THE IMPACT OF RAILWAY STATIONS DEVELOPMENT ON LAND PRICE: A CASE IN WEST JAPAN

THESIS

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Degree of Master of Urban and Regional Planning

By:

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FACULTY OF ENGINEERING MASTER PROGRAM IN URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY SEMARANG 2022

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Submitted to Master Program in Urban and Regional Planning Faculty of Engineering, Diponegoro University

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Submitted for the thesis defense On December 23rd, 2022

Declared Passed

In fulfillment of the requirement for the Master of Urban and Regional Planning Degree

Semarang, December 2022

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STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I hereby declare that this thesis has never been submitted to obtain a degree at any other university and, to my knowledge, does not contain the work or opinion ever written or published by others except the writing referred to in this manuscript and mentioned in the bibliography.

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COLLABORATION STATEMENT

This thesis is the result of the Double Degree Program curriculum,

a collaboration between

Master of Urban and Regional Planning

Diponegoro University

And

Graduate School of Advanced Science and Engineering Hiroshima University To my mother,

I love you.

ABSTRACT

Railway infrastructure development has been conducted for more than 100 years in Japan. The government initiated the development along with the private to provide the possible railway route in the whole country to serve all people in some types of railway transportation, including train, shinkansen, and tram. As a result, people enjoy personal experiences such as improvement in convenient mobility and regional development on a larger scale, including land use change and social change. This research examined the change in land prices due to the construction of new railway stations.

The analysis focus on the railway development in West Japan during 2015-2020. West Japan consists of 5 regions; Kansai, Chugoku, Shikoku, and Kyushu-Okinawa, which cover 24 prefectures. In all these regions, there are 273 new stations constructed and starting operationally in 2015-2020 as a part of 23,559 active railway stations in Japan in 2021. These 273 railways stop points include the new stations for the local train, shinkansen, and tram. In addition, the analysis focuses on how the land price of around 273 stations changed due to the stations' existence.

The methodology used in this research is the Causal Mediator Analysis to see how the railway stations affect the change in land price in some periods. The analysis does not only focus on how the independent variable, new railway stations, correlates to the dependent variable, the land price, and how the other variable affects this correlation. This new variable is called a mediator that, to some extent, has a direct impact on the independent variable and affects the dependent variable simultaneously. The mediator data are generalized from the telepoint pack database, the number of businesses constructed and started operating in the stations' area at some period.

The result shows that the direct impact of the treatment, the new stations, positively correlates to the land price significantly. In correlation with the mediator, the railway station's existence also significantly affects the increasing number of new businesses in the area. In the end, the whole correlation combining direct and indirect impact from the new railway stations positively affects the land price and new businesses in the station area. However, the number of independent variables could be added more in these equations to explain the variability of the result.

FOREWORD

To God be the glory as He always leads my study life during the years, and now I can complete this thesis.

This study would not have been possible without the support of many amazing people. I greatly appreciate my supervisor, Prof. Dr.sc.agr. Iwan Rudiarto, S.T., M.Sc., for all the guidance and motivation. Also, to my supervisor at Hiroshima University, Associate Professor Makoto Chikaraishi, who guided and supported me in my study and research. To all the lecturers and staff in Master of Regional and Urban Planning who helped me during the study, and the examiners (Dr. -Ing. Wisnu Pradoto, S.T., M.T. and Prof. Dr. Ir. Nany Yuliastuti, M.S.P.) who provided suggestions and inputs for me to finish this thesis, I also give my gratitude.

Thanks to my office, the Ministry of Investment/BKPM, for the opportunity to continue my study and the Kementerian PPN/Bappenas scholarship that financially supports me. Finally, the love and prayer from my mother and the whole family are also things I treasure during this study.

Thank you very much.

Semarang, December 2022

Melanton Hendra Siregar

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