11 Guidelines for Building an Urban Village

Essentials for creating cozy communities within an urban setting

1. Facilitate bumping into friends & neighbors
   - Provide ample seating
   - Encourage gardening
   - Let patrons sip

2. Follow the Three Rules
   - Build to the sidewalk
   - Don’t put garages in front of building—only under, beside, or atop

3. Ease the Hassles of Getting Around
   - On street parking creates a traffic jam
   - Bike racks encourage biking
   - Change paving material for walking

4. Remind People Where They Are
   - Make signs speak directly
   - Build bulletin boards
   - Maps on sidewalks

5. Create a Feeling of Safety
   - Mobilize police on bikes
   - Clear entrance of building

6. Be Child-Friendly
   - Allow baby-changing facilities
   - Build playgrounds in unlikely places

7. Don’t Forget Little Necessities
   - Awnings to keep heads dry
   - Cover trash cans
   - Pay to park with credit card

8. Create Buildings that Fit In
   - Use similar materials
   - Use similar rooflines

9. Smooth Rough Edges with Buffers & Shields
   - Fences low enough to see over
   - Maintain landscaping

10. Recycle & Use Small Spaces
    - Provide recycling cans to make recycling convenient
    - Allow alley houses

11. Personalize the City with Art
    - Art as a point of reference
    - Art as a protection

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