University of Oregon
Selected Sustainable City Year Program (SCYP) Projects
2010–2012

CITY OF SALEM

North Downtown Waterfront Development
Students developed a comprehensive urban renewal strategy to encourage redevelopment of properties in north downtown along the riverfront, taking into consideration the goals of the Downtown Strategic Action Plan. Students provided design concepts for opportunity sites, identified barriers/site constraints to redevelopment of opportunity sites, and addressed impacts of proposed projects on adjacent areas. Courses: Introduction to Planning Practices; Planning Analysis I; Human Settlements; Advanced Architecture Design I and II; Environmental Law Clinic

Civic Center–Interior Prototype Design
Students examined redesign opportunities for the Salem Civic Center through a prototype office space for one department and one prototype public space. In the design phase, students made use of programming data generated by a professional architect. Students proposed building standards for lighting and energy distribution, workstation design and layout, public service counters, conference rooms, and shared workspaces, responding to the architectural character of the existing structure. Courses: Architecture Design

Civic Center – Police Facility Options
The City of Salem engaged local architecture firms ZGF and CB2 to complete initial analyses of space needs and programming requirements for each of the Civic Center’s public spaces and office spaces, including the existing city hall where police facilities are currently housed. As part of this project, students worked closely with the architectural team to explore scenarios for the new police facility, as well as adaptive reuse options for the existing building. Courses: Architecture Design

Restoration of Minto Island Area
In conjunction with Salem Parks and Recreation, students identified projects to help restore Minto Brown Island to a more natural state, in the context of other Willamette River projects. The project analyzed opportunities and challenges to reinstate fish habitat, as well as provide recreational and enhancement opportunities. Courses: Site Planning & Design; Independent Study

Civic Engagement Strategy
Students developed a comprehensive civic engagement strategy that included use of new technologies to facilitate wider representation and participation in decision making. Courses: Art and Society; Creativity in Strategic Communication; Public Engagement in Diverse Communities

Industrial By-Product Re-Use Synergies: Connecting Companies to More Efficient Resource Use
Students worked with local businesses to assess the potential for industrial symbiosis, the physical exchange of material, by-products, energy, or water to make more efficient use of such materials in the industrial process. Courses: Eco-Industrial Development
Economic Prosperity Strategic Action Plan
Students developed a community-based five-year economic prosperity strategic plan that included goals, objectives, actions, and performance metrics. The project resulted in a five-year work plan for the City Economic Development division. **Courses:** Community Planning Workshop; Market Analysis/Supply Chain/Business Cluster

Sustainable Streetlights
Students proposed options for streetlighting that are more energy efficient and environmentally and financially sustainable than current streetlights in the city. These options included both currently available streetlights and newly designed products specifically for the city of Salem. Students also investigated and made recommendations about streetlight ownership and lighting standards. **Courses:** Product Design; Master of Public Affairs Capstone

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

Promise Neighborhoods
The national “Promise Neighborhoods” movement develops “cradle through college and career” solutions to improve educational and developmental outcomes of children in distressed communities. Students worked with one Promise Neighborhood, the Brattain area, to analyze neighborhood demographics and program gaps in partnership with United Way of Lane County and the Neighborhood Economic Development Corporation. The results will inform social service and other programming for the neighborhood. **Courses:** Art and Society; Economic Analysis of Community Issues

Bicycle and Pedestrian Accessibility and Connectivity Plan
Springfield’s bike and pedestrian system is disconnected and incomplete. Students analyzed the current system and proposed connections to make the system complete, focusing on the non-collector, non-arterial street network. The project included participation by the Willamalane Park and Recreation District. The results informed the city’s update of its Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan. **Courses:** Bicycle Transportation

Booth-Kelly Redesign
The City of Springfield owns and operates the Booth-Kelly Center, which includes 17 acres of land and over 200,000 square feet of large industrial building spaces currently renting to Springfield businesses. Students examined potential redevelopment scenarios and identified how the site can become a destination location with a pedestrian-friendly appeal. The redevelopment concepts and guidelines informed the city’s Downtown Refinement Plan. **Courses:** Urban Ecological Design; Sustainable Leadership Practicum; Advanced Architectural Design; Landscape Architecture Design and Process

Library Development
Students examined the process to develop, finance, and construct a public library by designing a Silver LEED Certified building that incorporates some private business space, and drafting a financing plan and a fundraising plan. These designs were used to gain public support for a new library and illustrate potential design ideas. **Courses:** Architectural Design; Strategic Communication Research Methods
Demonstration Stormwater Areas
Springfield encourages property owners to consider alternatives to traditional stormwater infrastructure, such as rain gardens. However, greater public awareness and acceptance of innovative stormwater treatment designs is still needed. Students helped the city, along with the Springfield Utility Board, achieve its stormwater education goals by designing and installing working demonstration areas that illustrate innovative stormwater management techniques (rain gardens, swales, pervious pavement, etc.). The demonstration areas included interpretive kiosks with 'take home' ideas for applying similar methods in residential and commercial areas. Courses: Architectural Design

Metro Wastewater Management Commission (MWMC) Outreach
One of MWMC’s primary missions is to raise public awareness and understanding of the regional wastewater system and its relation to Willamette River quality. The MWMC is currently working to identify sources of pollutants that have an impact on the water quality of plant effluent entering the system on the user end of the pipe, determining if there is an effective means to reduce or eliminate those sources through education. Students created public relations materials that explain how people/neighborhoods/communities can take steps to improve water quality and reduce water usage through conservation measures. The effort was linked to a local Drug Take Back program, which tries to keep discarded medicines out of the water treatment train. Courses: Public Relations Campaigns

Sustainability Metrics
In partnership with City staff and Good Company, a Eugene-based consulting firm, students compiled a comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory of the city’s operations. The inventory included direct emissions from fuel consumed by city vehicles and generators, as well as indirect emissions created by electricity generation, business-related travel, solid waste, and the embodied energy of purchased products. Students also produced action plans to help the city government reduce its greenhouse gas emissions. Courses: Energy and Climate Change Seminar; Sustainable Business Development

City-wide Wayfinding and Downtown Wayfinding
Based on recommendations from a 2011 Visitor Readiness Report, Springfield is in need of city-wide wayfinding signage update to better direct visitors and residents to resources and public amenities, from shopping and recreation to public services and open space. This project provided recommendations about where to locate new signage to direct visitors and residents to key community attractions and the downtown. Students also provided recommendations for a complete wayfinding system that includes brochures, kiosks, and smart phone applications. Courses: Community Planning Workshop

LEED Incentive Analysis
The City of Springfield is interested in requiring new development to achieve a minimum level of LEED ND certification in order to qualify for public incentives. To inform development of this requirement, students performed a detailed cost-benefit analysis to determine what level of incentive would make it worthwhile for a developer to develop in conformance with the LEED ND performance standards. Courses: Economic Analysis of Community Issues