

Dresden-Columbus International Lecture Series on Sustainable Urban Development



Leibniz-Institut
für ökologische
Raumentwicklung



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DRESDEN
Raumwissenschaftliches
Kompetenzzentrum

In cooperation with: Landeshauptstadt Dresden; City of Columbus;
Urban Land Institute, Columbus District Council



How to Build a Better Block

Jason Roberts

The Better Block Project, USA

Jason Roberts – known as the “The Bike Guy” in his Oak Cliff community outside of Dallas, Texas (USA) – gives his audience a how-to guide in improving a community one block at a time as part of a project called “The Better Block“. The project did not start off as an organization with vast goals and strong following; instead it started off with Roberts’ interest and desire to develop his community into one that had a legacy apart from the highways and overpasses that dominate the landscape. Inspired by the rich history and existing street life of European cities with their historic buildings and monuments, plazas, and vistas; Roberts started small and eventually built a foundation and organization that is now nationally recognized and used as a tool to develop cities across the country.

CV: Jason Roberts is an I/T Specialist with 15 years of experience in programming, website development, and network infrastructure planning. Jason formed a passion for transportation and urban development after a visit to Europe. In 2006, he formed the Oak Cliff Transit Authority, a non-profit organization, and developed their marketing and web presence, which led to the city of Dallas being awarded a federal stimulus grant to reintroduce a streetcar system into the city by 2013. Jason recently spearheaded the "Better Block Project", where he organized teams of advocates to revive blighted, vacant blocks of pre-war buildings into livable, sustainable developments complete with temporary businesses, landscaping, bike lanes, and outdoor cafe seating.

Dresden-Columbus International Lecture Series on Sustainable Urban Development (DCI): The new lecture series addresses topics of high actuality regarding sustainable urban development, that are relevant to the development of the two sister cities of Dresden and Columbus (USA). The lectures address students and PhD candidates as well as senior researchers and practitioners from both sides. They may contribute to the inter-continental academic discussion and to the practical interchange of ideas and experience. The lectures are a follow-up of the successful and longstanding joint program of IÖR, TU Dresden and OSU.

Hinweis: Die Veranstaltung findet in englischer Sprache statt. Der Vortrag des Referenten wird per Videokonferenz live aus den USA nach Dresden übertragen.

**Tuesday
13.11.2012
16:30 h**

Venue:

Leibniz Institute
of Ecological Urban
and Regional
Development
Weberplatz 1
01217 Dresden

Co-ordination:

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