AN EVALUATION OF THE PLANNING IMPLICATIONS DRIVEN BY URBAN SPRAWL WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE SUBURBS OF KANDY CITY

KHMWK Abeyrathna



Master of Science Degree in Town and Country Planning

Department of Town and Country Planning
University of Moratuwa

March 2013

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Kiuldeniye Herath Mudiyanselage Wasantha Kumara Abeyrathna 08/9601

This Dissertation is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Master of Science degree in Town and Country Planning of University of Moratuwa www.lib.mrt.ac.lk

Department of Town and Country Planning

University of Moratuwa

Sri Lanka

March 2013

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KHMWK Abeyrathna	KD Fernando
08/9601	Supervisor
Student	Senior Lecturer
D.	D .
Date:	Date:

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I herewith certify tha	t KHMWK Abeyrathna index number 08/9601 in the Master degree		
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finde	II.:: CM Cui II -		
KD Fernando	University of Montum Muhrisingheka. Electronic Theses & Dissertations		
Senior Lecture	www.lib.mrt.ac.lkHead		
Supervisor	Department of Town and Country Planning		
Department of Town and Country Planning University of Moratuwa			

Date:

Acknowledgements

I wish to record my sincere gratitude to the followings for their many supports and contribution to complete my Dissertation successfully.

- 1. Prof. PKS Mahanama, Dean, Faculty of Architecture, for his valuable instructions
- Dr. JM Munasinghe, Head, Department of Town and Country Planning,
 University of Moratuwa for his Valuable instructions
- 3. Plnr. KD Fernando, Senior Lecturer, Department of Town and Country Planning,
 University of Moratuwa for his unreserved instructions and guidance to success
 this Dissertation.
 University of Moratuwa, Sri Lanka.
- 4. Mr. Ainta Jayasinghe Hecturer Department of Town and Country Planning,
 University of Moratuwa for his valuable support
- 5. Mr. Tharanga Ranasinghe, Mrs. Chamila Liyanage, Development Assistants, for their GIS inputs and valuable supports
- 6. All Academic and Nonacademic staff of Department of Town and Country Planning, Library of University of Moratuwa for their valuable assistance

Abstract

The world urbanisation level is reaching to 60% in the year 2030 which is now at the level of 50% out of world's total population as forecasted by the population and statistical division of the United Nations. As a result of this transformation process, the urban sprawl takes place in the edges and outside the areas of cities while creating many socio, economic and physical issues specially in the aspect of environment. Urban sprawl is defined as unplanned expansion of urban boundaries in to the rural areas outside the city boundary. Urban sprawl is also characterised by suburban residential areas or as Metropolitan areas that comprises with the number of secondary townships around the main city. These main city and secondary townships highly connected with the interacted transportation networks lead to establishing growth corridors along the connection lines.

There are two significant differences in urban sprawl in developing and developed countries like car based communities, income level, Infrastructure availability etc. But some features like traffic congestion, environment degradation, and linkage with transportation networks and are common to both types of countries.

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The transportation is dominant root cause in urban sprawl that leads to expansion of the city functions towards the rural areas or edges of city boundaries along with the transport networks and where the higher transport linkages are available. In the same time many environment degradations in natural and manmade environments are available due to this urban sprawl like water pollution, air pollution and agriculture land fragmentation etc.

This study focus to find the interrelation in between urban sprawl areas of main city and the secondary and other townships and to degrade the environment quality of the area that is adversely affected to sensitivity of the environment. This evaluation is done by the case study for Kandy city and its suburbs that one of the developing and main cities in sensitive area in central hill region of the country.

The urban sprawl areas are measured by the Space Syntax analysis and the level is measured by weighted ranks of the townships. environment impact of these areas are evaluated by developing an environment degradation index by searching the Google images.

Key words: Urban Sprawl, Environmental degradation, Evaluation,

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