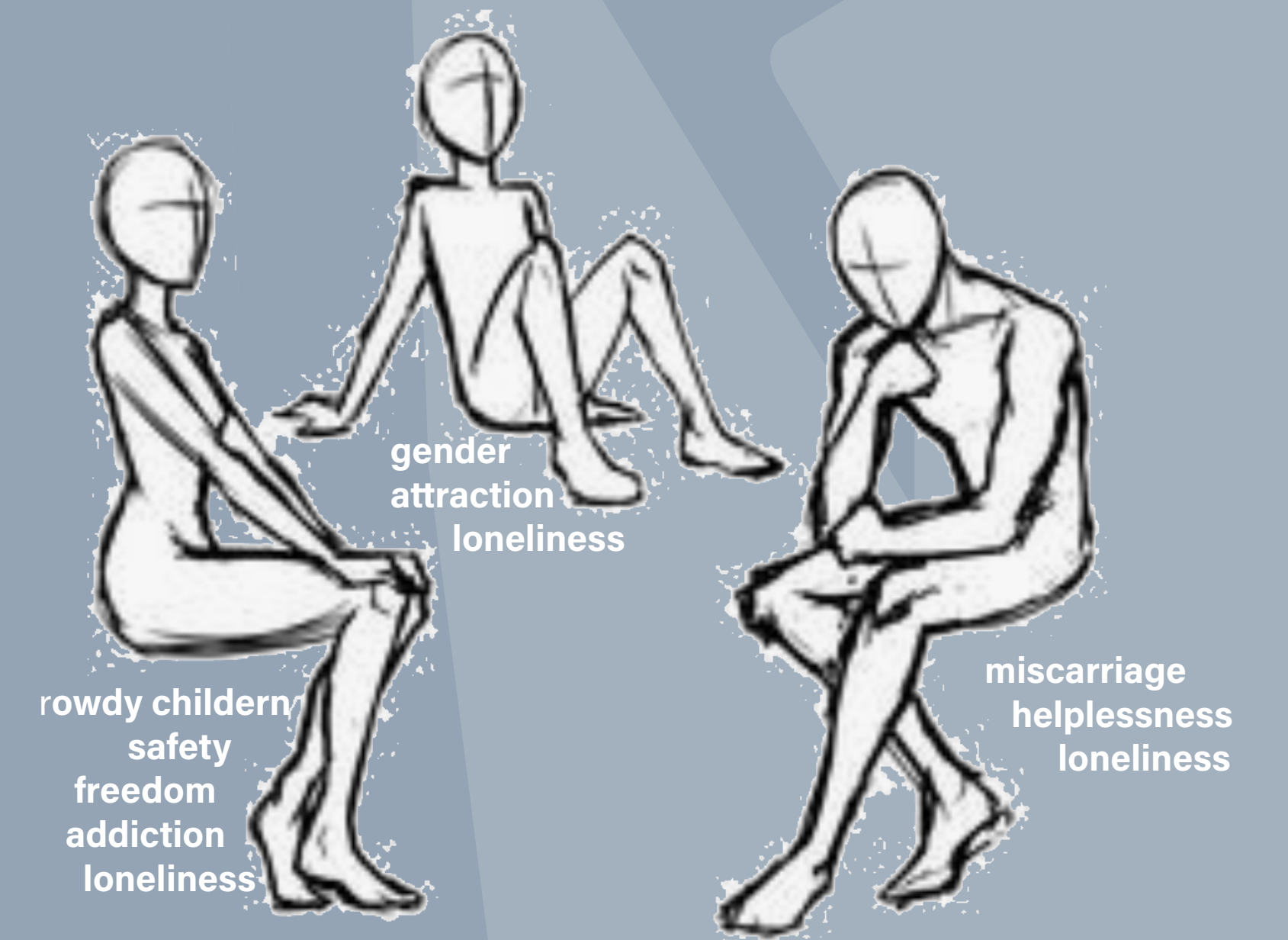


Togetherness Circles

We argue that what this area of San Jose will need is not an iconic architecture adding to the chaotic world of social distancing, political turmoil, economic struggle and the social injustices highlighted by Black Lives Matter.

Instead what it will need is an area of calm and repose within the busy movement of the SAP Center, Google campus, and adjacent public transportation systems.

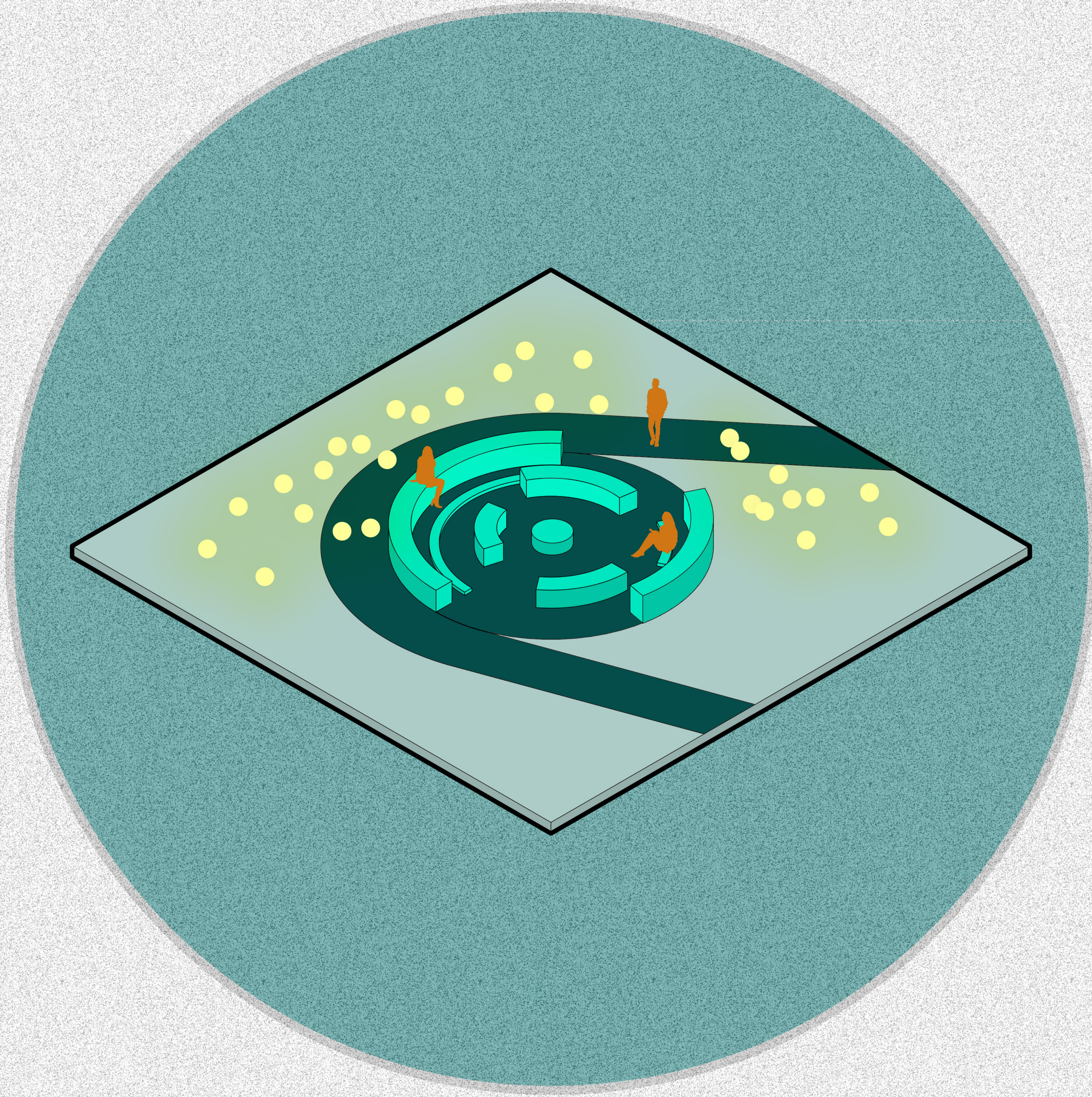
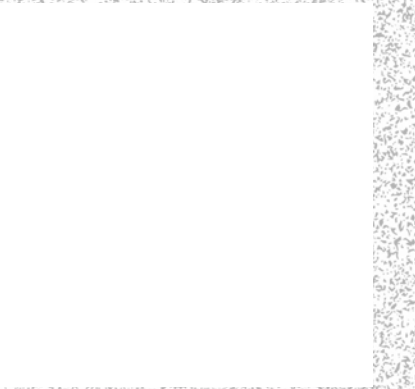
What it will need is a place where people can slow down, pause, and reconnect with themselves. A place where they know they will find the peace they need when they feel overwhelmed. A place where they know they can find others feeling the same way.



Whatever your reason to sit, sit.

Togetherness Circles are concentric benches of varying seating heights arranged along paths throughout the proposed site. Individuals who crave company come and sit in the presence of other people in the Circles.

The Togetherness Circles build civic pride and welcome diverse communities by creating a safe space where people of any background can come and connect with others for any reason. The Circles foster community by allowing individuals to link at the most human, basic level by being in each other's presence. In a world telling you to divide...this is a place where we can unite.



When the world is telling you

YOU ARE ALONE

and the safe thing to do is divide,
Togetherness Circles gives you a place to
unite and to connect.

When the world is telling you

TO BE LOUD

and make your voice heard,
Togetherness Circles reminds you there
is comfort and strength in quietness and
thought.

When the world is telling you

YOU DO NOT BELONG

and you must hide your true self,
Togetherness Circles prompts to prove
the opposite.

Togetherness Circles are a modern day
lighthouse beaconing those lost towards
each other.