

Central Station

The diagonal passage of LRT and the creation of a station across the Athletic Club Block at 4th and Cedar provides an opportunity to create a unique landmark development focused on a dynamic new public plaza in the heart of the city.

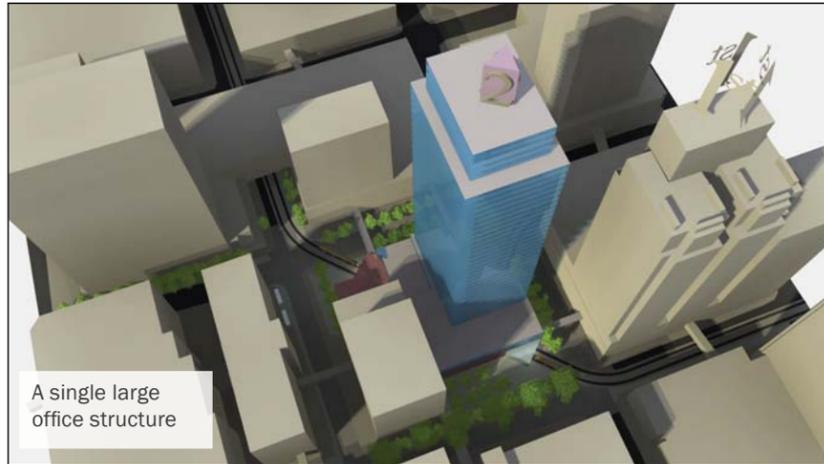
Located on lands to the east and north of the Athletic Club, a development on this block would afford unparalleled access to LRT, providing direct linkages to Union Depot and its planned regional linkages, Minneapolis, the Hiawatha Line and the international airport. It would become a hub in the city center, could house important new amenities to serve the growing downtown residential population and act as major destination along the Corridor.

The size of the block is such that there are a number of possible development scenarios. Development could occur separately on either side of the proposed station, or be developed as an integrated structure that would bridge LRT and contain the station within its podium. At one end of the station, a new public square could act as a face for the new development and provide a focus for activities around the station. This square would be a place of arrival and transfer for many users entering the downtown by transit, and as such has the opportunity to become place to “see and be seen.”



The renderings above and to the right illustrate what redevelopment of the Fourth and Cedar Block might look like. In this rendering, two residential towers ranging from 30 to 45 stories sit atop a 3-story podium of commercial and retail uses. A new square at the northwestern gateway to the station greets visitors arriving to the downtown and creates a lively destination in the city.

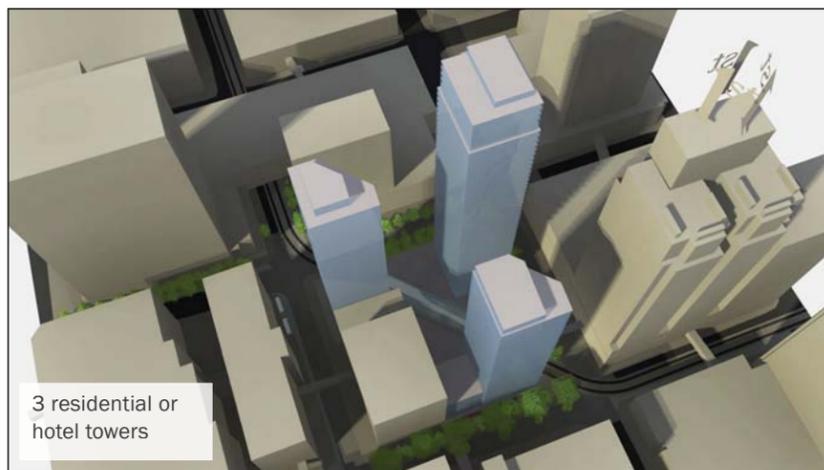




A single large office structure

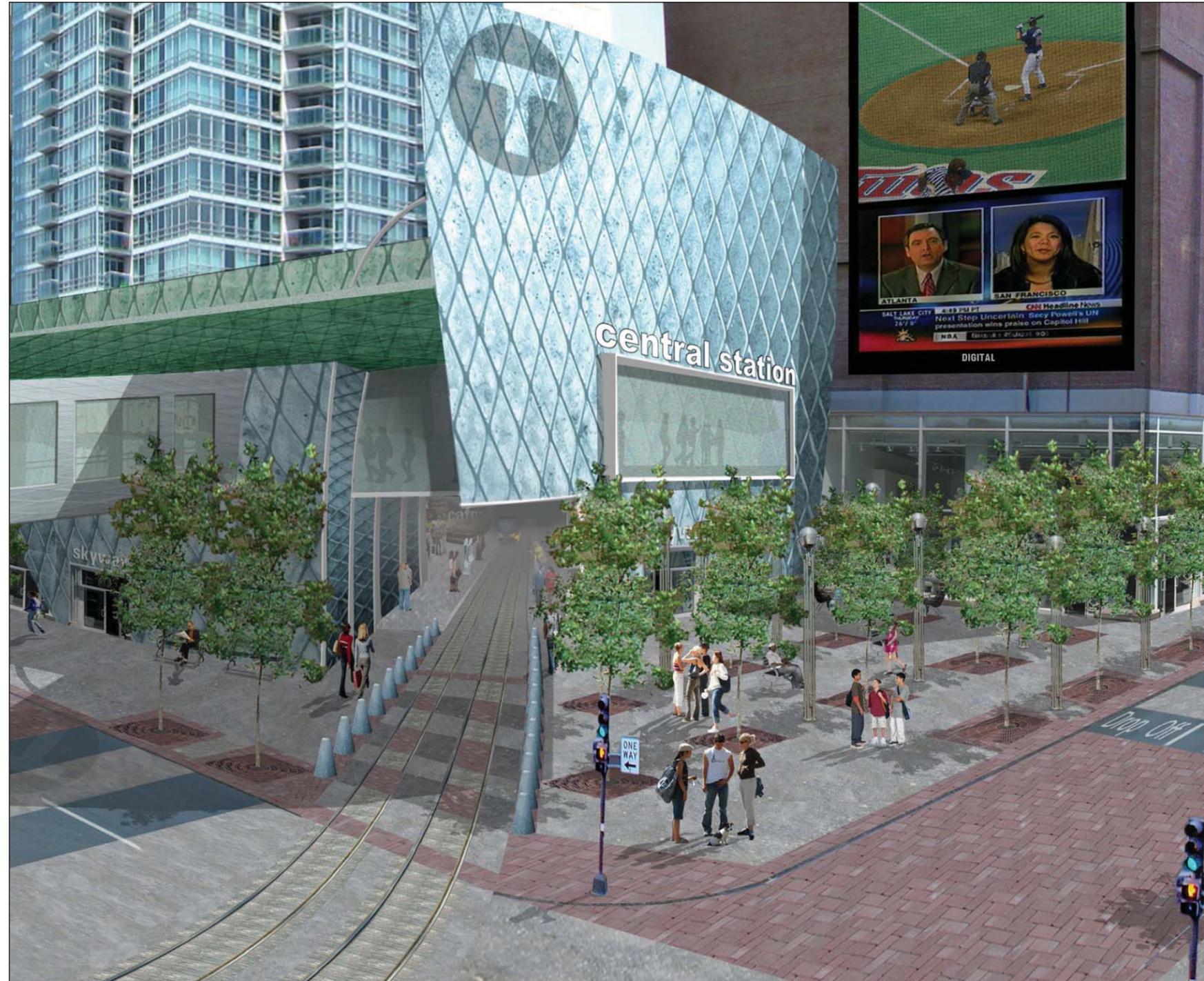


2 residential or hotel towers



3 residential or hotel towers

The scenarios above illustrate the range of uses and building forms that might occur on the Athletic Club block. Development could occur on either side of the station, or as an integrated structure bridging LRT, with the station in its podium.



This rendering illustrates what Central Station might look like at ground level. An animated plaza fronted by active uses is the focus of activity between the bus stations at Cedar and Fifth and at the entrance to the LRT station. Clearly-identified skyway connections lead up to what has become the missing piece of the skyway network, while, inside the podium of the new building at the station, passengers wait for the next train to take them to University and beyond.