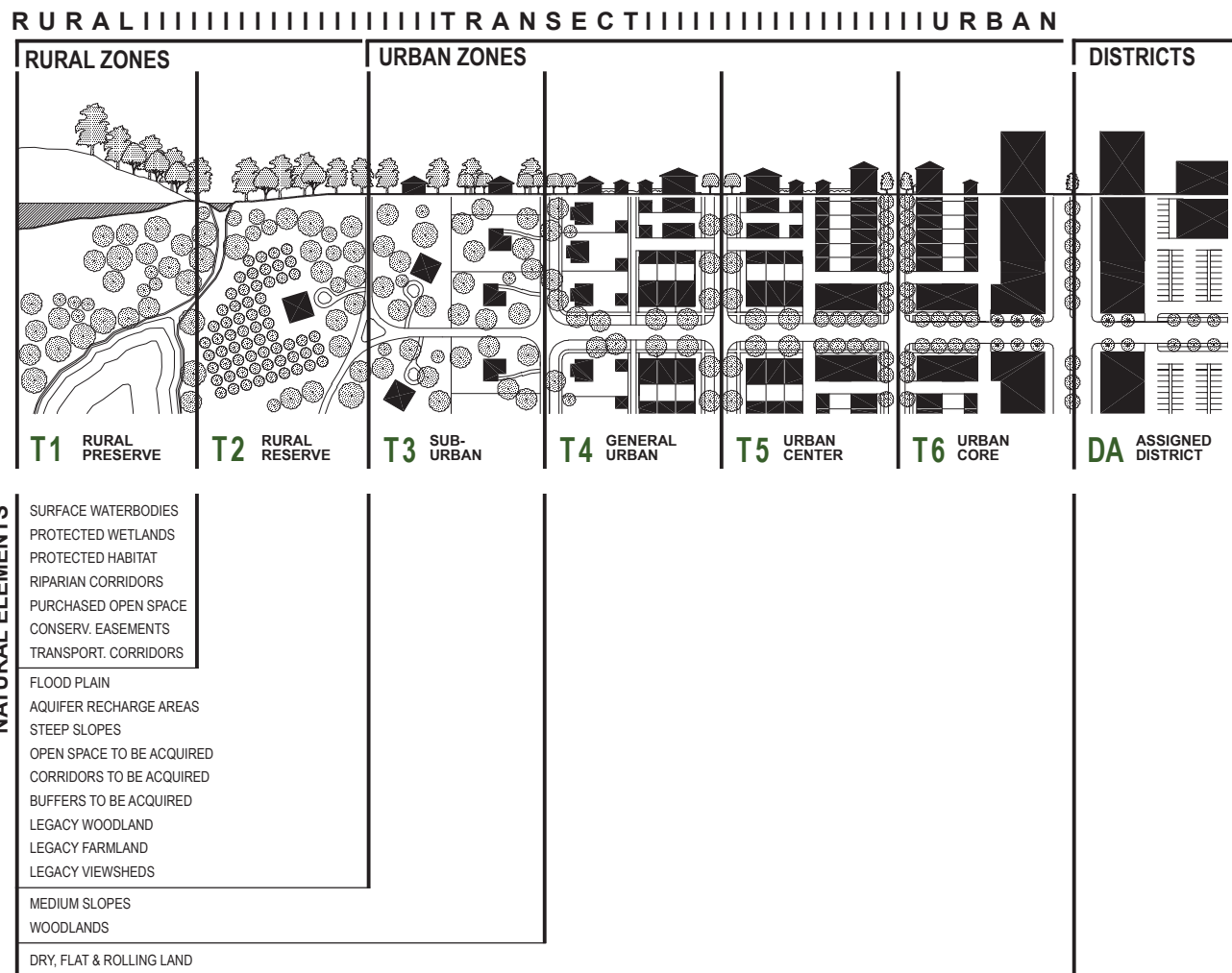


SEASIDE / PIENZA SOCIETY 2003 MEETING

THE TRANSECT SYSTEM ILLUSTRATED



The **Transect** technique is derived from ecological analysis where it is applied to present the sequence of natural habitat from shore-dune-upland or wetland-woodland-prairie. It is a system of classification deploying the conceptual range rural-to-urban to arrange in useful order the typical elements of urbanism. The transect is a natural ordering system, as every urban element easily finds a place within its continuum. For example, a street is more urban than a road, a curb more urban than a swale, a brick wall more urban than a wooden one, an allee of trees more urban than a cluster. This gradient when rationalized and subdivided, becomes the basis of the Smartcode, the basis of a common zoning system.

The continuum of the Transect, when subdivided, forms the basis of the zoning categories: Rural, Sub-Urban, General Urban, Urban Center and UrbanCore.



* The category of Natural Elements is derived from *Design With Nature*, Ian McHarg (1963)