The Environmental Costs of Civic Paternalism during Stadium-building

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65 stadiums since 2000.

source Center for Sport and Urban Policy (2018)
19
of those are LEED-certified.

source Center for Sport and Urban Policy (2018)
What would support the standardization of sustainable design?
Legislative Intervention

STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACTS
LOCAL EXEMPTIONS
“IN THEORY, ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW OF ARENA AND STADIUM PLANS PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION SHOULD IDENTIFY AND REQUIRE THAT FACILITIES ‘GO GREEN,’ BUT OFTENTIMES STADIUMS ARE EXEMPT FROM MEANINGFUL REVIEW BECAUSE OF LEGISLATIVE ACTION.”

Porteshawver, 2017, p. 390
GOLDEN 1 CENTER
Sacramento Kings
CHASE ARENA
Golden State Warriors
Civic Paternalism

MODEL OF REPRESENTATION ROLE IN PUBLIC STADIUM FINANCE APPLICATION TO SEPAs
About the Study

Policymakers’ public explanations and civic paternalism

Open coding of media frames of sport-related SEPA cases
Results
Policymaker Justification

CEQA IMPractical
CEQA InAPplicable
Civic Paternalism

CEQA TIME- AND RESOURCE-INTENSIVE NECESSARY TO AVOID LOSS DISMISSIVE OF ENVIRONMENTALISTS
Team Approaches to Legislation

IN THE BACKGROUND
SUPPORT FOR POLICYMAKERS
OFFENSE AND DEFENSE
Discussion and Significance

Avoiding placing economics and environment at odds with one another

Coupling economic issues and environmental issues

Considering environmental impact of SEPA exemptions
Future Research

Alternatives to SEPA(s)
Cases in which a SEPA impacted stadium planning
Interviews with policymakers (on both sides)
Thank you.

stadiatrack.org/sustainability