

alternative lifestyle	a conscious attempt to create a new way of life free of the constraints and stresses of mainstream urban living; often a back to nature perspective
counterurbanisation	a reversal of the rural-large city movement associated with urbanisation
decentralisation	the dispersal of activities and people from large urban centres to smaller urban centres and rural communities
exclusionary zoning	landuse regulations or controls that are designed to exclude 'undesirable elements' from a particular urban space
exurbanisation	a process whereby people, usually those who are quite affluent, move from the city to rural areas but continue to live the urban way of life either through long-distance commuting or technology

gentrification	the renewal of inner-city residential precincts; dilapidated homes are purchased, refurbished and occupied by middle-income and high-income earners; the process is a product of the preference of people for access to employment and entertainment in and around the central business district
morphology	the functional form and character of an urban environment
perimetropolitan region	the area bounded by the furthest extent of commuting metropolitan jobs
spatial exclusion	the protection of luxury lifestyles, which has resulted in restrictions in spatial access and the freedom of movement of other urban dwellers
suburb	an urban area surrounding and connected to the central city; many are exclusively residential; others have their own commercial centres

suburbanisation

the movement of people,  
employment and facilities  
away from the inner city  
towards outer urban areas

urban consolidation

policies that encourage higher  
population densities in established  
suburban areas, usually through  
planning regulations allowing more  
dwelling units on a given area of land  
through subdivision and strata title

urban decay

the deterioration of the built  
environment; urban infrastructure  
falls into a state of disrepair and  
buildings are left empty for long  
periods of time

urban morphology

both the functional form and character of the  
urban environment; the factors that contribute to  
a city's morphology include its landuse and  
patterns; its architectural styles, building types  
and materials, streetscapes and density of the  
development; the nature of the biophysical  
development, such as topography; and a wide  
range of socioeconomic and cultural influences

urban periphery

the outer edge of an  
urban area

urban renewal

the redevelopment of an  
urban area

urban sprawl

the continuous, and often  
unplanned, outward  
growth of an urban area

urban village

distinctive residential districts  
comprising a clustering of  
people with a common culture  
and forming an identifiable  
community