

ENVIR 202: Lesson No. 21

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# The Livable City

February 24, 2006

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University of Washington  
Program on the Environment

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## What is the Livable City

- ❖ Quality of life
- ❖ Urban as nature
- ❖ Promote healthy & viable communities
  - > Transportation
  - > Energy
  - > Envisioning alternatives
  - > Housing
  - > Food security
  - > Water resource management

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## Transportation



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## Curitiba



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## Smart Car



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## Solar Shuttle



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## Seattle Light Rail



<http://soundtransitadverseweather.org/ani/WestlakeStation.mov>

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## Renewable Energy



Courtesy Green Mountain Energy Company

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## Solar



- ❖ Stillwell Ave Terminal, Coney Island
- ❖ 1st NYC transit subway terminal to use solar power

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### Solar



- ❖ Seattle Federal Courthouse, 2004
- ❖ Seattle City Light; U.S. Dept of Energy; GSA; and Washington State University Energy Program
- ❖ First project on a high rise building in this region.
- ❖ Oriented flat to minimize shading from other buildings

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### Wind Power



**The Winds of Change**

Since fossil fuels are heating up the earth, the time to act is now to cool our planet.

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### Green roofs



- ❖ Garden on a roof
- ❖ Building insulators
- ❖ Reduce water runoff
- ❖ Lengthen roof life
- ❖ Reduce heat island effect
- ❖ Habitat for local birds
- ❖ More aesthetically pleasing
- ❖ Reduce ecological footprint

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## Greenroofs



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## Housing



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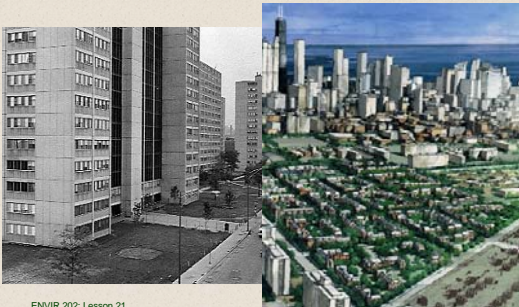
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## Cabrini Green



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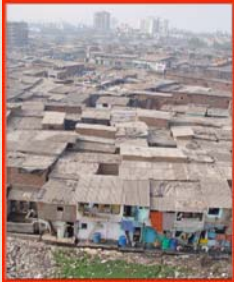
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### Urban Slums



- ❖ 837 million people live in urban slums
- ❖ Is there a solution?

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### South Africa



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### Food Security



Courtesy PNNL

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### COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)

- ❖ Do YOU know where your produce comes from and who grows it?
- ❖ Supports local farmers/local economy
- ❖ Often organic
- ❖ Less energy/resource costs in transport
- ❖ Nationally, more than 400 CSAs, locally, 30.
- ❖ Less focus on monocropping, pesticide use, and mass production.
- ❖ Often more "sustainable"



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### Conventional and local food production and marketing:



A grocery store in Albany



The Pike St. Market

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### Pros and Cons

<p><b>CONVENTIONAL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ More processed food</li> <li>❖ More imported food</li> <li>❖ Less ripe, imported produce</li> <li>❖ Many things less expensive</li> <li>❖ Seasonal items available all year 'round.</li> </ul>	<p><b>FARMER'S MARKET</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Less processed food</li> <li>❖ More local food</li> <li>❖ More emphasis on organic and "heirloom" varieties</li> <li>❖ Can be more expensive</li> <li>❖ Seasonal produce not available all year.</li> </ul>
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### Pike Market History

- ❖ Established 1907
- ❖ Eliminate the "middle man" between farmers and consumers.
- ❖ Cheap food through the 1930's
- ❖ Declined in popularity in the 1940's and 50's with the growth of car travel and supermarkets
- ❖ Revived in the 1970's



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### Seattle's P-Patches

- ❖ P-Patch Trust
- ❖ Cared for by community members—produce may be shared or given to food banks, but not sold.
- ❖ \$30-60/year fee, plus labor



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### Sustainable Housing



Courtesy National Renewable Energy Lab

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## Sustainable Housing in the NW

- ❖ Healthy houses promote physical, mental, and social well-being.
- ❖ "Green" buildings promote health through low VOC's, low energy costs, resource conservation, light, air flow, and building to the specific needs of the occupants
- ❖ NW sustainable housing communities: Breitenbush, Stewart Island, "ecovillages"

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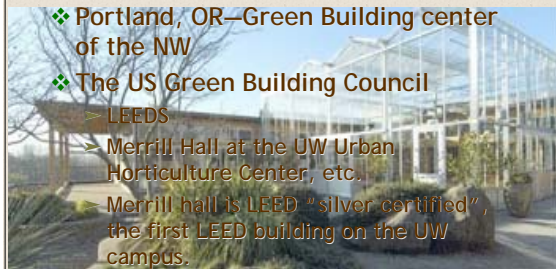
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## LEED

- ❖ Portland, OR—Green Building center of the NW
- ❖ The US Green Building Council
  - LEEDS
  - Merrill Hall at the UW Urban Horticulture Center, etc.
  - Merrill hall is LEED "silver certified", the first LEED building on the UW campus.

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## Northwest Sustainability Conference

- ❖ A symposium of healthy, low-energy, resource-conservation living options—transportation, housing, food, water quality, city design
- ❖ March 10th and 11th, Seattle



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### Envisioning Change



Courtesy Sierra Club

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### UW Tacoma



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### The Livable Community



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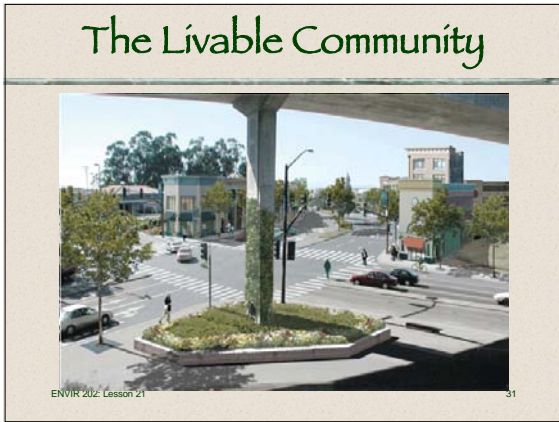
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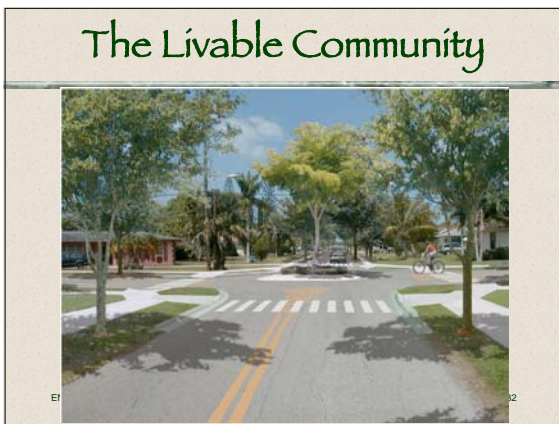
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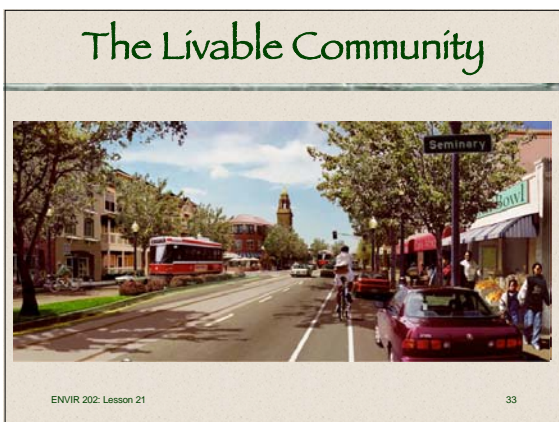
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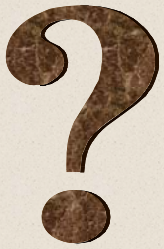
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Questions



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Next Lesson



Case Studies

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