

European placemaking directions for early 21st century urbanism

20 October 2011

Wayne State University, Detroit

Europe



Europe – as seen by the Swiss



Europe – as seen by the English



Italy – Verona: 2000 years of urbanism



Italy – Verona: 2000 years of urbanism



Italy – Genoa: 2000 years of urbanism



Italy – Genoa: 2000 years of urbanism



Italy – Genoa: 2000 years of urbanism

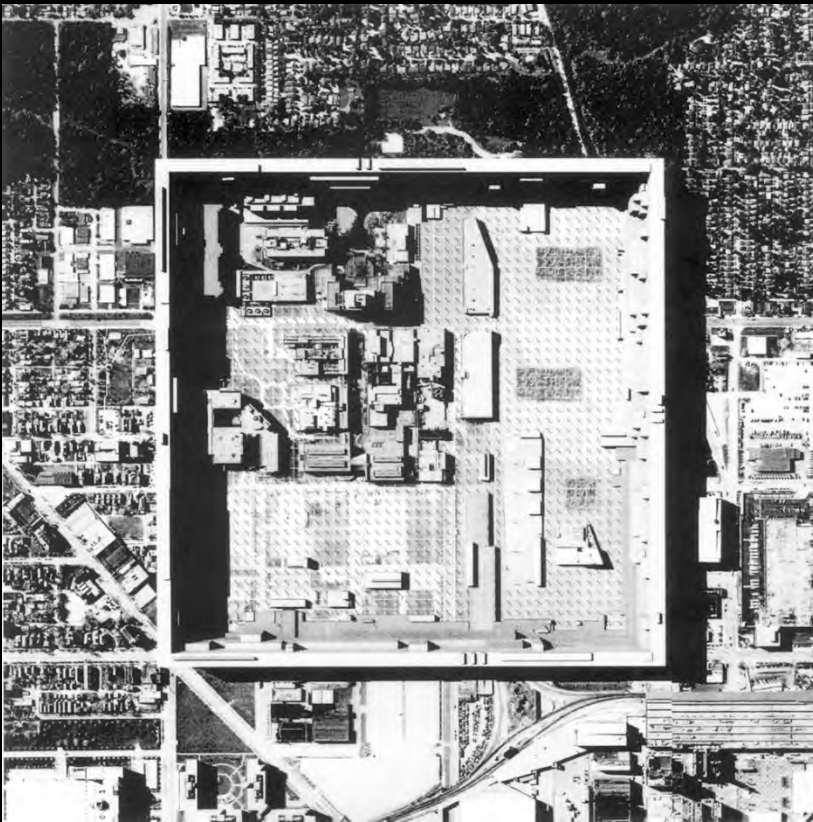


Italy – Naples: 2000 years of urbanism





what's happening in European placemaking?



“.....the strategies for establishing territories or **places** are the same irrespective of the scale at which you are working...”

- Florian Beigel, Architecture Research Unit, London

what are the main themes?

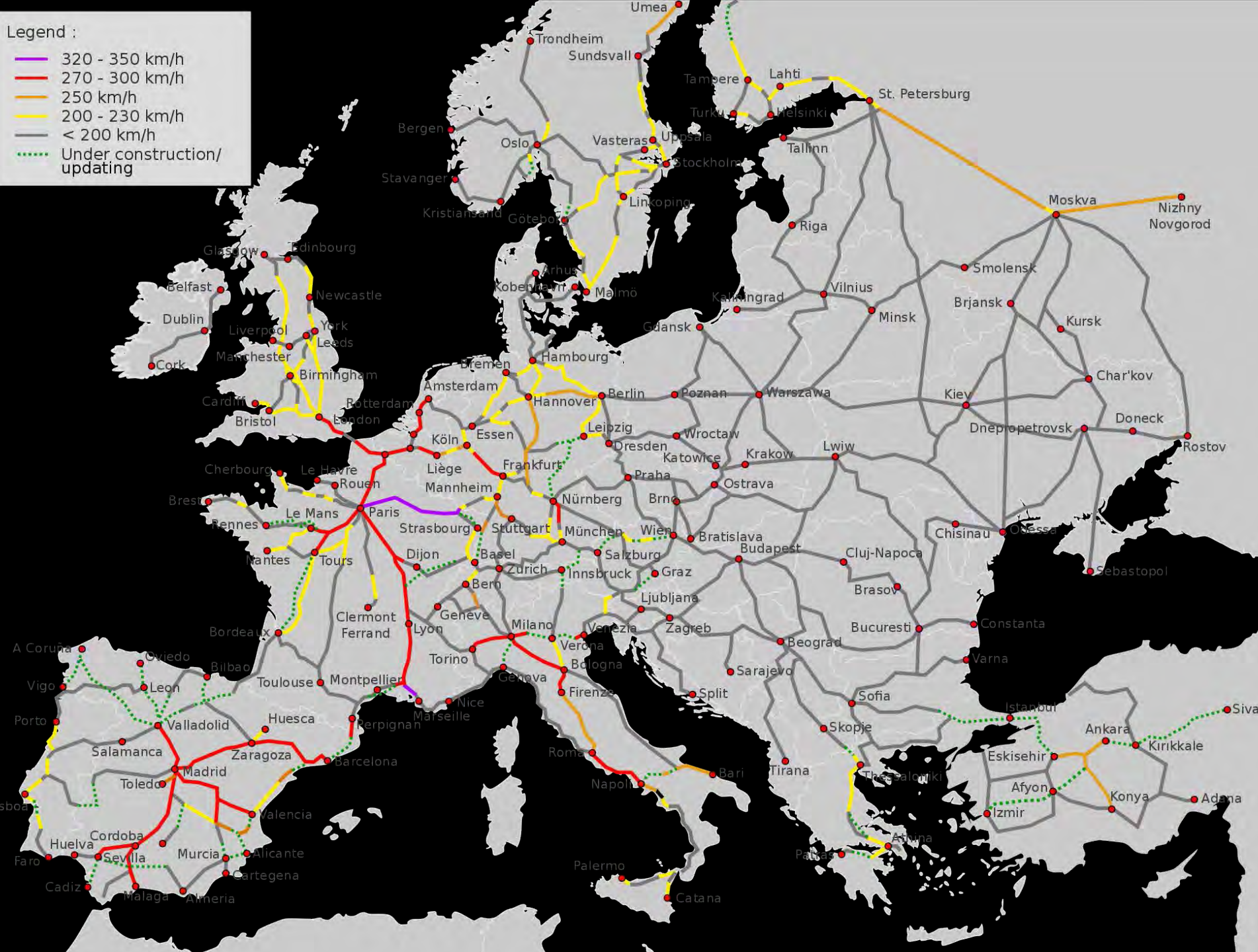


regional planning

- infrastructure
 - growth poles
 - city connections
- high speed rail
 - TGV in France
 - ICE in Germany
- cities
 - local transport
 - public realm
 - sustainability and heritage
 - maintaining the urban fabric

Legend :

- 320 - 350 km/h
- 270 - 300 km/h
- 250 km/h
- 200 - 230 km/h
- < 200 km/h
- - - Under construction/ updating



BILLETTERIE REGIONALE
COMPOSTEUR

Direction BORDEAUX
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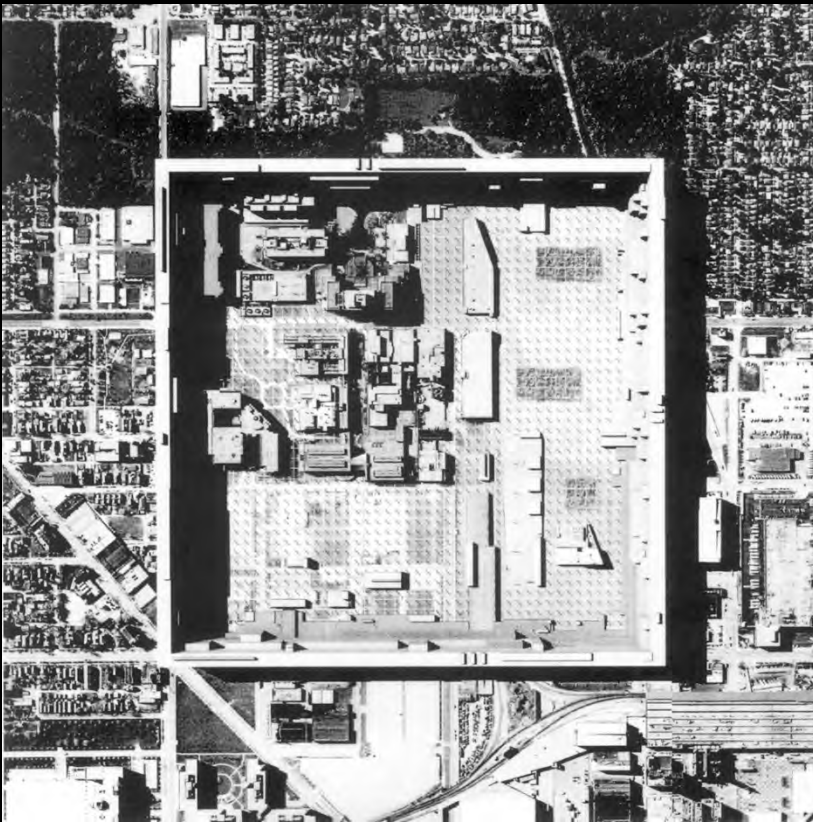
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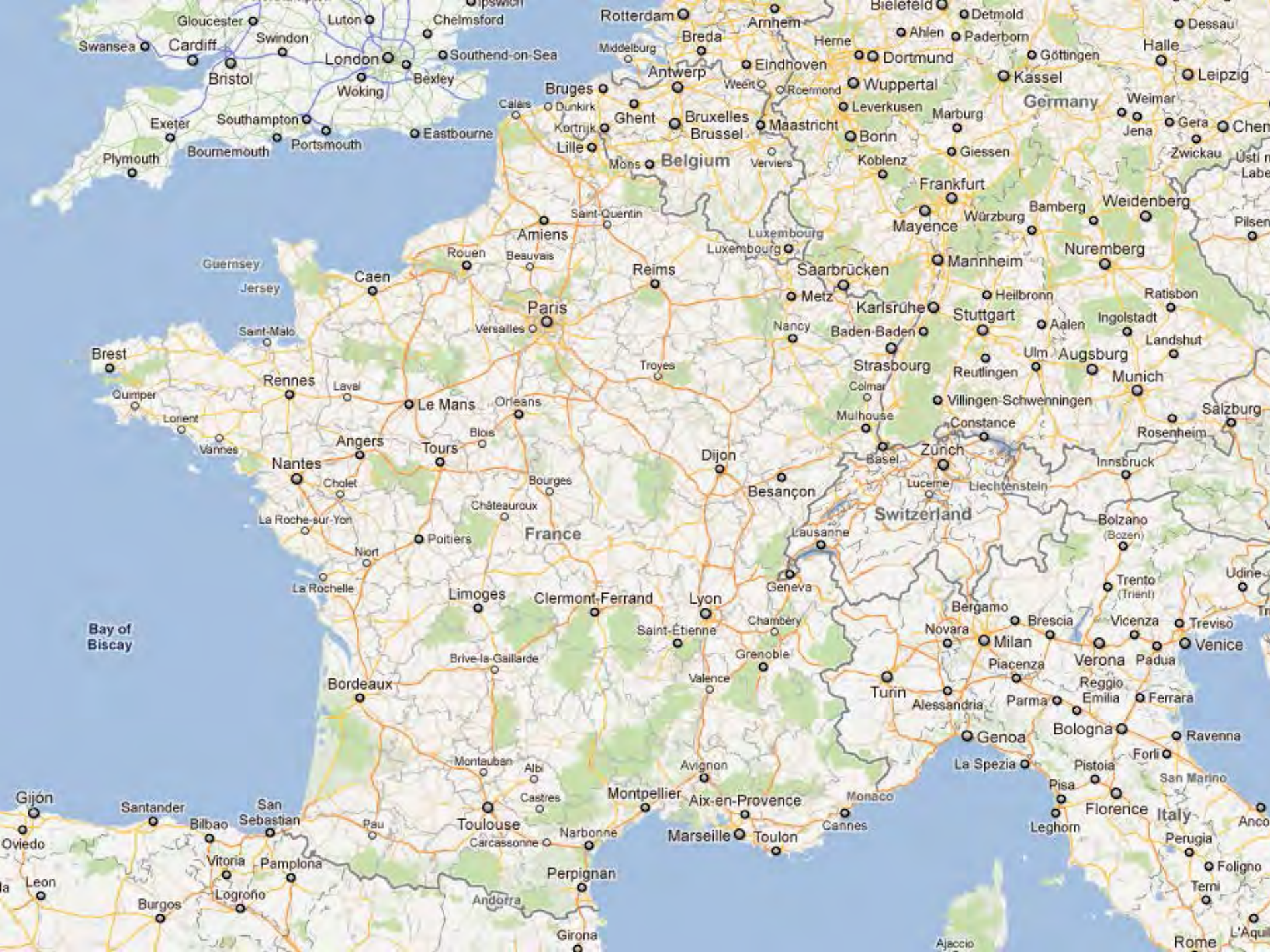


what's happening in Europe?



sustainable cities: retrofitting

- Bordeaux and France
 - turning a city around
 - structuring the city
 - looking after heritage
- Helsinki
 - ambition
 - achievement
- Freiburg
 - achievement
 - an exemplar, but...



Bordeaux: infrastructure creates place

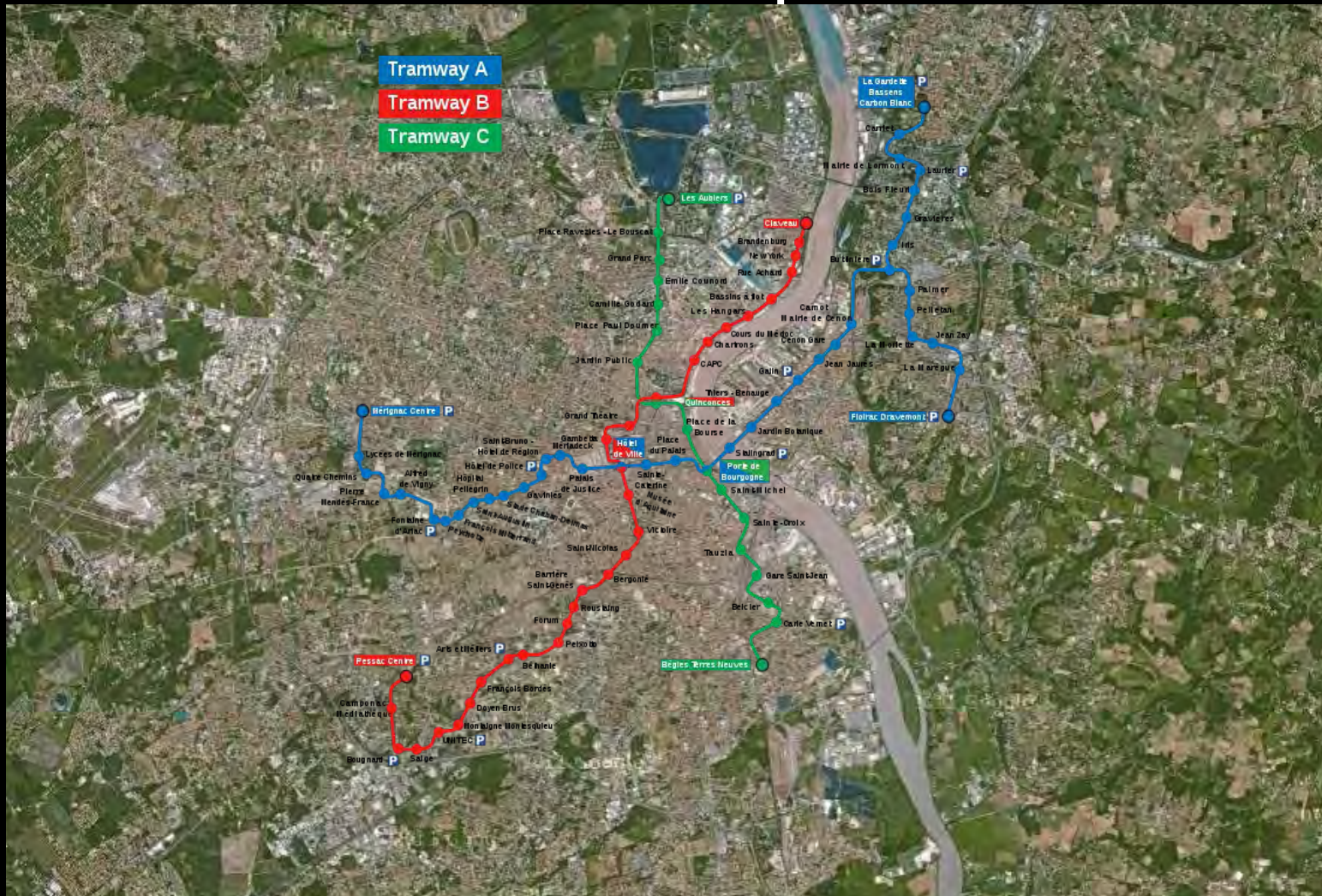


Bordeaux, France

- centre is a World Heritage Site
- new tram system has completely solved city centre traffic issues
- tram routes act as development corridors
- tram stops are places, termini are growth poles
- riverfront revitalisation has changed perceptions of the city
- using top landscape architects such as Michel Corajoud and Michel Desvigne
- underground car parking beneath road junctions
- tram system due to expand over next 12 years – long term thinking
- very strong civil service and local leadership - Alain Juppé



Bordeaux: infrastructure creates place



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Bordeaux, France



Toulouse, France



Toulouse, France



Toulouse, France



Marseilles, France



Marseille, France



Marseilles, France



Marseilles, France



Marseille, France



Marseilles, France



Marseilles, France



Helsinki, Finland



Helsinki, Finland

context

- Finland has almost the same population as Scotland
- Helsinki has the same population as Edinburgh
- over 75% of land area of the city owned by City Council

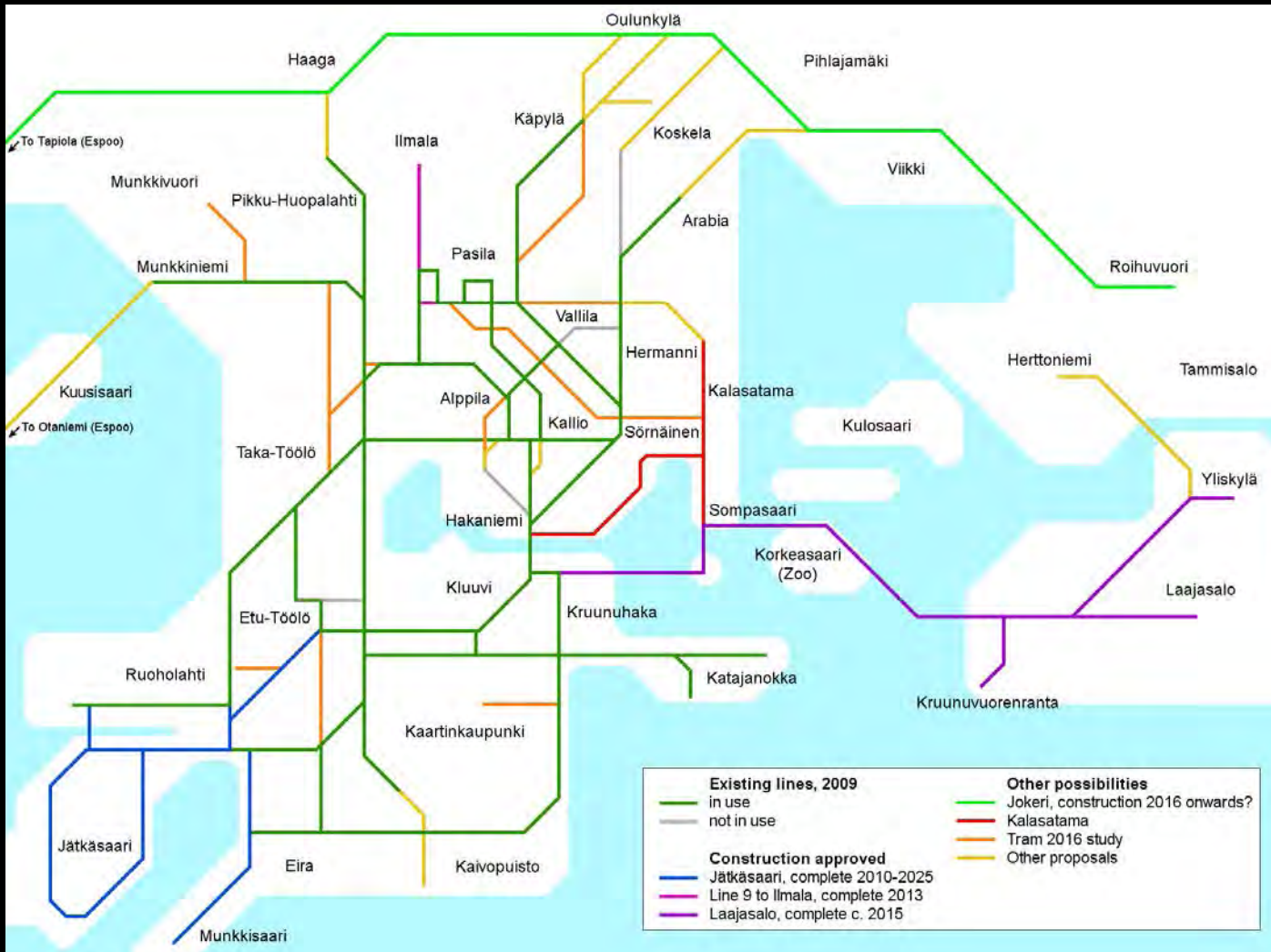
ambitions

- building a fast rail link to St Petersburg
- constructing a 80 km rail tunnel under the Gulf of Finland to Tallinn
- constructing a 20 km fast rail link to Vantaa Airport
- promoting Helsinki Airport as a European hub to China

reality

- extensive district heating system
- property development industry under control
- a vacuum powered district waste disposal scheme that eliminates bin collections
- extending its tram based public transport system with six major new lines over the next few years
- 2 new metro lines under construction

Helsinki, Finland



Vousaari, Helsinki, Finland



Vousaari, Helsinki, Finland

- conventional street blocks
- district heating system
- vacuum refuse disposal system – waste to heat
- metro station to city centre
- short walking distances to local amenities
- local shops, health centre, library
- beach, water sports, landscape – green and blue networks



Rieselfeld, Freiburg, Germany



Rieselfeld, Freiburg, Germany

- conventional street blocks
- strong design codes – but not style related
- strong ethos of building by housing co-ops
- tram link to city centre
- short walking distances to local amenities
- local shops, health centre, library, non-denominational church
- most houses have underground car parking
- integrated SuDs and green space throughout layout
- easy access to countryside



Rieselfeld, Freiburg, Germany



Rieselfeld, Freiburg, Germany



Rieselfeld, Freiburg, Germany



Herinneringspark , Flanders, Belgium

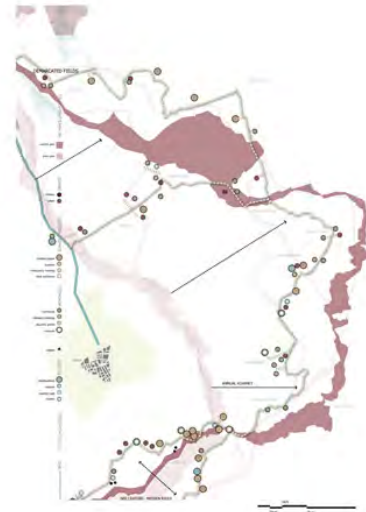
StossLU, 2010 ongoing



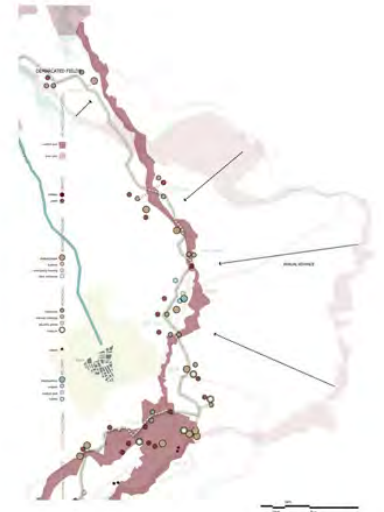
**1914 FRONTS /
2014 FIELDS**



**1915 FRONTS /
2015 FIELDS**



**1916-1917 FRONTS /
2016-2017 FIELDS**



**1918 FRONTS /
2018 FIELDS**

Herinneringspark , Flanders, Belgium

StossLU, 2010 ongoing



what's happening in Europe?



icons:

- the aestheticisation of urbanism and the public realm
- form over content
- shape-making instead of place-making

FIAT's Lingotto factory, Turin



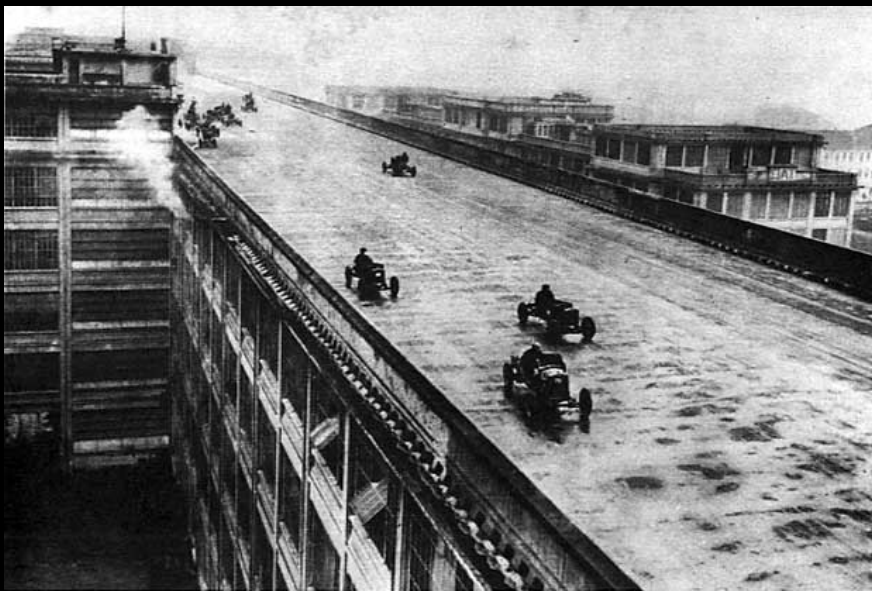
FIAT's Lingotto factory, Turin



la pista lunga più di un chilometro, i rettilinei misurano 868 metri



la pista di prova



by young architect Matté Trucco, was unusual in that it had five floors, with raw materials going in at the ground floor, and cars built on a line that went up through the building. Finished cars emerged at rooftop level, where there was a rooftop test track

FIAT's Lingotto factory, Turin



- re-purposing: car factory becomes conference centre, retail, offices and theatres



















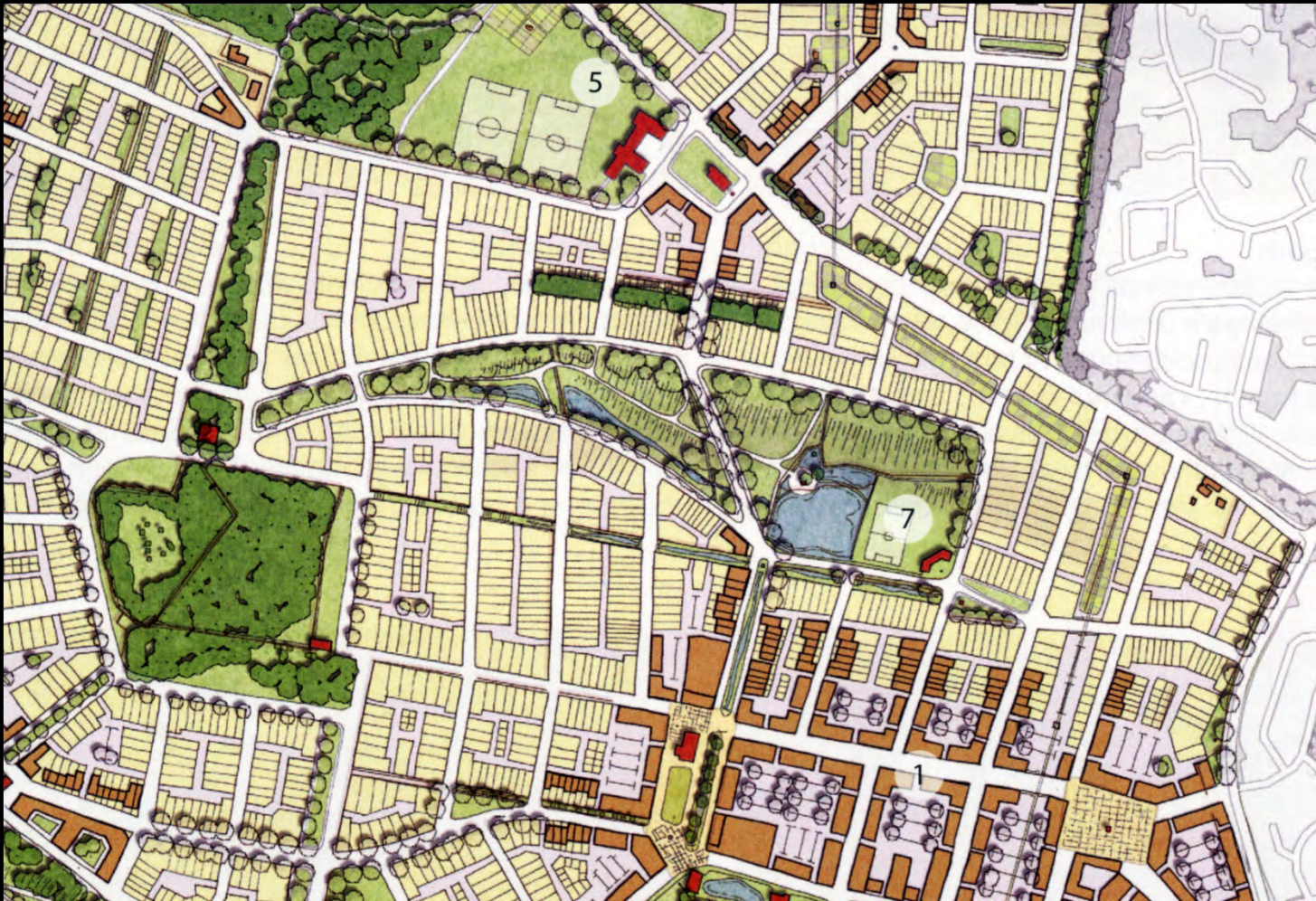


what's happening in the UK?



- new urbanism
- cars and people
- city rebuilding (halted)
- urban renaissance (halted)
- localism
- austerity
- decline of planning and public services
- community initiatives

New Urbanism, Scotland
Duany, Plater-Zyberk, 1982 - ongoing



Knockroon , Scotland - Traditional Urbanism

The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment - ongoing



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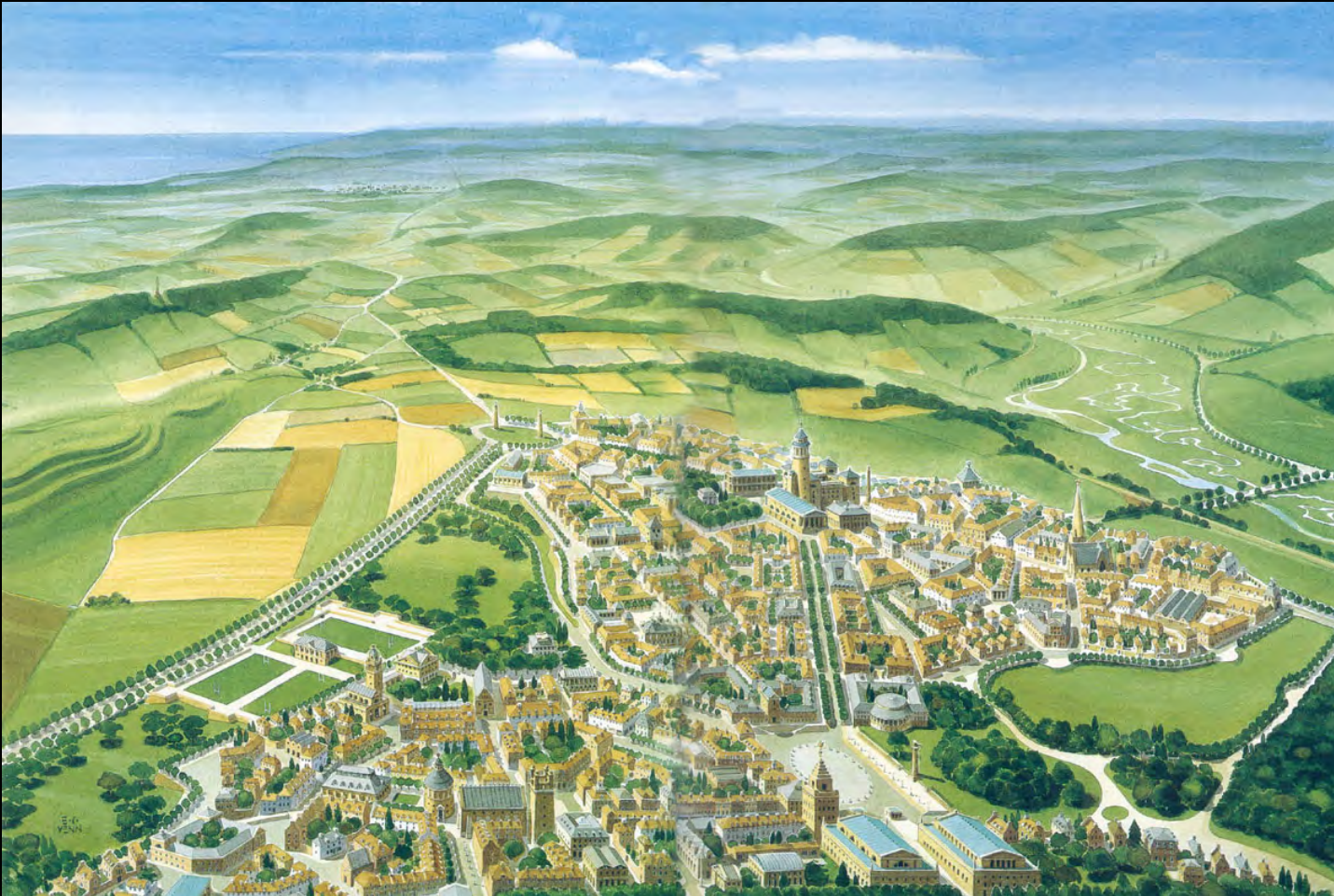
Knockroon , Scotland - Traditional Urbanism

The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment - ongoing



Poundbury England - Traditional Urbanism

The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment - ongoing



Poundbury England - Traditional Urbanism

The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment - ongoing



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism

Haverleij near Den Bosch



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism

Haverleij near Den Bosch



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism Haverleij near Den Bosch



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism

Haverleij near Den Bosch



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism

Brandevoort near Helmond



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism

Brandevoort near Helmond



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism

Brandevoort near Helmond



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism



Netherlands: Traditional Urbanism



Cars and people, Scotland and England increasingly influential - ongoing



Cars and people, Scotland and England Kilmarnock – now



Cars and people, Scotland and England

Kilmarnock – proposed





Cars and people, Scotland and England Kilmarnock – before



Cars and people, Scotland and England Kilmarnock – after



Cars and people, Scotland and England Kilmarnock – before



Cars and people, Scotland and England Kilmarnock – before



Cars and people, Scotland and England

Maryhill – before



Cars and people, Scotland and England

Maryhill – after



Glasgow, Scotland

Rebuilding the Workshop of the Empire – Part 1 Clyde Corridor









Glasgow's Riverside Museum shed, historic environment or icon





























Glasgow, Scotland

Rebuilding the Workshop of the Empire – Part 2 East End













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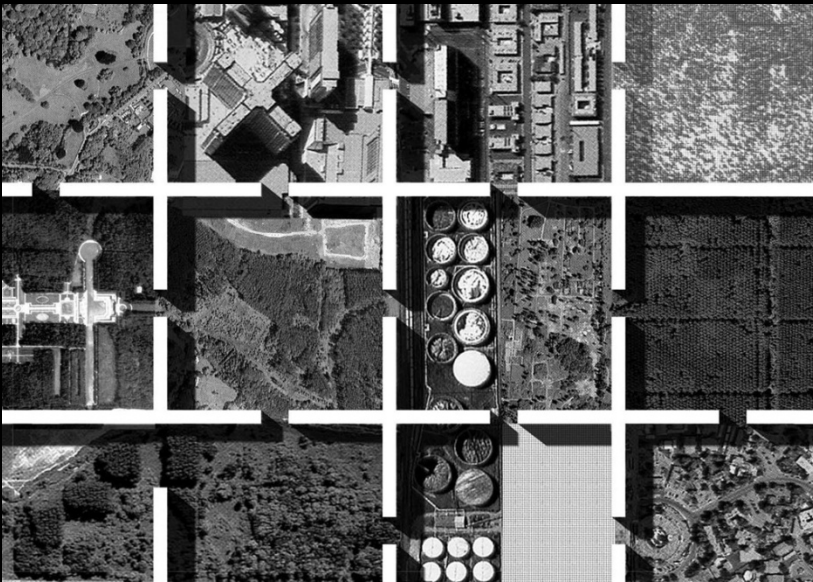
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STREET





some local experience



sustainable approaches:

- Energetica Design Guidance
- a regional design guide
- breaking away from traditional object oriented guidance

Energetica, Aberdeen City to Peterhead



Energetica, Aberdeen City and Shire – what is Energetica?

- home to the second age of energy
- it is a place as well as an attitude to doing things and a way of thinking
- a unique business environment based on the principles of low carbon dependency
- attracting businesses founded and inspired by the energy industry
- designed using sustainability principles and with low energy requirements
- radically improved transport arteries
- development that enhances the natural environment



But in reality, Energetica has few of these qualities – so what could it be about?

- transition from oil to post oil
- radical carbon / waste reduction and biodiversity retention
- self-sufficiency where possible
- a culture of innovation
- talent attraction
- learning, distribution of skills, knowledge and capacity to act
- readjusted urban-rural balance

and Place Quality matters to all of these



But Place is a deeper set of parameters than 'buildings' hence design guidance for Energetica should be about:

- **place performance** – exchange, learning, social capital, energy reduction and personal experience
- **landscape** – experience, energy and food
- **process** – institutions, co-production, governance, engagement
- **core infrastructure** – energy, transport, food
- the urban-rural balance



A traditional 'design code' would not produce anything like that because:

- it would be unable to channel these aims productively
- design guides are already ineffective in achieving more modest 'design quality' aims
- design guides are about efficiency of process and reduction of design risk...
- ...but distract from exploring value creation
- they do not encourage diversity, innovation or creativity
- instead they are an adversarial model based on distrust
- they are litigious rather than ambitious – lowest common denominator



So the characteristics of a more effective set of design guidance principles would include :

- avoiding overly prescriptive control
- enabling **process** rather than fixing **micro-place outcomes**
- permit development based on **performance** rather than **conformance**, investment criteria, **content** rather than **form** and **performance not aesthetics**
- dealing with **relations** rather than **objects** – eg building interfaces with the public realm, landscape experience linked to food and energy
- environmental performance embracing **energy, biodiversity, food, waste and water**



The emerging design guidance is based on **improving the quality of life, environmental performance and setting the conditions for economic growth:**

01 - Settlement structure:

- 1 – a positive relationship to landscape
- 2 – a legible/ permeable movement framework
- 3 – a green settlement pattern
- 4 – a well considered density pattern
- 5 – a positive relationship with existing centres and facilities
- 6 – a deliberate (co)location of new facilities
- 7 – designing for mixed communities
- 8 – the integration of working environments
- 9 – the integration of non-industrial working environments
- 10 – innovative enabling infrastructure

The emerging design guidance is based on **improving the quality of life, environmental performance and setting the conditions for economic growth:**

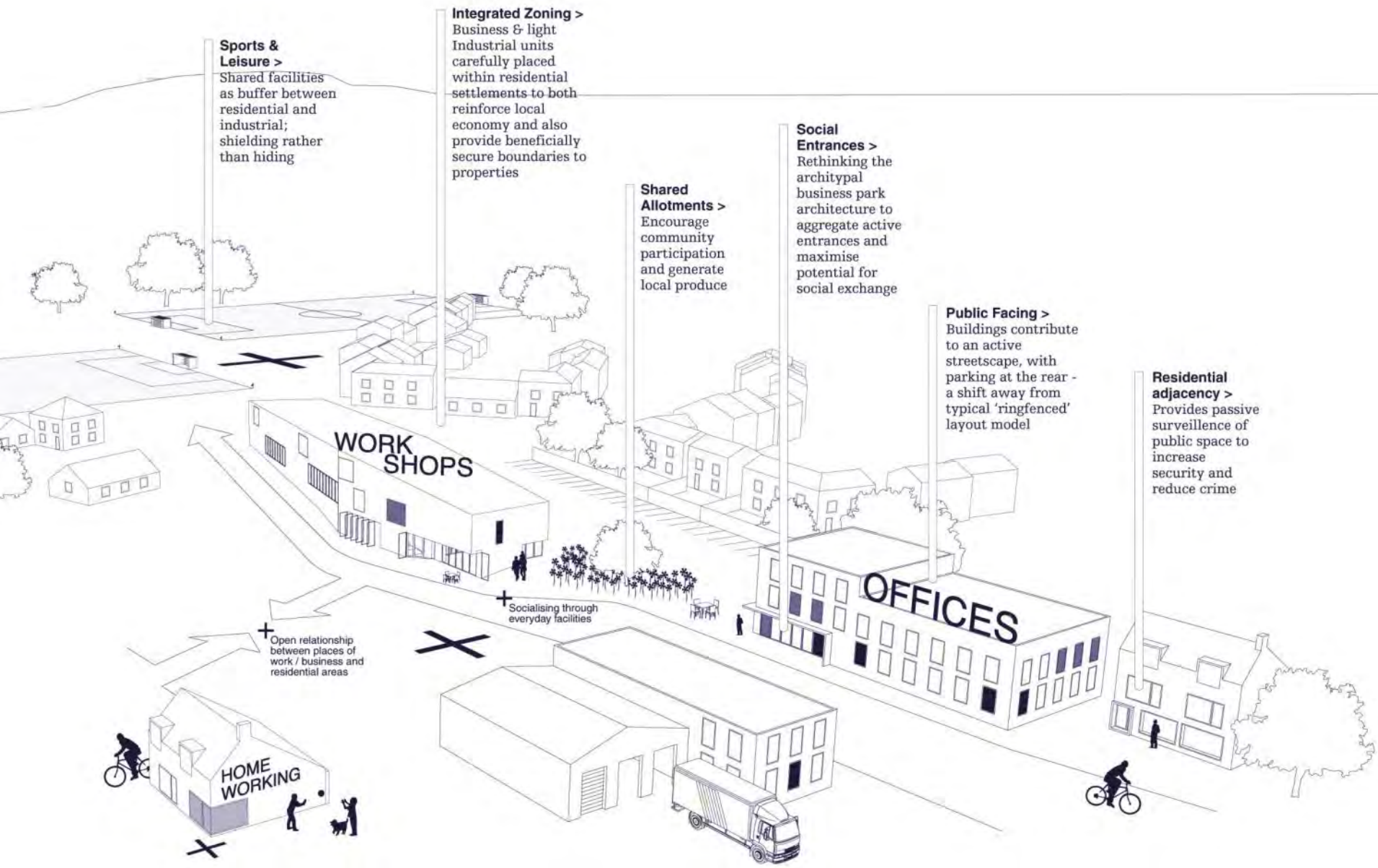
02 - Environmental performance:

- 1 – energy
- 2 – sustainable construction
- 3 – movement and transport
- 4 – local food infrastructure
- 5 – integrated recycling and waste
- 6 – an integrated approach to water

The emerging design guidance is based on **improving the quality of life, environmental performance and setting the conditions for economic growth:**

03 - Built form:

- 1 – streets as places
- 2 – an active public realm
- 3 – a positive interface between public and private space
- 4 – managed communal space
- 5 – adaptability and flexibility
- 6 – heritage and reuse of assets – genetic material
- 7 – housing size and space standards



Sports & Leisure >

Shared facilities as buffer between residential and industrial; shielding rather than hiding

Integrated Zoning >

Business & light Industrial units carefully placed within residential settlements to both reinforce local economy and also provide beneficially secure boundaries to properties

Shared Allotments >

Encourage community participation and generate local produce

Social Entrances >

Rethinking the architypal business park architecture to aggregate active entrances and maximise potential for social exchange

Public Facing >

Buildings contribute to an active streetscape, with parking at the rear - a shift away from typical 'ringfenced' layout model

Residential adjacency >

Provides passive surveillance of public space to increase security and reduce crime

WORK SHOPS

OFFICES

HOME WORKING

+ Open relationship between places of work / business and residential areas

+ Socialising through everyday facilities

04 SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE

01.1 - A POSITIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH LANDSCAPE

XL - CORRIDOR WIDE

JUSTIFICATION

All developments should have a positive relationship with the landscape and natural heritage so that:

The key principle is that wherever possible, settlements should have a positive relationship with the landscape and natural heritage in which they should be treated as a vital living resource and an integral part of the corridor's economy, environment and quality of life.

1. positive linkage of the development to the countryside is implemented through development of public greenspace networks embracing cycle paths, coastal footpaths, recreational facilities and managed habitats
2. the development contributes to landscape improvements that maintain and enhance the landscape character areas in the corridor – through shelterbelts, new woodland, hedgerows and maintenance particularly around settlements
3. the development achieves a score of 75% or better in the Eco Homes BRE Ecological Value Checklist (very good or excellent) in order to encourage development of land that already has a limited value to wildlife and to discourage the development of ecologically valuable sites
4. the developer will undertake additional works offsite in an agreed location or make a financial contribution to the Energetica Development Trust, if it is not possible to achieve the maintenance or enhancement of habitats onsite



The potential benefits of this requirement include:

ECONOMY

- supporting the local economy through food production and fuel crops
- retaining skills in agriculture, forestry and related countryside activities
- contributing to the landscape as an asset instrumental in defining the character of the Energetica corridor

ENVIRONMENT

- enhancing the character of the key landscape zones within the corridor
- improving opportunities for outdoor recreation close to homes, decreasing the need to drive
- enriching biodiversity profiles throughout the corridor and maintaining and enhancing the complex mosaic of natural and manmade habitats

QUALITY OF LIFE

- encouraging involvement with the landscape either actively through care and production or passively through education and community projects
- creating opportunities for public occupation and process driven greenspace development
- improving access to the countryside, encouraging active lifestyles and promoting schemes that enhance the character and identity of the corridor

04 SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE
01.7 – DESIGNING FOR MIXED COMMUNITIES

M - SETTLEMENT

New developments should be designed for mixed communities and should:

- meet a maximum score in Building for Life for categories 2 (an accommodation mix that reflects the needs and aspirations of the local community) and 3 (tenure mix that reflects the needs of the local community), and are fully compliant with PAN 78: Inclusive Design
- contain a maximum number of units of identical size and tenure that can be delivered by one developer within one development



RANGE OF HOUSING TYPES AND TENURES

JUSTIFICATION

Neighbourhoods are more successful when they avoid large concentrations of housing of the same type and the Government attaches "high importance to the development of mixed, sustainable communities with a range of housing types and tenures which can share community and other facilities" (PAN 67). In particular, a good mix of housing types, sizes, tenures and procurement routes is important in creating a basis for a balanced community where different income groups and generations can live together and where people's evolving housing needs could be accommodated. The key principle is that Energetica places are to be distinguished not only by having lifetime neighbourhoods in terms of housing type and tenure mix, but also by providing a richness of places of social exchange where different people can meet and socialise.



MIXED COMMUNITY

The potential benefits of this requirement include:

ECONOMY

- A well-designed neighbourhood will provide accommodation that meets the needs of single person households, small and large families as well as offering live-work possibilities, providing choice and lowering the cost of living across the lifetime of families and individuals
- Self-build and collective self build can enable a lowering of build cost enhancing affordability of homes to end users

ENVIRONMENT

- Mixed communities can adapt to changing circumstances without having to be completely rebuilt, lengthening lifetime of neighbourhoods

QUALITY OF LIFE

- a mix of housing types, uses and procurement types can create more attractive residential environments with greater diversity in building forms and scales and setting a specific Energetica identity
- a variety and mix of demographics will help the neighbourhood support different types of activity at different times of the day
- a mix of accommodation provides opportunities for communities where people can move home without leaving a neighbourhood

04 SETTLEMENT STRUCTURE

01.09 - THE INTEGRATION OF NON-INDUSTRIAL WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

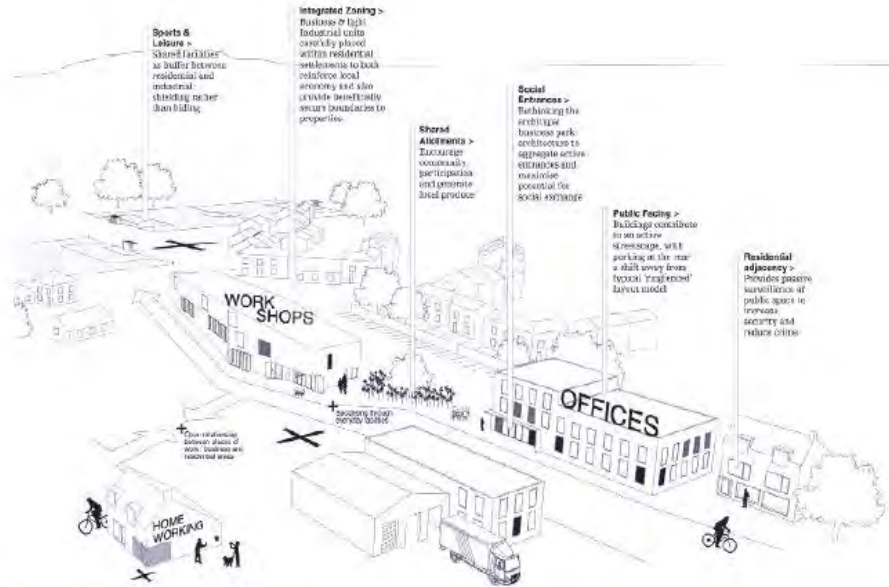
M - SETTLEMENT

We will encourage developments which help to provide integrate non-industrial working environments if:

- on the assumption that environmental nuisance factors do not dictate otherwise, mixed use functions should be encouraged, integrating office workspace and certain light industrial / warehousing functions with uses such as such as healthcare, education, leisure, sports and residential into the everyday fabric of the city through a good quality public realm.

JUSTIFICATION

The integration of working environments in the fabric of places in the Energetica corridor can make a valuable contribution to the quality and distinctiveness of the area. Apart from industrial uses with significant environmental constraints (noise, smell, dust, and traffic) that give rise to a need for segregation from residential accommodation, there is no strict requirement to limit employment uses to 'business parks' that are separated from the everyday environment of settlements. Instead, mixed-use employment and residential zones can be created where a balance is achieved and this approach is particularly relevant for the restructuring of older business parks and their progressive integration into settlements. The key principle is that wherever possible, working environments should be integrated in the fabric of settlements.



The potential benefits of this requirement include:

ECONOMY	ENVIRONMENT	QUALITY OF LIFE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better facilities for employees & visitors through better working conditions & productivity • distinctive and better environment for investment and attraction of companies • creating the conditions for innovation • better safety • more efficient use of land will improve values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better integration can reduce the need to travel • conditions for biodiversity improved • efficient land-use will reduce land-take 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • industrial areas can avoid being no-go zones and instead be part of positive identity • efficient land-use will reduce land-take

03 ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

02.6 - AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO WATER

M - SETTLEMENT, S - PLOT

We will encourage developments that make a significant contribution to limiting increase in demand for potable water and to eliminating potential runoff and flooding problems arising from new development if proposals:

- contribute to the Energetica water strategy
- include a comprehensive SUDS plan
- include a potable water minimisation strategy and firm proposals for the inclusion of water efficient fittings in all properties including the provision of water meters

THE RELEVANT STANDARDS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ALL NEW BUILDINGS INCLUDE:

- For Homes:**
- EcoHomes (Excellent as minimum standard)
- For Commercial and Industrial Buildings:**
- BREEAM (Outstanding) and (Excellent)

Target

- minimise increase in demand for water over current levels and flooding / overflow targets



JUSTIFICATION

The key principle is that water is a precious resource and as far as possible developments will limit any increase in demand for water and minimise the need for additional reservoirs. Cost effective measures for reducing potable water use are available and all new buildings should be fitted with water efficient fittings and consideration should be given to the use of rainwater harvesting and the supply of water efficient appliances where relevant. New development also has consequences in terms of run-off from hard surfaces and potential increases in localised flood risk so all new developments will require, in liaison with the appropriate suppliers, regulators and local authorities, to minimise any existing flood issues and prevent new issues arising by incorporating comprehensive SUDS strategies



THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THIS REQUIREMENT INCLUDE:

Economy

- reduced need to build and operate new water and by reducing the increase in use of potable water
- potential reduced expenditure on flood prevention measures through the use of SUDS systems for all new developments
- potential savings to developers and contractors from use of cost effective SUDS and local sewage solutions
- potential business and employment opportunities arising from the supply, installation and maintenance of rainwater recycling systems
- potential cost savings to residents and businesses from reduced water consumption if meters fitted

Environment

- reduced need to provide new reservoirs and energy intensive treatment plant from reductions in the use of potable water through recycling and water efficiency measures
- increasing the amenity and biodiversity value of land on the site through the use of SUDS
- protecting and improving surface water quality through the use of SUDS approach
- reducing the likelihood and adverse impact of flash flooding caused by run-off in heavy rain through a SUDS system

Quality of life

- more opportunity to enjoy biodiversity in the public realm through well planned and managed SUDS
- raised awareness of ecological and environmental benefits of water resource efficiency

03 BUILT FORM
03.2 – AN ACTIVE PUBLIC REALM

M – SETTLEMENT, S - PLOT

We will encourage developments that facilitate a positive and active public realm for a wide range of users not only in everyday use but also through creating support and facilities for events if:

- development proposals clearly demonstrate and identify how public spaces provide a positive experience in everyday use and how they can also support a range of events
- the detail of the street design in each neighbourhood and plot creates places that can be used for informal social contact, play, and community events

JUSTIFICATION

The public realm gets meaning and value through its active use in everyday life. Hence the key principle and overriding ambition is that the public realm should facilitate a wide range of activities including formal and informal, everyday and special events. At a settlement level this means that a wide range of spaces that can underpin a large variety of activities must be included in masterplans; small squares that can accommodate events, allotments, spaces that accommodate sport and play, and a licensing / management policy that enables street parties and other locally organised events.



THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF THIS REQUIREMENT INCLUDE:

Economy

- by setting a clear identity, character and quality of life, Energetica towns, villages, neighbourhoods and places can attract the benefits of talented people

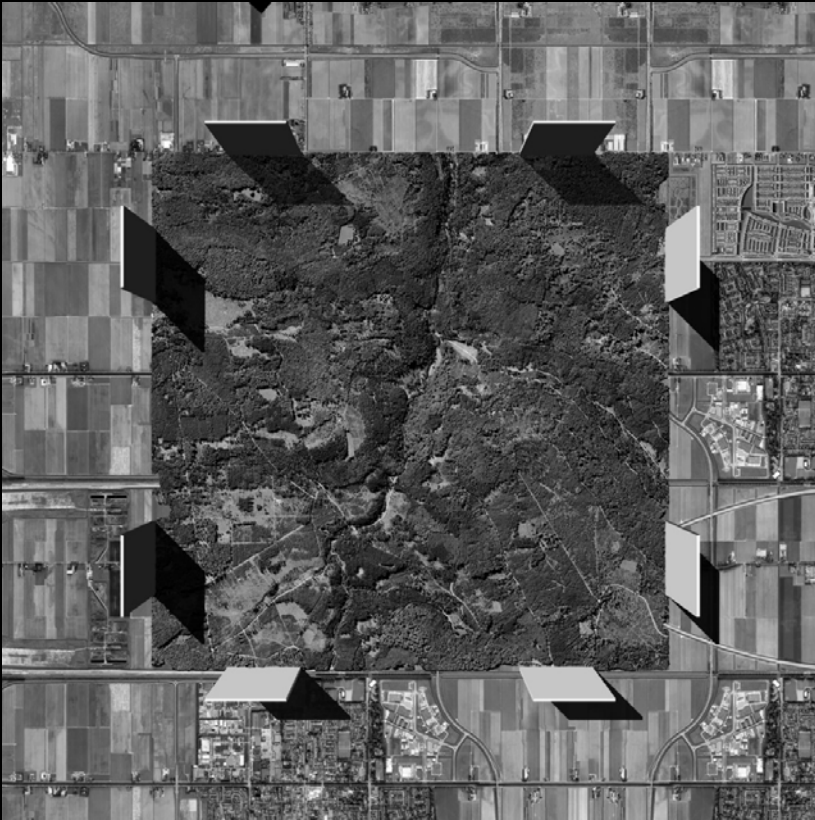
Environment

- by creating a high quality daily living environment, reducing the need to travel and giving preference to sustainable transport modes

Quality of life

- creating the conditions for sociable community life, improving neighbourliness, social contact and perceptions of safety
- facilitating active and healthy lifestyles
- establishing an identity for the Energetica corridor





European placemaking directions for early 21st century urbanism

20 October 2011

Wayne State University, Detroit