



Joint Regional Planning Partnership/Planners Committee

August 19, 2015

Tactical Urbanism—Open Streets Events

Discussion: “Tactical Urbanism” is a term used to describe a collection of low-cost, temporary changes to the built environment intended to improve local neighborhoods and gathering places. This change is also known as pop-up urbanism and guerilla urbanism. Examples of tactical urbanism include PARK(ing) Day, when on-street parking spaces are converted into mini-parks; the temporary establishment of pop-up cafes and pop-up retail; and utilizing food trucks to attract visitors to underused public spaces.

The Planned Streets Collaborative identifies the following characteristics of tactical urbanism: (1) a phased approach for change; (2) local solutions for local planning challenges; (3) short-term with realistic expectations; (4) Low-risks, potentially high reward; and (5) creating social capital between citizens and public-private institutions, non-profits, and their constituents.

SACOG staff will provide a brief overview of tactical urbanism, followed by short discussion of one of the best known examples in the world, the Ciclovía program in Bogota, Columbia. Every Sunday in the Colombian capital, several major roads, including the main thoroughfare, are closed to cars for use by bicyclists, pedestrians, skaters, and others. Throughout the city are gatherings of people, open markets, and musical performances.

Local practitioners will also provide examples of open streets events in the Sacramento region. Dan Regan (Sacramento County), Jim Konopka (City of Folsom), and Travis Evans (City of Rancho Cordova) will share experiences from the cooperative effort to host the annual Great Scott Road Bike & Walk Event. Jim Brown (Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates) will share information about the planning efforts and goals for an upcoming Ciclovía-style event in City of Sacramento.

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