THE EVOLUTION OF URBAN VILLAGES

San Jose's growth story



Expanding to over 800,000 residents, San Jose became home to 40% of Silicon Valley's population and a third of its jobs.

1970s

"Car-Centric"

Dramatic sprawling growth meant orchards were replaced by housing.
Neighborhoods designed around driving resulted in the San Jose of today.

1990s

1994

Planning

The City began using urban planning to enhance the community's quality of life. San Jose's 2020 general plan was approved—focusing new development around light rail.

Jobs / Homes

San Jose's 2040 General Plan calls for 120,000 new homes. But it emphasizes attracting more jobs first. Urban villages became the strategy to add homes in a sustainable way as jobs increase.

2040 GOALS

2011

The Launch

The first of 70 urban village processes kicked off. These resident-backed neighborhood plans prioritize mixing transit options, homes, shops, and jobs while growing upward. This kind of growth breaks car-centric patterns of sprawl and helps protect farms and wildlife habitat.

Four Wins!

The first four urban villages that make up the "Five Wounds-Brookwood Terrace" neighborhood, were approved! Hundreds of residents came together to plan for more homes and jobs around transit.

2013

2012

NOW

THINK BIG

The first plans converted an abandoned railroad track into a new trail. How could your neighborhood improve? Use this list for inspiration.

THE LIST

START

The Urban Village Toolkit is your one-stop-doc on how to plug into the planning process.

TOOLKIT

ADVICE

Need help? Greenbelt Alliance offers free advice on getting started and how-to's on the Urban Village process.

CONTACT