

What if public transportation was less about moving people and more about building social infrastructure? The design response is a new social system in Cleveland: a fleet of buses oriented around various social amenities to mobilize resources and amenities, enrich transit experience and facilitate social exchange. The bus stop then becomes the threshold to Cleveland neighborhoods, rooting the system in the meaning and identity of place, context and relationship. Three sites in three demographically different Cleveland neighborhoods were selected to test place specific application of the system. The design of each location treats the transit stop as neighborhood threshold, gathering place and resource kiosk, including transit riders in the public sphere and celebrating transit as civic parade.