

Strategic Research on Accelerating Construction of International Metropolis in Xi'an

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Keywords: International Metropolis; Urban Construction; Strategy.

Abstract. To build Xi'an into an international metropolis, it is not only demand and goal of Xi'an urban development, but also its historical mission and responsibility given to Xi'an by China to build a strong socialist country and realize Chinese dream of the great rejuvenation of Chinese nation. Xi'an must follow the strategic proposal of "building five goals city, promoting four major transformations and upgrading, and grasping three keys", which is necessary to build an international metropolis with world-class quality to fulfill its mission and responsibility.

1. Introduction

The construction of Xi'an international metropolis is a complex systematic project that requires long-term efforts. It is currently a critical period for Xi'an to accelerate the construction of an international metropolis, and should must grasp key issues and achieve key breakthroughs. Based on core factors determining the future development trend of the city, and focus on shortcomings and deficiencies in the construction of Xi'an international metropolis, following strategies are proposed.

2. Building "Five goals" City

The construction of Xi'an international metropolis is not only the task and ideal set by Xi'an for itself, but also objective result of the new round of urban competition and reconstruction of the "world city" system [1]. To stand out and achieve take-off in the competitive pattern, Xi'an must be built into "five goals" city with status, strength, taste, characteristics and stamina in this world-class coordinate system.

2.1 Accelerate the Establishment of Xi'an status as an International Metropolis

Building an international metropolis with historical and cultural characteristics is the overall orientation of Xi'an urban construction and future development. In recent years, Xi'an has been actively relying on and deeply integrating into the development of "the Belt and Road", solidly promoting the "New Start of the Silk Road Economic Belt" and accelerating the construction of the "the Belt and Road" innovation highland and reform and opening-up. This is undoubtedly correct and must be persevering.

However, the problem now is that in face of new competitive situation and development trend of domestic and foreign cities, it is inevitable to lag behind if Xi'an is slower than other cities. Only by being brave in innovation and daring to be the first can we seize the opportunity and occupy a favorable position. Therefore, Xi'an must seize every minute and strive to establish the indispensable position of Xi'an in the "world city" system as quickly as possible in the current situation of global industrial chain, value chain, innovation chain reconstruction and more fierce urban competition in the new era, so as to transform the construction of Xi'an international metropolis from conception to reality.

With such a position to be attractive, there is the right to allocate resources, freedom and a foothold

for take-off. This is the first and urgent problem to be solved in the construction of Xi'an international metropolis.

2.2 To Consolidate and Enhance the Development Foundation and Competitive Strength of Xi'an

The acquisition and maintenance of the status of international and world-class cities depends not only on the times, on policies, but also on development conditions, foundations and competitive strength [2].

First, we must make full use of the location advantage of Xi'an as the center of China. Further strengthen the development of infrastructure and other development conditions, and form a complete system of channels and links, consisting of roads, railways, airports and information networks, to reach both inside and outside the province, as well as at home and abroad, to solidify the conditions and foundation for the construction of Xi'an international metropolis.

Second, it is necessary to make full use of national strategy and provincial and municipal policies to continuously focus on the superposition effect of Xi'an. In the process of deepening and implementation of Western Development Strategy, development plan of the Guanzhong-Tianshui Economic Zone, provincial and municipal policies for the construction of the Greater Xi'an and "the Belt and Road" Initiative, the government will step up its efforts to open up and expand to construct a mutually beneficial and win-win development relationship with neighboring cities, provinces and regions. It aims to allocate resources for the whole province, the western region, the whole country and the whole world, speed up the building of "western economic center, national central city, Silk Road Science and Technology Innovation Center" and so on, build Xi'an into a world-class international regional center city, and improve its competitiveness.

Third, it is important to change the mind and carry out innovative thinking, learn from the experience and practices of advanced cities both home and abroad, and give full play to the advantages of Xi'an science and education cultural resources, to innovate to plan new formats and develop new industries, vigorously develop cultural industries and information technology, and develop hub economy, portal economy and circulation economy, etc. [3] To ensure Xi'an is in the forefront of industrial transformation and innovation, occupying a favorable competitive position.

2.3 Forward-Looking Innovation and Comprehensively Create an Attractive "Urban Scene"

The city is not only a place for investment and development, but also a place for people to live and communicate. Whether a city has the inexhaustible vitality and attractiveness fundamentally depends on level of urban taste, such as the degree of civilization and modernization, the quality of life and the advancement of urban form.

First, Xi'an must keep up with the pace of times and actively adapt to the trend of modern metropolitan form shifting from "production-oriented" to "consumption-oriented", and actively promote new forms construction of urban development driven by economic growth, population mobility and community prosperity. To ensure that the urban form of Xi'an has a remarkable advancement with the times, make Xi'an into a high-quality service city of life.

Second, Xi'an must fully implement the "Quality Xi'an" construction planning, to prevent and cure "big city diseases". On the basis of comprehensively improving the overall quality of Xi'an economic and social development, the focus will be on improving people's quality of life and building beautiful Xi'an to enhance its ability to attract talents, retain talents and humanistic affinity makes Xi'an a high-quality and livable city with taste.

Third, on the basis of continuing to deepen and comprehensively promote the construction of the overall civilization and modernization levels, Xi'an must focus on strengthening the cultivation of civilized citizens, constructing the rule of law civilization, and striving to create a new modern smart city, so that Xi'an will become a city of high quality, convenience and a high level of civilization.

2.4 Focus on Condensing Xi'an Characteristics and Cultivating Xi'an Core Competitiveness

Characteristic and individualized development is one of the basic trends of post-industrial society

and modern information society. The city has its own personality and characteristics, so that it can be unique and can form its own core competitiveness.

First, Xi'an must make a choice in the face of rich historical accumulation, diversified high-quality resources and development opportunities emerging endlessly and with great attraction. Even painful choices must be done. This is not only the inherent requirement of urban characteristic development, but also a summary of the development lessons that Xi'an has long been unable to form its core competitiveness.

Second, the choice should not be limited to the selected object itself, but should focus on the degree of conformity with the future development trend of the times. The apparent weakness may be a weakness, but the apparent weakness is often a real strength. For example, the surface disadvantage of the deep ravine mountains in Guiyang, on the contrary, due to its excellent ecological environment, abundant energy supply, stable geological structure and strategic national security hinterland, has become a rare comprehensive advantage in the development of big data industry. It should be said that Xi'an has not done enough in this respect and still lacks the courage to make a painful decision to throw away some historical burdens. To some extent, the greedy practice may affect the future development of Xi'an.

Third, once a choice is made, there should be perseverance and determination, without temptation and interference such as the shift of interest of leaders. Concentrate on the characteristics and cultivation of core competitiveness. The "historical and cultural characteristics" selected in the "Thirteenth Five-Year Plan" of Xi'an is not prominent enough in terms of specific contents. It is still necessary to further strengthen the core status and capability of the feature in the construction of an international metropolis.

2.5 Create Xi'an Innovative Capacity and Sustainable Development Momentum

There are great rises and falls in urban development. But there are few big rises after big falls. It is a blessing and a goal of a city to achieve enduring prosperity and sustainable development through continuous innovation and transformation. There are many factors determine the sustainable development capability of a city, mainly including strategic foresight, long-term effectiveness of kinetic energy and innovation ability [4].

First, the development strategy of Xi'an must be forward-looking. Whether in the construction of development models and styles, or in the selection of specific industries and projects, it should not only be based on the current reality and needs, but also consider future trends and prospects. We must make a long-term plan and look forward to planning in the coming decades and hundreds of years.

Second, Xi'an should learn some lessons from the rise and fall of energy cities and political (policy) cities, although Xi'an is not such a city in the full sense. Natural resources such as energy are limited and non-renewable, so they cannot be long-lasting. Politics (policies) are subjective, constantly changing, and not sustainable. However, human resources, cultural resources, knowledge capital and modern information resources have the characteristics of value-added in their application and can withstand challenge of historical changes and test of time. Xi'an should unswervingly build a long-term mechanism and sustainable capability of urban development based on such resources.

Third, Xi'an still needs to make great efforts to cultivate self-change and innovation capabilities, including ideological and conceptual innovation, development model innovation, and technological innovation, industrial innovation and management innovation. Change is absolute, and constant is relative. Only innovation can cope with the changes and constantly realize the leap of urban self-transformation with the times to maintain the fundamental power and guarantee of sustainable development in Xi'an.

3. Promote the Four Major Transformation and Upgrading

It would be unimaginable if China not has some "world cities" in the future. Xi'an should and must have this sense of mission and responsibility, and strive to promote the following four major

transformations and upgrading.

3.1 Transformation and Upgrading of Urban Ranks and Influences

Xi'an cannot be satisfied with the ranks and status of the first-tier cities in China, or the international big cities with certain regional influence. In this international metropolis construction, we should take a long-term view and continue to promote broader radiation capacity and influence of Xi'an, which can fulfill the mission and responsibility to realize China dream of "world city" transformation and upgrading.

3.2 Transformation and Upgrading of Urban Connotations and Forms

The city is not only an economy, but also a living field and a cultural organism. The construction of Xi'an international metropolis must transcend old forms of the industrialization era, and then follow trends of modern metropolitan form shifting from "production-oriented" to "consumption-oriented", and rapidly promote the transformation and upgrading of Xi'an to new metropolitan forms such as "consumer-city" or "entertainment machine" [5] which is called cultural dynamics urban.

3.3 Transformation and Upgrading of Urban Industrial Structures and Economic Forms

Xi'an will build an international metropolis with historical and cultural characteristics. The focus must shift from traditional industries and industrial economics to innovation and creativity, and new industries and new formats characterized by informatization, intelligence and greening. Vigorously promote the transformation and upgrading of Xi'an urban industrial structures and economic forms to the "knowledge economy form" with an overwhelming advantage in the proportion of new industries.

3.4 Transformation and Upgrading of the Urban Appearance and Image

In the practice of implementing the new development concept and "follow-up and transcendence" of the "five new strategies" of the provincial government, through solid self-shaping and effective communication, we will create New Xi'an which consisting of "the Belt and Road" innovation and entrepreneurship capital, global hard technology capital, world culture capital, world tourism and fashion capital, international ecological wisdom and livable capital, and international important gateway hub, will be fully displayed to the world, and comprehensively transform and upgrade Xi'an urban appearance and image.

4. Grasping Three Keys

The construction and development of cities must rely on the practice and dedication of various subjects of the city and general public. Combined with the current actual situation in Xi'an, we believe that in addition to policy guidance and planning guidance, Xi'an municipal government should focus on the following three keys, to support and inspire unlimited creativity of all main bodies of the city and general public, and create the glory of Xi'an.

4.1 Investment Promotion

Industry, project, capital and talent are core factors that determine urban strength. Talent and capital go with projects and industries. To change the appearance with small economic aggregate, weak industry, non-public economy and weak county economy in Xi'an, attracting investment, looking for projects and attracting talents is "the nose of an ox". The government is both duty-bound and superior in this regard. All government departments and their staff should not only attract investment from the whole society, but also take this as their top priority. While focusing on attracting large projects and high-quality projects, they should not fall into the misunderstanding of only focusing on industrial enterprise projects and neglecting small projects. Xi'an, which aims at the construction of an international metropolis in the modern era, should attract projects and talents in service, information and creativity.

4.2 Governance Environment

The poor quality of comprehensive investment and living environment, especially the severe pollution and dust-haze, has made Xi'an suffer a lot and repeatedly frustrated in the competition for industries, projects, funds and talents. Such facts must be of great importance to us. Xi'an must pay attention to comprehensive treatment of the environment in construction of Quality Xi'an [6] and Beautiful Xi'an, and the treatment at sources through industrial transformation and upgrading and greening of lifestyle, especially to achieve substantial results in the treatment of pollution and haze as soon as possible. Can you imagine the attraction of Xi'an when it becomes "a city without dust-haze"? Therefore, this is also a key issue. It is a roadblock that seriously hinders the progress of Xi'an. It must be kept on hold until it achieves substantial results.

4.3 Building Platforms

With talents and projects, there must be a stage for them to fully release their energy and talent. The main responsibility of the government is to build relevant platforms and provide corresponding services. At present, Xi'an is built around the construction of an international metropolis, and there is an urgent need to build and improve the platforms, including the development space platform of big Xi'an urban development space platform, international trade logistics platform, international cultural exchange platform, world-class innovation and entrepreneurship service and project incubation platform, world-class network information and big data service platforms, etc. The government should combine the construction of these platforms with the corresponding high-quality services, and build them systematically to provide a free platform for the builders of international metropolises.

5. Summary

All in all, government should not only take initiative to find talents, funds and projects, but also remove all obstacles to the entry of talents, funds and projects into Xi'an. What's more, it should provide good platforms and quality services for talent entrepreneurship and project operation. The main idea here is to guide and support the citizens to create and mobilize all the people to integrate Xi'an into the great practice of realizing the China dream!

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