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Public Libraries and Resilient Cities

Michael Dudley



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Public libraries are keystone public institutions for any thriving community, and as such can be leaders in making cities better places to work, play, and live. In this important book, noted urban planner and librarian Dudley shows how public libraries can contribute to placemaking, or the creation and nurturing of vital and unique communities for their residents. Using case studies and other information from the field, the author

- Shows how public libraries can address pressing urban and environmental sustainability issues through smart urban design practices, making contributions to economic regeneration, and a commitment to social equity
- Provides examples of innovation in public library design, management, collaboration and public services
- Offers librarians, library administrators, and even urban planners the practical knowledge, tools, and vocabulary to overcome professional and disciplinary barriers

From the economic renewal potential of library development projects, to the provision of public space in a privatizing world, from services for the homeless to crisis management during urban disasters, *Public Libraries and Resilient Cities* explores the vital role that public libraries can play in the promotion of ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable communities in challenging times.

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