Varakorn Noyphun 2007: A Study of Green Belt Change along the West Bank of Chao Praya River, Nonthaburi Province. Master of Science (Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management), Major Field: Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Professor Sopin Thongpan, Ph.D. 164 pages.

This thesis aims at studying land use pattern in six Sub-Districts (Tambon) in Pakkred District (Amphur) of Nonthaburi Province after city plan was promulgated and proposing green belt management plan in accordance with the city planning. The method of study was emphasized on qualitative method for example: literature reviews, observations, field surveys, informal interviews focus groups.

The findings shown that the green belt as well as agricultural lands have been significantly decreased from 1993 to 2003 by 29,254 rais. Most of it have been converted into housing development areas, land leased for agriculture, unused lands, and development areas for public roads and bridges. Although the land use under city planning was regulated by local governments but was not strictly enforced. The situation has become worse after the bridge and road construction projects in the green belt were completed. There have been 21 housing development projects during 1987-2006. These project are partly accounted for environmental degradation in the areas including floods, waste and water pollution.

The approach to maintain green belt, would be possible only if the locals and local government were invited to participate during the city planning stage but this was not the case. But the city planning were already implemented. The possible recommendation is assisting to land owner by offering lower tax, providing public fund to land owner to preserve public green belt and partial income subsidized. Where the local government take care the garbage collection and waste water. Otherwise, it not possible to implement according to the city plan.

_____   _____   ___ / ___ / ___
    Student's signature   Thesis Advisor's signature