# Strategic Urban Planning to Decrease Heat Risks

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Climate Centre

## BENEFITS FROM URBAN PLANNING

- ✓ Moderates city temperature
- ✓ Reduces heat risk inside buildings
- ✓ Mitigates heatwave impacts/effects
- ✓ Manages flooding and water runoff during storms
- ✓ More cost effective than disaster response

## GREEN ROOFS

Install vegetated layer on roof surface to provide shade, remove heat from the air, and reduce roof surface temperatures.

## ENERGY MANAGEMENT

In preparation for high demand, develop peak energy management plan and ensure backup energy for critical infrastructure.

## WATER SERVICES

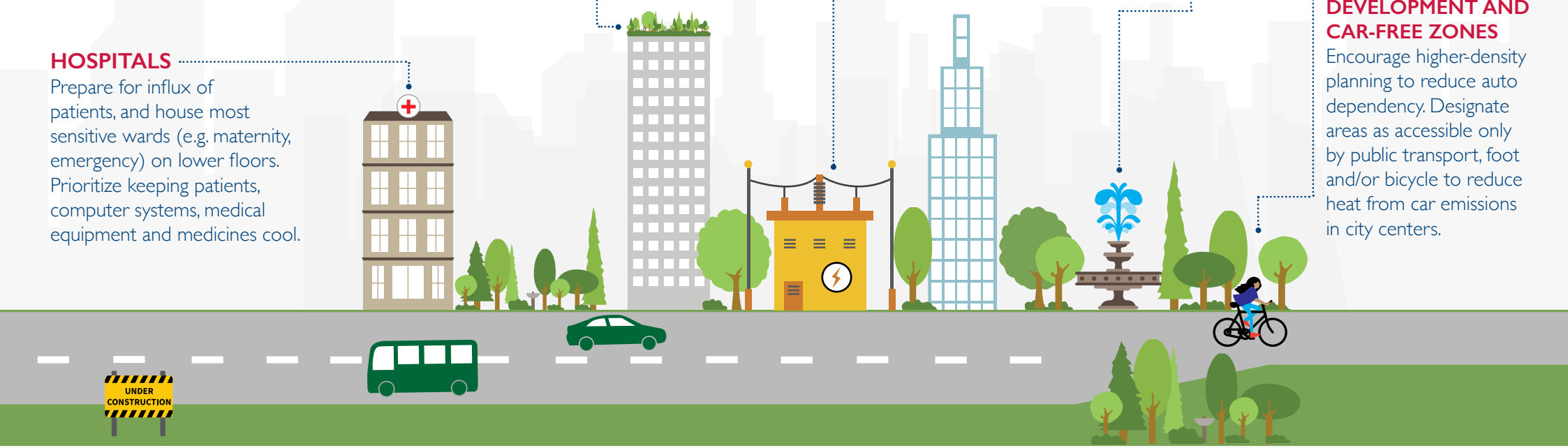
Install (or repair) public drinking water fountains and water spray parks to keep residents cool and hydrated.

## HOSPITALS

Prepare for influx of patients, and house most sensitive wards (e.g. maternity, emergency) on lower floors. Prioritize keeping patients, computer systems, medical equipment and medicines cool.

## COMPACT DEVELOPMENT AND CAR-FREE ZONES

Encourage higher-density planning to reduce auto dependency. Designate areas as accessible only by public transport, foot and/or bicycle to reduce heat from car emissions in city centers.




## BUILDING CONSTRUCTION

Reduce heat risk in buildings by orienting to reduce exposure to direct sunlight, improving insulation, installing blinds on windows, planting trees across western-facing windows and ventilating buildings in the evening when temperatures are cooler.

## INCREASE REFLECTIVITY

Paint surfaces (e.g. roofs, building sides) white or a light color and replace asphalt with reflective or permeable pavement to decrease heat absorption.

## URBAN GREENING

Develop parks and open spaces by increasing vegetation and landscaping, and planting trees along streets, walkways and between buildings to increase shade and decrease heat absorption.