

THE SÃO PAULO LINEAR PARKS EXPERIENCE

A EXPERIÊNCIA PAULISTANA EM PARQUES LINEARES

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ABSTRACT

In 2002, the São Paulo Strategic Masterplan created the River Valley Recovery Program, with purpose to transform the rivers into axis of urban, landscape and environmental requalification, through the sanitation, river denaturalization and implementation of linear parks. The linear parks opened between 2008 and 2015, being incorporated into daily life of the inhabitants. However, several of them have problems with vandalism, lack of appropriation, trash and abandonment, because of failure in planning, design, construction and management process. The analysis will focus in three linear parks opened in different areas of São Paulo: Canivete, Guaratiba and Itaim, since they had different forms of implementation between them, resulting in different forms of appropriation. These linear parks show that appropriation is related directly with the planning, design and management process, in which the State must act in public space according to local peculiarities.

Keywords: Linear Park, Open Space, Public Space.

RESUMO

Em 2002, o Plano Diretor Estratégico da cidade de São Paulo instituiu o Programa de Recuperação dos Fundos de Vale com o objetivo de transformar os rios em eixos de estruturação urbana, paisagística e ambiental, por meio de ações de saneamento, recuperação hídrica e implantação dos parques lineares. Os parques lineares foram implantados entre 2008 e 2015, sendo incorporados ao cotidiano da população. Entretanto, diversos deles enfrentam problemas de vandalismo, falta de apropriação, sujeira e abandono, resultado de falhas nos processos de planejamento, projeto, obra e gestão. A análise será concentrada em três parques lineares implantados em zonas distintas de São Paulo: Canivete, Guaratiba e Itaim Paulista, pois tiveram formas de implantação distintas entre si, resultando em diferentes formas de apropriação. Esses parques lineares mostram que a apropriação está relacionada diretamente aos processos de planejamento, projeto e gestão, em que o Estado deve atuar no espaço público de acordo com as peculiaridades locais.

Palavras-chave: Parque Linear, Espaço Livre, Espaço Público.

INTRODUCTION

Linear Park is kind of public space located along the axis, like rivers, paths and between lane street. In several cities, linear parks are associated with rivers and streams.

The first park constructed along a river was created by Frederick Law Olmsted as part of Boston System Park, as known as Emerald Necklace (Img. 1). Olmsted did not call as linear parks the paths that connected three "jewels" of park system: Boston Common and Franklin Park, but as parkway (PANZINI, 2013). Despite this, Olmsted is considered the designer of first linear park, understanding as park with contemplation together with nature during user's movement. The strategy of created public space along the river was conceived just before Olmsted by Peter Joseph Lenné in the Berlin's Spree River Plan (FRIEDRICH, 2007). After a century and half, these public spaces along the rivers became landscape references of these cities.

Not only parks along the rivers are considered linear, others places also are considered linear parks: between lanes (Parc Linéaire Desaulniers, Longueuil, Canada), under elevates (Underline, Miami, USA), high paths (Promenade Planteé, Paris, France) or above adductors (Parque Linear da Integração – Zilda Arns, São Paulo, Brazil). All of them are linear parks by their axial geometry, where the borders are more extensive than a traditional park, even both have the same area.

Linear Park along the river has the role to approach the two margins of the river as described by Lynch (1984). The river is a natural urban barrier and the linear park planning has to recognize this condition as well as a way of approaching.

Generally, traditional parks are autonomous units, with fences, providing better management and user's access control. It does not occur at linear parks (Img. 2), because their design there are not fences and access control. It urban dynamic is nearest of squares than a traditional park, which are public spaces to programmatic activities and the contemplation, while the linear park has its use in the daily life, the clash and the negotiation in the public space. This means a different way of management, because the linear park liaison with the residents is higher, and it is viewed as place for events or public services by other public departments. A typical example is the public cleaning, while the São Paulo Department of Green and Environment (SVMA)

is responsible by sidewalks and green areas maintenances of its linear parks, the stream cleaning is Subprefecture Department's assignment, while the curb is responsibility of Urban Cleaning Municipal Authority (AMLURB).

THE OCCUPATION OF LANDS ALONG THE STREAMS IN SÃO PAULO

In São Paulo, the rivers and streams had several urban interventions during the last century, the meadows of Tietê, Tamanduateí and Pinheiros Rivers were rectified as a way to conduct the water faster and avoid diseases attributed to the old rivers courses. The Anhangabaú River was covered and use as avenue and later as park, and others streams were transformed in avenues, like the Saracura (Nove de Julho Avenue), Itororó (23 de Maio Avenue – Img. 3) and Tatuapé (Salim Farah Maluf Avenue). It is the period of utilitarian aspect of rivers (FRIEDRICH, 2007), in which the watercourses were supporting the infrastructures (sewage, drainage, railways and streets) of rapid Brazilian urbanization and the growing automotive industry

Later, the rivers became obstacles to the good functioning of the cities (FRIEDRICH, 2007), as they were seen as places of flood, congestion and inconvenience, such as bad smell and presence of insects, caused by the waterproofed banks and the urban occupation on the floodplains. It is possible to say that the third stage, nowadays, aims at environmentally recovering the streams and integrating them - from an economic, social and environmental point of view - with urban dynamics.

Image 3 - 23 de Maio Avenue. Photo: Fábio Arantes, The City of São Paulo. In the peripheries, the rivers and streams did not have the same urban intervention or interest by the government. Without commercial attractiveness, the landowners avoided occupying these areas in the new settlements projects. To meet the 6.766/1979 Law, as known as "Land parcel law", the landowners put public areas reserved to green area and institutional use along the rivers and hills, that where places without commercial value, as a way to profit more in the best areas of settlement. Against this practice, the 7.803/1989 Law put on in the urban area the same patterns of watercourses conservation fixed by the 4.771/1965 Law, known as Florestal Code and, until then, restricted to rural areas (QUEIROGA, 2012). This law set that rivers and hills would be Permanent Protection Areas (APP), which was fixed the



Image 1 - Emerald Necklace, Boston - EUA.
Source: The Emerald Necklace Conservancy.

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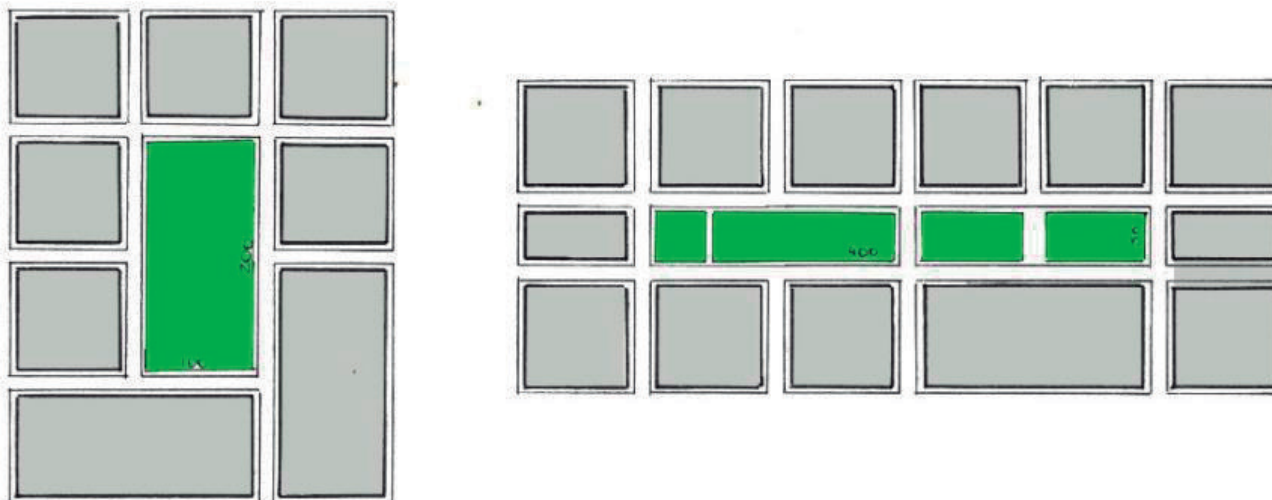


Image 2- Comparison between traditional park (left) with linear park (right). Both have the same area (20.000 sqm), however the linear park perimeter (900 m) is 50% higher than a traditional park (600 m).
Drawing by Wellington Tohoru Nagano.

30 meters as minimum strip to each river's margin. The application of these laws in consolidated locations within the cities never happen, because the intense urbanization left no enough areas to preservation according to the laws. However, to new settlements, the 7.803/1989 Law gradually ended with the practice of settlements developers to leave along the rivers the green and institutional areas (QUEIROGA, 2012).

As Florestal Code did not fix how the occupation and management of APP must be, it was published in 2006 the 369 Resolution by the Environmental National Council (CONAMA), setting up procedures of intervention and regularization procedures in the APP, with aim to restore environmentally the rivers. By 369 Resolution, the intervention on the APP area intended for the implementation of works, activities, plans and actions of public utility or low-environmental impact (BRASIL, 2006).

The occupation of the APP under this resolution must be intended to the government, to set up public equipment or green area expansion. As counterpart, the government must do improvements in the same basin that is located the watercourse. The 369 Resolution also foresees the land regularization near the rivers, if the area is classified as Special Social Interest Zone (ZEIS) and that it meets three infrastructure items: street grid, access to the water network, rainwater harvesting, sewage network, garbage services, energy network and population density minimum of 50 inhabitants per hectare (BRASIL, 2006).

The same way that CONAMA 369 Resolution set up interventions procedures in environmental protection areas, its application can be ambiguous. An avenue, for example, can be set near the river since it classified as social interest, or a kindergarten built along the river. In the same way that

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Image 3 - 23 de Maio Avenue.
Photo: Fábio Arantes, The City of São Paulo.

CONAMA 369 Resolution allow procedures and ordering of settlements in the APP, it can also be used by the Government as a seal to build in environmental areas, on the pretext of social interest.

HISTORIC OF LINEAR PARKS IN SÃO PAULO

The first time that linear park officially appeared in the São Paulo urban planning was in the 13.430/2002 Law, that instituted the City of São Paulo Strategic Master Plan (PDE), through the Article 57. For the linear park, under the PDE, it was planned to be community equipment to leisure, green areas, urban redevelopment of slums, bike pathways, drainage system, sanitation, place for environmental education, besides a way to avoid illegal settlements.

The linear parks were included in the Environmental Recovery of Rivers Program, provided for in Article 106. The priority of implementation of linear parks should be from the river spring to the downstream (SÃO PAULO, 2002). As a way of discouraging illegal settlements at planned sites for linear parks, the landowners could transfer the constructive potential of lands along the rivers and streams to another area distant up to 200 meters from the linear park. This incentive should have a specific law for this, which did not being effective. It was planned 37 linear parks by PDE, which 15 were to be opened until 2006 and the remaining by 2012.

The first municipal action happened around 2006, when SVMA chose 33 priority regions to implant linear parks (Table 1), which would become Linear Park Program, launched in the same year. The chosen areas to new linear parks did not coincide with those foreseen in the PDE.

The priority areas were the contributing basins of Pinheiros and Tietê Rivers, those that supply the Billings-Guarapiranga Reservoir System, and those located at the base of Cantareira Hills. The basins of Aricanduva, Cabuçu de Cima, Morro do S and Pirajussara Rivers were selected, while in the region of Billings-Guarapiranga, the Caulim and Cocaia basins were selected (DEVECCHI, IKEDA, ALEX, 2009).

Some selected basins are bigger and located in highly urbanized areas, requiring large sums of resources (financial and technical) for the land expropriation and the implementation of the parks. In view of this, the establishment of a public land bank was prioritized to ensure the

implementation of parks (DEVECCHI, IKEDA, ALEX, 2009)). The resources to purchase the land in the priority area came from the SVMA's own budget, the Urban Development Fund (FUNDURB), the Environment Special Fund (FEMA) and from external sources such as Environmental Compensation Term (TCA) from larger projects, as Rodoanel Sul expressway.

Despite several municipal funds for linear parks implementation, they did not cover all the cost of planned ones. In research at SVMA, only the land expropriation of all sectors of Cocaia Linear Park, located in the Subprefecture of Capela do Socorro, would exceed R\$ 120 million, or 68% of SVMA budget for 2016 (R\$ 169 million).

As a way of retaining the land of proposed linear parks without using municipal budget and avoiding losing to real state market, several Public Utility Decree (DUP) have been created, ensuring that the municipality has priority in the purchase of the land for five years and, if this period does not renew the decree or expropriate, the DUP will lose its validity and another decree can be made a year later.

This period, between 2006 and 2008, was the first phase of the linear parks in São Paulo, with SVMA responsible for the selection of areas, land acquisitions, DUP releases and Decrees of Creation of linear parks. At same time, initiatives were taken by some Subprefectures and other municipal departments to create linear parks. With smaller areas and meeting specific objectives, it was the second phase of linear parks planning.

In the 2008 the 100 Parks Program was launched, with target to reach 100 parks (between natural, urban and linear) under the SVMA's management until 2012, more than 35 existing parks in 2005. As it was a bigger plan, the 100 Parks Program incorporated the Linear Parks Program.

Beyond the traditional funds (SVMA, FEMA, FUNDURB and TCA), funds from other departments, as Housing (SEHAB), Subprefecture and Urban Infrastructure and Works (SIURB) were used, as well as the state-owned water supplier SABESP and State Water Resource Fund (FEHIDRO).

Design linear parks involves articulating several public departments, because the adjacent areas along the rivers and streams have several agents acting on them. To dialogue and reconcile with different interests and priorities are ones of the great challenges in linear parks planning and design.

With dimensions from 10.000 sqm to 224.000 sqm, the São Paulo linear parks

(Img. 4) had several strategies of implementation, from to use public open spaces along the stream to land expropriation.

13 years since linear parks launching, there have been diverse results in terms of population acceptance. The community appropriated some parks, while others has maintenance problems, management and does not consolidated themselves as a public space.

Many of the linear parks deployed in public areas does not have public visibility, accessibility and appropriation by residents, because they are located in settlement's leftovers lands or lot backgrounds. The result is inhospitable areas and avoided by users and residents due the insecurity of the place and the lack of visibility.

The lack of appropriation is increased by the lack of municipal post-implementation management and evaluation policies. Some linear parks were opened and one year later they no longer had public furniture, toys and even playground's floor and sand were taken away by the population to use in their homes.

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Because they are free access, all components within the linear park must be durable, with low maintenance and standardized as a way the SVMA's maintenance budget be better used. With the 116 existing parks, there are only three maintenance bases to support all them, and the services are partially done due the lack of material or staff to do the services.

The contrast is higher when compared with parks under state management within the city of São Paulo. Most of them have maintenance bases to attend the occurrences of each park. The different also occurs in the park manager's salaries, where similar functions have different values. In 2012, the Ibirapuera Park Administration Division's director salary were 40% below than the state manager of Villa-Lobos Park, with functions less complex than the municipal park (BERGAMASCO, 2012). Considering the others SVMA's park managers, the difference with state counterpart was 60% below.

Even the linear parks there are differences in number of employees. In 2012, It was surveyed the number of gardeners in some linear parks in São Paulo and after updated in May 2016 (Table 2).

Note the inequality of the numbers of gardening employees in relative and absolute numbers of the selected parks. Analyzing the data for 2012, while the Itaim Linear Park had 50% fewer employees than the Canivete Linear

Park, despite having a 50% larger area. Proportionally, the employee of Itaim Linear Park has a larger area to attend than the one in the Canivete or Guaratiba Linear Parks, and the result is the inefficiency and lack of service. The situation worsened in 2016, when the number of employee decreased due the cut in expenses made by SVMA.

It's important to see that is not included in the table the number the guards in each park. In the Guaratiba Linear Park, for example, in 2012 there were 14 guards taking turns day and night in the place. Adding to the numbers of administration staff of the park, plus the gardeners and the guards, it reaches the number of 25 employees dedicated to a single park, resulting in large sums in personnel costs. In November 2016, most of SVMA's parks were without gardening and surveillance contracts, with higher risk of vandalism, which resulted in unnecessary expenses for the recovery of theses green areas. New parks management concepts (both linear and traditional) are needed, as well as integration with community, public sector and third sector entities.

ANALYSIS OF THE LINEAR PARK

Three linear parks were analyzed, all them in different periphery districts of São Paulo: Canivete, Guaratiba and Itaim. All them have in common the fact they are in low-income areas, with problems such as crime, unemployment, inadequate housing, low schooling and the occupation of environmental fragile areas (rivers and hills).

Each linear park had a different implantation strategy: Canivete was done under agreement between SVMA, SEHAB and Subprefecture of Freguesia do Ó/Brasilândia in the Canivete Slum Urban Redevelopment Plan; Guaratiba were deployed by SVMA on São Paulo Metropolitan Railway Company (CPTM)'s land. In addition, the Itaim was built in partnership between SVMA and Subprefecture of Itaim Paulista on existing public area and leftovers of settlements along the Itaim Stream, in order to avoid housing reoccupation.

Each form of planning, project and management of those linear parks influenced their appropriations, where the local population recognizes the benefits of the new public space (Canivete) or does not appropriate the place (Itaim).

LINEAR PARKS PROGRAM PROPOSED PARKS						
	LINEAR PARK	SUBPREFEITURE	PLANNED AREA (sqm)	OPENING YEAR	STATUS IN 2019	IMPLANTED AREA (sqm)
01	Água Podre	Butantã	40.000		No implanted	
02	Água Vermelha	Itaim Paulista	50.000	2009	Implanted	124.000
03	Aricanduva Foz	Aricanduva	50.000	2008	Implanted	70.000
04	Bispo	Casa Verde	1.000.000		No implanted	
05	Cabuçu de baixo	Jaçanã-Tremembé	40.000		No implanted	
06	Canivete / Bananal	Brasilândia	500.000	2010	Partially implanted	46.000
07	Caulim	Capela do Socorro	3.000.000	2010	Partially implanted	112.300
08	Caxingui	Butantã	40.000		Não implantado	
09	Cipoaba	São Mateus	40.000		Não implantado	
10	Cocaia	Capela do Socorro	700.000	2011	Partially implanted	65.000
11	Dutra *	Capela do Socorro	40.000	2008	Implanted	40.000
12	Feitiço da Vila	Campo Limpo	40.000	2015	Implanted	38.400
13	Fogo	Pirituba	30.000	2008	Implanted	39.300
14	Freitas	M'boi Mirim	30.000		No implanted	
15	Guaratiba	Guaianazes	30.000	2009	Implanted	19.000
16	Invernada	Santo Amaro	30.000	2012	Implanted	6.400
17	Ipiranguinha	Aricanduva	10.000	2008	Implanted	19.500
18	Itaim	Itaim Paulista	50.000	2008	Implanted	68.000
19	Itapaiúna	Campo Limpo	40.000		No implanted	
20	Itararé	Butantã	40.000		No implanted	
21	Mongaguá	Erm. Matarazzo	70.000	2011	Implanted	48.000
22	Nascentes do Aricanduva	Cidade Tiradentes	250.000		No implanted	
23	Oratório	Sapopemba	40.000	2013	Implanted	28.600
24	Parelheiros	Parelheiros	35.000	2007	Implanted	25.000
25	Perus	Perus	1.700.000		No implanted	
26	Pires-Caboré	Butantã	40.000		No implanted	
27	Rapadura	Aricanduva	30.000	2008	Implanted	16.500
28	Recanto dos Humildes	Perus	5.000		No implanted	
29	Rio Verde	Itaquera	40.000	2012	Implanted	55.000
30	Rodeio *	Cidade Tiradentes	40.000	2008	Implanted	613.000
31	São José *	Capela do Socorro	30.000	2008	Implanted	95.000
32	Sapé	Butantã	30.000	2009	Implanted	24.800
33	Taboão	Aricanduva	40.000		No implanted	
TOTAL AREA			8.150.000			

Table 1: the park with asterisk does not have linear parks elements, such axial design, and integration with surrounding and daily use. Then, of the 20 linear parks proposed by Linear Park Program, three would not be into this category.

Source: DEVECCHI, IKEDA, ALEX, 2009 with author's adjustments.

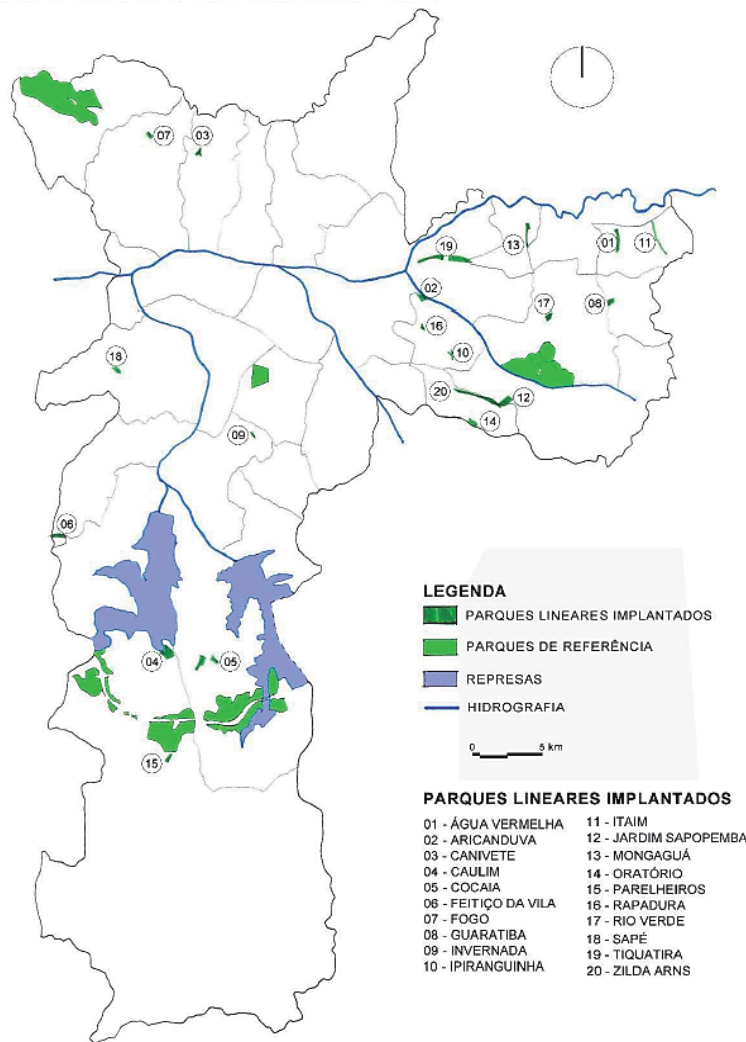


Image 4 - Linear parks under SVMA management in 2015. Two linear parks were built out of Linear Parks Program: Parque Linear da Integração - Zilda Arns, built by SABESP and transferred to SVMA, and Parque Jardim Sapopemba, built during the 100 Parks Program. Drawing by Wellington Tohoru Nagano

CANIVETE LINEAR PARK

The Canivete Linear Park was implemented in the Subprefecture of Freguesia do Ó/Brasilândia in 2010. Planned since the PDE and created by the Decree 49.607/2008, it is one of the proposed sectors of Bananal-Canivete Linear Park, expected to be the transition between the urban settlements and the Cantareira Hills. Prior the linear park, the place were slums and without any infrastructure (Img. 5).

The park was built through articulation between departments: Subprefecture of Freguesia do Ó/Brasilândia was responsible to remove the slums and channeling the Canivete Stream, SVMA designed the linear park and transferred the funds to SEHAB, responsible for bidding, housing building, in the provision of the removed families and set up the sewage trunk collector under Hugo Ítalo Merigo Street. Although the trunk collector, the sewage continues to be thrown in the Canivete Stream, because there are debris dump on the hydraulic stairs that lead towards to the stream.

The Canivete Linear Park has tree-lined and wide sidewalks, with the most used equipment next to them, with the occasional uses were arranged on the other side of the stream, but without losing the visibility in front the Hugo Ítalo Merigo Street, the way surrounding the linear park (Img. 6). One of the main elements of the urban redevelopment that the linear park brought was the design of this street, which gained basic infrastructure and paving (Img. 7) and the Canivete Stream design (Img. 8), which had its margins channeled through gabions, whose roughness softens the speed of water on rainy days.

The company chosen for construction of the linear park hired residents of the neighborhood to work there. After the finishing the work, they continued to working there as employees of gardening maintenance company. In addition to promoting local jobs, this initiative – made in the empiric way – transformed these employees into park keepers, helping to stablish network of informal ties between the government and its residents. Recognized by the residents, they have more autonomy to maintain the public space than the guards, who are often viewed with reserves by the residents, as representative of police, but their purpose is only to protect the public space and report incidents within the park, without assignments to act.

Every year the Sustainable Health Fair is held on the linear park, which public agencies and non-government organizations offers public services to the

EMPLOYEES OF GARDENING STAFF IN SOME LINEAR PARKS IN SÃO PAULO

LINEAR PARK	AREA (sqm)	GARDENING STAFF 08/2012	EMPLOYEE PER sqm	GARDENING STAFF 05/2016	EMPLOYEE PER sqm
Canivete	46.000	09	5.111	05	9.200
Guaratiba	19.000	09	2.111	04	4.750
Itaim Paulista	68.000	06	11.333	04	17.000

Table 2: Source: Survey conducted by the authors within the SVMA and through interviews with park managers.

residents. In the daily use, the main activities done in the linear park are walks (individual or groups organized by health centers, *Img. 9*), sports, meetings, passage, and use of the playground or just for sitting.

In 2014, the company responsible for the surveillance of all SVMA's parks declared bankruptcy and, in the case of Canivete Linear Park, the gardening company contract had expired months ago. Despite the absence of employees, the equipment – in general – remained intact, with only clear problem was the high grass, showing how the linear park is resilient under the SVMA's lack in having a contingency plan for breach of contract.

The Canivete Linear Park promoted the change of the urban life in the region. The Hugo Ítalo Merigo Street was valued with the implantation of the park and the several activities after the opening in 2010 show how the state, through several agents – often through its own initiatives and disarticulated ones – is able to create value of the region and increase the sphere public presence. In a region with absence of public spaces, the opening of Canivete Linear Park brought new urban dynamics (events, mobility, design of the stream and a point of identity of the neighborhood) and the increase in the sense of citizenship of the residents. The park approaches the guidelines established by PDE.

GUARATIBA LINEAR PARK

Guaratiba Linear Park (*Img. 10*) is located near the Subprefecture Guaianazes's downtown, near the police station, Unified Educational Center (CEU) Jambeiro and CPTM Guaianazes Station. With 19.000 sqm and without

Decree of Creation, the implanted park is only a fraction of a bigger linear park, with 4 km length, from Guaratiba river spring, in Subprefecture Cidade Tiradentes, to river mouth with Itaquera River.

The park's land was owned by CPTM, which transferred to the municipality in precarious title, without a formal document of transfer. With ambiguous situation over the property of the land, the CPTM took back part of donated area to build a train parking (*Img. 11*).

This linear park is different of others because it has fences and one of the few to have exclusive administration in the place, besides of it one with less approach with the river.

It's noted by the number of sports courts and to be a path between the Guaianazes's downtown and the CEU Jambeiro. In 2012, the park was remodeled, with removal of unnecessary paths, building of public restrooms, kiosk, playground, gym equipment and new sitting areas.

It was one of the most affected parks by the surveillance crisis in 2014. The administration building and restrooms were depredated, metal pieces and even illumination wires were stolen. Without guards to close the park at night, the place became unsafe to walk and the park, before busy and with several activities, became a place avoided by the users and residents. Even located in the Subprefecture Guaianazes's downtown, with police station almost in front of the park, a municipal civil guard base within CEU Jambeiro and the CPTM's guards in the train parking, they did not avoid vandalism of the linear park. It is clear the State cannot articulate external agents to collaborate in times of adversity.



Image 5 - Hugo Ítalo Merigo Street before the Canivete Linear Park: absence of sidewalks, open sewage, gangplank, precarious street and the slum.
Photo by SVMA, 2008.



Image 7 - Hugo Ítalo Merigo Street after the opening of linear park: asphalted street, wide sidewalks, equipment of leisure, enjoyment and channeled stream by gabions.
Photo by Wellington Tohoru Nagano, 2014.



Image 6 - Canivete Linear Park.
 Drawing and design by Sun Alex, SVMA, 2008.



Image 8 - Canivete Linear Park, with the stream between the paths.
 Photo by Wellington Tohoru Nagano, 2014.



Image 9 - Walking in the park in early morning.
Photo by Ana Beatriz Silva Lima, 2011.



Image 10 - Guaratiba Linear Park.
Drawing by Wellington Tohoru Nagano over
a base provided by SVMA.



Image 11 - Guaratiba Linear Park - Estação Sector. In the left is the soccer camp that will be absorbed by linear park in the future. In the right, the train parking that used to be part of implanted park. Photo by Wellington Tohoru Nagano, 2014.

The geometry of the park does not favor the relations with neighborhood, because its design does not privilege the approach with the street. The sidewalks are narrow and without accessibility, there are fewer building in the surrounding with facade facing the park and there are barriers (train parking, train viaduct and soccer camp) in which increase the perception of isolation of the park. Besides the visibility for who is inside of the train or car, the same is not possible for who is walking near the park. Jacobs (2011) just showed the importance of neighborhood (buildings, uses and street) in the park's vitality. In the case of Guaratiba Linear Park, even in the downtown area, busy and with several public equipment around, the park does not get to maintain in the autonomous way.

ITAM LINEAR PARK

The Itaim Linear Park (Img. 12) is located in the Subprefecture of Itaim Paulista and it was one of the first linear parks opened in 2008. The park

is part of second phase of linear park planning, being transferred from Subprefecture of Itaim Paulista to SVMA.

The origin of Itaim Linear Park came from the Subprefecture initiative of remove the high-risk housing along the Itaim Stream and later environmental recovery, improving the drainage along the margins

The SVMA was responsible for the design and to transfer resource to the Subprefecture, while it was responsible by bidding and construction monitoring. The park was implanted in public areas (most in the lot backgrounds and land leftovers) from the settlement and there are not land expropriation.

With 68.000 sqm, the park has many sectors, which represent several contexts where it is implanted. The park's sector most appropriated are those have a very clear spatial structure, with clear borders between public space through the street, visibility for those is inside or outside of the park and with a diversified neighborhood (Img. 13). While the settlement reminiscent



Image 12 - Itaim Linear Park.
Drawing by Wellington Tohoru Nagano.

area did not be appropriated, they became unsafe places, trash deposit and avoided by user and the residents (Img. 14).

The Itaim Linear Park surrounding is occupied mainly by irregular settlements. In some sectors, the settlements are in conflict with linear park because the absence of land plant with area and the park borders became difficult to analyse if the conflicted area is municipality property or not.

The urban and landscape impact of Itaim Linear Park in the region was partial due the irregular settlements problem was not solved, the Itaim Stream still

has flooding problem, residual places became inhospitable places, besides the administrative discontinuity that restrain long-term actions to approach the park with the population.

THE RESULTS OF EXPERIENCE

The increase of linear parks has provided new public spaces in peripheries areas, as well as to avoid housing occupation in environmentally fragile areas. However, many linear parks were created in public areas or residual



Image 13 - Itaim Linear Park sector with hierarchy of uses: housing, street as a border between public space and private area, trees, wide sidewalks, equipment and the Itaim Stream (not shown in the photo).
Photo by SVMA, 2012.

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Image 14 - The same linear park: sector implanted in the leftover of settlement and without clear definitions between public space and private area, making private appropriation in the public area, like car parking, the floor that was removed for some residents or damaged by the tractor during the cleaning of Itaim Stream.
Photo by Wellington Tohoru Nagano, 2016.

areas of existing urbanization, without increase the coverage of green area and permeability. Few had removal or irregular housing and brought urban redevelopment to the region.

Instead of promoting the meeting of the people, social interaction, being access and place of convergence, several linear parks are isolated and without appropriation by the citizens. The emptying of the public space can lead to individualization, mainly where citizenship and tolerance should occur (BAUMAN, 2001).

The linear parks of São Paulo shows the asymmetry of public investments in central and peripheral open spaces. In central areas, the open spaces has more visibility by media, elites and users who frequently uses these places, requiring constant maintenance by the government, due the importance of political interest in keeping these spaces.

The three commented linear parks cannot be considered as parameters for the rest, because each one has own characteristics in planning, design and management. They show the complexity of management of public space in face of budget constraints, archaic structure of public administration, lack of continuity of public policies and social difficult. These mishaps in the implantation of the linear parks imposed urban interventions so fragile that they do not account for qualifying the public space, without having compatible that can be able with open space system.

The management of linear parks should have the same importance as planning and design because it's the only of the three that act in the local daily life and one that has greater importance in public space appropriation, through public policies, maintenance and reform, evaluation post-deployment, approach between managers, users, residents and the State as mediator of conflicts between people.

The State, as manager of the public space, must guarantee mediation through protection of civil rights, impartiality, and the creation of accessible and flexible public spaces. In São Paulo, where the poor people occupied rivers and hills without control, the linear park is the opportunity to reverse this type of occupation and increase the appropriation of public spaces in the periphery, reconciling the occupations with nature and increasing the citizenship of residents and users.

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