

CIRCULAR No2b/03-07-2012

CATEGORY: TECHNICAL ISSUES & TECHNICAL DATA FILES

Announcement: Four (4) more files were added (July 3rd, 2012) at the section "Additional Downloads" and are available for downloading:

- i) lekanopedio_orofoi2 2000.dwg*
- ii) athens-gps_eng.jpg*
- iii) S12.2 CRES_dg_en.pdf*
- iv) S13 Statistics.pdf*

Question 1: Must the kiosks remain in the zone shown within the plans of predetermined points?

Answer: The supportive CAD drawing (s 1.3 data.dwg) includes the existing kiosks in the areas of intervention (layer "Periptero"). Participants are free either to preserve them in their current state or reshape, move and integrate them in terms appropriate to their own design proposal. The kiosks and press points depicted in the Architectural Study manual (rethinkathens_architectural_study.pdf, figs. 84-87) are just indicative.

Question 2: Do the tram lines have the flexibility to move or this is a definite position?

Answer: The tram lines are to be positioned definitely towards the south middle of Panepistimiou St. (in order to ensure protection from the sun for those waiting for the tram and controlled exposure to the sun to a greater extent in the case of those who choose recreation in the north-eastern section) and have to be dissociated at the beginning of Patisision St to avoid old sewage piping under the road surface. Please refer to the files contained in the support09.zip folder for the accurate design of the tram lines. Participants are encouraged to follow the instructions contain therein. Minor deviations should be strongly supported and/or documented by their overall design proposal.

Question 3: Where we can find any plans of the floors of the buildings in the intervention area of Panepistimiou Street? They can be useful if someone wants to make a rehabilitation proposal.

Answer: This kind of plans can be found individually mainly at the Urban Office of the Municipality of Athens (Πολεοδομικό Γραφείο Δήμου Αθηνών), Socratous 57, 10431 Athens, Greece. Tel. +30 210-5205004, Fax: +30 210-5205038.

Question 4: Can we also send 3D videos to better explain the project?

Answer: No, you cannot send 3D videos. According to the paragraphs 15.1.10 and 15.2.9 of the Competition Notice any additional files and drawings submitted by the participants, other than those set forth in paragraphs 14.1 and 14.2 of the Competition Notice, will be removed by the Competition Procedures Committee and will not be taken into consideration.

Question 5: Is it possible to have 3d model or a site plan indicating the height of buildings in both areas of intervention?

Answer: There is no 3d model currently available for the area of intervention except for the promotion video animation (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=POSNg-87v-8>), which is not totally accurate, though. Participants could also find useful 3d material available at Google Earth and www.bing.com/maps/. Regarding Panepistimiou St, participants can also refer to the Support 07 and Support 08 image files for building their own 3d models. In addition, the s 8.1 Panepistimiou.dwg CAD file contains information on the height of all the buildings of Panepistimiou St. Moreover, the recently added s13 height map.dwg CAD file should also help in building a 3D model. The different layers indicate the prevailing number of floors on each city block. The file can be found at the 'Additional Downloads' section of the competition website.

Question 6: In the support document #5 there is no information about the building uses in the site. (the CAD file just has the color hatches with no information) How can we get that information?

Answer: You can obtain this information by directly referring to the corresponding layer names of the s 5 uses.dwg CAD file. The actual building uses (as recorded in April 2011) are included in the layers whose names start with the prefix '@' (e.g. '@offices', '@hotels' etc.). The prescribed land uses as they appear in the Legislated uses diagram are included in the layers whose names start with the prefix 'LEGIS_' (e.g. LEGIS_urban parks etc. On that diagram, blank equals general housing)

Question 7: Can we please get the final document of the city master plan in English language including the legend?

Answer: Yes, the final document of the Official Plan in English can now be downloaded from the 'Additional Downloads' section of the competition website. Take note that the Official Plan, though effective at the moment, is due to be revised. The Official Plan revision could well incorporate constructive ideas from the Rethink Athens Competition. Therefore, the Official Plan document is to be considered as a significant aid at this phase, but there will be mutual feedback with the Competition; participants are strongly encouraged to consider the Official Plan as a specific platform for further debate, rather than as a binding restriction.

Question 8: 1- Is there any limitation in planting (trees, grass, etc) along any of these streets? 2- In term of digging limitation, is that an issue along all the streets? 3- Can we suggest and design some architectural space along the streets or no it is just about urban, landscape and urban furniture designing? 4- Can we change the cladding or connect something to them etc.? 5- Some documents are just in Greece, (for instance: Climate Guide). How can we get the English version?

Answer:

1 – There is no limitation in planting along any of these streets.

2 - The digging limitation of 100cm below the current ground level is due to the archaeological substratum of the city and should be considered an issue along all the streets. However, participants could possibly aim precisely at bringing to light this archaeological substratum as part of their design proposal. In that case, they are strongly encouraged to focus their attention on Amalias Ave (extending from Syntagma up to Omirou St), since this is an area with possible archaeological finds (mostly, the remains of ancient workshops).

3 and 4 – Any suggestion of additional architectural space along the streets or change of cladding etc. will be evaluated in the terms and context of the general design proposal and its documentation.

5 – Please see Answer to Question 12.

Question 9: Dear Sir / Madam, During our analysis of the studied area of the centre of Athens, we came across the following issues, for which we would need additional information, or an indication on how to obtain this information: 1. an estimate the density (number) of people being in that area at different times of day through the day, e.g. people living there, people commuting to that area for work, or visiting for pleasure. 2. a list of the specific businesses that function in that area. 3. a height map, or a list of height of the buildings in that area.

Answer:

1. Information concerning the requested densities is now available in the 'Additional Downloads' section of the competition website (see file "S13 Statistics.pdf").
2. Only further in-situ work could provide more specific information than the one already provided and included in Support documents #5. However, the file "S13 Statistics.pdf" that was recently added at the 'Additional Downloads' section of the competition website contain information on the actual number of workplaces in the vicinity of the primary area of intervention.
3. Please see the Answer to Question 5.

Question 10: We found difficulty to match plans of the following files .dwg: -S1.2-geo.dwg -topo-rethinkathens.dwg There is no match in size and in the alignments of buildings. There is a specific entry point?

Answer: Coming from different original sources, these two .dwg files are indeed difficult to match. The most accurate one is topo-rethinkathens.dwg, though. Participants are therefore strongly encouraged to work on this file, using the other .dwg files mainly for retrieving special or additional information.

Question 11: Dear Sir/Madam, I would like to ask if you have available information on the building heights in the competition area, in form of a height map, or an autoCAD file with heights, as we will need them to build a 3D model. Moreover, I cannot properly open the file: 50412_teliko_sxedio_diagonismou.dwg. It seems that a lot of information on it is not readable by my autoCAD. Is it possible to get a different / newer version of it? Finally, in terms of registration, do all the team members need to register separately, or is it enough if one member registers? And if so, does the registered member need to be the responsible person of the team, or can it be any of the members? Should the PAC number be referenced in the submitted documentation?

Answer: 50412_teliko_sxedio_diagonismou.dwg is the final version of that file. If you cannot open that properly, you can always use Topo-RethinkAthens.dwg instead which contains all the relevant and accurate required information. Regarding the 3-D model, please see the Answer to Question 5.

Furthermore, in terms of registration, there is no need for all the group members to register separately. It is enough if one member registers. The registered person could be the group representative or any other member. The PAC number should not be referenced in the submitted documentation. The PAC number is used exclusively for accessing the restricted areas of the Competition website (see also Article 11 of the

competition notice). All submitted proposals must be marked with the Design Identification Number (DIN), a ten-digit alphanumeric participation NUMBER (instead of a pseudonym), according to the Article 16 of the competition notice.

Question 12: Could it be possible to have the climate and tram documentation in English?

Answer: These documents are not currently available in English. However, it should be noted that the CRES climate guide is provided in a mere indicative manner. The goals of comfortable climatic conditions for citizens living or moving through the city centre (see page 87 of the Architectural Study manual) can be supported equally well, or even better, by referring to relevant international bibliography. Here are a few recommendations:

- Alberti, Booth, Hill, Marzluff: The Impact of Urban Planning on Ecosystem Dynamics, Urban Research Initiative: NSF Proposal 1999-2002, 1999.
- Gaitani N., Mihalakakou G., Santamouris M.: On the use of bioclimatic architecture principles in order to improve thermal comfort conditions in outdoor spaces, *Building and Environment* 42, 2007, 317-324.
- Nikolopoulou M., Bakera N., Steemers K.: Thermal comfort in outdoor urban spaces: Understanding the human parameter, *Solar Energy*, 70(3), 2001, 227-235.
- Blocken, B. Carmeliet, J.: Pedestrian wind environment around buildings: Literature review and practical examples, *Journal of Thermal Envelope and Building Science* 28 (2), 2004, pp. 107-159
- Bottema, M.: Wind Climate and Urban Geometry, Ph.D. Thesis, FAGO, Technical University of Eindhoven, 1993.
- Matzarakis et al.: Modelling Radiation fluxes in simple and complex environments - Basics of the RayMan model. *International Journal of Biometeorology* 54, 2010, 131-139.
- Thorsson et al.: Different methods for estimating the mean radiant temperature in the outdoor urban setting. *Int. J. Climatol*, 2007. 27(14):s1983-s1993.
- Theoni Karlessi, Afroditi Synnefa, Niki Gaitani and Mattheos Santamouris, *Advances in the development of Cool Materials for the Built Environment*, 2010, Chapter Cool Pavements
- Shahidan M.F., Jones P. *Plant Canopy Design in Modifying Urban Thermal Environment: Theory and Guidelines*. PLEA 2008 - 25th Conference on Passive and Low Energy Architecture, Dublin, 2008.
- Brown, R. D., & Gillespie, T. J. : *Microclimate Landscape Design: Creating Thermal Comfort and Energy Efficiency*. NewYork: John Wiley & Sons, 1995.
- N. Fintikakis, N.Gaitani , M. Santamouris, M. Assimakopoulos, D.N. Assimakopoulos, M. Fintikaki, G. Albanis, K. Papadimitriou, E. Chrysochoides, K. Katopodi, P. Doumas. Bioclimatic design of open public spaces in the historic center of Tirana, Albania, *SUSTAINABLE CITIES & SOCIETY*, Volume 1, Issue 1, 2011, Pages 54-62
- Bruse, M., *Modelling and strategies for improved urban climates*, 1999.
- Yu, B., Liu, H., Wu, J., Lin, W. M.: Investigating impacts of urban morphology on spatio-temporal variations of solar radiation with airborne LIDAR data and a solar flux model: a case study of downtown Houston. *International Journal of Remote Sensing*, 30, 2009, 4359 - 4385.

In the "Additional Downloads" section of the competition website, you can also find a CRES design guide in English. It contains information on a bioclimatic approach to designing open spaces in the urban environment. An additional synopsis of the CRES and tram technical guides in English are expected to be added in the 'Additional Downloads' section of the competition website as soon as they are available.

Question 13: Can you please inform us if there is the possibility to translate the document on the SUPORT 12 "s12cres-climate-scientific-guide-in-greek" to English? We have the opinion that it is a very important document, with very important information, concerning the climate, environment and future visions for the sustainability of the city.

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 12.

Question 14: We would like to know if the bus line along the Patission St. is expected to double direction or one way.

Answer: Regarding the bus lane in Patission St. one has to note that it is a one-way entrance to the city centre from the National Archaeological Museum of Athens (Ipirou St) until Stadiou St.

Question 15: I managed to register myself but I have already got only the pdf documents. Where can I get all technical data files in dwg , jpg and pdf? topography, orthophotografic, planning and architecture intervention, etc.

Answer: You could find all the documentation for the competition in the folder "Technical Data Files" of the website (you have to login first). Also, in the folder "Additional Downloads", there are some extra documents that will help you to form your proposal.

Question 16: The presentation of the proposal requires 4 A0 boards or UP TO 4 A0 boards? Will less than 4 be accepted?

Answer: The presentation panels for the first stage of the competition should be four (4). If a participant submits less than four (4) panels, the Competition Procedures Committee will recommend to the first stage Jury a participant's disqualification from further participation in the proceedings.

Question 17: Should the orientation of the panels be portrait or landscape?

Answer: According to para. 15.1.2 of the competition notice “it is at each participant’s discretion to determine the orientation of the presentation of their panels (horizontal, vertical or combination of the two). However, the description report must be presented in a vertical form.”

Question 18: Will the panels A0 in phase 1 be submitted only in digital form?

Answer: According to para. 14.1.2 “participants will submit their proposals in four (4) DIN A0 format panels (118.9cm X 84.1cm), in digital form, in accordance with the following paragraphs. Each panel will constitute an individual pdf or jpg file”.

However, please note that according to para. 15.1.6 “one (1) copy of the annex to the description report, containing the representation of the four panels in reduced form, will be submitted as a DIN A3 (29.7cm X 42cm) format file.

Question 19: We would like to participate as a team and I would like to know how the other members of the team can register.

Answer: The list with all the team members must be submitted in the Design Group Identity File according to para. 15.1.7 of the competition notice by September 7th, 2012, together with the other proposal documents that are required for the first stage of the Competition.

Registration via the website is necessary for accessing all the documentation of the Competition. Thus, it is enough for at least one member of every design team to register via the website in order to be able to submit questions and download all the useful files of the Competition.

Question 20: We are a group and for the moment just only person could make the registration on your site. Could you help us to add the name of the second person?

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 19.

Question 21: I would like to know if I am already subscribed to the competition. I already have a Personal Access Code (PAC) number, and I have downloaded all the files. Do I need to do something more in order to be subscribed? Or I just send that information with the final proposal of the project?

Answer: Yes, you are registered and you can now have access to the documentation of the Competition.

However, in order to participate in the competition you should submit all the documents listed at para. 14.1 of the competition notice by September 7th, 2012.

Question 22: I just needed to be sure that I am already registered properly so I can participate in the competition. I have done the register process I have been sent back a Personal Access Code, with which I have entered the technical data area and the downloaded the files. Could you please check out if I am properly registered & can participate as well? In this case the next thing I have to do is to submit my proposal for the first stage by Friday, September 7th, 2012.

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 21.

Question 23: Where and how in the submission procedure should be recorded and noticed the team collaborators? (persons that do not participate in the percentage of the prizes as partners)

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 19.

Question 24: Are the instructions concerning the contents of each panel as listed in the article "14.1.2 Drawings" indicative or it is obligatory to follow them? Can the scales, the order of presentation of the proposal and the content of each panel change, providing that all the information asked is included, if this helps in the explanation of the proposal? In The article "14.1.2 Drawings" of the competition notice, you mention that: "The first panel will be the overall presentation of the proposal on a 1/2000 scale". On this scale the broad zone of typological intervention does not fit in the A0 panel. Could there have been a mistake? Can we adapt the scale, meaning expand it, so that all the site can be included?

Answer: The article "14.1.2 Drawings" describes the kind of drawings and information that is considered necessary for a thorough interpretation of any design proposal. Participants are strongly encouraged to follow it as their general guideline, i.e. the first panel should definitely contain "the overall presentation of the proposal" for the primary area of intervention and the second panel should definitely contain the "specific views [...] where the Athens 'trilogy' meets Korai Street, Omonoia Square, Dikaiosynis Square and a characteristic section of Panepistimiou Street". Participants are free to include additional information, sketches and drawings that can accompany what are essentially the main subjects of the first two panels. Since the subject of the other two panels (mainly concerning specific design details and elaborations on the primary area, as well as suggestions for the broad zone of typological intervention) is more context-sensitive, participants are free to present their proposal in a way that highlights their design intentions in the best possible way. It should be noted that the 1/2000 scale refers just to the primary area of intervention, i.e. it is specified and required only for the main drawing of the first panel. Participants are free to choose the viewpoints, as well as the scales of all the other drawings and sketches that will support their design proposal.

Question 25: Will document on SUPORT 12 "s12cres-climate-scientific-guide-in-greek" be translated to English?

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 12.

Question 26: We are a group of people that have registered each one individually. We want to register as a group to be eligible for the competition. How do we do that?

Answer: Please see Answer to Question 19.

Question 27: Are there any fee for participating in this competition?

Answer: No, there is no fee for participating in the "Rethink Athens Architectural Competition".

THE COMPETITION PROCEDURES COMMITTEE

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03/07/2012