Compact Singapore:
Achieving Positive Growth in Negative Space

by

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Submitted to Department of Architecture
on August 15, 2002 in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
Master of Architecture

ABSTRACT

Concept Plan 2001 is an attempt by Urban Redevelopment of Singapore to
approach urban planning using the concepts of sustainability. This dissertation is an
investigation of the Concept Plan 2001 and questions the approach.

Industrialisation in the 19th Century marks the beginning of rapid urbanisation.
Since then, the rates of population growth and urban growth have been increasing
exponentially. The future of mankind seems bleak if urban growth is not handled well. In
the midst of searching for solutions, urban sustainability presented itself in the Brundtland
report Our Common Future in 1987 as a viable approach in urban planning.

Urban sustainability consists of many urban issues. Ranging from energy
conservation approach, to methods of land-use, to urban transportation policies, urban
sustainability has been given serious attentions in Europe and United States of America for
the past 10 years and only recently in Asia. Among the many aspects, urban transportation
is one of the main pivotal issues and thus will be the main focus in this research paper.

To understand the issues of sustainability, numerous research papers, in particular
from the western countries, were sought after to give evidence for previous assumed
relationships. Next, with the proven data, concepts of sustainability are applied through the
Concept Plan 2001 to test its feasibility in Singapore urban planning.

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