

# Everyday Urbanism

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## COLUMN A

Which aspects of urban life are of interest for project management? How can they be addressed as subjects of research-practice?

## ABOUT COLUMN A

The Michigan Debates on Urbanism problematized motifs, methodologies, responsibilities and formats in emerging, dominant and residual modes of practices in and with urbanisms in the US. Margaret Crawford in opposition to Michael Speaks in volume 1 of *Everyday Urbanism* had to defend an “attitude toward the city” in architecture as allegedly bottom-up and thus to incremental for urban planning’s general ambition to bring about sustainable urban development. Her many responses to the debate and later on in publications try to do away with the traditional scales and scopes of bottom-up vs. top-down and formal vs. informal by taking into account actually and actively engaging existing mutual perspectives. Her book *Everyday Urbanism* is a plea for engaging with different forms of urbanism unfolding in space. “...Everyday Urbanism is an attitude toward the city. It can have any number of different outcomes. Everydays Urbanism is a shape-shifting type of activity that changes in response to different circumstances so it doesn’t produce a singular formal product. The point is its multiplicity and heterogeneity. It is radically empirical and highly specific rather than normative. It begins with what already exists then encourages and intensifies it” (Crawford 2005, 32).

## REFERENCES

Speaks, Michael, Margaret Crawford, and Doug Kelbaugh. 2005. *Everyday Urbanism: Michigan Debates on Urbanism I*. Edited by Rahul Mehrotra. Ann Arbor, Mich: University of Michigan, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.