Creating Family-Friendly Downtowns

Gil (Guillermo) Penalosa
Founder & Chair
8 80 Cities
Ambassador
World Urban Parks

Bogotá, Colombia
Creating Family-Friendly Downtowns

Gil (Guillermo) Penalosa
Founder & Chair
8 80 Cities
Ambassador
World Urban Parks

Penalosa_G
Creating Family-Friendly Downtowns
Everyone Learns

From Everyone
Designed AND built one Term

200+ Parks
Bogotá
Before

Metropolitan Park
Simon Bolivar
Metropolitan Park
Simon Bolivar
Metropolitan Park
Simon Bolívar
100s
Small / medium
Bogota’s Ciclovía Open Streets

Spectacular 7 hour per week paved City Park

DOMINGOS Y FESTIVOS
7:00 A.M. a 2:00 P.M.
World’s largest Pop-up Park
Open Streets to People
Close Streets to Cars
Participation:

• Young and Old,
• Men and Women,
• Rich and Poor,
• Tall and Short,
• ALL!
1 of 4 People
Streets
Public Space
Meet each other as EQUALS
Over 300 Cities
Program for people with dementia – Park visits
Software & Hardware

Programs & Infrastructure
Biggest problem
Parks?
Management
Management

NOT same

Maintenance 20%
Membership
Which one?
www.CityParksAlliance.org
www.WorldUrbanParks.org
Neighborhood or City Parks?
Neighbourhood Parks
Sense of Belonging
Large Park Opportunities
Both. Each satisfies different needs.
World:

$\frac{1}{2}$ Homes in 40 years

Do NOT exist TODAY
Opportunity
Responsibility
40 Years
Rio, Brazil
### U.S. cities with the highest life-expectancy gaps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Gap in life expectancy between highest and lowest zip codes (years)</th>
<th>Average life expectancy (years)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chicago, Ill.</td>
<td>30.1</td>
<td>77.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>27.5</td>
<td>77.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York, N.Y.</td>
<td>27.4</td>
<td>80.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo, N.Y.</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>74.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans, La.</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>75.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacksonville, Fla.</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>76.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco, Calif.</td>
<td>25.0</td>
<td>82.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbus, Ohio</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>77.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltimore, Md.</td>
<td>24.7</td>
<td>73.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duluth, Minn.</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>79.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

data analysis includes the 500 most populous cities in the U.S.

Table: Elijah Wolfson for TIME • Source: NYU Langone Health • Created with Datawrapper
A few miles apart…
seems like different country
Focus: Car, car, car... NOT People’s Happiness
Parks?
Parkings

Les photographies aériennes d'Alex MacLean révèlent jusqu'à l'absurde l'assujettissement de l'urbanisme à l'automobile aux États-Unis.
Children?  Elderly?  People with disabilities?
Last 40 years
Context
Public Health Crisis
Population Growth
Climate Change
I DON'T BELIEVE IN GLOBAL WARMING
GHG Per Square mile
GHG
Per capita Population

DENSITY
Big part of solution
Climate Change
Cities
How do we want to LIVE?
Not about:

Parks
Healthier & Happier Cities

All People
BENEFITS

Great Downtowns
Great Park Systems

Culture
Education
Recreation
Environment
Transportation
Health / Wellness
Creating Community
Economic Development
Not

For wealthy 20 - 50
Ageism

Discrimination by age

Ashton Applewhite
CHILD
90% Anxiety of Alzheimer

SOURCE: AMERICAN SOCIOLOGICAL REVIEW, 2008
Age-ism is Dumb
Age-ism is prejudice against Our Children
Age-ism is prejudice against Our Parents
Age-ism is prejudice against our own future selves.
Ageing is NOT

Problem to solve

Disease to cure
Ageing is LIVING
Fight Ageism
What is the role of PARKS?
Re-Create Cities for ALL People
Spice-less Pasta
Cities for ALL People

Ingredients
“Spices”

PARKS
STREETS
SIDEWALKS
ALL PUBLIC SPACES