



The Gateway Bridge



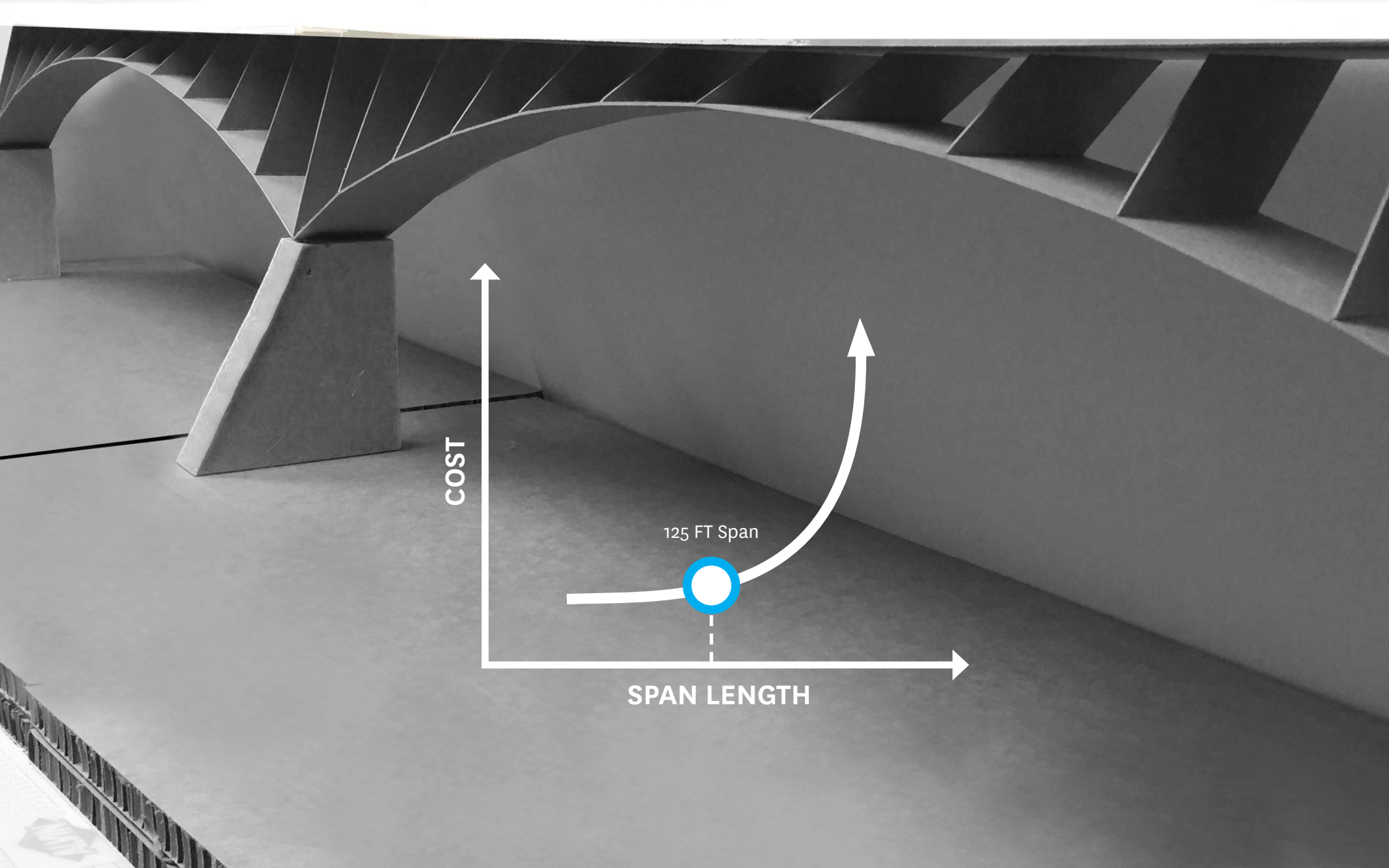
THE GATEWAY BRIDGE: The new Gateway Bridge will not only link the east and west banks of the Arkansas River, but also celebrate the connection between the river and the improved Zink Lake. The bridge knits the river into the emerging social and recreational culture of Tulsa and marks a threshold to Tulsa's future that demonstrates how powerfully engineering, landscape design, hydrology, ecology, and urban programming can work together to address challenging design issues.



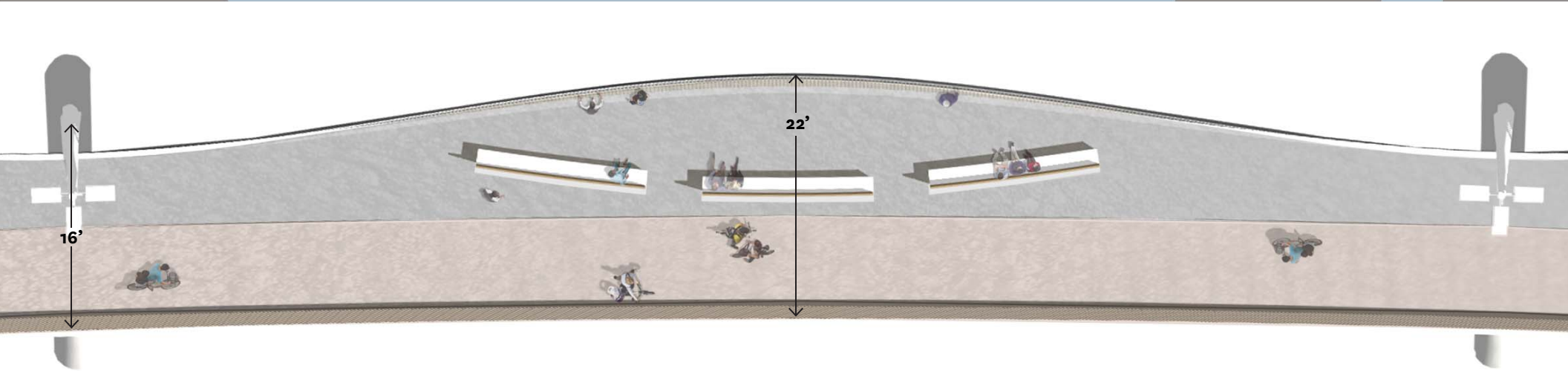
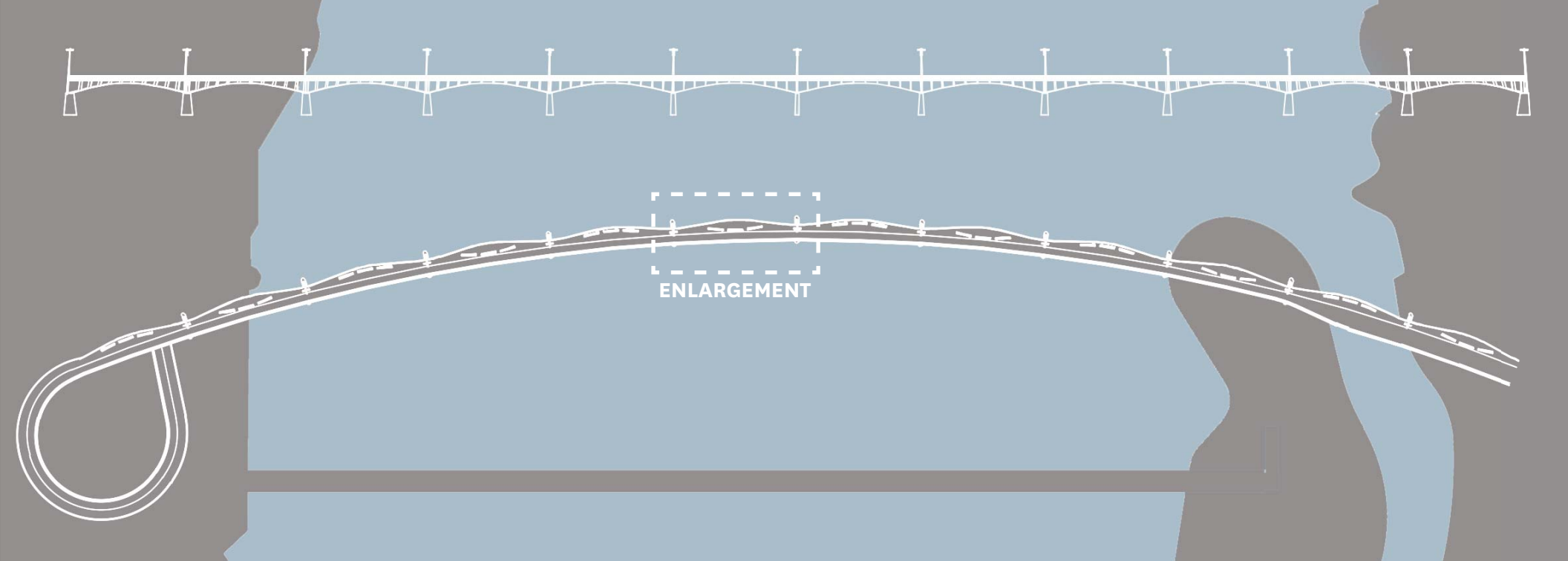
A PLACE TO MAKE NEW CONNECTIONS: The locations where the Gateway Bridge makes landfall on either riverbank have been designed to function as important public spaces that orient visitors and offer connections to all the existing and new places developing along the Arkansas River: River West Festival Park, the Great Lawn, the Sky Garden, the boating facilities on Zink Lake, the white-water flume, river overlooks, and existing and future trails.



A CONTEMPORARY ICON FOR TULSA: While paying homage to bridges of Tulsa's past in the form of stiffened arch spans also found in the 23rd Street Bridge and the Route 66 Bridge, the Gateway Bridge takes a contemporary approach, featuring modern steel superstructure technology, dynamic undulating forms that create the illusion of movement, and a grand arc shape that sends visitor's eyes into the surrounding landscape of the lake, the river, and downtown Tulsa.



A MODERN SUPERSTRUCTURE: A key component of keeping such a long bridge on budget is to understand how the cost goes up exponentially with increases to the module length of the bridge spans. The 125-foot spans of the Gateway Bridge are achieved by employing modern industrial steel fabrication processes, where four to six-inch thick slabs of steel are used to reinforce the arch spans.



A GENEROUS PEDESTRIAN REALM: Varying the width of the deck in relation to the superstructure provides the Gateway Bridge with a series of generously scaled spaces along its 1'200 foot length. These edges will make the bridge more than a device for conveyance and will accommodate a range of programs, from open air galleries for public art to sitting areas for pedestrians and cyclists to rest and enjoy views up and down the river.



FAMILIAR MATERIAL EXPERIENCES: The Gathering Place for Tulsa draws inspiration from materials familiar to the region, and the deck of the Gateway Bridge echoes the materials palette of the Gathering Place: wood light poles and leaning rails, stainless steel rail pickets and fixtures, LED lighting, concrete and wood benches, and exposed aggregate concrete.