

SURAT - TUGAS

Nomor: 817-D/3380/FT-UNTAR/VIII/2020

Dekan Fakultas Teknik Universitas Tarumanagara, dengan ini menugaskan kepada Saudara:

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Untuk melaksanakan **Penulisan pada Jurnal** dengan data sebagai berikut:

Judul : Recent Urban Development in Jakarta and Palembang
Nama Jurnal : Urban Design Group Journal
Volume : Volume 153, Winter 2020 – edisi khusus “Southeast Asia”
ISSN : 1750 712X

Demikian Surat Tugas ini dibuat, untuk dilaksanakan dengan sebaik-baiknya dan melaporkan hasil penugasan tersebut kepada Dekan Fakultas Teknik Universitas Tarumanagara.

19 Agustus 2020

Dekan



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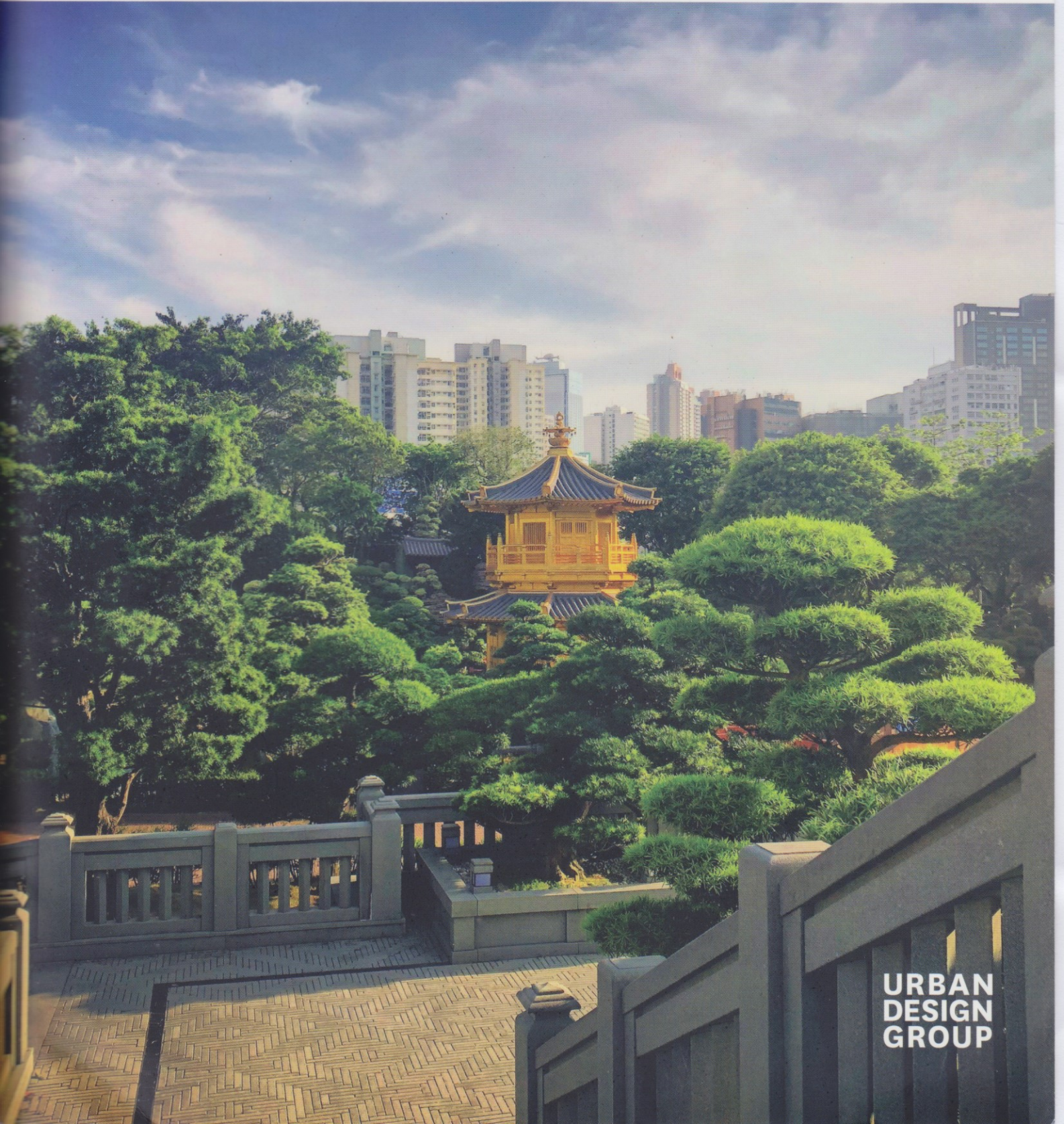
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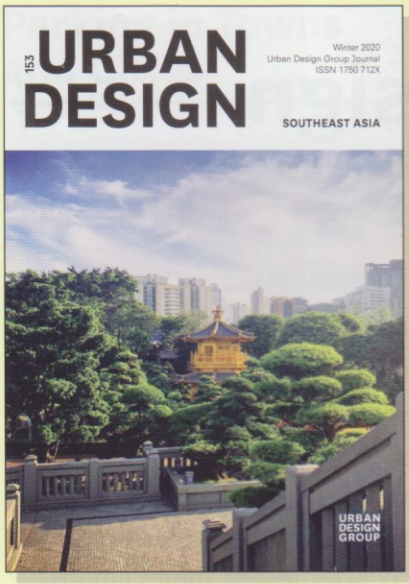
153 **URBAN
DESIGN**

Winter 2020
Urban Design Group Journal
ISSN 1750 712X

SOUTHEAST ASIA



**URBAN
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www.trockenbrot.com

Printing Henry Ling Ltd
 © Urban Design Group ISSN 1750 712X

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Nan Lian Garden, Kowloon, Hong Kong.
 Photograph by David Wallace Mathewson

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offer a new image and character for the city, encouraging visitors and international investment, potentially forming a model of development for cities facing similar challenges.

The NCICD calls for blocking off the Bay of Jakarta from the sea, by constructing a 25km long seawall, behind which the bay will be converted into a sealed reservoir regulated to remain below sea level, allowing for controlled drainage of the city. For this to be possible, the world's largest pumping station is planned to draw water out of the reservoir and into the sea. A series of associated improvements to the existing flood infrastructure and drainage system, including the restoration of polders, dredging of drainage canals, and flood protection walls, are included.

Within the sealed reservoir, vast land reclamation projects will provide a new central business district (CBD), residential areas, a new harbour and airport, accommodating an additional 650,000 inhabitants and 350,000 new jobs, estimated to cost

4 Kota Tua link to Weltvreden. Image based on Google Earth with addition by DW Mathewson

US\$40 billion. Implementation will be undertaken in three phases with completion of the sea dike set for 2022. The city government argues that the high cost will be offset by increased land values and associated economic benefits. Despite this, civil society groups and residents affected by these plans have raised strong objections, specifically to the lack of public consultation and opportunities for citizen involvement in the planning process.

However, the type of developments envisaged do not appear to address the needs of the majority of the city's residents. Much of the imagery of the proposed island developments appears geared towards international investors or middle to upper class Indonesians, with a character more akin to the developed rather than the developing world. While some efforts seem to have been made to incorporate indigenous building designs for targeted coastal communities, most of the island masterplans are characterised by international-style high-rise developments, low-rise detached villas or shop houses. No efforts seem to have been made to respond to the city's other pressing issues beyond flooding and land subsidence, namely a lack of available land tenure and crucially, affordable housing. ●

David Wallace Mathewson

Recent Urban Development in Jakarta and Palembang

Priscilla Epifania Ariaji relates the effects on the two cities of hosting the 2018 Asian Games

Despite the obvious urban challenges of flooding, heavy traffic and rapid urbanisation in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta over several decades, major public investment is taking place in transport infrastructure, public realm improvements and large-scale urban developments around the revitalisation of sport venues. The goal is not only to provide the country with sporting venues capable of hosting international events, but more importantly, to generate revenue for the Jakarta government while providing much-needed sport and leisure spaces for inhabitants of the city seeking to pursue an active and healthy lifestyle.

Indonesia was chosen in April 2014 by the Asian Olympic Board as the host nation for the 2018 Asian Games, with Jakarta and Palembang in Sumatra as

1 Jakarta's Main Stadium, Gelora GBK interior. Source: gbk.id



1

YEAR 1962

YEAR 2017

ASIAN GAMES 2018 PLAN



joint host cities, as both locations already have extensive sports facilities built for similar events – the Jakabaring Sport Complex in Palembang hosted the 2011 Southeast Asian Games. In anticipation of budget constraints, the Indonesian government chose to optimise resources in each city by renovating as many existing facilities as possible, in line with current requirements and standards.

The 18th Asian Games were held from 18 August to 2 September 2018 and included 28 Olympic and 6 non-Olympic sports. Forty-five countries, 15,000 athletes and more than 30,000 officials participated in the events, competing in 462 games with more than two million viewers and 7,000 local and international members of the media in attendance. The Asian Paralympic Games followed the main events and took place at the same venues in both cities.

PREPARING THE MAIN STAGE IN THE CAPITAL

In early 2016, President Joko Widodo (Jokowi) of Indonesia gave the mandate to the Ministry of Public Works and Housing (PUPR) to carry out the renovation of relevant sporting venues in the Gelora Bung Karno (GBK) Sport Complex, in Senayan, Jakarta, and the construction of the Athletes' Village in Kemayoran, Jakarta and Jakabaring, Palembang.

In order to carry out the President's decree, the ministry established the special taskforce of AG XVIII-2018 Infrastructure to supervise the work. Working closely with the taskforce were the Directorate General of Human Settlements and the Directorate General of Housing Provision as the executing government agencies.

Jakarta's main sporting venue was the Gelora Bung Karno (GBK) Sport Complex. Other venues built beyond that were the Velodrome, Equestrian Ground and International Athletes' Village. Temporary venues were built in Ancol, North Jakarta, to host water sports, and additional smaller existing venues in the city were also used.

The Games were a pretext for the government to develop new infrastructure and public facilities, implement urban regeneration and enhance the built environment in many neighbourhoods, especially around the GBK complex. Apart from renovating it, new public transportation infrastructure was built and existing access to it improved. A new high-speed airport Skytrain was built to deliver passengers from Soekarno-Hatta International Airport to BNI-Dukuh Atas station in the heart of the city. This station was integrated with the existing bus system to ensure wider access. To support the Asian Games, the main bus stops along the Sudirman-Thamrin main thoroughfare through the city's central business district, were renovated, while the public realm surrounding the GBK complex was upgraded, and

pavements along Sudirman-Thamrin and in the old colonial city centre in Kota Tua and Menteng to the north were widened. Pedestrians and cyclists' experiences were vastly improved with new landscaping and paving, providing access for the disabled, as well as the addition of street furniture and signage to improve the appearance of public spaces, and enhance the experience for tourists arriving for the Games.

RENOVATION OF THE GBK SPORT COMPLEX

GBK is the national sport complex named for Soekarno, Indonesia's first President, and it was built between 1959 and 1962 to host the 1962 Asian Games. During the Cold War era, its construction and development was supported by a soft loan and with engineers from the Soviet Union. Meanwhile, the United States also provided support for the construction of nearby motorways.

Soekarno chose the site to link strategically with the central city's expansion southwards and the first satellite city in nearby Kebayoran. The buildings in the GBK complex were designed by Russian architects and engineers, with the main stadium ring roof being the first avant-garde structure in the country. The development of GBK was a major milestone for such a young country in terms of hosting a major international event, new architectural icons and new urban planning in greater Jakarta.

Originally, the site of the GBK covered 279ha, although this was reduced to 137ha as land was sold off for commercial development. Currently the GBK consists of 13 sport venues and other supporting facilities, and is significant as the primary venue where opening and closing ceremonies, as well as prestigious matches, are held.

In order to update the GBK complex, the PUPR took steps to appoint the most

2 The GBK Sport Complex, Jakarta Masterplan, Source: Dirjen Cipta Karya



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qualified Indonesian professionals to produce high quality work. The renovation of the GBK also involved cooperation with the Indonesian Institute of Architects (IAI). A team of architects utilised a design and build system as a new approach to all of GBK's rehabilitation and development.

Eight principal architects were chosen by the IAI to work on the renovation and rehabilitation of the main buildings in the GBK complex. Six of the buildings were registered as heritage buildings, and therefore the work required the careful treatment of the buildings' fabric and sensitive design considerations. A key challenge for the architects was finding a balance between enhancing original features while providing a contemporary aesthetic. The renovation of these buildings also had to comply with international sporting events standards, providing disabled and VIP access, as well as incorporating current safety standards.

PREPARING PALEMBANG 2018

Although Palembang had previously hosted an international sporting event, the city did not have a public transportation system sufficient to meet the needs of such an event. Only when it was chosen as a host city for the Asian Games was the city government finally spurred on to build a public transportation system. So a Light Rapid Transit (LRT) system, the first in Indonesia, was established within a short time, covering 24.5km and serving 13 stations. The South Sumatra or Palembang LRT was opened by President Jokowi in mid-2018, about a month before the games began. This LRT links Sultan Mahmud Badaruddin II Airport in the west of the city to the Jakabaring Sport Complex in the east. Athletes and delegations, as well as spectators, could reach the main venue directly from the airport.

The Jakabaring Sport City (JSC) is a 325ha sporting complex located in Seberang Ulu, 5km from the city centre. It was built originally for the 2011 Southeast Asian Games and in order to host the 18th Asian Games, some renovation and new development was required. The main stadium in the complex, Gelora Sriwijaya also known as Jakabaring Stadium, was renovated with façades inspired by local Palembang woven cloth patterns. Other sports facilities were also refurbished. A new venue was built to host jet skiing and other water sports, plus an athletes' village.

CONCLUSION

The total cost for the construction of facilities and infrastructure was more than US\$ 2.4 billion and the operational cost is around US\$ 509 million, according to Bappenas (the Ministry of National Development Planning). They were seen to be a worthwhile investment by the government, given the benefits to the wider city regions in terms of new infrastructure and increased economic output: the Ministry of Tourism reported an increase of 12.3 per cent in foreign visitors over the previous year, and hotel occupancy rates also increased. Palembang in particular became a new tourism destination in Indonesia, with more

The Games were a pretext for the government to develop new infrastructure and public facilities, implement urban regeneration and enhance the built environment in many neighbourhoods

visitors than ever before. In total, around 154,000 foreign tourists were recorded, not including 16,000 athletes and associated officials.

The 18th Asian Games were successful in promoting Indonesia as a destination for international games and providing new or improved local infrastructure. However the tangible benefit for residents and workers in both Palembang and Jakarta is new access to international standard sports venues, an improved public realm and open spaces, public transport and other facilities that they can use on a regular basis. Because of its strategic location and flexible capacity, the GBK complex has been highly successful in hosting festivals, concerts, religious events and political rallies. In addition, the City Forest inside the GBK complex was recently developed to function as a public open space, through a joint collaboration with a private hospitality company who will manage and develop around 3.2ha of the 4.5ha available. It is hoped that this kind of large-scale urban development will be replicated elsewhere in Indonesia in spite of the vast array of urban challenges in Jakarta, Palembang and other Indonesian large cities. These efforts contribute in a small way to the improvement of urban conditions across the archipelago. ●

Priscilla Epifania Ariaji, architect, committee member of IAI, lecturer and researcher at Tarumanagara University, Jakarta and programme director at Jajak, Indonesia

3 Gelora Sriwijaya Stadium, Jakabaring Sport Complex in Palembang. Source: Priscilla Epifania Ariaji