This project starts with a common ubiquitous framework known to DIY CNC enthusiasts and Makers alike, the T-slot aluminum extrusion. The T-slot extrusion has many uses in a Maker space and is not limited to: CNC Router milling beds for holding down material, CNC tables, machine gantries, building temporary partitions, etc. Digging into the Maker's mindset, this system seemed appropriate in the context of this project as it is a versatile system, comes in various standard extrusion shapes based on necessity, serves several functions and is generally available to the public. It’s basically an advanced upgrade to pegboard. This project proposes that the new Center for Public Design, Makerspace and Convenience store explore the possibilities of using this system as a framing material.

This project starts with looking at a bay for common CNC (computer numerically controlled) devices that use a top-down gantry system: CNC routers/lasers, CNC lasers, and most 3-D printers and using T-sections for structural members to support the gantry. This means a 10'x10' standard bay that has a common sheet goods (4'x8') with a maximum area of 10x10 and an alternating 3'x10' bay to create an area for the gantry structure to run and access/assembly space. This language was carried throughout the site on the Southeast corner of Penn Ave. N and Glenwood Ave. creating the Center for Public Interest Design (CPID), the MakerSpace (MakerLabs) and the Convenience store.

Across the corner of Glenwood Ave. and Penn Ave. N, is a new model for convenience stores acting more of a miniature grocery store/grocery store rather than your typical convenience store; providing fresh produce and meats in limited quantities. It also contains a small diner/cafe for beverages, quick meals and snacks. The same language of building is reflected in the convenience store at a smaller scale to allow daylight into the aisles of the store. The convenience store also has a small patio for eating outdoors and can act as a small farmer’s market on the weekends.

Each of the corner programs straddles the intersection of Glenwood and Penn “Reweaving the Intersection” by not only sharing the same building language, but by also sharing products and goods and ideas.