Abstract

Urban Restructuring and Changing Patterns of Commute in Guangzhou,

2001-2005: A First Analysis

广州城市重构与通勤形态的改变, 2001-2005

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The present paper is a first attempt at charting the changing residential and job

distributions and the resultant patterns of commuting flows in Chinese cities. A series

of mapping exercises based on two household surveys conducted in Guangzhou is

carried out. The findings reveal rapid suburbanization of both residence and jobs in

the city. Although the mean commute distance has increased somewhat,

proportionately suburban to central city commutes have decreased alongside the

suburbanization process. Retrospective residence and employment histories data show

that home movers are also those who undertook longer commutes. However, for

non-movers, people apparently change job in order to reduce the distance of

commute.

Keywords: urban restructuring, residence and job location, commute, Guangzhou