Neo-liberal urban planning policies: A literature survey 1990-2010

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Abstract

The academic literature on urban policy and planning which explicitly links to neo-liberalism is huge. The paper systematises much of this literature from the period 1990 to 2010, with an emphasis on journals of urban planning, urban geography, and urban studies. Neo-liberal urban policies are engendered by the nexus between mobile investment capital, inter-city competition, and public entrepreneurialism. Fourteen planning-related policies are described, and their neo-liberal rationales are explained. Typical planning concerns are outlined for each policy. The paper ends by spelling out the challenges that the neo-liberal urban policies pose to public planning.

Highlights

- Fourteen planning-related, neo-liberal urban policies are outlined.
- Around 750 references to neo-liberalism and urban planning are provided.
- The challenges to planning from neo-liberal policies are described.
planning from urban neo-liberalism are described.

Keywords
Neo-liberalism; Neo-liberal urban policy; Urban planning policy; Entrepreneurialism; Literature survey

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