
Section One: Introduction



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Gateway Design Plan

The concept of this study was generated by the SE Gateway Neighborhood CDC and the Urban Design Center of Syracuse was brought onto the team to help with design and to help with the visioning. It was agreed that the study's purpose is to create a design vision for a revitalized Gateway Commercial Neighborhood based on the desires of the business community and the MetroEdge economic analysis and findings of 2005. This Design Plan has evolved from meetings over the past two years with business and community leaders, and in part from a previous Community Charrette of the Gateway Neighborhood from 1999. This Design Plan has been developed by the Urban Design Center of Syracuse, a not for profit planning organization of Architects and Landscape Architects, working at times with the Schools of Architecture and Landscape Architecture of Syracuse University and SUNY Environmental Sciences and Forestry respectively.

This Design Plan presents a vision for a new neighborhood commercial & residential center [mixed use buildings] and corridor, creating a place where people want to live, work and shop, a cultural place where restaurants and music clubs abound with the variety of music and ethnic tastes. The vision for this neighborhood center will visualize rebuilding a missing link between our downtown and the residential neighborhoods of our City's Southside Gateway community. This vision will utilize the planning principles of traditional town and city neighborhood commercial centers like North Salina Street, Eastwood and Harlem. This plan utilizes a mixed-use blend of businesses, stores, restaurants with residential and office space on the upper floors. With residential neighborhoods to the east, south and west, and the Downtown to the north, this Gateway commercial center will not only become a convenient place to shop, but with a variety of entertainment and dining choices, this area will become a desired place to live.



A farmers market



A active public realm

Section Two: Community Design Charrette



Section Two : Community Charrette - Summer 1999

Much of the strength of the not-for-profit Urban Design Center comes from its volunteers. Both the design professionals and the students from Syracuse University who participate in outreach to our community by helping to study pressing urban problems and applying good design.

Members from all five supporting organizations of the Urban Design Center of the participated in and made successful the first pilot project. This was a study of an economically stressed neighborhood on Syracuse's South Side called the Southeast Gateway area by city agencies mobilizing private and public resources to begin a revitalization of this key neighborhood. The project team at the Center met many times with the neighborhood organizations and also toured the Gateway area documenting the concerns of the residents as well as to consider the visionary ideas coming from the locals trying to determine where these might be best located to enhance the urban fabric.

Part of the preliminary analysis of the Gateway neighborhood included looking back to a time in the 1890's when the area was densely populated and many more shops and businesses were located there. This allowed for a look at the originating urban fabric of the neighborhood. Identifying characteristics became very evident like the old street pattern, the general size of the buildings, patterns of building setbacks, sideyards & backyards, patterns of mixed use, categories of mercantile shops versus industrial uses and so on. Several neighborhood meetings conducted during the summer of 1999 gathered a list of sorts of desired new shops, parks, services, cultural functions and recreation needs.

A consensus developed within the project team at the Design Center that the proposals for new projects needed to be grouped together and assigned to very different areas of the neighborhood so that some functions did not tear at the urban fabric but reinforced it. The Design Center decided to take two approaches to grouping the desired uses. One approach would ultimately be assigned the heading of **Urban Village** and the second grouping



Gateway Models on Display- Prof David Gamble discussing the design

would be assigned the heading of **Business Center**. There would be commercial uses in both groups as well as residential uses in both but of appropriate type and compatible to the portion of the neighborhood assigned.

The **Business Center** was assigned the section of South Salina Street from Burt Street down to Kennedy Street and the **Urban Village** was assigned to Oakwood Avenue from the Railroad overpass to the Martin Luther King Elementary School.

The Urban Design Center [UDC] organized the next step for the study to



include a day-long Community Charrette to be held at the Syracuse Housing Authority's Central Village Youth Center on Van Buren Street. A Saturday was

selected and September 14th, 1999 was advertised with handouts and announcements in local newsletters to get area residents to participate in the Charrette. With assistance from the City of Syracuse Department of Community Development and the Syracuse Housing Authority the Charrette drew some sixty participants.

Information Booklets were prepared for handouts the day of the Charrette to all participants volunteers and citizens alike. Three Charrette Teams were organized with two assigned to work on the Business Center and one to work on the Urban Village. Charrette Team Leaders were Tom Anderson and Matt Broderick, AIA, for the Business Center Teams #1 & #2 respectively and Dean Biancavilla, AIA, for the Urban Village Team #3. UDC Associate Director Robert M. Haley, Jr, AIA circulated as a monitor for both Teams #1 and #2.

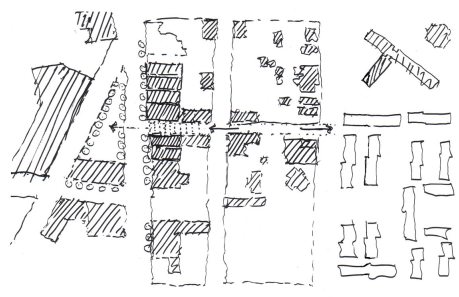
A short introduction and orientation was given that Saturday morning by UDC Director Dean Biancavilla to all Charrette participants. Presentations were made of the information boards, maps, booklets so that all present had an understanding of the agenda for the day as well as the

desired goal for what resultant sketches would come from the study.

Architects, Landscape Architects, students, neighborhood residents, shop owners, area ministers, and local officials all worked side by side in looking at the graphic layouts of the two areas under study in the Gateway neighborhood. Even two city common councilors participated in the Charrette.

At the end of a very productive day sketch solutions were developed for the three teams and summary pin-up was performed at the end to show everyone the how the proposals would work in context. A large scale model was produced by the Students that showed the existing neighborhood as well as small scale models of the proposals the day fo the Charrette.

The City of Syracuse has begun to incorporate the design suggestions that came out of this successful community charrette and the process is being used as a model for future efforts. The Urban Design Center is preparing and exhibit of the material of the Charrette in order to share it with all city residents interested in improving the quality of urban life and the quality of urban neighborhoods.



Sketch Plan from Charrette 1999



The excerpt below was from a Syracuse University publication in 2000 on the student work at the School of Architecture in conjunction with the Urban Design Center.

FALL 1999

Project: SOUTH SIDE: AN URBAN VILLAGE

Partners:

Residents of the Southside neighborhood
The Urban Design Center - Central New York Chapter of the AIA

Participants:

Faculty: David Gamble, Asst. Professor, Architecture
CNY/AIA: Dean Biancavilla, AIA
Robert Haley Jr., AIA
Matt Broderick, AIA
Thomas Anderson, AIA

This project included representatives from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and local residents working together with 25 architecture students, a public affairs student, an interior design student and a landscape architect from SUNY ESF.

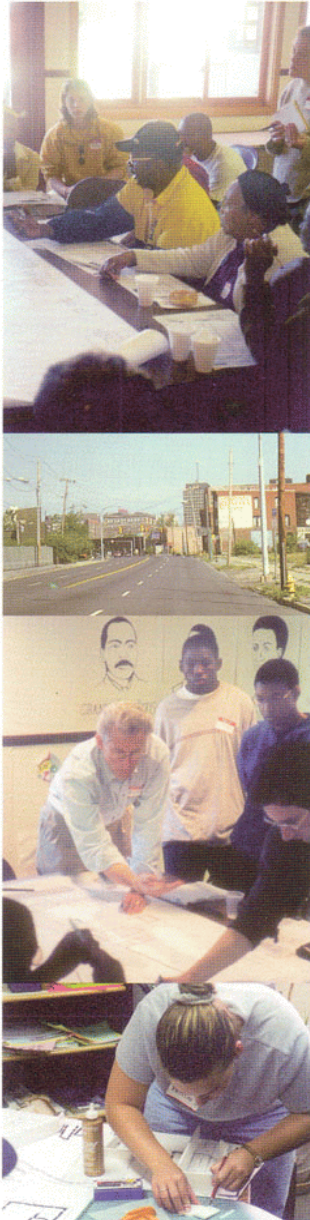
Students (29):

Sophomores - Katherine Easterly, Christine Hostettler, Jacalyn Price, Nicholas Saponara

Juniors - Melissa Biffer, Charlotte Chan, Patrick Cunningham, Pamela Meyer (Maxwell), Kristin Schumaker, Daniel Sullivan, Jabali Williams

Seniors - Susie Chung, Candace Corbin, Jessica Creedon, Sara Felsen, Malik Goodson, Brian Neely, Thor Nelson, Kristin Rose, Peter Rust, Sara Sachs, Emily Smith, Jon Wharton, Heidi Zielstorff

Graduates - Alfonso Becerra, James Creveling (ESF), David Enriquez, Joseph Ho (TA), Kwang (Steven) Koh

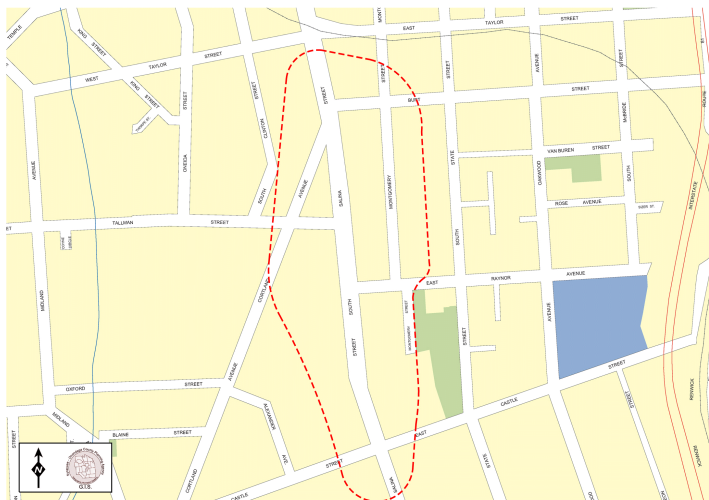


Section Two : Community Steering Committee Meetings - Summer 2004

As a follow-up to the planning steps of 1999-2000 the steering committee asked the Urban Design Center to work on a Design Plan for the South Salina Street Corridor. This Plan would be developed after several meetings and workshops with the Steering Committee and include design suggestions for what infill development might look like in physical form if it was to strengthened neighborhood fabric.

- Area to be the South Salina Corridor from Burt Street down to Castle Street
- Suggestions developed as templates for further south and other areas
- Build on previous work done from the 1999 community charrette and the 2000 Gateway Report to enable a submission to SNI fund

The Map below highlights the area which was the focus of the meetings and visioning during the summer of 2004



Date: July 9, 2004
Not to Scale

UDC - Gateway Project
Context Map One

The map below was developed to summarize the information coming out of the meetings and the previous Gateway Report 2000



The sketch above was developed to show the idea of an Urban Park