Designing for Density | An Urban Design Perspective

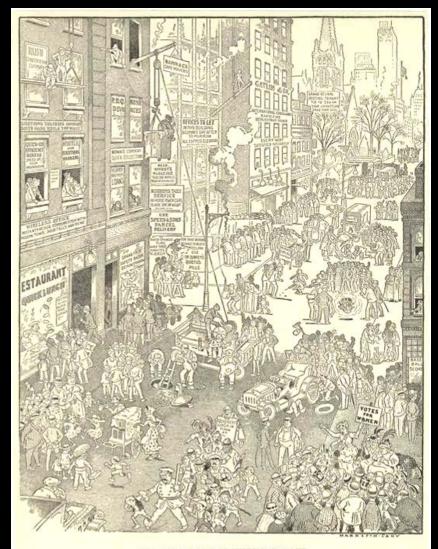
Lisa Padilla, AIA, LEED AP
Cityworks Design

Density What has it meant historically?

Density as urban ill

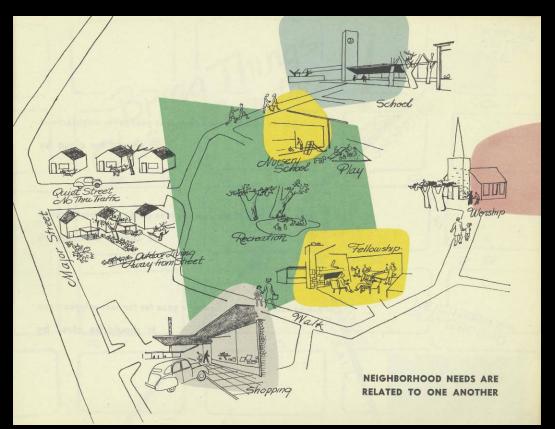


G. New York City - Traffic - 1903



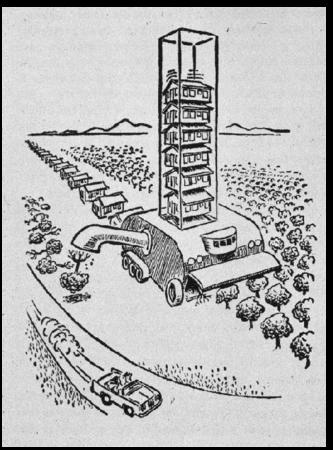
THE TERRIBLE RUSH OF METROPOLITAN LIFE THOSE BUSY NEW-YORKERS

N. T. PERSONAL LEGISLARY PRINCIPAL COLLECTION





Dispersion as solution

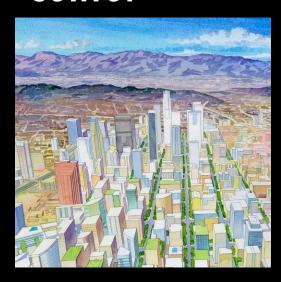


Density How should we define it today?

Center

Mixed Urban

Suburban







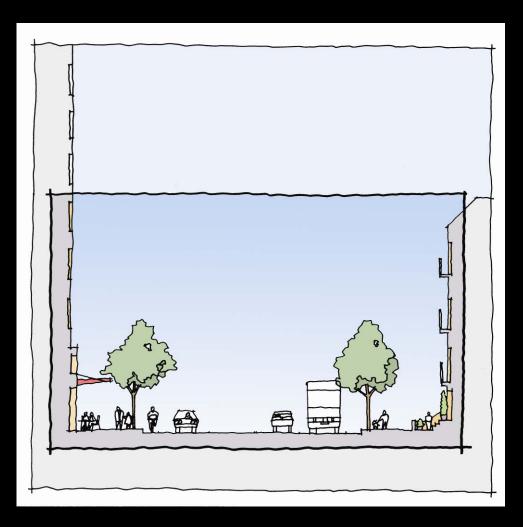
Downtown L.A.

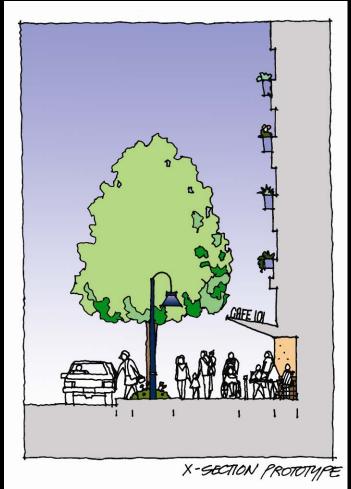
Southeast L.A.

Warner Center

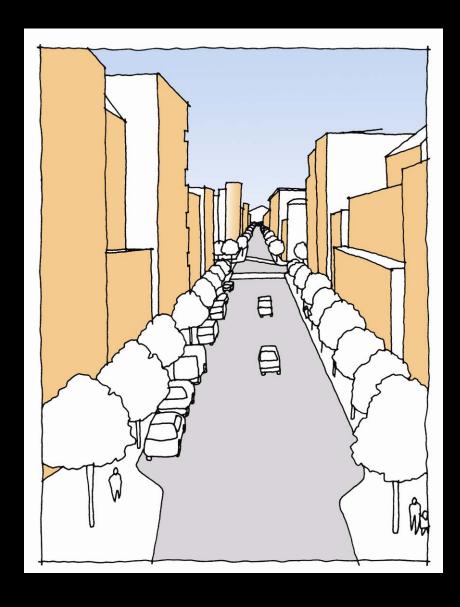
Downtown L.A. Creating a livable, walkable center

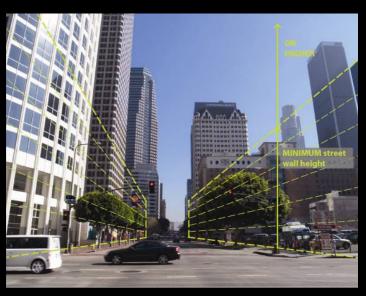
Making great streets

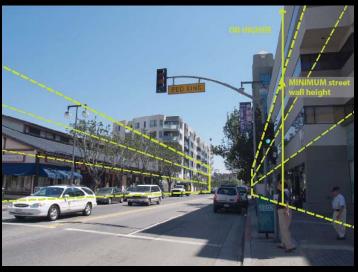




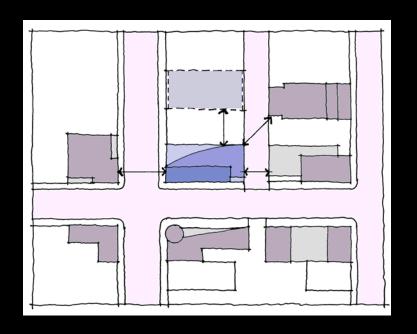
Varying street wall by district

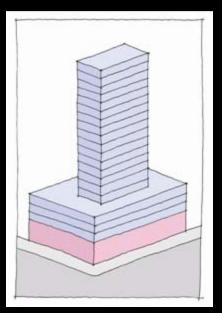


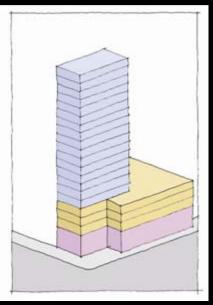


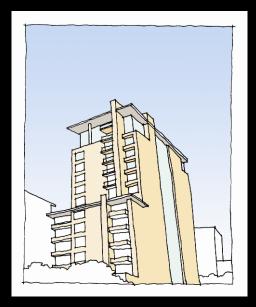


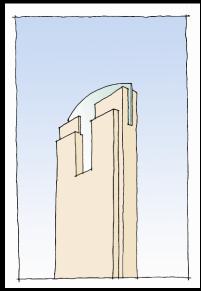
Designing towers well

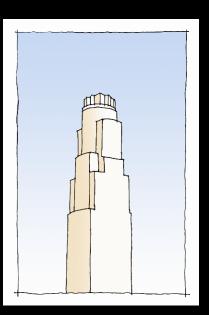












Design for a Livable Downtown Los Angeles

Promoting sustainable design

- Maintain & renovate existing structures where feasible
- Use durable, local, rapidly renewable materials that will last
- Incorporate energy & water efficiency; reduce stormwater runoff, heat island & light pollution









Southeast L.A. Design guidelines for older corridors & neighborhoods

Design Guidelines Southeast Los Angeles

Purpose of design guidelines

- Improve community livability & appearance
- Stimulate economic development
- Reinforce existing district and neighborhood identity
- Differentiate corridors to reflect the neighborhoods
- Provide architectural guidance, without being overly prescriptive
- Highly illustrative
- Allow for innovative solutions while respecting the historic qualities





Design Guidelines Southeast Los Angeles

- Wide sidewalks, landscaped parkways
 & shade trees
- Activate ground floor street wall
- Minimize vehicular/pedestrian conflicts









Humanistic, place-based design

- Respond to local conditions/ history/building/practices & be sensitive to neighbors
- Vary the horizontal & vertical plane of buildings
- Incorporate human-scale elements









Design Guidelines Southeast Los Angeles

Usable open space, maintained landscape

- Incorporate semi-public spaces
- Make open space usable for residents
- Provide low-maintenance landscape



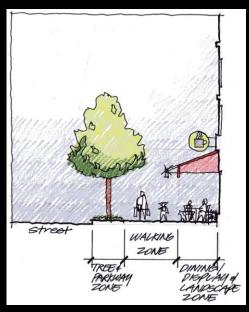






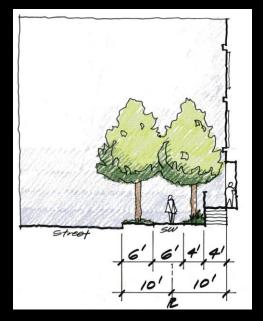
Design Guidelines Southeast Los Angeles

Activate the ground floor





Retail





Residential Units with Individual Entries

Storefront commercial





Signage

Fast food & strip mall





Neighborhood shopping center

Alley access





Front setback & fences

Street wall upper floor





Parkways & street trees

Street wall ground floor





Transformers & equipment

Transition to single family





Small lot or duplex

Front yard fences





Parkways

Driveways & garages





Additions & remodels

Warner Center | Improving the suburban model

Warner Center Specific Plan Update

From ranch to regional center







Warner Center Specific Plan Update

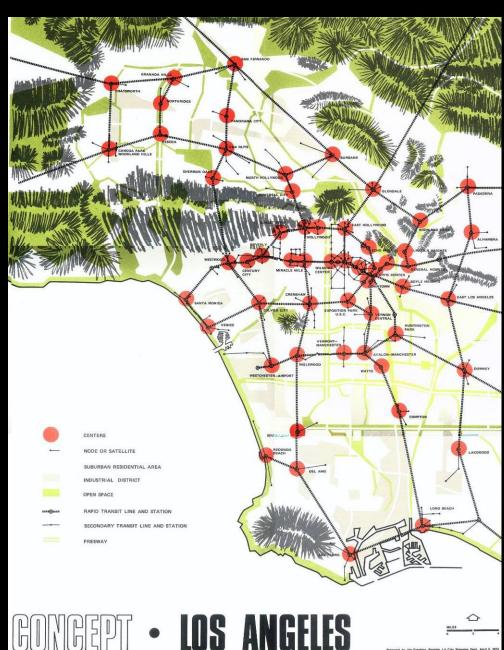
Centers concept

Challenge

 Can we make Warner Center a more "complete" center as envisioned by the original Centers Concept (c. 1970) with all the services & activities you would find in a Downtown?

In order to:

- Reduce trips
- Achieve sustainability
- Maximize quality of life



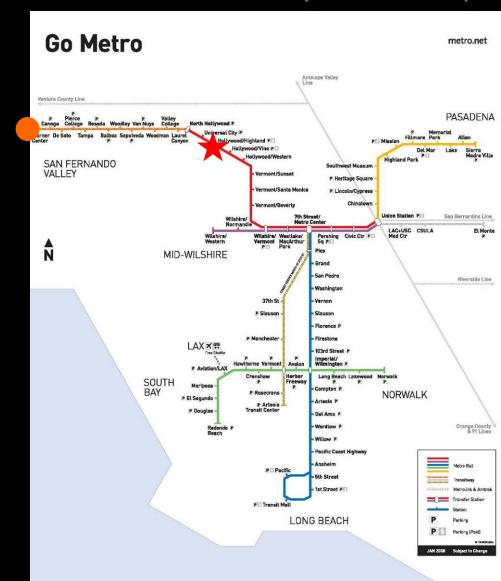
Warner Center Specific Plan Update

Regional Transit System

- Warner Center is at the "end of the line"
 - 45-60 min. to North Hollywood
 - 1 hr. 30 min. to Downtown
- Bus not rail



Transportation today





Transportation future

Commuter Bus Service

- Improve frequency
- Provide collector distributer service to stations
- More capacity at park-and-ride stations

Reduce the Need for Internal Vehicular Trips

- Provide an internal circulator system
- Give streets a pedestrian scale

Implement a Car-sharing and Bicycle-sharing Program

 Would help people who need a car/bike during the day, but could commute by train, or bus.

Other Programs

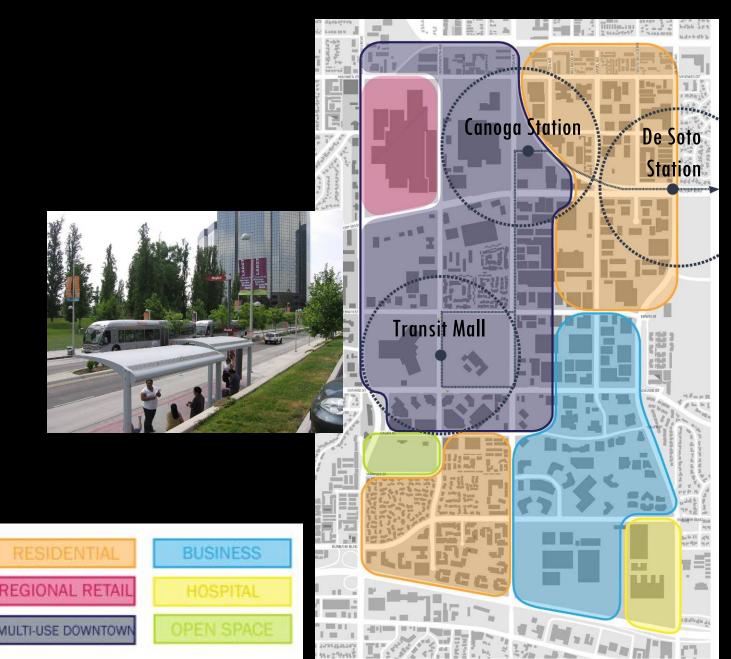
- Employer transit subsidies
- Remote office centers for residents
- Continue TMO Vanpool/Carpool efforts
- Incentivize telecommuting





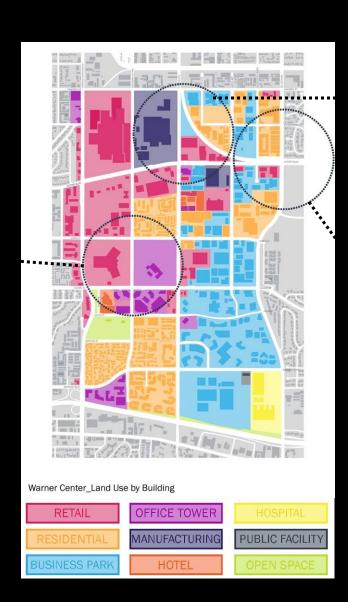


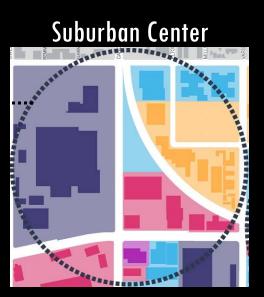
Future districts

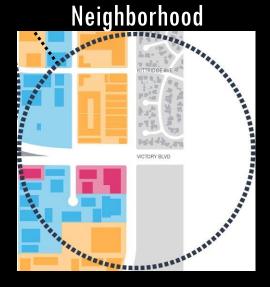


Transit-Oriented Development

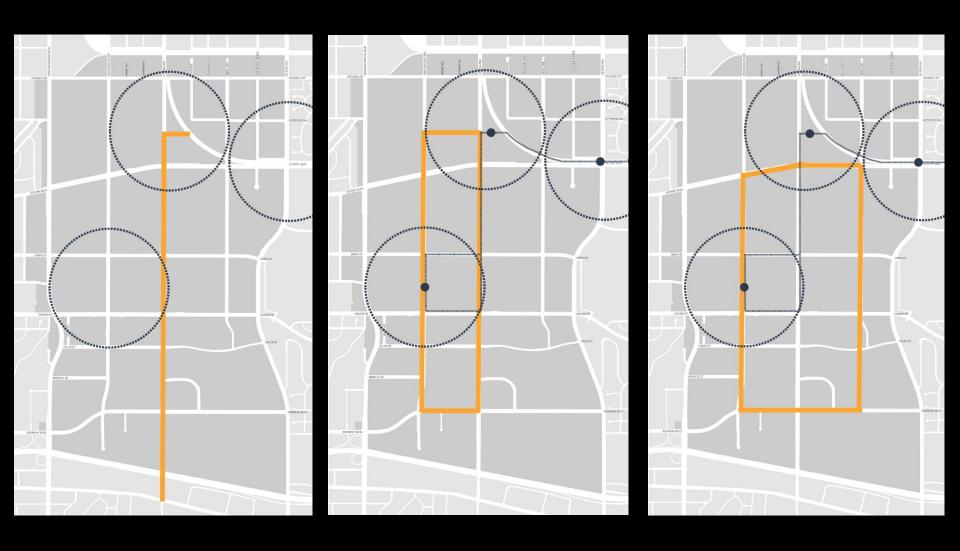




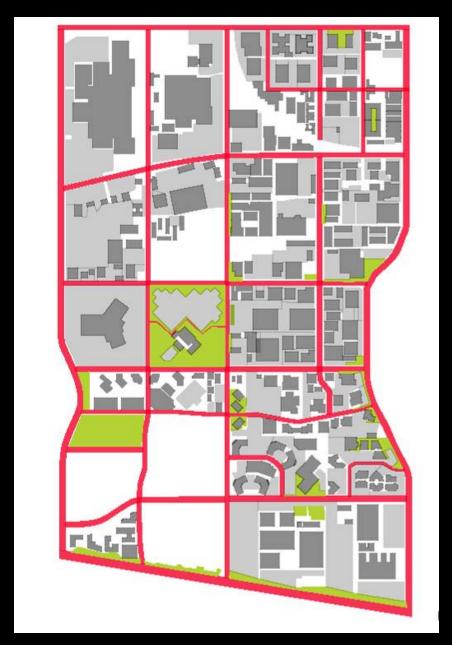




Possible circulator options

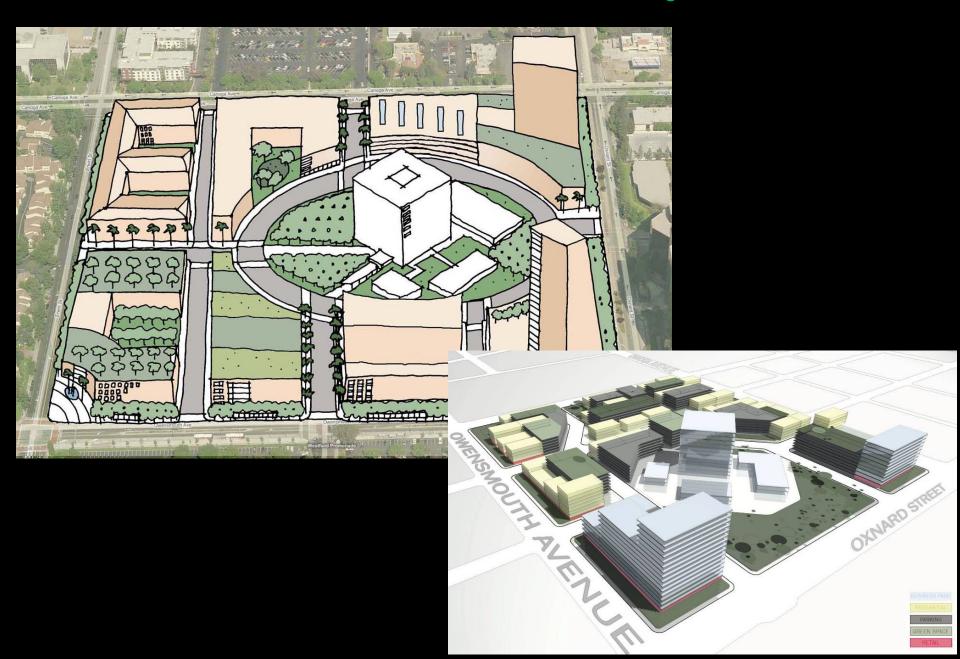


Block sizes





Making a walkable downtown



Making a walkable downtown



Density So how should we define it today?

Pasadena

Las Vegas

Old Pasadena FAR 2.4 to 1





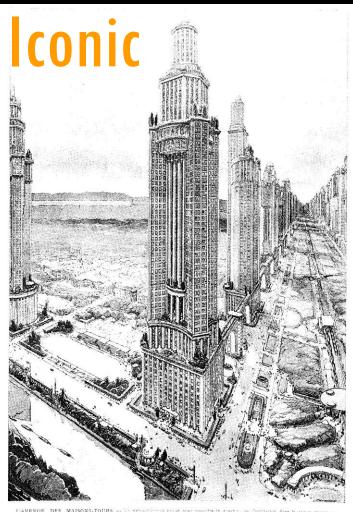
City Center FAR 5.8 to 1

Altadena
5 DU/acre





Sun City
10 DU/acre



L'AVENUE DES MAISONS-TOURS -- Ut, extraordinant projet pour regoudre la question de l'imbitation dans la region parissenne.



