



Cameron Carley - Shanghai, China



Bridging the Gap Symposium

In an increasingly fractured world, urban planning must engage with imperatives of unity, cooperation, and equity. Planners must consider how they can challenge structures that unevenly disperse resources, privileges, and opportunities. Urban planning has historically played a role in perpetuating these fractures through plans and policies such as exclusionary zoning, inequitable development, and ableist design practices. Thus, Agora's fifth annual Symposium topic inquires: **How can urban spaces bridge the gap between genders, identities, ideologies, languages, nationalities, races, religions, and beyond?**

The authors in this collection cite domestic and international cases when considering this question. They discuss how immigrants seek a sense of community and belonging across various geographies, they explore how a single urban space can encompass disparate patterns of development and change, and they investigate how a city's narrative exposes or ignores systems of segregation. Each piece encounters the role of urban planning in bridging gaps – both fostering connection and preventing it – creating a collection that serves as a critique as well as a signal for hope.

Morgan Fett and Matthew Tse
Symposium Directors