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Urban Spatial Variation Of Road Safety

This study evaluates whether urban form, urban land use and development pattern influence road safety. In order to meet the increasing urban population, many cities are expanding the capacity of the road network, often risking the safety of the road users. Road safety needs a multi-disciplinary approach. The study begins with literature study on the various aspects of road safety such as factors causing road accidents and the influence of land use and travel behaviour. From the literature study it was found that road safety can be ensured at micro, meso and macro levels. And to achieve these various strategies can be incorporated at different levels. One of the hazardous form of development is the ribbon development which is common in many development countries. 20th century concepts such as compact city, urban village, transit-oriented development, smart growth and new urbanism encourages mixed land use, high density, walkability, provision for non-motorized transport and public transport. Both developed and developing countries have adopted measures to decrease road accidents such as land use measures in Quebec, Canada; bus rapid transit in Curitiba and superblock in Barcelona. All these suggest the need for integrated land use and transportation plan, strategies at various levels.

Keywords: *Road use, urban form, development pattern, land use, different levels of road safety, integrated land use and transportation plan*