

## Case Study of Guangzhou Park City Demonstration Zone

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### Abstract

At present, urban development pays more and more attention to the ecological environment and cultural connotation. Park renewal has also become one of the important ways to enhance the attractiveness of the city and promote urban development. In February 2018, General Secretary Xi Jinping first put forward the concept of "Park City" during his visit to Tianfu New Area in Chengdu. It has brought a new direction for the construction of urban and rural human settlements and the construction of ideal cities in China. This paper adopts the methods of literature review and case study to deeply explore and analyze the current situation and existing problems of Guangzhou's urban development, and puts forward some suggestions. Close the promotion strategy.

### Keywords

Park City; Urban Park; Guangzhou City.

## 1. Background and Connotation of Park City

### 1.1. Background of Park City

In February 2018, General Secretary Xi Jinping stressed during his visit to Tianfu New Area that Tianfu New Area must be well planned and constructed. In particular, we should highlight the characteristics of the park city, take into account the ecological value, and strive to create a new growth pole. Build an inland open economic highland. In February 2018, General Secretary Xi Jinping participated in the voluntary tree planting activities in the capital. He emphasized once again that greening the motherland should adhere to the people-centered development idea. The expectation of a city is that the whole city is a big park. The common people come out as if they were in their own garden.

The Central Urban Work Conference proposed that the central goal of urban work should be to create a good living environment. To build the city into a beautiful home where people and people, people and nature live in harmony. "Park City" undoubtedly fully reflects the central government's great attention to urban construction of ecological civilization. And attach great importance to the construction of a better life and a happy home. While great achievements have been made in the development of urbanization in China, we have also accumulated a large number of ecological and environmental problems in the rapid development. It has become an obvious short board and a prominent problem strongly reflected by the people. Mainly reflected in the following aspects :

First, the degradation of urban ecological environment is serious: urban and rural construction land is growing rapidly, and the demand for urban spatial development is strong. The phenomenon of ecological space encroachment is widespread and serious, and the ecological service function is degraded. Second, the supply of urban ecological products is insufficient: the total amount of urban green space is still insufficient. The quantity, type, quality and characteristics of the supply of ecological service products are still unable to meet the growing needs of the people for a better life. Thirdly, the natural and cultural features of the city are

weakening: urban construction generally destroys the natural landscape pattern and the features of historical urban areas. The phenomenon of one side of a thousand cities is prominent. Fourthly, the dual structure of urban and rural areas is still obvious: the city's feedback to the countryside is insufficient, and the motive force of rural development in most areas is insufficient. The construction of various facilities is lagging behind, and traditional culture is gradually disappearing [3].

Therefore, China's urbanization development model urgently needs to be upgraded and transformed from scale expansion and economic growth. It will be transformed into people-oriented, scientific development, urban-rural coordination and optimization. It is urgent to promote the two major tasks of "curing diseases and keeping fit" and "transformation and upgrading". In this context, the concept of "Park City" came into being.

## **1.2. Concept and Connotation of Park City**

### **1.2.1. The concept of Park City**

Park city is the goal of Chengdu after idyllic city, garden city, ecological city and green city. On the road of coordinated development of urban construction and ecological environment, another new concept has been actively explored. Park city fully embodies the new development concept, leads the development of the city with ecological civilization, and takes the people as the center. Construct the life community of mountains, rivers, forests, fields, lakes and cities. Form a new mode of urban development in which people, city, environment and industry are highly harmonious and unified in a beautiful urban form. It absorbs the ideological essence of idyllic city, ecological city and other theories, and has more humanistic implications than garden city. It has more natural flavor than garden city and more development characteristics than ecological city.

### **1.2.2. Scientific Connotation of Park City**

By definition, Park City is an advanced form of urban development that fully embodies the new concept of development. Adhering to the people-centered and ecological civilization as the guide is the organic integration of park form and urban space. It is a complex system with suitable production and living ecological space and the integration of natural economy, society and humanities. It is a modern city with highly harmonious and unified human and urban environment, and a new mode of sustainable urban construction in the new era. In essence, the core of park city construction is people-oriented, good life, ecological priority and green development. The key is to optimize the layout and shape the form, and the goal is to return to the original intention of urban construction—to satisfy people's yearning for a better life.

## **2. Overview of Guangzhou Urban Park Construction**

### **2.1. History of Urban Park Construction**

#### **2.1.1. Initial stage**

It was Mr. Sun Zhongshan who first proposed the construction of a garden city in Guangdong. In his "Industrial Plan", he put forward the idea of building a livable "garden city" in Guangzhou. Sun Yat-sen expressed his appreciation for the scenery of Guangzhou in his book. And at this time, his vision of building Guangzhou into a "garden city" has reflected his view of Guangzhou's flower city style and good ecology. The importance of the foundation. By 1918, after the establishment of Guangzhou Municipal Administration Office, guided by the theory of "idyllic city", the transformation of the old city was combined with the construction of the new district. It also tried to build "model" residential areas and began to carry out urban transformation. This is the first time that Guangzhou has carried out transformation and construction in accordance with the municipal concept of modernization, opening a new chapter in the development of modernization. In 1919, Sun Yat-sen's descendants published an

article "On Urban Planning" in Shanghai's "Construction" magazine. The article expounds the viewpoint of urban planning, which is a very early article on the theory of urban planning research in China. During Sun Ke's reign, he led the establishment of the first park in Guangzhou, which was officially opened in October 1921. Under the influence of the successful completion of the first park, Guangzhou has successively built a number of urban parks. Let the citizens stroll in the beautiful park in their leisure time and enjoy the fresh space of nature. After Lin Yunyi took charge of Guangzhou in 1927, in the "Guangzhou Administrative Plan", it is proposed that "the purpose is to strive to create a new Guangzhou with urban mountain forests. Such as the recent expansion of urban areas, the development of suburban areas, the operation of model residential villages, and the residence of the city in the countryside, all of which have realized their ideals." Promoted by the municipal government, the farmland, mountain forests and 21 waters in the suburbs of Guangzhou have been integrated into the framework of "idyllic city". It has laid a certain foundation for the future development of the park system in the whole city.

### **2.1.2. Germination stage**

With the early days of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the construction of urban parks began to be re-emphasized by the Guangzhou government. A plan for the construction of urban landscape greening has been worked out. From 1949 to 1957, Haizhuang Park was restored, Huanghuagang Park was opened, and Yuexiu Park, which was damaged in the war, was reopened. Guangzhou Uprising Martyrs Cemetery, Guangzhou Cultural Park and Guangzhou Orchid Garden have been built; In order to store and regulate flood within the city, Guangzhou started the lake-making movement in 1958 and 1959. Under the leadership of the government, the people of the whole city were encouraged to participate voluntarily, dredging and excavating Luh Lake, Liuhua Lake, Liwan Lake and Dongshan Lake respectively. Guangzhou Zoo, Xiaogang Park and South China Botanical Garden have been built. At this stage, urban parks are basically transformed from scenic spots. The number and area of parks in Guangzhou have been greatly increased, and each park has its own characteristics. Or "light makeup" or "heavy makeup", or natural scenery, or mainly carrying cultural activities, or highlighting the special atmosphere of plants. The layout of urban parks has been initially formed, and the planning and construction of urban parks in Guangzhou is becoming more and more mature.

### **2.1.3. Rapid development stage**

After the reform and opening up, Guangzhou's economy has greatly prospered and its material life has made great progress. During this period, Guangzhou garden builders based on the practicability of Lingnan area and drew lessons from the experience of garden construction at home and abroad. Combining with modern design concepts, we have the courage to try and innovate, and explore a unique design path in practice. It has created many brilliant works and won praise from the industry at home and abroad. Western style urban parks with novel layout, such as Caonian Park built in 1985 and Yuntai Park built in 1995, have emerged one after another. More and more reflects the diversified characteristics of Guangzhou Park style. With the expansion of the city scale, most of these parks are built in the new 24 urban areas, reflecting the innovative spirit of Guangzhou landscape workers. It leads the trend of landscape design and construction in China. Beginning in the 1990s, some parks in Guangzhou began to open free of charge. On the occasion of welcoming the Asian Games, the government has combined the improvement of the comprehensive environmental landscape of the city. Further implementation of Tianhe Park, Liuhua Lake Park, Pearl River Park, Guangzhou Uprising Martyrs Cemetery and other parks of the "demolition through green" project. As a result, part of the park green space will be organically combined with the road green space along the urban

trunk road. Under this impetus, Guangzhou Park has developed from a state of "self-closure". It gradually began to have an organic connection with the street space of the city.

#### **2.1.4. Global development stage**

After the millennium, we have entered a new era. After meeting the daily material needs, people's demand for spiritual life is also increasing. Guangzhou has made remarkable achievements in the construction of parks, and has begun to develop globally, with the emergence of a new type of park design with a more simple and atmospheric scale. Among them, Pearl River Park, Conghua Qingyun Park, Zengcheng Square, Huadu Ma'anshan Park, Luogang Xiangxue Park, Nansha Binhai Park, Panyu Chengbei Park and other parks are the representatives, each with its own characteristics. Since July 1, 2009, some public parks, including Yuexiu Park, Cultural Park and Sun Yat-sen Memorial Hall, have been opened free of charge. So far, Guangzhou's parks have gradually entered the stage of free opening. As far as the individual level is concerned, the frequency of citizens entering the park has been greatly increased, and the park has become an outdoor garden shared by residents. Not the tourist attractions that occasionally buy tickets and punch in. With the urban expansion of Guangzhou and the increase of urban population, the service scope and level of parks have also been considerably improved.

By 2019, the total park area of the city has reached 78817.78 hm. The service radius coverage rate of 500 meters of park green space is 70.8%, and the per capita park green space area is 17.3 m/person. The number of urban parks in Guangzhou is 17.06 m long per capita public green space area in 247 cities, and the green coverage rate of built-up areas is 42.54%. It has initially formed an urban park system with rich contents, complete supporting facilities, colorful landscape forms and artistic styles. The per capita green space area of 26 parks, the green coverage rate of built-up areas and the green space rate of built-up areas all exceed the national average.

## **2.2. Spatial pattern of urban parks**

### **2.2.1. Guangzhou Urban Space Foundation**

Guangzhou is located in the south of China, with Baiyun Mountain as the barrier in the north, the South China Sea as the border in the south, and the east and west. With Luofu Mountain and Xiqiao Mountain, the city is surrounded by them, and the surrounding mountains and rivers coexist and blend. In the Song Dynasty, the Liumai Canal Water System Project was carried out, which "runs through the inner city and can pass through the boats", and played the role of "no flood in the city". Canal water flows out of the city into the east, west and south, and then into the Pearl River. Guangzhou has formed a unique landscape spatial pattern of "half of the green hills into the city, six veins are connected to the sea".

### **2.2.2. Overall status of urban parks in Guangzhou**

It can be seen from the statistical chart of the number, the statistical chart of the area in Guangzhou that among the 12 districts, The number of urban parks in Huangpu Development Zone is the largest. Followed by Baiyun District. Conghua District has the largest number of forest parks and Panyu District has the largest number of wetland parks. Yuexiu District has the largest total area of urban parks, Conghua District has the largest area of forest parks, and Haizhu District has the largest area of wetland parks.

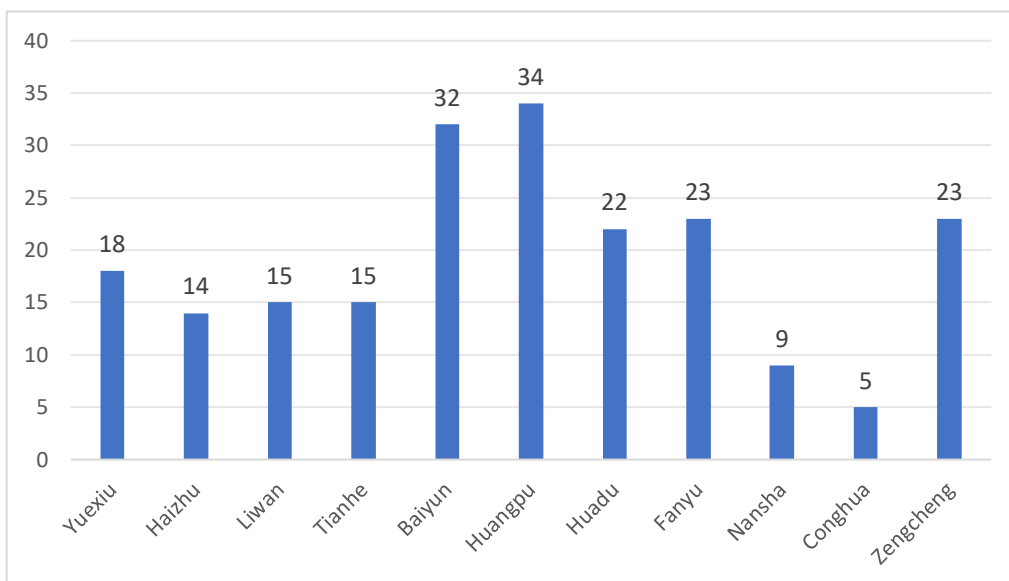


Figure 1 : Quantitative Statistical Chart of Guangzhou Urban Parks

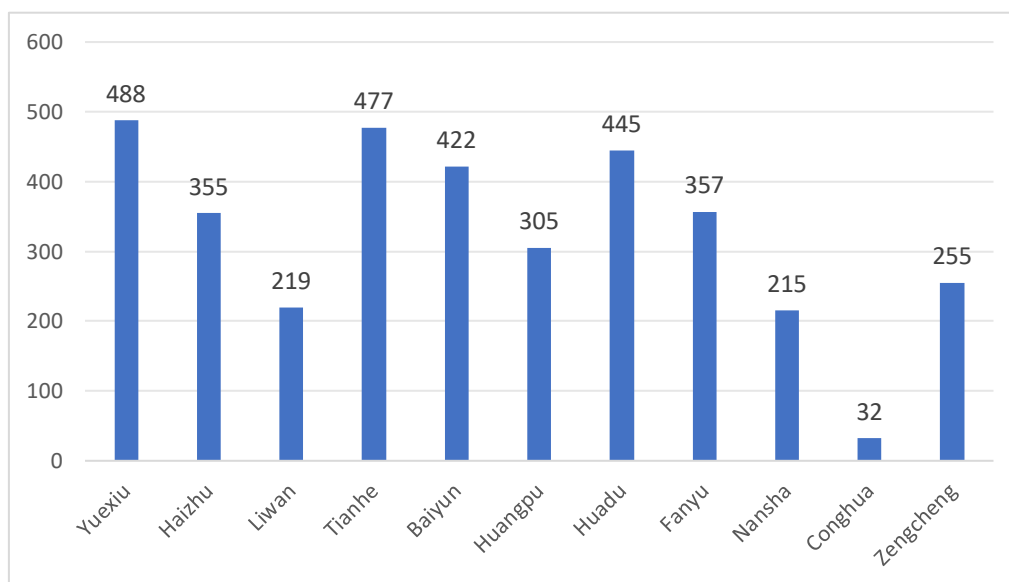


Figure 2 : Statistical map of Guangzhou urban park area

### 2.3. Analysis of the characteristics of urban parks

#### 2.3.1. Analysis of the characteristics of urban parks in Guangzhou

Since the establishment of Panyu City in Nanyue, Guangzhou has shown its respect for natural landforms and pursuit of natural scenery in site selection. The pattern of the ancient city of Guangzhou is based on mountains and rivers, and the city and the natural landscape pattern form an organic combination of harmonious coexistence. Naturally, urban living space is also closely integrated with the natural environment. The landscape style of Guangzhou city is mainly embodied in "Yunshan Zhushui Binhai". In the selection of "Eight Sceneries of Yangcheng" in past Dynasties, White Cloud Mountain, Yuexiu Mountain and Pearl River have always been selected. This also reflects that although the topography and landform of Guangzhou have changed in the historical development, the urban system of each Dynasty is different. However, people's pursuit of natural landscape and aesthetics has been continued.

### 2.3.2. Memorial and witness of historical events

In 1982, the State Council first announced a number of historical and cultural cities, and Guangzhou is one of the 24 historical and cultural cities. Guangzhou, as the gathering and diffusion center of Guangfu culture, was the largest trading port in China during the Tang and Song Dynasties. Later, in the Qing Dynasty, it was also the only foreign trade port in China in the "one-port trade" policy. Guangzhou has always been an open commercial and trade city, and has been exposed to Western culture and ideas earlier. It also built a number of the earliest concession gardens. Guangzhou has also been the main port of the Maritime Silk Road since the 1930s, and has become a world-famous Oriental port city. It is also the only important port in the world with a history of more than two thousand years. The cultural conflict brought about in the process of trade with the West has been an interesting collision with Guangfu culture in Lingnan. In the long river of time, special cultural imprints have been accumulated, and these elements have also been integrated into various parks in Guangzhou. In the construction of modern parks, the natural landscape, historical and humanistic scenery of Guangzhou were skillfully used for parks. It constitutes one of the park landscape components, such as "Lihua Ancient Bridge" and other urban historical sites nodes, which can connect the urban space sequence in series.

### 2.3.3. Characteristics of Nanguo Huacheng

As a subtropical city, Guangzhou is warm and rainy throughout the year, with abundant sunshine and heat, and abundant rainfall in the same period of rain and heat throughout the year. The climatic conditions are favorable to the growth of plants. Therefore, there are many kinds of flowers and trees, with tropical and subtropical characteristics, which can keep green all the year round. Flowers are in full bloom, as Su Shi wrote, "Lingnan is warm, and there is no time for flowers to make." With its superior geographical location near the sea, it has become a famous flower distribution center as the starting port of the Silk Road on the sea.

In order to continue to promote Guangzhou's flower city culture, the government has launched a series of activities related to flower viewing and flower art. The earliest Spring Festival was held in the Cultural Park, whose history can be traced back to the small flower viewing fair in the Spring Festival of 1953. It also experienced the four stages of "Dianchun (1953), Yingchun (1957), Yingchun Fair (1960) and Yingchun Flower Fair (1981)". Exhibition stage. At the beginning, Yuexiu Park, Cultural Park and Yuntai Garden were the main venues, which developed into the present "Guangzhou New Year". "Flower City to see flowers" the Spring Festival characteristic festival flower activities. During the Spring Festival, it created a colorful, happy and festive atmosphere. It covers a series of activities such as Guangzhou Garden Exposition, Yuexiu Lantern Festival, Yuntai Flower Exhibition and Luhu Orchid Exhibition. The first Guangzhou Garden Expo began in the Spring Festival of 1994, with art gardens as the main form of exhibition. By 2020, it has been held to the 27th session and developed into the most important flower event in Guangzhou during the Spring Festival. It has also become a comprehensive competition for various garden industries in Guangzhou, including relevant universities.

## 3. Problems in the Construction of Urban Parks

### 3.1. Uneven distribution and insufficient accessibility

Generally speaking, the coverage rate of green space services in central urban areas is relatively high, generally higher than 85%; The peripheral urban areas are lower, of which Baiyun District and Nansha District are less than 10%, and Huadu and Luogang are less than 50%. If we do not consider the service impact of park green space on rural living land, The service coverage of parks and green spaces in Baiyun District, Nansha District, Panyu District, Huadu District and Luogang District has increased to a certain extent. The service capacity of park green space in

areas with low urbanization level is low, and the blind area of park service is concentrated in rural living land. The overall layout of park green space presents the characteristics of "emphasizing the center, neglecting the periphery" and "emphasizing the city, neglecting the countryside".

### **3.2. Park landscape features are weak**

As the carrier of the gateway landscape, the park green space does not fully show the characteristics of the city at present. It is not closely integrated with all kinds of material and intangible cultural heritage, does not reflect the distinct local landscape characteristics, and lacks the memory of urban culture. Lack of innovation. Park green space is only green on the surface of the city, emphasizing landscape greening, but lacking the layout of public facilities such as recreation and hydrophilicity. And the creation of interesting space that can attract citizens.

### **3.3. Single management mechanism**

At present, the management and operation of the park are separated. The management organization of the park should gradually improve the hierarchical and decentralized management in the system, and gradually open the park operation service market. Establish assessment mechanism and optimize personnel structure. Perfect market rules, improve market mechanism, develop market competition, and reduce the cost of park management and operation. In order to improve the efficiency of park management. The decision-making on the construction and management of parks is basically dominated by the government, lacking public participation.

## **4. Development Strategy of Urban Park Construction**

### **4.1. Optimize the layout of the park system**

The landscape pattern of the city itself is not only the most prominent feature of Guangzhou. It also maintains the spatial form of the whole city and the ecology of the city, carries the urban culture, and should be strictly protected. Seek development in protection. We will promote the urban development strategy of "linking the West with the East, advancing the North and expanding the South". Among them, "Beiyou" refers to the optimization of the style and features of 61 bureaus in the northern mountains of Guangzhou, including White Cloud Mountain. Therefore, urban development should balance the interests of development and protection, and be based on the long-term development goals of the city. Focus on the invisible value brought by the city's unique features.

### **4.2. Strengthen the construction of park characteristics**

It can enhance the cultural value of the city by activating the non-heritage of Guangdong. Many precious folk cultural heritages, such as Guangdong Awakening Lion, Guangzhou Wood Carving, Guangzhou Embroidery and Tongcao Painting, are popular with the people. Integrate brand communication with cultural and spiritual values as the core. Promote the appeal and influence of urban cultural brands, and concentrate resources in various fields from the height of top-level design. We will make overall use of Guangzhou's superior resources as a cultural center in Lingnan and a famous historical and cultural city in China. Strive to maximize the utilization of various resources. Develop and promote Guangzhou IP, rebuild the city brand scene, form an innovative support system, and combine the IP of city landmarks. Especially the image related to the park logo, to highlight the symbol logo of Guangzhou Park.

### 4.3. Improving public participation and management mechanisms

From the government's point of view, we should change our concepts and make the construction and decision-making of urban parks more effective. Form a decision-making mechanism that combines public participation, expert demonstration and government decision-making. The municipal government should publicize the decision-making, policies, regulations and management systems of park planning and construction in a timely manner, so as to increase the public's right to know. At the same time, the government also needs to change its role, which is the maker of planning and plays a major organizational role. From the perspective of citizens, urban residents need to constantly improve their environmental and ecological awareness. For example, the small green space around the community in the city guides the participation of citizens. The cost of design, construction and later maintenance will be greatly reduced. Psychologically, it can also give citizens more sense of belonging to urban space.

## 5. Conclusion

Urban parks in the context of park cities are integrated into the development of the whole city under the role of infrastructure combined with urban functions. The park-like city will evolve into a new urban form. Only in this way can the "man-made objects" of urban buildings and streets be combined with the original natural landscape. Only in this way can we make this ancient city with a history of 2000 years continue to create more history and become a beautiful and livable city. On the road of park construction in Guangzhou, Sun Ke, Linxi and other generations of leaders and gardeners have made great efforts. It also has the active participation of the general public in the excavation of Liwan Lake. Only in this way can we continuously promote the construction and development of urban parks. Parks in Guangzhou have been integrated into the lives of Guangzhou citizens. In addition to the increase in the number of parks and the increase in the area of green space, Forestry information rate, forest protection and wildlife resources protection have also received corresponding attention. The distinctive and splendid urban parks in Guangzhou highlight the unique cultural connotation of Guangzhou and inherit the regional culture. It has enhanced the image of the city and promoted cultural self-confidence. In the future, it will continue to optimize the landscape of the core areas of the three belts on both sides of the river. To build a land and water double-line landscape with Lingnan characteristics and cultural connotations, reflecting the new vitality of the city.

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