

Better Health Outcomes Through Better Built Environments
Pollination Workshop Report
1.31.22

Executive Summary

Approximately 40 participants registered for an all-day, in-person [Bold Challenges](#) Pollination workshop on the topic of “Better Health Outcomes Through Better Built Environments” held at the Michigan Union on January 31st, 2022. Participants included a diverse group of 20 faculty from 7 units, 4 external partners, 7 co-sponsor representatives, and 8 faculty and staff from the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) and the Center for Academic Innovation (CAI). Elyse Aurbach from CAI and Jill Jividen from OVPR facilitated the workshop. Post-workshop surveys from 18 attendees indicated that participants were energized, optimistic, and enthusiastic about the event.

Survey highlights:

- 100% strongly agree or agree that the workshop was a good experience overall.
- 100% strongly agree or agree that the workshop helped them connect with new people interested in the workshop topic.
- Over 94% strongly agree or agree that the workshop stimulated their thinking around interdisciplinary and engaged research projects.
- Over 88% strongly agree or agree that the workshop is an experience that they would recommend to a colleague.



Workshop Overview

U-M Sponsoring Partners

Remarks were given throughout the day by the following partners:

- **Neeraja Aravamudan**, Director, [Edward Ginsberg Center](#)
- **John Ayanian**, Director, [Institute for Healthcare Policy & Innovation \(IHPI\)](#)
- **Sarah Burgard**, Director, [Population Studies Center](#), Institute for Social Research
- **Molly Kleinman**, Managing Director, [Science, Technology & Public Policy Program](#), Ford School
- **Greg McGuire**, Managing Director, [Mcity](#)
- **Grace Wu**, Managing Director, [Taubman Research Institute](#)

Other U-M units represented

- Architecture and Urban Planning
- Art and Design
- Engineering
- Kinesiology
- LS&A
- Public Health
- U-M Flint

External Partners in attendance

- Jessica Letlaw, [Building Matters Ann Arbor](#)
- Jimena Loveluck, [Washtenaw County Health Department](#)
- John Petrous, [Tappy Guide](#)

Activity I: Getting to Know Each Other

Participants created a “Me Sheet” to describe their expertise, assets, and why they attended, and then used this sheet to share a bit about themselves in a small group discussion. The sheets were posted to facilitate additional networking.



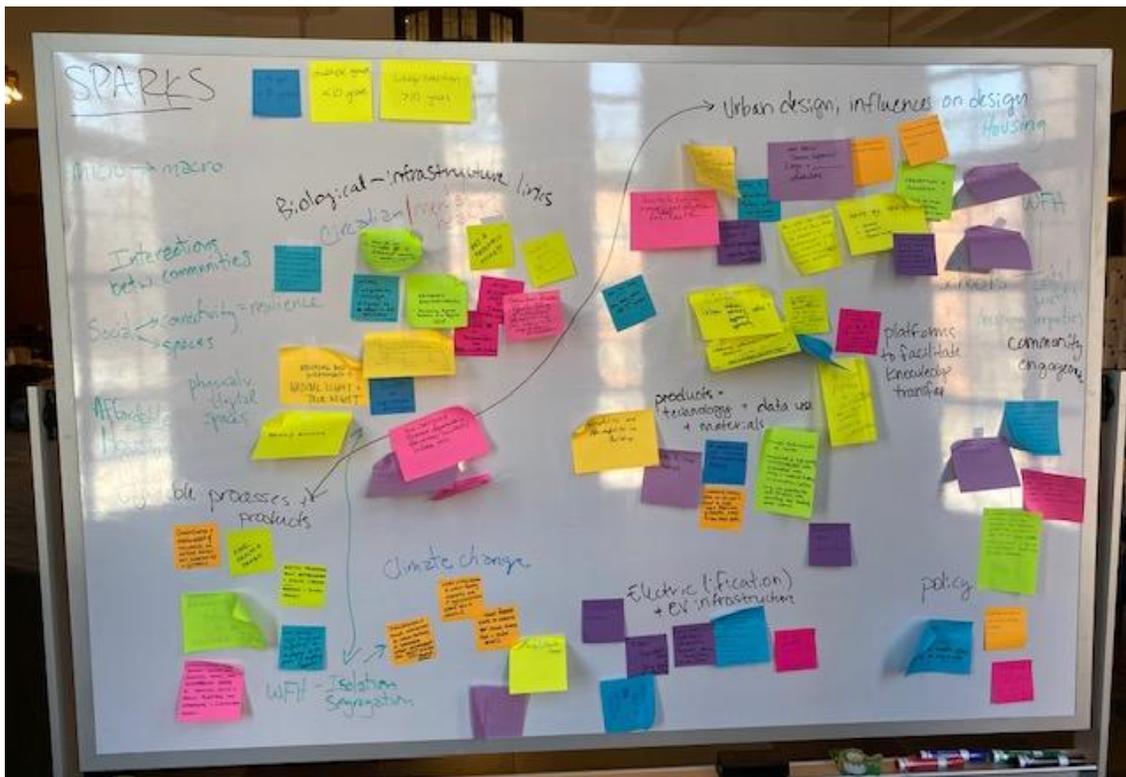
Activity II: Impromptu Networking

A series of short, paired conversations were held to continue getting to know one another and to begin surfacing focus areas (areas of shared interest). This included what ideas or interests participants brought with them and what has motivated their work related to the workshop theme in the past.



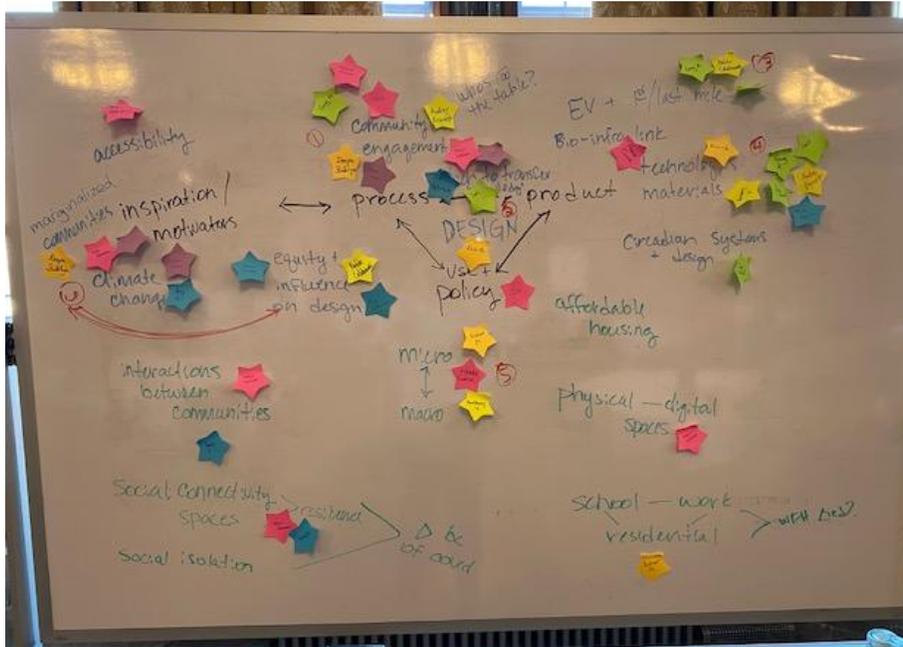
Activity III: Sparking Exciting Ideas

Participants reviewed the ideas that they jotted down in paired conversations and prepared these ideas to share with the group. Sticky notes with these ideas were posted on the whiteboard and clustered into themes.



Dot Voting

Themes were identified from the spark sticky notes and then participants reviewed the themes and used star sticky notes each to vote on the 2 areas they wanted to explore more in the afternoon.



The top themes identified from the dot voting exercise were:

- Technology and materials
- Micro - macro
- Technologies to facilitate knowledge transfer and engagement
- Equity, accessibility and influence on design
- Electric vehicles and first/last mile
- Community engagement (who's at the table? What's the process?)
- Drivers of change (climate change, COVID-19)

Activity III: Asking Powerful Questions

Participants worked in small groups to continue discussions and generate powerful questions about one of the themes from the dot voting exercise.



Activity IV: Popcorn & 25/10 Ideas

Participants shared a research question that was important to them, and identified other participants who were interested in exploring the question as well. They then wrote down their question on an index card and swapped it with others while music played. When the music stopped, participants reviewed the idea that was on the card in their hand and then scored it from 1 to 5, with 5 meaning an excellent research question that should be explored.

The 10 highest rated questions were posted on a white board and participants then added their names to the questions that they were interested in so as to identify potential collaborations. The results are presented in the chart below:

Research question/idea	Participants interested in exploring further
How can we measure the quality of green/blue space and who is able to easily access it?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lars Junghans ● Greg McGuire ● John Petrous ● Greg Rybarczyk ● Anthony Vanky
How can we compare data maps in Detroit and Ann Arbor on redlining, broadband access to understand inequities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jimena Loveluck ● John Petrous
How can we design built environments that promote social well-being, sustainability and healthful living?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ellie Abrons ● Deepa Butoliya ● Simone Charles ● Herek Clack ● Natalie Colabianchi ● Lars Junghans ● Upali Nanda ● Catie Newell ● Greg Rybarczyk ● Amy Schulz ● Anthony Vanky
How do we build equitable and sustainable relationships with communities? To address challenges they prioritize beyond the scope of a class project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Neeraja Aravamudan ● Deepa Butoliya ● Maija Urponen
How do we frame emergency preparedness in a manner that centers inequities - including the disproportionate risks borne by EJ communities due to the presence of industry in their midst? How do we prioritize equity and justice in the emergency response process?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ellie Abrons ● Neeraja Aravamudan ● Simone Charles ● Jimena Loveluck ● Amy Schulz
How does the built environment enable equitable access to well-being?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Herek Clack ● Upali Nanda ● John Petrous ● Greg Rybarczyk
How could Michigan improve and measure climate impacts/resilience through cumulative enviro risk frameworks?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Simone Charles ● Herek Clack ● Jimena Loveluck ● Trish Koman
How do we measure engagement, with or about built environment, and its long-term effect on social/emotional learning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upali Nanda ● Simone Charles
How do people in heavily surveilled communities define safety? How do they feel that “safety” technologies meet or don’t meet their definition?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ellie Abrons ● Molly Kleinman ● Robert Manduca ● John Petrous ● Maija Urponen
Can the University and the City of Ann Arbor go through a land use planning process together?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Jessica Letlaw ● John Petrous

