



## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

<b>ROLE:</b>	ULI/Martin Bucksbaum Senior Visiting Fellow
<b>LOCATION:</b>	Remote/Flexible
<b>PROJECT DURATION:</b>	Part-time, one-year contract term (with potential to extend for an additional year)
<b>TOTAL:</b>	Up to a \$50,000 stipend, plus reimbursement of travel costs up to \$8,000
<b>HOW TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS:</b>	Submit proposal packages to <a href="mailto:health@uli.org">health@uli.org</a> by May 1, 2020 (Extended from March 27, 2020)

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**The Urban Land Institute is seeking a Senior Visiting Fellow to explore how privately-owned and managed ‘third places’ can better contribute to individual and community health and well-being. The Fellow will develop resources to inform best practices relevant to ULI members and the real estate industry.**

### BACKGROUND

Sociologist Ray Oldenburg coined the term ‘third place’ to refer to places where people spend time between home (‘first place’) and work (‘second place’). They are locations where people exchange ideas, have a good time, and build relationships. Examples of third places include churches, cafes, clubs, libraries, and parks. While many third places are public, many—including cafes, food halls, coffee shops, shopping malls, barber shops, and other retail environments—are owned or managed privately.

Third places are anchors of community life and facilitate and foster broader, more creative interaction; they are places where “you relax in public, where you encounter familiar faces and make new acquaintances.” Research shows that a vibrant network of third places is essential for civil society, democracy, and civic engagement to thrive, and for people to feel a sense of belonging and connection to other people and their community.

Communities today are divided politically, economically, and socially. Social isolation is rampant-- 1 in 4 people in the United States reports feeling lonely, a situation the U.S. Surgeon General has called a “crisis.”

Much work has been done by ULI and other organizations to document the importance of welcoming, high-quality public spaces and parks to individual well-being, as well as to community

health and civic engagement. Investment in these spaces is essential. But privately-owned spaces dominate most communities, and the role that they can play in promoting human health and community interaction and social engagement is less explored. For example, the decline of privately-owned third place environments like retail malls has undoubtedly played a role in undermining civic engagement and social interaction.

Who feels welcome, and who does not—in both publicly- and privately-held third places—has implications not just for individual health and well-being, but for the ability of communities and democracy to thrive. It also impacts the success of the third places themselves, including stores and retail environments like malls. Arts and culture and technology are key influences driving change in this field.

## **OVERVIEW**

**ULI is seeking to engage a Senior Visiting Fellow to explore how *privately-owned third places can better contribute to individual and community health and well-being*.** We are interested in both indoor and outdoor environments and are particularly interested in intersections between these spaces and mental and social well-being, socio-economic mixing, and community and social connection and cohesion.

The Senior Visiting Fellow will help advance knowledge by undertaking research in collaboration with ULI members and staff. The Fellow will be engaged by ULI on a part-time basis for a one-year period, (subject to a one-year extension) and provided with a stipend plus reimbursement of travel costs. The Fellow will be affiliated with the ULI Center for Sustainability and Economic Development.

The ULI/Martin Bucksbaum Senior Visiting Fellow will conduct research resulting in a series of white-papers or a research report. ULI is able to provide limited research support to the fellow. ULI will assist the fellow in accessing ULI members and partners for interviews, surveys, focus groups, and other research activities. ULI will have final review authority for the report and will be responsible for professionally editing and producing the final product(s).

Candidates should propose a research agenda and identify key research areas and questions. ULI is flexible about the specific aspects of the research, but it should be consistent with the issues identified in the “background” section of this scope, and it should be relevant to the interests and needs of ULI members.

In addition to the research report(s), the Senior Visiting Fellow will be expected to deliver at least the following:

- Two UrbanLand/UL online articles – one at the start of engagement, one summarizing the research findings
- Participate in at least one relevant Advisory Services panel or Technical Assistance panel, as a panelist
- Three District Council or national meeting speaking engagements
- Availability for up to 3 press/media interviews

To ground their work, the Fellow will be expected to review ULI’s past work on retail, food, active transportation, sustainability and related topics. To ensure that the research is as relevant as

possible, the Fellow will seek input and engage with ULI staff and members throughout the project.

## **ABOUT ULI**

The Urban Land Institute (ULI) is the oldest and largest network of cross-disciplinary real estate and land use experts in the world. ULI provides leadership in the responsible use of land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities worldwide. We have more than 46,000 members worldwide, representing the entire spectrum of the land use and development disciplines in private enterprise and public service—including property owners, investors, developers, service firms, planners, public officials, and academics.

## **TERMS**

The ULI/Martin Bucksbaum Senior Visiting Fellow will have a part-time, 10-20 hour per week contract, for one year. The Fellow may be attached to a university, affiliated with another organization which has approved this work, or independent. In addition to monthly payments, the Fellow will be reimbursed monthly for meeting and travel expenses.

The Fellow will submit monthly invoices reflecting the number of hours worked, tasks completed, and deliverables submitted, in addition to travel expenses. Working location and arrangements are flexible. This position is generously funded with a gift to ULI from the family of pioneering retail developer Martin Bucksbaum, founder of General Growth Companies (now known as GGC Inc.).

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

The ideal candidate will have an extensive background in sociology, urban planning, retail development, community development, public health, or related topics. Candidates should have the ability to develop work products independently, and to work productively with a variety of stakeholders.

## **HOW TO APPLY**

Please send a **cover letter, resume, a 2-4 page research and activity proposal with a timeline, budget,** and a **portfolio or links to relevant work samples** to [health@uli.org](mailto:health@uli.org) by Friday, March 27, 2020.

References will be requested of finalists. Please let us know if you intend to submit a proposal, so that we can update you on project developments, and direct any questions or comments to [health@uli.org](mailto:health@uli.org).