

Project 06: Design Development, Group and Individual

DUE: Monday, 22 February - Presentation and critique from Helle Søholt, Gehl Architects.

Good design usually requires an iterative process of trial, reflection, and revisions, through several stages of development.

At our mid-term review you heard suggestions for where to next take your own designs. We also heard general suggestions for next steps, which will guide us through the next two weeks. Review your notes, :

1. **Be sure to visit your site again** if you haven't since the review - how can you test your ideas on site?
2. Include more analysis: **Use evidence** from the site, pedestrian counts, community meetings and other information from the site to build your argument for your design process. Demonstrate how each move will make this a better public realm.
3. Embrace the **temporal nature** of public space: What is it like at night? In different seasons? During various events? Show each of these scenarios in renderings to demonstrate your assertions.
4. Think back to our **life-space-building** as well as the **proximity/density** approach. How does your design support the needs of different types of individuals and groups? How does the design relate to different types of transit and pedestrian movement?
5. Consider the **hierarchy** of public spaces and corridors. Which are the nodes, and which are the primary, secondary and tertiary connectors?
6. Measure the predicted **ecological impact** of your design. What would render the proposal the most ecologically resilient? Is the Seattle Green Factor useful? Is another system required? If you were to include Ecological Quality as part of the Gehl Quality Criteria, what would you add?
7. **Understand and illustrate** what parts of the built environment you are proposing/keeping, reusing and removing. Have a reason for each move; each of these impact the environment, the design and the economics of the design.
8. **Develop one well conceived detail** at 1" = 1'-0" that could be repeated through your design as a unifying element. (i.e. paving, lighting, building detail @ ground level, wayfinding, crossing, planters, etc.) Think about how might that influence your individual and/or group design? What materials are you proposing? How can you reuse materials, be creative with what's there, and design new spaces for a vibrant public space at a pedestrian level? Think about how materials feel, how they effect the quality of light, the air and temperature quality, the noise (protection, delight). Begin with descriptive qualities (soft, green, hard, textured, smooth) and use these words to help choose and describe your space. Get into the details of how humans will touch, smell, interact at the detail level.

Today's [Friday, February 12] exercise:

Meet with your group. Discuss the review and outcomes that resulted from the discussion of the group concept. Develop a strategy for your next phase of work.

3:00-5:30 **Design and draw four plans/renderings** for your individual designs; Summer day and evening, Winter Day and evening. Looking at the ideas that came from your review, come up with more precise strategies that both reflect your immediate site and your group ideas.

For Wednesday, Feb 17:

1. Have a **model** started of your site at an appropriate scale. This will be a working model that you will continue to use as a design development tool.

2. Develop a **detail for your site**, or a prototypical detailed area. Consider developing a detail that might be used throughout the district to provide a unified identity (paving, lighting, bench, art, etc.) and would help to generate activity, life, action, humor, etc.

For Monday, Feb. 22:

See the above post-review comments for a suggested list.

For Monday, Feb. 22 and Wed. Feb. 24:

Have your **model** finished, showing the detailed configuration of your design, and the next iteration of design drawings to show to Helle. You will present your **group's** revised, consolidated plans, and your **individual** drawings showing the revised and advanced development of your work. Be sure to include analysis diagrams and site information so that Helle can understand the conditions of your site, especially at the site scale.

Suggested Products: (For both overall concepts and individual designs)

- **Maps, photos, and diagrams of existing conditions / data** that are influences on your site and on your design responses
- **A SCHEMATIC PLAN** (and/or set of plan layers) at the appropriate **scale**, drawn and rendered clearly, neatly, compellingly, and labeled.
- **SECTIONS** to show the topography, vertical relationships, layers and levels. Sections need to be drawn to scale and with scale elements such as people, vehicles, etc.
- **DIAGRAMS** that help to explain and support your design proposal. These can be plan, section, axonometric, 3-D sketch-up, etc.
- **DIAGRAM(S)** that show how your project relates to the larger context (as needed)
- **3-D IMAGES** that illustrate what you're envisioning—these can be perspectives and images from exemplary projects.
- Your **DESIGN CONCEPT AND PROGRAM** (expressed in narrative and possibly diagram)
- **A MODEL of your space, or a portion of it.**
- **A detailed area or prototypical detail** that will support the use and character of your design. Include that in a **PLAN, SECTION, and 3-D DRAWING.**

Consider the same questions as previously when developing your design:

- How does it satisfy the 12 quality criteria?
- How would it earn Green Factor points, or achieve other ecological objectives?
- How does it address the historic integrity and character of the district?
- What design language is helping to develop the concept?