

Cities

Cities problems

The world population is becoming increasingly urban, yet, while cities may be growing larger, particularly in the developing world, it does not make them better or more liveable. In fact, large and growing metropolitan areas across the world seem to be beset by the same inescapable problems, with congestion and associated with it air pollution being the most significant of them. Fortunately, there is a lot municipal governments can do to make cities a healthier and better place to live.

With the numbers of car owners growing by the year, it comes as no surprise that traffic jams and air pollution are a headache for most cities. Peak-hour congestion partially stems from the way society operates. Indeed, a vast majority of people work, go to school and run errands at around the same time, overloading the transport system. Gridlocks are not only a source of stress, delayed shipments and financial losses, they are also a major contributor to air pollution and have a detrimental impact on the environment as well as on human health and well-being.

Although authorities may never be able to eliminate the above-mentioned problems, there are several ways to decrease the number of vehicles and the amount of exhaust fumes in cities. First of all, the authorities can develop affordable and comfortable alternatives to private vehicles. Indeed, a recent opinion poll conducted in New York, where high density housing is clustered around transit stops, indicates that one third of motorists would use public transport instead of cars if the latter were more reliable and less overcrowded. It is also estimated that were even a smaller percentage of auto commuters to shift from cars to buses, subway and trams, the number of private vehicle trips could be reduced enough to avoid congestion and to decrease the amount of exhaust fumes in the air by one third. Therefore, by expanding public transit capacity, not only can cities reduce congestion but also decrease the health risks of poor air quality to their residents.

To conclude, although traffic congestion and pollution in densely-populated urban areas are inevitable, there are ways to slow down the rate at which these problems intensify. By investing in more

environmentally-friendly alternatives to private automobiles, local councils can decrease traffic jams and harmful carbon dioxide emissions which in turn will make cities more liveable and attractive.

The ecological problems

The term “ecology” was introduced into scientific language and the life of our society many years ago. Everybody knows that ecology depends on our humane attitude towards nature and it’s no secret that nowadays the world ecological situation is difficult. The degree of pollution of water, air and soil increases year after year and is considered to be a serious international problem. We all have heard about latest ecological catastrophe in Japan and its consequences and deeply realize how important it is to prevent such dangerous events in future.

Speaking about the problems of pollution I can’t help saying about the ecological problems of our district. I have been living in the Nizhniy Novgorod for many years and have had a lot of chances to watch the negative environmental impacts.

Needless to say, that the main problem is the pollution of air. A lot of people in our district have their own cars and a lot of companies, especially transport ones, use lorries in their work. These transport facilities carry loads and passengers from one destination to another and at the same time do a lot of damage to nature. The car exhaust fumes mix with air and we have to inspire this harmful mixture. I am very glad that lately the number of cars and garages in our yards has decreased but suppose that it would be better to use another transport, to move the garages to the suburbs or to arrange days of pedestrian traffic if we really want to clear the air.

In the district there are some heat stations and they also influence the condition of the air around.

I have already told you about two sources of pollution but I consider that the major source is not a plant, a heat station or cars. First of all, the state of the environment depends upon people. We know that our streets and yards are polluted with great amount of garbage. A lot of teenagers and adults are used to setting scrapes of paper, cigarette ends and another small-sized garbage down and don’t think that these things decay, pollute the ground, smell and look very unlikely. And, watching these teenagers and adults, small children do the same.

I urge everyone not to leave garbage on the ground, as, to my mind, it is the first step to clear our streets and to love our nature. We must do our best to save the beauty and the cleanness of our nature for future generations and for ourselves.

The City of my Dream

Since young age, I have always wondered what the perfect place for living would be like. Now, I can say that I have a clear vision of the city of my dreams.

First of all, it should be situated in a sunny part of our planet and have great weather conditions all year round. Secondly, there should be neither crime nor any violence there. Only good and kind people can reside in such city. Life can be much easier and nicer if everyone is loving and understanding.

In the city of my dreams people will live in peace and quiet, without any worries and fears. This city will have excellent roads, cheap stores, many beautiful parks and playgrounds for kids, several entertainment centers and else. The population of the city will be neither too rich, nor poor. People will live equally well. Older people will be respected and taken care of. The streets will be clean and safe. There will be no homeless animals in the city of my dreams.

Another important condition is to have a loyal government. People in the city of my dream will never be in a hurry and they will do only the jobs they like.

However, I certainly understand that it's just my dream, I really hope that at least some of the mentioned qualities will come true in the future.