

Dobrich city center explanatory note

Through my short period of investigation of Dobrich, it was clear the main problem is depopulation due to several reasons including deindustrialization of the region and migration to regional centers. As a result the prompt of the competition addresses how to mitigate that decrease in population by making the center more attractive and the city in return. Aside from that, the city is one of many cities that are suffering because of modernization and the inhuman scale that shocked many places.

In my proposal I had two goals: how to make the city more interesting to locals, and how to make it interesting to visitors. As research from many countries show that it's less the ornaments and arts that attract people to a place and more what a person can do there (activities), after all we go to places to do something not to admire the place.

What came from that are three strategies. One, capitalize on the already existing commercial activities and grow it to stitch the city together. Two, utilize technology and cultural activities to encaptivate people with new interesting experiences. Three, try to suggest a more sustainable way of commuting in the city (walking, biking, public transport).

The three main elements that surfaced from that are "The Flex", the underground cultural center, and the gravity turbines. Each of these provide a new experience that helps attract the interest of visitors to the center. The Flex is a building with a fluid envelope, which each visitor contributes to that shape, new spaces can be defined according to use, it could be opened up and included in the public domain.

The underground cultural center is based on the example of "the commons" in Italy. Buildings with this status have no owner in registry, but managed only by the local community, strengthening the sense of belonging to the place, while connecting people together. This model had so much success in Italy that it's quickly expanding.

The gravity turbine is my combination of both wind turbines and gravity batteries (explained more in the panels). This object in my opinion combines harmoniously a suggestion to be more environment conscious, and an interesting way to draw people to the center.

As you can see in the plans, I have eliminated most of the parking lots on the site in an attempt to suggest to both citizens and the municipality to utilize and develop more environment friendly ways of transportation. The municipality should work in parallel to this project to develop the public transport network in the city.

As I'm writing this note I realize that I might not be able to submit everything like I wanted, but take your time to enjoy it because the main points are present there.