Faster, Cheaper: Implementing Change from the Grassroots

14th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth Conference

- Josh Meyer, Local Government Commission
- Toody Maher & Crew, Pogo Park
- Matthew Ridgway, Fehr & Peers
- Dan Burden, Blue Zones
“The lack of resources is no longer an excuse not to act. The idea that action should only be taken after all the answers and the resources have been found is a sure recipe for paralysis. The planning of a city is a process that allows for corrections; it is supremely arrogant to believe that planning can be done only after every possible variable has been controlled.”

- Jaime Lerner

Architect, urbanist, former mayor of Curitiba, Brazil
Deliberate, phased approach to change.

Locally sourced solutions.

Short-term commitment and realistic expectations.

Low-risks, with possibility of high reward.

Development of social capital between residents.

Organizational capacity building.

“two hundred years of American Technology has unwit

Local Knowledge

two hundred years of American Technology has unwittingly created a playground of unlimited potential, but it was the minds of 11 year olds that could see that potential”
- craig stecyk 1975