

## Objectives of urban planning

Urban planning enhances the look, feel, and living experience of any city. And this happens when the considerations go beyond just infrastructural developments. The core focus should be revolving around a whole lot of other considerations like self-sustainability, creating local neighborhoods, bridging economic inequalities, and efficient management of resources. There are several basic objectives that should be met by urban planning.

There should always be a people-first consideration in practice that enable efficient living conditions everywhere across the cityscape. Zoning a city into residential, institutional, recreational, commercial, and industrial areas. This will avoid encroachment between the zones and thus conflict an orderly development or smooth functioning.

Everything from the aesthetic finish of the buildings, the distinction of civic bodies from the other buildings, adding a touch of greenery wherever permissible, preservation of trees, and preventing complete exploitation of any natural bodies should all be given careful thought while going about urban planning services.

Cities should retain the essence of cultural roots that have been long-standing in the locality. This will make each city distinguished from one another. This will also improve the aesthetic sense with a unique appeal. At the same time, citizens are most likely to spend most of their days in the rush hours and do not spend as much time outdoors. They'll lose their sense of connection with nature and the environment with time. This will decrease their overall harmony of life and living. It is thus important that urban planning authorities should rely key focus on building public spaces and outdoor setups where people can take a breath and relax with natural outlets.

A 15-minute city should be one of the primary objectives during development. This is basically where a citizen can find anything they want and all the essentials they're looking for within a 15-minute walking or cycling distance within. This will create a sustainable city-dwelling life and reduce the need for long-distance transportation. These local neighborhoods will also bridge any economic inequalities between the two regions within the city. Public amenities, recreational centers, and outlets for socializing should all be accessible to every last citizen of the city structure.

## Activities

1- Answer the following questions according to the text:

- a) What are some of the objectives of urban planning as outlined in the text?
- b) How does urban planning play a role in improving the overall quality of life experienced by residents in a city?
- c) Explain why urban planning should encompass considerations beyond just infrastructural developments?
- d) What is the significance of zoning in urban planning, and why is it important to prevent encroachment between different zones?
- e) In what ways does urban planning contribute to the preservation of cultural heritage within a city?
- f) What factors underscore the importance of prioritizing the creation of public spaces and outdoor environments in urban planning?
- g) How does the concept of a "15-minute city" support the establishment of a sustainable urban lifestyle?
- h) Can you provide examples of the types of public amenities and recreational centers that should be made accessible to all residents, as mentioned in the text?
- i) How does the establishment of local neighborhoods aid in addressing economic disparities within a city, as discussed in the text?
- j) Give subtitle for each paragraph in the text.

2- True or false:

- a) Urban planning primarily focuses on aesthetic enhancements rather than infrastructural developments.
- b) Zoning in urban planning is a flexible approach that encourages encroachment between different zones to promote diversity.
- c) Urban planning does not consider economic inequalities as part of its objectives since it primarily focuses on physical infrastructure.
- d) Preserving cultural roots is relevant in urban planning since modernization shouldn't take precedence over heritage.

- e) Citizens spending more time outdoors impacts urban planning decisions, as indoor and outdoor spaces are both considered essential.
- f) Improving the aesthetic appeal of buildings is considered a superficial concern in urban planning and is often disregarded.
- g) The 15-minute city concept prioritizes accessibility to public amenities for all citizens, regardless of their location within the city.
- h) Adopting the 15-minute city concept has no impact on promoting a sustainable urban lifestyle and reducing environmental degradation.

3- Match each urban planning objective with its corresponding description:

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| 1* Efficient Living Conditions Everywhere .....    | A. Devide a city into different areas to prevent conflicts and disorderly development.          |
| 2* Creating Local Neighborhoods .....              | B. Ensuring that citizens can access essential needs within a short distance.                   |
| 3* Bridging Economic Inequalities .....            | C. Retaining the unique cultural essence of a city.   |
| 4* Zoning .....                                    | D. Focusing on building public spaces and outdoor setups.                                       |
| 5* Preservation of Cultural Roots .....            | E. Ensuring that all citizens have access to public amenities and recreational centers.         |
| 6* Building Public Spaces and Outdoor Setups ..... | F. Enhancing the look, feel, and living experience of any city.                                 |
| 7* 15-Minute City Concept .....                    | G. Creating communities within the city to foster a sense of belonging and identity.            |
| 8* Accessible Public Amenities .....               | H. Reducing disparities in access to resources and opportunities within the city.               |
| 9* Aesthetic Enhancements .....                    | I. Ensuring that citizens have a connection with nature and the environment.                    |
| 10* Resource Management .....                      | J. Optimizing the use of resources such as land, water, and energy for sustainable development. |

