



Small Town Sustainability: Economic, Social, and Environmental Innovation

By Paul L. Knox

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In an era in which the individuality and vitality of small towns are under threat from globalization, and city planning discussions tend to center on topics like metropolitan regions, megaregions, and global cities, the authors of this volume see a need to reflect critically on the potential of small towns. They show how small towns can meet the challenge of a fast-paced, globalized world, and they use case studies to introduce movements, programs, and strategies capable of effectively promoting local cultures, traditions, identities, and sustainability.

Small towns often play critical roles in regional economic systems. When small towns focus on their specific characteristics and take advantage of their opportunities, they can become stable niches within regional, national, and global economies and take on an important role in shaping a sustainable future.

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Editorial Review

Review

"Small Town Sustainability reinforces the role of the historic environment in place-making and is an important contribution to the literature on sustainable urban development." --Journal of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation

About the Author

Paul L. Knox is University Distinguished Professor and former Dean of the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech. His recent books include *Urbanization* (Prentice Hall, 2005, with L. McCarthy), *Urban Social Geography* (Pearson, 2005, with S. Pinch), *Places and Regions in Global Context* (Prentice Hall, 2006, with Sallie Marston), and *The Geography of the World Economy* (Routledge, 2008, with J. Agnew and L. McCarthy).

Heike Mayer is associate professor in the Urban Affairs and Planning program at Virginia Tech's Alexandria Center. Her research interests are in local and regional economic development planning. Her work has been published in the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, *Economic Development Quarterly*, *Economic Development Journal*, *Die Alte Stadt*, *Geographische Rundschau International* and with the Brookings Institution.

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