D1.3.1 Training materials

Why participation?

- Effective public participation is a **cornerstone of successful spatial planning and governance.**

- It involves **community input at various stages**, from strategic planning to implementation.

- **If** public participation is **avoided**, it often leads to **public opposition.**

Why participation?

- **Participation is possible through formal channels or grassroots initiatives.**

- Grassroots initiatives, though informal, significantly enhance the quality of public spaces and living conditions.

- Participation to more **inclusive and sustainable planning.**

- **Development opportunity** within the sustainable development model.

Different approaches to public participation

Participation in public space – IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies / Foto: Luka Dakskobler

Workshop – IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies

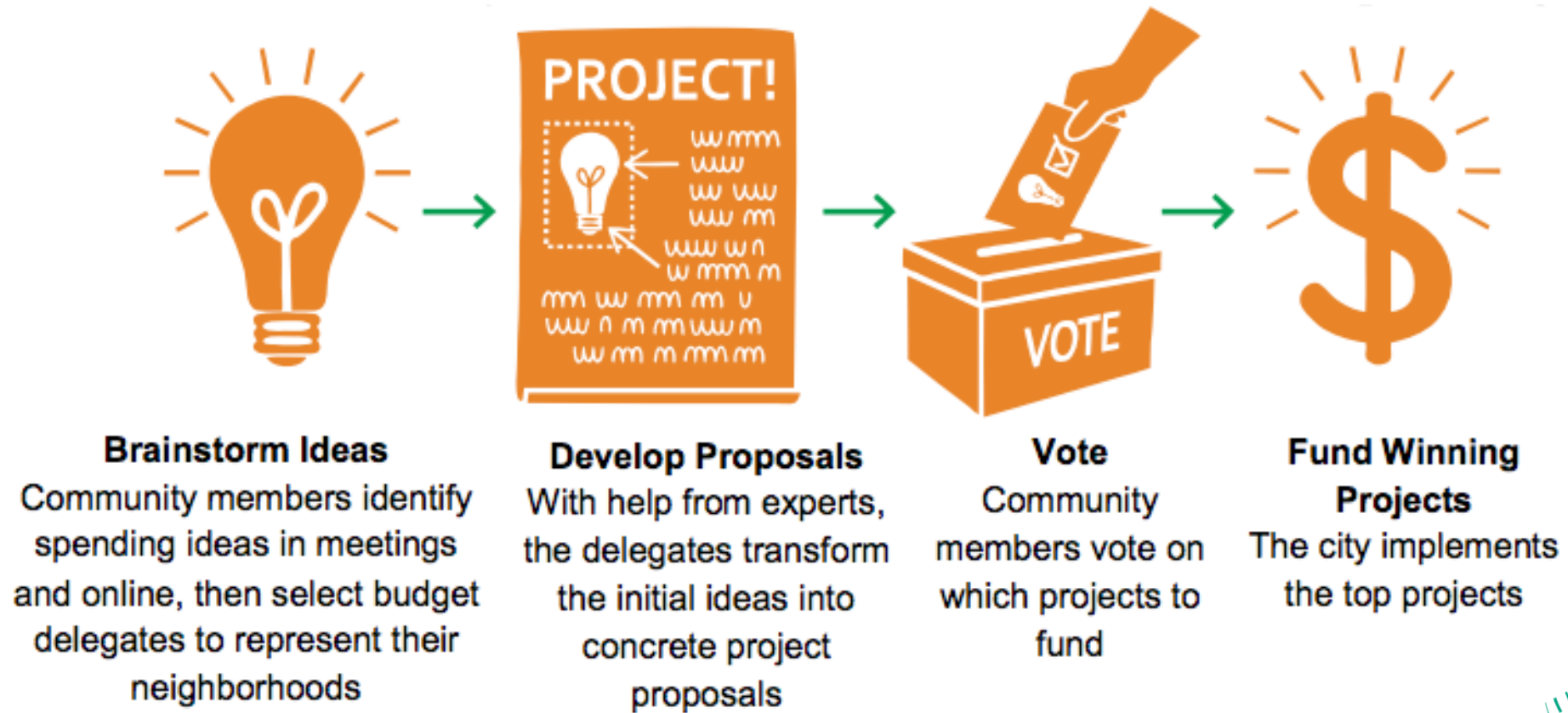Street festival – IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies / Photo: IPoP

Neighbourhood Matching Fund

- The Neighbourhood Matching Fund provides support for community groups to build community and neighbourhood connections while enhancing parks or other public spaces.

- The cities can provide funds up to $10,000 to match volunteer time and donated contributions from the community.

Participatory budget

Brainstorm Ideas
Community members identify spending ideas in meetings and online, then select budget delegates to represent their neighborhoods

Develop Proposals
With help from experts, the delegates transform the initial ideas into concrete project proposals

Vote
Community members vote on which projects to fund

Fund Winning Projects
The city implements the top projects

Participatory budget

- This approach began in Porto Alegre, Brazil, in 1989 as an anti-poverty measure and has since spread to over 7,000 cities worldwide, including over 3,000 in Europe.

- Once seen as bold and experimental, it's now common in cities of all sizes - from Buenos Aires and Boston to over 3,000 cities in Europe, including Paris, Milan, and Lisbon. Many Slovenian (Maribor, Koper, Ptuj, Nova Gorica and others) and Portuguese municipalities are also adopting this approach.

https://www.mariborsodeluj.si/budgets/36/investments?filter=winners&page=6&random_seed=8024988

Tips and tricks
for better participation

Does participation make sense in your case?

→ Are there any legal obligations for consultation or participation?

→ Does the planning concern or interest a large number of residents or interest groups?

→ Are there still opportunities to influence and (co-)shape final solutions?

→ Do decision-makers agree to consultation or participation (political commitments)?

→ Do you have the time, resources, and human capacity (internal or external) to prepare and carry out the consultation or participation?

Does participation make sense in your case?

→ Are there any legal obligations for consultation or participation?

→ Does the planning concern or interest a large number of residents or interest groups?

→ Are there still opportunities to influence and (co-)shape final solutions?

→ Do decision-makers agree to consultation or participation (political commitments)?

→ Do you have the time, resources, and human capacity (internal or external) to prepare and carry out the consultation or participation?

Did you answer "yes" to at least one of the above questions? Then consulting or engaging with the public is certainly worthwhile.

Methods

Methods

When choosing methods for citizen engagement think about:
- Reach
- Type of communication (one-way, two-way, coordination)
- Participants' influence on the decisions
- Creative potential – does the method generate new ideas?
- Promotional effect – does the method popularise the intervention?
- Complexity of implementation
- Work input required for method execution
- Difficulty of summarising and formulating conclusions
- Cost of execution

Characteristics / Method	Reach (how many people it reaches)	Type of communication	Participants' influence on decisions	Creative potential – does the method generate new ideas
Public debate	●●●	Two-way	●◐○	●◐○
Workshop	●◐○	Facilitates coordination	●◐○	●●●
Printed materials	●●●	One-way	◐○○	◐○○
Interview	◐○○	Two-way	◐○○	●●●
Focus group	◐○○	Facilitates coordination	●◐○	●●●
Survey	●●●	Two-way	●◐○	◐○○
Digital methods	●●●	Two-way	●◐○	●●●
Exhibition	●●●	One-way	◐○○	◐○○
Street festival	●●●	Facilitates coordination	●◐○	●●●
⭐ City Walk / Jane's Walk	●◐○	Facilitates coordination	◐○○	●●●
Round table	●◐○	Facilitates coordination	●◐○	●●●
Online survey	◐○○	Two-way	◐○○	●◐○
Informal communication with the residents	●◐○	Two-way	◐○○	●◐○

Characteristics / Method	Promotional effect in terms of popularizing the measure	Complexity of implementation	Work input required for method execution	Difficulty of summarizing and formulating conclusions	Cost of execution
Public debate	●◐○	●●●	●◐○	●◐○	◐○○
Workshop	●●●	●●●	●●●	●◐○	◐○○
Printed materials	●●●	●◐○	●◐○	/	●◐○
Interview	●◐○	◐○○	●●●	●●●	●◐○
Focus group	●◐○	●◐○	●◐○	●◐○	●◐○
Survey	●●●	●●●	●◐○	◐○○	●◐○
Digital methods	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●◐○
Exhibition	●●●	●●●	●●●	◐○○	●●●
Street festival	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
⭐ City Walk / Jane's Walk	●◐○	●◐○	●◐○	●◐○	◐○○
Round table	●◐○	●●●	●◐○	●◐○	◐○○
Online survey	●◐○	●◐○	●●●	●◐○	◐○○
Informal communication with the residents	●◐○	●◐○	●◐○	●●●	◐○○

Legend:
- ◐○○ Low / small / undemanding
- ●◐○ Medium-high / moderately demanding
- ●●● High / large / demanding
- ⇄ Two-way communication
- → One-way communication
- ↻ Facilitates coordination among participants

Community consultations

Community consultations: Community breakfast (D 2.1.1)

Two community breakfasts by Territorial demonstration partners

Community breakfast is an opportunity to:

- Introduce and explain your plans, give reasons and arguments.

- Make contact with locals – residents, users …

- Collect their opinions, thoughts, concerns, worries, suggestions, …

- Better understand local context.

- Build partnerships.

Beforehand: Have a **clear understanding of what is already fixed** and what can be discussed and you need feedback on.

Use the results for **territorial local roll-up plans** and next steps.

Cyclers' breakfast; *Photo by Ahshea1 Media: https://www.pexels.com/photo/people-standing-near-bikes-2361038/*

Cyclers' breakfast by Maribor Cycling Network and Focus, find more examples here:
https://citymagazine.si/kolesarski-zajtrk-2016-brezplacna-pogostitev-za-kolesarje-sredi-ljubljane/
https://maribor24.si/dogodki/sport/kolesarski-zajtrk-20240919/

Festival of walking, *Photo: Lea Benčina*

Open Street Škofja Loka, *Photo: Nela Halilović*
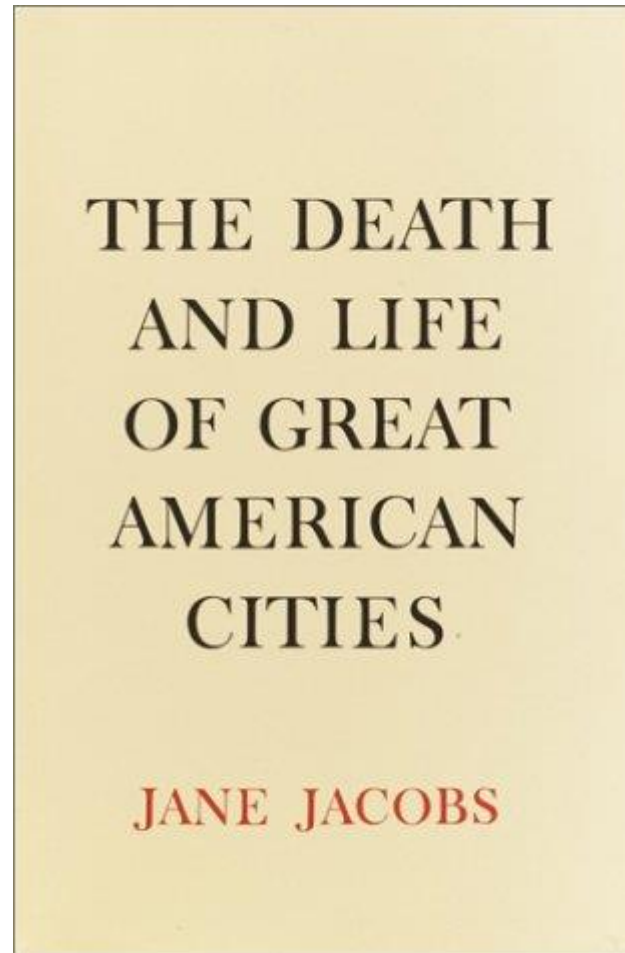
Open Street Velenje, *Photo: Nela Halilović*

Community consulations: Jane's walk – City walk (D 2.1.2)

Each city pilot partner will organize an event for citizens to discuss the project and the opportunities, recommended to join the Jane's Walk global festival (1st Weekend of May).

Jane Jacobs (1916-2006)

Jane's walk / City walk

- Guide, „minute taker"

- Free of charge, open to everyone

- 1,5 – 2 hours

- Several stops

- Document and record!

- Invite guests

- 1st Weekend of May

- No matter the weather

Jane's Walk – IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies / Photo: Luka Vidic

Jane's walk / City walk

Community-led walking conversation: How do we perceive the space? Does it encourage walking?

Jane's Walk – IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies / Photos: Janez Marolt

How to avoid mistakes

- Choose a topic that is attractive and relevant

- Try catching momentum

- Partner up with relevant organisations, initiatives, groups

- Invite interesting guests

No matter what methods you use …

Tailored participation methods – make that extra effort!

- Different citizen groups require tailored participation methods to **effectively engage** them, e.g. involving school pupils will be very different from engaging elderly individuals.

- Consider carefully the **specific needs and characteristics** of your target groups.

- **Customize participation strategies** that resonate with each demographic.

- Think about the **groups that are hard to reach**.

Jane's Walk with pupils in Velenje.
IPoP – Institute for Spatial Policies / Photo: Jana Okoren

Communication, communication, communication!

- Maintain an **open communication** throughout the participation process!

- Utilize a **variety of communication channels** (e.g. newsletters, social media, public meetings, and dedicated websites).

- Ensures that information **reaches** a diverse audience.

- One medium (e.g. the website) should **continuously inform** the public and work as a **repository of the whole process** with all relevant materials and information.

- Make sure **contributions from the public are gathered and accessible**.

Benefits

- Solutions are synchronised with people
- **Better solutions** - people know what they need
- Measures/changes are met with **less resistance**
- Stronger institutional and community **trust**

Difficulties

- Participation can prolong the process and complicate it
- You need resources and capacities
- Political support

Tactical Urbanism

Barbara La Licata
ENVIRONMENT PARK

Approach: Tactical Urbanism

Characteristics

Tactical Urbanism approach to urban planning

1. Based on a participatory approach (with citizens, for citizens);
2. Enables immediate, low costs changes with temporary interventions;
3. Has a significant impact;
4. Allows to test innovative ideas;
5. Open and interactive process;

How long?
From days to some years

Where?
Public open spaces (i.e pavements, bike lanes, residual spaces etc.)
Private spaces

Who?
Local actors: Citizens, policy makers, local administrators, Associations, local commitees, NGOs and private companies

# Why?
In deep understanding of the needs and the context

Types of interventions

- open streets: creation of new squares and pedestrian areas

- new cycle lanes

- Activation of underused and unequipped public spaces (i.e remove underused parking spaces, adopt traffic calming measures, create more 30km/h zones and redefine intersections for pedestrian and bike mobility;

- play streets: playgrounds created within spaces previously used for parking or vehicular transit

- Parking Day: an annual event in which car parks are converted into public spaces to draw attention to the huge amount of space devoted to parking cars;.

Ecc....
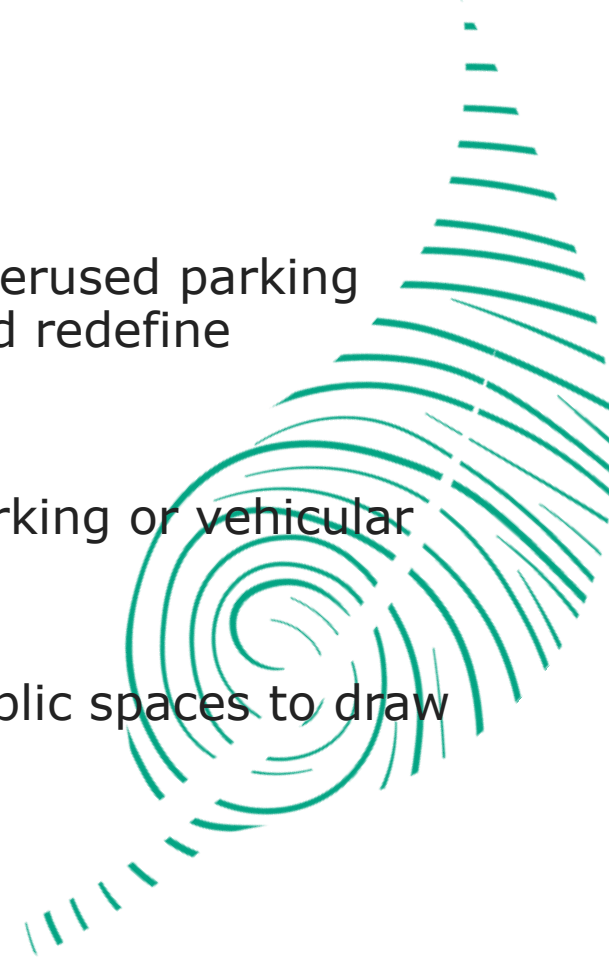
How to use this approach?

Temporary, small-scale and low-cost interventions that aim to improve public spaces and promote social interaction in urban areas

1. Understand **needs** and **context**
2. Identify **constraints** to define the perimeters of the intervention
3. Define **goals**
4. Define the **role** and **tasks** of the team
5. **Collaborate** in the design process
6. Define a **flexible** implementation plan
7. Ongoing evaluation

Steps

PLANNING PHASE

DEFINE THE PURPOSE AND THE CONTEXT

DEFINE THE TEAM

IDENTIFY THE IDEAS

ELABORATE THE PROJECT DETAILS

MEET THE STAKEHOLDERS

DESIGN PHASE

DEVELOP CONCEPT

CONSIDER SITE CONTEXT

PERMITTING/APPROVAL PROCESS

INVOLVE THE STAKEHOLDERS

IMPLEMENTATION

COORDINATE THE TEAM

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

REALISE THE PROJECT

PROMOTION AND AWARENESS

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

MONITOR

EVALUATION

ADJUSTMENT AND REDEFINING

MAINTENANCE

MAKE PERMANENT

COMMUNICATION PHASE

Benefits

- Temporary interventions easily implemented, changed and reversed if needed
- Participatory approach led people to contribute directly to the process
- cost-effective alternative to traditional urban development projects
- Test new ideas and evaluate feasibility for a long-term scale up
- Sustain and reinforce green infrastructures (urban biodiversity, fight heat island etc.)

Difficulties

- Lack of Long-Term Sustainability
- Limited Impact on Policy Change

EXAMPLES

- City of Milan – «Open Square» projects
- City of Turin – «Spiazzante» school square projects

Milan – Open Squares project

Piazze Aperte ("Open Squares") is a program of the City of Milan that aims to enhance public spaces and turn them into community gathering places, to extend pedestrian areas, and to promote sustainable forms of mobility to benefit the environment and improve the quality of life in the city

Piazze Aperte uses the "tactical urbanism" approach to put public spaces once again at the centre of community life and to encourage people to make the most of public squares

In 2019, the City of Milan launched a call for proposals entitled "Piazze Aperte in ogni quartiere" ("Open Squares in every neighborhood"), with the aim of identifying new spaces to be transformed, receiving over 60 suggestions. To date, the Municipality of Milan has implemented more than 35 tactical interventions and continues to plan new ones.
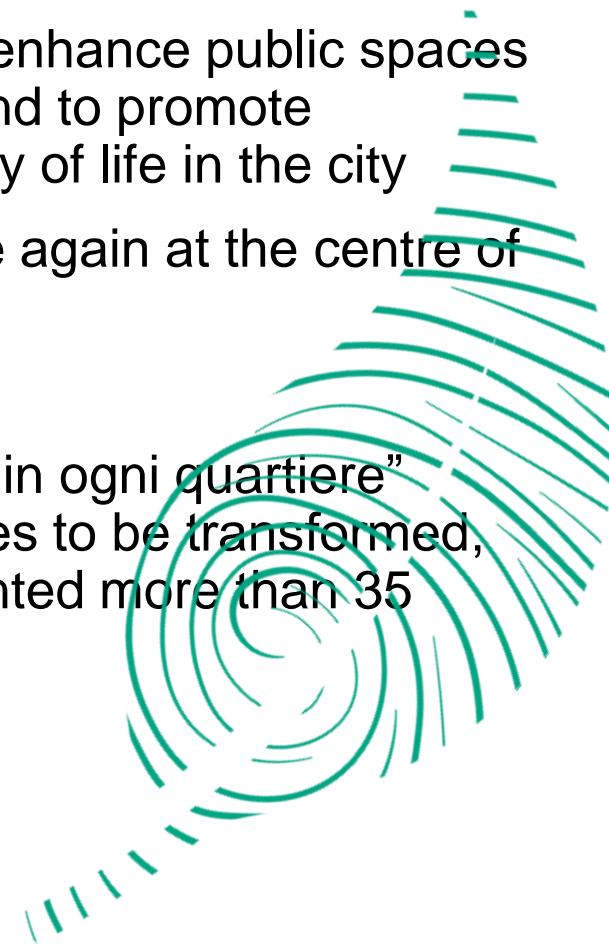
Milan- Collaboration pact

Piazze Aperte» aims to to activate neighborhoods and develop activities and services for residents.

Encourage the active involvement of residents in sustainable and shared urban regeneration
- strong sense of belonging
- new ways of expressing
- respect for people and for the planet

The written tool is the "collaboration Agreement" between the City of Milan and the active citizen that defines:
- aims
- objectives
- expected results
- organization of maintenance
- shared management
- regeneration activities for communal spaces

Milan- approach

Launch a call for proposal – public consultation- establishment of a «cooperation pact» with active citizen

Who took part in the Call for proposals "Piazze Aperte in ogni quartiere"?

BIDs¹ 6
public and private institutions²
neighborhood associations
non-profit organizations and social cooperatives 200
social streets³
800 residents
commercial businesses 72
religious institutions
schools 17
private entities⁴ 45

1 Business Improvement Districts   2 municipalities, museums, foundations, universities   3 residents associations   4 including many designers

"Piazze Aperte in ogni quartiere" – Public presentation in Triennale, Milan, January 25, 2020 – Photo: Hypnos

Types of interventions in the city of Milan

New squares and/or pedestrian areas

1. Creation of new squares and/or pedestrian areas through changes to the roadway network and street design, including limiting vehicular access to certain areas to create new public space.

Types of interventions in the city of Milan

Creation of new bike lanes

Via Martiri Oscuri

Piazzale Loreto

3. Creation of cycle lanes
using prefabricated materials, signs and markings, to facilitate cycling in particular in 30km/h zones, one-way streets, and areas identified by the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (SUMP).

Types of interventions in the city of Milan

Activation of underused or unequipped public spaces

2. Activation of underused and unequipped public spaces
furnishing, improving, and adding new functions with the aim of encouraging community spirit, as well as promoting cultural and group activities that can add value and life to that space.

Piazza Gasparri – before

Piazza Gasparri – after

Types of interventions in the city of Milan

Extension and enhancement of pedestrian areas

4. Extension and enhancement of pedestrian areas through the measures, such as narrowing roadbeds, removing underused parking spaces, adopting traffic calming measures, creating more 30km/h zones, and redefining intersections to improve soft, pedestrian and bike mobility, in particular around schools and nurseries.

Types of interventions in the city of Milan

Temporary interventions become permanent- Piazza Dergano

Before and after tactical urbanism intervention (2018)

Actual configuration (from 2021)

Types of interventions in the city of Milan

Temporary interventions become permanent- Piazza Angilberto

Before and after tactical urbanism intervention (2018)

Actual configuration (from 2022)

Province of Turin – «School squares» projects

Realisation of 5 new school squares in Turin and surrounding cities (Collegno, Settimo Torinese, Chieri, Nichelino)

• Involving school communities in the co-design and co-management of space between school and city

• Building alliances and defining public actions with social and educational objectives

Province of Turin – «School squares» projects

- Co-creation with local policymakers, teachers, deans and scholars, citizen

- Schools as frontrunners to raise awareness

- Dissemination (thematic webinars, free toolkits for local administrator, scientific seminars etc.)

- Definition of a school mobility manager

- Interventions coordinated with SUMP, Agenda 21 etc.

- Monitoring plan:
  - ✓ survey of perceptions and expectations;
  - ✓ Mobility report
  - ✓ Air quality and CO2 emissions monitoring;
  - ✓ Citiezens interviews
  - ✓ Incentives schemes for citizens (bike to work etc)
  - ✓ Creation of a community of practice

School square Nichelino

How to organize a workshop in your city

Define the groups of stakeholders (citizens, experts, policy makers and local administrators..)

1st part: explain the tactical urbanism approach and method for the interventions (with a focus on the needs, the priorities and the tools)

2nd part of the workshop: groups work on concrete cases of intervention in your city (i.e 5 places that need an intervention..)

Use a methodology of the "5 whys" (iterative interrogative problem framing/solving method used to explore the cause-and-effect relationships underlying a particular problem

After the definition of the whys, every group define 3 possible and coherent tactical interventions that could be realized in
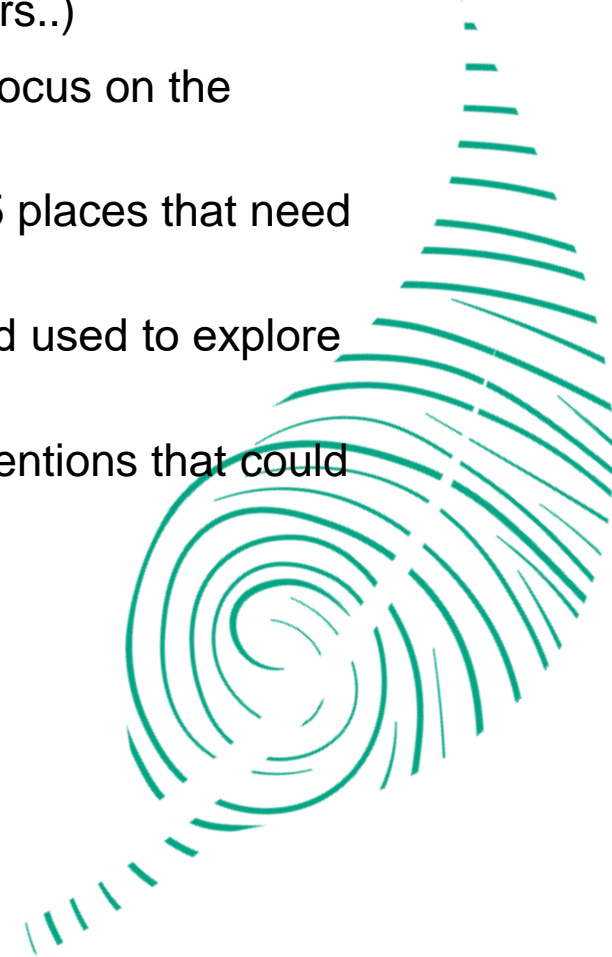
48 hours

48 weeks

Permanent

Source Mike Lyndon

Why	48 hours	48 weeks	Permanent
Why	-----		
Why	----		
Why	-----		
Why	------		

Useful link for documents and online tools

- Tactical Urbanism A Tool for Crisis Management?" https://www.transformative-mobility.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Street-Plans-VoosQg.pdf;

- TACTICAL URBANISM: A GUIDE FOR STREET ACTIVATIONS AND DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS https://www.nashville.gov/sites/default/files/2023-11/TUGuide_Interactive.pdf ;

- The Pop-Up Placemaking Tool Kit https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/tool-kits-resources/info-2019/pop-up-tool-kit.html;

- What is Tactical Urbanism? https://urbandesignlab.in/what-is-tactical-urbanism/ ;

- Planning-by-doing: How can tactical urbanism help to create better urban spaces? https://parametric-architecture.com/planning-by-doing-how-can-tactical-urbanism-help-to-create-better-urban-spaces/

- Tactical Urbanism: Tangible and innovative ways to spark urban joy https://medium.com/@alaps208/tactical-urbanism-06b0cebd986c ;

- Asphalt art: the era of tactical urbanism https://www.internimagazine.com/architecture/cities/tactical-urbanism/;

- Tactical urban planning | From concept to implementation https://www.latelierurbain.com/en/tactical-urban-planning-from-concept-to-implementation/;

- TACTICAL URBANISM TOOLKIT https://www.translink.ca/-/media/translink/documents/rider-guide/travelsmart/tactical-urbanism-toolkit.pdf;

- An overview of Tactical Urbanism https://www.re-thinkingthefuture.com/designing-for-typologies/a6052-an-overview-of-tactical-urbanism/

- What Is Tactical Urbanism? 4 Examples & Case Studies Explored https://onekeyresources.milwaukeetool.com/en/tactical-urbanism
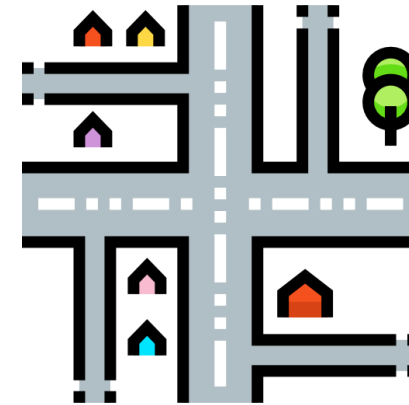
Placemaking

Petra Erdei-Szűcs and Béla Kézy
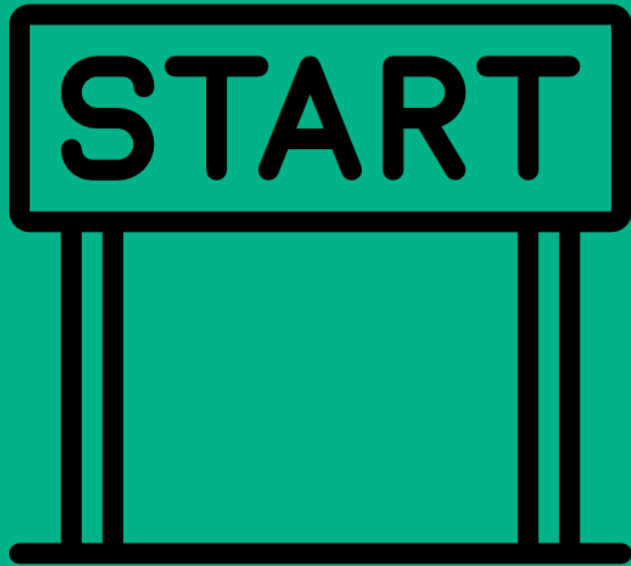
DUCoR

How did it emerge?

failure of more traditional, infrastructure focused urban development

→

experiments with new solutions to complex local challenges

Where does it come from?

START

Jane Jacobs

William H. Whyte

originated in the U.S.
in the 1990s

⬇

popularized by
Project for Public Spaces
(pilot initiatives and guidelines)

⬇

cities worldwide have since
adopted this model

What is this methodology / approach?

- Goal: Improving **public spaces**
- Involves **planning, design, management**
- Focus on "**making**"
- **Participatory**

What makes a great place?

Sociability

Do people use the place regularly and by choice?
Are people in groups? Are they talking with one another?
Does a mix of ages and ethnic groups generally reflect the community at large?
Do people seem to know each other by face or by name?

Uses & activities

How many different types of activities are occurring - people walking, eating, playing baseball, chess, relaxing, reading?
Is there a management presence, or can you identify anyone is in charge of the space?
Are people using the space or is it empty?
Which parts of the space are used, and which are not?

Access & linkages

Can people use a variety of transportation options to reach the place?

Is there a good connection between the space and the adjacent buildings, or is it surrounded by blank walls?

Can people easily walk to the place? For example, do they have to dart between moving cars to get to the place?

Does the space function for people with special needs?
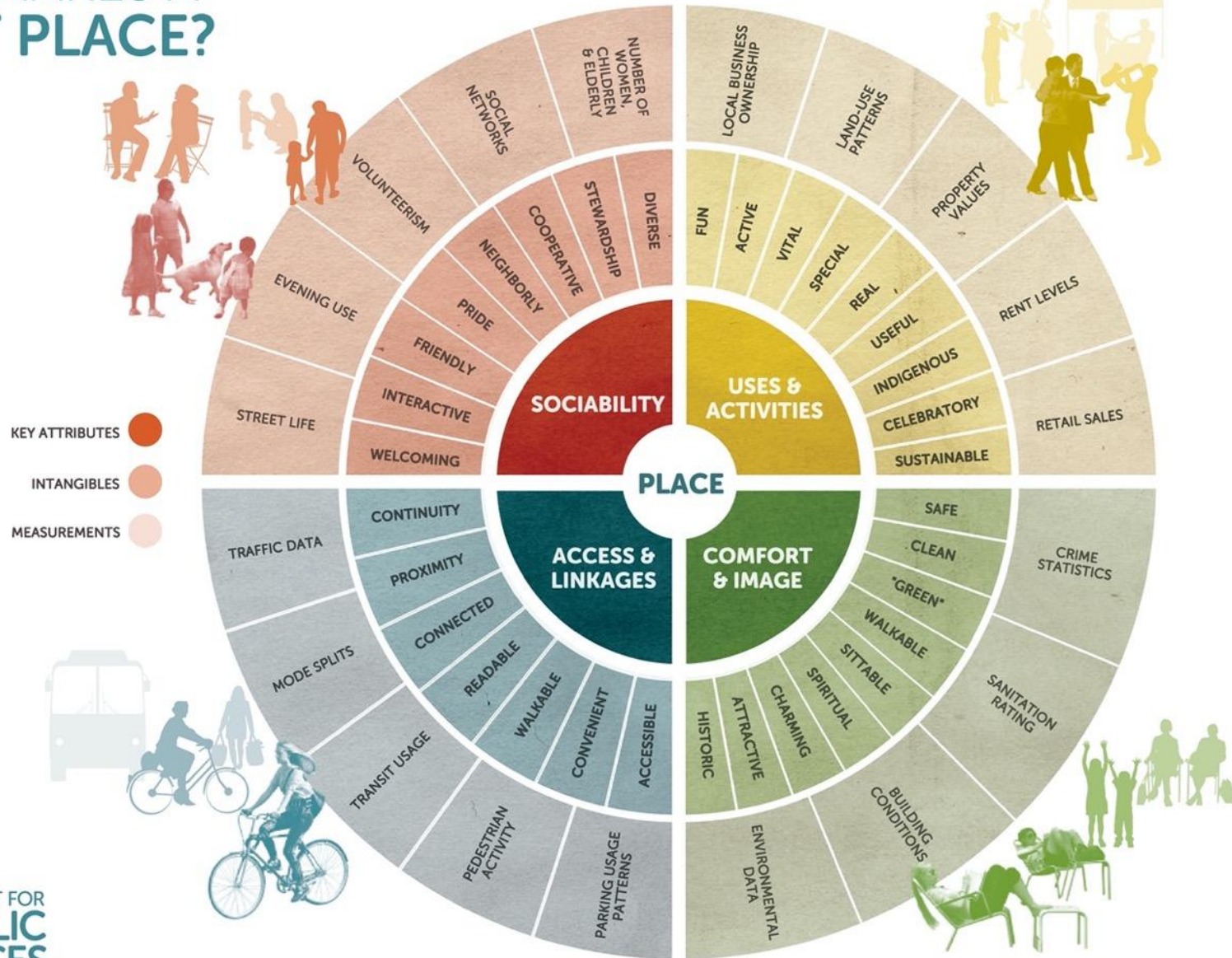
Comfort & image

Does the area feel safe? Is there a security presence? If so, what do these people do? When are they on duty?

Are spaces clean and free of litter? Who is responsible for maintenance? What do they do? When?

Does the place make a good first impression? Are people taking pictures? Are there many photo opportunities available?

WHAT MAKES A GREAT PLACE?

KEY ATTRIBUTES
INTANGIBLES
MEASUREMENTS

PLACE

SOCIABILITY
Number of Women, Children & Elderly · Social Networks · Volunteerism · Evening Use · Street Life
Diverse · Stewardship · Cooperative · Neighborly · Pride · Friendly · Interactive · Welcoming

USES & ACTIVITIES
Local Business Ownership · Land-Use Patterns · Property Values · Rent Levels · Retail Sales
Fun · Active · Vital · Special · Real · Useful · Indigenous · Celebratory · Sustainable

ACCESS & LINKAGES
Traffic Data · Mode Splits · Transit Usage · Pedestrian Activity · Parking Usage Patterns
Continuity · Proximity · Connected · Readable · Walkable · Convenient · Accessible

COMFORT & IMAGE
Crime Statistics · Sanitation Rating · Building Conditions · Environmental Data
Safe · Clean · "Green" · Walkable · Sittable · Spiritual · Charming · Attractive · Historic

PROJECT FOR
PUBLIC
SPACES

The Power of 10
A great place needs at least 10 reasons to be there

Benefits

- Connections across intercultural, interethnic, and intergenerational divides
- Strengthened community identity
- Growth of the local economy
- Stronger local democracy and engaged residents
- Enhanced physical, green, social, cultural, and economic capital

When creating great places, you build…

Physical capital

flexibility, adaptiveness; public spaces as a backbone; active groundfloors; great streets and places; fine grain and human scale; waterfronts; informality, warmth; parks, plazas, long lasting quality

Green capital

natural environment; walking and cycling; sustainable mobility; prevent urban heat island; comfortable climate; green environment; sustainable energy; city as a sponge.

Social capital

safety; social networks; co-creation; health, wellbeing, happiness; social life; informal play, creative learning; pride, trust; social innovation.

When creating great places, you build…

Cultural capital

buskers; public art; heritage, sense of place; diversity; street art, city as a canvas; inclusion; artists' involvement; temporary art spaces.

Economic capital

property value; better image; local economy; economic innovation, creativity; room for startups; ground floor use; markets; street vendors.

Difficulties

- Hard to sell to politicians – it's not "sexy"
- Engaging people can be difficult
- "Making" takes time
- Agility vs. regulations

The Placemaking Process

| 1. Get ready | → | 2. Evaluate space | → | 3. Make a place plan | → | 4. Implement short-term experiments | → | Long term improvements, ongoing evaluation |

- Assess public space challenges
- Select Site
- Identify stakeholders

- Research and information collection
- Place evaluation workshop

- Vision
- Ideas into action
- Visual concept
- Report / presentation

- Physical improvements
- Installations
- Events
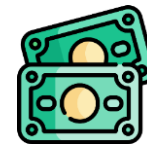
Common mistakes

Lack of community involvement

Over-emphasis on aesthatics

Ignoring context

Insufficient maintenance

Inadequate funding

One-size-fits-all approach

Poor integration with surroundings

Failure to address safety

Overcommercialisation

Unrealistic expectations

Neglecting environmental impacts

Examples of placemaking actions

Establishing pedestrian plazas

Examples of placemaking actions

Adding street furniture

Examples of placemaking actions

Installing public art

Examples of placemaking actions

Creating community gardens

Examples of placemaking actions

Building pocket parks

Examples of placemaking actions

Organising events

Examples of placemaking actions

Redesigning intersections

Examples of placemaking actions

Building playgrounds and recreational areas

Examples of placemaking actions

Improving lighting

Examples of placemaking actions

Activating waterfronts

Example of success

Budapest, Hungary

Thank you for your kind attention!