Harvard University
Graduate School of Design

ZOFNASS PROGRAM
FOR SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Zofnass Lecture Series

Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 1pm, 42 Kirkland St, Rm1A

Re-Learning Main Streets
Machine Learning Approach for Interpreting Urban Morphology

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Main Street is a metaphor of the urban district that serves neighborhood with retails and public services. In the States, it devices community developments as a planning program by preserving local history and supporting local economy. This talk will start with reviewing a machine learning approach to interpret Boston Main Streets through resident's perception of the city, which was studied in 2006. Mixed-initiated learning between machine and human led meaningful discussions about how we perceive large urban space through personal experience and how we can embed such information into the decision process. For a decade, the city has been changed as well as the machine learning technology has been radically advanced. The presence of Main Streets emerges beyond the logistical boundaries, and transformation of innovative industries drives the new notion of community. The new paradigm of machine learning expands human intelligence with pragmatic evidences. We will open up discussion on current opportunities to redefine urban phenomenon from a new perspective of a procedural learning.