



BETWEEN HOME & WORK: HOW THIRD PLACES HELP BUILD INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

H-GAC's Fall Planning Workshop



A G E N D A

8:30 AM	Justin Bower <i>Director of Community & Environmental Planning, Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC)</i> Welcome
Keynote Address:	Nélida Quintero, Ph.D. <i>Environmental Psychologist / Architect</i> <i>Fellow, Centre for Urban Design and Mental Health</i> <i>Representative, American Psychological Association NGO Team at the United Nations</i>
8:40 AM	Well-Being and the City, Considering Third Places and the Interactions of Urban Spaces and psych-social Well-being
9:10 AM	Beth Nilsson, LEED AP BD+C, WELL AP, NCIDQ <i>Director, Building Healthy Places, Urban Land Institute (ULI)</i> Together: Strategies for Promoting Health and Community in Privately Owned Third Places
9:40 AM	Richard Dougherty, RIBA ARB <i>Executive Director, Architecture & Facilities Management, Gallaudet University</i>
10:10 AM	David Overland & Keeper Brunson <i>Treasurer, Creatorspace</i> <i>Secretary, Steward of the 2D Arts and Pottery Studio, Creatorspace</i> Creatorspace as a Third Place
10:30 AM	Jeffrey Kaplan <i>Managing Partner, Brokerage & Placemaking, Concept Neighborhood</i> Creating a Third Place Corridor in Houston
11:00 AM	Closing Remarks & Adjourn

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, H-GAC provides for reasonable accommodation for persons attending H-GAC functions. Requests should be received by H-GAC 24 hours prior to the function.



This event is eligible for 2.25 CM Credits from the American Planning Association.



Houston-Galveston
Area Council

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December 6, 2024
8:30 – 11:00 AM CST

TODAY'S PRESENTERS

Justin Bower



Justin Bower is the Director of Community and Environmental Planning at H-GAC, where he leads the agency's natural resources, disaster resilience, community planning, and public safety programs. Justin holds a master's degree in urban affairs and public policy from the University of Delaware and has spent over 20 years leading natural resources and urban planning efforts for a variety of local government and non-governmental organizations. For the past 13 years, Justin has worked at H-GAC to further the agency's mission to support our local communities in improving water quality, flood resilience, and conservation efforts. Justin has a passion for bringing together partners and resources to enhance our region's natural and community resilience. As part of a lifelong love of the natural world, Justin is actively involved in many leadership roles with natural resource and wildlife efforts in the region. Together with his wife and two young daughters, Justin enjoys exploring the diversity of our region's landscapes, wildlife, and communities.

Nélida Quintero, Ph.D.



Nélida Quintero is an environmental psychologist and licensed architect based in New York. She is a Fellow at the Centre for Urban Design and Mental Health, an American Psychological Association NGO Representative at the United Nations and a member of the Psychology Coalition at the United Nations Program Committee. Her project list includes consulting on well-being and the physical environment, as well as designing and managing architecture and interiors projects in the US and Latin America. She has taught at various academic institutions including Hunter College, Parsons School of Design (Certificate Program), as Assistant-in-Instruction at Princeton University, and currently at the Fashion Institute of Technology. Her research interests are broadly focused on the interactions between people, behavior, and the physical environment, in particular in relationship to health, well-being, gender, design equity, and the city. She holds a PhD in Environmental Psychology from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, a Master's in Architecture from Princeton University, a Master's in Fine Arts from Parsons School of Design, and a BA from Mills College in Studio Arts and Communications.



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Beth Nilsson, LEED AP BD+C, WELL AP, NCIDQ



Beth Nilsson, LEED AP BD+C, WELL AP, NCIDQ is a Director for the Building Healthy Places team at Urban Land Institute. She supports Building Healthy Places through content creation and program management centered on the impacts of the built environment on health, well-being, and social equity. She is a primary author of ULI's "[Together: Strategies for Promoting Health and Community in Privately Owned Third Places](#)" and manages ULI's [Health Leaders Network](#) and other leadership and learning opportunities.

Prior to ULI, Beth worked at a national commercial general contractor as a senior sustainability specialist where she fostered an environment dedicated to advanced sustainable construction and creating healthy buildings and communities. Beth holds a MSc in City Design and Social Science from the London School of Economics, where her studies centered on health and sustainability in urban and regional planning. She also holds a B.A. in Interior Design from Marymount University.

Richard Dougherty, RIBA ARB



Richard Dougherty is currently the Executive Director of Architecture and Facilities for Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. He is also a Director for Richard Lyndon Design – a multi-disciplinary collective with a focus on working with Deaf/Disabled artists and architects on projects across Europe and America. Prior to that, he was an Associate Architect for an internationally renowned award-winning practice, where he accumulated over 17 years of experience working on public and private sector projects. As well as being project architect for several highly crafted, award-winning projects, Richard was the recipient of the 'Project Architect of the Year' award at the 2019 RSUA Awards ceremony for his work on the Transport Hub in Belfast. He actively participates in research practices and presented a paper based on 'DeafSpace' at the European Society for Mental Health and Deafness Congress in Wales.



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Creatorspace: David Overland & Keeper Brunson



Creatorspace, a 501(c)3 non-profit, facilitates knowledge sharing and resource networking for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes. The Makerspace promotes and encourages technical, scientific and artistic skills through individual projects, social collaboration, and education.

David Overland is the current Treasurer at Creatorspace and has previously served as Vice President and President during his 14 years with the non-profit.

Keeper Brunson is the current Secretary at Creatorspace. She also serves as the Steward of the 2D Arts and Pottery Studio.

Jeffrey Kaplan



For nearly two decades, Jeffrey Kaplan has created and operated social enterprise retail concepts with a focus on urban impact and economic development. Some of his projects include Axelrad Beer Garden, HTX Made Factory, New Living, Houston's first Certified B Corp, The Plant at Harrisburg, Caroline Collective, and Houston Needs a Swimming Hole, a campaign to finance and build a public private swimming hole and beach on the Buffalo Bayou between the 2nd and 5th Ward. Through his community development group, Concept Neighborhood, he is leading an effort to create one mile of connected walkable urbanism from a light rail stop to the Buffalo Bayou trails in Houston, Texas. Jeffrey's greatest passion is creating projects that build community wealth and eco-systems for entrepreneurs solving real world problems through social enterprise business models.

Presentations and a recording of this event will be available at:
<https://www.h-gac.com/sustainable-development-workshops/fall-planning>



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