



Alcatraz Embarkation Site

Project Sponsors:

Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy

National Park Service

Port of San Francisco



ALCATRAZ EMBARKATION SITE

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BCDC SUBMITTAL

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The Alcatraz Embarkation Site is located at the midpoint of a series of public spaces along the northern half of the Embarcadero. These Transition from urban (local) to destination (visitor) with the Alcatraz Embarkation Site at the midpoint potentially serving both groups.



fisherman's wharf



pier 39



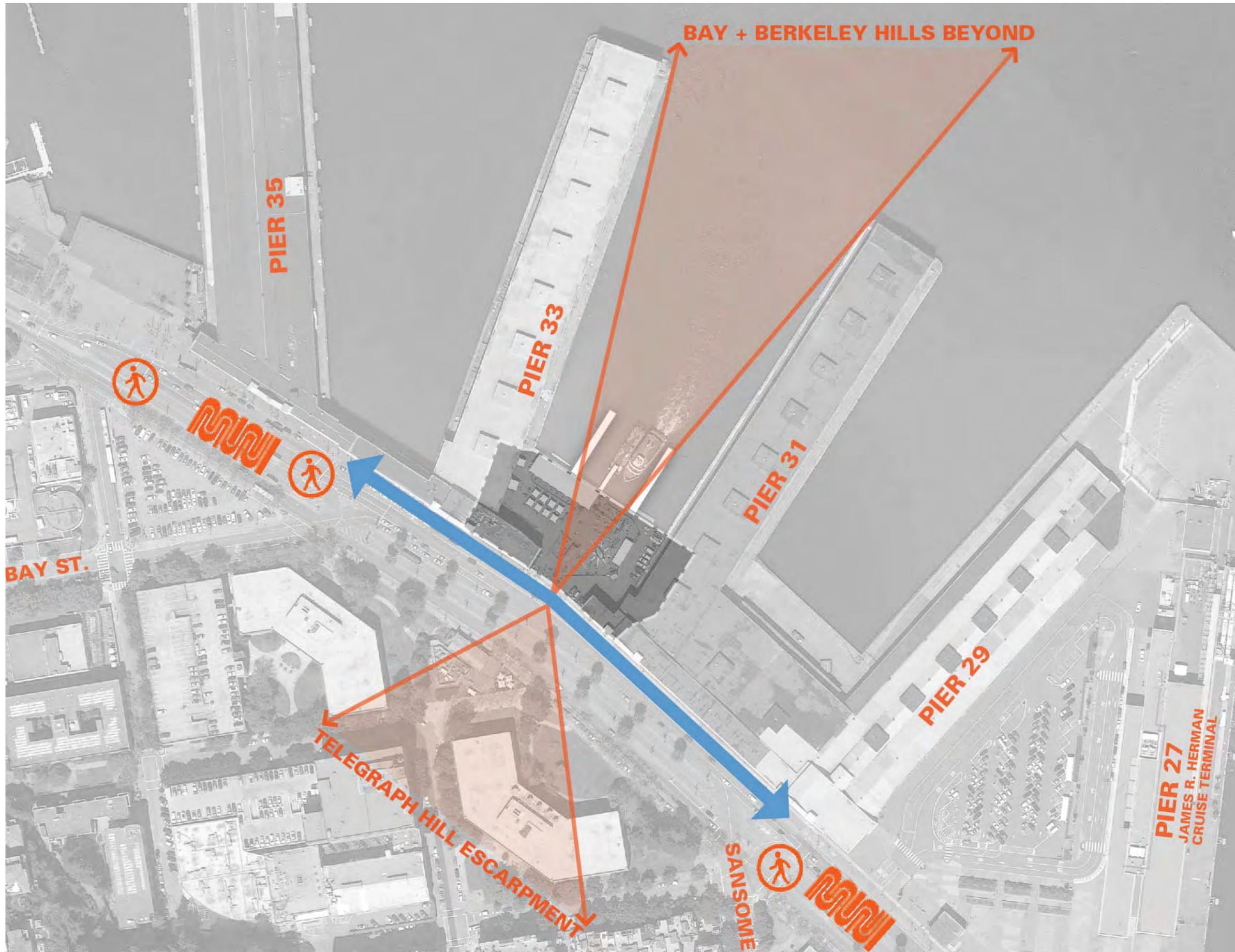
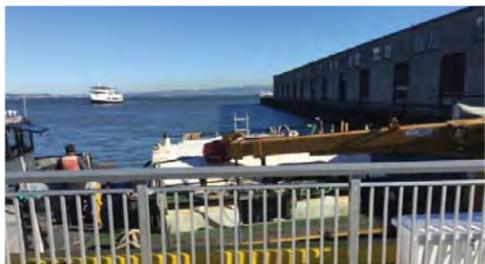
exploratorium

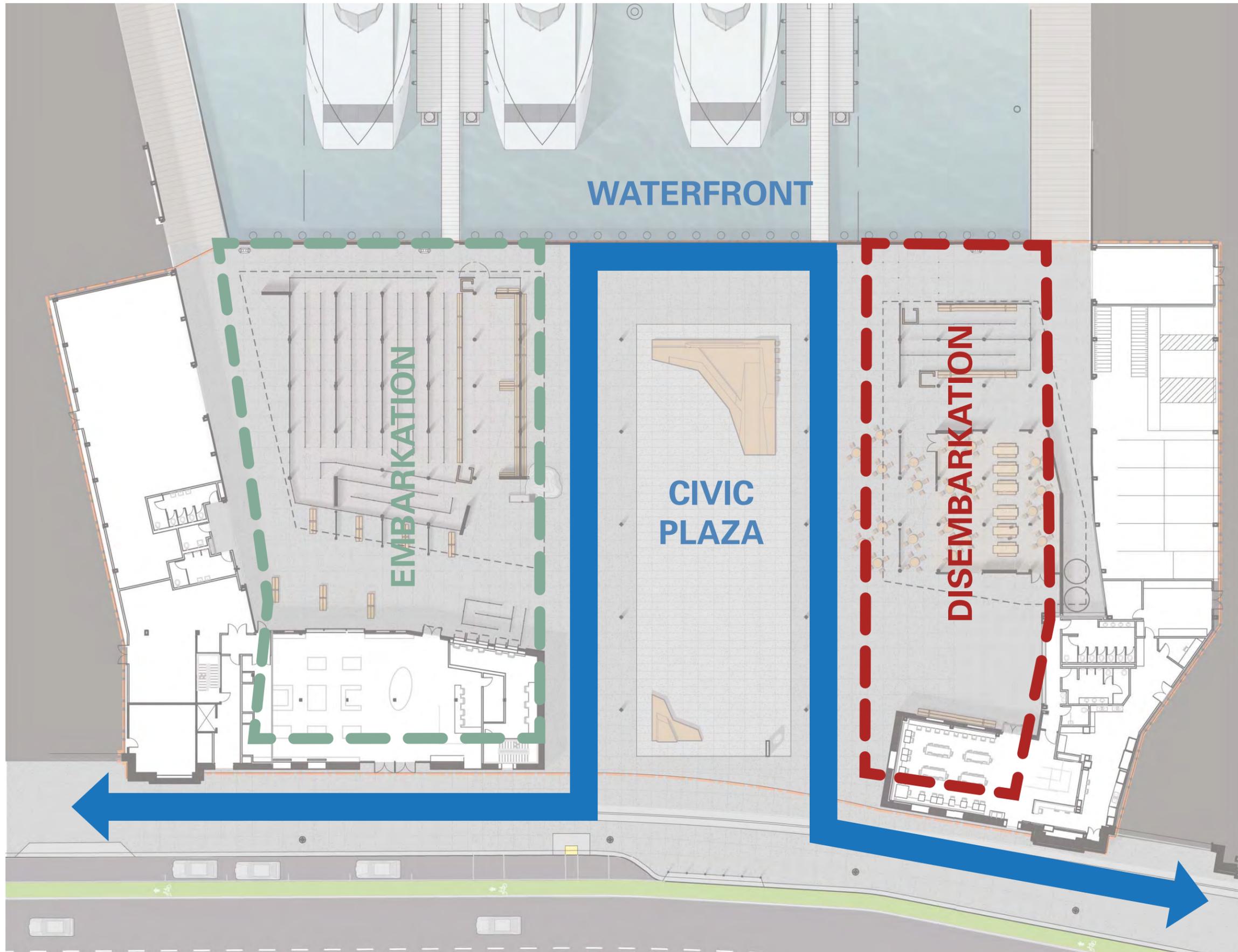


ferry building

site analysis

This diagram shows the site (boundary outlined in white) and analysis of the immediate surroundings. Note that there is no crossing of the Embarcadero at the site, visitors will approach either from the east or west where the cross walks and muni stops and parking are located. The site has a diagonal orientation and the two main view corridors are delineated and the views shown below (note that Alcatraz is not visible from the site).





Three part division of site:

1. **Civic Plaza**
Brings the Embarcadero into the site.
2. **Embarkation**
Organizes ferry embarkation operations and provides framework for interpretive elements & experiences.
3. **Disembarkation Tour & Cafe**
Provides comfort, sustenance, and social connection to visitors and everyday locals alike.

existing & proposed site condition

View from Telegraph Hill



existing view from telegraph hill



existing & proposed site condition

View from Embarcadero median



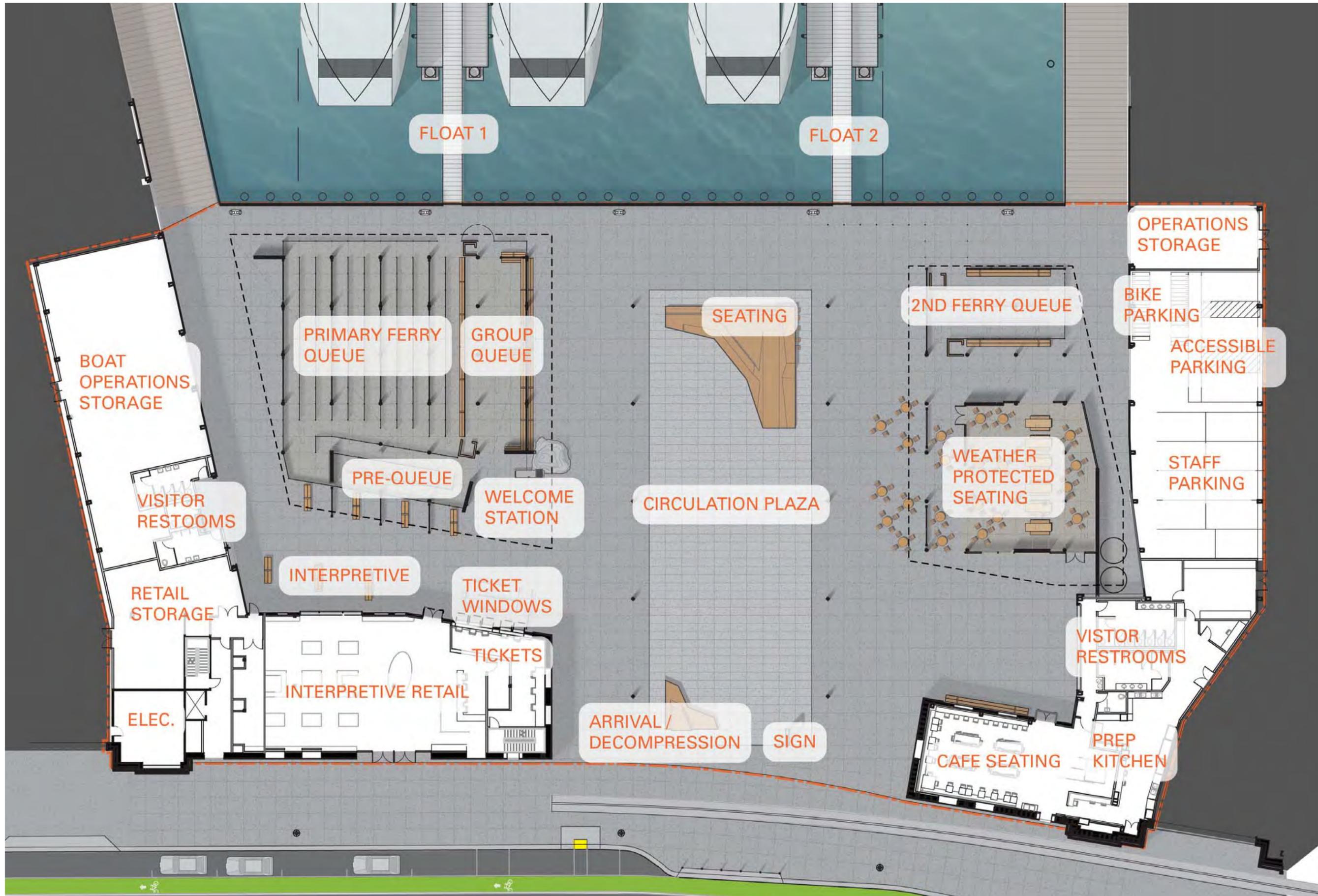
View southeast from Embarcadero



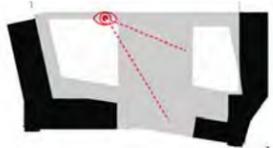
existing & proposed site condition

View northwest from Embarcadero





View of cafe from plaza



canopy precedents



Concrete canopies on steel columns and concrete sheer walls provide a durable organized but flexible structure. By folding the canopies and tapering the edges a very thin profile is achieved. Linear openings with inset acid etched glass provide daylight while keeping out the weather.



interpretation panel references

Human scaled glass panels provide wind breaks, security and interpretive opportunities. A combination of opaque images and text and layers preserves transparency while telling stories of Alcatraz Island and the Port.

Work is currently wrapping up on an interpretive content plan for Alcatraz Island which will provide a great base for development of an interpretive plan and exhibit design for the site.



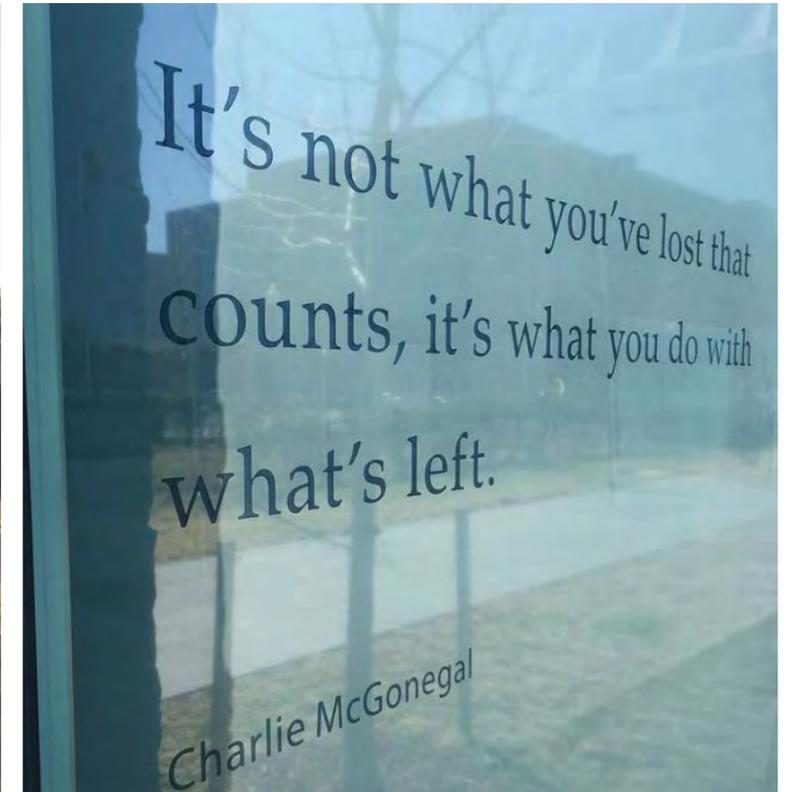
interpretative stories of

the PRISON

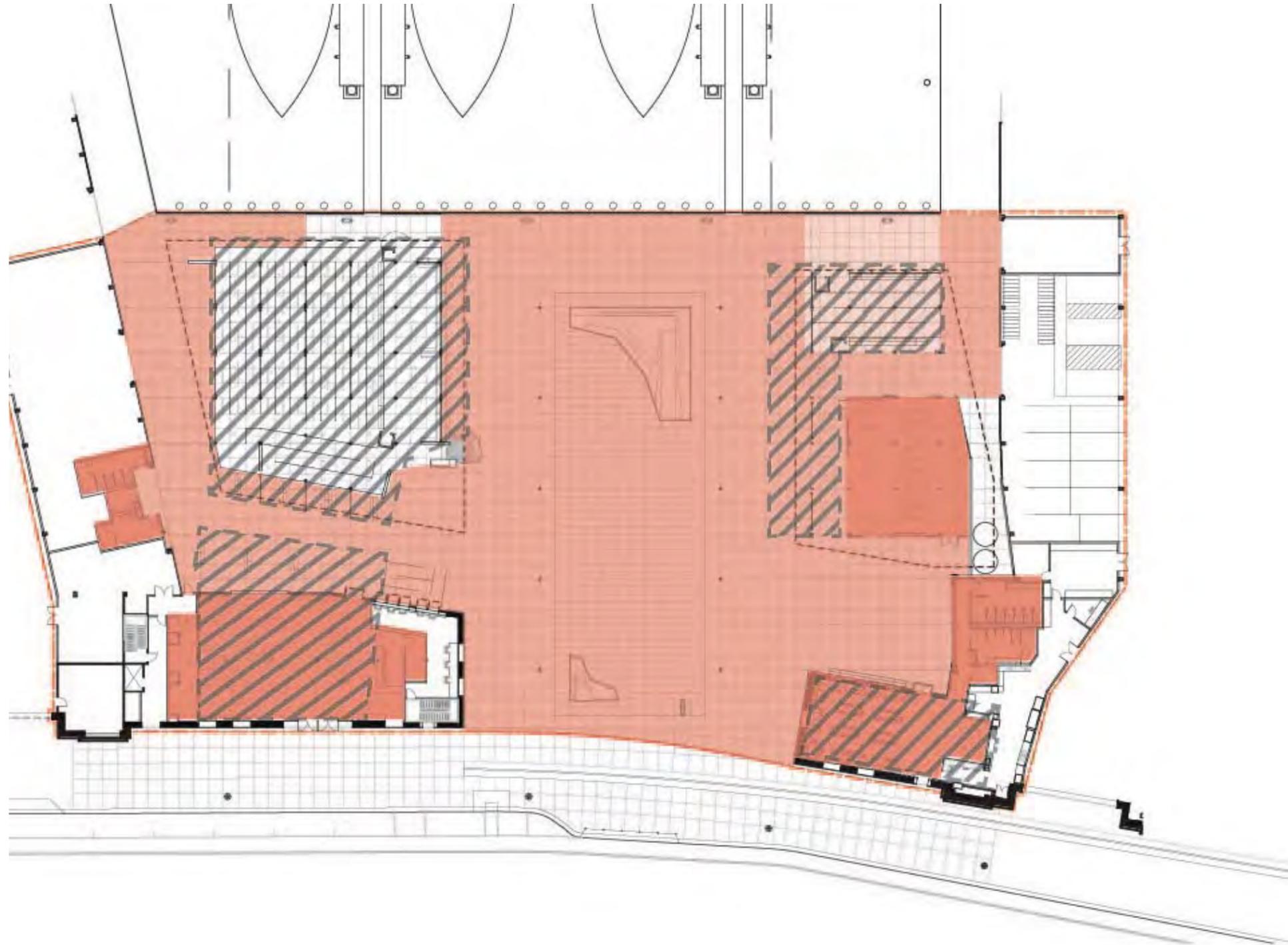
the PORT

PROTECTION

PROTEST



proposed public access,
areas of interpretive content



-  PUBLIC ACCESS
TOTAL SF = 31,645 SF
-  PUBLIC AMENITY –
CLOSED AT NIGHT
TOTAL SF = 8,430 SF
-  OCCASIONAL PUBLIC ACCESS
TOTAL SF = 1,482 SF
-  INTERPRETIVE
OVERLAY



seating feature

The proposed seating features serve as informal seating and gathering places for Alcatraz visitors and the general public within the central Civic Plaza area.

Composed of concrete plinths with wood tops and surfaces the seating features provide a variety of seating and gathering functions. A smaller feature at the entry to the plaza provides a landmark for groups and families to gather and rest as they arrive at the embarkation site.

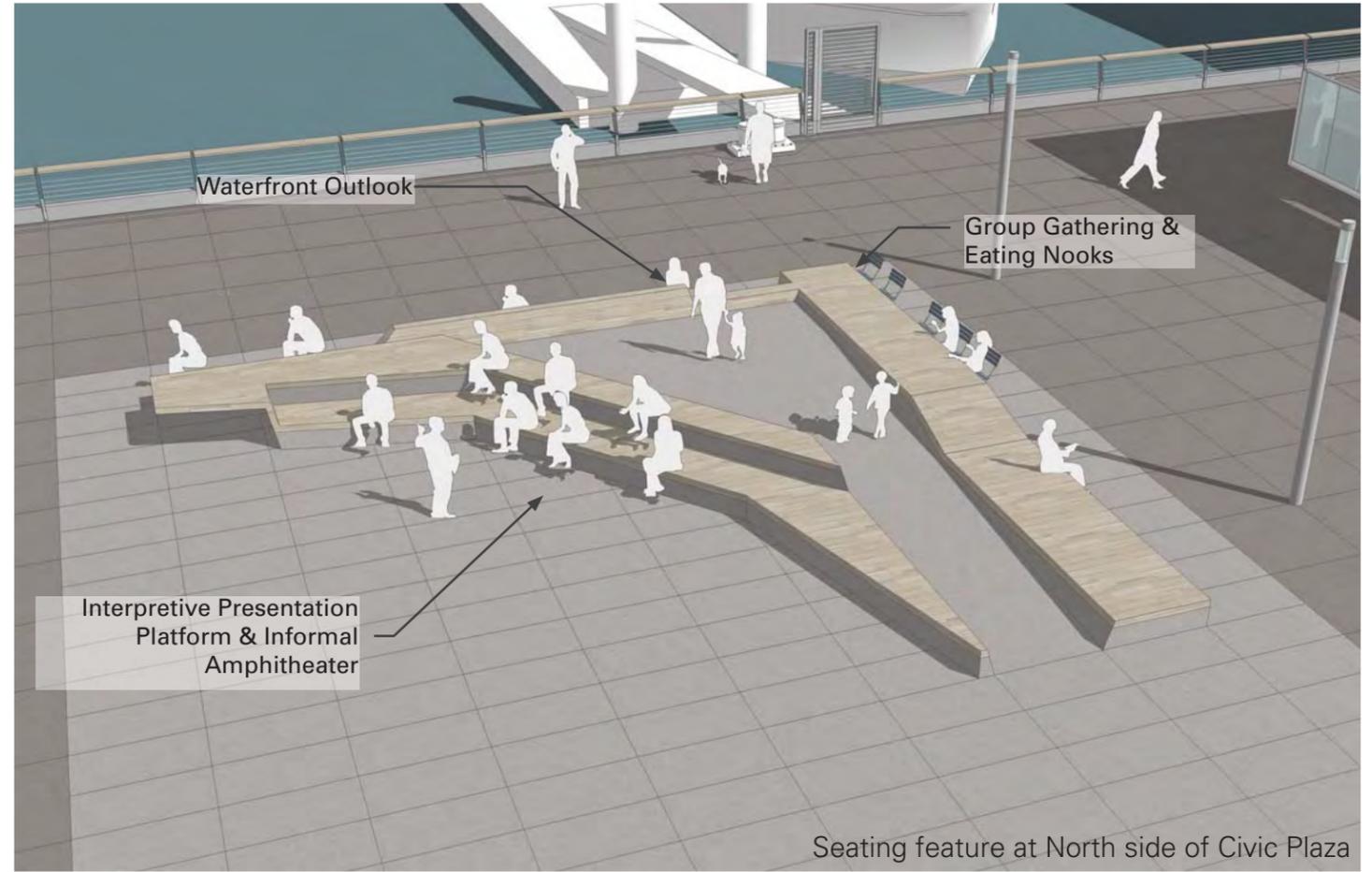
The larger seating feature on the North side of the central Civic Plaza serves multiple functions for visitors:

1. An informal amphitheater and stage face the interior of the plaza and provide an area for groups to gather to enjoy presentations by interpretive staff about Alcatraz Island and the Port of San Francisco.

2. A table height counter and wide backless bench on the Cafe facing side provide areas to gather in small groups and allow for surfaces for eating and resting.

3. A sloped walk allows access to a central platform that is 20" above the plaza surface allowing for open views over the crowds and out on to the Bay. On the waterfront facing side high backed seating is provided to allow an outlook for enjoying the views of the San Francisco Bay.

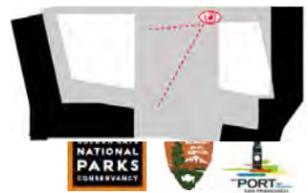
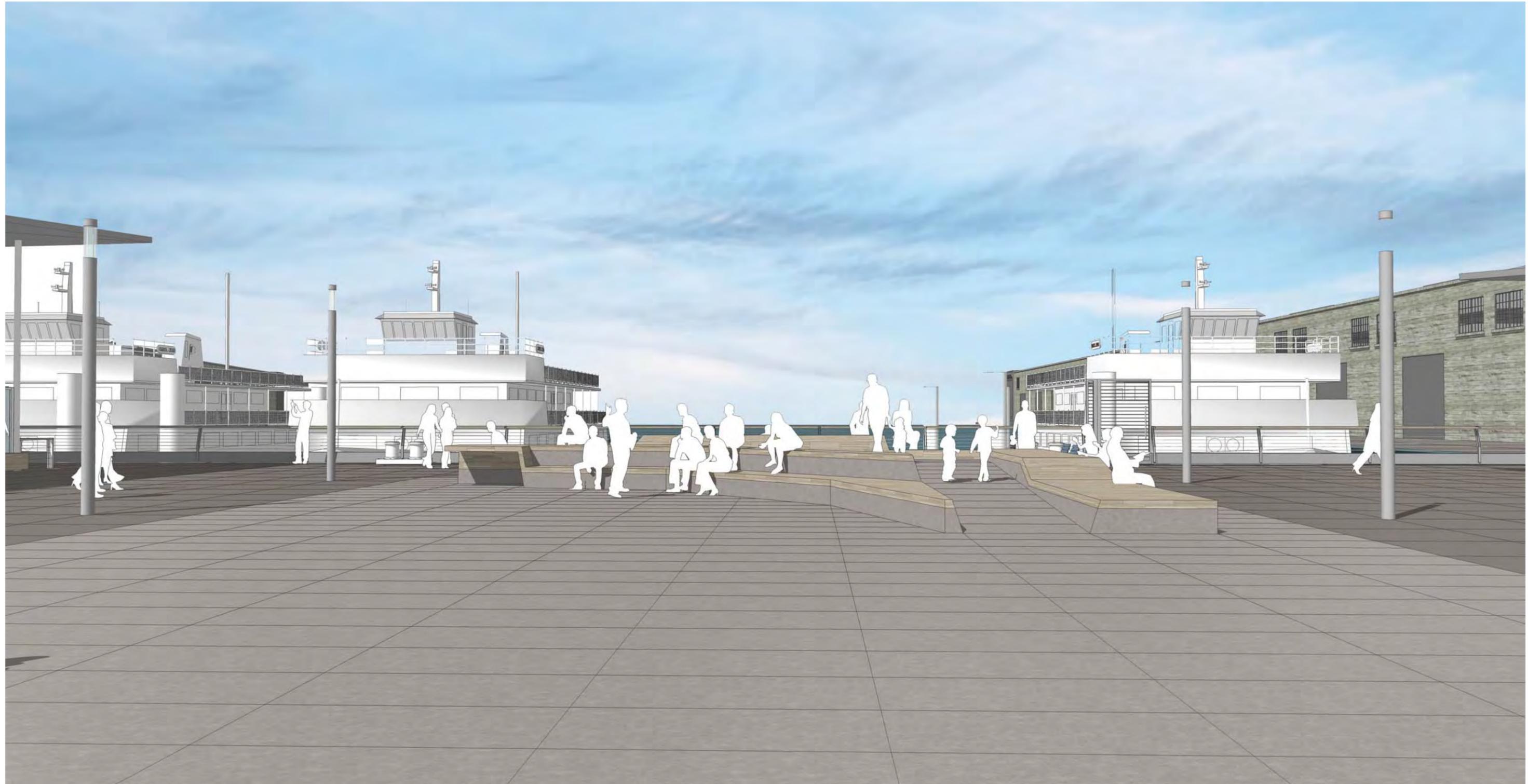
The maximum height of the feature is 40" at the high backed bench. The majority of the element is at a 30" height. This allows for uninterrupted views over the feature to the Bay view beyond.



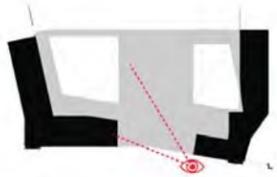
Seating feature at North side of Civic Plaza



Seating feature at North side of Civic Plaza



View of approach from east



monument sign

The proposed monument sign combines the material characteristics of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area standard signs with the form and character of the Port of San Francisco Signate Design Guidelines.

The sign is 15 foot tall, 5 foot wide and 1 foot deep. It consists of panels of steel mounted to a cast in place concrete infill structure.

The defining and recognizable feature of the monument sign is a cut out form in the shape of the National Park Service shield.

The name of the site and additional logos and information can be inlayed or cast into the concrete at the edge of the sign or affixed to the face of the steel faces.



Alcatraz Embarcation Site proposed monument sign concept

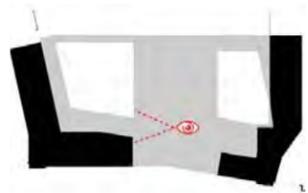
Example of monument signage at SFPort - Exploritorium

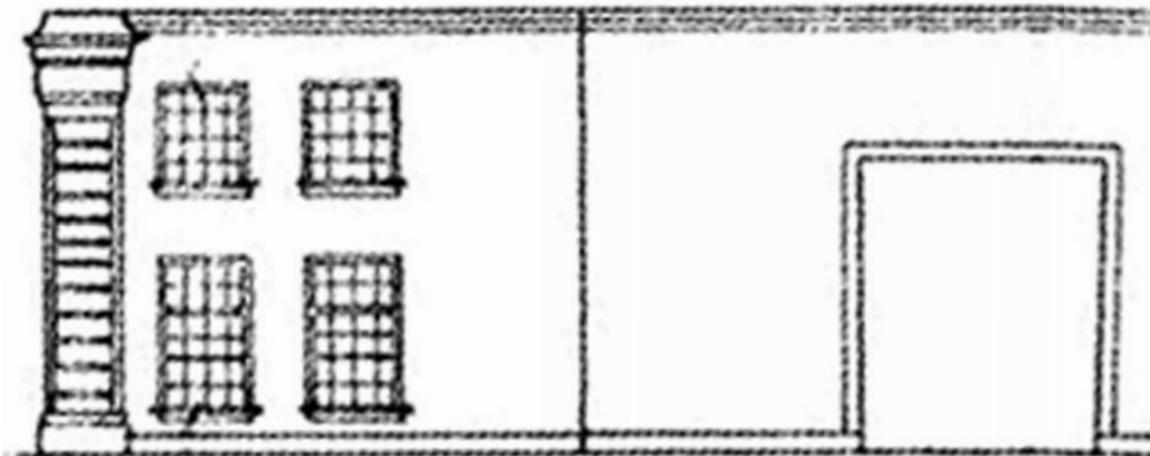


Example of Golden Gate National Recreation Area standard sign
ALCATRAZ EMBARKATION SITE

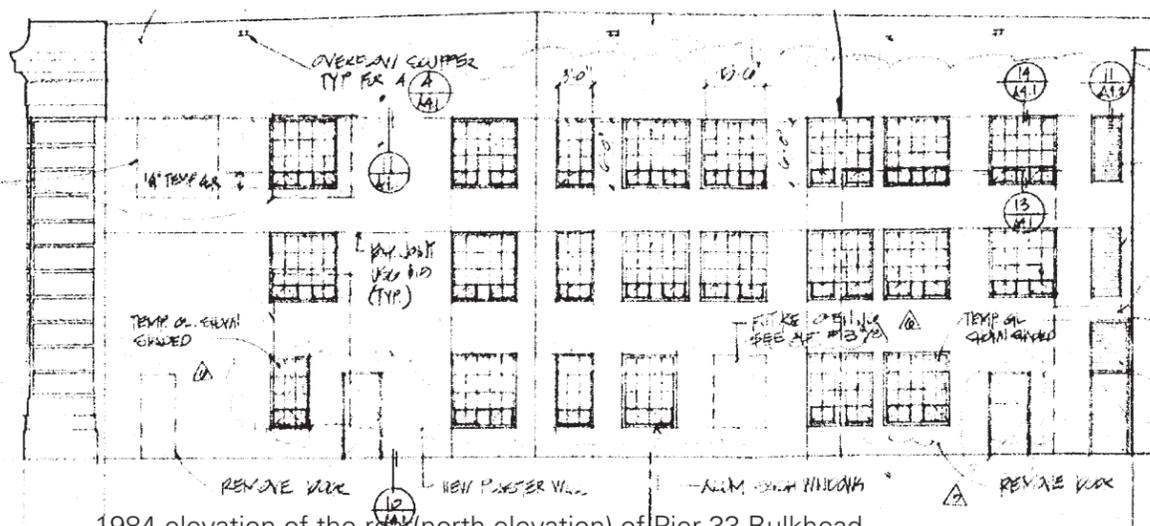
Example of National Park Service Shield signage at Lands End

View of ticketing windows





Reconstructed original elevation of the rear (north elevation) of Pier 33 Bulkhead



1984 elevation of the rear (north elevation) of Pier 33 Bulkhead



Although not documented accurately in the historic analyses before now, the Pier 33 Bulkhead appears to have been majorly altered in 1984 when two floors of offices above a restaurant were inserted into the two-story bulkhead. The north façade and structure of the building were substantially altered at this time. While originally the bulkhead would have had two diagonally offset massive openings that allowed trains to pass through onto the apron beyond (similar to the photo shown here), the 1984 renovation made the entire bulkhead fairly opaque.

The design proposes to remove the majority of the second level restoring some of the larger scale of the bulkhead space, and revises the non-contributing rear façade to contain a single large opening reminiscent of the original train door. Combined with restoring some of the size and transparency of the front opening it becomes possible to again see straight through the bulkhead as indicated in the image on the following page.



Image showing typical rear (North) facade of Pier 33, September 26, 1945 (San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library)



Image showing typical view through bulkhead, May 1964 (San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library)

pier 33 bulkhead - interpretive retail

The Pier 33 Bulkhead will house interpretive retail, which will be open to the general public, and provide visitors an opportunity to learn about Alcatraz without visiting the island.



Interpretive retail precedents: Lands End, Alcatraz, Golden Gate Bridge

Pier 33 Section Perspective: Facing water

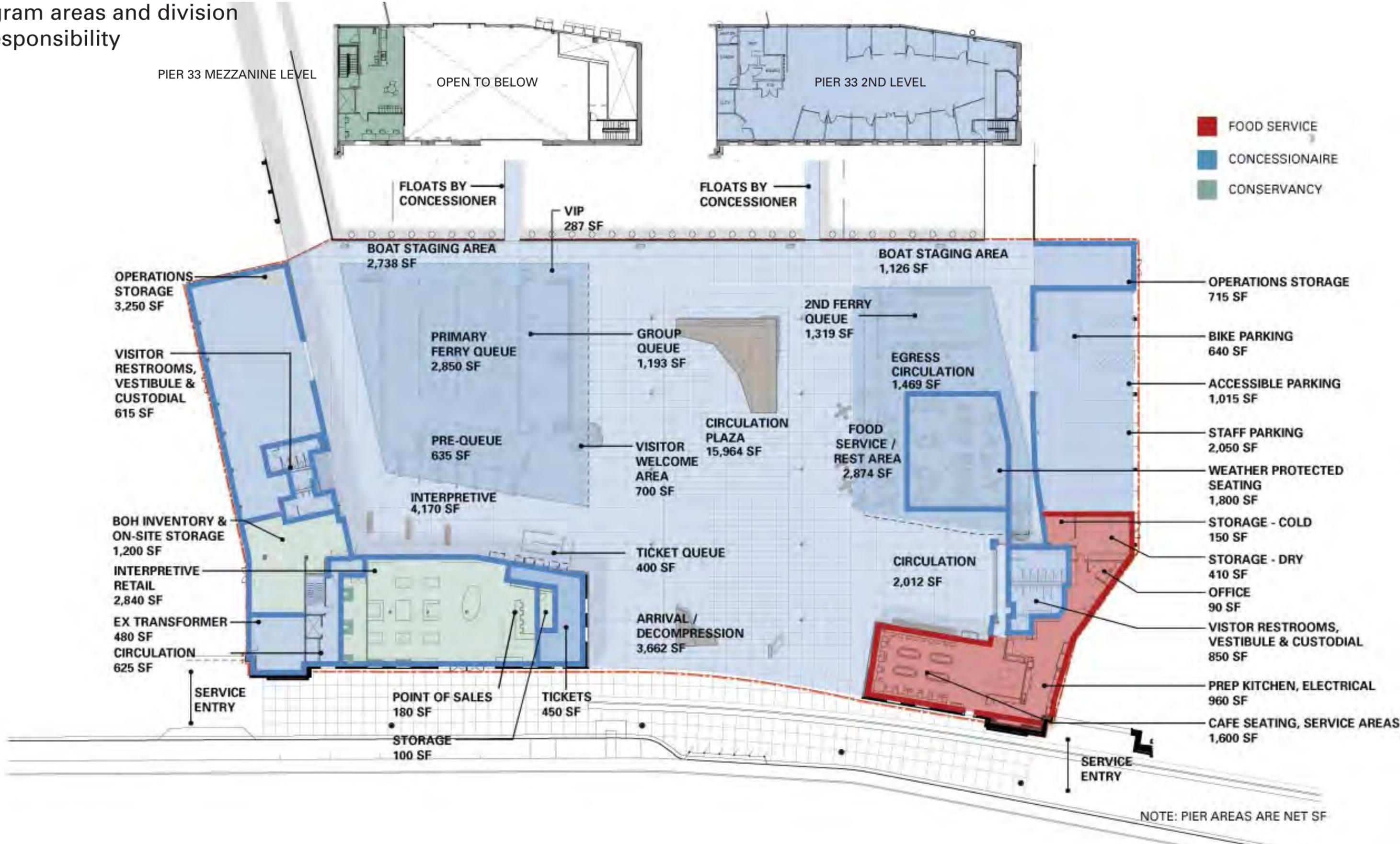


Section through interior at Cafe



Cafe precedents: Hard Water + Blue Bottle

program areas and division of responsibility



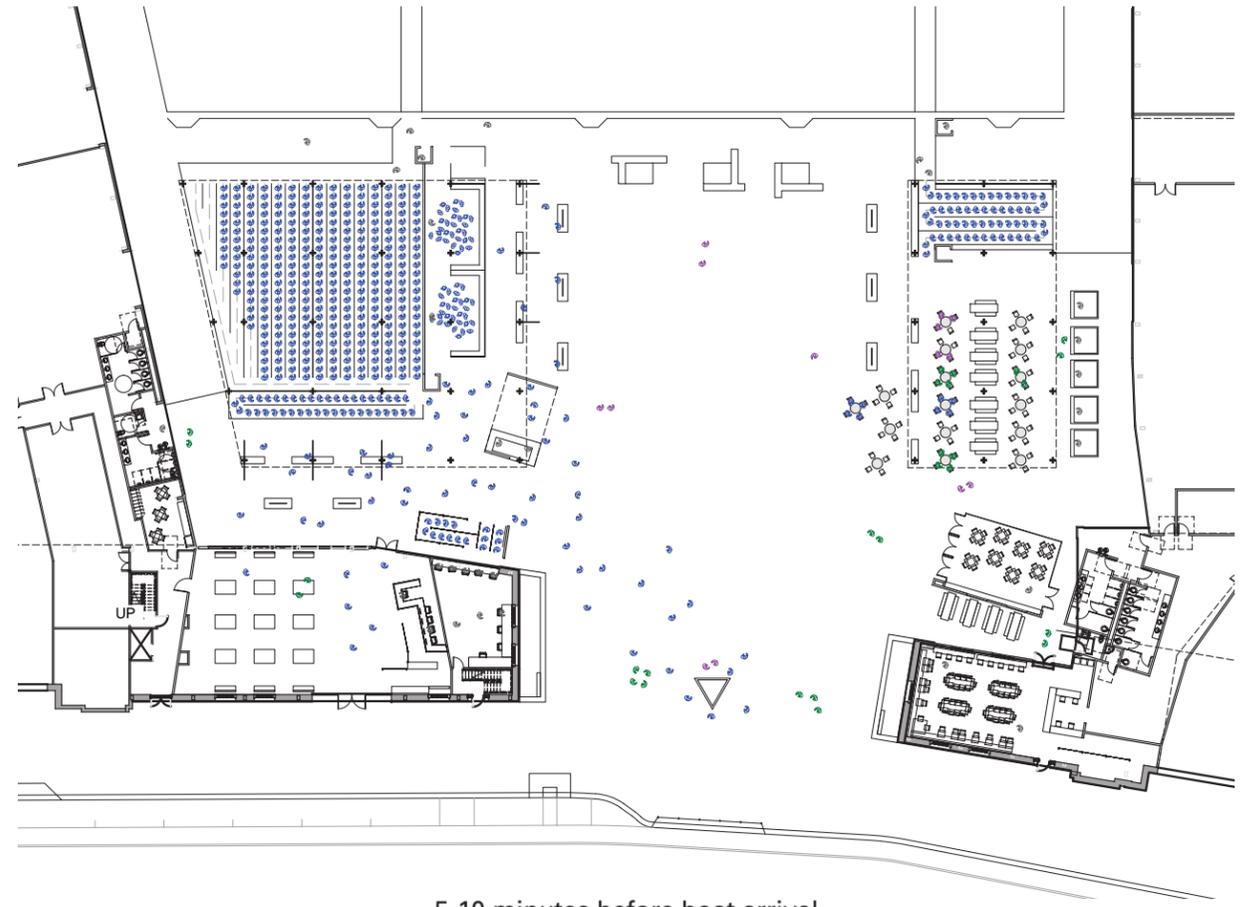
capacity diagrams - current usage

Utilizing the ORCA Space Planning Report the site is populated with the quantities of visitors as indicated in the 3 study scenarios:

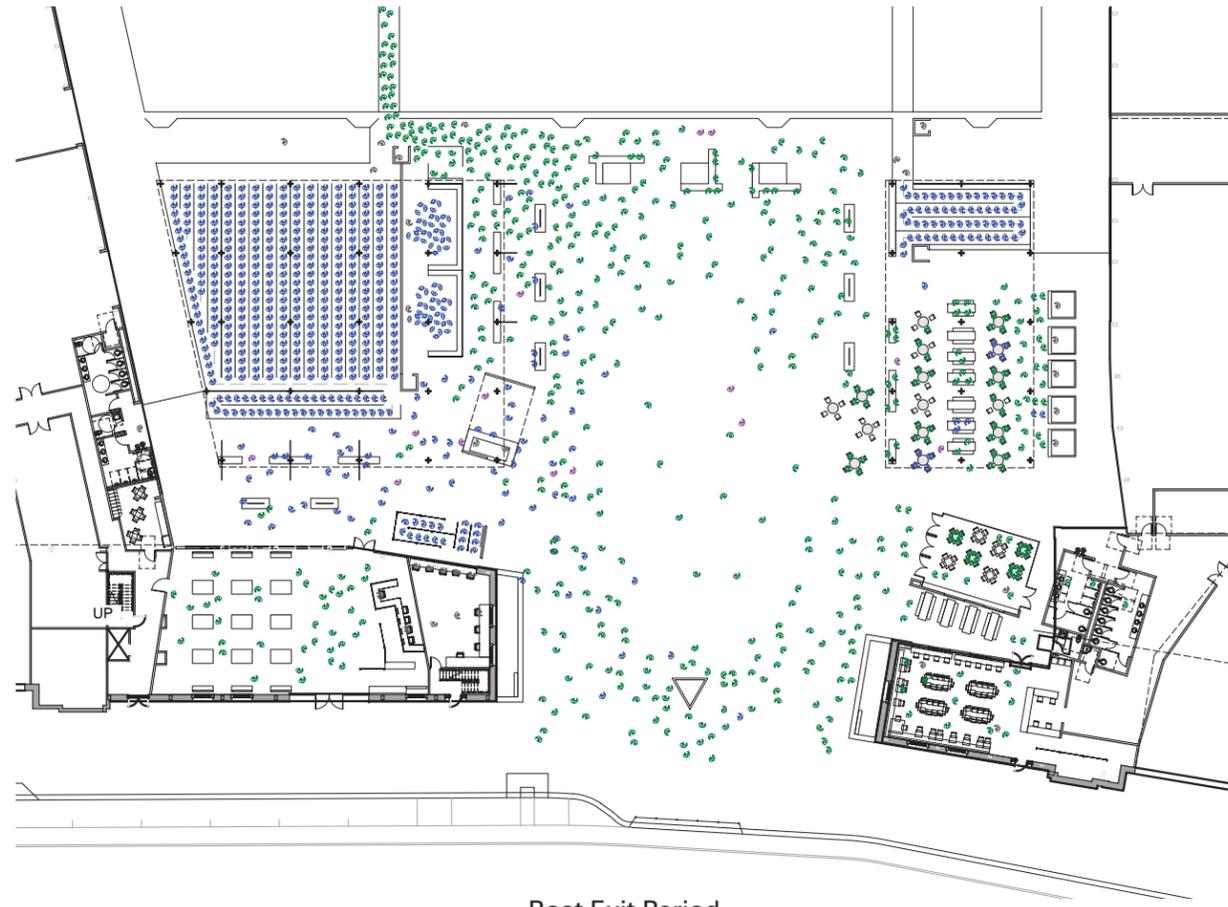
1. 5-10 Minutes Before Boat Arrival
 - a. "To Island" Visitors have filled Primary Queue and begun to fill Secondary Queue in preparation for embarkation, some early arrives linger at interpretive and sundries service (546 persons)
 - b. "From Island" Visitors have departed from site, few remain using retail or food services (26 persons)
 - c. "Non Alcatraz Visitors" use public portions of site (14 persons)

2. Peak Boat Exit Period
 - a. "To Island" Visitors completely fill Primary Queue and partial Secondary Queue. (585 Persons)
 - b. "From Island" Visitors disembark boat and fill circulation plaza, routing primarily out of the site, though some head for the apres tour food service area or into the interpretive retail (510 persons)
 - c. "Non Alcatraz Visitors" use public portions of site (14 persons)

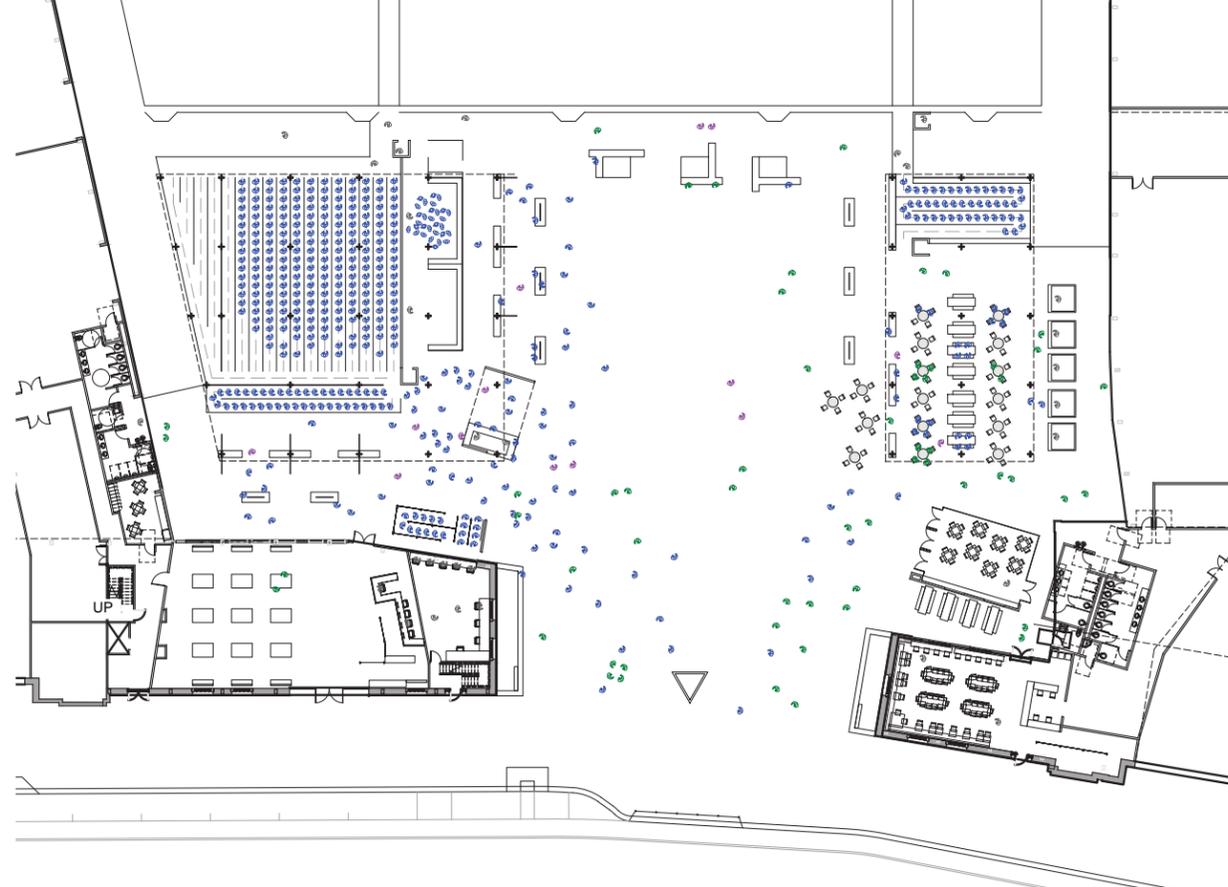
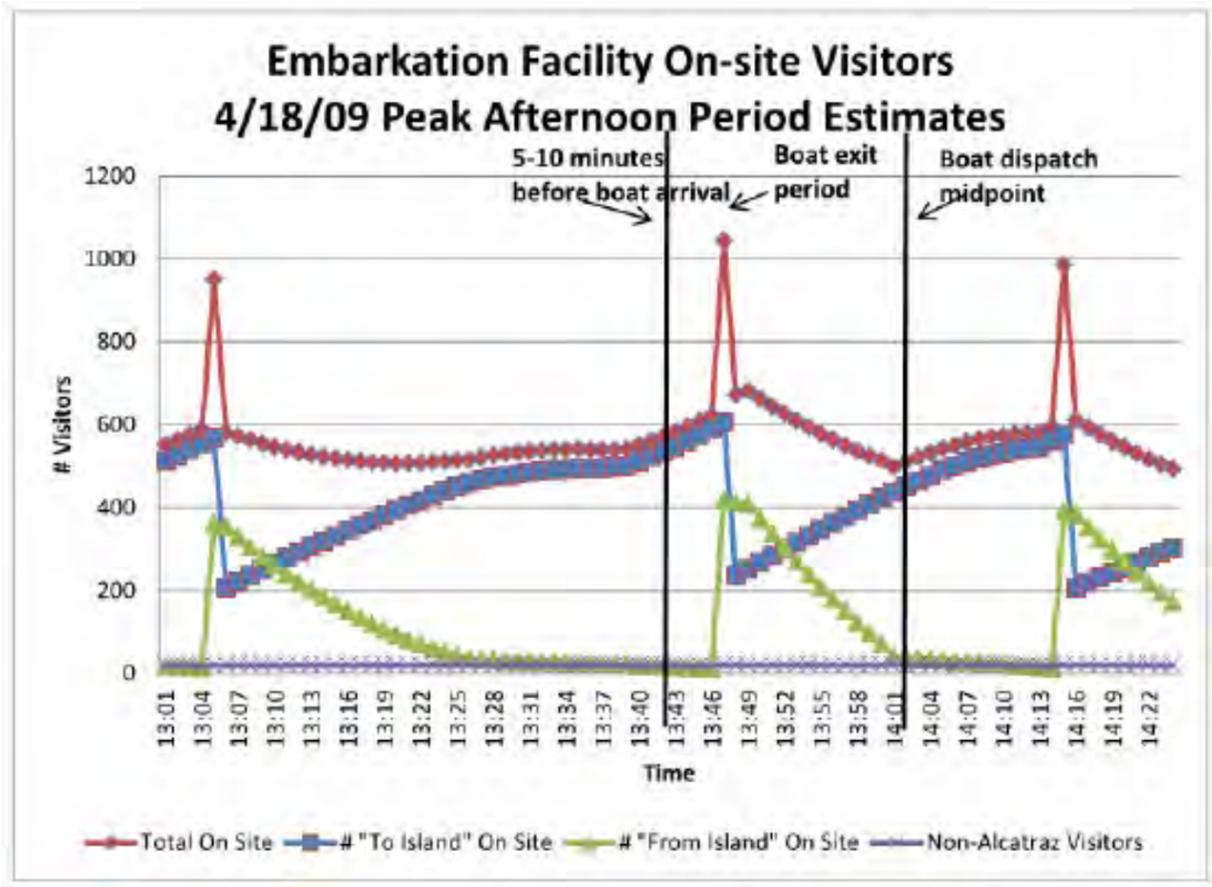
3. Boat Dispatch Midpoint
 - a. "To Island" Visitors have partially filled Primary Queue and begun to fill Secondary Queue in preparation for embarkation, some early arrives linger at interpretive and sundries service (546 persons)
 - b. "From Island" Visitors have partially departed from site, some using retail or food services (51 persons)
 - c. "Non Alcatraz Visitors" use public portions of site (14 persons)



5-10 minutes before boat arrival



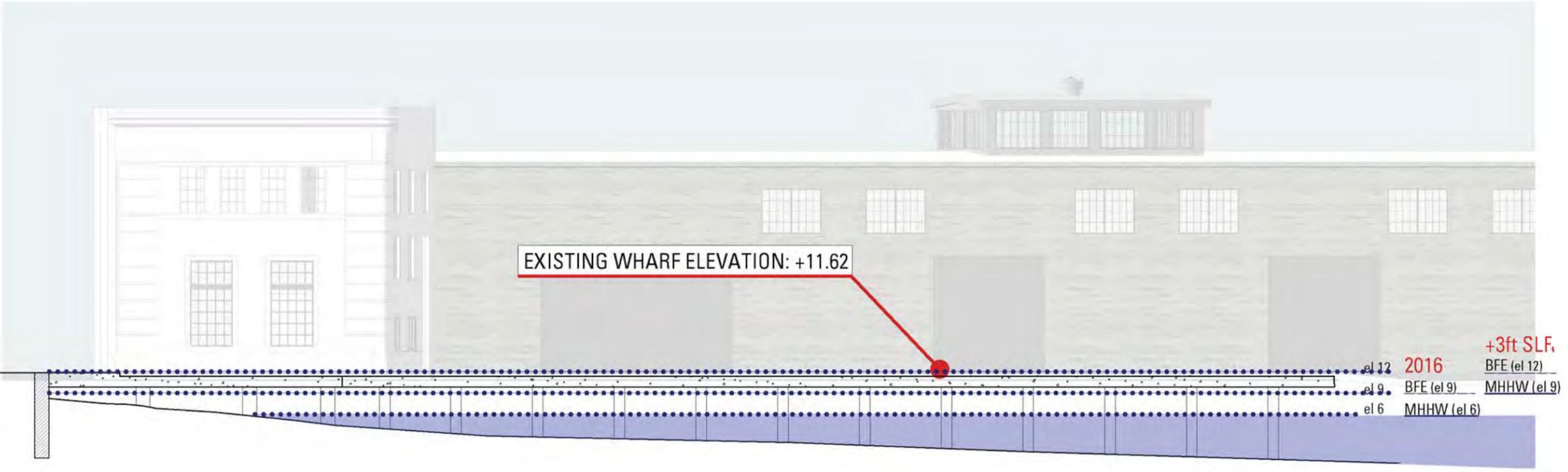
Boat Exit Period



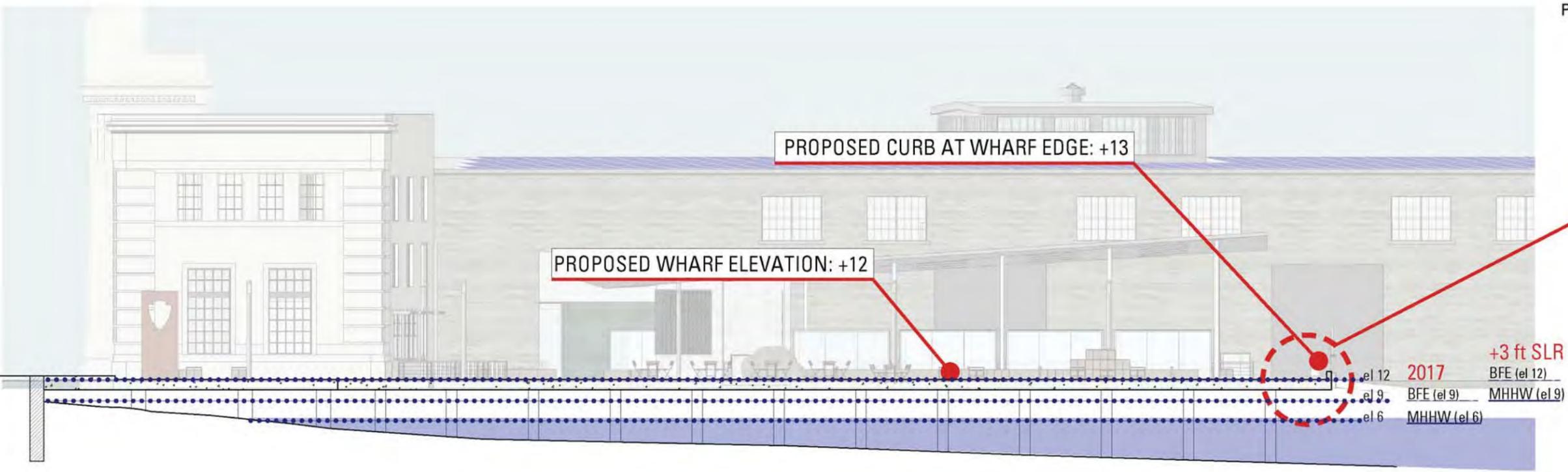
Boat Dispatch Midpoint

sea level rise adaptation strategy

Adaptation of the site for projected sea level rise includes the construction of a cast in place concrete curb along the bay front facing edge of the marginal wharf to an elevation of 13.00 NAVD88. This measure is intended to mitigate 100 year flood events in addition to 3 feet of sea level rise as is projected to occur over the 50 year lifespan of the project.



EXISTING SITE SECTION AND SLR PROJECTION ELEVATIONS



PROPOSED SITE SECTION AND SLR PROJECTION ELEVATIONS