

Urban Green Spaces and Park Development in Ibadan Metropolis, Nigeria: Implication and Lessons for Surveying Profession

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SUMMARY

It has been established that urban green spaces and parks in Ibadan Metropolis are diminishing and this is underpinned by a variety of human-induced factors which include the location of a good site for green space land, laxity in the enforcement of development controls, the problem of ownership of green space lands, low priority to green spaces, uncooperative attitudes of the general public, the poor culture of maintenance and lack of coordination among the allied bodies on green spaces. The study assesses the perception and attitude of people towards urban green spaces and park development in Ibadan Metropolis, focusing on the factors that influence attitude towards urban green space development and tree planting in Ibadan metropolis. The specific objectives are to (1) establish a relationship between education level and urban green space development (2) analyze people's response toward green space development and tree planting in the Ibadan metropolis and lastly, (3) investigate public/ planners and government perception on management strategies of green space development and tree planting. The population of the study was drawn from inhabitants of the five local governments in the Ibadan Metropolis. A total of 600 respondents were selected using a purposive sampling technique based on the knowledge of the respondents about green space and parks. The questionnaires were analyzed using a descriptive statistical method to test the research objectives. Findings revealed that lack of space in urban area is affecting the promotion of green space in urban areas. Furthermore, findings revealed that the nonchalant attitude of people towards urban tree planting is one of the factors affecting urban green space development and management. The study analysis revealed that the income of the respondents significantly influences the attitude of people toward urban green space development. One of the recommendations for decision-makers is that there is a need for a concerted effort by city authorities and policymakers on the conversion and preservation of green spaces by involving surveyors early in creation and city management processes to ensure equitable distribution of natural resources like green spaces.

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