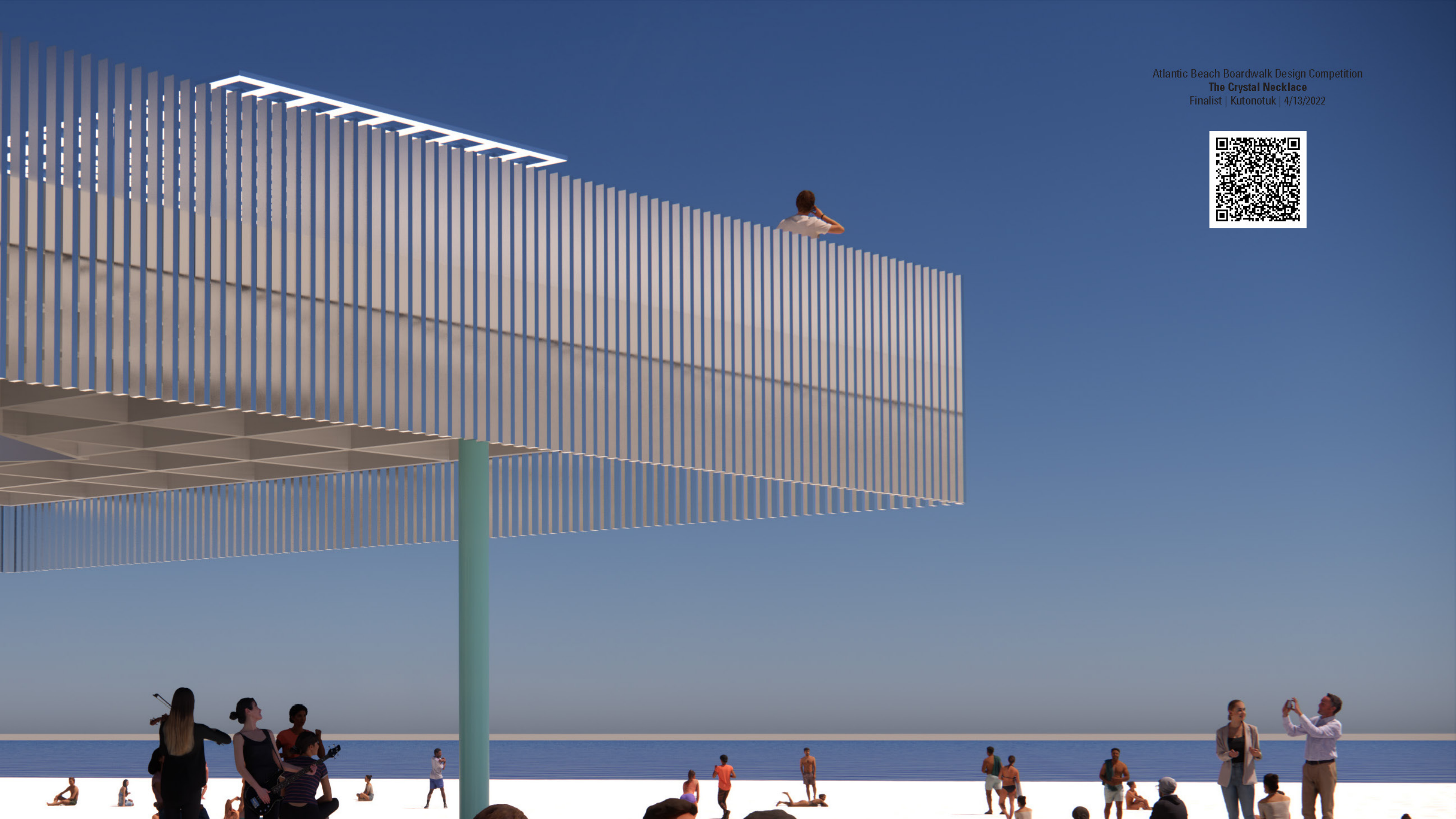
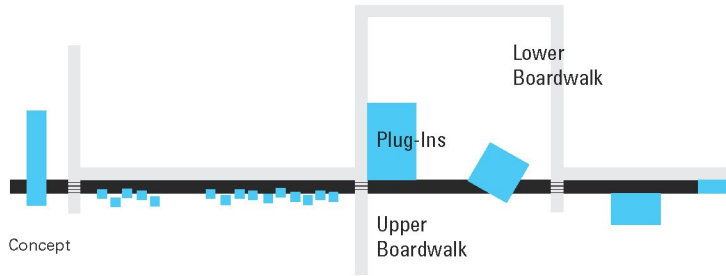


Atlantic Beach Boardwalk Design Competition
The Crystal Necklace
Finalist | Kutonotuk | 4/13/2022



Overall Organization & Design Strategies

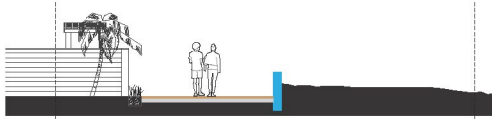
Atlantic Beach is the gem of the Crystal Coast. The Crystal Necklace proposes **two boardwalks**: one upper and one lower that together serve as a city’s anchor, and link a series of **plug-in public spaces** and amenities along the beach. It is both practical and efficient, introducing a unique **elevated viewing platform** and **landscape elements** native to North Carolina, while emphasizing accessibility and exceptional experiences for residents and visitors alike within the already beautiful community and beach it serves. The design consists of three key elements: 1) The Boardwalk, 2) The Alfred B. Cooper Park, and 3) The Crossing. An upper, 15’ wide, wooden boardwalk (new) and a concrete lower boardwalk (existing/restored) provide a flexible, multi-functional system of spaces that can accommodate large-scale events, ecology and everyday use.



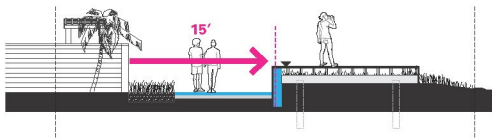
Boardwalk Strategy

The “low-rise” upper boardwalk is elevated 30” from grade, and is built outboard of the existing seawall at the 11’ flood level height, does not require railing, increasing accessibility and privacy for local property owners. The lower boardwalk is resurfaced concrete.

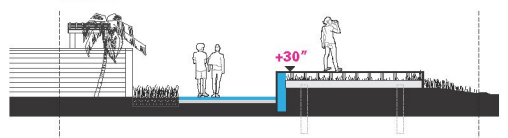
1. REUSE CONCRETE SEAWALL AND BOARDWALK FOUNDATION.



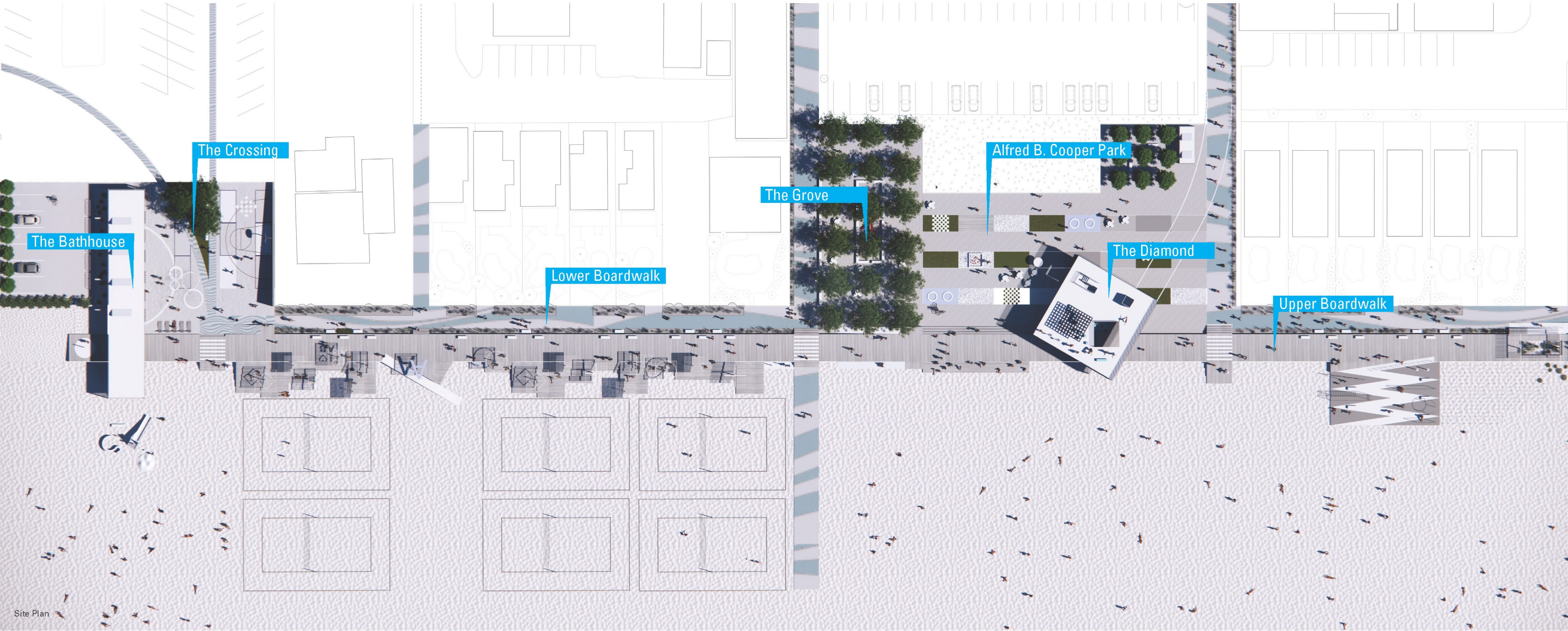
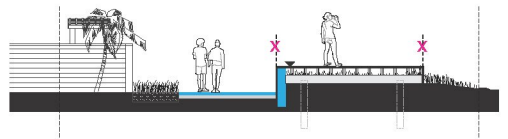
2. ELEVATE BOARDWALK ON SOUTH SIDE OF SEAWALL TO PROTECT PRIVACY OF RESIDENTS.



3. ELEVATING 30” FROM EXISTING GRADE @ CURRENT BASE FLOOD ELEV. OF 11’ SIMPLIFIES ACCESS TO BOARDWALK AND BEACH.

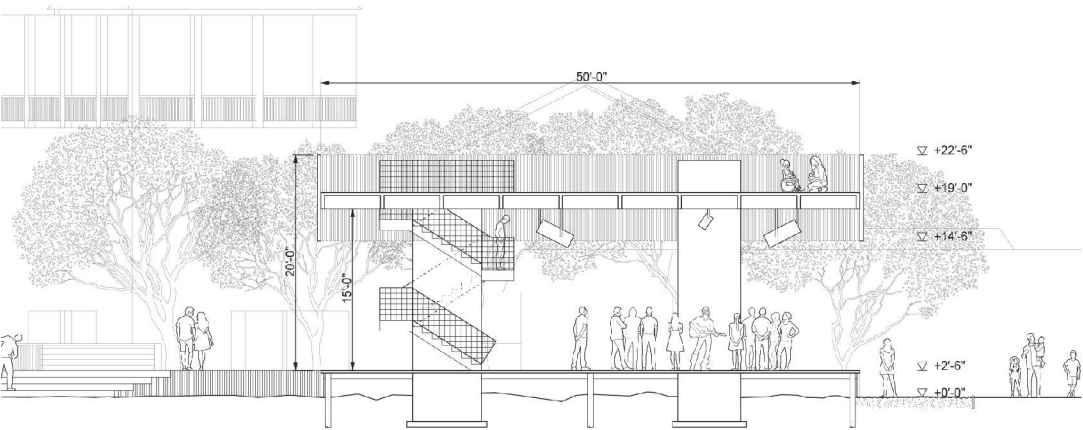
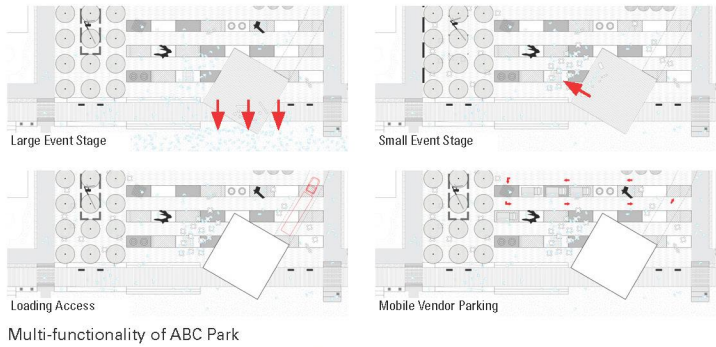


4. 30” HEIGHT = NO RAILING, EXCEPT AT ADA RAMP, TO MAXIMIZE UNINTERRUPTED OCEAN VIEW + REDUCE COST.



Alfred B. Cooper Park

ABC Park enhances the existing central public park as a gateway and “Living Room” for the beach. It is the site of The Diamond – a 50’x50’ bi-directional pavilion & performance space that is connected directly to the boardwalk, visitor rest area, and with a unique elevated viewing platform. The Grove – brings native North Carolina live oak trees to the site, providing much needed shade and an ecological buffer. The Multipurpose Plaza hosts smaller Pavilion concerts, art displays, or larger event staging as well as space designated for public restrooms and bike parking.



Pavilion section looking north



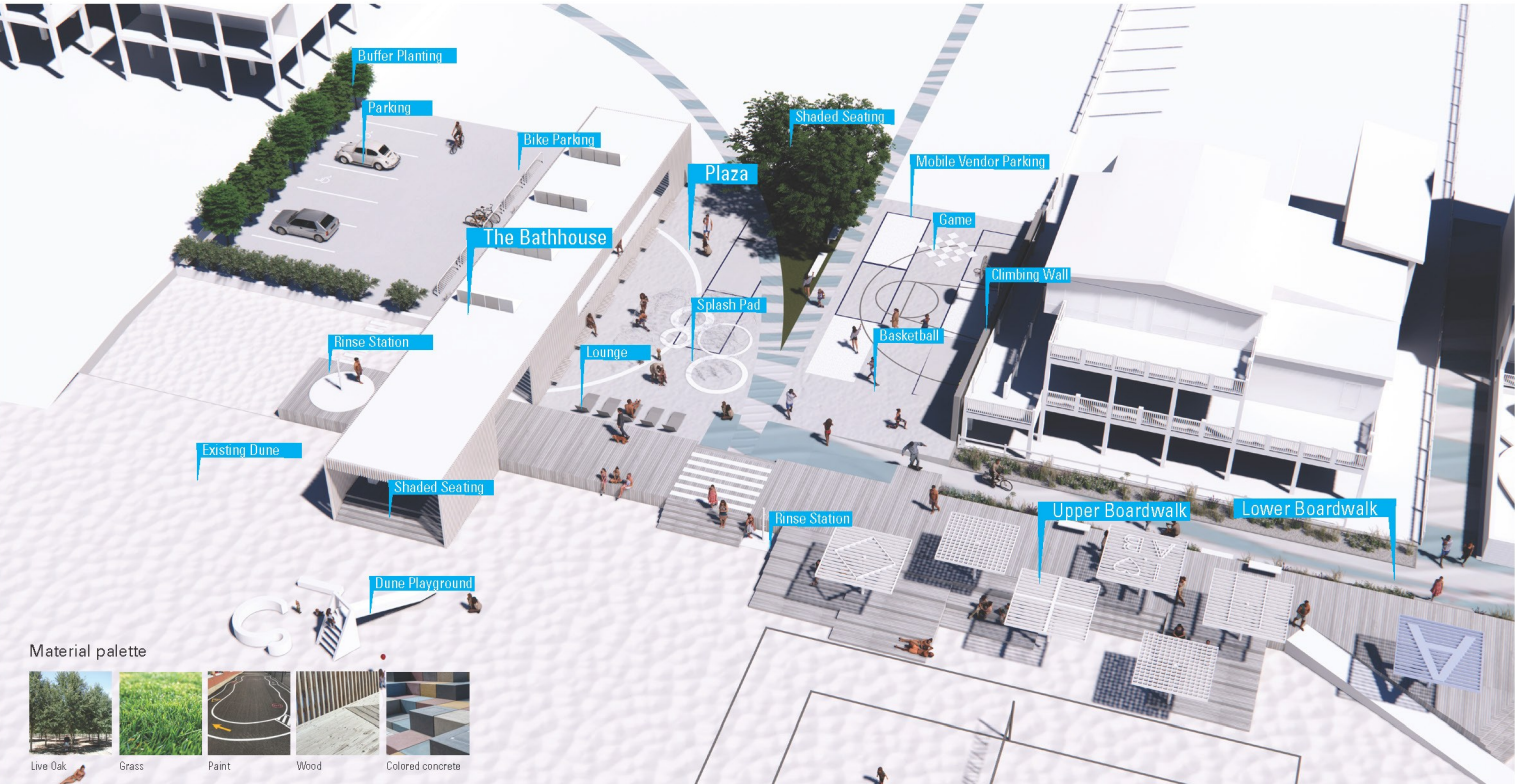
At The Grove looking toward the boardwalk & beach



At upper boardwalk looking toward the Pavilion at ABC Park

The Crossing

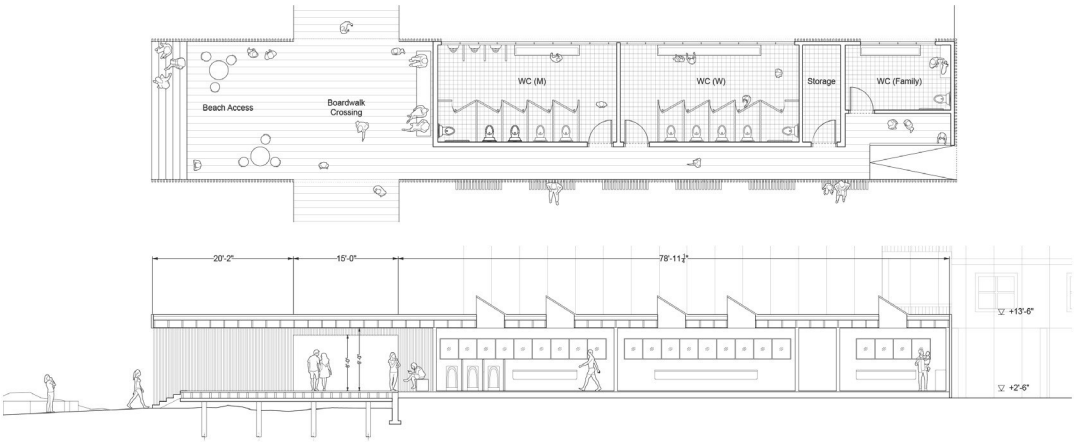
In addition to the ABC Park, The Crossing is a new welcoming beach gateway and amenity for visitors at the west end of the boardwalk. It consists of a 20'x115' single level bathhouse, with a bathroom big enough for busy beach or event days, including a generously sized family changing area, storage space, rinse stations, a shaded beach viewing area, and a hard-surface, multipurpose plaza with splash pad spray area, basketball court, climbing wall, and space for pop markets and food trucks. A shaded outdoor seating area is provided with a small grove of Live Oak trees.



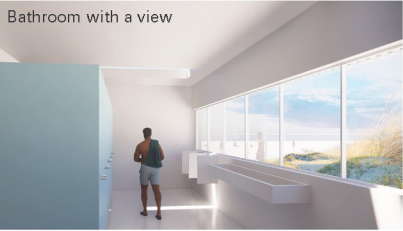
View of the Crossing toward north



Rinse station at the bathhouse looking toward east



Bathhouse plan & section



Shaded seating at the Bathhouse looking toward south

The Boardwalk

The Boardwalk links a series of additional programs and spaces along its length. This includes the shaded Dune Garden and Muscle Mat on the eastern side, and the Waves shaded terrace, beach volleyball courts and the Dune Playground on the western side. The wooden upper boardwalk incorporates illuminated historical markers and integrated lighting in seats. The resurfaced concrete lower boardwalk provides a physical buffer - separating the raised boardwalk from private properties by using NC native plants as visual and sound barriers, while also acting as an environmental device to trap windblown sand.

