

Exploring Reconnecting Communities

—
SIOBHÁN MITCHELL
JANUARY 17, 2024

PERKINS —
EASTMAN

Human by Design

Agenda

- Introductions
- What is Reconnecting Communities and Spatial Equity?
- Research Question
- Methodology
 - Case Studies
- Key Findings
- A “Human By Design” approach to measuring value
- Discussion
 - How does this connect to Perkins Eastman’s work?
 - Q & A



Introduction

DESIGN AND WELLNESS FELLOW 2023



Denison University



Georgetown University



El Colegio de la Frontera
Sur, Chiapas, MX



NYC Parks

Panel



Douglas



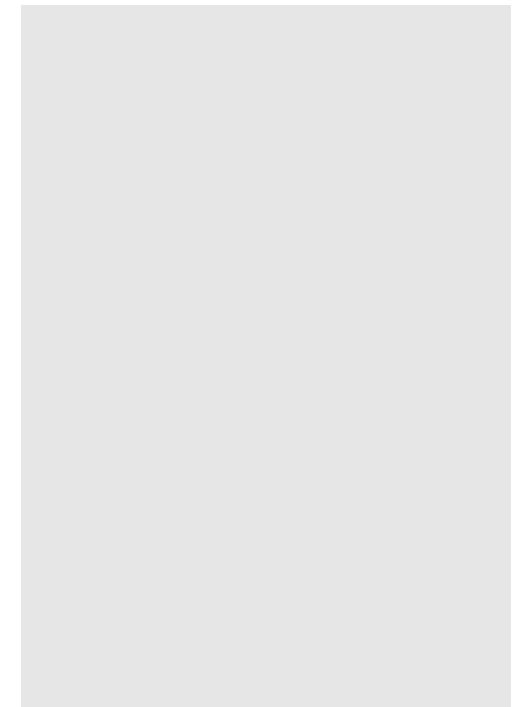
Kate



Nasra



Mindy



Hanna

An aerial photograph of a city, likely Berkeley, California, showing a mix of residential and commercial buildings, trees, and a transit system. The foreground features a modern transit station with a green and white train. The middle ground shows a large, multi-story building with a red-tiled roof and arched windows. The background shows a dense urban area with various buildings and trees, set against a backdrop of hills.

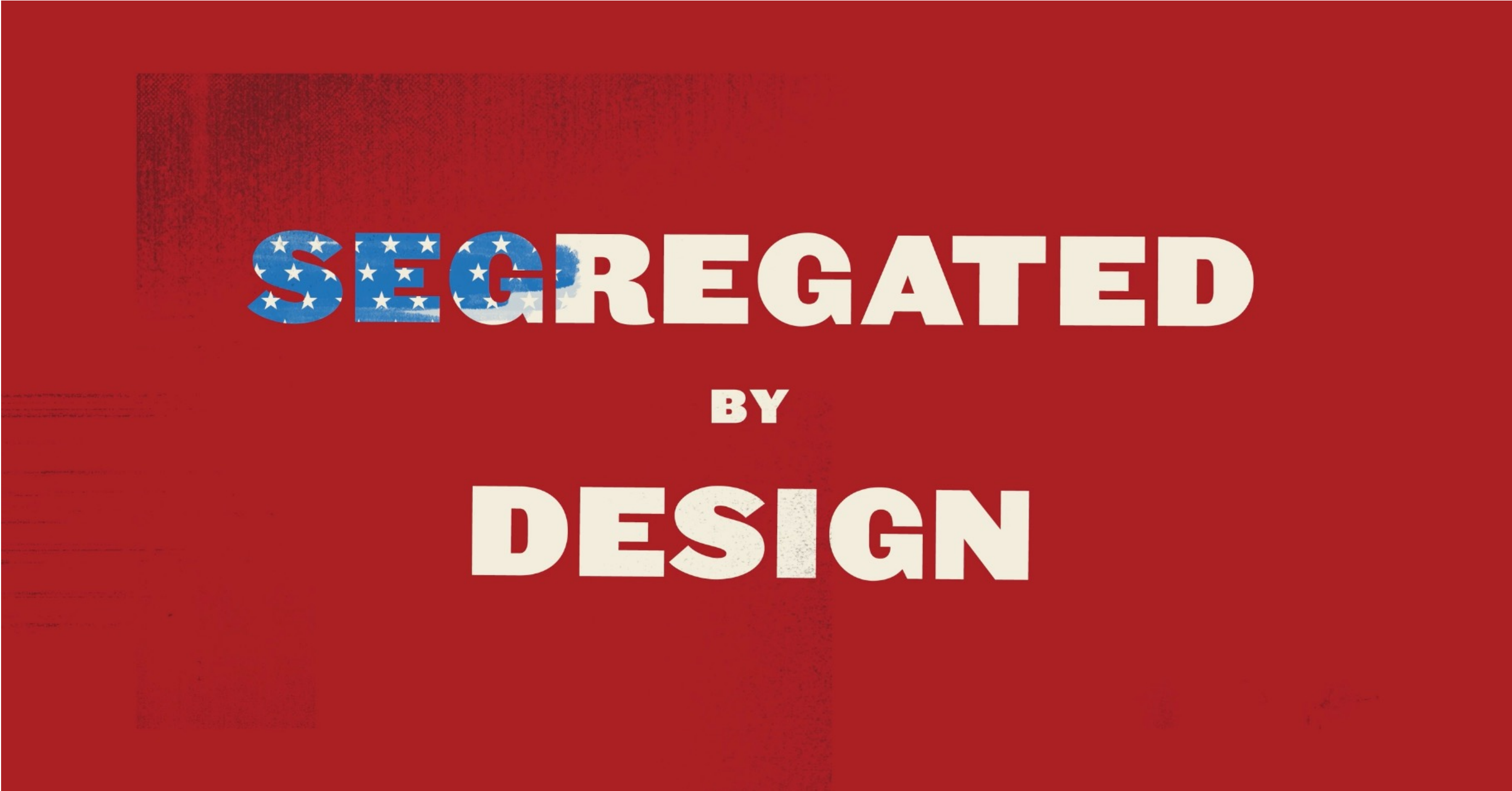
Research Question

HOW CAN WE USE THE SPATIAL EQUITY FRAMEWORK TO EXPLORE THE IMPACT OF RECONNECTING COMMUNITIES?

HOW CAN PERKINS EASTMAN USE THIS APPROACH TO COMMUNICATE THE BENEFIT OF THE HUMAN BY DESIGN APPROACH?

American Urban Planning & Auto Centric Infrastructure

HISTORICAL CONTEXT



Reconnecting Communities

[US DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION](#)



Spatial Equity NYC

[TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES & MIT](#)



An aerial photograph of a city, likely Berkeley, California, showing a mix of residential and commercial buildings. In the foreground, a modern transit station with a green and white train is visible. The city extends to a hilly background with more buildings and trees. The text is overlaid on the lower half of the image.

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Research Process

- Interviews with PE team (Vancouver, Oakland, Washington, DC, Los Angeles)
 - Seattle John Lewis Memorial Bridge
 - Kennedy Center Greenway
 - Pasadena I-710
- Review federal RCP guidance, criteria, and recipients
- Interview Spatial Equity NYC team
- Develop policy evaluation methodology based on health, environment, and mobility indicators
- Use grant recipients as case studies
- Explore how Perkins Eastman can use the spatial equity in Human By Design

Health

Asthma* – 7.7% national average

Noise Pollution – WHO standards

Traffic Fatalities – Vision Zero

Traffic Injuries – Vision Zero

Air Pollution – WHO standards



Environment

Surface Temperature

Permeable Surface Area

Tree Canopy – 30% coverage

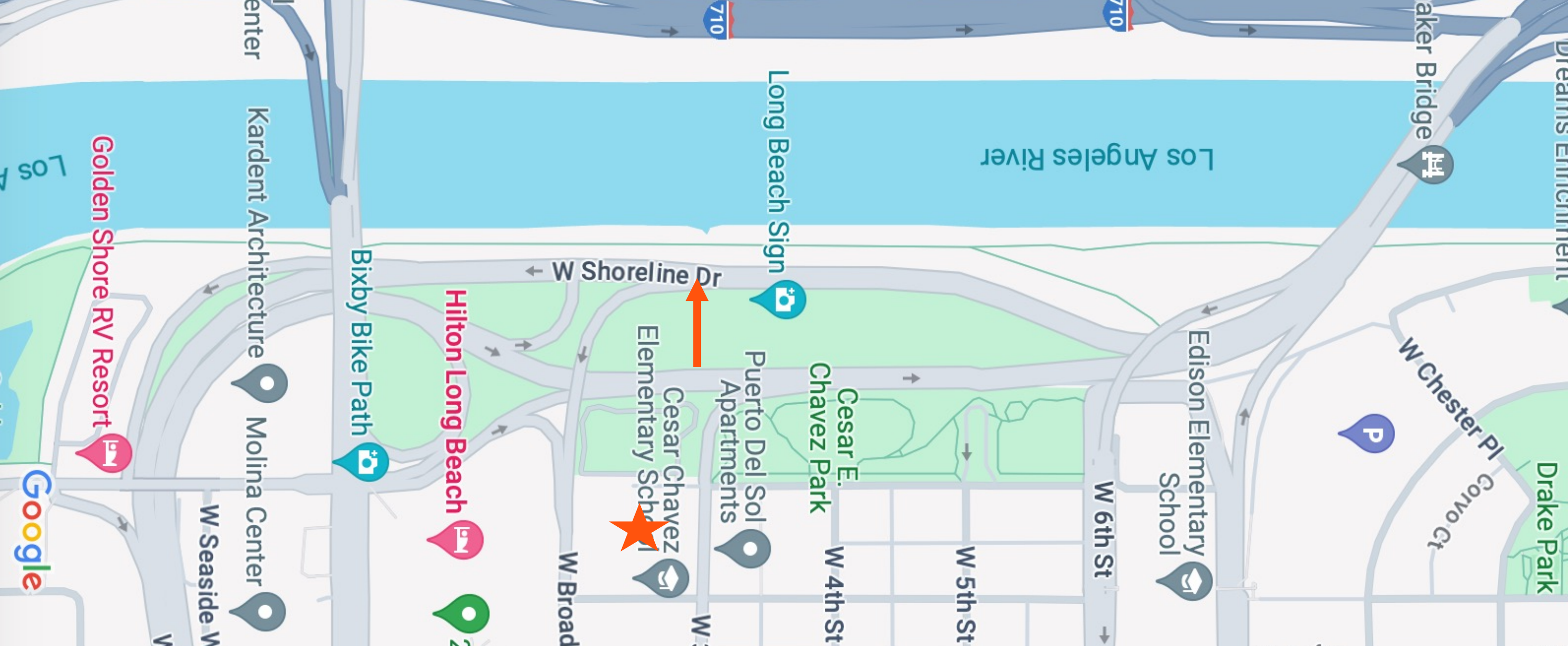
Park Access*



Mobility

- Bike Parking*
- Bus Lanes
- Bus Speeds
- Protected Bike Lanes
- Traffic Volume
- Public Seating





Shoreline Drive Gateway – Asthma & Park Access

Proposal for realignment of Shoreline Dr, Shoemaker Bridge, and Cesar Chavez Park

- Realign northbound drive along the southbound drive
- Improve access to 5.5 acres of park space



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Long Branch Pedestrian Tunnel – Bike Parking

EXISTING LONG BRANCH STATION, NJ



Community Benefits of Reconnection & Catalytic Impacts

Health

- Quality of life benefit
- Vision Zero advancement
- Childhood asthma outcomes

Environment

- Climate resiliency for extreme weather events
- Park access for health

Mobility

- More equitable access for those without a car
- Climate friendly mobility options
- Active mobility



John Lewis Memorial Bridge

Seattle, WA



Catalyst Connector
Bellevue, WA

Discussion

- What other completed projects have you worked on that improved spatial equity?
 - Were any of these measures part of the design challenge?
 - Were these measured before/during the project?
 - Were you interested in measuring these indicators on that project?
- Are these indicators incorporated into work that does not focus on large-scale/urban projects?

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Noise pollution
Traffic Injuries
Traffic Fatalities
Air Pollution

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Park Access

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Protected Bike Lanes
Bus Lanes
Bus Speeds
Traffic Volume
Public Seating

Perkins Eastman Projects – 2024 - Reconnecting

IN PROGRESS



Discussion

- How would you use this framework in your work?
- How can Perkins Eastman use spatial equity to communicate the value of projects?
- How can this work be useful for teams that don't work on large-scale urban design projects?
- How does this research tie to your competitive advantage as Perkins Eastman?
- How will these indicators drive the urban design/architecture field moving forward?

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Credits

PHOTOGRAPHY

Cover Image by Kayle Kaupanger | Unsplash

Slide 6 Segregated By Design | [Segregated By Design](#)

Slide 13 Totem Lake Connector | [The Urbanist](#)

Slide 14 Shoreline Drive Gateway Existing Conditions | Google Maps

Slide 15 Shoreline Drive Gateway Proposed Plan | [CATC](#)

Slide 16 Long Branch Pedestrian Tunnel | [The Link News](#)

Slide 18 John Lewis Memorial Bridge | [Perkins Eastman](#)

Slide 19 Catalyst Connector | [Perkins Eastman](#)

Slide 21 Kennedy Center | [Dezeen](#)

Slide 21 Pasadena I-710 | [City of Pasadena](#)

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