

Porous Public Space:

Climate Adaptation through Public Space Design for Capitol Hill,
Seattle 2030 District

Project 06: Schematic Design, Human Use Assessment, Presentation to Louise + Mid-term

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 develop your preferred site concept(s) into a schematic design. You will present your preliminary designs, related to the overall District Goals for public space and water management, to our Master Teacher Louise Grasso for her guidance, and refine them for the Mid-term. You will incorporate human use observations, and specific edge + water studies into your process.

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, at both physical and temporal scales.

Your schematic design presentation should tell a story with a clear and succinct narrative – keeping in mind that urban design is a complex network of values, activity and interactions. Consider, for example:

- How does the design serve the development of a robust, connected, responsive public realm?
- How does the existing use of, and plans for, the neighborhood, street or site affect your thinking? (**Human Use Observations**).
- What are: your goals, programmatic elements, and spatial solutions?
- What are key drivers for your concept? What are the site and district needs and opportunities?
- What is the key "parti" for your spatial concept?
- How does the human scale register in your design? How are edges treated?
- How may your site design achieve water management goals for the specific conditions of your "pipeshed"?
- Who is "invited" into the design – including other species?
- How do details help to develop the concept into a schematic design?
- What design moves are appropriate for short-term implementation? Which are evolutionary or longer-term visions?

To convey a real sense of space, your schematic design **drawings** 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. 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.

You are encouraged to develop and present your schematic ideas in **model** form, either digital or physical.

Due Dates:

- Monday Oct. 21** **Pin-up Initial Schematic Design**
- Wednesday Oct. 23** **Pin-up Human Scale / Water Studies**
- Monday, Oct. 27** **Presentation to Louise**
(continued on Wed.) Refined Site Analyses (with District relationships)
Early Schematic Design and Site Program - With supportive Analyses and Concept Design
Diagrams
- Monday, Nov. 4** **Storyboard for Mid-term**
Refined iterations of Schematic Designs and support materials (e.g. early model)
Storyboard of drawings you will use for the mid-term review
- Nov. 5 or 9** **Participate in EcoDistrict Public Life OR “vox pop” related to your site (date flexible)**
- Friday, Nov. 8** **Mid-term Review**
Site analyses + Program + Concept Diagrams
Site-Scale Schematic Drawings in Plan and Section(s)
Images / Vignette[s]
Model
- Plan to complete plotting and rehearse presentations by Thursday, Nov. 07.