Farm(ism)

The fast loss of farmland seems to be a severe problem in America. Due to urban sprawl, a large amount of farmlands has been converted into suburban houses, malls and roads. According to American Farmland Trust, America loses over two acres of farmland every single minute of every day. As the population increase dramatically (over 400 million population predicted by 2050), the country is possibly exposed to the risk of food shortage. Now the question is: where do we grow our food?
Farm(ism) Illusion

When we are sick of the jammed highways and yelling each other with harsh horns, we see a mirage, a green city in the dreamland. A voice in my head starts haunting me. “We need re-connect our city. We need create a sense of community. We need preserve our environment...” Then we ask ourselves: Will there be a revolution on the car-dominated infrastructure to relieve our worry for the inadequate farmlands? Can the farms grow in the infrastructures? Can those urban scars be healed by new “green infrastructure”? 
Farm(ism) Principles

By mapping the vehicular network of nodes and linear roads, we explore the opportunities to transform them into a farming production line. For example, the local streets can be used as community vegetable / fruit gardens to produce fresh organic food. The car park at the shopping malls can be converted into farm nursery or education centre. The organic food market will replace the gas station for the community to exchange products. To narrow the freeways provides room for mass-produced food, while at the intersections plant wind-power generators to irrigate the crops. In the city centre, the storm water tanks can be installed in the underground garage, and the new structure built on the rooftop will function as fresh food showroom and salon. Through the optimization of land use flourish local farms in the existing infrastructure.
Farm(ism) Production Network

Possible Sites Linked to Food Production Network

Shopping Centre Car Park  Gas Station  Local Street  Local Park  Vacant Land
Farm(ism) at Local Street

In the short term, the local farming activities can be carried out in the local streets to produce fresh organic food. The transformation of local streets to generators of agricultural products not only increases food production but also enhances the sense of community.
Farm(ism) at Shopping Mall

In the medium term, the farm nursery or education centre will be established in the shopping malls. The community can gather around to learn farming skills, access information and receive agricultural samples. In the long-term vision, the car park can be converted into nursery to cultivate new products.
Farm(ism) at Gas Station

The rise of petrol price will force people to less rely on private cars. In the short term, the temporary market can be held at the gas station to provide fresh organic food. In the future the market will replace the gas station permanently for the community to sell and buy their products.
Farm(ism) at Freeways

In the long term, narrowing the freeways provides room for mass-produced food. The underground tanks collect rainwater for irrigation, while at the intersections plant wind generators to supply power. The new light rail system is used to deliver products to the city.