

# Futurescape City Tour Project Expands to Five More Cities

How can citizens become more involved in the development of emerging technologies and help to shape the future contours of their cities? The Futurescape City Tours (FCT) are a novel public engagement method, designed by CNS-ASU faculty and comprised of an urban walking tour; interactions between citizens, stakeholders, and experts; and image-based deliberative sessions.

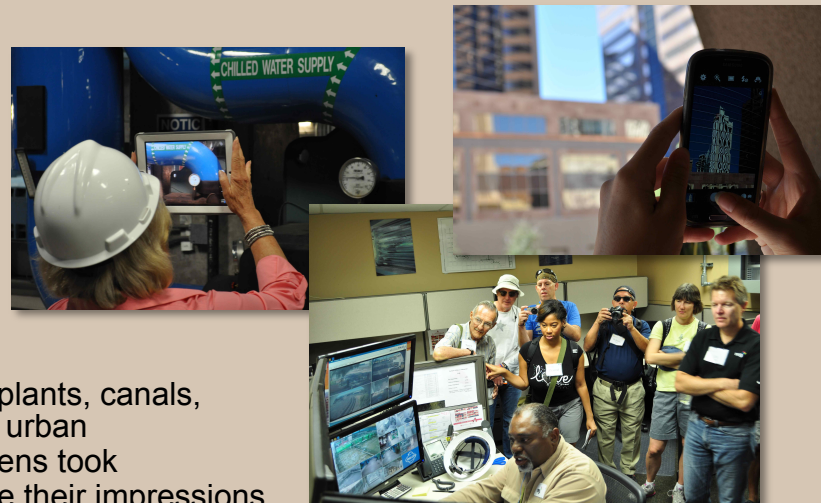
In 2013, the FCT expanded the 2012 Phoenix pilot to include St. Paul, Portland, Springfield (MA), Edmonton and Washington, DC. At each site, a group of citizens were recruited to participate in an orientation session, a day-long walking tour, and a final deliberative session designed to explore socio-technical change.

At each site, citizens questioned and imagined how nanotechnology might transform urban infrastructure, public space, transportation systems, architecture, and other features of the city.

Researchers selected tour sites based on citizens' concerns and curiosities about their city. During the tour, citizens met with city officials, scientists, and business leaders to explore urban nanotechnologies.

As they visited power plants, canals, laboratories and other urban atmospheres, the citizens took photographs to capture their impressions about the past, present, and future.

Participants later shared their photos and impressions of the city and discussed their observations, critiques, and hopes for the future of their city.



**Dr. Cynthia Selin** explores future-orientation from an interdisciplinary perspective, asking questions about how foresight is applied in the governance of emerging technologies.

Along with **Dr. Kelly Campbell Rawlings** from the Sol Price School of Public Policy at USC, Dr. Selin leads CNS-ASU's Real-Time Technology Assessment (RTTA 3) exploring plausible futures and elucidating public preferences about the future.

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