CONFLUENCE AND ENCOUNTER. THE TWO BLOCKS BETWEEN LAUREL STREET AND MULBERRY STREET WILL COME TO BE KNOWN AS THE SWITCHYARD, A PLACE DESIGNED TO MINDFULLY FACILITATE THE ENCOUNTERS OF PAST AND PRESENT, UNIVERSITY AND DOWNTOWN, PEDESTRIAN, BUS, CAR, AND TRAIN.

RATHER THAN TURN OUR BACKS TO THE MASSIVE PRESENCE THE RAILROAD HAS UPON THE SITE, WE CHOSE TO DRAW UPON KEY TOUCHSTONES OF THIS RICH HISTORY: RAIL, LUMBER, AND LIGHT, TO MEDIATE THE INTERTWINING OBJECTIVES EACH USER HAS.

TRACK 1. PEDESTRIANS.

SITE FURNITURE Rides ATOP THE EMBEDDED RAILS GIVING USERS ULTIMATE FLEXIBILITY IN MAKING THE SPACE THEIR OWN. THE FURNITURE’S MODULARITY ALLOWS IT TO BE FURTHER CONFIGURED TO SERVE AS PLATFORM SPACE FOR BUSKERS, ACTORS, AND EXHIBITING ARTISTS.

A ROBUST ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IS PROPOSED FOR THE SWITCHYARD. LARGE SWATHS OF NATIVE PRAIRIE PLANTINGS FLOW THROUGH THE SITE, FURTHER GROUNDING IT IN ITS REGIONAL CONTEXT, PROVIDING URBAN HABITAT AND ALLOWING FOR STORMWATER MITIGATION.

TRACK 2. BICYCLISTS.

TRACK 3. MOTORIZED VEHICLES.
ALL MOTORIZED TRAFFIC IS SHIFTED TO THE WESTERN SIDE OF MASON ST. THE STREET IS DESIGNED TO EASILY FACILITATE MAX BUS RAPID TRANSIT SERVICE STOPS, ALLOWING THE MASON STREET CORRIDOR TO CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS A MODEL IN MULTI-MODAL TRANSPORTATION.

WITHIN THE VIBRANCY OF FORT COLLINS, THE SWITCHYARD IS A SYMPHONIC ENGAGEMENT OF THE CITY’S ECOLOGICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND CULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURES. THE SITE FUNCTIONS AS AN EPICENTER OF ACTIVITY, GIVING ITS USERS THE OPTION TO SWITCH FROM DIFFERENT MODES OF BOTH TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION.
**Fort Collins Residents Stakeholder Workshop Goals**

**Connecting Fort Collins**
- **Goal:** Increase the number and size of pedestrian only spaces.
  - The creation of a pedestrian and cyclist woonerf on the eastern side of the site allows for passive recreation and an efficient bicycle path for cyclists to travel between downtown and the university.

**Greening Fort Collins**
- **Goal:** Focus on beautification – more green space, plants, alley spaces.
  - Landscaping throughout the site embraces a prairie ecosystem. Creating a unique urban habitat for both flora and fauna. Significant increases in permeable surfaces on site effectively capture and treat stormwater on site.

**Celebrating Fort Collins**
- **Goal:** Create a performance space in the central area.
  - ’Rail Car’ site furniture is located throughout the site. Each piece rides on a track network allowing the city and general public to configure formal and informal seating and event spaces.

The presence of the train is embraced by glowing LED lights embedded in the switchyard rails and fence posts, which are choreographed to reflect the trains movements.

Existing northbound lane closed between W. Laurel Street and W. Mulberry Street to allow for the new pedestrian and cyclist corridor. Existing southbound lanes reconfigured as single north/south lanes.

Custom designed modular furniture which can be utilized for passive recreation or performance platforms, can also be repositioned throughout the site along the switchyard rail system.