

University  
Transportation  
Research Center

City College of New York



— FOREWORD BY DONALD C. SHOUP —

# **PARKING REFORM** *Made Easy*

**RICHARD W. WILLSON**

November 8, 2013





Single site, peak use parking...

Walkability and land use challenges...







An aerial photograph of a city street intersection. The image shows a grid of streets with various buildings, including residential houses and commercial structures. There are several parking lots filled with cars. The text "Fine grained livability..." is overlaid on the top right of the image.

Fine grained livability...

Roadblocks to revitalization...

Google earth







An aerial photograph of a densely populated urban area. The image shows a grid of streets with numerous small, rectangular building footprints packed closely together. The buildings are mostly multi-story structures with flat roofs. The streets are narrow, and the overall impression is one of high land use intensity. Labels for several streets are visible: Florence Ave, Walnut St, California St, Live Oak St, Malabar St, Rugby Ave, and Rita Ave. A large, light-colored circular feature, possibly a water tank or a large pool, is visible in the lower-left quadrant.

Built out, small parcels...

..people density = parking anxiety

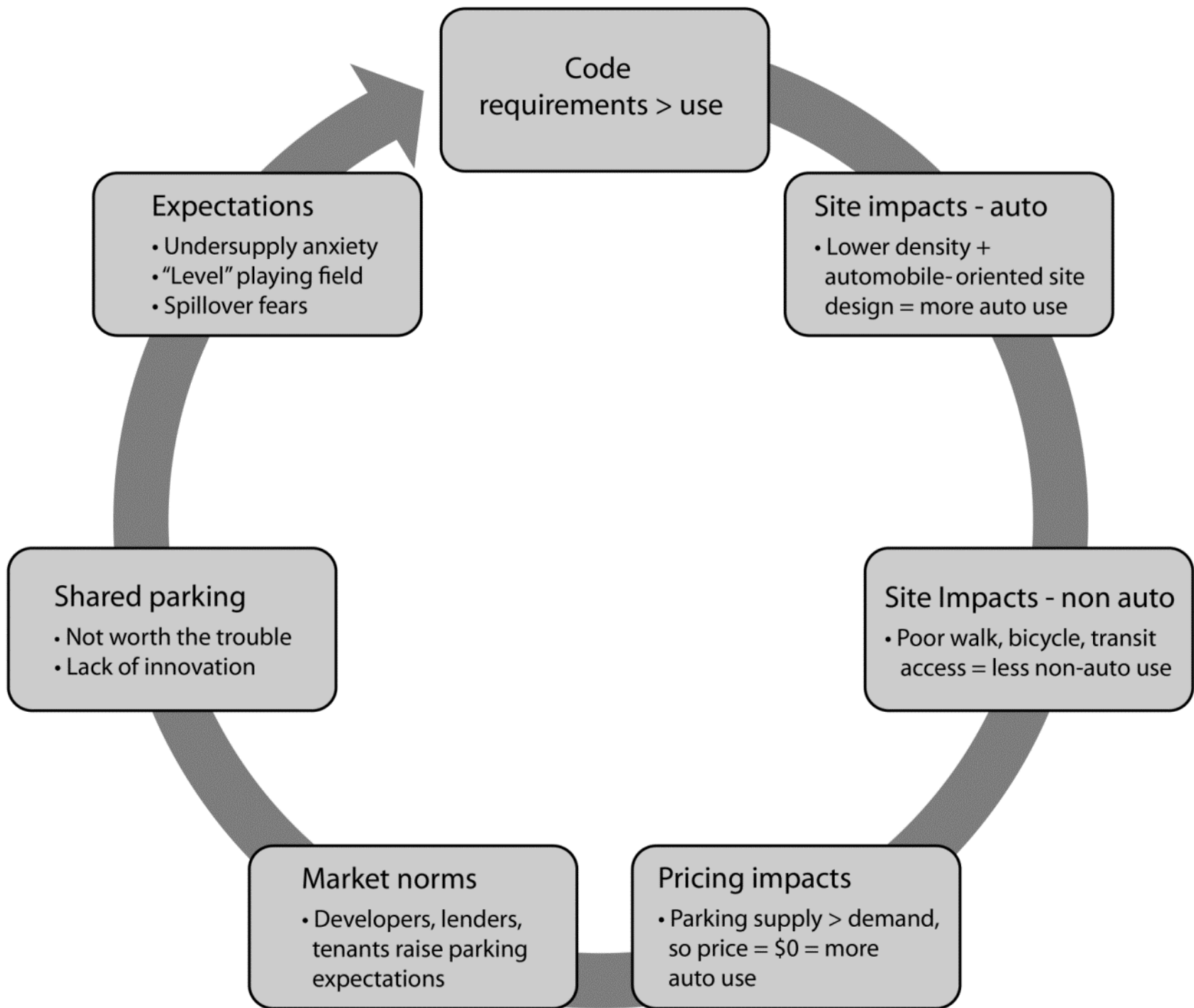






The circle  
of vice







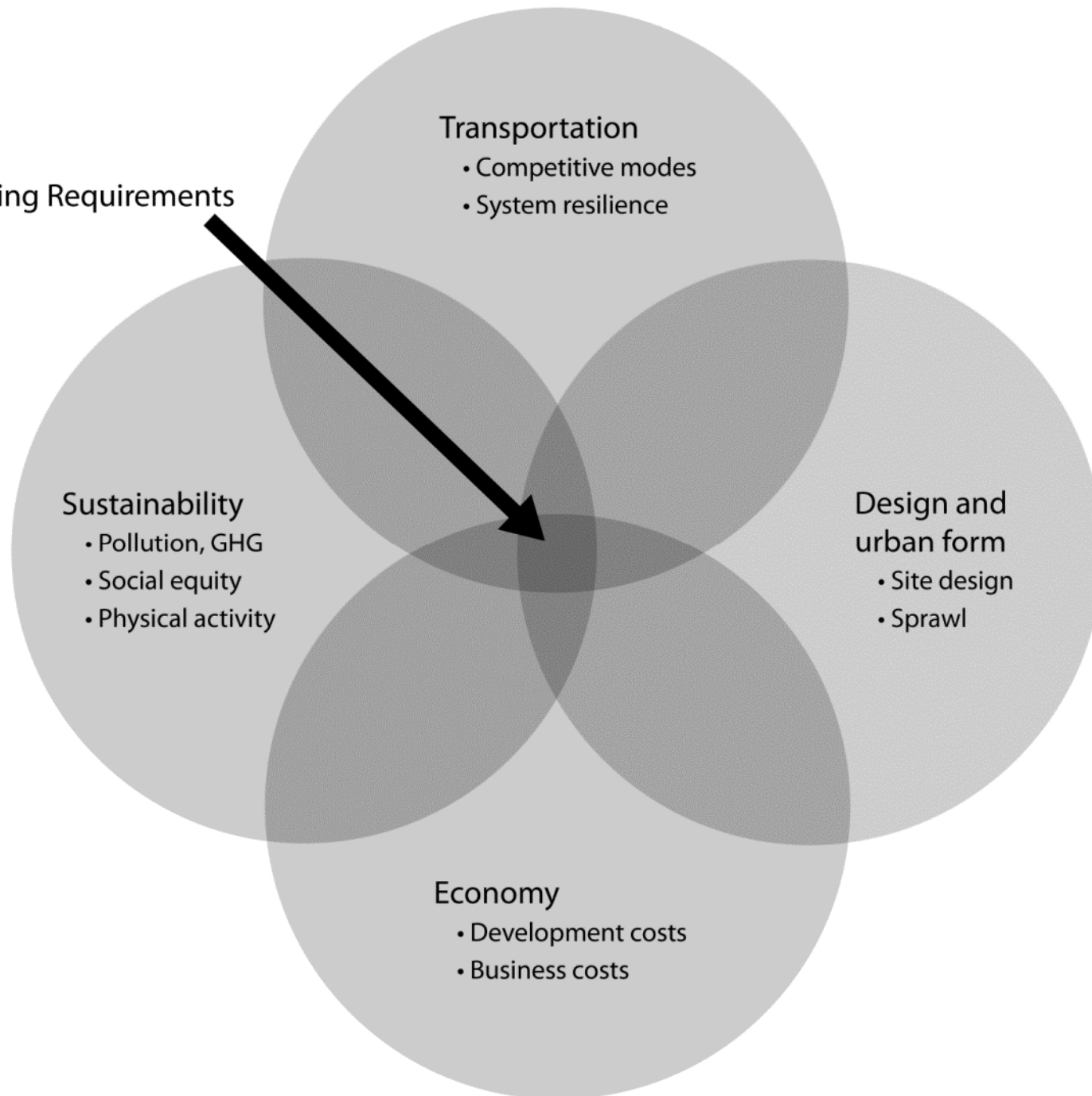




Parking *is*  
policy



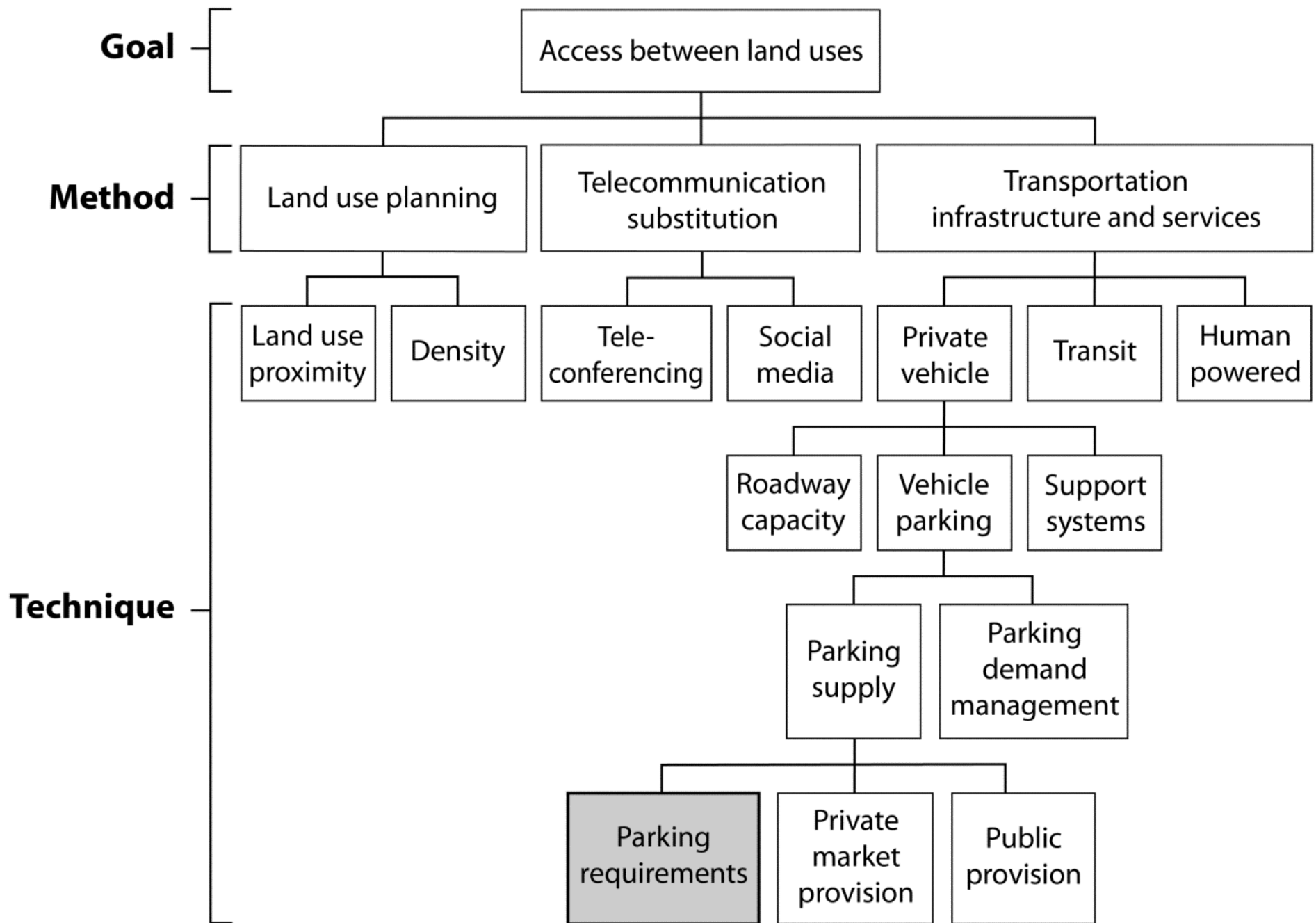
Parking Requirements

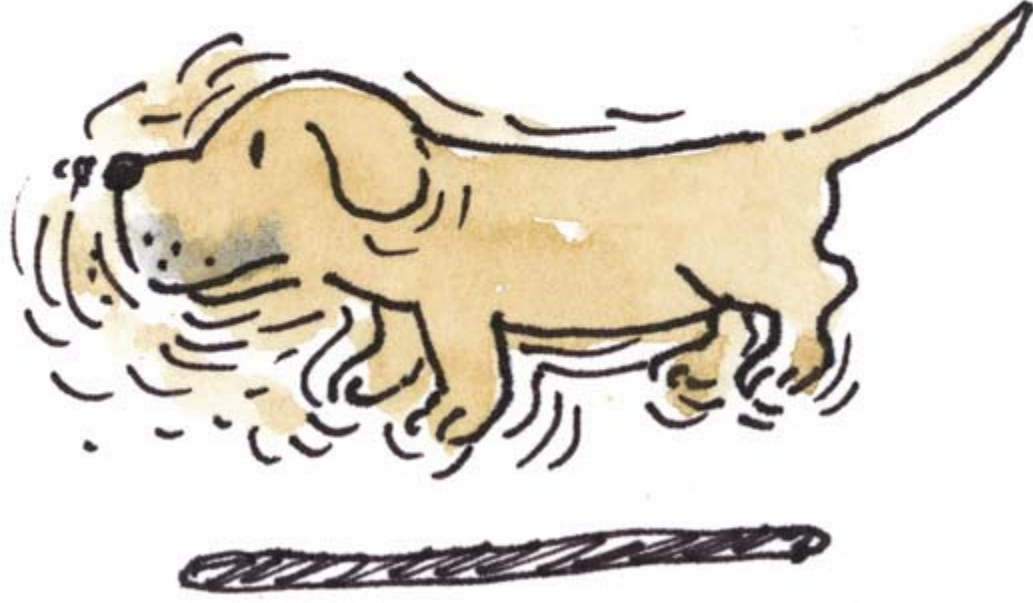




Putting parking  
requirements  
“in their place”







© 2013 J.C. Suárez. [www.welcomebooks.com/dawg](http://www.welcomebooks.com/dawg)



WHERE DID  
YOU PARK?



Inertia, hand  
wringing,  
resistance, fear,  
foot dragging,  
avoidance...



## Stakeholder

## Motivation

**Individuals who park**

Territoriality

Maintain free parking privileges;

**Local planners**

Leverage requirements for other public benefits

Keep it simple; reduce exposure to error

**Public works/police**

Less on-street parking management and enforcement

Traffic flow

**Developers**

Safety in equal treatment

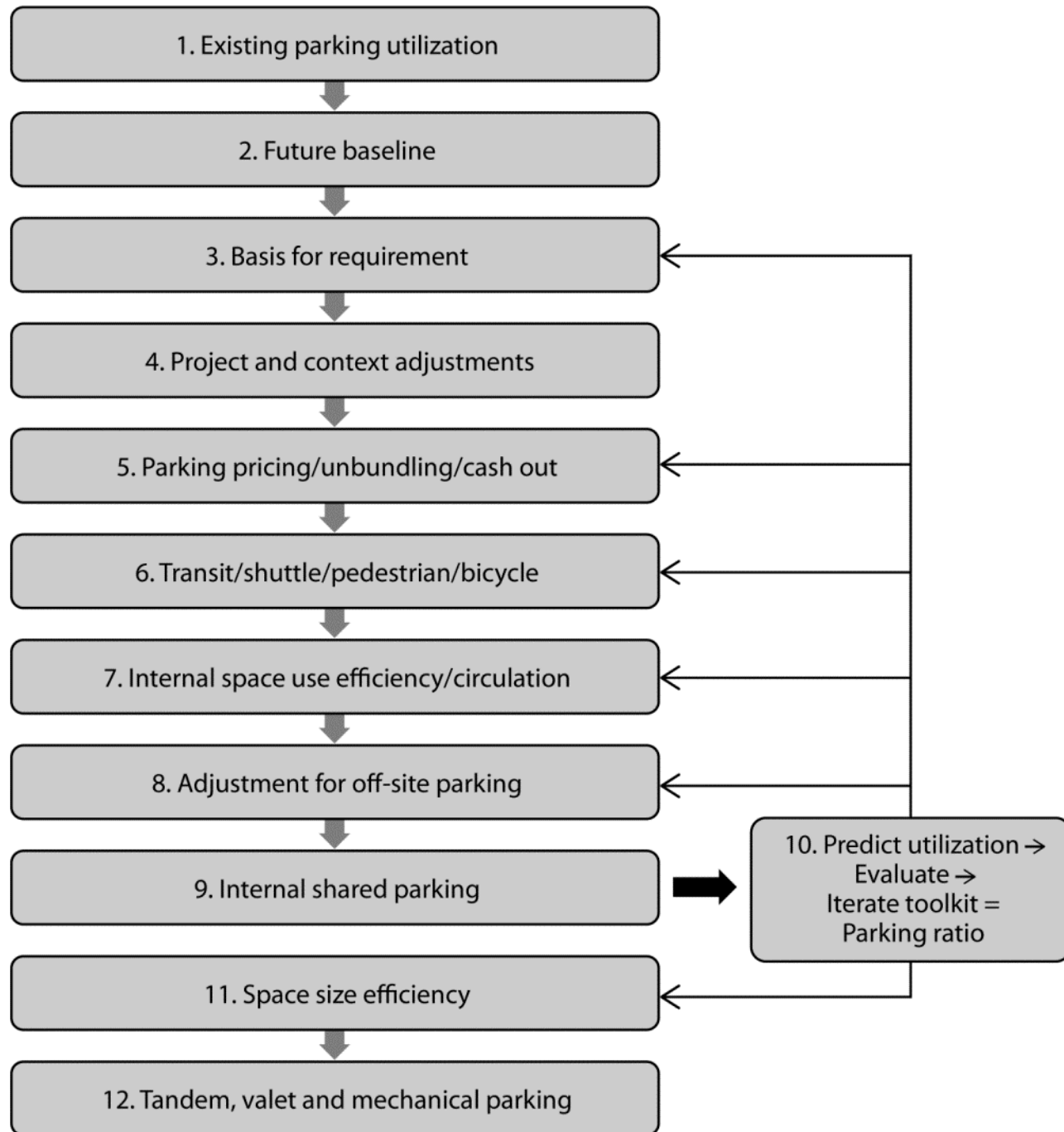
**NIMBY groups**

Stop/slow/burden development projects

Habit, strategy,  
addiction, or  
what?



A twelve-step  
reform  
method...





## Step 1

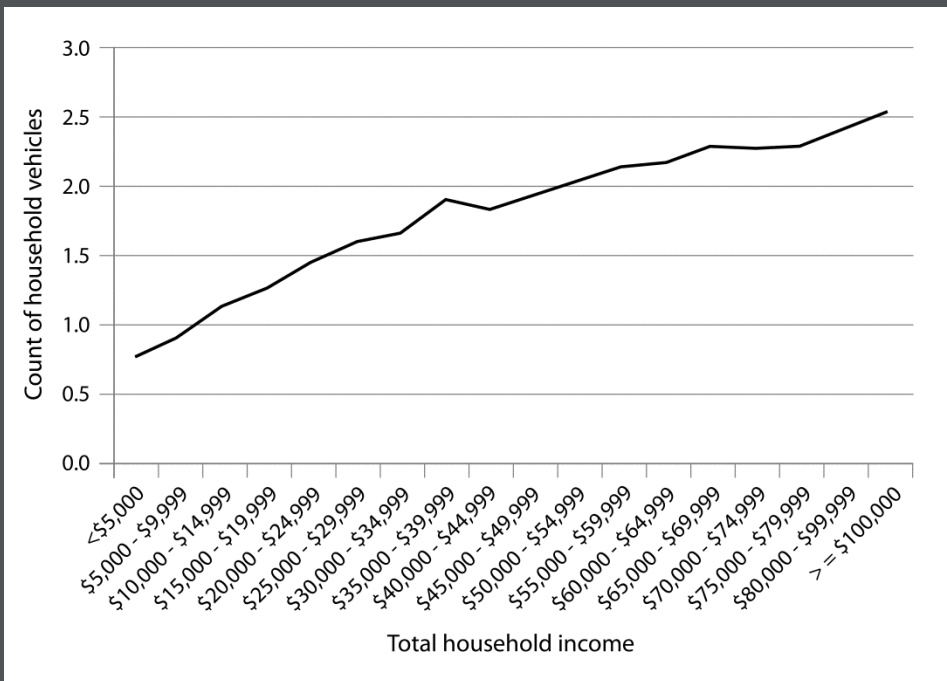
## Method

## Comments

### Existing utilization

Measure local utilization using counts, air photo interpretation, census data

Existing rates often reflect past practice of free parking, separated land uses



## Step 2

## Method

## Comments

### Future baseline

Identify 20 year trends in  
demographics, economics,  
culture

Most trends suggest declining  
parking utilization rates

### Factor

### Effect

Local and regional land use and transportation plans

-

Demographic changes, aging population

-

Dense, mixed-use development

-

Changes in intensity of occupancy

+

Transit development and non-motorized transportation

-

Energy prices

-

Congestion as a travel disincentive

-

Changes in personal vehicles and carsharing

-

Telecommunication substitution of travel

~

Cultural preferences

-

Parking management, shared parking, and pricing

-



Step 3		Method		Comments	
Basis for the rate	Should requirements be based on average or percentile rates?	Higher percentiles (e.g., 85 <sup>th</sup> ) are wasteful		Shared parking reduces risk of using average rate	
	Minimum	33 <sup>rd</sup> %	Average	85 <sup>th</sup> %	Maximum
Adjustment	0.3	.9	1.0	1.21	1.96
Rate	0.9	2.7	3.0	3.63	5.88

## Step 4

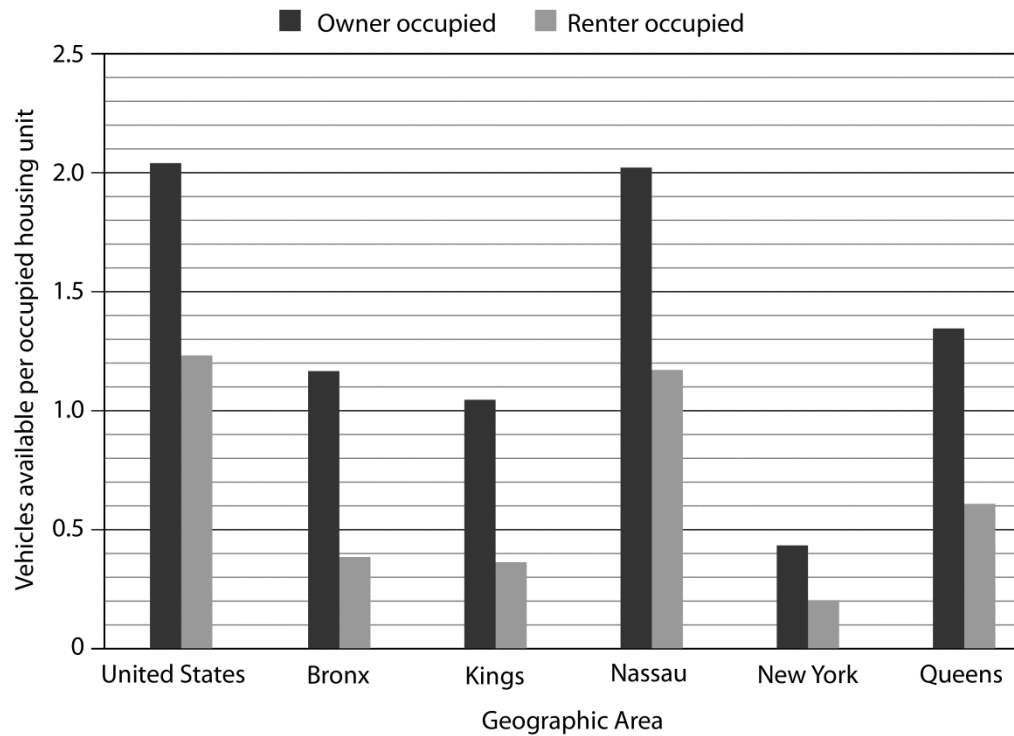
## Method

## Comments

### Project and context

Adjust for special characteristics of the land use and/or subarea

Leads to differentiated rates in land use categories, e.g., affordable housing





## Step 5

## Method

## Comments

Pricing/un-  
bundling/  
cashout

Adjust for impact of pricing  
policies

Parking demand is responsive to  
price

-0.3 +/-

## Step 6

## Method

## Comments

Transit/  
pedestrian/  
bicycle/  
carshare

Adjust for alternative  
access

Affects travel mode choice for all  
land uses and household vehicle  
ownership





## Step 7

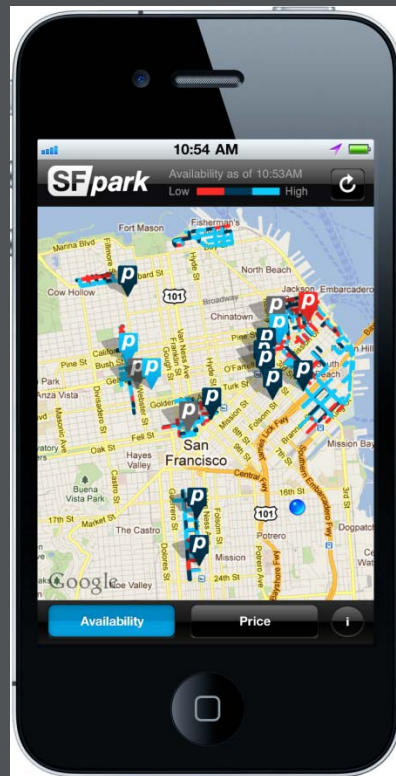
## Method

## Comments

### Space use efficiency

Adjust for assigned versus pooled spaces, circulation factor

Parking information and guidance systems reduce need for circulation factor



## Step 8

## Method

## Comments

### Off-site parking

Reduce on-site requirement to account for off-site parking

Many districts oversupplied with parking in the aggregate





## Step 9

## Method

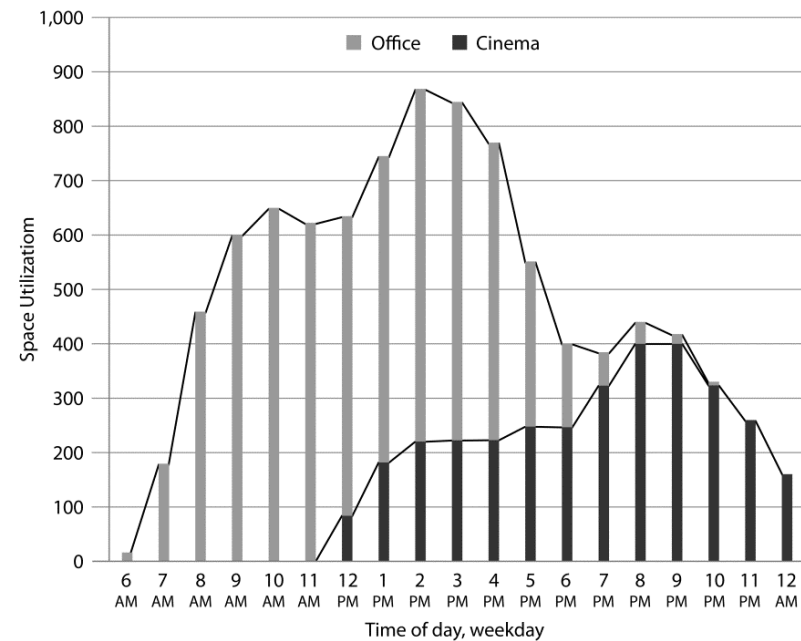
## Comments

### Internal shared parking

For multi-use sites, reduce overall rate to account for different peak use periods

Land uses can be strategically selected to maximize shared parking potential

Use Urban Land Institute *Shared Parking* or free models, e.g., Metropolitan Transportation Commission



## Step 10

## Method

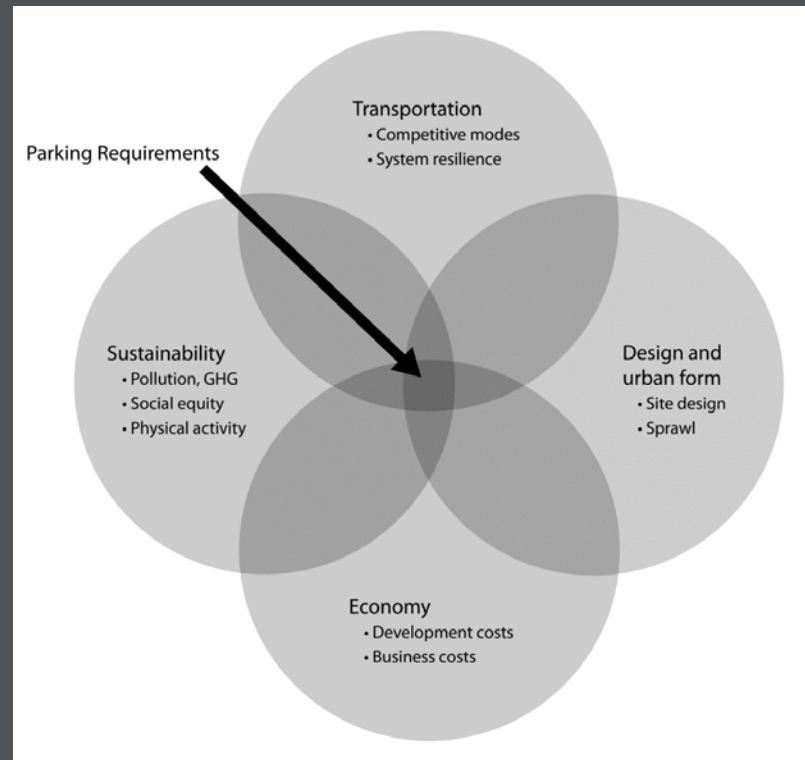
## Comments

### Evaluate and iterate

Does the prospective rate support community goals?

Consider transportation, urban form, economic development, sustainability, and regulatory practicality

Administrative feasibility +





## Step 11

## Method

## Comments

### Space size

Decide on minimum size,  
compact spaces

Average vehicle size is declining  
Smaller “unispace”



## Step 12

## Method

## Comments

**Tandem,  
valet,  
mechanical**

Increase the yield of cars  
parked per square foot of land  
or building area

Potential varies by land use,  
district context, and market





# Suburban office use

## Step

## Factor

## Values and Results

Existing rate ranges (spaces per unit)

2.6 - 3.0	3.1 - 3.5	3.6 - 4.0	4.1 - 4.5	4.6 - 5.0
-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	-----------

- 1 Estimated existing rate

3.25

Ten-year future adjustment ranges

< .79	.80 - .89	.90 - .99	1.00	> 1.0
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Adjustment for future year

- 2 Estimated future rate

1.1  
3.58

Basis for rate (average versus other)

Minimum	33rd pctl.	Average	85th pctl.	Maximum
---------	------------	---------	------------	---------

Adjustment factors based on ITE Land Use 701

0.30    0.90    1.00    1.21    1.96

- 3 Base rate

3.58

Adjustment ranges for steps 4 - 9

< .70 - .79	.80 - .89	.90 - .99	1.00	> 1.0
-------------	-----------	-----------	------	-------

- 4 Future use and context conditions, transit

0.95

- 5 Project parking pricing/unbundling

0.90

- 6 Project transit, alternative transportation

1.0

- 7 On-site space efficiency factors

1.0

- 8 Off-site parking accommodation

1.0

- 9 Internal shared parking

1.0

Product of steps 4 - 9

0.855

- 10 **On-site space utilization**

**3.06**





# Suburban multifamily housing

Step	Factor	Values and Results
	Existing rate ranges (spaces per unit)	0    0.1 - 1.0    1.1 - 1.5    1.6 - 2.0    2.1 - 2.5
1	Estimated existing rate	1.65
	Ten-year future adjustment ranges	< .79    .80 - .89    .90 - .99    1.00    > 1.0
2	Adjustment for future year	0.95
	Estimated future rate	1.57
	Basis for rate (average versus other)	Minimum    33rd pctl.    Average    85th pctl.    Maximum
3	Adjustment factors based on ITE Land Use 221	0.48    0.55    1.00    1.58    1.58
	Base rate	1.57
	Adjustment ranges for steps 4 - 9	< .70 - .79    .80 - .89    .90 - .99    1.00    > 1.0
4	Future use and context conditions, transit	0.9
5	Project parking pricing/unbundling	1.0
6	Project transit, alternative transportation	1.0
7	On-site space efficiency factors	1.2
8	Off-site parking accommodation	1.0
9	Internal shared parking	1.0
	Product of steps 4 - 9	1.08
10	On-site space utilization	1.70





Requirement  
options...and  
developer  
responses

Approach	Requirement	Developer response
Traditional	Minimum > utilization No maximum	Rarely build more than requirement
Moderate reform	Minimum = utilization No maximum	Assess market for project, may exceed minimum
Big city approach	Minimum = % of utilization Maximum = ratio or % of minimum	Market decision whether to supply minimum or build to maximum
Partial deregulation	No minimum Maximum = ratio or % of minimum	Market decision whether to supply parking or build to maximum
Deregulation	No minimum or maximum Performance measures	Market decision on whether/how much



Bells and  
whistles...

## “Taming” Parking

- Driveway regulations
- Prohibit surface
- Ground floor retail
- Height restrictions
- % of block facades for garage doors
- Discretionary design review
- Shading
- Permeable pavement
- Solar
- Real-time information
- Guidance systems



## Supply Regulations

- Eliminate minimums
- Maximums
- Discretionary determination
- Tandem
- Re-use projects
- Overlays zones
- On-street credit
- Performance-based
- In lieu/access fees
- Carsharing
- Off-site parking
- Pricing, unbundling, cash-out
- TDM
- Bike parking
- Electric vehicle parking



# Parking management

# In Donald Shoup's own backyard!

UCLA Grand Challenges is a campuswide commitment to address the most significant problems confronting society. To achieve these ambitious and inspiring goals, UCLA will work with government, industry, university and philanthropic partners to redefine what is possible.

On Friday, November 15, 2013, UCLA will reveal the first Grand Challenge Project: a transformative effort to solve one of the greatest challenges within the area of **environment and sustainability**.

## UCLA Grand Challenge Project Reveal

Friday, November 15, 2013

10:30 a.m.

Royce Hall, UCLA

Please respond by Friday, November 8, 2013

[RSVP online](#) or call (310) 794-6241

Seating is limited

**Complimentary parking** will be available in

[Parking Structure 5](#)



## Approach

## Strategy

**On-street parking in commercial districts**

Time limits, space designations  
Pricing; dynamic pricing  
Parking benefit districts

**On-street parking in residential neighborhoods**

Residential permits  
Priced residential permits  
Parking benefit districts

**Off-street parking, private**

Access control  
Pricing  
Shared parking arrangements

**Off-street parking, public**

Time limits, space designations  
Cost recovery pricing  
Prioritize use through pricing

# Politics and participation





## Approach

## Strategy

### Link reform to community plans

Tie to urban design, economic development, transportation, or environmental goals

### Educate

Costs of status quo – wasted land, livability  
Fairness to non-drivers  
Practice in successful, admired places

### Appeal to self interest

Tax revenue potential  
Owners of existing parking and parking operators  
Revenue return to district or neighborhood  
Developers/property owners  
Compensate those disadvantaged by change

### Attract allies

Transit operators, cyclists  
Infill developers, affordable housing developers  
Small business  
Historic preservation

Is parking a  
regional  
planning  
issue?

SCAG  
RTP  
goals  
that  
apply to  
parking,  
but no  
action  
items

- Encourage land use and growth patterns that facilitate transit and non-motorized transportation
- Actively encourage and create incentives for energy efficiency, where possible
- Align the plan investments and policies with improving regional economic development and competitiveness
- Maximize mobility and accessibility for all people and goods in the region
- Preserve and ensure a sustainable regional transportation system
- Protect the environment and health of our residents by improving air quality and encouraging active transportation



Roles for  
MPOs and  
states...

## Task

## MPO

## State

**Build support for reform**

RTP/SCS policy  
Incentives  
Model ordinances

Incentives  
Model ordinances

**Data and forecasts**

Translate regional model forecasts into parking

Sponsor data collection and modeling

**Intervene/override**

Establish criteria for funding

CA's AB 710/AB 904 requirement override in transit-rich areas

Related research,  
model, and  
examples...



## Approach

## Strategy

### Context sensitive trip generation studies

ITE inclusion of urban and suburban context  
UC Davis trip generation for Smart Growth areas  
Portland State trip generation context study

### Parking data/models

Metro King County multifamily residential (Seattle Region)  
Transform MFD model and data collection (Bay Area)  
MTC data collection (Bay Area)  
Residential Transp. Performance Monitoring Study (Arlington VA)

### Parking benefit districts

Willingness to pay study in New York (Guo and McDonnell)  
Boulder (neighborhood)  
Old Pasadena (commercial)  
Houston's Washington Avenue (commercial)  
St. Louis Mo (commercial, increment only)

### Variable pricing

*SFpark*  
LA Express Park  
Seattle SeaPark



# King County Multi-Family Residential Parking Calculator

TOOLS TO BALANCE SUPPLY

CALCULATOR

ABOUT THIS SITE

Enter a location...



Parking/Unit Ratio (Number of Stalls)

< .5 Stalls >= 1.5 Stalls

No Parcels Selected

Parking/Unit Ratio

----

Building & Parking Specifications

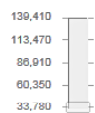
Location Characteristics

Parking Impacts

Once you have selected a parcel, the values below represent the location characteristics of the parcel(s) you have selected.

Population:

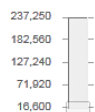
Concentration Low to High



Select an area or at least one parcel to use this slider.

Jobs:

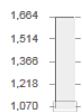
Concentration Low to High



Select an area or at least one parcel to use this slider.

Transit Service:

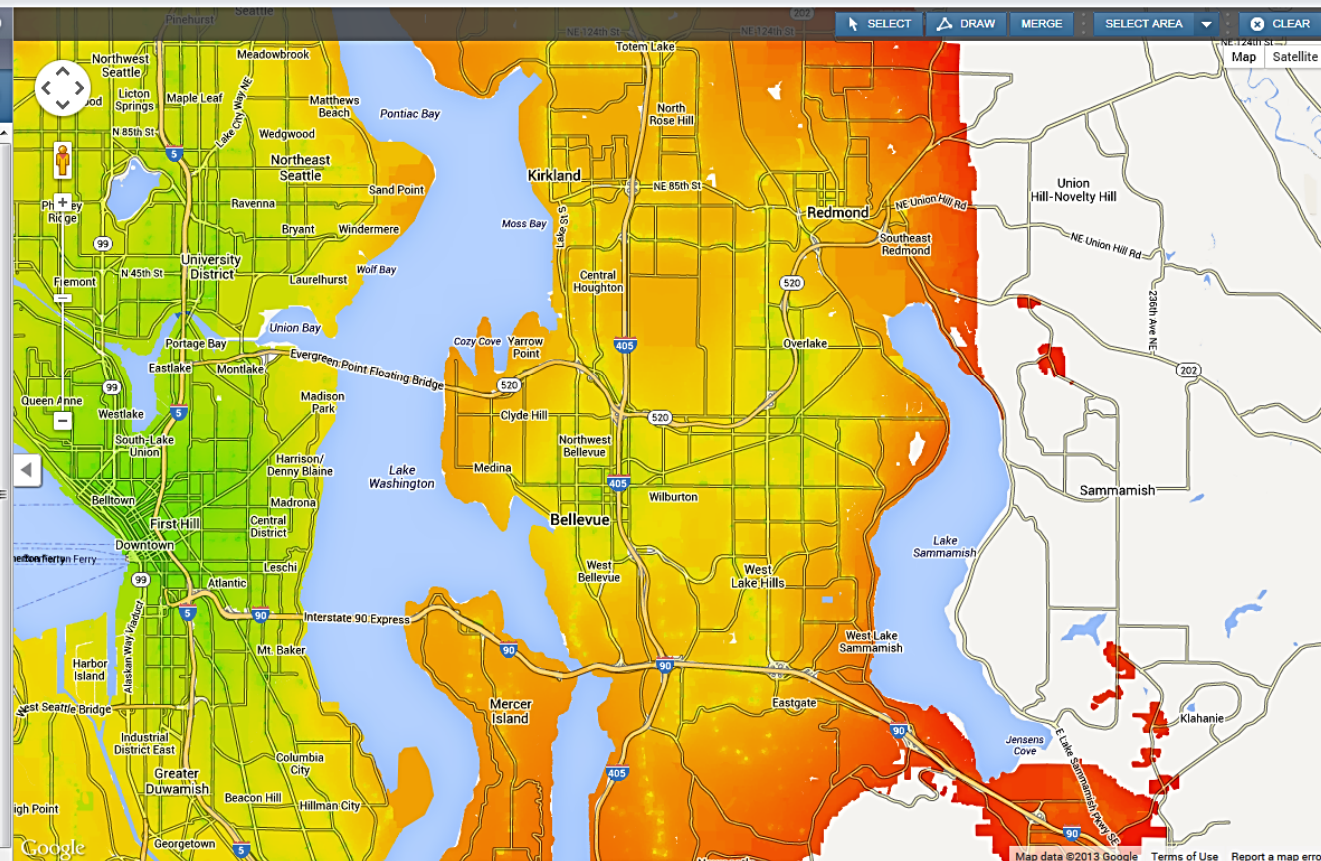
Concentration Low to High



Select an area or at least one parcel to use this slider.

UPDATE

RESET



Map data ©2013 Google Terms of Use Report a map error

Selection Info

If Joni Mitchell  
and Bob Dylan  
wrote a song  
together...





...it would be  
entitled...

# *Paved Paradise Revisited*

*It's time to reform parking requirements!*

# Questions and comments...

*Parking Reform Made Easy* is available from Island Press, Amazon, and other retailers in print and ebook format

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