

UTAH PLANNER



American Planning Association
Utah Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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October • November 2015

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Utah Planner is the official newsletter of the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association (APA Utah), which is a non-profit organization. *Utah Planner* is circulated to approximately 570 subscribers and available online.

EDITORS

Michael Maloy, AICP michael.maloy@slcgov.com
Mark McGrath, AICP mmcgrath@taylorsvilleut.gov

NEWSLETTER SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION

Jay Aguilar, AICP planitutah10@gmail.com

ARTICLES

The *Utah Planner* welcomes APA Utah members and associates to submit articles for publication within the newsletter. Articles from one to three pages (approximately 600 to 1,800 words) will be considered. Special features may be longer or printed in a serial format. Subject matter appropriate for publication should be relevant to city planning or related profession, such as architecture, civil engineering, building, economic development, landscape architecture, etc. Articles should include images in PNG, JPEG or TIFF formats.

LETTER POLICY

The *Utah Planner* welcomes letters of up to 200 words on a single topic of general interest. If published, they become the sole property of the newsletter and may be edited for length, grammar, accuracy or clarity. Letters must include the author's full name, street address, daytime and evening telephone numbers, however only the name and city of residence are published. Only one letter per individual may be published each issue.

SUBMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please submit all articles or letters in Microsoft Word format. Please include your name, title, and e-mail contact information. Submittal deadline is the 15th of each month for publication the following month. *Utah Planner* reserves the right to delay publication of any submitted material. *Utah Planner* also reserves the right to reject any submitted material that is offensive, inappropriate, or doesn't meet the standards of the Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association.

CONTACT APA UTAH

- **WEB**
www.apautah.org
- **E-MAIL**
admin@apautah.org
- **POST**
PO BOX 1264
American Fork, UT 84003

COVER

Photograph of the George S. Eccles 2002 Legacy Bridge. Completed in December 2001, the suspension bridge is a dramatic pedestrian overpass on the campus of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Built in time for the 2002 Olympic Games, the bridge spans Wasatch Drive and the University TRAX Line. The main campus of the University of Utah lies below, while Fort Douglas, and the University of Utah Medical Center are at the upper east level of the bridge.

EDITORS CORNER

Within the past seven years, the *Utah Planner* has published three issues that focused on the history and state of planning education in Utah (December 2008, October 2011, and July 2014). Since the time I "walked" at the University of Utah in 1998, there has been a tremendous change in planning education within the State, most notably the addition of a Master of City & Metropolitan Planning, and a PhD in Metropolitan Planning, Policy and Design at the University of Utah. Personally, I believe that the availability of advanced degrees in planning within a local institution of higher education, is having—and will continue to have—the most significant positive impact on planning within the State of Utah in our lifetime.

The work of planning education is not being accomplished by the University of Utah alone. While preparing this issue we researched all urban planning related degrees currently offered at four of the largest universities within the State. Admittedly, a majority of these degrees are not planning specific and students who study within these programs are not likely to be applying for a planning position. But their education and professional work in relative fields helps us achieve the goal of "making great communities happen"—which together we strive for.

University of Utah (established 1850). Student enrollment 31,673
Civil & Environmental Engineering (BS, MS, PhD) • Environmental and Sustainability Studies (BA, BS, Minor) • Geography (BA, BS, MS, PhD, Minor) • Geographic Information Systems (MS) • Parks, Recreation & Tourism (BA, BS, MS, PhD) • Urban Ecology (BA, BS, Minor) • Master of City and Metropolitan Planning • PhD in Metropolitan Planning, Policy and Design • Master of Real Estate Development • Master of Public Administration • Urban Planning (Graduate Certificate) • Historic Preservation (Graduate Certificate) • Real Estate Development (Graduate Certificate) • Urban Design Certificate (Graduate) • Design (Interdisciplinary) (BS, Minor) • GIS Certificate (Undergraduate and Graduate) • Sustainability Certificate (Undergraduate and Graduate) • Demography Certificate (Graduate) • Climate Change Certificate (Undergraduate) • Multi-Disciplinary Design (BS, Minor)

Brigham Young University (established 1875). Student enrollment 29,672
Conservation Biology (BS) Environmental Science (BS) • Geography (BS) with emphases in Environmental Studies, Geographic Information Systems, or Urban & Regional Planning • Landscape Management (BS) • Civil and Environmental Engineering (BS, MS, PhD)

Utah State University (established 1888). Student enrollment 27,662
Parks and Recreation (BS) Geography (BS, MS) • Human Dimensions of Ecosystem Science and Management (MS, PhD) • Landscape Architecture (MLA) • Landscape Architecture (Advanced Professional Degree) (MLA) • Land, Plant and Climate Systems (BS, BA) • Watershed and Earth Systems (BS) • Building Construction and Construction Management (CC) • Conservation and Restoration Ecology (BS) • Environmental and Natural Resource Economics (BS) • Environmental Engineering (BS) • Environmental Studies (BS) • Law and Society Area Studies (Cert) • Civil Engineering (BS) • Civil and Environmental Engineering (MS, ME, PhD) • Climate Science (MS, PhD) • Ecology (MS, PhD) • Food and Agribusiness (International MBA) • International Food and Agribusiness (MS) • Irrigation Engineering (MS, PhD) • National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Certificate (Cert) • Watershed Science (MS, PhD)

Weber State University (established 1889). Student enrollment 26,266
Applied Environmental Geosciences (BS) Geography (BS) • Geospatial Analysis (Minor) • Public Administration (Minor) • Geomatics (Applied Mapping Sciences) (Institutional Certificate) • Environmental Sustainability for Business (Graduate Certificate) • Urban and Regional Planning Emphasis (BIS)

What an impressive array of programs and degrees for students who aim to shape the communities in which we all live, work, and play!

THE CITY

Quotable Thoughts on Cities and Urban Life

It has long been recognized that getting an education is effective for bettering oneself and one's chances in the world. But a degree and an education are not necessarily synonymous.

Jane Jacobs, *Dark Age Ahead*

Election 2015

by Michael Maloy, AICP

Salt Lake City Senior Planner

michael.maloy@slcgov.com



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On September 10, 2015, the American Planning Association (APA) concluded the first ever "consolidated election" that included the election of both national and local officers of APA.

Nationally, there were 36,861 eligible voters, of which 5,567 ballots were cast—which unfortunately is a mere 15.1%. Within the Utah Chapter, 103 of approximately 570 eligible ballots were cast for Chapter Secretary and Chapter Treasurer—which is only slightly better at 18%.

On behalf of the Executive Committee for APA Utah, I am pleased to announce the following election results:



Chapter Secretary

David Gellner, AICP, is currently employed as Principal Planner with Salt Lake City. Gellner holds a Master's degree in Applied Geography specializing in Resource and Environmental Studies from Texas State University at San Marcos and a Bachelor's degree in Geography from the University of Windsor in Ontario, Canada, where he was born and raised. In his spare time, David enjoys snow skiing, cooking, and spending time exploring the region with his wife and two young sons.



Chapter Treasurer

Laura Hanson, AICP, is the executive director of the Jordan River Commission. Hanson holds bachelor degrees in urban planning and environmental studies, and a Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of Utah. Her work has been recognized with numerous awards from the Quality Growth Commission, the Utah Chapters of the American Planning Association, and American Society for Landscape Architects. Hanson is a frequent speaker at local conferences.

Both of these individuals will begin a two year term of service on January 1, 2016. We appreciate their willingness to serve and we look forward to benefiting from their influence and leadership in the Chapter!



City & Metropolitan Planning The Next Generation

by Keith Bartholomew, JD

Interim Chair, University of Utah Department of City & Metropolitan Planning
bartholomew@arch.utah.edu



**Professor Keith Bartholomew, Interim Chair,
and Associate Professor of Urban Planning,
City & Metropolitan Planning,
University of Utah**



EAGLE
MOUNTAIN



Being artifacts of human society, institutions morph over time as the people invested in those institutions come and go. If an institution is fortunate (to anthropomorphize), the changes occur not in a steady stream, but in a generational fashion, with multiple positions turning over in a short period of time. Certainly, such large shifts in personnel can create stress and uncertainty. But they also facilitate the creation of synergies between the members of the new cohort who then birth the institution's new identity, character, and direction. Such rebirth and redefinition keeps an institution fresh and relevant.

I was fortunate to enter the University of Utah's College of Architecture + Planning as part of such a cohort in 2004. I and the six other faculty that came in with me almost instantly became a unit within the college, with a sense of cohesion and purpose for the future of the institution. As we matured in the college, we established our own tone and sense of direction for the college and invested our own sense of energy and vitality. We have now assumed many of the college's leadership positions, and our sense of connection to each other provides the institution with a basis for stability and growth into the future.

But we who stand in these positions of stability and continuity are witnessing the birth of a new generation. Within the past several months, we have seen the departure of three senior members of the City & Metropolitan Planning faculty and the arrival of three new members of our team. Similar changes have occurred across the college with new faculty in the School of Architecture, the Multi-disciplinary Design Program, and multiple changes in college, departmental, and research staff. If one includes the couple people who entered last year (the vanguard of the group), it totals a group of 15 new souls who together now comprise the Class of '15. Much as the Baby Boomers and Millennials have influenced our culture and economy, the Class of '15 will have an influence on our department and our college that us oldsters cannot imagine or predict. Which makes it incredibly exciting.

When I was asked by the APA Chapter newsletter editor to write this article, I was asked to articulate the department's vision and direction for the future. Technically speaking, as an interim chair, my only vision for the future is to no longer be the chair(!). Or, with a little less cheek, my vision is to help facilitate the transition to new long-term leadership. But whoever is in the leadership position, the reality is that it will be this new generation of staff and faculty—the Class of '15—who will establish the new identity, character, and direction for our department and college. I can't wait to see what they'll do. [For a sneak peak, check out the bios of some of the Class reproduced in these pages.]



City & Metropolitan Planning

College of Architecture + Planning Welcomes New Faculty

by Ashley Babbitt

Public Relations Specialist, College of Architecture + Planning
babbitt@arch.utah.edu



The University of Utah College of Architecture + Planning welcomes three new faculty members to the Department of City & Metropolitan Planning: Ivis Garcia Zambrana, Danya Rumore, and Divya Chandrasekhar.

Ivis Garcia Zambrana joins the faculty as an Assistant Professor. She plans to work in close collaboration with the University Neighborhood Partners. Her philosophy, methodology and ethos revolve around conducting research and plans in partnership with stakeholders, being from the grassroots or from institutionalized forms of government. Ivis offers community engagement as a major learning goal for students, "By working in real, hands-on projects that are about making connections between theory and practice. This can only happen if students are engaged with the community."

Ivis is an urban planner with research interests in the areas of community development, housing, and identity politics. "My main interest areas include community development, education, affordable housing, issues of identity and culture, leadership and empowerment." She has spent time as a professional planner in Albuquerque, New Mexico, San Francisco, California, Springfield, Missouri, Washington, D.C., and most recently with the Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Community Improvement, a research center within the University of Illinois at Chicago.

As a practitioner, Ivis has led several large-scale housing projects such as the BRAC Homeless Assistance Submission for the Concord Community Reuse Project and a program evaluation for the Chicago Low-Income Housing Trust Fund. Ivis earned her Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Policy from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She holds dual master's degrees from the University of New Mexico in Community and Regional Planning and Latin American Studies and a bachelor's in Environmental Sciences from Inter-American University in Puerto Rico.

Danya Rumore joins the faculty as a Visiting Assistant Professor. She is also the Associate Director of the Environmental Dispute Resolution Program in the Wallace Stegner Center in the College of Law. Her work and research focus on supporting collaborative decision-making around science-intensive environmental issues, with a particular focus on climate change mitigation and adaptation, water resource management, and mixed land-use.

"It's an exciting time to be here," says Danya. "The department has a focus on resilience, response, respect, and responsibility. These themes are

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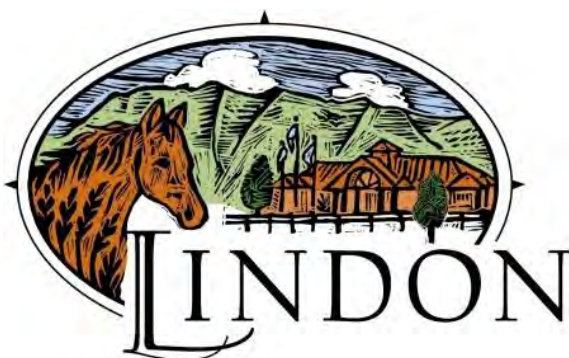
STATE OF UTAH
BROADBAND OUTREACH CENTER



SARATOGA SPRINGS



LEHI CITY



FACULTY (continued from previous page)

core to my work and interest in helping communities and stakeholders work together to address the environmental challenges and risks they collectively face.”

Danya received her doctorate in Environmental Policy and Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. At MIT, she was the Assistant Director of the MIT Science Impact Collaborative and the Project Manager for the New England Climate Adaptation Project. Danya was a 2008 Fulbright Graduate Student Fellow to New Zealand, where she completed a Master’s of Science in Environmental Management and Geography and worked with the New Zealand Centre for Sustainable Cities. She also holds a Bachelor’s of Science in Environmental Science and Natural Resource Economics from Oregon State University. She is a co-author of the recently released book “Managing Climate Risks in Coastal Communities: Strategies for Engagement, Readiness and Adaptation.”

At the U, Danya teaches negotiation and dispute resolution for planners. She is also a research affiliate of the Ecological Planning Center and the Global Change and Sustainability Center. She says of her teaching and research: “I have a particular interest in really getting students engaged in connecting theory to practice, in helping them understand how what they are learning about in their classes and research relates to addressing real world challenges.”

Her advice for planning students? “Planning is a field fueled by passion. Figure out what really drives you and what skills you bring to the table, and marry those two into how you approach your practice, research, and education.”

Divya Chandrasekhar joins the faculty as an Assistant Professor. Divya’s research focuses on how communities recover from disasters and other environmental change events, and the role of planning in this process. Her studies have examined participatory recovery planning, intensified plan-making after disasters, emergent institutional coordination, and recovery policy for prolonged displacement in the U.S., India, and Indonesia.

“I would like students to be aware of the world, as planning is about current events in the world,” says Divya. It is important for students to have a public interest focus and be engaged with the local communities. The more involved students are, the greater the knowledge they will gain.”

Divya specializes in qualitative inquiry and mixed method studies. Her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the Natural Hazards Center at Boulder, the Mid-America Earthquake Center, the University of Illinois, and Texas Southern University. She was a National PERISHIP Fellow with the Natural Hazards Center in 2007-2008, and her work is published in national and international journals. “I focus more on long term recovery, such as socio-economic and physical recovery, than on immediate disaster response,” says Divya.

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FACULTY (continued from previous page)

Divya has been an Assistant Professor in the Department of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy at Texas Southern University since 2010. She received her Master's and Ph.D. degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2010, and a Bachelor's degree in physical planning from the School of Planning and Architecture, New Delhi in 2003.

Pictured below from left to right is Danya Rushmore, Ivis Zambrana, and Divya Chandrasker. Photograph courtesy of Ashley Babbitt.



Newspaper Rock State Historic Monument in San Juan County, Utah



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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- MICHAEL MALOY, AICP, CO-EDITOR michael.maloy@slcgov.com • (801) 535-7118
- MARK McGRATH, AICP, CO-EDITOR mmcgrath@taylorsvilleut.gov • (801) 963-5400

City & Metropolitan Planning Measuring Livability

by Reid Ewing, PhD

Department Chair, City & Metropolitan Planning, University of Utah
ewing@arch.utah.edu



Professor Reid Ewing, center, is an associate editor of the Journal of the American Planning Association, and an editorial board member of the Journal of Planning Education and Research. More than 40 past columns are available at www.plan.utah.edu/?page_id=509



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A cool website has just gone live at the time of this writing (April 2015). By the time you read this column, you may have already discovered the website and need no introduction. (Perhaps you even read a News story about it in *Planning* last month (June 2015): "AARP Tool Quantifies Livability") But just in case...

AARP (formally known as the American Association of Retired Persons) is one of the nation's largest membership organizations, 37 million strong. Its Public Policy Institute has developed a Livability Index as a web-based tool to measure community livability for persons of *all ages, incomes, and abilities*—not just older Americans. You can access it at aarp.org/livabilityindex.

The Livability Index is a little like Walk Score, but much more comprehensive. It is the first tool of its kind to measure livability at the neighborhood level for the entire country. The tool and website got some development help from ICF International, with a small assist from our shop at the University of Utah.

The Livability Index rates places on a scale of 0 to 100. Using default weights for the individual dimensions of livability, I checked out my neighborhood in Salt Lake City, the Avenues. It gets a score of 61, which is above the national average and seems about right to me.

Users can search the index by address, ZIP code, or community to find an overall livability score, as well as a score for each of seven major dimensions: housing, neighborhood, transportation, environment, health, engagement, and opportunity. The total livability score is based on the average of all seven category scores.

All categories and the metrics within each are given equal weight. It scores communities by comparing them to one another, so the average community gets a score of 50, while above-average communities score higher and below-average communities score lower. With a slider bar, users also can customize the index to place greater emphasis on the livability features most important to them.

The tool draws on more than 50 unique sources of data. At the heart of the Livability Index are 40 metrics and 20 policies. While metrics measure how livable communities are at present, policies measure how they might become more livable over time. Metric values and policy points within each category are combined to create the category score. These category scores are then averaged to create a place's overall livability score.

For example, in transportation, the index bases total scores on six variables: frequency of local transit service (the higher the better), an estimate of walk trips (the higher the better), a measure of traffic congestion (the lower the better), an estimate of overall household transportation costs (the lower the better), average speed limits (the lower the better), and crash rates (the lower the better). Communities can earn brownie points for each of 20 policies that have been passed at the local and state level. For example, having a "complete streets" policy boosts a community's transportation score, and that in turn boosts the overall score.

The most livable neighborhood in the U.S. is West Mifflin in Madison, Wisconsin (score: 78), bordered by a university and state government with diverse housing choices and minimal traffic congestion, within walking distance of

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CRSA

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ARCHITECTS

LIVABILITY (continued from previous page)

parks, lakes, shopping, and performing arts centers. The most livable large city in the U.S.: San Francisco (66). The most livable small city: La Crosse, Wisconsin (70).

AARP has been working on the index since mid-2013. Why go to such effort? The website provides the following explanation:

As the U.S. population ages, we face a serious challenge: our communities are not prepared for an aging society. Nine out of ten older adults (65+) wish to remain in their communities as they age, and the great majority do so. In an effort to address this urgent challenge, AARP sought to help consumers and policymakers decide whether their communities are places where residents can easily live as they get older. Taking a multifaceted approach to assessing livability at the neighborhood level, AARP developed this ground-breaking tool to jump-start community conversations about livability and encourage action by consumers and policymakers alike.

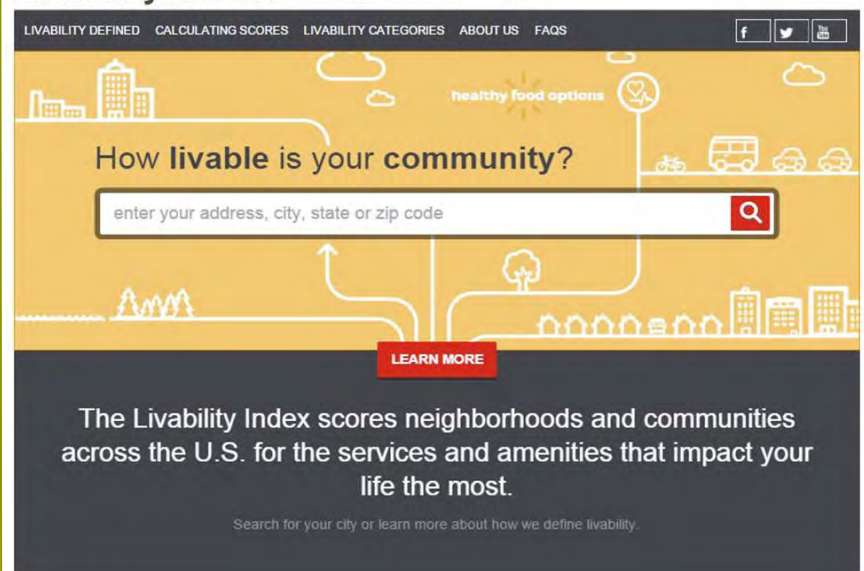
One concern that may surface as you explore the site is its urban bias. Most of the metrics favor downtowns of big cities over smaller cities, urban living over suburban and exurban living, and metropolitan areas over rural areas. That is to say, the index seems to place a premium on accessibility at the expense of bucolic values. It will be interesting to see how the world reacts to this feature. It squares with my values, but I expect that there will be pushback.

Another concern may be the fact that most of the nation clusters around mid-point scores, so there isn't as much differentiation from place to place as one might expect (or hope for). But that actually makes sense when you think about it. Most of the U.S. is pretty darn livable in one dimension or another.

Finally, there is the issue of face validity. It was impossible to check scores against on-the-ground conditions for the entire U.S. On a trip to Madison recently, my cab driver expressed surprise at the West Mifflin designation as most livable. So we swung by and found it a little rundown, with nearly all homes converted into student apartments. Most single-family homeowners wouldn't choose to live in this student ghetto. The numbers don't and can't tell the whole story.

I hope to see the Livability Index used by researchers in much the same way Walk Score has come to be used to explain variations in everything from property values to mode choices. It looks like AARP will be releasing the underlying data files to government, researchers, and others, so everyone can get into the game.

Livability Index | Great Neighborhoods for All Ages



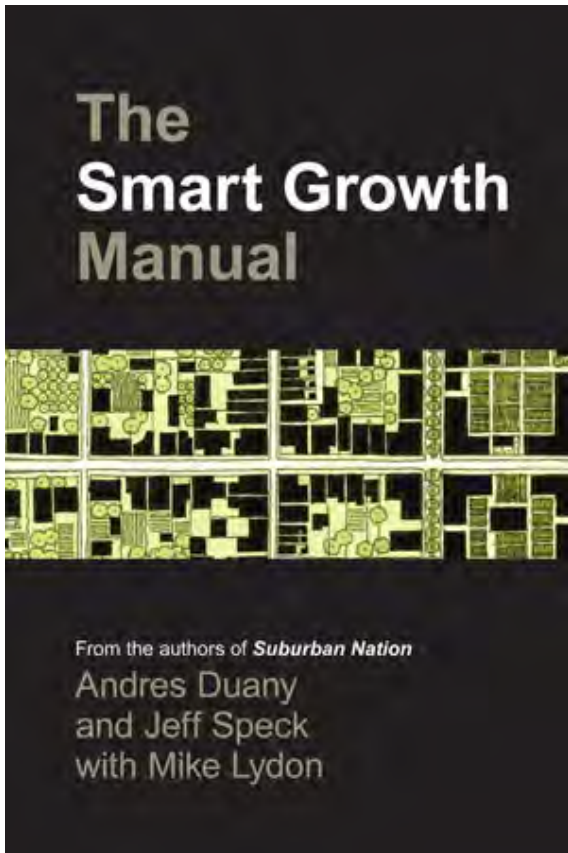
Livability Index Homepage

The Smart Growth Manual

An Aid to Polite Dinner Conversation and Regional Cooperation

by Max Backlund

Business Development Manager, Economic Development Corporation of Utah
mbacklund@edcutah.org



Read it!

Although *The Smart Growth Manual* has been listed as a 2010 Top 10 Book by Planetizen, it is not generally available in local bookstores or public libraries. However, *The Smart Growth Manual* is currently available at the J. Willard Marriott Library in Salt Lake City and the Harold B. Lee Library in Provo, Utah. Fortunately, *The Smart Growth Manual* is readily available for purchase online. Although list price for a first edition paperback (published October 2009) is \$39.95, new paperback copies are available online for \$11.25 plus shipping, and used copies are available online for \$7.73 plus shipping. A Kindle Edition of *The Smart Growth Manual* is also available for purchase via Amazon for \$13.72.

Max Backlund is a recent graduate from the University of Utah and received a Master of City & Metropolitan Planning.

My first exposure to city planning happened when I was twelve years old and saw an episode of *Seinfeld* entitled "The Van Buren Boys". George Costanza, one of the main characters, is tasked with choosing a scholarship recipient from a group of overachieving high school students. The only candidate to catch George's eye mirrors George in many ways, including the desire to be an architect, the fake career George uses when he lies to strangers about his successes. When the student decides he doesn't want to stop designing at the building level, choosing instead to design entire cities as a city planner, George reacts poorly and tries to take back the scholarship. To George's chagrin, the scholarship board universally applauds the decision to be a city planner, seeing it as more ambitious than becoming a simple architect, and awards the scholarship. So began my interest in the illustrious career of city planning.

Many times when planners are invited to dinner parties they find themselves in the position of explaining and simplifying their daily work. As self-explanatory as the term "city planner" may be, I always find myself explaining that cities are typically planned with some forethought and that there are people who devote daily time and effort to improving our cities' physical form and function. At this point the person with whom I am conversing typically unleashes a laundry list of challenges that their city faces, and tells me what we planners ought to do about it. Almost universally, these challenges and concerns center on growth and its effect on the community. At times like these having read *The Smart Growth Manual* is helpful because it breaks down complicated problems associated with growth and provides many solutions from locating official government buildings to locating private garages.

The Smart Growth Manual is one of the most important planning books of our time, and gives us a chance to prepare for the anticipated population growth over the next four decades. The book is divided into four sections, each discussing a level of the built environment. First, Duany and company address the regional level, followed by the neighborhood, street and building levels. As an employee of the Economic Development Corporation of Utah (EDCutah) I naturally focus on the regional level, but there is something for everyone from private builders to regional agencies. Smart growth is a unifying force that helps all parties involved in planning to participate together as we prepare our cities for coming generations, and *The Smart Growth Manual* is our conversation starter.

Predictably, the book focuses on growth at the primary consideration for planners, but there is always a debate about how planners should focus their efforts to maximize city living. City efficiency in the face of bad growth is a relatively recent concern as we suffer the effects of sprawl and its consequences for existing infrastructure, natural resources, and public and personal welfare. Where the past generation of planners were able to focus on maximizing personal liberties through the automobile, planners today must focus on bringing the city back into balance with the public welfare. As we plan our cities, growth, whether good or bad, is the deciding consideration of our time. As Duany puts it, "Today the poor quality of our built environment has convinced many people that good growth is not possible, and that the only option is to stop development entirely. Such an approach is untenable, as the population of this country is expected to grow by 30 million over the next 20 years" (Duany, 5).

As a tool to address bad growth, regional planning is essential, but it is also highly political and nuanced. *The Smart Growth Manual* highlights two important tools for effective regional planning: mixed-use neighborhoods and the urban-to-rural transect. The use of these tools results in the protection of open space, an empha-

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REVIEW (continued from previous page)

sis on existing infrastructure, and the equitable distribution of affordable housing and undesirable land uses. For those governments truly dedicated to smart growth, the *Manual* also argues that property taxes should be shared among municipalities through a government that corresponds to the physical structure of the metropolitan area.

While these tools are important, and Duany is right to point to their use as the means of preparing our communities for the future, smart growth at a regional level requires much more than transects and better neighborhood designs. It requires cooperation between planners, elected officials, and city administrators across municipal boundaries. Utah has organized regional and state-wide agencies like Wasatch Front Regional Council, Envision Utah, the Governor's Office of Economic Development and EDCUtah as a means of helping the rising tide to lift all boats. The responsibility falls on these agencies and companies to encourage communication and collaboration about issues like transportation planning, economic development, and resource management. Where planners focus on a range of issues from curb heights to tax incentives we must start tethering regional planning more effectively to smaller scale issues in our cities like neighborhood design.

As we improve our regional cooperation we can address the driving momentum behind bad growth. This momentum is best represented by what Duany describes as "all the entrenched laws, policies, practices, and special interests that have accumulated over six decades of sprawl" (Duany, xii). Only when we address the system that has generated sprawl will we be able to plan for the projected growth in a way that will protect our communities. *The Smart Growth Manual* provides us with the basic knowledge of issues and solutions at all levels of government so we can begin a conversation about Utah's future. Growth is coming our way and it will affect us all for better or worse. Now is the time for us to work together on new laws, policies, and practices that will prepare us for the next 35 years and beyond. Those may not be the same laws and policies prescribed by Duany's book, but it does serve as a starting place for a conversation about what we should do next, and not just at dinner parties.



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American Planning Association

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Collegiate Brutal

Why Brutalist-Style Buildings Are Common on American College Campuses

by **Dustin Tyler Joyce**

Independent Consultant
dustin@dtjoyce.com



**College of Architecture + Planning
Art and Architecture Building
University of Utah
Photograph by Paul Richer**

The following material was reprinted with permission by its author.

My first day as a student at the University of Utah, I passed through heavy wooden doors and entered the labyrinthine complex of corridors and classrooms where future architects and urban planners learned their craft. It always reminded me of the gatehouse of a medieval castle. It was dark, with most daylight blocked out in much of the building, the recessed incandescent lights effecting the faint glow of torches. The bare concrete and brick walls were always cold to the touch; it may have been dank were it not for a modern climate-control system. I rather liked it, though I may have been alone in my affection.

Angular, heavy, austere, concrete brutalist buildings are a hallmark of college campuses in the United States. Rare is the campus without at least one of them; rarer still is the one that doesn't inspire a considerable amount of derision in modern eyes. But why do American universities have so many brutalist buildings?

The reason most commonly given—to prevent student riots and occupations—is in all likelihood an urban legend, writes Slate's J. Bryan Lowder:

Many campus Brutalist projects were planned (if not totally completed) before the student movements of the late '60s and early '70s really took off, so crafty administrators would have to have been very prescient to foresee the countercultural-quashing usefulness of any particular style.

In fact, Mr. Lowder points out, "the philosophy behind Brutalism—which was developed in the '50s and early '60s, again well before the student rebellions began—was directly opposed to repression and control, a detail which makes the style's later association with totalitarianism all the more ironic."

The real reasons? First, it was modern and vogue, eagerly adopted by university anxious to "demonstrate their modernity bona fides." Second, "building in concrete was way, way cheap."

So, there you have it. University administrators were looking after the bottom line a little more than they were looking to quell student aspirations. Though, as any student who has taken classes in a cold, colorless, concrete brutalist building may tell you, they may have succeeded in doing that, too.

Want to read more? Read "Were Brutalist Buildings on College Campuses Really Designed to Thwart Student Riots?" by J. Bryan Lowder, published by Slate on October 18, 2013.



Upcoming Events for Utah Planners



Thomas Kearns Mansion Holiday Tour—Utah Heritage Foundation

December 1-17, 2016, every Tuesday and Thursday, from 2:00 to 4:00 PM MST. For groups larger than 20, call 801.533.0858 ext. 107
603 E South Temple Street, Salt Lake City, Utah
For more information: www.utahheritagefoundation.org



The Ethics of Private Practice Consulting—APA Webcast Series

December 4, 2015, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM MST
Registration information: www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/development_webcast
No charge for registration. 1.0 AICP CM Ethics credit pending



Municipal Officials Training—Utah League of Cities and Towns

Cedar City Hall, 10 N Main Street, Cedar City, Utah
December 4, 2015, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM MST
\$40 registration fee includes a copy of *2015 Powers & Duties Handbook*
For more information: www.ulct.org/land-use/regional-training-events/newly-elected-training-series/



Municipal Officials Training—Utah League of Cities and Towns

Snow College, 150 College Avenue, Ephraim, Utah
December 5, 2015, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM MST
\$40 registration fee includes a copy of *2015 Powers & Duties Handbook*
For more information: www.ulct.org/land-use/regional-training-events/newly-elected-training-series/



Equity Issues in Transportation Planning: Getting More Voices into the Conversation—APA Webcast Series

December 11 2015, from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM MST
Registration information: www.ohioplanning.org/aws/APAOH/pt/sp/development_webcast
No charge for registration. 1.0 AICP CM Ethics credit pending

Mark your calendars now...



Municipal Officials Training—Utah League of Cities and Towns

Utah State University, 5055 Old Main Hill, Logan, Utah
January 9, 2016, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM MST
\$40 registration fee includes a copy of *2015 Powers & Duties Handbook*
For more information: www.ulct.org/land-use/regional-training-events/newly-elected-training-series/



Michael Maltzan, Founder and Principal of Michael Maltzan Architecture—School of Architecture Lecture Series

January 27, 2016. Lecture begins at 4:00 PM MST
College of Architecture + Planning, 375 S 1530 East, Room 127, Salt Lake City, Utah
For more information: www.cap.utah.edu



Anne G. Mooney, Associate Professor and Principal Architect of Sparano + Mooney Architecture—School of Architecture Lecture Series

February 26, 2016. Lecture begins at 4:00 PM MST
College of Architecture + Planning, 375 S 1530 East, Room 127, Salt Lake City, Utah
For more information: www.cap.utah.edu



Emilie Taylor, Architect and Tulane City Center Design/Build Manager—School of Architecture Lecture Series

March 2, 2016. Lecture begins at 4:00 PM MST
College of Architecture + Planning, 375 S 1530 East, Room 127, Salt Lake City, Utah
For more information: www.cap.utah.edu



2016 Utah Preservation Conference—Utah Heritage Foundation

March 31-April 1, 2016
Officer's Club at Fort Douglas, 150 S Fort Douglas Blvd, Salt Lake City, Utah
For more information: www.utahheritagefoundation.com



2016 National Planning Conference—APA

April 2-5, 2016
Phoenix Convention Center, 100 N 3rd Street, Phoenix, Arizona
For more information: www.planning.org/conference/
AICP CM credits available



Midyear Conference—Utah League of Cities and Towns

April 6-8, 2016
Dixie Center, 1835 South Convention Center Drive, St George, Utah
For more information: www.ulct.org/ulct/training/



2016 Spring Conference—Utah Chapter of the American Planning Association

May 19-20, 2016
Uintah Conference Center, 313 E 200 South, Vernal, Utah
For more information: e-mail Judi Pickell, Chapter Administrator, at admin@apautah.org
AICP CM credits pending