



#### Contact

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## A Message from the Chair and the Executive Director

At 8 80 Cities, we don't stagnate. We're always looking for new and improved ways to further our mission and support the creation of healthier and more vibrant cities for all. 2018 has been a year of transformation and growth.

This year marks our 12th year bringing people together to transform mobility and public space to improve the quality of life for people of all ages, abilities, socioeconomic conditions and ethnocultural backgrounds.

Reflecting on our journey, we're proud of how we've grown. In the last 12 years we've learned a lot as a team, and from the communities and partners we work with. We've made memories and met project milestones that pushed ourselves as professionals and strengthened our commitment to our mission.

This year we've made great traction in challenging cities and communities with the simple question that inspires us every day: What if everything we did in our cities was great for an 8 year old and an 80 year old?

2018 marked a year with the most diverse partnerships to date. Our collaborative muscles have gotten stronger working with other non-profit organizations, community-based organizations, universities, municipalities, private sector firms, volunteers, and foundations.

We feel we've pushed the needle on the possibilities of what communitydriven city building can accomplish. But don't just take it from us! The proof is in the pudding, or in this case, the projects.

That is why we are so pleased to share the highlights from a great year with our amazing 8 80 team in our annual 8 80 Yearbook.

**Enjoy!** 

Gil Penalosa, Founder and Chair of the Board Amanda O'Rourke, Executive Director



#### **Our Team**



**Gil Penalosa** Founder, Chair of the Board



Amanda O'Rourke Executive Director



Rossana Tudo Project Manager



Liliana Diaz Accountant

**Ryan O'Connor** Director of Programs



**David Simor** Project Manager



**Jannat Nain** Summer Project Coordinator

#### **Board of Directors**

Juliana Berrio Treasurer

> Jared Kolb Director

Rafael Vargas Director

Eti Greenberg Director



**Camila Uriona** Admin. & Communications Manager



**Ryan Lo** Project Coordinator



Pablo Muñoz Project Coordinator

## We Believe

Whether you're 8 or 80 years old, cities should work for everyone.

## **Our Mission**

8 80 Cities improves the quality of life for people in cities by bringing citizens together to enhance mobility and public space so that together we can create more vibrant, healthy, and equitable communities.

## **Our Vision**

We exist to create safe and happy cities that prioritize people's well-being. We believe that if everything we do in our public spaces is great for an 8 year old and an 80 year old, then it will be great for all people.

Local Color

Mecklenburg County

National Institute for the Care of the Elderly (NICE)

Open Streets 704

Open Streets Toronto

Park People

Rambøll

Reimagining the Civic Commons Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

**Ryerson University** 

San Jose Aging Services Collaborative San Jose Generation to Generation San Jose State University Santa Clara Aging and Adult Services Sappi North America Scadding Court Community Centre Sidewalks for All Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition SOMOS Mayfair Sports Focused Consulting

SPUR

TCAT

The Mosaic Group Town of Ajax

Town of Whitby

Trust for Public Land

University of Kentucky

Urban Land Institute

Urban Minds

Urban Systems

Via Recreactiva

Walk TO

West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency

World Urban Parks

Zeitgeist

City of Los Angeles City of Malmö City of San Jose City of St. Catharines City of Toronto City of West Palm Beach City of Windsor CivicAction Copenhagenize Cycle Toronto Cycling Without Age Danish Architecture Center Danish Cyclists' Federation **Discourse Media** District of Saanich **Evergreen Brickworks** Friends and Families for Safe Streets Gehl Guadalajara 2020 Henning Larsen Architects International Federation on Aging Jay Pitter King for All **Knight Foundation** Lexington Downtown Development Authority

## 2018 Partners & Clients

#NatureForAll AARP Apolitical arki\_lab Bernard van Leer Foundation **Better Block Foundation** Bike Walk Macon Blue Grass Community Foundation CAF America CicLAvia City of Charlotte City of Copenhagen City of Duluth City of Guadalajara City of Lexington

Astana, Kazakhstan Buenos Aires, Argentina Canberra, Australia Canmore, Canada Chicago, USA Cowichan Valley, Canada Elliott Lake, Canada Fredrikstad, Norway Gdansk, Poland Gothenburg, Sweden Istanbul, Turkey Kansas City, USA Katowice, Poland Kingston, Canada Kitchener, Canada Los Angeles, USA Malmo, Sweden Melbourne, Australia Merida, Mexico Miami, USA Montgomery County, USA Naples, USA Newport Beach, USA New York City, USA Oslo, Norway Pasco, USA Phoenix. USA Puebla, Mexico Riyadh, Saudi Arabia Rochester, USA Rosario, Argentina Salt Lake City, USA San Antonio, USA San Juan, Puerto Rico Santiago, Chile Sault Ste. Marie, Canada

Tallahassee, USA Tel Aviv, Israel Tokyo, Japan Toronto, Canada Toyama, Japan Tucson, USA Victoria, Canada Vienna, Austria

## 2018 Gil Penalosa Keynotes

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## Our Work

**40** blog posts

blog views



Ajax, Akron, Charlotte, Contra Costa, Duluth, Gretna, Macon, Miami, New Orleans, Ottawa, Tallahassee, Toronto, Windsor, Winnipeg

## cities we worked in



study tours

**T** reports completed newsletter issues

26,910

**58** news features

6

conference presentations

## **Our Influence**



**85%** web visitors are new

#### Web visitors by country:



Web visitors by age:

27.5% <sup>33.5%</sup> 15.5% 12.5% 5.5% 5.5% 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65+



**4,876** Facebook followers

> 7,042 Twitter followers

1,562 Instagram followers

**174** Linkedin followers

# **2018** Year in Review

Open Streets 704 Workshop: Charlotte, NC

Walk Wheel Windsor community engagement: Windsor, ON

#### Jan

Building Better Cities with Young Children Webinar

Board meeting #1

Mar

#### Age-Friendly Contra Costa Workshop: Contra Costa, CA

#### May

#### Feb

Inaugural Cold Front Duluth Festival: Duluth, MN

## Apr

Linked and Livable -Miami Immersion: Miami, FL

National Institute on Ageing Knowledge Exchange - Aging Across the Lifecourse: Toronto, ON Jun

Akron Connects community engagements: Akron, OH

Emerging City Champions 4th Cohort Open Streets Summit 2018: New Orleans, LA

8 80 Cities engagement at Open Streets TO

Imagine Canal Park popup evaluation: Duluth, MN

ByWard Market Fall Public Life Study: Ottawa, ON

#### Sep

Wintermission competition launches

8 80 Cities hosts tours at Future Cities Canada Conference: Toronto, ON

Walk Wheel Windsor community engagement: Windsor, ON

#### Nov

#### Dec

Staff strategic planning session

Ryan Lo leaves 8 80 Cities

Pablo Munoz joins 8 80 Cities

End of year celebrations!

Spaces to Places Workshop: Winnipeg, MB

Board meeting #2

## Jul

## Aug

8 80 Cities engagement at Open Streets TO

David Crombie Park Summer Public Life Study: Toronto, ON

International Federation on Ageing Conference Session Toronto, ON

Parks and Public Spaces for All Ages Guide published with AARP and TPL

## Oct

Public Spaces to Great Places - Tallahassee Immersion: Tallahassee, FL

David Crombie Park Fall Public Life Study: Toronto, ON

# Unconventional Engagement

## Walk Wheel Windsor

Client: City of Windsor

8 Focus Groups

**13** Pop-up engagement booths **4,000** People Engaged

VINDSOR

In January, 8 80 Cities was commissioned to lead unconventional engagement for the development of Walk Wheel Windsor, the City of Windsor's Active Transportation Master Plan. The plan will set the foundation for developing well-connected, active transportation networks that are safe, convenient and user-friendly, no matter what mode of transportation people use.

The engagement strategy was designed uniquely for the City of Windsor. It featured 8 focus groups specifically geared towards engaging populations not normally included in active transportation conversations, i.e. lower income residents, recent immigrants, and youth. Additional engagement activities included more than 15 pop-up engagement booths at Open Streets Windsor, centralized transit hubs, the University of Winsdor and various other locations.

The 18-month process will continue into the new year with a final Plan expected to be approved in the winter of 2019. Engagement will be carried throughout the full duration of the project to continue to capture ideas for the Active Transportation Master Plan.

## David Crombie Park

Client: City of Toronto

#### **48** Hours spent observing the park

60+ Volunteers trained

8 80 Cities is leading a public life study of David Crombie Park to guide the future design and programming of this bustling park in the St. Lawrence neighborhood of downtown Toronto.

Public life studies provide a snapshot of who visits a park, when they visit, and what they do there. We strategically collect the data at various times of the day, days of the week, and weeks of the year to better understand the rhythms and patterns of a park. The data collected began illustrating trends of how the park is performing, what is working, what isn't, and what can we do in the future to make the space more accessible for all residents.

370

Surveys completed

The study is expected to conclude in 2019, at which point 8 80 Cities will summarize trends and findings in a final report for our partners at the Planning Partnership to use to inform their design concepts for David Crombie Park. ByWard Market

Client: City of Ottawa



**28** Hours of surveying 350 Surveys completed

Utilizing the approach of public life surveys, a critical research method for understanding public space, 8 80 Cities studied Ottawa's central market place.

The public life study of ByWard Market determines how the area is currently being used and who is using it. The data helps identify the people and activities that the Market is serving, while shining a spotlight on individuals and activities that are underrepresented in the space. 8 80 Cities provided the City of Ottawa with a summary report highlighting the design implications of the study results that illustrated a clearer picture of the markets strengths, weaknesses, challenges, and threats.

Working in collaboration with the Planning Partnership, 8 80 Cities is leading the public life survey for the ByWard Market Public Realm Plan. Two additional surveys will be completed in 2019.

Imagine Canal Park

> Client: City of Duluth

• Year

#### 6 Piloted rojects

Imagine Canal Park was a year-long community engagement initiative that invited Duluth residents and visitors to think critically and creatively about how Canal Park should look, feel, and function. In the first phase of the project in fall 2017, we initiated a comprehensive community engagement process to learn what people think about Canal Park and what ideas they have for improving the area. From February to September 2018, the City of Duluth tested those ideas in real time through a series of pilot projects. 8 80 Cities measured and evaluated the impact of those pilots, to 10 better understand the benefits and tradeoffs of new designs, traffic patterns, and events. Pilot projects included a month-long celebration of winter, the transformation of streets and parking lots into parks and plazas, new wayfinding signage, re-designing a street configuration, and more.

1,200

**Participants engaged** 

Not every experiment yielded positive results, but in trying new things we all learned what works and what brought adverse impacts. The data and feedback collected from stakeholders stands to guide future decisions and investments in the area.

## #GetAjax Moving

Client: Town of Ajax

## 600 People engaged

#### 68% Participants walked more often

## 89%

Participants more likely to use sustainable modes of transportation in the future

#GetAjaxMoving was a bold initiative that achieved what many transportation systems strive to do - implement a Transportation Demand Management (TDM) Plan.

The 18 month Transportation Awareness Campaign, engaged the Town of Ajax with TDM Toolkits, developed by 8 80 Cities. These were interactive and compelling resources that both educated and encouraged residents to make their average commutes with sustainable modes of transportation. momentum from community events to diffuse the benefits of sustainable transportation. The latter half of the campaign focused on a specific area and provided personalized resources to support a shift towards sustainable transportation.

Ajax has set the ambitious goal to convert 30% of trips to walking, biking, and transit by 2031. To this end, the 8 80 Cities driven campaign helped the Town get closer to achieving this goal.

The campaign strategically built on the



12 Engagement activities 350+ Community members engaged

930 Community generated ideas

Using unconventional engagement strategies, 8 80 Cities led the internal and external consultation for the 2018 Akron Bicycle Network Strategy.

Building off of Akron's thriving community development groups and Greenway Initiatives,8 80 Cities conducted stakeholder workshops, online surveys and 9 pop-up engagement stations to garner input about cycling in the city. The objective of this project, led by our partners at Copenhagenize Design Co., is to deliver a bicycle network strategy that is resilient and welcomed by Akron residents. The deep engagement strategy, implemented by 8 80 Cities, has shown to be a critical element to understanding active transportation in Akron and working with Akron residents to shift to cycling as a form of transportation.

# **Open Streets**

## Open Streets Summit

Cities: New Orleans and Gretna, LA

Open Street program

## 2

## 4(

**Cities represented** 

Inaugural open streets programs inspired by the Summit

In September 2018, 8 80 Cities and Street Plans Collective hosted the fifth Open Streets Summit in New Orleans and Gretna, LA. The event brought together leaders who currently organize open streets programs or are interested in bringing the simple but powerful concept to their community.

This event provided a rare opportunity for these community leaders to share stories and knowledge, and to brainstorm solutions to common logistic and policy challenges. The Summit began on a Saturday morning as we toured two inaugural open streets programs in New Orleans and Gretna. The tours provided a behind-the-scenes perspective of how to organize and host open streets programs that reflect the unique size and culture of their communities.

50+

leaders

The following day we enjoyed the airconditioned indoors for a series of presentations and workshops led by open streets leaders and practitioners. Participants worked together to address common open streets challenges such as funding and permitting, and developed strategies to improve core components of open streets programs such as programming, route selection, marketing, and team recruitment.

## Open Streets TO

Partner: Open Streets TO

2

Open Streets programs dates

**5,000** Square feet of pop-up parks 140,000 Participants

In its 5<sup>th</sup> year, Open Street TO has become a hallmark for Canada's largest municipality.

What was once just an idea has prospered into a critically acclaimed success that challenges residents to question how Toronto's streets can be used. This year, the program attracted more attendance than ever. It featured various activity hubs such as mural painting and a pop-up bike tune-up shop as well as pop-up parks where parking spots normally would be. Acting as a advising partner to the Open Street TO organization, 8 80 Cities supported the program by advising on financial practices, visioning and goal setting. 8 80 Cities also brought its expert experience facilitating Open Streets programs and supported the logistic and program development that made the program as engaging and successful as it was.

## Open Streets Macon

Client: Bike Walk Macon

#### 2 Miles of Open Streets

Partnered organizations

#### The Open Streets project in Macon, Georgia is an exciting initiative to push the needle on the impacts of Open Streets. Bike Walk Macon was awarded a \$20,000 grant to conduct 3 open streets programs in one year. As part of the program, funds were allocated to assist in gathering data relating to demographics, transit habits and how the public realm can and is being used. To this end, 8 80 Cities was commissioned to support the evaluation of Open Streets Macon.

Open Streets Macon took over nearly 2 miles of downtown Macon. In true Open Streets fashion, the blocks transformed into car-free zone, free and open to the public. The event celebrated the public space; bring people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds together creating a vibrate and dynamic public realm.

1,600

Participant turnout

8 80 Cities supported the development of the innovative and engaging evaluation strategy and summarized findings. These results are serving as a guide for future program growth and expansion.

## Open Streets 704

Client: City of Charlotte

## 20 Road map

recommendations

50+ Hush puppies consumed

## 100

Stakeholders and program organizers engaged

Founded in 2015, Open Streets 704 saw more than 60,000 participants walk, run, bike and roll across four program dates over two years. To build on this momentum, program organizers hired 8 80 Cites to help chart a roadmap for the future growth and expansion of open streets in Charlotte.

8 80 Cities began engaging diverse program stakeholders – from elected officials to business owners – to collect feedback and identify implementable solutions in four key areas: Route Planning, Organizational Structure, Building Awareness and Inclusion and Equity. Next, 8 80 Cities conducted an on-site audit of the 2017 Open Streets 704 program date. The audit identified areas where the organizing team could streamline program delivery and improve the quality of the open streets experience.

Putting together the findings from all three steps, 8 80 Cites created a final report outlining the roadmap for future growth and expansion of Open Streets 704. Containing 20 recommendations on everything to developing a framework to selecting future program routes, the roadmap will serve as a guide for decision making in Charlotte for years to come.

# Special Projects

## From Spaces to Places Workshop

#### **Partners:**

Urban Systems Ltd. Canadian Institute of Planners

**30** Workshop participants **300+** Pop-up public space visitors **2,000** Pounds of sod

8 80 Cities joined the Canadian Institute of Planners 2018 conference to host a full day workshop on tactical urbanism. Collaborating with Urban Systems, the full day session inspired participants to transform ordinary and underused spaces into vibrant places for people.

The workshop kicked off with a lightning round of community engagement and a public space audit before moving indoors for a presentations from 8 80 Cities on a 7-step guide to activating the public realm. It provided a robust explanation on tactical urbanism and precedent examples of transformative public space projects. Following the presentations, participants were tasked with the opportunity to transform a parking lot in Winnipeg's Historic Exchange District. The pop-up public space featured greenery, public art, benches and tables. It was a temporary installation that was open to the public and acted as a destination point for local students of the University of Winnipeg, conference attendees, as well as the general community of downtown Winnipeg.

## Creating Parks and Public Spaces for People of All Ages

Partners: AARP The Trust for Public Land

600 People engaged

## **68%**

Participants walked more often

## 89%

Participants more likely to use sustainable modes of transportation

Working collaboratively with AARP and the Trust for Public Land, 8 80 Cities published the Step-by-Step Guide to Creating Parks and Public Spaces for People of All Ages. The guide is designed for city leaders and residents to evaluate the performance of parks and opportunities for innovative. Structured into three parts; Evaluate the design, Evaluate the connectivity, and Identify opportunities, the guide works as a tool to create or improve parks for the needs of generations. In addition to creating the document, 8 80 Cities worked to publicize and diffuse the tool. Together, partnering organization lead a series of webinars with city leaders to educate listeners about best practices and principles for creating age-friendly parks and public spaces, and equip participants with new tools for evaluating park performance and developing innovative strategies for improvement.

## Reimagining the Civic Commons

Client: Reimagining the Civic Commons

#### 4 Days

18 Speakers

One of the best ways to learn is to see things in person and engage with others. This is the exact experience 8 80 Cities provided by hosting the Reimagining the Civic Commons Learning Journey in Toronto.

The Learning Journey gathered 30 city builders from Akron, Chicago, Detroit, Memphis, and Philadelphia in Toronto. During their visit, 8 80 Cities lead a series of tours and workshops featuring several community driven initiatives and city leaders. The common themes tying each site and speaker together were aligned with the work that Reimagining the Civic Commons strives to do: civic engagement, socioeconomic mixing, environmental sustainability, and

Visiting city builders

30

Throughout the Learning Journey, visiting City Builders were able to garner best practices and make meaningful connections with expert professionals. At the conclusion of the trip, the group critically identified the top 10 lessons learned from Toronto that were then carried forward with them.

value creation.

## Emerging City Champions

\$5,000

**City Champion** 

Grant for each Emerging

Funder: Knight Foundation

12 Guest Speakers and Guides

20 Champions

For the fourth year, the Emerging City Champions Program gathered 20 urban innovators to support their solutions to complex city issues.

The Champions derive from various parts of the United States and are inspired to lead their own community driven, passion projects. The 2018-2019 cohort individually catalyzed projects that strive to create public life in public spaces, enhance mobility options, and build a culture of civic engagement in their communities. With the continued support of the Knight Foundation, Champions receive \$5,000 and expert guidance to kick-start their projects. At the onset of the program, 8 80 Cities leads the Emerging City Champions Studio, convening the Champions in Toronto to provide professional support. Over the span of four days, the Champions work collaboratively to ideate their projects, meet with experts, and receive hands-on guidance to develop critical city building skills.

## ULI Toronto **Study Tour**

**Partners: Urban Land Institute Toronto Evergreen Brick Works** 

#### **Dynamic Communities Speakers** Featured

In early November, 8 80 Cities lead a tour as part of the ULI Toronto Symposium entitled 'Putting the Public back into Public Spaces.'

The tour explored various neighbourhood in Toronto that feature unique examples of community driven design. At each stop of the tour, stories from those who took initiative in shaping or programming public spaces were highlighted. Collectively, lessons learned were shared and participants were inspired.

## Hours of neighborhood exploration

The objective of the tour was to showcase the dynamic communities where residents are leading a people-first approach to the ongoing management and programming of their civic commons. Far too often, residents are viewed simply as users of public spaces and not as the co-creators they are or can be. 8 80 Cities led this tour to recognize the community-driven work of public spaces and subsequently inspire others.

## Public Spaces to Great Places

Partners: Blueprint Ingovernmental Agency Knight Foundation

-Week **15** Workshops, presentations and events +300 Program participants

With the support of Knight Foundation, 8 80 Cities partnered with Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency to host the Public Spaces to Great Places Summit in Tallahassee, Florida. The week long summit focused on Tallahassee's path forward as a city, paying special attention to the role of public spaces and their potential to improve the quality of life for all residents.

8 80 Cities curated an inspiring program of activities to build on Tallahassee's existing 24

momentum around public life investments.

The program featured a series of keynotes by Gil Penalosa who inspired decision makers, community leaders and citizens to take action to create a Tallahassee for all ages. 8 80 Cities staff also hosted several events, meetings and workshops that were focused on generating community ideas for underperforming public spaces.

## Linked and Livable Miami

#### **Partners:**

Miami Downtown Development Authority Knight Foundation

1 Week

14 Presentations and workshops +300 Participants

Miami is a special place with natural beauty and year-round sunshine housing a young, diverse and dynamic population. With so much potential, and with the county set to grow by over 50% over the next twenty years, Miami is at a crossroads. The Linked and Livable Miami Immersion event questioned how the city will respond to this growth.

With the support of Miami Downtown Development Authority and generous funding from the Knight Foundation, 8 80 Cities led the week long immersion program. The 8 80 Cities team and founder Gil Penalosa facilitated meetings and keynotes about building a healthier, happier, more connected, inclusive, and equitable Miami in the face of its expected growth. The program brought together civic leaders, elected officials, city and county staff, community advocates, and business leaders from across the city to think critically about the future of Miami. Working collaboratively, participants charted a new course for the future of public space and development in Miami.

## Age-Friendly Contra Costa Idea Lab

Client: County of Contra Costa

32 Participants

#### 40 Commitments to immediate action items

**137** Age-friendly ideas generated

In late May, 8 80 Cities gathered with elected officials, city staff and aging advocates from 14 cities across Contra Costa County to facilitate a full-day Idea Lab. The objective of the Lab was to generate ideas and actions to create successful cities for growing up and aging in.

The session was fruitful and participants left inspired and motivated. 8 80 Cities kicked off the day with a presentation of best practices for independent mobility, public space, and civic participation. Participants worked in small groups to develop an age-friendly vision statement for Contra Costa County, followed by brainstorming ideas that they'd like to see implemented in their communities, and developing action plans for specific pilot projects they plan to implement over the next year.

The Age-Friendly Idea Lab demonstrated that there is support and momentum for creating a more age-friendly Contra Costa county among municipal and county level decision makers.



## 2018 conference presentations & webinars

Age-Friendly Public Realm International Federation on Ageing Toronto, ON

Building Better Cities with Young Children Bernard van Leer Foundation Webinar Global

Bus to the Future 1UPToronto Confer**ence** Toronto, ON

Creating Parks and Public Sp**ace for People** of All Ages AARP U.S

Getting to 8 80 Age Fr**iendly Hamilt**on Hamilton, ONU.S

Healthy Cities Across **the Lifespan National In**stitute on Ageing Toronto, ON

Inclusive Design OCAD University Toronto, ON

**Open Streets S**tate of the Union Walk Bike Places 2018 New **Orleans, LA** 

**Shift Into Gear: A Bi**cycling Advocacy Resource Playcore U.S Tactical Urbanism Safe Streets Summit West Palm Beach, FL

The 8 **80 Lens Safe St**reet Summit West Palm Beach, FL

The Urb**an Innovation Generation** Walk Bike Places 2018 New Orleans, LA

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