An architecture project can define not only the shape of public space but can also generate scenarios to instigate community participation in the shaping of these. In this project, Atelier Bow-Wow demonstrates the possibility of producing commonality through a process in which, before designing the physical space, the architect invents a space for citizen participation that creates community.

**KEYWORDS** - commonality, participation, revitalization, public space, Tokyo

This project involves not only the design of a new station plaza, but also the provocation of the civic attention on town management and the revitalization of existing commercial streets in order to prepare for a new mode of citizen life in the super-aged society of typical Tokyo suburbia.

Atelier Bow-Wow has been working for 5 years on this project during which they firstly reduced the traffic area covered by asphalt and produced green gathering areas for the public. This operation was the key catalyst of the project: a new committee to discuss the use of this public space was formed, the human resources who actually use it and thus activate it were identified, and various activities including a vegetable market and a crafts market were proposed and are presently prepared for the grand opening.

In this way, the project exemplifies a new type of public sphere which operates by connecting the producers of the urban environment (municipality, engineer, architect) with the citizen. ARQ
Arquitectos / Architects
Atelier Bow Wow + Tokyo Institute of Technology Tsukamoto Lab

Ubicación / Location
Kitamoto, Saitama, Japón / Japan

Cliente / Client
Kitamoto City

Ingeniería estructural / Structural engineering
Kanebako Structural Engineers

Materiales / Materials
Planta / Plan

E. / S. 1 : 750

Atelier Bow-Wow is a Tokyo-based architecture firm founded by Yoshiharu Tsukamoto and Momoyo Kaijima in 1992. Bow-Wow’s interest lies in diverse fields ranging from architectural design to urban research and the creation of public artworks, which are produced based on the theory called ‘behaviorology’. The practice has designed and built houses, public and commercial buildings mainly in Tokyo, but also in Europe and the USA. Their urban research studies lead to experimental projects of ‘micro-public-space’, a new concept of the public space which has been exhibited across the world.

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Croquis / Drawing
© Atelier Bow-Wow
Pavement: Grass block /eight.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum/five.pnum x /five.pnum/five.pnum mm.
Pavimento: Bloque de césped /eight.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum/five.pnum x /five.pnum/five.pnum mm.
Interlocking pavers t=/eight.pnum/zero.pnum mm; sand t=/two.pnum/zero.pnum mm; drainage membrane; open-graded asphalt t=/five.pnum/zero.pnum mm; recycled crushed stone t=/one.pnum/five.pnum mm; recycled dense grade aggregate t=/two.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Accessible pavement t=/six.pnum/zero.pnum mm; /one.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum//two.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum//three.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum mm squares laid in specified pattern

Ceiling: tongue-and-groove cypress board /one.pnum/two.pnum x /one.pnum/zero.pnum/five.pnum m, /one.pnum/five.pnum x /six.pnum/zero.pnum mm; wood protection paint; vapor-permeable waterproofing membrane; water-resistant plywood underlayment t=/one.pnum/two.pnum mm; steel channel ceiling furring /five.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum @/three.pnum/zero.pnum/three.pnum mm; steel channel ceiling /one.pnum/two.pnum x /three.pnum/eight.pnum @/nine.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Bargeboard: Fluoride resin coated galvanized steel channel /one.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum - /three.pnum/eight.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Roof: Fluoride resin coated galvanized steel sheet t=/zero.pnum,/four.pnum mm; asphalt roof underlayment; wood wool cement board t=/one.pnum/five.pnum mm; steel channel purlin /five.pnum/zero.pnum x /five.pnum/zero.pnum mm t=/three.pnum,/two.pnum @/six.pnum/zero.pnum/six.pnum mm; steel l-beam /one.pnum/seven.pnum/five.pnum x /two.pnum/four.pnum/four.pnum mm.

Gutter: bent corrosion resistant steel sheet t=/zero.pnum,/eight.pnum mm.

Backing: wood wool cement board t=/one.pnum/five.pnum mm.

Column / Knee-braced column / drainpipe: fluoride resin coated galvanized steel tube Ø /one.pnum/three.pnum/zero.pnum / Ø /one.pnum/six.pnum/five.pnum / Ø /one.pnum/nine.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Cielo: tablas de ciprés machihembrado 12 x 125 mm, 15 x 60 mm; pintura protectora madera; membrana a prueba de agua permeable al vapor; contrapiso de madera contrachapada e=/50 mm; canal de acero incrustado al cielo 50 x 25/30 mm; canal de acero de cielo 12 x 38/900 mm.

Falleba: canal de acero galvanizado recubierto en resina de fluoruro Ø /one.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum - /three.pnum/eight.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Columna / columna codo / desagüe: tubo de acero galvanizado recubierto en resina de fluoruro Ø 150 / Ø 150 / Ø 150 mm.

Column / Knee-braced column / drainpipe: Fluoride resin coated galvanized steel tube Ø 150 / Ø 150 / Ø 150 mm.
Pavement: Grass block /eight.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum/five.pnum x /five.pnum/five.pnum mm.

Pavimento: Bloque de césped /eight.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum/five.pnum x /five.pnum/five.pnum mm.

Interlocking pavers t=/eight.pnum/zero.pnum mm; sand t=/two.pnum/zero.pnum mm; drainage membrane; open-graded asphalt t=/five.pnum/zero.pnum mm; recycled crushed stone t=/one.pnum/five.pnum mm; recycled dense grade aggregate t=/two.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Adoquines trabados e= /eight.pnum/zero.pnum mm; arena e=/two.pnum/zero.pnum mm; membrana de drenaje; asfalto graduado e=/five.pnum/zero.pnum mm; grava reciclada e=/one.pnum/five.pnum mm; áridos reciclados comprimidos e=/two.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Accessible pavement t=/six.pnum/zero.pnum mm; /one.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum//two.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum//three.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum mm squares laid in specified pattern

Ceiling: tongue-and-groove cypress board /one.pnum/two.pnum x /one.pnum/zero.pnum/five.pnum m, /one.pnum/five.pnum x /six.pnum/zero.pnum mm; wood protection paint; vapor-permeable waterproofing membrane; water-resistant plywood underlayment t=/one.pnum/two.pnum mm; steel channel ceiling furring /five.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum @/three.pnum/zero.pnum/three.pnum mm; steel channel ceiling /one.pnum/two.pnum x /three.pnum/eight.pnum @/nine.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Cielo: tablas de ciprés machihembrado /one.pnum/two.pnum x /one.pnum/zero.pnum/five.pnum mm, /one.pnum/five.pnum x /six.pnum/zero.pnum mm; pintura protectora madera; membrana a prueba de agua permeable; contrapiso de madera contrachapada e=/one.pnum/two.pnum mm; canal de acero incrustado al cielo /five.pnum/zero.pnum x /two.pnum/five.pnum @/three.pnum/zero.pnum/three.pnum mm; canal de acero de cielo /one.pnum/two.pnum x /three.pnum/eight.pnum @/nine.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Bargeboard: Fluoride resin coated galvanized steel channel /one.pnum/zero.pnum/zero.pnum - /three.pnum/eight.pnum/zero.pnum mm.

Roof: fluoride resin coated galvanized steel sheet t=/zero.pnum,/four.pnum mm; asphalt roof underlayment; wood wool cement board t=/one.pnum/five.pnum mm; steel channel purlin /five.pnum/zero.pnum x /five.pnum/zero.pnum mm e=/three.pnum,/two.pnum @/six.pnum/zero.pnum/six.pnum mm; steel l-beam /one.pnum/seven.pnum/five.pnum x /two.pnum/four.pnum/four.pnum mm.

Canaleta: lámina de acero plegada, resistente a la corrosión. Soporte: placa de cemento y lana de madera e=05 mm.

Gutter: bent corrosion-resistant steel sheet t=0.8 mm.

Backin: wood wool cement board t=0.5 mm.

Column / Knee-braced column / drainpipe: fluoride resin coated galvanized steel tube Ø /one.pnum/three.pnum/zero.pnum / Ø /one.pnum/six.pnum/five.pnum / Ø /one.pnum/nine.pnum/zero.pnum mm.