

The Landjng

An architectural rendering of a city development project. The scene is split into two halves. The left half shows a large, modern stadium with a curved, metallic facade and a green field, situated on a riverbank. The right half shows a dense urban area with various modern buildings, some with green roofs, and a large white building with a unique, angular design. A bridge with a central tower and two arches spans across a river in the foreground. The overall style is a mix of realistic architectural rendering and conceptual urban planning.

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DESIGN NARRATIVE

The Landing exemplifies the design potential of green infrastructure projects that create vibrant public and commercial spaces promoting perpetual and meaningful social connectivity. The project's emphasis on green infrastructure and renewable district energy production aligns with the Cincinnati Green Plan in its effort to make the city 100% renewable energy by 2035. These projects put Cincinnati at the forefront of sustainability in cities and act as the gateway from a coal powered, industrial past into a sustainable and connected future.

The Landing proposal serves to reconnect Downtown Cincinnati with Ohio River waterfront by decking I-71 in order to develop a cultural heart in the new home for the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra located between Race and Vine Streets. The new music venue opens onto the reimagined front lawn of Cincinnati, Symphony Green, where outdoor concerts enliven Downtown with the infusion of events celebrating the Freedom Center.

While the nearby Central Business District's (CBD) neighborhood fabric emphasizes office towers and commercial real estate, The Landing provides dense downtown housing in the new Residential pocket of the Eco-District along the waterfront, connecting the dense urban core to waterfront parks and trails. The central space of the district leads to the Smale harbor pool where Cincinnatians are offered unprecedented waterfront access and engagement with the river.

Along with creating new spaces for civic engagement, the highway deck brings much needed mobility into the heart of Cincinnati; a new above ground transit hub connects the existing streetcar line with a new line through The Landing and the proposed line to Newport, Kentucky. The hub provides easy access to the pedestrian-only neighborhood and sporting and cultural events throughout the year.

The existing Transit Center underneath Second Street has been reimagined as a collection point where the waste from both the neighborhood and stadiums is gathered to be transported to the Duke Energy + GE Biomass Energy & Research Facility. Additional Biomass material is collected from barges moving waste down the Ohio River. The facility repurposes the decommissioned concrete plant and provides district energy, heating and cooling for the Landing.

In addition to providing sustainable energy throughout the district, the entire site acts as a rain and grey water filtration system. Water collected and stored in the on-site cistern under Freedom Square is recycled to the businesses, residents, and stadiums in the district. The landscape design and redevelopment of Smale park filters stormwater runoff before entering the Ohio River. A riparian restoration along the park allows water to soak and filter through the lush landscape and provides visitors with an educational opportunity about Ohio River ecology.

By bridging together the design of dynamic public spaces and ecologically sustainable connected systems, The Landing solidifies Cincinnati as the model for twenty-first century urbanism and development.