

A Work/Live/Play proposal.

QUASAR TOWER - SAIFI # 450 GATE - LINK

Because of its contested location, the tower shall be rethought and take inspiration from the community. High land prices in the locality make high-rise buildings more economically viable than low-rises for such a program.



From a symbol of resistance to a beacon of resilience...

VERTICAL STREET

This idea was influenced by the traditional neighborhood shopping street.

This welcomes and allows people to go up through a vertical street that ends at a garden with a great view of the city.

The architectural interventions mostly consider the implementation of the vertical street, natural green (gardens, green facades) and technical green (sustainability-oriented technology and infrastructure).

URBAN INTERVENTION: BLURRING BOUNDARIES

The main idea behind this project is to create a vertical neighborhood with the same qualities of traditional horizontal settlements.

The goal is to define an outdoors vertical street that is connected to commercial recreational housing and office areas. The vertical street would have a mix of elevators and stairs with green parks and terraces.

SYNTHESIS

Social Resilience: Contested Location; Build for everyone, for the public. Human scale interventions, reviving socio-spatial practices. Linking the tower to the nearby buildings through the roofs.

Economic Resilience: Close to BCD; Economic Hub, job opportunities. Revival and Regeneration through dynamic programmatic implementations.

Architecture Resilience: Through Sustainability and the metabolism of the building.

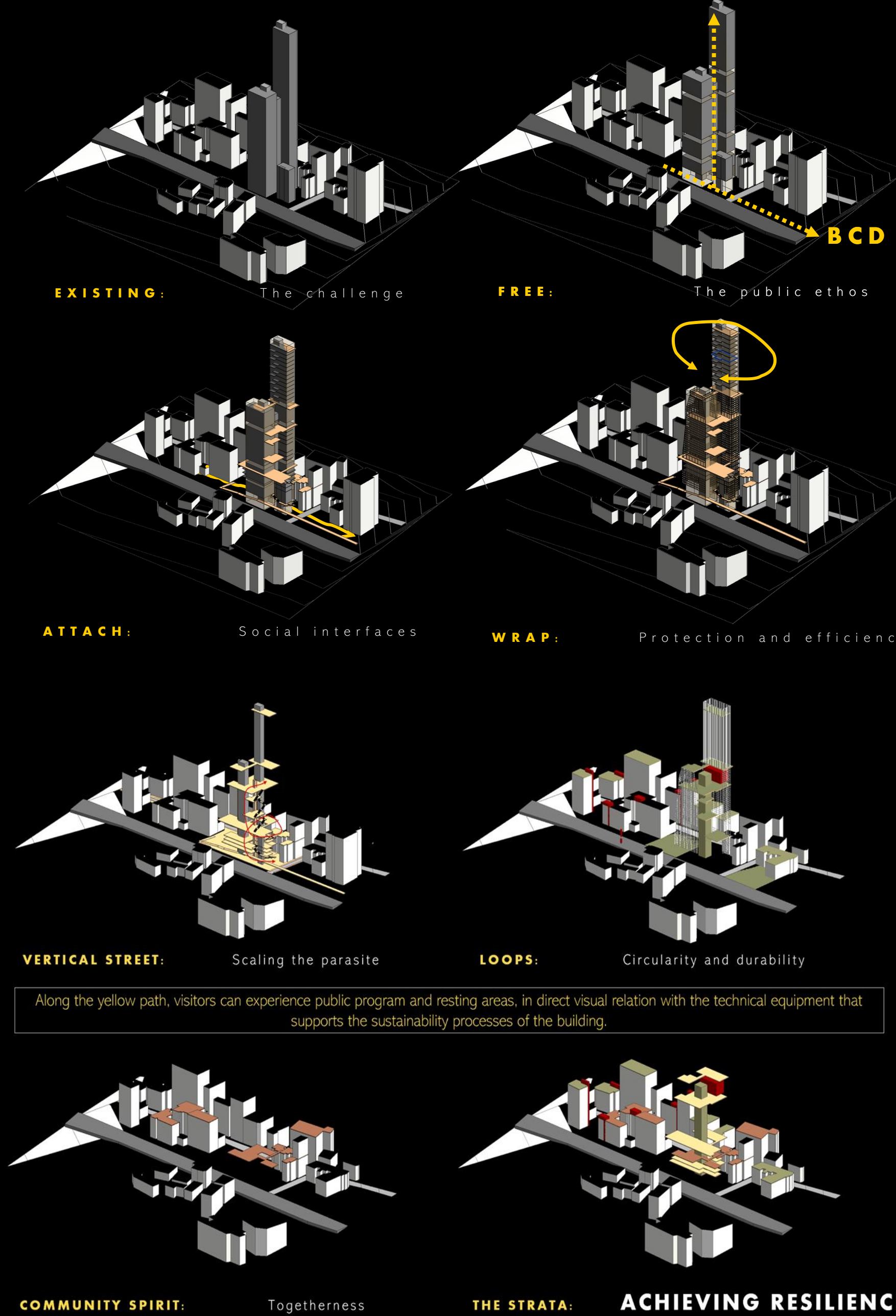


VIEW FROM BEIRUT

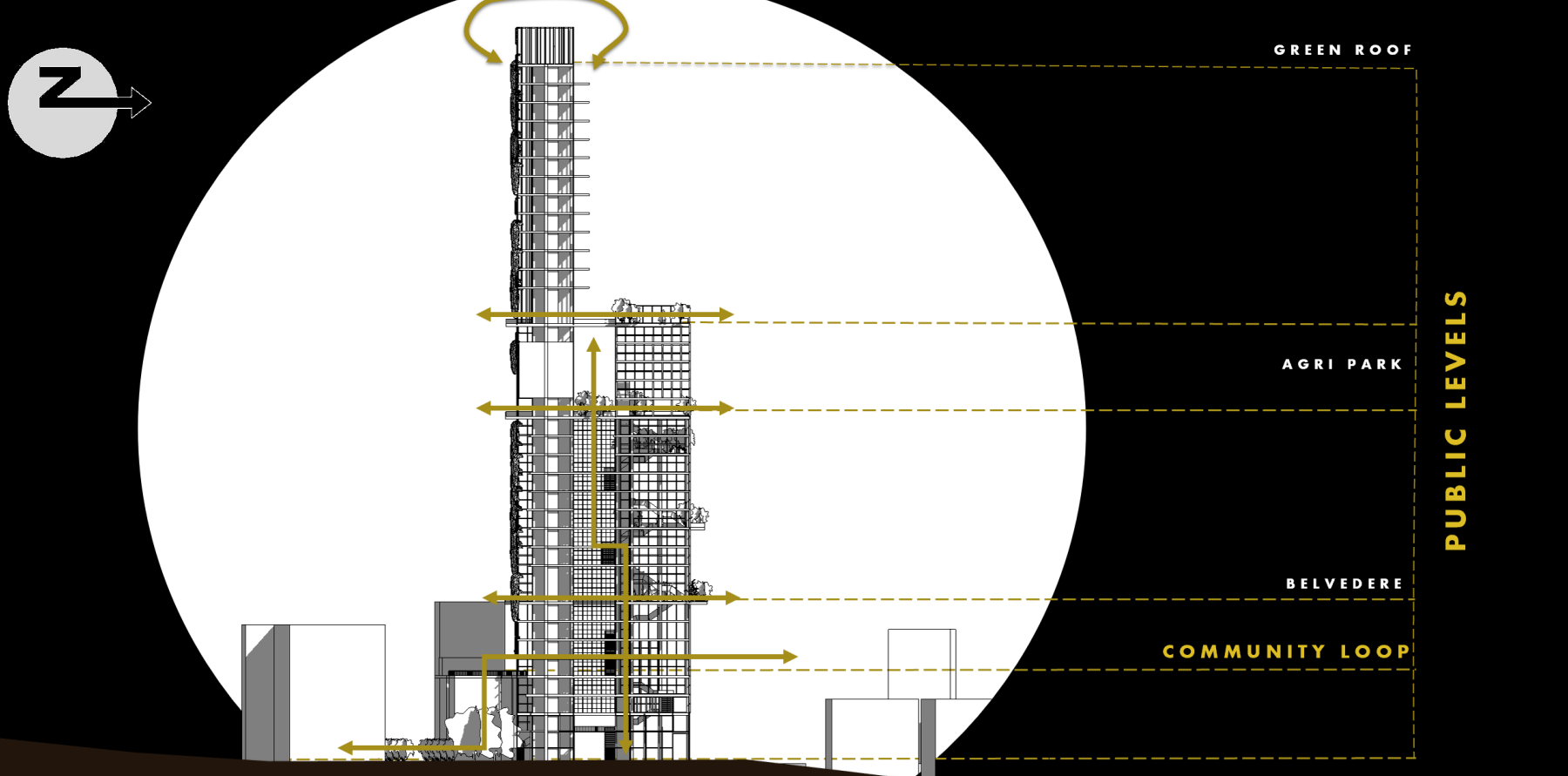


LIBERATING THE GROUND FLOOR
NEO BEIRUT PLAZA: STREET WASTE COLLECTION AND RECYCLING NODE
FOLLOW THE YELLOW. ALONG THE NEIGHBORHOOD, IN A NEWLY PEDESTRIANIZED FASHION

Diagram



The design of the new tower builds upon the original organizational principle of the tower: three blocks linked by public areas/levels.



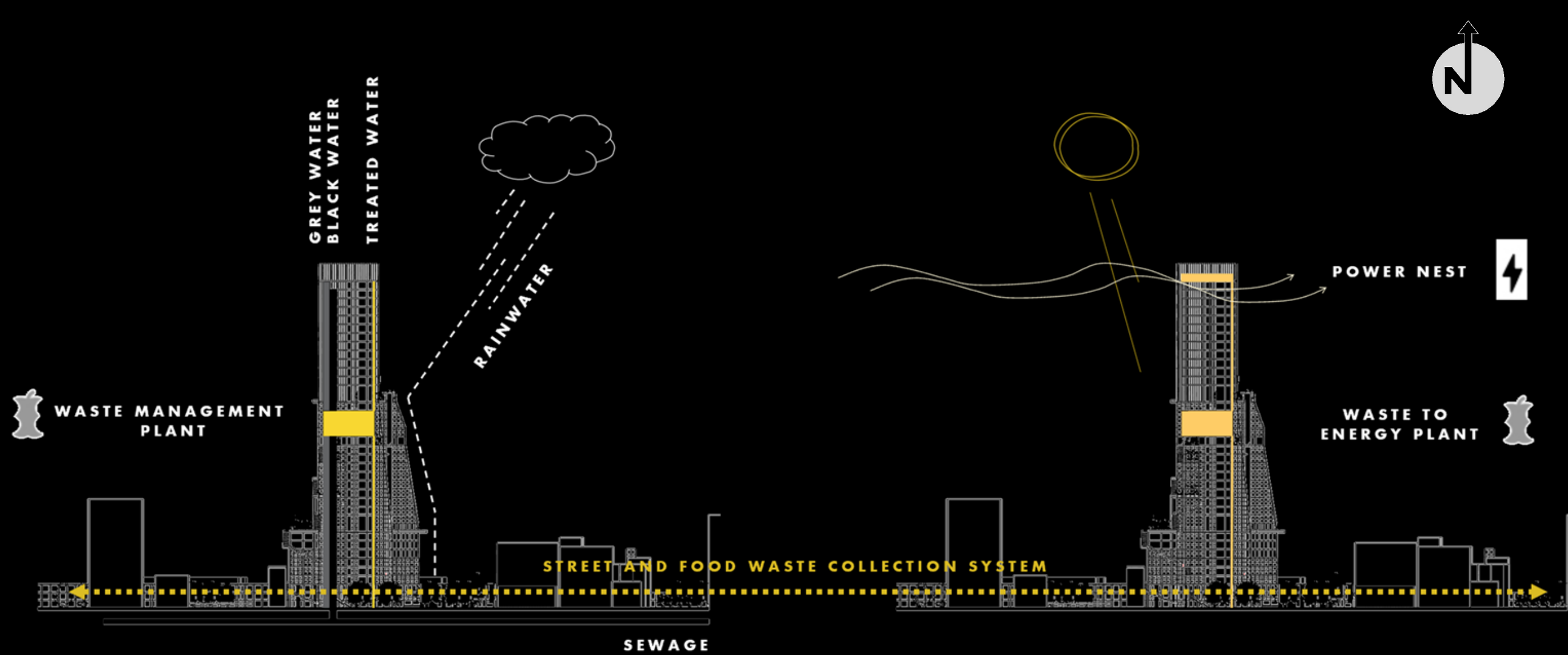
Spatial Divisions

Along the yellow path, visitors can experience public program and resting areas, in direct visual relation with the technical equipment that supports the sustainability processes of the building.

Rainwater and grey water are harvested/collected in the building basement, to be reused for food production and other processes around the building. Black water from the residential units and neighborhood is transformed into power in the waste to energy plant.

Energy is generated in the waste transformer to be used in the building. Additionally, a Power Nest generates electricity from wind and solar power, to guarantee regular provision of sustainable energy.

Sustainability



The vertical street is open to the public and the walkway grows into the volumes and bring interaction and public activities to all its levels.

A striking yellow staircase connects the blocks and acts as a continuous spatial sequence to guide visitors through the building.

