

### Program Summary:

The European Cultural Centre's *Shaping the City* Symposium invited a global panel of architects, planners and governmental agencies to discuss the future of sustainable cities and communities.

### Program Statement:

Within the current crisis of global climate change, we are being forced to evaluate, reflect, and ask ourselves, "Are the geographies, economies, infrastructures, and societies of yesterday and today adaptable for the environments of tomorrow?" There is an ever more clear and urgent call to action, as our future is tied to one that moves beyond the sustainable to the resilient and regenerative. Sustaining being the attempt to survive, but as a species we are driven to move past mere reactive survival to proactive thriving. Shelter, health, and safety are inherent to a prosperous city. Maximizing opportunity and program – moving forward through a regenerative process that heals the damages of the past while constructing multipurpose nodes of public interaction and community support are the imageability essential to bridge the edge towards thriving. As architects our creativity and analytical minds are not limited by physical boundaries. We must position ourselves, however precariously on the precipice by challenging societal norms, existing geographical and economic limitations, to usher in solutions of a renewed age of design based upon intention and performance. We believe that cities are created by societies over time comprised over a vast history of culture, infrastructure, energy, human stories, and knowledge providing us a path forward, are worth keeping.

# UP-185.01

Building Area: (sf)  
N/A

Cost per Square Foot:  
N/A

Construction Cost  
N/A

Date of Completion:  
October 2021

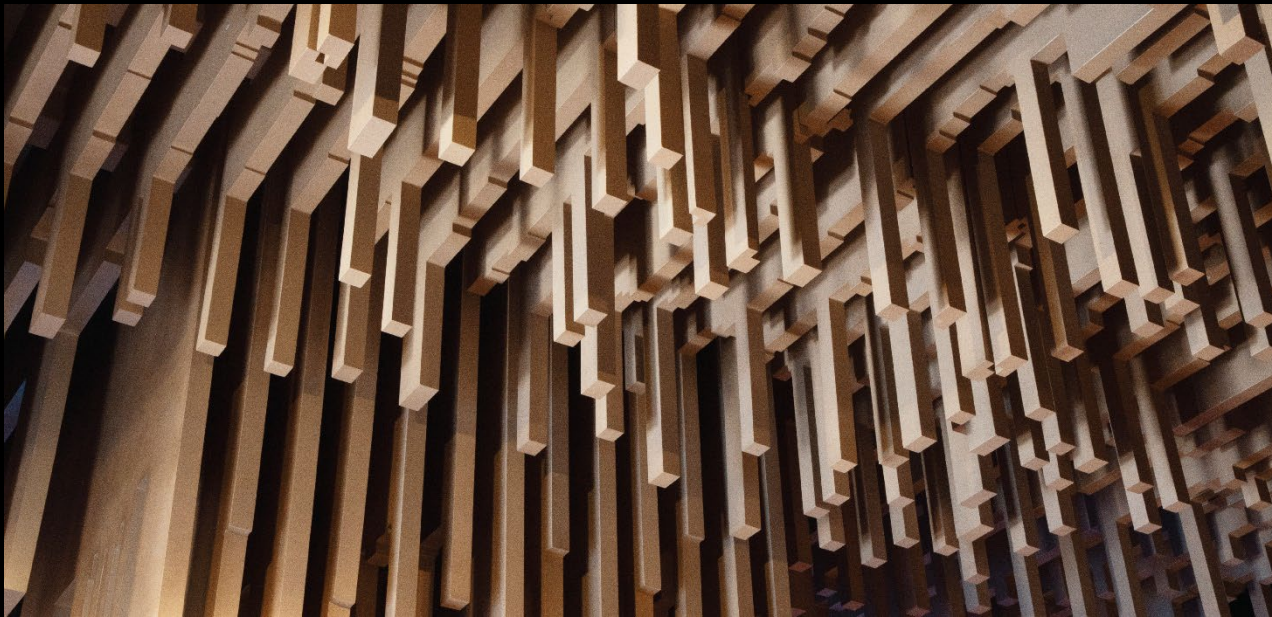
# UP-185.02

Shaping the City:  
A Forum for Sustainable Cities and  
Communities

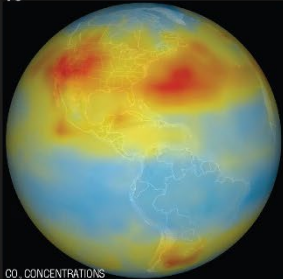
The forum explores how to engage with the surrounding urban systems and discusses concepts related to urban resilience and climate change adaptation in designing and building cities. Cities are the engines of change and present the opportunity to shape the future of millions of inhabitants.

Planning for a resilient future entails tackling current challenges and proposing solutions in an integrative, inclusive, and risk-aware manner.

Our team presented what we called “Existing, Surviving, Bridging, and Thriving”. Using New Orleans as a case study, we discussed how our city has survived in the past, and how we must bridge today’s needs for resiliency and sustainability into tomorrow’s thriving future.

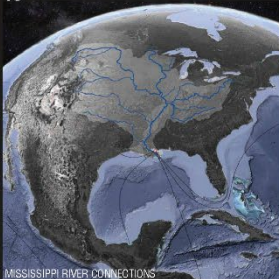


$10^8$



CO<sub>2</sub> CONCENTRATIONS

$10^7$



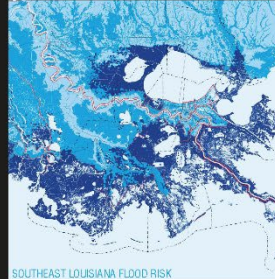
MISSISSIPPI RIVER CONNECTIONS

$10^6$



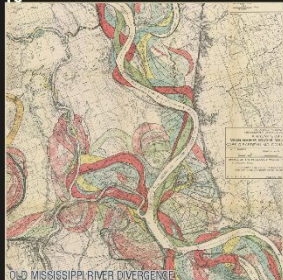
LOUISIANA FLOOD RISK

$10^5$



SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA FLOOD RISK

$10^4$



OLD MISSISSIPPI RIVER DIVERGENCE

$10^3$



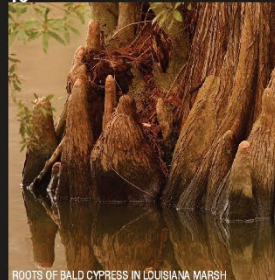
GREATER NEW ORLEANS POWER OUTAGES AUG. 29 2021

$10^2$



NEW ORLEANS URBAN WATER PLAN 2014

$10^1$



ROOTS OF BALD CYPRESS IN LOUISIANA MARSH

# UP-185.03

Exist(ing)

The first component of our presentation focused on "EXISTING".

New Orleans' landscape has been shaped by a series of large-scale infrastructure interventions including, levees, interstate freeways and canal systems.

These projects were often designed and constructed with minimal input of the local communities and placed an emphasis on efficiency over long-term impacts on the local community and ecosystems.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

RESOURCE DEPLETION

CENTRALIZED SYSTEMS

## EXIST[ING]

1718 - 2006

1718 - 2006

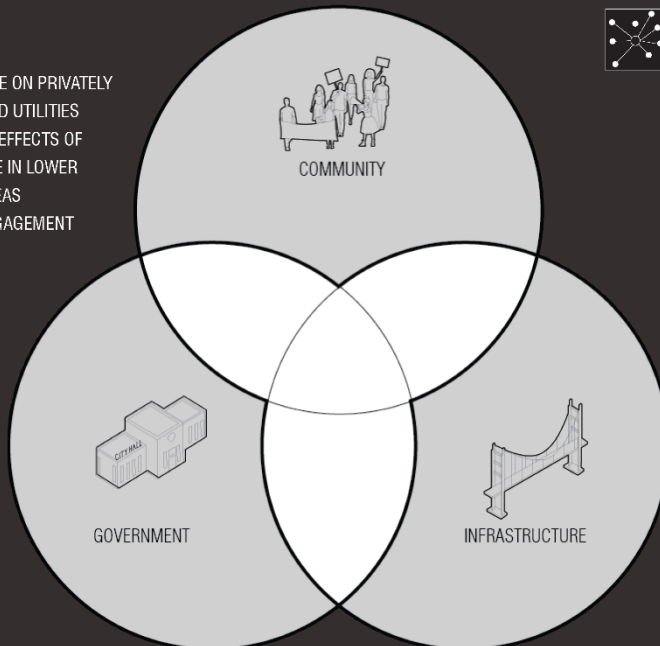
CENTRALIZED NETWORK & GOVERNANCE | ATTEMPTED EFFICIENCY



*"Characterized by a low producer-consumer ratio and top-down management structure; historically, implemented in times of stability to increase efficiency."*

*- Alysha Helmrich et al,  
Environ. Res.: Infrastruct. Sustain.*

- DEPENDENCE ON PRIVATELY CONTROLLED UTILITIES
- INCREASED EFFECTS OF SUBSIDENCE IN LOWER INCOME AREAS
- LIMITED ENGAGEMENT



- TOP-DOWN MANAGEMENT
- REACTIVE POLICIES
- SLOW STATE AND LOCAL AID
- RESISTANT TO MEANINGFUL CHANGE

- FEDERALLY CONTROLLED LEVEES
- OLD RIVER CONTROL STRUCTURE
- WATER PUMPS AND DRAINAGE CANALS
- DISCONNECTED FROM GROUPS SERVED



SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT

EMERGING DECENTRALIZED SYSTEMS

# UP-185.04

Survive(ing)

The second component of our presentation focused on "SURVIVING".

As the impacts and costs of climate change have become more apparent to both the citizens and government of New Orleans, efforts were begun to study and implement strategies for how to sustain the current way of life.

The government has made attempts to work more closely with citizens and listen to their input on infrastructure projects. Local communities have also realized the limited capabilities of large centralized government agencies to quickly respond to hurricanes and flooding which are impacting our region more and more frequently.

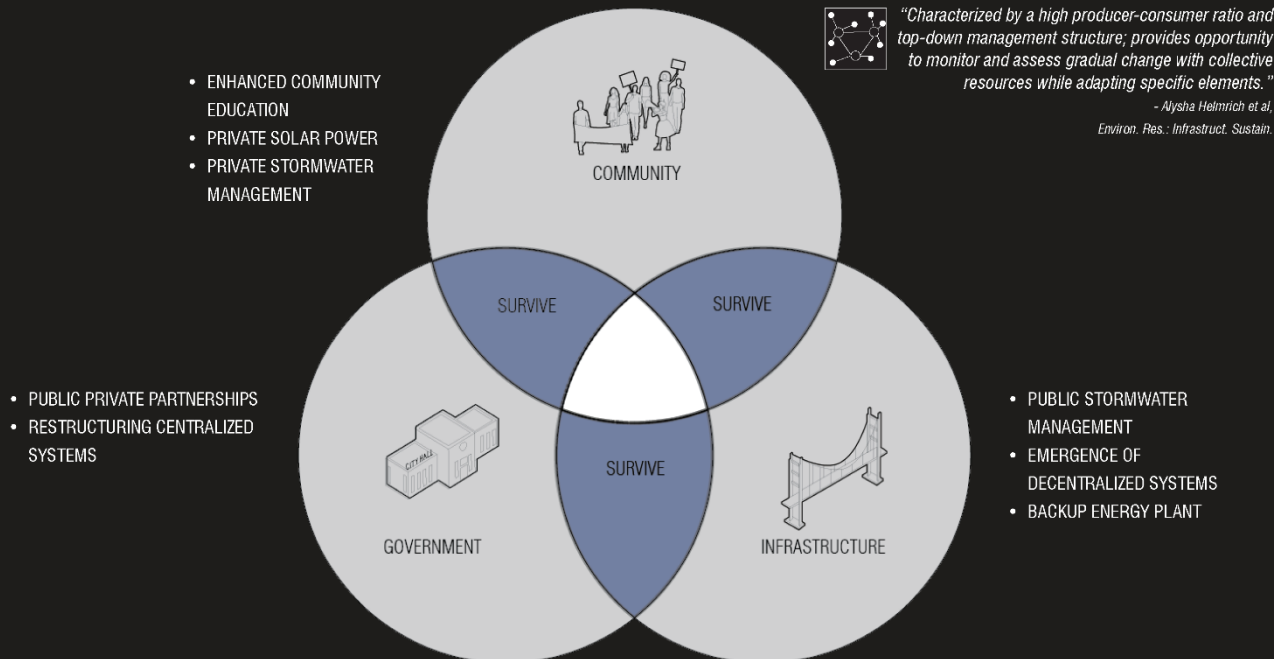
Communities are implementing small-scale locally-oriented projects to establish solar backups and emergency response shelters.

## SURVIVE [ING]

2007 - PRESENT

2007 - PRESENT

DECENTRALIZED NETWORK AND CENTRALIZED GOVERNANCE | ATTEMPTED EFFICIENCY



# UP-185.05

## Bridge(ing)

The third component of our presentation focused on “BRIDGING”.

We outline the need for immediate action by first asking questions:

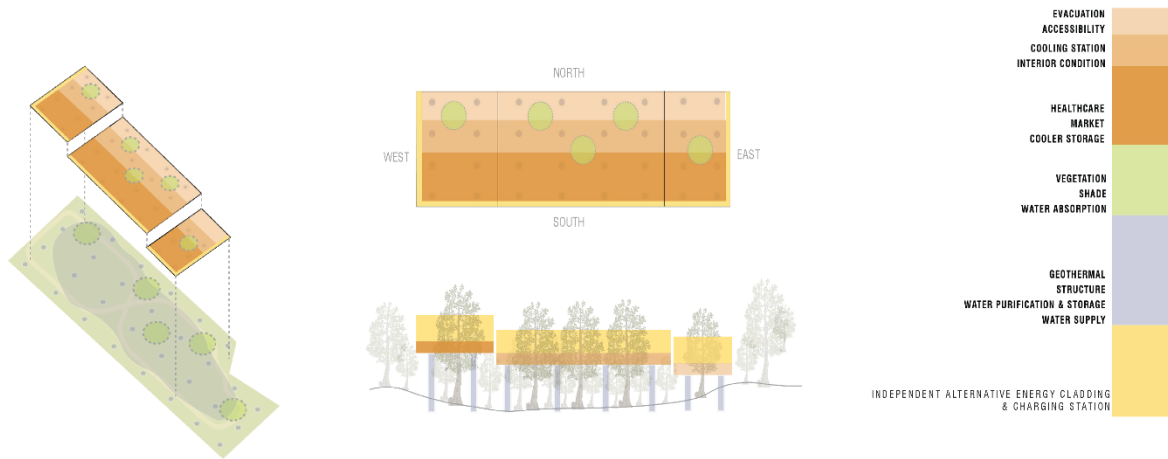
How can we re-purpose infrastructure, simplify efficiencies, and interrelate communities?

What are the needs of a community before, during and after emergency events?

How does the strength and resources of one community affect adjacent ones?

What factors identify a region or space within a city that can serve a community to be both more sustainable AND more resilient?

## DUALITY OF PROGRAM & PERFORMANCE



----- OPTIMIZED OPPORTUNITIES



1. DISTRICT

2. DRAIN

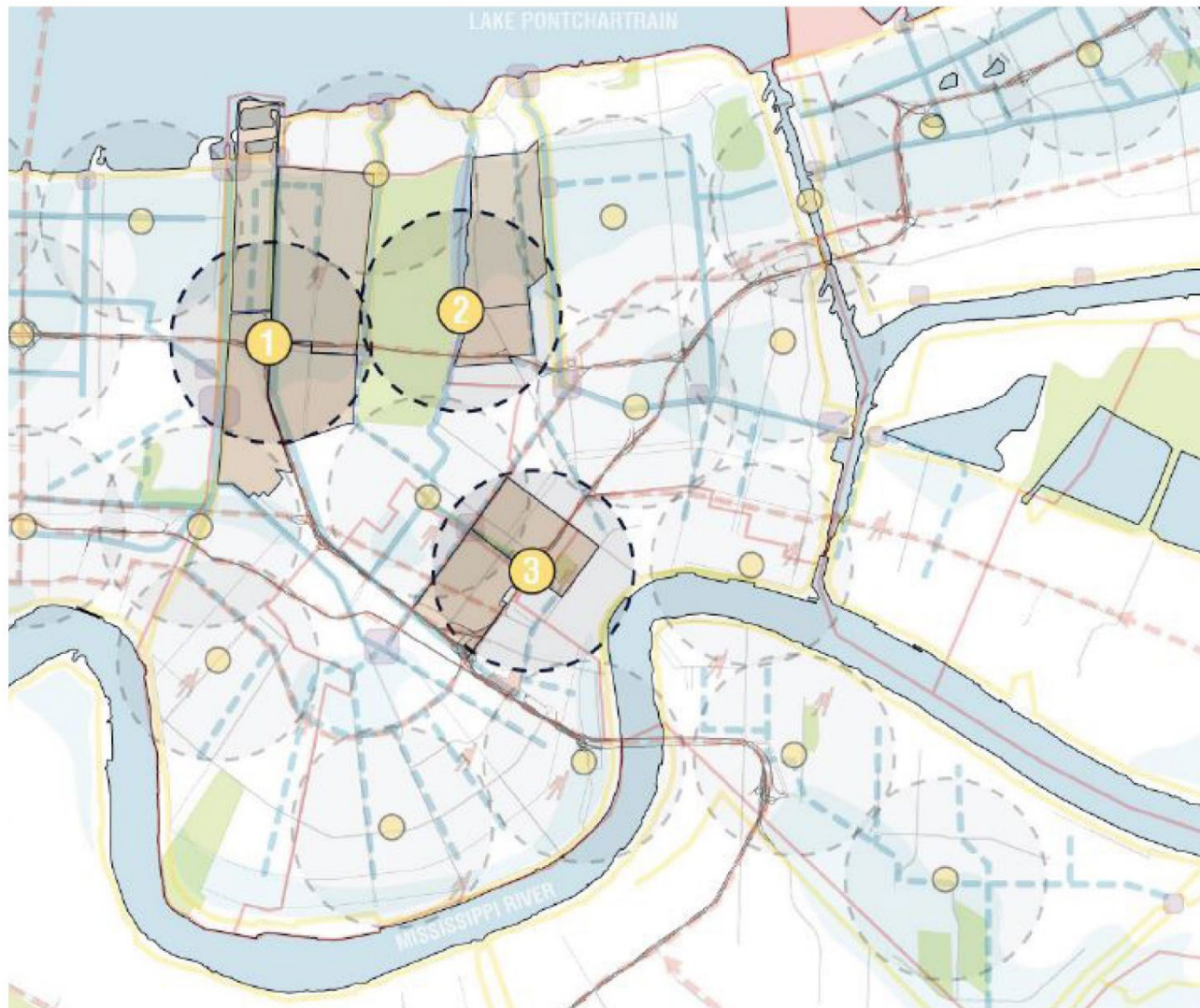
3. PROTECT

4. PUMP

5. SINK

6. EVACUATE

7. DISTRIBUTE



# UP-185.06

Bridge(ing)

Site Analysis of the Island City

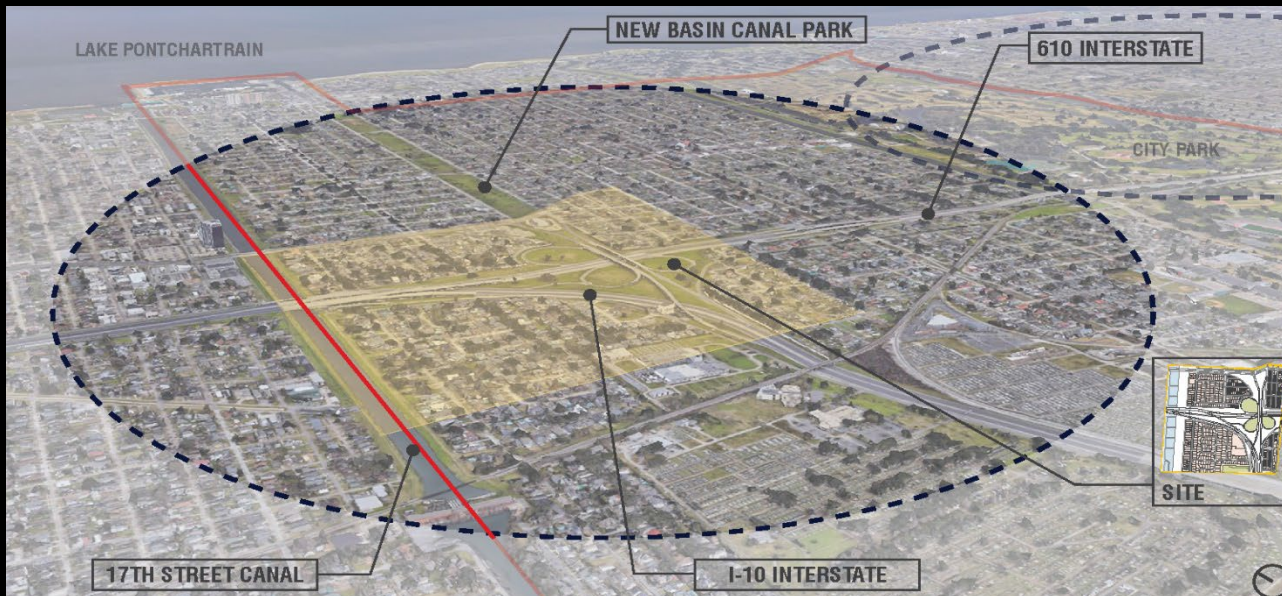
By way of a layered analysis process, our team identified factors that affect the landscape and function of spaces within New Orleans including:

1. City Council Districts
2. Drainage Canals
3. Protective Levees
4. Pumping Stations
5. Land Subsidence
6. Evacuation Routes
7. Walkability (1 mile radii)

Based on these mappings, we selected three highly varied site conditions to exemplify different locations that could provide a "bridging" between communities before, during and after emergency events.

Each concept is site specific, however the intention is that the design strategy would be easily modified to effectively apply to similar sites throughout the city.





# UP-185.07

Bridge(ing)

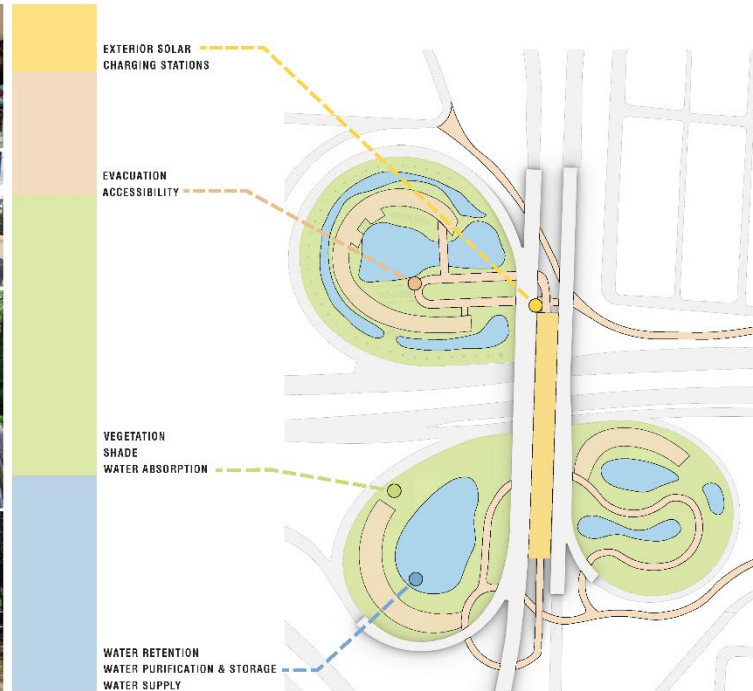
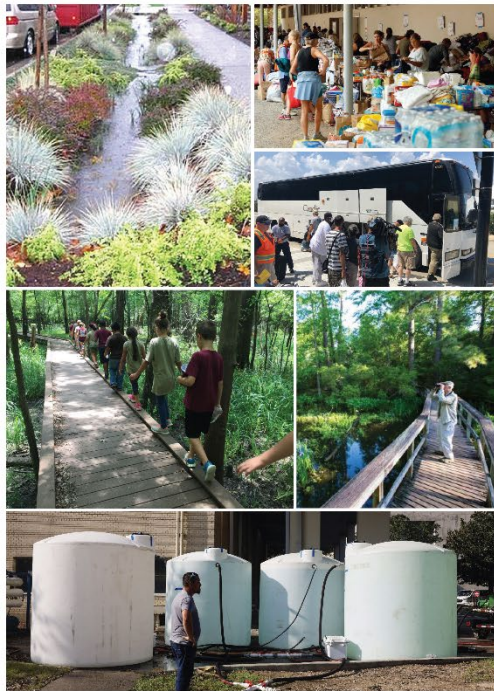
Site 01  
Multi-Purpose Program

The first proposed site maximizes the use of a standard cloverleaf at one of the largest interstate transportation corridors.

Large portions of the city are currently dedicated to interstates that divide neighborhoods and leave large areas of underutilized and unoccupiable space.

The design proposal aimed to reconnect neighborhoods with pedestrian walkways and to convert high maintenance grass areas into parks with water retention areas to help reduce runoff from the interstate exchange.

This design is site specific but can be modified to other similar spaces throughout the city.





# UP-185.08

Bridge(ing)

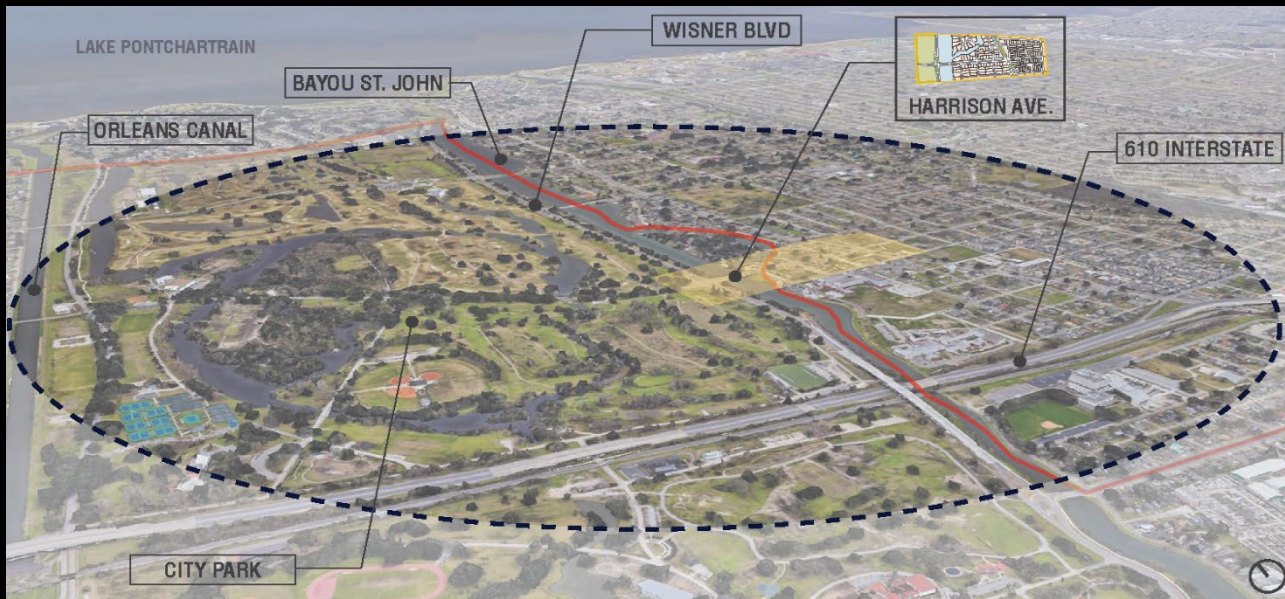
Site 01 (cont.)

Multi-Purpose Program

- Pedestrian pathways to connect neighborhoods divided by interstate
- Trees and Vegetation to help with air quality near high traffic areas
- Water retention areas to help reduce runoff and provide water purification and storage.







# UP-185.09

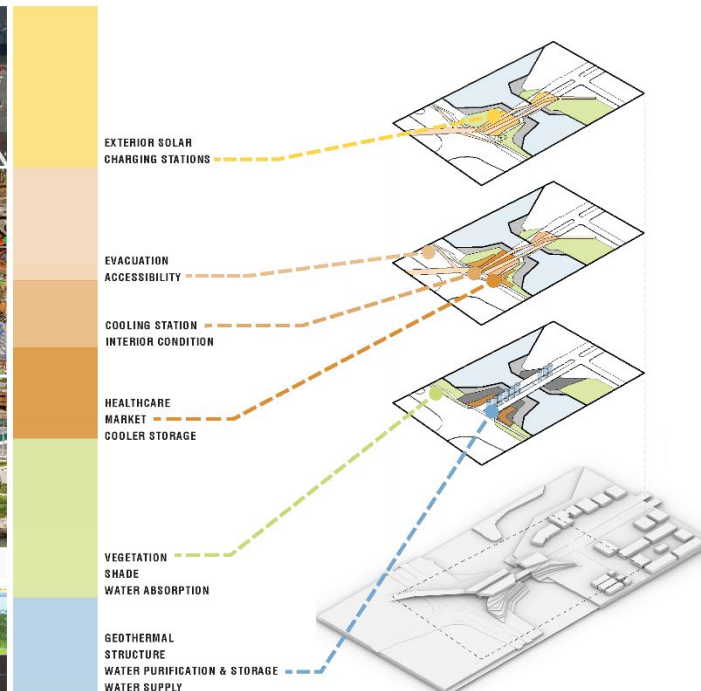
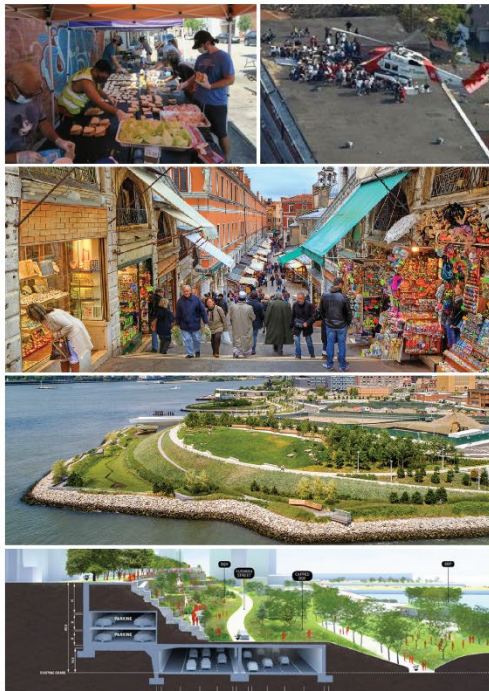
Bridge(ing)

Site 02  
Multi-Purpose Program

Numerous bridges populate the city in order to connect neighborhoods across New Orleans' much-needed canals. These bridges, which are distributed relatively evenly across the city, are currently only serving a sole purpose of transporting vehicles and people across the waterways.

The design proposal aimed to serve as a place within the city that serves its adjacent neighborhoods with opportunities such as safer pedestrian walkway, retail, as well as an emergency shelter with water storage with a filtration system and solar energy.

This design is site specific but can be modified to other similar bridges throughout the city.





# UP-185.10

Bridge(ing)

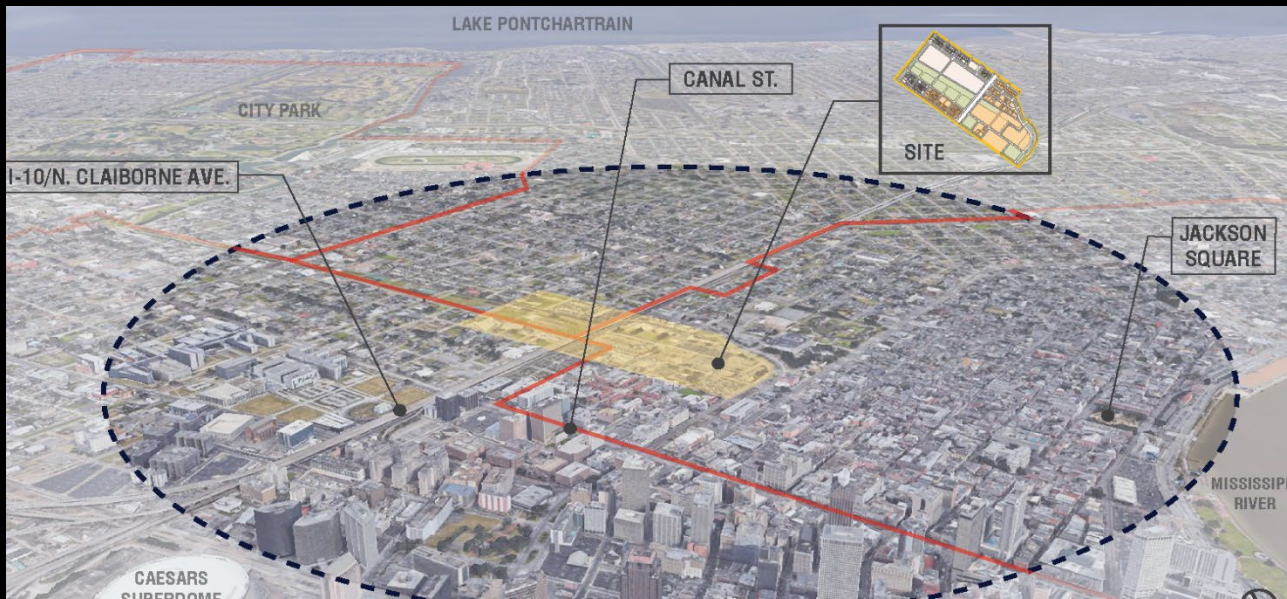
Site 02 (cont.)

Multi-Purpose Program

- Pedestrian pathways to connect neighborhoods divided by canal
- Trees and Vegetation to help with air quality and allow for user enjoyment within the outdoor space
- Structure underneath allows for water purification and storage for use in emergency situations
- Solar panels allow for structure to be self-sufficient and users can use as charging station
- Retail space provided for local entrepreneurs and to encourage community interaction
- Terraced earth to connect the bridge level to the water to allow users to utilize the canal for recreation







# UP-185.11

Bridge(ing)

Site 03  
Multi-Purpose Program

Large portions of the city are currently dedicated to interstates that divide neighborhoods and leave large areas of underutilized and unoccupiable space.

The design proposal aimed to serve as a place within the city that serves its adjacent neighborhoods with opportunities such as safer pedestrian walkways underneath the interstate, community gardening and areas for local vendors and food trucks.

This design is site specific but can be modified to other similar bridges throughout the city.





# UP-185.12

Bridge(ing)

Site 03 (cont.)

- Pedestrian pathways to connect neighborhoods divided by interstate

- Activation of underutilized and unoccupiable space underneath interstate

- Community vegetation garden to help with air quality and allow for user enjoyment within the outdoor space

- Retail space provided for local entrepreneurs and to encourage community interaction

- Area of refuge and meeting point for evacuation route





# UP-185.13

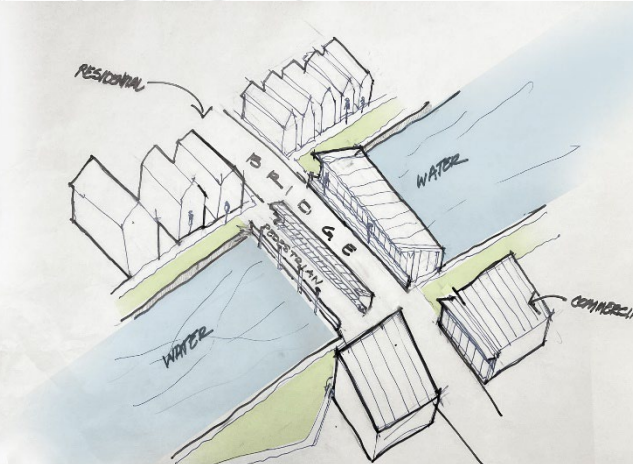
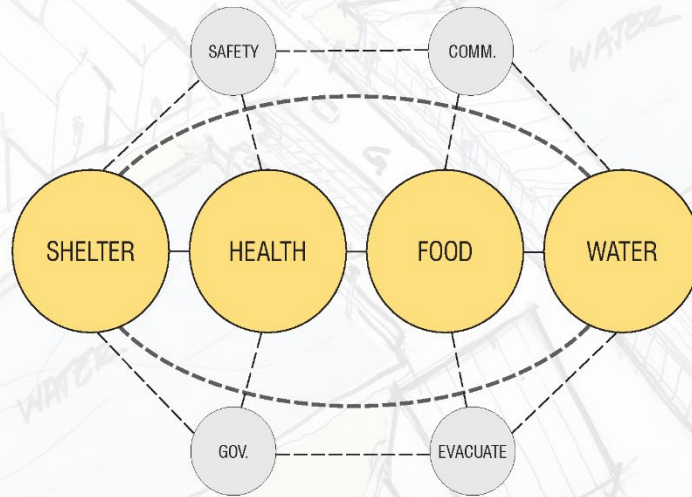
## SITE ANALYSIS | OPTIMIZED CRITERIA

1 EVERY PROJECT MUST  
CORRECT OR BUILD UPON  
AN EXISTING SYSTEM

2 EVERY PROJECT MUST  
BRIDGE PHYSICAL OR  
PERCEIVED DISPARITIES

3 EVERY PROJECT MUST  
ACTIVATE SPACE THAT  
IS UNDERUTILIZED

4 EVERY PROJECT MUST PROVIDE  
DUALITY OF PROGRAM DURING  
STABILITY AND INSTABILITY



## Thrive(ing)

The fourth and final component of our presentation focused on "THRIVING". What is our vision for the future?

We look to the Latin word, Arx, as inspiration. An Arx is a stronghold, fortress, central community location, a refuge.

## Optimize Opportunity

Every project must correct or build upon an existing system to transform it into a thriving system. Taking an existing or surviving project and augmenting it to a thriving project.

We identify the criteria that we believe are the fundamental ingredients to a thriving civilization.

**COMMUNITY:** ingrained community education, flexible + shareable solar power, and urban design driven by the people.

**GOVERNMENT:** ability to act during crises without delay, ability to shift between centralized + decentralized management structure

**INFRASTRUCTURE:** infrastructure that responds to direct needs without compromising nature or culture.

Project Name:  
Shaping the City

Project Location:  
N/A

Owner/Client:  
N/A

Architect(s) of Record:  
(names and addresses)  
Ian Dreyer  
NANO, LLC  
432 N. Anthony Street, #303  
New Orleans, LA 70119

Project Team:  
Ian Dreyer  
Terri Dreyer  
Kristine Kobila  
Samantha Johnson  
Lance Dickman  
Ivy Leleux  
Ana Chu  
Kelsey Chappuis  
Sam LeBlanc  
Maria Ory  
Olivia Szczerba  
Michelle Palmisano

Landscape Architect:  
N/A

Consultants:  
N/A

General Contractor:  
N/A

Photographer(s):  
(please list which specific slides get credited to each  
photographer(s) listed).  
Slide 2, top image: Federico Vespignani

# UP-185.14

Credit Slide

This slide will not be seen by the judges. It replaces what in past years has been in the sealed envelope.

Please fill out the information requested to the left. As with other slides please set the correct Entry Number above; OK to leave slide# as "x"

Some of this information will be added to the slides when used for the Awards Presentation at the AIA Louisiana Convention.

Note: on this slide if you run out of space please adjust font size as necessary or move more information to the second column.

Please submit 2 Power Point Submissions online as indicated on the instructions sent to you with your entry number (one w/credit slide and one without).