

# READERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING IN MALAYSIA



■ MARIANA MOHAMED OSMAN ■  
■ ALIAS ABDULLAH ■ M. ZAINORA ASMAWI ■



IIUM PRESS

INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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EMAIL: iiumprinting@yahoo.com

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## CHAPTER 2

### URBAN PARK PLANNING IN MALAYSIA

Azila Ahmad Sarkawi<sup>1</sup> & Nur Aulia Rosni<sup>2</sup>

#### INTRODUCTION

Urban park is an important component of town and cities in many parts of the world. Even today, it is considered as one of the important space in the urban structure. Parks plays vital roles in urban areas offering social, economic and environmental benefits. People usually visit parks during their spare time for social meeting and other activities.

Urban parks are considered as an advantage for city dwellers where green spaces provide suitable areas for recreational purposes. Moreover, urban parks are expected to meet the needs of the community in providing comfortable places for them to use. According to Marcus and Francis (1992), people realised the importance of urban park that provides them an opportunity to interact with environment and socialise them with activities that being carried out.

#### DEFINITION OF TERMS

##### Urban Park

Urban Park can be defined as a place to rest our body and soul and also a place for doing various types of recreational and leisure activities. According to Olmsted (1997: 308), an urban park is a space of ground used for public or private recreation, differing from a garden in its spaciousness and the broad, simple, and natural character of its scenery and from a “wood” in the more scattered arrangement of its trees and greater expanse of its glades and consequently of its landscapes.

In America, the usage of the word ‘urban park’ as a general designation for gardens, green courts and all sorts of public places is an exaggeration of a French application of the word to the more private or kept grounds of a chateau connected with a forest (Olmsted, 1997: 313). By 1928, in the United States, the term “park” had come to mean “any areas of land or water set aside for outdoor recreational purposes, active or passive and part at least of this recreation is expected to come from appearance” (Jamil, 2002: 4).

Urban Park also can be defined as an educational place for all ages to understand the nature and wildlife. According to Cook (1972), the urban park is only a blessing and a

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<sup>1</sup> Azila Ahmad Sarkawi is an Asst. Prof at Lecturer at Department of Urban and Regional Planning, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM).

<sup>2</sup> Nur Aulia Binti Rosni graduated from International Islamic University Malaysia in 2011 with Bachelor in Urban and Regional Planning (B.URP). Currently, she is pursuing her studies in Master of Sciences in Built Environment (MSc. BE) in International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM).