

The construction “the 21st century landscape continues forever to develop with the new town space” in participation and creative action

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Abstract

The economic development of structural transformation in globalization brought to a new pattern of city development and global competition, which is a crisis for urban development. That images of traditional city, the basic urban scheduling and the developmental logic, cannot support the necessary economic restructuring but become the obstacles for the new development of urban. A series of topics related to urban governance and detail of the content show that the developmental logic and activity may hold back the metropolis development and further challenge the reformation and reconstruction of urban. Therefore, the action-oriented concept of new urban landscape transformation to build a unique city with “city images”, will replace the previous strategies and attitudes, and will be decided from the city itself, the most fundamental "life" conformation as the starting point to establish the blueprint, the annotation of urban landscape structure and to shape the local optimized model of life. Its achievement will be the new model for future landscape development. The landscape of city and countryside spaces is one way to improve the quality of life and the health of residents, also can improve the greening and beautification of metropolis and fresh air, allowing the resident to have physically powerful body and less-stressful mentality and have better interpersonal relationship. In addition, with the rapid economic growth, people demand more about the quality of the living environment, initiating more discussions on the issue about how to design and develop the city and countryside.

“The Urban and rural spatial landscape” has the mission to internationalize the city, promote the management of urban and rural space and the development policy. “The guidance image” that determines “the local characteristics” and highlights “the self explanatory” of a city would be the long-term goal and the basis of the metropolis plan. The landscape subject in European Union has been focused on the coexistence relationship between nature and human beings, animal habitat, plant maintenance, protection and redevelops. The global issue on landscape has been therefore, expanded

to the most fundamental requirements for survival and quality of life.

In Taiwan, the landscape of city and countryside is currently at developmental stage and is usually ignored. Urban and rural spatial development and urban planning are basically directed by the functional urban theory of modern architecture. Practically, the style and content of urban and rural spatial development in the special politics and economic society of Taiwan has long been determined by land and real estate logic to pursue the imaginative value and to exchange the social benefits. The significance and the structure of "city and countryside space landscape" have never been emphasized in the city and countryside space development's elaboration. Especially, the design and content of landscape image for city and countryside space development has been obliterated from the policy and control issues.

Keywords

The City and Countryside Space Landscape, City Images, Urban Development

1. Introduction

Based on the concept from the most popular issue "Blue Ocean Strategy" and the 15-year experiences participating in implementation and investigating the Kaohsiung Judicious Creative Architecture Association (JCA) for the Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape, the authors have discovered several new styles of landscape transformation which are avoid of the competition in traditional construction industry and stimulate the construction investors or organizations to pursue a completely new direction with imagination. The concept of this program in JCA is to encourage participants to be more creative and innovative, and expand the entire activity to other cities in Taiwan. This association is the most important non-governmental organization to promote landscape transformation in Taiwan and most is coordinated by public and private organizations together to function as an interface and/or bridge to create more opportunities for environmental improvement of urban and rural space. It is a challenge for globalization regional development in the 21st century, and promotes competitive power and opportunity of the city and countryside. Space and Environment Association of Professional Landscape Academia, and public sector, community groups, the combination of these technologies unit, all together establish the cooperation mechanism between government agencies, professional organizations and community residents and outline a bottom-up model of the local environmental construction. The initiated action on metropolis construction and space landscape, as well as on all participates during the action; all have impact on the construction exercise in metropolis and space landscape. In particular, consumers can participate in the decision of public issues and policy through various mechanisms to have more appropriate, innovative efforts on this issue. Followings are the objectives and significance of this study:

- A. The action is demanded to continue the spirit of everyone participation and to emphasize the strength of bottom-up reconstruction idea. Thus, the power of quality local environment will be recognized by the people in the community.

- B. The government should have policy to positively encourage the idea that overall local reconstruction exercise requires professional consultants from environment landscape to direct strength from various expertises to shape and promote the environmental quality of life in communities. Especially, this can be another power and sustainable resources for urban and rural development.
- C. The changes in value, scale and content of the 21st century globalization regional development lead the transformation of space environment in professional toward the community, to reshape the style that people lives, as well as the challenge on re-justification of the views from professional, the academic and the technical expertise. All these changes can be used as an indicator to evaluate the compatibility of a community. The improved landscape of urban environment, elevated quality of life, and the better health of residents are part of the goals in the main municipal building project, also have effort on greening and beautification of the environment. Therefore, there are increasing opportunities to discuss the issues regarding the environmental landscape design and development.

2. The Origins and Goals.

The overall theme of the “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape” endorsed by Judicious Creative Architecture Association adjusts as times changed and differs from the traditional architecture society. This is not just another furious competition, but a chance to stimulate the investors or organization to pursuit a new idea and direction.

The “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape” is an operation that encourages people to be involved, innovative and creative, and then further extends its influence to other cities in Taiwan. It is also a cooperative system between private and public groups to push the development of landscaping and districts. The main goal of this operation is to create opportunities and interface for the urban and rural areas, and to induce the globalization development and increase the competitiveness. Therefore, it will guide communities and private/public organizations together with the professionals, to form a bottom-up model for environment management. Elevating idea of the quality of life from the residents would be more powerful to ensure and to direct the maintenance of landscape and environment from the government and the professional consultants, toward a more suitable direction for urban-rural development.

The issues raised in this study regarding the reconstruction of urban architecture inspire intensively on the spatial landscaping of city through many people involvements. Especially, during each steps of the participation, the consumers are allowed to participate proactively to understand how the policies and public issues affect the urban spatial development. It is also the interest of this study to understand how the public opinion impacts on the decision from the industry.

Specific goals and the rationales are followings:

- A. To have the consumers decided the quality of living environment, we have actively encouraged the involvement of consumers.
- B. To encourage the involvement of consumers, we have actively suggested the government to invite professional consultants of environmental landscaping

management to join the professional knowledge, technology, and experiences to local construction, elevating the environmental quality and supporting the growth of urban-rural development.

- C. Since the idea of globalization is imperative, the experts and the industry have to adjust themselves for this tendency. These changes have moved forward to the community and the citizens, gathering professional knowledge, experience, and technology to fulfill the challenge. And the results can be as the indicator of competitiveness. The goals are to elevate the quality of the environment for the citizens to live cozily and healthily, to live with less stress, fresh air in a gracious society. Moreover, as the gross domestic product (GDP) of our country increases, the quality of the recreation activities also becomes more important. This also raises the environmental landscaping and designing to become a heated issue.

3. Challenges and Missions.

“People” is dynamic, innovational participants and is the fundamental force to affect city and government policies. Without the factor of “people”, all the process is only as a “goal, a “plan”; and the only focus of the “plan” will be its efficiency and any excellent idea will be merely technique. As the “getting involved” campaign obtains its popularity, opinions from all sources have a chance to be considered, such as that from social security, feminism, native autonomy and adult education. The direct participation stimulates creativity, the discussions between the consumers and professionals, extends the developmental potentials, and eliminates problems. Groups of the provider controlling the resources and frontline workers communicating with the consumers and providers, are collaborated each other through continuous meetings, surveying and discussion to improve the strategy for city landscaping.

The study adapted an action model via detailed recording of in-depth involvement to allow people with various backgrounds have a chance to understand how other fields work. The more people in the group, the more profound changes can be created. To have better analysis and problems solved, the study is divided into “development stage” and “fulfillment stage” with multiple steps. The sequential events of the steps, the attitude of the government, and the action of the industry can all affect the operation as a whole. Thus, the result of this study provides valuable feedback to understand how the interactive relationship works, to determine the following five strategies of participatory designs: A. transparent involvement; B. role-playing from all walks of life; C. benign competition; D. harmonious relation; F. resource integration. And the results further suggest the following processes and introspection to be referenced for future constructions of public and private space. These will be the followings:

- A. Public involvement which provides the activities and experiences for all.
- B. Life, humanity, symbiosis, and welfare that display new values.
- C. Environmental landscape planning that modifies the district development of the 21st century.
- D. Innovation, development and social study that modify the face of the community.
- E. Environmental landscaping, faces of city and countryside, and the competitiveness

- of society.
- F. Employment, development and enterprise style management that elevate competitiveness of the society.
 - G. Competition and democratic transformation experience that develop competitiveness of the society.
 - H. Creativity, experiment and outlook that develop new techniques and experiences.
 - I. Integration and institutional construction that modify the society development.

Having the planned design of environmental landscape, it is able to stimulate and to help the government with more NGO teams; and having the way to understand how to make things better, it can provide more chances to the citizens and more progressive conceptual utilization of the open public areas. The mobility characteristic exposes more corner spaces where the NGO teams may miss. The city space in Taiwan is considered as an extended living room, it should obtain more community supports through suggestions from citizen to become the city of ocean, and the city of friendliness. Participation by the people should be directed by the professionals and promoted by the government.

4. Research method, range and data collection

A. Research methods, and data collection

The analytic approach of this study includes document collections, survey and interview. Firstly, we discussed the value and significance that “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape” produced in recent years. Secondly, we analyzed the data of “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape” since year of 1995, to evaluate the unique quality of each winning design and to see how they evolved. Thirdly, we designed a first draft for surveying the target theme and research, and then conducted a more in-depth interview with the surveyed people. Results from randomly selected interviewee were used to modify the survey and processed with statistical analysis. This is used to further understand the influence of “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape”, and to obtain suggestions for future expectation and improvement. Finally, lessons from the past experiences of globalized environmental modification and the angle of sustainable development will implicate to improve the “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape”. Data collection were focused on the annual magazine of “Award of Urban Open Space Landscape and Courtyard Landscape”, the newspapers and magazines with “Award of Urban open space landscape and Courtyard landscape” related news and other awards of Taiwanese architecture, and concluded.

B. Steps of the study

The steps of this study can be mainly divided into six steps, “forming of the research objectives”, “initial data collecting”, “on spot observation”, “interview”, “observation processes”, “data organization” and “result write up”.

C. Range and subjects of the research

(1) Research range

This study targets the 12-year experiences of “Award of Urban open space landscape and Courtyard landscape” in Kaoshiung. This operational process is endorsed by Kaohsiung Judicious Creative Architecture Association. The work of the execution team has been widely recognized, especially by the industry, the consumers and the governments. The winning of this award can be viewed as the highest honor in this field; it is also interested in this study to know how much influence of the award possesses.

(2) Target of the study

According to the preferences of people who are involved in the public affairs, the targets of interview and observation are consistent with those of the governments, the organizations, the residents and the people.

5. Missions

- (1) To apply globalization in urban development as a method to operate and set-up the strategies.
- (2) To create a new system that controls the city environment based on a city planning and designing that beyond traditional cities.
- (3) To adapt the city environment demands in 21 century as quality standards to break the past land-use manner and the concept of environmental governance.
- (4) To plan the landscape to have the control system based on the city sustainable development of life, ecosystem development.

6. Goal of development

A. Social movement to equip the cities with basic competitiveness

It is important to know that in this continuously changing era, the issues of city landscaping are not just mere to pursuit the fashion as another “me too”, nor blindly follow the others, but are based pm the alterations in the qualities of cities and related to the competitiveness of the society. Not only the governor needs to be capable of directing the city, most importantly, the concept of city landscaping needs to be evolved to common senses, directing the values of citizens, which is one of the fundamental elements for a city to be compatible.

B. Modeling the city landscape as a guideline for city planning

The reason for the importance of city landscaping is due to its essential role being one of the ingredients for city developmental and the fundamental for city planning and regulating. Taken from other countries’ experiences, the systematic development of city landscape is obviously to be extremely crucial. For example, city landscaping is merged with sustainable development and is considerable to be important as area detailing and land management in Germany. In Europe and America, the first step was to reverse the concept of landscaping for human being live harmony with natural environment, looking for a balance in habitats, landscaping and construction.

7. Action goals

1. Establishing an indicator for globalized vision of landscaping strategy and system.
2. Creating a new regulation mechanism for the demands of the environment for city landscaping.
3. Loosening the density of traditional city land usage in the concept of governance.
4. Looking for the best model of sustainable landscaping city development.

8. Meaning of Action

1. To activate and improve the land environment.
2. To re-interpret the space organization of the city and countryside, and to assist the environmental landscape planner to bring up resident's real-life and establish new ideas.
3. To establish the third department's construction. We need to have seed-person for the environmental landscape design which is especially focused at elevating local life quality, cultivation, and environment development. Based on the concept of establishing a learning-oriented city (or area) as a new model to establish the third department is the main support for local activation.
4. To promote the global sustainable development of cities in the 21st century.
5. To create the community development construction, gather experiences of new city activities from citizen's sense.
6. To bring up the new layout of city space structure and develop a whole new way to interpret it.
7. To have new urban exposition, new self-positioning, new value, new technology, and new advocacy.
8. To improve traditional cultural industries recycling and new industries produced.
9. To enhance the concepts of a learning-oriented city.
10. To increase the ecological demands and new layout.
11. To construct the community development –participatory of design activities.
12. To establish the representative sense of honor and sense of place.
13. To construct a variable community environment.

9. Development direction

The study provides the directions of development including:

The value and meaning of landscaping

- The future potential of Taiwanese cities.
- The self-awareness of city landscaping construction.
- Issues of nature-man sym-biosis.

Goal of landscaping

- Competitions strategies, and business between cities.
- The pursuit of new indicators of natural habitat.

Social movement that can fulfill landscaping.

- Ability for local organizations to carry out the operations.
- The development and organization of professional knowledge and techniques.
- The regulation of landscaping and human resource training.

Potential of city and countryside development.

- Potential of Taiwanese landscaping: look into Taiwan development and the trend of the world.
- The irreplaceable self awareness of city landscaping.
- The issue of nature and man sym-biosis.
- Competitions strategies, and business between cities.
- The pursuit of new indicators of natural habitat.
- Ability for local organizations to carry out the operations.
- The development and organization of professional knowledge and techniques.
- The regulation of landscaping and human resource training.

10.Principle in strategic planning

To keep-up the world-wide new tendency and establish a mechanism with new strategy and techniques, the principles of this study is to generate new definition, new style and new demand and create a new opportunity for survive and extension. The principles of planning are:

- (1) **Concept of natural habitat designing, exercising the ecology engineering.**
Well conducted ecology engineering can reduce resourcing being wasted, maintain variety of species, store nutrient and water in the system, organizing the whole design to completely solve the problem, gives the land with new faces and functions for people to use effectively.
- (2) **Significance and the spirit of public participation.**
With the concept of “whole community construction”, the community can be designed into a beautiful landscape, and with the residents participating the community activities, develop the communities with further care and share with everyone.
- (3) **Modifying the local environment, with expectation of healthy development.**
Hosting a series of ecology related activities allows the participants to understand what troubles we might face. Triggering the thoughts of being passionate about the land of their own, thus progressively maintain the environment. Strengthen the local job opportunities, and sketching a draft for the bright future.
- (4) **Magnify the unique characteristic and spirit of the local environment.**
It is important to fuse the cultural with the natural. By organizing the related public and private resources, agreement in community modeling will be achieved.
- (5) **With unique creativity, outlook, and persuasion, to find new possibilities.**
From the prospective view of long-term management, the fundamental structure should be based on eco-friendliness, to discuss and to modify current planning, and further passing laws and regulation of resource conservation, working on waste management and landscape decoration. Especially view it as a tool to manage growth; its vertical role is to prevent pollution, and to conserve natural habitat and landscaping, though it’s horizontal role is to organize and utilize the developmental plan, plays a partnership role for the land development and management, further displaying how the resource should be applied efficiently and

effectively.

- (6) **The establishment of the operation and management strategy.**
Bring up and promote regional development and provide opportunities for sustainable employment project by gather surrounding environmental development in Taiwan.
- (7) **The whole development could be divided into two directions at the same time.**
Software is one of the directions that based on holding activities and gather community awareness. The second direction is hardware, which based on represent environment, decoration of Garden and furniture, and plants planting to highlight its self-evident and uniqueness.
- (8) **Improve the environmental quality of leisure places by planning for surrounding transportation system.**

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