Quest Journals Journal of Architecture and Civil Engineering Volume 9 ~ Issue 12 (2024) pp: 31-35 ISSN(Online): 2321-8193

www.questjournals.org



Research Paper

# **Sustainable Emerging Trends in Urban Planning**

## Ar. Manjeet Singh

Assistant Professor at RIMT University, India

#### Abstract

The present paper examines the recent developments in the field of sustainable urban planning as one of the instruments aimed at improving economic development, environmental sustainability, and residents' engagement. The interest is in environmentally viable, equity-oriented, multi-ethnic, and safe urban neighborhoods. Focusing on emerging practices, new forms of governance, and participation of the citizens, this paper highlights the changes in traditional urban planning approaches into more constructive and flexible ones. Besides, it looks at the evolution of concepts and the problems that arise with citizen participation in urban planning, critically examining the barriers to these types of participation. Finally, the paper assesses schemes like Smart Cities and Urban Renewal, which are increasingly seeking to promote sustainable urban development.

Keywords: Sustainable urban planning, economic, infrastructure, development, implementation.

Received 05 Dec., 2024; Revised 15 Dec., 2024; Accepted 17 Dec., 2024 © The author(s) 2024. Published with open access at www.questjournas.org

### I. Introduction

According to UN data, more than half the population of the world is expected to live in urban environments by the year 2030. Urban areas have relatively high population density and are also the concentrations of numerous economic activities as well as economic problems and ecological destruction. It is not until recently that urbanism and/or urban planning has come out of the background and has begun responding to a critical self-appraisal because of the ideal of sustainable urbanization. Central to this argument is the fact that urban planning is all about envisioning what is likely to come (Myers and Kitsuse, 2000). Urban planning can also lead to some positive repercussions such as continuous economic development, enhanced social justice, and a healthy ecosystem. Local economics focused on fostering urban development must attend equally to the challenging concerns of socio-economic fairness and ecological sustainability that would sometimes contradict.

The urban planning should at least include a guideline for land development regulation, infrastructure development, and public service provision, so that the interests of economic growth as well as all stakeholders are served in the long run. This can be done through the provision of a framework in the form of urban planning. Urban planning is an important tool for solving such challenges as the environmental crisis on a global scale. It contributes not only to the range of sustainable development of the environment, social equity, and responsible energy consumption but also to the creation of a number of factors due to the emergence of new principles. The scope of work done by urban planners includes slum clearance and redevelopment, reconstruction of cities after disasters and wars, environmental management, poverty alleviation, and development of urban form for security and health. It is indeed possible to manage local environmental issues and improve conditions by incorporating climate change approaches in urban design and management. By integrating environmental considerations into the planning and management of urban areas, such issues as local economy, public health, and life quality are positively impacted.

Conventional urban planning is popular in the area of public policy because it is rather simple to implement. Instead of addressing particular problems, radical urban planning seeks to understand the interaction between many different features of a complex system. These features may include social risks as well as functional needs (Schneekloth and Shibley, 1995). Other new ways to do urban planning seem to be effective, attracting people's attention to ecological issues. With the development of more regional approaches to the planning process, it is expected that greater integration will be achieved between planning and the sustainable development agenda. In the urban and environmental planning context, the scope of this study is to focus on the sustainable trends that are happening in the cities. The main objective is to identify the trends in the urban development that can help the urban areas in being viable in the future. This will be achieved by conducting

investigations. This page deals with issues of not only urban planning processes and development projects but also the policies of the initiatives. It comprehends all aspects. Other global programs that are based on urban governance and its constituents and presume that urbanization is reconciliation with economic development can be participatory and sustainable planning that are fostered by city-building methods of the framework. These methods also assume that the connection between urban growth and economic growth can be resolved. Planning must be undertaken in a way that makes use of a number of different strategies and technologies in a bid to be sustainable. Since there is no single magic bullet that can solve all the problems and challenges facing the world today, it is important to apply an integrated perspective that encompasses social, ecological, and economic dimensions.

This will aid in elucidating some of the issues and at the same time enable a replica of the picture of the path that developments the sport. In building cities, one should never consider being detached from critical social, economic, and climatic interactions. The responses towards the environment as well as the effects on the environment and locality can simply be integrated into the making and the management of cities through urban planning and management processes.

For instance, it's how economic spaces are connected that makes it commonplace in developing nations like Singapore to pursue a primary economic center, as this incrementally places secondary hubs in a region (Singapore Government, 2012). Every time there is a gap in urban planning, it's most likely to perpetuate long-term growth, social equity, and ecological conservation. Each of these issues requires government resolve, stakeholder input, and action as well as public will. In the last three decades of the 20th century, the struggle between pro-environment and pro-development forces ensued in the city planning boards. Nevertheless, the pro-development forces came out on top (Molotch, 1977). Strategies in urban planning are expected to enhance community economic and social development and community environmental and citizen safety by respectively increasing pro-environment and safe attitudes of communities.

According to building theory, city planning assists in the growth of cities as centers of economic activity and also helps in alleviating the impacts of climate change and reducing energy consumption. The aim of urban planning is to achieve economies of scale on public expenditures by optimizing the interactions and the geography of urban economic, social, and environmental functions. In that way, the overall goal of maximizing the return on public investments is once more spelled out. However, some economic urban planning theories are not suitable to deal with the socio-economic conditions of the modern cities. It is important for the process of assisting the expansion of a particular city's economy. Here, the focus is on urban economic models per region or locality and housing interactions but not only provides descriptions of this type of issue. Also, such an approach contemplates far more than so-called 'design' in the conventional understanding.

In order for a community to realize economic development, the participation of different groups and integration of different business areas needs to be made a norm in the urban space planning (Metaxas, 2002). Urban space planning and management are critical factors that enhance the economy of a local area. However, the question of urbanization, economic development, and social change has dual aspects. Economic development, urban agglomeration, and social revolution are therefore three pieces of the same puzzle. In terms of spatial planning, socio-economic forces are responsible for shaping spatial organizations, which are then shaped in turn by planning policies, legislation, and practices (Healey &. al., 1997, p. 4).

Novel tendencies and projections for building along with infrastructure

One of the ways urban planners try to enhance energy efficiency and effective management of resources in public places is by operationalizing tactics that utilize intelligent data, such as those gathered from sensors all over the building. "Is it possible to study the intelligence at the district level?" To a certain extent, this is what offshore, particularly in India, we are doing: trying to improve energy management through building special features of different structures. For instance, through digitalization, we are using the heat generated in one building to warm other buildings. This is just one of the ways we are enhancing the efficiency of energy management. There is also a trend of developing smart districts in the smart buildings arena."

The Coalition for Urban Transitions made a claims evaluation in 2019 stating that "the current building and infrastructure practices and technologies are able to reduce the emissions of the cities by 90% by the year 2050. So by around 2050 there were total reductions of around 15.5 GtCO2e". They also predict that 36.5% of all residential properties and 21.2% of all commercial properties are likely to get smaller than what they are at the moment. From my understanding, the entire gross structure of the city is estimated to produce between 30 percent and 40 percent of carbon emissions. However, if this goal is to be met within the stated 2050, it would require cutting down building emissions by as much as 90 percent. It is evident that there are a significant number of buildings that are poorly designed and require renovations because they generate excessive greenhouse gas emissions. It would appear that as of February 2020, the EU had an occupancy rate of only 25% because roughly three-fourths of the building stock was energy efficient. Therefore, that is useful data to always

keep around. For 2019, a good number of efforts, 5% to be exact, in building or even innovating smart cities came about under the guidance of Navigant, and thirteen percent were "some level" structures focus.

According to the World Green Building Council, green buildings are those that "in their design, construction, or operation, reduce or wipe out the detrimental effects on and can have beneficial impacts on the climate and the natural environment, conserve resources, and enhance the environment." Green buildings can also be defined as those that "in their design, construction, or operation, reduce or wipe out the detrimental effects on and can have beneficial impacts on the climate and the natural environment, conserve resources, and enhance the environment." In this respect, Congress, over the last half-dozen years, has systematically launched recognized-purpose programs targeting urban environmental pollution and the ozone depletion, which were caused by anthropogenic processes. As a result, there will be a turning of these structures that are friendly to the environment. They are more ideal for the inhabitants of the buildings, consume less energy, water, and other resources, and can even make their own power. In addition, they are constructed from materials that are socially and environmentally friendly.

Furthermore, the approach that wastes resources will be marginally eliminated by the use of data and digital technologies, which will enhance the effectiveness of the components of the infrastructure and also make them more responsive to the needs of the stakeholders. Flexible office operators will provide the business models that guarantee the viability of the "Office-as-a-Service" model or even the "Real Estate-as-a-Service" strategy.

According to Karen W. Granoff, smart commercial buildings are expected to account for over 4 billion Internet of Things devices by the year 2028 based on projections made by Gartner. Wireline and Wi-Fi systems, such as folding generation (5G) and high Wi-Fi (6 or 6E), are elements that will revolutionize urban class infrastructures. As of May 2020, some 28 large cities had reached an agreement on the target of achieving net zero carbon buildings. The aim of achieving this net zero annual operational carbon emissions operational target is that cities should reach the state where all buildings controlled by those cities become net carbon emissions zero by 2030, and in all cases, no building can have carbon emissions greater than zero after 2050.

It goes without saying that technical requirements for the successful implementation of the project should be unfailingly addressed. One may suppose that in order to produce constructions that are more respectful of the environment and respectful, in particular, of social and cultural realities, a certain amount of guidance could be followed. For a start, one has to have a very good end vision and to have a set of technological standards required in order to commence. In other words, this is the first step. It is easy to forget the concept of technicality that resides in the art of architecture and that is animated by cultural, historical, political, economic roots, and much more.

Sometimes it takes several generations of excavation or construction to find out about a certain detail of that construction when everything is completed. Of course, it is the simplest and the most obvious. Moreover, it seems to be fundamental that all those initiatives that aim at providing can act in a careless way towards providing the mart as far as renovation, construction, and reconstruction are concerned. This is important because the existing structures should be strong and durable against all types of climatic, environmental, or social changes that might happen to the place in the surroundings. Simultaneously, it is utterly important to build up a strong engagement system by employing engagement strategies that will aid in the adoption of new materials. They should keep in mind that the focus of the project should not be on the buzzwords, such as 5G or sensory-technology solutions, but rather on creating value from data. Consequently, there should be some aspects pertaining to rules and practices concerning data sharing that would be promoted.

Inclusiveness of not only actors from the private domain but also ranging from stakeholders, residents, and users in the city development and urban planning with the growth and the maturation of the cities, they slowly begin to prioritize the aspects and needs of the human beings who reside in the cities. In light of this evolution, municipalities have begun to integrate ecosystems into the decision-making process and develop policies that ensure citizens involvement. In particular, which new thrilling experiences do you expect to have in our city, and what is the reason for them? Considering that the fate of cities around the world, including the future of our cities, is at stake, what are the ways to create a change? Do we even have the time to think about how our children would fit in our society where big urban cities would reside? Which attributes do people envisage us getting attached to while recalling the memories of our city?

You should be prepared to respond to the above questions, if you are alive in an open government city that defines and encourages people's involvement. Construction or reconstruction of the cities starts with people, social entrepreneurs, civil society organizations, and business and academic structures. All are involved, and all actively participate in the work on the nation-building. Embarking on their concept of local government as a platform, it can be expected that besides encouraging more innovation by the local governments, improving resource utilization as well as a sense of ownership achieved through greater public participation can be the ultimate benefits. In this case, the public participation in the co-creation process is all around rather than

33 | Page

working from the bottom or top-up techniques; this engagement in the building of local governance is a central feature of the engagement to build the local governance systems.

The increased reporting websites and mobile applications made it unnecessary for people to have physical meetings in order to talk and develop new ideas. Even the use of digital currencies eliminates the scope of any strategies being employed in its urban settings. Thus, it is crucial to have our open data platforms as well as other initiatives in place so that we can fulfill the three objectives of open government that are access, collaboration, and participatory decision-making. Starting with budgets constructed on the basis of the popular feedback is a sensible idea indeed.

Currently, in some of the cities, both the people as well as the ecosystem can access data in real time, which not only enables them to monitor changes that may bear an impact on their daily activities but also helps them to manage routines more efficiently. Such access also enables the ecosystem to observe these changes as they occur. Co-governance is indeed going to develop as an emergent form of governance in cities as they evolve closer to real collaborative platforms. Such a model of governance does not place the lion's share of the responsibility on local governments but rather shares the weight of responsibility among all concerned. This change in perception has led to the advent of a completely different culture in which the public's contribution is considered important to the achievement of long-term goals related to policy measures.

It is anticipated that effective project management and implementation have been learnt. One of the issues that is rarely considered in this area is the spatial context and the impact on the society that any building, however large or small, could cause. This is one of the elements that is particular to this industry, which is usually ignored. There is a figurative and literal agreement made to the people of the land where the setup will be done and the stakeholders, project members, and other people involved in the project. The setup will occur in their land. Whether or not the stakeholders and participants of the project are deemed "aborigines" or "strangers" to the region in regard to the project, this happens. This is because the focus of the project is the site. Thus, wherever possible, interact with the local residents of the city physically as well as virtually by holding meetings. This will return maximum possibilities of success. A knowledgeable population is required in a smart city, but in the current world it is equally important to follow the digital culture.

Likewise, to enhance the odds of the successful implementation, the relevant stakeholders should do away with barriers to the entry and participation of every person in the system. This will increase the likelihood that the implementation will be successful. After all, being mentally and emotionally oriented to a certain location and being able to "see" processes and details associated with building may be a great advantage. Finally, also in more political and legal terms, open governments and cross-sectoral interaction demand provisions and clarity in the governance structure. In order to accurately anticipate and line up their objectives and expectations, different stakeholders have to firstly and clearly establish a link between their engagement and the outcomes that are subsequently achieved.

Improving the climatic context of urban structures on various levels

Natural phenomena such as wind, thermal or moisture conditions, and even more ambient air and noise pollution affect the prosperity of a person. The planning of cities and buildings of different scales influences all these factors. The physical issues of buildings have already been researched, and a number of numerical optimization models have been developed for structural purposes. It is based on the concepts of volume averaging and liquid dynamics and enables simulation of airflow velocity, temperature, and pollutant concentrations within & outside virtually any structure. These models have greatly intensified the development of the sciences of building physics.

Considering urban planning or urban design, some of the drawbacks of the simulation techniques that were mentioned above could be the slow calculation speed, unclear boundaries between scales, and the difficulties associated with validating outcomes from real-world large-scale complexities' physical environment simulations, all of which enable one to argue against the proposition. To achieve the best effect in the use of GIS and WRF, for example, it is necessary to employ fast fluid prediction theories such as rapid fluid kinetic theory and low-dimensional reduced-order and linear models. Likewise, in order to maximize the benefits of artificial intelligence, for example, rapid fluid prediction models would be required.

It may be practically difficult to realize construction design concepts that are purely based on the optimization of the physical environment due to the constraints of urban planning, urban design, and architectural design. However, this is contradicted by the fact that this theory is employed as a basis for designing city and building environments. This is because of the limitations of urban planning, urban design, and architectural design. One such strategy is to develop interactive physical environments modeling the interaction of different urban scales from city to building.

The Smart City and Urban Renewal Program

The scope of sustainable advancement has been made the central agenda under different projects, which the government has initiated or energized since 2014. These programs are meant to deal with a plethora

of challenges. To the bunch of various challenges that they face, they try to provide solutions. The initiative called "The Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana," or HRIDAY, is aimed at ensuring the preservation and sustaining the distinctive character of a heritage city while promoting a more inclusive heritage-based city development. The program "Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana," called HRIDAY for short, was launched in the country for this reason. This will also be done through other mechanisms, including the private sector, in order to promote heritage-linked urban development in the provision of adequate sanitation and security, heritage, and livelihood development. This will be done through initiatives in urban development with respect to sanitation, security, and livelihood activities and also the rehabilitation of heritage sites. The "Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation" (AMRUT) aims at transforming the living conditions of all the people across the globe.

This can be done through the provision of basic household services (namely, water and sewage systems and urban transport) and through the built processes in urban localized settings. Reforms and capacity-building initiatives are now being implemented in 500 cities across the country with objectives that are focused on improving urban infrastructure as well as improving governance systems. These reforms and activities are being done in the context of urban infrastructure in development. So, what is the "Smart Communities Mission" all about? It is aiding cities with good infrastructure, able to provide a quality life and a clean atmosphere. If this appears to be something you would like to pursue, scroll down. In addition to the formal statements that have been issued, the goals set by the government of India have been brought out on several international forums, including the United Nations and the World Economic Forum. As Paulomi Tripathi, First Secretary of the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations, puts it, "This plan envisages the creation of new areas or 'greenfields' that are well planned and easily developed to accommodate the ever-increasing population of India."

Conclusion

This means that building a consensus between the dependency interrelationship of urban growth and sustainable development planning is crucial (Klopp & Petretta 2017). A bigger concern on urban systems might possibly motivate more and more people from the rural areas to migrate to urban centers, which might worsen the already skewed urbanization in India. The diverse number of advocates for the preservation of the privacy of huge data-sets stored within smart city systems increases (Townsend, 2013). Various strategies that the society employs to address emerging technologies are considered polar responses to the deeply rooted traditions and norms that one can say almost define the everyday life of human beings. Some critics of the smart cities in India (for example, Randhawa 2017) argue that the development of smart cities does not consider the vast inequalities and multiplicities that characterize many Indian cities. In order to be effective in this triad of sustainable development planning, focus needs to be given towards partnerships and inclusivity of all the stakeholders. India's circumstances are such that if a proper strategy is not formulated for the upcoming parliamentary elections that only occur once in 5 years, then a sorry situation is bound to occur in the nearest future.

#### References

- [1]. N.I.U.A. (2016). Towns of India Status of Demography, Economy, Social Structure, Housing, and Basic Infrastructure, HSMA HUDCO NIUA Collaborative Research.
- [2]. Ramanathan, R. & Parikh, J. K. (1999): Transportation Sector in India: An Analysis in the Context of Sustainable Development Transport policy 6(1): 35-45 Available online at: https://doi.org/10.1016/S0967-070X(98)00030-4; Accessed 3 June 2018.
- [3]. Klopp, J.M. & Petretta, D.L. (2017) The urban sustainable development goal: Indicators, complexity, and politics of measuring cities 62: 93-97
- [4]. Zhang, Xiaoling. "Sustainable urbanization: a bi-dimensional matrix model." Journal of Cleaner Production 134 (2016): 425-433.
- [5]. Meyer, Daniel Francois. Local economic development (LED), challenges and solutions; the case of the northern Free State region, South Africa." Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences. 5.16 (2014): 624.
- [6]. Love, Peter ED et al. "Achieving the Green Building Council of Australia's World Leadership Rating in an Office Building in Perth." Journal of Construction Engineering and Management 138.5, (2012): 652-60.
- [7]. Morabito, Vincenzo Big data and analytics for government innovation. In: Big Data and Analytics. 2015, Springer, Cham, pp. 23-45.
- [8]. Jon Hawkes. The fourth pillar of sustainability: Culture's essential role in public policy. Common Ground, 2001.
- [9]. Anthony M. Townsend (2013). Smart cities: big data, civic hackers, and the quest for a new utopia, W. Norton Company: ISBN 0393349780.
- [10]. Randhawa, A. & Kumar, A. (2016). Exploring the sustainability of smart development initiatives in India, International Journal of Sustainable Built Environment, 6 (2):701-710.