Proposition: Course Objectives

With a focus on urban sustainability, the proposition of this studio is the development of a prototype for a fast-charge EV station that will be an integral part of a new transportation infrastructure based on fully electric vehicles. Federal and State agencies are currently implementing charging infrastructure for these new vehicles in Oregon, and while the focus is primarily on urban centers, such as Portland, with an effective range of 100 miles, an outlying network of charging facilities will be required to provide a serviceable range for trips for electric vehicles.

The electrical vehicle will initially appeal to an environmentally conscious buyer, and will be a strong statement to those interests. The inherent problem in the remote fast charging facility is two-fold: 1. What is the iconographic statement that this facility needs to project to the public and what is its relationship to the existing transportation infrastructure; and 2. the owner of an electric vehicle will need from 30-50 minutes to fast charge their vehicle, so what is the program for this facility and what amenities or activities are appropriate or attractive to the first wave of EV owners.

Project: Course Requirements

The studio will examine two different conditions for these stations: the first being an urban location and the second being a more rural location. Students will chose one of the two conditions to examine the inherent possibilities and challenges related to the siting and use possibilities for these facilities.

Students will be required to outline the objective criteria pertaining to the iconography and use of a quick charging facility, create a supplementary program to the basic infrastructure needs of the station related to a proposed use or culture of the station, develop a suitable construction methodology for the implementation of the station as a prototype.

Instructor Profiles: Works Partnership Architecture

We work to find simplicity in things; because in that simplicity there will be an economy of means: and in that economy there is often a truth. And in that truth there can be profound beauty.

Works Partnership Architecture has quickly emerged as one of newest progressive architectural design studios in the Pacific Northwest. Created in early 2005 by principals Carrie Schilling and William Neburka, WPA has established a design approach rooted in clear, simple conceptual diagrams. This has been applied across a wide spectrum of project scales from the adaptive reuse of a 170,000 square foot industrial cereal mill to a new 7 story mixed-use tower in a historic district. In the last 5 years, WPA has been awarded with 13 design awards for these and other ongoing projects from the Portland and Seattle AIA and Progressive Architecture.