**Art as Connection**

**Anchors & Circulation**

- Physical inventory of Site

**Objective**

Using public art as a catalyst, create a vibrant community space with a focus on farm-to-table dining and local market commerce. Invigorate Michigan State University and the City of East Lansing connecting them both physically and culturally through walkable streetscapes, land use planning, and public art.

**Connection**

Art can be a powerful and unifying phenomenon by bringing people together, telling stories, and bringing joy to viewers. By creating artistic gateways, the city of East Lansing gains new life and an even greater cultural diversity in a vibrant new district.

Art can be found in the sculptures and architecture of the landscape, in a locally-grown meal, in the smiles of children playing in Valley Court Park, in the chance meeting of a friend. Art can be found on all scales, in all places.

Art is a reference to the History of East Lansing, a vision of its future and a commemoration and projection of the beauty that is the city and its collaboration with Michigan State University. Art connects these two communities and its people, a connection which transforms an ordinary event into something extraordinary; art connects the past and the future, art brings everything and everyone together.

**Goals**

- Increase the density of East Lansing building development by specifying mixed use as well as particular uses specific to zoning regulations
- Provide safe bicycle and pedestrian connections to existing routes, particularly north and south across Grand River Avenue
- Encourage the use of public transit by providing safe and comfortable stops for the CATA bus system and the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) Line
- Increase the cultural draw of East Lansing by implementing a street arts and music program
- Encourage visitation to East Lansing by creating a more all-encompassing destination place
- Expand and integrate farmers markets into the city with a permanent, year-round structure and four-season use
- Create new corporate/office, retail, and residential spaces for students and year-round community members
- Integrate Valley Court Park into the fabric of urban East Lansing
- Forge a partnership with MSU’s Broad Art Museum and Public Art Tour to increase appreciation of the arts and bring the two communities together

**Program**

- Expand the existing festivals and events into the revitalized space and introduce a new winter celebration
- Provide 60,000 square feet in at least two parking garage structures
- Theater with new seating and second showings
- Incorporate a new urban grocery store
- Housing for students, visiting MSU and LCC faculty, young professionals, alumni, and retirees
- Dining options: include fine dining, organic and vegan options, organically and locally-grown restaurants
- Joint East Lansing/MSU Walking Art Tour
art as connection

To embrace the historical context of Dublin’s Square, the location is kept consistent while the building is dramatically renovated. The structure is a total of five floors.

First floor: Dublin’s Square with parking space reserved for Dublin users. Second- to fourth-floor public parking spaces. Fifth-floor upscale family restaurant with outdoor deck & outdoor rooftop dining accompanied by a small music concert area. The outdoor parking lot with checkered green roof mixed with glass serves as a parking structure reserved only for restaurant users.

Urban grocery and upscale alumni housing (condos, townhomes)

k.e. HONG, k.LING, b.SAFFERMAN, c.j.THOMPSON
Streetscape scenes from the rejuvenated East Lansing, Michigan