

CONNECTING!!!! (what planners are supposed to do)

Filling in the Blanks created by the myriad of projects centering on Martin Luther King and Northside Drive

Cross-disciplinary Planning and Design Framework Studio

CP 6052 md Fall 2013 MWF 2-6 (mike.dobbins@coa.gatech.edu)

This studio will focus on the Falcons Stadium, Multimodal Passenger Terminal, Georgia World Congress Center, and their physical and policy connections and impacts with and upon each other, the Atlanta University Center, Vine City, English Avenue and Castleberry Hill neighborhoods, and Downtown. At least some of these projects and initiatives appear certain to happen, yet so far each is inwardly focused. Thus how they might connect to each other in terms of a multimodal transportation system, in terms of development mix, in terms of urban design and regulatory frameworks, in terms of benefits to the surrounding communities, and in terms of environmental and health impacts remains, remarkably, unexplored territory. The Northside Drive studio and follow-up have identified this highly charged area as ripe for the kinds of work where our students can make a useful contribution.

Most of the above divergent interests have coalesced around the mantra that the outcomes for all need to be "transformational." Thus the studio will provide students the opportunity to apply their knowledge in support of the range of stakeholders' aspirations to achieve improvements over their current circumstances, from neighborhoods in hard times to developers whose resources need to address needs beyond their property lines. The studio will host stakeholders' sessions to guide the work, one early on to review the scope, another to review the findings and analyses underway, and a final one to share proposals.

The studio will incorporate interdisciplinary principles, processes and interactions that are fundamental to the design of places for people. The weave between policy, planning, housing and community development, urban design, architecture, transportation planning and engineering, environmental and landscape design, and land development will provide the disciplinary context for the studio. Thus, the studio encourages participation from the full range of specializations, including the range of dual degrees.

