

Preferred Choice of Pedestrian Road Crossing in Bangkok City

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Footpath in Bangkok, though a good indicator of livable city, is not very user-friendly due to its bumpiness, crowded street hawkers, uneven pavement, non-continuity, obstruction from public utilities, etc. Street crossing even at zebra cross is not always safe for pedestrian. Pedestrian bridges are available at crowded areas but some avoid using them because of the high climb and choose instead the zebra cross at their own risk with high accident rate. Whereas very few (2) tunnels are existing in Bangkok city, probably due to the higher investment cost and long-time perception of theft and sexual molestation incidence in a tunnel some 40 years ago. A study based on interview of approximate 400 persons who had experience using all three types of the Bangkok street-crossing facilities showed that the tunnel was the obvious preferred choice, with a score of 2.57 out of 3.0, while those of pedestrian bridge and zebra crossing were 1.90 and 1.50, respectively. The similar scores were achieved from both sexes, all age groups, various occupation and different income levels, It is evident also that pedestrian bridge scored negatively the highest (2.89) in terms of fatigue, to be followed by tunnel (1.96) are zebra crossing (1.15). These data are suggested to be used by city planners and mayors for future development. Social SROI or Return on Investment of the tunnel crossing was also recommended for future study.