



VISION

The proximity is often linked to the "15-minutes city". In this case, however, the neighbourhood is already easily accessible on foot or by bicycle in at maximum 10 minutes. So, the urban proximity system is already a proximity district in which it is only necessary to improve the quality of the space.

#services

This scheme shows all the services, existing and new, found in the third urban proximity system. It is intended to demonstrate how they are evenly distributed throughout the territory and easily accessible to all citizens.

#public and green spaces

Public and green spaces are also essential elements in the development of the proximity. This is why they have been identified within the territory, both existing and newly planned ones. This scheme also included the green spaces that constitute the urban edge of the system and represent an element that will be enhanced in the project with some activities.

#paths

All services and public and green spaces within the urban proximity system must be interconnected in order to facilitate the proximity. These connections are made possible by the different cycle-pedestrian paths within the area, distinguished by different colours. In this scheme, the bus line is also considered, because it helps to promote the slow sustainable mobility.

#vision

In this scheme, I want to show the idea behind the project, i.e. the vision that brings together all the services and public spaces that contribute to the creation of different paths and to achieve the proximity within the urban system. So, in a conceptual way, it is possible to understand the general approach that was used in order to achieve the final project.

LEGEND

Waterways	Existing railway	Meadows
Existing buildings	Existing bus stops	Private green space
Abandoned buildings	Existing train stops	Research center
Existing principal roads	Parking	Sport center
Existing secondary roads	Degraded spaces	Other services
Existing cycle paths		
Existing agricultural fields		
Woodland area	Vineyard	
Arable land	Orchard	
Supermarket	Bed and breakfast	
Bar and restaurants	Health services	
Cultural, social center	Church	
Green public park	Primary school	

TO REFINISH

- Repair and add some streets that are not present, not paved and broken in some parts. Create and fix new junctions in order to have more secure connections.
- Create a bridge along the cycle and footpath to cross the river in the rural suburbs. In this way, an attempt is made to integrate the urban fabric with the surrounding fields, trying to overcome the urban edge imposed by the infrastructure.
- Create a level crossing in the vicinity of the cycle and pedestrian path defined by the PGT that is intended to connect the Dosso del Corso district with the Battore area. This will provide a safe connection linking two entities currently difficult to reach from each other.

TO PROMOTE

- Realise a cycle and pedestrian pathway foreseen by the PGT that passes close to two busy roads and it is intended to connect the urban system with the surrounding neighbourhoods and the centre of Mantova.
- Enhancement of the road through which means of transport pass, in order to encourage the people to use the slow mobility.

TO INCREASE

- Fix and enlarge the sidewalks that are present in the urban system as they create dangerous and inaccessible situations for people. Use also different material for them.
- Rethink the sidewalk as convivial places where people can hang out and chat. They must therefore have a minimum size of 1.5 metres, to allow more people to come together. They also be designed without different levels in order to be accessible to all, well light and equipped with benches where people can sit from time to time. The presence of the green functional elements are necessary to create some shelters.
- Create a ramp near the staircase within the residential area as it represents an architectural barrier for disabled people.

TO IMPROVE

- Encourage the use of public transport by increasing the number of suburban service stops. This will encourage people to use more sustainable means of getting from one part of the suburbs to another.
- Create a new access from Dosso del Corso and Borgochiesanuova to the train stop; the latter today can only be reached from the other side of the railway line. At this point also create a dedicated mobility hub where buses and bike-sharing stops can also be found.
- Create new parking areas, particularly near the health district and the new access to the Borgochiesanuova railway station. This gives people the opportunity to leave their cars outside the new pedestrian zone and walk or cycle to it.

TO IMPROVE

- Create speed bumps before entering to the new pedestrian area of the urban fabric in order to make it a safer zone for children, adults and elderly people who want to walk and reach the necessary services.
- Create new pedestrian crossings in connection with the cycle-pedestrian pathway that it creates in order to allow a safe connection between the different spaces in the city. These pedestrian crossings must also be illuminated and equipped with a pedestrian traffic light with acoustic signalling also for the blind.
- Create a LTZ zone in the centre of the urban system near the schools and the residential area. This limits access only to residents' cars and emergency vehicles and makes the street pedestrianised, thus making it safe for all citizens.

TO COMPLETE

- Implement the residential urban completion in some areas of the neighbourhood system. In particular, the aim is to:
 - Realise a residential complex characterised by the presence of single houses with private gardens;
 - Complete urban residential curtains through the insertion of buildings;
 - Complete and finish the apartment blocks built in the vicinity of the Southern bypass, some of which are now subject to the "PINKUA" project.
- Implement the working area in order to create a new productive pole that can bring inside the urban proximity system new life.
 - Realize 2 other buildings aimed at hosting working, co-working spaces that can be also rent;
 - Edification of a pavilion for conference and business events;
 - Edification of a services building for the people that work in this pole, like canteen and common spaces;
 - Edification of apartment buildings for the people that work and do lectures in these spaces.

- Re-use of some abandoned buildings within the urban fabric to insert some primary services needed to activate proximity:
 - Kindergarten;
 - Primary school;
 - Library and study room;
 - Pharmacy;
 - Bakery and local agricultural market;
 - Public offices;
 - Co-working place;
 - Recreational clubs for the young and old people.
- Provide extracurricular cultural activities for children and young people in the afternoon hours when schools are closed. This promotes a mixed use of buildings and does not waste land use.

TO ENCOURAGE

- Preserve agricultural areas that form the urban limits of the suburbs to stop urban sprawl and define interrelationships between the countryside and the city. This also promotes proximity by creating more compact areas and not dispersed ones as in the past where everything is easily accessible. Furthermore, by saving land, one can advocate sustainable policies.

TO INVOLVE

- Revitalize some public spaces through the proposal of weekly markets, fairs and exhibitions. This can entice people to come inside the urban system and spend their free time with other citizens.
- Realization of festivals and events (cultural and economic) that can attract and entice not only local citizens but also those from neighboring areas, in order to make this area a new centrality within the urban periphery of Mantova.

TO ENCOURAGE

- Redevelopment of small areas within the city with the involvement of citizens of all social classes and ages for temporary activities. Through the active participation of people also in the design of spaces, it is possible for these to be maintained over time.
- Create temporary exhibitions in abandoned buildings that can be connected by an educational-cultural path, where people are directed and enticed to enter or where different activities take place during the day.

TO REDEFINE

- the presence of greenery within the urban sector
- Create botanical and community gardens in the vicinity of schools to be used as experimental laboratories by children during educational activities
- Create new green spaces within the urban settlement that can be equipped with new street furniture allowing people to use the space

TO INCENTIVIZE

- sustainable practices to be integrated into the settlements
- Create photovoltaic panels to power service and workplace complexes that can harness this type of sustainable energy and reduce expenses
- Convert the intensive arable land in the vicinity of the Southern bypass into sustainable and environmentally friendly land in order to promote ecological sustainability

- TO PRESERVE** the existing ecological area
 - Care and maintenance of existing groups of trees that is necessary to improve the micro-climate inside the parks and to create a filter barrier from the infrastructures that try to reintegrate the biodiversity inside.
 - Preserve wooded areas within the territory and near infrastructures in order to conserve certain ecologically identifiable areas that can restore biodiversity and can improve the quality of the environment
- TO REUSE** the existing elements before planning new interventions
 - Encourage the use of abandoned or decaying buildings in order to avoid further consumption of public land. This contributes to creating a new city without creating buildings that only become places of public decay over time
 - Utilise the waste spaces within the city and transform them into green filter zones that can help to improve the quality of the environment in which citizens live every day. These are transposed into new urban parks characterised also by the presence of tree masses
- TO ENCOURAGE** the planting of trees
 - Encourage initiatives that allow the planting of a tree for every person born within the neighbourhood. In this way, it is possible to create new green spaces within the city in which trees represent new identities for people to take care of. This initiative is widely used as it is a very good sustainable solution to reduce the carbon emissions

TO PROMOTE

- the landscape linkage
 - Create a better connection within the urban fabric that is able to link the various parks and green spaces that could be found in the vicinity. This defines a landscape approach that makes the best use of outdoor public space
 - Create a new green access between the new cycle-pedestrian path and the new park that has to be created in the space behind the church and the other buildings

TO PROMOTE

- local tradition knowledge activities on the rural landscape
 - Create an educational and didactic walking and cycling path for schools that aims to introduce them to the nature and rural identity of the peripheral area
 - Insert information panels within the rural landscape that indicate the educational-didactic path and give information on the history of agriculture. They are placed near canals and in the vicinity of rest areas so that everyone can read them
 - Identify some historical "oases" that represent identities within the rural and agricultural territory of the Mantuan periphery
 - Create equipped rest areas along the cycle and footpath to enjoy the open rural landscape. Here, benches, water devices and litter bins are provided. These areas are intended to become new places of inclusion where people can stay. In addition, paving is also being changed to make them more visible

TO PRESERVE

- the existing vegetation
 - Preserve the rows of trees within the urban fabric in the vicinity as they are historical elements that help to create healthy spaces able to improve the air quality. These elements, if they are in the streets, can guide the people and create a shelter for them

TO ENHANCE

- the rural elements as a privileged panoramic point of the surrounding
 - Creation of viewpoints along the cycle-pedestrian path to preserve the visual connection of the rural landscape from the new path built near the Southern bypass. In this way it is possible to create an experience and preserve the historical identity

TO EXPERIENCE

- the local agricultural tradition
 - Create hubs at some interesting points in the rural landscape where it is also possible to experience agriculture through some educational workshops for both children and adults

TO PRESERVE

- the naturalistic value of the landscape
 - Add new rows of trees that can become dividing, protecting and guiding elements within the urban fabric. They are also added near cycle and pedestrian paths to create natural protection areas

TO ENHANCE

- the quality of the urban environment and restore a naturalistic value to the landscape
 - Provide an expansion of poplar trees, a typical planting in the area, in order to improve the quality of the urban environment and restore a naturalistic value to the landscape. This expansion will also be carried out near infrastructures as it is intended to create a barrier, a filter zone, capable of reducing air pollution and noise in a sustainable way

TO INCREASE

- the value and identity of the green area
 - Promote the well-equipped and well-connected green spaces within the city that can become meeting places for people who decide to spend their free time within the city

TO IMPROVE

- the lighting system
 - Install a lighting system inside the green public spaces and along the new and the existing cycle - pedestrian path in order to allow people to use them safely during all hours of the day

TO CREATE

- a new identity for the urban proximity system
 - Create a path within the urban fabric that connects the city's schools and public spaces in order to define a new identity for the urban system. In this case it is possible to use the strategies of tactical urbanism and signposting to promote spaces that are also lively to walk through

TO IMPROVE

- the services in order to link the people to the surrounding
 - Encourage the activity outside bars, restaurants or other service buildings in order to create terraces where people can hang out and share experiences with other citizens
 - Create hubs where bicycles can be rented to move around the urban system. These bike-sharing stations allow for a more sustainable use of inner city spaces and reduce air pollution as far as possible outside the pedestrian area. This also improves the quality of the outdoor environment

TO DEVELOP

- new technological equipments in the cities link to the sustainable policies
 - Insert equipped benches with charging sockets, charging stations for electric cars, scooters and public bicycles. In this way people will be more inclined to use sustainable means of transport and will also be able to use public space as a place of work

TO PROMOTE

- the people to use the space
 - Install the public toilets in some strategic points in the city, also including along the cycle and footpaths, which can be used by all people. This is also useful if people want to spend the whole day in this peripheral area
 - Install several fountains within the city's public spaces that can also be used by people to cool off during the hottest months of the year or to drink
 - Place some street furniture made of recyclable materials within the city that can be easily removed if necessary. They are all the same because a catalogue is prepared from which to choose those to be placed in public spaces

TO ENCOURAGE

- the physical activity outdoor
 - Create new fitness trails and circuit along the cycle and pedestrian path, including hubs near the green spaces to ensure exercise in healthy and safe places for all the people
 - Create new sports areas in the vicinity of the new "Marco Squarizer" sports center, such as tennis, football, basketball and volleyball courts in order to allow people to have a new sports hub where they can train and exercise

TO IMPROVE

- the intergenerational approach
 - Create some refreshment and picnic areas within the city's green spaces and also in the vicinity of the cycle and pedestrian path. In this way, people are more enticed to spend leisure time outdoors and can also organise events using these spaces in the landscape

TO ENCOURAGE

- the involvement of art in the cities
 - Create spaces where activities are carried out in common between children and elderly people in the area. In this way, younger people can also help older one to carry out activities and experience the periphery
 - Reuse abandoned buildings to create community places where people of all ages, genders and social classes can stay together. Also organise play and cultural activities where children can support adults, or vice versa

TO ENCOURAGE

- the involvement of art in the cities
 - Create spaces along the cycle path and within the city where local artists can exhibit their works during the year. In this way, not only the people are enticed to go and see the works, but also this initiative can help the local economy and local artists to become known

TO ENCOURAGE

- the involvement of art in the cities
 - Activate initiatives to create murals within the city for building facades. This also serves to redevelop the facades and give greater value to the ground floors of the cities, which in this way catalyse people and entice them to go on
 - Insert information panels for local artists who decide to make a contribution with their art. They must also be made in braille writing for blind people and be equipped with lighting to be visible even at night