

FALLS PARK MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Thursday, November 21, 2024



CONFLUENCE

Agenda

- **Falls Park Background Context**
- **Master Plan Public Feedback Overview**
- **Falls Park Master Plan: Guiding Principles**
- **Falls Park Master Plan: Concept Plans & Renderings**



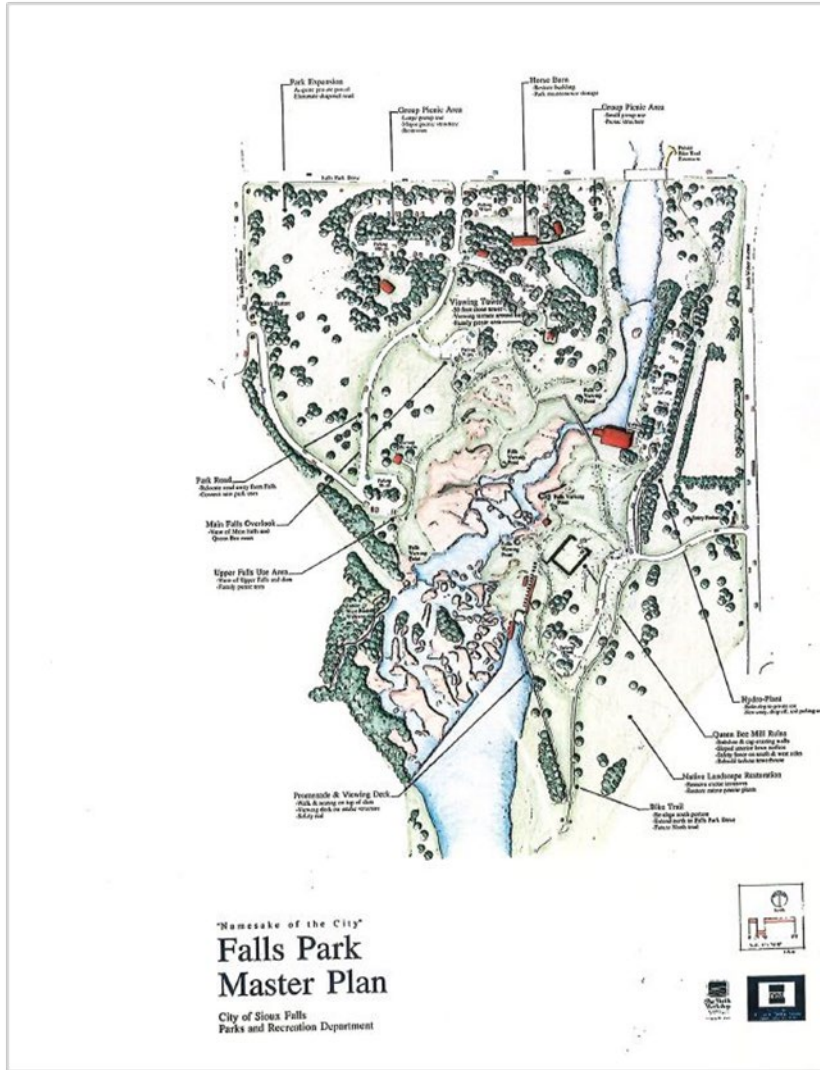
FALLS PARK BACKGROUND CONTEXT



CONFLUENCE

Falls Park Master Plan – 1992

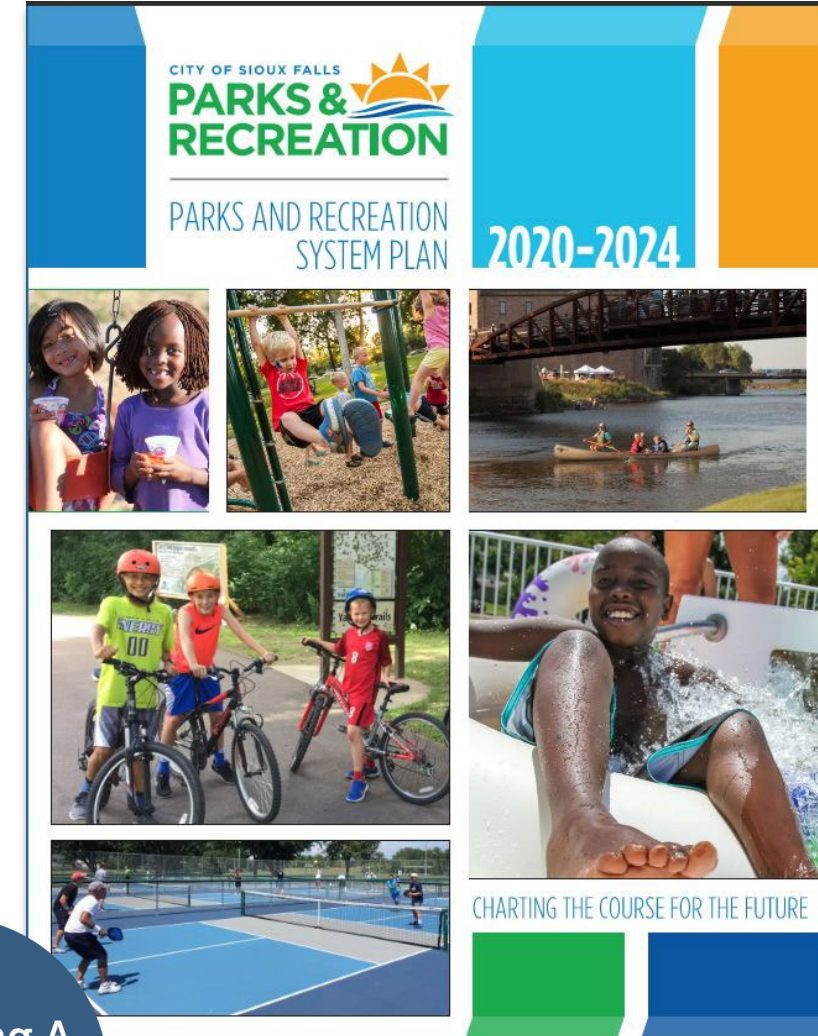
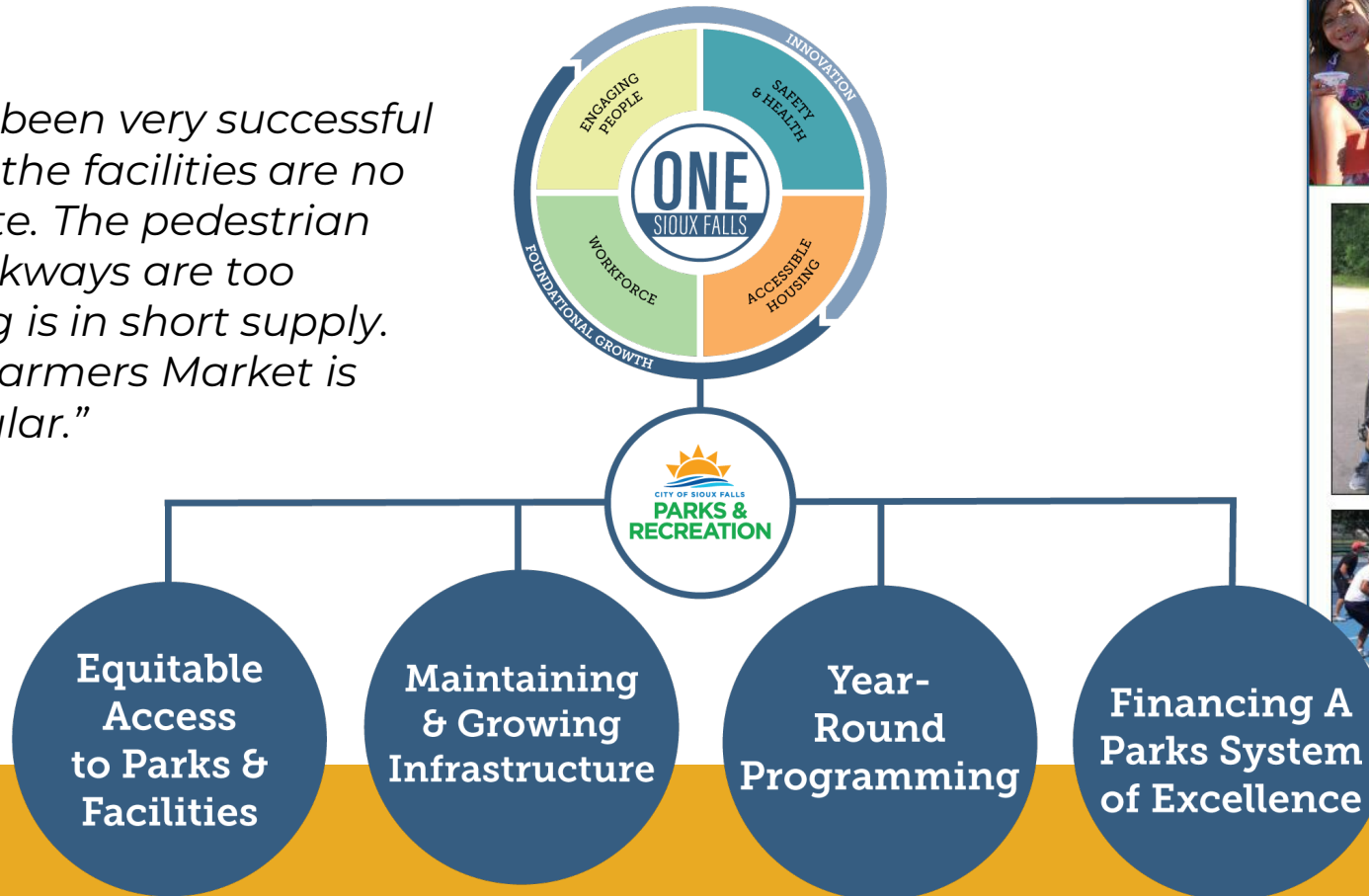
Phillips To The Falls – 2003



Overview of the System Plan

- Compiled in 2019, the System Plan gathered community input from focus groups, stakeholder interviews, public forums, a community survey, and crowd-sourcing website

“Falls Park has been very successful and as a result the facilities are no longer adequate. The pedestrian bridge and walkways are too narrow, parking is in short supply. The Saturday Farmers Market is extremely popular.”



MASTER PLAN PUBLIC FEEDBACK OVERVIEW

Stakeholder Meetings

Public Meetings

Engagement Booths

Social Pinpoint Survey and Map



CONFLUENCE

Public Engagement Website, Outreach & Stakeholders

- **General Public Engagement**

- Public Open Houses, engagement tents at public events
- Falls Park Planning Interactive Website
- Downtown 2035 Planning Interactive Website

- **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Adjacent Landowners
- Sioux Falls Park Foundation/Sioux Falls Area Community Foundation, Downtown Sioux Falls, Experience Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls Thrive
- Farmers Market, Stockyard AG Experience, Nordic Heritage Museum
- Smithfield
- SD Dept. of Agriculture & Natural Resources, SD Historic Preservation Office
- City of SF Public Works, Planning, Visual Arts Commission and Board of Historic Preservation

- **Advisory Committee**

- Public, Council, Park Board Representatives & City Staff
- Review and comment meetings at major milestones (4 total)

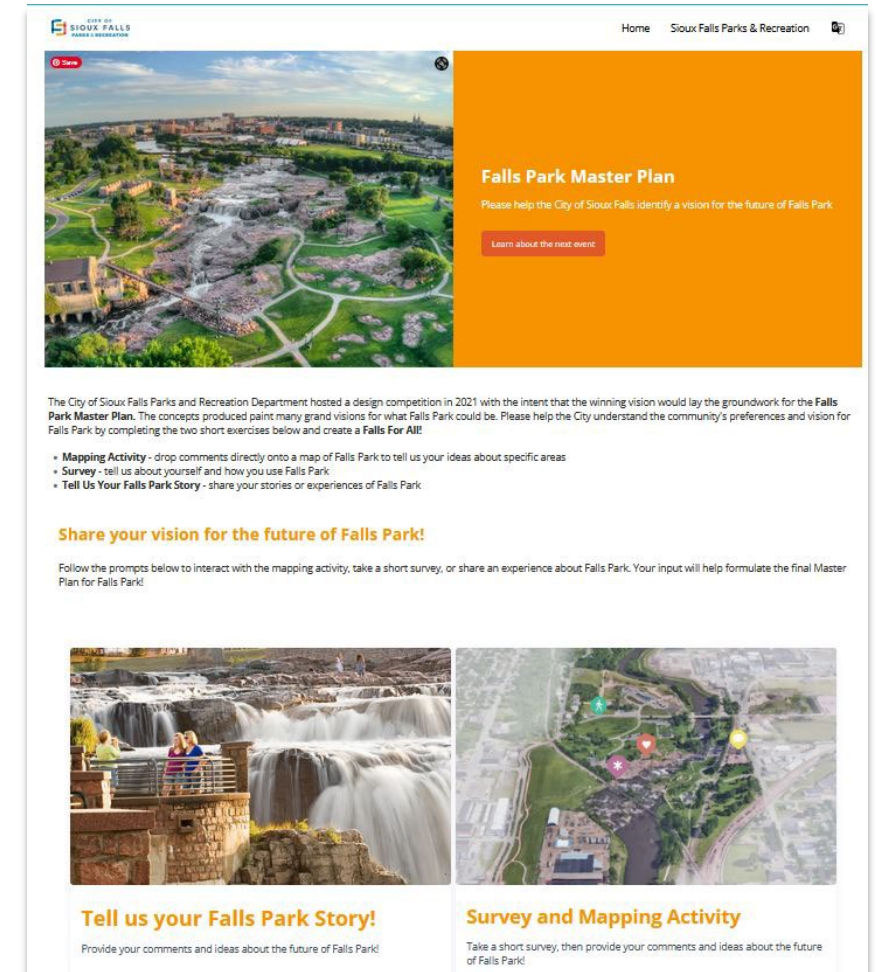
Public Feedback from 2035 Downtown Planning

- Conducted in 2022, this plan gathered community input from stakeholder interviews, public workshops, and a social pinpoint online public survey and mapping exercise
- Key takeaways from the plan as relates to Falls Park:
 - **Importance of the Farmers Market**
 - **Landscape Sustainability**
 - **Trail Connections**
 - **Need for Added or Improved Amenities**



Engagement Website + Outreach

- Over 12,000 website visits and 4,000 unique users provided input through an online survey, story sharing, and social pinpoint mapping activity.
- Key takeaways from the engagement website feedback:
 - **Preserve the Views and Scenery of the Park**
 - **Improve Water Quality and Safety**
 - **Improve Traffic Flow and Parking**
 - **Need Additional Historic Interpretation, Bathrooms, and Play Spaces (Indoor Play or Natural Playground)**



City of Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation

Home Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation

Falls Park Master Plan

Please help the City of Sioux Falls identify a vision for the future of Falls Park.


[Learn about the next event](#)

The City of Sioux Falls Parks and Recreation Department hosted a design competition in 2021 with the intent that the winning vision would lay the groundwork for the **Falls Park Master Plan**. The concepts produced paint many grand visions for what Falls Park could be. Please help the City understand the community's preferences and vision for Falls Park by completing the two short exercises below and create a **Falls For All!**

- **Mapping Activity** - drop comments directly onto a map of Falls Park to tell us your ideas about specific areas
- **Survey** - tell us about yourself and how you use Falls Park
- **Tell Us Your Falls Park Story** - share your stories or experiences of Falls Park


Share your vision for the future of Falls Park!

Follow the prompts below to interact with the mapping activity, take a short survey, or share an experience about Falls Park. Your input will help formulate the final Master Plan for Falls Park!



Tell us your Falls Park Story!

Provide your comments and ideas about the future of Falls Park!



Survey and Mapping Activity

Take a short survey, then provide your comments and ideas about the future of Falls Park!

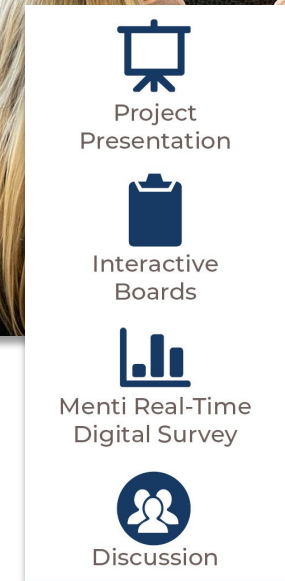
Stakeholder + Adjacent Landowner Meetings

- Design team and Parks staff met with a variety of stakeholder and adjacent landowners to gather feedback on the park and proposed concept plans, including local business owners, police staff, historians, arts commission members, farmers market representatives and more.
- Key takeaways from the stakeholder + adjacent landowners feedback:
 - **Balance Preserving History with Recreational Opportunities**
 - **Keep the Heart of the Park Open to Public**
 - **Right Size the Amenities; Accommodate Future Park Growth**
 - **Create Equitable Green Space**



Public Meetings

- Following a short presentation, members of the public were asked to provide feedback via engagement boards and a real time voting survey during a series of public meetings.
- Key takeaways from the public meeting feedback:
 - **Keep the Core A Naturalized Landscape; Prefer Redevelopment and Art at Park Edges**
 - **Want More Trails, Trees, Plants, Play Spaces, Education, Food, Art**
 - **Fear Over Commercialization, Losing Park History, Too Much Concrete**
 - **Willing to Pay Admission to Adventure Course; Unwilling to Pay for Fishing/Natural Experiences**



Primary Key Takeaways from Engagement



Preserve and Enhance the Heart of the Park

Maintain views of falls, more green space, cultural sensitivity, historical education



Improve Circulation and Safety

Vehicular, pedestrian, creation of looped networks, land bridge, lighting upgrades



Expand Recreational Opportunities

Adventure course, mountain bike trails, fishing, sledding, ice skating, play, trails



Embrace Full Season Programming

Expand Winter Wonderland, interpretive center, art shows, outdoor fitness classes



Seek Out Partnership Opportunities

Farmer's Market, Stockyards Ag Experience, Jacobson Plaza, food & beverage service



Improve Water Quality and Incorporate Environmentally Friendly Designs

Expand native plantings, no mow areas, remediate quarry, filter stormwater runoff



Preserve Historical Elements & Develop Only in Appropriate Areas

Leverage strategic partnerships with compatible uses adjacent to park or at edges

FALLS PARK MASTER PLAN: GUIDING PRINCIPLES



CONFLUENCE

Becoming A Signature Park

- Overarching Guiding Principle:
 - **Create a year around ‘Signature Park’ that serves as a community gathering place and destination for the entire city and is supported by appropriate management and funding strategies.**
- Main Characteristics:
 - Actively programmed
 - Requires a higher level of service than neighborhood parks
 - Often managed and funded through public-private partnerships
 - Destination for locals and visitors



Signature Parks | Destinations for locals & visitors



BRYANT PARK, New York



THE COMMONS, Minneapolis



PEAVEY PLAZA, Minneapolis



GOLDEN GATE NATIONAL PARK, San Francisco




Fairmount Park, Philadelphia



Gateway Arch Park, St. Louis

Guiding Principles

- **Designed to Meet Public Feedback & Your Goals.**

- 
- Create a year around park destination.
 - Preserve and grow the natural heart of the park and its history while allowing for more active, newly constructed elements further from the core along the park's periphery.
 - Increase connectivity both within the park and between the park and adjacent land uses.
 - Welcome all park users and create opportunities for shared experiences. Include experiences for all ages and abilities.
 - Incorporate key recommendations from the Sioux Falls Parks & Recreation System Master Plan.
 - The Park should complement and enhance adjacent public and private redevelopment opportunities - and vice versa.
 - The evolution of the park and scale of amenities corresponds to the growth of the community.

Activity for All



A DAY AT THE FALLS

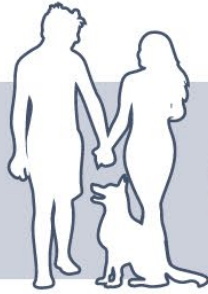
CREATING EXPERIENCES + MEMORIES

A DAY AT FALLS PARK

MORNING

AFTERNOON

NIGHT



FALLS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD RESIDENT



VISITOR TO FALLS PARK



TYPICAL SIOUX FALLS RESIDENT



AMENITIES DATA MATRIX

FACILITIES + AMENITIES	LENGTH OF EXPERIENCE	Appropriate for Age Group											Not Appropriate for Age Group		
		2-5 YEARS	6-8 YEARS	9-12 YEARS	13-15 YEARS	16-18 YEARS	19-30 YEARS	31-45 YEARS	46-60 YEARS	61-70 YEARS	71-75 YEARS	76+ YEARS	COST TO DEVELOP	COST TO OPERATE	REVENUE POTENTIAL
605 Market (Arts, Food + Flea)	2-3 Hours												High	Medium	High
Adventure Park + Zip Lines (Learning Link)	2-3 Hours												Medium	Medium	High
Coffee Shop/Casual Food Options	1 Hour												High	Medium	High
Community/Activity Center	2-3 Hours												High	High	High
Community Gardens	1 Hour												Low	Low	Low
Cultural Interpretive Center	2 Hours												Low	Low	Low
Disc Golf	2 Hours												Medium	Medium	Low
Dog Park	1 Hour												Medium	Medium	Medium
Environmental Art Installations	2 Hours												High	Medium	None
Event Lawn Green (Backyard Hangout)	3 Hours												Medium	Medium	Low
Farmer's Market	1 Hour												Low	Low	Low
Food Trucks (Flexible Area)	½ Hour												Low	Low	Medium
Ice Ribbon (Jacobson Plaza)	2 Hours												High	High	High
Inclusive Play	2 Hours												High	Low	None
Industry Historic Area (Exterior Interpretive)	1 Hour												Medium	Low	None
Interactive Water Spray Ground	3 Hours												High	Medium	None
Mini-Golf/Roller Skating (Summer Ice Ribbon)	2 Hours												Medium	Medium	Medium
Natural Areas	3 Hours												Low	Low	None
Natural Open Green Space	3 Hours												Low	Low	None
Picnic Area/Shade Structures (non-reserved)	2 Hours												Low	Low	None
Quarry Pond Fountain Display	2 Hours												Medium	Low	None
Rental Shelters	2 Hours												Medium	Low	Medium
Retail/Restaurants	2 Hours												High	High	High
Ropes Course	2 Hours												Medium	Medium	Medium
Single Track + Skills Course	2 Hours												Medium	Low	Low
Sioux Falls Pavilion + Event Lawn	3 Hours												High	High	High
Sledding Hill	2 Hours												Low	Low	None
Stockyards Ag. Experience (with child play zone)	2-3 Hours												High	High	Medium
Trails	2 Hours												Medium	Low	None
Urban Fishery/Ice Fishing	3 Hours												Low	Low	None
Upper Falls Overlook	1 Hour												High	Low	None
Whitewater Course	2 Hours												High	Medium	High
Wi-Fi Accessible	All Day												Low	Low	None
Winter Wonderland	2 Hours												Medium	Medium	Medium

Programming Pyramid



Heritage Interpretive Center, Urban Fishery, Picnic Area, Mountain Biking Trails, Flex Lawn Spaces, Inclusive Play, Ice Ribbon/Skating Ribbon, Neighborhood Dog Park, Whitewater Course, Food and Beverage, Great Lawn & Pavilion, Heart of the Park Overlook, Signage, Wi-Fi

Everyday Amenities

Stockyards Ag Experience, Fitness and Wellness Classes, Family Classes, Walking Club, Birdwatching, Dance Classes, Solo Performances, Adventure & Skill Building, Market Spaces, History & Interpretation, Park Circulation Loop, Observation Platform, Neighborhood Park, Sledding

Core Programs

Farmers Market & Art Show, 605 Market, Levitt Shell, Ag Experience Programming, Indoor Play Classes and Workshops; School Field Trips & Tours, History Walks

Weekly Programs

Specialty Markets, Art in the Park, Ninja Competition, Fall Harvest, 4th of July Picnic, SF Whitewater Challenge, Year-round Activities

Monthly / Semi-Monthly Programs

SF Marathon, Festivals, Holiday Events

Special Events

A YEAR AT THE FALLS

CREATING EXPERIENCES
+ MEMORIES



FALLS PARK MASTER PLAN: CONCEPT PLANS & RENDERINGS



CONFLUENCE

PROPOSED FALLS
PARK EXPANSION

SMITHFIELD

BIG SIOUX RIVER

FALLS PARK

JACOBSON PLAZA

LEVITT SHELL

EXISTING FALLS PARK

Proposed Site Features

- 1 Falls Overlook Addition & Renovation as Visitor Center
- 2 Main Visitor Experience Drop-off
- 3 Queen Bee Mill Event Center
- 4 Heart of the Falls Boardwalk
- 5 Landbridge Pedestrian Connection
- 6 Quarry Adventure Park and Urban Fishery
- 7 Phillips Ave/Falls Park Drive Reconstruction
- 8 Falls Park Drive Bridge Replacement
- 9 East Rice Street Realignment
- 10 Trail head & Large Vehicle Parking
- 11 Improved Neighborhood Access
- 12 Pedestrian Bridge
- 13 Heart of the Park Lawn and Pavilion
- 14 Sledding Hill
- 15 Community Garden
- 16 Playground and Restroom
- 17 Horse Barn Dining
- 18 Whitewater Park
- 19 Visitor Center Parking Improvements
- 20 Bike Trail
- 21 Stockyards Ag Experience
- 22 Farmers Market Plaza
- 23 Single Track
- 24 Observation Tower and Rental Space
- 25 Remove Existing Visitor Center and Tower
- 26 Parks Operations and Maintenance Facility

Site Features

- 27 Jacobson Plaza Ice Ribbon
- 28 Jacobson Plaza Inclusive Play
- 29 Jacobson Plaza Splash Pad
- 30 Jacobson Plaza Dog Park
- 31 Falls Park West Flexible Use Area
- 32 Greenway Phase 3
- 33 Overhead Power

Redevelopment Opportunities

- A Steel District Private Redevelopment
- B City of SF Redevelopment Opportunity/Levitt Flexible Use
- C City of SF Railroad Redevelopment Site
- D City of SF/Nordic Museum Redevelopment Opportunity
- E Residences on Falls Park Private Redevelopment
- F Upper Falls Park Private Redevelopment Opportunity
- G Private Development Opportunity
- H City of SF/Private Redevelopment Opportunity

CONCEPT PLAN



INFRASTRUCTURE CHANGES

RECONFIGURE RICE STREET

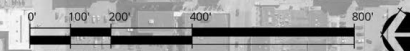
RECONFIGURE FARMERS MARKET & ACCESS

ACQUIRE RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY

RELOCATE VISITORS CENTER & TOWER AT END OF LIFE USAGE

REMOVE INTERIOR PARKING LOT & ACCESS ROAD

RECONFIGURE PHILLIPS AVE & FALLS PARK DRIVE








AUTOMOBILE LOOP



PEDESTRIAN LOOP

CIRCULATION PLAN



-  .70 | HEART OF THE PARK LOOP
-  1.55 | FALLS PARK LOOP
-  2.08 | FALLS PARK AND GREENWAY LOOP

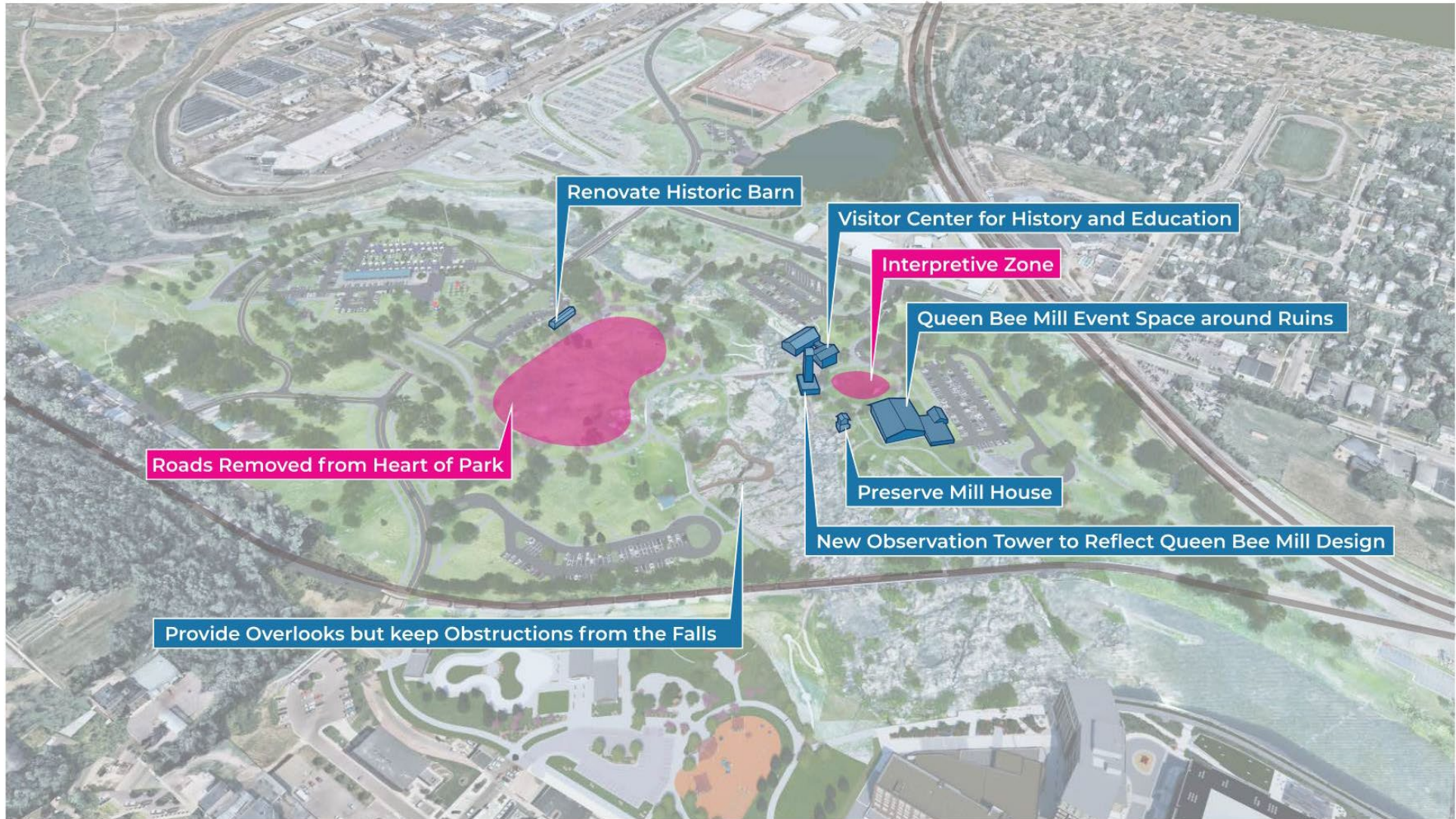
PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION PLAN





Preserve Historical Elements & Develop Only in Appropriate Areas

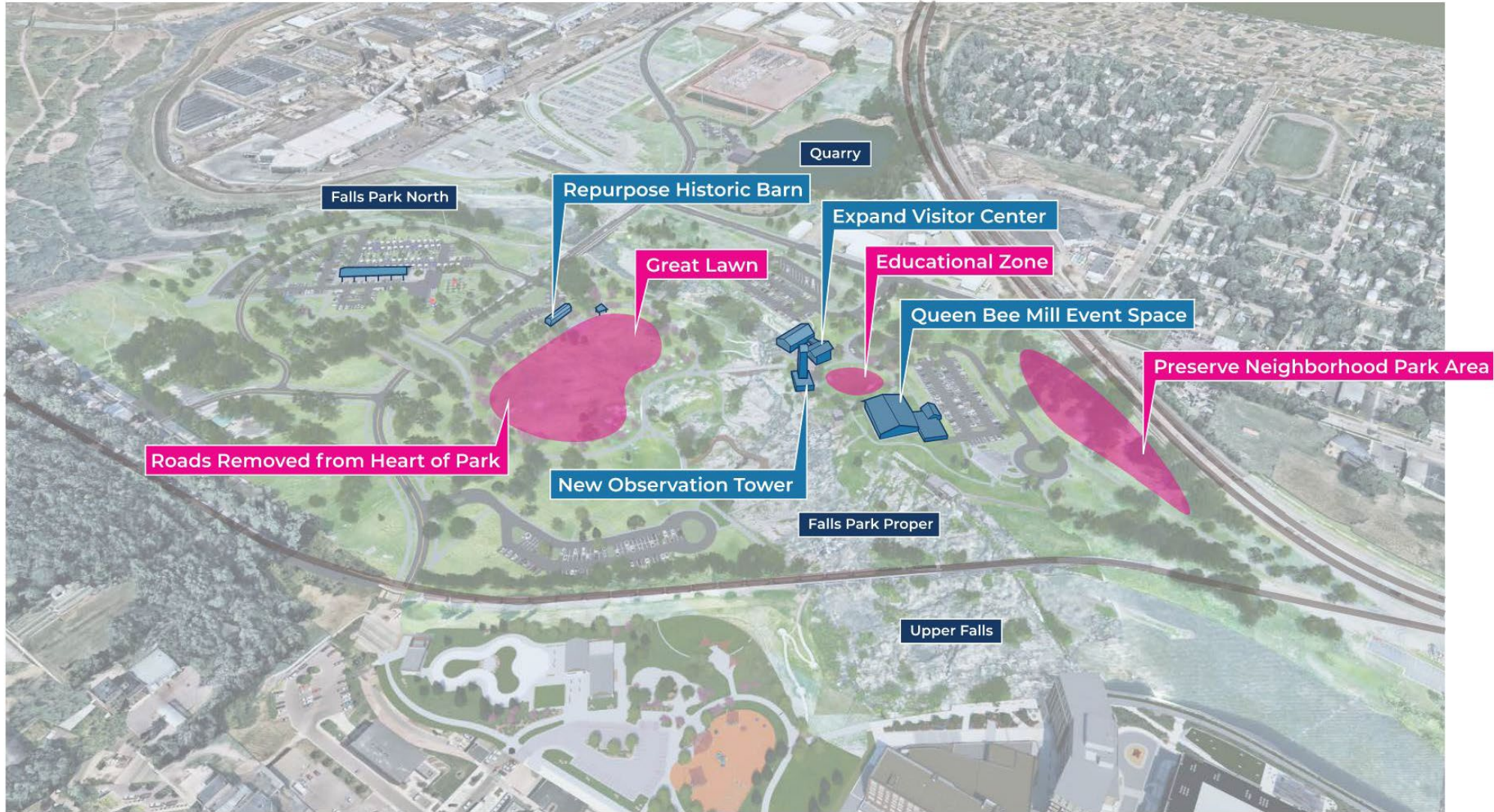
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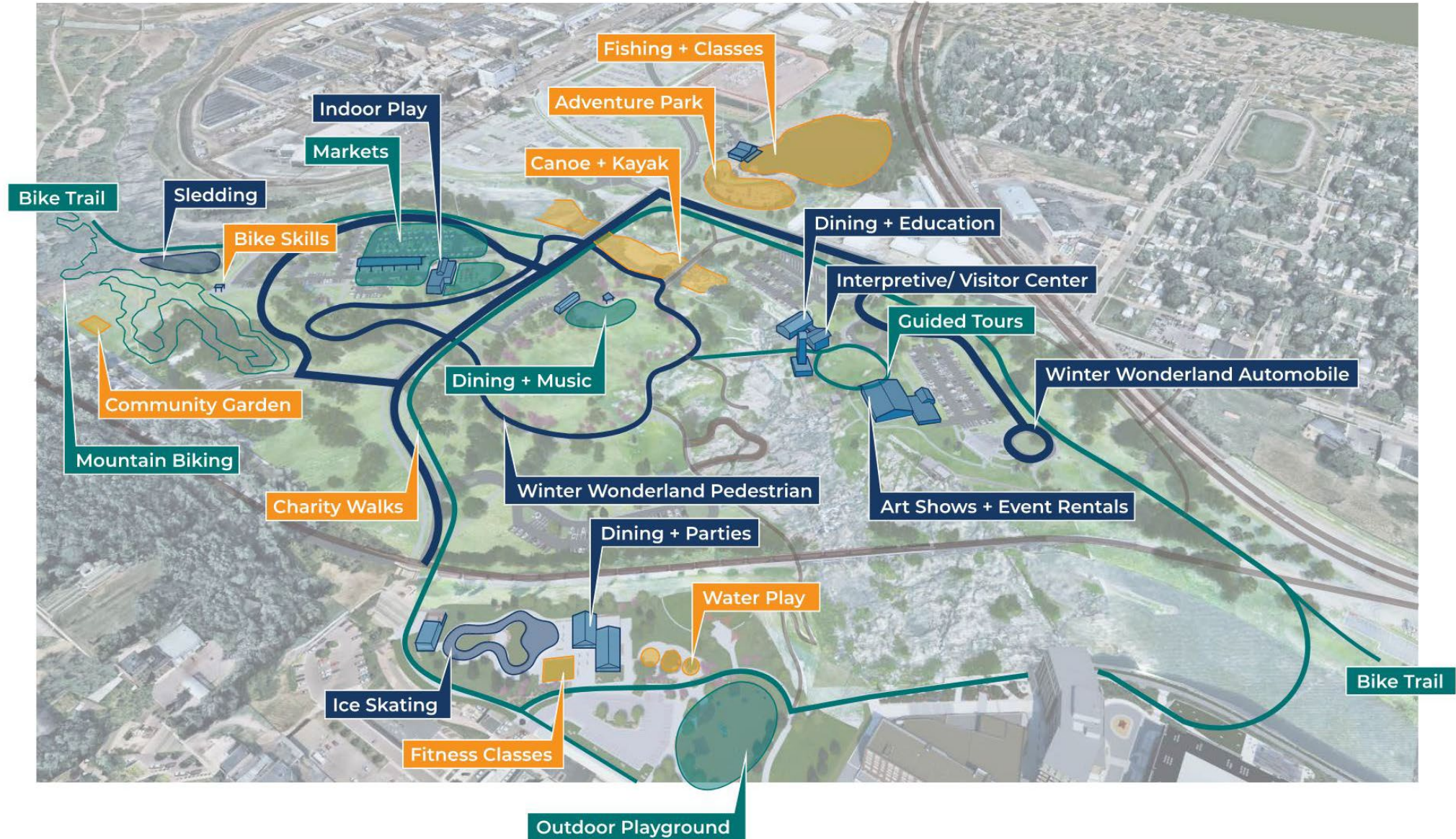
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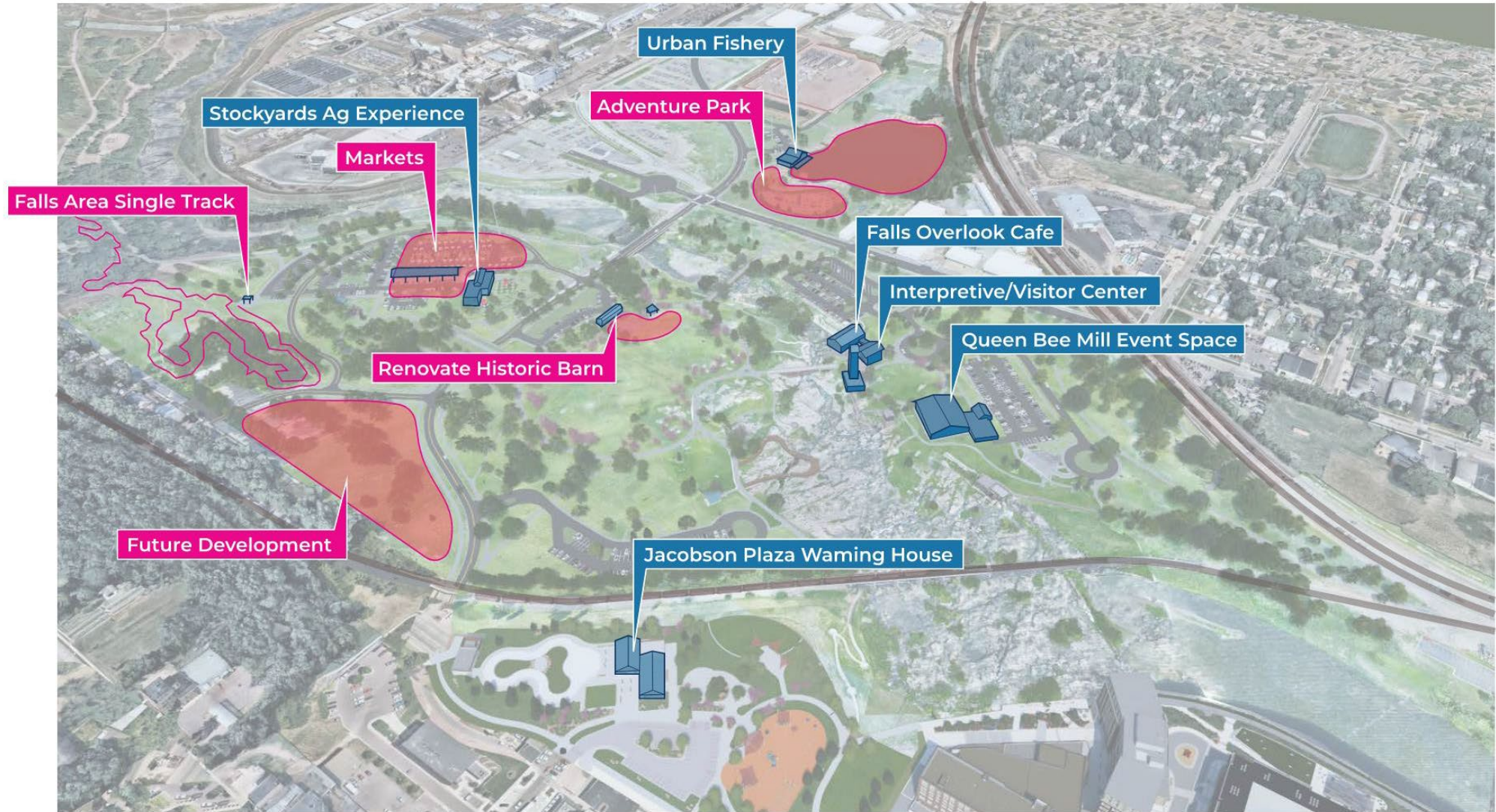
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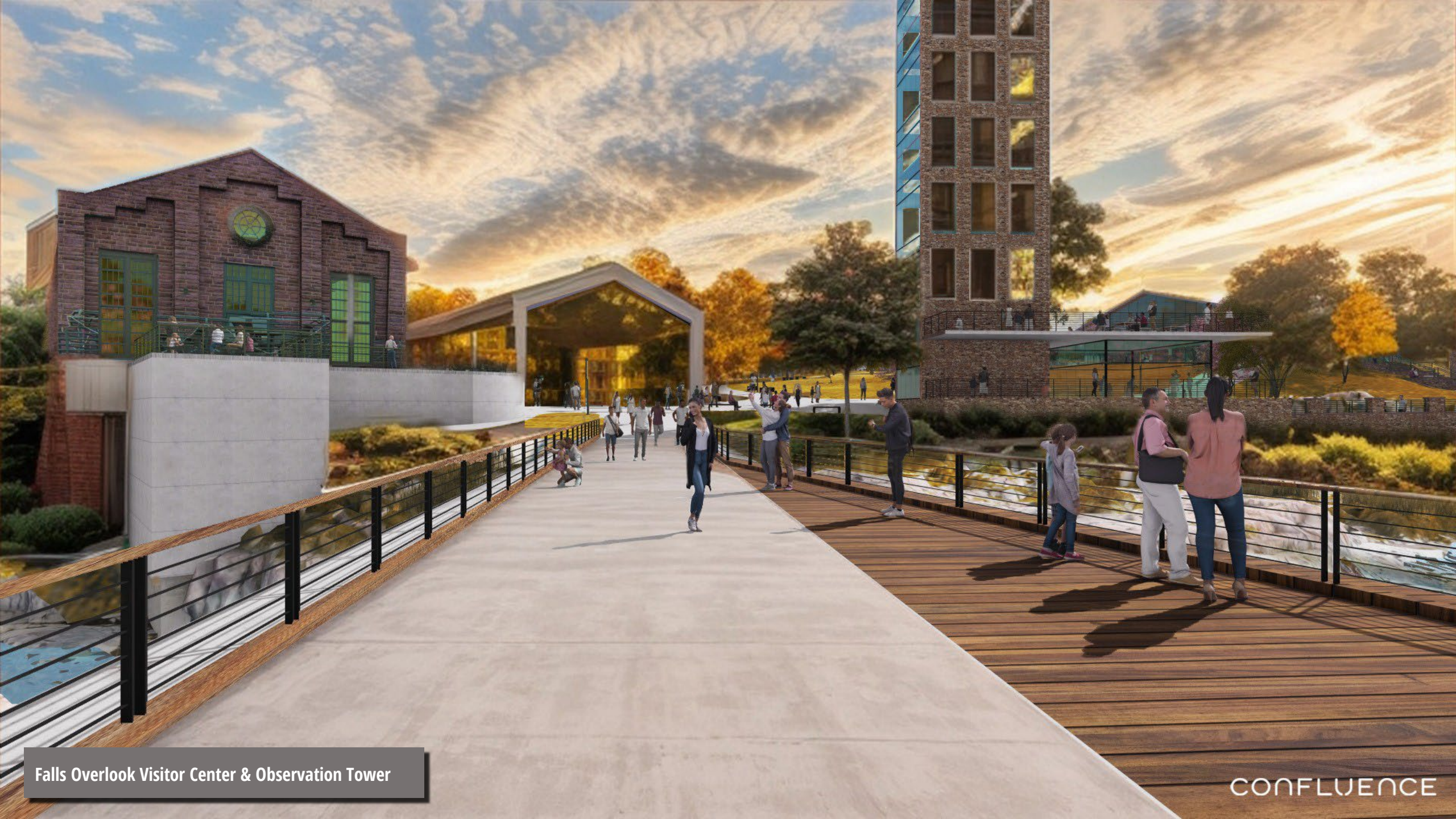
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Falls Overlook Visitor Center & Observation Tower

CONFLUENCE



Falls Overlook Visitor Center & Observation Tower



Falls Overlook Visitor Center & Observation Tower in Winter



Queen Bee Mill Event Center



Falls Overlook Visitor Center & Observation Tower in Winter



Bird's Eye View of Falls Park (Looking South)

CONFLUENCE



Horse Barn Dining & Heart of the Park Pavilion



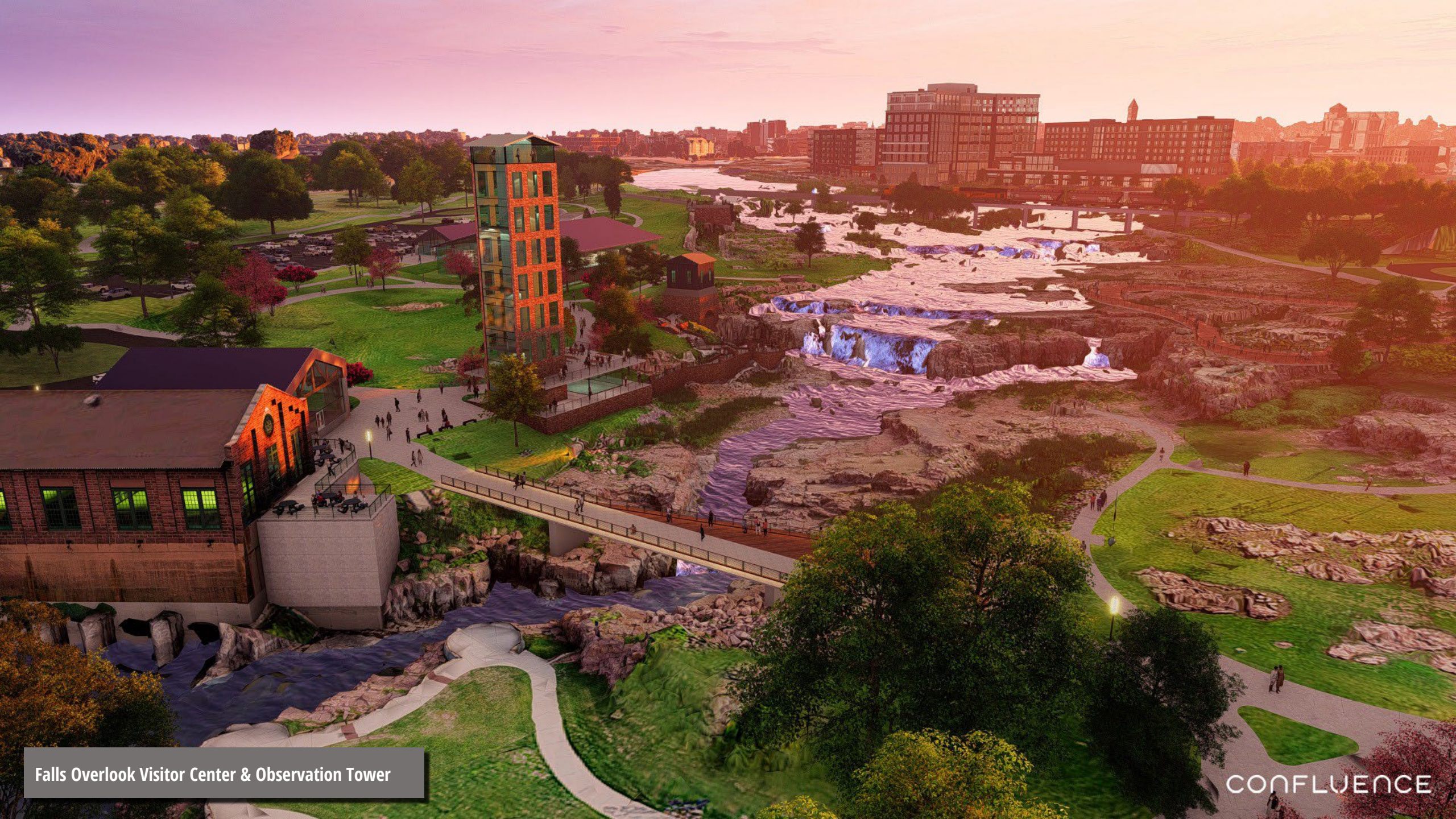
Land Bridge Over Falls Park Drive (Looking South)



View of Farmers Market Looking South Towards Falls Park & Downtown



Quarry Adventure Park & Urban Fishery



Falls Overlook Visitor Center & Observation Tower

CONFLUENCE

Thank You

