Abstract:

The social, politic, economic, administrative and physical structure of cities changes continually. Their form and characteristics are redesigned and changed based on these changes. This process which is defined as urban design is multi-disciplinary activity that form and manage urban settings. Urban design transforms cities into the livable spaces for humans in addition to urban design of cities and so city fictitiously contribute to the human life. In this context, the quality of life in cities can be increased by designing the relationships among urban environmental elements. The disciplinary relationships of various professional groups such as urban planners, landscape architects and architects have an important role in such studies. Landscape Architecture examines nature, planning and design concepts in a systematic way. It is a professional discipline that deals with the natural and cultural resources, planning and management sustainably which must be ecological-economical-functional and be utilized rightly, bringing together art, science, engineering and technology. From this point of view, landscape architecture is used by the basis of environment, nature and ecological information in planning and design to keep sustainability in urban areas. In this context, the contribution of the landscape architecture professional discipline to the process of urban design is aimed in this study.

Key Terms: urban design, landscape architecture

Introduction:

City concept is evaluated in several different points of views in social sciences. City is defined as all the system of certain values, norms and social relationships that its structure has historic freedom and its transformation form in its logic. City is generally defined as the culture that belongs to a city accessing to the city life. City, as historical and social starting point, is defined as a space that is a society govern itself and live together and inhabits due to this occupancy, and because of that, it is organized. With reference to this definition of city it is concluded that city concept is spaces that are different from rural ones. (Kurt, 2010).

The cities that are the main key and a visual form of life have grown more speedily in industrial age than the past. This situation bring together big concerns, people confuse when they face unavoidable growth for the first time so they have gradually started to develop various approaches, ideas and attitudes to the shaping cities.

Today, urban development, and change, becoming stranger to urban environments, adaptability or inadaptability are the most discussed subjects. The results of the developments such as globalization, introducing to information society, sustainability cause to urban environs to undergo important changes. In the changing and developing process, today’s cities and their environs do not built a spatial structure that Nature-Human-Society relationships have become a definition of disorder. In this context, to provide the integrity, adaptation and scale in urban order and form the constant changing characteristics of cities, the necessity of urban design and importance have become unavoidable (Türk, 2012).

Urban design is a multidiscipline approach that aims at creating public environs accordance with secure, functional and aesthetic concerns. Urban design is generally interested in the physical forms of a city and structures and the open spaces between them. Moreover, urban design interests in the interaction between public and private development and its effect on urban form, the relationships between...
human and spaces, movement and urban form, nature and construction texture and successful cities and counties. From this point, the basic mean of urban design is to develop city identity and its image; to provide/sustain its quality and character, to integrate the former with the new one, to protect the natural characteristics of city and ensure its sustainability, to form new and multidirectional open spaces, to develop the security, health and comfort of city region (Madanipour, 1996).

The aim of the urban design which is also defined as designing the urban living environs is to increase living quality, organizing the relationships among the environmental elements.

Urban design as a rational spatial design mean deals with the following areas:

- macro form searching of different areas in national, regional, metropolitan city and urban sub scales,
- creating development corridors and axes in different scales,
- recreational areas, natural reserves, free zones and forming open space system
- the principles related to be controlled areas in industrial regions
- determining the reserved areas that own cultural heritage, the statues sensitive spaces and organizing principles,
- determining the aesthetic intervention areas in all the city
- determining organizing principles of house spaces, city centers, private project areas,
- creating urban landscapes and new landscapes values,
- determining big urban project areas and framework principles,
- determining the organizing principles of urban public areas (Çubuk, 2000).

As it is understood, urban design is perceived as a process and the efficiency areas diversity of this process requires an approach of multidiscipline and team work to urban design. The collaborations among professional people who take over bonding role such as social scientists, law people, economists, environmentalists, engineers in this team is important. The role and contribution degrees of every relative professional discipline are different according to design subject. Moreover, self expression form of every one of them and the difference of their languages are the wealth and diversity source in terms of urban design. (Türk, 2012).

In the discussions up to today, the place and definition of urban design in the professional group which is defined as “environmental design” disciplines is tried to present. In this context, as the studies are examined, professional identify of this discipline supports the view that it has an interdisciplinary character that is relevant to city and regional planning, landscape architecture and architecture professions. It is important that the own characteristics and professional skills and every relevant design professions be reflected on urban design (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Professionally occupation related to urban design (Gökçen, 2000; Türk, 2004)

The contribution of Landscape Architecture to urban design works can be understood but if the definition and working areas of this professional discipline are examined.

The Relationship between Urban Design and Landscape Architecture:

Landscape architecture which one of the actor of urban design, has been defined differently depend of institutions.
Landscape Architecture is an art and science of planning and design that deal with the natural and cultural resources and physical environment in the framework of aesthetic and scientific rules for human benefit, happiness, security, health and comfort and include the subject of planning, design, management, preserving and repairing of space (www.pemat.org).

According to American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) Landscape Architecture is “the science and art of design, planning, management and stewardship of the land. Landscape architecture involves natural and built elements, cultural and scientific knowledge, and concern for resource conservation to the end that the resulting environment serves a useful and enjoyable purpose. Successful a landscape architecture study maximizes use of the land, adds value to a project and minimizes costs, all with minimum disruption to nature” (www.asla.org).

As we see the landscape architecture from this point of view, all the activities directed to the environmental protection, ecosystem and the analysis and management of sources, rural and urban space planning, the coordination of environmental impact assessment works, the planning and design of the spaces of recreational cultural, urban open areas, sidewalks, highways, industrial and agricultural areas and space utilization decisions that are the unavoidable things of sustainable cities seems to be the duties of professionals.

Landscape Architecture profession is a new discipline branch which is developed answering to negativities of natural environment because of urban growth and development in 19th century. In the beginning, supplying big parks and open areas, boulevards and avenues, designs and also urban elements such as game areas comprise the implementation area of the profession but recently because of the environment activism, landscape architects developed themselves complying with the natural structure of environment, thinking forming natural systems in cities.

The field of study of Landscape Architecture is shortly as follows according to the regulation of “Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects Landscape Architects Chamber Free Landscape Architecture and Consultancy Services Implementation, Professional Control, Bureau Licensing and Minimum Wage” prepared by Union of Chambers of Turkish Engineers and Architects (TMMOB) Landscape Architects Chamber in 2006.

- Landscape planning
- Landscape design
- Environmental protection and landscape restoration
- Landscape management.

**Landscape Planning:**

Landscape planning as “a physical being area, is an activity of planning that aims at examining of benefitting effectively and in longest time to meet the need of cultural life that is limited-determined by the ecological/natural energy of the Nature and ideological-social (cultural) structure and examine this aim in the physical planning. (Ergin, 2004).

- Landscape planning takes part in national and regional physical planning, and generates sustainable land use projects on the basis of protection of cultural and natural values.
- Landscape planning conduct studies to determine the areas to be protected. And makes development and management projects of protected areas such as national park, historical sites, archeological cites.
- Landscape planning makes projects to maintain sustainability of wetland, stream corridors, mines, landfills and rehabilitee of destroyed areas.
- Landscape planning makes ecological planning of tourism areas to protect natural and cultural values.
- Landscape planning creates open and green areas, evaluates visual and esthetic quality of city, develops greenway corridors (pedestrian, bicycle, recreation way ect.), some project to integrate natural and
cultural areas, analyze the natural and cultural resources.

The scales which use in these studies; country physical plan scale (National Scale – 1/100.000), upper region scale (1/100.000 – 1/50.000), sub region scale (1/50.000 – 1/25.000), landscaping plan and city structure plan scale (1/25.000 – 1/5.000) and implementation master plan scale (1/5000 – 1/1.000).

**Landscape design:**

Landscape design is a reforming, reshaping and developing work which is to be activated in detail, as depending on the working scale (outdoor space scale 1/1000 and 1/100 and subjective scale 1/100 and 1/1) of the every entire present or possible open area systems and spaces in subdivisions to be come out in the framework of landscape planning works (Gül, et al.,2010).

In this context,

- To maintain studies of urban design and urban regeneration of the part of or all of cities.
- To make plantation, application and maintenance of public places such as public housing areas, university campus, shopping center.
- To make application and maintenance of touristic areas such as amusement park, recreation areas, agricultural farms and hobby gardens.

On the studies these subjects, city master plans scale which planning and design are a district are 1/2.000, 1/1.000 and 1/500, city structure project scales are 1/500, 1/200 and 1/100, accurate and implementation project scales are 1/200, 1/100 and 1/50, project system details scale are 1/50 and 1/20, implementation project details are 1/20, 1/10, 1/5,1/2 and 1/1.

**Environmental protection and landscape restoration:**

Landscape planning aimed at maintenance-improving and/or developing is monitoring and controlling of watered areas, water beds, ponds, dams, closed mine pits, highways, railways, harbors, airports, pipe lines, erosive areas and every landscape space, design, project and reports directed to similar intervened landscape maintenance, improving and developing and implementations and in this context.

**Landscape management:**

Landscape management is the services to adapt to the changes that natural and cultural processes cause and to guide in terms of present and/or planning landscape sustainability.

In this context, landscape management is carried out acceptance and delivery of open and green areas to responsibility for the implementation of vocational and technical supervision, project management.

**Conclusions:**

Urban design has become a mean that its form, color change but targets the same thing from one country to another. In this context, the wants and needs of the people live in settlements are important, i.e, a multiple participating design approach must be cherished.

Thanks to the unit of landscape architecture as depending to the floor and which is today’s important design it makes both physical element and nature and natural elements contribute to the design in a meaningful way.

In addition to this, providing sustainability of cities, increasing living quality of present people, forming livable cities in the future, evaluating the natural resources in the balance of protecting-using of o them, the right decision of area using and especially landscape architecture taking an active role in especially landscape and ecological planning, are important and functional requirement.

The landscape architecture profession is a professional discipline in urban design activity which is socialist, observes public benefit, because it’s working area is flexible, it integrates human activities with nature, since
its coming out, its activities have been directed to protecting-using balance.

References

Madanipour, A., 1996. Design of urban space an inquiry into a social-spatial process, University of Newcastle, UK.