

2013 Michael G. Meyers Design Competition

Re-inventing the Community Center

In 1997 Lori Rodriguez of the *Houston Chronicle* said "In the lifetime of some coalition members, the East End has gone from being mainly white to mainly Hispanic, mainly affluent to mainly modest, mainly thriving to mainly struggling," and that "a younger and more aggressive leadership is trying to revitalize the area and, to a touchingly discernible degree, it has succeeded." Following the lead of this young population the city of Houston has targeted the area for economic development and growth. By investing in infrastructure, public venues, such as the new Dynamo stadium and tax incentives for businesses, the area is on it's way to returning to the thriving community it once was. The neighborhood today is a mix of cultures, building types and densities. New residents are being attracted to the area because of its urban living style, lying just outside the downtown edge and being served by multiple modes of transportation. New high density housing developments rented by young professionals are quickly being built on lots that were previously vacant or housed manufacturing warehouses. This year, the design problem for the MGMDC is to design a much-needed community center for this growing historic area.

project requirements

The design

1. Include a comprehensive, description of your community center explaining the concepts behind your design. See essay requirements. Please give your center a name.
2. Develop a distinctive solution that is considerate of the urban context, and fills a need for the community. Your design solution should integrate and accomplish at least (2) sustainable strategies.(conserve and or generate energy -store and or reuse water- utilize passive solar and wind strategies)
3. Develop distinctive interior spaces and exterior spaces that show an understanding of how these spaces are created with-in the required program elements. Be sure to consider the relationship between the indoor and outdoor spaces and the overall flow through the space.
4. Students should explore the use of interesting materials, structural components and environmental strategies. Your drawings should clearly illustrate these components

program

SITE

ELEMENTS

The following items should be part of your site design and site plan. Think about Urban Design, Parks, and Plazas. How your site should be approached and the integration of public transportation stops into your design. Think about the streets, sidewalks, plazas, views and vistas; how are they landscaped, and what are the elements that are part of the experience. Public outdoor space is precious and so the entire site should be utilized as fully as possible.

Site:

Access to the bayou (dock/ kayak rental)

Access Drive

Access to or provisions for at least two modes of alternate transportation in addition to automobiles

Parking for **up to 10** cars (consider alternative ways of parking cars)

2 Handicapped parking spots and 4 fuel efficient car parking

Picnic areas

Green Space

Community Building(s)

BUILDING(S)

ELEMENTS

For this project any of the program elements may be located inside or outside of the building enclosure). Elements may also be located in multiple buildings throughout the site.

Building(s): 10 000 -30 000 sqft

Entrance/ Administration 2,500 sqft

Cafe/Kitchen 2,000 sqft

Toilets 1000 sqft

Two Additional Community Functions will vary (**must** make up the remaining 4,500 - 24,500 sqft of the required *building size)

Examples: Gymnasium, Skate Park, Library, Auditorium, Equipment Rental, Meeting rooms, Covered Basketball Court, Community Garden, Playground, ect.

* The two additional community functions do not have to be enclosed in a building. They can be outdoor spaces but they still must be contain enough sqft to meet the requirement.

Presentation Requirements

essay (should be firmly affixed to the front of one board)

Your descriptive essay should include some detail to explain your design. Please limit your essay to one 8 ½ x 11 sheet @ 12 point Arial font, approx. 500 words

Suggestions of what to include in your essay:

- Describe your sustainable strategies and how the community will benefit, and enjoy them.
- Describe how the surrounding context influences the design of your community center
- Describe the user experience at your community center and its surroundings
- What makes your center unique, what entice the community to use your center

drawings

The following **minimum** requirements should be mounted on two 24" x 36" or 30" x 42" **foam core** (*do not submit more than two boards*): (*Winning entries will be exhibited @ the Architecture Center Houston, therefore to facilitate display, boards must be foam core, and must not exceed the allowable sizes*)

- 1" = **60'** scale **site plan**, showing outdoor features and site improvements and the roof of all community buildings.
- 1/8" = 1'-0" scale **floor plan** of the building(s) showing walls, doors, windows, countertops, plumbing fixtures, room names, and other descriptive information that defines the space.
- 1/8" = 1'-0" scale **exterior building elevation(s)** showing façade, roof heights, building materials, windows, and other descriptive information.
- 1/8" or 1/4" = 1'-0" **building section** of the building(s) showing spaces and how they are connected or divided walls and exterior wall material
- At least one accurate **perspective** drawings at any scale of an interior or exterior view of your project.
- Any **hand sketches** that document your design process.

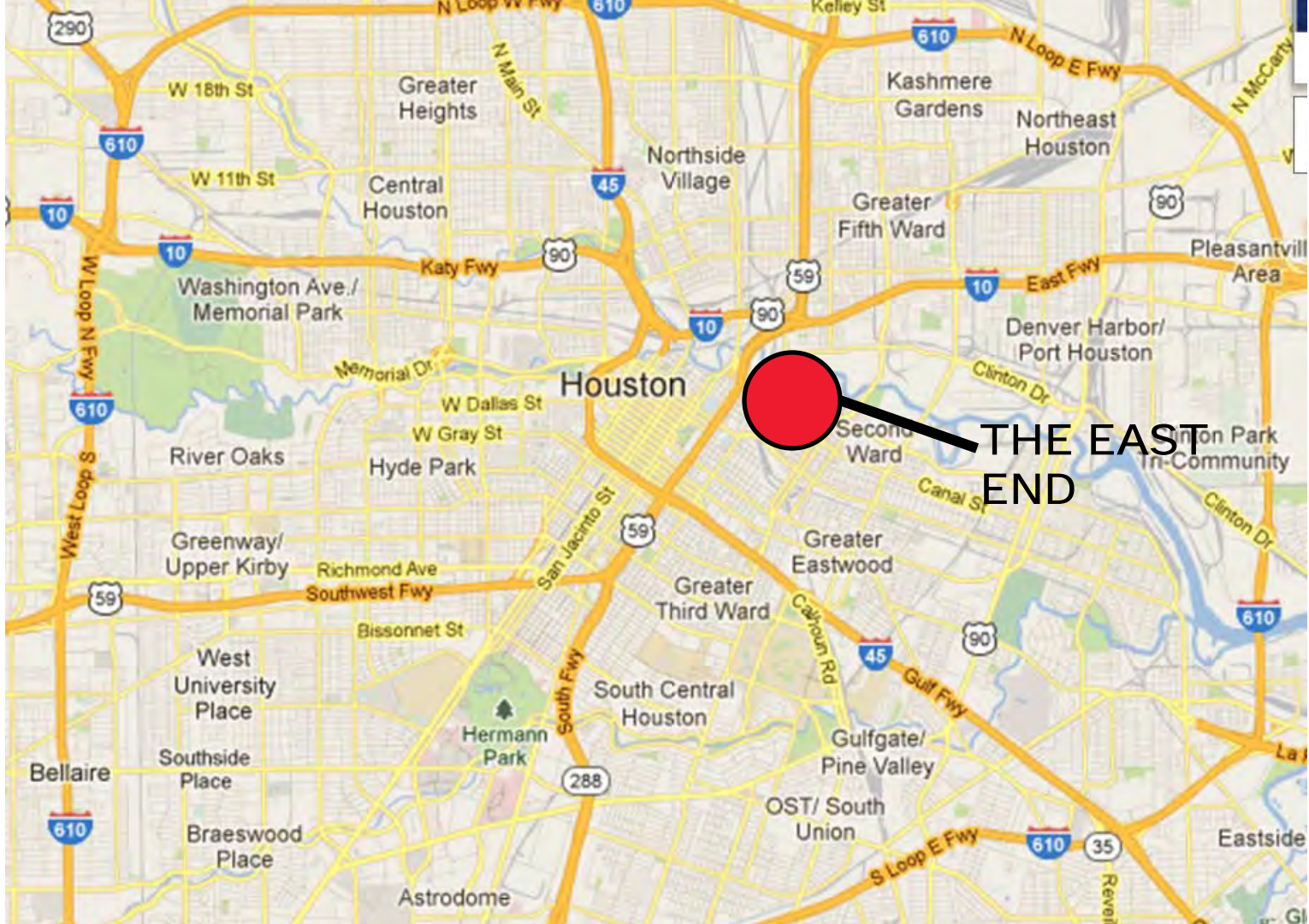
model

A 1/16" = 1'-0" **scale model** of the project including the entire site is required for team projects.

**Models are optional for individual participants, but all are encouraged to experiment with models to help answer questions about their designs.

deadline for submissions

Entries are due by 5:00 pm on Friday, **19 April 2013** at the AIA Houston offices at ArCH (ARCHITECTURE CENTER HOUSTON) **315 Capitol Street, Suite 120, Houston, Texas 77002** [phone 713-520-0155].



THE EAST
END



Buffalo Bayou



OUR SITE

Minute Maid Stadium

Brown Convention Center

Dynamo Stadium

EaDo

Light Rail Urban Corridor

Streetcar District

Infill Residential

TND

TOD

Tony P



Footc St

Hike and Bike Trail

Jensen Dr

you Hike and Bike Trail

Buffalo Bayou Hike and Bike Trail

Buffalo Bayou Hike and Bike Trail

Buffalo Bayou Hike and Bike Trail

Buffalo Bayou Hike and Bike Trail

Buffalo Bayou Hike

Catholic Charities

Jensen Dr

McAlpine St

Milwa Oak St

N Nagle St

Freund St

Charles St

Oak St

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Kennedy St

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Buffalo Bayou Hike and Bike Trail

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