The station is located at the heart of the South Works site in the south of Chicago. It not only accommodates passenger trains but also functions as a cultural destination, incorporating the kiss 'n' ride and light rail station as part of the new masterplan on the former Steel Mill site. The station’s design is a response to the need for a functional and visually appealing transit hub within the urban landscape.

The public realm is situated directly above the station facility placed within. People and goods move through this area, which is designed to accommodate public functions inside and above. This approach is intended to maximize interaction between passengers and the surrounding community, creating a connection to the heart of the masterplan: manufacturing.

Instead of a point you simply pass through, the station guides passengers to catch their breath and leisure along amidst this high density urban life: a place to meet and socialize. The projection of typical manufacturing programme masses are lowered to directly connect to the main supply artery that runs below ground and becomes the hinterlands at the other side. A rational programmatic approach to the design of South Works Station is needed – a connection from the main rail line to the light rail line within the masterplan is needed. The public realm is located on top of the station, offering open public spaces and opportunities for social interaction.

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