

efforts to educate people that a “kill” is a creek. So one clear success is that the public is invited, in very accessible ways, to understand what is happening on Staten Island in order to build support for the project. About its resiliency: although the competition scheme has been subject to an extraordinary amount of public input and design review, it’s been able to use this feedback and still maintain its sensibility: the capacity to handle and process change through its organizational logic.

Downsview Park is the second largest redevelopment site in Toronto at 620 acres, half slated for park and half for development to support the park. Its promise is to be economically and ecologically sustainable. What matters here in Bruce Mau’s “scheme as logo” is the successful use, over the past seven years, of consumerism in service of environmentalism. So, both examples pertain to urban design as pre-design—representation, advocacy, communication, consensus-building—an extraordinarily important territory for designers.

SAUNDERS: So public participation is a key to urban design success?

CZERNIAK: Not just any form of public participation, but strategic input and feedback orchestrated by a designer.

SAUNDERS: Yes. Shall we continue our journey around the room? Matt?

URBANSKI: First, in the projects that I’ve worked on, success has come only after the passage of lots of time. Second, these projects are more strategy and process than object. Urban designers ignore landscape at their peril. I think they ignore building exteriors at their peril too.

KRIEGER: And you could say the interior too.

URBANSKI: To go back to your Turbine Hall example. I would suggest that it’s not the most recent architects of the hall that make it a great space. It’s the fact that there was a strategy to reuse an industrial building that happens to be as great on the inside as Grand Central Station and make it into a public space.

KRIEGER: It may not be entirely the architect, but you can’t say the architect had nothing to do with it.