A Short History of Global Cities

Eric L. H. Guenzel, the Director of the Urban System Studies at the Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research, discusses the growing importance of cities.

“Throughout human history, cities have played a critical role in shaping the world. From ancient civilizations to modern urban centers, cities have been the engines of progress and innovation. As we enter a new era of urbanisation, it is crucial that we learn from the past and adapt to the challenges of the future.”

The Role of Culture in Global City Success

Professor Greg Clark, Co-Chairman of the Advisory Board at University College London's City Leadership Initiative, explores the importance of culture in shaping global cities.

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Making Singapore More Pedestrian-Friendly

Greg Clark speaks about global cities, global trends, and Singapore's place among the rise of new global cities.

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Renovating Parks for Invention at Land Sale Sites

A recent report by the City Leadership Initiative (CLI) offers new insight into how cities are responding to the challenges of urbanisation.

“The City then makes a building site available… The people come up with a building plan… The rules of the game are simple: people come up with a building plan, and the City selects the ‘most innovative project’ to be built… Private investment without compromising the quality of the city.”

Reinventing Paris: Innovation for Land Sale Sites

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Concrete drains and canals were once seen only as essential infrastructure that served the critical functions of stormwater management of vital water resources. Yet, Singapore's commitment to capture the shift in its government's approach to the Circular Economy and the Experience Economy has drawn upon archival research and interviews with urban pioneers.

Environmental Asset

In the line of the Singapore Green Building Code which was released last year there are over 1,000 projects in queue to capture the shift in the Singapore government's approach to the Circular Economy and the Experience Economy. These changes would be important corrections as cities embark on a new urban cycle.

Describing urbanisation as 'the single most important anthropological episode the human race has ever been through', Greg Clark charts the future trajectories of these extensive changes. We could expect to see urban economies change in the direction of the sharing economy, the circular economy and the experience economy. These changes would be important corrections as cities embark on a new urban cycle.

Voices

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