Urban Growth Management in Two North American Cities

By Timothy W. Lee

Abstract

Various jurisdictions in North America where urban growth management has been used to reduce automobile dependency and uncontrolled urban growth, is the main focus of this study. This research project looked at two study cities in North America. Portland/Vancouver, located in Oregon and Washington State respectively, and Vancouver, British Columbia have growth management policies in place, yet the tools that they use in order to achieve the goals of growth management is different in strategy and scope. This study looked at how both study cities performed through the analysis of traffic indicators from the study cities.

The results showed that not all indicators would point to more effective growth management policies. In Vancouver, in general it has been shown that there has been less automobile dependency as shown by lower fuel consumption. In Portland/Vancouver, results showed that VMT increased as road supply increased, and the number of registered vehicles also increased.