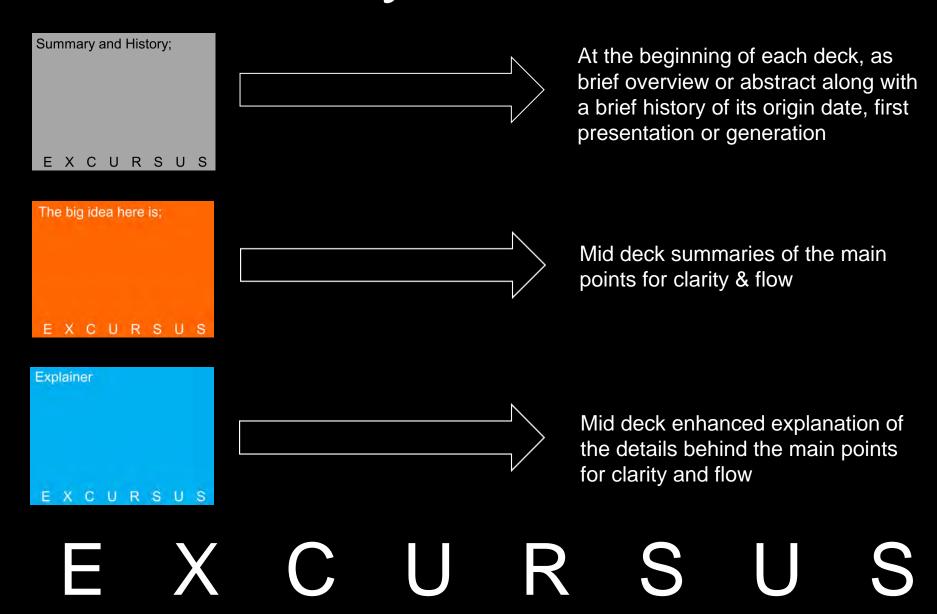
Lecture Keynotes



Summary and History;

In a first-ever collaboration between the City of Houston, the Architecture Center Houston (ArCH), and the Houston Chapter, American Institute of Architects is proud to announce Houston 2020 Visions, an exhibition celebrating innovative, visionary project proposals that seek to place design and sustainability at the heart of the conversation about planning for a more resilient future.

Cities find themselves at a historic crossroads, with broad consensus that humanity must change the way it plans and builds for the future. Half of the global population already lives in cities, and by 2050 that proportion is expected to balloon to two-thirds. Cities are challenged with growing populations and associated needs for affordable housing, transportation, and food access, in addition to a changing climate, unpredictable weather patterns, and global health crises.

Inspired by Houston's experience during Hurricane Harvey and other national disasters, the Houston 2020 Visions competition is a creative way to address some of these challenges with a focus on urban design and planning.

EXCURSUS

The big idea here is;

We used our entry into this competition to look at resiliency through the vehicle of the much proposed and postulated new "vertical warehouse" building type.

We saw the automation of access of autonomous operated trucks would be the core driver of the future form of warehousing. This technology drastically reduces land footprint size, allows bay doors on multiple levels and various clear heights.

When looked at from a multiple programming point of view we saw opportunities for these types of buildings to become accessible community gathering points during historic floods and disasters which frequent the gulf coast. Food, healthcare and housing could easily and readily transform the "empty vessel" program of this new technology driven building type.

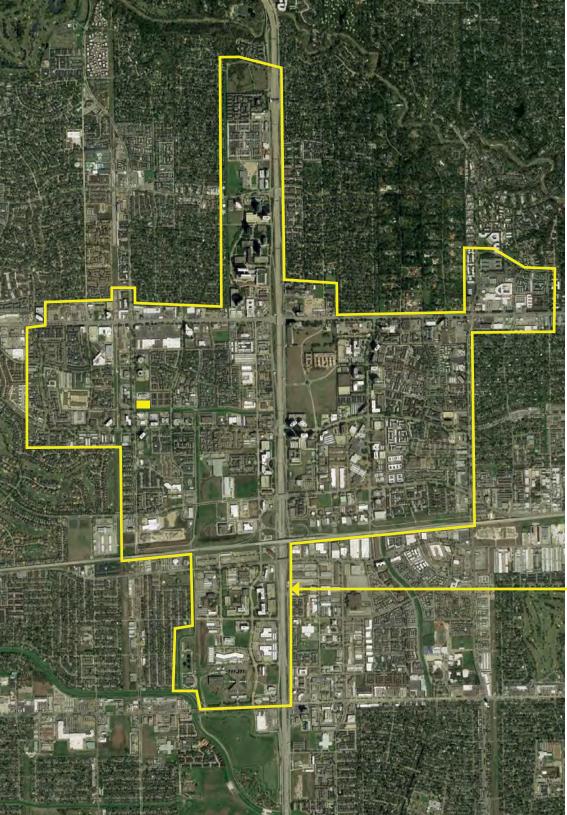
EXCURSUS

Large...

Westchase District is a 4.2 square mile territory at the geographic center of Houston's 2.2 million citizens. In 2009 we collaborated with the District in developing a long-range plan promoting sustainable community development and flood mitigation in a city averaging 40 feet above sea level. Our hydrologist calculated all future developments would require detention to avoid massive flooding. Our strategy capitalized on underutilized infrastructure boundaries not under private control given the 180 individual private deed restrictions controlling an unplannable private realm. We captured conveyance ditches feeding into the two water sheds, aerial easements and large setbacks within the right of ways of key boulevards. We envisioned these assets as a network of canals, linear public parks and detention banks organized in a new matrix creating a framework intersecting public-realm opportunities with private-sector development initiatives. Many of these projects have been realized over the last 10 years making the plan a living document.

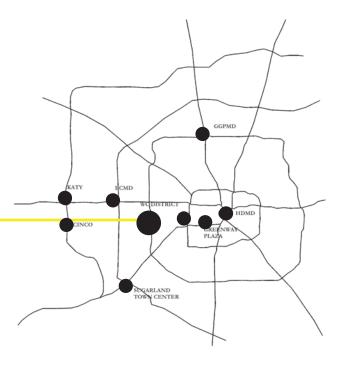
Medium...

We propose a speculative development on a 3.5 acre tract. Technology and "E" commerce are pressuring industrial development inward in support of last-mile delivery. The market forces this suburban building type towards a vertical strategy maximizing space while minimizing the land current mega-boxes need. Strategically located in highly populated areas with an abundance of flexible square feet, this evolving building type satisfies a market private sector demand while simultaneously acting as a platform to do 'double duty' as a provider of public support, nutrition and shelter in a post Harvey world that our plan could never anticipate.

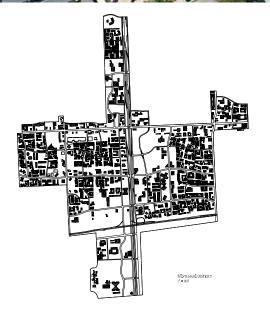


Westchase District

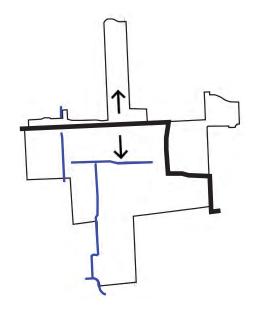
is a 4.2 square mile territory geographically located at the center of the most populated areas of Houston, Texas. In 2009 we re-framed the District with a long-range plan that promotes sustainable community development while mitigating flooding and water quality issues inherent in a city just forty feet on average above sea level.



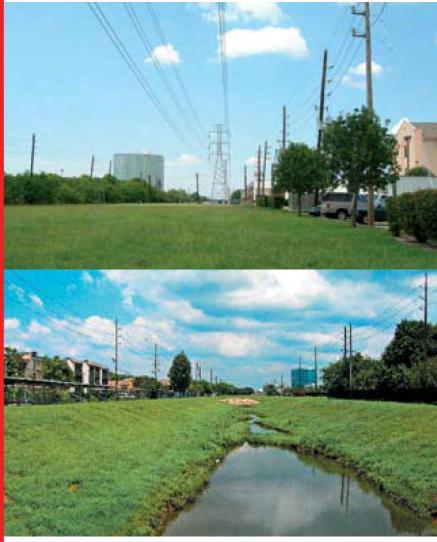




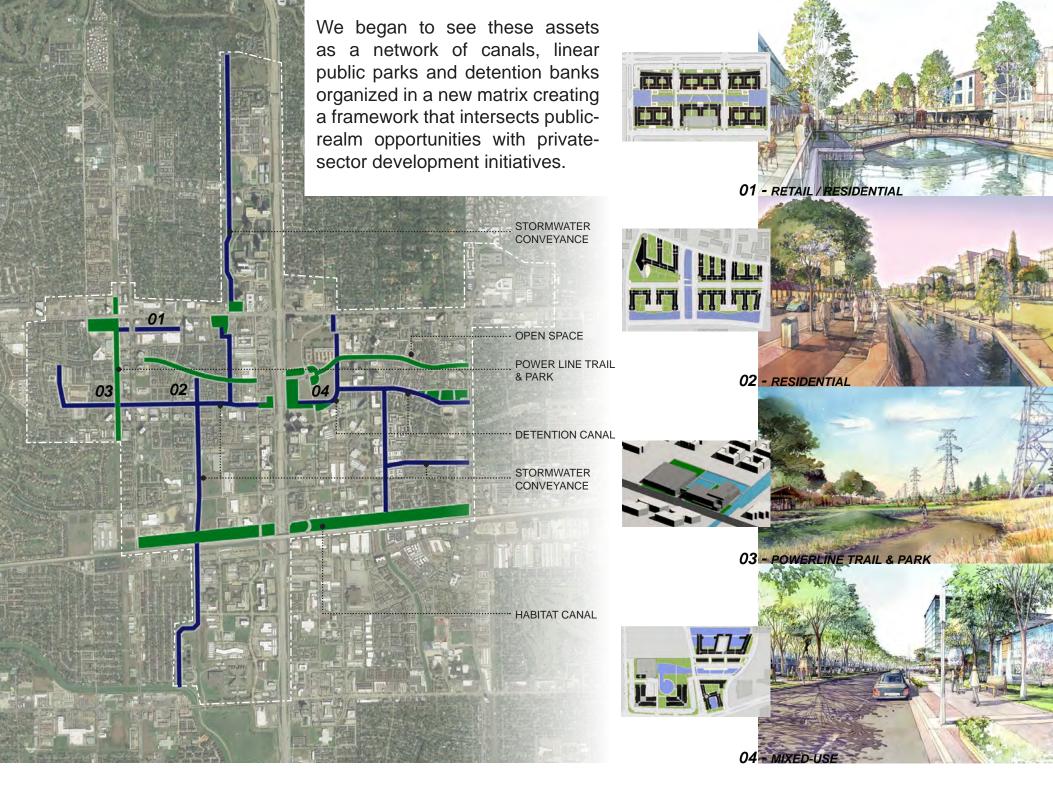
Office towers, strip centers, surface parking and aging apartment complexes within the District has forced all future development to require on-site detention due to downstream flooding.

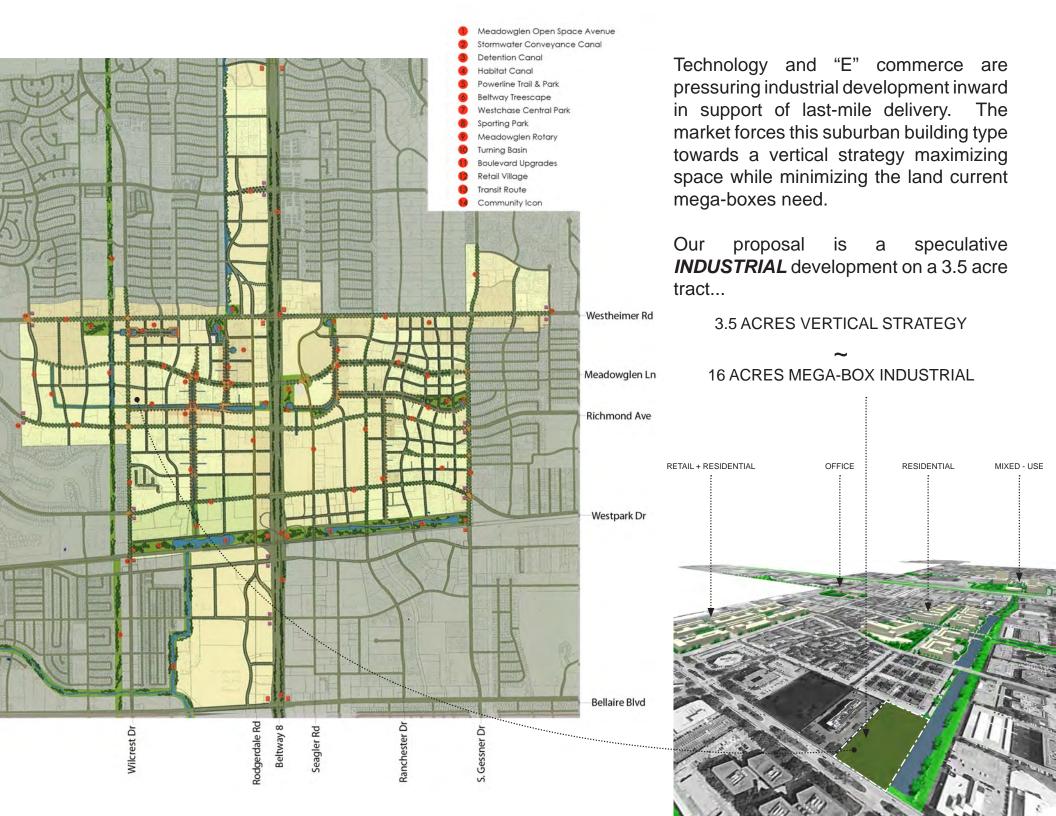


Impervious coverage to date simply drains into a series of ditches feeding into two bayous increasingly overwhelmed by the deferred capacity control.



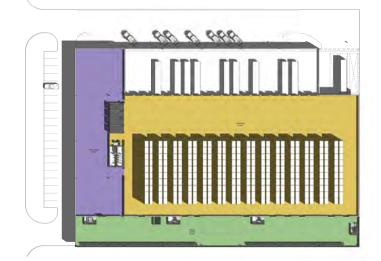
Our analysis revealed an **EXISTING NETWORK OF UNDERUTILIZED INFRASTRUCTURE**composed of ditches feeding into the two water sheds, several aerial easements and large setbacks within the right of ways of key boulevards.







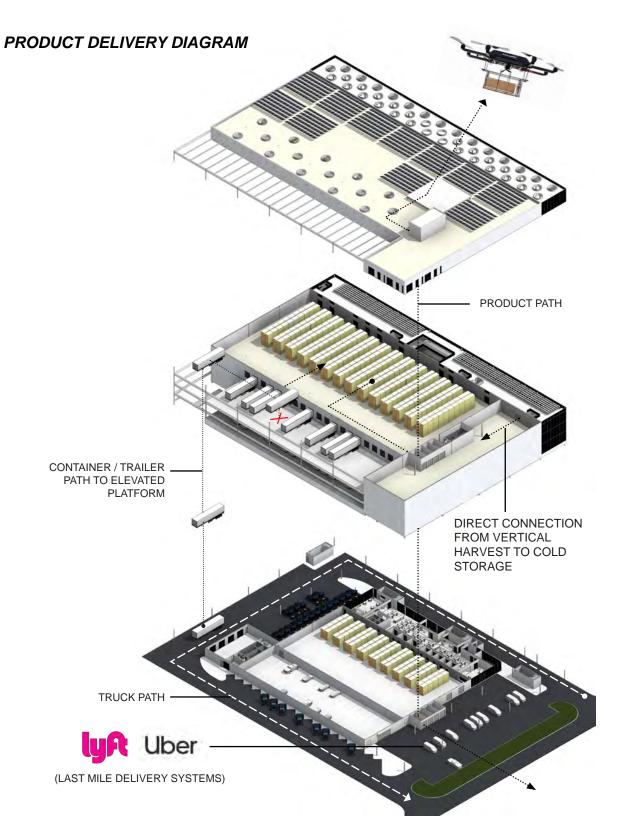
TYP URBAN FARM FLOOR PLAN

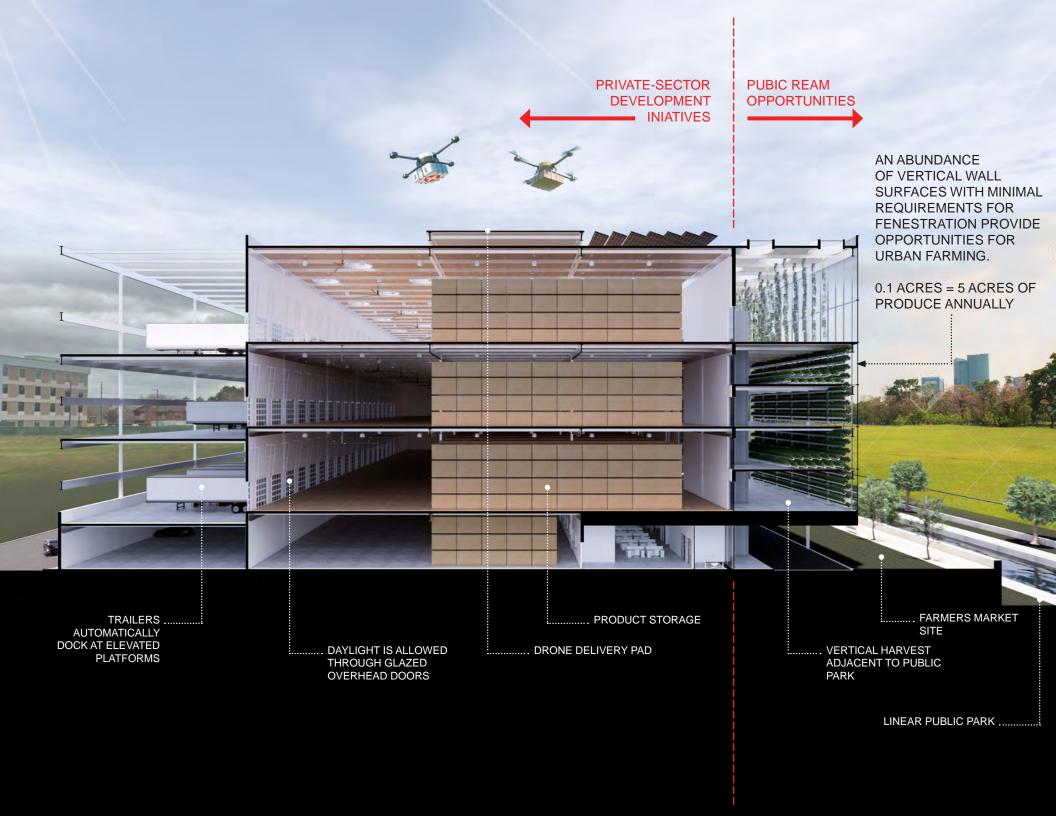


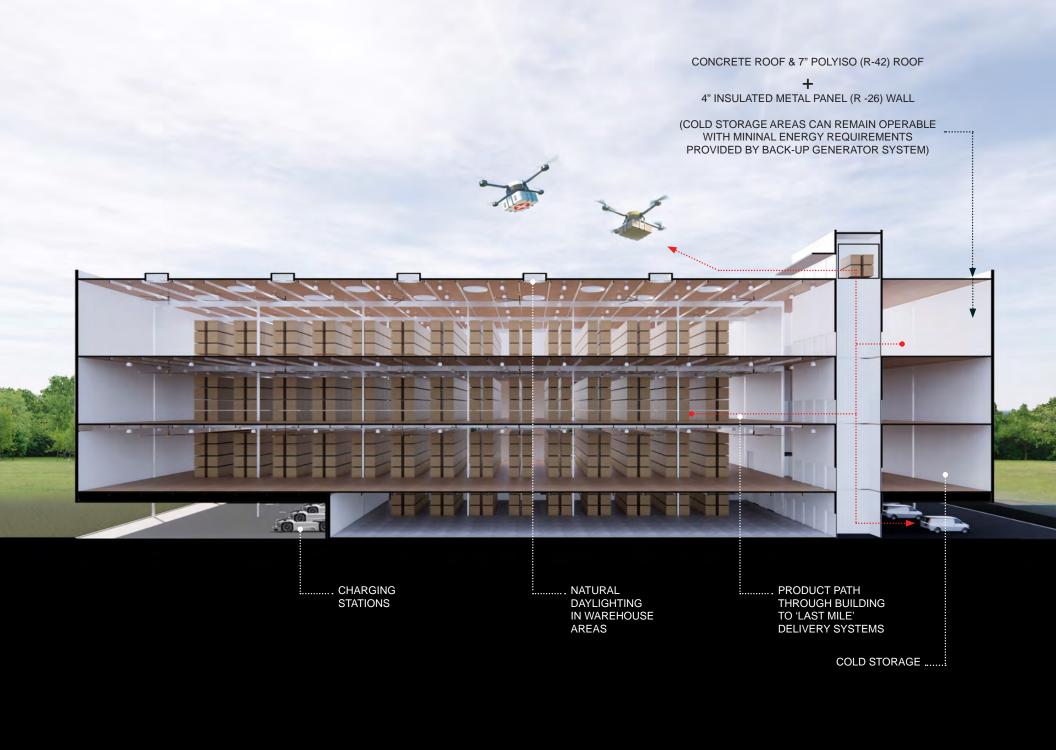
TYP LEVEL FLOOR PLAN



LEVEL 01 FLOOR PLAN

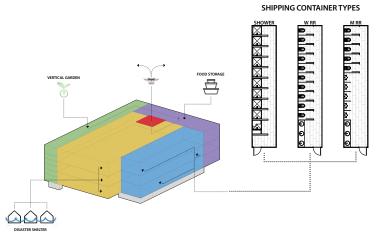








Strategically located in highly populated areas with an abundance of flexible square feet, this evolving building type satisfies a *MARKET PRIVATE SECTOR DEMAND*...



BUILDING USAGE DIAGRAM

PRODUCTS REMAIN DELIVERABLE WHEN RESIDENTS ARE UNABLE TO ACCESS TRADITIONAL GROCERY SITES

TEMP

RESTROOMS SHELTER

RESTROOMS SHELTER

RESTROOMS SHELTER

RESTROOMS SHELTER

While simultaneously acting as a platform to do 'double duty' as a provider of **PUBLIC SUPPORT, NUTRITION AND SHELTER** in a post Harvey world that our plan could never anticipate.

ABUNDANCE OF FLEXIBLE AREA PROVIDES SHELTER

TEMPORARY RESTROOM FACILITIES CAN BE DOCKED AT ELEVATED PLATFORMS

TYPICAL PRODUCTS REPLACED WITH EMERGENCY SUPPLIES







