International Perspectives on Urban Planning in the United States



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International Planning

- International Division
- ► World Urban Forum

International Division



 Share U.S.
 experiences with planners from other countries

International Division



 Learn from other countries' experiences in planning

World Urban Forum

Five Key Takeaways from the 2018 World Urban Forum

- ► The world is urbanizing at a blistering pace.
- ▶ Much of this urbanization is sprawling and resource-inefficient.
- ▶ Growing numbers of people recognize that we must change business as usual.
- But there are many who haven't "gotten the memo."
- ▶ The New Urban Agenda represents a hopeful way forward for all.
- Source: Planetizen (Michael Mehaffy) https://www.planetizen.com/features/97663-five-key-takeaways-2018-world-urban-forum

Learning From China: Development Review



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Presentation Outline

- Notes on Differences
- Decision Makers
- Plans and Regulations
- Review Process
- ▶ Technical Contents

- Chinese Elements that USA can learn from?
- Discussion and Questions

"The ultimate test a planning system must survive is not its legality, or even its wisdom, but rather its acceptability to the public at large."

Charles M Haar

Development Review



https://invictus-travel.com/site/shanghai-chine/

Shanghai's New CBD

In the USA, local governments utilize the development review process to ensure that the private developments satisfy the governing zoning and subdivision regulations as well as building codes, among many other local regulations in order to safeguarding safety, health and welfare of the general public.

In China, government also reviews and approves development projects that are consistent with the master plan policies and land use visions

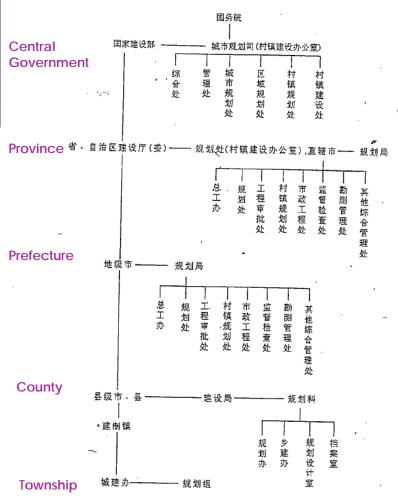
Development Steps

- Land Use development sequence- To develop a piece of land, a developer needs first to decide the best possible use of the land, starts site planning process including site design, grading, road access design, etc., then prepares building design, develops construction documents, carries out construction management, completes construction and installation and eventually lets tenants occupy and use the buildings.
- **Chinese Land Development**
 - Two paths -Planned and Market
 - Planning Agency Site Selection Statement
 - Land Use Certificate
 - Planning Certificate
 - Permit Issuance



Major Differences

- ► Government Structure-Planning Function
 - A unitary Planning System
 - A hierarchy of planning functions ranging from
 The Central Government, Province, Prefecture/County
 Municipality to Township
 - Planning policies, operational requirements and Guidelines are the responsibility of the Central Government Implementation is with the locals



Major Differences

- Land Ownership
 - The State is the owner of land
 - ► The State holds the rights of usus, abusus and fructus may allocate three rights as "Commodities"
 - ▶ Private Property Right-2007 Property Law
 - ▶ Condominium
- Role of the Court
 - ► Almost non-existing-Administrative Remedy only

- ► Control of Land Market- 1987 Land Use Law
 - National overall land use amount
 - Amount to be developed within certain period of time
 - Two paths
 - ► Free land for government uses, infrastructure, etc.
 - Bidding for private development such as housing and retail/commercial development

Decision Makers

New York City-ULURP		China-1Statement, 2 Certificates
Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP)		
Mayor (May Veto Council Action)		Mayor-Vice Mayor in charge of urban development
	1	Development and Reform Commission -Project approval
City Council (Majority Vote-2/3)	ı	
	ı	
City Planning Commission-Department of Planning	ı	Planning Bureau Land Bureau -Technical Committee
		(City Planning and Design Institute)
Borough President and Borough Board		Agency Site Selection Statement and Two Certificates
Community Board-Advisory		
Board of Standards and Appeals (BSA)		
		Expert Consultants-professors

Plans and Regulations

Prince George's County, MD	China		
Economic Development -Planning Department participates General Plan Planning Area Master Plan Sector Plan	5-Year Social & Economic Plan-not by Planners Master Plan		
Urban Agriculture- Planning Study	Area Master Plan/ District Plan		
Functional Plans- Green Infrastructure, Transportation	Functional Plans-Water、Sewer、Transportation, Etc.		
Ordinance and Regulations	Detailed Plans		
Subtitle 27-Zoning Ordinance and Landscape Manual			
Subtitle 24- Subdivision Regulations	Urban Design, Landscape Plan		
Subtitle 25- Woodland Conservation Ordinance			
Subtitle 29- Historic Preservation	Urban and Rural Planning Act, Land Use Act, Real Estate Act		
Other Regulations	Other National Acts		
DPIE (Subtitle 23) Stormwater Management			
Sediment Control			
Water and Sewer	National Acts -Local Implementation/Administration Regulations		
Archeological Review Guidelines, etc.	Regulatory Detailed Plan- Text and Map		
A			
Agency referrals			

Development Review Process

New York City		China
Development sequence based-Legislative, Quasi-judicial, Administrative Approvals		Development and Reform Commission
		Encouraged, Permitted & Limited
Zoning Changes - <mark>Legislative</mark>		
Zoning Map changes		1-Statement 2 Certificates
Zoning text changes		Uniform Administrative Approval
Housing and urban renewal plans		
Disposition of residential buildings, except to non-profit companies for low- income housing		
Site Plans - Quasi-judicia		
Zoning Special Permits		
City Map changes		
Non-City public improvements		
Disposition of commercial or vacant property		
Acquisition of real property		
Site selection, etc		
Permits - Administrative		Development project site selection Statement
Site grading permits		Development Project Land Use Certificate
Building permits		Development Project Planning Certificate
Use and Occupancy		Completion and Acceptance Certificate

Technical Contents

New York City **Land Use Certificate** Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) -Density (residential DU/Ac, FAR for all others) Land uses **Building Heights** Density and intensity Other land use requirements Setbacks Lot and building coverage Project land use boundary Green area coverage City/Rural land use coordination Parking Sign Planning Certificate - Detailed Regulation Plan (APFO) **Project Use** Tract size FAR SWM, Water and Sewer Density Fresh Food, etc. Green area ratio City Environmental Quality Review (CEQR) -Building height and story Land Use, Zoning and public policy Distance between buildings **Socioeconomic Conditions Project LOD** Transportation and Roadways **Community Facilities and Services** Open Space Site Grade/Elevation Shadows Surroundings Historic and Cultural Infrastructure and Universal Design Urban Design/ Visual Resources **Natural Resources** Site Selection Statement-湖南省[34] **Hazardous Materials** Prior Approval Water and Sewer Infrastructure Project uses- residential, commercial, Industrial **Solid Waste and Sanitation Services** Scale and project quantities Energy Tract area Transportation Building gross floor area Air Quality Gas consumption **Greenhouse Gas Emissions** Number of occupants /Workers/Job Noise Electricity usage **Public Health Annual Water usage** Neighborhood Character Annual electricity consumption Construction Impacts Annual Coal consumption 是否符合新海滨改建计划评估表 Traffic- trips Daily Natural gas consumption Method of transportation Daily Propane usage **Daily and Annual Wastes**

Types of Development Review Case,

Prince George's County, MD

7

6

ZONING

17

SUBDIVISION

URBAN DESIGN

ZMA-Zoning Map Amendment (7)

SE-Special Exception SP-Special Permit

NCU-Certified Nonconforming Uses (3)

Departures (3)

ADT- Alternative Development Techniques

ROSP-Revision of Site Plan

P-Pre-Preliminary Plan

4-Conventional-Major Subdivision

4-Conventional- Minor

4-Conventional-Minor

S-Conservation Subdivision-Sketch Plan

4-Conservation Subdivision

5-Final Plat

V-Vacation Petition

CSP-Conceptual Site Plan

CDP-Comprehensive Design Plan

SDP-Specific Design Plan

AC-Alternative Compliance (DDS)

SDP/H-SDP for a Homeowners Minor Amendment

Seven variances

PERMIT

Grading Permit Building Permit Use & Occupancy Permit

Retaining Wall Deck

Chinese elements that USA can learn from?

- Design Professional Driven Review
 - Attorneys need design training
- Procedure Uniformity
- Planning Guided Development Review
 - Regulation Plan
- Anything Else??

- Recently, implementation questions have arisen with respect to the interpretation of the below-highlighted portion of Section 27-107.01(a)(103) of the Zoning Ordinance:
- (103) Green Area: An area of land associated with, and located on the same parcel of land as, a "Building" for which it serves to provide light and air, or scenic, recreational, or similar purposes. "Green Area" shall generally be available for use by the occupants of the "Building," but may include a limited amount of space to enhance the amenity of the development by providing landscaping features, screening for the benefit of people in neighboring areas, or a general appearance of openness. "Green area" may include lawns, decorative plantings, sculptures, wooded areas, landscaped areas covering structures that are not more than twelve (12) feet above ground level, sidewalks and walkways, furniture, active and passive recreational areas, and water surfaces that comprise not more than ten percent (10%) of the total "Green Area." It shall not include "Parking Lots" or other vehicular surfaces, or "Accessory Buildings," except as otherwise provided.
- ▶ The 10% figure applies **only** to water surfaces which are part of the Green Area, i.e., if you have a water surface as part of your Green Area, it cannot constitute more than 10% of said Green Area.
- ► This interpretation both avoids an absurd result and applies common sense, both of which are canons of statutory interpretation. As a result, and in consultation with the Director, this shall be the official position of the Department.
- ► Thank you.

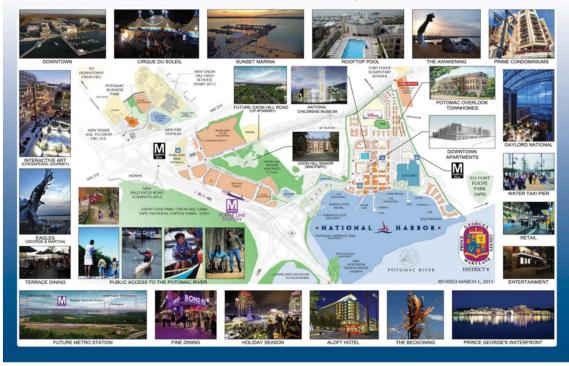
Chinese elements that USA can learn from?

Review Based on Regulation Plan

KONTERRA TOWN CENTER EAST, MD



NATIONAL HARBOR, MD



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International Perspectives on Urban Planning in the United States

America Planning Association

American Institute of Certified Planners

Webinar Series



HAITI

URBAN EQUITY IN DEVELOPMENT

- Planning Concepts
 - Public Health
 - Economic Development
 - City vs. Sub-Urban Living
 - Country Side vs. Sub-Urban Living
 - Open Space
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Infrastructure
 - Water, Sewer, Canals
 - Transportation
 - Roads, Bridges, Airport, Seaport, Rivers
- Land Use Concept and Equity

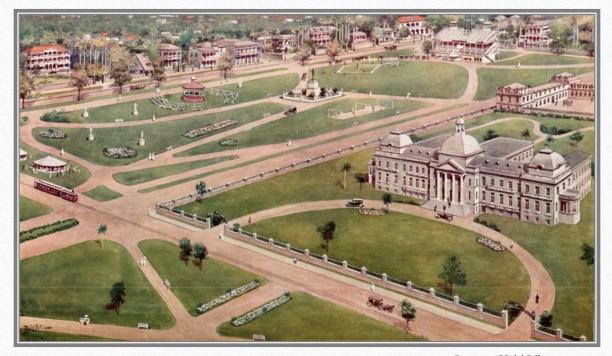
HAITI

URBAN EQUITY IN DEVELOPMENT

- Land Use Concept and Equity
 - Country Side
 - Sub-Urban
 - City
 - Slums
- Mixed Use Concept
 - Country Side
 - Sub-Urban
 - City
 - Slums

Haiti Pre-Earthquake

Planning Concepts and Land Use in the Point of View of the People of Haiti



Source: Haiti Libre

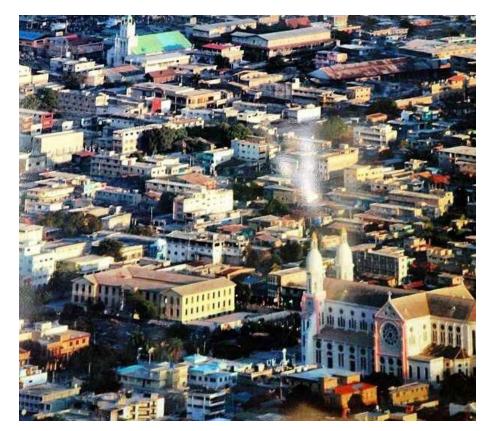


Photo Source: Pinterest

Urban Core

Civic Center

Church

Public Place

Radiating Street Axis

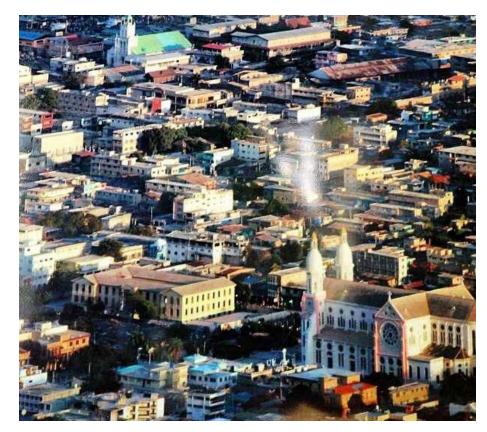


Photo Source: Pinterest

Land Use Concept

Mixed Use

Residential

Commercial Settings

Haiti Post Earthquake

Planning Concepts and Land Use in the Point of View of the People of Haiti



Source: Haiti Libre



Source: Haiti Libre New Urbanism Concept: DPZ

Urban Core

History

Structures

Life Style



New Urbanism

Lifestyle

City Life

Sub-Urban Life

Country Side



Resources

Human
Capital Improvement
Implementation
Independence
Public Participation

LESSONS LEARNED

Public Involvement

Research Lifestyle Cultural Experience Q&A





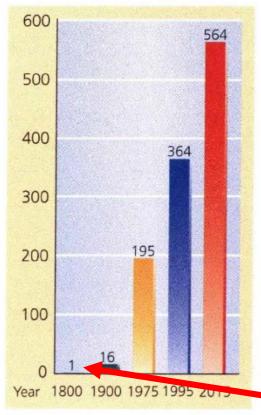
Communist dreams and post-communist reality in Romanian 'Granite Gardens':

Where does New Urbanism stand or could stand today?

Overview

- 1. Short background of Romania
- 2. Le Corbusier and 'towers in the park'
- 3. Case Study: Odorheiu Secuiesc [Szekelyudvarhely (Hungarian), Odorhellen (German)]
- 4. What to learn from each other

Figure 20.9 The Global Growth of Cities over One Million Residents



Sources: By the author. Based on Chandler and Fox 1974; Brockerhoff 2000.

Source: Henslin, 2008:603

I usually show this simple chart to my undergraduate students and ask: what happened in the 1800s in US (and in many other Western European countries)... Industrialization and urbanization was history in the US by the 1960s...

What did happen here?

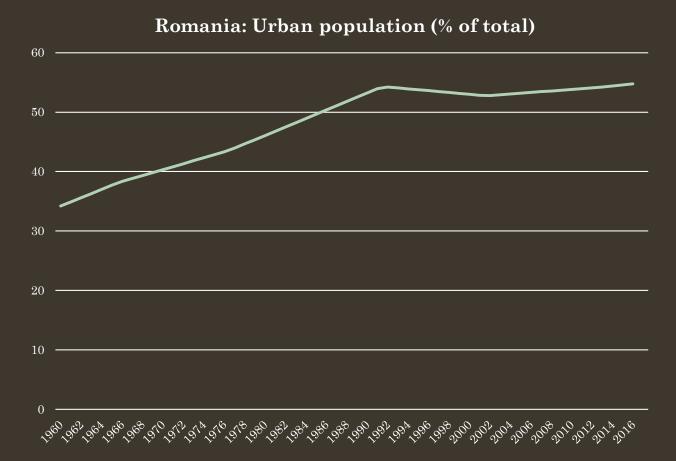


https://www.historia.ro/sectiune/general/articol/nicolae-ceausescu-autoritatea-suprema-a-istoriografiei-romanesti

Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu: Dictator of the Socialist Republic of Romania, that was ruled by the communist party between 1965-1989. Fall of Communism in Romania was in 1989, when the Ceausescu couple was executed.

Meanwhile in Romania...

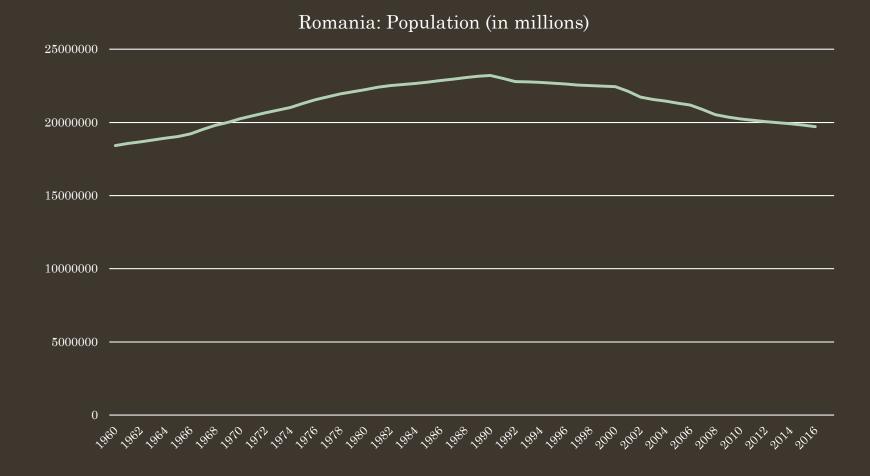
In 1956 the rural population in Romania was 68.7 %... and the Communist Party dreams and plans of an *urbanized* and *industrialized* country in the 20 century (we were ~100-150 years behind of the modernized world) (Demeter, 2014).



In 1960 only \sim 34% of the total population lives in urbanized areas, to put in contrast in US this was \sim 70 %.

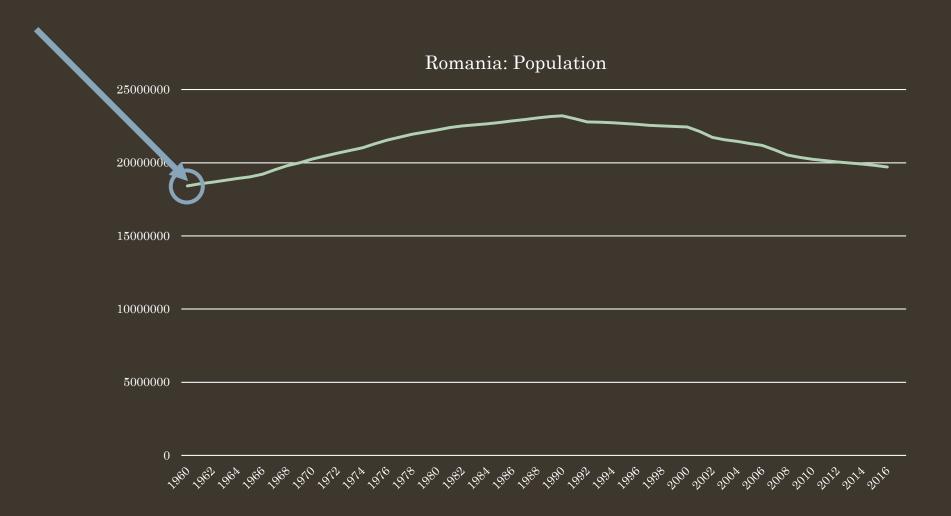
Source: World Bank.

Population of Romania between 1960-2016

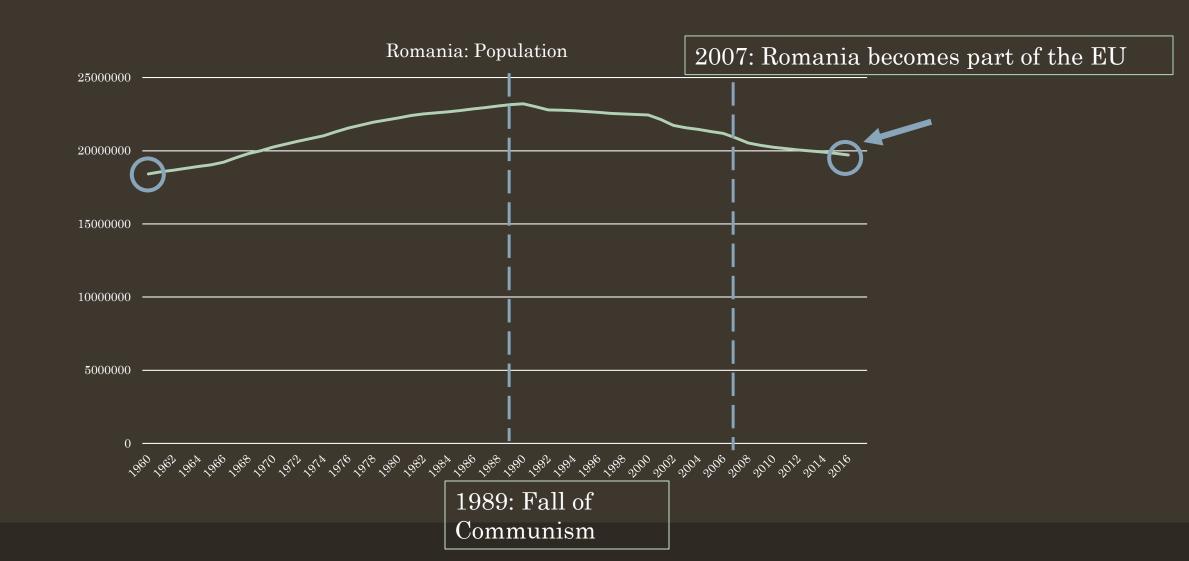


• "...the Romanian society has to become a modern and industrialized nation that lives in cities, this will require the country's *urbanization at all costs*" (Communist Party, Demeter, 2014)

Population of Romania between 1960-2016



Population of Romania between 1960-2016



Le Corbusier and 'Towers in the park'

Le Corbusier 1887-1965

- One of the founding father of the modernist movement (LeGates)
- Painter, architect, city planner, philosopher
- Grew up in Switzerland, later moved to Paris
- LeGates "[Le Corbusier] exemplified the energy and efficiency of the Machine Age" (p. 336)
- He called his houses "machines for living"
- His design reflect Cubist minimalism



https://thecharnelhouse.org/2014/06/03/le-corbusiers-contemporary-city-1925/#jp-carousel-20072

A Contemporary City for Three Million People (1922)

Le Corbusier and 'Towers in the park'

- Le Corbusier wanted to decongest the centers of the cities by increasing their density. His idea was to build vertically in a small part of the total ground area (Hall, 1988:207). He hated design on buildings.
- "WE MUST BUILD ON A CLEAR SITE! The city of today is dying because is not constructed geometrically" (Le Corbusier).
- He influenced urban developments in socialist and communist countries such as the Soviet Union.

Le Corbusier



• "Statistics show us that business is conducted in the center. This means that wide avenues must be driven through the centers of our towns. Therefore the existing centers must come down" (Hall, 1988:209 incited Le Corbusier)

Le Corbusier's plan for Paris: it meant the cleaning of historic urban fabric.



Image Source: Wikipedia





Image Source: Wikipedia

Stuyvesant Town-Peter Cooper Village, NY

- Example of the 'Towers in a Park'
- Example of mass private housing project
- Example of the failure of Urban Renewal projects



http://gazetadecluj.ro/piata-imobiliara-continua-sa-creasca-la-cluj-napoca/

The 'Dream' of the Public in Communist Romania

- Free or affordable housing
 - Free housing was many times provided to certain service workers, etc.
- Steady income
- Education, health and other social benefits of living in the city
- Improved living conditions
- Improved social life

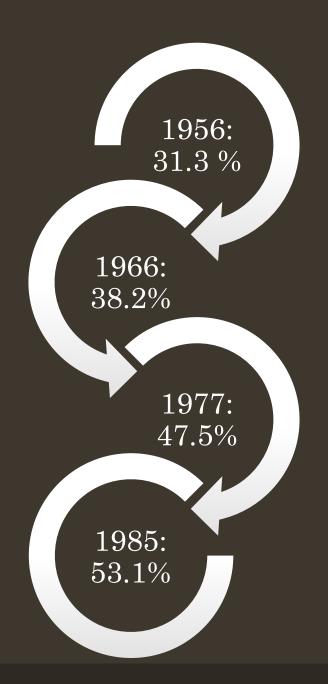
The Creation of Communist 'Granite Gardens' (1960s-1970s)



The Result: more than 50% of people live and work in urbanized areas.



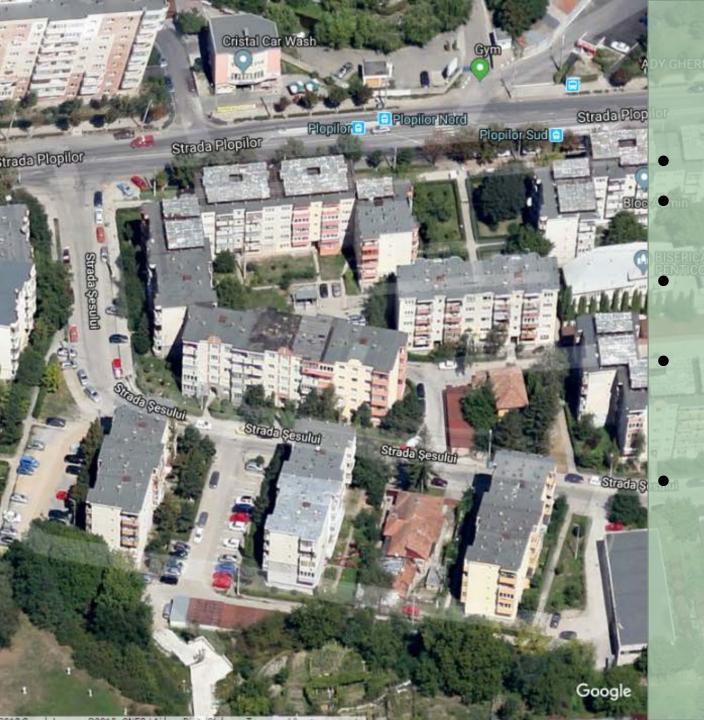
Building of blocks ~1965s http://uh.ro/kultura/alter/19607-az-egykori-varos-szekelyudvarhely-blokktortenete



Percentage of people living in urban areas (Demeter, 2014).

Today Communist Blocks are not so bad, but buildings can be awfully ugly (the conditions of these neighborhoods greatly varies throughout the country).





Walkable blocks and streets

Housing and shopping in close proximity

Accessible public spaces (play grounds, parks)

• Interior comfort with many having central heating and wooden floor, customized kitchen furniture etc.

 And at the end of the day it is home, playground and workplace



New Urbanism focuses on:

"...walkable blocks and streets, housing and shopping in close proximity, and accessible public spaces. In other words: New Urbanism focuses on human-scaled urban design..."

(https://www.cnu.org/resources/what-new-urbanism)

New Urbanist

"...are activist, believing that since the physical form of cities impacts people's lives, urban design can be a tool for the greater good..." (Heins, 2014:293).



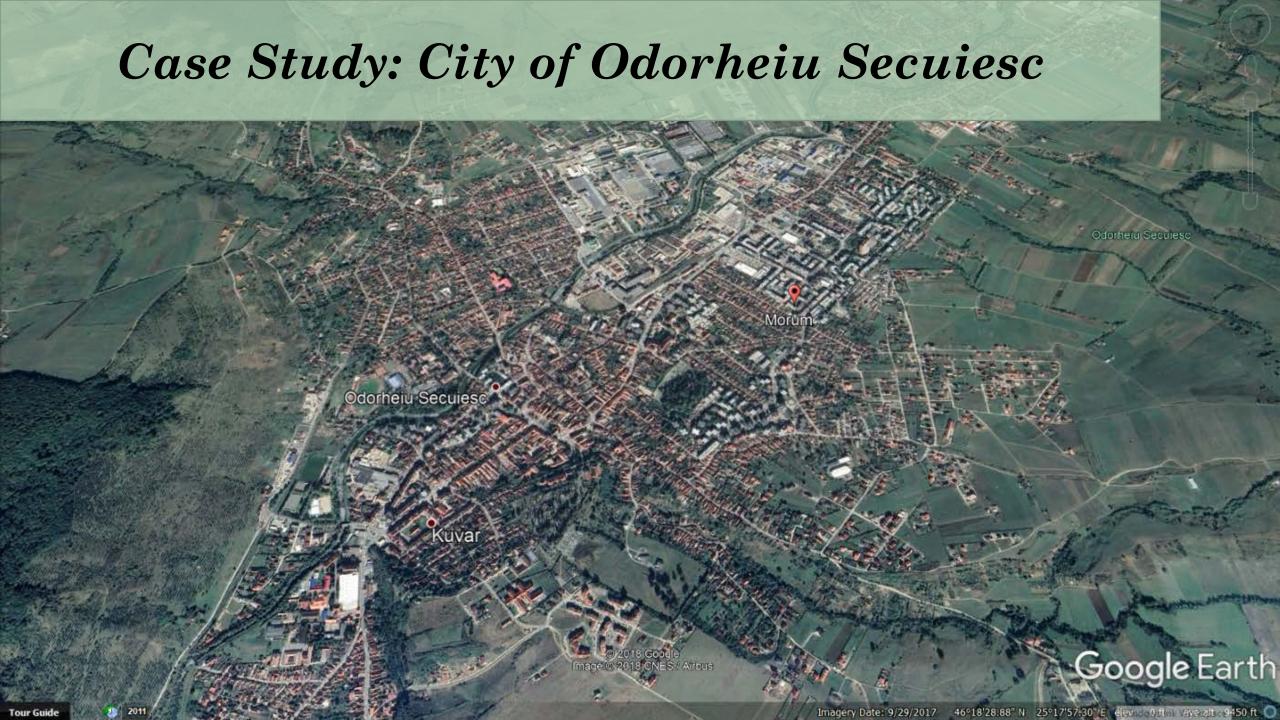


Figure 1. Seaside, the best-known New Urbanist Figure 2. Kentlands, a well-known New Urbanist project. Source: UGArdener (Creative Commons project. Source: Andrew Bossi (Creative [noncommercial], Flickr).

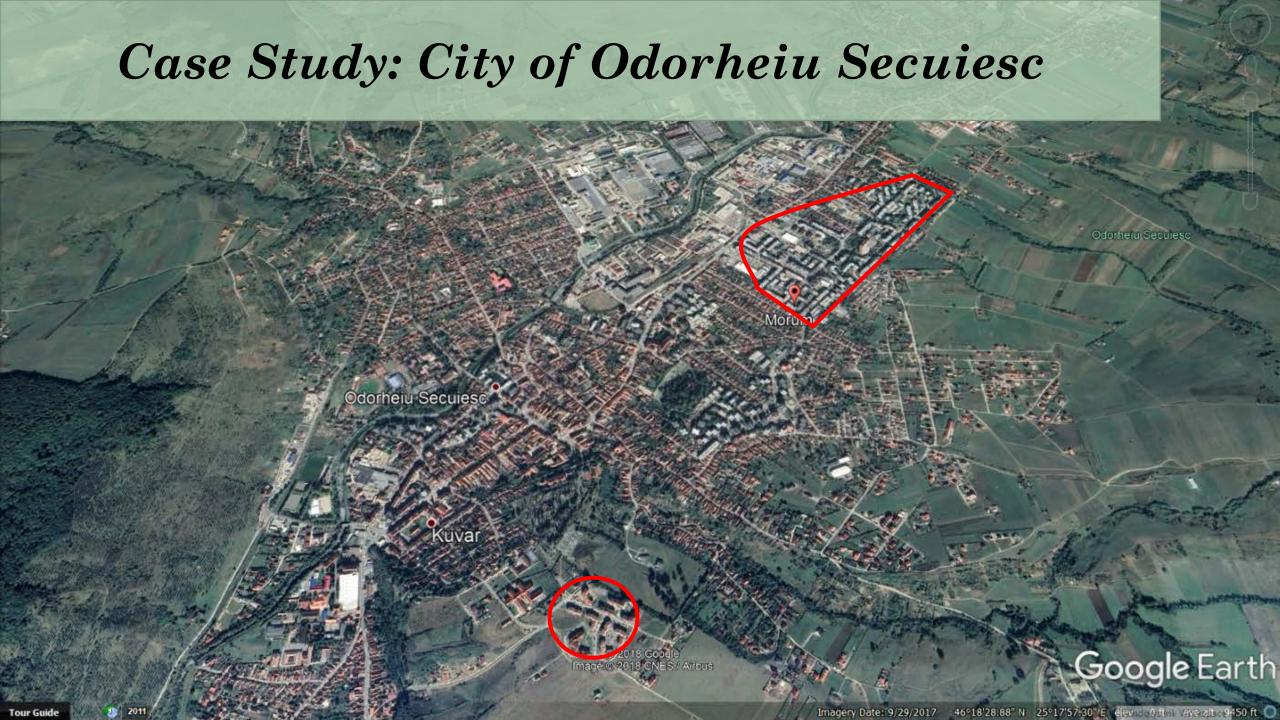
Commons, Wikimedia).



Figure 3. Orenco Station, a New Urbanist project of higher density. Source: Derek Severson (Creative Commons [noncommercial], Flickr).



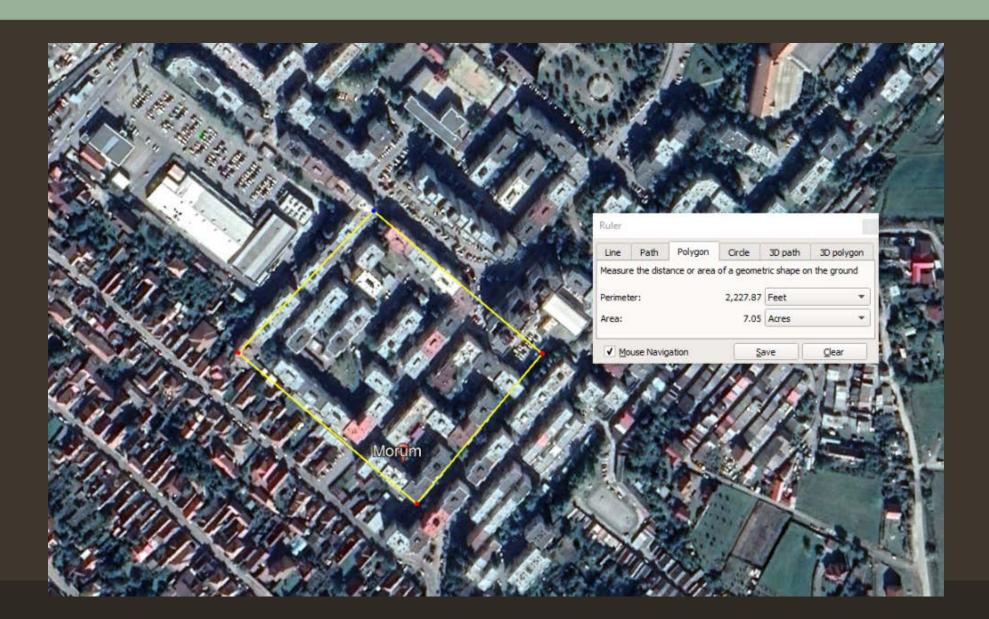




"Bethlen" Neighborhood. Construction began in early 70's.



One apartment building usually have 12 apartments, with 2-4 bedrooms. A two bedroom apartment costs between 25-35 thousand Euros.





Apartment buildings are usually four-five stories high

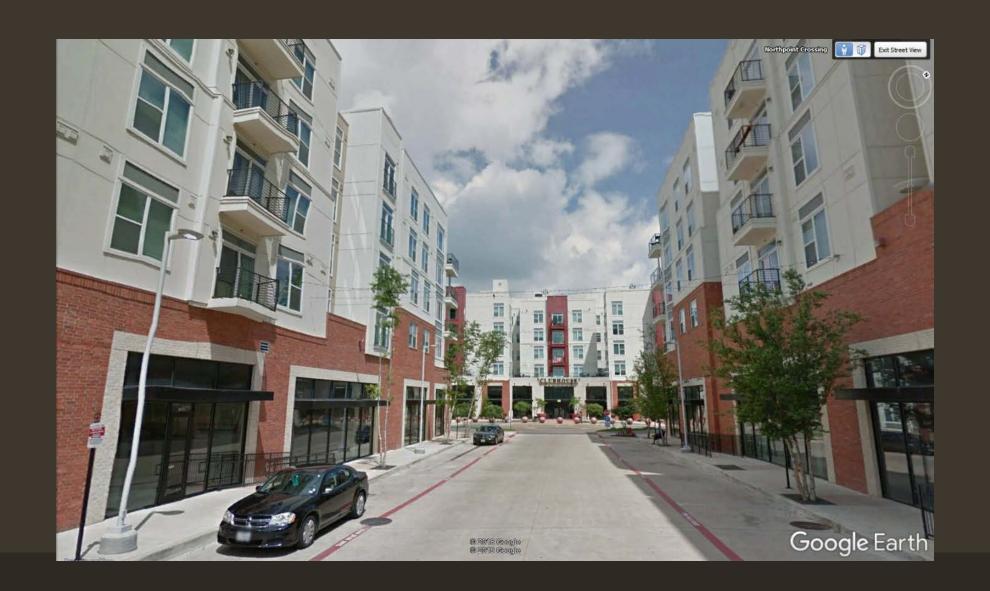
(According to Jan Gehl, human scales is up to 5 levels)

- No elevators (only in apartment buildings of 6 levels to 10 levels)
- The city has only a few apartment buildings with 6-10 levels
- One block has mixed designed apartment buildings (2-4 bedrooms, varied sized kitchens, and bathrooms)
- After the fall of communism the first floor may changed to small shops
- Each building has basement storage

Renovated blocks with EU grants (to the left).



This is College Station, TX. Northpoint Crossing. Mixed use development. Completed a few years ago. A "hub". Not very much different from the 1970s socialist neighborhood block designs.





A recently built affordable housing project, somehow better architecture, but disconnected from the rest of the city.





What to learn?

US from Romania

Nothing new really, that Jane Jacobs have not already mentioned yet:

- A development does not have to be expensive to work, and have a lively community, however it needs to have the parts that also preached by New Urbanists
- Safety is ensured by "eyes on the street", close ties among people (there is now way to not bump into someone when you on the street)
- Neighbors know each other!
- Block units form communities, and they take care of their own surroundings
- Beautify, adapt and reuse, not demolish
- Reinvent the meaning of "ugly"



What to learn?

Romania from US

- Simply put: A LOT!
- Designers, planners, and city officials need a design planning tools, and New Urbanism could serve as guide
- The most important: citizen science and community based planning
- In Romania the planning process is still topdown
- Could embrace New Urbanist principles
- Citizens are engaged in their community, they beautify their surrounding, but they are not informed end educated of what could be done



What to learn?

Romania from US (cont.)

- Citizens are engaged in their community, they beautify their surrounding, <u>but they are</u> not informed and educated of what could be done
- Owners could be taught how to be activist for their community and influence planning decisions (community based planning approaches, citizen science programs)
- Implementation of new and innovative building codes and sustainable design
- Parking is a big issue, new solutions for planned parking etc.

Resources

Heins, Matthew. 2015. "Finding Commo Ground Between Urbanism and Landscape Urbanism." Journal of Urban Design 20, (3): 293-302, http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13574809.2015.1031002.

Demeter, Csanad. 2014. Rurbanizacio: Teruletfejlesztesi es modernizacios politika Szekelyfold elmaradott regioiban. 1968-1989. Csikszereda, Romania: Status Kiado [in Hungarian].

Google Earth

Data Charts:

The World Bank, Urban Population (% of total), https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.URB.TOTL.IN.ZS?locations=RO.

Hall, Peter. (1988) 1992. Cities of Tomorrow: An Intellectual History of Urban Planning and Design in the Twentieth Century. Oxford UK: Blackwell Publishers.

LeGates, Richard and Frederic Stout, eds. 1996. The City Reader. New York: Routledge.



THANK YOU Questions?



Integrated Planning at Different Levels BRAZIL & U.S.

Cristina Sassaki, AICP, LEED BD+C
Urban Designer and Urban Parks Planner
M-NCPPC – Montgomery Parks
March 16, 2018



CONTEXT



Overview – How did we grow?

Background: different political realities

BRAZIL



One colony
One Religion
Centralized Power
Brazil Empire
Republic of the United States of Brazil
Federative Republic of Brazil

UNITED STATES



Multiple Colonies
Freedom of Religion
Multiple Confederations
United States of America



Federal Policy & Master Plans

Background: different political realities



National Urban Policy

1988 – Revised Constitution

2001-Cities Statute

2003 – Ministry of the Cities

2015- Metropoles Statute

Municipal Master Plans aligned with Federal Policy

Community Participation: varies, increasing after the Cities Statute



No National Urban Policy
Integrated Initiatives among Federal
Agencies

State/Local Policies: Master Plans

Community Participation: varies, culturally and historically, community is more involved



National Urban Network

Population concentration in metropoles

Sao Paulo: Big National Metropolis*

28% of Brazil's Pop.

40.5 % GDP

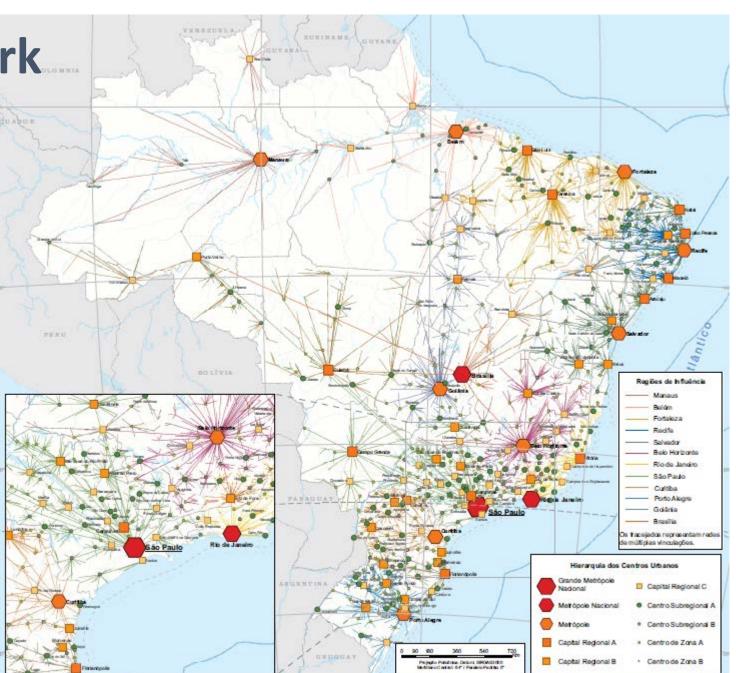
Rio de Janeiro: National Metropolis*

11.3% of Brazil's Pop.

11.3% GDP

*Metropolis = include areas that are connected through flow of goods and services

Sources: IBGE – Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatistica, *Regiao de Influencia das Cidades, 2007*





National Urban Network

Connections among Metropoles

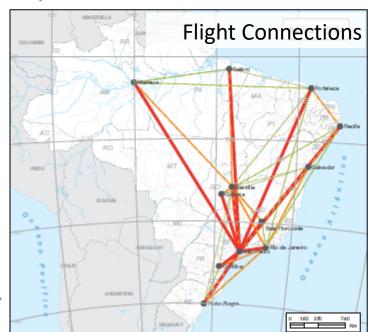
Brasilia: Federal Management Coordination Center

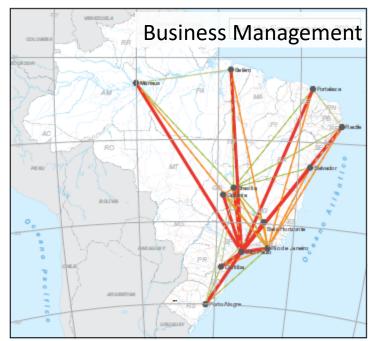
Sao Paulo: Business Management Command Center

*Metropoles = include areas that are connected through flow of goods and services

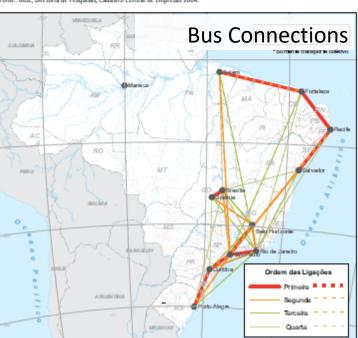








Fonte: IBGE, Diretoria de Pesquisas, Cadastro Central de Empresas 2004.



Sources: IBGE – Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatistica, *Regiao de Influencia das Cidades, 2007*



EDUCATION GOVERNANCE PHYSICAL PLANNING



Education: integrated mandatory curriculum

5-year architecture and urban design program: University of Sao Paulo

MANDATORY STUDIOS: 1X WEEK

ARCHITECTURE

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

URBAN PLANNING INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

GRAPHIC DESIGN

LECTURES & SEMINARS

HISTORY OF ART & ARCHITECTURE STRUCTURES GEOMETRY TOPOGRAPHY HYDRAULICS LIGHTING CALCULUS

THEORIES OF URBANIZATION LANDSCAPE

ACUSTICS THERMAL COMFORT ENVIRONMENT DESIGN HOUSING

ELECTIVES VARIES

Thesis: choose one topic of the mandatory studios



Governance: technical & executive levels

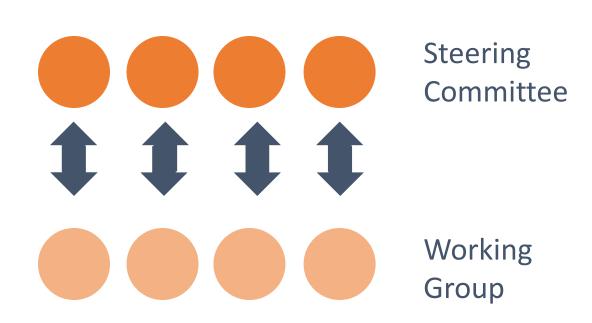
PROCENTRO: Sao Paulo Downtown Revitalization Program

Agency's Task:

Prevent further decline of quality of the downtown

Governance:

Steering Committee (technical & executive levels) with ~20 entities among public agencies & semi-public organizations

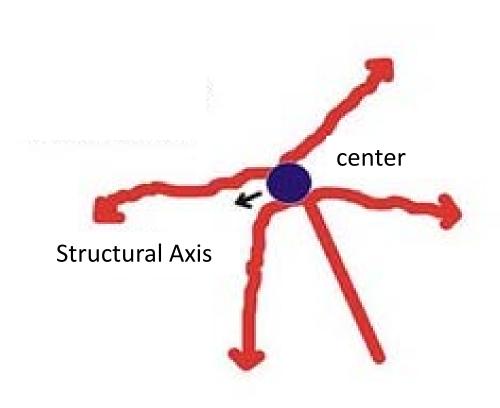


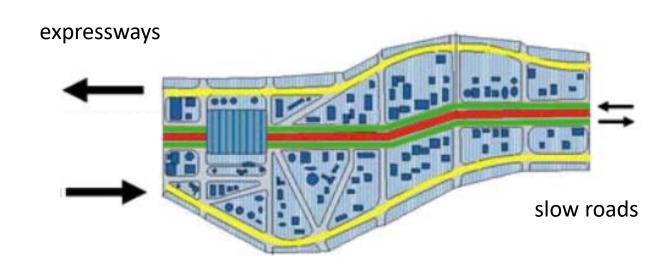
Sources: World Bank, US Census Bureau



Physical Planning: growing with infrastructure

Curitiba







Physical Planning: reclaiming infrastructure

Bringing back the river...



HUMANIZE

Good urban design is ultimately about people and how we can optimize the way they live, work, play and travel.



NATURALIZE

Increasing open spaces in cities is not only good for the environment; it's goodfor everyone's well-being.



URBANIZE

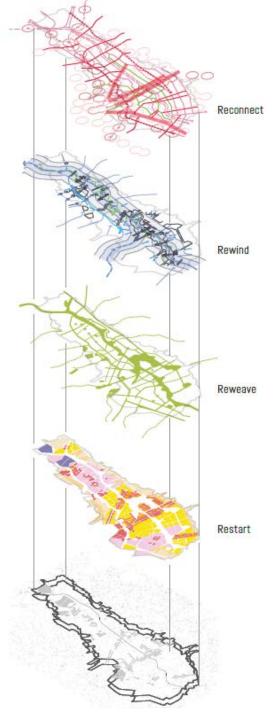
Our master plan emphasizes the best qualities of an urban setting with a carefully planned mix of uses, pedestrian-friendly connections, access to multiple transit modes and fair housing.





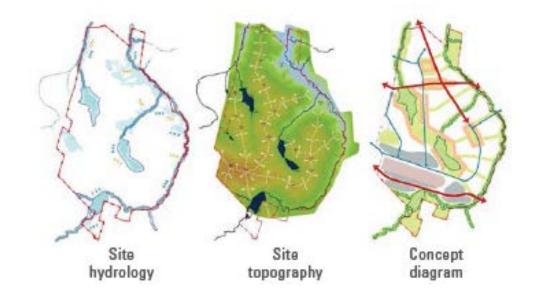




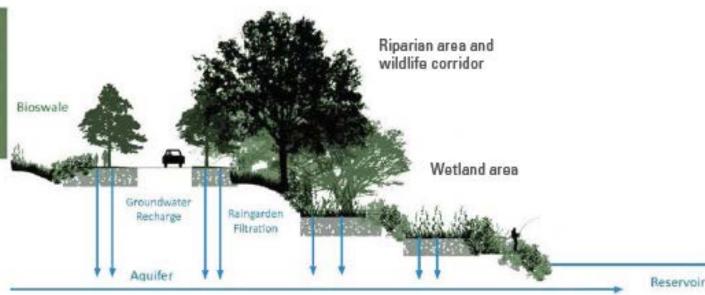


Physical Planning: preserving water quality

Water Quality Control







APPLICATION IN THE U.S.: INTEGRATING ACCESS TO EXPERIENCES



Integrating access to public spaces experiences

ENERGIZED PUBLIC SPACES FUNCTIONAL MASTER PLAN: access to experiences, not acres...

Access Distance/Time

Parkland per 1,000 Residents

Parkland per 1,000 Day me Occupants

Number of Visitors (capacity)

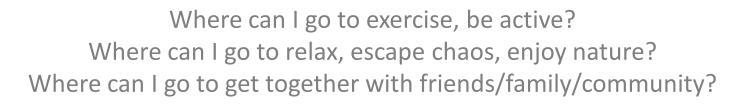
Facilities per Caxita

Quality LOS – Design and Maintenance

Park Units per 1,000 Residents

Spending on Parks

Revenue on Parks





Active



Contemplative



Social Gathering

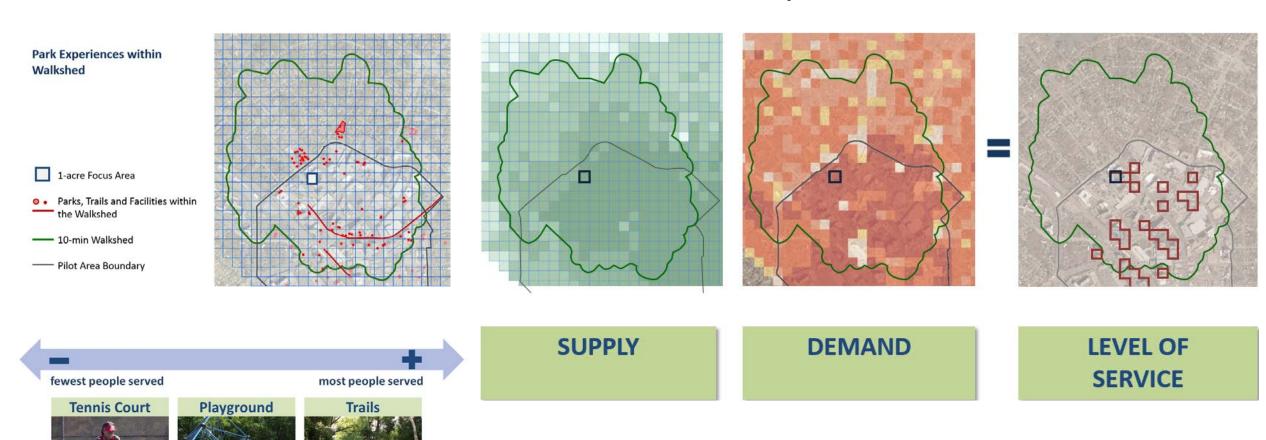
Focus on how organizations measure success...

Focus on how people use & experience outdoor public spaces...



Integrating access to public spaces experiences

ENERGIZED PUBLIC SPACES FUNCTIONAL MASTER PLAN: access to experiences, not acres...



ACTIVATE – CONNECT – RENOVATE/REPURPOSE DEVELOP - CREATE

Thank you! Obrigada!

Contact: cristina.sassaki@montgomeryparks.org