



across.

The work I will be doing as an intern for Vision Long Island pertains to my Global Studies major because this organization promotes environmental sustainability at a local, national and international level. Environmental issues hold tremendous political and economic weight and will be the defining global issue of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Government action towards addressing the issue is imperative, but the saying "Think globally, act locally" can effectively summarize the grassroots environmental sustainability movement. The organization I intern for, and others like it, use a bottom-up strategy to further progress the "Green" movement. The entries in my blog will help serve as a basis for the research paper, which will be completed by the end of the semester. In the paper, I would like to expand on some of the main principles behind the concept of the Smart Growth community, which is becoming an increasingly common urban planning design for communities within the United States. This would entail an overview of how the concept of the suburb developed within the United States in the post-WWII era, and the various social, health, economic and political implications at a national and international level. I will also compare suburban and urban lifestyles, and the costs, benefits, as well as misconceptions, of both types of communities. The paper would also include discussions about principles such as New Urbanism and Transit-Oriented Design, and about why there is increasing support in moving away from the "drivable suburbia" and more towards a "walkable urbanism", in which development is focused on easy pedestrian or rail access, affordable mixed development housing and an overall more sustainable lifestyle.

My on-site supervisor will be Christopher Kyle, who is the Director of Special Projects at the organization. Here is his contact information:

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