our cities ourselves

10 Principles for Transport in Urban Life

Remaking our cities for livability

2010 Sustainability not seen on the streets		2030 Streets become the locus for sustainability
Traffic dominates society	→	Choice dominates
Economy primarily based on consumption	→	Economy based on quality of life
Designing objects	→	Making places
Disagreement on global sustainability	→	Local livability translates into global sustainability

Although the Civitas focus is European, we can learn globally

All over the world we face the same challenges:

Building new networks & building new cultures

Places we work

GEHL ARCHITECTS
URBAN QUALITY CONSULTANTS

At Gehl Architects we focus equally on

Hardware & Software

We work to provide:

1. Evidence People Data
2. Examplary Projects Improved liveability
3. Impowerment A new planning Culture

our cities ourselves

Livable today, sustainable for the future
The principles outlined here are intended to inspire us to improve the quality of life in cities today while ensuring their viability tomorrow.

Addressing the global issue of sustainability...

...by emphasizing the local issue of livability...

...with mobility as a link between the local and the global.

ITDP | Institute for Transportation & Development Policy
Promoting sustainable and equitable transportation worldwide.

GEHL ARCHITECTS
URBAN QUALITY CONSULTANTS

Principle 1: *Walk the Walk!*

Great cities start with great pedestrian environments. Walking is the most universally accessible form of transport.

Every journey begins and ends with walking, streets that are designed to prioritize pedestrians can also improve health, economic activity and safety

1 Walk the Walk!

Create great pedestrian environments

Canopies create critical shade for walkways. Dubai, UAE

Ensure simple, direct street crossings always at grade. Rio de janeiro, Brazil

Invite people to walk everywhere in the city

Continuous sidewalks over sidestreets gives pedestrians priority. Copenhagen, Denmark

Principle 1: ***Walk the Walk!***

What does it mean

for the planet:

Residents living in walkable urban communities use half as much energy in BTU's per capita as their suburban counterparts.

for you:

I am likely to have a longer and more healthy life because walking is an enjoyable part of my everday routine.

If I walk an average of 2 km a day while growing up, I am 10% less likely to be obese.

Principle 2: *Powered by People!*

The more cycle use on streets, the safer they become.
When a good bicycle network is established, people continue to bike regardless of age, wealth, or weather.

Dedicated space for non-motorized transit, like bike lanes, provides safety and convenience to riders, [free from potential conflicts with vehicles], and a great incentive to ride.

Powered By People: *Case Study*

City for Cyclists

Copenhagen, Denmark

Commuting modes in Copenhagen 2008

Blue dedicated lanes at intersection increases awareness and safety

Biking - an everyday activity for all age groups.

Principle 2: ***Powered by People!***

What does it mean

for the planet:

Biking is the most effecient form of transportation yet invented. Using the same amount of energy you get 3 times as far as walking (and 60 times as far as driving a

for you:

If I bike to work instead of taking the car for the next 20 years, I will save $100,000 more for my retirement, live 7 years longer, and cut 94 tons of CO_2.

Principle 3: *Get on the Bus!*

Comfortable, safe, high-speed public transit provides the next best option to walking or biking.

Mass transport can move millions of people quickly and comfortably using a fraction of the fuel and street space required by automobiles.

3 Get on the Bus!

Provide great, cost-effective public transport

Weather protected stations with seating and real time information systems makes the experience much more comfortable for the passenger. Ahmedabad, India

Level boarding without stairs makes it easier for people with strollers and packages or people in wheelchairs to enter. Metrobús, Mexico City

Focus on the passenger

Principle 3: *Get on the Bus!*

What does it mean

for the planet:

A bus can typically carry over 8 times as many people as cars and proportionately use a fraction of the amount of energy per passenger. This benefits both global climate and street environment in cities.

for you:

If you choose the bus in Jakarta instead of taking the car, you save 0,2 kg Co2 per kilometer, or 2 tons per year going to and from work.

Principle 4: *Cruise Control!*

Managing traffic includes getting smart using technology, helping cars slow down, paying for the priviledge, and re-routing traffic.

Some trips will need to be done by cars. By managing private car use and expanding car sharing, cities can minimize these negative outcomes, while creating space for pedestrians, mass and non-motorized transit.

Principle 4: *Cruise Control!*

Pay for the privilege

2-to-1 public opposition to congestion charges turned to 2-to-1 support after voters saw how a 20% drop in traffic led to a 30-50% reduction in traffic delays. Stockholm, Sweden

On-street parking fees are used to optimize turnover at the curb and fund Bicing, the city's bike sharing scheme with stations in former car parking spaces on certain streets. Barcelona, Spain

Principle 4: ***Cruise Control!***

What does it mean

for the planet:

A 5-kilometer per hour drop in speed results in 15 percent fewer collisions, 10 percent fewer pedestrian fatalities, and 20 percent less severe pedestrian injuries.

for you:

With car sharing, I always have access to a car – in fact, many types of cars.

Principle 5: *Deliver the Goods!*

Sustainable cities will be cleaner, quieter, and safer by creating eco-zones, slow speed zones, and regulating the times and places where goods can be delivered.

Sustainable cities will provide some accommodation for clean and safe freight delivery, like rail, and help to make centralized distribution and non-motorized means of distribution more viable.

5 Deliver the Goods

Servicing the city in the cleanest and safest manner

Going the last mile

Inter-city deliveries can utilize customized forms of non-motorized transportation to efficiently navigate urban areas. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Principle 5: *Deliver the Goods!*

What does it mean

for the planet:

Every year in the state of California, the air pollution generated by the movement of goods causes an estimated 3,940 Californians to die prematurely and costs $34 billion in associated health care costs.

for you:

If you live in New York, buying a bottle of wine from California will cause over ten times more carbon emmissions than a bottle from france because of the way it is transported.

Principle 6: *Mix it up!*

Energize public space with mixed-use development and ground floor activities. Mixed-use means you are closer to everything and places are safer and livlier during all hours.

Great neighborhoods are often mixed use, blending commercial and residential uses, with trees, plazas and other public spaces. This diversity attracts people who live and work in the area, but also visitors who come to shop, eat or simply enjoy the street-level vibrancy of well-planned, mixed-use communities.

6 Mix it up

Mix people and activities, buildings and spaces

Foster a fine-grain mix of uses in the three dimensions

Principle 6: *Mix it up!*

What does it mean

for the planet:

Mixed use development can reduce average vehicular miles travelled per person per day by 30%

for you:

The daily activity most injurious to happiness is commuting (by car). With a shorter commute, you'll be happier!

Principle 7: *Fill it in!*

Denisify around transit stations and within the city rather than outskirts.

Residents and visitors will be attracted to neighborhoods where walking, biking and transit are all viable options for most trips. And dense, urban communities have a decided environmental advantage.

Principle 7: ***Fill it in!***

Revitalize the existing before building new

Industrial area metamorphosed into a hub of life, work and leisure. New York City, USA

Reused structures preserve elements of neighborhood history and identity. Vertical extensions accommodate additional people and activities. New York City, USA

Principle 7: *Fill it in!*

What does it mean

for the planet:

By encouraging infill development, the economic savings to society would equate to over $300 million per 1000 housing units or $110,000,000,000 over the next 50 years for a city with 4-5 million inhabitants.

for you:

A dense neighborhood for me is a place where my friends and kids can easily live nearby, I can walk to where I need to get to, and everything I need is close at hand. My neighborhood is my community.

Principle 8: *Get Real!*

Distinguish by preserving and enhancing the natuarl, cultural, social, and historical assets of the place. In a globalized world, identity and cultural heritage become competitive advantages.

A community's history, natural environment and ethnic traditions all contribute meaningfully to what makes a place unique. Finding these elements and enhancing them is critical to distinguishing one place from another.

Lapa, Rio de Janeiro

Historic district rebounds

Principle 8: *Get Real!*

Rediscover neglected amenities

With the demolition of the old motorway that covered it, an ancient river was reinvented and turned into a popular recreational artery. Cheonggyecheon River, Seoul, South Korea

Old tree preserved and bus station built around, Mexico City

Principle 8: ***Get Real!***

What does it mean

for the planet:

With renovation of old buildings, energy use from heating can be reduced by 77%. The energy used from renovating an old building is far less than from constructing a new building.

for you:

When you buy food and services from locally owned businesses instead of large chain stores, three times as much money stays in the local economy.

Principle 9: *Connect the blocks!*

Maximize the connectivity of walking trips with small block sizes and permeable blocks and buildings.

The more connected the blocks, the shorter the distance between destinations, making walking and biking more appealing.

9 Connect the blocks

Make walking trips more direct, interesting and productive with small-size, permeable buildings and blocks

In an environment well scaled to the physical size of the human body, all senses can engage.

Fine grain area filled with restaurants and small shops. Istanbul, Turkey

Laneways and small scale passages increase connectivity, and appeal to the senses . Guangzhou, China

Protect fine grain environments

Connect the blocks: *Case Study*

Bo 01, Malmo, Sweden

Aerial view of Boo1 development

Narrow, short, shifted streets and small squares creates a varied streetscape suitable for walking.

The new area has become a meeting place for all inhabitants, a place where anything can happen.

Principle 9: *Connect the blocks!*

What does it mean

for the planet:

Total land consumption as a result of dense urban living is 1/1000th that of suburban living.

for you:

Humans are linear, frontal, horizontal mammals that walk at a maximum of 3 mph and have an eye level of approximately 5 feet. Human mobility and human senses should be the biological basis for how streets are designed.

Principle 10: *Make it last!*

Build for the long term. Sustainable cities bridge generations. They are memorable, malleable, built from quality materials, and well maintained.

Investing in cities more broadly is as important as investing in sustainable transportation. What makes up the streetscape - buildings, street furniture, public art – can last for decades, if not centuries, with the right planning and maintenance.

Principle 10: *Make it last!*

The Bryant Park Coporation engages the local community to act as a steward of this public park
Bryant Park, New York

Taking care - maintain and manage

Keeping a place up is an expression of ownership that begets higher values.
Philadelphia, USA

Principle 10: *Make it last!*

What does it mean

for the planet:

Investing in quality of design and materials will pay off in the long run. A life cycle assessment helps showing environmental impact on the whole life of a building, not just the production.

for you:

Deciding how my city changes is a matter of thinking about how my grandchildren will be living in 2080, and what kind of quality of life I want them to have. The less they need cars, the more they can safely walk and bike, the happier and healthier they'll be.

summary

MOD

Mobility Oriented Development

GEHL ARCHITECTS
URBAN QUALITY CONSULTANTS

our cities ourselves
THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION IN URBAN LIFE
www.ourcitiesourselves.org

ITDP Institute for Transportation & Development Policy
Promoting sustainable and equitable transportation worldwide.
www.itdp.org

GEHL ARCHITECTS
URBAN QUALITY CONSULTANTS
www.gehlarchitects.dk