

橋樑

Urban Bridging

"Street food for tomorrow"

Architectural Category

It is undeniable that Thais do almost all of our grocery shopping on the street. With low prices foods and lots of vender, Thais can nearly find something to fullfil our stomach at anytime. Thai street food is exceptionally popular for visitors. Especially Bangkok which is often mentioned as one of the best place for street food.

Yet, there are still problems. With the spreading of innumerable sellers cause traffic problems for both drivers and pedestrian, and that at times their hygiene standards are questionable. So the design aims to qualify street food for surviving in a changing environment without losing its vibrant charm of Thai street.

Urban Bridging is the project that redesign the way we used to live on the streetside. The design will bridge along one of the most famous place to find street food, Yaowarat road. Inspired by shape of Chinese moongate, these bridges will become the new selling areas and also footpath for visitors.





On the bridge

The new upperground market separate with lower footpath preventing any traffic jam or road accidents that may occurred. The clear skylight is used to let the vibrant atmosphere of Yaowarat night goes through. Let the visitors embrace the charm of Bangkok Street.



The End of line

At the end of bridging, a small public garden is located, Adding green space to community. Also, If the market is closed, these series of ramp could be the new exercise park for locals.

Site Analysis

Yaowarat road, Bangkok, Thailand

Why Yaowarat road ?

Since my objective of this project is about street food. Yaowarat is one of the most popular place for both Thais and tourist in Bangkok. Yaowarat also has very unique character due to it's located at the old chinese community of Bangkok.

Problems

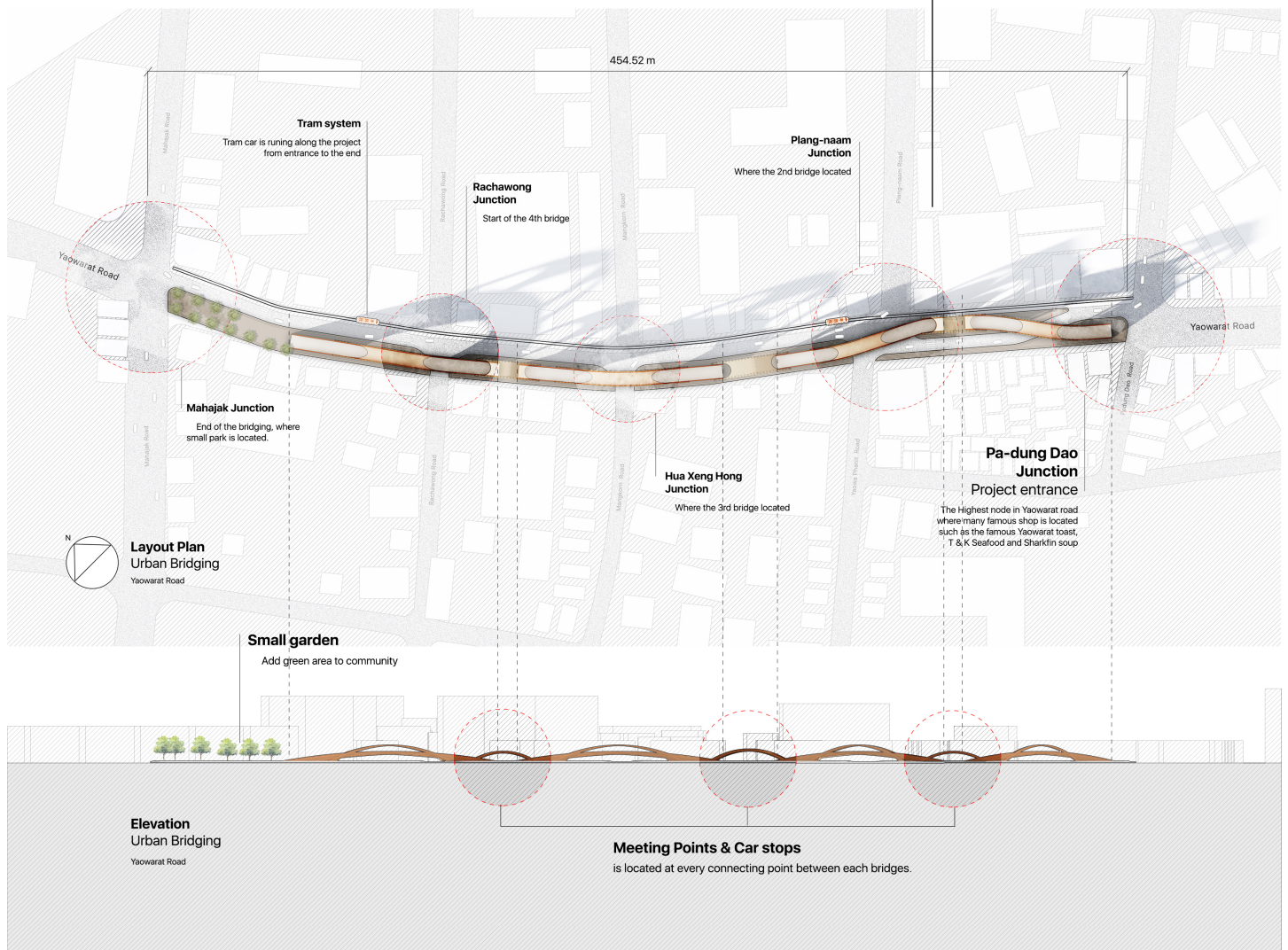
We can't deny that chaos and crowd are such an attraction of Bangkok street life. But it comes up with many problems

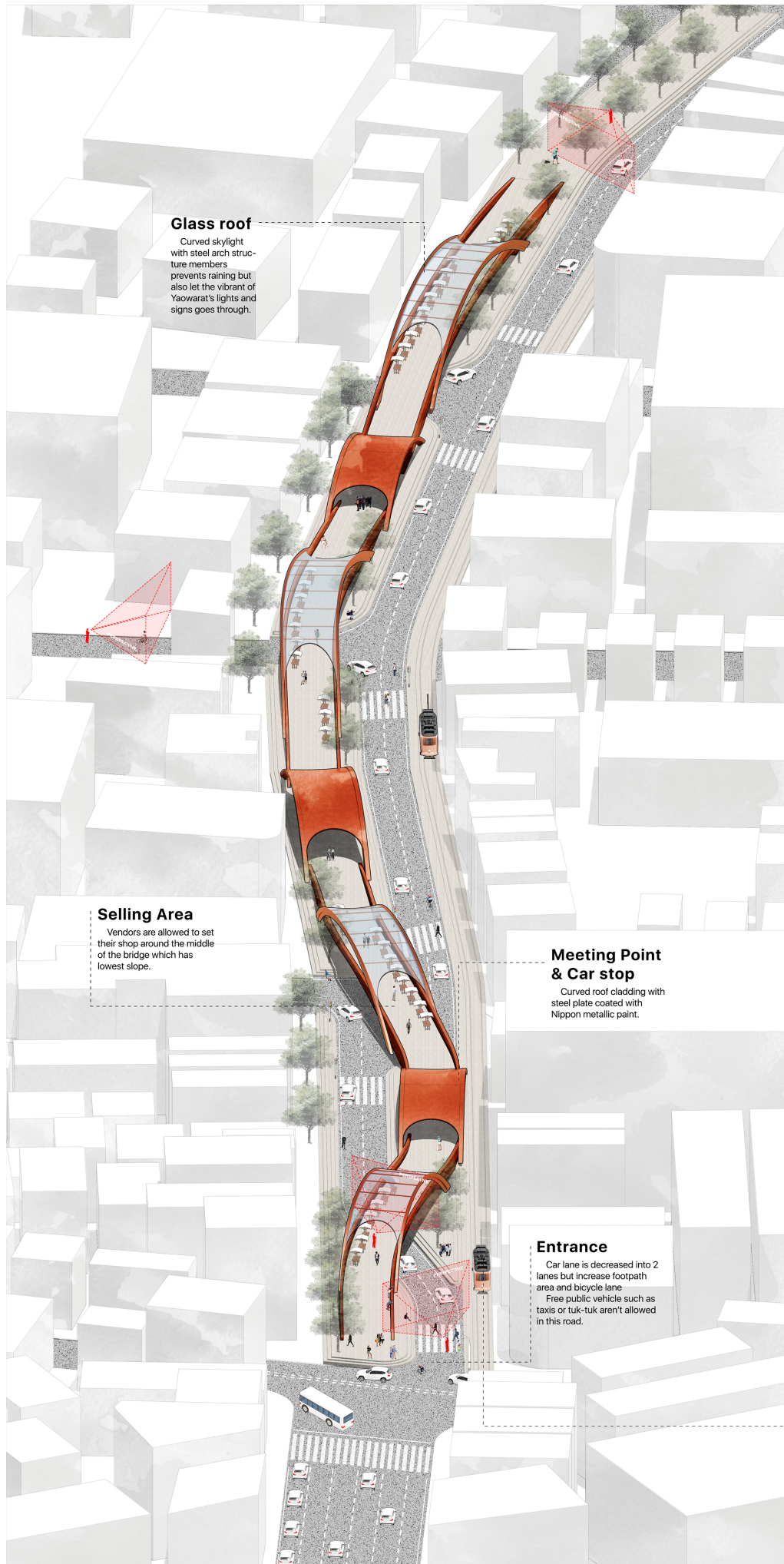
- Traffic problems for both pedestrians and drivers
- Accidents that may caused at anytime
- Pollution from trashes, oil and leftovers
- Hygiene standards are questionable
- Lack of green space

Objective

Street food for tomorrow

Improving quality of street food but not abandoning the attractive of Bangkok street life.





Glass roof

Curved skylight with steel arch structure members prevents raining but also let the vibrant of Yaowarat's lights and signs goes through.

Selling Area

Vendors are allowed to set their shop around the middle of the bridge which has lowest slope.

Meeting Point & Car stop

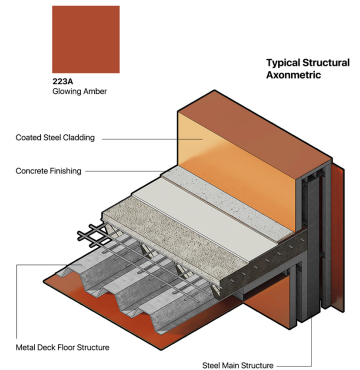
Curved roof cladding with steel plate coated with Nippon metallic paint.

Entrance

Car lane is decreased into 2 lanes but increase footpath area and bicycle lane
Free public vehicle such as taxis or tuk-tuk aren't allowed in this road.

Material & Structure

The Urban Bridging is constructed by structural steel cladding with metallic plate. All steel that appeared in the design is coated with metallic paint (NPYDA Colour Chips 223A **Glowing Amber**). Some glass is used for skylight roofing. Prefabricated concrete plates are used for flooring.



Glowing Amber is chosen to be main colour due to its potential to blend with the Chinatown vivid atmosphere

Green Design & Sustainability

Since steels are used as main material both structure and finishing. Structural steel is the premier green construction material. It's high recycled content and recycling rate exceed those of any other construction material. Its construction process makes pollution less than concrete and also faster.



The Moon bridge

The traditional chinese moon bridge has become inspiration of the bridge form. According to the existing site is an old Chinatown.



Transportation

The Urban Bridging encourages transportation by walking and public transportation. So the design decreases car lanes into 2 lanes, increases footpath area, add bicycle lanes and also bring back the tram system to facilitate visitors.



Tram Line

The tram system once was running on Yaowarat road until 1968 due to increasing of personal cars. The tram is bring back for public transportation and becoming tourist attraction creating atmosphere of vintage Bangkok Chinatown in the past.

