



880
cities

2019 Yearbook



Contact

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Right to **Mobility**

The movement of people in a city is an essential aspect of modern life. Too often, urban transportation is planned with only a few types of users in mind. Cities that prioritize the movement of cars over the movement of people disproportionately limit independent mobility for children, older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income residents. Safe walking and bicycling infrastructure, and accessible, convenient, and reliable public transit are key elements of an 8 80 city.



Right to **Public Space**

Public spaces are where cities come alive. When well-designed and supported, they invite people of all ages, abilities and socioeconomic backgrounds to use them and participate in public life. Parks and green spaces are a critical means for urban residents to connect with nature, recreational opportunities, and one another. High quality parks and public spaces are not a 'nice-to-have' but are a necessary component of any inclusive and healthy community.



Right to **Participate**

Every resident has the right to participate in the political process. Everyone has a voice that deserves to be heard in city building initiatives. Too often, the voices of the most vulnerable, e.g. children, older adults, and lower income and racialized groups, are dismissed or altogether absent from civic initiatives. People from diverse backgrounds, ages, abilities and lived experiences should be able to actively participate in shaping their urban environment and collaborate on city building initiatives.

Looking back at 2019 – A year of action and impact!

A message from our Executive Director

This year marks our 13th year of bringing people together to transform mobility and public space to create healthier, more vibrant, and equitable cities for all.

In 2019 we continued to challenge cities and communities to reflect on the simple but powerful question that inspires our work: What if everything we did in our cities was great for an 8 year old and an 80 year old?

This question is always our starting point- an opening to building a better understanding on how we can create better cities for all.

Anybody that follows our @880Cities twitter feed or reads our newsletter knows that 2019 was action-packed! While 2018 was all about laying the groundwork for new projects and partnerships, this year we were able to see the fruits of our labour with on the ground impacts and outcomes.

When you're in the day-to-day it's often hard to appreciate the scope of work that our amazing 8 80 Cities team can pull off. The simple the act of writing the list of cities we worked in, and projects we worked on, demonstrates not only our significant reach, but more importantly, the deep commitment and dedication of these diverse set of city builders (both on staff and on the board) that I have the privilege of working with.

Whether it was as small as delivering a presentation or idea lab or as big as launching Canada's first Vision Zero pop-up, 2019 pushed our team in ways we couldn't have imagined possible and helped us achieve some lofty goals.

To all of our amazing partners, clients, volunteers, staff, and board members that helped make this possible thank you for an amazing year of breaking new ground and bringing innovative approaches to support our mission to create better cities for all people.

We hope you enjoy this year's roundup of projects and are inspired to take action in your community.

Amanda O'Rourke
Executive Director

Board of Directors

Gil Penalosa
Founder, Chair of the Board

Juliana Berrio
Director

Rafael Vargas
Treasurer

Jared Kolb
Director

Eti Greenberg
Director

Sue Lantz
Director

Patricia Burke Wood
Director

Jordana Wright
Director

Rabia Abrar
Director

Kate Mulligan
Director

Jodelle Tan
Intern

Brandon Miles
Intern

Hadi Ghiyaei
Volunteer

Mateo Higgins
Cleaning Support

Our Team



Amanda O'Rourke
Executive Director



David Simor
Senior Project Manager



Rossana Tudo
Project Manager



Liliana Diaz
Accountant



Camila Uriona
Admin. & Communications
Manager



Siva Vijenthira
Project Manager



Nico Casuncad
Summer Intern - Project
Assistant




Lanrick Bennett Jr.
Managing Director



Candice Leung
Project Coordinator



Pablo Muñoz
Project Coordinator

The background image is a blue-tinted photograph of a city street. In the foreground, three children are playing with a small, dark-colored toy car. One child is pushing it from behind, while two others are nearby. In the background, an elderly person wearing a cap and a dark jacket is walking across the street. The scene is set in front of a building with large windows and a metal railing.

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.

2019

Partners & Clients

Knight Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
CAF America
AARP Livable Communities
Better Block
Children and Nature Network
Winter Cities Institute
Lund University
University of Toronto
Ryerson University
National League of Cities
Park People
High Line Network
Toronto Public Health
Canadian Institutes for Health Research
Urban 95
NACTO- GDCI
World Urban Parks
Eco Kids
Copenhagenize
Gehl
Urban Systems
The Planning Partnership
Dialog
Dillon
Councillor Brad Bradford
Councillor Shelley Carroll
Councillor Gord Perks
Open Streets TO
Ward 32 Spokes
Cycle TO

Danforth East Community Association (DECA)
Danforth Mosaic BIA
City of Copenhagen, DK
City of Melbourne, AUS
City of Toronto, ON
City of Ottawa, ON
City of Saskatoon
City of Kitchener
City of Cambridge
City of Edmonton, AB
Capital Regional District of Greater Victoria, BC
City of Buffalo, NY
City of Eau Claire, WI
Town of Leadville, CO
City of San Jose, CA
City of Albuquerque, NM
City of Salem, MA
Montgomery County, MD
City of Portland, MA
City of Wichita, KS
City of Sioux Falls, SD
Wake County, NC
AARP Kansas State Office
AARP California State Office
City of Augusta, MN
City of Orlando, FL
City of Fargo, ND



2019

Gil Penalosa Keynotes

Albuquerque, USA
Amherstburg, ON, Canada
Anchorage, Alaska, USA
Atlanta, USA
Boston, USA
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Denver, USA
Fortaleza, Brazil,
Grand Rapids, USA
Guayaquil, Ecuador
Hermosillo, Mexico
Istanbul, Turkey
Kazan, Russia
Langley, BC, Canada
London, ON, Canada
London, UK
Los Angeles, USA
Markham, ON, Canada
Medford, OR, USA
Mexico City, Mexico
Montreal, Canada
Moscow, Russia
Nairobi, Kenya
New York City, USA
North Dakota, USA
North Vancouver, Canada
NYC, USA
Oslo, Norway
Oslo, Norway
Ottawa, Canada
Palmer, Alaska, USA
Port Credit, ON, Canada
Portland, USA

Rochester, NY, USA
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Salta, Argentina,
San Antonio, USA
San Sebastian, Spain
Santa Fe, USA
St Petersburg, Russia
Tirana, Albania
Toronto, Canada
Trondheim, Norway
Vittoria-Gasteiz, Spain
Whistler, BC, Canada
Winnipeg, Canada
Worcester, USA



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2019

By the Numbers

20
cities we worked in

Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa, Leadville, Eau Claire, Buffalo, Wichita, Copenhagen, Saskatoon, Richmond, Salem, Portland, San Jose, Baltimore, Sioux Falls, Kansas City, Victoria, Melbourne, Bowling Green, Fargo

17 + 2
projects study tours

9
reports completed

12+
workshops

Our Work

33
blog posts

4,233
blog views

12
newsletter issues

50
news features

16
conference presentations

Our Influence

48,905
website sessions

85%
web visitors are new

Web visitors by country:



41%

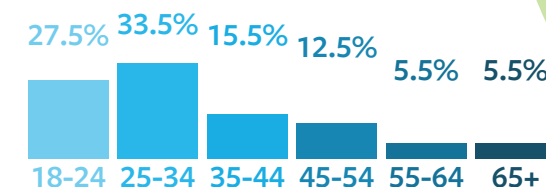


33%



33%

Web visitors by age:



7,896
Newsletter subscribers

6,583
Facebook followers

9,828
Twitter followers

2,624
Instagram followers

470
LinkedIn followers

2019

Year in Review

Jan

Candice Leung Joins 8 80 Cities

Wintermission Shake-up Conference Saskatoon

Feb

AARP SWAT: Project Kick-Off

David Crombie Park Winter Public Life Study: Toronto, ON

Siva Vijenthira Joins 8 80 Cities

ByWard Market Winter Public Life Study: Ottawa, ON

Mar

Wintermission Engagement: Leadville, CO, Eau Claire, WI, Buffalo, NY

8 80 Streets Danforth Deputation: Toronto, ON

Rossana Tundo leaves on Maternity Leave

AARP Wichita Engagement: Wichita, KS

Apr

Copenhagen Study Tour with City of San Jose

Shayla Anderson Leaves 8 80 Cities

My City Too Engagement: Toronto, ON

Saskatoon Cycling Campaign Engagement: Saskatoon, SK

My City Too Engagement: Toronto, ON

May

Virginia Walkability Action Institute: Richmond, VA

8 80 Rules of Engagement AARP Webinar: Toronto, ON

Age Friendly Parks Guide Webinar: Toronto, ON

Saskatoon Cycling Campaign Engagement: Saskatoon, SK

My TO in Ten Workshop Facilitation: Toronto, ON

Niko Casuncad joins 8 80 Cities

Jun

AARP Salem Workshop: Salem, MA

My City Too Convening: Toronto, ON

AARP Livable Rural Communities Summit: Portland, ME

My City Too Engagement: Toronto, ON

Saskatoon Cycling Campaign Launch

Jul

Wintermission Engagement: Buffalo, NY

8 80 Cities Team Anti-Oppression Training

ECC Toronto Studio

Aug

AARP San Jose Workshop: San Jose, CA

My City Too Pop-Up Engagement: Toronto, ON

Open Streets TO: Toronto, ON
8 80 Streets Danforth: Toronto, ON

Niko Casuncad leaves 8 80 Cities

Sep

NACTO Conference / Reception: Toronto, ON

Open Streets TO: Toronto, ON

NRPA Annual Conference: Baltimore, MD

8 80 Streets Pineway: Toronto, ON

Oct

AARP Sioux Falls Sioux Fall, SD, Kansas City, MO

School Streets Guidebook Launch: Victoria, BC

AARP Fargo Webinar Workshop

Study Tour Melbourne, City of San Jose

8 80 Streets Mountview: Toronto, ON

Nov

Debut of 8 80 Streets Exhibition: Toronto, ON

Ryan O'Connor leaves 8 80 Cities

My City Too Report Launch: Toronto, ON

Dec

Brandon Miles and Jodelle Tan Join 8 80 Cities

Keynote on Age Friendly Cities, Bowling Green, KY

8 80 Cities Team Anti-Oppression Training



TORONTO PROJECTS



David Crombie Park

Client
City of Toronto

Partner:
The Planning Partnership

3
Seasons Observed

90+
Volunteers trained

1,477
Ideas received

The Public Life Study of one of Toronto’s most notable public spaces continued into 2019 as we analyzed how David Crombie Park is being used. Building on the data we had collected in the summer and fall of 2018, we focused on collecting winter data and analyzing trends across the seasons. We maintained our methodology where we studied public life, travel counts, and personal feedback through intercept surveys. This approach captured a comprehensive analysis of the park’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges.

Collecting public life data in the winter posed unique challenges that was overcome through thorough planning and management. Working with groups of volunteers and community members we facilitated public life study trainings and closely monitored weather conditions to ensure the comfort and safety of all. Following data collection, we rigorously analyzed findings across all phases of the study to illuminate the unique challenges winter poses and

general trends of how the space is used.

The Public Life Study was a critical component to the planning process of the David Crombie Park Revitalization Plan. After the completion of the study, our partners at the Planning Partnership developed concept plans that are expected to be finalized by early 2020.



King for All Coalition

- | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Partners | Resident Association | Resident and Business Association |
| TTC Riders | CivicAction | Toronto |
| Liberty Village | Social Planning | Environmental |
| Resident Association | Toronto | Alliance |
| City Place | Open Streets | Parkdale |
| Resident Association | TO | Residents |
| Garment District | Cycle Toronto | Association |
| | Walk Toronto | CodeRedTO |
| | Corktowna | |

1
Year Pilot

10 +
Deputations in favour

The King Street Pilot project demonstrated what transit priority could look and feel like for the 504 King Streetcar route. Between Bathurst St and Jarvis St, restrictions prevented private vehicles from turning left and forcing traffic to turn right at most intersections.

These procedures enabled the streetcar to move much more efficiently. However, despite the data driven conclusions that the pilot successfully reduced congestion - the project faced opposition ahead of a council vote to make this effort permanent.

Working with local partners of the King for All Coalition we created information hand-outs, spoke at press events, engaged businesses and residents, and elevated the conversation of in Toronto. It was important to us as an organization to bring others into the discussions who typically wouldn’t weigh in on transit issues. To this end, we hosted a free public workshop to mobilize deputations to City Council

Committees. These workshops guided community members through the process of drafting a deputation, providing information about the Pilot, and support for delivering a deputation. Due to the efforts of the coalition and many across Toronto, the motion to make the King Street Pilot permanent had been approved by City Council.



Future Cities Exhibition

Client
Evergreen Canada- Future Cities Centre

100s
Hundreds of visitors

5
Large scale custom designed panels

150 feet
Immersive Installation

The Anatomy of a Safe Street is a 150’ immersive installation at the new TD Future Cities Centre at Evergreen Brickworks Toronto. The installation shares with visitors the story of 8 80 Streets Danforth, a project in which we transformed a section of Danforth avenue into Complete Street, exemplifying the City of Toronto’s aspiration to get traffic fatalities down to zero. As visitors moved through the exhibit, they were able to touch and experience different elements utilized on Danforth Ave. that allowed us to create a safe human-centered street. CNC cut parklets, benches, checker boards and DIY streetlights were lined up along the East wall. On the west wall, large scale information boards depicted the history of North American Streets and dissected what makes a street safe through video, illustrations and data visualization.

from across Canada to think critically about the future of our cities, was able to experience our installation and become familiar with 8 80 Cities’ approach to city building. Following the summit, the installation was open for visitors of the Future Cities Centre free of charge.

The exhibition opened at the 2019 Future Cities Canada Summit in November. The summit who welcomed hundreds of passionate city builders



My City Too was the result of 8 80 Cities and EcoKids coming together for the first time to develop a strategy to advance outdoor free play (the ability for children to play outside on their own) and independent mobility (the ability for children to get around on their own) as cornerstones of a more child friendly Toronto.

Over the course of a year, we reviewed academic studies and policy documents from around the world, interviewed international experts and leaders in the field, and spoke with parents, caregivers, children, and advocates to learn about existing barriers in Toronto and best practices to address them. We also convened with municipal initiatives, non-profit organizations, and private enterprises working in this space, and identified the resources and assets we can build on to adopt a more child centered lens and make our already great city even greater, more inclusive, and joyful. The result was a

My City Too

Partners
EcoKids
UNICEF Canada
Green
Communities Canada

1
Year of research

2
Convenings
200+
Parents, caregivers, children, and advocates

report published in November 2019 and shared with grassroots organizations, local champions, and 22 City of Toronto divisions.

Download Report: www.880cities.org/my-city-too



Open Streets Toronto

Partners

Open Streets TO
Cycle Toronto
Gateway Bike Hub

Access Alliance
Scarborough Cycles

2

Open Streets
program dates

5,000

Square feet of
pop-up parks

1

Tractor pull



The 6th year of Open Streets in Toronto saw rain on a program date for the first time. Despite the wet weather, Open Streets in Toronto remains an integral part of the city's summer programming.

8 80 Cities once again played a key role in delivering Open Streets TO. As a founding partner, 8 80 Cities has always been intimately involved in securing permits, crafting branding strategies, and managing volunteers, amongst other things. 2019 saw 8 80 Cities also host group rides from neighbourhoods across Toronto to the open streets route. In collaboration with Cycle Toronto, Gateway Bike Hub, Access Alliance, and Scarborough Cycles, 8 80 Cities organized guided rides for members of the Thorncliffe Park, Flemingdon Park, and Danforth East communities to safely arrive at Open Streets TO, enhancing the reach of the program to new, exciting parts of the city!





8 80 Streets

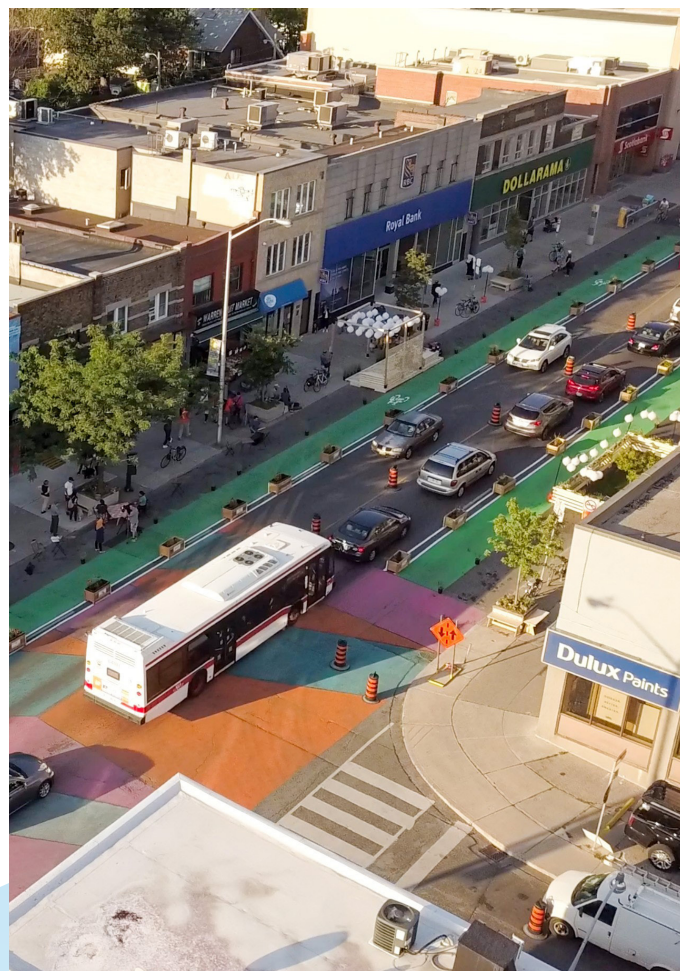
880cities.org

8 80 Streets is a project that starts with a tragedy that is far too common in Toronto. In 2018 45 people (40 pedestrians, 5 cyclists, 1 Wheelchair user) were killed on the streets simply trying to get where they needed to go. A close friend of one of those 45 victims decided to act by requesting the expertise and support of 8 80 Cities to accelerate action on reducing pedestrian fatalities. Together we planned a series of demonstration projects to highlight the importance of street design in achieving safer streets.

Road design is one of the most powerful tools that we have to make our streets safer for people walking and cycling. Yet often we hear that these important infrastructure changes are too expensive, take too long to implement, and that communities don't want them. That is why we conducted "temporary street makeovers" using inexpensive, easy to install DIY infrastructure and help from volunteers. We chose to work with three different communities and typologies that were representative of Toronto as a whole. This included an arterial road, a residential street and a suburban street. Together we demonstrated not only that these elements can be installed rapidly, cost-effectively and with the support of community, but also that safer streets are more equitable, enjoyable and vibrant.

We tested different type of interventions in three different streets in three areas of the city, including a "Complete Street" on Danforth Avenue, Canada's first-ever School Streets on Mountview Ave and speed-reducing infrastructure on Pineway Boulevard.





8 80 Streets Danforth

Partners

The Better Block

EcoKids

CLlr Brad Bradford

Danforth Mosaic BIA

The Workaround

200 metres

Street space transformed

7,494+

Data points collected

78%

Increase of pedestrians during installation

8 80 Streets Danforth was a pop-up street makeover that transformed a section of Danforth Ave. into a complete street. From August 23rd – 24th one block of Danforth Avenue was transformed into a street that exemplified the City of Toronto’s aspiration to get traffic fatalities down to zero. With temporary paint, simple materials and an overwhelming support from community and volunteers we were able to show that community can come together to build solutions quickly and efficiently for safer and more vibrant streets. The overnight installation included expanded pedestrian space, protected bike lanes, parklets, street furniture, and community programming for all ages.

The pop-up street makeover was the first street makeover of its kind in Toronto and we were able to bring our partners, internationally renowned tactical urbanists The Better Block Foundation to Canada for the first time. Some of our main goals for this project were to elevate the conversation on road safety in Toronto, prove that change can happen

quickly and show that safe streets are also vibrant, equitable and healthy.

Through the duration of this project we were able to collect valuable data through a public life study, intercept surveys and an engagement hub that allowed us to identify the most important elements of the installation, what worked and what didn’t. The final findings along with a set of recommendations for making Toronto streets safer were shared with the City of Toronto.



8 80 Streets Pineway

Partners

EcoKids

Councillor Shelley Carroll

11 KM/hr

Median speed reduction

30+

Community Volunteers

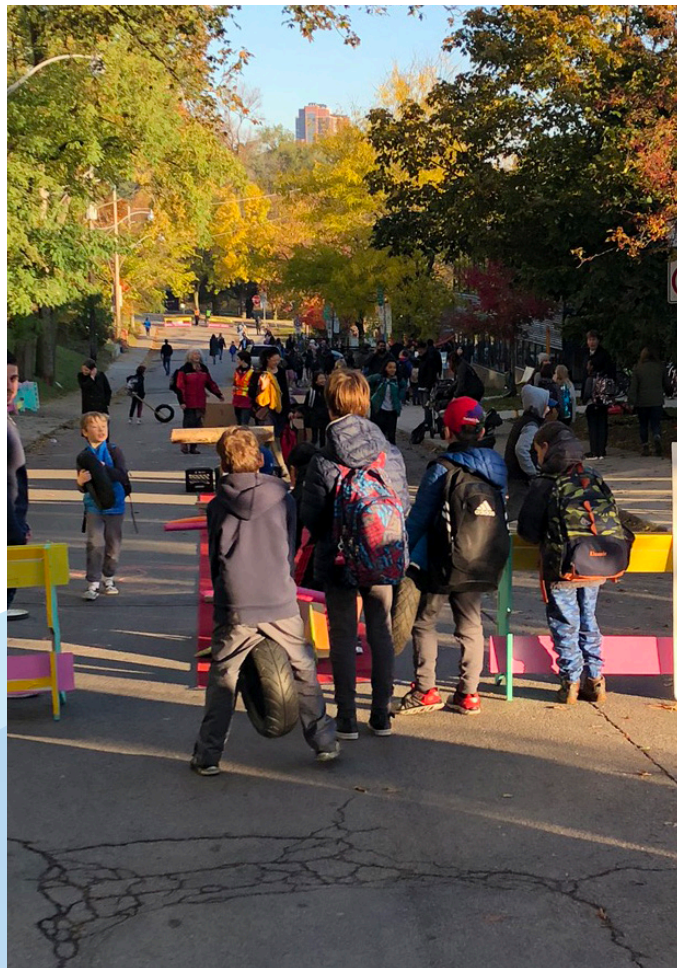
3

Traffic calming measures piloted

8 80 Streets Pineway was a pop-up safe streets demonstration that sought to slow down vehicular traffic on Pineway Boulevard, a local residential road in a suburban community of north Toronto. The demonstration installed temporary traffic calming measures using simple, affordable, and easy to assemble street furniture. For six days in September and October, 2019, Pineway Boulevard became a test site for measuring the effectiveness of interventions other than speed humps as methods for reducing illegal speeding and creating a safer environment for all.

The pop-up featured chicanes, bulb outs, and pinch points placed at strategic locations along a length of street about 300 meters long. Working in partnership with the local community and City Councillor Shelley Carroll, the traffic calming installations were painted in bright, playful colours at a community kick-off event that launched the project. The installation lasted for six days. 8 80

Cities conducted a traffic study of the installation and determined that, amongst other things, the pilot was successful in reducing the speed of vehicles on the street.



8 80 Streets Mountview

Partners

EcoKids

Councillor Gord Perks

Keele Street Public School staff

Keele Street Public School student Eco Team

4

days

30+

Community Volunteers

110 metres

of roadway closed to cars and opened to people

8 80 Streets Mountview was Toronto's first pop-up School Streets demonstration. For four days in October 2019, we created a temporary car-free environment on Mountview Avenue during school drop-off and pick-up times in order to prioritize safe walking conditions for children, parents, and caregivers at Keele Street Public School, located in Toronto's dense west end High Park neighbourhood. Working with City Councillor Gord Perks, EcoKids, community volunteers, school staff, and the student Eco Team, we used simple, colourful barriers to close the street to cars and open it to people. Children are especially at risk when it comes to road violence, and School Streets have been popularized around the world as a way to make streets safer for them while incentivizing active transportation. 8 80 Streets Mountview resulted in more Keele Street Public School students walking to school and using other forms of active and sustainable transportation, and fewer students being driven to school. We are now working with potential non-profit and municipal

partners to expand the School Streets concept into more communities across Toronto and beyond.



NATIONAL PROJECTS



Saskatoon #BYXE

Client
City of Saskatoon

Partners
Copenhagenize

515
People engaged

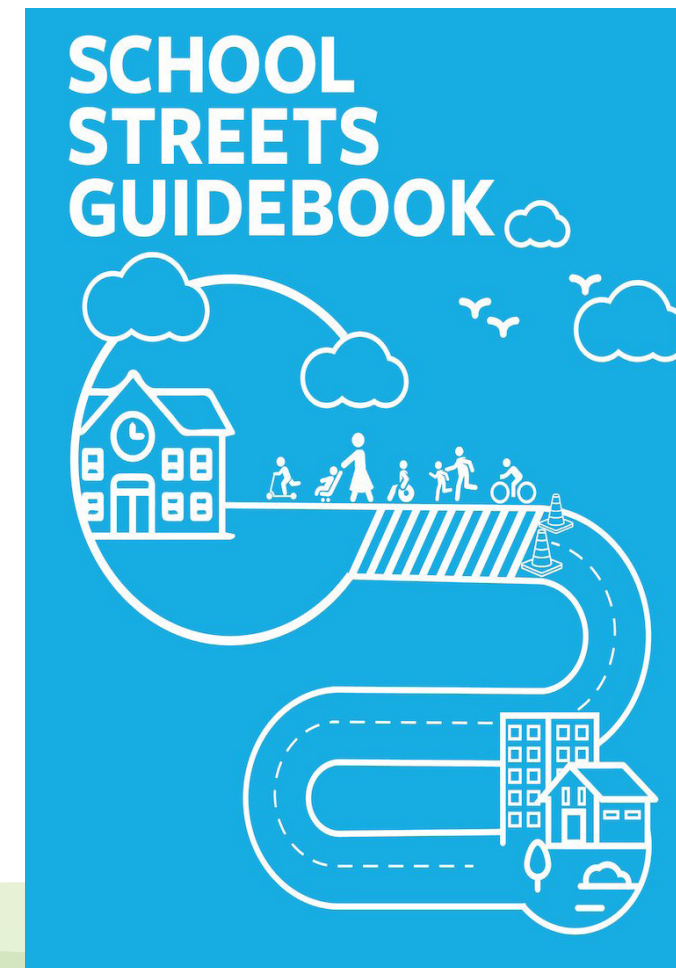
8
Pop-up engagements

8
Focus groups and workshops

In spring 2019, we worked with Copenhagenize to help develop a new education and awareness campaign to support and promote active transportation in Saskatoon. In order to create a campaign that reflected the needs of the community, we first got a snapshot of residents' perceptions and knowledge about cycling, as well as what they love about Saskatoon itself. We held workshops with community leaders and city departments; ran focus groups with communities that are traditionally underrepresented in municipal processes; conducted an online survey; and went to leisure centres, shopping areas, and trails to meet and speak with people where they already were.

The result of our engagement efforts was #BYXE, a fun and funny education campaign that launched in summer 2019 and reflected the diversity and sense of humour of Saskatonians to invite more people to try cycling. By August 2019, over 200 people had shared their own photos of cycling with family and friends in Saskatoon using the new

#BYXE hashtag, and the city's cycling website saw a 220% growth in web traffic.



School Streets Guidebook

Client/Partners
City of Victoria
Capital Regional District of British Columbia

1
Guidebook

10 +
Resources

+300
Downloads

and resources like signage and evaluation tools to support local pop-ups or School Street pilots. The School Streets Guidebook is a resource that local municipalities and parent councils alike are utilizing to prioritize the health and safety of children, neighbors, families, and school communities alike.

Download Guidebook: www.880cities.org/portfolio_page/school-streets-guidebook/

School Streets create a car-free environment in front of schools at the start and end of the school day to prioritize safe walking conditions for children, their caregivers and teachers. While School Streets are common in various parts of Europe, the program has been garnering a great deal of interest in North America. In Victoria, BC several parent councils, schools, and elected officials have shown interest in facilitating a School Streets pop-up but did not know how to best approach planning and management.

Building on our expertise with child-friendly planning, we collaborated with active transportation departments from the Capital Regional District of British Columbia and the City of Victoria to develop a guidebook that explains what School Streets are and how they work. The guidebook includes a clear explanation of what School Streets are compared to other street programs like Open Streets or Play Streets. There is a step by step guide to planning School Streets



ByWard Market Public Realm Plan

Client
City of Ottawa

20

Key findings and design implications

70 hrs

Of measuring public life

+100
Community Volunteers

Picking up from the data we had collected in 2018, we continued studying how and who uses Byward Market to further inform the City's Public Realm Plan.

The methodology for the study continued with collecting travel data, public life data, intercept surveys, and individual feedback at our engagement hub. We worked alongside several volunteers and community members to study the space in the winter and summer of 2019. After each data collection period, we produced a public life study report that analyzed the findings and put forward design recommendations to the Public Realm Plan. After the last data collection we completed, the final report synthesized the findings from all seasons of collection and illustrated a comprehensive view of the vitality of ByWard Market.

The Public Life Study of ByWard Market has been completed and findings have been incorporated into the Public Realm Planning process. The final Public Realm Plan is scheduled to be completed in early 2020.



Cambridge and Kitchener Cycling and Trails Master Plans

Client
City of Cambridge / City of Kitchener

Client:
Urban Systems
Dillon Consulting

2

Communications campaigns

2

Rounds of public engagement

In 2019, neighbouring cities Cambridge and Kitchener both began work to hear from their residents about how to grow into places where more people are excited to choose active transportation to get around. 8 80 Cities brought our expertise in fun and inclusive community engagement processes, visually appealing communications material, and “all ages and abilities” infrastructure to help the project team reach out to community members, especially children, who are underrepresented in municipal processes. In both Cambridge and Kitchener, residents shared their goals for creating an active city culture by creating safer options for mobility and better integrating parks, trails, and protected bike lanes. The results of their input helped both cities develop more thoughtful and responsive master plans to better serve their residents.



INTERATIONAL PROJECTS





Altozano el Nuevo Hermosillo

Bringing Public Space to Life

Client:
Grupo Altozano

Partner
Dialog

40°
Highest Temperature

10
Different public space typologies identified

Altozano el Nuevo Hermosillo is a new urban and residential development in Hermosillo, Sonora at the North West of Mexico. One notable factor of Hermosillo is the high heat, with temperatures reaching up to 40° Celsius. For this project the developers, Grupo Altozano, consulted our expertise in public life, as well as our partner Dialog and their expertise in urban design.

Our process included a site visit where we were able to tour the future site of the development and create a collective vision for what will be a human-centered urban space that is sensitive to the natural surroundings, encourages active transportation and invites residents and visitors to spend time in public space.

Upon our return we worked closely with Dialog. As they developed the concept plan for the site, we identified an ecosystem of typologies and developed specific public space activation principles and strategies. The final result, a public space activation

strategy built from the ground up, including tactics for responding to high heat, public space programming frameworks, management models, and public space evaluation tools.



Buffalo, New York proudly self-identifies as an “all season” city. Severe winter storms have been fundamental to the story of Buffalo’s collective resilience, including one recent event that culminated in nearly eight feet of snow and required the dispatch of the National Guard. Both city staff and nonprofit institutions are committed to serving Buffalo’s historically marginalized and vulnerable populations and reducing social isolation through the colder months by bolstering Buffalo’s well-deserved reputation as an engaged and connected “City of Good Neighbors.”

Wintermission Buffalo began in spring 2019 with a city wide conversation about winter. We facilitated a neighbourhood party, pop-up engagement events, focus groups, workshops, and surveys, and responded to resident priorities with four winter pilot projects: 1) a new microgrant program to fund neighbourhood block clubs that commit to creating community inclusivity, intergenerational volunteerism, and sidewalk accessibility; 2) a series

Wintermission Buffalo

Funder
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation CAF America

Partner
Children & Nature Network
National League of Cities
City of Buffalo, led by the Division of Citizen Services
GObike Buffalo
Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo and Western New York

32
public pop-ups, focus groups, and workshops

4
Pilot projects

of free weekend parties in small local parks city-wide; 3) a plan to distribute hundreds of free weatherization kits and socialization supports directly to community members who need them; and 4) a free winter resources guide aimed at people who are new to winter. In 2020, the results of these pilot projects will help inform a Winter City Strategy for Buffalo that can also be a resource for other mid-size American cities.



Wintermission Leadville

Funder

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation CAF America

Partners

Get Outdoors Leadville!

City of Leadville and Lake County

Children and Nature Network

600+

People engaged

230

Survey Responses

Winter is a wonderful time of the year, especially in communities like Leadville and Lake County, Colorado, where the natural surroundings provide countless opportunities for outdoor recreation like skiing and snowshoeing. However, cold weather, snow, and ice also create challenges that make it difficult for people to get around and spending time in public space, particularly marginalized communities, older adults and children. The Wintermission project sets out to address these challenges and combat social isolation by reducing barriers and encouraging people to spend time with community in public space.

Leadville and Lake County was one of the cities selected for the Wintermission project in part because of its uniqueness. As a small town, 10,152' above sea level receiving an average annual snowfall of 156", Leadville poses its own opportunities and challenges. In 2019, members of our team visited Leadville to support the local team in igniting a city-wide conversation about the challenges winter poses on local's physical and mental well being.

Through the engagement process we connected with over 600 people including members of the Latinx community, older adults, college and high school students amongst other. Building on what we heard, we created an engagement report and supported the local team in developing pilot projects aimed to reduce social isolation. The next stages of the project include a pilot evaluation process and the development of a final winter-city strategy tailored to Leadville and Lake County.



Wintermission Eau Claire

Funder

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and CAF America

Partners

The City of Eau Claire
Eau Claire City-County Health
Department
Visit Eau Claire
Eau Claire Wisc

The City of Altoona
Downtown Eau Claire
Children & Nature Network
National League of Cities

+1000

People engaged

\$15,000

Pilot Project Grant funds

5

Wintermission Pilot Projects

diverse communities like Eau Claire's aging population, Hmong and Latinx communities, and low-income families. Building on what we heard and the existing assets of the city, we supported the team in developing several 2019/2020 winter pilot projects. The following phases of the project will evaluate the pilot projects and develop a Winter City Strategy Report unique to Eau Claire.

Bringing public life to winter cities, the Wintermission program is addressing social isolation and loneliness with urban interventions. Although most cities in the Northern U.S experience winter for most of the year, their built environments do little to embrace the climate. The lack of winter friendly design and programing discourages residents from spending time with others in public spaces during the colder months. The Wintermission project selected three US cities to advance public life in winter and combat social isolation.

Eau Claire, Wisconsin was one of the cities selected for the Wintermission project. As a medium sized mid-western city, the coldest months of the year receive less than 9 hours of sunshine and an average of 4 ft of snow. The Wintermission Eau Claire team is made up of diverse project team members including city representatives, nonprofit organizations and local institutions. In 2019, we support the local team in igniting a city-wide conversation about the challenges winter poses to one's social and physical well-being. The engagement process capitalized on the opportunity to connect with vulnerable and



AARP SWAT

California
Florida
Georgia
Kansas
Kentucky
Maryland

Massachusetts
New Mexico
North Carolina
North Dakota
South Dakota
Orlando

Client
AARP

14
Projects completed

12
States assisted

3
Types of BBQ sampled

Building off a successful collaboration with AARP in 2018 that led to the creation of the Age Friendly Parks and Public Spaces Guide, 8 80 Cities acted as one of AARP's SWAT Engagement partners in 2019. SWAT is a program run by AARP that connects experts on a variety of topics related to livable communities with state and local AARP offices in need of targeted and speedy technical assistance. 8 80 Cities was brought on as an expert on age friendly public spaces and community engagement.

Over the course of 2019, we provided assistance to 12 different state offices on topics as diverse as Cycling Without Age, tactical urbanism, and public space audits. These services were delivered via keynote speeches, full day workshops, research, and webinars. At the conclusion of each engagement, 8 80 Cities provided AARP with a summary of the engagement's outcomes and next steps for the state offices to pursue in creating more age friendly cities.



Melbourne Study Group

Project Partner
Knight Foundation San Jose

15
Participants

50+
Unique ideas for improving public life in San Jose

14
Time zones traversed

Building on the success of the Copenhagen Study Group, 8 80 Cities once again partnered with the San Jose office of the Knight Foundation for a study group, this time to Melbourne, Australia. Each participant from the Copenhagen trip nominated a city builder to form a new cohort of 15 public life leaders to participate.

Melbourne is routinely ranked as one of the most livable cities in the world, but just forty years ago was known as the 'Donut City' due to its empty and lifeless city centre. The story of this remarkable urban transformation and the lessons of successful and not so successful policy changes formed the core curriculum of the workshop. Participants walked, biked, bussed, and transit-ed across Melbourne, appreciating the similarities and difference between San Jose and the Australian metropolis. Municipal leaders, private consultants, non-profit organizations, and Aboriginal leaders challenged and were challenged by the San Joseans to rethink how we can create more inclusive, and vibrant public spaces.



Copenhagen Study Group

Project Partner
Knight Foundation San Jose

15

Participants

11

Departments and organizations represented

750+

Kilometers collectively cycled

Thanks to the generous support of the Knight Foundation, 8 80 Cities hosted our fifth study group to Copenhagen, Denmark with Knight. However, for the first time ever, participants were all from one city, San Jose, California. Focusing on participants from one city allowed for a more targeted agenda that encouraged participants to come together and form a cohort of individuals and organizations committed to furthering the goals of public life in San Jose.

Participants were able to fully immerse themselves in Copenhagen's unique cultural rhythms by walking and biking from place to place and neighbourhood to neighbourhood. As a global leader in vibrant public spaces and active transportation infrastructure, Copenhagen serves as an ideal example of how cities can weave public space through every aspect of their municipality. After meeting with some of the world's best and brightest urban minds, study group participants put their heads together and drafted concrete action plans and strategies that would allow

them to return home and hit the ground running on implementing change in San Jose.



Emerging City Champions

Funder
Knight Foundation

4

days of workshops and learning

14

guest speakers and guides

\$5,000

Microgrant for each Champion

For the fifth year, 8 80 Cities selected 20 civic innovators from across the United States for a year-long fellowship to help them implement transformative ideas to improve their cities. The Emerging City Champions program has now served over 100 incredible young leaders who continue to fulfill the program's goals of creating public life in public spaces, enhancing mobility options, and building a culture of civic engagement in their communities.

The 2019-2020 fellowship began in July with a four-day Studio in Toronto, where the champions learned from grassroots leaders and city builders from across North America, and developed timelines, budgets, and contingency plans for their project ideas through hands-on workshops. Participants received \$5,000 in funding and ongoing support for their concepts, which this year include innovative accessibility and mental-health initiatives, community storytelling and poetry projects, art-based street calming and placemaking, and civic engagement podcasts.

2019

conference presentations & webinars

Winter Cities Shake-UP, Ryan O'Connor, Saskatoon

Greenbelt Market Manager Day Panel, Candice Leung, Toronto

Transportation Equity TO mini conference on racial equity and active transportation in Toronto's suburbs, Candice Leung, Toronto

My T.O. in Ten, Amanda/Siva/Candice/Pablo, Toronto

AARP SWAT Team Speakers Series, David Simor/Siva Vijenthira, webinar

Age Friendly Parks and Public Spaces, Amanda/David, webinar

Ask the Expert, David Simor, Portland ME

Complete Streets Summit, David Simor, Toronto

8 80 Streets Danforth, Amanda/David, Toronto

Age Friendly Parks and Public Spaces, David, Baltimore MD

Planet in Focus Film Festival, Amanda/Siva, Toronto

PLACE Conference, David, Toronto

Climate Resilient Cities Symposium, Candice, Toronto

School Streets Webinar, Amanda/Candice/Siva, webinar

University of Toronto Smart Cities Lecture, Candice, Toronto

Healthy Neighbourhood Summit, David, Toronto

What if
everything we
did in our cities
was great for an
8 year old and an
80 year old?



