

Warren Karlenzig

Help industry executives and government create strategic impact priorities and action plans, including development of sustainability strategy, goals, and guiding metrics in alignment with industry/government climate change benchmarks and business goals, communications, projects & partnerships

Twenty-five years of expertise including developing strategic partnerships for land use, transport, building, water, and natural infrastructure sectors, especially in cities. Specializing in development of new data-driven policies & standards, projects, products/ services, applied technologies, including related strategy and communications.

Accomplished author, researcher, lecturer and public speaker at COP21, TEDx Mission ("Collective Intelligence: Cities as Global Sustainability Solutions Platform" <http://bit.ly/STGhA6>)

Experience

Jan. 2008-present Common Current: San Anselmo, CA

President/ Founder

Founded consulting firm working with CXO corporate leadership, government (UN/ quasi-national financial institutions, national, state, city) and foundation clients on triple bottom-line policy, climate change programs, projects and metrics. Clients include (selected list only):

- **Real Estate Development (Mare Island, Vallejo, CA):** Advising on action plans and funding for sustainable infrastructure and renewable energy for nation's largest urban infill real estate development, including successfully identifying and soliciting solar and EV infrastructure funding. Led successful \$47,500 grant application from California VW Trust Settlement.
- **Institute for Political Ecology:** Advising group, council members and civic groups on Green Vision for Zagreb, Croatia (national capital and nation's largest city), including infrastructure, energy, zero waste, resilience and mobility.
- **Aclima/ Google:** Advised Google-backed climate change focused start-up on priority impacts including legislative strategy, community partnerships and technology roadmap for smart city sensors using Big Data analytics. Helped secure \$500,000 Community Grant from California Air Resources Board with partner Oakland, and \$24 million Series A funding round.
- **Autodesk:** Assisted CEO and dedicated climate change team of multi-billion dollar global software company with strategic government relations, partnerships and technical/ business development for sustainability, climate change and green infrastructure tools. Focused on Los Angeles and San Francisco. Enabled successful collaboration with [Los Angeles Mayor's Office](#), [Los Angeles Department of Water and Power](#). Presented at December 2015 COP21 Paris session on Autodesk's zero net energy and natural infrastructure visualization technology.
- **Municipality of Beijing:** Developed strategic plan advising metro region on water supply, water quality, flood risks and natural ecosystem planning opportunities, using baseline analyses of historic to current states, future projections/ scenarios, and recommendations for international NGO and consulting development partnerships. Supported what became national "Sponge Cities" initiative announced by President Xi in 2015 for 8 cities, including Beijing. Expanded to 30 cities by 2020.
- **Planet Home:** Strategy and business development for sustainability and climate change solutions entertainment conference in San Francisco featuring entertainers, scientists (Bill Nye, Snoop Dogg, Philippe Cousteau) authors and artists.
- **City of Guangzhou, China:** With urban planning, architectural and engineering firms, helped lead partnership coordinating master planning for ICT-integrated low carbon economic development, transportation, land use, renewable energy, industry, green infrastructure and climate change resilience for Nansha new city district of 1-5 million.

- **World Resources Institute:** Provided strategy on shared low-carbon mobility (autonomous vehicles, etc.) center, including multi-million dollar budget, for Stephen Ross (Chairman, The Related Companies) and Ross Center of Sustainable Cities director.
- **Food and Beverage:** Advised corporation on sustainability and climate change policy including renewable energy.
- **Drink:** Advised VC and Angel Seed-round funding meetings for ultra-pure zero-waste water start-up; as well as supply chain strategy and trends regarding plastics and other waste.
- **State Council of China:** Strategic planning on international climate change treaty negotiations leading up to 2015 Paris Agreement, with focus on sub-national economic development including low-carbon, smart eco-cities; carbon markets and exchanges; and opportunities for international urban development consortia from North America, the European Union and China.
- **World Bank:** Developed briefing and roundtable for World Bank Headquarters and China Sustainability and Climate Change Director on Eco-City methodologies and data indicators for China in energy, water, land use, social indicators, etc.
- **United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs: *Shanghai Manual; A Guide for Sustainable Urban Development in the 21st Century*:** [Lead co-author of global framework, case studies and strategic recommendations on sustainable cities](#). Primary author of “Towards a Harmonious City with Sustainable Communities”, “Sustainable Urban Economic Transformation”, “Information and Communications Technologies for Smart Cities” and “Delivering Effective Urban Management”.
- **US Department of State:** As part of the European Union’s [European Innovation Partnership for Smart Cities and Communities](#), led special presentations and meetings on innovation for the US Department of State at locations in Vienna and other cities of Austria.
- **US Department of Energy/ Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory/ China Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development:** Developed methodology and Eco-City Assessment Tool—the first of its kind—in partnership with national US research lab and China Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MoHURD) for application throughout 663 cities of China in planning, designing and financing existing city development, including buildings, energy, transportation, social equity, water and related natural capital indicators.
- **United Nations, Centre for Regional Development:** Selected as expert trainer for global urban sustainability and resilience case studies and strategic recommendations on economic planning and information and communications technologies (ICT). [Partnership with 17 Asian cities from 12 nations](#).
- **Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM):** Designed and facilitated workshops to advise urban planning and architectural management and key staff on “Game Changers for a Sustainable, Resilient China.” Partnership planning and design for energy, flood risk, mobility, natural systems and technologies.
- **Packard Foundation:** Advised Silicon Valley foundation on community sustainability strategies, including mobility, city planning, clean energy, and participatory approaches. Implemented within 4 years for foundation’s Net Zero Energy [new 49,000 sq. ft. LEED Platinum headquarters in Los Altos, CA](#)

2004-Sept. 2007 SustainLane San Francisco, CA

Chief Strategy Officer/ Director of Research

- Helped hire and manage staff of 35, determined market and partner strategy with CEO and other executives at sustainlane.com (sustainability research and green media, including green travel).
- Planned and managed knowledgebase site for state, county and local officials for exchanging best practices in sustainability. Used by officials from over 700 international states, cities and counties. Awarded as one of ten best urban planning websites for 2007 (Planetizen.com)
 - Directed peer-reviewed SustainLane US City Rankings methodology, research and writing: includes comparative metrics and rating systems across 15 sustainability and equity (housing affordability) indicator areas on largest 50 US cities. Received 4 billion+ media impressions in 2005-2008.
 - Managed content program and media partnerships (Yahoo, Weather Channel), and award events (2005 UN World Environment Day City Awards) featuring major US city mayors (Gavin Newsom, Jerry Brown) and sustainability directors from Chicago, Seattle, San Francisco, Europe, etc.
 - Lead author of book, *How Green is Your City?: The SustainLane U.S. City Rankings* (New Society Publishers, 2007). Author of case study chapter in University of Pennsylvania/ Wharton School Urban Research Institute (Penn Press) compendium on green cities (Summer 2008).

2000–2003 Proxicom San Francisco, SF

Lead Strategist

- Led business/technology strategy for clients including Chevron; General Electric and Calpine.
- Facilitated Proxicom's internal knowledge management and enterprise portal communities of practice.
- Developed strategy and system for internal knowledgebase at Chevron, a key strategic asset in 2-year Chevron-Texaco merger process. Worked closely with key global offices.
- Consulted with Chevron CEO's office on successful global Health, Safety and Environmental initiative.

1998–2000 Freedom Publishing Irvine, CA

Editor in Chief, Senior Editor

Managed staff of 10 and annual editorial budget of \$2 million for international monthly business-technology strategy magazine, *Knowledge Management*. Readership consisted mostly of CEOs, CFOs and CIOs.

1993–1998 ESS San Francisco, CA

Principal and Founder

Founded and operated consulting firm working with national government and private industry client base.

- Part of expert team developing integrated energy planning for Eco-Industrial Park, for client White House Office of Science and Technology.
- Edited case studies primer on industrial ecology for US Environmental Protection Agency.
- Developed and authored strategic whitepaper on sustainability and climate change for Columbia Foundation (San Francisco, CA).
- Authored case study book for Global Green USA/ Department of Energy: *A Blueprint for Greening Affordable Housing: Developer Guidelines for Resource Efficiency and Sustainable Communities*.

1989–1992 Frost & Sullivan Mountain View, CA

Academic and Education

2001-present Stanford University, University of Chicago, etc.

- Guest lecturer for graduate and MBA classes at:
 - Stanford University
 - University of California at Berkeley
 - University of Chicago
 - Seoul National University
 - University of Minnesota
 - Vienna Technikum
 - University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business.
 - Helped plan and facilitate Stanford University adjunct professor Karl Knapp's class trip ("China Energy Systems") for visit to Tianjin, China's "Tianjin Eco-City"

Naropa University Boulder, CO

MFA, Writing

- Selected for special reading at University of Iowa Writers' Program, Iowa City, Iowa.
- Teaching assistant to novelist William S. Burroughs and poets Gregory Corso and Michael McClure.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Urbana, IL

Bachelor of Science, Communications

- Dean's List
- Elective focus: Macro Economics, Environmental Science, Statistics

- **Editor in Chief:** *The Daily Illini*: Chosen by board of directors for salaried position managing paid staff of 20 salaried editors and 50 paid writers for one of nation's largest-circulation university dailies.

Affiliations and Honors

UNFCCC COP 21 Corporate representative: For Autodesk Corporation, addressed COP21, Paris, Dec. 2015 on Insight 360 for Net Zero building/ city infrastructure retrofitting as part of Net Zero by 2030 Symposium, sponsored by the French Building Ministry and The World Bank with Architecture 2030

International Advisor: The Climate Project: www.theclimateproject.org

Board of Directors, Korea Green Foundation: Seoul, South Korea

Advisory Council Member, Urban Resilience: Sherwood Institute, San Francisco

Board of Directors, Climate Change Center: Seoul, South Korea

Fellow, Post-Carbon Institute: Corvallis, Oregon: www.postcarbon.org

United Nations China Delegate: 2010 Shanghai World Expo Summit

Selected Publications

- ["Toward a Greener Urbanism: A Conversation with Warren Karlenzig,"](#) from *Rethinking Modernism in the Built Environment*, Edited by Almantus Samalavicius, Cambridge Scholars Press, Cambridge, UK, 2017 (originally published 2014)
- ["US Needs White House Climate Change Council to Protect Lives and the Economy,"](#) Resilience, Aug. 31, 2016
- ["Five Cities with Game-Changing Sustainability Projects,"](#) World Economic Forum, April 20, 2015
- ["How China's Cities Can Chart the Course for the Planet's Low-Carbon Future,"](#) (with Daniel Zhu), *China Environmental Forum*, (Edition 13), Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, Fall 2013.
- "Frameworks and Tools for Low Carbon Eco-Cities to Reduce China's Environmental and Economic Risk," Paper presented at 5th China World Studies Forum, sponsored by State Council of China, March 2013, Shanghai
- Lead Co-Author, *Shanghai Manual: A Guide for Sustainable Urban Development in the 21st Century*, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Bureau International Des Expositions, Shanghai Municipal Government: (in English and Mandarin), Nov. 7, 2011, 238 pages: ISBN: 978-7-5473-0438-9.
- ["Smartly Plan Our Way Out of Oil Addiction,"](#) *San Jose Mercury News*, Op-Ed, May 15, 2008
- Author, [How Green is My City? The SustainLane US City Rankings:](#) New Society Publishers, Gabriola Island, British Columbia, Canada, 2007; 205 pages. ISBN: 978-0-86571-595-0