Beyond BRT: Can American Cities Benefit From Curitiba’s Experience?

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Sustainable Community Development
Annual City Budget
US$ 500.00 per year per inhabitant

POPULATION (2001)

City of Curitiba: 1.6 million inhab.

24 municipalities: 1.1 million inhab.

TOTAL POPULATION: 2.7 million inhabitants
City: A setting for encounter

1. People-Oriented

Social Equity
Quality of Life
2. Sense of Mission

Motivation
Challenge
Responsibility
3.
Clarity of Purpose

Inspiration
Vision
Direction
URBAN PLANNING:
CULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL
PRESERVATION
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
THE 1966 MASTER PLAN:
City's population around 450,000

changing growth pattern through public investment in infrastructure and land use policies
4. Technical Innovation

Local
Integrated
Incremental
Land Use regulations and transportation planning are strongly connected. Transit Corridors with segregated bus lanes induce high density development.
Transit system operated by private companies – no-subsidy by the Public Sector except infrastructure.

Incremental changes overtime allow for maximum flexibility of the transit system.
Creative locally designed projects promote quick and inexpensive solutions to changing needs

2005
2 million passengers a day
32.3% of population are transit users
385 transit lines – 2100 buses – 1,185 miles
5. Strategic Action

Economic Feasibility

Synergy between systems
EMPLOYMENT BELT / 2000
32 km / 18 neighborhoods

Jobs
Transportation
Urban renewal
Neighborhood integration
Training
Commercialization

1998
2000
6. Civic Infrastructure

Risk Taking
Empowerment
Shared Responsibility
Institutional Framework
Decision-making process

Constant dialogue between political and technical institutions

City Hall + Citizen Participation + City Council

Planning and Operation

IPPUC - URBS - COHAB - FAS
Regional administration linked to transit transfer terminals

CITIZENSHIP STREETS
7. Continuity

Longevity
Education
Culture
Lasting Rewards
Turning Challenges Into Solutions
BEST CITY FOR BUSINESS IN BRAZIL

Turning Great Strategy Into Great Performance
Curitiba’s Lessons

- **BRT**: a piece of a larger development and growth management strategy;
- **System x Mode**: focus on territory coverage, flexibility, integration and economic feasibility;
- **TOD**: Land Use + Transit + Circulation = physical framework for development policies has produced sustainable growth, economic development and increased quality of life;
- **High density**: around major corridors actually preserved open space and allowed for a generally low density city;
- **Institutional Integration**: specifically designed to carry out the 1964 Preliminary Plan has promoted flexibility and longevity of the process for over four decades;
- **Political Process**: urban planning efforts fully incorporated into the political process has evolved through generations and has inspired deep changes in Brazilian legislation and worldwide practice.
Can American Cities Benefit From Curitiba’s Experience?
Los Angeles
Mayor Richard Riordan

US Secretary of Transportation
Federal Transit Authority
WILL THEY?