



Neighborhoods and Placemaking A Resource List – February, 2015

Project for Public Spaces

www.pps.org

“The Project for Public Spaces in the central hub of the global Placemaking movement, connecting people to ideas, expertise, and partners who share a passion for creating vital places.”

Projects, grants, and an amazing amount of resources are available. Subscribe to their free Placemaking Newsletter to learn about new urban spaces including parks, plazas and markets. Look at their recommended reading lists on parks, streets, transit, and other ways to build great community places.

Books

The Great Neighborhood Book: A Do-It-Yourself Guide to Placemaking by Jay Walljasper and the Project for Public Spaces

The Abundant Community: Awakening the Power of Families and Neighborhoods by John McKnight

Community: The Structure of Belonging by Peter Block

Building Communities From the Inside Out: A Path Toward Finding and Mobilizing A Community’s Assets by John P. Kretzmann

Life Between Buildings: Using Public Space by Jan Gehl

The Good Life: New Public Spaces for Recreation by Zoe Ryan

Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America One Step at a Time by Jeff Speck

Placemaking on a Budget by the American Planning Association

Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community by Robert D. Putnam

Journals and Web

Placemaking is a discussion happening across public professions, both in journals and on the web. Some examples:

“Grassroots Placemaking” by Samantha Bartram in *Parks & Recreation* September 1, 2014. Discusses the concept of “tactical urbanism” and how it can apply in public parks from events like ciclovía to guerrilla gardening.



“How the Arts and Cultural Tourism Spur Economic Development” by Craig Watson in *Western City May*, 2013.



Discusses the role of creative placemaking and the role of cultural districts, arts festivals, and creating an “arts oasis” in California cities.



Libraries add value to neighborhoods, including a spending “halo effect” (American Library Association)



<http://www.ala.org/research/librariesmatter/taxonomy/term/131>



Public Libraries have a positive impact on downtowns and neighborhoods (Urban Libraries Council)



http://www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/1001075_stronger_cities.pdf



Principles of Creative Placemaking from ArtPlace America



<http://www.artplaceamerica.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Principles-of-Creative-Placemaking.pdf>



Eleven Principles for Creating Great Community Places



<http://www.pps.org/reference/11steps/>



Eleven guiding principles for creating places in your community, adapted from the book *How to Turn A Place Around*.



The Michigan Municipal League presents Eight Assets That Make Communities Vibrant Places with resources such as a walkability toolkit and “smart growth manual.”



<http://placemaking.mml.org/how-to/resources/>



Building Successful Neighborhoods – a framing paper from the Urban Institute



<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412557-Building-Successful-Neighborhoods.pdf>



Pocket Neighborhoods: Building Blocks for Resilient Communities



<http://www.planetizen.com/node/56611>



A Fundamental Change for Neighborhoods: Building A Culture Of Health – from the Building Healthy Places Network



<http://www.buildhealthyplaces.org/a-fundamental-change-for-neighborhoods-building-a-culture-of-health/>



For further resources, consult your local public library – a vibrant community place!



Torrance Public Library www.library.torranceca.gov



Palos Verdes Library District <http://www.pvld.org/>



Los Angeles County Public Library <http://www.colapublib.org/>



Los Angeles Public Library <http://www.lapl.org/>



El Segundo Public Library <http://www.elsegundo.org/library/>



Redondo Beach Public Library <http://www.redondo.org/depts/library/default.asp>

