



MANHATTAN INSTITUTE FOR POLICY RESEARCH

PRESS RELEASE

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The Past, Present, and Future of the City

Celebrating 20 Years of *City Journal*

New York: Cities are the primary source of economic growth and cultural dynamism. Today, more than half of the world's population lives in cities making urban management critical to keeping crime low, quality of life high, and the economy strong. The cities that embraced urban policy reforms are thriving, and the ones that have not are falling deeper into crisis.

Twenty years ago, the Manhattan Institute launched *City Journal*—the only quarterly to focus on cities and urban life—as an intellectual and journalistic response to New York City's downward spiral and to the illness of the American city generally. *City Journal's* ideas not only dramatically transformed New York during the 1990's, but have spread to other cities in the U.S. and the world.

To honor its twenty years of publication, *City Journal* dedicated its fall issue to the past, present, and future of the city.

Cities the Issue Examines:

- New Orleans – Nicole Gelinas argues that the shock of Katrina led to a renaissance in citizen initiative, with engaged residents keeping a watchful eye on politicians, making sure that they used recovery funds to rebuild and improve things
- Detroit and Newark – Steven Malanga explains how these troubled cities have leaders pursuing solutions at home instead of from Washington
- San Francisco – Heather Mac Donald investigates whether the city will reclaim public space from the thuggish street punks, enabled by homelessness advocates, who make life miserable for small businesses and pedestrians
- New York – Edward Glaeser describes how entrepreneurs built New York—and how they're the keys to its successful future

The issue will be released at a conference in New York City on Wednesday, November 17th. New York Deputy Mayor Stephen Goldsmith will give the introduction, followed by brief presentations from *City Journal* editors Heather Mac Donald, Steven Malanga, and Nicole Gelinas. Michael Barone, resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, will deliver the keynote address, focusing on the importance of urban policy and *City Journal's* role in helping to shape it.

"*City Journal* was launched as an intellectual and journalistic response to this crisis of urban life, which its editors and writers viewed not as a fate but rather as the outcome of specific bad policies and weak political leadership. Change the policy environment, put the right ideas in place, and cities could regain their vitality and again become the crucibles of innovation, culture, and economic growth that they were through much of our nation's history." – *City Journal* editor Brian Anderson in a recent [interview](#) with *The Atlantic*

City Journal Facts & Stats:

- Average around 14,000 unique visits a day—which will put it over 5 million visits for the year.
- Visitors are geographically dispersed; the largest percentage now comes from California, with NY close behind, but *City Journal* has readers in every city in America and many overseas readers.
- *City Journal* Google page rank is “great,” seven out of ten, because of all the links CJ gets from other sites.
- Prominent web blogs and magazines, such as RealClearPolitics, Instapundit, Powerline, Arts & Letters Daily, NRO, and FrontPage frequently link to and comment on CJ pieces.
- Major regional papers regularly reprint *City Journal* adaptations: such as *New York Post*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Dallas Morning News*, *Washington Examiner* and *Investors Business Daily*.

To speak with *City Journal* editor Brian Anderson or to receive a copy of the 20th Anniversary *City Journal* issue, contact Clarice Smith at (646) 839-3318 or csmith@manhattan-institute.org.

www.city-journal.org

The Manhattan Institute, a 501(c)(3), is a think tank whose mission is to develop and disseminate new ideas that foster greater economic choice and individual responsibility.