spaces are easy to read



■ Co-working ■ Flexible social space ■ Student co-housing

