

The next generation of infrastructure arguments

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Transformative Infrastructure

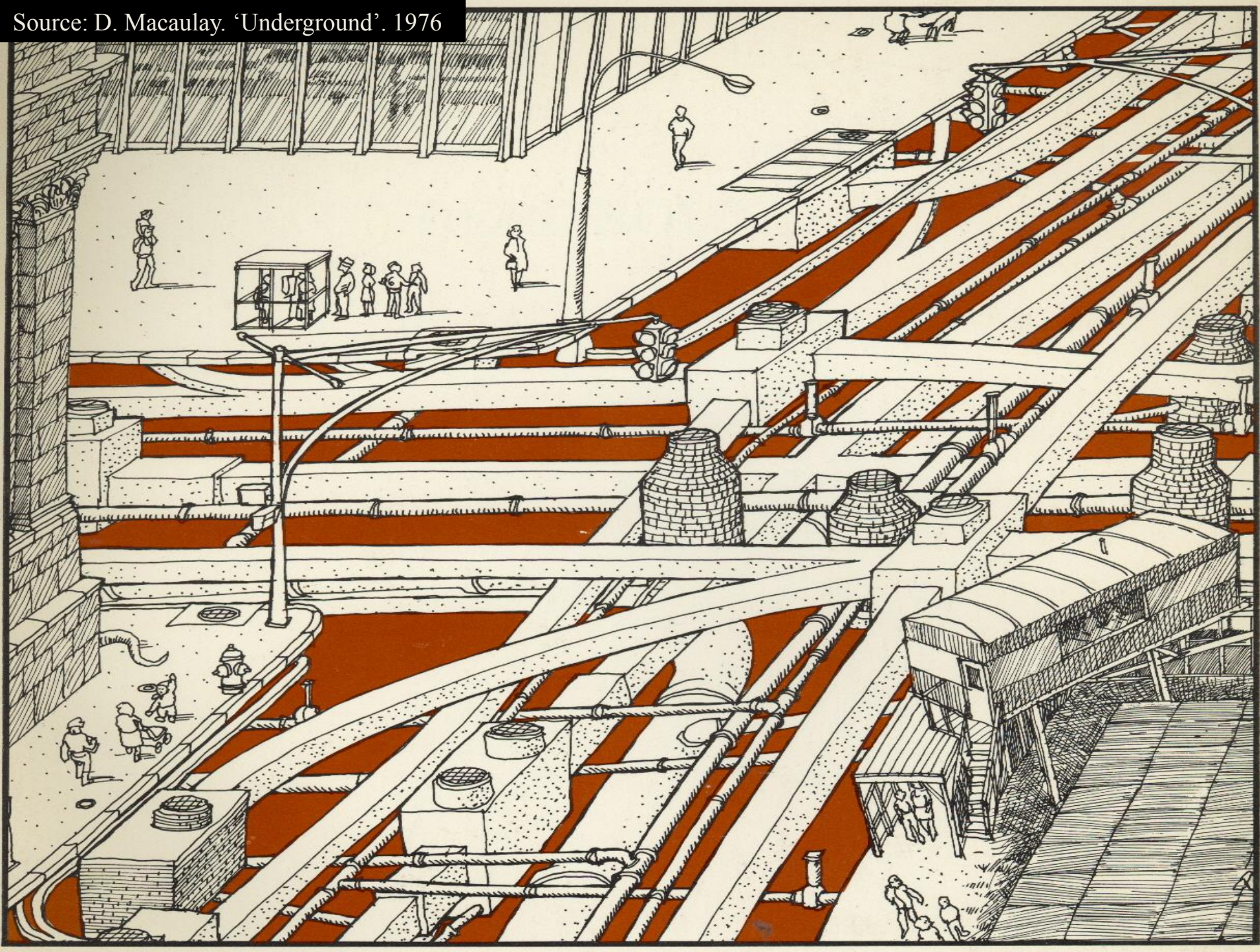
Infrastructure is not productive in the usual sense

- But has huge benefits for all other forms of productivity
- *Our modern success – economic, health, prosperity, quality of life – is built on the foundation of infrastructure*

But we technical people have seldom argued well!

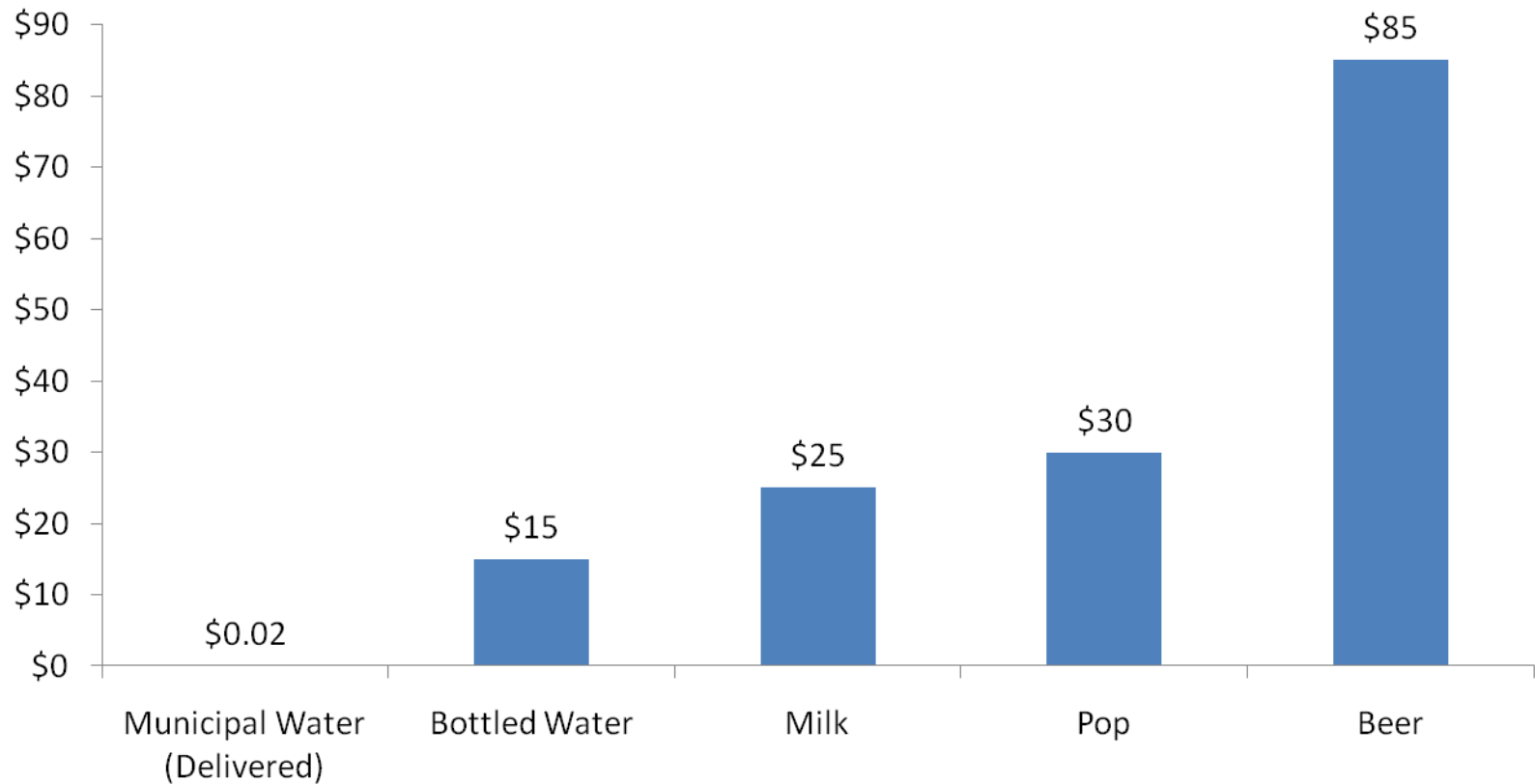
We have almost no metrics that relate quality of life, health, human experience or economic prosperity to the level of infrastructure funding

Thus, we have grown to think of infrastructure as a problem, not an opportunity, as a tax, and not a benefit



The Cost of Water – little intrinsic value – direct supply costs.

- Order of magnitude costs for 25L of product:





The Long-Term Goal

To tie in what the customer pays – level of funding – to what the customer gets – level of service.

- To be able to tie fire fighting challenges, traffic disruptions tied to pipe bursts, health upsets, water outage days and delays, and system safety to level of funding.
- We must do more than simply argue infrastructure is expensive, important and currently neglected
- We must learn to target that level of neglect to undesirable consequences to matter to people, not just to engineers

Likely means a shift more to likelihoods and possibilities, from certainties and unsupported claim – like in medicine where one balances the risks of using a drug, to the risks of not!

To achieve great things two things are needed: a plan, and not quite enough time.

Leonard Bernstein

If we don't change direction soon, we will end up where we are going.

Irwin Corey