

BIBLIOGRAPHY & ABSTRACT  
REGENERATIVE URBANISM – A SYNOPSIS  
*Inventing the Platform for Sustainability Success*

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## ABSTRACT

This paper describes humanity’s sustainability predicament and the new approach needed over the 10-15 years remaining to reverse course and accomplish key milestones. It identifies a promising response emerging from innovation occurring across our planning, designing, and building practices at this moment of global environmental, economic, and social reckoning: *strategic regenerative systems sustainability or regenerative urbanism*. Three cases illustrate the approach and suggest the district as the best strategic scale. Descriptions of its characteristics enable recognition, understanding, and use. Initiatives pursue certifications such as Living Community Challenge, EcoDistricts, and LEED-ND, which are society’s most evolved codifications of regenerative sustainability and urbanism. This response is a work in progress that requires global recognition, acceleration, and scaling. It is the beacon for 21st century urbanism being the antidote for our dual climate and sustainability challenges. The built environment-economy connection reveals how regenerative urbanism could catalyze

the only complete solution; that is, the transition to a circular ecological global economy of inclusive prosperity within one generation for 9 billion people by 2050 and up to 12 billion by 2100. That solution would simultaneously mitigate climate change, establish the economic basis for inclusive prosperity, and defend against the extreme economic conditions that will intensify during the 100-year-or-more period of climate recalibration. As a bonus, solving the climate crisis with regenerative systems sustainability would cost no more than the climate solution itself and would create the only basis for climate cooperation. Regenerative urbanism creates a compelling value proposition and role for planning and design professionals. ([Link to full white paper](#))