The San Francisco Bay Area is one of the four largest urban areas in the US, and one of the most important and richest urban centers in the world. But its history and geography are still poorly understood by most observers, with a far wider compass than Silicon Valley or the City by the Golden Gate, far deeper roots of success than the silicon chip and Fred Terman, and a contradictory social order belied by its liberal and green reputation.

Dr. Walker is a Professor Emeritus at UC Berkeley and director of the Living New Deal project. His best known work is in economic geography, especially The Capitalist Imperative: Territory, Technology and Industrial Growth (Blackwell, 1989), with Michael Storper. His research is focused on economic geography, regional development, capitalism and politics, cities and urbanism, resources and environment, California, class and race.

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