

Special Issue

Rethinking Urban Population Density and Sustainable Cities

Message from the Guest Editors

It has long been accepted that patterns of urban sprawl that characterize cities in the global North are unsustainable and to be avoided. It is equally well understood in the global South that urban population densities do not necessarily equate to healthy and livable cities. These different perspectives are further complicated when officials mandate “social distancing” to protect public health. Simply put, contextual (landscape, environment, and spatial economies) and qualitative (historical, cultural, social) dimensions of cities, urban living, and urban form matter. This Special Issue comprises papers that drill down, problematize, and rethink compactness and urban density as incontrovertible planning and design principles of sustainable cities.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Victoria A. Beard

Department of City and Regional Planning, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, USA, 14850 and World Resources Institute, Washington, DC 20002, USA

Prof. Dr. Edgar Pieterse

African Centre for Cities, University of Cape Town, Bremner Building, Lower Campus, Lovers Walk, Rondebosch, Cape Town 7700, South Africa

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Prof. Dr. Marc A. Rosen

Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Ontario
Institute of Technology, Oshawa, ON L1G 0C5, Canada

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