

10 minutes. Trains and electro-buses would carry commuters between the cities. Lastly, Simpson estimates that the costs of maintenance of his city are 1/10 of the costs spent for present-day ones.

Other visionaries have also focused on the construction of high buildings and structures. Japanese architects have, for instance, designed a swimming city. It would be built on 600-meter thick steel construction off the shores of Japan. The swimming city would rise up to 4 kilometers and about 700,000 people could potentially live there. On the other hand, the Shimizu Corporation is thinking in a somewhat smaller scale. They are dreaming of a pyramid with a height of 2000 meters. Others are planning cities on the floor of the ocean, while very bold architects consider it possible that in the near future people could live on the moon or even on mars.

### **The Example of Zurich and Vienna**

It is almost impossible to predict if one of these visions would ever become a reality. Nowadays, urban planners and futurologists face very concrete challenges. One thing is clear to them by now; many cities are collapsing. Urbanization, albeit all its advantages, is now showing more of its negative consequences. Let us take traffic as an example: In most cities traffic is collapsing regularly. Noise and