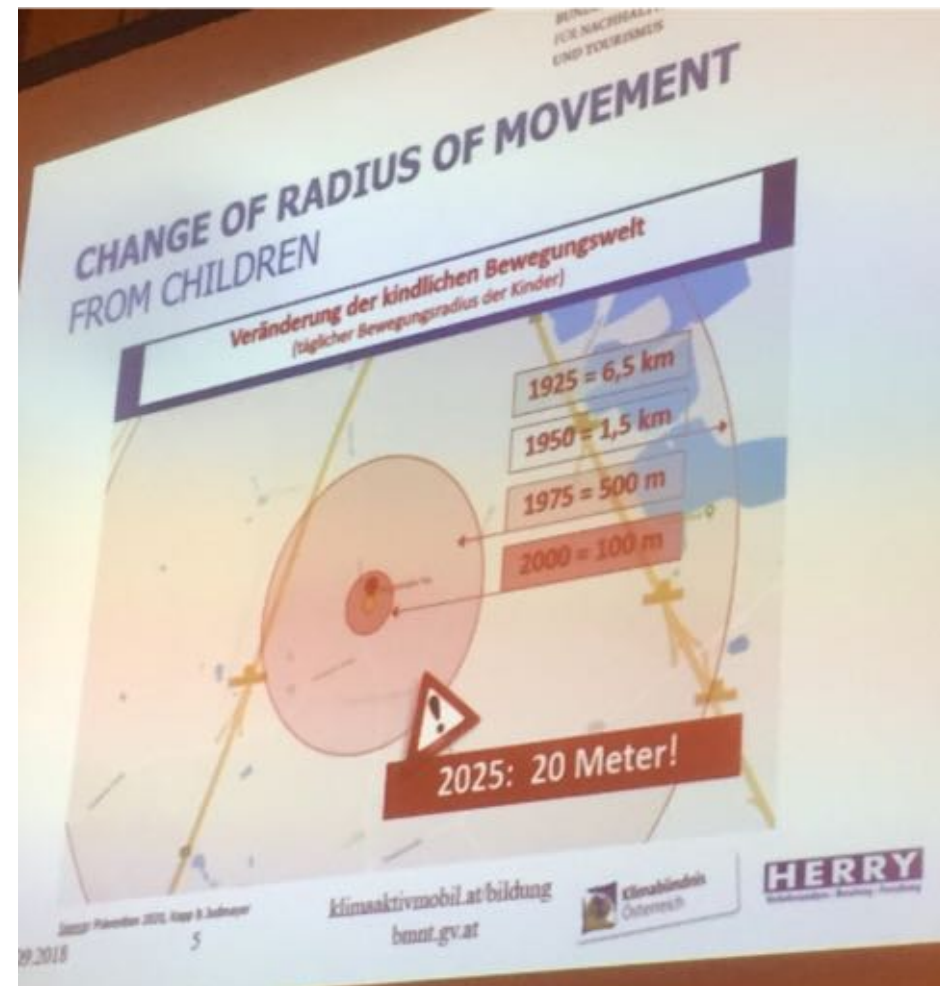


# Child-friendly urban planning: Lessons from Europe & Canada



[www.rethinkingchildhood.com](http://www.rethinkingchildhood.com)



# What is a child-friendly city?

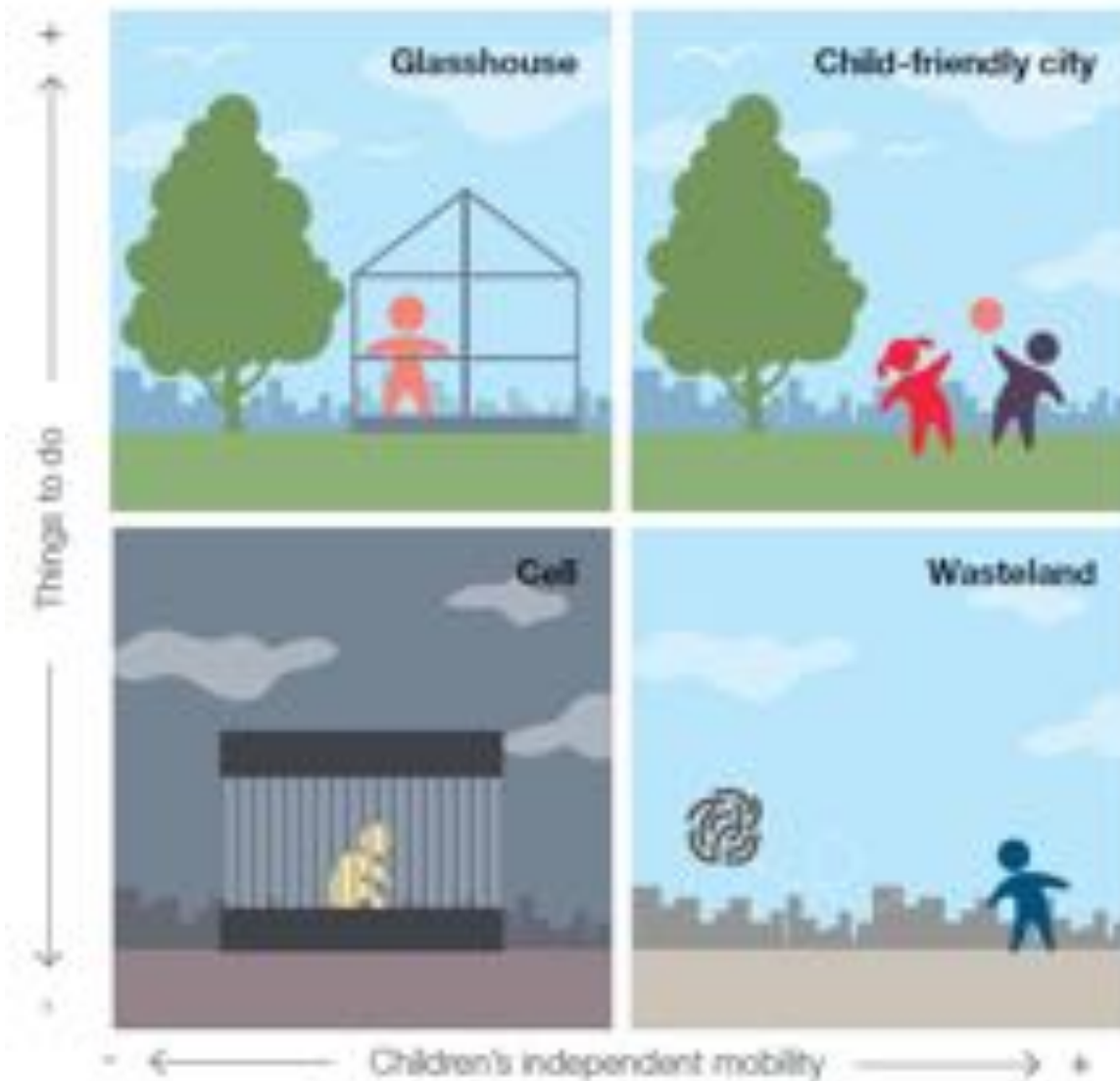
## Child Friendly Cities and Communities Handbook



 Child  
Friendly  
Cities  
Initiative

  
for every child

# My answer



Arup (2017) adapted from Kyttä M (2004) Journal of Environmental Psychology



Roger Hart (2008)  
'Stepping back  
from the Ladder'

We would do well to try to integrate our thinking on children's formal participation with what is known of children's informal participation and culture-building through play with their peers.

# Children's views about cities



Safety & free movement	Heavy traffic
Peer gathering places	Rubbish & litter
Varied activity settings	
Safe green spaces	

# Family-friendly neighbourhoods

**Housing**



Brent Toderian, Former  
Vancouver Chief Planner

**Services**









ontvangstplein  
wrikplein  
menwel  
de heuvels:  
inbke, avonbuurlijke  
ek,  
id en weide

Zuidersveldstr.

Hof van Leysen  
ontvangstplein  
spel (vrij) spel  
aan Mezel (kleintje)  
veldje voor halspelen

oortw park

Hof van Leysen



gent:

jong & wijs

# Vision text and action plan 5 'Ghent: a child and youth-friendly city'

23/06/2015

#gentjongewijs



City of Rotterdam  
Youth, Education and Society

# Rotterdam, city with a future



How to  
build a Child  
Friendly City





# TRAFIKK



# AGENTEN

- VI TRENGER DEG TIL Å SPIONERE

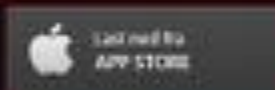


Last ned appen

Bruk agentkoden

**4320771**

for å teste



*HOO-HOO, SISTE NYTT:*

## HEI ELEVER OG FORESATTE!

Er dere interessert i å bruke Trafikkagenten?

Gi oss beskjed da venn

**JEG VIL BLI EN AGENT**





## **HIGH-DENSITY HOUSING FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN GUIDELINES**

*Adopted by City Council March 24, 1992*



A photograph of two children running on a track at a festival, with a teal overlay. The child on the left is wearing a blue shirt and black shorts, while the child on the right is wearing a light-colored shirt and dark shorts. The background shows a blurred crowd and festival structures.

CHILD, YOUTH + FAMILY  
FRIENDLY STRATEGY

# CHILDREN

CONNECTING CHILDREN, YOUTH + FAMILIES IN THE CITY OF NORTH VANCOUVER





## Play in the City of Calgary

Play is the earliest means for learning and is of lifelong importance. Along with the physical health benefits, play is also a vehicle to support children's fundamental social and cognitive skill development. Children face challenges such as sedentary behaviours, over-planned schedules and parental concerns over safety that many believe are reducing their chances of enjoying healthy and active lives. With the help of the organizations who signed the [Calgary Play Charter](#), our goal is to create a variety of play opportunities throughout Calgary.

### Play opportunities for you to try

- [Nature Play Spaces](#)

Alternative playgrounds that use natural elements such as sand, water, wood, landforms, plants and boulders to inspire active and creative outdoor play, and connect people, young and old, to nature.

- [Mobile Adventure Playgrounds](#) (seasonal)

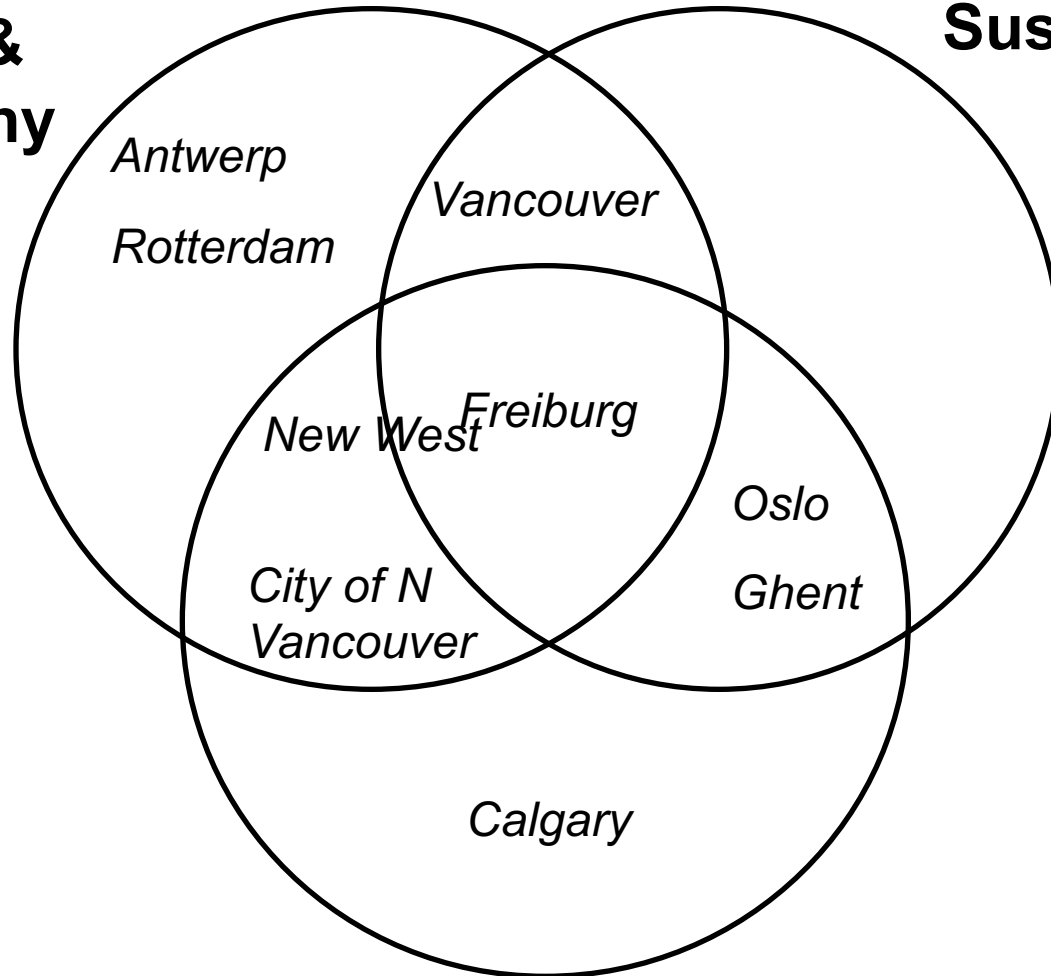
Dynamic spaces that contain a variety of materials and loose parts such as boards, tires, tape and cardboard that children are free to use to build, demolish, assemble and change their environments as they desire.



# Rationale

**Economy &  
demography**

**Sustainability**



**Children's rights & well-being**

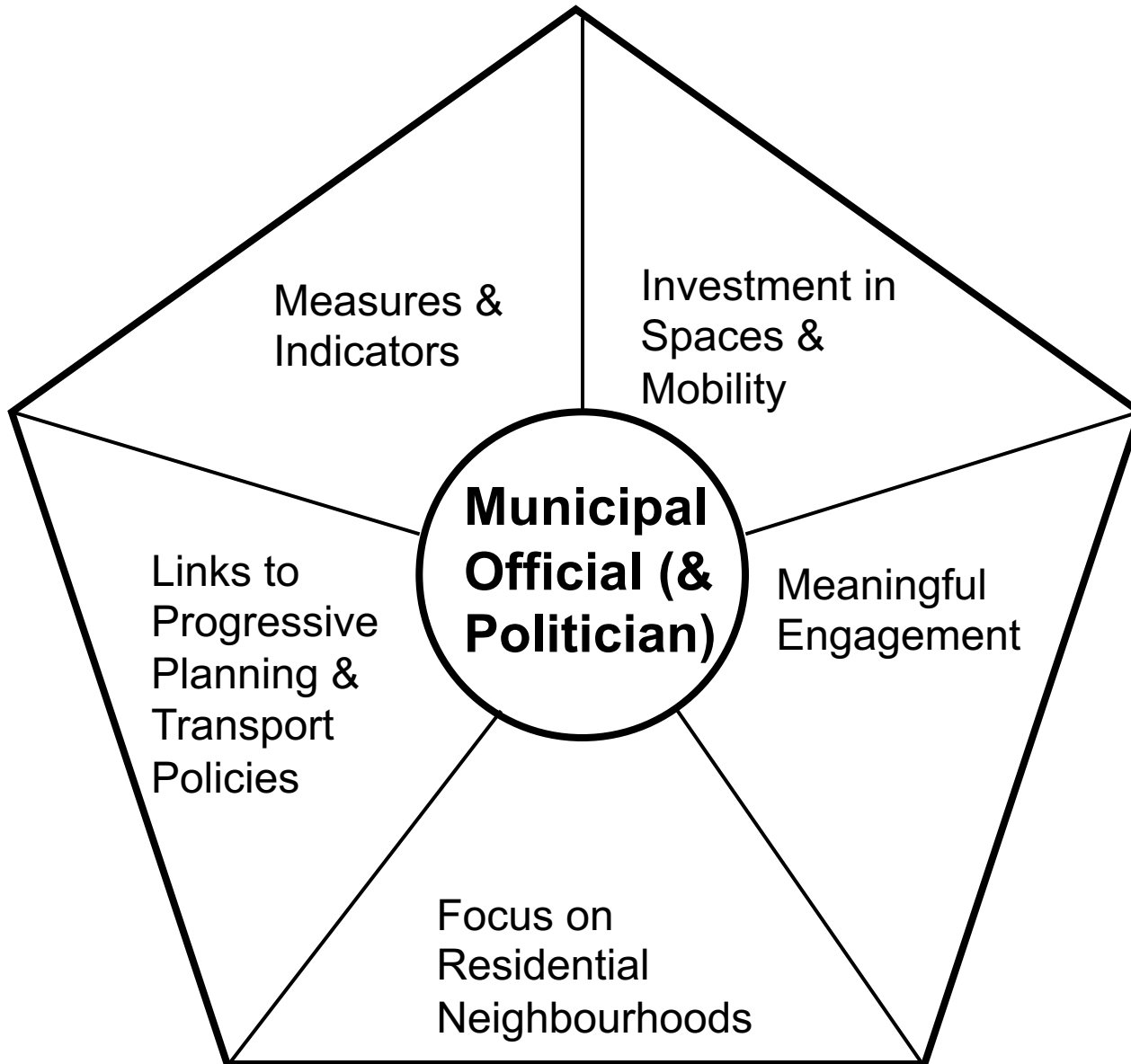
# Municipal resources

City	Population	Dedicated Municipal Personnel	Annual Budget
<b>Antwerp</b>	520,000	1	€2,000,000
<b>Calgary</b>	1,240,000	External funding (staff & other budgets):	€33,000
<b>City of North Vancouver</b>	53,000	1.5	€50,000
<b>Freiburg</b>	226,000	None identified	None identified
<b>Ghent</b>	259,000	4	No dedicated budgets
<b>New Westminster</b>	71,000	At least 1/3	Not available
<b>Oslo</b>	673,000	3	€500,000
<b>Rotterdam</b>	635,000	1 manager plus others. Staff & other budgets: Promising Neighbourhoods: Child Friendly Rotterdam:	€1,800,000 €5,000,000
<b>Vancouver</b>	631,000	None identified	None identified

# Ingredients

	Ant-werp	Cal-gary	City of N Van	Frei-burg	Ghent	New West	Oslo	Rotter-dam	Van-couver
Public space	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Dedicated officer time	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	
Engagement	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Neighborhood framework	✓	✓		✓	✓			✓	✓
Links to housing				✓		✓		✓	✓
Planning guidance		✓					✓	✓	✓
Targets or indicators	✓					✓	✓	✓	
Walking/cycling			✓			✓	✓		✓
Residential streets	✓				✓			✓	
Political champion		?	✓	?	✓	✓		?	

# Hub & Spoke model





Sapperton Park (top) and St Mary Park, New Westminster



Rode Loper ('Red Carpet'), Ghent



All Age & Ability  
Cycle Infrastructure,  
Vancouver







Walking route (before & after),  
Sogn District, Oslo



Ronald Schneider,  
Former Deputy Mayor

There are now 10% more home-owning, degree-educated people living in our target neighbourhoods.

School enrolment numbers have been down in the more urban communities and up in the more suburban communities. With one exception: New Westminster.



Mayor Jonathan Cote



Gro Sandkjaer Hanssen,  
Norway National & Regional Research Institute

A green city is more child-friendly than a car city, automatically. The politicians can see that these are arguments that can sugar the pill. It's better for children, so it's more accepted in public debate.

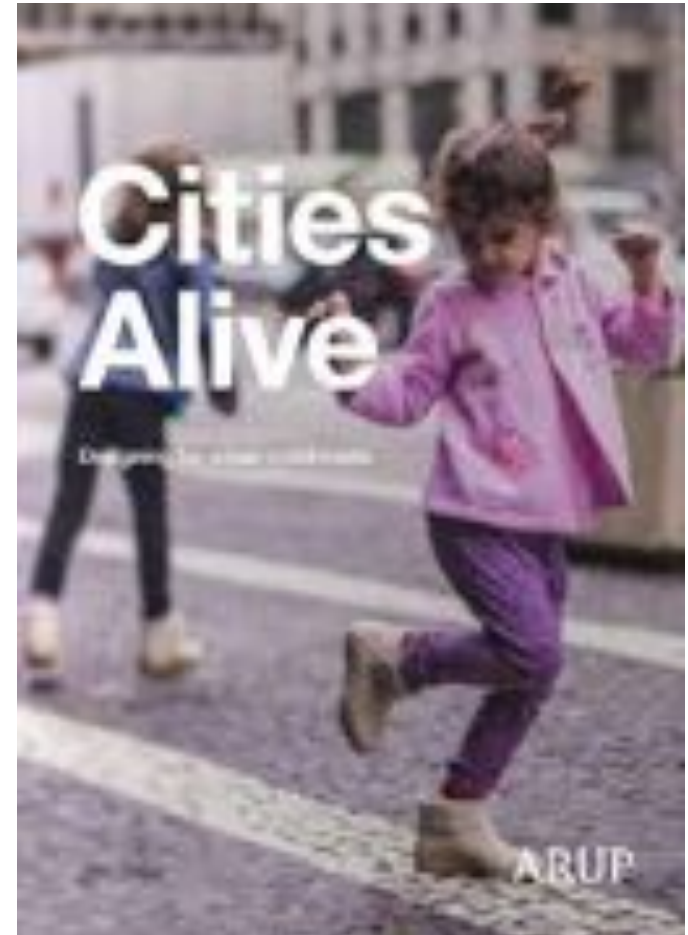
# Challenges & questions

- Inequality
- Gentrification
- Legislation
- Teenagers
- Younger children

**URBAN95** The logo for URBAN95 features the word 'URBAN' in large, bold, green capital letters, followed by the number '95' in a light blue, rounded font. To the right of the '95' is a stylized illustration of a child in a light blue silhouette standing next to a height chart with horizontal lines.

# Lessons & insights

- Neighbourhoods first
- Everyday freedoms
- Win-wins
- People before policies
- “Children’s infrastructure”





Thank you!