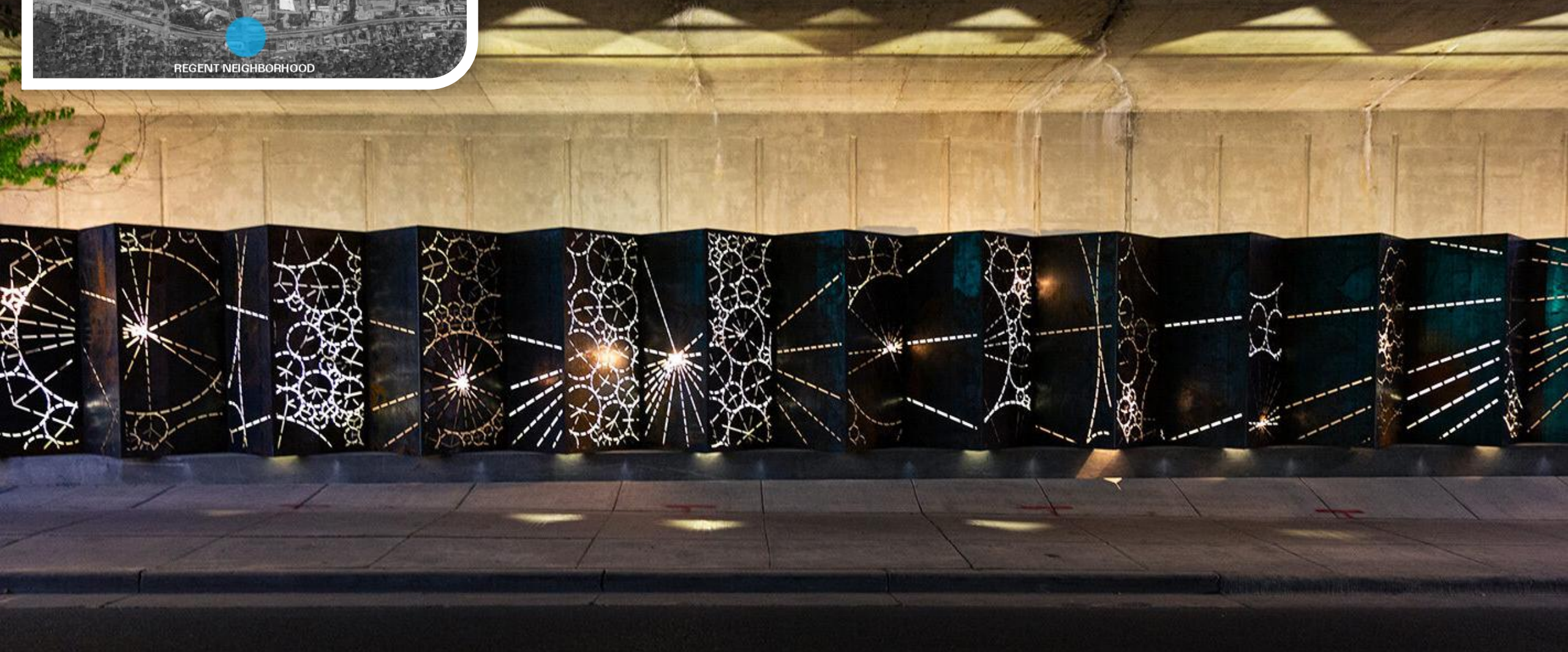




Walnut Street Underpass Design Proposal

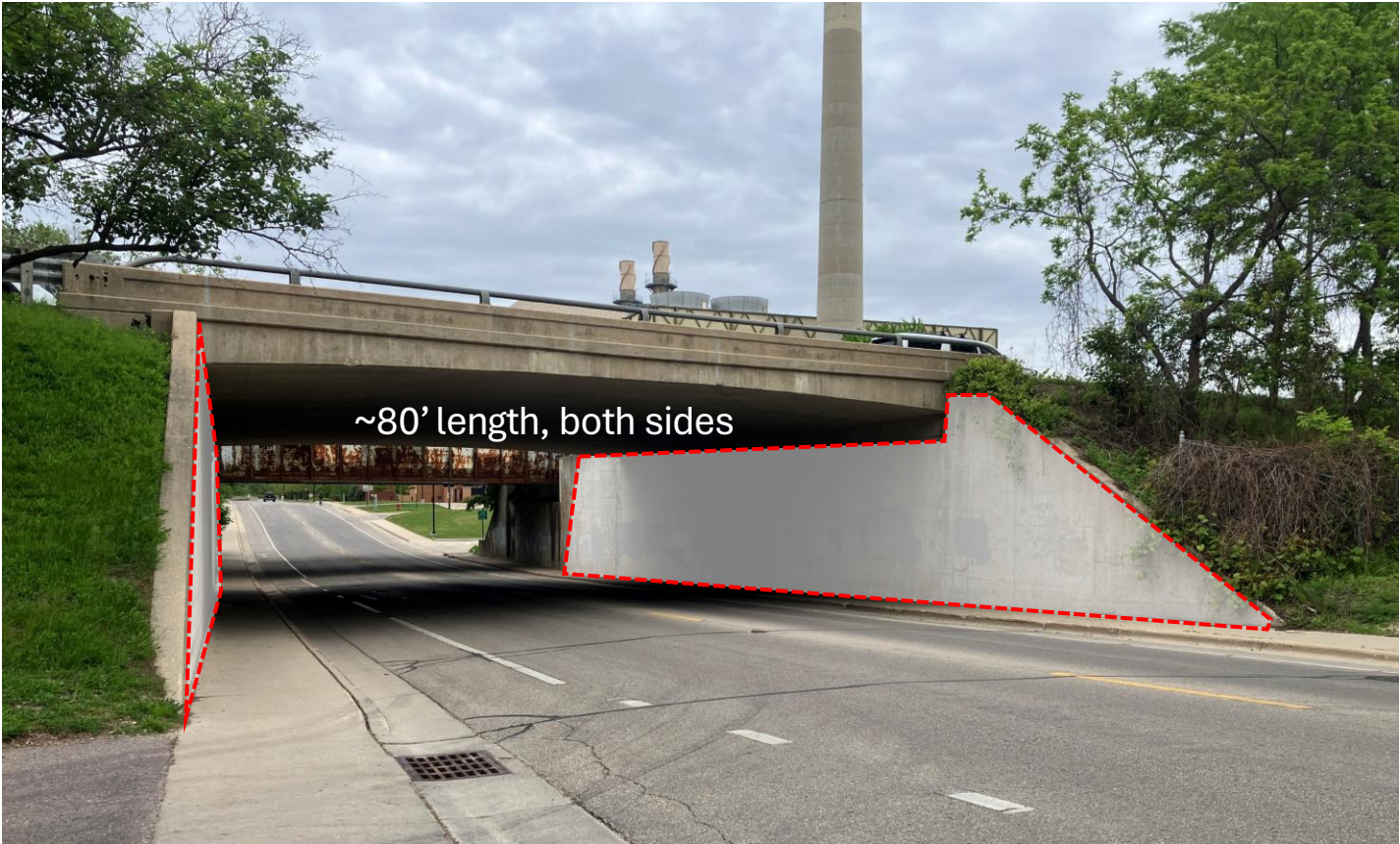


The Walnut St. underpass design is intended to correspond to Highland Avenue's *Shift* (installed in 2021) as a second gateway feature between UW-Madison and Regent Neighborhood.



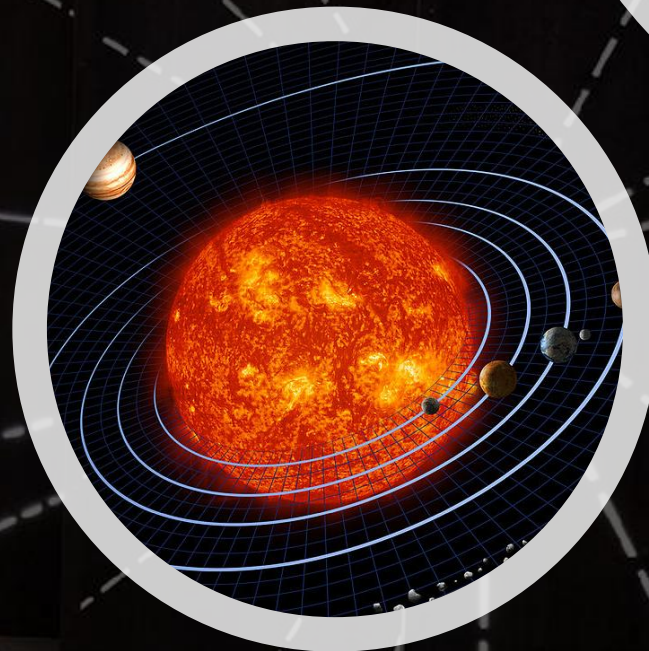
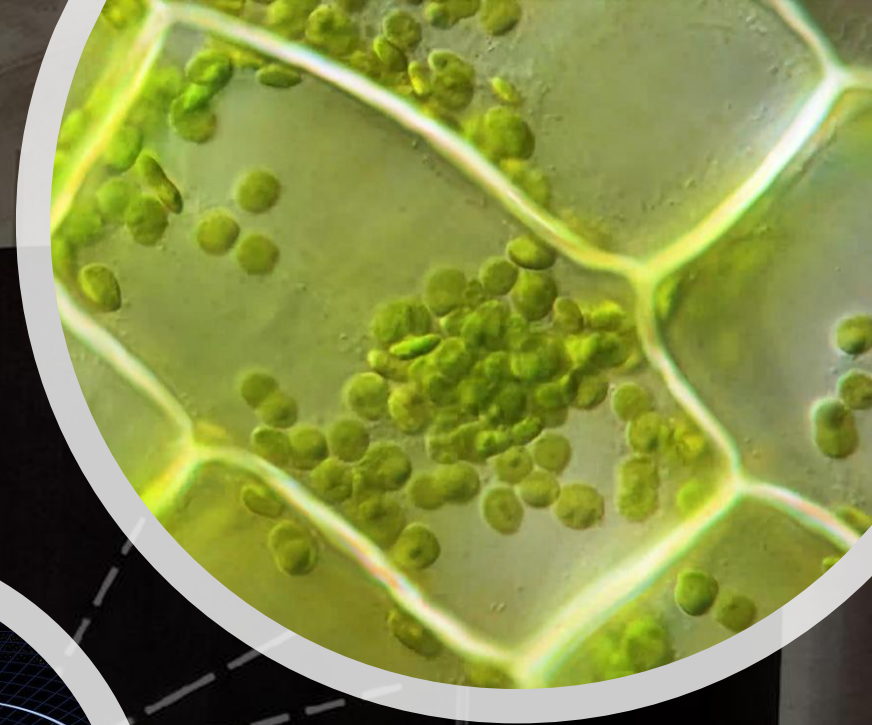
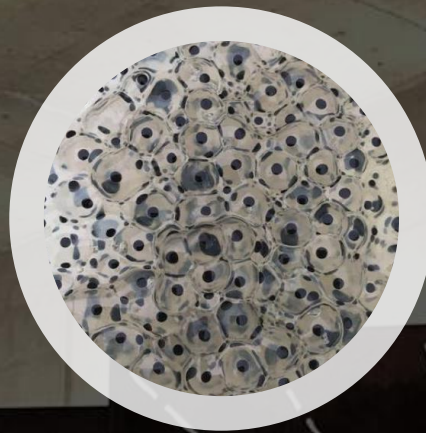


The railroad bridge beyond the project boundary



In geometry, **circle packing** is the arrangement of circles that touch each other on a tangent but never overlap. These patterns can be found anywhere from microscopic cell structures to planetary relationships within the solar system.

The dashed lines in *Shift* show the connection of one circle to another to represent the relationship between individuals and ideas; home and campus. The “accordion” design of the panels allow commuters to experience the shifting imagery differently depending on whether they are biking, driving or walking.



Madison Arts Commission | Walnut St.
Underpass Design

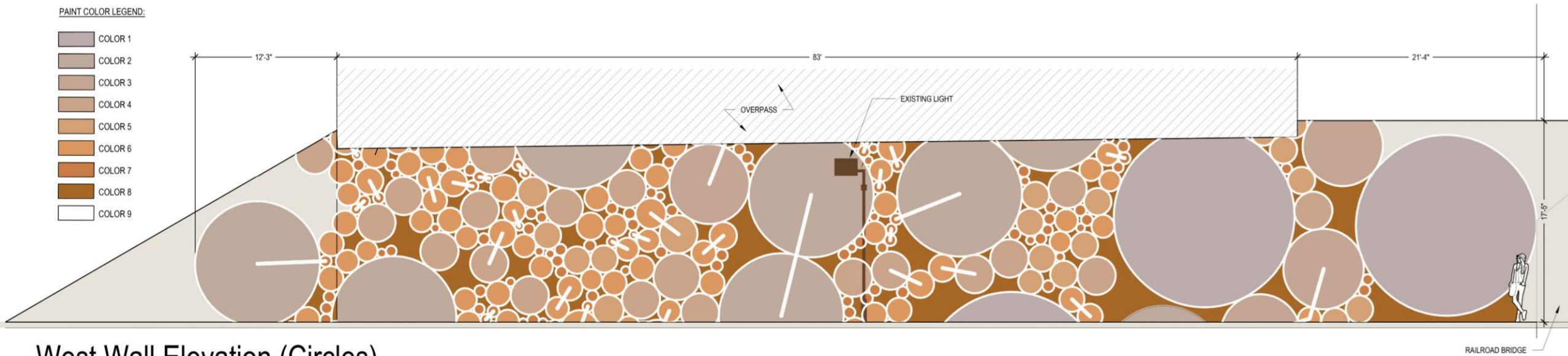
7/6/2026



Whereas *Shift* is visually skylike and radiates light, the Walnut Street underpass is intended to be evocative of the underground networks of roots and mycelia found in the soil. The color palette comes from the Munsell Color System used to identify soil types. The 7.5YR color range is commonly used to identify our local soils and will also echo the rusty tones of *Shift* and the adjacent railroad bridge.

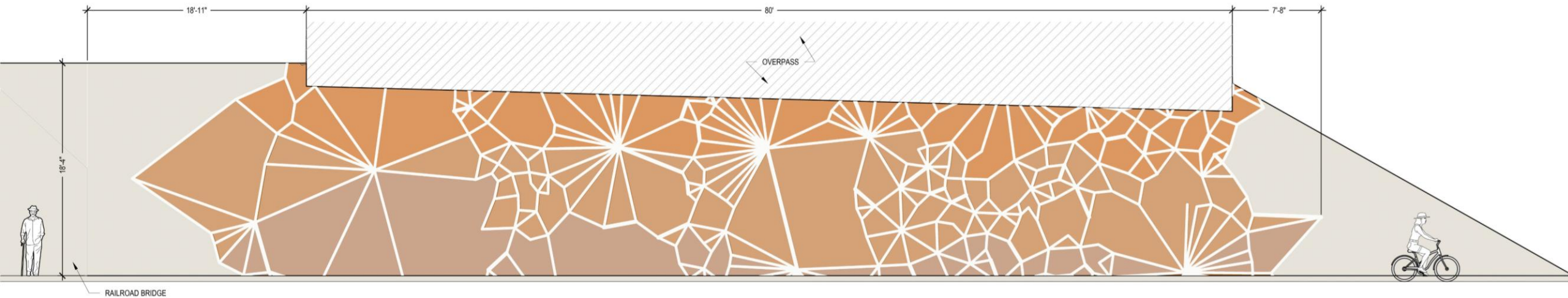
PAINT COLOR LEGEND:

- COLOR 1
- COLOR 2
- COLOR 3
- COLOR 4
- COLOR 5
- COLOR 6
- COLOR 7
- COLOR 8
- COLOR 9



West Wall Elevation (Circles)

The circles and lines in the patterns on opposite sides of the underpass mirror each other. If you were to push the two walls together, the geometry would align with the lines connecting the centers of each circle. Each wall shows half of the pattern.



East Wall Elevation (Lines)