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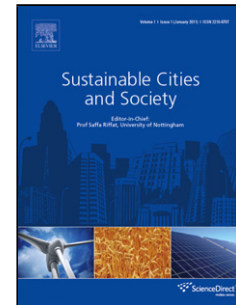
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Residential Zoning and Near-Roadway Air Pollution: An Analysis of Los Angeles

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Highlights

- Air pollution from motor vehicles is harmful to human health.
- Study analyzes municipal zoning and zoning changes near major roadways in Los Angeles.
- Municipal zoning permits residential development on 92% of parcels within 500 feet of a freeway.
- Los Angeles disproportionately enables multifamily housing, rather than single-family housing, near major roadways.

Introduction

Air pollution harms human health, and evidence suggests good reason to be concerned for people who live, work, and attend school next to freeways and other major roads. While land use policies that separate people from pollution sources make intuitive sense, there has been limited implementation of this approach. One exception is California, which bans new school construction within 500 feet of a freeway, and discourages other “sensitive uses,” including housing, in these locations (California Air Resources Board, 2005, 2010). Local governments

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