

City / Nature for Urban Resilience: Greener Belltown – Bluer Sound

Scan I Design Master Studio, Autumn 2017 [Larch 501]

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With Master Teacher Louise Grasso, Schulze + Grasso

Project 07: Schematic Design: Mid-term /Workshop Guidance

And so Esmeralda's inhabitants are spared the boredom of following the same streets every day. And that is not all: the network of routes is not arranged on one level, but follows instead an up-and-down course of steps, landings, cambered bridges, hanging streets. Combining segments of the various routes, elevated or on ground level, each inhabitant can enjoy every day the pleasure of a new itinerary to reach the same places. – Italo Calvino, Invisible Cities, p. 88

Overview:

For our next phase of design you will work as a team to develop your preferred site concept(s) into a schematic design. You will present your analyses, concept(s), and initial schematic design to our Master Teacher Louise and two weeks later, your more developed designs at the Belltown Workshop, which will also serve as our mid-term review.

Consider the schematic design as the result of strategies at nested scales. Document the site forces that you feel are relevant in a series of site analysis diagrams at the site and district scale to form the basis for your design "argument". Test and develop your selected site concept into a spatial schematic in plan and section(s), considering both site and context. Think in terms of climate adaptation and strategies related to stormwater mitigation, urban greening and social amenity. Your spatial response might consider: water flow (capture, treatment, use, release); movement and stasis, flow and eddy; public life, education, exchange; scale, human, site, district, region; time (past, present and future), night/day summer/winter; equitable access; ecology and habitat; sun and shadow, wind, rain; metaphor, poetics, politics, narrative; public / private; daily / event; porosity / transparency, etc.

Your schematic design presentation should tell a story with a clear and succinct narrative. How does the human scale register in your design? What other species are invited into your design? How do details help to develop the concept?

To convey a real sense of space, your schematic design should show the size, location, and general qualities of a space, in plan and section(s), at a scale that allows viewers to project themselves into the drawing, moving through the designed spaces -- e.g. accurate scale, line hierarchy, surfaces rendered, shadows to convey depth and light quality, color and inclusion of active figures bring it to life. Typical schematic scales are 1" = 20', 1/16" = 1'-0", 1" = 10' and 1/8" = 1'-0", depending upon the size of your site. For district-wide projects, a combination of scales could be most effective: i.e. showing the district at 1" = 60' but also zooming into specific interventions at 1" = 10' or larger. Your drawings can be digital or hand-drawn but should be professionally presented. All drawings should be labeled and include people as well as topography, drainage, planting, structures, walls, edges, entrances, covered space, groundscape, lighting, furniture and amenities.

Due Dates:

Monday, Oct. 30
(continued on Wed.)

Initial presentation to Louise
District Analyses and Frameworks (all groups)
Site Analysis Diagrams
Initial Schematic Design
Supportive Design Diagrams

Monday, Nov. 6

Storyboard for Mid-term
Refined iterations of Schematic Designs and support materials
Storyboard of drawings you will use for Belltown workshop / mid-term review

Wednesday, Nov. 8

District Framework Revisit:
Use your schematic explorations to inform an iteration of your analysis group's District Framework and calculations
Continue iterations of Schematic Design

Monday, Nov. 13

Belltown Workshop / Mid-Term Review: Digital upload and plotted drawings
District Frameworks with water calculations
Region/City/District Scale diagrams illustrating relationships between the project site and the surrounding district/city
Site analyses + Program + Concept Diagrams
Site-Scale Schematic Drawings of your Site Design in Plan and Section(s) at an appropriate scale
Informal models encouraged

Plan to complete plotting and rehearse presentations by Friday, Nov. 10.