

Professor Matthew A. Turner Department of Economics Box B Brown University Providence, RI 02912

Matthew_Turner@brown.edu

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Statement of Accomplishments for 2022

Matthew Turner

Department of Economics

Brown University

The online FAR is pretty complete for this year, but does not really reflect two important things I did this year.

- 1. I made a lot progress on the portfolio of projects I have underway. The four working papers that I have going are all a lot better than they were at the beginning of the year. I give more detail on this below.
- 2. EC1410 was a new class, and I spent a lot of time getting it ready.

Research in progress In order of time spent:

- 1. Does the US have an Infrastructure Cost Problem? Evidence from the Interstate Highway System. This is a big project that we worked really hard on, but we could never quite get the calibration exercise at the center of the paper to come out neatly, so it really wasn't that strong. In response to referee, we started a revision this year, and finally got it to work out. We've done a big revision to reflect this. We've finally written the paper we intended when we started. It's at AER now, and if it does not go through there, then it will be off to REStat, where I think we should be pretty safe.
- 2. Foundations of Cities. We circulated and presented this under the title 'A Unified Theory of Cities' last year. After a rejection at Econometrica, we did a big revision. The result is different enough from it's predecessor to need a new title. It's ready to go out now, but I am going to give a seminar at Wharton in two weeks to test the waters before we send it out to AER.

- 3. Sewer and Slums. This was the subject of my two grant proposals. The project is organized around an IV, and to write the grant proposal, we organized the data required to check whether there was a good first stage. In the end, we have most of the machinery in place to write the paper. Whether, and how much funding we receive will determine the number of countries to which we apply the research design, but there are only a few weeks of work between what we have in hand and a solid seminar presentation on our test country (Brazil).
- 4. The Value of Piped Water and Sewers: Evidence from 19th Century Chicago. I presented this paper a lot this year and it has been getting a good reception. We will submit this to REStud in a few days, after losing split descriptions at other top journals. Over the course of the year, we've done two modest revisions in response to referees. This paper is now really polished and ought to find a home soon. If we don't get lucky with REStud, then I think we're pretty safe at AEJ or REStat.
- 5. Equilibrium Particulate Exposure. This project has been six weeks away from submission since before the pandemic, as one of our coauthors negotiated a series of disruptive events in her personal life (marriage, two moves and the birth of two children). We FINALLY got to work on this again this fall. I am presenting it at the World Bank on January 30, and it should go out, probably to QJE, within a few weeks.