



DATA AND THE FUTURE CITY Call for Submissions

Urban Infill is the journal of Kent State University's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative. The current issue (*Urban Infill #8*) will be a series of pamphlets, bound together, that explore emerging ideas in urban design and city-making. Each pamphlet will correspond to conversations and public events held at the CUDC in 2015/16 under the banner of *The Future City Sessions*, sponsored by the George Gund Foundation.

We are currently seeking short works (text, images, or both) to be included in the first pamphlet on urban data, geographic information systems, and new design scenarios for cities that result from understanding and manipulating vast amounts of information.

We're particularly interested in the older industrial cities of the Great Lakes region, but welcome contributions about other cities if they are broadly applicable to the topic or offer a useful comparison or contrast to Great Lakes conditions.

KEY QUESTIONS

- How do data sets (Smart City technologies, satellite and surveillance images, GIS, social media, etc.) enable us to better visualize and design urban environments?
- Are data-driven decisions always better decisions? How do we balance "big data" with human intuition and insight?
- In what ways can biases inherent in either data collection or interpretation ultimately drive agendas of either public or private sector apparatuses? Are there alternative methodologies of collecting or making data at the local level that can redefine the ways in which we make cities? How can data not simply be seen as something to be passively collected, but also as a design tool to redefine social geographies?
- The 3 V's of Big Data collection—volume, variety, and velocity make cities ideal grounds for the testing of new methods and policies, due to their density and existing data sets. In what ways are exclusions or inclusions of particular demographics or datasets beneficial or detrimental to populations? How can bridges between groups, activities, meaning, and territory (or the absence thereof) be reframed to advance a more equitable city?
- How is the culture of data shaping traditional design methodologies, and in what ways do cultural and design practices shape the way data is understood?
- How can rapidly expanding collections of data help designers, planners, policy makers, and community members create better cities? What's the downside?

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

1. Submissions may include images, graphics, diagrams, and/or text. Text should not exceed 1,000 words; image-oriented pieces are limited to what can be legible on up to four pages of the journal. Page format is 8.5" square.
2. We'll consider only finished work. Please do not submit an abstract, proposal, or outline. If your piece is accepted for publication, you will have an opportunity to make revisions as needed.
3. We do not accept articles previously published in English (in print or online).
4. The author's name(s), mailing address, and e-mail address, as well as a short biography must appear on the first page of the submission. The byline should contain the full name of each author and his or her affiliation(s).

5. The title should be concise yet descriptive of the content of the article; titles of 100 characters or fewer are preferred.
6. Text should be written in an accessible, jargon-free style for a sophisticated general audience.
7. Avoid footnotes or endnotes; incorporate them into the text.
8. For issues of style, we use *The Chicago Manual of Style* (University of Chicago Press).
9. Images in any format (.jpg, .tif, .pdf, etc.) are welcome. Please include low-resolution versions of your images with your initial submission (email not to exceed 10MB).
10. Please send your work to cudc@kent.edu and include "Urban Infill" in the subject line of your email.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS 5:00 P.M. (EST) ON JANUARY 11, 2016.