



2.10 View toward BC Place, Vancouver.

Place, a hockey/basketball arena, and a new central library. Current projects in planning include an expansion of the convention center and a cruise ship terminal on the downtown waterfront, as well as a new arts center. Pressure is mounting on the few available large waterfront sites to accommodate these facilities. Further, such facilities impact their immediate contexts through increased traffic and noise levels and the rendering of areas out of scale with the more integrated, mixed-use, fine-grained urban development of the surrounding waterfront. These considerations have led to current efforts to manage the impact of these large projects. These include containing major-facility site assignments, facilitating neighborhood development before displacement can occur, arranging tight development juxtapositions to moderate issues of scale, and overlaying new urban design solutions on previously built sites to achieve ambience, accessibility, and a mix of uses.

The Sydney waterfront

With its cooperative planning model, Vancouver is a model of enlightened city planning. Sydney, in comparison, is a case where the city's development process has been complicated and at times compromised by jurisdictional fragmentation. For many years, a proliferation of consent bodies, competing for the control of Sydney's relatively small central city area, have encouraged a feudal mindset on the part of many city planners and authorities. This has led to conditions where major city redevelopments have become unnecessarily confined within artificial boundaries, resulting