Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities

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THE sage PROJECT
Community Engagement for Sustainable Cities

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The EPIC Question

What if we could connect *existing* courses to a single city over an academic year to work on critical and vexing projects identified by city staff and do so at a scale that magnifies the value for all?

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SCALE of the EPIC MODEL

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500+ STUDENTS

15-20 PROJECTS

10+ DISCIPLINES

20-25 FACULTY MEMBERS

25-35 COURSES

40-60,000 HOURS
OF EFFORT TOWARDS THE COMMUNITY

How EPIC is Different

- Large-scale
- Multi-disciplinary
- Opt-in by faculty
- Not new curricula
- Community-identified projects
- No permission necessary at University
- Fee-based, partner has "skin in the game"
- Catalytic

All based on University resources that already exist.

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Model Expansion: Training

- Annual conference
- Specially commissioned (regional) workshops
- Site visits and ongoing technical support

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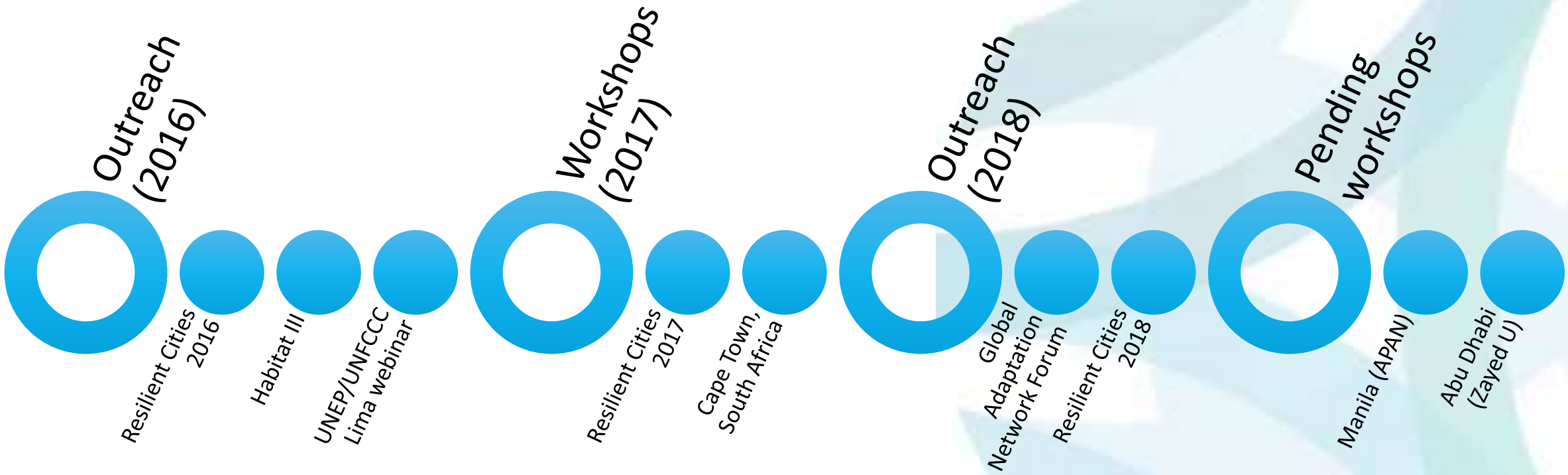
Stakeholders

Timeline of activities



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Resilient Cities 2017 (Bonn, Germany)

- One-day training (May 3)
- 150 city-university *pairs* of applicants,18 selected
- Universities and cities from the global south (Latin America, Africa, Asia)
- 30 observers from numerous international organizations
- 80 attendees in total
- 4 main trainers (Marc, Nico, Jessica, Courtney), plus Kristofer attended (unfunded) to provide additional international context
- Interest in regional workshops in Ecuador, South Africa, Philippines

Cape Town, South Africa

- 1.5-day regional workshop for sub-Saharan Africa
- 8 city-university pairs, plus observers
- Training by Marc, Nico, Courtney, Jessica
- Presentations by Edna, Gilbert, and Sean (trained in Bonn)
- Established regional EPIC network, EPIC Africa http://naturalsciences.unza.zm/epic

epic Africa

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Model Expansion: The EPIC Network

Over 30 EPIC programs in the US and around the globe in Brazil, Israel, Kenya, Mexico, and Zambia

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www.epicn.org

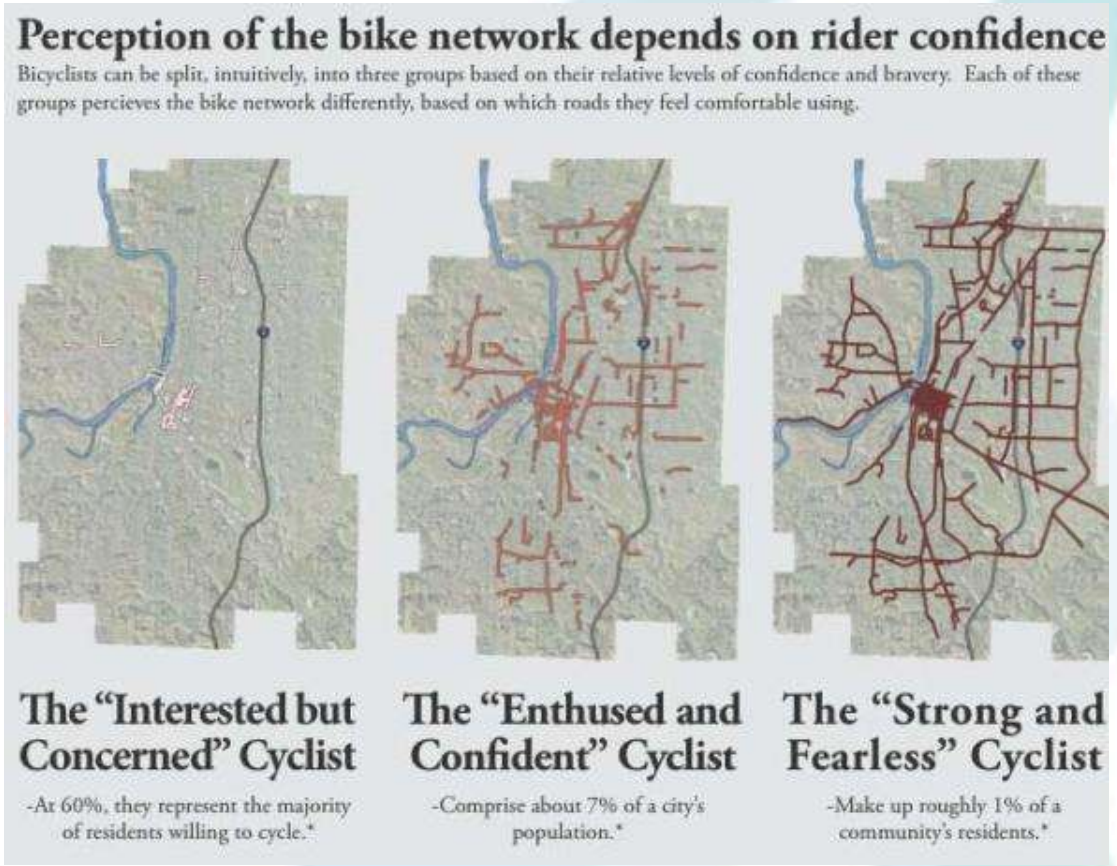
Sample Projects

win-win-win

Improving Transportation Choices

Bicycle Transportation

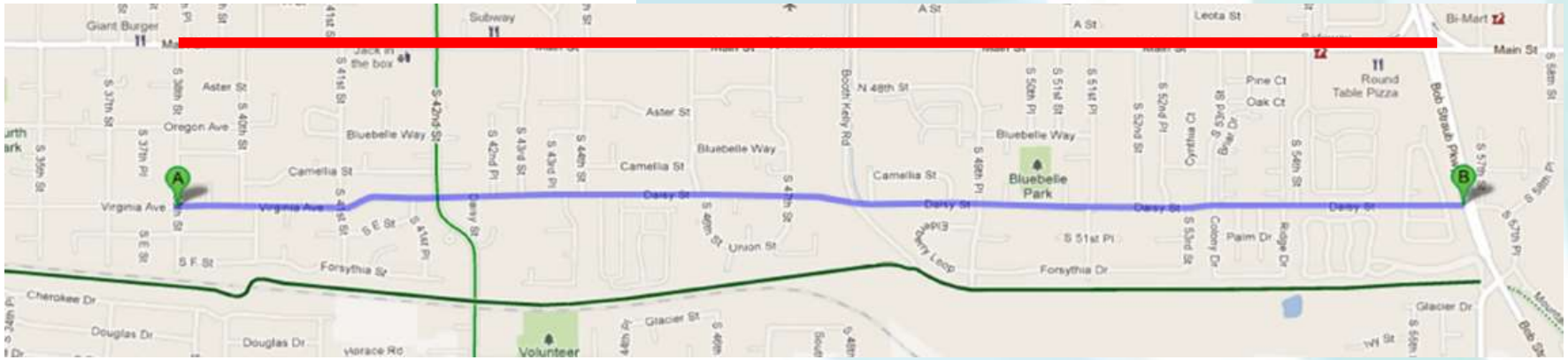
Marc Schlossberg
Planning



Last year in Redmond, 15 of 17 student ideas were adopted by policy within 6 months

Improving Transportation Choices

Bicycle Transportation
Pedestrian Safety
Traffic Calming



Generated: Community Support & Successful Grant Funding of 2018 Construction

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Improving Transportation Choices

Bicycle Transportation
Pedestrian Connectivity
Preservation

Generated Voter Support to: Purchase & Protect 665 Acres, Design & Construct 2 Paths

Improving Wayfinding

Community Values

Place Making

Planning

Design

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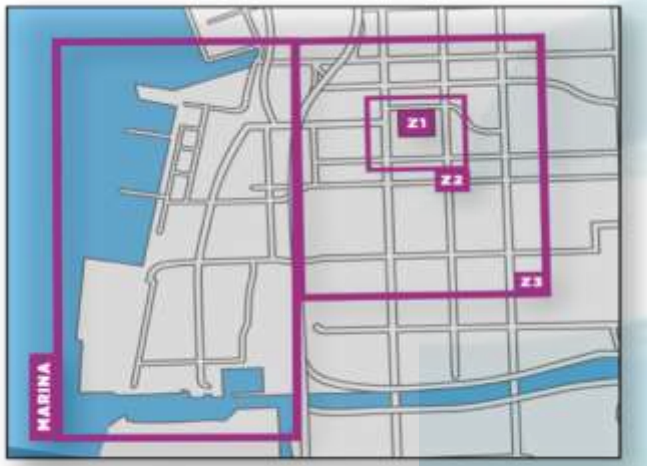
Economic Security and Sense of Place

Way-finding System

Patricia Cue Couttolenc
Graphic Design



Resulted in over $1 million in wayfinding grants for National City, CA

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Economic Revitalization

Industrial By-Product Re-Use

Jennifer Howard-Grenville
Business

NORPAC®

Resulted in $800,000+ in cost savings and revenue <u>annually</u>

Now part of regional economic development strategy

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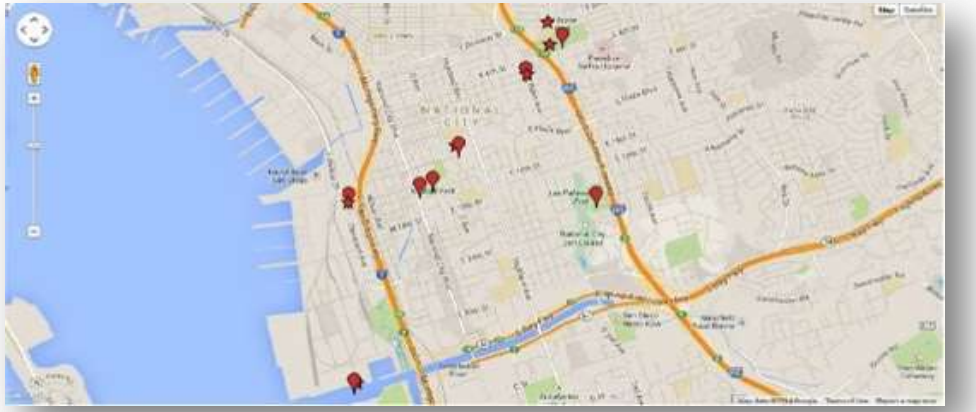
Air Quality and Urban Health

Freeway and Industry Impact and Mitigation

Zohir Chowdhury
Public Health



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Rainwater Sites

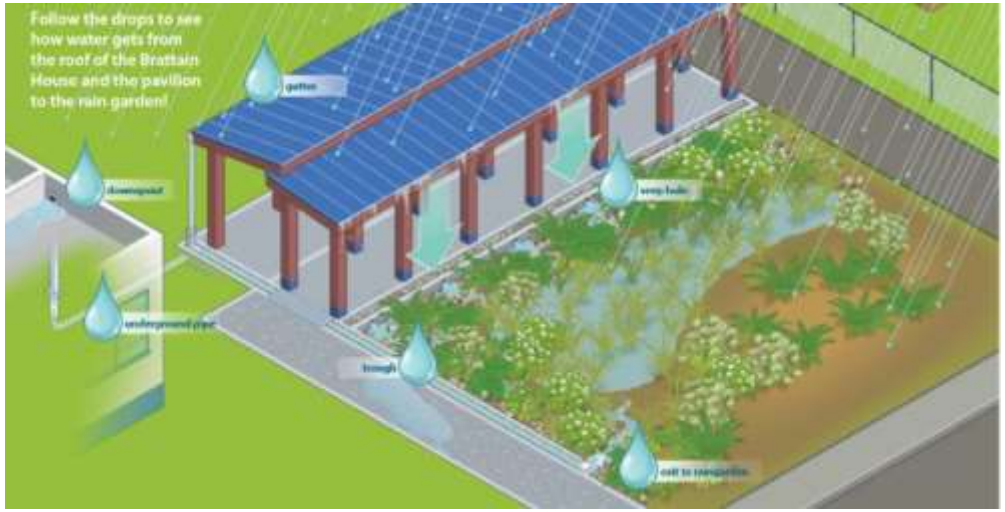
Water Management

Communicate

Design

Build

Educate



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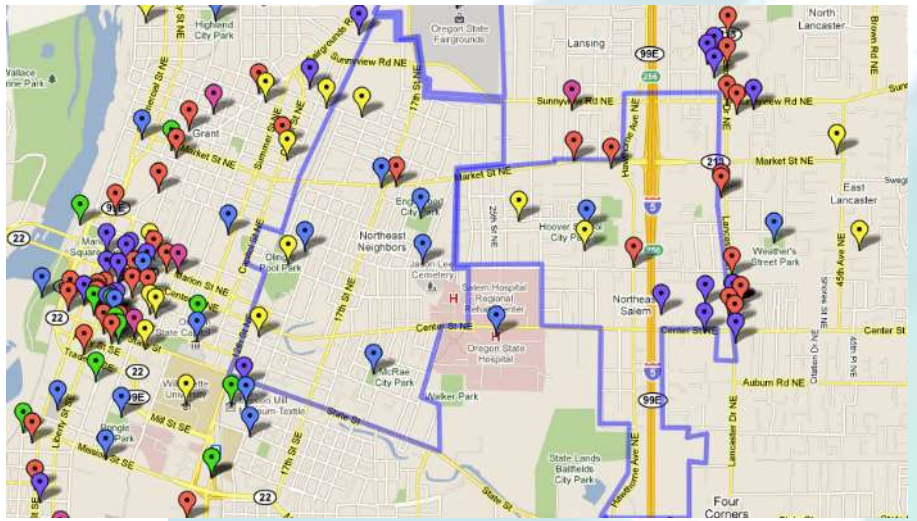
Engaging Marginalized Communities

Cultural Mapping in Northeast Salem

Doug Blandy and John Fehn
Arts and Administration



Salem Latino Civic Engagement

Gerardo Sandoval
Planning

Resulted in new participation on city boards, commissions, and elected office and better relationships with city officials.

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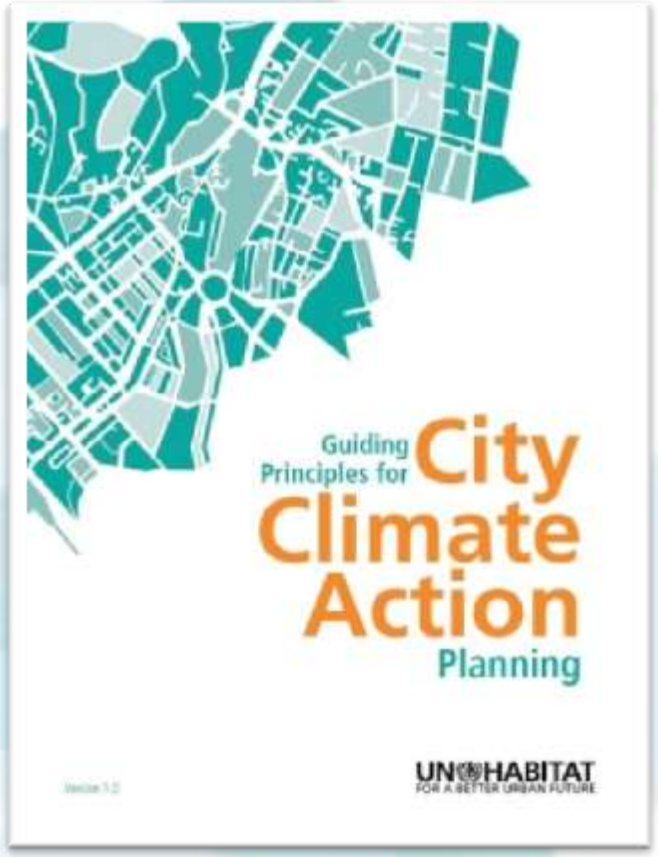
Improving Community Health

Health Impacts of Climate Change

Zohir Chowdhury
Public Health



First US application of UN Habitat Guiding Principles toolkit

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