

Image of City Landscape or Landscape Construction – Chapter of Bridges

The demonstration of city culture mainly is accumulated by long-lasting historical monuments, of folklore, or traditions. They are first tested, proved, and later become a culture that later generations rely on. Furthermore, it can also be intentionally combined by city landscapes and imageries, and demonstrate a ancient and modern fusion imagery. The department has received the commission from Land Administration Bureau of Taichung City Government to administer “13 Phase Re-zoning Works of Da-ching City.” It can be observed from site inspection, that there are two blue belts traversing at the north of the re-zoning area, namely Nan-tun Creek of the north, and Ma-yun-tou Creek of the south (draining of Tu-ku Creek). In addition, the park road designed by the re-zoning plan forms a kind of green belt around the two sides of the creeks, which connects with a 25-meter park road on the right decorated as a green belt. On the east side, parts of Sichuan 2nd Road are changed into ecological channels, forming with the above a kind of blue and green network. Thus, “physiographic imagery” of this re-zoning area can well illustrate “local features.”

After several meetings with Land Administration Bureau of Taichung City Government, preliminary consensus is reached that efforts should be made on bridges that cross over creek and stream. This turns them into such artistic “highlights” as it constructs the local imagery of the city, forming focus of its landscape and landmark. More important, it will link up local roads, Nan-tun Creek, Tu-ku Creek (Ma-yun-tou Creek) and other “strings” of city texture, which present the unique designing method that differs from engineer plannings of other area, with the overall planning of “planes” and gathering of “dots,” “strings” and “planes”. This ever more demonstrates such humanistic and historical imagery of city landscape.

For remodeling city landscape, let us use bridge structure of hardware facilities as an example. If the intention is to merely focus on safety structure or models, it would then be short of local artistic connotation. As such, the combination of local culture and feature with suitable fusion of local stories can help to transform stories of cold and icy bridges into facilities of local humanity chronicles. This is done to wake up the glorious memory of the past, and call for the citizens recognition and support.

Within this re-zoning area, the design and planning of each bridge is based on such spirit, further integrating material, lighting, modeling, and trends of the times. They are so designed upon the belief and idea of sustainable development for environment and energy conservation and carbon reduction. Names and planned themes of various bridge are referred to local literary histories, and summarized as below:

No. 1 Bridge

Title of bridge: Yue Yin Bridge

Concept of bridge:

Tzeng Yue Yin, also named as Wen Dang, was born at Ma-yun-tou. He was most generous and donated a lot. He donated to help the building of bridges and roads, donated money to help the poor, and even made offerings for public construction etc. On the 2nd year of Emperor Jia Ching, he recruited 3,000 silver dollar, and constructed Weng Chang Temple at Li-tou-tien to worship Wen Chang Emperor (which today is Weng Chang Temple). He used to conduct massive farming at Nan-tun area, cultivating “hemp” to make his rich. This is where this place got the name “Ma-yun-tou.” This bridge was suggested to be named as “Yue Yin Bridge” for commemoration.

Theme of planning:

The harp-style crown imagery attempts to create the imagery model of “Welcoming guest with prosperity and abundance after re-zoning of city land.”

No. 2 Bridge

Title of bridge: Domain Circling Bridge

Concept of bridge:

Near the No. 2 Bridge is the “18th Village of Han-zi Mazu for Domain Circling,” that for the last 200 years, must pass through a “cultural and historical ancient path,” which is also considered to be a important local cultural event. The No.2 Bridge is suggested to be named as “Domain Circling Bridge” so that it can echo with the event of “Domain Circling by Mazu.”

Theme of planning:

This is to transform the elements of cow plow and yoke that people rely on to make their living, into a bridge-structured model. This also attempts to

perform the imagery of bridges being similar to the tension from cow plough and making a living as arch-shaped cow yoke. Furthermore, the contour is, in addition, trimmed to display with as “more beautiful contour of smoothness” to reflect the spirit of “our ancestors working hard for settlement, taking adversity in submission.”

No. 3 Bridge

Title of bridge: Dancing Butterfly Bridge

Concept of bridge:

The concept of the planned models remains to base on cow yoke as its element, where the element is transformed into the image of dual-arch to symbolize the model of butterfly-wing, as an attempt to render the image of submissive village scenery as color butterflies flying the fields during the times of farming days. It is, therefore, suggested to name the bridge as “Dancing Butterfly Bridge.”

Theme of planning:

The concept of modeling is based from the outlook of farming gears such as cow yoke and cutting rake, and outlook of left and right integral bridge formed with modeling of cow yoke. All this makes its appearance to appear like a tender dancing butterfly. Besides, the sidewalk on the two sides of the bridge is designed in the shape of geometric form, attempting to use simple contour, beautiful curve, and tender hanging-rope to form its wonderful outlook. This demonstrates such sense of time and space as visual penetrates through the ancient and contemporary as well as the space.

No. 4 Bridge

Title of bridge: Harvest Crop Bridge

Concept of bridge:

The concept is based on the farming of our ancestors, when it was the time that people work at sunrise and rest at sunset. They would also pray for harvest year after year, so that their lives can be rich and abundant. Therefore, the name of No. 4 is suggested to be named as “Harvest Crop Bridge.”

Theme of planning:

The imagery concept is employed as “tunnel-like penetration” as it works to link up pieces of steel-structured components modeled after the shape of “cow yoke” for traffic direction, and then resorts to round-shaped steel-pipe for mutual connection. When vehicles move from the old city areas into the this re-zoning area, they will experience the created mixture of light and shadow passing through the bridge, which attempts to create a cross-over from agricultural stage in industrial and commercial service era, bringing forth the picture of “brand new urban imagery after a wondrous transformation.”

This re-zoning area has, in total, 8 bridges. Here we will first mention 4 bridges, where the rest would be further elaborated in batches, after feedback from the general mass has been received.