The urgent issue in this XXI century is climate change that could be broken down to sustainable city into city phenomenon. Everybody knows a historical city consider and manage not only sustainability including conservation of heritage sites/ properties but other mitigations way in many risks and unexpected uncertainty.

This paper aims to discuss about continuity strategies for historical cities facing many problems that could not be solved simply. Whether historical city is or not, for achieving sustainable city, which treat both artificial environment and social environment components by way of risk and uncertainty mitigation and adaptation.

Ebenezer Howard wrote of maintaining traffic networks and developing new towns. That was an age when urban areas were expanded and everyone eagerly wished for a lifestyle of high economic growth and convenience along with a favorable living environment based on high-energy consumption. With pride in a place where people can live urban lifestyles as a risk shield from the point of view of the average citizen around the time of the emergence of the hippy era, and from the viewpoint of the consumer and the community rather than the producer, more and more people assert a desire to live along with the flow of culture. Jane Jacobs, again, asserts the importance of such a way of thinking in urban policy and urban planning. Her ideas are apparent in the change from urban planning focused on facility construction to the creation of urban areas by community planning with participation of people who live alongside local cultural heritages.

The oldest private firm in the world was KONGO-GUMI, Japan since A.D.578 till 2005, connecting more than 1,400 years. Seeing at List of oldest companies at the Wikipedia website that shows more than 1,000 years succession firms are 7/10 firms in Japan, 13/34 firms are Japanese companies until XIII century, and top ranking of firms is Japanese firms before the industrial revolutions. Kyoto reconstructed several times because of the big fires and several domestic wars. Reconstructions need a very broad base invisible knowledge and intangible skills related with nuance of cultures through successor(s) that why these oldest firms in Japan have not been disconnected.

The paper would describe double layers of risks in the historical cities, which give many impacts forcing from both externally and within collapse systems of culture and civilization. Jane Jacobs called these dynamics Dark Age Ahead. Therefore, she also strongly expressed that discontinuity prevention is important. Discontinuing is one thing, continuing another.

Keywords: risk, historical cities, community planning
This study presents the results of quantitative analyses conducted on the socioeconomic environmental changes identified in one of San Francisco’s ethnic-culture neighborhoods, with the community facing shifts in globalization and neoliberalization of the economy. Not only does globalization have an impact on economic transitions and the creation of disparities on national and international scales, it also places, due to its hybridizing natures, significant impacts on the neighborhoods’ socioeconomic dynamics at the local community level. A decaying urban ethnic enclave is one good example for observing the transitions and the reactions of those concerned when trying to tackle market-led gentrification of the neighborhood in the context of globalization. The concerned citizens group became actively involved in planning to preserve and revitalize changing ethnic communities such as the Japantowns located in several California cities.

San Francisco’s Japantown is a historical Japanese-American neighborhood. While dozens of Japantowns dotted America’s West Coast prior to World War II, most of these communities disappeared following the wartime internment of Japanese-Americans. A common sentiment among Japanese-Americans is that this ethnic neighborhood is a shadow of its former self. Some of these sentiments were engendered through a series of sales of major Japanese properties to non-Japanese investors at the beginning of the 21st century. The neighborhoods’ transformation, particularly the development of what some people in the community call market-led gentrification, has resulted in a community narrative that advocated the need for preservation, revitalization, and public participation in the planning of San Francisco’s Japantown. This sense of transition and orientation toward gentrification has brought about the Save Japantown campaigns, and eventually led to formal zoning and public planning schemes.

This research aims to quantify such local knowledge, anecdotes, and a sense of the neighborhoods’ transition by using statistical data and a Geographic Information System (GIS) with housing and population characteristics, the state of Japan-related businesses, and a historic preservation policy. Some comparisons to Chinatown are also made to highlight neighborhood characteristics. Additionally, newly-released Census 2010 statistics were used for some of the spatial analyses in order to present the most recent socioeconomic dynamics surrounding the neighborhood.

A detailed understanding of the status quo of the neighborhood and its surroundings will contribute to discussions on socioeconomic, political, and urban renewal influences on globalization and neoliberalization within the community at large. At the same time, such geography study helps the community practitioners have at least a clear and shared understanding of the state of the neighborhood in question in order to build consensus in the real-world planning.

Keywords: public planning, gentrification, ethnicity, U.S. Census, GIS, San Francisco