

FOREWORD

Strategic Research on Economic Development in Zhenjiang City is a strategic planning subject undertaken by American Planning Association (APA), who is entrusted by Zhenjiang Municipal Government. Its purpose is to provide consultation and advice for the government to determine the future development direction through analyzing its history and status quo and using American century-long experience and lessons in urbanization for reference. This report is the summative outcome of the research.

Taking “New Garden City” as its core principles, this report has done sufficient researches on ecological environment, industrial economy, infrastructure and city spatial distribution, etc. to conceive Zhenjiang development prospect. It is already 105 years past since the concept of “Garden City” was put forward by U.K. scholar Howard. In recent century, with the advancing of urbanization process in all countries around the world, there are various planning theories emerging and those that have far-reaching influence among them are as follows: “Eco-City System” put forward by Geddes in 1905; “New Urbanism” arisen in 1980’s and the “Smart Growth” movement carried out widely at present, etc. “New Garden City” is a theory that tries to integrate all these valuable theories to approach a planning idea and method that possesses both theoretical significance and practical meaning and apply it to city planning in China.

Nevertheless it is not all cities that possess the basic conditions to construct “New Garden City”; and even if it does, it will still not do without great effort for constructing “New Garden City” finally. According to our knowledge of Zhenjiang, we believe that with its advantaged conditions, it is very likely to become a new garden city through scientific planning and putting it into practice. And our work is based on such knowledge. For us, if the concept of “New Garden City” can be realized in Zhenjiang, it will not only benefit the local people but also contribute to enriching modern planning theory.

The essence of modern planning is procedure. In the research lasting for half a year, we have stuck closely to the “Interaction” principle throughout the course. APA research group has been keeping in touch with Zhenjiang Municipal Party Committee, Municipal Government leaders and relevant government departments for communication and dialogue, which not only is of great help for us to collect data and comprehend the status quo, moreover, it promotes understanding and cooperation with each other so that the process of planning and research is finally turned into a process of making decision by both parties.

We here take this opportunity to express our sincere acknowledgment to Zhenjiang Municipal Government and the people for favoring us with such a precious cooperation chance. And we hope that the cooperation can be promoted further.

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