

UPP552: Physical Planning Studio

Fall 2011

Tuesday 9-12 PM

Location: 2ADH 2232

Instructor

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Office hours: Thursday 4:00-6:00. For communication please use email not phone. I am also available for meeting by appointments.

The Chicago River Corridor Development Plans 2020

This is a studio class where we tackle a practical project. Chicago River is a great asset and it deserves sound planning that enhances its conditions and takes advantage of its outstanding environment, ecology, and location. Remarkable projects and architecture are placed along the river banks. The city intends to enhance the River experience, and along planning firms, the city has made foundational work (see resources section in this document). We will building on that and go beyond. This is an interesting and useful project because it captures the multi-facets of planning activities including: economic, ecological, urban design, recreational, tourism, social life, health, historically significant architecture and artifacts, and the like.

The project general goals:

Make the River and its surrounding areas attractive for residents and tourists

- Create attractive water and underwater activities

- Enhance walkability and bikeability along the river

- Improve greeneries

Harness ecological benefits of the Chicago River and tap into renewable resources

- Enhance the lives of the River species

- Harness potential power generations based on the River water, sun and wind

- Explore new sustainable cooling and heating river based systems

- Watershed assessment and stormwater management

Enhance economic activities and make use of recreational opportunities

- Identify opportunities for private and public investments

Consider the day and night lives of the river and its banks

Creativity:

A major purpose of this studio is to boost students' creative thinking. We want to bring to the project innovative, futuristic, and practical ideas.

Project Highlights and Milestones:

History and backgrounds

Mapping existing River area conditions and applying SWOT analysis

Exploring BIG ideas

Creating conceptual plans and alternatives

Choosing an alternative

Developing an alternative

Detailing and articulating the alternative

Final presentation

Revisions

Jury presentation

Teams:

Substantive

- Green design, ecology, biology, and sustainability team
- Urban Design and architectural team

Technical

- GIS technical and analytical team
 - Will map existing conditions and conduct SWOT and spatial analysis.
- 3D technical and design team (Google SketchUp)
 - Will build a 3D model to show existing conditions and to show proposed planning and design.

Outcomes and deliverables:

Graphical plans and written policies,

- Detailed PowerPoint Presentation with long captions for each figure and illustration. This should be self-explanatory.
- 50 pages professional report. This includes graphics, maps, and texts. The text should provide more information, details and reasoning of your work and proposed ideas.

Project area:

It covers the three branches (within the City of Chicago and focusing on the Downtown area) and east connection with Lake Michigan

Resources:

Resources for this project are in abundance on the Internet. As a jump start, here are some key ones:

The City of Chicago

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/dcd/supp_info/chicago_river_corridordevelopmentplan.html

Friends of the Chicago River

http://www.chicagoriver.org/education/curricula/lesson_plans/

Chicago River Master Plan

http://www.centerbrook.com/project/chicago_river_plan

North Branch of the Chicago River Detailed Watershed Plan (DWP) and Phase B Report

http://www.mwrld.org/irj/go/km/docs/documents/MWRD/internet/protecting%20the%20environment/Storage%20Management/html/North%20Branch%20Chicago%20River%20Watershed/North_Branch_Chicago_River_DWP.htm

Chicago Riverfront Trail

<http://burnhamplan100.lib.uchicago.edu/events/id/623/>

The Chicago River: A History in Photographs

<http://www.chicagoriver.net/id76.html>

PDFs

Action Plan for the Chicago River: Getting Specific

Strategies for a Cleaner, Healthier, More Vibrant Chicago River

http://www.chicagoriver.org/upload/Friends_of_the_chicago_River_DC_2007.pdf

Chicago River Corridor Development Plan by City of Chicago

http://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/zlup/Sustainable_Development/Publications/Chicago_River_Corridor_Development_Plan/ChicagoRiverDevelopmentPlan.pdf

Regional Plan Chicago River Master Plan

<http://www.ginkgoplanning.com/project%20pages/Chicago%20River%20Plan.pdf>

Great Plans for a Great City

http://www.cityofchicago.org/content/dam/city/depts/zlup/Planning_and_Policy/Publications/Central_Area_Plan_DRAFT/02_Central_Area_Plan_Chapter1.pdf

Waterways for our future

http://civicfed.org/sites/default/files/civicfed_175.pdf

The Metropolis Plan: Choices for the Chicago River

<http://www.metropolisplan.org/plan.pdf>

Riverfront Planning - Case Study of the 'Chicago River Corridor Development Plan

By Felix Weikmann

Studio Schedule

Tuesday, 9-12 PM

August

08, 23

Class Introduction

08, 30

Data Collection_*instructor away*

September

09, 06

Chicago River Boat Tour

09, 13

Progress review

09, 20

Progress review

09, 27

Progress review

October

10, 04

Progress review

10, 11

Progress review

10, 18

Progress review

10, 25

Mid-term review

November

11, 01

Progress review

11, 08

Progress review

11, 15

Progress review

11, 22

Internal final presentation and feedback

11, 29

Plans Revisions

December

12, 01

Jury presentation

all deliverables are due this date

Chicago River Tour (Chicago's First Lady):
<http://www.cruisechicago.com/tours.php>

Boat departs at 10 AM sharp. We need to arrive earlier, no later than 9:30 AM because there is a waiting line.

Location:

Go downstairs at the north-east intersection of Wacker Dr. and Michigan Av. (see map below)



Bring with you cameras, maps, and notepads.
Students will pay their own tour's fees.