

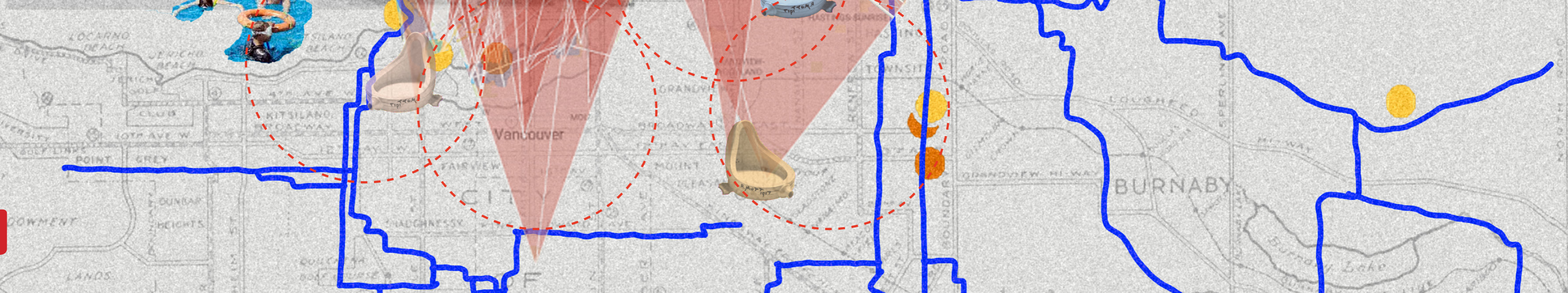
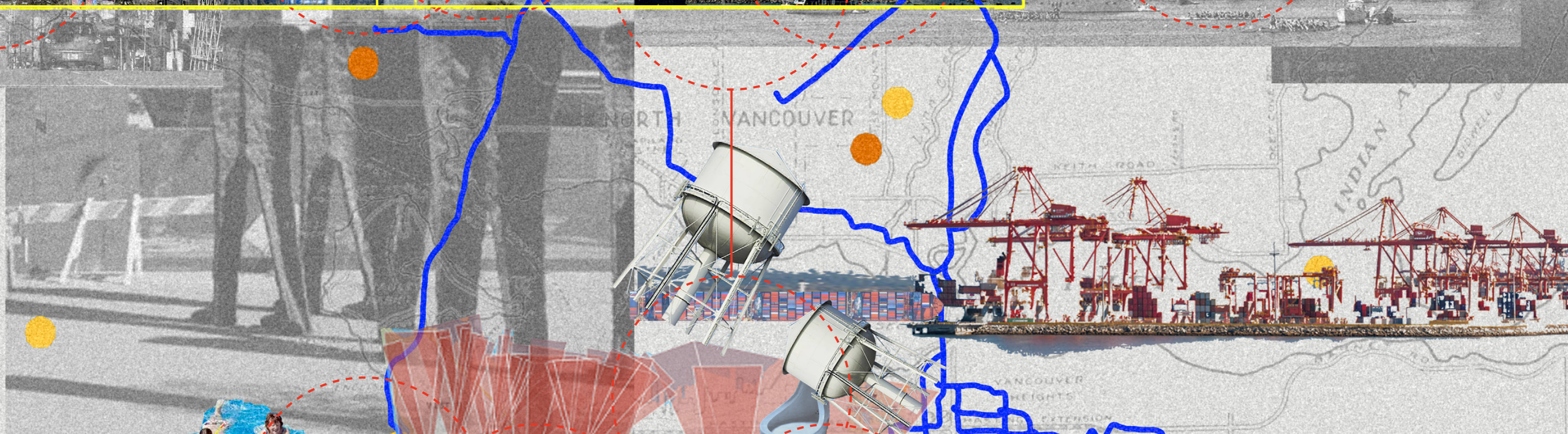
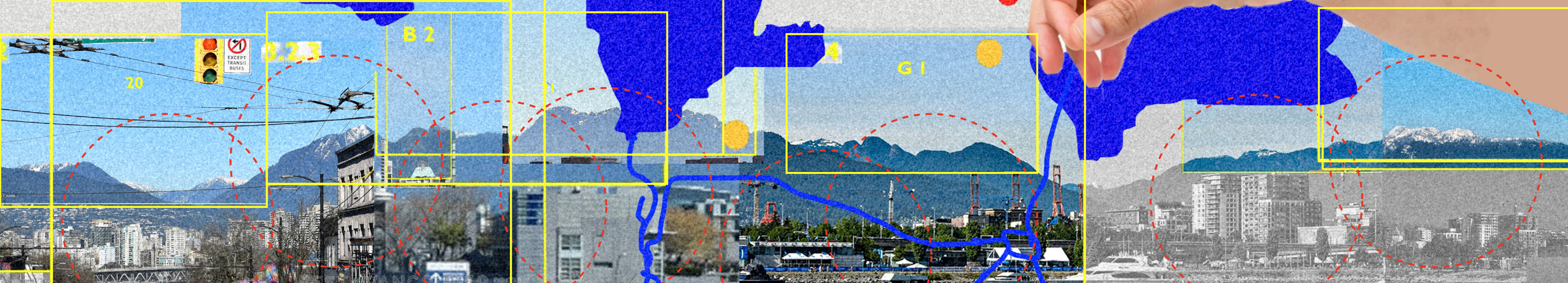
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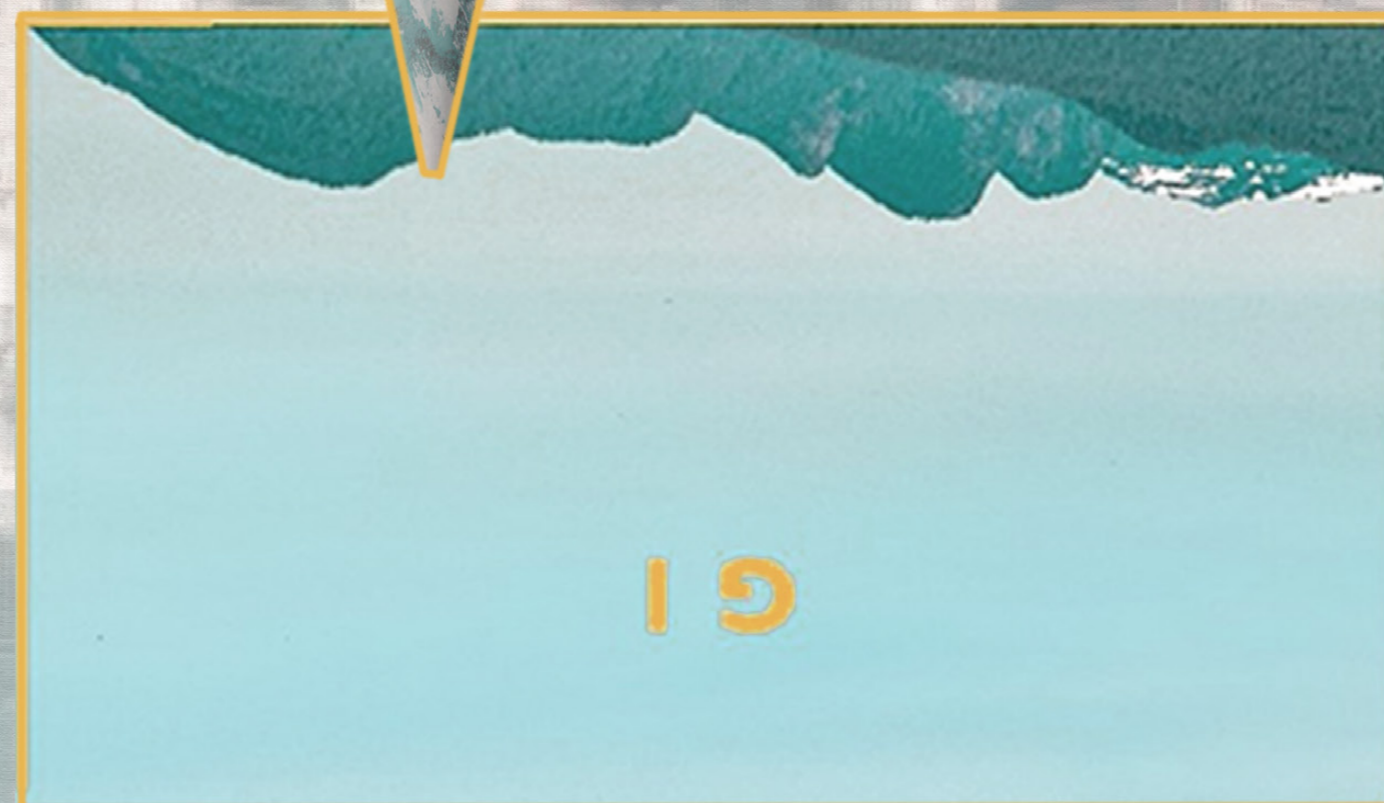
## Chp 1: Water

Water [H<sub>2</sub>O] is the most abundant element on planet earth and yet, water scarcity is a global phenomenon in the 21st century. All around the world, including Canada, a lack of readily available drinking water is an increasing problem. Water reservoirs are emptying with a decreasing renewed supply. Ironically, the surface area of water on the planet is increasing at a rapid rate. On the Western coast of Canada, along the Pacific Ocean, the City of Vancouver sits in a geographically unique position: overlooking the ocean and the mountains simultaneously. A privilege that few other cities around the world are privy to. With constant physical and visual access to both fresh and salt water, and obviously gorgeous views.

## Chp 2: Access

Water in Vancouver is not only a natural resource but also a visual asset, and there is an inherent hierarchy and socio-economic aspect to these views. Economics 101 preaches to anyone who will listen that: where there is limited supply and high demand, the value of said item skyrockets. What happens when the item is a naturally occurring commodity, such as a view or [ / of] water?

Vancouver, maybe more than any other city in Canada, has an abundance of water. Surrounded on three sides by bodies of water, it offers its residents an array of bathing options: from rocky to sandy, and vibrantly urban to secluded, there is a beach here for everyone. However, despite its abundance of ocean beachfronts and rainforest climate it is no stranger to water scarcity.



The very same vistas that provide potable water for the city are simultaneously protected as vital resource and consumed as spectacle. This produces a striking dichotomy: water becomes both invisible infrastructure and hyper-visible commodity. The commodification of view cones within the city has created a monetized hierarchy of the natural world into building restrictions, zoning laws, and real estate hyper-inflations. All working to keep the best views “protected.” Often reserving these views for the wealthiest residents who can afford to splurge on such luxuries on top of the already the high rent and general living costs in the city. As a result, water in Vancouver occupies two parallel roles. It exists as a vital and increasingly scarce resource and simultaneously as a commodified visual asset that shapes property value and urban hierarchy. At a moment when potable water is becoming an increasingly scarce resource, Vancouver’s urban form quietly reflects this tension.

## Chp 3: Osmotic Bathing

Building off of the history of ready-mades and artist multiples where repetition and mass production are used to critique systems of value and authorship: this intervention proposes a series of water fountains installed at the origin point of every view cone. Each fountain functioning as a standardized object replicated throughout the city, subtly marking the invisible geometry of Vancouver’s view cone network. Water, an element that is fundamentally free and naturally occurring, becomes accessible through a highly constructed system of urban planning, infrastructure, and economic valuation. Rather than simply gazing toward the mountains and watersheds in the distance, onlookers are invited to take part in the ritual of osmotic bathing. If traditional bathing places the body in water, osmotic bathing reverses this relationship. The act of drinking becomes a quiet and intimate encounter with the landscapes that dominate Vancouver’s skyline and when the mountains disappear under the cover of night, the view fades but the water remains. An echo reminding us of the landscapes that will reveal themselves again tomorrow.