

PPS PROJECT FOR PUBLIC SPACES, INC.

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About PPS

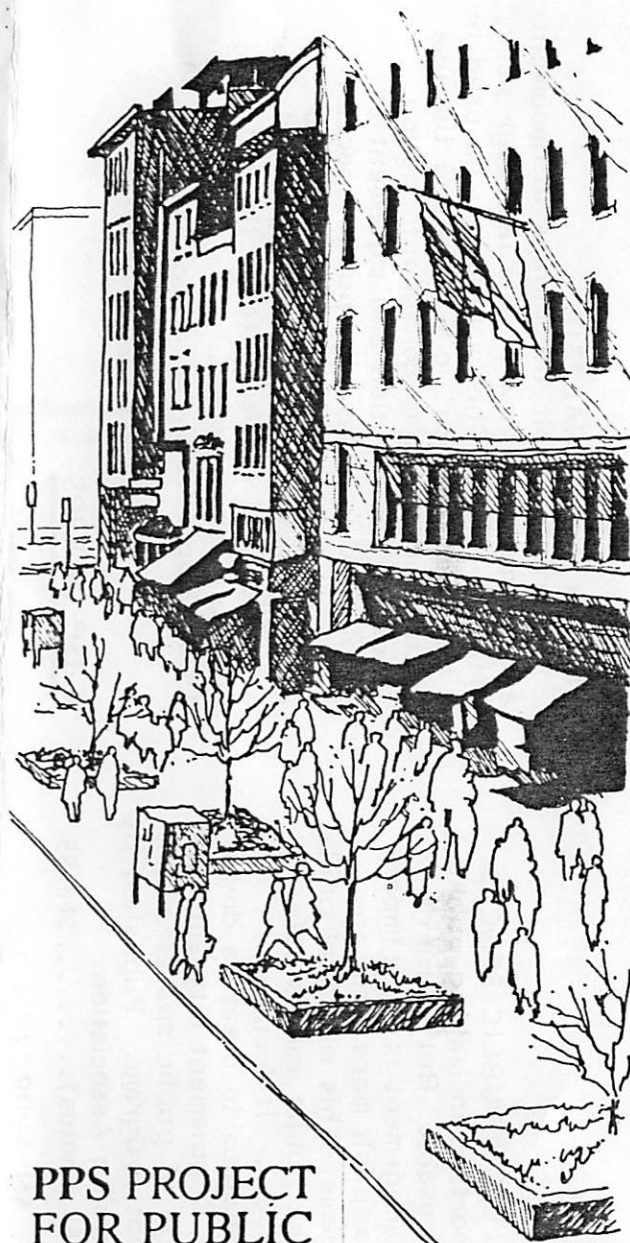
Project for Public Spaces, Inc. is a non-profit urban management, planning and design organization that is dedicated to improving all kinds of public spaces. These include urban parks and plazas, neighborhood commercial streets, spaces in central business districts, and public areas in and around mixed-use developments. Over the past nine years PPS has worked on over 100 projects in more than 50 cities and towns in the United States.

PPS' specially trained staff uses the techniques of time-lapse film, systematic observations and surveys to carefully evaluate the users of a public space. Our unique skill, however, is our ability to translate this understanding of use into specific programs and recommendations for public space design and management improvements.

PPS also conducts research into specific design and management issues that affect the way people use and perceive public spaces. Such research expands our knowledge beyond the confines of a specific site and assists in developing guidelines for planning different kinds of public spaces.

Staff members are available to make presentations on all aspects of PPS' project and research work and to conduct educational and training workshops on PPS' methodology.

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Publications

Research

MANAGING DOWNTOWN PUBLIC SPACES

Design is important in making public spaces lively and usable. But in many cases effective management is more important and can accomplish more than any urban design scheme. This practical guide shows how to make public spaces safe, attractive, and lively. It focuses on innovative strategies to create a downtown marketplace, supplement city services, improve the design of public spaces and start a management program. Published by the American Planning Association. 1984 (76pp with 55 photos).....\$18.95

USER ANALYSIS: AN APPROACH TO PARK PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

This report discusses user analysis techniques for understanding park use. Included are PPS studies in parks that demonstrate the application of these techniques. The book explains how park managers, planners and designers can use these techniques to develop practical solutions to design and management problems. Prepared for the National Park Service. Published by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). Available only through:
ASLA, 1733 Connecticut Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20009

DESIGNING EFFECTIVE PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS IN BUSINESS DISTRICTS

Malls, transitways, sidewalks and street improvements are all potential ways to revitalize a commercial district. This report examines the many lessons learned from PPS' research about the balance of street space for pedestrians and vehicles and the design of pedestrian amenities. Published by the American Planning Association. 1982 (60pp).....\$12.00

WHAT DO PEOPLE DO DOWNTOWN? HOW TO LOOK AT MAIN STREET ACTIVITY

You can identify and deal more effectively with downtown problems using carefully developed techniques: surveys, parking analysis and systematic observations of use. This "how-to" guide was prepared for the National Main Street Center (NMSC) to train downtown managers in small towns and is available only through:
NMSC, National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

FILM IN USER ANALYSIS

Learn the basic techniques to document and communicate how people use your park, plaza or street. This manual can be used by a beginner or "pro" to understand the use of time-lapse film to collect information about the distribution and movement of people and vehicles in a public space. A section on documentary filming is also included that discusses how to record user activities and gather data on the natural and built environment. 1979 (72pp).....\$13.00

Case Studies

DOWNTOWN HARTFORD: MANAGING FOR CHANGE

Decisions for the improvement of a downtown--whether concerning the placement of a bench or a major development--should be based on continual monitoring of how people actually use the streets, sidewalks and plazas. This study of downtown Hartford, Connecticut analyzes the core area and recommends a design and management strategy to focus the revitalization efforts of private organizations and government agencies. 1980 (113pp).....\$15.00

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: MANAGING DOWNTOWN HARTFORD

Following a study done in 1980, PPS assisted the Downtown Council in establishing a comprehensive downtown management strategy. This executive summary discusses the concept of downtown management and the programs PPS prepared for Hartford. 1982 (17pp).....\$4.00

PLAZAS FOR PEOPLE

What attracts people to downtown plazas and parks and how can they be improved? This report examines issues in planning, zoning and design which affect downtown plazas. It also summarizes the Seattle Plazas for People program and PPS studies of two plazas in downtown Seattle. 1978 (44pp).....\$8.00

GREENACRE PARK

Greenacre Park is one of the most restful open spaces in New York City. It is also one of the most actively used urban land parcels. This study identifies why this vest pocket park is so successful and establishes guidelines for planning small urban spaces. 1977 (48pp).....\$8.50

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