AREA PLANNING STUDIO – M. PLAN (INTEGRATED SEMESTER)
1ST YEAR, I SEMESTER-2017 (Odd Semester)- Studio Proposals

First Assignment :

Area Appreciation Studies:

The aim of the area appreciation exercise is to enable the students to understand and contextualize the location of the area in relation to the city, zone and area in which the particular place is situated. This is done in relation to the socio-economic, spatial and cultural characteristics of that city, zone, location, etc. The main purpose is to make the students appreciate the people, activities and spaces in an area and the interrelations between them as well as the context within which these interrelations emerge and location attributes of land parcels for future development in a city.

Due to the size of the area, this assignment is done in groups of students and will be assigned to a particular area(may be a ward, or part of a ward or combination of wards).

The following planning issues at area level should be identified:

1. Review of the Master Plan / Zonal / Area plan in relation to the selected areas.
2. Appreciation / Analysis of ward level data.
3. Perception of areas in terms of legal / illegal / authorized / unauthorized, Slums, Urban Aesthetics.
4. Social Categorizations of people - Type of population living, people's perception about area and its planning problems.
5. Land use including Agriculture land and land use conflicts, extent (%) of broad land use such as commercial, industrial, residential, institutional and recreational.
6. Extent of formal / informal activities present in the area including their location and conflicts.
7. General land tenure of the area and land value for different uses.
8. Major types of transport, type of roads, hierarchy of roads, type of transport modes used.
9. Amenities: Location of Social and Physical infrastructure and their problems as perceived by local population. Look for specific infrastructure such as Water supply, drainage (water logging areas), waste collection and disposal system, sanitation, etc.
10. Environmental Issues: Open Spaces – Availability and extent of open space to built-up area, garbage disposal, encroachment (through photographic evidences and sketches).
11. Locating the study area in the zone, city and regional context with respect to all the above aspects.

Second Assignment:

Planning and Designing of Residential Layouts

Site planning is a process whereby the optimum utilization of potential of site by recognizing the constraints of the site. It uses 3 dimensional space of the site and the associated locational advantages, human activities and the regulations that are assigned to a particular site. The site is developed using a set of standards / norms in a given context which varies from location to location. A student is expected to understand the intricacies and interface between various variables such as soil conditions, topography, environmental dimensions, location, spatial standards applicable to the site, etc. The objective of the task is to understand how varied Densities affect the built form of the settlements. The sites for this assignment will be identified in the areas where appreciation studies has been done. The task will be done individually by the students.

Third Assignment :

Village Development Plan

Village Development Planning is the process of identifying problems and finding ways to solve them, identifying future desired goals and systematically finding ways to achieve them. Students will undertake study of a village with an objective, to understand the location, spatial and economic linkages of the villages with a focus on improving current conditions towards better social and economic status (development), through a systematic process. First, planning must be directed towards meeting the basic life needs of all the residents – safety and security of persons and their possessions, housing, water, sanitation, electricity, roads, transport and communication facilities, livelihoods, education and health facilities. In the light of above, students will be required to identify the problems and future possibilities for the spatial, socio economic and infrastructure development of village.

Pedagogy

Owing to the realization of the increasing need for the development of smart cities in India, the focus of the area appreciation is going to allow students to understand, critically assess, evalaute and appreciate their study areas based in view of Smart City Development Guidelines.

As per the guidelilines, area based developments have to be promoted. Three kinds of areas have been identified for this pupose. The first area is for redevelopment which has a span of 50 acres. The second area is for retrofitting which has a span of 500 acres. The third kind of area, is relegated to greenfiled developments spanning over 250 acres.

Keeping in consideration, of the three kinds of highlighted areas, for the pupose of academic exercises, similar areas in the city of Vijayawada and Amravati have been taken. These areas acclodate themselves into the three aforementioned categories, and has been affected with unique major problem in its own way . These areas are

Moghalrajpuram, Autonagar Industrial Area, Prasadampadu-Enkipadu Area, and Amravathi, respectively.

Moghalrajpuram

It spans over 1 sqkm (250 acres), and is dovetailed around a hillock which is famous for Shiva Temple. It is predominantly a residential area with a mix of MIG and LIG income groups, characterized by low rise and low density developments. The key feature of this area has been a massive transformation in it's erstwhile character. Owing to the development of medical and educations insitution the area has transformed so vehemently that at present the quality of life its residents has degraded. A detailed assessment and appreciation is thus needed.

Autonagar Industrial Area

It spans over 2 sqkm (500 acres). This area encompasses certain parts of Gurunanak Colony and Srinivas Nagar. The two colonies are predominantly inhabited by upper MIGs and the HIG groups. It is broadly a llow rise and low desnity area, although in recent years in certain spots, some apartments have also been constructed. The area is most notably known as the centre for the service of the heavy vehicles. However, depite its functional significance of being a service centre, the area faces many environmental and traffic-transportation related problems. An appreciation is duly needed.

Prasadampadu-Enkipadu Area

This area spans over 3 sqkm (750 acres). It is an urbanising area currently outside the municipal limit of Vijayawada, though having an urban character. It is predominantly inhabited by the LIG group. Owing to its locational siginificance of being adjacent to NH 5, Ryvves Canal and Auto Nagar 2 industrial area, this area has undergone haphazard developments. Currently no DCR has been formed in this area, and as a result of haphhazard developments, a great damage to the environment, aesthetics, safety and quality of life of people is being observed. A carefull asessement and an appreciation is duly needed.

Amravathi

The area spans approximately 3 sqkm (750 acres). It is a very old settlement existing since the time of the Satvahanas. The major issue in this area is that of the destruction of tangible and intangible heritage. Social discrimination such as the caste discrimination persists in this area even at present. Since it is located near the upcoming town of Amravati, it is expected that the area will transform immensely. Whether the transformation will exacerbate the inequalities and lead to the destruction of its heritage is something that needs to be deeply pondered, asseses and prevented.

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