It is not my intention to render happiness in the form of architecture. Rather, to see if how we design our environments can effectively create moments where happiness may exist.

One re-occurring idea behind happiness is community, which is where this project will find its metaphorical heart-beat. How can architectural design respond to the issues facing rapidly growing cities in such a way as to increase the quality of life and overall happiness of urban communities and their environments? One avenue is through reprogramming cities to act more like nature; where replication, adaptability, and environment become major players in harmonious design.

INTRODUCTION

THE NATURE OF HAPPINESS
Finding Happiness
FINDING HAPPINESS

Components of Happiness
Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

1. Physiological
2. Safety
3. Love / Belonging
4. Esteem
5. Self Actualization

Elements of Happiness

Major Program Elements

Increasing Density
Increasing Connections
Increasing Diversity
Observing Nature

Urban Dwelling

SUN ROOM

BI-FOLD SHADE

3 In RIGID INSULATION

ICF WALL SYSTEM

.75 In GYPSUM BOARD CEILING

8 In HOLLOW CORE SLAB

...
The perspective to the left shows how the entire design has been lifted off the ground to allow for easy access to the interior spaces. The ground level acts as a public plaza where members of the city may interact and enjoy the site.