

Effects of Metro Network on Urban Development in the City of Toronto

Dr. Razieh Rezazadeh, PhD in Urban Design

Mojgan Radmand, Master of Urban and Regional Planning

Payman Ahi, Master of Industrial Engineering

Abstract:

Throughout the history of urban planning, especially in the modern time, there has always been a serious relation between accessibility, types of transit services and development of the urban areas.

Considering the fact that transit systems would create the required accesses as well as connections between the different regions, they have important effects on the development of urban areas. Therefore they are considered as one of the important factors in the urban development field.

Metro system is one of the public transit systems that has substantial benefits such as security, reliable speed, lack of pollution, and is also more affordable comparing to other public transit systems, and therefore it will have priority over other public transit options.

Current studies show that metro systems along with the right investments, proper land use controls, motivation and governmental support (by establishing the appropriate policies) could be considered as a facilitating factor for the distinctive types of urban growth and development.

In this paper metro system in Toronto, Canada, which is one of the successful examples in this field, has been studied. Toronto is one of the North American cities that has been using a rapid transit network for more than three decades. The metro system in Toronto has provided the possibility of appropriate development in the residential, business and commercial areas in the city. Having governmental support through applying the proper policies has been resulted in high density developments around the metro stations, increasing the value of lands and changes in structure of the city from mono-core to multi-core structure by creating the sub centers.

Scrutinizing such successful examples in different cities around the world could help to find proper solutions for Tehran's problems as well as effective use of metro system in this city, and it can be possible only by the right planning and support in and from all the related sectors.

Key Word:

Metro system, Land use, Urban development structure, Suburban, Sub-Center