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LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & REGIONAL PLANNING STUDIO AND STUDENT RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY

Title

SPRINGFIELD'S "X" – FROM CROSSROADS TO CENTER

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Abstract

The work explores a community service learning strategy within the framework of two urban design studios with the goal of revitalizing the city of Springfield, Massachusetts, through design, planning, and engagement with the community. The studio worked in the Forest Park neighborhood around the "X" – on the intersection of three major street arteries. Our study contains a diverse catalogue of strategies to make the Forest Park Neighborhood a better place to live, work, and recreate where the most important streets meet. Through rerouting of the traffic patterns around the "X" the number of pedestrian crossings is increased and the possibilities enhance bikeability and walkability are largely enhanced. Other opportunities are created: places for local neighborhood commerce, new places for arts and culture, and housing close to the "X" and the greatest jewel: Forest Park.

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