Kansas City, Kansas:

**A Center for Community & Culture**
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS: A Center for Community & Culture

A Design Thesis Submitted to the Department of Architecture and Landscape Architecture of North Dakota State University

By

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

Primary Thesis Advisor

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May 2013 Fargo, North Dakota
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Community spaces play an important role in the success of a city and its inhabitants. They become the foundation to which those living and visiting in the area come together and communicate. They offer opportunities to embrace the history and culture of the area and bring the community together using this common bond. This thesis focuses on embracing the history and culture of Kansas City by bringing a community together through the design of desirable spaces.
Problem statement

How can inner city revitalization efforts embrace different cultures and promote desirable spaces in Kansas City, Kansas?
Beginning in the late 1800’s, we have become dependent on the automobile which has contributed to negative health both personally and for the environment. Designing more walkable cities and communities to promote healthy living and returning the Earth to how it was before the automobile is now becoming more crucial than ever. Encouraging the public to walk, build, live, and think sustainably will benefit their personal health as well as the health of the place they live in. As a landscape architect, the design of a city that enforces the public to live a more sustainable lifestyle, will increase the overall health of the people and city and provide a healthy place to live for future generations.

Implementing sustainable living into Kansas City and other cities, is important as it will give the city the opportunity to continue to grow and extend the life of not only it’s inhabitants but of the city itself. Protecting it’s resources, reducing waste, and ensuring better walkability all contribute to the success of a sustainable city.

Sustainable living can be done in many ways and can benefit communities as a whole. By creating spaces that accommodate for an entire community and giving the community a space in a centralized location to accommodate for a large amount of their needs, rather than the use of automobiles, traveling distances will lessen and the public will take advantage of what is close by. This in turn, is sustainable and healthy for the city and the community.
Growing up on Lake Minnetonka in Minnesota, I was immersed in an area that had a strong sense of community and a rich history. Due to this, the area was very well known and often attracted many tourists.

In the start of my research, I had initially focused on sustainable living and carfree design but after visiting Kansas City, Kansas, I began to realize it was often overlooked and needed a name for itself. The city itself had the components to be successful but lacked a sense of community, especially with the rich history that currently is its foundation.

Creating spaces for the community members and the general public to interact in, is an important part of what makes a city successful. Having a common place for people to interact and come together, makes a city close and in turn, creates a strong bond between its members.

This idea is important to landscape architecture, because if the public did not interact or enjoy being in a place, then those outdoor spaces would be unnecessary. By creating these public spaces, the community will strengthen, which in turn will help to define the city as a whole.
+user | client description

CLIENT
The client is the city of Kansas City, the Kansas City Parks and Recreatoin Department, and other cultural and community organizations for the surrounding area.

USERS

Residents
This user group will consist of outsiders coming from surrounding cities or even further. This group will be able to enjoy and take advantage of the retail, restaurant, and park/open space in the area, as well as participate in community events. They will be able to learn about the rich culture and history in the area through the use of the community center and any public event taking place, as well as through the community itself.

Business Professionals
This user group will consist of local employees in the area working at the surrounding retail, restaurant, commerical, and office spaces. This group will be able to not only enjoy the large park space in their off hours, but will also be able to take advantage of the retail in the South end.

Tourists
This user group will consist of local residents both near the downtown corridor, as well as in some of the surrounding neighborhoods. This group will be able to enjoy the large park/open space on site, as well as the other parks surrounding the site. They will also be able to use the resources in the area such as retail and food that will largely be in the area to the South of the park in the downtown retail corridor. The residents will also be able to take advantage of the community center on site that will embrace the local culture by holding community events, etc.
OPEN SPACES
Open spaces play a large role in this design as they become the backbone to embracing the culture and rich history in the area. There are multiple open spaces surrounding the site, but adding a large space that will act as a central hub for the community will be beneficial in creating a sense of community and place for the area. The large open space on site will provide adequate room for community and public events, as well as for recreation and leisure. It will act as a greenway from the residential part of Kansas City to the commercial and retail district in the main downtown corridor. This multiuse space will embrace sustainability and will focus on the pedestrian rather than the usually dominating vehicle.

COMMUNITY CENTER
Community centers are spaces that bring the community into one area and provide numerous activities and events to keep the community involved with their city and each other. Adding a community center on site and programming a calendar of events for the space, will benefit those living in the area and those visiting. Having amenities such as recreation spaces and meeting spaces, will create a multi space for any community and public need and to further it’s success.

STREETS
The surrounding streets will act as vehicular connectors to the pedestrian spaces. Washington Blvd on the North side will bring tourists and people from the surrounding cities into the site, as well as 7th Street on the East side of the site. The smaller streets on the site will be designed in a way to focus more on the pedestrian and less on the vehicle while still giving an adequate amount of vehicular circulation.
The major emphasis with this project is on Kansas City and its culture and community, as well as giving the city a name for itself. This will be done by designing a large park space that will have the elements to bring a community together by embracing the culture and the history in the area, as well as giving the city the adequate amenities it needs to be successful. By doing this, the community will have the right ingredients to get outside and enjoy multifunctional spaces nearby, instead of traveling in their vehicles outside of the city, and living in an unsustainable way.

The rich culture is a large part of what makes this city strong. Demographically, Kansas City is accompanied by 52% of the population being white, 27% being black, .8% being American Indian, 2.7% being Asian, and almost 4% being multi-racial. With that, there are many different cultures in the area consisting of Germans, Africans, English, Irish, Scottish, Shawnee, Welsh, and Wyandot Indians. With Kansas City taking pride in their rich culture, creating spaces to embrace these and to bring these cultures together physically, will be beneficial to the city.
pl ans for proceeding

When exploring different ways to gather information regarding Kansas City and its rich history and culture, there were many options. One of the easiest ways to receive information is researching on the internet or using databases to gather historical and cultural information, as well as information about the Kansas City community. Contacting city officials and those at the parks board is also an important way to get the information necessary to fully understand Kansas City’s culture and history, as well as community information. When visiting the site and gathering information regarding its context, this can be done simply by taking inventory of the area which would help in the final design process as to what is needed, etc.

After visiting the site, inventory was taken of the site’s context and those living in the area, and that is where it was noticed that Kansas City has a very rich culture. It was also found that the area was lacking many amenities and many of the buildings were vacant and unused. Researching on databases and reading articles was the most successful form of information gathering regarding Kansas City. City officials were unable to be reached, so speaking with them about this thesis and gathering information from the source itself, was unsuccessful.
Community design and the design of public spaces is an integral part of the success of a city. Designing spaces that benefit the community as a whole and begins to create a place rather than just a space. Using the history of community design and learning from it’s successes and faults, will help to promote successful design throughout the world.

History & Design
Both Allen Jacobs and Donald Appleyard also touched on the history of car-free urban form (Jacobs & Appleyard, 1987). In their collaborative writing “Toward an Urban Design Manifesto” they spoke about the Charter of Athens and how it was a manifesto and brought up the faults of industrial cities in the 1930’s. The Charter gave specifics of how to design a healthy and beautiful city for the people but Jacobs and Appleyard believed a new urban design manifesto is now necessary. They focused on large cities in the Southwest, such as those in California and those city’s focus on the automobile which present different problems than those in European cities. Modern design has begun to create issues that were not seen as much in past urban design such as, poor living environments, giantism and loss of control, placelessness, and loss of public life (Jacobs & Appleyard, 1987). Jacobs and Appleyard propose goals for the new urban life such as livability, identity, meaning, community, and having a healthy environment. These goals are beneficial both to humans and the planet we live on (Jacobs, Appleyard, 1987).

Economics
Focusing on why past designs have both succeeded and failed, can give designers insight as to what potentially will work and what will not. Designs can differ from city to city, so long as the end result encourages walkability and a strong sense of community, while also providing the necessary amenities in a close distance.

Not only does community design and placemaking benefit communities socially, but also financially. Discovery Green, in Houston, TX created a huge investment for the area. Similar size to the proposed site in Kansas City, KS, at “12 acres of underused greenspace and parking lots” Discovery Green was transformed into a space that benefited the community and the city as a whole (Project of Public Spaces, ND). It was stated in the article, “Placemaking Pays Off” that one of the biggest reasons for Discovery Green’s success is the “sense of ownership felt by the people in the surrounding community” (Project for Public Spaces, ND). Project for Public Spaces held multiple meetings and workshops with the community and all of the groups contributed ideas to the park plans (Project for Public Spaces, ND). Funding for the project was given from private foundations and donors and the people who donated the money stayed involved in the design throughout it’s entirety (Project for Public Spaces, ND).

In Detroit, Michigan a design was implemented in the downtown area. The site was a 1.6 acre concrete island that was unused and was engulfed in automobile traffic (Project for Public Spaces, ND). Historically, this spot called Campus Martius was at the heart of downtown, according to Projects for Public Spaces, and their concept plan was to “spark a larger revitalization of the area” (Project for Public Spaces, ND). The park is used in every season, with ice skating taking place in the winter months (Project for Public Spaces, ND). The park’s funding was covered by outside sources and the city of Detroit and continues to produce a strong economy for the area by providing a gathering space for the public and community (Project for Public Spaces, ND).
Relevant Projects
A study in Vienna discussed the implementation of a car-free policy regarding the use of automobiles that also gave people other options for transportation which becomes a large issue concerning the removal of the automobile. Michael Ornetzeder and Edgar Hertwich (2007) recorded their findings and discussed the topic in “The Environmental Effect of Car-free Housing: A Case in Vienna”. The study compared two settlements in Vienna with different styles of housing. One settlement is required to not own a car in order to live a more sustainable life, while also be apart of a car-sharing program. The other settlement is a women’s workshop. The car-free housing has shared facilities such as laundry, activity rooms, and playgrounds which helps to promote car-free living due to having these amenities on site instead of having to drive to them. It also promotes a more sustainable and walkable lifestyle, while also promoting community sharing. The car-free housing not only promotes being car-free, it also provides rooftop gardens and other forms of sustainable living. Ornetzeder and Hertwich (2007) compare the impacts of households owning a car and those not owning a car, and whether there is a difference between the two. It is important to take studies similar to these in order to fully understand how living car-free affects a city in a positive and/or negative way.

While promoting car-free living, many might believe that the design of more dense living and closer housing would be the result in order for it to be successful. Creating dense housing though, has it’s benefits and it’s flaws. Steve Melia did a study regarding urban intensification, and published his findings in “The Paradox of Intensification.” Through this study, it was shown that although dense housing in an urban area seems beneficial due to amenities being at a close proximity, it in fact was hurting the environment, especially when not implement in a car-free setting (Melia, 2010). This dense living brought more cars and danger to one confined area and created even more unsustainable living with the larger population all coming together in a smaller space with their unsustainable habits (Melia, 2010). This isn’t to say that urban sprawl is a good idea though either. Urban sprawl has contributed to many of the negative effects to the environment and to people as a whole (Miller, 2009). Current Controversies author Debra Miller published a book called “Urban Sprawl” which discussed the benefits and faults of this topic. In the event of designing a car-free city, urban sprawl would place a negative effect on the topic and future of living a car-free lifestyle. Exploring urban sprawl and researching it’s negative effects though will help in designing a car-free urban design, due to having the opposite approach to a designed space. Melia, in “The Paradox of Intensification” doesn’t necessarily prove that dense living is a negative form of design, it just needs to be approached in a different manner.

Urban sprawl is sometimes beneficial but sometimes poses a negative effect on cities, such as Kansas City, KS. Since the suburban sprawl, Kansas City has lacked a sense of community. Designing community places has more important than ever for cities like Kansas City that need to give a community a reason and a place to get together. Project for Public Spaces “identified 11 key elements in transforming public spaces into vibrant community places. whether they’re parks, plazas, public squares, streets, sidewalks or the myriad other outdoor and indoor spaces that have public uses in common” (Project for Public Spaces, ND). A few of the key elements that exist are that the community is the expert, you need to create a place and not a design, must have a vision, money is not the issue, and you are never finished (Project for Public Spaces, ND). Focusing on these elements is crucial in designing for a community.
Promoting Community & Healthy Design

A large part of designing a sustainable city that is also car-free, is promoting this way of life. If the population doesn’t see it as being efficient or worth it, then it will never be successful and will lack the desired results. In “Sustainable Transport: A Sourcebook for Policy-makers in Developing Cities”, Wright (2006) discusses the importance of promoting a car-free city and educating the community of its benefits and the reasons of why it would be beneficial to them. Holding town hall meetings to discuss these matters or sending out flyers to educate those in the area are great ways to promote this lifestyle, as well as always being open for questions regarding the issue.

Reading this literature helped to develop a strong understanding of what sustainability is, as well as how cities and communities implement different forms of sustainable design, and if they saw success or not. Using the past as an example of how a city can be designed to accommodate more for the pedestrian and less for the automobile sets a good example for the future design of Kansas City. The readings also brought about an understanding regarding current public policy for some cities in the area of sustainable design and healthy living. Why have we not seen a stronger push towards a sustainable environment and a healthier lifestyle in more cities in the United States? How have European cities had greater success in this way of life, than the cities in the United States? What can be done to Kansas City to implement a sustainable design much like in cities such as San Francisco, Portland, Denver, and European cities like Copenhagen? When revitalizing Kansas City and coming up with a plan to create a healthier environment for the city and for the public, focusing on the pedestrian and how they will travel throughout the city will be the most important. Focusing less on the automobile, and created spaces that encourage walkability, will not only be successful in terms of a healthier environment but also for the overall health of the general public.

Case Studies

Researching and exploring multiple case studies through the use of internet data bases and books from local libraries regarding the topic of healthy living and design, helped to understand what makes a healthy city successful. Understanding Kansas City and how it operates now and comparing it with that of other more sustainable cities provided insight on how to create a design that will benefit the community and create a sustainable and healthy place to live. Through the research of carfree living and other ways that promote a healthy lifestyle not only for oneself physically but also for our environment, a better idea of how to create a healthier and more successful future for Kansas City was established. Many cities are beginning to implement healthier designs into their city planning and are enforcing this form of living upon their inhabitants. Researching how these cities implement sustainable design, as well as what types of additions were needed to create their success has been an important part of determining what may or may not work for Kansas City. It has been important to research cities that promote the use of other sustainable modes of transportation, and are trying to steer away from the use of the automobile, as that is a large part of creating a healthier lifestyle for a city overall. Cities that also focus on other forms of sustainability, such as sustainable agriculture and building, are important as well.

Portland is located on the Northern end of the state of Oregon and is surrounded by the Willamette and Columbia rivers. The city of Portland, is rated as one of the most sustainable cities in the country as many different forms of sustainable design are implemented throughout the city (Jeffries, 2008). Using Portland and it’s sustainability practices as an example in the design of Kansas City, has been important as it gave an insight of how to go about designing a successful and sustainable city. Portland is a large city, but still promotes walkability and healthy living. It’s recycling and waste reduction practices are an important part of why it is so sustainable. Using these practices in Kansas City, will be beneficial to the health of the city overall. Denver is also starting to become one of the frontrunners of a sustainable city in the United States as it is beginning to implement these different forms of sustainable design and also provide some other unique ideas to encourage sustainability (Fox, 2010).
Denver is located on the Eastern side of Colorado and lies just East of the Rocky Mountain range. Denver is continually becoming more and more walkable, as it continues to promote walkability through added pedestrian corridors in the downtown area as well as providing places for visitors to walk to and to spend an extended period of time. Denver has designed a Sustainability Park that educates the public on sustainability and provides a place for outdoor enjoyment. It educates on renewable energy, urban agriculture, and the natural resource management. It also gives different ideas regarding energy efficient building and resource use, as well as transportation (Arlet, 2011).

Denver has not only educated and implemented these ideas using parks and green spaces but throughout the entire city. Taking Denver’s idea regarding educating the public on the importance of sustainability and implementing it into the Kansas City design in some form, will help to continue this education throughout the rest of the country.

While it is important to focus on the United States and their sustainable success, European cities have had success in this form of healthy living for a very long time, with Copenhagen being the world leader in urban sustainability (Turner, 2012). Copenhagen is located on the Eastern edge of Denmark, along the South tip of Sweden.

Copenhagen’s environmental and sustainable success is largely due to a strong municipal and national policy regarding the issues with the environment. Denmark became the first country to implement an environmental law (Grist, 2009). Kansas City is right off of the Missouri and Kansas rivers and making sure the water is clean and useable for recreation is important. Copenhagen has put a large amount of focus on improving their water quality in the harbor and they are now able to provide swimming in the area (2009). Focusing on the sewage treatment processes that Copenhagen used and implementing these examples into Kansas City will give an alternative use for the river that runs along it’s Eastern edge of Kansas City. Copenhagen is well known for it’s bicycle use as a main mode of transportation. This is something that can be implemented and promoted in many cities throughout the world, especially in Kansas City. Copenhagen created a policy regarding this bicycle use and they strive to make sure 40% of all citizens use a bicycle to and from work and are also designing initiatives to implement the policy (Kommune, 2009).
thesis goals

Throughout the process of this thesis, I aim to learn more about community planning and its benefits for the public. I have always been a supporter of community events as it gets the public interacting with each other and creates a strong bond within the community. I also aim to learn more about park and public space design which will help me to design spaces that will be successful for the city of Kansas City. Besides the design aspect of this project, a goal of mine is to also better my graphic abilities and my use of programs I have learned throughout the past 5 years. By the end of the project, I hope to have refined my hand rendering skills and create a uniqueness with my renderings that represents myself in an unforgettable way.
The Kansas Territory was the 1st battle in the conflict over slavery and southern succession that led to the Civil War. They struggled with slavery laws for years, until they finally found success in 1861 as becoming a free state, granting voting rights for women, and deeming Kansas as a state itself. The Kansas Territory started as a settlement for the Wyandotte Indians, but much of their opinion on anything political before becoming a state, was overlooked by those higher up in the area and the citizens of Missouri.

Kansas City, Kansas has a rich and diverse culture and history. The city holds a celebration to honor and celebrate this, with the most recent celebration being in 2009, marking the 150th year since the area was given their right to become a state and to be free. The citizens in the area fought hard for their territory to become an actual place, and this battle shapes who the citizens are and how honored they are to live in the place they do. This celebration runs for 6 months from January to June, and celebrates many different cultural groups such as the Germans, Africans, English, Irish, Scottish, Shawnee, Welsh, and Wyandot Indians.

Kansas City, Kansas owes much of it’s existence by being a crossroads on the Kansas and Missouri rivers as a launching point for travelers. Over the years the Kansas City metro area has grown outward immensely. More and more people have begun to conform to suburban sprawl which has left some parts of the metro area left behind and not used to their full potential, due in large part to the want to have the “American Dream” and private space. Kansas City, Kansas used to be one of the largest cities in the area but now sits as one of the smallest due to this sprawl.
Currently, in the Kansas City metro area, there is an expansive park system that runs between Kansas City, KS and Kansas City, MO. Large parks lie along the Missouri and Kansas rivers, as well as walking trails that connect the two cities.

Near the proposed site, multiple small parks exist, but the center of downtown lacks in any open or green space. The current parks in the area have amenities such as playgrounds, swimming, picnic space, and recreational courts but a mix of hardscape and softscape is lacking. Putting a large green space in the middle of these parks will help to connect the parks downtown and give the central downtown area a place for the public and community to enjoy.
The central downtown area provides multiple municipal and office buildings but lacks in providing amenities to make a user want to stay in the area for an extended period of time such as retail, restaurants, etc.

There are many entrances into the downtown area from the surrounding cities for vehicular transportation, but the city also embraces its successful public transportation system. A transportation hub sits in the South East corner of the site and accommodates the entire Kansas City metro area. Getting to and from the site is easy via vehicular and public transportation but safe pedestrian circulation is a concern.
CONCEPT ONE
Concept one focuses on the South end of the site acting as a retail and mixed use destination while the middle is primarily commercial and residential towards the North end. A park is placed on the North West corner towards the residential, with a community center centrally located on the site.

CONCEPT TWO
Concept two focuses on the South end of the site acting as a retail and mixed use destination while the East side is primarily commercial and residential wraps around the edges of the park that is placed on the North West corner of the site.

CONCEPT THREE
Concept three takes a similar approach as the other three with retail being on the South end, commercial in the middle, and residential on the North end, but there is a centrally located park that connects to the entire area and becomes a community connection for the area.
conceptual work

As apart of my conceptual stage, focusing on buildings and their uses were important for how to lay out the site in the final concept stage.

Ensuring that each area of the site was broken up into different zones such as a mixed use zone, commercial zone, and residential zone helps to define what would take place in the park and where.

Using a SWOT Analysis was also important in the conceptual stage to determine what was needed on the site to make it successful.

S.W.O.T ANALYSIS

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<td>-Good Location</td>
<td>-Lack of Amenities</td>
<td>-Sense of Place</td>
<td>-Kansas City, Missouri</td>
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<td>-Easy Access</td>
<td>-KCMO Disconnect</td>
<td>-Destinations</td>
<td>-Suburban Sprawl</td>
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<td>-Public Transportation</td>
<td>-Overuse of Personal Vehicles</td>
<td>-Sister City to KCMO</td>
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<td>-Surrounding Population</td>
<td>-No Long Term Destinations</td>
<td>-Sustainable Example</td>
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<td>-Nearby Parks</td>
<td>-Small Downtown Population</td>
<td>-More Residential Living</td>
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<tr>
<td>-Rich History</td>
<td>-Sense of Community</td>
<td>-All Season Use</td>
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<td>-Rich Culture</td>
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The site is approximately 34.5 acres and focuses on embracing the rich community and culture that already exists, as well as give the general public a place to enjoy in the downtown area. There is a community center on site, as well as outdoor recreational facilities.

It also has a water feature that symbolizes the Kansas and Missouri river connection to the East which serves as an important piece of the community and culture of Kansas City itself.

Multiple public and semi-private spaces exist on the site to suite many different needs for those visiting the site.
+focus area

15' 10' 5' 12' 5' 10' 15'
Green Space  Pathway  River Bank  Water  River Bank  Pathway  Green Space

Open Space  Playground  Community Center  Plaza

Patio  Water Feature
The residential end of the park is on the North side of the site. It has a large open space on the West side that can be used for many forms of recreation. It is the correct size to hold a soccer game should there be a time when a field is needed. The space also acts as one of the only large fairly at open spaces on the site for the opportunity to throw frisbee or do activities that need large spaces.

On the East side is a picnic shelter and a community playground. This can accommodate for children in the area and can act as a place for families to relax and enjoy the outdoors together. Picnic tables are placed throughout and coal grills are near the picnic shelter for adult use.
**cultural patio**

The patio on the North side of the community center acts as a central point to move from each area of the site across the water feature. It is placed in the fork of the water feature to symbolize the Missouri and Kansas rivers and their center of trade in their crossing point. In the center of the patio area are 8 flags of the countries and heritages most represented by the city each year.
The community center has multiple features on and around the site for the community, as well as youth programs. It encompasses small rooms for meetings and community events, as well as a large open space in the center for larger meetings. There is an indoor basketball and recreation court, as well as an indoor pool. Attached to the outside is a large stage for concerts during events that can also act as a patio when not being used for those events.

Area = 31,500 square feet
The outdoor concert space attached to the south end of the community center accommodates for approximately 5,000 people. When not being used for concerts or shows, the space acts as a large open park space for numerous public activities. The stage can then be used also as a deck with tables and seating to enjoy some shade and relaxation.
public plaza

A large plaza space lies on the South end of the site and steps down towards a water feature on the site. It has multiple places for seating and shade to relax and enjoy the feature and also acts as a public center for the main downtown area.
+downtown corridor

The main downtown corridor on the South end of the site offers retail and mixed use spaces, as well as small plaza spaces for dining, etc. Although the corridor is aimed towards pedestrians, the street itself accommodates small vehicular traffic, offering two lanes and diagonal parking in some spots. There are also bike lanes on both sides of the street. The sidewalks offer buffer zones and seating throughout, as well as lighting and beautiful storefronts.
+downtown details

The lighting fixtures around the site each serve a purpose for the area they are in. The taller lamp accommodates both the pedestrian and the automobile while also having city signage attached. The smaller lamp holds vegetation and is smaller to sit more at the pedestrian level.
The community event calendar will consist of events both for the community and for the general public. Each month will have a special event and will also represent one of the many cultures that inhabit the area. The event calendar is meant to be a guide for the city to ensure that all times of the year, the community is being involved with one another and have a common bond to bring them together.

The downtown corridor will not only act as a street, but also as a main pedestrian event space in the downtown area. Street fairs will take place in the area and vehicular traffic will be rerouted to neighboring streets during this time. This is also a space that can be used for farmer’s markets, parades, and community block party’s.
+future of kck

Downtown Kansas City, Kansas will become an attractive and diverse city by engaging the community through well planned activities while embracing their history and culture.


+previous design studio experience

2ND YEAR

Fall 2009: Introduction to Landscape Architecture Studio: Kathleen Pepple
  Tea House Project - Fargo, ND
  Fine Arts Club - Fargo, ND
Spring 2010: Parks and Open Spaces Studio: Matt Chambers and Dominic Fischer
  Smoking Project - Fargo, ND
  Woodlawn Park - Fargo, ND
  One Way Conversion - Fargo, ND

3RD YEAR

Fall 2010: Environmental Art and Site Design Studio: Stevie Famulari
  Defining Space - Fargo, ND
  Library Project - Fargo, ND
  Snow Symposium - Fargo, ND
Spring 2011: Community Design Studio: Kathleen Pepple
  Fort Yates - Fort Yates, ND
  Chicago Project - Chicago, IL

4TH YEAR

Fall 2011: Urban Design Studio: Jay Kost
  Block, Building, & Street - Fargo, ND
  Denver Project - Denver, CO
Spring 2012: European Study Abroad Studio: Kathleen Pepple
  Trelaze - Angers, France
  La Quai - Angers, France
  Ouguela Project - Ouguela, Portugal
  Die Emscher - Dortmund, Germany

5TH YEAR

Fall 2012: Environmental Planning Studio: Mehran Madani
  Civic Center Plaza - Fargo, ND
Spring 2013: Design Thesis Studio: Jay Kost
“North Dakota State University, and specifically the landscape architecture program, has given me the tools I need to be successful and to further pursue my love for design.”