

RUTHERFORD H. PLATT

Abbreviated Curriculum Vitae

Professor of Geography Emeritus, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Lifetime National Associate, The National Academies, Washington, DC

Member, Illinois Bar

Education:

Yale University, B.A. Political Science, 1962

University of Chicago, J.D., Law, 1967

University of Chicago, Ph.D., Geography, 1971

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Public Policy Experience:

1. **Humane Urbanism**

Founder and Director, Ecological Cities Project, University of Massachusetts Amherst (2000-07); Independent since 2007 at One Short St. Northampton, MA

Conferences Organized:

Humane Metropolis Baltimore, Baltimore MD, June 11, 2009 with Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and Baltimore Parks & People Foundation

The Inland Empire: Toward a More Humane Metropolis, Riverside, CA, January 24, 2008, with Lincoln Institute of Land Policy;

Pittsburgh: A More Humane Metropolis March 26, 2007 with Lincoln Institute of Land Policy;

The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City, New York, NY, June 21, 2002. Supported by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Laurance S. Rockefeller, Wyomissing Foundation, National Park Service;

Sustainable Cities Symposium: Preserving and Restoring Urban Biodiversity, Chicago, IL, Oct. 4-6, 1990, with The Chicago Academy of Sciences and U.S. Forest Service.

Major Publications re Humane Urbanism:

Platt, 2009. "The Humane Megacity: Transforming New York's Waterfront" Environment 51(4): 46-59

Platt et al., 2008. "Urban Stream Restoration: Recovering Ecological Services In Degraded Watersheds" in E. Birch and S. Wachter, eds.

Growing Greener Cities.

Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Platt, ed. The Humane Metropolis: People and Nature in the 21st Century City University of Massachusetts Press and Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2006; (with companion DVD)

Platt, Land Use and Society: Geography, Law, and Public Policy (Revised Edition). Washington: Island Press, 2004;

Platt, 2004. "Toward Ecological Cities: Adapting to the 21st Century Metropolis" Environment 46(5): 10-27;

Platt, Rowntree, and Muick (eds.) The Ecological City: Preserving and Restoring Urban Biodiversity. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1994. (plus about 15 other publications);

Major Talks re Humane Urbanism:

Keynote, *Urban Restoration Workshop*, Center for Biodiversity & Ecology Research, University of Waikato, Hamilton, NZ, July 7-9, 2009

Session Organizer and Speaker, *American Public Gardens Association Conference*: "Botanic Garden Outreach to Distressed Neighborhoods" St. Louis, MO June 29, 2009

Keynote, *Humane Metropolis Baltimore*, Baltimore, MD June 11, 2009

Public Lecture, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Millbrook, NY, June 4, 2009

Panelist, *Forum on the New York City Waterfront*, CUNY Graduate Center, Feb. 25, 2009.

Keynote: First National Initiative: "Growing Food and Justice", Milwaukee, Sept. 19, 2008

Speaker, Annual Conference, New York State Assn. of Floodplain and Stormwater Managers, Middletown, NY, Sept. 22, 2008

Keynote; New York Metro Chapter of the American Planning Association Annual Conference, New York, Oct. 12, 2007;

Plenary Session Speaker, EuroMAB Conference, Antalya, Turkey, Nov. 12, 2007;

Closing Speaker, "Connecting Green: Regional Summit on Greenspaces" Portland, OR, June 28, 2007;

Introduction and Closing, "Pittsburgh: A More Humane Metropolis" Pittsburgh, PA, March 23, 2007.

Keynote: "Chicago Wilderness: Flagship Of The Urban Biodiversity

Movement” Chicago Wilderness Tenth Anniversary Celebration, Field Museum, Chicago, May 17, 2006;

Keynote: *Urban Biosphere and Society: Partnership of Cities*. Sponsored by Columbia University and UNESCO (CUBES). New York Academy of Sciences, Oct. 29-30, 2003.

Keynote: Urban Initiatives Conference: *Milwaukee’s Urban Environment – Cultivating the Ecological City*, May 26, 2004.

2. Natural Hazards and Disaster Policy

Principal Investigator: various studies funded by NSF, Army Corps of Engineers, EPA, FEMA,

Member: Water Science and Technology Board, National Research Council, 2000-2003 and four NRC committee studies on flooding and coastal hazards since 1979 (twice as Chair).

Chair: Natural Disasters Roundtable, National Research Council, 2000-03;

Member and Chair: Board of Visitors, FEMA National Emergency Management Institute, 1990-1993;

Vice Chair: H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics, and the Environment, Panel on Costs of Coastal Hazards, 1998-99

Major Publications re Natural Hazards:

- Platt: *Disasters and Democracy: The Politics of Extreme Natural Events* (Island Press, 1999);
- Platt, "Learning from Disasters," republished in *Environmental Forum*, Summer, 2008 ("Best of ELI");
- Platt, Salvesen, and Baldwin, 2002. "Recovery of the North Carolina Coast After Hurricane Fran: Did Regulations Matter?" Coastal Management 30: 249-269 (plus about 25 articles, book chapters, and newspaper columns).

Major Talks re Natural Hazards:

- Plenary Panel on Evaluation of National Flood Insurance Program, Natural Hazards Conference, Boulder, CO, July 13, 2007.
- Keynote: "Learning from Disasters: The Synergy of Law and Geography" San Diego University Law School, Feb. 17, 2005.
- "Learning from Disasters: The Synergy of Law and Geography" New York Municipal Art Society, May 10, 2005.

Press Interviews:

Many national and international media interviews after Hurricane Katrina including *New York Times*, BBC World, NBC TV. Other press interviews on natural hazard policy over many years.

3. Urban Water Resources

Principal Investigator, three-year NSF study of comparative urban watershed management experience

Member, National Research Council Committee on New York City Watershed Strategy (2000)

Consultant to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Study of Urban Wetland Permitting under Clean Water Act, (1986-88)

Major Publications Re Urban Water Resources:

- Platt et al., "Urban Stream Restoration: Recovering Ecological Services In Degraded Watersheds" in E. Birch and S. Wachter, eds. Growing Greener Cities (Univ. of Penn. Press, 2008);
- Platt, "Urban Watershed Management" ICMA Green Book, In Press;
- Platt, "Urban Watershed Management: Sustainability One Stream at a Time" Environment 48(4): 26-42 (2006);
- Platt et al., "A Full, Clean Glass: Managing New York City's Watersheds." Environment 42(5): 8-19 (2000);
- Platt, "The 2020 Water Supply Study for Metropolitan Boston: The Demise of Diversion" Journal of the American Planning Association 61(2): 185-199 (1995);
- Platt, "Coastal Wetland Management: The Advance Designation

Approach", Environment. 16-20; 38-43.

Major Talks Re Urban Water Resources:

Keynote: "New Directions in Urban Watershed Management," Workshop on New York City Watersheds, Queens College, New York, March 30, 2007;

Panelist, "Urban Watershed Management" Growing Greener Cities Conference, Univ. of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Oct. 16, 2006;

Plenary Address, "Water and Cities: New Directions in Urban Watershed Management" to Conference on *The Confluence of Water, Society, and Ecological Design* Chicago, IL, June 9, 2004.