Humanized Design on Urban Open Leisure Spaces

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Keywords: City, Leisure Spaces, Humanization.

Abstract. Humanized design on urban open leisure spaces can not only improve leisure space utilization, but also upgrade people’s leisure experience. Basing on “people-oriented” ideology, this paper holds that the humanized design on urban open leisure spaces should improve design quality starting from meeting the convenience, diversity and lifestyle of people’s leisure demands.

Introduction
Xiamen Daily reported the graduation project-City of Sky of two graduating students from Xiamen University recently. The main thought of such graduation project is to establish open leisure spaces convenient for people to have leisure and entertainment in old urban areas, thereby further alleviating urban construction land pressures and the deficiency of insufficient design concern on residents’ leisure demands on urban open leisure spaces. Its strong practical significance attracted numerous praises, reflecting that the humanized design on urban open leisure spaces is not only the inevitable selection of the public, but also the inevitable course of modernization development.

With the continuous improvement of people’s living quality and the incessant development of national economy, people’s emphasis extent on leisure life increased continuously, and the demand on urban leisure spaces also increased continuously. Urban open leisure space design concerns the use efficiency and exertion conditions of its functions. Currently, urban construction land faces high land cost and people’s continuous pursuit on life quality. How to highlight humanized characteristics in urban open leisure space design has become the important topic of urban construction. The so-called leisure refers to that people can freely control time and engage in favorite activities while not be beset by life and work pressures. Such activities can let people feel value without considering remunerations, which are full of love driving force. Urban open leisure spaces are established for meeting people’s leisure activities. The design of urban leisure spaces should maximally cater to the leisure demands of different people in different free time, sufficiently embody “people-oriented” characteristics, and pay attention to spiritual solicitude to people. Therefore, humanized design ideology obtained more and more emphasis in open leisure space design.

Laying Emphasis on Meeting the Convenience of People’s Leisure Demands

Urban open leisure spaces are the places for residents to relax mood and enjoy life, and the spaces for the communication of individuals or groups. Thus the design should be based on the principle of offering convenience for residents. If open leisure space is at residential quarters where people mainly have leisure relaxations and morning exercises, the utilization of sunshine and application on green vegetation should be highlighted. In addition, parterre, sculpture and fountain should be constructed, and exercise equipment should be set in priority to facilitate people to have daily leisure activities such as communication, exchange, and exercises. If open leisure space is one business street, it should highlight the one-stop satisfaction on basic necessities of life, such as shops, office building, sports cultural facilities, leisure square and landscaping sketches, which can enable people to realize the objective of leisure and entertainment within less time and journey as far as possible.

In the design on urban leisure spaces, attention should not only be paid to urban landmark spaces, but also be paid to the humanized design on small open leisure spaces such as community leisure
spaces and city street gardens. Site design should be conducted targeting at residents’ activity habits and characteristics. In addition, it should lay emphasis on three-dimensional space creation, and improving visual effect. The color collocation and function design should be based on the principle of serving residents, constructing gardens and cultural corridors at residents’ side, so as to enable open leisure space to bear rich cultural connotations.

Open leisure spaces are composed by indoor spaces and outdoor spaces. The design on indoor spaces and outdoor spaces should be planned and considered as a whole in design process. In the design on indoor spaces, internal and external integration can be achieved via decoration of windows and walls. In the design of outdoor spaces, the effect of mutual combination of closed space and open space can be created via corridors and columns. By virtue of functional overlapping or complementation of indoor spaces and outdoor spaces, it can provide convenient selection for residents to select leisure mode under different weather conditions and seasons.

**Emphasizing on Meeting the Diversity of People’s Leisure Demands**

The pace of life of modern people is continuously accelerated, and people also more and more pay attention to inner demands. Personalized experience is more laid emphasis on in leisure space selection, so personal space selectivity should be continuously expanded in humanized design. Leisure spaces are for people to participate in recreation and entertainment activities, selection diversity can meet leisure demands of different residents groups. Such satisfaction not only represents in different cultural demands, but also embodies in the meeting on different use functions. For instance, Confucius Temple Business Center in Nanjing was constructed basing on Chinese traditional history and culture. Cultural superiority increased the tourism value and commercial value of such leisure area. It is filled with nostalgic sentiment bars, 1912 street buildings constructed in the period of the republic of China, and ethnic landmark scenic spots including Qinhuai River, Ming Dynasty City Wall, Zhonghua Gate Castle. Here, different consumer groups can feel the collision of history and modernity, and see the combination between civilization vicissitudes and modern leisure & entertainment. Moreover, personalized leisure expectations can be maximally met. As one modern leisure space, Tianyi Square is dedicated to constructing one-stop shopping square, so it integrated commerce, trade, travel, sightseeing, leisure, entertainment, catering and accommodation in functional design. In addition, it increased modern elements such as music fountain, performance square, and relief. Particularly, the injection of exotic cultural elements such as gothic church background stages and Romanesque terraces has increased its humanity atmosphere. Moreover, relying upon local green resources and abundant water resources, it enriches leisure experience at leisure space.

Due to fast work rhythm, big life pressure and limited residence space in cities, modern people have more expectations on humanized design on open leisure spaces. For instance, they hope that leisure space can increase natural green and be away from automobile exhausts. Therefore, the separation between pedestrian passage and vehicle passage should be paid attention to in space design. In addition, light rails should be established in the vicinity of large-scale urban open public spaces, so as to decrease the disturbance of motor vehicles on leisure space to the minimum extent. Meanwhile, landscaping and cultural atmosphere creation should be laid emphasis on in pedestrian passage, and classical music background can be allocated to let people feel body and mind relaxation. Similarly, subject to negative outcomes (air pollution and indifference among people) in the long-term development process of industrial civilization, people may have mountain and water inclined hobbies when selecting residing cities. The design on urban open leisure spaces should sufficiently resort to urban natural resources. For instance, the open public space design at both shores of Huangpu River in Shanghai fully represented the reliance on Huangpu River water; the construction of Riverside Boulevard in Lanzhou along Yellow River sufficiently considered people’s water affinity nature and the appropriate application of main urban natural resources.
Paying Attention to Meeting the Lifestyle of People’s Leisure Demands

The design on equipment and facilities is the most important component in leisure space design. Humanized equipment and facilities design can not only endow more lifestyle contents to leisure spaces, but also enrich the contents of open leisure space in limited space. Excellent equipment and facilities design and functional guarantee jointly promote the serviceability of leisure space, so consideration on equipment and facilities should be emphasized for improving space humanity. Humanized equipment and facilities can guarantee leisure functions, and improve residents’ leisure feeling. For example, the design of Beijing Xidan Cultural Plaza highlighted the construction of service equipment and facilities for embodying the inclusiveness and diversity of urban open leisure spaces in Beijing. It not only has equipment and facilities such as swimming pool, skating center, shuffle board and 4D cinema, but also sufficiently utilizes equipment and facilities to host ice and snow festival, etc. The construction of these equipment and facilities represents excellent mastering on residents’ leisure lifestyle. With the progress of society, the existing leisure contents such as traditional shopping, catering and chairs can no longer meet people’s leisure demands. The humanized design on urban open leisure space is represented in the perfection of equipment and facilities advancing with the times. Moreover, the humanized design full of modern atmosphere can provide rich and colorful leisure life for external tourists and local residents. The mutual integration of humanized design and lifestyle contents can decrease leisure cost of urban open leisure spaces. The proportion of pure leisure activities in open leisure space is high. Therefore, enough chairs and supporting tables should be equipped for residents when conducting humanized design. Considering people’s leisure privacy demands, lover’s seats, family seats and parent-child seats, etc., should be set in view of different rest characteristics of residents for the convenience of different group selections. In addition, different green vegetative and decorative landscapes can be matched to achieve the unification of aesthetics and practicality. Moreover, swings, exercise equipment, micro library and electronic video can be set at open spaces as per urban residents’ leisure characteristics and weather characteristics, so as to facilitate leisure life to be pleasant with low cost.

On the one hand, the humanized design on urban open public spaces should continuously enrich functionality, integrating leisure, entertainment, interpersonal communication, shopping and consumption. On the other hand, it should incessantly start from humanized solicitude to strengthen convenience and lifestyle, thereby enabling people to rapidly, leisurely and pleasantly live and relax, and feel body and mind pleasure and satisfaction in open space. The humanized design on urban open leisure space represents respect and concern to people. People ought to be the enjoyers of urban civilization results as they have created urban civilizations.

References


