

POLITECNICO DI TORINO
SECOND SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE
Master of Science in Architecture
Honors theses

Urban renewal of the cultural zone on the Municipio Libertador a Caracas, Venezuela. “A new mixed-use public space in Caracas”

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The proposal is based on the development of a mixed-use public space in the cultural district of downtown Caracas, which aims to create an enabling environment for the insertion, activation and development of several activities and uses within the area, in the cultural, socioeconomic, commercial and recreational field, for which is a latent potential area.

Considering the characteristics of the city of Caracas, its historical evolution, morphology and geography, its weaknesses, its problems and the proposed solutions for resolution. It's propose an approach to a specific area which is called "the cultural heart of the city", this area was analyzed to show information about their geography, formation, existing building typologies, uses, roads, etc. the information gathered revealed a problem inherent to the relative state of neglect and lack of a proper public space, but also a large number of potential and abilities that will serve as point to direct the urban development in the area and can serve as a starting point for a city-wide plan. Special emphasis will be on the recognition of the importance of developing public spaces in the progress of the city. There is a special emphasis on the recognition of the importance of developing public spaces for the progress of the city.

The decision was taken to establish some guidelines for possible intervention in the area, resulting in the creation of a Master Plan for the renewal of the cultural area of the Libertador Municipality in Caracas, which manages, among other things, the identification and classification of different areas with great potential for intervention, and serve as a starting point to generate more quality spaces, which enhances the social interaction and urban life in public spaces.



According to the Master Plan, the area known as “Zone A” will be operated to propose a new mixed-use public space within the central area of Caracas, where the site will be enhanced with a program that includes as a main element a large public space that serves as link for social interaction through the integration of different applications (some of them are already in the area: as services, retail, office and cultural spaces, and other new ones: as residence halls, cinemas, and a new public parking). These uses will be contained in buildings that are of low height in relation to the rest of the area, to preserve an important gap in an already highly densified site.



The creation of this type of mixed use areas help to ensure a place where all the dynamics needed can be settle for the development of the society, where people can enjoy different activities: recreational, cultural, commercial, and financial, to contribute to the welfare of a city so stroke by abandonment as Caracas, making it more healthy and encouraging for its development.



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