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Station Area Planning Of Kochi Metro Rail :A Case Of Suburban Station Area Development

This project aims at understanding how an area transforms with the introduction of a mass transportation system such as the case of Kochi Metro rail. The development connected with such changes of an area is usually characterized as Transit Oriented development. TOD has been studied over the years and has a set of principles and guidelines developed to be taken, but the focus of this project is to however understand how such an immediate large-scale transformation impacts a Suburban station area.

Suburban area, being different in character, requires a different approach of planning. This study is an effort to identify the features of the suburban station area of Companypady through Area planning process; understanding its salient unique features, issues and possibilities. The approach to the study area has been two-fold with an amalgamation of understanding taken from concepts of Transit Adjacent Development and processes of Area based planning. The increasing urbanization and loss of suburban character were few of the main concerns of the study which were identified through initial surveys. The study deals with three processes namely, defining the purpose of the station area within the city, assessing the functional requirements of the station area and strategizing of the accessibility and TOD based criteria of the area.

The planning process involve different approaches and techniques to arrive at solutions like Entropy index method, PED shed for delineation of influence areas, SWOT analysis, primary surveys and questionnaire method etc. The study aims to produce a model by developing a structural plan and finally arriving at a defined zonation and land use plans.

Keywords: *Transit Oriented Development, Transit Adjacent Development, Suburban Station Area, Suburban, Metro, Mass Transit, Area Planning.*