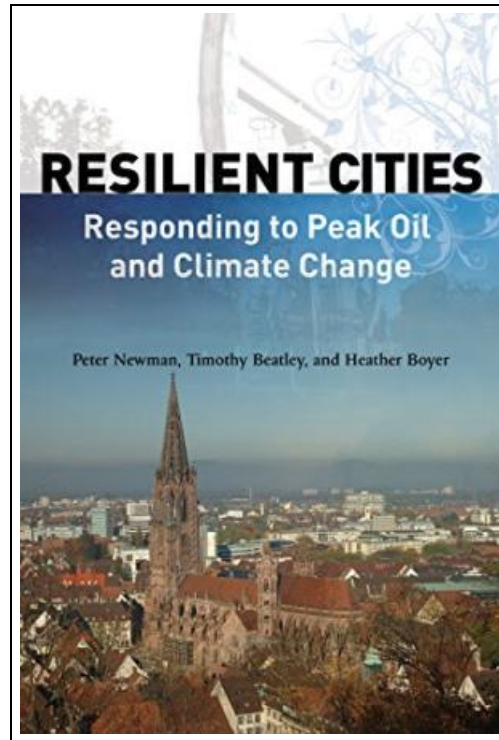


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RESILIENT CITIES: RESPONDING TO PEAK OIL AND CLIMATE CHANGE (PAPERBACK)



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Island Press, United States, 2009. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. This is a visionary guide to developing cities that are livable, sustainable, and resilient . Half of the world s inhabitants now live in cities. In the next twenty years, the number of urban dwellers will swell to an estimated five billion people. With their inefficient transportation systems and poorly designed buildings, many cities - especially in the United States - consume enormous quantities of fossil fuels and emit high levels of greenhouse gases. But our planet is rapidly running out of the carbon-based fuels that have powered urban growth for centuries and we seem to be unable to curb our greenhouse gas emissions. Are the world s cities headed for inevitable collapse?The authors of this spirited book don t believe that oblivion is necessarily the destiny of urban areas. Instead, they believe that intelligent planning and visionary leadership can help cities meet the impending crises, and look to existing initiatives in cities around the world. Rather than responding with fear (as a legion of doomsaying prognosticators have done), they choose hope.First, they confront the problems, describing where we stand today in our use of oil and our contribution to climate change. They then present four possible outcomes for cities: collapse, ruralized, divided, and resilient. In response to their scenarios, they articulate how a new sustainable urbanism could replace today s carbon-consuming urbanism. They address in detail how new transportation systems and buildings can be feasibly developed to replace our present low-efficiency systems. In conclusion, they offer ten strategic steps that any city can take toward greater sustainability and resilience.This is not a book filled with blue sky theory (although blue skies will be a welcome result of its recommendations). Rather, it is packed with practical...

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