3D Transit Modeling and Civic Participation
Researchers: Heather Braiden, Stephen Charters, Tristan Cleveland, Kent MacDougall, Nola Kilmartin, Andrew Chung
Supervisor: Nik Luka
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Research Aims:

How can we enhance visual communication and include public participation in the debates surrounding public infrastructure redevelopment? Ageing urban infrastructure such as roads and highways are nearing the end of their life cycle all across Canada. There is an open debate in many cities in regard to the restructuring of road and highway networks to include alternatives such as mass public transit. Montréal is one of these cities and to improve the quality of life for those living and working along these transport corridors, as well as realizing urban land use potential, we need to enhance public participation in the redesign of urban environments.

UCwinRoad is a software program that uses intelligent data to reproduce traffic patterns and movement in a simulated urban environment. This program can map existing and proposed designs to allow the general public to visualize alternatives, in near real-time, making it an ideal tool for engaging stakeholders in exploring and understanding impacts of alternative urban transport solutions. The purpose of this research is to build a 3D model of the Turcot interchange and its alternative proposals to continue public debate in the future of transport in Montréal.

Key results to date:

To date our team has begun training in using the software program UCwinRoad at the University of McGill’s School of Architecture FARMM (Facility for Architectural Research in Multi-Media) Lab. We have met with the designers of the alternative Turcot options and begun digitally modelling the interchange. We propose to have the first model finished shortly and will continue to build our skills as these modelling exercises progress.

Source: www.ucwinroadusa.com