

The Role of the Gorontalo City DPRD in Supervising Infrastructure Development: Corrective Actions to Improve Development Quality

Sakbir¹, Arifin Tahir¹, Sukarman Kamuli¹, Yanti Aneta¹

Public Administration, Gorontalo State University, Indonesia

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Corresponding Author:

Sakbir
Email: sakbirumgo@gmail.com



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ABSTRACT

Indonesia's rapid development, particularly in democratic governance, has highlighted the importance of regional autonomy. The establishment of regional autonomy aims to empower local governments to manage their own affairs, including infrastructure development. The role of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), especially in overseeing infrastructure projects, is crucial to ensure the effective use of allocated funds. This research adopts a qualitative approach, with data collected through interviews, observations, and documentation. The study focuses on the oversight function of the DPRD Gorontalo City, specifically Commission C, in managing infrastructure development funded by the National Economic Recovery (PEN) program. The findings reveal that the DPRD Commission C's oversight function is not fully optimized. Despite regular hearings and field visits, the lack of concrete corrective actions has resulted in delayed and substandard projects. The community's pressure has been more effective than the DPRD's oversight in ensuring project completion. Evaluations and corrective actions are often procedural, with limited follow-up, and the political influence affects the DPRD's ability to push for significant changes. The DPRD Commission C's oversight in infrastructure development has not been fully effective, especially in ensuring projects meet targets. It is recommended that the DPRD conduct more rigorous field inspections, involve independent experts, and enforce stricter penalties for non-compliance to improve the quality of oversight and project outcomes.

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous country, is currently at a crucial juncture in its journey towards democratic governance (Slater, 2023). Along with rapid economic progress, Indonesia has also demonstrated significant progress in a more inclusive and participatory governance system. Democracy in Indonesia encompasses not only free and fair elections but also a strengthened transparent and accountable governance system (Irawan et al., 2025; Suparto et al., 2024). In this context, democratic governance demands a more equitable distribution of power and a government that is responsive to the needs of the people.

Wahyudin et al. (2024) said that, one strategic step taken to accelerate the development process and improve public welfare is the implementation of regional autonomy. Regional autonomy grants each region the right to manage its own government affairs, allowing it to focus more on solving local problems (Duncan, 2007). With regional autonomy, each province, district,

and city has the authority to plan and implement development, including in critical sectors such as education, health, the economy, and infrastructure, which directly impact the lives of its citizens (Permana et al., 2024; Pahrudin & Darminto, 2021; Popova et al., 2021)

The implementation of regional autonomy is regulated by Law Number 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government, which provides the legal basis for regional governments to operate as autonomous entities (Sipayung & Cristian, 2022; Suparto, 2021; Fatimah et al., 2024). Regional autonomy in Indonesia is based on two main principles: decentralization and deconcentration. Decentralization provides regions with the freedom to regulate and manage their own affairs, while deconcentration transfers some central government duties to regional governments in an administrative manner. This principle of decentralization allows regions to leverage local potential to accelerate development and achieve equitable prosperity.

However, in its implementation, the management of regional autonomy in Indonesia faces various challenges (Setiawan & Hadi, 2007). One of these is the role of the Regional Representative Council (DPRD) in carrying out its oversight function over regional government policies and programs. The DPRD has a significant responsibility in overseeing regional development, particularly in ensuring that allocated budgets are used efficiently and effectively (Mahendra & Muttaqin, 2023; Tartib & Wahyuni, 2023). In this regard, the DPRD's oversight function is vital because effective oversight can prevent irregularities and ensure that infrastructure development is carried out according to established standards.

One important aspect of oversight is the corrective actions that must be taken when there is a discrepancy between implementation results and established standards. This is where the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) plays a crucial role, particularly in taking concrete steps to address issues arising during development, particularly those related to infrastructure projects. For example, projects funded by the National Economic Recovery (PEN) fund after the COVID-19 pandemic are highly urgent, yet often face obstacles in terms of implementation that does not go according to plan.

Although various oversight measures, such as public hearings (RDP) and field visits, have been conducted by the Gorontalo City Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), these oversight efforts often fail to significantly impact project completion. Many infrastructure projects experience delays or irregularities, even dragging on without clear solutions. These projects not only disrupt the lives of surrounding communities but also generate dissatisfaction with the local government.

Based on this, this study focuses on the role of the Gorontalo City DPRD in taking corrective action in the oversight process of infrastructure development in Gorontalo City. This study aims to explore how the Gorontalo City DPRD, specifically Commission C, which is responsible for development, compares project implementation results with established targets and standards. Furthermore, this study will identify the challenges the DPRD faces in implementing concrete corrective actions to ensure development progresses according to its intended objectives.

METHODOLOGY AND PROCEDURES

This study uses a qualitative approach to examine the oversight function of the Gorontalo City Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), focusing on infrastructure development oversight. The qualitative approach was chosen because it emphasizes a deep understanding of the dynamics of the relationships between observed phenomena and fosters a concept of sensitivity to the issues at hand. Data were obtained through various data collection techniques, such as interviews, observation, and documentation, which were conducted continuously until data saturation was reached. This research is descriptive in nature, aiming to describe in detail the phenomenon under study, namely the DPRD's oversight function in infrastructure

development in Gorontalo City. Descriptive research focuses on meticulous data collection to describe existing variables or conditions. Thus, this study is expected to provide a clear picture of the effectiveness of oversight carried out by the Gorontalo City DPRD, particularly Commission C, in managing infrastructure development in the city. The entire series and process of data collection were carried out by the researcher himself as the main instrument in this study. This research took place in a scientific setting, requiring the researcher's presence in the field. Therefore, the researcher conducted direct observations related to the supervisory activities of members of Commission C of the Gorontalo City Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) regarding the implementation of infrastructure development in Gorontalo City, particularly those utilizing PEN funds. She also collected necessary documents, including the frequency of hearings with infrastructure development stakeholders in Gorontalo City, such as the Public Works and Public Housing (PUPR) Agency (Bina Marga dan Cipta Karya), Project Implementers, and affected communities.

The researcher directly collected data on the supervisory activities of members of Commission C of the Gorontalo City DPRD regarding the implementation of infrastructure development in Gorontalo City, particularly those utilizing PEN funds, through interviews prepared in advance in a draft interview guide. Several informants were pre-determined by the researcher as having sufficient knowledge to answer the researcher's questions. The interviews were conducted openly to obtain more information regarding the supervisory activities of members of Commission C of the Gorontalo City DPRD regarding the implementation of infrastructure development in Gorontalo City, particularly those utilizing PEN funds. During the interview process, the author took manual notes and also recorded audio to strengthen the writing of the research results with the informants. Furthermore, the researcher also continued to conduct observations, particularly during the supervisory activities conducted by members of Commission C of the Gorontalo City DPRD, both in the field and through hearings with stakeholders.

Data Collection Techniques and Procedures

This study used a combination of data collection methods, including observation, interviews, and documentation. During the observations, the researchers observed the activities of Commission C members in overseeing infrastructure development in Gorontalo City, particularly those utilizing National Economic Recovery (PEN) funds, as well as all documents related to the project's implementation. Interviews were conducted openly with informants who were stakeholders in infrastructure development, including Commission C members such as Mr. Irwan Hunawa, Mr. Ariston Tilameo, Mr. Totok Bachtiar, and several other members, as well as City Government representatives such as Mr. Dicky Haryadi Bau and Ms. Asrini Maria. Documentation techniques were used to collect relevant documents, such as the history of the Gorontalo City DPRD (Regional People's Representative Council), its vision and mission, main duties and functions, standard operating procedures (SOPs), bureaucratic structure, work plans, and documents related to the supervisory functions of Commission C members, including the Detailed Engineering Design (DED) for four infrastructure development projects and minutes of meetings with stakeholders. Secondary data was also obtained from previous studies relevant to this research theme.

Data Analysis Techniques

In this study, the data analysis technique used a qualitative descriptive analysis method, which aims to describe emerging problems based on current facts from a population, as explained by Vaismoradi et al. (2013). This qualitative method was chosen to obtain in-depth and meaningful data, as stated by Fadli (2021). The data analysis process was carried out continuously during data collection and after completion within a specified period. The analysis process began with data reduction, which involved simplifying and sorting relevant data related to the Gorontalo City DPRD's oversight function in infrastructure development. Next, the

reduced data was presented in an easily understood and communicative format, facilitating the interpretation of the research results. The final stage of data analysis was conclusion or verification, in which the researcher formulated conclusions based on the findings obtained regarding the Gorontalo City DPRD's oversight function in infrastructure development in the city.

Data Validity Check

Data validity checking is a crucial step in ensuring that the data generated is credible and scientifically valid. This process aims to reduce errors in data collection that could impact the final research results. Data validity in qualitative research is tested using four main criteria: credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability. Data credibility is tested to ensure that the collected data corresponds to the facts on the ground, avoiding researcher bias and prejudice. Transferability refers to the extent to which research results can be applied to different contexts or settings, which can be strengthened by a clear description of the research context and assumptions. Dependability assesses the extent to which the quality of the research process is maintained throughout the study, from planning to reporting results. Confirmability is achieved by confirming data with informants or other competent parties, to ensure that research results are supported by available materials, and to ensure the objectivity and validity of research findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) oversight can serve as evaluation material for improving the quality of development for the benefit of the community. If deviations are identified during implementation, improvements are necessary. Corrective action follows the evaluation. Evaluation itself is a measurement and improvement activity, such as comparing and analyzing activity results. Success is measured across various components, including the methods used, the use of resources, and the achievement of objectives. Evaluation can also be used to identify the strengths and weaknesses of an individual or tool in a specific area of competence.

After an evaluation, areas that are not in line with established targets and standards will be identified. Once these issues are identified, corrective action is necessary. The Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Development of Gorontalo City consistently conducts evaluations throughout the development process and concludes with corrective action. This is consistent with an interview with Deputy Chair of the DPRD Commission C/Development. As follows:

"If any problems arise, we will recall the Public Works and Housing Agency (DPUPR) and discuss them together, evaluating the issue. Then, we will jointly find a solution, and everything must be in accordance with the existing duties and functions." (Interview on January 29, 2023, in the meeting room of Commission C/Gorontalo City Development).

Furthermore, an evaluation will be conducted once the construction is completed and inaugurated. This is consistent with an interview with Chair of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Gorontalo City Development. He stated:

"At the end of the mega project, there will be a hearing between the DPUPR and Commission C. This will be held for a final evaluation and also to discuss the inauguration of the construction." (Interview on April 15, 2023, in the meeting room of Commission C/Gorontalo City Development).

Furthermore, the Chair of DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City Development, further explained when the oversight function for regional infrastructure development will be completed.

"Monitoring is still ongoing even though construction has been completed, and several

projects have been inaugurated and are already in use. Because it's the project implementer's responsibility to maintain them for the next six months. Commission C continues to monitor this. Concerned about incidents or disruptions, we're still monitoring them. Furthermore, beyond the six-month period, anything related to infrastructure in general remains Commission C's responsibility. If there's a report that needs to be built, renovated, or repaired, that becomes our focus. Furthermore, after construction is complete, there must be an accountability report, regarding performance and any issues that have arisen. We also need to assess the budget and whether it has been utilized." (Interview on January 18, 2023, in the Commission C/Gorontalo City Development meeting room)

The Deputy Chair of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Development added the following regarding when the supervisory function for regional infrastructure development will be completed:

"Physically, it may be finished. But under the contract, there may still be a guarantee, for several months. So if there are problems, the contractor will be responsible. There may be cracks or other problems. But after the specified time period has expired, the City Government will resolve them. And we continue to perform our supervisory function because it still relates to our infrastructure." (Interview on January 29, 2023, in the meeting room of Commission C/Development of Gorontalo City)

a member of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Development added the following regarding when the supervisory function for regional infrastructure development will be completed:

"Not yet, it's not finished. Because as long as we are in office, the supervisory function remains in place for everything. Whether it's a development project or an existing building, it's our responsibility to supervise. Especially if there's information that's important and requires immediate repairs. Then we'll call the relevant agencies and the contractor. The building has a guarantee in accordance with the work contract. If it's still under warranty, then the responsibility is ours." "The contractor." (Interview on January 29, 2023 in the meeting room of Commission C/Gorontalo City Development)

The Gorontalo City Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Development conducts evaluations and takes corrective action starting while construction is still underway. If any issues arise that deviate from the initial plan, they will evaluate and find solutions. Furthermore, Commission C/Development also holds synchronization hearings with partners at the end of construction. However, the DPRD Commission C/Development's oversight function does not end there. The DPRD Commission C/Development continues to monitor the Gorontalo City Mega Project buildings, as these buildings are Gorontalo City assets that must be continuously monitored.

The community is crucial to the success of any policy; they are needed to assist in policy oversight. The successful implementation of this oversight function is inseparable from the support of the surrounding community. Public support is essential for maintaining good cooperation as supervisors. As stated by Isbandi in Rizal (2014:4), participation is spontaneous involvement accompanied by awareness and responsibility for group interests to achieve common goals. Several forms of community participation include: participation in the form of labor, participation in the form of funds, participation in the form of materials, and participation in the form of information. For successful implementation, collaboration with the community is required.

The community's function is crucial. The community assists and supports the implementation process of the DPRD's oversight function, such as providing coordination, obtaining information, providing labor, and so on. The community involved includes neighborhood unit

(RT/RW) heads and the community surrounding the development area. Collaboration with the community ensures successful program implementation due to community participation. The community also plays an active role in providing the latest information regarding development activities in their area to the DPRD Commission C/Development. This was explained by the Chair of Commission C/Development of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), who said:

"Yes, that's right. Thank God, the community around this development plays an active role. They are very supportive of the development in their area. They help with everything from land acquisition to providing information. For example, yesterday, when work was halted, the community immediately provided information. Furthermore, if there are any complaints, they immediately convey them to us. They also become our partners in carrying out supervision." (Interview on January 18, 2021, in the meeting room of Commission C/Development of Gorontalo City)

A member of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Development added regarding community assistance, as follows:

"Besides the assistance we receive from the Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPD), which are our working partners, we also receive assistance from the community. In this case, this could be the local community or journalists." (Interview on January 29, 2021, in the meeting room of Commission C/Development in Gorontalo City)

As explained above, the community is a key factor in program implementation. The community plays a significant role in supporting the program. Based on the explanation above, a policy's implementation can be influenced by collaboration with the community. Community resources are highly influential and helpful in implementing the oversight function assigned by the DPRD Commission C/Development. The community is the primary supporter of program implementation because they are the ones most familiar with the conditions in their respective areas. Without community participation and cooperation, program implementation will not run smoothly.

Research Findings

Taking corrective action, as intended in this research, is the measurement and assessment phase of the oversight activities of the Gorontalo City Council (DPRD) Commission C/City Development, aimed at ensuring that infrastructure development in Gorontalo City is proceeding according to its objectives and the extent to which it benefits the wider community. Based on the observations, interviews, and analysis, it can be concluded that the function of the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C in taking corrective action on infrastructure development in Gorontalo City is suboptimal. This is evident in the results of hearings or Hearings (RDPs), which appear procedural and lack more concrete steps to ensure infrastructure development projects are progressing according to their goals and targets. There are no binding steps or ongoing oversight. Recommendations resulting from RDPs or findings in the field are often not seriously followed up by the relevant Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs), and there is no further effort by DPRD Commission C to exert pressure on the Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs). Political reasons are strongly suspected in the lack of greater pressure from the Gorontalo City Council Commission C to pressure the Gorontalo City Government or related Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs).

Public pressure is, in fact, more effective in optimizing the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C's oversight performance. (a) Strict field inspections: Instead of relying solely on the Hearing Plan (RDP) and the Deed (DED) documents, Commission C must regularly conduct unannounced field inspections. These inspections should focus not only on progress but also on material quality and compliance with technical specifications. (b) Involving independent experts: If necessary, the DPRD can collaborate with construction experts or independent

consultants to conduct technical audits. This will provide more objective data and analysis than simply relying on reports from relevant agencies. (c) Imposing strict sanctions: The DPRD must urge the City Government (Pemkot) to implement strict sanctions in accordance with the contract, such as late payment fines or even blacklisting problematic contractors. Based on these research findings, the researcher then described the problems faced by four infrastructure development projects in Gorontalo City whose funding sources were loans from PT Sarana Multi Infrastruktur (Persero) or PT. SMI.

Discussion

Taking corrective action in supervision is a crucial process to ensure that organizational or project activities are running according to established plans and standards. This corrective action aims to address deviations or nonconformities discovered during the supervision process, which are carried out within the control tolerance limits. Therefore, managers take corrective action or adjustments, including changing the standards used. Results that differ due to deviations should not be postponed, excused, or compromised; they must be addressed and corrected as quickly as possible, as this is essential. Corrective action may involve planning, such as changes in motivating workers to gain new or deeper insights and understanding of existing policies. It may also involve changes in procedures or new ways of checking results. To achieve the best results, correcting deviations must be accompanied by individual responsibility. Responsibility is aligned with the task at hand to achieve optimal results.

Therefore, control has little meaning unless corrective action is taken to address deviations from the plan. Taking corrective action on any significant deviation is mandatory for managers. There are two types of actions that can be taken regarding actual performance if deviations occur: taking immediate corrective action or taking corrective action on issues that are still symptoms. Therefore, these corrective actions are described as "putting out fires." Fundamental corrective actions examine how and why performance deviates and then correct the source of the deviation. Therefore, corrective action for deviations is carried out by first identifying and obtaining sources of information that caused the deviation. The activity of taking corrective action relates to or is related to a tool within a specific area of competence. After the evaluation, it will be identified what is not in line with established targets and standards. Once these are identified, corrective action is necessary.

The Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Gorontalo City Development consistently conducts evaluations throughout the development process and concludes with corrective action. Throughout the development process, the DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City Development consistently compares established targets and standards with current results. If any discrepancies or discrepancies are found, the DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City Development will evaluate and take corrective action. This is in accordance with the results of the interview where the DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City Development will summon DPURPKP (Gorontalo City Public Works and Spatial Planning Agency) if there are obstacles in the field, then the DPRD Commission C/Development will summon and evaluate the relevant parties involved in infrastructure development.

The subsequent oversight of Gorontalo City's infrastructure development by the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Gorontalo City Development concluded with a meeting on General Affairs and Spatial Planning (PPP) at the end of the project. The inauguration of the infrastructure development was also discussed. Furthermore, interviews revealed that the oversight function of the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City Development does not end with the completion of the megaproject. Even after the megaproject is completed, the DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City Development continues to perform its oversight function.

The oversight function carried out by the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C/Gorontalo City

Development after the completion of Gorontalo City's infrastructure development is a form of oversight of regional infrastructure. All existing regional infrastructure must be continuously monitored as it is a regional asset of Gorontalo City that must be maintained. If evaluation results indicate the need for corrective action, this action must be taken. Corrective action can take various forms, including: "Changing performance measurements (inspections too frequently or too rarely, or even replacing the measurement system itself), changing the initial standards (perhaps too high or too low), changing the method of analyzing and interpreting deviations." According to Robbins and Coulter (in Satriadi), taking action is the decision to take corrective or corrective action. If a deviation occurs between the standard and the actual performance, follow-up action is necessary to correct the deviation.

The degree of difference between actual and desired performance will determine the corrective action or adjustment, or the need for action. One good way to determine the degree or magnitude of the need for action is through the use of controls. In short, if performance results are in accordance with standards, the appropriate response for managers is to acknowledge acceptable performance and maintain the status quo. Then, monitor and measure performance and results. In this case, individuals, groups, or work units normally continue their duties without significant change. If actual performance results deviate from, do not meet, or have not yet achieved standards,

Based on the results of observations, interviews, and analysis, it can be concluded that the function of the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C in taking corrective action on infrastructure development in Gorontalo City is not optimal. This is evident from the results of hearings or RDPs that appear procedural and the absence of more concrete steps in ensuring that infrastructure development projects run according to targets and goals. There are no binding steps and ongoing supervision. The recommendations resulting from RDPs or findings in the field are often not seriously followed up by the relevant Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs) and there are no further efforts from the DPRD Commission C to continue to put pressure on the Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs).

Political reasons are a strong suspicion related to the lack of further efforts from the DPRD Commission C to pressure the Gorontalo City Government or the relevant Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs) and in fact public pressure is more effective in optimizing the supervisory performance of the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C; (a) Strict field inspections: Instead of relying solely on RDPs and DED documents, Commission C must routinely conduct surprise inspections in the field. This inspection should not only focus on progress, but also on material quality and compliance with technical specifications. (b) Involving independent experts: If necessary, the DPRD can collaborate with construction experts or independent consultants to conduct technical audits. This will provide more objective data and analysis than simply relying on reports from relevant agencies. (c) Establishing strict sanctions: The DPRD should urge the City Government (Pemkot) to implement strict sanctions in accordance with the contract, such as late fines or even blacklisting problematic contractors.

In overseeing infrastructure development in Gorontalo City, Gary Dessler explains three main steps in the Paradigma Journal. The first step is determining targets and standards, which Dessler believes must be achieved by establishing clear objectives, starting with budget administration, estimated pricing, the tender stage, and the construction itself. These targets must align with the standards set by the Gorontalo City Public Works and Spatial Planning Agency (DPUPR), in the form of a Detailed Engineering Design (DED). However, in practice, the Gorontalo City Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) Commission C/Development does not have specific oversight standards for infrastructure development funded by the National Economic Recovery (PEN) program. Commission C relies solely on the DED as a supervisory guideline without any SOPs or implementation instructions focused

on the project.

The second step in oversight is comparing results with targets and standards. In this stage, DPRD Commission C/Development compares the construction conditions on the ground with the previously established DED. This process is carried out through hearings, meetings, and regular field visits. However, oversight tends to rely on information from hearings or public consultation meetings (RDPs) with the City Government and relevant agencies, which often do not significantly impact the sustainability of stalled development projects. Nevertheless, pressure from public participation has proven more effective in encouraging the Gorontalo City Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD), particularly Commission C, to optimize oversight activities.

The third step is to take corrective action based on the evaluation results. Evaluations are conducted throughout the infrastructure development process, and if obstacles are identified in the field, DPRD Commission C/Development will summon the Gorontalo City Public Works and Spatial Planning Agency (DPUPRPKP) to find a joint solution. At the end of construction, DPRD Commission C also holds a hearing to evaluate the results. However, despite this process, the oversight function carried out by DPRD Commission C is not optimal. The results of the hearings or RDPs are often procedural and not followed up with concrete steps to ensure projects are on track and on target. Recommendations resulting from field findings are often not seriously followed up by the relevant Regional Government Organizations (OPD), and there is no sustained effort by DPRD Commission C to pressure OPDs to take necessary action.

CONCLUSION

The function of the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C in taking corrective action on infrastructure development in Gorontalo City has not been optimal. This is evident from the results of hearings or RDPs that appear procedural and the absence of more concrete steps to ensure that infrastructure development projects run according to targets and goals. There are no binding steps and ongoing supervision. The recommendations resulting from RDPs or findings in the field are often not seriously followed up by the relevant Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs) and there are no further efforts from the DPRD Commission C to continue to exert pressure on the Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs). Political reasons are a strong suspicion related to the lack of further efforts from the DPRD Commission C to pressure the Gorontalo City Government or the relevant Regional Apparatus Organizations (OPDs) and in fact public pressure is more effective in optimizing the supervisory performance of the Gorontalo City DPRD Commission C; (a) Strict field inspections: Instead of relying solely on RDPs and DED documents, Commission C must routinely conduct unannounced inspections in the field. These inspections should not only focus on progress, but also on the quality of materials and compliance with technical specifications; (b) Involving independent experts: If necessary, the DPRD can collaborate with construction experts or independent consultants to conduct technical audits. This will provide more objective data and analysis than simply relying on reports from relevant agencies; (c) Establishing strict sanctions: The DPRD must urge the City Government (Pemkot) to implement strict sanctions in accordance with the contract, such as late fines or even blacklisting problematic contractors.

SUGGESTION

The implementation of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD)'s oversight function in infrastructure development in Gorontalo City must be strengthened by meaningful community involvement. Meaningful participation in oversight is community involvement that is not merely a formality, but is truly recognized, listened to, and has a real impact on the oversight process and outcomes. This differs from ordinary participation, which is often ceremonial. In the context of DPRD oversight, meaningful participation ensures that the community is an integral part of the overall oversight cycle.

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