

Curriculum Vitae - Andrew Benjamin Likuski

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Objectives

I aspire to plan, model, and simulate improvements to cities, neighborhoods, and transportation routes. My work centers on car-free environments, human-scale building and proximity, energy-efficiency, and maximizing urban integration with the natural environment. To achieve these goals I have studied urban planning, visual software development, urban design, and transportation via graduate school education, personal projects, and jobs.

Relevant Knowledge

I hold a bachelor's degree in computer science and engineering coupled with ten years of software development for businesses. I am a second-year graduate student of the Tufts University Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning (UEP). I have completed all requirements and will graduate in February 2012.

Work History

- **OpenPlans** New York, NY - Summer 2011.
I was a summer fellow at OpenPlans, where I continued work on my software based thesis under the guidance of Frank Hebbert, director of OpenPlans Civic Works department.
- **Open Neighborhood** Tufts University/Acton, MA - 2009-2011.
A project run by Tufts UEP Professor Justin Hollander to use the 3D online virtual world, Second Life, to model a neighborhood in Acton, Massachusetts as a mechanism for community participation in the planning process.
- **CaféPress** San Mateo, CA 2005-2009.
CaféPress is the largest online company allowing virtual shopkeepers to sell their designs, artwork, slogans, etc. on merchandise (<http://www.cafepress.com>).
I co-authored and was the principle developer of the CaféPress API as well as the oopen-source horizontally-scalable database storage system called HiveDB. See <https://github.com/britt/hivedb>.
- **Self-Employed** 2004-2005.
I partnered with friend and user interface expert Bret Victor to create a musical keyboard prototype. We created a software demo for a musical keyboard user interface, then canceled the project.
- **Ask Jeeves (contract work)** Emeryville, CA 2004
I maintained and improved the codebase for the web site of the search engine.
- **KindMark** Mill Valley, CA 2003-2004
KindMark was a corporate philanthropy business, later purchased by Kintera.
- **Microsoft** Redmond, WA 2000-2002
I helped build the MSN Entertainment website.
- **MongoMusic** Redwood Shores, CA 1999-2000 (Acquired by Microsoft)
MongoMusic was a music recommendation engine, purchased by Microsoft to become MSN Entertainment.
- **Electronic Arts (Internship)** San Mateo, CA Summer 1998
I wrote utilities for the audio division.

- **Cambridge Systematics (Internship)** Cambridge, MA Summer 1997
I wrote internal software to support the technical division of the company.

Education

Tufts University, Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning 2009 - 2011
All requirements completed. Master of Arts degree to be rewarded in February 2012

University of California Davis 1995 – 1999
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science Engineering

Thesis

I am writing a software plugin called *Rescape* for Google Sketchup to simplify the use of Sketchup for pedestrian and transit oriented neighborhood redesigns. The plugin simplifies the most essential tasks of doing a site redesign for an existing neighborhood. It enables downloading the streets of the desired neighborhood and provides tools to draw pedestrian space and amenities such as streetcar tracks and bike lanes. Beta versions are available at <http://code.google.com/p/rescape/downloads/list>.

Relevant urban planning coursework

- **Transportation Modeling** - Audited Mikel Murga's class at MIT to learn the modeling packages TransCAD and CUBE.
- **Transportation Planning** - Tufts UEP course by my thesis adviser Mark Chase, an expert in parking management and car sharing.
- **Urban Transportation Planning** - MIT course taught by Frederick Salvucci and Mikel Murga. I proposed a redesign for Union Square in Somerville, MA in anticipation of new light rail service, as well as the de-elevation of McGrath Highway in Somerville.
- **Geographic Information Systems (GIS)** - I created an interactive tool to calculate the most eligible routes for new passenger rail service anywhere in the United States based on population density, existing right-of-way, and the ability to convert highway and boulevard lanes to rail.
- **Green Urban Design** - I worked with a three person team to redesign a neighborhood in Somerville, MA to be community and business oriented while calming traffic and improving transit.
- **Local Government Financing** - I studied how the city of Somerville, MA could finance a streetcar network to create a comprehensive transit system in the city without state or regional funding.
- **Field Projects** - My field project group worked for the Somerville Community Corporation to evaluate community participation tools concerning the Somerville Green Line Extension.
- **Foundations of Public Policy and Planning** - My final paper explored the status of car-free places throughout the world.
- **Developing Sustainable Communities** - My final paper studied the potential of public digital screens to promote sustainability.
- **Cities in Space, Place, and Time** - A modern history of American cities from a planning perspective.
- **Negotiation and Conflict Resolution**
- **Microeconomics**
- **Quantitative Methods**
- **Regulatory Land Use** (Audited)
- **Nonregulatory Land Use** (Audited)
- **Ecocities** University Of California Berkeley Extension, Spring 2005

Urban Planning Writing

I write about planning at <http://degagelavoie.blogspot.com/>

Foreign Languages

- Highly competent in French - Intensive immersion courses in French in Montréal, Québec, Spring and Fall 2007 and four years including the departmental award in high school.
- Highly competent in Spanish - Intensive immersion courses in Spanish in Costa Rica and Panamá, Fall 2002 and university courses.
- Beginning German, actively engaged in learning for more than two years.
- I study foreign language acquisition techniques and linguistics.

Recent & Favorite Readings

- *Streets for People (a primer for Americans)* - Bernard Rudofsky
- *Carfree Design Manual* and *Carfree Cities* (<http://www.carfree.com/>) - J.H. Crawford
- California High Speed Rail Blog (<http://cahsr.blogspot.com/>) - Robert Cruickshank
- Clean Break (<http://tyler.blogware.com/blog>) - Tyler Hamilton
- *The Railroad Journey and Disenchanted Night* - Wolfgang Schivelbusch
- *Home Economics* - Wendell Berry
- *Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* - Annie Dillard
- *The Language Instinct* - Steven Pinker

Favorite Organizations

- Livable Streets, Cambridge, MA (<http://livablestreets.info/>)
- Californians for High Speed Rail (<http://www.ca4hsr.org/>)
- Transform, San Francisco, CA (<http://transformca.org/>)
- Ecocity Builders (<http://www.ecocitybuilders.org/>)

Community and Other Attributes

- I volunteer for trail maintenance projects and habitat restoration.
- From 2008 to 2009, I taught children to sing in an under-served Oakland public school.
- I attend meetings of environmental and urban planning organizations, and relevant local government public meetings.
- I participate in French and Spanish language groups.
- I play ice hockey, participate in hiking groups, backbacking, kayaking, and skiing.
- I play piano and guitar and sing. I trained in classical piano for 12 years, jazz piano for 2 years, and guitar for 1 year.