Transportation

High-speed center-to-center heavy and light gauge passenger railways connect each city, town, village, hamlet or neighborhood to at least one node of immediately larger scale, at least one node of immediately smaller scale, and three or four nodes of the same scale. Rail travel between city nodes is supplemented by buses, taxis and privately owned automobiles. Because managed protected green space separates cities towns and other settlements from one another, transportation between nodes inherits the character of a network of parkways. The distances between the cities also provides stretches of roadway that have uninterrupted traffic which allows the traffic to breathe. All previous attempts to implement this kind of freeway flow within metropolitan regions caused damaging fragmentation of the urban fabric. As people travel between the urban nodes of Piedmont City, they benefit from the time and space of leaving one instance and/or scale of urban experience before passing into another. The pleasantly stimulating surprises of sudden changes in scale will still occur within the more metropolitan scaled nodes (cities and towns) and especially at the central Metro City.
Structured Intensity

Urban population intensity evaluates the population density of an urban area in relation to units of time meaningful to the real cycles of basic human behavior. In short, intensity is density per unit time for a given area of land. The unit area should never be larger than the smaller of a city block or an acre. A convenient unit might be a property. The most important basic unit of time is the day. All people need to sleep, so the majority of day-to-day life is constrained by the cycle of sleep-wake-work-dwell-sleep or some equivalent. Together with the fact that most people do not work at home, this means people move back and forth between two places every day. When people go to work, they leave their homes vacant and when they return home, their workplaces are left vacant. Office Park and Bedroom Community are euphemisms for this behavior. Home or work may each in turn be densely populated, but only for part of the day and/or week. Structured intensity means designing all portions of a city according to criteria for property development in order to both vary density from block-to-block and maintain those densities throughout the day. This can only be accomplished with multi-use zoning and/or construction. Its accomplishment can also only be realized in conjunction with the application of the principle of Ubiquitous Domicile.
Large structures may enclose parks, piazzas and public gatherings. The cooling tower form is an efficient structure that is also easy to construct. The whole scale of several such structures linked together provides enclosures large enough to be a modern urban agora. The drawings demonstrate a possible cluster of “agora pavilions” massed together as a mountain when viewed from a natural mountain within the center city. The distances, viewing angles and sizes of structures in this layout correspond to the spectacular view of Wilson Mountain in Sedona, Arizona. A plan diagram of this view is shown at the upper right and an elevation diagram is shown at the upper left. Pavilions adapted as the gate structures of the city (orange dots) provide scale and enclosure necessary for modern walled and gated cities.