

Eran Ben-Joseph, Ph.D.

Class of 1922 Professor

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Biographical Sketch

Eran Eran is the class of 1922 Professor of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning (DUSP) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Eran served as Head of the Department from 2013 to 2020. His research and teaching areas include urban and physical design, standards and regulations, sustainable site planning technologies and urban retrofitting. He published numerous articles, monographs, book chapters and authored and co-authored the books: Streets and the Shaping of Towns and Cities, Regulating Place: Standards and the Shaping of Urban America, The Code of the City, RENEW Town and ReThinking a Lot. Eran worked as a city planner, urban designer and landscape architect in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and the United States on projects including new towns and residential developments, streetscapes, stream restorations, and parks and recreation planning. He has led national and international multi-disciplinary projects in Singapore, Barcelona, Santiago, Tokyo, Biloxi and Washington DC among other places. Eran is the recipient of the Wade Award for his work on Representation of Places – a collaboration project with MIT Media Lab and the Milka Bliznakov Prize for his historical work on Pioneering Women of Landscape Architecture. He holds degrees from the University of California at Berkeley and Chiba National University of Japan.

Education

- University of California at Berkeley B.A. Landscape Architecture
- National University Chiba -Japan M.Agr Landscape Architecture
- University of California at Berkeley Ph.D. Environmental Planning and Urban Design

Appointments

- Professor and Department Head 2013-2020 MIT
- Professor 2010-2013 MIT
- Associate Professor (Tenured) 2005-2010 MIT
- Hayes Assistant/Associate Professor 2000-2004 MIT
- Assistant Professor 1996-1999 Virginia Tech
- Instructor 1993-1994 University of California Berkeley (UCB)
- Researcher Associate 1993-1995 ITS, UCB
- Visiting Lecturer 1990-1991 Technion, Israel
Institute of Technology
- Principal 1987-1999 BNBJ
- Landscape Architect 1984-1987 Kisho Korokawa
Architect & Associates

Principal Fields of Interest

- Urban Design and Planning
Standards, Codes and Urban Development
Regenerative Urbanism
- Environmental Planning and Landscape Architecture
Natural and Urban Systems, Ecological Infrastructure
Urban Representation and Digital Media

Recent Awards, Honors and Grants

- Finalist, ParkingPLUS Design Competition, the Rauch Foundation Long Island Index 2014.
- MIT School of Architecture + Planning Department of Urban Planning Best Teaching Award 2012.
- New York City Institute for Urban Design "By the City/For the City" design competition winner for the Bronx Practicum project. 2011.
- MISTI Global Seed Fund. Prototypical Sustainable Communities. 2010.
- Planning Award, American Planning Association, MA. City of Lowell's Lower Highlands Neighborhood Plan 2010.
- MIT School of Architecture + Planning Department of Urban Planning Best Advising Award 2010.
- Outstanding Planning Award, American Planning Association, MA. City of Lowell's Lower Highlands Neighborhood Plan.
- IAWA Milka Bliznakov prize 2007.

- NIH, Community Influences on Health Behavior —Exploratory Study of Environmental Effects on Activity/Overweight in Older Women 2006-11.
- DOT, Boomer's Travel Behavior: Evidence from Developments for the Elderly, 2006-11.
- MIT, HASS research grant, 2005, 2011.
- MIT Graduate Teaching Award—for excellence in teaching – School of Architecture and Planning. 2003.
- Lincoln Institute of Land Policy - grant to support research on The Effect of Subdivision Regulations on Development Cost. 2003.
- The Government of Catalunya, Spain- grant to support research on Event Place , 2003
- Alliance for Global Sustainability - Designing, Implementing and Measuring Sustainable Urban Development. Research Grant. 2002.
- The Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture Service Award for promoting and advancing the study of architecture. 2002

Recent Publications

(since 2002)

Books

1. *ReThinking A Lot: The Design and Culture of Parking*. Cambridge: MIT Press 2012.
2. *RENEW TOWN: Adaptive Urbanism and the Design of the Low Carbon Community*. (With Andrew Scott) London: Routledge 2011.
3. *The Code of the City: Standards and the Hidden Language of Place Making*. MIT Press, 2005.
4. *Regulating Place: Standards and the Shaping of Urban America*. (Co-edited with Terry S. Szold) NY: Routledge, 2004.
5. *Streets and the Shaping of Towns and Cities*. (With Michael Southworth). Washington DC: Island Press, 2003. Chinese edition 2007.
6. *Designing the Llobregat Corridor: Cultural Landscape and Regional Development*. (With Dennis Frenchman, Mark Schuster and Joaquin Sabate). Diputació de Barcelona: UPC Press, 2002.

Chapters in Edited Books

1. "Motopia: Building the Automobile City" in *American Urbanism* Heathcott Joseph Ed. Forthcoming Routledge Press.
2. "Codes and Standards in Urban Planning and Design" in *The Handbook of Urban Planning* Weber and Crane, Eds. NY: Oxford University Press. 2012.
3. "The Business of Codes: Urban Design Regulation in an Entrepreneurial Society" (With Nicholas Marantz), in *Urban Design in the Real Estate Development Process* Steve Tiesdell and David Adams, Eds. London: Blackwell 2011.
4. "Digital Tools in Urban Design" in *Urban Design: Roots, Influences, and Trends* Banerjee, Loukaitou-Sideris Eds. NY: Routledge 2011.
5. "Vehicular Circulation" in *Landscape Architecture Graphic Standards* Len Hopper Ed. NY: Wiley, 2006.
6. "Indicators for Sustainable urban Development" in *From Understanding to Action: Sustainable Urban Development in Africa and Latin America*. (With Chris Zegras, Ivan Poduje, and Whitney Foutz) Marco Keiner, Christopher Zegras, Willy A Schmid, and Diego Salmerón, Eds. NY: Kluwer Academic Publisher: 2004.
7. "Facing Subdivision Regulations " in *Regulating Place: Standards and the Shaping of Urban America*. NY: Routledge. Eran Ben-Joseph and Terry S. Szold Eds. 2004.
8. "Smarter Standards and Regulations- Diversifying the Spatial Paradigms of Subdivisions" in *Smart Growth Forms and Consequences*, Terry Szold and Carbonall ed. Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. 2002.

Papers in Refereed Journals

1. "Does Urban Living Influence Baby Boomers' Travel Behavior?" (With Jae Seung Lee, Christopher Zegras) *Journal of Transport Geography* 2014.
2. "Relationships Between the Built Environment and Walking and Weight Status among Older Women in Three U.S. States" (With Phillip Troped, Francine Laden, Heather Whitcomb, Ellen Cromley, and Steve Melly) *Journal of Aging and Physical Activity* 22, 114-125, 2014.
3. "Safely Active Mobility for Urban Baby Boomers: The Role of Neighborhood Design" (With Jae Seung Lee, Christopher Zegras) *Accident Analysis & Prevention* 2013.
4. "Virtual and Actual: Relative Accuracy of On-Site and Web-based Instruments in Auditing the Environment for Physical Activity" (With Jae Seung Lee, Ellen Cromley, Francine Laden and Phillip Troped) *Journal of Health & Place* 2013.

5. "By Community or Design? Age-Restricted Neighborhoods, Physical Design and Baby Boomers' Local Travel Behavior in Suburban Boston, USA" (With Christopher Zegras, Jae Seung Lee). *Journal of Urban Studies* 2012.
6. "Child Streets" (With Sam Bass Warner) *Journal of Urban Planning and Development*. Dec. 2011.
7. "Designing Codes: Trends in Cities, Planning and Development" *Journal of Urban Studies*. Vol 46. No. 12, 2009.
8. "Effects of the Built Environment on Physical Activity and Obesity on a Large Sample of Older Women Living in Three U.S. States: Preliminary Findings" (With Phillip Troped, Francine Laden, Heather Whitcomb, Ellen Cromley, and Steve Melly). *Active Living Research* 2009.
9. "Validation of a Commercial Geographic Information System Database of Walking and Bicycling Destinations" (with Heather Whitcomb, Ellen Cromley, Kosuke Tamura, Steven Melly, Sayali Kale, Francine Laden, Peter James, Robin Puett and Philip Troped). *Active Living Research* 2009.
10. "Everyday life without a car would be impossible. A Comparative Study of Baby Boomers' Travel Behavior and Residential Preferences in Age-Restricted and Typical Suburban Neighborhoods. (With Chris Zegras and Jae Seung Lee). TRB, Washington DC 2008.
11. *Against all Odds MIT's Pioneering Women of Landscape Architecture*. (With Holly D. Ben-Joseph and Anne Dodge). The International Archive of Women in Architecture (IAWA) 2006
12. "Innovating Regulations" Special Issue of the *American Society of Civil Engineers Journal of Urban Planning and Development*. (December 2005)
13. "Bringing Clay and Sand into Digital Design: Continuous Tangible User Interfaces" (With Hiroshi Ishii, Yao wang and Carlo Ratti). *BT Technology Journal* Vol 22. No. 4 October 2004.
14. "The Future of Standards and Rules in Shaping Place: Re-engineering the Urban Genetic Code" *ASCE Journal of Urban Planning and Development*. June 2004.
15. "Double Standards, Single Goal: Private Communities and Design Innovation" *Journal of Urban Design*. Vol. 9. No. 2, 131-151, June 2004
16. "Urban Simulation and the Luminous Planning Table: Bridging the Gap between the Digital and the Tangible" (With Hiroshi Ishii and John Underkoffler) *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 21:195-202, 2001.
17. "Hexagonal Planning in Theory and Practice" (with David Gordon). *Journal of Urban Design*. Vol. 5, No. 3, 2000.
18. "Changing the Suburban Street Scene: Adapting of the Shared Street (Woonerf) Concept to the Suburban Environment" *Journal of the American Planning Association*, Vol. 61, No. 4. Autumn 1995.
19. "Street Standards and The Shaping of Suburbia" (With Michael Southworth). *Journal of the American Planning Association*, Vol. 61, No. 1, Winter 1995.
20. "Infradependency: Sanitation Standards and the Shaping of Cities" *Proceedings of the Resurgent City*. London School of Economics 19-21 April 2004.
21. "Critical Thinking in a Digital World: Using Computers to Ask Questions" (With Mark Lindhult and James Sipes) *Proceedings of the American Society of Landscape Architects Conference, San Jose California, October 18-22, 2002*.
22. "Augmented Urban Planning Workbench: Overlaying Drawings, Physical Models and Digital Simulation" (With Hiroshi Ishii). *Proceedings of IEEE & ACM ISMAR 2002, September 30 - October 1, 2002, IEEE*.
23. "Traffic Calming and the NeoTraditional Street" *Proceedings of the Institute of Transportation Engineers International Conference on Transportation and Sustainable Communities, Tampa Florida, March 23-26, 1997*.
24. "Regulating Subdivisions in Massachusetts - Practices and Outlooks -A Survey of Public Officials in Massachusetts" Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. Working Paper WP05EB1, 2005.
25. "Land Use and Design Innovations in Private Communities" *Land Lines*. November 2004.
26. "Subdivision Regulations - Practices and Attitudes: A Survey of Public Officials and Developers in the Nation's Fastest Growing Single Family Housing Markets. Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. Working Paper WP03EB1, 2003.
27. "Reconsidering the Cul-de-Sac" (with Michael Southworth). *Access Magazine of Transportation*, June 2004. Also in *Wharton Real Estate Review* December 2005.
28. "Inventing the Charles River", Book Review, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, Fall 2003.
29. *Context Sensitive Street Design*, American Planning Association Training CD-ROM. October 2003.
30. "Tangible Infoscaples" *Landscape Architecture* , April 2002.

Papers in Refereed Proceedings of Conferences

1. "Child Streets" Eran Ben-Joseph and Sam Bass Warner. IMCL International Making Cities Livable. October 2010.
2. "Neighborhoods, Streets, and Non-Motorized Travel: Evidence from Baby Boomers Living in Age-Restricted Active Adult Communities" Christopher Zengras, Jae Seung Lee and Eran Ben-Joseph. TRB Proceedings 2009.
3. "Effects of the Built Environment on Physical Activity and Obesity on a Large Sample of Older Women Living in Three U.S. States: Preliminary Findings" Phillip Troped, Francine Laden, Heather Whitcomb, Eran Ben-Joseph, Ellen Cromley, and Steve Melly. Active Living Research 2009.
4. "Validation of a Commercial Geographic Information System Database of Walking and Bicycling Destinations" Heather Whitcomb, Ellen Cromley, Kosuke Tamura, Steven Melly Sayali Kale, Francine Laden, Peter James, Robin Puett, Eran Ben-Joseph and Philip Troped. Active Living Research 2009.
5. "Everyday life without a car would be impossible: A Comparative Study of Baby Boomers' Travel Behavior and Residential Preferences in Age-Restricted and Typical Suburban Neighborhoods" Christopher Zengras, Eran Ben-Joseph, Frank Hebbert and Joseph Coughlin. TRB Proceedings 2008.
6. "Infradependency: Sanitation Standards and the Shaping of Cities" *Proceedings of the Resurgent City*. London School of Economics 19-21 April 2004.
7. "Critical Thinking in a Digital World: Using Computers to Ask Questions" Mark Lindhult, James Sipes and Eran Ben-Joseph *Proceedings of the American Society of Landscape Architects Conference, San Jose California, October 18-22, 2002*.
8. "Augmented Urban Planning Workbench: Overlaying Drawings, Physical Models and Digital Simulation" Hiroshi Ishii, Eran Ben-Joseph, John Underkoffler, Luke Yeung, Dan Chak, Zahra Kanji and Ben Piper. *Proceedings of IEEE & ACM ISMAR 2002, September 30 - October 1, 2002, IEEE*.

Monographs

1. *Industrial Urbanism: Places of Production* Exhibition Catalog (With Tali Hatuka) 2014.
2. *Against All Odds: MIT's Pioneering Women of Landscape Architecture*. Eran Ben-Joseph, Holly D. Ben-Joseph and Anne C. Dodge. Blacksburg, VA: IAWA 2007
3. *Regulating Subdivisions in Massachusetts - Practices and Outlooks -A Survey of Public Officials in Massachusetts*. Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. 05EB1, 2005
4. *Subdivision Regulations -Practices and Attitudes: A Survey of Public Officials and Developers in the Nation's Fastest Growing Single Family Housing Markets*. Cambridge, MA: Lincoln Institute of Land Policy. 03EB1, 2003.
5. *Context Sensitive Street Design*, American Planning Association Training Manual and CD. 2003.

Other Major Publications

1. *Smart Holiday Parking Tips* Parade Magazine. November 18, 2012.
2. *NexCity: Refigured Urbanism for the New Century* (Project Report) 2012
3. *When Parking lot is so Much More* Op-Ed New York Times. March 26, 2012.
4. *BX Bronx Meet Your Waterfront* (Project Report) 2011.
5. *Mode Shift: Rethinking Boston's Biking Streets* (Project Report) 2010.
6. *Sustainable Urban Housing Community Initiatives Japan 2050* (Research Report) 2010.
7. *Lower Highlands Neighborhood Plan*– Lowell MA (Project Report) 2009.
8. *Ecologic Oriented Development*. Tama New Town Japan. (Project Report) 2009.
9. *Back Central Neighborhood Plan*– Lowell MA (Project Report) 2008.
10. *A Vision for the Upper Merrimack Neighborhood: A Plan for Preservation and Growth*. Lowell, MA: (Project Report) 2007.
11. *Mystic River Waterfront: A Plan and Vision for a Civic Realm*. Medford, MA (Project Report) 2006.
12. *Envisioning Centralville*. Lowell, MA (Project Report) 2005.
13. "Land Use and Design Innovations in Private Communities" *Land Lines*. November 2004.
14. *Trapelo Road and East Belmont Street Corridor Study*. Belmont, MA (Project Report) 2004.
15. "Streets for People Too" Michael Southworth and Eran Ben-Joseph. *Architecture Week*. October 5, 2004.
16. "Reconsidering the Cul-de-Sac" Michael Southworth and Eran Ben-Joseph. *Wharton Real Estate Review*, December 2005.
17. *Pearl River Waterfront Revitalization and Development Plan* Gaoming, China (Project report) 2005.
18. "Inventing the Charles River", Book Review, *Journal of the American Planning Association*, (Fall 2003).

19. *Sustainability Planning Measures- Santiago Chile*. Santiago Urban Planning Studio Report, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2003.
20. "Tangible Infoscapes" *Landscape Architecture* , April 2002.
21. "American Planning Tradition", Book Review, *Journal of Urban Design*, Vol. 7, No. 2, 2002.
22. *Planning Study for the Cardener River Corridor*. Barcelona Workshop, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 2002.

Media (Radio and TV appearances)

- *Marketplace*. American Public Media, National Public Radio (NPR) March 2, 2012.
- *Living on Earth*. Public Radio International (PRI) March 21, 2012.
- *By Design*. Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) April 16, 2012.
- *Moncrieff*. Newstalk Radio Ireland April 19, 2012.
- *The Afternoon Show*. Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) May 1, 2012.
- *BBC Magazine* May 2, 2012.
- *Rosbalt*. Russian News Agency May 8, 2012.
- *Where We Live* Connecticut Public Radio WNPR June 4, 2012.
- *Mind Over Matters* KEXP Seattle June 9, 2012.
- *Spark: Tech, Trends and Fresh Ideas* Canadian Broadcasting Corporation June 11, 2012.
- *Freakonomics Radio*.

Recent Design, Planning and Consulting Work

- Kiryat Gat, Israel. 2025 plan. 2012
- Bronx, NYC. Harlem River Greenway Plan. 2011
- Tama, Japan, Community Development and Sustainable Housing Plan 2008-2010
- Lowell, Ma, Neighborhood Plan for Back Central 2008
- Biloxi, Ms, Waterfront Development plan and Ecological Neighborhood Restoration 2008
- Lowell, Ma, Neighborhood Plan for the Acres 2007
- Lowell, Ma, Neighborhood Plan for Centreville 2006
- Gaoming, China Waterfront Development and New Neighborhoods Plan 2006
- Medford, Ma, Mystic River and Medford Square Plan 2005
- Singapore, Pearl Hill Housing Development 2004
- Washington DC, Anacostia Neighborhood Plan 2002
- Madison Park CDC, Roxbury, Ma, 2000
- Scottsdale, Az shared streets plan, 2000
- Maccabim /Modiin New Town open space plan, Israel 1999-2001
- Intel Co. Industrial Office Park, Kiryat-Gat, Israel, 1999-2000

