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The Effectiveness of the Public Aspiration Process in Decision-Making in the Education Sector in the DPRD of North Bolaang Mongondow Regency

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Abstract

This study is motivated by the suboptimal use of public aspirations in decision-making processes within the Regional House of Representatives (DPRD), particularly in relation to weak management, documentation, follow-up mechanisms, and alignment with regional development priorities. This study aims to analyze the collection of public aspirations, their institutional processing within the DPRD, and their utilization in decision-making in the DPRD of North Bolaang Mongondow Regency. A qualitative approach with a case study design was employed. Research informants were selected purposively and consisted of the DPRD chairperson, commission leaders, DPRD secretariat staff, and community leaders. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, participatory observation, and documentation studies, and were analyzed using the interactive model of Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña through data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing. The findings indicate that public aspirations are collected through recess activities, working visits, audiences, public hearings (RDP), and *Musrenbang*, with recess serving as the dominant mechanism. The processing of aspirations involves recording, classification, verification, commission-level discussions, and the

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preparation of policy recommendations. Public aspirations are then utilized in the formulation of development programs, budgeting, policy monitoring, and public service evaluation. However, their effective use continues to face several obstacles, including weak system digitalization, limited documentation, low inclusive public participation, and constrained regional budgets. The study concludes that the effectiveness of public aspiration utilization is strongly influenced by the institutional capacity of the DPRD to manage, prioritize, and follow up on public inputs. The implications of this study emphasize the need to develop an e-aspiration system, improve transparency in aspiration follow-up, and strengthen public participation to support participatory, responsive, and accountable regional governance.

Keywords: Public Aspirations; Decision-Making; Policy Effectiveness; Regional Governance; Public Participation

INTRODUCTION

In a modern democratic system, political representation is not only defined as the presence of representatives in legislative bodies, but also the extent to which these representatives are able to absorb, manage, and champion public aspirations in the decision-making process. As a regional representative institution, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) plays a strategic role in bridging public needs with local government policies. However, the effectiveness of utilizing public aspirations in the decision-making process remains a significant issue in various regions, including the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD. Public aspirations collected through recesses, working visits, and public communication forums are often not fully accommodated in regional policies due to weak management mechanisms, follow-up, and synchronization with regional development priorities.

These issues indicate that the process of collecting aspirations does not automatically produce policies that are responsive to public needs. Researchers believe that the effectiveness of utilizing public aspirations is determined not only by the number of aspirations received, but also by the DPRD's institutional capacity to process, prioritize, document, and integrate these aspirations into the decision-making process. In practice, public aspirations often stall at the administrative formality stage without any clear follow-up. This situation has the potential to create a gap between public expectations and

resulting policies, and can undermine public trust in the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD).

Several previous studies have shown similar problems. Research by Ramadhani et al., (2024) found that the effectiveness of the Tanah Datar Regency DPRD recess activities was still low due to weak follow-up and the absence of a standard aspiration processing mechanism. Azzahri & Andri, (2021) also explained that the use of recess funds by the Pekanbaru City DPRD was ineffective because public aspirations were only collected symbolically and not properly documented. Research by Pratama & Adni, (2024) showed that the implementation of the Siak Regency DPRD recess was not optimal due to the absence of a clear aspiration prioritization system and low transparency in follow-up. Meanwhile, Wenas et al., (2021) found that low public participation and weak integration of aspirations with regional planning documents resulted in public aspirations having little influence on policy. Research by Muda et al., (2024) also emphasized that recess results often only become formal documents without serious discussion in the regional budgeting process.

Although various studies have discussed the effectiveness of recess and the absorption of public aspirations, most of them focus solely on the implementation stage of recess or the use of recess funds. Previous research has not comprehensively examined how public aspirations are processed within the DPRD institutional system, from collection and processing to utilization in decision-making. This research gap underpins the importance of this study. The novelty of this research lies in its more comprehensive approach to analyzing the effectiveness of public aspirations utilization in the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD, examining the entire institutional process of aspirations, not just the recess stage.

This research is grounded in contemporary political representation theory, which emphasizes the importance of interactive relationships between representatives and the public in the decision-making process. Hamilton et al., (2024) explain that effective political representation requires active public involvement and ongoing communication between representatives and those represented. Furthermore, this research is supported by Fung, (2015) theory of public participation, which emphasizes that public participation must be integrated into the policy formulation process to enhance the legitimacy and quality of political decisions. Thus, the effectiveness of utilizing community aspirations is an

important part in realizing participatory, accountable, and responsive governance to community needs.

Wibowo & Winarni, (2025) explains that effectiveness in regional government management is closely linked to the principles of transparency, accountability, and public participation. As a representative institution, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) is required to create a space for equal interaction, systematically document aspirations, and ensure that public input is part of the decision-making process. In practice, this requires robust systems and procedures, ranging from recording aspirations and selection mechanisms to integrating them into policy discussions, to reporting and evaluating performance based on these aspirations. Research by Andi Baso, (2024) supports this view, emphasizing that the effectiveness of aspiration utilization in legislative institutions depends heavily on the integration of aspiration information systems, the active role of council members in public forums, and the support of the council secretariat in drafting policy documents. Similar findings were also presented by Samosir, (2024), who noted that DPRDs with strong aspiration documentation and evaluation structures tend to be more effective in formulating responsive and inclusive policies. According to Hafizd et al., (2023), public aspirations are a form of political communication used by the public to convey their opinions, desires, and needs to their representatives in legislative bodies. This communication can occur through various mechanisms such as recesses, development planning meetings (musrenbang), social media, and other informal channels.

Based on the description, this study focuses on the effectiveness of utilizing public aspirations in the decision-making process at the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD, which includes the process of collecting public aspirations, processing aspirations within the DPRD institutional system, and utilizing aspirations in decision-making. This study aims to analyze the process of collecting public aspirations by the DPRD, examine the processing of aspirations within the DPRD institutional system, and assess the extent to which public aspirations are utilized in decision-making at the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD.

METHODS

This research employed a qualitative approach with a case study design. The qualitative approach was chosen because the research aimed to deeply understand the

phenomenon of the effectiveness of utilizing public aspirations in decision-making within the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD). The case study design was chosen because the research focused on a specific case: the practice of collecting, processing, and utilizing public aspirations within the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD, a regional representative institution.

The research was conducted at the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD, located in Boroko Village, Kaidipang District, North Bolaang Mongondow Regency, North Sulawesi Province. The research lasted approximately one year, from March 2025 to March 2026. The initial phase of the study, in March 2025, was used for administrative preparation and the development of research instruments. Data collection was conducted from April to July 2025 through interviews, observations, and documentation studies. The data analysis phase was conducted from August to October 2025, while the final report and research revisions were prepared from January to March 2026.

Research participants were determined using purposive sampling, selecting informants based on specific considerations consistent with the research needs. Informants were selected because of their direct involvement in the process of collecting and utilizing public aspirations in the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD). The primary informant in this study was the Speaker of the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD, acting as a key informant. Supporting informants included Deputy Speaker I of the DPRD, Chair of Commission I, Chair of Commission II, Chair of Commission III, Secretary of the Regional Representative Council (DPD), Head of the Trial and Legislation Division, and community leaders or former senior bureaucrats. The purpose of this informant selection was to obtain in-depth and diverse data regarding the effectiveness of utilizing public aspirations in the decision-making process.

The primary instrument in this study was the researcher, who played a direct role in the data collection and analysis process. Data collection was conducted through in-depth interviews, participant observation, and documentation studies. The interviews were conducted in a semi-structured manner to elicit information regarding the process of collecting aspirations, processing aspirations within the DPRD, and their utilization in decision-making. Participatory observation was conducted by directly observing DPRD activities, such as recesses, commission meetings, plenary sessions, and policy discussion forums. In addition, a documentary study was conducted on official documents such as

recess reports, DPRD meeting minutes, the Regional Work Plan (RKPD), the Regional Budget (APBD), regional regulations, and other supporting documents relevant to the research.

Data analysis was conducted qualitatively using the interactive model of Miles, Huberman, and Saldaña, which includes three stages: data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion drawing (Miles et al., 2014). Data reduction involved selecting and focusing data relevant to the research focus. The data were then presented in descriptive narratives, tables, and interview excerpts to facilitate interpretation. The final stage involved drawing conclusions and continuous verification through source triangulation, technical triangulation, and member checking to ensure data validity and enhance the research findings.

RESULTS

The results of the study indicate that the effectiveness of utilizing public aspirations in decision-making in the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD is implemented through three main stages, namely the process of collecting public aspirations, processing aspirations within the DPRD institution, and utilizing aspirations in decision-making. Based on the results of interviews, observations, and documentation studies, it was found that the DPRD has various formal mechanisms to absorb and manage public aspirations, although in its implementation there are still several obstacles related to documentation, public participation, and limited policy follow-up.

The Process of Collecting Public Aspirations by the DPRD

The main research findings indicate that the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) uses five main mechanisms to gather public aspirations: DPRD member recesses, field visits, audiences or hearings, public hearings (RDP), and the Development Planning Consultation (Musrenbang) forum. Of these mechanisms, recesses are the most dominant channel used to capture public aspirations.

Recesses are conducted directly in electoral districts through open dialogue between DPRD members and the public. The aspirations expressed by the public generally relate to infrastructure development, education and health services, social assistance, and other

public service needs. In addition to verbal submissions, the public also submits written proposals for development programs. The research findings indicate that the level of public participation significantly influences the quality of aspirations obtained during recesses.

Other supporting findings indicate that field visits are a crucial mechanism for obtaining aspirations based on factual conditions on the ground. During these activities, the DPRD conducts direct observations of public facilities such as schools, roads, and health facilities, and engages in direct dialogue with the public. The aspirations obtained through this mechanism are considered more contextual because they are based on the actual conditions of the community. Furthermore, hearings are used as a medium for conveying aspirations by specific community groups with a specific interest in a policy. Aspirations obtained through hearings are generally more specific and structured because they are accompanied by supporting documents and involve more in-depth discussions. Meanwhile, public hearings (RDPs) serve as a formal forum for the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) to gather community aspirations administratively and are documented through official minutes.

Research also found that the Musrenbang forum serves as a participatory mechanism integrated with the regional development planning system. Through this forum, communities submit development program proposals at various levels, from the village to the district level. The DPRD utilizes this forum to capture community aspirations related to regional development priorities. Although these various mechanisms are in place, the research identified several obstacles in the process of gathering community aspirations, including a conventional documentation system, suboptimal publication media for follow-up on aspirations, and uneven community participation. Aspirations are still dominated by community leaders, village officials, and school officials, while the involvement of women, youth, and the general public remains relatively limited.

Managing Community Aspirations in the DPRD Institution

The main research findings indicate that public aspirations received by the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) are processed through the stages of recording, classification, verification, commission discussions, and the development of policy recommendations. The processing process is carried out administratively and substantively to ensure that public aspirations align with regional development priorities and the local government's budgetary capabilities. The

research found that the most dominant public aspirations relate to the construction and rehabilitation of educational facilities, school fences, the provision of new classrooms, educational assistance for underprivileged students, equitable distribution of teachers, and improving the security and comfort of school environments. This indicates that the public still views the education and public infrastructure sectors as priority needs.

Supporting findings indicate that the processing of aspirations resulting from recesses is carried out through the preparation of recess reports, classification by sector, and determination of priorities before being discussed in DPRD commission meetings. Aspirations deemed feasible are then proposed for inclusion in regional development programs. For aspirations resulting from fieldwork visits, processing is carried out through analysis of actual conditions on the ground and verification with relevant technical agencies. The DPRD then develops recommendations for program improvements based on observations and dialogue with the community. Meanwhile, aspirations resulting from hearings and hearings (RDP) are processed through internal commission discussions and clarification with relevant regional officials. Aspirations deemed relevant to regional policy are formulated into official recommendations by the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) for follow-up by the regional government.

The study also found that the processing of aspirations from the Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum) is integrated with the regional development planning system. Prioritized aspirations are included in planning documents and discussed in the development program formulation and regional budgeting process. Although the aspiration processing mechanism has been operating quite well, the study found that the effectiveness of aspiration processing is not optimal due to regional budget limitations and development policy priorities. As a result, not all community aspirations are realized in regional development programs.

Utilization of Community Aspirations in Decision Making in the DPRD

The main research findings indicate that the Bolaang Mongondow Utara Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) utilizes community aspirations as a basis for development planning, regional program formulation, budgeting, policy oversight, and public service evaluation. Public aspirations, obtained through various recruitment mechanisms, are used as considerations in commission meetings, development program discussions, and recommendations to the local government.

The research found that aspirations generated from recess are most often utilized in the formulation of regional development programs, particularly those related to infrastructure development, education and health services, social assistance, and community empowerment. The DPRD uses these aspirations to determine development priorities and oversee their implementation in regional planning and budgeting documents.

Supporting findings indicate that aspirations generated from field visits are used as a basis for evaluating the implementation of local government programs. The DPRD uses field observations to identify gaps between policies and actual community conditions and to monitor local government performance. The aspirations obtained through audiences and hearings are used as material for sectoral policy reviews and the improvement of regional regulations. These aspirations are generally used to discuss specific issues requiring a more in-depth policy response. Meanwhile, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) utilizes the results of the Regional People's Consultative Assembly (RDP) as official material in formulating recommendations to the regional government. Strategic and urgent aspirations are used as the basis for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of regional government policies. The study also found that aspirations resulting from the Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum) are utilized in a structured manner within the regional development planning system. Aspirations agreed upon in the Musrenbang are integrated into the regional government's annual planning documents and development programs. Furthermore, the study found differences in the level of urgency of aspirations in the decision-making process. Aspirations resulting from RDPs and hearings tend to be categorized as important and urgent because they directly relate to public services and community demands. Aspirations resulting from recess and Musrenbang are more often categorized as important but not urgent because they relate to long-term development programs. Meanwhile, aspirations resulting from field visits are more technically urgent, but not always strategic in regional policy decision-making.

Overall, the study findings indicate that the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD has attempted to utilize community aspirations in the decision-making process through various institutional mechanisms. However, the effectiveness of aspiration utilization still requires strengthening aspects such as digital documentation, transparency of follow-up, equitable community participation, and synchronization between community aspirations and regional development priorities.

DISCUSSION

Analysis of Research Results

The research findings indicate that the process of collecting, processing, and utilizing public aspirations by the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) has been implemented through formal institutional mechanisms such as recesses, working visits, audiences, Hearings (RDP), and Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum). However, the effectiveness of this implementation still faces various obstacles, particularly in the areas of system digitalization, equitable public participation, institutional documentation, and transparency of follow-up on aspirations. At the aspiration gathering stage, the dominance of recess activities indicates that communication patterns between the DPRD and the public remain conventional and rely on direct interaction. This situation indicates that the DPRD's representational function is still not fully supported by an information technology-based public participation system. Although face-to-face mechanisms are considered effective in understanding the actual conditions of the community, reliance on conventional methods limits the reach of participation, especially for those unable to attend recess activities in person.

Furthermore, the research findings indicate that public participation in conveying aspirations is not fully inclusive. Aspirations are still dominated by community leaders, village officials, and school officials, while the involvement of women, youth, and the general public remains relatively low. This situation indicates a gap in participation in the local political representation process. The low participation of marginalized groups can impact the quality of aspirations received by the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), as the diverse needs of the community are not fully accommodated proportionally. Regarding aspiration processing, the study found that the DPRD has implemented administrative and substantive stages, including recording, classification, field verification, and discussion within the commissions. This indicates that aspirations have been systematically managed through institutional coordination. However, the lack of a standard classification system and the continued use of manual methods have prevented optimal aspiration management. Documentation and follow-up monitoring of aspirations also remain limited, making it difficult for the public to track the progress of submitted aspirations.

Furthermore, the study results indicate that public aspirations are utilized in DPRD decision-making through integration of aspirations into regional development program discussions, budgeting, and policy implementation oversight. Public aspirations have become a fundamental consideration in formulating the DPRD's main ideas and regional development planning. However, not all aspirations can be realized due to limitations in the regional budget, development priorities, and local government authority. This situation indicates that the utilization of public aspirations is selective and takes into account urgency, relevance, and regional fiscal capacity. The use of the Eisenhower Model in this study demonstrates that the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) prioritizes aspirations based on their importance and urgency. Important and urgent aspirations, such as complaints about public services and social conflicts, tend to receive a faster response through the Hearing (RDP) and audience mechanisms. Meanwhile, aspirations resulting from recess and Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum) are more widely used for medium- and long-term development planning. This analysis demonstrates that DPRD decision-making considers strategic aspects in determining regional policy priorities.

Literature Comparison

The results of this study indicate that the process of collecting, processing, and utilizing community aspirations by the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD has essentially been carried out through formal mechanisms such as recesses, audiences, Hearings (RDP), working visits, and Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum). This finding aligns with research by Mawaddah et al., (2024), Kurniasih, (2021), serta Azzahri & Andri, (2021) which states that recesses remain the DPRD's primary instrument in absorbing and articulating community aspirations. This similarity indicates that DPRD representation patterns in various regions are still dominated by face-to-face approaches and direct communication with the community. This study also strengthens the findings of ALIT & Sulandari, (2022) and Noviyanto & Purnawan, (2022) that the effectiveness of aspiration management is influenced by the DPRD's ability to prioritize community needs and regional budget limitations. Community aspirations cannot all be realized because they must be adjusted to development priorities and the fiscal capacity of the local government. A similar finding was confirmed by Wampler et al., (2021) in an international study, which stated that public participation in decision-making remains limited by government resources and policy frameworks.

From an institutional perspective, this study's findings align with those of Hidayatullah et al., (2025) who found that aspiration processing involves administrative stages, field verification, commission discussions, and institutional coordination with the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD). However, this study also found that the aspiration processing system remains manual and lacks standard classification. These findings are consistent with those of Fatah et al., (2023) and Hidayatullah et al., (2025) which show that weak digitalization results in suboptimal documentation and monitoring of aspirations. Furthermore, this study shares similarities with Selvia, (2025) and Yasin & Mulyanto, (2023) who assert that digitalizing aspiration management can improve the effectiveness of documentation, transparency, and follow-up of public aspirations. Internationally, Davies et al., (2022) also emphasize that digital platforms can expand public participation and increase transparency in decision-making. Thus, the need to develop a digital aspiration system in this study aligns with the trend of modern e-participation-based governance reform.

The results of this study are related to research conducted by Laima et al., (2023) on the strategic decision-making process of principals in public elementary schools. Laima et al., (2023) research shows that an effective decision-making process involves four main stages: identification, development, completion, and implementation and evaluation of decisions. All stages are categorized as good, indicating that systematic and structured decision-making significantly influences the effectiveness of education policies. These findings are similar to the results of this study, which show that the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) also implements systematic stages in managing public aspirations, starting from collecting aspirations, processing them through classification and verification, and finally utilizing them in regional decision-making. The similarities between the two studies lie in the importance of problem identification and prioritization before making decisions. In the study by Laima et al., (2023), the principal identified school needs and developed alternative solutions before making strategic decisions. In this study, the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) recorded, classified, discussed, and prioritized community aspirations before integrating them into regional development programs.

In terms of community participation, the results of this study support the findings of Thalib et al., (2023) and Jailani et al., (2025) which showed that community participation in DPRD activities is not fully inclusive, as it is still dominated by community leaders,

village officials, and certain groups. Women, youth, and the general public remain relatively less active in conveying their aspirations. This situation indicates that substantive public participation still requires strengthening through outreach, information transparency, and expanding public access to communication. This study also offers a distinct contribution compared to previous research because it uses the Eisenhower Model analysis to classify public aspirations based on their urgency and importance. While most previous studies have focused solely on the mechanisms for aspiration absorption, this study demonstrates that public aspirations can be categorized into important and urgent, important but not urgent, and urgent but not too important. This approach provides a new perspective in understanding how the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) sets policy priorities and makes decisions more strategically and efficiently.

Implications of Research Findings

The results of this study have theoretical, practical, and policy implications. Theoretically, this study reinforces the concept of public participation and political representation in local government, suggesting that the effectiveness of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) decision-making is significantly influenced by the quality of public aspiration management. This study also demonstrates that using a prioritization approach, such as the Eisenhower Model, can assist the DPRD in more systematically determining the urgency and importance of public aspirations. Practically, this study demonstrates the need to develop a digital system for managing public aspirations, integrating them from collection, documentation, classification, verification, and follow-up monitoring. Digitizing the aspiration system can improve administrative efficiency, expedite the follow-up process, and expand public access to convey aspirations in a more transparent and accountable manner.

Furthermore, the DPRD needs to improve its public participation outreach and education strategy to make community involvement more inclusive, particularly for women, youth, and the general public. Strengthening human resource capacity and developing standard operating procedures (SOPs) for aspiration management are also crucial steps to improve the quality of public aspiration services. From a policy perspective, the results of this study can provide input for the DPRD and local governments in strengthening local political representation systems through the development of e-aspiration, increasing the transparency of publication of recess results, and strengthening

the monitoring and evaluation system for the realization of public aspirations. Thus, the decision-making process in the field of education can be more responsive, participatory, and in accordance with community needs.

Research Limitations

This study still has several limitations. First, the study was only conducted in the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), so the results cannot be generalized to all DPRDs in other regions, which have different social, political, and institutional characteristics. Second, this study primarily used a qualitative approach through interviews and documentation, so the results are heavily influenced by the perceptions and subjectivity of informants. This research is not yet supported by quantitative data that can statistically measure the effectiveness of public aspiration management. Third, this study focused more on the process of collecting, processing, and utilizing public aspirations in the field of education, so it did not fully discuss other development sectors such as health, the economy, and infrastructure. Therefore, further research is expected to develop a mixed methods approach and expand the scope of research sectors to obtain a more comprehensive picture of the effectiveness of public aspiration management in DPRD decision-making.

CONCLUSION

Based on the research results and discussion, it can be concluded that the effective utilization of public aspirations in decision-making in the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) has progressed through three main stages: aspiration gathering, aspiration processing within the DPRD institution, and utilization of aspirations in regional decision-making. During the aspiration gathering stage, the DPRD utilized various formal mechanisms such as recesses, field visits, audiences, public hearings (RDP), and Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum). Of these mechanisms, recesses were the most dominant channel for gathering public aspirations. The aspirations collected generally relate to infrastructure development, education, health services, social assistance, and other public service needs. However, the aspiration gathering process still faces obstacles such as the use of conventional documentation systems, suboptimal use of information technology, and unequal public participation, particularly among women, youth, and the general public.

During the aspiration processing stage, the North Bolaang Mongondow Regency DPRD implemented administrative and substantive processes through recording, classification, field verification, commission discussions, and the development of policy recommendations. The most dominant public aspirations in the education sector include the construction and rehabilitation of educational facilities, equitable teacher distribution, educational assistance, and improving the quality of the school environment. Aspiration processing is carried out by considering the urgency of community needs, compliance with regional planning documents, and the budgetary capabilities of local governments. However, the effectiveness of aspiration processing remains suboptimal due to the lack of a standard classification system, weak digitization of aspiration management, and limited monitoring of follow-up to community aspirations.

Furthermore, at the aspiration utilization stage, the study found that the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) has utilized community aspirations as a basis for regional development planning, program and budget formulation, policy oversight, and public service evaluation. Aspirations resulting from recess and Musrenbang (Regional Development Planning Forum) are more widely utilized in medium- and long-term development planning, while aspirations resulting from public hearings and hearings (RDP) tend to receive a faster response due to their importance and urgency. This study also shows that the utilization of community aspirations is selective, influenced by regional development priorities, budget constraints, and local government authority. The use of the Eisenhower Model analysis in this study demonstrates that the DPRD groups aspirations based on their level of urgency and importance, enabling a more strategic decision-making process.

Theoretically, this research contributes to the development of public administration and local politics, particularly regarding the concepts of political representation, public participation, and regional governance. This research reinforces the view that the effectiveness of political representation is determined not only by the Regional People's Representative Council's (DPRD) ability to absorb public aspirations, but also by the institutional capacity to process, prioritize, and utilize these aspirations in decision-making. Furthermore, this research makes a novel contribution through the use of the Eisenhower Model as an analytical approach to classifying public aspirations based on their importance and urgency. This approach provides a new perspective for understanding the policy prioritization mechanisms within the DPRD more systematically and efficiently.

Practically, the results of this research demonstrate the importance of developing an integrated digital system for managing public aspirations, from the collection, documentation, classification, verification, and monitoring of follow-up actions. The DPRD also needs to increase the transparency of the publication of recess results and follow-up actions to foster public trust in the regional representative institution. Furthermore, strategies are needed to increase inclusive public participation through outreach, public education, and expanding public communication access, particularly for women, youth, and the general public. Based on the limitations of this study, further research is recommended to use a mixed methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative methods, to measure the effectiveness of public aspiration management more objectively and comprehensively. Future research is also expected to expand the research location to several regional legislative councils (DPRD) in other regions to provide a comparison of the effectiveness of public aspiration management in different social and political contexts. In addition, future research can develop studies in other development sectors such as health, economy, and infrastructure, as well as examine the implementation of the e-aspiration system as a form of digital transformation in participatory and accountable regional governance.

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