

My Morning Urban Design Fix



My morning addictions demand coffee and hitting the on switch to check out the daily update on CoolTown Studios (www.cooltownstudios.com), a website that I discovered in 2003, not long after graduating from university and starting my first job. I've been an avid follower ever since.

CoolTown Studios is a blog/news site aimed at 'creatives', written by Washington DC based Neil Takemoto. An architect by training, Neil runs a consulting firm specialising in cool urban development crowdsourcing. The CoolTown Studios website is associated with his company, CoolTown Beta Communities. The blog is a free public service (including all 1300+ archived entries) committed to helping build inspiring quadruple-bottom-line places to live, work, learn and play.

Topics on the site can include anything from mixed-use developments, placemaking, green developments, co-working, cool developers, government policy to third places and downtown migration. The site now attracts 40,000 unique visitors a month.

The blogs are concise and provide just enough information to hook your attention and stimulate further thinking and inquiry.

I whole-heartedly recommend this great website to anybody interested in creating exciting and sustainable places.

Sustainable Transport Newsletter



An excellent resource that arrives weekly in my inbox is the Transport Newsletter from Stephen Ingrouille, of Going Solar, a Melbourne-based company that specialises in renewable energy and sustainable living.

Steve has a passion for sustainable transportation and the Newsletter, which is a free service, provides the opportunity to share information and knowledge to a wider audience.

The Transport Newsletter is well researched and offers punchy snippets of information from wide and varied resources. It's great to hear what is happening out there in terms of sustainable transportation...and what needs to change to ensure that sustainable transportation is achieved.

The following link will take you to all the back issues as well as providing the opportunity to sign up to receive the Transport Newsletter so you too can look forward to its arrival in your inbox.

www.goingsolar.com.au/transport