

ABSTRACT

Physical Development Planning and Implementation in Trinidad and Tobago 1960-2000: The Case Study of Port of Spain

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Physical development planning in Trinidad and Tobago has several existing problems the most serious of which is the gap that exists between plan preparation and plan implementation. The intention of this study is to try and understand the basis for this gap and to suggest a mechanism for closing it.

The thesis is applied in the case study area of the capital city, Port of Spain, Trinidad, to determine the degree to which plan goals must be present at the preparation stage in every plan in order for implementation to be undertaken successfully. Because of the interdisciplinary nature of the problem of physical development planning and the limitation of data available, a number of relevant planning goals of physical development plans are used to determine relative success of plan implementation.

The type of planning system and process preferred is also discussed along with most probable mechanisms for the preparation and implementation of the plans. The determination of significant planning goals to be present for successful plan implementation is decided using a modified goal achievement matrix (GAM).

The study suggests there is a preference for planning system and processes involving all stakeholder groups in the country and that there can be a distinction of planning goals, which can lead to successful plan implementation.

Physical Planning in Trinidad and Tobago needs to be overhauled to close the gap between plan preparation and implementation and a new framework and arrangement determined along with the use of technology, new legislation, resources and development initiatives.

Keywords: Derek I. Outridge; physical development planning; plan preparation and implementation; planning goals.