



# TIDAL BASIN

DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**TIDAL BASIN: Development Concept Plan and Environmental Assessment**  
January 16, 2025



**Land** **Collective**  
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ARCHITECTS



 **LIZ SARGENT**  
HISTORICAL LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

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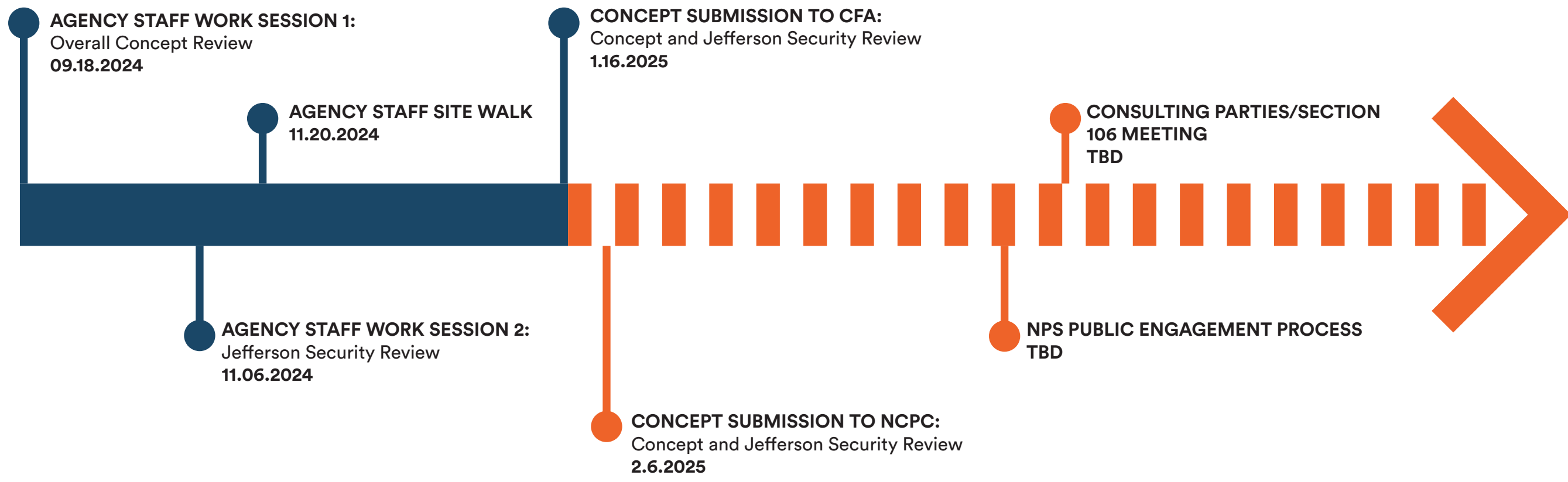
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# PROJECT BRIEF

## INTRODUCTION

The National Park Service (NPS) is undertaking a planning project to create a Development Concept Plan (the plan) for the Tidal Basin area of the National Mall and Memorial Parks. This project is part of the stipulations agreed upon by the NPS, the DC Historic Preservation Officer, and National Capital Planning Commission in a Memorandum of Agreement to resolve the adverse effects resulting from the project for the Rehabilitation of Tidal Basin and West Potomac Park Seawalls. The project will address multi-modal circulation and transportation; connectivity; conservation; tree preservation; protection of aquatic resources; infrastructure; memorials and cultural landscape protection; security; visitor experience, enjoyment, recreation, and services; seawall solutions and facilities; and flexible public spaces to accommodate a wide variety of national celebrations, First Amendment gatherings and other permitted activities. This project will also include the preliminary design for a vehicle barrier system around the Jefferson Memorial.

## PROJECT AREA

The area of focus for this Plan includes the Tidal Basin and surrounding land located within West Potomac Park in Washington, DC. The project area is approximately over 250 acres in size, and includes specific areas and memorials, such as:

- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- 1912 Plantings
- Floral Library
- Cherry Trees
- Japanese Lantern
- Japanese Pagoda
- Inlet and Outlet Bridge
- Kutz Memorial Bridge

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## BACKGROUND

The Tidal Basin is a 19th century hydrological engineering achievement, an integral part of the West Potomac Park landscape, and the setting for renowned monuments. The Tidal Basin has evolved into an iconic, significant, and beloved public cultural landscape and commemorative space. It is estimated that 36 million people from all over the globe visit the National Mall annually to experience this great American landscape, and more than 1.5 million visitors come during the National Cherry Blossom Festival to enjoy the stunning bloom of more than 3,700 cherry trees growing around the Tidal Basin. Contributing to the substantial wear and tear on the Tidal Basin are the record crowds that continue to gather year-round to enjoy its scenery, monuments, and recreational opportunities. Growing visitation, escalating costs, and the lack of consistent federal funding have left the NPS unable to keep pace with needed repairs at the Tidal Basin. The NPS is in a constant state of cherry tree replacement, as the trees do not thrive in current conditions with trampled, compacted soils and the twice-daily inundation of brackish water in areas. This planning effort intends to provide direction for the long-term management and rehabilitation of the Tidal Basin cultural landscape based upon the vision of the National Mall Plan and other planning documents.

## EXISTING CONDITIONS

The existing conditions of the project area are representative of a landscape that faces overlapping challenges. Pressures from heavy public use, ecological concerns, and the site's connection to the adjacent city fabric and movement systems have altered the landscape from its original design intent. The Tidal Basin is well attended as a site during cherry blossom season and throughout the year, and this activity has resulted in compacted soils, a lack of consistent ground cover, and exposed tree root systems in ways that affect the safety and accessibility of the site. Additionally, the connections from the site to the adjacent city fabric are either lacking in areas of desired connection, or insufficient and unsafe for the volume of pedestrian traffic matriculating onto the site.



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## PROJECT BRIEF (CONT.)

Roadway and sidewalk profiles are also challenged by the volume of people accessing the site via walking, biking, and driving causing a need for temporary barriers to separate modes of traffic during peak use times. Ecologically, tidal fluctuations have overtopped the main circulation path around portions of the Tidal Basin edge, leaving standing water and additional sediment on concrete walks. This twice-daily inundation negatively affects the cherry trees, pedestrian experience, and longevity of the engineered systems around the basin. Many of the engineered systems such as the seawall and sidewalks are in disrepair due to the ecological pressures and the root systems of trees within the landscape, creating additional hazards. The site includes multiple memorials including Martin Luther King Jr., Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Thomas Jefferson, and more. The memorials themselves are in good standing, however the connections to the adjacent Tidal Basin pathway networks should be improved. Notably, the site security around the Jefferson Memorial remains a series of jersey barriers and will require a permanent design solution. In addition to the commemorative aspects, recreation has always been present in the Tidal Basin's history, and visitors continue to use the ballfields and multi-use fields regularly.

### CONCEPTUAL DESIGN APPROACH

The conceptual design approach focuses on key themes drawn from the existing conditions studies, inventory and analysis, and discussion with the NPS on existing challenges and long-term needs. These themes also incorporate applicable planning documentation from the District's agencies with oversight and have been coordinated with the NPS to create a framework for all Development Concept Plan alternatives. The themes within that framework are as follows:

- Expand the connectivity of multi-modal circulation, transportation, and infrastructure
- Enhance visitor experience of year-round recreation, vistas and viewsheds, and gathering spaces
- Manage ecological impacts with a sustainable approach
- Protect cultural resources
- Provide security at the Jefferson Memorial

Our approach to developing each alternative considers the entire framework listed above, with

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weighted consideration on two to three key themes as a guide for each alternative's conceptual ideation. The project team's goal is to create a robust series of alternatives for consideration by the Park Service, agencies with oversight, and the public. An initial workshop with NPS narrowed the design team's focus to three distinct options:

Alternative A highlights the following framework drivers:

1. Expand the connectivity of multi-modal circulation, transportation, and infrastructure
2. Provide security at the Jefferson Memorial

Alternative B highlights the following framework drivers:

1. Enhance visitor experience of year-round recreation, vistas and viewsheds, and gathering spaces
2. Protect cultural resources
3. Provide security at the Jefferson Memorial

Alternative C highlights the following framework drivers:

1. Manage ecological impacts with a sustainable approach
2. Provide security at the Jefferson Memorial



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# REGULATORY REVIEW AND PUBLIC COORDINATION

## NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

NPS initiated the Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) on September 17, 2024, for the development of conceptual designs for the Tidal Basin area of the National Mall and Memorial Parks. As noted previously, this undertaking was called for as part of the stipulations agreed upon by the NPS, the DC Historic Preservation Officer, and the National Capital Planning Commission in a Memorandum of Agreement to resolve the adverse effects resulting from the Rehabilitation of Tidal Basin and West Potomac Park Seawalls project.

The NPS will prepare a draft Assessment of Effects and intends to consult the public per the implementing regulations (36 CFR 800.3[e]) of the NHPA in public meetings and through its Planning, Environment, and Public Comment (PEPC) website (<https://parkplanning.nps.gov/>). At this time, the NPS has not made a determination of effect.

## NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

The appropriate level of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the development of conceptual designs for the Tidal Basin area is anticipated to be an Environmental Assessment (EA). The NEPA process will be initiated after the design advances beyond the initial conceptual design phase.

## AGENCY REVIEW

NPS anticipates agency review of the conceptual designs, including by the National Capital Planning Commission and the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts, to occur in February 2025. Additional agency review, including with interested Tribes and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is ongoing.

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

The NPS will engage the public on the conceptual designs for this project through a 30-day public comment period anticipated to be held in January-February of 2025. Once the project advances beyond the conceptual design phase, further public engagement will occur through the NEPA and Section 106 processes.



# FRAMEWORK FOR THE TIDAL BASIN DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT PLANS

1. EXPAND THE **CONNECTIVITY** OF MULTI-MODAL CIRCULATION, TRANSPORTATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE
2. ENHANCE **VISITOR EXPERIENCE** OF YEAR-ROUND RECREATION, VISTAS AND VIEWSHEDS, AND GATHERING SPACES
3. MANAGE **ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS** WITH A **SUSTAINABLE** APPROACH
4. PROTECT **CULTURAL RESOURCES**
5. PROVIDE **SECURITY** AT THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL



# SITE RESEARCH

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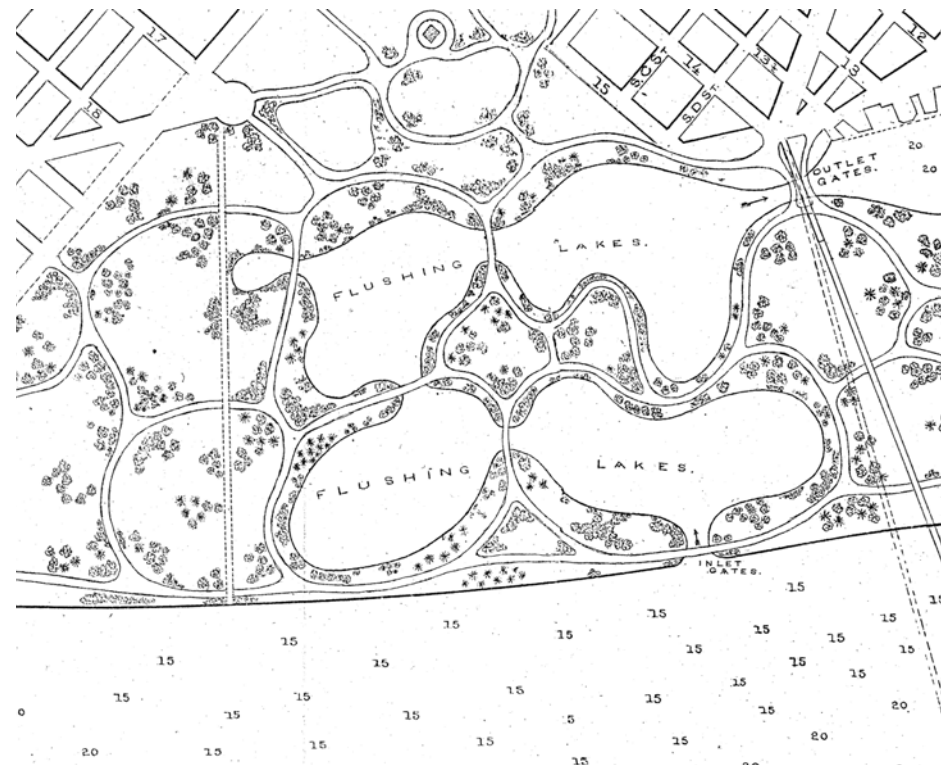


## SITE HISTORY

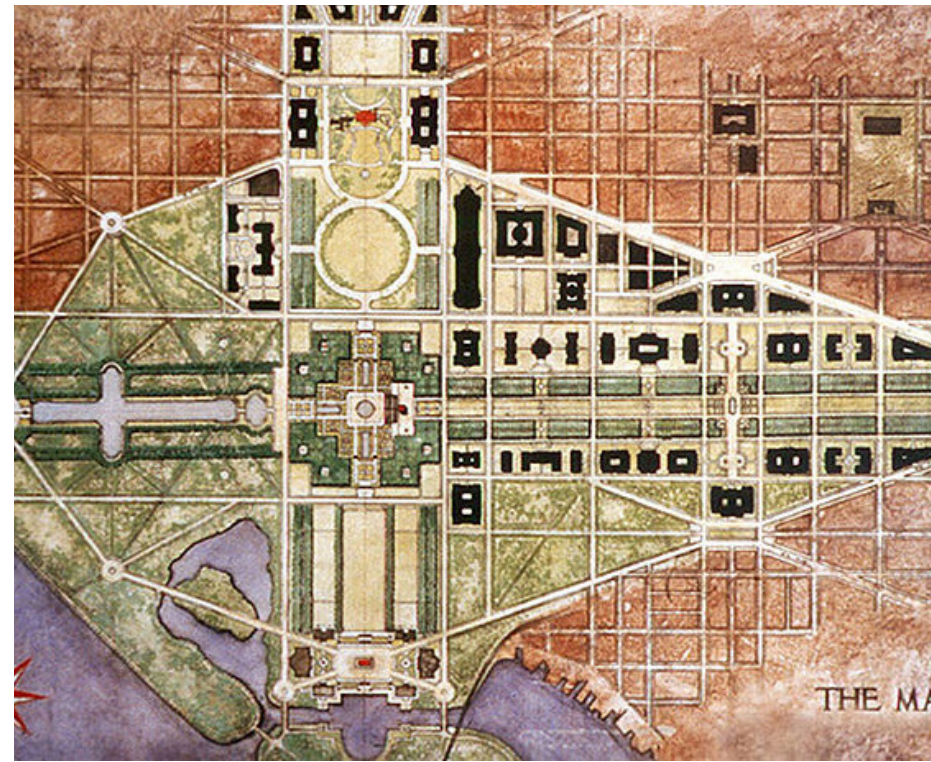
Research into site history was wide-ranging and inclusive of both East and West Potomac Park. Specifically, we wanted to call attention to the engineering associated with the Tidal Basin and its transition from four separate flushing basins to one, formalized, water body. This site has both influenced and shifted in response to large-scale planning within the district, including the unrealized formalization within the McMillan Plan. We also recognize the Congressional Act that stipulated recreation as an essential aspect of West Potomac Park and the Tidal Basin adjacencies and have been considering the many ways people recreate, experience, and understand the cultural landscapes in and around the tidal basin. In greater specificity, we wanted to highlight the historic Olmsted Brothers plan for the Jefferson Memorial, specifically the aspect of a keystone at the Jefferson Lawn, terraced grading interventions, and the interplay of cherry blossom canopy and glade, as well as the 1943 as-built configuration of the final plan. Our team also reviewed the existing conditions of the site to highlight key challenges like soil compaction, tidal inundation, pedestrian congestion, and insufficient site security at the Jefferson Memorial.



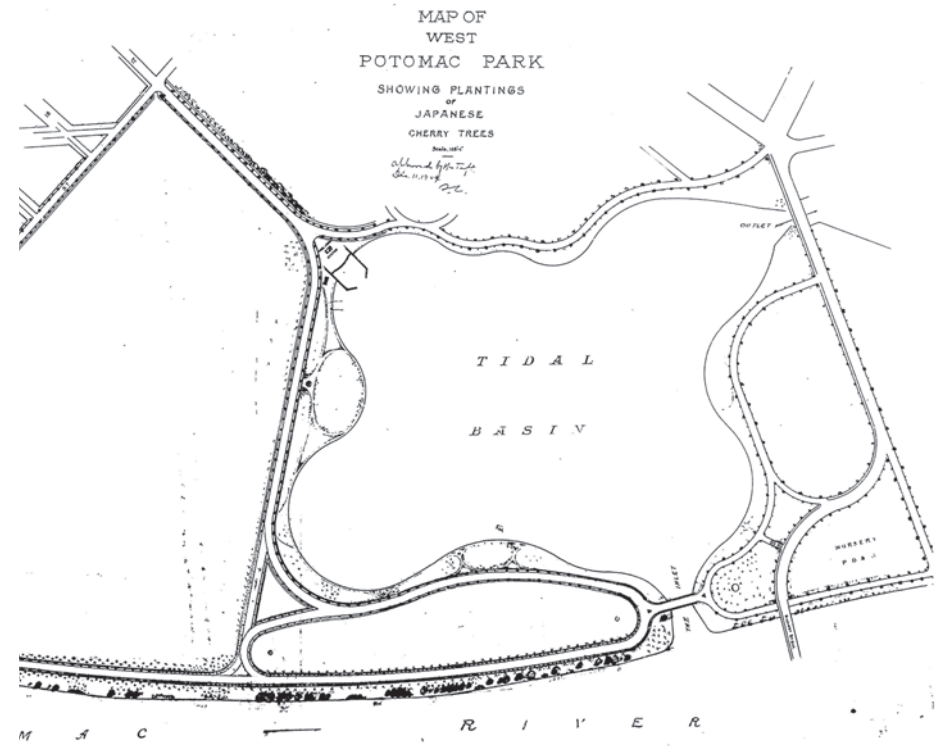
# PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE, CHERRY CANOPY, AND RECREATION



1883 - Original Potomac Flats Reclamation Plan



1901 - McMillan Plan



1909 - Historic Cherry Blossom Planting Plan



1988 - Historic aerial of the Tidal Basin showing Kutz Bridge splitting up the four lobes



Photo of recreation fields at West Potomac Park, Land Collective



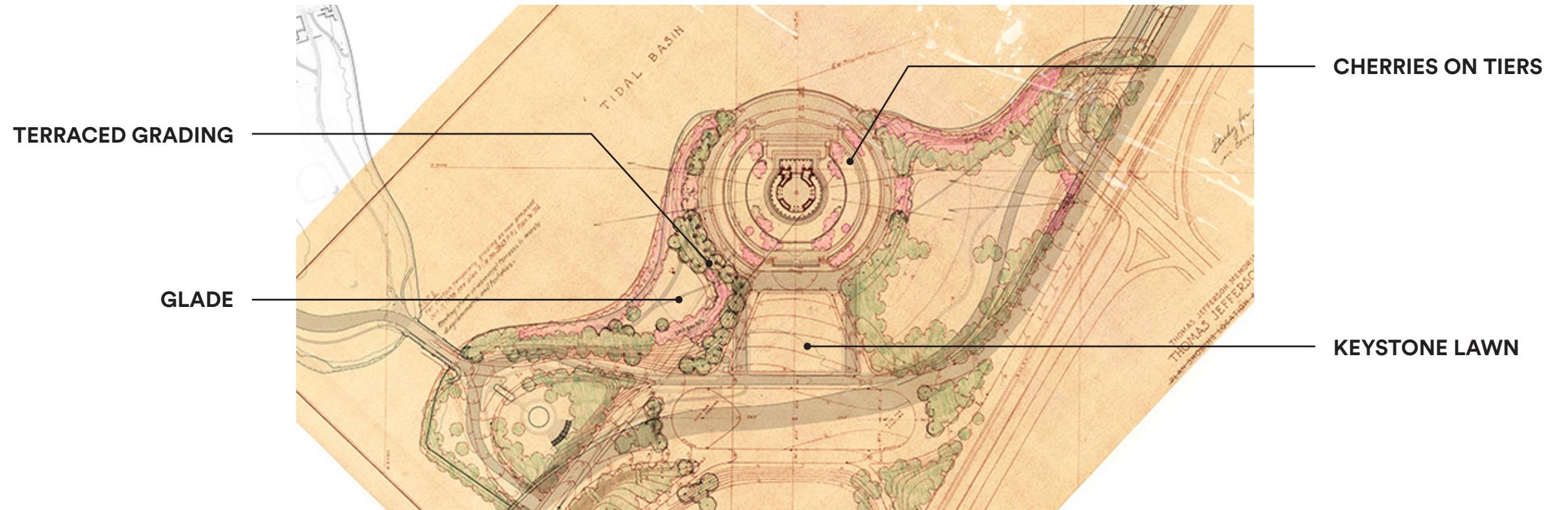
Photo of kickball game, courtesy of DC Fray



Gathering at the Tidal Basin, Land Collective

# SITE HISTORY AND PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

References to both the historic condition and design exploration at the Jefferson Memorial assists in determining ways to revivify the site in support of the overall framework goals. Key design moves like glades and the use of grading help inform improvements in the context of Jefferson Memorial security as well.



Olmsted Brothers Jefferson Memorial planting scheme overlaid on existing roadway network.



1943 as-built Jefferson Memorial site plan.



Image shows congested pedestrian traffic at the MLK Jr. Memorial intersection with Tidal Basin edge.



Image shows congested pedestrian traffic at street crossing.



Image shows soil compaction at cherry tree root systems.



Image shows inundation and sediment at the Tidal Basin edge.



Image shows temporary jersey barriers at Jefferson Memorial.



Image shows soil compaction at Tidal Basin edge and protected grass directly adjacent to the FDR Memorial.



Image shows pedestrian congestion at Tidal Basin edge.



Image shows recreational fields at West Potomac Park and bus parallel parking beyond.

# CURRENT SEAWALL CONSTRUCTION



Image shows construction at the seawall north of the inlet bridge. Inlet bridge in the foreground. Crane, piling, and sediment control seen in the background.



Image shows close up of construction at the seawall north of the inlet bridge. Piling and sediment control seen in the foreground. Water level has inundated the existing wall elevation.

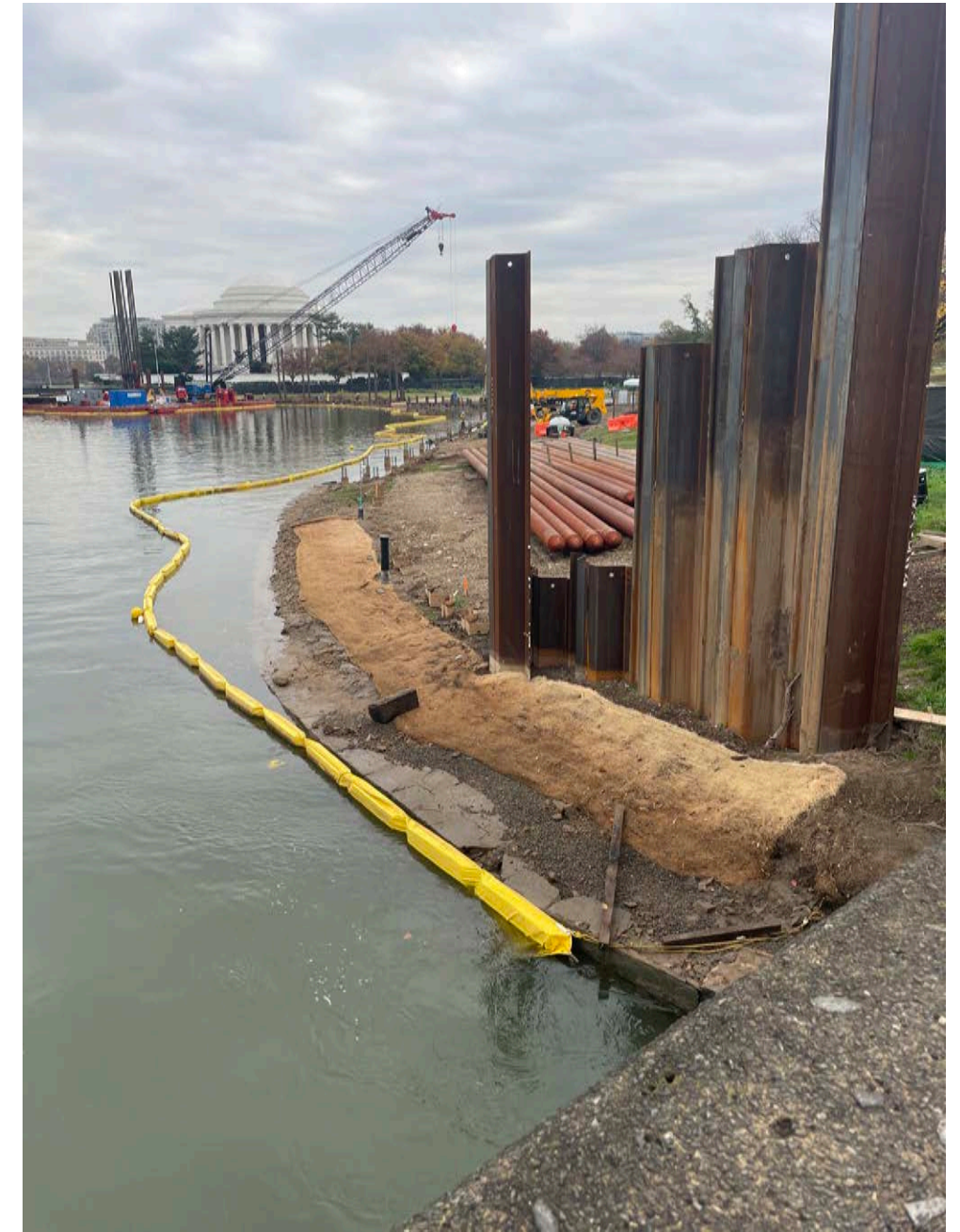


Image shows construction at the seawall south of the inlet bridge. Piling, and sediment control seen in the foreground. Crane and the Jefferson Memorial seen in the background. Water level has inundated the existing wall elevation.

## SITE ANALYSIS

The team's site analysis included both the Tidal Basin site scale, and a larger scale view extended to Constitution Avenue, NW. Long-range planning influences, FEMA flood zones, and connecting transit specifically relate to the larger scale analysis of site influences and ways in which the public accesses the site. At the Tidal Basin scale, our team narrowed our focus to all modes of transit and how people matriculate in and through this landscape, as well as existing landscape features like the overhead canopy. This information and more fed into our project team's understanding of the site and the needs of the NPS to develop three design alternatives for discussion.



**LEGEND**

- 100YR FLOOD ZONE
- 500YR FLOOD ZONE

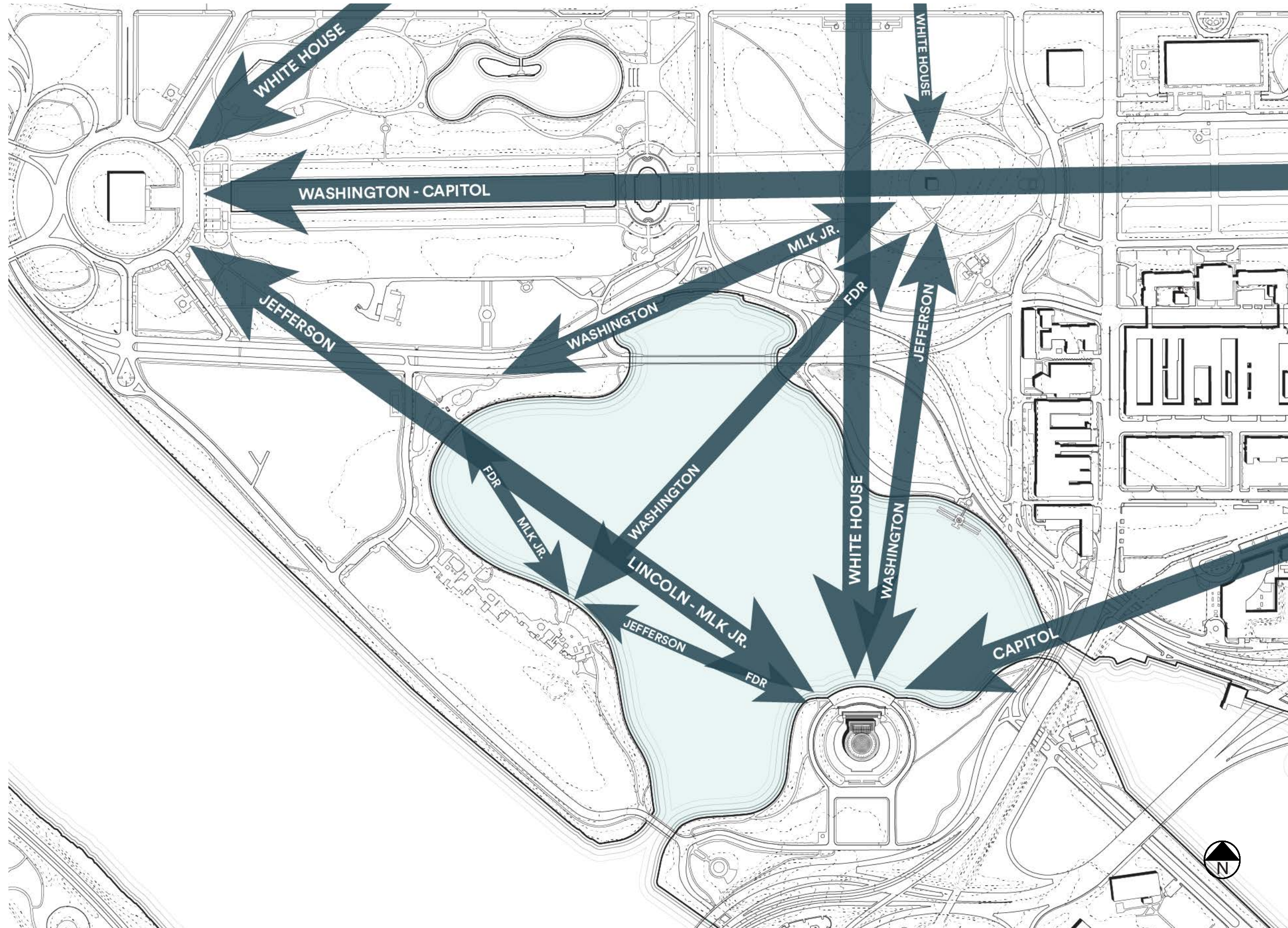


A diagram showing the 100 year flood plain and 500 year flood plain overlaid onto the project study area. The Tidal Basin is outlined.

# SITE ANALYSIS - VIEWSHEDS

## LEGEND

↔ VIEW CORRIDOR



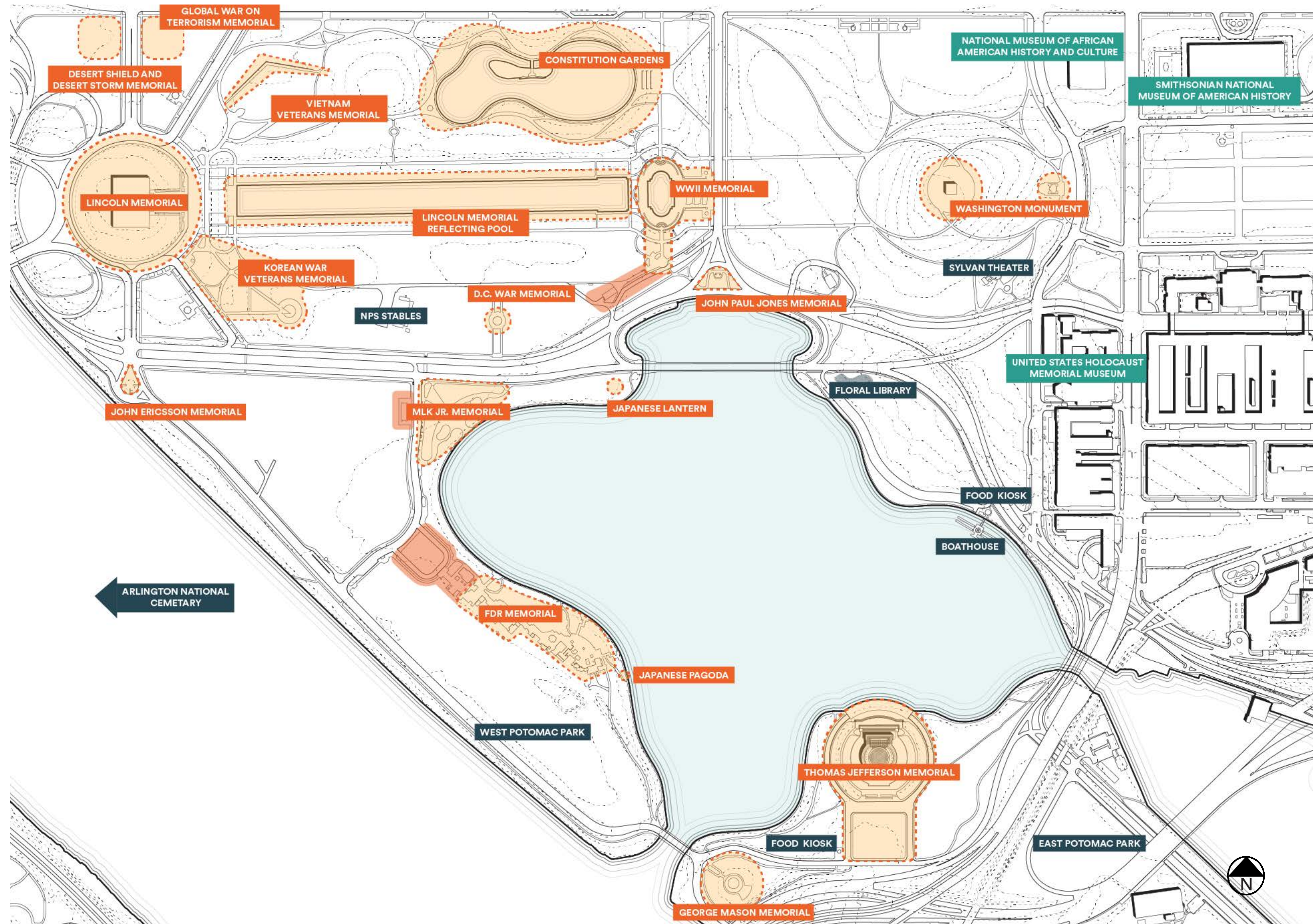
A diagram showing memorial view corridors overlaid onto the project study area.



# SITE ANALYSIS - MEMORIALS/POINTS OF INTEREST

## LEGEND






- MEMORIALS
- MUSEUMS
- POINTS OF INTEREST

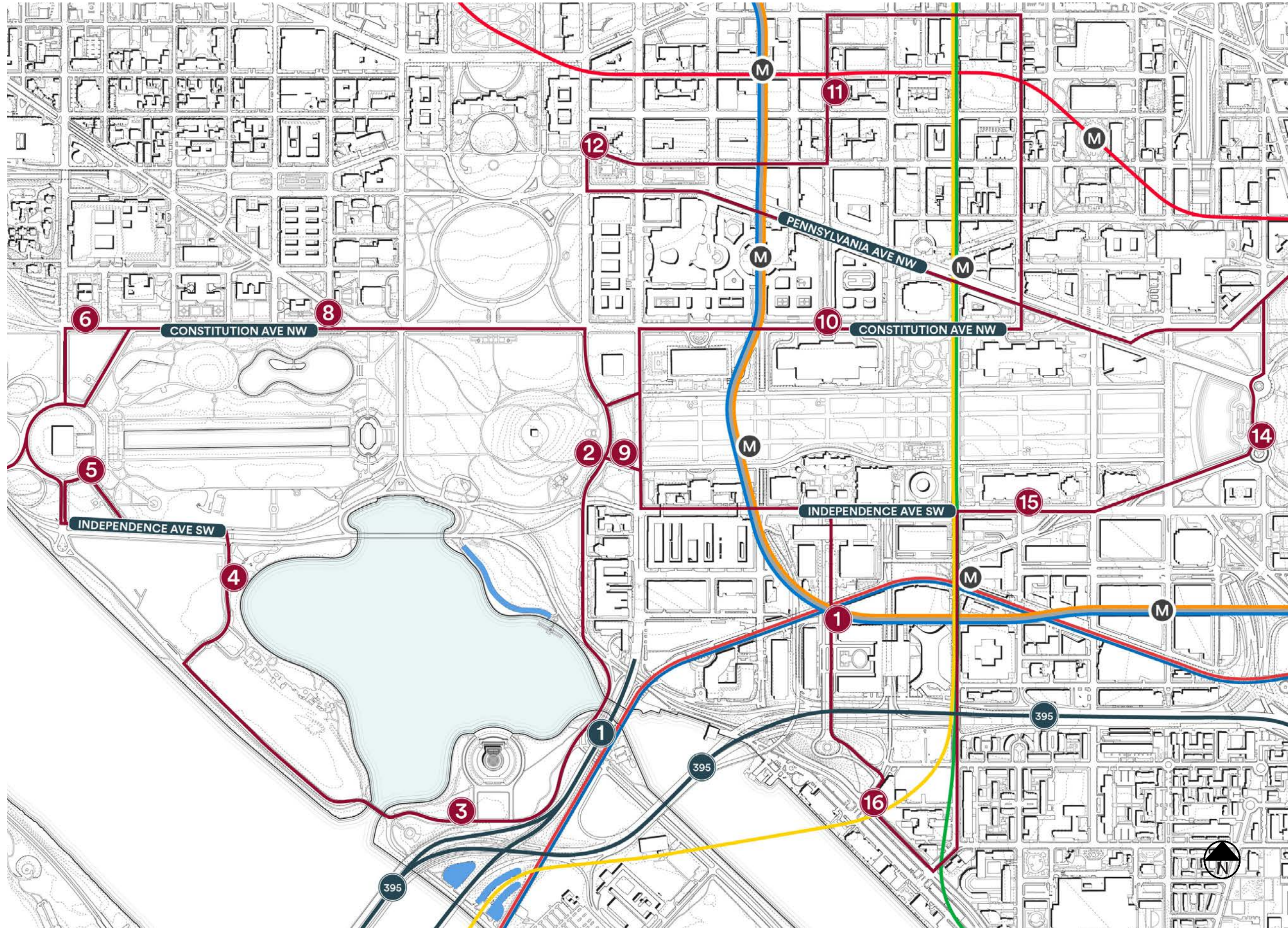


A diagram showing memorials, museums, and other points of interest within and nearby the project study area.

# SITE ANALYSIS - TRANSPORTATION

## LEGEND

-  BIG BUS ROUTE
-  MAJOR HIGHWAY
-  METRO
-  VRE
-  SURFACE PARKING

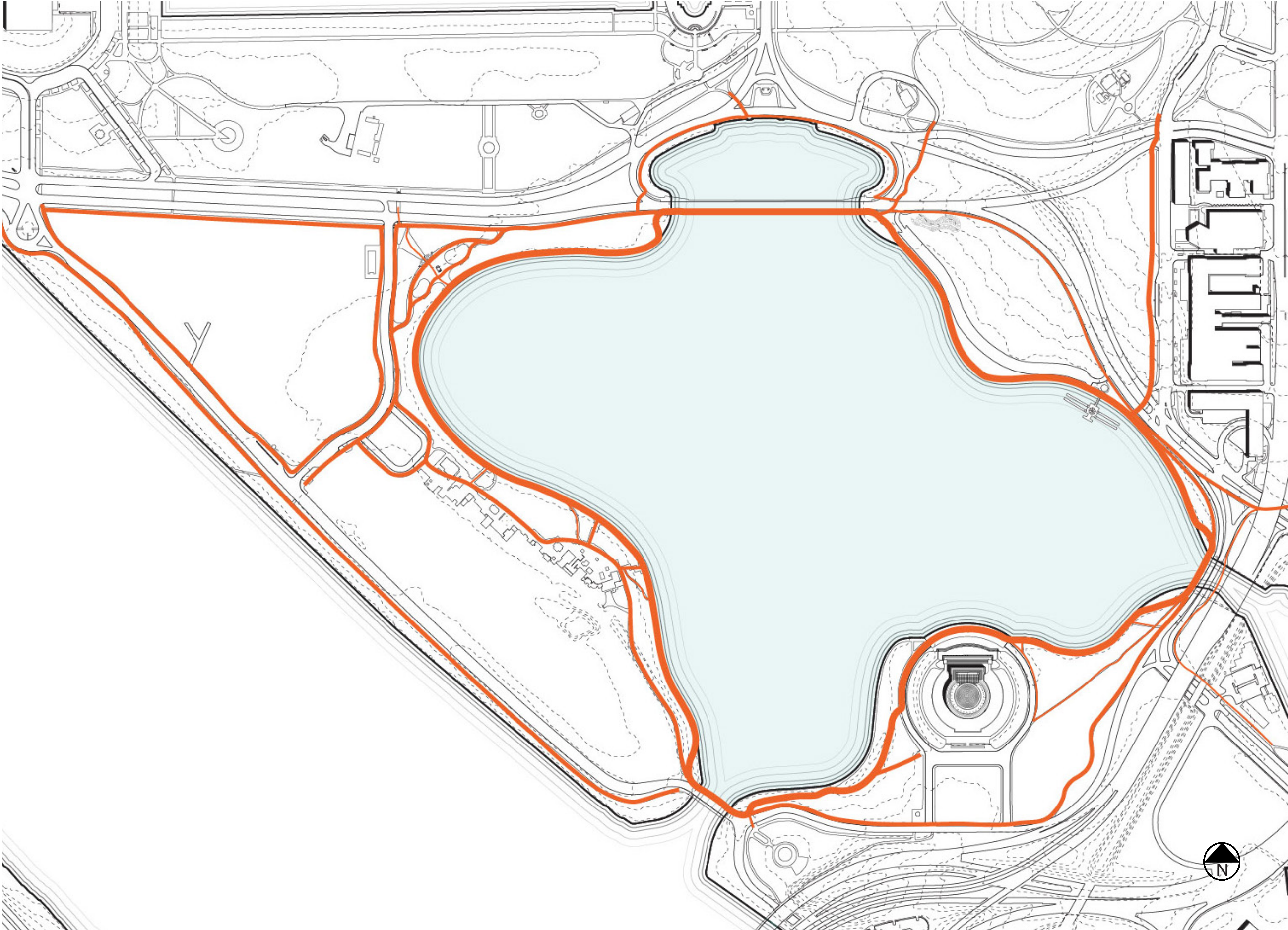


A diagram showing the Big Bus Route, major highways, Metro lines, VRE line, and public parking within and nearby the project study area.

# SITE ANALYSIS - PEDESTRIAN

**LEGEND**

 WALKWAYS

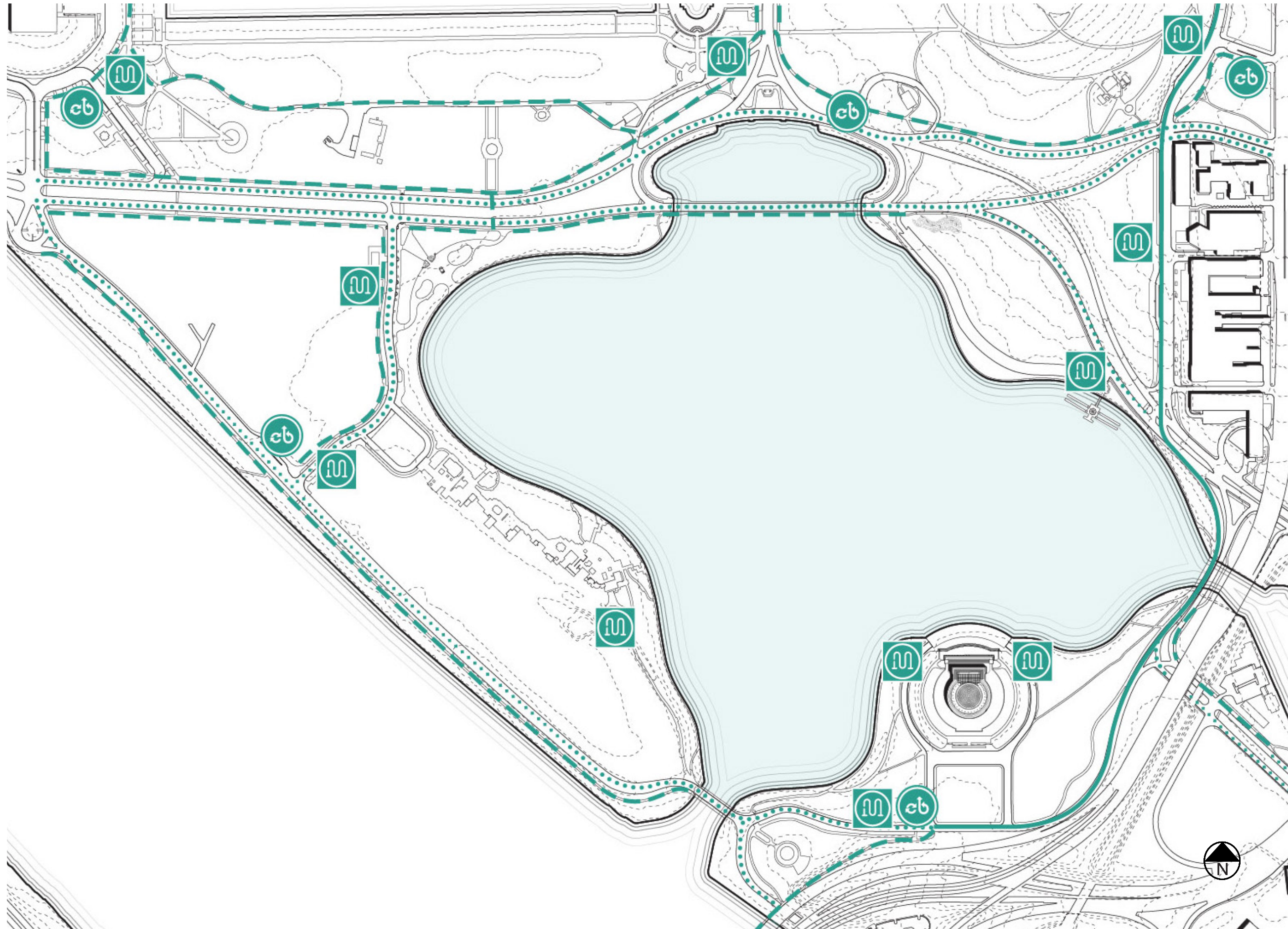


A diagram showing pedestrian walkways within and nearby the project study area.

# SITE ANALYSIS - BIKE/SCOOTER CIRCULATION

## LEGEND

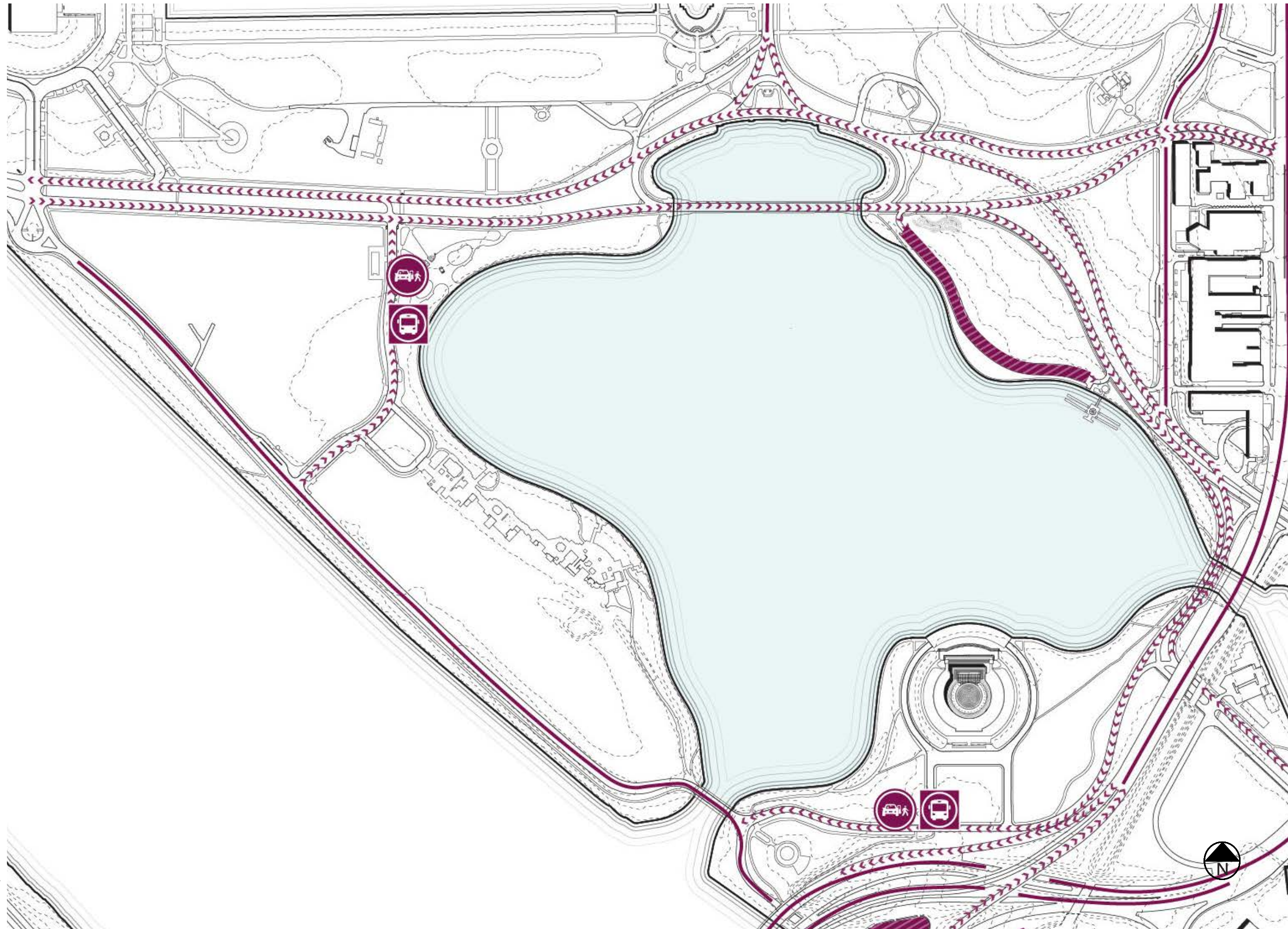
- BICYCLE/SCOOTER RENTALS
- BICYCLE/SCOOTER RACKS
- SHARED ROAD
- TRAIL/SIDEWALK
- BIKE LANE



A diagram showing bicycle and scooter rental racks, bicycle and scooter parking racks, and bicycle routes that are either a shared road, a trail, or a dedicated bicycle lane within and nearby the project study area.

## LEGEND

-  BUS STOP
-  CAR DROP OFF
-  PARKING LOT
-  ONE-WAY ROAD
-  TWO-WAY ROAD

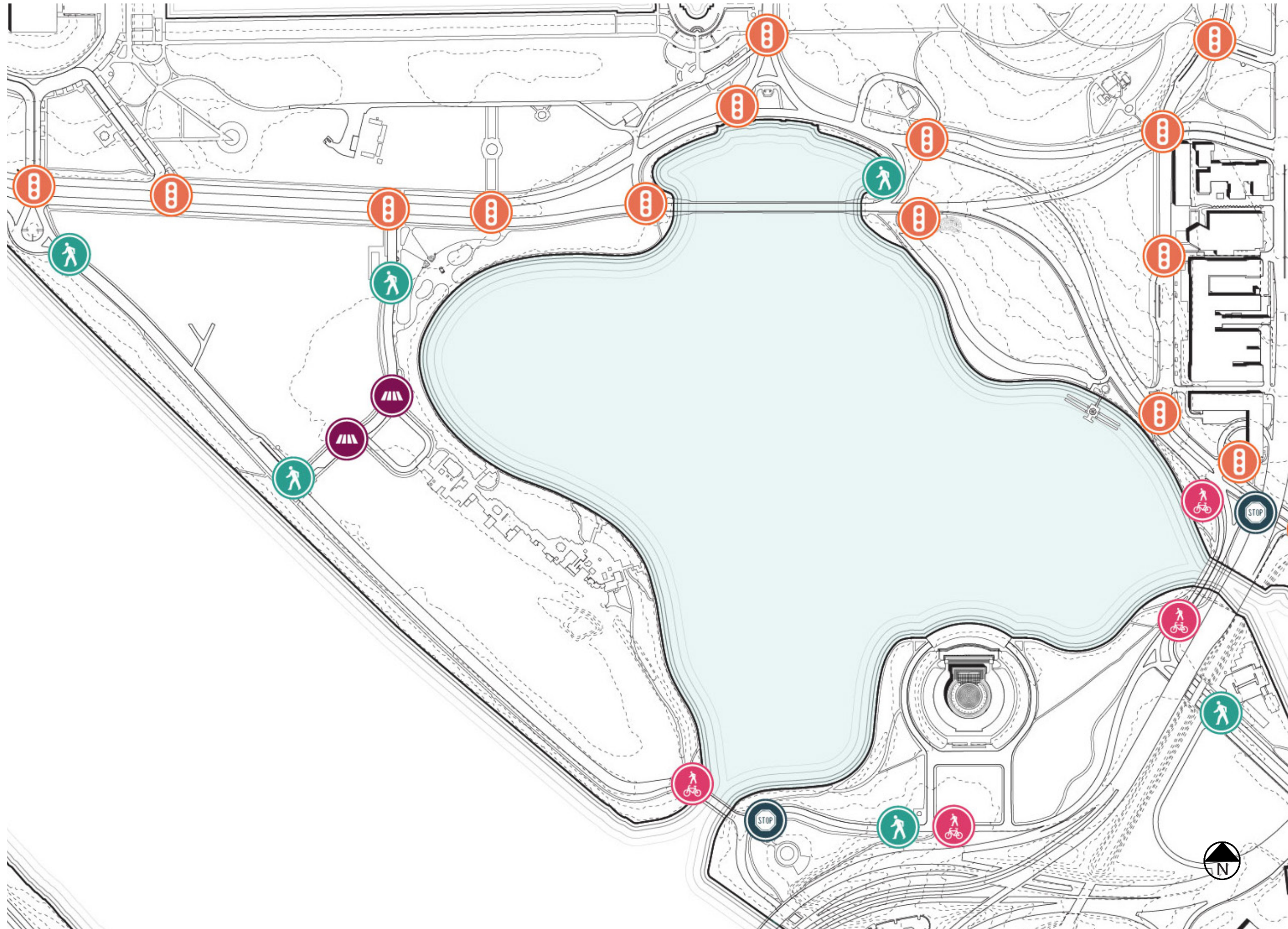


A diagram showing one-way and two-way roads, bus stops, car drop-off, and parking lots within and nearby the project study area.



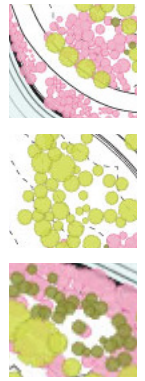
## LEGEND

-  TRAFFIC SIGNAL
-  STOP SIGN
-  CROSSWALK
-  PEDESTRIAN/BIKE CROSSING
-  PEDESTRIAN CROSSING



A diagram showing intersection typologies including traffic signals, stop signs, crosswalks, pedestrian/bike crossings, and pedestrian only crossings within and nearby the project study area.

## LEGEND



CHERRY CANOPY

DECIDUOUS CANOPY

EVERGREEN CANOPY



A diagram showing cherry tree, deciduous, and evergreen canopies within and nearby the project study area.



# SECURITY PRECEDENTS

The design team reviewed proximate Memorials and Monuments as site precedents for the design of security improvements at the Jefferson Memorial. By analyzing the positives and negatives of site security at the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument, the design is able to identify the most appropriate secure edge method for this site. By utilizing feedback from CISA analysis and site observations, parameters were established to guide Jefferson Memorial security options in each design alternative.





# LINCOLN MEMORIAL

To understand the site context and potential secure edge options the project team reviewed the Lincoln Memorial secure edge. This site includes a **retaining wall** around three quarters of the circle and **long lengths of bollards** at pedestrian plazas.



Images show the Lincoln Memorial site security methods from multiple angles. Security interventions include site walls and bollards.



# WASHINGTON MONUMENT

The Washington Monument secure edge was reviewed for its integration within the landscape. A **2'-6" barrier wall** was utilized here and functions as a **retaining wall**. **Bollards are used** to meet requirements **at pedestrian and maintenance entries** to the Monument. There are minimal amounts of freestanding walls.



Images show the Washington Monument site security methods from various angles. Security interventions include site retaining walls and bollards.

## LEGEND

-  MINIMUM PROTECTION RADIUS
-  EXISTING JERSEY BARRIER

Jefferson Security parameters as understood from CISA feedback are summarized via diagram. CISA noted that the barrier wall or bollard shall be 2'-6" height minimum. Any gaps at the barrier wall or bollard should not exceed 4' width. Removable bollards can be utilized for maintenance and emergency vehicle access. The approach to any barrier is to be flat or tilted downward for minimum 10' horizontal distance. Final designs will be reviewed by CISA during the design process.

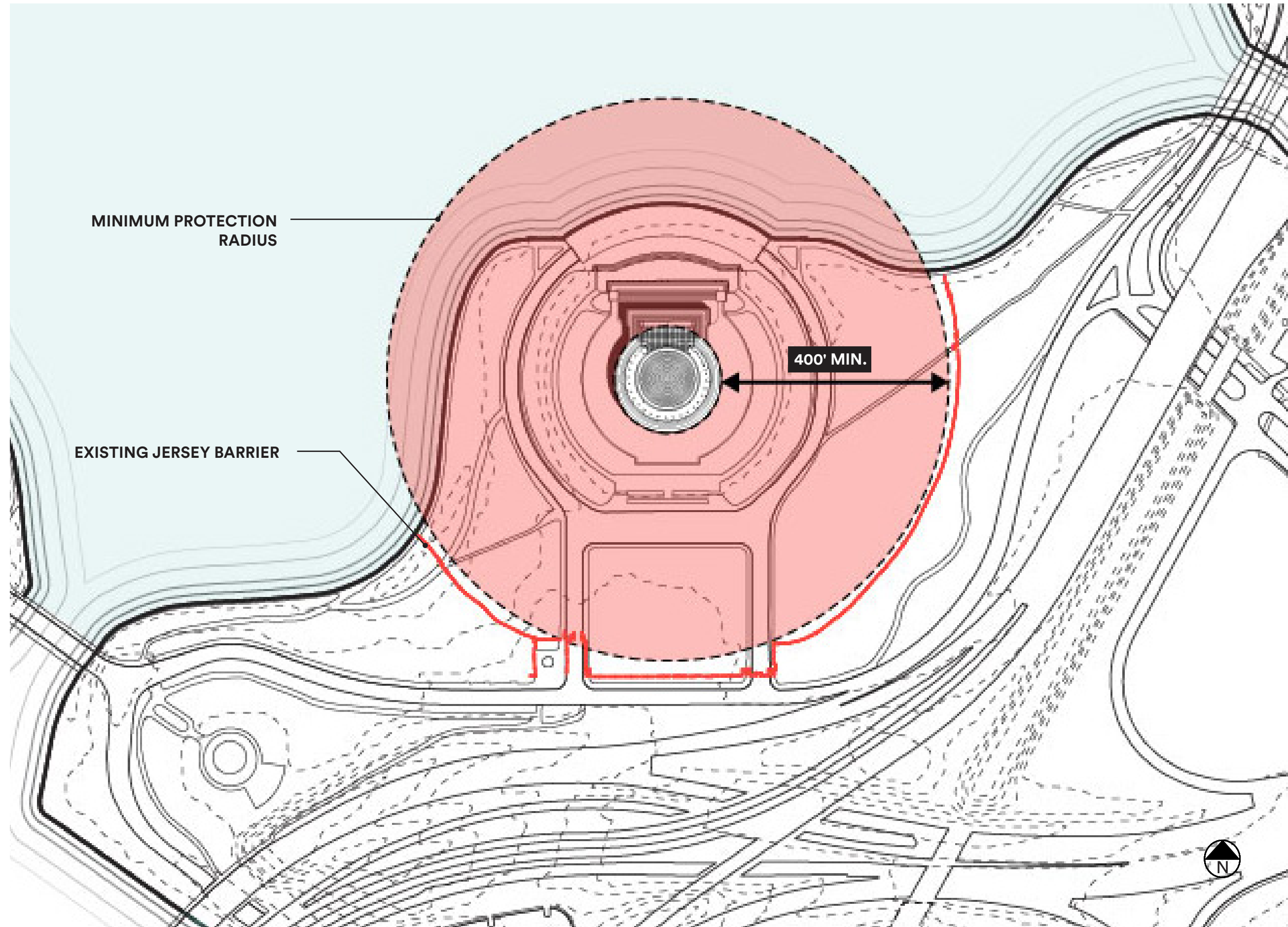


Diagram shows the Jefferson Memorial in plan view and includes the existing site security element locations and the minimum security setback defined by CISA staff.

## LEGEND

- PEDESTRIAN DESIRE LINES
- MINIMUM PROTECTION RADIUS

The minimum setback requirement is laid out in a concentric ring; however, the layout bisects occupiable space, interrupting pedestrian desire lines in and around the site. The site wall may also be perceived as part of the original design configuration which is in contrast to historic landscape design considerations.

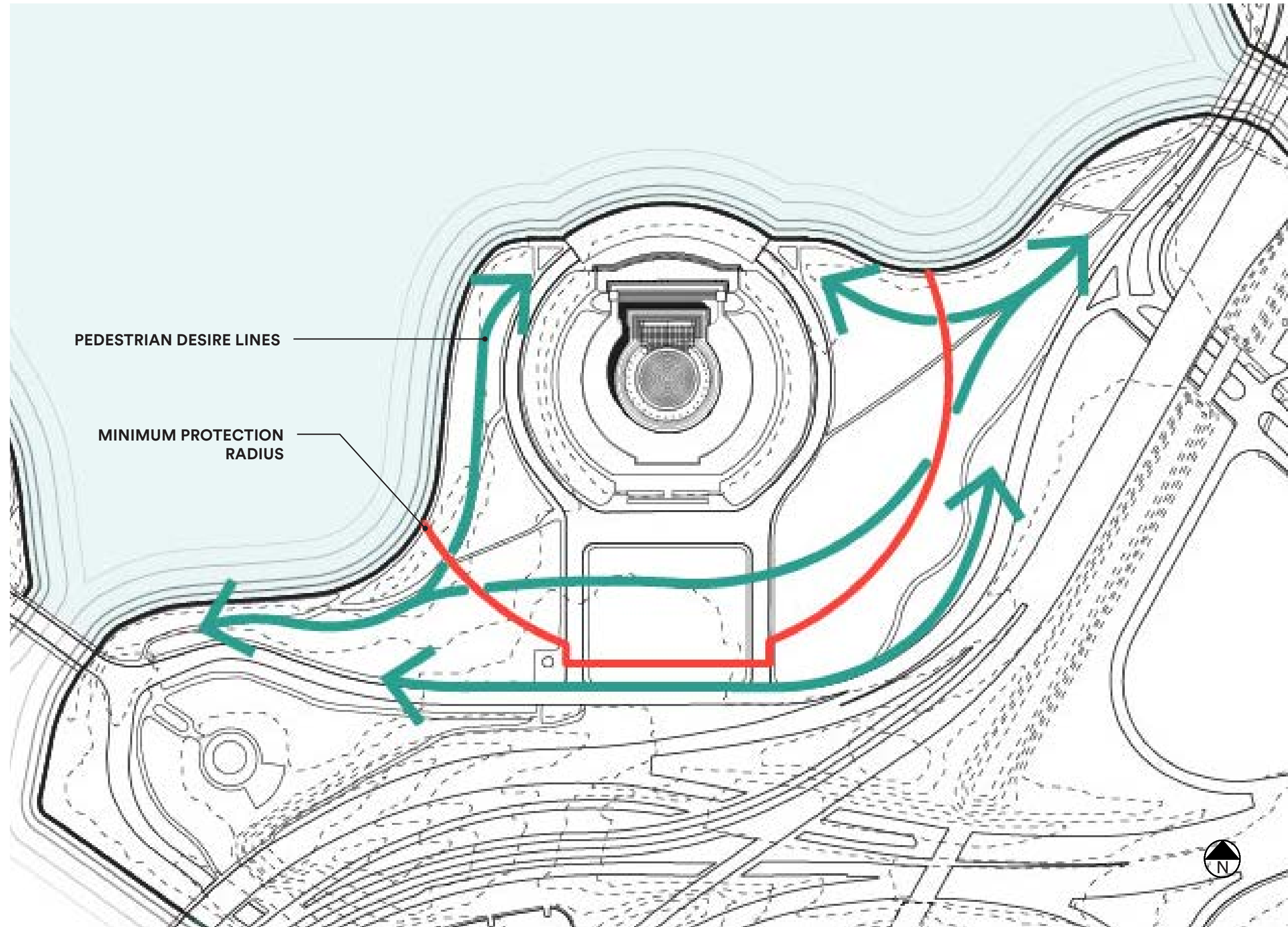


Diagram shows the Jefferson Memorial in plan view. Diagram shows site security elements in a concentric ring at the 400 foot setback and general pedestrian movement.

# DESIGN ALTERNATIVES

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## ALTERNATIVE A

- EXPAND THE **CONNECTIVITY** OF MULTI-MODAL CIRCULATION, TRANSPORTATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- PROVIDE **SECURITY** AT THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL

Alternative A highlights solutions that **prioritize pedestrian circulation and connectivity** and how bicycle, scooter, and vehicular circulation can respond to those larger design gestures. **Two main circulation routes** allow pedestrians to experience the Tidal Basin landscape at an upper and lower level, with **ancillary paths braided through the landscape** to connect the more prominent pathways. Redundancy in pedestrian pathways and bridging devices allows visitors to curate their journey to existing memorial spaces around the Tidal Basin as well as connect to the larger urban and memorial fabric that surrounds this impactful landscape. **Canopies of cherry blossoms assist in creating layers** within the circulation and gathering spaces surrounding the Basin, directing views, and providing a backdrop in which to view this historic landscape. An expanded cherry planting creates a **'Pink Cloud'** and relieves pressure on the inner ring. Vehicular infrastructure is adjusted to provide larger contiguous space for flexible uses and gathering spaces, while bicycle and scooter infrastructure pairs with pedestrian circulation for efficient access to points of matriculation or the city fabric beyond.



# ALTERNATIVE A - CONNECTIVITY

## LEGEND

- 1. TIDAL BASIN (WATER)
- 2. FLORAL LIBRARY
- 3. CHERRY TREES (THROUGHOUT)
- 4. COMFORT STATION
- 5. PADDLE BOAT DOCK
- 6. TIERED SEATING
- 7. BIKE PATH
- 8. PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
- 9. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- 10. PARKING
- 11. DROP-OFF
- 12. MULTI-USE FIELD (5 TOTAL)
- 13. SOFTBALL FIELD (8 TOTAL)
- 14. RUGBY FIELD
- 15. CRICKET FIELD



Detail schematic plan shown of the Tidal Basin and surrounding landscape with existing memorials, accessible pedestrian pathways, and recreation fields. The park includes multiple parking lots along realigned Independence Avenue SW and W Basin Drive SW and comfort stations with an urban plaza in the NE, S, and W of the site. The water edge is surrounded by a continuous ring of cherry trees and includes pedestrian bridges at Kutz Bridge, the Inlet Bridge, and Outlet Bridge.

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

## LEGEND





-  12'-0" WIDE WALKWAY
-  6'-8' WIDE WALKWAY
-  EXISTING WALKWAY
-  OPEN CIRCULATION



Diagram showing differentiation of 12 ft wide versus 6 ft – 8 ft wide pathways across site and existing pathways to remain. All pathways are accessible. Open circulation shows zones of free pedestrian movement.



# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED BIKE/SCOOTER CIRCULATION

## LEGEND










-  CITI BIKE RENTALS
-  MICROMOBILITY CORRAL
-  BICYCLE/SCOOTER RACKS
-  BICYCLE PATH



Diagram showing bicycle path, bicycle and scooter rental corral, and bicycle rack parking across site. Bicycle path follows Raoul Wallenberg Place, Ohio Dr. SW, and E Basin Drive to the Inlet Bridge, then shifts to an interior bicycle route and connects to the intersection of Ohio Dr. SW and Independence Ave. SW.

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

## LEGEND

-  BUS STOP
-  BUS DROP OFF
-  CAR DROP OFF
-  PARKING LOT
-  ROAD REALIGNMENT

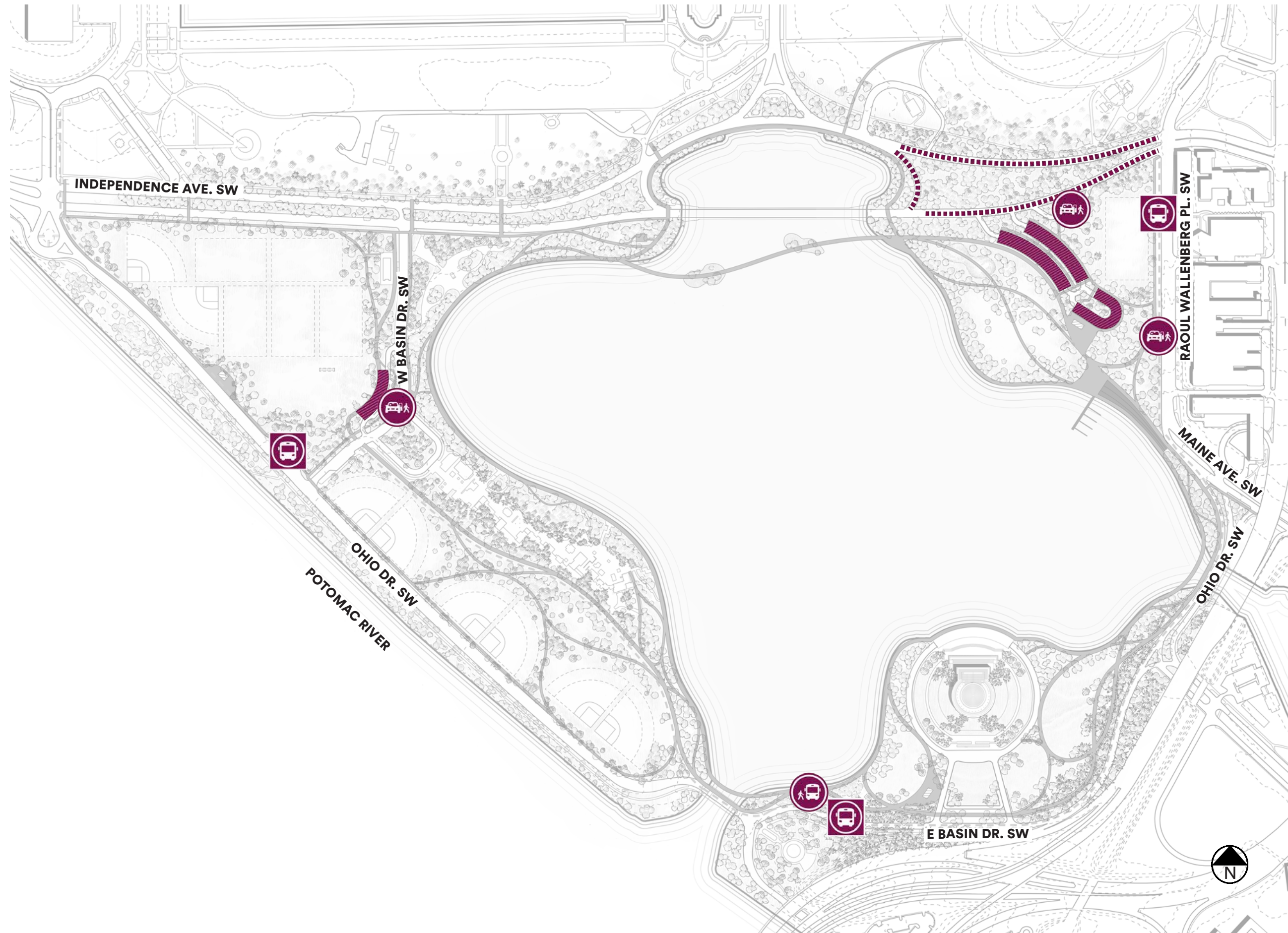


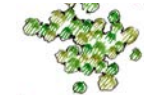
Diagram showing parking lots, car drop-off, bus drop-off, and bus stops. Parking and car drop-off are located in the northeast and northwest of the site, bus drop off is located in the south of the site, and bus stops are located on the east, south, and west sides of the site.

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED OVERHEAD CANOPY

## LEGEND



CHERRY CANOPY



DECIDUOUS CANOPY



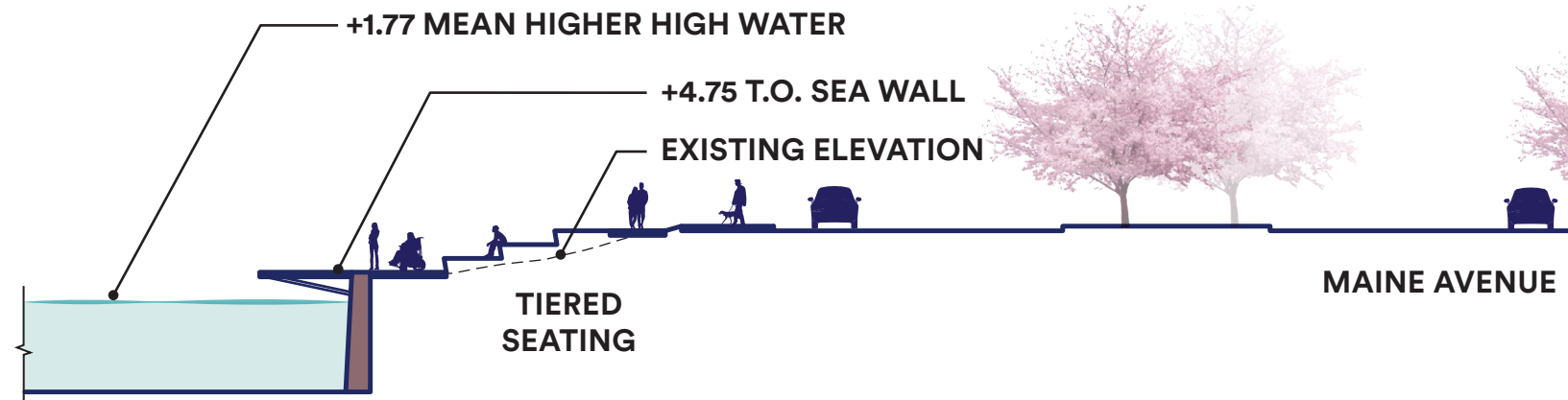
EVERGREEN CANOPY



Diagram shows continuous cherry tree ring around the site with openings intermittently around the edge. Deciduous and evergreen canopy are also shown.



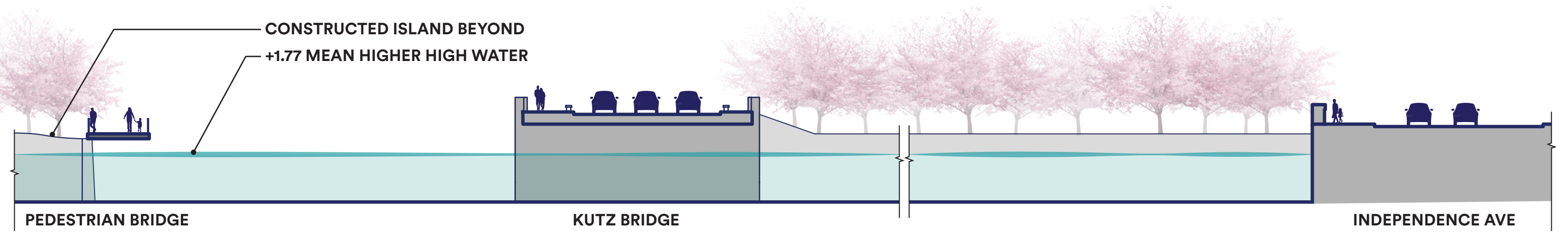
# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



**A**  
Site section showing transect of roadway, tiered seating area, and cantilevered walkway at northeast edge of Tidal Basin.



Key plan showing location of section cuts.



**B**  
Site section showing the transect of northern lobe of the Tidal Basin, Kutz Bridge and Independence Avenue SW. An additional pedestrian bridge connects to islands of cherries within the basin.

**B'**

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY

## LEGEND

- 1. TIDAL BASIN (WATER)
- 2. FLORAL LIBRARY
- 3. CHERRY TREES (THROUGHOUT)
- 4. COMFORT STATION
- 5. PADDLE BOAT DOCK
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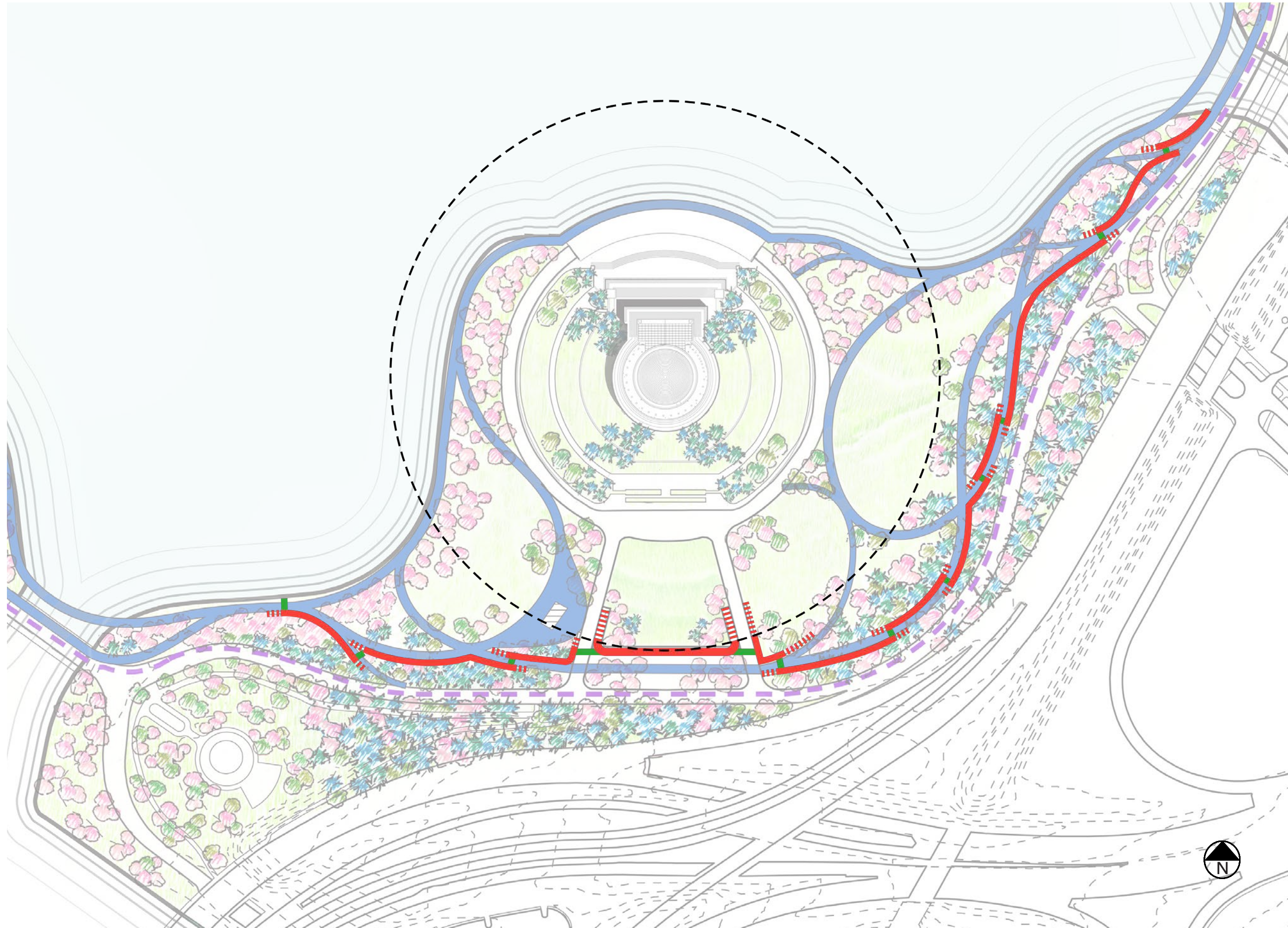


Detail schematic plan shown of the Tidal Basin and surrounding landscape with existing memorials, accessible pedestrian pathways, and recreation fields. The park includes multiple parking lots along realigned Independence Avenue SW and W Basin Drive SW and comfort stations with an urban plaza in the northeast, south, and west of the site. The water edge is surrounded by a continuous ring of cherry trees and includes pedestrian bridges at Kutz Bridge, the Inlet Bridge, and Outlet Bridge. Study area at Jefferson Memorial is highlighted

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY

## LEGEND

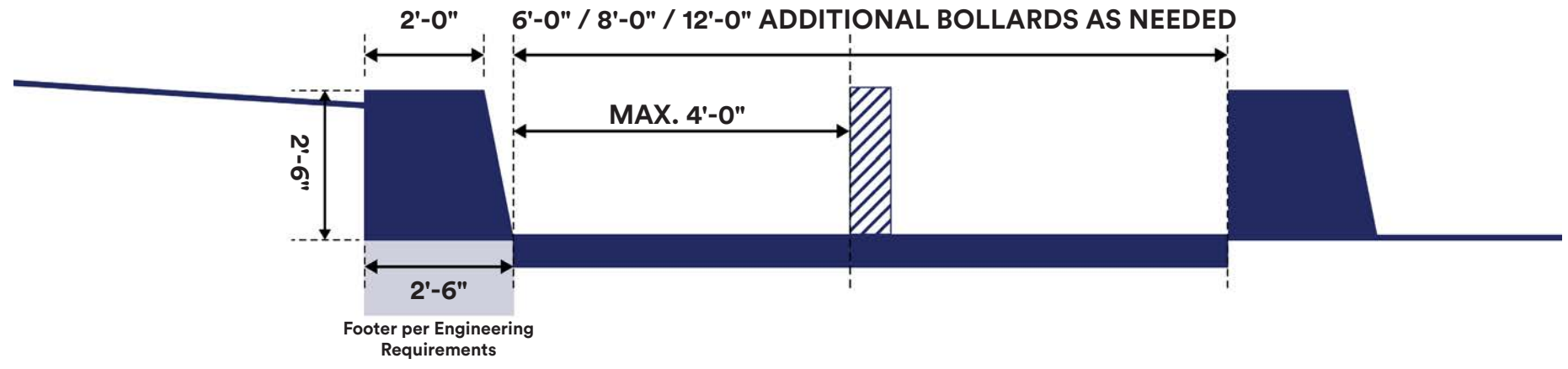
- 2'-6" SECURITY WALL
- ⋯ TAPERED SECURITY WALL
- SECURITY BOLLARDS
- - - MIN. SECURITY SETBACK



Plan diagram shows the area around Jefferson Memorial and includes a proposed security wall, tapered wall, bollards, and the minimum security setback.

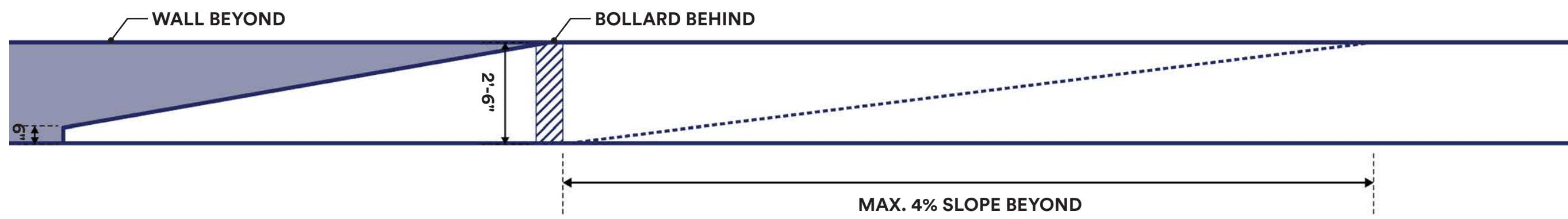
# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVE SECTION

SECTION A: WALL TRANSITION



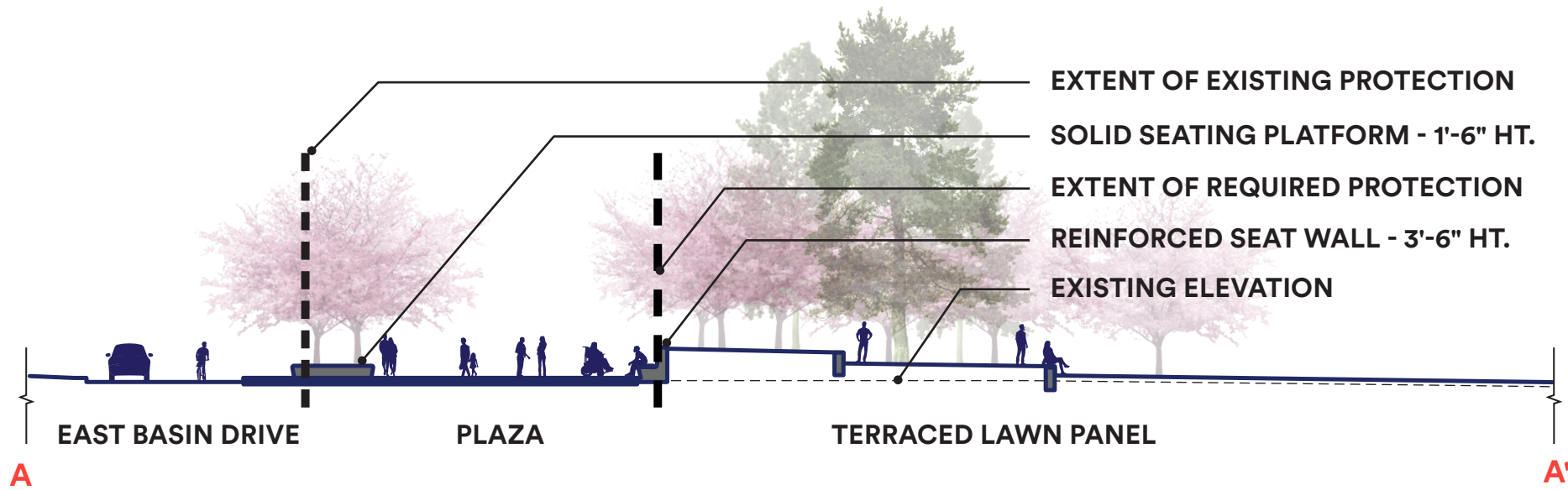
Key plan showing section cuts.

ELEVATION B: WALL TRANSITION

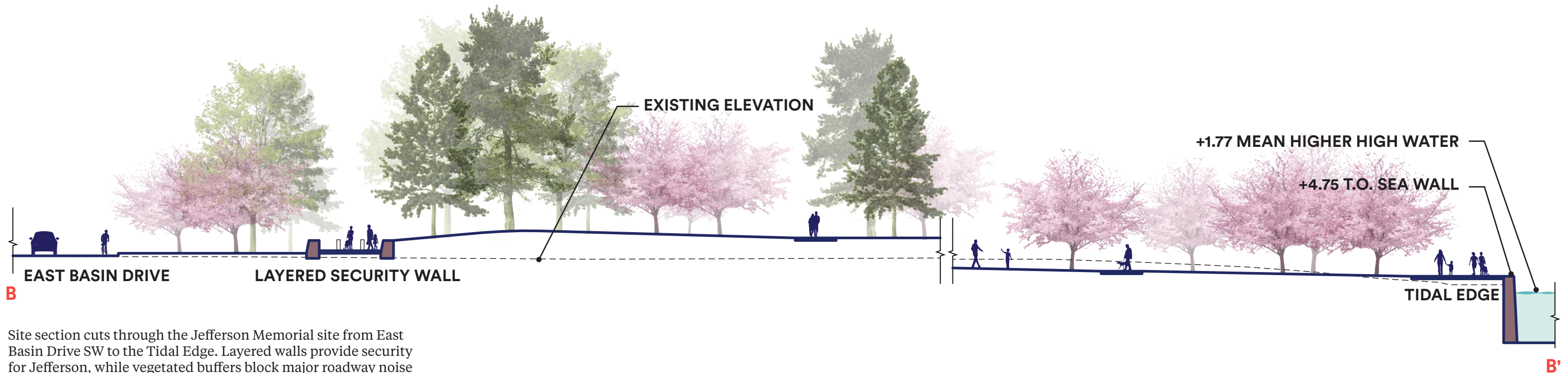
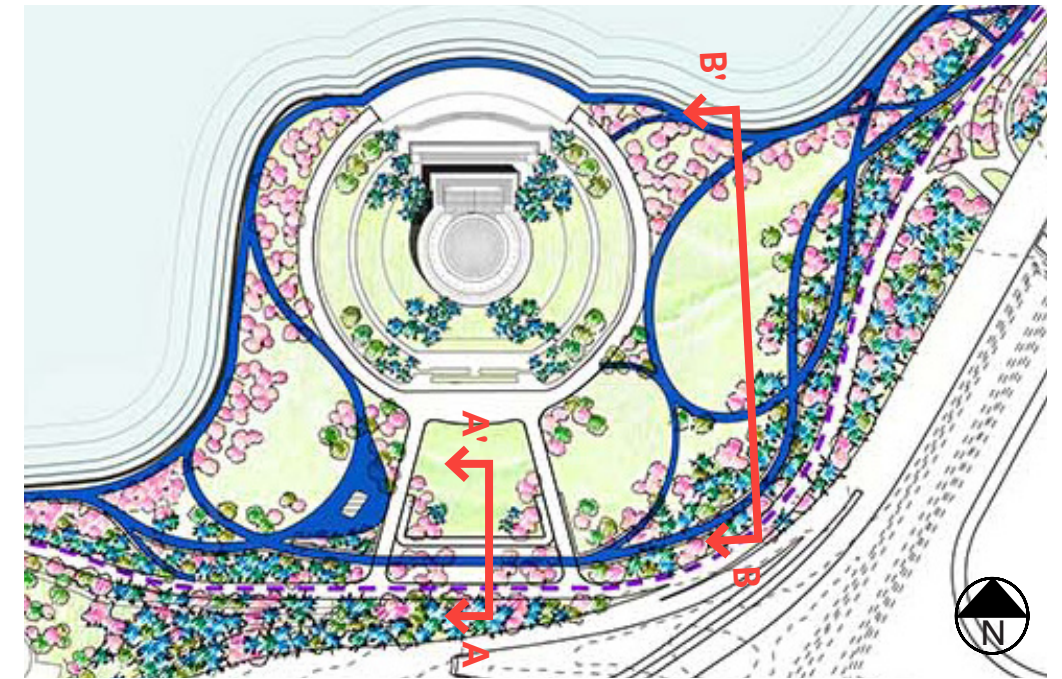


Section and elevations show example transects of proposed site security. Graphics include site walls and minimal bollards.

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



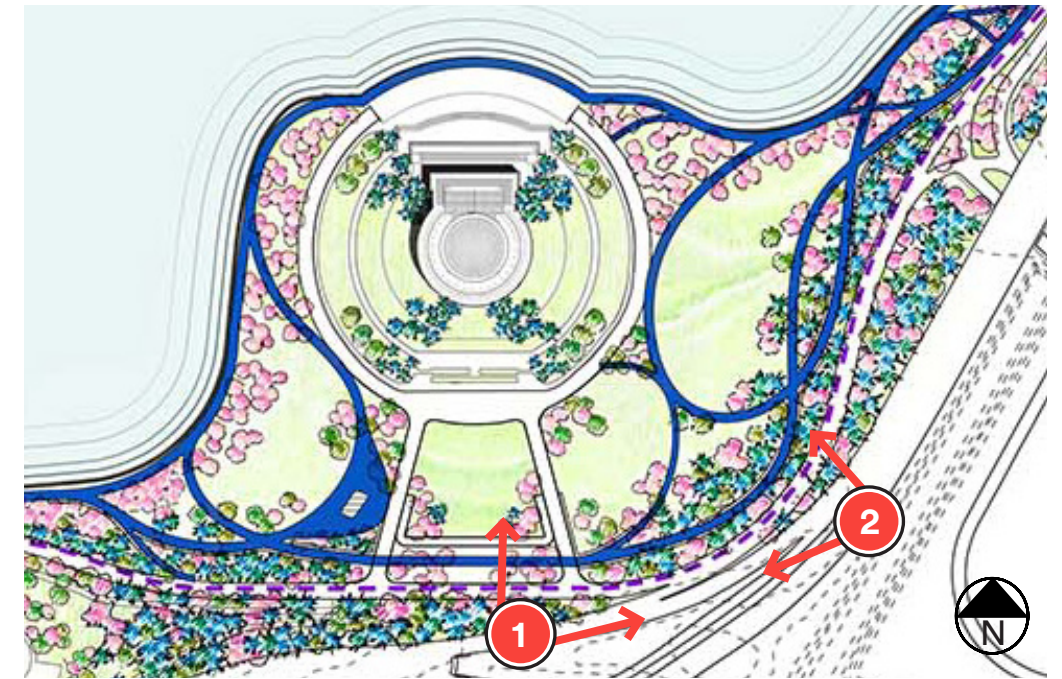
Site section bisects seat wall at lawn panel south of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Site walls are reinforced to act as protection from vehicular entry.



Site section cuts through the Jefferson Memorial site from East Basin Drive SW to the Tidal Edge. Layered walls provide security for Jefferson, while vegetated buffers block major roadway noise and visibility.



# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY



Key plan showing views of site around Jefferson Memorial

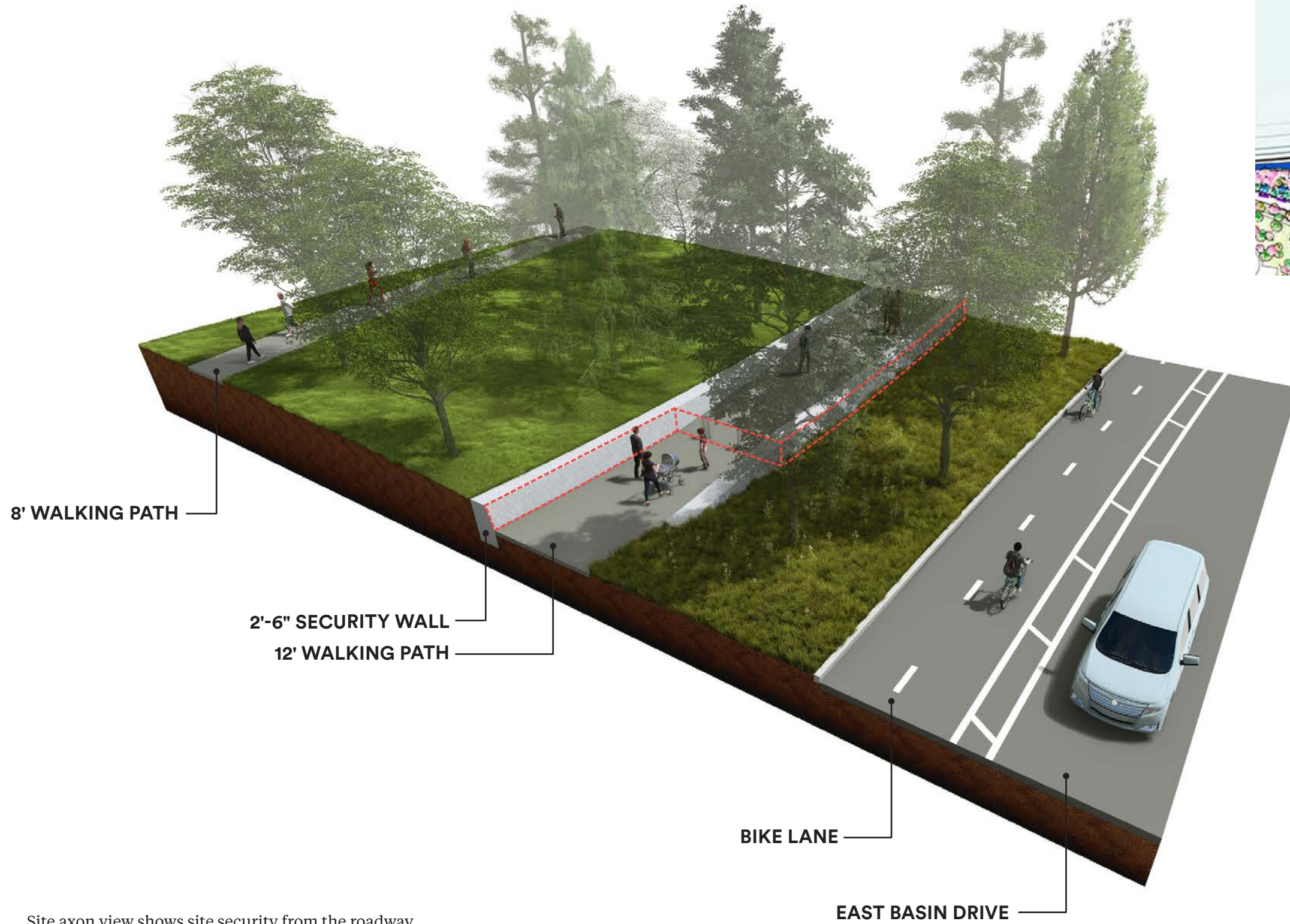


Perspective rendering shows view of the site walls from the southeast corner of the Jefferson Lawn looking north northeast across the site. Walking paths follow the tops of site walls.



Perspective rendering shows views of the site walls from the southeast corner of the site looking west towards the Jefferson Memorial. Walking paths sit above the site walls.

# ALTERNATIVE A - PROPOSED SITE AXON



Key plan showing axon location.

Site axon view shows site security from the roadway to interior pedestrian pathways. Secure edge is highlighted.

## ALTERNATIVE B

- ENHANCE **VISITOR EXPERIENCE** OF YEAR-ROUND RECREATION, VISTAS AND VIEWSHEDS, AND GATHERING SPACES
- PROTECT **CULTURAL RESOURCES**
- PROVIDE **SECURITY** AT THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL

**Vistas and viewsheds** are a key organizational component of Alternative B, formalizing existing regulated viewsheds to key features and cultural resources within the Tidal Basin and adjacent landscapes, emphasizing reciprocal viewsheds and creating intimate viewsheds that may be experienced at a more personal level. Through the use of **topography, cherry blossom canopy, and pedestrian pathway as framing devices**, gathering spaces are made accessible and easily read throughout the landscape as moments of pause along an episodic journey. Key visual connections to the Potomac River and Congress are of particular note as **new viewshed experiences**. Adjustments to vehicular circulation reduces the amount of time a pedestrian or cyclist spends at a crosswalk in order to enter the site, and redundancy in bike infrastructure provides options for commuter and tourism focused cyclists to navigate around the basin in a safe and easily communicated manner. Again, an expanded cherry planting creates a **'Pink Cloud'** and relieves pressure on the inner ring.



# ALTERNATIVE B - VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

## LEGEND

- 1. TIDAL BASIN (WATER)
- 2. FLORAL LIBRARY
- 3. CHERRY TREES (THROUGHOUT)
- 4. COMFORT STATION
- 5. PADDLE BOAT DOCK
- 6. \*NOT USED
- 7. BIKE PATH
- 8. PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
- 9. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- 10. PARKING
- 11. DROP-OFF
- 12. MULTI-USE FIELD (5 TOTAL)
- 13. SOFTBALL FIELD (8 TOTAL)
- 14. RUGBY FIELD
- 15. CRICKET FIELD



Detail schematic plan shown of the Tidal Basin and surrounding landscape with existing memorials, accessible pedestrian pathways, and recreation fields. The park includes multiple parking lots along Maine Avenue SW and W Basin Drive SW and comfort stations with an urban plaza in the northwest and south of the site. The water edge is surrounded by a continuous ring of cherry trees and includes pedestrian bridges at Kutz Bridge, the Inlet Bridge, and Outlet Bridge.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

## LEGEND









-  12'-0" WIDE WALKWAY
-  6'-8' WIDE WALKWAY
-  EXISTING WALKWAY
-  OPEN CIRCULATION



Diagram showing differentiation of 12 ft wide versus 6 ft – 8 ft wide pathways across the site and existing to remain walkways. All pathways are accessible. Open circulation shows zones of free pedestrian movement.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED BIKE/SCOOTER CIRCULATION

## LEGEND

-  CITI BIKE RENTALS
-  MICROMOBILITY CORRAL
-  BICYCLE/SCOOTER RACKS
-  BICYCLE PATH

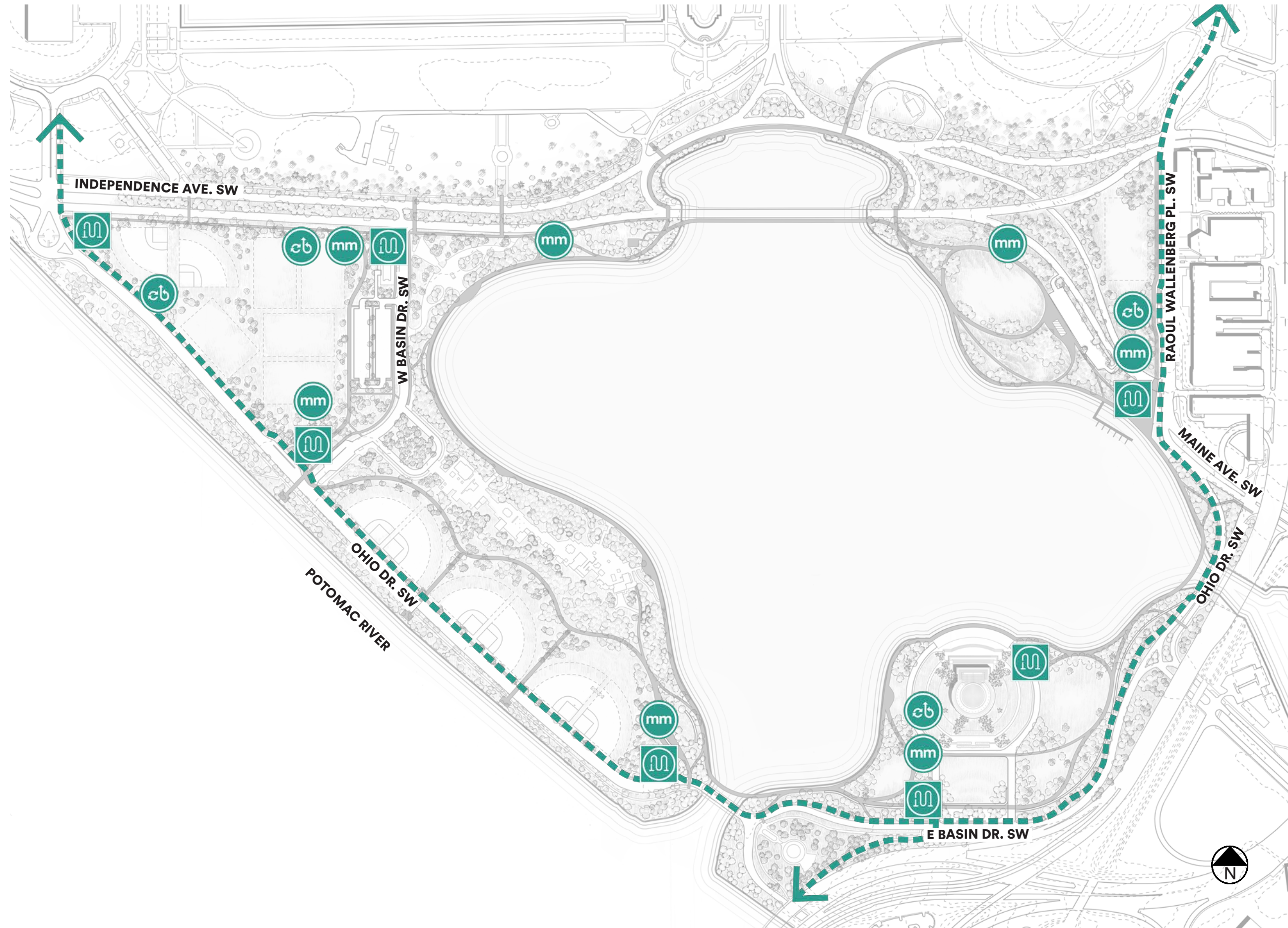





Diagram showing bicycle path, bicycle and scooter rental corral, and bicycle rack parking across site. Bicycle path follows Raoul Wallenberg Place, Ohio Dr. SW, E Basin Drive, and Ohio Dr. SW to the intersection with Independence Ave. SW. The bicycle path is removed from the road.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

## LEGEND

-  BUS STOP
-  BUS DROP OFF
-  CAR DROP OFF
-  PARKING LOT
-  ROAD REALIGNMENT

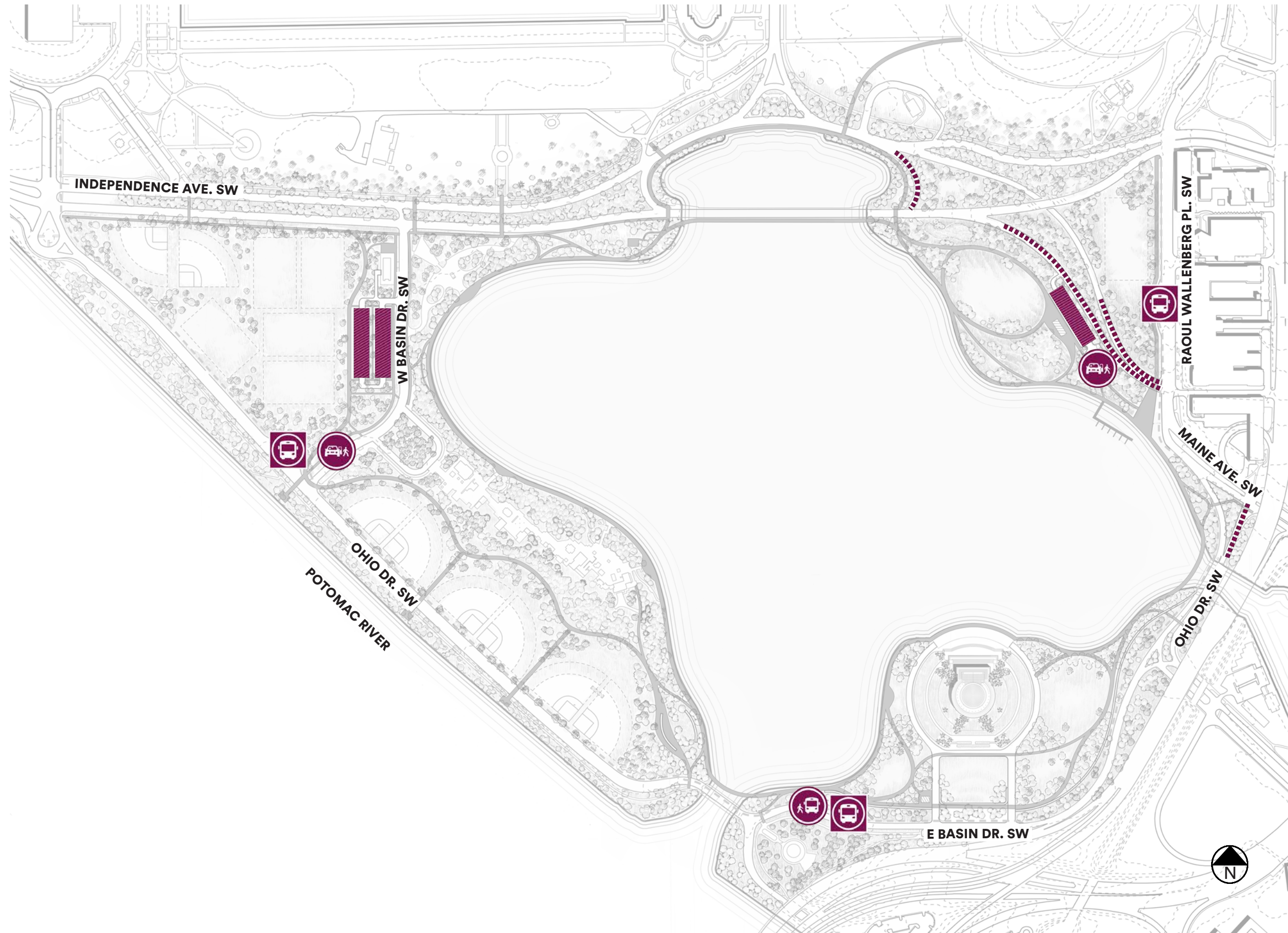


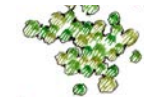
Diagram showing parking lots, car drop-off, bus drop-off, and bus stops. Parking and car drop-off are located in the northeast and northwest of the site, bus drop off is located in the south and northwest of the site, and bus stops are located on the east, south, and west sides of the site.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED OVERHEAD CANOPY AND VIEWS

## LEGEND



CHERRY CANOPY



DECIDUOUS CANOPY



EVERGREEN CANOPY



PLANNED VIEW



REINFORCED PLANNED VIEW



INTRODUCED VIEW

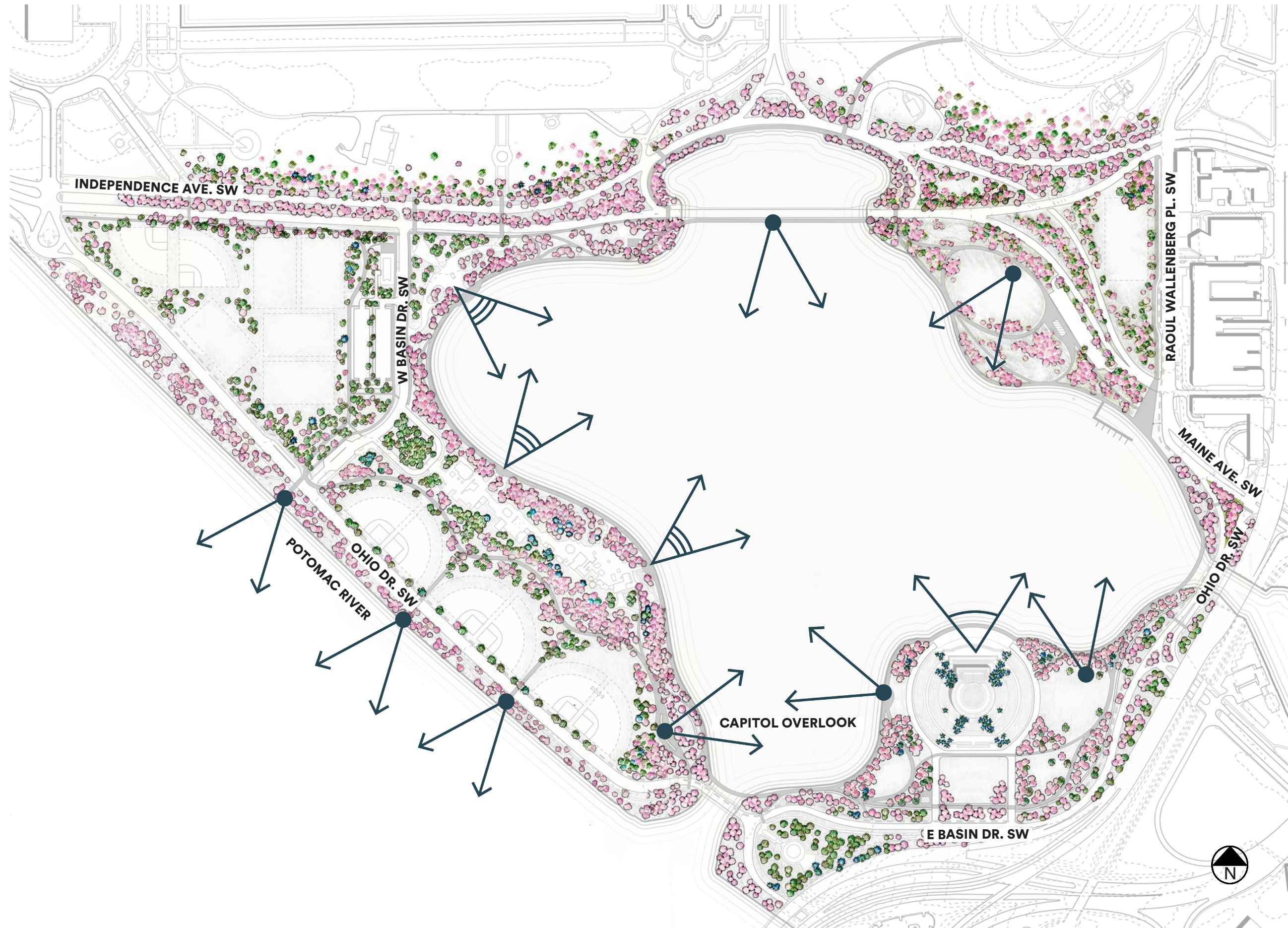
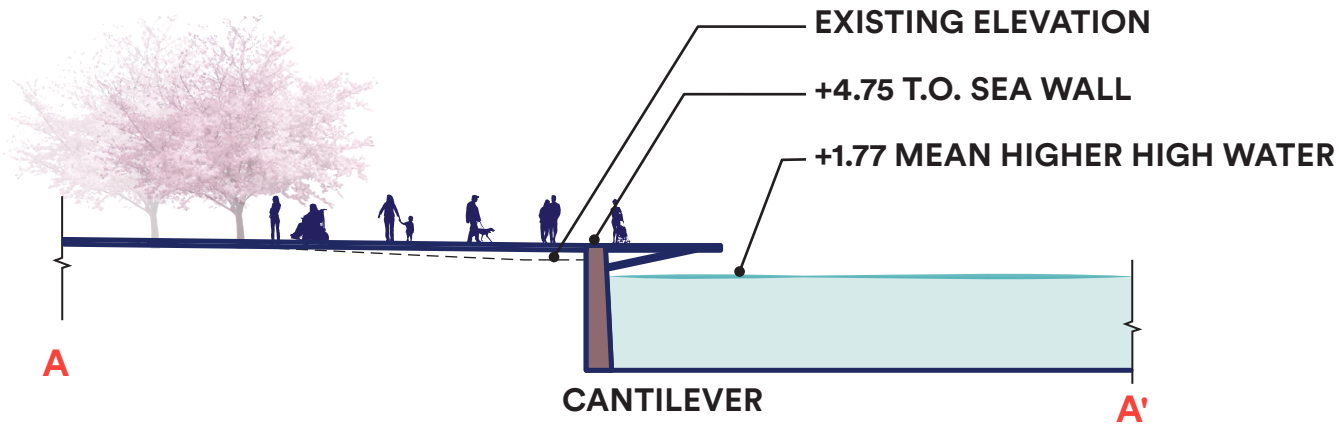


Diagram shows continuous cherry tree ring around the site with openings intermittently around the edge. Openings correspond with key viewsheds to surrounding memorials and federal buildings. Deciduous and evergreen canopy also shown along with planned views, reinforced planned views, and introduced views.



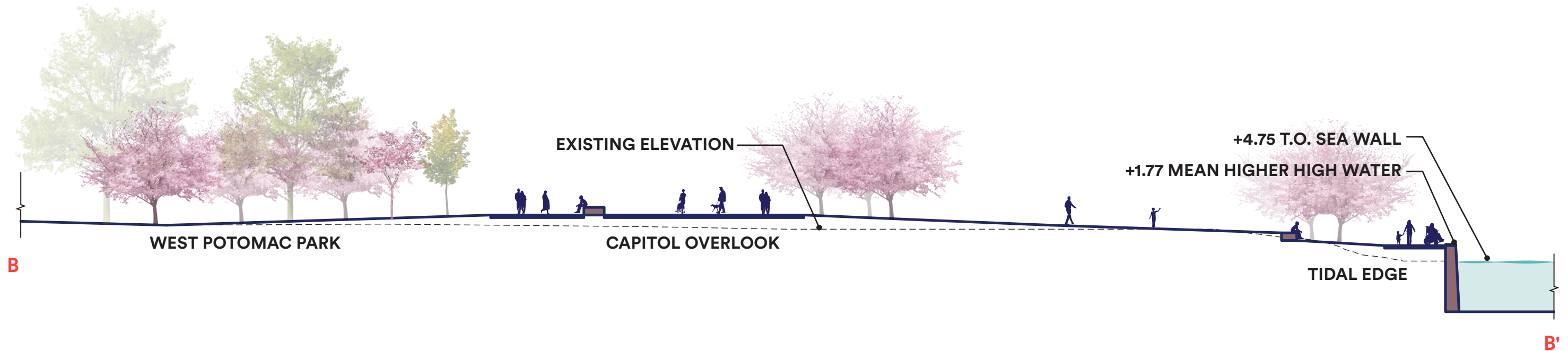
# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



Site section showing raised grade and cantilevered edge at the MLK Jr. Memorial entrance.



Key plan showing location of section cuts.

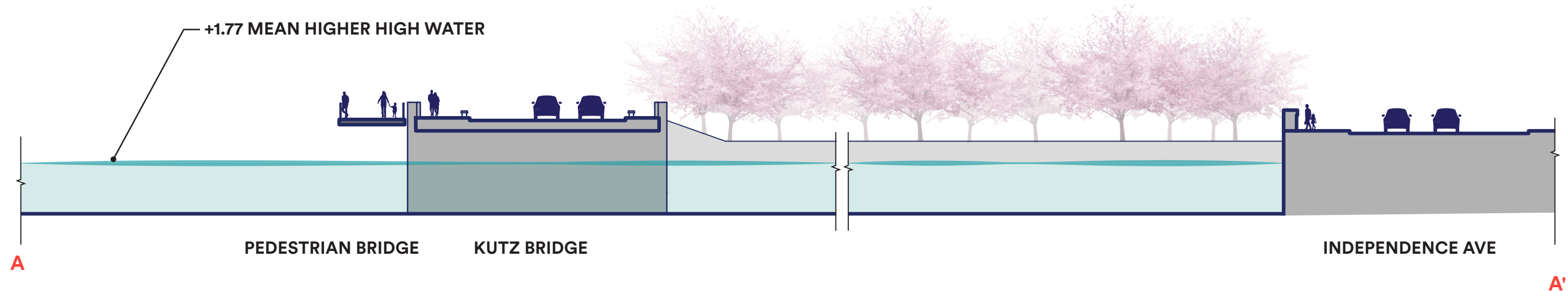


Site section showing cut from the Tidal Basin edge to the ridge line at the southwest corner near the Inlet Bridge. Section shows tiered seat walls and raised grade with views to Tidal Basin.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



Key plan showing location of section cuts.



Site section showing transect from the Kutz Bridge to the northern edge of the north lobe, with pedestrian bridge conjoined to existing Kutz Bridge.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY

## LEGEND

- 1. TIDAL BASIN (WATER)
- 2. FLORAL LIBRARY
- 3. CHERRY TREES (THROUGHOUT)
- 4. COMFORT STATION
- 5. PADDLE BOAT DOCK
- 6. \*NOT USED
- 7. BIKE PATH
- 8. PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
- 9. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- 10. PARKING
- 11. DROP-OFF
- 12. MULTI-USE FIELD (5 TOTAL)
- 13. SOFTBALL FIELD (8 TOTAL)
- 14. RUGBY FIELD
- 15. CRICKET FIELD

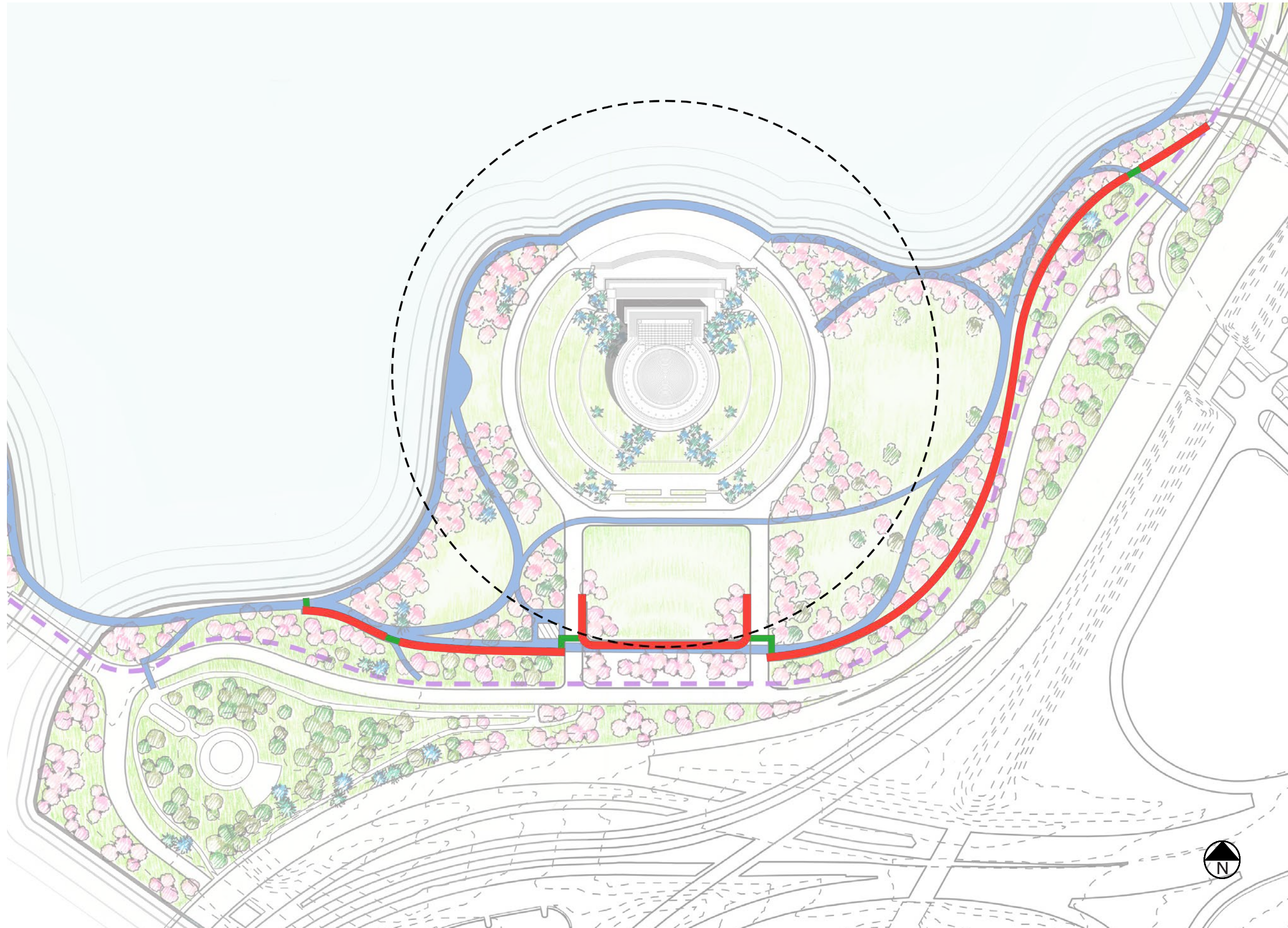


Detail schematic plan shown of the Tidal Basin and surrounding landscape with existing memorials, accessible pedestrian pathways, and recreation fields. The park includes multiple parking lots along Maine Avenue SW and W Basin Drive SW and comfort stations with an urban plaza in the northwest and south of the site. The water edge is surrounded by a continuous ring of cherry trees and includes pedestrian bridges at Kutz Bridge, the Inlet Bridge, and Outlet Bridge. Study area at the Jefferson Memorial is highlighted.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY

## LEGEND

- 2'-6" SECURITY WALL
- SECURITY BOLLARDS
- - - MIN. SECURITY SETBACK



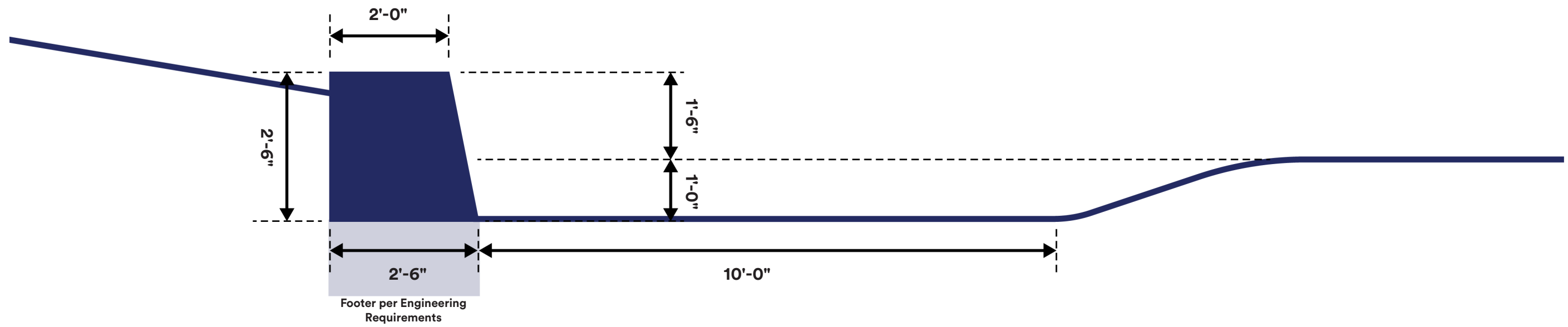
Plan diagram showing the area around Jefferson Memorial including a proposed security wall, bollards, and the minimum security setback.



# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVE SECTION

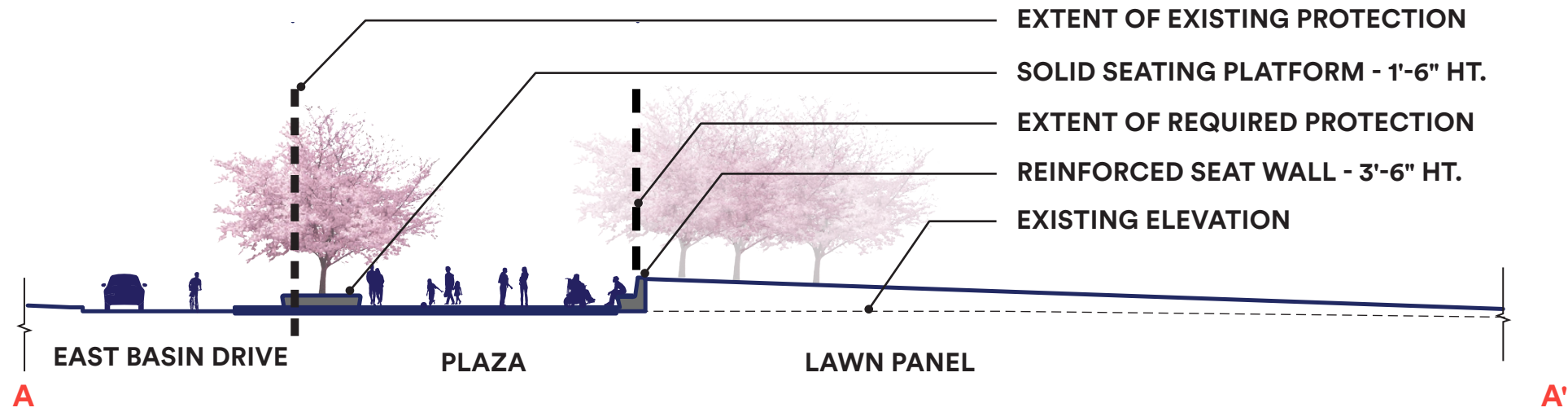


Key plan showing location of section cuts.

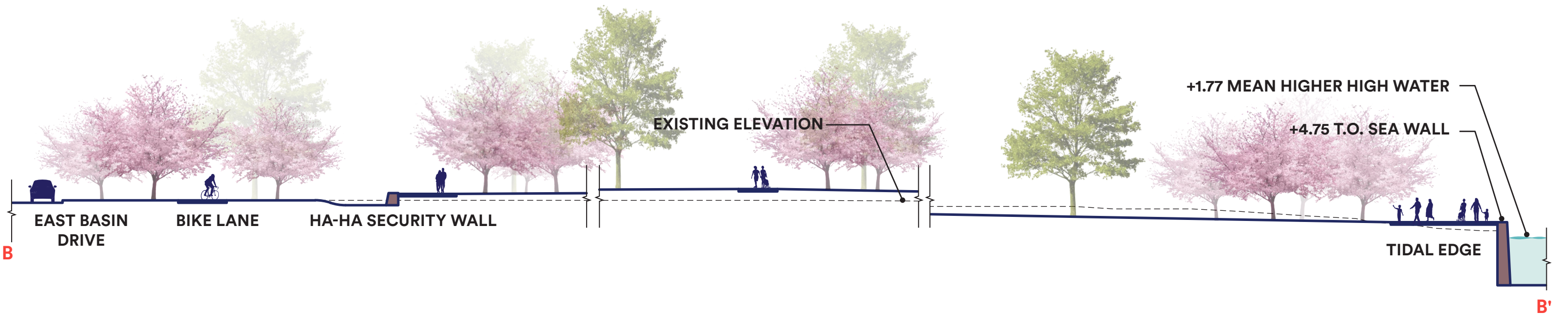
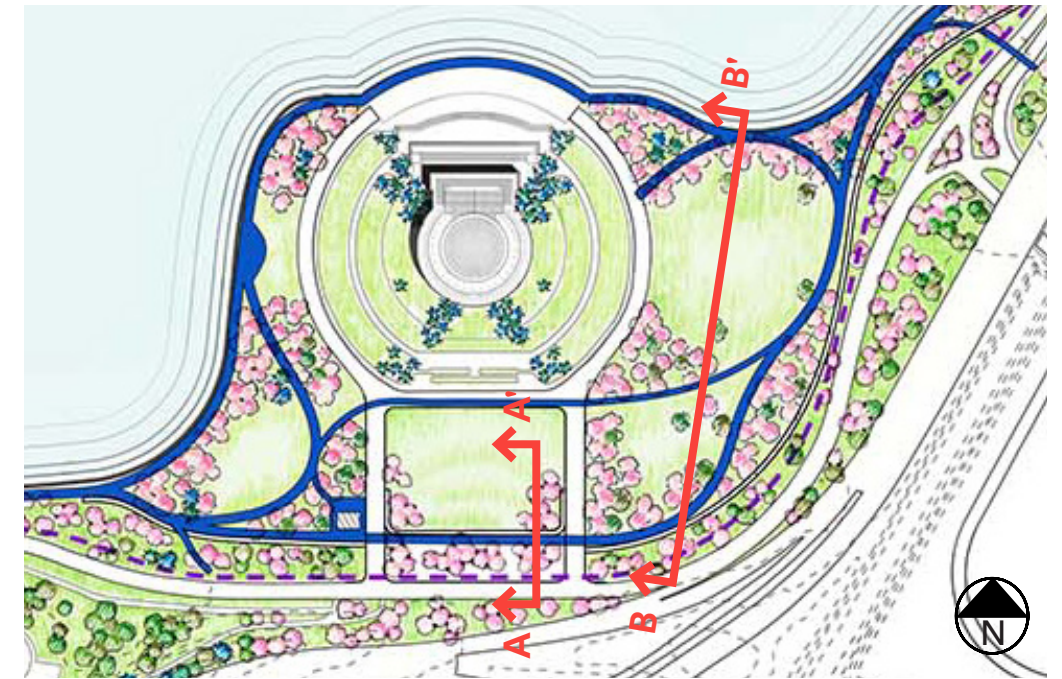


Section shows example of site security profile which includes site wall and ha-ha wall configuration.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



A site section bisects the seat wall at lawn panel south of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Site walls are reinforced to act as protection from vehicular entry.

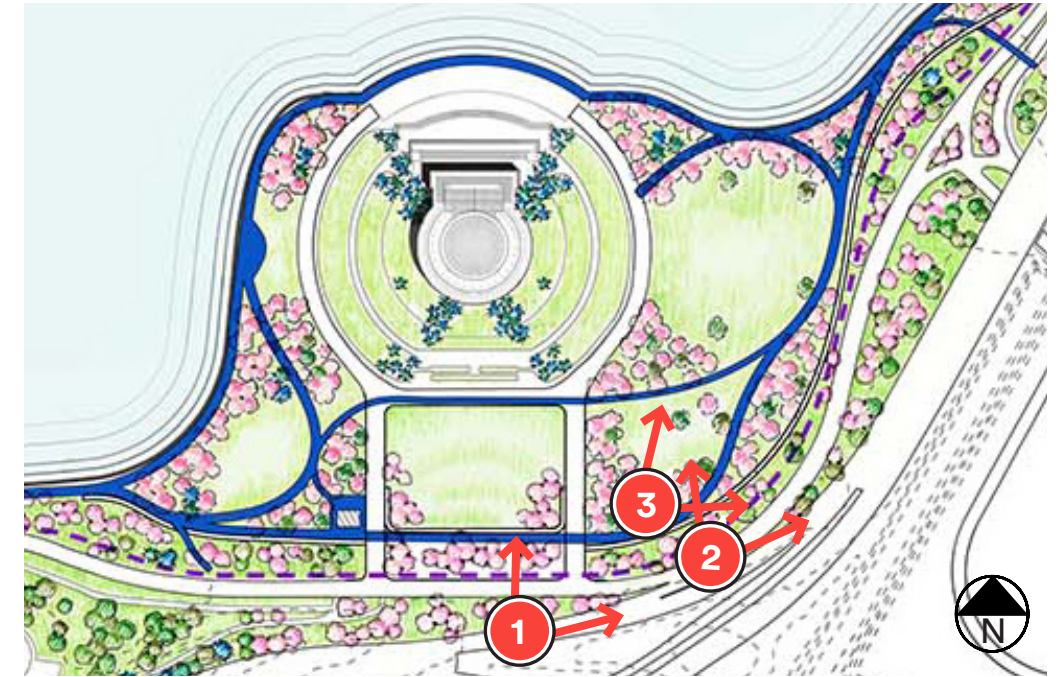


A site section bisects the landscape from East Basin Drive SW to the Tidal Basin Edge. Security wall and walking paths are shown.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY



Perspective rendering shows view of the site walls from the southeast corner of the Jefferson Lawn looking north northeast across the site. Bollards and singular site wall are visible.



Key plan showing view locations of site around Jefferson Memorial



Perspective rendering shows view of the site walls from the southern edge of the Jefferson Lawn looking north northeast across the site. Bike path and site wall are visible.



Perspective Rendering shows views of the singular site wall from the southeast corner of the site looking north northeast towards the Jefferson Memorial. A walking path sits above the site wall and the bicycle path is visible at page right.

# ALTERNATIVE B - PROPOSED SITE AXON



Key plan showing axon location around Jefferson Memorial



Site axon view shows site security from the roadway to interior pedestrian pathways. Secure edge highlighted in red dashed line.



## ALTERNATIVE C

- MANAGE **ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS** WITH A **SUSTAINABLE** APPROACH
- PROVIDE **SECURITY** AT THE JEFFERSON MEMORIAL

Alternative C pays homage to **historic ecological communities** and **human interactions with the water's edge**, all as an acknowledgment of the Tidal Basin as a highly constructed landscape. By bringing in smaller tidal intrusions both at the Basin's edge and the interior of the larger site, the design connects the current iteration of this landscape to the tidal flats that existed prior to the mid-1800s. In deference to modern ecological constraints and concerns, this design alternative reduces parking and paved space to highlight ride-share, bus stops and drop-offs, and considerations to American's with Disabilityt Act (ADA) connectivity and **encourage the use of alternative transportation** methods. A continuous ring of cherry blossoms remains along the entire Basin edge, **merging the cultural and ecological history** of the site into a modern representation.



# ALTERNATIVE C - ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS AND SUSTAINABILITY

## LEGEND

- 1. TIDAL BASIN (WATER)
- 2. FLORAL LIBRARY
- 3. CHERRY TREES (THROUGHOUT)
- 4. COMFORT STATION
- 5. PADDLE BOAT DOCK
- 6. WETLAND
- 7. BIKE PATH
- 8. PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
- 9. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- 10. PARKING (ADA ONLY)
- 11. DROP-OFF
- 12. MULTI-USE FIELD (5 TOTAL)
- 13. SOFTBALL FIELD (7 TOTAL)
- 14. RUGBY FIELD
- 15. CRICKET FIELD



Detail schematic plan shown of the Tidal Basin and surrounding landscape with existing memorials, accessible pedestrian pathways, and recreation fields. The Tidal Basin includes tidal wetlands to the north and south of the basin with interior wetlands to the west and southeast. The park includes ADA parking lots along Maine Avenue SW and Ohio Drive SW and comfort stations with an urban plaza in the northwest and south of the site. The water edge is surrounded by a continuous ring of cherry trees. Interior wetlands include deciduous trees along the outer edges.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

## LEGEND




- 12'-0" WIDE WALKWAY
- - - 6'-8' WIDE WALKWAY
- - - EXISTING WALKWAY
- ▨ OPEN CIRCULATION



Diagram showing differentiation of 12 ft wide versus 6 ft – 8 ft wide pathways across site and existing to remain walkways. All pathways are accessible. Open circulation shows zones of free pedestrian movement.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED BIKE/SCOOTER CIRCULATION

## LEGEND

-  CITI BIKE RENTALS
-  MICROMOBILITY CORRAL
-  BICYCLE/SCOOTER RACKS
-  BICYCLE PATH

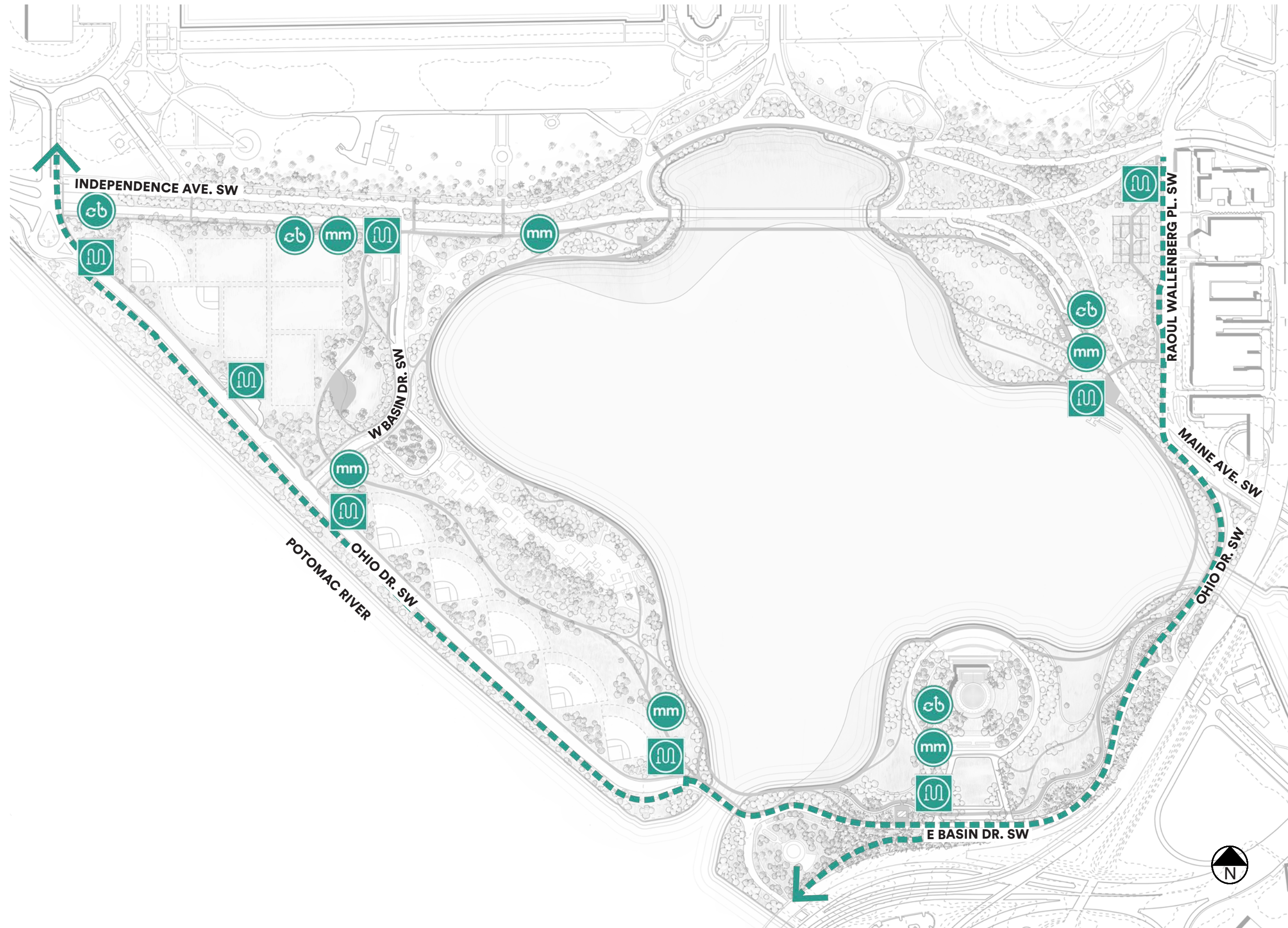


Diagram showing bicycle path, bicycle and scooter rental corral, and bicycle rack parking across site. Bicycle path follows Raoul Wallenberg Place, Ohio Dr. SW, and E Basin Drive SW to the Inlet Bridge, then shifts to south of Ohio Dr. SW to the intersection with Independence Ave. SW.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

## LEGEND



BUS STOP



BUS DROP OFF



CAR DROP OFF



PARKING LOT

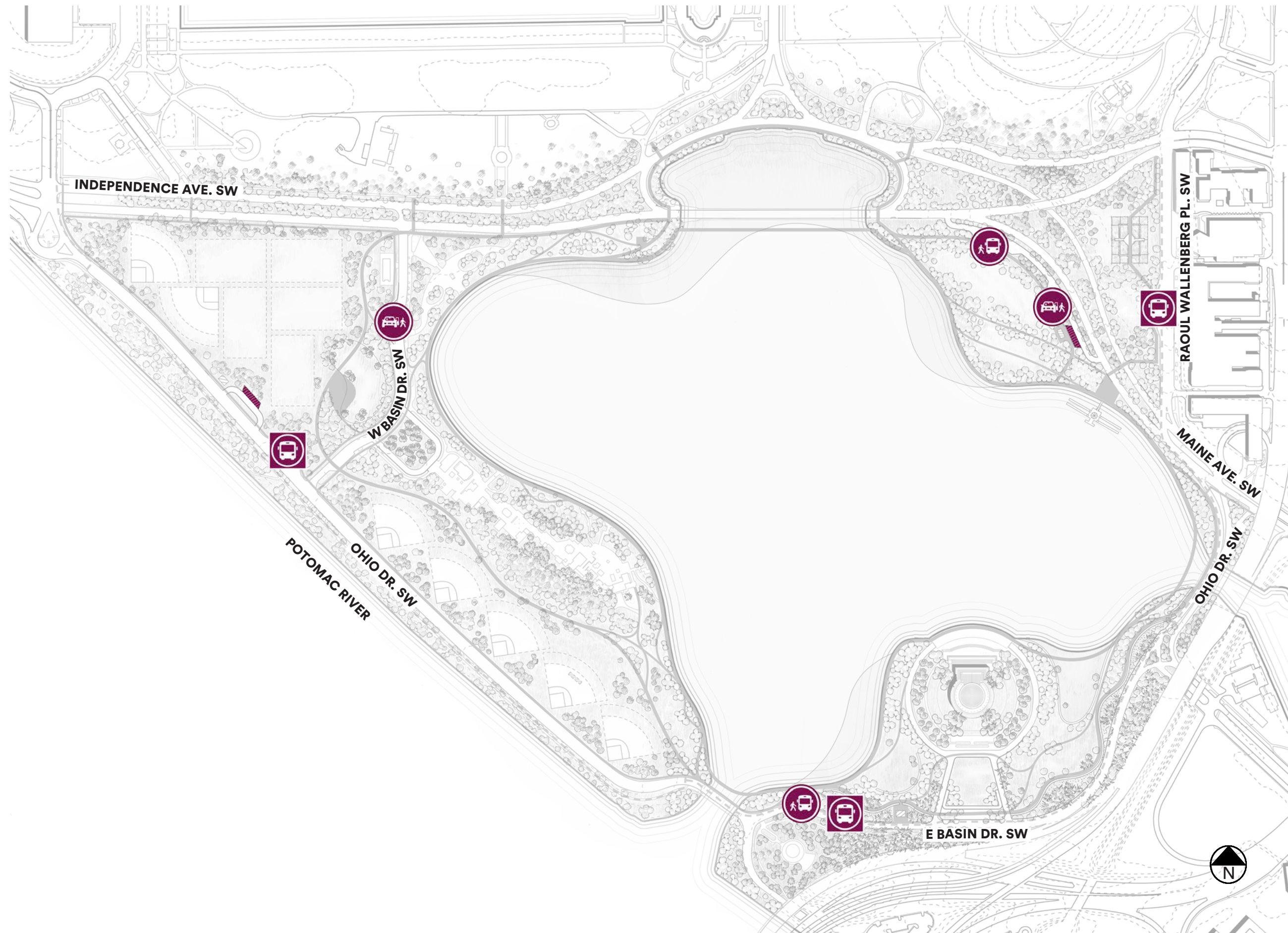


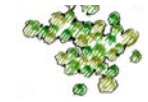
Diagram showing ADA parking lots, car drop-off, bus drop-off, and bus stops. ADA parking and car drop-off are located in the northeast and northwest of the site, bus drop off is located in the south and northwest of the site, and bus stops are located on the east, south, and west sides of the site.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED OVERHEAD CANOPY

## LEGEND



CHERRY CANOPY



DECIDUOUS CANOPY



EVERGREEN CANOPY



Diagram shows continuous cherry tree ring around the site with openings intermittently around the edge. Areas with tidal wetlands do not include cherry trees. Deciduous and evergreen canopy shown.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



Key plan showing location of section cuts.

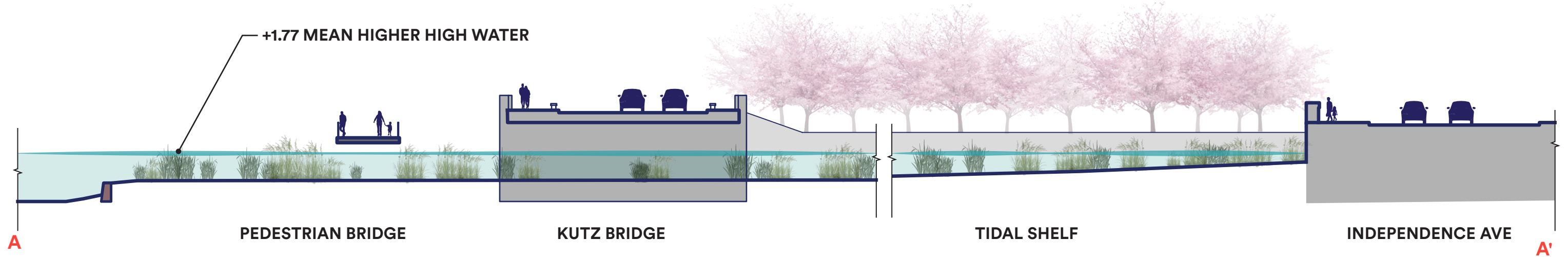


Site section showing transect of interior tidal wetland, flexible plaza, and Tidal Basin edge.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS



Key plan showing location of section cuts.



Site section showing transect of Kutz Bridge north to Tidal Basin edge at the north lobe.



# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY

## LEGEND

- 1. TIDAL BASIN (WATER)
- 2. FLORAL LIBRARY
- 3. CHERRY TREES (THROUGHOUT)
- 4. COMFORT STATION
- 5. PADDLE BOAT DOCK
- 6. WETLAND
- 7. BIKE PATH
- 8. PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
- 9. PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE
- 10. PARKING (ADA ONLY)
- 11. DROP-OFF
- 12. MULTI-USE FIELD (5 TOTAL)
- 13. SOFTBALL FIELD (7 TOTAL)
- 14. RUGBY FIELD
- 15. CRICKET FIELD

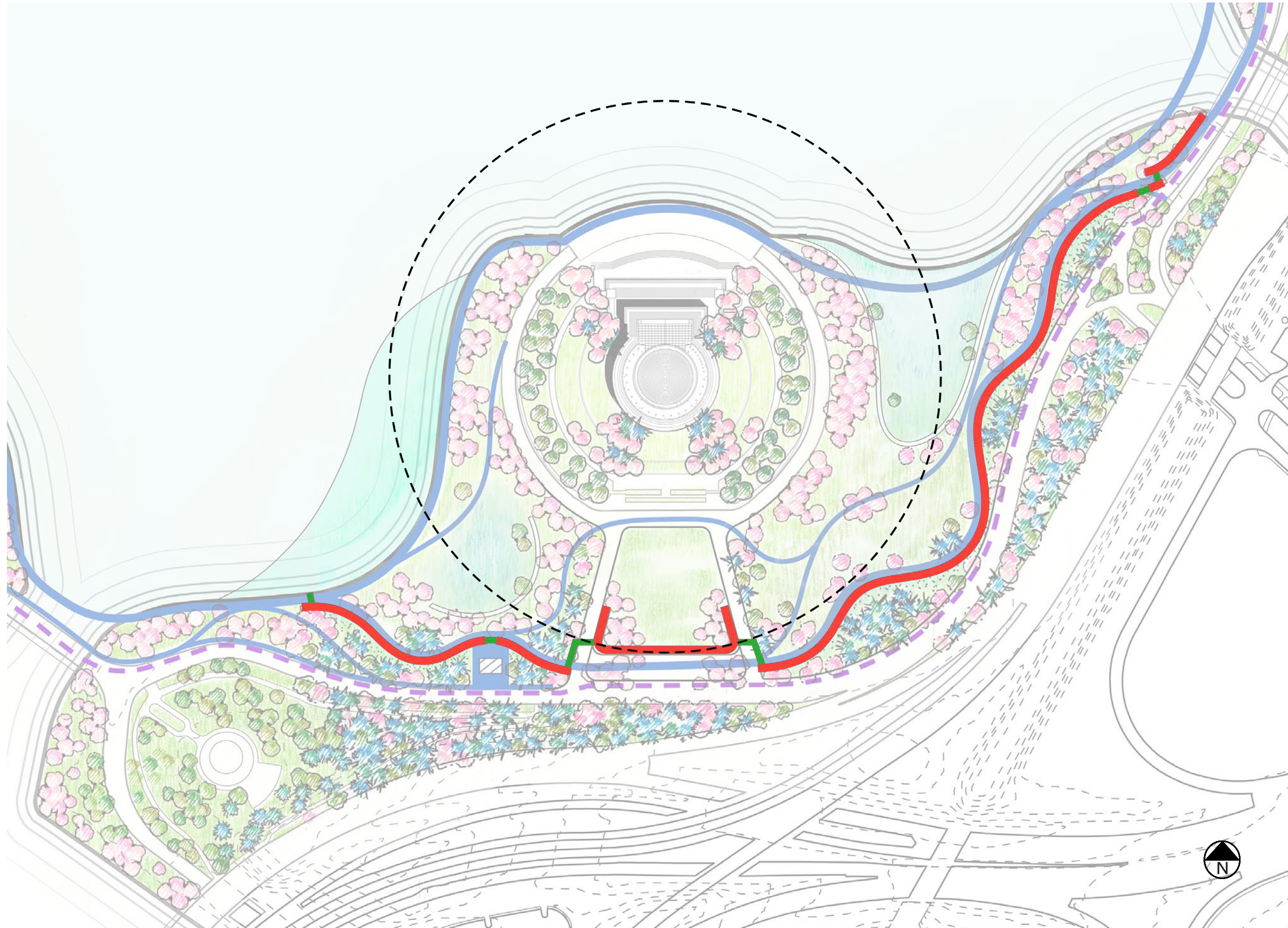


Detail schematic plan shown of the Tidal Basin and surrounding landscape with existing memorials, accessible pedestrian pathways, and recreation fields. The Tidal Basin includes tidal wetlands to the north and south of the basin with interior wetlands to the west and southeast. The park includes ADA parking lots along Maine Avenue SW and Ohio Drive SW and comfort stations with an urban plaza in the northwest and south of the site. The water edge is surrounded by a continuous ring of cherry trees. Interior wetlands include deciduous trees along the outer edges. Study area at Jefferson Memorial is highlighted.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED JEFFERSON SECURITY

## LEGEND

-  2'-6" SECURITY WALL
-  SECURITY BOLLARDS
-  MIN. SECURITY SETBACK

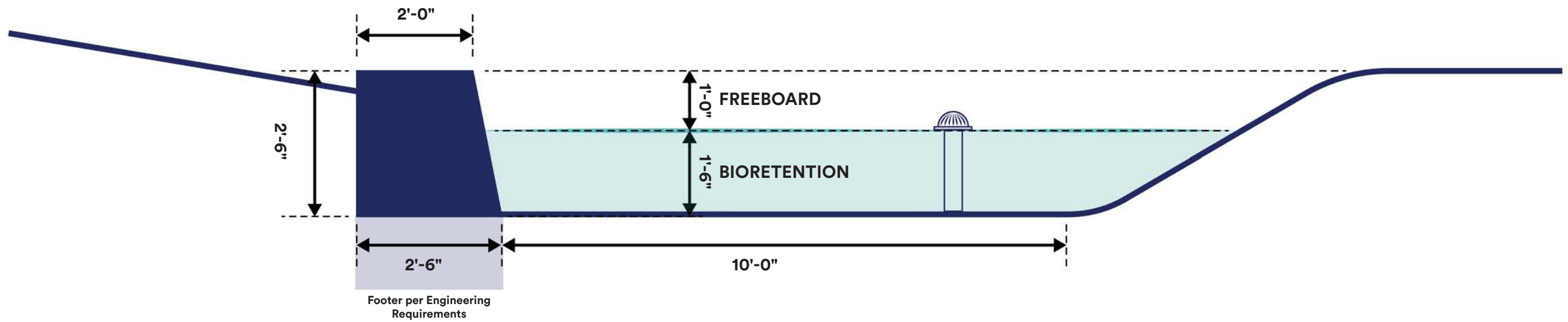


Plan diagram shows area around Jefferson Memorial and includes a proposed security wall, a tapered wall, bollards, and the minimum security setback.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED REPRESENTATIVE SECTION

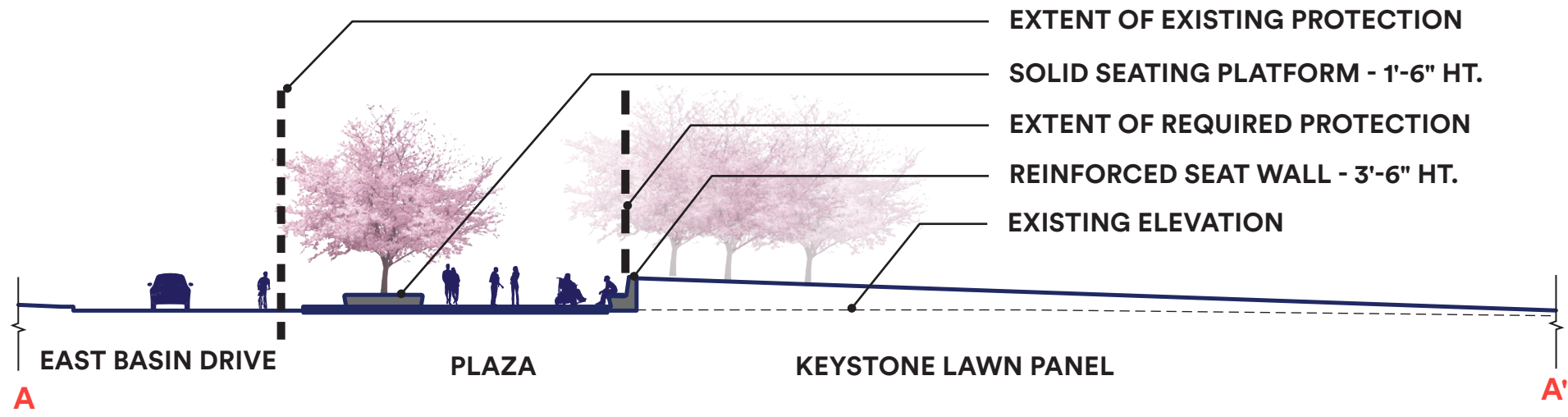


Key plan showing section cuts.

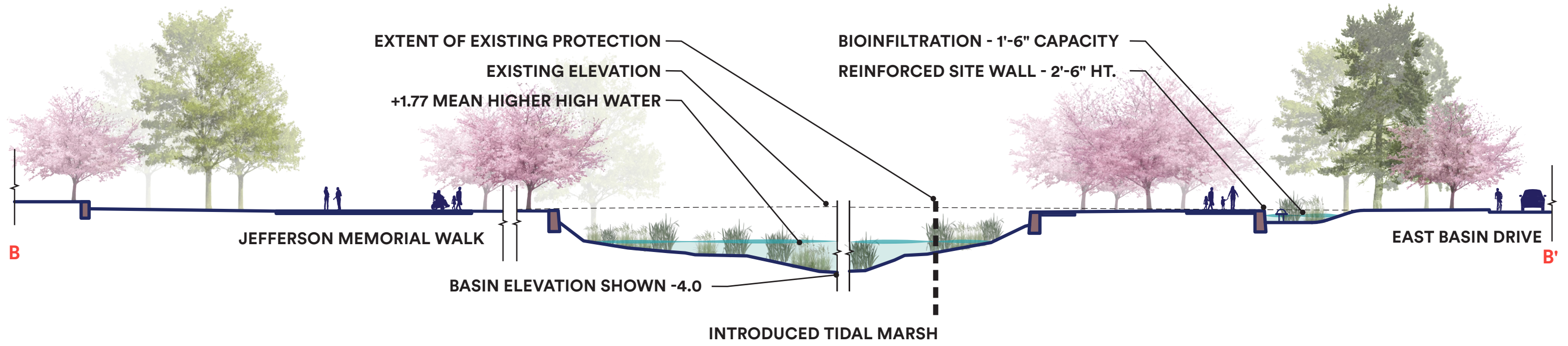


Section shows example transect of site security which includes site wall and ha-ha wall configuration. Configuration includes bioretention zone.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED SITE SECTIONS

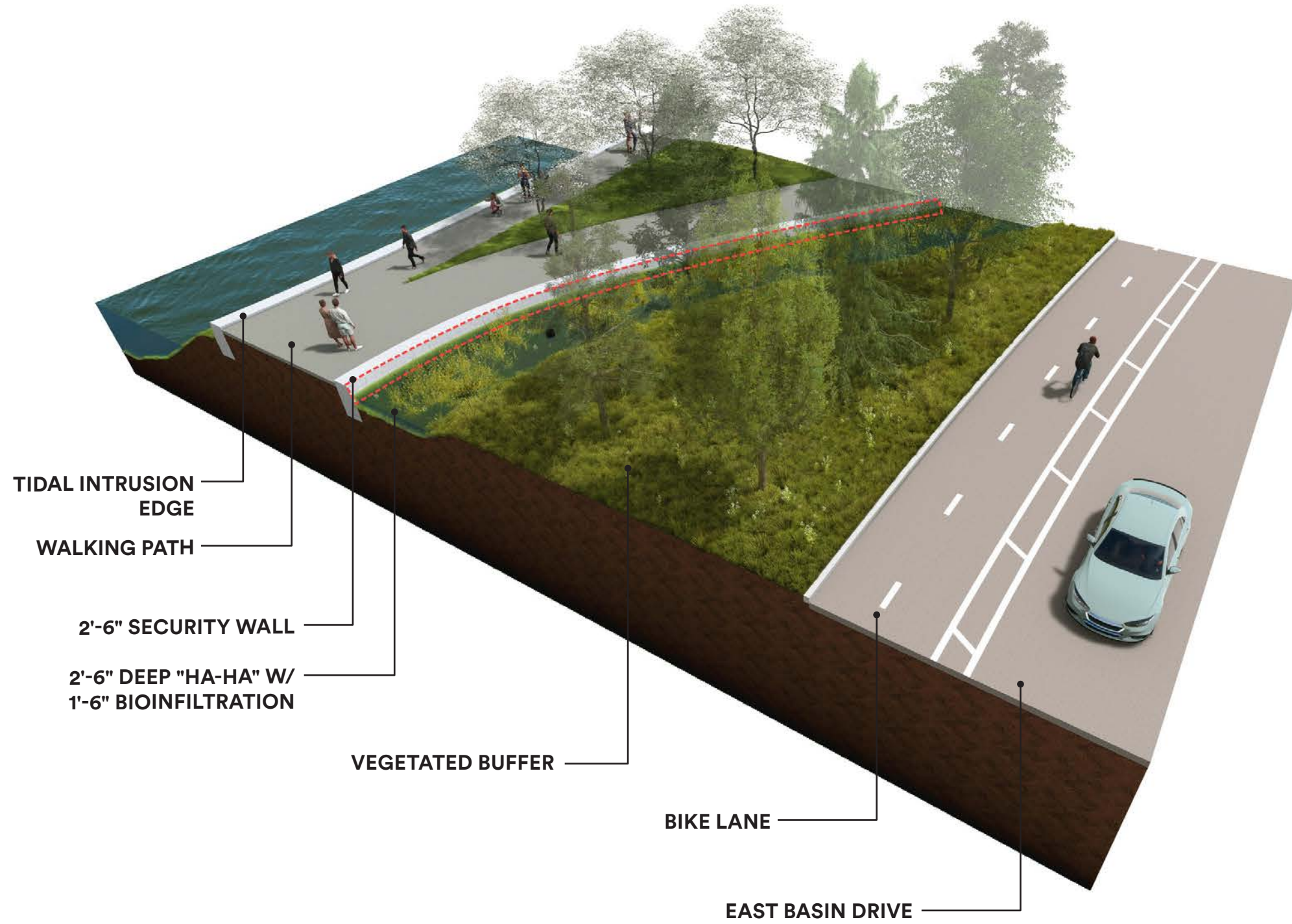


Site section bisects seat wall at lawn panel south of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Site walls are reinforced to act as protection from vehicular entry.



Site section showing transect of tidal wetland east of Jefferson Memorial.

# ALTERNATIVE C - PROPOSED SITE AXON



TIDAL INTRUSION  
EDGE

WALKING PATH

2'-6" SECURITY WALL

2'-6" DEEP "HA-HA" W/  
1'-6" BIOINFILTRATION

VEGETATED BUFFER

BIKE LANE

EAST BASIN DRIVE



Key plan showing axon location on site.

Site axon view shows site security from the roadway to interior tidal marsh. Secure edge is highlighted.



**ALTERNATIVE A - CONNECTIVITY**

**Key Information/Differences**

- Increased connections to facilitate pedestrian circulation
- Pedestrian only bridges at all water crossings
- Northern bridge reinforces four lobe parti
- Outward expansion of cherry blossom ring
- Increase parking counts from existing focused on northeast quadrant
- Jefferson security integral to visitor experience and pedestrian circulation
- Secure boundary layered along edge to minimize visual impacts
- Floral Library integrated into path network
- Removal of Maine Avenue to support expanded pedestrian connectivity and uses
- Boat dock realigned for gathering



**ALTERNATIVE B - VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES**

**Key Information/Differences**

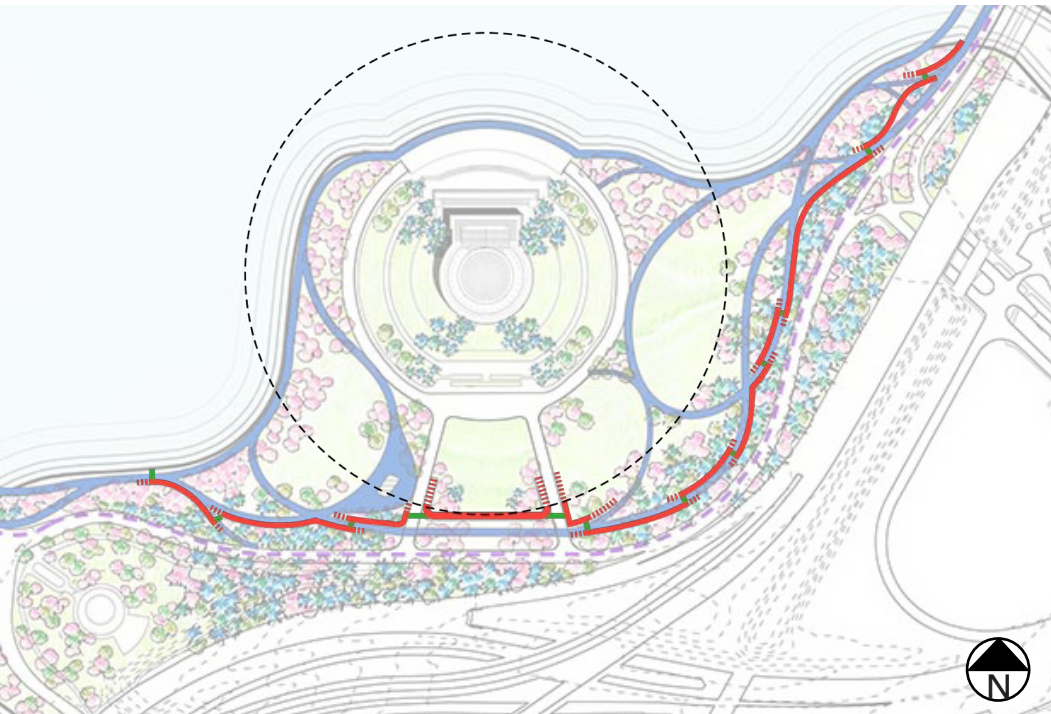
- Use of topography to emphasize visual connections to key cultural resources
- Pedestrian only bridges at all water crossings
- Northern pedestrian bridge utilizes existing structure
- Outward expansion of cherry blossom ring
- Increase parking counts from existing focused on West Basin memorials and recreation fields
- Visual impacts of Jefferson security wall are minimized with a ha-ha.
- Floral Library located in existing location
- Realignment of Maine Avenue to support safer pedestrian crossings
- Boat dock realigned to minimize visual impact key Basin viewsheds



**ALTERNATIVE C - ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS AND SUSTAINABILITY**

**Key Information/Differences**

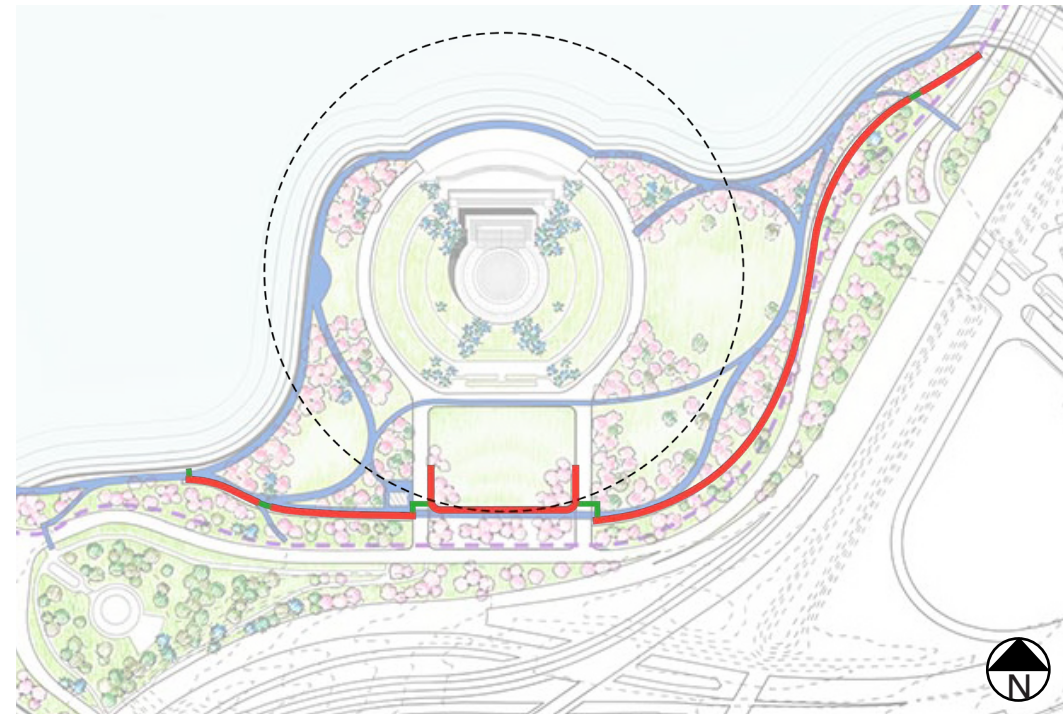
- Introduction of tidal wetlands to recall historic landscape features
- Tidal wetlands provide resiliency for site flooding and major storm events
- Reduction in impervious surface
- Pedestrian only bridges at all water crossings
- Northern pedestrian sits lower to the water elevation to visually connect with wetlands
- Tidal wetlands reinforce four lobe parti
- Outward expansion of cherry blossom ring
- Reduce parking counts from existing and increase multi-modal transit access
- Jefferson security edge integrated with ecological infrastructure
- Floral Library celebrated in new location



**ALTERNATIVE A - LAYERED WALLS**

**Key Information/Differences**

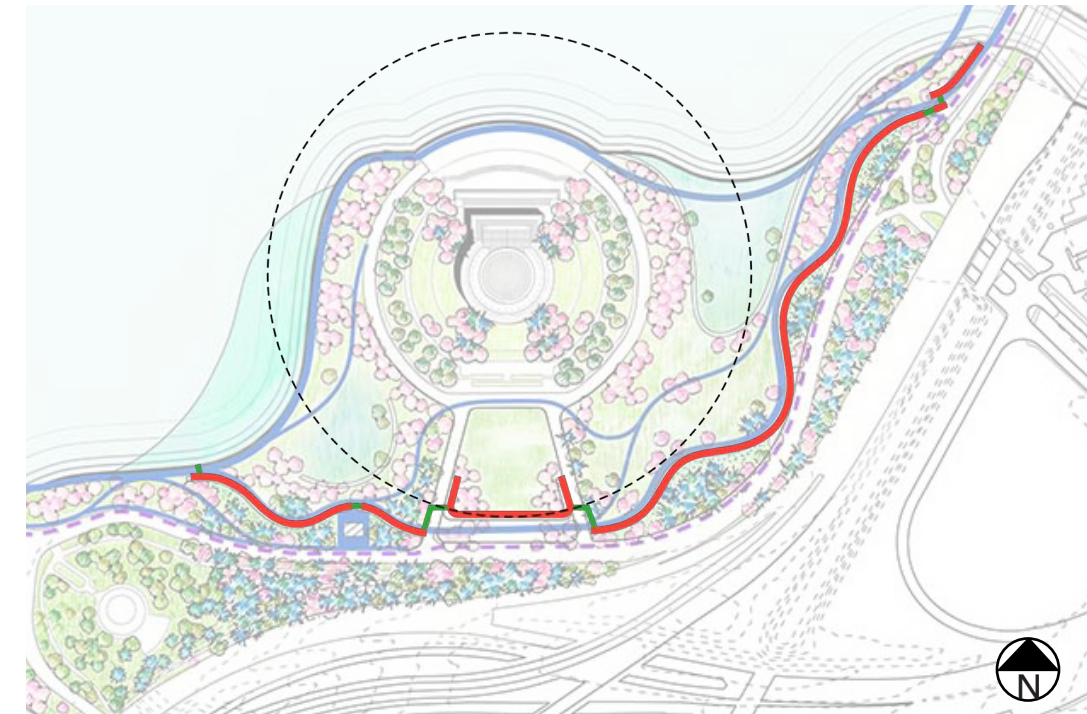
- Seat wall and bollards at Jefferson Lawn
- Layered walls integrate with pedestrian pathways
- Bollards located at gaps in walls
- East edge ties into outlet bridge railing
- West edge connects to water via bollards



**ALTERNATIVE B - SINGULAR HA-HA WALL**

**Key Information/Differences**

- Seat wall and bollards at Jefferson Lawn
- Singular site wall between pedestrian paths and bike path
- Use of ha-ha to reduce overall vertical appearance from bike path and roadway
- Very limited use of bollards
- East edge ties into outlet bridge railing
- West edge connects to water via bollards



**ALTERNATIVE C - SINGULAR HA-HA WALL WITH BIORETENTION**

**Key Information/Differences**

- Seat walls and bollards at Jefferson Lawn
- Singular site wall follows edge of pedestrian path
- Use of ha-ha to reduce overall vertical appearance from roadway
- Use of bioretention at low points of the system to capture sheet flow from planted areas and adjacent roadway
- East edge ties in to outlet bridge railing
- West edge connects to water via bollards