

Gunnar H. Hand, AICP
President, MOCK Studio



Mission Statement

MOCK Studio is a consulting firm that provides city and regional planning, landscape, architecture and urban design, and real estate development services. MOCK Studio works to create affordable, livable and sustainable communities through socially responsible and environmentally beneficial projects and initiatives. By producing mission driven results developed from grassroots consensus building and expert private and public sector collaborations, MOCK Studio creates high quality designs and services for clients, investors, neighborhoods and the greater good.

Planning Services

- Meeting and Retreat Facilitation
- Strategic Planning
- Grassroots Community Organization
- Land Use and Transportation Planning
- City and Regional Comprehensive Planning

Design Services

- Exhibition and Program Design
- Landscape Design
- Streetscape Design
- Architectural Design and Rendering
- Urban Design

Development Services

- Permit Expediting
- Real Estate Development
- Construction and Project Management
- Real Estate Sales
- Property Management

Skills

- Demographic and data analysis to form a baseline of existing conditions, including current plans and policies, infrastructure capacity, ecological constraints, and social factors.
- Community consensus building, public outreach, and grassroots organization to facilitate inclusive dialogue on the future of cities by facilitating public and private sector support for the advancement of sustainability initiatives.
- Policy and design guideline development for complete and green streets, sustainable urban design, and city and regional planning best practices.
- Creating comprehensive plans of action that identify strategic initiatives in order to maximize benefits and minimize costs through a community engagement process that incorporates meaningful outreach, advocacy and education.

Recent Projects

- Developed a How To Guide with the National Chapter of the American Institute of Architects

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(AIA) to respond to disasters as well as created a summary report of the Springfield AIA's response efforts during the 2011 Joplin, MO tornado.

- Facilitated the South Kansas City Alliance, a coalition of neighborhood groups, nonprofit organizations, school districts and business improvement agencies, through a strategic planning process to develop a list of goals, objectives and actions to create a grassroots community empowerment movement.
- Instructed the Fall 2011 senior-level urban planning and design studio at the University of Missouri Kansas City. The studio developed a disaster recovery plan for a more resilient Joplin metropolitan region after the devastating May 22 tornado.
- At the Eco Abet 2011 Design Charrette, collaborated with a team of designers to develop the Switzer Community Farms masterplan in the Westside Community of Kansas City, MO.
- Developed an exhibit, *RETHINK LA*, for the A+D Museum in Los Angeles, California that envisioned a MOCK utopian future. The exhibition was open for the month of August 2011.
- Completed the design and construction of an energy upgrade and partial "green" remodel of a private residence in the historic Armour Hills neighborhood of Kansas City, MO.
- Developed a methodology for the review and prioritization of public funding requests to the Kansas City, MO Public Improvements Advisory Committee for the 4th Council District.
- Developed a strategic planning framework with the District Advisory Committee of the Kansas City, Missouri School District for the 2011-2012 school year.
- Lead an award-winning all-volunteer, multi-disciplinary group of planners, architects, and engineers (railLA and railCA) to develop a series of bilingual community design workshops, a panel discussion of transportation experts, and an international call for ideas that led to the month-long exhibition, *LA Beyond Cars*, to raise public awareness and elevate the public discourse on the transformative potential of the California High Speed Rail project.
- Processed permits through the approval process for the subdivision of land, conditional use permits, oak tree permits, alcohol permits, non-conforming reviews, parking permits, yard modifications, variances, and wireless telecommunications facilities for the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning.
- Developed the goals, objectives and implementation actions in the Los Angeles County General Plan, a long-range policy document that serves as the guide for growth and redevelopment of over 2,600 square miles and one million residents for the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning.
- Developed and authored the Pineville, Missouri Comprehensive Plan and successfully secured a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for an upgrade to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant while for the Harry S Truman Coordinating Council (HSTCC).

About the Firm

Gunnar H. Hand, AICP lives, works and volunteers in Kansas City, MO where he is currently the President of his own consulting firm, MOCK Studio, a Board member of his Homes Association, and an elected representative of the Kansas City Public Schools District. Previously, he worked for the Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning and was an elected member of both the Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC) and the Los Angeles Section of the American Planning Association (APA-LA) where he began a transportation advocacy group called railLA. Gunnar Hand has focused much of his professional career and volunteer efforts on the betterment in quality of life indicators through community consensus building, sustainability initiatives, and improved land use and transportation policy and practices.