



Urban Planning and Architecture Design for Sustainable Development, UPADSD 14- 16 October 2015

Residents' Evaluation of Road Utilization As Space For Holding Social Ceremonies In Indigenous Residential Area of Ogbomosho, Nigeria

Okanlawon, Simon Ayorinde, Oduajo, Oluronke Omolola
Department of Architecture
Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, Ogbomosho, Nigeria*

Abstract

This study examined Residents' evaluation of turning transport infrastructure (road) to spaces for holding social ceremonies in the indigenous residential zone of Ogbomosho, an indigenous city in Oyo State, Nigeria. Upon stratifying the city into the three identifiable zones, the core, otherwise known as the indigenous residential zone was isolated for study. Of the twenty (20) political wards in the two local government areas of the town, fifteen (15) wards that were totally or almost totally located in the indigenous zone constituted the study area. Respondents were selected along one out of every three (33.3%) of the Trunk – C (local) roads being the one mostly used for the purpose in the study area. The respondents were the residents, commercial motorists, commercial motorcyclists, and celebrants. Six hundred and forty-two (642) questionnaire were administered and harvested on the spot. The Mean Analysis generated from the respondents' rating of twelve perceived hazards (resulting from turning roads to space for holding social ceremonies) listed in the questionnaire were then used to determine respondents' most highly rated perceived consequences of the practice (noisy environment, Blockage of drainage by waste, and Endangering the life of the sick on the way to hospital); the most highly rated reasons why the practice came into being (lack of strict enforcement of the law against the action, and high cost of renting halls); and level of acceptability of the practice (found to be very unacceptable) in the study area. Policy makers should therefore focus their attention on strict enforcement of the law prohibiting the practice in order to ensure more cordial relationship among the citizenry, seeing citizens' unacceptability of the practice in the study area.

© 2016 Published by Elsevier Ltd. This is an open access article under the CC BY-NC-ND license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>).

Peer-review under responsibility of IEREK, International experts for Research Enrichment and Knowledge Exchange

1. Introduction

A road is a path established over land for the passage of vehicles, people and animals. Roads can function in two ways: they can provide *access* to properties and they provide *mobility* which is the ability to get from one place to another. Access to properties is needed at both ends of a trip. Mobility involves the travel time and freedom of movement along the path of each trip. The degree to which a road way provides land *access* and mobility determines its functional class.

Roads are put into many uses outside providing mobility. One of the popular uses especially in the indigenous residential zones of our cities, mainly in Yoruba land in Nigeria is turning the roads to space for holding social ceremonies. These ceremonies include marriage, naming, funeral, celebration of life's achievements (graduation, house 'warming', coronation), birth day anniversary, among others. When any one of these is to be held, roads are usually blocked for safety. The practice is not likely to be acceptable to the generality of residents (stakeholders) because of the attendant environmental hazard and risks (Okanlawon et al, 2015). The acceptance of the practice has not been empirically documented and verified especially from the stakeholders' (residents, motorists, motorcyclists, and celebrants) point of view, hence this study. Such documentation like this will provide answers to the following questions:

- A. What are the causes of utilizing roads as space for holding social ceremonies especially in the indigenous residential area of Ogbomoso?
- B. Are residents aware of hazards associated with the practice?
- C. How severe are these hazards?
- D. Is the practice acceptable to the stakeholders?
- E. What is the level of acceptability of the practice by the stakeholders?

Successfully providing answers to these questions is considered to be very important for a number of reasons. First, environmental degradation is a necessary antecedent to the development of intervention programs. Second, information on residents' identification of hazards and measurement of perceived risks can be used as guide to designing educational and enlightenment programs to mitigate hazardous behaviours. Third, information on socially acceptable decisions will guide policy directives to ensure that amenities provided are used wisely and protected. Fourth, identifying whether the residents' behaviours are responses to inadequate environmental amenities or natural or both would make policy makers to provide necessary environmental amenities and/or infrastructure. This research will benefit both the developing and the underdeveloped world where: one: solutions are to be proffered to ameliorating the problems of environmental hazards that are not actually from industrialization and; residents' input are needed to design and implement such ameliorative policies (Sanoff, 2006; Afon, 2011).

2. Theoretical Perspective of the Study

The social, economic and health importance of roads in any community, and by extension, nation cannot be underestimated. Roads provide access to properties and they also provide mobility which is ability to transport goods and services from one place to another. Traffic in urban area is necessitated by the need for various parts to relate with one another. The various parts in urban areas are the land use types which include residential, commercial, industrial, recreational institutions among others. The location, quality and type of roads will determine the volume of traffic and frequency of use of such roads.

In the indigenous residential zones of indigenous cities mostly in Yoruba land in Nigeria, roads are used for divers social activities or ceremonies. The practice is often a concern, largely because of perceived risks to residents and road users. Roads could be blocked for many reasons ranging from street trading (Yunusa, 1995, 2008) revenue collection (Olaoye, 2009), street begging, effecting repairs on the faulty aspects of the road, among others. Road block for social ceremonies as used in this study is a temporary barrier across a road used to stop or hinder traffic from having a thorough fare. This practice generates environmental hazards and risks which are perceived

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/1108739>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/1108739>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)