Adding layers to the city, more spaces for the community activating layers underneath for the people as cities grow upward
- Fastest-sinking city in the world
- Home to 10 million people
- 60% citizens don’t have access to clean pipeline water
- The most polluted city in Southeast Asia
- Frequent flooding
- Traffic problems
Cities all around the world are reclaiming spaces under the elevated infrastructure while Jakarta is at the beginning of building its layers upward.
Cities like Paris, London and New York are on the move to revitalise the unused underground spaces while Jakarta starts digging its surface.

A 34-year dream of the country finally becomes a reality when it starts digging the ground in 2013 which then opened the first Indonesia Underground Rail Network in 2019 with the hope to overcome traffic gridlock.
Is Jakarta heading towards the right way?
Is elevated infrastructure benefiting the community?
Is underground infrastructure safe from flooding & earthquake?
The spaces beneath elevated infrastructures in Jakarta is like a dark and dusty corridors of neglect. It is home for the slums, filled with trash, and quite noisy due to traffic running on the above. These spaces should not just become structures that support the infrastructure, but they should also be an added value for the community and bring aesthetic qualities into the urban fabric.
The quickest way in reclaiming spaces under the elevated is to be tactical.

anything that invites community activities to take place
The project revitalise spaces under the viaduct by creating a green infrastructure which integrated to public open space.

(Boston, MA)
Pet garden in the middle layer between the elevated highway and the underground drainage tunnel.

(Hongkong)
Another example from Mexico on how to design a friendlier & healthier spaces under the elevated which also responding to climate change through the application of vertical gardens and rain harvesting system.

Via Verde (Mexico)
An effort to improve the space under the railway lines. The space under the elevated become like a mall space that is open and welcoming compared to conventional malls.
Under the flyover (Mumbai, India)
In Toronto, urbanist and landscape architects re-imagine the space under the elevated expressway as the new community-hub in town. The redesigning process includes an extensive public consultation with the existing community and neighborhood towns, which is now become a vibrant public place where visitors can experience a diverse mix of activities and programs.
Strategic Design Intervention

Community-led design

Green infrastructure in the mid-layer between the elevated and the underground

Affordable & low maintenance
Strategic Key Moves

1. Mapping
2. Study & Analysis
3. Focus Group Discussion
4. Planning & Design
5. Financing
Cities should create places for the people before it’s too late

In this era of the pandemic, there’s an increase demand for a healthy public open space. Reinventing spaces under the elevated for the community can be the solution to fulfil that demand, also to create water retention area to minimise risk of flooding.
Transforms space under Ibu Jakarta Penampakan Jakpus Sumur Dibangun Warna it needs a new Plan B Sepi expressway into a community venue.

References


Barady, K. (2019, 03 09), the bentway transforms space under toronto’s expressway into a community venue. Retrieved from Designboom: https://www.designboom.com/architecture/bentway-toronto-public-work-03-09-2019-fbclid=IwAR025IsClopVs7l_m001sEYsHozivWfg8r8x7XTose5R_h5y6d1YmdSHi


Chuo Line Underpass Project Community Station Higashi-Koganei / Mobility Station Higashi-Koganei in Koganei City, Tokyo by Rewrite Development. (2016, 06 10). Retrieved from Architecture Photo: http://architecturephoto.net/44076/


PROBLEMS IN JAKARTA. (n.d.). Retrieved from The Megacity of Jakarta: https://jakartabeltrami.weebly.com/urban-congestion-11185282


