

Project ASSIGNMENT ONE: Issued May 26, 2006

DUE:

FRIDAY, June 7 – 9AM

RESEARCH / PROGRAMMING / SITE ANALYSIS –

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

**THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:**

In your site investigation and analysis, you want to look at all aspects of the site. Remember, you have been given a feasibility to study to work from. You know the site area, but you are allowed to expand on this if you see fit. Also, think about things that were discussed in our meeting at Central Houston, Inc. – If the team sees an area that is best suited for mixed use development / housing/retail/office/ whatever it might be, you can identify that area on the site analysis and in your program. It doesn't mean you will have to design it, but in site master plan, you will show the idea of creating an environment that will support the Station.

When you think about site remember to think about:

- 1) **Site observations through written and visual information**
- 2) **Site information based on any available sources through the City of Houston or online resources**
- 3) **Precedent for development projects of similar nature**
- 4) **Programmatic Issues**

Site Analysis includes visual diagrams of the site.

Remember, during this phase (research, site analysis, programmatic and schematic design phases), you should be visiting the site multiple times and at a variety of times throughout the week. You want to get a good sense of the potential extended use of the site.

Take photographs of the site.

Look for maps – all different kinds.

You need to look at the way in which transportation will interact with the site. It's all about moving people – long-range and short-range. Think about that as a concept.

**The Teams have been formed, although I do not have all of the names of the teams yet.**

**The Structure Addicts:**

CJ Strolle  
Erin Newton  
Jason Ashe

**Team B:**

Fuad Kareem (Femi)  
Jeff Nesbitt  
Amy Force  
Dustin White

**Team C:**

North Keeragool  
Cris Negron  
Taylor Currell

The following websites will be helpful to you, but there are more for you to seek out:

[www.houstontx.gov](http://www.houstontx.gov) (City of Houston – 713-837-0311)

<http://www.houstontx.gov/planning/index.html>

City of Houston's Planning and Development Department – 713-837-7701

[www.hou-metro.harris.tx.us](http://www.hou-metro.harris.tx.us) (City of Houston's Metro System)

There will be other websites and you will want to locate maps and other site information.

[www.terraserver.com](http://www.terraserver.com)

aerial photographs

[www.earth.google.com](http://www.earth.google.com)

aerial satellite shots

[www.centralhouston.org](http://www.centralhouston.org)

Provides more information about center city Houston.

<http://www.downtowndistrict.org/Home/>

Houston Downtown Management District provides all kinds of information about the downtown area, include market research for housing.

<http://www.tmc.edu/>

Medical Center website information. The light rail system serves the Medical Center heavily.

[www.wikipedia.org/](http://www.wikipedia.org/)

If you have never used Wikipedia.org – it is a free online encyclopedia service that gives brief information about many things.

[www.railway-technology.com](http://www.railway-technology.com)

website for railway industry

#### **STATIONS:**

**You can find other sources for each of these stations and certainly, you should expand your search beyond these. But, here is a start...**

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berlin\\_Hauptbahnhof](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Berlin_Hauptbahnhof)

Largest Train Station in the world that opened last week in Berlin – must see this!

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand\\_Central\\_Station\\_%28New\\_York%29](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Grand_Central_Station_%28New_York%29)

Grand Central Station in NYC.

<http://www.ci.worcester.ma.us/dev/union.htm>

Boston's Union Station – just a brief history

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South\\_Station\\_\(Boston\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/South_Station_(Boston))

South Station in Boston – Combination of commuter rail, subway and bus.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kyoto\\_Station](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kyoto_Station)

Kyoto Station, Japan.

<http://www.kcrc.com/html/eng/index.asp>

Hong Kong's Kowloon-Canton Railway

You should be able to find information on every major city and their transportation station.

Chicago, IL; Frankfurt, Germany; Paris Metro; Montreal Place-Saint-Henri Station; Portland, OR; Singapore; Vancouver, CA – Holdom Station; Baltimore's light rail – Baltimore Metro Subway & Light Rail the list goes on ...

The idea is for you to get a very good understanding about how these stations work. How people are moved about. How we experience the space. How this relates to your project. What ideas you can gain from this understanding...

As a team, you will determine how much information you need to provide. Part of your problem is to determine how much is necessary to show you have fully investigated the site.