SKY DISTRICTS

for Portland's South Waterfront Region

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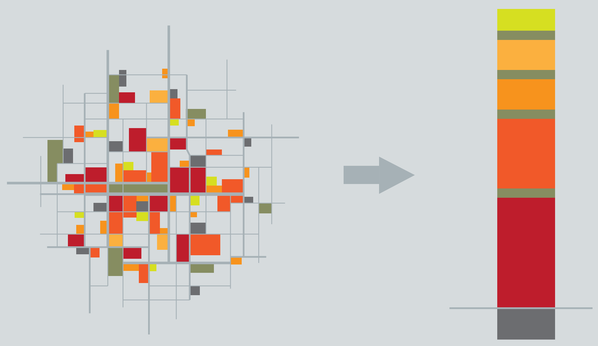
Great cities are composed of many different districts. For instance, there may be a district that is renowned for a certain type of food, one that is known for fashion, one for the arts, and so on. Being able to visit these different districts is part of what makes a city experience so cool. Traditionally, these city districts are positioned in relation to each other horizontally. Logically, this makes sense based on the way that cities have developed and have sprawled over time. However, as cities continue to sprawl, travelling from one district to another becomes more of a challenge. Combine this with an increasing worldwide population, leading to more traffic and not only does it take longer to travel from district to district across the city, but it is also harmful to the environment.

What it you could take the concept of city districts, but reduce distance and travel time between them as well as minimizing pollution from travel?

"Sky Districts" takes the concept of city districts and applies it to a vertical axis. This addresses the increasingly important issue of density. Additionally, it confronts pollution, as transportation between districts is integrated linearly throughout one structure, rather than through a mish-mash of car-filled streets. Parking is contained within the tower rather than being spread throughout an assortment of structures and lots around the city. Terraces carved out of the structure provide habitats for vegetation to flourish, beautifying the tower as well as further counteracting pollution.



Typical City Plan
(Horizontal Sprawl)

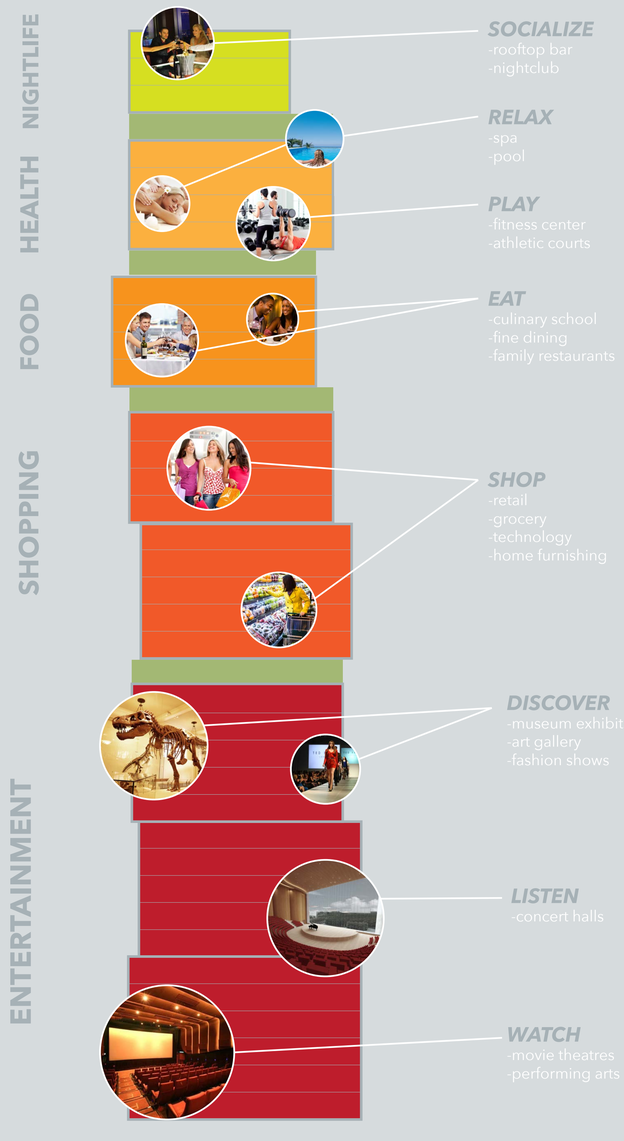
New City Plan
(Vertical)

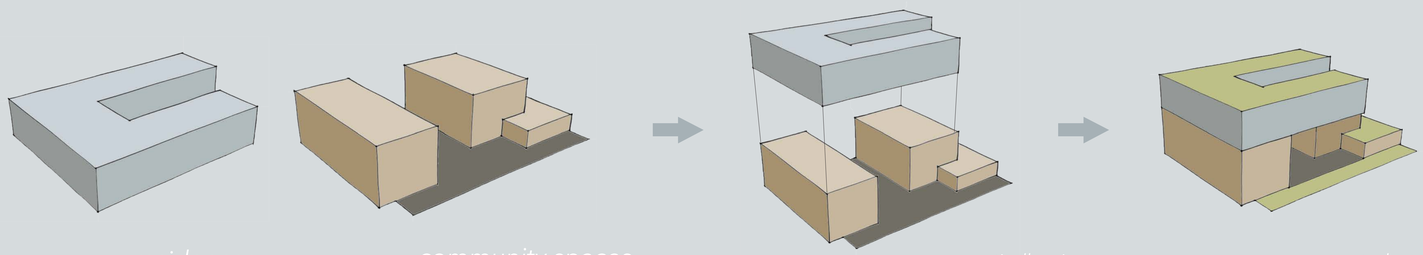
1 REDUCE
travel time across city

2 MINIMIZE
pollution from cars travelling the grid

3 ENHANCE
sense of community

THE DISTRICTS





residences (private)

community spaces (public)

vertically orient zones

stack, creating green terraces between zones

Vertical Circulation

public
private