Entrance and Circulation Facilities of Malls in Surabaya: A universal interior design application

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Abstract

The entrance and circulation facilities as one of the spatial elements in public facilities are also elements that need to be studied and applied with universal design approach. Surabaya, as one of the largest cities in Indonesia with many public facilities particularly shopping centres truly needs to consider universal design applications. The purpose of this research is to study, identify problems of the application of the entrance and circulation facilities as well as to produce alternative solutions to those problems with an approach to universal design in the shopping centres around Surabaya. Qualitative research is used for the study and production of solutions. The design thinking method is used in this research.

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Keywords: Entrance; circulation facilities; universal design; design thinking

1. Introduction

1.1. Entrance and circulation facilities of public space-building

Entrance facility of public space-building is a space forming element of space-building that is applied to the activity entry into the public space-building. The facility of an entrance can include door, elevator, stair and etc. The Entrance facility of public space-building is part of the representative area of that public space-building. Visual aesthetically, it is also became part of the composition of the facade design of

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public space building. In the case of space-building in the form of malls, the entry facility also became a point of interest, aiming to draw people in.

Circulation facilities in public space-buildings is a space forming element that is applied to accommodate the needs of users’ movement, both in horizontal circulation (circulation within the floor) and vertical circulation (circulation between floors). Horizontal circulation facilities in the mall space-building, can be flat (or with very gentle slope) corridor as well as a bridge that uses different types of material. Vertical circulation facilities in the mall space-building can include stairs, ramps, lifts (elevators), escalators, and others. In the case of mall space-building, the circulation facilities (both horizontal and vertical) can also became part of the building structure and composition of the aesthetic elements in space malls.

Entrance and circulation facilities are required to be used by all visitors in the public space-buildings, including the mall. It is because the mall is a public space-building with most public characters inside. Mall is a public facility with a variety of commercial activities, social, recreational, relaxation, exercise, and even worship can be done in the mall. This means that the mall can be visited by anyone with no exception at all to do a variety of activities.

The physical environment in buildings and public spaces are media (facilities) to accommodate the activities that apply to the public. This obviously requires the applied consequences of physical space-building facilities which are universal, or inclusive; these are the physical space-building facilities that could be used by everyone as visitors of space-buildings. Physical space-building facilities with a universal approach (inclusive) as a consequence of these public space buildings have not become commonly applied in Indonesia. Many of the physical space building designs that are mostly applied have not considered the needs of the certain sides that have physical limitations, the range of certain age, and also the difference between the sexes equally. The paradigm stating applied universal or inclusive design is an expensive application causes insufficient efforts for the application and development of the universal or inclusive design. Whereas the universal applied design will indirectly ease all users of the facility without exception. Thus, productivity of all users can be improved to produce investment if it experiences degradation in age or physic.

Besides the development of legislation and public awareness of the facilities and universal design, access for user groups with special needs also receive less attention in the world of design practitioners. Although the standard rules of construction applications have stated about the applied design facility that can be accessed universally, universal design concepts and methods are not (yet) generally taught in design school. The head and manager of design studies program is often lacking in awareness, sensitivity, information and skills to teach students about disability issues, minimum versus optimum standards, and the state of the art in accessible design (Greer, 1987). It also includes the lack of learning about the entrance and circulation facilities on a public space-building with universal design approach.

Therefore, we are doing the studies of applied physical entrance and circulation facilities on the public space-buildings (in this discussion is the mall) in terms of universal design. The Identification of mapping the applied facilities will be equipped with proposed solutions of universal design that can be applied to any malls. Surabaya, was chosen as a model city for applied research object and universal design solutions as fairly representative as big cities in Indonesia, which is trying to develop public facilities (including the mall).

1.2. Problem, purpose, and objective

The entrance and circulation facilities as one of the spatial elements in public facilities are also elements that need to be studied and applied with universal design approach. Surabaya, as one of the largest cities in Indonesia with many public facilities particularly shopping centres truly needs to consider
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