

# A Pattern Book for Site Planning



## Site & Infrastructure Planning Studio > Spring 2009

Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
School of Architecture + Planning



**Massachusetts  
Institute of  
Technology**



# Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD): GOALS

- To create guidelines for ecologic site and infrastructure design that are derived from a set of site planning objectives
- To address explicit infrastructure principles (example: the use of ecology and natural systems for sewage treatment) and to translate them into design interventions in a variety of conditions, and multiple and scales.
- To create a flexible set of guidelines and typologies that account for site variability rather than providing a single plan.

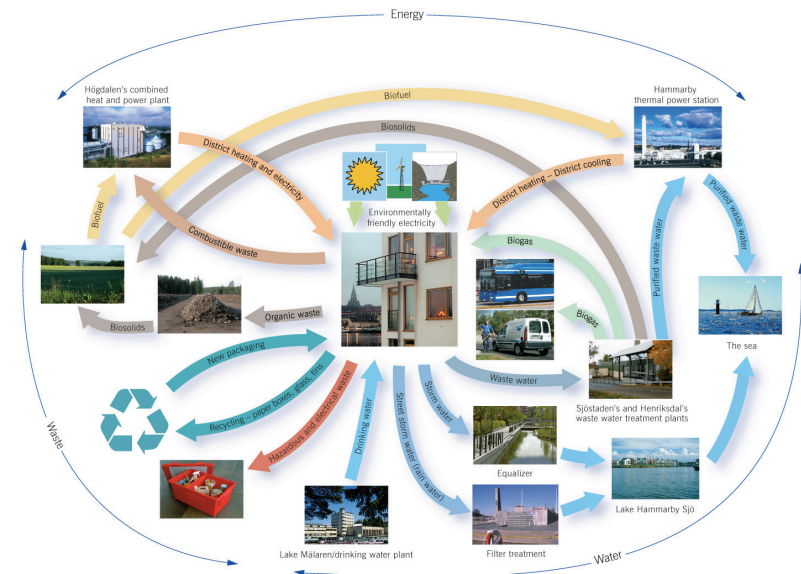


## Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD): PROCESS

- ANALYSIS of Landscape Units, Mapping and Site Physiography  
**Purpose:** To establish typical landscape units as a basis for site and housing design.
- ABSTRACTION of Site Characteristics, Natural systems, Infrastructure, Transects  
**Purpose:** To generate common conditions, constraints, and opportunities for site development.
- FORMATION of Future Scenarios  
**Purpose:** To address what is unknowable and assume future scenarios as a basis for design decisions.
- DEVELOPMENT of Alternatives Approaches to Site and Infrastructure Technologies  
**Purpose:** To gain expertise of 'site scale' techniques that are crucial to the creation of ecologic development. These technologies included water management, climate mitigation, energy production, information technology, mobility, and agriculture.
- CREATION of Technology Driven Schematic Site Plan Investigations  
**Purpose:** To create exemplary and ideal site typologies for each alternative technology.
- SYNTHESIS through Neighborhood Site Plans  
**Purpose:** To utilize the developed typologies on a specific site and showcase possible permutations.

## 10 Guiding Principles For Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD)

1. COMPLETE WASTE AND WATER CYCLES
2. INTEGRATED INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS
3. DESIGN FOR EFFICIENT ENERGY USE AND GENERATION
4. MAXIMIZE ON-SITE FOOD PRODUCTION
5. ENHANCE MOBILITY AND CIRCULATION
6. RESTORE STREAMS & RIVERS
7. RE-ESTABLISH NATURAL HABITATS and WILDLIFE
8. INCORPORATE INNOVATIVE MATERIALS
9. PRESERVE CULTURE + HERITAGE
10. VALUE EQUITY, HEALTH, + HAPPINESS



# Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD): PROCESS EXAMPLES

section 3a



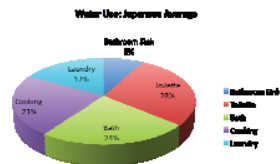
selected sections

Japan Studio Spring 2009  
[Ehri Kaitum]



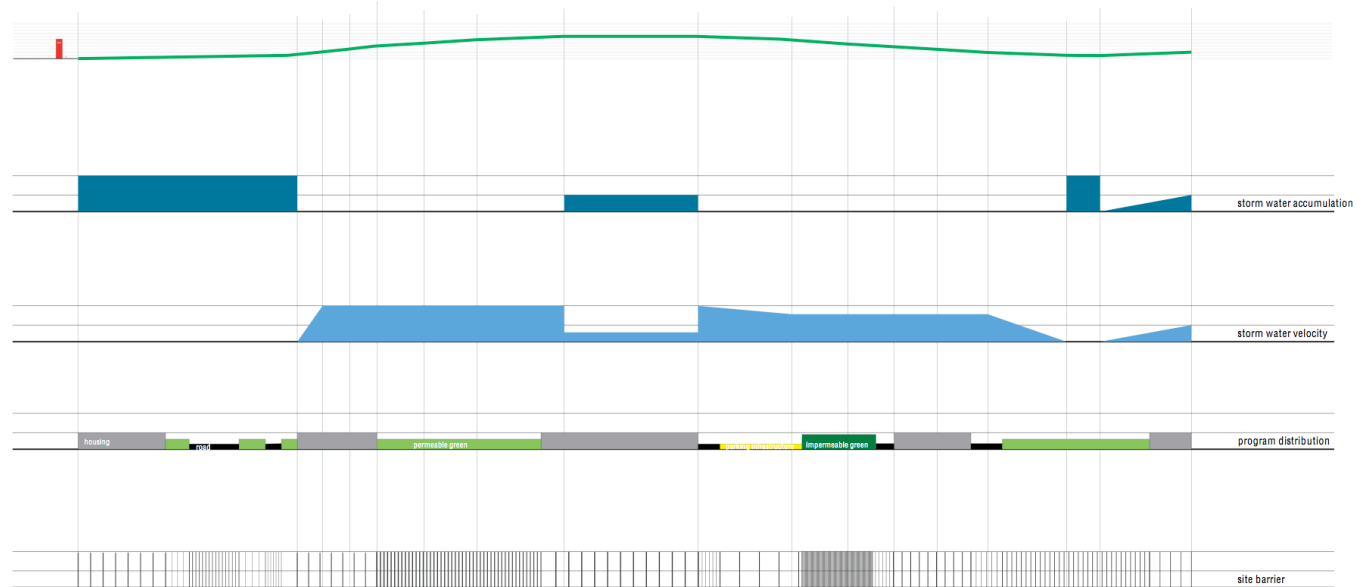
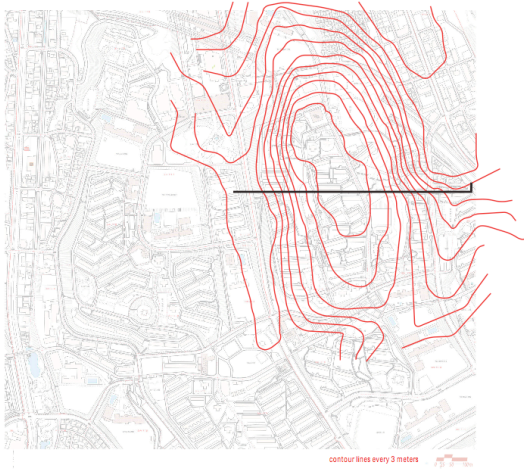
Average Japanese Household Water Use

Household Size	Water Use Per Month (m³)
1	7.8 m³
2	16.2 m³
3	21.6 m³
4	26.3 m³
5	30.6 m³
6	35.6 m³

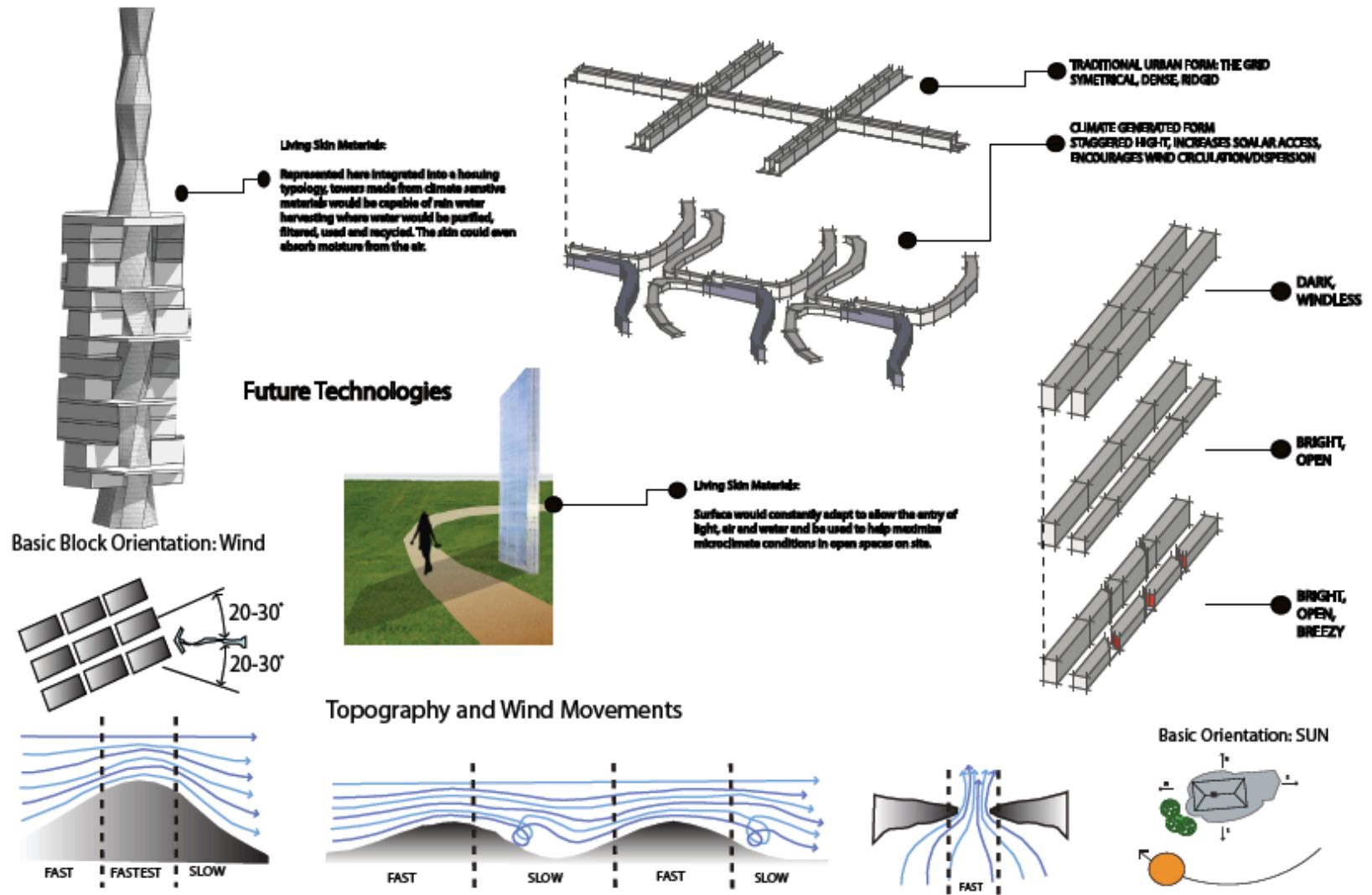


# Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD): Analysis and Abstractions

## transects

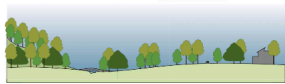


# Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD): Alternative Approaches : climate mitigation



# Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD):

## Alternative Technologies Driven Typologies: Example - Greywater



### RURAL\_INDIVIDUAL

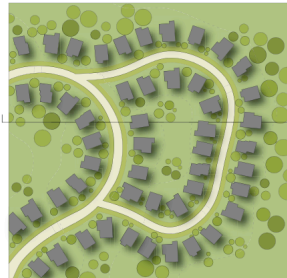
**Greywater intervention:** A singular process; exiting the building and immediately entering the natural habitat.

#### Pros:

- Applications of tested methods existing today.
- Requires minimal piping to allow water to exit house and surrounding areas.
- Requires little maintenance.
- Surrounding natural habitat will reap benefit of water supply.
- Adaptable to changes of urbanization

#### Cons:

- Physical disconnect from community.
- Maintenance work must be conducted by individual owners.



### SUBURBAN\_COMMUNITIES

**Greywater intervention:** Greywater from individual residences is used for communal green spaces; i.e. community lawns, golf courses and natural habitats.

#### Pros:

- Tested method applied to communities.
- Requires little piping and maintenance.
- Community benefits from green spaces and gathering places.
- Promotes communal ownership and care for surrounding habitat.
- Surrounding natural habitat will reap benefit of water supply.

#### Cons:

- Maintenance must be negotiated between private ownership and community.
- Community ownership and penalties for overuse of water.
- Less adaptable to changes in urban form.



### HILLSIDE\_TOWNS

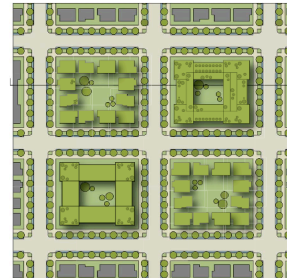
**Greywater intervention:** Due to its sloping nature and density, energy consumption can be reduced by using gravity to move the greywater.

#### Pros:

- Energy consumptions for greywater movement are low.
- Community benefits from green spaces and gathering places.
- Demonstrates communal patterns of water usage and collective ecological footprint.
- Promotes communal ownership and care for surrounding habitat.
- Maintenance to be taken care of by township.
- Surrounding natural habitat will reap benefit of water supply.

#### Cons:

- More manufactured methods of water circulation.
- Requires maintenance to ensure sanitation levels prior to contact with public.
- Community ownership and penalties for overuse of water.
- Difficulty adapting to changes in urban form.



### URBAN\_COMMUNITIES

**Greywater intervention:** High density and building forms allow for use of greywater for semi-private spaces; i.e. roof gardens and central courtyards.

#### Pros:

- Tested method applied to urban form at a community level.
- Provides amenities of healthy lifestyles, i.e. fresh air, green spaces within urban context.
- Reduces energy waste by maintaining cooler building temperatures.
- Promotes communal ownership and care for green spaces.
- Demonstrates communal patterns of water usage and collective ecological footprint.
- May lead to ecologically competitive districts further benefiting the environment.

#### Cons:

- Piping required; greywater use is supplementary to larger system.
- Maintenance must be negotiated between private ownership and community.
- Community ownership and penalties for overuse of water.



### URBAN\_PUBLIC SPACES

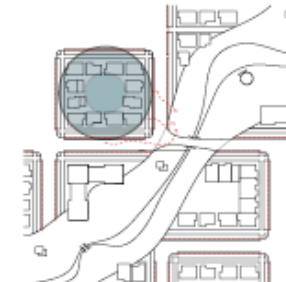
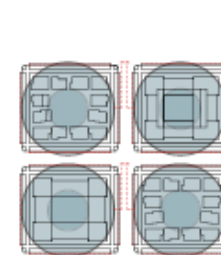
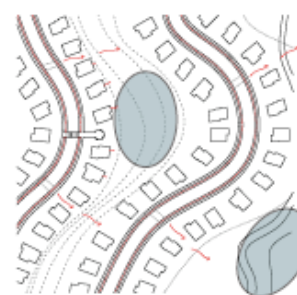
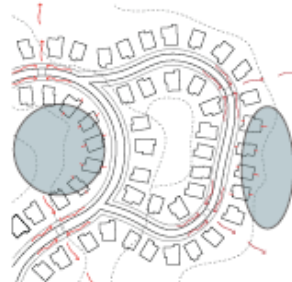
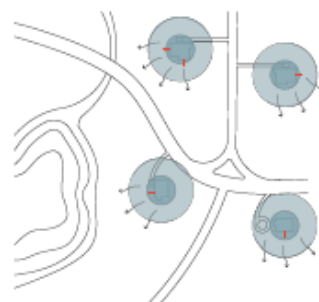
**Greywater intervention:** Used in public spaces to enhance our living environments before ultimately nourishing the natural habitat.

#### Pros:

- Communities and general public benefit from green spaces and gathering places within an urban setting.
- Provides amenities of healthy lifestyles, i.e. fresh air.
- Promotes communal ownership and care for green spaces.
- Maintenance taken care of by the city.
- Demonstrates communal patterns of water usage and collective ecological footprint.

#### Cons:

- Requires maintenance to ensure sanitation levels prior to contact with public.
- Some piping required to incorporate greywater into urban designs prior to reaching natural habitat.
- Difficulty adapting to changes in urban form.



# Ecologic Oriented Development (EOD): typologies matrix



# Example:

## Synthesis - Scalable Integrated Living Systems Module

### Bento Machi 弁当街

Team : Chris Horne , Eirini Kasioumi , Kristal Peters

project overview | alternative technologies | **synthesis** | project participants | resources

#### METRICS

##### TYPICAL HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

- 3.5 persons
- 120-150 m<sup>2</sup>
- 30-35 m<sup>2</sup> / person
- 2-storey
- footprint: 75 m<sup>2</sup>

##### HOUSEHOLD INPUT+OUTPUT

###### fruit&vegetable consumption

- 160 kg / person / year
- > 640 kg / household / year
- 20 m<sup>2</sup> / person
- > 80 m<sup>2</sup> / household

###### rainwater capture (75sq.m.)

- min: 4 m<sup>3</sup> / month
- max: 16 m<sup>3</sup> / month

###### water needs

- 1-1.5 m<sup>3</sup> / day > 30-45 m<sup>3</sup> / month
- let's take the worst scenario: 45 m<sup>3</sup>/month
- toilet: 28% = 12.6 m<sup>3</sup> / month
- laundry 17% = 7.65 m<sup>3</sup> / month
- kitchen 23% = 10.35 m<sup>3</sup> / month
- bath 24% = 10.8 m<sup>3</sup> / month
- misc 8% = 3.6 m<sup>3</sup> / month

###### opportunities for water reuse

- Recycle water from bath & misc for toilet use
- > water input reduction: 28%.
- Store rainwater for agriculture and laundry use
- > water input reduction: 17%
- Total savings: 45%

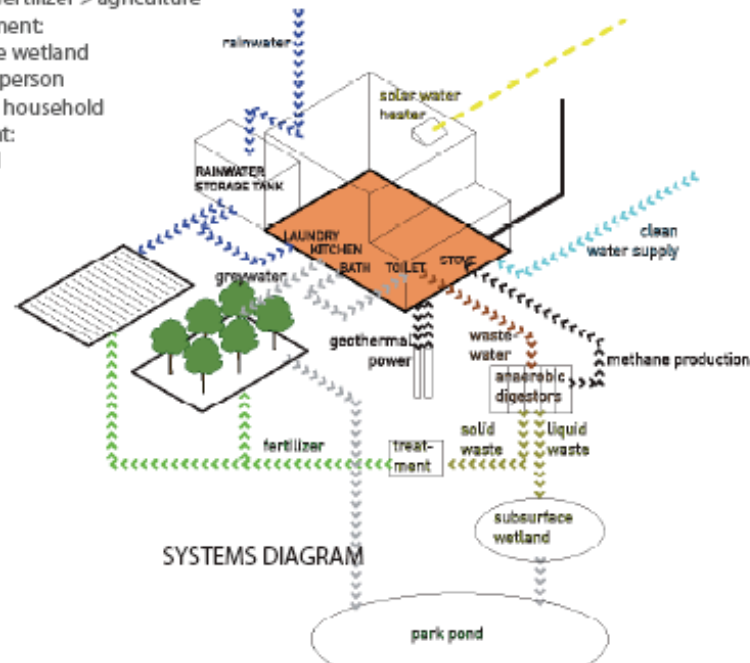
-Total water input after savings: 25 m<sup>3</sup>

##### Total water output after savings:

- 12.6 m<sup>3</sup> blackwater
- 18 m<sup>3</sup> graywater

##### BROWN WATER TREATMENT

- primary treatment:
  - anaerobic digestion
  - biproduct 1: methane > cooking
  - biproduct 2: solid waste > municipal service
  - > fertilizer > agriculture
- secondary treatment:
  - subsurface wetland
  - ~ 21 m<sup>2</sup> / person
  - > 85 m<sup>2</sup> / household
- tertiary treatment:
  - park pond



## METRICS (CON'T)

### GREYWATER TREATMENT

- direct use in tree cultivation
- remaining: park pond (see diagram to the left)

### OTHER HOUSE NEEDS

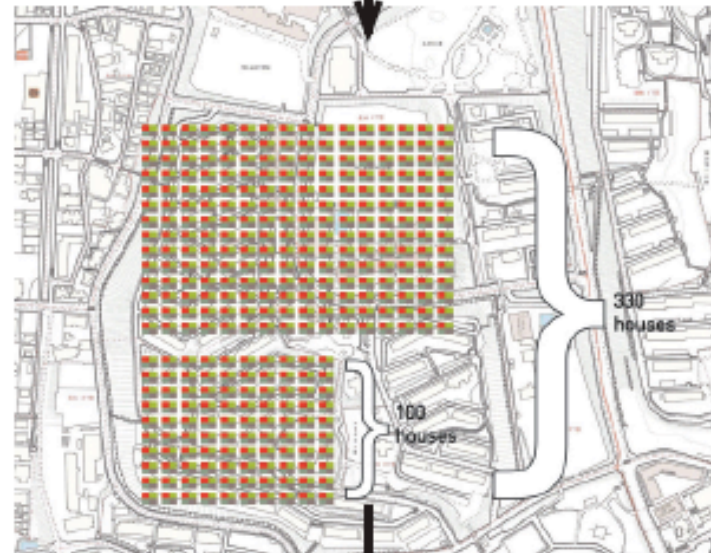
- heating: geothermal energy through underground system
- hot water and electricity: solar water heaters + geothermal
- gas for cooking: (see diagram to the left)
- fertilizer for agriculture: (see diagram to the left)
- other food (meat, fish): local grocery store

### CUMULATIVE HOUSEHOLD FOOTPRINT

- building: 75 m<sup>2</sup>
- crop field: 80 m<sup>2</sup>
- subsurface wetland: 85 m<sup>2</sup>
- circulation / landscape: 60 m<sup>2</sup>
- total: 300 m<sup>2</sup>

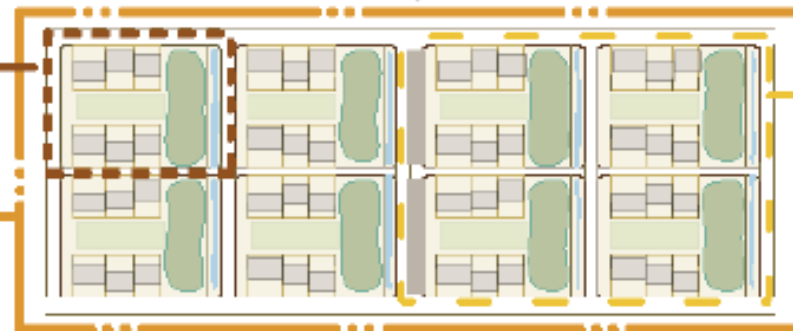
### PROPOSED COMMUNITY SIZE

- 1,155 persons = 330 households

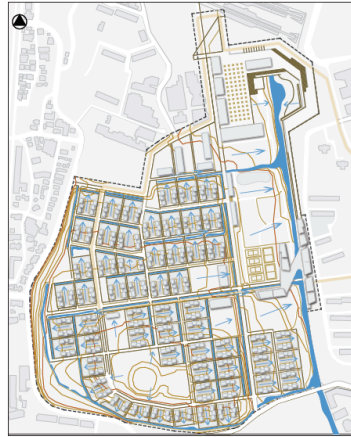


Single block unit comprising of 4 houses around common garden. Wetland and water shared by 4 houses.

2 hectares farm in cluster group of 48 houses.



Cluster of four blocks share one service road, one minor road and one shared shared vehicles. Clusters consist of 26 houses.



## 3 in 1 Water Management System

Each residential block is an integrated water management unit. The blocks slope slightly towards their interior, along with following the site topography as a whole. This allows the water to be used and treated on the block before the excess amount is collected at the neighborhood level.

## Site Plan

- Library
- Medium-density Residential
- Neighborhood Water Drainage
- Light Retail
- Citrus Groves
- Bus Route
- Athletics Fields
- School
- Environmental Education and Community Center
- School
- Light Retail
- Daylighted Stream

