

ULI Seattle

The Urban Land Institute Seattle District Council Presents “Dollars and Sense: How to Finance Quality Growth”

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Christopher B. Leinberger
Biography



Christopher B. Leinberger is a land use strategist, teacher, researcher, consultant, developer and author. Working with many others of like mind, he is helping to create the next American Dream; environmentally, fiscally, socially and financially sustainable development of walkable places.

Mr. Leinberger has three current professional responsibilities: scholar, teacher and developer.

Scholar: He is a Visiting Fellow at The Brookings Institution in Washington, DC, where he focuses on downtown and suburban town center development. He is developing an assessment system, similar to the LEED green building assessment system, for urban and suburban places that exhibit dense, walkable urbanity.

Teacher: Mr. Leinberger is also a Professor of Practice and Director of the Graduate Real Estate Development Program at the University of Michigan. A joint venture of the business, law and architecture/urban planning graduate schools, the program focuses on “progressive” real estate – downtown and suburban town center revitalization, transit-oriented development, new urbanism, and conservation development.

Developer: He is also a founding partner of Arcadia Land Company, a progressive development company. His partners are Joseph Duckworth, who managed two Builder 100 homebuilding companies in his career, and Robert Davis, the developer of the pioneering new urbanist community, Seaside, Florida. Arcadia has developed projects in Independence (Missouri), Chester County (Pennsylvania), Montgomery County (Pennsylvania) and downtown Albuquerque (New Mexico).

For 20 years, Mr. Leinberger was co-owner and Managing Director of Robert Charles Lesser & Co., the country's largest independent real estate advisory firm. His consulting work focused on corporate strategic planning for real estate companies, metropolitan development trends and strategic planning for downtowns. He has been on numerous publicly traded and privately owned corporate boards of directors, including AvalonBay Communities, traded on the NYSE and one of the most highly valued rental apartment REITs in the country.

As an award-winning author, Leinberger has contributed chapters to and written a number of books, such as Strategic Planning for Real Estate Companies, Sustainable Development, Urban Parks and Open Space and The Transformation of Suburban Business Districts. He has written numerous articles for national magazines, trade journals and academic journals regarding land use and real estate issues, including *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Urban Land*, and *Brookings Review*, among others. His articles have been awarded the Apgar Award for the best pieces in *Urban Land* magazine in 1995 and 2003, as well as other national awards. In addition, he and his work have been profiled by CNN, National Public Radio (Morning Edition, Prime Time, Smart City), The Today Show, Albuquerque Journal, New Mexico Business Weekly, Architectural Record, Shopping Centers Today, among others.

Leinberger was Co-chair of the New Mexico Governor Richardson's Task Force on Our Communities and Our Future and served on the Planned Growth Strategy Implementation Task Force and the Impact Fee Task Force in Albuquerque. He also serves on the advisory boards of The Conservation Fund and the Enterprise Foundation.

Mr. Leinberger received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Swarthmore College, where he majored in Political Science and Sociology. He received an MBA from the Harvard Business School.

Mr. Leinberger and his wife, Lisa, live in the DuPont Circle area of Washington, DC, within walking distance of Brookings and Metro.