Program

Wednesday, March 4, 2021
12:15 PM

Welcome
Kyle Shelton
Deputy Director, Kinder Institute for Urban Research

Keynote
Right of Way: Race, Class, and the Silent Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths in America

Angie Schmitt
Founder, 3MPH

Question & Answer

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In the last ten years, there has been a 50 percent increase in pedestrian deaths. In 2018 alone, more than 6,000 people were killed while walking in America. Despite the increase in deaths, the tragedy of traffic violence has barely registered with the media and wider culture. Disproportionately, the victims are immigrants, the poor, and people of color — who have largely been blamed and forgotten.

Angie Schmitt examines the possible causes of the increase in pedestrian deaths as well as programs and movements that are beginning to respond to the epidemic. She shows us that these deaths are not unavoidable “accidents” that happen because of jaywalking or distracted walking. They are predictable, occurring in stark geographic patterns that tell a story about systemic inequality.

Order a copy of the book at islandpress.org/books/right-way

About the Kinder Institute for Urban Research

The Kinder Institute for Urban Research is a multidisciplinary think-and-do tank housed at Rice University in central Houston, focusing on urban issues in Houston, the American Sun Belt and around the world. Through informed research, data and policy analysis, the Kinder Institute hopes to engage civic and political leaders to implement solutions to critical urban issues.

About Urban Reads

The Kinder Institute’s Urban Reads series showcases recently published works on pressing urban issues by local and national authors. Previous Urban Reads speakers have included former Oklahoma City Mayor Mick Cornett, TransitCenter Director of Research Steven Higashide and labor economist Rucker C. Johnson.
Angie Schmitt

3MPH founder Angie Schmitt is the author of “Right of Way: Race, Class and the Silent Epidemic of Pedestrian Deaths in America.”

Schmitt was a long-time writer and national editor for Streetsblog, a go-to source for planners, engineers and advocates. During her nine-year tenure covering the movement for safe streets and livable cities she became one of the country’s best known writers on the topic of sustainable transportation. In addition, her writing has appeared in the New York Times, the Atlantic, Bicycling, GOOD, Landscape Architecture Magazine and a number of other publications.

She is frequently sought out as an expert source on transportation topics by the news media, and has been cited as an expert source by NPR’s Marketplace, C-SPAN, the Columbia Journalism Review and others. In 2019, she was the Anne Niles Endowed Speaker at Portland State University’s Transportation Research and Education Center.

She holds a master’s degree in urban planning for the Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University. She was a founding board member at Bike Cleveland and a co-founder of Clevelanders for Public Transit. She lives in Cleveland with her husband and two children.

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6100 Main Street MS-208 • Houston, TX 77005
Phone 713-348-4132 • Email kinder@rice.edu