diagnosing success:

outdoor pedestrian malls
earth day!
outdoor pedestrian malls
pedestrian place terms

• piazza or plaza (EU)
• square or plaza (US)
• pedestrian street, pedestrian zone (EU)
• pedestrian mall (US)
• paseo
• promenade, esplanade
def. “outdoor pedestrian mall” (United States)

a former public street, closed to longitudinal traffic, converted for pedestrian use

source: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Strøget
Copenhagen, Denmark
Cornmarket
Oxford, England

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Las Ramblas
Barcelona, Spain

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
our terminology

- ordinary street
- pedestrian-oriented street
- festival street
- pedestrian mall
- pedestrian-oriented street
- ordinary street
ordinary street

pedestrian-oriented street

festival street

pedestrian mall

ordinary street

pedestrian-oriented street

festival street

pedestrian mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
ordinary street

pedestrian-oriented street

festival street

pedestrian mall

pedestrian-oriented street

ordinary street

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
ordinary street
pedestrian-oriented street
festival street
pedestrian mall
pedestrian-oriented street
ordinary street

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
ordinary street

pedestrian-oriented street

festival street

pedestrian mall

pedestrian-oriented street

ordinary street

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
most pedestrian malls built in US cities have failed…

…but not all have.
essential building blocks

urban form
- mall length
- cross streets
- small block grid
- urban scale
- architecture

land use
- diverse mix
- residential
- lodging
- dining
- retail
- office

access
- pedestrian first
- parking
- transit
- bicycles
- small block grid

design
- landscaping
- seating, shade
- lighting
- sidewalk dining
- children’s play areas

operations
- events program
- maintenance
- friendly enforcement
9 successful examples

Burlington, VT
Denver, CO
Madison, WI
Minneapolis, MN
Miami Beach, FL
Santa Monica, CA
Charlottesville, VA
Honolulu, HI

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Boulder, CO
Burlington, VT

City Population: 42,284
Colleges: University of Vermont
Burlington, VT

Church Street Marketplace

mall length: 1,600’
4 blocks
400’ grid
Burlington, VT

Church Street Marketplace

photo credit: Beyond My Ken – Licensed under GFDL via Wikimedia Commons
Burlington, Vermont

Church Street Marketplace

photo credit: “Beyond_My_Ken” commons.wikimedia.org
Denver, CO

City Population: 649,495
Colleges: Univ. Denver, Univ. Colorado, Metro State
Denver, CO

16th Street Mall

transit mall
buses run every 90 seconds
mall length: 4,400’, 0.83 miles
gridded, block size varies
115,000 workers
Denver, CO

16th Street Mall

photo credit: Steve Crecelius, VISIT DENVER
Denver, CO

16th Street Mall

photo credit: Denver Convention & Visitors Bureau

photo credit: “16th Street Mall from D&F Tower” MattWright at en.wikipedia
Denver, CO

16th Street Mall

photo credit: Alliance pour Sainte-Catherine
City Population: 243,344
Colleges: University of Wisconsin
To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.
Madison, WI

State Street Mall

mall length: 850’
block size varies
no street crossings
Madison, WI
State Street Mall
Madison, WI
State Street Mall
Minneapolis, MN

City Population: 400,070
Colleges: U Minn, Walden U, Augsburg College
Minneapolis, MN

Nicollet Mall

transit mall
mall length: 4,000’, 0.75 miles
400’ blocks
Minneapolis, MN

Nicollet Mall

photo credit: Google Maps, streetview
Minneapolis, MN

Nicollet Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
City Population: 91,026
Colleges: no major campuses
Miami Beach, FL

Lincoln Road Mall

mall length: 3,000’
8 blocks
375’ grid
Miami Beach, FL
Lincoln Road Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Miami Beach, FL

Lincoln Road Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Miami Beach, FL

Lincoln Road Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Santa Monica, CA

City Population: 92,472
Colleges: S M Col, Art Institute of CA, U of S M
Santa Monica, CA

Third Street Promenade

Mall length: 2,200’
3 long blocks
650’ grid
Santa Monica, CA
Third Street Promenade
Santa Monica, CA
Third Street Promenade

1955

2015
Santa Monica, CA

Third Street Promenade

photo credit: Los Angeles Attractions.com
Charlottesville, VA

City Population: 44,349
Colleges: University of Virginia
Charlottesville, VA

Main Street Pedestrian Mall

mall length: 2,000’
> 9 blocks
210’ grid
Charlottesville, VA
Main Street Pedestrian Mall

photo credit: ALAMY, The Telegraph
Charlottesville, VA
Main Street Pedestrian Mall

photo credit: The Cultural Landscape Foundation
Charlottesville, VA
Main Street Pedestrian Mall

photo credit: U.S. News & World Report
Honolulu, HI

City Population: 390,000
Colleges: U. of Hawaii, Hawaii Pacific U.
Honolulu, HI
Fort Street Pedestrian Mall

mall length: 1,900’
333’ grid
6 blocks
Honolulu, HI
Fort Street Pedestrian Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Honolulu, HI

Fort Street Pedestrian Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

City Population: 105,000
Colleges: University of Colorado
Boulder, Colorado

Pearl Street Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

mall length: 1,200’
cross streets: 4
350’ grid
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

urban form

- mall length
- cross streets
- small block grid
- urban scale architecture

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

urban form

mall length
cross streets
small block grid
urban scale
architecture

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.

land use

diverse mix
residential
lodging
dining
retail
office

2 major hotels
7,000+ workers
3.1 msf commercial space
235 du
Downtown Boulder Dining

screen grab Feb 26, 2015 @ http://www.boulderdowntown.com/dining
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

design

landscaping
seating, shade
lighting
sidewalk dining
children’s play areas

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.

design

landscaping
seating, shade
lighting
sidewalk dining
children’s play areas
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

**design**
- landscaping
- seating, shade
- lighting
- sidewalk dining
- children’s play areas

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

operations

events program
maintenance
friendly enforcement

Pearl Street Mall is the public living room of Boulder

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall is the public living room of Boulder.

operations

events program
maintenance
friendly enforcement

Pearl Street Mall is the public living room of Boulder.

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

access
pedestrian first
parking
transit
bicycles
small block grid

photo credit (both images): Charlier Associates, Inc.
Boulder, CO

Pearl Street Mall

access

pedestrian first
parking
transit
bicycles
small block grid

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Pearl Street Mall is one of the easiest places to get to in Boulder. It is pedestrian first, with parking, transit, bicycles, and a small block grid. Pearl Street Mall is located in Boulder, CO.
successful outdoor pedestrian malls

common elements
essential building blocks

urban form
- mall length
- cross streets
- small block grid
- urban scale
- architecture

land use
- diverse mix
- residential
- lodging
- dining
- retail
- office

access
- pedestrian first
- parking
- transit
- bicycles
- small block grid

design
- landscaping
- seating, shade
- lighting
- sidewalk dining
- children’s play areas

operations
- events program
- maintenance
- friendly enforcement
must haves:

• great access
• appropriate urban scale
• complex, transparent street walls
• rich land use mix
the street room = place?

- abutting land uses
- pedestrian realm
- vehicle realm
urban scale

height

width

h / w ratio
sun angle = 66°

3:2 height to width ratio
Houston
sun angle = 45°

1:1 height to width ratio
Portland, ME

photo credit: Charlier Associates, Inc.
Strøget – Copenhagen

photo credit: CopenhagenPortal.dk
sun angle = 33°

1:2 height to width ratio
Sun Angle = 22°

1:4 Height to Width Ratio
Grand Junction, CO
sun angle = 11°

1:5 height to width ratio
the street room

abutting land uses

pedestrian realm

vehicle realm
the street room
land use mix
must haves:

- great access
- appropriate urban scale
- complex, transparent street walls
- rich land use mix
web links

http://communitybuilders.net/

www.charlier.org
questions
coming up in our series:

- finding the money – how will we fund surface transportation?  **June 10**

- the geeks are in charge: big data, autonomous vehicles and the sharing economy  **August**
thank you