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Open space development planning in Malaysia: Issues and problems (Article)

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Abstract

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This study aimed to identify and understand the problems faced by local authorities in the management of open spaces in their area of administration. The study focused on the management of open spaces by 98 local authorities in Peninsular Malaysia that are governed under the Town and Country Planning Act 1976 (Act 172). Although numerous studies have examined the benefits of open space to human life, extra attention needs to be given to the aspect of management to ensure its sustainability. To obtain information on the preparation of open spaces that involves development planning, and policy enforcement, questionnaire survey was distributed to 456 respondents which obtained a response rate of 52.6% (n = 240). The study found that the availability of land, lack of funding and policy compliance are the main obstacles hindering local authorities to provide better service to the public. This study recommends several measures to address the issues in the hope that it will help the local authorities to better manage and provide long term sustainable open spaces. © 2017 American Scientific Publishers All rights reserved.

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