

# THEORY OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING AND ITS PRACTICABILITY: DEVELOPING A DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISM FOR CONFLICTS EXISTS BETWEEN THEORY AND DESIGN

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## ABSTRACT

Planning of space in urban settlements in India continued with British town planning system through the town and country planning acts which mandate the Master Plans for cities conceivable for the future through land use and their infrastructure planning by considering the past and present. As the city grows, the residential areas to accommodate people have been planned till to the present context as blocks of residential areas called urban extensions rather than a neighbourhood; the theory given by Clarence A. Perry in 1924, along with planning principles of neighbourhood. Though these principles were found much relevant even to the present context it has been not utilising. Hence, this paper will bring possibilities of developing a dispute resolution mechanism for conflicts exists between theory and design of residential areas in the urban context.

**Key words:** Urban extensions; Neighbourhood; Land use; Planning and Design; Social force.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Planning of human settlement in India was continued by adopting the British town planning system and their town and country planning acts by amending into Indian requirements from 1960's which mandate the Master Plans for towns/cities conceivable for the future through land use and their infrastructure planning and design by considering the past and present. Human activities have been recognized as a major force in shaping the biosphere. Human actions rather than natural forces are the source of most contemporary changes in the urban spaces and the supporting infrastructure. Understanding these actions and the social forces that drive them is crucial in *space making* through planning considerations in relation to land use transformations in the present context of Indian planning and design. The land use in urban settlement refers to the occupation of land for human activities in their living space that has land covers of both natural and cultural features those are essential to living community.

The existing master plan of the Mysuru city which has been considered in this paper is reflecting such practical evidences with reference to the theory of neighbourhood planning. The discussion of the paper develops a dispute resolution mechanism for the conflicts exist between theory and design.

## 2. THEORY OF NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

The concept of neighbourhood unit was designed to create a semi-public space within newly industrialized European and American cities that offered limited opportunities of incoming workers and workers' children to integrate and foster a community spirit in an alienated urban environment. Opposed to increasing distances between places of residency and places of work it was focused on a walker/walk able metrics. Later the spatial planning of residential and non-residential spaces in