The Lake Street/Midtown light rail station has everything it needs to evolve from simply a transit platform, to a daily hub for the entire neighborhood. Within 5-minute walking distance, there's grocery stores, gym, education, public services, and well, transit.

This project investigates the potentials of “living on top of transit”, both in practical and romantic ways. By absorbing the popular Midtown Farmers Market, and combine it with in-house seasonal restaurant and food pop-up, the proposal creates a monetary foundation for a mixed-use development that offers affordable housing to residents who would work at the rooftop urban farm that in turn supplies organic and seasonal ingredients to the establishments in the building and broader community.

The residential units are orchestrated to utilize daylight and introduce nature. The building facade is arranged to maintain privacy and shelter residents from highway noise. It is an extraordinary architectural expression, celebrating the grunt and poetry of ordinary life.
2018 Ralph Rapson Traveling Study Fellowship
Lake/Hiawatha 2.0 - Farmers Market, Urban Farming, and Metropolitan Living

THE ROOFTOP URBAN FARM - resident engagement and income generation

VEGETATED COURTYARD - introducing nature to metropolitan living

UNIT DESIGN - maximizing daylight while maintaining privacy with selective use of glass brick

The Rooftop Urban Farm - resident engagement and income generation