



Edited by Lilia Fernández, Timothy J. Gilfoyle, and Amanda I. Seligman James R. Grossman, Editor Emeritus

Recent titles in the series

Claire Dunning, Nonprofit Neighborhoods: An Urban History of Inequality and the American State

Tracy E. K'Meyer, To Live Peaceably Together: The American Friends Service Committee's Campaign for Open Housing

Mike Amezcua, Making Mexican Chicago: From Postwar Settlement to the Age of Gentrification

Arnold R. Hirsch, Making the Second Ghetto: Race and Housing in Chicago, 1940–1960, With a New Afterword by N. D. B. Connolly

William Sites, Sun Ra's Chicago: Afrofuturism and the City

David Schley, Steam City: Railroads, Urban Space, and Corporate Capitalism in Nineteenth-Century Baltimore

Rebecca K. Marchiel, After Redlining: The Urban Reinvestment Movement in the Era of Financial Deregulation

Steven T. Moga, Urban Lowlands: A History of Neighborhoods, Poverty, and Planning

Andrew S. Baer, Beyond the Usual Beating: The Jon Burge Police Torture Scandal and Social Movements for Police Accountability in Chicago

Matthew Vaz, Running the Numbers: Race, Police, and the History of Urban Gambling

Ann Durkin Keating, The World of Juliette Kinzie: Chicago before the Fire

Jeffrey S. Adler, Murder in New Orleans: The Creation of Jim Crow Policing

David A. Gamson, The Importance of Being Urban: Designing the Progressive School District, 1890–1940

Kara Murphy Schlichting, New York Recentered: Building the Metropolis from the Shore

A complete list of series titles is available on the University of Chicago Press website.

The Great American Transit Disaster

A CENTURY OF AUSTERITY, AUTO-CENTRIC PLANNING, AND WHITE FLIGHT

Nicholas Dagen Bloom

The University of Chicago Press, Chicago 60637 The University of Chicago Press, Ltd., London

© 2023 by The University of Chicago

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be used or reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission, except in the case of brief quotations in critical articles and reviews. For more information, contact the University of Chicago Press, 1427 E. 60th St., Chicago, IL 60637.

Printed in the United States of America

Published 2023

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 1 2 3 4 5

ISBN-13: 978-0-226-82440-6 (cloth)

ISBN-13: 978-0-226-82441-3 (e-book)
DOI: https://doi.org/10.7208/chicago/9780226824413.001.0001

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Bloom, Nicholas Dagen, 1969– author.

Title: The great American transit disaster: a century of austerity, auto-centric planning, and white flight / Nicholas Dagen Bloom.

Other titles: Historical studies of urban America.

Other titles. Thistorical studies of diban America.

Description: Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2023. | Series:

Historical studies of urban America | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2022029933 | ISBN 9780226824406 (cloth) | ISBN 9780226824413 (ebook)

Subjects: LCSH: Urban transportation—United States—History.

© This paper meets the requirements of ANSI/NISO Z39.48-1992 (Permanence of Paper).