Unit 1: LEARNING DIARY

Working on the site design is very crucial in any given project especially programming. It makes a clear and concise goal on what the site should be doing. It is very difficult to come up with the design as you code because you cannot see the bigger picture and naturally it can lead you to design options that are merely available. It does not force you to find new methods and algorithms to make your vision a reality.

The Flow Chart and Page Design was a great guide to have while programming. I know that as I am coding, I will make lots of references back to the guide to make sure everything is going as planned.

The Personas and Scenarios is also a great tool because it solidifies the mission and usage of the site. I know that as I program, I will think about the motivation and sit in the perspective of a user and make sure I can cater all the features to their needs.

CHANGES:

Initially I had made a Rent API calculator as one of the features of the website. This I changed as I did more research because the utility of the API is not as helpful as I had thought. Firstly, the API is more focused in the US Real Estate market and secondly the judgement of rent price is not always based on averages and math. Talking to a realtor friend of mine and sharing the idea he said a Rent calculator would not be as helpful as I think. They finalize a rent more according to some high price they set and judge the reaction of the market to lower it.

Another feature that many of my friends and family need especially Real Estate agents is a Travel Cost Calculator. With the recent spike in gas prices, it makes commuting a more conscious effort. I have also not come across any website where you are able to input your location, destination, fuel economy, and gas price and it outputs the cost of the trip. I made this change as well within the design to better suit the utility of the website.