Density Measures and their Relation to Urban Form

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The School of Architecture & Urban Planning
The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
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Abstract:

The relationship between density and urban form is explored, using four dwelling types: single family detached housing, row housing, low-rise garden apartments, and high-rise multi-family housing. Preceding research is reviewed, presenting various concepts of density, and relating conflicting prior density measures to a set of clear definitions. 99 typical site layouts of the four dwelling types were developed by systematically changing variables including unit size, lot size, and block configuration. The relation between these variables and the resulting densities was analysed using regression and multiple correlation analysis. Examples of actual housing developments accompany the review, relating their physical and environmental characteristics to the densities generated in the abstract schemes. Conclusions include qualified support for the relationship between dwelling type and density range, specifically for single family and high-rise housing, but row housing and low-rise multifamily housing share a broad range of intermediate densities.

Pp.183, drawings, diagrams, tables, bibliography.

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