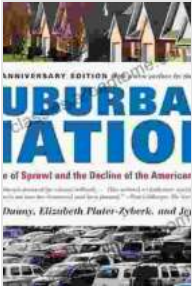


The Rise of Sprawl: How Suburbanization Is Killing the American Dream



Suburban Nation: The Rise of Sprawl and the Decline of the American Dream by Andres Duany

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 1977 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 322 pages



Sprawl is a major problem in the United States. It is the uncontrolled spread of development into rural areas, and it has a number of negative consequences for our communities, our environment, and our way of life.

The Causes of Sprawl

There are a number of factors that have contributed to the rise of sprawl in the United States. These include:

- **The increasing popularity of the automobile.** The automobile has made it possible for people to live further away from their jobs and other activities. This has led to the development of suburbs, which are typically characterized by low-density housing and a lack of public transportation.

- **The decline of the traditional city.** In the early 20th century, cities were the centers of economic and social activity. However, in recent decades, cities have lost population and jobs to suburbs. This has led to the decline of urban infrastructure and services, which has made cities less attractive places to live.
- **Government policies.** Government policies have also contributed to the rise of sprawl. These policies include zoning laws that promote low-density development, and transportation policies that favor the automobile over public transportation.

The Consequences of Sprawl

Sprawl has a number of negative consequences for our communities, our environment, and our way of life. These include:

- **Increased traffic congestion.** Sprawl leads to increased traffic congestion, which wastes time and money, and contributes to air pollution.
- **Increased air pollution.** Sprawl also contributes to air pollution, as cars emit pollutants into the air. Air pollution can cause respiratory problems, heart disease, and cancer.
- **Loss of green space.** Sprawl leads to the loss of green space, which is important for both human and environmental health. Green space provides a place for people to relax and recreate, and it helps to clean the air and water.
- **Increased crime.** Sprawl has also been linked to increased crime. This is because sprawl makes it easier for criminals to escape detection, and it creates more opportunities for them to commit crimes.

- **Decline of the American Dream.** Sprawl is also contributing to the decline of the American Dream. The American Dream is the idea that anyone can achieve success through hard work and determination. However, sprawl is making it harder for people to achieve the American Dream, as it is increasing the cost of housing and transportation, and it is making it harder for people to find good jobs.

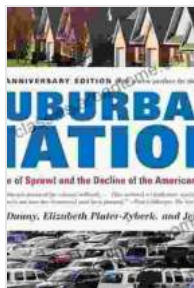
What Can We Do to Stop Sprawl?

There are a number of things that we can do to stop sprawl and its negative consequences. These include:

- **Invest in public transportation.** Public transportation is a more sustainable way to get around than cars, and it can help to reduce traffic congestion and air pollution.
- **Zoning laws that promote smart growth.** Smart growth is a land-use planning approach that promotes compact development and mixed-use development. This type of development can help to reduce sprawl and its negative consequences.
- **Protect green space.** Green space is important for both human and environmental health. We need to protect green space from development, and we need to create more green space in our communities.
- **Encourage sustainable lifestyles.** We need to encourage people to live more sustainable lifestyles, such as walking, biking, and taking public transportation instead of driving.

Sprawl is a major problem in the United States, but it is a problem that we can solve. By working together, we can create more sustainable

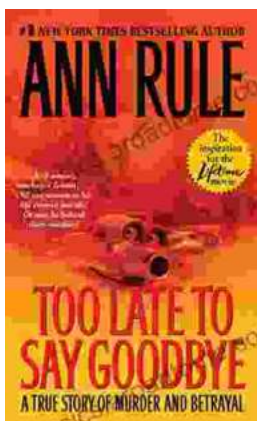
communities that are healthier and more livable for everyone.



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