

Spatial Distribution of Affordable Housing Projects in Nanjing, China

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Abstract:

Traditional location theory matches location choices and stakeholder (e.g. developer, user) decisions in a competitive market framework. Developers' profit and land value are directly linked to the location characteristics of the property development project. In a transitional economy, however, direct government intervention plays an important role in shaping urban development. This paper examines the spatial outcome of urban affordable housing development in Nanjing, China, in the context of China's economic transition. Data was collected in 2009 and 2010, through semi-structured interviews and site visits. The findings reveal that the location of the affordable housing projects is shaped by 1) the emerging land value gradient in Nanjing, 2) the existing infrastructure and institutional constraints, and 3) a state policy regulating resettlement.