# EVALUATING AND PLANNING FOR URBAN CHANGE

#### 2023 ARCTIC DEVELOPMENT EXPO GREEN TRANSITIONS IN THE NORTH: AN INTERNATIONAL VIEW

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**Domain of Design** 

# Cities Living Wellbeing

MUST: MEASURING URBAN SUSTAINABILTY IN TRANSITION ARCTIC DESIGN GROUP / UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA

### Goals:

- Link design and development projects "on the ground" to spatial planning policy to understand urban change and the differences among municipalities across the Arctic region
- Understand how design can play a role in development in the North to create more sustainable cities for the future.

# lead to opportunities for

Density

Increases of

Coordination

**Resource Availability** 

Investment

Incentive

#### **Economic Sustainability:**

- Support/increase local business tied to larger industries with available demand to support such increases
- Incentivization for local immigration

#### **Environmental Sustainability:**

- Greater efficiency, utilization, protection or modernization of urban infrastructure
- Land use management

#### Social Sustainability:

- New housing construction with affordable, diverse, and distributed typologies
- Larger demand for local and regional transportation connections
- Greater proximity to essential services through densification

**1.** Measure the sustainable performance of northern cities in comparison to other Arctic cities using standardized urban planning indicators

**2.** Evaluate the planning capacity of Arctic cities and how they formulate, measure, and implement sustainable development goals

**3.** Develop a temporal understanding of the type, rate, and magnitude of change that a city is experiencing

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## 1. Measuring Performance

46 Arctic and near-Arctic Cities



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### 2. Evaluating Capacity

Horizons for Community, General, and Sustainability Planning



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**IN PROGRESS** 

# 2. Evaluating Capacity

Comparison of City Indicators/Thematic Areas with ISO 37120

ISO 37120 Themes	Anchorage	Whitehorse	Reykjavik	Barrow	Iqaluit
Economy	3	3	1	2	2
Education	2	0	0	2	3
Energy	2	2	2	2	2
Environment and climate change	3	3	3	3	3
Finance	1	1	0	0	1
Governance	3	3	1	3	3
Health	3	1	0	1	2
Housing	2	1	1	3	2
Population and social conditions	3	1	2	2	3
Recreation	2	3	1	2	3
Safety	2	1	0	2	3
Solid waste	2	2	2	2	3
Sport and culture	2	3	2	3	3
Telecommunication	0	0	0	2	2
Transportation	2	2	3	2	2
Urban/local agriculture and food	2	2	1	0	2
Urban planning	3	3	3	1	3
Wastewater	2	2	2	3	2
Water	3	2	2	2	3



## 2. Evaluating Capacity

Thematic Coverage

	Avg. performance (mapped) of city			
ISO 37120 Themes	frameworks	Rank	Notes	
Environment and climate change	2.8	1		
Governance	2.6	T-2	Arctic cities address issues of	
Sport and culture	2.6	2.6 T-2 holistic		
Urban planning	2.6	T-2		
Water	2.4	5		
Economy	2.2	T-6		
Population and social conditions	2.2	T-6	ISO 37120 addresses issues of urban sustainability in the same mode as Arctic cities	
Recreation	2.2	T-6		
Solid waste	2.2	T-6		
Transportation	2.2	T-6		
Wastewater	2.2	T-6		
Energy	2	12		
Housing	1.8	13		
Safety	1.6	14		
Education	1.4	T-15	ISO 37120 address issues of urban sustainability more holistically than Arctic cities	
Health	1.4	T-15		
Urban/local agriculture and food security	1.4	T-15		
Telecommunication	0.8	18		
Finance	0.6	19		
City	Score	Rank	Notes	
Iqaluit (CA)	2.47	1	Cities with avg. scores > 2	
Anchorage (USA)	2.21	2	address sustainability more	
Barrow (USA)	1.95	3	holistically than ISO 37120; ISO 37120 addresses	
Whitehorse (CA)	1.84	4	sustainabilty more holistically	
Reykjavik (IS)	1.37	5	for scores < 2.	

#### Priorities:

- Protection & development of community infrastructure
- Hazard mitigation
- Public participation in design/planning process
- Historic preservation
- Targeted density
- Mixed-uses and residential diversity
- Open competition
- Urban character and identity

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**3. Measuring Change** Integrative Spatial Analysis

1pm

MUST: MEASURING URBAN SUSTAINABILITY IN TRANSITIC

#### **3. Measuring Change** Integrative Spatial Analysis

#### 5-year Growth Intensity 2016-2021



**Built-Up Density** 

**Population Density** 

Dwellings (Single and Multifamily)

Analysis Methods: Historical aerial imagery Remote sensing analysis of changes in built-up urban area Geospatial analysis of key urban changes (housing, population, density)

#### **3. Measuring Change** Historical Development, by District



Total Built-Up Area, 1975-2021

Change in Built-Up Area, 1975-2021

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**4. Analyzing Projects** Project Implementation



Current or In-Progress Detailed Plans, 2022

### **4. Analyzing Projects** Building Stock



Skurholmen (1970/80s multi-family)

Kronan (2020s multi-family)

**How does** the sustainable performance of northern cities stand in comparison to other Arctic cities using standardized urban planning indicators?

**What is** the planning capacity of Arctic cities and how do they formulate, measure, and implement sustainable development goals?

#### What are the types and rates of change that Arctic cities are experiencing?

**How can the design** and development of projects in relation to planning policy create more sustainable cities?

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