

# ScholarWorks@UMass Amherst

MASTERS THESES 1911 - FEBRUARY 2014

Off-campus UMass Amherst users: To download campus access theses, please use the following link to [log into our proxy server](#) with your UMass Amherst user name and password.

Non-UMass Amherst users: Please talk to your librarian about requesting this thesis through interlibrary loan.

Theses that have an embargo placed on them will not be available to anyone until the embargo expires.

## **Title**

Culture, Community Development, and Sustainability in a Post-Freeway City

## **Authors**

**Bryan Obara**, *University of Massachusetts Amherst* Follow

## **Document Type**

Open Access

## **Degree Program**

Landscape Architecture

## **Degree Type**

Master of Architecture (M.Arch.)

## **Year Degree Awarded**

2012

## Month Degree Awarded

September

## Keywords

Culture, community development, sustainability, urban freeway, urban renewal, urban waterfront redevelopment, historic urban landscape approach, participatory planning

## Abstract

Freeways that once tore through the urban fabric are now reaching the end of their lifespan and raising the question as to whether it is time to rebuild or remove them. The Interstate system has revolutionized transportation, connecting cities nationwide, but at the same time has slashed through existing neighborhoods.

The very land from which hundreds of Fox Point residents were evicted for the construction of Interstate 195 through Providence, Rhode Island, now lies barren as a result of the interstate's realignment. The surplus land, rezoned as the East Side Overlay District (ESOD), connects the Providence River and Narragansett Bay waterfronts. The ESOD is awaiting request for proposals (RFP), presenting an opportunity to redefine sustainable community development for Fox Point's waterfront.

The latest research on sustainable development employs culture as a direction for environmental, economic and social vitality. This project utilizes the historic urban landscape approach as a framework for providing knowledge and planning tools, for a more informed decision making process. In response, a proposal for redevelopment merges cultural development with visitor interaction in a reactivated waterfront. The post-freeway city has an opportunity to rebuild sustainable communities through cultural infrastructure.

## First Advisor

Mark Lindhult

[Download](#)

DOWNLOADS

Since November 23, 2012

Included in

Cultural Resource Management and Policy Analysis Commons , Historic Preservation and Conservation Commons , Landscape Architecture Commons , Urban, Community and Regional Planning Commons

Share

COinS