

## Bios for Chuck Wolfe and Kaid Benfield

**Charles R. (Chuck) Wolfe** provides a unique perspective about cities as both a long-time writer about urbanism worldwide and as an attorney in Seattle, where he focuses on land use and environmental law. He is also Principal Advisor at the Seeing Better Cities Group and an Affiliate Associate Professor in the College of Built Environments at the University of Washington, where he teaches land-use law at the graduate level. Wolfe is an avid traveler, photographer, and writer, and contributes on urban development topics to several publications, including CityLab, The Atlantic, The Huffington Post, [Grist.org](http://Grist.org), [seattlepi.com](http://seattlepi.com), and [Crosscut.com](http://Crosscut.com). He blogs at [myurbanist.com](http://myurbanist.com). He also speaks nationally and worldwide, including recent and pending engagements in Sweden, Australia and Scotland. Wolfe is the author of two books, *Urbanism Without Effort* (Island Press, 2013) and *Seeing the Better City* (Island Press, 2017)

**Kaid Benfield** is one of the country's leading voices for making cities, towns, and neighborhoods work better for both people and the environment. Kaid serves as senior counsel for environmental strategies at PlaceMakers LLC, a city and town planning consultancy working across the United States and Canada. He is based in Washington, DC.

Before joining PlaceMakers, Kaid served as a senior attorney and program director at the Natural Resources Defense Council for over 30 years, founding the organization's sustainable communities program. And he teaches law, policy, and best practices for sustainable communities at the George Washington University School of Law. Kaid's latest book is *People Habitat: 25 Ways to Think About Greener, Healthier Cities*, distributed by Island Press.

A longtime leader of the smart growth movement, Kaid co-founded LEED for Neighborhood Development, a national process for defining and certifying smart, green land development under the auspices of the US Green Building Council. Kaid is also a founder and board member of Smart Growth America, a nationwide coalition working on revitalizing cities, building better neighborhoods, and stopping the spread of suburban sprawl.

Kaid was named one of "the most influential people in sustainable planning and development" by the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, voted one of the "top urban thinkers" on the leading city planning website, *Planetizen.com*, and named "one of the top 100 city innovators worldwide" by the website *Future Cities*.

Kaid is a prolific writer whose portfolio spans several books and frequent articles for *The Huffington Post*, *Sustainable Cities*, *Better Cities & Towns*, *CityLab*, and NRDC websites.

Blog: [www.kaidbenfield.com](http://www.kaidbenfield.com)

Twitter: @Kaid\_in\_DC

Contact: [kaid@placemakers.com](mailto:kaid@placemakers.com)