Urban Park Qualities Accordance To Perception Of Visitors In Palembang: Case Studies Kambang Iwak Park And Dharma Wanita Park

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Abstract. In the Indonesia Most Livable City Index, Palembang City is a city with the second highest index among 26 other cities in Indonesia and the highest on the Sumatera Island. The index describes an assessment of the condition of urban facilities based on people's perceptions of urban development based on their experiences. In this study, the urban facilities assessed are the current quality of city park facilities in Palembang City through questionnaires distributed to park visitors using the accidental sampling method with criteria of visitors who have finished their activities. This research was conducted in the area of Kambang Iwak Park and Taman Dharma Wanita, with 35 and 32 respondents, respectively. The highest quality at Taman Kambang Iwak is inclusive and comfortable, while the highest quality in Taman Dharma Wanita is inclusive. The lowest quality in Taman Dharma Wanita is quality of attractiveness and comfort, while in Taman Kambang Iwak it is quality of safety. The recommendation to the government is to make the lowest quality improvement in each park to improve the quality of the park and create a livable city to prevent a decline in the quality of life of the people in Palembang City.

Keywords: sustainable city, livable city, urban park

1. Introduction (background, Purpose)

Livable city is a city development concept that focuses on providing basic services to improve the quality of life and the urban environment [1]. There are 7 principles of the livable city and one of them is the availability of public facility like public space [2]. In Indonesia, public space is divided into two such as, green space and built space. Based on UU No. 26 Tahun 2007 about Penataan Ruang (Spatial Planning), the minimum amount of urban

![Figure 1. Place Quality Diagram by Matthew Carmona](image-url)
green space is 30%. Palembang city has become the top tier city in Indonesia who is having good score in public space on the Indonesia Most Livable City Index by IAP. The availability of the green space is not only to fulfill the 30% percentage that is mentioned on UU No. 26 Tahun 2007, it must consider the quality as well to give the society the best advantages. The quality of space is considered to be able to affect the health, social, economic and environmental aspects of the community [3]. Therefore, the quality of the space will add value to the place which can directly increase the benefits of this space for people's lives. These benefits can arise from the physical conditions and accessibility of urban green spaces [4]. In addition, natural scenery in green open spaces can improve mood and concentration [5]. Individuals who are stressed can feel much better after being exposed to natural scenery [6] because green atmosphere is considered more attractive and increases happiness than sight of inanimate objects [7]. Apart from affecting mood, natural scenery can also affect a person’s life satisfaction and well-being [8]. Therefore, a public open space must be able to provide comfort for its visitors by creating a compact, walkable, and diverse area [9]. Providing a safe atmosphere is also needed such as by providing a good visual view at all times, especially at night by providing good street lights [10]. Those qualities is formulated to produce the quality assessment variables. The variables founded are: 1. Accessibility ; 2. Visual appearance ; 3. Inclusive ; 4. Accommodating abilities ; 5. Safety ; 6. Comfort. Each variables assessed by the visitors of the urban park so that the score that is obtained will be based on their perspectives in sensing the benefit for visiting the urban park. This research aim to identify the quality of the urban park in Palembang using the quality assessment above.

2. Method

Data collection that is used on this research is primary data to collect information directly from the interviewees. The method that is used is closed questionnaires technique. The reason for using this method is because this discussion is new for the local society so that the questionnaire will be conducted in a closed manner in order to capture respondents’ assessment specifically. The method to assess the quality from the questionnaires uses the Likert Scale from 1-5, starting from the number '1' which indicates the quality is 'very poor', then 'poor', 'normal', 'good', and 'very good' at the number '5' to determine the quality of the park based on community perceptions. The role of researchers is needed to help respondents fill in the questionnaire so that the data obtained is able to describe the most accurate perception of the respondent in assessing the quality of the urban park.

The sampling method that is used is non-probability sampling as the number of population in the research location cannot be determined. The characteristics of respondent is also set so the information obtained can represent comprehensive information. The selected respondent are visitors in the productive age. Because the number of samples cannot be determined, data collection will continue until the information has repeated to saturation which is determined through Homogenity Test using SPSS Statistic 23 software. The data collection begin in the range of the most crowded time which differ in each research location. It aims to gain as diverse respondents as possible to reflect the urban society of Palembang. After that, the data obtained will be analyzed with descriptive quantitative techniques to interpret the score obtained from the respondents. This analysis method is used to clearly and concisely describe the quality score which is assessed quantitatively. This analysis captures the conditions of the research location when a questionnaire is conducted in the field.

3. Discussion

3.1 Urban Park in Palembang

This research took place in Palembang City as the city with the highest livable index in Sumatera. Palembang is also one of the metropolitan city in Indonesia with approximately 1.4 million inhabitants. The urban park that is chosen for the research are Kambang Iwak Park as the biggest urban park in the city and Dharma Wanita Park as the small park in the city.

3.1.1 Characteristic of Kambang Iwak Urban Park

Kambang Iwak Park was established in 1900s. Kambang Iwak Park is one of the Dutch heritage in Palembang which still exists today. The park, which was originally built for people of Dutch descent as a sporting place, has
a lake in the middle. Apart from functioning as a decoration, this artificial lake also has a practical function as a place to accommodate overflowing rainwater, so as to ward off flooding. The name Kambang Iwak comes from the local language which can be interpreted as a fish pond. Kambang Iwak Park is located between Jalan Tasik and Jalan Sutomo, Palembang City. The park, which has an area of about 5 hectares, is equipped with various facilities, such as a children's playground, seating, water taps that can be drunk directly, to free hotspots for those who want to access the internet while relaxing enjoying a shady garden. Every weekend, Kambang Iwak Park is often enlivened by the community, ranging from children to adults who come from various communities, such as the music community, roller skating, skateboards, bicycles, to dance and theater communities. Equipped with a jogging track, Kambang Iwak Park is also often enlivened for those who want to run around the lake or just exercise every morning or evening [11]. Located a bit away from the downtown and become the main park (2 km from Palembang Square). Current park area is 5 hectares. The number of respondents in this park is 29 people.

3.1.2 Characteristic of Dharma Wanita Urban Park

The park was built in 2018 with total area 1.4 hectares. This park is located on Jalan POM IX next to the TVRI office. The local residents function this park for walk in the morning and afternoon, play futsal, basketball, gymnastics, and parents who accompany their children to play [12]. It features shady trees and children's games as public entertainment space in downtown as it is located in the middle of the housing with family as the dominant visitors (1 minute from Palembang Square). Most of the visitors in the park are youth who are playing sport. The number of respondents in this park is 30 people.
3.2 The Quality of Urban Park In Palembang

The total of respondents is 59 people. This number is set after the homogeneity test is carried out as all the answers collected in closed interviews had shown saturation or repetition at all variables scores have shown the homogeneity trend.

Table 1 Test of Homogeneity of Variances

| Quality | Kambang Iwak Median | Dharma Wanita Median |
|---------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Accessible | 5 | 4 |
| Clean, decent, and attractive | 4 | 4 |
| Inclusive (open to anyone) | 5 | 5 |
| Accommodate various activities | 5 | 4 |
| Safe | 4 | 4 |
| Comfortable | 4 | 4 |

Note: if Sig. >0.05 Homogeneous; If Sig. < 0.05 inhomogeneous

In the Test of Homogeneity of Variances table above, if the Sig.-value is MORE THAN .05, then researchers have met the assumption of homogeneity of variance. If the Sig-value is LESS THAN .05, then researchers have violated the assumption of homogeneity of variance. From the 59 respondents, each variable score is analyzed to find the median. The variables assessed are: 1. Accessibility ; 2. Visual appearance ; 3. Inclusive ; 4. Accommodating abilities ; 5. Safety ; 6. Comfort. Each variables scores are sorted to find the median to conclude the dominant variables based on respondents’ perspective in sensing the benefit for visiting the urban park. The result is shown on the table below:
The table shows that 1:1 variables are in 4th and 5th quality. The variables which have good score are visual appearance, safety, and comfort. However very good are accessibility, inclusive, and accommodating abilities. This may happen because Kambang Iwak is the main park in Palembang so that the quality of it has been advanced to accommodate many people with many activities so everyone will be able to make the most of the park. The table shows that most of the variables are in the good score, which are the accessibility, visual appearance, accommodating abilities, safety, and comfort. However, the increasing score happened in inclusive quality with very good score. This may happen because it is located in the middle of the downtown’s housing and become the place for the residents to rest and hangout with family.

4. Conclusion

The recommendation to the government is to make the lowest quality improvement in each park to improve the quality of the park and create a livable city to prevent a decline in the quality of life of the people in Palembang City. Overall, the quality of Kambang Iwak shows the very good quality. However, the variables which have the score of ‘good’ are still able to be improved. For the example improving the: 1. Visual appearance, by adding attractive park features like more aesthetic plant and entertaining park facilities ; 2. Safety, by providing more security guard to patrol around the park in the spesific range of time ; 3. Comfort, by increasing the quality of the park bench for the visitors who are only want to enjoy the scenery. Overall, the quality of Dharma Wanita Park shows the good quality that may happen due to the area limitation which resulted its highest quality is only the inclusive variable. Yet the rest still can be improved, such as: 1. Accessibility, by maximizing walkability facilities ; 2. Visual appearance, by refurbishing the facilities and reset the plants ; 3. Accommodating abilities, by focusing on kids entertainment instead of targeting many activities ; 4. Safety, by adding tall fence to protect the children from the vehicles ; 5. Comfort, by adding more bench for the parents.

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