A desolate industrial site at the gateway of Ravenswood Manor becomes a welcoming portal, turning strangers into neighbors, attracting a creative and diverse economy and providing long-overdue river access.

Visible from afar, a belvedere tower and overlook anchor a public park and private courtyard, marking the point of arrival. The courtyard is an urban pastiche, connecting artists and other users and expanding social networks through everyday comings and goings.

Redeveloped industrial buildings support new walkable commercial strips with businesses, incubators and art studios. Micro-lofts and affordable housing attract a younger, more diverse workforce.

Live-work units and coach houses transform an uninhabited alley into a modern mews. Public stairs at the alley’s end provide access to bikeways and boat launches down at the river’s edge.

**Lawrence Avenue Bridge**

**Farr Associates**

**Ward 33**
The University of California, Los Angeles’ Weyburn Terrace Graduate Student Housing by Solomon/Mithun of San Francisco is a masterful demonstration of three urban design strategies relevant to the Ravenswood Manor industrial site.

Landmark tower: Weyburn articulates the smaller building’s elevators and stairs as a tower. This type of mimicry helps knit neighborhoods together and provide a sense of welcoming human scale. Similarly, a Ravenswood tower will knit people north on Manor and across LaPoint Park.

Scale transitions: Weyburn uses massing and rooflines to gracefully step from three to eight stories. This neighborly approach suits the Ravenswood Manor site, allowing a shorter alley-facing building to screen a larger Lawrence-facing building.

Arcade connector: An arcade bisects the Weyburn site, shortening the pedestrian route, providing access to an interior courtyard and dramatically framing the tower from the North.

A proposed citywide Transit-Oriented Development zoning change would allow the homeowners across the alley to upgrade garages into coach houses.