

## LECTURES

May 08th and May 15th 2023, online

# 15 minutes proximity and citizens participation.

## Notes from Lisbon

CLICCHE Lectures May 8th

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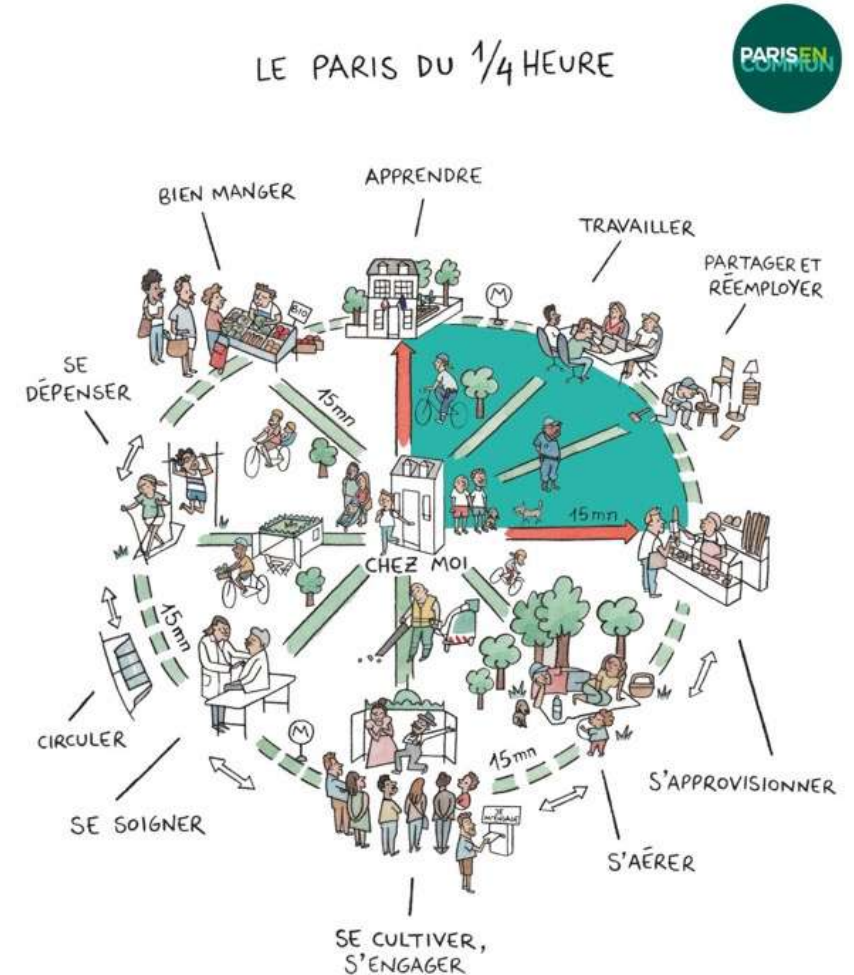


# 15 minutes-city concept

The concept was promoted by **Anne Hidalgo** for her 2020 re-election campaign in Paris and it was inspired by Franco-Colombian urbanist **Carlos Moreno** in 2016.

The activities in the concept sketch for the 15 minutes-city in Paris are:

- To eat well
- To learn
- To share and reuse
- To circulate
- To heal
- To grow, to engage
- To get some fresh air
- To supply
- To spend



Paris en Commun's "15-minute-city" concept sketch.

# 15 minutes-city concept

The urbanist Carlos Moreno wrote in 2021 an article in which introduced the 15-minute city concept to ensure **6 essential functions** within a 15-minute on walk or by bike from residents' homes:

- Living
- Working
- Commerce
- Healthcare
- Education
- Entertainment

The framework of this model has **four components**: density, proximity, diversity and digitalization.

Inspirations:

**Kent Larson** described the concept of 20 minutes-city through ancient dwellings (TED talk in 2012)

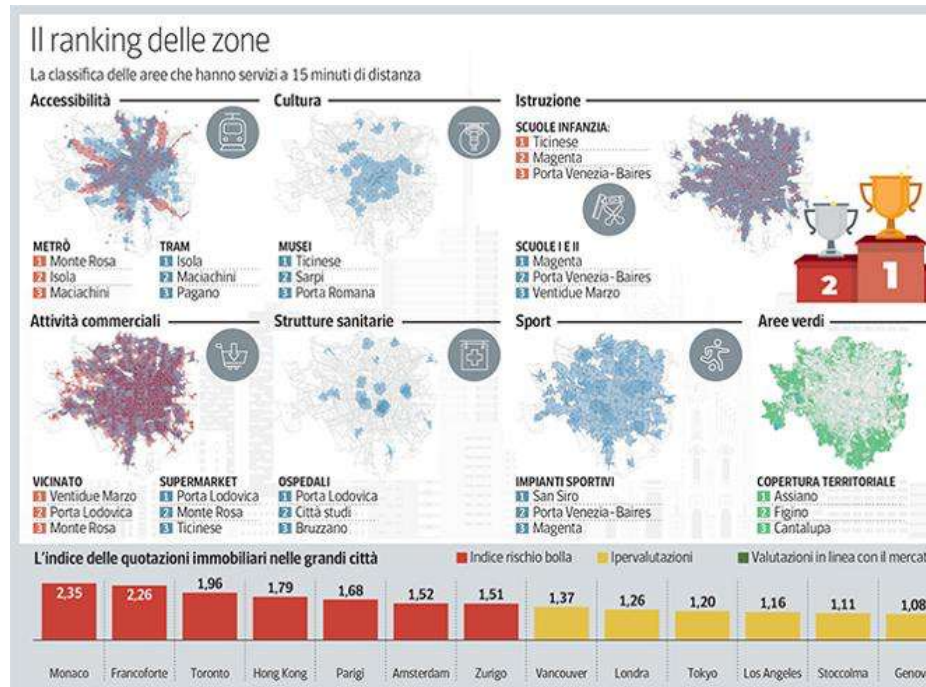
**Jane Jacobs** inspiration by the *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (1961)



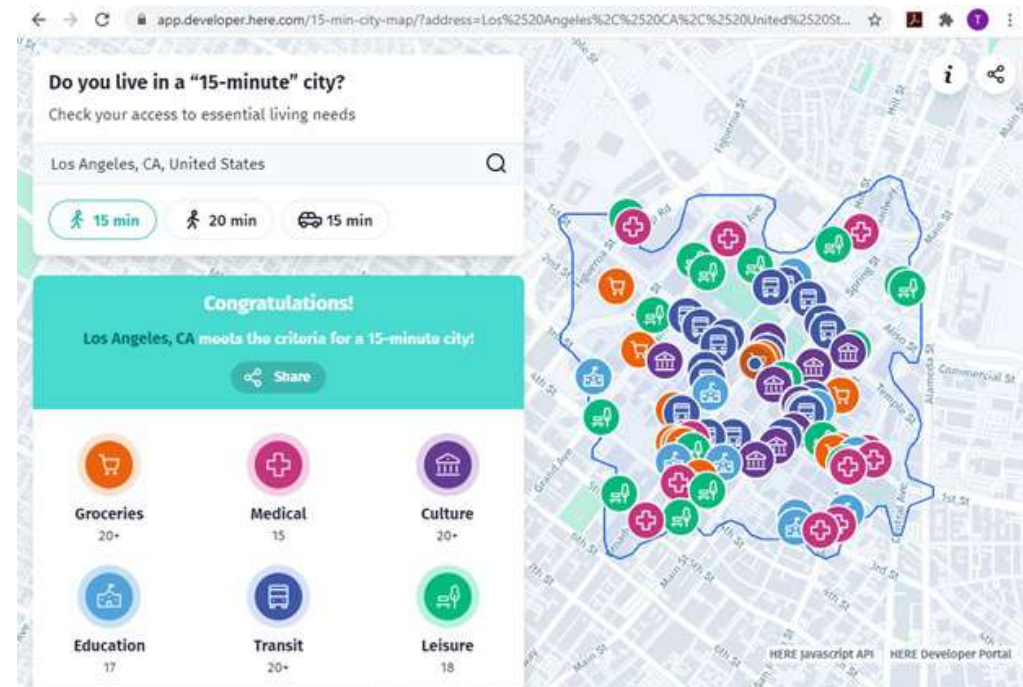
Moreno, C., Allam, Z., Chabaud, D., Gall, C., & Pratlong, F. (2021). **Introducing the “15-Minute City”: Sustainability, resilience and place identity in future post-pandemic cities.** *Smart Cities*, 4(1), 93-111.

# 15 minutes-city application

After Paris, many plans were implemented in **European cities** after COVID-19 outbreaks (as Milan, Madrid, Edinburgh)  
 Also, many research studies were addressed to **Asian and American populous cities** (different scale)



Milan



Los Angeles

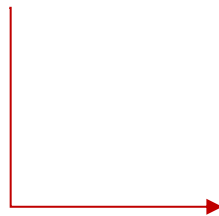
# 15 minutes-city application in Lisbon. Citizens participation

The Citizens Council of Lisbon was launched in **January 2022** by the **Lisbon City Council executive**. It is the first citizens council organized by a municipality in Portugal. It aims to **involve citizens in the decision-making process** on matters considered a priority by the executive.

50 citizens by raffle

1<sup>st</sup> edition: Climate Change (14-15 May 2022)

2<sup>nd</sup> edition: **15 minutes-city** (25 March-1 April 2023)



**Proposals** divided by topic:

- Education
- Health
- Commerce and services
- Leisure
- Mobility



For example: houses for teachers and students closer to schools and universities, better articulation of public transports to health centres, diagnosis of needs in commerce and services and the recovery of vacant buildings, etc.

# 15 minutes-city application in Lisbon. Neighbourhood study

## Is Lisbon a 15-minute city?

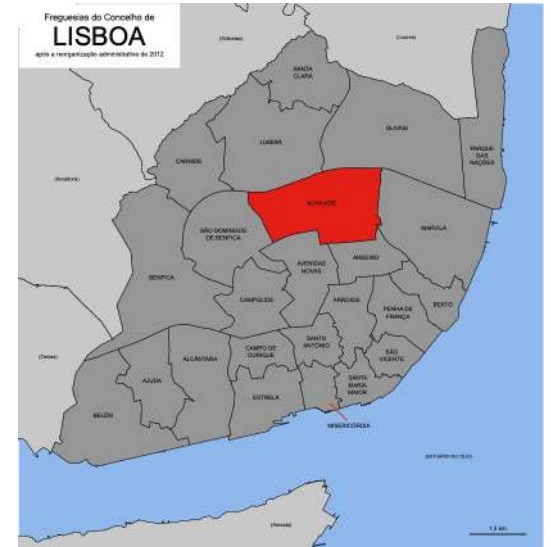
Research by Manuel Banza on **7 neighbourhoods** in Lisbon  
<https://lisboa---cidade-de-15-minutos.webnode.pt>

**Services analysed** within 15 minutes on foot or by bike:

- Schools and Universities
- Green spaces
- Workplaces
- Hospitals
- Commerce
- Cultural spaces
- Bike lane
- Transport



**Alvalade** results the most prepared for the 15 minutes-city.

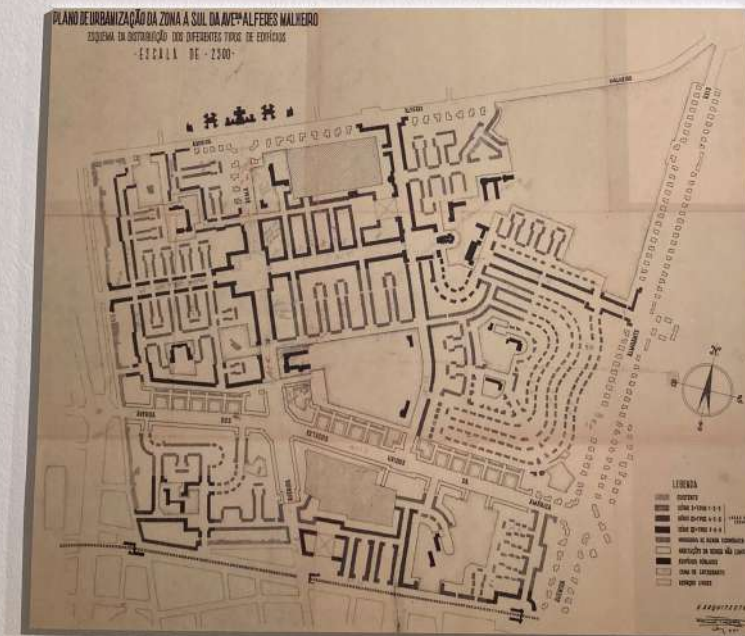


# Why Alvalade?

## Alvalade plan

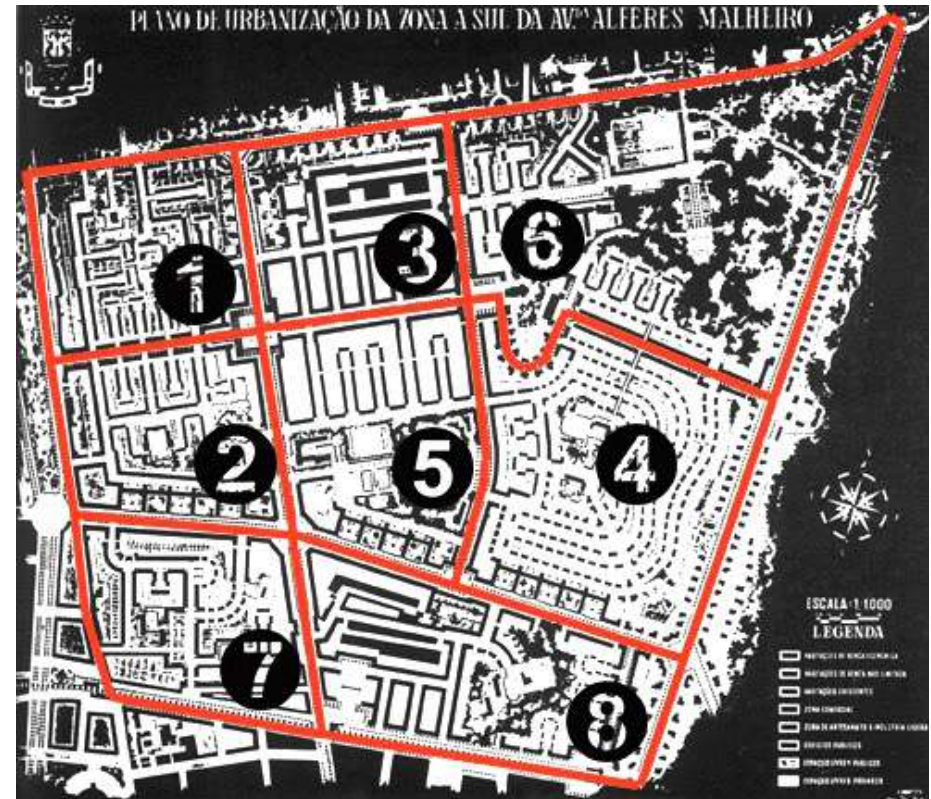
*Plano de Urbanização da Zona a Sul da Avenida Alferes Malheiro*

- ~ 1940
- Architect: João Faria da Costa
- Dimension: 230 hectares
- 12,000 houses for 45,000 inhabitants



# Alvalade Plan

- A **hierarchical grid** defined a network of main roads that subdivide **eight cells**, forming **neighborhood units**.
- These units are structured around a central element, **the primary school**, around which the housing is distributed. The objective was **not to exceed 500m of distance** from housing to school.
- The connections are facilitated by the existence of **footpaths** that cross the housing blocks in which we found large common outdoor spaces.





# São João de Brito neighborhood, Alvalade

- Aprox. **120** households
- **Aging** population
- Recent **urban plan** from the Municipality 2021-2022
- **No stores** / cafeterias



## São João de Brito neighborhood. Residents' concerns

**Mobility** – more than walking or other soft mobilities, among urban mobility issues, they:

- Have to walk a long distance to the bus stop – people living in the east corner take 10 minutes to the bus stop, people living in the north corner take 20 to 30 minutes
- Supermarket and other stores, also 20 minutes away
- Lack of a bus stop inside the neighborhood, preferably a bus van

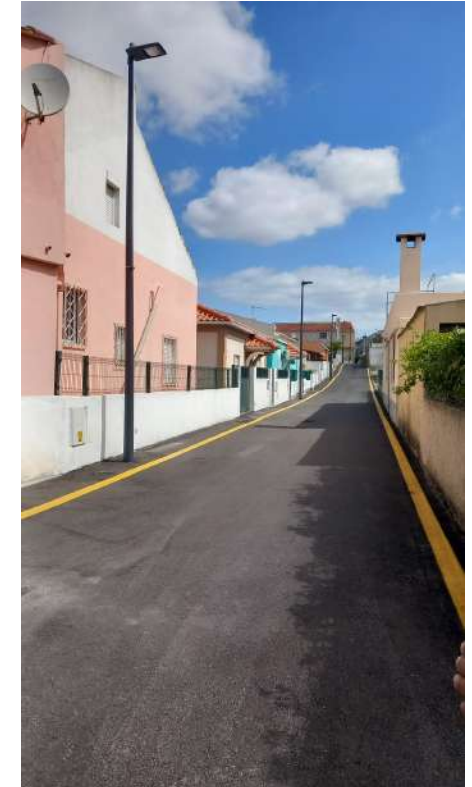


# São João de Brito neighborhood. Residents' concerns

The urban plan in 2021-2022 was made under a 1/1000 scale map, with no detail, and many mistakes.

Residents refer to:

- Narrow streets with **no sidewalks** or
- Narrow streets with **big sidewalks** but no parking
- Narrow streets to make safe u-turns by car
- **Not enough parking**



# São João de Brito neighborhood. Residents' concerns

The **connexion** between the neighborhood and the bigger **territory** of Alvalade is **atomized** but, at the same time, with positive signs, such as:

- (1) Interaction with **sociohistorical projects** such as Vidas e Memórias de Bairro (Lives and Memories), promoted by the local library
  - (2) Co-writing of **specifications/claims to improve/rectify the urban plan**, develop along with AtelierMob
- (1&2) are only possible with collaboration of the Residents' Association



## 15 minutes proximity. Final remarks

- A territory may be well equipped with all useful services for all residents, as seems to be the case of Alvalade, generally speaking
- But if parts of that territory don't have those services close to residents, there's a lot to change in urban planning, to improve mobility and accessibility to services.
- Walking and other so called soft mobilities, if they only serve part of the population, their usefulness is challenged.
- A present and a future aware of climate change and of a desired equity in health need to reach all types of territories and people of all ages.



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- [https://www.ted.com/talks/carlos\\_moreno\\_the\\_15\\_minute\\_city](https://www.ted.com/talks/carlos_moreno_the_15_minute_city)

