

re-connect

Reimagining furniture for Public Spaces



Img 1: Public Parks usage before Pandemic

Premise

Public spaces form an important **spine** for any scale of city. Users benefit from these in multiple ways such as, it is used as a place for **exercising**, place for **relaxation**, **public gathering**, **community discussion or performances etc.** It provides the user an opportunity to interact with the society. For metropolitan cities, it is also used as a breather for fresh air in an open piece of land.

However, with the sudden advent of Covid-19, many of these uses have gone for a toss! Surprisingly, **people's notion for a public space has also undergone transformation** due to this very reason.



Img2: Changing lifestyle because of Pandemic

The Pandemic

[Gehl](#) conducted a Global Study about the role of public spaces in these difficult times. The public spaces considered for the research included street sidewalks, neighborhood parks, yard, courtyard, natural area, large city park, roof/balcony, plaza/ paved public spaces, temporary street closure etc. Astonishingly, **81% people used public spaces for Exercising and 72% for relaxation**, even during the pandemic, the research indicated..

Additionally, the ongoing Pandemic has **uplifted people's appreciation for Public Spaces** which were otherwise always taken for granted.

Covid-19 cannot be seen as ending 100% anytime soon. Thus, the sooner we start adapting to living in this new way, the easier it'll be.



How can we reimagine our urban furniture following
physical distancing?



Img 3: Existing furniture found in public places for social interaction.

Brief

Design **Street Furniture** that can be placed in Public Spaces (details on the next page).

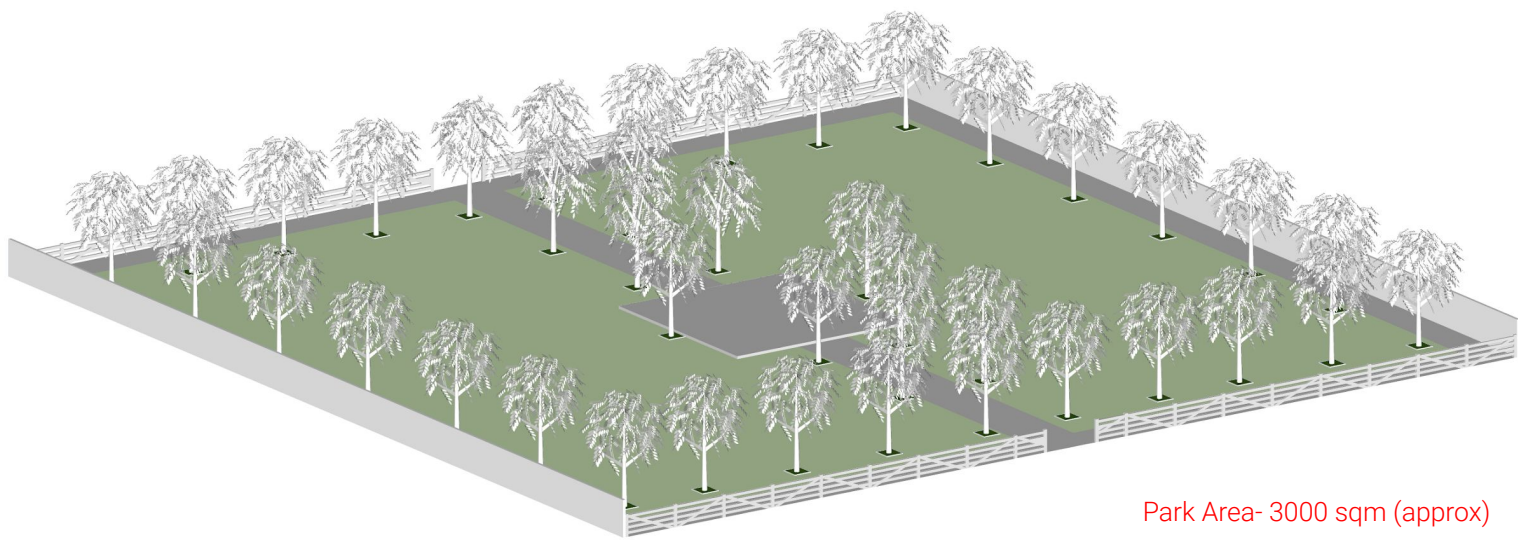
The proposed design should be a take over existing street furniture following the **Physical Distancing Norm**.

There is no limit to the size of the proposal. However, an attempt should be made at designing the same in a compact size such that the efficiency of the overall space can be maximised whilst abiding Physical Distancing.

Additionally, the proposed design must ensure that the seating between 2 people is not movable. Thus, either the furniture becomes fixed to the ground/ group seatings form individual modules as a whole.

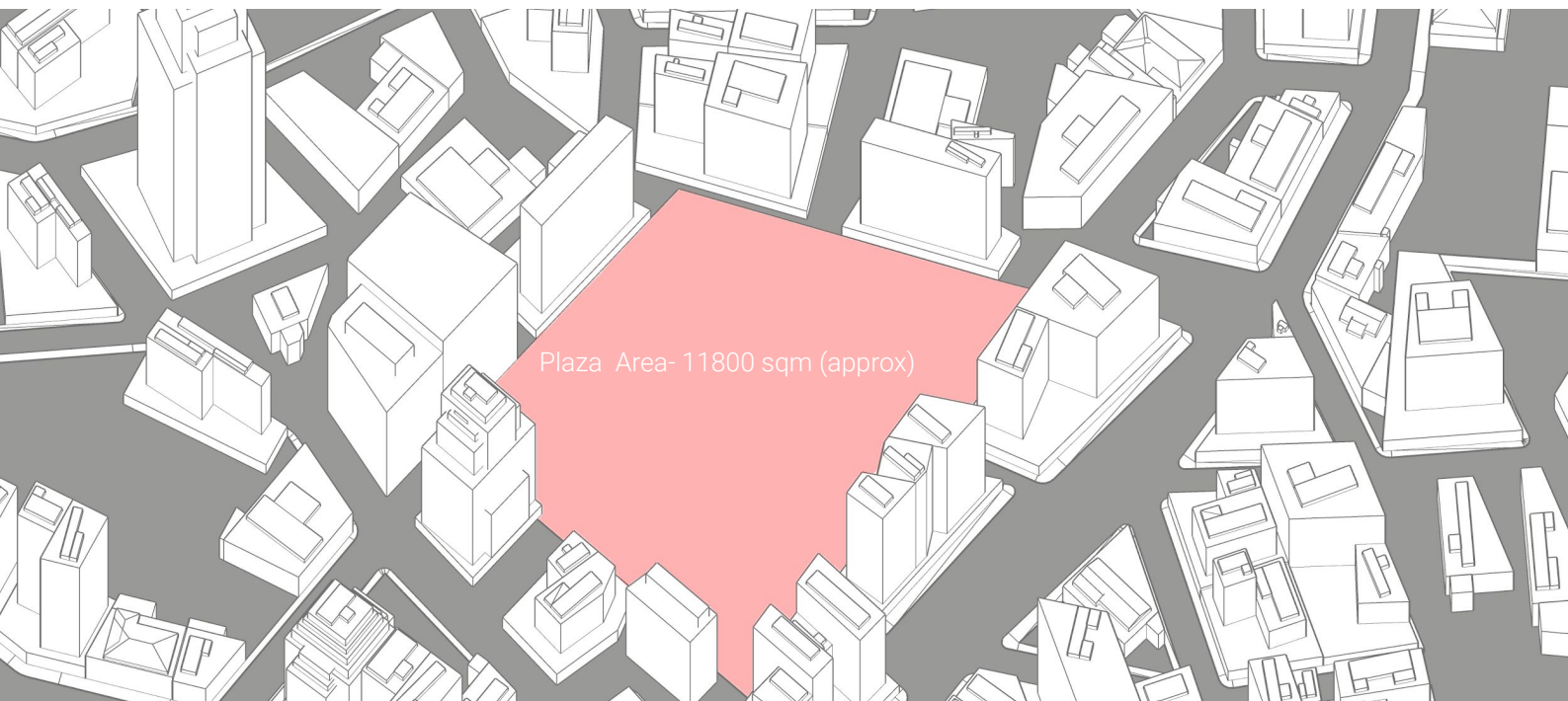


Scenario 1- Sidewalks: Propose seating for 2-3 people



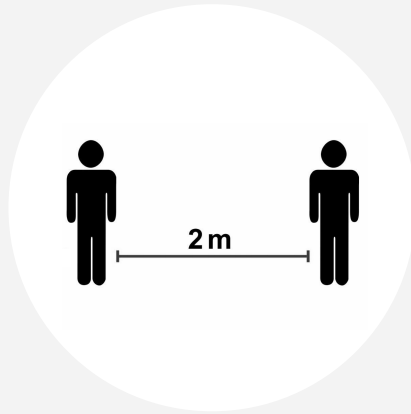
Park Area- 3000 sqm (approx)

Scenario 2- Neighborhood Parks:- Propose seating for 2-3 and 5 people



Plaza Area- 11800 sqm (approx)

Scenario 3- Public Plaza in a Commercial/Corporate Neighborhood: Propose seating for a group of 5-10 people



Physical Distancing

Proposed design should follow the social distancing guidelines, i.e., 2m distance between 2 people.



Robust

Since the intervention is meant for public spaces, durability of it becomes an important factor.



Materiality

Emphasis must be given on the rigidity of the materials used and how can the same be regularly disinfected.



Inclusivity

All age groups must be kept in mind while designing.

Objectives

Participants can use the suggested objectives to begin their design. However, this is not an exhaustive list.

Participants must choose a single city for all the scenarios. Thus, the culture of that city would determine the kind of public furniture required.

Guidelines

You have to deliver an architectural outcome on the following site, based on the given outlines.

- Recommended number of sheets/presentation images/boards:

5 (Five) of size [**2800px x 3500px**] in portrait digital format (**JPEG only**).

Minimum 3 (Three) & No maximum sheet limit. Each image should be less than **15MB**. (Do not submit PNG format)

Minimum requisite submission are sheets/boards + Cover image containing:

- Site plan (Compulsory)
- Key conceptual sections x 1 (Minimum)
- 3D views x 4
- Cover image / Thumbnail of size 2000px x 1000px or larger in aspect ratio 2:1.
- Answering 6 FAQ's #
- This is the link for new file sizes, [here](#).

#The FAQ's have to be answered as instructed in the FAQ document in the 'additional resources folder'.

Deadlines

Discover the competition schedule and deadlines on the competitions page or on this link - [Schedule](#).

Resources

This competition contains additional resources that contains a set of files useful to complete the competition submission. This folder is made available on your profile dashboard automatically as soon as you register.

This additional resources folder of this competition contains: Submission Format files in PSD | AI | InDD, FAQs, Sketchup Model of the site.

Rules

- + The competitions is open for **students and professionals** from all the disciplines of design.
- + The team limit for this competition is **4 members maximum per team**.
- + You can register more than one team but they have to be registered separately.
- + Ensure that the final sheets submitted **do not include your name or any other mark of identification**. Your submission is linked to your user account which stands as your identification.
- + This is a design **ideas challenge only**. There is no built commission/realization associated with the problem.
- + In case of publication in yearbook we will reach out separately for selected entries.
- + Plagiarism of any idea / form / design / image will be disqualified with a notice.

Pro-Tips

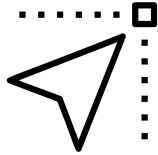
- + Use exploded views to discuss multi levelled conceptual models better.
- + Mention sheet number on corner of every sheet.
- + All the sheets or images will be viewed on a digital device. **e.g.** Laptop screen or projector. Uploaded sheets or images will not be physically printed for evaluation. The submission hence should be prepared for digital viewing only.
- + Submit JPEG images only. (PNG will not function)



Awards

Grants of up to a total of **24,000\$** can be won on this challenge. Learn more about the full conditions on the competition page [here](https://competitions.uni.xyz).

The entries will be judged by an international jury of the competition on the following criteria:



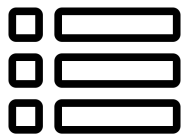
Presentation

The fundamental to a good entry is a good presentation.



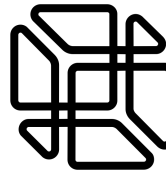
Concept/Idea

Quality of thought and intent in pre-design phase.



Spaces/Programme

How the spaces are calculated and ordered.



Design Outcome

The final architectural outcome of the solution.

Judging Criteria

The judging panel can also add other criteria based on their internal discussions - which will be in line with the problem statement. Participants are advised to fulfil above given criteria first in their design.

About



BOUN Serves as a unit block for UNI in the field of furniture design. It serves as a platform for experimentation and conceptual exchange of ideas for furniture designs happening at various levels. The program intends to get designers from around the world and encourage them to share their extraordinary design ideas.

Through our furniture design competition at **BOUN**, we intend to create a dialogue among designers where they have full freedom to create contextual and user-centric design. Our furniture design awards will identify and acknowledge young and budding designers from across the globe. This approach towards design would serve in refurbishing the profession's identity and will help the product to reach masses through our leading media and industry partners.

Queries: support@uni.xyz

Discover other competitions: <https://competitions.uni.xyz>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/unidesigntogether/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/uni.xyz/>

Discover FAQ's about this competition on our help forum here: <https://help.uni.xyz/>

An aerial photograph of a large, wavy wooden structure, resembling a giant ribbon or a series of interconnected loops, installed on a glass floor. The structure is made of light-colored wood and is designed for people to sit on. Several people are seen sitting on different parts of the structure, some in small groups and others alone. The glass floor reflects the structure and the people, creating a complex pattern of reflections. The overall scene is bright and modern, suggesting an urban or public space setting.

BOUN
re-connect

Rethinking Urban Furniture

Available on:
Institutional Access™

<https://competitions.uni.xyz>

Source: Please be seated by Paul
Cocksedge Studio