

A large white circle containing the text 'UrbanactionsHK' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below it, in a smaller, blue, sans-serif font, is the text 'INTERNATIONAL DESIGN IDEAS COMPETITION'.

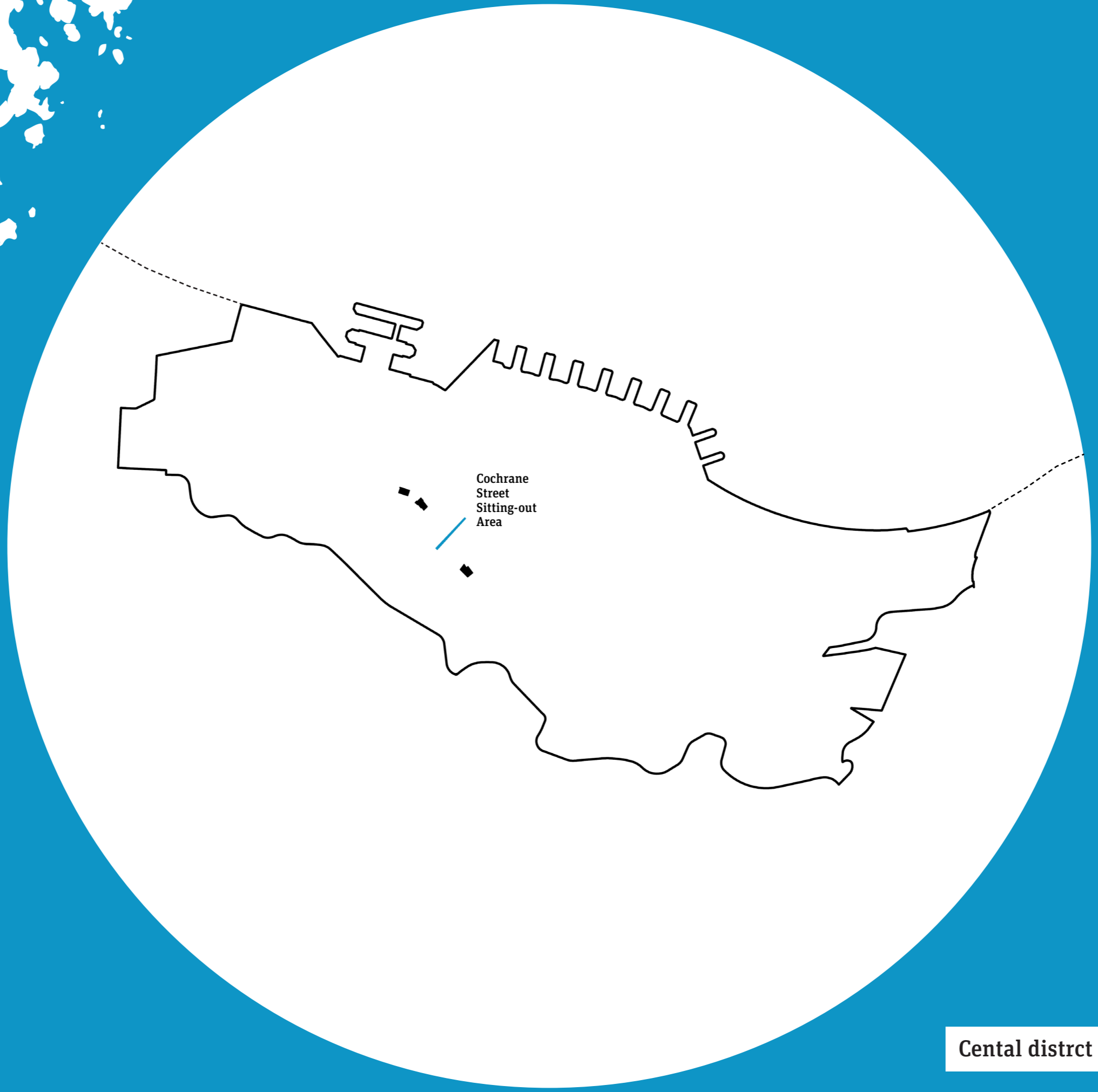
**UrbanactionsHK**  
INTERNATIONAL DESIGN IDEAS COMPETITION

# Cochrane Street Sitting-out Area

**Site 03.**



Hong Kong island



Cochrane  
Street  
Sitting-out  
Area

Central district in Hong Kong island

# Description

## Cochrane Street Sitting-out Area

*"Filipino domestic helpers are the major users of the park on Sunday. They are fond of the spaciousness and greenery of the park. They visit the park every Sunday bringing their mats and home-cooked food."*

## Site Condition

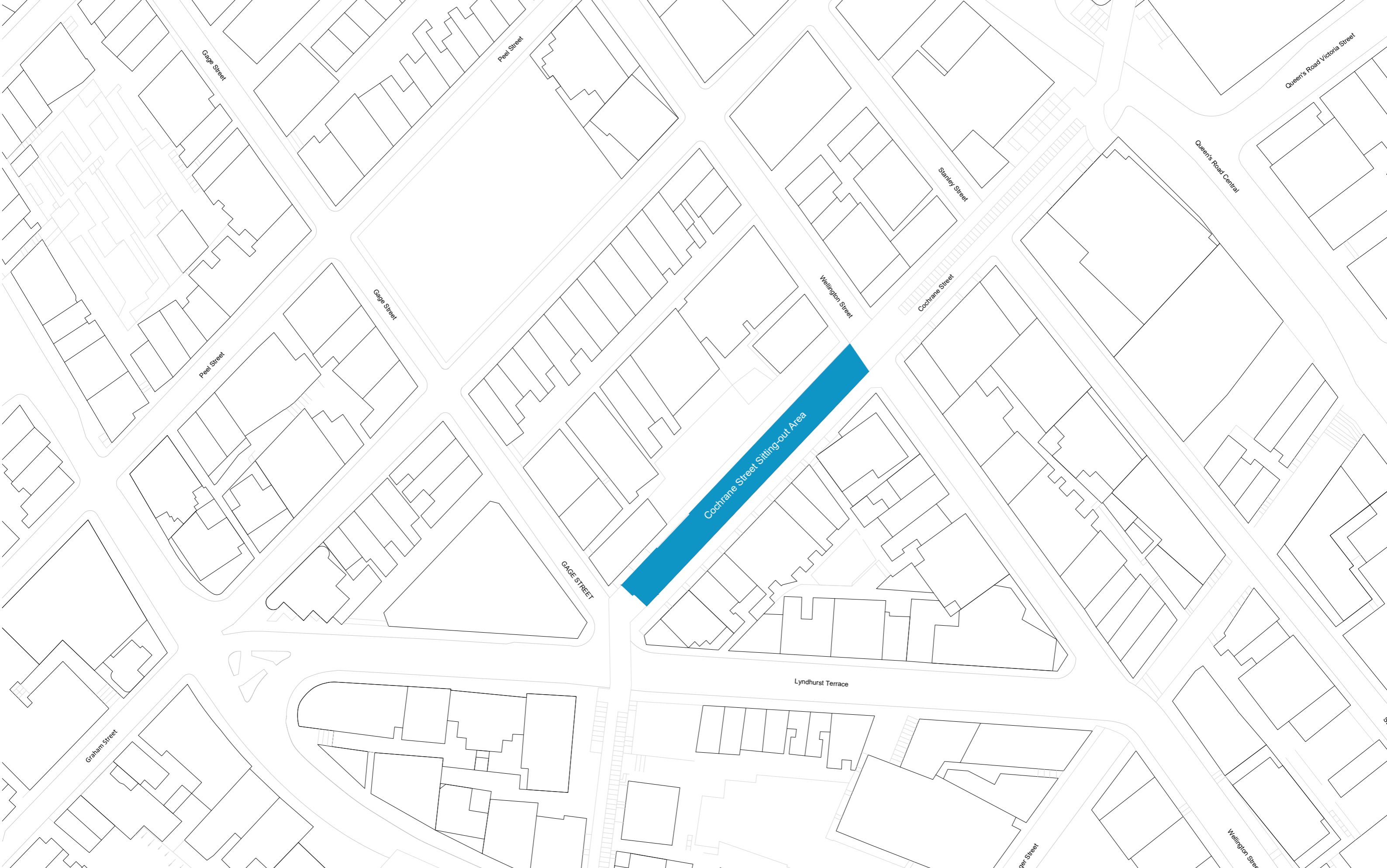
The Cochrane Sitting-out Area, surrounded by the mixed-use high rise building and a construction site, is located at the steep Cochrane Street under the Central-Mid-Levels escalator. The Street and the escalator is the primary connection between the Mid-Levels residential area and the Central commercial area. Thousands of residents, office workers and visitors of historical buildings like the Tai Kwun Museum pass by the Street and the escalator. The Street was initially a Cantonese residential area in the 19th century and slowly developed into a mixed-use district with high rise buildings. The sitting-out area was replaced by the original food and grocery stalls to provide more leisure spaces and space for the pedestrian road. The Central-Mid-Levels escalator has operated since 1993 to improve the traffic and became a tourist attraction with restaurants and bars on the Cochrane under it. Because of bird dropping, the hygiene and environment of the sitting-out area are widely criticized by the users.

## Activities

During the daytime on weekdays, users are mostly tourists and workers from offices or restaurants. In the morning, the number of users and passers is the least among the four timeslots. Most of the passers are only on their way commuting to work. In the lunchtime, for the restaurants are crowded, many office workers prefer to eat their lunch along the park. Some office workers would take a walk or rest in the park after having lunch. In addition, the number of users is the highest during lunchtime as people working in the central area will pass the street for lunch in the Mid-Levels. Tourists are the major users of the park all day long. Customers visiting the ice cream shop and bubble tea shop on the street usually bring their food or drink to the sitting-out area. Workers from the salon or restaurant on the Cochrane street often have their break time or smoke in the park for every few hours. In the evening,

office workers smoke or take a rest in the sitting-out area before heading to bars or restaurants in the Mid-Levels.

On Sunday, Filipino domestic helpers are the primary users of the park. They are fond of the spaciousness and greenery of the park. They visit the park every Sunday bringing their mats and home-cooked food. Some of the Filipino ladies arrive early to get nice seats; therefore, while others come at lunchtime, they may enjoy their meal and meet their friends. They usually will stay in the park until the evening. Without the office workers, there were fewer users during the lunchtime comparing to that of the weekday. Tourists and local visitors are the major users of the park as well. However, they only stay in the park for less than thirty minutes. In the evening, more people start drinking beer and chatting in the sitting-out area.



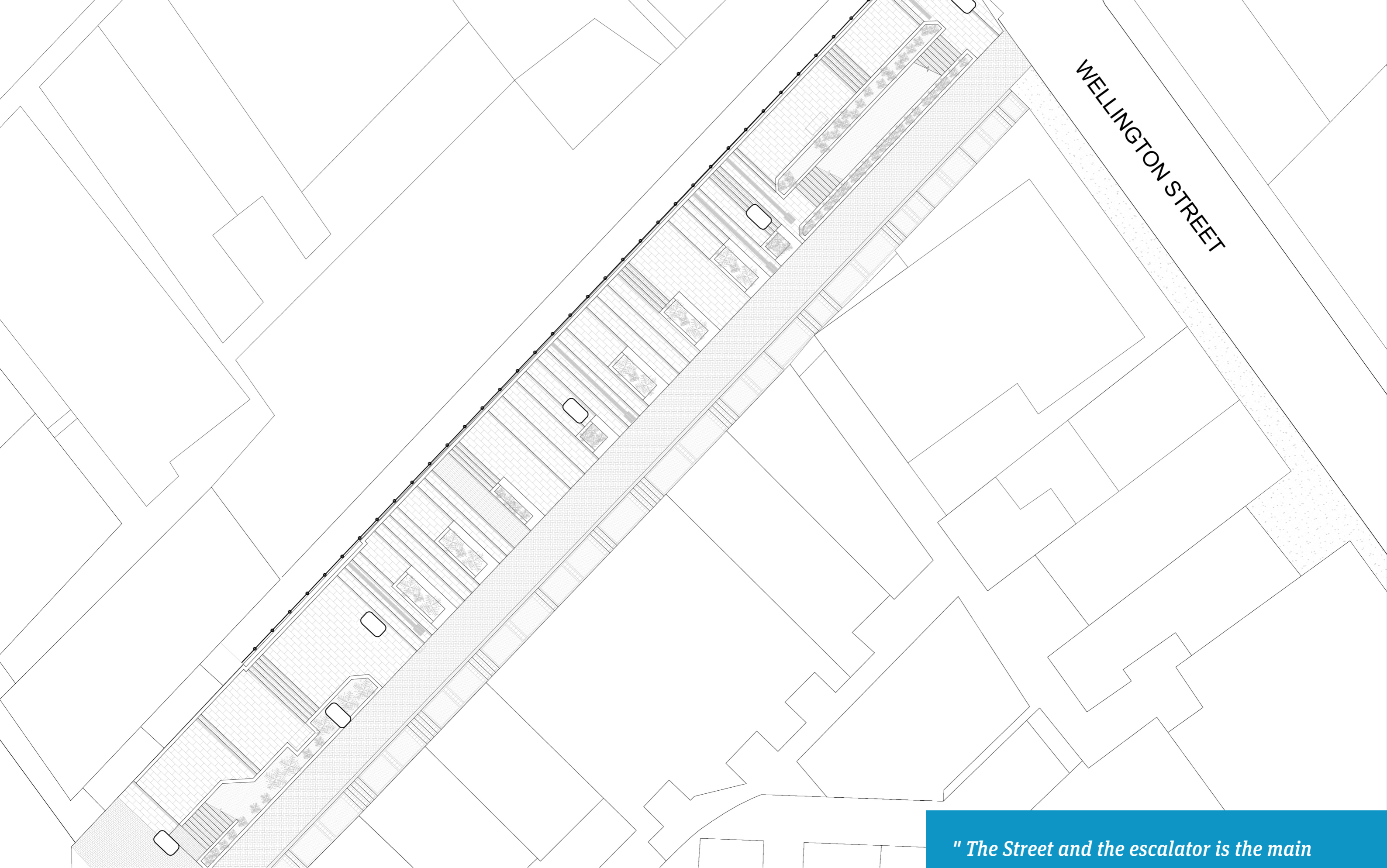
Site plan of Cochrane street sitting-out area



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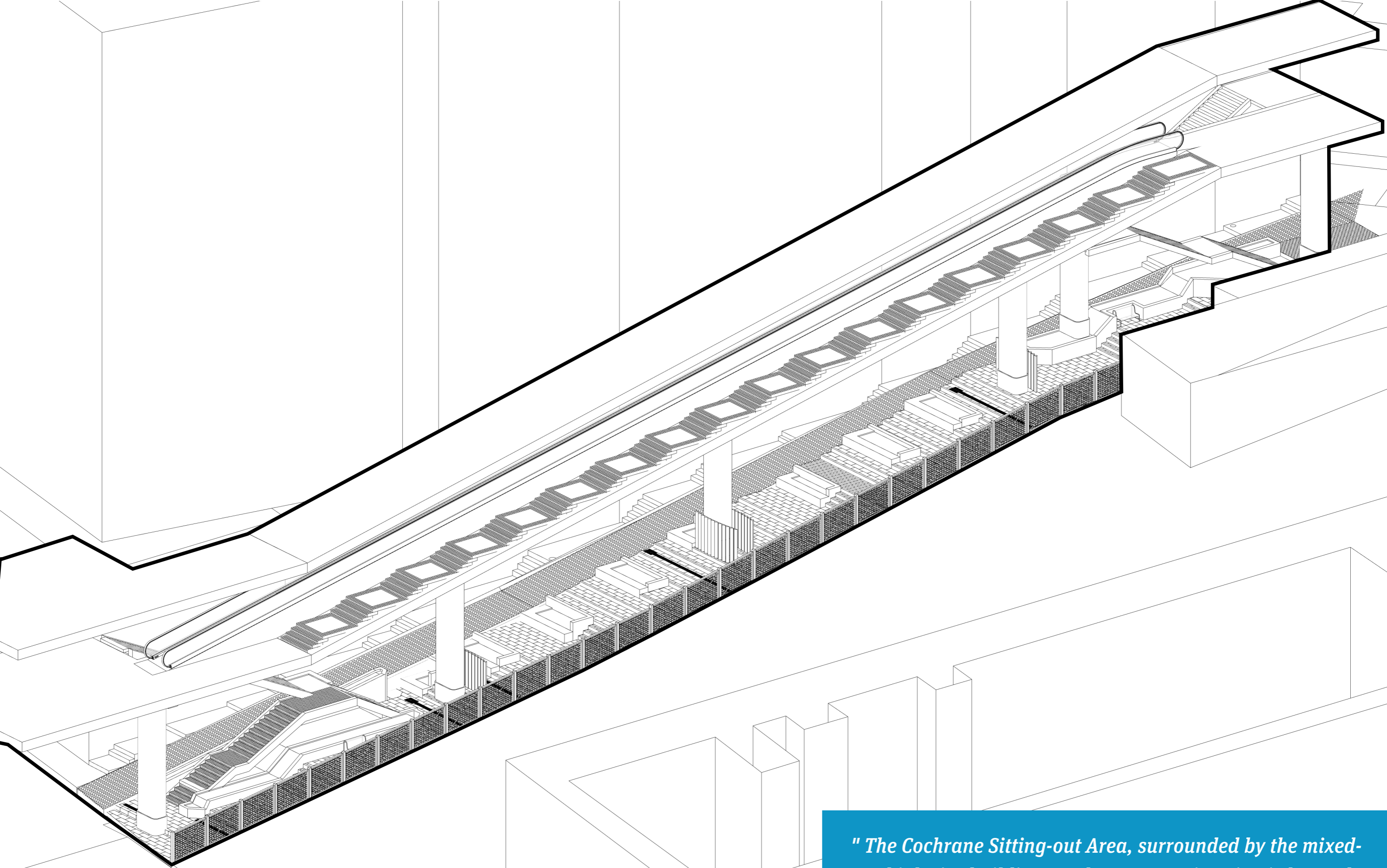
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WELLINGTON STREET

Plan of Cochrane street sitting-out area

*" The Street and the escalator is the main juncture between the Mid-Levels residential area and the Central commercial area."*



Isometric of Cochrane street sitting-out area

*" The Cochrane Sitting-out Area, surrounded by the mixed-use high-rise buildings and a construction site, is located in the steep Cochrane Street under the Central-Mid-Levels escalator."*



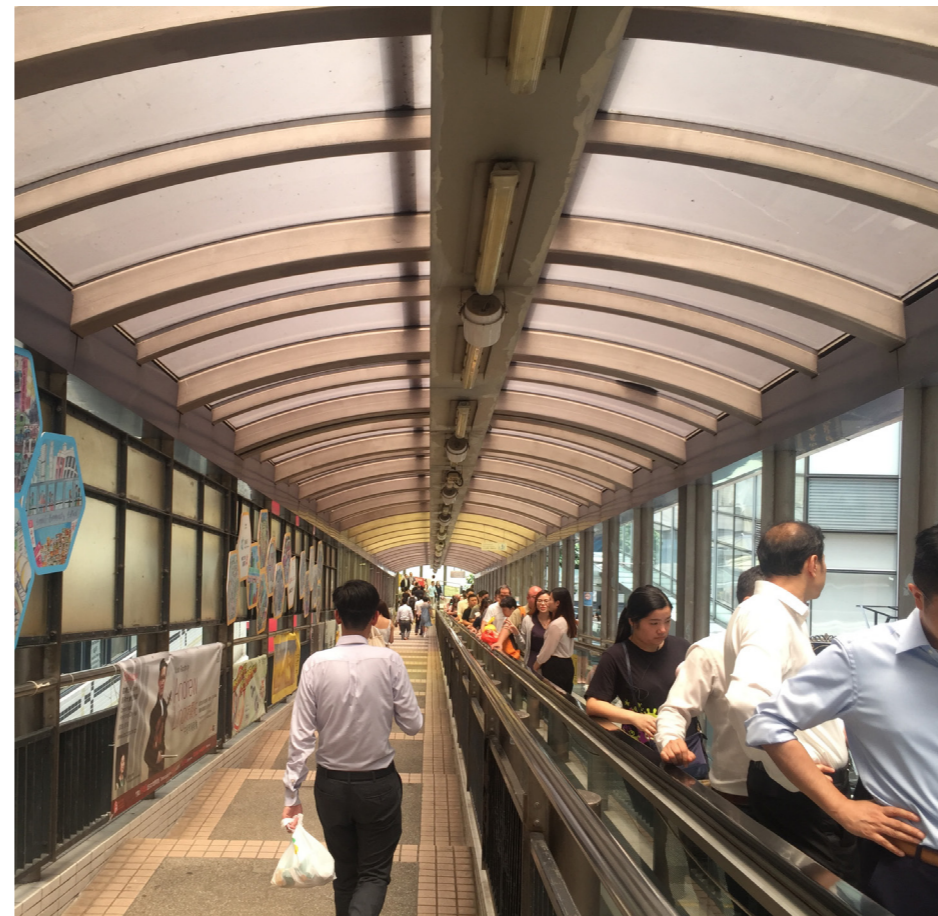
01. Panorama of Cochrane street sitting-out area



02. Panorama of Cochrane street sitting-out area



03. Panorama of Cochrane street sitting-out area



Cochrane Street Sitting-out Area



School of Architecture  
THE CHINESE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG