

Byplanmødet - October 2023

Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods

Accelerating climate action, community health and well-being through the **15 Minute City**

Camille Tallon - Manager for Urban planning and 15-minute city at C40 Cities



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C40
CITIES

The C40 Cities network

C40 is a **network of 96 of the world's largest cities** committed to addressing **climate change**. We support cities to collaborate effectively, share knowledge and drive meaningful, measurable and sustainable action to create **greener and fairer urban spaces**.

Mayor Sadiq Khan,
London, Chair of C40
Michael Bloomberg
President of C40 Board

Directly
representing

600

million
residents

27%

of global
economy

=

Influencing

900

million people

50/50

split Global
South and
North
membership



What we do

C40 and our mayors are driving a green and just recovery from COVID-19 and are supporting cities to cut their fair share of emissions in half by 2030.

We do this by:

- Raising climate ambition, through 1.5°C climate action plans, high-impact declarations, the Cities Race to Zero programme and innovation.
- Building equitable and thriving communities, through our Inclusive Climate Action and Thriving Cities programmes.
- Building a global movement, through robust international diplomacy, advocacy and coalition-building with all sectors of society.
- Scaling up climate action and sharing best practice across key, high-impact sectors.
- Facilitating access to finance for climate change mitigation and resilience projects in cities.

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Urban planning
and design

Why does urban planning and design matter for climate action?

- Urban planning is a cross-cutting enabler for emissions reductions and increased resilience.
- As urban planning documents are legally binding, they can have a tangible impact to tackle the effects of climate change.
- While Cities have significant authority over urban planning policies and regulations, too few urban planning policies mainstream climate action.

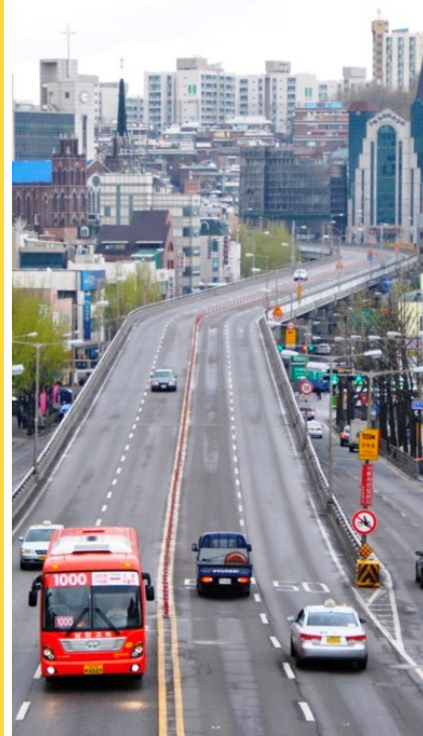




*Mainstream urban models increasingly promote **sprawl**, **car-oriented planning** and **over-specialisation of city neighbourhoods**, leading to long commutes, poor air quality and lack of amenities for residents, as well as entrenching inequalities, perpetuating unsustainable lifestyles, and reducing people's quality of life.*

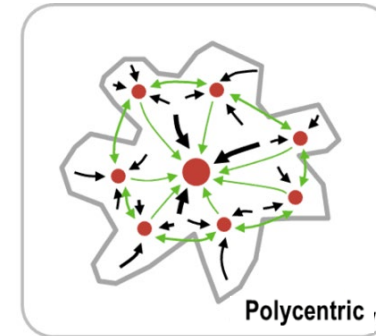
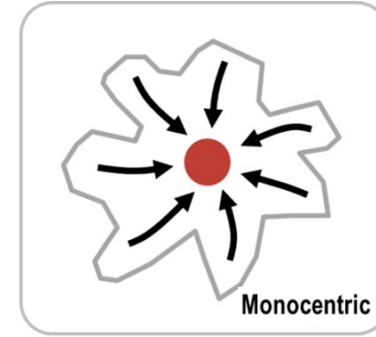
*As urban populations continue growing, it is urgent to find a model of **low-carbon urban development** that is **human-scale** and **thriving**.*

The 15-minute city can help us to do so.



The 15-minute City

- Polycentric and made of 'complete neighbourhoods'
- Made of inclusive and cohesive communities
- Promoting people-centred public spaces and mobility
- Including urban nature and green spaces to support biodiversity and improve climate resilience

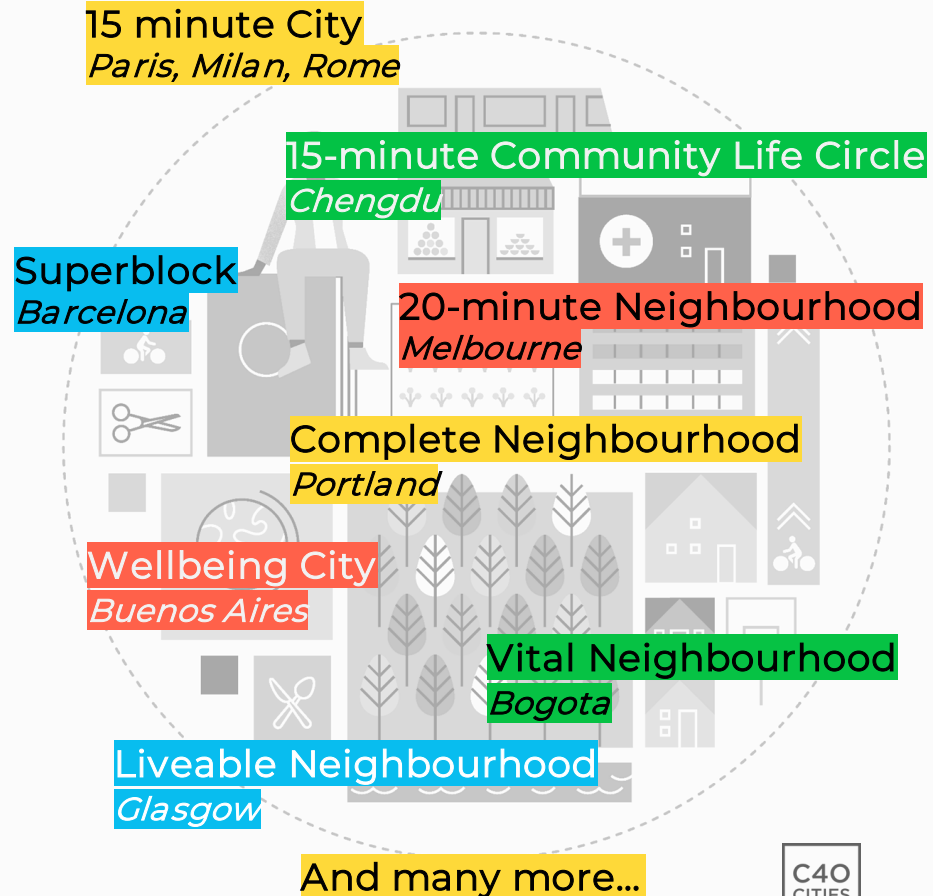


A global model

The 15-minute city is not a new concept.

It has been developed since already many years and shaped by several thought-leaders including the American-Canadian urbanist **Jane Jacob**, the Danish designer **Jan Gehl** and more recently the French-Colombian Professor **Carlos Moreno**.

Many cities across the world have developed similar people-centred approaches using various names.



The image is a composite. The background shows a modern urban waterfront with several multi-story brick apartment buildings along a canal. Numerous boats are moored in the water. The sky is blue with some light clouds. In the foreground, there is a lush garden with various plants, including tomatoes, and a small wooden structure. A black mesh fence is visible in the lower right foreground.

“Integrated spatial planning to achieve compact and resource-efficient urban growth through co-location of residences and jobs, mixed land use, and transit-oriented development could reduce GHG emissions between 23-26% by 2050 compared to the business-as-usual scenario.”

IPCC report , April 2022

The neighbourhood opportunity

A local and holistic approach

Moving away from sectoral approaches, cities can engage with their **local communities** at the neighbourhood level to develop a set of coordinated, **cross-sectoral actions**.

This local approach offers unique opportunities to:

- **Integrate different components of the city** and build a set of coordinated actions
- **develop lighthouse projects that can inspire for wider change** and set a positive vision of cities' urban future.

Neighbourhood projects can

Pioneer new policy

Trial innovative partnership arrangements

Consider creative ways to increase citizen participation

Test new technologies and solutions

raise ambition & drive change

A matter of equity

The 15-minute city model is sometimes happening naturally in historical compact city centers or wealthy neighbourhoods, while it can be challenging to reduce distances in suburban contexts or in megacities.

A city that is integrating the principles of the 15-minute city model in the design of all neighbourhoods can ensure an improved quality of life for all, and not just a privilege for those who live in certain parts of the city.



The key principles

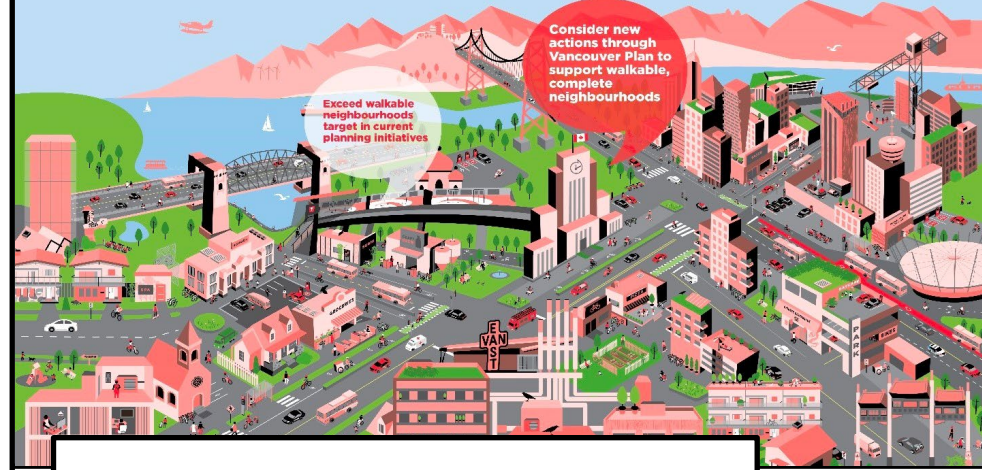
1. Complete neighbourhoods

- **Compactness and mixed-use** more suited to active travel, and key to make local services & transport infrastructures viable
- **Proximity and decentralisation of city life** to reduce the need to travel outside the neighbourhood and ensure equitable access to services and amenities
- **Activation of ground floors** to create more vibrant activity nodes, safe streets to walk in and support the local economy
- **Adaptable spaces** to make the most out of the existing built environment, avoid single-use buildings and foster flexible spaces in time

HOW WE MOVE

WALKABLE, COMPLETE NEIGHBOURHOODS

Changing **how we plan** so by 2030 90% of people live within an easy walk or roll of their daily needs.



Vancouver

The recently approved new land use strategy aims to strengthen existing and support new neighbourhood centres by incorporating 'Missing Middle housing' into clusters of local shops, flexible work spaces, childcare, public spaces, and arts and culture venues; as well as create an integrated network of public spaces, ecological corridors, greenways and active modes of travel.

The key principles

2. Inclusive and cohesive communities

- **A diverse mix of people**
equal access to services and opportunities, including diverse housing options and affordable homes
- **Active community engagement**
understand the specific needs of different individuals & groups and support the transition to behavior change
- **Opportunities for social interaction**
tackle loneliness and build more resilient and cohesive communities



Los Angeles

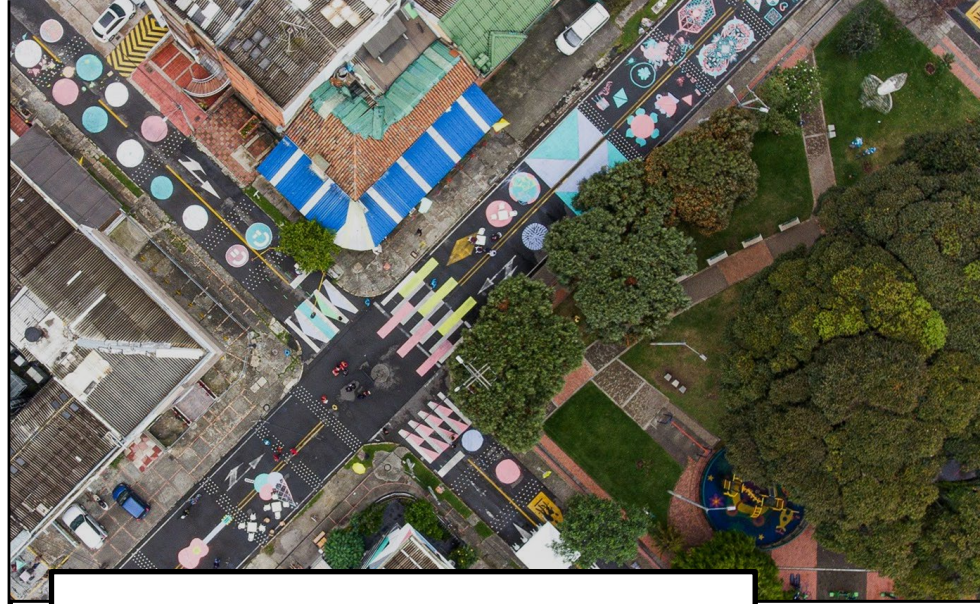
The **Watts' Transformative Climate Communities project** is a community-driven vision to transform one of Los Angeles' most disadvantaged neighbourhoods..

The project developed a suite of coordinated projects, which include **affordable housing, low-carbon transportation options for residents, and planting more than 3,300 trees, and development of amenities** to respond to the needs of the community

The key principles

3. People-centred public spaces

- **Good street design** to make walking and cycling the mode of choice
- **Reclaiming city spaces from private vehicles** to improve active travel and develop new uses for social and community-building
- **Tactical urbanism & temporary activation** to engage and inspire local residents



Bogotá

The **Barrios vitales** (vital neighbourhoods) programme in Bogotá has been seeking to **reclaim spaces that were once dedicated to cars**, using a range of temporary strategies. The approach relies on working with inhabitants to restyle their neighbourhoods through cheap and scalable spatial interventions.

The key principles

4. Urban nature

- Ensure all residents have access to large open green spaces within 15 minute-city walk or ride from home
- Invest in pocket parks to transform small or underutilized areas into green spaces, and match the needs of the inhabitants (eg. playgrounds, sport facilities, urban gardening...)
- Adopt a 'green throughout' strategy in streets, public realm, and on walls and roofs of buildings

9 m² is the minimum amount of green space per capita recommended by the WHO



Buenos Aires

With the aim of providing more recreational spaces in neighbourhoods and promoting the gathering of neighbors in the City, Buenos Aires is **depaving streets** in the different neighborhood, to **improve their environmental quality and offer new uses**, while integrating the concerns, observations and opinions from the residents.

A recent C40 programme

Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods

Over the past four years, C40 has been working closely with leading thinkers & organizations such as UNEP, UN-Habitat, Prof. Carlos Moreno and supported by Urban Partners to promote the 15-minute city concept and a neighbourhood approach to climate action.

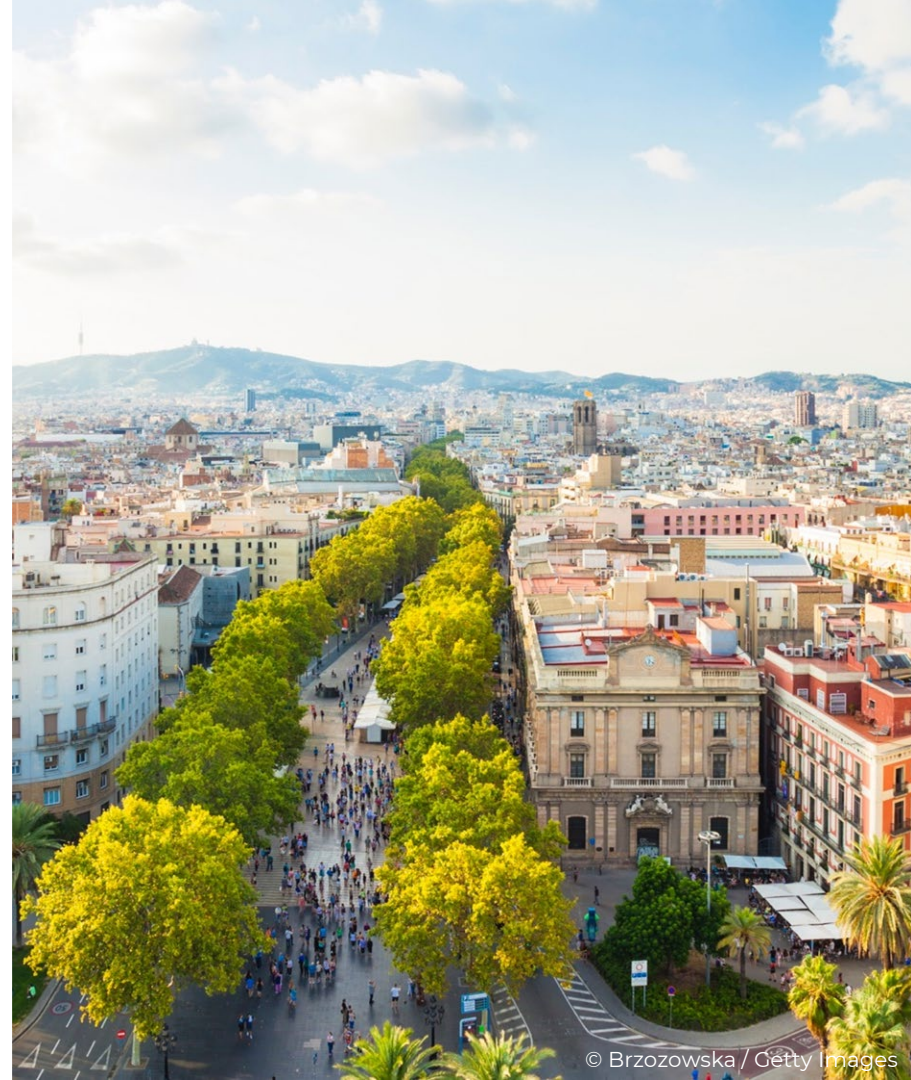
C40 aims to build a global movement around the 15-minute city principles to accelerate climate action at the neighbourhood level, through 2 main activities



A Forum on the 15-minute city



22 neighbourhood pilots around the world



The Green and Thriving Neighbourhoods Forum

The
Forum
already
gathers
35+ cities!

Auckland, Austin, Barcelona, Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Cape Town, Copenhagen, Chengdu, Chicago, Dakar, Guadalajara, Istanbul, Lisbon, Madrid, Miami, Milan, Montreal, New Orleans, New York City, Paris, Phoenix, Portland, Rotterdam, Qīngdao, Quito, Rio de Janeiro, Rome, Santiago, São Paulo, Seattle, Shenzhen, Stockholm, Tel Aviv, Vancouver, Victoria State, Vitoria Gasteiz, Warsaw, Washington D.C., Wuhan, Zhenjiang



Webinar series

#1 - COLLECTING DATA TO MONITOR AND MAP THE 15-MINUTE CITY (February)

#2 - UNDERSTANDING NEIGHBOURHOODS' TYPOLOGIES TO SHAPE LOCAL PROJECTS (March)

#3 - HOW TO DESIGN SUCCESSFUL TACTICAL URBANISM (May)

#4 - DESIGN COMPETITIONS (June)

#5 - EMISSIONS ACCOUNTING (September)

#6 - THE SUPERBLOCKS MODEL (October)

#7 - 15-MINUTE CITY AND TOD (coming)

Our webinars
gather 100+
participants!



C40 ANNOUNCES
**GREEN & THRIVING
NEIGHBOURHOODS**
PILOT PROJECTS

#UnitedInAction

Austin

Barcelona

Bogotá

Chengdu

Copenhagen

Dakar

Guadalajara

Istanbul

Lisbon

Milan

Paris

Qingdao

Rio de Janeiro

Rome

Santiago

São Paulo

Shenzhen

Stockholm

Vancouver

Vitoria-Gasteiz

Warsaw

Wuhan



Thank you
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