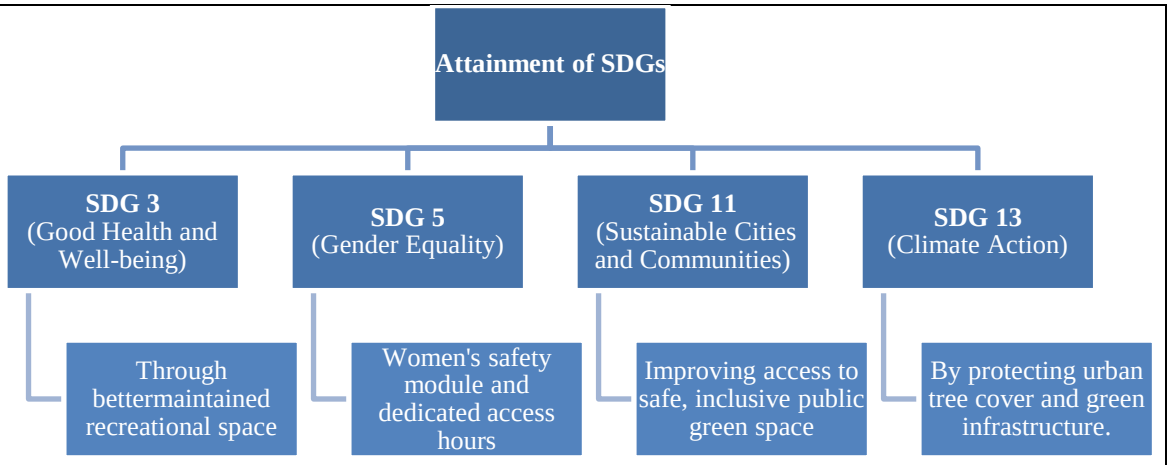
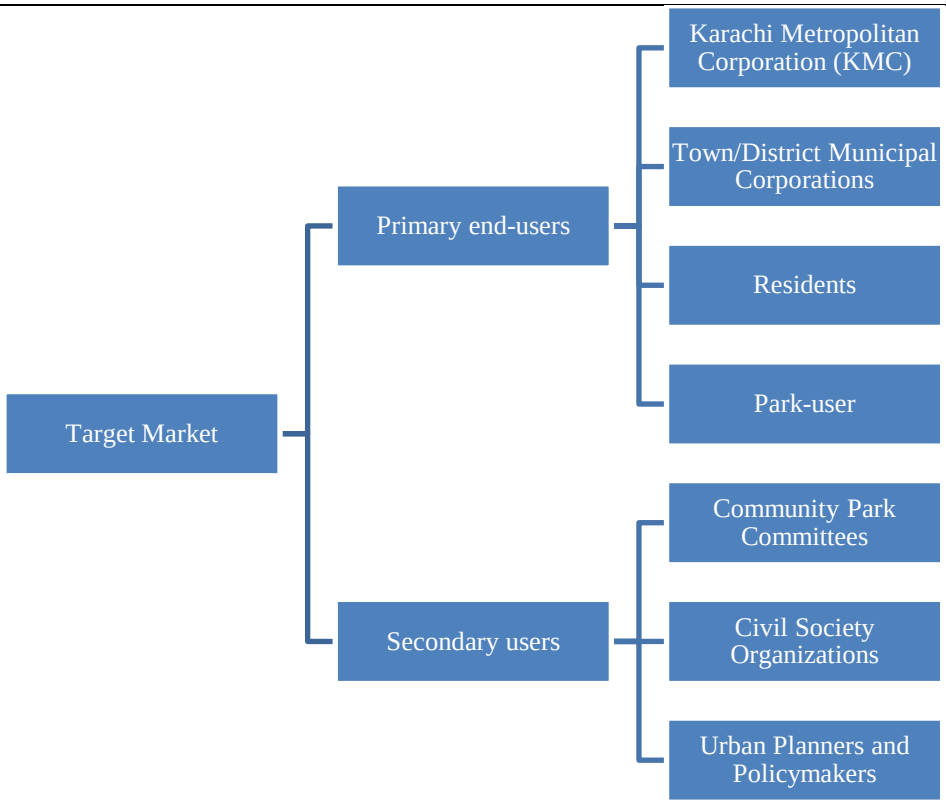
Final Year Design Project Showcase
Batch-2022
Year 2026

Department: Architecture and Planning Programme: Development Studies	
1	**Project Title** Public Parks and Land-use Change: A Case Study Based Approach to Understand Land Use Change in Public Parks of Various Neighbourhoods of Karachi
2	**Project Idea** Karachi's public parks are being lost to encroachment, commercialisation, and neglect yet how this unfolds at the neighbourhood level remains poorly documented. This project studied 44 parks across three income-based areas of Karachi (Burmee Colony, low income, Naseerabad, middle income, Safoora Town, high income) to understand how and why green spaces degrade. **How the idea came:** From observing parks in our own neighbourhoods turning into garbage dumps, illegal markets, or construction sites with no systematic study on why some communities resist this while others cannot. **What we did:** • Conducted 44 park surveys across three socio-economically distinct settlements • Performed semi-structured interviews with residents, park users, caretakers, shopkeepers, and local officials • Carried out field observations • Photographic documentation and spatial/GIS mapping of park conditions ss • Triangulated primary data with satellite imagery, planning documents, legal records, and the Shehri-CBE 2010 dataset **What we propose:** Three tools Park Sahulat App (citizen reporting), Karachi Park Integrity Certification System (KPICS) (park audit system), and Karachi Adopt a Park Community Stewardship Program (KAPSP) (community stewardship) to help residents and government protect public parks together.
3	**Process** A qualitative comparative case-study design was used. The team selected 44 neighbourhood parks across three socio-economically distinct settlements and combined semi-structured interviews with residents, park users, caretakers, shopkeepers and local officials; field observation and photographic documentation; and spatial/GIS mapping of encroachment. This primary data was triangulated with secondary sources - satellite imagery, planning and legal documents, and the Shehri-CBE 2010 dataset - to compare land-use change, governance failures and accessibility across the three income groups.
4	**Outcome** The study found clear, income-based disparities in park condition:

	Low-income parks suffer from garbage dumping, water scarcity, broken infrastructure and near-total exclusion of women. **Middle-income parks** are increasingly commercialised (ticketed rides, restricted access). **High-income parks** fare better due to active resident-committee governance. Encroachment was found to follow a common trajectory neglect, informal occupation, then permanent conversion driven by weak inter-agency coordination and selective enforcement rather than isolated incidents. Based on these findings, the project delivers three actionable outputs: **Park Sahulat App** — citizen reporting, volunteer mobilisation, women's safety module, and a public accountability dashboard (PARKPEDIA/HISAAB) with GPS-tagged photo reporting and STAKEHUB biometric/GPS staff attendance tied to salary release. **Karachi Park Integrity Certification System (KPICS)** — a standardised audit and grading framework for parks city-wide. **Karachi Adopt-a-Park Community Stewardship Program (KAPSP)** — a community-led maintenance and monitoring model. Early piloting suggests the digital system reduces encroachment-related complaint backlog and meaningfully cuts average issue-resolution time compared to the existing manual process.
5	**Evidence (Theoretical Basis)** This FYP is a comparative case-study of 44 public parks across three income-based settlements of Karachi (Burmee Colony, Naseerabad and Gulistan-e-Johar), examining how and why parks are lost to encroachment, commercialisation and governance failure. Primary data (interviews, field observation, GIS mapping) was triangulated with secondary sources (satellite imagery, planning documents, Shehri-CBE data). The research found systemic, income-based disparities in park upkeep, gendered exclusion and weak inter-agency coordination as the root causes of park loss. Based on these findings, the study proposes three linked interventions: (1) the Park Sahulat App, a citizen-facing mobile platform for issue reporting, staff attendance (STAKEHUB), volunteer mobilisation, a women's safety module, and a public accountability dashboard (PARKPEDIA/HISAAB); (2) the Karachi Park Integrity Certification System (KPICS), a standardised audit and grading framework for parks; and (3) the Karachi Adopt-a-Park Stewardship Program (KAPSP), a community-led maintenance model. Together these position the research as both an empirical diagnosis of park decline and a practical, technology-enabled governance model for its reversal.
6	**Competitive Advantage or Unique Selling Proposition** (Cost Reduction, Process improvement, Attainment of any SDG (Sustainable Development Goal), increase of market share or capturing new market or having superior performance over a competitor. In summary, any striking aspect of the project that compels the industry to invest in FYP or purchase it. Some detailed description is required in terms of how, why when what. You can select one or more from the following dropdown and delete the rest of them). Please keep relevant options, delete the rest of them, and correct the sequence
a	**Attainment of any SDG** (e.g. How it is achieved and why it is necessary for the region)

	
b	**Process Improvement which Leads to Superior Product or Cost Reduction, Efficiency Improvement of the Whole Process** (e.g. What is the issue is current process and what improvement you suggests) Currently, park maintenance in Karachi relies on manual complaint routes, paper-based staff attendance, and no standardised way to audit or compare parks across towns - which allows encroachment and neglect to go undetected for long periods. The proposed Park Sahulat App digitises this entire process: citizens report issues with GPS and photos in real time, staff attendance is verified through STAKEHUB's biometric/GPS check-in and tied to salary release, and the KPICS grading framework standardises park audits city-wide. Early piloting suggests this reduces encroachment-related complaint backlog and cuts the average issue-resolution time meaningfully compared to the existing manual process.
7	**Target Market** (Industries, Groups, Individuals, Families, Students, etc) Please provide some detail about the end-user of the product, process, or service

		
8	**Team Members** (Names along with email address)	1. Imtiaz Ali (DS-22004) – Imtiaz.ali2161@gmail.com 2. Muhammad Tabish Ali (DS-22007) muhammadtabishali735@gmail.com 3. Eisha Siddiqui (DS-22021) – Eishasiddiqui14112003@gmail.com 4. Iqra Iqbal (DS-22033) – iqrakhan1640@gmail.com 5. Fatima Amir (DS-22039) – Fatimaamir063@gmail.com
10	**Supervisor Name** (along with email address)	Dr. Saeed Ud Din Ahmed, Associate Professor (Thesis Advisor) architectsaeed@yahoo.com Co-Supervisor: Sir Agha Humair aghahumair22@gmail.com
11	**Video (If any)**	NA

Pictures (to be pasted below)

These are the refrence pictures of our documentation:s

Low-Income Settlement (UC-10 Burmee Colony, Landhi Town)

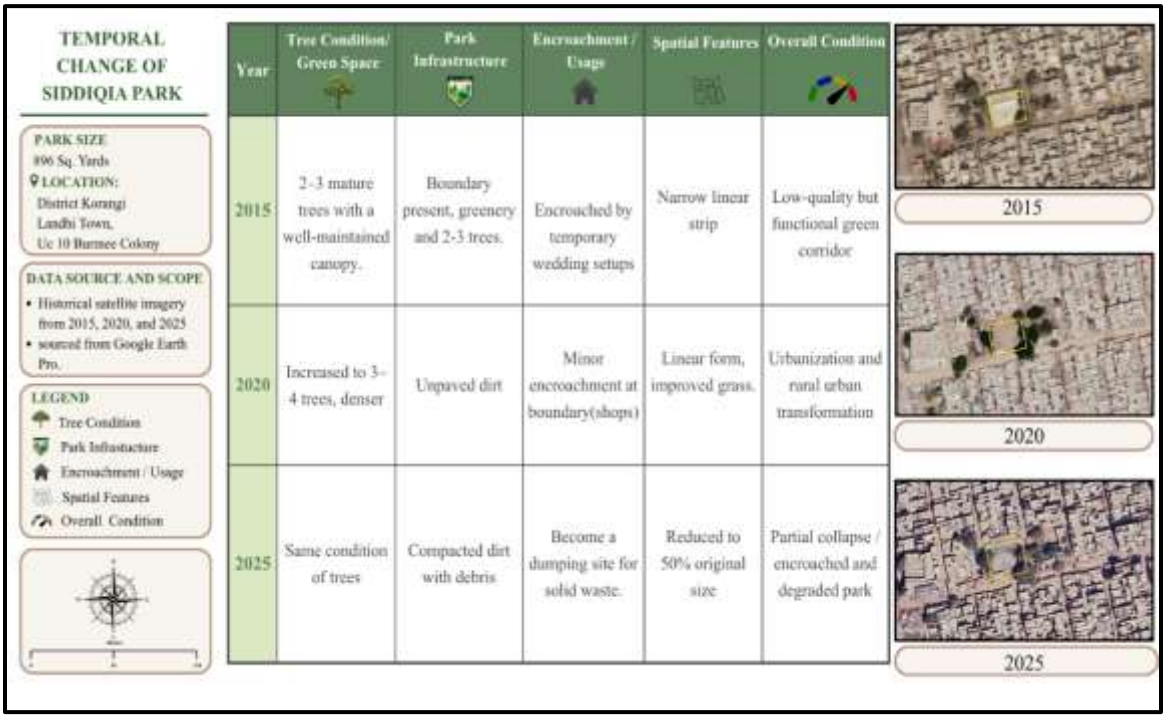


Figure 1 Temporal Change of Siddiqia Park (Low Income)

Figure 2 Socio-spatial Mapping of Siddiqia Park (Low Income)

Middle-Income Settlement (UC-04 Naseerabad, Gulberg Town)

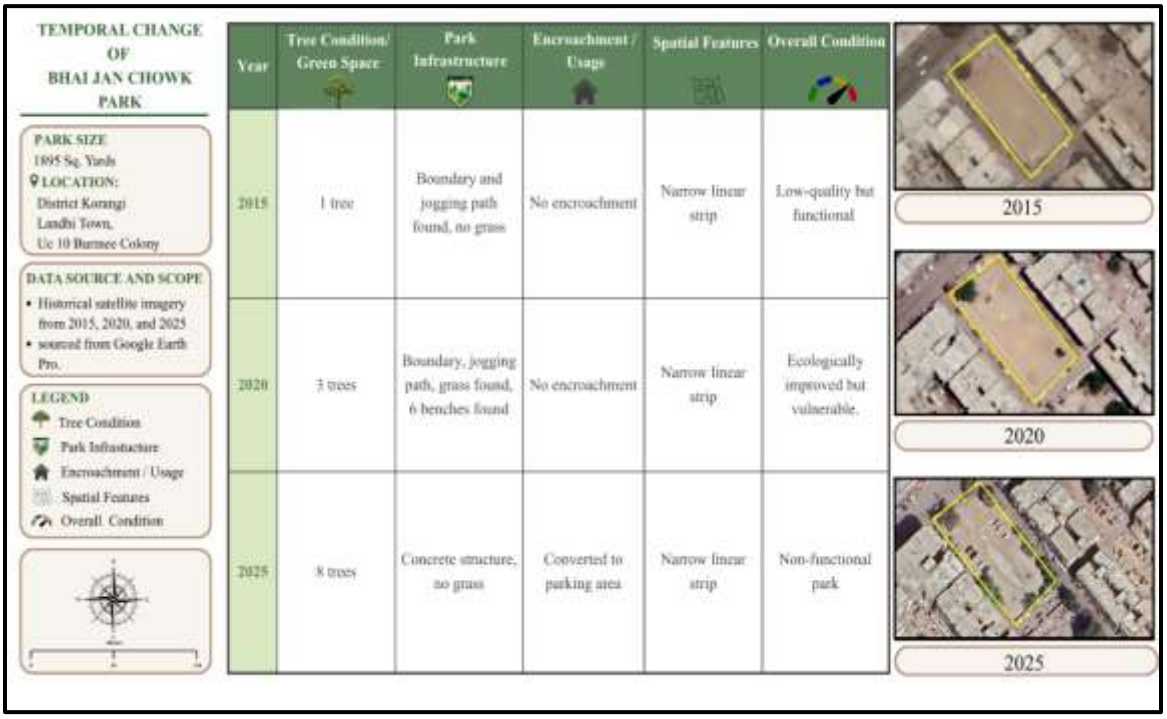


Figure 3 Temporal Change of Bhai Jan Chowk Park (Middle Income)

Figure 4 Socio-spatial Mapping of Bhai Jan Chowk Park (Middle Income)

High-Income Settlement (UC-07 Gulistan-e-Johar, Safoora Town)

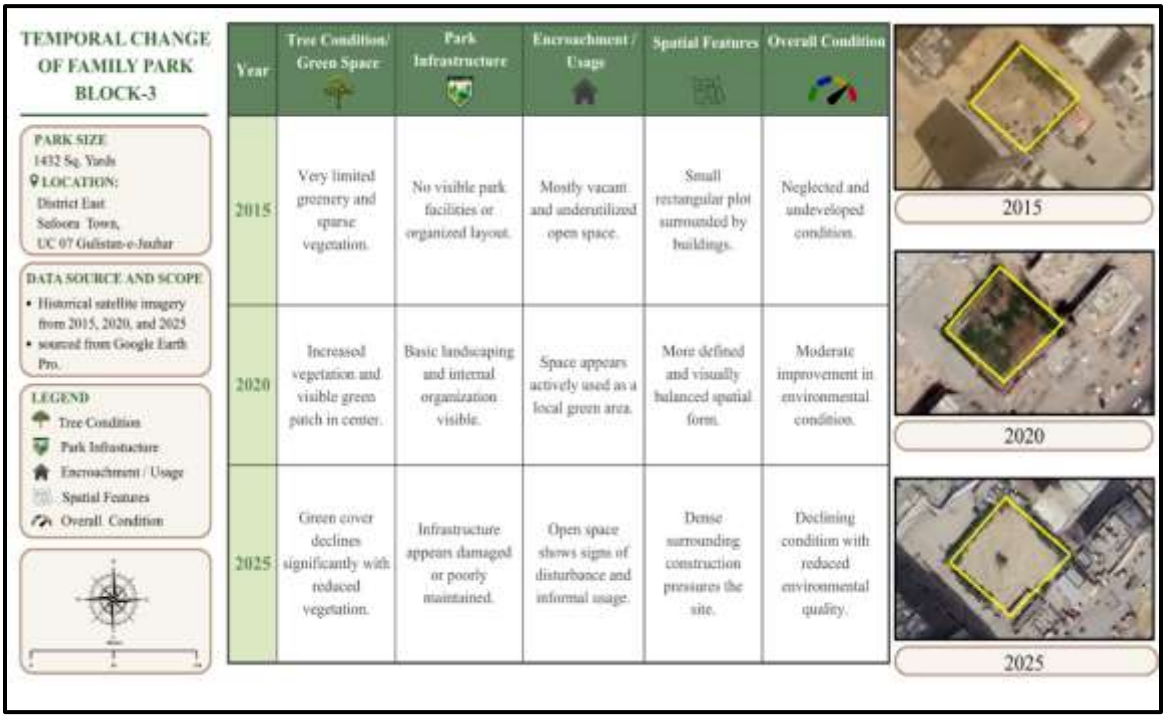


Figure 5 Temporal Change of Family Park Block 3 (High Income)

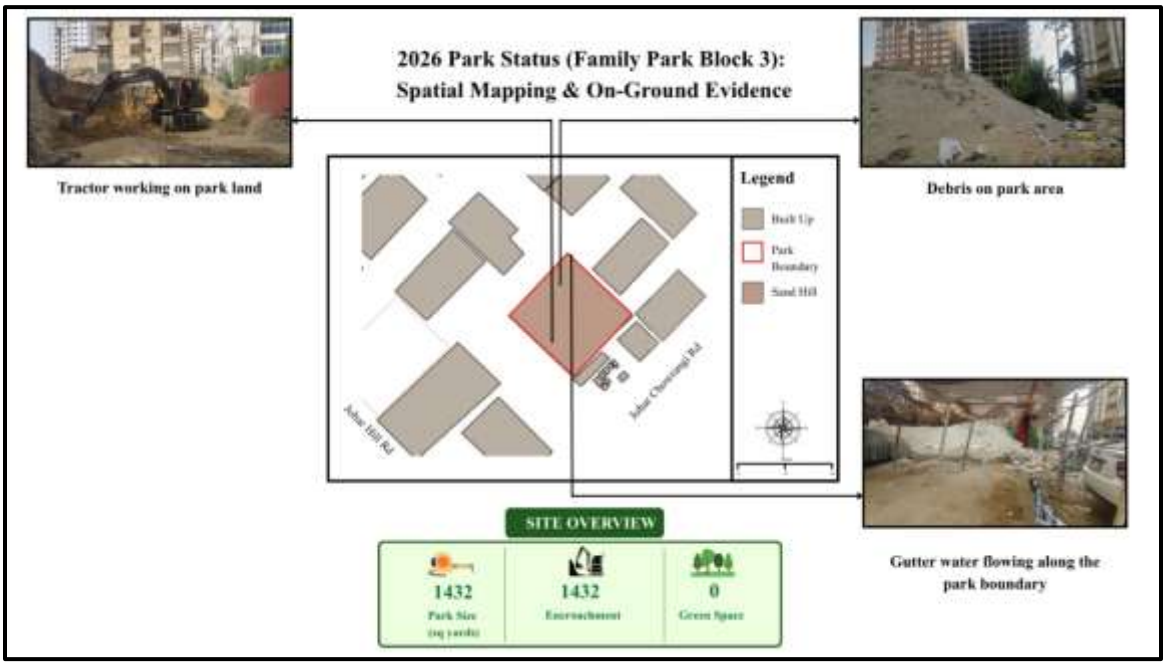


Figure 6 Socio-spatial Mapping of Family Park Block 3 (High Income)