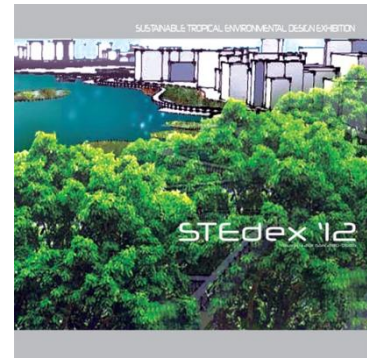


Jury Review - Restoration and Revitalization of Klang River at Bandar DiRaja Klang

Sustainable Tropical Environmental Design Exhibition 2012

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STEdex'12 – Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi, Norliza Mohd Yusof, *Restoration and Revitalization of Klang River at Bandar DiRaja Klang - Jury Review, Sustainable Tropical Environmental Design Exhibition 2012*, ISSN : 2180-0685, Vol : 4, [39], Faculty of Design and Architecture, Universiti Putra Malaysia

Pulse of the city

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

The student has done a good job in analysing and synthesizing the site, except that he left out the historical part of the river. The idea of making the river as a connector and the concept of “bringing back the clean water, greenery and people to the river” is vital as Klang town now is facing urban degradation. Taking into consideration of public participation in water conservation is also a good approach as it aligns with the Local Agenda 21. The proposal of dividing the area into 3 zones is a brilliant attempt but there are few points needing further consideration which are:

1. creation of islands in the middle of the river (Zone 3) since the width of the river is the constraint.
2. the missing historical values the old port of Klang- Pengkalan Batu at Zone 2.

Overall, it is a good and informative presentation.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The site issues are addressed well in the study but the most challenging is to transform the issues into development ideas. Here is where the designer could improve in providing nontypical solution that is perceived as new ideas of problem solving design approach.

Convergence of All

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

It is an interesting project as it tries to relate the existing of the river with the image of Klang as a Royal Town. The presentation shows that the student understands the site and the issues arise concerning the river and its surrounding. It is well explained by emphasizing the importance of revitalizing the history and culture of the area by not leaving out the importance of restoration of the river (except for the location of the Gedung Raja Abdullah which is wrongly situated). By proposing more softscape instead of hardscape is a good design and most welcome approach as Klang town truly needs that badly.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The proposal analyses the basic issues of the site but in terms of transforming those issues into physical development, the concept ideas seems to be typical solution, and the in-depth study is seen lacking. It is advisable to provide more thorough study, in order to create profound design ideas.

Interweaving Biota

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

It is a good attempt of this project to combined nature and urban in order to revitalize the river especially we know that river is one of the important asset of a city. Particularly Klang river which is been haunted by continuous pollution issue. The analysis should focus more on the history of the river as it is the soul of the area which can be explored and can become the attraction of the area. It is a straight forward design but comprehensive to benefit all folks of life.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The proposal describes the full sequence of the analysis, synthesis, river rejuvenation program and landscape improvement for Sg. Klang. The design idea aims the symbiosis of 'natural' and 'urban' would be the best solution to remodeling Sg. Klang as a new creation for a riverfront development. In this proposal, the explanation regarding the landscape improvement (natural solutions for sensitive area) catches the intention. With this approach, the landscape improvement program clearly transforms into design schemes, in all perspectives and illustration. In general, it provides an excellence graphic communication and presented in a clean and clear manner, as it speaks the designer's thought. The proposal presenting its study and design consideration in a clear sequence and illustrated in all design ideas.

Green Dissemination

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

The idea of integrating eco-edu-river-land is good and commendable. A very good site analysis study has been conducted where the student manages to derived a clear project goal and objective that can contribute to the river revitalization in the Klang town. It is a good approach by creating more green spaces to attract and gather more people to the river as Klang is lack of open space. Overall, it is a well design planning process.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

Green dissemination is the proposal concept idea, and it is explained that the designer aims to broadcast a message to the public. Naturally, the idea has good intent but upon close review throughout the presentation materials the reviewer finds the concept vague. The master plan and illustrations are beautifully drawn but the curves and forms would need more explanations in relating to the conceptual idea. Graphic presentation is fine and readable. The proposal could improve by highlighting the process and approach of the design intent in every illustration made for the project.

Symbiosis

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

The student has done a good job in analyzing elements like heritage, movement, native and culture but perhaps much more emphasis need to be given to the project goal which did not relate much to the analysis. Equal emphasis should be given to the design process too as it is not so clear. The project concept towards symbiosis which concentrated more on the river seems like it is neglecting the other issues that were brought up in the analysis stage. The design strategy does not relate with the symbiosis concept much. The practicality of the floating island need to be studied in detail as it will trap a lots of rubbish that flow in the river and perhaps another method can be taken into consideration.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The word 'symbiosis' specified in the proposal is promoting an interaction between two or more biological species. An earlier study highlighted 4 main factors, namely i) heritage preservation, ii) nature conservation, iii) accessibility and, iv) culture of Klang Town. In general, the sequence of proposals lack thorough explanation. The concept of 'symbiosis' seems 'indistinct' especially at the end of the presentation. It is advisable to 'carry' the concept thoroughly especially in transforming the concept vocabulary into the physical design, be it master plan or detailing.

Green Inward Culturalisation

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

From the presentation it shows that the student understands the site very well and has done a good job in analyzing the site by producing a comprehensive proposal involving good ideas, design strategies and a design programme. However, it missed to highlight the important elements which are the project goal and concept. Despite these slack, the incorporation of a Landscape Management Plan such as the long term planning of planting and activities for the area as part of the design process is a positive action and most welcomed. The presentation is well explained and displayed.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The proposal emphasises on rehabilitation of Sg. Klang via three aspects which are living connectors, cultural enrichment and blue corridors. Beside those aspects, the design strategy also considers water treatment, tropical river city and contextual complementary. These aspects together are vital to the rehabilitation of the river, but, apparently the design approach is perceived as generating a typical design solution. This is analysed through the design components proposed for the project site. In this review, we are looking at practical solution and strong sequence of design approach that were taken into consideration for the rehabilitation effort to Sg. Klang. However, the graphic communication speaks the idea but the content is still insufficient to promote to designer's proposal. In other word, the design objective is unachievable. It is advisable that the designer look into the design content versus the concept ideas and site issues.

Bridging Royal + Nature

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

The student has done a thorough study on the analysis which is well explained in its synthesis and issue. A very good design process and approach of using Royale and Nature together as the concept. It is also a creative move by adapting the Sultan crown as a motive in the landscape design further to create a vertical landscape at the historical Kota Bridge is a bold action. The selection of plants that relates to the overall design was well explained. As a whole, the project is well presented.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The study focuses on an effort of marrying both significant aspects of royal and nature as a design concept. Reviewing the presentation boards, it is a challenge to marry both of this aspect and thus the final ending were just presenting the transformation of "keris" into design motives and other common detailing we had seen at ground. The designer's intelligence is better challenged in creating more interesting design analogy rather than literal thinking.

The Connection of Life

Muhammad Hijaz Sanusi

A good site analysis but more elements at the site can be observed like the existing vegetation, linkages and history. The issues at the site are well explained. The design process and design strategy are clearly presented and commendable.

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The study is considered a “surface” study in which it lacks the analytical findings and design ideas. Even though, there are linkages and connectors designed between places but the ideas are ‘typical’ design approach. In-depth study and creativity are needed in order to create more profound design ideas.

Didactic Room for River

Norliza Mohd Yusof

A thorough study made to the project site, and explicit explanation made via statements, design graphic, as well as programs and events planned for the place. The proposal addresses tangible and intangible solution to the redevelopment of Sg.Klang. The proposal also touches on physical development and social aspects of the community. In a physical (tangible) design approach, the design addresses the basic main factors of each subareas (rooms), i.e. riparian (natural design solution) used for water quality. The social (intangible) approach addresses the community needs and demands of outdoor spaces. Recognition shall be given to this study as it also highlighted the space function, the design that captured site problems and issues, the social needs of spaces for recreation activities as well as events lined up throughout the year to enlighten the designed spaces to fit the function. Therefore, this proposal presents a comprehensive study for rejuvenating the Klang Town through its river as well as sustaining the design ideas via programs and events. In general, the graphic communication is well arranged, and more importantly, successful in creating interesting readings to a reviewer. A comprehensive study is evident indeed.

Healing with Nature

Norliza Mohd Yusof

The design concept highlights its objective to mitigate the main issues, namely the Sg.Klang’s water quality. The study aims to redevelop and improve the water quality, as well as sustaining the river’s embankment by natural approach. In which, the concept statement “Healing with Nature” is the best approach, as this project site is classified under sensitive area. It is perceived that the design has taken into consideration the use of “nature” as a design solution and mitigation into the river redevelopment exercise. Introduction of riparian plantings in addition to creating green islands within/along the river are part of the efforts proposed in reducing the river’s pollution. A thorough

explanation of this approach is recommended though since without a clear explanation, the design's objective is unachievable. Graphically, the presentation is good, but it would be better if more thumbnail sketches on the site analysis and study are placed in the presentation board. They would explain the designer's thoughts and for supporting her/his design intent. The project shall present explicit understanding on river redevelopment and problem solving issues via natural approach and its program such as riparian approach using MASMA, filtration method, storm water drainage towards the river, slope and river bank erosion control, etc. These aspects are the crux of the project whereby without their further explanations, the design concept for the project is weakened considerably.