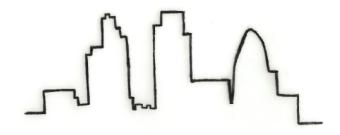
### Small Change, Big Impact

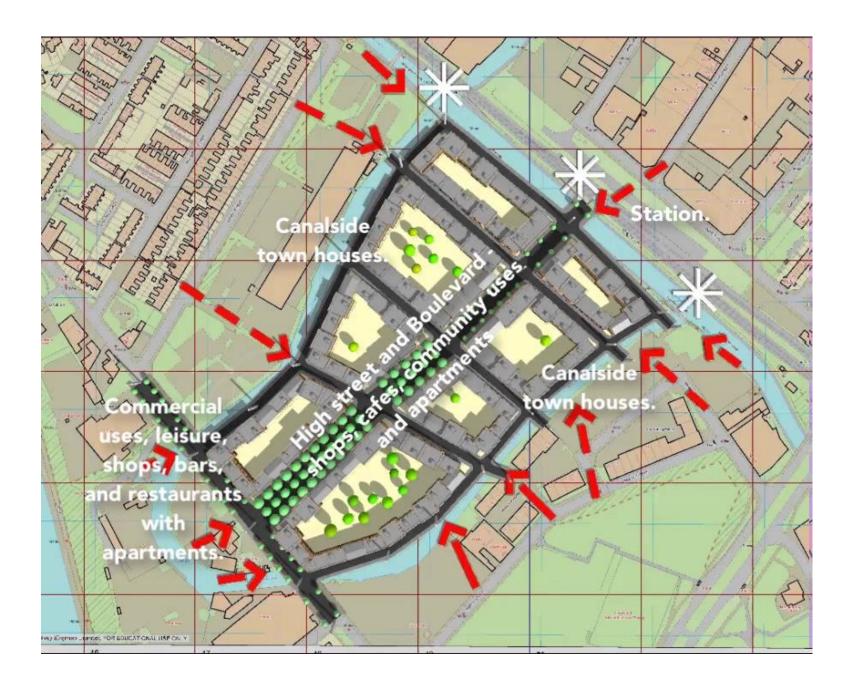
Delivering the Healthy Streets Approach through 'tactical urbanism'

Andy Martin
TfL City Planning





# What is urban design?















### The All Purpose Adhesive

fast \* permanent \* transparent \*

Made in Germany



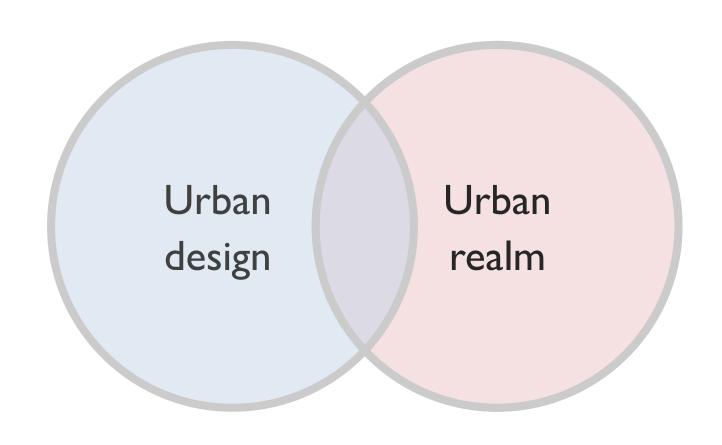
**Urban** Design

The publicly accessible spaces between buildings in an urban environment

The publicly accessible spaces between buildings in an urban environment

**Urban** Design

The collaborative and multidisciplinary process of shaping the physical setting for life in cities



The publicly accessible spaces between buildings in an urban environment



**Urban** Design

The collaborative and multidisciplinary process of shaping the physical setting for life in cities



LAND URBAN POLITICAL PROCESS PROTECTION

## TOWN PLANNING

ARCHITECTURE TECHNICAL Z USE INFRASTRUCTURE

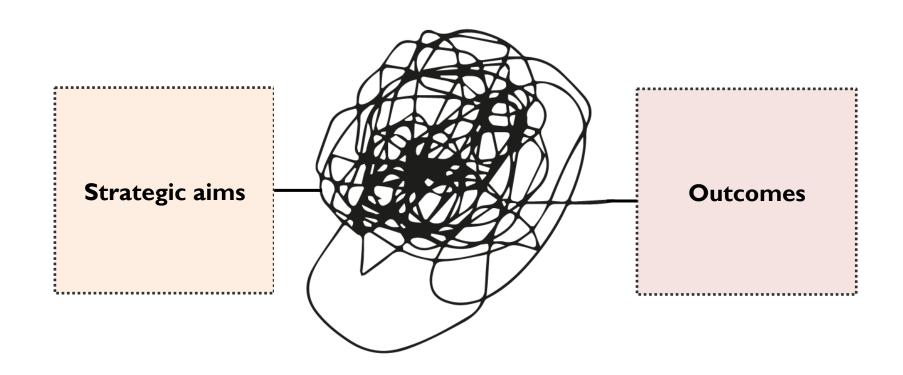


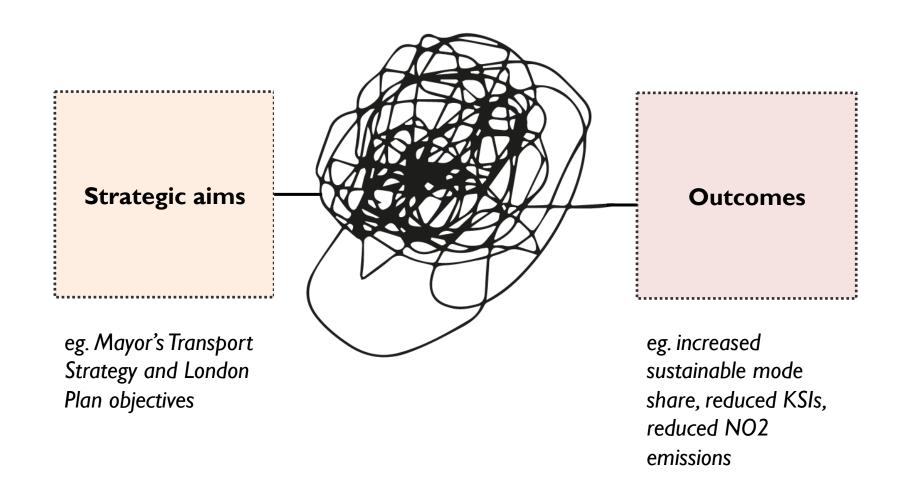
WE ARE ALL URBAN DESIGNERS

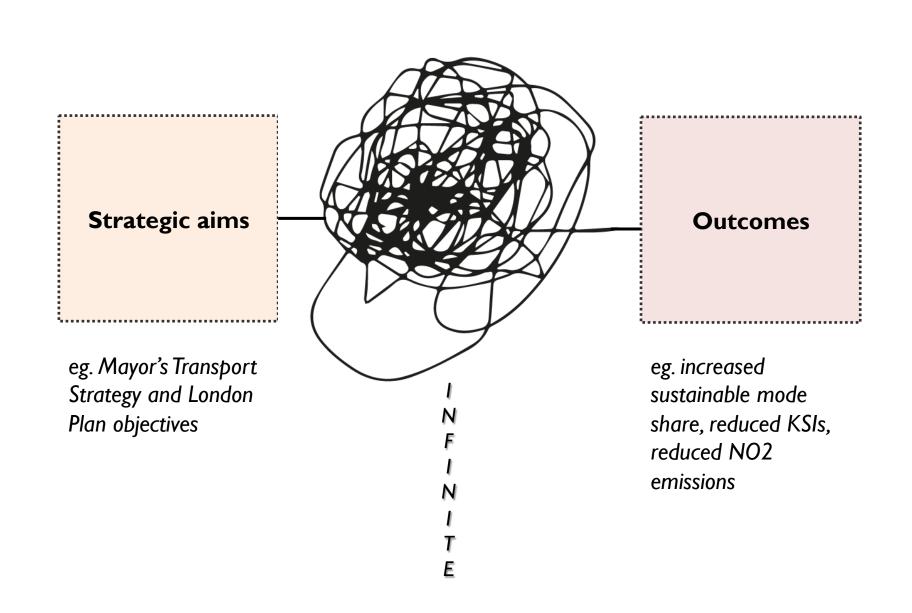
Strategic aims

Strategic aims

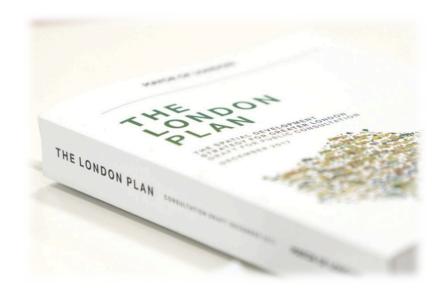
**O**utcomes





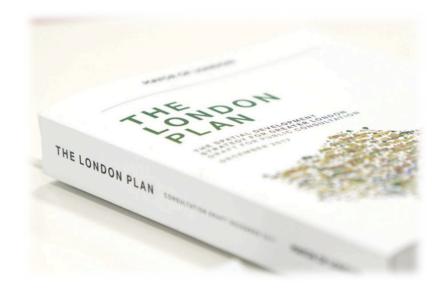








 Explore opportunities for innovative approaches to improving the public realm such as open street events and Play Streets.





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- Create an engaging public realm for people of all ages, with opportunities for social activities, formal and informal play and social interaction during the daytime, evening and at night.





- Explore opportunities for innovative approaches to improving the public realm such as open street events and Play Streets.
- Create an engaging public realm for people of all ages, with opportunities for social activities, formal and informal play and social interaction during the daytime, evening and at night.
- This should include identifying opportunities for the meanwhile use of sites in early phases of development to create temporary public realm."





### Tactical Urbanism

#### Tactical Urbanism is all about action.



#### Tactical Urbanism is all about **action**.



Also known as DIY Urbanism, Planning-by-Doing, Urban Acupuncture, or Urban Prototyping, this approach refers to a city, organizational, and/or citizen-led approach to neighborhood building using short-term, low-cost, and scalable interventions to catalyse long-term change.



Developers,
Entrepreneurs,
Business
Improvement
Districts



Mayors, City Councillors, Local Authorities











Advocacy
Organisations,
Artists, Planning &
Design Firms









#### Tactical Urbanism around the world ...

SHORT TERM ACTION -> LONG TERM CHANGE





License to Green Paris, France



Times Square New York, USA



Ciclovía Bogotá, Colombia







# Tactical Urbanism around the world...





Experimental Zone 30 Santiago, Chile

Photo credit: Ciudad Emergente

# Tactical Urbanism around the world...





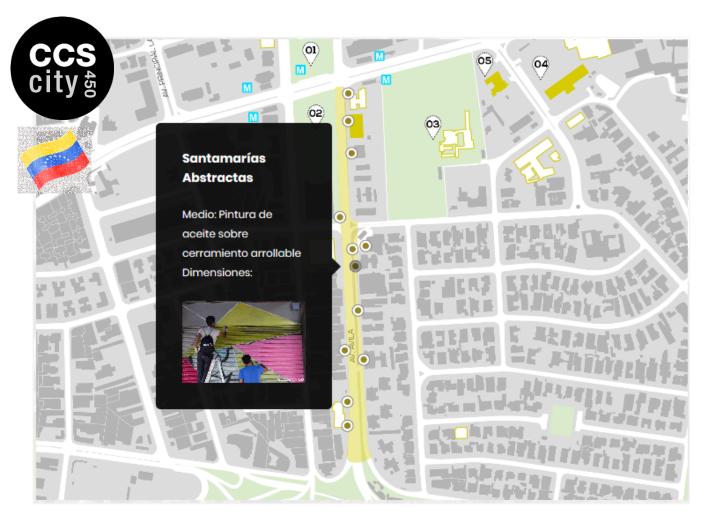






Street railing add-ons,
Hong Kong public
space initative

# Tactical Urbanism around the world ...





CCS city 450, Caracas, Venezuela

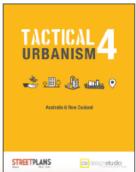


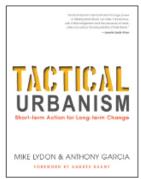
### AN URBAN TACTICIANS LIBRARY

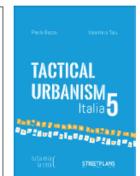








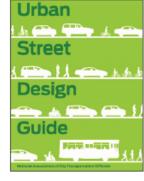


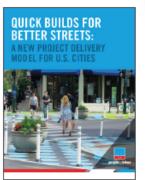




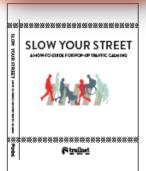
PUBLIC SPACE

A toolkit for funding,



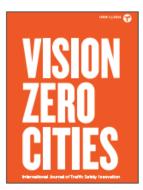














## Small Change, Big Impact: delivering healthier, safer streets through community-led temporary interventions







A traffic world or a social world?...

Traffic world

Uniform

Predictable

**Planned** 

Compulsory

Anonymous

Vehicle oriented

Avoids conflict and interactions

Speed oriented

Social world

Diverse

Unpredictable

**Spontaneous** 

Voluntary

Personal

People oriented

Embraces conflict and interactions

Savours the moment

Gather data

Deepen understandin g

Encourage people and organisations to work together

Inspire action

Test!

Widen public engagement

Draw attention to perceived shortcomings



#### Healthy Streets for London

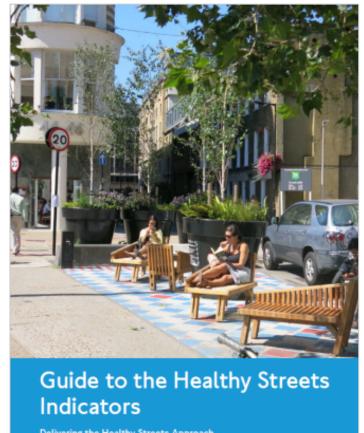
Prioritising walking, cycling and public transport to create a healthy city

MAYOR OF LONDON



"We cannot deliver Healthy
Streets alone. It will require us to
work with partners across the
public, private and community
sectors."

(Healthy Streets for London, p. 14)



Delivering the Healthy Streets Approach

MAYOR OF LONDON



"Engaging local communities when developing proposals helps ensure changes will work for everyone. Trialling changes before designing a final scheme can help highlight the potential for change and address people's concerns about the effect of alterations to the street."

(Guide to the Healthy Streets Indicators, p.9)



### Walking action plan

Making London the world's most walkable city

**MAYOR OF LONDON** 

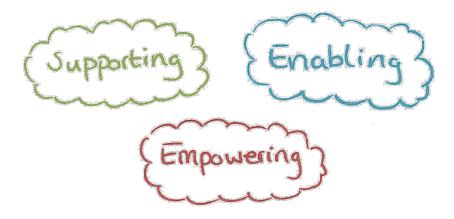


Using temporary, light-touch and low cost projects to change the way a street looks and feels can have a big impact on people's lives and can often be the first step towards more permanent changes.

These projects allow people to see how the Healthy Streets
Approach can benefit them, showing the potential of their local streets and public spaces for uses other than moving cars.

(Walking Action Plan, p.9)

# Small change, big impact: making better use of London's streets and public spaces



BIDs and local businesses

Neighbours and residents

Community organisations

Voluntary groups

**Schools** 

Local artists



Park(ing) Day. Photo credit: Raymond Moreno

Anyone motivated to make a change

### **Toolkit**

### The three things this toolkit aims to do:

- I. Guide you with advice on the barriers you might encounter
- 2. Inspire you with examples of how other project initiators have overcome these barriers
- 3. Equip you with extensive tools and resources for you to reference



Phase 1: Getting started

Phase 2: Making it happen

Phase 3: Execute and enjoy

Phase 4: Conclude

What do you want to achieve?	You could think about	This is where it's been done.
Want to improve sales on your high street?	Organise an event Look for like-minded people	Crayford Road Big Lunch Bzzz Garage
Want to find a better use for an underused parking space?	Timed road closure Traffic calming options Filtered permeability Raising awareness	Play streets New Park Road School streets Celebras por la vida
Want to create a new play space?	Public art Stopping space / seating Market	Before I die Colourful crossings Parklet Limehouse
Want to reduce air and noise pollution? Or raise awareness?	Filtered permeability Reclaiming parking spaces Installing a monitoring device	Narrow Way Parklet Forgotten Corner
Want to encourage more people to walk and cycle?	Wayfinding Permanent and/or temporary filtered permeability	New Park Road Ciudad Emergente

### New Park Road, Brixton Hill (Lambeth, London)

How prototyping low-cost traffic calming can reduce road danger, leading to permanent change

- Rat run used by motorists to avoid congestion on Brixton Hill
- Concerned residents shared safety concerns with Lambeth Council
- Sustrans worked with local community on temporary traffic calming scheme
- More than 20 events and over 400 people spoken to
- Street Trial day to pilot new road layout
- Scheme made permanent in 2016



Photo credit: Alan Slingsby/ Brixton Blog

#### 2014-2015

Residents share their concerns about the safety of the road with LB Lambeth

### Autumn 2015

An early scheme to close the road is put on hold. Lambeth ask Sustrans to develop traffic-calming scheme

### February 2016

A trial day with hay bales (used for traffic-calming), picnics and concerts is organised

#### Autumn 2016

Thanks to good response from locals, and funding from TfL, the scheme is made permanent

### The role of key stakeholders

- Residents and parents shared their concerns with their elected councillors
- Richard Atkins School supported the trial day
- Lambeth Council commissioned Sustrans to collaborate with the local community to deliver this
- Sustrans provided technical expertise and led the project
- TfL funded the permanent scheme with a £100,000 grant

### Resources

- People and skills: professional project manager from Sustrans, plus local volunteers
- Finances: £10,000 (from Lambeth Council) for the initial project, plus follow-on funding from TfL for permanent scheme
- Other: hay bales and picnic food

### What are the key takeaways?

- The project was strengthened by building a team of project supporters, including parents who had a clear stake in safer, healthier streets
- 2. By turning the trial day into a fun event with food stalls and games, lots of different people were encouraged to get involved
- 3. The evidence generated helped to show how this intervention made streets safer, and encouraged neighbourly interactions, which in turn helped to overcome community concerns about changes in the street layout











### A13 Green, Canning Town (Newham, London)

How a summer of events can make a community feel like a community – instead of residents of a construction site

- A13 flyover originally a hostile environment associated with crime and antisocial behaviour
- Artist-led community interest company worked with local organisation and Newham council on a series of events to enliven the space under the flyover
- These have enabled local communities to come together and re-imagine what the area could be used for
- Success of the first year was demonstrated by a local petition to bring back the event series.



Photo credit: Anna Gordon/ The BrickBox

### May 2013 Newham awards contract to the

**Brick Box** 

### Jul-Sept 2013

Nine weeks of events

Newham funds second festival, Linkcity funds the festival for two further years

2014-16

#### 2017

Community is better equipped to organise their own events

### The role of key stakeholders

- Newham Council provided the initial funding of the scheme for the first two years
- Linkcity, a local developer provided funding for the following two years
- The Brick Box led the co-production process and activities
- Local organisations provided training and entertainment

#### Resources

- People and skills: professional co-designers, event planners, musicians etc.
- **Finances:** £15-70,000 / year (from Newham and then Linkcity)

### What are the key takeaways?

- When the Brick Box encountered hurdles to getting approval, they were flexible in their approach and willing to try different options
- 2. For the project to last four years, it needed to be creative with funding, and look beyond traditional public bodies
- 3. Those who would be affected were involved from the beginning, helping them to feel ownership and encouraging them to turn up in their thousands









### Forgotten Corners (Islington, London)







Photo credit: Paul Thompson

### What are the key takeaways?

- EDF, the private landowner, was supportive of this project thanks to the clear and convincing brief that the local residents wrote
- 2. By collaborating with local organisations and contacting their council Parks team, residents across Islington have improved their streets

- Borough with fewest green spaces
- Two Rees Street residents wrote to utility provider EDF about how their gardening organisation was tackling both social and environmental sustainability
- EDF leased them the land for free

### Resources

- People and skills: volunteers weekly to water/ weed
- Finances: small self-funded amounts
- Other: seeds, soil, plants from fellow members of gardening organisation













What role should tactical urbanism be playing in achieving strategic city objectives and outcomes?

How can we embed the 'Small Change' approach in 'top down' projects?

; ; ; How can we embed the 'Small Change' approach into the planning process?

How can we use the 'Small Change' approach to identify common objectives and delivery partners?

How ready are public organisations like TfL supporting the tactical urbanism approach?

Who is the real custodian of the street?



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