



UTM
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ASSIGNMENT:
ROADSIDE STALL INNOVATION

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The Problems

The roadside stalls can be seen in everywhere, in the town, at the roadside of the highway. These roadside stalls are different from the shop, although both are selling the things. The roadside stalls bring convenience to the people, they can just buy foods from roadside stalls and do not need go to the shop to buy foods. However, the roadside stalls also bring some problems to the people and environment. These are some issues cause by the roadside stalls:

The stalls left unattended

First and Foremost, the roadside stalls are built by using some simple materials such as wood, aluminium and nails. The hawkers use minimal cost to build a stall due to simple and convenient. They just need to prepare some chairs and tables and they can start their business instantly. Most of the stalls are not portable. However, when some of the hawkers do not want to continue their selling, they will just leave the stalls behind and the stalls remain stayed at that place. There is no one willing to remove the stalls and the number of these unattended stalls will be increased from year to year. Hence, this will affect the beauty of the environment in our country and country's image will affected too.

Creates cleanliness and health issues

When you driving passing through the road, you can see a lot of rubbish along the road. A lot of people do not follow the cleanliness and just throw the rubbish everywhere. After the roadside stall hawkers finish their business of the day, some of them will just leave the stall and do not clean the trashes surround the stall. They might think that cleaning the trash is not their job and why they have to take the responsibility to clean up. So, the rubbishes accumulated day by day and will cause the hygienic and health problems. Moreover, some of the foods and beverages sold at the roadside stalls are contaminated due to the dirt and the smoke from the vehicle's exhaust passing by the road. The diseases can be spread through the contaminated foods and drinks such as Scabies, Ringworm and Trachoma. The health of the customers who buy the foods and drinks might be affected and they might suffer from these diseases.

Roadside stalls obstruct the traffic and endanger the user

Last but not least, some of the roadside stalls owner in the town will set their stall on the location where it is crowded with people and cars to start their business. After that, the customers who want to buy the foods will parking their cars beside the road and it will cause the traffic congestion become more serious. The hawkers can earn more income and they do not care the others but they do not know their act had obstruct the traffic and cause a lot of inconvenience to the road users. Traffic congestion maybe will lead some drivers become tired and frustrated. So, some drivers will unfollow the signals and just drive in their ways. This action might endanger the road users and cause accident.

Solution idea

As the problems stated above bring plenty of negative implication, hence we propose our solution idea to solve this problem thoroughly. Our solution is to make a “Moving Café” that will travel all around the spot in an area by using a double-decker bus. Here are the implementation steps:

1. Find a group of hawkers that is willing to implement our solution

First of all, we will find a group of road stall hawkers (more than one people but less than four people) that are wishing to transform their business. Next, we will hold a persuasion to convince them with long-term benefits that will be obtained in future. Further steps will be carried out after they all have agreed to take part in our project.

2. Find and buy unwanted second-hand double-decker bus from the bus company

Next, we will approach the bus company that is going to sell their unwanted double-decker bus. The company that offers bus with good engine condition and reasonable price will be prioritized. If all of the hawkers are satisfying with the bus provided by the bus company, they can straight away buy the bus and divide the cost evenly among each other.

3. Renovate the bus to create a conducive environment for the hawkers and customers

First and foremost, the bus will be coated with new paint to have a good appearance. We do believe that a good-looking appearance will give customers a positive image of the bus. Next, several changes will be made to the environment inside the bus. We plan to make the ground floor of the bus as the dining area of our customer while the second floor will be the kitchen for the hawkers to prepare their food. So, all the seats at the ground floor and first floor of the bus will be removed first. At the same time, all culinary tools and equipment will be stored at the first floor, and all foldable chairs and tables will be stored at the ground floor. Trash bin will also be placed at the back and the entrance of the bus. Last but not least, suitable lamps and lights will be installed to decorate the environment so that it would not dull and boring.

4. Hire a bus driver that can work together as well

After the renovation is made, there is one last crucial step before the “Moving Café” begin to operate. The hawkers are next required to hire a bus driver that is able to drive the double-decker bus to a spot within an area and drive the bus back to a bus terminal after operating hour ended. The bus driver’s job scope is not only driving the bus to and from, but he or she can serve the food to customers when the food is prepared during operating hour as well. The bus driver will be paid by the hawkers and the amount of salary can be discussed among themselves.

5. “Moving Café” is now ready to be operated

Now, the bus driver will fetch the hawkers to a spot within an area and begin to do their business. When the customers are hop on to the bus, they can go to first floor and order their food manually to the hawker. Payment is made at the same time as well. At the same time, the customers have to provide a seat number for the bus driver to serve the food them once their food is ready. After the customers enjoy their meal, they have to dispose of the garbage into trash bins provided and then the whole purchase procedure is completed.

In order to smoothen the operating process of “Moving Café”, several measures are taken:

1. The venue of “Moving Café” is constantly changing every day

The bus driver and the hawkers will determine the spot for the “Moving Café” to be operated and it is different every day. For example, the venue for every Sunday is at location A, and venue of every Thursday is at location E. At the same time, the bus will be stopped at a spot that will not congest the road traffic.

2. Hawkers have to take care of the sanitary of the bus

Since the bus is owned by the hawkers themselves, hence they have the responsibility to take care of the cleanliness of the bus. If they fail to do so, customers are not willing to spend at the “Moving Café” as they do not satisfy with the sanitary, and food safety issues will arise. In the end, the business of the hawkers will definitely become worse.

3. Find a suitable bus terminal that is willing to provide a place to park the bus

We do not want the bus to park by the roadside once the hawkers finish their business, as the bus contains many valuable properties such as chairs, tables and culinary equipment. Intruders may be trying to snatch those things when no one is around. Therefore, communication with the person in charge of the bus terminal is a crucial part of the hawkers and bus driver. Perhaps they should discuss the parking slot rental fees and to identify a suitable parking slot to park the bus. The bus will then park at the parking slot after the operating hour of “Moving Café” ends, and valuable equipment will be secured at a safe place.

How our solution enhances community living?

First of all, our solution can enhance community living by solving the problem of seeing those roadside stalls unattended at the roadside. This is because the bus will stop at bus station when it is unattended. This can make our neighbourhood looks clean and tidy without all these roadside stalls left unattended during the day time. Since that it is portable, so whenever it blocks the traffic, the driver can drive the bus to other place and continue their business. This can help those hawkers to continue their business at any place and the citizen can always enjoy the cheap and tasty roadside snacks. Moreover, this can help to solve the cleanliness problem that always faced by the hawkers. Since the dining area is at the ground floor but not the roadside, customers will never litter the rubbish all around the roadside again and will throw it into the dustbin that we set up at the entrance. Worst to worst, even when the customer litters inside the bus, we also have the waiters to clean it and the problem of plastics fly along the road will never happen again. Not only like that, we can secure the good quality of the food sell when the cleanliness problem solved. One of the reason why people reject buying roadside stall is because of the cleanliness and quality of the food, with the help of our solution, we can help to reduce the dust, the fly that will always see by the normal roadside food stalls because our dining are inside the ground floor and the kitchen area is at the first floor. Last but not least, our solution can help to boost the business of the roadside stall as this is a special roadside stall. It is because we are portable and will not only limited the hawkers at one area.

Reference

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