SITE LOCATION

Downtown Minneapolis

Downtown St. Paul

THEORETICAL PREMISE

Our work explores the design of a public square and transit station at the intersection of University Avenue and Hamline Avenue in the Hamline-Midway neighborhood of St. Paul, Minnesota. Our focus is on responding to the need for transit-oriented development (TOD) through the exploration of the neighborhood place making principles of identity and growth. This focus upon identity and growth at the neighborhood scale allows us to define methods for improving transit corridor connections between major urban centers. Our secondary focus is on the collaboration of architecture and landscape architecture and how they work together to accomplish environmental design goals.

PROBLEM STATEMENTS

What defines identity, and how can environmental design capitalize on it to influence transit-oriented development in a historically transit-based neighborhood?

How can the design of a public square and transit station influence the growth of transit-oriented development in a historically transit-based neighborhood?
Shamsuddin and Ujang
Place Attachment - Interaction and Involvement

- Accessibility and Legibility
- Vitality and Diversity
- Transaction, Distinction and Comfort

Christian Norberg-Schulz
Place Identity - Landscape and Settlement

- Things
- Cosmic Order
- Character
- Light
- Temporal Rhythms
- Location
- Spatial Configuration
- Articulation
PLACE ATTACHMENT

ACCESSIBILITY AND LEGIBILITY
- ADA AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN
- CONNECTION
- IDENTIFICATION AND UNIQUENESS

VITALITY AND DIVERSITY
- VARIETY OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
- VARIETY OF ACTIVITIES

TRANSACTION, DISTINCTION COMFORT
- PERSON TO PERSON INTERACTION
- VARIETY OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES
- VARIETY OF SCALED SPACES
- DESIGNATION OF PUBLIC VS PRIVATE
PLACE IDENTITY: LANDSCAPE

THINGS
- Natural Materials
- Bedrock of Place

LIGHT
- Illumination
- Symbol of Holiness

COSMIC ORDER
- Path of the Sun
- Orientation Along Axis: N, S, E, W

TEMPORAL RHYTHMS
- Constantly Changing
  - Sun, Weather,
  - Time, Vegetation, Seasons

CHARACTER
- Defined by Mississippi River
- Linear Site
- Transition Zone
- Facilitate People
PLACE

IDENTITY: SETTLEMENT

LOCATION

DERIVES FROM ANALYSIS
MOST IMPORTANT

SPATIAL CONFIGURATION

ORIENTATION OF SPACES
SPACES MUST WORK TOGETHER
COMFORT AND SECURITY

ARTICULATION

ROOTED IN THE CULTURE OF PLACE
LANGUAGE
HOW DO WE VIEW PUBLIC TRANSIT?
1 Main Entry + Entry
2 Express Cafe
3 Cafeteria
4 Bus Stop Waiting Lounge
5 Metro Transit Ticketing + Security
6 Market @ Midway
7 The Midway Grill
8 Midway Bar + Grill Kitchen
9 Storage + Custodial
10 Residential Parking
11 Green Line Platform
12 Skyway Platform Access
13 Wheels Bike and Repair Shop
14 Mechanical
15 Underground Parking Access
1 Open to Below
2 Green Line Waiting Lounge
3 Passenger Lounge
4 Newspaper + Magazine Sales
5 Metro Transit Offices
6 The Midway Bar
7 The Midway Bar + Grill Patio
8 Studio Apartments
9 Skyway
10 Mechanical
1 Leasable Office Space
2 Presentation Space
3 Office Skyline Lounge
4 Storage
5 Studio Apartments
6 Mechanical
1 Short + Long Term Facility Parking
2 Market @ Midway Storage + Dropoff
3 Parking Access Ramp
4 Mechanical + Storage

146 Parking Stalls with
6 Handicap Accessible
Room for Motorbike Parking
and Storage
MARKET @ MIDWAY
THE MIDWAY GRILL
METRO TRANSIT OFFICES
MARKET @ MIDWAY CORRIDOR
THE MIDWAY GRILL OUTDOOR LOUNGE
SPRING
- Local School Art Shows
- Standing Canopy Heaters around Furniture
- Fountains Begin in Late Spring
- Market Opens to Outside in Late Spring
- Bike Season Begins
- Street Performers
- Food Carts
- Gardening Fairs

SUMMER
- Farmers Market
- Market is Open to Outside
- Fountains Remain Active
- Craft and Art Fairs
- Food / Cooking Contests
- Neighborhood Festival
- Concerts
- Street Performers
- Food Carts
**WINTER**

- Snowman Building Contests
- Ice and Snow Carving Displays
- Holiday Light Display
- Winter Bike Storage for Residents
- Food Carts - Hot Drinks
- Cross Country Skiing in the Alley Bike Lane
- ‘North Pole’ Display and Holiday Tree Sales
- Neighborhood Winter Festival
- Snowtire Bike Race

**FALL**

- Farmers Market
- Market is Open through Early Fall
- Fountains Remain Active through Early Fall
- Lounge and Patio Furniture
- School and Local Art Shows
- Standing Canopy Heaters around Furniture
- Street Performers
- Food Carts
- Bike Season Closes
Though our design is a site-scale intervention, its intention is the creation of growth and identity in Hamline-Midway. This Visioning Plan displays the development zone (green underlay) surrounding our site that our design will influence. It shows the existing amenities in this development zone and projects the patterns in which the induced growth of the TOD will occur.
The collaborative effort on our thesis was highlighted not by the separate duties we each took on as joint designers, but by the tasks we accomplished collectively. Site selection, conceptual work, layout development, and foundational programming were not separated into ‘architecture’ and ‘landscape architecture’ duties. Instead, we worked together as environmental designers to create a place that reads as one unified design. It was not until the development of site forms - the step after programming - that we took on our respective roles as architect and landscape architect. Even as we moved forward with specialized tasks, we continually consulted each other on our design decisions, and constantly revised our plans through discussion with each other. The collaboration was not always smooth - we encountered disagreements at nearly all stages of the design. Yet through our combined experiences, we were able to identify the better answer - or compromise - in every difficult decision.
ACCESSIBILITY AND LEGIBILITY
- ADA and Universal Design
- Pedestrian Friendly
- Access to multiple types of transit
- Access to services and amenities
- Connections to greater neighborhood/region

VITALITY AND DIVERSITY
- Variety of products and services
- Variety of transit types
- Variety of pre-programmed spaces
- Variety of programmable space

TRANSACTION, DISTINCTION COMFORT
- Variety of products and services
- Variety of scaled spaces
- Designation of public vs private
- Secure entry to residences
**THINGS**

- Natural materials
- Bedrock of place
- Materials from past
- Gesture towards future

**COSMIC ORDER**

- Oriented along axis
- Direction towards cities
- Conformed to grid
- N,S,E,W orientation

**LIGHT**

- Natural daylight
- Active spaces oriented south

**TEMPORAL RHYTHMS**

- Work schedules
- Restaurant/market
- Seasonal plaza program

**CHARACTER**

- Linear design
- Transition zone between
- Facilitate people

**PLACE**

**IDENTITY: LANDSCAPE**
LOCATION

APPOINTED SITE BASED ON ANALYSIS

SPATIAL CONFIGURATION

COLLABORATION!
MERGE OF INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR
SITE AND NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

ARTICULATION

TRANSIT FOCUSED DESIGN
DEVELOP A NEW LANGUAGE
HEALTHY LIFESTYLE
ESTABLISH CONNECTIONS
QUESTIONS

COMMENTS?