



CUDA's Newsletter of latest posts

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Making spaces for girls

When taking a gender lens to urban planning, it is often from the perspective of women. That is, women past their teenage years. But what about teenage girls? A UK study found that teenage girls feel parks and public spaces are not for them. There is nothing they want to use. That's because no-one includes girls in the planning and ...

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Who are we building for?

In her conference paper, Lilian Muller makes an interesting comment about past and current planning theories. Yes, they do shift depending on where the power lies and who defines the public interest. In rational planning theory, the planner is expert. In neoliberal planning theory, the market is dominant. Currently, it is questioned whether public interests can exist at all. If ...

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Lifemark's new website launched

Lifemark promotes universal design in housing in New Zealand. Lifemark's new website has a fresh look but stays true to it's core value of inclusion. Similarly to other countries, New Zealand faces strong resistance by the housing industry. However, Lifemark is making inroads slowly, but surely. The core element of Lifemark® is their standards based on universal design principles. As ...

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Accessible Sydney Opera House

Access for people with disability was unheard of when Sydney Opera House was designed in the late 1960s. It's complex and unusual shape caused delays until it's opening in 1973. In the 2020s the same complexity meant a lot of creative design work to create an accessible Sydney Opera House. And to do it in away that maintained the integrity ...

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Measuring transport accessibility

Transport planners are guided by regulations related to mobility, but accessibility requirements relate to what people can achieve. Accessible transport systems cannot be measured objectively like length or weight but rather by what it enables users to do. So we need a way to merge accessibility measures with infrastructure measures. But how do you measure transport accessibility? Jonathan Levine presents ...

Plus a quick review of a book by Aaron Steinfeld based on research from the Center for Inclusive Design and Environmental Access at Buffalo on this topic.

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Packaging and universal design

We all experience packaging that is hard to open without a knife, scissors and even teeth. Ergonomic researchers from the University of Wollongong provide an overview of a presentation about packaged food. Their study of packaged hospital food revealed some obvious results - much of it is difficult to open. Lift that lid, unscrew that cap, pull that straw: food ...

Plus a case study and accessible colours for packaging

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Introduction to Universal Design - free online course

CUDA's online course is free and a certificate of completion will be sent once all sections of the course are completed. That includes the final questionnaire. It covers different definitions,

diversity, stereotypes and the application of universal design.

[Sign up here and get started](#) in the free Introduction to Universal Design course. It will take less than an hour.

Conferences and calls for papers

This page has the latest information on upcoming conferences and calls for papers. New to the list: Ageing Well and e-Health: ICT4AWE 2025, 6-8 April 2025, Portugal, hybrid. Call for [submissions open until 18 November 2024](#). Diversity and Inclusion 2024 Summit, 15 November 2024 in Melbourne. NTRO International Conference, The Transport Revolution: Solutions led by innovation , 7-9 May 2025, Melbourne. ...

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Model Universal Design Position Statement

CUDA has devised a model document to help organisations develop their own universal design policy or statement. The CUDA Universal Design Position Statement covers all the basics in a straightforward way. At the end of the document, organisations can insert links to their own policy documents that relate to the position statement. There's a one page plain language version too.

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Livable Housing Design Course

This short online course is tailor-made for professionals in the housing and home modifications sectors who want to know how to apply the Livable Housing Design Standard in the National Construction Code. It covers the technical details of the different ways to achieve a level entry, circulation spaces, bathroom details, and more. Good for anyone doing home modifications.

Use the coupon code **LHD20** to get a \$20 discount at the checkout page.

Check out [more information about the course](#) and sign up.

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