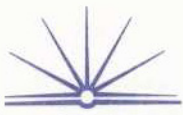


As cities of the world expand and become more economically, politically and culturally significant, they experience a variety of urban dynamics. These processes of change are evident in cities such as Sydney, Australia and Christchurch, New Zealand. Ranging from suburbanisation to urban decay, such dynamics are inevitable parts of a city's growth and expansion.

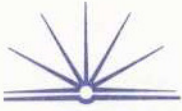
Suburbanisation is a process which is becoming more evident in Sydney as years pass. This is the movement of people, services and equipment away from the central business district, to the outskirts of the city. Complete with their own forms of employment, finance and culture, these suburbs become self-sufficient entities. Located $33^{\circ}51'S$ and $151^{\circ}33'E$, Sydney is a prime example of a city



which is experiencing suburbanisation, as evident in new 'edge-cities' such as Parramatta, Chatswood and Bankstown.

Suburbanisation is also very much a feature of Christchurch, as it is the capital city of New Zealand and thus experiences such modern urban dynamics.

Exurbanisation is a process whereby people move from the inner-city areas to the more rural areas of a State or country. Although they live in the rural areas, they maintain an urban lifestyle and enjoy the benefits of modern conveniences. Increasing technology and an expanding perimetropolitan area allow the commuting of people who (~~border~~) experience exurbanisation. An example in the Sydney region are areas such as Kenthurst, Dural and Galston, where the average demographics are young, high-income



earners, aged between 25-34, in managerial or skilled, trade-based occupations. From the information given in the Stimulus Booklet, it may be said that this process is also occurring in areas such as the Heathcote valley.

Urban decay and renewal is perhaps one of the most obvious and expected urban dynamics of any city. The deterioration and decay of inner-city buildings have lowered the value of many properties around the Sydney area. For this reason, the process of urban renewal takes place whereby properties and buildings are restored and refurbished to attract investment.

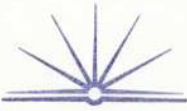
A prime example in Sydney is the Darling Harbour - Pyrmont - Ultimo area, which has been restored to serve new similar functions as in the past. The Queen Victoria Building is another example of a building

which once served as a marketplace, and after restoration and refurbishment, now serves as a major retail center. This process is not so obvious in Christchurch.

Counterurbanisation is a process whereby a shift in population occurs from the urban centres to the rural centres. In many nations, this is a government policy where people are encouraged to move to rural areas through cheap loans, abundant land and tax initiatives. This urban dynamic is often because a city has experienced overurbanisation, however it is now leading to problems such as overruralisation.

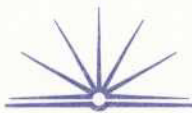
Counterurbanisation is a process which is encouraged in less developed nations and cities such as Mexico City. For this reason, it is not so evident in areas such as Sydney and Christchurch.

Urban consolidation is a process which



is becoming more and more evident in nations across the globe. This is where medium to high density buildings are constructed in already built-up areas. This urban dynamic is utilised to conserve land and accommodate a growing population. Extremely evident in Sydney's CBD, urban consolidation involves developments such as high rise apartments, units, villas and townhouses. With the increasing population occurring in New Zealand, it is only necessary that this form of urban dynamic take place.

Through all these processes, the environments of Sydney and Christchurch have experienced major changes. The use of land for living and recreational purposes is clearly evident in both cities. Economically, these cities have also



attracted foreign investment, high migration levels and a high level of economic restructuring. As a result, these cities are quickly gaining importance and losing environmental quality, as the need for urbanisation overshadows our need for ecological sustainability.