

Land use/urban design relationships

City Form

Two general models of city growth are described here, Diffuse and Compact. The **Diffuse City** represents the result of low-density and use-segregated growth. Highways are the most important elements of transport infrastructure, connecting dispersed single-use areas. The Diffuse City in this way emphasizes the network that binds it over the nodes which that network connects.

The **Compact City**, on the other hand, is a model of high-density, mixed-use growth. This kind of development brings disparate city elements into closer proximity to each other, making the provision of multiple transportation options both possible and necessary. The Compact City can be said to emphasize the importance of the nodes on the network over the connections between them. (See Salvador Rueda, "City models: basic indicators", Quaderns 225, 2000.)

Each of these general models can be analyzed in more detail. For example, one Compact City variant can be described as a **Linear City**. This model restricts most growth to well-defined areas around the main transportation corridors. The arrangement of these corridors thus defines the city's form. A **Finger Plan**, for example, maintains one main city center from which various growth corridors diverge. By contrast the **Network**, where the corridors do not all intersect in one center, allows for the growth of multiple centers. (See Hildebrand Frey, Designing the city. 1999.)

Not all network centers are of equal importance. The major ones can be characterized as **growth poles**, for their effect on the surrounding region. A corridor between two growth poles can be expected to be under greater growth pressure than an area around a single center.

As cities grow and change, it is important to represent the different **growth scenarios** in ways that are easy to grasp. (See presentation for graphic example.)

At the scale of the site, such graphics become more detailed, suggesting specific relationship options between urban design and the following elements: natural setting, built environment, infrastructure, existing uses and future uses. For example, the relationship between building heights and street widths can be prescribed by design guidelines and graphics that help visualize how the finished relationship will look and feel.

In order to determine what kind of growth could be stimulated in the study area, some of **the sources of development funds** were identified. One of these was the European Union itself, and a list of the types of projects funded by the EU was excerpted from their thematic index.

- Competitiveness and sustainability
- Enterprises
- Environment
- Euro info centres
- European Regional Development Fund
- Forests
- Information society
- Less-developed regions
- Mountain and hill areas
- Quality of life
- Rural development
- Science and technology
- Technology

Many of these topics contain projects funded in Spain, some in neighboring valleys.

Another potential source of funds, the European Investment Bank, publishes a brief list of its priorities. These include: Research and innovation, film and audiovisual projects, and eLearning projects.