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Lectures on Urban Economics (MIT Press)

Jan K. Brueckner
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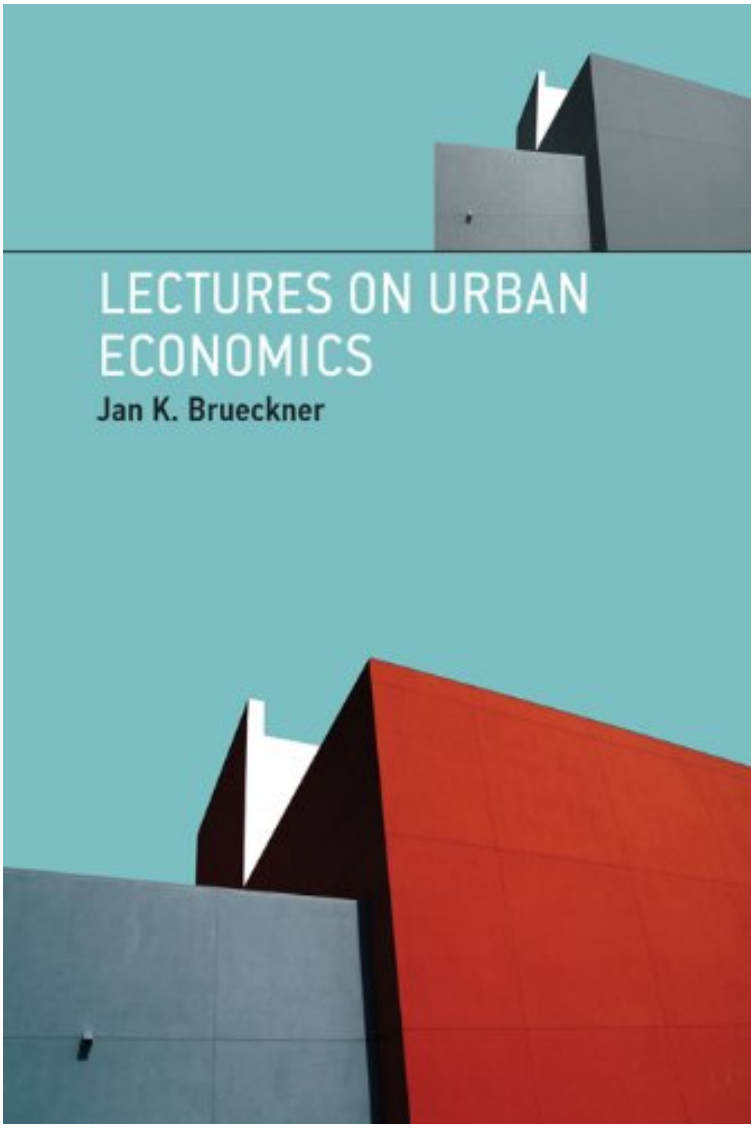

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Jan K. Brueckner : Lectures on Urban Economics (MIT Press) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lectures on Urban Economics (MIT Press):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good Urban Econ textBy CustomerGood Urban Econ text, written plainly and does not require you to remember all of your calculus to be able to follow along or do the exercises. Kindle version works perfectly for my class.6 of 7 people found the following review helpful. ExcellentBy Dennis HansemanJan Brueckner's LECTURES ON URBAN ECONOMICS is an excellent introduction to the subject for anyone with a background in intermediate microeconomics. As Vernon Henderson (back cover endorsement) points out, Brueckner "... has a great talent for taking complex ideas and models an putting them in readily accessible

frameworks that capture the key points." The book contains chapters on urban spatial structure (4), transportation, housing (2), local public goods, pollution, crime, and urban quality of life measurement. The author admits that "the book contains very little purely descriptive or factual material of the kind usually found in textbooks." That said, it seems very up-to-date and even provides a basic analysis of the housing market implosion of recent years. To sum up, this is a very thoughtfully organized and clearly written introduction to the key elements of urban economic theory.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy CustomerProvides good intuition with a minimal use og mathematics.

Lectures on Urban Economics offers a rigorous but nontechnical treatment of major topics in urban economics. To make the book accessible to a broad range of readers, the analysis is diagrammatic rather than mathematical. Although nontechnical, the book relies on rigorous economic reasoning. In contrast to the cursory theoretical development often found in other textbooks, Lectures on Urban Economics offers thorough and exhaustive treatments of models relevant to each topic, with the goal of revealing the logic of economic reasoning while also teaching urban economics. Topics covered include reasons for the existence of cities, urban spatial structure, urban sprawl and land-use controls, freeway congestion, housing demand and tenure choice, housing policies, local public goods and services, pollution, crime, and quality of life. Footnotes throughout the book point to relevant exercises, which appear at the back of the book. These 22 extended exercises (containing 125 individual parts) develop numerical examples based on the models analyzed in the chapters. Lectures on Urban Economics is suitable for undergraduate use, as background reading for graduate students, or as a professional reference for economists and scholars interested in the urban economics perspective.

This book is a very nice presentation of basic urban material. Brueckner has a great talent for taking complex ideas and models and putting them in readily accessible frameworks that capture the key points. Moreover he uses simple examples to illustrate the issues. The material should be accessible to advanced undergraduates and will provide insights for graduate students as well. (J Vernon Henderson, Eastman Professor of Political Economy and Professor of Economics and Urban Studies, Brown University)Jan Brueckner's lucid Lectures on Urban Economics is a rigorous, but non-technical, analysis of the major topics in the field. The lectures survey topics of broad appeal to students, and they provide just enough detail -- clear diagrams and tightly written prose -- to support a definitive analysis. This slim volume has the hallmark of an excellent undergraduate text. (John Quigley, I. Donald Turner Distinguished Professor and Professor of Economics, University of California, Berkeley)Overall, this book does an excellent job of surveying the theory of urban economics. It does so cleanly, neatly, concisely, and about as simply as possible, making it accessible to a wide audience. (David Albouy Journal of Regional Science)About the AuthorJan K. Brueckner is Professor of Economics at the University of California, Irvine, and former editor of the Journal of Urban Economics.