

**LARC 504-001 Sustainable Urban Design Studio**  
*Getting to Minus 80. The Vancouver Streetcar City. 2050 and Beyond*

**Assignment One: History and Morphology of the Vancouver Streetcar City**

**Project Issued: Wednesday September 8**  
**Project Review: Wednesday September 27 - 2:00 pm**

**Overview**

The penultimate product of this studio is a book. The book will have three sections. This first assignment is to write and compose the first section of this book. The first section of the book is called the “History and Morphology of the Vancouver Streetcar City”. We are unearthing something so obvious but so forgotten and therefor invisible. We are making the streetcar city visible again. This is important work and will have wide impact.

**Table of Contents**

1. History A. The emergence of the technology
2. History B. The relationship between the sub-dividers and the transit systems
3. The physical morphology of the streetcar neighbourhood - anywhere
4. The physical morphology of the streetcar neighbourhood - Vancouver.
5. Energy use in streetcar city period compared to now.
6. Qualitative public realm analysis of streetcar city neighbourhoods (corridors and nodes) – (Scot, maybe this is a bigger category with more pieces?)
7. The removal of streetcars in the 50s - why? Why were electric buses kept but not streetcars.
8. Failed attempts in our region to do light rail and streetcar since 1950
10. Energy use, capacity, operations costs compared with other modes.

**Teams**

For this assignment you will be working in groups of two made up of students from both Planning and Landscape Architecture. Each team will produce a two panels maximum on their assigned topic.

**Presentation/format**

All students are required to adhere to a uniform format. This is necessary for the final book to have integrity. We have to enforce this rule rigorously for this reason. The Adobe Illustrator page template is available for download on the class website, accessible at: <http://www.urbanstudio.sala.ubc.ca/>

Each page will have the following.

1. A minimum of 250 words, a maximum of 500 words, of descriptive text.
2. A minimum of two, a maximum of five, illustrations (photos, graphs, drawings, or charts)

**Gallery Presentation**

The individual pages will be blown up and printed on a color plotter to produce one meter by one meter display boards. Some or all of these display boards will be hung as part of the “Streetcars – The Missing Link” event held on September 29. More details of this event to follow.