

The University of Michigan  
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Jonathan Levine, associate professor of urban planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to professor of urban planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

**Academic Degrees:**

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| B.S.   | 1979 | Political Economy of Natural Resources, University of California, Berkeley |
| M.C.P. | 1982 | City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley             |
| M.S.   | 1987 | Civil Engineering – Transportation, University of California, Berkeley     |
| Ph.D.  | 1990 | City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley             |

**Professional Record:**

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| 2004 – Present | Chair, Urban and Regional Planning Program, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning  |
| 1997 – Present | Associate Professor of Urban Planning, Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning   |
| 1997 – 2003    | Coordinator of the Ph.D. Program in Urban, Technological and Environmental Planning, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning |
| 1991 – 1997    | Assistant Professor of Urban Planning, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning   |
| 1989           | Instructor, Department of City and Regional Planning, University of California, Berkeley  |
| 1988 – 1990    | Research Associate, Transportation Center, University of California, Berkeley   |
| 1988           | Junior Specialist, Institute of Urban and Regional Development, University of California, Berkeley  |

**Summary of Evaluation:**

**Teaching** – Since 1997 Levine has regularly taught Public Economics for Urban Planning, Transportation and Land Use Planning, and a doctoral seminar on planning theory. He has also taught a course in transportation and society and has chaired or co-chaired six dissertation committees and supervised six master’s professional projects or theses.

Students consistently evaluate Levine’s courses very enthusiastically. For both the Transportation and Land Use Planning course and the required economics course, students rated the course quality well over 4 on a 5 point scale. Students rated quality of instructor even higher, usually above 4.5 on a 5-point scale. Students who wrote letters about Levine’s teaching explained his contribution to their learning. Former master’s students cited his enthusiasm and energy in delivering well-designed courses and noted how important the ideas in Transportation and Land Use Planning have been in their professional work. Former Ph.D. students described how important Levine’s ideas were in forming their own research, in teaching them how to teach, and in showing them how to become successful members of the academic community. Ph.D. students wrote of Levine’s support of them as individuals with personal needs, not just as emerging scholars with important ideas.

**Research** – Levine’s research has had three major themes. The first and most significant area of investigation concerns expanding households’ choices about where to live and how much to travel by car by using land use and transportation planning. In the second, newer line of research, reflected in an article in *Transport Policy*, Levine and a co-author argue that increased accessibility should be the major goal of transportation policy, rather than mobility. This work also received praise. The third research area evaluates and plans for public transit. Since Levine’s promotion to associate professor in 1997, his research has resulted in a book; nine peer-reviewed journal articles; three peer-reviewed research reports; two papers under review for publication; and numerous book reviews, reports on research contracts, and other articles not reviewed by peers.

The first line of research is the most significant in its impact on the urban and regional planning field. The work has culminated in a book, *Zoned Out: Regulation, Markets, and Choices in Transportation and Metropolitan Land Use*, published in 2005 by Resources for the Future Press. The book challenges the prevailing scholarly view on land use and transportation policy that assumes an unrestricted market in land development. The book built on earlier research in a series of articles Levine published in the *Journal of the American Planning Association*, *Transportation*, *Transportation Research Record*, *Planning Practice and Research*, and *Journal of Planning*

*Education and Research.* Reviewers were enthusiastic about the importance and quality of the book and related articles. Levine's research contributes both to the body of thinking in urban planning and to policy and planning directions.

Many of Levine's articles are co-authored; the majority of the co-authors are graduate students. Levine was the intellectual leader in all projects, and without him the research would not have occurred. He worked skillfully with students and, as the students themselves reported, shared credit generously. He included junior faculty to help them learn to get research grants and carry out the research with others in a timely way. The junior faculty made important contributions, but Levine conceived the overall projects and managed them fairly and effectively.

**Recent and Significant Publications:**

Levine, Jonathan. (2005) *Zoned Out: Regulation, Markets, and Choices in Transportation and Metropolitan Land Use*. Washington, D.C.: Resources for the Future Press.

Levine, Jonathan, Aseem Inam and Gwo-Wei Torng. (2005) A Choice-Based Rationale for Land-Use and Transportation Alternatives: Evidence from Boston and Atlanta. *Journal of Planning Education and Research* 24(3):317-330.

Levine, Jonathan and Aseem Inam. (2004) The Market for Transportation-Land Use Integration: Do Developers Want Smarter Growth than Regulations Allow? *Transportation* 31(4):409-427.

Inam, Aseem, Jonathan Levine and Richard Werbel. (2004) Production of Alternative Development in American Suburbs: Two Case Studies. *Planning Practice and Research* 19(2).

Jonathan Levine and Yaakov Garb. (2002) Congestion Pricing's Conditional Promise: Promotion of Accessibility or Mobility? *Transport Policy* 9(3):179-188.

Levine, Jonathan, Qiang Hong, George Edward Hug, Jr. and Daniel Rodriguez. (2000) Impacts of an Advanced Public Transportation System Demonstration Project. *Transportation Research Record* 1735:169-177.

Levine, Jonathan, Soonae Park, Richard R. Wallace and Steven Underwood. (1999) Public Choice in Transit Organization and Finance: The Structure of Support. *Transportation Research Record* 1669:87-95.

Wallace, Richard R., Daniel A. Rodriguez, Christopher White, and Jonathan Levine. (1999) Who Noticed, Who cares? Passenger Reactions to Transit Safety Measures. *Transportation Research Record* 1666:133-138.

Levine, Jonathan, Soonae Park, Steven E. Underwood and Richard R. Wallace. (1999) Stakeholder Preferences in Advanced Public Transportation System Planning. *Journal of Public Transportation*. 2(2):25-45.

Levine, Jonathan. (1998) Rethinking Accessibility and Jobs-Housing Balance. *Journal of the American Planning Association* 64(2):133-149.

**Service** – Levine has made major contributions to the Urban and Regional Planning Program. He has served as program chair since July 2004. As chair, he is a member of almost all departmental committees and chairs many of them. In his first year, he strengthened job placement services and connections with alumni, activities students had long requested. Prior to becoming chair, he coordinated the doctoral program and served on numerous search committees, the curriculum committee, and others. In these roles he took initiatives that led to major improvements in the doctoral program curriculum, the environment for students outside the classroom, and support for research. For instance, he led the creation of the Urban and Regional Research Collaborative, to focus, publicize, and support the body of research produced by faculty and students in urban planning. He also reformed the system of advising for Ph.D. students to assure that all students received stronger guidance.

Levine has served on numerous college-wide committees and has been elected twice to the college executive committee. In these roles, he was especially important in assuring that the computer policy committee and the library policy committee supported the needs of the urban planning program as well as those of the architecture program.

Levine also has contributed to numerous programs and committees across the campus. For example, he has influenced University transit and parking policy to encourage use of transit. He also had an important role in the expansion of the use of geographic information systems on the campus.

Levine has had significant roles in the major academic planning association, the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. He has chaired the transportation and infrastructure papers track at three major conferences of ACSP. Levine has reviewed manuscripts for all the major journals in his field.

Additionally, Levine brings his research to bear on local issues through service on Ann Arbor planning and transportation committees, speaking engagements, and interviews for the press.

**External Reviewers:**

Reviewer A: "His conclusions are... well researched, and they dare to go beyond entrenched notions. The book constitutes a major contribution to the current state of knowledge in that it contrasts with the approach of most previous work, and presents an original way of thinking about the problem."

Reviewer B: "Professor Levine is clearly making important contributions to the field of transportation planning. He has amassed a strong publication record, and it is especially important that he produced a book this year ... Most transportation planners do not produce book length manuscripts."

Reviewer C: "Levine has advanced some truly interesting ideas.... Levine has demonstrated in *Zoned Out* great scholarly accomplishment."

Reviewer D: "*Zoned Out* is a very skillful book. It makes sensitive, subtle distinctions among different perceptions of land use regulation that are relevant to an explanation of urban sprawl..."

Reviewer E: "The new book... is a very impressive piece of scholarship. This is a far deeper piece of work, with a more philosophical bent, than I assumed prior to reading."

Reviewer F: "Levine's work in this area of local government regulation, land use, and transport amounts to a considerable achievement and contribution to the field. ... I also admire Levine's related work showing the importance of giving priority to accessibility over mobility in designing our transport and land use policies. His *Transport Policy* article about congestion pricing clearly shows the need to focus on accessibility to avoid further suburban sprawl."

Reviewer G: "Levine's work... gives public policymakers an insight into how to actually make more efficient use of existing public infrastructure. His policy analyses are critical but constructive; when he negatively evaluates current policy for its lack of understanding of the true interrelationships involved, he also offers policy suggestions based on his clearer understanding of those relationships."

Reviewer H: "[O]ne of the most interesting contributions written to date in the ongoing debate about relationships between transportation and urban form... Jonathan's writings are intellectually rich but focused on operational issues of interest to policymakers and people actually operating transportation agencies or regional planning agencies. This is appropriate for scholarship in an applied field like urban planning, and it is surprisingly rare.... Jonathan writes at a level that can be appreciated by practitioners, but his work is based on rigorous analysis and advanced concepts."

***Summary of Recommendation:***

Professor Levine is an exceptionally strong, innovative, and versatile teacher who is valued by students and colleagues alike. His research and writing in transportation and land use have contributed enormously to that field and are well regarded. Dr. Levine has an excellent record of research, teaching, and service that merits his promotion to professor. The Promotion and Tenure Committee, the Executive Committee, and I are unanimous in recommending Jonathan Levine for promotion to Professor of Urban Planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



Douglas S. Kelbaugh FAIA, Dean  
A. Alfred Taubman College of  
Architecture and Urban Planning

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