

Co-Mooring

An Open Conversation



If the project is to be success, we think the users must have a stake in its creation. We aim to involve local people in all stages - from the design process, making and co-curation of a programme of events during the London Festival of Architecture this summer. We hope to continue this open conversation throughout the process.

To get us started, we went to site to talk to the boaters, users of the canalside and their local residents from the area. The listening session helped us to better understand the opportunities and problems relating to the site, and shaped our proposal of a Co-Mooring. We came to realise that there is already a lot of community activity happening on London's Canals, which our proposal intends to capture!

Connecting Communities

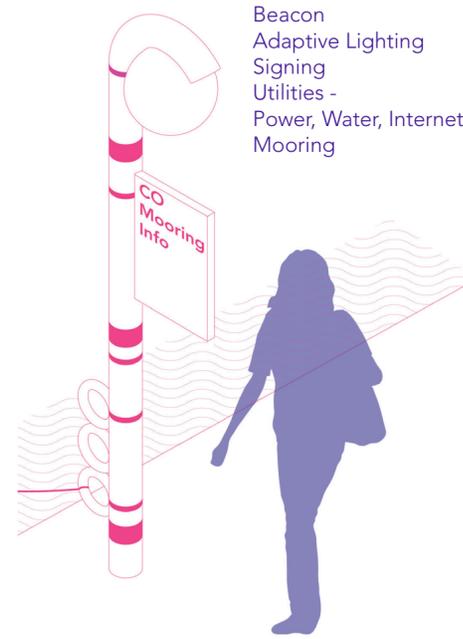
This proposal creates the opportunity to connect boaters with the local neighbours of London Borough of Westminster.



The Co-Mooring

Co-Mooring captures the latent community-mindedness, alternative spirit, and experimental possibilities of the canal. It operates using a simple, money-free transaction: The Co-Mooring grants boater benefits (longer stays, wifi.. etc) in return for providing a community amenity, space or value for free to the public.

We believe new opportunities can be found just by the simplest of interventions: painting a standard mooring post and changing the conditions of its use. In doing so, we can also re-think what the functionalities of the mooring post should be in the 21st century, better supporting the requirements of London's future canal users.



boater benefits
longer stays
wifi
electrical power

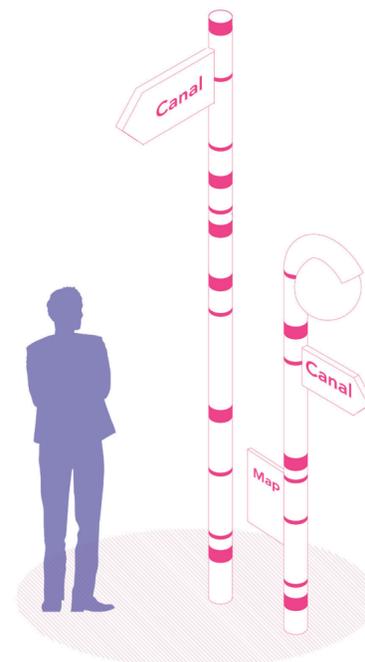


Community Purpose
exercise classes
skills workshops
meeting space
cafe/events space

Totems

With the same visual language the totem posts will be used as interventions at the key connections, utilising their height to maximise visibility from street level.

These will be designed in family with the mooring posts, but be symbolic of the local area. We will use co-design workshops with local residents to develop their appearance.



Project Stages

The project is split into three stages. We hope to pilot the Co-Mooring concept, host a festival of community activity during the LFA 2019 and secure lasting improvement works to the canalside at Harrow Road.

The budget will be split between necessary towpath improvements and funding to help support community events. Simple resurfacing, better lighting, planting and seating will support the festival's events, and provide a lasting legacy - even if the community moorings are taken away, these improvements will remain.

It is hoped that the community mooring could be repeated and relocated to other locations - bringing similar community festivals and improvements to other locations along the network.



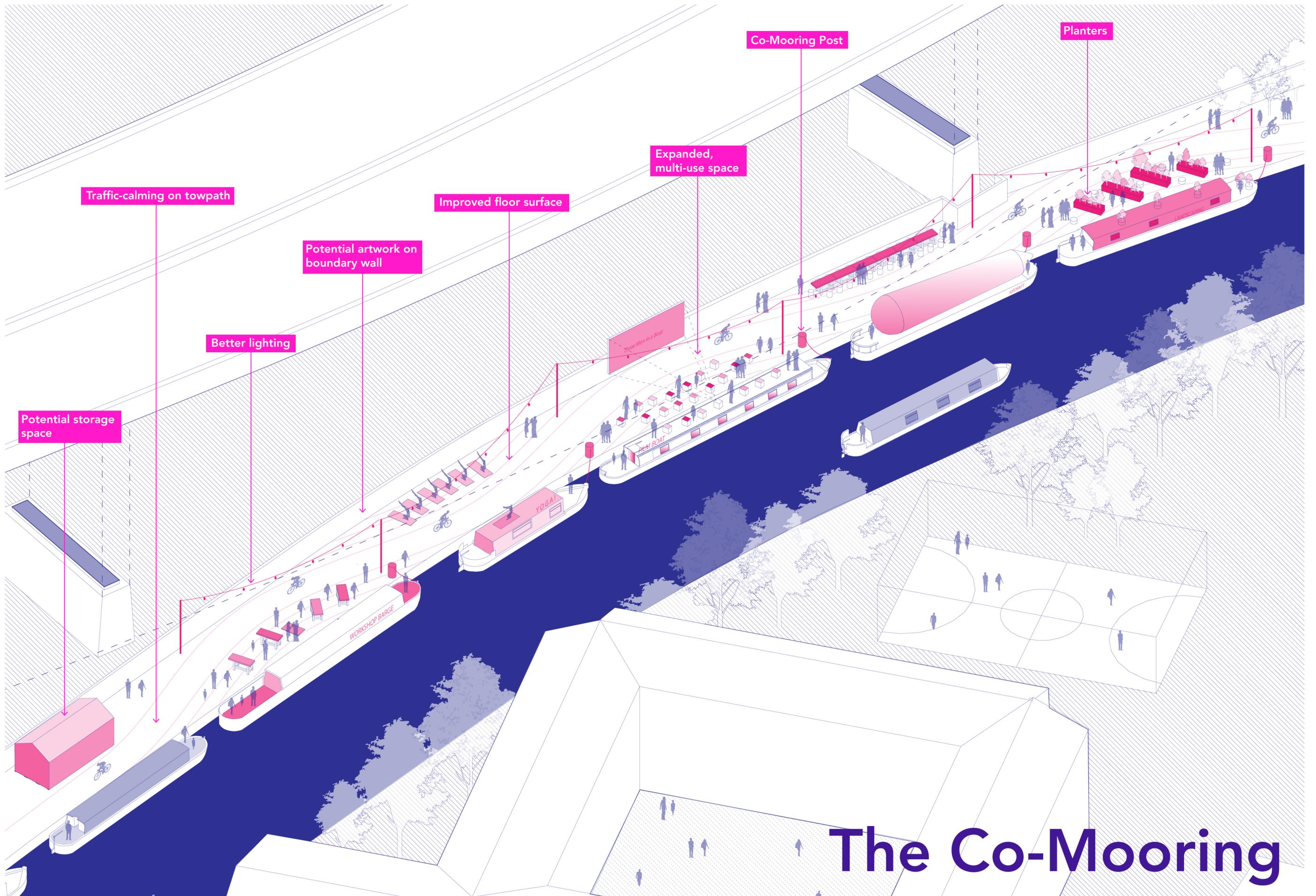
A Summer Festival

The project site at Harrow Road will be a testbed. During the LFA 2019, it will become London's most dynamic community centre, assembling an ever-changing collection of spaces and events, free for all to participate in and enjoy.

We would like the local residents of Westbourne Park to co-curate the content - a month-long programme of different community events, reflecting the interests and issues of the local area - this could be yoga classes, mental health meetings, housing crisis debates, carpentry workshops, collective dinner.

Festival Programme	
List of potential activities at Co-Mooring.	
Week 1	
Monday	:Yoga Class, Community Kitchen
Tuesday	:Meditation Class
Wednesday	:Art + Craft Workshop, Mindfulness Class
Thursday	:LFA Debate + Discussion + Talk
Friday	:Canal Cinema
Saturday	:Boot Camp, Planetarium, Bards on boats Concert
Sunday	
Week 2	
Monday	:Yoga Class
Tuesday	:How to live on a boat' workshop
Wednesday	:Mindfulness Class
Thursday	:Running club
Friday	:Local Communities Forum
Saturday	:Collective Dining, Airdraft, Summer BBQ
Sunday	:Mental Health Meeting
Week 3	
Monday	:Yoga Class, Community Kitchen
Tuesday	:Meditation Class
Wednesday	:Art + Craft Workshop, Mindfulness Class
Thursday	:LFA Debate + Discussion + Talk
Friday	:Canal Cinema
Saturday	:Planetarium
Sunday	:Bards on boats Concert
Week 4	
Monday	:Yoga Class
Tuesday	:How to live on a boat' workshop
Wednesday	:Mindfulness Class
Thursday	:Running club
Friday	:Local Communities Forum
Saturday	:Collective Dining, Airdraft, Summer BBQ
Sunday	:Mental Health Meeting

Hypothetical programme



Traffic-calming on towpath

Improved floor surface

Potential artwork on boundary wall

Better lighting

Potential storage space

Co-Mooring Post

Expanded, multi-use space

Planters

The Co-Mooring