Peoples Pavilion

a public living room
Peoples Pavilion

a public living room
Peoples Pavilion celebrates the community by providing a communal space for gathering. Defined by a vibrant canopy, Peoples Pavilion reflects the community found beneath it.
Peoples Pavilion is a public plaza that greets those traveling south on Commercial Ave. to the neighborhood of South Chicago. One can program this space to utilize a variety of activities from Farmers Markets, Art Galas, to Food Truck Socials and Battle of the Bands. This space is truly about getting the community out and together. This “living room” acts much like one’s own living room at home... or as we in Chicago say, “Fronch Room.” In the typical Chicago home, what is the first room one sees as they enter? What is the last room one sees as they leave? The “Fronch” Room. This northern Gateway creates that Living Room to South Chicago because South Chicago is more than a neighborhood. It is a lifestyle. No where else can someone find urban amenities with a Small-town, Downtown USA enviroment. Need one say space? Suburban living within the Urban, South Chicago. In 10 years, South Chicago will be the ideal place to raise a family in the city of Chicago. With the rejuvenation efforts on the lakefront and Calumet river, a series of living spaces like Peoples Pavilion will make South Chicago more than Chicago’s oldest neighborhood. South Chicago will become the pinnacle of urban living.

South Chicago, The New Urban Lifestyle
As one approaches the pavilion plaza, one will notice the light reflected onto the concrete flex-space. This light play becomes an instant identifier that one is entering the exciting, vibrant South Chicago. This view is meant to mimic that of one seen from a metra car as one would typically arrive.
Inspired by the Papel Picado and The Serpentine Pavilion by Danish Architecture Group BIG, Peoples Pavilion looks to create a ceiling environment without blocking the fresh air, sunlight, and openness of the sky above.
Made from transparent vinyl and strung along cables attached to support columns on the landscape, Peoples Pavilion is a hassle free, durable way to add a bit of color to the neighborhood. Optional addition of wind turbines as seen in the renders, would not only allow this project to not rely on the grid, but potentially give back to the community.

As seen through various visits and conversation with the community, one can see that sustainability is on everyone’s mind. This is yet another way South Chicago can become the pinnacle of Chicago Urban Living.

How does one say Chicago’s most sustainable neighborhood? South Chicago

South Chicago, The New Urban Lifestyle
Peoples Pavilion as one walks or bikes into South Chicago on Commercial Ave.
Peoples Pavilion as one walks or bikes out of South Chicago on Commercial Ave.
With LED light bulbs strung through every other panel, Peoples pavilion would become a luminescent lantern in the evening, thus allowing safe, all day activities.
The vinyl panels become longer as one moves into the space, creating a perfect spot for some seating in the flex space. The Seating in Peoples Pavilion is as flexible as the space underneath. Situated on a submerged rail system, the bench platform seating can slide to reassemble itself as need dictates. Individual, cluster, or all together for a generous 16 ft. x 16 ft. stage. A lawn would find itself behind the seating, allowing a space for children or pets to run. This is also an opportunity for landscaping, possibly following the techniques of permaculture to further the sustainability movement and provide an opportunity to inform the community on plants native to South Chicago and the Calumet River.
A Special Thank You to Dan Lira, Executive Director Chamber of Commerce, for the opportunity to engage in a truly great project for South Chicago.