Washington D.C. Union Station and Los Angeles Union Station: two rehabilitation projects, two visions for railway stations neighborhoods

Charlotte Ruggeri
Introduction: two historic landmarks...
Introduction: two historic landmarks...

Los Angeles Union Station

Author: C. Ruggeri, 2015
Washington D.C. Union Station and Los Angeles Union Station

... among the busiest in the U.S.A...

5 busiest Amtrak stations in the U.S.A

Commuter rail versus long distance rail
... with two rehabilitation projects since 2012

Washington D.C. Union Station and Los Angeles Union Station

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Results: project goals

1. Redesigning the travelling experience

Now

AFTER

Washington D.C.

Los Angeles
Results: project goals

2. Rethinking the relationships between the station and its environment

NOW

AFTER

First Street
Washington D.C.

Los Angeles
Results: project goals

2. Rethinking the relationships between the station and its environment
Results: project goals

3. Redeveloping the urban area around the station

Washington D.C. Union Station and Los Angeles Union Station

Charlotte Ruggeri

The station environment
- Washington D.C. Union Station
- Amtrak line
- MetroRail Line
- MetroRail station
- United States Capitol

Rehabilitation and gentrification
- Union Station Master Plan
- Rehabilitation projects (1st St, South Entrance)
- Political institutions
- Public gardens
- Gentrified spaces
- Rehabilitation impacts

Sources: Amtrak, 2012
Author: C. Ruggeri, 2015
Results: project goals

3. Redeveloping the urban area around the station

Downtown Los Angeles

Rehabilitation zones
- Civic center: political institutions
- Cultural institutions
- Banks, hotels and commercial area

Rehabilitation projects
- Union Station Masterplan
- Union Station
- MetroRail
- Amtrak/Metrolink
- High-speed rail in project
- Rehabilitation projects

Political Institutions
1. City Hall
2. Law court

Cultural Institutions
1. Music Center
2. Walt Disney Concert Hall
3. Museum of Contemporary Art

Sources: Metro Los Angeles (2013)
Greenway 2020 (2013)
Huffington Post (2013)
Author: C. Ruggeri (2014)
Discussion and conclusion: the gentrification

West of Broadway

Downtown Los Angeles

East of Broadway
Discussion and conclusion: becoming a regional hub?

High-Speed Rail Vision for the U.S.A

Sources: Federal Railroad Administration (2013)
Author: C. Ruggeri, 2014

Acela Express

California HSR project
References

• Name Charlotte Ruggierie speaker:
• E-mail address charlotte.ruggierie@gmail.com

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