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CONSERVING LAND FOR PEOPLE



Parks, climate, and community

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Overview:

- Why parks?
- Why parks now, and what's the climate connection?
- The growing opportunity to address both climate and livability by integrating urban parks with transportation projects.
- AB32 and SB375: the California connection
- On the ground examples

Conserving Land for People:

The Trust for Public Land conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens, and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come.

Mission Statement

“Land for People” Never More Important



- As many as 3 in 4 city residents do not have access today to a nearby park, playground, or open space

Source: TPL Analysis of 20 U.S. cities; access defined as living within 1/8 mile of a park 5

Many Benefits of Parks

- Promote better health
- Revitalize local economies
- Help clean air and water
- Reduce crime
- Bring communities together
- Not a luxury--essential to successful communities, especially denser communities

Where do parks fit in to the climate conversation?

- Critical infrastructure in densifying communities
- Part of the smart in smart growth
- GHG emissions role
- Linkage with modern rail projects
- Recycling former rail infrastructure

TPL Report: Greenhouse Gas Benefits of Urban Parks

*Prepared for The Trust for Public Land
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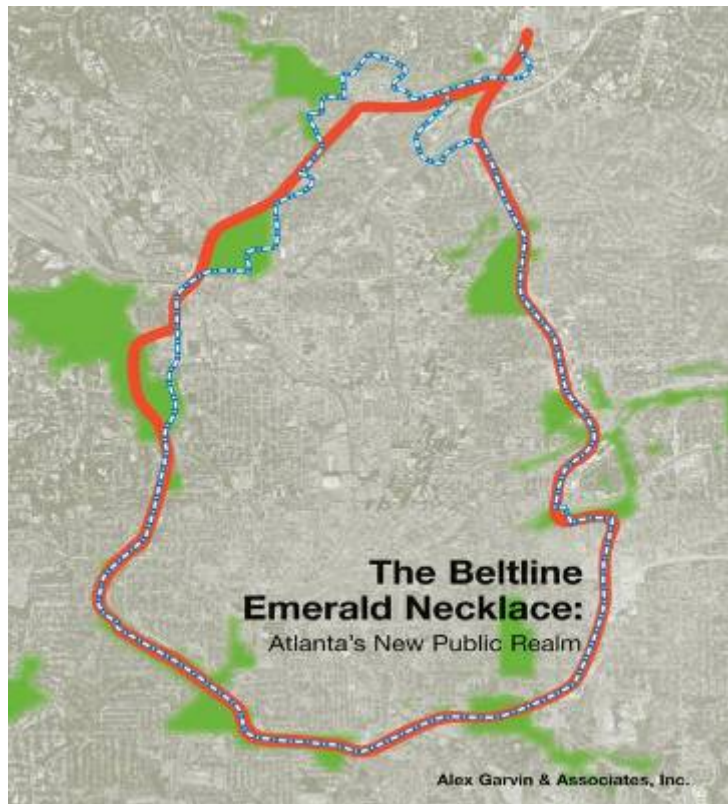
Quantifying the Greenhouse Gas Benefits of Urban Parks



AB 32 and SB375--California

- Ambitious carbon reduction goals
- Requires full scale approach to every reduction possible
- Land use/transportation challenge/opportunity
- SB375 mandate/incentives open door
- (especially important in CA because of high vehicle contribution)

Example: Atlanta Beltline



- Garvin Report (2004)
- Transportation/Parks linked from start
- Beltline Partnership



Example: Santa Fe Railyard Park & Plaza



Guadalupe train, 1935



New Mexico Rail Runner, 2008



Conclusion:

- Pivotal time
- Lots of activity: linking transportation/parks
- Urban parks play a key role in climate/livability nexus
- Opportunities to leverage the change that urban advocates have been pushing for years, with climate as key factor driving implementation.
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