

Introduction

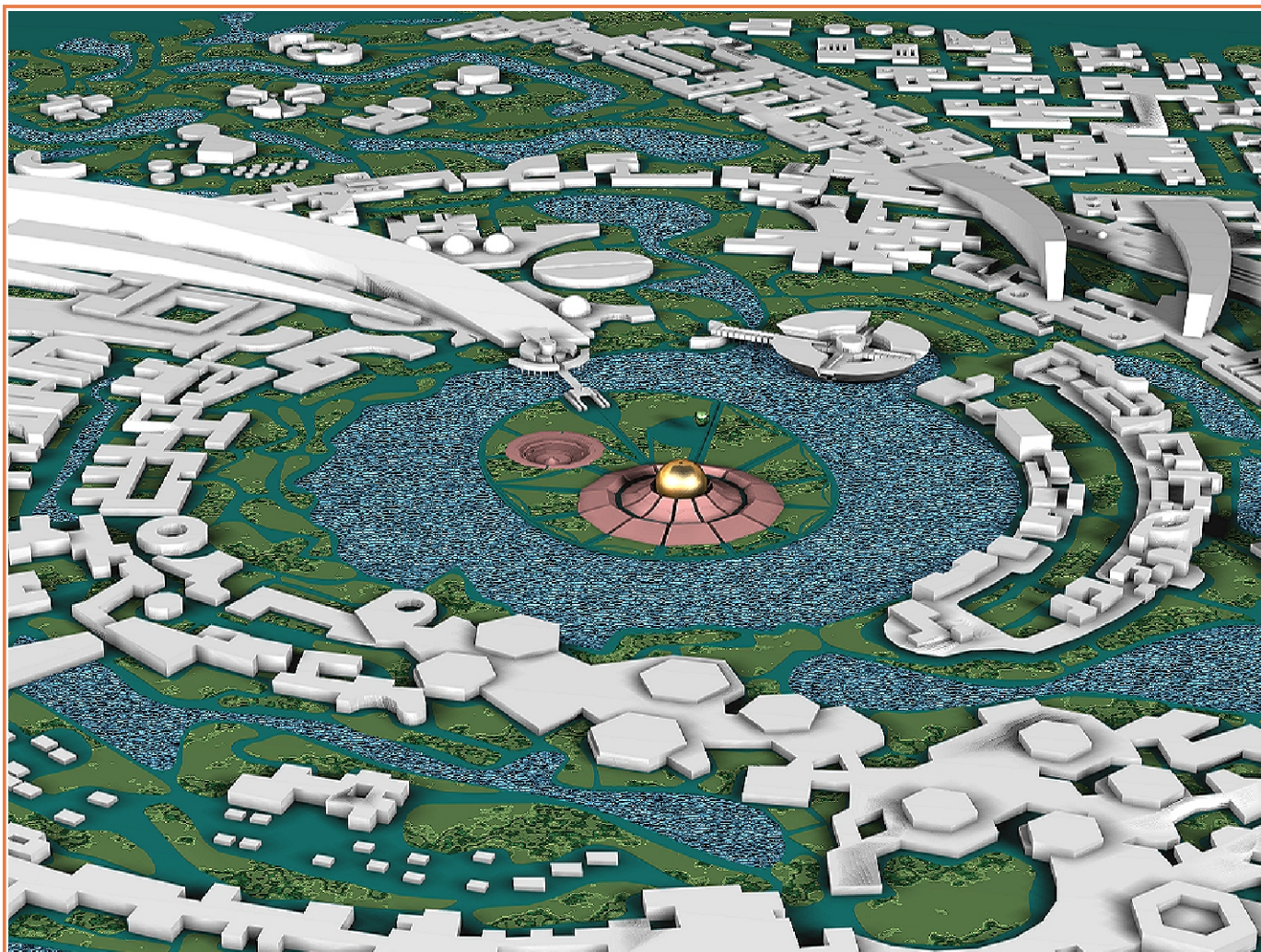
The City Centre is an area from Matrimandir to the Crown road covering a surface of 384 acres (of which 55 acres are yet to be purchased) and includes:

- Matrimandir and gardens
- The Lake
- The Parks
- CIRHU
- The Administration Area
- Part of each of the four zones
- The Crown

This area is envisaged to have 10% of the total population of Auroville, i.e. 5000 inhabitants with a part of every zone representing the 4 essential activities of man in society: culture and education, work and administration, unity and diversity and living habitation.

The actual physical manifestation of this 'city centre' will be a model example to experiment at a small scale, the future developments for the whole of Auroville. Being still quite a virgin area, the possibility to develop it from scratch with clear parameters and a new approach makes it very realistic. The small scale of the project can serve as a test for innovative infrastructural systems and buildings and to manage the finances in a collective way for its development.

The possibility of making it free from polluting traffic is also very realistic as every part of the centre is within walkable or cyclable distance, thus creating a peaceful atmosphere at the very hub of the city.



The City Centre

The aims of the City Centre proposal are:

- ◆ To manifest urban tissue, density and architectural quality.
- ◆ To learn urban management in accordance to the Auroville Charter
- ◆ To target a financially sustainable development.
- ◆ To propose a coherent and understandable project.
- ◆ To lay common and permanent infrastructure.
- ◆ To provide immediately large areas for parks and gardens.
- ◆ To implement the first phase of a traffic-pollution free area within the town.
- ◆ To simplify access to services and public facilities.
- ◆ To provide access to international, residential, cultural and industrial activities at walking distances.

