

America's Next Top Model – Urban Style?

*This unit of APHG asks you to look at a variety of urban models, but do they apply to real cities? You'll be researching this by looking at information about a city and creating a visual representation/model of what you see in terms of **urban functional zones**.*

1. Select a random city!
2. Find / draw a map of the city that you can then manipulate to create an urban model. Your Urban Model can be hand drawn, a clipped image, a GIS type of layered map, or something else...but make sure it accurately identifies the boundaries of the city.
3. Create an Urban Model for your city by identifying functional zones. Use colors and/or symbols to categorize each zone and place them on your Urban Model. You should consider the following areas to identify:
 - Important Physical Features
 - CBD
 - Light Manufacturing
 - Heavy Manufacturing
 - Low Cost Residential
 - Middle Cost Residential
 - High Cost Residential
 - Outlying Business District
 - Vital Transportation Links (Rail, Highway, Water)
 - Education (Think Colleges/Universities not high schools)
 - Recreation (Parks, Golf Courses, Green Belts)
 - Zone of Transition (Moving from...to...)

Sources that can help you determine the functional zones:

Google Earth

Maps.google.com (Traffic and Street View)

Zillow.com (City outlines and real estate prices)

Any site that has info about your city and its economic centers...then plot them on your Urban Model.

After you complete your urban model, you must provide the following reflection:

1. Compare and contrast the model you created with **one of the models** discussed in this unit. Explain why you think your city fits the model as well as how it does not align with the model.
2. Why do you think your city developed the way it did? What factors likely created the model that you drew?
3. What value do the formal urban models from this unit provide in understanding our world?