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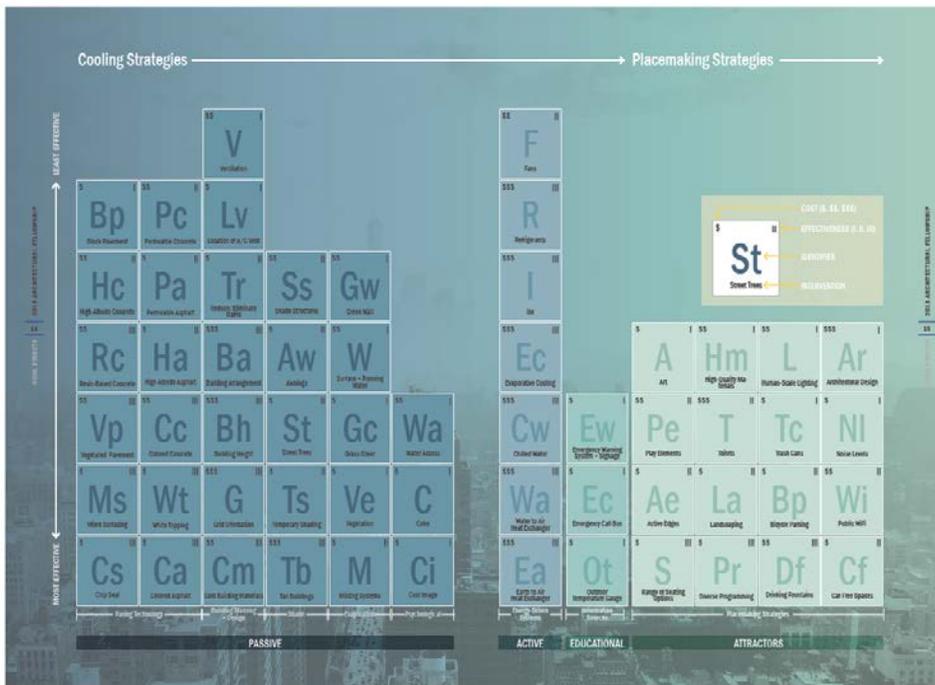
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PERKINS EASTMAN'S COOL STREETS RESEARCH & TOOLKIT
A remedy for record-breaking heat waves

Perkins Eastman
 Architects DPC

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Courtesy of Perkins Eastman

New York, NY (September 20, 2019) As the [Global Climate Strike](#) begins today, architecture and design firm Perkins Eastman has just launched *Cool Streets*, a white paper with solutions that can help the most vulnerable during times of severe heat waves. **More Americans die from heat waves than from any other extreme weather event—approximately 1,300 such fatalities occur each year.** N.Y.C. is expected to have the greatest increase in heat-related mortalities compared to other U.S. cities, given its levels of poverty, poor housing quality, and the heat-trapping effects of its built environment.

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The results of Perkins Eastman's recent Cool Streets study found several practical interventions that can produce big benefits. Cities and neighborhoods in N.Y.C. can apply these findings to reduce the harmful and increasingly burdensome effects of heat waves.

In particular, Perkins Eastman recommends adapting N.Y.C.'s under-utilized outdoor public spaces to reduce heat-related illness and fatalities. This would benefit the city's most vulnerable populations—the elderly, chronically ill, and people under the poverty level.

Lindsay Fischer, a graduate student and Perkins Eastman Fellow, overlays an existing network of Department of Transportation public plazas with an analysis of where these vulnerable populations are most concentrated. She and the Perkins Eastman Design Strategy team provide practical solutions in a toolkit for communities to create potentially life-saving outdoor cooling places for their neighborhoods.

Cool Streets offers Cooling Strategies ranging from using cool building materials, constructing tall buildings, and adding misting systems, among others, to Placemaking Strategies, which include integrating elements such as a range of seating options, diverse programming, drinking fountains, and car-free spaces that encourage people to engage with their environments.

Essentially, combining **Cooling Strategies + Placemaking Strategies** creates a successful **Cool Streets** project.

The **Cool Streets Research & Toolkit** can benefit the lives of many in positive ways. Click here to download the report:
http://perkinseastman.com/white_papers

Perkins Eastman is a firm committed to the [2030 Challenge](#), to upholding the Paris Agreement through [We Are Still In](#), and supporting the [AIA's new resolution](#) declaring a fight against climate change. The firm understands it carries a tremendous responsibility in addressing climate change as buildings alone account for 39% of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions annually. Perkins Eastman will be participating in today's Global Climate Strike.

ABOUT PERKINS EASTMAN

Perkins Eastman is a global design firm founded on the belief that design can have a direct and positive impact on people's lives. The firm's award-winning practice draws on its 1,000 professionals networked across 17 offices worldwide. By keeping the user's needs foremost in the design process, the firm enhances the human experience across the spectrum of the built environment. For more information visit www.perkinseastman.com.

Images available.

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