

PLANNERS NETWORK

November/December 2000

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No. 144

THE SEVENTH GENERATION

In our every deliberation, we must consider the impact of our decisions on the next seven generations.

- From the Great Law of the Iroquois Confederacy

Mexico City Mayor Makes Gains in Gender Equity

By Tom Angotti

Over this last year, Rosario Robles has earned a reputation in Mexico as one of the best and most popular mayors. In 1977, she became second in command in the administration of Cuauhtemoc Cárdenas, the first elected mayor of Mexico City and leader of the leftist Party of the Democratic Revolution (PRD). When Cárdenas resigned to run for president last year, Robles became mayor.

Robles is given credit for standing up to the federal government and their attempts to withhold funds from the

Continued on Page Seven

WHAT PLANNERS DON'T KNOW ABOUT FOOD

Food Planning in New York and Beyond

By John Nettleton

In recent *Planners Network* articles on alternative plans for New York City, there was no discussion about the natural resource base for the city or region and no ideas for economic development that build on such a base. Recent articles in the Spring 2000 *APA Journal* further highlight a neglect by planners of the food system and its relation to community development. This parallels the failure of most physicians to grasp proper nutrition and most architects to understand renewable energy or efficiency. To generate new and real concern for innovative plans that incorporate energy and resource use, the food sector and agriculture, this article focuses on trends and initiatives that are building the potential for sustainable agriculture and for a marketing system to

strengthen links between urban and rural communities.

Demand for Safe Organic Produce

Nationwide, demand for organic produce has increased more than 20% each year since 1992. As reported in the New York Times, sales are "growing faster than any other segment of the... industry. Consumer fears about biotechnology are spurring interest. As low prices for commodity crops encourages farmers to take the organic plunge...there's never been a more receptive moment for organic farming." There's also increased demand for regionally produced fruits and vegetables, grown either organically or on transitional land in the process of becoming organic. Starting from this small base, according to Hal Hamilton in *Yes Magazine*, "it will take years of mind-boggling growth to gain a truly substantial share of the

Continued on Page Twelve

3 The Shades of Strategic Planning
Jordi Borja

5 A Breath of Air in Harlem
Peggy Dye

6 Book Review: e-topia
Miriam Axel-Lute

10 Greenwashing the Olympics
Sharon Beder

Planners Networker UPDATES

Thanks to all the PNers who sent in news this month. Let your fellow members know what you are up to — send in your update today!

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Karen Brown (New Canaan, CT): Two years ago I relocated to Fairfield County, CT to accept a position as a program director of a growing community foundation, the Fairfield County Foundation. I would love to hear from other community foundation staff in New England/NYC metropolitan area, as well as practitioners involved in the affordable housing field. Through our new Fund for Women and Girls, we are experimenting with security deposit assistance grantmaking as well as funding for women's economic literacy programs.

James Buckley: For the last 15 years, you have been run by the same ten people, saying the same thing over and over. If you want to make a difference in the world instead of speechifying, let me know and I'll re-join.

Pierre Clavel (Ithaca, NY): I'm teaching city planning at Cornell and writing a book about community development and politics in Chicago, Boston and Youngstown. Connected to this, I'm collecting documents on progressive cities, and also doing case studies of CDCs (write or e-mail for a bibliography). We are also putting students to work in a few of these organizations in activities ranging from case histories and market analyses in nearby places, to dissertations and masters theses, to temporary and permanent job placements ranging from Maine to California.

Kathleen Coit (Paris): From here in France where it looks as though the U.S. has a choice of the extreme right and the middle of the road right, it's nice to know that there are still some on the left and for the left.

Mike Zamm (Council on the Environment of New York City): I am still coordinating the Training Student Organizers Program. Current program foci are training high school and intermediate school youth to educate classmates, parents and community residents about environmental health issues such as lead poisoning, asthma, noise and water quality, and to organize improvement projects in parks and natural areas throughout New York City. We continue to be involved with staff and student development at the High School for Environmental Studies. A new enterprise: working in partnership with New York University's Environmental Conservation Education Program and the Environmental Education Advisory Council to stimulate more teacher preparation in environmental education in New York State. Twelve-fifteen colleges are involved in this effort.

Morris Zeitlin (Pittsburgh): My hat's off to you for making PN a lively little periodical. So much with so little means! Might PN gain support and followers by tooting its horn in an ad in *Planning*? A session at the APA annual conference? A pin-up circular in planning offices? What might that cost? If a reasonable sum, perhaps it could be raised for a special "PN growth investment fund?"

Fernando Marti (San Francisco): I got back into town and jumped full swing into election season, campaigning for a San Francisco ballot initiative meant to stop speculation in dot-com office construction in low-income neighborhoods such as the Mission and the Central Waterfront. We lost by a mere half a percent, but we're calling it a victory against the other side's 2.5 million dollar campaign. I'm very excited about the Mission Anti-Displacement Coalition that is building here, lots of folks who rarely talk to each other: Raza activists, affordable housing

developers, artist groups, all feeling the pressure of gentrification.

PN OUTREACH

Planners Network is starting a new focus on expanding our membership and visibility as a forum for progressive planning in local cities and universities. We are looking for PNers in each region who are willing to take the lead in coordinating outreach efforts in that region. At its most basic this would include forwarding electronic and/or print outreach materials to your local universities, agencies, and organizations, and contacting local college libraries with inquiries for subscriptions to the PN newsletter. On a more ambitious level this could take the form of living room chats with other PN members in the city, and perhaps beginning a local Planners Network forum series. If you are interested in helping with this effort, please contact **Outreach Coordinator Fernando Marti** at: mfernan1@uclink4.berkeley.edu

DID YOU FORGET TO RENEW?

On the next page, you'll notice a huge list of PN renewals, due in large part to our much-belated reminders by mail. Thanks to everyone who responded so quickly. If you haven't paid your dues in a year, it's time to renew. See the suggested dues schedule on page 19. And now you can pay with your credit card. Contributions are tax-deductible.

PLACE YOUR AD IN PN

Full page	\$250
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1/4 page	\$75
1/8 page	\$40

Send file via email to <pn@pratt.edu>, or mail camera-ready copy by first day of the first month of the issue (e.g., March 1 for the March/April issue).

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Thanks for supporting PN. PN relies heavily on membership contributions. We have no other regular source of support. Contributions are tax deductible.

Shedding Light on the Shades of Strategic Planning

By Jordi Borja

[In the last issue of PN, Fabricio Leal de Oliveira criticized the theory and practice of strategic planning in Latin America, in his article "Strategic Planning and Urban Competition: The Agenda of Multilateral Agencies in Brazil." Leal specifically cited the role there of technical advisors from Barcelona, Spain, including Jordi Borja. The following response from Borja refers to Leal's article.]

Give me a few written words by somebody and I'll take them to court," a phrase attributed to Richelieu, is unfortunately still relevant in many intellectual debates.

In the criticisms from Brazil against strategic planning and the influence of urban planning from Barcelona, which include valid elements, this practice of using loose terminology has become habitual. I refer to the writings of, for example, Carlos Vainer, Otilia Arantes, etc. [Editor's note: See *A Cidade do Pensamento Único: Desmanchando Consensos* by Otilia Arantes, Carlos Vainer and Ermínia Maricato, Editora Vozes, 2000]. The article by Leal de Oliveira in the last Planners Network is more objective but leads to conceptual and factual confusion.

Strategic planning as a technique cannot be considered to be dependent on a single way of thinking. Some plans emphasize competition among cities; others emphasize cooperation. Consensus can be passive, in Gramscian terms, or active and the result of a contradictory process, a technique to air conflict. Public events, large-scale communications infrastructure, the redevelopment of central cities, the creation of areas devoted to the new economy, may or

Strategic planning as a technique is not dependent on a single way of thinking. Some plans emphasize competition among cities, others emphasize cooperation.

may not form part of a strategic plan. They can be separate products that either divide the city, or integrated and strategic projects. At the same time plans may incorporate other

Continued on Page Four

Borja/Continued from Page Three

kinds of objectives or actions, of a social, cultural or environmental character, or democratic reforms in urban planning and citizen participation. And a public-private partnership can be either a trap to promote privatization or a public effort that places new and better conditions on private initiatives.

There are examples to cover every case of urban and regional planning. In the case of Barcelona, which is often cited with more prejudice than concrete knowledge, strategic planning has been limited to creating an environment of civic debate in which the economic actors, public entities, social and labor organizations, and professional and academic sectors are equal. It has served to promote or legitimize public and mixed projects and programs, contribute to their coherence, and reflect

on the future. This policy is measurable and indicates to us that social inequality has declined, low-income neighborhoods have improved, employment has been generated, and the economic base of the city has been modernized.

It is true that in other cases the method and results are questionable. In Rio the political leadership of the Plan was monopolized by the city government and business institutions, who had no interest in sharing it with other social and cultural sectors, which did not demand it. Nevertheless, the list of proposals in the Plan and the projects that were implemented, such as *Rio Cidade* and *Favela Barrio*, have generally been well received. In Bogotá, the Plan was much more participatory, a meritorious achievement in the context of Colombia, but was hardly implemented because of the change in political leadership. Some of its ideas, such as the importance of a policy for public spaces, have been put into practice by the mayors elected after the Plan was finished. There are other more participatory experiences, such as Porto Alegre (*Proyecto Capital*) and Montevideo (a strategic plan linked to neighborhood decentralization), which nonetheless suffer from an insufficient prioritization of large-scale projects.

In different measures I have collaborated with and followed these and similar experiences, and I am aware of their limits. But I think they have all served to advance citizen participation and legitimize objectives and projects in the general public interest. The best strategic plan is undoubtedly one that promotes some large strategic projects that can transform the urban reality, such as the recent proposals, in which I took part, for the *Eje Tamanduatehy* in the ABC area of Sao Paulo, the civic center project in

Santiago, and the *Plan Urbano* in Buenos Aires which gives priority to the Southern project and conversion of the rail axes to urban axes. The plans aren't always feasible nor is the result always what one wishes, as occurred in the case of *Puerto Madero* (Buenos Aires). In other cases a democratic and radical political reform is needed, as I proposed and participated in, in Mexico City. Clearly the rhetoric against strategic planning and the demonization of globalization as the cause of all evils is as useless as the opposite rhetoric practiced by many consultants who appear to make strategic plans with a copy machine. They use the Barcelona example because it seems to be a good publicity device, and they justify the comment of Brecht that "if cities that have followed a plan are horrible it's not because they followed the plan but because the plan was horrible."

A final note of clarification. The connection between Manuel de Forn and I and TUBSA lasted until 1994. This public research institute from Barcelona provided assistance with the strategic plans of Rio and Bogota. After that TUBSA was privatized and I have been independent of its

new trajectory. My reflections are published in the books *Barcelona: A Model for Urban Transformation* (1996) and *Local and Global* (with Manuel Castells, 1997), both available in English. Also see *Los Desafíos del Territorio* (Barcelona 1999) and *Espacio Público y Ciudadanía* (Barcelona 2000).

Jordi Borja is a planning consultant in Barcelona, Spain.

PLANNERS NETWORK ON LINE

The PN **WEB SITE** is at:

www.plannersnetwork.org

The PN **LISTSERV**:

PN maintains an on-line mailing list for members to post and respond to queries, list job postings, conference announcements, etc. To join, send an email message to:

majordomo@list.pratt.edu with "subscribe pn-net" (without the quotes) in the body of the message (not the subject line). You'll be sent instruc-

A Breath of Air in Harlem

by Peggy Dye

In the 1930s, Robert Moses, master planner for New York, stripped Harlem of potential park along the Hudson River where, further down the river, his engineers preserved land for white Manhattan communities. In Harlem, planners laid a highway directly on the waterfront to give commuters a delicious view while driving to and from their city offices.

Today, the state of New York has built Harlem a new park along the river and the highway—Riverbank. Restitution for the 1930s racist planning?

Depends on how you see the environment.

If you like clean water, Riverbank is an engineering marvel. The park sits on the roof of the North River Sewage Treatment Plant, a 28-acre concrete leviathan in the Hudson with aerating tanks, endless pipes and 100-foot pipestacks. North River processes the sewer slop of most of Manhattan's west side, replacing direct dumping. The billion dollar plant has won awards for contributing to the Hudson River's cleaner waters in the 90s. At the same time, the \$128 million park on top—the costliest in the state—has given Olympic-scale recreation and a breather to needy city dwellers and tourists.

But breath is also the problem. If clean air is your priority, consider this:

At the plant's completion 14 years ago, the air it released stank and sickened area residents so much that their demonstrations made network news and spread the term "environmental racism" through the national vocabulary. Scientist Barry Commoner did a study which found design defects in North River and indications of harmful sulfur hydroxide and sulfur dioxide emissions, exacerbating Harlem's asthma epidemic.

In 1992, the City and State of New York entered a consent agreement to spend \$55 million on a five year plan to correct the defects in the plant and to monitor the air.

The result? By June 2000, with the millions spent, Sara Allen, whose apartment overlooks the river, says "It smells—not as bad as it used to, not every day. But two days ago I had to shut my windows when it came up strong for awhile." The smell could mean toxic sulfur hydroxide. "After all these years, we still have not yet had a compre-

hensive presentation on all the emissions," L. Ann Rocker, neighbor to Allen, wrote in a three page letter of issues to state and city commissioners. Rocker chairs the North River Community Environmental Review Board (NRCERB), the local watchdog group that started the research that attracted the attention of Commoner, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the city's first black mayor David Dinkins, and federal EPA and prompted the repair program.

Although the state put lids on the giant tanks of plant sewage being oxidized, and placed eight air monitors nearby to additionally police dangerous emissions, government reports on the results have been spotty. For example, high levels of formaldehyde, a carcinogen, were recently detected, and warning given to Rocker and NRCERB by engineers inside the plant. Yet *E-Magazine's* question, "What's coming out in the air?" elicited from the city's public affairs officer for the plant, Natalie Millner, "Are you sure you need such technical information for a magazine article? Any problem we had is long gone. If you want that kind of detail, I have to ask you to write a letter."

Along with such disclaimers, documents which *E Magazine* obtained independently reveal that city and state commissioners are considering ending the air monitoring system altogether. In fact, a consultant is to be

hired to do a "six year review of technical data" to determine "if the system can be terminated," wrote New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner John Cahill, March 31, to Ann Rocker.

Rocker is not buying. As long as sewage flows to Harlem, "monitoring our air needs improvement and not removal," she says. The six year report is promised for this fall. "We'll be preparing. The park was an appeasement. But we want to know what we are breathing."

Cleaner water for dirtier air? A trade-off only to affect Harlem? Breathe again.

An edited version of this article appeared in E-Magazine, Sept.-Oct. 2000. Peggy Dye is a journalist in New York City.

One estimate is that the maintenance of a slave in the South cost the master about \$19 a year, which means that they were among the poorest paid laborers in the modern world.... No matter how degraded the factory hand, he is not real estate.

-- W.E.B. DuBois, *Black Reconstruction in America* (1935).

The State of New York has built Harlem a new park along the river and the highway. Restitution for the 1930s racist planning?

BOOK REVIEW

e-topia, Urban life, Jim – But not as We Know It
William J. Mitchell 1999, MIT Press. 184 pp.

Reviewed by Miriam Axel-Lute

In this day of fantastic technological innovations that promise us instant connectivity and information, and instant obsolescence of our computer hardware, William Mitchell's book *e-topia* starts with an exciting premise questioning technological determinism. He dismisses the "increasingly boring digiphiles and digiphobes with their contending visions of utopia and dystopia," and says it's time to develop a "broad critical action-oriented perspective" to "design the future we want, not to predict its predetermined path."

Heavy stuff for anyone who, like me, has a remarkably low tolerance for the phrase "it's inevitable." But does he follow through on this premise?

Mitchell's strong point is putting technological innovation in historical context. He walks us through the progression of communications, for example, from pre-postal service to email, showing us that the types of changes in social organization that are currently wrenching us have happened many times before, and while we may have lost some things, we gained others. It's an important place to start. He also does the important job of making us think about what function each type of communication (in person, phone, email, etc.) serves, showing that one kind will never entirely eclipse another.

Unfortunately, the book doesn't quite live up to its bold action-oriented introduction. It is particularly frustrating that a large percentage of the book is devoted to detailed predictions of what the new technology would allow us to do. At times the enthusiastic descriptions of "smart homes" and wearable technology made me wonder who Mitchell considers to be a digiphile if not himself.

Human Contact in the Digital World

In fact, in the service of his very worthy goal of providing some perspective, Mitchell is occasionally glib about what we can afford to let fall by the wayside. "For my part," he writes, "I can well live without the human contact that I used to get from the bored and overworked clerks." He sug-

gests that by skipping these kinds of interactions we can free up time to spend on our primary social relationships or other quality activities. While a commendable goal, his casualness belies numerous studies that have shown "weak ties" – those acquaintance level interactions – to be a key measure of social capital. Perhaps no one would miss the bored clerks, but how about more local stores, which are perhaps more vulnerable to e-commerce? And how about the danger, which Mitchell acknowledges but never addresses, of ending up in a world where we never have spontaneous encounters or have to interact with anyone different from ourselves?

For Mitchell, apparently, the choices to be made do not involve how we will use our new technology but only how we will adapt to those uses. There does not seem to be an option to improve the experience of the workers and patrons of the RMV, just to replace the interaction all together.

Live-Work Spaces and Social Justice

One of his major planning-related predictions, with which I agree, is that there will be a significant rise in live-work spaces. The challenge for planners in this scenario is to plan 24-hour neighborhoods, since only desirability and not work proximity will determine where these high-tech

Mitchell acknowledges but never addresses, the danger of ending up in a world where we never have spontaneous encounters or have to interact with anyone different from ourselves.

workers settle. Unfortunately, Mitchell's assumptions about the uses of technology limit the answers to what is probably the most pressing issue he raises: "Will we employ [digital technology] to help revitalize small-scale neighborhoods and to strengthen inter-

connections and social interactions? Or will [it] become a means for the affluent elites to flee the problems of the cities and to create isolated, privileged enclaves while leaving the less fortunate to their fate?" Mitchell does a good job of convincing us that the more optimistic scenario is possible, but he gives absolutely no concrete or even general recommendations about what is needed to get there, beyond one useless sentence charging planners and politicians to "[find] policies that generate an acceptable level of social equity." As if that were a simple task.

Mitchell refers to Paul Krugman's prediction in his essay "Technology's Revenge," that those services which can not be delivered remotely (e.g. cooks, nannies, gardeners, plumbers) will become increasingly higher paid while information-related services become more commonplace and less highly valued. This may be true (though it may

not, and it certainly has not happened yet). In any case it is a long way off and not sufficient in and of itself to create a more equitable society.

While he fails to be creative about economic justice issues, Mitchell does conclude with some intriguing examples of how embracing new technology could provide various kinds of environmental benefits by allowing for "smarter" resource allocation. Although I am reminded of the fact that so far computers have increased paper consumption, not decreased it, his predictions are nonetheless hopeful, and make me think I should restrain my occasional Luddite tendencies.

Over all, the job of planners is to think as far ahead as possible and to make decisions now that will create the best future possible for everyone. For all its assumptions and serious gaps, *e-topia* forces the reader to look squarely at some of the biggest forces that will be shaping that future and challenges us to make active choices about how that force will be harnessed. We can't afford to ignore the topic.

Miriam Axel-Lute is Editor of Shelterforce and the PN Membership Coordinator.

THE PLANNERS NETWORK READER

This 60-page collection of PN articles is a veritable potpourri of progressive planning.

Articles on globalization, sustainability, race, gender, transportation and national urban policy. Contributions by Tom Angotti, Teresa Cordova, Marie Kennedy, Peter Marcuse, Barbara Rahder, Ken Reardon, and many more.

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Seventh Generation/Continued from Page One

city, completing major public works, decentralizing government and restoring confidence in government. But when she was in New York last month she spoke with authority and passion about the struggle for gender equity.

The PRD government in Mexico City, stating that "democracy starts at home," enacted legislation that gave women equal rights in the household and in service delivery, outlawed domestic violence, and increased penalties for sexual crimes. Women in single-headed households were given property and water tax breaks. Wages in the police department were equalized and community policing was instituted with over 700 citizen committees established in high-crime areas. Believing that "the street belongs to everyone," the government, working with neighborhood organizations, embarked on a strategy to renew and create public places and make them centers of cultural activity. Measures to improve public safety for the most vulnerable populations include separate subway cars for women and patrolled buses that run all night on weekends for young people without cars. A new microcredit program that favored many women was initiated (it has a 93% recovery rate).

Robles sees her work in government as a continuation of years of militancy. "We are part of the women's movement," she said. A founding member of the PRD in 1989, she later served as Secretary of Social Movements on the PRD National Executive Committee. She was Secretary of Women's Affairs for the Workers Union of the National Autonomous University of Mexico. She was a major force behind the founding of the non-profit Women's Institute, the establishment of 22 centers providing services to women, and public education campaigns on reproductive health issues and the prevention of cervical cancer.

How many mayors in the Americas have credentials or experience like that?

Tom Angotti is Editor of Planners Network.

The state and federal highway authorities have been ... successful in promoting a single type of transportation exclusively instead of helping to keep alive as many methods of moving as possible.... The habit of tying the welfare of the nation to the maximum production of motorcars has helped, and the fascination with new technical facilities valued for their newness rather than their efficiency has robbed many people of ordinary common sense.

-- Lewis Mumford, *The Highway and the City* (1953).

Hunter College Associate or Full Professor in Urban Planning

The Department of Urban Affairs and Planning at Hunter College is seeking to fill a full-time senior tenure-track position at the full or associate professor level in urban planning to begin September, 2001.

This position is open to a highly qualified individual with an established scholarly record. Candidates should have a demonstrated record of forging partnerships with community organizations and leaders, and have the capability to become a vital force in the New York City academic, planning, and development communities. Research and practical expertise should reflect knowledge of the financial, political and social aspects of project development and planning. Other fields of interest may include land use and transportation, urban design, site planning, and housing.

The Graduate Program in Urban Planning builds on the legacy of its founder, advocacy planner Paul Davidoff. Practical planning and more theoretical courses are placed in the context of equity, social justice, and conservation of natural and built resources. Emphasis is placed on community planning and economic development while acknowledging the multi-disciplinary nature of planning. The program makes full use of its location in the heart of New York City in terms of faculty research, curriculum development, student internships and job placement.

There are currently over 50 full-time and part-time students enrolled in the PAB-accredited 60-credit planning program. In addition, there are over 40 students in the department's other graduate program, Urban Affairs. The department also offers an undergraduate major in Urban Studies.

Many of the students are already working in the planning field. About three-quarters are from the New York metropolitan area; however, the program is expanding its recruitment efforts nationally to attract students who are particularly interested in community planning and equity issues. There are over 500 graduates of the program working in the New York region. They provide a valuable resource for internship and job placements.

The search committee will begin its review of prospective candidates in November 2000, but will be accepting applications up to January 15, 2001. Applicants should send a cover letter, c.v., the names of three references, and an optional example of a recent research article and/or project report to:

Search Committee
Graduate Program in Urban Planning
Hunter College
695 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10021

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PLANNERS NETWORK READER

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Table of Contents

COMMUNITY PLANNING Transformative Community Planning *by Marie Kennedy* ~ What's Missing From Community Planning *by Jocelyne Chait and Margaret Seip* ~ Indigenous Planning at Work *by Teresa Cordova* ~ Town/Gown Conflicts: Campus/Community Partnerships in the 90s *by Kenneth Reardon and Thomas Shields*

RURAL PLANNING Dots Crying In the Wilderness *by Jean Garren*

SUSTAINABILITY Sustainability is Not Enough *by Peter Marcuse* ~ Sustainable and Environmentally Just Societies *by Sandra Rodriguez* ~ It's Not Easy Being Green: Feminist Thoughts on Planning for Sustainability *by Sherilyn MacGregor*

GLOBALIZATION Hanoi: Street Life and a Connection to the Land *by Tom Angotti* ~ Globalization Meets Reform in South African Cities *by Alan Mabin* ~ Confronting Globalization: The Role of Progressive Planners *by Tom Angotti*

TRANSPORTATION Transportation Struggles in the Post-Apartheid City *by Jon Orcutt* ~ Eight Myths of Traffic Planning *by Roger Baker* ~ East St. Louis Citizens Put Transportation Planners on the Right Track for Light Rail *by Patricia Nolan*.

GENDER Women Plan Toronto Incorporating Gender Issues in Urban Planning *by Barbara Rahder* ~ Lifting Women's Voices *by Marie Kennedy*

HOUSING A Progressive Approach to Public Housing *by Timothy Ross* ~ It's Not The Housing, It's the People *by Tom Angotti* ~ Two Corners of the Same Tent: Response to Tom Angotti *by Timothy Ross*

REGIONAL PLANNING Portland, Oregon: Who Pays the Price for Regional Planning? *by Tasha Harmon* ~ New York: Race, Class, and Space *by Tony Schuman and Elliott Sclar*

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Greenwashing the Olympics

By Sharon Beder

The Summer 2000 Olympics set to begin in mid-September in Sydney, Australia have been hyped as the "greenest" summer Olympics of all time. But hidden beneath the fine landscaping at the competition site lies a massive toxic waste dump covered by a meter of dirt and a mountain of public relations.

The Olympic Games will be held at Homebush Bay, a former industrial site and armaments depot subjected to years of unregulated waste dumping. Asbestos-contaminated waste and chemicals including dioxins and pesticides have been found at the site, along with arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury and zinc. It is the worst toxic waste dump in Australia, and the bay into which the waste leaches is so contaminated that there is a fishing ban. Sediments in the bay have such high concentrations of dioxin as to make it one of the world's worst dioxin hot spots, largely the result of waste from Union Carbide's manufacture of the notorious herbicide Agent Orange during the Vietnam War.

What is impressive is the way this massive toxic waste site has been transformed into a "green showcase," thanks in large part to the surprising endorsement of Greenpeace and other key environmentalists.

Beijing Bashing

A major report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* revealed a plan by key Australian business people and government officials to discredit a competing Olympic bid by Beijing. Sydney's secret public relations strategy was developed by representatives of industries standing to benefit from the Olympics bid including one of Australia's largest construction companies, the country's second largest telecommunications company, and a corporate lawyer and close advisor to Australian media mogul Kerry Packer.

In December 1992, these individuals met with New South Wales Premier John Fahey to discuss how to use China's human rights record to damage its bid and how to deflect anticipated criticism of Sydney's bid from the news media, Aborigines, environmentalists, and trade unionists. The committee added three international members, including James Wolfensohn, the Australian-born president of the World Bank.

The Beijing strategy involved covertly funding a human

rights group to campaign against China's human rights abuses in the lead-up to the Games decision. To divert suspicion from Australia, the campaign was to be based in Europe or the U.S. It was arranged that a book be published simultaneously on the same topic, and "an eminent international identity" paid to have his name on the book as author. A story would also be "planted" in the *London Times*.

The establishment of a private company called Sydney Olympics 2000 Bid Limited (SOBL) to oversee the bidding process wrapped a veil of secrecy around this strategizing for the Sydney bid. As a private company, SOBL was exempt from Freedom of Information requests. Secrecy was further enhanced through various arrangements with the media. All of the Australian commercial television channels, its three main media companies and a number of radio stations were involved in supporting the bid, directly or indirectly.

Greenpeace Buys In

As the 2000 Olympics site selection process got underway, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) promoted the idea of a "green" Olympics. IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch said the IOC's primary concern would be to ensure that the environmental impacts would be taken into account in the final vote on site selection. For Australia, therefore, it was critical to present itself as "green" despite the secret toxic waste buried at Homebush Bay. The coopting of Greenpeace Australia was a key factor in the success of this campaign. Since Greenpeace has campaigned against hazardous landfills for many years, its support for the Homebush Bay Olympic site helped to reassure the public, which otherwise might have expressed concern about the site and its toxic history.

To win over Greenpeace, SOBL invited its local members to come up with environmental guidelines for the construction and operation of the Sydney Olympic facilities. The proposed design of the Olympic Athletes' Village was developed by a consortium of architects which included a firm commissioned by Greenpeace Australia. On paper, the design looked impressive, providing for use of solar technology and solar designs, state-of-the art energy generation and waste water recycling systems.

When the IOC visited Sydney early in 1993, Karla Bell, Cities and Coasts Campaigner for Greenpeace Australia, stated her support of the full bid's environmental merits. The IOC subsequently noted with much satisfaction "the great emphasis being placed on environmental protection and the attention being paid to working closely with environmental protection groups such as Greenpeace." Support also came from Australia's Paul Gilding, then the head of

Greenpeace International: "The Olympic village provides a prototype of future environmentally friendly development, not only for Australia but for cities all around the world."

SOBL hired Karla Bell and Kate Short of the Sydney Total Environment Centre (TEC) to draw up environmental guidelines for the Games. Short is a prominent Sydney environmentalist with a long history of campaigning on toxic issues, particularly pesticides. The guidelines advocated the use of recyclable and recycled building materials, plantation timber instead of forest timber, and tickets printed on "recycled post-consumer waste paper." The TEC distanced itself from Short's involvement, expressing concern about the diversion of revenue into extravagant sports facilities, and the loss of valued local ecosystems.

Australia's official Bid Document to the IOC claimed support from various environmental groups, including the Australian Conservation Foundation, the New South Wales Nature Conservation Council and the TEC. Although individuals affiliated with those organizations had joined the bid committees' environmental task force, these groups themselves emphatically denied their support, and the statement had to be retracted.

The issue of toxic contamination of the site was not openly discussed prior to the Olympic decision. In private communications at the time of the bidding process, Greenpeace Australia toxics campaigner Robert Carmel said, "There is every likelihood that the redemption measures being undertaken at Homebush Bay won't measure up."

From Rhetoric to Reality

The village design and the environmental guidelines were heralded as a major environmental breakthrough in urban design. Once the bid was won, however, the Australian government discarded the winning village design. The consortium of architects that had designed the village complained of being "absolutely shafted." The government's lack of genuine commitment to a green Olympics became apparent.

Within a year, Greenpeace was forced to denounce the government's failure to keep to the environmental guidelines written by Short and Bell. The planners also quietly shelved another environmental showcase, the Olympic Pavilion and Visitors Center, which was to have featured recycled materials and natural ventilation. Worse yet, the plans called for the use of polyvinyl chloride (PVC) as a building material. Greenpeace has campaigned internation-

ally against the use of PVC's. The Olympic Coordination Authority's decision to abandon this commitment came in the wake of a public relations campaign by the Plastics and Chemical Industries Association. PVC manufacturer James Hardie even became a member of the Olympic Village planning consortium.

Toxic Leaks

As evidence of toxic contamination filtered out, environmentalists involved in the Olympics bidding began to change their stories. In 1995, a major television current affairs program featured Greenpeace and Kate Short criticizing the cover-up of the site's toxic contamination — which they had known about all along but refrained from mentioning. "Our investigations show...not only is the 'Green Games' concept rapidly becoming a cynical farce, but... the presence of high levels of dioxin at Homebush Bay presents a real environmental and health threat," a Greenpeace news release stated. The head of the Olympic Coordination Authority (OCA), responded by accusing the green groups of "doing damage to Australia."

Shortly after the bid had been awarded, the state government began releasing information about the contamination of the site to the media, carefully framing the information in terms of a clean-up. "Restoring Homebush Bay for the 2000 Olympics, billed as the biggest environmental repair job undertaken in Australia, is reversing decades of environmental abuse at a cost of 483 million," crowed an article in the *Herald*. Karla Bell and Paul Gilding both left Greenpeace to become consultants to companies wanting to construct Olympic facilities. By contrast, Robert Carmel, the Greenpeacer whose misgivings kept him from joining in the campaign to greenwash Homebush Bay, has since been squeezed out of his job.

Dr. Sharon Beder is a professional civil engineer and associate professor in Science and Technology Studies at the University of Wollongong, Australia. She is the author of several books, including The Nature of Sustainable Development and Global Spin.: The Corporate Assault on Environmentalism. Reprinted with permission from Earth Island Journal, Autumn 2000. Excerpted from a series of articles that first appeared in PR Watch [Center for Media and Democracy, 520 University Avenue, No. 310, Madison, WI 53703, (608) 260-9713].

Nettleton/Continued from Page One

retail food sector: the organic movement could, however, easily achieve an influential share of ten percent or more on some parts of the industry."

Growth of Farmers Markets

The growth in farmers markets is widespread. In 1998, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) listed 2,746 farmers markets nationally, a 56% increase over 1994. In New York City, the number of weekly "market days" has increased from 35 to 42 in the past year. Though most markets open only one day per week, some open on multiple days, with 11 open year-round. Over 175 farmers and regional food producers sell at farmers markets citywide. Most are vegetable, fruit and orchard farmers, with 10% producing honey, jam, wine and vineyard products. The majority of producers travel to market from the Lower Hudson Valley, though some come from Kinderhook (180km), or the Finger Lakes (450km in the case of one vintner). 20% of sellers at NYC markets are from out-of-state.

With markets typically open one day per week, the number of farm market days a given producer can attend is limited. Newer markets provide venues closer to home, allowing farmers to shift to such markets and avoid longer travel into the city. While offering new outlets for communities, such market expansion has stretched the supply of farmers. The American farmer is also "aging out." The average age range of a sole proprietor is in the mid-50s, and those who were raised on the farm lack the interest to continue farming. As the number of farms and farmers in New York continues to decline, survivors need to choose between commercial farming and the direct marketing of ethnic and niche or specialty products at farmers markets.

One solution to the farmer-supply problem is to help those farmers receiving wholesale prices to shift to direct and niche marketing. Another solution, initiated in Massachusetts and underway this year in New York, is to provide assistance to new immigrants with prior agricultural experience who are interested in reentering agriculture and are willing to grow for niche or specialty markets. Between 1995-96, fully 31% of new immigrants to New York City were from South or Central America, according to the NYC Department of City Planning. Though USDA loan programs for new and minority farmers exist, they are under-used in New York. Working with *Greenmarkets* and others, *Cornell Cooperative Extension* has begun training new immigrants, primarily Mexican- and Central-

Americans, to work in existing markets and to find land where they can produce for the niche ethnic and farmers' markets. Education and training will take place at farmers markets, production sites in the five boroughs of New York City, and in surrounding counties.

Supporting Demand in the Community

A primary support for effective demand at farmers markets is the Federal Farm Market Nutrition program (FMNP), piloted in Massachusetts to "encourage the use of locally-grown fresh fruits and vegetables by families in need of better nutrition, and to increase farmer income by increasing direct sales and cultivating new customers." The program began in New York State in 1989 with \$600,000 in redeemed coupons. Last year, over \$2.87 million were redeemed by over 225,000 households, with half that activity occurring in New York City. In addition to encouraging families to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables, this program has drawn farmers to direct market in low-income neighborhoods that otherwise lack access to fresh produce.

Citywide non-profit groups include *GreenMarket*, organized in 1976 to manage and support the operation of farmers markets. In contrast to Hartford, where *The Hartford Food System* provides regional leadership for a sustainable agriculture effort, the New York City system is a highly interactive one among varied partners. For example, *Just Food* works with groups to develop growing sites and projects for market sales and distribution to soup kitchens and food pantries. *City Harvest* operates a van fleet that collects gleaned produce, cooked food and prepared meals from receptions, dinners and conferences. Food that has not been served or "placed out" is distributed to shelters, soup kitchens and food pantries and to residences and programs such as *God's Love We Deliver*, which delivers meals to homebound persons with AIDs.

Cornell's *New Farmers/New Markets* program has encouraged many community groups to shift from community gardening to market production. This program operates in neighborhoods that are home to new immigrants and in areas with extensive vacant land. In the East New York Farms project, Pratt Institute's Center for Community & Environmental Development, along with others, is developing a network of vacant lots where market production is linked with job training in value-added food production. A range of sites is used, with the produce delivered for sale at the locally-sponsored farmers market. In Williamsburg, *El Puente* and *Los Sures* support a farmers market along with

The growth in farmers markets is widespread. In 1998 there were 2,746 farmers markets nationally, a 56% increase over 1994.

Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA), a subscription farming project where shareholders pay at the onset of the growing season for a market basket delivered weekly during the growing season. The Williamsburg CSA is organized so that families pay for their shares according to income.

Regional Efforts in Sustainable Agriculture

Up the Hudson River Valley, landholding religious denominations have organized into ROAR, which stands for "Religious Orders Along the River." They are reviewing stewardship responsibilities and have begun to frame a vision which melds needs and resources, keeps land off the market, and promotes working with groups to produce food for their needs and for the needs of the urban residents. Groups from urban neighborhoods are traveling to the area to help cultivate organic plots, and to share with their families and communities in the resultant harvest.

Ongoing efforts by non-profit organizations take place without a consistent policy framework for food security or sustainable agriculture. Although New York was a state with a national reputation for regional planning predating the Great Depression, this tradition disappeared when Franklin Roosevelt became president in 1932 and took many of the Regional Planning Association of America members to Washington, where they spent the next 13 years. The framework necessary to resolve pressing issues at a regional scale was irretrievably lost, leaving those of us engaged in regional and/or sustainable development literally on our own. This situation stands in stark contrast to experiences in Toronto, barely 800 km from New York, where the Royal Commission on the Future of the Toronto Waterfront has recently developed a "Framework for Ecosystem-based Planning" and called for "Planning for Sustainability." While there is certainly a different planning and regulatory climate in Ontario (and Canada) than in New York (and the U.S.), the point is that the Toronto Waterfront Commission effort was a public discussion document to be developed into a series of publicly-developed planning tools.

Land Preservation and Sustainable Practices

Conversion of farmland to urban use is outpacing population growth. From 1960 to 1990, the New York region's

population grew by 13% while urban-related land uses increased 60%. On Long Island, the rate of new auto registrations continues to exceed population growth, as the suburban/regional environment is confronted by continued growth in auto use and dependency, combined with a broadly dispersed settlement pattern and related land uses and misuses.

The *American Farmland Trust's* "Farming on the Edge" initiative highlights these pressures. As most American and Eastern Canadian cities were settled on prime agricultural land, further development takes place at the expense of

If the goal of sustainable development and land use is to be met, planners need to include the food system in their thinking, whether they are 'city mice' or 'country mice', and use the growing market network to their advantage.

arable, productive agricultural land. *Farmland Trust's* maps, using 1992 data, reveal that fully 80% of the fruit, 70% of vegetables, 45% of dairy and 20% (each) of meat and grain are produced in near-metropolitan areas under threat of development. In New York,

the Mid-Hudson Region and Eastern Long Island areas have both high development pressure and high quality farmland. If the goal of sustainable agriculture and a just and secure food system is to be met, positive trends in market development require greater attention, so that efforts by non-profits can begin to support new planning policies and programs that sustain the region and its urban neighborhoods.

If the goal of sustainable development and land use is to be met, planners need to include the food system in their thinking, whether they are 'city mice' or 'country mice', and use the growing market network to their advantage.

John Nettleton is a Planners Network member who directs community development education programs for Cornell Cooperative Extension in New York City. He can be reached at jsn10@cornell.edu.

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NEW YORK CITY: ORGANIZING TO REVIVE CITY PLANNING

By Tom Angotti

The strong turnout at the November 10 Planners Network Forum on *Reviving City Planning in New York* signals that there is interest in developing a progressive planning agenda and taking it before local candidates over the next year. I was pleasantly surprised not only by the size of the crowd but its diversity, including people from professional and non-profit groups, community boards, the planning schools and community-based organizations. The group discussed focusing efforts on educating candidates about what planning is and what it can do, in New York City, in other parts of the country, and in other parts of the world. A critical task is to maintain a city-wide focus while at the same time engaging neighborhood-based individuals and organizations. The next meeting, on December 8 (see notice below) will take up: organizing a series of candidate meetings and forums, preparing a packet of briefing papers, and organizing ourselves (perhaps as an ad hoc committee).

People who attend should bring any material that might be used for briefing candidates or outlines of briefing material to develop. This initiative must begin soon and will be concentrated over a relatively short period of time.

Briefing topics to be covered include: community-based planning, regional planning, auto dependency, neighborhood open space, community gardens, environmental justice, waste reduction, and industrial retention.

SYMPOSIUM

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

While NAFTA seeks to integrate the economies of Canada, Mexico and the U.S., environmental disparities persist. What lessons can be learned from local efforts in sustainable community development and planning in North America?

DECEMBER 11-12, 2000

PRATT INSTITUTE GRADUATE CENTER FOR
PLANNING AND THE ENVIRONMENT
379 DeKalb Avenue, Steuben Hall 2nd Floor
Brooklyn, New York

Panelists from Canada, Mexico and the U.S.

- * Industrial Ecology, Brownfields & Urban Development
- * Water Resources & Metropolitan Growth
- * Food Production, Urban Agriculture & Urban-Rural Relations
- * Economic Sustainability & Environmental Justice

Sponsored by the Consortium for Sustainable Community Development & Planning: York University, Univ. of British Columbia, Univ. of Manitoba, Univ. of Guadalajara, CIESAS & CUCBA, UAA Naaro, Cornell Univ., Pratt Institute, UCLA.

Free. For program info: 718-399-4314, tangotti@pratt.edu

Planners Network Meeting

REVIVING CITY PLANNING IN NEW YORK CITY

DECEMBER 8, 6-8 PM

Pratt/Manhattan (The Puck Bldg.) 295 Lafayette Ave., Room 21

A meeting to plan a campaign to bring an agenda for progressive planning in New York City before the candidates for City Council, Mayor and other elective offices.

For more information, contact Tom Angotti at 718-399-4391 or tangotti@pratt.edu.

RESOURCES

Eve Baron, Resources Editor

Jobs

CALIFORNIA

The Institute for Food and Development Policy (Food First) seeks an **Internet Program Coordinator** (half-time). Send cover letter, resume, three references, and URL where your work can be seen to Food First, 398 60th Street, Oakland CA 94618 or foodfirst@foodfirst.org.

The Center for Third World Organizing seeks a **Development and Communications Director**. Send cover letter and resume to CTWO, 1218 East 21st Street, Oakland CA 94606 or e-mail edlee@ctwo.org.

Urban Habitat seeks a **Policy, Research, and Advocacy Director** to develop and implement a research and policy work plan. Send materials to Policy, Research, and Advocacy Director Search, Urban Habitat Program, PO Box 29908, Presidio of San Francisco, SF CA 94129-9908 or e-mail vvieka@igc.apc.org.

The National Community Capital Association seeks a **Chief Operating Officer** to oversee day-to-day leadership and management of core business. To apply, submit resume or CV to C.O.O. Search, National Community Capital, The Public Ledger Building, 620 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia PN 19106 or dennism@communitycapital.org.

ILLINOIS

The Rural School and Community Trust seeks a **Director** for its Capacity Building Program. Send cover letter and resume to Susan Himmelfarb, 711 Superior Street, Oak Park IL 60302.

MARYLAND

The Baltimore Neighborhood Design Center seeks an **Executive Director**. Send cover letter and resume to The Welch Company, 1401 Hollins Street, Baltimore MD 21223.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Institute for Community Economics seeks a **Director** for the national Community Land Trust Network to promote the CLT model of affordable housing and community development, advocate for public policy change, and coordinate the growing network of CLTs. Requires media and advocacy, lobbying or congressional, and fundraising experience; understanding of affordable housing policy. Extensive travel, based in DC or Springfield MA area. For complete job description and to apply, send letter, resume, and salary requirements by e-mail to CLTNetdirector@aol.com, or write CLT Network manager, ICE, 57 School Street, Springfield MA, 01105.

Grassroots International (GRI), an independent human rights and development agency, seeks an experienced visionary to fill a new position as manager of its growing Global Programs Team. The **Program Director** leads a Boston-based team of four responsible for the development, implementation and evaluation of ongoing programs in Brazil, Eritrea, Haiti, Mexico, and Palestine, as well as the organization's emergency programs in East Timor and Sudan. The Program Director will also take direct implementation responsibility for program coordination in one country and for the development of Special Programs. Salary high 30s to \$40,000, depending on experience. Send resume and cover letter detailing relevant experience to Program Director Search Committee, Grassroots International, 179 Boylston St., 4th Floor, Boston, MA 02130-4520. If you are applying from outside of the U.S., you may apply by e-mail to jobs@grassrootsonline.org <mailto:jobs@grassrootsonline.org>.

MINNESOTA

The Twin Cities Urban Coalition seeks a **President**. Send cover letter, resume, and references to Presidential Search Committee, 2610 University Avenue W., #201, Saint Paul MN 55114-1090 or fax 617/348-2533.

NEW JERSEY

The National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts seeks a **Director** of Creative Communities Initiative to implement a major

national initiative with NEA and HUD. Requires consulting experience with arts and social service organizations, technical assistance experience, and team-building skills. Send resume and current salary to Lolita Mayadas, NGCSA, PO Box 8018, Englewood NJ 07631, fax 201/871-7639, e-mail lolita.mayadas@natguild.org.

The Community University Consortium for Regional Environmental Justice seeks an **Executive Director**. Send cover letter and resume to CUCREJ, Rutgers University, 360 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., 714 Hill Hall, Newark NJ 07102 or fax 209/927-4574.

NEW YORK

Neighborhood Housing Services of New York City, Inc. seeks a **Loan Officer/Homeownership Counselor** to counsel clients in homeownership and/or underwrite and process loan packages. Requires Degree or at least two years experience in mortgage lending and presentation and computer skills. Send cover letter, resume, and salary requirements to Search LND, NHSNYC, 121 West 27th Street, 4th Floor, NYC 10001 or e-mail hrdept@nhsnyc.org.

The Abyssinian Development Corporation seeks a **Project Manager** to conduct pre-development activities related to housing and retail/commercial projects. Requires Masters in Finance or Real Estate with three years experience. Send resume to Joan McLeod, Abyssinian Development Corporation, 131 West 138th Street, NYC 10030 or fax 212/368-5483 or e-mail jmcLeod@adcorp.org.

The Workplace Project seeks a **Women's Organizer** and a **Cooperatives Program Coordinator** (separate positions). Send letter, references, and resume to The Project, 91 N. Franklin Street, #207, Hempstead NY 11550. Call 516/565-5377.

Locker Associates, a business consulting firm specializing in enhancing the competitiveness of businesses on behalf of corporate, union and government clients, seeks a **Senior Associate**. 225 Broadway, Ste. 2625, New York, NY 10007, 212-962-2980, <locker.associates@yahoo.com>.

PENNSYLVANIA

The National Community Capital Association seeks a **Chief Operating Officer** to oversee day-to-day leadership and management of core business. To apply, submit resume or CV to C.O.O. Search, National Community

Resource

Capital, The Public Ledger Building, 620 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia PN 19106 or dennism@communitycapital.org.

WASHINGTON, D.C.

The National League of Cities seeks a **Senior Program Associate in Education**, salary \$48-60K. Send resume to the League, 1301 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004.

Calls for Papers/Grants/ Awards

Carolina Planning, the student-run publication of the Department of City and Regional Planning at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, is accepting articles for the next issue. Topics should be relevant to the Southeast and focused on Transportation and Historic Preservation. Contact the journal staff at 919/962-4783.

The Leadership for a Changing World awards program is a project of the Ford Foundation in partnership with the Advocacy Institute and the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service at NYU. The program recognizes leadership in American communities and seeks nominations of community leaders who are successfully tackling social problems. Winners receive \$100K to advance their work. Nominations will be accepted through January 5, 2001; contact www.leadershipforchange.org or call 202/777-7560.

The Bruner Foundation announces the Rudy Bruner Award for Urban Excellence. The award is one \$50,000 and four \$10,000 awards for places developed with the vision to turn urban problems into creative solutions. Deadline is December 4, 2000. Contact 617/492-8408 or www.brunerfoundation.org/p/2001rba.html.

Microsoft has announced a new program to award up to \$25 million in cash and products to non-profits nationwide, to update and orga-

nize non-profit technology. Visit <http://pnonline.org/corporate/giving/microsoft0913.adp>.

The American Planning Association (APA) is accepting entries for its **2001 National Award for Planning**, which honors excellence in plans, individuals, and organizations. Information and application are available at www.planning.org/abtapa/awrdinx.htm.

Planners Casebook, the quarterly publication of the American Institute for Certified Planners (AICP) seeks new case studies for publication. Each case study is designed to be a "quick read" with critical insight into how real life planning projects work (or don't work). Each case study should end with lessons learned. To submit, contact Rochi Pelaseyed, AICP, 1776 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20036 or e-mail rpelaseyed@planning.org.

Those wishing to present a paper, exhibit a project or participate in a panel at The **29th International Making Cities Livable Conference**, scheduled for March 4-8, 2001, should send a 200 word abstract for consideration before November 30. The IMCL conferences provide state of the art information and expertise for making cities livable. These conferences seek to reveal how all city making decisions affect quality of life, and to recommend policies that promote urban livability. Send to Suzanne H. Crowhurst Lennard, Program Committee Chair, IMCL Conferences, P(O box 7586, Carmel, CA 93921 fax: 831-624-5126 www.livablecities.org

Events

November 15: The Women's City Club of New York and the JM Kaplan Center for New York City Affairs, "Immigrants in New York: Impact and Issues," Tishman Auditorium, New School University, 66 West 12th Street, NYC.

November 17: Queens College Labor Resource Center, "Donkey Days: the State of Labor's Union with the Democratic Party," 25 West 43rd Street, 19th Floor, NYC. Contact 212/827-0200.

November 30-December 1: The University of Illinois at Chicago and the Urban Universities Collaborative, "Remaking Chicago," in Chicago. For information, contact 312/996-8700 or gcwforum@uic.edu.

December 1-2: The Fund for an OPEN Society, "Integration Works: Building Open and Thriving Communities," in Philadelphia PN. For information, e-mail open@libertynet.org.

December 6-9: The National Rural Housing Conference, "Strengthening Our Communities," in Washington, DC. For information, contact the Housing Assistance Council, 202/842-8600 x108 or conference2000@ruralhome.org.

February 13-16, 2001: "Pushing the Boundaries: Planning's Radical Projects" is the theme for the Canadian Association of Planning Students (CAPS) conference at York University, Toronto, Canada. For info: www.yorku.ca/fes/caps/ or contact Colette Boileau (416-423-6302) or Christina Gallimore (905-884-1781).

March 9-11, 2001: "Critical Resistance: Beyond the Prison Industrial Complex," a northeast regional conference in NYC. Contact the Organizing Committee, PMB #4053, 341 Lafayette Street, NY NY 10012 or visit www.criticalresistance.org.

July 3-6, 2001: 32nd Annual Conference of the Environmental Design Research Association (edra), entitled "Old World—New Ideas: Environmental and Cultural Change and Tradition in a Shrinking World," to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland. Soliciting design projects, intensives, interactive paper presentations, workshops, and symposia. Deadline for submission is October 1, 2000. For more information, e-mail edra@telepath.com, or visit <http://www.telepath.com/edra/home.html>.

July 24-27, 2001: American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy 2001 Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Industry, "Increasing Productivity Through Energy Efficiency," Hilton Tarrytown, Tarrytown, NY. For information, call 302/292-3966 or visit <http://www.aceee.org>.

August 31-September 7, 2001: "World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance," in South Africa. For information, visit <http://www.un.org/rights/racism>.

September 13-14, 2001: "The Third International Summit of Development Agencies," in Atlanta GA. For information, call 202/223-7822.

Websites

The Trust for Public Land has created a web site with updated reports on conservation projects and information from the TPL. Send e-mail address to updates@tpl.org or visit www.tpl.org and register.

The National Community Capital Association is on-line at www.communitycapital.org.

National Neighborhood Coalition offers a review of community development and smart growth literature. Contact www.neighborhood-coalition.org.

Smart Growth Network is on-line at www.smartgrowth.org. **National Smart Growth Coalition** is on-line at www.transact.org.

The Center for Community Change hosts the Transportation Equity Network on-line at www.communitychange.org/transportation.htm

The SprawlWatch Clearinghouse is on-line at www.sprawlwatch.org. Learn more about federal policy on sprawl through the White House Livable Communities Initiative at www.livablecommunities.gov.

The Brookings Institute Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy is on-line at www.brookings.edu. The authors of *Our Stolen Future* provide regular updates on cutting edge science related to endocrine disruption, policy debates, and suggestions about how to reduce the risk related to hormonally-disrupting contaminants. Visit www.ourstolenfuture.org.

PULSE is a free on-line newsletter for non-profit management and governance organizations interested in non-profit management issues. Visit <http://www.allianceonline.org/pulse.html>. Contact PULSE, Alliance for Nonprofit Management, 1899 L Street NW, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20036.

Publications

State and Local Affordable Housing Programs: A Rich Tapestry, by Michael A. Stegman contains descriptions of more than 100 programs spanning the range of affordable-housing concerns and examines how well

local affordable housing delivery systems initiated in the 1980s have endured. The final chapter focuses on housing trust funds, which the author views as the most flexible type of finance program for affordable housing.

Growing Pains: Quality of Life in the New Economy, by Joel Hirschhorn of the National Governors' Association Center for Best Practices examines the impact of growth on land use and describes ideas and experiments in land use planning and urban revitalization. It can be ordered for \$15 at 301/498-3738 or downloaded at www.nga.org/Pubs/IssueBriefs/2000/GrowingPains.asp.

Bus Riders Union is Haskell Wexler's new documentary tracing three years in the life of the Los Angeles' Bus Riders Union, a successful, multiracial movement organized to fight racism, clean up air pollution, and make mass transit serve its ridership. To order, visit www.busridersunion.org.

The New York Archaeological Council has a new publication for municipalities and planners who deal with EIS/CRM projects. The publication, entitled **Cultural Resources Standards Handbook - Guidance for Understanding and Applying the New York State Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations**, is available free of charge from the SHPO's office. Contact the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Historic Preservation Field Services Bureau, Peebles Island, PO Box 189, Waterford, NY 12188-0189; 518/237-8643.

HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research has published **Home Builders' Guide to Manufactured Housing**. Manufactured housing, a low-cost alternative to conventional site-built construction, can lower production costs for the builder and the consumer. The guide includes an introduction, key issues, and case studies, and can be ordered for \$15 from <http://www.huduser.org> or by phone, 800/245-2691.

What You Don't Know About Predatory Lending Can Hurt You, is Fannie Mae's free consumer guide on what predatory lending is, how to identify it, and how it can hurt consumers. Visit <http://www.fanniemaefoundation.org/news/release/borrowingbasics082900.htm>.

Characteristics of Food Stamp Households, a USDA study, can be downloaded at www.fns.usda.gov/oane.

Health Status by Counties is a county by county snapshot of health indicators and variables. Visit www.communityhealth.hrsa.gov.

Homelessness: Barriers to Using Mainstream Programs (RCED-00-184) is a new GAO report that focuses on better delivery systems for entitlement programs. Free from USGAO. Visit www.gao.gov.

Good Works: Highlights of a Study on the Center for Family Life by Susan Blank is a report that tells the story of the Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. For information, visit www.aecf.org or call 410/547-6600.

Collaboration and Partnership in Funding Rural Communities is a public policy paper from the Neighborhood Funders Group that examines the opportunities for policy makers and funders to expand the resource base in underserved rural areas. Available on-line at www.nfg.org.

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PLANNERS NETWORK

The Planners Network is an association of professionals, activists, academics, and students involved in physical, social, economic, and environmental planning in urban and rural areas, who promote fundamental change in our political and economic systems.

We believe that planning should be a tool for allocating resources and developing the environment to eliminate the great inequalities of wealth and power in our society, rather than to maintain and justify the status quo. This includes opposition to racial, economic, and environmental injustice, and discrimination by gender and sexual orientation. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, shelter, medical care, jobs, safe working conditions, and a healthful environment. We advocate public responsibility for meeting these needs, because the private market has proven incapable of doing so.

GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Planners Network seeks articles that describe and analyze progressive physical, social, economic and environmental planning in urban and rural areas. Articles may be up to 1,500 words. They should be addressed to PN's broad audience of professionals, activists, students and academics, and be straightforward and jargon-free. Following a journalistic style, the first paragraph should summarize the main ideas in the article. A few suggested readings may be mentioned in the text, but do not submit footnotes or a bibliography. The editors may make minor style changes, but any substantial rewriting or changes will be checked with the author. A photograph or illustration may be included. Submissions on disk or by email are greatly appreciated. Send to the Editor at pn@pratt.edu or Planners Network, 379 DeKalb Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205. Fax: 718-636-3709. The deadlines are the first day of the first month of the issue (e.g., May 1 for the May/June issue; July 1 for the July/August issue).

FOR 25 YEARS, Planners Network has been a voice for progressive professionals and activists concerned with urban planning and social justice. PN's 1,000 members receive this bimonthly newsletter, network online with PN-NET, and take part in the annual conference. PN also gives progressive ideas a voice in the mainstream planning profession by organizing sessions at annual conferences of the American Planning Association and American Collegiate Schools of Planning.

The PN Conference has been held annually each spring since 1994. These gatherings combine speakers and workshops with exchanges involving local communities. PN conferences engage in discussions that help inform political strategies at the local, national, and international levels. Recent conferences have been held in Washington, D.C., East St. Louis, IL, Brooklyn, NY, and Pomona, CA.

Whether face-to-face, in print, or over the internet, PNers are part of a network that shares progressive ideas and experiences. Join Planners Network and make a difference while sharing your ideas and enthusiasm with others!

All members must make an annual financial contribution. The Steering Committee recommends the following amounts as minimums for Network members:

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- \$150 for sustaining members

Make cheques in Canadian funds payable to: "Planners Network" and send with membership form to:

Barbara Rahder, Faculty of Environmental Studies
York University
Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3

If interested in joining the PN Toronto listserv, include your email address or send a message to Barbara Rahder at <rahder@yorku.ca>.

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In This Issue

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | What Planners Need to Know about Food |
| 1 | Seventh Generation |
| 3 | Shedding Light on the Shades of Strategic Planning |
| 5 | A Breath of Air in Harlem |
| 6 | Book Review: e-topia |
| 10 | Greenwashing the Olympics |
| 15 | Resources: Jobs, Events, Publications |

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