New Thinking about Urban Growth: Luijiang County

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Introduction

The problems of urban growth in Luijiang County

Luijiang is a place known for its abundance of rice and fish and named “the Commercial Centre in Central Guangxi”, has good basic conditions for industrial development.

- Industry: it has obviously benefited from the spillover effect of building Liuzhou into a megalopolis by its nearest location to Liuzhou. There are more than 700 industrial enterprises in Luijiang, with automobile and automobile parts, machinery-building industry as the pillar industry. Its competitive industries include sugar industry and pharmaceuticals. Industrial sales revenue reached 1.6 billion yuan, an increase by 27% over the previous year. Urbanization and industrialization have been integrated into “Luijiang Plan”, which is a known at home and abroad, and also is rich in cultural heritages and tourist resources.

- Public services in Luijiang County have not developed as rapidly as those in Liuzhou city. There are only two public kindergartens and hospitals. It is an infrastructure gap between Luijiang County and Liuzhou City. The problem of urban-rural integration has not been fully solved. All the improvements of the countryside are under the government and the community. However, the problem of how to pull rural people into city has not been solved. Those farmers are sinking into poverty especially of the old generation.

Comparison of Public Service-oriented Indicators in 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Luijiang County</th>
<th>Liuzhou City</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Road Area</td>
<td>14.7 km</td>
<td>77.1 km</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per Capita Housing Rate</td>
<td>13.1</td>
<td>64.8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per Capita Hospital Bed</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>Per Capita Public Space</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Elbowroom</td>
<td>54.6%</td>
<td>75.4%</td>
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</table>
| Accelerating the Construction of Infrastructure in Luijiang County

- Spreading up the building of the infrastructure for transportation: We should improve the urban-rural traffic network by widening the main roads of our county and the three-dimensional traffic network, under which the railway line crosses our county. We will increase the external traffic capacity by expanding the transport capacity of the railway lines and their reform between Luijiang and Guangxi. We will try to speed up the planning and transformation of the roads between our county and its towns, and accelerate the speed of construction of the national and the county rural roads.

- Strengthening Supporting Facilities: We will develop a new urban area, mainly by strengthening the following public infrastructure, for instance, water supply and drainage, gas and power supply, sewage and garbage treatment, etc. We will build culture and art museums, science and technology museums, parks, the new county commercial center and also the new scenic spot project.

- Developing Healthy Small Towns: There are twelve towns in the County. We are planning to link them together by guiding them to develop further based on their different functions-integration and industrial bases. For some towns, especially with a large population, garbage treatment stations and sewage treatment plants should be built or rebuilt. We will improve our public service facilities and set up some high-level regional educational and health service centers to meet the needs of the rural residents.

Conclusion

Luijiang County is taking advantage of unprecedented opportunities to speed up urbanization. Successful urbanization in Luijiang is the result of successful management of the reciprocal relationship between population growth and industrialization. A solid foundation has been laid, and a platform for future industrialization is in place so that the expansion of its industrialization enhances and achieves both expansion and quality of the county: more people enjoy a better quality of life.

REFERENCES


New Thinking: Addressing the problems of urban growth in Luijiang County

- Developing Competitive Industries Energetically

- Increasing the proportion and quality of urban enterprises, and the geographical advantages in the core area, to improve the competitive advantage of urbanization. Second, we will improve the industries and enterprises of this area to attract more talents, industries and enterprises.

- Targeted Agricultural Development

Luijiang has become the country’s largest bi-environmental cropping base of litchi, oranges, and green onions. We will establish the standardized production base, such as vegetable base and meat base to meet the demand of Liuzhou. A great deal of competitive agricultural business will be implemented in the new Luijiang development plan.

- Modest Supporting Services

Finally, we will make great efforts to develop modern logistics, quicken the building of specified logistics park and the warehouse market. It is also important to build the Guanxi-Guangdong Longmen Logistics Park and the Airports Logistics Area in Xingping-Industrial Park. Second, we will speed up to build “the Saunders harbor” and connect with “the Golden Tourist Circle“(ie: a popular tourist route). This effort includes development of the popular farmer-food restaurants with high standards and adequate scale.

- Equating Education

We will further perfect the basic facilities and equipment to make it possible that farmers and new urbanites have the same opportunities as city residents to receive high-quality education. The government will foster agricultural vocational training and business management training for the farmers. We will also set up a series of regional agricultural vocational training schools and high schools, reasonably allocate the educational resources for vocational education.

- Equating Health and Promoting Culture

We will further perfect the basic facilities and equipment to make it possible that farmers and new urbanites have the same opportunities as city residents to receive high-quality education. The government will foster agricultural vocational training and business management training for the farmers. We will also set up a series of regional agricultural vocational training schools and high schools, reasonably allocate the educational resources for vocational education.

- Eliminating the Systematic Development Institutional Barriers between Urban and Rural Areas

- Improving the Land Use Regulation

We will encourage farmers to transfer the contractual right of land by means of subletting, rent, exchange of land, and land mortgage and other types of land transactions. The land rights of farmers whose land has been requisitioned will be protected by the law. The new agricultural land tax is reduced for farmers who have retired and lost their land.

- Furthering the Reform of Household registration System

We will establish a uniform system for the urban and rural population registration and steadily reform the household registration system. We will actively promote the systematic reform in employment, education, medical care, pension insurance, and housing which is associated with the household registration as to eliminate the systematic barriers in the binary structure.