

# IMPROVE THE MISSING LINKS

The Netherlands has a well-functioning public transportation network, effectively connecting various cities and villages. The first and last-mile challenge is often well addressed by implementing quality bike paths within the cities. However, there are still opportunities to improve accessibility within the Netherlands, especially within the Randstad region. The diagram here illustrates room for improvement in the transportation system for certain interesting green areas and industrial zones such as ports and areas with greenhouses.

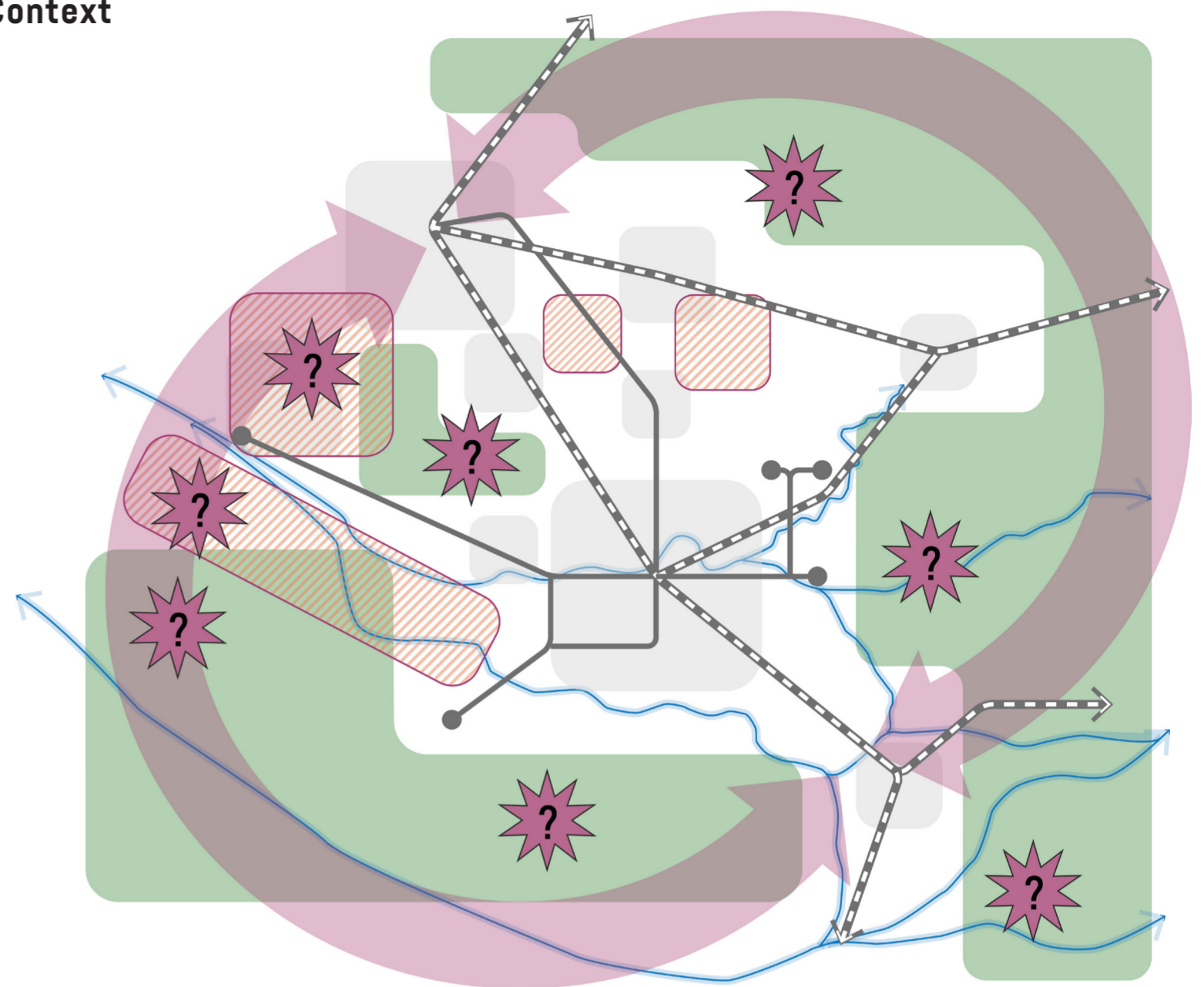
In this study, efforts are made to connect these regions with the cities better. This can be achieved by establishing new public transportation routes or creating high-quality bicycle connections. This approach improves accessibility between urban and rural areas, unlocking the full potential of these regions. **The study specifically zooms in on two different locations: the Westland and the Midden Delfland.**

**The Westland is a global pioneer in greenhouse horticulture, often referred to as the Silicon Valley in this sector.** In addition to producing flowers and vegetables, there is a strong focus on innovation and knowledge. The upgrade of the Horti Campus has attracted thousands of students daily, who come to learn about greenhouse horticulture. The introduction of the Greenhouse line has significantly improved the connectivity of the Westland with the cities of Rotterdam and The Hague. Thanks to this enhanced accessibility, the Westland has been able to fully use its potential. Today, all knowledge and innovation in the field of greenhouse horticulture comes from the Westland.

In addition to the Westland, Midden Delfland has also undergone an upgrade and is now the perfect retreat for urban citizens (coming from Rotterdam, The Hague, Delft, etc.) to relax. The various appealing bike paths have transformed Midden Delfland into a vibrant area where there's space for socializing, recreation, and education. The newly planted forests, the Delftse plas, and the estate Honselersdijk are wonderful attractions that make the area appealing to everyone.

**In the new estate Honselersdijk, the products of the Westland and the nature of Midden Delfland come together.** Through education, both children and adults learn about the processes of greenhouse horticulture and how this sector sustainably produces food for the Dutch population. A planted forest illustrates the principles of how houses are constructed using wood. In the pancake house, parents, children, students, and the elderly come together to meet each other. The estate itself is designed with beautiful gardens that are maintained by the residents of this place.

## Context



## Principles



Create meeting points



Add greening and place for excess water



Improve knowledge centres



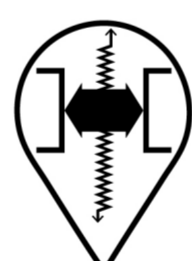
New prioritization in the modalities



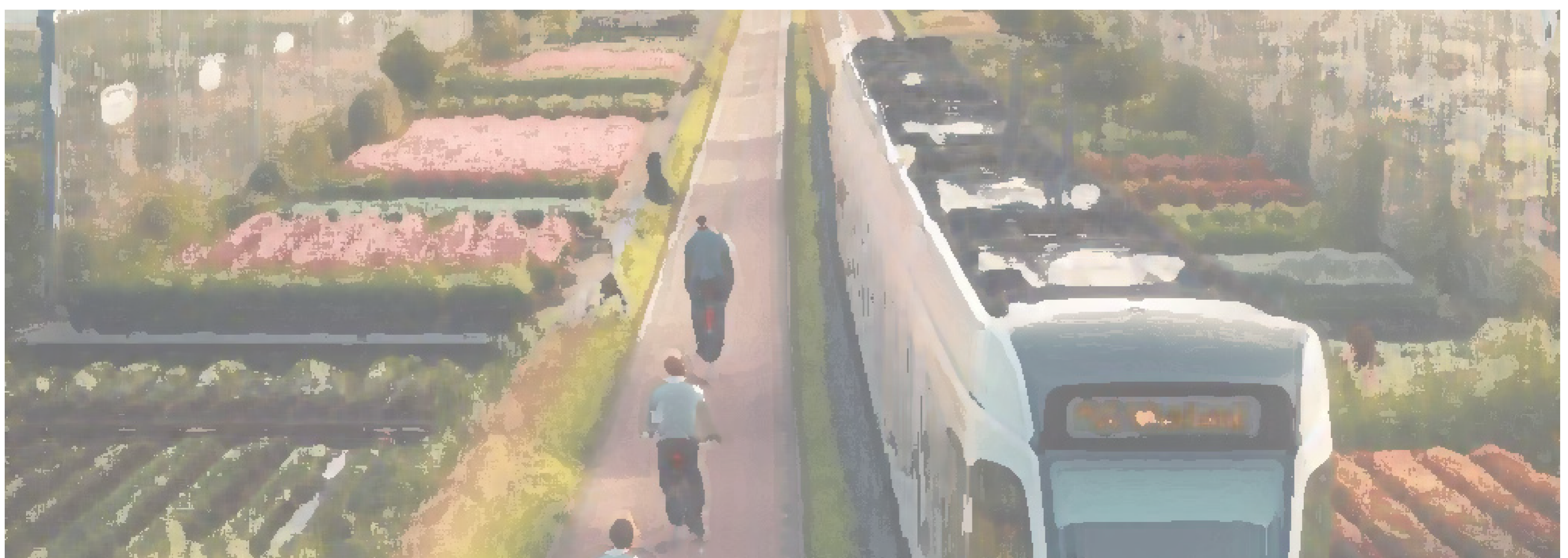
Improve connections from cities to green spaces



Densify around public transport stations



Break down barriers





# Regional map



## Legend

### Landscapes

- Forest
- Meadow
- Polder
- Agriculture
- Recreational green
- Beach
- Water

### Build environment

- Buildings
- City centers
- Horticulture
- Port of Rotterdam

### Connections

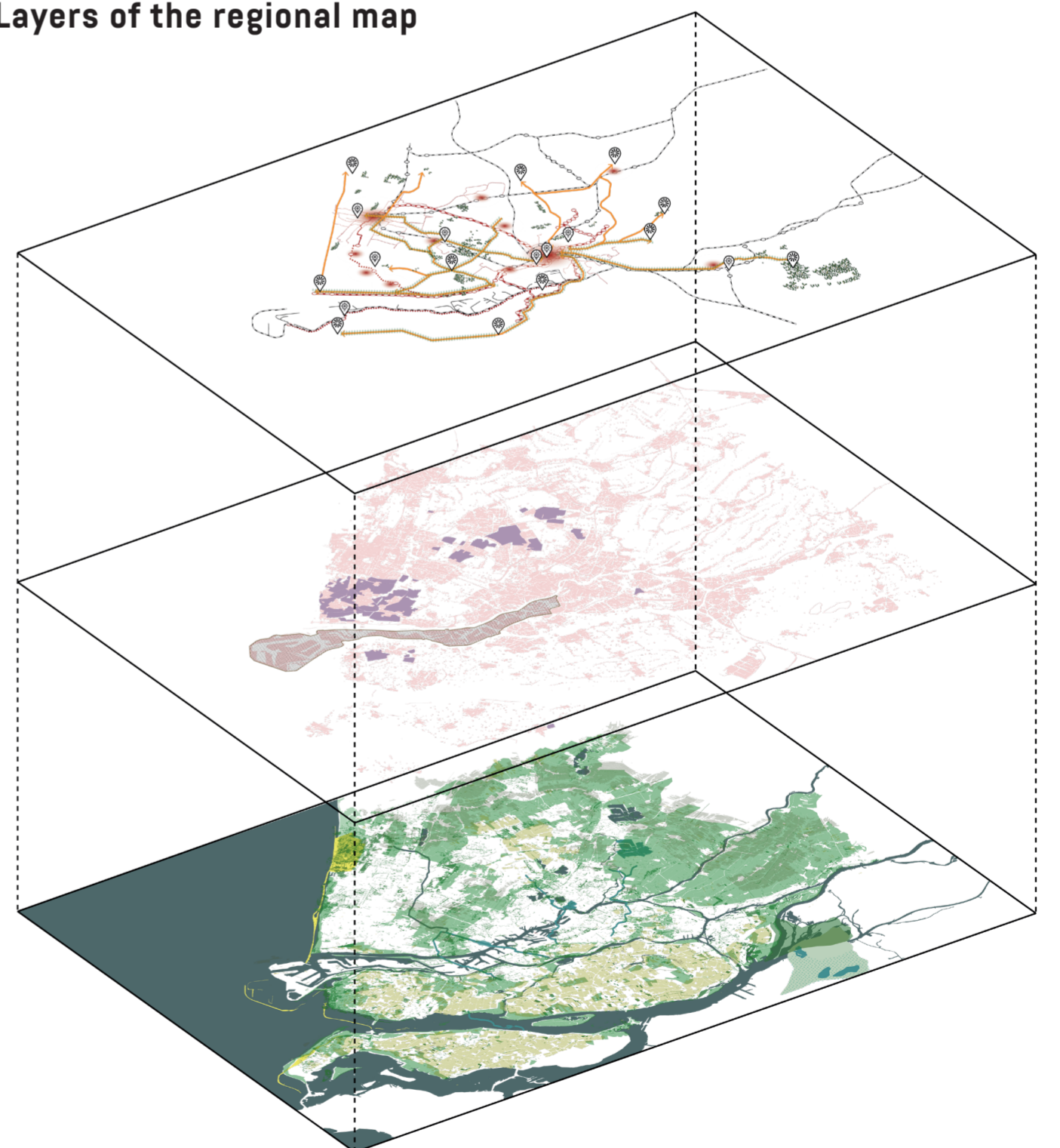
- Bike paths
- Metro line
- New metro/tram lines
- Metro station
- Train line
- Train station

### Icons

- Knowledge centers
- Meeting points

1:350.000

## Layers of the regional map



In the future, the southwest of the Randstad will be well connected to the beautiful landscapes which it contains. Existing bike paths will be improved and they will be replenished with new bike paths. Alongside these bike paths the different landscapes of the Netherlands will be shown. Besides the improvement of the cycle system, the Westland will be transformed into a world that breaths sustainability. Food and flowers will be produced sustainably. A lot of green will be added to the Westland and this green gives the region an appearance that suits her. In the new estate Honselersdijk, the world of nature and horticulture will come together. This will be a place with room for education and recreation. People can learn about the old history of horticulture and how this has improved the last years. Children can play, and parents and adults can meet each other and talk about the riches of the Netherlands. The diagram shows the different layers of how the region is build up. In the landscape the cities are realized, and they are integral connected with each other.



## Zoom in: Westland



## Legend

### Build environment

- Buildings
- Locations for additional housing
- Horticulture
- Industrial area

### Icons

- Knowledge centers
- Meeting points
- Locations for additional housing

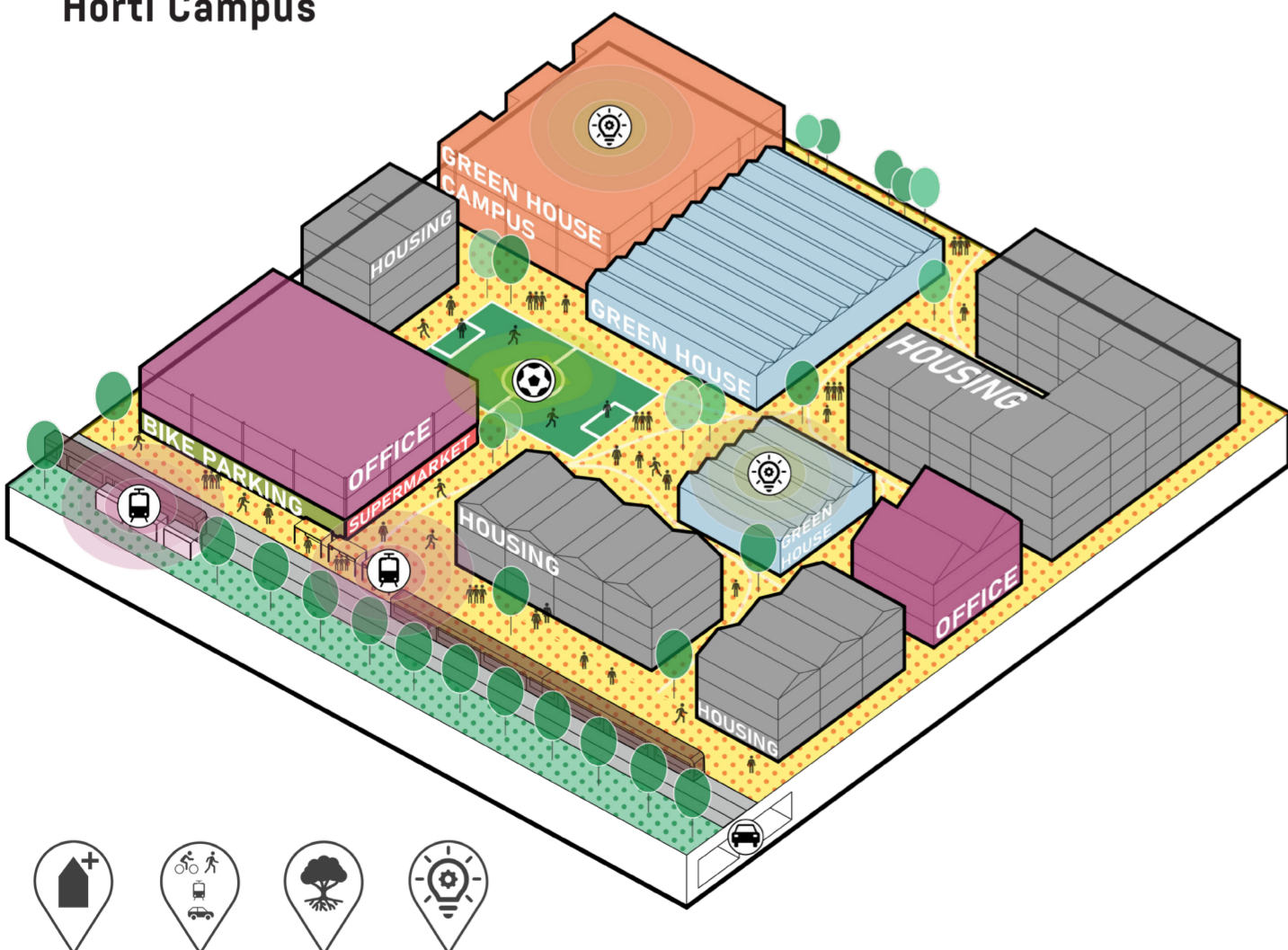
### Connections

- ⋯ New tram line
- New tram stations
- Scenario 1
- Scenario 2
- Scenario 3
- Additional road

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## □ Mobility hub: Horti Campus

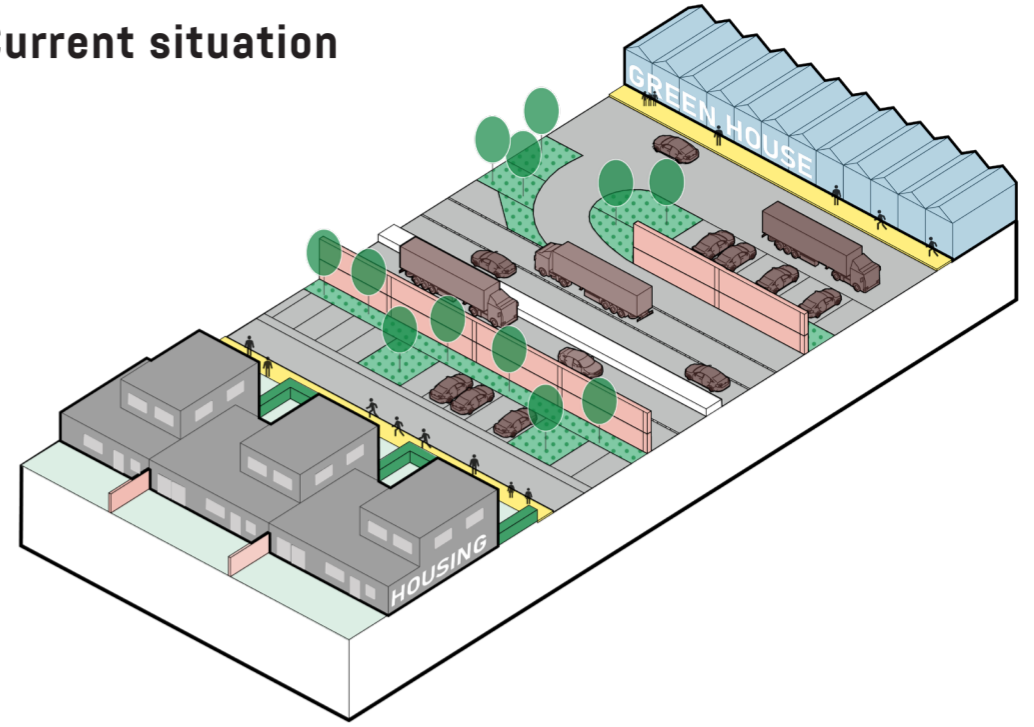


The areas alongside the new tram stops will be densified. In the building block is the tramstop at the Horti Campus shown, where housing will be combined with an improved Horti Campus, offices, greenhouses, and recreational places.

## Improve the missing links

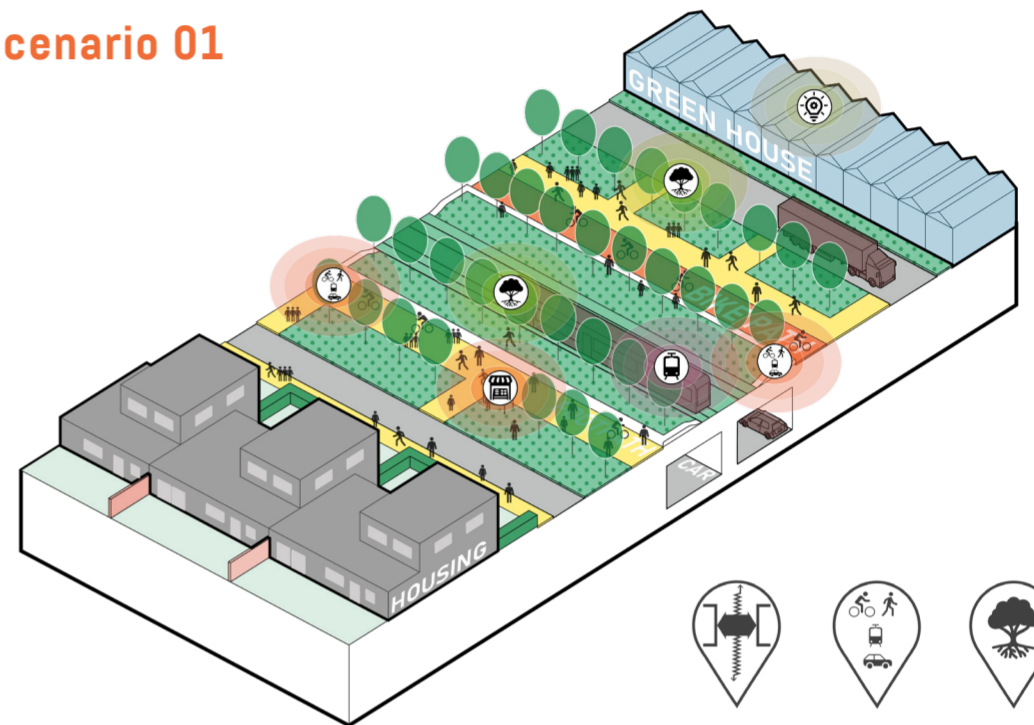
## Building blocks

### Current situation



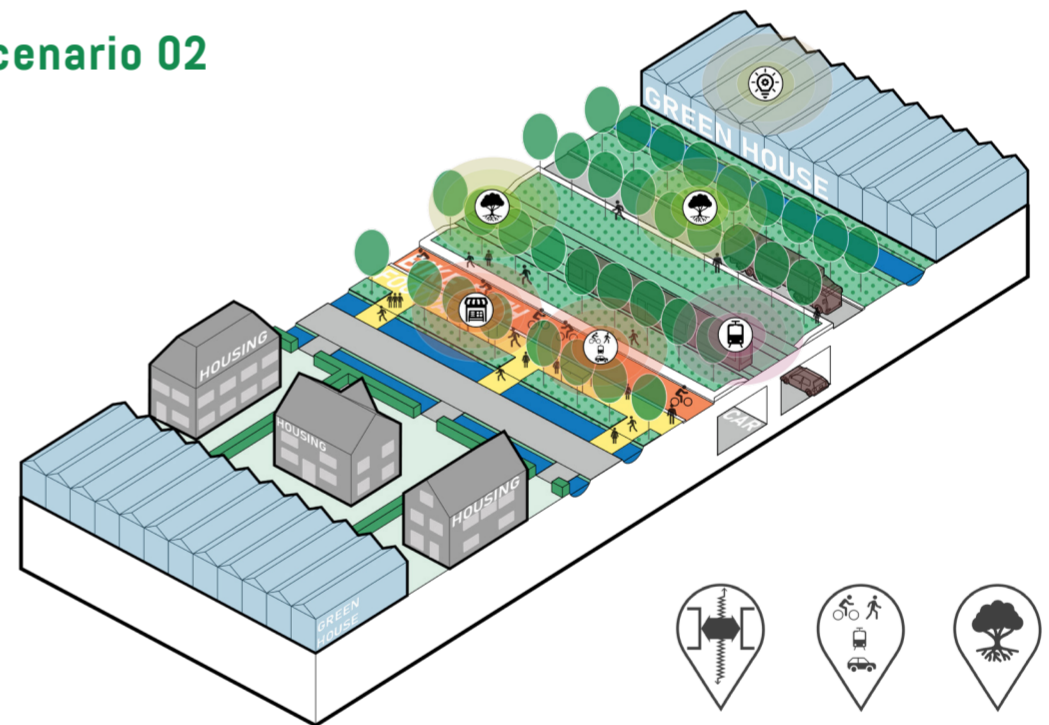
In the current situation the car dominates in the Westland. The N213 and N211 are major provincial roads that separate different parts of the Westland from each other. Various homes have views off noise barriers, which are necessary because of the sound generated by cars and trucks.

### □ Scenario 01



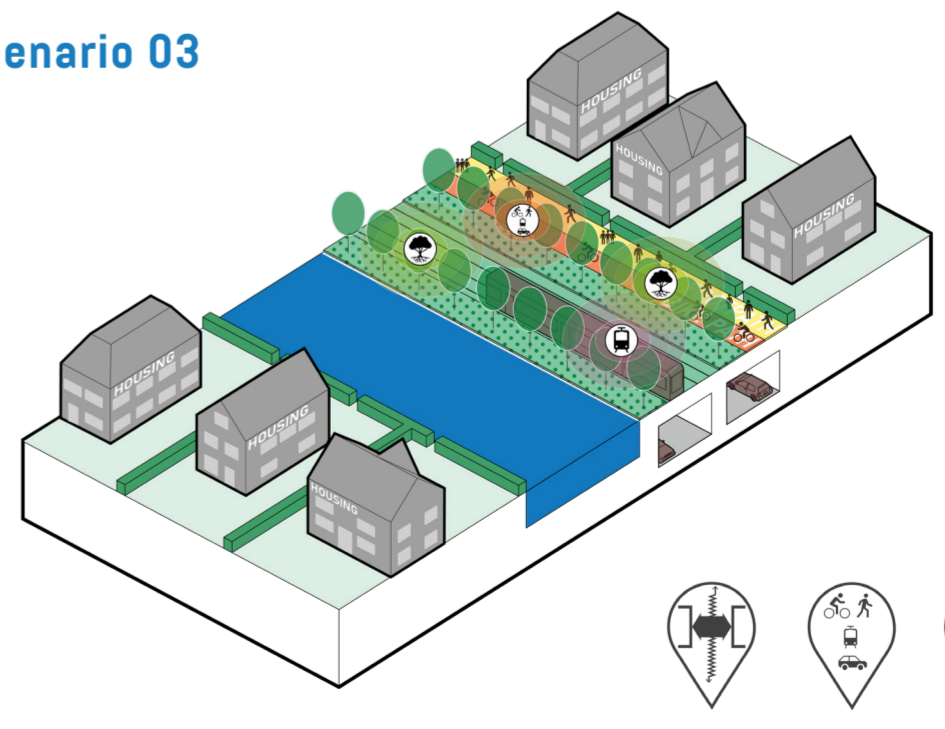
In the first scenario (highlighted by the orange lines in the zoom-in), there is a transformation into a green boulevard with dedicated bike paths, space for pedestrians and public transport. The car barrier is gone (because of the tunneling) and the village is connected with the greenhouses.

### □ Scenario 02



The second scenario shows that the boulevard connects a region with two different greenhouses with each other. Here is space for small market stalls where products of the greenhouses can be sold. There is place for a dedicated bike path, pedestrians, and public transport but there is also a small road for the electric trucks to transport greenhouse products.

### □ Scenario 03



In the third scenario, the boulevard makes a connection between two different residential areas. Also with the dedicated bike path, public transport and sidewalk. The cars and the trucks have no place on the boulevard at this scenario.

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2

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# Zoom in: Midden Delfland

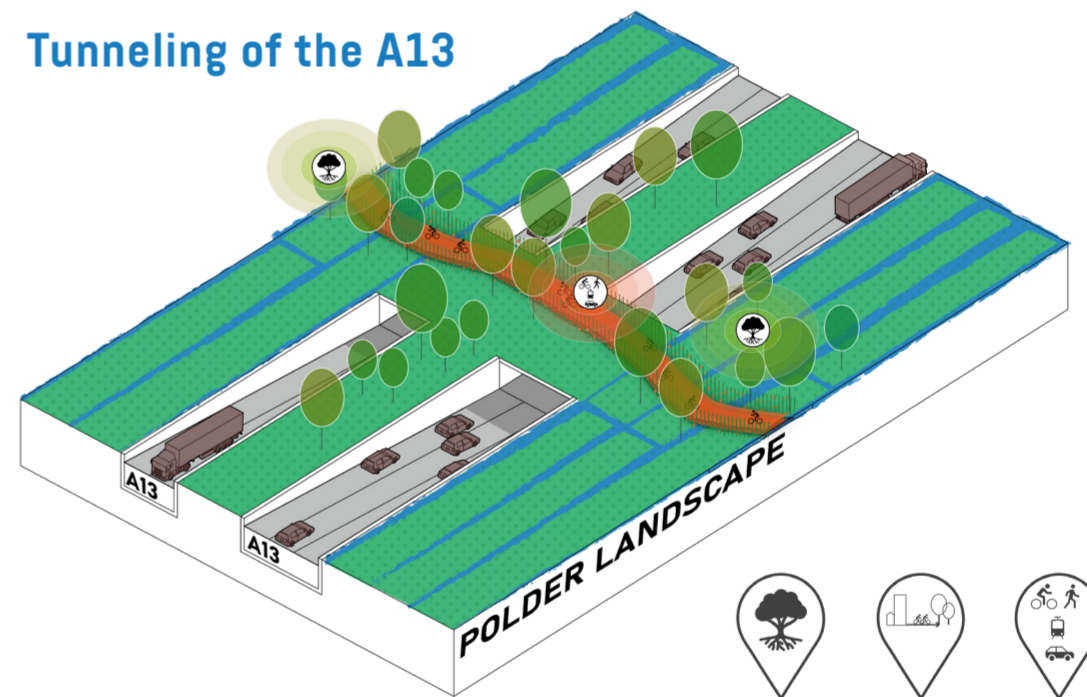


## Legend

- |                          |                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Landscapes</b>        | <b>Connections</b> |
| Forest                   | Bike paths         |
| Meadow                   | Train line         |
| Polder                   | Highway            |
| Beach                    | <b>Icons</b>       |
| Water                    | Knowledge centers  |
| Extensive forests        | Meeting points     |
| <b>Build environment</b> |                    |
| Buildings                |                    |
| Horticulture             |                    |
- 1:50.000

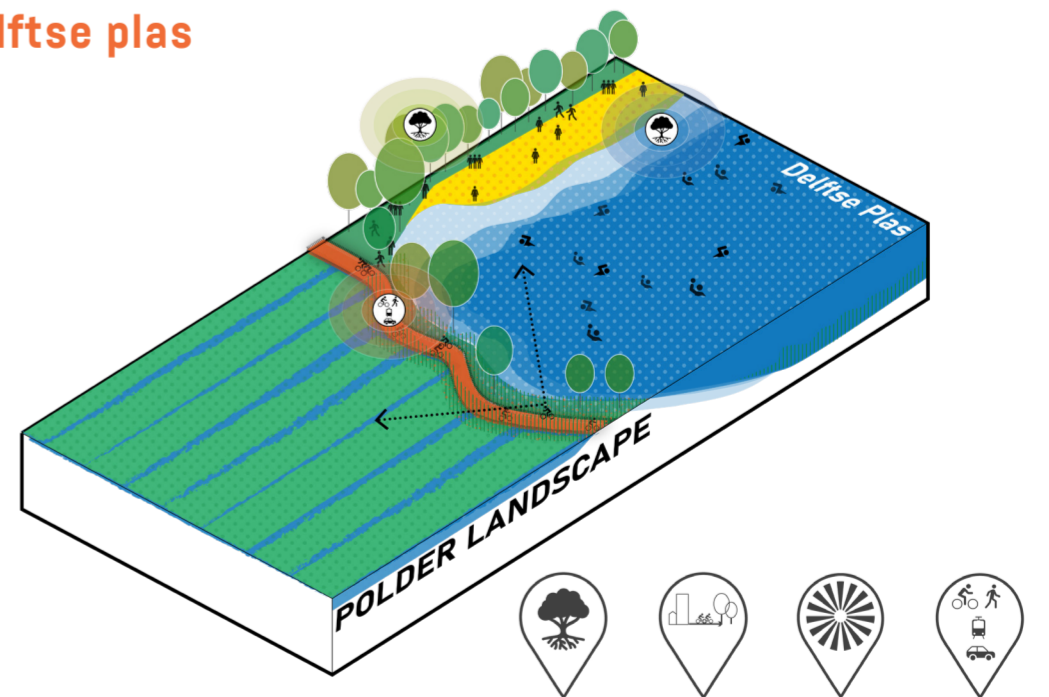
## Building blocks

### Tunneling of the A13



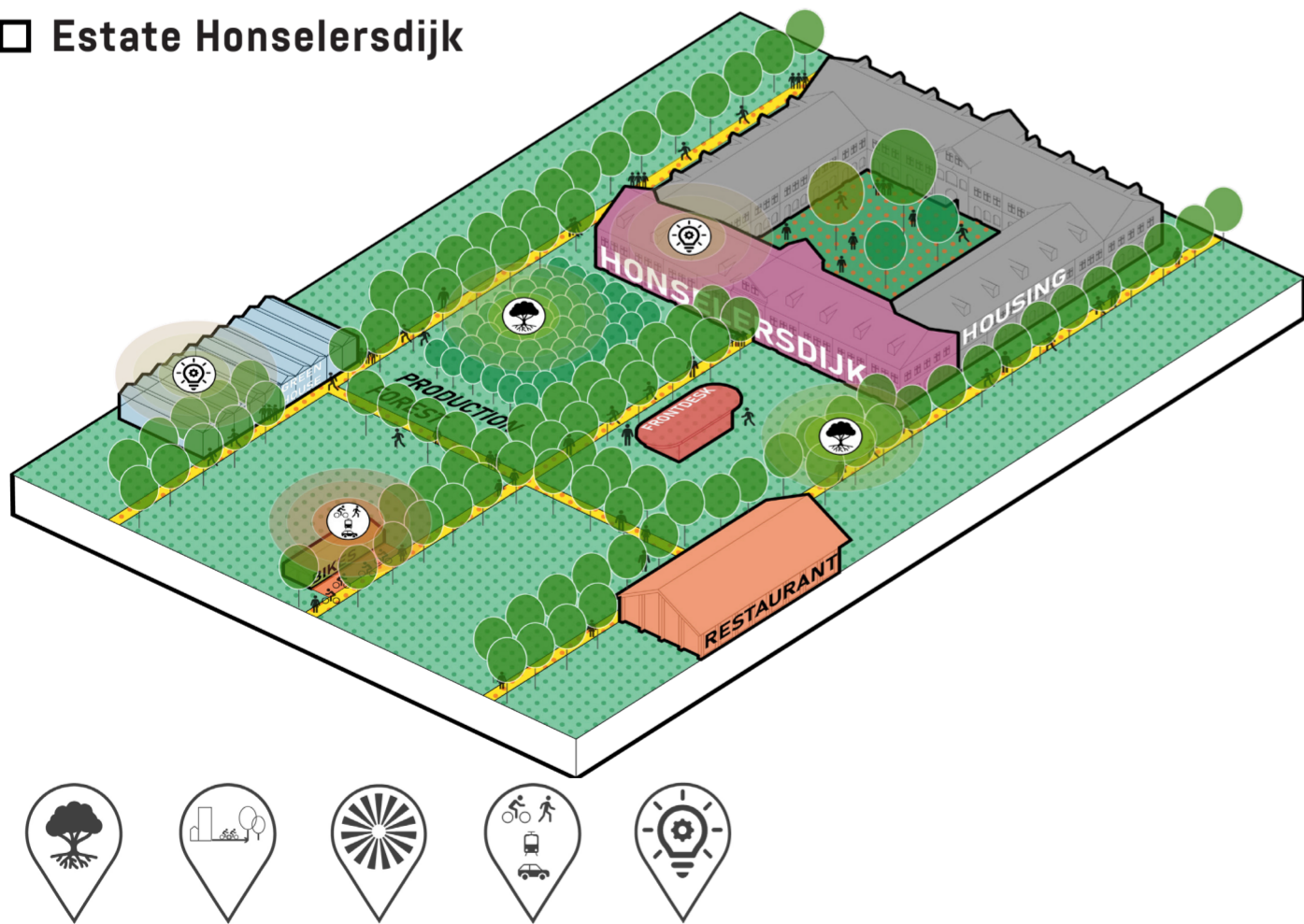
The dedicated bike paths will continue over the tunnelled A13. In this way, the new prioritization in the modalities will be continued on the bike paths in the Midden Delfland. Through this transformation, the bikers will still keep the beautiful view of the Dutch Polder landscape.

### Delftse plas



The bike path will go beside the new Delftse plas. Here you have a nice view of the lake, which offers a place for excess water, and the typical polder landscape. The smoothly designed cycle path is a beautiful counterpart to the straight structures of the polder.

### Estate Honselersdijk

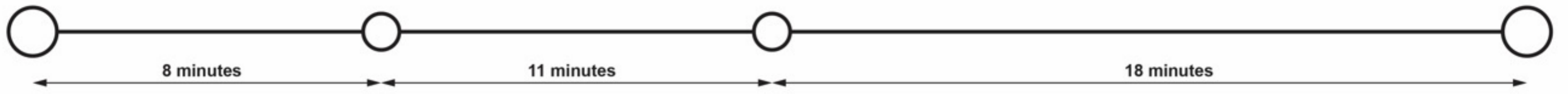


The new estate Honselersdijk will be a meeting point with room for education, recreation, a restaurant, housing, and a production forest. In short, this will be a wonderful place where there is room to meet each other and learn about the Dutch history of horticulture.



# PERSONAL TRIP

ROTTERDAM CENTRAAL      ROTTERDAM ALEXANDER      GOUDA      UTRECHT CENTRAAL



The train journey from Rotterdam to Utrecht offers beautiful stretches of landscape and cities that most travelers do not see. People today are busier with their laptops and phones than enjoying the stunning nature of the Netherlands.

Throughout the journey, you can see the characteristic Dutch polders, which are interspersed with various historic Dutch cities like Gouda and Woerden, where parts of their history are visible.

