the inner-city neighborhoods of chengnan

methods

Understanding Xin Qiao

1 Outreach: Building relationships in Xinqiao

- 2 Research: Compiling community input
- 3 Analysis: Identifying community priorities
- 4 Inventing options: Proposing opportunities based on community input 5 Facilitating future action: Distributing pamphlets on the participatory

process and our findings to the community.

IDENTIYING XIN QIAO as the focus of our project was only the first step. Building on the context provided by the research compiled about Chengnan,we proceeded with the project through the following steps:





Outreach: Building relationships in Xin Qiao

Reaching out to a variety of community organizations and residents in Xin Qiao was essential for a valid analysis. Initial contact included formal requests for a meeting and informal visits to the neighborhood to talk with residents and business owners.

Research: Compiling community input

The process of compiling data from the community included dividing ourselves into business and residents groups; reaching consensus on appropriate interview questions; and The creation of an interview form to assist in information collection during the interviews. Photographs were taken and observations were written to supplement the answers to the interviews.

Analysis: Identifying community priorities

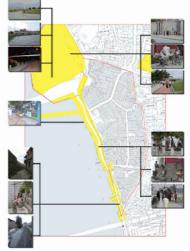
Our team agreed upon a grassroots approach to identify community priorities. The process was an interactive workshop that compiled data and observations from each member of the team. By categorizing the data and observations and then identifying the priorities as indicated by this compilation of information, we attempted to avoid fitting information into preconceived categories. The highly interactive nature of this process also proved a means to ease the language and cultural barriers within our team.



Inventing options: Proposing opportunities based on community input

Sketches were made to represent ideas for projects that could assist in meeting the community needs and desires. The intent of the sketches was not to propose a final design, but to serve as a visual cue for facilitating further discussion.





CONNECTING OPEN SPACE WITH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Facilitating future action: Distributing pamphlets on the participatory process and our findings to the community.

The participatory process begun by our team in Xin Qiao cannot be carried on without the leadership and participation of the community and the government. Because we were not able to finish our original intent of completing the full process, we desired a means to continue the process. We produced two pamphlets to facilitate future participation and inspire local champions of the process. One pamphlet describes the participatory process while the other describes the findings made by our team specific to Xin Qiao.



