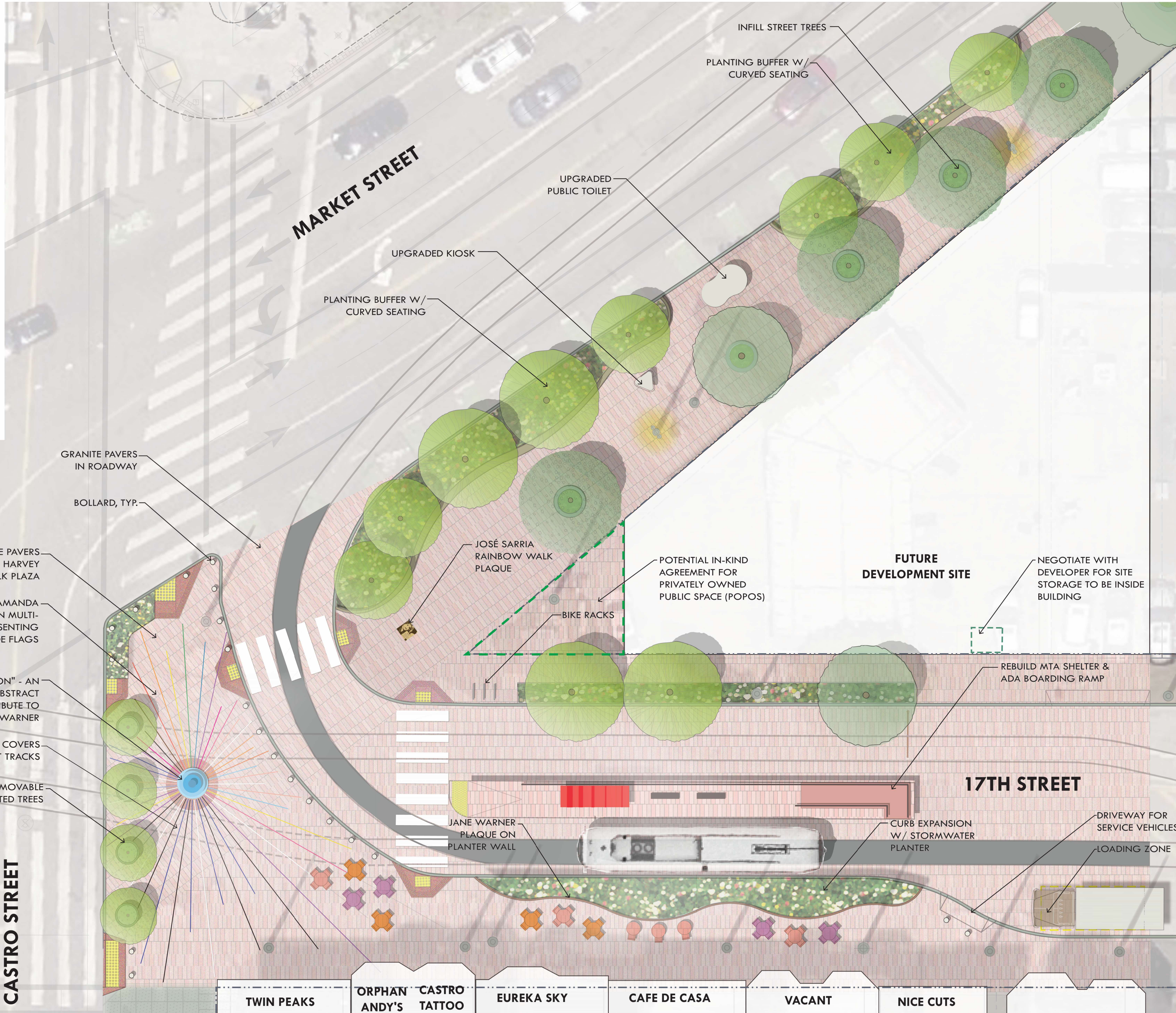


# Preferred Concept : Green Embrace - Long Term Plan

**LEGEND**

- GRANITE PAVERS
- CONCRETE PAVING AT TRACKS
- MULTI-COLORED LINES OF VARIOUS LGBTQ FLAGS
- RAISED PLANTER W/ TREE
- RAISED STORMWATER PLANTER
- MOVABLE FURNISHINGS
- MUNI SHELTER
- BOLLARD
- EXISTING TREE
- MTA OCS POLE



**WE RISE**  
BY AMANDA GORMAN

TODAY, EVERYONE'S EYES ARE ON US AS WE RISE. TODAY IS THE DAY WOMEN ARE PAVING THE WAY, SPEAKING OUR TRUTH TO POWER. IN THIS HOUR, IT IS OUR DUTY TO FIND THE BRAVE BEAUTY IN ROOTING FOR OTHER WOMEN SO THEY TOO KNOW WE ARE NOT VICTIMS, WE ARE VICTORS, THE GREATEST PREDICTORS OF PROGRESS. WE PRESS FOR CHANGE, A NEW DAWN DRAWN INTO THE OPEN BY WOMEN WHOSE SILENCE IS BROKEN. WE PUSH ON AND ACT ON OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BRING VISIBILITY TO THE MOST VULNERABLE: TO BRING FREEDOM TO THOSE WHO DIDN'T HAVE A CHOICE, TO BRING VOLUME TO THOSE WHO ARE USING THEIR VOICE. WE CLEAR A WOMAN'S WAY, WE DON'T FEAR THE DAY SHE STEPS INTO THE LIGHT BECAUSE WE ARE WITH HER EVERY STEP OF THE FIGHT. THERE'S A LOT AT STAKE, BUT MAKING A DIFFERENCE ALWAYS TAKES GREAT COURAGE. SO WE ENCOURAGE WOMEN WHO DARE TO STARE FEAR SQUARE IN ITS FACE, WOMEN WHO'VE ALWAYS SHOWN THAT WHEN ONE WOMAN STANDS UP SHE IS NEVER ALONE. WE KNOW THAT WHEN SHE STEPS UP TO RIGHT A WRONG, SHE WILL FIGHT TO BRING OTHERS ALONG TO THE NETWORK, INTO THE CONVERSATION, WORKING TOGETHER TO CHANGE COMMUNITIES AND NATIONS FOR GENERATIONS, OUR WORLD MADE ALL THE STRONGER THE LONGER WOMEN ARE ABLE TO SIT AT THE TABLE. IT IS HER STRENGTH, HER STORY, AND HER SPIRIT WHICH INSPIRES OTHER VITAL VOICES TO SPEAK UP WHEN THEY HEAR IT. SO LET IT BE SAID THAT LIGHT WILL BE SHED WHEN OUR WORLD IS LED BY LEADERS AHEAD OF THE HEADLINES, THE VOICES WHO ARE FIRST ON THE FRONTLINE, THESE WOMEN WHO STAND UP, KNOWING THE WIND NOT BY WHERE IT IS, BUT WHERE IT IS BLOWING, LEADING WORLDS NOT BY HOW SOCIETY IS BUT WHERE CHANGE IS GOING. WE ALL LEAP FORWARD WHEN ONE WOMAN TRIES, WHEN SHE DEFILES WITH HER RALLYING CRIES. HERE LIES, BUT DOES NOT REST, THE BEST OF TESTED WOMEN WHO CALL US ALL TO RISE, SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN THIS FINEST HOUR: THAT TO THEIR OWN POWER, EVERY SINGLE WOMAN IS ENTITLED. BUT IT'S HOW THEY EMPOWER OTHERS THAT MAKES WOMEN'S VOICES SO VITAL.

*\*FULL POEM PROPOSED TO BE EMBEDDED IN PLAZA PAVING*