Places and Context Sensitive Design

By
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Places and Context Sensitive design

- Frontiers: change
- Places: *where people want to be*
- Place builders: *all of us*
- Public involvement: *citizen guidance*
- Process: *shared decision-making*
- sacred cows and common sense
Change

- Information
- Markets
- Settlement patterns
- Transportation responses
- Attitudes
- Practices
- Outcomes
Places

- **Destinations**, where people want to be:
  - to live, to work, to shop, to learn, to congregate, to recreate

- The importance of *design* in the quality of place

- The **“purpose and need”** of every trip:
  - Why we took the trip in the first place, to get from some PLACE to some PLACE, and
  - Every trip begins and ends walking
Place Builders

- **Transdisciplinary** – we all build places
  - engineers, architects, planners, landscape architects
  - developers, lawyers, contractors, lenders
  - government agencies of all types and at all levels
  - most important, places are built by people, for people

- **Who judges?**
  - Our various professions?
  - The media?
  - Ultimately the people there, before and after
Public Involvement

- **Information**
  - full and transparent access

- **Vision**
  - how can we make our places look, feel and work better

- **Trust**
  - building the bridges of trust between the people, government and the private sector

- **Action**
  - all our work, together, must be geared toward action
Process

- Interactive, Democratic, Consensual
  - involving all the “players”
  - transdisciplinary leadership
  - shared decision-making
  - getting it done

VS.

- Linear, Hierarchical, Mandated
  - the old way
Sacred cows and Common sense

- **Obstacles** to places and context sensitive design
  - Design year traffic projections
  - Levels of Service
  - Design speed
  - Safety and liability issues
  - Leave it to the “experts” attitude
  - Bad zoning

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