

Joseph Schilling

Urban Institute



As a strategic advisor and policy and planning expert on urban sustainability, housing—community development, municipal innovation, and civic capacity building, Joe guides public officials, philanthropy, and community leaders in the co-design and development of collaborative, cross sector initiatives that facilitate health equity, climate resilience, urban regeneration and neighborhood revitalization.

Before coming to the Urban Institute, Schilling served as a municipal attorney for his hometown of San Diego, a California legislative fellow, the director of community and economic development for the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), and a research professor of urban planning for Virginia Tech in Northern Virginia. Joe currently teaches part time in the law school and in the sustainability planning program for George Washington University.

The intersections of land use, sustainability, and local government serve as the primary platform for his policy and planning translation, technical assistance and diverse research publications, including [health impact assessments on housing code enforcement](#), a scan of [promising state and local zoning reforms to expand single family zoning](#), a policy and practice brief on [the promise of community planning academies](#), and a law review article [that would reinvent the field of brownfields redevelopment](#).

In July the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy published Schilling's most recent work ([Greening American's Smaller Legacy Cities](#)) that explores how policymakers, planners and their nonprofit partners in older industrial cities can build their collective capacities to address the concurrent challenges of climate change, environmental justice, and green economic development.

Schilling holds a Masters of Environmental Law (LL.M.) from George Washington University and a J.D. from [UC Law at San Francisco](#)