

Francis Street Beach Improvement Project

**WASHINGTON STREET COLLABORATIVE
WORKING GROUP MEETING**

November 8, 2024



SCAPE



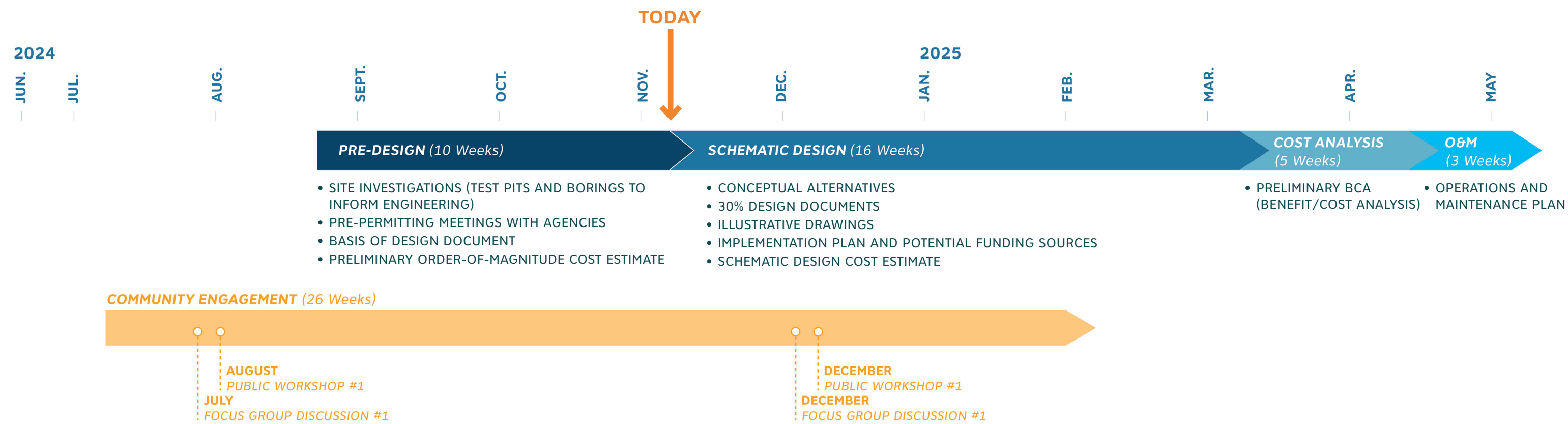
REMAIN

TODAY

1. FRANCIS STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
 - a. Updated project timeline
 - b. Discussion on design variables to ask the community
 - c. Discussion on design character and language
2. DISCUSSION ON MEETING SCHEDULE

UPDATED PROJECT TIMELINE

- Borings (today!)
- Soil percolation tests (next week)
- SCAPE site visit 11/15
- Virtual Community Workshop - early January



CONCEPT ALTERNATIVES DISCUSSION

PROJECT GOALS

ENVIRONMENTAL GOALS

- Improve the capacity of natural ecosystems to adapt to sea level rise and reduce adverse impacts to them
- Absorb, buffer, and manage water

SOCIAL GOALS

- Reduce flood risk to cultural and community assets
- Create public, universally accessible waterfront experiences for people
- Engage in dialogue with community members about climate risks and adaptation pathways

OPERATIONAL GOALS

- Reduce flood risk to sustain the long-term use of Washington Street
- Enhance multi-modal transportation infrastructure, critical to mobility and safety
- Develop feasible, adaptable, maintainable, and permissible solutions
- Clearly communicate economic benefits and anticipated project costs

CONCEPT ALTERNATIVES: WHAT ARE THE REQUIRED PARAMETERS?

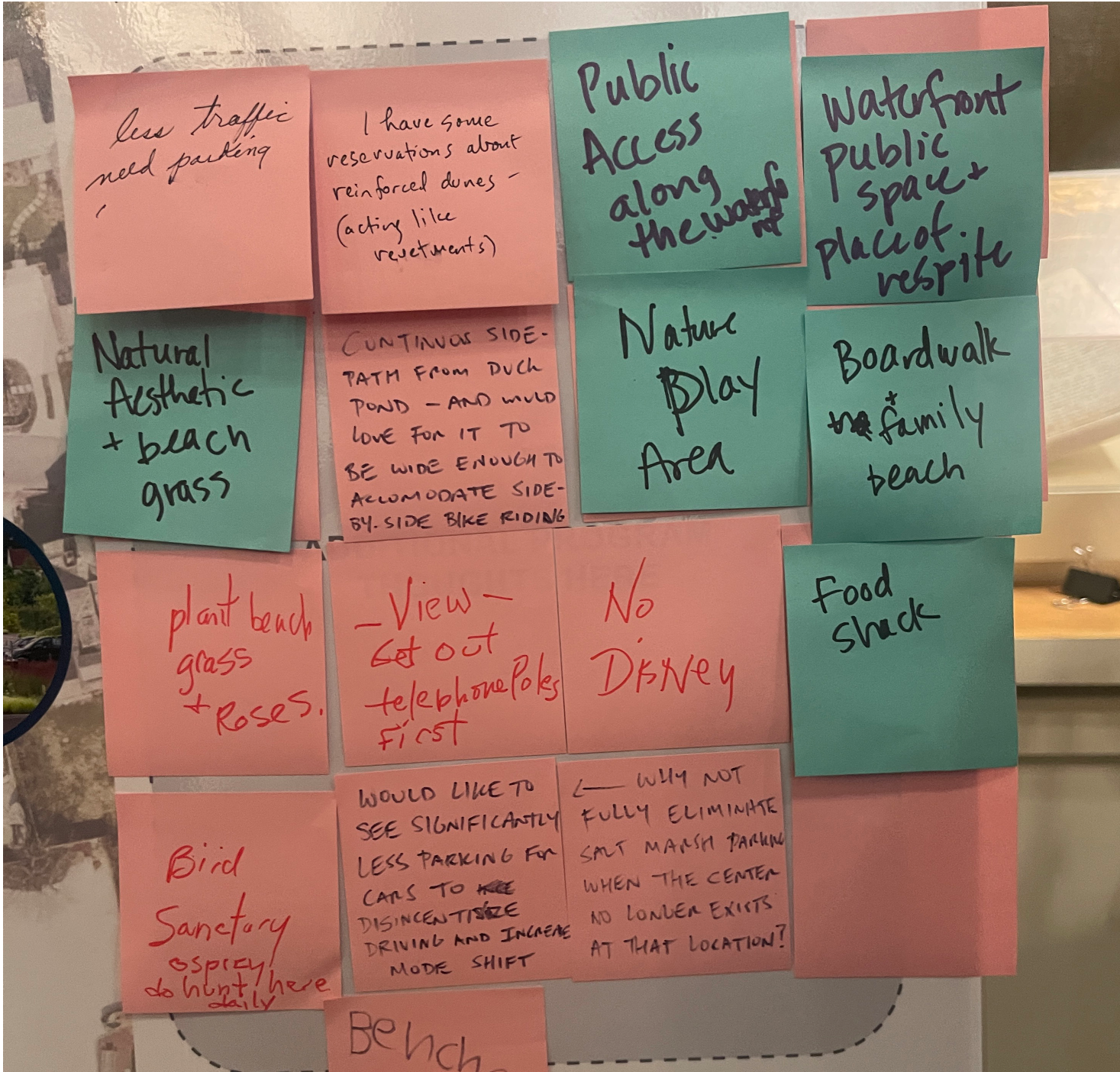
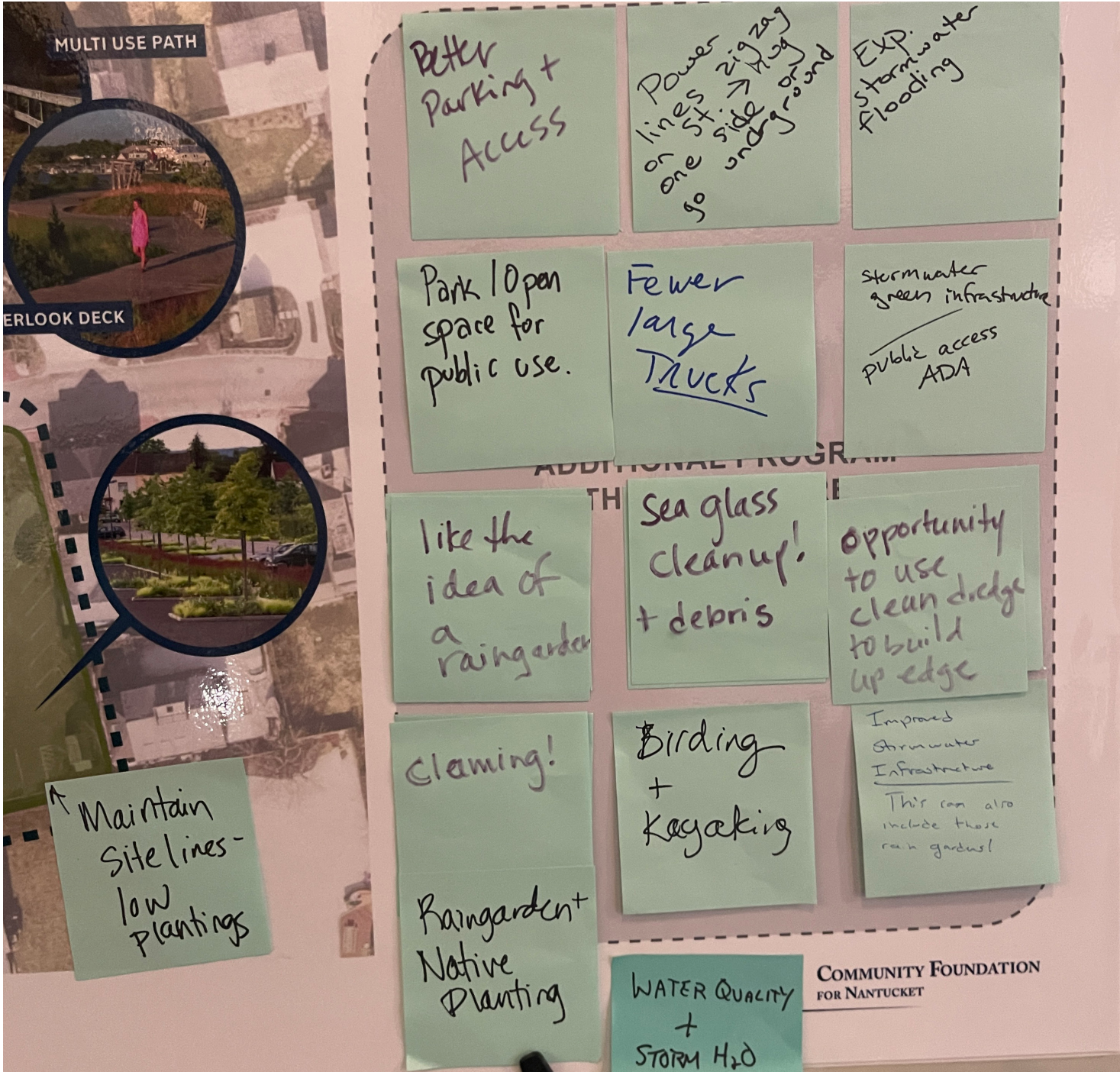
- Elevated intervention for flood risk reduction, reaching elevation 8' NAVD88 in alignment with the CRP
- Inland stormwater management
- ADA accessible pathway reaching from Washington Street to the beach
- Ability to tie into broader Washington Street Resilience Framework and collaborate with neighboring properties

CONCEPT ALTERNATIVES: WHAT ARE THE VARIABLES?

- Types of program and activities
- Intensity of use (lighter touch <---> more active)
- Character and design language
- Approach to stormwater (raingardens vs sub-surface storage)
- Others?

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITY: WHAT WE HEARD

STICKY NOTE RESPONSES



PROGRAMS & ACTIVITY: WHAT WE HEARD

9

FUTURE SITE OPPORTUNITIES

FROM THE IMAGES BELOW, WHICH RESONATE WITH YOU THE MOST?
USE THE GREEN (LIKE), RED (DON'T LIKE), AND YELLOW (NO OPINION) STICKERS TO SHARE HOW YOU FEEL!



REMAIN

RECREATION



KAYAKING

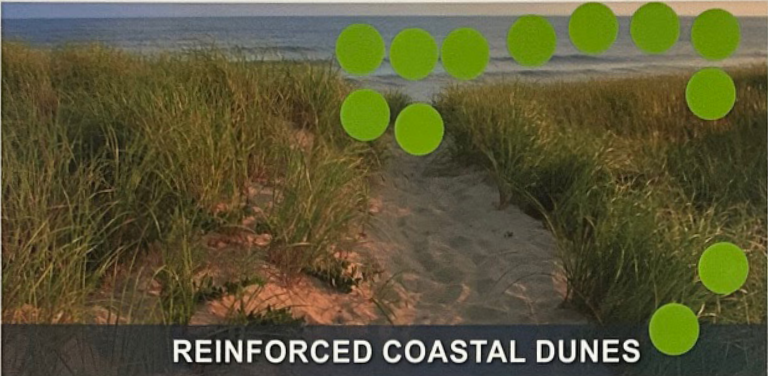


SUNBATHING



PICNIC AREA

ECOLOGY



REINFORCED COASTAL DUNES



RAIN GARDENS



NATIVE PLANTINGS

ACCESS



OVERLOOK DECKS



MULTI USE PATH



ADA CONNECTIONS

FRANCIS STREET BEACH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

9 **SCAPE**

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITY: WHAT WE HEARD

KEY TAKEAWAYS

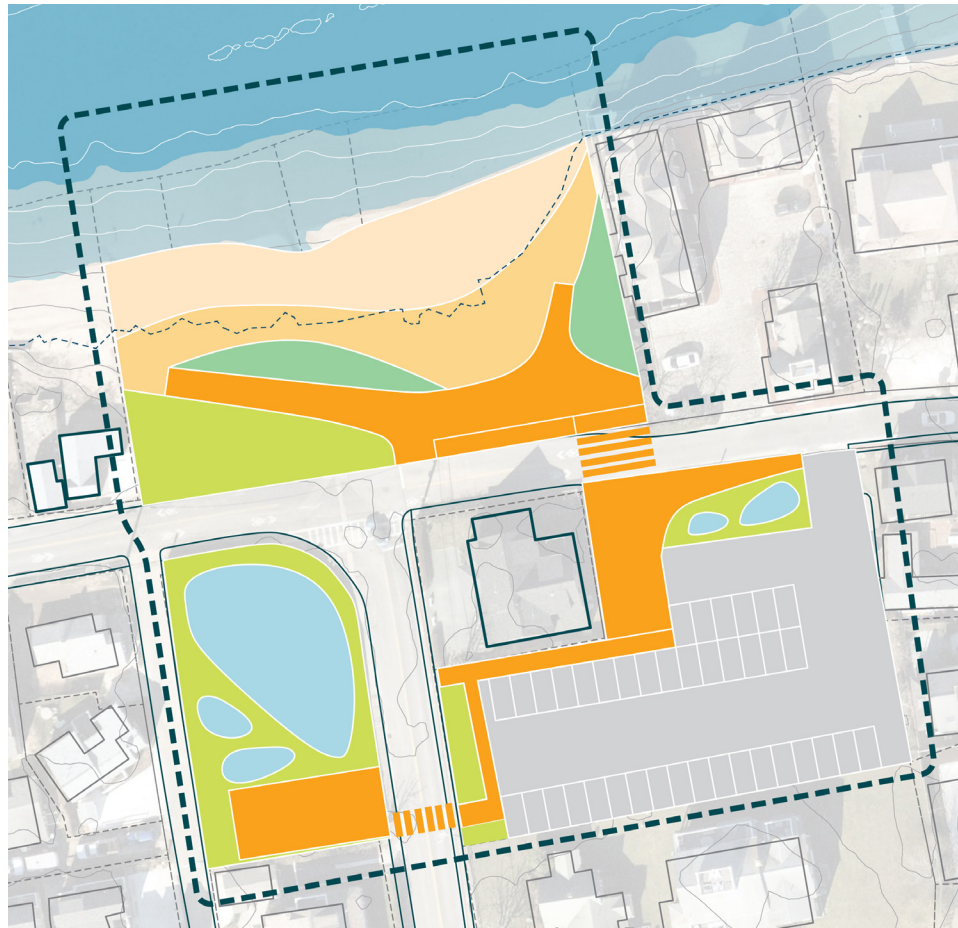
+ Strong desire for expanding public open space and improving public access along the waterfront, including ADA accessibility	+ Strong support for images in the ecology column of precedent photos, including native plantings and reinforced coastal dunes
+ Access images were well liked by the community, especially overlooks and multi use path	+ Support for more parking as well as support for less parking
+ Desire for ecological experiences, birding, and beach grass plantings	+ Support for subathing and picnicing was mixed
+ Interest in rain gardens and stormwater infrastructure improvements to mitigate flooding	+ Abutters expressed concerns about effectiveness and character of rain gardens, as well as mosquito management
+ Kayaking was a well-supported recreational use	

CHARACTER AND DESIGN LANGUAGE: PREVIOUS STUDIES

(FROM WASHINGTON STREET RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK PLAN)

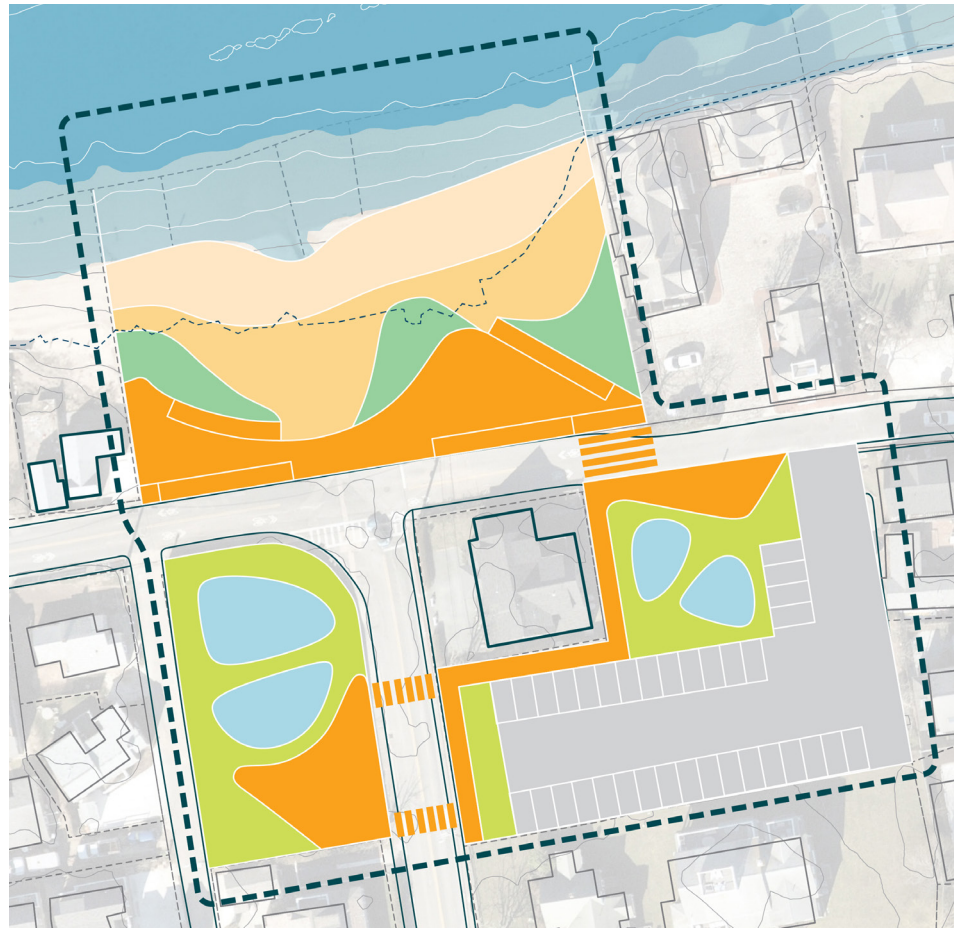
CHARACTER AND DESIGN LANGUAGE: PREVIOUS STUDIES

BEACH SPUR



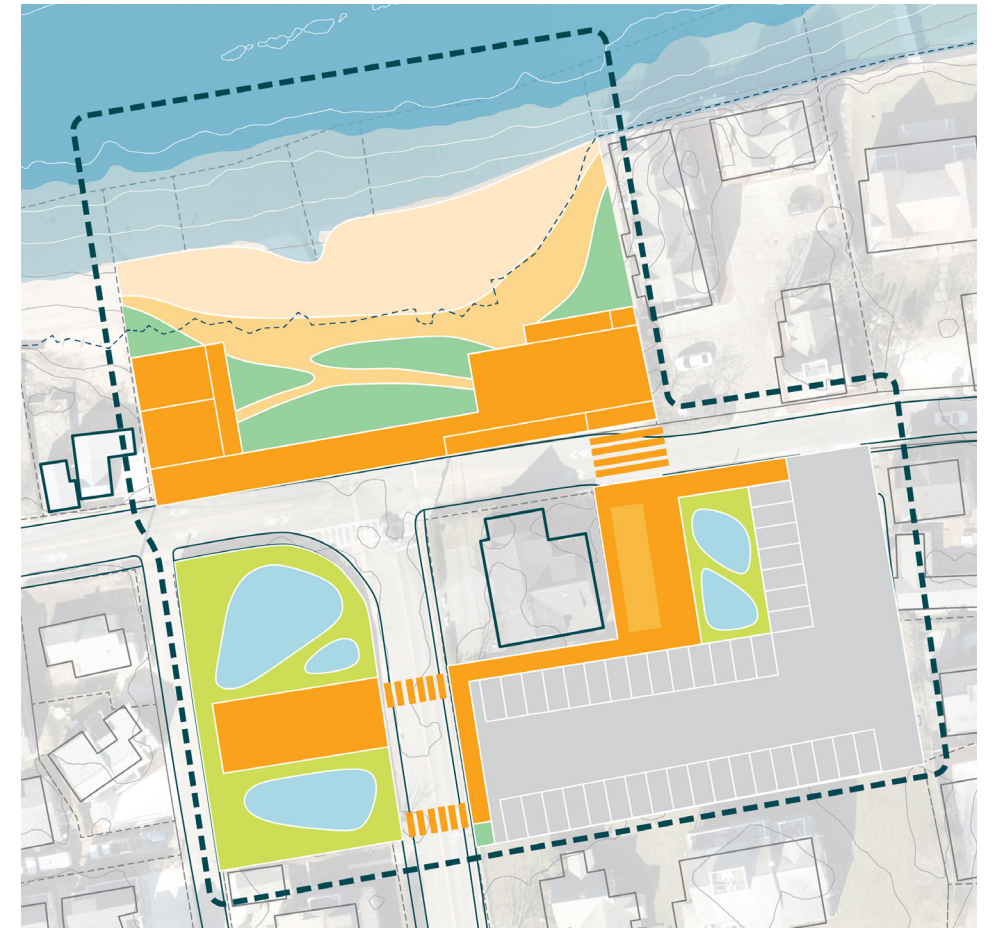
- Smaller footprint, minimizes impact on the landscape
- Hardened elements embedded in deck and dunes
- Rectilinear deck along the western edge of stormwater wetland

BEACH COVES



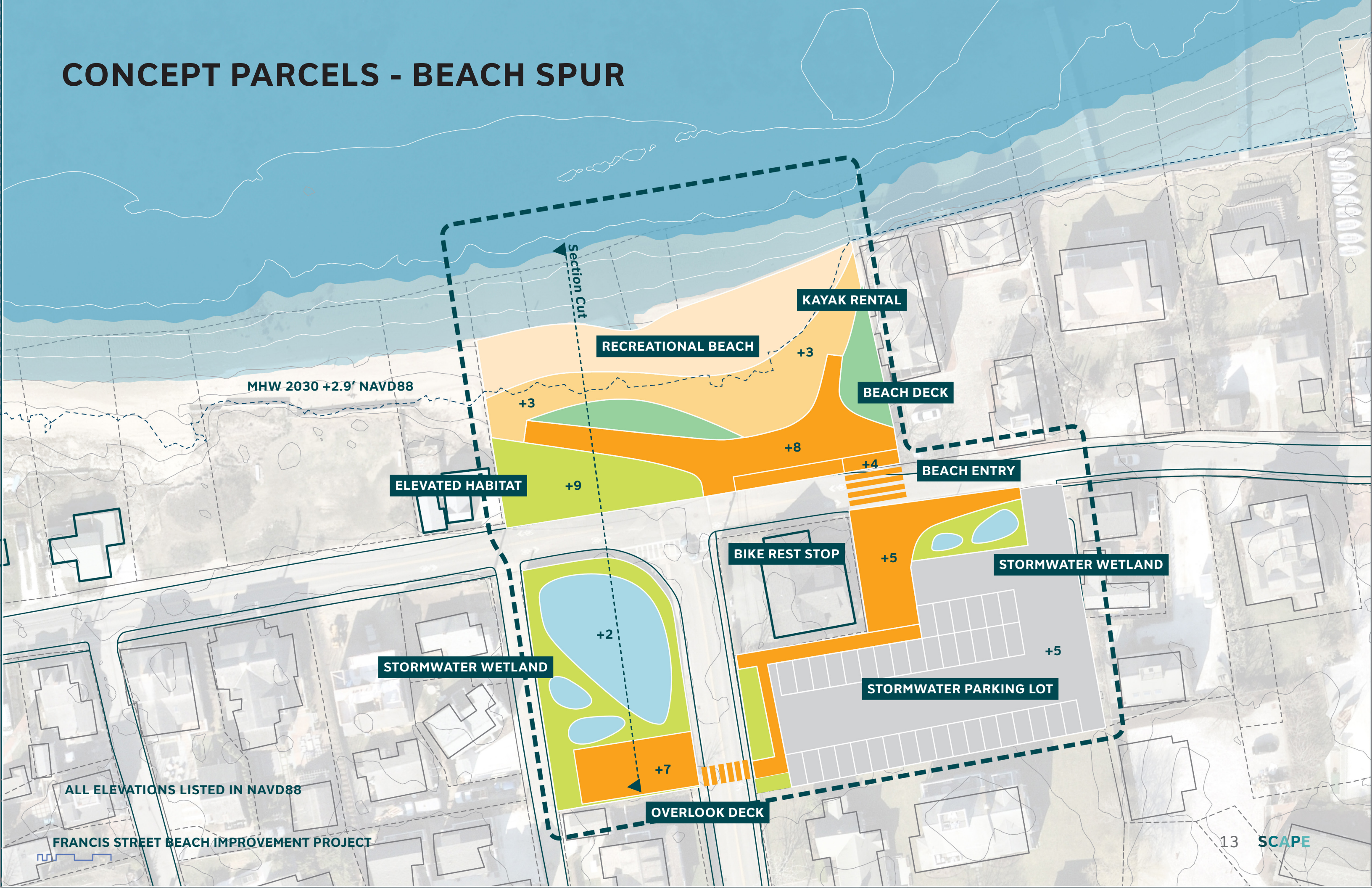
- Generous curvilinear deck space
- Hardened deck edge along Washington Street
- Multiple entrances from Washington Street
- Curvilinear deck hugs western edge of stormwater wetland

BEACH TERRACES



- Multi-level rectilinear deck space
- Hardened deck edge along Washington Street
- Rectilinear deck in the middle of the stormwater wetland

CONCEPT PARCELS - BEACH SPUR



ALL ELEVATIONS LISTED IN NAVD88

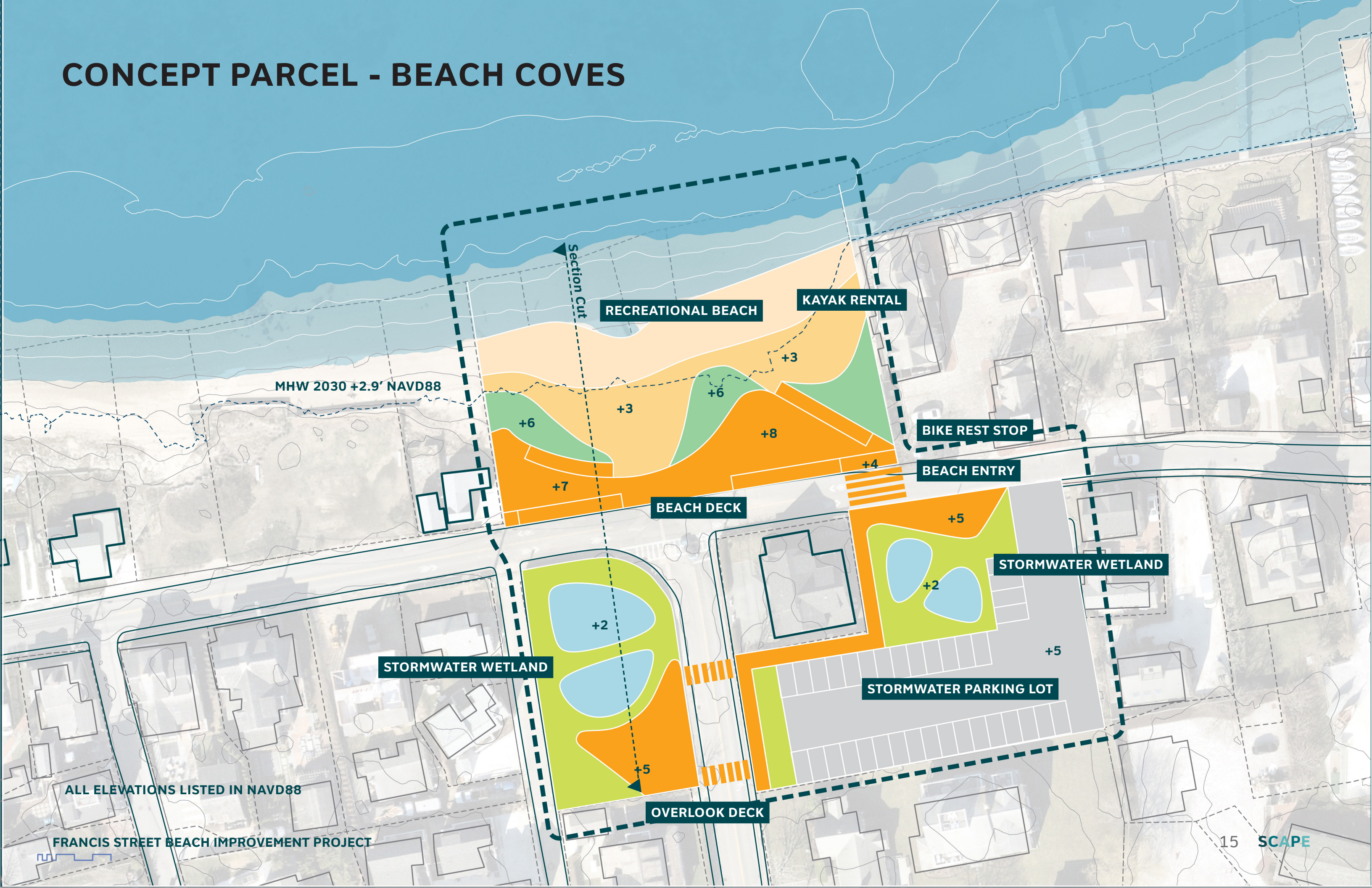
FRANCIS STREET BEACH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

CONCEPT PARCELS - BEACH SPUR

PRECEDENT IMAGES



CONCEPT PARCEL - BEACH COVES

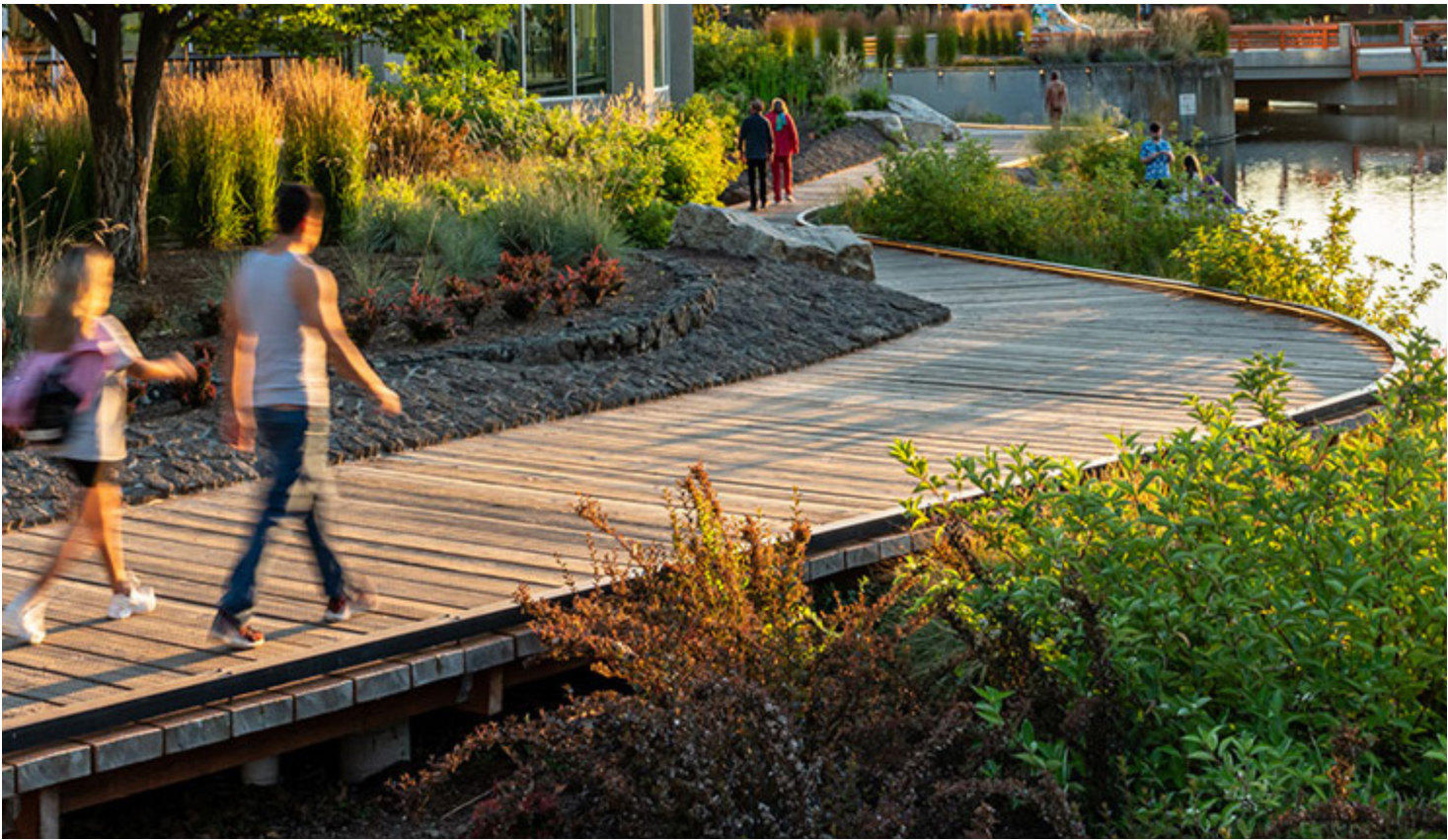


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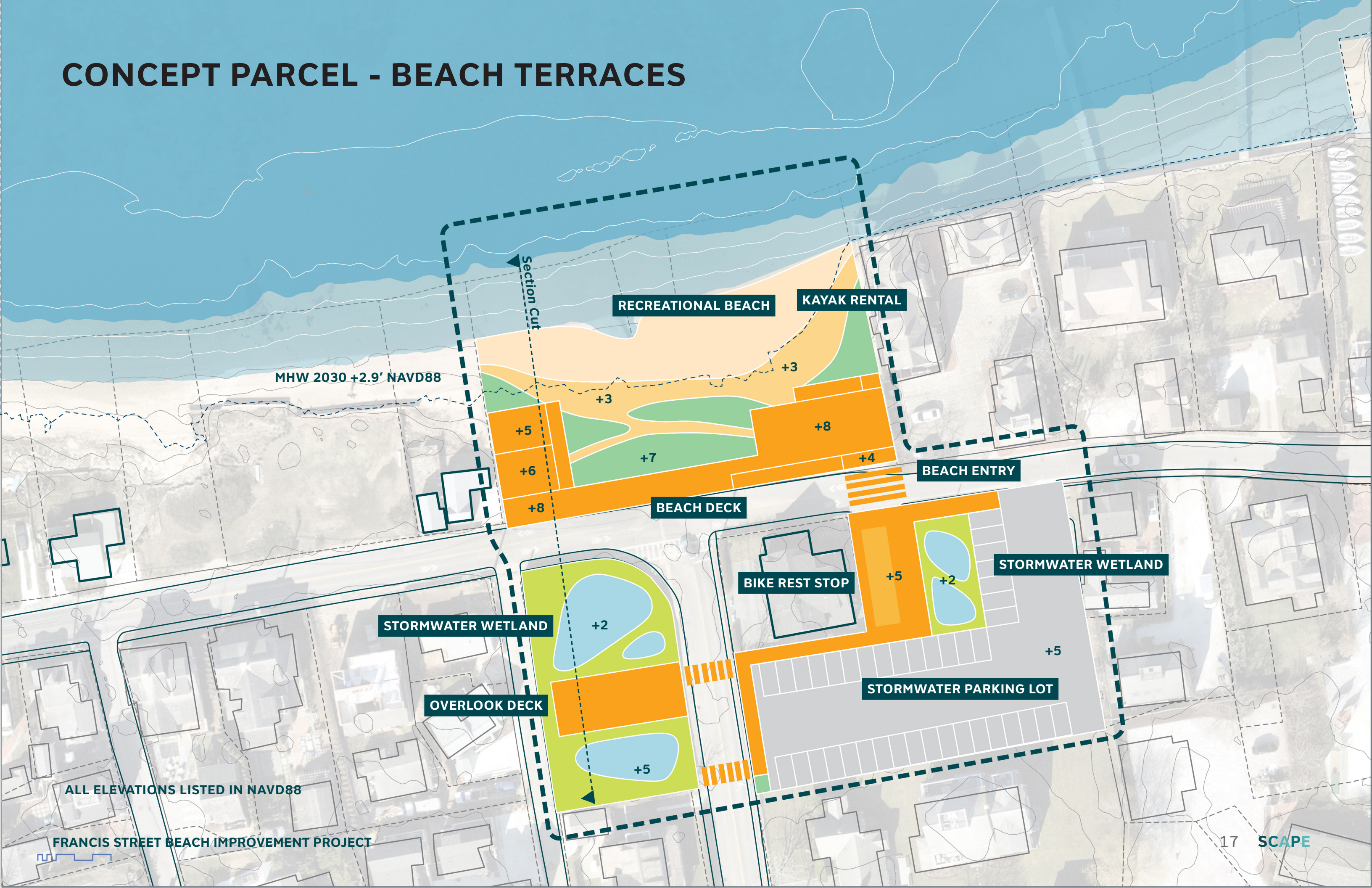
FRANCIS STREET BEACH IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

CONCEPT PARCEL - BEACH COVES

PRECEDENT IMAGES



CONCEPT PARCEL - BEACH TERRACES



CONCEPT PARCEL - BEACH TERRACES

PRECEDENT IMAGES



CONCEPT ALTERNATIVES: DISCUSSION

- What do you like and not like about the design form / character of these earlier alternatives?
- What else should we consider as we develop new concept alternatives?

MEETING SCHEDULE DISCUSSION

- **November 22** - Review preliminary design alternatives for feedback + confirm community workshop date
- **December 13th** - SCAPE conflict (cancel)
- **December 20th** - Public outreach materials for the community workshop + review approach
- **December 27th** - Holidays (cancel)
- **January 10th** - Review final materials for community workshop
- **Week of January 13th** - Virtual community workshop?
Evening Tuesday Jan 14th / morning Wednesday Jan 15?
- **Week of January 24** - Take-aways from community workshop / discuss preferred direction