

# PORTFOLIO

Sydney

Boston

Time, Space & City

Urban Design Framework

Buildings

History

Cinematic Space

Culture

LU LI

Urban Design & Development

UNSW

Australia

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NEW YORK



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LEATHER DISTRICT  
BOSTON



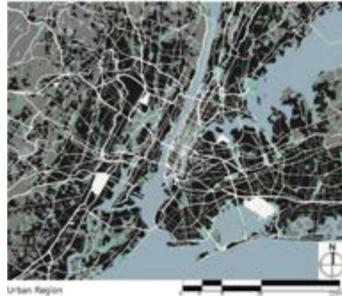
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# 1 WEST MIDTOWN NEW YORK 40°43'N



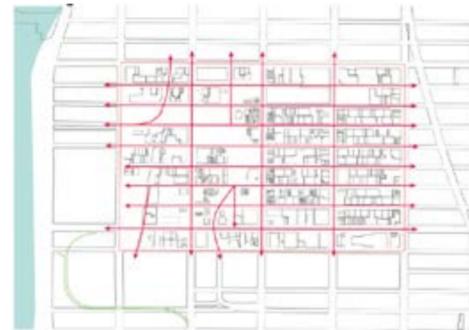
## INTRODUCTION

New York city (40°30'N-45°1'N) is the most populous city in the United States which located at the southern tip of the state of New York.

The selected site (west midtown is in the community district 4 and 5 which most of the land use is Transportation and Utility). The street life and the skyline of west side are disturbed by the manufacturing buildings and transport infrastructure as well as the new proposed Hudson Boulevard. The Manhattanism in this area is fading which should be reinforced in the design.

## VISION

The vision of this project is to inherit and enhance the Manhattanism characters, create a vibrant street life and community with sense of place in this area. The scope is redeveloping this area by transfer the air right from available lots and redesign the block with typical building forms.



Existing Roadnetwork



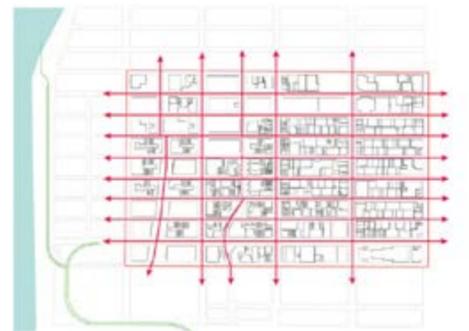
Existing Recreation



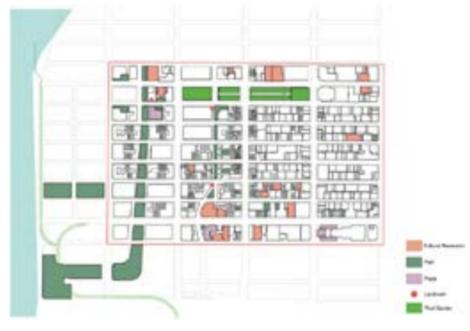
Existing Street Vitality



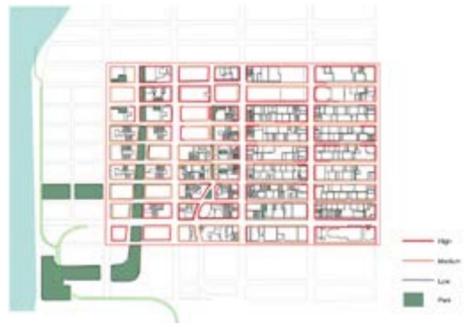
Existing Zoning



Proposed Roadnetwork



Proposed Recreation



Proposed Street Vitality



Proposed Zoning

## ISSUE

### Lost of Manhattanism

The Character of Manhattanism learned from the Fountainhead are skyline, window culture and theatre culture in west midtown, especially in Hell's kitchen district. These are the most representative.

### Flat Skyline

The skyline in the west side of Manhattan midtown is at and lack of Manhattanism characters. Especially the selected building type and proposed height in the Hudson Boulevard are in uence the skyline of west midtown.

### Sinking Window culture

The window culture is one of the most impressive character in New York city. In garment district and Hell's Kitchen district, this character still remain but it is sinking because of the rapid development.



Regional Transport and Development Analysis

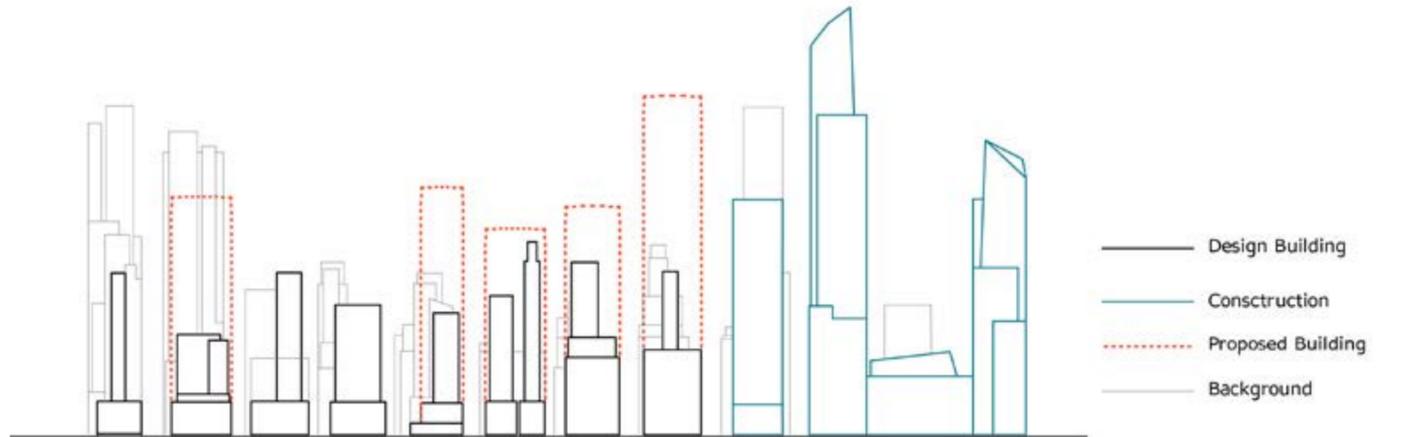


**STRATEGY**

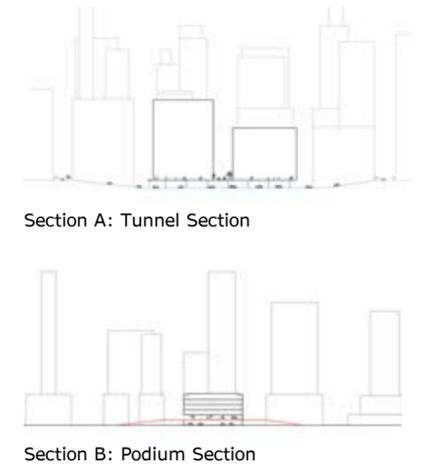
**Recover the grid and shortcut the long block**  
 The great grid is the most typical character of Manhattan urban fabric. The design creates green spaces upon the underground tunnel in 40th St, Dyer Ave and 35th St, 9th Ave, and modify the carriageway to follow the right-angle intersection trend. The design creates three mid-block types using Manhattan character building types mainly in 1920-1930s which we learn from the movie.

**Control the skyline- height and roof style**  
 Built landmark skyscrapers in the skyscraper corridor in 40-42nd St and 33-34th St. Reduce the building height in proposed Hudson Boulevard and transfer the air rights to increase the building height between 10th and 9th Ave, which can also provide a skyline transition from east to west. Use setback and tower buildings to increase Manhattan character in Skyline.

**Vibrant streets with different typical Manhattan character**  
 The proposal selects 42nd St as a theatre feature street, 40th St as a transition function street and 37th St as a garment window culture feature street. Recover the 9th Ave with Hell's Kitchen's building and street character, and improve 11th and 10th Ave by increasing building height along Ave side. Main design methods including widen sidewalk, encourage ground floor retail and continues small open space.



Westside Skyline



Sketch

## 2 SOUTH BAY, CHINATOWN, LEATHER DISTRICT BOSTON



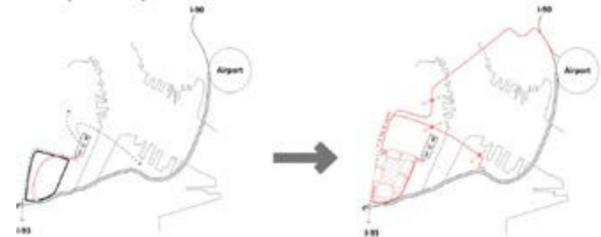
South Bay Interchange Circulation



Public Transportation



Tufts Medical Centre Identification



Site Condition

### SITE CONTEXT

The project site is 42.4 ha, which located next to South Station on the western side. Leather District has a grid system directly connected to South Station, and a historical fabric, which has been used as mixed-use office and residential functions. Chinatown is a historical neighborhood with significant cultural importance, which has a mixture of Asian culture and western culture. It also has included a large district of Tufts Medical Center. South Bay Interchange includes Interstate 90, Interstate 93 and the bus lane to Boston Logan International Airport.

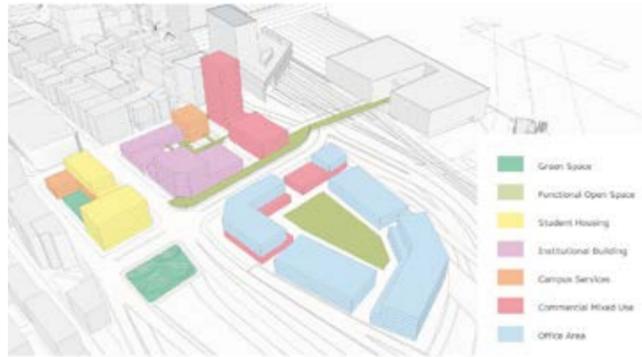


**ISSUE**

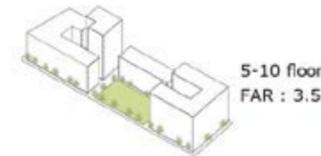
The MassDOT department has a proposal of air rights development in the South Bay Interchange area with high density developments. However, due to the extreme technical and financial challenge, the proposal has been delayed for a long time.

At the same time, the freeway interchange also creates constraints for other district developments. Roads in Chinatown are activated but really narrow and not welcoming for pedestrians.

The Tufts Medical Center has been expanded in Chinatown for a long time and holds a large space in Chinatown. The streets in Leather district are inactive because of the high traffic, narrow sidewalks and higher entry for the ground floor retail. There also is a lack of balance between green and grey infrastructure.



Interchange Development Landuse



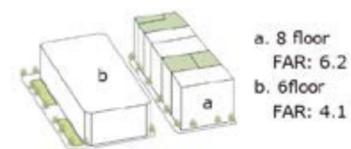
Chinatown Residential



Mixed-use Office Building



Air Rights Development Mixed Use

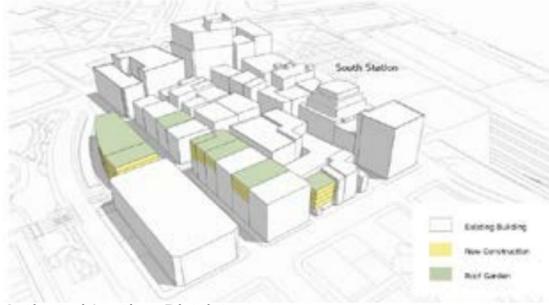


Leather District Mixed-use

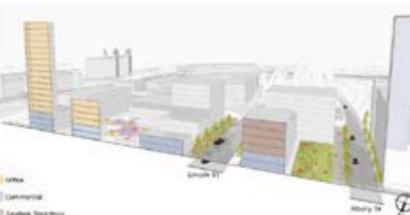
Block Types



Section AA' in 1:1000



Activated Leather District



Perspective Section of Air Rights Development



Section BB' in 1:1000

**STRATEGIES**

- Through adaptive design and upgrade of the historical site (Chinatown and Leather District) celebrate the cultural and historical value of the site.
- Achieve a larger air rights-development area through the reconstruction of the interchange.
- Create a mixed-use office and commercial district above the South Bay Interchange and have a good connection to the surrounding neighborhood.
- The main concept in developing Chinatown and Leather District area will be to create two spines, one east-west pedestrian spine connects through the cultural district to the South Station; and another north-south vehicle one connects through the Chinatown neighborhood to the surrounding neighbourhoods.
- The design over the air-rights development will more focused on the mix-use commercial development, and pedestrianize the streets to achieve the accessibility.
- Extend the green infrastructure to achieve a green system within the whole site and improve the livability of the neighbourhood.



# 3 Graphic Design

**Master of Urban Development & Design**  
Program Outline

The creative and collaborative design program involves two academic semesters plus a summer term, which includes a compulsory field placed and design studio in a transnational city.

The program seeks the synthesis of three fields of knowledge about the city – spatial, political, economic, financial or good city form and urban design. It is a public policy coursework in architectural, strategic, theoretical knowledge of economic, social, technological, and physical design. Collaborative is the first semester, moving to applied skills and implementation techniques toward the end of the year.

The program comprises eight core courses and one elective course. The compulsory year includes the lecture/seminar courses, three project based studios, and a summer course. Students are encouraged to select an elective from a list of complementary courses offered by the Faculty of Built Environment. Students may be permitted with the approval of the Program Director to better structured work towards other faculties of the University.

The summer term is devoted to the creative design studio, case study investigations, research projects, and critical reflection on the year's work through preparation of the annual exhibition and production of the MUCDD Film.

**Program of Study for Full-time Candidates:**

**Semester 1**  
UEE50001 Urban Design Studio 1 (100)  
UEE50004 Urban Theory of Urban Dev in UOD Elective 6 (100)

**Semester 2**  
UEE50002 Urban Design Studio 2 (100)  
UEE50008 Planning and Urban Dev 6 (100)  
UEE50009 Urban Landscape and Heritage 6 (100)

**Summer Term**  
UEE50003 Urban Design Studio 03 (100)  
UEE50004 Case Studies in UOD Dev and Design 6 (100)  
UEE50010 Communication in Urban Design 6 (100)

The 4 Semester MUCDD Extension Program has 4 modules:  
Module 1: 2016-2017 Research Seminar in Semester 1, UEE50011 Urban Design Research Project (2 (100) and 2  
Built Environment Theories in Semester 4

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Urban Development & Design  
2018

**Time Space And The City**

Sydney  
Lisbon  
Boston

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**UEE50010 Communication in Urban Design**  
This case course explores students' capabilities for graphic, written and verbal communication through the production of the annual MUCDD Film, Exhibition and associated online lecture in the Field Road Lecture in Urban Design. This sets in its context the field work and research of the year's work of the MUCDD Program in a creative, collaborative and critical context for the design culture of Sydney.

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# 4 Sketches

