New Book Sustainable Transportation Planning: Tools for Creating Vibrant, Healthy, and Resilient Communities

This book provides step-by-step instructions for implementing smart, sustainable transportation concepts in communities large and small.


The book is a how-to guide for anyone interested in the economic, social and ecological health of cities. Written in accessible language, the book starts with research on brain chemistry, noting how excessive driving makes us anti-social and dumb, while more walking and biking contributes to making us happier and smarter. It explores the unique needs of all modes of transportation – walking, bicycling, driving, transit – and provides smart transportation concepts in communities large and small.

Tumlin is single handedly changing the way America thinks about transportation. Instead of measuring success by how many freeways a city has, Tumlin is showing that transportation (including walking and bike) choices can help cities save money and create social vitality and economic success.

The book features:

• Research on correlation between transportation and mental and physical health of citizens
• Consideration of bike, pedestrian, automobile, and mass transit modes, as well as how these modes interrelate
• Parking systems and solutions for automobiles and bicycles
• Complete streets
• Applicability at varying scales, from a downtown street to a neighborhood to a regional network
• Case studies that look at exemplary projects across North America
• Detailed measures of success for both individual transportation modes and entire systems
• Carsharing, transportation demand management and transit oriented design
• Additional discussion of parking, station design, and congestion management

Sustainable Transportation Planning is also available as an e-book.

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About the author:

Jeffrey Tumlin is single handedly changing the way America thinks about transportation. Instead of measuring success by how many freeways a city has, Tumlin is showing that transportation (including walking and biking) is one of the secrets to a happy, healthy life – and for cities to create social vitality and economic success.

Tumlin is an internationally recognized speaker and transportation planner. He is an owner and principal of Nelson/Nygaard Associates, a San Francisco–based transportation planning and engineering firm. For 20 years, he has led station-area, downtown, citywide, and campus plans across the country and internationally. His major development projects have succeeded in reducing traffic and CO2 emissions by as much as 40 percent and have accommodated many millions of square feet of growth with no net increase in motor vehicle traffic. These projects have won awards from the General Services Administration, American Planning Association, American Society of Landscape Architects, Congress for the New Urbanism, and Urban Land Institute.

Tumlin is a sought-after expert to comment on topics that include economic development, real estate, public health, environment, carbon emissions, land use, social equity, ecological diversity, quality of life, human happiness. One of his most popular presentations is “Happier, Healthier, Sexier, and Smarter: Transportation and the Secret of Life.”

Advance Praise for Sustainable Transportation Planning:

“Sustainable Transportation Planning is an excellent introduction to multi-modal transport planning, that is enjoyable to read and easy to understand. This book provides practical guidance on ways to improve walking, cycling and public transit, implement efficient parking management, support smart growth, and apply innovative transportation demand management strategies, and so can greatly expand the range of solutions that communities can apply to transport problems. It should be an important resource for anybody involved in transport planning, including engineers, planners, public officials and community advocates.”

Todd Litman, Victoria Transport Policy Institute (www.vtpi.org)
Robert Davis, Founder of Seaside, Florida

“The Great American Dream of cruising down the parkway, zipping from here to there at any time has given way to a true nightmare that is destroying the environment, costing billions and deeply impacting our personal well-being. Getting from A to B has never been more difficult, expensive or miserable. It doesn't have to be this way. Jeffrey Tumlin's book Sustainable Transportation Planning offers easy-to-understand, clearly explained tips and techniques that will allow us to quite literally take back our roads. Essential reading for anyone who wants to drive our transportation system out of the gridlock.”

Marianne Cusato, home designer and author of Get Your House Right: Architectural Elements to Use and Avoid Book Review “Recipes for Sustainable Transportation”

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Contact Information
Linda Stephen
402-483-0747

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