Diversity, Uniformity and Urban Political Participation

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Our paper aims to analyse the effects of heterogeneity/homogeneity on political participation. One hypothesis is that socially and/or ethnically homogenous urban areas will have a negative impact on participation. When social groups with different backgrounds are less likely to encounter, the mobilising effect of conflict is weakened. Hence, participation will decline. Another assumption points in a different direction: Diversity may lead to paralysis. Particularly in cases of multiple identities, citizens will be exposed to cross-pressure and will tend to abstain from participating. A crucial argument put forward in this paper is that we need to distinguish between different types of contextual effects. We therefore differentiate between a) aggregate effects of social heterogeneity on the level of participation in a community as a whole (random intercept), and b) effects on specific groups given their relative position vis-à-vis the dominant social group in the community (random slope, cross-level interaction). The paper uses a unique data set consisting of approximately 11.500 individual respondents from Norwegian municipalities that allows us to link individual-level data to municipal-level data. Thus, we have used multilevel modelling in order to investigate the effects of contextual factors on individual behaviour. At the contextual level (level 2) we employ a data set consisting of a wide variety of variables characterizing the municipalities.
Revitalizing Urban Development in Malaysia Through the Implementation of Urban Regeneration Programme

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The problems of urban decay and brownfields can be greatly alleviated by creating a rational economic framework in which the private sector may operate, respond and be guided by well-considered, typically local, public decisions for prioritization of private-sector driven site cleanup. In an unsubsidized setting, market economics drive the cleanup decisions of these challenging sites. With public guidance, private forces can operate efficiently to produce revitalization in places where communities most need it, but where without such public incentive, revitalization may not occur. Urban regeneration in its original form has been called a failure by many urban planners and civic leaders, and has since been reformulated with a focus on redevelopment of existing communities. Over time, urban regeneration evolved into a policy based less on destruction and more on renovation and investment, and today is an integral part of many local governments, often combined with small and big business incentives. However in many cities in the world, urban regeneration projects are still widely accused of abuse and corruption.

Malaysia’s modern urban growth, development and urbanisation experiences may be conveniently periodised into three major periods, based on the form, structure and functions of the urban centres. In Malaysia, given the growing conditions of neglect and degradation of the cities centers. Since most Malaysian city centers are very old historical cities and seem to be rediscovering now the economic value of creative industries and culture. Urban revitalization and regeneration together with the issues of energy sustainability and the need to reduce polluant emissions, are today the major challenges facing the planning of cities. The concept of urban regeneration in Malaysia's cities to promote a "return to the city", revitalise the city centre, restore activity in a fiercely competitive international context, and implement initiatives to improve the quality of the environment operating in a wide sense towards a smart growth. Urban regeneration is more than just upgrading the physical environment of an area to hopefully spark private investment. However one of most critical issue in urban regeneration is gentrification. This should not be happend in the true spirit of urban revitalition. Instead of displacing the existing community, they should be relocated to the same site. Therefore urban regeneration processes accomplishes the growing importance in literature of concepts like territorial governance, institutional relational density, creativity, social capital, city branding, city image and place marketing. Kuala Lumpur City Hall is among the municipalities practices urban regeneration by recognizing it as one of the strategic directions the city will take in an effort to encourage more sustainable lifestyles.
Home Owner Associations and Municipal Government: An Exploration of Fiscal Issues

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The focus of this paper and research is to better understand the partnership between homeowner associations (HOAs or planned unit developments) and municipal governments. Who pays for what, and what are the arrangements in sharing of services? Do cities significantly offset costs by downloading or shifting service responsibilities to private governments? Correctly understanding these issues will drive the discussion of municipal policy regarding approving HOA developments and also agreeing to takeover once private services. The potential cost or savings to local government through shifting service delivery to HOAs is lacking strong empirical research. Ron Cheung (2008) offers the most recent and empirical economic analysis of the impact of private governments on local public finance. Cheung's econometric study significantly advances the empirical understanding of the fiscal interaction between public and private governments. However, empirical research on this fundamental question -- do HOAs produce fiscal efficiency gains -- is difficult due to three challenges. First, there is a lack of good data tracking the financial arrangements that many municipalities enter with cities. Second, the uniqueness of each city financial structure and each HOA dynamic makes it difficult to make general statements or conclusions. And third, the recent proliferation of HOAs does not present much long-term data, leaving out a significant piece of the equation - what happens when HOAs age and cannot still meet their service obligations to the HOA residents. Despite these challenges the focus of this research is to help bridge this gap in fiscal impact or efficiency studies assessing the interaction between HOAs and cities.
Pols, Patronage, and Nonprofit Community Developers

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Urban scholars and activists have frequently questioned whether Community Development Corporations truly represent the community’s interest in the urban neighborhoods where they renovate housing, revitalize commercial corridors, build community services, parks and playgrounds. Randy Stoecker (Journal of Urban Affairs, 1997) observed that many CDCs are captive to the agendas of their funders (e.g., corporations, foundations, lenders), forcing them to act in ways that depart from the interests of local residents. When accused of failing to follow the wishes of community residents, CDC leaders often argue that they cannot subject every project to endless discussion in neighborhood meetings because the result is either gridlock or a series of bargains and compromises that dilute any proposal's impact. Nor is it legally necessary for CDCs to operate according to the preferences of neighborhood residents. Since they are constituted as nonprofit corporations, CDCs are legally accountable only to their boards of directors, not to the wider public in the neighborhood. Against the background of this debate, I will focus on one particular source of support for CDCs - namely, elected politicians representing urban districts who serve as patrons for CDCs, steering government money and resources to them for development projects in the jurisdictions they represent. This fits into a longstanding pattern of elected officials helping to secure government grants and contracts for both nonprofit and profit-making corporations in their districts. Yet the cases I will examine depart in important ways from the traditional patronage pattern. In these Philadelphia cases, powerful state legislators have gone beyond helping community-based organizations to secure government grants and contracts. They have created their own nonprofit corporations and then steered major grants to those entities. This paper explores the advantages that politicians gain from controlling their own nonprofits to pursue large-scale and sometimes-controversial projects within their districts. And it analyzes the problems of accountability and transparency created by such patronage relationships between government officials, nonprofit organizations, and citizens.

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Creating a resilient community involves community economic development (CED) that focuses on structural influences to increase community wealth, growth, and development, influences socioeconomic transformation, and implements innovative technology. The key to resilient communities, then, is to locate available local assets, connect them with one another in ways that multiply their power and effectiveness. Essentially, using real property to increase current assets and collectively bridging homeowners’ personal investments with community resources to create a stronger economic environment leads to resiliency. Community assets, however, are not always obvious; therefore, exploring the impact energy independent or net zero energy (NZE) communities has on economic development offers a paradigm shift in addressing community economic development concerns. This paper examines through quantitative analysis how physical capital is leveraged to gain financial capital. The questions answered are: how to create a resilient community in the 21st century? And what financial effects do net zero energy communities have on community economic development. Establishing the impact renewable energy technology in homes has on community economic development can have a positive ripple effect on individual homeowners, the community holistically, and the local economic development. The study examines how decreasing utility costs by using renewable energy technology at the individual level decreases a homeowner's housing expenditure and affects the home's equity, all while increasing community economic development. The completed study provides support for an alternative concept of combining physical and financial capital to build and sustain resilient communities with net zero energy homes.
Inaccessible accessibility: are low-income families being priced out of accessible neighborhoods?

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Accessible neighborhoods that facilitate walking, bicycling and transit are often discussed as a key strategy for addressing problems ranging from climate change to physical inactivity and obesity. Planning scholars have argued that after decades of unmet demand for housing in such neighborhoods, many urban residents are now eager to move to accessible neighborhoods where they can reduce their need to travel by car. Evidence of this can be seen in the growth of urban infill projects in many U.S. cities. At the same time, housing advocates have promoted the concept of housing + transportation (H+T) budgeting as a tool for highlighting how lower transportation costs of accessible neighborhoods can offset higher housing prices. In light of these trends, this paper examines whether low-income families are being priced out of accessible housing options. Using data from a survey of recent movers in Denver, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Portland, Salt Lake City, and Seattle, this paper examines the extent to which families of different economic means are able to choose housing locations that match their accessibility and transportation preferences. Findings have implications for ongoing planning efforts to more equitably link housing and transportation.
The Impact of Dhaka's High Density Development on Livability: A Sustainability Perspective

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In recent years there was an emerging debate on dense urban forms as the most proficient ways to reduce energy consumption and pollution and for contributing to sustainability. While high density development remains at the centre of the debate of developing a sustainable city, different countries adopt different density policies and achieve different density patterns. The cities of developing countries already have higher concentration of people than the cities of developed countries owing to rapid population growth. There is very little known about the state of sustainability in relation to urban densities in these countries. Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, has been ranked as the most densely populated urban area of the world according to Demographia in 2011. Yet densification process is going on in the city, creating extreme pressure on land, incurring congestion, environmental degradation and strain on infrastructures as well as other facilities. As a first step to investigate how Dhaka as a high density city should be managed to realize the advantages and diminish the disadvantages of its density patterns on livability, this paper aims to address the following two questions: What are the characteristics of the density patterns of Dhaka, and Why Dhaka has this distinctive pattern of high density? And, what is the impact of this density pattern on the livability aspects of Dhaka in urban sustainability terms? This study will conduct the analyses at two levels to answer the questions and both qualitative and quantitative analysis will be undertaken.. First, the unique density patterns of Dhaka will be explored through assessing density and identifying building types. Second, the livability aspect will be examined to find out how it has been affected by the density pattern and characteristics. The major indicators to assess livability will include the provision of public transport, accessibility to community facilities and residential space standard. Data regarding population, area, building type, community facilities and public transport will be collected. Semi-structured interviews with the academics, professionals and concerned officials will be conducted to explore the major factors influencing the density pattern. Case study areas will be selected for the questionnaire survey to know the residents' opinion about the impact of density pattern on livability. This study argues that in a high density city which is featured with contiguous low-rise development, it does not possess most of the sustainability benefits in livability as postulated in the compact city literature.
Investigation of TARTA’s Service Quality with Respect to Transportation Accessibility to Public High Schools in Toledo, Ohio

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In 1968 John Kain, an economist examining the link between African-American unemployment, job suburbanization, and center-city-oriented mass transit systems, proposed what became known as the spatial mismatch theory. Apart from numerous studies that examine the spatial mismatch between job and housing locations, only few investigate the spatial mismatch between public transit stops and school locations (Buliung et al 2009; Kaplan 1999; Mitra et al 2010). The motive for examining the spatial mismatch between public high school locations and Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA) bus stops became important because many students are confined to going to their underperforming community schools that have less than 75% of their students passing the Ohio Achievement Test. The number of students that go to underperforming schools, especially in the city of Toledo, is staggering. Many parents would like to send their kids to chartered schools within the same district or to another district but cannot do so because TARTA bus stops are not, in many instances, within walking distance from homes and/or schools. Therefore, TARTA bus stops, in such cases, are virtually inaccessible to the students. The objectives of this paper are twofold. Using a geographic information system (GIS) and advanced spatial statistics like Moran’s I and Geary’s C indices, part I maps and analyzes the spatial locations of both public and chartered high schools and TARTA bus stops in Toledo, Ohio. It also maps ¼-, ½-, and 1-mile buffers around each school to see if TARTA bus stops are within such buffers. Based on the maps and databases created in part I, part II estimates transit accessibility index of high schools to bus stops. Because it is not possible to estimate accessibility indices at individual student’s household level due to lack of personal-level data, the paper uses the estimated transit accessibility index of high schools to bus stops as the surrogate variable for transit accessibility index of the students' households, i.e., residential neighborhoods. Based on this analysis and a survey of the high school students who use TARTA buses to commute to schools, the paper formulates alternative sustainable future plans for TARTA to increase the transit accessibility to schools. For formulating future plans, the paper projects the population and number of high school-going children over the next 20 years by using forecasting techniques like linear, geometric, modified exponential, gompertz, and logistic. This is the first study of its nature that investigates the spatial mismatch between TARTA bus stops and high school locations, and that estimates the transit accessibility of high schools to bus stops in Toledo area. Since the study formulates alternative sustainable future plans for TARTA to improve its contribution to the high school education in Toledo, it has direct practical implications.
Unpacking Poverty: Stress as a Pathway from Neighborhood Conditions to Social Problems

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It is well established that the conditions under which people live can influence their health and well being. It is also widely known that social problems are concentrated in poorer neighborhoods. But much less is known as to "why." Some observers blame the victim; others point to poverty. Lacking satisfactory answers and seeking to avoid blaming individuals and households for conditions over which they lack control, researchers now call for unpacking poverty and for identifying pathways between neighborhood conditions and the spatial concentration of heath/social problems. This paper integrates two distinct narratives: (a) the relationship between neighborhood conditions and social problem behaviors and (b) the relationship between exposure to severe stress and social problem behaviors. The resulting framework suggests that living under highly stressful conditions can set off a biologically-induced chain reaction that can lead people to engage in troublesome behavior that brings harm to themselves or others. In brief, the exposure to prolonged and sustained stress operates as a pathway between neighborhood conditions and the presence or absence of social problems. The authors have compiled a large set of data for New York City neighborhoods that unpacks poverty by examining accumulated disadvantage/advantage based on multiple neighborhood indicators, each composed of several variables. The indicators cover: health insecurity, education insecurity, housing insecurity, income insecurity, food insecurity as well as community loss, and surveillance among other. There are also measures of efficacy such as self-advocacy and civic engagement. Keenly aware of the need to separate between explanatory and dependent variables, the authors found very high spatial correlations between social conditions and social problems. Their own surveys of stress, however, showed highest levels of stress not in the areas of severe social conditions and problems but right adjacent to these areas. This then opens a whole row of new questions from representativeness of the survey sample to the question of resilience: what are the characteristics of the people who experience lower levels of stress under adverse conditions? What is the driving spatial force that leads to distinct spatial autocorrelations in the neighborhoods of disadvantaged neighborhoods? The authors suspect that the answers lie in the realm of social processes rather than static conditions. Examples for such processes are gentrification, immigration and attitude changes among the second generation of immigrants, as well as perceptual issues associated with frontier or border communities nurtured by media rather than actual personal experience. At the time of writing this submission, the answers to these questions are
still speculative but the authors are in the process of increasing the reach of their stress surveys and thereby hope to be closer to an answer by the time this paper will be presented.
The Social Roles of Immigrant Entrepreneur Spaces

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Much of the research on economic outcomes for immigrants in the U.S. focuses on entrepreneurship. In some ways, the focus on entrepreneurship makes sense because immigrants have significantly higher rates of self-employment compared to the native born. At the same time, most immigrant workers are not entrepreneurs and tend to work in the general economy outside of ethnic enclaves, suggesting that the importance of immigrant entrepreneurship in explaining immigrant incorporation in the U.S. may have been overstated. In this article we argue that understanding the importance of immigrant entrepreneurs requires looking beyond economic issues to the social roles that immigrant entrepreneurs and the spaces where they work play in the immigrant community. We use qualitative data to respond to the following research question: How do immigrant entrepreneurs leverage their spaces to achieve non-economic goals, such as promoting community cohesiveness, clarifying ethnic identity, and encouraging leadership development? Data used in the analysis include participant observation field notes at three immigrant entrepreneur spaces along a revitalized commercial corridor in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as well as semi-structured interviews with immigrant entrepreneurs and representatives from non-profit organizations that support immigrant entrepreneurs. Research findings indicate that immigrant entrepreneur spaces help to shape the identity of immigrant groups, but that different spaces fill different roles in this identity formation process. Some spaces provide goods and services to help members of the ethnic community stay connected to the culture of their country of origin. Other, frequently more economically successful, immigrant entrepreneur spaces create a sanitized version of ethnic culture that is largely consumed by native born residents. Still other immigrant entrepreneur spaces spawn ethnic leadership and provide a space for community events in the immigrant community (e.g., cultural celebrations) that helps to define the identity of immigrants in the minds of native born residents. Finally, immigrant entrepreneurial activity and the use of spaces that inserts immigrants into public life on their terms (e.g., using gathering spaces for ethnic festivals) helps immigrants to assert their “right to the city” in an era of growing antipathy toward immigrants among native born residents of the U.S.
Segmented Assimilation and the Mexican American Prototype Revisited

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Mexican Americans have been part of the social landscape in the United States for generations, yet long-standing trends in their educational attainment and economic advancement reveal complex, divergent paths that lead to upward mobility for some and relative stagnation for others. Using Houston—one of the top Latino immigrant destinations in the United States—as an exemplar of Latino immigration to globalizing cities, I explore the paths these immigrants take. Although competing assimilation theories have yet to come to a consensus regarding the Mexican American trajectory, recent studies highlight the need to further nuance assimilation discourse within the context of cities. In this research, multiple years of cross-sectional data from the Kinder Houston Area Survey are used to examine the association between generational status and indices of cultural, economic, and civic assimilation. This approach produces a nuanced perspective on Mexican American assimilation and adaptation in cities, finding clear evidence both of assimilation processes across the generations, but also adopting to educational, cultural, and civic challenges in new, unique ways.
Measuring Growth and Change in Metropolitan Form

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Though urban expansion is key to explaining rapid economic growth, accelerating resource consumption, and social transformations in numerous emerging regions of the world, confusion persists around an empirical basis for measuring the growth and change of metropolitan areas. Numerous cities in the Global South simply do not know how and how fast they are growing. Policies addressing targets in energy consumption and economic growth are consequently based on partial evidence. Recent advancements in spatial analysis tools and remote-sensing have made it possible to track changes in a large number of metropolitan areas around the world using consistent methods. Taking advantage of these developments, this paper discusses seven fundamental urban form and land-use metrics that can be used to track growth and change in cities around the world - Size, Coverage, Polycentricity, Compactness, Discontiguity, Expandability, and Land-Use Mix. We analyze previous analogous metrics in the literature and propose important improvements made possible by novel GIS routines. A longitudinal analysis of these metrics over time can tell us how the patterns of metropolitan areas are changing - is a city growing more compact or sprawling, are its centers consolidating around particular locations or is employment becoming more scattered? Coupling these changes with social, economic and environmental indicators of corresponding cities allows us to estimate what factors explain the types and speeds of growth we observe in different cities. Having a measurable basis for tracking growth and change in metropolitan form thus not only reveals what the current urban expansion trends are, but also helps illuminate where these trends come from, where they might be headed, and how informed policy could affect their evolution.
Analyzing Neighborhood Foreclosure Risk in Mature and Developing Suburbs

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The national foreclosure crisis that began in early 2007 has had a disastrous effect on many individuals and households, most neighborhoods, cities, states, as well as the nation and the global economy (Been, et al. 2011; Bowdler, et al. 2010; Butrica, 2012; Center for Responsible Lending, n.d.; Cohen and Wardrip, 2011; Comey and Grosz, 2010; Heflin, 2010; Isaacs, 2012; Kachura, 2011; Kochhar et al., 2011; The New York Times, 2011; Rosengren, 2010; Stiglitz, 2012, among others). Foreclosure studies have been undertaken at the national (e.g., Immergluck, 2009a, 2009b), regional (e.g., Laderman and Reid, 2008), and select metropolitan levels (e.g., Immergluck and Smith, Anacker and Carr, 2011). Although the non-academic literature (Leinberger, 2008) and the media have discussed the foreclosure crisis in the suburbs to some degree, the academic literature seems to have discussed this topic to an insufficient degree (Crump et al., 2008; Richter and Seo, 2011). This paper analyzes neighborhood foreclosure risk in mature and developing suburbs. The geography is the United States. The unit of observation is the Census tract level. The data base consists of two merged data bases; first, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) 3 2010 data base, provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; second, the American Community Survey (ACS) 2005-2009 data base, publicly available on the U.S. Bureau of the Census factfinder2.census.gov website. Both data sets have Census tract boundaries based on the 2000 Census. This study will compare neighborhood foreclosure risk in three groups of Census tracts within the most populous 100 metropolitan area, based on Bulletin 10-02 issued by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB): (a) tracts in principal cities; (b) tracts in mature suburbs; and (c) tracts in developing suburbs. Suburban Census tracts are defined as tracts located within the metropolitan areas but outside of principal cities. Mature suburban Census tracts are defined as tracts where the median year a housing unit was built is between 1950 and 1969, whereas developing suburban Census tracts are defined as tracts where the median year a housing unit was built is after 1970. Two research questions are asked, differentiating among tracts in (a) principal cities, (b) mature suburbs, and (c) developing suburbs: first, what factors determine neighborhood foreclosure risk? Second, what are the differences among the factors that determine neighborhood foreclosure risk? Very preliminary results indicate differences among these groups of tracts as well as among Census regions. Policy suggestions will be offered in this paper, based on final results.
A Review of the Concept of Creative Cities in Europe: Brussels Capital Region, Towards a Creative City?

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As the concept of a Creative City has been deployed in European urban policies, the impacts on urban planning have been subject to closer review and discussion. The concept of a Creative City emerges from the context of knowledge based-economy on the one hand; and from Europe’s aim to reposition European cities in the Megalopolitan Archipelago World on the other hand. From the European Capital of Culture (1985) to the Bologna process (1999), the emphasis on Creative Cities has been changing European metropolises on several scales. This paper presents results from ongoing research on the construction of the concept of a Creative City in Europe and examines the impact of this concept on urban planning and policies in the Brussels Capital Region. Brussels is an international city and Capital of Europe with more than 1.150.000 inhabitants (Inner city) and more than 2.600.000 inhabitants (Metropolitan Region). The unanswered question is: how is Brussels regionalizing a European concept such as the Creative City and should it be changing paradigms of urban planning? Four plans are discussed in this paper to show evidence of the regionalization of the Creative City concept: Plan of International Development (2008); ongoing Regional Plans for Innovation and Sustainable Development; and the plan to create a metropolitan community of governance. This last plan should be an opportunity to restructure Higher Education centralities in the Brussels Metropolitan Region (Brussels, Leuven and Louvain-la-Neuve). The key findings are: 1. the concept of a Creative City in the Capital of Europe is recent and under construction if compared to the two other Belgian Regions (Wallonia and Vlaanderen) and to cities such as Lille in France or the Ruhr Valley cities in Germany. 2. The project of a Creative City has little spatialization on the regional territory even if the Brussels Metropolitan Region has more than 200.000 higher education students and the main Belgian concentration of jobs in innovative sectors. 3. The complexity and the innovative strategies that have been developed in the Brussels’s case in order to connect the aims of these different plans to the urban and metropolitan scales, should change the paradigms of the Creative City as understood in Europe today.
We Got More Educated, We Are Better Off? Right?

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In the twenty-first century, human capital and a highly educated workforce are the key factor to urban, municipal, and metropolitan competitiveness. America’s increasing wage inequality can largely be attributed to the preference for high technological literacy and educational attainment (Goldin and Katz 2008). Cities and metropolitan areas benefit greatly from high concentrations of well educated, high skilled residents (Gottlieb and Fogarty 2003). Highly skilled cities are more innovative and able to shake off negative shocks and recessions faster than less educated cities (Glaeser and Saiz 2003). While the benefits of a highly skilled workforce are well documented, there is little recent research on what characteristics of localities or regions drive human capital accumulation. Well educated young adults state that they prefer to live in built up vibrant urban areas, but their actions show that wages and opportunity for continuing education are stronger attractors for these individuals (Cortright 2005; Hansen, Ban, and Huggins 2003). Local and regional economic development policy would benefit from a better understanding of how to attract or build human capital. There is even less research on what effect human capital accumulation has on the labor market as a whole. Analysis of the 78 metropolitan statistical areas that increased their educated workforce between 1990 and 2010 shows uneven labor market outcomes. Many regions that increased human capital did not improve their labor market. This suggests that improvement in the educational attainment of the regional workforce does not always trickle down to lower skilled workers. Urban and metropolitan leaders should find ways to ensure that the entire workforce benefits from programs to improve educational attainment. The first step in this is explaining why some regions have convert these gains and others do not. Using linear and multivariate logistic models I test the role of several economic and labor market dynamics in contributing to the conversion of growth in educational attainment into a stronger labor market. The dynamics that I hypothesize to be important include the role of in migration of young workers, the regional industrial mix, the presence and ranking of institutions of higher learning, the presence of a dominant industry or institution, and the level of residential segregation of educated workers from low-skilled workers.
Olympic Impact: Whose City is It?

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This paper is concerned with urban development’s consequences, particularly when cities bid for and then host the Olympic games. After discussing the politics of mega events, we examine the three US cities with recent experience of hosting mega events: Los Angeles, Atlanta and Salt Lake City. Our examination of these cities assesses the original reasons for to host the Olympic games as expressed in the bid process, the development “model” used to put on the games, and the legacies in these cities in the post-Olympics period. In these three cities, although the host city models varied the local impacts were similar in terms of the beneficiaries, calling into question the criteria and politics used to make these urban development decisions.
From Toxics as LULUs to Green Goods as LULUs? Backfiring Advocacy and the Evolution of Community Organizing for Environmental Justice

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Much of the extensive literature on environmental justice has examined inequities in exposure to contamination and health risks. Historically, minorities and low-income populations have suffered from greater environmental harm from waste sites, incinerators, refineries, transportation, and small-area sources than white and well-off communities. Those toxic sources have traditionally been called LULUs (Locally Unwanted Land Uses). In cities, inequalities are also manifested in the territorial allocation of environmental goods and services. Indeed, deprived urban neighborhoods tend to get poor environmental services such as street cleaning and waste collection while wealthier and white communities enjoy environmental privileges - parks, coasts, open space, or sports centers. In many cities, deprived neighborhoods are also often known as food deserts or fast food jungles. Residents of distressed communities have not remained passive and silent vis-à-vis environmental inequalities. Numerous environmental justice struggles have emerged around the globe since the 1980s. Furthermore, the EJ agenda has recently expanded to include the right to well-connected, affordable, and clean transit systems; to healthy, fresh, local, and affordable food for community food security; to a green housing; and to increased opportunities in the green economy. From LA to Barcelona and from Durban to Lima, activists have organized to enhance the environmental quality and livability of their neighborhood and rebuild degraded spaces in a holistic manner. However, their demands are like a double-edge sword: As the neighborhood becomes revitalized and greener, the lands often turns from being de-valued to valued again. Residents start fearing that processes of encroachment and gentrification might push them away and that they might not be able to remain in a neighborhood they helped rebuild. The fear is to see a parallel process of greening and whitening for communities that have traditionally been mostly inhabited by residents of color. In the end, parks or healthy food options have come to be seen as LULUs. To date, little is known about the impact of these processes of (re)development and (re)valuation on community organizing and social movements. How do community groups and neighborhood organizations adapt their engagement and mobilization to this new reality? How do they engage planners and decision-makers so that their neighborhood’s environmental quality is enhanced but their neighborhood remains affordable? What discourses and strategies do they deploy? Through a study of community organizing in historically marginalized neighborhoods of Boston and Barcelona, I analyze resistance processes to the greater provision of environmental goods. I also consider the new discourses, alliances, and allegiances of activists, and examine how they grapple with a new complex scenario for their neighborhood.
City Attraction Hypothesis and Global Intercity Competition

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Globalisation is dramatically changing the context of urban communities and the premises for urban development policy. In the context of global intercity competition, cities' major goal is to increase their competitiveness, in which the positioning and attractiveness of a city have a critical function. Attraction-oriented strategy aims at effective absorption of external resources from the global space of flows. At the core of attraction strategy are business promotion activities with appealing incentives offered to businesses, but it is assumed that such a competition is risky and may lead to a race to the bottom. Therefore the emphasis is increasingly on less costly and more synergistic city marketing, which utilises city branding and 'city profiling' that aim at attracting value within some special high-value adding service or high-tech sector. This paper proposes a city attraction hypothesis that states that global intercity competition is essentially about a city's ability to attract the highest possible value from global flows of values in order to promote urban development. The result of such a global intercity competition determines cities' functions and positions in the global division of labour and thus in the global urban hierarchy, and ultimately determines their ability to increase prosperity and welfare in urban communities.
Effects of Public Service Motivation on Citizen Participation

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Citizens involvement in government administrative decisions, commonly referred to as "citizen participation," has been discussed extensively in the public administration literature. Most of such focus on the importance of genuine public deliberation as well as explore various ways of actively involving citizens in government decisions. However, discussions of the role of the public administrator in this process, and how their attitude influences public participation have only received scant attention. Much of this research shows that people with high public service motivation (PSM) are more inclined to embrace public discourse involved in their work with public service. Thus, employees with high PSM are more likely to be whistle blowers when democratic participatory measures are overlooked by their organizations. They are also more likely to make personal sacrifices toward citizen participation. This study continues this line of analysis by examining citizen participation (CP) and its effect on public service employees with specific emphasis on city planners and administrators. Specifically, we use results from a survey of city planners and administrators from California, Florida, South Carolina, Virginia, and Texas, to explore the relationship between PSM and public servants' attitudes toward embracing citizen participation. The results suggest that while PSM influences planners' and administrators' attitude toward CP, other factors, such as institutional and public boards' support are also enormously important. Conversely, tenure and ability of employees to utilize discretionary time off when CP functions require them to work additional hours, do not significantly influence bureaucrat's attitude toward CP. We argue that knowing the attitudes of public service personnel toward citizen participation is essential because it informs administrators of the level of personnel management needed and strategies to adopt that foster PSM, while abiding with legislative and social requirements of public discourse in governmental decision making.
Affordable Housing in National Register Districts: Mapping the Advantages of Historic Urban Neighborhoods

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The intersection of modern housing policy with the policies protecting the historic building stock found in many older cities creates opportunities that have never been fully recognized by the housing advocacy or historic preservation communities. While community services and facilities play a role in shaping the quality of life enjoyed by all income levels, ready access to those services is particularly important for low income households. At the same time, many of the historic neighborhoods found in older cities were built to facilitate urban life in the pre-automobile era, resulting in a relatively tight concentration of community services and facilities. Many of those neighborhoods, particularly those that escaped Urban Renewal, are also now listed or are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This makes building rehabilitation projects in these neighborhoods likely candidates for a major source of gap financing in the form of federal, state and sometimes local historic preservation tax credits. This research explores the implications of this intersection for a policy goal that is too rarely associated with historic preservation: raising the quality of low income housing. Covington, KY and Louisville, KY, both historic cities located along the Ohio River, will serve as the primary case studies for this research. Using GIS, this paper will compare some of the locational characteristics of low income housing units built using two different forms of gap financing. One group was built using a combination of both Low Income Housing Tax Credits and the Historic Preservation Tax Credit, while the other group was built using Low Income Housing Tax Credits alone. It will map and measure the proximity of these two different types of housing to several basic community services, including: public transit stops, public schools, seniors’ centers, hospitals, public parks, grocery stores and libraries. The findings indicate that when low income housing units are guided by the requirements of both Low Income Housing Tax Credits and Historic Preservation Tax Credits, the units produced are likely to be closer to basic community services than housing units developed using Low Income Housing Tax Credits alone. Bearing in mind that these are functionally new units, developed to meet the same standard of quality, the improved service access and additional sources of financing available for housing development within historic districts should make the creation of low income housing units in historic districts a much higher priority for housing advocates and historic preservationists than it is at present.
Rethinking the Urban and Global Assemblage through Burning Cars and Concrete

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This paper starts in a particular moment of youth burning cars in the urban peripheries of Gothenburg, Sweden, in the late summer of 2009 and uses this event to rethink notions of the urban and global assemblage. A burning car generates spectacular flames, bold headlines, and government interventions, but it also sets in motion things that are less visible, connections that are left unconnected and quiet. Inspired by Annemarie Mol (2002) and John Law (2004), many worlds are enacted through this event; worlds connecting the global and the urban through, for instance, the car itself, or through the concrete characterizing these urban peripheries. By “doing multiplicity” this paper aims to move away from a singular, linear and bounded reading of global urban politics. It moves from multiple interpretations of a single reality to thinking about multiple realities and politics. Literature on the global assemblage (Ong and Collier 2005) and the urban assemblage (Farias and Bender 2009) is already engaged in this endeavour. However, this paper will suggest that a focus on multiplicity and enactment will better allow for a reading of the world as one and many, as enacted simultaneously and separately. It hangs together, but not quite as a whole; it clashes and coheres and the boundaries leak. Rather than attempting to unveil and discover a single, objective reality that contextualizes and explains the burning cars in Gothenburg, I open up the uncertain and ambiguous multiple realities of the burning cars and explore how they fit into the politics of the “global urban”. The paper will show how analyses of the burning of cars have relied on framings of Gothenburg as a single entity or a spatially and socially constructed whole, which lead to a dichotomous reading of the city. When these framings are questioned, multiple realities emerge and the dichotomous framing is blurred. Through a focus on the mundane detail of concrete in the areas where the burning of cars took place, this paper suggests that if the burning cars are not as spectacular as often framed, and if the dichotomous reading is challenged, then other realities emerge that can open up alternative understandings of the global, the urban, and the political.
Sale of the Century: Infrastructure Privatization & the Financialization of the Local State

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In the last decade, a number of marquee infrastructure privatization deals have drawn increasing attention to the transfer of local and state infrastructure assets into private hands through sales or long-term leases. Previous evaluations of infrastructure leases have focused on the privatization process and the terms of the arrangements negotiated by the public sector and the private concessionaires. In this research, we argue that these approaches fall short by failing to investigate the significant repositioning of the local state relative to financial markets produced by the rise of high-priced asset lease deals. We develop his argument through a case study of the institutional transformation of the City of Chicago, the U.S.’s most aggressive instigator of infrastructure asset sales, with analysis identifying several dimensions along which the remapping of the local state has progressed. Even as the privatization agreements seemingly protect the City from the claims of investors, creditors and counterparties, they enmesh the City in a set of financial relationships best viewed through the lens of potential default – an event made more likely by the turn to financialization as a means of extracting value from urban infrastructure assets. Taken together, we argue that these developments create an institutional bias towards future privatization – a bias that becomes more entrenched with every sale.
Community Land Trusts and Fair Property Taxation: Evaluation of Policies at the State and Local Levels

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Shared-equity homeownership is an alternative option for homebuyers who would otherwise not qualify for conventional mortgages or afford market-rate homes. One type of shared-equity homeownership is the community land trust (CLT) model. In CLTs, a homebuyer enters into a ground lease to purchase the home and all structural improvements attached to the land. The land is owned separately from the home by a nonprofit organization, which removes the cost of the land and makes the purchase more affordable. Although the homeowner has the opportunity to build equity under this model, the full capital gain is foregone through resale restrictions, which keep the home affordable for future buyers. Since homes are sold for less than market rate, property taxes assessed at the unrestricted market value challenge the intent of the model for sustaining affordability. Shared-equity properties should not be assessed at market value since homeowners are not entitled to the full value of their home upon sale. However, there is no consensus on this fact between states or within states; even in those states where legislation outlines a fair tax approach for shared-equity properties, county property appraisers and tax assessors often do not apply the law consistently. This augurs poorly for the equitable tax treatment of this alternate homeownership model. In this paper, two questions are addressed. First, in all 50 states and District of Columbia, what are the current policies, if any, in assessing shared-equity properties of CLTs? Second, how consistently are the policies interpreted and applied by county property appraisers and tax assessors in states with existing legislation, and in states with the absence of fair property tax policy, what, if any, policies have been adopted at the local level? Building on research by Robinson (2008), we use data from each state’s enabling legislation, administrative decisions, case law, and/or appurtenant organizations to categorize laws and regulations that hinder or promote fair property taxation for CLTs. To address the first research question, we conduct a qualitative analysis that describes how shared-equity property is valued and taxed in each state, what the eligibility requirements are for special taxation, and the justification for the development of special taxation legislation. To answer the second research question, we use two sets of case studies. The first will look at how consistently the policies are interpreted and applied by county property appraisers and tax assessors in those states with such policies. The second will explore the ways that CLTs negotiate property taxes in states with no fair property tax policy. The goal of this paper is to identify fair property taxation policies that best meet the intent of the shared-equity model. These policies can serve as recommendations for the design of legislation that promotes the CLT model.
Analysis of Urban Growth and Management, Case Study of Tripoli City, Libya

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This research analyzes the growth of Tripoli city, Libya. It focuses on the role of politics and decentralization of urban authorities in last two decades on the urban growth and its impacts on the environment. Despite the fact that Libya is a small country in terms of population and a huge geographical area, urbanization rate is very high. In fact, it is one of the highest rates in the region and the African continent. According to the Urban Planning Authority, the urban growth has expanded over the former agricultural lands which were observed by the Agricultural Protection Authority. The inconsistent political changes and planning policies that took place from mid 1990s and until the recent years, have increased the demand on the land and the weakened the management processes. This paper seeks to explain the contemporary picture of urban growth in view of administrative processes and the urban and regional planning policy. It explains the gap between the central governmental institutions and the regional authorities. This policy indeed has resulted in an explosive urban sprawl driven by parallel property transactions that have been acting outside the formal governmental system.
Evaluating Socially-mixed Public Housing Redevelopment in Toronto's Regent Park

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Modeled after the HOPE VI program, socially-mixed public housing redevelopment in Regent Park, Canada's first and largest public housing community, is now entering its second phase. Once the 15-year redevelopment is complete, 2,087 units of public housing in the 70-acre community will be rebuilt (a portion will be replaced off-site), and over 5400 new market-rate condominiums will be added to the newly-designed, New-Urbanist-style community. While celebrated by mainstream media, critical analysts suggest that "revitalization" amounts to gentrification, removing a large barrier to private investment that has kept the downtown site affordable for decades. This paper explores resident experiences with relocation and redevelopment, examines tenants' thoughts on their new and old homes, and evaluates the extent to which redevelopment-related goals for the improvement of tenant circumstances are being achieved. The paper is based on semi-structured, in-depth interviews with 50 tenants who have returned to newly-built housing in the partially-redeveloped Regent Park, and also draws on participant observation at meetings and community events, and 15 key informant interviews.

Key Findings: While residents are more satisfied, on average, with their new apartments (compared to their former homes in Regent Park), the improvement was surprisingly marginal. Tenants appreciate fresh, new, pest-free apartments (compared to their old, poorly maintained, and neglected former homes), but are sad at the loss of indoor and outdoor space in their new homes, and at the loss of community and friendships in their former buildings. Many residents who were forced to move into off-site "replacement" housing (elsewhere in downtown Toronto) are upset to be displaced from their former community and not benefiting from the many facilities and services being put into the redeveloped area. Most residents have positive attitudes towards the idea of "social mix" and welcomed the idea of having new neighbors in condos. At the same time, many questioned the extent to which redevelopment was being done in the interests of Regent Parkers, and whether their needs would be prioritized as the neighborhood's social composition becomes increasingly dominated by wealthier residents of private market housing. The paper questions the extent to which market-driven revitalization addresses the problems that existed in the neighborhood beforehand, and whether these issues could have been addressed in the absence of socially-mixed redevelopment and gentrification.
Where Poor Children Live: Household Structure and Change in Composition through the Eyes of Children

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Most research looking at the effect of change in household composition on the lives of children focuses on the relationships of parents - their marriages, divorces, cohabiting relationships, and so on. However, previous work has shown that there is a great deal of change in household composition in the lives of children when we examine all adults living in the home (du Toit, Bachtell, and Haggerty 2011). When including the presence of other adults, such as grandparents or extended family members in our household typology, 45% of households with children include other adults in the home who are not the child's parents, including grandparents, aunts, uncles, extended family members, and non-related adults. Moreover, 10% live in homes where a parent is not present (du Toit et al. 2011, 2012). Importantly, these households vary greatly from two parent only homes in both economic (income ratio, public assistance usage, economic hardship, and home ownership) and non-economic (knowing child's friends, school readiness, and reading to child) measures of child wellbeing. In addition, when considering these other adults in the home, half of households with children experience some kind of shift in composition, where at least one of the adults leaves the home or someone else moves in between two waves of data. We extend upon this research by looking at the diversity in household composition brought about by these other adults in the home at three points in time spanning eight years. Using longitudinal data from the Making Connections dataset, we examine the various types of households within which low income children live and the amount of change in household composition they experience across this longer time frame. Finally, we examine the consequences of these changes in terms of economic and non economic factors.
Dark Tourism: The Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde Syndrome

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For about a decade, scholars and tourism experts have been talking about a growing phenomenon they called "Dark Tourism," described by Philip Stone (2009) as "the act of travel and visitation to sites, attractions and exhibitions which has real or recreated death, suffering or the seemingly macabre as a main theme." Although this practice is not novel, scholars have observed a growing interest, since the mid-twentieth century, for places of 'recent' disasters and deaths. Today, although governments and municipalities rarely officially promote such tourism, many cities are confronted with the simultaneous marketing of their traumatic sites and grieving process of their citizens. Cities like New Orleans, Sarajevo, Berlin, Hiroshima and even New York are perfect examples of this inner conflict. After an extensive survey of the literature, we can observe three different areas of interest in dark tourism studies: 1) Research looking at the marketing of dark sites, often including reflections and criticism about the authenticity of the offered product; 2) Research looking at the tourists' experience and what drives them to dark tourism; 3) Research looking at the benefits and disadvantages of this trend, often including reflections about its impacts on the local communities. What is questioned is not necessarily the act of traveling to dark places in itself, but the moral implications behind it, as well as the legitimacy of these places' conversion into spectacles. Most thinkers point out that when history becomes a spectacle, the witness (foreigner or local) runs the risk of being transformed into a passive spectator. These justifiable criticisms are mainly based on the fact that dark sites are often marketed from the 'bottom up' for the tourists who merely consume a product, while local communities are still mourning. But does it always have to be that way? Is dark tourism only about the spectacles/spectators dyad? In this supply-and-demand scheme, where is the actual place of the local communities? In order to fill a gap in the literature and give room to civic appropriation and mobilization in the field of dark tourism, this paper will present instances where locals participated to this trend as actors in the management of their own past. While questioning this growing type of tourism, the present research aims to go beyond the sinister side of dark tourism, highlighting its positive side. As an increasing number of cities are compelled to manage such tourism, this research wishes to underline how it can be handled in a constructive way, producing positive gains for both the tourists and the local communities.
Urban plans, global imaginations: ‘worlding’ Sydney via metropolitan planning

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Interdisciplinary debate within urban studies has emphasised the need to move beyond the study of ‘the city’ in bounded territorial terms to consider cities as assemblages of global and local, relational and territorial. This has been activated through critical approaches attending to the practices, processes and performances of assembly that produce contemporary global urbanisms. While such debate has occurred to a large degree within the urban geography canon, planning scholars have been advancing a similar agenda. Their work points out the need to unpack how extra-territorial, global elements are involved in urban planning processes, acknowledging that the planning endeavour is one important means through which (global) urbanism is constituted and formalised. In this paper we investigate further the question of how planning operates to constitute global urbanism. To do this we look at Sydney and its metropolitan planning. We argue that Sydney’s metropolitan planning exhibits an authoritative, though particular, global imaginative geography, one that does the job of ‘worlding’ Sydney (Roy & Ong 2011). This argument is illustrated by discussing three elements that underlie Sydney’s global imaginative geography, namely: global conditions, policy models and inter-urban comparisons. Following Gregory’s (2004) notion that imaginative geographies are ‘doubled spaces of articulation’ which create various kinds of visibilities and invisibilities, we reflect on the role of planning in the production of particular varieties of global urbanism. As a speculative-strategic exercise, Sydney’s metropolitan planning offers the opportunity to analyse the politics of who speaks for the city’s future and what type of global imagination is deemed to count.
“Oaklandish!”: Hipster Arts and Urban Development in Oakland, California

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The urban redevelopment plan for Oakland initiated by former mayor Jerry Brown in the 1990s has been cited as one of the most ambitious urban restorations in California history. These plans included a proposal to bring 10,000 new residents to downtown Oakland through new construction of loft spaces and middle-income apartments, and by creating an arts district funded by millions of redevelopment dollars to restore the Fox Theater and to create an adjacent charter school, Oakland School of the Arts. Sometimes identified as an urban hipster himself, Brown famously lived in a loft in the old Sears Roebuck building in downtown Oakland, when that area was still partially blighted. In recent years, Brown’s vision appears to be realized as there has been tremendous growth in trendy retail stores, restaurants, clubs, and arts spaces in downtown. The “Art Murmur” is Oakland’s first Friday gallery crawl, and while it used to be relatively unknown (hence the ‘murmur’ reference), in 2012 the Art Murmur hosts thousands of visitors, with streets blocked to accommodate music performances and gourmet food trucks, and art spaces in the area have more than doubled. In many ways the Art Murmur has successfully maintained the broad ethnic diversity of Oakland’s population, but the city as a whole has lost much of the African American population that historically defined the city, and downtown is bordered by neighborhoods that struggle with poverty and crime. Through an ethnographic approach, this paper examines the arts emphasis in the radical transformation of downtown, in relation to broader social and economic change in Oakland, including the demography of uneven development, and the cultural continuities and disjunctures that produce both opportunities and challenges for residents.
Social Capital and Community Power over Urban Casino Development

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In The Rise of the Creative Class, Richard Florida (2002) argues that social capital exhibited as dense associational ties is a negative attribute for cities and communities. Florida argues that cities should encourage the creation of places where "weak ties" of diverse social networks are the norm in order to attract highly mobile creative professionals. According to Florida, attracting these types of professionals is the key to economic success and development for struggling cities. Cities and communities with high levels of social capital exhibited as dense community ties create barriers to entrance for creative professionals. Because places with dense social capital ties prevent access to the creative class these cities and communities are in danger of having little power over urban development and are typical of places in decline. Thus dense social capital is associated with powerlessness and isolation for communities who have an abundance of this resource. This article critically analyzes Florida's argument against dense social capital ties as a source for community power over urban development. Using a case study of Fishtown, Philadelphia, this article examines a four year dispute between long-time residents and newer residents of Fishtown over the construction of a casino in the community. Long-time residents who supported the casino project utilized their dense social capital ties with other long-time residents as a resource to challenge anti-casino positions of newcomers, organize other members of their social networks in support of the casino and as leverage to negotiate with the casino for a community benefits agreement. This research shows that dense community ties were an important resource for long-time residents of Fishtown. This resource was used by long-time residents to have power over casino development and to influence the outcomes awarded to the community by the casino. Contrary to Florida's argument, I suggest that dense social capital ties based on shared place-based experiences, interactions and appraisal of community needs can be a source of power for communities to shape urban development as well as benefit from the outcomes.
The Erosion of the Political Legitimacy. Political Dissonance, Participation and National Identity. The case of Catalonia.

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In democracy, political legitimacy is based on citizens’ diffuse support for the political community and participation is one of its main channels of expression. This paper attempts to advance a new theoretical argument to study political legitimacy by bringing about the concept of dissonance. Apart from an uneven distribution of political resources, the author argues that the perception of dissonance, the contrast between the values of the citizens and the official discourse, generates political disaffection and lack of participation what undermines the systemic political legitimacy. It uses the case of Catalonia, an extremely salient nationalist-movement characterized by the wide gap between elites and masses in terms of national identity, to show how elite and citizens' positioning may explain political participation and legitimacy towards the political system. The argument emphasizes that national-building strategies alienate those groups further from the official position, which, in turn, reinforces the political overrepresentation of the Catalan nationalist movement, generating a path-dependence process of nationalist-elite predominance. This hypothesis is assessed through a process of deduction by elimination. It first assesses the relationship between national identity and electoral and non-electoral political participation and, second, it refutes two rival explanations of the phenomenon: 1) pro-nationalist mass media mobilization, and 2) pro-nationalist mobilization through social organizations.
Toward a More Useful Way of Understanding Regional Governance

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We propose a new framework to clarify and specify regional governance. Our aim is to enhance further research and practice by consolidating lines of thought in the scholarly literature and in practice that emphasize capacity and purpose rather than forms or structures. Our recently published article (Urban Affairs Review, March 2012) outlines briefly and conceptually five dimensions (and indicators for each) that together describe regional governance for a time, place, and policy goal --- actor group, agenda, internal capacity, external capacity, and implementation experience. This approach highlights differences in governance initiatives, depending on time, place, and policy goal. We have subsequently developed a "workbook" for practitioners that translates these concepts into a planning tool usable by local leaders who want to "get something done regionally." Our thinking for this applied project results in some important revisions to the framework as presented in UAR. In the proposed paper, we will review the framework succinctly and report on our revisions and further development of the framework both for scholarship and for practice. We would welcome the opportunity to engage with and learn from UAA conference participants on this topic. *Barnes will present the paper. Follow-up UAA contacts/inquiries on this proposal be directed to him.
Dismantling Public Housing, Reconstructing the Lives of Children

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A significant number of the individuals forced to relocate from public housing have been children. Just as the lives of adults may be turned upside down when the move is made from public housing, so too may be the lives of children. In this paper, I will explore the experiences of children as told through the words of the mothers. Over the course of five years, women relocated out of a housing development in the southwest participated in focus groups in which they delved into a number of topics about their lives after the move. Among the many topics discussed were the experiences of the children. The respondents talked about indoor and outdoor play spaces, about neighborhood safety, and about positive and negative influences on their children. They talked about how their children were welcomed or rejected in their new schools, and how the schools reacted to various parental interventions. This paper will summarize the stories of the mothers and, through them, seek to understand better what relocation means to all members of families. It will conclude with a discussion of policy implications and ideas for future study.
When Silos Rule: Working on Housing Issues Using Cross-Agency Data on Vacancy and Delinquency

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Discussions of, and proposals for, city "recoveries" depend upon the ability of either public or private agencies working with existing land uses and, in particular, the ownership of parcels. Publicly held land records are among the earliest functions established by municipal governance, whether elected or appointed, under both colonial and home rules. Over its nearly 4 centuries of legal existence, Philadelphia has one of the longest existing real property records in the United States, making its land and tax records a potentially valuable resource in the process of altering its physical landscape in response to demographic and socioeconomic shifts in the city and the region. However, Philadelphia, like many cities which have experienced fiscal challenges and political upheaval, from time to time, has a long history of isolating its property data into a series of data "silos". As a result, nearly a dozen agencies of the city and county governments maintain real property and tax records that are frequently difficult to coordinate, in either a programmatic or data-keeping function. In addition, there are an additional half-dozen public-private agencies that develop property-based information that is erratically linked to publicly held information systems. Not surprisingly, there are also many examples of neighborhood level information systems that have been created (for both non-profit and for-profit developers) that provide additional information (including street and block front conditions) that is generally unavailable elsewhere. This paper describes the specific challenges that this "silod" information system raises when a city seeks to develop new directions for itself. Using the issues of long-term vacancy/abandonment and real estate tax delinquency (and related concerns over the significant increase in tax-free properties) as a focus, it examines the ways that these information systems overlap, as well as several strategies that have been developed to build communications across these several systems. Several policy examples, including the City's Neighborhood Transformation Initiative, a court-ordered foreclosure mitigation analysis, neighborhood specific analyses, and a City "open data" initiative provide contexts for a discussion of data triangulation and crosswalks between silos.
Austin City Limits: Class and the Queering of a Black Chicago Church

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This study explores the political mobilization of black queer, same-gender-loving, and/or LGBT people on Chicago's West Side. Drawing from a ten-month ethnography of St. Anne’s, I argue that the church is neither an alternative gay and lesbian community, like a gay neighborhood, nor an un-problematic constituency within larger, heteronormative black communities; instead, it is both marginalized and strongly attached to black Chicago at-large, and is a site that occupies a critical position in relation to blackness. At St. Anne’s, members make room for their blackness and queerness to co-exist, but also assert themselves within a heteronormative blackness as black queer people. In this paper I show how black queer congregants at St. Anne's describe the church's affirming qualities in relation to their experiences in heteronormative black churches, as well as how congregants have struggled to produced St. Anne's as a space to radically engage, or remain within broader black community networks and social movements in the city. St. Anne's black congregants are mostly middle class. They are not, however, the conservative and assimilated “black bourgeoisie" E. Franklin Frazier described in his 1957 title of the same name. Although highly educated and living on working and lower middle class incomes, St. Anne's black gay and lesbian congregants have less leverage in the politics of respectability because of their sexual identifications. Perhaps as a result, they have rejected the philanthropy and charity-based uplift models of the traditional black middle class and instead have pursued a decidedly black left politics. Translating their politics into practice, however, has been a challenge as the church grapples with its middle class status in a poor, black neighborhood, and perpetually prepares to build coalitions with those who reside in it. I consider the first part the politics of practice, or the ways the knowledges and quotidian lives of St. Anne's black gay and lesbian congregants reverberate politically. The second part, I will show, is a struggle to move the politics of practice to the practice of grassroots politics in the neighborhood and Chicago more broadly. This is the juncture at which inter-class and intra-racial coalitions can be made, and point to black queer subjectivities as fruitful ground for advancing a black left agenda. As queer, lower middle class men and women, they are neither easily categorized as the traditional "black bourgeoisie," nor do they fit within the conceptual frameworks available for understanding the more studied subject positions of the black queer poor. Their unique subject positions and how they understood and acted upon them illuminate the complexity of organizing at the intersections, and leave us to speculate what moving from the politics of practice to the practice of grassroots politics might look like.
A Double-edged Sword: Water in La Paz, Mexico

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Water is essential to the future of La Paz, Mexico. This rapidly growing city in the Mexican state of Baja California Sur attracts workers from the mainland looking for higher wages and U.S. retirees seeking a good quality of life at a lower cost. Situated on the Sea of Cortez, La Paz also appeals to tourists who come to experience the biodiversity of the area. Boating, sports fishing, and diving are popular tourist activities. Despite being surrounded by a vast saltwater sea, La Paz has limited freshwater resources. It is a desert city, receiving only about 6.7 inches of rainfall annually, and water for household use is scarce due to urbanization and saltwater intrusion of aquifers. This research examines urbanization in La Paz and the threat to future growth presented by water and the threat to water from future growth. It also presents the strategies currently used to conserve water, and potential strategies that might be used in the future to ensure a sufficient water supply. Data will be collected through interviews with public officials and residents as well as from secondary sources including government data and existing literature.
What is a “Good Neighborhood?”: Poor Families’ Geographic and Social Imaginaries of Portland

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There is a substantial policy and research focus on the housing location choices of poor families with housing vouchers, relocating from public housing, or otherwise participating in mobility programs. This research is undergirded by the debate about cultural explanations for how poor people value and evaluate places. However, most poor families are making housing and neighborhood location decisions outside of these programmatic contexts, without counseling or incentives directing them to “good neighborhoods” (as defined by policy). This research seeks a broader understanding of how low-income households assess the neighborhoods in which they live and how they define and experience neighborhood quality. We ask respondents to define a ‘good neighborhood,’ to assess their own neighborhood, and to discuss their knowledge of Portland’s neighborhoods. By asking the respondents simply to describe “a good neighborhood,” we are able to access practical, symbolic, and cultural meanings of neighborhood separately from the choices and constraints faced in deciding where to live. Both ‘good’ and ‘neighborhood’ are open to definition by the respondents as we hear how residential locations are ‘interpreted, narrative, perceived, felt, understood, imagined’ (Gieryn). Respondents in neighborhoods widely considered 'bad' described 'neighborhood' first at the scale of an apartment complex or block face, even when they had fairly extensive knowledge of the city. Their 'neighborhood' shrunk to a physical space under their control, where community supported a comfort level and feeling of safety. These families had strategies for accessing opportunities through schools and nonprofit organizations. For respondents living in 'good' neighborhoods, the social world felt confining, with limited neighborly interaction, a negative emotional drain for mothers in particular. Some reported having more difficulty accessing needed services that were located in lower-income areas of the city. Despite Portland’s reputation for excellent transit services, for all poor family respondents, having a car was viewed as an essential tool for accessing needed goods and services. As we relate these findings to policy, we find that poor parents do describe a concept of good neighborhoods that relates to childrens’ opportunities. Their location choice is not largely explained by lack of information or fear of new environments, and they have complex strategies for accessing opportunity other than residential location. These findings will be particularly relevant to other cities with a limited concentrated poverty problem, but where opportunities for poor families to connect to resources and opportunities remain a concern.
Read All About It: Exploring the Role of Traditional and New Media in Cultural Events

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This paper seeks to explore the role of traditional and new media in urban cultural events, drawing in particular on the example of the Manchester International Festival (MIF), a biennial arts festival established in 2007 in Manchester, UK. Whilst a city's use, mobilisation and appropriation of culture has a lengthy history, the post-industrial context facing many cities worldwide has led to an increase both in the use of various cultural forms in order to bring a number of different benefits to the urban realm, and in urban cultural policy (Cochrane, 2007; Evans, 2009). From events on an international scale, such as the Olympics or European Capital of Culture (ECOC), to small-scale local festivals, the promotion and celebration of cultural events has the potential to bring numerous benefits to a city (Foley et al, 2012); including the potential for increased tourism and positive economic impact that a larger scale event can bring as well as less tangible outcomes such as an increase in social cohesion. The benefits of attracting cultural events such as the ECOC are linked to the increased prominence of event policy within cities, and "Major events strategies are now an essential component of the aggregate brand narrative of a destination" (Foley et al, 2012: 87). With a seemingly ever-increasing number of urban cultural events and festivals across the UK, the media plays an important role in the success and legitimisation of these events, with positive press acting as a catalyst for the continuation and expansion of events year-on-year. Indeed, press coverage often forms the basis of a key performance indicator (KPI), in which press generated is given an economic value that forms a part of an event's evaluation document (Foley et al, 2012). There is little research at this stage, however, into the idea that this reliance on traditional media to boost the image of cultural events may be shifting due to the rapid expansion of social media. Some evidence suggests that businesses benefit from staying ahead of the 'technology curve' (Berthon et al, 2012), and medium to large scale events such as MIF are increasingly using their social media profiles to interact with their audiences and broadcast particular identities. This paper will discuss the potentials and pitfalls of harnessing social media in cultural events with reference to the experiences of MIF, furthering understanding of the links that exist between culture and media in cities.
Achieving Suburban Consolidation in Auckland, New Zealand

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Pacific Rim cities in Australasia and North America have widely, and perhaps uncritically, adopted compact urban development policy responses to counter the adverse effects of suburban sprawl, by seeking to consolidate most of their future urban growth within their existing urban centres and along transit corridors. The effective implementation of this strategy will, in part, requires urban planning policy responses which enable the provision of higher density housing typologies in a range of the suburban town centre. In the New Zealand context, under its primary urban planning mandate, of the Resource Management Act 1991, implementation has been widely regarded as problematic. Significant questions are now been raised about the quality and ability of its statutory plan (district plans) to influence and direct the urban development process in practice, especially in the areas of suburban consolidation. This paper investigates these issues by evaluating three medium intensity housing developments located in close proximity (within 800-metres) to two of Auckland’s major suburban locations, all with high public transit investment. A two-phased research project design was used. The first phase evaluates the level of influence district plans have over urban development process. The second phase uses semi-structured interviews to gain the insights of the practitioners involved in the urban planning permit application process to determine if these intended outcomes, were affected by any external factors during consenting process. The first phase found significant differences between the district plan’s intended policy outcomes and those achieved on the ground. It also highlighted the highly complex nature of the district plan, its failure to prioritise urban planning issues and the variable quality of policy direction. The interview process revealed that practitioners agreed it was possible to achieve urban consolidation within the CBD and/or fringe locations. However, it was difficult to achieve these outcomes in the suburban context, with a range of professional and institutional barriers affecting the implementation process. This paper raises serious concerns about the ability of New Zealand’s district plans to influence, direct and archive high quality medium intensity housing developments in the suburban context and considers the barriers to effective implementation. These conclusions are considering in light of policy responses used within a number the Pacific Rim, (North West America and Australasia) cities to see if similar factors are present.
Democratic Accountability in Business Improvement Districts

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Business Improvement Districts have transformed the urban environment over the last 35 years. These organizations are hybrids - marrying the coercive taxing power of government with the freedom of a non-profit to undertake activities that neither a purely public or purely private organization could. Much of the urban renaissance that has occurred can be traced to their activities. In 2010, the first national inventory and national survey was done of these organizations. Out of this came the first set of national demographics about BIDs. Also, less than 5% of these organizations have been terminated. This survey looked at what mechanisms exist to ensure these organizations remain accountable and responsible for their mission.
More than Human Resources? The Impact of Highly Skilled Migrants on Cities and the Effect of their Transnational Ties

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Global labour migration is increasing as a consequence of the worldwide interrelation of production and labour markets. New forms of circular migration and an increase in mobile lifestyles can be observed, which are facilitated by global transportation and telecommunication technologies. The research field of transnationalism has emerged as an attempt to conceptualise these developments. It focuses on migrants, whose lives span across spaces and borders through a range of social, political, cultural and economic ties. A particular interest has recently been given to highly-qualified migrants. Many industrialised countries have designed policy initiatives to recruit skilled professionals as a response to a real or forecasted shortage of qualified workers. In Germany, for example, several policy changes have recently facilitated the entry of such workers. The country also has the most rapid increase in high-skilled migrants among all OECD countries. For many cities and regions in OECD countries the recruitment of highly qualified workers has become an important objective. Such approaches follow the rationale of economic competition between locations and are based on the belief that attracting talented or qualified human resources are key factors for stimulating economic growth. In contrast to these demand side arguments, little is known about the incorporation of these migrants in the local environment. Highly-qualified migrants are presumably equipped with above-average socio-cultural and economical capital, which enables their relatively easy participation in new spatial contexts. Furthermore it is expected, that the often limited duration of their stay as well as high workloads interfere with local incorporation processes. Yet, the increase of mobile lifestyles is also associated with an erosion of social relationships and a loss of belonging to places and communities. This raises questions about the impact of these groups on cities in general and urban society as well as about the role of their assumed transnational ties. Our research aims at analysing these processes by looking at patterns of use of space, the relevance of local migrant communities and infrastructures as well as their activities and civic engagement on the local, regional and transnational level. The research focuses on highly skilled migrants from non-EU countries in two German cities: On the one hand, Hamburg - Germany's second largest city - is characterised as an economically dynamic hub with a growing population. On the other hand, Dortmund - located in the old-industrial Ruhr Area - has experienced profound economic restructuring and still struggles with urban decline. The comparison between these different urban settings aims at gaining insights about the relationship between transnationalism und urban development on different scales. First empirical research findings will be presented.
White working class perspectives on neighbourhood, identity and change

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Much of the debate on race and politics in the UK has focused on visible minority communities. Initially, the impact of immigration from former colonies in the Caribbean and Indian sub-continent and subsequent debates on racism in society and across public domains such as housing, education and welfare services. More recently global conflicts and political enlargement have resulted in renewed migration from Africa, Asia and the European Union. During this period of change there have been relatively few studies on the perspectives of white working class communities on race, community and change. Rather, this group has tended to be lumped together in both research and popular culture as being problematic: antagonistic to immigration, reluctant to accept change, welfare dependent and locating experiences in the past rather than the future. This paper will challenge the popular view of the white working class. Drawing on extensive qualitative data from three different cities in England it suggests that these communities do not feel they have a voice and feel that local and national debates have ignored their views; they want to see fairness in the distribution of public resources especially public housing and are keen to build grassroots coalitions with different communities. Contrary to popular belief there was no substantive support for the far right and communities wanted to develop a new type of social construction of being white and working class based on reciprocity, collective action and hard work. These are values shared across disadvantaged groups including established minority communities and newly arrived migrants.
The Creation of a Cultural District and its 'Place des festivals' (Montreal, Canada): Place Affordances and Social Exclusion

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This paper discusses a psychological approach to studying the process underlying the appropriation of the Place des festivals in the new cultural district (Quartier des spectacles) in the city of Montreal (Canada). More precisely, we propose to explore the impacts of revitalization projects using Gibson's concept of affordance, beginning with the assumption that actors involved in urban revitalization purposely seduce specific groups of users with the goal of ensuring the success of revitalization objectives. By modifying the affordance of spaces, revitalization projects participate in the social and cultural homogenization of users, influencing the perception of the quality of the living environment.

The main objective of this paper is to present preliminary results regarding the affordances of the Place des festivals and their impacts on its appropriation by different groups. Local governments have begun to use marketing as an economic tool to attract private investors, tourists and wealthier residents. In the same way businesses have been trying to influence our opinion of products and services for decades, city managers attempt to influence the images we have of cities through branding. The image construction can take three forms. The first one is through advertising (marketing), the use of an imagineered image or 'imagineering' of a city. The second form of image construction changes the meaning (affordances) of some "key features" of the area. Finally, the last form of image construction is through the changing of iconography with the production of space, the creation of new affordances.

Thus public administrations, through the creation, rehabilitation or revitalization of public spaces, create a display to show how they wish the city to be perceived by tourists, investors, workers and residents. The common elements assuring the dynamism of public spaces (despite their differences) show that physical (and social) characteristics of a public space afford opportunities for action, use and appropriation. Whyte and his followers have developed planning norms to insure the success of public spaces. We think public authorities might be interested in going beyond a successful space open to all by planning to attract 'clientele' while 'controlling' its behavior instead of excluding or repressing a less desirable population such as street youths, homeless or prostitutes. The question then becomes: how does the change of affordances impact the appropriation of space (by whom and to do what)?
Re-Constructing New Orleans: Latino and African American Employment before and after Hurricane Katrina

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Hurricane Katrina provoked a mass, forced out-migration from New Orleans, coupled with a largely Latino influx of migrant and immigrant workers participating in the rebuilding of the devastated city. Existing studies document Latino workers’ exploitative work conditions in conjunction with returning New Orleanians experiencing difficulty competing with this new, cheaper workforce. To date, these findings pointing to a preference for hiring Latino immigrants due to their heightened or perceived vulnerability are solely from relatively small, non-probability studies conducted shortly after Katrina, oftentimes in only certain parts of the metro area or including only immigrant workers. Employing Public Use Microdata Sampling (PUMS) data for the New Orleans Metro Area from 2000-2010, this study explores whether Latinos’ arrival depressed construction industry wages and increased competition among low skilled male workers, especially minorities. The study examines two main questions: 1) To what extent was New Orleans' rebuilding dominated by Latinos? and 2) Did Latinos’ participation in rebuilding lead to a devaluation of low-skill construction labor affecting all racial and ethnic groups? Bivariate analysis measures proportional shifts in the racial and ethnic composition of New Orleans' construction workforce between 2000 and 2010. Ordinary least squared regression measures the impact of racial or ethnic group membership on hourly pay before and after Katrina. Results demonstrate that Katrina led to a dramatic proportional shift in construction employment toward Latinos and away from African Americans. The composition of this shift, which was most pronounced in low-skill occupations, was primarily unauthorized Latino workers. Prior to Katrina, Latinos working in construction did not experience pay penalties. Not only did Latino pay penalties develop after Katrina, but penalties were greater than African Americans' pay penalties both before and after Katrina. Katrina inspired a revision of the racial and ethnic labor hierarchy in New Orleans' construction industries such that Latinos, and most especially unauthorized Latinos, replaced African Americans as the lowest paid workers. Because employment shifted so dramatically in favor of unauthorized Latinos over African Americans, the net result was a relative devaluation of all construction employment. This examination of a case of rapid racial and demographic change supports broader findings regarding the impact of national and global trends shifting worker exploitation from native to foreign-born workers. Demand for a large population of low-skill workers, coupled with lax labor regulations and the labeling of specific occupations as those reserved for the cheapest labor fuel the devaluation of all low-skill labor. This trend is of particular interest in the South, where Latinos in New Destinations are joining large existing populations of disenfranchised minority workers.
Mayor Council Versus Council Manager Form of Government and Responding to Emergencies: The Impact of Administrative Structure

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In the last decade, U.S. citizens have witnessed catastrophic events, both naturally and man-made, which have altered the lives of thousands of people. Through the media's coverage of these disasters, Americans have also observed the local, state and federal governments' response, or lack thereof, along with an influx of opinions and analysis from journalists reporting on government effectiveness. Kapucu and Van Wart (2006) suggest that the increase in public awareness has aroused an increased expectation for public sector involvement in emergency management affairs. These external pressures generate more emphasis and accountability for effective management strategies at each level of government. The structure of government plays a key role in the effectiveness of emergency response to natural or man-made disasters. Utilizing the existing models and benchmarks provided within current literature, this paper evaluates both the council-manager and mayor-council forms of local government in addition to their respective strategies regarding emergency management. Using case studies and explanatory methodologies the research addresses the question 'which form of government lends a more appropriate structure for managing people and resources during emergency events.' The assumptions of this analysis proposed that the professional public administrative training and education of city managers provides a comprehensive understanding and a more appropriate approach to effective emergency management. However, external factors such as political-party affiliations, state and federal assistance, and staff implementation may affect, or influence, overall outcomes. Therefore preliminary findings show that it still remains inconclusive in terms of whether the structure of local government impacts the effectiveness of emergency management response.
Where is Filipinotown?: Cultural Tourism in Los Angeles's Ethnic Enclaves

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Ethnic enclaves have been economic engines for community development in many downtown areas throughout the United States. San Francisco's Chinatown, Detroit's Greektown, and San Diego's Little Italy are a few examples of leveraging ethnic tourism with downtown revitalization. City officials often tout their numerous ethnic enclaves to convey the city's multicultural diversity to both tourists and local residents. However, the Filipino community lacks a prototypical ethnic enclave in any major city in the United States. Even the newly designated "Historic Filipinotown" in Los Angeles is more of a nomenclature than on material substance. This paper examines the history of Filipino neighborhoods in Los Angeles in the context of ethnic enclave development throughout the twentieth century. Upon their migration to the United States, Filipino laborers were ghettoized in a "Little Manila" enclave in downtown Los Angeles in the 1920s and 1930s. During the post-World War II period, however, city officials destroyed any remnants of Little Manila while they concomitantly preserved and revitalized the Chinatown and Little Tokyo neighborhoods in an effort to develop a more "multicultural" downtown. Although Filipino Americans experienced suburbanization along with Chinese and Japanese American communities, they alone have lacked a distinct ethnic neighborhood and thus lay "invisible" in a growing multicultural urban landscape. Consequently, in a city where ethnic communities currently organize politically around discrete neighborhoods, this absence has prompted many city officials and leaders in Los Angeles to largely ignore Filipino Americans in political issues because of their perceived "invisibility." Through qualitative analysis of archival sources, I argue that the history of U.S. imperialism in the Philippines made Filipino ethnic enclaves in U.S. urban cities a material impossibility. Due to the very structure and process of cultural tourism which necessitates the production of a cultural "other," Filipinos have been unable to generate a tourist economy in Los Angeles because of their traits of "familiarity" e.g. English fluency. While many scholars suggest that the lack of a distinct Filipino ethnic enclave lay with their ability to "assimilate" easier than other Asian Americans, I suggest rather that racial discourses of liberal multiculturalism, as iterated through downtown ethnic enclave development, produced this perceived absence and subsequent Filipinos' social and political "invisibility" in the United States.
Agents of Reproduction: How Realtors Shape the Housing Market by Selling Identities

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Though largely overlooked in urban sociology, the practices of real estate agents shape housing outcomes. Drawing on a year of ethnographic observations, 20 interviews, and 144 open house visits in New York, New Jersey, and California, this article demonstrates how realtors’ practices produce the preferences of clients and influence spending. This occurs because agents have an interest in closing deals quickly; they realize that pushing clients toward the higher end of possible homes fulfills clients' aspirations, increasing the likelihood of a quick deal. The confluence of agent interest in speed and client interest in a great home is facilitated by agents "selling identities;" or providing narratives that appeal clients' established ideas about gender, neighborhoods, and homeownership more broadly. Realtors' management of clients' aspirations, then, potentially pushes the market in terms of price while reproducing ideology. This analysis contributes to an understanding of how housing markets, and macro phenomena generally, are constituted by situated interactions where aspirations and ideologies are not reducible to price.
Changing Change, the Study of Neighborhood Change

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Neighborhoods have been studied primarily through ecological and to an extent political economy lenses. Both approaches tend to look at neighborhoods structurally (e.g., as natural areas or as formations for the differentiated reproduction of labor) globalizing them through homogenizing representations. Departing from a critical analysis of such approaches, we conceptualize neighborhoods as contested arenas where different forces converge and diverge and where, despite a constructed common identity, the practices of daily life shape and change them on an ongoing basis. To illustrate this critique and vision, we use research from a low-income neighborhood in Chicago, Englewood. For the analysis, we draw on insights of critical theory including Lefebvre, Foucault, de Certeau and Bourdieu. We construct a genealogy of change that explores how "creative destruction" - the linked process of accumulation and annihilation (Marx and Engels 1848; Schumpeter 1942) - produces and reproduces the space of one neighborhood over time. In the case of Englewood, strategic disinvestment and exploitive real estate practices transform the space into a ghetto that "incarcerates" many and brands all. However, not without resistance from some residents and leaders. While seemingly a classic tale of struggle, the analysis reveals a rugged, fragmented, and contingent reality in which individuals or groups negotiate their life tracing different paths on the ground within the fields that frame their lives from above. Within these organizational rationalities, which act to flatten out experience, so-called users/consumers stubbornly "elude discipline" in the practices of everyday life (de Certeau 1988: 96) trying to carve out their own autonomous spaces of self-determination and survival. The analysis has implications for both theory and practice, and can benefit contemporary discussions of shrinking cities as well as social justice and racial discrimination.
Creating the Sustainable Communities Indicators Catalog

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On June 16, 2009, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) joined together to help communities nationwide improve access to affordable housing, increase transportation options, and lower transportation costs while protecting the environment. The Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) works to coordinate federal housing, transportation, water, and other infrastructure investments to make neighborhoods more prosperous, allow people to live closer to jobs, save households time and money, and reduce pollution. A central objective of the effort is to help communities balance various goals and determine the most effective and efficient use of their resources in accomplishing them. Performance measurement is a prerequisite for this process. Numerous projects and initiatives have attempted to provide indicators and guidance for measuring sustainable practices and outcomes, but to date they have not been synthesized in a coherent, accessible way. The objective of the PSC-PennIUR collaboration is to create a Sustainable Communities Indicator Catalog (SCIC) and an accompanying guidebook. Together, they will detail a wide range of performance metrics that can be used to evaluate progress towards sustainable community objectives. The SCIC will be designed to be available as an online web tool located on SustainableCommunities.gov. The guidebook will clearly the concept of sustainable community, emphasize the importance of measuring performance, and explain how indicators can be used to measure progress towards sustainable community goals and objectives. The SCIC Project builds upon several well-documented efforts by DOT, HUD, and EPA to catalog, evaluate, and field-test indicators associated with livability and sustainable community planning. Instead of developing new indicators, the PennIUR Team is collecting, organizing, and augmenting existing measures for integration into a highly interactive web tool that efficiently connects users to measures and relevant measurement resources. Notably, sustainable community indicators are as many and as varied as definitions of "sustainable." This project is oriented toward the built environment and employs an operational definition of sustainable communities as "those that support equity, community, environmental quality, and economic resilience by providing efficient land use and a variety of healthy, safe, and affordable housing and transportation options." Metrics included in the catalog relate to how the built environment impacts sustainable communities through these means. This paper outlines the efforts to date, their applicability to different urban areas and contexts, and the methodological considerations involved in building a catalog of sustainability and livability.
Sensing the City in the Smartphone Age: The Geography of Urban Experiences

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The industrial revolution, which started some 200 years ago in England, was followed by an urbanization process that has changed the physical and social environment in the modern society. Since the somewhat dismal times of the early industrial revolution years in the developed countries, much effort has been invested into the improvement of inhabitants' Quality of Life (QOL). At the beginning, these efforts focused on creating sustainable, livable environments, but as life standards improved, the nature of the discourse about QOL changed. Nowadays many politicians, policy makers and stakeholders endeavor not just to sustain endurable life conditions but rather to generate attractive, pleasant urban environments which people will find appealing. As a result, much of the latest research concerning life quality focuses on individuals' subjective perceptions of and attitudes toward their life conditions. The current research implements an Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA) technique using smartphone devices. In EMA studies, participants are asked to report about their behaviors, experiences and moods as they occur in their natural environment and in real time. While this technique is not often employed in urban studies it allows researchers to evaluate inhabitants' attitudes toward urban environments in high tempo-spatial resolution. The deployment of new tracking and communication technologies now available in smartphones allows the conduction of affordable EMA studies that will lead to dynamic exploration of peoples' attitudes, perceptions and satisfaction with their daily life. In this paper we present four pilot studies that employed designated smartphone applications to explore residents' personal sense of security and satisfaction with urban amenities in both Nottingham and Jerusalem. The results of the studies indicate that the implementation of smartphones for research purpose in urban environments is indeed feasible. Moreover, it has the potential to improve our understanding about the effect of the environment on our experiences, wellbeing and QOL.
Values, Traditions, and Local Development: A Comparative Study of US and Norway

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This UAA conference theme explores "how cities everywhere deal with issues of inclusion, innovation, and globalization" as they develop in the 21st century. This paper takes a comparative approach to answering this question by closely examining how a traditional and long standing maritime community in Southern Norway deals with formulating local development strategies, while respecting and enhancing its historical and cultural foundations. While it was formally incorporated in 1838, Flekkefjord's history is much older; linked to Kristiansand, Norway which was founded in 1641. Locally family-owned maritime industries form its economic base. Examining the planning and decision making process by which a town with a long history and traditions formulates a set of economic and community development strategies will provide lessons for other communities in the Americas and around the globe. This paper reports on a pilot program initiated by a Norwegian university to provide assistance to local development efforts by communities in their service area and describes challenges that other cities face when traditions and the realities of 21st century economic development face off. Specifically this paper explores the critical link between new forms of governance and the community development process. In recent years, regardless of the methods or approaches employed, government agencies functioned as the primary delivery agent for community development programs. However, in the 21st century, government now collaborates with non-profit community-based organizations, private business, and citizen groups in this policy area. Partnership is now the norm in the governance of the community development process. This paper also speaks to European and US differences in the approaches to urban regeneration. Flekkefjord, a local business collective, the University of Agder (UiA) from nearby Kristiansand, and a non-profit regional development organization contributed funds and resources to this community development project. Small Town Agder, a UiA initiated program, provides community development expertise from faculty to communities surrounding the university. Flekkefjord is the pilot community in the program.
Upending the Growth Machine: The Intense Politicking of Economic Development

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How vulnerable to political shifts is local government economic development spending? That is the question posed in a study based on small Midwestern towns in two different states, in which turbulence in economic development policy has proven to be a fact of life across the board despite sharply differing political and governing structures and approaches to general-purpose public spending that have proven to be consistent over many years. Conventional wisdom holds that a culture of boosterism and privatism dominates economic development policy at the local as well as the state level: it is, as the philosopher Jurgen Habermas has argued, a critical tool by which capitalist systems maintain legitimacy. In the field of urban political economy and sociology, the paradigm of the "growth machine" (Molotch 1976) still remains predominant, with many subsequent works across a variety of disciplines demonstrating the extent to which local governments particularly in the loosely regulated, competitive environment of the United States will go to subsidize private industry to protect their capital base. This paper, however, uses a qualitative cross-sectional case study comparison to build upon a more recent trend in the literature (see for example Rast 1999, 2006; Hyra 2008) towards noting the extent to which politics itself becomes a center of gravity for determining economic development policy. This can take the form of urban governing coalitions choosing one growth policy at the expense of another, avoiding any intervention at all, or engaging in radical changes in policies in response to election results and other political pressure even when the policies being discarded have proven successful from the standpoint of economic gain. Using small towns as an example, this paper demonstrates these phenomena are widespread in rural as well as urban areas. By comparing communities in decentralized Illinois and highly centralized Minnesota, it also demonstrates these political influences on local economic development policy occur independently of the degree to which municipalities enjoy the security of need-based state financial support or regionalized decision-making.
Planning Under Rapid Urbanization: Market Tension, Social Segregation, Service Fragmentation in Ahmedabad

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The Asian continent has greatly benefited of economic globalization, reinforcing its domination in urban concentration (in 2050 two third of the largest megacities of the world are to be found in Asia). With exploding urban centers the importance of town and regional planning is brought back into the spotlight. Despite the unifying tendency of globalization cities require local responses to the global challenge of economic competition, social cohesion, and ecological viability. Our knowledge of planning regimes of cities and metropolitan areas remain limited particular outside the great Asian agglomerations. The Indian urbanization path is very peculiar: First of all is the very low existing urbanization rate, with currently only 31.16% of the total population. Second is the balanced attraction among cities of different size (Class I to IV cities attract an equal share of new residence), third is the persistent high family size. The Indian government is also among the least financially powerful in Asia with a spending power of 17 USD per capita. Until 2050 India needs to accommodate half a billion new urban residents with a growing gap between required and available budget. In this perspective more research is required to understand the peculiarities of the urbanization process in India and the governmental framing of it. The proposed research paper looks at the urbanization process and the planning framework of an interesting case study. The city of Ahmedabad has been decorated with several international and national awards for its planning framework. Based on a land adjustment/land pooling mechanism the Town Planning Schemes over the last 15 years have supplied more land than the city consumed since its existence. Services have been similarly extended to new areas - both are remarkable achievements for an Indian context. However these physical proofs of increasing planning efficiency are paralleled by negative externalities caused by the very basis of the planning success. The benefits of deregulation have benefited a very small layer of society. Additionally speculation-driven real estate development has led to a spatially segregated city and the erosion of the traditional thick urban fabric. By analyzing in detail the town planning mechanism of Ahmedabad the author attempts to establish the link between planning regime and social exclusion by employing a modified policy network methodology. The main argument is that networks of interest groups superpose planning regimes managing to influence preconditions and thus outcomes of important planning decisions. On the other end of the power spectrum are slum dwellers that deprived from activation network are confined to spaces of marginality.
Political Activism, Institutions and Community Nonprofits: The Case of Detroit's 'Shrinking Cities' Planning Process

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Community nonprofit organizations (CNPOs) are central to urban revitalization and local service delivery in the U.S. After decades of concern over mission drift from community advocacy to organizational maintenance and professionalization, scholars are again focusing on the political role of CNPOs. This paper examines the tension between the political interests of the group to act territorially - by defending their communities, community residents' needs and the viability of the organization - and the call to cooperate broadly in endeavors that highlight city-wide concerns. In the current climate of extreme urban fiscal scarcity and depopulation in 'shrinking cities' with structurally weak economies, such as Detroit, Buffalo and Youngstown, community NPOs are losing their already weakened district constituencies to mass exodus. As deindustrialized and desertized cities plan for spatial and political reconfiguration, they also challenge the territorial basis of community-based nonprofits. This project seeks to increase our knowledge of the political participation of community NPOs in 'shrinking cities' planning processes by examining the process currently under way in Detroit, The Detroit Works Project. Using qualitative analysis of site interviews and document review, the study explores whether the territorial interest of CNPOs inherently undermines collaboration toward city consolidation and 'shrinkage' efforts and heightens political advocacy by individual CNPOs or neighborhood CNPO associations for CNPO territory. The paper also highlights the struggle of CNPOs to serve their ongoing community development agenda - a task that requires the support of public officials and foundation supporters - while playing a political advocacy role to mobilize residents in order to have meaningful impact on shrinkage planning and policies. Employing a new institutionalist approach the project hypothesizes that the strength of city-wide interests setting rules-of-game for the planning process - including the strength of foundations and funding intermediaries, planners and anchor institutions - stimulates territorial CNPO interests. Finally, it explores under which conditions we might expect CNPO collaboration and city-wide participation in planning processes.
Citizen Participation in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee: Types of Mechanisms used Matter in Decision Making Concerning the Urban Environment

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Citizens and what they think (their ideas, opinions, beliefs, tastes and dislikes) have mattered for many years in America’s cities. In fact, citizens have participated, especially since the 19th century, in helping to produce strong cities in America by constructing and maintaining their community. In the neighborhood and in neighborhood schools, citizens met and participated in local affairs: they discussed the issues of the day; they coordinated social delivery and they trained neighborhood workers (Follett 1918; Barber, 1984; Box, 1998). In contemporary times, citizens are now involved in questions concerning, for example, how municipal revenues will be spent. They decide how block grant revenues will be used. They also participate in decisions regarding water quality, the control of hazardous waste, land-use planning, nuclear power, building better state parks and environmental issues in their own community. This paper discusses citizen participation in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, and how the types of mechanisms used matter in decision making concerning the urban environment. In this perspective, citizens in the city of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, take leadership in the problem solving process regarding their urban environment by providing solutions that they believe would alleviate environmental damage in their city. Using a survey administered to citizens and residents in the city of Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, the paper discusses how residents and citizens participate in community decision making concerning the urban environment in their city. The main objective of this paper is to explore how the types of participation mechanisms used matter in decision making concerning the urban environment. Example of References: Barber, Benjamin, R. (1984). Strong Democracy, Participatory Politics for a New Age. Los Angeles, CA: University of California-Press. Box, Richard, C. (1998). Citizen Governance, Leading American Communities into the 21st Century. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. Follett, Mary Parker (1918). The New State: Group Organization the Solution to Popular Government. New York, NY: Longmans, Green.
Universities: Globalized Non-Profits and Networks of Innovation in Small and Mid-size Cities

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Abstract Text: During the last three decades universities have become market actors playing a key role in the generation of basic and applied research used by the private sector in scientific innovation, participating in "triple-helix systems", incubating businesses, and in other commercially related activities (patenting). Regulatory systems, in addition, have become more open to universities keeping the proceeds of such market activity, often not exempted from controversy given that many universities are public and non-profit organizations. The trend is global, yet the patterns of university activity vary at the national level depending on the type of university (private, public, national, regional), the characteristics of the national innovation system, associative practices, and social mission. In this regard, many large and mid-size research universities have become important global actors, some with an established physical presence in multiple countries, in key knowledge-based industries such as high-tech and biotechnology, as well as in health systems through university-affiliated medical facilities and research institutes. In the USA, UK, Australia, France and Germany, universities have become global magnets attracting the most talented students of the world, primarily from emerging economies and global economic powers such as India and China. In tandem, along the lines of their more traditional roles offering general and professional education, extension services, and supporting national development, universities have also become creative actors connecting with civil society through service-learning, dissemination of public knowledge, and the incorporation of marginalized populations. Networks are the medium for much of this expanded role in university activity, which driven by telecommunication technologies have rapidly evolved in interactive and cognitive sophistication. The topology (shape) of such networks, however, is also socially, culturally and politically embedded. That is, the reciprocity between networks and context is intimate. This paper will be concerned with universities as anchors, leaders and embedders of various types of networks to advance processes of scientific, social and institutional innovation at multiple functional and geographic levels, especially in small and mid-size "gateway cities" such as Worcester (MA), Providence (RI), and Lowell (MA). Specifically, what are the social, political and economic dimensions of universities as protagonists in networks of innovation? Most relevant, what are the challenges universities face reconciling their new market-driven functions with their more mission-driven roles promoting social equity, national and local development, educating citizens, and solving social problems?
Possible Lessons from Sustainable Development Approaches in Singapore New Towns

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Many places in Asia, especially China, face long-term environmental and sustainability problems, in part because they have repeated land-use/transportation and sustainability mistakes made in California over the past century, such as over-reliance on personal automobiles and development patterns which replace productive agricultural lands with sprawling urban uses. Singapore, faced with a limited land area and dense population, has over the past fifty years, reviewed best planning practices around the world and developed its own innovative Concept Plans. The 1970 and 1991 Concept Plans proposed locating residential developments in carefully planned new towns with clusters of high-rise buildings organized into neighborhoods and hierarchical sets of retail, private, and government services linked together by public transportation and roadway networks. The transit-oriented development (TOD) system consists of an efficient metro rail network (MRT), opened in 1987, fed by buses, walkways, and recently by elevated light rail systems (LRT) in the Sengkang and Punggol New Towns. These innovative LRTs loop within these new towns, providing shade along pedestrian-friendly greenbelts, with stops at neighborhood centers and the new town shopping and service center surrounding the MRT station. With increasing personal incomes, many Singaporeans have bought personal automobiles and encouraged the government to provide a network of express highways. However increases in automobile ownership and use have led to severe traffic congestion problems with large wastes of time and air pollution. The government has responded with a pioneering road pricing congestion management system. This system has encouraged others, including the State of California to develop its own still limited road pricing system. This paper will critically review the Singapore New Town experience to seek possible lessons for achieving more sustainable transit-oriented urban development elsewhere in the world, especially in China. Attention will be given to the planning policies for the Sengkang and Punggol New Towns including the efficacy of their walking, bicycling, LRT, MRT, roadway, and parking transportation facilities and policies. The land-use patterns of these new towns also will be reviewed to determine their effects on the sustainability prospects for these areas.
Rezoning After the Financial Crisis: Who Decides?

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In October 2009, New York City's Department of City Planning celebrated the 100th rezoning since Mayor Bloomberg took office in 2002. These rezonings were both facilitated by and intended to facilitate the real estate that began in the mid-1990s. This paper looks at what happened after that flow of private capital disappeared. It examines New York City neighborhood rezonings that were adopted between January 2009 and July 2012, in order to understand how the process of rezoning shifted after the financial crisis, when property-led economic development no longer could be the norm that it had in the preceding decade. In this period, there were 30 rezonings, representing a mix of initiatives to upzone areas to enhance development, to downzone to cap growth, and to conduct contextual rezoning to maintain neighborhood character. This study classifies the goals and outcomes of the rezonings, and considers how local and external stakeholders shaped the process and outcomes of the rezonings. It uses as case studies two rezonings that were "certified" for public review by the Department of City Planning in May 2012: a 140-block area in Bedford-Stuyvesant North, Brooklyn and a 90-block area in West Harlem, Manhattan, and explores how these rezoning plans were initiated, who advocated for them, and how the neighborhood community consultation process unfolded. By analyzing the process of rezoning at the neighborhood level, during a period in which New York City government could no longer be motivated by the imperative of attracting private capital, this paper explores how zoning does and does not reflect the interests of stakeholders that include residents, community groups, other non-governmental organizations, developers, public agencies, and elected and appointed officials. Its findings suggest more broadly how local land use policies may influence urban development and neighborhood change in a reshaped economic climate, and how local governments' planning strategies might shift as the influence of the private sector wanes.
How Do Cities Fare when the State Legislature is in Session?

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Provocative headlines such as this one in The New York Times, "States Pass Budget Pain to Cities," or in Governing, "States Handing Off More Responsibilities to Cities," suggest that states have tried to foist some of their own fiscal woes onto their city governments. Other state governments have taken a different tack by reaching out to troubled localities, intervening to provide a fiscal cushion, albeit at the cost of localities’ decision-making autonomy. Michigan’s actions with regard to the city of Benton Harbor and the public schools in Detroit are cases in point. In another recent example, California Governor Jerry Brown proposed the empowerment of county governments but with a quid pro quo: in return for greater power, counties would increase their financial share of public service provision. Clearly the relationship between local governments and their states is in flux...and it is state government that holds most of the cards. This paper explores the fluctuations in the relationship of local governments—specifically cities and counties—to their states. It examines the legislative actions in all 50 states, both regular and special sessions in 2011, which directly affected city and county governments. It pursues answers to these questions: How did legislative actions in 2011 affect city and county governments? Restrict/burden or empower? How do these locally-focused enactments vary across states? What explains the variation that exists? To answer these questions, we have created a database of legislative actions and developed a metric for scoring enactments according to their substance and impact. We intend to build a multivariate model containing both standard explanations (fiscal stress, ideology, legislative professionalism) as well as some less common measures (level of gubernatorial-legislative conflict, local government lobbying). Assuming robust results, the paper should provide compelling insights about the ways in which the relationship between a state and its local governments is evolving and realigning.
Rooted in Place: The Geography of Memory and Survival in Historic Black New Orleans

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Set within a theme of persistent and emplaced urban racial inequality, this research interrogates the intersection of place attachment, urban development, and gentrification as they relate to the geographic tenure of black spaces in the city. Sited in New Orleans, this research focuses on New Orleans' historic black core - Treme and the Seventh Ward, the historic homes for Free People of Color and Black Creoles. Analyzing how blacks make sense of their racial experiences in the city and how they use space and their emplaced social networks to survive and overcome the disparities they face, this research questions the potential impact of new urban development proposals and projects that threaten the affordability and tenure of these black spaces. In contrast to the new spatial ideals promoted by developers and gentrifiers, this research asks, like Du Bois in his seminal work, The Souls of Black Folk (1994), what blacks have to say about their experiences of race in the city and what their visions for change are. Taking an engaged and ethnographic approach, this research analyzes residents' discourses about their place in the city. Using qualitative data, including interviews, participant observations, and cognitive mapping, this research takes a grounded theory approach to understanding contemporary racial experiences in these two historic black neighborhoods. This approach accesses the continued salience of race and how it is experienced and emplaced in the city. Situated in literatures on place attachment, narrative formation, and urban development, this research brings a specific racial lens to this work and therefore relies on extensive, though often ignored, literature on black political thought and black geographies. Key findings include the critical importance of geographic tenure for black communities and the psychological, economic, and political benefits of this tenure. Additionally this research finds that blacks' worldviews are represented by dual narratives, or what Du Bois (1994) calls "double consciousness," that simultaneously situate the experience of emplaced racial inequality and that deny the complete denigration of black spaces, therefore allowing blacks to use their geographical rootedness to create positive socio-spatial identities despite the conditions of being economically and socially disadvantaged. Therefore while this research is grounded in an understanding of urban space as the site of control and hegemony, it also finds that black spaces are the site of liberation. This research ultimately argues that not only must urban development pay critical attention to the discourses represented in blacks' urban narratives and worldviews, but that blacks' spatial visions offer to urban development what are potentially more democratic, more just, and more equitable pathways to creating the city. Du Bois, W. E. B. (1994). The Souls of Black Folk. New York: Gramercy Books.
Using Mixed Methods to Elicit Rich Evidence and Engage Diverse Stakeholders in Addressing Urban Health Challenges

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Public health professionals are increasingly aware of the role of social and environmental factors in population health outcomes, and are seeking to modify these determinants at a systemic level. This paper discusses the use of mixed, quantitative-qualitative methods to broaden and deepen analysis. In particular, it describes a mixed-methods study to identify and facilitate systemic approaches to improving sexual health and reducing sexually transmitted disease in an urban community. Semi-structured key informant interviews and photovoice, two qualitative methods, complemented the review of published epidemiological research and collection of community-specific quantitative data. Coupled with a participatory analysis process, the study resulted in a set of recommendations for action that were locally-viable and community-supported as well as evidence-based. The study suggests that public health entities can serve as neutral conveners in bringing together stakeholders with diverse interests in a given challenge; they can help an affected community characterize and showcase its strengths to aid in priority-setting and buy-in of solutions; and such a process can prepare stakeholders to take informed action at their discretion.
Cross-disciplinary community response mechanisms for hoarding

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Recently, cases of hoarding have engendered a community-level response such that 85 hoarding task forces have formed in communities large and small, urban and rural, throughout the US and Canada. Survey data about these task forces provides information about their formation and operation. These data include information about primary hoarding task force activities: education, case consultation and direct intervention. The findings from this research can inform practice and guide next research steps with regard to the viability, longevity and outcomes of hoarding task forces and offer insights into these community intervention response mechanisms. Reflecting the complexity of hoarding disorder which spans personal, private, and public domains, this study captures the perspectives of public and private sector service providers representing housing, public health, mental health, social services, and private family service agencies. In addition, community enforcement organizations, including police, fire, legal systems and animal control were also represented. In fact, hoarding problems appear to provoke a surprising breadth of agencies and organizational involvement, marking hoarding as a uniquely challenging problem from an urban community perspective. Findings address the tasks of organization and operation of these community efforts, as well as the practice and policy changes that emerge from such collaboration. The formation of task forces in urban environments appears to be a useful multi-sector practice and policy mechanism for addressing social problems and advancing community policies to protect and support both hoarding sufferers and affected others (family, neighbors, community). Challenges for complex problems such as hoarding are pronounced in requiring communications across numerous agencies in order to identify individual and community service needs and methods for providing those. Implications of these findings for feasibility, construction and durability of task forces will be discussed. The durability and longevity of hoarding task forces and the applicability of the hoarding task force model for practice and policy responses to other urban social problems will be examined.
Contesting the Neoliberal City: Transportation Planning and the Fragmented Urban Form

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Neoliberal urban planning regimes have fragmented the city into small patches of private development and eroded the ability of state planners to design an integrated built environment at the city-wide scale. Neoliberal planning regimes constitute an entrepreneurial urban form highlighted by fragmented infrastructure and disconnected land use, increasing sociospatial inequalities. As transportation planning is one of the last bastions of state planning at a city-wide scale, there is a need to establish a regime of public transportation planners situated to contest the privatized, fragmented urban form of the neoliberal city. Contrary to state planners, who are precariously situated in hierarchies of government bureaucracy and private development regimes, public planners would need to be disarticulated from the institutional power of local elites. Similar to advocacy planners as articulated by Paul Davidoff, public planners would need to be situated in a new type community based structure, allowing the public to hold planners accountable in a democratic fashion. A new critical politics of transportation planning must accompany the establishment of public planners. Planning praxis cannot be neutral in its politics, as planning either serves to reproduce existing social conditions and normative understandings or to contest current hegemony. Critical public planning would be a means to not only allay symptomatic injustices, but to contest the larger ideology of neoliberalism and its inherently inequitable fragmentation of the city. Public transportation planners could be empowered to design infrastructure that privileges more equitable forms of urban mobility, transport connectivity beyond urban centers of power and an ability to contest the displacement of socially marginalized communities during transportation redevelopment projects. This paper will (1) situate the neoliberal city and the competitive city model, (2) examine how neoliberal ideologies impact state planning praxis and (3) call for the establishment of public planners working outside local growth machine politics. This paper is neither a detailed manifesto nor an explicit handbook on establishing public planners, but it is an effort to reignite a conversation on planning advocacy and to forward the notion of public planning as a mechanism for sociospatial justice.
Equity in Accessibility: Applications in the Atlanta Metropolitan Region

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The struggle over the "right to the city" can extend to transportation. Access to the city and its amenities is facilitated by the urban transportation system and many benefits of the transportation system, including accessibility to destinations, are the result of cumulative outcomes of transportation investments. Transportation investments have some inherent distributive inequality due to the nature of projects; however, one goal of environmental justice regulations is to ensure that marginalized populations do not experience the denial, reduction or delay of significant benefits and in that way, cumulative outcomes should be equitable over the long term. It is important that local agencies possess practical tools to identify marginalized populations and assess impacts of projects, programs, and policies on target populations; however, tools are not readily available or fully developed to evaluate such impacts. The Atlanta Regional Commission has conducted an analysis that identifies census tracts with high proportions of target populations and compares this to an assessment of general regional accessibility based on modes to evaluate regional accessibility and equity. This approach is compared to an analysis that identifies the concentration of target populations across the metropolitan area using spatial statistical clusters and produces a measure of accessibility to specified destinations using cumulative opportunity. The results of both approaches are evaluated to highlight the relative strengths and weaknesses of both methods for evaluating equity in accessibility at the metropolitan region level. Alternative approaches for environmental justice assessments of regional outcomes such as accessibility provide opportunities for metropolitan areas to gain a greater understanding of the cumulative impacts of transportation improvements and work to ensure that equitable investment outcomes are achieved across a metropolitan region in the long term.
Urban Planning and Social Justice: A Study of Those Factors that Contribute to a Peaceful, Prosperous, and Harmonious Living and Working Environment

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As an Urban Planner in the cities of today, it is very important to take into account the needs of diversity within an organization and/or city. Diversity is an important aspect of an environment that seeks to be both productive for the people within the organization and for those who the organization serves. This diversity comes in several forms. These forms include the diversity of ethnicity, gender, and race, and possibly currently the most important, sexual orientation. Why is sexual orientation so important? Because recent issues show that current developments in social norms and morays indicate that people are now most intolerant to those who have a sexual orientation other than their own, or that disagrees with some people’s faith. The diversity issues of ethnicity, gender and race are very important also. Even though some advances in social knowledge has pushed the human race past some issues, still more progress is needed. Let us take the diversity issue of segregation by race. In the past, this type of segregation was possibly the most far reaching in its effect on social justice. This type of separation matured into the development of suburbs so that some would not have to deal with the complexity of interacting with certain "others," or downright participating in hateful activities to keep "others" out. This made the social separation of city and suburbs a major contributor to the social injustice of racism and the racial divide. And then there is the struggle that women have had to endure concerning the work place. Since women’s voices are different than men, they have been either totally ignored in the past or given very little credibility, or many times and in many cultures totally silenced. These voices have to be brought out of silence in regard to the planning process so that planners and the community can understand the commonalities, differences and conflicts among the diverse stories that women have to tell. This is an important part of the planning process that has to be farther developed so that the planned environment will support the many different diverse people that will live, utilize, or benefit from the planned organization. The purpose of this research paper is to study and convey the many challenges that we have overcome as the human race. We have made magnificent strides in our growth as the inhabitants of the earth. And although we still have challenges and struggles, past accomplishments show that there is nothing impossible for us to tackle and overcome. But, in order to make lasting progress, a study of the past with objectives rooted in the future, must be the overall focus of planning in the present.
Aging, Home, and Community: The Perspective of Baby Boomers

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With recent declines in home equity and retirement savings, many Baby Boomers may lack the financial resources to change their housing or purchase services to accommodate aging. This abstract summarizes focus group interviews with 42 Boomers about housing and community concerns, expectations, and plans for aging. We recruited through libraries and community centers for seven one-hour focus groups; participants received $25 gift cards. One researcher moderated, another took field notes and summarized the discussion as a member-check. Interviews were digitally recorded and transcribed. Each of three researchers independently read and reread transcripts; they organized statements into a matrix by question, and reviewed transcripts for comments not directly related to structured questions. The matrix helped researchers identify themes; themes were compared across focus groups and to the literature. The analysis identified "big ideas" without overlooking themes related to demographic subgroups. Participants’ mean age was 57 years; twenty-nine (69%) were female and 52% were of color. Findings inform the planning of housing and services to support participants as they age within their neighborhoods and communities. Concerns included financial resources, inability to predict health problems, and lack of unbiased housing information. Participants in stable relationships or stable housing assumed that everything would remain stable. Most expected to age in their current home, although several talked about moves to warmer climates or small, out-state communities. Singles, especially individuals who had cared for an elder, were more likely to consider senior housing alternatives. Several identified benefits to living in townhouses, condominiums, or apartments. Concerns about downsizing included losing access to gardens, space for hobbies, space for family gatherings, and needing to sort and discard possessions. Access to affordable public transportation, stores, cultural amenities, and medical services was important. Safety issues included waiting for buses after dark, feeling unsafe around neighbors, and security in the individual units. Participants wanted quiet, they did not want to hear neighbors or to worry about bothering their neighbors. They wanted to age-in-place, preferring a single-family unit with green space in a safe neighborhood with services. Participants described senior housing as dense, small, isolated, expensive, and a concentration of older, frail individuals. Alternatively, several positively described age-segregated communities with specialized services, activities, and a supportive culture. Furthermore, they wanted to be involved in the planning for their futures.
Shooting it Out with Pistol Pete: Wild West Baltimore Politics

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This paper chronicles the 2011 Baltimore City Primary Election, focusing specifically on the race for City Council in the 9th District. Through television portrayals such as HBO's The Wire, West Baltimore has long been perceived as an example of urban decline. Such neighborhoods - rife with violent crime, drug addiction, poverty, struggling schools, low educational attainment, unemployment, voter apathy and low turnout - are the culmination of years of disinvestment as well as political and economic neglect. As a political scientist in West Baltimore, it has been fascinating to witness the current vestiges of machine politics. While political machines have been assumed to be all but dead, observations of Baltimore demonstrate the contrary. This is exemplified in the appointment of William "Pete" Welch to the Council despite previous convictions for handgun and campaign finance violations. While machines are not dead, their remaining influence continues to shape politics in important ways. To understand this process through a political experiment, I was also a candidate for the 9th District City Council seat. As an actor, one can engage in participant observation and gain a firsthand vantage point not typically associated with political science. Given the social and economic conditions in American cities, it is important to understand current circumstances in order to make future predictions. One contribution of this paper is that it theorizes how low voter turnout and political efficacy both affect, and are affected by poverty and poor education. As such, it posits how the lack of political sophistication leads to electoral outcomes which further exacerbate persistent problems. Although political scientists have long noted the correlation between socioeconomic characteristics and electoral participation, rarely has the discipline addressed the tangible outcomes of this relationship, specifically in neglected urban neighborhoods. One of the primary theories presented in this work is that the lack of voter sophistication combined with single party dominance results in a machine monopoly. While this analysis uncovers a host of challenging indicators and trends, there are some potential solutions, which ironically hearken back to proposals set forth during the reform movement of the early 20th century. While the prescribed methods for weakening political machines included term limits and at-large elections, Baltimore stands as the epitome of a non-reform city as it lacks these as well as other elements found in more progressive cities. Regardless of the outcome of this specific election, the stage is also being set for electoral contests to be shaped by a relatively recent set of occurrences. The waning of civil rights activism, the rise in black professionalism, and the flight of whites back to urban centers is resulting in a seeming evolution of city politics.
Partners in Provision: Rethinking "Public" Urban Recreation in Baltimore City

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As the formation and deployment of particular service programs for purposes of health, sport, recreation and leisure continues to be a key aspect of contemporary urban governance (Corburn 2009), this project explores current shifts in urban recreation policy in order to interrogate the ways in which 'public' urban services are being redeveloped and implemented. As public-private (and other) partnerships have become common priorities for urban governments (Osborne 2000) - and have often wrought profound effects on the lives of urban citizens - this critical examination of the policies, practices, and places of urban recreation addresses the re-conceptualized 'public' within 'public recreation'. Through over three years of research including interviews, participant observation in public meetings and within city agencies and citizen organizations, and reviews of original documents, this analysis focuses on the reconstitution of recreation services in Baltimore through an assemblage (Amin & Thrift 2004) of discourses, sites and actors. By merging an historical locating of recreation in the city over different policy formations (Harvey 1989) with an examination of current and ongoing transformations in service, this work highlights the actively changing nature of public policy and service implementation within the contested urban context, and emphasizes the processes through which urban recreation policy emerges and takes form. In this view, public recreation in Baltimore is recognized as one area of potential 'delegation,' 'divestment' and 'displacement' (Savas 1999) in urban services, and is both a reflection of and active force in the patterns of contemporary urban governance.
Is "Interdisciplinary" a Bad Word for Social Science Doctoral Programs?

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In August, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck New Orleans and created unprecedented damage to the city and to Tulane University. Among the lesser known causalities of the storm were 22 doctoral programs at Tulane, across various disciplines, that had their programs 'suspended'. Among those affected were Social Work and Sociology. The effect of the suspension was that no new students were admitted into the programs but current students were supported and encouraged to complete their programs of study as expeditiously as possible. This situation persisted, with the suspended doctoral programs effectively eliminated, until quite recently. The purpose of this paper is to describe Tulane's attempt to return doctoral education to campus, particularly focusing on the new interdisciplinary PhD program in City, Community & Culture, which confers degrees in Social Work, Sociology and Urban Studies.
Social Innovation and Civil Society in Urban Governance: Case Study of Participatory Governance and Community Rebuilding in Seoul Metropolitan City

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The socioeconomic polarization and social exclusion has been the most important social challenges in contemporary cities. Cities are called upon to appropriately respond to this economic, social and political restructuring. Seoul Metropolitan City has faced same challenges. In the past decades, Seoul has experienced dramatic changes derived from unprecedented technological innovation and unfettered economic globalization. These changes undoubtedly have delivered substantial improvements in the lives of peoples in Seoul. The widespread use of the internet has transformed the way we live, work and communicates. Globalization has helped to provide the city competitiveness and improved the living conditions for Seoul. Seoul has developed 10 times in economic growth of GRDP during the past 40 years. In the same period, the social and economic polarization also has increased rapidly. Social exclusion, generational unemployment, material poverty, wealth inequalities and ageing population has continued to deteriorate. Fast development brought economic wealth to Seoul, but it gradually disintegrated the kinship neighborhood, shared local identities, and communal traditions as well. Recognizing this incompatibility of economic development and social discontinuity, City of Seoul has recently launched the community rebuilding project under the Mayor Park's administration. Mayor Park, once a mogul in civil activist community, wanted to transplant the social innovation ideas in the public sector, and chose the community rebuilding and regeneration as his focal city-based innovation project. In this paper, we select the participatory governance as the most important innovative change in the way of administration of community rebuilding project. A social innovation can be product, production process, but it also can be a principle, an idea, a piece of legislation, an intervention, or some combination of them (Phills, Deiglmeier and Miller, 2010). This paper also explores notable changes that enable innovations in the field of community rebuilding, particularly from a participatory governance perspective. It is directly related to the other question: how do we measure the effect of participatory governance as social innovation in the context of policy implementation? The main objective of the community rebuilding is to empower the community in their own businesses. This paper reports several indicators that impact on the community capacity and identifies key factors which figured the Seoul's social innovation in the process of community rebuilding.
From Foodies to Food Justice: Gender, Race, Class, and the Commons of Urban Agriculture in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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Based upon research in progress, this presentation will discuss how participants in alternative agrifood movements (AFMS) in the city of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, are envisioning ways to challenge, contest, resist, and provide potential alternatives to aspects of neoliberal capitalism via the efforts to create a "commons" in urban agriculture and local food. This study conceptualizes AFMS as existing along a continuum, stretching from Foodies, - who emphasize the consumption, cooking, taste, and view food as an experience, to Food Justice, - which places emphasize on the structural levels of fairness, equity, and cultural relevance of healthy food as a human right in both production and consumption. This study also focuses on gender is shaped and is shaping the food movement in Milwaukee, WI, along this continuum. Based upon research in progress I hypothesize that theoretically, AFMS can contest moments of urban neoliberalisms in five key ways 1) Building sustainable and stable communities, 2). Encouraging broad based and cross difference coalitions, 3). De-commodifying food, and possibly, labor, 4). Providing meaningful and accessible alternatives to capitalism, and 5). Creating, valuing, and protecting vital aspects of "The Commons."
You can’t feed the city through urban farming': Discursive practices and governance networks of urban agriculture and community gardens in New York City

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How is urban agriculture being harnessed into food policy dialogues? And who participates in the governance networks and management practices involved in creating, sustaining, and advocating for urban farms and community gardens? This paper presents an in-depth case study of the politics, networks, and discourses of urban agriculture in New York City. Findings draw upon semi-structured interviews with 43 subjects engaged in urban agriculture across public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Although traditionally seen as beyond the purview of municipal government, attention by policymakers to issues of local food systems is on the rise in New York City. Since 2009, several visions, plans, and strategic documents on food policy have been released by the Manhattan Borough President, the Speaker of the City Council, and the Mayor’s office. Critiques circulate about the significance of urban food production due to the size of New York City’s food market and the relative scarcity of open space. At the same time, civic-led and entrepreneurial endeavors in urban gardening and farming continue to proliferate on public lands, private lands, rooftops, vacant lots, and greenhouses. While there is a long tradition of community gardening, particularly in low income neighborhoods with disinvestment and vacant properties, new constituencies are becoming urban growers. The coalitions and divisions among these groups will be examined in order to better understand how the social movement around food and urban agriculture is evolving in this global city.
The "We" of First Suburbs: Interrogating Sense of Community and the Illusion of Homogeneity in the New Urban Core.

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First suburbs - those oldest products of urban dispersal, often found to be in a metropolitan limbo lingering between city centers and newer suburban developments - have drawn increasing attention since Myron Orfield first exposed the demographic nuances of suburbia. As city centers have shrunk, and many urban cores have pursued expansion, the unique traits of first suburbs have continued to be revealed. One specific outgrowth of this evolving situation, is the development of first suburb coalitions. While these coalitions are the subject of considerable research, primarily dealing with intergovernmental dynamics and the nature of collaborative municipal service delivery, one area deserving of research, is the degree to which there is any sense of community within first suburbs and between members of a first suburb coalition. Given that understandings of community are largely idiosyncratic, and that suburbanization was in part fueled by an escape from otherness, there is potential for sense of community in first suburbs to manifest in an exclusionary manner. Wiesenfeld (1996) deftly describe this dynamic as the myth of "we" - the valorizing of similarity, and the ignoring or intolerance of difference, which can result in an illusion of inclusivity premised on assimilation. Therefore, as first suburbs increasingly take prominence in the development of new urban realities, if anything resembling inclusivity is to be realized, one fundamental question must be asked: who is this "we?"
Historic Preservation in a Shrinking City: Exploring Marketless Approaches to Conserving Industrial Age Icons in Buffalo, N.Y.

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This paper examines ongoing efforts to preserve iconic industrial-age structures in Buffalo, New York. Through the exploration of two case studies, the Buffalo Central Terminal and a trio of historic grain elevators contained by the emerging Silo City campus, it explores alternatives to the market-based historic preservation strategies that have proven ineffective in declining settings. Examining the preservation practices at these two sites, it documents locally-driven, 'marketless' conservation efforts (i.e. in settings for which there is no perceived market for adaptive reuse) spearheaded by citizens with an interest in local history; arts or performance collectives seeking studio, live-work, event or leisure space; or local cultural entrepreneurs. These groups coalesce and grow around a shared desire to conserve abandoned landmarks and play an active role in the physical rebuilding of their cities. Part of the larger "do-it-yourself" (DIY) movement that is reshaping the physical and cultural fabric of American cities, these agents work largely without funding, professional expertise and sometimes authorization from building ownership. Following the an ethic that transcends both the typical market-oriented targets (private sector profits or "pays-for-itself") and the "fully restored" end states that are the goals of conventional preservation projects, these actors substitute sweat equity for monetary investment, enthusiast volunteers for professional consultants, and 'stewardship by collective' for traditional private sector or not-for-profit ownership structures. Their incremental and incomplete transformations provide conservation of structures long identified with the culture of Buffalo and urban focal points around which other investments may occur, including more conventional, professionally directed forms of preservation. Given scarce public sector resources for traditional architectural conservation, alternative practices such as the ones documented in this inquiry may have broader applicability, enabling citizens across the Rustbelt and beyond to reclaim locally iconic structures long considered past the point of salvage.
The challenges of extracting community benefits through land value capture in a hyper-urban context: The case of the Transit Center District Plan in San Francisco

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One of the most significant Transit-Oriented Developments in the US is being developed in downtown San Francisco. It is anchored by a new one-million square feet transit center – the Transbay Terminal – to be surrounded by several, mostly residential, high-rises. One of them, with a height of over 1000 thousand feet, will be the tallest building in San Francisco. Development in the area is guided by the recently approved Transit Center District Plan. It envisions more than $6 million square feet of office space and 4,400 units of new housing, 1,200 of which will be permanently affordable. The five-story Transbay Transit Terminal will connect eight Bay Area counties and the State of California through 11 transit systems. The new Transit Center will feature a 5.4 acre park on the roof of the bus and rail station. Construction for the terminal began in 2010. The cost for the project is estimated to be $4.2 billion, with slightly more than one third (about $1.6 billion), consisting of taxes, loans and anticipated sales of land owned by the State of California, the site of the removed Embarcadero Freeway.

Additional revenue will be generated from development fees. On top of existing fees, such as Transit Impact Fees, Commercial Linkage Fees, Childcare & Open Space Fees, Public Art and Inclusionary Housing requirements, the plan calls for additional impact fees that are tied to increased densities. The base fee is $5 per gross square foot; it goes up to $25 per square footage over a Floor Area Ratio (FAR) of nine; and an additional $5 for all square footage over a FAR of 20. These fees would pay for complete streets and parks and open space. An additional and creative revenue source to help finance the construction of the terminal itself is a Benefit Covenant, consisting of an additional levy of 1 percent of the sale price on property transactions. In the Transit Center District, then, much of the “public city” is being financed by the recapture of a portion of the large increase in the development value of the properties surrounding the terminal. This increase is due to two factors: (1) the huge “lift” in allowed density/FARs, and (2) the presence of the terminal itself. This recaptured value is reinvested in the same area, thus benefitting the same properties, a particularly effective form of private-public private partnership for the creation of a sustainable city.
Innovation and New Technological Path Creation: Urban Innovation in the Wind Energy Industry in Germany and the UK

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With urban, regional and national governments keen to encourage the growth of ‘green jobs’ in response to the enduring global economic crisis, this paper looks at how and why new technological pathways develop in distinct places, taking the example of the development of one particular renewable energy sector, that of the wind energy industry. We develop the argument that, in order to understand how and why new technological pathways develop in particular places, and why some cities are successful in developing key economic growth sectors while others are less successful, evolutionary economic theories of path dependence need to be linked with sociological explanations of how new technological pathways are created in the first instance by knowledgeable inventors and innovators. These arguments are developed in a hybrid multi-disciplinary socio-economic theory of new path creation. In order to illustrate the theoretical arguments empirically, we draw on an international comparative analysis of the introduction and diffusion of new wind power technologies in Britain and Germany. Based on semi-structured interviews with innovators and inventors in key urban locations for the wind energy industry, the research shows how wind power technologies have developed more successfully in Germany than in Britain. The findings reveal that external shocks on their own are insufficient to break the use of historically developed, path dependent and locked-in technologies, in this case, centralised electricity generation based in fossil fuels. In addition to external shocks, new path creation requires action by intelligent agents such as inventors and innovators, and even then, the introduction and diffusion of a new technology is not given, unless other forms of lock-in can be overcome. Regarding implications for policy-makers aiming to stimulate economic development by encouraging the development of new economic pathways, the role of niche environments, often established at the national level, played a significant role in Germany in creating the right conditions for the development of the new pathway. This suggests that in order to stimulate ‘green growth’ in urban economies, governments have a crucial role to play in setting up niche conditions that act as incubators for new green technological pathways.
Really Taking Sustainability Seriously: Understanding the Environmental, Civic and Social, and Financial Sustainability of Communities

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Sustainability is fast becoming a ubiquitous topic in urban affairs. Portney (2003) explains that the concept of sustainable communities was devised in an attempt to account for a large number and variety of environmental and interpersonal impacts of economic growth...In short, sustainable communities have been thought of as mechanisms that can be used to redress the often detrimental negative or deleterious environmental and social effects of adherence to mainstream approaches to economic development” (p. 4). Each year dozens of studies are directed at understanding the various programs and initiatives of sustainable development undertaken by individual cities; the capacity of cities to implement these programs, and even why some cities pursue sustainability while efforts others do not (e.g., Portney, 2003; Jepson, 2004; Krause, 2010; Wang, Hawkins, Lebredo, and Berman, 2012). These studies focus on important issues, but they are incomplete. In this paper, we seek to turn the attention of scholars to the fundamental question of identifying the core topics underlying the creation of sustainable communities, and equally important, sustainable regions. Extant research is focused on understanding the requirements of sustainability and what is covered by the concept when taken to its logical conclusion, but this literature is not often sufficiently connected to the most fundamental sustainability problems facing our communities and our regions. We propose that sustainability must be understood in terms of the environmental impact of city operations and the land use decisions of cities on the environment; the civic and political engagement of residents in their communities and in the governance of their region; and the ability of local governments to make decisions about how the resources should be raised and allocated to support the provision of public services for the residents of their cities. We do not seek to replace existing literature, but to supplement it by improving our understanding of what it means to achieve sustainable communities and how it can be done.
Neighborhood Effects of Incompatible Infill Housing: A Local Case Study

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When used to create new affordable housing and mixed-use developments, infill development can meet multiple policy objectives, including neighbor revitalization, support for transit-oriented development and a slowing of suburban expansion (Felt, 2007). With solutions come challenges. As gas prices continue to rise and traffic congestion increases, urban neighborhoods see an increase in infill and redeveloped housing. While located in higher density neighborhoods, these additions to the housing stock are often much larger than the existing housing stock and more comparable to large suburban homes (Pendered, 2006). Communities around the country have encountered community opposition to incompatible infill housing, sometimes referred to as "infill McMansions" (Nasar & Stamps, 2009). In some cases, local governments are passing laws that restrict builders from developing large homes on small lots (Zurier, 2007). This particular research looks at infill and redeveloped houses within neighborhoods that are disproportionately larger than those surrounding them. These oversized homes are either new construction on vacant land, through the demolition of an existing house or the redevelopment of an existing house, in which the house is expanded from an existing footprint. The research looks at four distinct neighborhoods in city within a small metropolitan area- 1) a neighborhood with large pre-1900's historic homes; 2) a neighborhood with smaller historic homes from the early 1900s; 3) a neighborhood of primarily Post-World War II bungalows adjacent to city's largest hospital and a university campus expansion and 4) a neighborhood within the city boundaries that has newer homes (1970's-1990's) and suburban density levels. There has been little research on the effects of incompatible infill and redevelopment housing, particularly whether they cost or benefit urban neighborhoods. Larger homes have the potential to increase neighboring home values yet a home that is incompatible with neighboring homes may make nearby properties less desirable. Increased property values could negatively affect the community by reducing housing affordability and increasing property taxes (Nasar and Stamps, 2009). The research team, which includes a city planner, examines the property records of a city of 115,000 within a small metro area, to analyze the trends in incompatible infill housing and identify the scope of the issue and whether certain neighborhood types are receiving more incompatible infill and redeveloped housing than others. The researchers will also examine the neighborhood effects of incompatible infill, relative to similarly situated neighborhoods not impacted by infill. Among the variables examined are price effects, sales activity and property tax effects. The goal of this research is to better understand the issue of incompatible infill housing to inform local housing policy efforts.
Community-Based Organizations as a Critical Connection in Linking Social Capital: The Case of Low Wealth Entrepreneurship

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This paper studies the relationship between linking social capital and access to formal financial resources for low wealth entrepreneurs. Specifically, I argue that the presence of supportive community-based groups and organizations facilitates critical linkages to formal financial institutions for low wealth entrepreneurs. I test my argument using data on nascent firms engaging in startup efforts in the United States in 2005, from the Panel Survey of Entrepreneurial Dynamics II (PSED II). I find that top-down social capital in the form of government support has a positive effect for entrepreneurs overall. However, among low wealth entrepreneurs, support provided by community-based groups and organizations plays a significant role, and increases the percentage of formal financial resources obtained for startup activities.
The Study on Energy Use Status of 'Carbon Point Program' Participants and Analysis on Greenhouse Gas Emission Status

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The study was aimed at “carbon point program” being executed for energy savings and reducing the greenhouse gas. The carbon point program is the climate change response program for whole nation which provides the incentives according to the energy savings rate such as, electricity, gas and water etc. in house and commercial facilities. Currently it is reported that the potential of greenhouse gas reduction in house and commercial facilities is greater than any other area, however the program is still limited as the policy to control the greenhouse gas emission mainly on the industrial facilities. Also the study on the effect of carbon point program in house area is almost not done yet. Therefore in the study we will like to research the effect analysis focusing on the carbon point program being executed as the low carbon policy in house area. First, we like to introduce the carbon point program being executed with the goal to achieve greenhouse gas reduction in house area since 2008, and discuss various carbon point programs in oversea country and then look for the implication. We will research the energy use status of participating house and the emission status followed by energy use for the effect analysis of carbon point program. The area to be used for analysis is Gyeonggi-do. Aiming at the Gyeonggi-do we will analyze the energy use status of participating house in carbon point program, and calculate the amount of greenhouse gas emission. The data produced shall be visualized as the unit being administrative "Dong" in Gyeonggi-do using GIS program. Through this process we can understand the spatial distribution type of carbon emission and analyze the low carbon effect, which is the goal of carbon point program. Putting all of these analyzed data together, we like to take a look at the effect of carbon point program policy in positive and negative aspects. Also we suggest the political implication so that the carbon point program can induce low carbon emission in house area more effectively in the future. Furthermore, we hope that the study result is to be used in various areas for the effect evaluation of greenhouse gas reduction policy in domestic house area and the establishment of green life improvement. And we like to emphasize the importance of house area for the greenhouse gas reduction in which has high interest worldwide, and we also expect that we could provide the direction for the greenhouse gas reduction program in house area for the future as the analysis study on the effect.
The Importance of Place: Is Social Cohesion Shaped by Class, Race and Space?

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Research has shown that social cohesion at the neighborhood level increases individual and family well-being (Sampson, 2003; Sampson, Morenoff & Gannon-Rowley, 2002). A separate body of research reveals that neighborhoods in the US are highly segregated by race and class: middle class families tend to live together in neighborhoods, separate from low-income families, while many low-income minority families are isolated in areas of concentrated poverty (Massey & Denton, 1993; Oliver & Shapiro, 2006). However, little research has examined whether or not social cohesion varies according to neighborhood-level indicators of class. Using data from the Multi-City Study of Urban Inequality (MCSUI), this paper will consider a place-based analysis of the effect of neighborhood class (represented by median income) and racial composition on residents’ experience of neighborhood cohesion. Specifically, we will consider residents’ satisfaction with their neighborhoods and the number and nature of social connections they have within their neighborhoods. While previous studies, most notably Briggs (2005), access the importance of social cohesion as a bridging mechanism with the potential to weaken inequality, our work considers if and to what extent social cohesion (acting as a bonding mechanism) varies between ecological units (defined by aggregated census tracks). This paper has important implications for urban policy. If social cohesion in low-income neighborhoods is low, then residents are facing an additional challenge to their well-being; policies designed to increase trust and communication within neighborhoods can redress this issue. On the other hand, if low-income neighborhoods have higher levels of social cohesion, then this is an advantage that can be leveraged through policy to increase opportunities for social and economic mobility. De Souza Briggs, X. (2007), "Some of My Best Friends Are ...": Interracial Friendships, Class, and Segregation in America. City & Community, 6, 263-290. Massey, D. S., & Denton, N. A. (1993). American apartheid: segregation and the making of the underclass. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press. Oliver, M. L., & Shapiro, T. M. (2006). Black wealth, white wealth: a new perspective on racial inequality. 10th anniversary ed. New York, NY: Routledge. Sampson, R. J. (2003). The neighborhood context of well-being. Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, 46(3), S53-S64. Sampson, R. J., Morenoff, J. D., & Gannon-Rowley, T. (2002). Assessing "neighborhood effects": Social processes and new directions in research. Annual Review of Sociology, 28, 443-478.
Housing, Oligopoly and World City Aspiration in Abu Dhabi

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Redevelopment and gentrification, generated by successive investment cycles, are a commonplace occurrence in cities today. Scholars in the field of urban studies have long recognized and critiqued this trend. Brenner and Theodore (2002), MacLeod (2002), and Smith (1996, 1998, 2002) among others have asserted that gentrification is not merely a by-product of neoliberal planning, but rather a quintessential part of it - a well-planned strategy for real estate development. Few studies, though, have examined gentrification in the emerging cities of the Gulf region. Abu Dhabi, the capital of the United Arab Emirates, has grown dramatically over the last 20 years. Though Dubai gets most of the attention for its remarkable skyline and the speed with which it has gone up, it is Abu Dhabi that holds the economic and political influence in the country, since it holds 90% of the country’s oil reserves. Neoliberalism is experienced differently in Abu Dhabi than in other places, mediated by specific local factors of political–economy (labour dynamics, quest for legitimacy, oligarchic system, peculiarities of the legal system etc.) Nevertheless, these factors seem to align themselves efficiently according to the logic of capital, and the dominant ideology of world cities. Using an oligopolistic structure and tightly controlled supply, Abu Dhabi has managed to ensure that rents remain high in the city. The rental housing market has boomed over the last few years, realizing its peak in 2008 (receding since then following global trends). While professionals working in the city receive competitive salaries and housing allowances, the relatively low-wage labor force faces huge housing costs and limited availability. In a city with inflated rents, those with no housing allowance and a meager income are forced to share small living spaces. At times as many as 10-12 people may be found sharing 2-bedroom apartments. This chapter examines recent trends in the housing market of Abu Dhabi, and reveals the dynamics that govern it. We argue that urban planning in Abu Dhabi is ignoring the needs of low-wage workers without housing allowances. Gentrification is being carried out through the combined policies of inflated rents, redevelopment of older areas, reconfiguration of the city center in favor of a new downtown, and minimal alternatives for low income groups. These policies will exacerbate the problem of high housing costs in Abu Dhabi, and low-wage workers with few housing options are likely increasingly to become isolated in remote locations.
Chinese Eco-cities: Transnational Connections and Domestic Failure

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Eco-city, the notion of building cities as sustainable ecological systems, is widely embraced as the solution to hyper-urbanization and urban environmental problems across the globe. This eco-city initiative has now travelled beyond it origin in North American and Western Europe and secured strong support in China, where the government plans to establish its own eco-city model as the standard for domestic urban development as well as set up a paradigm to be exported to other nations. Through a relational study comparing the first but aborted Chinese national eco-city exemplar, the Shanghai-Dongtan eco-city (a Sino-British collaboration), and the successive Tianjin-Binhai eco-city (a Sino-Singaporean collaboration), this paper elucidates how the Chinese eco-city model is constructed in the genealogical connectivities of the two projects that spread across four geographical sites (Shanghai, Tianjin, London, Singapore). While struggling with relational/territorial contestations like most urban projects intended for transplanting “best practices,” the current Chinese national eco-city model (developed based on Tianjin-Binhai) particularly feeds on the failure of Dongtan. This failure has set off a series of reform on planning institutions and political systems, which in turn facilitated expanding ecological urbanization experimentation in China. By examining both the North-South (UK-China) and South-South (Singapore-China, Shanghai-Tianjin) connections in the Chinese eco-city experiments and the role of a failed project, this paper will contribute to the literature of mobile urbanism, challenging the policy transfer paradigm built primarily on North-South policy transfer and successful examples.
The Rise of Co-working Spaces in Europe: A New Model of Creative Communities?

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The co-working space concept emerged in the mid-2000s in the United States (Fabbri and Charrue-Duboc, 2012) with the increase in telecommuting supported by the IT revolution. While recent work from Spinuzzi (2012) shows that 'co-working' may mean different things to both their proprietors and their members, Leforestier (2009: 3), reviewing the emergence of the concept, argues that 'co-working consists in renting a desktop in an open space for a very flexible period. The space is shared by other people coming from very different backgrounds: entrepreneurs, associations, artists, students, researchers... The "co-workers" can interact so that everyone brings his own talent to a project, improving the outcome.' The number of co-working spaces has grown rapidly in Europe in the last few years: from 20 co-working spaces in 2008 to more than 140 in 2012 (Entreprise Globale 2010; European Coworking Space Conference, 2010i). The emergence of these types of spaces offers an alternative to coffee shops to respond to the challenges of working at home such as social isolation, distraction, lack of space to meet clients... for independent contractors, freelancers and professionals. In addition to offering basic services such as a desk, free Wi-fi and other IT and office facilities..., these spaces tend to offer formally or informally some forms of support to entrepreneurial activities notably through informal discussions with other co-workers or specific events and activities run by the space proprietors... (Leforestier, 2009; Fabbri and Charrue-Duboc, 2012; Spinuzzi, 2012). Many assumptions have been made about the positive impacts of co-working spaces in terms of innovation, support to star-ups, social networking and the strength of weak cooperation... Interestingly, some authors describe co-working space as part of 'a physical manifestation of the "techno-space" that facilitates greater public engagement and social interaction' (O'Brien, 2011:1). Despite the central role played by internet and online media such as blogging, twitter, wiki... in the running of co-working spaces (Aguiton and Cardon, 2007; Leforestier, 2009), little research has explored the way these online activities match informal and formal physical activities taking place in co-working spaces or how it contributes to the development of creative professional identities, creative processes and citizenship. This paper offers to fill part of this gap by providing a detailed literature review on the topic, an overview of the phenomena in Europe as well as an in-depth study of its manifestation in the UK building on detailed original survey data and interviews. A particular focus will be put on the link with local, regional and national policies.
Inertia and Potential: Examining Urban Policies Against Land Use and Transport Modelling Results in Wellington, New Zealand

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Wellington, New Zealand is in many ways a clean, green city region, with a fairly dense central business district and polycentric form, high levels of walking and public transport use, and a 'green' city mayor. However, despite the urgency of climate change mitigation, Wellington's greenhouse gas emissions are not yet falling significantly, the commuting mode share of motor vehicles is only gradually diminishing, and the share of commute trips by walking and cycling is only marginally increasing. One possible explanation is that Wellington's policies are not ambitious. Another is that the constraints around and dynamics of land use and transport in Wellington do not readily permit policy measures to feed through to more sustainable transport and environmental outcomes. The paper considers these hypotheses using an official document analysis, and a transport-land use-environment model ('WILUTE'). Key preliminary findings include (1) that transport policies at both regional and city level have some marked limitations in ambition; (2) that a number of modelled policy changes do have the potential to create more sustainable outcomes. Intensification of land use could generate significant carbon emission reductions over time; changes in bus service frequency could favourably affect mode share; and changes in the pricing of parking in the CBD could also influence mode share. In short, modelling suggests that a number of policies could yield significant energy and carbon savings if the political will - and public support for active climate mitigation policies - were present. Future work will include model refinement and extension, and comparison with results of modelling exercises for the Wellington and other city regions.
Rethinking the Anti-skyscraper City: Planning Policies and the Changing of Jerusalem's Skyline

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Traditionally, modern tall buildings were not perceived as appropriate landmarks in Jerusalem. Historic buildings and panoramic views were considered superior to mundane residential and/or business demand. Originated about a century ago during the early days of the British Mandate, the need to preserve historic monuments and views of the Old City produced strict planning policies regarding the height and location of buildings considered tall in the Jerusalem setting. In this paper we trace and examine how during the past four decades this long-established approach has gradually changed. In the heydays following the annexation of the Old City and expansion of municipal boundaries in 1967, the official policy was a still categorical no-go for tall buildings. Many attempts to construct modern tall buildings were blocked because of fierce popular opposition; as a result, only a few high-rises (accidental towers) puncturing the traditional skyline were actually built. Starting in the late twentieth century attempts have been made to draft citywide guidelines for tall buildings. Instead of a no-go policy, policy papers and a new citywide master-plan allowed the construction of towers. This change was shaped by the fading of popular opposition to tall buildings, the acknowledgment that urban densification is essential, the tendency of the local planning regime to endorse the interests of the real estate sector, and the continued stagnation and even decline of Jerusalem, especially in comparison to Tel Aviv. In a sense, towers were perceived as powerful instruments which assist in city rebranding from a traditional and stationary place into a vibrant and dynamic urban arena.
Sustainable Territories: Transnational Expertise and the Politics of Green Development in China

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As urbanization and industrialization continue to spread through China’s countryside, the central government has officially declared the construction of master planned eco-industrial zones and eco-cities as primary strategies for accelerating the transformation of industrial structure and the prevailing model of economic development, as well as for attaining the goal of an “environmentally, economically and socially harmonious society.” An increasing circulation of transnational capital investment, ideas and expertise supports emerging models of green development in China. Exploring a relational-territorial approach, this paper argues that while such flows and their relational dynamics are unarguably vital to the economic success, political legitimacy, and discursive proliferation of China’s ‘green leap forward,’ it is the intersection of these elements within socio-spatial processes of state-territorialization that constructs what is subsequently deployed as a policy model for implementation in municipal level contexts. Focusing on the interactions between transnational expertise in design and planning and various levels of government, the paper examines how the “fixing, dividing, and recording” practices (Foucault 1977: 305) of planners and officials work to classify rural land and people as objects “in a field of exteriority” (Foucault 1972: 50) that constructs land as a fungible “resource” that can be instilled with varying necessary environmentalized functions, while constituting new ecological subjectivities and justifying dispossession and enclosure under the purview of green development. The paper analyzes such environmentalized transformations, including ecological set-asides, non-fossil fuel energy generation, and high-intensity non-village agriculture and the requisite conversion of collectively owned rural land into state controlled urban land, as a linked process of territorialization. Drawing upon the work of Poulantzas (1978: 93-107), I argue that the construction of ‘functional equivalences’ for rural land is fundamental to the constitution of “homogenizing enclosure” and territoriality as the “institutional materiality of the state.” Following (Lefebvre 1991 [1974]), I find that such abstraction obliterates the local in a process of territorialization, tracing the importance of state power to the establishment of market-based forms of environmental governance and the circulation of “natural capital. The paper also suggests that the ‘success’ of such modeling (in distinction from actual material realization), is constitutive of what is substantively considered transnational policy expertise in the expanding fields of planning for sustainable cities and the green economy.
Job-Housing Imbalance for Social Housing Residents in China: The Case of Guangzhou

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The rising fear of weakening social stability and sustainability in the theoretical discourse has been of great influence to various social policies and practices across different nations, and China has also endeavoured to adopt policy measures to effectively address the issue that urban population cannot afford home purchase. Social housing is perceived as a new housing policy in China since 2008, to tackle the serious difficulties of limited coverage of affordable housing. This paper aims to identify the factors which affect the job-housing imbalance issues for residents living in social housing neighborhoods in Guangzhou. Using a questionnaire survey and field site survey taken from June to September in 2012, it is found that the job-housing imbalance issues become apparent in the long-distance commuting after the social housing residents moving in the new estates due to the geographic location, poor provision of transportation facilities and insufficient job opportunities, etc. Besides, with the interaction of the legacy of the socialist land and housing market, it argues that government plays an active role in housing supply, which leads to a ‘passive’ job-housing relocation and imbalance. A comprehensive framework that emphasizes the roles of the housing policies is needed to develop in the long run for better understanding job-housing balance issues in China.
Hidden in Plain Sight: How to Create Equitable Communities for the Invisible Half of Silicon Valley?

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Silicon Valley continues to be America’s center of innovation, consistently receiving a disproportionate total of the nation’s venture capital dollars. These investments have built a wealthy and powerful Bay Area ecosystem of global corporations, start-ups, intellectual capital, and highly skilled, well-paid labor. The median wage of four of the top ten occupations in Silicon Valley in terms of number of persons employed – Computer & Mathematical; Architecture & Engineering; Management; and Business & Financial Operations for a total of 270,000 workers – is $107,400, well above the national norm. Rarely discussed in the Silicon Valley narrative are those who participate indirectly or not at all in the technology economy. The median wage of the remaining six occupations in the top ten in terms of numbers employed – Education, Training, & Library; Office & Administrative Support; Production; Transportation & Material Moving; Sales & Related Occupations; and Food Preparation & Serving-Related for a total of 399,000 workers – is $33,400, less than one-third of the tech-related occupations noted above and less than two-thirds of the region’s overall median wage of $54,100. Between 2008 and 2018, the California EDD projects that more than 50 percent of the job openings that will be created will be low-skilled positions with a median wage of less than $11 an hour. In this discussion, I note how Silicon Valley’s wage disparity is physically manifested by an inequitable built environment punctuated by segregated communities and a severe lack of affordable housing. This inequity is reinforced and perpetuated by economic, social, policy, land use, and regulatory mechanisms. Affordable housing programs have existed for some time, but many of these tools have either been diminished or eliminated. Recent land use planning efforts have sought to create more accessible, equitable communities for the invisible half of Silicon Valley who work in low-wage jobs and cannot afford to live in the region. However, I argue that these responses, while useful and needed, operate within an economic and governance system whose logic prioritizes efficiency over equity, the individual over the social, and the authority of local control over higher-level governance. Until the systems themselves change, these responses will be largely tinkering around the edges. But change is path dependent. One possibility is that these planning efforts may reveal the conflict between social disparities and the deeply rooted market and governance logic that help produce those inequities. These efforts may, in turn, lead to systemic change in the long run. Ultimately, interventions for creating equitable communities will be truly effective only when the private and public sectors acknowledge the roles that they play in creating systemic inequities, and when they work together to solve shared regional problems.
Where Does China's Urban Governance Go: Insight from a Survey in Wuhan City

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In general the governance of China's cities has undergone a major change since the early 1990s. There are three key institutions involved the workings of the cities today; the government, both local and central; the market; and a variety of social organizations. The local economy has become considerably more diversified and substantial in the past twenty years, especially as the Danwei system has diminished in importance. Even the power of the governmental institutions has become modified, in part as the local governments have become more significant as compared to the role of the central government. And social organizations have begun to emerge as well, largely because such organizations are the vehicles through which local residents can develop and express their own concerns. By studying the nature of urban development and governance in Wuhan, an important inland city located in central China, this paper offers some insight into the way that the major institutions in the city are working today. We rely on data gathered in a particular area of Wuhan, employing material from a literature review, official documents and statistics as well as interviews with local residents. Here are the key findings: (1) The central government is no longer the exclusive supplier of resources to local residents in Wuhan and thus has lost its power over residents, having been replaced by the local government. Among other things the local government is better able to make rapid decisions and to use resources effectively, all of which have further reduced the central government's influence. In addition, the readjustment of the tax system in the 1990s has strengthened the power of local government in the operations of the city; (2) With the demise of the Danwei system, the market has become a major player in the workings of the local urban area, especially in terms of its effort to stimulate collective consumption among local residents; and (3) Social organizations, such as Mulan Team, only have limited resources to employ in the city, and represent the weakest institution in its operations. However, as such organizations reflect the needs and desires of local residents they can act to pressure the local government on behalf of the residents. Both local government and the local market sometimes have to compromise with these groups, part because they not only reflect the desires of local residents but because they also can apply pressure on the market and to local government.
Patterns of Neighbourly Problems and Complaints in an Australian City: How Neighbourhood Factors Influence Neighbourly Tensions

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It is well-understood that having good relations with neighbours embeds individuals in mutually supportive local social networks. Yet neighbours can equally be a source of nuisance, conflict and distress with excessive noise or odour, inadequate levels of property maintenance, roaming animals, offensive language and general forms of anti-social behaviour all potentially interfering with the enjoyment of one’s home and neighbourhood. Reports from Councils and other agencies have also indicated that the number of residents encountering and registering complaints about problem neighbours has reached unprecedented levels both in Australia and internationally. Socio-structural processes of privatisation and increased mobility are thought to have contributed to this problem by dissolving local social ties in favour of a more privatised existence, while neighbourhood change through gentrification, urban consolidation and increased social mix are also thought to have exacerbated neighbourly tensions. In this paper, we use data from a survey of 4,500 residents in 148 suburbs in Brisbane, Australia to examine the nature and extent of neighbourly problems across different neighbourhoods. Using a multilevel approach, we move beyond individual-level explanations for neighbourly problems and complaints to consider the additional influence of broader structural processes such as neighbourhood change, increased ethnic and racial heterogeneity, population mobility, changing residential tenure and perceived levels of community cohesion. We use this data to begin testing theories about the causes and consequences of neighbourly dischord within neighbourhoods and to consider their policy implications for councils, police and other authorities seeking to reduce and manage the problem.
The 'Auckland Effect' and the Future of Local Governance in New Zealand

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The establishment of a unitary council in Auckland, New Zealand, in November 2010 created the largest unit of local government in Australasia. The Auckland Council has a unique form of local governance and civic leadership and, reflecting its size, potentially exercises considerable influence when engaging with the national government. For local government elsewhere in New Zealand, the 'Auckland effect' on local governance has been significant. In particular, the creation of the Auckland Council has produced an 'engagement deficit' for these councils in their relationship with the national government as they do not command the attention of the national government in the way that the Auckland Council appears to. In other metropolitan areas, most notably Wellington, as well as outside metropolitan areas, councils have embarked on governance reviews and established new forms of collaboration such as alliances and shared services in order to strengthen their collective voice, enhance civic leadership and build critical mass for purposes of advocacy, efficiency and procurement. Compounding the challenges faced by the wider local government sector, in March 2012 the government announced an eight-point local government reform plan which was followed by the introduction of legislation changing the purpose of local government, facilitating amalgamations and imposing significant other changes on the local government sector. As well, central government has intervened in an unprecedented way in the governance of the Canterbury region, removing elected representation from the regional council and appointing commissioners, and, following earthquakes in 2010-2011, imposing central government control of the rebuild of Christchurch and surrounding area. Following an outline of the features of the unitary Auckland Council, this paper discusses subsequent reviews of governance, interventions by central government in local government, and emerging new alliances between councils throughout New Zealand. Mechanisms and processes of local authority consolidation are critically reviewed, including the legislation introduced in 2012 to facilitate amalgamations that may result in a halving of the number of units of local government. In particular, the implications of consolidation for local governance, civic leadership, and intergovernmental relations are considered. The paper argues that the current and recent reforms of local government, and in particular, the form of consolidation that has been legislated, are resulting in a significant rebalancing of power between local and national tiers of government, in favour of the national government. In New Zealand, this is also exacerbated by what some commentators consider to be a manifestation of 'disaster capitalism'. Drawing on the Auckland experience, the paper concludes by considering how civic leadership and local democracy can be strengthened in order to enhance local governance.
Planning a Downtown in a Divided Metropolis: The Case of Gatineau (Quebec, Canada)

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The mid-size city of Gatineau, Quebec, is part of an atypical metropolitan area, by Canadian standards: the National Capital Region (NCR), home to 1 236 000 inhabitants. This area is indeed essentially made up of two neighboring municipalities located on the two sides of the Ottawa River, each in its respective province: Ottawa in Ontario (883 000 inhabitants) and Gatineau in Quebec (265 000 inhabitants).

Furthermore, the Ottawa-Gatineau metropolitan area is characterized not only by this interprovincial context but also by an important linguistic duality, its population being mostly anglophone on the Ontario side of the river and francophone on the Quebec side. Finally, if the area is relatively integrated in economic and territorial terms, its metropolitan planning context still remains characterized by a high level of institutional fragmentation. This situation often strongly influences the strategies of the urban stakeholders and the scale at which they plan their actions and interventions. This paper pays particular attention to a series of initiatives of the City of Gatineau regarding the planning and development of its territory and the enhancement of its downtown core. Those planning processes are based on ambitious targets in terms of urban intensification, sustainable transportation, urban fabric restructuring and improvement of the quality of life in neighborhoods. They clearly echo the will of the urban stakeholders to consolidate Gatineau's position in the metropolitan arena and to contest its peripheral character. In order to study those initiatives and to bolster its demonstration, this paper draws from the notion of "urban projects", hereby considered as a tool of strategic planning and urban governance leaning on the effective capacity of public institutions to mobilize territorial stakeholders around great urban planning projects. The analysis will emphasize the limited capacity of local decision-makers to build operational consensuses and institutional arrangements favoring the implementation of the City’s planning and development projects.
A Science-based Approach for Environmental Policy Development: Groundwater Under Direct Influence (GUDI) of surface water Terms of Reference Review

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This poster describes the ongoing process for the Groundwater Under the Direct Influence (GUDI) of Surface Water Terms of Reference (ToR) review in Ontario, Canada. Municipal drinking water treatment requirements for subsurface water supplies are prescribed by individual state and province environmental/public health agencies in the US and Canada. Most jurisdictions have adopted hydrogeological descriptors and thresholds for determining each system's GUDI classification and the associated treatment requirements; however, the mandate of public health protection from the risk of waterborne pathogens in subsurface water supplies requires the synthesis of knowledge from multiple scientific disciplines including microbiology, colloid transport, hydrogeology and treatment engineering. Moreover, ambiguities in the available guidance have confounded the regulatory compliance process for both regulators and municipal drinking water providers. The progressive approach used by the Ontario Ministry of Environment in their GUDI ToR review, as supported by the Canadian Water Network, is an exemplar of an innovative, multi-stakeholder, science-informed decision making framework for environmental policy development. The ToR review aims to address pathogen threats through evaluating 1) structural well integrity, 2) microbiological water quality, 3) pathogen vulnerability and 4) physical and chemical water quality. The review process deliverable intends to provide small and large municipal drinking water system owners with guidance for complying with minimum treatment requirements for raw water obtained from subsurface water supplies, in accordance with Ontario Regulation 170/03: Drinking Water Systems, and has greater implications for municipal infrastructure planning and management. The completed review initiative could serve as a template for subsequent modification and application to a broader range of environmental policy development scenarios.
Are Nonprofit Organizations Prepared for Disasters? A Question of their Mitigation and Preparedness Strategies

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Disasters can have devastating impacts on all facets of a community, resulting in nonprofit organization becoming victims as well. For instance, 95% of the 212 Health and Human Service nonprofits that responded to a Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations survey reported being directly or indirectly impacted by the hurricane. Auer and Lampkin (2006) suspected 98 of them to have temporarily or permanently closed. A Mississippi Center for Nonprofits survey also reported that 67% of nonprofit organizations in the Biloxi-Pascagoula metro area suffered losses of paid staff members or volunteer staff, with 77% reporting major building damage or loss, and another 93% reporting losses of programs or services (Pipa, 2006). Overall, Hurricane Katrina devastated an already struggling nonprofit infrastructure, one that not only delivered essential health and human services to residents in New Orleans, but also provided major educational, cultural, and other societal benefits (NCCS, 2005). Due to the potential future increases in disaster losses, organizations are under pressure to incorporate disaster mitigation and preparedness measures in an attempt to help organizations reduce their losses from disasters (Dahlhammer & D'Souza, 1997). In light of the above, the question then remains; are nonprofits organizations adopting disaster preparedness and mitigation strategies? Using a unique dataset on nonprofit, private, and public organizations in Memphis, Tennessee, the authors examine the question, "Do nonprofit organizations engage in more mitigation and preparedness activities than private and public organizations?" Our differences of mean tests and Tobit regression results show that, although nonprofit organizations may be more resource-constrained compared to private corporations, they adopt more mitigation and preparedness activities than private corporations. In view of these results, this study will also investigate whether these adoption differences extend to the types of mitigation measures. References Auer, J. C., & Lampkin, L. M. (2006). Open and Operating? An Assessment of Louisiana Nonprofit Health and Human Services after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Washington DC: Urban Institute and the Louisiana Association of Nonprofit Organizations. Dahlhamer, J. M., & D'Souza, M. J. (1997). Determinants of Business Disaster Preparedness in Two U.S. Metropolitan Areas. International Journal of Mass Emergencies and Disasters, 15, 265-281. Kapucu, N. (2007). Nonprofit Response to Catastrophic Disasters. Disaster Prevention and Management, 16(4), 551-561. NCCS. (2005). The Aftermath of Katrina: State of the Nonprofit Sector in Louisiana: Urban Institute. Pipa, T. (2006). Weathering the Storm: The Role of Local Nonprofits in the Hurricane Katrina Relief Effort. The Aspen Institute.
The High Permeability of Pragmatic Gated Communities in High Density Hong Kong: The Planning influence and Social Implications

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Hong Kong is renowned for its high density but orderly built environment. The housing form of Hong Kong is dominated by high rises organized into well-defined housing estates. It is argued that this type of residential organization is one form of gated communities (GCs), and unlike GCs in the Western cities, they proliferate because of pragmaticism. It is also argued that spatial segregation is a lesser problem because most of the GCs in Hong Kong are accessible by the public without gating or fencing around their boundaries, that there is public transport weaving through the GCs, and that the retail properties commonly found in larger GCs welcome outside patrons. This paper aims to explain whether the pragmaticism and the high permeability of Hong Kong’s GC are corollaries of planning and design policies and practices, and whether pragmaticism and high permeability facilitate safety and social inclusion. The conceptual backdrop of this paper is based on the discourse in the GC literature and that on social sustainability in residential neighbourhoods. The planning and design of the Hong Kong’s GCs will be evaluated against the common practices of GCs as discussed in the literature, aiming to identify the distinctive practices in Hong Kong’s GCs and to explain their pragmaticism and high permeability. On the social impacts, safety is interpreted as sense of security and informal social control in the housing estates, while social inclusion as universal access to public facilities and services, and willingness of residents to accept others, especially outsiders. Planning and design policies and practices of the GCs related to these four issues will be examined. A spectrum of eight housing estates of different sources (public and private), location (main urban area and new towns), price range (medium- and high-priced private housing) and degree of gatedness constitute the case studies. This paper argues that in order to address the problems of land scarcity and low housing space standards and to fulfill the social and economic objectives, the planning and design of GCs in Hong Kong foster permeable, safe and inclusive residential communities in the high-density housing estates.
Inclusion or Exclusion: the Neoliberal Redevelopment of Shilin Night Market in Taipei

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Case studies outside the U.S. have demonstrated market-driven urban restructuring processes inspired by or derived from Neoliberalism. There have not yet been enough studies on neoliberal policy transfer to the Asia Pacific cities. This paper examines the planning policies and strategies of redeveloping a historically significant marketplace in Taipei, Shilin Night Market. I identify new construction and relocation of street vendors as the municipality's main approaches. Specifically, the Market Administration completed a new interior market in 2011 to reinforce economic control over licensed vendors, while eradicating unlicensed ones. To relocate some pre-existing street vendors who have appropriated public and private property through dealing with the local community, the municipality designates a Business Improvement District, which requires vendors to rent storefront arcades from a community alliance made of local property owners allocating vending units. In addition to restructuring vending space, a high-rise, luxurious condominium project, and Taipei Performing Arts Center have replaced some of the original vending venues. Advocated by the municipality as creating "a world-standard tourist market", these projects indeed privileges property owners' and investors' profits over street vendors' needs and market goers' cultural experiences. This study suggests that governing street vendors in Taiwan today is more than just "keeping vendors off the streets". In comparison with revanchist eviction or designated agglomerations often seen in cases elsewhere, the public-private partnership deploys economically driven governance in effect to balance the local state's vision of global modernity, municipal power, tourism development, and community members' political support. That being said, there has been a loss of authenticity of even the most vernacular landscapes as the city negotiates neoliberal urbanism in search of development. (Keywords: Street vendors, Business Improvement District (BID), neoliberal urbanism, urban governance, privatization)
The Terrorist Attacks of 9-11 and Preferred Neighborhoods Characteristics: Impact and Recovery

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Much research on fear of terror attacks and neighborhood preference relies primarily on qualitative data and methods. A few studies have tried to quantitatively measure the effect of fear of terror attacks on housing and neighborhood choices, but they were focused on the immediate aftermath of the 9/11 attacks. The longer term effects of the attacks on neighborhood preferences are unknown. Although many scholars expected some negative side effects on urban areas because of terror attacks (i.e. accelerated suburbanization), they also argued that those symptoms would be alleviated in a short time and things would quickly return to familiar patterns. This paper focuses on the longevity of the effect and how preferences for some specific neighborhood elements (e.g., neighborhood layouts, density, open space, commuting time, and safety) have been affected. We examine three hypotheses. First, we hypothesize that people preferred a set of traditional "good" neighborhood qualities (e.g., better quality schools, higher average income neighborhoods, less expensive housing, shorter commuting distances, parks, and traditional suburban neighborhood design) before 9/11. Second, we suggest that people were more likely to choose neighborhoods perceived to be safer and less dense immediately after 9-11 but their preference for safety would gradually go back to the level of before 9-11. Third, we believe that neighborhood preferences will differ in specific ways depending on demographic characteristics such as race, age, presence of children, and education level. We use a discrete choice model using conjoint analysis data derived from respondent choices between hypothetical combinations of characteristics of neighborhoods. The model explains consumers' preferences for neighborhood features at various time points from summer, 2001 (prior to the attacks of 9/11) to 2006. We compare choice models (logit models) for each survey round (2001 summer, 2001 fall, 2004, 2005, and 2006) to examine how people react at different points in time. The results indicate that all three hypotheses are supported. People's anxiety about terror attacks increased dramatically after the attacks and diminished over time. Responders with children got significantly more marginal utility from safe neighborhoods immediately after 9-11 and then the preferences went back to the level of before 9-11. Well educated responders preferred grid layouts and more dense neighborhoods before the attacks became significantly less interested in those characteristics immediately after the attacks and then their preferences gradually recovered. Keyword: terrorism, neighborhood preference, safety.
The Metropolitan-Military Complex: Impacts on Political Culture and Economic Policymaking

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The pursuit of military funding can be a preferred recourse for local government in challenging economic circumstances. Military funding can take the form of personnel (such as military bases) or private industry procurement contracts. Attracting this form of government funding can draw billions of dollars of direct and indirect local investment. Using local area estimation techniques, I explore the impact of the metropolitan-military complex on policymakers and constituents for metropolitan statistical areas (MSA’s) nationwide. The study assesses the metropolitan-military complex by re-examining the community power structure debate. Does the command and control culture of the military exert itself on the local political institutions, creating policies that prioritize private interests over the public good? Comparing varying levels of military funding, I examine the impact on political power structure, culture (of both policymakers and constituents), and economic decision-making.
**West Philadelphia Tradition of Curbside Healthy Foods: Price and Variety of Whole Fruit and Vegetable Vending Compared to Conventional Retailers**

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Planning and public health literature have extensively documented spatial disparities in access to healthy food options, finding many under-served communities to be disproportionately low-income and minority. Descriptive research has found high correlations between low-quality food environments and negative health outcomes, including obesity and diabetes, motivating a call for spatial interventions to the food environment. Thus far, interventions have largely utilized urban corner stores and supermarkets to increase physical access to healthy foods. While mobile market interventions have been piloted in several major cities, many are recent innovations created in response to food access issues. This study finds mobile produce retailing to be a successful, long-standing business model in the predominantly low and middle-income study area of West Philadelphia. This paper examines a well-established, yet unstudied, network of mobile produce vendors: small trucks with fresh fruits and vegetables sold out of the back or from small curbside carts, all along well-traveled city streets. We use price and locational comparisons to conventional retailers and vendor interviews provide an illustration of this unique network of produce retail. Vendor surveys elucidate key elements of economic viability for produce truck operations, and help identify other important considerations and challenges for vendors, such as city permitting processes. We found that mobile produce vendors have been operating in West Philadelphia for decades - our sample group ranges from four months to 40 years of operation - and are managed by and cater to low and middle-income populations. Vendors in our study offered an average of 35 types of produce, typically obtained form a major produce distribution center in South Philadelphia. Products are sold very ripe and often at a discount compared to supermarket retailers. Many vendors in our study accepted Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits and indicated its financial significance, accounting for up to 80 percent of total estimated vendor sales. The perspective and experience of these mobile vendors offers insight to the demand for produce that exists even in disproportionately low-income areas. We suggests that low-income and potentially food-insecure populations of West Philadelphia are and have been regular users of mobile produce vendors for many years. We encourage officials to take note of this extant method of distributing affordable, fresh fruits and vegetables in under-served areas, and encourage future researchers to help quantify the impact of these vendors on neighborhood food environments.
The Environmental State Revisited: Adaptation Politics, Climate Citizenship, and Resilient Development in India

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Although many scholars have emphasized the importance of reorienting development around a greater appreciation of global climate change, this literature has fallen short of recognizing that climate resilient development, as a planning process, is closely tied to place-based political processes and pre-existing sociocultural norms. Through analyzing climate change adaptation planning across various cities and regions in India, this paper argues that emerging climate resilient development directives are, in actuality, articulated through an environmental state characterized by synergistic relationships between a state-centric environmentalist paradigm, civic movements, and associating environmental citizens. Based on qualitative data collected across different state institutions charged with planning for climate change in India, I show that the evolution of a state-centric environmental technocracy not only results in the articulating of climate standards and metrics applicable to all, it also involves building embedded, synergistic relationships with civic and private actors that, in turn, are also influential in shifting state policy. The environmental state, therefore, results in the creation of environmental citizens who are both activists around particular climate adaptation priorities and are subjects of the environmental state. This theoretical approach differs from existing conceptions of bureaucratized environmentalism versus citizen environmental movements and resistance, and allows scholars who study developmental and environmental politics to pursue a re-envisioned framework that captures the role of increasing complexity imposed by political decentralization and the dialectical relationships constantly being produced (and reproduced) between state environmental technocracies, climate resilient development planning, and a burgeoning environmentally conscious populace.
Determinants of Neighborhood Satisfaction: Evidence from the North Camden Resident Satisfaction Survey

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Neighborhood satisfaction is an important component of an individual’s overall quality of life. Therefore, the degree to which neighborhood and housing conditions meet resident needs is a concern for researchers and community development practitioners alike. This paper adds to the existing body of literature on neighborhood satisfaction by discussing findings from research conducted within the North Camden Neighborhood context. The research focused on identifying the predictors of neighborhood satisfaction among residents in North Camden and used data from the North Camden Resident Satisfaction Survey conducted in 2011. Guided in part by previous research findings and in part by the survey instrument, the research examined the subjective measures of neighborhood-level characteristics to identify the predictors of neighborhood satisfaction. A binary logistic regression analysis revealed that the quality of social networks, neighborhood physical conditions, neighborhood safety, and the quality of public services are positively related to neighborhood satisfaction, controlling for the length of residence and housing tenure. In contrast, the extent of social networks and access to transportation are negatively related to neighborhood satisfaction among residents in North Camden. The paper discusses potential explanations for these negative relationships. In addition, the logistic regression showed no relationship between access to employment centers and neighborhood satisfaction. Including alternative measures of neighborhood safety, access to employment centers, access to transportation, and quality of public services in the regression analysis provided conflicting results. Hence, findings from this paper have important theoretical, methodological, and practical implications. First, examining how contextual factors may alter the direction of relationships between neighborhood satisfaction and subjective measures of neighborhood level characteristics can inform future research of potential additional predictors. Second, understanding how the use of alternative measures of neighborhood level characteristics impacts regression results can help improve survey instruments. Finally, and most importantly, understanding which neighborhood perceptions are closely associated with neighborhood satisfaction can inform practitioners about the correct balance of policies and programs that need to be developed and implemented to improve neighborhood perceptions and, ultimately, the overall quality of life among residents.
The Connection Between Partisan Gerrymandering and Minority Vote Dilution

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Although partisan gerrymandering is considered to be a highly controversial issue, the Supreme Court decided against ruling it as unconstitutional in Vieth v. Jubelirer (2004). However, it is possible to consider efforts of partisan gerrymandering as sources of minority vote dilution when considering the connection between minority groups and various political parties. After all, the resulting minority vote dilution would be a violation of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act (1965), which prohibits any measures that would inhibit the voting ability of minority populations. This paper seeks to suggest the necessity of reviewing cases of partisan gerrymandering through the lens of Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act in order to determine their constitutionality by conducting a case study on the redistricting of Congressional Districts in the Philadelphia area in response to the 2000 and 2010 Census. Both redistricting efforts were conducted by Republican-controlled state legislatures. Since most residents of the Philadelphia areas are registered Democrats, these redistricting efforts are very susceptible to accusations of partisan gerrymandering. This is especially relevant when taking into account that Pennsylvania lost two Congressional seats due to reapportionment and the state legislature chose to take one of those seats from Philadelphia. In addition, the Philadelphia area has a sizable minority population. The Supreme Court’s ruling in Bartlett v. Strickland (2009) states that it is constitutional to redraw district boundaries in ways that are unfavorable to a minority group if that minority group does not make up more than 50% of that district’s population. According to the 2010 Census, Philadelphia County was 41.0% White, 43.4% African American, and 12.3% Latino. In the 2000 Census, Philadelphia County was 45.0% White, 43.2% African American, and 8.5% Latino. Based on this data, there is plenty of room for minority-rich sections of Philadelphia to have their voting power minimized or adversely impacted by the redistricting process because at least one of Philadelphia's three Congressional districts was at least 50% African American prior to redistricting efforts. By using GIS, this paper utilizes Census data from 2000 and 2010 in order to analyze changes in the racial breakdown within Philadelphia area Congressional districts in response to reapportionment and subsequent redistricting in order to determine whether or not minority vote dilution has occurred. The paper then concludes by discussing implications for future reapportionment and redistricting efforts.
Analysis and Economic Impact of the Film Industry in Northeast Ohio & Ohio

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Ohio is one of 37 states currently offering tax incentives to the film industry. Thus far, 27 projects have received tax credit dollars from the state. These projects are expected to create over 9,000 jobs for Ohioans in everything from the production office to crew to cast. A total of $73.1 million is expected to be spent in the state - $19.5 million on wages and $53.6 million on other spending to support filming. Greater Cleveland abounds with the buzz from Hollywood blockbuster movies that have borrowed the city. Local businesses saw large increases in their revenues from the film industry. Retail shops, restaurants, hotels, contractors, real estate agents, and rental agencies all benefited from increased business during filming. Local unions also saw bumps in their members being put back to work. In the sample of companies surveyed for this report, an additional $2.7 million in revenues were reported in conjunction with filming. Occupations in the film industry include Producers & Director; Actors; Set & Exhibit Designers; and Costume Attendants. On average, these primary film occupations earn $43,535 annually in Ohio, which is higher than the average wage for all industries in Ohio ($40,890). Additionally, in Northeast Ohio alone, primary film occupations earn $51,036 on average annually, while the average for all industries in Northeast Ohio is $40,911. Finally, the economic impact of the film industry in Ohio is estimated to account for 1,143 jobs due to the 27 projects that took advantage of the Ohio Motion Picture Tax Credit. Further, the Ohio's film industry is estimated to account for $35.5 million in household income, $113 million in output, and $64.2 million in value-added impact. In Northeast Ohio alone, the 16 projects that filmed exclusively in the region are estimated to account for 901 jobs, $27.3 million in household income, $87.1 million in output, and $49.3 million in value-added impact. The cost to the state of Ohio is estimated at $29.9 million. This yields a return on investment for the state of $1.20 for the economy of Ohio, making this a positive program for the state to pursue.
Multivariate Analysis of At-risk Factors Associated with High School Graduation: A Case Study of Newark Public Schools

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The goal of this paper is to use logistic regression and survival analyses to extend our understanding of the at-risk indicators associated with educational attainment in Newark Public Schools. Specifically, I analyze the magnitude of the effect of demographic, academic, and environmental factors on student outcomes. Logistic regression results and survival analyses confirm existing education research that 9th grade academic characteristics are highly significant indicators of high school outcomes. In addition, findings support existing literature that age when first entering high school (i.e., whether or not a student is on age for high school) and gender are significant factors associated with the odds of dropping out of high school. Results also confirm existing research that 9th grade academic indicators are better predictors than demographic characteristics, frequently used by researchers analyzing publically available school level data. These findings underscore the importance of using individual level student data in order to develop intervention programs for at-risk youth. Unique to the analytic model I use, results indicate that in Newark, school characteristic (magnet vs. comprehensive high school) is a highly significant predictor of student outcomes. Recommendations for future analyses are discussed.
The People’s Plan and Public Benefit Zoning in San Francisco

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As a result of the dot-com boom of the late 1990s, a process of hyper-gentrification took place in the Mission District of San Francisco that prompted a mass exodus of artists, low-income families, blue-collar employment and community-service businesses and nonprofits. This displacement was aided by city policies that exempted “live-work” spaces in old warehouses and industrial structures from processing and fee requirements. People in the communities affected (South of Market, North Mission and Potrero Hill), reacted by organizing an anti-displacement movement that, among other things, demanded from the City a rezoning of the area, to be achieved through a complete and thorough participation process, based on a set of goals, principles, standards and land uses established by the community. These were codified in 2005 by the anti-displacement coalition in The People’s Plan for Jobs, Housing and Community. The Appendix of the People’ Plan, titled Public Benefits Incentive Zoning, was a call for Land Value Recapture: “Where the rezoning allows an increase in density or buildable square footage, it not only confers greater development potential, but also creates greater land value for property owners and sales or rental value for developers. Increased private value is thereby conferred by a public act, but without gaining advantages for the local community. This program creates a mechanism to capture a portion of this increased land value in the form of Public Benefits that will mitigate the impact of the additional development rather than allow it to become windfall profit to the landowner. Public Benefits may take the form of affordable family and senior housing units above the required inclusionary zoning, community serving spaces, publicly accessible open space, and light industrial space where appropriate. For the purpose of this program, “rezoning” includes increases in height, bulk, buildable square footage, or density, major changes in allowed uses, or rezoning of P-district sites with height or density greater than surrounding zoning” (Page 33). This idea was incorporated in the official plan of the City for these neighborhoods: the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan. This paper will describe the origins of the displacement of the 1990s in the Mission District, its impact, the organizing that fought it, the community process that led to the preparation of the People’s Plan and of the Public Benefit Incentive Zoning and an analysis of the mixed results as the city incorporates a community-derived and driven idea.
The "Montréal Sound": From Territorial Creation to Artistic Experience. Thoughts About Relations Between the "Music Scene" and Urban Space

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In 2005, America’s Spin magazine and the New York Times both published articles identifying Montréal as the centre of the trendy new music scene, as Seattle and Austin had been before. In 2012, a London Telegraph blog also described Montréal as the current mecca of independent musical creation. These articles have prompted both international and local observers to think about, qualify and take stances in regard to the idea of a typically "Montréal sound" and its rootedness in place. The aim of our presentation is essentially two-fold. Our first objective is to circumscribe this idea by analyzing how the "Montréal sound" has been represented in the written media. What are the meanings behind this expression, which has become a label? As we wish to understand both how this idea has spread outside Montréal and how it has been received locally, our choice of databases and sources is designed to provide access to Montréal, Canadian and foreign newspapers and magazines. Our second objective is to outline the development of the independent Montréal new music scene from its emergence in the mid-1990s up to today. We describe the development of this scene based on the use of a series of more diversified and specialized sources. What we are in fact attempting to do is to document how places, actors and practices interact in the form of a network—especially through mapping. Our goal is to understand the specific place attributes that favour the emergence of a particular music scene. And we also want to find out how the music scene contributes to the production of place. This case study ultimately offers food for thought on the concept of "scene," which we have for the moment defined as the series of spatial processes, actors and public policies that give meaning to the urban experience. This reflection is supported by the academic literature, particularly in the fields of cultural studies and urban studies, on the concept of a cultural scene. Our ultimate aim is to propose a more complete and more operational definition of this concept.
Building Sustainability through Partnering: Transportation and Material Reuse in New York City

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Material reuse organizations play an important role in urban sustainability by enabling the diversion of salvageable materials from landfills and by providing usable goods to a secondary owner in the region, often at a low cost. The ability of reuse organizations to redirect materials, however, is often limited by the staff, storage, and transportation resources available to them. While reuse organizations struggle to identify and manage transportation resources, commercial transportation providers operating in the same region often have both the resources and the operational flexibility to quickly respond to requests for transportation. Through direct surveying of local reuse organizations and local transportation providers, this research explores the potential for development of a long-term partnership between the material reuse and commercial transportation sectors in New York City to enable efficient exchange, and ultimately increased reuse, of materials. The study was supported by the Department of Sanitation, Bureau of Waste Prevention Reuse and Recycling, through the Materials Exchange Development Program located at the City College of New York.
The Location of a Highly Skilled Labor Force and US-subsidiaries in Germany

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Germany is a very attractive target for US-investors for endeavors for which a very specifically skilled workforce is required. However, within Germany there are considerable differences regarding where specific types of workforce reside. Therefore, areas of Germany where foreign subsidiaries could utilize the right local talent, due to its higher concentration, should be especially attractive to certain US-investors. We endeavor to establish whether US-subsidiaries that can draw competitive advantage from a highly skilled workforce are drawn more to creative locations within Germany and differentiate between specific characteristics, such as subsidiary ownership structure. Focusing on US-subsidiaries that have recently established a presence in Germany to ensure that they have indeed been drawn to the creative class location and not the other way around, this poster examines the US-subsidiaries along with locational characteristics using GIS and statistical analysis.
We're Gonna Make this Place Good for Kids!""- Redesigning Plazas with 'Citizen Kid' in Melbourne, Australia

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A national project (CATCH/iMATCH) in four Australian cities is using a variety of methods to investigate children's independent mobility, active travel, and health. As part of this project, children in two Melbourne neighbourhoods - one inner urban and one middle suburban - were recruited to help redesign a public plaza in a shopping centre. The purpose of the action research project was to answer the question: "How can urban planning practitioners understand children's independent experiences of the city in robust ways that will respect children's contributions, build their role as citizens and aid in responsive planning and development?" There were seven children (four boys and three girls) from the middle suburban school and six children from the inner urban school (four boys and two girls). All were in years 5 and 6 at school and were aged 9 to 12 at the time. Six local government officials (two urban designers, three community development officers, and the mayor) and representatives from a community health agency and a university student association were also involved in the sessions.

Freeman & Tranter (2011) suggest that most child-friendly design, to date, has focused on parks, dedicated play areas or children's institutional spaces (schools, sports facilities, etc). These two sites are not these types of spaces. Nor are these spaces the fourth category that Freeman & Tranter note; spaces informally colonized by children. Indeed, an implicit goal in choosing these two sites (particularly from the perspective of the local government involved in negotiating the sites) was that the process might foster that sort of colonization and promote more active use of the spaces by children. The students led walkabouts assessing the two sites for 'child friendliness', created priorities for action, and then negotiated these priorities with local government staff. This paper will discuss the process and the action priorities that resulted from planning with children. It will then weave lessons about how to effectively plan child-friendly cities where every part of public space is recognized for its play and learning potential, for citizens of all ages.
Firsts: The Election of Asian American Mayors in Oakland and San Francisco

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This paper utilizes an original dataset to comparatively analyze the 2010 mayoral election in Oakland and 2011 mayoral election in San Francisco. The paper considers the unique political context in each city and analyzes individual ranked choice ballots to draw inferences about the nature of mayoral coalitions in these neighboring Bay Area cities.
After the Flood: A Longitudinal Case Study of Place-Based CDC Affordable Housing Efforts

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This paper provides a longitudinal exploration of one CDC's efforts--over a period of 16 years--to produce stable, rooted, low-income owners in a specific place. Most low-income homeownership approaches aim to foster choice and mobility to higher quality neighborhoods, and some programs have had some success in this area. However, for many place-based CDC's, the idea of quality through mobility elsewhere is contrary to the efforts to improve struggling neighborhoods. This tension is also inherent in current neighborhood stabilization strategies, which aren't necessarily tied into broader efforts to build successful homeownership opportunities for local residents. There is little evidence that place-based housing strategies are more likely to produce stable homeownership, especially after the foreclosure crisis. Some studies have illustrated that community land trusts (Thaden & Rosenberg, 2010) and individual development account (IDA) programs (Rademacher, Wiedrich, McKernan, Ratcliffe, & Gallagher 2010) are associated with less delinquency and foreclosure. However, most studies are conducted over relatively short time frames. This paper examines the long-term efforts of one CDC and compares foreclosure, loan product usage, and homeownership exit outcomes with a random matched sample. Results illustrate that CDC home purchasers are more likely to have avoided foreclosure and remained in their homes. Further, examining foreclosure rates longitudinally, rather than yearly cross-sectional rates, paints an even darker picture of just how insidious the crisis has been for low-income minority neighborhoods.
Five Blocks: Filmmakers Explore the Transformation of Mid-Market in San Francisco

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Throughout much of the world, the arts and culture have become increasingly emphasized in strategies for the redevelopment of decaying city centers. In San Francisco, artists, city officials, property owners, and residents are coming together to reverse a 40-year decline on central Market Street through the convergence of arts and technology. Once known as the Great White Way of San Francisco, city officials and developers hail the benefits of revitalization to residents and visitors alike. Mayor Ed Lee cites it as the cornerstone of his administration, especially after his successful negotiation to bring Twitter headquarters to this area. But what constitutes vitality and life in a city? What is the role of development, re-development and “de-development” of an area? Documentary filmmakers Robert Cortlandt and Dan Goldes of Urbanstreet Films record the ambitious and daunting task of transforming a neighborhood through their feature film "5 Blocks". Given unprecedented access to the decision makers and residents alike, the filmmakers pose larger questions: Who profits from the status quo? Who gives voice to the poor and the marginalized? Can a neighborhood be lifted up or will this effort, like so many before, simply displace current residents? The filmmakers explore the success or failure of some of the most pressing urban issues of our time.
Innovative Solutions to Include Romanian Roma in Europe? Slums, Alternative Housing and Challenges to Public Action in a French City

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Since the beginning of the 2000s, around 15,000 Roma mainly from Romania have been living in France in slum-like conditions. Gathered in the outskirt of big cities, they are not allowed to work. They survive thanks to the parallel economy (recycling of scrap iron, misdemeanors) and are very visible in the public space through beggars and street vendors. This population has a very bad reputation in the general opinion especially since the press relayed some prostitution and traffic affairs involving some Roma. France does not have a global policy on this question but dismantles very often the camps of Roma people and deport families to their home country. Massive dismantlings and deportations occurred in summer 2010 under the impulse of French President Nicolas Sarkozy. The city of Saint-Denis has taken proactive action to work on an inclusive project with the Roms trying to provide decent housing and jobs to the community after a major slum-type camp was dismantled in July 2010. The city however ran into several challenges: involving the Roma families into the decision process; targeting a specific group and therefore excluding other Roma families from the project; getting the project accepted by the other inhabitants of the city, with many families equally poor and struggling for decent housing and jobs. This research is based on over thirty interviews of protagonists and two years ethnographic fieldwork: one year was spent working for the local authorities on finding an alternative to the Roma slum and two years among activists working to help the families. Our findings show the difficulties encountered by the families to fully participate to the elaboration of the project (difficulties to project themselves in the future, lack of leadership and consideration for larger issues); the spatial concentration of the families on one single site impeded the integration process; and the creation of a specific beneficiary group was hard to legitimate for the city, creating tensions and rejection by the neighbours. Saint-Denis is one of the poorest cities in France, and in times of housing and job crisis, such an inclusive project can lead to a feeling of competition for the access of decent housing.
Residential Segregation and the Suburbanization of the Poor: Understanding the Links

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Over the last decade, the suburbs became home to the fastest-growing poor population in the country. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) enacted policies in the 1990s to help ease the portability of vouchers and expand housing location choices for low-income families, affording some the ability to move away from high-poverty urban neighborhoods. Indeed, the suburbanization of Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) recipients during the 2000s accounted for about 20 percent of the overall relatively rapid growth in the suburban poor population. However, there are still unanswered questions about important factors that are likely also associated with the suburbanization of poverty. Other important associations between segregation and unprecedented foreclosure rates in suburbs are key dynamics yet not understood. To examine this, we intend to use data from HUD’s Picture of Subsidized Housing for 2000 and 2008. This data set describes the characteristics of HUD assisted housing including the type of program, and population characteristics of the assisted households, at the census tract level. These data will be merged with tract level foreclosure data and segregation measures for analysis of the link between key forces such as: residential segregation and foreclosure and the suburbanization of both HCV recipients and poverty more generally. In this paper we describe the types of suburbs to which voucher recipients are moving, distinguishing among suburbs by differences in their household incomes, job accessibility, residential segregation, and foreclosure rates. Preliminary analysis suggests that the overall suburbanization of the poor and the suburbanization of voucher recipients in particular are significantly related to unprecedented foreclosure rates and segregation rates within suburban tracts more generally.
Sustainable Economic Development and Transport Options for Cities in Transition: Lessons from Buffalo, Lille, and Manchester

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An emergent interest in shrinking cities (Pallagst 2010), legacy cities (American Assembly 2011), weak market cities (Power, et al. 2010), and design after decline (Ryan 2012) has resulted in a growing body of literature concerned with the plight of such cities as Buffalo, New York; Lille, France; and Manchester, England. At various points during the past 40 years, these and dozens of older industrial cities the world over have sustained a series of major economic and political crises that have caused significant shocks to their regional economies, hindered their capacity to recover, and ultimately led them to shed 25% to 50% of their peak populations (Vey, 2007). These losses posed significant challenges to the people, systems, and structures that continue to function despite community, workforce, and revenue losses within these so-called Cities in Transition (CiT). In the wake of such heavy losses, two of the most pressing needs for CiTs include sustainable economic development and sustainable transport options. Emerging sustainable economic development strategies for CiTs promise increased economic opportunities for residents while achieving environmental goals ('going green'), such as maintaining a low carbon footprint and creating 'green' jobs (Schilling and Logan 2008; Mallach and Brachman 2010). Sustainable transport strategies, though not explicitly focused on CiTs, attempt to achieve a more environmentally sound, economically efficient, and socially equitable transport system (Black 2010). Despite these complementary goals and mutually beneficial outcomes of planning for sustainable economic development and sustainable transport, little is known about the connection between these two planning areas in the context of CiTs. This research begins to fill the existing gap by exploring the extent to which sustainable economic development and transport planning have been linked in three cities: Buffalo, New York; Lille, France; and Manchester, England. It also extracts best practices and policy lessons of coordinated planning for sustainable economic development and sustainable transport from these three CiTs, all of which have grappled with the adverse effects of long-term outmigration, economic restructuring, and deindustrialization.
Detroit: From the Poster Child of Decline to the Poster Child of DIY?

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Arguably no American city has been associated with a more negative urban narrative than Detroit in recent decades. Long accustomed to playing the role of the poster child, Detroit has frequently been used in media representations to exemplify troubling urban trends, and to act as a cautionary tale to others. Likewise, cinematic and documentary representations of the city have predominantly focused on negative aspects of Detroit’s experience over recent decades, with crime, vacancy and poverty recurring as themes. Yet in the last few years, while negative stories persist, the popular narrative about Detroit seems to have been changing. A series of pieces in mainstream media outlets like the New York Times and Atlantic Cities reflects this shift, as do documentaries like 'Lemonade: Detroit' and advertising campaigns like Palladium’s 'Detroit Lives' and Chrysler’s 'Imported from Detroit'. Positive themes such as determination, cooperation, experimentation and opportunity run through many of these works, which tend to focus on the city's DIY, entrepreneurial and community sectors. While this narrative shift may simply reflect the current enthusiasm for DIY in arts and urban planning circles, in the context of Detroit it also raises challenging questions about how the media portray the city, and whether the portrayal might encourage gentrification or disenfranchisement. This paper will engage with this debate through the lens of an in depth examination of one DIY/grassroots project - the Detroit Declaration movement. It will draw on the results of ongoing qualitative research examining both mainstream and independent media portrayals of the project, as well as interviews with Detroiters reflecting on the goals and impact of the movement and of DIY urban projects more generally. In particular, the paper will consider the following questions: how has the Detroit Declaration movement been portrayed in media representations, and why? What broader narratives does this portrayal play into? And do local understandings of the Detroit Declaration, and DIY urban projects more generally, differ from media portrayals? By exploring these questions, the research seeks to provide insights into the future challenges and opportunities DIY projects might present for how the city is portrayed and understood.
Women, Homes and Capital: Examining the Relationship Between Gender, Mortgage Originations and Neighborhood Characteristics

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This paper examines the role of gender in housing finance, drawing from a feminist urban geography perspective. Previous research has documented disparities in treatment and outcomes of home mortgages based on the income, and race and ethnicity of borrowers. Qualitative studies have found considerable evidence of the role of gender, particularly for minority borrowers. Relying on Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA) data, this paper first describes the differences in lender type and loan cost for different population groups. Next, the census tract characteristics of areas with a large number of female borrowers are described. The population, socioeconomic, and housing characteristics are compared between these areas, paying special attention to differences in homeownership rates, housing values, and estimated foreclosure rates. This paper seeks to address the existing structures of inequality and their spatial significance through a discussion of women’s experience in housing and mortgage lending.
A Tale of Complexity and Conflict in the Planned Unit Development Process

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This poster tells the story of a small part of the City of Ann Arbor's development history. It all began on January 15, 2008 when a developer brought a request to the City Planning Commission to rezone seven of his properties, all adjacent to one another on Fifth Avenue, from multifamily to campus business residential in order to construct a row of brownstones on those parcels. What ensued is a development drama that Ann Arbor's Mayor suspected would, "show up in a planning text book at some point, and...probably not reflect brightly on us." Complete with internal disagreements among planners, planning commissioners, and city council members; organized neighborhood opposition; the filing of a protest petition that triggered a super-majority council vote; multiple rezoning denials; historic district designation related considerations; the involvement of multiple developers as a result of the sale of the property during the approval process; problems with the City's outdated zoning ordinance and by-right provisions; and Planned Unit Development designation and associated politics, this development process had it all. In the end, the project was built. By most accounts, the end product was not the optimal, compromised, and negotiated solution that all parties had desired at the outset. Rather, it was the result and embodiment of the failure of the planning process. The primary research questions are: Where did this planning process breakdown? What role, if any, did conflict play in the final outcome? What are the inherent complications associated with negotiating planned unit developments? What is the role of a municipality’s regulatory infrastructure in guiding decision making? I evaluate and deconstruct the planning process as it unfolded in different stages using the literature on plan and ordinance quality and implementation; role of planners and planning commissioners in the planning process; planned unit developments; and conflicts in the planning process. I use the case study approach and focus primarily on this single development project in the City of Ann Arbor. Data collection occurred between January and June of 2012. Methods used include document review of Ann Arbor's City Council and Planning Commission meeting minutes and Planning Staff reports; in-depth interviews with City Council members, Planning Commissioners, Planning Staff, and Developers involved in this process; and a review of the local newspapers' coverage of this project.
The Community Development Industry System in the Post-Industrial, Financialized City

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In this paper I ask how the community development industry system has evolved in an era of globalization and financialization. To help answer that question, I will explore community development organizations as part of a broader governance network by analyzing who the actors in the industry system are, how they work together, and how it has changed over time. I will look specifically at community development system in urban areas given their historical role in urban politics and the city’s role as the site of financialized activity. Jordan Yin (1999) theorized that community development organizations progressed from ‘single organizations making good in its community to participation in a complex web of partnerships.’ He argues that the differing interests and motivations within a community development industry system influences and is a result of the relationships between the members of the system as well as outside forces. For example, while national intermediaries and foundation support gave community development organizations legitimacy needed to attract capital in the 1980s and 1990s, a new wave of community development activity has introduced investors directly into neighborhoods. I look to understand the implications of the evolution of the community development industry system with reduced stable government funding but more accessible private capital on the strategies and priorities of the organizations within the system. I follow up on Yin’s conceptualization of community development as a system of ‘local’ and ‘extra local’ actors. I will provide a comprehensive overview of the community development industry in the 1990s and 2000s using a combination of primary planning documents, secondary reports as well as grant information and other publically available data. This paper will provide context for a future case study of the community development industry system’s response to the housing and foreclosure crisis in Baltimore, Maryland.
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Book of Abstracts

Urban Power and Political Agency: Reflections from a Cross-National Study of Johannesburg and Leeds

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"Does politics matter" is an enduring question in the social sciences. Urban theorists, in turn, ask whether city, neighbourhood and local politics matter. The very premise of the sub-field of urban politics is that cities matter. Indeed, a considerable body of urban theory has been dedicated to making the case for urban politics, especially as the medium of socioeconomic justice. In this paper, we seek to reopen the debate through a comparative study of urban politics in Johannesburg (South Africa) and Leeds (UK). We ask: if urban politics does matter then how, where, in what ways, to what extent - and for what purposes - does it matter? The paper first explores influential theoretical perspectives on political autonomy and political agency. It proceeds to discuss two case studies of political and managerial leadership in local economic development, undertaken in Johannesburg and Leeds, to assess the efficacy of these processes for social justice. We then develop a simple heuristic to illustrate, compare and explain the findings. We discover powerful structural urban and extra-urban constraints on social justice in Johannesburg and Leeds, and argue that enabling national and international policy frameworks are necessary, if not sufficient, for urban socioeconomic justice. Equally, we find some evidence that progressives fail to test and exploit opportunities in the fissures and cracks. The explanation for these failures is found more in local political cultures than in objective constraints in global political economy - even as those constraints become more pressing. We conclude that in a period of intractable crisis and austerity, urban politics may not matter as much as it did, but that it could matter more than it currently does in fomenting counter-hegemonic ideas, policies and practices.
Communities and Environmental Inequities

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Minorities are challenged with environmental injustice, thereby affecting their quality of life. The existing challenges gained the supporters of activists and environmental movements paving the way for fairness and justice for the disadvantaged. Although recognition of environmental inequity is present, there still remains evidence of unfairness in the communities. The challenges that are linked to the lack of quality of life are environmental indoor and outdoor hazards, whether coming from private residential homes or commercial facilities. Even though reductions of environmental hazards have been controlled to a certain degree, questions concerning equal distribution are not rendered in disadvantaged, minority communities as opposed to nonminority, higher-income communities. I will elaborate on the influential measures of environmental inequity, environmental hazards and the implications of policies and practices to alleviate inequity and provide equity for all.
Breaking the Cycle of Generations Living in Subsidized Housing

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Children are falling into a continuous cycle of living in subsidized housing. This problem has plagued youth for generations, and former presidents have tried to address their needs. Following Kennedy's assassination in 1963 a wave of sympathy and public support came from Kennedy Administration proposals, including the Civil Rights Act of 1964. Within this act Johnson introduced his vision for America, which was known as the "Great Society". The Great Society was a proposed plan to end poverty, promote equality, improve education, rejuvenate cities, and protect the environment. The third major component of the plan proposed urban renewal. Since the end of World War II, cities faced a shortage of good, affordable housing. The urbanization of America along with the changing economy meant that businesses began to leave city centers. As a response, Johnson signed the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 that established the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and expanded funding for public housing. In 2007, HUD expended over $27.5 billion for rental assistance to house approximately 4.8 million families in need. 3.6 million through direct rental assistance and 1.2 million in public housing. Welfare came at a time when many Americans were ready to revamp the welfare system. As Regan began initiatives against welfare Americans, believed that welfare had become a program that distributed "money for nothing". Such assistance went against the American work ethic. The typical Welfare recipient was known as the "welfare queen". She was unwed young mother who continued to have more children to increase her monthly assistance, refused to work, and perhaps was a drug addict. Welfare recipients were seen as scam artist, people who found a way to rip off the government and taxpayers dollars. In 1996, President Clinton signed the Welfare Reform Act in 1996. He stated "I have a plan to end welfare as we know it-- to break the cycle of dependency. We'll provide education, job training, and child care, but then those who are able to work must go to work... It's time to make welfare what it should be--a second chance, not a way of life. It is so easy to say that these individuals need to be cut off from their assistance, without knowing their situation. So, what are the factors that contribute to the continuous cycle of assistance; 1) the mindset of the individuals, 2) education, 3) number of children, 4) environment, 5) parental involvement and 6) resources available
Diversity and Neighborhood Collective Efficacy: A Multilevel Approach

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Neighborhood collective efficacy captures the willingness of neighbors to work together on community issues and accounts for the degree of social interaction among neighbors as well as the sense of belonging residents feel towards their community. Developing communities with strong neighborhood collective efficacy is recognized as key to addressing some of today’s most pressing social problems, and researchers are focusing attention on how the social environment of a neighborhood influences a host of individual psychological, behavioral, and health outcomes. Questions remain, however, as to what forces weaken or strengthen a community's collective efficacy. Early theory on the influence of structural characteristics, such as entrenched poverty and residential mobility, on neighborhood collective efficacy has been born out in many studies. Recently, scholars have also begun to address the role of ethnic diversity in a neighborhood’s capacity for collective efficacy. Ethnic diversity is a point of particular interest because of the increased pattern of immigration over the last two decades, especially to cities and metropolitan areas, and researchers have asked whether such increasing ethnic diversity undermines neighborhood collective efficacy. The purpose of this study is to investigate whether diversity is associated with neighborhood collective efficacy after controlling for established mechanisms of concentrated disadvantage and residential mobility. We focus not only on ethnic diversity but also on a variety of other characteristics that may play a role in formulating collective efficacy, including birthplace, education, and income, among others. We identify diversity by measuring the level of entropy, or amount of variation, within a given neighborhood. Thus for each indicator we are able to clearly distinguish places that manifest high levels of sameness from places that exhibit greater amounts of variation. Multilevel modeling was employed to test the association of these various dimensions of diversity with individual level perceptions of neighborhood cooperation and social cohesion while controlling for individual and other neighborhood level variables. Our study focuses on the five county metropolitan area of southeastern Pennsylvania including the city of Philadelphia and its suburbs. Some diversity measures work to suppress collective efficacy while others are associated with greater collective efficacy. We consider how these findings may connect to conditions of neighborhood transition, or churning.
Immigration in Sevilla (Spain): Spatial Concentration or Socio-spatial Segregation?

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Since the beginning of the 2000s, the city of Sevilla has been facing an increase in its foreign population. The share of foreigners in the city rose from only 1.5% in 2002 to 5.5% in 2011. This relatively low number in comparison with other cities like Barcelona or Madrid hides different realities if we study the situation on a larger scale. Among the four biggest Spanish cities, Sevilla has been the only one to experience an increase in its foreign population (+10.5%) during the last two years. In Sevilla, immigrants were mostly Moroccans at the beginning of the 2000s but then became more diverse. Four main groups now make up the majority of immigrant communities: Moroccans, Bolivians, Ecuadorians and Colombians. In the district of Macarena, which is located north of the city center, some areas count more than 30 percent of immigrants. These neighborhoods concentrate a significant share of the Ecuadorian and Bolivian populations. The aim of this paper, which is based on several fieldworks conducted between 2010 and 2012, is to analyze the phenomenon of spatial concentration of immigrants in the city of Sevilla, and in particular to examine if this spatial concentration (automatically) leads socio-spatial segregation. Using a multiscalar analysis with a specific focus on the district of Macarena, we will explain why we can think this is not currently the case, even though the situation highlights some factors, which lead us to believe that it may change soon. Traditionnally, Latinos have a better insertion in the job market than Africans, particularly in the home and custodial care sectors, which help their social integration. The spatial concentration of immigrants is a phenomenon which led to the transformation of neighborhood like El Cerezo, both physically (emergence of many ethnic shops, visibility of the migrants), and in terms of socio-demographic and economic characteristics. This part of the city, once occupied by Spanish workers, allows migrants to find available and cheap apartments on their arrival, but is nevertheless close to some public infrastructures (schools, hospitals), which prevents migrants from being totally segregated. It seems that Moroccan immigrants, who were the first to settle in large numbers in Sevilla, partly left this part of town at the same time as Latinos settled. This leads us to interrogate the issues of ethnic succession. Most of the migrants that I interviewed perceive the fact of living in these areas as a mean to facilitate their integration and to help them face the issues related to immigration. This reinforces the perception and identification of El Cerezo and other neighborhoods as « areas of immigration », which contributes to lower their attractiveness for the Spaniards and increases Latino isolation. Furthermore, the increase in the number of Latinos and their spatial concentration tend, in the current context of crisis, to locally transform the rather positive image that they used to enjoy.
Legitimacy and Legality: The Right to the City and the Rule of Law in the Context of Occupy Social Movements

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The advent of the Occupy movement and similar around the world (i.e., The Indignados Movement in Spain, The Greek Protests, The Arab Spring and The Students’ Movement in Quebec, Mexico and Chile) complicated the question of the right to the city. Public space became a contested realm where the rights of freedom of speech, freedom of assembly and freedom of association, appear to be conflicting with those of property and freedom of passage. These movements were motivated by a generalized feeling of outrage about the simultaneous bailout of banks, the wave of house foreclosures and the virtual privatization/commodification of public health and education, (with variations in each different geography). In many cases, these policies were interpreted as the "legalization of the violation of human rights". Thus revealing an explicit tension between the notions of legitimacy and legality. The tactics used by the protesters, such as the occupation of public squares, parks and plazas for the creation of protest encampments and public assemblies were in many cases declared illegal by city governments. However, there was manifested sense of urgency to defend rights, regardless of the potential legal implications. Drawing from fieldwork undertaken on the 15M Movement in Barcelona and the Occupy Movement in New York, and using a methodology based on participant observation, direct observation and interviews with key informants, I explore the tensions and contradictions between the application of the rule of law in the public realm and the exercise of right to the city. I argue that stressing the boundaries between legitimacy and legality can expand the concept the right to the city in practice and positively affect how the political dimension of urban space is legislated and publicly perceived.
The Vertical Geography of Protest

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This essay explores the vertical geography of protest during the 2009 Green Movement in Iran. Spatial analysis of movement geography tends to center on streets, plazas, or other horizontal urban spaces. Instead, this paper focuses on nightly rooftop protests, and protest gatherings at funerals and cemeteries in Tehran. The dynamic use of vertical protest by the Green Movement is linked directly to political memories from the 1979 Iranian Revolution. While ultimately not unique to Tehran alone, the vertical geography of protest is an understudied and potent technique of popular urban resistance.
Innovation vs. Old Recipes: The Redevelopment of Railway Station Areas across Europe as a Way to Build the 21st Century City.

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Facing globalization issues, such as urban networking and competition, cities strive hard to be attractive at a large scale. Most of them use urban planning as a tool not only to improve the quality of urban life, but also as a lever for urban development. Many studies in social sciences have focused on global cities but often neglect less attractive cities in their enquiries about globalization. The proposed paper addresses this gap by exploring the strategies implemented by mid-sized cities challenged by the post-industrial turn and thus looking for a reversal of their negative image of rusty and sometimes shrinking cities. If innovation is a key word in urban policies, some "old recipes" are still alluring to European cities to catch up with globalization. One of these lies in the redevelopment of railway station areas: these urban projects, almost always resulting from the arrival of high speed trains in the city, are based on commonplace features of the 21st Century urban planning, such as functional diversity (including a business district), and green building techniques. They also contribute to the concentration of people and activities around major transportation nodes. Based on a four-year field research project in two European post-industrial cities (Saint-Etienne, near Lyons, France, and Liège, near Brussels, Belgium), this paper highlights how public-private partnership can occur in a difficult context worsened by the economic crisis. How do public and private actors interact, when the former cannot act alone due to a lack of funding, and the latter are not inclined to invest in what they consider to be risky places? Our paper focuses on property developers, who are key elements in the relationship between public action and private investment. Since the property developers we studied were mostly national or international companies, integrated into the global finance system, their role in urban development is different from the role of private actors described in North-American cases, such as urban regimes (C. N. Stone) and growth coalitions (J. Logan, H. Molotch). As the result of our analysis, it appears that high speed train stations play a key role in urban renewal of post-industrial cities. The railway station is a kind of insurance both for public actors, as public transportation issues facilitate their mobilisation (which is quite a classical fact in urban planning), and for private actors, as a transportation facility is a condition sine qua non to invest in a real estate program. As a consequence, there is a tacit agreement between public and private actors to turn those formerly repelling areas into brand new neighbourhoods, setting them up as the new beacon of urban development (then allowing more innovative projects to develop, such as the City of Design in Saint-Etienne). Thus, old railway stations of the 19th Century can be a solid base to build the 21st Century City, provided they are linked to major cities.
Storming Tourisms' "City on the Hill:" Family Values, Natural Beauty, and Limits to Growth in Branson, Missouri

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In the 2000s prominent members of the regional growth-coalition in the small tourist city of Branson, Missouri mounted an expensive campaign to reject a casino, which promised economic benefits for the community, while tacitly approving a "NASCAR-style" race-track, for which claims about job creation were considered by many locals as especially dubious and which contributed to environmental degradation and held the prospect for a decline of quality of life for nearby neighbors. Religious fundamentalism and environmental stewardship have deep roots in Branson, but local development contestation has been broadly shaped by global neoliberal economic transformations in recent decades. Branson represents an ideal-typical "neoliberal city," in which business elites, developers, public officials, and citizen boosters promote growth and actively package, market, and sell the city as a branded entertainment consumer destination. Its growth-coalition is committed to a "good business climate" - limiting regulation and using limited public resources to leverage private development. Neoliberal provisions to eliminate social, environmental, and economic protections create competitive pressure which has led local officials to reconstruct characteristics of local identity in commodified form as a 'sanctified town' tourism brand, featuring the marketing of Branson's Jerusalem in contrast to Vegas' Sodom and Gomorrah, in a bid to distinguish the city to lure entertainment consumers. This study examines how local culture and neoliberal structural shifts intersect to produce unique political-economic responses in Branson which account for the formation and outcomes of growth and development battles. The analysis develops historical context for growth politics in Branson and case studies of the casino and race-track contests in order to unravel the linkages between the national and local constitution of neoliberalization and the ways that these processes are shaped by local culture. The study relies on qualitative analysis of interviews with key local informants, archival and secondary data, local government documents, and regional newspaper articles. My findings demonstrate that the rejection of the casino and the acceptance of the race-track is explained largely by the fact that the apparent contradictions between religious fundamentalism and the provisions for concentrated capital accumulation outlined in neoliberalism have been relatively easier to reconcile than that presented by the ideological commitment to environmental stewardship and the neoliberal demands for unfettered market-driven growth which produces constant expansion of the built-environment. A growth moratorium to protect the Ozark forests from encroaching development, for instance, would present a greater threat to local capital accumulation than simply restricting the theme and activity of new tourist development to non-casino family-oriented attractions.
The governance of religious diversity inside urban integration agendas: Cases from the Ruhr Area in Germany

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During the 1950s the scale of post war reconstruction in Germany resulted in the introduction of the Gastarbeiter or guest worker scheme. Migrants from Southern Europe and Turkey were encouraged to become temporary workers in low skilled jobs. Since the 1960s the majority of workers have been recruited from rural areas of Turkey. Many have stayed in Germany forming the largest minority group with an estimated population of four million people of Turkish descent. During the last decade, the concept of integration and identity has become a leading policy objective in Germany. Indeed, this has been given a high profile at the municipal and city agenda. It could be argued that faith and religion have been the drivers of change and levels of conflict especially since 9/11 and identification of many Turks with Islam. This being the case, within what has been termed the inter-cultural paradigm; the governance of religious diversity has become a topic in many urban integration plans across the country. Based on a detailed analysis of integration concepts of eleven metropolitan cities in the industrial Ruhr area, this paper examines how religious actors and inter-religious activities are included in urban integration plans, the rationale of urban stakeholders arriving at a decision to integrate them in the agendas and, from a normative point of view, what relevance such activities possess for urban integration and cohesion? The paper argues that whilst the inclusion of inter-religious activities and actors in integration measures align with recent principles of urban (diversity) management, the often political dimension of such encounters may reinforce, rather than attenuate, social and cultural borders and stereotypes.
Suburbanization & the Resegregation of Southern School Districts

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Since the landmark Brown v. Board of Education (1954) decision, the path of school desegregation can best be described as a series of successes amid a range of challenges in achieving equal educational opportunity for all, threatening the very heart of the pivotal decision. Indeed, the intended effect of Brown has failed to be fully realized as school desegregation policies have and continue to face enormous political obstacles in local communities (Wells, Holme, Atanda, & Revilla, 2005). What’s more, the demographic landscape has shifted dramatically since Brown leading to more complex diversity in many school districts than that contemplated when the decision was handed down. The South, which was intensely segregated during the time of Brown and then became the most integrated area in the U.S. for Black students once desegregation plans were finally implemented, is now resegregating more rapidly than any part of the nation (Orfield, 2009). The countywide school districts that were created in the South during the 1970s following the Swann v. Charlotte-Mecklenburg Board of Education decision eventually became the largest and most desegregated urban-suburban desegregation plans in the country. However, after a series of Supreme Court cases in the 1990s limited desegregation plans, resegregation began to grow, particularly in the South. This study focuses on how the demographic change occurring within two school districts and communities in the South, including the creation of suburban enclaves juxtaposed with central cities overwhelmingly comprised of low-income students of color, influences diversity policies within two school districts: Jefferson County Public Schools (Louisville, KY) and the Wake County Public School System (Raleigh, NC). Both communities are experiencing enclave growth as more White families are moving to exclusive suburbs within the district boundaries and are sending their children to more homogeneous schools. Additionally, both districts have a history of voluntary integration efforts, and countywide districts generally make integration more feasible (Orfield, 2001). Research has shown that school enclaves both cause residential enclave formation and are caused by such residential patterns (e.g., Pearce, 1980; Siegel-Hawley, 2011; Weiher, 1991). Thus, this project also examines how the changing residential context (i.e., expansion of suburbs, growth of residential enclaves, increase in segregation) as well as other causal factors (i.e., policies of other governmental bodies, decisions by real estate developers, preferences of citizens) create enclave schools, which may in turn, affect the school districts’ ability to achieve integration.
Privately Owned Public Space: The International Experience

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The concurrence of the appropriation of Zuccotti Park by the 'Occupy Wall Street' movement in October 2011 and the 50th anniversary of the city's groundbreaking zoning ordinance has drawn renewed attention to a particular mode of urban governance that has not only brought this widely televised Lower Manhattan park into being but also hundreds of it's like; not only in New York. As the occupy movement spread around the globe and as other privately owned public spaces were similarly taken over such as Hong Kong's iconic HSBC Plaza, Taipei's 101 Tower, or City Square in Melbourne so did the awareness spread that such hybrid spaces at the nexus between public and private existed also in many other countries and continents. Although local governments around the world are rewarding FAR bonuses to private developers for decades if they in turn agree to produce and maintain publicly usable urban spaces, most research so far has only discussed these 'privately owned public spaces', as Jerold Kayden coined them in his seminal book of the same title (2000), against the background of North American cities. This paper contributes to overcome this Western bias by offering a theoretically informed and empirically grounded, comprehensive survey of governance systems that have been producing privately owned public spaces in cities as diverse as Santiago de Chile, New York, Bangkok, Taipei, Hong Kong, Melbourne, Tokyo, Osaka, or Yokohama. By concentrating on this seemingly simple and straightforward bargain of additional building height or other zoning concessions in turn for the provision of publicly usable space, this comparative study analyses the influence of different planning and governance cultures in nine very different cities as well as the role that local histories, geographies, institutions and actor-networks play therein. By deliberately looking at a controlled, relatively narrow spectrum of planning tools and produced urban spaces in diverse, international cities, the study develops a more nuanced understanding of how these complex socio-spatial factors are influencing the diffusion and implementation of modern planning ideas and offers a more solid common ground for comparative public space studies in general.
Assessing Democratic Urban Governance: Towards a Comparative Framework

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Scholars of urban political theory and practice have come to recognize the international challenge of conceptualizing and comparatively assessing urban governance in terms of democratic ideals. The reach of representative democracy is seen as limited when it comes to urban policy making and implementation. Urban regime theory maintains a privileged position of business power within governing coalitions. Accounts of new institutionalism point to power asymmetries ingrained in the institutions and practices of governments and bureaucracies. Yet, it is exactly this domain of urban governance which offers radically democratic potentials. In fact, a different strain of empirical and theoretical research has evolved around instances of democratic innovations which have sought to increase citizen participation and public accountability in a wide array of policy fields. In this paper we aim to integrate more recent advancements in both urban research and democracy research. We develop an encompassing normative framework which allows for a comparative assessment of democratic urban governance. Instead of focusing on single instances of innovative participation mechanisms we apply our democratic criteria (‘empowered advocacy of all affected’, ‘accountable administration’) more globally to the city level, also accounting for the possibility of more opaque forms of governance. Moreover, we conceive of governance arrangements as embedded in their broader democratic contexts, i.e. institutions of direct legislation (‘participation’), representative government (‘rule of law’, ‘accountable leadership’, ‘representation’) and metropolitan governance (‘advocacy of affected localities’, ‘capacity for collective action’). This multidimensional framework is then tested in a comparative case study of democratic city planning in the prospering cities of Stuttgart, Zurich, Vancouver and Toronto. We restrict to city planning as we expect levels of democratic governance to vary by policy field, city planning being particularly prone to low levels of accountability. The large differences in institutional traditions and governance modes among the selected cities allow us to elaborate how particular institutions and their design bear on a city’s democratic governance qualities with regard to city planning. Each democratic criterion is thereby specified by multiple qualitative and quantitative indicators which we draw from existing case studies, legal analysis, media analysis, data on elections and direct legislation, surveys and expert interviews. Future comparative urban studies, it is argued, would gain from incorporating this broader range of democratic criteria. Not only do they constitute essential constraints and possibilities for the choices of urban policy makers. As the experience of ‘Stuttgart 21’ suggests, they are also of critical importance to understand public attitudes toward urban political processes and their outcomes.
The Illinois 2008 Presidential Election: Unscrambling the Latino Vote

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The 2008 presidential election provided another opportunity for Latinos to flex their political muscle at the polls. Additionally, the competitive nature of the Democratic primaries forced the campaigns to institute electoral strategies that could win over Latino voters. A major subtext was the extent to which race or organizational capacity influenced the voting behavior of Latinos leading up to Super Tuesday. The 2008 Illinois primary provided a glimpse of the nuances of winning over the Mexican-American and Puerto Rican vote. For Obama, 2008 was also a way to build and improve on his successful 2004 showing for U.S. Senate among this collectivity. This paper examines national and state-level contextual and strategic conditions that showcase the challenges and benefits of winning over the Latino electorate. It will also speak to the ongoing debate about the direction of future black-Latino relations in the urban setting.
Megaevent Development in Rio de Janeiro: Assessing the Efficacy of Civil Society Strategies to Avoid Dislocations of Residents

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Rio de Janeiro is slated to host the 2016 Summer Olympic Games and play a significant role in the 2014 FIFA World Cup, two events which are meant to cement Rio's role as a "world class city". Building for these games, however, has exacerbated the already tumultuous process of gentrification in this city widely known for its vast inequalities between high-rise residents and informal communities. Based on fieldwork, city data, and on-going reports, in this paper I examine the current strategies of civil society organizations in Rio de Janeiro and the means by which these organizations may overcome the current government's reluctance to improve communities rather than relocate residents to public housing units. The paper draws on the experiences of Atlanta, Beijing, Johannesburg, and New Delhi, in which residents and community organizations faced similar threats of eviction. To overcome the city government's interest in gentrifying the city to further investment and tourism, I argue that civil society organizations need to focus on the economic benefits associated with improving and regularizing informal communities rather than relying on Brazil's extensive legal framework to protect the rights of the urban poor. Effective strategies involve creating plans for low-cost community improvements and involving the private sector in redevelopment of existing communities. International advocacy campaigns to brandish the city's image also have the capacity to hit the city's pocketbook. The findings in this paper have implications for civil society organizations currently working in Brazil as well as in other cities faced with negative ramifications as a result of large-scale urban development.

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The news from the 2010 Census came as a shock to the black community in Oakland, California, as its population dropped by 24% over the past 10 years, bringing the share of the African-American population (27%) in the city to the level of the Hispanic (24%) and white (25%) populations. Once a bastion of black power, the birth city of the Black Panthers was selected by Browning Marshall and Tabb in their landmark book Protest Is Not Enough as an example of successful biracial coalitions. But shifting demographics, the emergence of new coalitions and voter desillusion have led to the collapse of black power in the city. This trend is not new nor specific to Oakland and can be traced back to the 1980s but it was accelerated by massive immigration and proactive gentrification, followed by an extensive foreclosure crisis which spurred radical activism. As foreclosure rates still hold and investors buy-ups proliferate, the renting market started heating up again, raising concerns about a new speculation bubble potentially leading to more displacements. In the wake of a severe economic recession, budgetary crisis and rising crime, these evolutions raise the question of the future of African-Americans in the city.
Preparing the Nonprofit Sector for Change: The Budget Control Act of 2011

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This paper explores the potential consequences that the Budget Control Act of 2011 will have on the nonprofit sector. The Act was passed in Congress and signed by the President on August 2, 2011 and it takes unprecedented actions to reduce the overall size of the budget deficit by forcing $1.2 trillion in cuts from the federal budget over the course of 10 years in exchange for increasing the federal budget debt ceiling limit to $900 billion (Associated Press, 2010). In addition the act provides for at least an additional $1 trillion in across the board cuts also over a 10 year period. The size and scope of the nonprofit sector and the role of government devolution to nonprofits makes this new law particularly perilous for both nonprofits and cash strapped states. At the present time, it is unknown how deeply these federal budget cuts will affect the nonprofit sector, thus an exploration of the patterns of collaboration between foundations, nonprofits, state and local governments, and the funding provided by the federal government is necessary. In 2006, the nonprofit sector received about 60% of its total revenue from federal government sources (Garrow, 2006). Therefore cuts to the federal budget are sure to trickle down to nonprofit organizations, state, and local governments alike. Accordingly the question of providing public services under dramatic constraints should be posed to the academic community as well as to practitioners. Using Michigan as a case study, this paper discusses the implications of these budget cuts on the nonprofit sector, taking into account a potential influx of foundation giving as a temporary stopgap measure. Finally, the paper suggests steps that states, nonprofit organizations, and foundations can take to prepare for the significant losses in funding prescribed by the Budget Control Act of 2011.
Nonviolent Dynamics? Spirituality, Planning, and Low-Income Housing Demands

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This paper examines the intersection of nonviolence and planning theory. Specifically, this paper elaborates on the intersections of Mohandas K. Gandhi’s orientation of spirituality and action in relation to planning theory's social learning and social mobilization concepts. Gandhi highlights in his autobiography that his spirituality has influenced his many political actions (1959). Through an analysis of Gandhi’s spirituality, Joan Bondurant (1988) suggests Gandhi’s spirituality influenced his principles of conflict that manifested into his nonviolent action technique. Gandhi’s orientation serves as a diverse approach to planning that brings about multidimensional ways of altering social space. Therefore, this paper also suggests that grassroots organizing that incorporates notions of spirituality and historical ancestry links to planning theory notions of insurgent planning that creates “counter hegemonic, transgressive, and imaginative” spaces (Miraftab, 2009, p. 33). Through a case study analysis of a New York City grassroots organization that works on housing rights and access, this paper highlights the organizations actions and underlying theoretical notions that suggests a strong Gandhian orientation of planning and action. This paper also examines how this orientation can create civic capacity and participation, build and exercise power, and take confrontational and consensus approaches towards community development.
Public Housing as Political Spaces of Resident Mobilization

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This paper will discuss the theory of public housing as a political space, borrowing from LeFebvre's (2003) and Soss's (2000) frameworks, why by certain spaces become site of political struggles. This paper will attempt to situate the struggles of public housing resident councils in Atlanta against the city's power structures to first improve and control there space (public housing) and then to fight against demolitions. This case study clearly shows the carrot and stick political concessions made to residents in exchange for voting support. However, it also demonstrates the powerlessness of the resident councils to force real change. And in the end, the city was successful in demolishing all of its traditional public housing.
Racial/Ethnic Segregation and Happiness

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Cities have made some progress toward inclusion through reducing racial segregation, and there are still different policies that aim to continue this trend. Research has well-supported the claims that segregation has led to neighborhoods facing disparate health, economic, and social outcomes, and the disparity between different neighborhoods amenities along race lines continues to be an important social concern. The purpose of this paper is to examine the relationship between segregation and happiness. Specifically, we look at neighborhood characteristics, including racial and ethnic segregation using dissimilarity and exposure indexes, in order to understand their effect on self-reported happiness. The concept "happiness" has been explored over the past decade by scholars from several disciplines who have found that an increase in self-reported happiness is associated with decreases in suicides and increases in life expectancy, among other measures of health and well-being. Despite the growing literature on happiness and neighborhoods, to-date there has been little work on the relationship between happiness and racial and ethnic segregation. This paper seeks to fill this gap and answer the following question: Are individuals living in segregated neighborhoods less happy than individuals living in more diverse neighborhoods? In order to answer this question, we obtained the first (1987-88) and second waves (1992-94) of National Survey of Families and Households (NSFH), a rich, publicly available national dataset of a panel study of families with approximately 10,000 residents surveyed in the second and first waves. In each wave, participants were asked a question on how happy they were in addition to a number of other individual level variables we were able to use as controls, such as demographics and measures of social capital. We matched individual data with 1990s census track data so that we could control for neighborhood level variables, such as race/ethnicity, income, education, housing and public assistance. We created dissimilarity and exposure indexes to serve as measures of segregation. In our analyses, we will explore the relationships between happiness and neighborhoods with different racial and ethnic make-ups as well as varying income levels. With the two waves of responses, we are able to look at outcomes related to mobility patterns as well.
The Affects of Mathematics Anxiety on Ability to Learn Mathematics

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The proposed presentation examines mathematics anxiety within the academic and corporate setting. This presentation will address a study that was conducted looking at individual's levels of Mathematic Anxiety on their ability to learn basic and advanced mathematical skills. This study will also address some of the treatment methods that have been utilized and found to work to help reduce an individual's level of Mathematic Anxiety. This research is important to this conference since prior research has found that this form of state anxiety can result in students having lower grades in the classroom and the public not being able to adequately conduct or understand research. By the end of this presentation the individuals in attendance should understand this type of anxiety and know how to help others and themselves lower their levels so it does not hinder ones ability to succeed when it comes to mathematic competence.
Comparing the Effects of Punitive vs. Rehabilitative Measures on Prison Environment in Public and Private Prisons

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While literature on prisoner rehabilitation isn't lacking, this paper contributes a macro-level comparative analysis of 760 prisons across the United States, comparing the effectiveness of rehabilitative resources and correctional resources. This study draws from a purposeful sample of state and private prisons surveyed as part of a census of state and federal adult correctional facilities conducted in 2005 by the United States Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Statistics and uses quantitative analysis to answer the question of how punishment and rehabilitation services affect the prison environment. Of the 760 observations, 59 were private prisons. The models found no significant private prison effects. Previous studies focus on micro-level aspects of various treatments found to be effective in prisoner rehabilitation. This study finds evidence at a macro level to further support the theory that rehabilitative, educational, and vocational services promote a better prison environment, while greater displays of punitive measures lead to higher levels of prison disorder including assault, and prisoner misconduct. Literature indicates that a higher quality prison environment reduces recidivism. As prison terms come to an end, offenders rejoin communities, and prison effectiveness becomes a public safety issue. Implications from this study support the shifting away from "get tough on crime" retributive prison systems towards less punitive treatments focusing on rehabilitation, education, and vocational training.
What Works: A Comparison of Economic Factors for Nine Mid-Sized Metropolitan Counties

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This paper reports the results of a study conducted during 2011-2013 to: 1) identify mid-sized metropolitan counties that had higher population growth, lower poverty and unemployment, and higher resilience to the housing market collapse in 2007; and 2) identify factors that explain why these counties performed better. The study focused on nine counties that had greater manufacturing intensity and did not grow due to government operations such as state capitals. Researchers used quantitative and qualitative data to profile counties and their central cities and compare them with a traditional mid-western industrial county (Montgomery County, Dayton). This study identified five "success factors" that explained stronger attraction, greater wealth and more robust economic activity. These factors provide struggling cities and regions insights on transforming their economy and developing prosperity and insights on how local governments could reform to better serve constituents.
Growing Older with Hoarding Disorder: Insights from Older San Franciscans

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Hoarding Disorder (HD) is defined as acquisition of, and failure to discard, large numbers of items which limits the use of one’s home and causes functional impairment or distress. Adults age 55 and older are disproportionately affected by HD, and while research on hoarding has accelerated over the past years, few studies have focused specifically on older adults. Given the growing percentage of older residents in urban centers, it is critically important to understand the dynamic interactions among hoarding disorder, the aging process, and the realities of city living. In this presentation, data from a qualitative study of 22 older adults with HD living in San Francisco and neighboring counties are presented. Case examples illustrate specific ways that common late-life changes in health status, social context and home setting impacted study participants and their hoarding symptoms, resulting in greater functional impairment and distress. By identifying these changes and their synergistic relationship with HD, health and social service professionals can develop more targeted interventions to improve home safety and quality of life, and support older adults’ ability to continue to live independently in the community.
Race, Political Segregation, and Metropolitan Public Housing

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America’s spatial inequality has spurred scholars and policymakers alike to endorse regional affordable housing initiatives as a means of improving mobility and offering critical opportunities to less advantaged metropolitan residents. This paper assesses when, if at all, these regional housing partnerships emerge. I present a broad theory linking American racial segregation with geographically-based political cleavages and a consequent lack of cooperation surrounding important local policies, including publicly provided housing. After demonstrating that racial divisions do indeed drive political segregation levels, I investigate how metropolitan political segregation shapes regional affordable housing. Using archival data from public housing authorities (PHAs) and an original, quantitative data set, I discover that few metropolises, regardless of political segregation levels, regionally coordinate public housing. Political segregation, does, however, shape the number of regional institutional players: more politically segregated metropolises contain a higher number of public housing authorities.
Active Citizenship and Urban Planning in Israel

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The highly centralized model of local government in Israel dooms the neighborhood level to be empty of power. The role of citizens-residents in political life in representative democracy of Israel is limited to voting in municipal and state election, submitting objections to plans and sporadically organizing to fight against nuisance and possible infringement of rights. This paper examines the developments in the devolution of planning power are happening in Israel. Currently this process is more reactionary rather than policy driven, that is, municipalities react to bottom up demands. The paper reviews three different examples in which residents, with or without municipal support and approval initiated and/or participated in processes of neighborhood planning. The paper offers a discussion on the feasibility and contextual obstacles of neighborhood level planning in Israel. Moreover, it identifies the social values of engaging in the process of neighborhood planning for individual residents, for neighborhood- (and other) organizations and for the relationship of communities with the municipal government. It also discusses the structural impact of such processes on the urban environment.
Southern, Central, and Eastern European Immigration and Metropolitan Fragmentation

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The late 19th and early 20th centuries saw both large scale immigration from southern, central, and eastern Europe and the municipal fragmentation of the suburban areas of the metropolitan regions to which the immigrants were drawn. This paper examines the role of efforts by middle class native whites to segregate themselves from southern, central, and eastern European immigrants in the late 19th and early 20th centuries for that metropolitan municipal fragmentation. Employing both historical and census analyses, it explores why municipal fragmentation is largely confined to the metropolitan areas that were immigrant destinations during the period.
Can Urban Food Production be Conceived of as a "Commons" Endeavor?
Assessing Food Production Models from a Common Resource Perspective

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Food security and sustainability have become important themes in many urban areas. In response, community members have advocated for and developed means by which they and their neighbors can be self-sufficient and even "sovereign" in the area of food production. Community gardens and other, larger, food production models are being promoted toward this end. Though there is great diversity among these models, their proponents share a belief in the "commons." Over time, scholars have developed a set of design principles that are empirically linked to successful commons maintenance. Most of this research has focused on traditional commons like fisheries and grazing land, not modern urban demands. If it is possible to conceive of food and its production from a collective governance perspective, it is important to assess which models are likely to be most successful in this area. How do the working principles of these models match with what we know leads to success for collectively-organized and shared common property? Just as importantly, are there characteristics of food "commons" that do not accord with traditional common-property resources, leading to an alternative set of design principles? This paper takes a first step at evaluating some of the models promoted by urban food "commoners" through the lens of common-property resource management. What are the advantages and disadvantages of the various models? For example, are smaller systems that require less of its members more sustainable, or are larger ones that establish complex linkages between producers and consumers? In answering these questions, I consider three different types of models: the community garden, the non-profit farm, and the formally-named "food commons." Though I only look at one example of each model, at this stage, the analysis is generalizable to other forms.
A City Globalizing: Houston’s Transformations from 1982-2012

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Over the last three decades Houston has become a dynamic global city. Starting in 1982, the annual Kinder Houston Area Survey (KHAS) has tracked Houston’s economic and social transformations, making it the longest running annual survey of a city in the United States. This paper utilizes this rich resource to describe Houston reinventing itself for the twenty-first century. It explores residents’ changing perceptions of economic opportunities, educational quality, and social inclusion. In doing so, we illustrate the ways in which researchers may be able to utilize this distinctive city as a research site. Since 1982, Houstonians’ perceptions of economic opportunities have fluctuated with the economic vitality of the city from the effects of the oil boom to the current recession. During this time period, public education has increasingly been seen as important for economic stability yet decreasing in quality. This disjunction is further complicated by the rapid racial/ethnic transformation of Houston which has shifted from being a classic southern bi-racial region (75 percent Anglo, 20 percent Black in 1960), to what is now one of the nation’s most diverse metropolitan areas (41 percent Hispanic, 33 percent Anglo, 18 percent Black and 8 percent was Asian/Other in 2010). Houston will be discussed in both the context of what is has in common with other rapidly growing, diversifying urban regions, and what is unique to its experience.
Climate Adaptation, Urban Renewal and Institutional Change Strategies in the City of Copenhagen

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The city of Copenhagen has the political vision to become the first carbon neutral capital in the world by 2025. By 2015, ten per cent of the total CO2-reduction target is to be achieved through energy retrofitting of existing buildings in the city. This poses a fundamental challenge to current urban renewal practices, and forces the city administration to rethink the institutional context governing these practices. The paper reports from an engaged scholarship project involving City planners at the Copenhagen Centre for Urban Design, and researchers from the Danish Building Research Institute. The parties organize a double loop learning process that involves planners, building owners and construction professionals in order to develop the city's proactive governance capacities to stimulate the societal demand for more and better green retrofitting projects in urban renewal. A key driver in this effort is the development of collaborative, holistic and area-based approaches to green building renewal. The paper is composed by two parts. In the first part, recent theoretical approaches to the study of sustainable urban governance are discussed, with a particular view to the local government system in Denmark in general, and the system of urban renewal in Copenhagen in particular. In the second part the institutional innovation process in the Centre for Urban Design is accounted for, a process that aims at formulating a new "strategy for sustainable urban renewal 2013-17" and developing the institutional framework for the successful implementation of this strategy. In conclusion the paper emphasises how leadership strategies need to navigate the clash between epistemological frameworks related to aesthetic housing maintenance embedded in traditional administrative urban renewal practices, and the energy efficiency discourse and societal demands for negotiated and integrative approaches to sustainable urban renewal.
Rebuilding Community at the Epicenter: Learning from Participatory Governance in Post-earthquake Haiti

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The 7.0 earthquake in Haiti on January 12, 2010 resulted in one of the greatest human catastrophes of our time. The epicentre of the earthquake lies under the town of Léogâne, where approximately 80 to 90 percent of buildings were destroyed, 20,000 to 30,000 people are thought to have perished, and tens of thousands were left homeless. Relief and reconstruction efforts have focused primarily on the country's capital, Port-au-Prince, and have taken longer to reach Léogâne, and now 33 months after the earthquake, reconstruction is slow, and most people have little to no access to basic services. In this challenging context, Habitat for Humanity Haiti has managed to construct the largest post-earthquake permanent housing settlement in Léogâne, called Santo Habitat Village. Our main aim in this article is to investigate how the Santo Village project is working so far, particularly in terms of community governance. Three questions that we address through this research are: 1) How is it that the Santo Village project has been able to move forward, when so many other projects have stalled in the post-earthquake period? 2) How are the community governance elements structured, and with what successes and difficulties so far? 3) What can we learn from residents' views expressed in participatory processes and through "story" video interviews? We intend for this exploration and our findings to contribute to learning and policy regarding new forms of community governance and community development in Haiti, and more broadly to discourses on participatory approaches to post-disaster reconstruction.
Organizing to Change a City

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A reputation for activism followed Oakland, California's early years when it was known as "Mississippi West" because of the intense racial discrimination which confronted its early residents. The organization of the Free Speech Movement, the Black Panther Party, Stop the Draft Week and the election of very progressive congressional representatives were part of the response which emerged during the period of the 1960’s and 1970’s. More recently, many residents felt threatened by a new sort of machine politics and organized participatory action in election and policy making to combat it. This paper explores the results of these efforts. The homicide rate was lowered, the school district was returned to local control, new land use, zoning, and local hire policies were adopted, anti-foreclosure actions were initiated, and elections were changed to ranked-choice voting. This paper asks: To what extent can such initiatives have long-term effect given the extreme budgetary and policy problems which cities face nationally? To what extent have these efforts led to long-term resident engagement? To what extent can these initiatives serve as a model for other cities?
San Diego: From Fiscal/Pension Crisis to Reform Exemplar?

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In the wake of the 2008 global economic crisis, public pension systems across the country have found themselves in one of the worst financial positions in recent history. In this paper, we consider the likely political and economic effects of public pension underfunding through a case study of the City of San Diego. Although San Diego has, until recently, represented the poster child for pension mismanagement, the city has also been held up as a national exemplar of pension reform following a dramatic decision to replace defined-benefit pensions with 401(k)-style plans for most city employees in June 2010. We argue that San Diego presents an important cautionary tale about both the fiscal impact of poorly managed public pensions and the limits of reform to right past wrongs. In addition to surveying the root and proximate causes of the city’s exploding pension liability, we explain how pension underfunding has given rise to a citywide fiscal and political crisis that has paralyzed local government. We also recount how strategic conservative leaders have capitalized on the city’s financial problems to transform the local public debate dramatically and set the policy agenda. Although scholars have historically focused on structural conditions — including unemployment, population growth, and white flight — and political institutions as the primary drivers of urban fiscal crises, we argue that the public pensions deficits and political battles over pension reform will be the key fiscal issues confronting local governments in the coming decade.
The Art of Gardening: Intersections of the Creative Class and Community Gardens

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Community gardens are spaces in which multiple people come together in order to garden on a single, shared piece of land. These spaces have many benefits, including the urban presence of environmental amenities such as green space, increased food security, and a shared sense of community among participants. The popularity of community gardens has increased tremendously in recent years. According to the American Community Gardening Association, in 1996 there were 6,000 community gardens in the United States and Canada, while today, this number has grown to approximately 18,000. Community gardening projects often utilize the creative expertise of both professional and amateur artists in the design process. Gardens represent a form of artistry in which the tools of the trade are natural substances such as trees, flowers, rocks, soil and water formations. However, few scholars have explored the role that artists and other creative individuals play in community gardens. This paper seeks to analyze the intersection between urban economic development strategies, art, and community gardens in order to gain a better understanding of the role that these amenities play in urban areas.
Environmental Policy Innovation: Do We Mean the Same Thing?

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The word innovation plays an interesting role in the policy realm because it allows us to overlay our individual hopes for change upon it. Consequently, it is a term used by all sides in the policy process. This can make it difficult for citizens and policy-makers to recognize, track, and advocate a policy agenda. Critical analysis of policy innovation claims within contested policy arenas, such as education and the environment, clarify the values embedded in different understandings of innovation. This paper will focus on how the concept of innovation is defined and measured in the environmental policy arena by comparing the role of innovation in the Exxon Valdez and Deepwater Horizon oil spills. Twenty years apart, the spills momentarily reminded the nation of the catastrophic risk associated with oil production. In the wake of each event there was criticism of abatement and clean up technologies, environmental regulation, and a clamor for change. This paper will examine the aftermath of each spill for evidence of environmental policy innovation as measured through improvements to the regulation of oil extraction, transportation, and spill abatement and clean up. As we move toward policies that promote sustainability, measuring environmental policy innovation increases transparency and allows cities and their citizens to be more strategic in the pursuit of environmental policies that embody an authentic spirit of innovation. As the fuel of the global economy, oil production provides a significant example of the challenges to policy innovation faced by citizen and policy-makers at all levels. If we are not clear about what constitutes policy innovation, we risk continuation of the status quo under the guise of innovation.
Revisiting Neighborhood Change in West Philadelphia

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Studies of university-driven change in West Philadelphia during and after the University of Pennsylvania’s West Philadelphia Initiatives relied on case-study driven and ethnographic accounts of the change. Recent data releases from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS) and Longitudinal Employment and Housing Dynamics (LEHD) provides dimension and complexity to the narrative of changing demographics in university-adjacent neighborhoods. This paper will also review qualitative data from an earlier study of this area to present data that confirms or contradicts the hopes, fears and predictions of community residents, university administrators and other area stakeholders.
Toward a Theory of Urban Flash Mob Violence

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In the summer of 2011, the city of Milwaukee was reeling from a series of mob violence by African-American teenagers. Adolescents attacked fairgoers, looted carnival prizes, and vandalized cars at the Wisconsin State Fair, attacked and robbed a group watching the July Fourth fireworks, looted a local gas station en masse, and caused disturbances at a suburban mall. Since 2006, over 200 violence and criminal "flash mobs" of black adolescents have engaged in similar actions, facilitated by social media and electronic communication. Despite their prominence, flash mobs have escaped serious academic inquiry, and we have failed to consider whether flash mobs are purposeful and rational acts reproducing urban unrest of the 1960s. This study provides the initial inquiry into flash mob violence within a broader study of urban flash mob violence as political violence. What is a flash mob? What are the precipitating factors and activities of flash mobs? What is the local and national context surrounding them? What has been the political reaction? This research uses multiple cases of flash mobs in Chicago, Milwaukee, and Philadelphia to build a theory of urban flash mob violence. I outline the common contexts, participants, activities, and results of flash mobs in these cases. I situate flash mobs within local and historical contexts of racial segregation, income inequality, renewal and gentrification, police repression, and other conditions that affect the participants and their communities. I provide a definition of flash mobs and theory about their actions as a foundation that seeks to broaden academic inquiry into this area of urban violence.
Who Stays and Who Goes?: The Racial and Gendered Impact of Shrinking Cities

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A number of studies examine the realities of population loss in urban areas, particularly medium sized cities. This paper examines the racial and gendered impact of shrinking cities. As medium-sized cities down-size, neighborhood dynamics regarding race and gender are altered. Particular attention is given to the changes in proximity to neighborhood resources like community groups, medical facilities, grocery stores, and places of worship, as well as employment opportunities, schools, and playground amenities. Additionally, the research notes changes with voting patterns, changing boundaries of precincts, and changes in district boundaries as a result of population loss in medium-sized cities. Based on qualitative research and a close reading of the report on community indicators put together by municipalities, practices of community-making that intertwine with class, race, and ethnicity are explored.
Socioeconomic and Residential Spatial Differences Between Urban and Rural Migrants in Beijing

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Cities under market economy are often characterized by their magnitude of social, economic and spatial differences. In China’s transition towards a more market oriented economy, a more stratified social group hierarchy has formed according to their socio-economic and institutional differences. Earlier studies have focused on the institutional divide based on household hukou registration studying the local and migrant differences in cities. This paper explores further the urban rural registration differences among migrant households in city of Beijing. Although institutionally these two groups are both excluded from the social welfare provision living in cities, this paper attempt to explore whether their socio-economic and residential result variations in city of Beijing are due to their institutional differences (being urban or rural) or mainly sorted out spatially by their socio-economic conditions.
The Uses of Urban China in a San Francisco Art Institution

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Chinese urbanism and art have become enormous phenomena in the last decade, reflecting the flow of transnational capital to/from China and its global impact. The emergence of contemporary Chinese art as a trendy field was organized with immense marketing efforts and through the establishment of new structures on both sides of the Pacific Ocean. This paper focuses on the circulation of art from East Asia in contemporary San Francisco, specifically the Asian Art Museum and its “appetite” for East Asian paintings and sculptures, reflected in a major show: Asian Art Museum’s Shanghai in 2010. The exhibit re-evokes an old “brand” of consumable urban, colonial Shanghai, more than focusing on the new hypertrophic urbanism of the city. I argue that the Shanghai show reflected a cultural politics aimed at orienting California culture towards the “new” China. This process involves considerable work of translation and contextualization of the artworks before they become consumable by California audiences and investors, and this contextualization of Shanghai as suspended between past and future is the heart of my analysis. Taking into account curatorial practices and promotional materials related to the show, my paper describes the way in which this exhibit encourages the consumption of Asian culture through its packaging for traditional San Franciscan elites and for recent, wealthy Asians working in the high-tech sector in Northern California. These two different audiences led the museum to take a paradoxical approach: on the one hand, adopting classic tropes of discovery, exoticism, decaying urban ruins, and colorful excessiveness of the East Asian city; on the other hand, the show is full of promise for the future developments of China, and it expresses an innovative, youthful image of Asian cosmopolitan cultures. In these discourses, San Francisco cultural institutions position themselves in a dialogue with the Pacific Rim. Yet, in this “new” exchange, one can find reiterations of the past forms of Orientalism, recuperated with a new political function: reassuring the white, upper and middle classes, who are invited to be educated spectators and global consumer citizens, while still considering their tastes at the center of the art world – an assumption that is quickly eroding.
The Urban Process, The Monetary Circuit, and Land

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David Harvey's influential account of the urban process is one of the most important contributions to urban theory over the past forty years. The global economic crisis that began in 2007, also known as "the Great Recession," gives considerable importance to Harvey's theory. According to the theory, a general overaccumulation of capital frequently causes declining profitability in the "primary circuit," defined as one in which goods and services are produced and consumed over relatively short time periods, causing capital investment to "switch" to a "secondary circuit," involving commodities produced and consumed over long time periods and largely consisting of the built environment. Combined with Harvey's own theory of class monopoly rent, this theory of the urban process potentially offers a compelling account of the causes of the Great Recession, including the increase in subprime lending and the real estate bubble in the U.S. housing market that precipitated the crisis. This paper critically examines Harvey's theory, and draws on heterodox economics to extend it three ways. First, finding Harvey's treatment of money insufficient, the paper recasts Harvey's theory by integrating it with the heterodox theory of "the monetary circuit." Second, it introduces specific mechanisms from the literature on real estate cycles and land speculation to allow investment in the built environment to be decomposed into investment in structures and land rent. Third, based on the work of Godley and Keen, the paper develops a simulation model to investigate the dynamics of Harvey's original account of the urban process and the revised version including the monetary circuit and the explicit treatment of land rent as separate from structures. The paper uses the simulations to draw implications for further empirical research and policy.
Spatial Representation, Economy, and Marginalization of the Poor: Three Discourses on Two Theme Parks

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Festival Marketplaces or Theme Parks - urban tourist attractions designed for the express consumption-oriented entertainment of visitors - exist as Spaces of Representation. Designed not for local residents, they are intended to provide tourists with an experience of place referencing real places while creating environments so calculated and controlled they are rendered "oblivious to the real needs and traditions of [inhabitants]"[Crawford, 1992]. Postmodern representations of Castell's Spaces of Flows, Theme Parks exist outside of any local context as disconnected nodes with interstitial spaces, more linked to like spaces in other geographic locales than to their local contexts. Simultaneously, cities use Theme Parks as a redevelopment tool, utilizing the model to repurpose decaying, outdated industrial and waterfront spaces as revenue generators. These spaces are not created with the deliberate intent of shaping "[the] public realm...as urban theater...in which a pacified public basks in the grandeur of a carefully orchestrated corporate spectacle..." but rather to meet the more customary redevelopment goals of economic development and revitalization (Boyer, 1993). And though in theory job opportunities for the poor increase, more often the resulting growth of white-collar employment in the financial, insurance and real estate sectors means gentrification and the redevelopment of additional underutilized or devalued spatial territories of the city, displacing the poor from the neighborhoods they formerly inhabited and pushing them into congested or peripheral parts of town (Ibid). Thus, far from offering opportunity to the poor, these changes can marginalize them further. How can three such disparate discourses be braided together to inform one another and offer deeper understanding of the roles and meanings of Theme Parks? This paper examines this question through both qualitative and quantitative analysis of data and information gathered through primary observation, public documents, and research literature. Two case studies are developed: Baltimore’s Harborplace and San Francisco’s Pier 39 and north waterfront. Key Findings: Visitors accept these representations of the cities they visit as experiencing that city; In cities where the privatization of public space is an issue, the disconnection of the local population from these Theme Parks excludes these spaces from this debate; While the revenue stream provided by Theme Parks is significant, resulting development amplifies negative effects on lower-income populations. Additional case studies would add complexity and depth to these findings. Boyer, M. Christine. "The City of Illusion: New York’s Public Places." In The Restless Urban Landscape. ed: Paul L. Knox. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice Hall, 1993. Crawford, Margaret. "The World in a Shopping Mall." In Variations on a Theme Park: The New American City and the End of Public Space. ed: Michael Sorkin. New York: Hill and Wang, 1992.
How We Work Together: Measuring Regional Collaboration in Economic Development

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There has been an increasing amount of research on regional collaboration among local governments, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and policy makers in metropolitan areas in order to confront numerous and growing economic development multi-jurisdictional challenges. However, there is little agreement on what "collaboration" is and how it should be measured. This paper will review the state of the literature with regard to both how regional collaboration is defined as well as how it has been operationalized in both the academic and in the evaluation literature with regard to multi-sectoral economic development policy making. It will also offer additional ways of measuring collaboration and modifications of already-used methodologies that would enhance measurement, comparison, and evaluation of collaboration within and across metropolitan regions.
Financialization and Changing Social Relations of Rent

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Real estate’s expanded role in the global financial system entails significant transformations in local urban landscapes and conditions of daily life for residents. Involving questions of access to power, resources and space, lived experiences of home are thus as central to the financialization of housing as high-level capital flows. Yet among researchers at the intersection of society, economy and space, housing is often framed as a site of capital extraction where the experiences—and struggles—of people are curiously absent. This paper fleshes out the politics of financialization through bringing the perspectives of city residents affected by this process into the conversation. I draw on focus groups conducted with tenants of rent-regulated properties in New York City that private equity funds purchased at inflated prices during the mid-2000s real estate boom. Framing affordable rental properties as underperforming assets, this strategy aimed to secure investor returns by deregulating units and raising rents to market rates. Private institutional investment into rental housing speaks to changing social relations of rent as actors on global finance markets replace key local real estate actors. Investors’ financial risks become embodied in ill effects on tenants’ well-being, health, social and familial relationships and housing security. Despite the change in actors, these material experiences of exploitation are strikingly similar to that of tenants who underwent the urban disinvestment of the 1970s. Yet the distancing of key actors from these consequences of their investment tactics, and the proliferation of layers of intermediaries between tenants and investor-landlords, limits tenants’ power to exert social and political pressures on landlords. The toll of financialization on renters highlights the tensions between the city as a site of capitalist production and the imperative of social reproduction for city residents.
“Festivalisation” of Urban Governance in South African Cities

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The relation between mega-events and urban development has been discussed for the past twenty years with an increasing awareness of the implications for urban policies. Most of the literature has been focusing on mega-events in the “global north”. Those events are said to have been instrumentalized by city authorities and politicians to promote specific local agendas of inter alia economic growth, infrastructure projects and place branding. Although the sustainability of impacts and legacies in these fields is highly contested by ex-post evaluations, the success story of mega-events has not been questioned in earnest. Indeed, the competition to become a future host seems to have increased around the globe, and is especially gaining ground in emerging nations of the “global south”. Hence, there has been a debate if the implications for this new type of host cities are similar to those in the “global north”, or if a new kind of understanding would be required. This paper is based on a research project on two South African host cities of the Soccer World Cup 2010. Using a comparative approach, and based on the identification of similarities and dissimilarities, we have developed a hypothesis of two types of “Festivalisation”. These types represent the different poles on a spectrum of pathways of hosting an event on the urban governance scale and produce different legacies in the hosting cities. On the one hand, considerable impacts and changes on urban development – due to the hosting – can be tagged as “driven by the event” (Johannesburg has some features of this type), while on the other hand existing configurations of actors and a set of established policies were “driving the event” (Durban relates more to this configuration). Our assumption is therefore that (a) different regimes of governance are promoting different ways of handling the challenges associated to the hosting and (b) that those two variations of “Festivalisation” also have different consequences and effects for the lived realities of the respective residents at a local scale. In our understanding, the latter is an arena in which urban governance policies are renegotiated or rejected and the classification made above can be challenged. We will argue that only the bringing together of both spheres provides a profound understanding of the process of mega-event implementation and it’s legacies. To sum up, we argue that the understanding of the effects of mega-event hosting on urban development have to be understood in the light of respective strengths and weaknesses of the specific types of urban governance in any given host city.
Analysing the Participatory Budget of Mexico City: Where Does it Stand?

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Citizen participation schemes have been implemented widely in Mexico City since the arrival of the left-wing Democratic Revolutionary Party in 1997. The implementation of these mechanisms was accompanied by the establishment of a citizen participation legislation, which includes over 12 different forms of citizen interaction in decision-making processes such as the referendum and the plebiscite. Recent reforms have given a prominent role to the implementation of the participatory budget, transforming Mexico City into the largest metropolitan area -worldwide- where such policy is carried out. The aim of this paper is to analyse the way the participatory budget has been applied in Mexico City so far. The analysis includes a look at the territorial structure, the yearly budgetary cycle, as well as the process of empowerment enjoyed by the population. The paper ends questioning some of the "true" reasons behind the implementation of such a policy. This work can be of the interest of academics, practitioners and all those interested in learning more about one of the most successful public policies implemented over the last 25 years.
School Board Governance in a Post-Collective Bargaining Wisconsin

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The popular narrative of Wisconsin's collective bargaining battle was all about money. Should public employees pay more towards their healthcare? Can school districts offset state aid cuts using the tools of Scott Walker's Act 10? Does collective bargaining have a cost? The fiscal impact of Act 10 is of course important. However, the fiscal tools granted by Act 10 were merely the beginning. The true success or failure of Act 10 hinges on the way local governments use (or do not use) their newfound power to improve the delivery of services. Nowhere is the potential for Act 10 to impact (both negatively and positively) the quality of life of Wisconsin citizens higher, or more important, than school districts. This paper gives an overview of Wisconsin school boards, explains exactly how Act 10 increased their power, demonstrates why and how improved school board governance can impact student achievement, reviews the changes Wisconsin school boards are making because of Act 10's elimination of collective bargaining, and provides policy recommendations to improve both board governance behaviors and the quality of policies enacted by school boards. School boards are often an overlooked part of education reform. This case study of Wisconsin's changed governance environment will provide useful information for other states considering altering the way in which their public education system is governed.
Between Urban Decay and Urban Rejuvenation: Regulatory Gentrification As A New Instrument for Adaptive Neighbourhood Development.

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Cities are embedded in an ongoing transformation triggered and influenced by a mixture of political, economic, demographic, social and ecological changes. Cities constantly have to reinvent themselves in response to their changing environments while preserving their cultural and urban heritage at the same time. If they do not adapt to new conditions, they remain stuck in a status quo and risk succumbing to severe challenges like shrinkage or irrelevance; they lose their attractiveness and are finally unable to compete with other cities as destinations for residents, economic activity, and visitors. Urban renewal, more precisely urban upgrading processes, play a crucial role in helping cities find new ways to attract existing and future residents, especially in times of urban renaissance. Nevertheless, modern transformation processes are increasingly complex and demand comprehensive understanding, new concepts, and strategic solutions. Also, modern transformation processes might be initiated and framed by macro factors like globalization, neoliberalism, demographic change or urban renaissance. But macro factors cannot predict the spatial manifestation of those processes. One crucial outcome within the spatial context is gentrification which is strongly linked to urban strategies and upgrading processes of the physical structure in neighbourhoods. Gentrification has become more complex on several levels, including mechanisms, social differentiation, and perception of affected citizens. Gentrification is also taking place in new modalities, particularly through politically-initiated new construction that may not cause displacement, but still excludes lower income populations - by purpose or not. Finally, gentrification is already an inherent component within urban policies and representatives have to be aware of the need for more adaptive urban strategies which are capable to face processes at both macro and micro level. This paper implements a systematical cross-national comparison of urban policies and practices which might lead to a more complex understanding of the interaction between macro and micro trends manifesting in neighborhood development processes. It will contribute to the identification of actors involved within these processes and their motivation. It might also expand the discourse on how far gentrification processes can be controlled or regulated through urban planning in order to achieve the desired aims of urban upgrading processes. Therefore, this paper analyses three neighbourhoods in Williamsburg-Brooklyn in New York, Prenzlauer Berg-Pankow in Berlin and Mariahilf in Vienna in order to examine the link between larger strategies of urban adaptation, urban renewal or upgrading policies, and gentrification processes. Its findings will lead to recommendations for new urban strategies which can react more adaptively to transforming frameworks in times of economic crisis and fiscal shortages.
Right(s) to/and/in/of the City: a Legal Perspective on the Right to the City

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Recent years have seen an important academic interest in the Right to the City. At the same time, several initiatives from civil society, local governments and international organisations claimed to further this right, unleashing at times some controversy. Even if these initiatives have occasionally taken a legal form, legal scholars have rarely engaged with the topic of the Right to the City. The paper will thus offer input on the question from a legal perspective with the use of a multifaceted typology, but without attempting to prescribe any kind of legal form for the Right to the City. Based on numerous case studies, the typology is tentatively called Right(s) to/and/in/of the City. While it remains to be determined if institutional initiatives like local human rights charters (ie, the Montreal Charter of Rights and Responsibilities) can help urban dwellers exercise their Right "to" the City, they could certainly be classified under a Right "and" the City category. Local governments having human rights responsibilities under national and international law, it can be argued that they are only recognising these responsibilities and explicitly exercising them. At the same time, the Right and the City needs to be differentiated from the Right "in" the City, since the fulfilment of rights in the city passes through the actions of several actors, public and private. Finally, the adoption of these initiatives can be said to reflect a certain Right "of" the City, meaning the desire of local governments to influence the national and international human rights regimes. But several questions still need to be answered in regard to the proposed typology, a task this paper will try to address. For example, can the typology be helpful beyond law? While it doesn't aim to define the Right to the City, can it help delimitate its boundaries? Is the intrinsic link made by the typology between human rights and the Right to the City correct?
Municipal Restructuring, Elected Officials and Inclusion: Advantages?

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During and after the restructuring of the City of Montréal, elected officials were interviewed in order to explore how the amalgamations affected policies, programs and interventions aimed at integrating and/or accommodating minority groups and disadvantaged groups (immigrants, ethnic communities, the poor and women). Most of the elected officials interviewed had been opposed to the amalgamations or had been very ambivalent about the issue. Focusing on the policies with regard to minority groups and the disadvantaged, the results of the research shows that elected officials from boroughs, which were municipalities before amalgamation, see advantages different from those put forward by councilors from previously existing boroughs. On the whole, both types of councilors see advantages in the restructuring, but there are drawbacks. Other factors also have a strong impact on the adoption of policies. Civil servants and community groups were also interviewed and they have different versions of how the policies, programs and interventions were established. The research reveals how changes come about in municipal policies from the point of view of elected officials but also from the viewpoint of civil servants and community groups.
A Long-Historical Approach to Deindustrialization in Reading Pennsylvania: First-mover Cities, Environment, and Urban Restructuring

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In September of 2011, The New York Times reported that Reading, Pennsylvania had edged out Flint, Michigan has having the largest poverty rate amongst cities with over 65,000 residents. This article is not surprising, nor unique in its tale of deindustrialization in America. This paper, however, offers a new narrative of deindustrialization in Pennsylvania and Rust Belt cities, by introducing natural resources and infrastructure to the story of first-mover cities - cities that industrialized in the 19th century. Although it is commonly applied to firms, the first-mover advantage argues that early entry into a market gives a firm advantages ranging from market-share to leadership status. Firms, however, do not operate in a vacuum. As Molotch (1976) argued, cities are often growth machines in which political and business interests push growth. This makes the first-mover advantage of firms bound to the location of their operations. In particular, I argue that the advantages first-mover cities possess in the 1800s made it difficult to adapt when American industry shifted from coal to oil in the 20th century. In Reading, this was compounded by the reluctance of its local “growth machine” to respond to the national shift from Anthracite coal to other energy sources, as well as from railroads to automobiles. This ultimately caused the city to lag in the second half of the twentieth century, while other regions with second-mover cities saw a boom. Finally, this approach is not intended to be environmentally determinist. This paper will also discuss the role local leaders played in the city's decline.
Revisiting Lessons from HUD's COPC Program: University-Community Partnerships for Community Development 10 years later

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In 1994, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) launched the Community Outreach Partnership Center (COPC) program to foster and support collaborations between institutions of higher education and their communities. COPC was HUD’s primary vehicle for engaging colleges and universities in community development. A final report was produced in 2002 to distill lessons about the challenges and contributions of campus-community partnerships and about how community outreach efforts like those supported by COPC were being institutionalized by colleges and universities. This paper/poster revisits the COPC framework by following up with university grantees and describing how university-community partnership models have adapted to political and economic changes over the past 10 years, including the defunding of COPC in 2005. Through data collected from program reviews, surveys and telephone interviews, this paper will examine if key findings from the final report about the nature and development of outreach, partnerships and institutionalization remain true. Some of the key questions: Have university grantees been able to maintain their community outreach activities? What types of community outreach activities are being implemented? What kinds of partnerships have academic institutions forged with their communities, and to what end? How, and to what extent, have colleges and universities institutionalized their community outreach and partnership activities?
The High Water Mark: Bankrupt Cities and the Future of the Exurbs

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After Wells Fargo repossessed the new city hall, it was a clear sign that Stockton, California was in deeper trouble than imagined. Since 2008, things have gone from bad to worse for the central valley city of nearly 300,000. On two separate occasions, Forbes magazine deemed the city the Most Miserable City in America. Nationally ranked in home foreclosure, unemployment, and crime, the Central Valley exurban city has been in the major media spotlight. In response to this form of national recognition, city leaders and boosters launched a campaign to revive Stockton’s bruised image, rather than attempt to counter the host of social problems that got the city on the list in the first place. After filing for fiscal emergency for the past three years and trying to figure a way out of this period of peril, on June 26, 2012, Stockton became the largest municipality to file for bankruptcy. This paper focuses on the new challenges that are being experienced in communities of the nation. While fiscal crisis, depopulation, and retrenchment are nothing new in the American metropolis, urban development literature of the last thirty years has centered on the Growth Machine and its focus on times of prosperity; however, recent events (i.e. global fiscal crisis) call into question the relevance of this theoretical approach. In this paper, I will explore the events and processes leading up to the municipal bankruptcy of Stockton. After analyzing these developments, I will draw comparisons with past forms of urban fiscal crisis. Finally, I will outline similarities between the current crisis and the previous urban crisis, while explaining what makes this case a significantly new social phenomenon. Overall, the purpose of this paper is to uncover new ways of understanding the culture of cities in response to the current urban crisis and how crisis transforms the social, political and cultural landscapes of the contemporary metropolitan fringe.
**Neighborhood Disinvestment, Abandonment and Crime Dynamics**

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The consequences of urban depopulation, disinvestment and abandonment have been of longstanding interest. As demand for a neighborhood wanes, owners of homes and apartments face intensified incentives to defer maintenance, mortgage and property tax payments and, ultimately, may abandon their properties if no buyers can be identified. Increasingly, the remnant population in such neighborhoods is comprised of those who cannot afford to move. Eventually, empty, dilapidated properties blight the environs until they can be demolished, ultimately creating swaths of vacant territory where once a vibrant community stood. The full costs of this process are incalculable, but the erosion of residents' quality of life, property owners' equity, and jurisdictions' tax base is palpable. All this is well-known. What is not known is how this process of urban disinvestment and abandonment influences crime dynamics in the vicinity. Filling this gap will be the goal of our paper. We ask the following research question: To what extent do a wide variety of block-level indicators of neighborhood decline (rates of: poverty, renter occupancy, vacant housing, abandoned buildings, vacant land, e.g.) predict a wide range of crime types during the subsequent quarter, controlling for a variety of other socio-demographic and physical characteristics of the block and crime conditions in nearby blocks? We employ 2009-2010 data for Detroit and analyze their interrelationships using negative binomial regression techniques. We find that several neighborhood attributes are consistently associated with all types of crime (renter-occupancy, vacant land, population density, establishments with liquor licenses) while other attributes are only associated with particular types of crime. The results suggest that processes of disinvestment and abandonment generate a distinctly nonlinear pattern in the rate of growth in neighborhood crimes that vary in timing and intensity by crime type. Our study contributes to the scholarship on urban neighborhoods and crime in at least four ways. First, we offer a theoretical framework for understanding why the neighborhood decline process could produce a nonlinear, type-specific pattern of crime responses. Second, we analyze the most comprehensive set of micro-scaled indicators of the neighborhood physical environment ever assembled for the investigation of crime. Third, we employ a rich set of neighborhood population characteristics as controls. Fourth, we analyze a variety of crime types to obtain a nuanced portrait of the dynamics of neighborhood decline and crime.
Occupy Canada! The Nature of Local Political Space in Law and Practice

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In 2011, the Occupy! movement was active in cities across Canada. Protestors occupied spaces from coast to coast, and in the largest and smallest cities. They occupied land that lies on a spectrum from fully public to fully private. Finally, they were met with various responses from the stewards of the land, including local governments, universities, and businesses. In this paper, we examine three sources of knowledge about the protests and the spaces that were occupied: 1) Canadian property law, 2) chronicles of the protests, 3) and actors' perceptions of the property that was occupied. We analyze court rulings related specifically to the Occupy protests, as well as those that provide the wider foundation of Canadian property law; we gather accounts of the protests in the news media and elsewhere; and we present the results of interviews with both participants in local Occupy movements and the government and private-sector respondents to the protests. Each source provides an insight into the nature -- in law and in practice -- of land that is used politically in Canadian cities. Taken together and as influences on one another, these sources contribute to a more general definition of whether spaces of protest are defined as public or private in Canadian cities, what public and private mean, and what types of political uses are deemed legitimate and acceptable in various settings. Ultimately, we advance not only insights into how space, politics, and law intersect in Canadian cities, but also contribute to the literature that theorizes and conceptualizes urban space.
Housing Search Processes and the Limits of Choice in Subsidized Housing Programs

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Experimental housing evaluations, such as the Experimental Housing Allowance Program and the Moving to Opportunity Demonstration, have consistently shown, despite policymakers' expectations, that poor families rarely leverage housing voucher subsidies to access better neighborhoods. Previous research has suggested that systemic constraints, such as discrimination, racial in-group preferences, and a need for poor families to live near kin networks explain these outcomes. However, these models assume that families engage in traditional housing search processes. This paper challenges that assumption by exploring the highly truncated search processes used by poor families to collect information about available properties, evaluate these properties, and select a unit. We use over 100 qualitative interviews conducted with poor black women in Baltimore, MD, who signed up for a housing mobility program designed to help families relocate to low-poverty neighborhoods. These interviews lasted between two and three hours and contain detailed data on the families' residential trajectory (before and after receiving the subsidy), their search processes and considerations, and their experiences working with housing counselors. About 75% of our sample moved with the program, and 25% were in the queue, but had not yet gotten a subsidy. We find that search processes for both subsidized and unsubsidized families are short, even within the already constrained choice set. When unsubsidized families are dissatisfied with their current house, they rarely engage in an extended search. Instead, they move based on a chance opportunity, often learned about from a family member or friend, without full knowledge of alternatives. Mobility vouchers, which expand the choice set, do not appear to catalyze more intensive searches. Instead, participating families rely heavily on the recommendations of their counselors, occasionally leasing properties sight unseen. We hypothesize that this behavior comes from "learned satisficing"; poor families' history of low-quality housing in disadvantaged neighborhoods leads them to assume that one neighborhood is as bad as the next, that they can survive anywhere, and little is to be gained from search. This satisficing can have negative consequences. Basing a search on chance opportunities limits residential options to those of similar kind and quality, reinforcing existing spatial inequalities. Housing counseling can improve outcomes, but when subsidized families do not engage in the search process, they run the risk of making moves ill-suited for their particular needs. This can prevent them from integrating socially and economically into their new communities. We conclude with a discussion of how understanding search processes can help explain persistent segregation by race and income, and also aid in designing housing programs that can help families escape high poverty neighborhoods.
Mega event stadia: important agents on the process of urban regeneration

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Brazil, has been well known worldwide for its deep relation with soccer as its national sport. Through the last century this sport modality has become a strong branch of the entertainment industry and it has brought with it the need of more efficient stadia specially regarding the urban regeneration aspect. The massive growth of Brazilian cities during the 60's and 70's and the development of soccer industry in the last decades have exposed the incapability of Brazilian's huge concrete bowls built for soccer practice during the military regime to function as catalysts of urban change nor to accommodate fans. Clearly there is a great need of reviewing the archetypal of Brazilian stadia since the country will be the next host of the two greatest contemporary mega-events: the World Cup and the Summer Olympics. Furthermore, hosting this mega-events and the settlement of its sports industry can be understood as a possibility to develop urban infrastructure systems and social policies contributing for the regeneration of underdeveloped urban areas. This research focus on the analysis of the contemporary stadia built for mega-events starting from the comprehension of the design strategies proposed by these buildings which expect to become the centerpieces of a process of urban renewal. The research understands that the design trends proposed by contemporary stadia is a consequence of a set of architectural morphological transformations occurred during the 20th century, which incorporated new technologies and building systems to its conception, confirming a new function to this typology of building also responsible for the urban regeneration of parts of the city. The connection between the stadium and its surroundings suggests that this buildings must be designed together with infrastructure systems, which allow these great sports buildings to be placed near the city centre, a fundamental condition for these facilities to achieve the status of architectonic monument. Therefore, the systems of mass transportation are a key element on the stadia proposal, especially in the cases where these building will be venues of important sports events such as the summer Olympics or the World Cup. A critical analysis of contemporary stadia will identify the relation between this buildings and its host cities, using the mass transportation systems planned for mega-evens since Atlanta 1996 as an object of the study as well as the architectonic aspects that contribute for the stadium to boost the regeneration process instead of becoming a burden to the host city.
The Role of Cultural Promotion as an Integral Component of Leipzig's Urban Development

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After the reunification in 1990, Leipzig - as well as other East German cities - had to face the challenges of the new political-administrative system and an open global economy. Through the systematic implementation of its evolving urban development strategies, the city has developed positively in many areas. After the German reunification, most of Leipzig's districts lacked cultural leisure services that would have been fit for all age groups and close to their homes. In the early 1990s, the establishment of such urgently needed socio-cultural centers was initiated on the one hand by official authorities (the municipality and the Kulturamt) and on the other by the citizens themselves. Six initially municipal buildings are now independently operated. The city has not only subsidized this transformation but is also responsible for the structural maintenance of the houses. By the mid-90s, several socio-cultural centers were privatized, but only a few of them retained their function as cultural sites. Many newly founded associations and initiatives strove hard to maintain the existing or to develop new (albeit sometimes only temporary) cultural activities. In order to implement the latter, they were not only interested in the already established cultural sites, but particularly in former industrial structures or other buildings with a rich historical background. The best project in this effort is the world-famous Spinnerei. These urban environments offered vast opportunities for artists, the independent scene, cultural workers and creative industries alike. A large number of Leipzig's cultural institutions originated from civic engagement and were then, in times of economic recovery, incorporated into municipal ownership. Nowadays, they are threatened to be re-privatized as the city's means of cultural funding are gradually reaching their limits. But Leipzig planning officials still think that the promotion of cultural projects in the neighborhoods provides a climate where culture is respectfully seen as a precious opportunity for urban development. The city council recently allocated five percent of the city's cultural budget to the independent cultural scene. A well-functioning cultural promotion may in multiple ways have a positive influence on the development of neighborhoods. It might put a stop to the downward spiral in which several of Leipzig's districts are trapped at the moment. Through an extensive and varied offer of cultural activities, otherwise marginalized citizens can be integrated in social life and participate in democratic processes. Moreover, the livability and the outward image of the neighborhoods can be improved. In the near future, cultural funding will probably play an even more important role in the context of urban development in Leipzig.
Governance and negotiations between public actors, investors and civil society in a development project: the contested Triangle of Gonesse-ParisRegion

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This Paris case study concern the analysis of the "Triangle of Gonesse" Project, an urban complex with mainly economic purpose located in the Northern sector of the Paris Region. The project is a part of Grand Paris Transport project, support of territorial competitiveness in a globalization context. Some hard environmental constraints exist there, including farmlands preservation. In this framework, a big commercial, cultural and leisure project is planed: Europa City. The group Auchan develops it. At the same time, a "Triangle of Gonesse action group" has been formed by several citizens organisation against the project and particularly Europa City. In this context of private investment in a development project promoted by public actors with a metropolitan dimension for Paris and from which the environmental issues are defended by actors of the civil society, the questions of governance and negotiations between the three types of actors of the city involved (with different or even divergent interests) are particularly relevant. The qualitative analysis is based on the examination of the available documentation, the chronological approach of press coverage and political positions on the subject, and the interviews of a range of actors involved in the project. The French process of decentralization gave rise to a fragmentation of actors' systems. The pluralisation of the actors engenders a greater necessity of negotiation, transparency and coordination, but the processes of decision remains strongly opaque and the implication of the inhabitants still meet strong resistances. In Paris Region (Île-de-France), the horizontal interactions could be as much a "problem" as the vertical interactions (between central and local level). At the same time, the particular characteristics of the territory of Paris Region can also be precisely what allows more negotiations between actors. Besides, the relations between the implementation of a big equipment of commercial and leisure activities and the durability can seem contradictory. The negotiations with the private actors involved in the project and the needs of private investments can make more difficult the realization of the announced ambitions (for sustainability and citizens participation). Nevertheless, the ambitions shown regarding sustainable development can be tools of negotiations between the actors (notably towards civil society). The public actors use them particularly to legitimize Europa City's project towards the actors of the civil society. Indeed, rules and ambitions regarding sustainable development are tools for the associative mobilization to criticize the project and to point out its contradictions. The governance of the territorial development depends not only on the positioning of the public actors and on their leadership, but also on balance of power, which are established between them and the other actors, including investors and civil society.
Establishing Urban—Metropolitan Planning Coherence in Montreal: A Course Headed for Collision? Lessons and Constraints from the Montreal City Tier

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The Montreal Metropolitan Community (MMC) is characterized by a very complex institutional arrangement grouping 82 municipalities, of which the City of Montreal is the largest, and totally or partially encompassing 14 regional county municipalities (RCMs). The MMC Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan (MLUDP) was adopted in December of 2011 in the aftermath of public hearings that evidenced a surprisingly high level of consensus between the diverse stakeholders in the region. In stating that, subsequently, there ought to be coherence between the plans of the MMC and those of its constituent municipalities, the Act relating to the MMC was notably vague as to whether the metropolitan plan had precedence over municipal documents, or if the former was to be the sum of the latter. This presentation intends to cast a look at issues facing metropolitan planning, in particular that of coherence, leaning on the point of view of planning of the City of Montreal in conjunction with public debate. It stems from an analysis of three Montreal planning documents made the subject of public hearings since 2004: Montreal's Urban Master Plan in 2004 and two Special Planning Programs (SPPs) for the sector called Griffintown (the first one in 2008, the latest one in 2011-2012). The 2008 SPP was centered around a vast commercial and residential development project; the 2011-2012 hearings were held in order to try to establish a coherent upstream development plan for the same sector, beyond the numerous projects that are already underway or authorized. Outlining the evolution of these documents as shaped through their dialectics with public hearings and the effects of the latter raises troubling questions as to the nature of city planning in Montreal, as well as to its capacity to generate credible future visions and to enforce its goals and criteria in development projects. Thus, at this tier, planning appears to lag behind, instead of leading the wishes and actions of developers. Constraints stemming from the metropolitan tier or impacts of Montreal developments upon it are seldom taken in consideration. Also, implementation is a recurring issue among the public, evidencing great concern about the tenacity and sustainability of the planning system. How then to establish linkages between the planning of the City of Montreal and that of the MMC?
Will Capacity Building Lead to Implementation? The EPA's Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) uses a variety of policy instruments to carry out their mission, including: regulations, grants, research, incentives, partnerships and education (Ben-Joseph, 2005). In 2011 the EPA initiated the Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program (BBSC). The policy instrument for this program is capacity building: providing a one-day workshop and consultation with communities to enable them to generate ideas and implementation plans for more sustainable communities. This paper uses the literature on policy instruments to explore how capacity building differs from other policy instruments the EPA has used to promote principals of smart growth in U.S. communities. A framework by Downs (2005) is then used to analyze the pros and cons of capacity building, including the ability to overcome recognized barriers to the implementation of smart growth. Finally, participant observation from a Walkability Audit, one of the capacity building tools used by the EPA, in Corpus Christi, Texas, 2012, is used to generate questions for future research about capacity building as a policy tool for the implementation of smart growth principals.
Building the 21st Century City: Inclusion, Innovation and more than a Decade of Faith-Based Initiatives

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Delivering social services through faith-based initiatives is often crowded with negative images. The universal term stymies progress because it lacks clear definitions of what it means to be "faith-based", and how and to what impact are services delivered. To enhance implementation, studying, funding, partnering, and policy creation it is important to organize the vast array of faith-based agencies and their efforts to alleviate widespread poverty in the heart of 21st Century Cities. This paper revisits the establishment of the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, its scrutiny and support, some of it's intended and unintended consequences, as well as a variety of programs and evaluation over time, and moves to the revamped White House Office for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Initially, policy regulations such as: church-state rules, religious autonomy, beneficiary rights, religious liberties, financing, grant compliance, transparency, and documentation, as well as broad buy-in were unclear or not present. A survey of the faith-based initiative spanning over ten years of the ebb and flow demonstrates the dynamic process of policy making. The paper underscores the continuity and change throughout two presidential administrations, and changing public interests and agendas. Guided by John W. Kingdon's multiple-streams policy analysis framework, this paper illuminates the role that values, power, and politics have played in the complex and ambiguous process. The paper discusses continuity and changes, as well as suggests innovations progressing forward that include faith-based initiatives addressing social ills in our cities. Faith-based social services can exemplify much of what is trustworthy alleviating the suffering in poverty, but it also faces troubles common to nonprofits and community-based organizations everywhere. These challenges are increased when policies and regulations are unclear, funding and reporting is inconsistent, and overall public support is fickle and impatient to try to address long-term public support on complex issues. Many scholars and politicians have articulated the origins and consequences of social problems. Yet, successful faith-based resolutions remain underrepresented in urban planning discourse. Though the faith-based reputation is clearly dappled, the initiatives that exist in this subsector, in cities everywhere, must be included as a voice in addressing urban problems. Their work, alongside that of many others, will contribute to the innovations needed to face new challenges while improving the quality of life among America's most vulnerable residents.
Can Administrative Professional Development Increase Student Achievement?  
Case Study: New York City

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The professional development of school administrators is substantially of great significance for any educational institution because successful instructive leadership is essential to conveying developments and progress in all actions, establishments, and procedures that promote the terms of teaching and learning. As such, educational administration, educational associations, and other leadership affiliates are consequently more and more turning their awareness to the development of approaches to concentrate on the professional development of leaders. Measuring the performance of any school administrator is central and demanding. It is central because administrative performance measurements offer schools supplementary methods to ensure liability for outcomes and strengthen the significance of empirical management. After teachers, principals and administrators are the most prominent learning influences in student success (Leithwood, Louis, Anderson, & Wahlstrom, 2004). Administrative performance measurements also present knowledge with which to put together expert education strategies and map qualified development. Such evaluations are also necessary because effective administrative practices are sometimes not perceptible. As a result, how can administrative professional development increase academic performance in the classroom and on standardized tests? Effectual administration is one of the most significant developmental phases of school success. However, a NCREL study found that 70 percent of principals feel 'somewhat' or 'completely' unprepared to be instructional leaders. Like teachers, administrators are also seeking to be the best at leading their cohort of teachers and gain the benefits from professional development designed specifically for them. In order for education administrators to be effective leaders, collaboration amongst all administrators, teachers, and staff should be supported by all. The ability to cultivate trust is very important for those directing collaborative relationships (Tschannen-Moran, 2001). Trust is accumulated on understanding and account. How intentions and behaviors are perceived affects whether trust can be achieved. If there is trust, people or groups will share. If personal agendas are included or implied, the participating groups and individuals will be reluctant to become involved in the collaboration. Importance of professional development Today, most principals and administrators have a college degree(s) along with a school building or district leader certificate. In some instances, these leaders are sent to workshops based on the accessibility of funds along with the availability in their schools. Based on a 2001 National Staff Development Council publication delineating standards for staff development, there is an escalating concurrence about the distinctiveness of effective professional development.
Urban Inequality in Comparative Perspective: Transnational Experiences in the Americas

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Social inequality is inherent and constitutive for the production of urban space. Due to urban transformation processes in the course of globalization and neoliberalisation, urban inequalities have become more prevalent and also more complex: urbanites cannot easily be distinguished any more by socio-economic parameters measuring the vertical dimension of poverty but by a whole range of horizontal measures such as race, gender, life style, and political engagement. Thus, we would like to contribute to a session on rethinking urban poverty. First, we pledge for a transnational perspective on urban inequality. By focusing on qualitative and structural approaches that cause and produce inequalities in different parts of the world, invisible forms of misrecognition and discrimination that go beyond class, race and gender can be understood. A comparative perspective between cities in the American South and North can help to understand the opaque dimensions of a 'naturalisation' of urban inequality. It can also offer a new framework for urban research by using comparisons "not as a method but as a theoretical strategy" to analyze inequality (Robinson 2012). Secondly, we would like to focus on experiences of everyday life in order to grasp the multidimensional aspects of urban disproportions. Inequality is experienced, strengthened and reproduced through every day negotiations. Thus, a so-called "geography of the possible" (Winter 2007) can be portrayed that takes into account the "creativity of action" (Joas 1994) of marginalized groups in their heterodox daily lives (De Certeau 1988; Lefebvre 1974). Finally, the concept of urban citizenship might help to engage in search for the "just city" because it addresses the right to "appropriate urban space" (Purcell 2003) for all urban inhabitants. Thus, we would like to understand how these rights can be claimed within different urban and political contexts.
Portlandia: A Historical Perspective on the "Melanin-Free" Zone

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This paper explores the historical genesis and evolution of how Portland achieved the dubious distinction of being the whitest city in America, yet again in 2010. While Portland prides itself on being an environmentally conscious, civically-engaged planning mecca that attracts the young and creative, it is overwhelmingly white in population and culture. Historically, this lack of racial and ethnic diversity has meant that whites are isolated from people of color, and "denied the pleasure" of their "company", as writer Zora Neale Hurston lamented. This paper explores the reasons why the Black population, in particular, has remained so small, by examining Oregon's historic policy of racial exclusion and the nature of economic opportunity for Black workers. It focuses on two key periods in Oregon history: the mid-nineteenth and mid-twentieth centuries. In 1859, by popular vote, Oregonians rejected slavery, yet placed an exclusion clause in the constitution that excluded Blacks and free Negroes from residence and prohibited real estate ownership. This helped to discourage black migrants and the population remained tiny until 1941, when the bombing of Pearl Harbor began the Pacific war theatre of World War II. Then Portland's shipbuilding industry attracted laborers, and the Black population increased ten-fold by 1945. After war industry employment dried up many Black war workers left Portland, more than any other west coast city. In addition, Oregon's second largest city, Vanport, built to house war workers in 1942, flooded in 1948, leaving thousands of families stranded. What role did the flood and its aftermath play in the out-migration? Today, African Americans comprise less than seven percent of the city and two percent of the state. Historian Quintard Taylor cites the lack of post-war employment opportunity in Portland (compared to ample opportunity at Boeing in Seattle) as the reason that Portland's Black population fell during this period, and why it remains small. This paper evaluates the evidence on exclusionary practices, employment opportunity, and the flood, to understand the stagnation of the Black population in Portland.
The Non-gated Gated Community of Stapleton, Colorado

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Stapleton is one of the largest urban infill projects in the US to date, currently being built on the site of Denver's former international airport. As a smart-growth community, the master plan calls for many ambitious and benevolent social, environmental, and economic goals: aiming to become a well-integrated community of inclusiveness, promoting internal citizen diversity by providing diverse land-use and housing options, and integrating externally through fostered connections to surrounding, already established neighborhoods. However, today, ten years after construction began, Stapleton is [anecdotally] referred to as a "non-gated gated community." Census data reveals that Stapleton is socio-economically and ethnically homogenous, and observational analysis reveals a lack of strong connections to the surrounding community. This led us to ask: what borders exist in and around Stapleton today, and do they prevent the community from achieving its original goals? To address this issue, we first conducted a site inventory and analysis of Stapleton's physical design and then hosted multiple walking interviews with small groups of Stapleton residents to gain insight into community dynamics. Findings reveal an array of physical and non-physical borders that clearly affect the community. This study is intended to contribute to ongoing discourse about integrating urban infill communities into the already existing urban fabric.
How to Rebuild, Renew and Revitalize a Black Neighborhood

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In the second half of the twentieth century many black inner city neighborhoods went fell into decline, disrepair, poverty, and crime. In Louisville, East Russell was no different and was ranked as one of the most dangerous, impoverished, and unsustainable neighborhoods among Louisville’s 170 neighborhoods. Black and white elites leaders along with the Mayor called for the entire neighborhood to be bulldozed. A grassroots effort led by residents, fought back with support from non-profits, elected leaders, newspaper, HUD, housing developers and the University of Louisville. Over the past twenty years something remarkable happened with this neighborhood—it was reborn into a vibrant and sustainable neighborhood without the usual negative consequences of black displacement. Since 1992, crime rates have fallen by one-half; home ownership and property values have risen steadily; and housing foreclosures have been zero. Additionally, new local businesses like coffee shops, art galleries, and upscale wine/restaurant and a large African American History museum have been developed. Roughly 575 housing units have undergone complete renovations, 200 houses have been built with zero foreclosures in this neighborhood. Over half the residents have given up cars with public transportation, biking and walking now predominate mode of “getting around.” Community gardens and tree planting have also taken place. Plans are being made for conversion of the destructive multi-lane one-ways to slower two-way with bike lanes, community murals and give story factory building has been gutted to become an economic development engine. This is not your typical gentrification story of higher income whites pushing out blacks rather it remains black but with a greater mixture of incomes. East Russell is one of only a few neighborhoods that have undergone successful urban regeneration.
Texas Colonias: Citizen Participation and Community Development

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The US-Mexico Border area experienced economic growth resulting on increasing migration to the Border States, both in Mexico and the U.S. Looking on the Texas side, McAllen, Brownsville, and Laredo are the metropolitan areas that attracted most population. The lack of affordable housing in these rapidly growing cities resulted on the growth of low-income settlements on their outskirts, known as colonias. The size, location, and evolution of colonias in Texas are diverse. Some are very small, some are relatively large; others are old and some are still emerging. Some colonias have been incorporated into the cities next to them, and a few have become "stand-alone" cities. What is not clear is what is behind this seemingly erratic trend. What is being observed is that some colonias are becoming "communities" where residents express a certain level of "satisfaction" with their neighborhood; and also it is observed an emergence of strong grassroots organizations voicing these growing communities' needs and aspirations. This objective of this paper is to understand what factors are behind this evolution. In our study we present two cases: the first case is Colonias Unidas, a grassroots organization that was fundamental on getting land title to residents in Las Lomas, one of the many colonias in Starr County, Texas. The second case is El Cenizo, a colonia in Webb County that succeed on becoming a city as a result of strong active civic participation. Consequently there is physical improvement and a broader and more active political participation. We have now a more complex understanding of the status of current and future of grassroots initiatives in Texas border communities. We observed the importance of key communities leaders in the attainment of basic needs in colonias and through this process stronger communities emerge. This is a lesson that is relevant for those planning and intervening in emerging urban areas. Partnering with local organizations and key leaders in colonias has showed a positive path in colonias.
A Help or Hindrance? African American Spatial Concentration and Self-employment in Three Metropolitan Areas

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The concentration of ethnic and racial minorities has been shown to contribute to both positive and negative socioeconomic outcomes for these groups. These effects are widely accepted as generally positive for some ethnic groups, particularly immigrant-dominant groups. For example, immigrant and ethnic communities are often regarded as indispensable incubators for ethnic businesses. In contrast, the effects of spatial concentration are generally depicted as negative for African Americans. Negative consequences for African Americans are most frequently observed in inner-city residential locations characterized by highly concentrated poverty and economic disadvantage. The objective of the present study is to examine spatial concentration and self-employment for native-born African Americans in three U.S. metropolitan areas: Miami, Atlanta, and Detroit. These metropolitan areas differ significantly in the population proportion and economic standing of African Americans and provide very different contexts in which ethnic businesses are started and grow. Using 2006-2010 American Community Survey data and a multi-level research design, this study examines how the spatial concentration of African Americans is associated with the probability of self-employment and job earnings from business ownership. In Miami, findings indicate that areas with higher levels of African American concentration are significantly associated with a lower probability of self-employment and lower job earnings. Spatial concentration is not found to play a significant role in business ownership in Atlanta, although self-employed African Americans living and working in concentrated areas still earn significantly less than those who live and work in non-concentrated areas. In Detroit, the negative job earnings effects are not significant, and quite interestingly, greater spatial concentration of African Americans is positively associated with a higher probability of business ownership. These findings suggest that ethnically and racially bounded social capital is highly dependent both spatially and contextually. We argue that different economic conditions, demographic composition, and sociopolitical power relationships in the local labor market play important roles in ethnic minorities’ socioeconomic upward mobility. Findings from this study also call for more cautious investigation of the effects of spatial clustering of ethnic minorities.
Televising the Frisco-esse: San Francisco on American Television, 1950-1980

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While a great deal has been written about the cinematic city in recent years, far less attention has been given to the history of the city on television. The structure of television seems to offer clear advantages and disadvantages to the aesthetic analysis that supports film studies work on cities. On the one hand, the prevalence of broadcast television series, arriving weekly with a new perspective on the represented city, seem to offer persistent images to shape viewer perceptions of urban space. On the other hand, the economic and narrative restrictions of series production often precluded an extended exploration of urban space. Despite these limitations, this paper argues that certain cities develop a dominant aesthetic, where repeated imagery of the urban space builds a televisual iconography of the city. This broadcast aesthetic helps define perceptions of cities for the countless viewers who may never set foot in the urban space of these depictions. This paper will assess San Francisco’s specific role as a city on American television, including long running series such as The Lineup (1954-1960), Ironside (1967-1975), and The Streets of San Francisco (1972-1977), as well as key cameos in Rice-a-Roni commercials and See It Now (1951-1968) broadcasts. Whether as a backdrop for crime procedurals or advertisements, San Francisco emerged as an urban "other," a visual alternative to the more widely televised streetscapes of New York and Los Angeles. The city’s dense urban core and distinctive landmarks offered beautiful and legible symbols for the television camera. The city’s spectacular qualities, exemplified by vistas of the Golden Gate Bridge, Chinatown, and Fisherman’s Wharf, tended to overwhelm all other aspects of the city. The popular countercultural groups emerging in the late 1960s would face the consequences of this televisual stylization of San Francisco. Regardless of their political agendas, on television they often became merely another component of the aesthetic embellishment of the city, adding a splash of psychedelic color to the television image. San Francisco would never lose its visual idiosyncrasy on television; however as a setting for a national medium, the city would come to reflect national pessimism about urban centers through the 1970s. In many ways, televised San Francisco reveals the depth of urban despair in the late 1960s through 1970s. Police series in San Francisco increasingly sought out blighted locations, attempting to realign a "City Beautiful" television aesthetic with perceptions of a dying urban core. This aesthetic turn suggests television's complex and powerful mediation of concrete urban forms and America’s abstract urban sentiments.
What Has Become Of The Smoke-Eater? Occupational Subculture and Its Impact On Social Equity

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In 1973 a remarkable report was published by the National Commission on Fire Control appointed by Richard Nixon to study the nature of fire in urban America. Called America Burning, it found that the United States had one of the highest structural fire incident rates of the advanced industrialized nations, and that lower-income urban neighborhoods were most at-risk. The Commission argued, too, that the unequal outcomes associated with America’s fire experience were linked to the organization of local fire departments themselves, where a focus on fire suppression (extinguishment) had historically taken priority over the functions of prevention and investigation. America Burning specifically posed the question of why so many resources were put towards suppression when the tenement dweller was perhaps better protected by the enforcement of a tough prevention code that could have kept a fire from occurring at all. Research on American firefighters, however, had documented the ways that an occupational sub-culture built around the persona of the "smoke-eater" had been one of the most resistant forces to fire control practices emphasizing prevention and investigation. While the qualities of the "smoke-eater" represented qualities of physicality and manly prowess, a job in prevention or investigation was associated with "pushing paper" and the inactive life of a bureaucrat. This outlook had the paradoxical result of aiding in the perpetuation of inequality in some communities. For example, the problem of arson-for-profit that ravaged lower-income areas of Boston and The Bronx in the 1970s was blamed, in part, on the faulty investigative practices of local fire departments. There is some evidence, however, that the smoke-eater subculture is softening because of the increased educational attainment and diversity of new recruits. Moreover, there would appear to be less need for the smoke-eater as local fire departments respond to a declining proportion of fire emergencies as the demand for "EMT" (Emergency Medical Transport) and other types of calls increase. The goals of this paper are to 1) examine the historical context of how the smoke-eater subculture has aided in the creation of unequal community outcomes, 2) examine whether there has been a decline in the smoke-eater "subculture" among American fire departments and whether this has facilitated a greater emphasis on prevention and investigation activities, and 3) to examine whether such changes have had any impact on rectifying the unequal risk to fires faced by working class and poor populations in the United States. The evidence will be based primarily on archival and interview analyses focusing on the national experience and an ongoing case study of a large urban fire department on America’s west coast. This work has implications for understanding the sociology of the state and the ways in which state agencies impact social inequality.
Green Construction on the International Stage: Eco-Community Building as Development

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This paper explores the nexus of environmental planning and international development by investigating several cases of eco-community building in the US, Western Europe, Japan and the developing world in order to shed light on the evolving nature of the movement as a technological response to both the problems of urban sustainability and underdevelopment. Housing and the built environment account for significant emissions, as well as energy and resource consumption. How we build our public and private spaces is of critical importance in the discussion of urban sustainability. The eco-city concept, an admittedly experimental one, speaks to the hope that we can design our way to a more ecologically sound future. While originating in Western Europe, the practice of building new housing, towns and communities along green design principles, involving developers, designers, and public/private partnerships, has fostered global participation, and spurred new ways of framing those incipient goals, increasingly pairing sustainability with the idea of "doing development." As early as the Brundtland Commission, definitions of sustainability have also included the necessity of addressing the world’s most disadvantaged in adequate models for sustainable development. Ebenezer Howard's "garden cities" were intended to harness synergies of work and home life, so that workers would benefit from the integration of urban and rural life. Eco-cities often take a different approach entirely, offering housing that is economically accessible only to wealthier consumers, with conflicting commercial demands that can drastically diverge from initial green design principles. This paper will draw on the history and discourse of sustainability and eco community building, and look specifically at the framing of environment in the branding and marketing of several internationally planned eco-communities, with specific attention to cases involving transnational collaborations in the Global South, such as China’s current partnership with the Ugandan government to build an eco-city within a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) municipality, one of the largest Chinese investments in African development to date. Not simply laboratories for designers and materials scientists, such projects bring questions of accountability, socioeconomic prosperity and inequality, as well as the feasibility of building communities around green design principles to the fore. Ultimately this paper argues that there are ethical dilemmas implicit in the eco-city concept as a tool for development. These cases also point out the paradoxical role of a resource intensive market, such as real estate development, in the discourse of sustainability.
The Emergent City: Community Organizations and the Production of Place

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The production of place in the city is an ongoing social process. Place is not an inherent characteristic of location, but emerges through contested processes by which people enact claims to space. As such, the production of place has political implications, shaping who belongs and who does not. Furthermore, the ability to claim urban space—to dwell in spaces where one belongs—has an impact on the cultivation and expression of one’s political identity and voice. But how are such spaces achieved? By what processes do people participate in the production of places where they belong? And conversely, by what processes are people denied spaces of belonging? In this paper, I propose a research agenda pursuing these questions through case studies of local community organizations, exploring how the organizations participate in the production of place. Through what processes do they shape and color local place identities? And how does this look different in situations where place is changing dramatically as opposed to situations where place appears to be more stable? I also draw on a review of empirical literature on the production of place by local communities and organizations to suggest three moments of place production: (1) situating place historically, (2) bounding place spatially and socially, and (3) leveraging place toward political ends. The first moment includes efforts to characterize place identity through the telling of history. The second moment involves articulating place boundaries in physical and social space. The third moment entails place production through and for political action.
Local Government Fragmentation & the Local Public Sector: A Public Employment Approach

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The literature in local public finance predicts the spatial arrangements of local governments, both vertically and horizontally, has an influence on the operation of local governments. Theoretically, Tiebout (1965) predicts that a large number of non-overlapping local governments can amount to a market mechanism leading to lower average costs. Additionally, there is a growing literature suggesting that the proliferation of single purpose governments stacked vertically can lead to rising expenditures. While evidence is growing as to the influence of local government fragmentation on expenditures, a proxy for local public services, there is little direct evidence as to the influence of local government fragmentation on other, potentially better, proxies for local public services. Attempting to determine a proxy for local public services is a difficult task as there is no generally accepted measure or method. Oftentimes local expenditures is held up as an appropriate proxy; however, the connection, empirical or theoretical, between local expenditures and local output is not clear. An alternative to local expenditures is to measure local public services in terms of local public sector employment. The vast majority of local government services are labor intensive; therefore, measuring output in terms of employment may show appreciable gains in precision. This study proposes to examine the influence of local government fragmentation, measured in three ways (total, horizontal and vertical), on the level of local public employment in county areas. The study asks, fundamentally, is the spatial arrangement of local governments related to local public service provision? Using cross sectional, time series data from five Census of Governments between 1982 and 2002, an econometric model is specified based on the median voter model of demand for public services. This analysis also takes into account the influence of the prevailing local government wage as a limiting factor of total local government employment. This relationship between wages and local sector employment is potentially endogenous and is dealt with using an instrumental variables approach. The results from this analysis will inform the debate as to the roll and relative influence of different types of local governments in today's political landscape.
Economic Impact of Urban Sprawl: The Demarcation of Core Urban City Jobs and the Development of Suburban Economics.

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For the second half of the 20th century, American cities have experienced the loss of population to the expansion and popularity of suburban living. For decades now, suburban rings for most American cities were developed as bedroom communities with newer construction and spatial residential master planning that made it attractive to rising middle-class families. These initial bedroom communities have benefited from technological enhancements, transportation improvements and policy initiatives to create a competitive economic base which may destabilize core urban cities. This study uses data over the past thirty years, and tracks when these predominately residential communities began developing a core economic base through the creation of jobs. In addition, the draw from the core urban city by inner-ring suburbs has begun to expand to outer-ring suburbs providing even more economic eroding. This study sets out to explore the economic impact the inner-ring and outer-ring suburbs have on the core urban city. In exploring this issue the research will contrast old core urban communities of the east with new urban communities in the southwest. Analyzing multiple data sets from the 1980, 1990, 2000 and 2010 US Census Bureau for the Atlanta, GA; Chicago, IL; Denver, CO and Phoenix, AZ MSA data, and using a longitudinal study method, the study illustrates the growing impact these evolving perimeter cities and developing economic bases have on the historically core urban city in terms of jobs. With jobs being the key indicator of economic health this study analyzes both the volume and type of jobs loss for the urban core. The study will also show by industry and sector the transition certain industries are making out of the inner-city and the growing job creation in both the inner and outer-ring suburbs. The purpose of this study is to be used for further development in policy discussions for core urban cities.
The Greens of Mysore: An Appraisal of Their Contribution to Environment

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Mysore is one of the better maintained million plus cities of India. Its green endowments including water bodies are well known. Formerly a city ruled by kings in British India, Mysore from the point of view of green and water body infrastructure has been well administered. But due to pressures of urbanization and its specifics, environmental elements are deteriorating. These need constant monitoring and up-gradation; and have their social, economic and ecological dimensions. Vulnerability concomitant to urbanization has been frequently articulated. Demands for land, water and energy have increased. The need for waste management, sanitation, supply of potable water and wholesome regeneration of lakes with rain water inflows has increased and become complex and expensive amidst several intertwined priorities. Administration is often seen to be deficient in providing personnel and monetary and physical resources. Many water bodies of Mysore and its surroundings are in different stages of damage including eutrophy. They are generally not getting recharged with rain water duly. Haphazard human interventions over the years have caused this deterioration of water bodies. Inadequately and unperspectively planned urbanization including topographical interventions and land use have disturbed rain water flow-channels into tanks endangering aquatic life. Quality water availability to various types of users has become jeopardized. Parks and the famous Chamundi Hills are traditionally parts of the green of Mysore. Parks are planned and maintained by civic authorities like the Mysore City Corporation and the Mysore Urban Development Authority. Newly developed areas are provided with earmarked amenity spaces yet to be developed. Private households and institutions like the Mysore University, Infosys, Central Food and Technological Research Institute etc. have their own gardens or parks contributing handsomely to the city's environmental health. Chamundi Hills, all across their slopes have a lot of trees, shrubs and bowers making Mysore salubrious. But all these green entities need to be improved and expert efforts have to be identified and enlisted. Here in this paper, the authors seek to provide an appraisal of many aspects of green administration in the City. Obviously, the strengths and weaknesses are proposed to be recorded and suggestions made. This is indeed an empirical study.
Learning from Lafitte: The Institutionalization of Community Development and the Emergence of Urban Human Rights Activism

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The institutionalization of the community development field emphasizing market logics, charitable approaches to poverty, and the radicalization of community organizing has led to deep strategic and ideological schisms within the field. In post-Katrina New Orleans, these schisms obstructed community development advocates from building a renewed urban justice movement for racial and economic equity and structured their oppositional responses to HUD’s plans to demolish the Lafitte projects in Tremé. Yet community development advocates’ fallout over Lafitte contributed to the emergence of two complementary political advocacy efforts that center equity for urban poor communities of color nationwide - The Right to the City Alliance and the Emerald Cities Collaborative. Both return to earlier roots of community development practice by prioritizing democratic organizing and building political power in low-income communities of color. Both also expand the definition of valuable community assets by recommitting to the preservation of public housing in response to the crisis of displacement and gentrification wrought by deconcentration policy. These coalitions illustrate efforts in the community development sector to reconcile the tension between the field’s movement roots and institutionalized practices, especially reintegrating development and organizing as complementary strategies for empowering low-income urban communities of color. This research details these efforts, and offers new insights into a) the institutionalization of community development, specifically laying out three mechanisms of institutionalization - marketization, a reformist approach to poverty, and the radicalization of community organization - and b) opportunities for community development practitioners, activists and scholars to return to the field’s earlier racial and economic justice commitments without sacrificing the housing and neighborhood development expertise gained over the last four decades. It uses the specific case of post-Katrina New Orleans as the foundation for a broader discussion of urban social justice activism in cities nationwide. This research draws from five years of ethnographic fieldwork and bridges the gap in the literature between liberal, democratic theories of community development and critical analyses of the sector’s complicity in the neoliberal political economy.
Outmigration and the Geography of Non-Metropolitan Opportunity

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While the relationship between metropolitan migration patterns and opportunity has been well examined, very little work considers whether and how this relationship differs in the nonmetropolitan context. Residential mobility has long been linked to employment, but we contend that a more expansive conceptual geography of opportunity provides a more useful framework for understanding migration patterns, local and regional development, and individual outcomes. Although the geography of opportunity concept was established in the mid-1990s, we are unaware of any studies that have empirically examined it outside of urban areas. Our work begins to address this gap and provides insight into the meaning of opportunity in nonmetropolitan America. We apply the geography of metropolitan opportunity framework to nonmetropolitan areas in order to examine county-level migration patterns. We seek to engage with three related questions: first, to what extent does poverty rate at origin influence out-migration and destination choice, second, how has the economic downturn influenced patterns of residential mobility from non-metropolitan areas, and, third, how does the spatial distribution of opportunity vary at the county level within and between regions that are losing population. We begin by analyzing out-migration patterns at the county level to identify those counties with persistent population loss that is driven by out-migration, and then connect patterns of out-migration from such counties to the uneven geography of nonmetropolitan opportunity. Using the opportunity indexing strategy developed by John Powell and the Kirwan Institute as a point of departure, we create a county-level index of opportunity for the year 2010. We improve upon this approach by leveraging multivariate statistics to avoid redundancy and supplement basic mapping of the results (descriptive) with exploratory spatial data analysis techniques to more rigorously analyze the spatial distribution of opportunity. By focusing on nonmetropolitan counties that exhibit significant rates of out-migration and high poverty, our research helps to disentangle the underlying drivers of these processes and provide new insight into how to best intervene. This research extends empirical investigation of the geography of opportunity into nonmetropolitan areas, and develops a deeper understanding of how households respond to it. Furthermore, this work provides valuable insight into the ways in which households prioritize and act upon the various components of opportunity - a more holistic understanding of opportunity that helps to identify important levers for local and regional policy.
Governing Migration in Cities: China Compared

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China is an urbanized nation today, with more than 51% of the population (690 million people) residing in cities. More than a third of those residing in urban spaces are domestic migrants, who have traveled to cities in search of economic opportunities (Jiahua, 2012). Alongside of this, China's largest cities are also attracting international migrants. According to the 2010 census there were over half a million foreigners residing in China, and like domestic migrants, the vast majority of these populations settle in urban centers (National Bureau of Statistics of the People's Republic of China, 2011). Irrespective of migrant origins, domestic or international, all enter the city with distinct and differing histories and cultures, socio-political networks, and economic skills. And, as Zhang illustrates, in China "many migrant groups have constituted themselves as separate communities... which has profoundly altered the spatial organization and power dynamics in parts of Chinese cities (Li Zhang, 2001, p. 4)." The ability of localities to respond to migrant claims, and to include new populations in local governing process is critical to social cohesion and stability. This paper will explore contemporary migration trends in some of China's global cities, and the dynamics of its evolving multi-scalar migrant governing system. It will point to some of the emerging challenges that migration trends pose for governing Chinese cities. Lastly, the paper will investigate the comparative question of whether European and Canadian models of migrant inclusion are applicable (with adaptation) to the China case, or if the uniqueness of China's urban migration pattern demands unique solutions. References Pan Jiahua (August 2012), Annual Report in Urban Development in China 5th Edition, China: Social Sciences Academic Press. National Bureau of Statistics of the People's Republic of China (April, 29, 2011), "Figures on Residents from Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan and Foreigners Covered by 2010 Population Census." Downloaded from: http://www.stats.gov.cn/english/newsandcomingevents/t20110429_402722638.htm Li Zhang (2001), Strangers in the City: Reconfigurations of Space, Power and Social Networks, Stanford University Press.
Effectiveness of Chicago's Plan to End Homelessness

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This paper presents findings from a longitudinal study of homeless individuals and families served by Chicago's homeless system. It was key component of a recently completed two-year comprehensive evaluation of Chicago's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness, a plan designed by the city's private-public Continuum of Care, and endorsed by Chicago's Mayor in 2003, and first outlined in Getting Housed, Staying Housed: Chicago's Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness (Chicago Continuum of Care, 2000). It focuses on the efficacy of models informed by a housing first approach under the new plan in impacting the housing of homeless individuals. The Plan calls for the implementation of a Housing First approach, under which clients are provided housing as soon as possible. Services are provided under the approach, but access to housing does not depend on the use of services. In Chicago, there are many different types of programs under the Plan. In general, though, the sleeping accommodations relevant to this study can be classified into three types: There are emergency shelter programs which enroll clients daily; people usually have to leave the programs each morning and re-enter each night. This housing is a remnant of the pre-Plan system. The goal of the Plan is to deemphasize this type of program while expanding the two other types of accommodations: interim and supportive permanent housing programs. Ideally, interim housing programs replace emergency shelters programs as the "point of entry." They act as short-term housing programs which help clients obtain permanent housing and the tangible resources that are needed to sustain placements in permanent housing. Finally, there are supportive permanent housing programs. These programs offer housing to clients for as long as a client's desire. Such programs often subsidize client rents. They also can have their own social services or can attach people to community services. The research examined the clients in all three types of programs, the services provided to these clients and their housing outcomes. The client survey sampled individuals from the three types of housing programs supported by the Plan. It utilized a structured questionnaire, which included questions about client demographic characteristics, homeless experiences, service needs and utilization, experiences with service providers, client difficulties, housing quality, and social supports. The sample for the client survey was selected using a two-stage random sampling approach to insure that it was representative of individuals in each of the three types of housing. The final sample included 185 individuals and family heads from overnight shelter programs, 192 from interim housing programs and 177 from permanent supportive housing programs. Individuals agreeing to take part in the survey were followed for a year and took part in 3 interviews at six-month intervals.
Revitalization and Exclusion in the South Bronx: From Community Development to Affordable Housing Industry

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The South Bronx was physically and socially devastated by the withdrawal of both capital and the state in the 1970s. It was in this context that community developers were hailed as heroes, bringing the power of "community" to bear on disinvestment generated by larger forces. They addressed the exclusion of the South Bronx from both state and capital processes. But although community development enjoyed a moment of recognition and success in the Bronx in the 1980s and 1990s, the state was actually the driving force in "community" development. And in the 1990s the state's approach to revitalization shifted away from community and led to the rise of an affordable housing industry. This shift has exacerbated the exclusionary and depoliticizing aspects of revitalization. The crisis of the 1970s created the space and need for heroes, and for new relationships. In the absence of capital, real estate processes were taken over by a coalition of the state, nonprofits, and "community" in the 1980s. Community development and affordable housing financing emerged out of this crisis as a partial resolution to the contradiction embodied by the South Bronx: while significant factions of capital and the state had abandoned it, the South Bronx could not be fully disowned and separated. Portions of the state took on the role of capital, partially reversing the state's withdrawal in the 1970s. Over time institutional relationships solidified and less heroism was needed. A revitalization machine came together, centered on the community and state. Both the state and community are not stable categories, of course."The state" is a complex of city and state housing agencies and subsidy programs. "Community" was called forth in this period by both the threats to everyday existence in the South Bronx and by the state in its search for a partner. This revitalization machine has had depoliticizing and exclusionary effects. As scholars have noted, many community development corporations (CDCs) became instruments of depoliticization as they integrated themselves into state-dominated funding streams and the "nonprofit industrial complex." As revitalization was increasingly successful during the 1990s and the boom of the 2000s and as the affordable housing industry took over much of CDCs' role, revitalization came closer to gentrification in terms of the amount of capital involved and the exclusions engendered. Many state approaches to revitalization are shaped by an ideology of mixed income development and attempt to shift the class character of the Bronx to be more "economically diverse," which has unacknowledged racial effects. Community development has been shaped by class and racial and ethnic tensions inspired by this ideology, and the affordable housing industry has followed the state's lead. The revitalization of the Bronx has not displaced people as gentrification has elsewhere, but it nonetheless carries with it classed and racialized exclusions.
How Location-Based Analysis of Corruption Disproves the ""Efficient Grease"" Hypothesis on the Micro-Level: Evidence from Bangalore, India

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Past literature on corruption focuses on supply-side causes for corruption incidence and its macro-level consequences. This paper analyzes the demand-side of cross-sectional data on the quality of and corruption in government services collected using location-based citizen surveys in Bangalore, India. Data were collected in an exit-poll basis at the primary point of service provision for 8 government agencies. This reduces systematic biases and enables demand-side causal analyses. Summary statistics obtained delineate micro-level corruption trends especially important due to decentralization. I analyze a supply-side model using perception ratings as a proxy for institutional framework and confirm results of past literature, hence showing that the perception ratings are precise. I then find from a unique demand-side analysis of the effect of corruption on the quality of service that corruption is overpriced in the status quo hence calling into question the legitimacy of the "efficient-grease" hypothesis of corruption on the individual level. I also find increased speed of service, helpfulness and accessibility of officials each increases likelihood of citizen satisfaction. The paper concludes with incentive structures towards urban governance reform inherent in this methodology. These results have external validity for urban governance contexts in South Asia and the model is exportable to other developing nations.
Trading Suburbia for an Urban Lifestyle: Obstacles and Opportunities in Auckland, New Zealand.

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Pacific Rim cities in Australasia and North America have widely, and perhaps uncritically, adopted compact urban development policy responses to counter the adverse effects of suburban sprawl, by seeking to consolidate most of their future urban growth within their existing urban centres and along transit corridors. The effective implementation of this strategy will, in part, require higher density housing typologies to be developed within existing and emergent town and neighbourhood centres. This raises a fundamental question: will these higher density housing typologies meet the aspirations and needs of their future occupiers, where the traditional suburban family home is the current aspiration and norm for many of the cities’ residents. Another key question is the willingness of the market to undertake large-scale investment in these housing typologies that have not been typically provided for, especially in the suburban context. This paper argues that a critical element for the potential success of this strategic approach lies in the extent to which future households will be prepared to trade off the perceived benefits of traditional suburban lifestyles for the newer experience delivered through higher density housing. The key to success, it is argued, lies in the level of amenities and associated urban lifestyle that higher density development needs to offer as a trade off for the suburban lifestyle. This paper examines and these issues by evaluating and reporting on the outcomes of a resident’s preference survey being undertaken in three Auckland medium density housing developments in suburban locations. Using a qualitative survey method, the study considers the amenities offered within these developments and the wider neighbourhoods to determine if these forms of higher density development have met the residents expectations required as a ‘trade off’ against traditional suburban living. Conclusions will be drawn around how the resident-derived information may inform the market on the supply side of housing, and critically comment on how these preferences may, or may not, reflect the aspirations of the underlying urban management strategies involved. The conclusions are also extended to more broadly comment on efficacy the wider application of the compact urban model applied in other cities in the Pacific Rim, in North West America and Australasia, and what the underlying reasons to any differences might be.
The Uneven Geography of Employment Intermediaries and the Neighborhood Context of Labor Markets: Evidence from post-Recession Chicago

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While economic opportunities clearly vary by neighborhood, precisely how neighborhoods matter has preoccupied an interdisciplinary literature that seeks to establish whether and to what extent "neighborhood effects" determine a variety of individual-level social, economic, and health-related behaviors and outcomes. Recently, few of these studies have focused on employment. This paper adopts a multi-method comparative analysis of three moderate-income Chicago neighborhoods following the 2008-2009 recession to examine variation in labor market contexts at the neighborhood level and the specific processes through which these contexts mediate change in the regional labor market. This issue has both programmatic and evaluation implications: Can a place-based intervention in the workforce development system create positive spillover effects on a neighborhood's level of unemployment (i.e., as opposed to regional-level interventions)? If so, how might those effects be measured; and does the validity of those measures differ across different neighborhood contexts? To an extent, the neighborhood effects literature has had the (perhaps unintended) consequence of framing the question of whether place matters as a competing and mutually exclusive alternative explanation to approaches that privilege individual-level factors. Mindful of this tendency and of alternative attempts to conceptualize place in relational terms, we focus instead on the institutional and organizational relationships that shape labor market dynamics at the neighborhood-level. Beyond merely connecting labor supply with job demand, the process through which intermediaries engage (or do not engage) with neighborhood context affects the geographically uneven distribution of labor market opportunities.

Using data from before and after the recession, we compare descriptive statistics derived from three sources: firm-level employment data (Local Employment Dynamics), residential surveys (American Community Survey), and the workforce development system (administrative data from the WIA system). Additionally, we rely on interviews with workforce development practitioners to examine the changing points of labor market failure and responses by intermediaries. We find substantial variation in each neighborhood's occupational and industrial niche in the regional labor market and thus differential impacts of joblessness during the recession. More importantly, our analysis highlights how neighborhood context shapes access to job opportunities, whether through the formal workforce development system or through various informal networks of access to employers. While the recession placed similar types of stresses on each neighborhood, it also unevenly disrupted the processes of labor market intermediation and the resources available to different groups of job-seekers.
Cultivating Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Local Job Creation Policy and Initiatives

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As cities face increasing global competition and fiscal constraints in the post-recession economy, many city leaders wonder from what source future growth will emerge. One answer to this question is innovation, but the act of entrepreneurship assembles the components of knowledge and technology in the innovation process and amplifies the factors of economic growth. Cities that create and foster a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship will be better positioned for economic recovery, job creation, greater resiliency, and the potential for regional economic transformation. The paper examines the concepts of innovation and entrepreneurship in relation to job creation from startups and young and second-stage small business and reviews the barriers and policy options that local governments can use to address them. The paper examines a sample of cities with higher rates of entrepreneurship and small business growth to understand how these cities cultivate and foster an innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. Research suggests that removal of barriers and support of entrepreneurs' and small business development is advantageous. Local actions and programmatic approaches can facilitate networks of public and private stakeholders that build trust and collaboration and leverage of local and regional assets. The paper suggests possible problems that these approaches can encounter due to varied conceptions of entrepreneurship and innovation. The last section of the paper considers the fiscal issues associated with development and support of an innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem, as well as how a nuanced fiscal structure may capture the fiscal impacts.
Evaluating the 'Success' of a Directly Elected Mayor: The Case of Bristol, UK

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This paper explores the influence of new thinking relating to civic leadership and urban management on the governance of a city. Specifically, it presents findings from a new action-research project evaluating the impact of the introduction of a Directly Elected Mayor on the governance of Bristol, UK. In the context of the trend towards stronger forms of urban leadership in the UK, and other parts of Europe, the Localism Act 2011 required the twelve largest English cities outside London to hold referendums on whether or not local citizens wanted to introduce a Directly Elected Mayor form of governance. In May 2012, the citizens of Bristol voted to change the form of local political management in the city from an Indirectly Elected Leader form to a Directly Elected Mayor form. On 15 November 2012 voters will, for the first time, have a direct say in who will lead the city. The paper opens with a discussion of the international trend towards stronger forms of urban leadership. In particular, it explores the reasoning behind moves to introduce Directly Elected Mayors in England, and outlines the main arguments in favour and against this model of urban governance. The discussion will suggest that, while US approaches to urban leadership have been influential, a specifically English form of local governance is now emerging. Second, the paper considers the reasons why Bristol opted for a directly elected mayor - the only one of twelve English cities holding a referendum to do so. Third, in the main part of the paper, we discuss the results of our ongoing study of the impact of the Directly Elected Mayor model of urban governance. This action-research project - The Bristol Civic Leadership Project - involves a survey of citizens, and a survey of key stakeholders, including councillors, officers, business leaders, community activists, and other actors participating in urban governance processes. In addition, we are running various interactive workshops and carrying out interviews with key players in order to understand the dynamics of governance change. The evaluation uses criteria focusing on leadership, representation, accountability, decision-making, scrutiny, and responsiveness. The paper outlines a conceptual framework distinguishing three realms of civic leadership and considers whether the reforms in Bristol can lead to more effective ‘place-based leadership’ of the city. The paper concludes with some early reflections on what appear to be the main consequences of introducing a Directly Elected Mayor in Bristol, and will draw out themes that deserve further examination by urban scholars who are interested in city and civic leadership.
Operationalizing New Regionalism

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New regionalism is a collaborative and cooperative approach to securing the advantages of regional governance without the necessity of changing the structure of the local government system. Problems with new regionalism are that this is basically a voluntary approach, largely dependent upon willing leaders to be involved in regional issues beyond their immediate constituency. There is a time and effort commitment to become involved in new regionalism, the process is often excruciatingly slow and the rewards to the leaders and community represented are often not readily measurable. Since it is largely a voluntary process, changes in political leadership might end, or set the process back. Still, in most metropolitan areas, it appears to be the best approach to addressing regional policy issues. This research investigates a number of cooperative and collaborative ventures that local governments are considering, or have been undertaken. I will analyze the reasons for cooperation, what is hoped to be gained through the cooperation, the problems encountered with the cooperation, and the degree of success. In addition I will give a prognosis for the future of the cooperation. Based on my research, I catalogue in which areas most of the cooperative ventures are taking place. I will also propose a process and mechanism to facilitate cooperative and collaborative ventures and the pitfalls to avoid to have the best chance of success. I will obtain information through a combination of survey, media coverage, organization reports and personal interviews with the people involved in the effort. Through a synthesis of this information, I will be able to analyze and draw informed conclusions.
Redevelopment in the Suburbs of Baltimore: Creating a more socially sustainable metropolis

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In some suburbs, single-family homes have been expanded, a process referred to as mansionization or McMansion infill. New floors have been added; new rooms built on both sides of the original structure. This type of expansion has occurred in suburbs located in economically vibrant regions and close to strong employment centers. In this paper, I examine redevelopment in the suburbs of Baltimore with the goal of determining the impact of McMansion infill and other forms of redevelopment on the social configuration of the entire region. Redevelopment has the potential to change the socioeconomic composition of suburban neighborhoods in ways that classical gentrification has changed central city neighborhoods. Modest income families can be “priced out” of their suburbs as property values rise because of the redevelopment process. In our analysis, we found that substantial redevelopment is taking place in modest income neighborhoods in both the inner and outer suburbs of Baltimore, leading to a form of suburban gentrification. Redevelopment of older suburbs is necessary to maintain a vibrant suburbia and certainly retrofitting sprawling edge and edgeless cities can help created more sustainable suburban forms. However, this paper highlights the challenge of redeveloping the suburbs without displacing poor and modest income families.
The Abandonment of Public Housing Desegregation Policy in the U.S.

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Public housing in the United States remains highly segregated by race and ethnicity. Federal executive and legislative measures during the 1960s, which were focused on prohibiting discrimination, proved ineffective at promoting integration. Judicial remedies undertaken since the 1970s have resulted in the desegregation of public housing, but only through the relocation of minorities from public housing and only in specific cities where litigation was successful. Today, public housing desegregation policy amounts to little more than the outright demolition and vouchering out of predominantly minority housing projects. This paper examines the evolving patterns, shifting policy landscapes, and contemporary circumstances of public housing segregation in the U.S. It begins with a brief historical overview spanning from the precedent for segregated housing projects set in the 1930s through the postwar era’s major federal actions toward discrimination and segregation within public housing. It then situates broader national trends and forces within the local context of Louisville, Kentucky, through an investigation of changing local public housing tenancy policies alongside racial occupancy transitions across Louisville’s housing projects. The paper concludes with a consideration of public housing segregation in the U.S. today and a discussion of the factors that have limited, undermined, or otherwise discouraged efforts to promote more racially integrated public housing. The overarching argument of the paper is that contemporary patterns of public housing segregation are path dependent, in that past social and political contexts continue to shape those patterns. As such, "past" contexts remain very much embedded in the present. Yet policies toward public housing segregation have mainly framed the issue in terms of achieving, at best, an elusive and ill-defined condition of non-discrimination. The failure to frame public housing segregation as a persistent legacy and present-day articulation of past policies and practices (a handful of isolated judicial cases notwithstanding), and the subsequent failure to ground desegregation policies accordingly, has in turn facilitated the effective abandonment of public housing desegregation policy in the U.S.
Design Codes for Healthy Communities: The Potential of Form-Based Codes to Create Walkable Urban Streets

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Urban designers are encouraging the use of complex, aesthetically pleasing urban streets to encourage walking for exercise and improve public health. The application of Form-Based codes, a new type of development code, have been promoted, but not proven, as a means to create walkable streets because they regulate the form and visual quality of the street through description and measurement of the design features. This study investigated the suggested potential of Form-based codes to create walkable urban streets by regulating the visual qualities of the street corridor. Urban design qualities that are valued by users of urban spaces and presumed to be related to walkability include imageability, complexity, human scale, enclosure, and transparency. These qualities are created by the built details of the street that contribute to aesthetic character such as building details, materials, color, furniture, sidewalk dimensions, and street trees and landscaping. The study concluded that Form-Based codes have the potential to create walkable urban streets if they regulate a high number of the built features linked with the urban design qualities related to walkability. A survey of streets built by application of the codes showed codes have a greater potential to create walkable streets if they regulate the frequency of the features within a designated length of street. An analysis of 30 Form-Based codes revealed the features regulated by the codes created the same urban design qualities and features found on historic streets known to be walkable and preferred by users. And finally, results suggest codes are more likely to be successful if the majority of the regulated features are linked to the urban design qualities of imageability, complexity, and human scale. The study recommends the codes should be most prescriptive with the building materials, the façade, and spatial dimensions of the street, and they should include the use of narratives in the codes to describe the desired experience of the user.
Engaging Vulnerable Populations in Health Impact Assessment (HIA)

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This paper explores the role of community engagement in HIA with particular attention to reasons for underrepresentation of vulnerable populations, and develops and implements a framework for increasing participation of these groups. HIAs evaluate the potential consequences for the health of a community of a proposed policy, project, or plan. HIA practitioners strive to engage the target community through meetings, surveys, focus groups, and other forms of outreach so that the particular health needs of the affected community and the impact of the proposal on community health can be accurately identified. However, because outreach relies on members of the community to affirmatively participate in outreach activities, some segments of the population are likely to be overlooked. In particular, those who lack access to information, have limited mobility, face physical or linguistic barriers, or are socially isolated may choose not to participate, be unable to participate if they want to, or may not even be aware of the opportunity. Consequently, those who do not attend community meetings or participate in focus groups are also more likely to be members of the vulnerable populations whose interests most need protection. An inventory of commonly used methods of community engagement is compiled through a survey of completed HIAs from across the United States and interviews with HIA practitioners in Atlanta. From this inventory, a discussion is developed of the strengths and weaknesses of these methods, as well as less-commonly utilized and emerging methods that present novel strategies for engaging a broad spectrum of the community. Particular attention is paid to means of identifying stakeholders who may "fall through the cracks" of traditional community engagement methods, and approaches which have potential to increase the participation of these populations. At the conclusion of the discussion, a framework for engaging vulnerable populations in HIA is developed. Finally, the framework is applied to a local Atlanta HIA to provide a blueprint for effective community engagement in future HIAs.
Racial Microaggressions and Spatial Belonging: The Experiences of Students of Color at a Predominantly White University

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Through an examination of racial microaggressions on a university campus, this study maps out how practices of racial formation structure the experiences of students of color on a predominantly white college campus in the United States. These students of color navigate racial boundaries and borders as well as create their own spaces of belonging where they feel comfortable and safe. We conducted 11 focus groups with a total of 81 students of color to gather descriptive narratives of racial microaggressions, which are a form of everyday racism. Our paper provides examples of racial microaggressions and identifies three spatial contexts in which students state that these aggressions occur. White space is the heavily defended and territorialized space of White dominance. In these spaces students of color often feel physically threatened and experience more explicit racism than in other spaces. Counter space is where students of color congregate to seek respite and belonging. "Multicultural" space, an idea we seek to complicate, is often presented by university administration as an inclusive space with a diversity of students. But for students of color, the multicultural space represents a more ambiguous context where racial dominance is more hidden and students of color still report being treated as second-class citizens. All three of these spaces are dynamic and are constantly under negotiation in the daily interactions of students. Students of color at predominantly White institutions gain the benefits of higher education but also experience the costs of having to navigate that environment. This study makes it clear that the experience of campus diversity is not the same for students of color as for their White counterparts. The students of color found the campus unwelcoming and unsupportive. It is important to understand the subtle forms of racism that students of color experience in universities as part of contemporary society, because as neighborhood, cities and regions become more diverse there are more possibilities for subtle and often unconscious racial microaggressions to occur. Racial microaggression will maintain racial divides and limit the possibilities for democracy in a multiracial society.
The Effect of Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Acts on Renter Housing Mobility

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This paper examines the effect of state Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Acts (URLTA) on tenant housing stability. The Uniform Law Commission created URLTA in 1972 as a sample law for states to codify tenant and landlord relationships. At least twenty-one states have adopted a similar law since the early 1970s. Earlier adopter states included Hawaii (1972) and Nebraska (1974), while other states adopted URLTA laws later, such as Kentucky (1984) and Rhode Island (1986). While these laws are not supposed to benefit one party over the other, they are intended to standardize the relationship between landlords and tenants. Using data from the March supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS) from 1976 to 2010, this paper compares renters to non-renters in states with and without URLTA policies over time to determine the effect of the law on whether tenants change residences. It controls for renter characteristics that might affect mobility, as well as state and year fixed effects.

Approximately one third of all Americans rent their homes or apartments. The position of these tenants is often tenuous: basic economic theory asserts that landlords should charge as much rent as possible and only perform a minimum amount of maintenance in order to maximize profits. This means tenants, especially low income tenants, often face uncertainty in their living situation. In addition, a large literature has found that homeowners have better outcomes relative to renters, including greater student achievement, healthier individuals, more stable families, and less neighborhood crime (Alba, Logan, and Bellair 1994; Rossi and Weber 1996; DiPasquale and Glaeser 1999; Haurin, Parcel, and Haurin 2002; Dietz and Haurin 2003). These positive outcomes are often attributed to the stability of homeownership. What is lacking in the literature is a review of factors that encourage tenants to stay in their apartments and establish the same types of roots that homeowners often have. URLTA is one such policy that reduces the uncertainty of renting. This paper adds to the literature on housing stability and tenant characteristics by examining a policy mechanism aimed at stabilizing landlord/tenant relationships.
Backyard Regionalism: Network Relations in the Orlando Metropolitan Area

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Various configurations of network relations among local governments exist with metropolitan areas. Some observers of local economic development argue that regional competitiveness and metropolitan level development are the building blocks for local success. However, cities face collective action problems because as cities design and implement policies for their goals and neglect collective benefits it leads to inefficient outcomes and can undermine regional economic gains. Thus the design of alternative governance mechanisms at the regional level has intrigued scholars in economic development, public policy and local government administration. In this study we build on the literature of "metropolitan development networks" by identifying the informal interactions among local governments and testing whether these relations shape the prospects for the establishment of formal intergovernmental agreements. We used a survey to collect data on the economic development network within the Orlando Metropolitan Area and employed a quadratic assignment procedure as the method of analysis. Our findings provide evidence of how cities overcome collective action problems.
A Gateway for Everyone to Believe: Restoring Identity in New Orleans through Football

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For many years New Orleans has held both positive and negative imagery. For example, the city stakes the claim as one of the best places to visit, yet is a national leader in gun violence. From stories depicting the Crescent City as unhealthy, uneducated, and crime-ridden to the images of hopelessness and despair created by Hurricane Katrina, many of the city's ills were displayed for all the viewing eyes of the national public. However, the city's football team, the New Orleans Saints, has changed the national narrative in a way that the City officials have not been able to. This research suggests that citizens used the Saints, to restore civic identity post-Hurricane Katrina. It argues that some of the characteristics of sports, including increases in social capital and religious ritualism, dictated particular actions based around a "Saintsmania" that developed after the storm, which helped the city re-identify itself from a post-Katrina narrative. In the media, residents and writers alike acknowledged that the Saints played a key role in the city's recovering. Some residents articulate the team's success as a symbol of hope for the region. Others found the team to spark New Orleans' economic engine long since thought to have run out of gas. Through participant observation, interviews, and historical research, this study focuses on aspects of sports found in New Orleans that helped build and reflect collective identity. With the proliferation of sports in urban environs, this research seeks to enter into the conversation of understanding the importance of sports in the United States.
Neighborhood Crime and Collective Efficacy: Informal Neighborhood Ties and Attitudes Towards Crime Control

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In a classic 1997 article, sociologist Robert Sampson argued that neighborhoods that cope most effectively with crime develop a sense of "collective efficacy", which gives them the confidence to work together to address the problem. This paper will examine the idea that close, informal ties between neighbors affect, and are affected by, attitudes towards crime in neighborhoods and that these informal ties affect the willingness of neighborhood residents to work with the police in addressing crime issues. On the one hand, high levels of crime can foster fear which can, in turn, discourage informal interactions among neighbors. On the other hand, neighbors who already trust each other and rely on each other for mutual assistance may be more willing to take action to prevent crime, including working closely with the police. To address these issues, this paper will utilize the large data set on neighborhood attitudes and interactions that has been made available to scholars by NORC and the Annie E. Casey Foundation as a result of Making Connections, their multi-city survey of neighborhood attitudes and interactions. These data are among the most extensive ever collected on neighborhood issues.
Home, Sweet Home

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The focus of this paper is a collective identity-narrative that I argue was articulated, and eventually institutionalized, in the twentieth century American metropolis: a story of white Americans as a home-owning people. According to this narrative, (white) Americans value, and they deserve, privately owned single-family detached suburban residences. Such “homes” (and this story worked to distinguish “homes” from mere “houses”) are a critical component of the American Dream. Americans therefore ought to use their collective power (the power to create and enforce zoning laws, for example) and their collective resources (tax dollars) to support private, profit-driven housing development. During the first decades of the last century, this narrative was not widely embraced. The United States was not, at that time, a nation of home owners. What is more, the dominant view was that the government had no proper role in the private market in housing. But the stock market crash of 1929 and the depression that followed produced a new coalition of actors who favored state intervention in the housing market, which they hoped would help create, not just homes, but also jobs. Together with other New Deal programs and institutions, The Home Owners Loan Corporation and the Federal Housing Administration institutionalized this narrative of white Americans as home-owners, fundamentally restructuring the market for private home mortgages, expanding home finance credit to an unprecedented level, and directing the capital they helped generate toward racially exclusive suburban developments.
Coping with Swagger-Jacking: A Case Study of Cultural Preservation and Class Conflict in Washington, DC

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This paper investigates how the process, politics and impacts of culturally-framed redevelopment balance growth and equity within inner-city neighborhoods experiencing change. Redevelopment programs that draw upon existing arts and cultural assets have been supported and identified by planners as a strategy of local economic development (Wherry, 2011). However, critiques of cultural preservation as a form of economic development argue that the norms and goals of such planning efforts and their impact on existing residents require further evaluation. For example, planning scholars find that cultural preservation may reinforce both existing spatial divides and forms of social exclusion (Zukin, 2010). At the same time, the recognition of ethnic and minority heritage by non-local forces has been identified by some scholars as an opportunity to further the multicultural transformation of public history as well as locally sustainable community development that benefits the neighborhood’s original inhabitants (Lin, 2010). This study employs a multiple case study research design and ethnographic methods to analyze how the process of producing authenticity contributes or impinges on development and market potential as well as social preservation efforts in three historically black neighborhoods within Washington, DC. The case studies of U Street, H Street NE, and Historic Anacostia demonstrate the construction of memories through the placemaking process within previously distressed, racialized communities undergoing massive social change and its implications for future redevelopment efforts and support of a multicultural identity. Each neighborhood’s cultural investments have occurred in a piecemeal fashion, but have been framed by land-use plans adopted by the city that incorporate historic preservation with large-scale redevelopment that potentially could, and in some cases, has resulted in the displacement of longtime African-American residents. Internal and external community conditions associated with cultural-framed revitalization efforts are uncovered through participant observation in community life, attendance at local meetings and events, in-depth interviews with key community stakeholders, residents, and visitors, and experiencing the various heritage sites and tours currently offered within each neighborhood. The lessons gleaned by understanding the redevelopment of U Street, H Street, NE and Historic Anacostia provide insight into developing cultural planning policies that balance growth and social equity and critically engage old and new residents as well as visitors to confront the history and impact of change on a neighborhood. References: Lin, Jan. (2011). The Power of Ethnic Places. Routledge. Wherry, Frederick. (2011). The Philadelphia Barrio. University of Chicago Press. Zukin, Sharon. (2010). The Naked City. Oxford University Press.
**Greening vacant land to promote revitalization and sustainability: An assessment of outcomes**

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Many cities in the US and around the world are facing a dual challenge of promoting both urban revitalization and urban sustainability. Increasingly, cities are exploring greening initiatives – through which vegetation is planted and maintained – targeting vacant land as a potential means of addressing both of these challenges. This paper reports on the outcomes of a sustainability-based assessment of the impacts of a Philadelphia, PA-based program that uses greening as an interim management strategy for vacant land. I used quantitative spatial analysis techniques to measure economic, environmental, and social justice impacts of the Philadelphia Land Care (PLC) program, which ‘treats’ vacant land by removing debris, bringing in topsoil, planting grass and trees, putting up a split-rail fence and providing regular maintenance during the growing season. The analysis is shaped by the concept of sustainability which posits that to be sustainable, development must incorporate and balance economic development, environmental preservation and social justice. Ultimately, the PLC program is shown to increase surrounding property values, improve environmental conditions, and increase equity in access to greenspace in Philadelphia. These benefits are not uniform, however, and differ for neighborhoods across the city. The research indicates the potential for greening programs such as PLC to help cities address pressing economic, environmental, and social concerns, but highlights the need to understand the tensions and tradeoffs between different forms of program impacts.
Human Impacts in an Urban Watershed: An Oral History of the Plaster Creek Watershed

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Cities face huge environmental challenges for safe, adequate, and clean water to meet the needs of their growing populations. Many urban watersheds are in a highly degraded state, often because residents are unaware of how their practices contribute to the emerging problems. In what ways have urban watersheds been changed by human interaction over the last four decades? Questions of environmental justice are pressing---what happens upstream in a watershed has dramatic impacts on those downstream and those living downstream are often the most vulnerable. This paper investigates how citizens who live, study, work, or worship in a 58-square mile, highly urbanized watershed in West Michigan understand the relationship between how they live and the state of the watershed. The Plaster Creek watershed has been identified by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) as an impaired water body, unsafe for even partial body contact. This research, undertaken by a team from Calvin College with funding from River Network and the Environmental Protection Agency, uses oral history methodology to explore how the Plaster Creek Watershed in West Michigan has changed over time because of urban and industrial development, agricultural practices, and regional economic shifts. This study is embedded in two bodies of literature--the pedagogy of place, that is learning to dwell in a place that's been damaged and disrupted through past exploitation of people and land--and reconciliation ecology, the science of restoring, creating and maintaining new habitats, and conserving biodiversity. David Gruenewald (2003) has argued for "reinhabitation," which requires identifying, conserving, and creating those forms of cultural knowledge that nurture and protect people and ecosystems. As an ethnography of the watershed, this research has helped to engage people in remembering how Plaster Creek once was and to imagine how it could be restored in the future.
Photovoice: Identifying Health-Protective Community Assets in the Context of Change

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A requirement for healthy people is a healthy community. During a period of significant change and redevelopment, the existing set of health-protective assets in a community is put at risk as old makes way for new. In order to avoid losing those things that make a community a healthy place to live, it is necessary to first have a strong understanding of what those assets are so that their maintenance and enhancement can be incorporated into the redevelopment plan. This paper will introduce Photovoice, a unique community-based participatory approach for identifying health-protective assets. Photovoice is a process in which participants identify various assets in their community through group discussions, take photographs based on the themes that emerge during discussion, and interpret the meaning behind their photographs through written narratives. A Photovoice project was recently initiated with a group of residents of the neighborhoods surrounding Fort McPherson, a recently decommissioned Army base in southwest Atlanta that is in the beginning stages of a massive redevelopment. Data collected during the Photovoice project, including meeting transcripts and statements written by participants, were analyzed and coded, using place attachment theory as a theoretical framework. The result was the identification of five high-level themes, or community assets selected by the participating community members as being the most meaningful in their relationships with their community. These themes were then presented at a forum to all relevant stakeholder groups. Photovoice represents a powerful tool for bridging the gap between community members and decision-makers. The salience of community input is increased by the incorporation of powerful images and narratives. By taking these findings into account, policy makers can ensure that even during a time of rapid change, a neighborhood's greatest assets can be protected and even enhanced during the redevelopment process.
Managing the Fiscal Metropolis: The Financial Policies, Practices, and Health of Suburban Chicago Municipalities

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This paper is about how municipal officials in the suburbs of a large metropolitan region improve, maintain, or fail to maintain the financial health of their governments. It identifies and examines the factors that affect the incentives and capacity of local government to deliver services from a financial perspective using suburban municipalities in the Chicago metropolitan area as a laboratory (and using data from the late 1990s to 2006). Its presents a more comprehensive picture of financial decisions and financial management practices in local government than has been offered in the past to better inform our understanding of these events and how they affect the financial condition of suburban governments. The book examines the concept of local government financial condition in detail to clarify what is measured, and uses a framework for understanding these events that combines theoretical approaches from public administration, public finance, and political science. For instance, chapter five uses the concept of strategic management to identify the most common and forceful financial threats and opportunities these governments encounter. Recessions are one the biggest threats, but so is political conflict and the exit of major taxpayers. High population growth and development present both a threat and opportunity for municipal governments in the region, and competition for sales tax generating enterprises is an important factor in how they handle growth and development. Chapter six draws on theories about problem-solving and local governance to identify and explain the financial tools (fiscal policies and practices) that these governments use to deal with threats and opportunities, and chapter seven examines the effects of these events and financial tools on the financial condition of Chicago suburban municipalities. Government fund balances (saved surplus revenues), for example, are a popular tool for dealing with fiscal threats because the funds can be used to cover deficits if revenues unexpectedly decline or expenditures unexpectedly increase during the year. But they also buy governments time to solve the larger problem of how best to compensate for the effects of longer term fiscal threats. Fund balances also allow governments to take advantage of opportunities that come along, such as grants for needed equipment or infrastructure that require the government to match funds. However, there are many governments that do not maintain fund balances that are adequate for these purposes. Rather, they choose to borrow money to cover short-term deficits and requirements for matching funds. These governments tend to be more politically than administratively, or professionally, governed.
New Rules for the Game: Neoliberalism, Governance and Housing in Atlanta, Georgia

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Since the 1970s, Neoliberal restructuring has reshaped governance strategies at the global, national, and sub-national levels of society. Many cities have taken on entrepreneurial strategies to maintain local development in the face of declining federal fiscal support. As a result, cities have grown increasingly less responsive to the needs of economically marginalized citizens. In this exploratory paper, I question how marginalized groups influence the decision-making process of urban governance structures? I employed a case study of Atlanta's governance strategy towards citizens' housing rights between 1992 and 2012 to investigate this question. During this time period, Atlanta's adoption of neoliberal governance practices and the collapse of the housing market in 2008 led to the complete demolition of its public housing stock and the rise of foreclosed homes, respectively. The analysis of Atlanta's governing structure during this twenty-year period found that the city displayed a strong commitment to business-first governance reflecting the entrepreneurial thrust of neoliberalism. Additionally, the dwindling relationship between Atlanta's public housing residents, largely African American, and the city's political leadership affirms Adolph Reed's assessment of Black Urban Regime's commitment to its business and middle-class constituency. Lastly, Atlanta's citizens' collective action to protect residents from foreclosed home seizures provides a glimpse into extra-political resistance to neoliberalism. The findings suggest that anti-globalization movements provide networks of resources to combat the micro- and meso-level impacts of economic restructuring. However, further research is needed to understand if these extra-political responses are useful in influencing urban governance strategies in the interest of marginalized groups.
Islands of Marginality: The Roots and Implications of America's Homeless Camps

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Since the late 1990s a number of American cities have seen the re-emergence of large-scale homeless encampments. This paper seeks to explain how and why such camps re-emerged during a period of national economic expansion. In contradiction to the media’s account of the camps as creatures of the recession the paper argues that the geneses of the camps are instead anchored in urban policies aimed at managing marginality. Drawing on interviews with city officials, non-profit sponsors, and homeless campers across the west coast the first section examines the variety of ways camps were established in response to penal policies aimed at homelessness. The second section demonstrates how these policies are not only expressions of broader punitive trends in urban governance, but can only be accounted for in relation to assistential and entrepreneurial policies. I conclude considering how this emerging form of urban marginality might inform current debates on neoliberal governmentality.
Detroit River Renaissance: An Amenity Driven Redevelopment Strategy

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The Detroit River is the site of the busiest international crossing in the world for trade and commerce. Situated within the industrial heartland of North America, both the cities of Detroit and Windsor have experienced formidable urban degradation and significant economic decline. Nonetheless, the banks of the Detroit River have become a catalyst for new vitality and excitement for both communities. The annual fireworks display on the Detroit River brings families, friends and visitors from afar to the river’s edge to celebrate the long friendship between two countries, the United States and Canada as well as two cities, Detroit and Windsor. Both Detroit and Windsor are in the midst of a river renaissance to revitalize their respective waterfront lands previously left behind as aging industrial complexes and railway linkages have long abandoned this once bustling urban space. This paper will address how local politics, philanthropy and entrepreneurial enthusiasm have spearheaded a rebirth along the Detroit River utilizing an amenity driven redevelopment strategy focused on the themes of arts, culture and historical heritage interweaved through recreation based play and tourism.
Neighborhood Effects on Actual Mobility and Mobility Intentions among the Homeless and Formerly Homeless in Chicago

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Ending homelessness is a policy priority shared broadly in the U.S., with plans to end homelessness implemented in 400 municipalities throughout the country (Tsemberis, 2010). The city of Chicago initiated a Plan to End Homelessness in 2003 and a comprehensive evaluation of the Plan was initiated in 2008. The evaluation represents a partnership between the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness, the City of Chicago, and researchers from Loyola University Chicago and the University of Chicago. As part of the evaluation, a longitudinal survey was conducted with a representative sample of clients (N=554) of Chicago's residential homeless system residing in overnight shelters, interim, and permanent supportive housing programs. Family heads and single adults were interviewed three times over the course of one year between 2009 and 2011. This paper is a secondary analysis of the longitudinal client survey data, examining the impact of neighborhood factors on the mobility patterns of individuals housed through Chicago's Plan. Binary and ordinal logistic regression will be utilized to examine three dependent variables related to mobility. Like previous studies that examine multiple measures of mobility (Lee, et al., 1994; Oh, 2003), this paper explores actual mobility and mobility intentions. Three sets of subjective neighborhood-related independent variables including neighborhood quality rating, access to family and friends, and neighborhood satisfaction will be explored. Control variables will be used to examine whether there is any variation in mobility patterns based on respondent characteristics. This research is part of my doctoral dissertation and was informed by discussions with housing practitioners, a literature review, and previous homelessness research I have conducted, all of which suggest a relationship between neighborhood factors and mobility outcomes among this population. Preliminary findings from actual mobility outcome analyses have been conducted and suggest that select neighborhood factors - access to family and neighborhood satisfaction - significantly impact program mobility among respondents housed through Chicago's homeless system. As these findings demonstrate that increased neighborhood satisfaction is negatively associated with leaving one's program, it suggests that neighborhood is another factor practitioners and policymakers should address in efforts to assist the currently/formerly homeless to obtain and maintain housing.
Governing the Broke City: State Policy and the Politics of Urban Fiscal Crisis

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The past two years have been tumultuous for local governments in the U.S.. Cities in several states have resorted to bankruptcy; financial experts warn of an increasingly volatile municipal bond market; and radical strategies such as dissolution and privatization - are invoked to resolve seemingly intractable structural deficits. Some see insolvent cities as the inevitable consequence of federal and state governments devolving their economic troubles to local governments, who have nowhere to pass the buck. Others see the ugly fallout from local experiments with high-risk financing strategies, exacerbated by financial deregulation and plummeting real estate values. The dominant narrative in state policy circles, however, emphasizes the power of public employees, the overreach of the welfare state, and the absence of expert financial management. These deeply contested narrations of fiscal crisis have real consequences for urban governance. This paper examines the state policies being invoked, developed or modified in response to local fiscal crisis, and assesses what's at stake for cities as these policies become embedded in a new intergovernmental politics. This paper reviews three state responses to local fiscal crisis: emergency managers (e.g. Michigan), state bankruptcy laws (e.g. California), and state fiscal monitoring systems (e.g. New York). Through case studies of policies and their implementation, the paper identifies a set of emerging state powers that are remaking city governance. By reviewing policymakers’ public statements about these policies, and the often-cited fiscal policies that emerged from New York's 1975 crisis, the study also explores how different moments of crisis are deployed as models across cities and time periods. State strategies of managing fiscal crisis are an important site for investigating the restructuring of urban governance, even for cities not facing insolvency. This paper finds that new tools of intergovernmental monitoring, specific strategies of fiscal management, and a dominant narrative of local fiscal health are being normalized and circulated across a diverse set of cities. These strategies, and the entities that deploy them, function to depoliticize questions of revenue, spending, and the scope of city government. Fiscal discipline thus serves both as a means for achieving other goals (such as restructuring union contracts and privatizing certain city functions) and as a technique for foreclosing certain city futures.
In the "Public Interest?" Eminent Domain, Gentrification, and the Right to the City in New York's Manhattanville.

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In 2010, the New York Appellate Court made the final decision sanctioning the use of eminent domain in a neighborhood on Harlem's West Side, just north of 125th Street, also known as Manhattanville. In its decision, the Appellate Court agreed with the Empire State Development Corporation, which had decided to condemn the land and sell it to Columbia University for redevelopment. It noted in its argument that Columbia University's proposed campus extension in Manhattanville could qualify as a land use improvement project as well as a "civic project serving a public purpose." Towards this end, the court claimed that the campus extension would not only provide residents with new parks and transit infrastructure improvements, but would also benefit them by creating 14,000 temporary jobs in construction, and 6,000 permanent positions on campus. Citing field interviews with local residents, this paper explores the actual public benefits of the Manhattanville project. It thereby posits that two publics exist in connection with the Columbia campus extension. "One public" constitutes the current West Harlem residents, many of whom are bound to be displaced by rising rents and cost of living in the area. The "other public" constitutes the neighborhood's future residents, who will populate the area once the project is completed. These residents are expected to be the "gentrifiers", who will likely take advantage of the 6,000 permanent jobs to be created by Columbia University. This paper argues that the justification for the use of eminent domain in the name of public benefits takes into consideration only the latter public, thereby actively contributing to the displacement of the former.
The Response of Residential Property Protests and Protest Outcomes to the Great Recession

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The collapse of the housing market and the subsequent Great Recession disrupted state and local governments expected revenue streams and planned expenditures that are felt today. As a group state and local jurisdictions scrambled to increase own source revenues while simultaneously implementing extreme expenditure cuts. Intergovernmental funds received by virtue of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act partially closed some of the immediate shortfalls. The shrinking of the local property tax base, the foundation of which is comprised significantly of residential property, was quick and severe in many metropolitan areas. Other areas may not have experienced their property tax base decline precipitously but during the recession they witnessed a persistent decline. Many states have rate ceilings or constitutional limits on the rate at which the tax rate can increase. Even a modest increase in the rate as the base declined was not an option. This paper investigates a third mechanism by which the recession may have affected property tax revenues. Local appraisal districts commonly assess the value of property within their respective jurisdictions of which owners can contest. While owners define success as a decrease in the appraised value, and consequently a reduced tax liability, we question whether the process contributed to such a substantial decline in property value that the result was a decrease in property tax revenue of local jurisdictions. We contend that, driven by the retrenchment of the housing market, more property owners were inclined to protest than in previous years and that the officials within appraisal districts were more responsive to the appeals. We link the increased number of appeals and the greater likelihood of success to an increase in property value adjustments that contributed to a shrinking property tax base. Ergo, the smaller base meant less revenue. We use data from single-family residential property tax protests in Fort Worth, Texas for 2007 and 2009. We test across those years for differences between the rate of protest, the rate of success and the taxes paid. Our unit of analysis is the individual property under protest and for each year we have a control group of neighboring properties. We control for a number of variables suggested by appraisal literature such as property size, age of structure, housing and neighborhood characteristics, exemptions allowed and the use of an agent in the process. The comparison of the real taxes paid by protesters over time will, as a group and on average, will contribute to answering whether the process contributed to the diminution of property tax revenue.
Enhancing the Civic Capacity of Environmental Justice Communities: The Case Study of Farmworkers in Oxnard, California

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The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) defines environmental justice as "the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies." However, many affected populations do not have the civic capacity to be informed and engaged on behalf of environmental health and well-being in their communities. Researchers, community organizations and policy makers can identify ways to enhance the civic resources, knowledge and input channels for impacted communities. In a study of Oxnard, a city in California with a large agricultural economy, researchers conducted survey research and content analysis of local media to determine why and how affected stakeholders are (under)engaged on environmental health issues. The study found that there was a general perception among Oxnard residents that they were at risk for exposure to environmental pollution. There was also a severe lack of information and opportunities for involvement on environmental issues in the community. However, there are ways to enhance to the civic capacity of environmental justice communities like Oxnard by maximizing the use of local media outlets, particularly ethnic radio and newspapers.
Are You Really Listening to Me? : Elite Responsiveness to Citizen Political Participation

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There is a pervasive assumption that politics is about speech, so that when one talks about political activities in a democracy, speaking is almost always prioritized over listening. Therefore it should come as no surprise that when Richard Fenno posed the question - “What does an elected representative see when he or she sees a constituency?” - in his seminal work, Homestyle: House Members in Their Districts, he did not ask an equally important question - “What or whom do representatives hear when they listen to their constituents?” Although political scientists have explored various components of listening in the contexts of one-way communications from elites to citizens, the study of listening has been neglected in the context of representation (where citizens communicate messages to elites). Furthermore, researchers have given scant attention to the interpretative component in the listening process, especially in spoken contexts or face-to-face interactions between political officials and constituents. In this paper, I argue that paying attention to the way elites listen to citizens is nonetheless important to understanding the representative process, especially in the context of local politics where citizens’ participation is potentially more effective at influencing policy outcomes than at the state or national level. Thus, this paper not only clarifies what it means to listen but also develops an account of what it means to misinterpret messages or engage in “distorted listening.” I also propose several hypotheses regarding the various conditions that affect local elites’ predisposition to listen to their constituents and offer ways of investigating these hypotheses.
Artistic Innovation and Local Scenes in Barcelona, Manchester and Philadelphia

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This paper brings together the analysis of "scenes" in cultural sociology with the globalization and cities literature. Cultural sociologists argue that scenes are the foundation for cultural innovation, and are constituted by densely connected local networks of practitioners and creators, whose members also typically occupy a similar ethnic and/or class position in the city. Using examples of aesthetic scenes in Manchester (UK), Philadelphia, (US), and Barcelona (Spain), I show that "second cities" promote the repeated rise of artistic and pop cultural scenes among historically disadvantaged or segregated groups. Such scenes derive from the disadvantaged side of class inequalities in Manchester, racial inequalities in Philadelphia, and ethno-linguistic inequalities in Barcelona. I argue that different kinds of cities incubate and promote different kinds of cultural scenes. The paper outlines a distinctive cultural role on a world stage for "non-global" cities like Manchester, which are also not typically the centers of major culture industry conglomerates. Cultural scenes in these three cities eventually decline, however, as their most successful members are siphoned off by global media capitals like Los Angeles and London. The analysis is explicitly comparative, and suggests that this is a global rather than an Anglo-American phenomenon. The data are drawn from 6 months of historical and documentary research in each city on the dynamics of globalization in second-tier cities.
Going Green Globally: Comparing the Origins of Sustainable Development Practices in the Global North and South

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In order to reduce development footprints while populations expand, green building technologies are being practiced world-wide. Used in new and existing construction, these techniques increase building efficiency in areas such as energy, water, materials resource usage. Green building standards reduce a building’s environmental impact throughout its life cycle from siting, design, construction, operation, maintenance to removal. In order for private developers and government agencies to accept this practice, countries and municipalities began developing their own standards and evaluation criteria. Sustainable development issues and concerns vary drastically from the Global North to the Global South. In this paper I compare the emergence of green building standards in the Global North from the United Kingdom, United States and New Zealand while in the Global South from China, India, and Brazil. I examine the government, business and non-governmental organizations (NGO’s) involved in developing these standards.
**Fighting the Odds: Why Some Cities Adopt Sustainability Policies**

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Local governments have jurisdiction over many aspects of environmental sustainability. Most research into municipal sustainability investigates which kinds of cities undertake environmental protection and what policies they adopt. Questions about "why" and "how," from a municipal perspective, represent the crucial next step. This paper explores the motivations for the adoption of environmental protection policies and the resources needed by municipalities, especially in communities where adoption is not expected. I previously used a municipal sustainability index (based on a survey of almost 1500 U.S. cities by the International City/County Management Association) and found that environmental policy adoption is positively correlated to several factors including population size, educational attainment of residents, local government revenue generated, citizen participation, state environmental policies, the presence of a professional city manager, and location within a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area. Based on this statistical model, I calculated a predicted value of the sustainability index for each community and interviewed city managers from the 20 municipalities that most outperformed model predictions. Why would these places, with a lower expectation of environmental policy adoption, decide to act and how does that action take place. Among the motivations identified are budgetary savings, promotion of city for economic development purposes, and a connection to local natural heritage. In numerous cities, municipal utilities play a dual role of sensitizing local officials to the needs for environmental protection and providing a funding stream for policy implementation.
Comparative Study of Seattle and Vancouver on Discretionary Design Review Practice

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In the last decade, discretionary design review system has been becoming popular in the world, such as Japan, Korea, UK, India, Canada, etc. As a result of the promotion of 'compact city' development through intensification, increases of density could cause problems for living environments and provoke local opposition. Many jurisdictions are seeking effective discretionary development review systems to regulate new developments so that they better fit the conditions of the neighborhood and contribute to creating better urban form. For developers, however the discretionary process can be time-consuming and expensive, so a balance between zoning as a prescribed standard and discretionary development control is necessary. In United States, building height and building bulk are the most reviewed elements of building design and many papers and articles about design review is published until 2003. However, recent 10 years, few research has been published related to design review system in United States. This time, I chose Seattle WA, famous as Urban village strategy and intensification in downtown and Vancouver BC, famous as best living city and great urban design. Canada has very interesting hybrid planning system that employs aspects of both the British discretionary development control and the US zoning system. This study is the comparative study of Seattle and Vancouver’s discretionary design review practice from the viewpoint of comprehensive design control including not only the façade design but also building bulk. This research is based on the comparison of review system including the process, scale, land use and the committee, and the review of the minutes of all design review meetings for 5 years in Seattle downtown from 2005 to 2009, Capitol hill and Queen Anne area for 6 years from 2005 to 2010, total 93 proposals. In Vancouver for 6 years 2004 to 2009, total 300 proposals. Then, I picked up 10 cases from the aspect of building volume control. I also did interviews with city office staffs and specialists and a field survey of the resulting developments. The result of this research is that in Seattle, most of the conflicts between citizens and the developer were happened in Neighborhood commercial zone and design review board discussed the reduction the massing and bulk for the minimizing the impact to the low rise residential housings. But just 1 or 2 stories reduction had accomplished. In Vancouver, the conflicts were in downtown and commercial zone. Interestingly, one case in downtown had 13 m height reduced and in Commercial zone, 2 stories reduction. This result is the difference of the discreitional power and transfer development rights system.
Residential Reconstruction on the Rim of Fire

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In 2011, both Christchurch New Zealand and Minamisoma, in Fukushima, Japan were hit by massive earthquakes, which killed many people. While in Japan, 54,000 temporary houses have been built by the Government, very few houses, particularly social and affordable houses, have yet been built in Christchurch. As a result of the earthquake, strong after-shocks causing further damage and partial liquefaction of the soil in Christchurch, have led the Government to purchase over 5,000 damaged houses, which will be demolished. Protracted negotiations between private insurance companies and the Earthquake Commission, established after the 1931 Napier earthquake, have complicated the response of residential reconstruction. There is an acute need for more housing for both residents and the influx of construction workers being brought in for the re-build. In order to address and respond to a range of competing demands and associated factors in the redevelopment of Christchurch academics, central and local government, developers and community agencies are forming public/private/community partnerships to focus activities on providing exemplar residential compact development of mixed affordable and social housing. These would incorporate high build quality, aspects of modular and prefabricated construction and reduced carbon emissions in operation. The aim is to build from within existing capability, while developing industry competencies in new technologies and design. The goal is 500 houses. Next winter (June to August 2013), will be the third winter that many Christchurch residents have endured in their earthquake-damaged housing. The community housing is being design-led to meet sustainable urban design criteria: the houses will be compact, close to amenities, transit-oriented and will be correctly oriented to ensure photovoltaics can be efficiently used. Sustainable building materials and practices will be used, and innovative materials and building techniques will be incorporated throughout the project e.g. laminated wood, to maximise stored carbon. The project will utilize the development of prototype designs that can be rapidly up-scaled by stipulating external building parameters based on around 100 sq metres per house that will enable substitutable internal modules to allow consumer choice. Local production is being encouraged to stimulate the Christchurch economy and enable up-skilling local workforce. In this presentation, we will compare and analyze the reasons for the more proactive response of the Japanese government to their earthquake and highlight the factors in the exemplar project, which have been incorporated to facilitate sustainable residential reconstruction. Policy lessons from this comparison will be drawn for cities recovering from natural disasters.
Transforming Neighborhoods, Changing Communities: Community-based Redevelopment in Washington, DC

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As young people forego moves to the suburbs in favor of urban living, cities that were once primarily home to low income and minority residents are changing rapidly, favoring educated, high income, households. To accommodate and, in many cases, attract those newcomers, cities are undergoing massive redevelopment projects in existing deteriorating neighborhoods (Hyra, 2008). Framed as revitalization by city governments, these changes often ignore the existing and resulting social and economic realities in order to promote growth in population and tax base (Newman, 2004). Unquestioned, this gentrification is viewed as a necessary evil of urban progress from declining, isolated neighborhood to economic and social destination. However, in this either-or dichotomy of redevelopment, a third way of community-based development has been lost. The Columbia Heights neighborhood of Northwest Washington, DC was in the middle of a perfect storm of the housing boom, the rise in cities, and the line between white and black DC when the Metro stop opened in 1999. The District government controlled the majority of the property at the heart of the neighborhood, which was largely vacant from after the riots of 1968. The neighborhood became a high poverty, primarily African American neighborhood where drug-related crime and gang violence were prevalent. However the neighborhood redeveloped quickly between 2002 and 2008, resulting in a 330 percent increase in white population, 26 percent decline in black population and five percent increase in total population between 2000 and 2010. The total number of housing units also increased by 16 percent and home values more than doubled. Meanwhile poverty rates declined sharply. Columbia Heights benefitted from a strong community-based planning process; organized tenant and community-based groups; and a progressive citywide legislative and programmatic framework. This resulted in significant preservation of subsidized and private affordable housing using more than $62 million in local and Federal housing funds. Moreover, it has meant that, although the market will continue to price many households out of the neighborhood, the stock of subsidized and price controlled units will help the neighborhood retain economic diversity and recognize the historic claims that long term residents have on the neighborhood. Using data from interviews with residents, advocates, service providers and city government officials; direct and participant observation in the neighborhood, government, and nonprofit arenas; and administrative and census sources, this paper examines the processes that created the opportunities for the preservation and creation of affordable housing. Further, I evaluate the outcomes, challenges, and critiques that have arisen in this redevelopment. Finally, I will explore the local and federal policy
implications for this type of redevelopment and how policy might improve upon future community-based efforts.
Sustain Values of Urban Green Infrastructure: Challenges in Neighborhood Stormwater Pond Landscapes

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Urban stormwater ponds are essential infrastructure features in many housing developments in urban areas. They are created to collect and treat stormwater runoff and mitigate natural wetland loss. The ponds also provide aesthetic, ecological, and economic benefits. However, stormwater ponds are becoming environmental issues during recent years and residents complained the occurrence of algae blooms. In this study focus group interviews were conducted in two master planned communities to explore the reasons behind the current look of residential stormwater retention ponds and to understand perceptions of residents toward shoreline landscapes as a potential resource for developing strategies for improving water quality. The study finds that residential stormwater ponds integrated various benefits when they were first built while they failed to sustain the benefits over time. Driven by preferred aesthetic norms on water and turf, the ponds were marketed as "lakes" to the public and designed with turf down to the water edge. Residents paid premiums for the waterfront properties. Homeowners enjoyed open water views and they did not aware the functional purpose of these ponds. With the initial purpose of maintaining neighborhood aesthetic standards, neighborhood codes restricted changes to the initial neighborhood landscape forms. The particular landscape form of “clean water edge” contributed to nutrient accumulation in ponds due to fertilizer applications. The nutrient loading affected not only the functional performance of stormwater ponds, but also the benefits integrated. Although the current neighborhood retention ponds were functional and acceptable to residents at the time they were built, as the ponds age, the decreased function and aesthetics require a revision of the shoreline landscape for long term maintenance and ecological health. Pond services including aesthetic, ecological, and economic aspects are closely associated with each other and a more integral perspective should be taken to address the current problems. This paper suggests that sufficient ecological strength is essential for green infrastructure to sustain its benefits over time. Understanding the link between aesthetic and ecological quality might be helpful to sustain values of urban green infrastructure on a long term basis.
Global Sydney and Migration: an Alternative Research and Policy Agenda

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The global city thesis has focused on the measurements of economic globalisation, especially on the measurements of advanced producer services. A focus on the economic dimension of global cities is accompanied by the lack of a focus on the relationship between migration and global cities. Using economic measures as criteria of global city is one dimensional, and fails to the capture the political, environmental and socio-cultural aspects of the relationships between globalisation and cities. We need to conceptualise globalisation in broader senses than just the internationalisation of capital and finance, and that migration should be seen as an equally central component of globalisation as trade and finance. Flow of people shouldn't be separated from economic globalisation. People flows are fundamental to creating a global economy and that the interplay among immigration, capital, and trade is essential to understanding the way globalisation affects economies. The global city thesis has not tackled migration to the extent that it should. In this paper, I propose an alternative research agenda that integrates the global city thesis and the global migration thesis, using Sydney as a case study. It makes scholarly advancements along two strands: 1) moving from an economic dimension (advanced producer services) to a social dimension (movement of people) to capture the global city network; 2) moving from a nation state based approach to a city based approach to capture the new dynamics associated with people movement in contemporary globalisation. It also provides implications for Australian immigration strategy and urban policy.
School District Matters: Hispanic Students' Academic Outcomes in New Jersey, 2000-2010

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The United States is undergoing a monumental shift in demographics. In the early twentieth century, a massive influx of European immigrants ensured a majority white population. The change in immigrant laws in the 1960’s accelerated the population growth of other ethnicities, which has gradually reshaped the country's demographic profile. Four decades later, the population of the United States is evolving into an older white population and a younger population that is increasingly diverse. Hispanics are one of the fastest growing of these populations. New Jersey is a state with a rapidly growing Hispanic population. These demographic changes are reflected in New Jersey's public school districts. Data for this study were obtained from the US Census Bureau (2000 & 2010) and the New Jersey School Report Card (2003 & 2010). A Geographic Information System (GIS) was employed to map the change and distribution of the Hispanic population and Hispanic student body by school districts and to identify districts with 45% or more of their population being Hispanic. Data were also analyzed using SPSS to see how the characteristics of the schools in each school district (e.g., student mobility and free lunch) were related to Hispanic student academic performance. The findings provide an understanding about the extent to which residential segregation influences student educational outcomes.
Connecting Newark's Arts & Cultural Districts: A Vision Plan for the Lincoln Park Neighborhood and the Halsey Street Arts Corridor

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Lincoln Park is a neighborhood in the heart of Newark, New Jersey. Just south of the Central Business District along bustling Broad Street, much of the Lincoln Park neighborhood lies within a National Historic District and dates back to the city's colonial days in the late 1600s. The park was renamed Lincoln Park in 1869 in honor of President Abraham Lincoln, who had made a landmark speech there 8 years earlier. From the mid 1800s through the 1920s during Newark's heyday as a prominent industrial center, many of the city's business and social leaders took up residence near Lincoln Park. Lincoln Park's prime time, however, arrived in the second quarter of the 20th century, as the neighborhood became a largely African American business district of trendy hotels, shops, and residents. The area was known as the "coast," as jazz artists would drift between the myriad of clubs and social venues amid the thriving nightlife and flourishing musical scene. After the Newark Riots of 1967, however, the Lincoln Park neighborhood fell prey to disinvestment, poverty, and crime, much like the rest of the city. Serious recovery efforts did not arrive until the late 1990s when redevelopment charettes of the neighborhood took place and The Lincoln Park Coast Cultural District (LPCCD) was established as a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation, beautification, and revitalization of the Lincoln Park community. LPCCD has added over a hundred new housing units along with retail and office space to the community with a keen emphasis on arts, culture, and sustainable development. According to several redevelopment studies completed in North America, arts and culture provide critical opportunities for urban revitalization. In addition to capitalizing on the arts and culture of its past and present, the Lincoln Park neighborhood needs better connections to the Halsey Street Arts corridor to the north, access to public transportation, more residents, quality retail and food markets, pedestrian-friendly and aesthetically pleasing streetscapes, and mixed-use, scale-sensitive infill development. Based on archival research, interviews, and GIS analyses, the study team provides extensive land use, structure, and streetscape proposals for the Lincoln Park neighborhood that follow suit with LPCCD’s missions and goals. Focusing on areas in need of redevelopment as well as entertainment and downtown commercial overlay zones as designated by the city, the design elements of the vision plan combine principles of new urbanism with art and culture to not only create aesthetically pleasing streetscapes and structures, but to place emphasis on the pedestrian realm, lesson vehicle dependence, and, ultimately, create a more livable and safe urban community within New Jersey's largest city.
The "Mouse Tribe" -- Basement Living in Beijing, China

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China is experiencing the urban revolution, with hundreds of millions of rural-to-urban migrants. Meanwhile, Chinese cities have experienced the largest housing boom which has resulted in skyrocketing housing price. Faced with institutionalized discrimination in the housing market and the lack of housing affordability, millions of migrants have turned to inhabitable spaces such as basements and civil air defense shelters for affordable housing. It is estimated that there are millions of people living in basements and civil air defense shelters in Beijing, forming a huge underground city that is invisible to outsiders and residents above the ground. With extremely crowded space, the lack of windows and thus sunshine and fresh air, basement tenants are often called the "mouse tribe" (shu zu), vividly portraying their life in crowded underground tunnels and cellars below the modern, globalizing city of Beijing. This paper aims to examine the socio-spatial pattern of basement living in Beijing and its dynamics. Basement rental tend to cluster around main employment centers and main transports in the city, which increases the accessibility of basement tenants. Most tenants are young, male migrants with high school education, who are employed in low-paid service sectors. While the rent is affordable, housing condition is terrible, which imposes significant health and psychological consequences on tenants. There are few interactions between basement tenants and residents above the ground. While direct conflicts are rare, the latter tend to complain about the presence of the former, demonstrating social discrimination towards migrants. I argue that the discriminatory policy towards migrants in Chinese cities has left few housing options for poor migrants, who are forced into spatially marginalized housing either in far suburbs in migrant enclaves (horizontal marginalization) or basements inside of the city (vertical marginalization). The government’s initial encouragement for utilizing the underground space has encouraged such a phenomenon; yet, recently, the government started to clear up the basement rental market to avoid accidents and disasters, although the results are not clear. In transitional Chinese cities, housing has become a mechanism for social stratification and social exclusion. By denying migrants' access to subsidized housing, the government has marginalized migrants socially, and spatially. The government should be more pro-active in housing to create a large stock of affordable housing, and allow migrants to access subsidized housing. Only then, the "mouse tribe" may see the light at the end of the tunnel.
Multi-Scalar Dimensions of Urban Climate Change Planning: The Cases of Delhi and Mexico City

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Cities around the world are creating plans to address the causes and consequences of climate change within their borders. Research has focused on evaluating the content of these plans and, to a lesser extent, the motivations underlying their creation. Climate change is an inherently multi-scalar policy domain: international politics, intergovernmental organizations, national policy, civil society, and sub-national policy all have the potential to shape the decisions cities make about climate change. However, we know little about how these players interact and the consequences of this interaction for urban climate change planning. This paper seeks to fill this gap through a comparative analysis of urban climate change planning in Delhi and Mexico City. Interviews conducted with decision makers, planners, managers, academics, and NGOs in the two cities as well as reports and newspaper articles are used to understand the way that actors at different scales interact to influence outcomes in the city. The results show that in both cases the country’s international negotiating position and national level policy play a significant role in constructing a city's priorities and decision making process, but local context and politics ultimately determine the actions cities are willing to take to reduce emissions and forward adaptation.
Exporting Swedish Best - Practice Sustainable Development to China

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The past decade has seen a substantial increase in the number of cities and urban projects labeled as eco-cities. Sweden and Scandinavia have been praised for their efforts to develop and promote models of sustainability for the rest of the world to follow and Swedish international architecture and urban planning firms are driven by the advantage of being able to brand their projects as “Sustainable and Scandinavian”. Under the banner of “best-practice”, international architectural firms are often invited to master plan eco-city developments. In that sense, the sustainable city has become a Swedish service to export. In order to strengthen a coherent image of Swedish sustainable urban development, in 2007, the Swedish Trade Council initiated a marketing platform for eco-profiled companies under the name of “SymbioCity”. The Swedish urban sustainable brand, packaged as SymbioCity, is to a large degree based on a strong political will to prioritise Swedish export-oriented businesses. Within this concept the role of the planner and architect is re-framed as “door opener” for eco-friendly technique. Extensive efforts have been made especially to market Swedish knowledge in the field of sustainable urban planning towards China. This article discusses the effect of such re-framing in practice. Two cases are explored. The work of the Swedish architectural and engineering firm SWECO in the master planning of “Caofedian International Eco-City” and the practice of the architectural office Tengbom in the case of “Sino-Swedish Low Carbon City” located outside of Wuxi in China. Caofedian Eco-City is the most large-scale urban development project carried out by a Swedish company in China so far. The project plan was carried out by SWECO in cooperation with many stockholders in Tangshan city and the Centre for Environment Technology (CENTEC) within the Embassy of Sweden in Beijing and the residential area is called B03 as a reference to Bo01 in Malmö City. The Wuxi Sino-Swedish Low-Carbon Eco-City is part of the new city development project known as Taihu New City, which is part of the urban expansion of Wuxi City. The concept brought forward by Tengbom for the 2.4 sqkm residential area of Wuxi Sino-Swedish Low-Carbon Eco-city resembles the sustainable techniques used in Hammarby Sjöstad in Stockholm. The urban districts of Hammarby Sjöstad and Bo01 in Sweden serve as packaged examples that are ready for export. They are part of a best practice market, where eco-cities are viewed as urban projects with well defined borders (in both space and time), which show-case contemporary technological innovation. The empirical cases raise numerous questions regarding the politics of urban policy circulation and the contradictions between the ideal and the real of an Eco-City.
Rebuilding a City: An Urban Design Perspective on Redevelopment Proposals for Christchurch in the Wake of the 2011 Earthquakes

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In February 2011 Christchurch (the largest city in the South Island of New Zealand) experienced an earthquake that destroyed large parts of the central city and rendered a significant tract of land to the east of the city centre uninhabitable. Immediately following the earthquake the City Council implemented a major public consultation process as the basis for a central city recovery plan. A draft version of the plan was released in December 2011, and submitted the NZ Government for approval, as required under emergency legislation enacted immediately following the earthquake. In response, the Government established a separate development agency (the Christchurch Central Development Unit) and developed a very different kind of plan, involving the enforced purchase by Government of 53 hectares of property within and on the edges of the city centre, and proposals for some eighteen 'anchor' projects for buildings and open spaces. While the City Council draft plan enjoyed wide support, the Government sponsored plan (released on 30 July 2012) has elicited both positive responses and strong criticisms. Much of this criticism focuses on the compulsory purchases of commercial properties in order to implement the anchor projects. The paper begins by comparing the content of the City Council and Government led plans and the processes by which these were developed, and examines these differences in the context of the national planning legislation (the Resource Management Act) that governs all development (urban and rural) within New Zealand. The implications of the enforced property acquisition, together with the Government’s intentions to significantly reduce the size of the city centre and consequent projected impacts on land values, are explored and compared with the consultative and community-led processes that underpinned the draft plan prepared by the City Council. The paper then develops an argument that the need for central government intervention, and the introduction of unprecedented procedures for the implementation of their plan, is a consequence of the limited capacity for the Resource Management Act to proactively promote design-led urban renewal processes. The paper also examines why, to date, there have been no design-led initiatives for the redevelopment of affected suburban areas to the east of the city centre, and how any such future proposals might impact on plans for the redevelopment of the city centre. While the reconstruction of Christchurch has yet to gain momentum, the paper concludes that events to date point to the need for very different kinds of redevelopment processes, driven by local communities and their elected representatives and incentivizing comprehensive redevelopment of separately owned properties on a collaborative basis, rather than intervention by central government. Lessons from the experiences of
other cities in rebuilding after natural disasters offer a basis for the development of alternative approaches.
Future Threats and Our Provisions: Diagnosis and Supplement through the Master Plans in World Cities

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Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Long-term Plan, Strategic Plan

Abstract Text: As planning environments rapidly change, as well as unexpected threatening issues arise, the necessity of a strategic plan is emerging globally. The most noticeable change reflecting these situations is that leading world cities convert their character of master plans from comprehensive to strategic ones. Accordingly, we can comprehend as well as compare their strategies in terms of provisions for coping with threats and pursuing sustainable development. The Dilemma between economic development and environmental pollution, energy resource depletion and metabolism, climate change and resilience of urban space, could be the most serious problems that we have faced, and are going to encounter consistently in our future. Comparative study of the master plans in world cities would be a useful tool, not only to diagnose the current level of crisis we perceive, but also to check supplementary issues individually or in common. We chose three case study cities among world cities regarding their status in their nations, population and economic size, and presence of a master plan as a long-term plan: City of New York (PlaNYC, 2011) in USA, Tokyo (Vision for Making City, 2009) in Japan, and Seoul (2030 Master Plan of Seoul, 2012) in South Korea. Basically, with comparative analysis of the master plans of three world cities, we could synthesize that they have both common and individual perception of and strategies against future threats. We will take further steps through in-depth interviews with the planners or public officers, who participated in those master plan establishments. In those interviews, we will ask that: first, your opinion about the issues and strategies that other cities included in their master plans but your city did not; second, your opinion about the issues and suggested strategies by related articles and research papers that none of the three cities included.
Revitalization of Post-Industrial Sites Though Emerging Large Scale Urban Entertainment Center Development: Application of the Special Planning District Regulation

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In the 1990s most of the inner-city factories have been relocated to outer suburbs of Seoul leaving dispersed large-scale manufacturing sites with high potential of development, especially among the southwestern part of the city. Yeongdeungpo and Guro have been the hub for transportation and vigorous manufacturing area in the past, left with several large-scale brownfield lands once used for factories. Yet, due to constant building of apartment housings in its strong semi-industrial regional characteristic and obsolescent environment, the living condition has been relatively poor with lacking convenience facilities and urban development for the increasing residents. In this specific situation, applying a uniform standard of zoning system connotes limitations in establishing long-term comprehensive planning for the conversion of large-scale industrial sites in this area. To complement the uniformity of the zoning system and consider the local context, urban planning system in Korea has been implementing District Unit Plan and Special District Zoning (SDZ) regulation. SDZ regulation has been designated in order to provide creative and complex alternatives for long term urban development. However, the SDZ development projects completed until now have been mostly mixed-use high-rise residential buildings which has produced several controversies according to previous studies; inequality between public and private interest, developments that overlooked surrounding environment and context, quality issues regarding public facilities, and conflicts between the main planning agency and stakeholders. Recently one of the noticeable tendencies in dealing with inner-city post-industrial sites is creating large-scale multi-purpose commercial complexes that integrate culture and entertainment into the urban lifestyle. The study here takes an approach to look into large-scale Urban Entertainment Center (UEC) development that has emerged in the late 2000 and has been completed within the boundary of the SDZ regulation. Two representative cases of UEC will be closely examined regarding the overall planning process followed by the resulting outcome. The sites have been designated as SDZ to induce developments regarding tertiary and service industries including culture and entertainment key tenants. Revitalization of post-industrial sites through large-scale UEC development applied with the SDZ regulation possesses several positive aspects; providing commercial, cultural and entertainment oriented urban infrastructure as redevelopment strategy, overcoming the limitation of the SDZ regulation which has been majorly applied to high-rise residential developments, establishing improved urban environment and design quality oriented toward public interest and
suggesting potentials in building cooperative public-private partnership among rigid public-lead urban developments in Korean conventional urban planning patterns.
Understanding the Role of Investors in Distressed Neighborhoods in Atlanta

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The housing crisis has resulted in large numbers of single-family properties flowing through the foreclosure process into lender ownership ("real estate owned" or REO status) and then usually back into ownership by either owner-occupying homeowners or investors of some type. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the activities of single-family real estate investors, while in some cases having benefits to communities, can sometimes have negative effects on neighborhoods and housing markets, especially in already distressed areas. While a number of studies have pointed to a significant role of investors in distressed neighborhoods, there is little systematic information on investor activities in these areas, including the types of properties they are acquiring, the strategies they are pursuing, and the nature of the financial and economic incentives that help determine their approach to managing these properties. This analysis will examine what happens to properties flowing out of REO and into homeowner or investor ownership in Fulton County, Georgia (including most of the City of Atlanta plus a substantial number of suburban communities) and will focus especially on what happens to those properties sold to investors (e.g., how many are resold within a one-year period, and whether they are resold to homeowners or other investors). Using mixed methods, the study will examine the magnitude of investor purchases, the characteristics of the properties acquired by them, the characteristics of investors, their sources of financing, and their strategies for managing these investments. The study will help inform efforts by public and nonprofit organizations to stabilize neighborhoods by channeling, complementing or countering investor activities.
The Impact of Political Context on English Acquisition and Homeownership among Latino Immigrants

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The recent increase in the passage of restrictive state-level immigration laws in the United States has raised concerns among advocates and scholars that the new laws will impede immigrant assimilation. The aim of this study is to examine the relationship between the state-level political climate related to immigrants and two important indicators of assimilation, English proficiency and homeownership, for foreign-born Hispanics. We hypothesize that the passage of legislation that restricts individual rights or access to opportunities for immigrants sends a negative, unwelcoming signal to Hispanic immigrants, decreasing their level of comfort in the state and discouraging their English language acquisition and propensity to purchase a home. On the other hand, we hypothesize that the passage of legislation that expands individual rights or access to opportunities for immigrants sends a positive, welcoming signal to immigrants, increasing their level of comfort in the state and encouraging their English language acquisition and propensity to purchase a home. To test these hypotheses we use data from the 2006 American Community Survey from the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series and reports on the passage of state-level laws related to immigrant in 2005, 2006, and 2007 that are compiled by the National Conference of State Legislators. Results from logistic regression models suggest that residing in a state with more expansive legislation is associated with higher levels of English proficiency and homeownership while controlling for other individual and contextual factors. Though individual and other contextual factors are more important predictors of English proficiency and homeownership for Hispanic immigrants, the finding that expansive (or restrictive) state-level legislation seems to make a difference in these measures of assimilation has important implications for theory and policy. Specifically, this finding indicates a potential role for the state in influencing the relative success of immigrant assimilation by virtue of how welcoming states are toward immigrant populations.
Local Pressure/Global Challenge: A Quest for Governing Jakarta City Region

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Globalization has brought opportunities and challenges to create an inclusive approach in governing a city-region. In order to respond to such challenge, local government resorts to rescale their political territories as a response to such challenge. However, any changes taken as a response to territorial rescaling might create impediment since globalization also deepens economic inequality, social polarization and spatial decentralization at regional level. It is a daunting task for a region to choose an appropriate governing and institution framework suitable for global challenge. Further complicated the task is that often local actors are not in conjunction with such an effort. Although globalization with the conjunction of decentralization has paved ways for collaborative development in other places, it remains to be seen whether global city-region in the south is able to capitalize this idea. Drawing from the experience of Jakarta extended metropolitan region, this paper sought to address contentious debate with regard to Jakarta from two competing views: creating a metropolitan government encompassing many political jurisdictions or pursuing a collaborative governance instead. The proponent of consolidation argue that metropolitan government is able to deliver efficient service to the residents. On the other hand, many have questioned the effectiveness of such approach as there is no assurance that a consolidated institution such as metropolitan government will deliver its promises effectively. In the case of Jakarta, any political decision taken might have broader repercussions since not only Jakarta serves as a capital of Indonesia but it also acts as the economic core of the country. Changes applied to the region will be felt beyond its administrative boundary. With more than 64% of its population living in the outlying areas, high poverty rate and degree of spatial decentralization, whoever governs Jakarta will face enormous challenges in governing the region. This poses challenges on how to effectively govern and create a regional plan encompassing Jakarta city-region. A comprehensive development plan is in need, yet it might entail relinquishment of authority from adjacent cities and districts, something implausible in the era of decentralization. Rather than creating a large entity such as metropolitan government, this paper argues that it is best for Jakarta city-region to pursue collaborative governance focusing on common interests.
Urban Revitalisation: An Expose of Underserved Neighborhoods

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As the need for urban revitalization comes to center stage due to the economic recession, leap frog development that occurred post racial segregation and the housing burst, the revitalization of these neighborhood’s may be long deferred due to lack of financing, low political will. The paper examines the state of these neighborhoods, lack of sincere focus and the financing bottlenecks faced by the Rehab companies. The small Home Rehab and Repair companies are the ones that can fix up these long abandoned homes that are in decay due to their economies of scale, with the current depression banks are not willing to finance these transactions; the grants that are available have a process too cumbersome for the small Home Rehab companies serving theses neighborhoods. The West Capitol area of the Jackson Mississippi down town is one of the underserved areas where a lot of houses are in decay and could be described as "rundown". The grasses are over grown; the trees are not pruned and high crime rate. The Rehab companies can't secure financing to buy and fix up. Taking a tour of Texas Street, Louisiana Avenue, Alabama Avenue, Tennessee Street, the immediate areas around the Jackson Metro zoo are in dare need for revitalization. They are now referred to as the "Ghetto" or "The Hood". These areas before now were thriving well-kept neighborhoods prior to segregation, then occupied by Caucasians now occupied by the African American community. The Rehab of the area examined will require a developer with political clout; enormous funding; a Mayor focused on neighborhood revitalization.
Participatory Planning in Post-disaster Reconstruction. The Case of Christchurch, New Zealand

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In 2010 and 2011 a series of violent earthquakes struck the city of Christchurch, New Zealand. As the central downtown area lay in ruins and many residential streets suffered from the consequences of liquefaction, the city had to rapidly organized its reconstruction. The national disaster management framework made possible planning responses despite many raising issues and problems that slowed the reconstruction process (e.g. Rubble removals, rebuilt of transportation networks, population displacement, etc.). In terms of its physical attributes, the city seems to bounce back to normality at a path that appears appropriate considering the magnitude of the destruction. However, cities are spaces of belonging and of sharing. There is an affective response to the disaster that moves people both as individuals and as part of a community. Not only people have been affected on a personal basis but also in the relationships they have forged between them, and between them and their built environment. Recent planning theories have taken into account these interactions of social and cultural processes with human-made environment and it has influence practices for the last decades. Participatory planning has made possible the input of individuals and interest groups in the transformation of their environment. But in cases such as Christchurch where destruction caused so much damages and where reconstruction will most-likely take many years, how can participatory planning contribute in the resilience of the city and its population? Resilience is both physical and symbolic and relies on the construction of overlapping narratives that affects representations and infrastructures. These narratives exist in particular through the implementation of tools such as the media and planning documents. In this communication, we will explore the construction of narratives surrounding the reconstruction of Christchurch and its futures shape. Particular emphasis will be put on the implementation by the municipal government of the Share-an-Idea Project. Rooted in the period following the September 2010 earthquake, it evolved into a vast virtual and physical collaborative project where people were invited to expose their expectations for the future city and propose planning solutions to promote a renew city both in terms of its physical and community attributes. Through this example, we will analyze how social and cultural capitals play an important role in collaborative resilience.
Planning For Transformational Change: A Comparison of London, Sydney and New York’s Sustainable Development Strategies

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The United States’ experience with sustainable development is contrasted with the roots and current practices of the British and Australian approaches. This research identifies the convergence and divergence of sustainable development policies in London, Sydney and New York City, the lexicon of sustainable development tools and practices and the complex interplay of federal, state and local legislation and actions. Each city has launched its own version of a comprehensive sustainability plan in the last decade, setting ambitious goals to be achieved by 2025 or 2030, with important milestones established along the way. London through the coordination of the Greater London Authority and the establishment of central planning with the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947 has the most centralized approach towards advancing sustainable development strategies. The Greater London Authority (GLA) established the London Sustainable Development Commission in 2002, with experts represented from all sectors. The GLA has built attainable targets and standards to be achieved by 2025 in their plan Leading to a Greener London. Australia also presents a compelling framework for emerging success and best practice in sustainable development. Sydney’s Sustainable Sydney 2030 adopted in 2008, is perhaps is the best Australian model. This paper explicates the most important components of Australian cities’ race to the top with their commitment to being Green, Global and Connected. Successful sustainable outcomes are attributed not just to one strategy, but a commingling of policies - sound urban planning, coordinated state and local leadership and an overall commitment to sustainable development. In the U.S., many state and federal leaders have been slow to adopt new models and change existing patterns of development, with even the legitimacy of climate change itself being vigorously debated. Many cities however, have been proactive in creating their own responses. New York City might be among those U.S. cities, leading the way with PlaNYC launched in 2007, with over 25 city agencies working together to set goals and benchmarks for hundreds of sustainable milestones and with ultimate goals for the year 2030. A number of impressive goals have already been achieved. The paper explicates the most important components, strengths and shortcomings of efforts to advance sustainable development with explicit comparisons made among the premier world cities of London, Sydney and New York as they all envision a future as fully sustainable cities.
An Institutional Approach to Non-regulatory Sustainability Initiatives: Evidence from the U.S. County Governments

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Under much concern on the global issue, sustainability, the U.S. local governments have been adopting sustainability initiatives in various policy fields such as energy, water and buildings. Even when the U.S. federal government withdrew its support for the Kyoto Protocol, local authorities have independently taken on policy initiatives. Local governments taking innovative actions to address sustainability are not only pioneers in comparison to other local authorities that are not doing so but also pioneers relative to both the state and federal governments. Despite increasing attention on sustainability activities in local governments, there are few studies that address the role of political leadership in taking sustainability innovation in action. Given the fact that there is no mandatory statement and financial supports from the state and federal governments on sustainability effort, political leadership of local government accounts for why some local governments are voluntarily initiating sustainability programs within limited administrative resources despite other local governments not doing so. It is also important to know how political leadership of local government is working when there is high heterogeneity among residents’ demands on sustainability. Why is there a substantial variation among local governments in initiating voluntary policies for sustainability? To answer this research question, I analyze the role of Mayors in the U.S. city governments in initiating a sustainability policy by using the case of energy reduction program for low income residents. From a perspective of community sustainability, energy reduction program for low income people is consistent with a goal of sustainability that facilitates household energy savings and more importantly achieves social equity in community. However, since the energy assistance program for low income people has limited benefits only to certain target, usually poor and politically powerless, it does not seem attractive to high income residents. So, I also look at how the political leadership effect is altered or moderated by the degree of heterogeneity of residents in terms of income. This study conducts a probit analysis by using data gathered through the 2010 Local Government Sustainability Policies and Programs survey and the U.S. Census Bureau. To identify a moderating effect of polarized income distribution among residents, the empirical model includes an interactive term of leadership and the degree of income polarization, which is expected to decrease the effect of government leadership on the possibility of implementing the energy program for the low income. This study will shed light on the role of political leadership in local government to address community sustainability. It will also give implications about how to address the equity issue in sustainability, which has been rarely addressed in sustainability discussion.
Reconceiving Military Base Redevelopment: The Myths of Base Closures in the United States

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The United States Department of Defense (DOD) has decommissioned over one hundred urban installations in the United States alone over the last thirty years through the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Process. Current scholarship describes the federal closure process and provides snapshots of transition, yet there is very little exploration about what happens after bases close. This omission is significant due to the amount and quality of land transferred, the challenges of financing such complex projects, and the difficulties in incorporating private federal lands into the public ether. The lack of a comprehensive, longitudinal, and interdisciplinary analysis means that urban communities are unable to draw on similar cities' experiences or take national trends into account because there is no systematic information about what kinds of redevelopment take place or which types might work better than others. The result is uninformed redevelopment policy with the capacity to damage cities along many different dimensions- economic, environmental, social, educational and beyond. Our work builds knowledge around these issues, by drawing on an original dataset of military base redevelopment supplemented by government documents, key interviews, and media coverage. We debunk several pervasive myths surrounding base closures. Specifically, we present evidence suggesting the Federal government in many cases does not allow its properties to fully devolve to local government or private partners, that projects take on a thematic land use structure and that implementation differs from traditional development projects. Furthermore, we argue many base closures improve cities' hopes for economic growth through redevelopment and that the DOD does not equivocally save money by closing many bases due to the costs of environmental rehabilitation the military must bear. Our arguments represent a new direction for scholarship on this topic and the first step toward identifying national trends for military base redevelopment as well as a foundation for a set of best practices to help cities redevelop mothballed bases that have stalled and struggled.
Gentrification and Displacement in the Redevelopment of San Francisco

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Contemporary views of San Francisco portray it as an idealistic city; one that other cities could use as a model for a great city. However, much literature points to gentrification and displacement issues that have altered the city’s demographics by eliminating the poor and many of those of color. Several San Francisco neighborhoods from the Mission district, the Western Addition, South of Market, Haight-Ashbury, and even the Tenderloin district have been the focus of redevelopment efforts from the 1960’s through to the 1980’s with San Francisco’s redevelopment agency behind the wheel. Gentrification is a term that is very prevalent in urban research today and can be looked at in both positive and negative ways. Gentrification can be seen as an economic development tool to attract the upper and middle class tax base back to the central city, while often times forgetting the issues of displacement that seem inherit in this practice. This paper will discuss the issues of gentrification and displacement in general and a more specific discussion of its effects on the different neighborhoods of San Francisco. This will include the consultation of previous literature on the matter, as well as first-hand accounts from primary sources to provide a multi-faceted view of this phenomenon. Capping off this conversation will be an analysis of the city in its current state in the wake of these gentrification trends.
Poverty De-Concentration Priorities in Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Allocation Policy: A Content Analysis of Qualified Allocation Plans

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Amid the various federal rental housing programs, the low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) serves as the flagship model for low-income housing provision nationally. This research is an analysis of the state policy documents governing the allocation of LIHTC and the criteria used to prioritize the distribution, reservation and allocation of these federal resources. It seeks to determine how state housing agencies prioritize socio-spatial equity in the development of their LIHTC allocation plans relative to other goals. Through a content analysis of state's scoring priorities within qualified allocation plans (QAP) between 2000 and 2010, the study analyzes how low-income population distribution is considered within the plans that guide allocation of the supply side subsidy. The research seeks to determine whether strides have been made to encourage poverty de-concentration--by actively considering the socio-spatial needs of low-income households within the LIHTC policy design--or whether additional emphasis needs to be directed toward incorporating these locational priorities. Results of the analysis suggest that progress has been made in considering the socio-spatial needs of low-income households. However, they also suggest that increasing emphasis should be placed on enhancing incentives within qualified allocation plans to encourage more equity in LIHTC locational patterns. As poverty concentration marginalizes a growing number of households and its impact contributes to swelling socio-economic divides, critical analysis of low-income housing policy and program priorities is imperative.
Black Suburbanization and Regional Governance: A New Social Compact or the Rise of American Banlieues?

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Based on findings from the 2010 Census, some policy analysts have touted the "end of the segregated century." Does the end of segregated cities translate into the rise of a new era of regionalism? This paper suggests that America’s metropolitan regions confront a critical moment. Using interviews, archival sources, and GIS analysis, this paper examines the prospects for a new regionalism by comparing the majority-minority suburbs of San Francisco/Oakland and New York City/Newark. Decreases in urban segregation within a number of cities have accompanied increasing levels of racial/ethnic integration within metropolitan (Frey 2011). Yet this de-concentration has not led to widespread racial integration; blacks may be more likely to be located within segregated communities across a region. These population shifts present intriguing questions about the nature of politics and policy in America's metropolitan regions. For example, advocates of greater regional strategies argued that even the most successful suburbs or edge cities, needed thriving central cities in order to survive. Two decades later, many central cities - especially those populated by the so-called creative class - are thriving with higher incomes and growing, younger, white population, while some of the suburbs and exurbs of these cities are struggling with lower incomes and growing minority populations. The San Francisco Bay Area stands as one example of this trend. In 1980, African Americans were 12% of San Francisco's total population, but only 6% of the city's population in 2010. Meanwhile traditional "black suburbs" like East Palo Alto saw sharp declines in black population, while newer, outer suburbs like Fairfield and Antioch saw considerable increases in their black population. Given these new spatial patterns can cities and suburbs come together? Whereas before, the case was made that it was in the interests of suburbs to agree to the creation of regional governance mechanisms to join the more successful suburbs with the struggling inner city; now the case may have to be made that successful urban cores should come to the aid of struggling suburbs. But is the latter proposition necessarily true? To what extent is the concentration of minority populations in politically and economically fragmented and weak jurisdictions beneficial for increasingly affluent cities with decreasing minority populations? Given the past limited success with regional governance and the still quite powerful effect of racial segregation, what are the future prospects for majority-minority suburbs? Can black suburbs re-create/sustain the suburban dream for their residents; or do black suburbs become the equivalent of American banlieues, new sites of segregation and exclusion? Will successful cities come to the aid of struggling minority suburbs; suburbs before them, resist coming to the aid of those spatially, socially, and politically segregated from them?
Residential Instability and Adolescent Obesity: The Role of the Built Environment

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While much research has been done on how neighborhood change affects obesity, very few studies have explored how an individual's residential change relates to obesity. Using an urban sociological perspective, this study relies on panel data from the National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health) to assess how residential instability affects obesity among adolescents. Using an individual-level, fixed-effects modeling strategy, this research also explores how the built environment of old and new neighborhoods is related to obesity through the access to active lifestyle structures such as recreational centers. Add Health captures five different types of residential movement: no move (residential stability), moved block groups within the same census tract (inter-neighborhood change), moved tracts in same county (cross-neighborhood change), moved counties in same state, and moved states. Preliminary analyses suggest that 22% of the sample did not move, leaving 78% of adolescents experiencing some kind of residential instability. Control variables at the individual and census tract level are also included and measured at Wave I.
The Efficacy of New Urbanism Development in Addressing Local Housing Issues

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New Urbanism is touted for its emphasis on fostering neighborhoods with "a broad range of housing types and price levels" that helps to "bring people of diverse ages, races, and incomes into daily interaction, strengthening the personal and civic bonds essential to an authentic community" (Charter of New Urbanism,). At the same time, the movement has been subject to a range of criticism for its inability to actually produce such neighborhoods. Housing affordability, in particular, has proven difficult for New Urbanism to address in any significant way through actual development projects that foster the desired diversity. Without denying the fundamental importance of housing affordability, this paper looks at New Urbanism and housing issues in a somewhat different way. To what extent do New Urbanism projects address local housing needs? Certainly the answer must address issues of affordability, but there are also concerns such as housing for those aging in place and other special needs housing, issues related to jobs/housing balance, rental versus ownership opportunities, gaps in the supply of market-rate housing, sufficient housing supply, etc. A case study approach is used to begin to answer this question of meeting local housing needs. Several New Urbanism projects have been selected for the effort, all located in Michigan. They include Cherry Hill Village in Canton Township, Mason Run in Monroe, Howell Town Commons in Howell, Labadie Park in Wyandotte, and Lites Woods in Pentwater. Projects range in size from 7.5 acres to over 600 acres, and included brownfield redevelopment, urban infill, and greenfield development, each with a variety of housing types. 2010 Census data and community profile data from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments are used in comparing the New Urbanism projects with the surrounding neighborhoods and the overall community in terms of household character and tenure, housing types, income levels, employment type and location, commute patterns, etc. Information on local housing issues and needs is gathered from comprehensive plans, community housing assessment reports and related documents. Relevant information is also obtained from local housing authorities, community development organizations, and local housing advocacy groups though documents and interviews of key actors. All of this is compared with what the selected projects purport to do in terms of meeting local housing needs, as well as what these projects have actually accomplished to date. Preliminary findings of the research support prior assessments indicating that New Urbanism projects are significantly underperforming when it comes to addressing issues of affordability. However, the detailed case study approach also indicates a more nuanced response to the affordability question that suggests these projects are, in various ways, helping to address identified local housing issues beyond affordability alone.
Women of Faith and Hope: A Case Study Approach to Community Healthcare Education, Outreach, and Social Change

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According to the Susan G. Komen Foundation, African American Women have a lower risk of breast cancer than their Caucasian counterparts. However, African American women have a breast cancer mortality rate that is 39% higher. Until recently, this phenomenon was attributed to differences in rates of mammography and in the quality of follow-up care. After all, the African American community is greatly affected by socioeconomic disparities, which have a strong impact on healthcare access. Then, in 2008, a study changed the discussion by suggesting that in spite of the gap in mortality rates, African American and Caucasian women no longer exhibited a difference in their mammography rates. The resulting closure of the gap in screenings can be attributed in part to efforts by people like Novella K. Lyons who chose to turn a personal tragedy into a powerful social effort. In 1993, Ms. Lyons was diagnosed with breast cancer, the news coming eighteen years after her mother’s passing from the ailment. Instead of viewing it as a death sentence, Novella used the opportunity to find her passion. In 1996, she founded Women of Faith and Hope (WOFAH) - a faith-based nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness of and preventing breast cancer, and offering spiritual support to breast cancer patients, survivors, and their families in the Greater Philadelphia area. Aside from the financial constraints associated with establishing a nonprofit, the founder faced a multitude of logistical challenges and obstacles in reaching groups of women who would typically not attend traditional healthcare education events. This single-unit case study seeks to explain and analyze WOFAH’s process of using faith to engage women who would otherwise be overlooked. A research approach combining faith-based organizations and healthcare disparities was used in an effort to unearth the intricacies or this particular method for social change. The methodology employed in-depth, semi-structured interviews with the founder as well as other contacts from both within and outside WOFAH. In addition, a survey instrument distributed to beneficiaries was used to operationalize key variables and form a quantitative basis for gauging program effectiveness. These measures, coupled with qualitative personal input, gave light to unique insights into the process leading to the organization's success. Results reveal that a careful mix of the founder's personal faith, drive, and community networks allowed for a transformative impact at the local level over the years. This process could potentially serve to inform related efforts in cities around the country facing similar challenges and work ahead in alleviating inequities in access to care.
Building Regional Resiliency: A Test of Bonding and Bridging Effects

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While much has been written about community resilience, few have examined whether patterns of social relations established by various government agencies can explain the ability of a region to bounce-back after disasters. Factors investigating regional resiliency in the international context have also been overlooked (Kapucu 2012). The relationship between interorganizational ties and regional resiliency is timely and an important topic for the fields of urban and emergency management (Kapucu et al. forthcoming). Given the limitations of resource and fragmented regional governance, scholars have argued that emergency networks encompassing federal, state, and local governments played an important role in promoting successful adaptation to adversity (Kapucu et al. 2010; Andrew 2009; 2010). Helping to build community resilience—characterized by a community’s ability and capacity to respond and recover from disasters—has also received much attention by regional, state, and national policymakers (Norris 2008; Chandra et al. 2010; Sherrieb et al. 2010). While sources affecting regional resiliency are multifaceted, we believe pre-disaster preparedness developed through a string of interorganizational relations helps create a resilient community. In this paper, the term "regional resiliency" is defined as local communities' ability and capacity to adjust and bounce-back from severe stress in emergency situations. The empirical research was conducted during the summer 2012 in the Southeastern tip of the Korean peninsula. The research was intentionally designed to test two general hypotheses: bonding and bridging effects. While the former illustrates the importance of trust and information redundancy to coordinate and align emergency preparedness and response, the latter captures the tendency for local actors to seek a dominant partner in order to bridge crucial information across the region (see Andrew & Carr 2012; Andrew 2009; 2010). The southern region of the country is also vulnerable to natural disasters (e.g., typhoons, floods, and severe winter) allowing us to understand the way in which local governments operate within a fragmented regional governance. Based on a survey of 103 local and regional agencies (including fire, police, and non-government organizations as well as provincial governments), our preliminary analysis found that higher level national agencies tend to play a significant role in coordinating emergency responses. Non-governmental organizations also play a crucial role, but generally establish ties with organizations within their local jurisdictions. Our network analysis shows that local governments with relatively high closeness centrality index tend to perceive higher levels of regional resiliency, highlighting the importance of a close-knit social structure (bonding effect) in explaining how the region can enhance its ability to respond and recover from disasters.
Changing Attitudes in Urban Planning: From Suburbanization to Inner Densification and Transformation, Combining Bottom Up and Top Down as Strategies

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We intend to present, how we managed to induce a discussion in the architecture community of Melbourne about the challenges and potentials of current urban developments: In a context of intense urban growth, we believe that planning has to be rethought: from a laissez-faire suburbanization, to a well-planned transformation and densification of existing inner city fabric. The former industrial area of Cremorne was used as a case study to demonstrate the densification and transformation potentials of atmospheric and well-connected inner neighborhoods in Melbourne. The project is taking a counter position to current sprawling tendencies. To handle the pressure of population growth, cities like Melbourne as well as others in the Americas and Europe commonly expand outwards. The sprawl creates manifold problems: detached low-rise settlements with poor and inefficient infrastructure, social segregation, ever-increasing land consumption and rising costs for infrastructure networks. In a context where Melbourne is predicted to grow by 1.8 Million until 2036, this centrifugal mode of growth needs to be reconsidered: If this figure reflects the dynamism and attractiveness of the city, it also highlights the great challenge of how and where to host the new citizens. We tested inner densification as an alternative to sprawl: The project envisioned Cremorne as a dense, lively, mixed and sustainable neighborhood, and developed a set of design strategies for the transformation of atmospheric urban heritage. It revolved around integrating the history of the place, existing morphologies and its genius loci. The vision contained ideas for alternative circulation, pedestrian, bike and public transport, catalytic projects and activation of public space. The research project was developed collaboratively with students, urban activists and journalists and used Monash University as a platform. As part of the overall strategy, the activation of urban space was pursued within the Cremorne itself. In conjunction with a website and flyer campaign, this method allowed to gain visibility and discursive exchange within the architecture community, the neighborhood and with urban planning authorities. The temporary installation in a parking lot demonstrated the potentials of underused space. It housed the exhibition and a discussion around the projects objectives. As a result, local planning authorities claimed interest in pursuing our ideas and collaborating in future. We believe that combined bottom-up and top-down strategy allowed attracting attention to the importance of sustainable urban growth strategies, showing the potentials transformative densification as alternative to urban sprawling. These strategies can potentially be applied in other contexts. We believe that only if we planners manage to engage a wider audience, can we actively contribute to improve urban processes. (more: www.cremorne2025.org)
Theorizing Eebellion for the Interconnected World: Mediated Social Movements, Neoliberal Globalization, and Competing Views on Activism

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This paper is concerned with the specific characteristics of social movements under neoliberal globalization—what I term 'mediated' social movements (MSMs). While scholars of neoliberal globalization have closely attended to neoliberal globalization's origins and economic reverberations, they have paid strikingly little attention to social movements in this context. Many characteristics of neoliberal globalization—highly mobile capital, deregulation, privatization, decreased roles of states, massive advances in communication and transportation technologies—suggest that social movements under this regime face a new set of constraints and opportunities, and we lack systematic understanding of what those are. I examine three literatures to help shed light on the nature of these MSMs in the current context: the literature on NGOs and formal changemaking organizations, work on new medias, including networks and solidarities, and work on glocalization. I expect these literatures to be relevant because 1) a tremendous expansion in third sector activities has effectively 'outsourced' social change projects—one of the products of the neoliberal regime has been to channel social movement activity into formal organizations, commodifying it to a degree; 2) some writing on new media sees the internet as the answer to social movement challenges under globalization, facilitating coordination among many, while others decry what they term 'slactivism' as replacing any meaningful action; and 3) the glocalization literature turns on the Habermasian idea of solidarity, and sees possibilities for multiple levels of action between the global and the local. Together, these literatures would suggest several potential characteristics of social movements under the neoliberal globalization regime: that they are mediated by both organizations and tools, that solidaristic ideals remain important, at least discursively, that activists and social movements have historically been collapsed into one category that may bear differentiation, and that current theoretical definitions of social movements aren't fully operative under this new context. I expect this project to yield a fuller and more nuanced understanding of social movements and activism for this era.
Reserve Urban Spaces: The Socio-Spatial Dimensions of the Housing Foreclosure Crisis in the United States

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Over the last ten years, cities in the United States have experienced a sequence of rapid growth in residential development and homeownership rates followed by a historic economic recession and housing crisis. A number of studies have examined the relationship between foreclosure rates and speculative activities, lending practices, housing type, race, education attainment, and other local and regional characteristics. These studies focused on particular regions or cities, or on groups of cities with common characteristics. This paper contributes to this body of work by situating the current housing foreclosure crisis in the United States in the context of a contemporary geography of urbanization that is associated with the recurring production, exploitation, and destruction of specific urban areas. In this paper, we examine these areas we call "reserve urban spaces" from their social and spatial dimensions. In addition to absorbing excess capital during periods of economic expansion and experiencing disproportionate disinvestment during periods of contraction, reserve spaces also perform critical economic, political, and cultural functions to sustain the reproduction of a cost-effective and compliant labor force. This theoretical framework is empirically tested at two levels. First at the national level, foreclosure rates are modeled for all United States metropolitan statistical areas. Second, at the metropolitan level, reserve spaces are examined in the Phoenix-Mesa-Glendale metropolitan statistical area. Both levels of analysis show that reserve spaces are associated with disproportionate fluctuations in housing prices, limited access to stable and quality employment, and higher concentrations of minorities, and moderate income households. The paper concludes with implications for urban planning theory and practice.
A Polyethnic Economy in a Parisian Neighborhood

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While studied and noted first in North America, ethnic business districts are prominent in European cities as well. The difference is that levels of segregation and ethnic exclusivity are less pronounced. Most neighborhoods are decidedly mixed in their composition and minority groups also share space with members of the majority group. This produces a different pattern of ethnic business district, more a mélange of different groups who operate side-by-side on the street and internally within each business that may better be described as a polyethnic economy. Such districts should be considered as a particular model of an ethnic business district, one that is polyethnic, ensconced within an immigrant community, serving various immigrant and ethnic populations both within and without the community, where businesses are owned and staffed by other immigrants as well as by some members of the majority group. This presentation reports on the structure and activities of a polyethnic economy in Paris. Many Parisian neighborhoods have changed with increasing immigration in the past 50 years. Ethnic ownership of some businesses has changed as well. These transformations are most apparent in a neighborhood in the far north of the city called the Goutte d'Or. This study, based on observation and interviews with business proprietors along three business streets in the Goutte d'Or, portrays an economy which is polyethnic in regard to the customer base, ownership, and employees of the firms. Different ethnic businesses exist side by side and ethnic mixture is found within each business itself. Our findings indicate that the businesses are clearly embedded within the polyethnic nature of the community but that each of the immigrant groups and the businesses they operate are also embedded within a larger transnational network.
Influencing Policy and Systems Change: A Case Study of Orientations, Strategies, and Early Outcomes

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Since emerging in the 1990s as a prominent place-based approach to poverty alleviation and community change, comprehensive community initiatives (CCIs) have been broadly characterized by a primary focus on community-level work—on “community building” through participatory planning efforts, strengthening community-based organizations, and promoting coordination and collaboration among them. Insofar as they have engaged larger systems and policy actors they have done so largely for purposes of leveraging resources to support these local efforts. While many CCIs have also recognized the need to influence policies, institutions, and the decisions of market actors that have an effect on their community work, few have made policy and systems change a central focus of their efforts. There has been growing interest in this topic within the field, and growing calls for CCIs to pursue policy and systems change more actively, but very little empirical investigation of their capacity and propensity to do so, or, when they do, of the factors that influence their aims, actions, and likelihood of success. This paper examines the policy and systems-change orientations and efforts in the New Communities Program (NCP). As a 14-neighborhood initiative operating within a single city, NCP provides a unique opportunity to explore both neighborhood-level efforts to influence policy or systems change and initiative-level efforts and opportunities on the part of LISC/Chicago as a managing intermediary with broad roles and responsibilities. The study was conducted between 2009 and 2011 as part of a larger evaluation of NCP by MDRC in partnership with Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. It is primarily based on in-depth interviews with initiative participants at the citywide level and in four case-study communities, as well as with key informants relevant to NCP policy aims and activities at both levels as allies, targets, or knowledgeable outsiders. The paper will present case studies of four NCP “lead agencies” conducting community-based policy and systems-change efforts in the areas of, respectively, state budget policy, mass-transit planning, commercial development, and bank foreclosure practices. It will explore the factors that shaped their policy agendas, their strategic and tactical orientations, the capacities and key alliances that allowed facilitated their action, the obstacles they faced, and some of the outcomes of their efforts. The paper will examine LISC/Chicago’s approach to policy and systems engagement, the application and evolution of this approach over the course of the initiative, and debates within the initiative as to whether and how NCP could work more actively and intentionally in this arena.
Urban Growth and Social Vulnerability Dynamics: A Comparative Analysis of Three Coastal Metropolitan Areas

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While biophysical vulnerability or vulnerability of built environment has received considerable research attention for long time, studies on social vulnerability have only gained momentum in past few years. Analysis of social vulnerability focuses on social, economic, political, and institutional factors that lead to differential susceptibility or sensitivity (of different social groups) in the face of risk exposures. This study explores how social vulnerability in cities evolves with the urban growth process. Prior studies on urban growth focused on particular aspects of vulnerability (poverty, race etc.), but did not explore how the multidimensional aspect of social vulnerability changes over time with the process of urban growth. This study explores it through case studies in three coastal metropolitan areas which are considered as highly exposed to climate change impacts: Tampa, FL; New Orleans, LA; and Houston, TX. These metro areas are selected based on the similarity of their geographic location (all on Gulf Coast) and levels of exposure to natural hazards, but having different planning frameworks (particularly, growth management and land use planning practice). This study calculates Social Vulnerability Index (SoVI) at the census tract level following the inductive approach to measure social vulnerability developed by Cutter et al. (2003). The SoVI is derived through Principal Component Analysis (PCA) which identifies a smaller set of independent factors that account for a majority of the overall variance within the data. Following the census tract level analysis of social vulnerability in 2000 and 2010, urban growths are also explored at the tract level. Bivariate spatial autocorrelation between urban growth and change of social vulnerability are conducted to evaluate the extent to which social vulnerability follows urban growth. Both global and local autocorrelation are calculated where the estimated Moran I values indicate the pattern of association between urban growth and social vulnerability. Exploring all three of the study cities shows the differences of this interaction in different urban contexts. This study gives important policy direction for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction in the study cities, and significantly contributes to the discourse on social vulnerability and urban growth management.
Learning from our Neighbors: Partnering Students with Neighborhood Associations

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Baltimore is not just a city of neighborhoods, but rather a city of neighborhood associations. With over 600 neighborhood associations, Baltimore offers vast opportunities to explore political engagement within communities, and with the range of organizations it offers a perfect environment to examine the relationship between the civil and political state. One community organization in Baltimore, the Citizens Planning and Housing Association has situated itself as a central resource for neighborhood groups seeking to empower citizens and neighborhood associations. They do so by offering a variety of workshops, seminars and services to train community leaders and citizen activists. In an effort to understand the resource base and organizational capacity of the neighborhood associations, my students and I are attending the association meetings and events as CPHA liaisons. Students are not just learning about the relationship between the civic and political states, they are experiencing it. They additionally are gaining exposure to the variety of issues citizens grapple with in their communities and learning different perspectives on how to address those issues. This poster will highlight what one semester of this experiential learning (it will be a recurring project each semester) has taught us about the state of the civil and political society in Baltimore neighborhoods.
Mega Event Utopias

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This paper conceptualizes three utopias that replicate ideal forms of mega-event hosts. These mega event utopias, namely the “World’s Fair Neighborhood,” the “Olympic City,” and the “World Cup Region,” represent ideal urban configurations for staging particular mega-events from the mega-event owners’ points of view. The paper first describes the ideal configurations of the three mega events based on an analysis of bidding documents for mega events, Transfer of Knowledge documents in data and local archives of mega event owners, and communications between mega event owners and bidders leading up to the opening ceremonies. Second, it discusses how the ideals have been modified to fit host city structures. Finally, the paper concludes with the impacts mega event utopias will have on future hosting cities.
Urban farms as blight remedies?: Spatial distribution of the potentials and the realities of urban agriculture in New Orleans

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While there has been some excitement about the potential of urban agriculture as blight remedy in post-industrial “legacy cities,” whether the potential materializes remains to be seen, particularly with a focus on where in these cities urban agriculture may be taking place. Using ArcGIS’s geocoding technique, this paper maps the properties throughout New Orleans that are officially classified as blighted by New Orleans Redevelopment Authority, and assesses the potential of these lots being used for urban agricultural activities, given the city’s new zoning code for “urban agriculture.” The paper then contrasts the findings to where the current urban farms are located in the city, to examine whether their locations correspond with the concentration of blighted properties. The preliminary findings indicate that despite the clustering of blighted properties in some neighborhoods, larger-scale urban agricultural ventures in the city tend to be located in sites that were not formerly blighted, including private properties and parks. The authors plan to include in the final draft of the paper the analysis of the funding sources and land tenure agreements for these urban agricultural projects in the city, as well as of the demographic information of the urban farmers, to understand who are investing in these activities and who may be benefiting from these activities directly and indirectly.
There's No Place Like Home: Museum Reconstructions of Shelter and the Interpretation of the Great Depression & the 1930s.

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Housing, or the lack of it, is regularly used in fictional representation of the Great Depression in order to signpost a character’s fortunes. In the early scenes of Seabiscuit, for example, Red Pollard’s family descends from their comfortable home into the ‘Hoovervilles' with little explanation. We are simply meant to understand that they have suffered the effects of the economic crisis. Within museum exhibitions, housing is once again used as a means of interpreting the Great Depression. However, rather than shantytowns, it is recreations of middle-class or upper working-class housing that has become a recurring technique. This paper examines case studies from two house reconstructions within American museum exhibitions about the 1930s and compares them with a similar construction in Canada. Neither house museums nor strictly period rooms, though borrowing from both, these installations provide a way to examine the 'everyday' of the Depression and the 1930s. Through the interpretation of communal domestic space the trends, influences and ideas that dominated the Depression decade become contained and framed. Living rooms, almost always furnished with radios, are a means of domesticizing politics and commerce, while porches invite discussion of community, ostracization and belonging. Lawrence W. Levine once argued that in order to truly understand the Great Depression, historians had to move beyond FDR and breadlines and view the era through other lenses including those of the living room and the neighborhood. This presentation will look at how some American public historians have achieved this.
Revisiting the Link between Metropolitan Economic Development and Immigration

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Several historic, demographic, political and economic factors, including declining birth rates, economic downturns, and roadblocks to immigration, superimposed on the long-term struggle of some regions to modernize the structure of their economies, have led to renewed interest during the last decade in a hypothesized link between the presence of immigrants in a region and its economic development. Specifically, metropolitan "immigrant magnets" also tend to thrive economically while metropolitan regions with persistent economic difficulties fail to attract immigrants. These observations led economically lagging metropolitan areas to explore attracting immigrants as part of a strategy to spur economic growth. For example, in 2002 Cleveland's mayor appointed a task force to look into ways of attracting immigrants to the city. More recently, Detroit has also considered this strategy. However, the nature of this apparent linkage remains poorly understood, calling for caution in devising policies that would rely on the immigrants-economic growth relationship. In 2002, we examined immigrants' location patterns across US metropolitan regions (Kaufman, Olsen & Kaufman, IJED 5 #3, 2003). We noted that most recent immigration waves had indeed gone mostly to a handful of the largest metropolitan areas with strong economic performance. What we knew about the nature of immigrants' location decisions led us to formulate a non-linear model that relied on two key individual "pull" factors supported by literature, representing economic and social concerns to predict the distribution of recently arrived immigrants among metropolitan areas. Using 1980 and 1990 U. S. Census data, we predicted the (already known) location of incoming immigrants in 2000. The model yielded two intriguing results. The first was that prediction errors were remarkably small for such a parsimonious model, providing support for it. The second result was that job availability did play the significant role we expected in the immigrants' location decisions, which could be predicted rather accurately based mostly on the presence at the target locations of communities of like origin. Given continuing interest in the link between immigrants' presence in a region and its level of economic success, we revisit this hypothesis, adding 2010 Census data to our model. Our key reason for updating the model is the sharp economic downturn of 2008: it offers to some extent conditions of a quasi-experiment. We explore the degree of robustness of our model to the economic crisis. Specifically, should the jobs component remain of little significance as before, it would paradoxically suggest that designing policies to attract immigrants to spur a region's economic development is likely quite risky. Conversely, should the jobs factor become significant to the location decision after 2008, it would suggest that in a slow economy such policy tools have a chance of being effective.
Evergreen Economies: Institutions, Industries, and Issues in the Green Economy

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My research examines the burgeoning "green economy" movement at the sub-national scale. "Green jobs" are arguably a unique window on, a lesser-explored aspect of, a potential indicator of success, and a way of anchoring the discourse of sustainability's trilogy of equity, economic, and environmental values. Although there is an established literature around sustainability, there is little scholarship and actionable policies around the "green economy" despite a flurry of recent political rhetoric and a myriad of imagined opportunities for mutually-beneficial ends. My research seeks to begin to bridge this gap and to explain differences in the variation of green economic opportunities within cities. First, I utilize regression analysis of the 55 most populous, domestic cities and corollary metropolitan statistical areas in an examination of the distribution of "green employment" as defined by the recent Brookings Institution study. Among my findings, I show how green employment is closely correlated with the prevalence of environment interest groups as defined by data from the National Center for Charitable Statistics. Through a content analysis, I also provide a quantification of the way in which the term "green jobs" has been increasingly integrated into each city's municipal website. I thereby identify the manner through which "green jobs" have been referenced within the city's policy platform and also identify specific "green jobs initiatives." By linking this discussion with "green employment" levels, I provide a typology of metropolitan areas. Second, I utilize case study analysis of several metropolitan areas to examine the relationship between institutions-- including government agencies, policies, and nonprofit alliances-- and the prevalence and type of "green employment" within several metropolitan statistical areas domestically. In doing so, I also develop a framework for quantifying and identifying "green economic activities" (including the development of a "green economy" framework applicable to the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) code and the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) code) that I believe is replicable across metropolitan statistical areas. Not all cities are equally positioned for the same vision of "green jobs." I identify a package of policies and programs that can be employed; I link such a package to the institutional reality of disparate cities. Through this approach, I identify and explain a compelling range of institutional factors attributing to differences in the quantity and diversity of "green employment." The research contributes to the theory of sustainable development, as well as provides rigor and depth to the practical application of "green economy" goals for cities and regions aiming to bolster "green employment" and currently faced with a dearth of methods and policies.
Industrial Land Transformation in Cities

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One of the silver linings in an otherwise sluggish recovery from the Great Recessions is the robust growth of U.S. manufacturing, particularly in sectors that produce for export outside the U.S. A somewhat surprising aspect of this rebirth of manufacturing is the geographic imprint of this growth; both former rust-belt states such as Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin and rapidly growing 'new' economies such as North Carolina are experiencing this resurgence. In this paper, we present a methodology for evaluating the vulnerability of industrial land transformation by accounting for various risk factors including structural economic shifts, local land use policies and competing residential and retail uses. We use point level employment data, parcel data and other spatially disaggregated information to derive the index of vulnerability based on past land transformation. This index can be used to prioritise preservation and conservation of industrial land within cities so that they can remain competitive in goods producing sectors.
**All in it Together? The Implications of Residential Patterns for Societal Cohesion through their Effects upon Political Attitudes**

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Over the past decade, there have been two separate concerns expressed about trends in residential patterns in the UK. First, that ethnic minority groups were engaging in self-segregation and thereby living 'parallel lives' in residential and non-residential terms; this led to attempts to support 'community cohesion' in particular towns and cities. The contention itself was contested by a range of commentators, some of whom pointed out that it may be that the White majority were the ones separating themselves, being less inclined to mix with others. The second concern has been that economic polarisation is increasingly reflected in the 'segregation of the affluent', with the operation of the housing market amplifying the effects of income polarisation. Most recently, concern has been expressed that income polarisation will get worse due to the effects of the recession and associated public spending cuts, with a range of consequences, including for social cohesion. In this paper, we seek to test whether residential patterns (and in particular, forms of segregation, or conversely residential mixing) could have implications for social cohesion. In this, we understand cohesion as involving empathy for others and a willingness to contribute to the welfare of those less fortunate than ourselves in order to maintain a sense of social belonging and to uphold societal values (and in so doing, also potentially helping to maintain social order). Thus, we examine individual attitudes to the existence of income inequalities and to the question of whether they should be addressed through income redistribution by the Government. In particular, we ask whether those attitudes appear to be affected by the nature of where one lives. Focusing on the two sets of issues highlighted in political debate, as above, we examine the effects upon attitudes of the level of income deprivation of the area of residence (for different income groups), and the effects of ethnic composition or density (for whites and non-whites). In doing so, we also take into account a person's underlying attitudes in terms of their degree of altruism and their view of inequalities as a necessary or desirable in general terms.
All Politics Is Not Local and the Difference It Makes: Direct Democracy and Stadium Financing in San Francisco and Minnesota

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Once thought of as the populist antidote to corporate domination of legislatures, the institutions of direct democracy have been sharply criticized as the "tool of millionaires." This article presents two case studies of battles between small, wealthy groups of advocates of publicly funded baseball stadiums and a latent majority of citizens who oppose taxpayer financing. Both cases demonstrate that, at the local level, the referendum process provides ample information to voters through trusted networks, dramatically reduces their costs of participation in policy making, and allows the majority to triumph over a minority that has a staggering financial advantage. When the institution of the referendum is circumvented by a shift from the urban to state level, the policy outcome changes in favor of the concentrated beneficiaries who support public funding of a stadium.

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Since 1975, the State of Michigan has adopted multiple legislative directives which allow local communities to redevelop specific geographic districts within their borders utilizing a common financing mechanism known as Tax Increment Financing (TIF). Some of these areas include downtowns, designated historic districts, commercial corridors, industrial parks, and residential neighborhoods. While Michigan enabling statutes appear to require public participation in the redevelopment planning process, it is not clear that this requirement is always fully implemented, or if it is, to what degree. While evaluating outcomes of redevelopment efforts is critical to the revitalization of disadvantaged and distressed communities, this paper focuses on the extent and the quality of the process through which stakeholder and citizen input is sought and integrated into the crafting of redevelopment plans. First, this paper investigates and details the extent to which identified stakeholders are actively engaged in the redevelopment of their communities. Second, this paper explores the process in which stakeholders' input influences the local redevelopment planning process and subsequent plans. This study employs a case study approach. Data on local stakeholder inclusion and involvement are documented through multiple sources including survey data from elected and appointed redevelopment officials, documentation of citizen participation through meeting minutes, and interviews with identified key community stakeholders and groups. For the purposes of this paper, four Michigan communities were selected as case studies for best practices, in part based on the aforementioned survey data. This approach allows for a more detailed examination of the relationships between power, politics, redevelopment efforts, and stakeholder inclusion. This analysis provides insight into the operations of the development decision-making process. It offers practices that guide decision-making about redevelopment objectives and strategies that are made collectively and usually with a good deal of consensus and projects that tend to be selected based on vocalized community needs. Lastly, this paper contributes to the growing literature linking meaningful stakeholder and citizen participatory efforts to successful redevelopment practices.
Analysis of DFW Metropolitan Planning Area Urban Growth Pattern: Focus on Single-Family Residential Development

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Urban growth includes urban population growth and economic growth and is connected with urban sprawl. The meanings of urban growth and urban sprawl are almost consistent. According to Census Bureau 2000, among the urban growth characters, single-family housing development possesses the biggest portion (66%) across the nation (US Census Bureau, 2000). The present age, most Americans live in single-family suburban houses that are separated from other activities such as work, shopping, and entertainment. Especially, metropolitan urban areas are experiencing a change towards more dispersed and horizontal rather than vertical growth. Eventually, sprawl has been associated with quality of life; it brings many positive results. On the other hand, there are many negative problems are caused, especially related with environmental. This research used GIS spatial analysis and spatial statistics tools to analyze urban growth pattern in Dallas-Forth Worth metropolitan planning area - includes 12 counties; Wise, Denton, Collin, Hunt, Rockwall, Kaufman, Dallas, Ellis, Johnson, Tarrant, Parker, and Hood. Reflect on the national trend and previous study, this research focused on single-family development to analyze the urban growth pattern in DFW planning area. This research not only uses the land use rate of single-family residential but also uses the number of single-family units as variables. It analyzes how the single-family units are spatially distributed, whether single-family housings are dispersed or clustered. The census tracts in 2000 and land use from 1990 to 2005 dataset are used; the data is from North Central Texas Council of Governments Region. As results of the Global Moran’s I analyses, the rate of single-family residential and the number of single-family show that both of them are clustered. As time goes by, the rate of single-family land use is gradually getting decrease of clustered. However, gradually the number of single-family buildings is getting clustered. Following the results of Global Moran’s I result, the research is needed to analyze Local Moran’s I that for figure out how clustered the single-family resident. Around the core of downtown, the results show that, as time goes by, the rate of single-family land use is getting dispersed toward outside of downtown. Also, the dispersed shape appears as like ring shape. Indeed, the number of single-family buildings is getting clustered toward outside of downtown. It means that number of single-family buildings is increased outside of downtown. In sum, Dallas-Forth Worth metropolitan planning area is processing sprawl since 1990s.
Sustainable Disaster Mitigation and Economic Vulnerability and Resiliency: Lessons from the Gulf of Mexico and Atlantic Coast after Major Hurricanes

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Natural disaster, in the sociological perspectives, can be thought of as a failure of the social systems constituting a community to adapt to an environment event. Sustainable development, meaning that a community or other spatial levels can tolerate or overcome damage, diminished productivity, and reduced quality of life from a natural hazard event without significant outside assistance can be integrated into disaster resilience. Disaster resilient communities will be more sustainable than those that do not develop a comprehensive strategy that incorporates hazard mitigation into their current and ongoing construction, design, and planning activities. Integrating sustainable development into disaster recovery requires some shifts in current thinking, land use, and policies. In terms of future directions for sustainable disaster recovery, disasters should be viewed as providing unique opportunities for change for long term sustainable development. On the basis of this theoretical approach, this study examines the vulnerability and resiliency of regional economies to hurricanes occurring in ten U.S. national parks or seashores over the last twenty-five years. Each of the ten destinations, situated in disaster-prone areas, is located on U.S. coastline along either the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic Ocean. In terms of disaster vulnerability, effects of natural disaster damage on regional economies were estimated using a panel linear model. Disaster resiliency was estimated by employing a negative binomial panel regression and a difference-in-difference model. Natural disaster damage, as a whole, related to physical damage and human loss has a negative effect on regional economies. With regard to disaster resiliency, greater economic development prior to a disaster occurring leads to lower disaster losses. Regions with a stronger economy prior to natural disasters have lower disaster losses than regions with a weaker economy. More effort to improve regional economic conditions before natural disasters is necessary to minimize the damage. For this reason, lessons learned from the economic impacts of past natural disasters, in particular in tourism-based regions, can help regional planners or policy makers predict problems related to disasters and prepare before the next disaster occurs.
On the Determinants of City Government Financial Health: A Two-Stage Structural Equation Modeling Approach

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A lack of understanding about the financial health of cities is troubling. Changing in central cities’ financial condition affect the ability of cities to deliver public services. This study seeks to analyze the financial health of city governments and their main explanatory variables. The study will be performed in two stages. Firstly, financial health will be measured via the new financial reporting model established by Governmental Accounting Standard Board (GASB) Statement No.34. The measurement techniques also enable the government’s ability to raise money to meet its financial needs to be identified. The second stage identifies some critical determinants of financial health, focusing on economic, demographic, and fiscal policy variables. In contrast to previous research studies, my approach will perform the latter attempt via Structural Equation Modeling (SEM), rather that econometric methods - such as OLS or Tobit related. Such an analysis is particularly timely given the emergence of bankruptcies and near-bankruptcies of cities and counties. More commonly, economic downturns reduce tax receipts and user fees just when the demands for safety net services are rising. Therefore, through knowledge of the financial condition and health of city government is vital to that government’s stakeholders. Yet, there have been no in-depth empirical studies designed to understand neither the financial health of city governments, using government-wide financial data nor how economic, demographic, and fiscal policy factors affect on the financial health of local governments, using Structural Equation Modeling. The study is designed to add to the literature on urban financial health determinants and financial condition analysis.
The Status of Domestic and Foreign Community-led Eco-village and the Study on Planning Factor

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Various natural disasters have been occurring due to the climate change. Therefore many countries in the world have realized the seriousness of climate change and make various efforts to protect the environment. As one of the efforts to protect the environment developing Eco-village became prominent worldwide, and the interest in Eco-village keeps increasing. In foreign countries they exchange the informations between the Eco-villages through GEN(Global Eco village Network) and also the guideline for developing Eco-village is provided. However the systematic system in our country is insufficient since developing Eco-village has not been too long. Therefore through successful cases of Eco-village in other countries we like to find out the direction we have to take for developing Eco-village in our country, and also like to compare & evaluate the cases of Eco-village in domestic and foreign countries by finding the planning factors through the cases in those countries. Looking at the successful Eco-village in foreign country, not only they use new renewable energy but also the community involvement is very active. And it is characteristic that they pursue sustainability in the aspects of environment by establishing various experiences or Eco-program. On the other hand in many cases Eco-village in our country is developed with energy independence through new renewable energy. Although there might be a little difference in pursuing the value in developing Eco-village in domestic and foreign countries, however the most important thing we have to think is that we must get whole community involved in Eco-village development and let them take the village by themselves. Therefore we will research the Eco-village, which became as the alternative for the destruction of the ecosystem, and like to evaluate the community-led Eco-village in domestic and foreign countries by finding the planning factors as per department after researching the cases of representative community-led Eco-village in domestic and foreign countries deeply.
Investigating Patterns of Urban Land Development under Decentralized Local Governance

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Recent years have witnessed continued interest in the critical role of local governance structures in shaping urban policy-making processes and outcomes, and increased attention to a wide range (fiscal, economic, social, and environmental) of advantages/disadvantages of decentralized governance settings. In an attempt to contribute to a more complete understanding of various implications of decentralized governance, this study investigates how urban land development patterns can be influenced by the way local governance systems are organized. More specifically, the present study analyzes the effects of governance variables (defined and measured at both regional and more disaggregated geographical scales, to represent spatially varying governance settings, through the first phase of the NSF CNH-Ex 1114931 project) on land use changes in the conterminous U.S. with the use of high-resolution USGS national land cover data. It also discusses what the analysis result suggests regarding the probable trajectory of the evolution of urban spatial structures under decentralized governance and how the anticipated challenges can be addressed through potential institutional reforms and the implementation of existing policy instruments.
Global cities, global justice

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Political philosophers have debated with great precision the nature, scope, and demands of global justice. In my short and largely exploratory paper I ask whether these debates -- largely carried out within a methodological tradition of analytic philosophizing historically rather distant from urban scholarship -- can help us think through the spatial forms and associated moral and political pathologies of 'global' cities? Conversely, can the experiences of these sprawling and variegated urban forms and their characteristic networks – and debates over their forms and significance -- inform philosophical analyses of global justice? The proposed presentation seeks to critically relate the philosophical concerns of social justice to the problematic of global cities.
Democratic Dixie

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Urban districts will lead the way in reclaiming the South for the Democratic Party. The common story is that the path to a Democratic resurgence in the South is through demographics. However, demographics will only take the Democratic Party so far. Crafty redistricting can keep both major parties in a competitive balance for quite some time. The key for the Democratic Party is convincing Southern members of the Congressional Black (CBC) and Congressional Hispanic caucuses to take a selfless approach to the redistricting process. Doing so would exacerbate demographic change and ensure that Democratic candidates would be strong candidates in many more districts than is the current case. For this paper, I conduct first-person interviews with CBC members questioning what would happen if they were to reduce the number of minorities in their districts. Three things come from these interviews. First, I predict what would the electoral implications be were the minority percent to be reduced from an average of 58% African American to 48% and then to 38%. In fact, the number of districts represented by minorities might not be reduced. This is because neighboring districts would see an average increase in their minority populations making them more competitive to white Democrats. Second, I predict the policy implications were more minority voters placed in districts currently represented by conservative Republicans. The literature provides two options: either those Republicans would move their policy preferences to the median voter in their district - in this case, making them more liberal, or these Republicans would double-down on their base voters. That second scenario is a losing strategy for Republicans, but one they are likely to initially gamble on. As a result, I can guesstimate the consequences would be for statewide constitutional offices and state legislative races. Third, the first-person interviews provide a window into how representatives approach the redistricting process and we can better understand how legislators believe redistricting affects urban areas - for better or worse.
Who Owns Your Neighborhood? The Role of Investors in Post-Foreclosure Oakland

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Between 2007 and October 2011, there were nearly 11,000 completed foreclosures in the city of Oakland, California. For the families caught up in this disruptive fray, the consequences have undoubtedly been life altering. Amidst the ongoing and parallel processes of displacement, abandonment, and reoccupation is a narrative about neighborhood change in post-foreclosure Oakland that has yet to be sufficiently revealed. The intent of this paper is to fill this void and establish a contextual foundation to initiate and support deeper local policy discussions around the disposition of foreclosed properties and related issues such as shifting tenure, neighborhood succession, the displacement of residents, and community stabilization. The scope of research to fulfill this objective is twofold: first, to gain a general understanding of what has happened to properties after foreclosure in Oakland since 2007; and second, to dig deeper into the ownership status, transaction history, geographic distribution, and physical condition of post-foreclosure, investor-acquired properties in the city. Our analysis indicated that 42 percent of all foreclosed properties in Oakland since 2007 were acquired by investors, whether at county auctions or through direct acquisitions from banks. 93 percent of these investor purchases were concentrated in the low-income flatland neighborhoods of Oakland. Additionally, only 10 out of the 30 most active Oakland investors were found to be locally-based. These findings raise substantive questions about the disproportionate impact of investor activity in Oakland’s low-income communities of color, maintenance issues associated with absentee ownership, and displaced homeownership opportunities for local residents due to competition from investors wielding cash for purchases. To further evaluate the management and maintenance question, a property condition survey was conducted of over 300 acquisitions of the two largest foreclosure investors in Oakland. Results from the survey suggest that investor strategies, property conditions, and neighborhood impacts vary considerably based on local market conditions and geography.
Concentrated Poverty: Components of Change

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While a strong economy reduced the concentration of poverty in American cities in the 1990s, recent studies have shown that the extent of concentrated poverty increased again after 2000. All of this research, however, presents data only on the net change in this measure, yet policy would be better informed by understanding the shifts for the three component categories of neighborhoods that yield the overall result: (1) census tracts that had high poverty at the start of a period but then improved (i.e., poverty rate fell below the threshold needed to quality as "concentrated"); (2) tracts that had low poverty at the start, but moved into the concentrated group by the end; and (3) tracts that remained in the concentrated poverty group throughout. This paper first examines the changes in the numbers of tracts (and their population sizes) in each of these categories in the 2000s (comparing data from the 2005/09 ACS to that for the 2000 census, in the nation’s 100 largest metropolitan areas). We look at differences by region and, where confidence intervals allow, contrast patterns across metros and for cities versus suburbs within metros. One interest is learning how the spatial pattern of those that improved compared with those that worsened. Another is learning how the characteristics of places where the patterns are volatile (high proportions of tracts moving in and out of concentrated poverty) differ from those for places where the patterns are more stable. The following section examines how conditions within the three categories changed over the period. For example, we expect that indicators of wellbeing generally improved for tracts that moved out of the high poverty group and worsened for those that moved into it, but we want to find out about the magnitude of those changes and whether there were different trajectories for different indicators. For this purpose we use a set of measures selected by the National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership for its Shared Indicators program. These include measures related to wellbeing (e.g., income, homeownership rates, education levels) but explanatory factors (e.g., shifts in racial composition and age structure) are included as well.
Out of the Eye of the Storm: Guangzhou's External Image from Tiananmen to Deng's South China Tour

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Guangzhou was the first city in China which opened its ports for foreign trade in 16th century and it was also one of the first cities to open its doors to the outside world when China reemerged into the global economy in the late 1970s. Guangzhou is also the home city of many of the early Chinese immigrants, so it is Cantonese culture which has been the Chinese culture known to the west for a very long time. The time between 1989 and 1992 has been one of the most important periods in contemporary Chinese history. Although, the Tiananmen incidence in 1989 was mostly concentrated on Beijing and the disputes were mostly political, it also had significance to the future of the Pearl River Delta manufacturing hub. Deng Xiaoping's South China tour only underlines this fact. This paper uses a political economy perspective to analyse the changing external image of Guangzhou in the international and Hong Kong newspapers from 1988 to 1993. It adopts several perspectives to examine how the image and city development policies interact. This period is important to study from the external image point of view because, for China after 1989, it was of utmost importance to assure investors that China will continue in its chosen path. Guangzhou as the provincial capital and as a historic centre of foreign trade has had an important place in China's transition. Concentrating on this particularly important critical juncture this paper aims to analyse how controversial political issues impact on the image of a city. At the same time it also aims to find out if there is any interaction between the external image and the local policies. Guangzhou is an excellent choice as it has always had a more economic than political role in China's opening up policies. It is also relatively distant from the national policymaking and it has been relatively independent in its local decision making. Globalisation in this paper is understood as a non-linear process in which the city actively participates. This means that, instead of passively adopting the Western ideologies of modernity and development, it actively interprets and invents itself utilizing ideas that it takes from other cities in the world. In the globalising world it has become essential for cities to stay competitive. For this they use ever increasing budgets to create a unique image which would then attract more foreign investment, tourists and talented people into the city. However, there seem to be few studies about the representations of the perceived image. This paper will make an important contribution in bringing out the dialectical relationship of policymaking and the external image of a city.
Urban Political Leadership? Consensual Style

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Embedded in most contemporary theories on urban political leadership is the notion that norms of consensual political processes prevail at the local level. And therefore power-sharing and conflict-avoidance are focal points in for instance Clarence Stone's idea of "pover to" and James Svara's theory of "facilitative leadership". However, this focus on consensus is often - not least in times where modern cities are facing serious and complex problems - accompanied by a parallel call for political leadership. At first glance it seems contradictory that we want leadership and consensus at the same time. This paper looks into how this dual demand for leadership and consensus challenge urban mayors and not least how they cope. How do they do urban political leadership consensual style? And what are their motivations for complying with the consensual norms? Denmark has been chosen as a critical case (the consensual norm is very widespread here) and lengthy interviews has been conducted with 17 mayors (in the summer of 2012). The analyses of the interviews demonstrate that consensual style political leadership is sometimes not that consensual (for instance a kind of "second half consensus" is demonstrated). And not least that mayors see the norms of consensus not as much as a restraint on their leadership but more as a weapon in the struggle for political power in the city (for instance consensus can be a way of dismantling the opposition at City Hall). But several pros and cons for doing urban political leadership consensual style are identified.
Diasporic Placemaking in the Urban South: Stories from the Chattanooga Right to the City Initiative

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Chattanooga, Tennessee, is a city inscribed with rich and diverse cultural and material histories-- a "site of multiple and overlapping diasporas" (Kelley and Patterson, 2007). Originally a Cherokee settlement and trading center, following their forced removal from the region in 1838, downtown Chattanooga evolved into a dynamic and prominent New South city and African American center of cultural production between the mid-19th and 20th centuries. Since the mid-1990s, local placemakers have embarked on a series of major urban revitalization campaigns, several of which place Native American and African American history and culture at their fore in an effort to re-ignite the city's economic engines while simultaneously reconciling with the city's colonial--and neocolonial--pasts. While these efforts place Native and African American history and culture at their center, in many ways they run the risk of excluding contemporary Native and Black communities from participating in the full benefits of reinvestment and revitalization which are now occurring across their historic neighborhoods. This paper is an exploration into processes and strategies of "diasporic placemaking"--defined as creative, practical strategies through which historically uprooted citizens and communities claim spaces of material security and cultural belonging within their urban social and physical environments (Woods 1998, McKittrick and Woods 2007, Nieves and Alexander 2008, Nguyen 2010). Drawing upon theories of diasporic identity, equitable community development and placemaking, the blues as spatial knowledge and practice, and the right to the city, it asks: ? What potentially transformative political and socio-spatial possibilities are opened up when placemaking and community development are intentionally reconceived through a 'diasporic' lens? ? How might this re-conception help to ground a radical community planning process in Chattanooga, Tennessee, a place where multiple cultural groups have historic roots in the city and are working to create places of cultural belonging and material security? In pursuit of these questions, this paper describes initial results from an action research dissertation project examining contemporary culture-based placemaking and community revitalization efforts in Chattanooga. In particular, the study engages three of these efforts--the 21st Century Waterfront Plan, the proposed redevelopment of the West Side, and the ongoing revitalization of the historic "Big Nine" blues district-- in an effort to make sense of the politics and practices of urban revitalization as cultural recognition and socio-spatial reconciliation.
Sport Media and Urban Life: Narratives from New Orleans

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Sports journalism has become an essential element of daily news reporting where stories extend beyond game statistics to create narratives that reflect the human condition. Through the ‘home team,’ sports become rooted in place and offer a platform for unveiling narratives about city image and urban life. As evidenced by the story of the Saints football team in New Orleans, powerful local narratives emerge that are complex, multi-faceted and offer insight into collective urban identities. Research often frames the relationship between sports and the city in terms of economics as researchers debate the costs and benefits of using public subsidies to build stadiums, retain professional teams and host mega-events.

One of the main benefits associated with attracting major league sporting events to a city and retaining professional sports home teams is their ability to create an enhanced city image through world-wide media coverage. The role of sports media in urban life is situated within the larger context of post-industrial cities struggling to promote an image of growth rather than decline and to forge a competitive advantage over other cities by asserting a ‘winning’ status. However, examining the content of mediated messages surrounding sports teams can reveal more critical insight about collective urban identities than simply viewing sports media coverage as a tool to promote a major league city image. Using the New Orleans Saints as a case study, this research utilizes ethnographic data and content analysis of local news coverage during three major football events in New Orleans to uncover what kinds of city images are mediated through sports news. The Saints post-Katrina homecoming game in 2006, their Super Bowl winning season in 2010, and the upcoming New Orleans hosted Super Bowl in 2013 provide three mega-events with concomitant media coverage for analysis. The results show the formation of a narrative of renewal and how a city used their football team to deliver messages about recovery. These meaningful local narratives reinforced a feeling of connectedness to the city and created collective identities among diverse urban residents. This provokes discussion on the extent to which sports metaphors and messages either reflect or mask urban identities and lived experiences.
Climate Change and the Financialization of the US Local State

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This paper examines the take-up of exotic financial instruments in US municipal debt financing, particularly in Bay Area cities, in the building and aftermath of the subprime crisis. It examines a range of developments in the deepening financialization of the local state. These include the fallout from interest rate swaps that local governments like Oakland signed onto in the New Economy and subprime booms, experimentation with international marketing of municipal bonds via the post-subprime Build America Program, and local state experimentation with green property tax-utilizing instruments like commercial property-assessed clean energy (PACE). This fiscal experimentation is particularly important in light of ongoing challenges resulting from the restructuring of California redevelopment programs and attached tax-increment financing. The paper contrasts the use of these instruments in rapidly gentrifying areas like Oakland with more absolutely disinvested localities (e.g., Pennsylvania school districts). It also examines how local state financial experimentation is being extended to the spheres of social reproduction and productive capital via state-sponsored local energy programs. It examines how fiscally strapped California cities like Berkeley are trying to fulfill local climate change pledges via promoting private energy finance products attached to property (e.g., as property tax liens like residential PACE) or that show up in the costs of household social reproduction otherwise (e.g., utility on-bill financing). For productive capital, the paper explores how similar local energy programs are using commercial PACE and other instruments that recreate pre-crisis logics suggesting that productive capital enterprises should convert their property holdings into financial assets.
Party Competition and Immigrant Political Incorporation. Evidence from a Comparative Study of Swiss City Councils

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Over the last fifty years, immigrants and their descendants have become a vital element of Swiss cities. In the five largest Swiss cities the ratio between Swiss and non-Swiss residents ranges from 23 percent in Berne to 45 percent in Geneva. Overall, one third of the Swiss population is of immigrant-origin. Yet, despite the social and economic presence of immigrants in everyday urban Switzerland, little is known about the scope and the conditions of their political incorporation. In this paper, I address the issue by focussing on the effects of different patterns of party competition on the political incorporation of immigrants into city councils. There is indeed a great variation between cities. Twenty-five percent of all cities have less then ten percent immigrant-origin councilors. In the upper quartile, however, more then twenty-five percent of all council members are from immigrant backgrounds. The study proceeds in two steps. First, I analyze the levels of council members from immigrant backgrounds across cities. The results indicate that the share of immigrant-origin council members increases with the proportion of leftwing voters and the number of leftwing parties standing for elections. Second, I get a closer grip on the recruitment strategies of party organizations in different contexts. In order to do so, I analyze the number of immigrant-origin candidates on all electoral tickets across cities. Here, the results suggest that parties are more likely to recruit candidates from immigrant backgrounds in competitive districts where various leftwing parties compete for votes and where the share of non-Swiss residents is high. Thus the study confirms and clarifies existing evidence in the field that patterns of party competition are decisive for the understanding of minority representation. This is especially the case in the Swiss context with few institutional incentives to represent ethnic communities as groups and a tradition of partonage-based practices of selecting candidates for local elections. In the final section of the paper implications of the study for a cross-national perspective are discussed. Empirically, the study is based on a recent survey of all council members in Swiss cities and an inquiry of the lists of candidates in city council elections in Switzerland between 2009 and 2012.
How Voters View Local Candidates: An Examination of Race and Partisanship in Local Elections

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In the often information-starved local election environment, scholars have identified race and partisanship as two important heuristics that voters frequently use to make decisions in elections for local office. Current research, however, has only begun to examine how voters respond when they must choose between supporting a co-partisan or a co-ethnic -- that is, when party identification and race create cross-cutting cleavages and thus "cross-pressured" voters. It remains unclear which dimension will dominate in the voter calculus and whether various subsets of voters will rely on different heuristics. In this paper, we propose a unique method developed by psychologists -- known as a "Who Said What" experiment -- that allows us to study unobtrusively whether race or partisanship is the primary categorization scheme through which voters evaluate candidates for local office. In the experiment -- embedded within a longer survey of registered voters -- we manipulate the pictures and descriptions of hypothetical candidates that we present to respondents to examine the role of both race and partisanship in voter evaluations. After a short distractor activity, we ask respondents to match candidate pictures with their previous statements. This set-up allows us to search for patterns in attribution errors that, in turn, enable us to identify the dominant categorization schemes that voters use to classify candidates. The methodology provides us with a new way to study the psychological underpinnings of voter behavior and choice in local elections.
Cognitive Civic Surplus? Achieving Equity and Access through Pop-up Urbanism

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Long before TED declared 2012 the year of "City 2.0" or the Project for Public Spaces issued a call for #Lighter #Quicker #Cheaper urban interventions, city residents have participated in the transformation of neighborhoods through community gardens, public murals, and other small-scale projects. The recent groundswell of pop-up urban design projects that side-step traditional expert planning processes, however, can be attributed in part to a technological shift that builds upon a genealogy of place-based participation and the return to the city, both in population and in public discourse. The networked cognitive surplus that amplified the democratization of knowledge production to the point that credentialed experts must co-exist with crowd-sourced collaboration such as Wikipedia and citizen journalism is now manifested in guerrilla urbanists who embrace a hacker Robin Hood ethic that seeks forgiveness rather than permission. But just as socio-economic barriers to online access call into question the breadth of Web 2.0's democratic potential, the structural barriers to participation in pop-up urbanism raise concerns about the equity and diversity of the latest version of participatory place-making. Who engages in these projects and who is unable or unwilling? Does the rush to app-ification and incremental nature of tactical urbanism avoid the difficult debates around what constitutes the public interest and which public goods to prioritize? At the same time, traditional avenues for participation in urban transformation - whether neighborhood boards or voluntary associations - may incite little interest - thus making the temporary transformation of a public space into a gateway mechanism to longer lasting community engagement. By examining three case studies in Honolulu, Hawai'i, this paper asks how can pop-up urbanism improve equity and access to the city.
Teen Childbearing and Welfare: Urban Myths and Stylized Facts

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Unlike many policy issues, there is little public disagreement that teen childbearing is a social problem that should be addressed and prevented. There is less agreement over the reasons why teen childbearing is considered a social problem, and on the appropriate strategies and policy interventions to curtail it. Policymakers and advocates often focus on the costs to society in general, and to taxpayers specifically, that are associated with teen childbearing. They argue that, because teen childbearing is associated with receipt of public assistance, including welfare and Medicaid, taxpayers bear the fiscal burden. But while there is no shortage of evidence that such outcomes are associated with teen childbearing, there remains no clear evidence to suggest that these relationships are causal. In the United States, teen childbearing is highly associated with poverty, which is itself associated with numerous negative socioeconomic and health outcomes for both parents and children. The issue of selection bias is therefore critical to understanding the associations between early childbearing and negative outcomes related to economic stability, educational achievement, or health. The importance of controlling for pre-existing disadvantage among teens who become parents cannot be overstated.

Employing a qualitative content analysis of legislative documents, this paper explores the connections between welfare and teen pregnancy and the use of existing research during the passage of welfare reform legislation in 1996. Findings reveal significant use of research during this policy episode.

Research appears to have been utilized symbolically to establish teen pregnancy as a growing problem linked directly to welfare dependency and requiring intervention. It appears to have been used much less so to craft the specific policy response to teen pregnancy. The most common type of research utilization found in the debates and hearings on welfare reform represented symbolic attempts to quantify "the problem" and establish an urgent need to address teen pregnancy directly in the context of welfare reform. Most claims about the negative consequences of teen pregnancy went uncited: they were presented as facts rather than as findings. Research findings were oversimplified, and were used to reinforce the conventional wisdom that teen childbearing causes welfare dependency in order to justify the provisions related to teen pregnancy and parenting. Despite the explicit goal of welfare reform to reduce teen pregnancy, there were surprisingly few examples of utilization of research on what works to prevent teen pregnancy. Existing research that did not support the conventional wisdom was ignored, omitted, or utilized selectively. Rather than on evidence, the policy appears to have been based primarily on underlying values and an unwavering conventional wisdom regarding teen pregnancy. Implications for policymakers, advocates, and researchers are discussed.
Privatization and Protest

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This paper examines the legal and normative debates about the Occupy Toronto movement in order to illuminate the issues raised by Occupy Wall Street. It challenges the view that the occupation of parks and plazas was an illegitimate privatization of public space. In both New York City and Toronto, the courts relied on a theory that Habermas called “German Hobbesianism.” This sovereigntist theory of the public was used to justify removing the protesters and disbanding the encampments. The alternative is what I call the populist model of the public, a term which describes the political mobilization of the people outside the institutional structures of the state. While my focus is on public space, I suggest the appropriation of space was the most visible aspect of a broader call for collective control of the common wealth of society. In other words, we should understand the occupations synecdochally as struggles over the meaning and power of public and private.
Growing an Industrial Cluster: Movie Production Incentives and the Georgia Film Industry

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The competition for film and television production has heated up considerably in the last decade. According to the Georgia Film, Music and Digital Entertainment Office, 333 film and television productions spent about $880 million in the state in fiscal year 2012, with another $2.2 billion in indirect spending in the state (Bluestein, 2012), employing about 25,000 workers (Gibbons, 2012). Georgia is now ranked in the top five states nationally for U.S. film production. This is largely attributed to generous tax credits, beginning with the 2005 Georgia Entertainment Investment Act, which was expanded in 2008 to as much as 30 percent of base investment if the production included a promotional film promoting Georgia's entertainment industry. Given what we know about film and television production, what might make Georgia competitive in this mobile, project-based industry? After over six years of subsidies, four of them since the 2008 increase, I will look at the established networks of firms and workers currently operating in the state to gauge the likelihood of sustainable industry and employment growth in Georgia. In particular, I will use a combination of quarterly state employment data and directories of film industry companies and workers to track the growth of Georgia-based film production companies and employees between 2002 and 2012. More specifically, I will consider three overarching questions regarding the film industry in Georgia. First, what does the Georgia film industry network look like? I will attempt to get a sense of the scale, connectedness, and geography of the industry in the state. Second, does the Georgia film industry possess the "critical components" for a sustainable industry—the presence of the industry decision makers, specialized business services, smaller service businesses catering to the film industry, training and education programs in specialized fields, studios and other production, rehearsal, and sound-recording spaces, and industry-specific events such as trade shows and film festivals (Christopherson & Rightor, 2010)—or is it likely to in the near future? By assessing the size and embeddedness of the industry network in the state, I hope to address these questions. And finally, I will consider the question of the role of public policy in building and sustaining the film industry. More specifically, can tax incentives build a self-sustainable film industry that can remain competitive even when the incentives are removed?
Affordable Housing and Walkable Neighborhoods: A National Urban Analysis

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Although walkability is a key aspect of sustainable communities, the goals of walkability and affordability can be in tension when walkable areas are pricing out residents with lower incomes. This HUD-funded analysis is the first to evaluate the neighborhoods of HUD-subsidized households in regards to walkability at a) a national urban scale and six metro areas or cities, b) at the address or neighborhood level, and c) for current data (2010-11). At a national level, we ask how different HUD-funded programs compare in regards to walkability and where and where not affordable housing locations are walkable. To address these questions, we assess the walkability of neighborhoods of over 5 million HUD-subsidized households living in different subsidy programs, including public housing, vouchers, and project-based housing (e.g. Section 8, 202, 811, and 236). The data for this analysis are based on street-smart walk scores from walkscore.com and confidential data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for 359 metropolitan areas. We also analyze the neighborhood profiles that are associated with different degrees of walkability and affordability for these 359 metropolitan areas, including income measures (IRS), housing values (commercial data), and foreclosure risk (Urban Institute). Finally, we assess if -for those affordable units that are in walkable neighborhoods-, this walkability is compromised by factors such as low market strength (Urban Institute) or racial segregation (2010 Census). We supplement this national analysis with a more in-depth analysis of select metropolitan areas (including Boston and Phoenix), which includes additional impeding factors to walkability such as crime and alternative measures of walkability. We analyze these data using exploratory spatial and descriptive statistical methods and visual analytics as well as spatial regression modeling to provide preliminary results for an improved evidence base about the relationship of affordable housing and walkability.
Technical Assistance for Delinquent Clients

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In recent years, micro-entrepreneurship has received attention as a strategy of economic development of inner-city communities in the US (Bhatt 2002). Microbusiness development is seen to help low-income people get out of poverty, as well as to revitalize underserved communities (Temali 2002). Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) provide micro-entrepreneurs with micro-loans, training and technical assistance (TA) to help them start or grow businesses. Access to micro-loans from MFIs is important for micro-entrepreneurs because they are often excluded from financial services offered by traditional banks. Non-financial support is also crucial for them, as they often lack financial knowledge, business skills and social capital. Some entrepreneurs succeed in running a business and repaying their loans, and eventually become qualified to access credit from traditional banks. However, others are not always successful and fail to pay back loans. This negatively affects their credit histories. In order to best circumvent this issue, MFIs should provide TA to loan clients who fail to pay back their loans in a timely manner. TA is a customized service for each client’s specific needs and has a variety of forms: one-on-one consulting, coaching, mentoring, networking, etc. TA is usually offered in response to a client's request for support (Edgcomb 2001). Intensive TA is supply-driven support for clients to improve client’s business. Clients eager to grow their businesses are likely to request TA services, while delinquent borrowers tend to remain silent because they are hesitant to contact the MFI servicing their micro-loan. Therefore, intensive TA are important for delinquent clients. Detroit Entrepreneurship Institute (DEI) conducted an experiment by providing intensive TA to its clients (Rugg ed. 2002). DEI targeted graduates from its business training classes. DEI's project succeeded in increasing in clients' business assets and their personal assets. In January 2012, I commenced an experiment which provided delinquent loan clients with intensive one-on-one consulting. I worked with a MFI in Philadelphia, PA. 12 clients were randomly chosen as the treatment group. The indicators to assess the outcome are delinquency level and the amount of sales. Thus far, a few clients in the treatment group improved their sales and repayment after a half year of consulting. I learned that most of target clients' sales and delinquency levels remain unchanged. Due to time constraints experienced by the consultant, several mentors were matched to individual client to ensure that target clients received ongoing input this summer. Even though the consultant gave the clients good advice, some clients were less receptive of the advice, while others were not quick in their decision-making. Based on this short study, I posit that it is necessary to maintain close communication with clients and to continuously motivate them in order to see actual impact.
Urban Governance and Participatory Revitalization in Montreal: Integrated Urban Revitalization in Two Neighborhoods

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Today, many policymakers and planners recognize that integrated approaches are required for revitalization of disadvantaged communities in North America. Specifically, mechanisms to integrate the actions of different stakeholders, including those operating at different spatial levels and in different sectors, are thought essential to successful revitalization (Cloutier et al. 2010; Bacqué et al. 2003). This research paper explores the implementation of a new approach to planning for disadvantaged areas of Montreal, the City's integrated urban revitalization (RUI) policy. RUI is distinctive with respect to its territorial and integrated approach to planning, its relations to representative bodies and the role of resident participation. It is also distinctive in that it builds on Montreal's history of local community engagement, a cooperative 'Quebec model' for local governance, and economic and community development structures at the local level (Klein & Tremblay 2009). Whether these innovations result in better planning processes, more say for residents, and better outcomes for disadvantaged neighborhoods are the subjects of our study. Two neighborhoods - Ville St-Pierre and Côte-Saint-Paul - are examined, each with different RUI structures and relationships to the local community councils (called tables de quartier). The focus is on dynamics among local actors (the tables de quartier, revitalization committee and local residents) around inter-organizational collaboration in territorial governance, public participation, programming and funding, and how these dynamics contribute to revitalization at a local level. We draw on established frameworks and approaches to assessing public participation and collaborative planning (e.g., Arnstein 1969; Healey 1997). Research results are summarized and contrasted for the two neighborhoods. We find that funding and public participation are major challenges and that the successful implementation of RUI depends heavily on local actors and contexts. We conclude with recommendations on how to improve integrated revitalization programs in the Montreal context and elsewhere. Arnstein, S. 1969. "Ladder of citizen participation." J. of the American Institute of Planners 35(4): 216-224. Bacqué, M., G. Divay, D. Rose, A. Séguin & G. Sénécal. 2003. Survol de quelques politiques de revitalisation urbaine. Montréal: INRS- Urbanisation, Culture et Société. Cloutier, G., L. Méthé-Myrand & G. Sénécal. 2010. "La revitalisation urbaine intégrée et la plus-value de l'approche montréalaise." Canadian J. of Urban Research 19(1): 23-49. Healey, P. 1997. Collaborative Planning - Shaping places in fragmented societies, London: MacMillan Press. Klein, J. & D. Tremblay. 2009. "Social actors and their role in metropolitan governance in Montréal: towards an inclusive coalition?" GeoJournal 75(6): 567-579.
Regulations or Incentives? Clean Energy Policies and Green Jobs

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"Green jobs" are often presented as a simultaneous solution for two major problems facing society today: the economic downturn and the environmental crisis, particularly as it relates to energy and climate change. Together these problems threaten all three dimensions of sustainability and pose concerns at the global, national, and particularly local level: much of the recent job loss in the United States has been in manufacturing and public sector employment and climate-induced damage is expected to disproportionately affect states and cities. Both state and municipal authorities have a variety of policy tools available to boost job creation within their jurisdictions and to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy. However, despite the rhetoric on green jobs, scholarly research on the conditions under which these entities have successfully created them has been scant. Green jobs can be defined as occupational activities which facilitate a clean economy by increasing energy efficiency, expanding clean energy production, reducing pollution, and conserving natural resources. This study focuses on the role that state policies play in creating green jobs. It examines four policy tools - regulations for energy efficiency; financial incentives for energy efficiency; regulations for renewable energy; and financial incentives for renewable energy - and assesses their relative ability to generate green jobs. In order to test their effectiveness, we utilize panel data covering the 50 U.S. states from 1998 to 2007. This data contains a state-level count of green jobs, demographic, political and economic control variables, and the dates of adoption for relevant state policies and enables us to estimate the relative impact that different types of policy interventions have on green job growth. The results of the analysis will provide practical lessons regarding the type and design of policy instruments that most effectively encourage green job growth. These findings may have profound implications on cities, since urban areas are expected to be primary beneficiaries of this type of economic growth. Further, the lessons learned about the effectiveness of various policy instruments at the state level may be generalized downward and inform the design of similarly focused local policies. The paper discusses the potential of these implications.
The Communicational Dimension of Democratic Accountability: Media Reporting and Legitimacy in Four European Metropolitan Areas

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As cities grow and expand, complex network governance (advocated by the so-called 'new regionalism') is increasingly important for policy-making in metropolitan areas. These arrangements have often been criticised as a threat to legitimacy, as they involve a wide array of policy-actors and blurrs and dilute electoral accountability. This paper focuses on the communicational dimension of democratic accountability in metropolitan governance, by exploring the role of the media. We use data from a standardized content analysis of newspaper coverage (800 newspaper articles) on metropolitan policy-making in four European metropolitan areas (Paris, London, Berlin and Zurich) and examine their effect on legitimacy perceptions at the individual level on the basis of survey data (N=1000). We find that institutional differences in metropolitan governance are quite adequately reflected in media reports. The results also show that media content indeed influences citizen perceptions of legitimacy, i.e. trust in government as well as satisfaction with democracy. The media thus represent an additional - communicational - channel of democratic ac-countability in metropolitan governance.
New Urbanism in New Delhi, India

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New Urbanism communities began to appear within the United States in places such as Washington D.C. and Florida in the 1970s as an alternative to urban sprawl. While most studies on new urbanism focus on American and European cities, not much work has been done on new urbanism communities in developing countries of Asia. In India, new urbanist communities emerged within the national capital region of New Delhi as early as the 1950s. Kamla Nagar, the first of these new urbanist developments within New Delhi, features many commonalities with its American counterparts, including an emphasis on high density development, ample green spaces, and a retail district accessible to both walkers and bikers. This study will utilize a case study approach on New Delhi in the examination of how new urbanist communities such as Kamla Nagar have impacted planning strategies within one of India's largest cities. Implications for this study include how city officials, planners, and developers can enhance levels of neighborhood sustainability in light of surging population growth levels within India, the world's largest democracy, and other fast urbanizing developing countries in Asia.
The Effect of the Residential Mortgage Foreclosure on Income Segregation of Neighborhoods: A Case Study in Miami-Dade County, Florida

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Residential mortgage foreclosure is a growing issue in U.S. cities. Between 1986 and 2010 the rate of mortgage foreclosures in the U.S. increased from 0.26% to 1.27% with a significant rise since 2006 (HUD, 2011). According to the U.S. Foreclosure Market Report, about 2.3 million U.S. properties faced foreclosure proceedings in 2008, which is a 225 percent increase in total properties foreclosed since 2006 (RealtyTrac, 2009). Florida represents one of the most complicated cases, experiencing the second highest number of foreclosures (approximate number of foreclosure starts for all of 2007 and the first six months of 2008: 58,188) in the U.S. (NSP, 2009). Given the fact that the recent foreclosure crisis has a strong relationship with subprime lending—making loans to those with low income and assets, with troubled credit histories, and with little or no down-payment—, foreclosed houses tend to be concentrated in lower income and minority communities (Immergluck and Smith, 2006; Simkovic, 2011). These concentrated foreclosures, especially when they are in economically distressed neighborhoods, not only harm those who lose their homes, but also create a negative influence on the neighborhoods by depreciating the nearby property (Schuetz, Been and Ellen, 2008). In turn, mortgage foreclosures can exacerbate the segregation of low-income households through the process of out-migration of the original residents, potential housing abandonment, and/or in-migration of lower-income households (Li and Morrow-Jones, 2010). In this regard, this study addresses two research questions: (1) do the foreclosures drive further income segregation of the communities? (2) how does the effect vary based on initial economic characteristics of neighborhoods? In other words, this paper will empirically test whether or not the negative effect of foreclosures would be easily deepened in lower income neighborhoods, where foreclosures are severely concentrated and where housing demand is insignificant. To address these questions, this study will apply an empirical analysis targeted at some areas that have been heavily hit by the crisis of residential mortgage foreclosure, Miami-Dade County. Specifically, the neighborhoods in Miami-Dade County will be classified according to their economic characteristics. Then the relationship between residential mortgage foreclosures and spatial income segregation of neighborhoods will be examined using spline regression analysis and data from the American Community Survey, the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The results of this study will provide empirical evidence regarding the impact of foreclosures in terms of neighborhood income composition, and suggest planning implication about the relationship between the number of foreclosed houses and the foreclosure effect. Keyword: Residential Mortgage Foreclosure, Income Segregation, Spline Regression
Using an Early Vehicle Retirement Program in Québec as a Tool to Support a Mode Shift: Participation and Incentive Choice of Participants

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Early vehicle retirement programs are designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to improve air quality and traffic safety, and to stimulate the economy by replacing the automobile fleet with more recent, less polluting vehicles. Québec’s early vehicle retirement program was additionally designed as a mode shift tool by offering one of six different incentives including transit passes, rebates on bicycles and vehicles, or membership to a car sharing cooperative. The program was sponsored by the Federal government and managed by the Association québécoise de lutte contre la pollution atmosphérique, a non-profit organization. The cost of incentives are assumed in part by partnering organizations (eg. Transit agencies, car and bicycle manufacturers). This paper assesses the characteristics associated with program participation as well as with the choice of incentive made by participants. Between 2009 and 2011, over 40 000 participants registered to the program and provided their address, choice of incentive, age of vehicle, gender and age. Census data provided measures of the built and social environment near participants’ residence. The determinants of program participation rates were assessed using Tobit regressions. A multinomial logistic regression identified the determinants of incentive choice. Higher density areas outside of metropolitan regions and low-density areas inside metropolitan regions, as well as areas with low unemployment and younger population had higher participation rates. Transit incentives were more popular in dense, metropolitan centers, with more women, younger people and wealthier participants. Older participants were more likely to choose car rebates and bicycle incentives were associated with younger male participants. Participants from wealthier areas were more likely to choose transit or alternative travel incentives than cash. Alternative transportation incentives are mostly chosen in dense urban environments where a mode shift is more feasible. Lower income population overwhelmingly chose the cash incentive (the incentive with the lowest value). Program marketing should be enhanced outside large metropolitan regions, especially with lower income population who own the oldest and likely most polluting cars. Because lower income population are less likely to select higher value alternative travel incentive, developing partnerships with manufacturers to obtain rebates on spare parts associated with environmental performance seems warranted.
"On Both Sides of the Bay:" 21st Century Asian Pacific American Politics in the Gateway Cities of San Francisco and Oakland

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On the western and eastern shores of the San Francisco Bay or what many locals call "on both sides of the Bay," voters in two of the region's most recognizable metropolises, San Francisco and Oakland, did the unprecedented in their most recent city-wide mayoral elections--electing two Chinese American mayors to lead their respective cities. According to the 2010 U.S. Census findings, Asians and Pacific Islanders accounted for 30 percent and 17 percent of the total populations of San Francisco and Oakland, respectively. And yet despite these significant demographic numbers taking shape over 150 years due to trends of immigration, community-formation, and U.S. naturalization, it was not until 2010 and 2011 when two Asian American mayoral candidates, Jean Quan and Ed Lee finally broke through the political glass ceilings in their respective cities in mayoral elections that both featured controversial ranked-choice voting (RCV). Lost in the political euphoria of their historic elections is the important question not addressed by previous studies: why did it take Asian Americans in both cities until the twenty-first century to become mayors? A common perception is that RCV was greatly responsible for the elections of Quan and Lee. In this paper, we argue that it would be a mistake to reduce both mayors' historic elections solely to the implementation of RCV in San Francisco and Oakland that undoubtedly had an important influence in the political outcomes. The historic elections of Lee and Quan coincided with the large Asian American demographic growth in both cities, and the confluence of two important intersections: (1) race and space; and (2), identity and ideology. Both intersections would align Asian American interests with the governing coalitions or those seeking greater local incorporation. Political context, multi-racial coalition building, electoral structure, and intense organizing efforts by the Asian American community were also very important in both mayoral elections in both multi-racial cities.
Institutional Choice to Promote Land Redevelopment: An Empirical Study of Shenzhen, China

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This study investigates the local governments' institutional choice to promote land redevelopment in China. China's urbanization has led to widespread land conversion and development from agricultural use to urban use in the past decades, within which a large scale is conducted by urban villages. However, the property rights over collective land remains incomplete to urban villages, which results in overcrowded built environment, inferior infrastructure construction and low development intensity in urban villages. In the case of Shenzhen, almost all of the agricultural land available for new construction has been developed for urban use, with a large scale of land developed by urban villages with incomplete property rights. To sustain economic growth and obtain new fiscal revenue source from land development, it is natural for the local state to promote land development in urban villages suffering from development inefficiency. The paper identifies the different patterns of urban village redevelopment in Shenzhen's historical practice. A conceptual framework concerning transaction cost and institutional choice has been established to examine the land redevelopment institution. Transaction costs involving in Shenzhen's land redevelopment process under different institutions have been empirically identified and compared based on relevant policy, village interviews, statistical data and a range of unpublished primary sources. The study finds that the transaction costs of urban renewal unit institution are the lowest among the historical land redevelopment institutions. This explains why the Shenzhen government has chosen urban renewal unit policy as an institutional basis to redevelop urban villages. The study concludes with a discussion of some likely future changes on current land redevelopment institutions.
Urban Government Reform in China: An Intergovernmental Relations Perspective

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The paper describes the scope and structure of urban government in China and traces the development of its urban governance. Through the presentation of a set of statistics, the authors argue that China’s successful urban stories so far are all attributable to its local government reform policies. Further changes in intergovernmental relations, especially their fiscal and personnel relations, are needed in order that China’s urban governance embarks on a journey of new round of development.
Toward Estimating the Effects of Time and Place in the Influence of Gasoline Prices on Urban Public Transportation

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An important role among urban services is the distribution of public transportation. Though this is a potentially vital backbone to an urban transport system and has been used to stimulate economic development as well as alleviate congestion, most public transportation operates on tight budgets and has little incentive or directive to enhance ridership. This makes operations and travel behavior in unstable environments such as ones with escalating and fluctuating gasoline prices particularly challenging to manage. Increasing gasoline prices - which have nominally risen over 300 percent since 1999 - should increase demand for transit while decreasing demand for automobile use. However, constraints on operating budgets for bus services by those same fluctuating prices can also simultaneously decrease the supply of transit, which presents a host of issues for transportation sustainability. Much of the research on the topic has established a significant, inelastic relationship between gasoline prices and transit. This relationship appears to contain temporal components and works in tandem with other socio-economic characteristics and public transportation deployment, but little has been done to advance understanding of these intricate temporal and place-based economic characteristics, and as such information to improve public transportation operations has thus far proved minimal. This paper builds off of prior research by using more recent data and employing new modeling structures in an attempt to further refine our understanding of the influence of gasoline prices on public transportation usage and deployment. Data on public transportation service and patronage, economic characteristics including gasoline prices, temporal characteristics, and socio-economic estimations from forty-two cities are measured in monthly intervals between January 2002 and June 2012, and comparisons are made among different types of bus and rail systems. Simultaneous effects modeling among economic characteristics that influence travel behavior is used to capture the interaction over time between prices, usage, and service, as well as variables that are traditionally used to explain transit ridership. Discontinuity effects are also tested to identify potential changes in the relationship over the time period. It is expected the results will confirm the significant, inelastic relationship previously found, but also enhance our understanding of the changes over time of the influence of gasoline prices on public transportation given changing context and economic conditions.
Regulating the Homeless in Public Space: Policy Discourses of the Sit/lie Ordinance in San Francisco, CA

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City sidewalks are contested spaces with different meanings and uses for a wide variety of people. These uses range from spaces of daily living for the very poor to places of leisure and consumerism for wealthier residents. Many cities, including traditionally progressive cities like San Francisco, are turning to the use of ordinances that restrict sitting or lying on sidewalks as a way to resolve conflicts between the wealthy and the poor, raising questions about who has rights to use sidewalks for what uses. Current literature on sit/lie ordinances conceptualizes them as products of global economic forces and the rise of the neoliberal policy agenda. While this is certainly true, my research suggests there is a more nuanced involvement of local actors who both support and resist them. In order to further understand the local policy making arena I use content analytic methods to examine the policy debates surrounding the November 2010 election in San Francisco in which voters approved a city-wide referendum instituting a sit/lie ordinance. While this is part of an ongoing research project, preliminary findings suggest that social movement actors employ discourses of right to the city to counter proponents framing of deviance, disease and crime. This research suggests that we need to further integrate an analysis of local resistance for rights to the city into our explanations of these types of ordinances.
Organizing and Managing the Transition to Sustainable Urban Districts and Housing Structures: A Comparative Study of Swedish and Danish Cases

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In Scandinavia baby boomers coming of age in 1960s caused a massive demand for new housing. Public authority responded by soliciting to social housing associations to construct a huge number of dwellings within a short time span. In Sweden for example, this large scale social housing estate construction program is known as the Million-Program aimed at constructing one million dwellings (in a population of 7.5 million people) during ten years. Today the housing estates are 40-50 years old and highly in need of renovation. The international and interdisciplinary Swedish-Danish action research project ‘Sound Settlements’ addressed the complex challenge of performing a sustainable regeneration of the 1960-70 housing estates within a holistic framework that sees them as integrated combinations of dwellings, places of work, services, recreation and infrastructure. The paper addresses the governance issues emanating from the planning and implementation of regeneration programs in four estates in the two countries. Empirical data were collected in four case studies through analysis of documents, field observation, interviews and focus group seminars. Results showed that despite many similarities between the Swedish and Danish welfare state models, the organization of the social housing sector differs significantly between the two countries. This brings about very different conditions for finance and organization of sustainable regeneration of 1960-70 housing estates. On the Swedish side housing estates are part of a municipal organization, whereas on the Danish side social housing estates are owned by independent, democratically organized and governed housing associations. Efficacy of the two different organizational approaches varies correspondingly; there is obviously a trade-off between organization and efficiency when it comes to decision-making, particularly when it comes to strategic decisions with consequences reaching decades into the future. Thus, one typical dilemma is the schism between the interests of present residents and the interests of future generations of residents. Moreover, organizational structure also influences the financial capability of the individual estates which in turn affects decision-making when it comes to choosing long-term and sustainable (but in the short term more costly) renovation models rather cheaper but less sustainable alternatives.
Rebuilding Social Organization in Low-income Neighborhoods: The Influence of Habitat for Humanity

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Research has linked neighborhoods of concentrated poverty with high crime, low employment, poor health, and low educational achievement. Because of these linkages, federal housing policy over the past few decades has often tried to "deconcentrate" or disperse the poor from these neighborhoods into more affluent neighborhoods with the hope that better institutions and better neighbors will motivate these families to improve their lives. However research on large mobility programs such as Gautreaux and Moving to Opportunity (MTO), has found mostly mixed results and criticized the programs for having a small impact and for issues with methodology. Race and income have also proven to be significant barriers to low-income residents realizing the benefits of their new neighborhoods. These shortcomings have led to renewed interest in neighborhood revitalization efforts through federal policy. However, the mixed-income neighborhoods sought in many of these programs still assume that low-income residents utilize more affluent neighbors as role models to better their lives. This research instead investigates the influence of residents who are similar in race and income to their neighbors, but motivated to better their lives. This investigation hypothesizes that Habitat for Humanity families are more motivated to better their lives than their neighbors because of Habitat's selection criteria and because they have completed the process of becoming a Habitat homeowner. The theory also suggests that Habitat homeowners have a positive effect on their neighbors, and their neighborhood. This effect is measured through components of social organization including sense of community, positive identification with the neighborhood, and the presence of role models. This investigation takes advantage of the Making Connections survey sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. The survey was collected from 2002-2011 in 30 low-income neighborhoods within 10 U.S. cities geographically spread across the country. Qualitative interviews with key Habitat staff and field observation and analysis in selected Making Connections neighborhoods will be used to support the quantitative survey data. GIS tools will also be used to redefine neighborhood boundaries from the perspective of residents and as smaller, "functional" units as opposed to the strict use of administrative boundaries. Important for planning practice and scholarship and important as learning outcomes, this research helps fill the gap on what little is known about the influence low-income and minority residents who are motivated to better their lives have on their neighbors. The study will also add significantly to the small amount of formal research that exists on both Habitat for Humanity and how we define neighborhoods for research.
A Comparison of Canadian Local Political Parties with those of the United States and Europe

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In Canada, municipal politics is characterized by a unique specificity: It distinguishes itself not only from other levels of government but also from municipal politics in the United States and Europe. This may be largely attributed to the Canadian local political parties. On the one hand, these parties have a relatively small presence in the municipal scene. On the other hand, in addition to maintaining no partisan ties with the upper levels of government, they are often poorly organized, apolitical and of a short life-cycle. Yet, despite these drawbacks, the number of local political parties has been on the rise over the past years, while voter turnout has tended to stagnate, if not decline in some municipalities. In that context, the objective of our paper is to highlight the current pertinence of Canadian local political parties, namely by examining their origin (influence of the Progressive Reformers, in particular on the notion of political competition), the legislation governing them (more specifically in terms of financing) and above all the contemporary municipal context. Our objective is to identify the specificity of Canadian local political parties in comparison with cases encountered in Europe and the United States.
Dwelling with Things in Disarray

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In its sheer mass, residential clutter demands our attention. Ironically, as we attempt to deal with it, such clutter directs our attention toward what is missing. Things, the furniture and knick-knacks we collect and carry with us through our daily lives, are mostly missing from regulatory accounts of how we dwell. By contrast, dwellers are mostly absent from codes and by-laws related to clutter. Finally, dwellings are mostly absent from therapeutic models relating to hoarding. Lacunae speak to the need for a theory of dwelling taking things into account, a theory of clutter taking dwellers into account, and a theory of hoarding taking dwellings into account. We make the case for thinking about home in a new way, as a network of attachments, in order to accommodate all of these holes in our accounts. We draw upon a selection of archival and qualitative interview data from Vancouver to document the holes in our dominant accounts and to develop a new, more integrated theory of home. Such a theory has the potential to inform regulatory regimes in ways to make the city more inhabitable for everyone.
The Rise and Fall of the Great House Reserve: Notes from Vancouver

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Histories of North America’s distinctively low-density patterns of city building have all too often neglected the ways that single family houses operate as regulatory technologies, especially when codified within zoning regulations. Here I explore the installation of "The Great House Reserve" in North America, with special reference to Vancouver as a case study of particular interest. By the mid-twentieth century, Vancouver was one of the most house-dominated metropolises in North America. By half a century later, Vancouver had moved further away from the house than any other metropolitan area on the continent. Through archival documents, I examine Vancouver’s early days as a frontier city, exploring the problems associated with its settlement and rapid growth. I detail how the City of Vancouver, like other North American cities, took up the international fad of town planning as a solution to some of its administrative woes, initiating the formation of a Great House Reserve around the city’s newly defined urban core. As a result, through the middle of the Twentieth Century, Vancouver sprawled mostly outward, filling up and expanding the Great House Reserve around its city center. But during the 1960s, the character of the region began to change in rather dramatic ways. Politics returned to planning, and from the tug-of-war between political factions arose a variety of urban alternatives to the house. The paper charts the rise and rapid decline of the house as the dominant technology for dwelling in Vancouver, and provides a sense of the political contingency involved.
Designer Fashion Industry and the Changing Role of the Intermediaries: The Case of Pitti Immagine in Florence

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Fashion industry has grown considerably into one of the world's most important creative industries. Fast-changing trends, short life-cycle of products and high demand uncertainty have required fashion firms to develop multiple strategies from diversification of their products and agile supply chains to increasing investments in communication, marketing, social media and strengthening of their relationships with intermediaries. In particular, in the last decade, the growth and success of fashion firms largely depend on the dynamic network of intermediaries that aim at putting the designers' activities within a business context, shaping and regulating the fashion industry while acting as connection between the local and the global. However the role of intermediaries in the fashion industry, and in general in the cultural industries, is largely understudied. There is still some ambiguity and confusion on the definition of cultural intermediaries and the roles they play in the cultural industries. This research will try to address this gap by focusing on one specific intermediary, that is the fashion fair. It will give a glimpse on the changing role of this intermediary in the fashion industry by focusing on the case of Pitti Immagine in Florence. The case of Pitti Immagine and in general the relations between designers and fairs will be analyzed via qualitative analysis of published materials (for example, documents, websites, magazines, press releases) and interviews. We argue that there is a complex intertwinment of roles among intermediaries, designers and consumers reflecting the complexity, fragmentation and segmentation of the fashion industry. The changes in the fashion production and distribution system have strongly affected the role of intermediaries and in particular the role of the fashion fairs. The main expectation of this paper is that nevertheless the rise in new media and new intermediaries, such as fashion bloggers, the role of credible and trustful experts may increase.
Compton, a Black City with a Latino Majority: Electoral Participation and the Concept of Political Apathy in a Los Angeles Suburb.

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The city of Compton, California, has experienced dramatic demographic shifts in the last three decades. From 1980 to 2010, the share of African-Americans declined from 75% to 34% of the population, whereas the share of Latinos rose from 21% to 65%. Although Hispanics have made up a significant part of the population since the 1980s, no Latino has ever been elected to the city council. This paradox is the result of the very low electoral weight of the Latino community. Low registration rate among all Latinos and poor turnout among Latino registered voters don’t allow the community to hold much political power. We will specifically focus here on the turnout issue. The aim of this paper is to understand what led to such a lack of electoral participation. We will also question the concept of political apathy and discuss its relevance in the Compton context. This research is based on a one-year ethnographic fieldwork during which over 100 interviews have been conducted with local politicians, community leaders and residents. I also attended dozens of public meetings and gathered electoral as well as socio-demographic data. Unsurprisingly, this lack of participation is first of all the result of several well-known direct causes. For the most part, these causes fall into the category of socio-economic status, which has long been associated by political scientists with low electoral participation: low levels of education, salary, and proficiency in English. Aside from these usual and generic factors, field observations and interviews highlighted the strong influence of the local political context on Latino electoral participation. I identified three major elements. First, the weakness of the local network of community based organizations does not encourage dialogue not debate and thus the emergence of viable Latino candidates. Second, the disadvantageous at-large electoral system dilutes the Hispanic vote. Lastly, there is in Compton a black political elite that is reluctant to share the power for historical and economic reasons. Even though these elements only have an indirect influence on the Hispanic electoral participation, they lead to a discouragement within the Latino community and prevent even the registered voters from considering their vote as useful. For all that, can we consider that Compton Hispanics are politically apathetic? Leaning upon two non-formal political events that I personally followed from the inside, I argue that Compton Latinos are not totally uninterested in politics. Quite the opposite, they proved their ability to conduct highly organized mobilizations when confronted to issues that threaten their community at the local level. I contend that one of these mobilizations is likely to have a long lasting impact on the political balance of power in Compton, and may mark the awakening of the sleeping elephant.
The Link Between Hypertension and Environmental Racism

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African Americans suffer from significantly and disproportionately higher rates of hypertension than any other race in the United States. Explanations for this disparity vary to lower quality of healthcare and education to environmental factors and lifestyle choices. Recently, researchers are seeking to understand the ways in which experiences such as racism may adversely affect health. However, this is the first research done in Mississippi looking at three cities based on food and lifestyle choices, to determine in environmental racism directly affects hypertension. The research was based on comparing three different population areas. These areas include the cities of Clinton, Madison, and West Jackson, Mississippi. Due to the size of Jackson, West Jackson was chosen due to comparable population sizes. West Jackson also has an African American population of 98%, which is of great importance for this study. A survey was given to 100 people from each area to determine hypertension levels. In this study, we found that West Jackson had a disproportionate amount of fast food eateries with extreme amounts of fat and sodium, and the people from that area had increased levels of hypertension, showing a direct link.
Diversity Policies in New Destination Communities and Their Impact on Immigrants

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Changes in migration and immigration over the past twenty years have changed the landscape of America as an increasing number of immigrants have started settling in non-traditional gateway communities. One approach taken by some of these "new destination" communities to address the changing demographics has been to adopt pro-diversity policies and programs. The goals of these policies and programs are often to acknowledge and celebrate diversity; that diversity in and of itself is a good thing for the community. However, what may appear to be policies that celebrate diversity are in practice policies that maintain racial and ethnic inequality. Because these diversity policies fail to recognize the differences among the diverse racial ethnic population, they can replicate structures of power and the agent of the policies (municipal and/or corporate) benefit from those structures of power being maintained. Diversity often presents an ambiguous and contradictory framework for understanding how places negotiate racial-ethnic difference. Immigrants especially hold a place of contradiction. As non-citizens of the nation, immigrants are understood as less than citizen-subjects. Yet the activities of immigrants are crucial to the reproduction of neoliberal governances. They are often held up as examples that embody liberal ideals of being self-made, self-responsible members of the community. At the same time, their lack of formal citizenship and their differences from the dominant society make them suspect. Immigrants’ civic engagements are often hidden from the broader population because of their informality. The creation of childcare networks, ethnic organizations, pop-up farmers markets, and language schools are some examples of the ways immigrants are making new claims to space in these communities. These acts of local citizenship are important in the development of the local community because due to their lack of state-sanctioned support, immigrants must provide services for themselves. By exploring the multicultural policies within new destinations, we can start to expose the unevenness of the impact to different ethnic groups. If diversity policies reinforce and replicate systems of inequality within immigrant communities, it also means a replication of social inequities throughout the city. These inequities are played out in a multitude of ways, including housing (the spatial distribution of ethnic groups), the school system, economic development opportunities, and criminalization. These inequities can have a greater cost to society if the social and economic opportunities and potential of people are limited.
Political Commitment and Local Climate Change Policy Performance

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The recent Copenhagen summit highlighted the inability of national governments including the US to agree to binding targets to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs). Notwithstanding such policy failure at the national level, cities have come together to curb GHGs. Municipal authorities reduce their climate change impact by adopting a step by step policy process such as the International Council of Local Environmental Initiative (ICLEI)'s five milestones: (1) conducting greenhouse gas inventory; (2) adopting a reduction target; (3) developing a local climate action plan; (4) implementing policies and measures; and (5) monitoring and reporting progress. Whether a local government attains this local policy process is a proper indicator to evaluate climate policy performance. This study examines the factors that influence city government climate change efforts. Our research seeks to answer fundamental questions regarding environmental efforts at the local level, such as: Why has Seattle (WA, population of 563,000) completed all five phases of climate change milestones, but Anaheim (CA, population of 330,000) achieved none? Our primary explanation for this question starts with the premise that a mayor's commitment to climate change policy is critical to activities related to addressing climate change. We argue that politics drive policy decisions in juxtaposition with "domain theory" of urban politics that argues "policy begets politics." Complex policy domains such as climate change may require strong political will from elected officials for a comprehensive approach. Thus, we expect that active local authorities signing the US Mayor Climate Protection Agreement, as a measurement of political commitment to climate change policy, provide the necessary political foundation to enact substantive policy related to climate change mitigation. We use the ordinal data from the ICLEI's "five milestones" as a dependent variable. With this constructed database, we analyze the relationship between mayor's commitment and local climate policy using hierarchical analysis with ordered logit models. City-level independent variables consist of city's commitment in climate change (whether a Mayor signed U.S Climate Protection Agreement) along with a battery of control variables such as population and educational level. State-level variables include statewide climate change policies, membership in climate change regional governance, and urbanization. By using GIS (Geographic Information System), this project illustrates geographic pattern of procedure climate change policy performance of 591 US cities as of 2009.
Is a Business Improvement District (BID) a Universal Solution? A Case Study of Two Business Communities in Detroit

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Urban management mechanisms have increasingly incorporated the private sector. Representatively, many cities in the United States have established business improvement districts (BIDs) since the 1990s. However, not all cities have experienced the growth of BIDs. Some cities have implemented fewer BIDs compared to others. For example, Detroit has only one BID ('West Vernor & Springwells Business Improvement District') established in 2007 whereas New York City and Los Angeles have established 67 and 38 BIDs, respectively, since the 1990s. Given the variances, this research aims to focus on areas in which BID formation has not been so active, asking how communities have developed mechanisms to protect businesses and improve business environment. To understand the recent business development patterns and management strategies in these settings, this study focuses on two communities ('Osborn' and 'Jefferson East') in Detroit in which communities have initiated grassroots effort for establishing a Business Association that helps to improve business environment. The research involves interviews with staff at the Business Associations in Osborn and Jefferson East. Important questions include: what was the motivation to create a business association? Were there any barriers to create a business association (e.g., scarcity of funding, lack of attention, and loss of businesses)? How did communities overcome challenges? Do you aim to establish a BID eventually, or do you think establishment of BID is not necessary? The findings show how communities have identified the needs for improving business environment and how they make collaborative effort among community stakeholders without BIDs. This research will elucidate the motivation and process of community development practices when communities either are not ready to establish a BID or prefers alternatives to improve business environment. On a broader level, this research can provide insights for the city government and planners about whether or not BIDs are necessary and how to assist business communities to establish an organization such as a business association or a BID when there is a need.
Foreclosures, Economic Recession and Political Fragmentation: A Recipe for Fiscal Disaster in California Central Valley Cities

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Aside from the economic recession and the millions of foreclosures, the housing crisis had a major impact on local governments, including a drastic drop in their fiscal revenues. The Northern San Joaquin Valley in California is one of the regions that suffered the most from the crisis and is now facing a fiscal emergency situation. In June 2012, Stockton filed for bankruptcy protection – becoming the biggest city to fail nationwide. In Septembre 2012, Atwater, in Merced county, is almost in the same situation. Why are municipalities struggling so hard in the Central Valley? Prior to the crisis, as people were priced out of the San Francisco Bay and moved to the Valley, local actors took advantage of urban and demographic growth on their territory to increase their fiscal resources. Even though slow growth movements were emerging, political actors kept encouraging growth as a means to boost their local economy and finances. Due to the political fragmentation of the region, most of the cities were in competition to attract urban growth on their jurisdiction, which explains why so few growth regulations had been adopted. The strategy paid off in the short term, until the crisis broke and housing prices dropped. Local governments then faced a strong decline of their income and a very high concentration of foreclosures. Cities and counties, at first, reduced the number of municipal employees. But some budget cuts were more difficult than others, especially those concerning medical insurance to retired employees and obligation bounds reimbursement. This situation drove some cities such as Stockton, to bankruptcy, as it is the only solution to redo their budget from scratch. In addition, the State of California itself had been undergoing a severe budgetary crisis due to the housing crisis and economic recession. California State actors eventually decided to borrow funds from local governments and dismantle redevelopment agencies. These decisions further deteriorated the financial condition of cities and counties, and spurred conflicts between local actors and the State. This research is based on an analysis of the impact of the subprime crisis in the Central Valley conducted between 2009 and 2012 and involving over 70 interviews with local actors, experts and inhabitants. Our main finding is that the competition for fiscal resources is a key to understand the severe impact of the housing crisis on local governments, in terms of foreclosures and revenues. This therefore raises the question of the future of local government fiscal resources and regional redistribution in a struggling state.
Better Peri-Urban Planning and Governance For East Asia

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By 2020 an estimated 40% of East Asia’s residents will live in the peri-urban areas surrounding cities. Huge bands stretching 100 miles and more from urban areas along roads and rivers are often a jumble of fields and rice paddies; textile, shoe and electronics plants, farming villages, trash transfer sites, mobile food carts, highrise middle-income housing, KFC and MacDonald restaurants, gated theme park communities for the rich, and illegal multi-story walk ups packed with rural migrants. The peri-urban interface is where global meets local; traditional meets modern. East Asia’s peri-urban areas are often under- or un-planed or with multiple and conflicting plans that are not implemented. Planning is often fragmented and uncoordinated among jurisdictions. Local governments lack the funds, capacity, and inclination to develop and implement needed plans. With the exception of China, municipal boundaries are tightly drawn and urbanization often spills over beyond formal city limits. Peri-urban areas in East Asia are at the mercy of powerful domestic and international development forces driven to maximize profit in real estate development and the most cut-throat sectors of the global economy. Factories drain aquifers for their production processes and dump untreated waste water back into streams and rivers contaminating drinking water and ruining agriculture. Garbage is dumped in unsealed landfills. Villagers clash with rural migrants over jobs and life styles. Cars, scooters, bicycles, and pedestrians clog the narrow streets Using original case study material from their current field research in China and Indonesia, the authors will describe current peri-urban development conditions in East Asia and how they differ from conditions in Africa and South America and from East Asia in the past, advance new explanations of the multiple causes of peri-urbanization in East Asia today, and advance theory about planning peri-urban areas in East Asia. The paper will focus on examples of good practice, particularly in Yogyakarta, Indonesia and Chengdu, China. Based on demonstrated successes in these two city-regions the paper will advance suggestions for reform that are possible within the limits of the political and economic systems of East Asian countries. The paper adopts an intuitionalist approach, advocating strategies to reduce fragmentation of municipal government and a variety of options for restructuring local government and working better within existing political frameworks to coordinate planning for regions large enough to encompass existing and probable future peri-urban areas. The primary focus of the paper is on the future so that the tens of millions of people who will live in the next generation of extended peri-urban regions have a better living environment than their predecessors. A secondary purpose is to propose remediation strategies for existing problematic peri-urban areas.

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Middle Class Families and Diversity in Gentrified Neighborhoods of Paris and San Francisco

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Many studies have documented the gentrification processes in large cities of the North in the past few decades. New middle-class residents flocked into formerly working-class inner-city neighborhoods and transformed the urban environment. They also caused the social diversification of their neighborhoods' population, and this is an issue that gentrification researchers have recently turned to. In this perspective, many studies have criticized the consensus on the "virtues of social mix" (Lees, 2004) by analyzing the process of displacement of low-income residents and by highlighting the transitory aspect of the diversity resulting from gentrification. But the studies concentrating on the residents' perspectives on "social mix" or "diversity" are still rare (Simon, 1995; Rose, 2008). Furthermore, while many gentrified neighborhoods involve middle class families, very few studies have investigated their role in the gentrification process (Karsten, 2007) and even less so their relationship to diversity. We argue that middle class parents are key agents in the transformation of cities, and that their having children strongly shapes their perspective on diversity. Drawing on the results of a comparative research conducted in two gentrified neighborhoods of Paris (Batignolles) and San Francisco (Noe Valley), this paper will analyze the ways middle class parents of children enrolled in public and independent elementary schools view and practice diversity. It will first investigate how the parents define "diversity" or "mix" (mixité in French). It will then examine their educational expectations in term of diversity: do they conceive diversity as an educational goal for their children and why? If so, how did this impact their residential choice and their school choice? What are the different ways (and places) that they use to expose their children to diversity: what socializing role do they envision for the neighborhood, the school or the city respectively? How do they experience diversity in their own adult lives in comparison to their children's everyday practices and social relations? We will argue that different groups of gentrifiers experience different ways of thinking and practicing diversity when it comes to their children.
Framing Metropolitan Growth: Regional Dashboard Indicators Methodological Implications and Generalization of the Results

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This paper focuses on framing of the Northeast Ohio Regional Dashboard of Economic Indicators study. The Regional Dashboard of Economic Indicators is a regional indicator project that tracks over 100 middle-tier metropolitan statistical areas (within the population of 400,000 to 3.5 million) in order to benchmark their performance. This paper will identify which variables, factors, and overall themes (i.e. regional growth, entrepreneurship, innovation, education, etc) should be highlighted as an outcome of this study. The initial structure of the Dashboard was constructed based on the hypotheses and data that reflected the economic understanding of the last decade (2000). The structure of many regional economies significantly changed over this period of time. Innovation, commercialization, highly educated labor and minority inclusion are important variables that drive factors of metropolitan growth. Important questions that will be answered: How strong are assumptions of this framework? How do these assumptions affect the results? Can we generalize from this study to U.S. metropolitan growth? These and other research questions are answered in the proposed presentation.
Spatial Mismatch of Housing Voucher Households

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The Housing Choice Voucher Program (formerly known as the Section 8 Voucher Program) is the largest rental housing subsidy in the U.S., helping over 2 million households secure housing each year. A key intention of the program is to allow its recipients access to a greater array of neighborhoods, including locations with greater access to employment and other amenities. Most commonly, researchers have used poverty rates as the chief indicator of neighborhood opportunity for voucher households. What has not received much attention is the location of subsidized housing with respect to employment. Given employment is how recipients can lift themselves out of poverty, proximity to jobs is a vitally important metric. The proposed project seeks to identify the extent to which housing voucher households live near employment possibilities, and whether such proximity affects labor market outcomes. Using data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on housing voucher, public housing, and LIHTC households, and employment from the U.S. Census Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) – all at the census tract level – this paper estimates the job accessibility of the census tracts occupied by the typical voucher household, and compares these job concentration levels to those for all households and poor renter, LIHTC, and public housing households in U.S. metropolitan areas. Then, I link these to data on households from the Moving to Opportunity (MTO) study provided by the Interuniversity Consortium on Political and Social Research (ICPSR). In the MTO study, there was random assignment into three groups – an experimental group that could only use a voucher in a low poverty census tract, a comparison group that could use a voucher anywhere, and a control group that did not receive a voucher at all – that will allow for a causal estimate of the role of the job accessibility of a voucher household’s tract of residence in employment outcomes.
Creating a More Equitable and Sustainable Silicon Valley through Transportation and Land Use Advocacy

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Santa Clara County was planned around the automobile as exemplified by the Valley’s wide auto-oriented streets and sprawling low-density development with large expanses of surface parking. The focus on planning for the needs of the automobile is manifested in the Valley’s low transit, walking, and biking rates, and high rates of pedestrian and bicycle injuries. Furthermore, major racial and economic disparities exist in regards to access to jobs and traffic safety. During the 1980’s and 1990’s cities started planning for more compact development patterns and a less auto-centric transportation network. In 1982, VTA gained funds to build a light rail line along North First Street in San Jose and by 1991 Downtown and South San José joined the system. Further extensions to Mountain View, Milpitas, East San Jose, and Campbell opened between 1999 and 2005. Unfortunately, the focus of VTA’s transit improvements was in drawing suburban higher income commuters from their autos. As a result, VTA left out the most transit dependent populations and the highest transit-ridership corridors. The effect of VTA’s rail investments has resulted in disinvestment in lower-income communities where transit riders remain stuck on inefficient and slow bus service and created a light rail system with lackluster ridership. Today, Santa Clara County is continuing to plan for more compact, mixed use development and greater transportation options. Having learned from past mistakes, VTA’s plans now include Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service to some of the Valley’s most transit dependent neighborhoods. Furthermore, Silicon Valley cities are placing a greater emphasis on bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure. While helping to bring more people closer to transit, jobs, and services can bring environmental and economic benefits, infill development can come with a whole new set of social implications such as displacement of existing residents and businesses and elimination of community gathering places, as exemplified by the proposals to develop the Berryessa Flea Market and Santa Clara County Fairground sites. Some of the key questions moving forward for the Valley are what transportation options should we invest in, where should we invest these scarce transportation resources, how and where do we grow, and how do we address the impacts of this growth? These decisions carry huge social equity, environmental, and economic repercussions, and advocacy organizations are increasingly establishing a presence to influence these decisions.
The Role of History in Redistributonal Policy Discourse: Evidence from Living Wage Campaigns in Chicago and San Francisco

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The rapid spread of the Occupy Wall Street movement from a localized protest in New York City's Zuccotti Park to over 300 cities in three months sparked a host of commentary among pundits, academics, and political elites, resuscitating a long-missing national dialogue over the issue of income inequality (Hacker & Pierson, 2010; Weir, Wolman, & Swanstrom, 2005). While Federal policy interventions into the labor market have been largely absent, the past twenty years has witnessed a resurgence of redistributonal interventions at the local scale that specifically aim to regulate the labor market in order to raise wages and improve standards for low-skilled workers, and ultimately address inequality. While the movement to pass living wage laws is the most prominent and well-studied example, local labor market interventions also include grassroots campaigns for community benefits agreements (CBAs), and health care mandates. Although such policies vary significantly from place to place in their coverage and impact, they are unambiguously redistributonal, and therefore represent a challenge to the dominant form of urban economic policy making, which tends to focus on entrepreneurial strategies that attract mobile capital. While the extent and capacity of local governments to engage in redistributonal policymaking has been studied for decades (Peterson, 1981; Rast, 1999; Savitch & Kantor, 2002; Stone, 1993), the dominant models offered in the urban politics literature still lack the explanatory nuance to assess why policies such as the living wage are enacted in some contexts and not others. This paper moves beyond the structure versus agency dichotomy and uses a close comparison of the living wage movements in Chicago and San Francisco, to argue not only that "history matters," but to illustrate how historical narratives are actively (re)constructed by social actors to further their agenda. Although each city started with similar campaigns to enact basic living wage laws, by the end of a ten-year period, the resulting level of change in San Francisco stood in stark contrast to Chicago—where advocates failed to extend the living wage to "Big-Box" retailers. Using a history of economic restructuring and an empirical assessment of the business climate valence of each city's political regime, this paper finds that economic and political factors jointly structure the depth and pace policy change by setting the terms of debate within redistributonal policy discourses. This joint determination occurs because 'problem frames' are path-dependent and because inherited political structures, such as the availability of binding referendum, shape agenda-setting power and opportunities to challenge entrenched interests.
The Saga of a Landslide Reelection, Baby Bonds, and a Recall: Mayor Daniel W. Hoan, 1932-1933

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Nineteen thirty-two had been a banner year politically for Milwaukee’s longtime socialist mayor, Daniel W. Hoan. Running in his sixth mayoral election, he campaigned on a theme of a "better, bigger, and brighter city" despite the fact that Milwaukee was heading deeper into the Great Depression. In the 1932 election, Hoan won the biggest victory of his political career and, for the first time, had a functional majority in the Milwaukee Common Council. However, by the end of 1932, the problems of the depression were worsening. Nineteen thirty-three would prove to be the worst year of the Great Depression in Milwaukee. Under pressure from local taxpayer organizations, in part based on Hoan’s refusal to reduce municipal employee pay and a purported "confession of bankruptcy" based on a proposal to issue municipal scrip, by June 1933 Hoan was fighting his second recall effort. While the recall attempt finally failed, 1932 to 1933 would be one of the most momentous and challenging years in in a remarkable mayoralty.
Planning the Undocumented City

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This paper looks at the role of undocumented immigrants as participants, and as part of the public, in the planning process. It examines, from both a theoretical and an empirical standpoint, how undocumented people are, and can be, integrated into and considered in the creation of city and regional plans. The paper makes both an ethical and a practical case for the inclusion of undocumented immigrant communities in these processes. While much literature exists looking at the changing demographics of the US, and the shifting demographics of immigration, very little focuses on the civic access-- or lack thereof-- specifically of undocumented immigrants as related to the planning establishment. The planning field has deep roots in working with immigrant communities, dating back to the Progressive movement from which it partly sprang, yet scarce explicit work has been done examining immigration status as an attribute for practitioners to consider. On the theoretical level, this paper looks at concepts such as citizenship (not only legally but also civically speaking) and "the public". On the pragmatic level, I take two case studies in the Atlanta area-- an urban municipality and a peri-urban county government-- and review how they have or have not-- and could in the future-- involve undocumented people in the planning process.
Home Brewed Economic Development: How Michigan's Craft Beer Industry Is Enhancing Cities around the State

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In the past 20 years, Michigan's cities have become hotspots for locally brewed beer. Grand Rapids was recently bestowed with the title of "Beer City, USA" and has drawn the attention of national media outlets like the Chicago Tribune, which sang the Michigan city's praises as a top destination for travelers interested in beer tourism, a new and real phenomenon. The State of Michigan now ranks fifth in the nation in terms of beer production. Despite the state's economic woes of recent years and downturns in many of its traditional industries, craft breweries have grown and thrived across Michigan. In 2011, Michigan's craft beer industry contributed $24 million in wages and $133 million to the state's economy. The local beer industry, however, is responsible for more than economic growth in the state. Brew pubs serve as anchors to downtown areas, drawing foot traffic and visitors from out of town, which can translate into dollars spent at neighboring businesses. Breweries, as exporters of locally produced goods, also serve as marketing agents for their hometowns, carrying the names of their locales throughout their distribution area. Additionally, brew pubs become community institutions that serve as "third places" for local residents and visitors alike. This paper will examine the role the local brewing industry plays in downtown economic development in cities throughout Michigan, as well as the contributions of craft breweries to placemaking efforts in those towns. I intend to interview owners of brewing establishments about how they view their businesses' roles in fostering local identity, creating a sense of place, and contributing to the economic health of their communities. I will also interview local planning officials to find out how local breweries can contribute to planning efforts, in terms of both economic development and placemaking. The City of Grand Rapids will serve as a case study. I will also examine the policy and regulatory context in which local breweries operate and make recommendations as to how state and local governments can act to embrace the local brewing industry and best harness its spillover effects. I will review the literature regarding local placemaking initiatives in Michigan (the concepts of "economic gardening," "Cool Cities," etc.), as well as other writings about placemaking and local economic development to examine how breweries and brew pubs can fit into those strategies. I will also review the State of Michigan's and local municipalities' approaches to regulating the brewing industry, as well as best practices in other beer producing states.
Moral Intuitions and Smart Growth: The Political Psychology of Attitudes toward Compact Development

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Compact development - so-called "smart growth" - initially would not appear to be an obvious candidate for an ideologically polarizing issue. Though many liberals have embraced compact growth for the environmental and equity benefits they see it having, one might also anticipate that free-market conservatives would support eliminating the strict regulations (e.g., density restrictions, single-use zoning) that tend to lead to traditional suburban sprawl. Indeed, Levine (2005) argues that sprawl and a lack of clustered development largely result from distortions of the market introduced by excessive local land-use regulation. Nevertheless, recent empirical research shows that liberal vs. conservative ideology is one of the most significant, weighty correlates of individual attitudes toward compact development. Moreover, ideology is predictive not only of policy attitudes (e.g., whether government should direct new growth toward older centers) but also predicts consumption preferences (e.g., the desire to live in a walkable or transit-oriented neighborhood) (Lewis & Baldassare 2010). What renders this issue - conceivably a topic of consensus - so ideologically laden? Drawing on recent insights from social and political psychology, I argue that the liberal/conservative split on smart growth is better explained by "moral intuitions" than by self-interest or by attitudes toward government’s role in the economy. As Haidt (2012) and other moral intuitionists show, although all groups draw upon the same several sets of fundamental moral concerns, liberals and conservatives weigh different moral foundations in distinctive ways. Liberals tend to heavily prioritize fairness and prevention of harm, whereas conservatives give much more emphasis than liberals to issues of purity and of upholding traditional and ordered patterns. Moreover, liberals tend to be higher in a relevant personality trait (neophilia, or "openness to experience"). These different "mental maps," I hypothesize, largely explain why liberals and conservatives view compact development so differently. In this view, liberals favor compact development not primarily through a lens of environmentalism, but rather as a way to prioritize fairness and prevent harm toward residents of older centers; moral outrage is directed at the way sprawl protects the already advantaged. Conservatives, by contrast, are activated by fear of a radical upending of what is viewed as the traditional development pattern and by disgust at the potential for disorderly mixing of land uses; their karma-like sense of moral desert provides justification for the spatial separation of higher- and lower-status groups. Empirical evidence for the hypothesis will draw from public opinion survey data as well as more qualitative and impressionistic evidence - for instance, unscripted popular commentary on smart growth, such as comments posted on the web by readers of media articles on growth controversies.
An Analysis of the Incentives and Motivation for Urban Planning in China’s Local Government

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In the fast process of China’s urbanization, urban planning is starting to face serious challenges. From local government’s view, urban planning has been taking as the main dynamics of urban development especially economic aspect. This paper, through surveys over, and interviews of, the planning officers and staff of three selected planning bureaus in China’s local governments, reveal that in fact, multiple causes interact with one another affecting the outcome of urban planning and its implementation. They are: geographical location, local economic development level, will of the top local leaders, citizen awareness for self-interests protection, disciplinary departments intervention, local government agencies balance of power (particularly among reform and development, land use, and construction department), and developers’ various strategies for self-interest pursuit. This is due to the emergence of multiple stakeholders in the process of China’s development and reform. It signals China’s progress and change on the one hand, and raises questions and new challenges for China’s urban planners on the other. A good understanding of this social reality shall be able to greatly enhance China’s urban planning and its implementation.
Improving Accessibility to Urban Green Spaces: A Location Modeling Approach

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Urban green space plays an important role in improving quality of life and public health in cities. However, because of heavy development pressure, urban green spaces have been threatened by construction activities, especially in recent decades in fast developing and high-density areas. In order to improve public accessibility to limited amount of urban green spaces in densely populated cities, this paper introduces an integral modeling approach. It evaluates locations of urban green spaces with a series of linear programming models developed to achieve various accessibility goals. Using a case study in Shenzhen, China, models are integrated as a location selection process to support decision-making on urban green space management. The result not only evaluates the performance of existing green spaces, but also points out which parts of the city are thirsty for green spaces, and proposes some potential green space sites that can be created in future city plans.
A Local Growth Coalition in China's Global Event: Marketing Shanghai in Globalization Era

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As a country transits from a socialist to market economy, China's 1978 political-economic reform has led to a rapid development and a profound urban transformation characterized by globalization, neo-liberal decentralization and marketization over the past thirty years. Marketization has spawned private capital and changed the control means of local government in socioeconomic activities. The neoliberal shift of the central state endows the local state with the executive powers of planning and fiscal, industrial, and commercial administration and enhanced the awareness of free competition at the local level to directly compete in the fierce global market. Globalization further spurs the desire of local government to attract international capital to secure multiple objectives faced by city policy makers. Marketing the city, by hosting global events or developing iconic projects, has become an increasingly enthusiastic means of reshaping city image and seeking development opportunities during the transformation by local government. However, global event as a string of significant national projects has been given less attention from urban perspective. Shanghai Expo, the first of its kind to be held in a developing country, is deemed to be eye-catching as both central state and municipal government hope to promote a positive image with the event power, not only to show the political achievements and culture but also aims to stimulate domestic demand and economic transition. Adopting place marketing and urban growth coalition as the theoretical approaches, this paper aims to explore the effects of city marketing on China’s urban development and how a local growth coalition operates during the marketing process. The role of the state, the relations of different participants, and the intra-governmental governance are particularly examined, using the urban growth coalition model. How the growth coalition operates in the commercial and real estate market of the event and how the local media played the role in the growth coalition are also explored. The method of triangulation is used in data collection to reduce the likelihood of misinterpretation. Except statistical analysis, interview is the major way in this research. Unstructured interviews are widely used throughout the whole study, and semi-structured interviews are conducted to get more detailed information. 16 people were officially interviewed include government officials, planners, scholars, and developers. Each of the interviews was specially prepared and rearranged according to the interviews outline. The study shows a growth-oriented state eager to jump onto the world arena, but is facing numerous challenges. The power of Expo to shape a positive city image is limited. It seems more like the Chinese states intent to globalize Shanghai rather than Shanghai repositions its global status or upgrades to a "global city" with the Expo opportunity.
Mega-Projects and China's Neoliberal New Town Development--The Case of Songjiang New Town in Shanghai

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With the market-oriented reform in China, its urbanization process is undergoing profound neoliberal shifts (Wu, 2008). This paper aims to understand China's emerging neoliberal urban development by examining new town development in Shanghai. In 2001, the suburbs of Shanghai have been brought into development agenda due to the pressure of increasing urban population and the need of new economic growth poles, and the new town programme were launched by Shanghai municipal government. In contrast to the pragmatic approach of public-housing-led new town development in Singapore and Hong Kong, Shanghai adopted a neoliberal approach, characterized by mega-project development which involves image building and the collaboration between public and private sectors. The term mega-project includes two major types of scheme—an iconic building with strong symbolic significance (e.g. flagship museums) or, a mixed-use complex (such as residential use integrated with commercial/cultural facilities and service industries, etc.) (Orueta and Fainstein, 2008). Songjiang New Town, one of the three key new towns in Shanghai, has seen the extensive development of mega-projects. This includes the University Town, comprising of seven universities; Thames Town, a master planned community which brings original British townscape; and Guangfulin Ancient Culture Protection and Development Project, based on the history and ancient culture of Shanghai. While the developed countries regard mega-projects as means to confront economic decline and the threat of global competition (Orueta and Fainstein, 2008), the case of Shanghai may tell a different story since the political and economic context is different. Based on data from on-site observation, planning documents and interviews with local officials and urban planners, this paper contributes to the understanding of urban development in neoliberalizing urban China from the lens of mega-project development, including its rationales, strategies, and consequences. It particularly investigates - how and to what extent they help to bolster the place image and attract the desired people and economic activities into the new town. It also inquires who are deprived and excluded from the benefit of urban development. In this way, it helps to identify unique features of China's neoliberal urbanism given the legacies of its socialist past, and its relative strength and weakness in promoting successful urban development. Reference Wu, F. (2008) China's great transformation: Neoliberalization as establishing a market society. Geoforum 39, 1093-1096 Orueta, F. and Fainstein, S. (2008)The New Mega-Projects: Genesis and Impacts. International Journal of Urban and Regional Research 32(4), 759-767
The Synoptic Error: Food Governance and Policy in New York and London

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Recent theoretical debates about scale and food systems re-localization frame a critical analysis of interviews with policymakers and public health professionals in New York City and London to ascertain how geographic assumptions and imaginaries about food behavior and equity in these cities have informed policy. The paper begins with portrait of the contemporary global food moment and then highlights key similarities and differences in the food policy, governance, and politics of the United States and England. An overview of the food governance and policy in New York City and London follows, emphasizing how these structures operate alongside consumer behavior and shape the food environments in rich and poor areas of each city. The analysis of policymaker interviews highlights the intentional and incidental deployment of synoptic vision, as well as the privileged position of localization in the conceptualization, development, and implementation of food and health policies. The paper concludes by applying insights from this research to a discussion of the relative strengths and weaknesses of targeted and universal approaches to urban policy with regard to their ability to promote social, environmental, and health equity.
What is the Role of Outlook on Life and Social Sphere in Housing Choice of Elderly Koreans?

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Housing choices are a significant factor in forecasting the housing market. In the housing market where consumers' needs are an important issue, the continuous increase of the elderly ratio and the fact that most of the wealth of the elderly is in the form of housing equity mean the housing choices of the elderly are a highly significant theme. Although the housing choices of the population as a whole have been widely analyzed, the literature on housing in later life is less developed. The elderly, however, have personalities unlike any other ages as they have less income, a change in relationships with children, and a rise in leisure time. These factors would bring dynamic changes in housing choices. Hence, this paper investigates what the roles of the elderly household’s outlook on life and the social sphere are in housing choice. This paper brings empirical analysis on housing tenure (owner and renter) and location (urban and rural) by descriptive statistic and the logistic model, intended for the elderly over 55 years old using the panel survey of the Korean Longitudinal Study of Ageing including fundamental variables as well as variety items (e.g. social activity, relations with children, expectation and satisfaction for the life). The common determinants are similar to the prior results for age, level of education, health status, and economic condition. This paper's key is the distinction of each choice alternative. In the choice of housing tenure, the significant determinants are subjective life satisfaction and the propensity to expenditure. On the other hand, location choice is influenced by circumstances, especially relationship with children. In other words, in the tenure choice, the satisfaction of health, economy, and relative quality of life is more important than current individual economic scale. The elderly also prefer consuming and spending an amount of time in leisure rather than saving or transferring an inter-vivo. The location choice is determined by whether the elderly should take care of children or should be taken care of by them. And it is closely connected with factors such as the income and occupation of the elderly. When the elderly have less social activity, they tend to choose an urban area as a high probability. It is thought that this is due to their relationships with children. These findings should be considered significant to interpret the future elderly housing market. This paper supports the understanding of the housing market in regions like Asia including Korea where there are a big issue with aging, traditionally large families, and a lot of cases in which the elderly with children-oriented mindset maintain a geographic proximity with their children in spite of the trend toward family nuclearization nowadays. The findings also enable us to understand the change of the housing market by the elderly who pursue toward satisfaction and happiness as individuals.
Evicted: Household Effects of Home Foreclosure Sale

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We assess how people who lost their home to foreclosure sale compare to those who remained in their home. While an abundance of research has examined the impact of foreclosure sales on property values and neighborhoods, only a few studies have analyzed consequences at the household level. Case studies suggest that family relations as well as children’s education suffer when households lose their home. Yet the few studies which use larger samples and comparison groups suggest that foreclosure proceedings do not have longstanding negative effects. To date, no foreclosure studies have compared household change measures for families who lost their home versus those who did not. Thus, little is known about the household impacts of the foreclosure sale itself. We address this gap using the Community Advantage Panel Survey. We track a sample of lower income homeowners whose lenders initiated foreclosure proceedings in the last decade. Of the 532 homeowners facing foreclosure, 148 (28%) eventually lost their home to foreclosure sale. We study how these respondents compare to those who stayed in their house through mortgage workout/modification (5%) or because their home remains in foreclosure proceedings (66%). We estimate fixed effects general linear models that control for the stable characteristics of respondents. Our analysis suggests that the foreclosure sale itself did not alter the emotional or financial stress experienced by respondents. Nor did foreclosure sale alter the fraction of household income spent on housing. We do find that respondents whose homes were sold in foreclosure moved to higher income, lower poverty census tracts. These movers also rated the quality of their new dwelling and new neighborhood significantly higher than that of their foreclosed home and prior neighborhood. Findings of this study underscore the resiliency of families who experience a foreclosure sale of their home. Future research should compare these findings with renters who experience eviction as well as households who move voluntarily.
Identifying Cities Ripe for a CAVRA Challenge of their At-large Format

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This paper identifies and puts forward preliminary analysis of cities which are prime targets for challenges to their at-large election format. The CA Voting Rights Act (CAVRA) of 2002 established a new lower standard for district election advocates to be able to allege that at-large formats are discriminatory, making evidence of racially polarized voting the sole criteria. There are numerous California cities with large minority populations that have no or little representation on their city councils, and this paper identifies these cities and begins the search for evidence of polarized voting.
Intentional Policy Ambiguity and the Central-Local Dynamics of Policy Implementation Dilemma: The Case of Urban Affordable Housing Policy in China

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Across the Asian-Pacific Rim, cities in developed and developing countries are challenged with provision of decent and affordable housing for low-income households. Such challenge is particularly acute for developing countries such as China, where a growing urban population brings greater demand for affordable housing. In a decentralization context, local governments, particularly city governments, take the main responsibility in affordable housing. But the national government remains a critical player that incentivizes better implementation at the local level through national institutional building. For instance, some literature revealed an evolving central-local relationship that contributed to "implementation dilemma" in many policy areas such as energy conservation, land use regulation, and public service delivery. Others have pointed to an "unfunded mandate" problem in that city governments face rising revenue constraints but receive insufficient financial support from the center when fulfilling their responsibilities in public service programs. This paper examines the central-local dynamics of urban policy process through a case study of local implementation process of affordable housing policy in China. Since 2003, China has gradually shifted its national housing policy toward ensuring affordability and equity and expanded its affordable housing program. However, local implementation of affordable housing policy remains highly contentious with many "unintended consequences" observed. A conventional wisdom typically attributes such undesired policy outcomes to a principal-hazard problem between China’s central and local governments. It is argued that Chinese city governments are incentivized to prioritize local economic growth or property-driven urban development at the expense of local public service delivery. Adopting Matland’s conflict-ambiguity model of policy implementation (1995), we argue that the typical principal-agent model cannot fully account for local implementation of affordable housing policy. Content analysis of policy documents and historical archives shows that affordable housing is complicated by national economic growth agenda. Driven by such a multiple-goal situation, national policy direction remains "intentionally ambiguous" for local governments, which are responsible for affordable housing policy implementation. Comparative case studies, combining field research and key information interviews, further reveal how such policy ambiguity both reduces the credibility of the central government and creates high uncertainty on the side of city governments, which led to formulistic implementation and other undesired policy outcomes. Our findings contribute to scholarly understanding of the central-local relationship as an important institutional factor of urban governance and urban policy process.
Who Let the Dogs Out?: Loft and Skid Row Resident Relations in a Gentrifying Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood

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Downtown Los Angeles (DTLA) has seen local policies and ordinances encourage the gentrification of a neighborhood, which redevelopers of the 1990s, "considered property values... irreversibly eroded by the area's status as the hub of public transportation primarily used by black and Mexican poor" (Davis 1992: 158). A turning point away from dilapidation and economic disinvestment in DTLA came in 1999 with the Adaptive Reuse Ordinance issued by the City of Los Angeles. The ordinance allows developers to repurpose historic buildings (built prior to 1974) into residential lofts, condominiums, and Single-Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels for the homeless and low-income. Adaptive reuse of buildings in the DTLA Historic Core neighborhood has brought an influx of majority-White and middle-class loft dwellers and a large pet population. As a neighborhood once part of Skid Row, the homeless and low-income continue living here. Gentrification is essential to explaining the tensions between indigenous residents and "powerful players" (Flanagan 1993: 3-4) in an increasingly globalized city. Given the distinct polarities (Soja 1995) in racial and class composition of residents and also the local government's embrace of neoliberal policies (Zukin 1980) favoring gentrification, the Historic Core is subjected to produce conflict given the competing interests of indigenous residents and the "new crowd." This paper employs urban ethnographic methods of participant observation and interviews with residents, community activists, and public representatives (n=21) over a two-year period (2010-2012). A discussion of findings include: 1) conflicting relationships among loft dwellers and Skid Row residents but also a movement to utilize "gentrification as a plus"; and 2) the perception of preferential treatment favoring the large dog population vis-à-vis the homeless. As of yet, the lived experiences of these distinct race- and class-based groups interacting within the gentrification process have not been investigated sociologically. Urban ethnographic research on gentrification as it occurs in "real-time" (Harcourt 2005) is important to developing new theoretical frameworks of gentrification that are inclusive of a race and class analysis.
How Did We Get Here? A History of Health and the Built Environment in the United States

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Research on health and the built environment, often focused on obesity and physical activity, exploded after 2000. In the past ten years, the number of published papers has dramatically increased and a consensus has emerged as to what is the ideal environment for promoting the health of everyone. Part of this effort has resulted in new criticisms of conventional development patterns that has features which separately and in concert contribute to a variety of negative health outcomes. Given the health problems now associated with conventional development, observers might conclude that conventional development resulted from ideas about the built environment that consciously ignored their potential health impacts or were created without any underlying thought or theory at all; conventional development is the result of mindless chaos. But this is wrong. The very features of conventional development now known to be negative for health are actually the result of thoughtful responses to the perceived health and environmental problems of earlier times. Health has played a major role in shaping the built environment since the middle of the nineteenth century. The professions of public health and urban planning both arose during this time in response to the health and environmental problems associated with industrialization, immigration, and urbanization. Health provided the legal rational for public policy interventions that shaped urban law, zoning, and building codes. It was an important force in conventional suburban design theory, ideas regarding urban growth and decay, and major architectural movements such as modernism and suburban neighborhood design. This has important implications for current efforts to produce active living environments. Battles over the legal authority to regulate housing parallel current efforts to limit access to unhealthy food in schools and neighborhoods, for example. The findings also suggest the need for continuing reassessment and evaluation. A central problem underlying many of the policy failures of past efforts to improve the built environment to promote health is that hypotheses were untested and implemented programs were not evaluated. Thus the health effects of the conventional suburban cul de sac neighborhood were not assessed until the end of the 1990s, nearly 45 years after the large scale post war suburban growth surge began and over 100 years after the theory of neighborhood design that produced it began to emerge. By learning about the struggles, successes, and failures of past policies, we can make current and future efforts to use the built environment to promote health more effective.
Assessing Urban Sustainability Through Infrastructure Design

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Sustainable development is about achieving social, economical and environmental equilibrium over spatial and dynamic horizons often spanning decades. This leads to life cycle analysis of the urban development and inherent infrastructuring of the territory where perception of innovations can be a critical factor and infrastructuring of the territory a determinant factor. As population growth in urban centers continues to increase, engineers are faced not only with the problems of infrastructure rehabilitation but also with an increasing demand for infrastructure development. Having widely embraced a new sustainability paradigm, the concept of sustainable development has offered a new perspective on how to address economic development while protecting environmental systems and enriching the quality of life for present and future generations. However, a major difficulty remains the transformation of the conceptual principles of sustainable development into operational models. Nowhere is this challenge more evident than in urban centers worldwide. Changes in the spatial distribution and structure of human activities have led to increased urbanization or human desertification and its associated negative environmental impacts. At the heart of urban sustainability issues remains a major challenge in the development of practical tools to measure and enhance urban sustainability, especially through the design and management of infrastructure systems. The proposed study dwells on the intricacies of the difficult task of defining sustainability criteria for urban infrastructure systems. While discussing the challenges of measuring sustainability, an operational model is proposed in which several overall and generic criteria, as well as possible system-specific indicators are graded by the public who uses the web-tool. But further work needs to be developed as a series of region-specific infrastructure sustainability criteria and indicators need to be defined, taking into consideration that while an indicator is the useful "reduction" of the state of a particular system to a number or set of characteristics, the criterion is the standard against which the indicator is measured and compared. Furthermore, where cost evidence is presented, it typically relates to a single cost element and is often the cost accruing to a single party, when in fact all cost elements - social/community, economic and environmental (including energy), capital and maintenance costs -, and those pertaining to all intervening parties should be taken into account. Of similar importance is the need to analyze them taking into consideration the appropriate context of sprawl or compact models.
The Importance of Neighborhood Contexts on Participation in Head Start
Programs by Low-Income Latino and African American Young Children

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For more than a decade, school readiness has been one of the top educational priorities in the United States (McAllister, et al., 2009), responding to concerns that many urban low-income, minority children enter kindergarten and elementary school at risk of failing and falling behind their peers (Hanson, et al, 2011). While disparities in children’s learning opportunities associated with family SES, educational background, ethnicity and language have been well documented, less is known about the role that neighborhood factors in shaping access to these opportunities. A small but provocative literature suggests that neighborhood conditions experienced by children early in life exert significant influence on educational outcomes later in life (Lloyd, Li & Hertzman, 2009). Yet little research has been conducted to date that examine the extent to which contexts besides neighborhood SES affect participation in early childhood education programs, such as Head Start, that are aimed at addressing these disparities. Nor are the processes by which neighborhoods influence young children’s learning well understood. Informed by ecological systems theory, social disorganization theory and social capital theory, this study investigates the neighborhood contexts associated with participation in the Head Start program for a sample of 1,381 low-income, Latino and African American children between the ages of 4 and 18 who resided in subsidized housing operated by the Denver Housing Authority for a substantial period of time during their childhood and whose families participated in a natural experiment involving quasi-random assignment to neighborhoods. The study addresses the following questions: (1) What characteristics of neighborhoods make it less likely for children to participate in Head Start?; (2) What neighborhood characteristics enhance participation?; and (3) Do these neighborhood contexts vary by ethnicity or gender? Although all of the study children should have been eligible to participate in Head Start, less than half had been enrolled at the time of the survey, with higher fractions of African American children participating in the program than Latinos. Using multilevel logistic regression modeling, our findings suggest significant neighborhood effects on Head Start participation. Higher levels of neighborhood social disorder, neighborhood disadvantage, property and violent crime rates, and child abuse/neglect rates were associated with higher levels of Head Start participation. Lower levels of participation were associated with residing in neighborhoods with more affluent neighbors as well as in neighborhoods with higher fractions of foreign born, although the latter effect was significant only for Latino children. Quantitative findings were supported by in-depth qualitative data from caregivers regarding...
neighborhood conditions that influenced their children’s early childhood education. Study findings are discussed in terms of policy.
Community Development and Mass Incarceration: Intersections and Implications

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The rise of mass incarceration in the U.S. since approximately 1980 is a well-known fact but one that remains largely unacknowledged by urban affairs theorists and community development practitioners. The spatial pattern of mass incarceration is one that is highly urban and concentrated, similar to other features of concentrated disadvantage. This paper explores the emergence of the high incarceration neighborhood and its intersections with other spatial processes such as capital presence and organized resistance. Although it is uncommon for community development to consider the implications of the high incarceration neighborhood, we argue that any serious efforts of place-making (and re-making) are incomplete without understanding the implications of justice policies that have created a virtual revolving door between prison and community in many places. Such a process has been shown to disrupt social networks and create barriers to the formation of social control and cohesion, further contributing to and reproducing “stuck neighborhoods.” We explore the unique contribution of mass incarceration to neighborhood decline, but also illustrate its unique potential to contribute to a new place-making paradigm. The current era of public fiscal austerity has called into question State's abilities to continue spending exorbitant sums locking up offenders. Thus, the concept of targeted "justice reinvestment" has been gaining ground throughout the U.S. Just as mass incarceration is a highly concentrated spatial phenomenon, the "reinvesting justice dollars" approach is necessarily similarly place-based. Thus, we argue that the field of community development would be well served by exploring how development agendas could be merged with ideas for concentrated reinvestment of justice dollars.
Made in Singapore? How Singapore’s Policy ‘Factory’ is More Complex (and Contradictory) than it Might Seem

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The monsoon winds, trade routes, and airline flight paths have blown different ideas through Singapore for thousands of years, each becoming a ‘layer’ in the region’s soil. From early ‘fast policies’, such as the rapid spread of Islam from West to East to the value systems of the Colonial British, Singapore has long been a recipient of travelling policy. Combining with regional influences, policies are also sent back out to the world in a bilateral exchange. For example, Singapore is increasingly influential in physically shaping Chinese Cities (such as Tianjin ‘new town’) who seek to emulate the City-State’s housing model and urban form. Yet Singaporean policies are inherently contradictory, paradoxical and tense. It is as if all recent global conflicts and movements – from free trade to communism, the ‘garden city’ to the Stalinist new town, social liberalism and conservatism, are wrapped up in carefully-worded policies aimed at promoting economic growth and social harmony. In the shadow of the ‘Arab Spring’, ‘Occupy’, and a rising China, Singaporean policy invites careful scrutiny and exploration. The case study of Singapore’s “creative city” policy set exemplifies the contradictions and paradoxical coexistence of the many layers of Singapore’s values, ideology, influences and intentions. Micro case studies have ‘followed the policy’ (Peck and Theodore, 2012) from the genesis at elite levels to the suburbs in an attempt to understand how a global policy such as ‘creativity’ actualises at street level, and thus how spontaneous interactions can reveal (sometimes hidden) contestations, subversions, and various understandings and (mis)understandings of such policy. Findings reveal policies that clash with one another. Efforts to attract the ‘creative class’ run into conservative social values, homophobia, and disagreement over what constitutes ‘art’ and ‘culture.’ Efforts to grow local artists and artisans run into funding difficulties and the inability to compete globally. Housing policy which penalizes singles, same-sex and childless couples makes ‘bohemian clusters’ difficult. And, finally, efforts to bring arts ‘to the heartland’ through local arts clubs run into difficulties with organisation, participation, and arguments over the use of allocated space. The ‘failure’, then, of ‘creative Singapore’, must be at least considered. The findings show that Singaporean policy is highly complex and cannot be separated from external influences, both past and present. National identity is a battleground of values. Therefore, policy that is exported from Singapore to other places may be likewise full of contradictions, spin, and tensions. If Chinese ‘new towns’ increasingly come to resemble Singaporean ones, these tensions may begin to play out on the street – with potentially large consequences.
Mainstreaming the Asian Mall: The Regulation of Minority and Immigrant Space in the Silicon Valley Suburbs

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Asian malls are design typologies that are increasingly common in Silicon Valley and other centers of Asian American suburban life. Within the last several decades, as suburbs have become home to the majority of minorities and immigrants in the U.S., Asian malls are one of many reflections of the ways that non-white, non-normative suburbanites are reshaping the built form and spatial politics of suburbia. In Fremont, California, a suburban community within Silicon Valley, whose population rapidly and recently shifted from majority white to Asian, controversies over the development of Asian malls embody the politics of race and space that have attended these profound demographic and geographic shifts of the last several decades. In this paper, I question the ways that Fremont residents, city officials, and planners reacted to the introduction and proliferation of Asian malls. Based on interviews and archival research, I argue that while Asian malls have clearly served as a successful development model and an important space of Asian American suburban life, they are highly contested. Non-Asian residents and city officials have been critical of them and tended to treat them as problem spaces that need to better fit in and adopt the norms of their suburban context. Their Chinese language signage, condo ownership, tenant mixes, and designs have inspired new regulations and planning scrutiny designed to put a more mainstream face on Asian malls. But while Asian malls have not easily fit the city’s ideal of “desirable” retail space, city officials have often strategically tried to use Asian malls to showcase their racial and ethnic diversity for economic as well as political gain. This case study shows the ways that minorities and immigrants are engaged in both the creation of new suburban landscapes and in what I call a “suburban politics of difference,” in which their differences contest suburbia’s presumed social and spatial order. But it also shows that Asian Americans’ place in suburbia is highly fraught. While white, middle class values are often reinforced through planning and design regulations and norms around what is considered “good,” “desirable,” or “appropriate” development, Asian American spaces are often viewed as “non-conforming” and in need of regulation and control. Asian malls are thus important spaces in which to understand how increasing minority and immigrant suburbanization is producing both new means and modes of marginalization as well as calls for new norms of social and spatial justice.
Project-Based Section 8 Roulette: Housing Choice or Housing Chance? The Stakes in Central West Baltimore

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The current supply of affordable rental housing is dwindling, and insufficient to meet rapidly growing demand, resulting in an exponential rise in worst case housing needs across the country. Multiyear waiting lists maintained by local housing authorities further attest to this pervasive, nationwide shortage; estimates indicating only one quarter of qualified lowincome households across the country receive subsidized rental assistance through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As a result, unassisted, at-risk households are often cornered into chronic residential gamble within the private rental housing market—a market rife with adverse housing conditions, which can significantly contribute to long-term instability, involuntary mobility, and distress. The project-based Section 8 rental assistance program, an integral part of the landmark Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, is designed to alleviate worst case housing need by providing low-income households with decent, safe, and sanitary affordable rental housing. The program possesses a substantial inventory of approximately 1.2 million rental units, located within 15,000 privately owned multifamily properties; HUD provides contractually determined subsidies to owners on behalf of eligible lowincome households. Participating properties remain affordable throughout a defined housing contract term, and are required to adhere to federally regulated, physical condition standards. Project-based Section 8 rental assistance (PBRA) aims to expand affordable housing choice, rather than leave vulnerable households to housing chance. However, the dynamics of this public-private housing partnership have changed over time, yet little research explores or illustrates how specific elements and policies of this longstanding program frequently create, or significantly contribute to, the instability and unpredictability amongst low-income households that it was originally designed to address. Many still indebted project-based Section 8 properties no longer provide neither decent nor safe accommodation due to repeated violation of physical condition standards, borne out of inadequate inspection policies and procedures that allow for the substandard, rather than reward for excellence. In addition, many long-term, contractual affordable housing commitments in these assisted properties have reached their expiration, leading to owner “opt outs” of the program and affordable unit loss; foreclosure/enforcement activity has also disproportionately affected family-designated properties. Lastly, project-based rental subsidies are attached to hard units, meaning they are non-portable, placing low-income households once lucky enough to receive rental assistance, but presently living in substandard conditions, in a quandary—move and chance the return to the private rental market, or chose to stay in inferior, risk-laden yet subsidized housing environments? This paper focuses on a
targeted region of Baltimore City, home to the Central West Baltimore (HUD) Choice Neighborhoods Planning Initiative, multiple project-based Section 8 properties within its scope, to further explore the competing roles of housing chance and housing choice tied to PBRA. Using a mixed methods research approach, (i.e., qualitative interviews with residents, household surveys, analysis of HUD administrative and Census-data), this paper will present findings designed to elucidate the high stakes of residence, and the chances often taken by low-income households, within select projectbased assisted housing developments. Preliminary recommendations at the programmaticand policy-level will also be discussed.
Equity for Rural Land Development in the Process of Urbanization in China: Three Types of Governmental Interventions in Rural Communities

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For more than two decades, China's rapid urban expansion encroached onto the urban fringe. As a result, residents in these peripheral areas were most affected by the urbanization process, but their well beings were of the least concern to the government. Uneven distribution of land development benefits between rural and urban sectors is considered as the salient factor fuelling the discontentment of the villagers. Despite a growing recognition of the need to improve the situation of the affected villagers, there is significant divergence in the ways of tackling this multi-faceted issue. Should the rural residents be simply incorporated into the urban system by the government and be treated equally as the urban residents? Or should they be given the rights to develop the land themselves and to enjoy all the development benefits and bear all the risks? Inequality between rural and urban sectors in China underscores the divergence in dealing with this divergence. To establish a better understanding of the complexity of the above urban-rural interface problems during the urbanization process, this paper assesses the performance of Tianjin government in rehabilitating rural communities which have been affected by urban expansion. Three rural communities are chosen as case studies; and they are respectively government constructed, or self-developed for sale and rent, or self-constructed and self-accommodated. The Tianjin government tries to improve the rural residents' situation through endowing them with the same welfare benefits as urban residents, so long as they agree to give up their property rights over the rural land that they occupied. This paper investigates the effects of the rehabilitation programs across the three communities by using the concepts of social equity, mainly from the horizontal rural-urban distributive equity perspective. Information of the villagers' social-economic activities and their possession of assets and land rights will be collected and compared with those of the urban residents, in order to assess the distributive effects of the governmental rehabilitation policy. The paper argues that the complex nature of rural land in China makes it impossible to achieve economic efficiency and equality simultaneously. Further, the effects of governmental intervention are greatly influenced by the social-economic status of the villages. The villagers' personality also played a role, as it influenced their perceptions of equity and fairness.
Landscape as Green Infrastructure: A Critical Element that Influences Urban Liveability

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Urban liveability is considered as part of overall quality of life for citizens living in urban environment. Increased severe urban problems, especially the inadequate construction of green infrastructure (GI) dominated by landscape, influence the liveability in cities. Green infrastructure, seen as the network of green open space, has the potential to provide benefits to the citizens and help improve the quality of urban life. The elegance of green infrastructure is its ability to benefit human and natural systems while simultaneously proving multiple human and ecological services. However, it is challenging to conceptualize and convey these overlapping services to the public due to different contexts. In this paper, a systematic literature review is performed to investigate GI under the context of Landscape Urbanism. It suggests that landscape should be built in the city to replace architecture as the basic building block. Meantime, the paper will discuss the category and effect of GI on urban liveability, focusing on environment, ecology, social and health. Green open spaces (parks, gardens, and courtyards), greenways and green corridors are the main elements. The aim of this study is to better understand the meaning of GI under the context of Landscape Urbanism, illustrating the connection between GI and landscape as infrastructure. According to the review, the comparison of GI and landscape will be established. It shows that there are certain similarities among these two. It also shows that GI, understanding as landscape, has great potential to improve quality of life in cities.
Green, Global, and Connected: Can Sydney Solve its Metropolitan Governance Problems?

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Sydney now ranks alongside Beijing and Shanghai as a second-tier global city, and this position has been strengthened post-GFC. This paper focuses on the challenges that globalisation poses for Sydney’s metropolitan governance, and examines the basis for the perceived failures of metropolitan planning in the city. In the paper, I argue that Sydney's metropolitan planning and governance is flawed because of the institutional and historic barriers to coordinating land use and environmental planning with infrastructure investment (particularly transportation) decisions. One result of this is that Sydney's growing socio-spatial inequalities are exacerbated by worsening housing affordability and accessibility. In the first section I provide an overview of how global Sydney has evolved, describing the development trajectories and tensions of the past three decades and their spatial outcomes. The consequences of globalisation for metropolitan housing markets are explored in more detail in section two, tracing the increasing divergence among local housing markets and their residents. I use cluster analysis to explore the evolving spatial segmentation of the city's housing markets, and then test whether local markets have appreciated at different rates. I find that some types of housing markets are closely integrated with Sydney's evolving global role, while others are increasingly marginalised. Substantial differences in housing-based wealth are one result of this growing differentiation. The third section of the paper investigates how Sydney's metropolitan planning and governing institutions have responded to the challenges of globalised housing markets. Significant institutional barriers to effective planning and governance are analysed, and their impacts on the housing market segmentation identified in section two are explored. In the conclusion I address the question, "What would help Sydney solve its metropolitan governance problems and better manage the equity, efficiency, and sustainability problems posed by globalisation?"
Lost in Space? How Endorsements Affect Spatial Voting in Low-Information Elections

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Despite the difficult choices voters face in low-information local elections, there are virtually no studies of whether and when voters choose candidates that best represent them ideologically in these contexts. We show how the ideological positions of candidates affect voters' choices in a formally nonpartisan city election (the 2011 mayoral election in San Francisco), as well as how different types of information affect the extent to which citizens vote spatially. To this end, we create same-scale measures of candidate and voter ideology in the issue space of local politics and conduct an exit poll in which we experimentally manipulate the information provided to voters. Our results show that the spatial proximity of candidates has large effects on voters' choices. However, exposing voters to endorsements made by party organizations, newspapers, and ethnic-interest groups diminishes spatial voting. These findings indicate that voters weigh spatial considerations in low-information elections, but that those interested in strengthening spatial voting should provide voters with information that is different from the types commonly available in these settings.
Beyond the global city

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The nostalgia for imperial order is nowhere more evident than in claims about global cities, which are supposed to have established economic, cultural, or religious empires of their own, or coalesced into a universal order that transcends, displaces, or replaces the state system. Every city now aspires to be a global city. This paper explores how thinkers like John Friedmann, Saskia Sassen, and Peter Taylor have conceptualized the global city, and contrasts their understandings with those of Henri Lefebvre, Manuel Castells, and David Harvey. Despite their critical tone, these accounts are haunted by nostalgia for liberal imperialism and the social democratic state. Analysts find it difficult to conceptualize an order not dependent on the principle of sovereignty, or a politics that does not repeat old formulas for liberation or social transformation. The recent revival of the Lefebvrian concept of the right to the city highlights many of the unresolved difficulties. Is that right about local control in face of globalization, a new global order, new patterns of political engagement, or what? Clear answers will not emerge if we fail to deal with the ghosts that haunt us.
A Race of Pilot Cities: Contestation and Collaboration in Central-Municipal Governance Relationship for Green Initiatives in China

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Setting up pilot cities and special development zones is a unique strategy to initiate new reforms, which has gain renowned focus in the current transition towards low carbon development by accumulating green initiatives in cities. However, insufficient explanation on operating such strategy is provided by the current theories of intergovernmental management and collaborative governance. It is clear to see that there is not only collaboration but also competitions that are involved in the collaborative governance process. Thus a more comprehensive view of any emerging models of collaborative governance should take into account the incentives and opportunities brought by competition in the collaborative process. This study conducts comparative case analysis in two Chinese cities - Guangzhou and Shenzhen - to review the process of contestation and collaboration in central-local interaction for institutionalizing green initiatives in China. The two cities are selected based on their different municipal status. Guangzhou is provincial capital city of Guangdong, who has close interaction with the provincial administration; while Shenzhen is a special economic zone with autonomy in legislation, and maintain direct interaction with central administration of the communist party state. Conversely, Shenzhen has solicited more central recognition than Guangzhou by winning more national pilot city projects of green initiatives, such as Co-building National Low Carbon Ecological Demonstration City, National Renewable Energy Building Application and Demonstration City, Low Carbon Transportation System Pilot, and Low Carbon City Pilot, all of which are in collaboration with relevant national ministries. Some of these pilot city projects are attached with central budgetary grant, so "pilot" is not only honored in name but also with actual financial resources. Nevertheless, Guangzhou is receiving more support from the provincial level than the national level. Provincial low carbon earmarked grant is widely applicable in Guangzhou whilst not in Shenzhen. Whether the agglomeration of national pilot projects in Shenzhen is mainly caused by the different municipal status or other factors? Alternatively, is it only because of Shenzhen's lack of provincial support that forces it to turn to national endorsement? What are the key factors in city contest of national supports? Whether the experience of successful interaction of city with national government is transferrable and applicable to other cities and Asian countries? What are the prerequisites to sustaining national supports in both bottom-up and top-down green initiatives? These are the research questions this paper attempts to answer. Data is collected in semi-structured qualitative interviews with government officials and analysts in government think tanks who have participated in the application and implementation of the pilot city projects in Shenzhen and Guangzhou to generate feasible comparison.
The Best of Both Worlds? Urban Park Use in a Transnational Setting

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Studies have documented the limited access that communities of color have to the psychological, physical, and social benefits of urban parks. However, despite the growing number of multicultural immigrant communities in the U.S., very few studies have explored the relevance of public spaces in these communities. Using quantitative and qualitative data, this study explores the experiences of first-generation Latinos in MacArthur Park in Los Angeles, California. Study results shed light on the ways that visitors' transnational practices and subcultural identities shape the park's relevance. This analysis also permits a better understanding of the vital role of public space in the community's renegotiation of traditional and new identities and recovery from grief over the loss of significant places and people. Findings reveal the importance of considering the emotional, cultural, and political benefits associated with urban parks, as well as the challenges that affect experiences of these spaces.
If you could live anywhere in Oakland or the Bay Area, where would it be? The location decisions and desires of 85 families in Oakland, CA

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As cities struggle to keep their residents, school quality and family friendliness are continued challenges. Amidst repeated school reform strategies and debates, the well-established principle that parental involvement is a crucial factor in student achievement remains true. However, multiple barriers prevent some from being more engaged with their students learning. Educators can address some of the challenges, e.g. by creating more welcoming environments; providing guidance on how to be involved; and scheduling meetings to accommodate parents. Social welfare programs help with some of the other challenges, such as providing vouchers to help cover the costs for transportation, housing, and food. But many other issues also affect the amount of time, energy, and resources parents are able to devote to their children’s education, such as opportunities for living wage jobs with sufficient hours; safe and accessible neighborhoods replete with activities for families; neighborhood spaces where parents have casual and useful encounters with one another; housing that is not only affordable but also healthy and near their children’s schools; transportation that is affordable, convenient, and safe; and adult education that is financially attainable and connected to jobs. These location-based necessities and amenities contribute to a family’s well-being and quality of life, thereby influencing children’s learning development. To what extent do different parents prefer such locations; and how likely are they able to choose them? How does the presence or absence of these amenities affect parent engagement? This study used mixed-methods to collect data and information through neighborhood observation, secondary sources, and surveys, time-use diaries and interviews with 85 families in Oakland, CA. The results show that families who live in such places have an easier time finding and involving their children in a variety of constructive activities; meeting other parents whom they trust to share information and parenting responsibilities; attending and volunteering for school events; and participating in enrichment activities for themselves. In contrast, parents living in locations selected for other reasons spend more time traveling as well as more time in their homes, away from other parents. The findings suggest a variety of urban planning interventions could positively influence parent engagement, including improvements in public transit service and pricing policies; increased funding and programming for recreation departments, and community development that fosters continual parent interaction among all types of parents, whether through new permanent spaces, or via ongoing events at existing places. Spatial attributes are not the only factor affecting parent activities, but this research suggests work on school quality and neighborhood revitalization should be done in tandem given the mutual desired outcomes and declining sources of funding.
“The Best Place to Get a Mocha”: Views of Gentrification from Youth in Public Housing

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This multi-method qualitative case study of Hoboken, New Jersey examines how youth living in public housing view their gentrified community. These young people are living in a highly gentrified mile square city in which they are racial and socio-economic minorities. The literature is replete with studies of gentrification, but less is known about what happens to low-income individuals in an already gentrified neighborhood, particularly those who live in public housing complexes. This study examines the environmental possibilities and problems created specifically for children from public housing who live in an already gentrified neighborhood.

The methods include: direct and participant observation, semi-structured interviews with fifty-two individuals, a focus group with public housing residents, and participatory research with youth in public housing. The researcher acknowledges that subjects in a research study about the education and environment of youth in public housing should be the youth in public housing themselves who can act as participant experts. Thus, the researcher worked closely with a teen group to involve them in a participatory role as key informants. They sat for interviews, mapped their community, and were given cameras to take pictures of their community. These multiple avenues for collecting data were chosen to allow the teenagers to establish a relationship with the researcher, but also to provide a variety of formats for data that would complement one another.

The findings examine the advantages and disadvantages that come with living in a gentrified community. The researcher examines issues of amenities, affordability, education, and isolation and finds that for youth in public housing, gentrification has advantages—such as parks and playgrounds, supermarkets, and “the best place to get a mocha” (Starbucks) along with disadvantages—such as a still segregated school system and issues of isolation.
Local Matters: Cities in the Contemporary Period

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Marx argued that capitalism engenders global crises. Yet when and where crises emerge and how they impact localities remain mysteries in the academic literature on scale-based processes and their relationship to economic development. The current research will argue that the crisis of capitalist accumulation in the 1970s actually increased the authority and influence of the local state in the global political economy. Economic restructuring plays a significant role, especially in the timing of the transformation and the disruption to the taken-for-granted scale-based hierarchy (referred to as the nesting of scales, i.e. national scale encompassing lower levels of government) in the United States. Here two processes are of utmost importance: (1) the changing structure of intergovernmental relations and (2) increasing economic inequality. Regulation Theory does provide a framework in which to examine the changing structure of intergovernmental relations, focusing attention on the denationalization of the national state. Though I argue that an analysis of home rule and fiscal devolution adds credence to the reorganization argument. Additionally, government statistics provide evidence that income and place-based inequality have increased over the same period, ultimately impacting cities’ decision-making capacity. For example, place-based inequality, viewed through the lens of economic restructuring, requires that the local state convince its constituents with vested interests in extant economic structure and policy that new systems and policies are needed. This also has a temporal dynamic: not all places experience changes to their economic structures at the same time nor do changes, if they do occur, happen immediately. Moreover, income inequality has increased economic segregation, a process that can lead different income groups to engage the local state on behalf of their preferred interest-based political strategies. The geography of economic inequality thus impacts different types of cities differently, depending on their specific mix of social, economic, and political resources. Cities must confront their extant socioeconomic resources and liabilities as path-dependent conditions that structure opportunities for dealing with their current circumstances. In this way, local state structures and processes become significant for their respective populations. In sum, these processes have made the city increasingly important in economic decision-making and place-based prosperity. This poses two issues for urban scholars. First, it pressures scholars to rethink the relations between local, national, and global arenas as it relates to place-based economic development and prosperity in the contemporary period. Second, it brings to light the temporal dynamics of uneven spatial development such that places become more or less significant during different times of a restructuring process.
Houses Built on Sand? The Dynamics of Distressed Property Investment in the Las Vegas Region

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Few if any regions have experienced a more dramatic collapse of their housing market in 2006 and 2007 as did the Las Vegas area; over the past five years, the market has been dominated by foreclosures, REO and short sales; in a dramatic reversal of historic patterns, investors have been driving the market, their share of purchases significantly outstripping homebuyer activity. While investors have significantly contributed to the revival of the regional housing market, their characteristics and operating models have been little studied, and the effect of their activities and business models on the long-term stability of that market and on the vitality of different neighborhoods and sub-markets within the region, remains uncertain. Based on a case study of the Las Vegas area conducted during 2012 which combined both quantitative and qualitative analysis, the presentation will provide a profile of the single family house investor sector in the area as a mosaic of diverse, largely small-scale actors, a description of the different business models and economic assumptions underlying the sector, an initial assessment of the effect of investor activity on the regional market and on conditions in selected – principally lower income and Latino – residential neighborhoods within the region, and the implications of those effects for public policy.
The Strength of Weak States: Reassessing the Impact of Federal Arts and Culture Investments in Local Communities

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The critique of the US government's role in cultural investments is not inconsistent with the critique social historians have leveled of the US welfare state. The American or U.S. state is conventionally depicted as inactive and organizationally weak compared with the state in other industrial democracies and is sometimes depicted as weak compared with the private sector's capacities to effect change (Dobbin and Sutton 1998; Evans, Rueschemeyer, and Skocpol 1985). On Peter Nettl's (1968) famous scale of "stateness," the United States was by far the least state-like among Western democracies, in terms of Weberian criteria of bureaucratic development, administrative resources, and public sector capacities. While it is true that the administrative apparatus for supporting arts and culture in local communities is radically decentralized in the US government, with no single agency having a clear mandate for supporting arts and culture programing and capital improvements, this decentralized form of support has, somewhat ironically, resulted in a larger investment in arts and culture than any industrialized democracy in the modern world. This paper will reexamine arguments about the size and scope of Federal cultural investments, and their impact on local communities by leveraging a wealth of new administrative data that was recently released into the public domain. The data for this paper is drawn primarily from the grant records from 10 different federal agencies over an 12 year period (FY2000-FY2011): National Endowment for the Arts, National Endowment for the Humanities and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the National Park Service, Department of Defense, Department of Education, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Transportation, General Services Administration, and HUD - all of which provide grant support to local arts and culture programs to varying degrees. Data were also collected from watchdog groups that monitor Congressional Earmarking, to construct a database of arts and culture earmarking. Combined, these Federal investments provide new insight into the breadth of federal arts and culture support at the local level. For this analysis administrative data from the various agencies are merged by fiscal year and spatially joined (at the county level). The Federal cultural investments over the 12 year period are then used to predict growth or decline in cultural sector employment at the county level. The analysis controls for size of the arts and culture non-profit sector, using data from the National Center for Charitable Statistics, and population change, based on American Community Survey data.
Effectiveness of Subsidized Home Ownership Scheme In Beijing

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There have been widespread public debates on housing problems ever since the beginning of the housing reform in urban China. Growing concern about the lack of affordable housing to the majority of Chinese households has prompted considerable policy intervention in China. The housing affordability situation is even more acute in Beijing, the capital of China, due to the soaring house price. With the aggravating housing affordability problem in the city, there are increasing concerns about the effectiveness of the principal subsidized home ownership scheme, the Economic and Suitable Housing Scheme (ESHS). The aim of this research is therefore to evaluate and explain the performance of the revised ESHS in providing affordable housing to its target households in Beijing under the new affordable housing strategy announced by the central government in 2011. A multi-tier evaluation framework will be established to assess the housing affordability, accessibility, availability and the housing quality issue of ESHS. Data for this study is gathered from two different but complementary sources. Apart from the existing literature, press articles, government documents and reports, semi-structured interviews with government officials, this study also utilizes detailed structured questionnaires to get the perspectives from residents of ESHS in Beijing. It is found in this study that the affordability performance varies among estates located in different district. Estates located in main urban districts in Beijing have a better affordability performance compared to estates located in suburban districts using the measures of Price-to-Income ratio and Housing Affordability Index. Further, applying Residual Income approach, households living in ESHS have encountered serious difficulty in meeting non-housing consumption requirement after paying for the mortgage. As for the accessibility performance, eligibility criteria stipulated for ESHS is also problematic. As far as housing availability performance is concerned, limited supply of housing units in this scheme which is due to insufficient land supply prolongs the waiting time. Housing quality is also unsatisfactory in terms of construction quality and poor location. It is also argued that policy design and policy implementation process and broader institutional arrangement contribute to the performance of ESHS.
Local Media and Politics in Germany: Measuring the Effects of Press Coverage on Political Accountability in Municipalities

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Our paper starts from the assumption, that an increasing incongruence between political and media spaces in local areas is challenging democratic accountability of local governance. This is true for nearly all western democracies with ‘liberal’ (market-driven) media systems. In most countries we observe, on the one hand, growing media markets, indicating consolidations in the media industry. On the other hand we have a permanent reorganization of the political geography, which does not necessarily entail an appropriate reorganization of the local media structure. Both trends may lead to a more selective media attention for local politics, an increasing information gap between the political system and its citizens, a growing ignorance of political jurisdictions and finally less political participation, which would be a central problem for democratic governance. The common wisdom in political science as well as in media studies says, that high quality media coverage of politics is crucial for democracy. However, the empirical evidence for media contributions to democracy is still insufficient, especially at the local and regional level of politics. For this reason we investigate the relation of local press coverage and municipal politics in all 111 urban and 301 rural districts (‘Kreise’) in Germany. The study is based on the survey of Snyder and Strömberg (2010), who created an congruence indicator for the fit between newspaper markets and U.S. congressional districts. Their data indicate, that the congruence of media markets and electoral districts leads to more press coverage of the local congressmen, affects the political knowledge, interest and participation by the citizens and enhances the political accountability of the congressmen. Our findings confirm the assumption of a positive correlation between the congruence indicator, local political participation and the political accountability by the responsible politicians. We demonstrate that the congruence of local press markets and the municipal geography affects the voter turnout in local elections and the performance of urban politics in several policy domains (e.g. public debts per capita, hospital facilities, elementary schools per capita and disposal facilities). In the paper we present those data in detail and discuss them from a democratic theory perspective. References Snyder, J. M. & Strömberg, D. (2010). Press Coverage and Political Accountability. Journal of Political Economy, 118(2), 335-408.
The politics of urban strategies and visions: Following the global-local ‘value chain’

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The rapid urbanization in the Global South and the related challenges of urban growth, poverty, inequality and informalization have been accompanied by a proliferation of ‘strategies’ and ‘visions’, imagined and implemented by international development institutions, national, metropolitan and local governments, nongovernmental and community organizations. They range from internationally sponsored strategies such as the World Bank’s recent Urban and Local Government Strategy and the City Alliance’s City Development Strategies to local articulations of citywide plans and visions, promoted by city governments, business elites, professional planning bodies and middle-class groups, and are usually embedded in a business rationality. These strategies largely seek to “deliver equitable and inclusive growth and poverty alleviation” (World Bank 2009:4), yet they frame a wide set of urban interventions, which affect the lives of marginalized urban communities in ways that do not always accord with their own ‘visions’, values and everyday survival strategies in the city. This paper interrogates the politically contested ‘value chain’ along which urban strategies and visions travel in between global institutions and local urban contexts. It focuses on how such visions frame the challenges of urban inequality and socio-spatial divisions. What ideas, imaginaries, methodologies and ‘best practices’ address inequality - directly or obliquely - and how are they negotiated, transferred or resisted along the global-local ‘value chain’? By studying the urban strategy process at the ‘top’, in its formal articulations, as well as the interventions and reactions it engenders at the ‘bottom’, in informal settings, I highlight how politically- and sociologically distant world-views and city-visions are mediated and contested. While this process is shaped by highly unequal power relations and by discrepancies in visions and values, there is nevertheless potential for processes of mediation, learning and bargaining – what de Souza Briggs (2008) described as a “grassroots to grasstops dynamic.” The paper, part of an ongoing research project, offers an analytical framework and preliminary findings from a comparative study of urban strategies and city visions in the Global South, focusing on India and South Africa. At the same time, it seeks to draw together contemporary literatures on global comparative urban studies, policy mobilities and socio-spatial inequality and informalization.
Everyday Politics Amidst Urban Erosions and Explosions: Detroit, Lagos and the Practice of Citizenship in an era of Spatial Transformation

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For well over a century, sites like New York City, London and Paris have stood as ideal urban types, setting the parameters for both the aesthetics and expected comportment of city dwellers. Rapid urban expansion on a planetary scale, however, now requires a rethinking of these traditional expectations and assumptions. Much recent literature on cities located in the global North and South has emphasized anxious urbanities, fortress cities, an increasing reliance on mythologies of urban autochthony and the transformation of urban spatial forms. If it is true that today we sit on the brink of an urban identity crisis, then traditional exemplars have increasingly little to say about the meaning of contemporary urbanity, while Detroit and Lagos have come to occupy prominent positions in the development of new urban narratives. Using the above two cities as a point of comparative departure, this paper offers a timely theoretical discussion examining the implications of the changes in urban forms wrought by deindustrialization on the one hand, and exponential (in)formalized growth on the other hand. If, as Lewis Mumford suggests, the city is a container for political and civic engagement, what happens to politics when the urban container empties or overflows? How are spaces for the performance of political participation altered? What kinds of encounters in public are now possible? In an era of planet-wide urbanization in which the “body” of the city has been transformed, thus reconfiguring the city-spaces in which democratic citizenship and everyday politics is performed, locating answers to these questions is an especially urgent task. This paper represents a tentative step in that direction.
Geography of Violence in a Post-conflict Belfast

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Belfast, Northern Ireland’s largest city and administrative center experienced for nearly three decades some of the worst levels of violence which had an impact on the shape of the city. In the late 1990s, both the peace process and a significant economic growth have led to the development of the city: unemployment fell, new consumption spaces and a neutral urban culture emerged. However, violence patterns have also changed. Thus the bulk of violence has shifted from clashes between paramilitary groups and British security forces to a more latent and less deadly form. This paper examines the geography of the different forms of violence through detailed maps of Belfast. They show that Northern Irish society is still divided and Belfast is highly segregated between two communities (nationalist/republican Catholic and unionist/loyalist Protestant) especially in working class areas. The creation of territorial divisions and rigidified ethno-sectarian communities means that fears, mistrust and intercommunity discord still exist in spite of the peace process. The different forms of violence (intercommunity riots, clashes between youth and police or between groups of youth ?) in deprived working class communities are both a legacy of the Northern Ireland conflict (disputes over the community space, disputes over the routes used during the parade season or tension with the police ?) and in the same time, are similar to certain forms of violence linked to deprivation and social problems which occur in major UK cities. Although violence has changed, it doesn't mean that paramilitary groups, whether republicans or loyalists, no longer play a role in its development. On the one side, all these organizations are not decommissioned and some of them, called dissident republicans, like the Real IRA or the Oglaigh na hEireann, continue their armed struggle (explosive devices thrown at police stations, booby trap bombs, shootings?) against the British security forces. On the other side, both loyalist paramilitary groups and dissidents republican organizations are still involved in vigilantism and in the organization of an alternative justice system that allows them to control their own community and its space. In that case, violence doesn’t come from the ?other? but from inside the community. The "parallel justice system" includes several forms of sanctions which may be extremely violent like executions or mutilations through ?punishment shootings?.
Nonprofit Responses to Anti-immigrant Legislation in the United States: Informalizing the Work of Migrant Civil Society

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In the United States, a growing number of state and municipal governments have been pursuing laws aimed at the "self deportation" of undocumented migrants. While the content of the laws varies somewhat from place to place, each increases barriers to housing, education, healthcare, a drivers' license, and social services for undocumented migrants, as well as granting some powers of immigration enforcement to local law enforcement agencies. Arizona, Alabama, North Carolina, South Carolina, Utah, and Georgia have passed the most stringent laws, and though some provisions have been struck down in the courts, the environment of fear and hostility remains. Nonprofit organizations have long been a key site of migrant integration in the United States. With the rise of state and municipal legislation targeting undocumented migrants, how has this role changed? Many of the laws specifically target the work of nonprofit organizations that provide services to migrants, some of whom may be undocumented. In this respect, laws explicitly recognize the importance of such organizations in the day-to-day lives of migrants. This paper charts the range of organizational responses in the spheres of political advocacy and service provision, among organizations in North Carolina. I develop a historical framework for situating the work of nonprofit organizations in a changing political-economic environment. This allows me to develop new theoretical understandings of how state, economic, and civil society actors articulate in the current period of neoliberalism. I argue that immigrant organizations are informalizing some aspects of their work in order to meet the needs of an undocumented population. As this population is increasingly forced underground, so too is the work of the organizations that serve them.
Fixing Urban Neighborhoods: The Value of Systems Theory to Place-based Comprehensive Community Development Initiatives

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The Obama administration’s recently launched Promise Neighborhoods Initiative borrows from the successful efforts of comprehensive community initiatives such as the Harlem Children's Zone (HCZ), a 100-block area that serves more than 8,000 children and 6,000 adults providing cradle-to-college services. But questions remain as to whether this model of comprehensive change will work in other underserved communities, particularly others that lack the type of funding, density and leadership that HZC boasts. A useful tool for answering this question is offered by systems theory. By examining the community targeted for comprehensive change through systems theory, one can better assess the strength of stakeholder groups, competing interests, and the subsystems that may be important to the neighborhood. More importantly for the new wave of comprehensive community initiatives, is the meaningful application of this theory to the external systems, such as private foundations, government entities, local public officials and corporate interests that seek to effect change in low-income communities. An analysis of three comprehensive community initiatives through the systems theory lens presents a clear view of the complex dynamic in which these initiatives are embedded. The three cases studies include: a failed effort (the Hewlett Foundation's Neighborhood Improvement Initiative), an emerging effort (California Endowment's Healthy Community Initiatives), and an established CCI (Price Charities in San Diego). Qualitative analysis of these three cases through archival materials, public documents, interviews with key foundation, city and residential stakeholders and city staff, present comparable data that is analyzed through systems theory. Case study analysis suggests that context matters and efforts to create a universal model for comprehensive community change without consideration of the community's vision for change, values, history, culture, political context, and boundaries may result in a change effort that is not sustainable. In addition, although the federal government is once again providing some funding for these initiatives, these efforts to change embedded social, political and economic systems takes a number of years and consistent funding through the emergence of a new system is often lacking. The role of private foundation in filling this gap is important and is highlighted through analysis of the emerging and long-term case studies. Policy implications include determining the theory of change for each of the key systems operating in a targeted neighborhood and developing an analysis of the congruence and disparities between these visions for change before designing the comprehensive change initiative.
Shopping on Hip Street: Neighborhood Identity in Brooklyn and Portland

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Cities are becoming citadels for the wealthy, increasingly geared towards the super rich and tourists (Marcuse 1997). Attractions like luxury housing and guided tours apply to these groups respectively; while shopping districts appeal to both. These establishments add to a neighborhood's charm for some, while all but excluding the city's working class and poor. This paper compares two locations, one in Portland, Oregon and another in Brooklyn, New York, that are both being actively branded as centers for shopping and dining. Throughout most of the 20th century the shops on Mississippi Avenue and Bedford Avenue served the area's working class residents. Today these streets are sites for luxury consumption. A case study of these two shopping streets allows for a comparison of how strategies like business associations, shopping maps, and festivals help to promote local shops while branding a neighborhood for new uses. I examine how these neighborhood identities are produced and marketed based on interviews with storeowners, analysis of local events and web presence of the streets.
From Harlots to Traffickers: A Critical Discourse Analysis of State Prostitution Policies

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Prostitution has historically been perceived as an urban public problem and characterized as a threat to public health, public morality, or innocent women and children (Jenness, 1990). While movements like Call off Your Old Tired Ethics (COYOTE) moved to destigmatize sex work and organize sex workers in the 1970's (Jenness, 1990), contemporary research on prostitution policy instruments suggest that these traditional concerns continue to dominate public perceptions of prostitution (Majic, 2012; Mayo, 2011). While we often think of prostitution policy as it is written and implemented at the local level, the Supreme Court case Hoke v. United States (1913) declared prostitution regulation to be the province of the states. While many states have devolved prostitution enforcement to local jurisdictions, states continue to pass laws that constrain local responses to prostitution and related crimes. These bills make assumptions about sexual behaviors and the individuals who engage in sexual activities both within and outside the legally defined bounds of prostitution. In Policy Design for Democracy Schneider and Ingram (1997) argue that systems of degenerative design occur when policy decisions are made based upon social constructions of policy targets rather than their effectiveness at solving particular public problems. The perceived deservingness and political power of groups become the key factors in determining the treatment of individuals subject to systems of degenerative design. This paper will use the Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) method along with Schneider and Ingram's theoretical framework to deconstruct currently effective state-level prostitution related statutes across all fifty-states. Whether individuals engaging in prostitution and related acts are constructed as deserving or undeserving, and powerful or not powerful will be the main focus of the analysis. Additionally, the degree to which these policies construct and are constructed by predominant understandings of gender, sexuality, race, and class will be discussed. While similar analyses have been conducted on prostitution policies in individual states (Jackson & Hausbeck, 2009), in other nations (Brock, 1998; Matthews, 2008; Phoenix, 1999; Roces, 2009), and cross-nationally (Kuo, 2002; Outshoorn, 2004); this will be the first paper to critically analyze prostitution policies across all fifty United States. This paper will contribute significantly to the literature on prostitution and governmental regulation of sexual commerce. It will also add to our larger understanding of the changing nature of gender roles and sexuality in the 21st century urban context, and the role of governments in this traditionally private sphere of interaction.

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The study case is the city of Santos, specifically the municipal public administration, concerning urban policies. Santos is located on the coast of São Paulo, and it is 72km away from the capital. The city is the center of the Metropolitan Region, it has a population of about 419,400 inhabitants, the 5th highest HDI of the country and the largest port in South America is located there. Tourism is a very important activity for the region, whose population increases by three times in peak season. Due to the large increase in Santos land value in the last fifteen years, and to the public management marked by both patrimonialism as the growing attention to the interests of large private capital, which is organized through associations and representations of class, there are two cases clear enough, namely: a) the expulsion of part of Santos population, including the lower middle class, mainly to other cities of the region; and b) the commodification of urban and architectural heritage which has been preserved, since it did not interfere with the real estate market interests. The work has as main objective the description, analysis and evaluation of Santos urban policies, regarding their set of values, its operating logic, and the attendance of interests inside and outside the city. There are two hypotheses that guide this work: i) the Santos urban policies have dual character, one is Patrimonialist - which is a Brazilian "tradition" for public policies, and another Privatist - through importing models and neoliberal values since the 90s, using the U.S. pattern; ii) these policies have had a disastrous result for the whole population of the region, on topics such as traffic, the loss of architectural and urban heritage, the shortage of manpower in Santos, other serious environmental impacts, etc. The contribution of this paper is given due to the importance of Santos in the Brazilian scene, while on one hand it’s a study case of such urban policies that have spread across the country in the last twenty years, on the other hand it also demonstrated its impact on Santos metropolitan area, affecting 1,664,136 people. Although the social, economic, cultural and environmental impacts are visible, this, however, did not generate a greater concern of municipal governance. The research methodology includes a literature review of analytical, historical and studies cases, as well as documentary research, which focuses on official documents and news from newspapers and magazines. This paper is part of the well-known discussion on importing neoliberal models by developing countries in the last twenty years, that resulted in all sorts of social, economic, cultural and environmental aspects, because they are not adapted to the local reality.
Neighborhood Correlates of the Demand for Urban Services in Washington, DC

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In cities across America, citizen service centers allow residents to communicate directly with city officials to request services, acquire information, and voice concerns. Every year, millions of citizens contact their local governments through 311 call centers, making cities more responsive to the needs and demand of city residents. In keeping with the Urban Affairs Association 2013 theme of “Building the 21st Century City,” this paper looks at variation in the demand for urban services across neighborhoods in Washington, DC. Using data on service requests through 311, this paper examines the neighborhood correlates associated with higher levels of demand for city services, exploring factors associated with both the types of services requested (e.g., trash and recycling, tree services, parking enforcement) and the responsiveness to these requests from city agencies. The analysis identifies the neighborhood-level factors associated with higher demand for urban services, enabling policymakers and scholars to consider intra-urban patterns of citizen requests and government responsiveness.
Planning the Unplanned: Predicting Vulnerable (slum) Morphologies of Urban Expansion to Create Just Cities

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This study examines the form of vulnerable morphologies at various stages of city growth within the pervasive expansion of fast growing cities. Through an original hierarchical method that demonstrates that vulnerable settlement morphologies are heterogeneous and highly responsive to the physical dynamics of population growth and urban land consumption. The developed Growth Stage tool defines a taxonomy of stages of urban land dynamics based upon rates of population growth and built up urban land consumption. Together with the established X types of vulnerable morphologies taxonomy, this study found that vulnerable morphologies emerge at the limit condition in particular Growth Stages of urban areas. Population data and satellite imagery taken over a fifty-year period at one-decade intervals were analyzed for urban expansion and urban extent. Measurements for built-up area, population, average density for each time period were derived from the data sets, historical cartography and satellite imagery. Data for 28 cities selected out of a global sample of 157 large fast growing cities is analyzed and presented in this article to define the Growth Stage tool. The urban agglomerations of Sao Paulo, Brazil and Manila, Philippines are used as case studies to demonstrate this new analytical model. The Growth Stage tool was used to identify thirteen sites within the two urban agglomerations that were then analyzed utilizing hierarchical, built to un-built, and experiential representation at three scales - city, neighborhood and block. Measurements for morphologic forms of each time period were derived from historical cartography and satellite imagery. These forms were classified using the previously mentioned vulnerable morphologies taxonomy. The framework of the vulnerable morphologic as related to Growth Stage disproves the common assumption that slum urbanization is chaotic and unplanned and reasserts that not all slum forms are the same. The central message of this study is that the unplanned can be planned for. Developing country cities should be planning for the unplanned by making realistic plans for inevitable urban expansion of the urban poor and acknowledging the morphological development that will occur in future Growth Stages. The research reveals the importance of designating adequate area to accommodate projected urban expansion, and stresses the importance of facilitating desirable morphologic growth by investing wisely in basic service infrastructure, and providing access to broader city social and built infrastructure that serve this expansion, while protecting land/water resources from damaging new urban development. Finally, this study demonstrates how urban morphologic growth can reveal intervention strategies and suggests how these may be applied to shape expected growth and used to equip leaders and planners to create more just and democratic communities.
The Impact of Race and Ethnicity on Entry to High-Opportunity Neighborhoods among Housing Choice Voucher Recipients

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The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program is the nation’s largest program to assist very low-income households to obtain affordable housing. While the program helps make housing affordable, it is not performing as well as expected in terms of helping the poor gain entry into neighborhoods that offer escapes from concentrations of poverty and gain access to good jobs and schools. Experience with the Gautreaux initiative in Chicago and the Moving to Opportunity (MTO) experiment conducted in five cities suggests that households can benefit from locating in high-opportunity neighborhoods will do so if the voucher program constrains their location choice to these low-poverty neighborhoods. This research will examine some of the likely consequences of expanding the Gautreaux and MTO programs to a larger scale. When a poor household is in possession of a HCV, the household must seek out a housing unit while competing with other households who are in the market for a unit. Unfortunately, little is known about how well HCV households compete with other households for available units, especially units in high-opportunity neighborhoods. This research will examine household level data for all households in the HCV program provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The analysis will examine the rates at which households with vouchers enter into high-opportunity neighborhoods, distinguishing the rate of entry by non-Hispanic whites households from various racial and ethnic minority households. The analysis will be able to compare the rates of entry at two points in time, 2000 and 2010. The analysis will also be able to isolate the rate of market entry across different metropolitan areas so as to identify housing market or household characteristics associated with higher rates of entry by voucher households into high-opportunity neighborhoods. The results should help to quantify the expected outcomes of efforts to deconcentrate poverty through the HCV program and highlight policies needed to improve access to high-opportunity neighborhoods for minority HCV recipients.
Public and Political Recognition as a Low-Income Neighborhood: The Short-Term Gains and Long-Term Losses of Exclusionary Tactics

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The level at which urban politics has meaningful effects on the city stage, the range of relevant decision-makers, and the role of community activism are central points of inquiry and debate in the interdisciplinary field of urban studies. To expand scholarship on how local political structures mediate contemporary revitalization goals in low-income neighborhoods, I have undertaken a case study of the Downtown Eastside (DTES) of Vancouver, British Columbia. The central element of my research is an ethnographic case study of the effects of political factions on the revitalization of the DTES and the city- and developer-led branding of the neighborhood as a creative ‘mecca.’ Examining theories of urban political engagement in Vancouver, British Columbia, which promotes an ideology of community consultation and transparency, and in the DTES neighborhood, with a history of enduring and successful political structures, I bring new insight into the potential for existing community members to play a mediating role in shaping neighborhood-scale planning processes. The DTES is a strategic site for this research as it shares attributes with other neighborhoods in which the promotion of a creative economy is being executed as a revitalization strategy. Yet in the DTES there is a long history of political activism in the area, and as such, there is a diverse range of constituencies involved in local area politics. The DTES serves as a case in which the variable of political activity is at an "extreme value" and "can be very useful for ... identifying new theoretical variables or postulating new causal mechanisms" (George and Bennett 2005:81). Through two years of qualitative analysis, I discovered the emergence of cross-demographic alliances and savvy political tactics in response to the perceived threats of gentrification. Long-time residents of the DTES, coupled with self-reflexive first-wave gentrifiers, are mobilizing to define and defend existing community assets. Yet, for successful political leverage, they have been forced to articulate and uphold a rigid neighborhood culture. Long-time residents are engaging in exclusionary tactics to achieve a form of reverse NIMBYism (Not in my Backyard) to exclude wealthier people from the DTES. My research illustrates that low-income residents can successfully employ this political strategy long monopolized by wealthier communities, but in so doing, may maintain larger structures of inequality.
Aging in Place: An Exploration of Built Environment Challenges

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In 2030, 1 out of 5 US residents are expected to reach age 65. As a group, these residents are more frail, disabled, and limited in resources and dependent on services such as health care and accessible housing. For over two decades, aging advocates called for increased focus on new visions to meet aging baby boomer needs. The situation, according to a 2005 White House Conference, constitutes not only a demographic revolution, but a critical public policy issue for the 21st century. Greater pressure is now put on fiscally-stressed communities to devise cost-effective strategies for age-related services and infrastructure. The challenge, however, is most vulnerable older adults are not distributed evenly within metropolitan regions--with the most dependent concentrated in inner cities and older suburbs--nor are their preferences homogeneous. Surveys show a large number of older adults prefer to age in their own homes and not move to another neighborhood or house. But as older adults age in more economically distressed neighborhoods, many will face challenges to stay because of features of their home such as stairs and large yards that require more maintenance and their neighborhood such as lack of access to nearby shopping opportunities and health care, availability of a vehicle to the household, well-maintained sidewalks and streets, and income resources. Policy makers and scholars across US have examined and recommended best practices to redress these issues. Recommendations now focus more on enabling older adults to remain in the same community in which they have always lived, or a similar community made up of people of all walks of life and a mutually supportive atmosphere. Sustainable community plans are giving focus to land-use practice that facilitate access to healthcare, stores, specialists, other people, and transportation, to prevent illness and loneliness. Yet, studies of place-based initiatives continue to point to a mismatch between neighborhoods in which older adults live and needed support services. The paper purpose is a case study of the application of best practice interventions in a fiscally-distressed region. The paper reviews ten-years of policy interventions for aging-in-place in Erie County, New York. Erie County, New York is in some ways typical of northeastern metropolitan areas, yet distinctive in others. The question is what regional attributes and impediments exist to move forward policy recommendations for overcoming environmental impediments to aging-in-place in an older industrial region. The relevance of this research is the exploration of implications of differing aging interventions for regional sustainability and potential benefits of aging-in-place for fiscally-distressed communities. The paper will conclude with discussion of the gaps in understanding of the intersections between aging and the built environment with attention to the strengths and weaknesses of the place models for aging in the community.
Instrumented Cities? A Critical Analysis of IBM's Smarter Cities Initiatives

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In debates about urban policy circulation, there remains much to be said about how global business services firms are shaping municipal service provision in some of the world’s largest cities. Such firms are able to operate relationally, shifting teams of experts onto projects on different parts of the globe, and generating significant economies of scale in devising technical solutions for common urban problems. They work with city councils that are by definition territorially fixed, thus creating an interesting space of relational/territorial negotiation. This paper provides a discussion of IBM’s smarter cities initiatives, a major element of the global corporation’s attempts to define the urban agenda in coming years. The paper has four sections. It begins by providing a contextual discussion of how this initiative fits within IBM’s corporate strategy. Second, it examines what is meant by the ‘instrumentalisation’ of urban policy, a key element of the IBM approach. It discusses the epistemologies which IBM work with when pursuing the smart city strategies. Third, it explores the enactment of these policies in specific urban interventions, describing a series of examples which illustrate how IBM works ‘on the ground’. Fourth, the paper considers how these strategies fit within the broader literature on North-South, developed-developing world urban economies, placing IBM’s activities in the context of long-term corporate intervention in urban politics. Throughout the paper, reference is made to both the materiality of these interventions, and their role within broader strategies of governmentality, territoriality, and relationality.
Social Media and Leaderless Social Movement Organizations: Emerging Issues for Urban Studies

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In the past few years, a number of urban social movements have reaped considerable public attention for their rapid growth and political impact. These included the US Tea Party, reform movements in the Middle East (often referred to as the Arab Spring) and then by the Occupy Wall Street effort that eventually became a worldwide movement (see Sarno, 2009; Jonsson, 2010, February 6; McNutt, Curtis, O'Boyle & Fox, 2010). These movements are different. They depart from traditional social movements in terms of the organizations that they generated and the leadership model that they used and their use of technology (Earl, 2006; 2007; Earl & Kimport, 2011). Among the most significant differences are their more distributed or leaderless approach to organizing the groups’ efforts and their reliance on the use of technology to coordinate, organize, and mobilize stakeholders. Management literature offers insights on both leaderless organizations and the application of recent technological advances (Brafman & Beckstrom, 2006; Kanter & Fine, 2010). These factors appear to be interdependent elements that contribute to a new, different type of organizational structure. That is, we know that technology flattens an organization’s structure by eliminating the need for layers of management. We also know that the use of technology also changes the way that an organization functions in its day to day operations, a process that is intensified with Web 2.0/Social Media (Kanter & Fine, 2010; Germany, 2006; Shirky, 2008). These lessons are also evident in the literature relating to distributed leadership and self-organizing organizations. This paper will review recent experience with this type of organization and discuss the implications for urban studies and urban social movements. The paper will also discuss the implications for urban politics, global social movements and urban theory.
Labor Marginalization: American Felons Struggle for Economic Equality in the Day Labor Market

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Spaces associated with day labor employment are rigidly controlled and resemble the restrained spaces inside prisons. Within multiple spaces associated with employment by day labor temp agencies, industry standards call for restrictive rules and policies that are meticulously enforced and employed as tools for surveillance, observation, evaluation, and control. Using an empirical study of workers from day labor temp agencies in Cincinnati, Ohio, this paper examines the employment experiences of recent, frequent, and reformed felons within this nearly invisible industry. A discussion of the collective experiences of these felons is integrated with Jürgen Habermas’ concepts of lifeworld and system, illustrating 'lifeworld colonization' by the policies and practices of the day labor temp agencies. Many of these policies and practices become targets for complaints based on violations of labor protections. While lifeworld colonization often results in concomitant complaints or contestation, the social vulnerability of felons prevents their full participation in the demands for adherence to labor protections. Their vulnerability permits this industry to control their working lives; forces them to navigate through environments of containment and strict control; and restricts and marginalizes their economic participation in the labor market.
If You Build a Global City, The World Will Come: World City Aspirations in Kigali, Rwanda

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Despite claims about the rise of the global city as a new form of politics that undercuts the sovereignty of the state and promises the possibility of a post-colonial, transnational politics, the rise of the “world city” also has ushered in a “new geography of centrality and marginality” (Sassen 2001) that in much of the global South simply reinscribes colonial power relations. In the contemporary era of the new global city, post-colonial states are pressured to develop policies and investments that drive their cities towards global city status. Despite theoretical claims of the decoupling of the global city from the state, developments in the global South suggest otherwise. In this paper I will focus on the case of Kigali, Rwanda. Aspirations to build a “new Kigali” that will remake Kigali into the African Gorilla, that continent’s equivalent of the Singapore Tiger, are fueled by international pressures, particularly from the World Bank and IMF, as well as national political and economic ambitions, to urbanize Rwanda. American and Singaporean urban planning firms promise Rwanda’s President Kagame glory if he remakes Kigali into a world city, and international aid organizations fund such ambitions. Thus the aspiration to become a world city is fueled by both post-colonial economic pressures and an intense nationalism. In the case of Kigali, it is the state that negotiates on behalf of the city; a non-democratic statist form of capitalism dictates both Rwanda’s aspirations and their actual investments and choice of urban models. City-state Singapore is aggressively marketing their city model as the quickest and most effective way for cities in the global South to achieve global city status. The very idea of the “global city” or “world city” has itself been packaged and marketed on the global economy. How does the diffusion of this model global city undercut the promise of “the global city” as the new political domain that undermines state sovereignty? Might the aspiration to world city status actually condemn those on the periphery to remain there?
Between the Megacity and the Fragmented Metropolis: A Decentralized Model for the City of Montreal

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Since the 1990s, a number of Canadian cities have undergone several reforms with the intention of increasing their influence over their metropolitan areas. Among other things, these reforms, mainly mergers or amalgamations, led to the creation of the megacities of Toronto in 1998 and Montreal in 2001. In both cases, the newly created cities included more than half the population of their respective metropolitan areas: 2.4 million people in Toronto and 1.8 million in Montreal. But things have not worked as well in Montreal as they did in Toronto, the megacity model being less suited to the local cultural context. In 2006, the new provincial government in Quebec allowed the dismantlement of the megacity of Montreal and the reconstitution (or the “demerger”) of fifteen suburban municipalities. The megacity of Montreal was then transformed into a government of agglomeration that includes several cities, among which the "reduced version" of the city of Montreal. A few years earlier, some responsibilities had already been decentralized from the central administration to newly created boroughs that had their own elected councils and some spending autonomy. As a result, we can now observe a sharp contrast between the decentralized governance model in Montreal and the standard megacity model still in place in Toronto. Even if fiscal decentralization between a central city and its boroughs exists elsewhere in the world, as in Paris, London or Amsterdam, the extent and the nature of the responsibilities decentralized in Montreal make it an unusual case. In 2012, the city of Montreal initiated a review of its boroughs’ financing. Despite some will for centralization, the decentralized model has been maintained, and the boroughs' tax autonomy was increased. What are the factors that led to this decentralized model of governance for the city of Montreal? What makes this model crucial for elected officials? Researchers from the CIRANO were invited to participate in the discussions that led to the reform of the boroughs' financing in Montreal. In the process, they had the opportunity to meet every elected official of the city and its main directors. Based on the analysis of their research notes and some theoretical concepts of fiscal federalism, they put forward several recommendations regarding the right level of decentralization for the city. This presentation explains how the data was collected and what methods were used for this analysis. In using qualitative data to draw conclusions on quantitative issues, it also contributes to methodological concerns. The results also help to understand the choices behind the current fiscal reforms in Montreal's boroughs, which can be seen as an efficiency improvement in a post-reform fragmented context.
Evolving Inclusivity of a Historic Urban Park in the Rapidly Growing Urbanscape of Ankara

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Following its announcement as the capital city of the newly founded Republic of Turkey in 1923, Ankara was developed as a symbol of modernization, secularization and westernization. Within almost a decade, Ankara has experienced a phenomenal urban growth which shows its dynamism, energy and eager to develop and find solutions for its growth problems (eg. squatters and informal sector developments, inadequate social infrastructure). Although change is inevitable for almost all cities, Ankara has been experiencing a significant change in its identity especially since the mid-1990s as a result of the globalization, deregulation and decentralization policies. Ankara has started to show similarities with the world cities with the mushrooming of residential and office towers, shopping malls, multiplex complexes, highly controlled gated communities in both suburbs and inner city and transportation infrastructure investments prioritizing private car ownership. Along with these changes, the city has lost or undermined the major cultural and historic artifacts and values which have formed its identity as the capital city of Turkey. Public spaces in the inner city are one of these cultural and historic artifacts where these ambivalent changes have become evident. Within the scope of the area-based and conservation-led regeneration schemes of the local authority, most urban parks which were built in the early-1930s and 1940s to serve for the creation of a modern, secular and westernized society have been recently renewed with no comprehensive public space strategy. Gençlik Parký (GP), meaning 'youth park', is one of these public spaces. As one of the biggest urban parks in Turkey and one of the most important open public spaces of the Republican regime, GP has been renewed very recently to become a more inclusive public space in Ankara. With this renewal scheme, the park has gained an inclusive image among the public, while also having a certain extent of exclusivity. This paper aims to discuss the changing 'inclusivity' (and 'exclusivity') of GP from its heydays to nowadays regarding four types of 'access': physical access, social access, access to activities and discussions, and access to information. After briefly introducing the model of inclusivity to be used to assess the inclusivity or exclusivity of public spaces, the paper describes the past design and management characteristics of the park which used to enhance/weaken its inclusivity. Then it assesses how far the recent design and management policies have changed inclusivity of the park and it seeks to discuss the factors and urban design strategies behind the current state of the park with regard to the city's wider policies and strategies.
Defining, Tracking, and Displaying Regional Equity Conditions: Two Approaches from the Portland-Vancouver Metropolitan Region

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This paper explores the strengths and weaknesses of two significant regional indicator projects for the Portland-Vancouver metropolitan area. Specifically, this paper focuses on the measurement of equity conditions at a regional scale. In 2003, the Coalition for a Livable Future (CLF), in partnership with Portland State University (PSU), launched the nation's first regional equity atlas endeavor that pushed the notion of equity to the forefront of regional discourse. Defined primarily in terms of access to opportunities, especially in spatial terms, the atlas took advantage of the analytical capabilities and graphic power of mapping and maps to convey its findings. Published in 2007, the Regional Equity Atlas was intended to provide a baseline measure that would be updated over time. With the release of the 2010 Census, CLF began to explore new approaches for the 2.0 version of its Equity Atlas. This was, in part, because the success of the first atlas inspired numerous efforts to track and address equity both locally and nationally. And, like other indicator projects, CLF decided to take on, in partnership with Metro (the Portland area’s regional government) and PSU, an online, interactive mapping approach that would not only display data but would have some on-the-fly analytical capability. The Regional Equity Atlas 2.0 is currently under development. At the same time, Metro and the Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies at PSU saw an increasing need for the ability to easily track the region’s progress toward broadly agreed upon goals. The Greater Portland-Vancouver Indicators project engaged a wide variety of organizations and individuals (including CLF) in identifying the indicators and appropriate data. Rather than seeing equity as an indicator unto itself, the participants decided that equity should infuse all of the indicators. The Greater Portland Pulse (GPP) was launched in June of 2011 and includes data visualizations and interpretation. GPP staff offer training in the use of the website and the data visualization interface (Weave) to governmental staff, community organizations, and individuals throughout the region. For the GPP, data currency and updatability of a relatively small number of indicators are primary concerns. As a result, its data are largely at the municipal and regional scales. For CLF, a broad set of high resolution indicators is paramount. GPP has prioritized long-term sustainability whereas, although sustainability is important to CLF, being able to contribute to the regional equity discussion using a tool with a greater level of geographic precision and nuance has taken precedence.
What About Municipal Parties in Québec?

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The municipal political field is generally filled either by subsidiaries of parties existing at upper levels of government as is the case in France, or it is dominated by independent candidates as is the case in Canadian provinces or in the United States. The last model does not necessarily lead to tightly separated political scenes. Canadian and American observers have thus long since highlighted informal affiliations between municipal candidates and provincial or federal political machines. Between these two models, exists in Québec another formula: that of municipal political parties, which exists since the 1960s in the major cities of Montreal and Quebec City and have been spreading to smaller cities since 2000. There are now 123 throughout the province. Municipal political parties have the peculiarity of not being affiliated with federal or provincial parties. Nevertheless, they share a number of traits in common with the latter: 1) they have a role of mediators between the municipal government and civil society; (2) they are electoral machines; (3) their goal is the exercise of power. The objective of this communication is to showcase the original model of political party that is being spread in a large number of Quebec municipalities. To do this, we rely on two sets of sources. At first, the data from the Chief Electoral Officer of Québec since 2001 allow to provide a quantitative picture of the phenomenon. In a second step, we conducted sixty interviews with municipal electees in 2011, this analysis captures qualitatively the forms and effects of municipal political parties in local politics. By their presence, the municipal political parties participate in transforming how representative democracy is performed, both in forms of conquest as well as in the exercise of power. They thus participate in making the municipal scene an autonomous political field, structured by it’s own rules. At the same time, one can see a form of parliamentarianism, even "westminsternization" of local politics. It is therefore an original political and partisan model that is being put in place in several Quebec municipalities.
Using Geo-Visualization Tools to Teach Urban Social Justice

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While social studies disciplines such as government and history are understood to be core fields for the education of informed and engaged young citizens, geography is generally perceived to be outside this particular project. Yet learning about how space is actively and socially produced can and should be an integral component of teaching for democracy. In the multi-year research project introduced here, the authors examined whether and how a participatory and reflective process of learning about local history could encourage young people's civic awareness and interest in greater public engagement. They investigated how interactive mapping technologies might enhance such learning experiences by encouraging teams of young people to research, compare, and discuss the cultural and political geographies of their own urban neighborhoods collaboratively and over an extended time frame. Using Web 2.0 technologies similar to Google Maps, the authors developed an interactive mapping platform which enabled young people to map and annotate significant historical sites with comments, icons, sketches, and general reflections. (The platform that was developed is a fully open-source mapping interface that uses Javascript to display basemaps and student-generated map items in OpenLayers.) In one year of the research project, the authors asked 29 seventh grade girls to research and map significant cultural and historical places associated with an ethnic group, or women, in the city of Seattle. They then studied the multiple ways in which a greater understanding of spatial production, such as processes of exclusion and inclusion, or mapping and counter-mapping, can give students the knowledge and will to challenge prevailing norms about the "naturalness" of a segregated urban landscape, or the inequitable allocation of urban resources. This approach follows recent feminist, anti-racist, and internationalist articulations of citizenship education, which advocate a social justice or emancipatory component to teaching and learning. The approach also highlights the power of place, and reconceptualizes geography education as integral to the larger project of teaching for democratic citizenship.
Culturally Competent Services In Supportive Housing

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Cultural competency is an understanding of how others experience their uniqueness and deal with their differences in the larger social context. One's cultural identity, values, beliefs and traditions, determines how we think, behave, react and interact with the world. This project is focused on supportive housing and sharing a case study of an organization's attempts to operationalize and evaluate cultural competency. Most cultural competency information and training are rooted in mental health, and physical health practices. The uniqueness of this workshop is that it is centered on supportive housing. Supportive housing is defined as housing designed for the homeless; that has services attached to the housing and has program staff that delivers these services. Participants in the workshop will learn that there are many documents on what it means to be a cultural competent organization. There are many engagement and implementation strategies documented and what the results can be for families. Also, participants will hear about the journey this organization took, including how to engage consumers in the journey, and what they have learned and implementation strategies. We will share the tools used, and the data collected. Why is this project important? For one, according to the National Coalition for the Homeless 2009 study, 42% of the homeless in the United States are African American. The Amherst H. Wilder Foundation's Homeless study mirror's this statistic for Minnesota's homeless population. While African Americans represented 41% of the homeless population, they represent only 4% of the population and American Indians represent 1% of the population, they represent 11% of the homeless population in Minnesota. The Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health adds that marginalized groups are struggling with the effects of discrimination and there is urgency to serve this population effectively. Secondly, cultural competency is a critical factor in the success of any social service organization's ability to deliver quality services to diverse communities. This concept helps to create programs and initiatives that are focused on the needs of the families based on their value systems and family/community "ways of operating." It also provides the organization with information to address the critical competencies needed for staff in order to provide quality services to diverse communities. According to the 2007 National Symposium on Homelessness Research there has been little progress to identifying systemically types of services that works for families. This project argues that providing culturally competent services in supportive housing for homeless families increases housing stability and community engagement.
Commuting and Energy Consumption: Toward an Equitable Transportation Policy

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Like other major metropolitan areas, the urban complex that extends from Los Angeles to Orange County faces numerous transportation challenges. Daily traffic congestion, reduced productivity and loss of income, air pollution, environmental degradation and significant consumption of energy are only a few outcomes of the millions of miles traveled every day on the region's highways and streets. An important response to this significant urban challenge has been the desire for further expansion of an efficient public transportation network. In this paper, I argue that in addition to conducting traditional optimization analyses, it is important that we pay attention to the current energy needs of various communities and target our transportation planning intervention by focusing on priority areas. Attempts to achieve better connectivity between jobs and homes should be combined with an explicit focus on minimizing the need for fossil fuel. Using the 2010 American Community Survey, I estimate the level of current energy consumption in the greater metropolitan area encompassing Los Angeles and Orange Counties. After analyzing the socio-spatial patterns of consumption, I propose policy directions and planning interventions that could help curtail the overall energy needs of the region, while focusing on equity issues.
The Geography of REO Investment in Los Angeles and the Inland Empire, 2008-2009

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Recent research on REO outcomes suggests that investors are central players in regional markets for foreclosed properties. While some of the strategies used by corporate and small investors alike can contribute to neighborhood housing recovery, others can be extraordinarily harmful. The geography of REO investment and the potential consequences of investor purchases are only starting to be understood. Using a unique property-level data set that details the sales outcomes of all foreclosures that were final in Los Angeles and the Inland Empire (Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties) during 2008-2009, this paper considers two sets of questions focused on investor purchases of REOs in the Los Angeles region. First, what property and neighborhood factors influenced patterns of investor purchases during this period? Where were investors’ activities concentrated? Second, where was flipping—one form of speculation that tends to undermine long-term neighborhood stability — concentrated during this time? How does this compare to spatial patterns of speculation by investors during earlier eras? This paper helps to identify whether and how patterns of investor purchases of REOs have contributed to an uneven recovery from the housing crisis. It also addresses the history of neighborhood inequalities in real estate speculation, as well as the potential consequences of and policy responses to these disparities in the Los Angeles region and beyond.
Impacts of Natural and Regulatory Constraints on Urban Growth: A Global Analysis

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Strict regulation of urban development is theorized to reduce housing supply, increase housing prices, and limit the benefits of agglomeration. Yet empirical tests of these hypotheses are limited outside of developed countries. This paper assesses the impact of regulation on various urban outcomes using a combination of satellite imagery, survey and census data from roughly 350 cities in 150 countries. We first assess the relationship between natural and regulatory constraints, testing whether more land constrained cities regulate development more strictly. We then model the impact of stringent regulations on urbanization outcomes such as household formation, tenure composition, and housing quality.
Constructing Bogotá’s Ciclovía: From Urban Experiment to International “Best Practice”

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Bogotá, traditionally portrayed as an urban dystopia and a city of fear in the 1980s and early 1990s, has become a global model of urbanism in less than a decade. One of Bogotá’s most celebrated policies is Ciclovía, a 70-mile weekly street closure program to promote urban biking and walkability. One million Bogotanos participate in it every Sunday. In the last decade, mayors, transportation planners, and bike advocates in over 130 cities have referenced Ciclovía to implement similar programs in their home cities. Despite its recent discovery and celebration in international planning and activist circles, Ciclovía has a history that spans over 30 years during which the actors, agendas, and discourses behind it have changed substantially. Started in 1974 by a bike advocacy group reacting to the rapid and auto-oriented growth of the city, the program was institutionalized in 1976 under fears of oil price increases and expanded in the 1990s as part of a local government strategy to decrease urban violence by promoting public space. This paper examines the history of Ciclovía from a territorial/relational perspective and suggests that its establishment and re-inventions have been co-constituted through the tension between: a) situated political struggles linked to Bogotá’s and Colombia’s high rates of formal and informal urban growth, spatial segregation and violence; and b) shifting international planning paradigms and circulating discourses such as suburbanization, environmentalism, or public space. Through archival research and interviews with bike advocates, local officials and planners in Bogotá, this paper examines this tension in four critical moments of Ciclovía’s history, shedding light on the shifting constellations of local and transnational actors, agendas, and discourses since the program’s beginning through its emergence as an international “best practice.”
When, How, and Why Did Boston Go Civil?

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Everyday life in Boston is a great deal more peaceful and quiet than it was 100 years ago. People from different social classes, races, ethnic groups, religions, genders, and political orientations no longer assault and insult each other like they once did. The timing and causes of this change in the civic lives of Bostonians are examined. The implications of this change for the rest of the U.S. are explored.
Media and the Making of Urban Housing Markets: A Cultural Economy Approach

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The shifting fortunes of housing in recent years have highlighted interesting developments in the relations of media and housing markets. The confidence and exuberance of the pre-2008 economy in countries such as the US and UK, for example, was coupled with a remarkable proliferation of media related to housing, from new television formats to a myriad of property search platforms and devices.

Conversely, media have been crucial to casting 'housing' as a pivotal symbolic character in narratives on the post-credit-crunch environment. Yet scholarly work focusing directly on the relationships of media and housing has been scattered, and is overwhelmingly focused on the analysis of media texts or representations. While such work is not without merit, its major limitation is that it imagines media as an extrinsic factor or domain that has 'effects' on housing as an economic phenomena. This paper attempts to re-envision the participation of media as intrinsic to the making of urban housing markets. To do so, it engages with recent work in housing studies on the 'micro-structures' of housing markets. Often directing its attention to urban milieus in particular, this work has offered a critique of markets seen either as abstract (e.g. as in neoclassical economics) or as transcendental structure (e.g. as in some versions of political economy). Instead, the micro-structural approach suggests that markets are made possible through the bringing-together of multiple small-scale practices, forms of knowledge and technical devices. Thinking of housing markets in this way, as multiple microstructures, implicitly reserves a place for media. But precisely how media, or 'the media', enter into the practices, knowledge or technical devices remains unclear. In response, this paper offers as one starting point Michel Callon's notion of an 'economy of qualities'. Through this lens, 'media' can be seen both as providing a background of mutable knowledge about housing as a kind of open-ended 'product-in-process', or in other instances, as the devices that come closer to a temporary stabilisation of housing as a calculable 'good' for the purposes of search and transaction. The emphasis of this paper is therefore on outlining an approach for studying and theorizing the myriad practical uses of media, rather than offering a catalogue of media forms, related to housing as an economic product and good. This approach can be conceived in relation to housing markets more generally. However, by engaging with recent writing at the intersection of media studies and urban studies, this paper highlights how media-related practices and technologies are becoming increasingly crucial in the making and remaking of specifically urban housing markets.
Effects of State Takeovers of Local School Districts on Political Participation

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Historically, Americans have viewed school governance as a local issue and have been skeptical about state and federal intervention. However, public school governance, particularly in urban areas, has increasingly become an intergovernmental endeavor. One growing aspect of the federal and state role in public school governance has been the state takeover of local school districts. Over the last two decades, there have been roughly 100 state takeovers of local school districts in twenty-two states. The takeovers have been a source of tension between local and state governments. In addition, state takeovers of school districts are further complicated by questions of race. Nearly 85 percent of all takeovers occur in districts where African Americans and Latinos make up the majority of the population. In several communities, citizens have protested against the takeovers, claiming that the loss of local autonomy threatens their ability to participate in school governance. If so, state takeovers may have a profound effect on political participation, since research has shown that for racial minorities, school-level engagement has often served as a springboard for other forms of political engagement. Although scholars have explored how state takeovers affect academic achievement, we know little about the effect of state takeovers on local community power and citizen participation. Using an original dataset of state takeovers, this paper will examine the characteristics of the cities and school districts pre and post takeovers to determine if state takeovers have any effect on a number of political factors, including descriptive representation at the municipal and school board level. Then, using survey data from the 2000 Social Capital Community Benchmark Survey, this paper will examine if state takeovers have any effect on school-level citizen participation.
Choosing Classical Marxian Sociological Theory Over David Harvey's Marxist Based Spatial Analyses to Understand the Baltimore Superblock Issue

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This paper intends to show how classical Marxian sociological conflict theory trumps David Harvey's Marxist based spatial analyses of the city, in analyzing the Superblock revitalization of downtown Baltimore. Race, social class and competing developers dominate the issue. The Superblock is an initiative of the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) and Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake. Its purpose is to create mixed commercial and housing development in a blighted area. BDC is a quasi-public body of the Baltimore City government. Its mission is "to serve as a catalyst for continued economic growth, job creation, and revitalization in Baltimore." Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake hailed the project as part of her reviving Baltimore including creating jobs and drawing the middle class back to the city. Baltimore is 63 percent black. Resistance quickly galvanized against the project. The plan to demolish the historically structured Read's Drug Store, a historic civil rights site ignited the issue. Baltimore Heritage, a historical preservation group, local civil rights groups, activists and Baltimore Orioles owner, lawyer and developer Peter G. Angelos, rose to oppose the project. One burning question was made clear. Would the project just be another gentrifying one that did not affect the majority of working class residents - who are black? What provides the backdrop for this issue? Baltimore once owned the moniker of a blue-collar city. The city's flagging industrial base changed to a burgeoning service economy. Its present day economy anchors a financial, business, health and tourist service base. The new downtown business district has shifted to the Inner Harbor area that accommodates the relatively new baseball and football stadiums. Hotels have sprung up. The convention center has been expanded. The mayor is a black woman. One of the developer companies is black owned. Baltimore ranks twenty-fourth on the American cities poverty index scale. Baltimore's population has shrunk; higher paid working class and middle class whites moved to the suburbs, as have the same classes of blacks. This left behind lower income blacks and whites; a shrinking regressive tax base, decaying neighborhoods and low wage paying jobs. The city's movers and shakers designated crime as the number one major issue.
Foundations Funding Strategies towards Community Organizations in Montréal

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Foundations were created in USA at the beginning of the 20th century: Russel Sage Foundation in 1907; Carnegie Foundation in 1911; Rockefeller Foundation in 1913. In Canada, the first foundation was established just a few years later: the Massey Foundation in 1918. In the thirty years that followed, only two other foundations took place in Canada: the Winnipeg Foundation in 1921 and the J.W. McConnell Foundation in 1937. Since then, the number of foundations has increased considerably. In 2010, this number reached almost 10 000 in Canada. The third of these are grant-making foundations. As in the USA, some grant-making foundations give funds to community organizations. In Quebec, in 2010, 26% of the funds provided by the foundations to non-profit organizations concerned those involved in «poverty, social services and community development». In Montreal, about fifteen important foundations give grants to community organizations. The relationship between foundations and community organizations has raised many questions in academic literature in the USA. Authors emphasized on the particular community organizations and projects funded by foundations; on the dependency of community organizations upon foundations; on the shift from protests to services provision associated with foundations funding; on the institutionalization and professionalization of community organizations as a result of foundations requirements... In Canada, there are very few academic publications on foundations and even less on the relationship between foundations and community organizations. However, at the end of the 2000s, funding programmes of the «Foundation Lucie et André Chagnon», one of the wealthiest foundations in Canada, in partnership with the government of Quebec, were denounced by many community organizations because of the lack of transparency and public consultation. Thus, the relationship between foundations and community organizations began to be a debate object raised by the community movement. In this paper, we will point out the manner in which foundations give funds to community organizations in Montreal. We will highlight the fact that there are many foundations funding strategies towards community organizations. We will also underline the impacts of these strategies on community organizations activities, some foundations leaving considerable autonomy to the community organizations they support and others controlling very carefully how their funds are spent. This paper is based on websites, released documents and interviews, and is part on an ongoing research project financed by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

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"We want to have a creative sustainable city." Using the Sustainability Paradigm to Revitalize the City of Dublin

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This paper argues that the sustainability paradigm is currently used to transform industrial port cities to creative sustainable cities (Müller 2012). Based on empirical data from the city of Dublin, I show that the sustainability paradigm is combined with the creative city paradigm to revitalize inner-city quarters. This urban planning strategy includes a focus on the creative class (Florida 2004) and aims at integrating the old in the new, both in architectural and social terms. With this, it tries to be an integrative urban revitalization strategy. In the course of the 20th century, the Irish society developed from an industrial to a postindustrial, knowledge-based society (Bell 1973; Drucker 1993). New occupations emerged, making new forms of working spaces and modes of transport necessary, and a growing population now asks for new living spaces. Additionally, inner-city quarters have become increasingly popular with people working in knowledge-intensive industries. Consequently, city planners have initiated a revitalization process in these quarters, and they used two urban planning paradigms - creative cities (Florida 2005) and sustainability – as guidelines for urban regeneration. This strategy aims at transformations on a city wide level, but the district level has to be the object of investigation when empirically approaching the changes of the built environment. Here we see that a threefold understanding of sustainability is used to integrate the demands of the new social groups in those of existing communities. Thus, the approaches used in the districts differ: (1) In The Liberties, home of a new-build technology cluster, the focus is on an economically sustainable development. (2) In Temple Bar, Dublin’s cultural quarter, the emphasis is on a socially sustainable approach. (3) In the Docklands, the area of the old inner-city harbor, an attempt is made to combine all three dimensions of sustainability by creating new buildings (ecological sustainability) for both 'old' and 'new' inhabitants (social sustainability) and work space for growing industries like the knowledge-intensive industries (economic sustainability). Though different, these revitalization strategies have one thing in common: The inner-city districts dispose of a number of protected buildings which have to be integrated in the re-structuring of the quarters. Therefore, these buildings are renovated and combined with new buildings to form an architectural and spatial image of Dublin as a city with a future that is rooted in the city's industrial past. In this sense, the urban regeneration approach even has a notion of architectural and historical sustainability.
The Impacts of Urbanization on the Thermal Environment and Residents' Behaviors in Jakarta, Indonesia

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In this study, we analyzed the features of urbanization in a suburban area of Jakarta, Indonesia and evaluated the impact on the thermal environment by using numerical simulation. First, land use change was analyzed by using aerial photos and satellite images during the last 25 years. Second, information on building shapes and materials, and in which year each house had been built, was collected in the study area. Third, the 3D-CAD model, to which the material and physical property data were added, was developed, and the surface temperature distribution was calculated through numerical simulations. Furthermore, two indices were used to evaluate the impact on the thermal environment: Heat Island Potential (HIP) was an index of the sensible heat flow rate on all surfaces in the area, and Mean Radiant Temperature (MRT) was one of the indices for the evaluation of thermal comfort. The results of analysis revealed that the land use conversion from a paddy field to urbanized land resulted in the mixture of urban and agricultural land uses in these 25 years. The materials and structures had gradually changed. The HIP value increased significantly as the land conversion proceeded and the housing materials were changed. The area of locations in an outdoor environment with low MRT value, which determined the comfort for human activities, had been decreased. Then, the residents in the study site were interviewed to understand their daily behavior. A field survey was conducted in order to understand the thermal comfort at the locations they used. The observation showed that the newly moved-in residents' life style was determined by the ill thermal condition. This indicated that the study site had caused urban heat island phenomenon and it had become an uncomfortable area through urbanization and landscape changes.
Designing Ownership: Rethinking Systems through Multi-Strategy Urban Planning

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An analysis of urban systems gives us three driving forces, people, places and things. The combination of these forces in various order, produces explicit and distinctive results, given their configuration of interaction. When two or more of these results compete, conflict or interact, design problems occur. Urban design in large, has often tried to solve these problems through a myopic understanding of how a problem forms, creating singular solutions for singular problems, often of which their completion creates numerous "offspring", that is, smaller problems. This one to one solution ratio is unobtainable, because the complexity of initial systems interaction that created the explicit problem was never addressed. No single problem can be solved because no single solution exists. Every problem is a complex network of interacting systems, and every problem has multiple solutions, not one. These solutions are as interchangeable and configurable as the systems for which they are created. Solutions may come in various degrees, each with possible "offspring problems" of their own. One solution may be viewed as better then another simply because it has less "offspring". Systems and solutions are the "pillars" which lessens the problems created between the interactions of complex networks. Solutions are not the answers to problems; they are the understanding of interactions of systems. In "predictive urban design" it is vital to understand that the configuration of both systems and solutions are interchangeable with each other, meaning they are interchangeable at the same time. "Cascading Adaptation" is the configuration of these two fundamental "pillars". Each System can be exchanged with another system or solution, and each solution can be exchanged with another solution or system. "Cascading Adaptation" is not meant to solve all problems; rather it is a tool which can lessen the amount of "offspring problems" in comparison to a single issue solution. By understanding the complexity of configurable systems interaction, "predictive urban design" seeks to understand that solutions exist before problems occur, because they exist with systems. Understanding this may help designers reshape the urban landscape through analysis, eliminating design problems through careful system and solution planning.
Political Activities of Community Representing Organizations

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This paper analyzes the political activities of community representing organizations (CROs) in the city of Los Angeles, extending earlier research on the agenda orientation of these entities (Jun and Musso, 2012; Jun, 2012). In theory CROs are mediating associations that transmit citizen preferences to governing coalitions, assisting local governance to achieve more effective services that are geographically tailored to residential preferences. Whether this goal is met in practice is a subject of some debate. Critics site the socioeconomic bias affecting representation and the propensity for parochial/NIMBYistic agenda orientations (ibid.). While some work suggests neighborhood and regional issue alignment (King 2004, Thomas 1986), others have cautioned that interest atomization may yield suboptimal outcomes (Berry 1993, Fung 2001, Purcell 2006). This study explicitly considers how CROs communicate their preferences to decision makers, if activities reflect parochial or egalitarian interests, and whether these preferences have an impact on decision making. In particular, it explores how CROs in Los Angeles engage in their role as advisory agents on local policy issues. Two forms of engagement are identified and examined empirically. First, content analysis is applied to news mentions of neighborhood council actions and opinions in local print (traditional and electronic) media. Second, formal position statements submitted to the city council are decomposed by issue type and place of origin to determine if regional SES inequalities are associated with submission rates. Geographic and statistical analyses will analyze the factors that influence NC activities, and the findings will be complemented with qualitative exploration of NC impact in these arenas.
Building New Mega Cities: India's Chance to Look Beyond Renewal

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As per the 2011 census, 30% of India's 1.21 billion people live in urban areas, which are growing fast, often in unplanned ways. Inadequate infrastructure, rising population and increasing urban poverty are the major causes of the sprawling degradation of cities. Hence the Government of India has taken the initiative to redevelop urban centers by developing infrastructure, ushering in municipal reforms and providing aid to the State Governments and Urban Local Bodies. Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission is a massive city-modernization scheme launched by the Government of India. It envisages a total investment of over $20 billion over seven years till 2012. It is one of the most ambitious projects regarding urban India. Cities and towns account for 30% of the country's population, contributing 50-55% of the Gross Domestic Product. As part of its urban focus, Government of India has set up the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation. As a first step, there are plans to build six Greenfield cities in the country over the next five years - Dholera in Gujarat, Manesar-Bawal in Haryana, Indore-Mhow in Madhya Pradesh and Dighi and Nasik-Igatpuri in Maharashtra. This means the plan is to have five brand new cities, each of which is bigger than Navi Mumbai (which has the distinction of being the world's largest new town currently) in the next five years. Nine coastal states of India have been asked by the Government to select sites for the development of new major ports respectively in each state. These nine ports are likely to be built on the pattern of the Singapore Port. As per data from the Ministry of Shipping, the construction of each port would cost approximately $500 millions in the initial phase. The construction of the new ports is aimed at boosting the maritime trade of the country. An investment of $500 millions in creating port infrastructure at each location, on the adjacent land can well be utilized for developing Special Economic Zones catering to various economic sectors incidental to the needs of port and Integrated Townships planned around them. If a 1483 kms corridor between Delhi and Mumbai can lead to six townships with million plus population each, the effort to create nine more of them on India's 7000 km coastline is more fruitful potentially. This research paper aims to shed light on these new township developments and their impact on the surrounding hinterland.
Taking Stock of Neighborhood: Citizen Engagement and Community Assessment

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It is not uncommon for local leaders and citizens to assemble together to try to make their community an even better place in which to live. In order to strengthen the community by improving opportunities and quality outcomes, appropriate information is crucial. Various studies aimed to develop an instrument and assess various aspects of the community. However, relatively less attention was given to public involvement process. This study attempts to enhance citizen participation in their community assessment using innovative mobile-GIS technology, with aspects of the street-scale environment. The main objective of this work is to develop a community assessment framework and tool with which people in a community can examine crucial and otherwise unavailable information on residential conditions and other environmental characteristics for use in improving and strengthening their neighborhoods. The physical condition of a neighborhood environment significantly affects the quality of life for residents. This work provides pro-active tools to address residential conditions. This work also aims to enhance citizen engagement. The ultimate success of community planning is heavily dependent upon public support. Thus a process that enhances citizen engagement is important. This study includes local experts, stakeholders and residents in all phases of the project including the process of assessment tool development, data gathering, analysis, and appropriate neighborhood improvement goal setting. The increased community engagement in the process leads to stronger community interest and investment in future actions Methods adopted in this work include both of quantitative and qualitative approaches such as literature survey of community assessment research, in-depth expert interview, resident survey of subjective indicators, comparative case study and spatial statistical analysis with GIS. To develop reliable tool, this work involves use of innovative mobile GIS technology in a field survey method that involves residents’ use of GIS-enabled PDAs (Personal Digital Assistants) with customized user-friendly forms to compile information in the field that is useful to both their neighborhood and the City. As a case study, four economically disadvantaged neighborhoods in Lincoln, Nebraska are examined. In order to measure perception and behavior change of residents, structured survey is conducted. Using the collected information this work conducted spatial analysis to find hot spot and cold spot. This type of analysis is important to identify priority areas to be addressed with limited resources available. This study contributes to the methodological improvement of community assessment, and the knowledge of the interconnectedness of physical and social environment. This study also provides policy implications for local government's strategies to enhance the feasibility and the attractiveness of a community by reducing physical and social barriers.
Thomas Kinkade and “The Village” in Vallejo, CA: Revitalizing Contemporary Suburbs through Branding Strategies and the Visual Arts

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Since the early 1990s, a trend among developers has been to use corporate branding strategies to produce communities that attempt to separate themselves from stereotypical elements of sprawl in both aesthetic and social arenas. This paper analyzes the effectiveness of these new trends in suburban design by focusing on the Thomas Kinkade-inspired community in Vallejo, California, named “The Village.” Kinkade is widely known as the “Painter of Light” and although Kinkade considered himself a serious artist, his work is associated with kitschy Americana because of the mass marketing of Kinkade originals and reproductions in Kinkade galleries located in suburban malls across the country. Opening in 2001, The Village housing development was driven by Kinkade’s corporation, The New Media Group, and it was created in the likeness of his paintings. Drawing on interviews with developers, homeowners, and real estate agents, as well as art criticism, my analysis of The Village addresses the effectiveness of the visual arts and popular culture in suburban revitalization. By considering issues such as stylization, the artist’s popularity, kitsch, and the ideology of the American Dream, I show how Kinkade and his brand are involved in a specific conversation about ‘home.’ The paper compares The Village with similar new urbanism projects like Celebration, a Disney-inspired neighborhood in Florida, and Strand East, a mixed-use neighborhood being developed in London, UK by the Swedish retail tycoon IKEA. My research investigates whether these communities, which are seen as unique social experiments, have the capability to inspire civic engagement solely based on the idealization of community from popular art and culture brands.
Slum Upgrading in Developing Countries: Why Titling Programs Have Limited Success

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According to the latest UN habitat Report about 32% of the world's population lives in slums. A great portion of housing in these slums is characterized by lack of secure property rights (squatter settlements, illegal subdivisions, etc.). In the past decade, providing property rights to people residing in slums has been a major component on slum upgrading policies, but results of these programs show limited success on neighborhood physical upgrading. This paper presents a theoretical model arguing that part of the reason why these programs have limited success lies in the legacy effects of the occupation strategy at the time the settlement was organized. The paper offers a simple model in which squatters initially balance initial investment in low quality structures to reduce the risk of eviction against the future effect of increasing the marginal cost of improving quality. The effort to secure initial possession thereby creates a legacy effect, reducing subsequent investments in housing quality. The paper also provides empirical tests using Bolivian data. Our econometric estimates offer results consistent with the legacy theory: initial title risk suppresses long run housing quality.
Domestic Short-Term Outcome Measures of Paid Parental Leave

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The United States has so far differed from other countries in not offering social insurance paid leave to workers upon the birth of a child. As a result, there is great diversity in how private employers handle this time away from the job for new parents. Some employers offer paid parental or temporary disability insurance leave, and others require that parents use their vacation days, sick days, unpaid leave, or quit during time away from the job. This paper seeks to determine if differences in receipt of employer-provided paid leave impact family well-being when a child is nine months old, a point after which most paid leave periods in the United States are completed. It is widely observed that international paid parental leave programs accrue benefits to the health of children (Ruhm, 2000; Waldfogel, 2001; and Chatterji & Markowitz, 2005) and often to other areas such as reducing the stress new parents face (Chatterji & Markowitz, 2005; Galtry & Callister, 2005). It is an open question whether the positive effects observed with lengthy international paid leave policies will extend to families in the United States covered by short-term paid leave benefits offered by their employers or available through temporary disability insurance programs. In order to address this question, this study employs the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, Birth Cohort (ECLS-B) to investigate how receipt of paid parental leave impacts child and family outcomes. The ECLS-B is a nationally representative dataset that includes 14,000 families. The survey wave of particular interest for this study was collected through interviews with families with nine-month old infants in the home. The children included in the ECLS-B were born in 2001, prior to the burgeoning state-level provisions for paid family leave (California in 2004, New Jersey in 2009, and Washington forthcoming). At this time, 2001, paid leave would either be offered by individual employers, through temporary disability insurance provided by employers, or in five states through statewide temporary disability insurance programs. This policy environment provides an opportunity to focus on how employer-provided paid parental leaves impact family outcomes including child development, maternal depression, and duration of breastfeeding. Preliminary findings suggest that there is no discernible effect of this type of paid leave on child development, additional paid leave is associated with fewer symptoms of maternal depression, and, most surprisingly, that additional paid leave is not strictly associated with additional weeks of breastfeeding. In order to validate these findings, additional selection bias correction techniques will be employed including propensity score matching.
Preserving Affordability in LIHTC Projects through Shared Equity Homeownership: Exploring the Community Land Trust Model

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According to a recent report prepared for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, more than 1 million affordable housing units financed through the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program will complete their initial 15-year compliance period by 2020 (Abt Associates Inc., et al., 2012). At year 15, the loss of affordability restrictions places these units at risk for conversion to market rate while the need to recapitalize projects forces owners to continually identify additional sources of public funds to keep the properties in good repair (Schwartz and Melendez, 2008). New, innovative solutions are needed to ensure that these units remain safe and affordable. For a growing number of community practitioners and policy makers, the conversion of LIHTC units into shared equity housing represents a potential strategy to expand housing choices for low-income households and bring shared equity housing to scale. This paper explores that potential through the community land trust (CLT) model. While CLTs have a proven track record of creating long-term affordable housing in communities across the United States, their role in preserving expiring LIHTC properties is untested. Building on research conducted by the author and a team of graduate planning students at the University of New Orleans for the Crescent City Community Land Trust, this paper examines the opportunities and challenges CLTs face in preserving expiring LIHTC properties and offers recommendations on how states can incentivize their conversion to shared equity ownership.
Globalization Reflected

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Globalization has been superficially construed by dichotomies: local/global, above/below, first world/third world. In fact globalization produces a layering effect where different levels of development intersect in the same urban sites and where the complexity of difference in urban areas challenges the exact positioning of above and below, local and global. In urban sites around the world we can find the developing in the developed world, developed in the developing world. Largely as a posthumous homage to the untimely death of Neil Smith, I would like to address notions of uneven development, and trace the antiglobalization sentiment that emerged against deregulated capital expansion, environmental degradation, corporatization and labor weakening. Influenced by the works of Lefebvre, Harvey and Smith, this presentation will address some of the urban forms globalization has taken and some of the ways in which it has been challenged. This presentation seeks to unpack the shape globalization has given to urban sites and in a way deconstruct the global city as the only model for urban development that has emerged from globalization. As a considerably recent phenomenon of capitalist expansion, the present allows us to consider now from a certain vantage point, the demise and potential breakage of globalization assemblages and effects. Moreover, globalization at this historical junction and buttressed on the cultural logic of industrialization, presupposes a reflexivity where scientific and technological advances rely on more scientific and technological advances to fix the problems the first has created. By looking into the multifaceted components of globalization, this presentation will be anchored on the notion of reflexive modernity as it applies to current globalization processes pertaining to population, labor, and urban culture. Are we entering the post-globalization era? How would that look like?
The Atlanta Way: Lessons from the Making of Atlanta for Other Cities

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A partnership between the Andrew J. Young Foundation and the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University is investigating the policy decisions that have helped to shape the modern City of Atlanta. Often described as "the Atlanta Way," the city's economic development is the product of unique leadership that has forged cooperative relationships between elected public officials, business and community leaders. Working together this partnership has made decisions affecting a variety of policy areas including transportation, education, communications, tourism, and sports. These policies have contributed significantly to the economic development of the City of Atlanta. The time period for the research covers the period from 1970 through the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games. The first date marks the beginning of new levels of participation in Atlanta's public life as the census reported that African Americans were for the first time a majority of the population in the city. Also in 1970, Andrew Young made his first run for elective office in the city, helping to pave the way for the subsequent election of the city's first African-American Mayor, Maynard Jackson. The end point, 1996, marked Atlanta's movement toward the goal of being recognized as an increasingly important international city.

The proposed paper will report on two years of research designed to document this unique "Atlanta Way" in an effort to share the results with other twenty-first century cities. The research has included extensive interviews with more than 50 individuals who were key participants in policy decisions in one or more of the areas of focus. The paper may be helpful not only to people from other cities, but also to a younger generation of leaders in Atlanta.
Rethinking the Post Industrial City: The Urban Politics of Finance

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Urban politics is traditionally thought of as a within-city politics. This paper reconsiders urban politics in a financialized neoliberal age and argues that an understanding of urban politics that only considers political dynamics within cities largely misses the fundamental transformations that are shaping cities in the current political economic context. The author argues urban politics might be better understood as the forces that have shaped urban restructuring. While acknowledging a role for within-city urban politics, it is only by understanding the broader political economic forces that shape the city that we can understand what has happened in cities and why and consider alternatives and the implications. The paper considered two empirical urban experiences – gentrification and foreclosure. Both phenomenon are often explained as the result of individual decision making and cultural preferences and the results of both processes are often confined to real estate changes at the neighborhood scale. In this paper, the author uses in-depth case studies set within broad urban contexts and finds that the individual stories of neighborhood change are tied into fundamental urban restructuring which is in turn tied into broader political economic transformations.
What Matters Most for Self-sufficiency among HOPE VI Families: Informal or Formal Community and Supportive Services?

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Beginning in 1992, HUD's HOPE VI program has revitalized distressed neighborhoods and offered improved housing and neighborhood conditions for thousands of poor families living in public housing. Yet, vexing problems associated with intergenerational poverty still exist. Families participating in the HOPE VI program have difficulty improving their socioeconomic status even though their housing and neighborhood conditions have improved dramatically. Recently, local public housing authorities have attempted to address challenges to self-sufficiency by offering relocated families intensive case management with "wrap-around" community and supportive services, including: mental and physical health, substance abuse, domestic violence, financial literacy, adult education, job training, child care, and transportation. Often, local public housing authorities partner with non-profit or faith-based service providers to offer those services, thereby enhancing the quantity and quality of formal social support available to HOPE VI families. However, the relocation of families to new neighborhoods often severs ties with members of their informal social support networks and this may negatively impact their material and emotional well-being. This paper examines formal and informal community and supportive services among public housing residents relocated in 2010 as part of a HOPE VI redevelopment project in Charlotte, North Carolina. Employing data from household surveys (baseline and follow-up), interviews with case managers and public housing authority staff, and administrative data, we examine changes in informal social support pre- and post-relocation, and the types of formal community and supportive services accessed by households to address the following questions. First, do levels of informal social support decrease due to relocation? Second, does the decrease in informal social support hinder progress towards self-sufficiency (as measured by adult education or job training enrollment or being employed)? Third, when families access more formal community and supportive services does this improve their progress towards self-sufficiency? Finally, can formal community and supportive services alone--without informal social support--improve progress towards self-sufficiency? Our sample includes 227 households that were relocated in 2010 from Boulevard Homes in Charlotte, North Carolina. We conducted baseline household surveys prior to relocation in 2010 and follow-up household surveys in 2012. We interviewed 17 case managers and service providers as well as 11 public housing authority staff members in 2011 and 2012. We obtained administrative data for each household, which includes detailed household data as well as case management data that tracks community and supportive...
services access by households. This paper provides early results from a five-year evaluation of a HOPE VI redevelopment project.
Assessment of Potential Damage in an Event of a Natural Disaster Using FEMA-HAZUS Model

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Over the last seven years the state of Mississippi has had to endure and recover from the devastating effects of several natural disasters, such as Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Ida and Isaac. These disasters have brought into perspective how significant mitigation strategies and efforts are during pre and post disaster stages. As Mississippi's emergency management community and FEMA has learned from past experiences with major disasters like hurricane Katrina, post mitigation efforts must be executed in an accurate and expeditious fashion in order to restore some sense of normalcy in the lives of the disaster victims. This includes disaster relief funding that victims will need to try to regain a stable living environment, meals and transportation. The process of dispersing these funds in such a critical time in the victim’s lives can be slowed down by the state or county's inability to quickly conduct a damage assessment of the disaster stricken areas. This paper examines the estimated potential losses that the state of Mississippi would incur from natural disasters through the use of FEMA HAZARD-US (HAZUS) modeling software. With HAZUS inbuilt inventory of the state of Mississippi, estimating potential losses in the communities would provide a possible scenario of disaster losses to help extricate communities from being victims of a continuous disaster cycle of damage and reconstruction and minimize the impact of natural disasters on people and property.
From Theory to Design: A Exploratory Study of China's Urban Village to Sustainable Community

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Sustainable development has been served as a strategic policy for years in China. However, as a developing country, poverty and living environment inequity have incubated and spawned a special living community called urban village. Urban village is usually unplanned, high density, high energy consumption and culture diversity. In another side, urban village is a place full of prosperity and opportunity. This study starts from the review of sustainability concept, concluding key considerations of a sustainable community from social, economic and environmental aspects. On this basis, a sustainable urban village prototype is concluded and presented, with preliminary research of cause of urban village, factors defining urban village, the developed tendency of these factors, social structure in typical urban village, and the conflict between urban planning and urban village. In order to prove the feasibility of the prototype, a selected urban village in Xiamen, China is analyzed, planned, and designed with energy, as well as living culture considerations. This research concludes that community design with detailed building function categorization, financial resource categorization and funding incorporation can promote the build of sustainable community in urban village without large demolition and culture neglect.
The Political Economy of Smart Growth Machines and the Great Recession: A Comparative Analysis of New Urbanism

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In recent years, high-density, mixed-use, transit-oriented development has been seen as a response to low-density, single-family home suburban development. Often called "smart growth" and "new urbanism", these approaches have become more popular amongst city planners and developers. This paper examines the different institutions and actors involved in the planning and implementation of new urbanist development. Cities in California and Oregon were chosen as cases and individual projects acted as units of analysis. This research also explores the effects of the economic crash of 2007 on this type of development, as perceived by individuals who were involved in these projects. The study finds that the development of new urbanism requires the assemblage of a "smart growth machine": institutions involved in land-use that work to create higher density, mixed-use, transit-oriented buildings and neighborhoods. Similar to the original growth machine thesis, the concept of "growth" is fundamental to this arrangement, but there is a greater emphasis on providing community vitality and environmental amenities. The market crash of 2007 caused significant difficulties for the projects examined. The ground floor retail spaces have remained vacant in most of the projects, or have struggled finding tenants who are able to afford the higher rents that these developments achieve. This research raises serious questions about the viability of new urbanist models in the current economic context.
Metropolitan Governance and Cooperation: A Survey of the Largest U.S. Metro Areas

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In this paper, we present data from a survey of key informants about the extent to which metropolitan governance or metropolitan cooperation are being achieved in the largest metropolitan areas in the US. The survey respondents are the directors (or equivalent) of the Councils of Government or Regional Planning Commissions (or equivalent) serving the metro areas in the US with populations greater than 500,000. The survey has been endorsed by the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), which will encourage participation by the prospective respondents and will improve the survey’s response rate. The questionnaire will include both closed and open ended questions and may entail follow up by phone and/or e-mail. We will distribute the survey electronically (via Survey Monkey) in September of 2012, receive results through November 2012 and compile and analyze results between December 2012 and February 2013. We provide definitions for both metro governance and metro cooperation to guide the respondents when they answer survey questions. Among other things, the survey instrument asks whether and the extent to which the respondents, based on their experience and knowledge in their metro areas, believe that metro governance and cooperation are occurring. We also inquire about: substantive areas within which metro governance or cooperation are and are not occurring; whether any formal structures of metro governance or cooperation exist in those areas; whether governance or cooperation are more likely to occur over lifestyle versus systems maintenance issues (if at all); and, finally, whether or the extent to which either governance or cooperation are sufficient to address the negative externalities often cited as occurring in metro areas as a result fragmentation and the lack of areawide controls (e.g., sprawl, fiscal and service inequities, traffic congestion, air and water pollution, etc. Based on an extensive review of the literature on metropolitan government, governance and cooperation, our hypotheses are: 1) very few respondents will report that metro governance is occurring; 2) a substantial majority will report that cooperation is occurring, that cooperation is voluntary and informal, and that cooperation is occurring mainly over systems maintenance issues; and 3) most respondents will report that cooperation is insufficient to address the negative externalities produced by fragmentation and sprawl. We will explain the empirical results of this survey through the lens of the prior literature on metro governance, and we will correlate these results against such independent variables as size (population) of metro area, extent of fragmentation (number of general purpose local governments) of metro area, and region of the country within which the metro area exists.
Not So New Directions in Urban Transportation Planning: Long Road Towards Inclusion

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Transportation planning did not emerge as its own discipline until 1950s, mostly borrowing scientific concepts to understand not only the way people move but also what motivates them to travel across space. It was not until 1970s, that urban planners and transportation planner moved in separate directions and adopted different approaches in planning methods and theory. While urban planners realize that their role in decision making process are not value-free, transportation planning continue to rely on rational processes and computer modeling to project demands for transportation facilities and services (Kane and Del Mistro 2003). The 1990s provided transportation planning with a much needed different policy direction that requires incorporation of environmental impacts, equity and social justice into transportation planning and policy decisions. Yet, urban transport decisions continue to be contested particularly on where-and-where to allocate transport benefits. While much of the on-going discussions focus on quantifying measures of transportation impacts and improving computer modeling techniques, critiques on underlying assumptions behind these techniques remain minimal. This paper reviews critiques on theoretical assumptions of urban transportation planning and how even though there is a general agreement of the validity of these critiques, there has not been significant changes to transportation planning methodologies. Particularly on the understanding of how knowledge of transport demands is constructed in transportation decision making process. Traditional transportation policy uses "predict and provide" (Owens 1995) approach to provide knowledge to decision makers on allocation of transportation benefits. Methodological individualism is applied by assuming that how, when, and where people travel-to is based on their preferences. It does not consider that in a city that does not provide public transportation, people either have to travel to jobs with private cars, walk or bike to work. Using case studies, the paper reviews in what ways under-served groups' experience-based knowledge can alter transport decisions outcomes. In the context of long term regional transportation planning, coalitions between advocacy groups with related goals can open up the planning process and produce different outcomes. Bibliography Kane, Lisa, and Romano Del Mistro. 2003. "Changes in Transport Planning Policy: Changes in Transport Planning Methodology?" 30 (2): 113-131. Owens, Susan. 1995. "From 'predict and Provide' to 'predict and Prevent?': Pricing and Planning in Transport Policy." Transport Policy 2 (1) (January): 43-49.
The Rise and Growth of Mobile Banking in Ghana: A Case Study on the Impact of MTN Ghana’s Mobile Money Cash Management Service on the Business Practices of Traders/Merchants in the City of Accra

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The convergence of mobile telephony, banking services, and information systems creates significant economic opportunities on a global scale. While the adoption of mobile banking and mobile money emerged on the global scene as a tool to promote financial inclusion, new developments in the industry have created additional possibilities for this type of technology to revolutionize the practices and experiences of business owners in the Third World. This paper calls attention to the different ways in which mobile banking services and mobile payment systems are able to create value for their consumers. An empirical case study is developed using the Accra Metropolitan Assembly (City of Accra) that details the experiences of MTN Mobile Money users.
The Interrelationship of Electoral Success with Governing Achievement in the Urban Sector

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This paper will examine the interrelationship of creating an electoral coalition and establishing a governing coalition in the urban sector. These two conceptual frameworks have confounded community activists who become disenchanted with elected officials who shift from campaign promises to governing realities. This paper will be based on my recently released book, From Blacks to Brown and Beyond: The Struggle for Progressive Politics in Oakland, Ca., 1966-2011. Other examples in other cities will also be examined.
Income Inequality and Well-being

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I study the effect of income inequality on well-being and health. The unit of analysis is county and metropolitan area. Data come from County Health Rankings and from Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. I expect income inequality to predict lower well-being and health. Income inequality is measured with gini coefficient. Well being and health are measured with multiple indicators: self-reported subjective life satisfaction, number of days per month that respondent feel unhealthy physically and mentally. I focus on the role of social capital. Income inequality is negatively related to social capital, and health is positively related to social capital. Social capital is measured as interactions with other people.
Wild Things in Urban Places: Protecting Endangered Species inside America's Cities

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How can the United States balance urbanization with biodiversity loss? Endangered species no longer live just on farms and ranches or out in the "wilderness." Instead, wild species now reside across a variety of land parcels, including small single-family parcels inside metropolitan areas. Recent data suggests that almost a quarter of all endangered species in the US can be found in urban areas - which compromise less than ten percent of the US landscape, but are where more than half of all Americans live. This paper examines recent conservation initiatives in America's largest cities: New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston and Phoenix. By comparatively analyzing various policy tools, such as tax based incentives and education awareness programs, this study concludes that creating sustainable cities requires developing better national policy networks and broader public awareness campaigns.
On Main Street: The Intersection of Public and Private Interests in Downtown Revitalization

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In the last 40 years, public-private partnerships geared towards the economic revitalization of traditional commercial districts have increased in popularity. The Main Street Program and the Business Improvement District model represent two methods to downtown redevelopment, and produce distinct tensions among public and private stakeholders.

Over 2,000 American communities have or currently participate officially in the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s Main Street Program, and thousands more unofficially employ its revitalization strategies. The model, developed in pilot communities in the late 1970s, promotes an alliance of historic preservation and economic development techniques to empower stakeholders to redevelop traditional commercial corridors. In the same decade, the first Business Improvement District (BID) appeared in America. BIDS use public financing---special taxes imposed in a finite geographic area---to operate independent agencies. To date, over 1,000 BIDS have been created to encourage economic development within a delineated neighborhood or district.

Business Improvement Districts and Main Street Programs traditionally approach public-private partnerships in markedly different ways, although there are a few cases where Main Street programs have utilized BID strategies to secure financial security. Historically, Main Street Programs have enjoyed designation as tax-exempt, 501 c(3)s entities by the Internal Review Service. This categorization that allows them to accept tax-deductible donations because their serve a broad range of issues and stakeholders. BIDSs, in contrast, are preliminarily designated as 501 c(6) entities, which are also tax exempt but cannot accept tax-deductible donations. These designations reflect board philosophical differences and intended beneficiaries between the two models.

This paper examines the distinctive philosophical approaches of the Main Street Program and Business Improvement Districts, and relates them to public-private-partnership activity trends at the local level. Using primary and secondary materials, it shall explore the philosophical underpinnings of each model though: (1) an analysis of the conditions that contributed to the development of each model; (2) the assessment of organizational approaches, such as financing and decision-making; (3) a determination of patterns pertaining to the disbursement of benefits to stakeholders; and (4) conclude with a critique of costs and benefits attributable to each model.

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Urban Voters and Municipal Pension Reform

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Across the US, the total unfunded public pension liability is nearly $3 trillion. Cities are among many subnational governments that have huge unfunded pension liability. As a result, mayors and other city officials across the county are devising methods to reform their public pension systems. This paper examines voters' views about various approaches to municipal pension reform and what factors shape those views. There is a considerable literature about public opinion on social programs such as welfare and social security. However, we know very little about how the public views public-sector pensions. We assume that local politics drive the way mayors and public officials formulate municipal pension reform. For example, cutting the benefits of current employees or requiring current employees to pay more for benefits could mobilize opposition from organized labor groups and their allies. This paper uses a new public opinion survey of a Northeastern city to explore how urban voters think about municipal pension reform. We use multiple regression analysis to test three principle theories that might explain urban voters' views about municipal pension reform: 1) feelings about personal economic situation and the economic future of the city; 2) views about governmental institutions, including public sector labor union; and 3) ethnic/racial group dynamics. The results have important implications for how cities and other local governments address what many observers consider a fiscal crisis.
Satellite Cities in Africa: A Case Study of the Tanzanian Experience

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African cities are among the fastest growing cities in the world. In response to this growth, large-scale satellite cities are developing on the peripheries of many cities. These projects demonstrate political, economic and planning coordination that is assumed to be lacking in the resource deprived cities of Sub-Saharan Africa. This paper examines the power structure that enables these projects to develop through three case studies in Tanzania. The case studies in Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Mwanza rely on information from site visits and 60 semi-structured interviews with local stakeholders. In addition, a unique set of data on construction expenditures, real estate investment, and property prices provides information about the source of project funding and the impact on local markets. The analysis reveals a set of parastatal institutions with profit driven motives interacting with local private real estate developers. The emergence of these public and private actors signals that African urban development is no longer solely a self-help process, which is disconnected from financial markets. The new power structure is supported by a set of policy changes, which focused on increasing housing supply primarily for low-income households. The results demonstrate that while some projects are targeted at low-income individuals, the new projects are largely unattainable for the low- and middle-income. The implication is that creating a market that accommodates lower income groups requires a clear program of subsidies and incentives supported by the government, rather than merely government presence through parastatals. The scale of projects and use of pension funds emulates the experiences in Asia and imply that Africa is no longer off the global investment map. Nonetheless, without increasing incentives for the development of low-income projects, Tanzania is on the path of becoming more fragile and unequal. The Tanzanian experience indicates that the growing trend of private real estate investment across Sub-Saharan Africa may require a more systematic examination of housing policy.
Assisted Housing and the Concentration of Black and White Poverty

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Scholars have documented trends in the concentration of poverty, or the degree to which poor residents are concentrated in high poverty neighborhoods, over the last 40 years, particularly for black residents, who are more likely to live in high poverty neighborhoods than whites. Black poverty concentration increased during the 1970s and 1980s, declined in the 1990s, and increased again in the 2000s, though trends vary across metropolitan areas. Past theories identify mechanisms for increasing black poverty concentration: black middle-class outmigration, black-white residential segregation, and high poverty rates of blacks’ non-black neighbors. This paper explores whether assisted housing also has an impact on black poverty concentration. Since the 1970s, assisted housing programs like housing vouchers and smaller-scale projects have been adopted, in part in response to concerns over poverty concentration. Assisted renters have been geographically deconcentrated, living in more neighborhoods and lower poverty neighborhoods. However, I find that black assisted renters remain more geographically concentrated and more likely to live in high poverty neighborhoods than whites. Beyond impacts for black assisted renters themselves, where assisted renters live also affects neighborhood poverty rates and metropolitan area poverty concentration. I estimate the degree to which the geographic deconcentration of subsidized renters since the late 1970s has reduced black poverty concentration from 1979 to 2008 in two ways. First, I assess how the movement of assisted renters into and out of neighborhoods has impacted the number of black concentrated poverty neighborhoods (using several poverty concentration thresholds). I find that (1) few concentrated poverty neighborhoods have been eliminated by the movement of assisted renters; and (2) black assisted renters move to already moderately poor neighborhoods, contributing to these neighborhoods’ increasing poverty rates. Second, I estimate how the geographic deconcentration of assisted renters has affected the concentration of poverty at the metropolitan level, measured in several ways, for both blacks and whites. While the concentration of assisted renters only marginally affects overall poverty concentration, it more substantially influences poverty concentration for black residents because blacks are over-represented in the assisted housing population and because black assisted renters live in higher poverty, more racially segregated neighborhoods than white assisted renters. Findings suggest that housing policies aimed at deconcentration must consider how existing segregation patterns and barriers in the housing market constrain blacks’ ability to move to lower poverty neighborhoods. This paper contributes to the literature on black poverty concentration by testing whether assisted housing programs can alter blacks’ residential patterns and lead to reduced poverty concentration.
Should I Stay or Should I Go? A Sociological Analysis of Strategic Default

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When the housing bubble that precipitated the Great Recession (2007-2009) burst, millions of homeowners saw their primary nest egg, housing equity, depleted. The rise in the number of "underwater" homeowners occasioned a flurry of scholarly and media attention centering on the question of whether these homeowners would (and should) default on their mortgages. The ensuing debates about the so-called "strategic defaulters" proceeded along two stylized dimensions: homeowners should walk away from their homes because doing so is in their financial interest; or, homeowners should not walk away from their homes because it would be immoral to fail to repay debts owed. These two positions roughly align with theories of efficient breach (Posner 1977; Goetz and Scott 1977) and promise-based theories (Fried 1981) in the legal literature on contractual obligations (Miller 2009). Drawing on interviews with underwater homeowners in a state with minimal legal liability for mortgage default, I argue that neither efficient breach nor promise theories can adequately account for average homeowners views of strategic default. Efficient breach does not accurately describe the position of most homeowners who simply do not view the benefits of home ownership in terms of property values alone. Further, promise theories cannot fully account for the variety of commitments that homeowners make, including, but certainly not limited to the promissory note. Instead, Americans' aversion to strategic default, despite its potentially large financial benefits, is rooted in commitments to the ideal of home ownership; a desire to live in a particular home; a concern for the potential deleterious effects of strategic default on the neighborhood; a wish to handle finances prudently and responsibly; and, a sense of obligation to other family members residing in the house.
Tax increment financing, economic development professionals, and the financialization of urban politics

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Scholars argue that the state has facilitated the expansion of the financial sector, but focus largely on how politics transforms financial markets. I explore a new political mechanism of financialization, by drawing upon an ethnographic study of economic development in two Rust Belt cities and analyzing usage of tax increment financing (TIF), a practice that allows cities to securitize projected increases in property tax receipts and create bonds similar to structured asset-backed securities (e.g. mortgage-backed securities). Cities initially used TIF as a last-resort financing strategy, but the practice has transformed urban politics by creating opportunities for economic development professionals to exercise jurisdiction over municipal budgets. Further, TIF structures other roles that development professionals play by giving them incentives to use TIF in ways that are not aligned with the city’s fiscal outlook and lock them into ever-higher rates of TIF spending. This analysis illustrates a recursive relationship between financialization and the state: public policies have transformed financial markets, but reliance on financial markets can also transform political institutions in ways that promote further financialization.
Korea's Vulnerability Index of Natural Disasters Caused by Climate Change

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It is really difficult to predict the result of natural disasters recently because of the climate change. Moreover, the current trends of natural disaster are the big damage size and diverse pattern. Natural disasters aggravate urbanization, of population and infrastructure that are concentrated in urban area, and raise huge damages to people. Due to this vicious circle between climate change and natural disasters, a strong city that can prepare for natural disasters needs to be developed. To be specific, it is important to evaluate the natural disasters vulnerability and plan for the safety of developing cities from natural disasters. While studies about climate change have been dealt with wholly at the national level, there are not detailed researches at the regional level. In other words, researches did not focus on which part of the city is influenced by climate change and how it is affected to the city. In addition to these situations, they did not focus on the evaluation method of natural disasters vulnerability by climate change. That is reason why it is difficult to evaluate vulnerability and develop a way of adaptation which considers regional condition. As a result, predictive power of influence for natural disasters vulnerability due to climate change is unstable and the way of adaptation is abstract. Finally, we have to construct a method of safety for city development from natural disasters and climate change by analysis of influence and research of adaptation planning. A primary purpose of this study is to draw indicators of natural disasters vulnerability which can evaluates how weak a city is from natural disasters due to climate change for adaptation. This vulnerability index considers regional condition since it has been in use in Korea. In this context, this paper is composed of four parts that are the introduction, study of theory including definition of concept, and development of natural disasters vulnerability. Finally, there is an evaluation on the natural disasters vulnerability of Incheon metropolitan city by the vulnerability index in this paper.
Bargaining with the Machine: A Framework for Describing Encounters with Surveillance Technologies

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This project is an effort to supply a framework for thinking about encounters with surveillance technologies. I address questions that are often associated with ideology critique (Why do subjects acquiesce in creating conditions that disadvantage them? How is consent secured over the ruled? How does evidence blindness come about?). However, I will pursue these inquiries by reliance on the concept of bargaining in place of ideology critique. "Bargaining" suggests a common and familiar mode of interaction in which social actors pursue self-beneficial ends through calculation and sometimes persuasion. By representing certain choices and experiences as forms of bargaining, we gain a stronger understanding of how subjects are situated as those experiences confront them; we see more clearly how their life-chances are affected; we gain insights in subjects' self-understanding. I use the term "technology" here to refer to means-end thinking, instrumental reason as applied to objects in the world. Meant in this sense, technology can encompass technological innovations aimed at increased control or security through monitoring (e.g., biometric identifiers and closed-circuit TV feeds). Any listing of technological phenomena plainly indicates how central those phenomena are to contemporary social life. Thus the need arises for a critical framework that avoids some of the pitfalls of earlier theorizing. Conceptualizing encounters with technology as forms of bargaining allows us to ask some of the following questions: ?P What are the cost/benefits of a particular engagement? ?P What does an individual think she is getting in the exchange? What is she, in fact, getting? ?P Does an individual's bargaining power reflect a power imbalance? ?P Who is posing the bargain (or offering a technological opportunity)? ?P What information is hidden/misrepresented in the process? "Bargaining" as a conceptual handle is likely to yield insights regarding how the subject is situated, how life-chances are affected. The inquiry I plan to pursue will be grounded in specific occurrences of technological phenomena. Surveillance technologies provide one such context. The growing body of surveillance studies literature will be a helpful source of empirical and theoretical material to study using the bargaining concept.

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This conference focuses on the impact of residential turnover in Montreal's Cité-Jardin du Tricentenaire. Until the mid-1990's, residential turnover followed a relatively "normal" process as new residents shared the Garden City values of those who welcomed them. From the mid-1990's until 2011, this pattern was disrupted as newcomers generally did not share the gemeinschaft values of the rest of the community and regularly enlarged houses, often without authorization, cut trees and other vegetation and adopted architectural and landscape styles foreign to the neighborhood. Viewed from the perspective of resilience theory, we may perceive this period as one of "disruption" provoked by a large number of real estate transactions associated with a rapid increase in housing prices, an increasingly larger footprint as house sizes increased and a decline in both social cohesion and participation. This period led to the creation of a neighborhood association designed to protect the traditional community values, in part through the development of architectural bylaws designed to protect the essential characteristics of the neighborhood. Adopted in 2011, the bylaws serve as standards which permit continued development while providing guidelines to eliminate the anarchy which characterized the disruptive period. From our observations as a participant-observer, it would appear that the community has entered a period of "recovery" wherein the newer and older residents have been working out a "modus vivendi" which appears to have gained considerable consensus. Our field research will seek to explore the extent to which the newly adopted architectural bylaws have created a new consensus. We shall examine in particular the type and degree of adherence among older and newer residents.
Socio-spatial Effects of the Changing Global Scenario in Barcelona

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Over the last decade, major changes in the world economy have shaped a new scenario for urban competition: the continuous change from an industrial to a service economy, the rise of new economic powers like China, India, Brazil and Russia and the current financial and economic crisis in European countries have, together with changing process of labor mobility and international migration changed the backdrop of urban development. Cities and urban regions are forced to cope with these global developments. Several government initiatives, the diversity of the social fabric and their dissimilar economic capabilities in combination with the existing built environment make the social and spatial outcomes of these major changes different per city. In this paper the focus is on Barcelona: To what extent has Barcelona changed with respect to social polarization and spatial segregation as a consequence of the changing world economy, new demographic developments and new policies and governance arrangements? In the last decade, Barcelona was a main destiny of foreign immigration and nowadays the city is acutely affected by the negative effects of the economic crisis. We will explore these changes and identify the key facts in Barcelona’ strategy to struggle with the possible negative effects of the new global scenario.
Gentrification and Quality of Life in Montréal

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Gentrification is seen as a major source of income-related inequity in Canadian cities. It is often suggested that because it expands the range of housing choices for affluent residents and correspondingly reduces the housing choices of poorer residents, gentrification must lead to a general decline in the living conditions of all but the wealthiest inhabitants of gentrifying neighbourhoods. An influx of wealthy new residents is expected to be particularly detrimental to renters, for whom consequences are immediate and direct, and to residents with longer residential histories in the neighbourhood, who are more acutely aware of the rapidity of neighbourhood change. The size and richness of the data generated by the zone d'études en épidémiologie social et psychiatrique du sud-ouest de Montréal (ZÉPSOM), which is directed by Dr. Jean Caron, provide us with a unique opportunity to test these hypotheses in a large portion of a major Canadian city. Using geographically weighted and conventional regression analyses and controlling for a wide variety of relevant variables, we measured the strength of gentrification as a predictor of 'quality of life', 'neighbourhood satisfaction', and 'neighbourhood social network strength' measures. We also explored variations in outcomes for residents of different income levels, housing tenure type, and length of residence. Our findings suggest that that gentrification has no significant relationship with perceived 'quality of life', but that it is negatively related both to 'neighbourhood satisfaction' and to the 'strength of local social networks'. Surprisingly, these effects appear equally strong in all portions of the study group, irrespective of income, housing tenure, or length of residence. Our paper concludes with a discussion of these findings and their implications for our understanding of gentrification, neighbourhood satisfaction and quality of life.
Whose right to (farm) the city?: Race and food justice activism in post-Katrina New Orleans

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Seven years after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans and exposed the city’s pervasive racial and class inequalities, low-income New Orleanians still struggle to obtain sufficient fresh food, and the ravages of racism are nuanced but pronounced. In New Orleans and throughout the United States, racial and economic disparities in access to nutritious food have become prominent concerns within academic and mainstream public discourse. Consequently, food activist groups and organizations in the global North are struggling to articulate a movement that encompasses their demand for a food system that is not just safe, but also socially just, anti-racist, environmentally sustainable, transparent, and democratically controlled. Among critical responses to the perceived perils of the industrial food system, the food sovereignty movement’s vision of radical transformation within the food system—which demands the democratic right of peoples “to define their own agriculture and food policies” (People’s Food Sovereignty Network 2001)—offers, at least conceptually, a visionary and holistic response to challenges related to human and environmental health, and social and economic well-being. What is still unclear, however, is the extent to which food sovereignty discourses and activism interact with and affect the material and social realities of the frequently low-income communities of color in which they are situated, and whether they help or hinder pre-existing efforts to alleviate hunger, overcome racism, and promote social justice. This research and corresponding paper addresses those questions by examining food sovereignty activism in the city of New Orleans since Hurricane Katrina as understood by both activists and community members. I argue, using post-Katrina New Orleans as a case study, that food projects initiated and maintained by white exogenous groups on behalf of communities of color risk exacerbating the very systems of privilege and inequality they seek to ameliorate. This paper argues for a re-positioning of food justice activism, which focuses on systemic change through power analyses and the strategic nurturing of interracial alliances directed by people residing in the communities in which projects are situated.
The Implications of Neighborhood Outcomes for Formerly Homeless Veterans in the HUD-VASH Program

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The delivery of effective housing services for homeless veterans with serious psychiatric conditions, addictive disorders, and/or other disabling or chronic health conditions has been a major challenge. The Housing and Urban Development-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) program combines Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) rental assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). This paper investigates the neighborhood outcomes of formerly homeless veterans who participate in the HUD-VASH program in the Buffalo-Niagara Region to ascertain whether the HUD-VASH participants reside in more stable, higher quality neighborhoods than two other groups: formerly homeless individuals who receive a housing voucher with no additional services and the general housing voucher population. We hypothesize that HUD-VASH participants will reside in higher quality neighborhoods, as measured by several neighborhood indicators, than the aforementioned groups which do not receive additional services attached to their vouchers. Administrative data from the PHA contracted to manage the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) program, the homeless voucher program, and the HUD-VASH program was used to distinguish special program participants from the general HCV holders. There were 119 HUD-VASH participants, 218 homeless voucher participants, and 3,749 general voucher holders that were not affiliated with any special program. In addition to the data regarding special program affiliation there is data on address, age, gender, race, ethnicity and other characteristics of the individual voucher holders. We merged this data with census data at the tract level to examine neighborhood characteristics which are related to neighborhood quality such as poverty, vacancy rates, housing values, tenure, educational achievement, and rates of public assistance. Logistic and OLS regression analyses were conducted to determine whether the average census tracts differed by program type and race. Finally, the data was geocoded with ArcGIS 6.0 to create maps which visually show the residential spatial patterns of the participants. The results indicate that on average, in comparison to the individuals who received vouchers from the homeless program, the HUD-VASH voucher holders were placed in areas where the poverty rates (p = .002), welfare rates (p = .002), and vacancy rates (p = .022) were all lower. In comparison to the individuals who received vouchers from the general program, the HUD-VASH individuals were placed in areas with lower welfare (p = .021) and vacancy rates (p=.023), as well as where bachelor degree completion rates were higher (p = .005).
Mobility Governance and Planning Coherence in the Montreal Metropolitan Area

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This paper deals with the conditions and methods of promoting coherence in urban mobility and transportation planning at the metropolitan scale. It aims to better understand the link between systems of governance and sustainable mobility policies. As transportation policies have to deal with sustainable development principles, many analyses evaluate the public decision-makers capacity and tools to promote better mobility practices among citizens and focus on the promotion of new efficient systems of public transportation. However, the aim of sustainable urban development is also to promote the principle of coherence between different public action fields. This paper explores the links between the mobility governance and the transportation planning decision-making process in the Montreal metropolitan area. Its central hypothesis is that governance and cooperation between local stakeholders influence the promotion of coherence in the urban public action. It aims to analyze how governance can promote some (more) coherent and efficient urban policies at this particular scale. The research is based on three specific steps. First, it analyses the forms of mobility governance in the Montreal metropolitan area in order to explain the organization of its system and to point out the precise role of local and supra local public stakeholders, the resources mobilized and the processes of cooperation in decision-making. Second, it examines the production processes and the contents of mobility planning at the metropolitan level in order to evaluate the coherence of strategies promoted by mobility governance at this scale. Finally, it evaluates several concrete projects implemented in this framework and supported by mobility governance in order to illustrate the standardization and differentiation of local public action. This last point is central because it aims (1) to evaluate the match between public action and urban issues and (2) to understand the precise role of local public stakeholders in achieving it.
The Implicit Price of Urban Public Parks and Greenways: A Spatial-Neighborhood Context Hedonic Approach

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This paper examines the value residents place on public parks in a mid-sized urban area. The analysis makes a direct contribution to the literature by examining the extent to which spatial and neighborhood context is related to the house price premium or discount associated with public recreational opportunities, natural resource areas, and urban greenways. Specifically, this study uses spatial, contextual hedonic modeling (Can, 1990) to examine the interactive relationship of parks on house price within the context of neighborhood condition. The analysis indicates that the value of public parks and greenways varies across space, neighborhood context, and park type. This analysis finds that park density near different park types and greenways may be a function of spatial location and neighborhood context. These findings indicate that park and greenway investment may not be planned in a vacuum in urban areas. Housing prices are a function of neighborhood context that may be interactively determined by neighborhoods in which the parks are located. Park planners can use these findings to inform public and policy debates over park investment by park type and, perhaps, make the argument for comprehensive neighborhood planning, which encourages neighborhood investment combined with public park investment.
Growing a sustainable city? Urban agriculture in Philadelphia

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Urban agriculture lives large in the Philadelphia urban imaginary and plays an increasingly prominent role in sustainability discourses in Philadelphia. Often characterized by advocates as an urban panacea, gardening and farming seem to promise solutions to many different urban problems, such as blighted vacant lots, food insecurity, stormwater runoff, and neighborhood decline. A single garden or urban farm promises to address these multiple concerns by promoting social entrepreneurship, urban beautification, urban greening, youth engagement, and local economic development opportunities. Although these objectives are related under the broader mission of “sustainability,” tensions among stakeholders over competing objectives have started to emerge in Philadelphia. Questions of land tenure, the use of economic resources, and the long-term viability of urban agriculture shape the political discourse about the future of growing in the city and its role in promoting urban sustainability. This paper examines the politics of scale in urban agriculture in Philadelphia and questions the role of sustainability initiatives in this post-industrial city’s quest to reinvent itself as an economically competitive city. Urban agriculture has become a symbol of Philadelphia’s economic revitalization, sustainability, and increasingly, its gentrification. Through interviews with urban farmers, gardeners, and city officials, this research examines urban agriculture’s role in an emerging “green growth” model of urban development—the notion that cities can capitalize on their natural assets and create green economic opportunities for their residents. This study uncovers local land use politics to bring into sharp focus the promises, challenges, and realities of gardening in a rapidly changing urban landscape.
Service Use Among Homeless Women in Orange County

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Changes to the welfare system in the late 1990's and the current foreclosure and economic crisis, among other factors, have led to a significant increase of homeless women and families throughout the nation (The Conference Mayors, 2008; Rowe & Wolch, 1990). While homeless women experience more negative health consequences than housed women, unsheltered homeless women report poorer physical and mental health, increased drug use, higher rates of sexually transmitted diseases, and victimization, and less access to social services (Nyang, Leake, & Gelberg, 2000). Shelters and other social programs help individuals exit homelessness. These organizations also provide the voiceless with a voice and, through interaction with these individuals, add practical knowledge to the field, affecting policy and the allocation of funds. The Salvation Army's Hospitality House is one of the only permanent emergency shelters in Orange County, California and provides 16 beds for homeless women. Even though over 900 women were considered homeless in Orange County (Applied Survey Research, 2009), these beds were not often filled to capacity. The purpose of this research project is to understand homeless women's experiences with social service use to determine why homeless women in Orange County are underutilizing emergency shelter services. Through semi-structured interviews with homeless women using emergency shelter and on the street, informal conversations with the homeless and service providers, and observations, I will use a mixed-methods approach to investigate barriers to shelter use, the decision making process in selecting services, the nature of support networks and the services used most consistently. This approach was chosen to facilitate a productive dialogue that encourage participants to be active agents in the research process and final product--the services intended for them. Engaging participants as active agents is in keeping with planning theories that promote empowerment and the usefulness of collective action in solving community problems (Beard, 2003; Friedmann, 1987). Prompted by the "Fair Share Zoning Bill" requiring cities in California to allocate zones for emergency shelter (Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, 2007), the Salvation Army, Orange County has gained approval to construct a larger emergency shelter that addresses the current needs of the homeless. The results from this study will inform the construction and implementation of this new shelter, directly affecting the local homeless community. This study also hopes to empower homeless women as key stakeholders by incorporating their voices, concerns, and experiences. More generally, this endeavor will provide a greater understanding of how women experience service use and can inform better service delivery.
Reconsidering the Effects of Residential Mobility

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Residential mobility is a relatively common experience for Americans: from 2010 to 2011, 12 percent of the population moved from one home to another. Scholars have long sought to determine how residential mobility might affect the development and well-being of children and adolescents, investigating outcomes such as educational attainment, delinquency, substance abuse, and physical health. This paper considers the impact of moving homes on adolescents' mental health. Does residential mobility have an effect on adolescent mental health? And if so, do adolescents who move homes experience better or worse mental health as a result? Psychological research suggests the importance of childhood and adolescent experiences as contributors to current and future mental health. Various childhood hardships, including residential mobility, are associated with increased risk of depression independent of other demographic factors. Existing research finds both positive and negative effects of residential mobility on adolescent mental health. This paper adds to these findings by examining the impact of residential mobility on adolescent depressive symptoms using the nationally representative National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Health (Add Health). The analyses included in this paper assess the heterogeneous effects of residential mobility on depression for different subgroups of the population and consider the contributions of other markers of underlying instability (e.g., parental relationship dissolution, household transitions) to both mobility and mental health outcomes. The implications of residential mobility matter in the United States, a country with a mobile population. The findings in this paper complicate the interpretation of previous research by suggesting that residential mobility may not in itself have negative effects on adolescent mental health. What these findings suggest for policymakers is that the adolescents and households that are most likely to be residentially mobile may in fact be exposed to multiple sources of instability, and policies that are designed to address one source of instability, such as a disadvantaged neighborhood, may not necessarily overcome the impact of other instabilities on the well-being of children, adolescents and adults.
Hasidic Jews in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and Gentrification: New Frontiers?

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Studying the Hasidic Jewish community in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, raises new perspectives on the study of urban frontiers and how this lead to a resistance in the context of gentrification. This old industrial neighborhood has been strongly affected by gentrification. As a result, rent prices have gone up and the community has seen a significant change. The local, sixty thousand member Hasidic group lives in the South of Williamsburg. Their strict religious upbringing only allows them to take unskilled jobs and their high birth rate (7 children per family) and wedding numbers (1,500 per year) create a recurrent need for new housing. Therefore, the community appears to offer a better resistance to the recent migrations. Until the 80’s, frontiers in the south of Williamsburg have been drawn to the political housing debate between the Hasidic community and the Latinos. In the 90’s, the Giuliani’s administration started to rezone industrials lots located on the limit between those two communities. The Hasidic leadership accepted the proposals, and later, would be helped in their own rezoning in the South of their area to develop new housing. This is contrary to the Latino community, which became divided and opposed by the project. In the 00’s, gentrification and displacement started to have a bigger impact. In 2005, the Williamsburg-Greenpoint Rezoning became one of the biggest achievements of the Bloomberg administration by creating new opportunities for private developers and housing for the middle-class; the frontiers of the past have evolved. The Hasidic community’s concept of territories and frontiers are complex. They own most of the housing in the territory of South Williamsburg. The symbolic value of this area is very strong because the community needs to live close to their Rabbi and, as a result, have tried to recreate the East Europe Shtetl. But Hasidic entrepreneurs are also the owners of many industrials lots on both sides of the frontier. Some of these parcels have been included in the different rezoning and, since 2005, almost 50% of the new residential projects in Williamsburg are developed by Hasidic Jews who make profit with the gentrifiers. The Latino community has occupied rehabilitated and rent housing in the South Side, north of the Hasidic area on the other side of Broadway Avenue.

Linguistic, cultural and political boundaries were also strong but have changed drastically with the newcomers and new housing projects developed for them in this area. This geopolitical study pinpoints the efficiency of the Hasidic community’s mobilization that has limited the effects of gentrification on its northern frontier, and has used the gentrification’s economical benefits and political stakes to develop new housing to the South. This statement of fact could mean that the capacity to resist gentrification depends strongly upon the economic ties a community has to its territory and the unity and imagination of its leadership.
Sydney’s Dysfunctional Housing Market - Considerable Demand, High Prices, Little Supply and Spatial Changes in the House Cost Function

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Sydney presents an unusual housing market in that there is very considerable demand, by international standard prices remain very high, but developers have been unable to deliver an adequate supply of new product. There are many possible reasons for this situation. Many have claimed that urban planning is a leading cause of the supply shortage. However, while planning may have a role, it is clear that it is not financially viable to produce new housing in some important Sydney sub-markets. The reasons for this are complex but in part are related to changing demand preferences. The dramatically changing slope of the bid rent (and housing cost) curves in the last half of the 2000 decade suggests that the returns to employment accessibility have increased fast over a short period of time. While the planning system may not be directly implicated in the current supply problem, its focus on encouraging new "affordable" housing development on the urban fringe appears to run directly counter to the choices being made at the lower end of the housing market.
Investors, Foreclosures, and Crime in the Phoenix Suburbs

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The recent housing boom and bust was driven not only by families wanting to purchase or upgrade a home but also by investors—individuals, family trusts, corporations, and other entities who purchased properties with the intention of turning them into rentals, quickly flipping them for profit, or holding onto them for future sale. Existing research primarily has focused on spatial variation in speculative purchasing, showing evidence of higher rates of non-owner occupied foreclosure in more heavily African American, higher poverty and inner city communities and greater subsequent speculation in foreclosures occurring in lower value, distressed communities. A growing body of research examines the relationship between foreclosure concentration and crime, with a few studies teasing out causal effects. A key, yet relatively unexamined, issue is how investment activity in the foreclosure crisis has affected neighborhood crime. Speculators may be contributing to crime by both undergoing foreclosure and purchasing foreclosures. By living offsite, investors may experience less social pressure from neighbors to maintain their properties; further, by holding onto them when they are at risk of foreclosure, they are more likely to disinvest in the maintenance of the property than owner-occupiers. In turn, investors purchasing foreclosures may be minimally maintaining them, with the intention of flipping them when the housing market recovers or becoming absentee slumlords. Both are decisions that could contribute to neighborhood disorder, weaken neighborhood social ties, and remove “eyes from the street,” all which exacerbate crime. At the same time, investors purchasing foreclosures may be reducing the concentration of vacancies, especially in slow-to-recover Sunbelt regions. Additionally, investors may be contributing to neighborhood stabilization by rehabilitating properties and selling them to owner-occupiers or renting them, sometimes to the family that foreclosed. Combining local police department data on calls for service and crime incidents with foreclosure, sales, and American Community Survey data, this research will contribute to the literature on the outcomes of the current foreclosure crisis by using econometric modeling to assess whether the foreclosure of investor-owned homes and the speculative purchasing of foreclosures have affected crime in block groups in the Phoenix suburbs, an understudied place in one of the most heavily affected regions nationwide. We expect to find that the number of previously investor-owned and investor purchased foreclosures will be associated with an increase in crime, while the number of foreclosures previously owner-occupied and purchased by owner-occupiers will have no effect and a negative effect on crime respectively, controlling for other relevant neighborhood characteristics.
Community Demand for Public Benefit Zoning in San Francisco: The Case of the Eastern Neighborhood Plan

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Interest in land value recapture in the US is growing. This interest stems from several factors, most importantly, the severe fiscal crisis of government at all levels. One of the cities that has pioneered local implementation of land value recapture is San Francisco. San Francisco’s recent area plans include mechanisms in which plan and zoning changes that increase land values have been coupled with requirements and fees that “recapture” some of the granted value. The most prominent of San Francisco’s new area plans is the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan, approved in 2008. The plan was based on an extensive and lengthy public participation process, from which the plan’s concepts for public benefit zoning were generated. A primary goal of the plan was to transform underutilized industrial areas into “complete communities”, including public facilities such as sidewalks, mass transit, open space, libraries and recreational facilities necessary to accommodate the growth. The plan’s rezoning established a number of regulatory and zoning changes which translated into increased development potential and land value, from process improvements to increases in residential density and/or height. To best recapture that value and fund the desired community amenities, the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan included a tiered fee structure. A first tier includes a baseline of contribution that all development is obliged to provide. A second and third tier is triggered in areas where the plan granted additional heights to properties. Through a detailed financial analysis, the impact fees were tailored to correspond to the benefits received on the basis of economic analyses of increased land values, but not to be so high as to make new development unfeasible. They range from $8 to $16 per square foot for residential use, and $6 to $14 per square foot for non-residential use. In addition, inclusionary housing requirements were also tailored to correspond to benefit in cases where properties were rezoned from industrial to other, more valuable land uses. The paper will examine the origins of land value recapture in San Francisco, the public input that led to the Easter Neighborhood Plan, the resulting fee and housing requirement system, and the impact that has had on subsequent land use planning in San Francisco. It will also review how the City is addressing the concept of public benefit zoning given the real estate decline of the past few years.
Internet Banging: Trends in Social Media and Gang Violence, Masculinity and Hip Hop

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Gang members carry guns and twitter accounts. Recently media outlets across the country have reported on this new phenomenon of individuals associated with gangs or neighborhood factions using social media sites such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube to insight dares, trade insults or make violent threats. These threats, at times, result in homicide or victimization. We term this interaction Internet-Banging. Police departments in metropolitan areas have increased the number of officers in their gang violence units and presence within online environments in order to combat this growing issue. Interestingly, there is little to no empirical or conceptual research on this problem. This article argues that Internet Banging is a cultural phenomenon that has evolved from increased access to and participation with social media across demographic groups. In particular, we examine Internet Banging within the context of gang violence, paying close attention to mechanisms and process that may explain how and why internet banging has evolved. In addition, we also look at the role of hip hop as a conduit by which Internet Banging occurs and to what extent the presentation of masculinity influences and is affected by social media behavior. In addition to a review of pertinent literature, we will conduct a textual analysis of Twitter messages, YouTube videos and rap lyrics in order to explore and identify how violence messages are communicated. Important questions are: (1) what changes in our culture have led to this trend in social media; (2) who is affected and why? (3) How social constructions such as hip-hop and masculinity interact with social media and; (4) what are the implications for monitoring behavior on social media?
Green Redevelopment and the Urban Frontier in Braddock, Pennsylvania: Is 'Homesteading' Another Word for Gentrification?

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In 2010, Levi Strauss and Company entered into a partnership with the Borough of Braddock, a declining part of the Pittsburgh conurbation in southwest Pennsylvania. The company invested roughly one million dollars in community development in exchange for media access and permission to use its struggles as part of a substantial new advertising campaign. Braddock's recovery strategy (as articulated both by Levi's branding and their iconoclastic young mayor) is to cultivate a new urban frontier in the midst of their own poverty: a wave of young frontiersmen and -women must then inhabit this frontier using green redevelopment strategies, reclaiming urban spaces left to decay for decades. However, the interior frontier of Braddock is home to a shrinking but still present population of post-steel economic refugees whose economic and social mobility is quite limited. Using analysis of media portrayals, planning documents, spatial demography, and neighborhood observations, this paper explores the similarities and potential differences between the now-canonical treatment of gentrification as displacement and more recent vocabularies of green redevelopment, homesteading, and urban agriculture. While there are key points of difference between gentrification discourses and more recent homesteading discourses, the experience of existing urban residents in these new urban frontiers may not be so different than those in the Lower East Side of Manhattan in the 1970s. If green redevelopment led by idealistic young reformers is to mean something different today than the efforts of bohemians, artists and hippies in post-urban-renewal New York, we must be able to articulate a distinction between earlier American urban frontiers and these contemporary efforts to reconfigure the urban landscape.
Reconfiguring State-Civil Society Relationships in a London Neighbourhood: Big State to Big Society?

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The neighbourhood has long been a scale for intervention and action, giving rise to a variety of forms of collaborative governance. In England, the national paradigm has shifted from 'big state' solutions towards the ill-defined 'big society' approach and the reinvention of 'localism'. The transition relies on assumptions about the positive relationship between the implied devolution of localism and the increased ability of communities of place to engage in self-help behaviours. Questions arise about the changing configuration of state-civil society relationships, such as the extent to which state withdrawal is occurring and how it is manifested, and whether civil society is able to step into the breach as posited in the 'crowding out' thesis. The paper considers these questions via an in-depth case study of one deprived neighbourhood in London, drawing on the researcher's intermittent interactions with 'insiders' at both the neighbourhood and city government levels engaged in the various initiatives to which the neighbourhood has been subject over the past seven years. The neighbourhood's heritage of different forms of neighbourhood-targeted initiative and associated forms of governance means that it provides an insightful example of how changes in the form taken by neighbourhood governance reflect changes in the context in which efforts to improve the area and its residents' well-being have been undertaken. It thus provides insights into the changing nature of state-civil society relationships in England. In particular, it is valuable as an example of a community which has latterly decided to pursue neighbourhood government - in the form of a community council able to raise taxes - rather than governance.
Incremental Renewal through Knockdown Rebuild (KDR): Change or Continuity in the Australian Suburban Landscape?

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The suburban landscape of Australia's cities is currently undergoing substantive change. Recent metropolitan strategies focus their gaze on 'centres' - those locations proximate to nodes of public transit identified as sites of urban consolidation to be facilitated by urban redevelopment at higher residential densities. However, a significant share of the contemporary reworking of urban form is taking place outside these earmarked geographies, and therefore the immediate ambit of those plans. A key element of this incremental change - Knockdown Rebuild (KDR) - provides the focus of this paper. KDR is the Australian term for the demolition and rebuilding of residential property on a one-for-one basis; a process which is gradually transforming many neighbourhoods across the country. Unlike the US, where its counterpart (in physical terms at least) 'teardown' activity has often been driven by developer interest exploiting the 'rent-gap' in recovering neighbourhoods, Australia's KDR phenomenon is predominantly an owner-led process, evident across the spectrum of localities, both in terms of spatial extent and housing market profiles. Rather than simple alignment with discourses of gentrification and displacement, KDR arguably reflects more nuanced household consumption and investment decisions associated with in-situ reinvestment and neighbourhood ties. Our paper draws upon a recently completed research study undertaken by the authors which considers KDR activity in Sydney, Australia's largest city. This involved a survey with over 1100 households who undertook KDR in the five years to 2008, follow-up interviews, and discussions with local planners and developers. Our findings highlight both the drivers and outcomes of fragmented reinvestment and renewal. They point to patterns of urban change which reflect a response to shifting spatial considerations in the post-industrial city, yet which are equally underpinned by the historical, fragmented nature of small-scale development which has defined much of Australia's suburban character. This incremental, but nevertheless cumulatively substantive, trend raises a number of questions at both the strategic and statutory planning level. We discuss these in our conclusions, and raise a series of conceptual issues regarding the role of metropolitan planning frameworks in light of this individual, market-led, uncoordinated activity. Key words Knockdown Rebuild (KDR), teardown, suburban reinvestment, incremental renewal
Rural Renewal and Urban Upgrades in the Face of Economic Transformation in the Pearl River Delta, China

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This paper analyzes how the renewal of old factory floors in the rural Pearl River Delta region has been launched as a means to promote urban and industrial upgrading in the face of economic retreat in southern China. The closure of thousands of factories since the global financial crisis in 2008 has challenged the sustainability of the region’s development model. The decentralized development of towns and villages, although nurturing the rapid rural industrialization in the PRD since the 1970s, also has created serious land and environmental problems. Moreover, dispersed, low-density patterns of land use are associated with labor-intensive, exported-oriented, low value-added industries that have been hit hard by the global recession. Adopting the slogan "clear out the cage, change the birds," the Guangdong Provincial government has been aggressive in forging a "spatial fix" to upgrade the organization of production, centering on the renewal of the "three olds": old towns, old factories, and old villages. This wave of redevelopment policies is distinct from urban renewal in its focus on rural land that was formerly controlled and developed by rural collectives in a semi-urban context, often without formal titles and development permits. These autonomous collectives have typically had more bargaining power than peasants in cases of land requisitions, and the economic clout to force the government to adopt various market mechanisms to stimulate redevelopment projects. But because of the new emphasis on the reappropriation and redevelopment of urbanized "rural" land, "rural renewal" also entails the recentralization of economic and political power, away from village collectives and towns to the level of municipal and provincial governments. This recentralization will necessarily trigger a redistribution of interests among different local players. Who is to be included in this new growth coalition? Who excluded? Drawing on examples from Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Nanhai and Dongguan, this paper presents how conflict and negotiation among different stakeholders have reshaped local governance structures and land politics as a byproduct of urban and industrial restructuring.
The Impact of Growing Economic and Social Disparities in America's Cities on Declining Citizen Optimism and Trust in Government

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While it may be argued that all communities have varying levels of economic and social opportunities, inequality and a lack of inclusiveness in cities is amplified by stark contrasts of wealth and prosperity in close proximity, often in adjoining neighborhoods. Urbanization has occurred very rapidly for most developing nations and a modern, but a near majority of America's citizens are finding themselves without strong family bonds pervasive in small and rural communities and without economic opportunities in urban communities. Record numbers of Americans are now characterized as poor. The Census Bureau has recently reported that 15% of Americans, 46.2 million people, live below the poverty line. Descending from the relative prosperity of industrial jobs in the middle and lower middle classes paying relatively high salaries to lower paying jobs, or two lower paying jobs, represent almost 50 percent of the workforce, and they perform the menial jobs of food service and janitorial work. But the disparity between the educated and relatively prosperous creative class and the growing service class goes beyond income and education. It includes a number of social and health indicators that are significant. By example, the life expectancy of white women in America without a high school diploma is 73.5 years compared with 83.9 years for a white women who has a college degree, placing America dead last among developed nations, dropping to 41st from 14th as recently as 1985. The loss of industrial jobs, down from 50 percent in the 1950's to 20 percent today, has seen the loss of health coverage, and a loss of support systems and changes in social choices that have created disadvantages that are worthy of considerable attention and study. This paper will address the rapid urbanization accelerated by globalization in developing nations, and the growing percentage of America's urban population that have found themselves in a state of poverty with the loss of major manufacturing industries that had been for decades the basis for hope and prosperity for a now declining middle class. This paper will also address a growing sense of separateness of the lower class from the growing creative class. The hypothesis is that a growing loss of confidence in America's institutions exists, as well as an increasing loss of trust in American government and its capacity for the necessary solutions to growing economic and social disparities.
A Critical Review of Recent Developments in Professional Sports Facility Financing

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Despite having an estimated aggregate team value of $65.4 billion in 2010, franchise owners in the four major sports leagues continue to demand and receive large public subsidies for renovating or constructing new stadiums and arenas. Since 2008, nine of the twelve facilities that have been built or are in the process of being constructed have received over $3.3 billion in direct subsidies. The standard model for publicly financing construction is to increase local taxes, earmark facility-generated revenue for debt service, or some combination of the two. In 2012, however, the cities of Sacramento and Seattle entertained creative subsidy proposals that deviated from the standard model. Sacramento proposed raising its contribution through parking monetization and Seattle proposed a lease-purchase agreement to construct the facility. This paper argues that the new strategies are more politically feasible than the standard model, which implies a higher probability of subsidy approval, yet the economic and financial outcomes are, at best, the same or, at worst, much more costly. Thus, because of their apparent political attractiveness, parking monetization and lease-purchase agreements have the potential to revolutionize public financing of sports facilities and, unless the agreements are structured carefully, not in any good way.
Female Ex-Offenders and Their Unique Challenges in the Search for Community and Housing in Jackson, Mississippi

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The majority of female ex-offenders often come from marginalized backgrounds. They are poor, under-educated, unemployed, unskilled and disproportionately African American or Hispanic. Consequently, the depth and breadth of needs for women who are reentering the community after a period of incarceration are significant and largely unmet. The issue of housing for the population of female ex-offenders that are released from prison daily is an initial concern for all communities. This research will analyze female prison releases and their unique challenges in their search concerning community and housing in Jackson, Mississippi. Mississippi has been repeatedly rated the "worst state for women" by the Institute for Women's Policy Research. Recently released former prisoners in their critical first days upon their release are especially vulnerable to substance abuse relapse, homelessness and recidivism. Properly administered, appropriate services, can make a huge difference in female ex-offenders chances of making a successful transition from incarceration and returning into society. There is scarcity on the issue on housing for social reintegration for female ex-offenders. A lot of the transitional residences once formed by the correctional system have been cut or minimized during the last two decades. Yet, there is hope there are some transitional post-release housing that exist and are positioned to readily assist the ex-offender upon their release from prison. Many of these homes are located in areas where the women once patronized for drugs or participated in prostitution. Women that have been recently released in the past couple of years will answer questionnaires and complete surveys to assist in the research of the unique challenges female ex-offenders combat in their search for community and housing. Some of the case selections of former participants in prior research, regarding female ex-offenders and their experiences, will be the initial point of investigating their experiences in finding housing and presenting the challenges they faced. The data collected and analyze will indicate the many diverse needs female ex-offenders encompass.
Coordinated Implementation of Projects within Comprehensive Community Initiatives

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Comprehensive community initiatives (CCIs) have often encouraged relationship-building among local organizations, residents and outside stakeholders as an explicit goal. While these relationships are seen to promote various outcomes, including community problem-solving (Briggs 2008) and the ability to leverage additional resources (Mooney 2010), one important claim is that better coordination among local groups may improve service delivery or project implementation – and help advance the goals of comprehensive community initiatives. This “value-added” CCIs create over programs run separately and independently of each other is thought to occur as relationships may allow for better-targeted, more strategic, or more mobilized interventions (Kubisch et al. 2011). At the same time, the literature on organizational embeddedness (Uzzi 1997) and network structure (Provan et al. 2005) cautions that too many ties can sometimes hamper effectiveness, as they may divert attention from implementation to relationship management. The literature on institutionalization further cautions that systems-building (such as may occur through CCIs) can also sometimes lead to uniformity of practice and stymie the innovation that these relationships were meant to promote. (Powell and DiMaggio 1991). This paper examines organizational relationships in order to understand the ways in which relationships formed through CCIs may add value to implementation of discrete community improvement projects. Data draw from MDRC’s evaluation of Chicago’s New Communities Program (NCP) -- perhaps the largest single-city CCI in the country -- operated by LISC/Chicago and funded through the MacArthur Foundation. NCP, a 10 year, $50 million CCI operating in over 16 neighborhood areas throughout Chicago, has been described as a CCI that has successfully made the transition between planning and implementation, thereby allowing for greater attention to the phenomena of project coordination (Greenberg et al. 2010). The paper draws on over 250 interviews conducted from the period between 2006 and 2012. Taking advantage of these extensive, longitudinal data, the paper will examine the trajectory of interorganizational relationships over time, and the value that they added to project implementation. Comparative case studies within four neighborhoods selected for in-depth study will also illustrate the variety of approaches to project coordination that were adopted by community organizations, the different types of relationships and collaborations that formed, and the factors that seemed to lead to more successful partnerships around educational initiatives, foreclosure prevention programs, and economic development projects. As interest and investment by the Federal government and private foundations in CCIs grows, it is important to understand the factors that realize the promise of targeted,
mobilized, and coordinated implementation of community projects, as occurs in practice and in different contexts.
The Role of Asset Mapping in University-Community Partnerships

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University-community partnerships in distressed, low-income communities frequently encounter barriers to meaningful engagement. As more universities seek roles as trusted civic partners, it is important to consider the complexity of building trust and sustainable collaboration. University-community partnerships are gaining in prominence as academics in the social and physical sciences have increasingly acknowledged the value of engaged, collaborative, action-oriented research (Schensul, 2010). As such, university-community partnerships have increased over the past 25 years and now number over 650 (Campus Compact, 2000; Savan, 2004). Many of these partnerships are innovative and thriving (Martin, Smith, & Phillips, 2005). Tremendous variation exists among these efforts, and Barker’s (2004) taxonomy of engaged scholarship outlines the levels of engagement that can possibly occur. Of the five types identified, two offer the greatest potential for meaningful change: transformative engagement and action research. These two require a significant rethinking of the relationships between universities and communities and given the uneven histories between low-income communities and major research universities, achieving these levels of collaboration is challenging. This paper considers strategies for leveraging university resources to best serve the needs of partner communities and argues that asset mapping is one potentially effective tool to achieve this objective.

This paper presents a case study of a recent effort between the Center for Community Well-Being (CCW) at UC San Diego and stakeholders in a low-income, multi-ethnic San Diego neighborhood with a history of marginalization and inadequate resource allocation. CCW, designed to foster sustainable multidisciplinary university-community partnerships in underserved San Diego communities, spearheaded an asset mapping project as a vehicle for building trust between itself and the community. A team of undergraduate students was enlisted to undertake the project under the supervision of faculty. The project was successful on many levels and highlights several significant outcomes including: 1) the collaborative collection of information with direct, tangible benefits for community stakeholders; 2) the productive leveraging of university expertise such as GIS skills and data analysis to serve the needs of the neighborhood; and 3) the creation of an invaluable service-learning, action-oriented research project for students thereby enhancing pedagogical experiences for the campus community. This paper analyzes the efficacy of asset mapping from multiple perspectives including university-based researchers and students and community partners (individuals and organizations). Stakeholder interviews and participant observation and engagement serve as the core data. The findings demonstrate that asset mapping has the potential to build trusting relationships in university-community partnerships.
City and Resiliency: Challenges and Opportunities in Post Conflict Reconstruction of Belfast, N. Ireland

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Since 1997 Belfast has entered a prolonged post conflict period of reconstruction. The city rebuilt its physical infrastructure, worked on healing a divided population and developed a governing structure for a more integrated and equitable development process. However, successes from the first decade of peaceful coexistence are now threatened by worsening economic conditions and an increase in sectarian violence. This paper explores economic, political and social challenges faced by the city and identifies resources that may be used to effectively respond to them.
Education as a Privilege? A Small Scale Analysis of Social Exclusion, Spatial Inequalities and Their Political Implications in Dortmund/Germany

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As a result of de-industrialisation, low-skilled jobs which provided an entry for migrant workers into the German labour market have gradually been declining in numbers since the 1970s. Post-industrial service jobs, by contrast, demand higher qualification levels which consecutively limit the access to employment for a number of low-qualified migrant workers. The accessibility to high quality education thus is essential for the integration into the labour market and therefore a prerequisite for upward social mobility and for societal inclusion. However, the ability of educational systems to provide children with a low social status and children with a migration background with sufficient resources for upward social mobility differs significantly. For Germany, the international education study PISA evidenced an educational inequality above average. The reasons for these educational inequalities in Germany are diverse and can be found on different levels. Our paper focuses on factors influencing educational success on the micro level of society. While individual aspects such as the socio-economic and educational family background or ethnic-cultural factors are according to literature considered as dominant explaining factors for educational success or failure in the German school system, the influence of the different school locations in terms of economic, social and cultural conditions differs according to the school form. Due to the ongoing and intensified social fragmentation of cities and the forming of "disadvantaged" and "advantaged" school locations, the significance of the social composition of schools is believed to rise. The aim of the paper is to analyse spatial educational inequalities as well as their political implications within the city of Dortmund. Dortmund is part of the Ruhr Area, a region highly affected by industrial structural change and with a high degree of (mainly Turkish) migrant population. Socio spatial information will be combined with educational statistical data in order to reveal spatial educational inequalities. Data at pre-school age, the transition rate from primary to secondary schools as well as the degree of education are analysed for different population groups and neighbourhoods. Underlying processes and trends, major driving forces as well as political reactions will be identified.

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Since 1967, California's Housing Element law has required that municipalities complete this document in order to accommodate current and future housing needs. The state evaluates the law by annually enumerating the number of compliant housing elements. In 2003 and 2005, Lewis found that municipal compliance had no statistical relationship to housing production. Furthermore, no agency or researcher can state how the law has affected municipal low-income housing inventory; my research, employing content analysis on municipal data, responds to this need. I evaluate the law by analyzing the housing elements of 21 Northern California and 31 Southern California municipalities to determine if there were any increases in the municipal inventory of low-income housing between the years of 1990 and 2005. I expect that low-income housing production will be substantially lower than its allocation and that market-rate housing production will exceed its allocation. If confirmed, then I suggest that municipalities use contingency to protect exclusion. I also suggest that if the low-income housing inventory does not increase in proportion to total housing inventory, then the housing opportunities for low-income households will be constrained or eliminated. And lastly, until policymakers understand the law's effects on low-income housing, then future law revisions may have adverse effects on low-income households.
Suburbanising Disadvantage in Australian Cities: Socio-Spatial Change in an Era of Neo-Liberalism

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This paper analyses the shifting locations of social disadvantage in Australian cities based on data from the 1986 and 2006 Censuses. This twenty year period is highly significant for it represents the period over which the impacts of neo-liberal economic policies introduced by the Federal Labor government in 1986, and maintained by successive Australian governments, have fed through the Australian economy with a resulting increase in socio-economic restructuring, including increased income polarisation. This in turn has been reflected in a highly distinctive locational shift in concentrations of disadvantage in Australian cities as housing markets, largely left to their own devices (albeit supported by favourable taxation and subsidy arrangements), have acted to realign the social structure of the city. The net result has been a marked suburbanisation of the locations of disadvantage away from the 'traditional' inner cities and into the middle and in some cases outer suburbs. In many respects, the locations identified are analogous to the First Suburbs of US cities that are now the focus of urban policy concerns. The paper explores the impact of the 'neo-liberal turn' on the changing spatial structure of the Australian city and provides evidence of the changing nature of urban disadvantage in the post-industrial and increasingly fragmenting Australian city. In doing so, the paper touches on the emergence of new geographies of under privilege.
Do Residents of "Notified" Slums Invest More in Housing Stock?: Evidence from National Surveys in India

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Since Hernando de Soto's "The Mystery of Capital," distributing property rights has emerged as an important planning tool for improving the physical environment. However, a survey of land titling programs by Payne et al (2009) suggests that they have generally failed in achieving the benefits claimed by the proponents. Critics of land titling have also raised serious methodological concerns - such as selection bias - in impact evaluation for tenure formalization programs. (Durrand-Lasserve & Selod, 2007, pp. 19-27) My research examines the potential impacts of government recognition for slums that falls short of land titling. "Notification" is a popular strategy in Indian cities, wherein notified slums receive limited government recognition and some public services. Typically, a Slum Clearance Board is in charge of notifying slums, but notification with the eventual goal of clearance has the paradoxical effect of increasing tenure security. Using two datasets from the National Sample Survey (NSS) in 2008/09 - one at the aggregate level of slums and the other at the level of individual households - I examine the relationship between slum notification and new private investment in housing stock, including investment in sanitation facilities. Quasi-experimental techniques such as propensity-score matching are used to account for selection bias. This is important because notified slums tend to have superior indicators compared to non-notified slums. I then evaluate the possibility of making causal arguments based on the available evidence. References 1. de Soto, H. (2000). The Mystery of Capital: Why Capitalism Triumphs in the West and Fails Everywhere Else. Basic Books. 2. Durrand-Lasserve, A., & Selod, H. (2007). The Formalisation of Urban Land Tenure in Developing Countries. World Bank's fourth Urban Research Symposium. Washington DC. 3. Payne, G., Durand-Lasserve, A., & Rakodi, C. (2009). The limits of land titling and home ownership. Environment & Urbanization, 443-462. 4. National Sample Survey Organization (2010). Housing Condition and Amenities in India.
Do Housing Choice Voucher Recipients Import Crime?

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Over the recent decade Housing Choice Voucher Recipients have increasingly shifted their residential locations to the suburbs for a variety of reasons. Despite some evidence that their moves are influenced by search for greater opportunity broadly defined, many have alleged that HCVRs import crime in doing so, without good empirical evidence to support this claim. This paper is intended to examine whether shifts in HCVR recipient locations are followed by shifts in local crime rates. To examine this, we intend to use data from HUD’s Picture of Subsidized Housing for 2000 and 2008. This data set describes the characteristics of HUD assisted housing including the type of program, and population characteristics of the assisted households, at the census tract level. We will aggregate census tracts to larger places in order to match this data with crime data from the 2000 and 2008 Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Offenses Known and Cleared by Arrest data sets compiled by the FBI. (Places will refer to incorporated jurisdictions - such as cities, towns, and villages - as well as census-designated places - unincorporated areas delineated by the U.S. Census Bureau for statistical purposes). The UCR data provide counts of crimes reported to the police for each police agency (referred to as a reporting unit in the UCR data) by month. We will use the UCR data to estimate rates of serious felony crimes, and to calculate crime rates by aggregating 12 months of crime data to create annual estimates for 2000, and 2008. We will use first difference (and cross-sectional) regression analysis to examine whether and to what extent changes in the percentage of HCVR are related to changes in crime rates at the level of place, controlling for a host of relevant place characteristics such as size, percent black (or Latino), whether in city or suburb, region, and other relevant socio-economic and physical characteristics of place.
Globalizing “best practice” in sustainable urban planning and design: The role of precedent studies and study tours

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In recent years, scholars and policymakers alike have paid increasing attention to the international diffusion and exchange of urban policy and planning ideas. Within the field of critical policy studies, the mobilities approach has drawn much-needed emphasis to the "local globalness" of urban policy, that is, its embeddedness in both wider processes and flows and local contexts (McCann and Ward 2010, Peck & Theodore 2010, McCann 2011). The theoretical insights emerging from this literature are highly relevant to the recent internationalization of urban planning and design (Olds 2001, McNeil 2008, Healey & Upton 2010). Despite this, to date there have been few attempts to employ the mobilities approach specifically to the study of the international diffusion and exchange of design-oriented, rather than policy-oriented models of urban planning. Indeed, while design-oriented models of planning have experienced something of a resurgence over the last few decades (Harvey 1989, Bell 2005), their international travels have been under theorized in comparison with urban policy. The aim of this paper is to contribute to addressing the lack of broader theorizations of how and why design-oriented urban planning models circulate internationally. It does so through a focus on the international travels of one urban planning model: the sustainable masterplan. Sustainable masterplans are strategic land-use plans, usually prepared by private-sector consultants, which guide the development of large-scale sustainable urban projects. The paper focuses on the role of the globalized group of architecture, planning and engineering consultants, property developers and city officials, variously called a "global intelligence corps" (Olds 2001), and "transnational capitalist class" (Sklair 2005, 2006) in the global diffusion of this model of urban planning. In particular, it explores two key mechanisms that these actors use to develop and share ideas: precedent studies of existing "good practice" developments and international study tours visiting such projects. The paper is based on research involving over forty interviews with those involved in the design and development of sustainable urban projects, as well as participant observation on a study tour. Drawing on this research, the paper explores the role of these actors, and their study tours and precedent studies, in developing and shaping conceptions of best practice in sustainable urban planning and design.
Role of Human Values for Urban Sustainability: An Indian Perspective

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At the beginning of the 21st century humankind finds itself beset with three major challenges. The first relates to the damage to environment and the earth’s natural resources including the threat of climate change; the second stems from the persistence of poverty in several parts of the world; and the third is related to a growing threat to peace and harmony. In this context, it is very important to study in detail the dynamics of economic development and its impact on the environment and the role of ethics in sustainable development. It is well established that, the current consumerist attitude prevailing in human society cannot be sustained for long. The only alternative is to limit our needs and desires. The primary device is to provide lasting and secure livelihood that minimizes resource depletion, environmental degradation, cultural disruption, social instability and societal or institutional damage. Harmony in human society flows from acceptance of cultures on terms of equality and mutual respect. The integrity of the life support system and keeping future options alive and intact, require that the present and future generations achieve economic and social improvement while maintaining cultural diversity, biogeochemical balance and biological diversity. The scope of the present study is to identify interrelationships between Economics, Environment and Ethics for Sustainable Development. The paper briefly explains the limitations of the current development pattern, consumerist attitude, corruption in public life and importance of ethical values for overall development. The evolution of Sustainable development indicators instead of adherence to mere GDP/GNP numbers as development indicators and introduction of Human Development Index by UNDP, protection of environment, ethics for Sustainable development index and evolution of institutional development index with special reference to TATA Group practices are explained. An account of environmental legislation's for environmental protection and their limitations in the Indian context is attempted. Limitations of current pattern of economic development, the importance of environmental protection and need for institutionalization of ethical issues for sustainable development are proposed to be highlighted. Some of the conclusions are - Economic Development is important but not at the cost of environment destruction; development shall be within the limits of the regenerative capacity of the environment. Ethics - which is a software part of environment is extremely important for control of consumerism and to enhance human potential. The authors call for devising a development model with anthropo-eco-centric elements built into it and propagation of philanthropic work for self development for the quality human life emphasizing inclusive growth with equity.
Building Inequality: The Subprime Crisis and Poverty in the Suburbs

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To date, most studies on the geographic distribution of foreclosures and Real Estate Owned (REO) properties have relied on an over-simplified urban-suburban dichotomy. The experiences of cities like Cleveland, Detroit, and Oakland have been contrasted against those of once rapidly growing suburban areas such as Stockton, California, and new towns in Arizona and Nevada. However, these analyses mask the wide variation in demographic and socio-economic characteristics of neighborhoods in today’s suburbs. We have an incomplete understanding of what has been happening to neighborhoods in suburban communities in the wake of the foreclosure crisis and their prospects for neighborhood stabilization. While some neighborhoods in suburban and exurban communities may be showing signs of stabilization (e.g. renewed mortgage lending to owner occupants), others are still be struggling with the long-term consequences of vacant properties, depressed property values, and limited new housing investment. Coupled with the suburbanization of poverty, an emerging question is whether or not the foreclosure crisis will contribute to new suburban “slums,” particularly if investors with no long-term commitment to the community dominate the purchase of REO properties. The goal of this paper is to look at patterns of foreclosures and REO disposition in “differentiated” suburban markets, paying close attention to how differences in race and class across neighborhoods are shaping the housing recovery. Using a unique data set that merges information from a large proprietary dataset on loan performance with local data on foreclosure filings and house values for California, the paper provides insights into how the subprime crisis and differences in post-foreclosure responses are deepening inequality across suburban areas. By developing a more nuanced understanding of the experiences of suburban neighborhoods (and the differences among neighborhoods within suburban places), this study hopes to inform policies related to the long-term recovery and stabilization of neighborhoods beyond the urban core.
City School Districts: Intergovernmental Revenue Distribution in Georgia

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Elementary and secondary education in Georgia is provided by 180 separate elected public boards of education. In delivering that service, there are four important structural considerations that influence the management of these public entities - the constitutional scope, autonomy, scope of service, and revenue streams of these districts. Georgia’s current constitution, adopted in 1983, does not permit the creation of new municipal school districts. Those city-based districts existing prior to adoption were "grandfathered" in and 21 remain, including urban/MSA centers such as Atlanta, Dalton, Gainesville, Rome, and Valdosta. The state recognizes school districts - city and county - as independent public entities. As such, they have autonomy from the city/county governments whose boundaries define those of the district, including local taxing authority. Revenue streams for these districts differ greatly. While county-based districts were 37% reliant on local funding (rather than federal or state) in 2011, city-based districts are nearly 45% reliant on these local sources. The two primary sources of this local funding are property tax and sales/use tax, representing 86% and 42% of local revenue, respectively. Distinguishing between district property tax obligations is a simple task, as it is constructed for the general purpose entities. The other primary source of tax revenue for these 180 districts is the Education Local Option Sales Tax (ELOST). This ELOST is in place in 154 of the state’s 159 counties, affecting 20 municipal-based districts and 22 county-based districts. The crux of this research is intergovernmental relationships surrounding ELOST distribution. Because the ELOST is assessed strictly at the county level, instances where multiple school districts coexist within a county demands negotiation between districts about how that ELOST revenue is distributed. The ELOST is passed by referendum by all residents (city and non-city) and has a sunset period of five years, requiring renegotiations at each renewal. This paper will consider two core research questions. First is disparity between the population (both total and student) of the city and non-city populations in counties where there are multiple school districts. None of the municipal districts in existence in 1983 has surrendered their status in favor of joining the larger county district, and this will analyze possible motivations for continuation of this separation. Second are the predicting factors of this negotiated distribution of ELOST revenue between school districts, including structural, management, fiscal, and demographic variables. There is a void in the research on the dynamic and implications of obligatory relationships between independent special purpose entities, such as these school districts, and this presentation will begin to identify and analyze these disparities.
Health and Capital Accumulation in the 'Bike Friendly City': How Bicycle Centered Policy and Popular Discourses Function in US Urban Spaces

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The bicycle is becoming an ever present and important synecdoche within our urban environs. It works to emphasize and condense broader discussion around risk and crisis of the health of the city - both the health of the city as organism and the city as representative of the body politic - as well as neoliberal economic and political policy. Since the 20th century, with the increasingly meticulous production of urban spaces, the creation and delimiting of bicycling spaces and velocipedal movements have become widespread in cities of differentiated history, culture and geometric dimensions (Pucher, Komanoff & Schimek, 1999). With this expanding and more meticulous integration of the bicycle in the city we have seen the creation and broader expression of the concept of the 'bike friendly city'. This discourse sits within and expands upon the notion of the 'healthy city', both conceptually and in policy, as a form of neoliberal discourse focused around the body at various scales. However this neoliberal approach to the concept of a 'healthy city' not only defers responsibility of care to the individual, drawing on new ideas of healthism and environmental sustainability, but also uses the production of a "common" (Harvey, 2012) to develop another realm of privatized capital accumulation. The 'bike friendly' and additionally the 'healthy city', when set against a mythologized background of obesity/resource/environmental crisis, become desirable and attracts immigration of higher class peoples and investment of private capital. As such the organic growth or carefully cultured vision of the 'healthy city' becomes a key (re)branding tool for various urban conurbations. However, problematically, the benefits of these 'commons' are often siphoned off through the gentrifying housing and land markets rather then being returned to those that played a part in developing this 'common'. Therefore this paper will analyze popular and policy documents of four American cities - Boston, Portland, Dallas and Baltimore - to see how the bike has played a role in extending the 'healthy city' and promoting the benefits of the cycling centered 'common' in these urban settings. In other words I look to explore the questions of: How the bicycles inscription in urban discourse has been formed in relation to the healthy city, how does it work to further brand these spaces for privatized capital and how have these discourses taken on a spatial dimension that allows them to function as "strategies" (DeCerteau, 1984).
Does Walkability Matter? Exploring the Relationship Between Walkability and Housing, Foreclosures and Crime

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The world’s most respected urban planner, Jane Jacobs, In the Death and Life of Great American Cities, argues that the ideal neighborhood is one that is walkable, however only recently have planners developed reliable measures of their social and economic impact. Furthermore, up to this point hedonic pricing models have not included these measures to gauge neighborhood and housing resilience. We develop a hedonic priced equation that controls for recognized independent variables that predict our dependent variables, adding the test variable walkability. We test the association between a variety of factors that stem from traditional hedonic models and those that would be associated with pedestrian accessibility vs. car dependency. We find that neighborhood walkability is statistically significant in predicting an increase in neighborhood housing values and has a significant negative correlation with neighborhood foreclosures. We also find that is associated with reduced crime. These results make an important case that walkability metrics should be included in future hedonic models and that investments in neighborhood walkability might result in increased housing value. They have a clear policy connection for planners and community advocates -- that streetscape investments that promote walkability are a value position -- with the potential to increase both the fiscal and environmental sustainability of neighborhoods.
The Negotiation of Historic Value in the Redevelopment of Coney Island

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The redevelopment of urban neighborhoods often fuels conflicting historical and cultural claims about the value of history and the proper function of neighborhoods. When it comes to historic places, these disputes center on the historic value of built structures, which is measured either by association to significant past events or people, or in terms of longevity and a combination of architectural qualities. This value, though it may appear inherent or self-evident, arises from a negotiated process of collective identity formation. What is historic can therefore not be dissociated from the questions of whom it is historic to and what it is historic for. This paper looks at a recent plan for the redevelopment of Coney Island and considers how divergent understandings of the area's historic value shaped, and were shaped by, the debates that surrounded that effort. Coney Island, during the first half of the 20th century, was one of the most innovative and popular amusement centers in the world. Although its popularity has waned since that time and its famous amusement parks have long vanished, it continues to operate as a place for recreation beloved by many. It has also, however, continued to present a challenge to planners who have looked for ways to restore some measure of Coney Island's former success. This led to the formulation of a redevelopment plan. Most participants in the planning process shared a sense of Coney Island's historic importance. Nonetheless, the city's plan provoked criticism for its failure to account for the area's historic stature. Some of it emphasized the threat to the area's few remaining historic buildings. Interviews with plan's opponents, however, reveal a more complicated story. Not only did these advocates not attribute the area's historic value primarily to those buildings; but they did not attribute it to buildings at all. Instead, they emphasized first and foremost a quality of experience -- an encounter with difference along several dimensions. Because they understood this in opposition to contemporary New York and their experience with recent development, it took on an anachronistic character and, by association with the area's storied past, a historic one. By shedding light on the origins and production of historic value, this study contributes to our understanding of the contentiousness that surrounds the redevelopment of iconic places. It also poses a challenge to historic preservation, whose focus on built structures often bypasses a query into how these structures assume significance and how they relate to experiences valued by people.
Phenomenological Spaces of Journalism as Urban Practice: Exploring Recent Developments in City-focused and Hyperlocal Media

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In recent years, productive lines of scholarship have approached media change and urban change together, as at once interlinked phenomena. Some have analyzed how media forms and technologies are quite literally built into city spaces, for example as screens, billboards or wireless networks. For others, media are incorporated into the everyday rhythms of urban life through such routines as car radio listening, mobile texting or social networking during the work break. And for others still, media industries, such as television production or software development, are clustering in and transforming urban neighbourhoods - from London's Shoreditch to San Francisco's SoMa - at an unprecedented pace. What might be labelled the mediated city has become, it seems, something of a growth industry for academic study and analysis. Yet somewhat strangely, such research on the intersections of media change and urban change has tended to under-study and under-theorize journalism, as a complex media practice related to urban life. In response, this paper discusses journalism's 'phenomenological spaces': its practical and material conditions of possibility in, through and in relation to the urban. To do so, it draws on ongoing research into recent experiments in city-focused and 'hyperlocal' media in North America and the United Kingdom, including collaborative blogs, geo-locational storytelling and 'community-powered news' platforms. The impacts of new technology are seemingly at the forefront of such emergent media, since virtually all emerge out of various combinations of networked, wireless and mobile infrastructures and devices. But also strongly evident in many examples is a positioning in and appeal to the values, premises and structures of journalism as a professional field. Many so-called hyperlocal platforms, for example, are facilitated by philanthropically-funded competitions (e.g. by the Knight Foundation or Nesta) founded on decisively journalistic language; and many larger city-focused websites (e.g. The Bay Citizen) are constructed around journalism as a paid vocation, often based on new business models. In attempting to conceptualize how 'journalism' relates to urban life, this paper seeks to make a critical intervention at a time when it is frequently claimed anyone can become a journalist. It may be, as some suggest, that we are witnessing the downfall of the very idea of 'the media' as traditionally conceived. Yet even if true, as Couldry (2009) argues, this new reality will more than likely provoke renewed contestations around just who the media are, who they speak for, and on what justifications. This paper therefore stakes the claim that understanding journalism is not only theoretically or empirically important, but also a prime normative dilemma for scholars of 21st Century urban politics and public life.
Setting Urban Governance to Achieve Democratic Efficiency: A Demanding Equilibrium in Time of Financial Crises

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Recent worldwide financial crises bring academic attention back to Waldo’s classic argument of a trade-off between democracy and efficiency (Waldo & Miller 1948). Under severe fiscal stress local governments change and reshaped their strategy, attitude and commitments to citizens and public service in order to control spending patterns. Cutting-back services, breaking contracts, rethinking welfare and additional austerity measures are a worldwide path that local government follows to handle financial adversities. Summing up, these changes tend to embrace the adoption of managerial initiatives that moved discretionary powers away from legitimate governments to unelected institutions. Somehow, the quest for efficiency is becoming the sacrifice of democracy since its procedures are understood to be major barriers to the needed structural change (Mears 2012). The argument is that political values clouds the judgment of those that need to be efficient and that political agents find hard to approve and comply with bills that impose hard restrictions on themselves and on their electoral support (Gasiorowski, 2000). This research challenge Waldo’s arguments and addresses the link between efficient democracy and urban governance. The goal is to analyze how efficiency and democracy can be promoted at the same time without having one undermining the purpose of the other (Norris 2012). We claim that good urban governance is based on the proper articulation of three major topics: institutional structure; civic participation; service delivery. The main hypotheses argue that combining the appropriate set of civic engagement with political responsiveness and proper mechanisms of service delivery, a community can reach democratic efficiency, i.e., a community that is characterized by the use of direct democracy to voice citizens, legitimate decisions and accurate levels of service delivery efficiency. We use a quantitative approach collecting data from all Portuguese local government. We define as dependent variables two indexes, one to measure the degree of democracy and the other to capture levels of efficiency. Then we test interaction between them to establish different degrees of democratic efficiency that result from alternate combinations of urban governance elements. With the results of the paper, we hope to contribute to some clarification whether democratic procedures, such as civic participation, damage efficiency or can cope with it. References Gasiorowski, M., 2000. Democracy and Macroeconomic Performance in Underdeveloped Countries: An Empirical Analysis. Comparative Political Studies, 33(3), pp.319-349. Mears, P., 2012. Michigan's Emergency Financial Manager Law and Its Impact on Creditors of Municipalities and School Districts. Business Law Journal. Norris, P., 2012. Making Democratic Governance Work, Cambridge University Press. Waldo, D. & Miller, H., 1948. The Administrative State, Transaction Pub.
Untangling the Impacts of HOPE VI Tenant Relocation

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HUD’s HOPE VI program turned 20 this year. From its inception in 1992 it has provided over 250 grants to 120 cities, which were used to demolish 96,000 public housing units and either construct or rehabilitate 111,000 units (Cisneros and Engdahl 2009). One of the objectives of the program is to improve the lives of residents living in the targeted developments. The existing research, however, presents a mixed picture of the impacts of the program on those residents. Popkin and Cunningham (2009), in a panel study of several HOPE VI projects found no change in their rates of employment, self-sufficiency or physical health, positive impacts on mental health, and negative impacts on financial hardships. Moreover, Goetz (2010), in a single case study, reports that although relocatees improved the quality of their neighborhoods, they reported very little improvement on a host of self-reported individual benefits. Geotz offers several possible explanations for this lack of neighborhood effects, including individual attributes playing a more central role in who benefits from relocation, and the disruption of social networks in the lives of the relocatees. This paper seeks to identify the demographic, social and neighborhood factors that are associated with positive, neutral or negative impacts of relocation on a range of economic and social outcomes. It will address questions including: How do the age, family composition and income impact relocation outcomes? How does the degree of social support in the original development impact relocation outcomes? How do conditions in the new neighborhoods, such as access to services, impact relocation outcomes? These questions will be addressed with data from a panel study of 283 households, which were relocated for a HOPE VI redevelopment project in Charlotte, North Carolina. The baseline and follow-up survey included a host of economic and social variables, including employment, financial hardship, residential satisfaction, physical and mental health, children's behavior and school performance and informal social support. We achieved a 75 percent response rate in the first round of surveys and a 65 percent response rate in the second round. This paper makes an important contribution to the literature on the impacts of relocation and the HOPE VI program by identifying the characteristics of residents who benefit from or are adversely affected by relocation. We will offer recommendations for ways to maximize the benefits and minimize the disadvantages or relocation.
Urban Sustainability Planning in Philadelphia: Implementing a Distributed Urban Environmental Management System

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Green infrastructure and urban sustainability planning requires new partnerships and a rethinking of the various roles of city agencies, non-profits, and citizens. For instance, promoting green infrastructure as a stormwater management technique in a city, instead of developing centralized infrastructure, necessitates greening everything from streets to school playgrounds and private roofs. To implement this more distributed urban environmental management system, the city’s water department needs to coordinate with the streets department, parks department, planning department, city schools, non-profits, and citizens. As city officials, planners, community groups, and citizens work towards making Philadelphia into “America’s number one green city”, a series of policy changes have been implemented by various agencies and partnerships developed throughout the city. However, retooling existing city assets (particularly in fiscally challenged cities) to promote urban sustainability can be challenging since it often comes as an unfunded mandate, is not the primary mission of many city agencies and non-profits, blurs the boundaries between agencies, and maintenance is a long-term problem. There is a growing body of literature on urban sustainability planning; however, the process and politics of implementing a more distributed urban environmental management system that spans the city and is planned, developed, and maintained through public and private partnerships is underexplored. Through ongoing participatory research, attendance at numerous conferences and workshops since 2009, interviews with key stakeholders, examination of planning documents and examples of innovative partnerships, this paper highlights strategies, opportunities, and challenges of implementing a distributed urban environmental management system in Philadelphia. Since distributed urban environmental management systems depend on partnerships and on-going collaboration, planners and city officials need to anticipate the challenges and opportunities of this new model of planning. The Philadelphia story provides numerous lessons for planners charged with developing and implementing sustainability plans in their cities.
Landlords and the Creation of the Section 8 Ghetto

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The Department of Housing and Urban Development's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) Program, formerly called "Section 8", serves 2.2 million low and very low-income households nationwide (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development 2011). The program makes up the difference between what a needy household can afford (30 percent of net household income) and the cost of a unit in the private market. This allows voucher holders access to a wide range of neighborhoods, including many low poverty, resource rich neighborhoods. One goal of the program is to relieve poverty concentration. But though a voucher can be used in any neighborhood with an affordable unit, most assisted tenants concentrate in neighborhoods with moderate to high poverty rates, and in many cities, the HCV program serves to segregate poor minority families into poor minority neighborhoods. Understanding the mechanisms that underlie these patterns is vital. A relatively unexplored, yet crucial, factor, is the landlord. Scholars of poverty and residential mobility are very interested in how low income residents choose homes and neighborhoods. But we have not been able to fully understand the ways in which these choices are constricted, and therefore we have been unable to understand concentration processes. Learning about landlords helps us understand the broader forces that channel families into certain neighborhoods rather than others. This paper draws on in-depth interviews and ethnographic observation with 30 landlords in Baltimore city to understand the role that landlords play in the creation and maintenance of neighborhoods of concentrated voucher use. The way that HCV rules are enforced, carried out, or at times misused, can have a profound impact on the lives of the voucher holders, and also on the neighborhood more generally. Landlord practices such as recruitment tactics play an important role channeling families into certain neighborhoods and certain dwellings. These practices can make or break prospective tenants' ability to successfully lease up, or lease up in a low poverty, high resource neighborhood. However, we know very little about how landlords make and enforce such decisions. This paper looks at the type and frequency of these and other practices among landlords with units across Baltimore city, and the role they play in the formation of section 8 ghettos.
Happiness Index Towards Sustainable and Liveable Cities in Malaysia

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What makes a sustainable and liveable city? Liveability is generally defined by performance in three main areas: environmental quality, neighbourhood amenity and individual well-being. Liveability initiatives often meet environmental, economic and equity goals, which are also the elements for the transition to sustainability. Cities around the world are re-examining their urban assets and remaking attention is given to quality of life. Well-being including happiness and life satisfaction, and how this is influenced by the society and city in which a person lives among other factors. In the 10th Malaysia Plan, the Government has explicitly state the commitment to ensure high quality of life in urban and rural areas. Government’s role is to enable people to have fair access now and in the future to the social, economic and environmental resources needed to achieve well-being. The quality of life for Malaysians improved through better access to healthcare, public transport, electricity and water. Measures were also taken to create a caring society and promote community well-being. Economic development was based on sustainability principles to ensure that the environment and natural resources are preserved so that growth will not come at a cost to future generations. More than 10 years Malaysian Urban Sustainability Indicators Network (MURNInet) implemented, now Federal Department of Town and Country Planning Peninsular Malaysia (FDTCP) think it is time systems and indicators are reviewed. This has arisen because many new sustainability issues and changes in national development policies that are not covered or considered during the early formation of the MURNInet. Happiness Index Study is a primary data collection - survey carried out jointly between local authorities and residents. The aspects taken into account - relationship with family, neighborhood and environmental atmosphere, the interaction between people, the safety of the population, the level of health facilities and the level of local authority services in their area. A good physical environment provides the foundation for a well-ordered city that can cater to the material and post-material needs of its citizens—the necessary conditions, in other words, for physical and economic vibrancy. Most people tend to associate happiness with feeling good, that is, with a life that offers a variety of pleasures and comforts. Some tend to associate happiness with being able to do whatever they want to do, still others associate it with achieving everything they have set out to achieve in life. Everyone who wishes to can find something that keeps them engaged and energetic in their work and their community, and in that way create a vibrant city.
Planning in the Quebec Metropolitan Community

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Quebec Metropolitan Community (QMC)’s Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan (MLUDP) finally went into force in June of 2012, six years later than originally planned. Its three great objectives are to (1) structure the metropolitan territory for a better organization of sustainable mobility; (2) attract new residents through maintaining and improving the quality of life in neighborhoods; and (3) last through active management of urban growth and carefully thought out land consumption. However, this metropolitan planning process lifts the veil on a rather odd situation where the MLUDP is subsequent to local and regional planning processes – therefore it constitutes a sort of reversed planning, where the (local) particular circumscribes the (metropolitan) general. The conformity requirement between planning tools might thus stir up opposition and debates in the following years on the different scales of planning. Besides, the QMC exerts significant influence beyond its territory in that it is asked to provide its opinion on the development projects of its neighboring regional county municipalities (RCMs). Some regional representatives condemn this power they consider excessive, which, in terms of the planning intensification of urban centers, effectively reduce the autonomy and development capacity of the Bellechasse, Portneuf and Lotbiniere regions, according to them. They also fiercely criticize the spatial concentration of urban intensification on the metropolitan territory. Finally, the translation of the metropolitan planning objectives into concrete implementation tools at the micro-local level raises important challenges and issues in terms of sophisticated and detailed knowledge of the area's territory. However, technological evolutions of recent years and decades offer formerly unheard of capacities of urban intervention and management.
Greater Montreal's First-Generation Metropolitan Planning: Spatial Substance without Implementation

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Producing and adopting a Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan (MLUDP) was a somewhat new challenged for Montreal Metropolitan Community (MMC). The organization, founded in 2001 in a train of institutional reform steered by the provincial government, is responsible for coordinating the planning of the 82 municipalities and 14 regional county municipalities (RCMs) of the Greater Montreal area, home to half of the population of the province Quebec. However, it is grappling with internal conflict between urban and suburban stakeholders about their respective development and planning goals and notions. For instance, the MMC had attempted in 2005 to adopt a metropolitan land use and development blueprint that would replace those of the area's RCMs, but violent opposition from suburban elected officials has led the project to abortion. In order to respond to severe criticism from the regional authorities and local governments on what they perceived as an unacceptable encroachment of the MMC on their planning prerogatives, the provincial government adopted Bill 58, in which it redefined the objectives of metropolitan planning and stated that the upcoming MLUDP would finally not replace the blueprints of the RCMs but rather have to be in concordance with them as well as impose them to be revised in concordance with it. In other words, the most recent reform has failed to replace the former blueprint by something else, so the MLUDP is still mostly a blueprint, albeit a non-binding one. The MMC has then adopted its MLUDP project in April of 2011, in spite of the dissent of the mayors of the northern suburbs. In the Fall of 2011, it has held 17 sessions of public hearings and received 344 briefs from citizens, NGOs and elected officials of the area on the MLUDP. It went into force in March of 2012 and will guide the planning and development of the area until 2031. It plans to curb urban sprawl and protect farmland through freezing the urban perimeter, raising density targets and creating 156 transit-oriented developments (TODs). It seems that the creation of those TODs are the means through which the MMC intends to insure the coherence of the area's urban development, transportation systems and natural resource preservation. However, their ambition is out of proportion with the planning capacity and financial ressources of the MMC and the strategies defined for their implementation are to a large extent inadequate. For instance, the MLUDP fails to indicate which of the TODs will be prioritized, how the local land use plans and by-laws will be adapted in order to facilitate their creation and how the municipalities and developers will find new ways to finance their establishment. The production of the MLUDP thus shows that the metropolitan scale is finally being acknowledged by the stakeholders of the area, who have adopted a document based on ambitious spatial planning objectives, but that the question of its implementation was once again left aside.
Grocery Stores as Urban Panacea? The Intersections of Federal Urban Policy, Public Health, and Neighborhood Revitalization in Bayview Hunters Point

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Numerous public health studies confirm a higher incidence of diet-related health disparities in low-income communities of color compared to their more affluent counterparts. While disinvested neighborhoods tend to lack grocery stores and other neighborhood-serving retail, the extent to which physical access to "healthy food sources"--as opposed to other factors such as cost, access to healthcare, and lifestyle choices--contributes directly to health disparities is still contested. Any yet, throughout the nation, underserved communities are experiencing an influx of renewed interest from grocery retailers with the rise of federal, state, and local programs incentivizing grocery store development. Within the current context of federal urban policies emphasizing public health and place-based community development, the subsidization of grocery stores raises new questions for neighborhood revitalization: Can grocery stores comprehensively address the most salient issues affecting low-income communities of color, and if so, how? This paper attempts to answer this question by analyzing the ways that a variety of discrete actors--planners, public health practitioners, developers, federal policymakers, food retailers, and community-based organizations--have collaborated and conflicted in the pursuit of grocery development in Bayview Hunters Point, a distressed low-income communities of color in San Francisco. Despite a long history of disinvestment dating back to the 1950s, during the past two decades Bayview Hunters Point has been the focal point of numerous revitalization efforts around housing, environmental health, workforce development, and youth engagement. The last decade of revitalization efforts have had an expanded focus on health, which has brought food access and grocery store development to the forefront of government and community-based interventions. Based on data gathered from archival sources, twenty key informant interviews, and direct observation of public meetings, I find that grocery development in Bayview Hunters Point suffers from a tension between public health and community development goals. In order to truly address the structural inequities that contribute to resource disparities in low-income communities of color, I conclude that grocery development must be reframed and re-approached as a retail revitalization strategy.
A Theoretical Framework for a Feminist Right to the City

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First articulated by Lefebvre in 1968, the right to the city is a concept that has since been studied by researchers from disciplines such as geography, sociology and urban studies. Lefebvre's vision of the right to the city is to reinvent the social relations between capitalism and the city’s spatial structures (Purcell, 2009) in order that all social groups fully participate in the processes of production and reproduction of the city. The right to the city entails the co-production of the urban structure by all actors that share the city (Hölm, 2010). So, the right to the city means the right to appropriate public spaces as well as participate in their production and, of course, the right to the city means the right to the centrality and the right to recognition. Unfortunately, Lefebvre's conception of the right to the city has some flaws. Indeed, Lefebvre's concept does not integrate notions of power nor does it question power relations that are inherent in social relations. Moreover, it does not include the notion of public and private sphere. Actually, Lefebvre's right to the city mainly concerns the public space and completely neglects the private sphere. But for some social groups, especially women, the private sphere determines the use they make of the public sphere. So, in order to be truly inclusive, the concept of the right to the city must absolutely include the private sphere (Fenster, 2005). Inspired by a feminist approach, we considered that one way to integrate those criticisms is to include patriarchy in the context of the right to the city. To do so, we have to stress the links that exist between patriarchy, urbanization and capitalism. By doing so, we are able to present a theoretical framework for the construction of a feminist right to the city. Our paper will first present the context of emergence of the concept of the right to the city, originally articulated by Lefebvre in 1968. Thereafter, we will discuss some criticisms that have been made to Lefebvre's right to the city. Then, inspired by a feminist approach, we will propose a new interpretation of the right to the city, an interpretation which forges links between urbanization, capitalism and patriarchy. Finally, we will define what we intend by a feminist right to the city and present the different element that compose it.
Transit-Oriented Development in the Greater Montreal Area? Planning a "Compact Metropolis" through Urban/Suburban Conflict and Highway Extensions

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Montreal Metropolitan Community (MMC)’s Metropolitan Land Use and Development Plan (MLUDP) went into force in March of 2012 and will guide its planning until 2031. The subject of public hearings which gathered an apparent region-wide consensus, it plans to curb urban sprawl and protect farmland by freezing the urban perimeter, raising density targets and creating 156 transit-oriented developments (TODs). However, the achievement of this last objective appears highly uncertain, notably because of recurring conflicts between urban and suburban stakeholders of the area over their development and planning views and objectives. Besides, the MLUDP includes measures neither for parking-supply regulation nor for car-use reduction and even asks the provincial government to extend five of the area's thirteen highways. However, research literature clearly identifies easy access to parking and highways as both strong incentives to car commuting and strong factors in discouraging transit use even among TOD residents. In this context, the ability of the MMC to create 156 TODs and boost transit ridership as planned appears greatly compromised. This paper stems from an ongoing dissertation whose seminal question is: How is this context of conflict and automobile-driven planning affecting the creation of those TODs? This paper offers a preliminary answer to this question through qualitative analysis of the representation of integrated transportation–land use planning seen in the 344 briefs submitted on the MLUDP by citizens, NGOs and elected officials of the MMC. Six different approaches emerge from those briefs: (1) transportation and land use should be planned simultaneously and symbiotically; (2) environmental protection objectives should be systematically integrated to their coordinated planning; (3) TOD is the best way to insur the coherence of transportation and land use and, thus, sustainable development; (4) urban form determines transportation patterns; (5) mobility shapes cities; and (6) urban planning and transportation influence, determine and organize one another reciprocally. This paper investigates the implications of those six different interpretations and shows that by entailing diverging attitudes regarding transportation and land use planning, they might lead to disagreement over the objectives that ought to be pursued through the creation of those TODs. Furthermore, 91% of the briefs do not even mention integrated transportation–land use planning. This paper postulates that this situation could trigger additional debate, this time about the procedural conditions for TOD implementation at the metropolitan scale. It bolsters this assertion by characterizing the ins and outs of stakeholder interactions around transportation and land use planning in the MMC.
using theories in metropolitan governance (new regionalism and public choice) and TOD (regarding its limited effects on sustainable mobility and potential obstacles to its implementation).
Two Years Out: Landlords, Neighborhoods, and Post-Relocation Satisfaction Among Atlanta’s Former Public Housing Residents

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In 2007 the Atlanta Housing Authority (AHA) announced plans to demolish the city's remaining traditional project-based public housing as part of their ongoing initiatives to de-concentrate poverty and create mixed income neighborhoods. Unlike the city's previous HOPE VI efforts, these demolitions were done under Section 18 of the amended 1937 Housing Act, requiring no immediate plans for replacement housing. Therefore the only option given to residents was to relocate, if qualified, with the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) subsidy to private market rental housing, thereby increasing dependence of private landlords. Using data from an Atlanta-based longitudinal study following 311 public housing residents relocated between late 2008 and 2011, the purpose of this paper is to examine: (1) whether or not variation in landlord responsive to needed home repairs and the required annual U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) inspections, affects residents' home and neighborhood satisfaction, as well as desire to move again or, being forced to move again; and (2) whether or not landlord responsiveness varies by neighborhood characteristics, such as poverty and crime rates, as well as by levels of public housing resident receivership.
The Revolt of the Black Athlete and its Contribution to the Achievement of the Santa Clara County and America

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This paper presentation examines the local impact of the “revolt of the black athlete.” In my work, the movement had far broader implications than what most scholars usually portrait as black consciousness inculcated within the Olympic movement. At the center of this transformation was San Jose State College (SJS), which was ground zero where the movement was launched in 1967. My paper argues that this movement was crucial to San Jose avoiding the urban unrest that rocked hundreds of U.S. cities because it noticeably began to desegregate its postwar color-line in housing, employment, and in college education. At the center of this process was a fragmented freedom rights movement rooted in local civil rights, fair housing and labor union movements dating back to 1947. Several decades later, black student-athletic activism which keenly interlocked the exploitation of black amateur athletes to Black Power and the exploitation of African Americans in U.S. society became another component in the desegregation of suburbanizing communities in Greater San Jose. On September 18, 1967, the revolt began at SJS, which was the day that United Black Students for Action directly addressed racism in East Santa Clara County. This challenge in-turn set the region on its long path towards integration. Although the revolt was highlighted by Tommie Smith and John Carlos shaking the world while accepting their medals on the winner’s podium at the 1968 Summer Olympics in defiant-fist raising protest to social oppression in the U.S., the Olympic boycott movement played a minor role in the revolt’s overall impact in bringing social justice to the South Bay. At SJS, the revolt desegregated the campus and East County, following the cancellation of the SJS-University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) football game several days after the UBSA publically addressed racism in San Jose. Immediately after this revolt, similar movements formed nationwide to fight racial oppression. The contents of this paper are based on research in my forthcoming book (2013) on black community formation and political expression in the Santa Clara County with Oklahoma University Press.
When Upward Mobility Leads to "Double-Disparities": The Housing Crisis and its Aftermath for Blacks and Latinos in the Sunbelt

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The housing crisis in the United States perpetuated stark racial divides in the provision of mortgage credit, foreclosure rates, neighborhood fortunes, and the accumulation of wealth. In this paper I contribute to the literature by showing how racial disparities are amplified by increases in socioeconomic status to produce "double-disparities" for more affluent and creditworthy black and Latino homeowners and neighborhoods. I analyze a large, unique subset of mortgage loans made in Phoenix, Arizona from 2003 to 2007 matched to all foreclosure filings through 2012 and other various outside data sources. Using the matched data, I establish that the absolute foreclosure rate experienced by higher income black and Latino homeowners exceeds that faced by their low income counterparts. I find that disparities in lending and foreclosure between whites and blacks and whites and Latinos are magnified among those with higher credit scores, higher incomes, and in more affluent neighborhoods. After accounting for other factors, I find further that these double-disparities are conditioned by Hispanic ethnicity and the urban-suburban continuum in neighborhood context. The double disparities gradient in foreclosure experienced by Latinos is steeper and more severe than that faced by comparably situated affluent blacks. I confirm large racial disparities in high cost lending in older central neighborhoods that led to earlier foreclosures that disproportionately affect black homeowners; I uncover even larger disparities in foreclosure among affluent black and Latino homeowners at the city's outer and suburban fringes. I incorporate both geospatial approaches and methods that correct for selection into housing market segments and neighborhood types and find that the double-disparities phenomenon persists. I conclude that upward mobility among blacks and Latinos into the mortgage market in Sunbelt and Western cities like Phoenix did not hasten the narrowing of the black-white and Latino-white wealth gap as it appeared to until prices collapsed. Instead, six years into the crisis, racialized patterns of double-disparities have been ensconced in urban space in new ways that do not bode well for wealth accumulation among blacks and Latinos in the Sunbelt and suburban United States.
Studies of segregation and policies of dispersion in Chile: a theory-policy relationship

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Residential segregation in Chile has become a critical issue in academic debates. However, this paper suggests that three methodological and conceptual problems undermine those studies. The first relates to their method of stratification. Chile is mistakenly considered a society divided exclusively by class, forgetting the rigid racial divisions established during colonialism, and that the historic closure around the ‘pure’ elite has left ‘mestizaje’ to be a question of lower classes. In turn, segregation studies have used marketing methodologies to stratify socioeconomic groups through categories that do not reflect the major social differences and that are highly variable over time. The second problem relates to their measurement of segregation. This does not consider adjacent suburban areas and does not effectively give a clear account of a supposed “reduction in the scale of segregation” in last decades. The third problem is the most pernicious. The connection between segregation and the appearance of further social problems (so-called “neighbourhood effects”) captured the attention of public policy debates. It is assumed that the concentration of poverty would be the direct cause of social pathologies. From a critical perspective, it is argued that the appearance of social problems responds more to a significant intervening factor; social fragmentation, also known as “advanced marginality” or “new urban poverty” in the developed world. This is produced by the neoliberal action and inaction of the state, and is illustrated by problems like school and health segregation, and the financial dependency of poor municipalities. At the local level, this produces a “neoliberal spatial equivalence”, between poor residents on one side, and poor opportunities, resources and services on the other, which in turn triggers the appearance of further social ills like crime, unemployment, school-drop-out, teenage pregnancy, and so on. Clearly, the connection between poverty concentration, neighbourhood effects and dispersion policies comes from theoretical and policy-making borrowings from the US conservative literature of the 90s; an illustration of scientific and technical dependency. Taking as reference the already implemented policies of dispersion in the United States and in some European countries, the paper will conclude by discussing the relevance of such policies for Chile, and possible outcomes, in a context of high social fragmentation.
The Prevalence of Obesity among Residents of Low-income Neighborhoods: Assessing the Factors of Lifestyle, Socioeconomic Status and Built Environment

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The prevalence of obesity in the United States has reached alarming proportions for adults and children. Obesity is also associated with poverty. The National Health Interview Survey dataset identified that the lowest income groups contain a disproportionately higher proportion of obese persons. Hill et al (2003) assert that individual factor, particularly genetic, clearly contributes to individual differences in weight and height, but the rapid weight gain is a result of the changing environment. Environmental factors promote overconsumption of energy and reduce total energy expenditure by reducing physical activity (Papas et al 2007). The easy availability of a wide variety of inexpensive and energy-dense food which commonly found in low-income neighborhoods will promote overconsumption of energy and cause rapid weight gains. Poor people have less money to join sport clubs and less opportunity to exercise outdoors for increasing their total energy expenditure. Hood (2005) indicated that various aspects of the built environment can have profound effects on physical and mental health outcomes, particularly adding to the burden of illness among residents in low-income neighborhoods. Lack of sidewalks, bike path and recreational areas in low-income neighborhoods discourage physical activity and contribute to obesity. In low-income neighborhoods, the threat of crimes keeps residents inside their homes and encourages more sedentary lifestyles including watching television excessively and eating excess calories (Wakefield 2004). This NIH-funded study collects data of obesity levels and pertinent related factors behavioral/lifestyle factors, socioeconomic/demographic factors, and built environment factors from residents in four low-income neighborhoods in Savannah, Georgia. The surveys were conducted in June-September 2012. The survey includes approximately 50 questions covering obesity and health-related topics: 1) Behavioral/lifestyle/cultural beliefs: nutrition, eating habits, physical activity, leisure activities; 2) Socioeconomic/demographic: age, gender, race, household size and ages, education, income, marital status, employment status, access to health care, health insurance, age when children were born, etc. and 3) Perceived/actual built environment: sidewalks, bike paths, playgrounds, gyms, medical care facilities, and grocery stores availability. The data collection also include BMI and waist circumference measurements of randomly selected residents and field observations about the neighborhoods' built environment, including availability of playground or recreational facilities, sidewalks and bike paths, and food outlets including supermarkets, grocery stores, convenience stores, fastfood establishments, full-service restaurants and limited-service restaurants in and surrounding the study areas.
Keep the Family Together: A Qualitative Analysis of the Impact of Serving Jail Sentences on the Family Dynamic

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A great deal of offender reentry literature discusses the important role family ties can play in reducing recidivism. However, most of the literature focusses on how family support impacts the offender, not the family itself and concentrates principally on prison populations. Our study takes a different approach and examines the impact of serving jail time on the family dynamic. We interview recently released parents from a mid-size southeastern county jail and work release program. We ask them about parenting arrangements while in custody, challenges involved in rebuilding family relationships immediately following release, and ways formally incarcerated parents discuss sensitive issues like drug/alcohol use and crime with their children. We then examine the implications for criminal justice planners and organizations working with formerly jailed populations.
A House of (Concrete) Cards: Small Cities and the Future of Disaster in Urban India

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Two related trends have driven disasters and disaster risk reduction (DRR) to the forefront of the urban research agenda. First, the global population is becoming increasingly urban and second, urban populations are being increasingly exposed to environmental hazards like earthquakes, floods, and tsunamis (UN-ISDR 2011). Global climate change threatens to make urban disasters more frequent, widespread, and costly (IPCC 2012). Urban risk reduction is of particular concern in Asia where the vast majority of disaster deaths and injuries occur and where the urban population is projected to grow by one billion people in the next 20 years. A growing number of scholars have heeded calls for an urban research agenda grounded partly in the everyday experiences of small urban centers (e.g. Bell and Jayne 2009). This paper makes a similar appeal to disaster researchers who have developed frameworks for thinking about urban disaster risk based largely on the experiences of mega-cities and national or regional capitals. Urban disaster risk is emerging rapidly in small urban places too, far from centers of trade and politics. I find that the character and trajectory of disaster risk is fundamentally different in small cities, yet they are effectively "off the map" of urban disaster research (Robinson 2002). I illustrate these arguments with evidence from three cities in West Bengal, India: Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Kurseong. These small cities are growing rapidly in size and population and ever larger shares of the population are being exposed to environmental hazards. Yet they lack the economic, political, and technical resources necessary to manage complex environmental risk and are effectively trading away long-term safety for short-term economic gains. Reducing the likelihood and consequences of future disasters in these communities will require new frameworks for understanding risk and a different set of DRR policies at the local, national, and international level. My paper draws on several sources of qualitative and spatial data, including: 1) semi-structured interviews with earthquake and landslide affected households, local business owners, public officials, and disaster management experts in the Darjeeling District of West Bengal; 2) historic and contemporary aerial photography and remotely sensed imagery; 3) population and economic data; and 4) archival records on colonial and post-colonial planning and development in the region. References Bell, D. and M. Jayne (2009). Small Cities? Towards a Research Agenda. IURR, 33(3): 683-699. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) (2012). Managing the risks of extreme events and disasters to advance climate change adaptation. Online at www.ipcc-wg2.gov/SREX/. Robinson, J. (2002). Global and world cities: A view from off the map. IURR, 26(3): 531-554. UN-ISDR (2011). Global assessment report on disaster risk reduction. Geneva: United Nations.
Neo-Bohemia Meets the Newsroom

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In 2007, when the multinational media conglomerate Viacom announced it was hiring Vice Magazine to produce news videos for Viacom-owned MTV, Vice described itself to The New York Times as "Jackass meets 60 Minutes." The reference was a nod to Vice’s reputation as documenter and participant in the more unruly and hedonistic sides of New York City life for the past decade, and its aspiration to turn its attention to nuclear weapons smuggling and similarly weighty topics. By 2011, Vice had more corporate allies bankrolling its journalistic efforts, and mainstream news outlets in the U.S., U.K., and Brazil lending it more credibility and attention with each partnership. Vice, after moving from its original headquarters of Montreal to New York City in 1999, was a key member of the city's independent/counter-culture at a time when that culture was rapidly merging with mainstream culture - producing new hybrid forms with physical and media-based manifestations. Such works as Naked City, The Warhol Economy, and Neo-Bohemia explore how alternative urban cultures have become integral to the spread of neoliberal economic power, and how the city and the complex relationship within it between alternative and mainstream cultures creates spaces for the reproduction of and resistance to neoliberalism. Vice serves as an example of these broader patterns in urban culture. Real-estate development has capitalized on the remixing of desolate post-industrial urban neighborhoods by artists, musicians, and assorted bohemians into desirable places to live, work, and play. As Lloyd notes, where bohemian life was originally oppositional and threatening to the rational, orderly, and efficient dictates of capitalism, the more fluid nature of the global economy has found a place for countercultures not only in creating and marketing opportunities for real-estate speculation, but in entertainment, advertising, media production, and other segments of a diversified global corporation. The news industry has traditionally been resistant to the counterculture and has often challenged it. Nevertheless Vice's continual success and global growth shows that the marriage of the margins and the mainstream continues unabated into the journalistic field. A recent study on the properties of journalism enabled by new media in the U.K. found that despite the democratizing potential of new media, its interactive and mobile qualities more often serve to expand the reach of marketing and commercially-driven news agendas. It's reminiscent of how Lloyd's bohemians conveniently often serve to provide symbolic cover for the machinations of commerce. Vice's story can help reveal the nature of such relationships as they spread from urban culture to journalism and back again.
Social Impact of Globalization and Urbanization in India: Study of a Less Developed Region

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Globalization through the process of urbanization facilitates dissemination of products, ideas, and human resources between urban, suburban, and rural spaces. Values, attitudes and behavioral patterns are first modified in urban milieu, and then spread through the urban system by diffusion processes. During last few decades, economic changes are taking place in developing countries under the influence of Globalization. This brings enormous prosperity to certain locales but increases social and economic inequities not only between rural and urban areas and among cities but also within the urban areas. The paper analyses the social impact in terms of level and status of disparities associated with the educational development, status of women (marginalized section of society) and institution of marriage in Western Rajasthan in India. Western Rajasthan is one of the largest and less developed regions of the country and strategically located along Pakistan border. The data for the study are primarily obtained through secondary sources at district and sub district level. A composite index of urbanization has been constructed to analyze the impact. The paper observed that under the influence of Globalization the disparity in the region has increased. Nevertheless urbanization has helped in enhancing the position of marginalized sections in the society.
How City-based Sustainability Initiatives can Revitalize Older Cities: Focusing on Positive Human Strengths

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City level sustainability initiatives have been undertaken in numerous U.S. cities. The time is ripe for most cities for undertaking such city level initiatives given the rising concerns over climate change, resource shortages, and economic crises. Sustainability as a process and a way of thinking helps us make better decisions about how to meet our needs, and this understanding becomes imperative when it comes to thinking about revitalization of older cities. It is a common notion that cities with heavy manufacturing that are more prone to pollution are the least likely to take city level sustainability programs seriously. However, Cleveland, an old industrial city, has embarked on a ten year initiative to revitalize itself and build a sustainable future. This paper explores the experiences of the most dynamic members of the Sustainable Cleveland 2019 Initiative, who have participated in a range of sustainability related actions. Insights into the experiences of people are developed using a constructive inquiry process. By focusing systematically on those processes which gives life, strength, and possibility to the practice of sustainability, this paper discovers new ways to encourage people to be more sustainable and the initiative to be better targeted for the future. The positive experiences of people relate directly to building resilience through identifying strengths, skills, self-organization capabilities, scope for adaptive learning, and transforming a crisis into strength. Focusing on the asset based approach for understanding human actions that lead to sustainability emphasizes on building resilience, which is extremely vital for older industrial cities in the face of 21st century challenges.
Between the Spectacle and the Street: Popular Visions and the Refashioning of City Spaces in Shanghai

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The 2010 World Expo in Shanghai had a double significance for the study of cities, and of urbanism in China. First, the theme of the event was "Better City, Better Life". In its own promotional literature, the Shanghai World Expo Coordinating Committee stressed the importance of using the event to promote sustainable, harmonious cities, to educate the public about the opportunities and challenges cities face, and to identify and demonstrate solutions that harnessed the dynamism of urban space. At the same time, the Expo was itself a massive undertaking of urban redevelopment that dramatically reshaped parts of the downtown landscape and beyond. Perhaps mindful of the official theme, promotional literature spoke of the benefits that residents of the city would see as a consequence of event preparations and from post-event use of land and infrastructure. The aim of this paper is to examine the vision of the World Expo that its proponents put forth, and to explore both inherent and extrinsic tensions between this vision and the realities of mega-event development. Specifically, the paper focuses on the various ways in which relations between state, market and society are both imagined and actually unfold as the city prepares to host the Expo. In doing so it contributes to our understanding of the contradictions that underpin cosmopolitan urbanism in a city with global prominence and influence that, nonetheless, is marked by high levels of social and spatial inequality.
Comparative Research on Local Citizen Participation: Experiences from a Joint Chinese-Canadian Project

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This paper analyzes some of the opportunities and challenges that emerged after about twenty Chinese and Canadian university-based urbanists attempted a joint research project involving selected case studies of local citizen participation in their respective countries. The project began more than five years ago when the Chinese hosts suggested the topic to visiting Canadians. Funding was provided as part of a larger private donation relating to internationalization at the University of Western Ontario. After much individual research, multi-day research meetings of the participants in each of the two countries, and dozens of e-mails and exchanges of draft papers, the project is still not complete. This paper discusses some of the obstacles: different approaches to coordinating the research in each of the two countries; the different and changing political environments for the research in China; and the apparent academic incentives and disincentives for Chinese participants. Canadian participants benefited from experiencing the great diversity of political views and research methodologies among their Chinese academic partners. But an unanswerable question remains: Was it this very diversity that has prevented the Chinese contributors from bringing their end of the project to a conclusion? The paper opens by examining how the participants defined local citizen participation in the context of both China and Canada and how attempts were made to provide for meaningful comparison among the case studies. It proceeds to explain how the Chinese and Canadian urbanists - most of whom knew little about the other country when they started the research - then attempted to learn about local political structures and processes in the other country. Some of the case-study research is briefly outlined and some tentative conclusions are drawn. The author has been the Canadian lead researcher on the project. His description does not identify individual Chinese participants and is more concerned with identifying inherent problems in studying local citizen participation in such obviously different political environments than it is in providing any comprehensive analysis of the nature of local political research by Chinese academics.
Public Space: The Challenges of Local Placemaking

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Designing viable, equitable, and safe public spaces entails a massive amount of foresight by architects, planners and urban designers. The public realm, of course, integrates physical and sociocultural space—a civil society which allows citizens to democratically engage. As constructs of modern society change, however, unique problems arise for the design professional. First is the issue of equity within a fragmented society. Second is the impetus for privatization of public space, with its implications on racial and socioeconomic segregation. Furthermore, the design of public and private spaces often dictates perceptions of safety and accessibility. With these issues in mind, this paper considers existing policies regulating and influencing design of the public realm by architects and planners. Before introducing objectives and alternatives to existing policies, this paper examines the societal function of public spaces and the state of education for practitioners which leads to informed design. A discourse on the limitations of traditional Euclidean zoning fuels the exploration of alternative land use tools, from inclusionary zoning to form based codes. Finally, the theories of crime prevention through environmental design challenge architects and planners not only to consider policy, but also the ways in which the form of public space impacts its function. The paper culminates in a set of recommendations for the design practitioner.
Putting the Politics Back in Regimes

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Regime theory and analysis has come to hold a central place in the study of urban politics and development. Yet for all its import and longevity, the "regime" notion fails to provide an effective explanation of where and how large scale public capital investment is actually managed in big cities. This paper seeks to offer an alternative view of urban politics, one focused on the nature of dealmaking and bargaining within the local business community. That view describes how business deals in "things" rather than "governance."
Restructuring the American Dream: How an Asset-Building/Pre-Purchase Counseling Program Promotes Sustainability of Low-Income Minority Homeownership

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Two decades of federal housing policies aimed at expanding housing opportunities for low-income and minority families significantly increased the numbers of these homeowners in the United States. Since 2007, however, nearly all of the gains in homeownership rates, particularly for minority homebuyers, were erased by the ongoing economic and housing crises. Nearly 20% of minority homeowners have already lost or are at imminent risk of losing their homes before the current foreclosure crisis abates (CRL, 2010). Of particular concern is the long-term sustainability of homeownership and how housing cost burdens, subprime and predatory lending, and rising non-housing indebtedness are associated with the increased risk of foreclosure and housing instability for low-income, minority homebuyers. In this study, we assess how graduation from an individual asset building and homeownership counseling program (HOP) operated by the Denver Housing Authority (DHA) is associated with the sustainability of homeownership among low-income, minority homebuyers using the aforementioned criteria. This mixed-methods study uses longitudinal survey, administrative and qualitative data from the Denver Housing Study. Using propensity score analysis, we matched a sample of 550 former DHA public housing residents who purchased homes during the period from 1995 through 2010; 230 of whom participated in HOP and 320 who did not and serve as a control group. We also employ "difference in difference" econometric modeling to enhance our ability to draw causal inferences about program impacts. Thematic analyses were conducted to assess homebuyer perceptions of factors that facilitate sustainability. Our analyses revealed that HOP program graduates were less likely to be housing cost burdened; received far superior loans at time of origination; and were significantly less likely to move into subprime loans with refinancing. Moreover, they experienced significantly longer spells of homeownership --on average nearly two years longer than nonparticipants. HOP graduates evinced higher mean annualized rates of appreciation. The foreclosure rate among HOP graduates was 16% -- approximately half the rate for non-graduates. Both HOP graduate and non-graduate homebuyers amassed substantial non-housing debt post-purchase, raising some concerns about their long-term financial stability. We found that program participation was a significant protective factor after controlling for changes in respondents' household and SES characteristics. Thus, asset-building programs combined with intensive pre-purchase homeownership counseling substantially improve a range of financial outcomes associated with home ownership and reduces the risk of foreclosure among low-
income, minority homebuyers. We therefore urge that policymakers not overreact to the recent foreclosure crisis by minimizing the importance of and eliminating programs aimed at low-income homeownership opportunities.
Investigating Dynamics of Land Use Change at the Metropolitan Scale, 1990-2000

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The spatial allocation of housing and jobs within a metropolitan area is likely to change over time in response to a wide range of socio-economic, bio-physical, and political influences. This paper examines changes in metropolitan-scale land use patterns across 257 U.S. metropolitan areas from 1990-2000, using econometric methods. We measure land use patterns using residential- and employment-based metrics. We model land use patterns in 2000 as a function of the land use patterns observed in 1990, as well as changes in likely drivers including population, per capita income, socio-demographics (education, immigration, race/ethnicity), transportation network investments, and bio-physical influences (rainfall, topography, coastal proximity). We specifically examine the effect of local land use controls on the magnitude of influence from the identified drivers. This research informs our understanding of the complex processes operating within U.S. metropolitan areas and can be used to improve policy and planning decisions that best match local context. Keywords: metropolitan, land use, sprawl, dynamics, econometrics
The Urban Structure of the American Political System: Democratic Realignment or Disintegration in Metropolitan Detroit and Beyond

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Since the end of the New Deal as an effective electoral and governing coalition in the late sixties, most scholars have concerned themselves with a national political system that appeared to be defined ever less by mass-aggregating institutions, such as the churches, unions, and ethnic identities that once organized a person's place and perspective within larger party structures, and ever more by the appeal of individual politicians to individual voters. Here, candidates were seen increasingly to be operating outside of the bounds of the nation's party structures, as they built and directed their own organizations in order to appeal as individual candidates to the sensibilities of individual voters. But the author has argued that while it is certainly true that the mass aggregating institutions of old have declined, the political interests, attitudes, and actions of citizens have at the same time become ever more structured by the proliferation of ever more distinct localities within our urban regions. These places, increasingly well defined and arranged by the racial, socioeconomic, and demographic makeup of their residents, their fiscal health and attractiveness, their property markets, and the quality of their public facilities and services, literally put their residents "in their places," vis-à-vis each other. And so, the electoral instability that suggested the disintegration of aggregating structures to so many, in fact has been brought about by powerful structures of instability, wherein white working-class residents, who tend to live in older inner-ring suburbs, at once share spatially defined economic interests with their distressed central cities, but aspire to social and racial identification with the mostly white and wealthier of their respective outer suburbs. And so, as central cities tend to align their residents very clearly with the social and economic orientation of the Democratic Party, and the outer suburbs are clearly Republican territory, in both of these respects, the inner ring suburbs have placed their residents in an untenable position between the economic interests that they share with the central cities and the Democrats, and the social and racial identities of the wealthier suburbs, and the Republican Party, to which they aspire. Changes in the electoral structure of the Detroit region suggest that a Democratic alignment of this critical group may finally be underway. The question now is whether the Republican victories of 2010 represent an anomaly, or a sign that the Democratic realignment has, in fact, failed. The location of American politics in urban space comes with potentially profound implications, including the balkanization of national political society. The author proposes a national election study of spatially aggregated election returns for a representative sample of major metropolitan areas inclusive of every national election from 1960 to the present.
Urban Liveability: Problematizing Tourism Planning in Bávaro-Punta Cana, Dominican Republic.

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The role of tourism in the economies of many developing countries is undeniably and growing. It has been employed as one of the key 'development' strategies for a number of countries, including the Dominican Republic. In the case of the latter, despite tourism centrality, neither planning for tourism nor planning in the face of tourism have taken centre stage in the priorities of state bodies. Indeed, until very recently, entities of the central government have paid very little attention to the tourism pole receiving half of the country's tourists: Bávaro-Punta Cana (in the province of La Altagracia). As a result of the expansion of tourism over the past three decades (particularly in the 1990s), migrant labourers from the rest of the country as well as the neighbouring country, Haiti, have relocated to the province in search of income generating activities, resulting in the urbanization of La Altagracia and the creation of new urban poles. Recently, the Ministry of Tourism has developed and adopted a 'Tourism Land-Use Planning' (Plan de Ordenamiento Territorial Turístico), and yet, to this day, there are no land-use, or even strategic plans developed by the local government. The idea is now that the local government should work with this plan, without the necessary capacity and resources, also having had very little input in its development. The purpose of this paper is to investigate some of the key factors that have contributed to the lack of planning in the case study of Bávaro-Punta Cana. It does so in two ways: first, by exploring the underlying difficulties faced by the local government as a result of an 'incomplete' decentralization process; and second, by examining the power of the local government vis-à-vis the Ministry of Tourism.
Fragmented Regionalism: Why Governance Beyond the Central City is So Difficult to Achieve

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This paper addresses the issue of metropolitan or regional governance in the United States. We examine the paradox of how development requires regional governance, but at the same time makes it improbable. On the one hand development brings about greater diversification and specialization within regions and also entails higher per capita income, thereby necessitating greater regional cooperation. On the other hand the very processes of specialization and differentiation, makes it more difficult to coordinate an increasingly complex and differentiated metropolitan region. The introduction of a thriving middle class and a pluralistic society also means that citizens within particular localities will press for greater autonomy, thereby creating greater challenges for the pursuit of a common regional agenda. On behalf of this paradox we offer several propositions. First, the predicate for fragmented regionalism is sustained by increased local fragmentation coupled to higher economic disparities between metropolitan regions. Its erratic nature is governed by the level of prosperity of a particular metropolis with the more prosperous enjoying more inter-jurisdictional cooperation than those that are less well off. Second, we would expect to find quite limited and very selective manifestations of cross jurisdictional cooperation—effectively fragmented regionalism conforms to political pressures to limit cooperation to economic/infrastructure imperatives and some environmental concerns but little else. Third, fragmented regionalism refracts the very condition of existing metropolitan areas. Rather than a deliberate effort to bring together multiple centers of power across a broad landscape, this kind of regionalism is perforce, spotty. The architecture of fragmented regionalism resembles Hooge and Marx’s Type 2 metropolises where regional institutions are functionally organized, intersecting, cross cutting and seemingly “messy”. Fourth and last, fragmented regionalism is likely to be the central theme of the metropolitan future. As such it is geared to protracted, incremental growth that emphasizes economic rather than social priorities. Data from 51 MSAs are used to establish these propositions. These data are used in conjunction with empirical observations on public authorities, special districts and councils of government.
The Role of Government in Urban Low-Income Rental Housing: A Comparative Analysis of the U.S. and China

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The systems of providing adequate and decent low-income rental housing in the US and China are both failing to meet the current demand for such housing within cities. Part of this failure can be explained by the tensions existing between the policies adopted by the national government and actual implementation by local governments: the mandates and incentive structures offered by the national governments fail to mobilize local government action in the face of fiscal disincentives. The paper explores this tension within both countries by examining who pays for low-income rental housing construction, who builds it, who is assisted by it, who controls the land, and if or how local governments are held accountable for achieving national production goals. We find that the greatest similarities between the US and China include the importance of municipal governments for effective implementation of low-income rental housing development. Ultimately, they decide whether or not low-income rental housing gets built within their boundaries and where it is located, primarily through their land-use decisions and secondarily through funding decisions. Local government willingness and ability to support the construction of low-income rental housing, however, is constrained by their need or desire to maximize local revenues through property taxes (US) or land conveyance fees (China) rather than give land away or tax it at a reduced rate to support low-income rental housing development. Despite significant differences between the US and China in who pays for, who builds, and who is assisted by low-income rental housing, there are lessons each country can learn from the other, as well as areas where they can both improve. The US might consider setting national goals for production and provision, and find some mechanism to aid in local government accountability. It could also strengthen its support of such production by increasing supply-side strategies like China has done recently in response to continuing private market failures to build low-income rental housing. On the other hand, China could provide incentives for stronger private market participation in the provision of low-income rental housing. We conclude that both the US and China can improve national government funding to meet the need for low-income rental housing production, and reimagine their local government finance system that provides such strong disincentives for low-income rental housing development.
City-County Consolidation and Economic Development

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What effect does city-county consolidation have on economic development in cities? This research seeks to answer this question, namely by examining the effects of merging city and county governments on the attraction of business firms to the consolidated city. The reform perspective of local government argues that consolidation increases a city's efficiency in operation by promoting accountability and eliminating the duplication of services along with decreasing taxes. These potential benefits may entice businesses to locate to consolidated cities. On the other hand, the fragmentation school of thought argues that more governments in a city or region increase competition among the jurisdictions to provide the best environment for businesses. I hypothesize that consolidation attracts businesses to cities, but only when the consolidated city annexes large tracts of land into its new jurisdiction that is not densely populated, allowing businesses to use this cheaper land to locate its operations. By comparing business and demographic data of consolidated and non-consolidated cities in a time-series panel format, I test the effects of consolidation on attracting business to these cities.
Regenerating Legacy Cities Through Urban Greening — Lessons in Sustainable Community Building from The Groundwork Trust USA Model

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Remains of the Progressive City? First Source Hiring In Portland and Chicago

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Local economic development initiatives have long faced the criticism that they do too little to meet the employment needs of disadvantaged populations, especially within communities of color. In response, in the late 1970s and early 1980s cities such as Portland, Minneapolis and Chicago adopted policies strengthening linkages between local economic development programs and publicly-funded employment and job training agencies serving disadvantaged segments of the workforce. Through mechanisms like "first source hiring," resident preference requirements, and linked financial incentives, cities sought to ensure that publicly-subsidized, private-sector job creation was targeted more effectively to communities of need. Yet by the 1990s, job targeting policies in many cities had been eliminated or weakened as political winds shifted, the legality of local hiring requirements was challenged, and the efficacy of first source programs questioned. In recent years, there has been a renewed interest in job targeting policies at the local level. Inspired by the success of the community benefits movement in cities like Los Angeles, progressive coalitions in many cities are pushing local governments to incorporate job targeting provisions into initiatives ranging from public works projects to publicly-subsidized private redevelopment projects to "green" initiatives. These provisions draw on the leverage of public funding by requiring private sector contractors to increase representation of women, racial/ethnic minorities, and disadvantaged communities in new jobs created. What, if anything, have these contemporary initiatives learned from the past experience of job targeting policies? And what does this suggest for reincorporating job targeting into economic development practice? This paper examines these questions through a case study of job targeting efforts in Portland, Oregon. In 1978 Portland became the first U.S. city to adopt "first source hiring," and while the policy has remained in place it has been weakened considerably over the years, raising questions about its efficacy as a job targeting tool. In recent years, however, the city has taken steps to reincorporate job targeting provisions, through a "Community Workforce Agreement" in its 2009 Clean Energy Works pilot program, and more recently, a comprehensive Community Benefits Agreement policy for city-funded development projects. Through archival material and interviews with local officials, I find that the efficacy of Portland's job targeting efforts over the years has hinged largely on the commitment of administrative agencies responsible for their implementation. While political and economic barriers are likely to limit the spread of job targeting policies across U.S. cities, I conclude that their potential as a progressive urban development tool remains quite significant.
A CBPR Intervention Aimed at Improving Social Determinants of Health and Access to Care: Preliminary Results

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Using community-based participatory research (CBPR), the Mecklenburg Partnership for Primary care Research (MAPPR) is conducting a five-year, NIH-funded study titled A Transdisciplinary Approach to the Evaluation of Social Determinants of Health. Via GIS and qualitative analysis we identified a series of social determinants impacting the health of the Hispanic community in Charlotte and the neighborhoods particularly affected by reduced access to primary care. Currently in its third year, we provide an overview of the process of devising a neighborhood-level intervention project aimed at mobilizing existing resources to alleviate healthcare disparities and barriers to access. More specifically, we present the preliminary results of five Community Wellness Fairs (the intervention) that are to take place between October 2012 and March 2013. The fairs provide a range of free educational, medical, and social services. Participants who choose to enroll in our study at the fairs will be surveyed each time to follow their changes in basic health outcomes (blood pressure and glucose) and health/social service utilization. By providing opportunities for continuous care and identifying community leaders to help build community-driven health interest groups we aim to achieve sustainability and build capacity among community members. This work has the potential to further the development of CBPR methods and offers novel insights into ways to address multifaceted marginalization at the neighborhood level.
Immigrant Enclaves in the 2000s: What Role Does the Housing Market Play?

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The expansion of the housing market at the beginning of the 2000s coincided with changing residential patterns among immigrants. Many new and established immigrants began to establish themselves in new receiving communities, largely in the South and West— a move away from the highly urbanized immigrant enclaves in traditional gateway metros like San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York. This paper explores the relationship between local housing market conditions and the formation and consolidation of immigrant enclaves in a variety of metros experiencing substantial change in their immigrant populations. We focus specifically on the foreign-born, Spanish-speaking Central American population, which accounted for about 37 percent of all immigrants in 2009 and great part of the population growth for the first part of the decade. We use tract-level data from the 2000 Census and the 2005-2009 American Community Survey 5-year estimates to examine how the change in the share of this population relates to demographics and housing market conditions. Demographic factors include tracts' share of co-ethnics, recency of immigration, and citizenship status. Housing market factors include the absolute number of housing units, vacancy rates for ownership and rental units, median rent and median home values, the relative size of the rental market, the median number of rooms in owner and renter occupied properties, change in the number of rental and ownership units, the share of single-family structure that are renter occupied. Analyses reveal that the tract-level predictors of immigrant enclave formation or consolidation vary substantially across metros. We suggest useful typologies for understanding these trends going forward.
All the Best Meetings Happen in the Car Park: Exploring Spaces of Participation in Urban Regeneration Processes

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Public participation in urban regeneration planning processes has become imperative in many parts of the world. New Zealand, described as a test tube for neoliberal reforms, has embraced this inclusive liberal turn, evident in the requirement for public participation in key legislation and strategic planning documents. While many citizens and voluntary associations continue to express frustration that they can't 'really' influence important decisions that affect their lives, some small innovations in urban governance are evident. In this paper, I explore how a voluntary association re-appropriated neoliberal ideas and practices related to public participation to subvert a neoliberal agenda. Based on ethnographic research in Tāmaki, a highly marginalised part of New Zealand’s largest city of Auckland, I examine how the Tāmaki Inclusive Engagement Strategy (TIES) team influenced a 20-year urban regeneration programme. This group of about a dozen community leaders worked together over a three year period (2008 - 2011) and influenced how people, including local residents, community organisations and in particular, government agencies, were to ‘participate’ and ‘work together’ in the programme. I examine the spatial and temporal elements that contributed to this voluntary association’s influence. The TIES team entered 'invited spaces' (Cornwall and Coelho, 2007) of participation, but over time also shaped those spaces so that they could exert real influence. In the process they forged new or 'elbowed spaces' where more local people could influence and be part of programme design and implementation. In parallel to these activities on the central political stage, TIES also met regularly as a team. Based on their experience as community leaders, TIES team members knew that 'all the best meetings happen in the car park', meaning that some of the best ideas and relationships are created in informal gatherings that occur before or after the 'real' meetings. TIES members therefore formed a voluntary association where they could come together freely, exchange information and ideas, deliberate, and develop a capacity to act in concert to influence the urban regeneration programme. TIES' also worked collectively to shape alternatives in parallel to state activities and mobilise local residents to contest injustices. TIES is an example of a voluntary association that was 'working the spaces (and beyond) of neoliberalism' (Larner and Craig 2005:11). The achievements were fleeting and fragile, based on trial and error, emergent rather than drawing on identifiable origins and a coherent rationale, but make an important contribution by re-imagining the future of local democracy.
Violence Prevention and Obesity Prevention: A Shared Opportunity for Improving Communities

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Violence and fear play crucial roles in the health of Americans. They affect where people live, work, and shop, and influence whether children are allowed to play outside or walk to school. Neighborhoods with high levels of community violence tend to have under-developed or poorly maintained green spaces, limited healthy food options, and numerous alcohol and tobacco outlets, factors associated with obesity among residents. Obesity prevention strategies -- among all Americans, in all communities -- must appreciate the pivotal role community violence prevention can play in helping individuals gain access to healthy foods and physical activity. Furthermore, a new field of research and practice is needed that links violence prevention to healthy eating and active living, two important factors associated with obesity prevention and community health. This report explores the importance of developing a new field at the intersection of violence prevention, healthy eating, and active living. The report distills and synthesizes discussions from a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation-sponsored thought leaders forum on The Role of Community Safety in Obesity Prevention: Exploring How Exposure to Crime and Violence Impact Physical Activity and Healthy Eating, which took place at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, GA. This meeting included 54 national thought leaders in violence prevention, healthy eating, and active living. The forum objectives were 1.) To review and discuss existing information on how community safety and perceptions of safety influence physical activity and access to healthy foods; 2.) To share innovative, effective, practice oriented community-based violence prevention strategies that help people feel more safe, become more physically active, and gain access to healthy food; 3.) To discuss the challenges in measuring community safety and its links to physical activity and healthy eating; and, 4.) To identify ways in which interdisciplinary partnerships, measurement and data collection, information-sharing, and policies and regulations might be changed to collectively advance research and practice in this new field. This paper includes several overarching recommendations for how to link the fields of violence prevention to healthy eating and active living. Emergent themes and recommendations apply to partnerships, measurement and data collection, information-sharing and dissemination of ideas, and/or policy and regulations.
Shopping and Street Vending in the Glo-Cal Context: The Case of Bangkok

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Street vendors are found throughout the world. They play a significant role of socio-economy in many countries especially in under and developing world. Street vending activity provides the easy accessibility for all populace to get cheap foods, commodities and employment. Accordingly, the potential of street vending as a key to achieve the inclusive city concept should be examined. However, governor and planning policy-maker still have a blinded-eye to the potential of street vending activities due to its illegality, and their image of poverty. As a consequence, street vending activities nowadays are forced by diverse forms of pressures. Traditionally by governor, policy maker, developer, as well as modern concept influenced urban designer who has try to vanishing street vending out of the city. Conventionally, by social structural change due to the unrelenting rapid advance in technology especially in online communication which has brought the global trend and influence into the local context. Those topics are hypothesis that globalization and innovative technology have both direct-indirect significant impacts on street vending activities in Asian context. One of the major factors is online communication which influenced to the change of social structure including of shopping behavior and spatial structure. This empirical study has two main objectives; first is to examine the influence of innovative technology affected to street vending activities. Second is clarifying the current state of street vending activities, demands and trends in comparative with others form of commerce. This study uses Bangkok as case study, as its life style attributes dramatically a long historical dependency on street vending activities. The quantitative analysis data would be gathered through the questionnaires with consumers. The 300 participants would be able to clarify the current stage and trend of shopping behavior of Thai society focusing on their impact to street vending activities. The accessibility and its frequency to the online network of each participant will be a main controlled factor. The results reveal that globalization and innovation have a significant impact to Thai society through the mode of shopping. The market share in shopping activities has changed. Shopping online has competing with street vendors in terms of low price and convenience, and low investments. The results suggest that in order to survive; street vendors have to compete not only with among themselves and public sectors but also with other forms of commerce which emerged newly under the forces of society and technology changes. Finally, it would provide the initial recommendations on how street vending deals with the making of inclusive city in urban planning and design perspective.
Using Local Government Data to Inform Policy for Urban Neighborhoods

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As cities increasing use data to benchmark performance, there are opportunities to use the data to inform policy. By layering data from various government agencies, there are a myriad of opportunities to inform the policy discussion. Many cities struggle with stabilizing urban neighborhoods in transition. This research shows how data that is available from multiple local government agencies can be used to provide a more comprehensive view of neighborhoods in transition. Chattanooga, Tennessee enacted a 311 system in 2003 as a performance tool to track local government efficiency. Of the over 2 million calls, an important subset are those made regarding neighborhood conditions—complaints about housing, littering and overgrown areas. When geocoded these, complaints provide a snapshot into neighbors that are transitioning. Combined with other local government data sources including geocoded data about the location of places that sell liquor and absentee residential owners (derived from parcel data and tax information), a richer and more contextual picture emerges about urban areas. Public safety is but one area that bedevils urban neighborhoods in transition, but it is one that if identified can have targeted policy measures enacted. Using spatial analysis, these various data sources can be used to predict areas of property crime and inform the development of policy.
Capturing Urban Intensity

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The relationship between density and livability has become the focus of a lively urban planning debate in recent years. Those who point to the negative effects of density typically cite congestion, friction and unaffordability. Those who point to the positive effects of density cite vibrancy, walkability and intensity of encounters that dense urban environments can offer. While the methods for capturing the negative effects of congestion are widely understood and operationalized, capturing the positive effects of density remains poorly explored. This research focuses on the latter, proposing a novel spatial analysis and mapping approach that can be used to capture the intensity of urban environments around the world. We define intensity loosely as the volume of spatial interactions that a district has to offer. Bridging morphological mapping techniques with recent network analysis in GIS, we explore how the notion of intensity is captured in four complimentary characteristics of each district: 1) the ground-floor structural typology of buildings; 2) the pedestrian circulation network; 3) the functional use pattern of ground-floor spaces, and 4) the degree of public accessibility among different spaces in an area. The structural typologies of ground floors are used to describe the visual connections between indoor and outdoor spaces in the area. The ground floor morphology also reveals which kinds of spaces lend themselves more readily to commercial or dwelling activities, and illuminates the ease with which the use of these spaces can change in the future. The tally of establishments and characters of spaces within buildings summons the distribution of destinations and attractions in the area. We hypothesize that variation in public destinations plays an important role in shaping people's perception of an area's intensity. A three-dimensional pedestrian circulation network is used to tie both indoor and outdoor environments into a seamless continuum for estimating a user's spatial experience of the area, and for describing how the characteristics of different districts compare. We implement the approach in two comparative districts in Singapore using data collected from detailed on-ground surveys within a ten-minute walking radius in each area. A comparison of metrics in the two areas is used to describe the differences in the volume of spatial interactions that each district has to offer. Beyond the case analysis, the research illustrates an empirical implementation of urban intensity measurement - a quality that may be difficult to capture, but whose apprehension is vital for developing a better understanding of the positive effects of dense built environments.
Malaysian Urban Rural National Indicators Network on Sustainable Development (MURNInets)

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Cities and towns are now recognised as pivotal for development. The critical density of people that allows for agglomeration economies also provides greater opportunities for reflexivity, information and knowledge sharing, cultural exchanges and more effective provision of services, particularly health and education. All of these are essential elements for social development, advancement of civil society, well-being, cultural consolidation, change and cosmopolitanism. Cities are also centres of political power and administration. The closer proximity to the seat of power, their higher concentration and better articulation of their demands through civil organisations have meant that in the main urban citizens have greater opportunities for influencing policy-making and setting developmental agendas at both local and national levels. The assessment of a sustainable city is always related to the selection of sustainable development indicators. In search of an adequate set of indicators to develop an index, some existing indicators and indices have been reviewed. The purpose of this article is to promote a set of criteria, indicators and indices for sustainability assessment in major cities of Malaysia. Malaysia Urban Indicators Network (MURNInet) was developed by the Federal Department of Town and Country Planning, Peninsular Malaysia (FDTCP) for measuring the quality of life of minimum standards to be achieved by each city in Malaysia. MURNInet comprises 11 sectors, namely demography, housing, city economy, utility and infrastructure, community facilities and recreation, environment, sociology and social impacts, land use, tourism and heritage, transportation and accessibility, management and finance. It assumes equal weight for all the above sectors. The initiative started with a basic concept in March 1997 and has continued to expand until the first MURNInet Report, published in April 2001. The pilot project of MURNInet was launched in six cities in Malaysia in 2002: Georgetown, Johor Bahru, Kuantan, Kuching, PasirMas and Batu Pahat. In 2004, the project was further expanded to eight cities: Kangar, Alor Setar, Ipoh, Malacca, Seremban, Shah Alam. The early year implementation of MURNInet is a foundation for Malaysia to measure city development; however, it only partly covers sustainability in its wider sense and tends to focus more on the social perspective. MurniNet has expanded to cover 13 major cities in Malaysia. In the year 2011, the review of MURNInet was carried out with the change in the creation of dimensions, themes and new indicators which replace the existing sector in the previous
MURNInet program to Malaysian Urban And Rural Network Indicators On Sustainable Development (MURNInets). This article focuses on the implementation of new set of indicators to assess urban sustainability in Malaysia.
Community Boundaries & Community Resilience: Taking a Network Perspective

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This paper is part of a larger project that makes an important methodological contribution to cutting-edge scholarly debates about community resilience. Fostering community resilience has become a popular policy goal of community empowerment and civic capacity initiatives intended to develop communities’ abilities to recover from a range of adverse incidents, whether natural or man-made. A term adopted from the natural sciences that spread into the fields of disaster recovery and community development, resilience has multiple working definitions that describe a system's ability to quickly return to a stable state after experiencing a severe disturbance. However, at present the literature on community resilience is unsettled and there is no clear consensus as to what resilience means or how it should be measured. As a result, public managers and urban planners tasked with fostering resilience find themselves struggling to understand the concept, find ways to build it, and identify metrics for measuring the effectiveness of resilience-building efforts. One important aspect of community resilience that has received scant attention is how to establish the boundaries of the community whose resilience is in question. Most researchers use administrative units like county and municipal jurisdictions to establish those boundaries. However, making the boundaries of community coterminous with city or county borders may mask important community boundaries within those borders, as well as inequities in access to resources, opportunities, and power. Leaving those inequities masked may hinder important insights about differences in the resilience of various communities, with important implications for planners and policymakers concerned about social justice. To better inform discussions about community resilience, scholars must address two methodological questions: (1) how can communities of resilience within city or county borders be empirically defined? and (2) what measures can be used to describe the characteristics of these communities of resilience and assess the relationships within and among them? This paper begins to address those methodological questions by reporting on a pilot project that uses social network analysis to empirically define communities of resilience in San Francisco, California. While network concepts are invoked in the community resilience literature, an extensive search found no studies that apply social network analysis to community resilience. The study uses a number of measures of network characteristics to establish community boundaries and to begin to assess their resilience. The analysis sheds light on inequities by depicting how relationships in and across those communities are patterned, as well as how those patterns influence the flow of resources to those communities. The paper provides scholars and practitioners with an opportunity to learn more about how they may apply this approach.
Reconstructing Urban Politics with a Bourdieusian Framework: The Case of Local Low-Income Housing Policy

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This study has investigated the case of local low-income housing policy--inclusionary zoning, which is a local ordinance that requires or encourages housing developers to make a certain portion of new construction affordable to low-income households. Madison, Wisconsin, after a progressive mayor, former environmental organization leader, was elected, enacted and implemented inclusionary zoning ordinance for 5 years. The policy gave rise to intensive controversies and conflicts among community leaders and members from the policy debate period before it was enacted. This research has aimed to develop a meso-micro level model of urban politics through the case study, drawing on Pierre Bourdieu's field theory. In order to reconstruct the urban politics, this research historicizes the path of the local low-income policy issue through document analysis and qualitative media content analysis. While the overall history of a specific local low-income housing issue is addressed, multiple stakeholders are systematically identified, including local politicians, housing developers, and civic activists through document analysis, qualitative media content analysis, and in-depth interviews with key stakeholders. Also, the main local news media reports on low-income housing policy issues over the five years were gathered and analyzed. Based on the collected data, cohesive subgroups are identified through actor-by-actor network analysis to discover influential networks of the stakeholders in the urban politics. Also, through the in-depth interviews with key stakeholders, the principal stakes or interests are identified to compare the stakeholders' standpoints toward the policy issue across their stakes or interests. In addition, statistical analyses of the local housing construction business dataset are employed to demonstrate how the field of local housing developers is configured. Consequently, this research has identified that urban politics has taken place in complex power relations among the participants. Some key leaders have created coalition networks of urban politics over time to dominate the policy issue by connecting with one another. In short, this study has shown that the urban politics consists of complex inter-linkages among the politics-participants with shared values or interests from different groups to dominate the policy issue. Therefore, the entire configuration of urban politics is filled with conflicts and collaborations among stakeholders both in and across each group. Based on these findings, this study has further investigated what has driven the leaders to participate in different urban politics. For this, this research has focused on stakes, which participants have sought to obtain in each group, and on specific actions that key participants have employed in the urban politics.
Where are the Poor?: Race, Class, and Space

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This presentation represents a response to our teaching experiences. Typically when discussing the needs of the disadvantaged, the literature, films, and news analyses we draw upon singularly focus on blacks and other people of color as the victims of intractable poverty (Wilson 1987; Massey 1993; McWhorter 2000). In contrast, only a very few sources detailed the struggles of poor whites and most, until Murray’s most recent 2012 book, were either dated or confined to Appalachia (Sawyer 2009; Flint 1989; Giltlin & Hollander 1970). However, those who study poverty know that, while the poverty rate is higher among minorities, the great majority of poor in this country are non-Hispanic whites. Our paper is an initial effort to fill this gap in the literature and our knowledge base. We will present: ? A succinct overview of the extant literature that will cover salient issues such as poverty and space/immigration/welfare strategies, to establish a framework for the ensuing portion of the presentation. ? GIS maps that depict the concentrations of white poverty by varying characteristics nationwide. ? An analysis of how media portrayals that chronicle the changing face of poverty have become slanted over time to ignore the actual diversity of the poor in the United States (we start with the Work Progress Administration at time when poverty was portrayed as a condition affecting both black and white and move on to the present day). The implications of this presentation are far reaching and related to the 2013 conference focus on inclusion. Our research will validate poverty as a more diverse concern that includes not only people of color but whites. In addition, the research will be designed to answer the following questions: ? Where are the pockets of white poverty? ? How do conventional race, space, and poverty theories about the spatial mismatch and the culture of poverty change as the awareness of white poverty is brought into the picture? ? How can planning and policymaking use the knowledge of white poverty to create better communities? While the research is at a beginning, it will start to fill an important gap in our knowledge of poverty and its various dimensions and impacts. As a consequence, the presentation should be of interests to urbanists and others interested in the social and economic conditions of the disadvantaged—a vital component of cities, suburbs, and rural places.

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Not entirely unlike the currently volatile situation in the US – a situation quite lucidly depicted by the recent spate of municipal bankruptcies in California – local governments in the Canadian urban system have faced acute challenges with respect to financing any number of badly-needed investments: from aging infrastructure projects, to public transportation improvements. Cities in Canada – burdened as they are with an array of additional responsibilities downloaded from higher levels of government, but without any concomitant increase in funding opportunities – have been forced to seek out new revenue streams in order to pay for those developments that were once covered, wholly or partially, by provincial or federal interests. In this context, the case of the Calgary Municipal Lands Corporation proves especially pertinent. Created as a wholly owned subsidiary of the City of Calgary in 2007, the CMLC is a quasi-autonomous urban redevelopment agency charged with a mandate to realize an ambitious revitalization project in Calgary’s Downtown East Village: an historically marginalized inner-city neighborhood that currently houses Canada’s largest homeless shelter. To accomplish this task, the CMLC has relied upon a newly created “community revitalization levy” that represents the first major attempt at utilizing tax increment financing in the Canadian urban system in order to “implement public infrastructure improvements that will be the catalyst for private and public sector development” (CMLC, 2007). While many American cities have relied upon TIF-based urban renewal strategies for more than half a century now, they have increasingly been called into question in the very places that have used them since their inception: such as Oregon and – most controversially – California. It is interesting to note, then, that as TIF comes under an increasingly vociferous assault in one national context, it has finally found a foothold in another that has elided it up to the present moment. This paper will offer a preliminary look at how this particular ensemble of urban renewal policies has taken hold after both migrating and mutating across the border to a city well known for its decidedly laissez faire approach to planning and development. It will pay as much attention to what was left out of Calgary’s appropriation of this form of urban revitalization (such as, for example, affordable housing set-asides) as it will to what was actually taken up and modified to fit both the local and national context. It will also dwell on the potential repercussions that Calgary’s “regulatory experiment” (Brenner et al., 2010a) might have across the Canadian urban system.
Urban Sustainability and Local Institutions: The Politics and Economics of Smart Grid in the U.S. Cities

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One of the possible ways, for cities like San Francisco, to improve the quality of life for its citizens, is by providing participatory programs through which citizen can get the opportunity to have a role in shaping the sustainable future of the city. Smart Grid can be conceived as such a program. Cities across the U.S., which have adopted smart grid related programs and smart metering infrastructure, report significant energy efficiency related savings. Additionally, every household, business or industry fitted with the smart meters can share the feeling of contributing towards a sustainable future, in addition to making significant savings on the power bill. Smart grid is viewed as the future and the next generation of power distribution network. However, despite its promising characteristics, the rate of adoption of smart grid infrastructure in the U.S utility market has remained low, when compared to other OECD countries. Additionally, within the U.S., the adoption rate varies significantly across municipalities; e.g. the municipal-owned utility serving City of Tallahassee in Florida tops the list of municipal utilities when it comes to Advance Metering Infrastructure despite being 125th in the U.S. in terms of population. In order to fully comprehend this urban policy process, there is need to develop comprehensive models which go beyond the engineering aspects of smart grid by incorporating its economics and the political process in action. This paper aims to empirically test the presence and role of institutions of local governance in the adoption of smart grid by the municipally-owned utilities across the U.S. which serves cities with population above 25,000. In order to proxy the level of adoption of Smart Grid by a city, I utilized the total number of AMI (Advance Metering Infrastructure) and AMR (Automated Meter Reading) facilities provided by that city. I plan to test the adoption of Smart Grid by the municipally owned utilities throughout the U.S. based on the economic variables (the electricity pricing structure at retail level and fiscal stress faced by the City) and political/institutional variables (existence of independent utility Board, institutional structure of the local City government, interest group politics and political ideology of the jurisdiction) in addition to the technical feasibility of smart grid captured through peak electricity demand (HDDs/CDDs), energy efficiency spending and having own generation capacity by the utilities. Employing the Political Market Framework, and based on empirical findings, I plan to test the hypotheses related to urban sustainability efforts and their institutional explanations. The results may be significantly important for urban governance, local level energy policy, sustainable movement in the cities and for knowledge increment and theory building in the study of institutions of local governance.
Public Policy and Local Immigrant Organizations in the U.S. and Canada

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This paper examines the influence of national immigration and integration policies on local-level immigrant advocacy and organizations. Rooted in policy design and social construction perspectives, supplemented by literature in comparative urban politics and multilevel governance, this work traces the evolution of immigrant-serving NGOs and their public and private partners, in Newark, NJ and Ottawa, Ontario. Literature has documented the importance of NGOs across a range of policy sectors, and in the field of immigration. NGOs aid in the integration process, whether socially, economically or politically. This project traces the multiple levels of policy making related to immigrant integration and how these come together at the local level to shape how local organizations work. In Canada, a top-down integration policy in conjunction with an immigration policy increasingly focused on serving the labor market, produces a coherent and stable set of immigrant organizations at the local level. Their difficulty helping immigrants gain work at their skill levels belies the national focus on skilled workers. In the U.S., a bottom-up integration policy combined with an enforcement-driven immigration policy leads to a fluid, diverse, and fragile set of organizations locally. These groups cope with negative images of immigrants while trying either to ease the way for undocumented at the local level, or to change national and state policies for the same purpose. In each site, a distinct discourse about immigrants and their place in society is evident, and in each site organizations struggle to fill gaps left by policy. This paper draws on field research conducted in the two sites in addition to an array of secondary sources.
Navigating the Intermediary City: Explaining Rapid Urban Growth in Panama City, Panama

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Since the handover of the Panama Canal and the adjacent Canal Zone by the U.S. in 1999, Panama City, Panama has experienced unprecedented urban growth. This has materialised through multiple processes, including a massive waterfront redevelopment scheme that has transformed the city’s low-rise seaside promenade into what many refer to as a Dubai- or Singapore-like agglomeration of high-rise towers. This has been paralleled by the gentrification of the Casco Viejo - the city's colonial quarter - as well as a large-scale displacement of the working-class to the newly accreted peri-urban fringe. While development boosters tout it as exemplary, informed critics are quick to note that the city is on the verge of infrastructural collapse and that the city's laissez-faire planning has actually curbed the freedom of mobility that it sought to preserve. Post-colonial and world-systems treatments might attribute the city's growth to an 'opening up' to an influx of foreign capital when absolute sovereignty was achieved after the handover. Building on these approaches, this paper takes the position that the city's growth was further compounded by its pre-established service agglomeration that traces its history to the commercial economy that emerged to support canal-related activities. In particular, Panama City has come to play an important transitive role in the economies of the Central American, Andean, and Caribbean states vis-à-vis its dollarised economy, logistical infrastructure, and producer services cluster. As such, Panama City falls into a unique category of Intermediary Cities that act as extra-territorial jurisdictions through which goods and capital are mediated.
Urban-Rural Dynamics in Colombia: Urban Peripheries, Agriculture, Agro-industry, Mining and Preservation

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Urban Land in Colombia, like in most countries in the world, does not surpasses more than 1% of the entire national territory. Nonetheless this vast majority of land serves urban life, demands and needs. Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and high resolution information, this research aims to explore the uses of rural land in Colombia and its relation to urban dynamics. Particularly exploring specific cases that differs from each other and portrait different urban-rural relations prevailing within the country. Additionally this paper explores the food supply chains that strengths relations between rural and urban spaces. The Colombian Urban System is based on 5 big metropolitan areas expanding rapidly and transforming their peripheries according to the immediate demands of urban growth.

Additionally there is a growing set of cities that serves as rural nodes of agriculture production, tourism and preservation. Exploring emerging relations between big metropolitan areas, urbanized rural regions and pure rural spaces allows to observe the transformation of land uses resulting from contemporary economic trends. There are three major phenomena to explore: (1) transformation of urban peripheries where rural areas surrounding cities are changed to urban due to speculation process and pressure by growing populations. (2) Mutation from traditional rural production or mining to agro-industrial and large scale businesses is changing the existing balance and demanding new solutions and (3) Urban food supply becomes one of the most relevant issues of urban exploration of land use and change. According to Jane Jacobs (1970) rural areas are an extension of urban development and the changes in urbanscapes should also manifest in the fields. This research seeks to observe current transformations of cities in Colombia while observing the rural areas that responds to existing urban dynamics and provide resources for urban change. This work is part of a larger exploration of the urban dynamics in Colombia as a system of cities with specific interactions and mechanisms for exchange.
The Ins and Outs of Urban Fiscal Crisis in Rhode Island

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During 2012, several RI municipalities, including the capital city, Providence, threatened to declare bankruptcy. The threat was credible because in 2011, Central Falls actually did so. The poorest city in RI, whose schools were already taken over by the state in 1991, was battered by the economic collapse. As property tax revenues and state transfers contracted, Central Falls was placed under Mark Pfeiffer, a state-appointed receiver, in 2010 who renegotiated union contracts and raised taxes. The next year, Governor Lincoln Chafee appointed Robert G. Flanders Jr. who took virtually total control of city government. Brushing aside the mayor (later convicted on corruption), Flanders laid off workers, negotiated employee concessions, eliminated programs, closed the library and community center, and restructured the one-square-mile town’s budget. On August 1, 2011, he filed for Chapter 9 bankruptcy protection in federal court, which voided municipal employee contracts and allowed him to impose pension cuts and copayments on retirees. Flanders’ five-year plan for fiscal recovery raised taxes for the next six years and gave bondholders priority among the city’s creditors. The public saw Judge Flanders as abusing his power and was replaced with a banker. Saving Central Falls became a national cause célèbre, with movie stars from Alec Baldwin to Meryl Streep to Viola Davis donating to keep the local library open or provide school yearbooks. In September 2012, the Bankruptcy Court approved the reorganization plan. Elected leadership will resume in January 2013. The Central Falls bankruptcy set a precedent for cities all over the country, and while Vallejo CA went under as early as 2008, other municipalities around the country followed suit in 2012. In RI, Central Falls became the cautionary tale. The RI Public Expenditure Council called on the state to avoid local defaults with legislative relief from state mandates. The threat of bankruptcy helped Providence, the capital city of RI, avert default during the first half of 2012. Indeed, bankruptcy became a bargaining card, as Angel Tavares, the first Latino mayor, successfully negotiated with municipal unions, public retirees, large nonprofit eds & meds, and other parties with vested interests in the budget to share the “sacrifice.” Tavares was hailed for restoring the budget and is now considered a gubernatorial candidate. The work-out allowed Providence to borrow another $44 million for capital improvements. Yet the city’s deficit remains higher than projected, so that “fiscal crisis” politics are likely to continue.
A Spatial Analysis of School District Segregation, Finance, and Educational Outcomes in Western New York

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This poster uses data from the 2006-10 American Community Survey and the New York State Education Department (NYSED) to map demographic patterns, levels of school finance, and educational outcomes in school districts. The analysis focuses on the 39 school districts located in Erie and Niagara counties in western New York. These districts include the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, as well as surrounding suburban and rural communities. The poster identifies the magnitude of segregation across school districts and disparities in educational outcomes. The spatial analysis is used to generate recommendations for reforms in public school finance and fair housing policy aimed at promoting school integration and equity in educational outcomes.
Why Do Low Income Families Move? Exploring the Differing Housing Careers of Assisted and Unassisted Households

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Adding context to the question of “Why do low-income families move?”, this paper offers an analysis of the different strategies that low-income households use when they do not have housing assistance and how those strategies change once they receive housing assistance. The research draws on data from two mixed-methods studies and includes 77 low- and very low-income participants about a third of whom has no housing assistance. The findings emphasize the important role that housing assistance plays in helping people overcome serious housing problems. Without housing assistance, participants moved through a wide variety of housing accommodations, often making strategic moves in order to avoid homelessness or to escape untenable housing and neighborhood conditions. Housing assistance, particularly Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV), allowed participants to remain in the private rental market and to avoid lower-hierarchy living arrangements.
The Preference Paradox: Sprawl versus Urbanism

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Urban sprawl is often explained by consumers’ desire to purchase single family homes. Examining the Houston region, this study finds that consumer-based supply and demand does not tell the entire story. The city’s lack of zoning laws and developer-driven growth are integral factors alongside consumer demand. Houston has the lowest overall cost of living for metropolitan areas exceeding two million people. The low cost of housing and seemingly endless land is often explained as enabling individuals to achieve the “American Dream” of owning a single-family home with a large yard. Nevertheless, data from the 2012 Kinder Houston Area Survey shows that the majority of respondents would prefer to live in a smaller home and be able to walk to work and shops than in a single-family house with a large yard. Findings suggest that individual preferences are more likely a result of perceptions of national discourses on the “American Dream” than individual contexts. This is, however, not the only factor: urban sprawl in Houston is also the product of a lack of zoning laws that enable developers to create spaces that maximize their profits.
EB-5 Immigrant Investor Program as an Economic Development Strategy

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According to recent accounts in a variety of media outlets, the United States is experiencing a period of stagnant growth and high unemployment. Particularly affected by the current economic crises are people living in urban, post-industrial communities. As leaders of these communities search for strategies to improve the welfare of local residents, community development corporations, non-profits and government officials are increasingly looking towards the EB-5 Immigrant Investor program, and the creation of Regional Centers, as a viable job creation strategy, given the incentives for investors to target urban communities. Created in 1990, this program reserves 10,000 green cards for foreign nationals who make significant investments in the United States. Currently there are over 200 Regional Centers operating within the United States. Their primary purpose is to match foreign investors with viable economic development projects that have high job growth potential. Furthermore, research has shown that a majority of these regional centers target economically depressed areas. The purpose of this paper is to provide a preliminary analysis of the EB-5 immigrant investor program and its affect on post-industrial cities. Additionally, this paper examines the efficacy of Regional Centers as a viable strategy to reduce unemployment and promote job growth in urban communities.
The Determinants of Local Government Policies to Recruit Immigrants

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This paper explores what leads local governments at the county and municipal level to recruit immigrants. The literature has shown how immigrant friendly policies in the United States often follow rather than precede the establishment of immigrant enclaves in response to the electorate. More recently, some scholars have noted a bureaucratic incorporation process initiated by civil servants. While federal immigration reform faces a stalemate, state and local governments have taken leadership in addressing problems related to immigration. Much research has been done on local government initiative to restrict immigration. Some mayors and governors, for example, Mayor Bloomberg of New York City and Governor Snyder of Michigan, have endorsed welcoming immigrants as a solution to regional economic development. Some local governments see immigration as a threat causing increased crime and increased welfare utilization. Other local governments create polices to proactively recruit and incorporate immigrants to stabilize high poverty urban neighborhoods and open businesses. These policies involve direct or indirect incentives for immigrants to enter the community. Why do local governments pursue these policies? This study uses an associational, cross-sectional research design with time ordering on some independent variables. The dependent variable, existence of a local government pro-immigrant policy, is generated from policy scan of every municipality and county in the United States to determine whether a pro-immigrant policy was present by 2010. This scan utilized Amazon’s Mechanical Turk data services to perform internet searches to establish a list of municipalities and counties with possible pro-immigrant policies. Each city was then examined to confirm and categorize the policy. This is the first complete database of pro-immigration local government policy for all local governments in the United States. Independent variables include percent in poverty in 2000, percent change in foreign-born from 1970-1980, percent foreign-born in 2000, percent African American, percent minority-owned businesses in 1997, city type on the spectrum from administrative to political, and a matrix of control variables including political party of U.S. Representative and metropolitan level fixed effects. Data for the independent variables are obtained from U.S. Census data provided by GeoLytics, Inc., the U.S. Economic Census, GuideStar, and other sources. Answering this question is of interest for those who study and implement immigration policy because to date no one has compiled a database of pro-immigrant local government policy and the reasons why local governments might implement them. The paper will close with recommendations for future research and urban policy.
Exploring the Genesis of Newly Incorporated Municipalities (NIMs)

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Approximately 19,500 municipalities exist in the United States and more are created each year (Census of Governments, 2007). Rigos & Spindler (1991) noted that "there are still many questions to be answered in explaining why new cities are created" (p. 80). What factors influence a community's decision to seek municipal incorporation? Do new cities, towns and villages form to prevent annexations, to provide needed urban services, or for other reasons? What causal factors inspire a community to incorporate and create a new city? The development of a more complete understanding of municipal incorporation theory is critical to the provision of quality government and planning services. As a result, this analysis explores the theoretical explanations previously offered in the scholarly literature and contrasts them with the result of an empirical content analysis of newspaper articles surrounding incorporations conducted between 1997 and 2007. The empirical results validate the literature and highlight the unique role annexation threats, urban services, land use, race, and lower taxes all play in the incorporation of a new municipalities. The content analysis demonstrates that it is a combination of these factors working in tandem that stimulates new city formation. It also suggests that the traditional scholarly explanations are incomplete. The content analysis reveals 22 factors, ranging from prosaic reasons such as annexation threats and the need for urban services to more exotic factors such as squawking parrots and pig farms. Future endeavors would be wise to include some of the variables discussed in this paper, as well as the traditional factors of population growth and state laws when conducting municipal incorporation research.
Tracing Women's Ascendance in the Municipal Governments of Houston and Atlanta

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Nationwide, there is a gap in parity between women's presence in city government and the presence of men. Yet some cities, like Atlanta and Houston, have differed greatly from national trends in the gender composition of municipal government. During the 2000s, women held an unprecedented number of appointed and elected positions in these city governments. What factors produced the constellations of women's office holding in Atlanta and Houston between the late 1970s and early 2000s? Why did women come to hold so many authoritative positions in these cities? Whereas much of the existing research on women's numerical representation in cities has been quantitative in nature, I employ a process-tracing methodology and rely on original fieldwork to address these questions. I explore how women’s alliances with and membership in other disadvantaged groups, particularly African Americans and sexual minorities, led to their increased prominence in city government. I also consider the roles that electoral institutions, the general openness of the cities' electoral arenas, and purposeful mayoral appointments played in women's political ascendance. By exploring these among factors, I provide a nuanced portrait of the determinants of women's presence and power in local government.
Becoming Urban: Shiminhua and China's Urban-Rural Transition

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Early efforts to improve welfare in rural China largely focused on place-based village urbanization and modernization, emphasizing physical and material interventions, such as infrastructure upgrading, services provision, and transportation network integration. While this emphasis has persisted, recent efforts have increasingly focused on the urbanization and modernization of people rather than places. This shift is reflected in the growing discourse of shiminhua, a term that can be translated as "becoming urbanites", "becoming citizens", or even "becoming civilized". // The rising importance of shiminhua is in part due to the failure of place-based planning to account for increasing population mobility. Thus, the shiminhua discourse has primarily focused on the integration of migrants into urban society. More recently, shiminhua has been employed as a more proactive strategy in China's west, where difficult terrain makes the relocation of remote populations more cost-effective than village-upgrading. While the discourse primarily focuses on migration, shiminhua is just as relevant to peri-urban populations, where urbanization is occurring in situ. Indeed, shiminhua can even be used to address existing urban populations. // This confusion is partly due to the use of shiminhua to refer to two related but separate concepts. The first is China's bifurcated system of household registration (hukou) and welfare provision. In this context, shiminhua refers to rural villagers' transition from rural registration and its land-based welfare system to urban registration and its service-based welfare system, a process that involves reform of both household registration and rural land policies (hugai and tugai, respectively). Meanwhile, shiminhua is also used normatively to refer to villagers' adoption of urban behaviors and ways of life. This latter use is linked to the value-laden concept of suzhi; roughly translatable as "quality of character", this term is used to judge others' behavior, comportment, and socioeconomic status. // Based on ethnographic fieldwork conducted in an urbanizing village in Chongqing, as well as an analysis of scholarly and popular discourse, this paper explores the relationship between these two aspects of shiminhua. In particular, I investigate the following three hypotheses: (1) in China, there exist multiple understandings of what constitutes urban and rural identity independent of administrative designations; (2) the administrative apparatus of the Chinese state has reified one of these understandings (that which privileges urban life-ways) as hegemonic, this ideology and the administrative apparatus have become conflated, and thus administrative distinctions between urban and rural are now implicitly normative; and (3) people subject to shiminhua challenge these hegemonic norms by appropriating elements of both the rural and urban administrative systems, therefore subverting the reification and division of urban and rural.
The Wall, the Door, and the Key? Exploring Resilience as a Theoretical and Practical Concept in Understanding and Managing Urban Social Problems.

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The concept of resilience has been increasingly used to understand and ameliorate a range of social challenges through examining how individuals, families, and communities respond and adapt to stressful conditions. Resilience is appealing as a conceptual tool as it accommodates the complex, dynamic, and multidisciplinary nature of the fields to which it has been applied, including urban planning and development. Despite its growing presence in academic discourse, the concept of resilience does not readily translate into tangible and implementable principles and guidelines. Due to its origins in the physical sciences and its interpretation via a range of scales and disciplines, resilience often suffers from ambiguity, which threatens to suspend it in academia as subjective and ideological rhetoric. Much of the current discourse on resilience revolves around whether and how the rich substance of the idea of resilience can be delivered to practitioners as a tool for social management and development. The perspective driving the proposed paper is that, though the term itself may not be consciously used in practice, the tangible components of resilience already exist in urban problem and solution identification. Thus, the substance of the academic term of resilience is effectively being used by governmental and non-governmental practitioners in urban management and development. In order to test this hypothesis, this research reviews the concept of resilience and its use, extracting and detailing a selection of relevant definitions and indicators from literature and academic discourse. The results of this review will then be contrasted with first- and secondhand accounts of successful and unsuccessful urban interventions (projects, programs, and policies), interventions which represent efforts to address marginalization, exclusion, and inequality in urban environments. If indeed the substance of resilience can be found concurrently in academic discourse and urban management practice, then the results of this work will serve to guide us in reassessing and redefining the gap between resilience in theory and in practice. As with previous research by the author on segregated Roma communities in Bulgaria and Serbia, the process and results of this paper will gauge and compare resilience's theoretical and practical value in understanding and addressing urban challenges related to exclusion, quality of life, marginalization, and equality in social progress, challenges that are currently being faced in American cities. The overarching objective to which this work contributes is the operationalization of the concept of resilience. The interest of this work is to determine if a clear path between the theory and concept of resilience (as found in the literature) and the outcomes of urban interventions (representing practical application) can be identified and communicated as well as determining precisely where the path between theory and practice lies.
Similarity and Difference: How Inclusion and Exclusion Interact in Community Involvement

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Houston is one of the most diverse global cities, representing people of every major racial and ethnic group, a host of different countries of origin, occupational diversity, and variance across age, education level, religiosity, and political party. With over 6 million people in the metropolitan region, residents are bound to find both similarity and difference with their neighboring residents. How do the boundaries they draw with and between their neighbors impact the degree to which they involve themselves in their neighborhood? This paper investigates this question by employing data from the 2012 Kinder Houston Area Survey, a representative cross-section of the 10-counties surrounding Houston (n=1,610) to analyze participation levels in a number of different neighborhood-based activities, including non-profit participation, political campaigning, neighborhood cleanups, and more. The analysis focuses on the interaction between feelings of inclusion, community, and belonging in neighborhoods with feelings of exclusion and difference. It finds that inclusion and exclusion operate together with community involvement. Contrary to social capital theories, implications are that both inclusion and exclusion can simultaneously be motivators for neighborhood change. These findings inform community making within the context of diverse, growing metro areas.
DIY Urbanism: Teaching Participatory Planning and Transformative Practice

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Through this paper, we illustrate how "do-it-yourself" (DIY) approaches to urban design and planning have been integrated into our inter-disciplinary course, the Community Planning Workshop. Our workshop builds upon literature that frames neighborhood planning and design as strategies to make existing community assets operational (Kretzmann and McKnight 1993). Because we emphasize a community led process in which students engage with residents who plan for themselves (Baum 1997; Checkoway 1984), our approach aims to match students' need to learn with the pressing needs of our most challenged neighborhoods (Reardon 1998). We consciously chose this setting in order to encourage students to see design as a transformational activity (Friedman 2002) that addresses power dynamics and inequality (Dalton 1986). While these issues can be raised in a variety of settings, we believe that the integration of a DIY approach into a hands-on design seminar allows for a richer learning experience for the students (Lee and Breitenberg 2010; Elwood 2004)--one that encourages a form of reflexive practice that is not only open to but also advocates for DIY activities. This discussion points to the strengths of hands-on learning environments in the development of critically reflective practitioners and in addressing the dual dilemma (Cuff 1992; Mitchell 2008) that often plagues design and planning curricula. Through an overview of the Community Planning Workshop at the U of CityX, we illustrate how our workshop aims 1) to challenge students to engage and understand multicultural contemporary cities while challenging their own preconceptions of how the city is made and by whom, 2) to introduce the idea that urban design and planning can serve to catalyze an inclusive public realm, and 3) to develop reflexive student practitioners who critically assess and adapt their growing knowledge base in order to enable the DIY or grassroots practices of residents. In this sense, our workshop provides students opportunities to put research into action--to actively engage in the critical evaluation of theory through specific case studies involving local residents. This teaching strategy allows us to create a space of "reciprocal engagement" in which our students "can prepare for the world, in the world" (Cantor 2010, 6-8) while sharing their skills with communities in need (Brooks et al. 2002). This arrangement allows students to transfer skills while also challenging them to question what they think they know in light of local knowledge that they encounter (Corburn 2003; Fischer 2000; Rosaldo 1993). By emphasizing "bottom-up" concerns, we aim to instill an understanding that planners must appreciate the diverse constituencies and spatial practices that make up metropolitan centers (Chettiparamb 2006).
As Good as it Gets? Medellin's Integral Urban Projects (IUPs) and the Politics of Progressive Planning

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In 2004, Medellin's former mayor Sergio Fajardo launched one of his flagship programs: the Integral Urban Projects (IUPs). Building on the success of previous local and regional experiences with participatory slum improvement, IUPs were designed as holistic multi-sectorial plans providing physical infrastructure, public spaces and a safety net to the city's most underserved districts. IUPs are implemented in neighbourhoods characterized by marginalization, violence and little presence of state institutions. Between 2004 and 2011, 103 public works projects were developed through IUPs. In these programs, the municipality invested US$231.2 millions in physical infrastructure alone, and the budget for service delivery in IUP areas was about four times this amount. In a city characterized by polarization and laissez-faire conservative politics, IUPs have been celebrated as a progressive agenda for reducing socio-spatial segregation. Despite planners' and politicians' good intentions, however, new development has produced displacement and uprooting of long time residents. Although in-situ relocation is one of IUPs principles and is encouraged by the Colombian legislation, several barriers and assumptions about the urban poor's wellbeing prevent it in practice. Following Roy's (2009) critic of the politics of inclusion, and Chatterje's (2004) politics of the governed, in this paper, I discuss the politics of progressive planning considering how power relations mediate in the allocation of benefits, even in programs oriented to socio-spatial justice. The paper also explores the power dynamics at play among grassroots, interest groups, activists, politicians and government actors, each group with its own interests and abilities to navigate, negotiate, or resist neighbourhood change.
Toward School Improvement Districts: Evaluating the Costs and Benefits of a University-Funded Public School Intervention

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In 2001, The University of Pennsylvania financed the construction of a public elementary school and has since that time, provided the school with an annual subsidy of roughly $700,000. This research estimates the implicit price premium of homes purchased within the school catchment area separate from other non-school neighborhood effects and uses this estimation to derive the costs and benefits of the intervention. As the catchment border provides a sharp discontinuity in the extent of the treatment area, it is assumed that home prices just outside the catchment provide a plausible counterfactual for calculating average treatment effects. The model estimates that the benefits of the school tripled Penn's initial and ongoing investment costs. This case is used to introduce the concept of School Improvement Districts - a program that would operate much like traditional Neighborhood or Business Improvement Districts. The research also provides new insights to how the increased provision of specific neighborhood amenities influences the process of neighborhood change.
Economic Development and Growth Management Policy Choices: A Unified Theory

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Over the last three decades a vast literature has developed devoted to the politics of urban growth. In the United States, the literature has tended to divide into two camps, studies on efforts to court growth (the economic development field) and those that focus on efforts to curtail or redirect it (the growth management field). This separation in part has stemmed from the attention given to these questions by different disciplines, with urban planners writing more extensively on growth management while political scientists focused on economic development questions. When both policies have been considered together, they are often characterized as two ends of a cost continuum, with growth management policies increasing the cost to developers through either delay or design requirements and economic development policies lowering the costs through incentives or quick approval procedures. The focus on policies as a simple cost suggests that cities adopt policies dependent on the city’s comparative locational advantage with corresponding ability to attract business, and the cities' need to adjust their development price to compensate for their other characteristics. This perspective suggests the same factors that would drive adoption of development policies to lower costs should affect cities' adoption of growth management policies -- simply in opposite directions. The disjuncture between the two fields (economic development and growth management) has meant that this linked relationship has not been explicitly tested. I address this limitation by integrating the theoretical and empirical work from these two views to develop a unified model. The model incorporates three basic conditions in a community: voter preferences, the economic/fiscal context of the city, and the local government structure. Policies will be driven by local voters attempting to use government to promote their preferences. City officials respond to these constituent concerns in light of economic or fiscal conditions that the city as a whole faces. These city officials construct a general view of their community’s goals that they promote within a specific local government structure that affects the ease with which certain policies can be adopted. The three factors comprising the model, appropriate measures of them, and measures of the two policy types are derived from the literature in both the growth management and urban economic development areas. The hypotheses from this political economy perspective are then tested with Census and survey data from a national sample of economic development officials in over three hundred U.S. cities.
The New Politics of Neighborhood Revitalization in Baltimore

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Our paper identifies, describes, and explains an emerging political pattern in neighborhood revitalization policy in Baltimore. We will trace the historical development of neighborhood politics in the city and describe its evolution. As Baltimore made the transition to the post-industrial period, remaking the CBD and constructing expressways were the top priorities among the city's business and political leaders. The politics of the transition period reflected the separation of economic development from other concerns and insulating its pursuit from the usual give and take of ordinary politics. However, a new politics of neighborhood revitalization is now emerging in which neighborhood improvement efforts and economic development are seen as complements. This shift in perspective has introduced new players, new relationships, new schemas of policy, and new ways of mixing policy domains. Although government remains a central participant, foundations have emerged as key players, promoting CCIs that join developmental and social policies. As economic growth ceased to be an insulated policy domain, community leaders came to think about development in new ways. While neighborhood leaders once resisted freeways and other development projects, they are now positioned to view development as an opportunity to secure community benefits. The new politics have created a new geography of neighborhood policymaking; neighborhoods with market potential and existing capacity are more likely to be targeted. However, market potential is no longer limited to proximity to the CBD. The new geography reflects broader concerns, such as proximity to ed & med institutions, neighborhood amenities such as transportation, parks, or other recreation facilities, and desirable housing stock. Community capacity is also part of the new geography. Revitalization efforts seek community-based partners to undertake social service improvements in areas such as job training, substance abuse treatment, health, education, or public safety. Community capacity to plan and coordinate such services influences local decisions about where to intervene. Our research will include leading examples of community development initiatives, including the Sandtown-Winchester project, federal Empowerment Zones, and East Baltimore Development Incorporated. Our research suggests that promoting economic growth and addressing social concerns are not always a smooth fit -- rather, we see the mixing of development and social concerns as tension-laden with conflict. Working through these tensions to develop local revitalization projects that can be advanced and sustained is the defining feature of the new neighborhood politics.
Mountains and Muses: Cultural Tourism Strategies for Urban Development in Asheville, NC

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Tourism, arts and culture, and merging of the two as "cultural tourism" have become important urban development strategies for US cities, often linked to downtown development efforts to create centralized locations for cultural attractions (Judd and Fainstein 1999; Smith 2007). This study considers the case of Asheville, North Carolina, which has successfully marketed itself as a culturally rich community. Tourism has long figured in the Asheville region’s economic base, but in earlier decades tourism focused on the region’s natural environmental resources. After a post-war period of decline, Asheville’s tourist economy has, since the 1990s, been reborn with a focus on contemporary and traditional arts, with a relatively well preserved downtown built environment serving as the locus of cultural activities. We trace the recent history of downtown planning and redevelopment; of cultural initiatives; and of the links of these activities to tourist attraction, with a focus on policies and policymakers who have promoted such efforts. We offer concluding thoughts on the costs and benefits of such strategies to local residents.
Whither the Community in Community Land Trusts?

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As community land trusts (CLTs) have grown in numbers and size in the past decade, they have taken various forms in very different political, economic and inter-organizational contexts. This diversification away from the model as defined in the movement’s formative years is, in many ways, something the CLT movement should be pleased with. It represents the maturation of the movement, and indicates the ability of the model to adapt to various contexts. There is, however, the very real possibility that as CLTs have grown in number, and have seen increasing amounts of foundation and public sector support, they have lost the emphasis on community and community control that had long been a central part of their identity. This is particularly true as CLTs have grown in spatial scale – with almost half of the CLTs in a recent national survey defining their service area as an entire city or county (Thaden, 2012). This paper examines the current state of CLTs (with a focus on the larger CLTs) to assess the extent to which community control, or at least engagement, is being retained by these new expressions of the CLT model. It concludes with a discussion of the relationship between the community control aspect of CLTs and their political implications as the movement matures further.
Action Sports as Economic Development: The Case of Skateparks in China

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As China’s economy continues its robust economic growth, her citizens have developed a strong appetite for all things foreign. In recent years, Chinese consumers have broadened their preferences from traditional consumer goods to include lifestyle-based products and services. Action sports have become wildly popular worldwide in the past two decades and this popularity is starting to spread to the Chinese mainland. Many action sports facilities are capital intensive such as ski resorts and skateparks. Chinese leaders who desire to see their economy transition from being labeled "developing" to "developed" have undergone massive infrastructure building campaigns throughout the country. Recently these efforts have begun to include action sports facilities. This paper describes the intersection of economic development and action sports, and focuses on the specific context of skateparks in China. The cases of Beijing, Shanghai, and Shenzhen are described as examples of government-based, developer-based, and community-based models. The cases are analyzed from stakeholder perspectives and conclusions are made regarding the relative successes of each project. The study concludes that the action sports market in China is quite small, and despite the best intentions of government officials, it is ultimately market demand that determines the success or failure of an action-sports based economic development effort.
Vibrant Cities, Vibrant Cultures: Researching Indigenous People's Participation in Urban Development

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Many countries in the Asia/Pacific rim have a history of colonisation. Indigenous peoples in these countries have often been marginalised in the process of urban development. Among Maori, the indigenous peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand, many traditional tribal homes, social and political structures have been subsumed within towns and cities. The impacts for Maori have included not only appropriation of land, pollution and loss of traditional food sources, but erosion of identity, dignity and binding values such as the ability to care for others. Consequently, not only has Maori health and wellbeing suffered, but the cities in which they live fail to reflect the traditional knowledge, cultural vibrancy, history and environmental guardianship that can enrich the living experience of all residents. While some progress has been made, this has varied according to locality and political will. Recent developments in Aotearoa New Zealand, including government compensation settlements to Maori tribes, amalgamation of urban areas under common local council authorities and rebuilding following the Canterbury earthquakes have created opportunities for Maori tribes to become actively involved in urban developments. A research project has been initiated to help improve: the ability of urban authorities and Maori tribes to work together to create vibrant, diverse and sustainable cities; the social and economic presence of indigenous peoples; and utilisation of traditional indigenous knowledge and social structures to support resilience in disaster. The research project is in its first year and is part of a wider four-year project, Resilient Urban Futures. Key research questions are: what are the current and prospective barriers to/opportunities for increased Maori involvement in urban development? What outcomes are Maori tribal groups expecting from involvement in urban development? What do recent experiences with new governance structures and arrangements (and emerging trends) tell us about the future role of indigenous peoples in urban planning and development? Research methods: A Maori framework for promoting wellbeing and engagement will frame the research and be refined to help act as a guide for engaging Maori in urban development. A mixed methods approach will be built around case studies in four major New Zealand urban centres. Data gathering methods will include extensive key informant and group interviews (including with elders and traditional knowledge keepers), reviews of historical and current literature, surveys and review of available statistical data. The presentation will include an overview of Maori experiences of colonisation and urbanisation, current challenges for Maori in urban environments, the planned research and the Maori framework that will be used to guide the research.
Suburbanization in Beijing: New Trend and Social Implications

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After the incipient stage of suburbanization in the 1980s, Beijing experienced further population growth and development in the suburban area in the 1990s. Studies have found that the driving forces of suburbanization in Beijing had switched from government-initiated relocation in the 1980s to market factors in the late 1990s. This study examines the most recent trend of suburbanization in Beijing under the impact of market forces. Especially the soaring housing price since 2000 has been pushing even more outward population growth. Compared with previous studies, which focused on the population changes in the core and inner suburb, this study extends the scope of the lens by investigating changes of population and economic activities in the core, inner suburb, and outer suburb in the past ten years. Specifically, this study examines (1) population and household changes in the core, inner suburb, and outer suburb; (2) how the industrial structures in the core, inner suburb, and outer suburb differ from one another and how they have been changing. New trend is identified and differences and similarities between Beijing and the western cities are discussed. After examining the suburbanization process of Beijing, this study discusses the implications of the outgrowth on Beijing's social resources such as education, health services, environment, etc. This study of Beijing's suburbanization process will help understand and prepare for the urban changes in other metropolises in China, as many of them are experiencing the similar changes.
Can Grassroots Organizations Really Deliver Urban Services?

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This paper uses a political economy approach and organizational theories along with a recent dataset to evaluate possible strategies involving neighborhood organizations as effective service delivery provision units in response to both local government budget cuts and calls for new mechanisms for integrating citizens into meaningful governance. Neighborhood-based organizations (NBOs) often face a wide array of social and service delivery issues. But neighborhood associations, specifically, receive much less attention in the urban management literature. Furthermore, the more formally institutionalized NBO known as the homeowner association also receives little attention though the number of such associations continues to grow rapidly and are integral to the continued privatization and co-production of many public services. This paper examines the role of these associations as mechanisms through which many citizens express their civic participation. The paper examines several theories from the political, sociological, and organizational literatures in developing and testing two primary hypotheses: 1) organizations with mandatory membership requirements (i.e., homeowner associations) are able to overcome free-riding tendencies characteristic of voluntary neighborhood associations in addressing community needs and organizational activities; and 2) organizations with more active memberships are more effective in terms of service delivery and goal attainment. Using unique survey data collected from over 150 neighborhood and homeowner associations in Charlotte (NC), the paper identifies factors associated with organizational effectiveness in providing certain limited services that will help administrators appreciate the pros and cons of integrating these grassroots organizations into any formal governance role during good and bad economic times. Additional data on defunct NBOs sheds light on the factors associated with organizational sustainability; another factor of importance in considerations surrounding formalizing a service delivery role for such organizations. The paper addresses the usefulness of traditional organizational theory for explaining operational behaviors of these small informal organizations operated by community volunteers.
Teaching Urban Issues Using the HBO Series The Wire

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Issues related to urban inequalities, the impact of social policy, and the distribution of social resources are challenges that plague urban communities in the United States. A vital role of educators—particularly those in public policy, public and urban affairs, social work, urban planning, and other social science disciplines—is to prepare students to be culturally competent and aware of community socio-political contexts. Curricula within the social sciences attempt to bridge theoretical concepts with practical depictions of real-world situations. One method of building these bridges within the classroom is through media. Using television as an instructional tool encourages students’ understanding of urban life and its associated challenges. Since most students are not and cannot be exposed to the complexity of urban problems in an intimate way; The Wire can serve as the “fishbowl” in which students can get this exposure. This paper focuses on using the HBO Television series The Wire as a primary learning source in higher education. The Wire is a critically acclaimed portrait of urban life and a microcosm of contemporary problems and purported solutions. The television series is used as a case study aiding in the exploration of issues including but not limited to crime, drugs, economic bifurcation, education, the media, public policy, public administration, urban planning and social equity. Issues of power, cultural competency, diversity, ethical practice, social justice, and critical thinking are also considered within the context of The Wire. The paper authors currently use the HBO television show to teach social work, public policy, first year seminars, and urban inequality. The paper will discuss methods of using the course in the classroom, student perceptions of the use of The Wire, and how to frame academic theories taught in online and face-to-face courses using the story lines and characters of the show.
Fundamental Determinants of Urban Resilience: A Search for Indicators Applied to Public Health Crisis

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The objective of this research is to develop an index of indicators to assess the resilience of cities in terms of health crises. First, we use the methodology developed in Tanguay et al. (2009) on Sustainable Development Indicators to classify and evaluate the resilience indicators for health crisis. Recently, the RAND Corporation has identified a new model for factors that enable communities to be resilient in some key areas (an initial model of options for building community resilience in key areas) (Chandra et al., 2011). This report identifies 86 articles that include the use of urban resilience indicators, especially indicators for public health. We analyze these 86 studies (and identify others if necessary), to select key indicators of urban resilience against risks to public health. The objective of this first step is to identify the indicators most often used in the community of practitioners. Second, an analysis of the factors selected is based on the themes of urban resilience identified by the Resilience Alliance (2007): (1) metabolic flows (production, supply chain, etc.) (2) social dynamics (human capital, demographic realities, etc.), (3) governance networks (institutional arrangements, organizational resilience, etc.), and (4) built environment (urban development, etc.). Our goal is to determine whether all of the indicators cover all aspects of urban resilience, or if some issues are over-represented, and others under-represented or ignored. To complete this step, we rely on a multidisciplinary team composed of a specialist in crisis management, an economist in urban studies and a public health specialist. We can thus identify gaps among the set formed by all the indicators selected. Third, we fill the gaps identified by developing indicators for the dimensions of resilience under-represented by the indicators already used by researchers. To do so, we use a Delphi method (Linstone & Turoff, 1975) where we ask twenty experts in urban development, crisis management, and health risks, to identify indicators that can be used to measure the dimensions under-represented by existing indicators.
Is Patronage Good for Democracy? Local Level Comparison of Urban Political Landscapes

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Reform of urban governments in the United States was heralded by the Progressives of the late 19th and early 20th centuries as an end to "machine politics" and the corruptive influences associated with urban systems of patronage (Hofstadter 1955). The rise of professional governments at the local level was seen as the first step in making local politicians more responsive to the needs of "the plain people" or "the common man" (Hofstadter 1955: 173), and less beholden to "the haves" that helped to place politicians in office. But has creating administrative professionals, such as city managers, who are somewhat "removed from the hurry and strife of politics" (Wilson 1887: 209) improved the nature of democracy at the local level of government? Voter participation levels for local government elections in the United States rarely break the 20% mark, except in some of the larger cities, where strong mayors still compete. I examine voter participation data at the local level of government within the U.S. from 1947 to 2010 (Brancati 2007), and look at the influence of strong mayor systems on voter turnout. I find that strong mayor systems consistently have higher voter turnout levels than other forms of government. I also examine voter participation rates in South Korea from 1978 to 2010, to examine the influence of city size on voter participation (since city size is often strongly associated with strong mayor systems of government), and find that size does not seem to be a significant factor in predicting turnout. The implications for urban governments in Asia, where patronage systems dominate the political landscape, are discussed. References Brancati, Dawn. Constituency-Level Elections (CLE) Dataset, 2007 rev. 2011 [computer file]. New York: Constituency-Level Elections Dataset [distributor], Date Accessed mm/dd/yyyy. Website: http://www.cle.wustl.edu Hofstadter, Richard. 1955. The age of reform. New York: Vintage Books. Wilson, Woodrow. 1887. "The study of administration". Political Science Quarterly, 2 (2): 197-222.
Deconstructing Food Access and the Food Desert: Exploring Deeper Contexts in Urban Community Food Environments

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The food desert label is forced upon many urban communities, often creating a context in which policymakers tend to overemphasize the weaknesses and underemphasize the strengths of local food environments. This context is further shaped by a over-willingness to equate increased food access with better public health outcomes. Often the result is ill-fitting cookie-cutter policy that despite its good intentions, does not adequately address the deeper issues that lie beneath our nation’s diet-related health disparities. This paper first discuss the construction of the concepts "food desert" and "food access" and analyze their conceptual oppositions. The range of policy approaches that have been innovated to address these concepts are also discussed. Then, this paper examines three case urban communities in New Jersey and Pennsylvania that are the intended beneficiaries of these policy approaches. Each case contains a description of the the community and local food environment that is pieced together from multiple perspectives from inside and outside of the case communities. These perspectives touch upon the perceived strengths and weaknesses of the respective local food environment, and themes among them are discussed. Next, an analysis of these themes and perspectives reveals an important conceptual dissonance between food access and food desert. Finally, this paper concludes with a discussion of whether or not any concepts, re-conceptualizations, or policymaking processes can necessarily lead to a positive change in diet-related public health outcomes in poorer urban communities.
Garden Cities v2.1: Reimagining the City of To-morrow Through Food Movements and Social Media

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Urban agriculture, local food markets and farm-to-institution programs have been enjoying a resurgence in American cities over the past decade, constituting what some scholars are calling food movements. Surprisingly, one of the key features holding these movements together is their deep engagement with large scale, digital social media. This paper suggests that this fusing of preindustrial practices with "postindustrial" imaginaries is not as paradoxical as it might first seem. The promises of social media and food movements share much in common: a return to valuing individual creativity and labor, the building of communities through egalitarian sharing of ideas, and a nascent ecotopia free from the destruction and injustices of industrialism. The paper then asks, to what extent does the production of food movements through social media reinforce utopian visions of the city? How are these imaginaries already shaping urbanites daily lives and future plans for cities? This paper is based on ethnographic and survey data from urban agriculture practitioners, activists and advocates in Los Angeles. It compares three overlapping uses of social media in rethinking the city. First, it draws on survey data and interviews of self-identified participants in urban agriculture in Los Angeles to show how social media engenders a particular sense of identity and community around food. Second, the paper examines how formal organizations like the Los Angeles Food Policy Council use social media to draw on geographically dispersed networks to create a political force around food in the city. The third case study contrasts the first two uses of social media with more explicit efforts to use social media outside of formal channels for food-politics. It examines several recent Twitter and Facebook based campaigns that attempted to mobilize virtual communities around food issues in Los Angeles. Together these three case studies show that while food movements rely on social media to constitute themselves, they are most successful in effecting changes in the political and cultural landscapes of the city based they are organized around its real, material spaces. The paper concludes by suggesting that the universalizing tendencies of social media can help reinforce the false perception that a self selected set of practices around food and agriculture are useful, or even necessary, to everyone in a city. Which raises the question, by and for whom are our new garden cities imagined?
The Politics of an Urban World

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For the first time in history, we are told, urban geography is a global geography, urban sociology is a global sociology, and urban politics is a global politics. Contemporary accounts of global urbanization figure it as simultaneously spatial, temporal, sociological and subjective. All of them understand the global urban as an historically and empirically new development in late modern life. Yet there is a counter-narrative in which both the urban and the global are the basis of modern politics. In this counter-narrative, urbanism as a way of life is understood as the condition of possibility for the politics of self-governing subjects (Magnusson 2011). Here the politics of the urban is non-sovereign. Similarly, the global is understood to be the condition of possibility for politics as the international state system (Walker 1993, 2010). Here the politics of the globe enables sovereignty. Rather than read these as contradictory claims, this paper will investigate the relationship between them – a relationship assumed in the notion that to become worldly (Elden 2005) is to become urbane and in the claim that to become urban is to become political (Isin 2002). It is crucial that we understand what form of relationship between the global and the urban can enable such a series of equivalences. How does it play out? How does it influence and affect scholarship on global urbanization/urban globalization? I argue that there is an aporetic relationship between the global and the urban: while in empirical terms the global urban is just materializing, in conceptual terms the global and the urban have functioned together as the condition of possibility, regulative ideal, and limit for modern politics. This paper suggests that by making explicit how the terms, logic, and effects of this relationship between the global, the urban, and politics are not as new as we think, we might be able to conceptualize other spacetimes, forms, and practices of politics in an urban world.
Constructing Relational Urbanism: Urban Policy Mobility and the Role of Conference Space

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Urban theorists are increasingly approaching the study of cities relationally. That is, they are interested in the processes, places, and exchanges through which cities are (re)constructed, shaped, and experienced. At the same time the burgeoning field of urban policy mobilities has called on critical scholars to engage policy transfer studies with a more dynamic, theoretically informed, and empirical focus on the processes of transfer and the movements of people, knowledge, and commodities that take place in transit and in the service of policy mobilization. However, empirical work in the policy mobilities literature remains focused on process, rather than effect. This paper seeks to explore the role of conference spaces as “convergence space” (Routeledge 2003). Conferences in this way are seen as temporary events with lasting material effects. These spaces serve as infrastructural nodes in the process of policy mobilization and have effects on the places in which conferences take place. Drawing on three harm reduction conferences occurring between 2011 – 2012, I argue that conferences are both ephemeral fixtures in the landscape of policy activism, and are important nodes through which policy mobilization occurs. Cook and Ward (2012, 9), argue that broader informational infrastructures, of which conferences are a part, are both “the cause and effect of wider transformative processes.” Mobile in their nature (conferences have a tendency to be held in different places from year to year), they also consist of vast infrastructural networks that remain fixed in the landscape and have important, lasting political and economic effects in the spaces that these networks inhabit. Simultaneously, conference spaces provide opportunities for ideas to be shared, produced, and advocated for. They serve as important sites for the construction of relationships that are required to maintain policy advocacy networks, and build the relational exchanges which in turn contribute to the assemblage of the city.
The Financialization of Rent-regulated Housing in New York City: a framework for analysis

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The transformation of illiquid real property into liquid resources for circulation in financial markets is a major project of capitalist financial practice and a significant force for urban change. In the run up to the financial crisis the management, ownership and control of multifamily properties regulated under various local and federal affordable housing programs and statutes in New York City were transformed as new financial actors purchased the properties from landlords who had previously held the buildings long-term. In an effort to generate robust financial returns, the new owners accessed large amounts of debt and moved below market-rate units to market-rate. This process became troubled as debt service quickly outstripped rental revenue, activating local resistance to deteriorating and increasingly precarious living conditions for tenants and precipitating new rounds of financialization by actors specializing in distressed assets. A proposed typology of the financialization of rent-regulated housing is developed through four cases of properties in New York City that underwent just such financialized transformations. These dynamics work so that although the financialization of real estate involves abstracting property from a particular place and use, it does so only with a concomitant re-embedding of the asset within new networks of financial actors and effects, conferring resources of power on certain actors and burdening others. While slum landlord is nothing new to the urban scene, the financialized context of these deals means that class relations once contained between tenants and a local landlord are now reconfigured, rescaled and transmitted through the broader economy. This typology is relevant to a much wider range of objects of financialization and serves as a framework for analysis of the various projects that constitute a financialized economy.
The Challenges of Non-profit Immigrant Settlement Agencies in a Small Canadian Jurisdiction

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Provincial governments in Atlantic Canada have been concerned by the small (or non-existent) population growth in the region for some time now. New immigrants currently account for the bulk of population growth in these provinces where the birth rates are low and the population is ageing. Thus Atlantic Canada needs immigration to cope with labour shortages and maintain economic growth. As a country, Canada has a high per capita immigration rate, but this immigration is concentrated in large metropolitan areas (e.g., Montreal, Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver) that are outside the region. Provinces such as New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island wish to collaborate with federal authorities to increase immigration in their jurisdiction. To recruit immigrants from outside Canada and to encourage them to settle outside of Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver is a potential win-win solution in that it could slow down the well-documented decline in socio-economic well-being and strengthen the economic, social and demographic situations in regions where it is needed most (Beshiri and He, 2009; Bruce and Lister, 2003; Haan, 2008; Reimer, 2007). In this paper we present the results of a fact-finding tour of non-profit immigrant settlement agencies in New Brunswick. At a time when this maritime province is in need of immigration to prevent population decline, these agencies are partnering with governments to offer services that are of key importance for the settlement of newcomers, including in non-urban communities. Much of the research on settlement services in Canada has focussed on the larger metropolitan centres, and this study thus contributes to filling an existing research gap. Based on semi-structured interviews with 21 key informants working in 18 organizations, we first draw a portrait of the services offered by the agencies and the clients they serve. We then describe the resources available to the settlement agencies and the mechanisms they use for governance and performance of their functions in an accountable and transparent manner. After paying particular attention to some gender-related issues, we summarize the main challenges self-reported by the agencies. We also stress that settlement issues tend to be very locally driven, and that the non-profit settlement agencies can count on a number of competitive advantages to fulfill their mission. The paper offers a brief discussion of some key policy issues before concluding on the tension observed in the relationship between governments and the non-profit sector in the delivery of settlement services. Relevant policy recommendations are provided and discussed at the end of the paper.
Landlord Intimidation in the Unassisted Low Income Housing Market

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Using data from an ethnographic study of landlords catering to low income households with no government housing assistance in New York City’s poor, minority neighborhoods, this paper examines the role of informal landlord intimidation in settling conflicts, not just about rent nonpayment but, among other issues about tenant complaints about needed repairs as well. Informal intimidation is extremely common among landlords renting to unassisted household because they need not abide by the government regulations of, for example, Section 8 landlords. This paper first examines the standpoint of those who exercise intimidation, and then that of tenants being intimidated. Findings indicate that intimidation is used around a flexible yet solid local moral category: people who cross the line between “playing the game”, an endeavor viewed as legitimate, and “abusing the system”, a practice seen as unfair. Because this local moral order relies upon the adage “everyone has a right to make a buck”, a view shared commonly among the poor and the near-poor, there is the possibility that intimidation may be, in rare but telling cases, viewed as “right” by the very same people who are intimidated.
Does Urban Regional Collaboration Matter? Evidence from North American Metropolitan Areas

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Three decades ago, Danielson and Doig asked an important question in their book New York: The Politics of Urban Regional Development, as follows: to what extent do the actions of governmental organizations have a significant independent influence on urban development within the metropolitan sphere? The book was, among other things, a response to Public Choice interpretations of urban regional development, which generally downplayed the importance of government policies and programs to steer, encourage or constrain urban growth. Since then, the focus of most scholars in the field has shifted from the structure and influence of formal government to that of civil society and informal modes of governance, more generally. This shift can be explained, partly, by the rise of the "new regionalist" school, which emphasizes the importance of informal and voluntary regional collaboration between both local governments and private, non-governmental actors (see for example Ansell and Gash, 2007). Given that voluntary collaboration has become the modus operandi of a large number of North American metropolitan regions and that the scholarly community has generally been more interested in the determinants of collaboration than in its effects, this paper asks (echoing Danielson and Doig): to what extent does regional collaboration have a significant independent influence on urban development within the metropolitan sphere (whether by giving weight to existing policies, facilitating policy implementation or fostering the development of new regional policies), as opposed to having no influence or influencing governance capacity without influencing policy outcomes? In other words, the research proposed here seeks to discover whether regional collaboration (RC) matters - and if so what kind of collaboration, under what conditions and it what ways. More specifically, the paper will look at the effect of four types of collaboration (state-mandated, state or privately funded, bottom-up and sectoral) and the mediating role of two factors (regional awareness and governmental initiative) on two main outcomes (environmental preservation and economic competitiveness). The paper will use a mixed-method approach, with a large-N quantitative analysis of the 110 largest metropolitan regions in Canada and the U.S. as well as a comparative, historical analysis of the Greater Montreal and the San Francisco Bay Area.
It’s all in the framing: A case study of Bus Rapid Transit traveling from Bogota, Colombia to Jinan, China

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In the early 2000s, many Chinese cities were looking for mass transit alternatives as subway funding was suddenly frozen. Seizing on this opportunity, the US based Energy Foundation held a Mayors’ Forum on Bus Rapid Transit in Kunming, Yunnan, China. Enrique Penalosa was a keynote speaker and known as the main driver and architect for Bogotá’s successful TransmilenioBRT system. Amongst the mayoral representatives were vice mayors from Jinan, China. This paper traces the course of events from the Mayors’ Forum to the opening of BRT corridors in Jinan, including experts that worked on Bogota’s system who came to China to help train local engineers and planners, academics from top US planning schools who provided analysis on how to link the system to the urban planning system as well as experts from Taiwan and national Chinese institutes. While Jinan’s BRT has become an accepted way to address mass transit needs in China, it looks and operates vastly different from its South American model serving smaller ridership and providing less accessibility. Through incorporating qualitative methods such as participant observation and structured interviews, I gained insight into the motivations and limitations of key actors involved with this project. From my research, I contend that the ways local government actors and international policy agents defined BRT’s purpose for China, limited its role within the transportation system, and relegated it to being infrastructure rather than a tool to improve social welfare and equity as it was promoted. This framework mixed with a local political structure that encourages competition amongst government agencies and the timing of the project also worked against it.
Urban Vulnerability in a Climate Change Context: What Can We Learn from Montreal?

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As soon as 2001, Intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC) demonstrated the fact that North America would encounter an increase in winter and spring runoff. The flooding impacts in urban settlements can be lessened if local stakeholders are informed of their flood risk areas as well as their vulnerability. The main objective of an approach based on the analysis of vulnerability is to support research enhancing the decision making processes towards adaptation by providing a framework to establish priorities while dealing with the uncertainty linked with climate change [Lemmen et Warren, 2004]. "The analysis of vulnerability is a starting point to foster efficient tools to deal with impacts of attenuation strategies facilitating adaptation (Kelly & Adger, 2000, p. 325). In this paper, we present a research project in which we studied the social and territorial vulnerability towards flooding in urban areas in the context of climate change, taking the case study of the city of Montreal. The case study of communities’ vulnerability and challenges toward flooding of the city of Montreal scrutinizes the neighborhoods that are particularly affected; it has the potential to bring crucial elements to adaptation strategies. This analysis focuses on communities affected by Rivière des Prairies flooding events in the city of Montreal. We present a method analysis which we developed through different stages and diverse tools: the collection of available data as well as a list of needed data to build a diagnostic of areas which have been previously flooded in the city of Montreal (close to Rivière des Prairie); the modelization of flooded areas differentiating different potential flooding levels; data collection to analyze flooding sensibility and adaptation strategies, and finally mapping of the vulnerability towards flooding levels which should enable to identify and characterize spaces. The project we display has the willingness to bring a response to local stakeholders in terms of flood risks in urban areas, in a climate change context.
Disaster as Opportunity: Post-Katrina Public Education in New Orleans

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How and why did governance change in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina? Most research on the subject focuses upon disaster-related policies, but this paper examines education governance and policy. After Katrina, the governor, superintendent of state education, and state legislature expanded charter schools, choice, and takeovers of schools; these policies had most antecedents in the pre-Katrina period. The federal government and outside foundations provided the financial resources to enact these policy changes; local business leaders supported the changes. Outside teaching organizations provided the human capital necessary to enact these policy changes. The governor, federal government, foundations, state legislators from outside New Orleans, superintendents of state education and others who favored market-style reforms displaced New Orleans's education cartel after Katrina. Those in favor of market-style reforms created charter schools and a system by which the state could take over schools before the storm, but Katrina provided an opportunity to expand reforms and assume power and authority over the district. Narratives often dominate post-disaster politics and policies. The tension between democracy and reform and the idea that the city had an opportunity to reform the school system were two narratives that dominated education politics and policies in post-Katrina New Orleans.
Metropolitan Fractals: Repetitive TIF Patterns in Metropolitan Regions from Central Cities to Suburbs?

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Mason and Thomas (2010) examined patterns of TIF adoption in Missouri, finding that TIF use exhibited competitive dynamics, was path-dependent, and showed evidence of exacerbating inter-municipal inequality. However, we excluded Kansas City and St. Louis from its analysis because the two cities are severe outliers in population and TIF usage. Here, we analyze the very different patterns of TIF use in Kansas City, St. Louis, and their suburbs to account for these differences. Specifically, St. Louis city has almost 100 TIF projects worth $300 million. These have gone to a mixture of relatively small residential, retail, and mixed-use projects. St. Louis County, with 92 municipalities and many unincorporated areas, has 59 TIF districts worth $420 million, with many large retail projects. Kansas City has built a number of mega-projects, such as a $292 million TIF for H&R Block. Kansas City has 57 projects with TIF subsidies of $3.3 billion. Every Kansas City suburb with population over 10,000 now uses TIF; altogether 19 Kansas City suburbs have at least one TIF. This paper asks three questions: 1) Why do central cities adopt the economic strategies and patterns that they do? 2) What effect does central city strategy have on the rest of the metropolitan area surrounding the central cities? 3) In which areas (St. Louis city, St. Louis suburbs, Kansas City, Kansas City suburbs) is the aid intensity (TIF reimbursable costs/total project costs) the highest? We hypothesize that the Kansas City suburbs exhibit different TIF dynamics in their suburbs than suburbs in the St. Louis Metropolitan region due to the different strategies pursued by the two cities.
A Comprehensive Study of the Beneficiaries of Habitat for Humanity Clustered Neighborhood Programs: Home Sweet Home in Houston, Texas

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Homeownership, labeled as the American Dream, confers several benefits to the individual homeowner and their children, the homeowners' community, and the national economy. In view of the identified benefits, several policies and programs have been established to promote homeownership. Notwithstanding the proliferation of such programs, low-to-moderate income ethnic minorities are less likely to be or become homeowners. In order to fill this gap several non-profit organizations have established programs designed to target this group of citizens. One of such organizations is Houston Habitat, a subsidiary of Habitat for Humanity International, a faith-based non-profit organization. The purpose of this research is to provide comprehensive information about Houston Habitat's homeownership program. Such information include the socio-economic characteristics of the beneficiaries (to ascertain that the beneficiaries are actually low to moderate income citizens), the beneficiaries' perceptions of the benefits and challenges of homeownership, the price of the homes, loan repayment period, and the amount of down payment provided by Habitat. The results indicated that the beneficiaries are ethnic minorities (95.6% are Hispanic or African Americans), and low income - household income of 70% of the respondents is $30,000 or less. Also, almost half are female-headed and 52% are one-parent households while 36.2% of the respondents are single. The stated benefits of homeownership are "something to call your own" (71%), privacy (44.9%), transferring wealth to children, and flexibility to make changes to the home (40.6% each) while the stated challenges include maintenance (71%), increased monthly expense (33.3%) and risk of foreclosure (24.6%).
Dudley and Hoffman Triangles: The Perfect Community-led Models for Neighborhood Planning

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A triangle reflects perfection since it represents equilibrium. Cities that have neighborhoods out of balance (such as Boston and New Orleans) have Dudley Triangle and Hoffman Triangle that face significant challenges due to the unmet needs of residents and the promises unfilled by city administration. This research focuses on how citizens have replaced municipal government to lead the way to community recovery and reinvestment through a "bottoms up" proactive neighborhood planning model. This model relies on combining the efforts of citizen, academic and municipal planners to evaluate the community needs, develop public policy and, at times, directly implement programs to improve the quality of life. The case studies of innovative and successful neighborhood planning in the Dudley and Hoffman neighborhoods will be examined and exposed in this research. These "Triangles" are supported respectively by the Dudley Street Neighborhood Initiative in Boston, Massachusetts and the Associated Neighborhood Development in New Orleans, Louisiana. These neighborhoods have similarities due to their need to recover from their man-made or natural disaster with a population of primarily people of color that are bereft with quality of life issues in need urgent attention such as crime, illegal trash dumping and lack of adequate services. The ability for each community to rise above these seemingly insurmountable odds reflects neighborhood planning at its' best. The story of 'the Triangles' is one that will require both municipal planners and their counterparts in academic institutions to re-think how to implement and teach a new model of neighborhood planning that puts community first.
Healthy Homes: Assessing In-Home Hazards Systematically

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Hazards in homes cause or contribute to many thousands of deaths and injuries each year, but we know little about the distribution of these hazards across American cities. Recently the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has adopted a housing risk assessment system, imported from England, that quantifies those risks and the likely outcomes from them. The reliability and validity of this system is now being tested in projects across the country. This paper will present preliminary data regarding the distribution of hazards, risk and estimated outcomes for homes in cities across the country. As such it will begin the process of quantifying the relationship between structural hazards and health risks in American housing. This will be the first of a series of reports on this project which will ultimately permit comparisons between American and European housing risks.
The History of Urban Upgrading in Rio de Janeiro's Favelas: Towards a More Inclusive Urban Governance?

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Brazil is often portrayed as a laboratory of inclusive governance. It is where urban social movements pressured an authoritarian regime into democratizing, where a city began an experiment in participatory budgeting, where the state consolidated social programs that contributed to one of the sharpest declines in poverty in a history of having the world's highest levels of inequality. Yet there are questions as to the everyday experiences of democratic governance, especially among the urban poor. The favelas of Rio de Janeiro are where ambiguous tenure begets artisanal construction and inadequate infrastructure necessitates informal provision, but their segregation from the city undermines attempts at inclusive urban governance. The poor self-built their homes out of cardboard and wood, scaling up to bricks and concrete, persevering under the threat of removal since they lacked title to their land, a fact that also ensured they received no electricity, no water and sanitation and minimal education and healthcare, as the provision of services was tantamount to legalizing their illegality. Many infrastructure deficits have been ameliorated, but the favelas are renowned for their violence, as non-state armed actors battle each other, and the police, for territorial control. Yet the favelas are also where urban governance is evolving, where the state’s longstanding absence once termed them ungoverned spaces, but where urban governance is transforming. This paper will investigate the history of state-society relations in the favelas of Rio de Janeiro through the lens of urban upgrading. It will trace the history of government policies towards the favelas, from neglect to forcible removal to sites-and-services to the present-day attempt at participatory urban upgrading with programs such as Morar Carioca and UPP Social. The City Statute of 2001 called for the democratization of urban decision-making on urbanization and regularization. To what extent has urban upgrading become a participatory process in community meetings where residents confront public authorities over their often-unmet promises? Will the upcoming mega-events entail another phase of favela removal and resettlement? Moreover, with the favelas as the frontiers of real estate investment in Rio de Janeiro's resurgent economy, are the ideals of inclusive urban governance competing, colliding or cooperating with the transformation of the city?
Innovative Urban Design through Inclusion: Voices to Vision

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For decades, the city of Albany, CA struggled with deeply divided opinions regarding its waterfront (which includes 105 acres of privately-owned land). Private developments, public funding, special elections and zoning changes were just some of the factors that swirled around the 190 acres that face the San Francisco Bay—which included the last parcels of land necessary to complete a hoped-for Eastshore State Park. Following a contentious local election that had pitted "park devotees" against those intent on economic development, the City Council decided, in 2008, to address the issue with a comprehensive and inclusive process intended to confront tensions, find consensus for long-term solutions, and build a framework for community education and shared decisionmaking. A critical component would be valid quantitative as well as qualitative information. The 18-month process, Voices to Vision, included a multi-faceted approach to community engagement that ultimately brought one of every ten Albany adults to the table. Along with standard public education methods such (widely-publicized website, on-line surveys, FAQs) the process included one-on-one interviews with 80 stakeholders and residents, and nearly 50 highly-interactive community sessions (with a skilled facilitator for every 20 participants and activities designed to enable the collection of data) offered in three languages, workshops with 100 Albany youth, and a 20-page, fact-filled "newspaper" that was mailed first class to every household - ensuring solid background information prior to participation. One key difference from typical engagement processes involved the development of tools that enabled participants to understand the repercussions of their ideas (economic impacts, social impacts, community benefits, city challenges, etc.). Less than a year after this process concluded, a new and even more complex proposal for the waterfront was introduced - one that significantly stretched the boundaries of previous proposals and which required a re-examination of the community vision in relation to potential partners that included a university, a national lab, and private developers. This paper will show how Voices to Vision not only prepared the community for this new challenge, but also guided the city through an incremental education process, with a city-wide conversation that demanded specific and detailed information on transportation, parking, public health, and sustainability - as well as clear choices on percentages of land available for either income generation for the city or land devoted to public spaces - moving public discourse from a framework of "parks vs. profits" to one of trade-offs for the common good.
Accounting for Demography and Preferences: Estimates of Ethnic Residential Segregation with Minimum Segregation Measures

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The index of dissimilarity (D) is the most widely used quantitative measure of residential segregation. Conventional interpretations of D assume that normatively desirable residential patterns correspond to neighborhood ethnic compositions that match the demography of a city or metropolitan area. However, survey data show that ethnic groups often hold average preferences for same-group contact that exceed their share of the population in a metropolitan area. In this paper we compare D scores with the minimum segregation measure D*, which returns the lower bound on segregation for a given average preference level and metropolitan area ethnic distribution. Positive scores indicate that a metropolitan area is more segregated than necessary to satisfy average in-group preferences, while negative scores indicate that it is less segregated than necessary. We use data from census 2000 to calculate D and D* scores for non-Latino whites, blacks, and Asians and Latinos of all races. We analyze the associations of the difference in D and D* with theoretically important predictors of residential segregation. We find that at relatively low levels of hypothetical average preferences for same-group contact among whites, most metropolitan areas are far more segregated than necessary to achieve these preferences. For blacks and Latinos, even at relatively low levels of preference for same-group contact, many metropolitan areas are "not segregated enough" to achieve their preferences. Finally, we find that at any reasonable level of same-group preference, Asians live in metropolitan areas that are not segregated enough to achieve their preferences. We discuss the theoretical and methodological implications of these findings for research on ethnic residential segregation.
The Role of Urban Governance in the Rapid Development of Singapore, 1959-Present

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This paper examines the role of urban governance in managing Singapore's transformation from a politically turbulent, economically vulnerable and self-governing city in 1959 to a wealthy and globalised city-state in the present. Singapore's public service distinguished itself in the efficient provision of basic services to citizens and the nurturing of institutions for development. Indeed, governance in Singapore is characterised by enduring institutions that have weathered crises well and, with recent and future reforms, will hopefully foster in Singapore the resilience it needs to adapt to the conditions of a highly globalised world. Having delivered on security as well as economic and institutional development, the challenge for urban governance in Singapore now lies in achieving effective and efficacious government that can help Singapore society develop the capabilities to deal with an environment characterised by increasing complexity, uncertainty, and rapid change.
Harm Reduction: A Pragmatic Approach to a Mental Health Problem that Hits Us Where We Live

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Researchers estimate that 2-4% of the population in the United States suffers with hoarding disorder -- a devastating mental health condition characterized by excessive acquisition and difficulty discarding possessions, which results in significant and sometimes life-threatening levels of clutter in the living environment. Unlike many chronic mental health conditions, hoarding afflicts more than the individual who has the condition. Hoarding disorder threatens the safety, welfare, and financial well-being of the communities in which people who hoard live. Fire, insect and rodent infestations and damage to the structural integrity of buildings are but a few risks urban dwellers face who live near someone with a significant hoarding problem. Although we have treatments for the condition, few people seek it and often reject assistance from mental health professionals. The task of assisting people who hoard falls to other professionals, such code enforcement officers, environmental health workers, home health aides, and fire and police. Given that the problem appears to be growing, communities are searching for alternative methods to managing the problem, such as harm reduction, a pragmatic approach that seeks to minimize risk to both the person who hoards but also the community in which he lives. This presentation describes the rationale for harm reduction as a community-based intervention for hoarding with particular emphasis on assisting older adults who hoard. The presentation then describes the central features of harm reduction for hoarding, in particular, those features that are well adapted to a team or community-based approach to managing the problem.
The Relationship between Place Attachment, Memory and Resiliency. The Case of Post-Katrina New Orleans.

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There are different types of disasters, they can be human-triggered, natural, or hybrid; but exploring the nature and what causes disasters is beyond the scope of this research and the focus here is on one disaster: Hurricane Katrina that hit the city of New Orleans in August 2005. The consequences of Hurricane Katrina on the local community and the environment are the prime interest of this paper. In the occurrence of any disaster, loss is inevitable especially at the community’s level. Therefore, the following topics are addressed: disasters and their impact on people, relationship between vulnerability and resilience, the role of memory in increasing resilience, and the strong bonds that exist between people and their environment (informal social networks). Vulnerability is of importance when talking about disasters because it encapsulates the impact of these events on the people and their environment. When it comes to resilience, memory becomes a key issue in helping people recover after a disaster as they use it to remember lost ones, or to relive their memories of the past. Furthermore, home and place attachment become crucial as they reflect upon the identity of the people inhabiting a certain space. Consequently, the purpose in this research study is threefold: first, to shed the light on the urban concepts that can affect a resilient community rebuilding; i.e. the relationship between vulnerability and resilience. Second, to relate this relationship to social concepts in order to help in the creation of resilient urban communities through a better understanding of the cultural landscape and the role that: memory, place attachment, and informal social networks play in the case of New Orleans, after Hurricane Katrina. Third, to investigate whether or not the residents are more resilient than prior to the hurricane, while using a mixed method research design where qualitative and quantitative data have been collected. For the qualitative data, a total of 28 interviews have been conducted focusing on locals who either stayed or returned to the city after the disaster, with non-profit representatives, with urban planners, and with city officials. The aim is to have a better understanding of the relation between people and their environment and how can this relationship be restored after a disaster. For the quantitative data, maps have been collected, census tract numbers (US Census Bureau), and statistics (Greater New Orleans Census Data Center) reflecting where the city was before the hurricane and where it is now, 7 years after.
Urban Transformation in a Transitional Economy: Is "Gentrification" a Analytically Useful Concept for Vietnam

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Despite the rapid transformation in the urban landscape of Vietnam, a simple and uncritical application of the "gentrification" concept out of the specific spatial and temporal context of the country is problematic. Not only is the phenomena progresses in a highly compressed temporal scale compared to similar processes in cities in the "global north", it is also embedded within a paradigmatic shift of the entire socio-economic system. At the same time, it is under the influence of the globalisation process as well as being shaped by the neoliberal policies subscribed by international financial and foreign aid organisations. Yet unlike in China in which such displacement of residents in the gentrified areas provokes much resistance against the unfair compensation, the process has been relatively smoother in Vietnam. It seems that specific socio-cultural forces are at work in Vietnam. This paper attempts to explore the process of urban redevelopment in Vietnam and critically examines whether this concept, with its origin from the "global north", is capable of offering a conceptually robust lens through which the phenomena can be consistently analysed. It will focus first on a systematic review of the urban development and redevelopment policies and practices as well as policy and public discourse (or the lack of it) of gentrification in Vietnam with Hanoi as a case study city. It is then followed by a critical review of the gentrification concept within the context of the specific temporality and spatiality of Hanoi against the background of its social and economic transition to capitalism. This exercise of "decolonisation" can shed light on our understanding of the usefulness of the concept of gentrification in Vietnam and transitional economies in Asia in general.
Immigration Challenges in Secondary Cities

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American immigration gateways are evolving in the 21st Century. Traditionally immigrants and refugees would cluster in locations where others of the same ethnicity or nationality had already settled. The metropolitan areas of five states (California, New York, Florida, Illinois, and New Jersey) continue to dominate as the place of residence for the foreign-born population in the United States. But what about the states and metropolitan areas of the interior that are the secondary immigration destinations?

While there is a substantial literature on the single issue of interior immigration enforcement, little has been written about communities that receive a continual stream of immigrants, but in much smaller numbers. A study of St. Louis Public Schools, for example, documented students from 61 countries of origin and at the most about 200 students from any specific country and in most cases less than a quarter of that. This causes an education system strain not of numbers but of linguistic and cultural chaos. The proposed paper will address the successes and challenges in diversity and inclusion for secondary cities responding to the unique subset of immigration issues where there are not fully developed community enclaves but modest numbers that prevent the metropolitan public and civic leaders from recognizing the challenges faced by the immigrants and refugees. The paper will present a case study of economic development, education, housing, law enforcement and other public service problems and responses in the metropolitan St. Louis area. The structure of support services for foreign-born residents in St. Louis, those that are new arrivals and those that have been in St. Louis for some time, immigrants as well as refugees, exists entirely outside of the formal government structure. For a region that is 77 percent non-Hispanic white and 19 percent non-Hispanic black the Census Bureau estimates that immigration was the second largest component of population change, accounting for 27.6 percent of the post-2000 metropolitan population increase. The immigrants came from Asia, Western Europe, and Russia in numbers ranging from a few thousand to a few hundred. Similar statistics are reported for many other metropolitan areas and smaller cities that are not among the border/coastal immigration gateways, where the foreign-born population may not be a large percentage of the population but will be an important part of the community fabric in the coming decade.
Towards a Sustainable Los Angeles Region? Regimes and the Regional Plan

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In recent decades, sustainable development has become an accepted framework for the planning profession, as a growing number of environmental planning policies seek to address GHG emissions and climate change concerns. In order to help achieve climate policy goals, California's recently adopted Senate Bill 375 (SB 375) requires the state's metropolitan regions to achieve mandated GHG reductions through the coordination of transportation and land use planning. California's largest MPOs are required by SB 375 to utilize a cooperative process involving numerous outreach activities with a variety of stakeholders to create a Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS) that encourages more compact development patterns to reduce VMTs and curb emissions from cars and light trucks. Under SB 375, the SCS fills the land use gap in an MPO's federally required long-range regional transportation plan (RTP). The adoption of SB 375 contributes to California's reputation as a leader in environmental policymaking. Nevertheless, the legislature has long been reluctant to intrude upon the state's strong tradition of home rule, and SB 375 guarantees that local governments retain land use control. An abundance of literature notes that while many aspects of sustainable development are best addressed at the regional scale, regional efforts to promote sustainability are often hindered by a variety of factors such as fragmentation as a result of local autonomy, as well as intercity competition to increase tax bases. Although literature on sustainability, intergovernmental relations, and plan making notes that successes with sustainable development, regional planning, and strong plans require the cooperation between a variety of stakeholders, an urban regime analysis of power and politics is often neglected. Given the Los Angeles region's size, diversity, fragmentation, and lack of a centralized authority, a regime approach is useful for examining if leadership was constructed by a coalition of government, private, and community entities who mobilized their individual resources to cooperatively address the complex problem of regional sustainability. Through qualitative analysis of data gathered through interviews with private and public interest groups, surveys, and archival records (e.g., the adopted regional plan), this research examines intraregional cooperation through a regime lens to determine the extent to which coalitions contributed to the L.A. region's long-range plan for sustainable development through the 2012-2035 SCAG RTP/SCS plan making process. Given that the decisions and actions of strong coalitions of interest groups have significant implications for regional planning, this research provides insights into how planning and relationships between stakeholders are changing in a fragmented region, and what this means for sustainability.
Financialization of Property Tax Liens

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Major changes have occurred since the mid-1990’s in how localities handle their delinquent property tax bills. Around the country, many cities and counties now sell bundles of delinquent tax bills to private investors, including large financial institutions, which can foreclose on the properties and charge interest rates as high as 18 percent. In some places, tax debt has also been re-packaged into securitized bonds. Recently, as the economic crisis has deepened, more property owners--often saddled with expensive mortgages acquired during the housing bubble--have fallen behind on their tax bills. This paper examines the genesis of new tax lien practices within the broader context of financialization and privatization in the public sector, investigating the various administrative, legal and technological changes that make possible the transformation of a tax lien certificate into a liquid asset that is then able to be integrated in broader capital markets. It also explores the impact of changes in tax lien practice on cities and their residents, situating that experience within a longer history of public and private debt. Presented is a case study of New York City, using interviews, archival documents and quantitative data analysis to investigate both the history and impact of property tax lien privatization and financialization.
Not Black Like Me: Racial Identity, Attitudes and Experiences Among Young Natives and Newcomers in Sunnyside, Queens

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This paper presents findings from my study funded by the Russell Sage Foundation focused on affiliation and racial attitudes and experiences of 97 1st and 2nd generation young people and parents; 40 3rd generation young people and parents of Western European descent; and seven youth workers in local organizations in Sunnyside, Queens (and its environs). According to the 2010 census, 56 percent of Sunnyside’s 52,000 residents were foreign-born and hailed from over 80 source countries, including those in the Caribbean, South and Central America, the Middle East, East and South Asia, and Eastern and Western Europe. There is no racial ethnic majority, and nearly all ten census tracts are equally heterogeneous. However, in this census, only 1.4 percent of respondents identified as “black.” Key findings include very few non-white respondents experienced racial discrimination in Queens, but felt they did outside its boundaries (including in Manhattan and upstate New York). Nearly all young people counted peers from different backgrounds among their three “best” friends, and most dated people of other races and ethnicities. However, although many young respondents stated they had black friends, and I considered 15 to be phenotypically black, only two identified as such, and the majority of first and second generation young people held complicated and often stereotypical views of native African Americans, or those they considered to be darker than themselves. Most also noted their parents (including Caribbean-born parents) held “racist” or “ignorant” views, and warned them about forming close relationships with native-born black people. On the whole, these biases were not as prevalent among the majority of native-born “white” respondents. I attribute this discrepancy to the fact that the latter group tended to come from higher income families, and had far more experiences traveling outside of the Sunnyside area; they perceived residents and even relatives in other areas as holding racist views that conflicted with their own. Sunnyside (unique among other highly multiethnic neighborhoods in Queens), lacks enclaves and is uniquely integrated. First and second generation young respondents (including the very dark-skinned) tended to only be aware of young native American black people who lived in local public housing projects; their assessments were often affected by class as well as racial stereotypes. Yet stated biases did not prevent close affiliations among respondents of very different ethnic, racial, and class backgrounds, which I feel is the result of living within an extremely multiethnic community where generalized biases were overcome by daily intimate interactions; ethnoracial backgrounds were difficult to pinpoint and individually deride.
Conjunction Junction, What’s Your Function? An Assessment of Coproduction In Atlanta, Georgia

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In municipalities across the globe, traditional forms of governance are being supplemented by collaborative arrangements between governments and their constituencies toward jointly produced public services. Since the late 1970s, this phenomenon known as coproduction has been utilized in efforts to welcome traditionally silenced voices, improve performance, increase accountability, and survive severe budget cuts. However, no study to date has undergone a citywide assessment of coproduction to determine its breadth and depth in a city. Additionally, there is practically no empirical study that examines how citizen characteristics and perceptions relate to participation in coproduction. The present study represents a first attempt to begin to fill these gaps in the literature. To do so, I will conduct a mixed-method case study of Atlanta, Georgia via its Neighborhood Planning Unit system, using (1) citizen surveys, (2) focus groups, (3) archival data (including census and GIS data), and (5) direct observation. Given the service quality and democracy-enhancing benefits of coproduction, this study may also offer important practical implications.
The Evolution of Campus Design in North America

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The campus is an architectural entity like none other. The planning and development of it continually changes hands, has been visioned and revisited countless times by academics and design professionals over the past four centuries. With the emergence of downtown campuses, massive open online courses (MOOC), and for-profit colleges, what will the campus of the future look like? How will campus architecture’s role evolve or diminish? This essay will look to illustrate the historical evolution of campus design in North America from a critical design perspective. Respect to the changes in educational technology, pedagogy, and architectural theories will be accounted for. The role of the famous designer or Starchitect will demonstrate the commodification of architecture and the role the built environment has on capturing the public’s attention with hopes to recruit and retain students as well as donors. Finally, the essay will discuss the growth of downtown campus locations that are intended to add cosmopolitan vibrancy along with community development and inclusivity.
Today's Urban Dilemmas - Austin's Innovation Solutions

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For its 2013 conference, the UAA urges urban scholars and planners to share ways in which governments, residents, neighborhood groups, and others have improved urban areas across the globe, and asks participants to describe and explain how cities deal with 21st century issues of inclusion, innovation, and globalization. San Francisco, the site of this year’s conference, is cited as embodying much of what is right about cities, while still facing problems common to urban areas everywhere. Austin, Texas shares many of the same challenges and opportunities as San Francisco. It is the state's capital and the home of the University of Texas at Austin, the flagship of the University of Texas system, which has helped enable it to become the center of numerous innovative high-tech companies, earning the region the nickname "Silicon Hills." Austin's location in Texas puts it close to the "Latino Rim" and the emerging economies of Mexico, Central and South America. Similar to San Francisco, Austin is a city that creative class workers seek out for its cultural, creative, and technological offerings. Politically, Austin is a blue oasis in a very red state, and has the reputation of being the leading city in Texas in innovative urban planning and sustainability efforts, and promoting citizen inclusion and access to the city's spaces and amenities, whereas the state's other major cities focus primarily on the economic development model. Also Austin is experiencing the challenges of gentrification, especially to its East Side and central business district, and has been the site of numerous conflicts over the use and meaning of urban space, essentially struggles over Henri Lefebvre’s abstract versus social spaces. In this paper I will examine what is "right" about the city of Austin, starting with its innovative Austin Tomorrow Plan from over thirty years ago to what the city leaders, planners, and citizens are doing today to improve the city's urban fabric, access, and viability - the successes, and failures, in addressing the challenges of a rapidly growing 21st century urban area. I will look at how these efforts and struggles have shaped its unique social, economic, and political landscape, a landscape that has resulted in the "Keep Austin Weird" moniker. Austin is a relevant and timely example of "great contestations" over the rights to the city, and like San Francisco, certainly offers lessons to be learned for anyone interested in the future of the world's great places.
Discrete Choice Analysis and the Continuity of Neighborhood Racial Compositions from Youth to Young Adulthood

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Racial residential segregation remains stubbornly persistent and reduces the life chances of racial and ethnic minorities. Although sociologists and urban studies researchers have improved the understanding of the extent of segregation and its causes, especially through work on the spatial assimilation model and the place stratification model, our existing knowledge and theories do not incorporate information on experiences individuals have during youth. This is surprising because perpetuation theory maintains that these experiences are likely to influence where people move during adulthood. The theory predicts that racial compositions experienced during youth have contextual effects that lead people to reside in residential areas with a similar racial composition in adulthood. This paper examines the effects of racial compositions in youth on neighborhood attainment with Discrete Choice Analysis and data from the National Education Longitudinal Study, Integrated Post-Secondary Study, and the 1990 and 2000 Censuses. These analysis indicate that young adults are more likely to move to residential areas with a percentage white that is more like that of the ones they grew up in than the other ones in their metropolitan areas controlling for other factors, including those proposed by the spatial assimilation model and the place stratification model. The findings also suggest that the similarity of racial compositions in residential areas from youth to adulthood is likely to be the result of the mechanisms suggested by perpetuation theory. These findings therefore suggest that part of the reason that adults are residentially segregated from each other is because they grew up segregated from each other and that levels of residential segregation might be lowered by giving youth experiences in integrated contextual environments.
Economic Inclusion after the Great Recession: The Role of Community Based Organizations in Influencing Labor Market Outcomes

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Attachment to and successful outcomes in the labor market are conceptualized as characteristics of economic inclusion and are viewed as the foundation for social inclusion in society. However, the landscape of economic opportunity in the United States has dramatically changed in the wake of the Great Recession. This new economic reality is partially the result of a labor market now characterized by patterns of intermittent attachment, long-term unemployment, overall lower wages, and alternative work arrangements which have changed the quality of work and types of work that individuals engage in. Such changes have led to the initiation of policy mandates by all levels of government calling for the identification and implementation of successful policy, programs, and other mechanisms to support attachment to and positive outcomes in the labor market. However, these discussions have remained in large part focused on questions of how best to leverage and broaden employment opportunities through the support and expansion of state led policy efforts such as workforce development initiatives and social services. As a result, these policy discussions ultimately fail consider the role that community based organizations (CBOs) and safety nets have had in supporting individuals during the Great Recession and throughout the recovery period, as well as their potential to influence labor market outcomes in the face of weakening state policy intervention. This paper will examine the use and impact of community based organizations and community safety nets on the labor market incorporation and outcomes experienced by individuals during the recovery period. Through analysis of a recently conducted national survey of 1500 adults throughout the United States, the paper will examine the influence of community based institutions and responses on the level of employment and the quality of work experienced by individuals over the last 5 years. Using the analytical framework of decent work advanced by the International Labor Organization, econometric analysis will be used to consider levels of labor market attachment and estimate the quality of work experienced by individuals. Findings of the analysis will consider the role of CBOs in supporting the economic inclusion of marginalized populations (i.e. underrepresented ethnic and racial groups, urban youth, and immigrants) and examine the capacity of CBOs to influence labor market attachment and outcomes of these populations. It is expected that the analysis will yield important insights into the use of community based organizations and safety nets by individuals during the recovery period, the influence of non-state actors and community safety nets on individual levels of economic inclusion, and articulate the role and potential of non-state actors as mechanisms for promoting the economic inclusion of marginalized populations in the new economy.
Socio-Spatial Activities and Social Networks of Youth: Does the Neighbourhood Matter?

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A central question in neighborhood effect research is to what extent and in what ways the neighborhood matters for the social-spatial behavior and the formation of social networks of people. Quite some studies have been conducted to answer this question for adults. This article does, however, not focus on adults, but explores the complex relationship between the neighborhood, socio-spatial behavior and social networks of youth. We conducted in-depth interviews with youth aged 12-16 living in deprived neighborhoods in Rotterdam, the Netherlands and asked them about their socio-spatial behavior, who they meet in different settings, and how participation in these settings influences their lives. From our interviews it becomes clear that proximity is only one determinant of socio-spatial activities, and that the effect of distance can be moderated by parental strategies and by personal agency. Moreover, activity patterns of youth are influenced by the presence of peers and the opportunities to create a 'free place' away from adult supervision. Whereas there are indeed quite some young people whose socio-spatial behavior is home- or neighborhood based, there are also youth who to a large extent have activities beyond the neighborhood context. These activity patterns impact on the formation of social networks, which range from very dense networks for some home and neighborhood based youth, to networks consisting of several independent clusters for more city based adolescents. These findings imply that a 'neighborhood effect' might work more strongly for particular groups of people, and that we should question the analytic value of the geographical neighborhood. Keywords: youth, social networks, socio-spatial behavior, neighborhood effects
Engineering Rights Based Approaches to Disaster Management

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This paper explores approaches to climate hazard disaster planning, management, and response in urban areas through a comparative case study of Las Vegas and Miami. The case studies were chosen based on the frequency of climate variability related hazards and the regional reliance on low-wage, service industries. The research questions focus the study on how different approaches to disaster planning, management, and response support resilience in the most vulnerable populations. Different approaches to low income, elderly, disabled, and ethnic minorities are applied to understanding the short and long term impacts of disaster events. This paper will provide evidence of which approaches are most appropriate and effective. Using the theories of social vulnerability, community development, and theories of right-based and needs-based approaches to development, this paper will explore whether a rights-based approach to community development in planning for climate related disasters can support the resources necessary for resilient communities in the face of disaster based on case studies of two urban communities. The methodological approach is qualitative using a comparative case study and interpretive policy analysis to evidence the hypothesis that rights-based approaches are more inclusive and sustainable. The lessons learned will provide recommendations for evidence-based policy interventions based on the experiences of two urban metropolises struggling with climate related disasters and for comparable urban contexts. The paper demonstrates the central importance of strategic, cross issue alliances and participatory, policy relevant advocacy in supporting vulnerable populations before, during, and after disaster events.
Lessons from Replication of a Comprehensive Community Initiative: LISC’s Building Sustainable Communities Initiative

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Since the late 1970s, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) has been one of the nation’s major nonprofit investors in community revitalization efforts. In 2011 alone, LISC and its tax credit syndication affiliates invested nearly $1 billion in loans, grants, and equity through community-based development companies, social services agencies, neighborhood associations, and other nonprofit organizations. In 2007, the Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) adopted a new strategic direction, toward support for comprehensive community revitalization initiatives in targeted low-income neighborhoods. In doing so, LISC expressly adopted the approach worked out in LISC/Chicago’s New Communities Program, which emphasizes extensive community organizing, strong lead operating agencies, formation of durable community partnerships, and active intermediation on the part of LISC local offices. The goal of these efforts is to enlist broad cross-sectoral support from within and outside target neighborhoods to implement a comprehensive response to community problems. By 2012, LISC had expanded this initiative to some 110 target neighborhoods in 25 cities. Early on in the replication process, LISC researchers developed an assessment framework that examines each element of the BSC approach and the inter-relationships among them to determine whether the approach produces concrete results. The assessment draws on an extensive battery of neighborhood indicators, consultant reports on community process and investment flows in selected neighborhoods, and archival data from community plans, LISC management systems, and staff monitoring reports. This paper examines early results from this replication effort, and considers how variations in the approach as adopted, city and neighborhood economic and social contexts, levels of community institutional capacity, and local political and fiscal conditions, have influenced early community-building and neighborhood investment outcomes.
Building Public Housing Residents' Capacity to Prepare for and Benefit From Neighborhood Redevelopment

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Since the 1990s, the Department of Housing and Urban Development has supported mixed income redevelopment (MIR) strategies to address the problems of low-income neighborhoods with traditional public housing structures. Studies have demonstrated an impact of MIR on neighborhoods as a place, but have been less effective at showing that MIR create better outcomes for the people that occupy them. Resident identification, mobilization, and addressing of problems may be a key mechanism for improving resident outcomes. Choice Neighborhoods, the latest policy focused on redeveloping public housing, places greater emphasis on working across multiple systems to build the capacities of subsystems, including residents. This study focuses on two neighborhoods facing transit oriented mixed income redevelopment (TOMIR). Both of the neighborhoods contain more than 38% of the residents living in poverty and were engaged in formal planning and organizing processes to prepare for the community for change. This project seeks to determine if residents' involvement in neighborhood organizing and planning processes were associated with building their capacity for a greater readiness for change. Specifically, the study tests whether resident perceptions of neighborhood problems, social cohesion, organizational collective efficacy, resident involvement in activism and neighborhood organizations, and the possession of a neighborhood transition and/or relocation plan (TRP) predict individual residents' readiness for TOMIR. A community based mixed methods design was used that included a resident survey and in depth resident interviews. Existing scales were used to measure four concepts. New scales were created for involvement, possessing a TRP, and readiness. A split half exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis was conducted with all measures prior to completing a structural equation model (SEM). Qualitative interviews were analyzed with constant comparative analysis and used to elaborate on quantitative findings. The SEM resulted in adequate model fit (RMSEA=.024). The model found that readiness for TOMIR is predicted by social cohesion, organizational collective efficacy, and possessing a TRP. Resident involvement in neighborhood organizations is predicted by neighborhood problem identification and activism. Involvement in neighborhood organizations covaries with resident readiness for TOMIR. Residents higher on all study variables are more ready for TOMIR. Qualitative interviews suggested residents low in community capacities experience barriers to involvement in collective activities, thus requiring household level interventions to prepare for change, as well as ways in which community capacities may be fostered and thwarted. Preparing residents for change should include both household level supports and community processes,
a finding consistent with federal mandates for collective engagement of residents and research indicating the need for case management.
African American Children with Severe Disabilities: How to Best Meet Their Needs in Urban Settings

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A comprehensive study of cerebral palsy among 8-year-old children living in northern Alabama, metropolitan Atlanta, and southeastern Wisconsin found the prevalence of cerebral palsy to be highest in Black, non-Hispanic children at 4.2 cases per 1,000, compared with 3.3 cases per 1,000 among White, non-Hispanic children. Findings also noted that children born to families of lower and middle socio-economic status had a higher prevalence of cerebral palsy than did children born to families of higher socio-economic status. The prevalence of mild cerebral palsy was similar for Black and white children; however the prevalence of severe cerebral palsy was 70% higher in Black children than white children. The higher incidence of cerebral palsy among African Americans is not associated with maternal or birth characteristics, but instead may be attributed to other factors, such as the negative effects of racial discrimination, poverty, substandard housing and neighborhood conditions, and insufficient availability of and access to quality health care. Since disability research has characteristically underrepresented African Americans, there is little research addressing culturally appropriate treatment and services for African American children with cerebral palsy. As African Americans are at a greater risk for cerebral palsy and severity of the condition, professionals must develop an understanding of African Americans' values, norms, and way of life that influence how they adjust to and cope with caring for a child with severe cerebral palsy. Without a basic understanding of how cerebral palsy and its severity impacts African American parents, professionals are less able to accurately discern what is needed in order to provide best practices and most effective interventions for the child and their family. This is particularly critical as children with severe cerebral palsy are living longer and being cared for in their home environment, the additional challenges inherent in caring for them will gravely impact their quality of life and ability to reach their maximum potential. This presentation will critically examine what has been discovered about African American children with severe disabilities; what factors influence parents' ability to adequately care for their child with a severe disability; and how African American children with severe disabilities are viewed in education, political, and cultural systems. In addition, the presenter will discuss the implications for professionals in the field of social work, health care, education, human services, and social policy. This information will assist professionals in their efforts to better identify and understand cultural differences and how those differences impact quality of care and level of service.
Location of Voucher Holders Before and After the Housing Crisis: A New Methodology

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Since the mid-2000s housing crisis, housing prices have dropped dramatically in the State of Florida. The resultant socio-economic and physical restructuring have had an impact on the redistribution of voucher holders in space. This study focuses on the differences in the distribution before and after the housing crisis. It provides a new descriptive methodology measuring the differences in the qualitative characteristics of voucher holders before and after the crisis. For this purpose, four qualitative variables, one of which originally obtained at the parcel level and three at the block level, are examined in two different years: 2000 and 2010. The distributional measures suggested significantly clustered pattern of voucher holders for all the three pairs of counties. The paper found more clustering within their new extents. However, in measuring the qualitative measures of the distribution of voucher holders based on the four variables a general pattern of downward mobility was observed.
Social Equity in Public Service Privatization: The Empirical Effects of Garbage Collection in Low-income Neighborhoods

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Cities have increasingly embraced privatization - shifting service delivery to private sector to address both financial constraints and a desire to higher performance. However, many public agencies have found that privatization is not always effective when considering tradeoffs that impact social equity. In the case of garbage collection in the city of Phoenix, private companies have been serving to the neighborhoods with high concentrations of low-income Latinos, where many multiple-family households produce large quantities of garbage. While the city is familiar with its neighborhoods, private companies may not be and are ill-equipped with trucks that do not have the capacity to carry the large loads in these neighborhoods. As a result, houses are routinely missed, and the ability to be responsive to residents' needs is compromised. As the trend towards privatization and competition in bidding processes becomes commonplace, empirical evidence is necessary that includes social equity measures to ensure that services delivered are not only efficient and effective - they are equitable as well. This study concerns the place of social equity in the rapid spread of public service privatization endeavors. It answers the question: what are the effects of service privatization over the years across neighborhoods in different economic status? Specifically, are privatized garbage services provided as equitably in low-income neighborhoods as middle/high-income neighborhoods when compared to publicly-delivered services? Phoenix was selected, because it has been a privatization leader for many years upon which many cities call on when making privatization decisions. It has years of available data, and also provides a natural experiment as private companies were collecting garbage in several service areas while the city providing this service in the other areas. Data collected from the city include: satisfaction survey responses, service costs including bid costs and opportunity costs, and service complaint data from 2002 to 2011. The American Community Survey data of income at the census track level are also employed to identify the economic status of the neighborhoods where the households are located. Multiple specifications are estimated with neighborhood and year fixed-effects using OLS regressions, and other generalized linear models to determine the effects of the interaction term (private-delivery in low-income neighborhoods) on equity measures of satisfaction, number of complaints, and costs over ten years. The results will determine whether there are any significant differences in performance between public or private service delivery in low-income versus middle/high-income neighborhoods. These findings can be generalized across municipalities to help us better understand how privatization affects our most vulnerable citizens when government reform processes are considered.
Cultural Gatekeepers of the Restaurant World: How the Restaurant Industry Interacts with Social Media in the Cultivation of Taste and the Business of Food

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Social media has revolutionized the “cultural industries” in the last decade and restaurants are no exception. Cultural gatekeepers play a significant role in the cultural industries and often impact both the reputation and the reach of products. It has often been said that restaurant critics may “make or break” a restaurant, but is this true given the rise of Web 2.0 and the abundance of restaurant reviews on user-generated websites? How do gatekeepers impact the popularity of eating establishments and contribute to the business of restaurants? This paper examines the interconnectivity of the restaurant industry and the wider restaurant “world” of publicists, food bloggers, and critics. How does social media impact the reputation of restaurants? I have conducted interviews with 50 people in the restaurant world to analyze how these types of reputation sources interact with one another. The overarching goal of this paper is to understand the gatekeeper network underpinning the restaurant industry and how these networks influence diners in their patronage and participation in social media.
Constructing City-Regions in the Context of Rescaling China: The Rise of A City-Region in the Middle Range of Yangtze River

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Ranging from metropolitan agglomerations dominated by developed cores to more polycentric geographic units such as urban networks, city-regions have emerged as a new and important geographic and institutional phenomenon on the world stage and are expanding vigorously across the globe. New ways of understanding these processes in both global and regional contexts, and new ways of acting to harness their benefits and to control their negative effects are urgently needed. Conventionally, the rise of city-regions has been regarded as a spatial outcome of market-based productive activities that spill over the boundaries of local political jurisdictions to a broader regional scale consisting of cities in network. Alternatively, it also arises from the impetus of adjacent local political units to search for region-wide coalitions as a means of dealing with the threats and the opportunities of globalization. City-regions in China are developing extensively in the past decade. Built on the national trend and the particular case of city-region constructing in the middle range of Yangtze River, this paper argues that rather than a process that is fueled either by economic forces or local political motivations, they emerge largely as an outcome of the state project to prioritize economic growth and rebalance the national economy through spatial rescaling efforts. Specifically, the shift of China's regime of accumulation from state-led industrialization to urbanization urges the use of down-scaling strategy and leads to the consolidation of the local state as "autonomous" entity to manage economic and social activities in its territory in an entrepreneurial fashion. Given the negative effects of pervasive local entrepreneurialism, up-scaling efforts are being made in recent years in the form of regional plans to tame inter-urban competitions, without altering the fundamental drives. It is under this new circumstance that local governments, especially provinces, coalesce to construct discourses of city-regions with the aim to have it listed as a national strategy. The implications of this new urban dynamics will also be discussed. Archival research over official publications, on-site observation and semi-structured in-depth interviews are used for data and material collections.
International Fairs, Cultural Clusters: State-centric Strategies in Producing the Cultural city of Shenzhen, China

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This study attempts to explore how the mobile idea of cultural/creative cities is fabricated into the local context of Shenzhen and one of its cultural industrial bases of Dafen Village, and the contingent modality actualized in the latter. City-level policies on ‘building the city on culture” are analyzed, variegated interpretations and corresponding measures taken in policy implementations by various arms of the government are examined. For Shenzhen, the call for cultural city building is more or less the last straw that has to be grasped to tackle the economic challenges faced by the city government. Meanwhile, the city is weak in claiming cultural milieu whilst strong in its market system, which leads to the plan with more daring experiments to deepen the market-oriented reform of cultural system. The vision, as argued by the author, is to build up an international trading hub of cultural assets. Dafen village, where Trade-Painting was imported as "sanlai yibu" industry in the early 1990s, was discovered and repackaged as a model that combines culture and economic viability. In this process, one influential force is assembled by two vertical lines, the Division of Propaganda and the China Council for the Promotion of International Trading, which work on trade-oriented branding through their networks in the governmental structure and mega-events. The other force is the district government, which puts major attention on property development based on their power in land leasing. The duty of responding to criticism on authenticity, however, has been largely left on the shoulders of painter-workers by the introduction of competitive labor market. Welfare supports from the state are conditioned with a series of criteria that aim to attract established artists and corporations with exportation licenses. Through the case of Dafen village in Shenzhen, I attempt to elaborate how state apparatus are deployed in producing the cultural village, contingent to its political economic circumstances. And I attempt to explain how the initiatives dominated by economic doctrine have generated consequences on social solidarity.
Determinants of Land Finance in Chinese Local Governments: Evidence from City-level Data

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During the past several decades, mobilizing adequate resources to finance local public infrastructure in the process of rapid urbanization has become one of the most essential issues in public management for local governments in many developing countries. China's massive urbanization since the early 1980s has been a typical case of land-based and city-centered one. Scholars have coined the term "land finance" to refer to the striking phenomenon in contemporary China that local governments rely heavily on land-leasing revenue, i.e. land conveyance fee, to finance infrastructure and provide a variety of public goods. While land finance has been used as an important fiscal tool, Chinese local governments' excessive dependence on it has triggered increasing public concern and outrages over many problems generated by or associated with it. In the existing literature, however, there has been scant attention devoted to empirically examining the determinants of land finance with rigorous statistical methods and large-N data sets. In this research, using a comprehensive panel data set of 280 city-level administrative regions in China during the period of 1999-2009, we aim to explore various institutional, socioeconomic, and geographic factors that affect local governments' dependence on land finance, contributing to the body of literature on intergovernmental fiscal relations and local fiscal behaviors in developing countries. Furthermore, the outcomes of this research may carry important implications for the efforts to revamp the current practice of land finance, defusing the risks posed by land finance on the Chinese macroeconomic management and fiscal health in the long run.
Best Practices: Urban School Reform and Data-Driven Policymaking

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Communities across the United States are grappling with high drop-out rates and the low educational achievement of their youth. Research consistently demonstrates that educational achievement is correlated with a series of positive outcomes including higher personal income, stable employment, satisfactory health, and avoidance of the criminal justice system (Laird, Kienzi, DeBell, and Chapman, 2007). School systems throughout the country, especially districts in urban areas, are serving the educational needs of their population, however, many of their schools have become "drop-out" factories. Explanations for inadequate educational attainment vary across districts and viable, comprehensive solutions seem to elude most, including those that have made a concerted effort to address these issues. In fact, at the present time, there is not one urban district that has solved this socio-economic crisis nor is there a district or state that is doing everything "right". However, there are districts across the nation that have started to adopt policies that are building the foundation for the transformation of failing schools into viable, productive engines of educational success. This paper will present an overview of the drop-out literature and will then introduce the work of a few districts in attempting to combat the drop-out crisis. The first section will introduce some of the more pressing research questions regarding high school dropouts. While labeling the drop-out crisis a priority is, at this point, ubiquitous by politicians, practitioners, and academics, there are significant gaps throughout the literature. The paper will examine the negative effects of dropping out on the individual. While many of these relationships may appear obvious, the long-term effects of high dropout rates such as unemployment, poverty, and crime are detrimental to the entire society. The next section will consider the complex features related to calculating graduation and dropout rates with a focus on the future effort to standardize rates across jurisdictions. Finally, the goal of any district should be to prevent dropouts before they occur. An integral component of this effort is the identification of at-risk students and the provision of necessary services within or outside the school setting. That requires systems in place to both identify the at-risk students and to ensure service provision. The paper will examine best practices in establishing early warning systems to identify and provided services to students who are at-risk to drop out, as well as the segmentation analyses that go hand in hand with the successful development and deployment of these systems.
Financing urban redevelopment: the policy mobilities and immobilities of the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) model

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This paper explores the various journeys of the Tax Increment Financing (TIF) model that emerged in California in the early 1950s and which has been the subject of recent debate and discussion in Australia, Canada and the UK. It explores how this 'local' policy became constructed as a 'model' for urban redevelopment through processes of comparison, education, learning, mobility and translation. Drawing on a series of semi-structured interviews, the paper argues for an understanding of the urban-global politics of urban futures.
Aging America: Challenges for Planning and City Services

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As the U.S. anticipates a rapid and extraordinary surge in the number and proportion of Americans aged 65 and older, municipalities of all sizes must play a role in meeting the needs of this cohort. This article seeks to illuminate the status and challenges of planning and service delivery for senior residents in communities across the urban, suburban and rural spectrum. Although the concentration of elderly is highest in rural areas, the suburbs are graying significantly, and service delivery in less dense settlements will present particular challenges, especially in transportation. We use a new 2010 survey conducted by International City/County Management Association, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, National League of Cities, National Association of Counties, American Planning Association and Partners for Livable Communities of 1,430 municipalities across the United States to examine the services and planning processes communities are using to meet the needs of an aging population. Our regression analysis explains differences in service levels and planning to address elder needs based on demographic, economic, and government finance characteristics. Do suburbs benefit from spillover effects of urban services? Do rural areas provide extra services to account for the fact that they don't enjoy the effects of spillover? What is the potential for regional collaboration for addressing the needs of the elderly?
Impossible Subjects, Citizen Enforcers, and Administrative Discretion

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Globalization has opened borders, transformed communities, and provided new ways for cities to think about the inclusion or exclusion of immigrants. Ngai (2004) argues that undocumented immigrants are impossible political subjects because they have no legal rights and thus cannot exist as subjects under the law. Yet, they do exist and live within jurisdictions, consuming services, working, and creating community, which creates tricky governance challenges for public officials. In recent years, cities have become a more integral participant in immigration policy, whether they are passing their own legislation, like Hazelton, PA that passed an ordinance designed to require businesses and landlords to verify citizenship status before employing and renting to individuals, or implementing new state legislation, such as Arizona’s SB 1070, which in part was meant to ensure that local law enforcement offers enforce immigration laws. For cities and counties that have pursued more inclusive approaches to immigration, purposefully or by default, these policies challenge administrative discretion. In addition to affecting administrative discretion, some laws have incorporated enforcement language that encourages citizens, and in some cases lawful noncitizens, to file complaints if they observe state and local officials not in compliance with the law. For instance, Arizona’s SB 1070 includes a "citizen suit" that allows a citizen to sue a city if he or she suspects that the city is not enforcing federal immigration law. Alabama’s recently passed HB 56 includes a provision detailing how people can file suits against individual public officials who are not in compliance with the law. South Carolina, Georgia, Indiana, and Utah all similar have laws that encourage this kind of citizen activism and several other states are in the process of passing similar legislation. This paper explores the implications of immigration laws that restrict administrative discretion as well as their provisions that attempt to formally increase the responsibility of citizens in enforcing the laws. Toward that end, the paper reviews early concepts of citizenship as well as critically examines the history of administrative discretion in immigration policy. In addition, the paper considers the concept of consensual citizenship as a basis for a more inclusive, community-based citizenship. As cities face meeting the needs of increasingly diverse residents, it is imperative to interpret immigration policies that in some cases pose additional challenges to local governments.
Social Media and Governance in China: Evolving Dimensions of Transparency, Participation, and Accountability

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Much attention in the discussion of social media has been on its role in the creation and activities of citizen-based groups seeking to bring down authoritarian regimes. However, this emphasis on social media in non-Western countries diverts attention from the ability of citizens, within a variety of systems, to use social media to increase transparency, exercise greater cultural and politico-economic influence, hold those exercising power more accountable than the formal institutions of governance allow, and, particularly, from recognizing these phenomena can vary greatly among nations and cultures and that social media, the technology involved and its effects are evolving. No better example of this is China. There, the national government, with a great and increasing number of netizens, has the capacity and has been able to impose the most extensive state control of social media of any country. Yet, by using micro-blogging, Human Flesh Search Engines (HFSEs), and “Surrounding Gaze” (Wei Guan) people have been able to collectively identify events and actions, search out knowledge about them, and by massive online presence generate offline effects that can successfully challenge opaque, unjust and illegal uses of social and politico-economic power that would not be possible through the mass media and formal institutions. This paper draws upon examples from disasters, flaunting social and legal conventions, efforts to exercise inappropriate and illegal influence, and official misconduct are examined in terms of how micro-blogging, HFSEs, and Wei Guan related to them interact to foster public information and transparency, enhance popular influence on the accountability of those holding power in the social, economic and government sectors, and what other consequences for the process of governance that can be identified. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications of China for expanding the framework for studying and comparing the actual effects of social media and governance among countries.
The Use of Qualitative Methodologies to Engage Low-Income Populations in the Visualization of Travel Behaviors and Mobility Barriers.

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Public transportation is the ubiquitous option for millions of low-income residents in communities across America. For those of us who are reliant on public transportation, it is much more than a means of moving from one place to another. Efficient, affordable, and reliable public transportation is essential to providing access to jobs, educational and recreational opportunities, and essential services. In this paper, we describe our efforts to better understand holistically how the current organization and provision of public transportation in poor neighborhoods limits the mobility of vulnerable residents. Employing qualitative research methodologies this research project documented the lived experiences of low-income people in and around Newark, New Jersey. Working through community-based organizations, members of the research team reached out to different sub-groups - seniors, adult single parent mothers, and job seeking males-engaging these participants in a dialog using focus groups, shadowing, travel diaries, and intercept surveys to better understand how they interact with public transportation and the ways in which the delivery of public transportation shapes and determines their day-to-day activity patterns. Designing and conducting interviews and focus groups with marginalized populations poses its own challenges. The research team used paper maps to allow users to trace their movement patterns including bus routes and walking/biking routes. The conversations that ensued during the mapping activity revealed the richness and complexity of individual schedules and lived experiences that were very circumscribed by the availability of reliable transportation. The captured lived experiences aggregates a narrative of how complex it is to navigate the built environment using the transportation infrastructure in place for the wider community represented by the participants, in an community where options a few. The nuanced understandings of the limitations of public transportation has far reaching consequences to users of this service and presents vital opportunities for transportation planners, urban researchers, and community advocates whose charter is to improve these services. The latter is most important since they often times have direct access to the users of public transportation and are the first institutions reached out to for guidance from the community. The value of our research adds to the current literature and understanding of public transportation issues. Its findings have revealed that public transportation mobility barriers can be physical and perceptive. Building the 21st Century City requires active participation form all users of that city. Continued public transportation mobility barriers truncate participation for a marginalized group of users. Being cognizant of this
limitation equips us to design holistically a city that promotes inclusion and using technology builds on this understanding.
Considering Social Equity in Local Government Sustainability Strategies

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In discussions of sustainability, one commonly sees reference to the three e’s: economy, environment, and equity. Under these auspices, much attention is paid to the economy and environment, especially in how to best pursue sustainable development, but less direct attention is given to the equity dimension of sustainability. Sustainability programs that ignore equity concerns run the risk of yielding to top-down technical solutions that exclude concerns of marginalized members of the community but may be imposed upon them anyway. Additionally, costs and benefits of implemented programs that are not fairly distributed run the risk of perpetuating existing inequities and making the community less democratic in the process. This paper addresses the equity dimension in two ways: first, it addresses why equity is a fundamental part of a robust sustainability program; second, it reviews survey data from an International City/County Management Association (ICMA) 2010 sustainability survey to consider how cities that have scored high on social equity indicators articulate their vision through their websites, which is arguably the most accessible means of communication that they have with their residents. Finally, this paper seeks to give some insight as to what motivates some cities to pursue social equity while others do not.
Smart Philanthropy, Strategic Targeting, and New (?) Processes of Neighborhood Change

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Across the US, urban neighborhoods are changing in innovative ways. Once infrequent and exceptional, gentrification and similar change processes have become increasingly prevalent, a trend confirmed by recent Census data. And while there exists an increasing recognition that the mechanisms underlying gentrification have changed, little research has addressed how shifts have manifested in on-the-ground processes -- or considered whether 'gentrification' remains an appropriate moniker for the contemporary urban scene. In response, this paper investigates the formal and informal arrangements among the public, private, institutional, and non-profit sectors that drive contemporary processes of neighborhood change -- what I term 'urban revitalization.' It examines the emergence of coalitions pursuing neighborhood change in three Columbus, Ohio, neighborhoods: Weinland Park, King-Lincoln, and Olde Towne East, each unique but also generalizable in terms of history, location, and attractiveness to outside investors. Methods include archival research and key informant interviews with coalition members and neighborhood residents, and the paper addresses the following three points. First, drawing on urban regime theory, the paper provides a conceptual model of coalition membership, highlighting trends in community development and non-profit foundation fund disbursement -- namely, strategic geographic targeting and smart philanthropy. Second, the research compares and contrasts coalition operations across study area neighborhoods, tying differences to the role of municipal government and the effectiveness of neighborhood leadership, among other factors. The paper concludes with policy and planning implications, specifically questioning the sustainability and spatial justice implications of relying on locally-based institutions to organize, fund, and guide redevelopment activities.
The New Face of Peri-Urbanization in East Asia

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Peri-urbanization processes and outcomes are changing rapidly in the contested zones surrounding the major metropolitan areas of China and Southeast Asia. Economic activities and land use are becoming much more diverse, as the relative importance of manufacturing declines rapidly in the former “factories of the world”, such as coastal China, greater Bangkok, etc. For example, greater Beijing is almost devoid of manufacturing – a dramatic change compared with 25 years ago. The new peri-urban landscapes are characterized by a variety of emerging uses, some driven by very large capital expenditures, e.g., aerotropolis complexes (centered on some of the largest airports of the world), mega religious complexes, F1 tracks, and theme parks. Other changes are driven by tens of millions of new middle class consumers consuming agri, cultural, and retreat tourism on the periphery of metropolitan regions. Second home, celebrity, and retirement communities are emerging as populations grow richer and age. Motorization and enormous investment in expressway systems linking East Asian cities to their peripheries have further accelerated the pace of peri-urban dynamics. In China, metropolitan areas of over 10 million people are often increasingly embedded in integrated megapolitan regions (often created by improved connectivity, including High Speed Rail Systems), further driving the diversification of peri-urbanization and contestation over peri-urban roles and land. But, manufacturing is still important, although sometimes in trouble, as in the Pearl River Delta, creating swaths of brownfields. The author addresses this transition process and likely future uses of these brownfields. The paper explores the new face of peri-urbanization in “mature” large-scale peri-urban regions of East Asia, examining ongoing contestation, opportunities and threats, and policy implications. Case studies from Coastal China, and the Greater Bangkok Region are put forward to illustrate the argument. Alternative scenarios of patterns of peri-urbanization spatial form are put forward. The flip side of the current East Asian peri-urban dynamic, also addressed tangentially in this paper, is that the traditional manufacturing-based peri-urbanization is arising in new places, e.g., Ho Chi Minh City, interior and west China [e.g., Chongqing, Chengdu, Anhui].
Bordering and Bridging: Permeability of Neighbourhoods

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The presence of middle-class households in low-income neighbourhoods has often been attributed to produce social benefits, directly or indirectly, in strengthening the institutional structure of the neighbourhood, offering links to resource-rich networks for low-income households, providing role models, etc. While a range of social mixing policy initiatives (e.g. the Netherlands, France, and the US) is based on this supposed "healing" effect of middle-class households, academic research has pointed to the limits of supposed positive effects. Bordering processes, that is, the extent and significance to which middle-class households in low-income neighbourhoods separate themselves from the surrounding environment, and its image and 'problems', are already documented to some extent in the European context. Less attention has been spent on the bridging actions of middle-class households. We investigate the bordering and bridging actions of middle-class households within a wider frame of the concept of permeability of neighbourhoods, and look in parallel at three dimensions: (1) Bordering within, that is, the significance of small-scale boundaries as an explaining factor for middle-classes remaining in low-income neighbourhoods; (2) Bridging out, that is, the extent to which middle-class households in low-income neighbourhoods organize their social relations and activities inside the neighbourhood, or outside; and (3) Bridging back. With this last dimension, we focus on those households, that have moved out, but for whom the neighbourhood and its institutions (such as community centres, mosques, etc.) continue to be a relevant context for social interaction. Our research looks for empirical evidence on bordering and bridging on three different analytical levels: On the institutional level (neighbourhood foci, institutions and settings), on the level of individual social networks and on the level of discourses and story-telling about the neighbourhoods. As a first step, we have conducted a qualitative, explorative study in the German city of Hannover. A sample of 30 middle-class family households, German and Turkish, has been interviewed concerning their social contacts, everyday routines and activities. In a next step, based on the findings of our household interviews, the neighbourhood-specific foci for social interaction will be analysed in detail to specify the extent to which they are significant as a context for maintaining, or even forming new relationships, and to which extent they may help to maintain and create social capital.
How Much Does it Cost to Build Affordable Rental Housing in California?

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Despite the outsized importance of project-based affordable rental housing to low-income households throughout California, surprisingly little data exists on the costs of developing such housing. Furthermore, the metric of affordable housing development productivity most typically used, "cost per unit," completely fails to account for wide variations both in unit sizes and in the depth of affordability provided. In this talk, Jake Wegmann introduces a proposed new two-dimensional metric that quantifies affordable housing productivity, or "output," in relation to the cost of the "inputs," or public subsidies, required. At present, when the costs of affordable housing development are quantified at all, projects comprised of studio apartments are treated identically to those with four-bedroom dwellings, and units rented at 30% of Area Median Income are not distinguished from those rented at 60%. The problematic use of the "cost per unit" metric may be having several unintended consequences. First, developments serving large households, particularly in high-cost locations such as rapid transit station areas, receive disproportionately harsh treatment under financing programs that have strict limits on the allowable cost per unit. Second, accurate long-term regional forecasting of affordable housing demand, and the associated likely shortfalls in supply, is thwarted. As a result, while other subfields of planning are using key indicators to assess regional prospects, such as Vehicle Mile Traveled (VMT) for land-use/transit integration efforts to achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions, and life expectancy to reveal inequities in regional health outcomes, participants in the network of nonprofits, governmental actors, lenders, advocates and others that collectively provide affordable rental housing are "flying blind" when it comes to evaluating their collective performance. A new metric, "FMR-person equivalents," is proposed to ameliorate this state of affairs. Simultaneously accounting both for household size, and for depth of subsidy (measured against the Fair Market Rent, a widely-available and frequently updated HUD data set), the FMR-person equivalent, when normalized against the level of subsidy for a given affordable housing project, becomes the lynchpin for a true affordable rental housing productivity metric. This proposed new metric is deployed to analyze data compiled from a set of 399 low-income rental affordable housing developments completed throughout California over the past decade. Analysis of the individual pro formas, provided by the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, yields a richness of data taken from the project, rather than aggregate, level that is not normally available. This, along with the use of the FMR-person equivalent metric, allows the drivers of project cost to be analyzed in a way that was not previously possible.
Smart Growth towards Sustainable Urban Development in Chinese Cities: Beijing's Vision

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This study encompasses a range of policy-related work, linked to underlying ideas about the research for territorially-based policy. Manage land use to create space and place, achieve social, economic, environmental, legal and institutional goals. Beijing attains the fame of being a mega-city whose permanent resident population living in the city roughly more than 20 million in 2010 census, not including the floating migrants of rural migrants who constitute around 40% total population. In the meantime, the capacity and environment of the city have been posed tremendous pressures by the population demanding on water and electricity consumption. There is lack of integration of land use, transportation and urban infrastructures from the analysis of the spatial distribution of population and urban expansion (Ding et al, 2005). The goal of this study emphasizes to reform Beijing urban policy, strengthen urban strategic development, and promotes the Beijing’s competitive position in the world. Chinese household consumption and living environment quality will be optimized through transition process of urbanization in a higher speed ratio at the beginning and turning into a slower trend. Governmental zoning, urban planning and land use regulation approach to facilitate urban restructuring and urban sustainable development, which mechanisms should be improved and adjusted institutionally. Governance enhancing land use regulation and planning control will maintain development activities in the market rationally and capture local government revenue from land lease. Compact city as part of development policies towards sustainable city that means intensification of existing structures including the re-use of decayed ones and limitation of spatial growth of the cities is proved to be effective in Chinese Megacities Beijing. Effective policy for sustainable urban growth in Chinese cities by growth and local development management will reduce vast transport demands, energy consumption, inefficient land use and etc. The growth management policy appealing infill development and preventing sprawl should have a comprehensive framework to control development within urban boundary in consistent with urban master plan and land use plan through municipal government approval. Beijing desirable and optimal urbanization and development scenario is going vertically rather than horizontally. Indicator system will be developed to testify the performance of urban pattern in compact development in Beijing future decades in consistence with smart the objectives of mandatory citywide growth policies. Urban smart growth policies are often implemented through land use, transportation and urban patterns which have impact on the urban air and water quality.
Understanding the City: The Role of Service Immersion in Shaping Perceptions of People and Place

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High school and college students in the United States are participating progressively more in structured urban service immersion experiences facilitated by affinity groups, schools and universities. Students typically spend three to six days visiting an urban neighborhood, volunteering at a social service site, and reflecting on their experience. The structure and goals of the programs are varied, but common themes include: raising awareness of issues resulting from poverty, increasing civic engagement and cultural understanding, developing shared responsibility for the common good, and reinforcing the social teachings of faith traditions. This paper looks at the growth in these programs in the last two decades and explores the results of surveys completed by 204 service immersion participants who attended week long sessions at an urban retreat center in Camden, New Jersey throughout the summer of 2012. Of particular interest are the findings related to the impact of the experience on the perceptions these outsiders have of the people and place they visited. Implications for further research and practice are discussed.
Transit Paradise Lost: What Transit Agency Administrators Say Hinders Them from Pursuing Social Justice and Fairness

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Services provided by public transportation agencies are crucial for addressing several vexing quality-of-life issues urban scholars decry. Societal goods like employment, healthcare, educational, cultural, and civic opportunities can never be utilized by urban populations who lack the physical ability to travel to them. Thus it can be argued that mass transit is necessary for connecting individuals, specifically the poor, to resources necessary for improving their quality of life and for pursuing urban social justice. But using public transportation as a tool for societal improvement and social justice is easily thwarted in a number of ways: lack of support by local elected and unelected leaders in the state, metropolitan area, or city; funding mechanisms and budget reductions which prevent the transit agency from fully achieving its objectives; and zoning and development decisions which take urban development continually farther from the dense, transit-friendly urban core and frustrate the ability of transit providers to reach spread-out destinations. While such intentional or negligent obstructions can have a chilling effect on transit service provision and pursuit of social justice concerns, other actions, like an outright refusal to allow a transit agency to operate in a municipality, perpetuates the injustices of a stratified society and evidences a disregard of transportation equity by local leaders. Drawn from interviews with 30 transit agency administrators from across the United States, this presentation will consider how interviewees report their pursuit of social justice agendas is hindered by local political or societal obstacles.
Hispanics in Mississippi: Creating Sense of Place in Urban Spaces and Rural Places

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The number of Hispanics grew rapidly in the South during the past two decades. According to the Bureau of the Census, this ethnic group now makes up a significant percentage of the South’s total population. Notwithstanding the robust growth of the Hispanics in the South, their distribution throughout this geographical area remains uneven. Whereas Georgia and North Carolina boast Hispanic populations of more than eight percent, Mississippi's Hispanic population remains less than three percent of the state's total population, the lowest percent of all states in the traditional South. Questions about Mississippi's small Hispanic population remain: Where do Hispanics in Mississippi live, work, play and worship? How do they define and create place in spaces where they settle in small numbers? This paper addresses these questions. Data for the research are collected from secondary and primary sources. Primary sources include interviews conducted during onsite visits to Hispanic communities throughout the state. GIS is used to create maps of the areas where Hispanics settle in large numbers, which may suggest isolation and the creation of ethnic enclaves. The paper explores how Hispanics in Mississippi continue to define and create sense of place whether living in Mississippi's urban areas or isolated in exurban and extreme rural places.
Moving Forward into the 21st Century: New Challenges to the "Right to the City"

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Many recent discourses in urban research focus on 'urbanity' or rather on the production of 'The Urban' as a negotiation process between urban planning, private investors and developers, frequently referring to newly developed 'urbanities' or reformulated urban spaces. At the same time, new forms of urban resistance are changing the concept of urbanity. Implicit and explicit demands for a «right to the city» often arise from criticism of urban politics and planning which follow the logic of a neoliberal global governance architecture. This criticism, the disappointment about the disregard of their voices, and the massive attempt to prevent them from shaping their own environment, gives rise of Hannah Arendt's «Erscheinungsraum» («space of appearance»), where publicness creates power. This type of creative power might enable to fill the Governance Gap which stems from the exclusive dialogue between administration and private investors without involving the civil society. The «Erscheinungsraum» creates positions, roles and subjectivities which rely not only on identity but also on intersubjectivity and collective belonging. This is the space of utopian thinking about alternatives; from here indignation becomes manifold protest and resistance. About this complexity of society with its power relations and strong linkage to the physical and material space Lefebvre conceptualises the urban as 'ouvre' - as an expression of human creativity, as an experimental open-ended utopia. His concept can be contrasted to Foucault's dispositif as a discursive relation of power, knowledge and space. Particularly his thoughts about 'Heterotopias' as localized utopias open discursive ties. Taking furthermore recourse to Arendt's concept of power, the process of the urban can be theoretically refined. But globalisation and migration are changing the diversity and the constructions of belonging in cities of the 21st century. International migration as well as integration seems to be an urban phenomenon, which concentrates itself inside cities, and there in certain districts. Here the above mentioned capital and class struggles are superimposed by and often intertwined with negotiation processes about access, participation, belonging and inclusion linked to the discussion about "we" and "the other". At the same time, integration today appears on the individual level as multidimensional. Novel identity constructions are established which proceed in hybrid and transgressive modes, beyond national or ethnic belonging. These new modes still attract little attention in the discussions and rhetoric about integration, inclusion, social cohesion, and the production of 'The Urban'. With this new understanding, processes in Barcelona (Spain) and Mannheim (Germany) are exemplarily analysed. The question of how the concept of "right to the city" are interpreted and implemented in different urban contexts will be addressed.
Healthy, Liveable, Sustainable Cities: What are the Key Indicators?

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A healthy and liveable community is one that has adequate and affordable housing for individuals and families, within easy walking, cycling and public transport access: to work and educational opportunities; open space and other recreational opportunities; shops, social and health services; and healthy food choices. These determinants of health and wellbeing provide the basis for social and health equity, economic resilience, and environmental sustainability. However, there is considerable evidence that these kinds of communities are not being produced in Australian cities today. This research capitalizes on a “Place, Health and Liveability” partnership between health, planning, engineering and design researchers at the University of Melbourne and policy makers in Victorian state and local governments. The overall goal of the partnership is to improve evidence-based planning policy that can build healthy and sustainable communities in Victoria.

As a first step, a review of the literature on liveability indicators, coupled with consultation with users of community indicators in Victoria, has been undertaken. This paper identifies the ways the term ‘liveability’ has been used in the literature, critically evaluates identified indicators in terms of their strengths and weaknesses, and explores how liveability indicators have been used to inform planning policy, particularly in relation to disparities within cities. It also discusses the similarities and potential contradictions between liveability indicators, and indicators of environmental sustainability and the social determinants of health. Key gaps in liveability indicators are identified, to help guide the future development of comprehensive, robust and policy-relevant liveability measures.
Beyond Econometrics: The Role of Federal Policy in Driving the Homeownership Rate

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Despite how complicated, confusing, and contradictory econometric models often are for explaining different social and economic trends, researchers, advocates, and scholars continue to draw on and employ these kinds of quantitative methods for understanding and explaining the past and future of the U.S. housing market. In this paper, I apply a sociological perspective to housing in order to examine the systemic, institutional, macro-level forces that have compelled large-scale shifts in social behaviors and attitudes. This approach, I argue, can more effectively and comprehensively gauge large-scale social shifts in tenure choice and status. This paper will review the role of federal policy in shaping U.S. housing market trends by analyzing the national homeownership rate over time in the context of federal housing policy interventions and initiatives. I distinguish five specific eras of housing policy that have defined state intervention in the housing market over time, and each of these eras is reviewed in the context of their impact on both short and long-term trends. In contrast to economic models that focus on unique and independent variables, this paper explores the structural influences directing particular large-scale trends.
Examining the Role of Street-level Bureaucrats in the Implementation of an Affordable Rental Housing Policy for Extremely Low Income Households

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Conflict often exists between the goals and priorities of policymakers and those of the street-level bureaucrats who implement the policies (Lipsky, 1980). Although there has been considerable research on CDCs and affordable housing, none have studied the role that organizational values, beliefs, and feelings about a program plays during the implementation of affordable rental housing policies. This study of affordable rental housing programs should shed light onto the problems that are often encountered by street-level bureaucrats during the implementation process. The purpose of this study is to uncover the effects that street-level bureaucrats have on the implementation of affordable rental housing policies for ELI households within the CDC environment. The research will focus specifically on Ward 8 in the District. Interpretative policy analysis (Yanow, 1996) will provide the analytic framework to analyze how three CDCs - as street-level bureaucrats - in the District view, understand, and implement the LIHTC, HPTF, and HOME programs. An interpretive approach to implementation places an emphasis on context-specific meanings and "brings organizational analysis of implementing agencies within the context of a particular society's values" (Yanow, 1996, p. 18). According to Yanow, street-level bureaucrats actively interpret the rules and regulations that are set by federal policies. Are CDCs conveying additional meanings to affordable rental housing programs during the implementation process that are different from the policymakers? Through the theoretical lens of street-level bureaucracy, this multi-case study will uncover the views that CDCs hold in regard to the implementation of the affordable rental housing programs that are the focus of this study and how these views affect implementation.
Mid-sized Cities: A New American Urban Frontier?

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Today the primary focus on sustainability seems to be on individual buildings: the Solar Decathlon, Leed and platinum, gold or silver certification, and retrofitting suburban houses. While these efforts are admirable, they ignore the challenge of thinking at an urban scale, in particular urban density. A solar decathlon winning dwelling is still a symbol of the wasteful suburban life style marred in a life style that makes mass transit unsustainable. The individual solar house in and of itself, may indeed be green, but suburbia remains in the discredited automobile era. Even so, we continue to focus our energies on the individual building while we ignore our cities. In order to face the challenges of the 21st Century new strategies must be developed to re-densify our towns and cities. Cities such as New York, Boston and San Francisco are way ahead of the curve, but too many cities, including the likes of Phoenix and Washington DC, will take decades to increase their populations to a level to support efficient public transportation and the return of pedestrian friendly neighborhood retail. When compared to to European cities, even an American city that prides itself on being "Green", Portland Oregon, cannot even come close to competing with the efficiency of cities such as Amsterdam. The population of Amsterdam is 783,364, Portland's is 583,778. Amsterdam's population per square mile is 9,080, more than twice that of Portland's 4,288. Given the fact that American's estimated oil reserves are about 2% of the total, we are reminded of the pronouncement of the Apollo 13 commander, James Lovell, "Houston we have a problem." However, there are other resources as yet barely tapped. For instance some cities, especially previously heavily industrialized towns such as Syracuse NY, were depopulated by corporate consolidation and moving off-shore in the 60's and 70's. While much of the population has departed, the infrastructure remains. Currently in upstate New York larger scale development on previously agrarian land the infrastructure generally runs to 10 to 15% of the development hard costs. Quite literally they become a subsidy to urban projects. This paper will argue that urban planners must reconceptualize their approach to redensification to include mid-size cities as a new frontier of urban regeneration.
Who is Opposed to Accessibility and Why?

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U.S. metropolitan areas vary widely in the degree of accessibility provided to low-income and impoverished residents. In many small and medium-sized metropolitan areas, ownership or regular use of a private car is a requisite of mobility, and public transit is limited. Further, the little public transit that exists is often stigmatized—regarded by middle class and affluent residents as a mode of transportation suited only to the poor and/or people of color. This paper examines the question of what political forces and civic attitudes act to prevent the expansion of accessibility in small and medium metropolitan areas.

The principal evidence considered will be a detailed case study of the Richmond, VA transportation system, and its failure to develop an adequate transit system connecting suburban and urban areas despite widespread support for the idea over the past 20 years. Issues to be considered in this investigation include explicit and implicit racism, dysfunctional local political institutions, lack of adequate funding mechanisms, and the perception of many regional leaders that lack of accessibility does not constitute a serious problem. The close of the paper will examine whether claims of “justice” can make a meaningful contribution to building an effective political coalition in favor of expanding accessibility in metropolitan areas like Richmond.
**Hong Kong at the Crossroads: Contesting the Structural Basis of Urban Form**

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In Hong Kong, recurrent urban controversies signal a growing unease with the existing urban development model. But in this less than democratic administrative region, widespread dissatisfaction so far has not resulted in a systematic debate on the structure of urban decision-making. This paper aims to feed such a discussion with an exploration of the dynamics behind recurrent urban controversies in Hong Kong. It answers the following research question: What is the background of recurrent urban controversies in Hong Kong? In response, the paper starts with an exploration of the relationships between growth coalition theory and actor network theory. The resulting framework suggests that the initial satisfaction with the existing urban development model depended on a growth coalition of real estate developers, government agencies, train companies, and indigenous villagers. Urban controversies signal the diminished dominance of this growth coalition. The paper shows that during these controversies, specific objects like the Express Rail Link, and harbour reclamations are the starting point for the constitution of new actors and their interests. Controversies thus support the emergence of new groups and new identities that will have a longer lasting influence on the urban development of Hong Kong.
Measuring Walk-Access to Parks in Terms of Sidewalk Availability, Quality and Connectivity

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Planners and health activists usually encourage urban residents to use active transportation, such as walking and cycling, to get to recreation facilities in their localities. Most of the time, a demand-side argument is made for why few people walk, bike, or use public transit to parks. However, the supply-side arguments, such as the availability, quality and connectivity of sidewalks, the efficiency of bikeways, and the quality of public transit services, have been rarely a center of many discussions. Most urban neighborhoods lack decent, well maintained, and well-connected (with minimal loops and cul-de-sacs) sidewalks; as a result, walking access to parks is difficult because of the lack of sidewalk amenities and disconnected streets. To this end, this research aims to develop an improved method of measuring ease of access to/from parks as a function of walkability and connectivity of sidewalks surrounding the park.

The premise for this research is that ease of walk access to parks is one way of encouraging active living through the built environment. Based on field observation, data from Google Earth, GIS mapping, and statistical multi-variable analysis, this study examines the walkability and connectivity of neighborhood streets potentially used to access existing parks. This study will introduce a modified index of park accessibility by formulating mathematical and spatial methods to identify the segments of the street networks that have no sidewalks and are not connected. It is based on pre-selected parks in San Fernando Valley, CA and ranking street networks used to access the parks in terms of sidewalk availability and quality in order to create a walkability index. Also, using GIS, the number of cross intersections, T-intersections, and cul-de-sacs and loops are identified to create a connectivity index.

The walkability and connectivity indices are then used as dependent variables to create a parametric relationship between those indices and the social, economic, and spatial characteristics of the area where the stops/stations rest. The result of the study shows that in all pre-selected parks, the walkability indices show that not all available streets within a quarter of a mile buffer zone from the park are walkable to facilitate access. The connectivity analysis shows that there are only a few cross intersections (which are considered to be a highest access point). Most of the intersections are T-intersections and there are several cul-de-sacs and loops that make walking access to parks unnecessarily lengthy and difficult. The statistical analysis shows that areas with affluent residents have less walkability and connectivity indices.
Multiple Logics: Understanding Community Development and Neighborhood Revitalization in a "Theory of Action" Framework

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"What is the goal of the community development field?" This is the title of a 5-question survey put recently to the readership of Shelterforce, a magazine that serves as a de facto trade journal for people with public policy and city planning backgrounds who think of themselves as community development practitioners. Engaged in affordable housing development, local economic development, healthy food access, political advocacy/organizing, and other areas, practitioners who identify with community development in their work nonetheless struggle to define the goals and (perhaps more important) the methods of the field. In different contexts, scholars present the field in terms of asset building, place-making, market priming/investment attracting, and political change (see DeFilippis 2000, Mallach 2008, Spirn 2005). The measures considered necessary to revitalize distressed neighborhoods range from physical interventions in the public realm to improved civic engagement processes, from new private development to the creation of land trusts, from indigenous leadership development to the formation of business improvement districts. This paper unpacks the multiple logics and assumptions underlying community development and neighborhood revitalization. It argues that the tools and interventions proposed to address distress in urban neighborhoods emanate from three main theories of action, each of which has a distinct history and etiology and each of which is associated with a distinct diagnostic interpretation of "what's wrong" to begin with. The theories of action are based, respectively, on the activation of dormant markets, on the restoration of norms of civility and trust ("the stuff of social capital," in Robert Sampson's words) and on the exercise of political leverage to create policy and institutions that favor redistribution of wealth and opportunity. The theories are not mutually exclusive; many community development organizations partake of them all at various times and with respect to different activities and projects. Nevertheless, I argue, it is useful for practitioners and students of community development and neighborhood revitalization (as well as those who study community based organizations) both to be aware how they developed and to understand the dynamics of their ongoing competition and co-existence.
The Impact of Assisted Housing Programs on Neighborhood Stability

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Opposition to subsidized housing has caused barriers in implementing assisted housing programs for nearly a century. These conflicts have been rooted in a negative perception of subsidized households, which fundamentally stems from the attitudes toward tenant characteristics such as their ethnicity and poverty (Freeman & Botein, 2002). Especially, the stigma associated with assisted residents has had the effect of excluding low-income families from "decent" neighborhoods. The core issue of "not in my backyard" (NIMBY) attitudes has been fear of deterioration of neighborhood stability due to the influx of undesirable housing or households into neighborhoods. Thus, the fears of neighbors have been a significant barrier to the implementation of assisted housing to protect neighborhoods' socioeconomic status in desirable environments. For these reasons, the issues on where assisted households can be located have been longstanding concerns to policy makers (Freeman & Botein, 2002; Galster, Tatian, & Smith, 1999; Santiago, Galster, & Tatian, 2001). Several previous studies have looked at the impact of subsidized housing programs on neighborhood crime level and property values to examine empirical and theoretical evidence for the negative perception on subsidized households. However, there are few studies focusing on uncovering the relationship between assisted housing programs and neighborhood stability, especially in terms of neighborhoods' housing turnover, in order to scrutinize the perception on subsidized households. This research attempts to examine the length of residence, taking into account the spatial distribution of assisted housing developments that may influence nearby housing duration. This study addresses the following research question: Do the assisted housing programs have significant ramifications for neighborhood stability with respect to surrounding housing duration? The Cox proportional hazard model is employed to scrutinize the housing turnover. This approach may shed light on modeling the length of residence with handling both time dependent and time independent variables. The study area is Mecklenberg County, North Carolina, the home of the city of Charlotte. We use data from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)'s Picture of Subsidized Households, the 1990 and 2000 Census data, Mecklenburg County historical sales data, and ESRI Data and Maps to examine the empirical study for the relationship between subsidized housing and neighborhoods' turnover. By identifying the association between assisted housing programs and neighborhoods' housing duration, this study would provide insight into the impact of assisted housing on neighborhood stability, and may shed light on mechanisms by which subsidized housing may be successfully introduced into neighborhoods.
The Growth Machine in Troubled Times?

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The US literature on the politics of urban development suggests that stable patterns of urban governance emerge as a result of accommodation between local government and non-state interests, most especially business interests. These coalitions of interest are wedded together by the pursuit of economic growth. Such claims are axiomatic to the growth coalition and urban regime frameworks (Logan and Molotch 1987; Stone 1989). Recent economic conditions clearly present a significant challenge to the reproduction of growth coalitions and to the effective realization of their core interests. The paper examines how one crucial component of US urban growth coalitions - the commercial property development sector - has fared during the recent economic downturn. The deterioration of real estate markets and the credit crunch have clearly had a significant impact on the real estate development industry. The paper presents empirical data from a variety of different US cities to examine the changing structure of the property development industry. It pays particular attention to the geography of property development and the significance of 'local' developers in different US cities. The paper also examines differences in the ability of commercial property developers to weather recessionary conditions. More broadly current conditions also raise important questions about the theoretical reach of traditional ways of understanding the politics of urban development. To the extent that post-recession urban growth and politics is different from what came before then it would seem to pose a significant challenge to the utility of established theories of the politics of urban development.
The Context of Mobility; How the International Concept of Bus Rapid Transit Was Implemented in South Africa

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Mobilizing a project from theory to action is an important and understudied aspect of policy circulation. Why is that certain circumstances make it easier for foreign ideas to germinate while others contexts are more difficult? Using theories of assemblage, this paper will explore the way in which multiple ripe conditions are more likely to facilitate urban policy mobility. Using McFarlane’s (2011) understanding of translocal assemblage, this research interprets these various features of the South African urban landscape as critical in shaping how the cities’ learned and applied BRT. If as Bennett (2005) argues that assemblage considers the agency not just of each member of the assemblage but of the assemblage itself then neither South Africa’s hosting of the World Cup, the implementation of generous funding mechanisms or national legislation devolving responsibility for public transport to cities enabled the translation of the Bogota model of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) to South African cities; rather the associations and interactions between these conditions created the impetus. As an assemblage, these forces were able to negotiate and distribute agency albeit unequally but so as to create spaces of opportunity for the localization of new and foreign concepts. This is not to say that financial, political or environmental circumstances are necessary for project implementation but rather ideas are mobilized under conditions in which an inviting assemblage is created that makes it more receptive to foreign concepts. This is further evidenced from the failure of a previous attempt to build a BRT network in South Africa along the Klipfontein Corridor in Cape Town wherein an assemblage of factors was not formed and hence the environment was not conducive to project implementation. In understanding the catalytic moments and pressures for change, this paper draws on theories of policy circulation to further our understanding of a context of local receptiveness towards foreign policies.
Inclusion, Innovation, and Globalization: 21st Century Education in the 21st Century City

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Debates about high stakes educational policy and instructional practices targeting high poverty urban schools identified as being "at risk, in need of assistance, or failing" are everywhere and passionate, to say the least. There have been significant successes throughout these times of change including increased public discourse and resources available for struggling schools, children, and families as well as their communities. At the same time, there have been significant challenges such as pervasive trends in achievement gaps, high teacher turnover rates in many urban settings, one size fits all instructional methods, and an onslaught of mandated, standardized assessments. This topic of study is of the utmost importance because it makes explicit the complex web of needs that we currently have in education. Further still, it suggests that we might be posing the wrong problems when it comes to educational reform. To address this complex process requires a critical theoretical lens that highlights a problem posing approach to 21st century education in the 21st century city. The longitudinal data presented in this paper is based on 7 years of data collection across three different high risk urban elementary schools. It details the successes and pervasive challenges experienced in these demographically similar yet wildly different schools during times of high stakes, policy driven reform efforts. At the same time, it contextualizes the research by documenting the ways in which local and state governments, individual residents, neighborhood groups, and non-profits and others have worked to improve the lives and education of children placed at risk through adverse conditions and poverty. Findings highlight a disturbing gap in literacy achievement data which includes marked differences between basic literacy skills for at risk students in urban city schools and critical analysis and interpretation skills required for the transfer of learning and sustained, learning based on higher order critical thinking skills. In keeping with the conference theme, this research addresses such questions as: "Who has access in richly diverse cities and schools? How is that access gained? When faced with exclusion, how can the marginalized penetrate local institutions and have a voice in larger society?" While this paper is situated within the conference topic of Education, Schools and Higher Education Institutions, it also necessarily addresses issues of social capital, democracy and civil society, and social theory. By highlighting the issue of inclusion, innovation, and globalization in 21st century urban schools, we put our best foot forward in providing for our children.
Prevalence of Excessive Clutter in Single-Room Accommodation in Vancouver

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Socioeconomic status is relevant to understanding the complex issue of hoarding. The amount of clutter sufficient to block egress or prevent normal use of the home is much smaller for someone living in a single room than for someone in a large house. Tenants, especially those in supportive housing, are much more vulnerable to displacement due to hoarding than are property owners, and hoarding has been identified as a substantial barrier to maintaining formerly homeless tenants in permanent housing. Thus, there is a distinctive aspect to hoarding as it occurs in low-income urban areas, yet little research has focused on this demographic. There is no extant information on the particular challenges and risks (especially housing instability) related to hoarding among the poor, yet community service providers and fire departments must make decisions every day that affect both residents with excessive clutter and the broader community. Our research team has been partnering with the Property Use Branch of the City of Vancouver to tap existing data to better understand the prevalence of hoarding and clutter problems in the poorest areas of the city. City by-laws require each single-room accommodation (SRA) building be inspected for standards of maintenance at least annually, including an inspection of each room. Excessive clutter is of concern due to its impact on fire safety, pest control, emergency access, and ability to conduct repairs. Inspectors systematically note problems with excessive clutter on an inspection form and issue relevant clean-up orders. This study involved two waves of data collection. In the first wave, researchers examined and coded every report filed over an 18-month period by two inspectors judged by their supervisors to have consistent documentation habits. Following this wave of data collection, researchers collaborated with all inspectors working in districts with SRA buildings to identify and resolve reporting ambiguities and inconsistencies across inspectors. The inspection report form was collaboratively revised, and the second wave of data collection involved inspections of all SRA buildings inspected in the city over six months. Findings show prevalence of excessive clutter is somewhat higher than estimates obtained for the general population and highlight several pathways to excessive clutter in SRA units, including compulsive hoarding, recent displacement, money-making activities (e.g., recyclables), and squalor secondary to serious mental illness or addiction.
New to New Zealand's Shores: A Meta-context for Urban-regeneration Policy Transfer

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New Zealand is a highly urbanised country, with 85% of its population of 4.4 million living within its urban areas. Nationally, urban land prices are high, particularly in Auckland, New Zealand's largest city, where rapid growth and the significant degeneration of housing stock in some areas is placing pressure on the city's urban form and extent. In Christchurch, New Zealand's second largest city, the city centre and a number of residential suburbs need significant rebuilding following severe earthquake damage in 2010 and 2011. This confluence of social and physical challenges focuses attention on the country's need to consolidate lessons from leading urban regeneration practices elsewhere, and to rapidly deploy suitable strategies into the New Zealand context. Successful policy transfer requires that insights from others' experiences align well with the requirements of the receiving environment, which I term the 'meta-context'. For New Zealand, this meta-context is currently poorly understood, since there has not previously been a coherent approach to urban regeneration. Accordingly, in this paper, I consider the meta-context through an analysis of Auckland's Tāmaki Transformation Programme. The Programme, begun in 2007, is New Zealand's first significant urban-regeneration project. Through the case, I track a significant movement of focus and power between the actors involved in the decision-making across a change in government direction. Over time, responsibility for planning and implementing the programme moved from a loose network of government agencies and community representatives, to a company owned in partnership by the government and the local authority. The case therefore demonstrates a move away from a participatory co-production approach to a more centrally directed and commercially focused approach to regeneration. At a time of fiscal constraint and substantial demands on the government's financial resources arising from the Christchurch earthquakes, the Tāmaki case highlights a key trade-off in urban-regeneration policy: that between the perceived efficiency of market-led approaches, favoured under the currently prevailing neoliberal leanings of government, and the extent to which such market reliance may block an open consideration and adoption of insights derived from other approaches for regenerating and rebuilding New Zealand's cities. My aim is to both describe New Zealand's meta-context and to consider how it might, on balance, affect the ability to draw from leading practices for advancing the urgent and complex urban policy and implementation issues faced in rebuilding Christchurch and in meeting Auckland's growth pressures.
A House Divided Cannot Stand: Capacity Building in Community Based Development Organizations (CBDOs)

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Community based development organizations (CBDOs) have evolved over time, serving as a local service delivery mechanism that has demonstrated the ability to create programs, attract funds, and gain the trust of local officials and citizens in the community (Ford Foundation, 1973). Since their inception local governments have formed successful partnerships with CBDOs in their revitalization efforts. This success has stimulated further reliance on CBDOs for the provision of housing to low income neighborhoods, and working with local communities to spur economic development. While research related to the capacity of CBDOs has expanded in recent years, there remains a significant gap in the literature, particularly related to empirical evidence identifying what factors of organizational capacity influence a CBDO’s effectiveness in the revitalization of neighborhoods. In theory, local governments contract-out with CBDOs for the provision of services. However, little is known about what elements of CBDO organizational capacity affect a CBDOs ability to administer these projects. This paper seeks to fill in this gap by reporting the findings of an online survey administered to 237 executive directors of CBDOs in the United States. The online survey data seeks to test hypotheses pertaining to the relationships between components of organizational capacity and perceived CBDO effectiveness. Measures of organizational capacity and CBDO effectiveness will comprise scales of responses to multiple survey items that have been used in prior research. The online survey instrument will also include an array of control variables, such as the age of the organization, staff size, number of full time employees and volunteers. Four expectations are tested: that CBDOs with strong a leadership capacity will be more effective; CBDOs management and planning capacity will be associated with organizational effectiveness; CBDOs with a formal fiscal system will be more effective; and that CBDOs human resource capacity will be associated with CBDO effectiveness. The paper will contribute to a fuller understanding of CBDO capacity on its effectiveness to achieve its mission.
Fiscal Decentralization and the Provision of Local Public Services: Evidence from the Province-Managing-County Fiscal Reform in Heilongjiang, China

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Intergovernmental fiscal relations are at the forefront of intergovernmental relations either in administrative practice or in academic research. All nations—even so-called unitary ones, with one main level of government that oversees all others—must of necessity engage in some sort of decentralization due to concerns of efficiency and accountability, especially for countries with vast territories and gigantic populations. However, research in the past five decades has not been able to provide a consistent answer to the question of whether decentralization makes government more or less responsive to its citizens. This paper examines this question by evaluating impacts of the "province-managing-county" (PMC) reform on provision of local public services at county level in China, which is one of the crucial policies in urban development in recent decades. Since the 1980’s, China has initiated the PMC reform as an experiment of fiscal decentralization by granting more fiscal autonomy to county-level governments. Transforming from the current "city-managing-county" fiscal mechanism, the central government intends to promote the PMC to all provinces by the end of 2012. Dealing directly with the provincial government on fiscal matters, the county-level government is supposed to be able to avoid the interference of the municipal government in making decisions for its socioeconomic development plans. With a sudden change in vertical governmental structure due to the PMC reform, it provided a quasi-natural experiment for us to observe the impact of fiscal decentralization on the composition of local government expenditures. Using a panel data set of all 64 county-level governments, which have adopted the fiscal PMC reform since 2005, in Heilongjiang province in the period of 2000-2010, this paper assess the impact of the reform on the composition of local spending for education, health and medical care, and social security etc. Moreover, with qualitative analysis collected from semi-structure interviews with officials in provincial, municipal, and county-level governments, this paper provides internal explanations for the quantitative analysis mentioned above. The empirical results of this study will have important policy implications for China’s ongoing urbanization and fiscal decentralization reforms. It may also contribute to the comparative studies of intergovernmental relationships in large countries with multiple levels of governments.
Informal Economy and Migrant Workers in Urban China

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China’s internal migration has drawn extensive attention from domestic and overseas scholars since the 1980s, and numerous studies have focused on the migrant workers who are employed by the "world factories" and closely linked to the label of "made in China". However, few studies have paid their attention to the migrant workers who have been participating in the informal economy in urban China. In fact, informal economy, referring to the income-generating activities that are not regulated by the state, has been expanded dramatically during the past two decades, and the rural-urban migrants have comprised of the overwhelming majority of participants in the informal sector. These informal are mostly self-employed and the wage employees working for the informal workshops hidden in the migrant enclaves. This study, taking a migrant enclave in south China as the research site, aims to understand the lives of migrant workers engaged in the informal economy. It attempts to examine the institutional environment for expansion of informal economy in urban China, to understand the individual choices of migrant workers in terms of being formal or informal, to explore their economic performance and to figure out whether it is a promising alternative for the migrant workers to achieve upward mobility by participating in the informal economy. It is found that institutional factors including policy practices of the state, regulation enforcement of local government and the relative autonomy of the migrant enclave all contribute to the origin and development of informal economy in urban China. Individual choices of being formal or informal are mainly based on rational calculation by comparing the costs and benefits, meanwhile, have also been largely impacted by the social networks of migrant workers. Migrant workers engaged in the informal economy receive relatively higher economic return than their counterparts in the formal sector. However, upward mobility is limited due to the absence of institutional inclusion for the informal economy participants. In conclusion, migrant workers engaged in the informal economy of urban China have largely been segmented from the mainstreaming labor market and consumption market. Some of them might have achieved significant success in economy, but the majority have still been struggling for living at the bottom strata in society.
Cycling Behavior among College Students: Is Distance the Final Frontier?

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This paper presents a novel approach used to study active living and cycling-based physical activity (PA). The study focuses on distance-dependent cycling behavior among college students at Boise State University (BSU), a "bicycle friendly university," and within the region of Boise, Idaho and the Treasure Valley. Specifically, the aims of this study are to: (a) extrapolate from generalized bicycling pattern analyses among various age groups (i.e. commuting behavior of high school students); (b) compare the general patterns in literature with more specific patterns used by non-traditional college students; and (c) compare the general patterns with a more specific anchor in the study (i.e., the center of campus instead of the general distance to trailheads or facilities). The subjects in this study, students at Boise State University, are typically non-traditional (i.e., older than their peers at other universities, working while going to school, and, commuting to campus at a high rate). The city of Boise and Boise State University are part of a bicycle-friendly environment in that approximately 4% of the population regularly commutes to work on a bike, and Boise has a richly developed bike path network along the Boise River. To achieve the aims of this study, a survey was conducted among BSU students (N = 949) as an extension of the National Collegiate Health Assessment (NCHA), which examines topics such as substance use and abuse, and mental and physical health. For our purposes, students were asked about their cycling behavior in transportation and recreation, and about barriers and facilitators to cycling in the context of spatial patterns. Using GIS, distances that students biked were computed, and the relationship between spatial clusters of cycling behavior and health characteristics in relationship to proximity to BSU or the rich outdoors and recreational environment of Boise were also computed. Methodology and results of this statistical and spatial analysis will be presented, along with recommendations as to how our findings can be applied to better health promotion programs on campuses or bicycle friendly transportation planning.
Sound Urbanization Method of Underdeveloped Counties in Mountainous Area: A Case Study of 24 Counties in Hubei, China

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The ecological environment of the mountainous area is being severely damaged by various causes, like rapid urbanization, industrialization and the global climate change. The mountainous area in the underdeveloped counties in China has important strategic position in the ecological safety of the whole country. Therefore, it is of significant importance to protect the mountainous ecosystem and improve the life standards in the mountainous area. However, driven by a historically unprecedented wave of urbanization and industrialization in China, it has become an important theme of relevant policies to urbanize and industrialize the mountainous area in those underdeveloped counties. Many academics have criticized the attempts to achieve rapid urbanization which sacrifices both the ecological environment and social milieu. The present work attempts to discuss the sound urbanization approaches by analyzing the real case of 24 counties in Hubei Province based upon a questionnaire study of 200 samples. JHTES (Job, House, Traffic, Environmental and Security) are the most important aspects of the governmental emphasis regarding urbanization of mountainous area. The results of this research contribute to answering questions about what makes urbanization in mountainous area success and what role the sound urbanization approaches should play in the process of rapid industrialization and surpassing developed area.
Commercialization or Re-enchantment: Global Diffusion of Christmas Markets

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This research project looks at Christmas markets, a holiday shopping phenomenon sprouting all over the world in the last two decades. Borrowing Hobsbawn’s notion of "invented tradition", Nissenbaum tells us through his book The Battle for Christmas, that the domesticity of Christmas trees, and Santa Claus has been created and celebrated no earlier than the 19th century. Then what recently brought people back out into the dark and chilly winter city streets to participate in the Christmas markets? I want to further their arguments by investigating the global diffusion of Christmas markets, which are so-claimed "an antidote to the superstore". Through the content analysis of how an authentic Christmas market is reassembled across global urban centers, I have identified four commonly used elements: German language usage, architectural and physical setting, aroma and atmosphere, and last the merchandise offered. They are salient features of the markets even in cities having no history of celebrating Christmas holiday, for example, Shanghai. I try to illustrate how global marketing consultants, governmental or quasi-governmental institutions, privately-funded local business organizations like the Business Improvement District in the case of New York City, work together in the packaging and promotion of a culturally specific consuming practice. The proliferation of Christmas markets rides the tide of the current mentality: anti-standardization, anti-uniformity, and the appeal to presumably hand-made, eco-friendly products. I argue that the seemingly alternative urban consuming space is a supplementary venue constructed to accommodate those anti-mass-production consumers, to purposefully build loyalty among the global middle-class to capitalism. Christmas markets emerged in the last two decades worldwide amidst the revitalization of urban centers are simply a further commercialization of the Christmas season, and a re-enchantment of consumerism itself.
Credit Access and Housing Consumption: The Case of the Housing Provident Fund

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Unlike credit expansion through banking sectors in western economies, many Asian economies encourage homeownership through housing provident fund (HPF) programs. These programs collect deposits from contributors and their employers and provide home mortgage loans to qualified contributors with discounted rates. This paper evaluates the efficiency of HPFs by studying a natural experiment in China where the amount of home loans available to contributors depends on previous deposits to the fund. Results indicate that after HPF loans became available in 1998, households with two members enrolled in the HPF program enjoyed homeownership 18 percent higher than those with only one member enrolled. Furthermore, each additional year of HPF deposits increased homeownership by 4 percent for both groups. The results suggest that HPF loans allow higher housing consumption for eligible contributors.
Spatial Planning for Inter-city Railway Investment and Transit-Oriented Development in Pearl River Delta

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The effectiveness of transit-oriented development for saving travel and reducing transport energy consumption depends on careful coordination of multi-sector policies relevant to land development, infrastructure investment and transit operation. This article studies China’s recent effort to provide transit-style rail passenger service at the inter-city scale in high density megaregions. Using Pearl River Delta as the example, a spatial planning framework is presented to explain the motivation for, the barriers of and the innovative solutions to coordinating land development, inter-city railway investment and transit operation finance at the megaregion scale. The urban form resulting from this spatial planning effort can have far-reaching impacts on future passenger transportation in China’s megaregions.
Less is Less: News Content & Consolidation in Local Places

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The United States is in the middle of a crucial policy debate about media ownership. The lines of demarcation are clear. On the one hand, the media industry claims that regulation is burdensome, unnecessary and, most importantly, disruptive of market mechanisms that should dictate how the media are organized. On the other hand, media reformers argue that a reliance only on the market to produce information has resulted in its treatment as a commodity to the detriment of the public interest. Therefore, fundamental information that the audience needs about public issues to function as citizens is compromised, so much so that we engage in a "politics of illusion". The flashpoint of this clash of views is starkly evident in the shared service agreements that have occurred in over 100 television markets in the U.S. These agreements are implemented among television stations in the same market in which everything from advertising sales to entire news operations come under the control of one entity. To the media industry these agreements are necessary to achieve economies of scale to secure the survival of stations that face growing competition from other news sources such as the Internet. Media reformers claim that these agreements violate both the spirit and the letter of the laws that limit media ownership—-that they are "covert consolidation". In this research, I examine the effect of these agreements on the content of news. Do the stations achieve economies of scale? If so, how? What does that mean for the nature of news that we see? For the information needs of citizens? For the fundamental questions regarding the structure of the media in a democracy?
Spatio-temporal Patterns and Determinants of Urban Sprawl: Evidence from China

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China’s urbanization ratio increased from 18% in 1978 to 51% in 2011. A phenomena comes along with it is accelerated urban sprawl, characterized by urban decentralization and land expansion. There have been extensive studies on the determinants of urban sprawl in western countries (Pirotte and Madre, 2011; Wassmer, 2008). Recent research also starts to investigate urban sprawl in developing countries like China (Deng et al., 2010; Lichtenberg and Ding, 2009). Classic urban economics attributes sprawl to population growth, land price, income and commuting cost. Policy factors, including government fragmentation, lack of planning and unregulated development are also argued to be influential. This study analyzes the spatio-temporal patterns of urban sprawl in China and its determinants. Several important notions are raised. First, urban sprawl in China is confined within the urban boundary, rather than spreading out to suburban or rural areas. The reason is that Chinese cities offer much better public services for residents and people do not move freely between cities and suburbs. Therefore, urban sprawl is measured by the expansion of built-up areas within city boundaries in this study. Second, land finance or land-leasing revenue has been argued to be one of the most important factor that has stimulated urban growth in China (Lichtenberg and Ding, 2009; Lin, 2007), which offers a distinctive explanation of the country’s urban sprawl. Most existing research applies theoretical exploration or case study approach on this subject and no significant empirical evidence has been identified. The rich data and rigid statistical analysis in this study will gap this bridge by analyzing the panel data from 1999-2009 for all 286 prefecture-level cities in China (except Tibet). Fixed-effects, random-effects, and two-stage least squares estimations are run to test the determinants of urban sprawl in China. Our preliminary findings offer stable results with robust models and acceptable explanatory power and try to testify the political logic of urban growth in China. References: Deng, X., Huang, J., Rozelle, S. and Uchida, E. 2010. Economic Growth and the Expansion of Urban Land in China. Urban Studies, 47, 813-43. Lichtenberg, E. and Ding, C. 2009. Local officials as land developers: Urban spatial expansion in China. Journal of Urban Economics, 66, 57-64. Lin, G. C. S. 2007. Reproducing Spaces of Chinese Urbanisation: New City-based and Land-centred Urban Transformation. Urban Studies, 44, 1827-55. Pirotte, A. and Madre, J. 2011. Determinants of Urban Sprawl in France: An Analysis Using a Hierarchical Bayes Approach on Panel Data. Urban Studies, 48, 2865-86. Wei, Y. and Zhang, Z. 2012. Assessing the fragmentation of construction land in urban areas: An index method and case study in Shunde, China. Land Use Policy, 29,
Power in Numbers: A Comprehensive National Profile of Affordable Housing Advocacy Organizations

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Even before the U.S. became an independent nation, its inhabitants organized into groups to achieve change. By forming advocacy organizations (AOs), these individuals, future citizens of the U.S., intuitively understood the power in numbers. Since then, AOs have been involved in the policy-making process (Baumgartner and Leech; 1998; Browne, 1998; Cohen, 2001; Prakash & Gugerty, 2010). In this political context, their main goal is to influence public policy. Their work is integral to American politics in all policy domains (Prakash and Gugerty, 2010). As policy advocates, AOs represent their constituents’ interests and pursue a range of benefits for their members and/or broader public (Young, 2010). There is a crisis of affordable housing in America today (National Alliance to End Homelessness, 2012). As of 2010, (1) the number of severely housing cost burdened households (as defined by HUD) increased by 6 percent to 6.2 million; (2) the number of unemployed people increased by 4 percent to 14.3 million; (3) foreclosure activity increased by 2 percent, that is 1 in every 45 units was in foreclosure; and (4) the average real income of working poor people increased by less than one percent to $9,400 - an income with which a household cannot afford a one-bedroom unit at fair market rent in any county in the nation. Given the current pressing need for affordable housing, this study focuses on the national profile of organizations that advocate for affordable housing. No research exists on the organizational characteristics of this type of AO and the types of cities in which they are located. The purpose of this study is to fill this gap. To do so, I will use descriptive statistics to analyze data for all cities of a population of 100,000 or more (n=275) collected from the Urban Institute's National Center for Charitable Statistics and the U.S. census. The results of this study will add to our understanding of the current conditions of this AO domain. More specifically, the study promises to yield new knowledge and provide insights on the geographic distribution and organizational capacity of AOs that support affordable housing policies. Baumgartner, F. R., & Leech, B. L. (1998). Basic interests: The importance of groups in politics and in political science. Princeton, N.J: Princeton University Press Browne, W. P. (1998). Groups, interests, and U.S. public policy. Washington, D.C: Georgetown University Press. National Alliance to End Homelessness (2012). State of Homelessness in America 2012. Washington, D.C. Obar, J. A., Zube, P. and Lampe, C. (2011). Advocacy 2.0: An analysis of how advocacy groups in the united states perceive and use social media as tools for facilitating civic engagement and collective action Prakash, A., & Gugerty, M. K. (2010). Advocacy organizations and collective action. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Young, M. (2010). The price of advocacy: mobilization and maintenance in advocacy organizations.
Lateral Networks of Homeowners Associations and the Making of Citizenship in Urban China

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Homeowners’ activism has been on the increase in the last few years in urban China. Despite the majority of the collective actions focused around their property and consumer rights or NIMBY type of action, there were occasions that such action attempted to advocate their right as citizen. Whilst the current semi-authoritative regime in China still embraces heavy-handed action to high profile civic right movement, small scale citizen rights actions are, however, being tolerated. Homeowners’ associations, as autonomous economic organisations of homeowners, serve as a convenient camouflage for such actions. Lateral networks of homeowners' associations are thus being brought into existence to support homeowners’ action in their neighbourhoods as well as city-wide citizen rights actions and other high profile activities. Such networks have been set up in Guangzhou, Beijing and Shanghai in which the housing markets are the most developed in China. Whereas most of such networks were not allowed to register officially, they were, however, largely being tolerated. This paper will trace the development of the lateral networks of homeowners' association in these three cities in the past few years with data both from secondary sources (their websites, newspaper and web reports) as well as through in-depth interviews and participant observations. It will offer a thick account of the development trajectories and hurdles the networks encountered on the way. Whilst their accomplishment varied, some of them have dissolved and others are in the verge of being co-opted by the government, there are still a few which are able to sustain and even transformed. This paper attempts to link up the development and functioning of these networks in relation to the local socio-political environment of the respective cities. It will help to shed light on the citizen movements within a broad context of changing state-society interaction against the backcloth of escalated urban conflicts in urban China.
Geographic Access to Healthy and Unhealthy Foods for the Older Population in Florida: Case Study of Sarasota County, FL

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The purpose of this study is to assess food access for the older (over 65 and more) population in Florida, case of Sarasota County. Poor nutrition is known to be associated with a number of adverse health outcomes and access to healthy foods can be especially challenging for older people with any kind of transportation or mobility limitations. Older population is estimated to be increase dramatically from 39.2 million (13.2%) in 2010 to 69.4 million (20%) by 2030 (US Census Bureau, 2011). Especially in state of Florida, it is expected to face special food access challenges because Florida has the highest share of its population over 65 (17.3%). Thus, it is important to investigate the relationship between the elderly and access to food options that can promote healthier food intake, and ultimately better health. Using the geographic information system (GIS), this study assessed census block level geographic accessibility to healthy and unhealthy food outlets in Sarasota County. Sarasota County has been selected because it has one of the highest median residents age (50.5 years) over the Florida (38.7 years). The study will investigate two questions: 1) How is density of the older population associated with the location of healthy and unhealthy food outlets? 2) Using mapping techniques and analyses and linking them back to the distribution of the older population, can we identify "at-risk" areas in which food access is particularly poor for older people? Findings are relevant to the planning and delivery of services for older people living in low-access areas; the measures and analytic methods are relevant to future research on the relationships between socioeconomic status and food access.
Organizing for Community Benefits in Pittsburgh's Hill District: A Case Example and Model for Community Resident Engagement, Education & Action

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Economic justice organizing seeks to counter the ‘money power’ of free market forces with the ‘people power’ of mobilized groups. Frequently, such organizing also involves mobilizing grass-roots community power to prevent land in neighborhoods from being developed in a manner that might cause residential displacement, gentrification & other forms of economic oppression. This poster session presents a case example & organizing model based in the challenges and lessons learned from the community work of the Hill District Consensus Group (HDCG), an organization with 20 years of experience organizing residents and organizations in Pittsburgh's Hill District, a neighborhood that has faced approximately 70 years of displacement pressure. The success of the model is illustrated in its negotiation of the first ever CBA in Pennsylvania, which brought $8.3 million dollars from the target, as well as other corporate and government sources to neighborhood improvement efforts. The challenges are reflected in the paucity and source of the amount compared to the billion dollar subsidy given the corporate entity from which community benefits were sought. The model described is anchored in the assumption that market driven re-development efforts are based on long-term & cumulative strategies that might span decades, consequently community organizing efforts designed to prevent the economic exploitation of people in a particular place, must be equally long-term, strategic & intentional. The model includes four key components: engagement, education, codification & enforcement. The engagement component details methods for alerting residents and organizations to upcoming decisions that present potential barriers to or opportunities for shared prosperity across diverse economic groups. The education component entails ensuring that residents & stakeholders have the knowledge to be savvy participants at decision making tables where economic development plans are formed. It also includes helping community members gain access to the people, information & resources that can advance their awareness of methods & best practices for equitable community development. The codification factor involves helping community members to define their wants & needs then translate those wants & needs into standards & principles that can be converted into action plans, law and/or policy. Enforcement entails developing the social & political legal power/mechanisms to ensure that community principles are carried out. As context, this poster session will provide a brief description & history of the Hill District, along with aspects of the community benefits campaign in which this model was both developed & applied, followed by a synopsis of each segment of the community organizing model. The poster session concludes with future directions for organizing for economic justice.
Risk Management for Urban-rural Conflict in Urbanization Process

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This research project is to establish a model for assessing urban-rural conflict risks in the urbanization process with reference to the China Mainland practice. Developing countries such as China have been undergoing a rapid urbanization process. Whilst urbanization and urban development bring economic benefits particularly in short term, they also induce negative impacts on the whole society because of enlarging the gap between urban and rural growth. These impacts can endanger the sustainable development of urban areas from long-term perspective. Urban and rural areas are two different yet coexisting systems. However, urbanization process often causes competition for land resources between urban and rural areas, and such competition can result in fight and conflict between the two systems. The aim of this research project is to identify the major risks that can induce the fight and conflict between urban and rural areas in the urbanization process. Fuzzy Set Theory and Pateto Analysis technique will be used in identifying these key risks. AHP method will be adopted to establish priorities of risk factors. A risk assessment model will be constructed by adopting dynamics system approach to simulate the possibility and consequence of the conflict induced by various risks. Simulations are conducted by considering various scenarios and combined effects of various risks. Based on extensive simulation results, various strategies for managing the urban-rural conflict risks in urbanization process will be proposed.
Uneven Adoption: A County-level Analysis of the Distribution of Radios and Weekly Papers in the United States

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The Internet is only the most recent mode of communication to gain widespread popularity and transform media markets. Despite the Great Depression, Americans were so eager to buy radios that approximately 80% of all US homes enjoyed one by 1940. The rise of local weekly papers was almost as dramatic; by 1840, over 70% of all counties with over ten thousand people had at least one printing office. However, these two previous episodes of widespread media adoption exhibit huge county-level variation. Rates of radio adoption vary from 13% to 99%, and - even when looking only at counties containing between fifty and sixty thousand people - the number of weekly papers in publication ranges from 0 to 10. What explains this huge variation? This paper begins with a formal model of media adoption that generates four hypotheses: the likelihood of adopting new media technology increases with (1) economic development, (2) ethnic homogeneity, (3) literacy rates and (4) the strength of the established media market. The last two hypotheses are the most counterintuitive, but they are derived from the fact that new media firms generally build upon the methods and markets of established media firms. Radio adoption in particular is a rigorous test of these hypotheses because the radio makes media available to the illiterate. Only if radio stations tend to target active media consumers, i.e. literate newspaper readers, would we expect counties with higher literacy rates and stronger newspaper markets to experience more radio use. This is exactly what we find empirically through an analysis of county-level census data. The paper concludes with a discussion of the implications for the adoption of new media forms in our own day.
Terminating Interlocal Contracts for Police Service Delivery

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With the recent growth in interlocal agreements for municipal service delivery, insufficient attention has been given to city governments that choose to terminate interlocal contracts. This research surveys the literature on municipal service delivery, government contracting, metropolitan affairs, and organizational development to develop a theory of interlocal contract termination. To evaluate potential theoretical explanations for interlocal contract termination, the theories are applied to scrutinize all cases of interlocal contract termination for police service delivery by California cities between 2001 and 2010. One "typical case" is expanded in detail to show how each theoretical explanation may contribute to the end of a contract service relationship. The findings suggest organizational development—the growth and professionalization of city governments—may be the strongest theoretical explanation for the termination of police service contracts, though future studies should test the various explanations with a data set including multiple services.
Becoming the Next Global Cities: The Cases of China and India

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A new set of "global" or "world-class" cities have emerged as neoliberal globalization has progressed in the past few decades. Cities in other parts of the world, in turn, look up to these models and strive to become the next promising ones to join the rank. In order to understand cities' efforts to become the next world-class cities, this paper focuses on the cases of China and India and reviews recent literature on global cities. This paper examines the major players in these development practices in these two countries and gives special attention to the concurrent emergence of the so-called "new" middle class. This paper shows that in China and India, the rhetoric of global cities works as a tool for neoliberal governmentality through circulating development models that value the private sector and justify subsequent spatial reconfiguration, and creating urban subjects that are self-enterprising, autonomous, and outward-looking. The new middle class, in particular, is a distinct yet complimentary outcome of globalization for global cities. While maintaining its multiplicity in economic, social, and cultural aspects and developing its identities of instability, friction, and fragmentation, the middle class, together with the urban elites, are in advantageous positions to perpetuate their class advantages because their class cultures are highly compatible with the values promoted by the discourse of globalizing cities. The urban poor, in contrast, are the victims of structural violence while at the same time having great potential to reclaim their rights to the city through appropriating and tailoring the discourse of world-class cities. In addition, this paper also provides suggestions for future scholarly investigation in exploring how urban development in China and India contributes to the further fragmentation/unity among the middle class, and lays out plans for conducting empirical research on this issue.
Port Reuse for Innovative Local Development: The Case of Shanghai

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Port cities are experiencing significant transformation all over the world. Many old ports and harbors played important roles in the manufacturing based economy before the 1970s are facing challenge as their home cities are shifting to a more service-based economy in the globalization era thus ports are losing their importance. There are successful cases where decaying harbors have been reborn and converted to mixed use places, and become new local development engines through innovative reuse plans. The most famous one is Baltimore's inner harbor. After the manufacturing booming period of over 20 years, most Chinese cost cities are seeking new strategies for future development. The new direction is a diversified economy consisting of both high-end service and manufacturing. Ports and wharfs serving the manufacturing industry in the past have to be transformed in the new stage. The research analyzes the background of the phenomenon and examines the evolution of two main wharfs in Shanghai, China's largest port city from the 1850s to present. Lessons learned include the "Five-R" principles in port redevelopment planning and the key role of Mega-events as a catalyst to port redevelopment. Reference Friedmann, J. China's Urban Transition, 2008 Wu, Z. World Expo as a catalyst for urban sustainability, 2008 Zhang, T. Urbanization as a means for economic growth: the case of China, 2008
Settling into a New Routine: Immigration and Everyday Acculturation from Beijing to Vancouver

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This paper compares the everyday lived experiences of three cohorts of immigrants from Beijing to Vancouver. The aim is to root theories of acculturation in the rituals of everyday life and navigation of two differing urban environments. What are daily habits of prospective immigrants like in Beijing? What are the daily habits of recent immigrants to Vancouver like? How do they differ from the habits of more established immigrants? Do immigrants find ways to re-establish old habits in order to feel at home, remaking the new cities in which they live? Or do they develop new patterns, altering their habits to fit their new environments? Which paths of habit establishment best correspond to feeling at home in Canada by stabilizing everyday routines? These questions have been little studied, in part because of the lack of good data. But recent advances in conceptualizing and recording habitual behavior, mapping relationships to place, and gauging individuals' sense of home allow these concepts to be empirically observed, both qualitatively and quantitatively. Using a multi-method approach composed of in-depth interviews, mapping daily activity, and photos elicitation, this research will explore how immigrants build up habitual relationships to their surrounding environments both before and after migrating to Canada from China. Building from our data, we argue that people make themselves at home through the habitual relationships they develop with their built and social environments.
Analysis on Regional Disparities in Coal Fired Power Plants' SO2 Emissions

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Industrial pollution and associated environmental degradation have largely impeded the sustainable development of China. To measure up local environmental performance, it is important to understand the regional disparities in local environmental enforcement and the consequences. By analyzing the panel data on coal fired power plants in Henan and Hubei province between years 1998-2005, we found sulfur dioxide (SO2) emissions were positively associated with number of environmental professionals working in a firm and implementation rate of environmental impact assessment (EIA). That suggested neither firm level environmental management nor local environmental enforcement effort did generate pollution reduction. However, compared with Henan province, EIA in Hubei province was associated with less SO2 emissions. That indicated region specific pollution reduction effects of local environmental enforcement. Furthermore, foreign-owned coal fired power plants emitted less SO2 than those of other types of ownership structures. The study conveyed a clear message to policy-makers of the Chinese central government that China demands a level playing field for pressuring polluting industries to pursue cleaner production and pollution reduction across the board.
Neighborhoods, Race, and Health: Assessing the Relationship between Neighborhood Distress and Maternal Health in Pittsburgh

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Racial disparities in maternal health outcomes continue to exist today despite controlling for individual differences in factors such as socio-economic status. In particular, Black women are much more likely to experience adverse birth outcomes than women who are White (e.g. infant mortality rate is 13.5 vs. 5.6; low birth weight is 13.6% vs. 7.6%). The racial difference is even greater in Pittsburgh, which has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the nation. The present study shifts the lens to the neighborhood - specifically, neighborhood distress - as a potential way to explain these racial discrepancies in maternal health. A very large share of Black families is affected by neighborhood distress as compared to White families. According to an Annie E. Casey Foundation report, approximately one in four Black children live in "severely distressed neighborhoods" in 2000 compared to just more than 1% of White children (O'Hare & Mather, 2003). These neighborhoods are characterized by high levels of poverty, unemployment, single-mother families, and high school dropouts. Some studies show that living neighborhoods characterized by this type of distress are associated with adverse health outcomes (Ludwig et al., 2011; Krieger et al., 2005; Orr et al., 2003). Given this relationship between neighborhood distress and health, the Black-White difference in exposure to distress may be important for explaining racial disparities in health. The present study examines the relationship between neighborhood distress and racial disparities in maternal health, going beyond prior research by using local level data to create a more nuanced measure of neighborhood distress. Data from the Pittsburgh Neighborhood and Community Information System are aggregated to the census tract level and combined with Census and American Community Survey data to measure neighborhood distress. In addition to the more traditional census variables used to measure distress, we examine data on vacancy, foreclosure, and crime. Tract-level data for births (2005-09) from the Allegheny County Health Department are used to estimate the infant mortality rate and low-birth weight outcomes. Findings include maps that show health outcomes overlaid onto the neighborhoods by race and measures of distress. Preliminary findings show that adverse health outcomes in Pittsburgh are spatial concentrated into neighborhoods with higher levels of violent crime, which also contain a majority Black population. In addition, the percent of child poverty is highly correlated with the percent Black population at the census tract level (0.61). The relationship between different measures of neighborhood distress and adverse maternal health outcomes will be discussed. Keywords: Neighborhoods, Poverty, Race, Urban Health
Advocating for the Poor and Homeless: Christian Anarchism and Spaces of Praxis in Lexington, Kentucky

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I examine how Catholic Worker Movement (CWM) communities alleviate urban inequalities and work towards social justice change. Founded in 1933, the CWM synthesized elements of Roman Catholic and anarchist traditions and sought to provide shelter, food, employment, compassion and thought in three distinct spaces of praxis: houses of hospitality, farming communes and roundtable discussions. The CWM embodies organizational anarchy, lacks a uniform identity and authority and is currently comprised of over 200 autonomous communities which directly respond to local unmet needs. In this paper, I focus on one such community in Lexington, Kentucky: the Catholic Action Center (CAC). Since 2000, CAC has differentiated itself from increasingly punitive approaches to the 'management' of 'deserving' and 'non-deserving' urban poor and homeless. Rather, the non-government funded and non-evangelizing CAC has strived to provide all guests free, volunteer-donated and provided services in an effort to alleviate local homelessness and hunger. In this research I seek to provide a more complex understanding of the alternative geographies and politics of homelessness and resistance in the contemporary city. Specifically, I examine: the ways in which community-driven, non-punitive approaches to urban homelessness are envisioned, negotiated and expressed in alternative spaces of praxis; and, second, how and why organizational anarchism thrives and what possibilities non-coopted forms of practice offer for social justice change organizations. The project blends participatory academic inquiry, engaged pedagogy and local activism by including undergraduate geography students and non-profit organizations central to combating local homelessness since the implementation of federal welfare reform in the late 1990s.