

May 3, 2012
URBDP 200
Reading Assignment #11

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Moving within the City: Transportation

1. Hart discusses the de-concentration made possible by the car, an issue we have covered quite a bit already. What overall effects through time has this process had on both total movement in cities and on modal share? As a result of these changes, what has been the main shift in terms of the goals of transportation policy?

increasing.

In regard to total movement in cities, Hart concludes that transport by car is increasing faster than regional incomes are growing and faster than city and edge-city populations are increasing. Hart describes this as a "growth of transport intensity" (p. 117). Modal share, which describes the average annual miles traveled per capita using any particular type of transportation, has shifted since 1870 to strongly favor private transportation - personal cars. Hart attributes this rise to a "linking of consumer preferences and technology" as well the arrival of the travel generation. Freight movement, according to Hart has followed similar trends as personal movement because it became more efficient than rail freight. Transport by car and truck has been integrally boosted by government transportation policy, which has shifted away from urban and economic expansion via increased mobility and toward regional competitiveness, promotion of sustainable cities, increased health, safety, and social equity, and the prioritization of environmental issues such as greenhouse gas emissions.

that is. away from car.

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