



Civic Arts Commission
Office of Economic Development

Agenda

Civic Arts Commission

Public Art Subcommittee

Friday, September 20, 2019 at 3:00-4:30 p.m.
2180 Milvia Street, 1st Floor, Cypress Room, Berkeley, CA 94704

Please refrain from wearing scented products to public meetings

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS WITH POSSIBLE ACTION

- a) Heart Sounds Bench - Proposal for Temporary Display of Public Art (Attachment 1)
- b) Discuss with Artist Wang Po Shu of Earth Song Modification and Restoration and Design for Sign with Bell
- c) Changes to Private Percent for Art Guidelines so that Conceptual and Preliminary Art Plans requires Civic Arts Commission Approval
- d) Diana Rossi Mosaic Location - Approval of budget allocation of additional \$5,000 for installation location at Live Oak Park (Attachment 2)
- e) North Berkeley Senior Center - Approval of Final Artwork Design including Eucalyptus Paver Design and Layout for Artwork (Attachment 3)
- f) Accept Suite of Civic Art Grant Funded Photos by Orin Rutchick into Civic Art Collection
- g) Holiday Use of Speakers and Lights on BART Plaza

4. CHAIR'S REPORT

- a) None.

5. STAFF REPORT

- a) Berkeley Big People - Emeryville Council asked Emeryville staff to research what it would take to accept the Recreation themed sculpture
- b) 1.5% for Public Art Policy - Update on Current Resolution Language
- c) The Guardian, by Frederic Feirstein - Update on ownership and maintenance
- d) Holiday Use of Speakers and Lights on BART Plaza
- e) Reminder - Maggi Payne Sound Installation Listening Party on BART Plaza - Saturday, September 21, 8:30 - 10 PM
- f) Update on San Pablo Park Public Art Proposals

7. ADJOURNMENT

Attachments:

1. Heart Sounds Bench
2. Diana Rossi Mosaic Location
3. North Berkeley Senior Center Final Artwork Design

Staff Contact:

Jennifer Lovvorn

Secretary to the Civic Arts Commission

Berkeley, CA 94704

Phone: (510) 981-7533

TDD: (510) 981-6903

Email: jlovvorn@cityofberkeley.info

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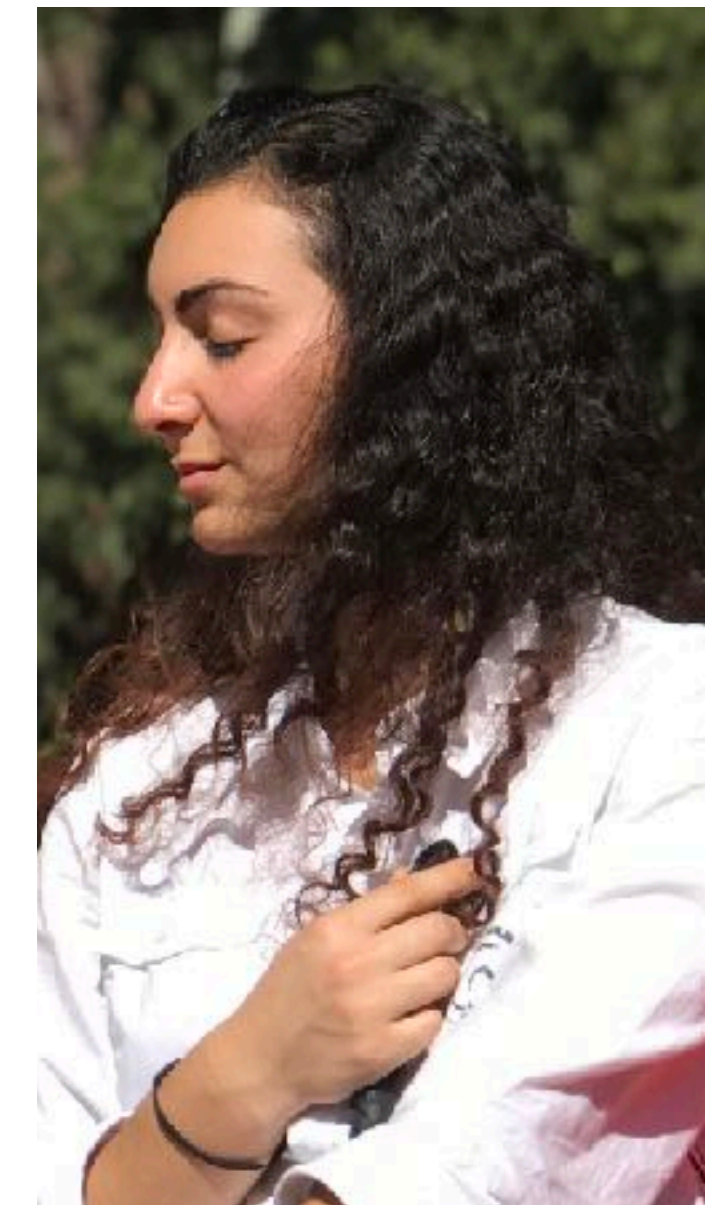
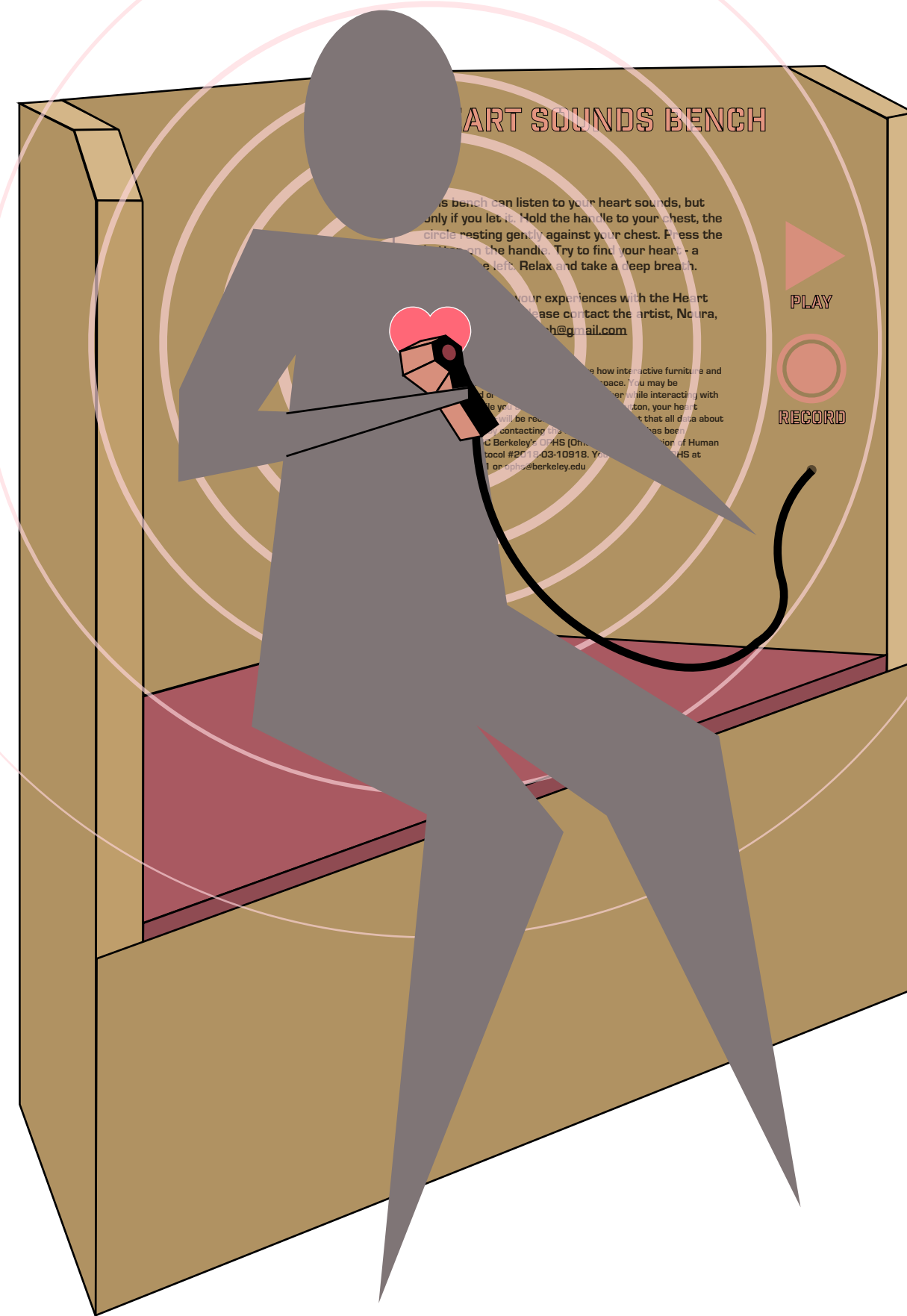
Any writings or documents provided to a majority of the Commission regarding any item on this agenda will be made available for public inspection at the Civic Arts Office located at 2180 Milvia Street, First Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704.

ADA Disclaimer

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

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Heart Sounds Bench



People listening to their heart sounds on the Heart Sounds Bench v.1

Project lead: Noura Howell, PhD Candidate, School of Information with a Designated Emphasis in New Media, UC Berkeley

Project advisors: Professor Kimiko Ryokai, School of Information; Professor Greg Niemeyer, Art Practice, UC Berkeley

Research assistants: Victor Iancu, Computer Science, UC Berkeley, class of 2021; Stephanie Tang, Architecture, UC Berkeley, class of 2019

Contact: Noura Howell, noura@berkeley.edu

Project Team

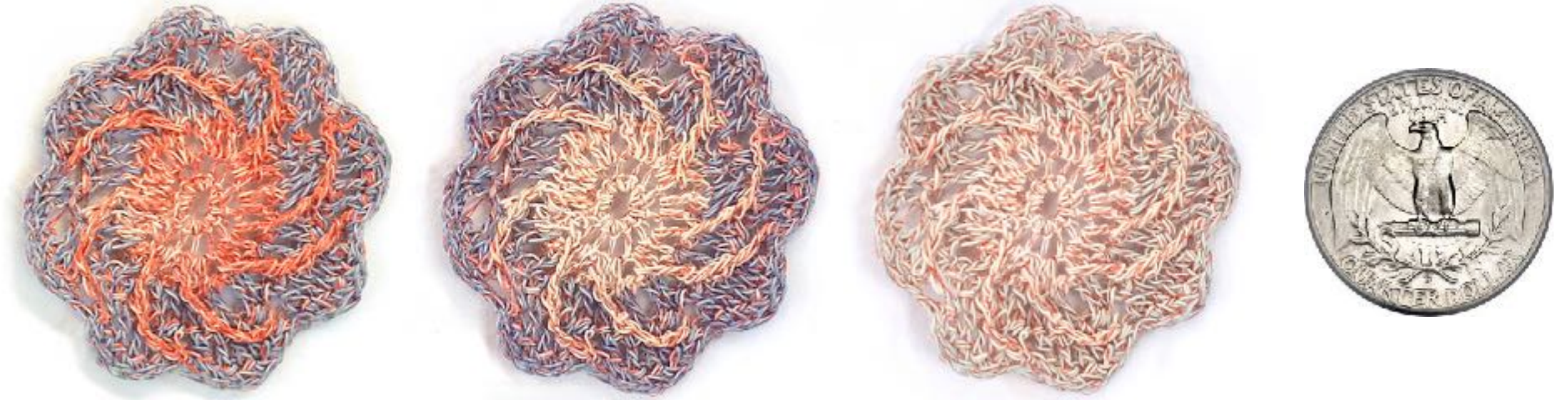
Noura Howell (project lead) is a PhD student at the School of Information. She designs sensor technology and interactive data displays that foster social and emotional meaning making with bodily data. Instead of a graph or other more typical form of data display, her designs highlight the emotional, embodied aspects of this data. nourahowell.com

Victor Iancu (research assistant) is a junior in Computer Science. [linkedin.com/in/vni/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/vni/)

Stephanie Tang (research assistant) is a recent Architecture graduate. [behance.net/stephtang494f](https://www.behance.net/stephtang494f)

Kimiko Ryokai (project advisor) is a professor in the School of Information specializing in human-computer interaction and tangible design. people.ischool.berkeley.edu/~kimiko/

Greg Niemeyer (project advisor) is a professor in Art Practice specializing in new media. gregniemeyer.com/



Prior work: data as color-changing fabric



Prior work: laughter data as light, chocolate, bottled sound



Motivation for the Heart Sounds Bench (v.1)

How might bio-sensor technology be used in urban infrastructure?

Emergent 'bio-sensor' technologies produce data about human bodies and behavior. New data-driven insights seem objective, but can be othering; e.g., using video data to estimate heart rate and linking that to future violent criminality

The Heart Sounds Bench explores a different vision of using bio-sensor technology to foster a sense of belonging. Listening to one's own and others' heart sounds invites a quiet moment of rest, listening, and appreciating being alive.

During a pilot study in which pairs of strangers experienced the Heart Sounds Bench indoors, a common theme that emerged was feeling a sense of 'shared life energy' or life-affirmation. In public space, the Heart Sounds Bench has the potential to highlight our shared vibrancy and yet also our shared vulnerability.

More information available [here](#). Research paper on pilot study [here](#).



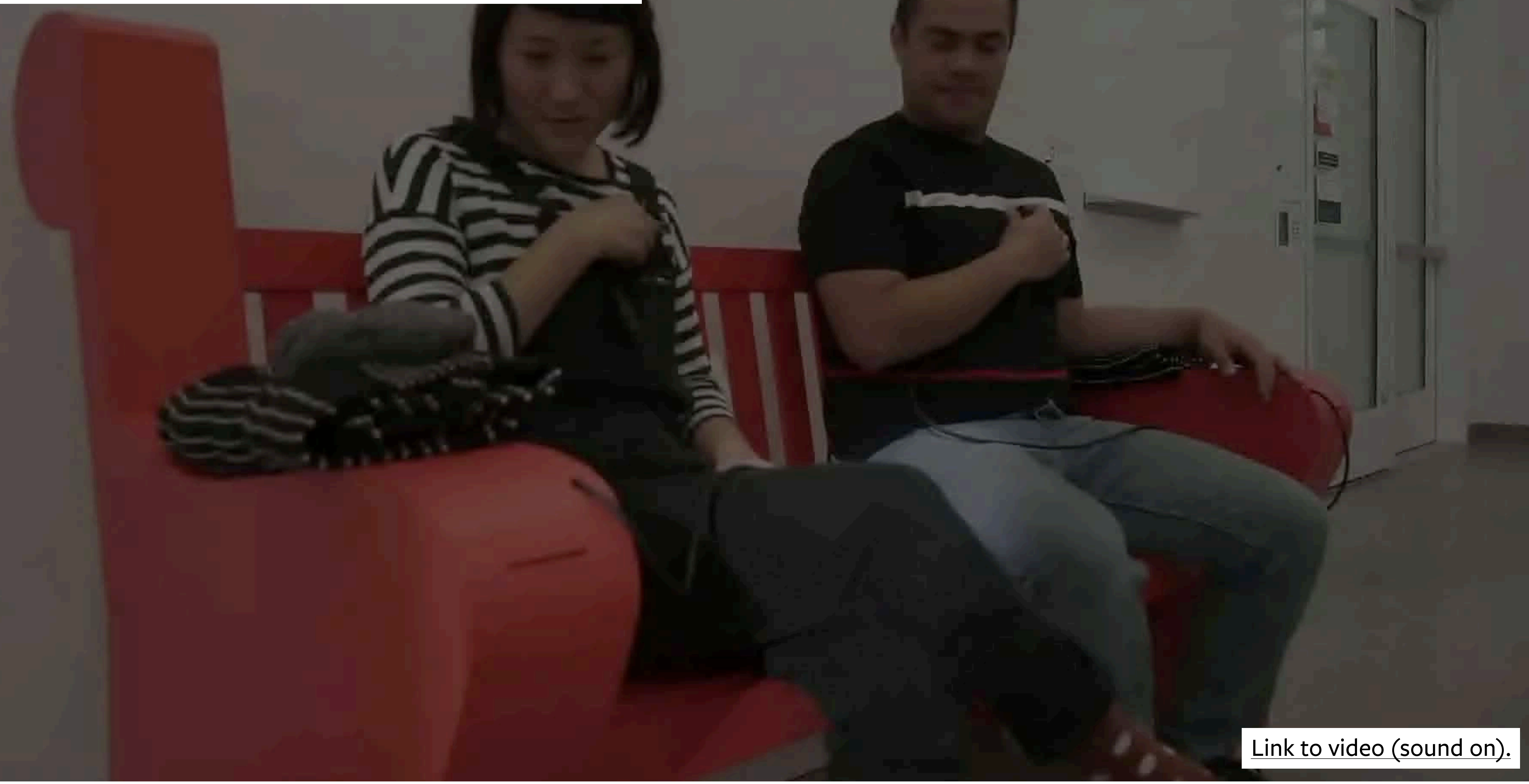
Heart Sounds Bench v.1 Indoor Demo (sound on). The video is unscripted and simply shows two people experiencing the bench for the first time.

Latvala, A., et al. 2015. A Longitudinal Study of Resting Heart Rate and Violent Criminality in More Than 700 000 Men. *JAMA Psychiatry*.

Wang, C., Pun, T. and Chanel, G. 2018. A Comparative Survey of Methods for Remote Heart Rate Detection From Frontal Face Videos. *Frontiers in Bioengineering and Biotechnology*.

Howell, N., Niemeyer, G. and Ryokai, K. 2019. Life-Affirming Biosensing in Public: Sounding Heartbeats on a Red Bench. *Human Factors in Computing Systems*.

Indoor Demo Video (v.1)



[Link to video \(sound on\).](#)

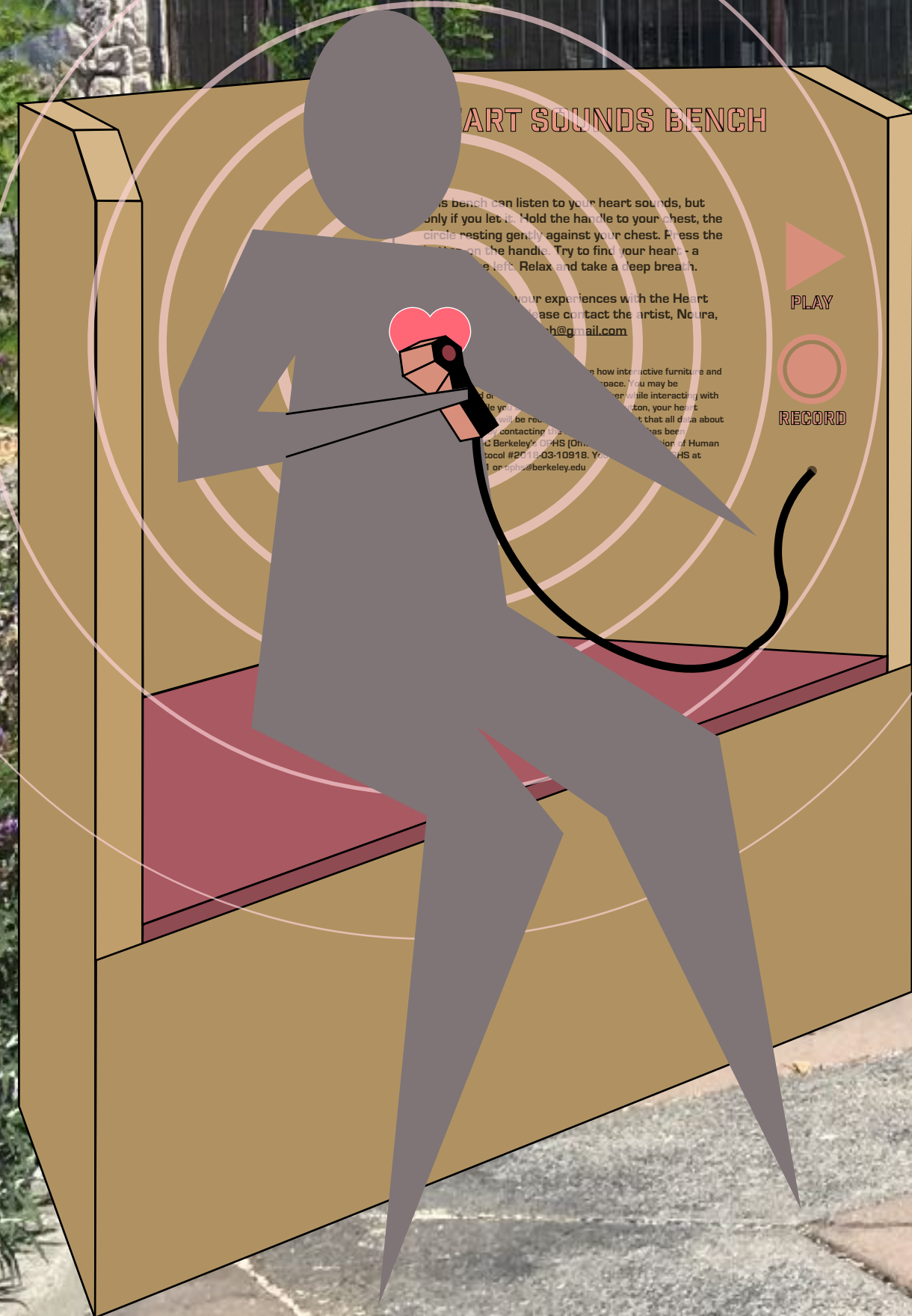
Version 2: Reworking the design for public space



The architectural fixture *mashrabiyya* was an early design inspiration. They provide privacy and shade while allowing air flow and a view of the outside. They create a boundary that allows some things to flow across, but not others. They are well-suited for hot arid Islamic contexts. Women can look outside and get some fresh air without needing to cover up for the public eye.

For listening to heart sounds in public space, we thought conceptually about sharing / privacy, shelter / exposure by manipulating elements of sound, sight, and time.

Heart Sounds Bench v.2



Sharing Sound: Sound emanates into environment. The siding provides a little auditory enclosure, but not too much.

Sheltered Sight: The siding provides a slight feeling of being 'sheltered' to foster this intimate encounter with heart sounds, but it is still open to the surrounding environment.

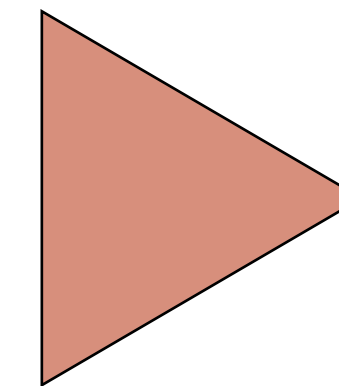
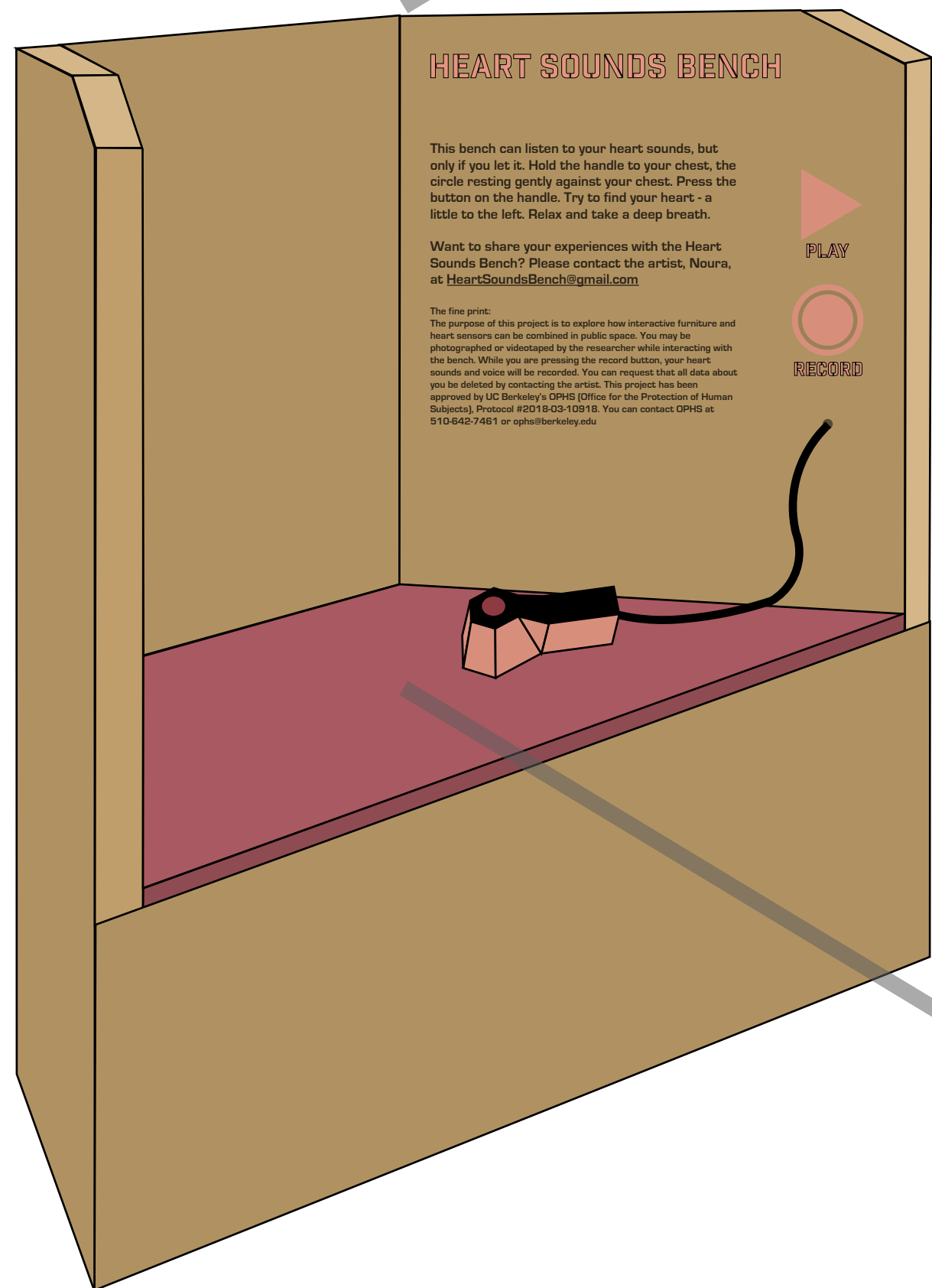
Anonymous over Time: Instead of hoping two strangers will sit on the bench at the same time, people can choose to record their heart sounds and leave them for future visitors to hear. In this sense, time provides an layer of anonymity.

HEART SOUNDS BENCH

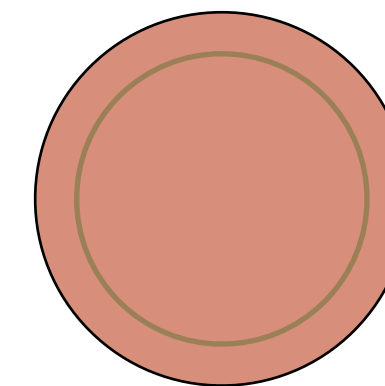
This bench can listen to your heart sounds, but only if you let it. Hold the handle to your chest, the circle resting gently against your chest. Press the button on the handle. Try to find your heart - a little to the left. Relax and take a deep breath.

Want to share your experiences with the Heart Sounds Bench? Please contact the artist, Noura, at HeartSoundsBench@gmail.com

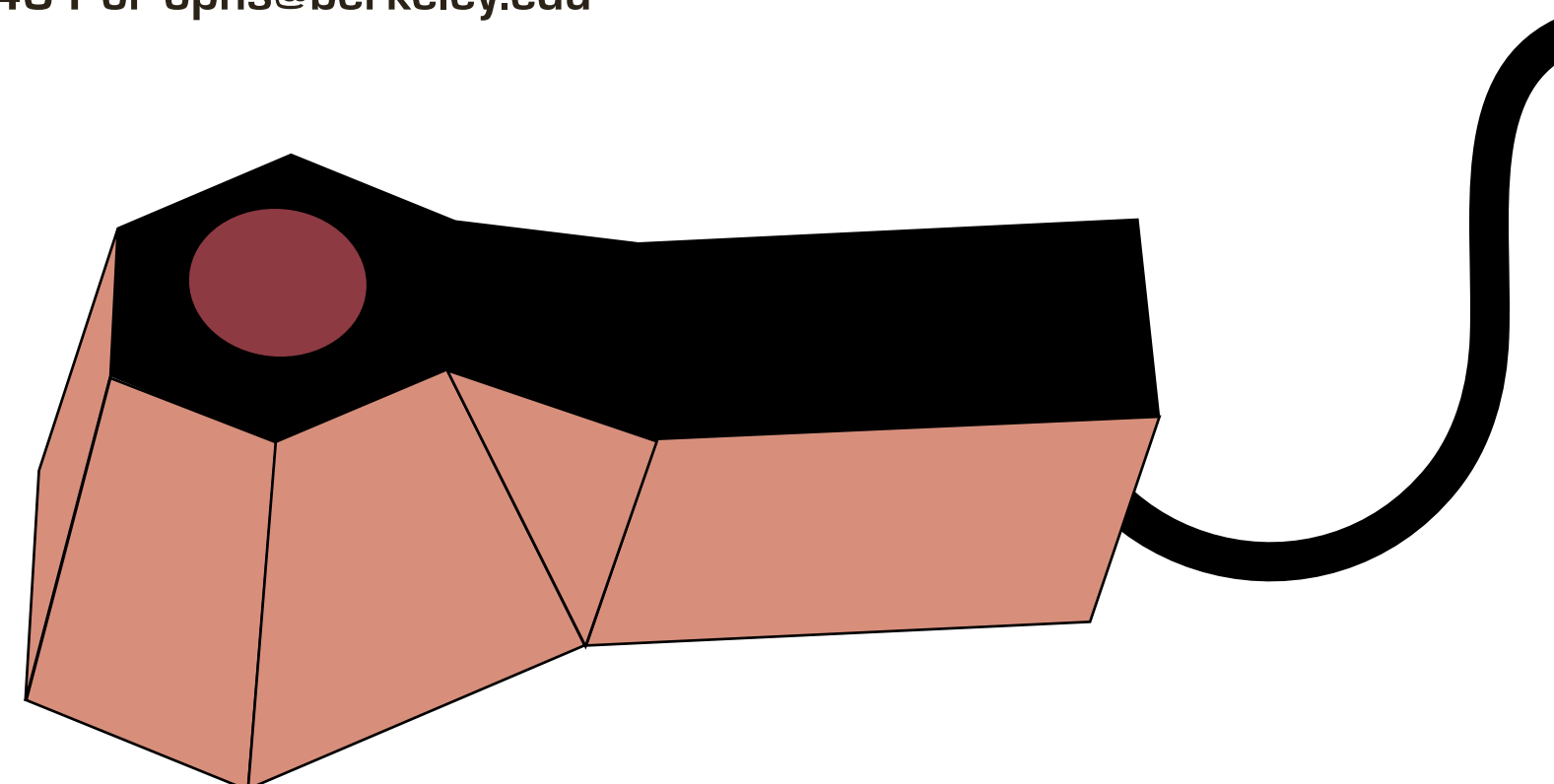
The purpose of this project is to explore how interactive furniture and heart sensors can be combined in public space. You may be photographed or videotaped by the researcher while interacting with the bench. While you are pressing the record button, your heart sounds and voice will be recorded. You can request that all data about you be deleted by contacting the artist. This project has been approved by UC Berkeley's OPHS (Office for the Protection of Human Subjects), Protocol #2018-03-10918. You can contact OPHS at 510-642-7461 or ophs@berkeley.edu



PLAY



RECORD

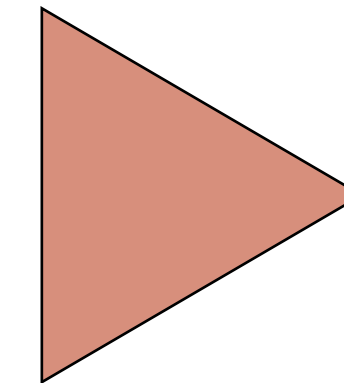


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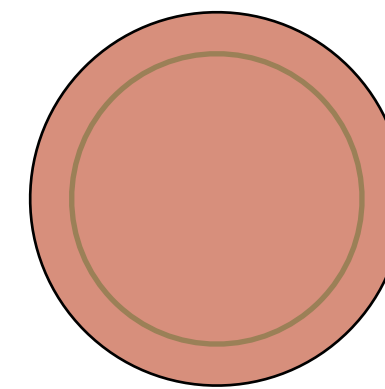
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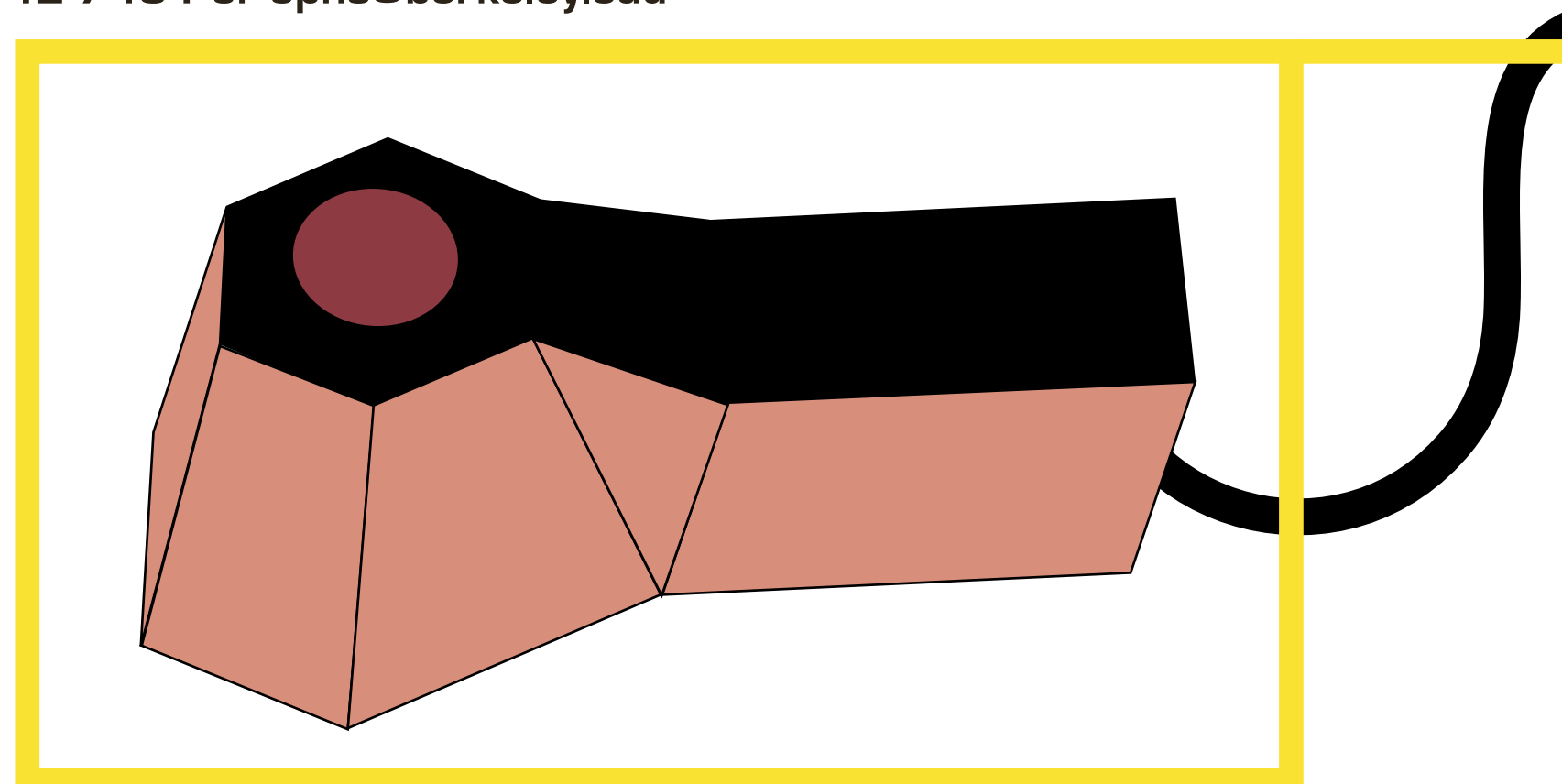
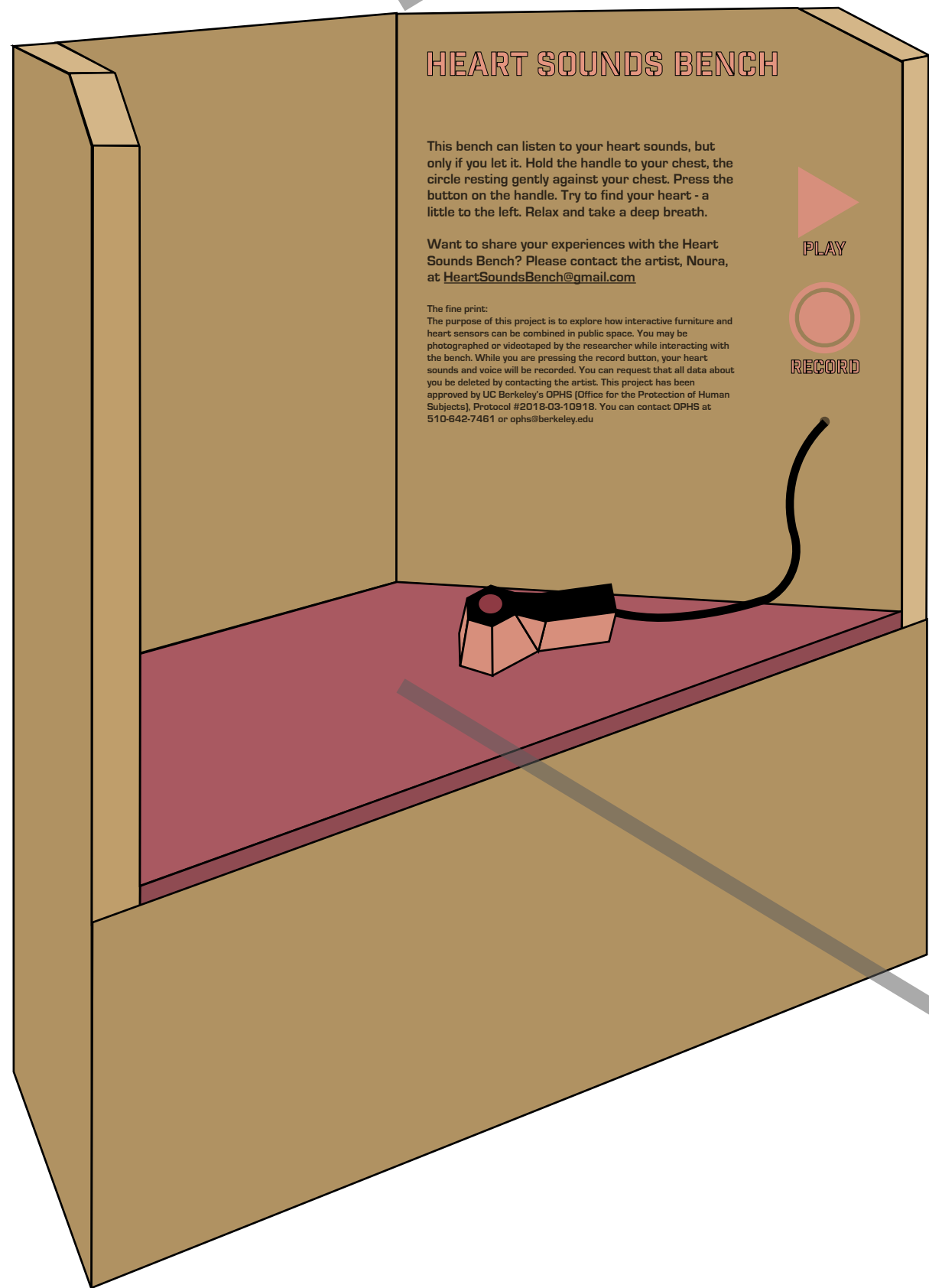
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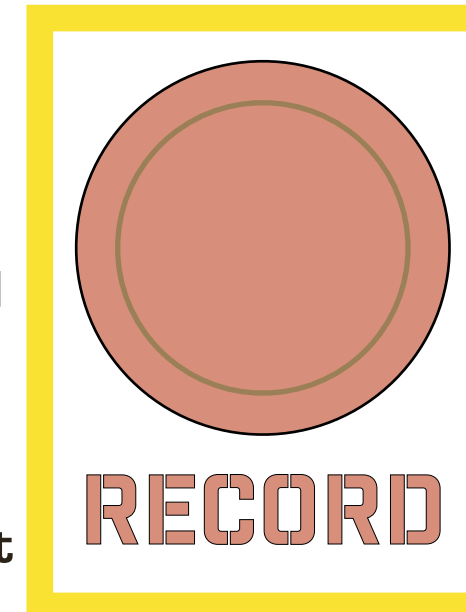
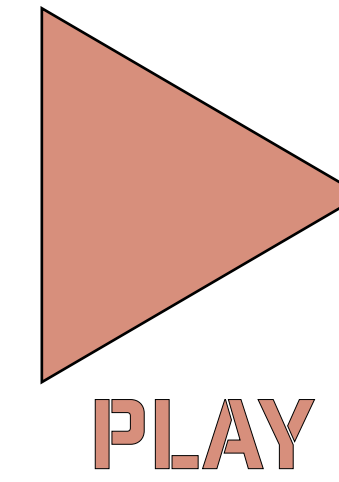
Live: The bench-sitter can listen to their own heart sounds live by gently holding the handle to their chest and pressing the button.

HEART SOUNDS BENCH

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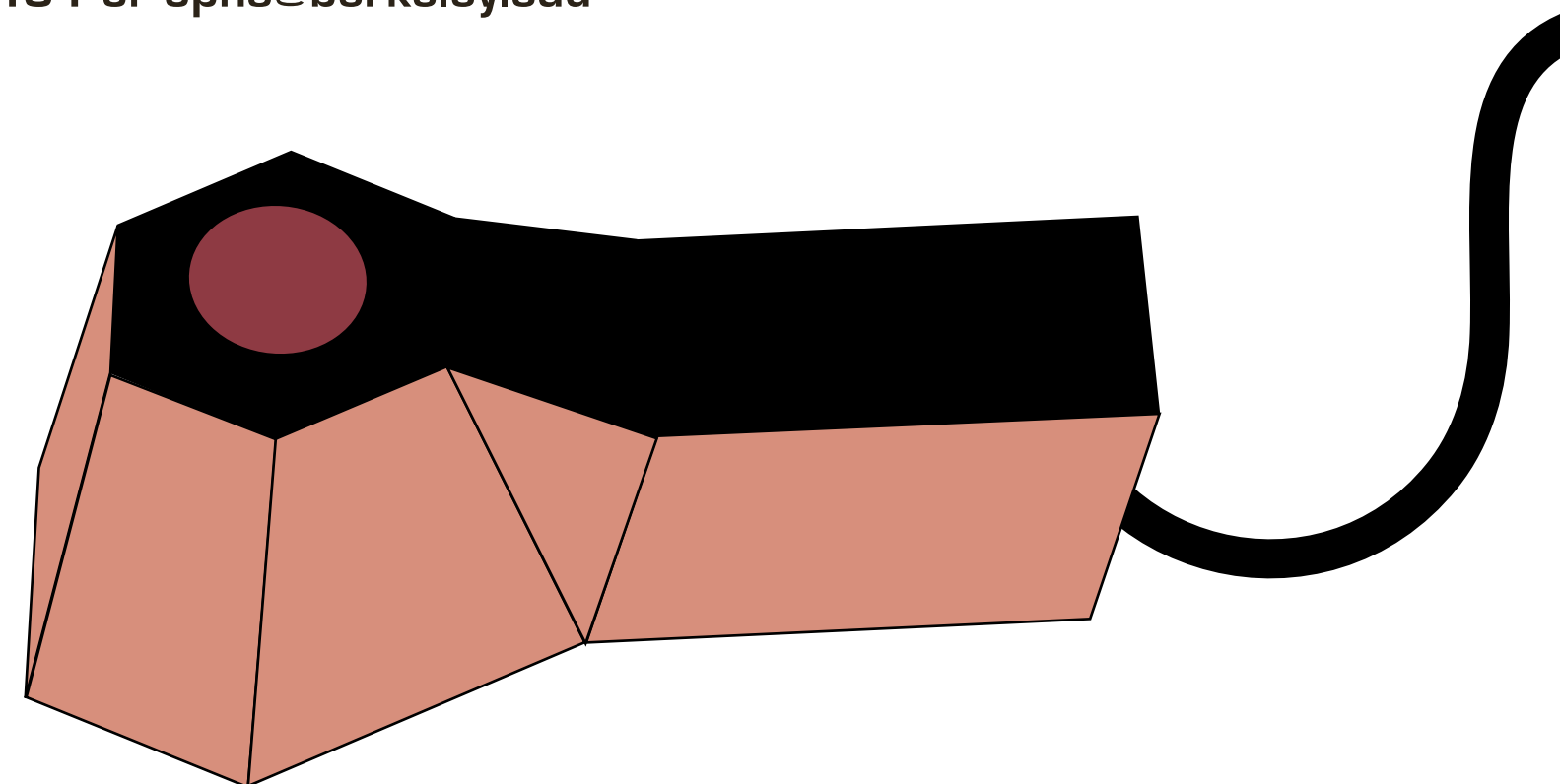
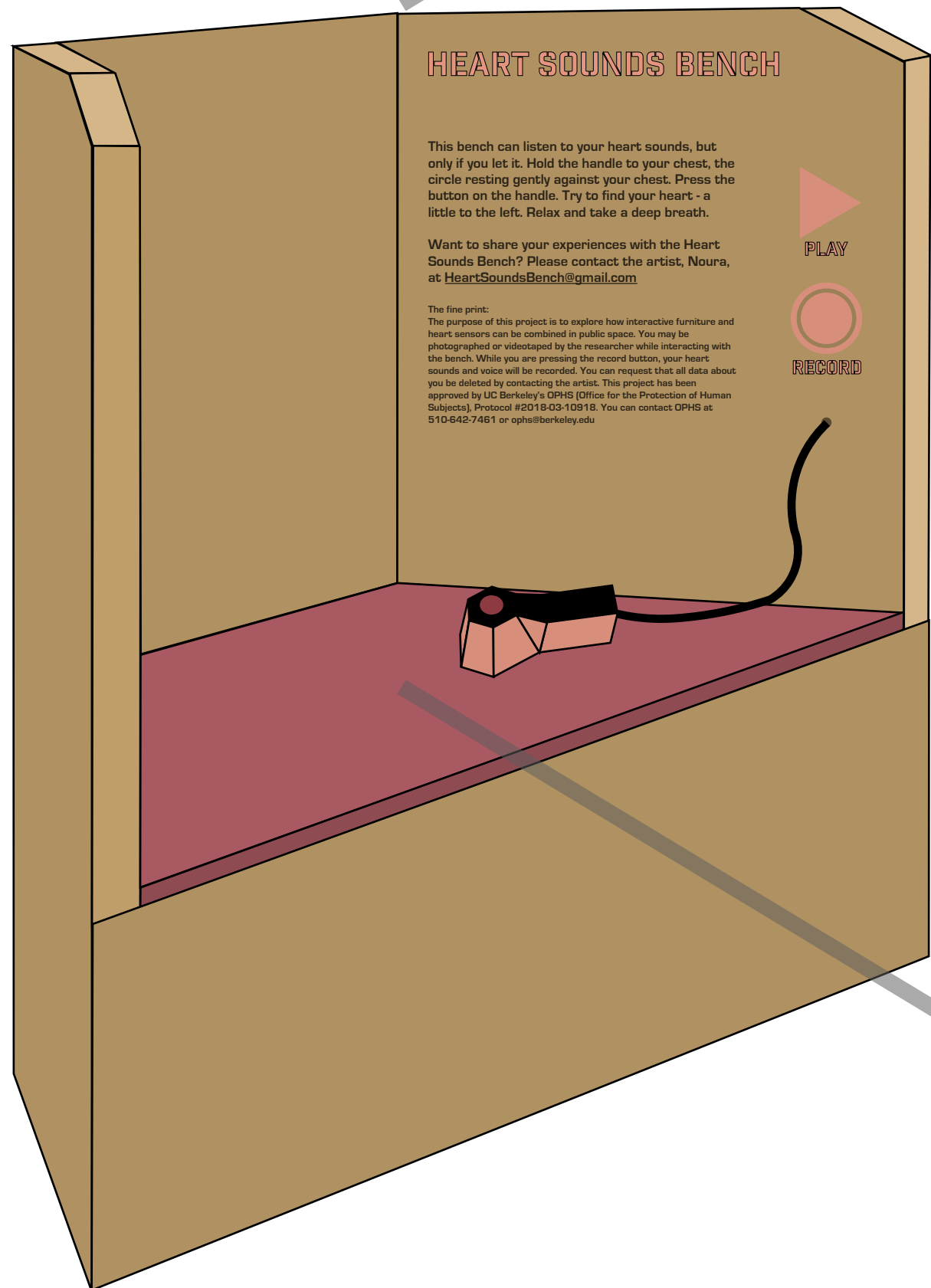
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Record: The bench-sitter can optionally choose to record their heart sounds by holding the 'record' button.

People must actively consent to recording their own heart sounds by holding the button. Recordings are anonymous.

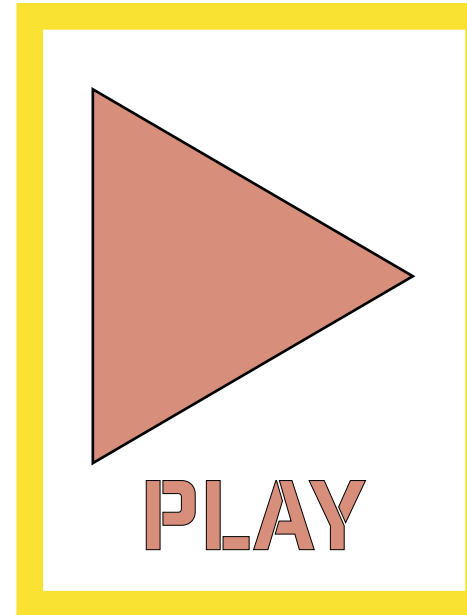
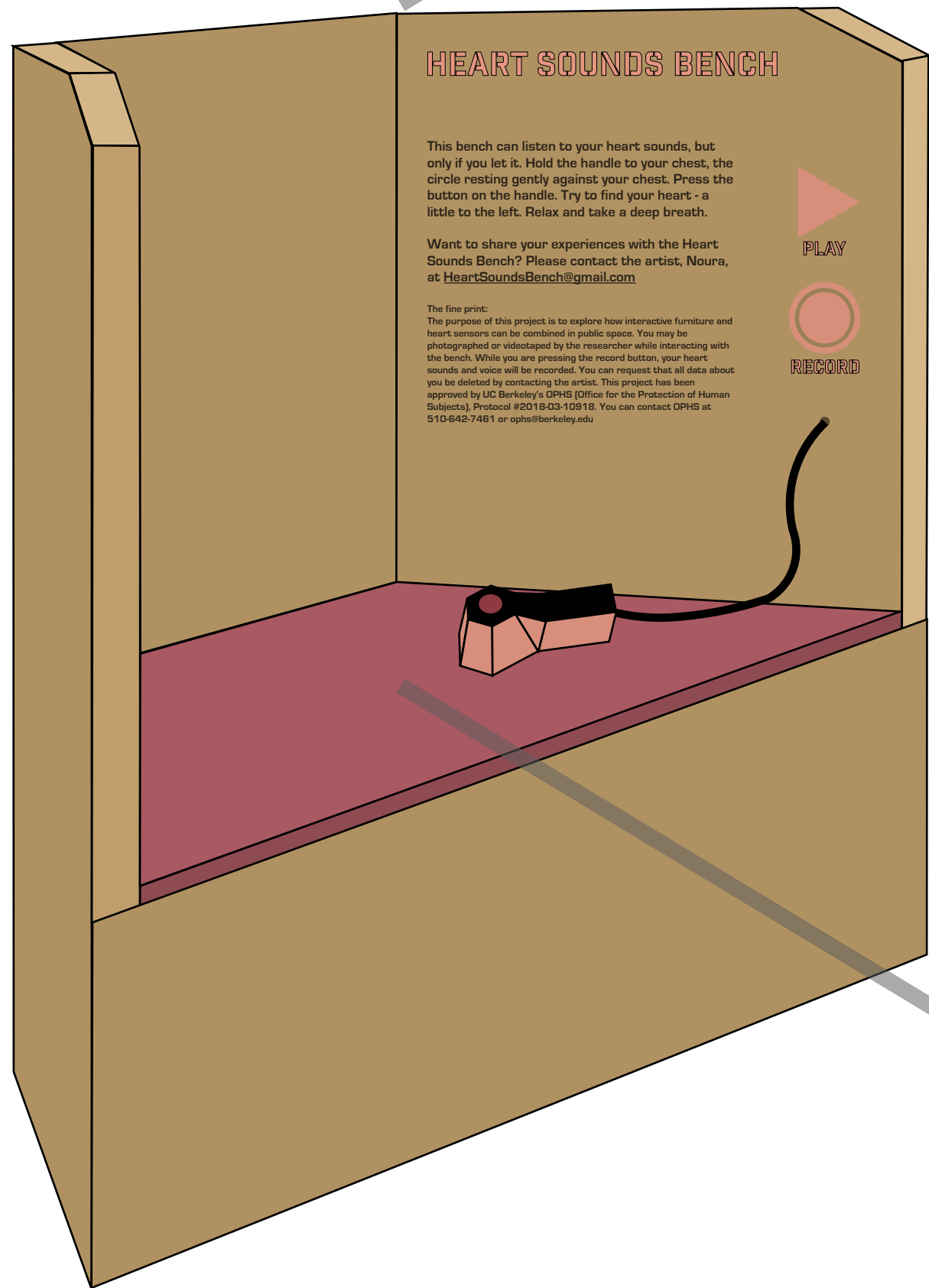


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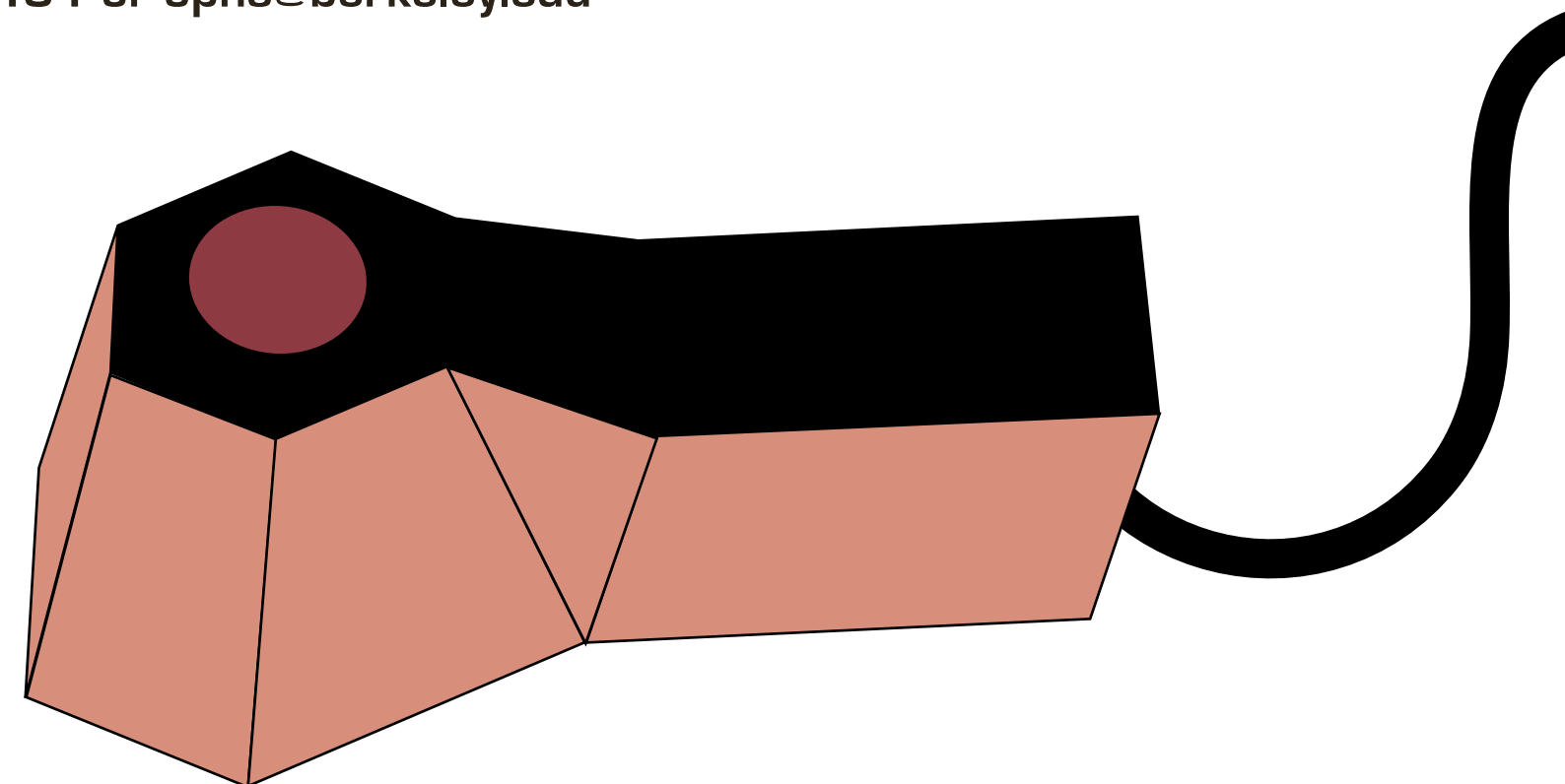
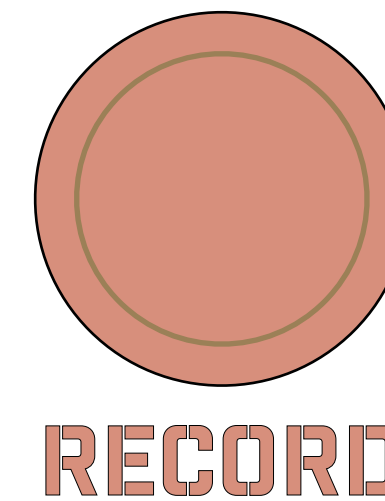
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Playback: The bench-sitter can listen to heart sounds recorded by others.

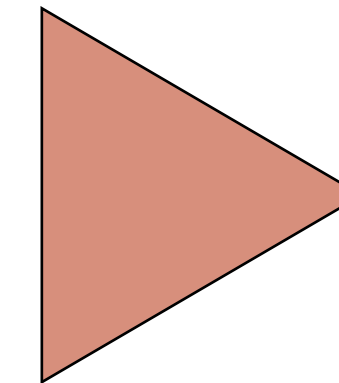
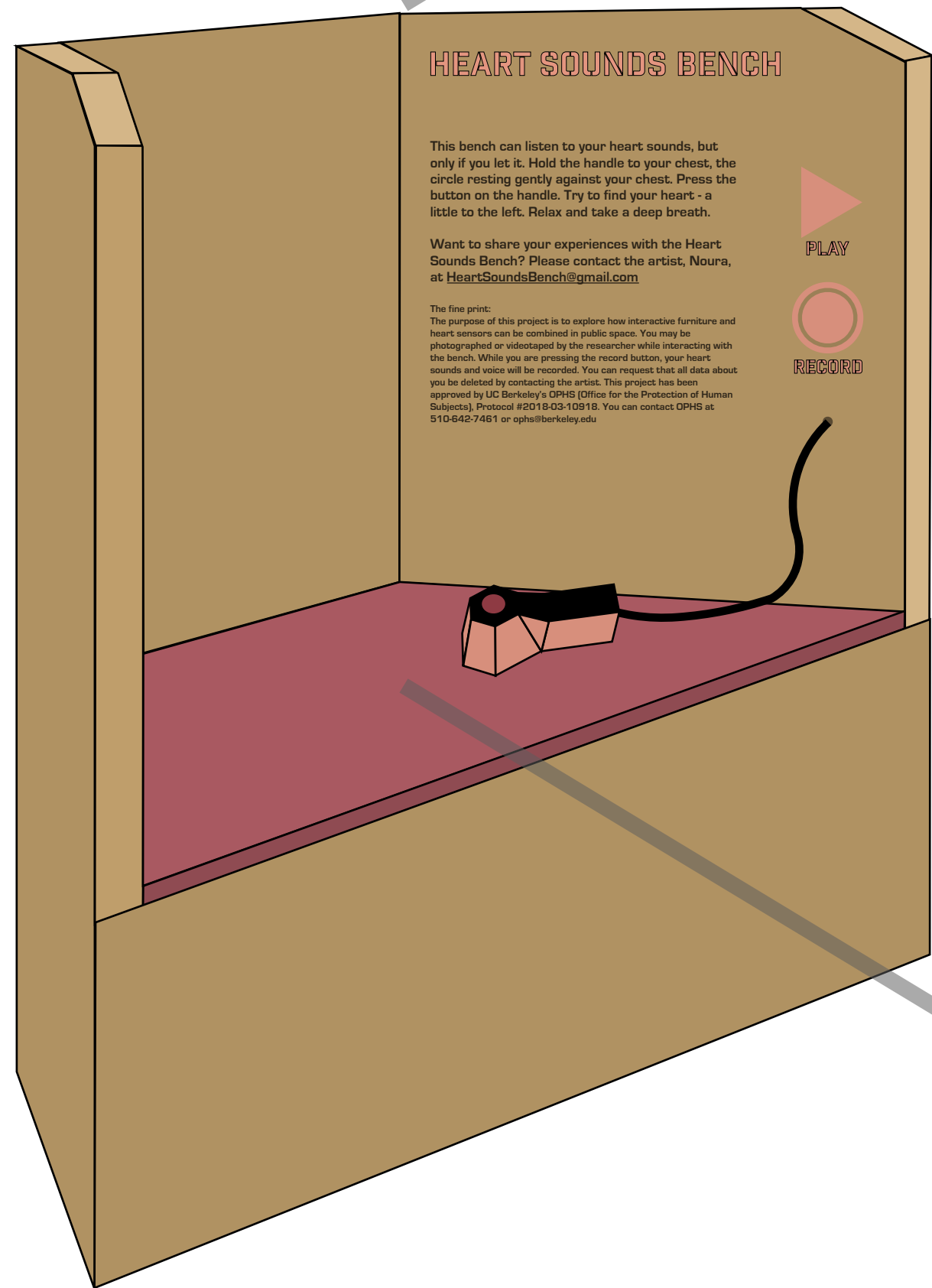


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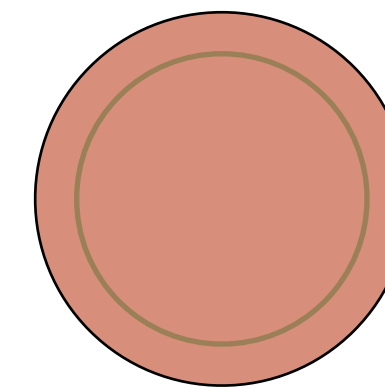
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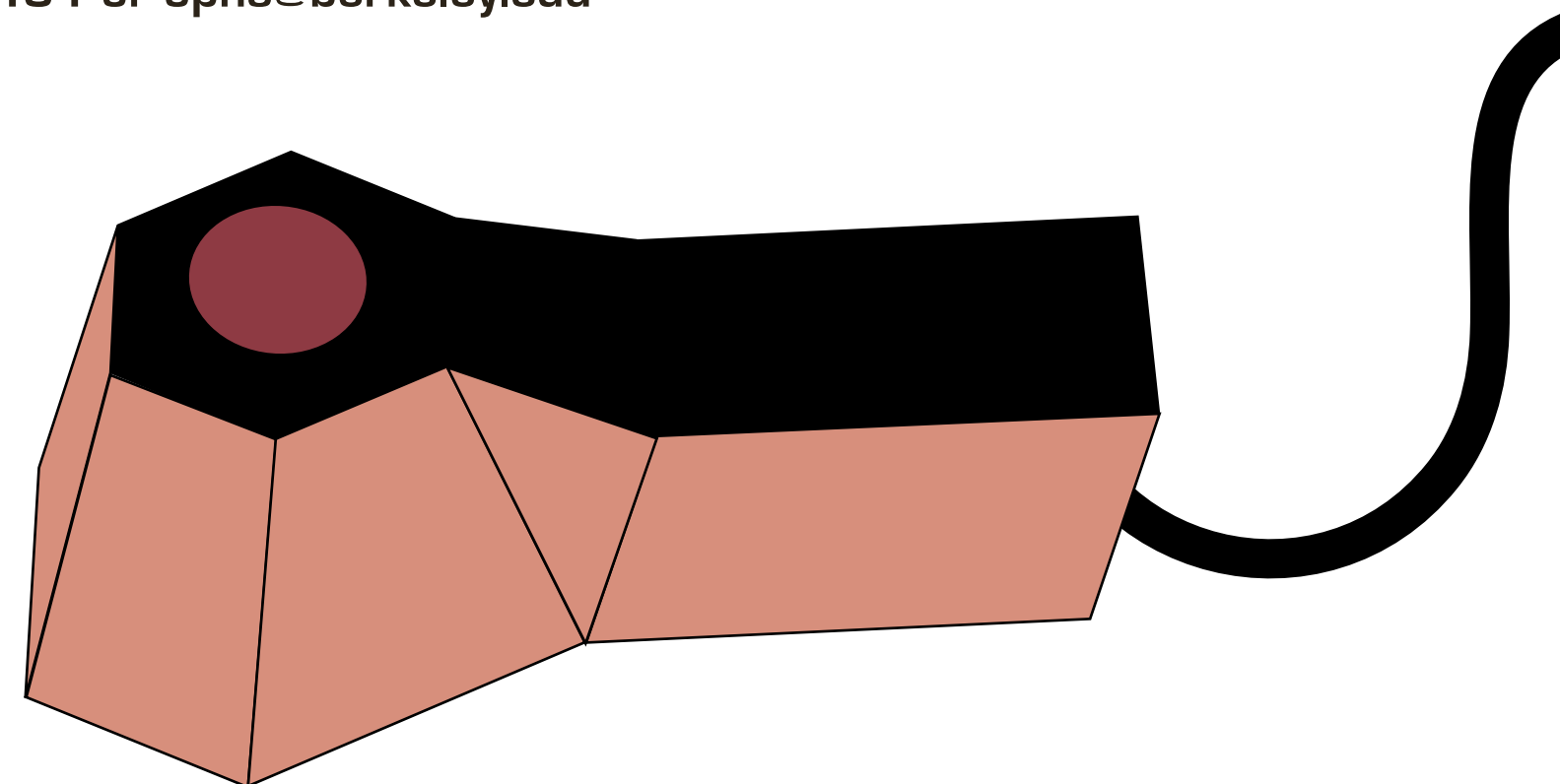


PLAY



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Research: This is part of a research project studying how people interact with the bench.

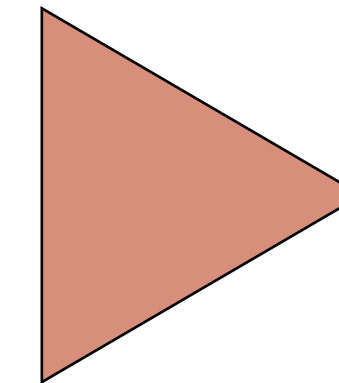


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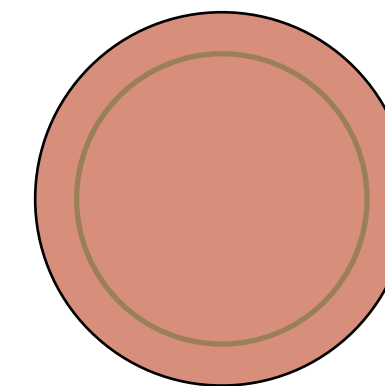
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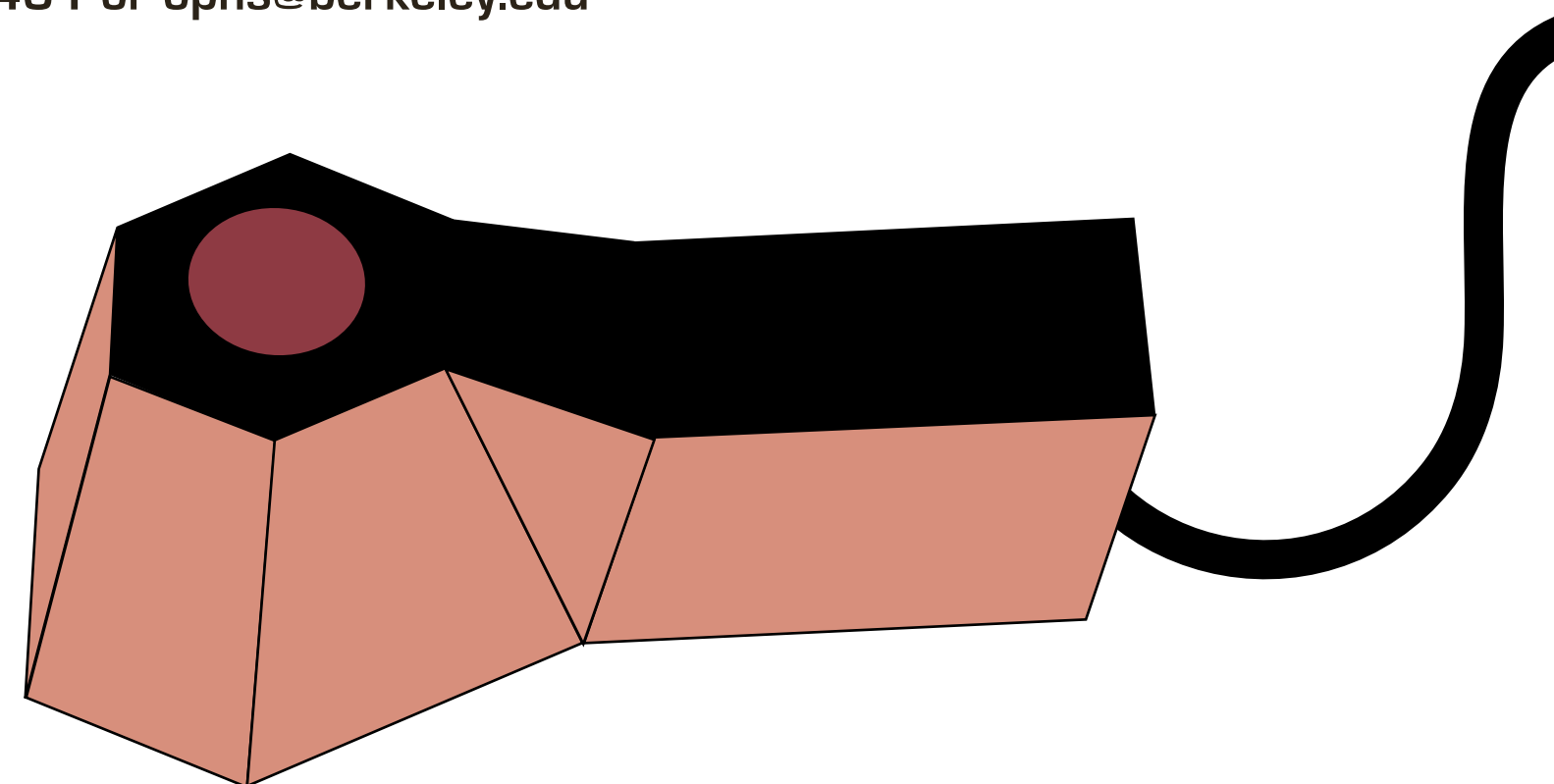
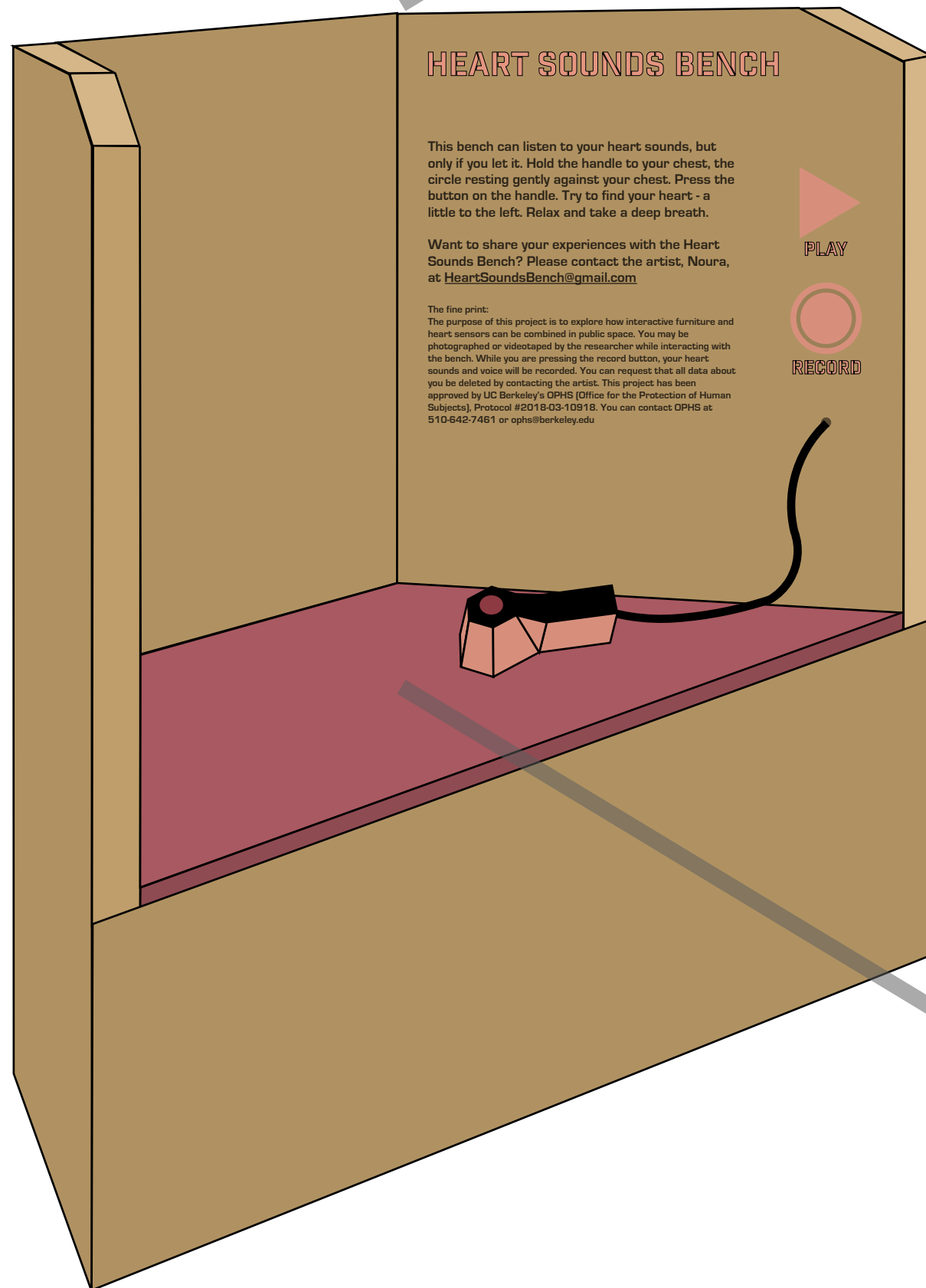
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PLAY

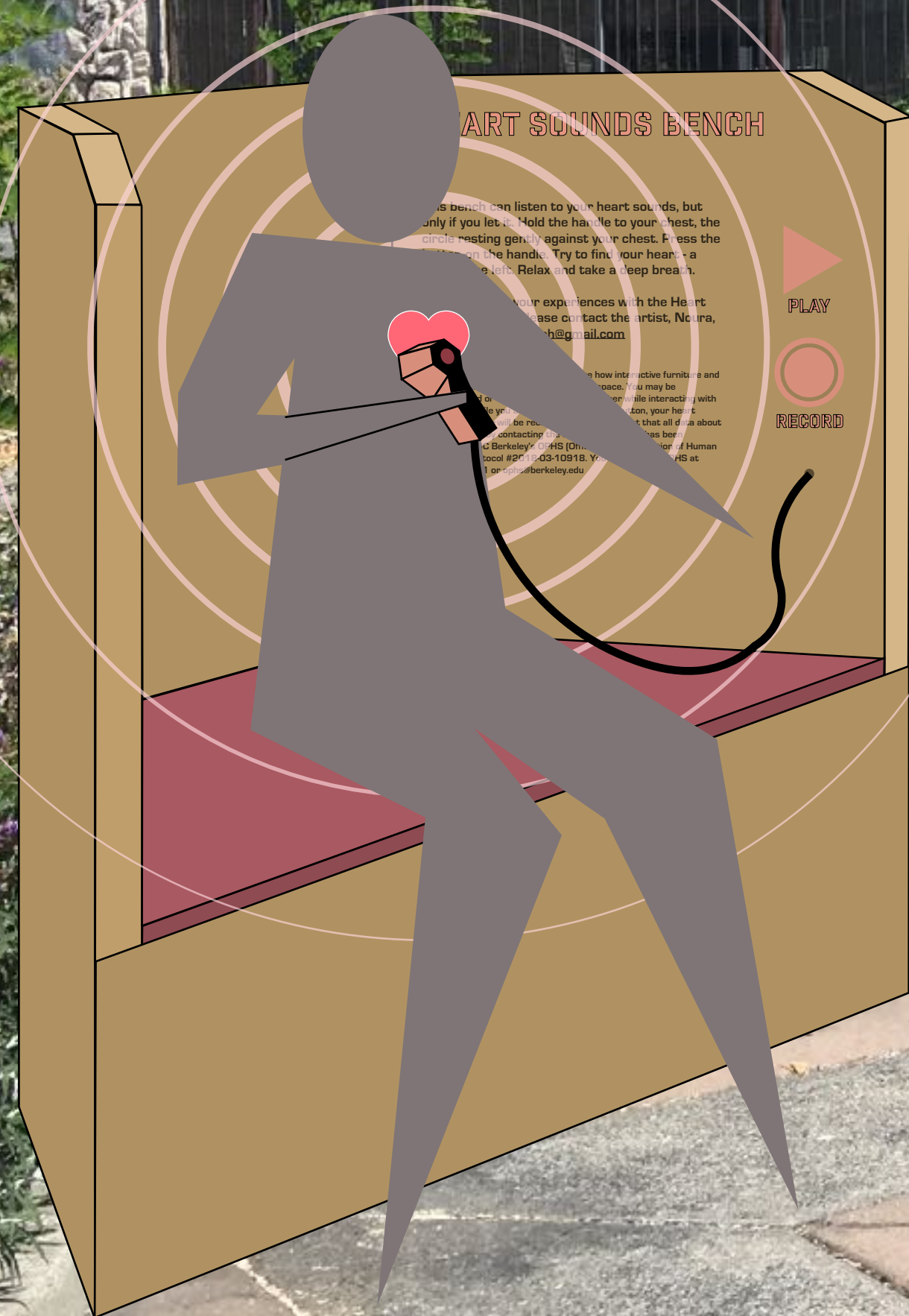


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Safety & Ethics: This project has been approved by UC Berkeley's Office for the Protection of Human Subjects. They have evaluated and approved the safety of the technology and the ethics of the data collection.

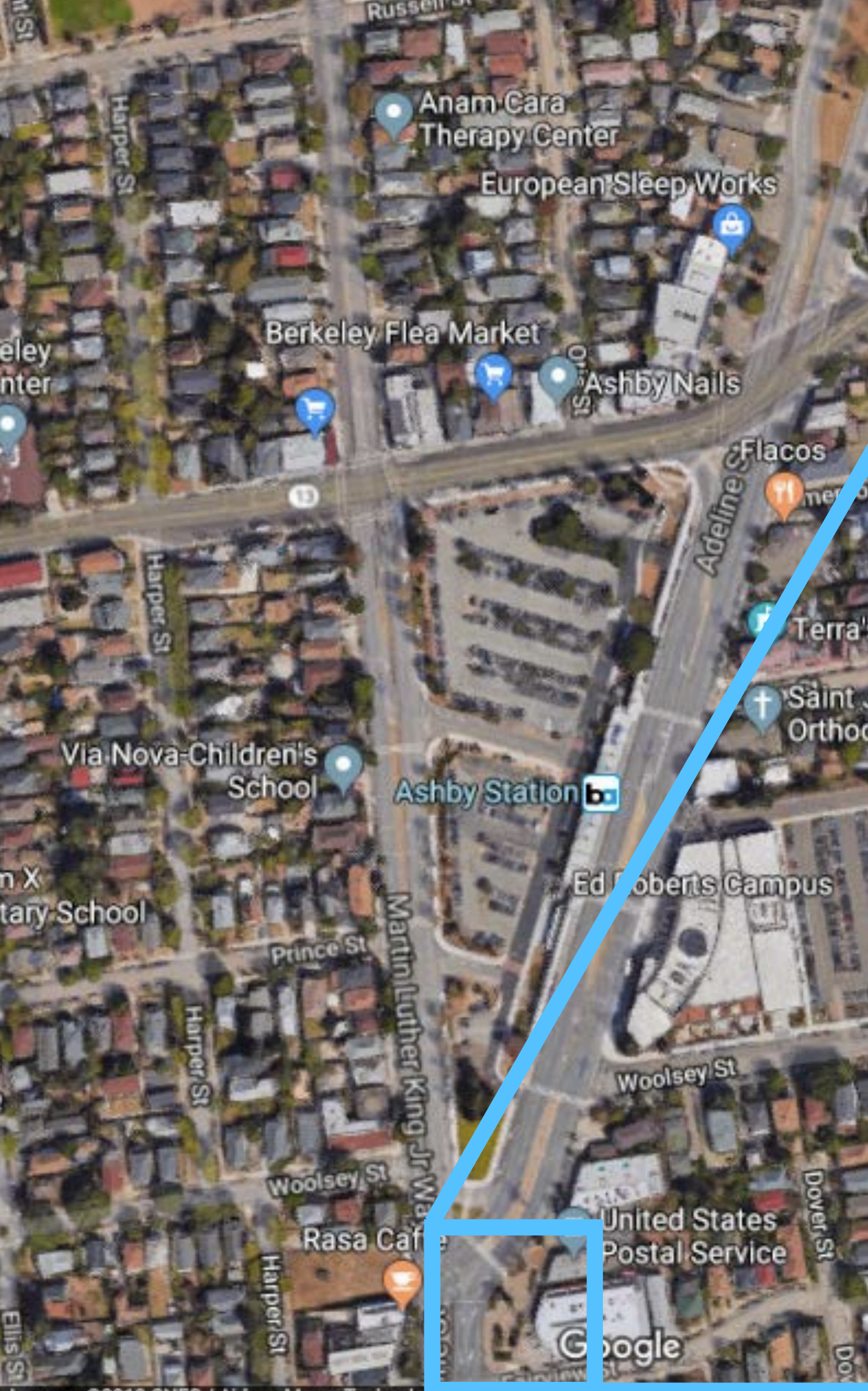
Pop-up deployment



The artist will set up the bench in the morning and take it down in the evening. The artist will constantly supervise the bench to ensure safety and observe how people interact with it.

Depending on permits and weather, target deployment is for six weeks sometime October 2019 - February 2020.

Suggested Location: Design Plaza



The Design Plaza is a pleasant but underutilized space. It has nice flower beds and an open area, but few benches.

The bench invites people to spend a few minutes appreciating the Design Plaza, perhaps on their way to or from the nearby post office.

Design Plaza



The bench is nicely shaded by the tree. People already walk around the tree, so the bench is not blocking pedestrian flow. The bench has a view of the flowers in the Design Plaza, looking up Adeline.



Pink lines indicate pedestrian flow.

Design Plaza

1b

The bench is close to the flowers, looking across Adeline at Rasa Caffe and neighborhood houses.



Design Plaza

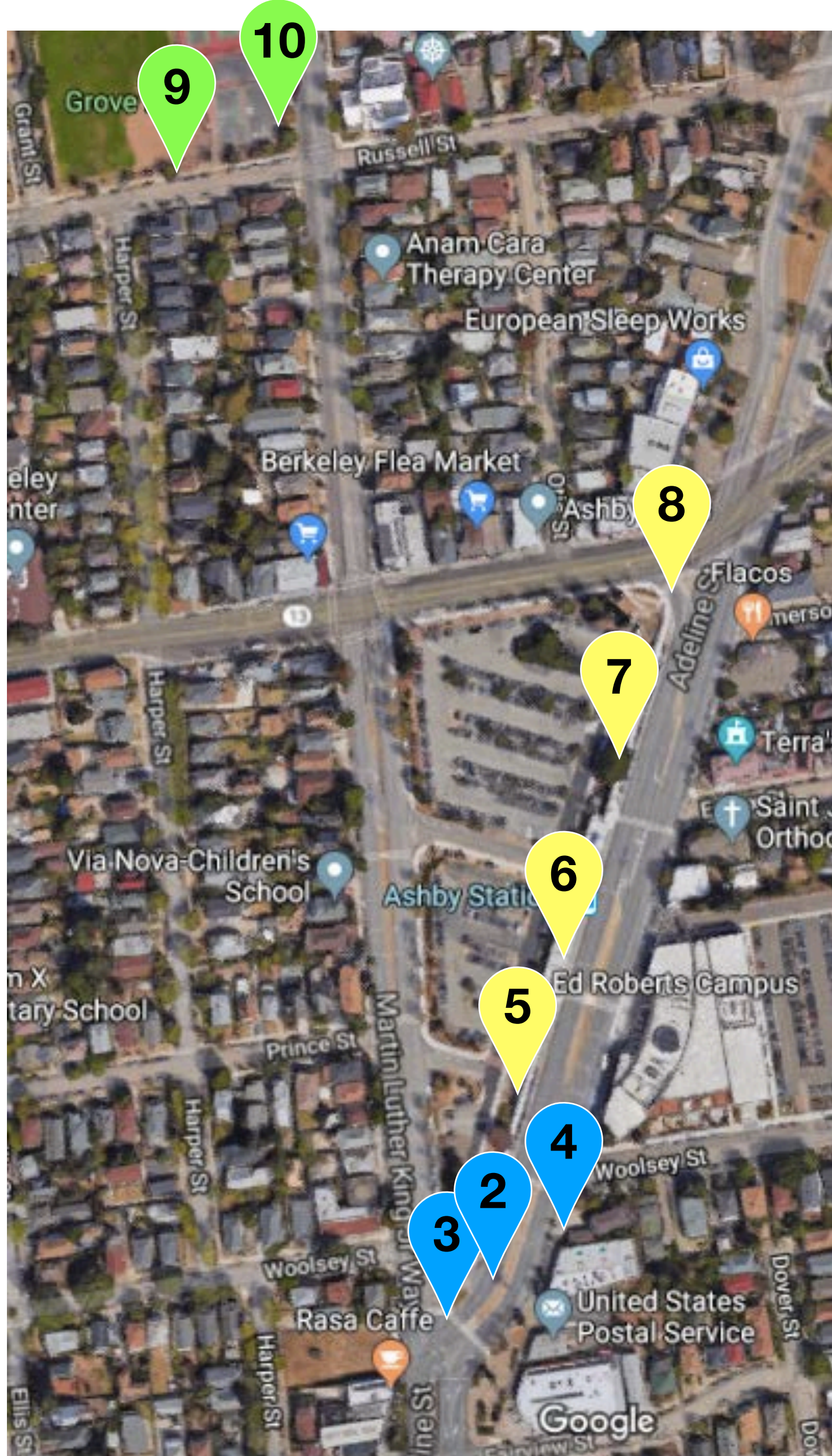


The bench is near a flower bed, looking away from the street toward the Design Center and Post Office.



More sites around Ashby

More sites around Ashby



- 9
- 10

Grove Park

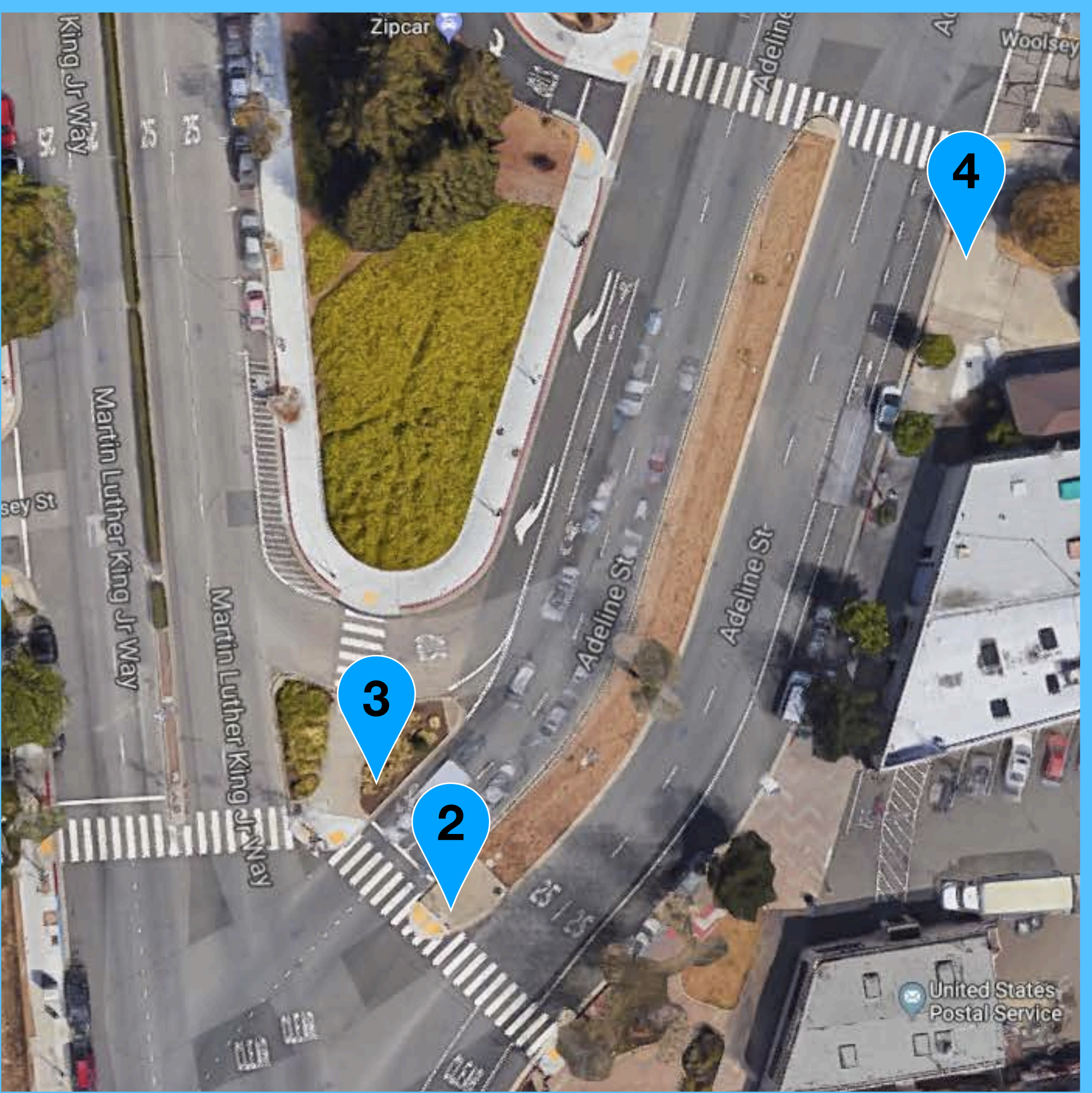
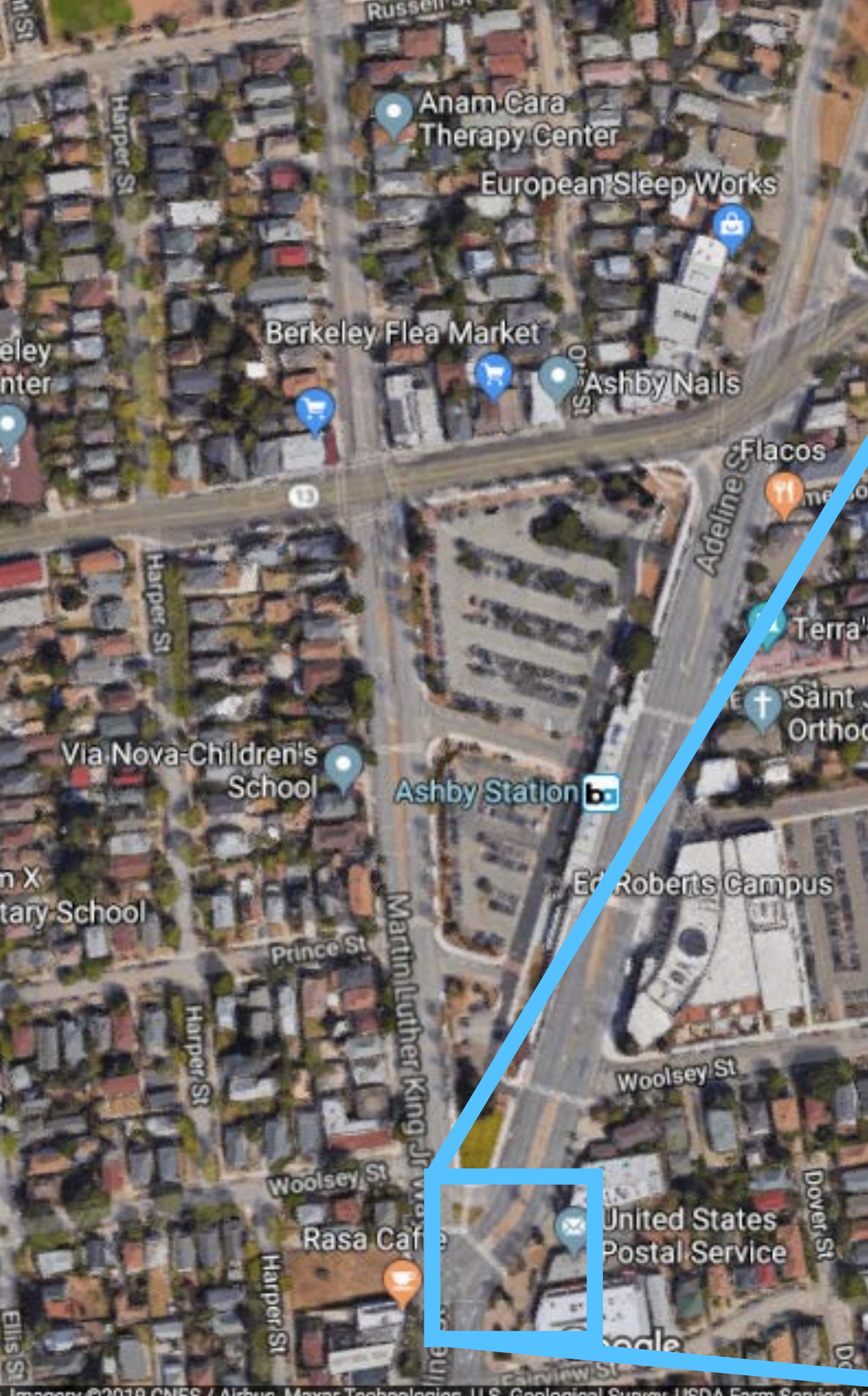
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Adeline

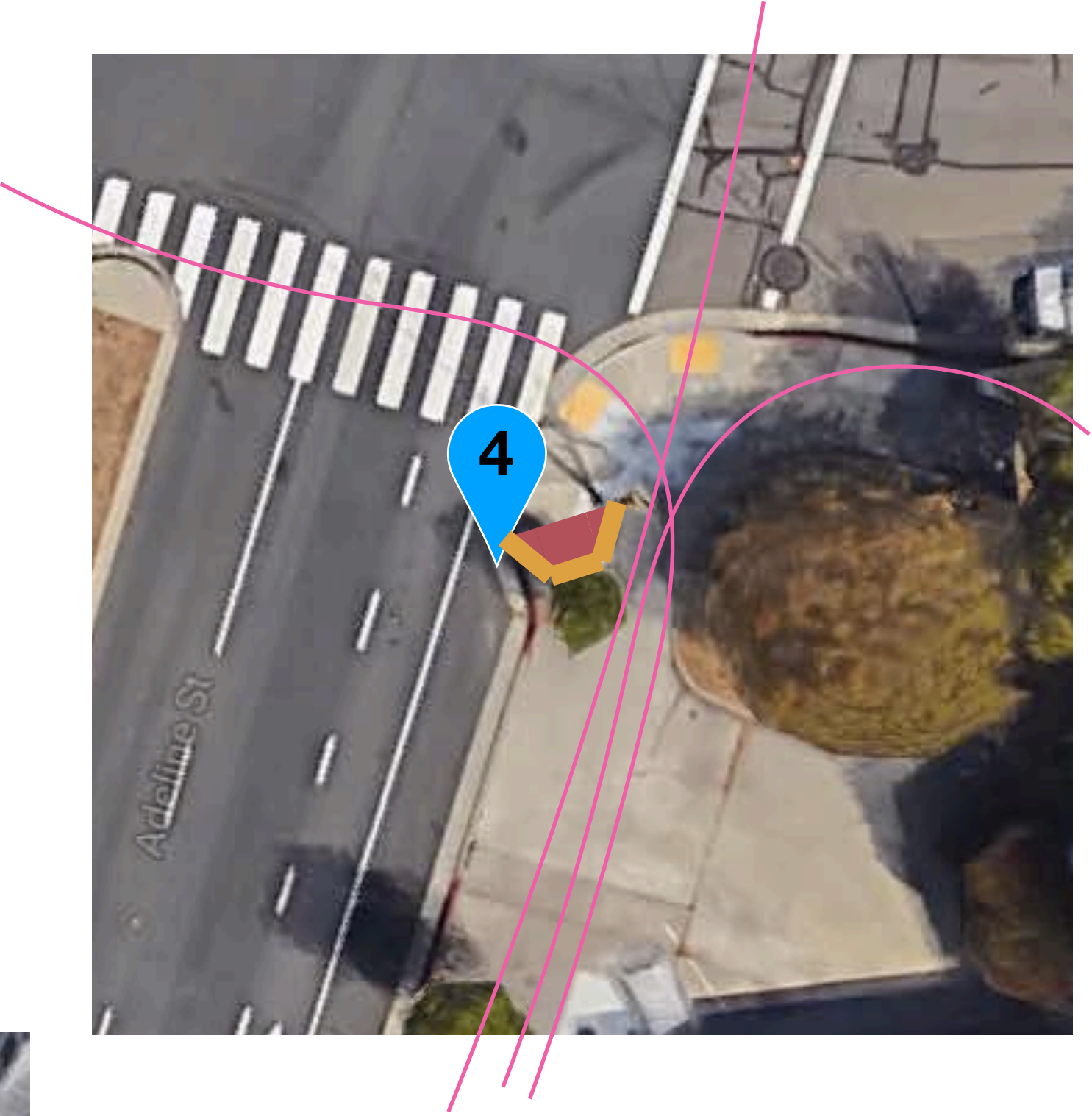
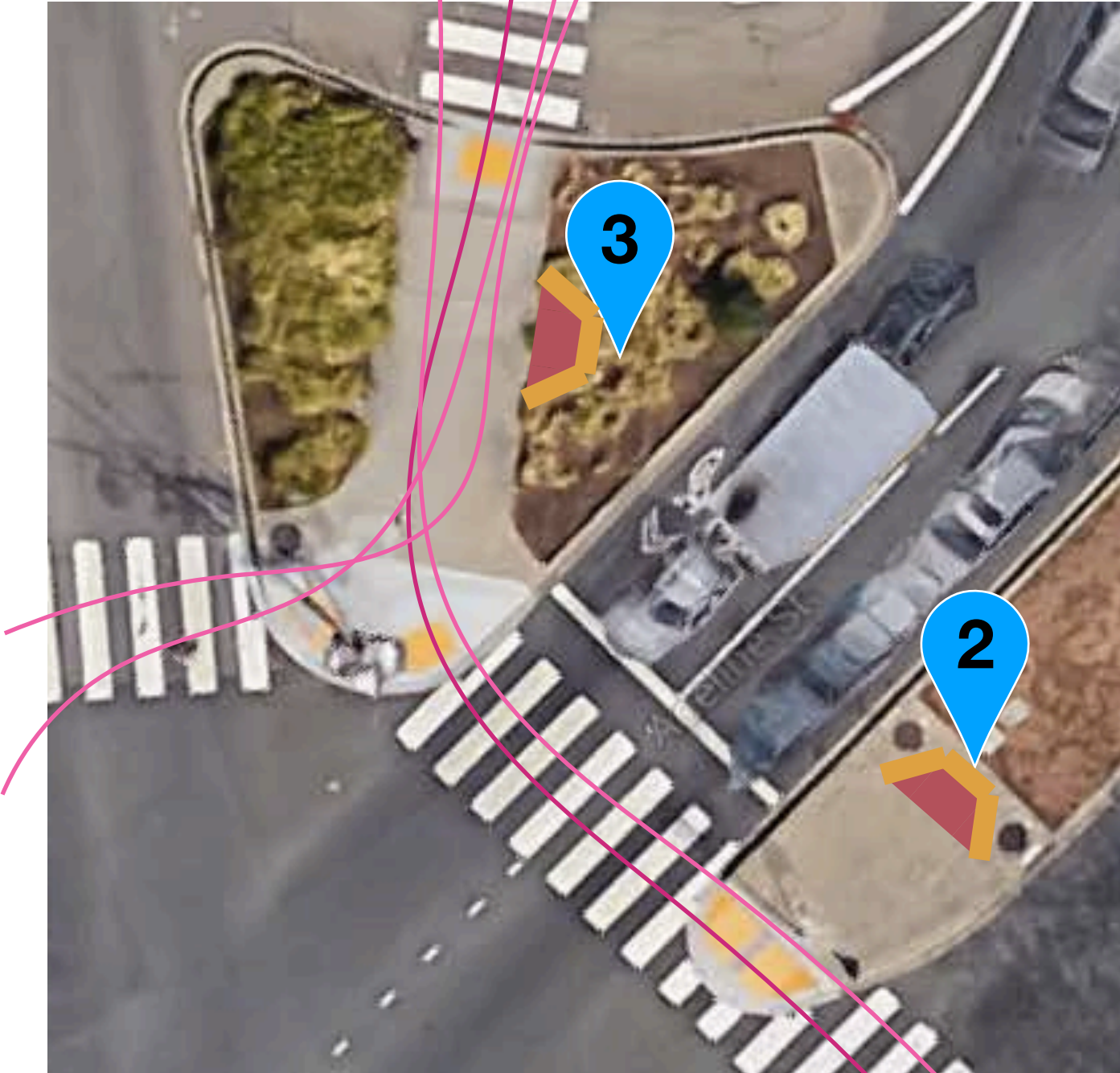
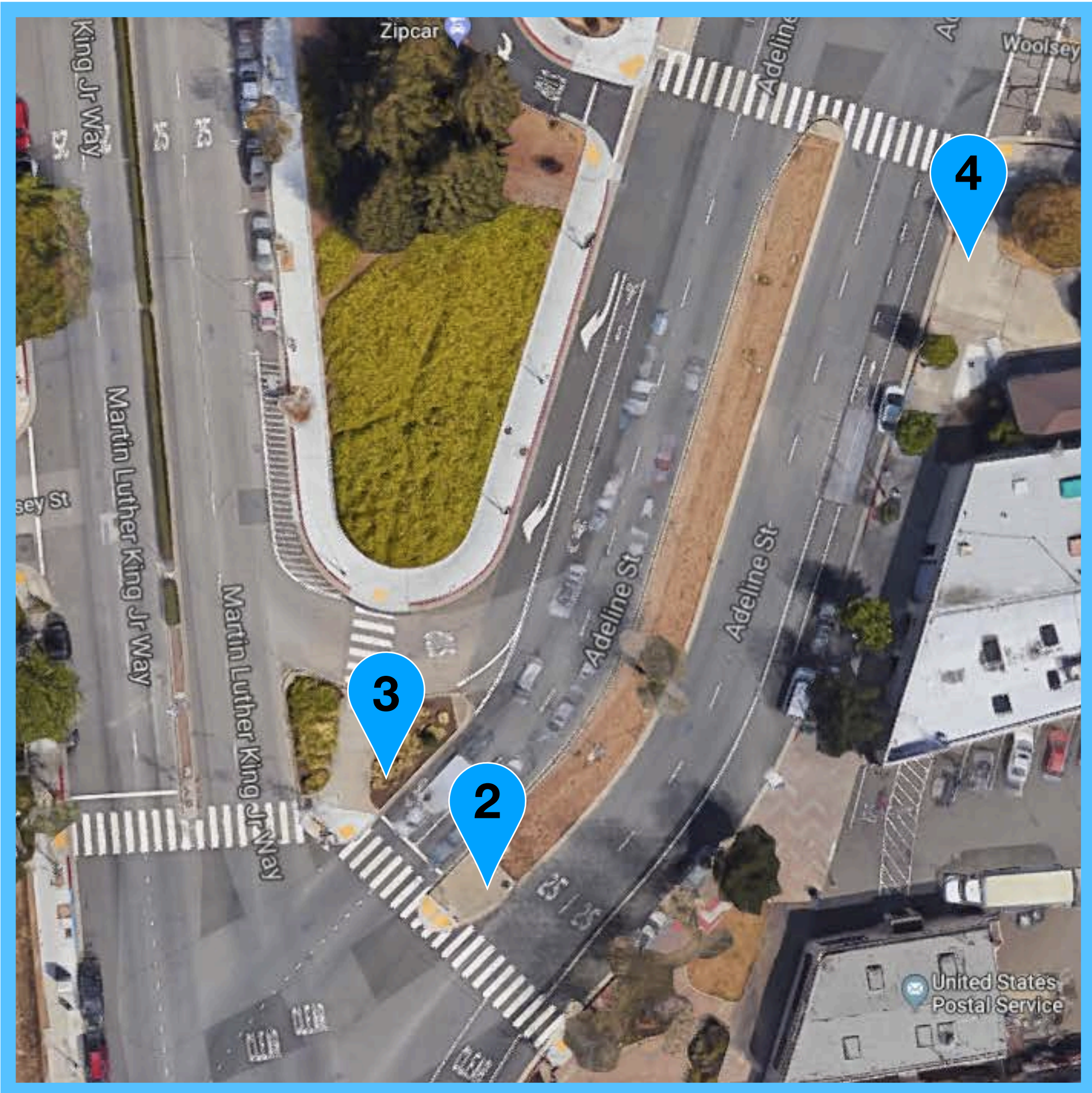
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MLK & Adeline

MLK & Adeline



MLK & Adeline



MLK & Adeline



The bench is set way off the sidewalk up the curb, well out of the way.

This is a highly transitory space, so placing a bench here is a provocative invitation to linger.

The bench has a view down Adeline toward Alcatraz.



MLK & Adeline

3

The bench is set off of the sidewalk on the grass.

This is a highly transitory space, so placing a bench here is a provocative invitation to linger.

The bench has a view across MLK toward Rasa Cafe, Ebenezer Baptist Church, and some houses.



MLK & Adeline 4

The bench is off to one side. The red curb is not for a bus stop or a fire hydrant. I think it's because of the corner of Adeline and Woolsey. The bench will not block parking.

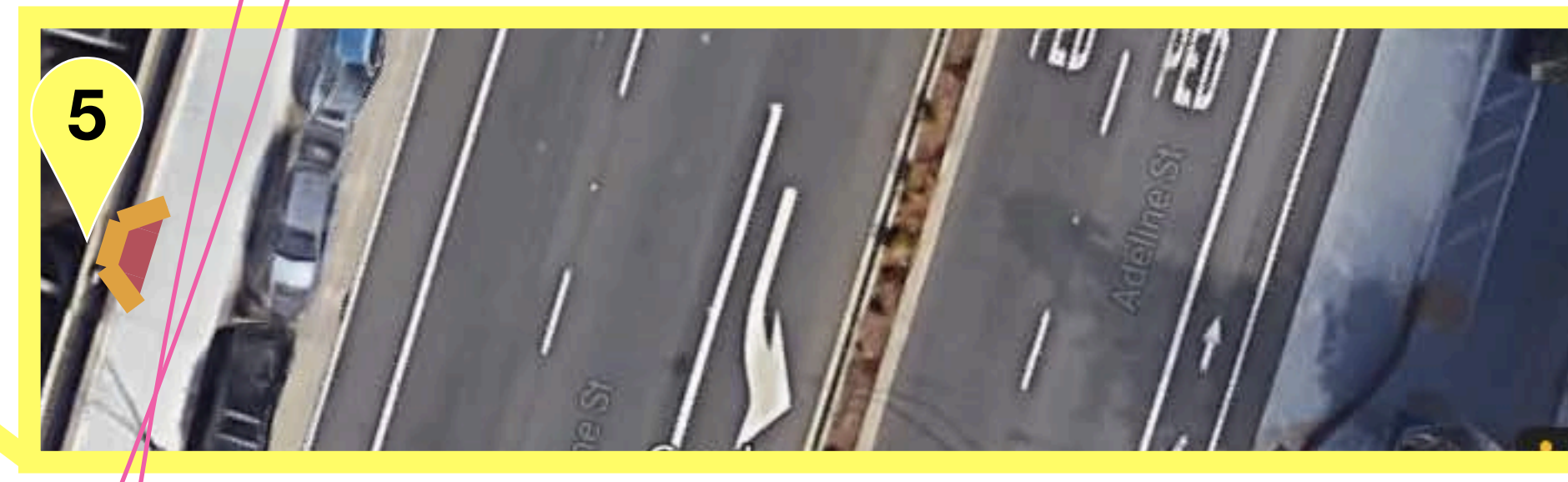
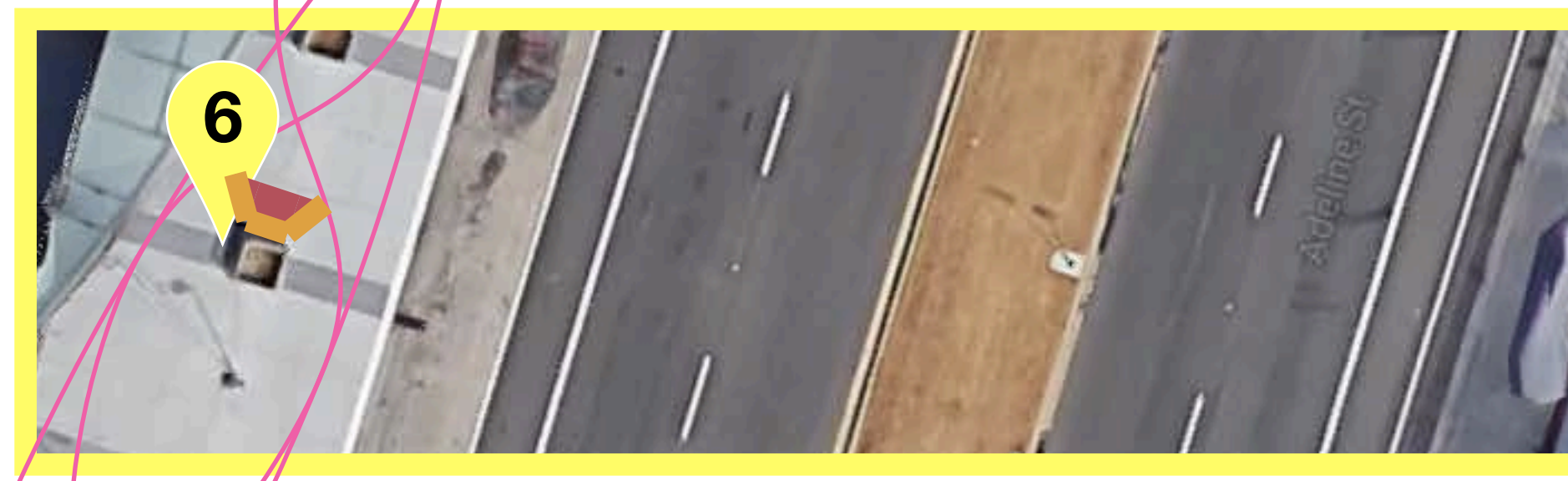
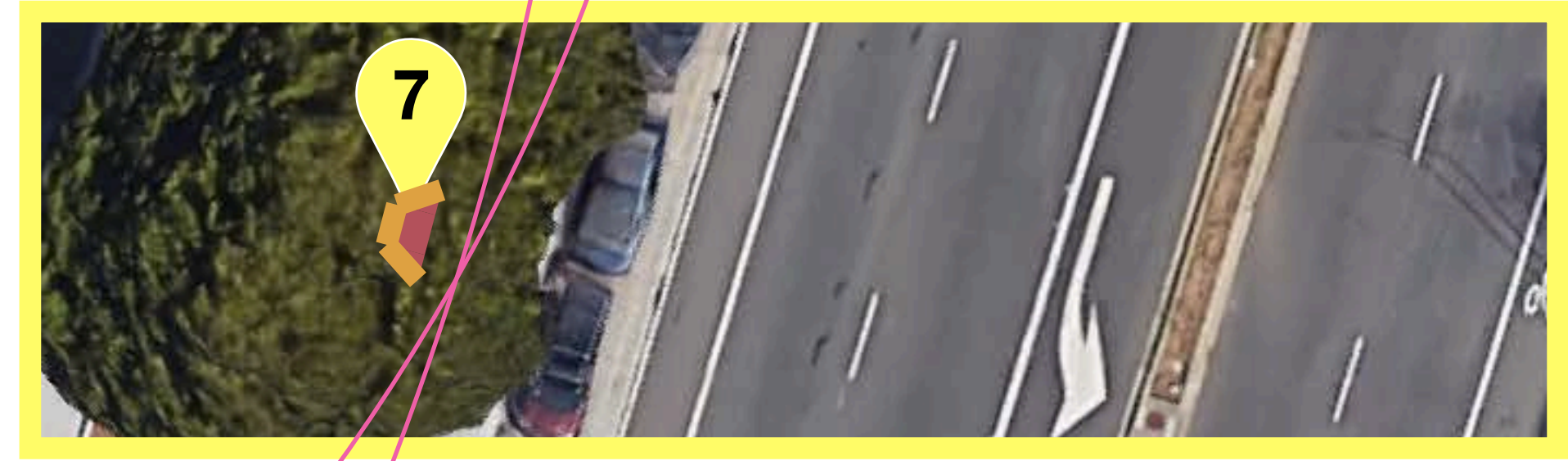
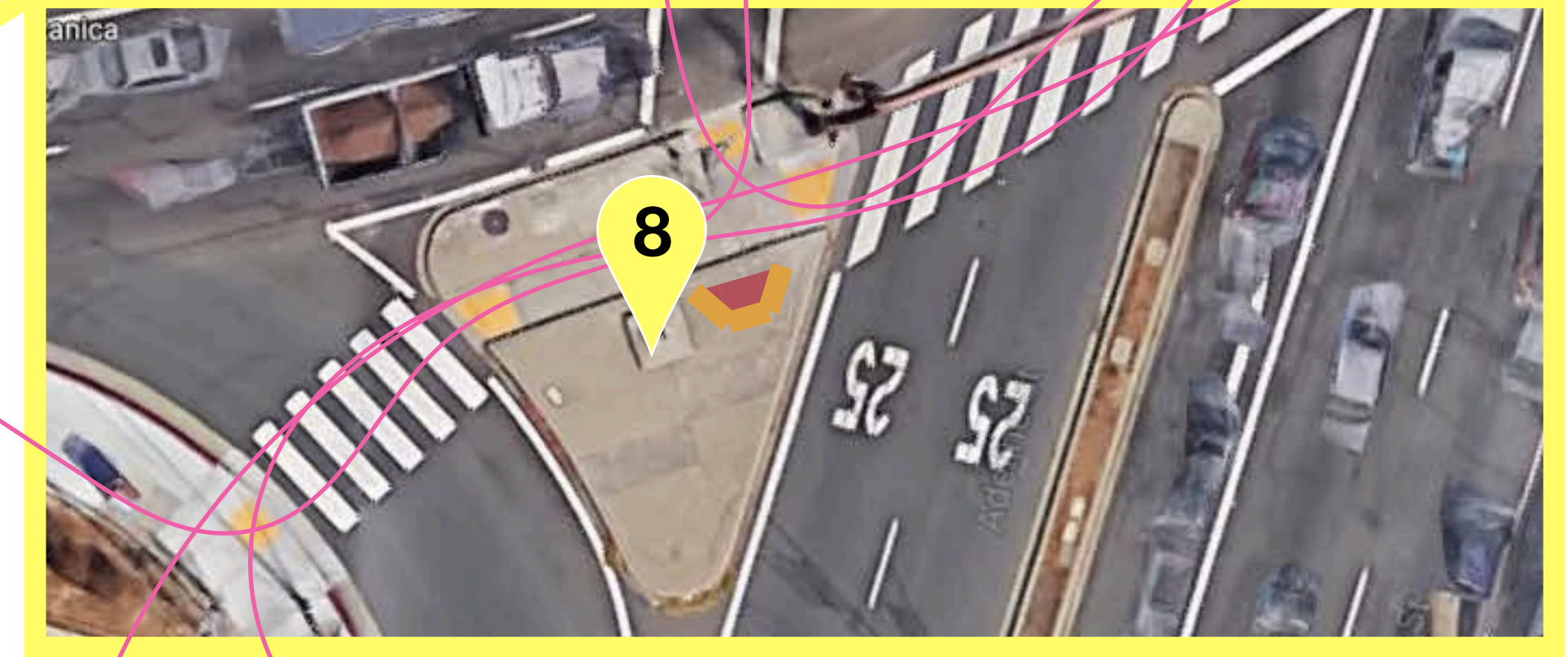
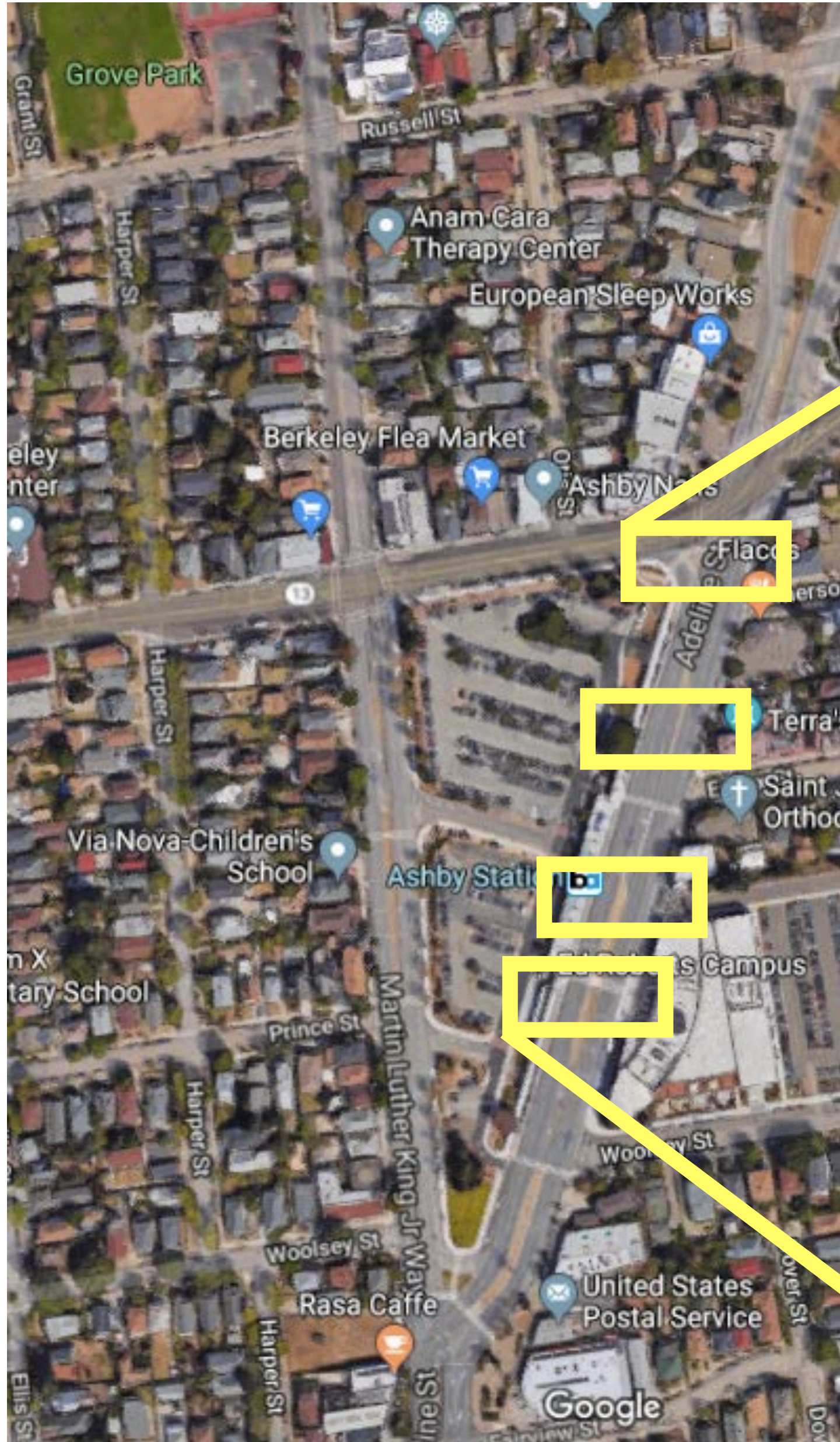
The bench is nicely shaded by the tree. There is enough space to approach the bench, but it does not block a footpath.

This space is somewhat transitory but feels slow paced.

The bench has a view up Adeline with the Berkeley hills in the distance.



Adeline



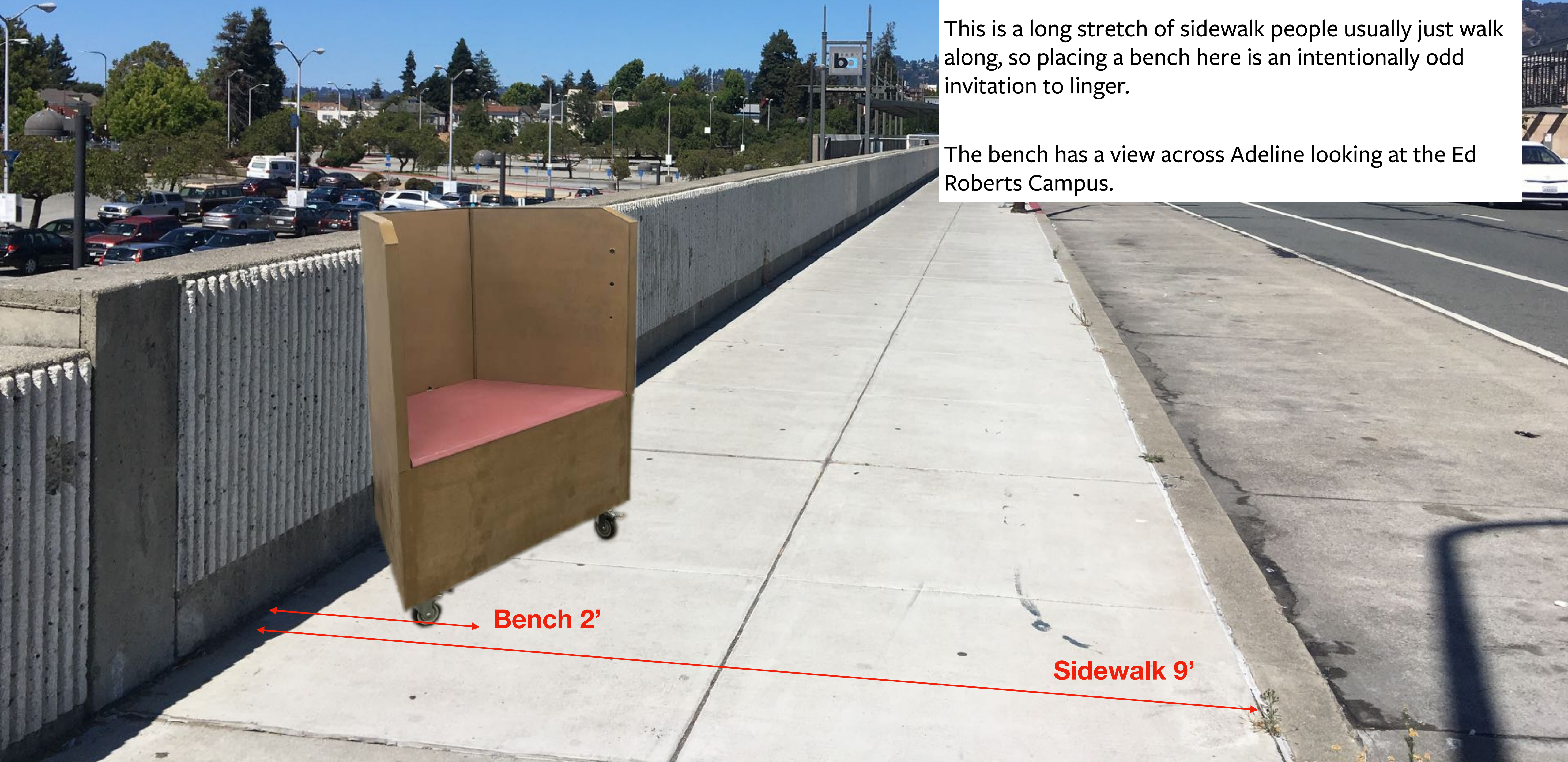
Adeline

5

The bench is at one side of a very wide sidewalk, leaving enough space for ADA.

This is a long stretch of sidewalk people usually just walk along, so placing a bench here is an intentionally odd invitation to linger.

The bench has a view across Adeline looking at the Ed Roberts Campus.



Bench 2'

Sidewalk 9'

Adeline



The Bench is set against a large empty planter that people have to walk around anyway.

At this point the sidewalk gets very wide, making it almost like a plaza, except there are hardly any benches.

The bench has a view up Adeline looking at the Berkeley hills.



Adeline



The bench is about 2' deep on the 9' sidewalk, leaving 7'.

Underneath the tree feels more sheltered and semi-private, an interesting variation compared to the more exposed bench locations.

This sidewalk gets a fair amount of foot traffic, but it still feels large, empty, and transitory - just someplace to walk through as quickly as possible. How might that shift with the temporary addition of the Heart Sounds Bench?

It has a view across Adeline of Flacos Tacos, Zing! Cafe, and St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church.



Adeline



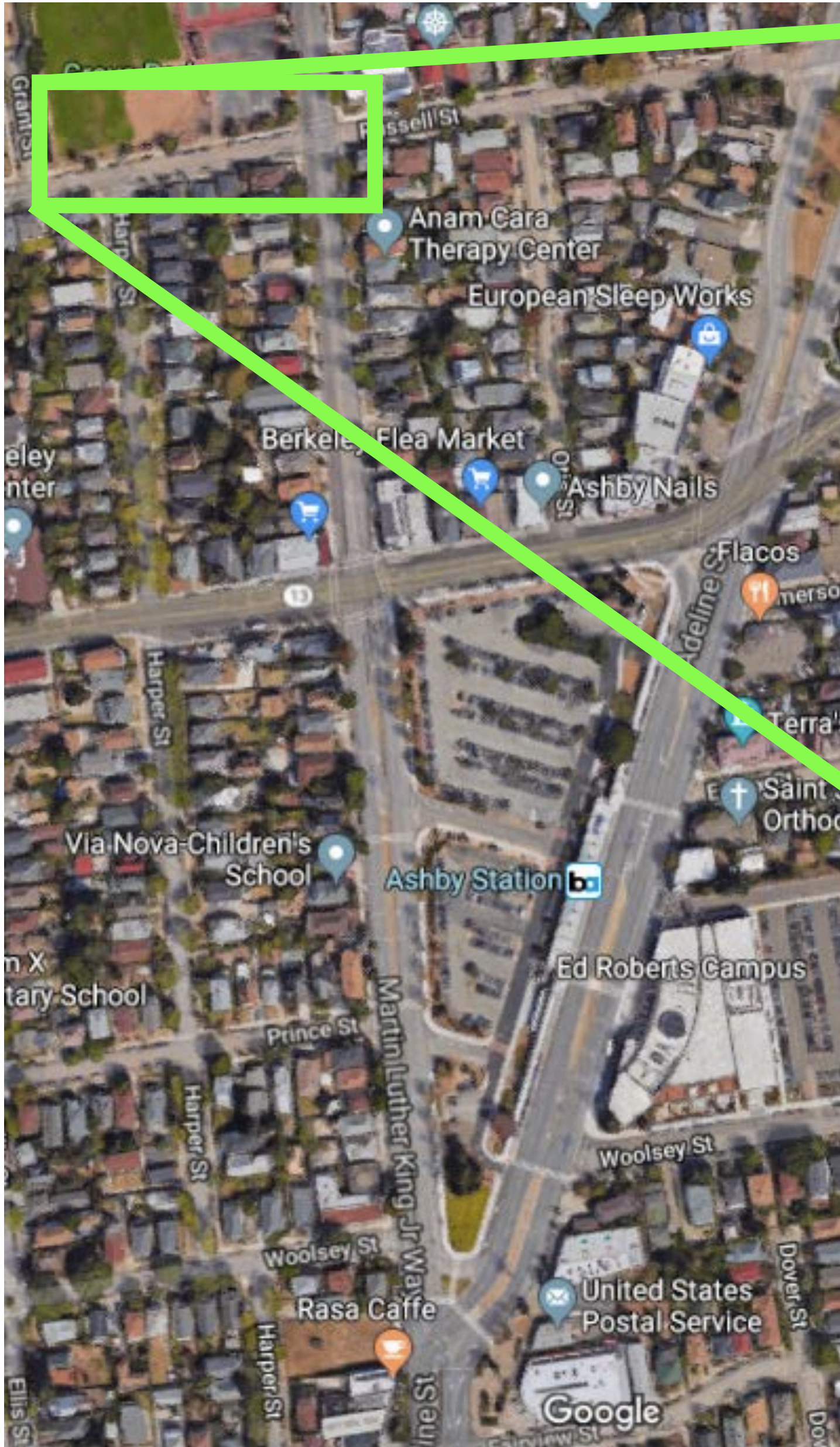
The bench is up on the curb off the sidewalk.

This is a highly transitory space, so placing a bench here is a provocative suggestion to linger a moment.

The bench has a view looking up Adeline and Ashby toward the Berkeley hills.



Grove Park



Grove Park



The bench is off the sidewalk.

People already hang out around Grove Park, so it feels like a natural place to sit and linger, but the surrounding sidewalks have no benches.

This placement is a bit awkward because the bench has its back turned on the baseball field / dog park, where all the action is. The bench looks across Russell.

Grove Park is a vibrant community spot. People might be inclined to linger and try out the Heart Sounds Bench. Yet, the area doesn't feel like it "needs" any additional art projects.



Grove Park 10

The bench is off the sidewalk.

People already hang out around Grove Park, so it feels like a natural place to sit and linger, but the surrounding sidewalks have no benches except for the #12 bus stop on MLK & Russell.

The bench has a view of the Berkeley Public Library South Branch, especially the Tool Lending Library. Its placement here is a bit awkward because the bench has its back turned away from the basketball court, where all the action is.

Grove Park is a vibrant community spot. People might be inclined to linger and try out the Heart Sounds Bench. Yet, the area doesn't feel like it "needs" any additional art projects.



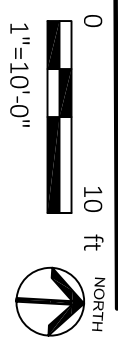
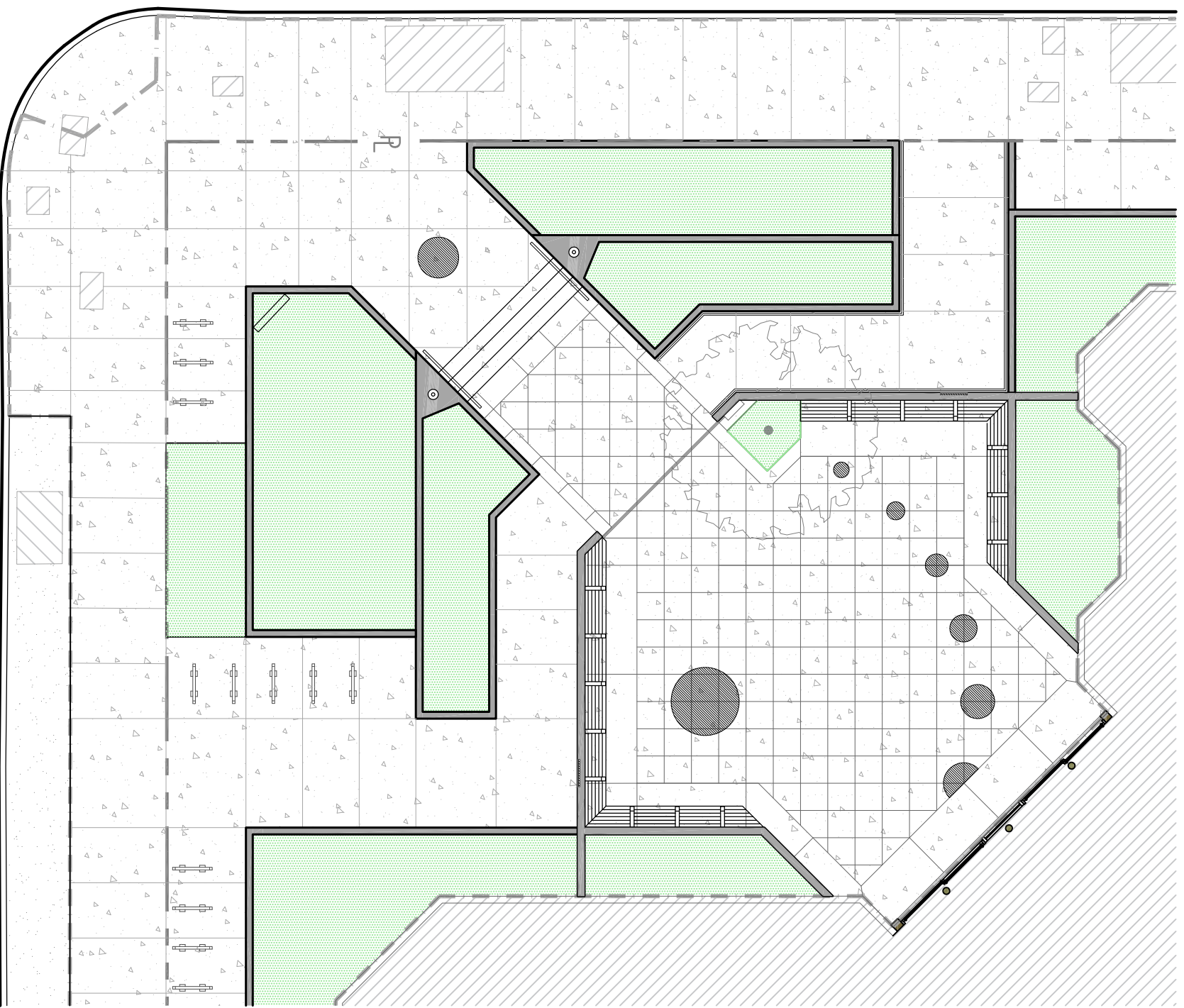
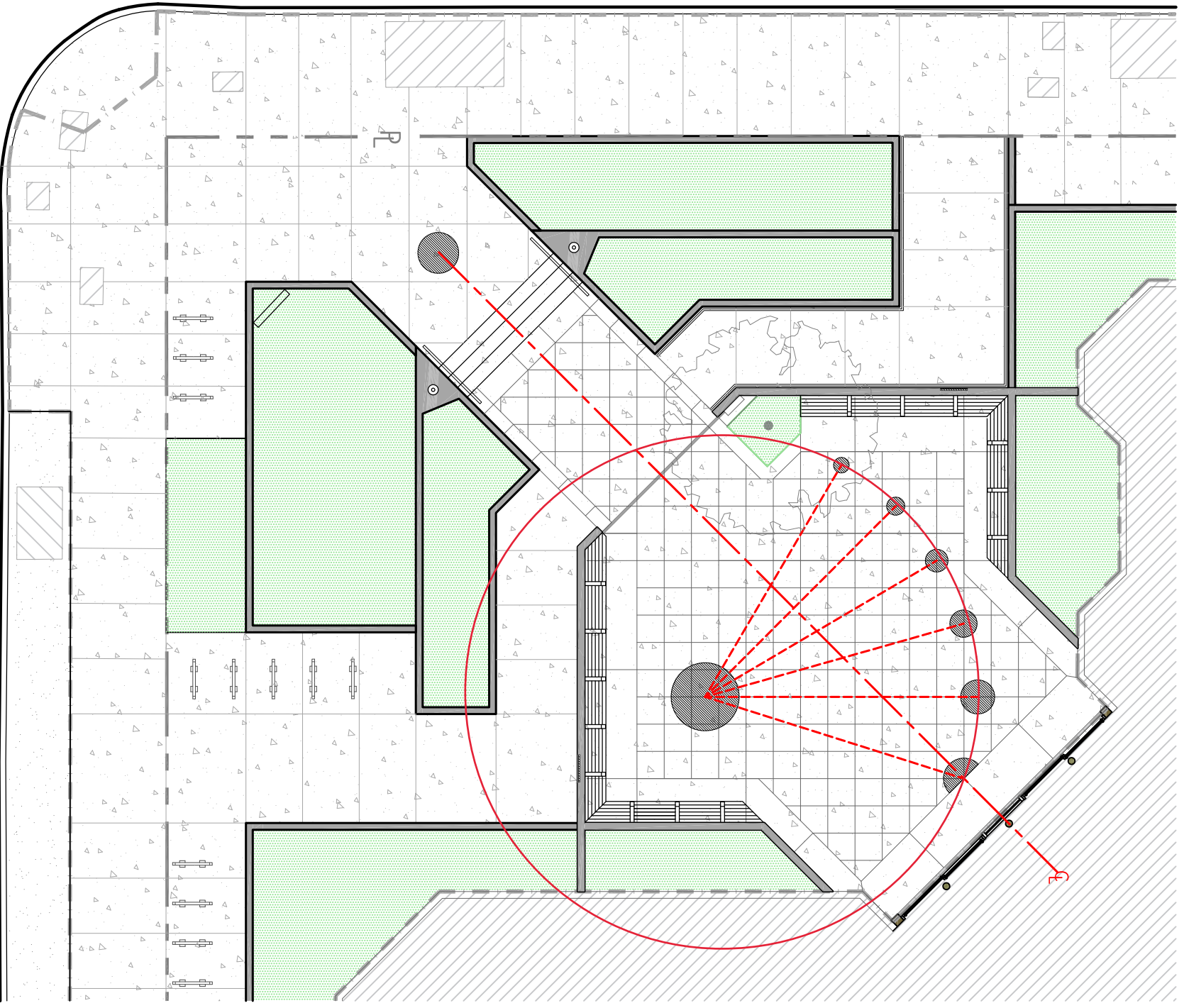




FINAL DESIGNS
Date: 9/18/2019

ENTRY PLAZA STONE PAVERS





September 06, 2019