

University of Michigan • Urban & Regional Planning Program  
**A selection of recommended readings (2009)**

- Beatley, Timothy. *Green urbanism: learning from European cities*. Island Press, 2000.  
illustrates how European cities address different environment/social problems and offers small, medium, and large solutions.
- Berry, Wendell. *The unsettling of America: culture & agriculture*. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books, 1996.
- Boyle, Kevin. *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age*. New York: H. Holt, 2004.
- Calthorpe, Peter, and William Fulton. *The Regional City: Planning for the End of Sprawl*. Island Press. 2001.  
"articulately advocates for a sustainable region through New Urbanist design and social equity"
- Cohen, Lizabeth. *A consumer's republic: the politics of mass consumption in postwar America*. New York: Knopf, 2003.
- Cronon, William. *Nature's metropolis: Chicago and the Great West*. New York: W. W. Norton, 1991.
- Davis, Mike. *Planet of slums*. London; New York: Verso, 2006.
- Diamond, Jared. *Collapse: How Societies Choose To Fail Or Succeed*. New York, NY: Viking 2005.  
Not so much about urban sustainability per se, but an assessment of the tendency (so Diamond argues) for human societies to over consume their resource base to the point of collapse.
- Duany, Andres, Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, and Jeff Speck. *Suburban nation: the rise of sprawl and the decline of the American Dream*. New York: North Point Press, c2000.
- Farley, Reynolds, Sheldon Danziger, & Harry J. Holzer. *Detroit divided*. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2000.
- Fishman, Robert, ed. *The American planning tradition: culture and policy*. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins Univ Pr. 2000.
- Fishman, Robert *Urban utopias in the twentieth century: Ebenezer Howard, Frank Lloyd Wright, and Le Corbusier*. MIT Press. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1982, c1977.  
"an eloquent intellectual history of three leading urban visionaries of the 20th Century"
- Frug, Gerald E. *City making: building communities without building walls*. Princeton University Press, 1999
- Garvin, Alexander. *The American city: what works, what doesn't*. New York: McGraw-Hill. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, 2002.
- Hester, Randolph *Design for Ecological Democracy*, Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2006.
- Hall, Peter. *Cities of tomorrow: an intellectual history of urban planning and design in the twentieth century*. Oxford: Blackwell. 2001.  
"a very widely-read and sweeping tour of Anglo-American planning history and ideas."
- Hayden, Dolores. *Redesigning the American dream: the future of housing, work, and family life*. Rev. and expanded ed. New York: W. W. Norton. 2002.  
"combines a suburban history and a feminist critique of urban society to offer a more equitable alternative"
- Jacobs, Allan B. *Great Streets*, MIT Press, 1995.
- Jacobs, Jane. *The death and life of great American cities*. New York, Vintage Books 1961.  
"A classic critique of planning" "a paradigm shifter"; from a student: "If you could read only one, read this."
- Kahn, Matthew *Green Cities: Urban Growth and the Environment*. Washington, DC: Brookings Institute, 2006.
- Klinenberg, Eric. *Heat wave: a social autopsy of disaster in Chicago*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press. 2002.  
"an important sociological case study that examines how the structure of a neighborhood is critical in averting public health disasters."
- Krumholz, Norman and John Forester; with a foreword by Alan A. Altshuler. *Making equity planning work: leadership in the public sector*. Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 1990.

- Lassiter, Matthew D. *The silent majority: suburban politics in the Sunbelt South*, Politics and society in twentieth-century America. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 2006.
- Leinberger, Christopher *The Option of Urbanism: Investing in a New American Dream*. Washington, DC: Island Press, 2008.
- Leopold, Aldo. *A Sand County almanac. With other essays on conservation from Round River*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1966.  
 "A classic set of essays on land use and the environment; especially the chapter entitled 'A Land Ethic'."
- Levine, Jonathan *Zoned Out: Regulation, Markets, and Choices in Transportation and Metropolitan Land Use*. Washington, DC: Resources for the Future, 2006.
- Logan, J.R. and H. L. Molotch. *Urban Fortunes: The Political Economy of Place*. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1987.
- Lynch, Kevin. *The image of the city*. Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1964, c1960.  
 "40 years later, still a highly influential text that guides and inspires urban designers"
- Massey, Douglas and Nancy Denton. *American Apartheid*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1993.
- McLean, Andrew and Gary Eldred *Investing in Real Estate*. Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, 2009.
- Mumford, Lewis *The city in history: its origins, its transformations, and its prospect*. New York: Harcourt, Brace & World, 1st ed.1961.  
 "a classic from a giant among 20<sup>th</sup> Century urbanists: an intellectual bridge between Ebenezer Howard and Patrick Geddes from the past and the modern regionalists."
- Orfield, Myron. *American metropolitics: the new suburban reality*. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press. 2002. "a leading voice in the call for greater regional/metropolitan equity between city and suburb."
- Rae, Douglas W. *City: urbanism and its end*, New Haven: Yale University Press, 2003.
- Rybczynski, Witold. *City life: urban expectations in a new world*. New York: Scribner. 1995.
- Sandercock, Leonie *Towards cosmopolis: planning for multicultural cities*. John Wiley & Sons. 1997.  
 "explores how cosmopolitan cities responds to the economic, political and cultural demands and needs of so many diverse, and sometimes opposing groups."
- Shatkin, Gavin. *Collective Action and Urban Poverty Alleviation: Community Organizations and the Struggle for Shelter in Manila*. Aldershot: Ashgate, 2007.
- Shoup, Donald C. *The high cost of free parking*. Chicago: Planners Press, American Planning Association, 2005.
- Sorkin, Michael. *Variations on a theme park: the new American city and the end of public space*. New York: Hill and Wang. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed 2002.  
 "a lively, accessible anthology on postmodern urban America and the privatization of public space."
- Sugrue, Thomas J. *The origins of the urban crisis: race and inequality in postwar Detroit*. Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, c1996.  
 "a modern classic and a compelling read on the decline of Detroit and the connection between segregation, housing markets and workplaces"
- Thomas, June Manning. *Redevelopment and race: planning a finer city in postwar Detroit* Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997.
- Wheeler, Stephen. *Planning for sustainability: creating livable, equitable, and ecological communities*. London; New York: Routledge, 2004.
- Wilson, William J. *When work disappears: the world of the new urban poor*. New York: Knopf, 1996.