Westwood’s unique character and diverse cultural heritage are not receiving their full potential for exposure. The neighborhood needs an outdoor, public forum for exhibition of its art, music, food, and general cultural character. This will establish the identity of the neighborhood and create a destination to bring others into the area.

Flea markets and swap meets in cities like Portland, OR and Oakland, CA, attract local artists, chefs, and musicians to exhibit and share their crafts in an informal, open-air environment. These areas provide entertainment and revenue while promoting the unique characteristics of the locale.

Westwood’s Mercado will shift locations throughout the seasons, to highlight each quadrant of the neighborhood. This will shed a spotlight each season on the gardens, artists, restaurants, and musicians in a new corner of Westwood. As residents and visitors experience these events, the entire fabric of the neighborhood will be strengthened.

Westwood’s citizens have limited access to fresh produce within the neighborhood limits. Vacant lots act as magnets for tagging and gang activity. Incorporating pocket gardens throughout the neighborhood will increase positive presence and allow for better access to healthy foods.

Livewell Westwood has successfully implemented gardens at Kepner Middle School and Munroe Elementary. Applied at a smaller scale, these gardens can strengthen bonds within the corners of the neighborhood without existing gardens.

The pocket gardens will be located throughout the four quadrants of Westwood, rotating to a new location during each growing season. They will produce varying crops depending on the season and sell them at the rotating mercado, which will be located nearby. After the garden has been showcased at the mercado, it will be handed over to the local residents to tend to.

Site Mapping & Analysis / Cartografía y Análisis del Sitio

Factors: access | visibility | lighting | parking

Proposed Site Locations

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Westwood Mercado & Garden: Flexible Market Space & Seasonal Garden

El Mercado Westwood y Jardín: Espacio Flexible del Mercado y Jardín Estacional

Mercado

Performance Area

Garden

Perspectives

Exploded Isometric Parti

Canopy

Structure

Vegetation

Circulation

Performance

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Site Imagery / Imágenes del Sitio