Urban Planning

Lecture 01

Urban planning is the process that is concerned with the design of land use and infrastructure passing into and out of urban areas such as; transportation, communication human settlements and many more. It is considered as an interdisciplinary field that includes social engineering, design sciences and architecture. The term urban planning is used interchangeably with urban and regional planning, regional planning, and town or city planning and urban development.

Urban planning dates from ancient Egyptian times. Therefore, archeologists studying the ruins of cities proved that the idea of planned cities was adopted by many civilizations such as the Greek and the Roman civilizations. Yet, it is the Roman Empire that had the most prominent effect that still can be seen nowadays in Europe especially in their paved streets and city centers.

An urban planner is confined to do many tasks. Primarily, formulating plans for the management of urban and suburban areas. In addition to analyzing land use according to the economic, environmental and social trends. They therefore must consider issues of sustainability, potential pollution and crime rate. Most importantly, they must set their goals strategically, legally, culturally and physically in real life.

There are many reasons for a person to major in urban planning. For instance, population growth and new human settlements need some planning to avoid chaotically based cities. Moreover, climate change and pollution rises the need for sustainable planning including green zones and natural parks. Last and not least, urban planning makes it easy for both the residents and the visitors to access the city making it a trending center locally and globally.

Questions

Read the text and answer the following questions

1. Under which area of study is urban planning categorized?
2. According to the text, how can the term urban planning be referred to? I.e. what are the synonyms of urban planning?
3. In which paragraph it is mentioned that, " Urban planning theories are old, however only one major influence made its ways to the present days"
4. What are the duties that the urban planner?
5. Find in the text the synonym of " internationally" (§4) , the antonym of "the least"(§2)
6. What are the considerations the urban planner must respect when making design decisions?
7. Explain why it is important to study urban planning?
8. As a future urban planner, what would you like to do in terms of empirical or practical research?

TERMS
RELATED WITH URBAN PLANNING

- ❖ *Border :* the land around the edge of something

- ❖ *Common land :* land that everyone has a right to use

- ❖ *Conservation area :* an area of land that is protected from being damaged

- ❖ *Corridor :* land near a major river ,road ,or railway line

- ❖ *Dry land :* land rather than the sea ,a river ,or a lake

- ❖ *Landscape :* an area of land that is beautiful to look at

- ❖ *The open :* any place that is outside,not in a building

- ❖ *Parcel :* a section of a piece of land

- ❖ *Permafrost :* ground that stay permanently frozen

- ❖ *Public property :* buildings and land that are owned by the government
  Of the country

- ❖ *Reclaiming land* : making land suitable for use

- ❖ *Sewage* : a waste matters such as a dirty used water carried away from houses and factories through sewers

- ❖ *Wasteland :* an area of land that is empty or cannot be used

- ❖ *The wild* : a natural environment

Lecture :3

Text

(a good city is like a good party people stay longer than really necessary ,because they are enjoying themselves) Jan Gehl

Public space is a place where anyone has a right to come without being excluded because of economic or social conditions .

Public spaces are an important asset to our cities . they provide people many opportunities to come together and engage with the community .If public spaces are successful they are inclusive of the diversity of groups present in our cities and create social space for everyone in the society to participate in

Questions

a- Choose the suitable text title
  1) Public spaces in New YORK
  2) The importance of public spaces
  3) The types of public spaces

B –social or economic conditions make anyone excluded from the public spaces

1)yes   2)no

c-public spaces make people

1)sociable   2)separated from each other

D)public spaces are available just for

1)some persons   2)some groups   3) all people

E)why J .Gehl said that a good city like a good party ?

……

………

F)chances = ……………………….   significant=………………………

g)shorter   ………………………   duty   …………………………

Activity :   fill in the gaps from the following words ;find,urban sprawl , undeveloped ,population,the biginning ,low , ,move,commercial.

Urban sprawl refers to the migration of a ………………. from populated towns and cities to…………..density residential development over more and more rural land , ……………………..is defined as low density residential and ……………………..development on …………………land .most of the time ,people will ……………….from these areas to try to ……………

better areas to live .This has been the way of the world since ……………

Urban planning

Lecture 4

Urban Transport Planning; the Traditional Approach

Public transport planning is a very important part of urban planning. It stands for the exercise of involving strategies and policies to achieve a set of goals in transport.

Urban transport planning constitutes of two main approaches; a traditional approach known as the "Automobile approach" and a sustainable one known as the "contemporary approach".

To start with the traditional approach, it is planned on large blocks of land use with missed use zone. In addition to a single district with unidirectional traffic movement inwards to the industrial zones in the morning and outwards to the suburbs in the afternoon. Furthermore, the roads in this approach are connected like tree branches i.e. small local streets are connected to larger collector streets which connect to larger roads with high costly infrastructures such as; grade separations.

Therefore, the traditional transport planning has a negative impact on land use. First, increase in automobile ownership. Second, increased traffic jams and congestion. Third, fatalities and injuries due to accidents.

Traditional transport planning proved to be failure to urban planning. Consequently, there was a need for a new approach.

References

Transport planning a paper presented by ministry of urban development, government of India, institute of urban planning transport, sustainable urban transport project India.

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1- What is the type of the text?
2- The text talks about
   *Urban transport planning; the past and the future
   *The traditional approach to urban transport planning; what's wrong!
   *The guidelines of urban transport planning
3- State true or false
   - The automobile approach is based on the use of big zones
   - The contemporary approach is poorly planned with expensive infrastructures
   - The road design of the traditional approach causes accidents
   - The traditional approach proved to be a failure, yet it is okay to keep it
4- In which paragraph it is mentioned that; "the nature of the roads lay out led the traffic to be centered in two key rush hours of the day"?
5- Find in the text the synonym of "modern" (§2), the antonym of "successful" (§5).
6- What are the disadvantages of the traditional approach?
7- According to what is explained in (§3), try to draw the road diagram of the traditional approach
8- According to your past studies and experience; suggest a new approach to transport in which you avoid the mistakes of the traditional one.
9- In your opinion, what are the key guidelines to have a successful transport system in a city?

Urban planning

Lecture 5

Urban Transport Planning; the Contemporary Approach

To avoid the mistakes of the traditional approach to transport planning; a new approach has been introduced to assure a more sustainable development. The latter can be defined as any means of transport with a low impact on the environment that includes walking and cycling as well as the technology to move people, goods and information in a way that reduces impact on the environment

Sustainable transport planning is based on a number of key design plans. First, access to and out of cities should be easy, and cities should be designed for people not cars where people can live with or without cars by assuring close services such as; schools, parks, shops …etc.

Second, importance should be given to public transport with less land use and less expensive infrastructures to exemplify; collective busses, underground subways and metros.

Third, encourage the use of cleaner fuels technologies for example the use of battery charged cars. In addition to including a cycling section in the roads with the appropriate organizational signs.

Finally, the contemporary approach if planned properly; can change the urban transport planning for good.

References

Transport planning a paper presented by ministry of urban development, government of India, institute of urban planning transport, sustainable urban transport project India

Questions Read the text and answer the following questions

1. What does the term" sustainable "stand for in this text?
2. How can the contemporary approach reduce land use?
3. In which paragraph it is mentioned that; "much importance should be given to the inhabitants of a city rather than to the system of transport"?
4. Find in the text the synonym of " to transport" (§1) the antonym of " High" (§1)
5. State (T) for true and (F) for false
   - When designing ; the sustainable approach makes sure to have a high effect on the environment
   - Using subways , collective busses and metros can reduce traffic jams and congestion
   - If the people find all the facilities near them; they don't have to use cars all the time
   - Roads in the sustainable approach take a huge land space
6. Match the statements (a-d) with the ones from (1-4) using the effect connectors such as ; so that, consequently, as a result and thus

Design plan	Its effect
a. Add a cycling section in the roads	1. People won't have to use cars
b. Encourage the use of clean fuels	2. Reduce air and noise pollution
c. Use collective means of transport	3. The roads will take less land space
d. Design a city with close services	4. Cars won't consume mush petrol

7. **Game time**
   The students will be divided into two groups, they will be given statements on piece of papers showing guidelines from both approaches, then decide which approach it is. The teams can use a ball to allocate turns to each other's.

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Lecture 06

The Image of the City by Kevin Lynch

According to Lynch "a city is a construction in space, but one of vast scale, a thing perceived only in the course of the long spans of time". Thus, city design is "a temporal art" i.e. it rarely can be controlled because the patterns of a city can be changes, abandoned or developed. "It is seen in all lights and all weathers".

The city for Lynch should have "legibility". Consequently, identifying and structuring the environment in a city using many cues such as the visual sensation of color, shape, light, smell, sound, touch and the sense of gravity is very important for the security, the intensity and the depth of the human experience, the strong expressiveness of the individual and social growth.

To become lost in a modern city is rare because we are supported by maps, street numbers, signs and placards, yet if one gets lost there will be a strong sense of anxiety and disorientation. Thus, the city's image is strongly related to our balance and well-being.

The city's image is the result of the present and the past memories of a person. Consequently a clear image is the one that helps a person to move easily and quickly.

The city's image is important not only emotionally, but socially because it helps building the collective memory of people and that's why common memories of" Home Town" are the first and easiest points of contact between lonely soldiers in war time.

Reference: the text is a collection of citations and quotations from **Kevin Lynch's book *the Image of the City*** (Kevin Lunch, *The Image of the City*, pp.7-9)

Questions Read the Text and Answer the following questions

1. What does the text talk about?
2. What is the city for Lynch?
3. Why did Lynch consider the city as a "temporal art"?
4.   What do people use to structure and identify the environment in the city?
5. What do people use when they get lost in a city?
6. How do people identify and structure the environment in a city?
7. Why is it important to have a clear "Image" of a city? i.e. the advantages of " the city's Image"
8. State "True" or "False"
    *   Having a clear Image of a city is important for the individual and the society
    *   People get lost in the modern city very easily and all the time
    *   Soldiers at war always tell stories about their "Home Town"
    *   If you have a clear Image of a city, you can find a friend's house easily and quickly
    *   A city is fixed in time, it doesn't change or develop
    *   A city's image is a collection of present and past memories
9. Find in the text the synonym of " Large" (§1) The antonym of " Permanent" (§1)
10. What do you like about your "Home Town"? What would you like to change?
11. Reorder the following sentences
    *   Love/town/because/I/home/made/the person/I am/ today/my/it/me/
    *   West/home/east/best/is/