Assignment 5
Strategic Needs and Major Alternatives

Objective: understand the strategic needs addressed by your project and show how the project and the major alternatives to the project could address those needs.

Identify and discuss the following:

- What are the strategic needs addressed by your project and similar types of projects?
- Who is trying to meet these needs (public agencies, developers, corporations, individuals?)
- What are the major approaches to dealing with these needs?
- What were the major alternatives that were (or should have been) considered in evaluating your project?
- What are the major issues related to sustainability?

Assignments 5, 6, and 7 are all related to the project that you are investigating for your term paper. They are being distributed at the same time so that you can see how the results from one assignment will be used in the next assignment. The results from these three assignments could form a major portion of your term paper, so it will be very beneficial for you to take some care in doing this work.

You are encouraged to discuss these questions and issues within your group, but everyone should submit their own answers. Members of a group should decide how to structure their efforts to minimize overlap and to maximize the development of good materials for your term project. Each person in a group could consider a different strategic need, discuss different alternatives to addressing needs, or discuss similar projects around the world. If you have any questions about the assignment or how to divide the workload, please contact the TA or the instructor.

Assignment 5 is largely a qualitative assignment – in Assignments 6 and 7, you will model some of the key issues related to your project.