

Overarching principle: Design a sustainable city in China which meets all relevant laws and standards and will fit with Chinese culture.

1) Law

Canon: The team will work to ensure that recommendations do not go against Chinese law, whether local or national. Members will attempt to inform themselves of relevant laws. If there is not enough time for complete knowledge, the recommendations will be general enough to allow for interpretation within the law.

Pressure: Ignorance of laws would make it difficult to work within their boundaries.

Pressure: Following all laws may raise the price of buildings by requiring safety measures such as multiple stairways or fireproof materials.

Risk: Safety codes are ignored when designing buildings.

Measure: After submission to the Chinese government, the city plan will be reviewed.

Failure to follow the law will cause the plan to be rejected or modified.

2) Contracts

Canon: The team will honor any contracts made over the course of the project.

Pressure: Gain approval for the project from the Chinese government.

Risk: Fail to complete the city plan within specifications.

Risk: Misrepresent the project to improve its perception.

Measure: During meetings team members will be encouraged to report any perceived violations of the specifications given for the project. A lack of problems reported by either members or higher authorities indicates that the specifications are being met. Violations of other contracts would be detected by complaints or legal action from the other party to the contract. A lack of complaints or legal action indicates that all contracts have been honored.

3) Professional Codes

Canon: Professional engineering codes require the engineer to “hold paramount the safety, health, and welfare of the public.” The team will follow this standard when creating all designs for the city.

Pressure: Safety often raises costs and increases the difficulty of making a plan.

Risk: The transportation system will save money and complexity by not having sensors to detect and stop when there are obstacles.

Risk: Housing density is increased by increasing the height of buildings without accounting for the additional safety measures which are needed for especially tall buildings.

4) Industry Standards

Canon: Building plans will meet the Chinese industry standards for urban construction.

Pressure: Keep costs low.

Pressure: Finish plans quickly.

Risk: Ignore standards for both design and materials used in construction.

Measure: Any designs which fail to meet industry standards will be rejected during review by the Chinese government. Being accepted indicates that the plans meet industry standards.

5) Community

Canon: Plans will integrate Chinese culture and traditions without sacrificing the goal of designing a sustainable city.

Pressure: Environmentally friendly designs could be difficult to integrate with traditional architecture.

Risk: Cultural values are not considered when creating building layouts, leading to buildings which are undesirable to the community.

Risk: The environmentally friendly nature of the buildings is ignored in order to completely integrate traditional architecture.

Measure: Any designs will be shown to the Chinese members of the team. If they see potential problems the designs will be revised. Individual members who create designs will also self-test, checking their designs against literature about Chinese culture, especially the principles of feng shui.

6) Personal Relationships

Canon: Individuals will treat each other with respect. Communication will be open and everyone will be allowed to add their input.

Pressure: Differences of opinion may cause conflicts between project members.

Pressure: Considering all opinions and ideas adds to the time of the project and lengthens meetings.

Risk: Decisions will be made with only one or two opinions, silencing any further inputs.

Measure: Project leaders and individuals will encourage concerns about interpersonal relationships to be brought forward, either publicly or in private. The absence of any complaints will indicate that the canon is being followed.

7) Personal/Moral Values

Canon: Project members will not create anything which goes against their personal moral values, especially the desire to help the environment.

Pressure: A low or no emissions transportation system is much harder to create than a system modeled after current designs.

Risk: Personal automobile use is allowed or encouraged in order to remove the need to design a public transportation system.

Risk: Public transportation is hastily designed and not given enough review to ensure that it is convenient enough to be used. As a result the system left unused and is wasted.

Measure: Team leaders will encourage any moral objections to be raised and will give all individuals a chance to bring forward any concerns. Compliance with the code will be indicated by the lack of concerns or the successful fixing of whichever issues cause concern.