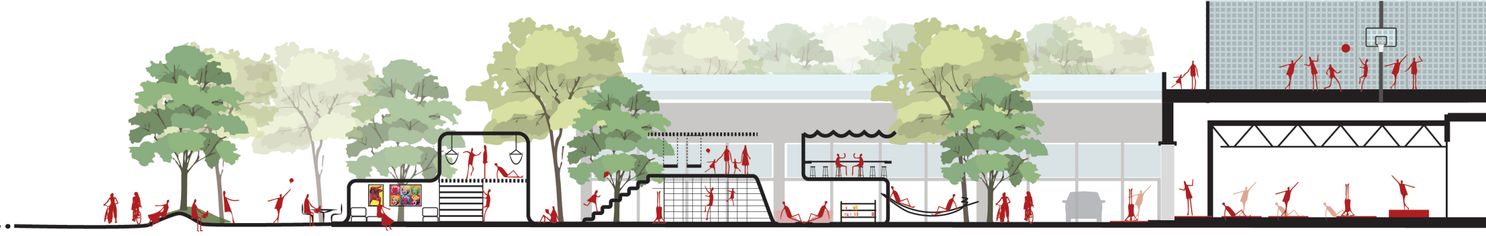
PARK IN

Cascading Towards a Sustainable Future



VISION:

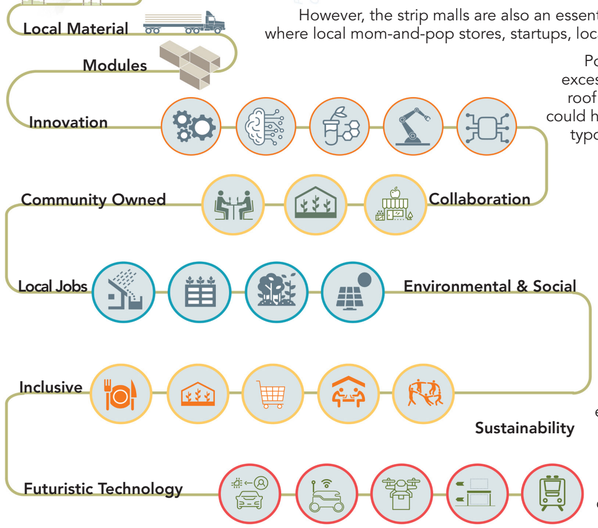
"To transform the existing strip mall into an inclusive, fun-filled, memorable destination that is people-centric & responsive to a new-age community living"

WHY THIS CHANGE ?

Strip malls are usually perceived as dull, boring, outdated spaces located usually at the heart of neighbourhoods. Most strip malls struggle with inefficient use of spaces with huge parking areas, out of tune with social needs of the people and hence easily rendered outdated with a short shelf life.

However, the strip malls are also an essential reality of urban life today where local mom-and-pop stores, startups, localised F&B's thrive and exist.

Potential reorganisation of the excess parking and under-utilised roof spaces within the strip malls could help transform dull, outdated typology of the past into vibrant social hubs of the future.



HOW ?

The strip development is a widespread remnant of a 20th century car-centric city that is losing value both in real estate as well as local ecology. Our vision focuses on making the strip into a 21st century neighborhood destination that celebrates sustainability while embracing the micro- culture & local identity.

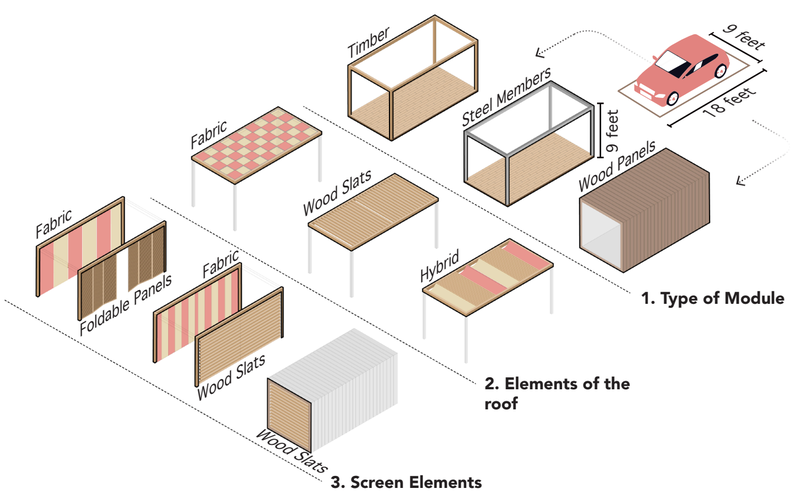
The proposal envisions a place that focuses on food security, inclusivity, community participation and future readiness. A place that is built on these four principles of Grow, Play, Community and Support.

DESIGN METHODOLOGY:

We propose a system of modules that can be deployed in place of a typical 9' x 18' parking space. This approach allows property owners to gradually replace parking areas with rentable modules that can be engaging for the community yet profitable as retail spaces. The interior configuration of these typical modules can have endless possibilities and when assembled creatively can create a labyrinth of unique experiences strengthening the local identities within otherwise relentless suburban sprawl.

The design also envisions modules to be incrementally added, adapted or altered depending on ever changing neighborhood needs, demands, and new technologies with time. The result is a dynamic multi-layered tapestry of varied programs, landscape and open space that provides increased value, experiences and identity to the Strip mall site.

9 FEET X18 FEET MODULE KIT OF PARTS



1. Type of Module

2. Elements of the roof

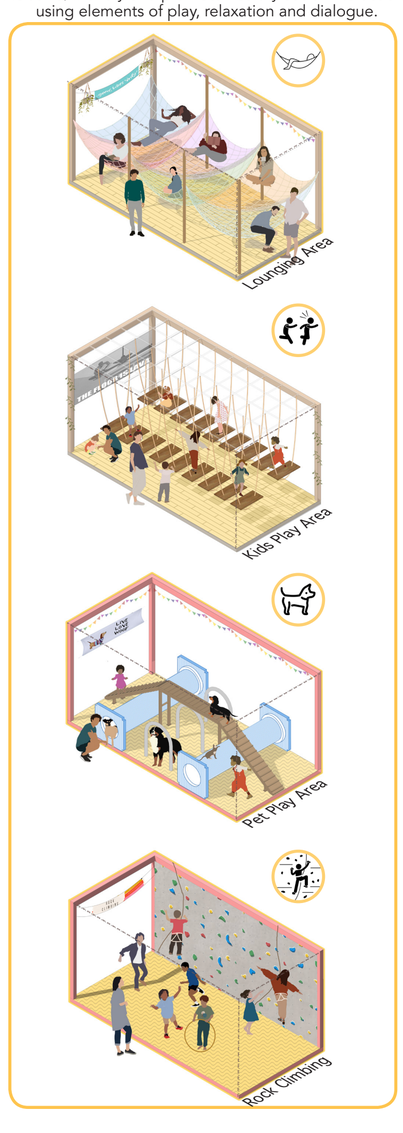
3. Screen Elements

GROW

Grow Modules focus on engaging,educating and collaborations encouraging local food production, farmers markets & urban farming practices.

PLAY

Play modules focus on social sustainability by creating a public realm accessible to everyone.Designed to be inclusive, friendly and promote healthy social interactions using elements of play, relaxation and dialogue.



COMMUNITY

Community modules resonate with the Cascadia bioregion's strength of innovation and technology entrepreneurship.

SUPPORT

Support modules are ready for the future with forward thinking design to adapt to evolving nature of future retail & transit.

Analysis : Any typical strip development identifies its ongoing challenges of unused parking spots, underwhelming pedestrian experience and frontage. Analysis of existing architecture to see possible retrofits for making the roof publicly accessible for new programs.

Opportunity : Identification of a frontage zone within the existing parking area to connect with pedestrians and cyclists. Facilitating access to the roof level above the existing built structures. Making all unused parking lots into temporary green pockets.

Program: Introduction of new program using the modules to see gradual transformation of the frontage. Programming the roof with various community activities like urban farming and sports. Creating a circulation pattern to improve accessibility of new programs.