



## Design Charrettes

### Description of Winning Designs

#### I. Introduction

Community and business leaders were invited to participate in a Station Design Charrette hosted by the Pinellas Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and the Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority (PSTA). 175 leaders participated in seven Design Charrettes in spring of 2013.

#### What is a Charrette?

Char•rette [shuh-ret] noun – an intense, collaborative design process.

Charrettes, dating back to 19th century France, have evolved over time and are now known as intense, collaborative design processes. Today, charrettes are commonly used in community design and planning. Charrette workshops may include visioning, consensus building, goal development activities — concluding with a design/plan. These workshops are typically collaboration between professionals and community members.

#### What Are the Goals of the Charrette process?

Participants were asked the following:

- What they thought about development and development benefits to the communities in and around the potential light rail station area in Pinellas County.
- To provide an opinion on how a potential light rail station area might grow and develop over time.
- To provide an opinion on how bus and light rail transit stations should look and feel within the potential light rail station area.
- To participate in a conversation about the potential for development around station with other Pinellas County residents, the development community, area landowners, business leaders, and project staff.

#### What Did We Hear at the Charrettes?

At the conclusion of each Charrette, all participants were asked to present their concept. After the presentation, participants were then asked to vote on their preferred design. The following is a summary of those winning designs

## II. Clearwater South

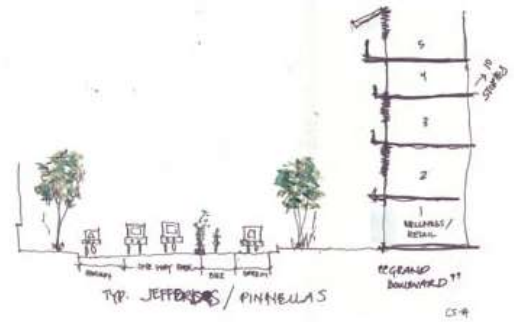
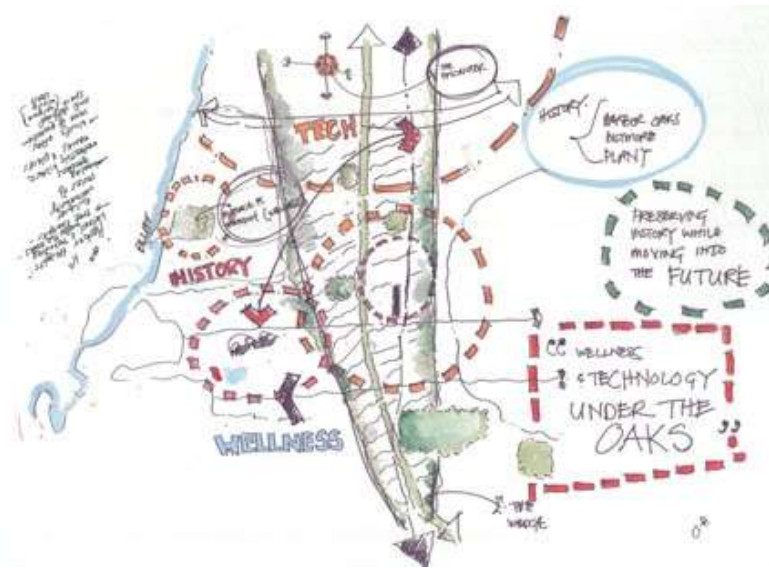
Table A (Harbor Heights: Wellness and Technology under the Oaks)

### **Objective/Vision Statement:**

To create a community connected by a robust multi-modal network that preserves the history of Clearwater while expanding the medical and IT districts.

### **Key Values and Unique Features:**

- Incorporate history of harbor oaks, Biltmore and Plant
- Two grand boulevards with safe bike and pedestrian facilities, oak canopies and serve as gateways to hospital
- Cemetery Park
- Bungalow District
- Plant Medical Learning Center
- The Wedge
- The Epicenter, Cleveland St. and Ft. Harrison Ave., where Clearwater started
- Cafe District
- Connected series of trails, healing gardens and pocket parks
- Maintain historical Harbor Oaks and heritage of Clearwater through history centers
- Name parks according to historically relevant figures (Plant, Ft Harrison, Biltmore, etc.)



### III. Largo Town Center

Table E (Cloud Station)

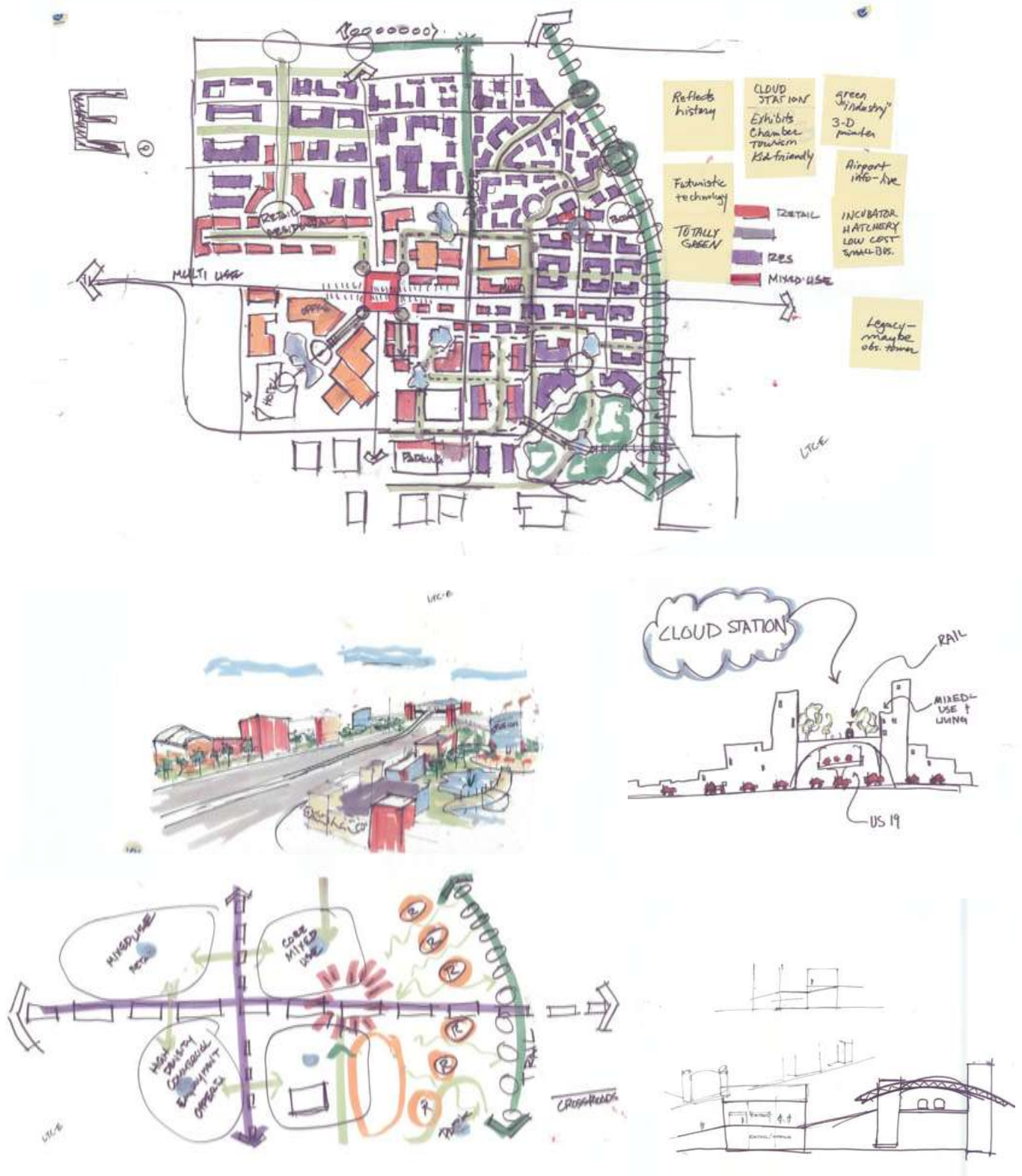
#### **Objective/Vision Statement:**

To create progressive and futuristic mixed-use community centered around green industry and incubating new and innovative small businesses.

#### **Key Values and Unique Feature:**

- Attract green industry
- Futuristic but beautiful Cloud Station
- 3-D printer
- Greenway connection/connect trail to station
- Commuter amenities like change stations, bike rentals and cleaners
- Park n' ride
- People friendly hub that is restive and refreshing





## IV. Bay Vista

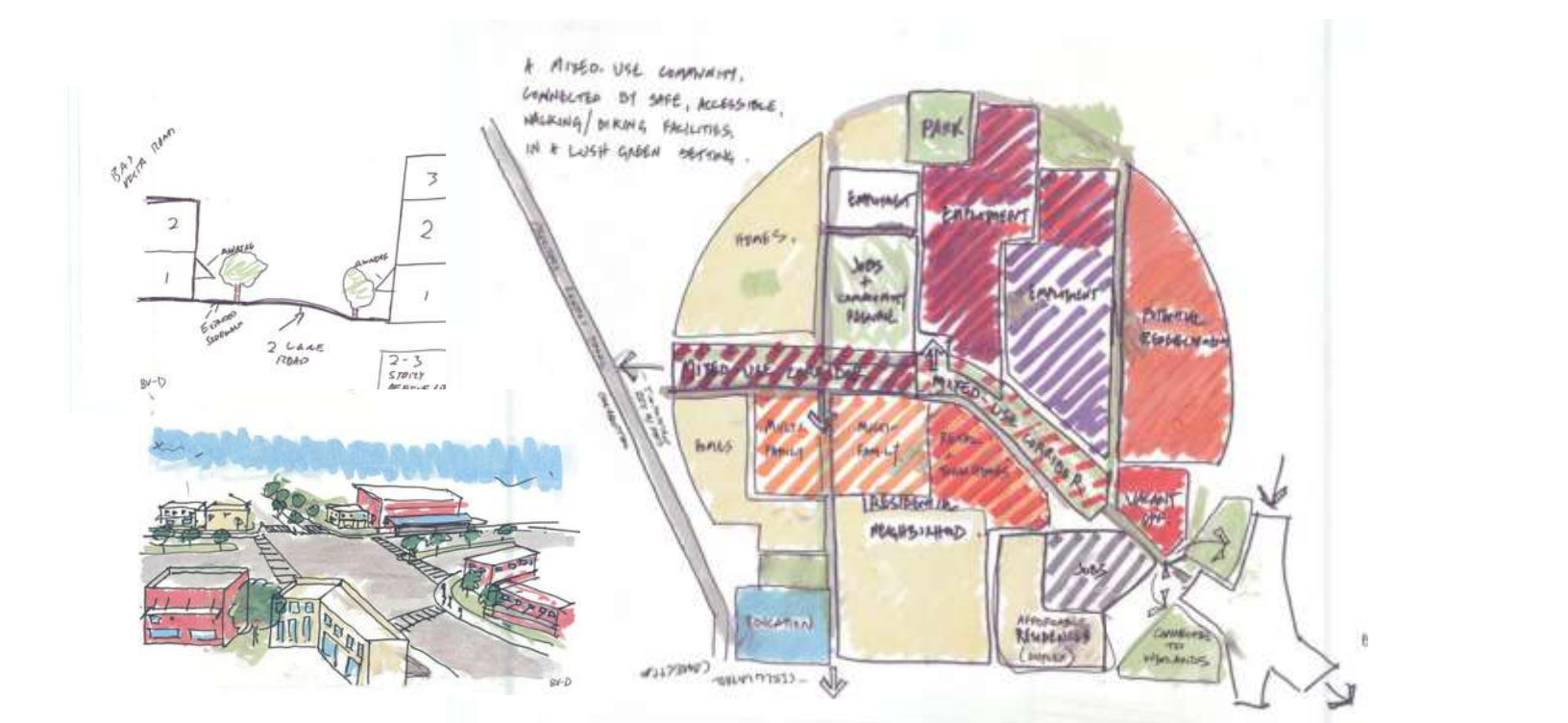
Table D (Bayside Bend)

### Objective/Vision Statement:

To create mixed use community with safe and accessible pedestrian and bicycle facilities in a lush, park-like setting.

### Key Values and Unique Feature:

- Roosevelt a mixed use corridor connecting north and south
- Sidewalks, trails, and bike lanes connecting to progress energy trail
- Redevelopment of existing residential and vacant lots
- Multi-family and retail that serves PTech
- Restaurants and retail
- Gateway into Largo
- Build more parking garages to open up surface lots to redevelopment





## V. St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport

Table B (Aero Venture Landing)

### Objective/Vision Statement:

To create a beautiful transportation hub, surrounded by a strong industrial and commercial district that pleasantly connects visitors to employers, tourist destinations, the airport and all the major regional destinations.

### Key Values and Unique Feature:

- Employment hub
- Innovative business/tech incubator
- Hotels and conference space
- Transit station surrounded by retail and entertainment
- Greenway Flyway, connection to Pinellas Trail
- Circulator trams
- Beautiful, attractive, a destination, not just a stop, green
- High-end office space
- High density employment
- Tourist hub, connections to Clearwater, St. Pete and Tampa
- Rail to go over pond and green space





## VI. Greater Gateway

### Table C (The Net)

#### Objective/Vision Statement:

To create a net that catches transit users, bicyclists and pedestrians and connects them to employment, homes and activities in a clean and sustainable environment with balance between natural and commercial spaces.

#### Key Values and Unique Feature:

- Preserve natural spaces but also some of the manufacturing base
- Cleaner technologies
- Transit station as hub of activity
- Convention center
- Bus circulator to connect people to hub
- Tech incubators
- Bicycle and pedestrian connections to the Pinellas and Progress Energy Trails
- Connect islands currently separated by major arterials (ped crossing across Roosevelt)
- Natural park space for recreation, entertainment, farmer's markets
- "Green Straw" transit station elevator column
- Walkway between transit station and convention center
- Trellis canopy
- "Carillon Bell" sculpture in water feature



## VII. Park Place

### Table B (The Hub)

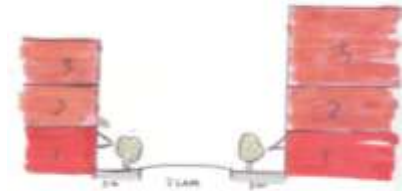
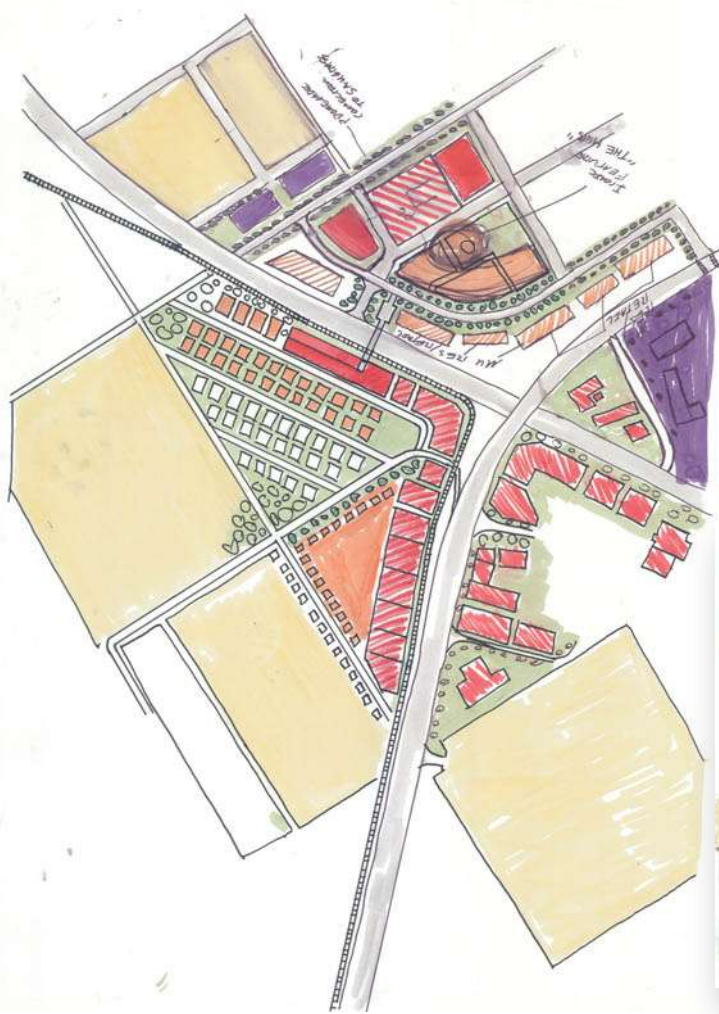
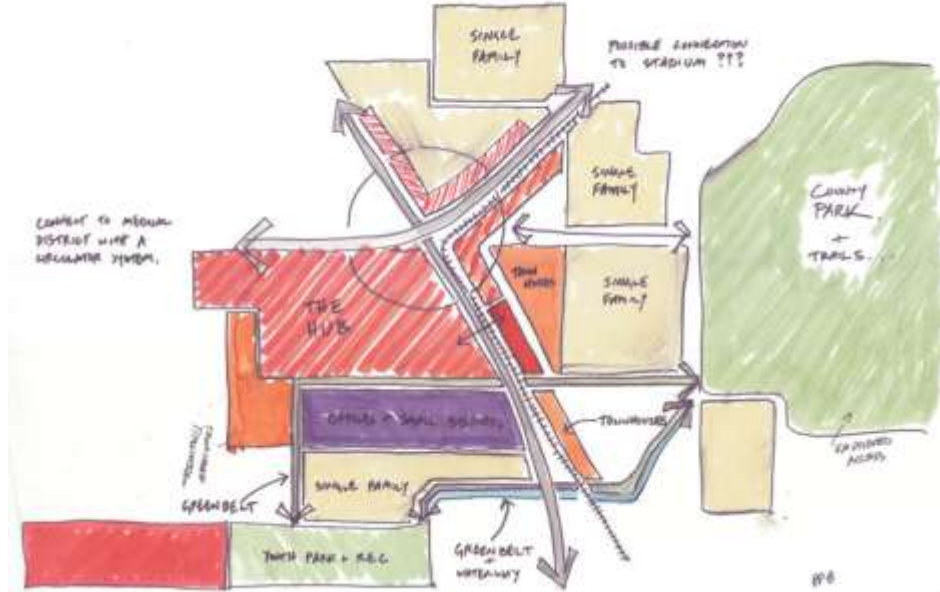
#### **Objective/Vision Statement:**

To create a 24-hour, mixed use district which reflects its location as the hub of Pinellas and the region.

#### **Key Values and Unique Features:**

- New Parks/Greenway Connections
- Connection to medical district in the west
- Station area circulator
- Connection to the beaches
- Take advantage of underutilized park by creating new connectors and pocket parks along the way to break up heavier density
- Iconic hotel development
- Multi-level commercial transportation center
- Multimodal US 19 overpass, bringing people back to ground level quickly to interact with businesses
- Parking garage in core area will also support transportation center as well as denser (re)development





## VIII. St. Petersburg Downtown Stations

Table D (No Small Plans)

### Objective/Vision Statement:

To create an ambitious transportation plan that dramatically re-imagines the ways that people come to and get around in downtown St. Petersburg.

### Key Values and Unique Feature:

- Elements to Connect: Business/employment to residential; Business/employment to arts and education; Residents/tourists to entertainment
- Priorities: Maximize number of places connected; Maximize frequency; Minimize impacts to street configuration
- Peel highways back where they come into downtown to MLK to expose greenspace and knock down barriers
- Look at land uses and have a conversation about what should happen there
- Opportunities for redevelopment of Tropicana Field
- Creative opportunities for arts and culture
- Employment centers
- Turn light rail at 5th after expressway removed to create stop at St. Anthony's
- Rail stop in the center and another stop on the south side, by university
- BRT coming in on 1st Ave S. and out on 1st Ave N.
- Connection to arts, rubber tire trolleys
- Reclaiming streets and using existing ROW to solve some of the technical problems

