

The Application of GIS, Toward a Geography of Urban Politics : Wattana Administrative District, Greater Bangkok, Thailand, a Case Study

Prof. Supanee Chalothorn, Ph.D.

Somkid Phumkokrux, M.Sc.

Abstract

This research presents two objectives. Urban Politics and the electoral geography are the focal points of this research. While the secondary goal is to describe the “Space for the Central Business District’s Functions” in Wattana District. Most of our effort has been directed toward explaining the role of the followings:

1. The factors which contributed to continuing Democrat Party election successes in the year 2001, although, the alteration of spatial pattern constituency types and the system of counting ballots has changed, due to the revision of the New constitution in the year 1997. Thus, the results found those concerning in the followings: (a) location and localism which regarding to the role of residences whom interested in the Urban Politics; (b) the process of politicalization; (c) the role of distance and transportation network; (d) communication and campaigning; (e) the policy of Democrat Party and selected candidates; and (f) the perception of Democrat Party. All of these factors which the researcher described those temporal and individual characteristics relating the eligible voters under the investigation, and personal interview and the surveying.

2. Second, the researchers were using the program of Arc View Version 3.1, and Aerial photograph for making maps in this research on the application in Urban Politics’s areas and space for the Central Business District’s Function in Wattana District. The researchers have used cartographic representation to get a complete picture of this study. Using a set of maps from Figure 1 through Figure 6, which illustrated the CBD’s functions as the followings; (1) Map of Greater Bangkok; (2) Wattana Administration District; (3) Community and transportation network; (4) Educational Institutes; (5) the social areas of commercial building and residential buildings in the core area, suburb, and fringe areas of Urban area of Wattana District; and (6) distinctive areas and activities in Urban area.

The important role of CBD’s Functions emphasized to support and influencing the power of Urban politics.