Broadacre City was Frank Lloyd Wright’s vision of the way society could be. The Idea was laid out over Wright’s life time throughout three books and numerous articles. Broadacre City presented a society spread out over a vast landscape. Wright’s idea was to build upon America’s greatest strengths: The automobile, electrical communication and standard machinery. Thus allowing for greater distances between central nodes and living districts. It started with the nuclear family. Wright saw land ownership as a democratizing force therefore every family would live on an acre of land. The idea was that families would be self sufficient, using the land for agricultural food production. This amount of land also allowed families greater access to the natural world. Families would be located in districts spaced out between areas for commerce and industry. With the gas station being the natural central market place. These gas stations would eventually grow and expand to handle the distribution of different goods. A vast network of roadways and highways would connect everything together. Within this society Wright saw public ownership of all utilities, as well as free health care and education. There are no experts, everyone does everything. With the exception of the architect who plans the city and arranges who owns what.
RESPONSE TO NATURE:

Broadacre City was developed as a cure for the traditional city. Where traditional cities were dense, Broadacre City was vast, and sprawled out. In this was it responds to its natural environment. Allowing for large areas of open space and a city that literally contours to the land it is built upon. This structure allows for smaller building types allowing for greater sunlight access. Within Broadacre city there is not necessarily one great place as the whole city is intended to be a great place as a whole.

OVERPOPULATION:

In the 1930’s, when Broadacre City was originally proposed the United States Of America had a population of 122 million people. So for the time Wright’s vision of a vast sprawled out suburban utopia was not as far fetched as it seems today. Wright saw Broadacre City as a way to liberate people from the dense and polluted cities of the 1930’s. Allowing everyone open space to enjoy the sunlight and clean air. While wright could not predict the population boom of the 1950’s, his vision of a sprawled out utopia would simply not work today. America now has a population of 320 million roughly three times what it was when Broadacre was introduced. Put simply there is not enough space for every family to have an acre of land in today’s day and age. Also the idea of the nuclear family as the basic social unit is no longer the norm. So creating a city based on this aging principle would not work.