

PLANNERS NETWORK

The Magazine of Progressive Planning



Photo: Youth from HOME, see article p. 12

Involving Youth in Planning: *The Progressive Challenge*

By Ann Forsyth

How can children and youth have a voice in planning? What are the responsibilities of planners to incorporate children and youth in their activities? This issue of Planners Network features a number of articles about these issues of democracy, participation, planning, and youth.

In the past decades the process of planning has become more broadly participatory. Whether from a commitment to democratic involvement, due to legal mandates for participation, or as a strategy to neutralize opposition and create constituencies for implementation, planners now include significant public input in many of their activities. Vigorous debate about how to incorporate and empower people who are socially and economically disadvantaged has been a hallmark of progressive planning, as has an increasing concern with recognizing different cultural backgrounds. These populations may still be

often on the margins of planning, but they are increasingly recognized as important constituencies and collaborators in planning. On the environmental side, and particularly in the area of sustainability, attention is being focused on future generations, the regional population, and even the land itself.

This move to incorporate more voices has its limits. There are real constraints on participation for non-citizens, for example, something that is of great concern in areas with many immigrants and temporary workers. Children and youth also fall into this category and are excluded on multiple levels. They are not able to vote. They rarely own property. They are perceived as incapable of participation. They are considered adequately represented by adults. Children and youth may be acknowledged in analysis, but they are not seen as a core constituency for participation and participation is not tailored toward [Cont. on page 5]

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JOBS, EVENTS AND
PUBLICATIONS

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

The Origins and History of PN

by Chester Hartman

In 1970, I moved from the East coast (Cambridge) to the West coast (San Francisco). While it was, for me, a very satisfying change of venue, as a lifelong Easterner (seventeen years in the Bronx, followed by seventeen years in the Boston area), out there I increasingly felt somewhat removed from things, in particular from my planning colleagues. At the time, I was on the staff of the National Housing Law Project (then part of the Univ. of California Berkeley Law School, later to go independent), dealing with a range of housing justice issues. So in 1974 I contacted about three dozen planner friends to raise the idea of some kind of communications network among progressive planners. In the nineteen sixties, we had Planners for Equal Opportunity (PEO), the rewarding and effective collection of such folks that Walter Thabit, one of the original advocate planners working in the Cooper Square neighborhood of New York, put together. PEO had significant positive impact on the planning profession and programs such as urban renewal and public housing, raising in particular issues of race and class justice. But as the sixties faded into the seventies, PEO faded.

The response I got was positive. So I applied for a small grant to "Ping" Ferry and Carol Bernstein, those wonderful funders of social change groups and got one of their famous responses: a check (\$2500 — more would come later) with an encouraging note on the stub — no hassle, no waiting. In August 1975, I sent out the first mailing, as I recall to about 300 persons — names provided by the friends I first queried, plus some names from Walter's list. And that is how it all began.

I had occasional local help with mailings and maintaining the mailing list. But it was essentially a one-man operation, taking up maybe six to eight hours a month — most of it laboriously typing the various submissions people sent in. The bimonthly newsletter [Cont. on page 4]

The Future of PN

by Tom Angotti

I agree with Chester Hartman that Planners Network's development in recent years has been healthy. PN is increasingly recognized as a progressive voice in planning. The newsletter has evolved into a magazine with lots of contributions that challenge the staid and push the boundaries of professional practice. We have an active editorial board and student assistants. (Happily, Ann Forsyth has stepped in as Co-Editor while I'm out of the country until August, 2002). The PN conferences are always exciting because they engage communities and go beyond a talking heads format. PN's new web site is up and running. We are starting to have a consistent presence at professional conferences. The New York City and Toronto chapters are busily working with other progressive organizations and planning schools on local initiatives. PN has developed ties to like-minded Brazilian and Argentine planners, and Rachel Bland is working on a chapter in Europe.

While the center of PN moved to Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, the secret to our success has been the leadership coming from an increasingly active Steering Committee. This wasn't always the case, and it has taken some time to establish the principle that our governing body is more than honorific. Our growth is also attributable to generous support from many conference funders, in particular the Fannie Mae Foundation.

But PN has reached a crossroads. It's not sustainable as currently constituted. Our greatest asset is the incredible volunteer labor that keeps us going, but that is also our deficit. To make any more progress, we need to have paid staff.

I think PN's political voice is still weak. We need to be more consistent when we engage and confront the professional organizations. We need to strengthen ties with other progressive organizations on national [Cont. on page 4]

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Statement of Principles

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. We are committed to opposing racial, economic, and environmental injustice, and discrimination by gender and sexual orientation. We believe that planning should be used to assure adequate food, clothing, housing, 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.

PLANNERS NETWORK

The Magazine of Progressive Planning

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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 2,000 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 tangotti@hunter.cuny.edu or Planners Network, c/o Hunter College Dept of Urban Planning, 695 Park Ave., New York, NY 10021. Fax: 718-636-3709. Deadlines are January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1.

UPCOMING SPECIAL ISSUES [Articles welcome]:

The New Urbanism
Just and Sustainable Transportation
A Critical View of Community/University Partnerships
Is There an Energy Crisis and Why?

Hartman [Cont. from page 2] was largely a compendium of items "members" wanted others to know about — their work, problems, readings, etc. All costs — basically, printing and mailing — were covered by voluntary contributions by those receiving the newsletter. And we kept growing as more and more people learned about PN or were referred to us by "members." I use that word in quotes because for the first few years there was nothing resembling an organization, just the newsletter, the sense of community it provided and in localities such as Boston, New York, SF, LA and Chicago, where there were concentrations of PNers, occasional local activities, such as forums, films, speakers, social events, technical assistance. We also published an occasional roster with short bio sketches, facilitating one-on-one contacts.

The first move toward making PN an organization was the 1979 Cornell conference on progressive planning, the papers for which were published as *Urban and Regional Planning in an Age of Austerity*, edited by Pierre Clavel, John Forester and William Goldsmith (Pergamon, 1980) — still a useful and relevant collection. Then, in 1981, came PN's first national conference, at the 4-H Center outside Washington, DC, attended by about 150 people. There we adopted a formal Statement of Principles, intended not as a blood oath but as an understanding of general political agreement among the membership. We set up several working groups, one of which resulted in *Critical Perspectives on*

Housing (Temple Univ. Press, 1986), the progressive housing reader I co-edited with PNers Rachel Bratt and Ann Meyerson.

In 1995, a few years after I relocated from San Francisco to DC (where I finally brought in some part-time paid assistance), I turned the whole operation over to Tom Angotti and colleagues at Pratt. It was a very healthy development: a new, elected Steering Committee; lots of new energy and an institutional base (Hunter now included) with the resources that brings; a longer, weightier, more substantive, less "chatty" publication, now transformed into this magazine; and all those terrific annual conferences.

Chester Hartman is Executive Director of the Poverty Race Research Action Council (www.prrac.org). He worked at the Institute for Policy Studies, taught at the University of North Carolina Planning Department, and has authored many publications. A collection of 32 of his past essays, with an autobiography/social history and a foreword by Jane Jacobs, entitled Between Eminence and Notoriety: Four Decades of Radical Urban Planning (Rutgers, Center for Urban Policy Research) is due out in February 2002. An updated edition of his book, City for Sale: The Transformation of San Francisco, will be published by University of California Press in May 2002. A new housing reader that he has co-edited with Rachel Bratt and Michael Stone will be published by Temple University Press in late 2002.

Angotti [Cont. from page 2] and local levels. It is too easy for professionally-based groups to go out on their own and lose ties with the movements that are together able to make inroads in the achievement of "fundamental social change," which our statement of principles declares to be our objective.

It is important to preserve the networking in PN. Our members tell us they benefit from this aspect of the organization. But it is now time to move beyond the network. Our ultimate purpose isn't self-enrichment but to bring about social change. Our networking with other planners and activists should be imbued with a higher purpose — protesting injustice, supporting progressive legislation, and pro-

moting cutting edge practices that build the basis for fundamental change. At a time when war cries are used as a rationale to advance every right-wing agenda item, when racial profiling is once again legitimate, it's time to redefine and renew our progressive purpose.

Final note: Our publication is still evolving. We'd like to hear your reactions to the new format and content. What do you like and what's missing? Suggestions for improvements? We welcome small notes and lengthy articles.

Tom Angotti is Professor of Urban Affairs & Planning at Hunter College and Co-Editor of Planners Network.

Forsyth [Cont. from page 1] their specific interests and needs. Children in low-income neighborhoods battle with poverty and exclusion; in middle income neighborhoods they may be seen as disorderly.

How much can children and youth participate? Although limited by language and motor skills, children at the age of three have demonstrated the ability to build models and create mental maps. While environmental awareness is fairly basic at this age, even very young children have a capacity to participate and this ability develops with age. The process of being involved in planning and neighborhood projects can help children and youth develop a sense of the consequences of actions and a sense of self and others. Among older youth such participation can build skills for later community involvement.

Youth involvement in planning is not just about personal and civic development, however, but about creating places and communities. Children are the dominant users of some spaces such as parks, playgrounds and schools. As teenagers they are often perceived by adults as problem users of public spaces, but their intimate experience with such locations makes them uniquely suited to make decisions about them. As Imre Kepes, Fernando Marti and Llewellyn Golding demonstrate in their inspiring case studies of YouthPower, the HOME's Skateboard Task Force and the Youthlink violence prevention program, the rewards to both the young people and the wider community can be significant. In my work with the Urban Places Project at U.Mass/Amherst in the mid to late 1990s, I was tremendously privileged to watch the young people in YouthPower overcome huge barriers of poverty and ethnic discrimi-

nation to physically improve their neighborhood. This in turn helped develop respect from the wider community. The High School Adoption program at the University of Texas/Austin is also notable in this light as it began the task of connecting young people to both the university and to community development groups from their neighborhood, bridging across racial lines (see the article by Teresa Vazquez in this issue).

Involving youth in planning is a challenge for progressive planners. Children and youth almost certainly have to involve people other than themselves, that is adults, in any significant planning work or projects. This creates a delicate balance where participation needs to be carefully designed to be interesting and also give power to youth directly, not only through adults. Planners are often inexperienced in the methods for including youth. Planners are also often ambivalent about youth contributions. Given other pressing concerns, youth may simply be ignored. This is in spite of the fact that as both Suzanne Speak and Kim Knowles-Yanez describe, the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child makes participation a human right.

The APA Resources Zine, described here by its editor Ramona Mullahey, is an important on line resource for planners interested in involving youth. Other articles provide web links to resource groups, manuals, and details about their programs. The important first step is to realize that youth are important partners in planning.

Ann Forsyth is Associate Professor of Urban Planning at Harvard. She was a project manager for the YouthPower Guide—see ordering instructions on page 21.

Mark Your Calendars!!!

2002 Planners Network National Conference

Community-Based Planning for Urban Revitalization: Opportunities and Challenges

• • • • •

June 13-16, 2002 at Hampshire College in Amherst, MA

Details on page 41 of this issue.

Teenagers Show Planners How It's Done: *Build Your Own*

By **Fernando Marti**

Perhaps you remember hanging out after school, searching out those empty lots, abandoned parks, or downtown plazas with their concrete benches? They were the real play-

grounds and obstacle courses of our adventurous minds. Perhaps now, as urban planners, we spend too much of our time designing those places away, creating guidelines to keep those pesky teenagers from disrupting our carefully concocted urban scenes. In countless community meetings, when a youth voice is even heard, it is to say: give us places to be ourselves, to be loud, to be outdoors in the city.

Sometimes, thanks to the persistence of kids, parents and youth advocates, the long and cumbersome road to developing a public skatepark gets underway. A typical project takes years, sometimes longer, slowed by funding battles, liability issues, red-tape, and unsympathetic politicians, to be built someday when

YOUTH ACTIVISM

In California youth activism is a serious matter. High school students are organizing to protest youth criminalization laws and high-stakes testing, and to protect college affirmative action programs. Youth have also come to see neighborhood battles as their own battles. Unlike many of their elders, who often organize primarily to preserve their existing neighborhoods or to prevent environmental injustices, the optimistic nature of youth allows them to imagine what could be. Too often, to the detriment of our cities, we have not trusted youth to contribute to our communities. Now, they are making sure their voices are heard.

In 1997 in the sleepy Bay Area town of Alameda, teens from Encinal High founded HOME, a student-run organization created to give kids something to do after school. With eight other teenagers, sixteen-year-old skater Daniel Osborne created HOME's Skateboard Task Force. They collected 1,600 signatures in support of their project to build a skatepark on an empty parking lot in the newly decommissioned Alameda Naval Air Station. They got the classic bureaucratic runaround. Though the Department of Park and Recreation offered \$50,000 toward construction of the park, the kids would have to raise the rest on their own. At a standard cost of \$25-30 a square foot, the kids had no idea where they were going to be able to raise the other \$200,000-300,000 needed to build their 15,000 square foot park. So they decided to build it themselves.

YOUTH BUILD A SKATEPARK

For many, it was the Fall of their senior year in

high school. They had to move fast if they hoped to see their skatepark done before they graduated. Working with Tom Arie Donch, a playground designer who specializes in community-built projects, the kids developed an ambitious four-month timeline in which to design the project, raise the funds, organize the volunteers and build the thing. For Arie Donch a typical community built playground takes anywhere from eight months to a year to organize successfully, but it often costs less than one-third of traditional construction, not to mention the many social benefits of a collective undertaking.

One of Donch's main tasks is to help groups organize themselves and develop strategies to get the job done. A core group hashed out the design using clay models, while others organized committees composed of adults and teenagers to work with city officials, expedite permits, raise funds, collect tools and materials, sign up volunteers and cook meals for the build. The kids packed City Hall to convince the city to release the \$50,000 for materials and engineering services, while they raised the rest as in-kind donations from local contractors and large stores such as Home Depot. Volunteers from local trade unions taught the teenagers the skills they needed, from tying rebar to finishing concrete.

The kids were committed to getting truly multicultural involvement. They set the goal of having a diverse cross-section of their population for the twelve-day build - across ethnicities and generations. In all, over 500 people volunteered for the project. A retired judge in his seventies was able to say, seeing the completed skatepark, that "this project touched, motivated, and brought together the citizens of Alameda in a way no other project has in the seventy years that I have been involved in the Alameda community."

The kids built a lasting sense of what it means to make a connection to place, a sense of belonging to a larger community by contributing to it. Up to a hundred people use the park on a weekend day. They range in age from four to over sixty years. The park includes beginner, intermediate, and advanced courses. Today, about fifteen youth and adults, all people who helped to build the park, continue to run the Skate Park Task Force to resolve ongoing issues of safety and maintenance. HOME is now a 175-member organization working on a range of community projects, from child-care to youth-run businesses.

Fernando Marti is a planner with Urban Ecology, Inc. and a member of the Planners Network Steering Committee.

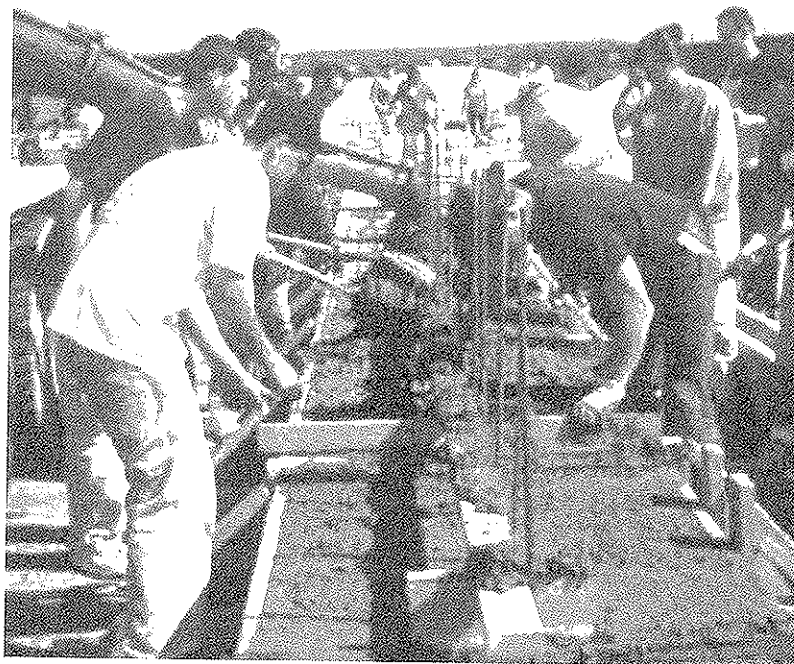
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- Index of working papers
- Case studies of grassroots planning initiatives
- Access to over 100 articles published in Planners Network, 1997 - 2001
- Planning links

Keep up to date between issues.
Don't miss any important Planners Network news.

PN



Townview, Texas: A High School Adoption Program

By M. Teresa Vázquez-Castillo

This is a story about a group of planning students whose semester-long project became a powerful tool for change when they organized a dynamic one-day program involving young people in a gentrifying neighborhood in Texas.

When Debra Washington, Executive Director of the Tenth Street Housing and Community

Planning class during the summer of 1999 at UTA prepared a Redevelopment and Renovation Plan that focused on the physical and economic development aspects of planning. However, physical planning was not enough as the capacity to realize those plans was lacking. Awareness, community development and leadership needed to be fostered in the Tenth Street community. In subsequent meetings, neighborhood representatives emphasized the need for self-sustaining programs designed by and with the community, "not from the office." They also spoke of the need for an inter-generational program that should include young people and the elderly of the Tenth Street neighborhood.

Tenth Street is located south of downtown Dallas on I-35E in the Oak

Cliff area and it used to be one of the Freedman's Towns in Texas. Freedman's Towns were the lands where freed slaves settled at a time when African Americans were prohibited by Texas law from owning real property. A landmark of this neighborhood was the Golden Gate Missionary Baptist Church, which had organized lot assignments to families in need of housing. Because of its historical and architectural value, Tenth Street had been designated an historic district in 1991, but gentrification and lack of resources were taking their toll on the neighborhood.

Developers in Dallas, Texas approached the School of Urban and Public Affairs (SUPA) at the University of Texas at Arlington (UTA), her main concern was to stop the process of "yupification" that was threatening the area. The Tenth Street Neighborhood in Dallas is an historic district currently undergoing a severe process of gentrification and displacement of mostly elderly and low-income African Americans.

In response to the request for technical and architectural design assistance, a Project



INCLUDING YOUTH

Out of this request, the Fall 1999 Project Planning class at UTA designed a project to include youth in developing historical awareness and planning for the Tenth Street neighborhood. I worked on this project with three graduate students — Ursula Anderson, Edwin Bateman and Sonnie Ebikwo. Through it, youth would learn to appreciate their neighborhood and they would be provided with basic planning tools and urban and policy information that could foster leadership.

Since other universities had held similar programs, the participants in the class reviewed those programs to explore the possibilities of replicating them. One of them was the Cesar Chávez Public Charter High School for Public Policy Summer Learning Program organized by the Department of City and Regional Planning of Cornell University (see <http://www.crp.cornell.edu/pub/chavez/default/htm#photos>). Youth participating in this program had visited Cornell University and interacted with faculty and graduate students who had organized a four-day program to learn about planning.

Based on the information from the Cornell program, Anderson, Bateman, Ebikwo and Vázquez designed the High School Adoption program for Tenth Street. The main objective of the project was to identify youth as assets in their community. Youth could promote awareness in their families and schoolmates about the importance of preserving their neighborhood. This awareness could eventually develop leadership in the community. A second objective was to create collaborative relationships between the university, neighborhood and school system. Finally, the project had the purpose of prompting an interest in planning among the youth, in a metropolitan area that lacks a diverse body of planners.

ORGANIZATION OF THE ONE-DAY PROGRAM

After brainstorming about the sessions that would meet these and Tenth Street's objectives, and the human, facility, and economic resources available, the plan for the project

was developed. The University would provide the facilities and some financial support. Faculty and graduate students would be asked to volunteer for a one-day program. Since this project was organized during a regular semester, university housing was not available to house the youth as the Cornell program had done. In addition, we had limited financial and human resources — the Project Planning class had three graduate students — that limited the program to a one-day intense session.

The program saw the direct and active collaboration of community groups in the area. The Tenth Street Housing and Community Developers in Dallas represented the affected neighborhood. Vecinos Unidos and Casa Dallas, Latino organizations, supported and co-sponsored the project. Due to the conflicting racial relations in the area, the cooperation between an African American organization and two Latino organizations was notable. This co-sponsorship emerged when the Project Planning team was working on the neighborhood plan for one of the two Latino organizations. Although the three organizations had been familiar with each other, they became interested in each other's work during a couple of meetings with the Project Planning group at the university.

Tenth Street, along with Anderson, Bateman, Ebikwo and I, identified the high school in the neighborhood that would participate in the program. Townview Center was chosen because: a) it is close to the Tenth Street District, b) it is a magnet high school; and c) the student population of the school was representative of the program's intended target population. It was not easy to establish a relation with Townview. Its principal was inaccessible by phone, e-mail and fax, until a personal visit to the school expedited the agreement. Townview teachers would select a diverse group of high school students to participate in the one-day program at UTA. In this program "kids" would interact with community leaders, faculty, graduate students and volunteers.

On Saturday, November 20, 1999, fifteen Townview students with their professor boarded a DART bus on their way to UTA ⇨

where they were welcomed by the executive directors of Vecinos Unidos, Casa Dallas, and Tenth Street, and by a group of UTA graduate students and faculty. In the various sessions, high school students learned the basics of planning, urban affairs and historic preservation. The sessions were: "What is planning and why we need it for our neighborhoods;" "How Cities Function;" "Computer Applications in Planning/Geographic Information Systems;" and "A Hands-on Session of Planning." Due to time constraints, a campus tour had not been planned, but Townview students and SUPA graduate student volunteers insisted on having one. The students toured the university and learned about careers related to urban affairs and planning.

PARTICIPATION BY COMMUNITY GROUPS KEY TO PROGRAM'S SUCCESS

A key element of the program was the direct involvement of the community group that requested assistance from the university. The executive director of the Tenth Street Housing and Community Developers, Debra Washington, was the keynote speaker. She talked about the history and issues of the Tenth Street area and the role of youth participation in preserving the neighborhood. Washington's speech had a deep impact on the youth and the graduate students and faculty in the room. Since the program attracted other community groups that supported the Tenth Street efforts, this opened new channels of communication among the community organizations. It is interesting to note that most of the leaders are "minority" women.

Throughout this project, community leaders, students and faculty shared their experience, knowledge, and planning skills. At the end of the "Hands-On-Session of Planning," a graduate student volunteer, impressed by the presentations that Townview "kids" had given of their planning alternatives and designs, told them: "You have done in a day what we did in a semester." He had participated in a previous course that had prepared the plans for the Tenth Street neighborhood.

Evaluations of the program revealed the

excitement of the Townview youth who participated. The graduate students shared this enthusiasm. Some of them asked in their evaluations to be included in future High School Adoptions and one of them told me she had realized the need to include youth in the planning process. In the same vein, Townview expressed its interest in continuing participation in this collaborative project. Anderson, Bateman and Ebikwo proposed that Project Planning classes have continuity, instead of "dropping" the community ("client") once the class was over. They also proposed to make the High School Adoption a regular exercise with access to more resources, more volunteers and housing facilities to bring young people for a two-day session.

In summary, the project was a successful collaboration with a community group that brought together neighborhood youth, a local high school, other supportive community organizations and the university. The program also raised awareness among young people about the importance of their neighborhood, an initial step towards fostering leadership in the community. The challenge now is how to continue this collaborative project. The planning student organization or the alumni association could organize the next high school adoption.

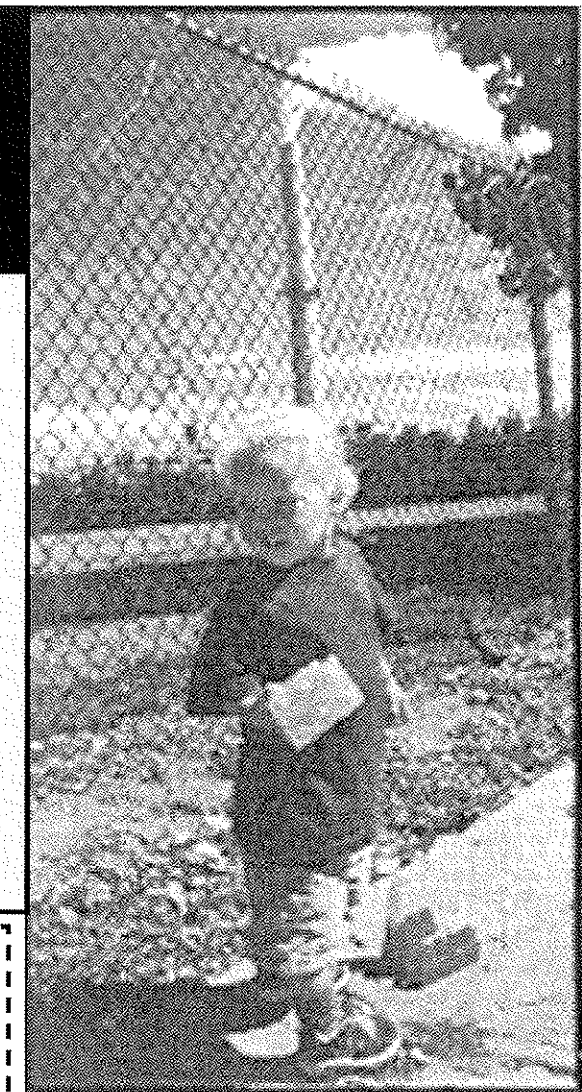
Hopefully, sharing the story of this program will bring further awareness of the importance of collaboration, community development, diversity and youth involvement in an area of Texas in which planning mainly means development and displacement. Hopefully sharing the story of this project and other youth initiatives in this issue [of Planners Network] will dispel the notion that planning with youth is "just teaching planning to kids." Hopefully there will be many more successful high school adoptions.

M. Teresa Vázquez-Castillo is a research associate at the Center for Mexican American Studies at the University of Texas at Arlington. The full version of the high school adoption program can be read online at: <http://omega.uta.edu/~twazquez>

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Photo: Julia Wells Design: Paul Salamone

APA's Resources Zine: Tools for Involving Youth in Planning

By Ramona K. Mullahey

If you are looking at engaging young people in planning and giving voice to their concerns and visions about the communities they live in, the best online source for ideas, case studies, curriculum, lesson plans, publications, and other resources such as software, databases, and funding, is *Resources Zine*. An online newsletter sponsored by the American Planning Association (APA) and the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), the e-magazine features a wealth of teaching strategies and actual programs that promote youth empowerment through civic engagement, social action, and planning/design literacy.

Resources Zine draws from an extensive database culled from ten years of the quarterly print publication, *Resources*, published by the APA Education Program. The *Zine* is a tool that provides new and experienced planners, decision-makers, and educators with guidance, support, and tested strategies for tailoring a learning experience or program to stimulate, motivate, and inspire youth to participate in the future of their neighborhoods.

The breadth and scope of the activities, examples of customized programs, lesson plans and curriculum, bibliographies and catalogs, audio and visual resources, web sites and hotlinks reflect a conscious effort to provide a comprehensive and inclusive approach to engaging youth. As PN readers will be aware, nearly every facet of community offers an opportunity for genuine participation: the built environment, community service, historic preservation and heritage, environmental stewardship, and place building.

The user-friendly Zine Index site allows users to search topics easily and find out about successful community programs that enable young people to share in decision-making as problem solvers. The diverse topics include: mapping (Green Mapping, YouthMapping, MYTOWN, AuThenTiCity, Community Mapping); environmental education; transportation choices and highway studies; the impact of big box stores; various kinds of plan-

ning (master planning, regional planning, city planning, park planning); community building; community design; and community visioning. Using resources on the site young people can find out how to gauge their "ecological footprint," analyze water quality and develop an understanding about the dynamics of wetlands. The site gives information about inter-generational activities to discover neighborhood history; heritage hikes; service learning; and building housing and cities using lego blocks or milk cartons or cardboard boxes. The site allows users to enhance their working knowledge of critical environmental issues such as solid waste, air quality pollution and biodiversity.

The learning tools and teaching approaches are wide-ranging. Activities can stand alone or be combined into a unit. They are interdisciplinary, able to address the diversity in learning styles, and can be used thematically. There are simulations, watershed festivals, model building, instant and aerial photography. Users can learn how to create a lesson plan or find web sites that link activities to school standards, teaching resources, books and other publications, cd-roms and videos, and the multiple resources in cyber space. The web sites are an eclectic mixture, a smorgasbord of informational contacts. The resources also reflect curriculum integration and an interdisciplinary approach.

Resources Zine delivers a menu of suggestions and ideas to galvanize youth involvement. Ultimately, the e-magazine offers some basic building blocks for constructing a more informed civil society. Go to www.planning.org--> Educational Opportunities and Careers in Planning-->K-12 Education and let the *Resources Zine* map a strategy to empowering youth.

Ramona K. Mullahey is a HUD Community Builder, Executive Director of a nonprofit with initiatives in sustainable development and healthy communities, and Editor of Resources Zine.

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child: A Framework for the Participation of Children and Youth in Community Land Use Planning

By Kim Knowles-Yáñez

Some planners would assert that adults know what is best for children, so why go to the trouble of involving children? Why should planners bother to accommodate yet one more constituency? After all, planners have yet to effectively involve all of the adults who want to participate.

But we don't necessarily have to wait until we fully understand adult participation in order to involve children and youth. Indeed, the involvement of children will likely inform the involvement of adults. Planners can learn a great deal by involving children.

How can we rethink the issue of children and youth involvement in planning so that it becomes more immediately relevant and useful to local planners and their planning processes?

UN CONVENTION AS STARTING POINT

An answer may lie in the 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) which delineates these rights and suggests that honoring them is a way to build active citizenship in children and youth. The CRC is an interesting starting point because it provides a way for us to rethink how children should be represented and involved in planning processes. The underlying premise of the CRC is that children are people with rights. As rights-bearing citizens, they have the right to be included in processes which affect them.

The CRC contains fifty-one articles, all of which are guided by four underlying principles: non-discrimination (article 2), best interests of the child (article 3), survival and development (article 6), and participation (article 12). For detailed information on the Convention, view it at: <http://www.unicef.org/crc/convention.htm>.

Article 2 states that there should be no discrimination of any kind against a child based on their "race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth...status, activities, expressed opinions, or beliefs of the child's parents."

Article 3 makes clear that the best interests of the child should be given "primary consideration" in any actions taken by public or private agencies. In article 6, one of the boldest of all the articles, the survival and development of the child is simply stated: "States Parties recognize that every child has the inherent right to life...States Parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child."

The fourth principle of the CRC is upheld in article 12, which states: Governments "shall assure to the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters affecting the child, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child." It is this last principle of participation which most directly bears on local land use planning practice.

Built into the CRC is the notion that children should be asked what they want and that adults do not always know what children want. Nor do adults always know what is best for children. Children are citizens with rights, in the process of learning how to practice their citizenship. It is time for planners to begin thinking of children and youth as citizens with the right to participate in community and land use decision-making processes. While the time and money needed to involve children and youth may be a difficult issue for community land use planners to negotiate, it is still crucial to follow the lead of the United Nations and bring the rights of children ⇒

and youth to bear in planning practice.

THE ROLE OF PLANNERS

To reconstitute planning actions taken around children and youth planners have to take a different approach to addressing children's needs. They have to move away from the deeply embedded ethic of care for children and "adults know what is best for children." They have to see children and youth as citizens who have the right to participate in decisions affecting their lives. This demands working with children in meaningful participation processes. This is not social mobilization, in which adults use children as a tool of adult views and needs. Authentic participation occurs when children are given space and time to define what the issues are and further space and time to work out how they would like to deal with the issues. Adults facilitate with developmentally appropriate settings and tools, but the real work of examining the environment and designing new approaches belongs to children. This is what it means to involve the authentic participation of children in planning processes. And as some projects involving children and youth have noted, participation builds some of the essential skills of citizenship.

While most local land use planning processes do not include direct involvement of children or direct discussion of children's needs, there are exceptions. Seattle's Youth Involvement Network, YouthPower of Holyoke, Massachusetts, and Louise Chawla &

UNESCO's Growing Up in Cities project systematically involve children in understanding, decision-making, and problem solving related to community land use. Still, despite the availability of methods and examples for working with children and youth in planning processes, there are few systematic attempts to routinely bring children and youth into local land use planning processes.

Planners do not exclude children from most planning processes because they are anti-children. Indeed, almost everyone would admit to being pro-children — part and parcel of the human condition. Most children are kept out of planning processes by sheer oversight and because planners simply do not have enough time to involve children, gather them together, work through issues, and accommodate the special developmental needs of children. For community planners, there is usually not enough time or personnel to bring anyone other than those considered absolutely essential into planning processes. Most planners, if asked, would assert that they are concerned about children and do take their needs into consideration. However, most planners would probably be hard pressed to identify which parts of their practice incorporate the concern for children's needs.

Kim Knowles-Yáñez is Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning in the Liberal Studies Department at California State University San Marcos, San Marcos, California, 92096-0001.

Planners Network New York's Spring 2002 Forum Series

"THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AND BEYOND"

Friday, March 8: Redevelopment: People and Place?

Friday, April 5: Reinvestment: Centralization/Decentralization

Friday, April 19: Re-envisioning: Communities and the City

More details on page 25 of this issue.

Toronto's YOUTHLINK program: *Elementary School Violence Prevention*

By Llewellyn Golding

My work at YOUTHLINK started in 1984 as a youth worker. Today, as a community outreach worker, I mobilize initiatives responding to the challenges faced by today's youth and the institutions that serve them. My work includes the roles of advocate, educator, and facilitator of programming to question, inform, and enable. Specific programs include: anger management groups, anti-bullying, youth gang intervention, conflict resolution programs, and school-based immersion or social learning programs. My concerns since 1989 rest with the increasing presence of youth violence and youth gangs in Toronto.

YOUTHLINK is a community service agency that has provided a range of services and resources to youth and their families since 1914. The Big Sister Association, a network of women, volunteered their time to assist young "wayward" girls who were found in the downtown core of Toronto. The Big Sister Association served as a beacon during the formative years of the social work profession in Canada. Our current resources include individual and family counseling, residential treatment facilities, an inner city street youth program, and community outreach. Through our work we have learned that young people are eager to participate in efforts to make our society a healthier place to live.

VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM

One of my initiatives is a violence prevention program for grade seven students at St. Brendan's Catholic Elementary. The program consists of five phases, involves working with small groups of eight students for four-week periods and shows the crucial importance of young people learning from peers.

Phase One (Assessment) is designed to identify those students who subscribe to violence as "a means to an end." Participants are asked to

describe the behavior, who practices it, who is typically victimized by it, why they do it, and what happens to the person who is being victimized.

Phase Two (Identification) promotes a deeper understanding of violence. At the end of Phase Two, all grade seven students should have an understanding of violence as it manifests itself at home, at school and in the community.

Phase Three (Personalization) is used to further sensitize the participants. At the end of this phase, the participants are able to take responsibility for their involvement in victimizing others and are open to doing something about it.

During Phase Four (Actions) all participating students identify and commit to the questions "What am I going to do about this?" and "What example am I going to set for the younger students in this school?" They are encouraged to identify problems which challenge what they have learned during the previous three sessions. They are asked to discuss the problem, identify a solution, and prepare a role-play that focuses on the problem as well as the solution. Each group then receives constructive feedback from observers who comment on the scenario that has just been role-played. They then repeat the role-play including the recommended changes. At the end of this phase, each grade seven student completes an evaluation of the program and program leaders.

In Phase Five (Education) participants present their new learning to the grades five and six students in the school. Over the past three years, seventy percent of all grade seven students have participated in determining the medium and content for this presentation. Their enthusiasm to change the world is evident. The students then work together to translate what they have learned into skits, ⇒

interactive classroom exercises, poetry and lip-synching. Through this process, the grade seven students set an example for the grades five and six students who see them as role models. This approach gives the students the responsibility and opportunity to participate in the process of change. For long-term change to occur, young people must be front and center in this effort. Our *Elementary School Violence*

In part, environmental design compounds the issues that fuel alienation of young stakeholders from traditions such as culture, community, school and family.

Prevention Program works because while young people will listen to adults, they act on what they see and hear from their peers.

Lessons We Have Learned

Given the growing

trend in youth violence in Canada, a few points worth considering:

- Violence is a changeable social condition that should be viewed as a community health problem and not just as a criminal issue. Community health problems such as tuberculosis or sexually transmitted diseases have successfully elicited collective efforts toward containment. Think of what you would do if someone that you know is affected by a condition. Most of us would explore solutions.

- Popular culture's infatuation with violence may have started with the media, but it has quickly spread to everyday life. For example, cars with bumper stickers that state "Go ahead, make my day!" invite the reader to "start something." Such violence should not be normalized.

- Our collective view of young people would be more consistently positive if their constructive involvement in society was highlighted more often.

- We must educate our young people to understand how aspects of violence are encouraged by popular culture.

- As the subtleties of violence begin with child's play, we must appreciate that child's play need not be hurtful. Often bullying results from this oversight.

- The true experts are those who are living the experience. We need to talk with them.

PLANNERS SHOULD LISTEN TO YOUTH

Gone are the days that planners, particularly social planners, could simply design public space without the inclusion of all stakeholders, particularly youth. There are countless examples around us that support my view that we adults are doing something wrong. Malls stocked with "Be Like" emblems of success must be continually repackaged in order to appeal to youth. Centrally located, materially well-equipped community centers, although glossy in appearance, fail to engage masses of youth. Young people would rather sit on the brown grass at an ill-equipped park or children's playground to talk than interact in structures which are static. Youth do not respond to 'static'.

Opportunities for inclusion await all people that play a role in developing communities and the use of space within these communities. Young stakeholders will participate in constructive planning processes. They are committed to using space in a manner that aids the overall health of the host community.

In part, environmental design compounds the issues that fuel alienation of young stakeholders from traditions such as culture, community, school and family. This is not exclusively an urban problem. Both urban and rural communities often plan from the reference point of that which best serves its adult residents, the present taxpayers. There are fewer resources available for the young in our society. Lack of inclusion contributes to the displacement of the young from social, cultural, political, ecological, and spiritual aspects of their community. They reject the conventions of contemporary society and begin to feed off the ideas

of their peers. When an individual or group is unable to engage the resources that they need in order to address personal challenges, violence results. *Violence is a statement of resourcelessness.*

LEARNING FROM THE UNITED STATES

It is important that we Canadians learn from the mistakes of our neighbors to the south. The United States has the highest percentage of households owning firearms, and Canada ranks third. (Sweden ranks second but they have a large reserve army.) We must also be concerned that Canada ranks third among rated countries with respect to gun homicides (in the United States gun homicide is eleven times that of Switzerland, nine times that of Finland and two times that of France.) In spite of this, Statistics Canada reports a decline in crime in Canada. Youth violence however, shows an increase, with the crime charge rate for youth aged twelve to seventeen up seven-

teen percent between 1990 and 2000. In Toronto the youth crime charge rate for violent offences during 2000 was fifteen young people (aged twelve to twenty-four) per thousand. Therefore, the majority of young people are well-intentioned contributing members of society.

Despite spending more than \$28 million dollars during the 1980s for the installation of metal detectors in public schools in New York City, crime and violence continue to be a major concern. In fact, while teachers and parents were becoming increasingly frustrated about the problem, the mayor and school board were locked in an angry debate over who should bear the blame for the problem. It appears that young people were not included as partners in addressing the problem. Hence, their struggle continues.

Llewellyn Golding is a Community Outreach Worker at YouthLink in Toronto.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY POSITION(S) AVAILABLE

The Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation is seeking candidates for one or more full-time position(s) in its Urban Planning program (rank open). Responsibilities will include teaching, scholarship, and administration. Research and/or teaching experience is required. Emphasis will be on either a) physical development, regional planning, land use development, and planning for urban physical systems, as well as environmental or hazards planning, or b) comparative urban public policy, planning theory, urban redevelopment and globalization. Candidates must hold (or have received prior to being appointed) a Ph.D. in Urban Planning or a related field. Applicants should respond with a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, examples of work, and names and addresses of three references. Review of applications will take place upon receipt and will continue until a selection is made.

Material should be sent to:

Bernard Tschumi, Dean
Graduate School of Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
Columbia University
402 Avery Hall
1172 Amsterdam Avenue
New York, NY 10027

**Columbia University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.
Women and minorities are encouraged to apply.**

The YouthPower Story: Community-Based After School Program to Agents of Change

By Imre Kepes

Twelve young people between the ages of ten and fourteen are seated around a table at El Arco Iris Youth and Community Arts Center, a community-based after school program in Holyoke, Massachusetts. Anthony would much rather be playing basketball, Raul sits impatiently and Marisella's mind is elsewhere. Jose Colon and I, the program Co-Directors, are faced with the challenge of introducing them to the concept of community service learning and neighborhood planning and improvement. We know this project (later named



YouthPower by the youth themselves) will only work if the youth take ownership of it, and if we do not engage them in about the next two minutes, we will lose them. In this project to empower young people to transform their environment, Jose and I have taken on a formidable challenge.

That was five years ago. Now El Arco Iris YouthPower is a highly successful project that has involved hundreds of youth in neighborhood planning, design and improvement and has gained national recognition for its work. YouthPower youth repaired and beautified the most run-down playground in the city, helped design a small park, created neighborhood and city-wide maps, and engaged over one hundred youth in the City of Holyoke Master Plan process. They created murals and banners that beautify neighborhoods and convey positive messages, took an active role in the design of a major public project to create a pedestrian walkway along Holyoke's historic canals, and led workshops across the state. They acted as editors of the *YouthPower Guide*, a manual describing the YouthPower process which won the American Planning Association Public Education Award. The city is beginning to show the imprint of the efforts by the youth. The youth now see themselves as empowered to create change and entitled to have a voice in the future of their community, and adults and city officials now recognize young people as important assets in planning and building a better community. These are profound and significant changes.

ON THE MARGIN IN HOLYOKE

Holyoke is a typical postindustrial New England town of about 40,000. Situated along the Connecticut River, it was designed as an early planned industrial city, using the river's water power diverted through three canals to run the paper mills. It still bears the name Paper City although the paper industry died long ago. Now, the once-thriving downtown neighborhoods have trash-strewn vacant lots, abandoned buildings, boarded up businesses and deteriorating infrastructure. Holyoke has

some of the highest statistics in the state for teen pregnancy and dropouts, and is beset by gangs, drugs, and crime. Like previous immigrants, the newest wave of immigrants, Puerto Ricans, are largely marginalized. Many have become overwhelmed by poverty and the belief that there is nothing they can do to change their circumstances.

El Arco Iris is situated in South Holyoke, one of the poorest neighborhoods. The El Arco Iris YouthPower project was born out of the belief that young people have not yet lost their inherent hope, enthusiasm, and desire to make a difference, and that it can be nurtured to break the cycle of despair and create young architects for the rebirth of their community. It was a grand vision that started with the tenuous beginnings described above.

OBSTACLES TO YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

The YouthPower story is about how this was accomplished. It was not an easy task. The first challenge was overcoming the prevailing belief among young people that they can not make a difference and are not recognized or appreciated by adults. Another challenge was how to make the complexity inherent in the field of urban planning and design digestible and understandable to the youth. It was also a stretch for the organization to have the ability to work with youth and to work in community development – an area where it had little expertise. A final challenge was how to make sure that meaningful youth involvement in building community would become an integral part of the community's planning process. Looking back, we identify five interconnected components that made YouthPower a success:

- youth leadership;
- an effective and understandable planning, design and project implementation process;
- sufficient capacity and support;
- strong partnerships; and
- institutionalization of youth involvement in the planning process.

Youth empowerment is both the means and the ends. Without enthusiastic youth involve-

ment the project dies. They are the driving force. It does not work to tell the youth what the project is about or what they are going to do, they need to experience it and decide for themselves. YouthPower youth defined and chose what was important to them, took an active leadership role in planning and running the project, worked directly with city officials and other adults, and acted as peer leaders for other youth.

Youth empowerment also requires training, guidance and support. The program staff trained them in leadership and planning skills and provided them with technical assistance. Hands-on participation is also essential. Being able to see the results of their work gives the youth a profound sense of pride and ownership. Youth empowerment is also an end because empowering young people to have confidence, leadership skills and a strong sense of civic responsibility creates a new generation of citizens who will help to perpetuate a culture of civic involvement. It greatly increases the social capital of the community, and results in lasting change.

The second component involved developing a process with the essential elements of good planning and design that was also understandable, fun and doable for young people. This process is described in detail in the *YouthPower Guide* and summed up as Dream It, Plan It and Do It. Dream It involved the youth in creating a vision map of their ideal community using words, pictures and symbols. It allowed the participants to experience ownership from the outset and provided inspiration. Plan It included planning processes that were active, creative and fun. The youth conducted a neighborhood tour to survey what they saw as good and bad and identify sites to improve. Next, they evaluated and chose the ideas that were most popular, would have the greatest impact and were most feasible. They then drew pictures and wrote short descriptions of their ideas and put them on an actual map of the neighborhood, connected to the sites they had identified, to create a plan for the neighborhood. The next step was to choose one or two major projects to carry out. The Do It phase involved drawing plans for the site, determining materials needed, ⇒

making a plan for the work days and doing the project. The key ingredient was the active youth involvement in all these phases as participants, decision-makers, and leaders. It was important to have a consistent and understandable process. As the youth became familiar with this process and gained mastery of the steps, they gained self-confidence and took the leadership role in running the planning workshops and implementing the projects.



In order for a project such as YouthPower to be successful, the program must have the capacity to work effectively with youth and to deal with the many complex issues associated with community planning and development. Jose Colon had many years of experience as a youth worker, and I had a background in community development. Neither one of us could have done the project alone. There also needs to be at least two to three years of consistent and adequate funding for a project such as this to get off the ground and become established. YouthPower received four years of funding

from the Massachusetts Service Alliance and from the Massachusetts Cultural Council YouthReach Program. The Boston Foundation for Architecture funded the *YouthPower Guide*.

DEVELOPING PARTNERSHIPS

As YouthPower expanded to include more ambitious projects and took on a city wide scope, managing and implementing the projects became exponentially more complex. It became essential to develop partnerships with other organizations, professionals and city officials. YouthPower worked with the Parks Department to purchase and install \$23,000 of new playground equipment. By working with the Planning Department, it was able to participate in the master plan process. By joining with another grass roots organization, it was able to participate in designing a small park. By partnering with several other organizations, it was able to take part in the design of the Holyoke Canal

Walk. The University of Massachusetts Urban Places Project headed by Ann Forsyth, with Patricia McGirr and Henry Lu, provided essential technical assistance in producing the *YouthPower Guide*. Most recently, YouthPower youth have worked with several youth groups to plan and run Youth Summits involving hundreds of youth to create a youth vision map for the future development of Holyoke.

Building sustainability and continuity into the project is the final component of the

YouthPower project. Too often planning and community improvement efforts end up on shelves or at best are one-shot deals. YouthPower has been working to institutionalize youth participation in the planning process. One of the results of the master plan process was the creation of a Youth Commission to make recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council. The annual Youth Summit and the youth vision map also create citywide participation, widespread support and an ongoing vehicle for incorporating youth into the planning process. Within El Arco Iris, a culture of service and civic involvement has been established. The youth regularly mention service and making their community better.

The YouthPower story begins and ends with the youth themselves and their transformation. According to one of the participants, "This program made a big difference in my

life. Before I came here I was not responsible and thought my community was junk. I came here and attended [YouthPower] workshops and associated with different people that cared a lot about their community. It made me start thinking more about my future. Now I am here still trying to make a big difference in my community."

For more information: The YouthPower Guide can be ordered through the APA Planners Bookstore or the University of Massachusetts Extension, Amherst, Mass, 01003 phone 413-545-2717, fax 413-545-5175 or <http://www.umass.edu/umext/bookstore/> (select the 4H Youth and Family category).

Imre Kepes is Co-Director of the YouthPower Project at El Arco Iris. El Arco Iris Youth and Community Arts Center is a program of Nueva Esperanza Inc., a community development corporation.

CLARK UNIVERSITY SEEKS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FACULTY MEMBER

Clark University seeks to fill a position in community development and planning at the assistant professor level to begin September 2002. Ph.D. or equivalent in any relevant discipline is required. Significant field research and/or applied experience with community-based planning and action are desirable. Responsibilities include undergraduate and graduate teaching, student advising, research, publication, and program responsibilities. Candidates should be able to teach courses supporting Master's level programs as well as undergraduate courses. Areas of expertise are open, but we would be particularly interested in candidates specializing in one or more of the following: sustainable community development, urban resource management, data collecting and analysis, planning, conflict mediation, financial management, housing, youth, or community empowerment. The initial appointment will be for a three-year term.

Clark's interdisciplinary programs in International Development, Community and Environment (<http://www.clarku.edu/departments/idce/index.shtml>) include a dynamic core faculty and a larger group of affiliate faculty engaged in interdisciplinary teaching, research, and program activities. Applicants should show a strong commitment to working collaboratively within such a cross-disciplinary program. Clark is particularly interested in work that might build upon existing local opportunities-such as the \$16M Carnegie funded effort to build stronger links between Worcester schools and community organizations.

Interested individuals should send a detailed letter of application, c.v., and the names and contact information of three references to: Chair, Community Development and Planning Search Committee, IDCE, 228 Carlson, Clark University, 950 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01610.

*Review of applications will begin February 15, 2002.
AA/EOE Women and minorities are especially encouraged to apply.*

Principles for Young People's Participation in Planning

By Suzanne Speak

Participation and consultation have become the watch-words of planning over at least the last decade, and rightly so. No longer is it acceptable for "professional" planners to make decisions about our places and spaces without taking on board the views and needs of those people who use them. This change of

direction has seen the development of a plethora of rights groups, campaigning organisations and advocacy agencies that amplify the voices of the otherwise unheard.

However, there is one group whose voices are small in many ways and

who remain largely unheard – children. Young people's participation in planning is valuable and remains a neglected area of planning and decision-making. Such participation can contribute to good urban governance, empowerment and poverty alleviation. The principles I propose below reflect the context of developing and transitional countries rather than the U.S. or U.K. However, the arguments are equally relevant to so called developed countries.

Participation is a human right. The rights of children to participate in decisions that affect them are explicitly enshrined in article 12 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and in Agenda Twenty-One. Within the Habitat Agenda, this right is implicit in the goal of "good urban governance, enablement and participation."

While these rights of participation relate to all decisions affecting the child, such as education, health care, and guardianship, there are few areas where decisions so directly affect a child as those relating to the physical planning

and development of their neighborhoods. However, participation is the least recognized of the three Ps – provision, protection and participation – outlined in the UNCRC. UNCRC maintains that children have the right to "care and provision" of a standard of living adequate for their physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development. The right of "protection" covers abuse and neglect and calls for special adaptations of legal procedures to protect them from extreme punishments. "Participation" as a right is enshrined in a number of Articles of the Convention. While the Convention does not extend to children the right to a vote it unquestionably identifies children as active agents by attributing to them the right to seek and obtain information which is not deemed harmful to them and to associate with others and assemble freely. Article 12 of the Convention grants children the right to express opinions about decisions affecting them.

However, when it does occur children's participation is often tokenistic or worse – manipulative and deceptive – as children are used as advertising media in the messages for adults. If this right to participate is to be embraced by those with the power to uphold it we should understand what this means for the child and society. How might children's and young people's participation affect issues of global social, economic, and cultural development? Here lie the real reasons why we should embrace even the smallest child's views in relation to the development of urban and rural neighbourhoods, regardless of how childhood is constructed socially.

Participation by children strengthens urban governance. In the last two decades we have witnessed a number of countries making the transition from authoritarian dictatorship to a democratic nation. In others, less authoritarian central governments have yielded to global

pressure and the demand of international aid agencies, to relinquish governance to smaller and smaller political units, and to pass on an unprecedented degree of decision-making to communities. This is especially true in planning in developing countries, where central governments have begun to retreat from their direct role in urban planning and development, in favor of handing over a greater degree of decision-making to non-governmental organizations and local communities. In such situations, entire populations have had to come to terms with a level of participation in planning decisions they have not experienced for generations, if ever.

One might argue that such community participation will not bring about change in the fundamental inequalities in society. Demands for participation linked to radical political change have become "tamed" in pursuit of specific outcomes – neighborhood regeneration, improved infrastructure, better housing. However, many see this rise of community participation as the very route to stronger political empowerment. As decentralization of decision-making requires increasing community participation, we begin to see the difference between participation as a means to an end or participation as an end in itself. "Means-focused" participation occurs when communities become involved in decisions affecting a given outcome, say a new road or improved environment. It is measured in terms of the outputs (the final road). "End-focused" participation occurs when participation and decision-making are the desired outcome and is measured in terms of the transfer of power.

In disenfranchising children and youth from adult community power relations we run the risk that they will have no greater respect for community decisions and governance than they would for institutional, bureaucratic decisions. The risk is that young people will become either apathetic towards or reactive against community participation as a form of power sharing. Participation requires able and willing participants. This can be hard to sustain as regular activists experience burnout or disillusionment, or achieve their goals and are not replaced by younger members of the community.

Participation by children can empower

women. In many countries boys and girls are regarded differently and their potential to be involved in decisions as children is carried into adult life. Women's participation is particularly limited. The increased participation of children, especially girls, can only help the drive towards increased participation of women. First, and probably of greatest significance, establishing gender-equal children's participation will encourage girls to participate as they grow older and to challenge other gender differences. Second, children's participation may be best facilitated by their mothers and grandmothers, thus engaging older women in the process.

Children's input can strengthen poverty alleviation and education programs as they are central beneficiaries with specific needs. Basic education is central to poverty alleviation initiatives. However, even where it is available it often conflicts with other duties. For children of the South the logistics of daily life are hard and complex. From an early age they juggle "adult" working and caring roles with demands of formal education and the developmental and play needs of childhood. A failure to understand their specific needs, as they relate to the planning of their neighborhoods in particular, may result in a situation where education becomes too much of a burden when coupled with other responsibilities. For example, children are more likely to be able to attend school if it is located near their other duties, such as collecting water from a tap or well.

Children who contribute to household income by, say, collecting reeds for mat making or trading on the edge of the road, may be hampered by adults' lack of understanding of the children's fears of local places and situations. For example, the shallow irrigation or drainage ditch that an adult can leap across, may seem like a frightful gully to a small child fetching water or taking goods to market. Through participation, development programs can be designed to support children in their many roles. Moreover, it is increasingly recognised that a strong and vibrant civil society is a central element of poverty alleviation and reduction. In many parts of the world children and young people form the bulk of the population. Only by incorporating them into the development process can a vibrant and ⇒

active civil society be assured.

Children and young people need to be involved in planning their urban neighborhoods. This participation is directly related to many of the broader roles that planning is playing in the development of a vibrant civil society and the empowerment of communities and individuals.

More research on the roles of children in community and on ways to embed their opinions

and needs into the planning and development of our urban places is of course needed. However, most importantly, planning educators and professionals need to engage with children and tackle the lack of knowledge, skills and willingness to engage with children that is endemic in the profession.

Suzanne Speak teaches at the School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, England.

Planners Network Reader

This 60 page collection of PN articles is a veritable potpourri of progressive planning. The best of PN from the last half-decade.

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Friday, March 8

Redevelopment: People and Place?

Moderator: **Eva Hanhardt**, Municipal Arts Society

Discussant: **Ron Shiffman**, PICCED and Pratt Institute, GCPE

Speakers: Representatives from...

New York New Visions, a coalition of twenty architecture, planning and design organizations that came together immediately after September 11. This group, led by the AIA New York Chapter and APA Metro Chapter, has pooled the resources and expertise of over 350 professionals and civic group leaders to address issues surrounding the rebuilding of Lower Manhattan.

Labor Community Advocacy Network, a group of about sixty representatives from various labor, community and advocacy organizations in New York City, co-convened by the Fiscal Policy Institute, the Central Labor Council, and the Brennan Center for Justice. Network participants have formed several working groups around such issues as infrastructure, environmental justice, jobs, job training, Chinatown, tax incentives, alternative economic development policy, revenue sources and governance in the redevelopment process.

Rebuild New York Task Force, a committee of the Infrastructure Task Force of the New York City Partnership that includes representatives of the NYC Partnership, the Real Estate Board of New York, and other private sector organizations and firms. Its purpose is to advocate a vision for the rebuilding of New York, inform and assist elected leaders, legislators, and public officials, and provide private sector resources and professional advice on the rebuilding process, resource availability, issues of liability and jurisdiction, emergency response procedures, codes, energy and utilities.

Friday, April 5

Reinvestment: Centralization/Decentralization

Moderator: **Arturo Sanchez**, Pratt Institute and Hoy!

Discussant: **Peter Marcuse**, Columbia University

Speakers: Representatives from

The Civic Alliance, convened by the Regional Plan Association to develop strategies for the redevelopment of Lower Manhattan after September 11. The Civic Alliance is a coalition of more than 120 business, community and environmental groups representing a cross-section of the New York region providing a broad "umbrella" for planning and advocacy efforts in support of the rebuilding of Downtown New York. The Alliance works closely with the Empire State Development Corporation, the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey and New York City to create a bold vision for a revitalized downtown.

The Rebuild Downtown Our Town (R-DOT), a coalition of Lower Manhattan residents, businesses, community and business associations, artists, colleges, professionals, designers, and public officials, who meet regularly to discuss, research, and develop a collective vision that can shape the new downtown. R-DOT intends to shape a vision of the form and function of the new development while reflecting the economic, social, cultural and aesthetic values that can position New York City internationally as an icon of 21st century urban living.

Rebuild for Whom? Spotlight on the Poor, a network, initiated by Mobilization For Youth (MFY) brings together grassroots organizers, advocacy groups, community-based organizations, and service providers, especially from the Lower East Side and Chinatown, as well as urban planners, academics and policy makers to forge a plan that addresses the needs of poor communities in the rebuilding process.

Friday, April 19

Re-envisioning: Communities and the City

Moderator: **Ron Shiffman**, PICCED and Pratt Institute, GCPE

Discussants: **Representatives from Community Board #1 and Community Board #2 in Manhattan**

Speakers:

Representative(s) from **The Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Corporation**. This joint State-City entity was created by Governor Pataki in November to "oversee all aspects of revitalizing and rebuilding Lower Manhattan, south of Houston Street." It functions as a subsidiary of the Empire State Development Corporation governed by a nine-member board of directors, six appointed by the Governor and three by the Mayor, with one representative from CB1.

Eva Hanhardt, Municipal Arts Society Planning Center. "Imagine New York," a coalition of concerned citizens, community organizations and professionals working in neighborhoods throughout the region to gather and share ideas and visions for rebuilding and memorializing the World Trade Center site and responding to the impact of 9/11 on the metropolitan area. MAS's Planning Center works with community-based organizations across New York City to confront the planning, land use and economic development issues facing their neighborhoods. It works through public forums, workshops, publications and one-on-one assistance to promote sustainable, innovative and equitable planning.

Smart Growth as a Trojan Horse: The Case of San Diego

By Nico Calavita

Undoubtedly "Smart Growth" and its close companion "New Urbanism" have taken the planning profession by storm. Smart growth is a not-so-new planning approach that seeks to substitute the leap-frogging, low-density, automobile-dependent, single-use pattern of development of the post-WW II period for a system of walkable — hence denser, varied and friendly — neighborhoods, strung along a network of mass transit lines, with easy access to preserved open space. As a result, growth limitation and growth management have suddenly disappeared from planners' radar screens. Smart growth, planners have come to believe, can deliver more; we can keep growing and we can save the inner city and the environment as well.

More likely, smart growth is the Trojan horse that, with the false promise of a comprehensive, regional approach to the problems of growth, opens the door to wholesale gentrification through the densification and infill of already urbanized communities. One aspect of smart growth that is trumpeted about is that it will bring about the revitalization and rebirth of cities. But wouldn't it be ironic if that were to happen at the expense of the people who live there now?

What is especially damning about the proposed densification of existing neighborhoods is that such a strategy is based on an assumed, but mistaken, capacity of the existing infrastructure and public facilities to accommodate additional development. Without adequate public facilities, densification would worsen existing conditions and deepen the urban/suburban divide at the metropolitan level.

It is possible that most cities considering densification are confronted with a situation akin to that of San Diego and Los Angeles, where

urban neighborhoods are saddled with huge public facilities deficits. The Portland [Oregon] example, usually presented by proponents of smart growth as a successful application of smart growth principles, is a unique case that is unlikely to be replicated. There, as early as the 1970s, it was decided to enhance the attractiveness of older neighborhoods to keep them competitive with the suburbs, a decision that resulted from a unique set of historical, cultural and political circumstances.

HOW IT DIDN'T WORK IN SAN DIEGO

During the 1970s the City of San Diego developed a "tier" approach to growth, with different policies and implementation tools for various sections of the city. As in Portland, the strategy encouraged infill and denser development in the already urbanized communities by not assessing fees for development there. Major new growth was to be accommodated in the "planned urbanizing" tier, where all capital facilities (parks, libraries, schools, streets, etc.) would be financed through fees paid by the developers. And to phase growth, a "future urbanizing" tier was established, consisting of outlying areas to be kept off-limits to development for at least twenty-five years.

During the early 1980s, San Diego's growth management strategy seemed to be working well. Infill development proceeded at a brisk pace in the urbanized communities and, following a spate of legal wrangling, "facilities benefit assessment" fees were collected from developers to pay for public infrastructure in the planned urbanizing tier. According to a San Diego planning department document, the city was "considered a model for effective management of growth."

The rapid surge in growth of the mid-1980s, however, had serious repercussions in the

urbanized neighborhoods. One after another, single family neighborhoods were invaded by multifamily buildings, many of them insensitively designed, and community facilities were overwhelmed by the onslaught of newcomers. It took practically a revolution for the City Council to finally impose fees in the urbanized tier in 1987. It was too late. In 1990 it was estimated that to bring the urbanized communities up to ordinary city standards would cost \$1 billion. A 1996 report of the "Renaissance Commission" pointed out that the "older urban neighborhoods are plagued with entrenched crime problems, high percentage of low-income youth, and gross infrastructure deficiencies and decay" (emphasis added). Nothing was done. Even worse, the fees have not been increased to keep place with inflation, as in the planned urbanizing tier. The latest estimate of facility needs for fire, library, parks and recreation, and transportation is \$2.5 billion.

DEFICIT IN PUBLIC FACILITIES

It is projected that the City of San Diego will grow by approximately 400,000 people in the next twenty years, with a large portion of the increase to be accommodated in the urban tier. While lip service is being paid to the need to provide the public facilities, the reality is that the city is in deep financial trouble, having had to sell city-owned land to balance the budget during the past few years, and we are running out of land to sell.

To make things worse, the city has committed to finance a ballpark in downtown San Diego, to the tune of \$299 million, plus \$100 million from the Center City Development Corporation (the downtown redevelopment agency). In addition, the just completed Convention Center expansion was financed through Transit Occupancy Taxes to be generated by yet-to-be-built hotels. Given the tourism and travel crisis resulting from the September 11 attacks in New York and Washington, it is almost certain that the general fund will have to be utilized to pay off the bonds.

The city has done practically nothing to

address this deficit. A few years ago, long-term community activist and former planning commissioner Verna Quinn lamented that "uncontrolled, unplanned, haphazard infill has left a legacy of deficient parks, lack of schools and general deterioration with increased social problems and crime. No one was watching or listening during the decade all this took place — and now the city is faced with a major problem which will require long-term remediation and huge commitments of public resources."

With the development of a new Strategic Framework Element of the General Plan the magnitude of the problem will inevitably be laid bare, as neighborhoods confront proposals for increased densification in the absence of adequate funding plans for needed parks, libraries, sidewalks, etc. Compared to other California cities, our general fund revenues are low. In San Diego, it amounts to \$425 per capita, about half that in Los Angeles or San Francisco. Our business and hotel taxes are among the lowest in the state. We are the only city in the region that does not charge a separate fee for refuse collection. Will the new mayor and council have the political courage to revisit these and other sacred cows?

With the city already scrambling for revenues for problematic projects like the downtown ballpark, the revitalization of the neighborhoods represents more than a planning and financial challenge for the city. To the citizens of San Diego it will be the litmus test of whether our elected officials will choose to balance the influence of powerful special interests with a more inclusive conception of the public interest.

It is possible that San Diego and Los Angeles (in Los Angeles the public facilities deficit is estimated at more than \$4 billion) are the exception, but it is likely that many other cities confronting high rates of growth are in the same spot. What is the situation in your city?

Nico Calavita teaches planning at San Diego State University. He can be contacted at ncalavit@mail.sdsu.edu or via phone at 619-594-4027.

La Pobreza en el Gran Buenos Aires

By Alejandro Rofman

[This column on Latin America by Alejandro Rofman is about growing poverty in Buenos Aires, Argentina. An English translation follows on the next page.]

"En la Capital y el Gran Buenos Aires ya hay casi cuatro millones de personas

resultados de una reciente investigación oficial efectuada por el Ministerio de Desarrollo Social de la Nación en el Aglomerado Gran Buenos Aires para el mes de mayo de 2001. Si se acude a la más información suministrada por el organismo encar-

gado de las estadísticas nacionales, se puede apreciar la evolución de la serie del porcentual de población bajo la línea de la pobreza, radicada en la principal área metropolitana argentina, desde 1991 a la fecha.

Se considera "pobres," según la metodología adoptada por el INDEC (Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas y Censos de la Nación), a los miembros de un hogar que no están

pobres. Así, sobre una población de 12.1 millones de habitantes, el 31.5% no tiene ingresos suficientes para comprar una canasta básica de alimentos y servicios. Significa que casi uno de cada tres habitantes porteños y del conurbano es pobre. Es el mayor porcentaje y número de personas pobres desde 1991."

Esta información periodística del diario argentino *Clarín* consignada en su edición del 13 de agosto de 2001, da cuenta de los

capacitados en satisfacer, por medio de la compra de bienes y servicios, un conjunto de necesidades alimentarias y no alimentarias consideradas esenciales. En el relevamiento de octubre de 2000 se estimó que un hogar compuesto de dos adultos y tres niños menores de cinco años debería percibir como ingreso total mensual, al menos \$507.70 (pesos argentinos o dolares, dado que la paridad cambiaria es 1 dólar=1 peso), para no ser considerado pobre. Aunque este cálculo se encuen-

[Cont. on page 30]

Poverty in Greater Buenos Aires

By Alejandro Rofman

"In the capital city and Greater Buenos Aires there are almost four million poor people. Thus, of a population of 12.1 million inhabitants, 31.5 percent do not have income sufficient to buy basic foods and services. This means that almost one of every three people in Buenos Aires and the metropolitan region is poor. This is the largest number and percentage of poor people since 1991."

These statistics from the Argentine newspaper *El Clarín* on August 13, 2001 give an account of the results of recent official research conducted by the National Ministry of Social Development in Greater Buenos Aires for the month of May, 2001. If we look at

services, a group of food and other needs that are considered essential. In the study from October of 2000 it was estimated that a household composed of two adults and three children less than five years old would have to receive a total monthly income of at least \$507.70 (Argentine pesos or U.S. dollars, since the exchange rate was until

Incidence of Poverty: Percentage of Persons Below the Poverty Line in Greater Buenos Aires.

May 1991/ October 2000

Period	Total Greater Buenos Aires (1)	City of Buenos Aires (2)	Conurbano (3)	1st Ring (4)	2nd Ring (5)
October 1991	28.9	11.7	35.2	28.5	40.7
October 1992	17.8	5.6	22.3	18.6	25.5
October 1993	16.8	6.2	20.4	14.3	26.2
October 1994	19.0	6.7	23.0	16.3	29.1
October 1995	24.8	8.0	30.5	20.9	38.1
October 1996	27.9	7.5	34.8	26.0	42.4
October 1997	26.0	7.5	34.8	23.0	39.4
October 1998	25.9	5.9	32.4	24.5	39.1
October 1999	26.7	8.3	32.5	23.2	40.2
October 2000	28.9	9.5	35.0	26.1	43.2
May 2001	31.5	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)

Notes:

- (1) The greater Buenos Aires metropolitan region.
- (2) The City of Buenos Aires (Federal District).
- (3) The districts that surround the Federal District and belong to the Province of Buenos Aires.
- (4) The first ring districts around the Federal District.
- (5) The second ring districts around the Federal District.
- (*) No data.

other information provided by the national institution charged with statistical reporting, we can see how the percentage of the population below the poverty line, located in the nation's largest metropolitan region, changed since 1991.

According to the methodology adopted by INDEC (National Institute of Statistics and Census), the "poor" are considered to be household members that are not able to satisfy, by means of the purchase of goods and

recently one peso to the dollar) to stay out of poverty. Although this figure is often considered to be low, we can accept it for now as a basis for statistical analysis. Thus we will be able to observe the evolution of the percentage of poor people in the area during the last decade, making distinctions between areas in the region and between selected years.

After the beginning of the decade with high poverty indicators, they [Cont. on page 30]

Rofman [Cont. from page 30]

tra cuestionado por insuficiente, lo aceptamos, por razones de análisis temporal estadístico. Podremos así observar la evolución del porcentual de personas pobres en el Area durante el último decenio, discriminado por área intraregional y en años seleccionados.

Luego de un inicio de la década con altos indicadores, los mismos decrecen por la fuerte caída de la inflación que devuelve poder adquisitivos a los sectores sociales más débiles. La incidencia de la pobreza recomienza su crecimiento en 1994. En 1995 se verifican los más elevados niveles de desempleo de la década (20% en dicha Area) y el índice de pobreza crece significativamente. Hacia el final del período, el deterioro económico, la redistribución regresiva del ingreso, y la persistencia de altas tasas de desempleo agudizan el deterioro social en el Area. Esta situación crítica se agrava en los distritos alejados de la relativamente próspera ciudad de Buenos Aires. En ellos se asienta la población de reciente inmigración o la que carece de recursos para acceder a un habitat digno.

El Estado Federal y los gobiernos locales

Rofman (translation) [Cont. from page 30]

decrease with the strong drop in the inflation rate that gives greater spending power to the weaker social sectors. The incidence of poverty renews its growth in 1994. In 1995 the highest levels of unemployment in the decade were achieved (twenty percent) and the poverty index grew significantly. Towards the end of the period, the economic deterioration, regressive distribution of income and the persistence of high rates of unemployment aggravated social deterioration in the metropolitan area. This critical situation worsens as you move further away from the relatively prosperous city of Buenos Aires. There we find a population of recent immigrants and those that lack the resources to maintain a decent living environment.

Federal and local governments have done little to confront this social reality, resorting to inadequate welfare policies and electioneer-

poco han hecho para enfrentar esta realidad social, reclusándose en políticas insuficientes de neto corte asistencialista y electoralista. Un importante movimiento social ha emergido recientemente, convocado por partidos políticos de izquierda y centro-izquierda, sindicatos combativos, organismos defensores de los derechos humanos, dignatarios religiosos, agrupaciones estudiantiles y cooperativas para conformar el Frente Nacional contra la Pobreza, que en el presente mes va a realizar una consulta popular de carácter abierto, dirigida a todos los habitantes del país, y donde espera convalidar un proyecto de ley para ser presentado al Parlamento a fin de que se ponga en marcha un Seguro de Empleo y Formación Laboral, con la consigna, *Ningún hogar bajo la línea de la pobreza*. Esta iniciativa popular confía en recolectar la adhesión de no menos del 10% de la población para conformar la primera experiencia de acción directa, con la activa participación de sus instituciones más progresistas.

Alejandro Rofman es Profesor e Investigador Principal en el Centro de Estudios Urbanos y Regionales, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

ing tactics. An important social movement has emerged recently, brought together by political parties of the left and center-left, militant unions, human rights groups, religious leaders, students and cooperatives. This movement takes the form of the National Front against Poverty, which this month will make an open call to everyone in the nation and hopes to prepare legislation to be presented to Parliament that would create Employment and Labor Insurance, with the slogan, "No household under the poverty line." This popular initiative hopes to get the support of at least ten percent of the population by undertaking direct action as a first step, with the active participation of its more progressive institutions.

Alexander Rofman is Professor and Sr. Researcher in the Centro de Estudios Urbanos y Regionales, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Death Notice of Celso Augusto Daniel: Mayor of the City of Santo Andre, Brazil

This notice was sent to us on January 2 by PN member Mariana Fix in Brazil. PN has ties with progressive Brazilian planners associated with Workers Party governments. Celso Augusto Daniel played a leading role in their important and pioneering work.

It is with great regret that we report that Mr. Celso Augusto Daniel, fifty years old, in his third term as the Mayor of the City of Santo Andre, Brazil, passed away last night. He had been kidnapped last Friday and was found dead this morning by the Military State Police of Juitiba, Sao Paulo, at 7:40 AM, on a dirt road off Regis Bittencourt Highway, about forty miles south of the City of Sao Paulo.

The mayor was kidnapped after leaving a restaurant with a friend in the City of Sao Paulo, at 11:30 PM on Friday, January 18. The mayor and his friend were followed by the kidnappers and their bullet proof car was rammed off the road by two other vehicles. The kidnappers abducted the mayor, who was in the passengers seat. The mayor's friend was left behind.

Last November, Celso Daniel, along with fourteen other mayors from the Workers Party (PT) in Sao Paulo, received death threat letters from a group called the Brazilian Revolutionary Action Front (FARB).

A success in the ballot boxes, mayor Celso Augusto Daniel was one of the founders of the Workers Party in the ABC Region. He was mayor for the City of Santo Andre for the first time in 1989. In 1994, he was elected Federal Representative with an impressive number of votes and in 1997 he was elected for another term as the mayor of the City of Santo Andre. In 2000 he was reelected for another term and received over seventy percent of the votes.

Currently, Celso Daniel was also the general coordinator of the Workers Party government plans. Graduated in civil engineering, the mayor had a Master's Degree in Management

by the Getulio Vargas Foundation (FGV-SP) and was finishing his Ph.D. in Political Sciences at the Pontifical Catholic University (PUC-SP). Celso Daniel had an active role in the foundation of very important regional institutions: the Intermunicipal Trust of the High Tamanduatei and Billings Basins (1990), the Intermunicipal Trust of the Greater ABC (1991), the Regional Chamber of the Greater ABC (1997) and the Local Economic Development Agency of the Greater ABC (1998), where he was currently the General Director. He participated in several events and forums related to Public Management issues in Brazil and different parts of the world, always invited by multilateral agencies.

In June, 2001 he represented Santo Andre and Brazil in the Istanbul+5 Conference, held by the Habitat Programme of the United Nations, on a presentation of the only Brazilian experience officially chosen along with three other Latin American experiences - The Integrated Programme Aimed at Social Inclusion.

This afternoon, 5,000 people, including local population and politicians, participated in a civic and ecumenical act in favor of peace in the City Hall of Santo Andre. The event was organized by the municipal administration, the Workers Party (PT), unions and religious institutions shocked by the brutal murder of the mayor.

During the act, that gathered important leaderships of the Workers Party, among them the Party's president of honor, Luis Inacio Lula da Silva; members of the House of Representatives Jose Genoio, Jose Dirceu, Aloizio Mercadante and the mayor of Sao Paulo, Marta Suplicy, issued an official notice to the Nation, written by the National Executive Board of the Workers Party expressing outrage with the situation of unreliability and impunity of Brazil. Joao Avamileno, vice-mayor of Santo Andre former President of the Workers Party of Santo Andre, will take over the administration of the municipality.

Leveling the Field: City Realities versus Anti-Urban Myths

By William Goldsmith

PART TWO (Part One appeared in the previous issue of Planner's Network (September/December 2001). This article is based on a keynote presentation to the 2001 Planners Network conference in Rochester.

In the first part of this article, I noted six myths that help maintain suburbs in an advantageous position compared to cities, tilting

transit is too expensive for cities and jobs are too far away for city residents.

In this part, I will discuss the remaining four myths: that city schools for black and Latino children are failures and cannot be improved; that discrimination and residential segregation are problems of the past; that the drug war will solve neighborhood problems; and that poverty is an urban problem.

THE EDUCATION MYTH

The myth that we hear constantly is that America's schools are failures. The fact is that the United States has two sets of schools - successful schools, even by the strictest world standards, and failing schools. The failing schools are mostly city schools with African American and Hispanic students. The disparities are immense. The "Bell Curve" myth says

that the problem is the kids themselves, resurrecting outmoded nineteenth century unscientific social science with its racist argument that people with darker skins are intellectually inferior.

Counting only the *good* U.S. public schools, the U.S. scores right at the top in recent

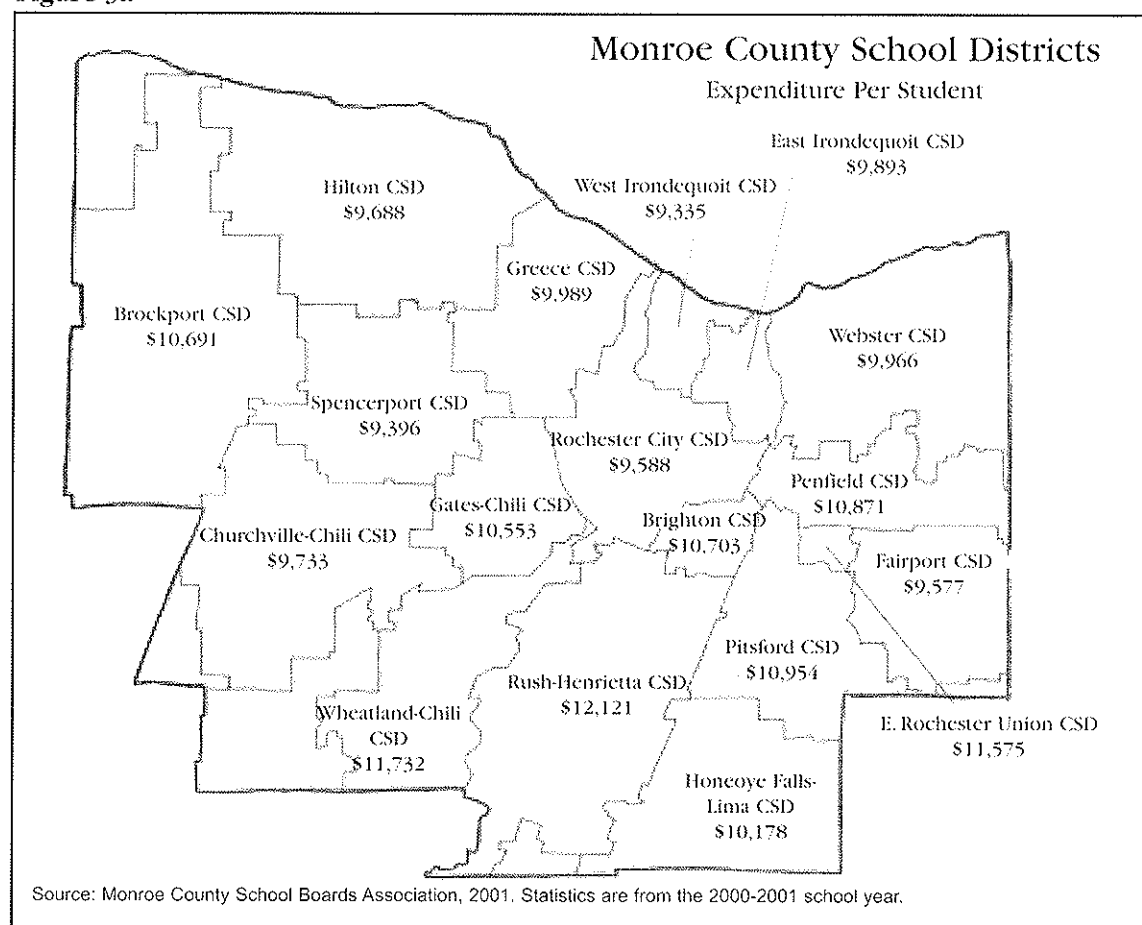
worldwide tests in math and science. But the U.S. *average* scores for eighth grade math and science are way, way down: twenty-eighth in math, seventeenth in science. How can this be? The very high scores for the good schools, mostly in middle class (and white) suburbs, are averaged with terribly low scores in the bad schools, located mostly in poor (and dark skinned) city districts. Critics usually offer one of two explanations: The Bell Curve answer, that the problem is the inferior kids; or The Market Euphoria answer, that the problem is public school bureaucracies, unionized teachers, and poor curricula.

A third explanation seems to fit the facts better. Once again, as we saw for housing and transportation, the playing field is tilted against the cities. This time the tilt is so steep that a fair game is just impossible. Cities suffer from crowded classrooms, run-down facilities, untrained and unsupported teachers, and overburdened administrators. Does anyone wonder why children don't learn? The school story is complex and the problems deep, not to be told only about budgets, but that is a good place to begin. To begin, city costs are higher, because more students don't speak English, more have health problems, more suffer malnourishment. More parents, for one reason or another, do not provide extra support with homework. Even leaving those extra needs aside, we find huge budgetary dis-

crepancies from city to suburb.

According to the 1999 *Report to the Governor of New York*, instructional expenditures per pupil in upstate suburbs exceeded upstate large city school expenditures by fourteen percent, \$748 per student per year! In the tenth grade, suburban classes in English and Social Studies had only twenty-two students on average; in the cities they had twenty-six or twenty-seven students. For a teacher with five daily classes, that means reading an additional twenty or twenty-five papers for every assignment, working with an additional one hundred or more students each week. By the way, three percent of enrollment in these suburban dis-

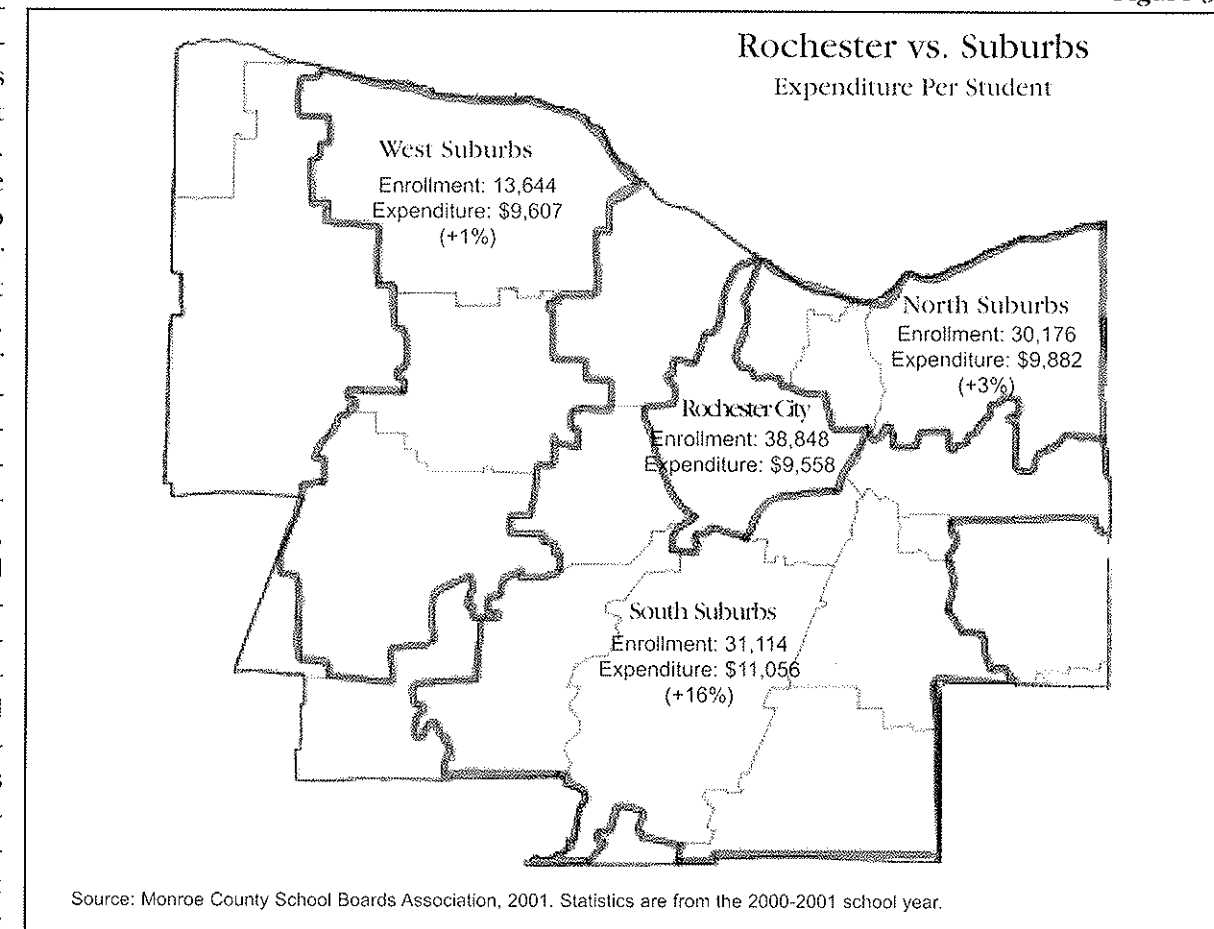
Figure 3a



the playing field, to use the standard metaphor.

The housing myth is that public programs for housing - and the taxes to support them - mainly help people in need: poor people, city people, working class people, and people of color. The transportation myth is that good

Figure 3b



tricts is "minority" students. In the upstate city districts the figure is eighteen percent. New York City schools enroll thirty-six percent minority students.

As we can see from Map 3A of school districts in metropolitan Rochester, per pupil expenditure discrepancies are large. The discrepan-

cies would be even larger, but these figures do not account for the extra effort needed to teach English as a second language, deal with learning disabilities that are higher in the city, or account for the much higher drop-out rates. In spite of these extra city needs, the well-off suburban district of Rush-Henrietta spends 27% more for each pupil, compared to Rochester.

Figure 3B shows the city/suburb tilt more schematically. Here we see the overall advantage of the better-off suburbs to the south of

where they please. With an odd twist, here is the myth in the words of conservative Shelby Steele: "Given the high crime rates, poor schools, rampant violence, drug trafficking, and general mode of hopelessness, why don't people leave [cities for the suburbs] as they once left the South?" His answer: "Welfare has diffused the normal human impulse to migrate from joblessness toward opportunity."

The fact is huge restraints deny mobility to people of color. U.S. metropolitan areas can still be called *American apartheid*. While it is

true that middle class black (and Hispanic) families now finally can leave the city and

move to the suburbs, ordinary working class black (and dark-skinned Hispanic) people, not to mention those who are poor, suffer still from exclusion based on "race." White suburbs work hard to keep people of color out - they use exclusionary zoning and housing codes; they regulate out apartments and other rental homes; they use hostile police forces; and, of course, they maintain their privileges with suburban housing subsidies.

Racial and ethnic conditions and, especially, change are controversial topics once again as reports filter out from the 2000 Census. Reports tell of black, Asian or Latino middle class majorities in some suburbs, of reduced segregation in some areas. These anomalous reports may be heartwarming, but we ought wonder whether such reports are newsworthy only against the backdrop of the racially homogeneous character of nearly all suburbs and of the exclusions and hostility they still exhibit toward blacks and Latinos, who remained confined to city neighborhoods and a few inner suburbs. Indeed, as I write this in July 2001, I see a news story about the Long Island suburb of Farmingville, population 16,000, where White residents object to the construction of a municipal hiring hall for day laborers. Opponents of the hall, which would

connect Latino immigrants with employers, have asked for help from leaders of two nativist hate groups in California. Two white men await trial in Farmingville for attempted murder: in September they posed as contractors, then brutally beat two Latino workers.

THE CRIME AND DRUG MYTH

The myth for most Americans is that crime and drugs have an African American face. This myth supports a war on drugs, a war that, "has led to tremendous increases in incarceration rates for young black males living in inner cities." According to the U.S. Department of Justice, for the population age eighteen or older - men *and* women - "on an average day" in the nineteen nineties, these percentages of people "were under the care, custody, or control of the criminal justice system:" Asians, one percent; Whites, two percent; American Indians, four percent; African Americans, ten percent. The statistics for young African American men are truly shocking. One-third of young African American men and boys are either in jail, on parole, or recently released. (The comparable figure for young White men is one in sixteen.) "In 1994, African Americans and Latinos constituted 90 percent of all drug offenders in state prisons." Thus the myth - blacks and Latinos are criminal drug users.

Yet, according to studies by the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta and various other scientific groups, drug use knows no color line. It appears that thirteen percent of drug users are African American, just in line with their thirteen percent weight in the population. The percentage of Latinos is somewhat lower than their weight. So, how do the jails get filled with black and Latino men? It is simple, and the problem is once again the unfairly tilted playing field. The legislators, police, lawyers, and judges play the game with sharp bias against cities and against people of color. Blacks may be only thirteen percent of the users, but drug charges bring African Americans thirty-five percent of all arrests, fifty-five percent of convictions, seventy-four percent of prison sentences and significantly longer terms in prison.

The main problem is not the drugs themselves, bad as they are; not the drug users, the vast majority of whom are white; not even the pushers, parasites that they are; but the drug WAR! This is a war against young black men in U.S. cities, and it involves huge budgets for the building of new jails, mainly in small towns in white rural areas; right-wing political alliances of prison-guard unions, small towns and state governments; the disruption of normal life in whole neighborhoods; and massive destruction of cities and the countryside in Bolivia, Colombia and elsewhere outside our national borders.

As long as this WAR on drugs continues, the profits will go to the bankers, the prison construction companies and the lawyers; the casualties will hit cities, people of color and especially their neighborhoods.

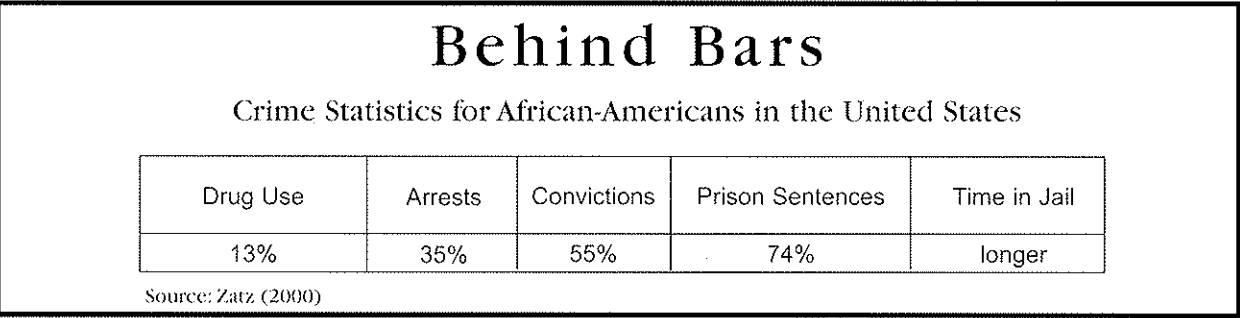
THE POVERTY MYTH

The last myth, the poverty myth, is the strangest one of all. Somehow, in the United States, poor people themselves get blamed for being poor. Elsewhere, in all other rich industrialized (or so-called post-industrial) countries, powerful political parties on the left make clear that the causes of poverty arise in the society and the economy, especially in the labor market - unemployment, low pay, industrial shut-downs, accidents of history. Rather than blaming *individuals*, these same left-wing parties have obliged their countries to adopt *social* programs that help people who cannot do well in the labor market. Since readers of *Planners Network* are familiar with critiques of victim-blaming myths, I will offer just one brief illustration of a corollary myth.

Corporate chief-executive salaries in the U. S. are so high, and so out of whack with any reasonable measure of the value of the CEOs to anyone but themselves that they almost defy explanation - except to say that CEOs have formed a cartel, along with their compensation committees and some compensation consultants, to protect their monopoly. Mind you, these very same corporate executives are the ones who spend millions on advertising and political lobbying to per-

[Cont. on page 41]

Figure 4



the city, and we can note the equal per-pupil expenditures for the white working class suburbs to the north and west which, ignoring the still higher needs in the city, are not different from Rochester.

For a different measure of educational bias against city people and people of color, and against many inner suburbs, it helps to think outside the box, to compare overall education and prison budgets. Take the state of California. In 1997 budgets for elementary and secondary education totaled about \$32 billion. The budget for fighting crime - police, jails, prisons and the judicial system - was about \$18 billion. Calculating very roughly, that means that the crime fighting system in California costs the taxpayers about ten times as much per criminal as the schools cost per student. The numbers are in the range of \$50-\$60 thousand per criminal and \$5-\$6 thousand per student.

THE RACE MYTH

There are so many myths with race, it is difficult to know where to start. The myth of geographic mobility may be most pertinent. Americans are supposed to be able to live

Planning After September 11: The Issues In New York

By Peter Marcuse

The following paper was drafted as the basis for discussion at a series of meetings planned by New York City Planners Network. It reflects the concerns expressed by Planners Network members who have been involved with some of the groups working on post-September 11 issues. Planners Network will explore and debate these issues in greater depth at the meetings, in which various groups working on post-September 11 issues and visions will be asked to present and discuss their points of view. This piece was drafted by Peter Marcuse with input from a number of Planners Network members.—Ayse Yonder

...

Two groups of planning issues dominate discussions in New York City after September 11: What Is To Be Done? and Who Is To Decide What Is To Be Done (and For Whom)? Many in the planning profession in the City are focussing on the first; Planners Network should be drawing attention to the second as well.

WHAT IS TO BE DONE?

From any point of view, What Is To Be Done? is not a simple question. It involves at least the following major planning issues, with short background statements followed by tentative positions on each:

Rebuild how much where? Estimates are that fifteen million square feet of office space were completely destroyed, and perhaps another twelve million rendered temporarily unusable, by the attack on the World Trade Center (New York Times 1/6/2002). This is twenty percent of the eighty-two million square feet of office space of the downtown financial district of Manhattan before September (New York Times 9/23/2001, S11, 1). The Midtown

business district, unaffected by the attack, has 181 million square feet of office space; Midtown south another sixty-five million. In the three months after the attack, firms that had been in the lost space took up major blocks of space in Midtown, in other boroughs of New York City (particularly Brooklyn and Queens), across the river in New Jersey, and in the suburbs of New York City and southern Connecticut. There is today 14.6 million square feet of office space vacant in Midtown, 8.2 in Midtown south, and 7.2 in the downtown financial district; and there is an economic recession.

Position one: Rebuilding in the financial district will not be market driven. If it is to take place, it will require significant public subsidies. How much is warranted, and where, needs to be carefully examined. The benefits of subsidized new office construction to replace space lost September 11 are not dependent on locating that construction (only) in the financial district. The benefits of agglomeration economies, etc., there, must be balanced by how far those benefits might be obtained elsewhere and the public costs and benefits of steering investment to one or another location. Significant investment to deal with the consequences of September 11 should go outside of lower Manhattan.

Position two: The role of finance and related activities in the overall economy of the city should also be reexamined in this context. In the long run it is desirable to diversify the economy. Preserving manufacturing and cultural activities, retaining small creative and service businesses, and protecting the quality of residential life against displacement, should also be major concerns.

What kind of transportation is needed? The attack on the World Trade Center caused major

disruptions to New York City's mass transit network, the largest in the nation and central to the city's functioning. Subway lines below Chambers Street on the West Side (the number one and nine lines) were completely destroyed, as was the PATH commuter rail line from New Jersey that terminated in the World Trade Center. Some 220,000 riders used the local lines or buses, some 60,000 the PATH commuter line every day. There is a major subway interchange at Fulton Street, near, but not connected to, the World Trade Center location. The PATH location was intimately tied in, at its inception, with service to the World Trade Center and the economic upgrading of that area, which had earlier housed multiple small businesses, many run by immigrants. A major multi-billion dollar investment would be required to accomplish the most ambitious proposal for reconstruction: moving the one and nine lines to the west to better serve Battery Park City and building a new PATH station with direct connections to the Fulton Street complex, including people mover underground sidewalks.

Position three: Major investments in transportation improvements in the financial district must be tied in to decisions about land use. If major rebuilding will not soon take place in the financial district, transportation investment there should have lower priority; it should not be used to stimulate building there unless that is desired as a matter of land use planning. There are major competitors for transportation funds: improvements in subway service, Grand Central – Penn Station connections and expanded bus service. Improvement of transportation infrastructure in the financial district should not drive or replace regional transportation planning.

What designs should be supported for the World Trade Center site? Proposals have been numerous, exhibitions have flowered, design contests have been discussed. There is common agreement that a memorial must be a major component. Safety and security concerns have also played a prominent role, for example in the Stock Exchange's decision to abandon a high-rise proposal because it was no longer rentable after September 11.

Position four: It is too early to make even preliminary decisions on design, and design must not be allowed to precede or dictate the planning needed to establish uses and the desired program. Decisions establishing a transparent, democratic planning process must precede decisions about design. Public space and public use must be major goals; security concerns should not be allowed to interfere with accessibility and the free use of such spaces.

What are the priorities for public investment? To date the assumption has been that investment should go to, and be limited to, lower Manhattan, presumably south of Houston

Street. The narrow prescriptions of FEMA have been implicitly taken as guidelines to be exceeded only where improvements to "rebuilt"

infrastructure are involved. The result will be that the majority of public payments go to major businesses, land owners and financial interests. The consequences of September 11 extend far beyond lower Manhattan, however, as only a small minority of workers in the destroyed buildings lived in Manhattan (less than twenty percent), and even fewer in lower Manhattan. Economic damage to many workers and small businesses was much more painful than to the major business occupants of the area. Beyond that, to the extent that new budget decisions are being made, the city has other critical priorities—affordable housing, education, health care, welfare—that need to be weighed in determining what is spent where and for what.

Position five: Priorities must be established in the expenditure of public funds after September 11, and they should not be ⇒

*Public space and public use
must be major goals;
security concerns should
not be allowed to interfere
with accessibility and the
free use of such spaces.*

exclusively focused on lower Manhattan. The full range of needs created by the attack must be considered, and the distributional consequence of various allocations reviewed. Actions dealing with September 11 must be considered in the light of the city's overall needs.

WHO IS TO DECIDE WHAT IS TO BE DONE (AND FOR WHOM)?

The issue of Who Decides What is To Be Done (and For Whom)? is perhaps clearer in theory, but more difficult in practice.

Who decides? The conspicuous players thus far are the state and local governments, acting through the Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Corporation, which they have just established. It is composed, in Herbert Muschamp's words, of "captains of industry, including top executives from financial services and communications companies and from public agencies for construction and economic development" (New York Times 12/23/2001, S2, 1, 42). The chair of Community Board 1, the local planning body for the neighborhood in which the World Trade Center stood, and the president of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York are also members. The Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Corporation has powers to override most zoning and planning procedures. It has been appointed by the governor (seven members, four-year terms) and the outgoing Mayor (four members, initially one-year terms). The Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Corporation has thus far, at least in statements of its chair, defined the "stakeholders" it is responsive to, and around whose interests committees will be organized, as: "the families of victims, downtown residents, commuters, Wall Street firms, developers, retail shopkeepers, and cultural organizations."

The city's formal planning processes have been fought for by progressive groups over many years, and have resulted in some significant democratic gains. These include local Community Boards in every neighborhood of the city, a Uniform Land Use Review Procedure in which such boards play a role, a

"197-a" process for neighborhood-based planning, requirements for information and public hearings, etc. However, the City Planning Commission has not played any visible role in the current debates except to indicate its willingness to facilitate any development that is wanted. The newly elected New York City Council, new because term limits precluded the majority of its former members from running again, has not thus far played any role.

On the civic side, there was initially NYC Rebuild, a grouping of professionals whose early members were described as "a Who's Who of major real estate developers and corporate architecture firms" (New York Times 10/28/2001). It soon broadened its base in the form of New York New Visions, including some twenty professional groups, largely led by the New York chapter of the American Institute of Architects and including the New York Metro chapter of the American Planning Association. It has just released a fifty-two page report including some input as to process from progressive planners, not however highlighted in the summaries or major recommendations. R-DOT (Rebuild Downtown Our Town) is again a coalition of residents, business people, non-profits and others from the immediately affected areas, and is seeking to influence developments, as is a group in which Mobilization for Youth is playing an active supporting role. Chinatown residents are active in both the latter two. The Civic Alliance is probably the broadest of the coalitions focused explicitly on the aftermath of September 11. It now includes almost 100 varied civic organizations, and has an active Economic and Environmental Justice Committee. Among its members are such groups as the Community Labor Activist Network, a cornerstone of the EEJC, which includes representatives of major grass-roots community and labor and environmental groups.

And there are of course the extremely active private business groups. These include the Real Estate board of New York and its members; Larry Silverstein, owner of one of the destroyed buildings at the World Trade Center and holder of a ninety-nine year lease on the

others; and the New York City Partnership, first formed by David Rockefeller to deal with the City's fiscal crisis of 1975. With a web site billing it as the "voice of New York City's business community," the New York City Partnership formulated and pushed for \$5 billion in tax incentives to companies that stay in lower Manhattan.

No one knows exactly how much money is coming to New York City from the federal government for various purposes, anywhere between \$2 and \$8 billion are in play. Substantial discretion will exist in its expenditure and city influence may affect federal guidelines. Existing proposals, e.g. by the Civic Alliance, include references to everything from major infrastructure investment and assistance to developers in building and/or modernizing to, somewhat in passing, investments in housing and education. No priorities, relative weights or costing out of any such proposals are included.

Position six: The city's formal planning and land use and budgeting processes should be maintained for all actions having to do with September 11. If for any emergency reason real speed is critical (it is not for any building undertakings; it may be for major subway repairs, for instance), streamlining should be on a case by case basis, approved by the City council and mayor, not by revisions of long-standing procedures.

Position seven: The city has a City Planning Commission. It needs to be strengthened with good appointments, augmented staff and mayoral confidence. It needs to play a key role in leading comprehensive, long-term planning for the city, of which planning for lower Manhattan should be seen as a part.

Position eight: The Lower Manhattan Redevelopment Corporation must reflect the full diversity of interests affected by its actions. It must include, at the least: representatives of neighboring communities, of immigrant and minority groups of workers and unions, of small businesses, of economic interests outside FIRE., especially, manufacturing, cultural, and small businesses and retail).

Position nine: Professional groups as well as decision-makers must recognize that there are conflicting interests in deciding what is to be done and that priorities must be established. The quest for consensus can conceal those conflicts and is likely to reinforce the status quo in the distribution of power and resources. Who gets what, who benefits and who pays are critical issues and should be highlighted in every planning document and for all planning proposals. Priorities should be established and made plain with those considerations in mind.

Position ten: Planning must pay close attention to money. Budgeting is often where priorities are in fact established; they must not be allowed to be made piece-meal. An immediate overview should be provided of the likely sources of funding for September 11 related investment, existing plans for their expenditure, and the alternatives available.

...

The issues in New York City reflect a fascinating inter-play of global and the local interests, cross-cut by the interplay of the differences in economic and class interests. The general but implicit assumption is that lower Manhattan is the vital center of New York City's global role, that it is key to the city's global competitiveness, and that the global role is critical and a benefit to the whole city. In fact most of the business conducted in lower Manhattan was in fact either national or local, and whether its many ties to the global depend on location in lower Manhattan is at least questionable. The frequent repetition of the undoubted importance of global competitiveness for the city must not be allowed to obscure the fact that serving the interests of those benefiting from global competitiveness, including real estate developers and financial interests in the financial district, may or may not be of benefit to the majority who are involved in the more local aspects of the economy.

Peter Marcuse is a Professor of planning at Columbia University in New York City.

PN NEWS

ACSP Recap:

The PN reception was the liveliest event at the annual conference of the ACSP (Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning) in Cleveland, OH last November (2001).

Besides the fun and good networking, PN'ers Ruth Yabes and Ann Forsyth exhorted planning educators and students to help sustain PN's efforts by joining PN, representing PN at their campuses, inviting PN speakers, using the PN Reader in classes and starting progressive planning initiatives. We signed up about thirty new and renewing members. PN'ers Peter Marcuse and Tom Angotti spoke at sessions organized by ACSP in response to September 11, but turnout was very light and our proposal that ACSP issue a statement went nowhere.

The Planners Network Steering Committee met during ACSP and covered the following topics:

1) A budget and fundraising proposal from fundraiser Bonnie Brower was discussed. We decided to talk with her about preparing a funding proposal. Funds will cover costs of maintaining and improving the PN web site,

2) Support for the transition of the PN publication from a bi-monthly newsletter to a forty-eight page quarterly magazine.

3) The 2002 PN conference in Amherst. Details for getting involved are on the next page of this issue.

4) A PN track at the ACSA (Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture) conference in Havana, Cuba in June 2002. This is being coordinated by Richard Milgrom.

5) The new PN brochure designed by Fernando Martí, is ready for printing.

6) Follow up on the letter sent by Gwen Urey on behalf of the PN Steering Committee to chairs of all the graduate urban planning programs asking for a faculty and student representative to PN. Fernando Marti will keep track of the representatives and help coordinate contacts with other Steering Committee members.

7) Tom Angotti reported on the successful PN forum held Nov. 2, 2001 in New York City about planning after September 11. Over 200 people attended the event, entitled "September 11: Who Will Plan, What Will It Be?"

PLACE YOUR AD IN PN

Full page	\$250
Half page	\$175
1/4 page	\$75
1/8 page	\$40

Send file via email to <pn@pratt.edu>, or mail camera-ready copy to: Hunter College Department of Urban Planning, 695 Park Ave., NY, NY 10021. Deadlines are January 1, April 1, July 1 and October 1.

2002 Planners Network National Conference

*Community-Based Planning for Urban Revitalization:
Opportunities and Challenges*

June 13-16, 2002 at Hampshire College
Amherst, MA

Come to Massachusetts' Pioneer Valley where diverse geographical locales – including rural communities, postindustrial urban centers and cultural arts villages – are working together with academic institutions to create a viable region.

Proposed Workshop Tracks:

- Local economic development
- Community/university partnerships
- Participatory neighborhood planning
- Role of the arts in revitalization
- Documentation and historic preservation
- Environmental racism
- Transportation alternatives
- Affordable housing
- Youth-led planning initiatives
- Urban design
- Sustainable development
- Urban agriculture
- Surviving welfare reform
- More...

Individuals interested in organizing a workshop session or in giving a paper should contact:

Mary Bombardier, Director
Community Partnerships for Social Change
Hampshire College, 893 West Street
Amherst, MA 01002
413-559-5395 or mbombardier@hampshire.edu.

Visit the Planners Network Website (www.plannersnetwork.org) in early March to review the Preliminary Conference Program and secure information regarding Conference Registration and Housing.

Goldsmith [Cont. from page 35] suade the rest of us that free, unrestrained markets must be the way of the future. They oppose regulation, public intervention, unions, community organizations and any other obstacle that might interfere with the free flow of the market. Except, of course, that they set their own salaries and benefits in a very non-market way, in secret, out of reach of any competition, and they fiercely guard the monopoly that serves them so well. On April Fool's Day in 2001, the *New York Times* printed a special report on Executive Pay, with a two-page table showing the earnings and accumulated wealth of the top executives of 200 corporations. The *average* compensation for these men (and a few women) is \$3.9 million a year (the median is \$2.6 million). Their average accumulated equity is \$70 million (the median is \$24 million). These executives made money last year even though the values of their corporations declined. (Measured by

one-year stock performance, eighty-one firms declined in value, forty-one percent of them!) These CEOs direct their corporations to pay crummy, marginal wages at the bottom end, they downsize, they buy in cheap labor markets overseas, they outsource to fight unions and they resist paying taxes for needed urban services. I'd blame *them* for much of the urban poverty!

Not much left to say. Look again at the myths. Add some of your own to the list! It is high time we figure out how to counter these myths, how to organize against them, how to fight to get some of the tilt out of that playing field.

William W. Goldsmith is Professor of City and Regional Planning at Cornell University. Thanks to Alex Hart for research assistance and preparation of the illustrations.

RESOURCES

Publications

Affordable Housing and Smart Growth: Making the Connection, from the Smart Growth Network and National Neighborhood Coalition, identifies policies and approaches that help achieve both smart growth and affordable housing objectives and provides case studies of places that have benefited from linking these two goals. Available at: www.smartgrowth.org/library/article.asp?resource=244.

Charlotte's Equity Loan Program: A Model for Inner City Redevelopment, from the Sustainable Development Initiative Self Help Credit Union/Ventures Fund, analyzes how the City of Charlotte was able to invest \$4 million in 123 inner-city companies and leverage an additional \$20 million in private capital since 1992. Included is an examination of how other municipalities might replicate the program's success. Available at: www.selfhelp.org/communityimpact/sustainabledevelopment.asp.

Colorlines Special Edition: War on Terrorism: Profiled & Punished, from the Applied Research Center. Available in part online at: www.arc.org/C_Lines/CLArchive/CL2001_12.html#issue.

Creating a Local Greenprint for Growth, an in-progress report from the Trust for Public Land, has a new chapter that discusses the most common voluntary and regulatory tools and funding sources that can be used to preserve and protect existing open space. Available online at: www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=3819&folder_id=1245.

Development Subsidies in New York City: A

Research Manual for Activists, from Good Jobs First New York, is a resource for community organizers, workplace activists and concerned citizens interested in how public money has been used by the City of New York for economic development. Available at: www.goodjobsfirst.org/gjny/resman.htm.

Jail Breaks: Economic Development Subsidies Given to Private Prisons, from Good Jobs First studies sixty prisons having at least 500 beds each and located across nineteen states—in sum making up more than one-half the private-prison market—finding that seventy-three percent have received subsidies. Available at: www.goodjobsfirst.org/jbstudy.htm.

Last Chance Landscapes of America the Beautiful 2001, from Scenic America, lists the ten most endangered American landscapes, "places of beauty or distinctive community character with a pending threat and a potential solution." Available at: www.scenic.org/2001lcl/index.html.

Planning for All New Yorkers: Briefing Book of Community-Based Plans, a project of the Community-Based Planning Task Force and the Municipal Art Society Planning Center, contains summaries of New York City's community-based plans, complete with maps, graphics and contact information for community organizations. Available at: www.mas.org/briefingcontents_files/briefingcontents.htm.

Smart Growth Hall of Fame, from the Colorado Sprawl Action Center, recognizes ten developments and planning decisions in Colorado that exhibit good growth management and smart growth principles. Available at: www.sprawllaction.org.

Suburbs and the Census: Patterns of Growth and Decline, from the Center on Urban and Metropolitan Policy at the Brookings Institution, examines suburban population growth and decline in nearly 2,600 suburban places in thirty-five metropolitan areas during the 1990s, illustrating that the suburbs, though often spoken of as a homogenous group, are highly diverse. Available at: brook.edu/es/urban/census/lucyexsum.htm.

The Urban Change Project, a multidisciplinary study from the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation that is examining how changes made in 1996 to welfare policy are playing out in four urban counties (Cuyahoga [Cleveland], Los Angeles, Miami-Dade and Philadelphia), offers several new reports. Titles include: *Is Work Enough?: The Experiences of Current and Former Welfare Mothers Who Work*, *The Health of Poor Urban Women: Findings from the Project on Devolution and Urban Change* and *Monitoring Outcomes for Cuyahoga County's Welfare Leavers: How Are They Faring?* Available at: www.mdrc.org/WelfareReform/UrbanChangepage.htm.

Interplay Design of Vacaville, California works with local groups to build parks and playgrounds with volunteer labor and donated materials. More information available at www.interplaydesign.com

Jobs

California

The *Asian Pacific Environmental Network* seeks a Cantonese-speaking Community Organizer to assist in launching & developing a new organizing project to take on issues impacting immigrant and refugee communities and to work with other progressive organizations to build power and make change. Salary: \$28-34K. For more information call 510.834.8920 or email: apen@apen4ej.org.

District of Columbia

Citizens for Tax Justice and the *Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy*, as part of the Everett Public Service Internship Program, seek interns for 2002 summer intern session. Information: www.ctj.org/html/jobmenu.htm

Illinois

The *John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation* seeks a Program Assistant for the Conservation and Sustainable Development Area of the Program on Global Security and Sustainability. For complete job description: www.macfound.org/announce/jobs/1_2_2002.html

Maryland

Association for the Study and Development of Community, which works to develop the health, economic equity & social justice of communities, seeks a Senior Research Associate to manage projects, provide technical assistance, implement research activities and develop new projects. Candidate should have three plus years experience in the implementation, technical support or evaluation of community or systems change projects, MA or PhD, and interest in community development, youth development, violence prevention & other social issues. For more information contact asdc@capablecommunity.com.

The *Enterprise Foundation* seeks a Director to take responsibility for publicity, outreach and recruitment, selection and orientation of fellows, program management, the annual symposium and partnership agreements all related to the Frederick P. Rose Architectural Fellowship Program. Candidate should have ten plus years of related experience and a graduate degree in business administration, real estate, economics or urban planning. For complete job description visit: www.enterprisefoundation.org.

Michigan

The *W.K. Kellogg Foundation* seeks a Program Director for Greater Battle Creek Programming to take responsibility for leadership and vision in program conceptualization, design, planning, management, coordination, communication, evaluation and learning. Candidate should have MA, ten plus years experience in community development and a generalist background combined with knowledge of program design and evaluation. For more specific information visit: www.wkkf.org.

Pennsylvania

The *William Penn Foundation*, which promotes understanding of and action on ⇒

important issues facing the Philadelphia Region, seeks a Program Associate in its Environment & Communities program area. For complete job description visit: www.wpen-nfdn.org/newsroom/job.asp

Virginia

The Association for Enterprise Opportunity seeks a Program Manager to assist in the daily management of several initiatives by facilitating communication among project partners and AEO, managing project budgets, identifying best practices and needed improvements and developing reports. Candidates should have two plus years of direct microenterprise practitioner experience in both rural and urban programs. Salary: \$30-44K. For a complete job description visit: www.microenterpriseworks.org/employment/.

Washington

The School of Urban Studies and Planning at Portland State University seeks an Assistant/Associate Professor in Community Development to start September 16, 2002. Review of applications begins February 1. For a complete job description visit: www.hrc.pdx.edu/jobs/ujobs/USP001.htm.

Weber + Thompson, a multidisciplinary, collaborative design firm, seeks an Urban Designer / Architect for projects based on traditional architecture and town planning principles. A degree in Urban Planning, AICP, and five plus years of increasingly responsible planning experience required. For a complete job description visit:

www.weberthompson.com/planner.html.

Conferences

April 13-17, 2002. American Planning Association's Annual Conference on the theme of *Chicago: Great City, Great Plans*. Chicago, IL.

April 4-7, 2002. Calibrations: Sizing up Spaces, Communities, and Selves, from the Center for Humanities Research at Texas A&M University in College Station, TX.

May 29-June 1, 2002. National Community Building Network's Annual Conference enti-

tled *Uniting our Voices: Community Building In Action*. Seattle, WA.

July 10-12, 2002. International Planning History Society's Tenth Annual Conference built on themes that compare old and new urbanisms. London, England.

August 26-September 4, 2002 (tentatively). World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD), a ten year review of progress and setbacks since the creation of Agenda 21 at the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio. Johannesburg, South Africa.

January 30-February 3, 2003. The 2003 Community Built Conference will be hosted by The Community Built Association a professional organization of architects, playground designers, gardeners, and community artists who specialize in community built projects. Gulf Shores, Alabama. More information at www.communitybuilt.com

Training

The *Planners' Professional Development Institute* in Carrollton, GA offers multi-track (one track in Leadership Skills and another in Management Skills) planning leadership and management curriculum designed specifically to offer practical and applied on-the-job skills to planners. Planners completing courses in both tracks will receive certification as a Certified Planning Manager. For more information on the Institute visit: www.ppd.org.

The *Department of Urban and Regional Planning* at the *University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign* offers Continuing Education courses in Urban Planning. Visit www.urban.uiuc.edu/ce for a course list and program specifics.

Clark University's (Worcester, MA) master's program in Community Development and Planning prepares individuals to take on the challenge of empowering local communities to develop effective strategies for identifying community goals and maximizing their assets to achieve these goals. Visit www.clarku.edu/departments/idce for more information.

PN UPDATES

New Publications

Just Doing It: Popular Collective Action in the Americas. Editors Gene Desfor, Deborah Barndt and Barbara Rahder. Montreal: Black Rose Books, 2001.

Massive protests have disrupted global summit meetings from Seattle to Quebec City and from Gothenburg to Genoa. These demonstrations let the world know that resistance to globalization remains strong and vibrant. Not as clearly heard, though, are accounts of local communities organizing popular collective actions to resist those same institutions and policies of globalization. With stories from four countries - Mexico, Guatemala, the United States and Canada - the narratives in this volume tell of peoples' collective struggles for environmental, economic and social justice. Contributors: Emilie K. Adin, Emily Chan, Sheelagh Davis, Sarah Koch-Schulte, W. Alexander Long, Eglá Martinez-Salazar, Cindy McCulligh and Galit Wolfensohn.

PN member Leonie Sandercock states: "These poignant and inspiring stories of communities taking action and successfully resisting the corporate agenda...eloquently told...reveal the strength and creativity of people living on the margins, from Santiago Atitlan in Guatemala to Vancouver Canada."

Sharing the Wealth: Resident Ownership Mechanisms, a 168-page report released by PolicyLink and co-funded by the Fannie Mae Foundation and U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). September 6, 2001.

Sharing the Wealth offers economic strategies to move distressed neighborhoods beyond the cycle of revitalization, gentrification and dis-

placement. These strategies look beyond the traditional asset building strategies of single family homeownership and individually-owned small businesses and offer solutions for building collaborative, community-building approaches to economic development. The report also offers twenty economic models of innovative activity in urban and rural areas around the United States.

Stacey H. Davis, President and CEO of the Fannie Mae Foundation states: "The PolicyLink report offers an excellent starting point for a national dialogue about ways to expand economic opportunities, including ownership options, to residents of low-income communities...We look forward to continuing to explore ways in which lower-income households can more effectively become owners of the engines of economic opportunity and prosperity."

For more information on the Fannie Mae Foundation, please visit www.fanniemaefoundation.org. And for more information on PolicyLink, visit www.policylink.org.

Updates

Update from PN member Chester Hartman:

A complimentary copy of the Jan./Feb. issue of *Poverty & Race* (the bimonthly newsletter journal from Chester Hartman's Poverty & Race Research Action Council) was supposed to go out to everyone on the PN mailing list. It features a "Post Durban" symposium with reflections, by 12 attendees, on the implications of the UN race conference (and September 11) for race issues in the US. Because an insufficient number of copies were printed, only a portion of the PN list received the issue. If you didn't get this issue of *Poverty & Race* and would like a ⇨

copy, contact PRRAC (chartman@prrac.org; 202/387-9887; 3000 Conn. Ave. NW, #200, Wash., DC 20008).

Update from PN member Chris Tilly:

I recently published two books, both part of the Multi-City Study of Urban Inequality, which conducted surveys of households and employers in the Atlanta, Boston, Detroit and Los Angeles metropolitan areas. With Philip Moss, I co-authored *Stories Employers Tell: Race, Skill, and Hiring in America*. Alice O'Connor, Lawrence Bobo, and I co-edited *Urban Inequality: Evidence from Four Cities*. Both books were published by the Russell Sage Foundation (www.russellsage.org).

In addition, I've continued to do policy-related work. Colleagues Robert Forrant, Philip Moss and I wrote *Knowledge Sector Powerhouse: The Reshaping of Massachusetts Industries and Employment During the 1980s and 1990s* for the Massachusetts Department of Economic Development (available on the departmental web site at: www.UML.edu/Dept/RESO). PNers may also be interested in my analysis of living wage ordinances in the September issue of *Dollars and Sense* (www.dollarsandsense.org).

I'm very excited about our new Master's program in the Economic and Social Development of Regions at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. We've got an interesting mix of students—domestic and international; practitioners, activists and traditional students. (On our web site, listed above, you can find a link to a recent graduate's report analyzing the impact of globalization and free trade in Massachusetts, *Coming to a Town Near You: The Impact of Globalization in Massachusetts*.) We are still growing and looking for more students—please pass the word to students or to faculty who may have interested students.

Update from PN member Deb Cowen on Planning Action:

Planning Action has been meeting monthly since the summer of 2001, working to build an organization that will actively promote social and environmental justice in and through

planning practice in Toronto. The group recently adopted the following mission statement, and is working with the following proposed objectives.

Mission:

Planning Action, a group of activists and professionals, works with diverse communities of Toronto struggling against economic, cultural and ecological injustice to open spaces for people to imagine, transform and enjoy the city.

Objectives:

- 1) To proactively, and collaboratively promote access to affordable housing, food, public transportation, public space and recreation for ALL residents of the city.
- 2) To democratize planning process and practice to foster greater participation in, and control over, the creation and maintenance of an environmentally and socially just city.
- 3) To build an organization that is committed to radically democratic, socially and environmentally just practices within its own operation, in its partnerships and collaborations, as well as in the city.

Planning Action will work to achieve these goals through popular education and outreach, critical projects and planning casework. The group is currently working on articulating its organizational structure, ratifying by-laws and surveying existing social service agencies in the city. For more information about the group, or to help out, please contact: Douglas Young <dgyoung@istar.ca>, or Hon Lu <hqlu98@yahoo.com>.

Letters

Congrats for another great issue, especially for including a Spanish article. I'm just wondering if an abstract in English or a translation wouldn't be possible? Also I really like that more articles are now contiguous, not requiring leafing to the back or trying to remember the beginning when you reach the back page by page.

Reggie Modlich
(Women And Environments International Magazine)

JOIN PLANNERS NETWORK

For over 25 years, Planners Network has been a voice for progressive professionals and activists concerned with urban planning and social justice. PN members in 38 states of the U.S. and 16 other countries receive this bimonthly publication, 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 DC, East St. Louis IL, Brooklyn NY, Pomona CA., Lowell, MA, Toronto, Canada, and Rochester, NY.

Join Planners Network and make a difference while sharing your ideas and enthusiasm with others!

All members must pay annual dues. The minimum dues for Planners Network members are as follows:

- \$25 Students and income under \$25,000
- \$35 Income between \$25,000 and \$50,000
- \$50 Income over \$50,000, organizations and libraries
- \$100 Sustaining Members -- if you earn over \$50,000, won't you consider helping at this level?

Canadian members: See column to right.

Dues are deductible to the extent permitted by law.

☐ Yes! I want to join progressive planners and work towards fundamental change.
☐ I'm a renewing member Keep the faith!

My contribution is \$ _____ Make checks payable to **PLANNERS NETWORK**.
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INTERNATIONAL MEMBERS: Please send U.S. funds as we are unable to accept payment in another currency. Thanks.

PN MEMBERS IN CANADA

Membership fees by Canadian members may be paid in Canadian funds:

- \$40 for students, unemployed, and those with incomes <\$40,000
- \$55 for those with incomes between \$40,000 and 80,000
- \$75 for those with incomes over \$80,000
- \$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 with payment or send a message to Barbara Rahder at <rahder@yorku.ca>.

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 instructions on how to use the list.

PN ADVERTISING RATES:

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