2018 ISOCARP AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

Successful Practices of Urban Green Public Space Improvement
— Wuhan East Lake Greenway Implementation Plan

Wuhan Land Resources and Planning Bureau
Wuhan Land Use and Urban Spatial Planning Research Center
Wuhan

Wuhan is the core city in central China, and covers an area of 8494 square kilometers, with a population of 10 million. Wuhan is divided into three towns—Hankou, Wuchang, and Hanyang, by the Yangtze and Han River.
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

East Lake has transitioned from suburban lake to a lake in the city over the years. The water and the surrounding green areas are the key elements that form the East Lake Landscape Area.
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

**Broadness**
Largest ‘lake in the city’, with a total area of 33 square kilometers.

**Wilderness**
Famous habitat for birds and fishes: The number of bird species about one-third of the total number of known birds in China, 1040 species of fish, 36.6% of the total species of known fish species in China

**Education/Cultural**
Surrounding: more than 40 universities, more than 50 thousand teachers and students

**Chu Culture**
Muoshan Landscape Area—largest Chu cultural landscape area in China
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

Despite its good resources, a preliminary planning public survey reported multiple difficulties. It was hard for the public to reach multiple scenic areas in succession. Some high parks fees curtailed public access. It was hard to find accurate directions; there was a lack of activities and adequate service facilities; too many vehicles pose dangers to pedestrians; the water quality of East Lake was declining; and, local residents did not benefit from the ecological resources before 2015.

Therefore, Wuhan began to reflect that a city should not be a forest of reinforced concrete but should be a beautiful home in which the people and nature co-exist in harmony. In 2015, the Wuhan Municipal People’s Government made it clear that it would focus on the construction of East Lake Greenway, hoping to provide citizens with more access, improved, ecological and inclusive public leisure space and improve the living standard of residents of the Greenway.

The public told us many problems:
‘We can not get to many places in one trip’
‘We can not enjoy the view all the time because of the fee’
‘East Lake is beautiful, but we can not find our way’
‘We need more activity opportunities there’
‘East Lake is a very large area, but there are not enough facilities’
‘too many cars to make us feel less safe’
‘the quality of the water is not as good as before’

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lake’s Area</th>
<th>33Km²</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tourist Income</td>
<td>210,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of Tourist</td>
<td>94,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of Hotels</td>
<td>65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount of Restaurants</td>
<td>10</td>
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This is more than a Greenway!
This is also the dream of its 10 million citizens for the city and their future.

A. Provide integral closed-loop design for public participation

- Create online platform
  The first online platform of the public participatory design in China. Without limitation of age, profession, or educational background, the citizens get to draw the East Lake greenway themselves. It establishes the public planning path of "collection of early planning proposals - public supervision in the implementation process - feedback of late improvement proposals".

- Organize experts meetings
  Collect the experts’ advice from interviews

- Make site inspection
  Collect more than 600 location surveys
  more than 200 cognitive maps
  more than 60 video interviews
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

B. Increase continuity and reachability

Establish the greenway network that penetrates important public spaces

A development framework connecting the functional zones of Wuhan to important colleges and universities, cultural features, lakes, mountains, suburbs, public centers, and other public spaces in the region was planned and will be established.
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

B. Increase continuity and reachability

- Build multi-functional greenway gateways

In combination with the main entrances and exits of East Lake, a regional roadway was designed to assume the functions of service support, traffic access, and portal functions, and to achieve a positive interaction and integration of urban functions and public spaces.

3 main functions

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Transport Hub</th>
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<td>(parking, transfer, picking up)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service Facilities</th>
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<th>Gateway Image</th>
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Cool Planning: Changing Climate and Our Urban Future
South Gateway: Talk with the city
South Gateway: Talk with the city
South Gateway: Talk with the city
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

C. Strengthen practical and activity experience

-Advocate scenic spots for free

Scenic spots which previously charged an admission fee were opened to the public free of charge to achieve the goal of equal sharing of all public spaces.

- Cancel the charges of the scenic spots,
- The original ticket sales accounted for about 76% of the East Lake scenic spot ticket sales for the whole year.

Moshan Scenery
Ticket price: 60 YUAN
C. Strengthen practical and activity experience

- Create communication places, Increase public space

With the provision of a themed greenway and event space, a variety of activity venues were started. These included the creation of a variety of activity venues, the implantation of various exercise activities, and the organization of international cultural contests were implemented to allow the citizens to enjoy the public activity spaces as much as possible.

4 different themes of the greenway
- In the field
- In the woods
- Between the lake and hill
- On the lake

20 large themed activity spaces
Create the Activity Places

BEFORE
Create the Activity Places

Sun Amphitheatre
阳光剧场

Ecological Island
生态岛屿

Beach
疑海浴场

Comprehensive Station
驿站景观

View Tower
高塔观澜
Create the Activity Places
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

D. Create ecologically comfortable public spaces

-Improve the ecological environment

To recover the natural feel of the site, a series of activities have been carried out to improve the original ecological environment of East Lake, such as building ecological gentle slopes, recovering the ecological landform, protecting and recovering the vegetation along the greenway and implementing water system interconnection project.

Permeable Green Material

Water system interconnection project

Animal Passageways

Resort the Vegetation
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

D. Create ecologically comfortable public spaces

- Provide security guarantee

Establish the Intellectual security system

Achieve the function of real time monitoring of the whole area, multi-channels alarm, and terminal emergency linkage

Intelligent security system planning
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

D. Create ecologically comfortable public spaces

- Provide security guarantee

Give the Roads Back to People

Roads used to be for the vehicles have been transferred into footpath.
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

D. Create ecologically comfortable public spaces

-Focus on the needs of different groups

Provide supporting facilities for different groups

To meet the needs of the elderly people, the disabled, women, children, students, young artists, riding enthusiasts, and tourists, a rest station system of providing different services was set up, including those to guarantee safe facilities, toilets, rest facilities, and restaurants.

**Senior people and disable people**
Accessibility facilities
Medical services

**Women and children**
Facilities for women and children
Interpretive Science

**Bicyclers**
rest facilities
Restrooms
drinking water

**Visitors**
comprehensive facilities
commercial facilities

Service system planning
CONTENT AND CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

D. Create ecologically comfortable public spaces

Focus on the needs of different groups

Provide supporting facilities for different groups

The living environment of East Lake residents was improved by providing ecological tourism employment opportunities. This stimulated sustainable economics in the scenic areas, thus promoting the overall development of the area.

Inconveniencing traffic

Low quality village houses

Dusty landscape

Waste on ground

Provide work opportunities by the greenway service

Improve the local residents living environment
MAIN FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

A. Loved by the citizens

As of December 2017, the total number of visits to the East Lake Greenway was nearly 10 million.
After the ecological restoration, the total amount of trees will increase by 53 thousand; the total repaired area of which will be about 10 square kilometers. 10.2 km motorway was removed. Ecologically transformed about 34 kilometers of shoreline. 82% of East Lake has achieved Class III water quality.
MAIN FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

C. Prohibit motor vehicles, and give pedestrian and cyclist priority
MAIN FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

D. Add pedestrian walkways, recover ecological embankments
The first phase of East Greenway Project is 28.7 km long, which was finished in 2016. And in 2017, the government finished the second phase. The East Lake Greenway was connected into a circle and has a total length of 102 km.
EXPECTATIONS AND FUTURE PROJECTS

Next Plan

From 2018, we will continue to promote the planning and construction of the third phase of East Lake Greenway, focusing on the comprehensive upgrading of the environment, supporting facilities, operation and culture of the first and second phases of the completed East Lake Greenway.
Today, the East Lake Greenway has gradually become an important venue for international competitions and civil activities.

As of December 2017, there have been over 700 events held on the East Lake Greenway by non-governmental organizations.

Here, the Way of Communication among Citizens has Changed.

Here, It is Full of Cheerful Laugh and Voices. Here, the Green Travel Patterns are Encouraged. Here, People can Get Closer to the Nature. Here, People Have Wonderful Visions about their Future Lives.
Thanks for listening!

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