2019 AAO Design Matters Conference
Top-Down + Bottom-Up
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University of Hawai‘i Community Design Center
government interest

= public sector practice

public interest
“We are an independent charity and the government’s advisor on design.”

The Design Economy

£71.7bn

Design’s contribution to the UK economy is £71.7bn in gross value added (GVA), equivalent to 7.2% of UK total GVA

41%

Workers with a design element to their work were 41% more productive than the average
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The Design Economy
The value of design to the UK

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THE MAYOR’S OFFICE OF NEW URBAN MECHANICS

“We work across departments and communities to explore, experiment, and evaluate new approaches to government and civic life.”

WHO ARE WE?
The Mayor’s Office of New Urban Mechanics (MONUM) was formed in 2010 and serves as the City’s research and design lab. Under the leadership of Mayor Walsh, we have expanded the breadth of our research and design work to cover a vast range of issues and mayoral priority areas, including housing, public health, civic engagement, racial equity, city infrastructure, and education. While we work across a variety of topic areas, all of our projects aim to serve the same goal: to improve the quality of life for Bostonians.

WHAT DO WE DO?
MONUM exists to take risks that traditional City departments might not be able to take. Every experiment we undertake starts with a question. When an experiment works, we partner with departments to make it a permanent service – such as ParkBoston and the Engagement Center. When an experiment doesn’t work out, we document what we learned and share our findings with our partners and cities around the world.

In addition to these experiments, MONUM also acts as a “front door” for start-ups, universities, and residents wanting to experiment with the City. We mentor other cities – as close as Somerville, MA and as far as Cluj, Romania – on specific projects or broadly on innovation offices in their local governments. Our team is a ragtag group of entrepreneurs, just as diverse as our project portfolio; we lend our varied backgrounds, training, and experience to each of our projects.
Supporting the state’s capital improvement project (CIP) process

1. **Public agency identifies project idea/need**
   - CIP

2. **CIP + UHCDC**
   - **UHCDC**
     - Proof of concept process

3. **Public agency justifies funds to State Legislature**
   - **Public agency hires professional design team**

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- **Design teams respond to a well-informed and well-defined RFP based on a thorough understanding of project context, needs, goals, requirements.**
- **Public agency can better assess and select design team to meet project context, needs, goals, requirements.**
How does this help architects?

1. PROJECT IDEA
COMMUNITY NEED
AGENCY PRIORITY

2. UHDCD PROOF OF
CONCEPT

3. REQUEST FOR
FUNDING FOR
PLANNING, DESIGN
CONSTRUCTION

4. PROFESSIONAL
PLANNING +
ENTITLEMENT
WORK

5. PROFESSIONAL
DESIGN
PROCESS

6. CONSTRUCTION
PHASES

The proof of concept process increases the understanding of the project context, needs, goals, and requirements through:

- Stakeholder alignment
- Community engagement
- Needs assessment
- Social research
- Cultural research
- Ecological research
- Urban research
- Development studies
- Infrastructure assessment
- Programming
- Prototypes/models
- Initial costs and feasibility
- Design explorations
- Visualizations/renderings
What is the proof of concept process?

Alignment
- Understand project problem and needs.
  - Stakeholder engagement
  - Literature review
  - Project definition

Engagement
- Understand context of project by learning more about the place, people, behaviors, uses, needs.
  - Stakeholder interviews
  - Workshops
  - Surveys
  - End-user research
  - Co-design
  - User observation
  - Field observation
  - Programming

Applied Research
- Perform and collaborate with university departments and professionals to develop research material applied to the challenges of the project or design problem.
  - Urban
  - Ecological
  - Social
  - Cultural
  - Political
  - Economic
  - Building Performance
  - Modeling
  - Visualization
  - Material Research
  - Engineering
  - Social Sciences

Design Options
- Synthesize research through the design process.
  - Drawings
  - Renderings
  - Models

Prototype
- Develop prototypes to test and see.

Output
- Articulate design options, requirements, or issues for the project based on proof of concept findings and design process.
  - Design options
  - Design criteria
  - Design standards
  - Presentation
  - Exhibition
  - Prototype
  - Preliminary Costs
Who do we work with?

UNIVERSITY

Scholar School of Business
Department of Urban & Regional Planning
Hawaiian Studies
Public Policy Center
Social Science Research Institute
College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
Sea Grant Colleges
Institute for Sustainability and Resilience
Office of Administration
Institute for Astronomy
Applied Research Laboratory
Cancer Center
Outreach Colleges
UH West Oahu
UH Hilo
Honolulu Community College
Kapiolani Community College
Maui Community College

GOVERNMENT

Legislators
Government Officials
Department of Education
Department of Public Safety
Department of Agriculture
Hawaii Public Housing Authority
State Foundation for Culture and the Arts
Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism
Office of State Planning
C&G Honolulu Dept. of Design and Construction
C&G of Honolulu Office of Land Development
C&G of Honolulu Mayor’s Office

LOCAL COMMUNITY

Hawaiian Aina
Hawaii Public Radio
Hawai'i Community
Hawaii Residents
Local Business
Community Associations
Hawaii Visitors
Neighborhood Boards
Nonprofit Organizations

PROFESSIONAL

Developers
Cost Estimators
Cultural Advisors
Architects
Engineers
Public sector aims to serve 100% of the public.
Align priorities and strategies

+ convene stakeholders
+ align city and state agencies
+ engage communities
Assess statewide systems

+ provide needs assessments
+ conduct surveys
+ develop program/space inventories
Help organize

+ streamline processes
+ organize data
+ communicate visually
Connect to research

+ empirical data
+ social science research
+ community engaged research
+ best/new practices
Develop guidelines, criteria, best practices

+ performance
+ equity
+ cultural competency
+ placemaking
+ community building
Visualize scenarios

+ sea level rise scenarios
+ TOD development scenarios
+ zoning envelope studies
+ multi-agency configurations
Build a business case

+ pro forma
+ revenue generating ideas
+ revenue neutral
Prepare RFP/RFQs

+ compiling base information
+ defining goals
+ establishing guiding principles
+ creating RFP templates
Optimize existing resources

+ optimize
+ repair
+ reprogram
+ re-use
Impact on teaching

Community engaged design processes
- community workshops
- public presentations
- action research

Teaching and research integration
- more stakeholder collaboration
- visits, tours
- students continue on projects as interns

Multi-departmental team teaching
- Planning + Architecture
- Architecture + Engineering

Public Private Partnership driven
- studios explore revenue models
- developer engaged
- pro forma driven
2017 BUILDING VOICES DESIGN FESTIVAL DESIGN SYMPOSIUM DESIGN COMPETITION DESIGN EXHIBITION
April 20-22 2017

The School of Architecture and UHDCG gathered over 40 local and global experts across disciplines for 3 days of conversation featuring an international design competition, exhibition, and full day symposium at the state capitol.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES INITIATIVE: PANEL
February 21, 2018

This panel invited the co-founder of University of Oregon’s Sustainable Cities initiative and collaborators from the university to discuss models for university wide collaboration.

WAAPAHI TALK STORY
April 12, 2018

Community members, state and city representatives, and neighborhood organizations were invited to share ideas and information on the development of the slate parcels surrounding the Pohalalal rail station.

HONOLULU COMMUNITY COLLEGE SUMMER ENGINEERING ACADEMY - VISIT AND WORKSHOP
July 2018

UHDCG hosted a half day visit and Poster Design Challenge for high school students participating in the Honolulu Community College Summer Engineering Academy program.

WAAPAHI FRESHWATER PARK COMMUNITY MEETING
July 2018

WAAPAHI FRESHWATER PARK COMMUNITY CHARrette
October 2018

A NEW PLATFORM FOR COMMUNITY DESIGN IN HAWAI‘I: AIA MONTHLY MEETING
November 7, 2018
AIA Honolulu Center for Architecture

UHDCG panelists joined AIA membership for monthly meeting to share projects and practices that reflect the ways that Hawai‘i’s context has shaped a unique proof-of-concept model for community design.

2018 DECOLONIZING CITIES SYMPOSIUM
November 9-10, 2018

The second Decolonizing Cities symposium focuses on practices of indigenous urbanism, and how the urban is and should be an arena for indigenous placemaking. This symposium is co-sponsored by Department of Urban and Regional Planning, the University of Hawai‘i Community Design Center and the UH Kamehameha‘ulukana Center for Hawaiian Studies.

901 RIVER STREET IDEAS SHARING EVENT
November 10, 2018

ARCH 245 students hosted a public workshop to gather ideas on the re-programming of vacant commercial space located near the Chinatown rail station.

PROOF OF CONCEPT: PUBLIC-PUBLIC PARTNERSHIPS AT WORK
February 19, 2019
Hawaii State Capitol

A presentation and exhibition of University of Hawai‘i Community Design Center work in service to the state.

PAN PAI WOW
April 12, 2018
UH Mānoa School of Architecture

AIAS and UHDCG partnered on a PAN event which gathered students from Architecture, Urban and Regional Planning, and Engineering.

BOWLING WITH BODIES W/ AIA YAF
June 13, 2019

2018 BUILDING VOICES: HOUSING FOR ALL
September 30 - October 1 2019

Housing for All gathers Christopher Hawthorne, David Baker FAIA, Marsha Mayum FAIA, Marc Alexander, Councilmember Carol Fukunaga, Hakim Ouansafi, Kevin Asper, Kevin Miyamura AIA, Andrew Neuman, Victoria Takamine, Jonathan Lee AIA, Karla Siuamataa AIA, and Brian Strean AIA to discuss tools that advance access to housing.
Design with government

- communicate with legislators
- align priorities with government priorities
- connect to university resources
- leverage design curricula
- reconnect design thinking and environmental design
- advocate-for-design to agent-of-design