

Principles for Transport in Urban Life: Better Together

Successful sustainable cities in the twenty-first century will prioritize people by integrating transport and urban development. Making this happen means putting the *Our Cities Ourselves* principles into practice to create vibrant, low-carbon cities where people want to live and work.

The *Our Cities Ourselves* principles show how the future of transport in urban life lies in reinforcing the complementary nature of sustainable urban transport and urban development. In the face of rapid urbanization and climate change, the future of transport in urban life will depend not only on these principles, but how they work together.



Compact

In a compact city, activities are located closer to one another, requiring less time and energy to connect. When all the principles are applied collectively, a thriving compact city is created.



Density

By building up instead of out, cities absorb urban growth in a more compact way. Density supports a lively mix of activities and better transport services, but also requires that the transport systems can handle the increase in people.



Transit

Public transit connects and integrates more distant parts of the city. Transit corridors are the natural places where densification should begin. High quality transit is critical to create a prosperous and equitable city that is easily accessible by all.



Connect

A city needs a tight network of streets and paths for pedestrians and cyclists as well as public transit. Creating highly permeable places allows for a variety of mobility options that make trips more direct.



Mix

A connected city becomes more animated when there is a mix of activities along the streets and paths. Different uses encourage shorter trips and more lively neighborhoods.



Cycle

Like mixed uses, cycling activates streets and provides people with an efficient and convenient way to travel for medium distances. Cycling increases a person's access to a larger area, as well as increases the coverage of transit.



Shift

With the above principles in place, getting people out of their cars becomes easier but is not enough. Pricing and traffic reduction tools encourage people to shift away from cars.



Walk

When all the principles come together, the results are most keenly felt by the pedestrian. Vibrant, active streets where people feel safe are fundamental to the successful twenty-first century city.