

lightBOX

THE BIG VISION

(See diagrams on the upper left of presentation board)

What if the traditional town square was transformed into the idea of the neighborhood squares, where everyday activities can create the new hub for social life. Each square gives a variety of program to the neighborhood and can act as the neighborhood 'living rooms' where movies, plays, weddings, farmers markets, art events, festivals, and holiday events can play out. The once underutilized fire alarm service building can be revitalized into a public amenity and at the center a beacon placed over the top of it can act as the focal point for these neighborhood activities. The existing historic fire alarm service building is given a new prominence in the neighborhood; when closed at night it acts as the neighborhood 'Light box'. Sloping one of the neighborhood squares toward the 'Light box' provides accessibility and doubles as seating for movie nights and performances; on the inside, the upper floor is transformed from a coworking and coffee shop into a night lounge.

PROGRAM

(See diagrams to the middle left of presentation board for select programs and site plan)

The variety of programs at the newly designed Winn Park allows it to be active during days, nights, weekends, and holidays. An area dedicated to kids allows them to play in fountains, on the grass, rock climb, slide, and lay in a large netted hammock underneath a tree. Others can play bocce ball, run the track, or have yoga/fitness gatherings on the grass. People in the neighborhood can play with their dogs at the dog park, BBQ for weekend birthday parties, holidays, or picnics, or attend farmers markets and food truck events. Diverse seating arrangements offer a variety of places to eat lunch for the community that works in the area. When formal events, such as marriage ceremonies are not in occurrence, the rose garden near the main entrance of 'Light Box' can be enjoyed. During the day, a coworking and coffee bar is active on the second floor of the existing building. On the lower floor, a restaurant serves people to the outside where outdoor dining activates the surrounding areas. At night, a movie or neighborhood performance can occur at 'Light Box', and inside, the second floor transforms into a lounge.

HISTORIC CONNECTION

Instead of creating something that would be the main attraction and potentially take away from the historic building, the idea of 'Light box' is to create a framework around the building. A new significance is given to the historic building by creating a box in the

same proportion as the existing fire alarm building. The large scale of 'Light box' gives a new prominence and magnifies the buildings historical presence.

Inside, where the coworking and night lounge are located, (top right rendering on presentation board) the light blue colored room wrapping the existing fire alarm panels is a box inside of a box; a translucent box inside of the historic box, inside of 'Light box'. The polycarbonate 'box' lights up at night, which showcases the fire alarm panels. The light blue translucent material is also used on the exterior stair enclosure and is a contemporary interpretation of the glass block to the art deco building.

MATERIALS AND BUILDING COMPONENTS

Looking at structures that would allow for relatively large spans with affordability in mind, 'Light box' is made of aluminum truss system components, similar to what are used at concert venues, wrapped in a translucent fabric, allowing it to glow at night. This makes it affordable and extremely quick to build and engineer. 'Light box' is lit up white from the inside at night and the historic building is lit in different colors, enhancing the presence of both in the neighborhood (as seen in the movie night rendering). This also allows for movies to be projected onto the surface at night. During the day when 'Light box' is open, a set of large format garage doors wrapped in translucent fabric roll up and act as awnings; making it more affordable than other custom design options. The existing historic building is rehabilitated and painted, restoring its historic character. The translucent box at the coworking and lounge on the second floor and the exterior stair enclosure, as previously discussed, is made from polycarbonate sheets that are backlit during the night resembling the existing glass block.