

UC Berkeley

Berkeley Planning Journal

Title

Editor's Note

Permalink

<https://escholarship.org/uc/item/0083b1hw>

Journal

Berkeley Planning Journal, 18(1)

Author

Vincent, Jeff M.

Publication Date

2005

DOI

10.5070/BP318112969

Copyright Information

Copyright 2005 by the author(s). All rights reserved unless otherwise indicated. Contact the author(s) for any necessary permissions. Learn more at <https://escholarship.org/terms>

Editor's Note

You are holding Volume 18 of the Berkeley Planning Journal, which marks our 20th anniversary and 20th printed edition. The BPJ has consistently offered engaging and provocative articles in the field of city planning, and Volume 18 is no different. With this edition, we are pleased to introduce a new look to the Journal's cover and interior. Whereas earlier volumes have traditionally featured Berkeley's fabled Campanile on the cover, with Volume 18 we turn the gaze around and now find ourselves inside the bell room looking out.

Volume 18 peers out with detailed and critical eyes in many compelling directions — from California's Central Valley to Perth, Australia, from schools of the historic South to public schools in today's urban centers, and from the Canadian provinces to 1950s Cleveland and back to the Berkeley campus. The articles herein are wide reaching in scope, yet they share cross-cutting themes. The idea of "social planning" as a pivotal, yet conflicted, construct in planning is discussed by Sandoval, McKoy and Vincent, Hoernig et al., Flamm, and Kirchler. Hill and Sandoval detail regionalist thinking. Learning from planning practices in history is found in Flamm and Kirchler's articles.

Borrowing from Castells' Information Age theories, in "Network Power for Social Change: Grassroots Organizing Efforts via Information Technologies in California's Central Valley," Gerardo Francisco Sandoval offers provocative insight into the new sophisticated age of grassroots organizing. He describes how actors "from below" are using modern technology to foster strong multi-ethnic collective action and push a social justice agenda in the Central Valley — California's fastest growing and increasingly diverse area.

Hoernig, Leahy, Zhuang, Earley, Randall, and Whitelaw provide a thought-provoking and welcome discussion on social planning in, "Planning for People: Addressing Social Issues and Processes in Planning." Supported by the traditional pillars of planning theory, these authors present three planning process case studies from Canada to reveal how planners can, and must, continually plan for and with people, rather than in the isolated, technocratic mode with which the field has long struggled.

In "The Center for Cities & Schools: Connecting Research and Policy Agendas," Deborah L. McKoy and Jeffrey M. Vincent compellingly argue that the planning field must nurture currently absent connections with the nation's bifurcated public school system. Their piece describes Berkeley's new Center for Cities & Schools and its work to bridge disconnects be-

tween public education and broader urban policy, aiming to improve cities *and* schools. McKoy and Vincent report on the Center's Fall 2004 symposium speakers — Brookings Institution's Bruce Katz and San Francisco Unified School District's Arlene Ackerman.

In "Architecture and Landscapes of Segregation: An Historical Look at the Built Environment of Educational Facilities in the United States," Leslie Kirchler does what so few have done — analyzed segregation's manifestation in the built environment. Looking at segregated public grade schools and the Historically Black Colleges and Universities of the South, Kirchler describes the troublesome discriminatory artifacts of the built environment, and tells the how cultural norms of historic black southerners found their way into campus designs.

In "The Garden Valley: Visions and Values in 1950s Cleveland with Allan Jacobs," Bradley Flamm provides wonderful insight into the "lessons learned" from the storied career of one of urban design's most prominent figures. With contemplative hindsight, wisdom, and quiet humor, Jacobs reflects on the struggles of his early design work, while Flamm sets the backdrop of 1950s urban revitalization in Cleveland.

Going down under, Louis Hill, Jr. describes Australian regional planning in, "Guiding Perth's Growth: A Regional Perspective." Hill eloquently chronicles the development and coalescence of various regional plans in the Perth area, detailing how they operate in the state-centered "British-style" planning policy framework — one that better supports regional planning than does the more fragmented U.S. framework.

Finally, Cornelius Nuworsoo investigates innovative pricing structures for public transit in "The Deep Discount Group Pass Program: Innovative Transit Finance." Using three case studies from Colorado and California, Nuworsoo finds that group pass programs raise transit revenues and offer a compelling model to shift transit fares to groups rather than individuals.

Enjoy Volume 18,

Jeffrey M. Vincent, Editor
June 2005