

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

## Curitiba's BRT: Inspired Bus Rapid Transit Around the World

by Elizabeth Press



Time: 8:03 | Plays: 4,723 | Embed: <object type="application/x-shockwave-flash" height="315">

Curitiba, Brazil first adopted its Master Plan in 1968. Since then, it has become a city well known for inventive urban planning and affordable (to the user and the city) public transportation.

Curitiba's Bus Rapid Transit system is the source of inspiration for many other cities including the [TransMilenio in Bogotá](#), Colombia; Metrovia in Guayaquil, Ecuador; as well as the [Orange Line of Los Angeles](#).

This video illustrates how Curitiba's public transportation system operates and the urban planning and land use principles on which it is based, including an interview with the former Mayor and architect Jaime Lerner. Current city employees also discuss the improvements that are being made to the system to keep it up to date and functioning at the capacity of a typical subway system. Curitiba is currently experimenting with adding bypassing lanes on the dedicated BRT routes and smart traffic lights to prioritize buses. They are even constructing a new line which will have a linear park and 18km of bike lane that parallels the bus transit route.

8 Comments | latest by Clarence Eckerson Jr. | [Email](#) | [Print](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

Monday, March 30, 2009

## Riding the Bx12 Select Bus Service

by Nick Whitaker



Time: 5:13 | Plays: 874 | Embed: <object type="application/x-shockwave-flash" height="315">

Veronica Vanterpool of the [Tri-State Transportation Campaign](#) recently took Streetfilms for a journey on the Bx12 Select Bus Service (SBS) instituted last year on Fordham Road in the Bronx. Travel time on the route has been cut by 20 percent thanks to the improvements, and commuters we spoke with certainly sang its praises. A [recent report](#) showed the SBS is carrying 30 percent more riders than the line it replaced, and a NYC Transit rider report card found 98 percent of users rated it satisfactory or very satisfactory.

It uses some of the elements of [Bus Rapid Transit](#) - pre-boarding so buses load faster, it has limited stops, features buses that look different than standard MTA buses, and it has a painted terra cotta lane which cars are supposed to avoid. However, since the lane is not physically separated from traffic, there are periodic problems with illegally parked vehicles. Still, based upon its success (*come on 98% approval is pretty incredible!*) NYC is looking at other areas to expand to with similar treatments.

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Thursday, March 26, 2009

## Introducing Livable Streets Education

by Clarence Eckerson, Jr.



Time: 2:05 | Plays: 1,685 | Embed: <object type="application/x-shockwave-flash" height="365">

The newest member of the Livable Streets Initiative, [Livable Streets Education \(LSE\)](#), partners with schools, cultural institutions and community-based organizations working for improved urban livability, greener transportation, and safer streets. This spring, LSE is in residency at fifteen schools around New York City, working with students in grades K-8, as well as partnering with community and cultural organizations on special events.

This short Streetfilm provides an overview of the recent work they've been doing - in particular, it highlights LSE Director Kim Wiley-Schwartz's work with grades K-2 at PS 87. Please check out the website to see more on this groundbreaking curriculum. And to see some of the amazing art produced by the students, refer to this page and [videos](#).

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Time: 5:55 | Plays: 1,079

### Piazza Saint Francis: A Proposed Urban Park in San Francisco

One of San Francisco's cherished literary icons -- poet, painter and City Lights publisher Lawrence Ferlinghetti -- is celebrating his 90th birthday today, and we thought it would be fitting to bring you his vision for creating a small block of Vallejo Street in the city's historic North Beach into what would be called the [\[...\]](#)

No Comments Yet

Tips, comments, questions? [Contact us](#)

### FEATURED STREETFILM

Vélib'



Time: 8:25 | Plays: 20,074

On July 15, 2007 Paris debuted the world's largest self-service "bicycle transit system" called Vélib' outdoing previously designed bike share programs. Vélib' is a balance of scale and functionality, clocking in with more than 20,000 bikes, and 1,451 docking stations, which are never more than 1,000 feet apart. As a result, Vélib' is effectively a new form of public transportation that has generated more than 25 million new bicycle trips in its first year, 10% of which substitute former car trips. Today the program celebrates its first anniversary. And, throughout the year cities across the globe have kept a close eye on the progress. [Continue reading >](#)

### STREETFILMS NEWS & INFO

45K+ Visitors in March; A New Streetfilms record!!  
by Clarence Eckerson, Jr. on March 31st, 2009

As Livable Streets nationwide starts to gather momentum and seeking out how safer and saner streets can look, the numbers of people visiting Streetfilms continues to grow. This lovely month of March saw over 45,000 people visit (with 21,000 of those visitors unique, also a record!) But as usual with us, that only [...]

No Comments >

The Power of One Streetfilm!  
by Clarence Eckerson, Jr. on March 23rd, 2009

Whenever we can we like to toot our own horn. Imagine how good it felt to receive the following e-mail. (Still waiting confirmation on whether the sender doesn't mind his name and deets being used, so for now we removed some of the facts or personal info.) Hi, my name is XXXX and I [...]

No Comments >

ALL STREETFILMS NEWS >

[View All Streetfilms Videos](#)

### TOP 25 VIDEOS (# OF PLAYS)

- Physically Separated Bike Lanes - 99,488
- Ciclovía: Bogotá, Colombia - 72,413
- PARK(ing) Day San Francisco 2008 - 60,658
- Summer Streets 2008 (NYC) - 47,729
- Bus Rapid Transit: Bogotá - 33,672
- Hal (and Kerri) Grade Your Bike Locking - 29,834
- Bike vs. Car vs. Transit - 26,812
- Portland: Celebrating America's Most Livable City - 25,217
- Transforming NYC Streets: A Conversation with Janette Sadik-Khan - 24,157
- Berkeley Bike Boulevards - 22,465
- PARK(ing) Day NYC 2007 - 20,630
- How to use a Bike Box - 20,549
- Vélib' - 20,074
- S.F. Giants: Valet Bike Parking 81 Games Per Year - 18,972
- Hal Grades Your Bike Locking - 18,373
- Lessons from Bogotá - 16,899
- Chicane - Animated Traffic Calming - 16,590
- T.A. Century 2007 - 16,268
- Portland's Sunday Parkways - 15,978
- Interview with Enrique Peñalosa - 15,225
- Transportation Ethics - 13,607
- Raised Crosswalk - 13,488
- Melbourne: A Pedestrian Paradise - 13,475
- Intersection Repair - 13,430
- T.A. Rides with Peñalosa & David Byrne! - 12,776

[Order a Streetfilms DVD](#)

### ABOUT STREETFILMS

Welcome to Streetfilms, where you'll find an eclectic array of livable streets videos from NYC to inspire change on your streets in your neighborhood. How'd it all start? [Click here](#) for more info ...

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- ▶ Praise from the Experts
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### ARCHIVED ARTICLES

Select Month

### EYES ON THE STREET



How to Use the SAMBA Bikeshare

Transporte Ativo shows how to use Rio de Janeiro's new bike share program.

From: Dysprosio  
March 11, 2009



BIKE PATH from Kalim Armstrong on Vimeo

**Bike Path**  
This documentary film explores the current state of cycling in New York. Interviews with members of cycling community, as well as Paul Steely White of Transportation Alternatives, address the importance of making New York a better place to live by creating safer streets.

From: Kalim Armstrong  
Added: July 2008

[Contribute to Streetfilms](#)

Tag your YouTube videos "streetfilms" and we will feature the most creative ones here.

[View all contributions >](#)

### CATEGORIES

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