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TRANSFORMING AN ABANDONED PARK INTO A LIVEABLE LAKE GARDEN THROUGH SUSTAINABLE APPROACHES IN SLIM RIVER, PERAK.

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ABSTRACT

This study is conduct in the means of appreciative values of the park and open space between human interactions. Today, park and open space in our country are also involved in the issues of rapid or uncontrolled development that gives more benefit in economic aspect rather than of social well-being and environmental. Taman Tasik YDP(Yang-DiPertua) is the district parks located at Slim River, Malaysia and it is not an exception to these issues. Even this park situated surrounding residential and located at the main road, it was abandoned by local community nearby that causes of unutilized space, unrecognizable, lack of maintenance, no activity and prone to crime. Thus, this study aim is to transform the area into a liveable lake garden through sustainable approaches.

The methodology to undertake this study started with site observation and interviews with local authorities (Majlis Daerah Tanjung Malim, Jabatan Pengaliran dan Saliran, Batang Padang) and the local community. Then, a collection of information through secondary data sources which is site inventory and analysis to overcome with a solution in term of synthesis and design strategies. After that, the design details are derived in term of space planning which is the master plan, perspective, and planting strategies.

The result is a focus on the design that thoroughly satisfies human needs and environmental preservation. The use of overlaying map is important in defining the potential area to solve the issues.

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LIST OF CONTENTS

| Contents | Page No |
|--|---------|
| Abstract | I |
| Acknowledgement | II |
| List of content | III-IV |
| List of figures, tables, images and maps | V-IX |
| | |
| CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO TOPIC | 1 |
| 1.1 Introduction | 2-3 |
| 1.2 Issues and Problem Statement | 4 |
| 1.3 Aim and Objectives | 5 |
| 1.4 Definition of methodology | 5-6 |
| 1.5 Significant Of Study | 6 |
| 1.6 Research Methodology | 7-8 |
| 1.7 Chapter Summary | 9 |
| | |
| | |
| CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW AND REFERENCE | 10 |
| 2.1 Introduction | . 11 |
| 2.2 Literature Review. | . 11-19 |
| 2.3 References Cases | 19-31 |
| 2.4 Comparison of References Cases. | 32-33 |
| 2.5 Chanter Summary | 33 |

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Public Open Space or POS is organized and handled for present and upcoming generations for general protection and pleasure of unique values purposes. It has always played a key role in enhancing the quality of life for urban populations and supporting urban residents.

POS is an assembled situation factor that is basic for prosperity and wellbeing through the existence time, and adds to the liveability of an area. It provides natural territory for flora and fauna and it lets people to connect with the natural landscape. POS are also significant in recognizing the characteristics and similarity of habitations. Connecting public open spaces in a green nexus will give great advantages for citizens, the surroundings and also biodiversity.

The park and open spaces meaning refer to land that has kept of recreation activity for the purpose of providing green area formal and informal (B. H. Basri, 2011). Park and open spaces also can be varied in size, form and the functions according to it hierarchy with site context and populations. According to Government of Australian Department of Health and Ageing, 2009. They stated the park and open space are planned and managed for the purpose of leisure and enjoy the healthy environment for present and next generations. Furthermore, it has constantly played the significant role as the assets to every city to improving the life quality for the community's social well-being. The significant of the park and open space with the quality of life are related each other and is now increasingly recognized to our environment surrounding. In short, park and open spaces can provide a healthy involvement to the physical to improve the economic value within compromises the benefits of the community interrelationship. (Siti Rasidah Md Sakip et al., 2014).

In city of Melbourne, Australia, open space is defined as: "publicly owned land that is set aside primarily for recreation, nature conservation, passive outdoor enjoyment and public gatherings. This includes public parks, gardens, and reserves, waterways, publicly owned forecourts and squares" (Melbourne, 2012).

As shown above, there are numerous definitions of open space in use across all levels of government and the planning and recreation departments. Some definitions focused on how the open space is used, while the others are focusing on the land type.