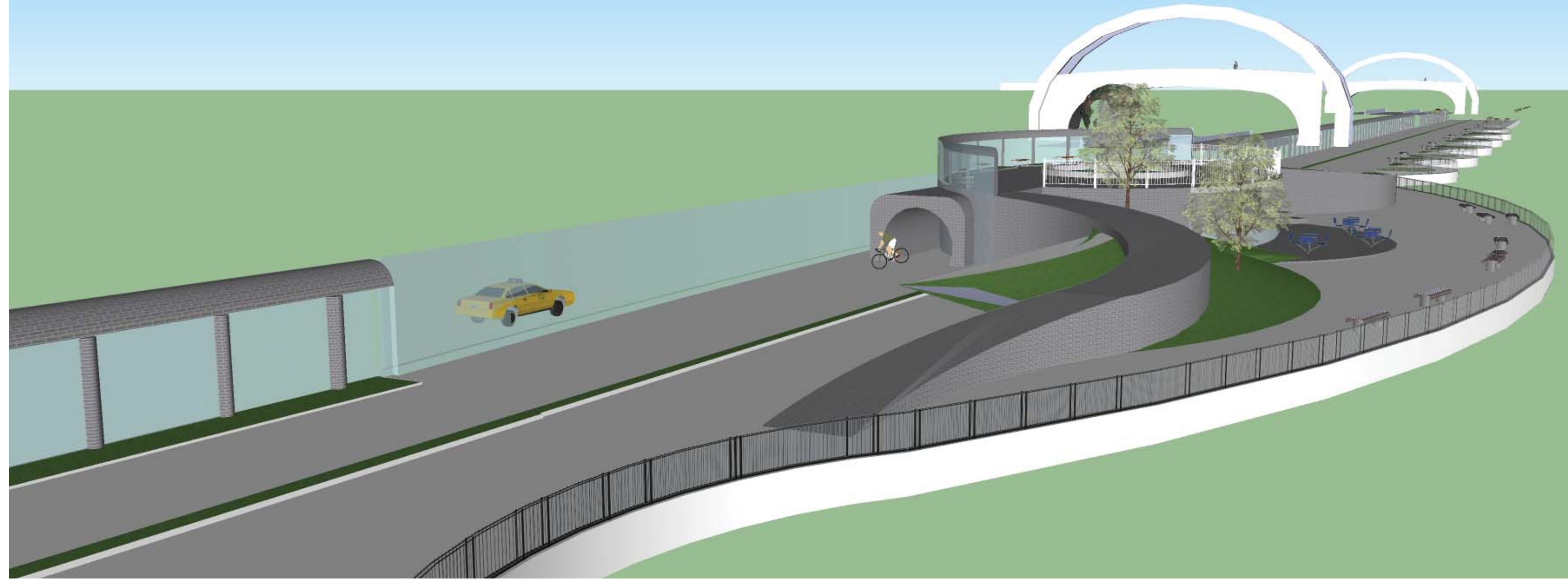
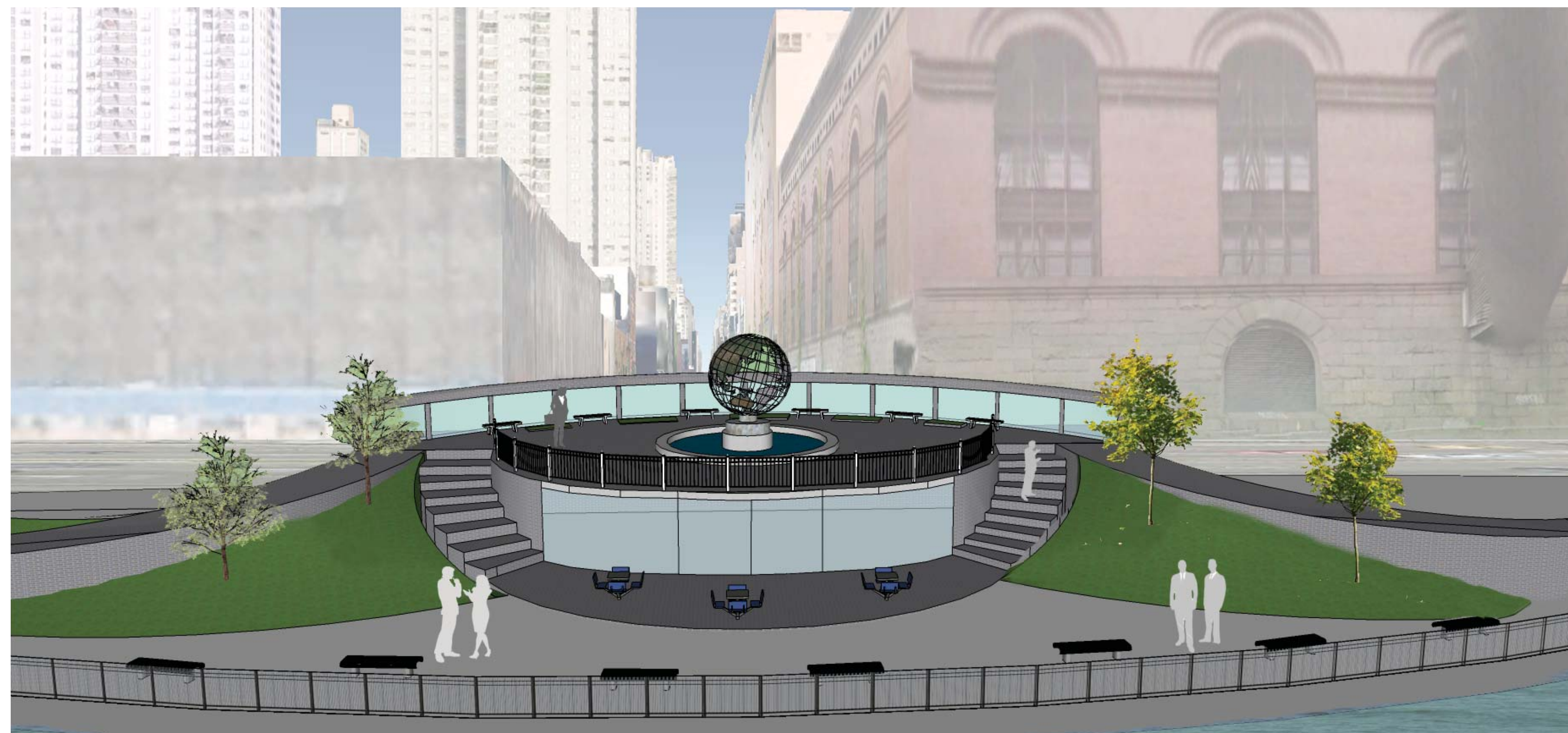


# REBIRTH OF THE WATERFRONT: *RENAISSANCE OF THE UPPER EAST SIDE*



We propose transparent sound barriers to block the noise from the FDR and city streets, which will allow for people to reflect on their surroundings in relative quiet space. Plantings of native vegetation will not only beautify the area, but serve to absorb storm water runoff, and provide a natural aesthetic buffer between cyclists and pedestrians.

We have also redesigned the overpass, creating a more attractive and accessible entrance to the park. The esplanade should be widened to 60 feet in order to comfortably accommodate both cyclists and pedestrians, as well as allow for a variety of passive activities. It will feature a curved riverside edge creating an organic feel with the water, while also creating alcoves for benches which do not block the flow of pedestrians. The cornerstone of our design revolves around a central plaza that features public art and a café, while ensuring accessibility with bicycle and pedestrian pathways. We encourage a partnership between the numerous local galleries and artists, to enhance the blank canvases of the esplanade.



LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF MANHATTAN, the East River waterfront has over 350 years' worth of maritime history. Today, the waterfront has become a poorly-maintained park, but it has the potential to become the major recreational area of the Upper East Side. Being shoulder to shoulder with the FDR, the park feels claustrophobic, noisy and generally uncomfortable. Our concept aims to alleviate these issues in a number of ways. Although our plans only cover the stretch of esplanade from 71st to 78th Street, these concepts can be applied to the entire East River waterfront.

## REIMAGINING THE WATERFRONT

### 1. INCREASE WATERFRONT ACCESS

### 2. ENCOURAGE ACTIVE DESIGN

### 3. RESTORE NATURAL ECOLOGY

