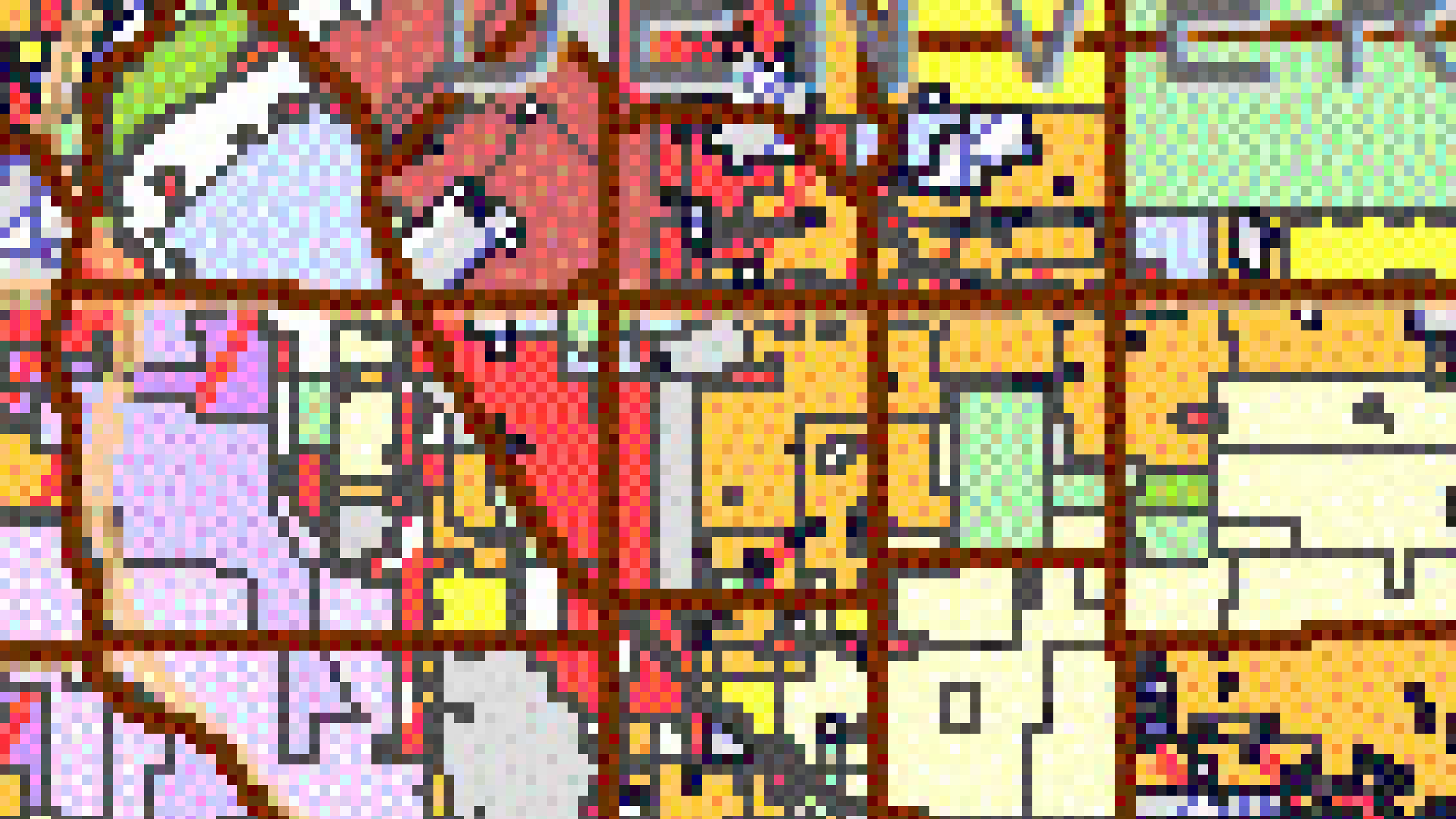


Urban Design

...and its role in Blueprint

Why talk about Urban Design?

Stop and think moment



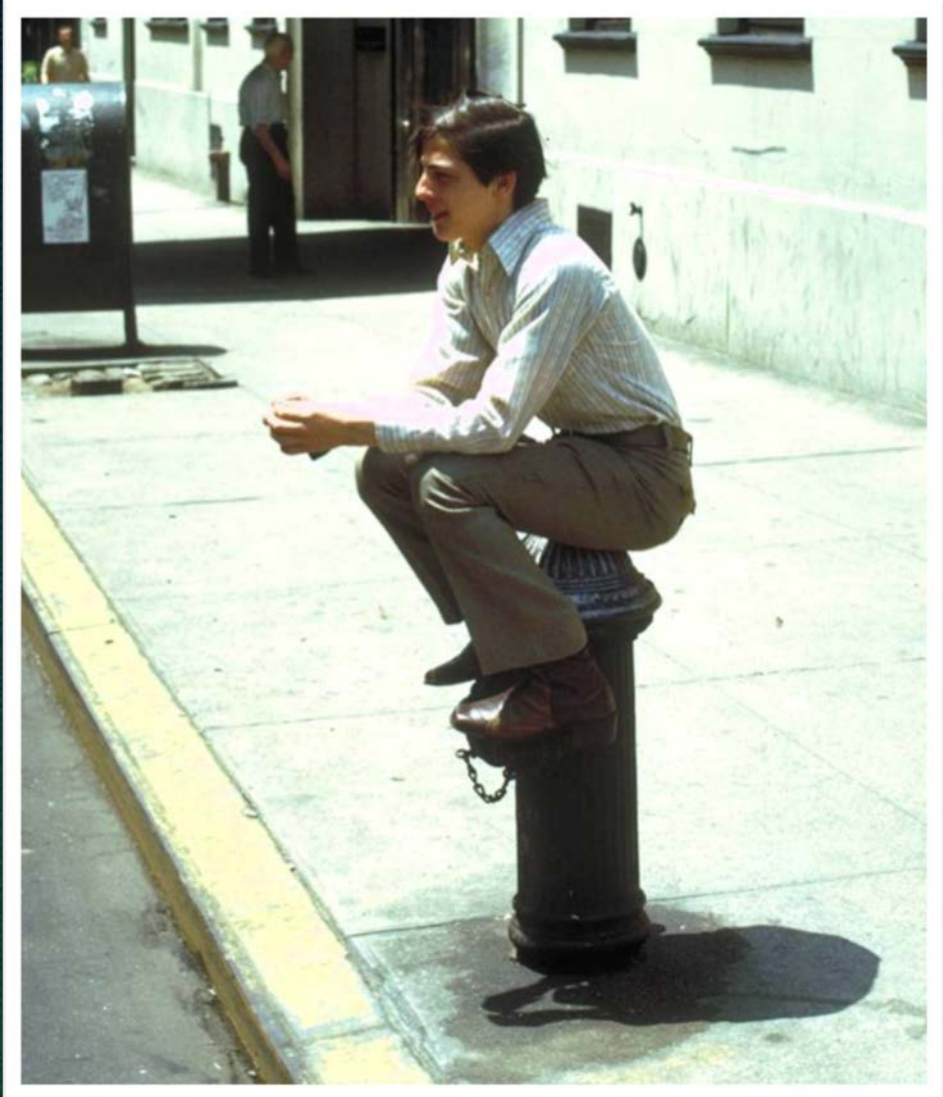




Why talk about Urban Design?

What does it do?

Our spaces affect our behavior





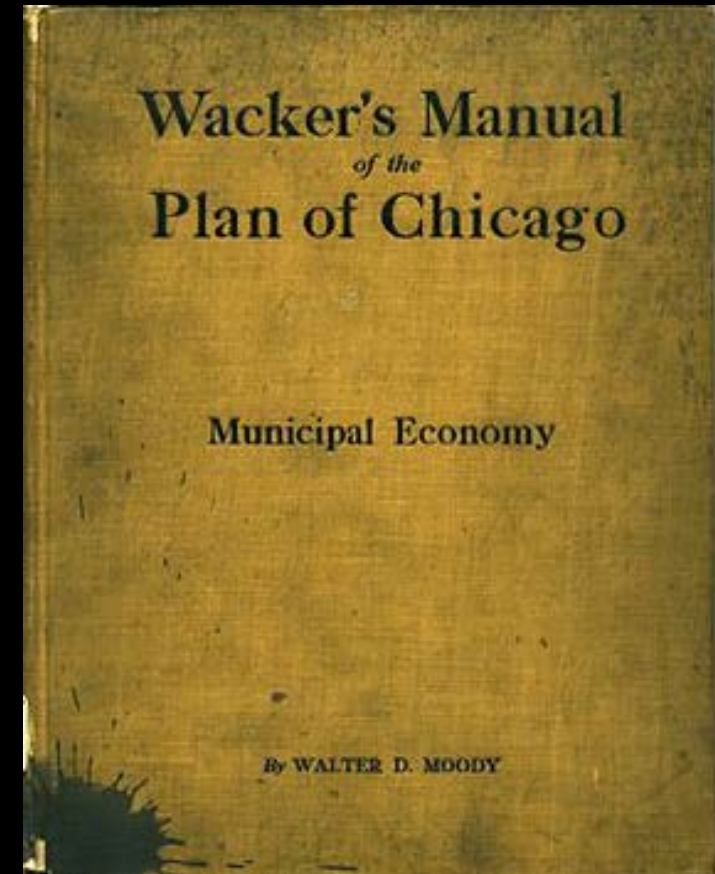
VANCOUVER



Dude Chilling Park

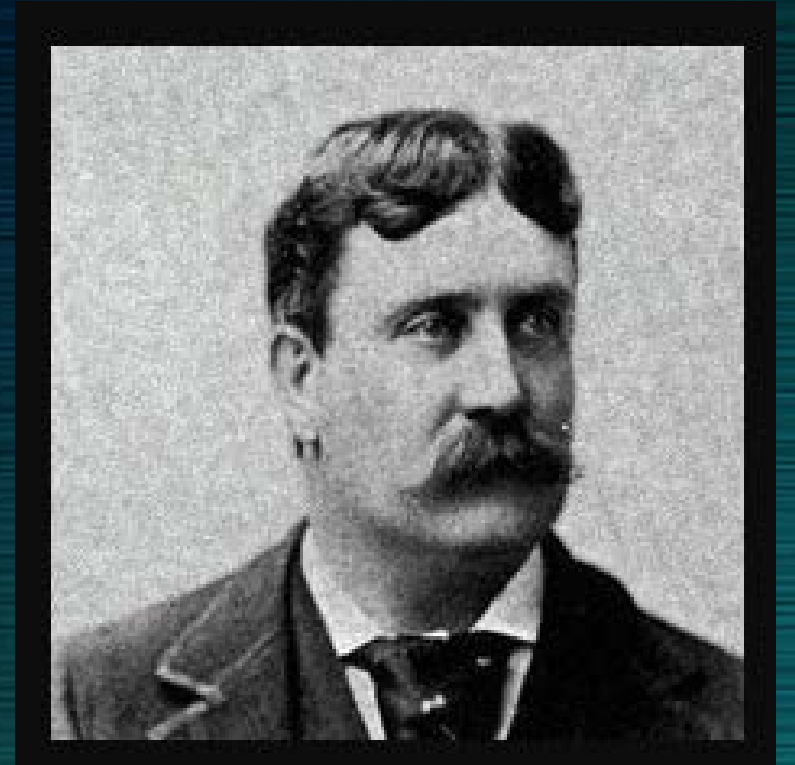
Blueprint – Urban Design’s Role

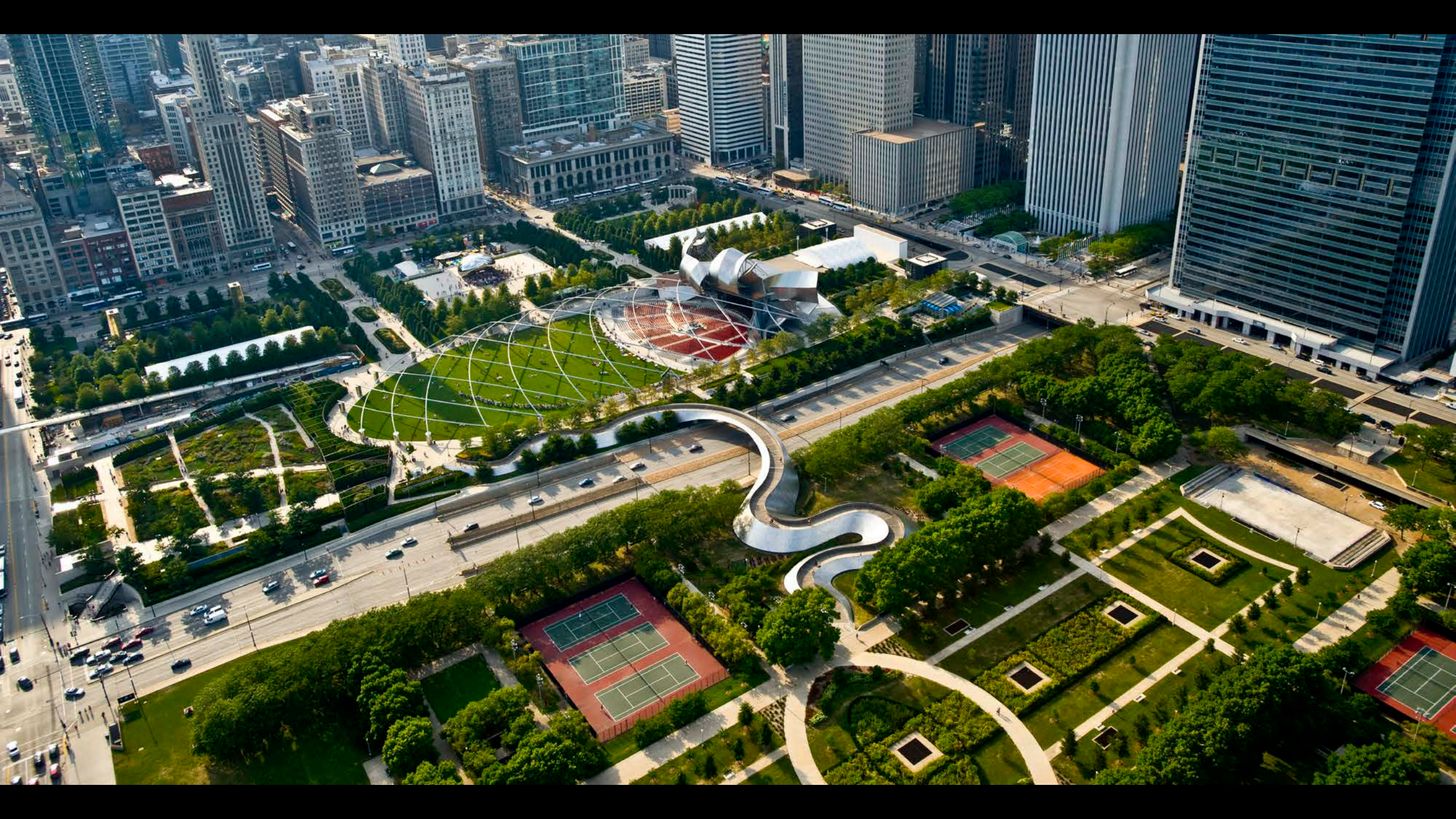
- Chance to have a Citywide conversation about Urban Design
- Can a set of Urban Design Principles integrated into Blueprint serve a similar role as Denver’s “Wacker’s Manual of the Plan of Chicago”?
 - 1911-1924 – Importance of Planning & Urban Design as a Civic Responsibility
 - Offer “Drop-In Class” to schools?
 - Citizen’s Planning Institute Model? (Philadelphia)



“Make no little plans.
They have no magic to
stir one's blood...”

Daniel Burnham





Urban Design

**Urban Design facilitates a relationship or connection
between people and places,
between movement and the urban form,
and between nature and the built fabric.**

Complete Neighborhoods



Like complete streets, the best aspects of life.



Like “City Beautiful” we want “Neighborhood Wonderful”.

Multi-stop destination.



Lifestyle Center- a new Main Street



Other fake Main Streets...



Lowell
32nd

32nd

CASHIER
TRADES

7289

Chicago

Transition Zones.

Keeping Neighborhood Context and
fostering dialouge

Blueprint and NPI.

Urban Design Blueprint & Urban Design NPI
Macro/Micro Relationship

Blueprint Urban Design = Framework for NPI
to evolve

NPI Urban Design = “Deeper Dive”

Blueprint – Urban Design’s Role

- “Urban design focuses on character and aesthetics and includes building orientation, streetscapes, lighting, landscaping themes and building architecture.”
- “**Focusing on how land uses meet the street** is the function of urban design.”

Urban Design ■ Involves the social, economic, functional, environmental, and aesthetic objectives that result in the plan or structure of a city, in whole or in part.

Blueprint – Urban Design’s Role



The new urbanist development under construction at the former Elitch Gardens site respects many of the Blueprint Denver’s guiding principles.

Areas of Change

Contribute to urban design vision

- | Orientation to the street
- | Alignment of buildings along street
- | Location of garage, driveway, and parking
- | Front yard landscaping
- | Building scale
- | Roof shape
- | Durability of materials
- | Transition to adjacent areas, especially Areas of Stability

Respect valued attributes of area

- | Existing buildings, especially those adding distinctive character and identity
- | Economic generators
- | Diversity of housing types and prices
- | Mature landscaping
- | Significant views from public places
- | Parks and parkways

Contribute to economic vision

- | Balance of uses
- | Transportation access
- | Economic opportunity

Expand transportation choice

- | Pedestrian/bicyclist safety and comfort
- | Links between modes (pedestrian, bicycle, transit)
- | Access to transit
- | Street system continuity (streets, alleys, sidewalks, bikeways)
- | Transit ridership
- | Shared parking solutions

Improve environmental quality

- | Tree canopy
- | Permeable open space
- | Parks and parkways
- | Site lighting
- | Noise, vibration, and odor mitigation

Blueprint – Urban Design’s Role

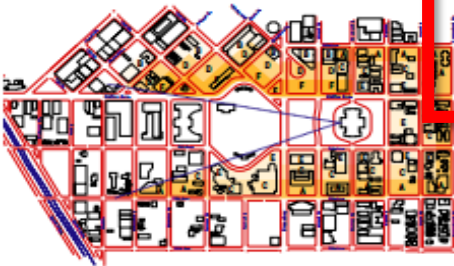


Protecting Denver’s Legacies

Several components of the land-use regulatory system protect Denver’s legacies — urban design, historic buildings and districts, and views of the mountains and downtown. These, along with parks and parkways, represent Denver’s fundamental cultural values.

Urban Design Review

A few zone districts require review of building design based on adopted design standards and guidelines. This staff intensive review is appropriate for a few high visibility areas such as downtown (B-5) and Cherry Creek North (CCN).



The view from the State Capitol is protected.

Historic Buildings and Districts

Landmark designation is the means by which historic buildings and districts are protected through design and demolition review. To qualify as a landmark, the Landmark Preservation Ordinance specifies that a building or district must have significance in two of three categories — architecture, history and geography. Regardless of designation, reuse of buildings is an important concept for sustainability.

View Plane Preservation

There are many public places in Denver with spectacular views of the mountains or downtown Denver. Picking a point (e.g., the steps of the State Capitol) and establishing a plane that cannot be penetrated by new buildings can preserve these views.

Blueprint v1.0: Some nuggets to move forward...

- Key in the relationship between Land Use and Street.
- Urban Design significant in Areas of Change.
- Design Review key to quality environments.