

Return to Foshan



our itinerary
planner reactions
our reactions
documentation
next steps

our itinerary

Saturday : Arrive Hong Kong

Sunday : Take Train to Foshan

Monday : First Day of Data Collection

Tuesday : Data Collection Morning; Presentation Afternoon

Wednesday : More Data Collection; Leave for Shanghai

Thursday : Visit Xintiandi and Shanghai Waterfront

Friday : Visit Suzhou

Saturday : Shanghai Morning and Hong Kong Afternoon

Sunday : Leave from Hong Kong



planner reactions - general

Be Specific – Details, Design, Site-specific.

Think about the site within the region and surrounding context

Think about phasing of elements.

Sasaki Plan more flexible than assumed.

Conversation revolved around transportation.



planner reactions - likes

Liked the creation of visual corridors

Use of cultural assets to promote city image

Preservation of villages is important (increasing requirement to consider costs and logistics of village demolition)

Our focus on “Humanity, People, and Sustainability” is in tune with the national agenda

They liked that we framed in terms of cultural and ecological assets. This could be the basis for identity-building for Foshan

Proposals are more realistic than in January

- Liked the idea of the Modern River City and thought we should further develop the idea

- Schemes should meet three criteria
 - attract tourist
 - convenience for users
 - economic feasibility

- Our plan anticipates problems – which is good and different from the Chinese approach of problem-solving after problems occur.

- MIT workshop is neutral party so they will be looking to our suggestions as unbiased – an important counterpoint to other suggestions

planner reactions – things we missed

- Overlooked commercial
- Missed how the site fits into its regional context, particularly in terms of transportation and in terms of adjacent uses
- Transit modes – how they interface (“Zero-distance” modal switches)
- Shan Shui would not work – no mountains but like the idea of a theme
- Deal more specifically with the two sides of the river – activities and use; nightlife
- Discuss land value in the preservation of villages (how can preservation increase land value, or how will land value in villages change as a result of new development)
- Nightlife and lighting (nightlife and the waterfront – activities)



planner reactions – things to consider

- Color - is there a color the city can be identified with? Ex: Beijing – gray
- Phasing and Implementation – consider stages and steps in our plan
- Planning officials liked the Sasaki plan because of the creation of the Green Axis, Blue Axis ---but they are not committed to the Sasaki plan – suggested that we could be mediators in presenting new/different ideas
- Land use in the city not totally fixed – think about land use as a tool in planning and transportation
- Develop specific design proposals – work out more specific solutions!!!



our reactions - foshan



- It's a backwater but . . .
. . . there's more to do than you think.



- Pleasant public spaces.
- Marquee development compared to contextual development.
- Had incorporated some of ideas we had been talking about, therefore we do not need to sell our ideas as much as we thought we did but rather make specific proposals:
 - Village preservation.
 - Street trees
 - Use of canals.



- Smaller parks attached to cultural attractions.
- Environmental education.

our reactions - general

- Shanghai is an example of what it means to be Chinese and cosmopolitan.
- Suzhou shows how a city can balance livability and industrialization – as a satellite city.