Cincinnati is made up of 52 communities all of which have a distinct sense of identity and place. These communities have a profound impact on the history of the city. As there is a big push to reinvest in downtown, there is still a stringent pull on the fabric of the outlying communities by the continuation of sprawl. Community networking breaks down as the environment becomes less supportive of healthy neighborhood relationships. Culture is translated through spatial identity over time. As the suburban landscape becomes continuously more hostile, it is imperative to rescue and restore our civic centers. To create an event in each community that can be both celebratory to the neighborhood itself while bringing awareness to the other communities of the city would strengthen the bonds of the city at large and promote smarter and inclusive development.
This design attempts to promote the inclusion of all of Cincinnati’s neighborhoods by creating a mobile infrastructure and a planning infrastructure to facilitate community events. Each event will be a unique community project aimed at strengthening the awareness of that neighborhood’s identity. The key to the design of a food event using this infrastructure is that they are well planned using specific and intrinsic characteristics of each neighborhood. The planning infrastructure will aid in bringing a community together to discuss what it is that makes the neighborhood special. The infrastructure to assist the execution of these events will be a mobile kitchen designed on a low riding flat-bed trailer. The Pop-Up will provide the equipment and services to run an event. The events will include local food items prepared and served by the community, some live entertainment element (ideally from the community), a presentation on the historical and social significance of each neighborhood, a collaborative community art project which is to serve as a semipermanent reminder of the event, and any auxiliary activities that the community plans for to happen.