

1st Prize, Topic 1 Open Category

The 'S' City – Shared, Small and Sensitive

Flexel Studio

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JURY CITATION:

The jury commended the scheme for its refreshing vision for a novel residential town that is sensitive to global challenges of food resiliency, ecological sustainability and biodiversity protection. The key ideas in focusing on the community's shared experiences are elegant and powerful in the creation of a new place identity for PLAB in future. The scheme addresses the many complex issues associated with creating a liveable place at both the macro and micro levels with a distinctive plan.

A Celebration Of The Past, Present and Future of the Paya Lebar Airbase

VISIONING

The master plan 1) embraces the "swampy" history of the site by introducing an estuarine habitat that links the Serangoon River to two existing reservoirs nearby, 2) commemorates the production of palm plantations in the old days by transforming the runway into an agricultural park, and 3) celebrates the legacy of the Paya Lebar Airbase by preserving the runway outline, and by creating a cultural district based on the major airport facility buildings. Ultimately it aims to create a prosperous, resilient, and vibrant community with a distinctive identity that ties closely into the global network while maintaining local independence.

- LEGEND
- 1 Creative corridor
 - 2 Agricultural park
 - 3 Upgraded fabrication-manufacture-research park
 - 4 Upgraded fabrication-logistic park
 - 5 Urban estuary system
 - 6 Mixed-use neighborhood
 - 7 Agricultural research center
 - 8 Public facilities (public library, school, health care center, hospital etc.)
 - 9 Sand stockpile/land sculpture
 - 10 Preservation land
 - 11 Transportation hub
 - 12 Underground tunnel
 - 13 Pedestrian linkage
 - 14 Cultural district



Shared outdoor space for creativity cultivation

Shared light electric vehicle system as a more efficient, flexible, & environmentally friendly transportation mode



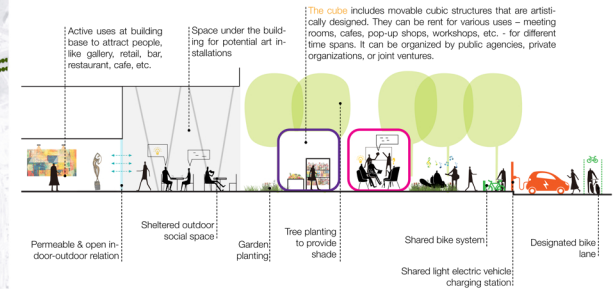
The scheme emphasizes values of sharing. Shared outdoor spaces can be places to exchange ideas and cultivate creativity, which has great potentials to boost economic growth generated by the creative class. When it comes to urban mobilization, shared electric light vehicles systems can be a more efficient, flexible, and environmentally friendly transportation alternative for densely urbanized areas.

Being sensitive refers to preemptive local design response to global challenges. In the master planning of the Paya Lebar Airbase, it primarily deals with food independence, carbon emission issues, and wildlife protection.

The idea of being small is a bottom-to-top space-making strategy. By integrating tangible and flexible interventions into the design - for instance, the "cubes" on the creativity corridor proposed here - this approach addresses actual needs of the public and space users directly and intends to achieve a more inclusive and cooperative urbanization.

Notes: © Francis, Richard. The Rise of the Creative Class. Basic Books, 2016.

Vibrant Street Lift at the Creativity Corridor



Agricultural Park



Aviation Museum

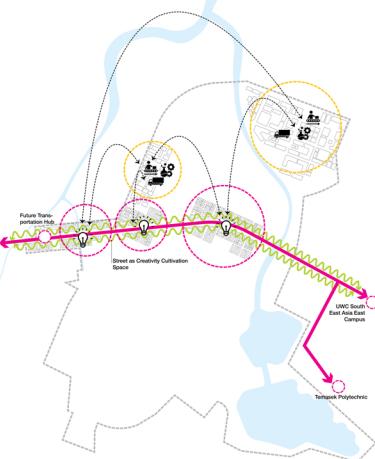


Urban Wetland



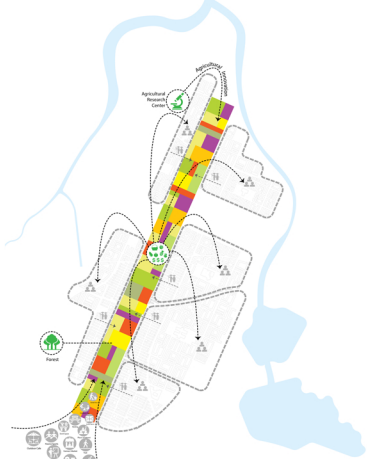
MAIN IDEAS

CREATIVE CORRIDOR
Creation-Research-Fabrication-Distribution model
Street as interactive places for creative people



The creative corridor extends from the transportation hub to the adjacent schools. It embraces start-ups, research labs, business incubators, artists to live, work, entertain, and encounter with one another here. Taking advantage of the site's proximity to industrial uses, the scheme proposes to upgrade some of them to manufacturing, researching, and logistic centers that are associated with the creative professionals, and ultimately initiates a research-creation-fabrication-distribution model. The street here is a place to cultivate creativity.

AGRICULTURAL PARK
Productive lands
Urban forests
Programmed zones for people



This agricultural park consists of farming lands, programmed zones for people, and urban forests. It offers local communities job opportunities, fresh fruits, and vegetables. Other city dwellers can also benefit from the food production and urban parks here. An agricultural research center is located at the northwest for agricultural innovation.

URBAN ECOLOGY
Wildlife Corridor
Nature at Doorstep
Green Streets



A new urban stream would help to establish bird and fish habitation between the Serangoon River and the Bedok Reservoir. People are also welcomed to enjoy the nature at their doorstep. Green corridors connect the adjacent restorative land, green spaces, and agricultural park to the regional ecological system.

MOBILITY
Shared Electric Light Vehicle Network
Weaving Back to Urban Fabric
Transportation Hub



Building on top of the future MRT station, a transportation hub that incorporates bus stops, retail, offices, etc. is introduced. A street system is created to weave the site back to the city's urban fabric. A shared light electric vehicle network distributed on a five-minute walking radius would move people around more easily. Local urban dwellers can use car services through cellphone applications. The network also contributes to limiting carbon emission.

PARTICIPANTS' WRITE UP:

The "S" City – Shared, Small and Sensitive: A celebration of the past, present and future of the Paya Lebar Airbase

Overall Mindset – Shared, Small and Sensitive

The scheme emphasises the values of sharing. Shared outdoor spaces can be places to exchange ideas and cultivate creativity, which can in turn boost economic growth from the creative class. Shared electric vehicle systems can be more efficient, flexible and environmentally friendly transportation alternatives in densely urbanised areas.

The idea of small is to adopt a bottom-up space-making strategy. By integrating tangible and flexible interventions into the design, such as injecting movable cubic structures for various uses i.e. the "cube" on the Creative Corridor, it addresses the needs of the public and space users directly to achieve a more inclusive and cooperative urbanisation.

Being sensitive refers to adopting a pre-emptive local design response to global challenges, such as food independence, carbon emission issues, and wildlife protection.

In consideration of the overall mindset, the master plan 1) embraces the history of the site as a swamp by introducing an estuarine habitat that links the Serangoon River to two existing reservoirs nearby, 2) commemorates the production of palm plantations in the old days by transforming the runway into an agricultural park, and 3) celebrates the legacy of the Paya Lebar Airbase by preserving the runway outline, and by creating a cultural district based on the major airport buildings. Ultimately it aims to create a prosperous, resilient, and vibrant community with a distinctive identity that ties closely into the global network while maintaining local independence.

The following four main ideas are proposed:

Creative Corridor

The Creative Corridor extends from the future transport hub to the nearby tertiary institutions. It embraces start-ups, research labs, business incubators, artists to live, work, entertain, and encounter one another here. Taking advantage of the site's proximity to industrial uses, the scheme proposes to transform some of them to manufacturing, researching, and logistic centers that are associated with creative professionals, and ultimately initiates a research-creation-fabrication-distribution model. The street is designed as a place with vibrant street life and to cultivate creativity.

Agricultural Park

This agricultural park consists of farm lands, programmed activity zones and urban forests, to offer local communities job opportunities, fresh fruits and vegetables. Other city dwellers can also benefit from the food production and urban parks here. An agricultural research center on agricultural innovation will be located at the north-western area.

Urban Ecology

A new urban stream would help to establish bird and fish habitation between Serangoon River and Bedok Reservoir. People are also welcomed to enjoy the nature at their doorstep. Green corridors connect the adjacent restorative land, green spaces, and agricultural park to the regional ecological system.

Urban Mobility

Building on top of the future MRT station, a transportation hub that incorporates bus stops, retail, offices, etc. is introduced. A street system is created to weave the site into the surrounding urban fabric. A shared light electric vehicle network with well-distributed stop points to provide a five-minute walking radius for people to move around more easily. Local urban dwellers can use car services through cellphone applications. The network also helps reduce carbon emissions.