

# Albuquerque Journal

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## Man Champions Walkable Cities

**By Jim Ludwick**

*Journal Staff Writer*

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?** : Chris Leinberger, who helped spearhead Downtown redevelopment in Albuquerque, is living in Washington, D.C., where he's working on a book and a PBS series.

Leinberger was chief executive of the Historic District Improvement Co. for six years. He left in 2005 to accept a job with the Brookings Institution, a nonpartisan organization involved in research, analysis and public education.

His work focuses on creating walkable downtowns and suburban centers.

He lives four blocks from the Brookings Institution and walks to work. He uses his car about once a week.

Leinberger said he's in the middle of writing a book about walkable places. It will be the companion piece to a PBS series that will come out next fall, he said.

Leinberger said walkable places are a part of the evolving American dream. In the distant past, the dream centered on agriculture, then on having a home in the suburbs, and now it involves having a choice between suburban life and walkable cities, he said.

"The 21st Century is a knowledge-based economy. It demands a different manifestation of the American dream. We're inventing a new one," he said.