



Center for Architecture

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Institute for Transportation
& Development Policy

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IMAGES AVAILABLE FOR PUBLICATION

Our Cities Ourselves Exhibition Envisions a Sustainable Urban Future for 2030
New Cityscapes Address Urban Population Explosion
With Solutions Both Visionary and Practical

“Our Cities Ourselves: The Future of Transportation in Urban Life” will be on view at the Center for Architecture June 24-September 11, 2010. Visit www.ourcitiesourselves.org for more information.

Press are invited to media roundtable and a preview of the exhibition at 10am-1pm on June 24 at the Center for Architecture, 536 LaGuardia Place. RSVP to enemens@aiany.org.

NEW YORK, New York, June 14, 2010 - Ten of the world's leading architects show how the integration of urban planning and transport can enable cities to thrive through population growth in a new exhibition at the Center for Architecture (536 LaGuardia Place, NYC). *Our Cities Ourselves* kicks off its worldwide tour in New York on June 24th, showcasing the potential of transportation systems in ten major cities. It illustrates how the dream of a sustainable, equitable and livable urban future can be realized, when transport is put center-stage.

Organized by the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), *Our Cities Ourselves* challenges the car-dependent model of sprawl development prevalent in cities around the world, instead advocating for an urban landscape that prioritizes walking, cycling, and public transit. Each of ten visions is uniquely shaped to fit a distinct urban culture: Ahmedabad, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Dar es Salaam, Guangzhou, Jakarta, Johannesburg, Mexico City, New York City, and Rio de Janeiro. What lessons can be learned by studying ten cities on six continents? Some cities in the developing world are leapfrogging over the mistakes of developed cities, while older cities are creatively responding to their existing infrastructure. The exhibition shows how every city can benefit if it puts sustainable transportation at the heart of its planning.

“Our Cities Ourselves is a partnership between ITDP and some of the world's most innovative architects, to help us imagine our cities freed from the devastating effects of accommodating rapid motorization,” says Walter Hook, Executive Director of the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP). “By 2030, 60 percent of the world's population, or 5 billion people, will live in cities, an increase of 2 billion residents. The world's cities will require massive transformations to handle this influx of residents. Sustainable transportation systems are the glue that enables all elements of urban life—including housing, economic development, and public spaces—to meet both the needs of growing urban populations and to combat climate change.”

Participating architects, including David Adjaye, Michael Sorkin, Urbanus and Bimal Patel, share their bold visions in the exhibition's oversized renderings, aerials, and panoramic views, highlighting the possibilities for improved sustainability and livability. These visions paint a picture of transportation as central to meeting the challenges of the urban future.

“Architects are interested in more than buildings,” explained Rick Bell, FAIA, Executive Director of the Center for Architecture and the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter. “As a

community, we are committed to making cities work, and toward that end, transportation design is integral to our future. From the Brooklyn Bridge to Buenos Aires, we are excited to see the solutions these talented teams develop, and thrilled to be involved in such an important global initiative.”

The New York exhibition launches a year of programming and advocacy designed to engage planners, architects, students, educators and city residents in an evolving conversation on designing a better urban future. The exhibition is accompanied by a website at <http://www.ourcitiesourselves.org>, which offers a range of interactive activities for users.

The exhibition will be on view from June 24 to September 11, 2010 at the Center for Architecture in New York City before traveling to China, Brazil, Mexico, and beyond, to raise awareness and motivate action towards creating better cities for tomorrow.

Exhibition Architects:

Ahmedabad, India | HCP Design and Project Management
Budapest, Hungary | Varos-Teampannon and Kozlekedes
Buenos Aires, Argentina | PALO Arquitectura Urbana
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania | Adjaye Associates
Guangzhou, China | Urbanus Architecture & Design
Jakarta, Indonesia | Budi Pradono Architects
Johannesburg, South Africa | Osmond Lange Architects and Ikemeleng Architects
Mexico City, Mexico | arquitectura 911sc
New York City, United States | Terreform and Michael Sorkin Studio
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil | Fábrica Arquitetura and CAMPO aud

Curator: Maura Lout

Design: Pure + Applied

Media Kit Available for download: http://cfa.aiany.org/files/Media_Kit_Full_Page.pdf

Related Programs

June 24, 2010 10-11am roundtable discussion, 11am-12pm preview

Media Roundtable and Press Preview

RSVP to enemens@aiany.org

June 24, 2010 6-8 pm

Exhibition Opening Reception

Free and Open to the public

Saturday June 26, 2010 11am-5pm

Symposium: Our Cities Ourselves: A Conversation Between Architects, Transportation Planners and Developers on the Future of the City (Working Title)

Free and Open to the public

Wednesday, June 30, 6pm

ITDP 25th Anniversary Benefit

Tickets required, contact Kathleen Letchford at ITDP, kletchford@itdp.org

Thursday, July 1, 6-8pm

Program: Our Cities Ourselves: Images of 2030
Roundtable discussion with Enrique Peñalosa, ITDP Board President and Former Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia, and Exhibition Architects
Free and Open to the public

Wednesday, July 28, 6-8pm

Program: Reclaiming New York City for the Pedestrian
Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan, NYC Dept. of Transportation.
Free and Open to the public

Saturday, August 7, 11am-4pm

Program: FamilyDay@theCenter: Our Cities Ourselves
\$20 for a family of four

About the Organizers



Founded in 1985, the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy promotes environmentally sustainable and socially equitable transportation solutions in cities worldwide. Working in research, advocacy, and direct technical support, ITDP is at the forefront of efforts to reduce carbon emissions, protect the environment, and improve the quality of life. For more information, please visit www.itdp.org.



The Center for Architecture is a destination for all interested in the built environment. It is home to the American Institute of Architects New York Chapter and the Center for Architecture Foundation, vibrant nonprofit organizations that provide resources to both the public and building industry professionals. Through exhibitions, programs, and special events, the Center aims to improve the quality and sustainability of the built environment, foster exchange between the design, construction, and real estate communities, and encourage collaborations across the city and globe. As the city's leading cultural institution focusing on architecture, the Center drives positive change through the power of design. For more information, please visit www.aiany.org.