

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT AND URBAN PLACEMAKING
AT LRT STATIONS IN CITY OF KUALA LUMPUR

AREZOU SHAFAGHAT

A report submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the award of the
Degree of Master of Science Urban Design

Faculty of Built Environment
Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

NOVEMBER, 2009

ABSTRACT

The recent decades have witnessed increasing consideration around the world of the importance of creating more civilized, vital and walkable neighborhoods and spaces in the city, where welfare of residents and inhabitants are an essential element. Actually, in neighborhood design, New Urbanism, Smart Growth have been tipped towards promoting further vitality and walkability and simultaneously public transit use while accommodating necessary private motorcar trips. The successful concept of Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) with respect to New Urbanism and Smart Growth focuses on vitalizing in the station areas. This dissertation aims to identify the necessity of combining both TOD and Urban Placemaking, which is regarded for curbing urban sprawl, importance of urban infilling, and reducing car dependency and revitalizing in and around transit nodes. In fact, they are able to control the growth in such a way to fulfil physical and social demands of residents in station area through, in particular, creating mixed-use communities in neighborhoods, also creating high density area which considers on diversity of housing type, commercial, public open spaces, and walkability and accessibility in station area. Therefore, these concepts are the reliable ways to promote vitality, connectivity and walkability inside neighborhoods, which recently is offered accurately by concept of Station Area Development.

In 1982, Master Plan Transportation Study was engaged to complement Kuala Lumpur Structure Plan strategy through formulating a set of transport policies in TOD at Light Rail stations. Although, Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur (DBKL) has decided to develop the city according to the benefits, vision and aims of TOD, to date here has not been a performed project. Therefore, this study put its goals to implement TOD and Urban Placemaking in one of LRT stations. Consequently, PWTC LRT station with lots of physical and environmental potentials and location among five other stations was chosen. So, the goals of this study was how adopt the concepts of TOD and Urban Placemaking in PWTC Station that has not ever done before; And, how the data collected through observation and interviews with experts of Dewan Bandaraya Kuala Lumpur help to provide the urban design proposal for station area to make it as a vital, attractive, walkable, and accessible place through provided guidelines.