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MULTI-STORERY CAR PARK COMPLEX,

MARINA, LAGOS

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ABSTRACT

Transportation systems and the routes they use have greatly influenced both how and where people live. Reliable transportation allows a population to expand throughout a country’s territory and to live comfortably in remote areas far from factories and farms.

Transport in one form or another is a basic and essential part of the daily rhythm of life. At different stages of development, however, and in different sets of circumstances, the nature of the demand for transport is likely to vary a great deal. With the increase in population and economic activities in Nigerian cities, the number of motor vehicles is growing at a faster rate than the proportion of urban space devoted to roads.

In urban areas particularly, but also in suburban areas, the growing commercialization of available land has produced rapid and large increase in land values, to the extent that the use of large areas of land for parking automobiles and other vehicles is uneconomical. Unfortunately, the very commercialization which enhances the land values creates an increased demand for vehicle parking space. It is obvious therefore, that optimum economic use of the land can only be achieved through the use of multi-storey car parking garages.

A multi-storey car park or a parking garage is a building (or part thereof) which is designed specifically to be for automobile parking and where there are a number of floors or levels on which parking takes place. It is essentially a stacked car park.

The peculiarity of Lagos in terms of shortage of land for expansion purposes cannot be overlooked, hence the congestion in terms of housing, shops and markets, traffic
and other land uses competing for limited land space. The dominance of Ikoyi, Lagos and Victoria Islands as the major residential areas of the elites and the dominant commercial, business administrative Industrial areas is responsible for the unidirectional movement of vehicles to and from work daily resulting in unprecedented traffic congestion. Lagos as a commercial centre will continue to play a very unique role in the development of Nigeria. Its problems are the creation of all the states of Nigeria, and as such every sector has a role to play in finding solutions to them. For example, some towns in Ogun State particularly Ota, Ifo and Agbara and some others have merged with Lagos City forming an expansive conurbation thereby complicating the planning and management problems. As most people perceive Lagos as a land of opportunities, job seekers from every state of the Federation migrate into Lagos every day thereby complicating the housing, traffic and infrastructural problems.