

Thesis Abstracts

Master of City and Regional Planning, MCRP

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

This is a reference list for all theses – titles, author names, and abstracts – that have been defended by MCRP candidates and approved by the CRP department, from 2000 to 2003. They represent the research interests of faculty and students. You may consult any of these titles in the CRP department, at Cal Poly's Kennedy Library, or through interlibrary loan.

Community Indicators: A Case Study Analysis of the Effects of Indicator Projects on Sustainability and the Policymaking Process

David Crook, 2000

Indicators are a tool for planners, decision makers, and the general public to monitor and affect changes within their communities. They develop common visions and issues through consensus-building, and diffuse potential conflicts of interest related to future policy decisions. Additionally, indicators keep the general public, planners, and decision makers informed as to the state of critical issues within the community.

Paradigm of Unified Continuance

Sung H. Kwon, 2000

The planning profession has gained several theories through its evolution. The constant redefinition of planning has caused a fragmentation in comprehensive planning. Addresses the complexity of content, fragmentation, unification, time, and integration of planning.

Transportation Demand Management

Martha L. Neder, 2000

Attempt to maximize movement of people, rather than vehicles, by reducing amount of trips by single occupancy vehicles or at peak times. Explores the issue of providing mobility for workday trips - reason for most unsuccessful transportation demand management programs. Work-based travel demand does not prevent employees from participating in employer based transportation management programs, especially combined with shared vehicle programs.

Affordable Housing in Northern California: A Third Sector Approach

Colleen Aiko Oda, 2000

An investigation of the role of third sector housing organizations in providing affordable housing for low

to very-low income families in the East Bay region of Northern California. Extensive research on case studies and application of theoretical concepts used to determine the successes and pitfalls in this implementation approach.

Neighborhood Revitalization, Gentrification, and Displacement **Lissette E. Paralta, 2000**

Causes for blight are due to exodus of middle class, long periods of disinvestment and changing economic trends. Revitalization is used to rehabilitate decaying downtown areas and neighborhoods. If social and economic conditions of neighborhood are not addressed in the revitalization process, there is potential for negative effects.

Moving Beyond the Rhetoric: Implementing Principles of Sustainability in California Communities

Scott M. Duiven, 2001

Evaluation of California's General Plan model as a tool for planning sustainable communities. Seven planning strategies: growth management, environmental management, social equity, economic development, urban design, public participation, and governance. The majority of policies geared toward planning sustainable communities lack clear standards, direction, and accountability in the policies overarching goals.

Brownfields Reclamation: Implementing Elements of Sustainability

Nicole Lynn Nugent, 2001

Evaluation of the brownfields reclamation process relating to environmental, economic, and social enhancement. An analysis of the brownfields reclamation in relation to EPA's recommendations for sustainability offered with A Sustainable Brownfields Framework.

A Proposed Purchase of Development Rights Pilot Program for the Visalia-Tulare Greenbelt Study Area: An Application of Spatial Modeling

Chandra Slaven, 2001

Proposes to establish a theoretical and practical basis for a Purchase of Development Rights (PDR) Pilot Program to provide permanent protection of farmland and to revitalize the economy. PDR Pilot program would establish a pattern of rural properties that would aid in the conservation of rural agriculture environment.

Video as a Communication Tool in the Planning Field

Sonja Linnea Wadman, 2001

Video as a way to generate public interest and participation in planning endeavors. Videos shown through cable channels, public access stations, and in schools can be very effective communicators. Explores what aspects of short video segments can be produced with little professional support.

The Implementation and Impact of the General Plan in California

Elizabeth Ann Wise, 2001

The confusion and lack of consistency within General Plans are symbolic of the inattention to plan effectuation by the planning profession. General Plan has not been fully evaluated as a guide for land use decisions. Local agencies should accurately assess the status of their General Plan and adequately communicate information at both local and State levels.

Urban Village Development Code

Norman Allinder, 2002

Implementation strategies for the city of Fresno, California. Development codes prepared with the proper regulatory features can ensure consistency with and promote the intent of the general plan. This product seeks to organize some of the important requirements that relate to the urban village development in a coherent comprehensive neighborhood unit.

Outdoor University Spaces

Daniel Amsden, 2002

The planning and design of outdoor university spaces, with analysis of the University Union Plaza at California

Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. Create outdoor spaces within the built environment that respond to people's needs and aesthetic values, and help promote social interaction. The intent is to provide valuable insights and recommendations for professionals at California Polytechnic State University and other universities.

Growth Management on the Borders of Reality, Planning, and Politics: Evaluating Growth Management Using Geographic Information Systems and Sustainable Indicators

Aaron Bock, 2002

Growth policies in the Contra Costa County side of the San Joaquin Delta Watershed will dramatically affect growth in the surrounding jurisdictions. Growth management policies involve several philosophies that make it a very confused issue and thus several facets of society easily adopt growth management principles. Geographic Information Systems is only a tool and as such is only as good as the planner using it. Planning for communities has become incremental, as has the workings of agencies when they do not fully develop the ideas by which they are incorporating software and growth management policies.

An Update of the City of Guadalupe Zoning Code

Jeremy Krout, 2002

City of Guadalupe's current zoning ordinances are in need of an update. Existing codes do not stem from the City's current General Plan. Current zoning ordinances have not been updated since 1980, whereas the General Plan was adopted in 1986. Purpose is to connect the consistency issue between the Zoning Code and the General Plan, and to eliminate vagueness to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Research and Design of Harvey Milk Plaza

Aaron D. Starr, 2002

Redesign Harvey Milk Plaza to better serve the needs of the Castro Community. Outlines what makes a successful public space, how public space is used in a Queer context, and San Francisco's Queer history. Includes survey results from residents and merchants, and interviews with neighborhood organizations. Concluding design of the plaza that responds to the site and needs of the community based on data gathered.

Wellhead Protection Planning: The MTBE Case Study**Casey Michael Willis, 2002**

Water is the limiting resource in California that defines and often regulates development. Communities cannot afford to lose municipal groundwater resources because of contamination. Review of the gasoline additive MTBE to document that groundwater contamination is widespread across California and the rest of the nation. Identifies effective methods of protecting local groundwater supplies from chemical contaminants.

Higher Density Housing in the Cities of San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and Santa Barbara**James Bergman, 2003**

Fifteen housing complexes are presented and analyzed to demonstrate good examples of existing higher density housing in the cities of San Luis Obispo, Monterey, and Santa Barbara. Focuses on ways to educate the public about the concept of housing density by using good examples.

A Guide to Implementing Sustainability: Bringing Sustainable Development to California Communities**Mathew Richard Burris, 2003**

Sustainable development is a goal that is desired by many communities. The general plan possesses great opportunity as a method of implementing sustainability in our communities. There is nothing preventing communities from incorporating their goals and policies for physical, social and economic development into their general plans.

New Urbanism, Sense of Community and Automobile Dependency: A Comparative Study of Two Residential Developments in California**Trevor R. Keith, 2003**

The effectiveness of residential urban design in responding to key tenets of new urbanism, and how this design influences the daily life of the residents. This research focuses on automobile dependency and sense of community as the two major variables in new urbanism teachings.