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Connection and Difference between Urban Planning, Urban Design, and Urbanism

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Abstract. Since the existence of humankind, planning was among the main issues to deal with; this is because planning helps organize activities and predict the future. So in this way, urban planning, urban design, and urbanism are traditionally seen as an expert discipline with little room for ‘soft’ values and concerns based on feelings rather than fact. At the same time the final product of the planning process, the built environment, is a habitat for a wide variety of people with equally diverse wants and needs. The question is, how does planning incorporate the needs, wants and visions of existing and future inhabitants while at the same time raising awareness of often complex issues and wicked problems involved in urban development? If we analyze it well, every urban development period since the ancient times until today notes that all these disciplines have in common factors and differences among themselves. In these days we have different opinions from different people about this issue, so on this paper we are going to explore the variety of thinking concerning the topic based on some very good references and to try to clarify more the common things and the differences about this topic, with text, photos, diagrams, and other simplified methods, in order to have a satisfactory overview of the topic.

Keywords: urban planning, urban design, urbanism, urbanization