



## WT - Smart Location and Linkage

---

When we are creating architecture with a conscious effort towards improving sustainability, we take into account the way a building interacts with its surroundings.

How will people connect with their neighbors, their backyard, the streets? A building that interfaces well with its surroundings is one that is more useful and likely to be appreciated for longer. We give also great importance if the building affects the immediate environment, i.e. what plants and animals are being displaced, how much of the local topography will be changed, will weather systems be significantly impacted by the new building (such as from storm water or wind)?

Everyday, people are increasingly realizing the choices they make in their everyday lives, affect the people and the environment around them. They are buying local, organic food to reduce the use of pesticides, support their local community, and reduce the fuel costs associated with producing what they eat. They are choosing to ride their bike or take the bus instead of driving a car. In fact, 2005 was the first year since the 1973 oil crisis that more bikes were sold in the United States than cars (Mount). At the forefront of many of these changes, the building industry needs to take the lead. In the United States, buildings account for 39% of the total energy use, 12% of total water consumption, 68% of total electricity consumption and 38% of carbon dioxide emissions ("Why Build Green?").