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Adam Millard-Ball

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If you are reading this issue electronically from home, or from a workplace that does not have a *JAPA* institutional subscription, you might notice that the book reviews are easier to access. No longer do you need to wrangle with a Virtual Private Network or subscription portal. For a trial period, *JAPA*'s publisher, Taylor and Francis, is providing free access to book reviews for several months after publication.

I hope that free access reduces the frictions in accessing *JAPA*'s book reviews, especially as more of us work from home in a covid-19 world. I also hope that it expands the readership of reviews to those who may not have access to paid *JAPA* content, particularly practitioners, faculty and students at smaller institutions, and people outside North America. Please enjoy the reviews, and share any that you find interesting with friends and colleagues.

At the same time, the book review section will be moving to an Online First model. Going forward, most reviews will be published online before being incorporated into a particular issue. The aim: increase the relevance of the book reviews, and shorten the time between a book's publication and when a review appears.

Together, these changes mean the end of *Notes from the Review Editor* as a regular column. One of the purposes of the *Notes* was to summarize the reviews for people who did not have paid access to *JAPA*. And since most of the reviews from now on will have been already appeared as Online First, that summary will be somewhat dated.

These changes should make it more rewarding to review a book for *JAPA*. Your review will be published more promptly, and be read by more people. Please volunteer - drop me an email with details of the topics that are of interest to you, and encourage your colleagues and PhD students to do the same. In addition to regular 800-word reviews, two new formats will be rolling out over the next year: synthetic essays covering several books, and shorter-form *Book Notes*.

This issue features eight reviews, with an emphasis on international planning in the Global South. Ryan Devlin reviews Hiba Bou Akar's *For the War Yet to Come* - a disquieting study of

how religious groups contest the territory of peripheral neighborhoods in Beirut. Saleh Ahmed reviews *Dhaka's Changing Landscape*, a portrait of growth and social change by Rita Afsar and Mahabub Hossain. Enrique Silva then considers a broader set of cases in *The Routledge Handbook of Planning Megacities in the Global South*, edited by Deden Rukmana.

In her review of *Data Action* by Sarah Williams, Clio Andris finds an accessible and inspiring treatment of the social justice challenges of data in urban planning, and the potential for community empowerment. David Varady reviews *The Misunderstood History of Gentrification* by Dennis Gale, which provides a "highly readable" historical perspective. *Zoning*, edited by Elliott Sclar, Bernadette Baird-Zars, Lauren Ames Fischer, and Valerie Stahl, takes an institutional perspective on land-use law, and is reviewed by Thomas Skuzinski.

Two transportation titles round out this issue's reviews. *The Streets of Europe* by Brian Ladd is a revelation to anyone who likes streets, according to reviewer Michael B. Teitz. And Thomas Cornille reviews *Public Transportation Systems* by Carlos F. Daganzo and Yanfeng Ouyang, which provides an advanced quantitative perspective on transit planning methods.

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