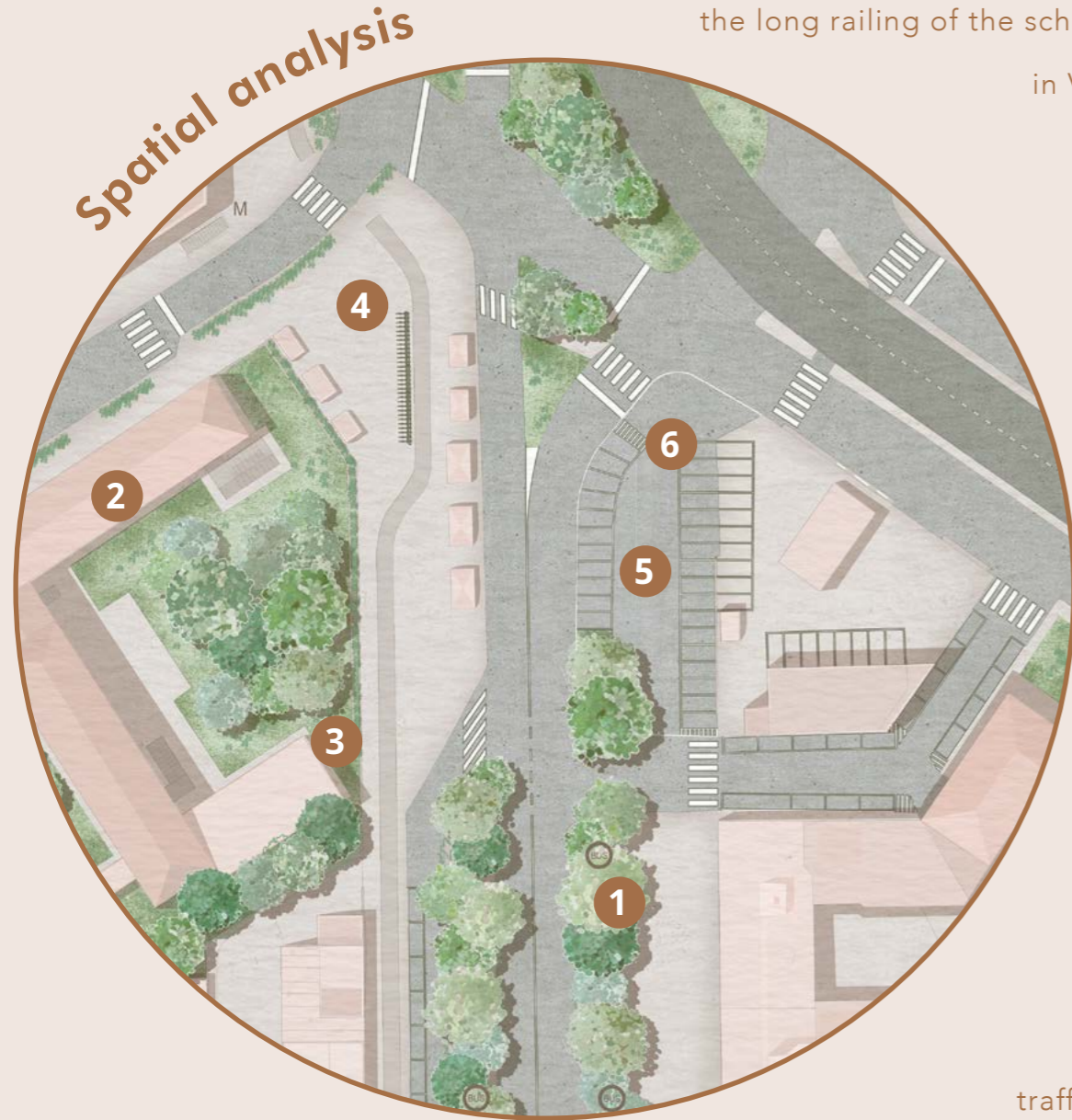


Two
proposals
future of Corvetto

After the spatial survey that we have conducted in the first two weeks, we were asked to develop two visions for the intervention of tactical urbanism in Piazzale Corvetto, taking into account all the insights about opportunities and issues that we have discovered thanks to the spatial and the community analysis.

Opportunities

- 1 easily accessible thanks to transport
- 2 presence of a primary school
- 3 the long railing of the school's garden in Viale Martini



Issues

- traffic and noise
- 4 there aren't benches in the square
- 1 near a bus stop, there isn't a pedestrian crossing
- 5 the big parking near the gas station is difficult for pedestrians' passage
- 6 some abusive parking lots, also on pedestrian crossings
- waiting time for buses is longer than the average time in Milan

Opportunities

- 1 the community is really active
- 1 virtuous examples of social cohesion between people of different cultures
- 2 the azzaip project is a good example of how is it possible to fight against illegal activities in a well-curated place
- the square can become a landmark gathering place and attract more people to participate
- 3 children can be agents of site vitality



Issues

- illegal activities
- 4 a place for young people (15-25 years old) is missing
- 5 green areas and pedestrian paths need to be implemented
- it's hard to involve in the activities people from other neighbourhoods
- 6 Rete Corvetto doesn't organize meetings in open and public spaces
- 1 although there are many initiatives, it's hard to involve all the social classes, especially the weakest ones

First of all, the pedestrian flow on one side of Viale Martini is hindered by the presence of a big and ugly car parking, that also the municipality would remove. Since the pedestrian crossing is at the end of the parking, people are not encouraged to use it and they always cross the street risking their life. So, our first decision has been to relocate these parking lots in a secondary street near the gas station, because it's an almost "private" street used just by residents. We have decided to change this double-ways street in an alternate one-way street; in this way, we can provide the same number of parking lots, but leaving free an important space for the flow of pedestrians.

The second problem is the bicycle parking in the square: it is too long (more or less 23 meters) and in the middle between the kiosks and two market stalls, the street vendors said that it has reduced the pedestrian traffic and consequentially their incomes. For these reasons, we would like to interrupt the ranks of the bicycle in the middle, removing three of them.

The third problem is regarding Via Polesine, the street in front of a primary school. There is a pedestrian crossing with a traffic light, but they are not near the entrance of the school. When the light goes green, the drivers speed-up exactly in front of the school. The possible solution that we have proposed is to create a "zone 30", to make drivers aware of the proximity of the school.

- 1 "zone 30" traffic limit
- 2 division in the bike station
- 3 moving the pedestrian crossing
- 4 new pedestrian area
- 5 moved parking lots



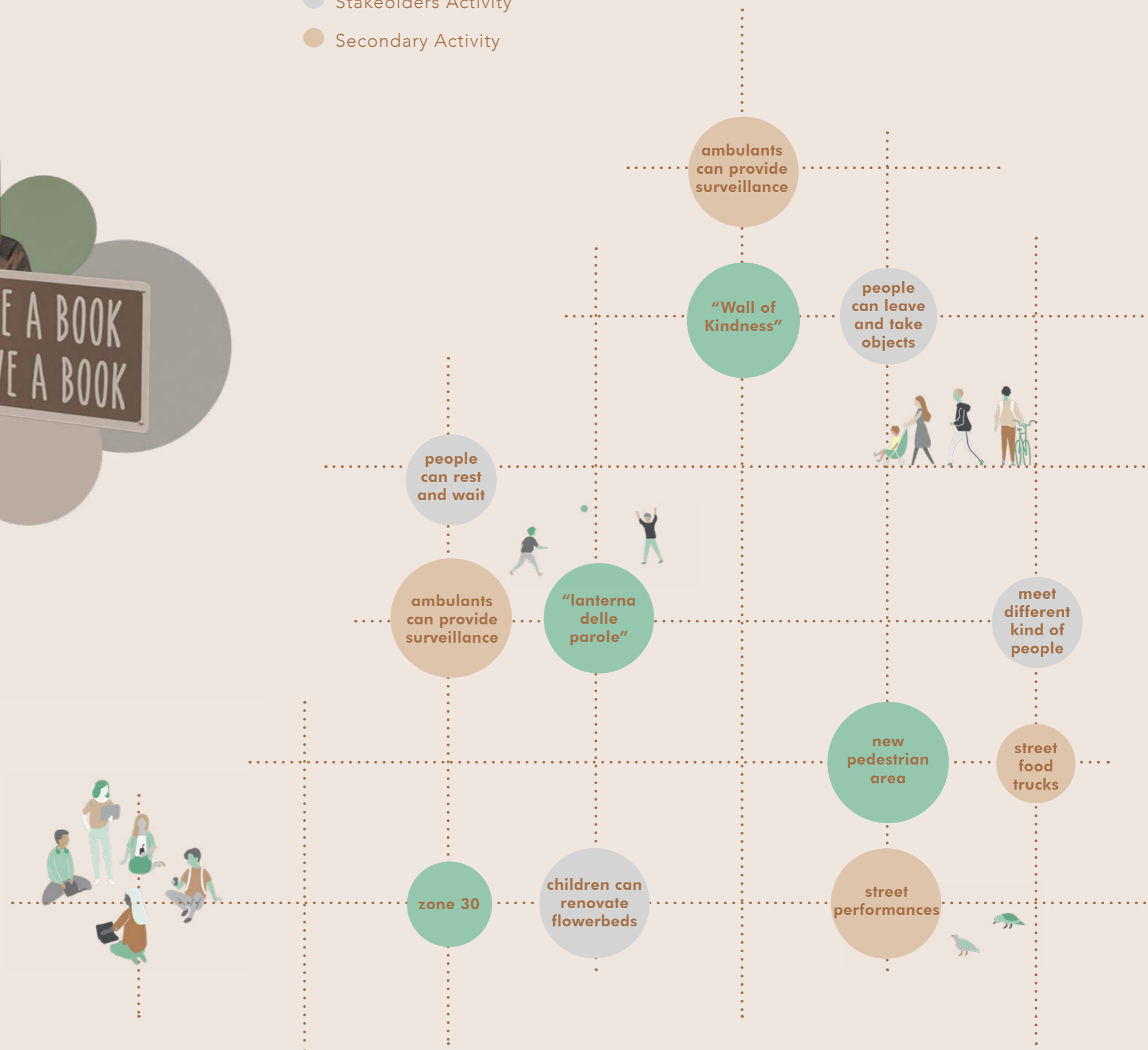
Spatial changes



The water as metaphor of social life

A place where people can stop, have rest and find a moment to look around in "search of beauty". A place where many different things could happen, unified by the theme of water that became the symbol not only of biological but also of social life. On one side of Viale Martini, the long railing of the school garden, is transformed in a "wall of kindness", where people can leave and take any kind of object. Near the wall of kindness, a place where people can seat and maybe read a book while they are waiting for the bus. On the other side, the big car parking near the gas station is given back to the pedestrians with two street food stalls, some tables where people can eat and stay together and where events could be organized by street performers.

- Main Spatial Intervention
- Stakeolders Activity
- Secondary Activity



Books' harbour

The first vision is based on the conversations with Giacomo, on his ideas and the needs of other street vendors. We have discovered that two street food stalls are not permanent, because the space in the sidewalks of the square is not enough for all of them. During the day, there are always the market stalls with clothes and shoes and so the street food stalls are open just in the evening. Removing the parking lots on the other side, it is possible not only to improve the pedestrian paths but also to give to the owners a permanent space for their activities and to add some tables where people can meet and eat together. In addition, the owners could become an active part of the project, providing surveillance against illegal activities and taking care of the new urban furniture of the area.

On the other side, Giacomo would like to use the long railing of the school's garden as a "book-shelf" for the bookcrossing's activity, that is already successful in his kiosk. We were not convinced at all that this was a good solution, because this initiative doesn't need a lot of space to be implemented. We have tried to ask people, through the survey, their opinion and we have understood that even it's an interesting activity, most of them doesn't feel so involved in it. So, we have discussed with Giacomo and together we have decided to think about the creation of a "Wall of Kindness", where people could leave and take any kind of objects, also books. With these interventions, but also with the creation of a place where to sit while waiting for the buses (waiting time is longer than the average time in Milan because they aren't important buses), he would like to transform this high traffic area in a place where to have rest and to observe the surroundings, allowing people to discover the potentialities and the beauty of Piazzale Corvetto, that he already see from his kiosk every day.

- 1 "Wall of Kindness"
- 2 "Lantern of words"
- 3 street food area
- 4 street-art performance
- 5 places to sit



East side of the street



West side of the street

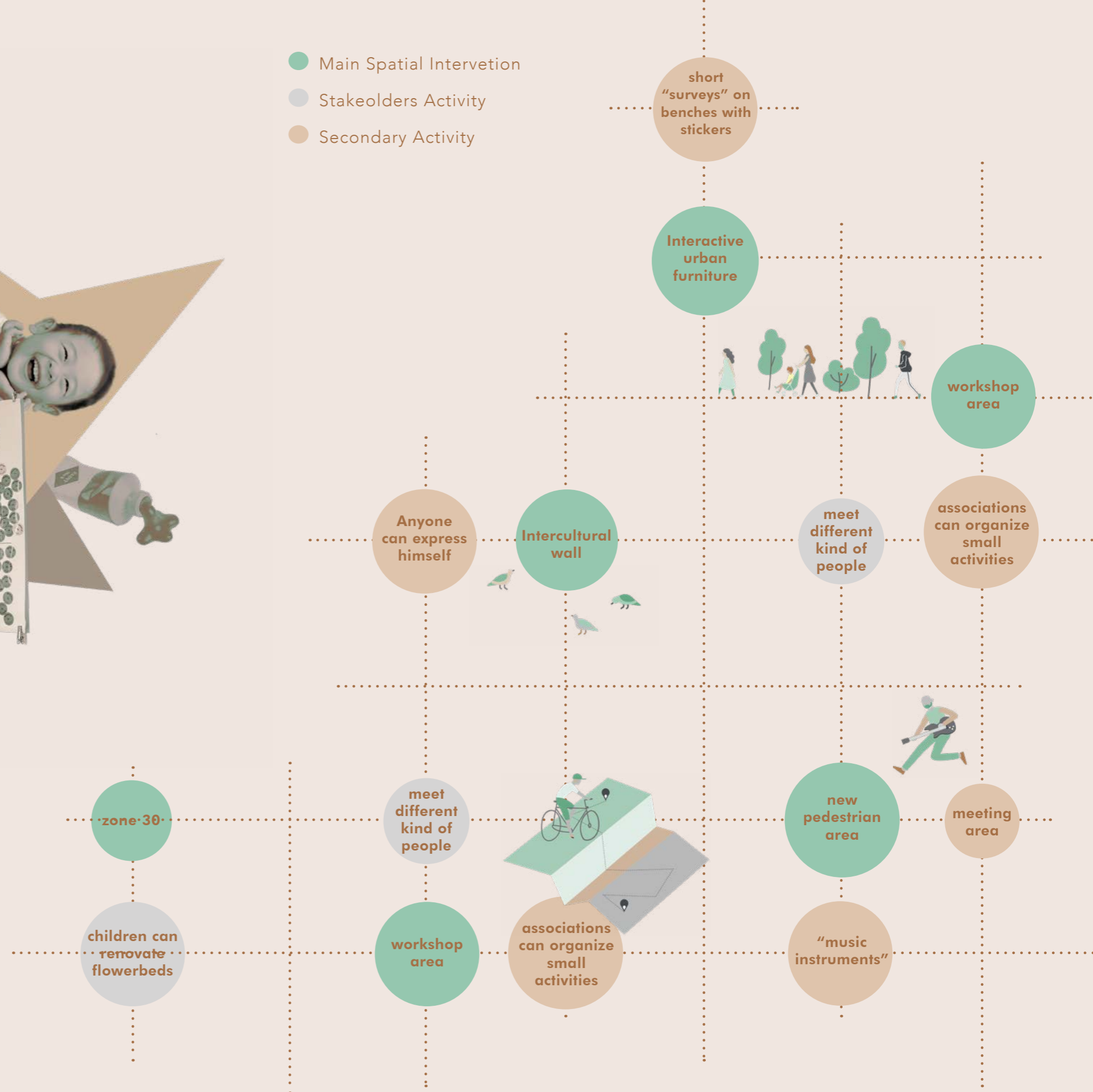
Books' harbour



Design as a tool to express opinions

In the Corvetto neighbourhood there are a lot of initiatives, but it's hard to involve all the social classes, especially the weakest ones, in them. The aim of the second vision, is to create a neutral place that works as an "open laboratory", where all the social classes could be involved in interactive activities. On one side of Viale Martini, it becomes a kind of "community analysis", where passengers are asked to give their ideas about the neighbourhood and to describe themselves in a creative way, avoiding the barrier of the language. On the other side, the parking is transformed in a place that could host meetings, an occasion to be in contact with the target that they want to help and to discuss with them about possible initiatives.

- Main Spatial Intervention
- Stakeholders Activity
- Secondary Activity



Open laboratory



East side of the street

- 1 "Intercultural wall"
- 2 workshop area
- 3 meeting area
- 4 music area
- 5 demographic survey furniture

Regarding the second proposal, we focused on a different topic. The idea came to us by carrying out an analysis of the site: at this stage we came into contact with a small group of cohesive and very active people, always committed to promoting new initiatives, but we were unable to reach anyone who was outside of this network. We have therefore found that, in the same way, this network is unable to develop proposals that involve all the targets of people in the area and all social classes. Consequently, we struggled to develop a solution that was for everyone and in the same way that supported the associations operating in the area to help them better understand who the inhabitants of Corvetto are and what their opinions and needs are. It is a sort of "open laboratory" where anyone is called to express themselves. It was planned to include an area dedicated to meetings, areas for artistic and musical expression and a sort of widespread demographic survey, the idea is to use street furniture as a support and to ask simple multiple-choice questions so that passersby can indicate their thoughts using a sticker or other tools yet to be defined. Our intervention would be only a starting point and the neighborhood would complete the work in a way that we cannot foresee.



West side of the street

All the benches in the area, both existing ones and those added by us, would serve as support for the demographic survey mentioned above. In front of the school we plan to place blackboards to allow children to express themselves by playing. On one side of viale Martini, the same where Giacomo's kiosk is, we would like to create an "intercultural wall" on which people have the space to represent themselves, a real wall of faces in order to get to know the community of Corvetto. In front of this wall there would be a workshop area with a large table available for everyone and for any need. We imagine the other side of the road pedestrian with an enlargement in the north, near the petrol station with an area for meetings and unusual musical instruments that would be stationary and for everyone.

We thought about music because we read that there are a lot of rappers in Corvetto and we dedicated to it the same space that we dedicated to meetings because when we attended a "Rete Corvetto" (Corvetto Network) meeting we saw that in the end many of the participants brought out the own musical instruments and played them for others.

Open laboratory

