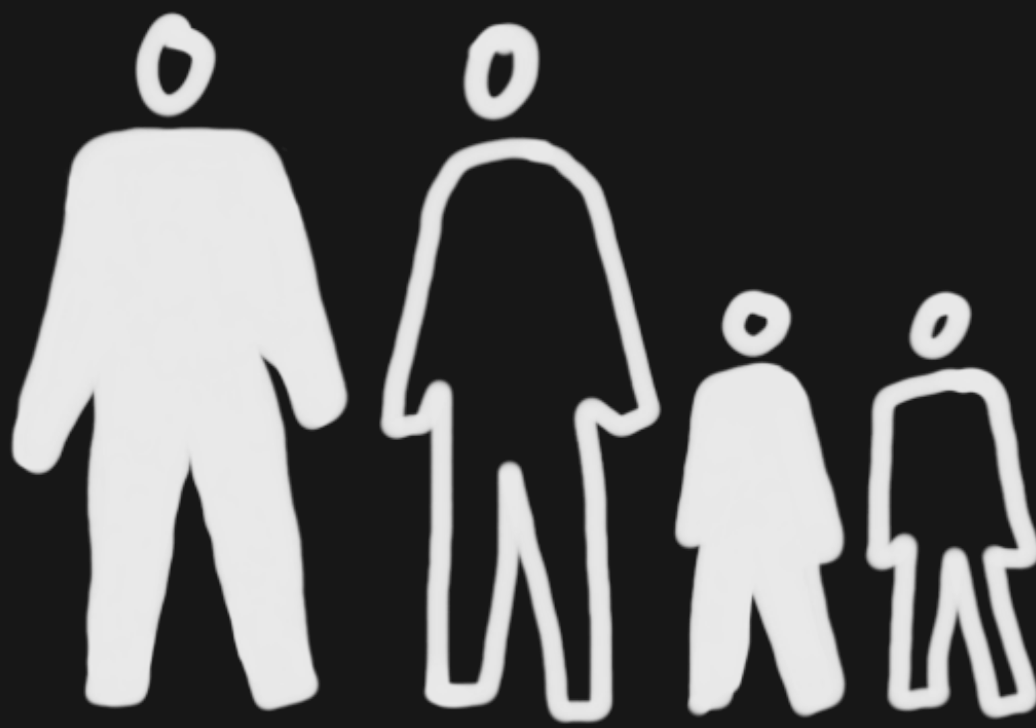
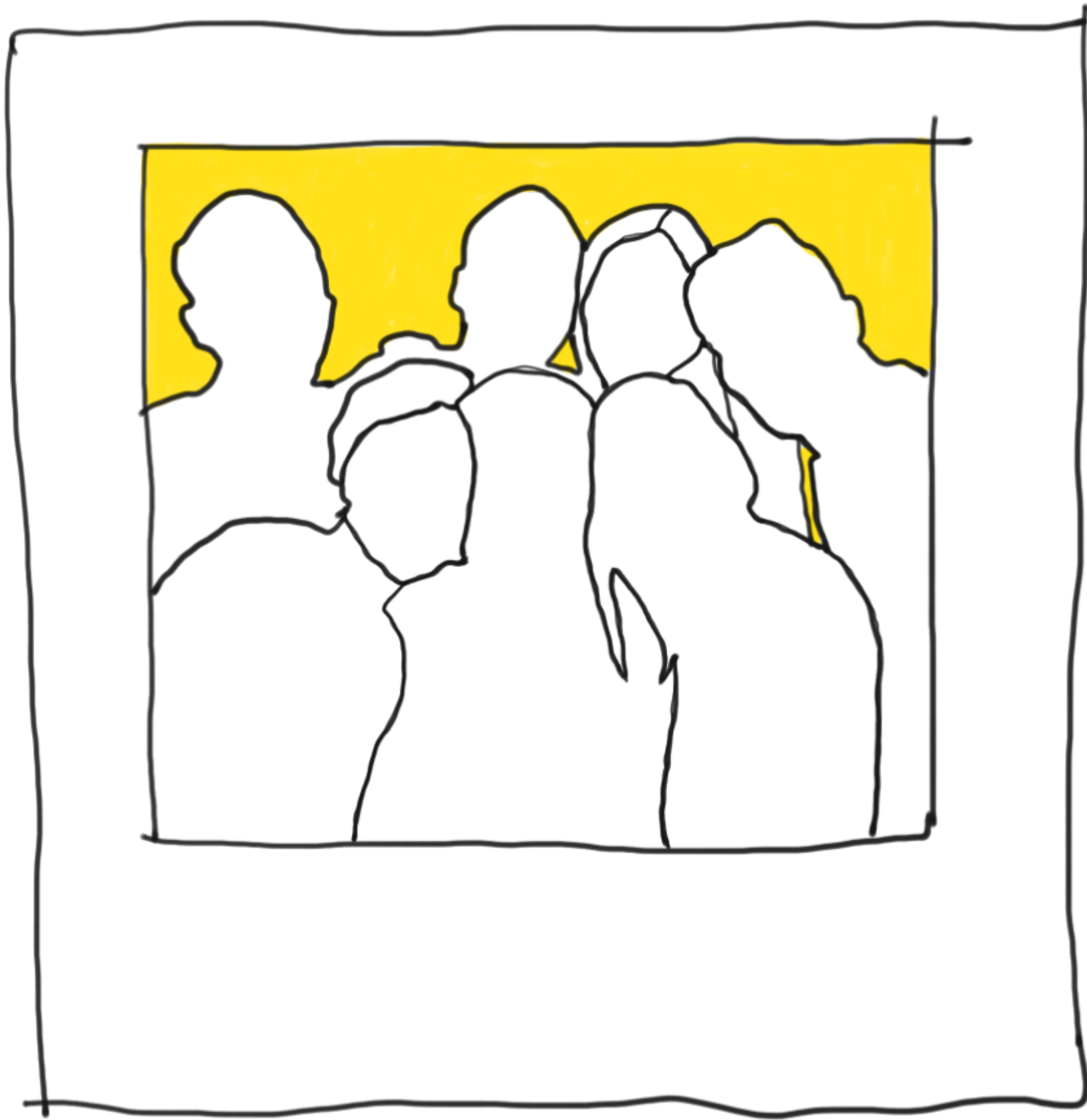


# DECIPHERING DE-DENSIFICATION



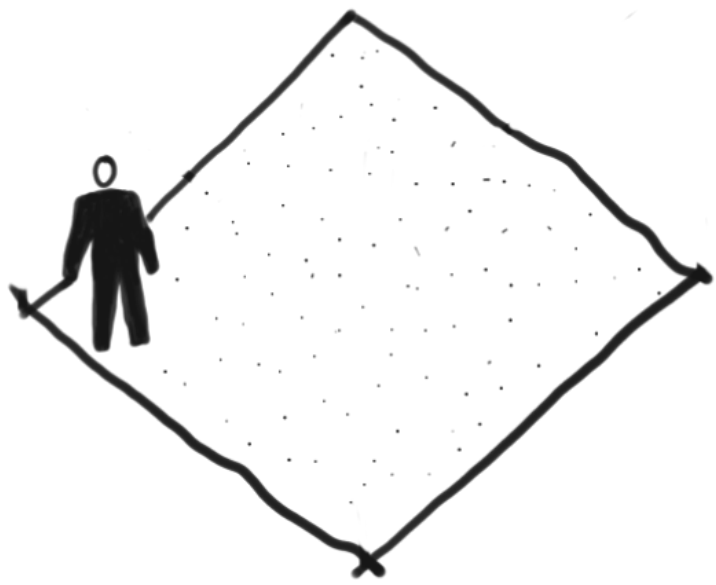
one to one  
AGENCY OF ENGAGEMENT

# FIRSTLY, WHAT IS URBAN DENSITY?

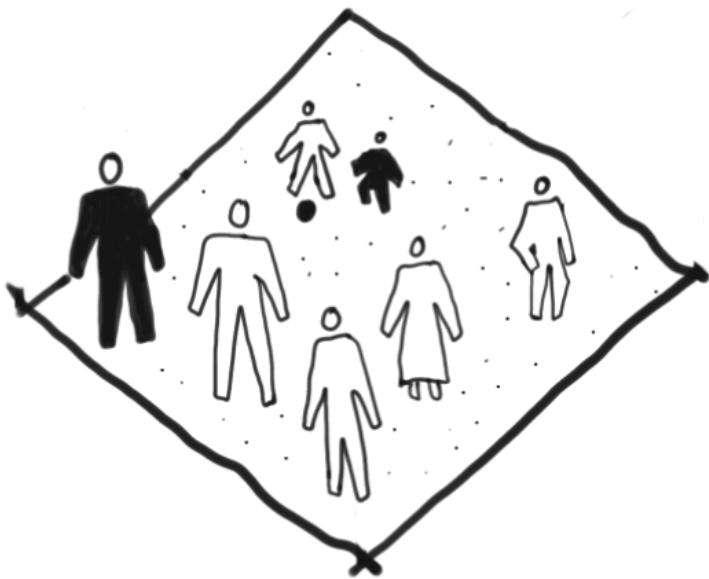


“Urban density, done well,  
has all kinds of benefits...  
people who live in dense,  
walkable areas tend to be  
physically healthier, happier,  
and more productive...  
governments pay less in  
infrastructure costs... (and)  
per-capita energy  
consumption is lower”

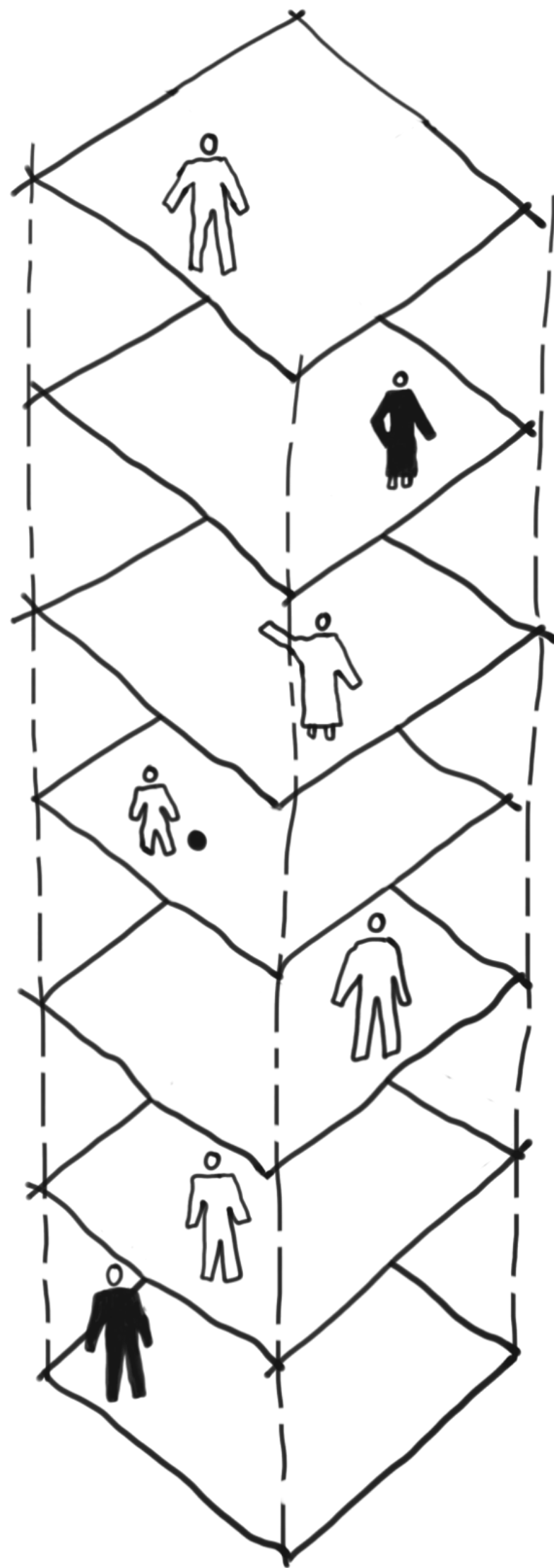
# WHAT DOES URBAN DENSITY LOOK LIKE?



1 person/10m<sup>2</sup>



7 people/10m<sup>2</sup>

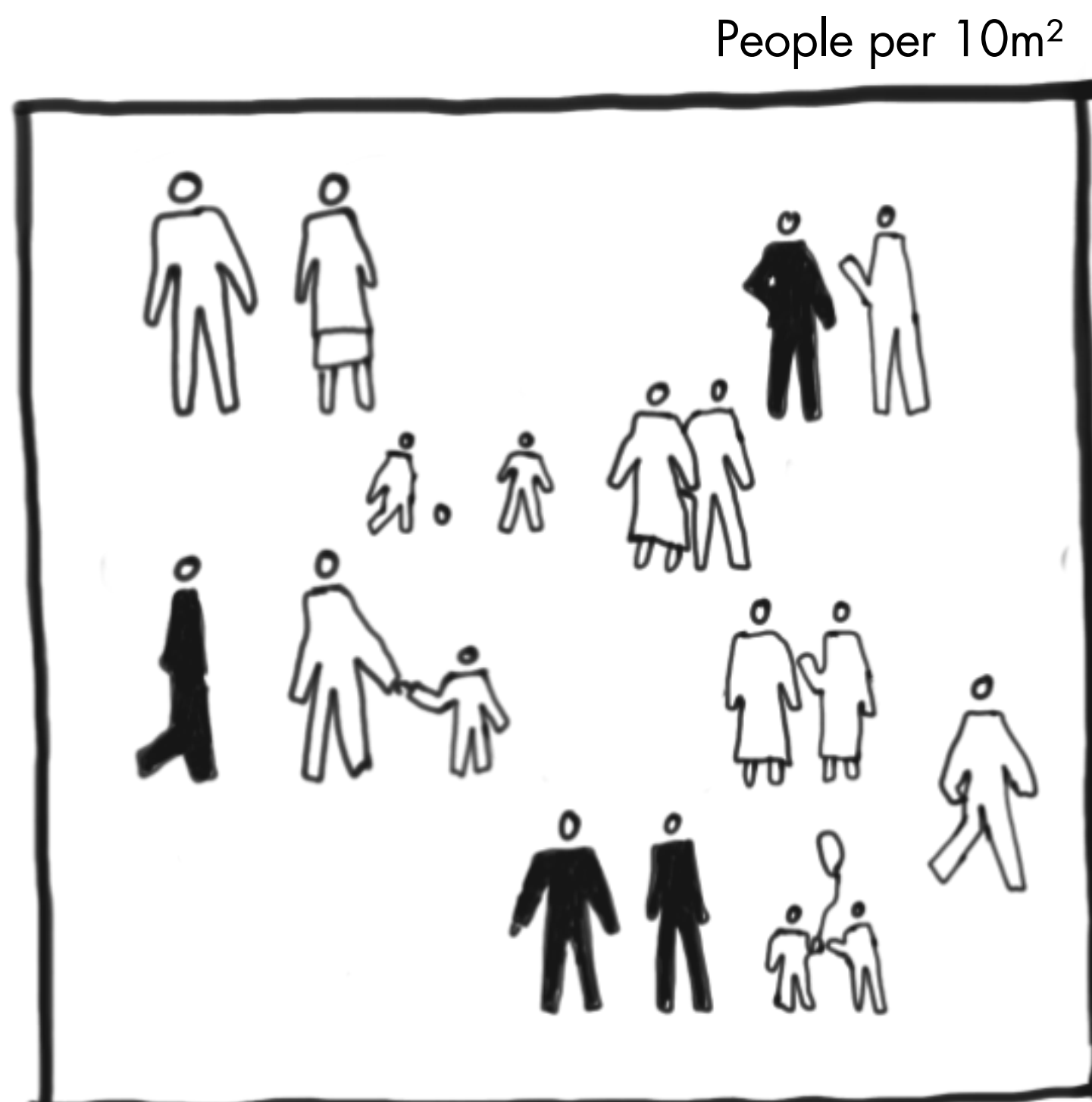


7 people/10m<sup>2</sup>

Density refers to how many people occupy a specific amount of space.

Smaller footprint = Higher density.

# WHAT DOES URBAN DENSITY LOOK LIKE?



BARCELONA

Barcelona (101.4 km<sup>2</sup>)  
has a density of  
16 000 people per km<sup>2</sup>.

# WHAT DOES URBAN DENSITY LOOK LIKE?

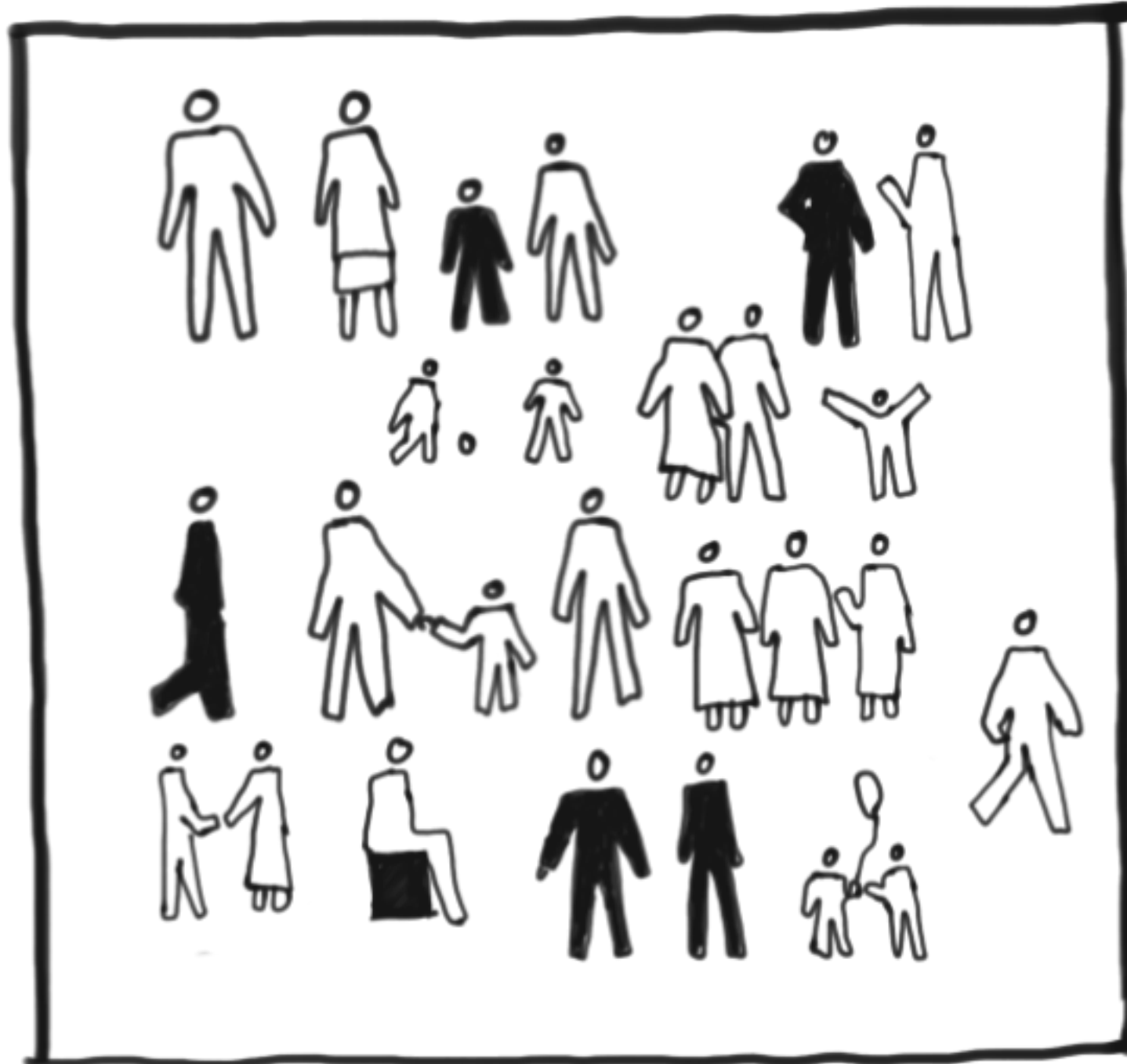


Sandton (1 433.54 km<sup>2</sup>)  
has a density of  
1 500 people per km<sup>2</sup>.



# WHAT DOES URBAN DENSITY LOOK LIKE?

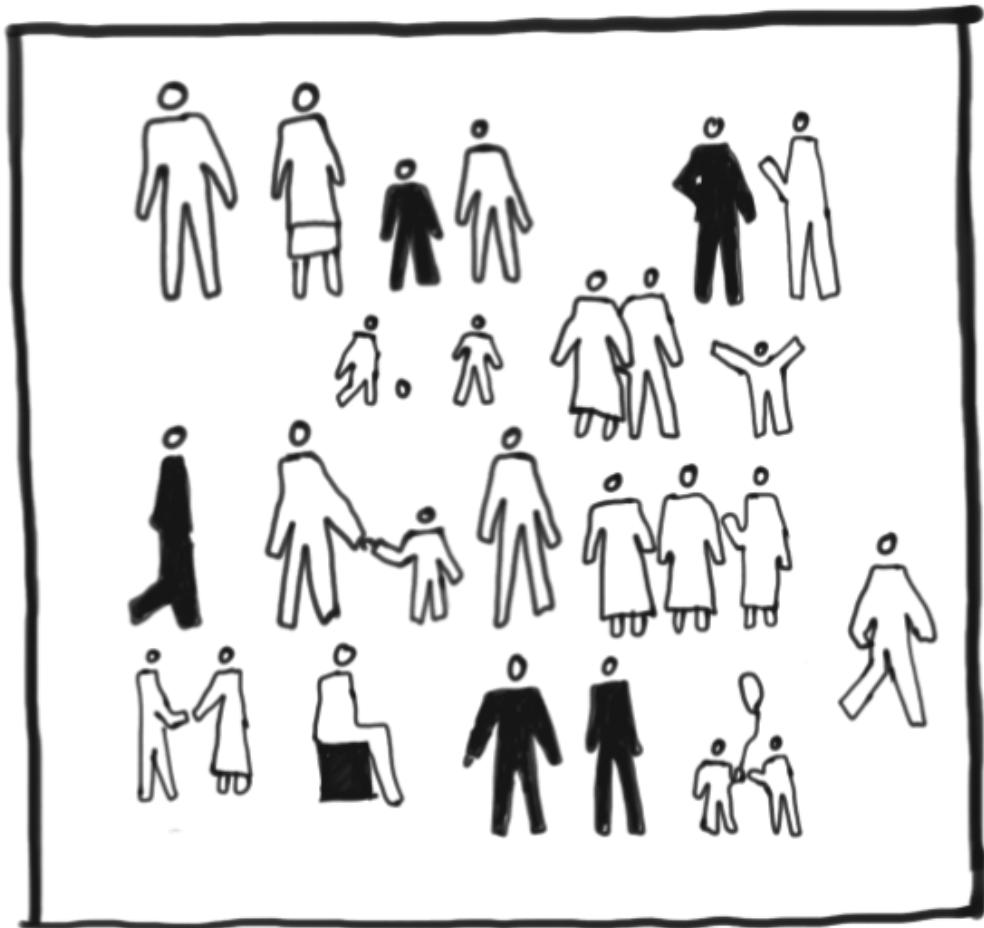
People per 10m<sup>2</sup>



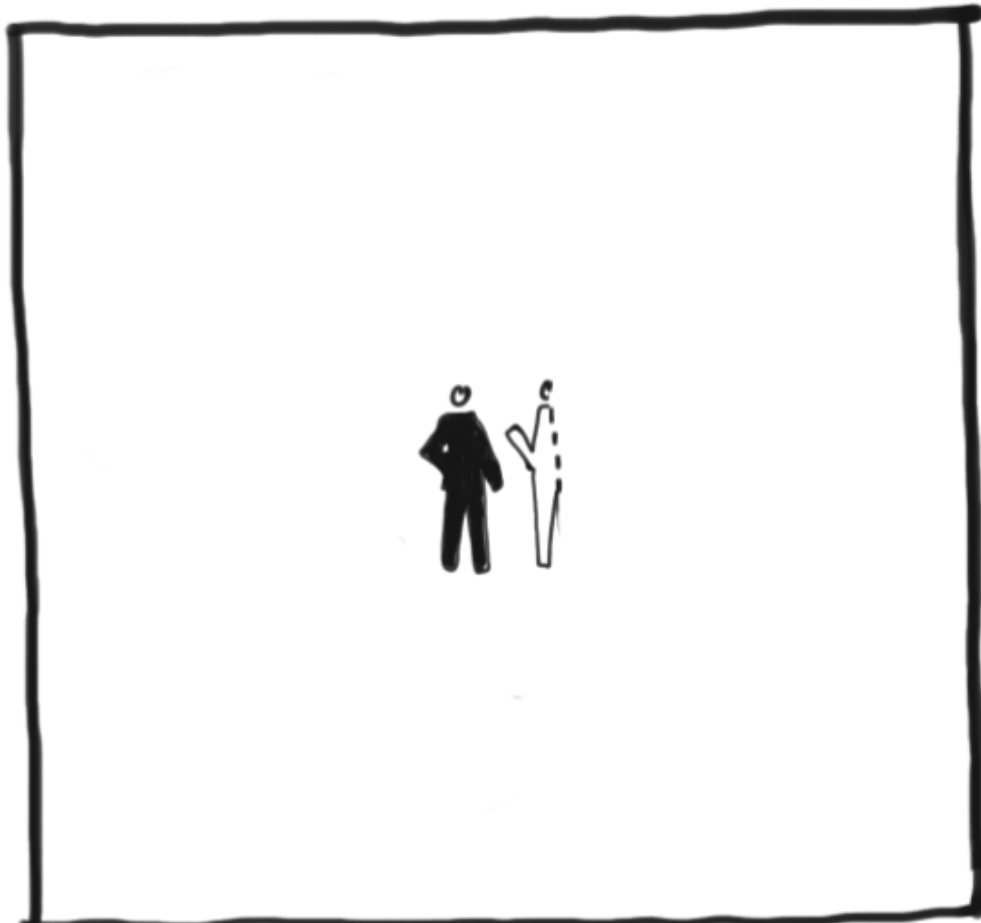
ALEXANDRA

Alexandra (6.91 km<sup>2</sup>)  
has a density of  
26 000 people per km<sup>2</sup>.

# WHAT DOES URBAN DENSITY LOOK LIKE?



ALEXANDRA



SANDTON



BARCELONA

Diagrams show the number of people per 10m<sup>2</sup>

Pending the declaration of a state of disaster,  
29 high risk areas were identified to be  
de-densified, due to inadequate distribution of  
water and sanitation and overcrowding.

(24 March 2020)



LINDIWE SISULU

MINISTER OF HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

By 6 April the plan to  
*relocate citizens from  
townships to larger spaces,*  
was at an advanced stage"

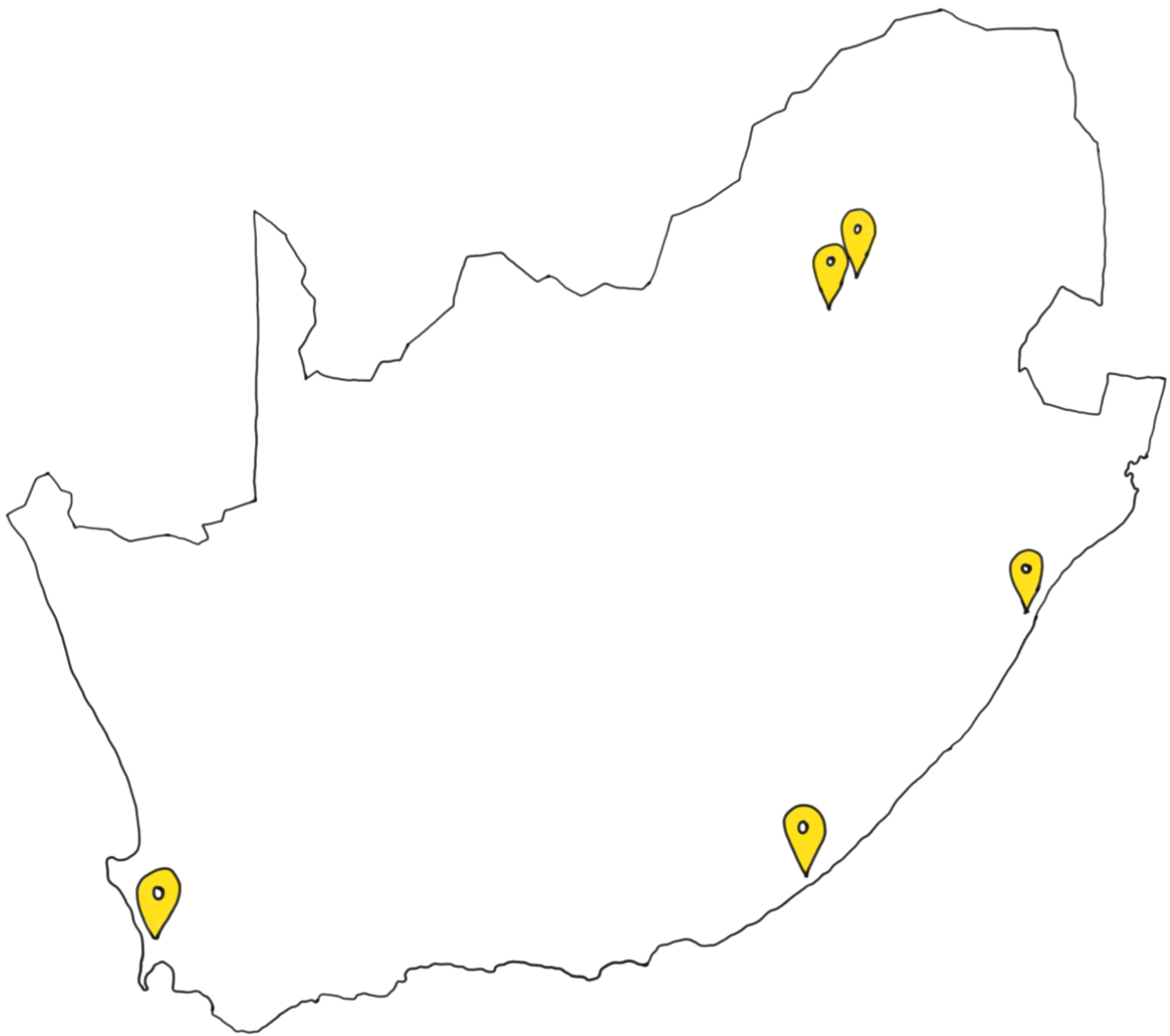
(Lindique, M for EWN, 6 April 2020)



# *5 informal settlements were identified for de-densification before 17 April.*

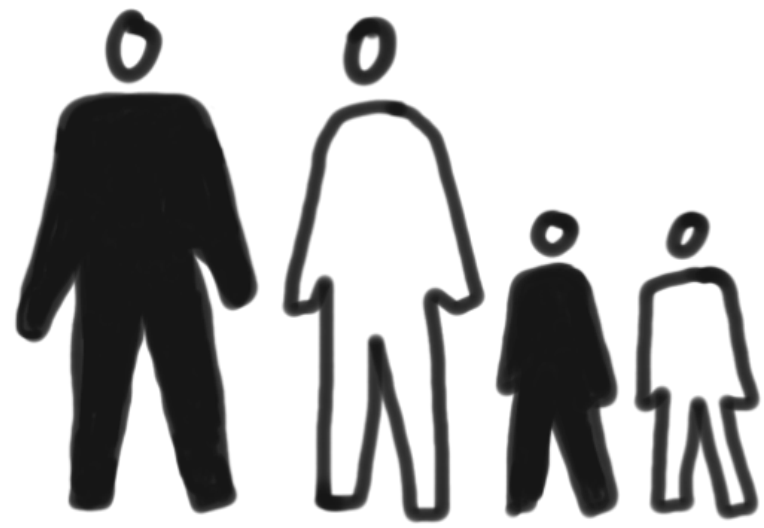
(Lindique, M for EWN, 6 April 2020) &

(Majavu, A for New Frame 6 April 2020)



- Du Noon in the (Western Cape)
- Duncan Village (Eastern Cape)
- Kennedy Road (KZN)
- Stijwetla, Alexandra (Gauteng)
- Mooiplaas, Tshwane (Gauteng)

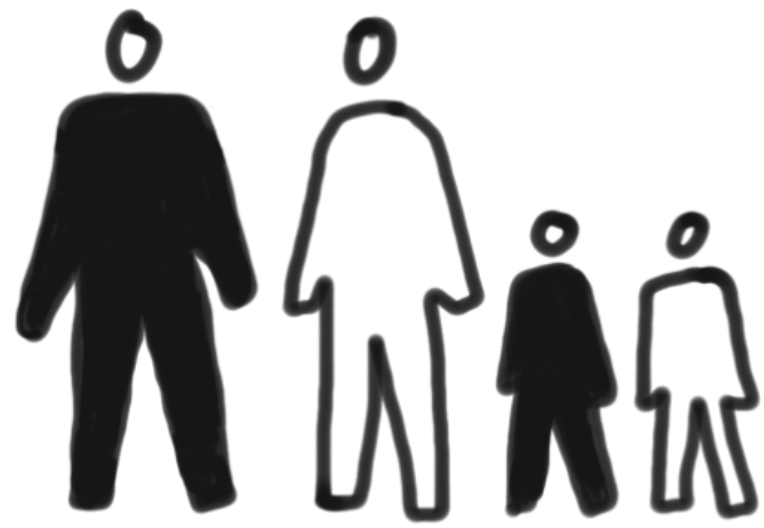
Calls for de-densification were opposed by civic organizations, human rights organizations, and prominent academia.



*“Any measures taken by the government in response to COVID-19, including de-densification must be grounded in human rights. De-densification must not lead to forced evictions and must include human rights safeguards including genuine consultation with affected people.”*

(Amnesty International, 7 April 2020)

Calls for de-densification were opposed by civic organizations, human rights organizations, and prominent academia.



*De-densification “not only isolates households, but also separates homes from livelihoods, and breaks social ties, which are the very basis of what makes informal settlements work as a survival base for the unemployed and poorly paid workers”*

(Marie Huchzemeyer, CUBES, 12 April 2020)

FIRSTLY, WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO DE-DENSIFY?



Due to high density occurring in some informal settlements, de-densification may be required to provide services and infrastructure or in the case of Covid-19, to reduce overcrowded spaces which pose a health risk.

De-densification refers to making spaces less dense.



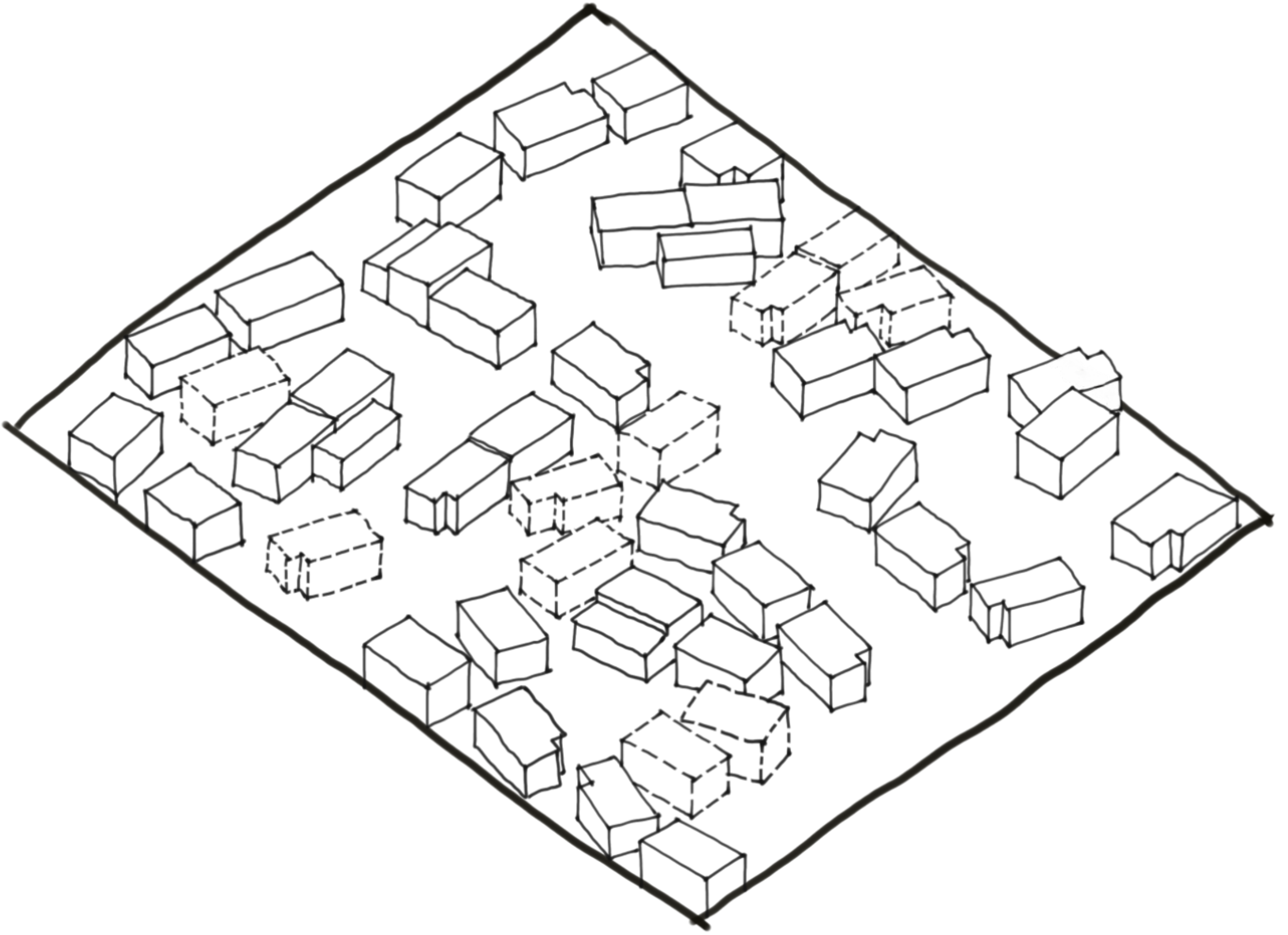
FIRSTLY, WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO DE-DENSIFY?



De-densification of informal settlements refers to the relocation of some households to temporary relocation areas with reliable services through a process of engagement with residents.

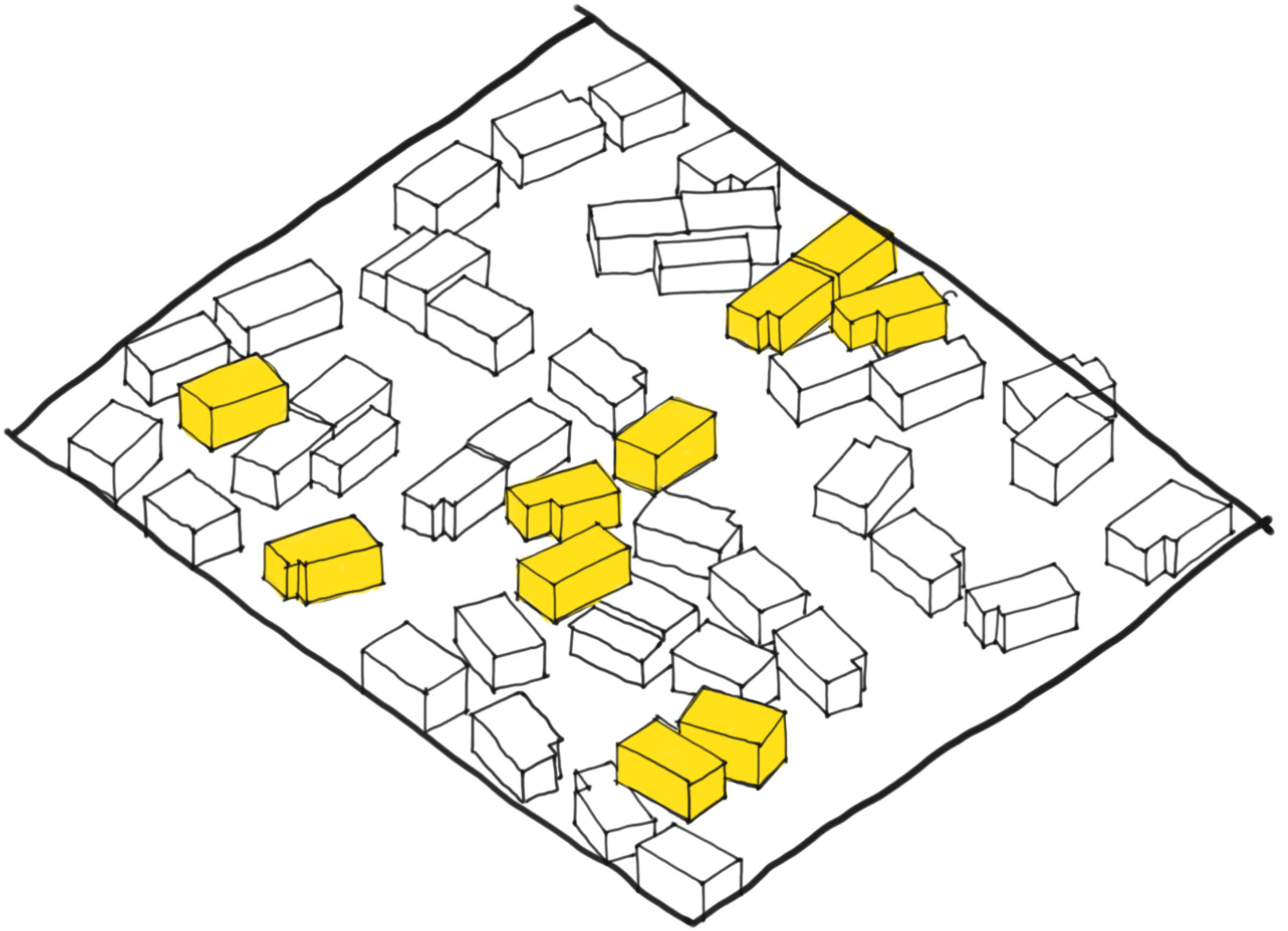


FIRSTLY, WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO DE-DENSIFY?



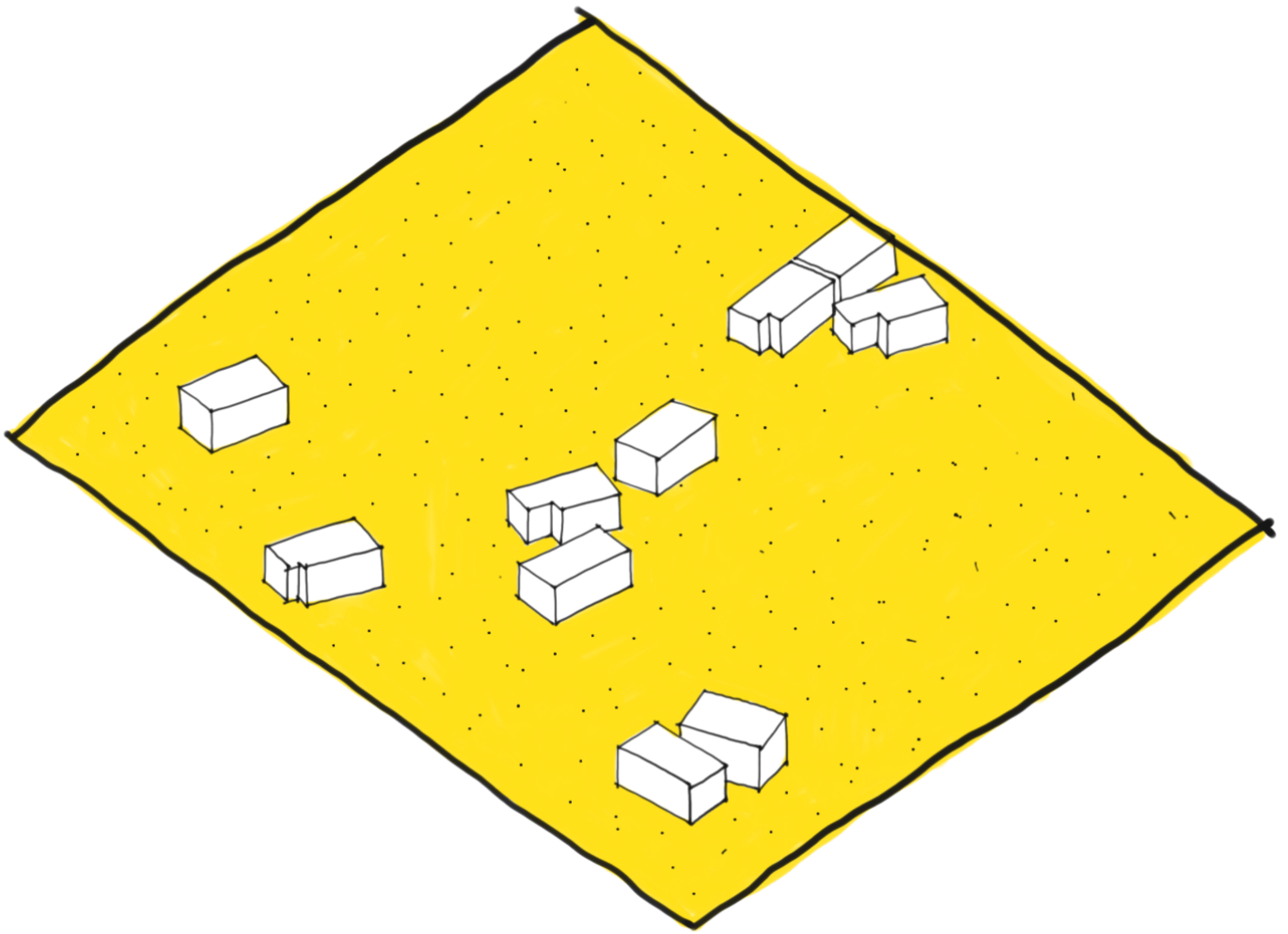
An over-crowded informal  
settlement where service  
delivery is difficult or the  
density is dangerous.

FIRSTLY, WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO DE-DENSIFY?



The households that need to  
be relocated are identified  
and engaged with to facilitate  
their relocation.

FIRSTLY, WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN TO DE-DENSIFY?



The household are located to  
an area within the immediate  
vicinity where they have  
adequate services and safe  
accommodation.

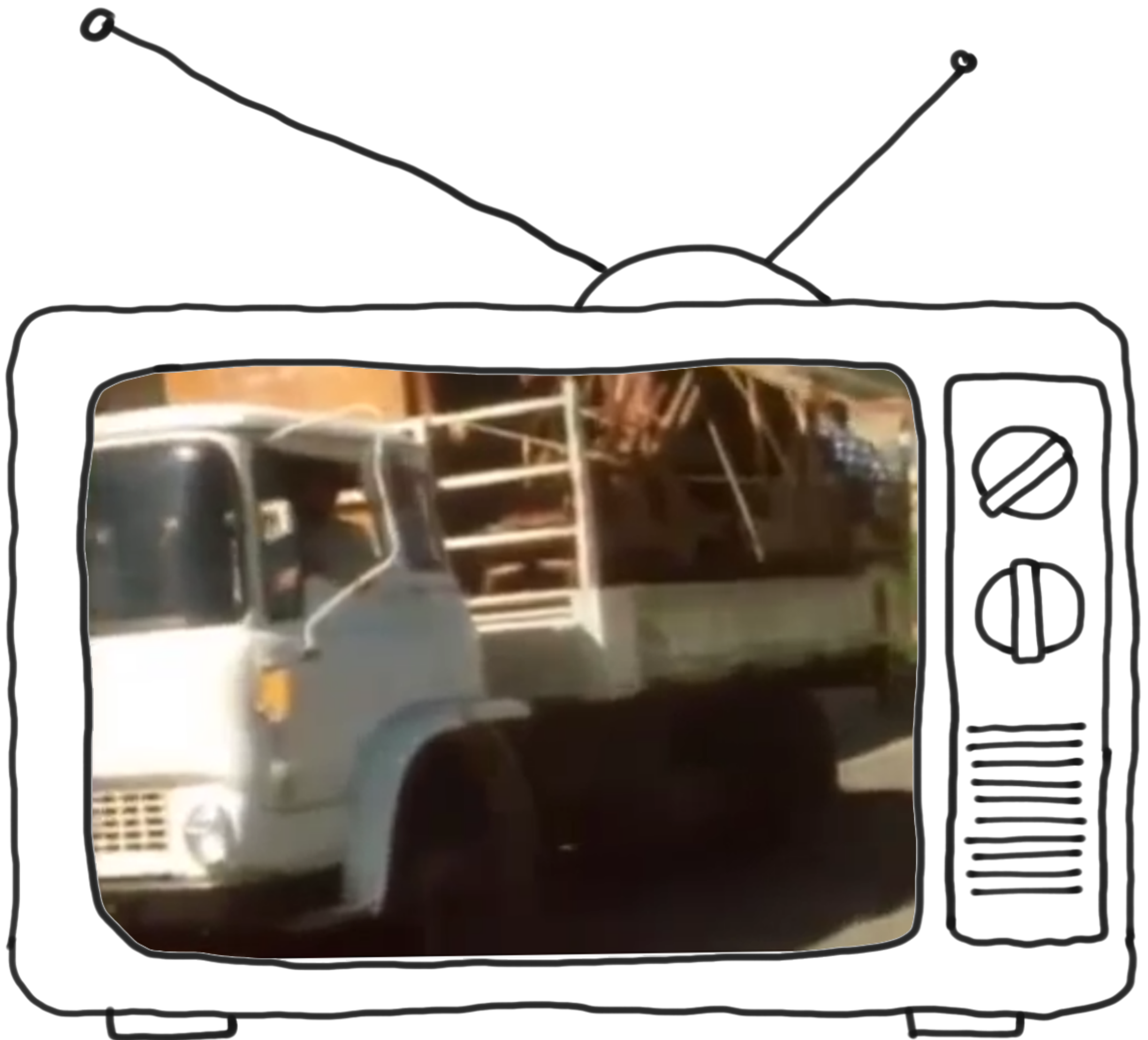


Despite Resistance, by early April some settlements began to undergo very aggressive de-densification.



@jamesoatway

The manner in which these evictions  
were conducted were resemblant of  
forced removals.

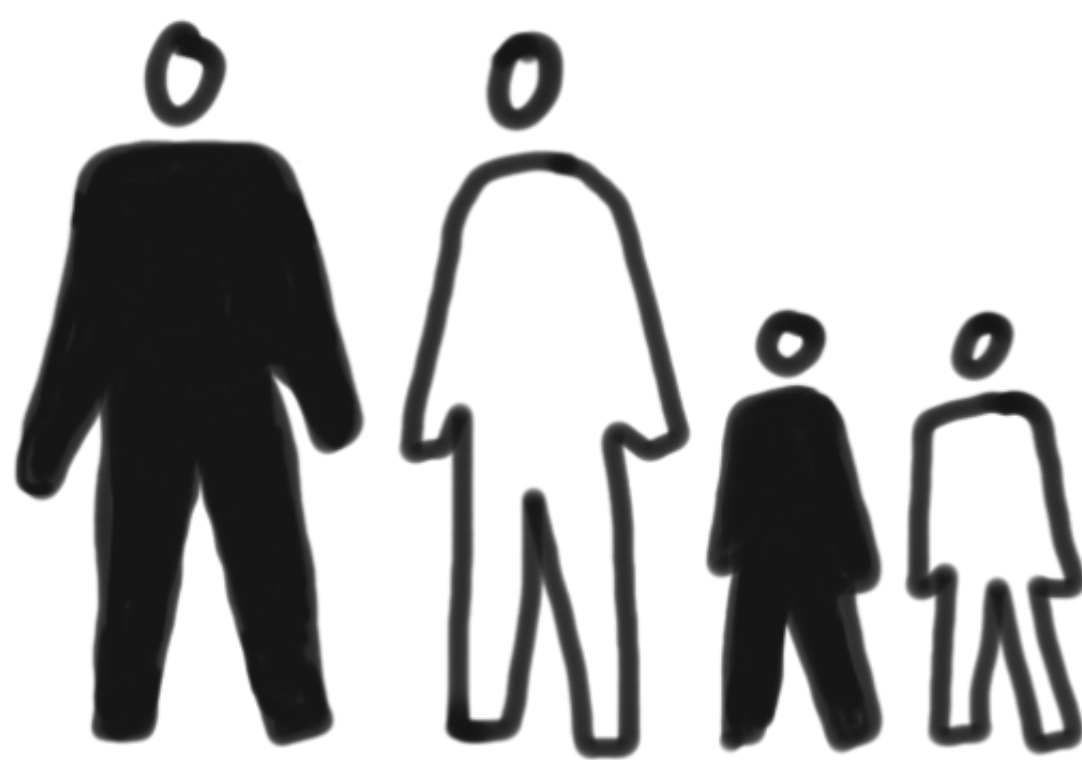
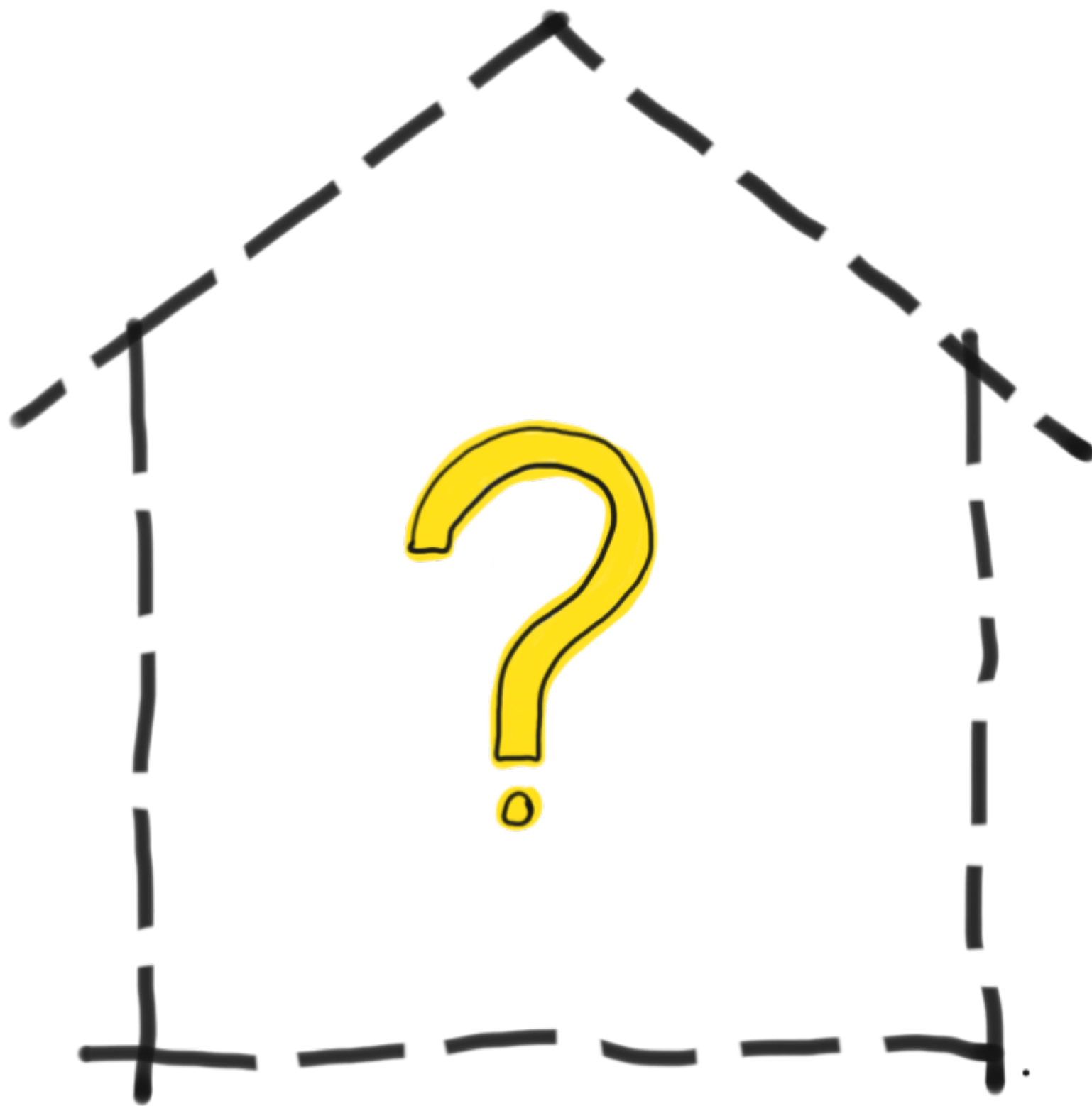


*District 6 February 1966*



# ARE THESE REMOVALS DE-DENSIFICATION OR EVICTIONS?

Removing households,  
whether they are informal or  
*illegal* without engagement,  
negotiation and informed  
consent from homeowners is  
eviction, not de-densification.



WHERE DO THE *DECANTED*  
HOUSEHOLDS HAVE TO GO  
NOW?

Get in touch with us with your thoughts and ideas. And stay tuned for more information.

info@1to1.org.za



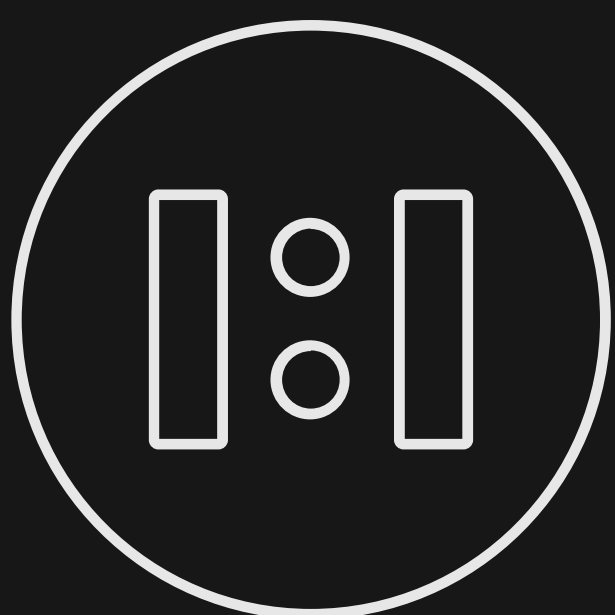
@1to1AgencyofEngagement



@1to1\_AoE



1to1AgencyOfEngagement



one to one  
AGENCY OF ENGAGEMENT