

REVITALIZATION OF MUARA TEMBESI YOUTH PARK AND ITS IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

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ABSTRACT

The revitalization of public open spaces is recognized as a strategic effort to improve the quality of the environment and strengthen community social activities. However, previous research has tended to emphasize the physical aspect more, with limited attention to the relationship between environmental quality and social dynamics, especially in small urban areas. This study aims to examine the impact of the revitalization of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park on the quality of the environment and community social activities in Batanghari Regency, Jambi Province. The results of the study show that garden revitalization can improve the quality of the environment by improving the aesthetics, cleanliness, and availability of green open spaces. In addition, revitalization also encourages changes in the pattern of space use and social interaction of the community. Increased accessibility and amenities contribute to increased diversity and intensity of activities, such as recreation, informal social interactions, and small-scale economic activities. However, these positive impacts are uneven and face sustainability challenges, especially related to maintenance, oversight, and community engagement. Thus, revitalization has a conditional impact, where its long-term success depends heavily on management consistency and collaboration between stakeholders.

Keywords: revitalization of parks; public open spaces; environmental quality; social activities; Batanghari Regency

REVITALISASI REVITALISASI TAMAN PEMUDA MUARA TEMBESI DAN DAMPAKNYA TERHADAP KUALITAS LINGKUNGAN SERTA KEGIATAN SOSIAL KOMUNITAS

ABSTRAK

Revitalisasi ruang publik diakui sebagai upaya untuk meningkatkan kualitas lingkungan dan memperkuat kegiatan sosial komunitas. Namun, penelitian sebelumnya cenderung lebih menekankan aspek fisik, dengan perhatian terbatas pada kaitan antara kualitas lingkungan dan dinamika sosial, terutama di daerah perkotaan kecil. Studi ini bertujuan untuk meneliti dampak revitalisasi Taman Pemuda Muara Tembesi terhadap kualitas lingkungan dan kegiatan sosial masyarakat di Kabupaten Batanghari, Provinsi Jambi. Hasil studi menunjukkan bahwa merevitalisasi taman dapat meningkatkan kualitas lingkungan dengan meningkatkan estetika, kebersihan, dan ketersediaan ruang hijau terbuka. Selain itu, revitalisasi juga mendorong perubahan pola penggunaan ruang dan interaksi sosial komunitas. Peningkatan aksesibilitas dan fasilitas berkontribusi pada peningkatan keragaman dan intensitas aktivitas, seperti rekreasi, interaksi sosial informal, dan kegiatan ekonomi skala kecil. Namun, dampak positif ini tidak proporsional dan menghadapi tantangan keberlanjutan, terutama terkait pemeliharaan, pengawasan, dan keterlibatan komunitas. Dengan demikian, revitalisasi memiliki dampak bersyarat, di mana keberhasilan jangka panjangnya sangat bergantung pada konsistensi manajemen dan kolaborasi antar pemangku kepentingan.

Kata kunci: revitalisasi taman; ruang terbuka publik; kualitas lingkungan; kegiatan sosial; Kabupaten Batanghari

INTRODUCTION

A city park is a social facility managed by the municipal government, making it a public facility that must be provided by the local authority. The city's parks are open to all residents free of charge. The provision of social facilities, such as parks, reflects government policies that show concern for the environment. Awareness of the importance of green environments and parks as the lungs of the city and recreational spaces is realized through operational policies that build urban parks.

RAPID requires precise, anticipatory and prospective planning supported by all stakeholders. In this context, the revitalization of urban parks

aims to revitalize areas that were previously dormant or underutilized due to the lack of open green space. This is in line with researchers who state that, in addition to contributing significantly to environmental sustainability and visual aesthetics, green open spaces (GOS) also play a huge role in human health and well-being. This idea has to do not only with human-nature interaction but also with the level of socialization provided by the different types of open green spaces that connect communities and support local economic development (Rahadian et al., 2021).

Public open spaces, especially urban parks, play a strategic role in improving the quality of the environment and supporting people's social interac-

tions. As part of urban green open spaces (GOS), parks contribute not only to ecological balance, such as regulating the microclimate, reducing pollution, and supporting biodiversity, but also to social cohesion, recreation, and community well-being. However, in many district-level areas in Indonesia, the function of public parks is declining due to inadequate maintenance, limited facilities, and weak community engagement. Previous studies have highlighted that although revitalization programs are widely implemented, they are often more focused on physical improvements, with less attention to how these changes affect environmental quality and social dynamics in an integrated manner (Sultan et al., 2025).

According to the Regulation of the Minister of Home Affairs No. 1 of 2007 concerning the Arrangement of Green Open Space in Urban Areas, Green Open Space in Urban Areas (RTHKP) refers to the part of urban space filled with vegetation that is intended to support ecological, social, cultural, economic, and aesthetic functions. Meanwhile, Public RTHKP refers to green open space whose provision and maintenance are the responsibility of the city or district government (Article 1, paragraphs 2 and 19). Parks that are damaged both in terms of physical condition and functional performance require quality improvement efforts to optimize their use (Sihombing et al., 2022). Improvements can include physical changes, such as adding vegetation or optimizing plant maintenance, while functional optimization can involve adding supporting facilities that accommodate visitor activities. Urban parks, as urban public spaces, can be assessed to meet quality standards by achieving feasibility in service provision, activity level, meaning, and accessibility (Park et al., 2025).

Green open spaces (GOS) are essential for maintaining environmental balance and improving the quality of life in modern cities. A well-managed GOS can be a key element in creating a healthy, balanced, and aesthetically pleasing environment. The four main functions of GOS that function as an environmental attraction include ecological, socio-cultural, economic, and aesthetic roles. Ecological function refers to ensuring the availability of green space that supports the air circulation system, helps regulate the microclimate for the smooth circulation of natural air and water, serves as a source of protection and shade, produces oxygen, absorbs rainwater, becomes a habitat for wildlife, as well as absorbs air, water, and soil pollutants. A garden is an area of land filled with vegetation as its main characteristic.

Gardens can be designed to mimic natural formations, blend in with the surrounding environment, or resemble miniature versions of natural structures, if desired. The park provides a space for the community to meet spiritual and physical needs, offering an area for relaxation and physical activity. In addition, the park supports mental well-being through a calm and natural atmosphere. This green area serves as a recreation space that helps maintain the balance of urban life.

A well-designed garden can provide clean and comfortable air, enhance the aesthetics of the surrounding area, and help make the most of the land. Thus, parks play an important role in addressing the problem of urban pollution and density. Public awareness of the benefits of parks must continue to be encouraged to create a healthier and more sustainable living environment.

Urban green spaces, including parks and public squares, are an essential component of a healthy and sustainable city. These areas play a central role in improving the well-being of residents, encouraging social interaction, and supporting sustainable urban development (Lovina, 2023). Studies have identified a range of benefits of integrating green spaces into urban environments, including improved physical and mental health, increased social engagement, as well as support for environmental conservation. Despite these benefits, the development and maintenance of urban green spaces faces significant challenges, including limited land availability, financial constraints, and inadequate access, which may hinder some populations from enjoying these green facilities (Sinaga et al., 2025). This study examined the diverse environmental impacts of urban parks on overall public health. To achieve this, an evaluation of various aspects of factors such as physical, psychological, and social health benefits, as well as park size, accessibility, design, layout, and vegetation will be conducted. In addition, interpretive investigations of the park's various environments will be conducted to assess its unique strengths and weaknesses. The findings of this study are expected to help improve the urban park environment through strategies such as increasing vegetation and biodiversity, integrating recreational facilities, and ensuring access to the environment. (Pardamean et al., 2025).

Urban development in various sectors are encouraged to meet the needs of rapidly growing communities. However, unbalanced development that prioritizes economic needs over ecological and social considerations often results in environmental degradation and uncontrolled urban conditions. To overcome this, improving facilities and infrastruc-

ture in terms of both quality and quantity is very important. Urban parks, both functionally and aesthetically, serve as urban amenities that can improve the physical and psychological quality of cities. Muara Tembesi Youth Park, located in Tembesi District, Batanghari Regency, Jambi, has become a popular recreational destination among the community, especially for families with children. The park not only offers natural beauty, but also provides a variety of facilities that support recreational activities for visitors of all ages. Known for its cool and lush atmosphere, the park still faces serious challenges in its management and maintenance (Ridwan et al., 2023).

Currently, the condition of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park is very worrying. Although originally planned as a tourist and culinary destination, many buildings and facilities are now dilapidated and poorly maintained. It is even alleged that this park has become the location of inappropriate activities among local youth, which is very unfortunate. A variety of factors contributed to this decline, including inadequate maintenance, planning that did not meet the needs of the community, and minimal public participation in park management. As a result, many parks no longer function as comfortable, safe, and engaging public spaces; Instead, they become overlooked and abused areas.

Therefore, the local government needs to revitalize this park to restore its function and value to the community. This revitalization not only aims to improve physical facilities but also encourage community participation in their management and use, create inclusive public spaces, and improve environmental quality and social welfare. Revitalization doesn't just focus on physical beauty; This policy should also include efforts to improve the community's economy and introduce local cultural values (Aguspriyanti et al., 2024). The implementation of revitalization requires community involvement, which should not be limited to meeting formal participation requirements. In addition, engagement should not only come from residents who live near the park, but also from the wider community. With the right control mechanisms, revitalization planning should be able to highlight the strategic issues in the region, both in terms of the socio-economic and physical characteristics of the city. Urban design serves as a tool and guiding structure for creating a built environment that accommodates new needs and functions (Waruwu, 2025).

The first relevant study was conducted by Marda Rafi Hisyam Rizqi Athallah, a student of the University of Muhammadiyah Surakarta in 2023,

entitled *"Revitalization of Public Green Open Space (RTH) in Pangkalan Bun City Park, West Kotawaringin Regency."* The study aims to address the identified problems by describing the current conditions and explaining the revitalization of public green open spaces in Pangkalan Bun City Park. Bayu Setiawan and his colleagues conducted a second study, students of the State University of Surabaya in 2021, entitled *"Community Participation in the Development of the Bulak Kenjeran Tourism Park in Kedung Cowek, Bulak District, Surabaya."* This research aims to gain an in-depth understanding of community participation in community-based tourism development in Taman Bulak Kenjeran. The third study was conducted by Artha Noviyantri Utami et al., students of Trisakti University Jakarta, in 2025, entitled *"Provincial Government Authority of the Special Capital City of Jakarta in the Revitalization of Tebet Environmental Park."* This study aims to explain the authority of the Jakarta Provincial Government in revitalizing the Tebet Eco-Friendly Park in accordance with applicable regulations.

Although there have been various studies related to the revitalization of public open spaces, studies that comprehensively integrate environmental and social aspects are still relatively limited and of interest for further research. Most previous studies have tended to focus on partial aspects, such as the physical condition of the park, community participation, or institutional authority, without examining the overall relationship between changes in environmental quality and the dynamics of community social activity. Few studies have simultaneously examined how the revitalization of public open spaces affects social interaction patterns and environmental quality, especially in the context of non-metropolitan areas. This shows that there is a significant research gap that needs to be addressed.

This study aims to analyze the impact of the revitalization of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park on the quality of the environment and community social activities in an integrated manner. This approach is expected to make an academic contribution by enriching the study of the revitalization of public open spaces that is not only oriented to the physical aspect, but also considers the overall social dimension. In addition, this research has practical value for local governments and stakeholders in formulating revitalization policies that are more effective, sustainable, and responsive to community needs.

Thus, this research not only deviates from the conceptual study of revitalization, but also considers empirical realities at the local level. The rele-

vance of this research is increasing in line with the increasing need for quality public open spaces as a means of social interaction, improving the quality of the environment, and strengthening the social life of communities in the region.

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach with an exploratory design to understand the revitalization of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park and its impact on the quality of the environment and the social activities of the community. This research uses secondary data obtained from online media, social media, government documents, and related academic literature. Data selection is done deliberately by considering the relevance, credibility of the source, and its relevance to the focus of the research. Data collection was carried out during the research period by searching for various digital documents using keywords related to park revitalization, green open spaces, environmental quality, and community social activities. Irrelevant or duplicate documents are not included in the analysis process. Data analysis was carried out using NVivo 12 Plus software. All documents are imported into NVivo, and the coding process is done to group the data based on the research theme. The Word Frequency Query, Text Search Query, and Auto Coding features are used to identify word frequency, thematic patterns, and the relationship between environmental quality and community social activity. The results of the analysis are then interpreted descriptively by referring to previous theories and research to produce systematic and accountable findings (Rosanti et al., 2021; Sundari et al., 2023).

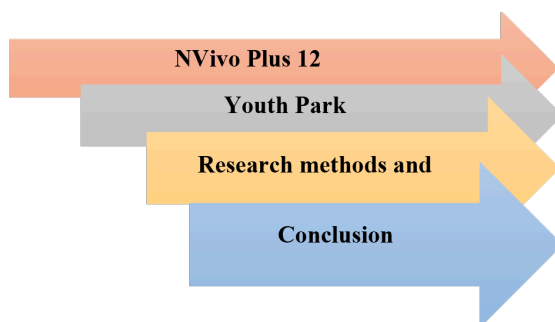


Figure 1. Research Framework
Source: NVivo Plus 12 (2025)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of this study show that the quality of management, infrastructure conditions, and level of community participation strongly deter-

mine the effectiveness of urban parks in supporting environmental quality and social interaction. This pattern can be seen from the variation in utilization levels between the parks studied, where parks with better management and facilities show a higher intensity of social interaction and environmental activities than parks with inadequate infrastructure conditions. This shows that the function of the park as a social space does not stand alone, but is formed from the interaction between physical, social, and management aspects that affect each other (Hartono et al., 2025).

The transformation of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park from an abandoned terminal to a public park reflects a strategic effort to repurpose unused urban land. From an urban planning perspective, this transformation is in line with the adaptive concept of reuse, in which neglected spaces are reactivated to support the needs of communities. However, despite initial investment and development, the park's current condition suggests that revitalization efforts are not yet fully sustainable. The presence of broken facilities, unregulated vendors, and the absence of critical infrastructure such as public toilets point to a gap between long-term planning and management. These findings support previous research that emphasized that physical development alone is not enough without consistent maintenance and institutional support. Therefore, revitalization must be understood as a sustainable process, not a one-time intervention.

Muara Tembesi Youth Park Development and Budget Data

Table 1. Muara Tembesi Youth Park Development and Budget Data Table

Area Size	3.5 hectares
Funding Sources	The National Revenue and Expenditure Budget (APBN) for the fiscal year 2016 reached Rp 4.8 billion.
Total construction cost	IDR 4,8 billion
Cost per Hectare	IDR 1,37 billion per hectare

Source: InfoJambi.com (January 16, 2017)

Table 1. The findings show that the Muara Tembesi Youth Park has an area of 3.5 hectares with a total construction cost of Rp 4.8 billion, which comes from the state budget for the fiscal year

2016, or around Rp 1.37 billion per hectare. This investment reflects the government's commitment to providing representative public open spaces and improving the quality of the environment and community social activities.

However, when associated with the current condition of the park, various problems are found, such as infrastructure damage, lack of supervision, low community activity, as well as poor management of cleanliness and use of space. This condition shows an imbalance between the initial investment in development and the quality of post-construction management. Interpretively, this shows that the revitalization carried out is still oriented towards physical development and has not been accompanied by a sustainable maintenance and management system.

From the point of view of planning and the theory of public space management, the success of urban parks is determined not only by the magnitude of the initial investment, but also by the sustainability of the management, which includes aspects of maintenance, safety, and community involvement (Praja & Asran, 2025). In addition, the low intensity of social activities in the park suggests that the function of this space as a *Social space* is not optimal, where social interaction is the main indicator of the success of public spaces (Nainggolan et al., 2026). These findings are in line with previous research that confirms that physical development without effective governance support tends to produce unsustainable impacts (Pasaribu, 2025).

Thus, development data and existing conditions show that the main challenge of revitalization lies not only in the technical aspects of development, but also in weaknesses in management systems and institutional governance. Therefore, a more integrative approach is needed through long-term budget planning, strengthening maintenance mechanisms, and increasing community participation so that the park's function as a public space can run optimally and sustainably.

Therefore, revitalization efforts needed for the Muara Tembesi Youth Park. Village park revitalization initiatives play an important role in increasing environmental awareness in the community. This type of park can be used as a demonstration location for Green Open Spaces (RTH). According to the Law of the Republic of Indonesia No. 26 of 2007 concerning Spatial Planning, RTH refers to an elongated or grouped area that remains open and contains vegetation, both natural and intentional. The function of RTH in residential environments includes ecological, economic, socio-cultural, and aesthetic aspects (Kushadiwijayanto et al., 2024).

The revitalization of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park requires a systematic and well-planned approach to ensure a sustainable positive impact on the community. Active community involvement is essential to ensure the park functions as per its needs and expectations. Through the revitalization process, the community is expected to not only benefit from the refreshment of green spaces but also develop greater awareness of environmental conservation. One of the initiatives to increase environmental awareness is the revitalization of environmental parks. Maintaining the availability of Green Open Space is essential to support ecological sustainability in urban areas and strengthen natural air comfort. This initiative is expected to encourage the community to more actively participate in park maintenance and become agents of change in protecting the environment. With increasing awareness of the importance of RTH, synergy between local communities and governments can be encouraged to create a better environment for future generations (Rosita, 2025). Every city must provide comfort for its residents. A livable city is an urban environment that is safe, comfortable, and capable of accommodating a wide range of community activities. The availability of well-maintained public open space is an important criterion for assessing the habitability of a city.

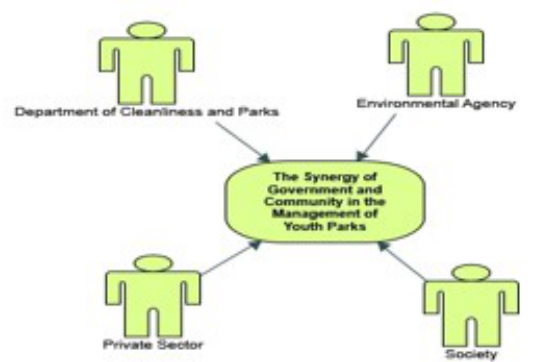


Figure 2. Government and Community Synergy Scheme in Youth Park Management

Source: Modified with NVivo 12 Plus

A collaborative scheme between local governments, the Department of Sanitation and Parks, Environment Agencies, the private sector, and communities demonstrates an integrated multi-stakeholder approach to managing open green spaces and preserving urban environments. Local governments act as the lead coordinators, responsible for setting policy directions and technical standards,

and ensuring the continuity of programs through a regional-based regulatory framework. This leadership role is important to align the perspectives of various stakeholders so that environmental management does not run in a fragmented manner, but is in harmony with the integrated sustainable development framework. Sanitation and Park Services play an operational role in maintaining and improving environmental facilities. His responsibilities include managing city parks, designing landscaping, providing sanitation infrastructure, and handling routine waste management to ensure public spaces remain safe and comfortable for public use. In the context of revitalization, the department is often part of implementing policies at the field level, including redesigning the layout of the park and ensuring that ecological and aesthetic functions are maintained (Wahjoerini & Sakti, 2026).

The Environment Agency functions as a supervisor and facilitator of programs related to ecosystem quality. Their duties include monitoring air, soil, and water quality, as well as organizing environmental education initiatives to raise public awareness. Meanwhile, the private sector is involved through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programs, such as funding for park rehabilitation, providing environmentally friendly technology, and adopting park areas to strengthen the sustainability of green open space management. Private sector involvement plays an important role in overcoming government budget constraints. Communities act as key participatory actors through activities such as collective cleanup efforts, reforestation programs, and community-based environmental monitoring. This collaboration between stakeholders is facilitated through a cross-sectoral coordination forum that formulates joint action plans, including waste management education, park rehabilitation, and the development of open green spaces tailored to local needs. This strategy encourages inclusive, participatory, and long-term approaches that strengthen collective awareness and address increasingly complex urban environmental challenges. This integrated effort is an important foundation for realizing a clean, healthy, productive, and sustainable city (Maulidya, 2025).

From the point of view *Collaborative Governance Theory*, the success of collaboration is determined not only by the existence of actors, but also by the clarity of role sharing, coordination mechanisms, and accountability between stakeholders (Susniwati & Yuliani, 2025). In addition, the theory of public space management emphasizes the importance of active community involvement as a key factor in maintaining the sustainability of space

functions (Lamba et al., 2025). These findings are in line with previous research showing that collaboration without clear operational implementation tends to result in policies that are less than optimal and difficult to maintain (Adekamwa et al., 2024).

Thus, although conceptually there is a multi-stakeholder synergy framework in park management, its effectiveness still requires strengthening implementation aspects. Clarity of roles, increased cross-sector coordination, and strengthening community participation are needed so that collaboration is not only normative, but also capable of producing sustainable park management that is responsive to user needs.

Current Conditions at Muara Tembesi Youth Park (Latest Update – 2025

Table 2. Current conditions at Muara Tembesi Youth Park (Latest Update - 2025)

Aspects	Current Conditions
Physical infrastructure	Many facilities are damaged (benches, garden lights, play areas)
Security	Lack of supervision, no CCTV
Community Activities	There is almost no formal youth community activity
Hygiene	Lots of garbage, lack of cleaners
Land UseUtilization	Many areas are abandoned and unproductive

Table 2. The findings show that the current condition of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park is still facing various fundamental problems, including damage to physical infrastructure (benches, park lights, and play areas), low security levels due to lack of supervision and unavailability of CCTV, lack of community activities, poor hygiene management, and the existence of areas that are not optimally utilized. Overall, this condition reflects the low quality of park management as a public open space.

Interpretively, this problem shows that the function of the park as a public space has not been optimal. Deterioration of infrastructure and poor hygiene indicate a weak routine maintenance system, while low levels of security have the potential to reduce people's sense of comfort and interest in visits. On the other hand, the lack of community activity reflects a lack of *space activation efforts*, so the park cannot function as a center of social interac-

tion. In addition, the existence of unproductive land indicates that space utilization planning does not fully respond to the needs of users.

From the point of view of public space theory, the quality of parks is determined by three main aspects, namely comfort, safety, and diversity of activities (Safira & Hartanti, 2026). When these three aspects are not met, the intensity of space use tends to decrease. In addition, urban management theory emphasizes that the sustainability of the functioning of public open spaces is highly dependent on systems of maintenance, supervision, and community involvement in management (Djaba et al., 2025). These findings are in line with previous research that showed that low-quality management and community participation can hinder the optimization of the functioning of public spaces and reduce their sustainability (Lamading & Nurlinah, 2025).

Thus, the existing condition of the park not only shows technical problems, but also reflects weaknesses in managerial and participatory aspects. Therefore, a more comprehensive management approach is needed by improving infrastructure maintenance, strengthening security systems, activating community social activities, and optimizing the use of green open space so that parks can function optimally as inclusive and sustainable public spaces.

Benefits of Reviving the Muara Tembesi Youth Park

Table 3. Benefits of Reviving the Muara Tembesi Youth Park

Field	Pros
Social	Space for social interaction and community development
Economy	Potential of MSMEs and microeconomic activities
Culture	Facilities to preserve local arts and culture
Environment	Increased awareness of urban cleanliness and greening
Health	Physical activity and outdoor sports area

Table 3. Based on the table above, the benefits of revitalizing the Muara Tembesi Youth Park include the following. In terms of social benefits, the park creates space for social interaction and community development. It refers to how a place or activity can serve as a medium for people to meet, in-

teract, and build relationships, ultimately strengthening social cohesion within society. Meanwhile, economic benefits include the potential for the emergence of small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and various microeconomic activities. This shows that such initiatives or facilities can encourage the growth of small businesses and entrepreneurship, providing opportunities for communities to increase their income. The cultural benefits lie in the park's role as a platform to preserve local artistic and cultural heritage. The report highlights how public spaces or programs can help protect, promote, and preserve regional traditions, ensuring they remain recognized and valued by future generations.

In addition, environmental benefits include increasing public awareness of cleanliness and increasing urban greening efforts. The book explains how community-based programs can encourage people to maintain ecological cleanliness and participate in initiatives that make metropolitan areas greener and more enjoyable. Finally, the health benefits have to do with the availability of open spaces for physical activity and outdoor sports. These facilities allow people to exercise and engage in physical activity, which directly contributes to improved overall health and well-being (Lestari & Satria, 2025).

Green open spaces (GOS) are an important element in urban planning because they function aesthetically and as a place of social interaction, cultural preservation, environmental improvement, and improved public health. If managed correctly, GOS can provide broad social, economic, cultural, environmental, and health benefits. Therefore, revitalizing urban parks is an important strategy to support community-based sustainable development. The revitalization of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park is a local initiative to improve the quality of public spaces. From **Social Perspective**, this revitalized park serves as a space for community interaction and growth; Public spaces can strengthen social cohesion, foster a sense of community, and serve as centers of collective activity (Lamba et al., 2025).

From the point of view of green open space theory, the function of urban parks is multifunctional, including ecological, social, economic, and aesthetic dimensions (Saragih et al., 2021). In addition, the theory of public space emphasizes that the success of a space is determined by its ability to accommodate a wide range of activities and user needs simultaneously. These findings are also in line with previous research that states that the revitalization of urban parks can improve people's qual-

ity of life through the provision of interaction spaces, economic opportunities, and increased health and environmental awareness.

However, the optimization of these benefits is highly dependent on the quality of management and sustainability of the park's functions. Without adequate maintenance support and active community involvement, the potential benefits cannot be

maximized sustainably. Therefore, a management strategy is needed that not only focuses on providing facilities, but also on activating activities, empowering communities, and strengthening the socio-economic function of the park so that the benefits generated can be felt optimally and sustainably (Rafly et al., 2026).

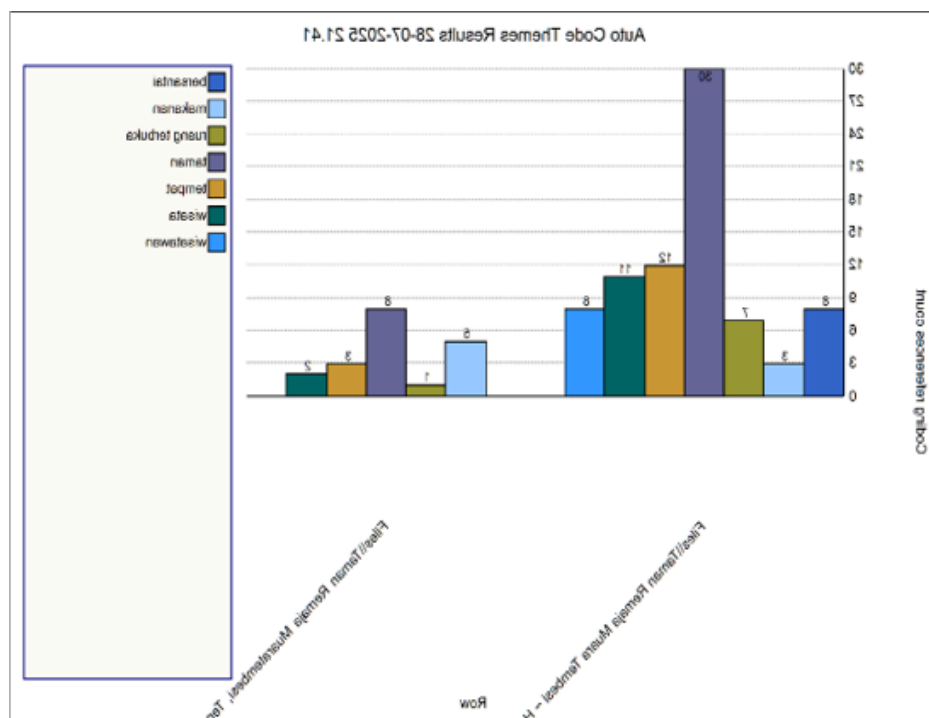


Figure 3. The results of the Auto Code Theme analysis conducted on July 28, 2025 are shown in the image above

Source: Modified with NVivo 12 Plus

Figure 3. The findings on the graph show that "theme parks" have the highest frequency of occurrences compared to other themes, followed by themes such as "visitors", "food", and "places". In contrast, themes such as "tourism" and "relaxation" appear with a relatively lower frequency. This distribution shows that the public perception of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park still focuses a lot on its basic function as a physical space, but it is starting to develop towards a social and economic function.

Interpretively, the dominance of the theme of "garden" suggests that this space has been successfully recognized as a key element of public open space by the community. Meanwhile, the increasing theme of "visitors" and "food" shows the dynamics of social and economic activities that are beginning to take shape, such as interactions between individuals and informal economic activities (MSMEs). This reflects that the park not only functions as a passive green space, but also as an active and active public space. However, the low fre-

quency of the themes of "tourism" and "relaxation" shows that the recreational function and potential of the park as a tourist destination are not fully optimal (Wihardyanto & Sudaryono, 2020).

From the theoretical perspective of public spaces, the success of parks is determined by their ability to present a wide variety of activities and attract intensive user participation (Munawir et al., 2019). These findings also show that the revitalization of has had an initial impact in improving social and economic functions, but has not been fully able to optimize recreation and user comfort. This is in line with previous research that stated that the success of revitalization does not only depend on the provision of facilities, but also on the management of activities and user experiences in public spaces (Praganingrum, 2025).

Thus, the results of this thematic analysis confirm that park revitalization has encouraged the diversification of space functions, but still requires strengthening the quality of user experience, devel-

oping recreational activities, and adopting more adaptive management strategies. This effort is important to ensure the park is not only overcrowded, but also capable of providing optimal recreational value, comfort, and functional sustainability.

CONCLUSION

The findings of this study show that the revitalization of the Muara Tembesi Youth Park has contributed to improving the quality of the environment and reactivating community social activities. The park serves not only as a green space but also as a social arena that supports interaction, informal economic activity, and community involvement. However, this positive impact has not been fully maintained, as current conditions present ongoing challenges related to maintenance, security, and limited community participation.

These results directly respond to the study's objectives by showing that although revitalization can improve environmental and social functioning, its effectiveness depends on sustainable management and active stakeholder engagement. Therefore, revitalization should be understood as a long-term dynamic process, not a one-off physical intervention. The main contribution of this study lies in an integrative analysis of the quality of the environment and social activities, which highlights that social factors, in particular community interaction and participation, strongly influence the success of the revitalization of public spaces. This study also shows the usefulness of NVivo-based analysis in identifying patterns of social use and perception in public spaces.

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