

# Child in the City Conference

Vienna, Austria  
September 24-26, 2018

Commissioner Norman Yee



### Welcome to the 9th edition of the Child in the City World Conference in Vienna, Austria

WienXtra and the city of Vienna invited you to attend the 9th child and the City World Conference held from **24th – 26th of September** in the beautiful city of Vienna. The Child in the City World Conference is one of the leading conferences on child friendly policies and research. More than 350 international youth professionals, policy makers and planners attended the conference. The international event is a joint project of the Child in the City Foundation and the City of Vienna.

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The world conference, which takes place every two years, is a key opportunity for children's professionals, city planners, geographers and policy makers to share knowledge, good practice and research findings from the various disciplines that are important to the shared aim of creating child-friendly cities. Creating dialogue is the most important aspect of the conference.



*"I am looking forward to welcoming you in Vienna on 24-26 September!"*

Michael Ludwig, Mayor and Governor of Vienna





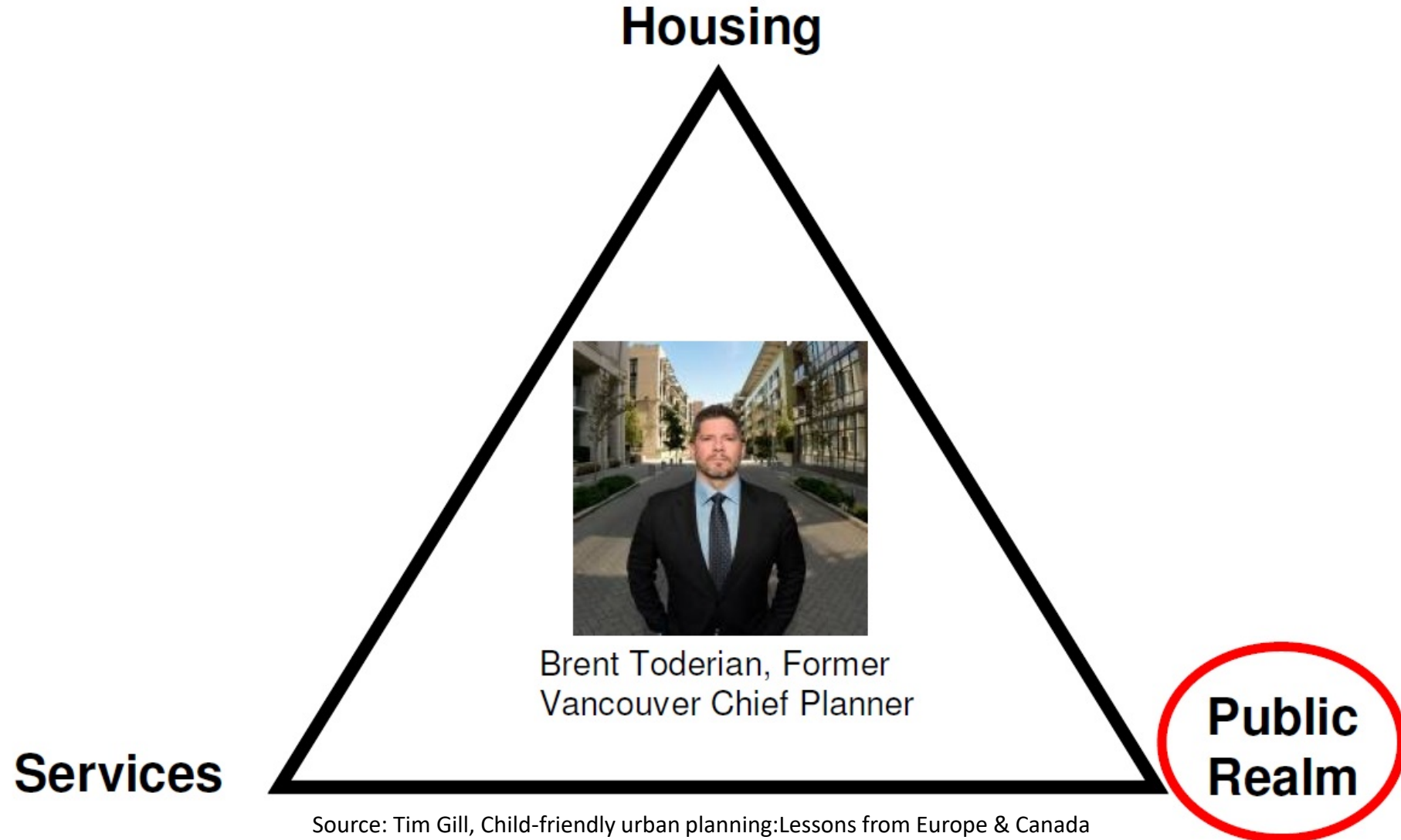
A photograph of a busy street scene. On the left, a green metal fence runs along the sidewalk. Several children are walking along the sidewalk, some holding hands. A man in a red shirt and blue jeans is using a cane to walk. In the foreground, a man in a blue jacket and cap is walking away from the camera. The street is filled with traffic, including a white bus, a silver car, and a black car. The background is filled with lush green trees. The text "Designed to kill." is overlaid in yellow on the right side of the image.

Designed to kill.

Source: Ankita Chachra – Designing Streets for Kids



# Family-friendly neighbourhoods



Source: Tim Gill, Child-friendly urban planning: Lessons from Europe & Canada

# A child-friendly living environment



- By creating a liveable and playable public space
  - = ready to climb on, slide off, jump up, ball-friendly...
  - => staging, rhythm and geometry



Source: Vicky Pettens – Director of Childcare, Youth, Education, and Sport (Belgium) – ‘Kindlint’: a child-friendly ribbon development in Ostend

# Child-friendly public space

Links and junctions can be useful

= priority for cyclists and pedestrians, comfort and safety, defined routes



# Principles of a child-friendly ribbon

- = a coherent whole made up of various elements that guide the child through the public space and invite him/her to take active advantage of the surroundings
- Stimulating to play in and inspiring to cross
- Strengthen living and play components
- As a linear element
- Different scales
- Mobility



# Experimental phase

- Local government....?
- ‘Hard sector’....?
- ‘Offensive’ approach!
- Seize opportunities
- Complementarity!
- Consultation
- Participation
- Follow up of the execution!





# Incentives to play and move \*)

Seating, playground and sports equipment, sculptures



... multifunctional urban furniture encourages users to climb, bounce and jump – and can be used by several children for different actions at the same time

\*) The following examples are based on the collection of best practice examples (*Spielfibel*) currently being compiled by the landscape planning studio *tilia* for Municipal Department 19

# Incentives to play and move

Seating, playground and sports equipment, sculptures



© tilia

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... but: conventional playground equipment is monofunctional and requires lots of space due to fall protection requirements



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# Incentives to play and move

Public space terrain and structures (stairs, ramps, wave climbers)



... encourage children to get active, enhancing their motor skills

... some staircases are encourage playing more effectively than others  
(e.g. intermediate landings, staggered stairs,...)



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# Incentives to play and move

## Limits, walls and railings



... as part of public space, they are often spontaneously used as play elements

... but can be specifically designed to offer more incentives for playing and moving  
(e.g. climbing grips, opportunities for jumping and hiding...)





## The Green Ribbon – straw bales fortress

Source: Vicky Pettens – Director of Childcare, Youth, Education, and Sport (Belgium) – ‘Kindlint’: a child-friendly ribbon development in Ostend





## The Green Ribbon – straw bales fortress





## The end of the straw bales fortress...

# Incentives to play and move

Simply providing ample space



... safe ways of playing in the streets : romping and running around, cycling and experiencing the public road space from a different perspective



# Incentives to play and move

Simply providing ample space



... Vienna Play Street project (“Wiener Spielstraße“): roads are closed to motor traffic on selected days so children can play safely



# Transforming everyday spaces as places to learn and take risks.

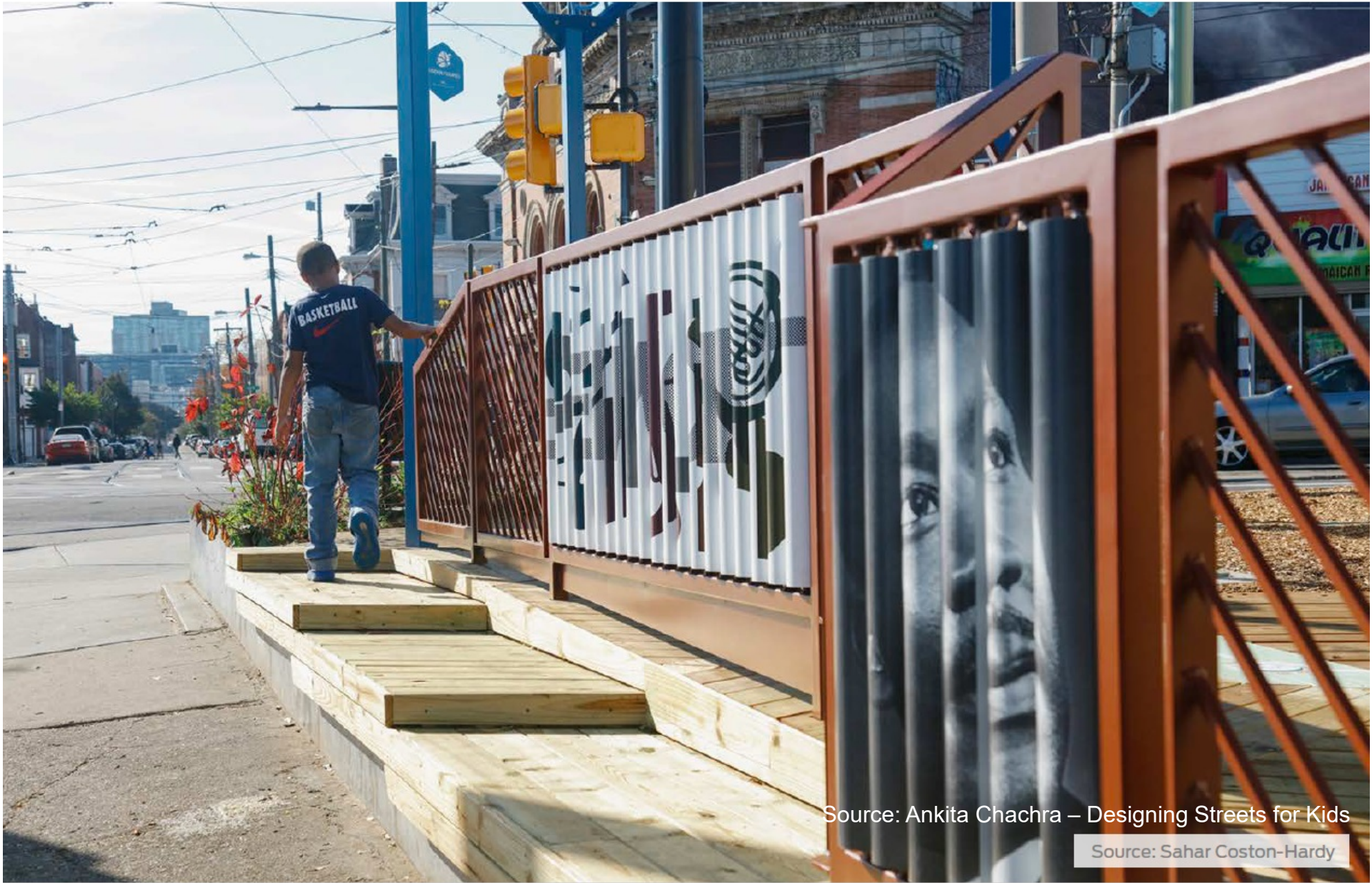


Source: Ankita Chachra – Designing Streets for Kids



# Learning Landscapes: Urban Thinkscapes

Philadelphia, USA



Source: Ankita Chachra – Designing Streets for Kids

Source: Sahar Coston-Hardy





School







