What's Driving Change?

Transportation in 2019 & The National Street Service

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Share of the population living in urbanized areas

Share of the total population, in a particular region or country, who live in urbanized areas.

Source: HYDE 3.1 (2010)
Socioeconomic quantities are the sum of the interactions or links between people.

-Geoffrey West
Theoretical physicist and leading city scientist

Cities are our most powerful tool for driving the growth and progress of human civilization by maximizing human connections.

-Information is power...It’s about knowing your neighbors, reconnecting people to place.

-Tafarai Bayne
LA City Commissioner and CicLAvia organizer
City as System of Systems

“Cities are largely unpredictable because they are complex systems that are more like organisms than machines.”

-Michael Batty
Director of Center of Advanced Spatial Analysis, University College London
Industrial Age (1800s-1960s)
Era of Nation States
Shift from agricultural to urban living

3rd Industrial Revolution
Personal Computer
Biotechnology
Robotics
Internet
AI

Digital Mobility Services
2010s

1st Industrial Revolution
Steam Engines
Iron and textiles

Railroad Expansion
1810s

2nd Industrial Revolution
Internal Combustion
Phonograph
Electricity
Telephone
Light Bulb

Mass Production of Private Cars
1910s

19th Century
Railroad and light rail networks connect cluster of villages and towns

20th Century
Network of local and interstate roads expands urban core into suburban sprawl

21st Century
Data-driven infrastructure dynamically changes to maximize urban activity
The cycle of *Industrial Age* urban coevolution:

**Market Town**
Self-subsistent life of agriculture begins to shift to urban centers as railroads connect regions of villages and towns.

**Industrial City**
Patterned life of suburban families with steady employment develops during time of economic growth and auto adoption.

Technology drives mutations in morphology (infrastructure) affecting established culture (behaviors and lifestyles).
The dilemma of the 21st Century – “Digital Disruption”
Technology induced instability and precarity in everyday urban life

Industrial age (pre-digital):

Technology → Morphology → Culture

Information age (post-digital):

Technology → Culture → Morphology

Technology is directly changing cultural practices and behaviors while urban morphology are struggling to keep pace.

Information City
Self-made life of side-hustles disrupts stability of past as technology innovation happens on increasingly fast cycles.
The National Street Service

AN INTRODUCTION
The National Street Service works across neighborhoods, generations, cultures and city lines to celebrate the people, places and moments that make our streets so valuable. We honor the soul of our cities by working with everyday people to make streets better for everyone.
What does a street with SOUL feel like?
What do YOU value in your street?
Program Structure

HOW IT WORKS
Expanding the Conversation
Observation & Reflection
See the street with fresh eyes, develop a vocabulary for talking about the street experience.

Individual Action
Unlock agency by understanding that even a simple action can have an immediate positive impact.

Collective Action
Build up confidence to try more ambitious changes by working together and creating a larger-scale intervention.

Shareback & Next Steps
Connect to share ideas with people and organizations who have responsibility for the built form of our streets.

Soul Searching Training
Observation & Reflection

I love this place because it always feels welcoming and friendly.

#boisestreetsforpeople
From a home-based operation cooking food in the backyard under the “blue tent” to its current location at 4728 Baltimore Ave, Vientiane Café has grown because of the support of local residents.

#NATIONALSTREETSERVICE #BaltimoreAveCommunitySupport

From cutting hair in a kitchen to opening a storefront at 4714 Baltimore Ave in 2011, Talking Headz continued to grow through community support resulting in a move to a larger space at 4922 Baltimore Ave in 2014.

#NATIONALSTREETSERVICE #BaltimoreAveCommunitySupport
5 cities & growing!

- Boise, ID
- San Francisco, CA
- San Antonio, TX
- Pontiac, MI
- Philadelphia, PA
Thank you.

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nationalstreetservice.org