

No. 3 – Programming & Site Studies**City of Houston***Due March 2, Friday – 10am – Note: Preliminary progress deadlines also apply.*

The work you have done to learn about analysis of the urban context through your Lynch study and the identification of ways to map the city should contribute to your ability to study the site area. There are two areas to address in this next portion of the project...Site and Programming.

Primary Assignment Objective:

- *To analyze the site through a series of studies as a means for understanding the critical issues of form, economics and community in urban space.*
- *To develop an understanding of the complexities in urban analysis when addressing site and programming issues.*

WHAT YOU WILL DO:**SITE:**

Think about the site as an extension – it is that area that abounds the identified soccer stadium site, Gus Wortham Park, those areas affected through transportation routes (Metro included) and the corridor of Harrisburg – as well as consideration of Polk as it may apply (you determine this). This is the area of focus for your analysis. As you learned from Lynch – elements of the urban environment can be noted as follows:

- Paths – the streets, sidewalks, paths, trails and other channels by which people travel.
- Edges – perceived boundaries such as walks, buildings and shorelines.
- Districts – relatively large areas of the city distinguished by some identity or character.
- Nodes – focal points, intersections or foci
- Landmarks – readily identifiable objects which serve as reference points

Now think about the project area in this regard. Critical issues to address include your identification of areas for:

- Meeting / social communities interaction (street level)
- Nodes of Density – which may form a district – or may not – you determine this.
- Landmarks – as they relate to the East Houston community, as well as the downtown
- Paths & Edges – physical and perceived
- Economic Use – how is the current area addressing this? Where are there opportunities
- Relationship to the neighborhood
- Modes of Transport

You can certainly expand beyond this, but you need to at least address those listed above. Remember, this is about connecting the local community to downtown – through experience as well as easy accessibility. Think about the issue of density – how dense should Houston become? How might this be addressed in inner city neighborhoods such as East Houston?

PROGRAMMING:

Take the Brief Project Description provided by Central Houston, Inc. (located on the website) and develop programmatic solutions based on these requirements.

I'd like for you to also consider something – a recent article noted the concern of the loss of the golf course by the community (access this on our studio website) – We don't know the authenticity of this, but perception is reality – so, look to determine if there are alternate considerations for addressing golf – Example, the City of Austin has a downtown 'pitch and putt'. It is a 3 hole course that uses no

driver clubs – short course. Determine if there is enough land to preserve an area for developing this in addition to the programmatic requirements for the park space.

I really want you to sell this re-development of the golf course. You can do a great deal to help the community see the value of the proposed facilities – do research on:

- What soccer brings to a community
- Opportunities for baseball in the community
- Youth programs
- Retail opportunities – is it viable here?

The program will include, but is not limited to:

- Space use allocation
- Space Organization
- Space Function considerations
- Parking Solution Program
- Program needs site configuration – (how you will place the programmatic needs on the site)

Note:

At this point, you are producing images similar to the map posted by Central Houston Inc. – you look for ways to express clearly the work you are producing.

WHAT YOU WILL TURN IN:

Develop in an 11x17 format (that can also be posted in pdf to your team folder), your analysis of the site as discussed above and your proposals for programming of the stadium and park. You will present in an electronic format as well as physical graphics displayed with open use of no more than 40x60 inches of space. Use it as you wish.

PRELIMINARY DUE DATE: Continuous

Each class period will be an opportunity to review your work in progress.

FINAL DUE DATE: FRIDAY, March 2, 10AM