

Greg Lindsay

Journalist, Urbanist, Futurist & Speaker

Sharing fascinating insights about our globally connected future, the challenges for the future of business, and the opportunities that exist for those prepared to meet them..

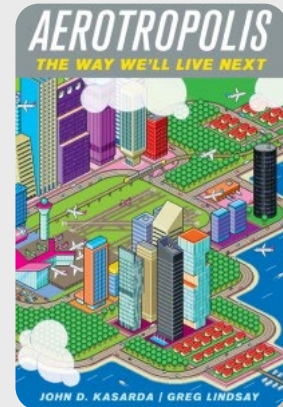
GREG LINDSAY

his thoughts

Greg Lindsay is a generalist, urbanist, futurist, and speaker. He is the chief communications officer at [Climate Alpha](#), an AI-driven location-analysis platform steering investment toward climate adaptation and more resilient regions. He is also an urban tech fellow at [Cornell Tech's Jacobs Institute](#), a senior fellow of MIT's [Future Urban Collectives Lab](#), and a non-resident senior fellow of the [Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Strategy Initiative](#).

He's been cited as an **expert on the future of cities, technology, and mobility** by The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, USA Today, CNN, NPR, and the BBC. He's a partner at FutureMap, a geo-strategic and climate advisory firm based in Singapore, and has advised major corporations around the world, along with numerous G20 government entities.

He was previously the urbanist-in-residence at [URBAN-X](#) — BMW MINI's urban tech accelerator — the Director of Applied Research at [NewCities](#), and founding director of strategy at its mobility-focused offshoot [CoMotion](#).



Aerotropolis: The Way We'll Live Next

Greg is the co-author of this book which explores how air travel and transportation are largely responsible for the shape and scope – and winners and losers – of globalization. It also examines how cities such as Hong Kong, Dallas, Detroit and Dubai are changing (or being built anew) to reflect the interests of corporations that effectively scattered pieces of themselves across the world, relying on the Internet and Airbus planes to tie themselves together.

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Speaking topics

The Big Rethink: Cities After COVID-19

Big cities are done. The office is dead. Delivery is the future. At least two of these are wrong – but why? The pandemic may be over, but work-from-anywhere is here to stay. That doesn't mean the end of the office, but whole new ways of working closer to home and together — with more fluid buildings and organizations to match. That, in turn, means rethinking who and what cities are for – forget downtowns vs. suburbs and imagine new uses for empty offices and packed streets. Behind the scenes, technology is turning restaurants and retail inside-out through deliveries, “dark stores” and automation.

And above all lurks the threat of climate change and the opportunity of “the Metaverse” to transform the Internet as we know it. Drawing on his research and foresight work for Cornell Tech, Climate Alpha, and MIT's Future Urban Collectives Lab, Greg Lindsay explores the post-pandemic landscape and explains why the future won't be as socially-distanced as you might think.



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Speaking topics

The Future of the Future

The future isn't what it used to be. As the pace of social, technological, and environmental change accelerates, organizations are struggling just to make sense of the present, let alone spot threats and opportunities looming just over the horizon. The ability to anticipate, understand, plan for, and innovate around uncertainty has become a critical skill for designers, innovators, and strategists everywhere. As the computing pioneer Alan Kay once said, "the best way to predict the future is to invent it."

The practice of creating futures, or "foresight," offers a toolkit and framework for detecting signals of change, organizing insights, synthesizing possible futures, identifying potential barriers and opportunities, and designing innovative products, services or ideas that satisfy emerging needs.

Autonomous Everything: AI, the Future, and What We Can Do About It

The robots are coming — not to steal your job, but to invent entirely new ones. Advances in machine learning, artificial intelligence, and automation all point toward an autonomous world — one in which perception, prediction, and action are embedded in machines. Autonomy will not only transform how we work, but also how we move, think, discover, decide, and deceive. What we consume — as well as how we produce, transport, and market it — may take strange new turns as robots increasingly predict, suggest and prepare to help us eat do it. In this wide-ranging and eye-opening talk on the promise and perils of AI, author and futurist Greg Lindsay explores how autonomy is already upending society — and how we can use it to build a better world.

Engineering Serendipity: How to Discover New Ideas

Innovation can't be scheduled but it can be designed. Greg Lindsay tells how innovative organizations such as Google, Facebook, Zappos, and MIT are engineering serendipity, harnessing social networks and new ways of working to cultivate the discovery of new ideas, inspire collaboration and creativity, and to spur employee engagement, learning and innovation. How, where, and who we work with will never be the same.

GREG LINDSAY

key facts

Currently ...

- **Journalist, Urbanist, Professional Speaker & Moderator**
- Urban Tech Fellow at **Cornell Tech's Jacobs Institute**
- A Senior Fellow of **MIT's Future Urban Collectives Lab**
- Senior Fellow of the **Atlantic Council's Scowcroft Strategy Initiative**.
- Senior Fellow, the **Atlantic Council's Strategic Foresight Initiative**
- Chief communications officer at **Climate Alpha**
- Partner, **FutureMap**, a Singapore-based geo-strategic advisory firm
- Co-author, ***Aerotropolis: The Way We'll Live Next***

Formerly ...

- Director of Applied Research, **New Cities Foundation** and Director of Strategy at its mobility offshoot, **CoMotion**
- Visiting Scholar, **New York University's Rudin Center** for Transportation Policy and Management
- Graduated from the University of Illinois with a degree in Journalism
- Contributing writer for **Fortune** and **Fast Company**

Flies from **Montreal / New York**



Speaks to audiences around the world, addressing conferences, client forums and management meetings, and is also a highly skilled conference moderator

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what people say

“Greg Lindsay took us from 30,000 feet – trends in the world – to 15,000 feet – showing us trends that pertain to our industry specifically – to 5,000 feet – where to go. He was excellent.”

Global Workspace Association

“I would not only recommend him as a speaker, but I also look forward to working with him again to chart this future.”

INTEL

I had the pleasure - and disadvantage! - of following Greg as a speaker at a conference devoted to the future of work in May. His presentation was sharp, incisive, and provocative - so much so that I immediately booked him to speak at my own event in New York next year. I can't wait to hear what he comes up with next.

Worktech/Unwired Ventures

Greg has never let me down. He is without doubt my go-to-moderator for an entertaining and informative panel discussion! His prep work with the speakers and about the topic and audience is efficient and effective which on the day results in a rich discussion around the room, not just on stage. Thank you Greg!

Julia Mart – Director, **Interaction Events**



Useful links for Greg Lindsay:

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thought-provoking ▪ lively ▪ insightful



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