

PARTICIPATION PROCESSES AND URBANISM IN MATARÓ



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"Participation is more a set of principles than an ideology, an ethic more than a model... deep down, participation is about learning to respect and listen to the opinions, feelings, and knowledge of those we have in the past 'targeted'; being transparent regarding our intentions to intervene in their lives... being careful to decentralise and delegate, allowing the less powerful to manage greater resources and assume more responsibility; sharing our knowledge and expertise... in short, it is about opening up, taking risks and showing trust. Such changes do not come easy to those weighted down with the baggage of long years of formal education and hierarchical cultures" James Blackburn

Abstract

Cities are growing in size and in population, and have been doing so for many decades. This development and rapid growth in population makes urban planners act accordingly to adjust the city to its needs, however, it is not the only way of drawing a city. Informal planning and interventions are an example of bottom-up planning actions that makes the city evolve as their citizens wants or needs it to be. This thesis explores how citizen involvement is taken into account in the city of Mataró. Drawing on the history of the city and its development, highlighting the neighborhood of Cerdanyola, the study argues that the current participatory structures are overly institutionalized and fail to adequately represent the diverse voices and needs of the community. While progress has been made in recent years, there is a pressing need to deinstitutionalize the participation processes and shift towards empowering citizens to play a more active role in shaping the city's future. Through a combination of qualitative methods, including interviews with city officials and community members, the study analyzes the current participation processes and identifies key areas for improvement through the lenses of the Right to the City and the Ladder of Citizen Participation. The findings highlight the importance of community-driven initiatives and grassroots efforts in promoting a more inclusive and participatory approach to urban planning and development. Overall, the study underscores the need for a fundamental reimagining of the role of public participation in shaping the future of Mataró.

Key words: citizen participation, planning, tactical urbanism, bottom-up, information.

Resumen

Las ciudades están creciendo en tamaño y población, y lo han estado haciendo durante muchas décadas. Este desarrollo y rápido crecimiento de la población hace que los urbanistas actúen en consecuencia para adaptar la ciudad a sus necesidades; sin embargo, no es la única forma de planificar una ciudad. La planificación e intervenciones informales o de guerrilla son un ejemplo de acciones de planificación de abajo hacia arriba (bottom-up) que hacen que la ciudad evolucione según lo que sus ciudadanos desean o necesitan. Este trabajo de fin de máster explora los procesos de participación ciudadana en la ciudad de Mataró, centrándose en la necesidad de un enfoque más equitativo y dirigido por y para los ciudadanos centrándose en los proyectos de urbanismo táctico. Basándose en la historia de la ciudad y su desarrollo, con especial atención al barrio de Cerdanola, el estudio sostiene que las actuales estructuras participativas están demasiado institucionalizadas y no representan adecuadamente las diversas voces y necesidades de la comunidad. Aunque se han producido avances en los últimos años, existe una necesidad urgente de desinstitucionalizar los procesos de participación y avanzar hacia un enfoque de empoderamiento a los ciudadanos para que desempeñen un papel más activo en la configuración del futuro de la ciudad. A través de una combinación de métodos cualitativos, incluyendo entrevistas con funcionarios de la ciudad, políticos y miembros de la comunidad, el estudio analiza los procesos de participación actuales e identifica áreas clave para la mejora a través de usar la teoría de the Right to the City de Henri Lefebvre y the Ladder of Participation. Los hallazgos destacan la importancia de las iniciativas impulsadas por la comunidad y los esfuerzos de base en la promoción de un enfoque más inclusivo y participativo de la planificación y el desarrollo urbano. En general, el estudio subraya la necesidad de una reimaginación fundamental del papel de la participación pública en la configuración del futuro de Mataró.

Palabras clave: participación ciudadana, planificación, urbanismo táctico, bottom-up, información.

Resum

Les ciutats estan creixent en mida i població, i ho han estat fent durant moltes dècades. Aquest desenvolupament i ràpid creixement de la població fa que els urbanistes actuïn en conseqüència per adaptar la ciutat a les seves necessitats; no obstant això, no és l'única forma de planificar una ciutat. La planificació i les intervencions informals són un exemple d'accions de planificació de baix cap a dalt (bottom-up) que fan que la ciutat evolucioni segons el que els seus ciutadans desitgen o necessiten. Aquest treball de fi de màster explora els processos de participació ciutadana a la ciutat de Mataró, centrant-se en la necessitat d'un enfocament més equitatiu i dirigit pels ciutadans centrat-se en els projectes d'urbanisme tàctic. Basant-se en la història de la ciutat i el seu desenvolupament, amb especial menció del barri de Cerdanyola, l'estudi sosté que les actuals estructures participatives estan massa institucionalitzades i no representen adequadament les diverses veus i necessitats de la comunitat mataronina. Tot i que s'han produït avenços en els últims anys, hi ha una necessitat urgent de desinstitucionalitzar els processos de participació i avançar cap a un enfocament d'empoderament a la ciutadania per a què juguin un paper més actiu en la configuració del futur de la ciutat. A través d'una combinació de mètodes qualitatius, incloent entrevistes amb funcionaris de la ciutat, polítics electes i membres de la comunitat, l'estudi analitza els processos de participació actuals i identifica àrees clau per a la millora a partir de les teories de the Right to the City de Henri Lefebvre i the Ladder of Participation. Els resultats destaquen la importància de les iniciatives impulsades per la comunitat i els esforços de base en la promoció d'un enfocament més inclusiu i participatiu de la planificació i el desenvolupament urbà. En general, l'estudi subratlla la necessitat d'una reimaginació fonamental del paper de la participació pública en la configuració del futur de Mataró.

Paraules clau: participació ciutadana, planificació, urbanisme tàctic, bottom-up, Mataró, informació.

Preface and Acknowledgement

The current master thesis is written as part of the MSc Sustainable Cities in Engineering at Aalborg University in Copenhagen. The thesis is made in the period from February 2023 to May 2023. It explores the public participation processes in the city of Mataró, focusing on the need for a more equitable and citizen-driven approach taking into account tactical urbanism projects.

In relation to the process of writing the thesis, there are several individuals I would like to thank and dedicate this report to. Obviously, to the city and people of Mataró that saw me grow up and gave the opportunities and facilities to shape who I am today and be here.

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Contents

1	Introduction and Problem Analysis	1
1.1	Urbanism	4
1.2	Limitations	4
2	Mataró, capital del Maresme	5
3	Problem Formulation	13
3.1	Research questions	13
4	Theoretical Framework	14
4.1	New Urbanism	14
4.1.1	Tactical urbanism	15
4.2	The Right to the City	17
4.3	The Ladder of Citizen Participation	20
4.3.1	Participatory planning	22
4.4	Position of the researcher	24
4.5	Scope	24
5	Methodology	26
5.1	Interview	26
5.2	Case Study	28
5.3	Desk Study	29
5.3.1	Document Study	29
5.3.2	Literature review	29
5.4	Research Design and Scope	29
6	Analysis	32

6.1	Policy	32
6.2	Analysis of participatory tools	33
6.2.1	Prior Hearing to the Plenary Session	33
6.2.2	Participation Councils	34
6.2.3	Participatory budgets	35
6.2.4	Forums and Consells	37
6.3	Summary	39
7	Discussion and Reflection	41
8	Conclusion	48
A	Appendix A: Sector and Territorial Councils	57
B	Annex B: Sergi Bonilla’s Interview Guide	59
C	Appendix C: Sergi Bonilla’s Interview Summary	61
D	Annex D: Jordi Tarradellas’s Interview Guide	63
E	Annex E: Jordi Tarradellas’s Interview Transcript	65
F	Annex F: Sarai Martínez’s Interview Guide	74
G	Annex G: Sarai Martínez’s Interview Transcript	76
H	Annex H: Sergi Morales’s Interview Guide	106
I	Appendix I: Sergi Morales’s Interview Transcript	108
J	Appendix J: Javier Páez’s Interview Guide	122
K	Appendix K: Javier Páez’s Interview Transcript	124

List of Figures

2.1	Location of Mataró, the yellow dot in El Maresme (Immomaresme 2022)	5
2.2	Claims for more green areas in the neighborhood of Cerdanyola. " <i>We need green areas in Cerdanyola</i> " (Veïns de Cerdanyola 2014)	7
2.3	Squat and Cleaning of Can Tuñí in Cerdanyola, Mataró. 10th of November of 1974. Photo by Manuel Cusachs. (Cusachs i Corredor 2001)	8
2.4	Espai Mataró Connecta. (Ajuntament de Mataró 2022b)	10
2.5	Actors for the Urban Agenda 2030 in Mataró. " <i>Reflection. Institutions, Economic Actors, Social Actors</i> " (Decidim Mataró 2022)	11
4.1	Tactical urbanism sanctioned-unsanctioned spectrum. (M. Lydon, Bartman, and al. 2012b)	16
4.2	Superilla de Sant Antoni. (EP 2023)	17
4.3	Citizens' Rights and Uses in Public Space: Right to Play, Right to Trade, Right to Self-Expression and Participation Right to Culture and Art. (Amati 2023)	18
4.4	Right to the City. (ParCitypatory 2020)	19
4.5	The Eight Rungs on the Ladder of Citizen Participation (Sherry 1969)	21
4.6	Some notes on how theories interact with each other. (Source: Author)	23
4.7	Research process. (Source: Author)	25
5.1	Research Design. (Source: Author)	31
6.1	Participatory budget diagram. (Participatory Budgeting Project 2021)	37
6.2	Ladder of Participation Mataró. (Source: Author)	39
8.1	Deinstitutionalisation process.	49
B.1	Organigram Sergi Bonilla. Ajuntament de Mataró 2023b	59

D.1	Organigram Jordi Tarradellas. Ajuntament de Mataró 2023c	63
F.1	Organigram Sarai Martínez	74
H.1	Organigram Sergi Morales. Ajuntament de Mataró 2023d	106

List of Tables

5.1	Interviewees, Appendixes and other information	27
5.2	Interviewed people and their background. (Source: Author)	28

Chapter 1

Introduction and Problem Analysis

The global climate crisis is rising and brings the environment as a main concern from local to national and international level. Traditionally, climate change has been seen as a global issue with global actions and global goals as the Sustainable Development Goals, however, in the recent years, there has been a greater focus in a municipal level to take action against the climate crisis.

One reason to take a look at the cities may be that over half of the world (55%) of the population in 2017 was living in urban settings. In some contexts, like Spain, the share of people living in urban areas was 81% in 2020. (Ritchie and Roser 2018) Moreover, it is expected that 68% of the world population will live in urban areas by 2050 (Economic and Affairs 2019). Also, the residents in the cities consume way more compared to the rural areas with the responsibility of 80% of the global gross domestic product (GDP). (The World Bank 2020)

This rise in population is due to nativity but also because of migration caused by the several benefits of living in urban settlements, which their living standards are usually higher than in rural areas. There are many examples, across broad areas of development, which suggest that, on average, living standards are higher in urban populations than in rural. Some examples include (OECD 2017):

- Urbanization has a strong correlation with income
- In nearly all countries electricity access is higher in urban areas than in rural areas;
- Access to improved sanitation is higher in urban areas;
- Access to improved drinking water is higher in urban areas;
- Access to clean fuels for cooking and heating is higher in urban areas;
- Child malnutrition is lower in urban settings.

However, there are a lot of other issues such as inequalities, deficiencies in housing, transport infrastructure, food and water security, and other environmental problems (Ferreira and al 2020). Today's urban challenges such as climate change, crime, poverty, disease, and the exhaustion of natural resources is shared among different nations. Sustainability in urban settings is challenged mostly due to their wealthiness: the more money there is in an area, the more resources it consumes; throughout the last decades, cities have been an epicenter for economic development and prosperity, and cities do have money as they contribute more than 80% to the global GDP and use resources. Such is so that cities consume up to 80% the world's energy and emit around the 75% of the total carbon emissions. (United Nations and Affairs 2019)(United Nations 2020)

This great amount of people in a very dense area also brings several environmental problems to existing and future cities. Some of these issues regarding climate are:

- Air pollution: According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 99% of the world's population lives in places where air quality exceeds WHO guideline limits. (WHO 2022) In some cities, air pollution levels can be several times higher than these limits, leading to increasing rates of respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and early deaths that could be prevented.
- Water pollution: In many cities, water bodies such as rivers and lakes are contaminated with industrial pollutants and sewage, in the future, around 80% of population will live in areas with multi-pollutant problems. Additionally, high urbanization rates increase the use of freshwater resources and creates friction between the use of water for cities or agriculture. (Strokal et al. 2021)
- Waste management: On a global scale, the amount of waste generated by cities is increasing rapidly as it does the population and urbanization. According to the World Bank, the municipal waste is expected to nearly double by 2050 compared to 2020. (Kaza et al. 2018)
- Loss of green spaces: in many cities, green spaces are being lost as a result of rapid and not well-managed urbanization and development. These green and blue spaces are key due to the significant health and well-being benefits to local communities. (Ganzleben and Ian 2020) There are other benefits like improvement of air quality, moderation of temperatures, reduction of noise and enhancement of biodiversity. (Günther, Maes, and Thijssen 2019) (Romanello 2021)
- Heat islands: Urban areas can be several degrees warmer than surrounding rural areas, due to the "heat island" effect.
- Noise and odor pollution: Industrial and human activities generate these two types of pollution that interfere with the well-being of people and other living beings causing bronchitis, asthma, pneumonia. Those are particularly noticeable in large cities. (Admin 2020)

Others additional environmental problems in urban areas may include loss of biodiversity, soil degradation and contamination, or poor water quality. (Ferreira and al 2020) These statements highlight the scale of the environmental challenges facing urban areas and the need for effective solutions to mitigate their impacts.

As a consequence of these problems, the awareness of urban sustainability and the general public pressure, sustainability management has been introduced in the local agendas of many cities. A

well-managed urban development would help to maximize the benefits of urbanization while minimizing the environmental impacts of a urban growing population and its activities. In other words, sustainable development is present in the planning and management of many cities. Sustainable development can be understood as "*development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs*" (Environment and Development 1987), which is used by the UN and other authorities. Of course, this definition needs to be adapted to the city level context, but still applies the very same definition.

This awareness is not only present in local or municipal agendas, but also, as said before, in global strategies as one of the main Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the United Nations. More specifically, the SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities which its main goal is to "*make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*". As one of the SDG's targets presents: a direct public participation should be involved in the urban planning and management of the city.

Citizens are the ones that will potentially suffer the climate crisis consequences, so citizens participation is key to handle better those environmental or any kind of issues. That happens at all levels, from national level to the small communities where institutions have the responsibility to encourage public awareness and participation, making information available for the general public as the United Nations Assembly states in the conference of Rio in 1992 in its 10th principle. It is an essential parameter in the transition of societies into sustainability.(Nations 1992) In addition, the UN defines participation as "*the process of decision making and problem solving, involving individuals and groups who represent diverse interests, expertise and points of view and who act for the good of all those affected by the decisions they make and the actions that follow*". (Fred 2001) Some years after that, in the European Conference of Cities for the Human Rights in Barcelona in 1998, some cities signed the European letter of Safeguard of Human Rights in the City. It stated that the citizens must have right to information and public and political participation. (IDHC 2000) Finally, following the same path and in order to bring the European institutions closer to the citizens, the European Commission launched a reform of governance "European governance- A white paper" where one of the five principles was participation in order to involve citizens in the drafting and implementation of policies. (European Commission 2001)

For the sake of this project, public participation is understood as the ability of any citizen or group of them, to intervene in the management of the city matters, in this case, the urban model transition. To have power to negotiate, decide, correct, and hold power.

In order to establish a standardised set of categories and levels of participation, it is chosen for the purpose of this thesis to use the Ladder of Citizen Participation by Sherry Arnstein. This framework is explained in The Ladder of Participation

Several other tools had been used to fight the climate change adversities like climate action plans, local renewable energy production, better public transport, managing green areas, etc., and quite all of them could be grouped as policy making or urbanism. Another example that cities use to mitigate climate change are networks and exchange of know-how like C40 platform has brought together nearly 100 cities all over the world to collaborate in order to address climate change. (C40 2023) However, they are still networks to discuss policies and plans regarding urbanism without the inputs of the citizens.

1.1 Urbanism

Cities are shaped by a variety of actions, events and regulations that affect them throughout their history, as it will be seen with the chosen case of Mataró. One key aspect that alters cities is "urbanism". Urbanism in cities has been used in several cases for different reasons and by different means. Urbanization is a major growth phenomenon in all countries of the world, with governments still finding and applying appropriate tools for its management. (Suhartini 2023)

Attention to the role of urbanism has increased over the years mainly due to its great impact in several sectors, such as in transport, public policy, mobility, housing, health, urban green areas, etc.

For this thesis, urbanism will be the companion of the public participation which is cornerstone of the thesis, understanding urbanism as the interdisciplinary field that studies of how inhabitants of urban areas interact with the built environment or urban ecosystem, it is a direct component of disciplines such as urban planning, which focuses on the physical design and management of urban structures and urban sociology (urban life and culture) (IEREK 2020)(IGI Global 2023b).

1.2 Limitations

The main purpose of the following section is to present and elaborate on the limitation in this project.

In order to define what urban population stands for, the UN uses each national definition, and regarding the urban agglomeration, it is defined as the population contained in the city plus the suburban areas. (Department of Economic and Social Affairs 2020) The size of urban areas to be considered a city varies from place to place by its own context. In the case of Spain, it is defined by the National Geographical Institute, the size of an urban area by the national standards should be over 10,000 inhabitants to be tagged as a city. There are some other criteria in its definition that completes the result of a city which are a high density of population as there should be adjoining buildings, and third sector activities should be developed there. (Asociación Española de Geografía 2020) It is chosen to take these definitions due to the case chosen for this thesis, the city of Mataró and its urbanism and participatory processes are being studied.

Chapter 2

Mataró, capital del Maresme

In this section, it will be presented the focus area of the thesis. For this project, the city of Mataró is chosen to get a scenario to focus on and analyse. During the whole project Mataró will be used as a subject as a reference to the city itself, but also it will be used as the institutions and the technical offices or the City Council.

Mataró, home of 129.149 inhabitants (Mataró 2021), one of them, the researcher, is the capital of the region known as Maresme, it is located in the northeast of Spain by the Mediterranean Sea just 30 km northeast of Barcelona.



Figure 2.1: Location of Mataró, the yellow dot in El Maresme (Immomaresme 2022)

In order to understand how Mataró is operating at the moment, we need to take a look at its history and how it was shaped and built in the last decades of the previous century. As many other cities in Catalonia, a rapid industrialization in the sectors of glass making, textile, cooperatives, and building sector led to thousand of migrants from other regions of the Iberian Peninsula to move there. That brought the city to a huge economic, social, and urban transformation during the second half of the XX century. For instance, all the newcomers lived in shacks that they made themselves without any services and lack of all sort of planning, mainly in the new neighborhood of Cerdanyola.

(Lligades and De Maya Jiménez 2000) With all this amount of manpower, the population of Mataró increased to 40,000 inhabitants in 1960 while in 1950 there were 31,000, only 2,000 more than 1939. (Sivilla, Eloi 2014) Due to the rapid development, there was no rules nor guidelines, so there was a lot of structural and infrastructure problems such as hygiene, communication, water, etc and those condition shaped, not only the city, but also their citizens and their way of doing. Actually, as the historian Víctor Ligos says:

Between Cerdanyola and Mataró there was an empty space, a desert. They were two different things: down there, far away, it starts Mataró... and those who don't want to understand that, they cannot understand what people of these neighbourhood have lived. (Lligades and De Maya Jiménez 2000)

Mataró is a historical place for cooperativism and participation on several aspects like its municipal festivity "*Les Santes*", where many people participate and collaborate to create the best festivity possible. The neighbourhood associations have been historically a way of pursue demands, meet, come together, and build together the city as those associations were not forbidden by the dictatorship like other type of groups like unions were. (Sivilla, Eloi 2014) The official dictator city hall also tried to set official associations to prevent them to fall in groups against the regime. (Puig i Pla 2007) However, the union and political feeling of the people of Mataró was and have always been there, and many people were detained as they were operating in secrecy because of their political participation and claims. (Puig i Pla 2007)

After the dictatorship, there was the feeling and urge of taking back what was plundered by the regime, bringing back to the citizens the assets what were part of the community. Cooperadors de Mataró 2021 Also, many assemblies were set around Catalonia to make sure a democratic transition was taken place in the different cities, and to recover the freedom that was taken. (Cusachs i Corredor 2001)

The neighbors started to claim their rights and decent services for their neighborhoods as they were loosing the fear during the transition. Two of the most famous claims and fights are the need of a school and the need of green areas as shown in Figure 2.2. The first one was promoted by the PSUC (Partit Socialista Unificat de Catalunya) claiming a proper educational right and service for the neighborhood, even the town hall was seized by some members of that party, taking the institutions by and for the general citizens. The result can be enjoyed even during our days with the Tomás Viñas school.

All the changes during the last decades give to Mataró its current shape: as Amat says in its book *Veus de Mataró. Les lluites veïnals explicades pels seus protagonistes*: "*that today we are able to sit in the shadow of some parks, have bus lanes, that the harbour is situated where it is now, and that we are able to enjoy historic buildings, it is thanks to the ruling authorities but not only, because it is also due to the civic pressure and that those neighbours who firmed their voices for real changes*" (Amat 2009). During my childhood I was not aware of how many efforts and how many people stood up so I could enjoy the Parc de Cerdanyola thanks to the fight to get more green areas in the most populated neighbourhood where an old polluting factory was. This last claim that lasted three years of negotiation and struggle with the authorities gave the park known as *Parc de Cerdanyola* or how people use to call it in the neighbourhood *Parc de Can Tuñi* in honour of the previous factory there. (Cusachs i Corredor 2001) It can be said that the way it was done it is now known as Guerilla Gardering (M. Lydon, Bartman, and al. 2012a), although, back then, it was known as class struggle as it can be seen in Figure 2.3. These two example present a strong relation



Figure 2.2: Claims for more green areas in the neighborhood of Cerdanyola. "We need green areas in Cerdanyola" (Veïns de Cerdanyola 2014)

established between changes in urbanism and class struggle in Mataró. There has been some other claims that also shaped the city like the demands against parking spaces restrictions known as *No zona azul*.

The transition towards democracy in the town hall was not fast enough, so the ADM (Assemblea Democràtica de Mataró) created the "Commission for Control and Municipal Information" in order to inform the citizens of what was going on during the transition towards democracy. (Cusachs i Corredor 2001)

When the democratic freedoms were conquered and the progressively normalization of the political life, the people, the political parties, the institutions, and the rest were set in the place they belonged. All this transition and struggles give a highly positive experience and lessons that shows that citizens could organise themselves and take action and raised to the occasion. Maybe, this final transition was the moment where the high involvement was lost and now a lot of efforts are done to recover it to compensate the over institutionalisation, although nothing can be compared to a change of political regime such as the one in the 70s.

Even though, several factors are important for the understanding of the way Mataró works and has been developed through history, only the most relevant for the thesis and topic are mentioned.

Currently, the civil society participation is now engaged with different mechanisms such as the territories and the sectorial assemblies that can be found in Appendix A, and of course the municipal elections (Appendix G and Appendix I). The citizen participation regulation is defined in the 2012 document from the city hall of Mataró which is adhered to the European Letter to Safeguard the Human Rights in the City (CGLU Committee 2012).

Mataró recognises public participation as a right and understands it as the possibility of direct intervention of any individual for the public matters. They consider that participation is not only



Figure 2.3: Squat and Cleaning of Can Tuñí in Cerdanyola, Mataró. 10th of November of 1974. Photo by Manuel Cusachs. (Cusachs i Corredor 2001)

between the public administration and the citizens, but also those relations between the people and the common interests and the city itself are able to get into the process to make decisions. Participation is the conviction that whoever that wants to join the public decision making process has the tools and mechanisms for it. (Mataró 2012)

Furthermore, there are several rights recognised as the information, referendum, to make suggestions, etc. although the interesting part of the document is the tools and mechanisms available for the citizens to be able to participate in the public decisions. A mechanism of participation is understood as those procedures or processes that can guarantee the exercise of the participatory rights recognised in the regulation.

- Popular initiative: Propose actions or municipal activities. Citizens' entities can ask the authorities to bring an activity forward with the studied matters which will be checked by the municipality.
- Submit complaints, claims and suggestions: there is the figure known as "*el Defensor del Ciutadà*", the Citizen's Defender, which is the organism that treats those topics.
- Public audience: both the municipality or the citizens' entities or also the 1% of the citizens can ask for a public audience, where oral information is passed from the authorities to the citizens regarding certain political or administrative actions. They happen at least once a

year in order to make the discussion process of the municipal budget and municipal actions program more participatory.

- Public Hearing to the Hall Plenary Session: previously to the actual consistory session, each citizen or association have some minutes to present the case they consider. The politicians are there to listen to the intervention and give feedback, so an answer is given sometimes.
- Association making: there is a strong net of public and popular associations which are recognised and promoted by the townhall.
- Public spaces and facilities: those facilities which are own by the city council can be used by the associations and other entities for meetings and their activities.
- Participation organs: these participation bodies differ from target or area of influence, there are the City Council, Sector Council and Territorial Councils and have been around the 90's. These councils are consultative but non binding and can provide reports, formulate proposals and suggestions and follow up the municipality management. In Appendix A it can be found the different types and their definitions.
- There is the body known as “*Comissió Permanent de Participació*” (Permanent commission of participation). It is the responsible entity to ensure that the procedures and mechanisms of participation work properly.
- Petitions: any neighbour can make petitions to the town hall office which will get a response in a maximum of a month.
-

Officially, on paper, Mataró understands a participatory process as a tool to help the local Government in decision-making so the citizens are active to participate. (DecidimMataro 2020) A participatory process can have all or some the following phases:

- a) Information phase: to spread information, plans, projects to the citizens affected. The municipality has the duty to facilitate the access to information regarding the situation of the city, their programs, services and actions, as well as any other information that it is object of interest. There are several ways to share the information like the internet, the media, by the previous petitions, information addressed to a specific sector of population, direct consultation to the population by calling systems, or even regular meetings to inform the affected entities and compile their inputs.
- b) Debating phase: here diagnosis, debating and proposing ideas happen from the citizens with the goal of reaching consensus.
- c) Proposal phase: presentation of proposals of actions, work guidelines and concrete actions.
- d) Returning phase: the results of the process is brought back to the citizens.
- e) Follow up phase: this monitoring could be done by a commission or by other mechanisms.
- f) Execution phase: the final phase where the implementation of the agreed actions take place. (DecidimMataro 2020)(Mataró 2012)

Article 31 says that the municipality will use diverse methodologies of participation depending on the necessities detected and the projects. This premise leaves the door open for future adjustments in a more active participatory way or in a more restricted way of participation. (Mataró 2012)

Not even a year ago, Mataró Council created a space named Espai Mataró Connecta for paper-work but also for connecting the administration, the townhall, with the citizens. Apart from the regular services that the offices can offer to the general public, it creates a space for interaction, creativity, cooperation, collaboration, and transversal work (Appendix E). (Ajuntament de Mataró 2022b)



Figure 2.4: Espai Mataró Connecta. (Ajuntament de Mataró 2022b)

Different activities and programs can be developed in that space by the town hall, the citizens, associations or even private or public companies. It is meant to be an environment that could hold debates, talks, trainings, and even small showings of art and music. Also, there is the lab of creativity and innovation which is shared by the public administration and some entities and associations for a better, collaborative and plural work.

A key activity on this space has been the debates on the Urban Agenda for 2030 defined as the "process of shared reflections oriented to the innovation and learning" (Decidim Mataró 2022). Regular citizen can submit their proposals or topics to debate for the future of the city. Several forums have been active, where significant stakeholders and people were invited. These forums are composed of two phases: the first is for the identification of challenges for Mataró and the second one is focused on finding opportunities and priorities. Next, there is the list of the different forums that have been active:

- Forum of Thriving City: production model, circular economy, sustainable tourism, digitization, private-public collaboration, etc.
- Forum of Inclusive City: gender equality, 15 min city, segregation, account for care. affordable housing, access to culture, etc.
- Forum of Resilient City: energy model, efficiency use of resources, mitigation and adaption to climate change, food sovereignty, etc.

- Forum of Ecological and Healthy City: energy transition, mobility, circularity, urban landscape, urban biodiversity, ecosystem restoration, etc.
- Forum of Smart and Connected City: collaborative economy, public participation, proximity facilities, urban labs, social innovation, digital rights, data economy, etc. (Decidim Mataró 2022)

As an extra tool, there are the strategic debates, where new stakeholders are spotted, it gives visibility to the process and brings new challenges.



Figure 2.5: Actors for the Urban Agenda 2030 in Mataró. *"Reflection. Institutions, Economic Actors, Social Actors"* (Decidim Mataró 2022)

As shown in the previous figure 2.5, a lot of actors are included in the big picture. This can remind of an Actor Network Theory approach, although I would suggest is more a triple helix approach taking into account the public institutions, the private economic actors, and the society and general public. With that, the town hall is opening up to a more democratic and participatory approach. However, despite the picture from the official site, it would be more accurate to say they try to work with the quadruple helix model, as universities and academia are also included: (talking about the quadruple helix model) *"We try to work with that concept, even the quintuple helix, no, there's the quintuple now with the environment in."* said the responsible of the Espai Mataró Connecta Jordi Tarradellas (Appendix E)

As it can be seen, participation processes have been institutionalised at a fast pace, from people organising themselves to the regulation and institutionalisation of almost everything in just a few decades. The over-institutionalisation of those processes can lead to lack of trust on those. However, a more informal participation is done in the city by several groups, although very niche. Some examples could be the PAH (Plataforma d'Afectats per la Hipoteca), or the Sindicat of Habitatge, which they are self organised groups and stop evictions. Participating with their own dynamics and processes outside the institutionalised participation.

Another criteria to use Mataró is that it has recently used some new urbanism concepts and plans, such as the bike lanes. Also, it is a relatively big city to the Catalanian standards but does not get as much attention as Barcelona does, so there is not such a big preassure and gives more room to learn from other cities and adapt their lessons learnt to the context of Mataró. One of the main issues is that the prevailing current urbanistic plan is defined by the *Plan General de*

Ordenación (PGO) of 1996 even though some later modifications have been done (Ajuntament Mataró 2023).

Finally, it is a great excuse to use Mataró as a reference as last year the new sustainable urban mobility plan was agreed in the city council. There are more than 70 actions to implement in order to get a safe and sustainable mobility. (Ajuntament de Mataró 2021) Those actions are the perfect scenario to implement tactical urbanism and involve the citizens to shape their own city. In addition, the municipal elections in Spain are held the 28th of May and it would be a great opportunity to introduce into the debate the public participation and urbanism.

Chapter 3

Problem Formulation

Based on the previous analysis and presentation of the case, the following research question has been conducted:

How can public participation be used in Mataró for tactical urbanism projects?

3.1 Research questions

1. How are the participatory methods at the moment in Mataró?
2. How can those participatory methods be improved and have a greater impact on the decision making process?
3. How to bring back tactical urbanism and participation to the citizens to compensate the over institutionalization?

Chapter 4

Theoretical Framework

The following chapter has the aim to introduce and elaborate the different theories used in the project and how they are used. Firstly, the theories are described, then some considerations about them are done such as how they interrelate and what concepts are used in the object of analysis. The theories elaborated in the section are *Right to the City*, *New Urbanism*, and *The Ladder of Citizen Participation*, as a "bonus" theory, in the discussion, it is mentioned the participatory democratic theory and Communicative Planning by Bo Elling.

4.1 New Urbanism

Tactical urbanism expands beyond traditional urbanism or the current neoliberal urbanism and also goes further into how we understand the city and incorporates other aspects like livability into it. This new aspect of urbanism affects the city itself, of course, but also the institutions in charge and the way citizens understand the city and interact with it. In order to understand how this new shape of urbanism are used, the framework on new urbanism, more specifically, tactical urbanism, is used.

New Urbanism can be defined as a planning and design approach that emphasizes the function and ethics of rebuilding urban areas to be walkable, diverse, connected, mixed-used, aesthetically pleasing, sustainable, and compact while protecting natural environments. (Alfadala, Eman & Furlan, Raffaello 2018) (IGI Global 2023a). It aims to create environmentally friendly communities that reduce dependence on cars and encourage social interaction, connecting people in high density areas with parks or community gathering centers like plazas for example. (Briney, Amanda 2019) It focuses on human-scaled urban design to offer alternatives to the sprawling neoliberal ruling urbanism. New Urbanism is holistic as it affects all scales: from metropolitan to even a single building, which is also said by Sarai Martínez in Appendix G (CNU 2021)

The existence and emphasis of the word "new" in New Urbanism can give the impression that there is an old urbanism or a regular urbanism. This comparison could be done with the urbanism that has been ruling our cities like the neoliberal urbanism or utilitarian urbanism. However, New Urbanism is not a new era, or phase as different urbanisms can co-exist in the same time,

it means that there is a new way of looking at how cities are shaped and organised with new goals in mind compared to what it used to be in recent times. Actually, New Urbanism aims to return those human-scale neighborhoods making public space a high priority. (CNU 2021) In the same sense of going back to the beginnings of the neighborhoods in Mataró, New Urbanism also reclaims underutilised and neglected places so new uses comes to the streets through this urban transformation. That was once done in Mataró, the public space was taken at a human-scale and was built as a priority for gathering, however, it has turn directions towards a more functional urbanism.

4.1.1 Tactical urbanism

One of this transformative urbanism movements that falls into the umbrella of New Urbanism is tactical urbanism. As this thesis investigates the transformation of the public space through participatory processes, tactical urbanism can be a useful tool where the administration does not need to invest a lot and the citizens can shape their own streets and open spaces and achieve a fair urban transformation, just as they have done in the past..

Tactical urbanism can be defined as an approach to neighborhood building that uses short-term, low-cost, and scalable interventions to consolidate positive long-term impacts. (M. Lydon, Bartman, and al. 2012a) These interventions or actions are also referred to as "guerrilla urbanism", "pop-up urbanism", "city repair", or "D.I.Y urbanism". (M. Lydon, Bartman, and al. 2012a) These light interventions aim matters like security, equity problems, and lack of infrastructure, among others. (MediaUrban 2020) Prototyping the public space in order to be tried out, get the reactions and improve it makes the initial investment lower than usual, and involves more people giving them some responsibility apart from experts on the field. (Álvarez, Ana María & Muxí Martínez, Zaida 2021) Tactical Urbanism is used by public institutions, governments, citizen groups, private actors, but also individuals to change the shape of the urban environment. (A. Lydon M. bibinitperiod G. 2015)

Tactical urbanism uses the term tactical due to its short-term focus instead of a strategy which is a long-term plan. Strategy involves extensive research, planning, and reflection to determine the broad goals to achieve. While strategy determines where you want to get, tactics define how to do it with smaller steps. Strategies are more difficult to change once they have started while tactics can be adjusted as much as needed to achieve the desired outcome. (Messineo, RJ 2023) In this case of urbanism, tactical makes more sense to be used rather than strategic.

In general, there are five characteristics that surrounds any tactical urbanism project:

1. Vision: the goal is to get a long term change and those tactical actions should be related to it. It is an iterative process to move forward.
2. Context: every place, every neighbourhood and every street is different, which means that those context matter.
3. Agility: these short term projects gives the agility to change and adapt and learn for future performances as they are short-term commitments.
4. Value: as this type of urbanism is temporary, it brings a lot of learning even from the failings too, which will add value for the future implementations too.

5. Community: these projects develop social capital and bring organizational capacity between citizens and also other actors like private business or non-profits organization, which could be beneficial for Mataró and its associations. The goal is to work for the community and make their spaces better. (Lydon, Mike 2012) (M. Lydon, Bartman, and al. 2012a)

One way of classifying the projects with a tactical urbanism approach can be the difference between bottom-up or top-down measures and the different tactics move in the spectrum of unsanctioned or sanctioned such as it can be seen in Figure 4.1.



Figure 4.1: Tactical urbanism sanctioned-unsanctioned spectrum. (M. Lydon, Bartman, and al. 2012b)

Originally, tactical urbanism is born as an answer to the problems of the city that had no solution from the root. The urbanist Paz Serra argues that tactical urbanism was born by the people who did some handy jobs to fix their own neighborhoods and then, the movement got institutionalised. Even the urbanist and councillor of Barcelona Max Zañartu argues that tactical urbanism comes from the social movements: a citizens' urbanism, where the citizens gets involved directly in the transformation of the public space. (ISABELA CUSSEN 2021) This definition brings a clear division between the more informal planning from the citizens and social movements and the more formal from the institutions, in fact, all the informal tactical urbanism projects that end up working becomes formal planning as it is the public authority's responsibility to make it long term. For the sake of this project, as both approaches share a focus on creating more livable and sustainable cities, both are taken into account.

Tactical urbanism takes into account several aspects and inputs from the city, its reality and its stakeholders towards a more livable environment. Tactical Urbanism allows for changes and accommodation of new ideas and new uses, health, diversity, and complexity. Therefore, it could be argued that tactical urbanism also falls under the label of Integral Urbanism concept from Ellin (Pickett 2013) that effectively integrates the natural, the built, and the human, creating spaces which are meant to be a mixture of large, small, old and new, planned and unplanned, representing local history, culture, climate, and landscape. It is an antidote to the fragmented and unsustainable development of the cities.

There are several examples all over the world in many cities, big and small. One of the most popular examples that has been studied in many papers recently is the case of Barcelona. In Barcelona, they have applied the concept of tactical urbanism in the *Superilles* (Superbloks) that can be seen in Figure 4.2 calming traffic, protecting schools and surroundings areas making recreational spaces around the entrances, creating new pedestrianised areas, extension of terraces, and creating new cycle lanes, between other measures, all of it while engaging public participation. (Barcelona City Council 2020) However, because of the social and political context, all these measures are used as a political tool and weapon instead of looking at it as a way forward.



Figure 4.2: Superilla de Sant Antoni. (EP 2023)

4.2 The Right to the City

In this section, some concepts and ideas from Henri Lefebvre will be discussed and brought to the table for further discussion. The current neoliberal urbanism cannot satisfy the anthropological needs: at the moment, the current society of consumption has prospected and manipulated the individual needs instead of acknowledge and recognize them, really. Planners should take into account these anthropological needs which are also socially elaborated such as, play, security, work, isolation, encounter, exchange, etc. (Lefebvre 1968)

The Right to the City is a concept developed by French sociologist Henri Lefebvre in his 1968 book "Le Droit à la ville" (The Right to the City). The key concepts of the Right to the City include the idea that an urban space or public space is a political and social construct that should be accessible to all citizens, regardless of their social or economic status. The Right to the City also emphasizes the importance of citizen participation in the creation and management of urban space, as well as the need for urban planning that prioritizes the needs of the community over those of developers or corporations or power holders. Additionally, The Right to the City recognizes the importance of cultural diversity and the preservation of local traditions and identities in the urban environment. Overall, The Right to the City is a call for greater democracy and social justice in the urban environment.



Figure 4.3: Citizens' Rights and Uses in Public Space: Right to Play, Right to Trade, Right to Self-Expression and Participation Right to Culture and Art. (Amati 2023)

Lefebvre argues that the city has become an object of cultural consumption for tourists, it is no longer lived, is falling apart without warmth. He also propose that there cannot be a going back towards the shapeless agglomeration cities were. (Lefebvre 1968) It is also proposed to make the effort to look for a new humanism, a new praxis for the new urban society.

While talking that all planners and theorist of the cities are utopians, and experimental utopias have implications and consequences on the ground. Lefebvre also argues that the tool known as system is everywhere, such in policies or ecology or even the humble inhabitant has his own system of significations. Planners or strategist take into account existing strategies and acquired knowledge which focus in the current direction of the cities, and the loop of non appealing cities goes on. Strategies can be consider as a hierarchy of variables which are divided into strategic and tactical level. Therefore, *only groups, social classes and class fractions capable of revolutionary initiative can take over and realize to fruition solutions to urban problems* (Lefebvre 1968 pg. 154) like it was with el Parc de Can Tuñí in Mataró.

Lefebvre argues that only those groups in the working class were the only ones able to put an end to the current path to segregation against them by the relationships between the State and the private sector. The working class is the responsible to contribute to the reconstruction of centrality using tools such as centres of decision making, such as the councils or participatory budgets in Mataró, or the assemblies of informal groups. The working class is not going to make the urban society on its own alone, but the urban society will not be made without the working class.

When the working class is silent or inactive, there are other ways to propose changes: political programs of urban reforms, mostly proposed to political forces or parties, normally on the left side of the spectrum, like in Barcelona. On the other hand, there are mature planning projects that consider the future of the cities and take into account the morphology of time, space, and also

the way of living in the city and its urban development. Both bring long, medium, and short-term propositions. One great example of this change from corporation lobbyist versus the needs of citizens and life in the cities is the spin that New York City took, taking into account the participation of simple people and small business too. (Petersen 2011)

Lefebvre argues that *"the society finds itself incomplete"* as there are some social and cultural disintegration, although he considers these voids places of the possible, the issue here is that there is not power that could assemble them unless there is a radical metamorphosis. (Lefebvre 1968) Although policy is needed, it is not enough to bring those changes as

only a social force, capable of investing itself in the urban through a long political experience, can take charge of the realization of a program concerning urban society. (Lefebvre 1968 pg. 156)

Besides science, there is also art considered as it brings realization of urban society, giving multiple facets. Music, painting, and sculpture are some examples that could be integrated in the city, and in the matter of this project it is related to artistic proposals for tactical urbanism projects. Art and history shape the urban environment with actions considering both the realistic and the utopian views. That could be seen in the previous example of the Parc de Can Tuñí in the neighborhood of Cerdanyola in Mataró. This struggle also reflects the right to nature and leisure, although sometimes leisure comes with commodities that exchanges nature.



Figure 4.4: Right to the City. (ParCitypatory 2020)

In a nutshell, this concept gives the vision for urban space where users should and do manage it for and by themselves, beyond the control of other entities like the authorities and capitalism

for instance with the massive touristification of the cities, and transforming our cities in goods exchange and commodities. The Right to the City is a superior form of rights that involves freedom, individualization taking into account the socialization, habitat, etc. Action from local social movements and grassroots associations mobilize changes through social and class struggle.

Then, why is the Right to the City chosen? The historical perspective of Mataró and the examples presented here in this document shows that Mataró's citizens are capable of taking the public space for them and creating some communal projects for living and satisfying their human and social needs. The idea behind using the Right to the City is to reflect on the public participation process and how that participation can be brought to the citizens again. On the other hand, and as it can be seen it is used to analyse the urban spaces and how they are shaped taking into account the citizens. It is a well fitting umbrella framework for the case of Mataró to bring back what once what there, the right to own the city against the institutionalisation of it.

4.3 The Ladder of Citizen Participation

Public or citizen participation is a tool used in different projects and types of contexts. These participatory tools or processes vary on the form, the goals, and the grade of influence on the policy making or whatever final result is expected.

As the research question marks, the public participation is a key element for the goal of this report. Therefore, in order to establish a standardised framework regarding levels of citizen participation, The Ladder of Citizen Participation is chosen as a reference. In the perspective of the Ladder of Citizen Participation from Sherry Arnstein "*Citizen participation is a categorical term for citizen power*" (Sherry 1969).

From this point of view, as it can be seen in Figure 4.5, there are 8 steps of citizen participation and "nonparticipation", as Arnstein call the first two levels of the ladder (Manipulation and Therapy). These rungs of participation can be divided into three levels known as *Nonparticipation*, *Tokenism* and *Citizen Power*.

Nonparticipation level includes the Manipulation and the Therapy and are used as a replacement for genuine participation. In the Manipulation step these participatory processes are used as an excuse to validate and legitimate the planners decisions. The agenda is set by the programmers, who educate, persuade and advise the citizen, which have no legitimate function or power. There are no discussions and some information is missing on purpose to fit the needs and goals of the ruling powers. On the same level there is also the Therapy step, where some therapy method involving citizen participation is involved, although it does not target the main problem and treats the citizens as the issue, diverting them from other important matters.

After that level, it comes the Tokenism, that can be defined as "*the fact of doing something only in order to do what the law requires or to satisfy a particular group of people, but not in a way that is really sincere*" (Oxford Dictionary 2023), or also to prevent criticism. In other words, it could be defined as hypocrisy or mere symbolism with a different purpose from the one supposed to have. It takes superficial participation in decision-making processes where sometimes the input from participants is disregarded. Finally, Tokenism could lead to feelings of frustration or undermine of trust in the processes and the administration. Within this level there are three rungs named Informing, Consultation, and Placation.

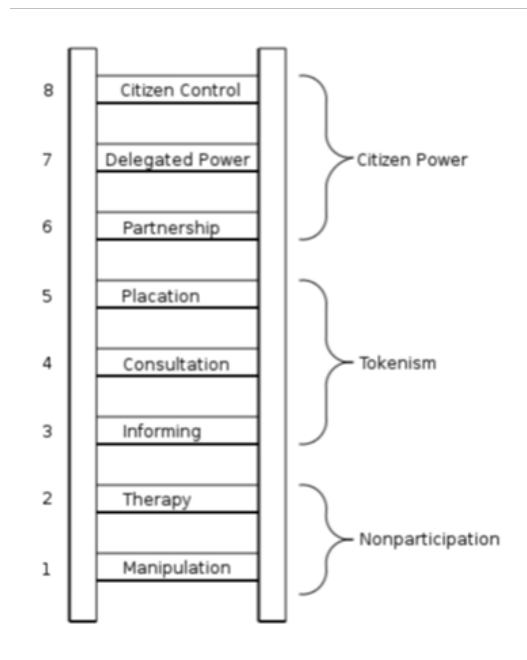


Figure 4.5: The Eight Rungs on the Ladder of Citizen Participation (Sherry 1969)

Informing citizens is the most important first step towards legitimate citizen participation as it allows it and sets the base for it. The issue of this step is that normally information goes one-way, from officials to citizens without any chance for feedback or negotiation. Some examples of mechanism for this step, that are also used by Mataró in their campaigns and processes, are: news on the media, social media posts, posters, responses to inquiries.

Consultation is a further step where the citizens' opinion is heard as they are consulted about the topics. The issue with this rung of the ladder is that by itself alone, it does not guarantee that citizens' ideas or concerns will be taken into account. Citizens are basically statistics. Some of the frequent tools used for Consultation are surveys, meetings, or public hearings.

Placation, on the other hand, citizens begin to have some degree of influence under the umbrella of tokenism, though. There is participation of some chosen citizens, without negotiating the participation requirement, who can advise or plan in the public bodies or boards but they can be outvoted easily or technically refused their advice. Placation is really popular and it is also used in Mataró with the public groups "*Consells de ciutat, territorials i sectorials*". Sometimes, the boards and processes that fall into the Placation rung have really ambiguous and complicated structures, this lack of definition causes frustration to participants because there is not such a big influence in the planning even though the effort of participating and the realization that the powerholders are placating them.

Finally, there is the level known as Citizen Power, where power is somehow redistributed between citizens and planners. In the overall sixth rung there is the level known as Partnership where the responsibility for planning and decision-making is shared between citizens and powerholders. There

are different tools and mechanisms to exercise this rung, but it works more effectively when the community has the resources of time, power, maybe money, and, organization. With that, the citizens have a influence on the outcome of the plan. Normally, this step is achieved when the power is taken by the citizens because it is not given by the city in the first place.

After this negotiation, it can take place the scenario where the citizens have achieved a dominant position and have a strong decision-making authority over the plan or project. This can happen due to citizens having a majority of seats and real proper power. Therefore, the power is delegated from the powerholders to the citizens in this step known as Delegated Power. Another option used in case of friction and severe disputes would be where there are parallel groups of citizens and powerholders so none have the majority of seats in a committee but the citizen have the right to veto if there is an issue that cannot be solved by negotiations

Finally, at the last rung of the ladder it can be found the Citizen Control, where it is not 100% real control over a project or situation, but it translate more to having a certain level of power and control to govern and be in charge of the programs or institutions as well as being able to negotiate with entities outside those projects. Some cases use citizen control as a fine rethoric but so far, there is no such as thing as fully citizen owned facility unless it is an occupation where citizens then control the building like the case of the old factory known as Can Sanpere in Premià de Mar. On the other hand, there are some arguments against community control like it can be less efficient and more costly and there is not professionalism in it, it should also be accompanied with the needed resources for the plans.

As a reflection of the ladder, it is worth to mention that even though the model is represented by a ladder, it does not necessarily mean that the starting point is the first one in the bottom or that it is needed to follow them by that order in order to get higher in the ladder. It can be perfectly normal to start on a higher level. Also, it makes perfect sense to go down the ladder if that is what is needed or wanted. Higher does not necessarily mean better, it all depends on the context. Moreover, all of the steps in the framework consider the citizen as an entity or relevant actor for the process as the null participation is not considered although it could be pictured, metaphorically with the model, as the ground level.

In addition, even though there are 8 rungs, in reality, it could be thousands more that adapts the different contexts with different definitions and conditions between each other. This model is just a simplification of the complex reality.

4.3.1 Participatory planning

Another approach to give power to the citizens and engage them in the plans and projects is participatory planning. There are five principles of participatory planning:

1. Residents are experts.
2. Participatory planning builds equity, social justice, and community development.
3. Planning can be fun with interactive, inclusive and fun processes and engaging activities.
4. Combining knowledge creates strong outcomes.
5. Collaboration is key

6. Community plans are living documents

(The Centre for Active Transportation 2017)

The need of public participation is emerging with more prominence in urbanism and also in other public matters. For a proper collaboration, the community engagement is needed and that can be addressed by raising awareness of local needs and aspirations through key considerations such as key local partnership. (Tate 2019)

Participatory planning can take many forms, and there are many guides about it but all of them coincides in collaboration and communication between stakeholders, so a more active role of them is needed.

Taking an overall picture of how the theoretical frameworks and concepts interact with each other it can be seen in Figure 4.6 that there are some common concepts that are shared. For instance, the Right to the City and the Ladder of Citizen Participation share a way of "categorising" citizen participation, as in the Right to the City is a self organised control of it and in the Ladder is a more set of levels and more formal divisions. All of them share the involvement of citizens when the Tactical Urbanism is done as an informal planning and it is a bottom-up action. Both Tactical Urbanism as a bottom-up and the Right to the City, take control of the city by the citizens. All the rest of concepts and connections can be seen in Figure 4.6

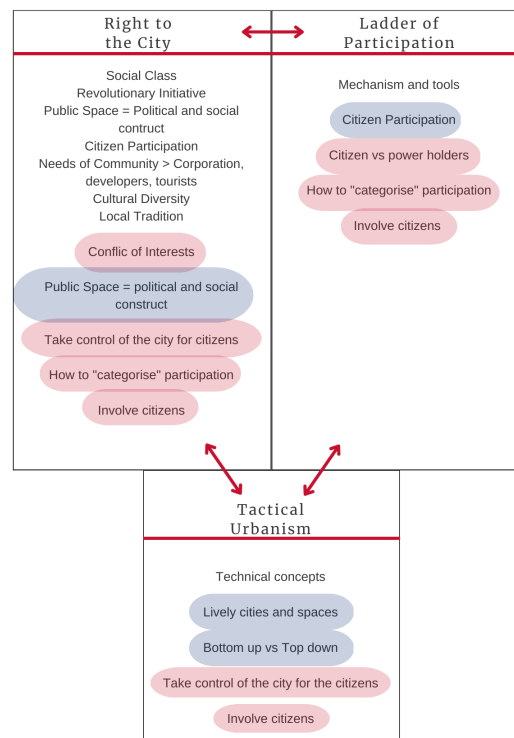


Figure 4.6: Some notes on how theories interact with each other. (Source: Author)

4.4 Position of the researcher

The initial desired approach for the thesis was to be abductive due to its utility when studying a phenomena such the case. It was thought that an inductive approach only from data would be incomplete and too wide while a deductive approach based only on theories would be too vague and non specific for a case study. The research and the data has helped to define the problem area and the combination of data and theories has been achieved so the initial desired abductive approach has been in place. Therefore, the conclusions may not be completely true but a logic of discovery with all its steps has been applied. (Awuzie 2017)

During the collection of data, and the selection of interviewees it could be said that there was some biased decisions by preconceived notions, although they have not impacted severely or negatively to the development or the output of this thesis. Living in the city you are studying predetermines, somehow, the inputs you get from it and the people surrounding you. Also, as the thesis deals with some political agenda points, it would be neglectful to obviate that everyone is politically biased, also the researcher who participates politically in the city. This reflection of the researcher is extended in the next Chapter 5.

4.5 Scope

After having taken a look at the theories used in the project, to simplify and illustrate how the research is conducted Figure 4.7 is introduced. It can be seen that the case of Mataró is studied through the lenses of the Right to the City, the Ladder of Citizen Participation and New Urbanism. A discussion with some colleagues regarding the theories used brought some interesting points, they could have been more updated as the Right to the City from Lefebvre and the Ladder of Citizen Participation from Arnstein are from 1968 and 1969, respectively. As said before, the Ladder of Citizen Participation makes a suitable framework to picture progress, however it was not the proper model for the interviewees as not all of them knew the concept, and could have been biased by my explanation of it.

Other theories that were present at the beginning to use were Governance Theory and New Institutionalism as Mataró is seen also as an institution and its structures, rules, norms, and culture have been studied, and also the relationship with individuals and other actors. The perspective used with New Institutionalism would have analysed the data different, coding the interviews and the policy documents deeper and a different there might have been result.

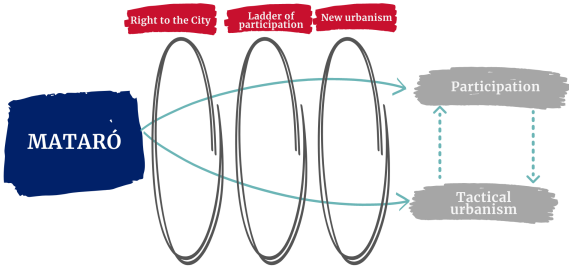


Figure 4.7: Research process. (Source: Author)

Chapter 5

Methodology

The following section will provide a presentation of the methods used in this thesis. Firstly, the methods are described and how they were used during the project. In the process of this thesis semi-structured interviews were used as well as desk study with both document study and literature review, all of this was done in the context of the case study of Mataró. A field trip to Mataró was conducted, too, although it was done later in the process while the election campaigns were held, so it is not included in the project paper due to the small impact on the research itself.

5.1 Interview

An interview can be defined as *a private meeting between people when questions are asked and answered* (Oxford University Press 2023). An interview is composed by several elements like the researcher, the respondent and the purpose, as an interview can be understood also as a conversation with a purpose to gain insight into a person's perspective of one topic. (Julie Slayton 2018) In the case of the conducted interviews, the purpose was to get a deeper understanding of urban projects and the public participation processes.

Out of all the types of interviews, semi-structured interviews were chosen instead of structured and unstructured. This type of interview has allowed to get proper insights of the topic with some preset questions, that can be found in Appendix B and the others, while leaving some freedom to the interviewee to expand and explore other areas that gives the chance to bring together extra knowledge to the project which previously could not have been thought otherwise. As it was wanted to get a wide overview and inputs from the interviewees' perspective, this type was chosen. Due to the long distance, the interviews were conducted online and it was also considered to do them via mail due to matching times, but that would have been a structured interview and would lose the natural richness of a real time conversation. The tools used to do the interviews were *Zoom* for Sergi Bonilla and *Teams* for the rest. The transcription was done automatically by the *Teams* software and checked later. Finally, as all the interviews were done in the mother tongue of the interviewee, either Spanish or Catalan, the transcription was translated using *Google Translate*, however, in the transcription of those, some information could have been missed in the translation of expressions and native words, so a cleaner version going through the transcription and the recording was done.

The interview guides can be found in the Appendixes B, D, F, H, and J and the transcripts can be found in Appendixes C, E, G, I, and K as stated in table 5.1.

Another argument why the semi-structured interview has been chosen as a method is that there is no need to compare the answers and coding them accordingly, so that flexibility presents no issue but rather an advantage. (Van Thiel 2012)

The first interview was to the public participation office to have a solid ground to start from and get a good overview of the whole picture of the participation in Mataró. For the next three interviews some questions were added and the order was altered. The last interview was chosen to be the citizen representative and also activist so all the inputs from the others interviewees could be presented to him and have a general based reflection together.

Moreover, the interviews have been used as an umbrella and a base of knowledge and used to develop some discussion key points, in the Discussion chapter, however a better output for the interviews, taking into account the time of the elections, would have been interviewing the different politicians and political parties to get to know their proposals and ideas about citizen participation for the city. That would also mean a starting point that could lead to a future debate of how we all want the participation to happen in Mataró.

As a guide to the reader: whenever a reference to the interviews is done, the text is hyperlinked to the appendix it is referring too. These hyperlinks also happen whenever a section, a table, or a figure is mentioned through the text, so the reader has a faster access to that section. These hyperlinks can also be found in the citations that will bring the reader directly to the source in the bibliography.

In the next table 5.1 it can be found more information regarding the interviews and where to find the transcripts.

Table 5.1: Interviewees, Appendixes and other information

Interviewee	Date	Appendix	Language
Sergi Bonilla	28th of February 2023	Appendix C	Catalan
Jordi Tarradellas	23th of March 2023	Appendix E	Catalan
Sarai Martínez	15th of March 2023	Appendix G	Spanish
Sergi Morales	4th of April 2023	Appendix I	Spanish
Javier Páez	3th of April 2023	Appendix K	Spanish

The transcripts and the quotes used have been sent out to the interviewees to reconfirm and be approved. That was done just to assure that what was understood is what they meant from what it was said from the extracted quotes to nourish the discussion.

Table 5.2: Interviewed people and their background. (Source: Author)

Interviewee	Background	Purpose
Sergi Benedicto Bonilla	Sergi works in the office of Servei d'Estratègia i Governança, his office focus on the public participation processes.	To gain deeper knowledge into the public participation landscape of Mataró and gain insights on how it is taken care of right now.
Jordi Tarradellas Codina	Jordi has worked in the participation office of Mataró for many years and now is the person responsible of the Espai Mataró Connecta.	To gain deeper knowledge into the public participation landscape of Mataró and gain insights on how it is taken care of right now. And explore the cocreation concept.
Sarai Martínez Vega	Sarai is the councillor of Housing and vicepresident of Urban Quality: sustainability and public spaces.	To gain the perspective from someone on the political spectrum on participation. Get the governance perspective and how the authorities perceive the public participation.
Sergi Morales Díaz	Sergi is the second Deputy Mayor of Mataró and is the head of Business and employment.	
Javier Páez	Javier is an environmental activist from Mataró he is in Fridays For Future Mataró and has participated in tactical urbanism action in the city.	Get a citizen perspective on public participation, its implementation and tactical urbanism.

5.2 Case Study

The case study research method has been used as the research is conducted in a real-life setting and context instead of a more theoretical concepts. (Awuzie 2017) For the purpose of this thesis the case of Mataró has been used and some of the reasons are exposed in the Chapter 2. It was chosen to conduct just a one single case study instead of a multiple case study because, even though, there is some perspective lost as it cannot be compared or contrasted with other cases, the selected case of Mataró has been studied in great detail, aiming for depth instead of breadth. (Van Thiel 2012)

A field trip was meant to be used as a way of participating in the debates and public gatherings but the general debate was held in another room and streamed in a big screen. Nothing useful for the report came out, although the participation on the municipal elections and campaign generated some inputs about public policy from the ground.

5.3 Desk Study

5.3.1 Document Study

Through document study from multiple sources, different documents have been reviewed to gather qualitative data, although some quantitative data was also present. (Van Thiel 2012)

These documents, together with the literature reviewed, led to a basis of knowledge that was used for the problem analysis and the analysis of this report. The document study was used also to establish a state-of-the-art of Mataró's strategies and processes and its evolution historically. The documents range from historical collected data from current plans of the municipal authorities like the *Reglament de participació ciutadana* (Mataró 2012). Some of them were from public actors and other from private stakeholders.

5.3.2 Literature review

In order to identify some gaps in knowledge and provide context for further research, literature review has been used as a method. It has also lighted up the concepts of the theories and methods. With the purpose of getting a proper state of the art and how much is already known on the subject (Van Thiel 2012) on tactical urbanism and public participation, several searches have been done in different libraries and search engines.

The search of documents have been conducted with the terms and their combinations, with the parameters AND and OR, of: "public participation", "citizen participation", "empowerment", "involvement", and from the other side the terms "tactical urbanism", "new urbanism", "pedestrianization", "urbanism", "sustainable development". A variety of journals and databases have been used, for instance: JSTOR, Aalborg University Library, SAGE Journals, Sci-Hub, Springer, Scopus, among others.

5.4 Research Design and Scope

The purpose of this section is basically to visualise and explain the structure of the report and where the usage of methods and theories lays. Also, this section is used to explain the role of the researcher.

Firstly an introduction is given presenting how the situation is on urban settlements, the importance of urbanism, and what is understood by citizen/public participation. On this foundation, the reasoning of why Mataró is a case and how Mataró is shaped is given. While Mataró is presented, it is studied how the city has evolved urbanistically and through the process of participation, historically. Mataró has been studied in depth even before a final theoretical framework was decided for final use.

The analysis presented in the next Chapter 6 has been divided between these two key concepts that have been present during the whole report: urbanism and public participation. This analysis has been done with the framework of the theories and theoretical concepts, and methods to gain data presented in Chapter 4 and Chapter 5, respectively. However, they do not focus on the same

areas or aspects.

After the analysis, a base is built for the discussion and further exploration of concepts and ideas. Rounding up, a conclusion forms the last chapter, summing up the main findings and giving a result on the field of research. All this process, and in order to picture better the usage of the theories and methods, is illustrated in Figure 5.1 where the different theories and methods are used.

Regarding the researcher position, it is clear that when defining the problem area of the project and choosing the city, it has been influenced by the origins and preconceived notions of the researcher. I was born in Mataró and my bachelor's thesis was also regarding sustainability in Mataró, more specifically, it was regarding waste management so my relation with Mataró is more than 25 years old living there, more precisely, in the neighbourhood of Cerdanyola. That is another reason why this neighbourhood is chosen and mentioned more often than the rest, so the selection of the case to study and the examples chosen from the city are biased because of the origins of the researcher. The selection of the politicians has also been biased by the political background of the researcher who is involved in the same political group of the interviewees, and their perspective and ideals were more aligned with mine and more interesting for the discussions, also it was a way to influence the common political group towards a more democratic model of the city, additionally, my past as a climate activist has also biased my perspective on the topic and the choice of interviewing Javier Páez. To sum up, my origin and my political and ideals' background has influenced my interest on the "what" to study and "how" to study it, and the choice of who to interview. However, besides that, it can be considered that nothing else has been biased to that extend, such as the data gathering. Nevertheless, the research has been done with this reflection present so it was tried actively to be as neutral as possible.

It should be considered, as mentioned by Qi Wang, that "myside bias" is present in a lot of people when processing information toward their "own prior beliefs, opinions, and attitudes", (Wang 2020) however, it has been possible to still think rationally while being aware of myself being biased to prevent a misuse of data.

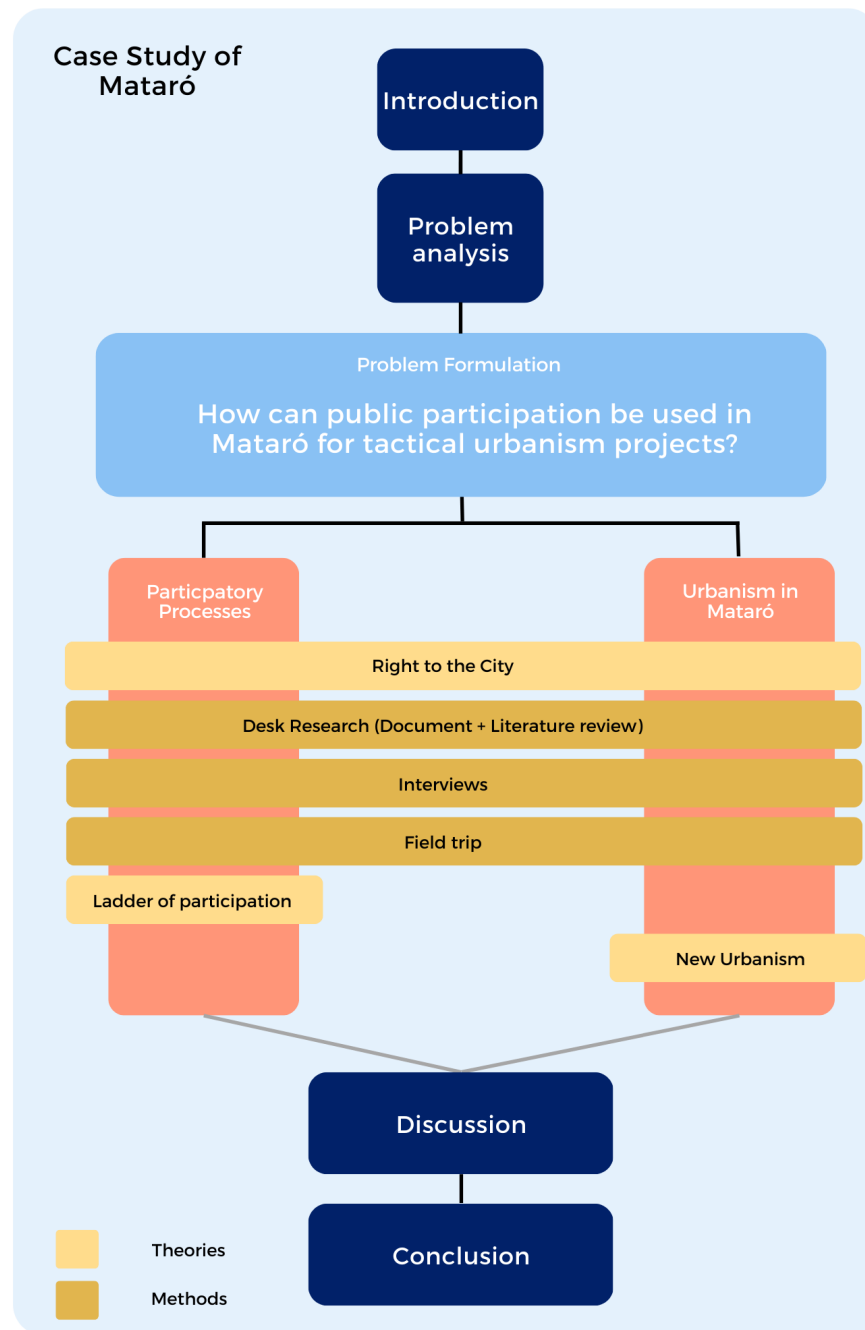


Figure 5.1: Research Design. (Source: Author)

Chapter 6

Analysis

The following chapter contains the analysis of the data collected through desk study, and interviews. As described earlier, the theories are used as a lens to analyse the different methods of participation.

6.1 Policy

During the whole project there has been a great focus on policy making as it is a main key concept both for participation and urbanism. In this section, it will be briefly mentioned the policy implications and how the law relates both, the citizen participation and the urbanism. First of all, it is needed to know that due to the structure of the Spanish institutions there are different competences in different stages and levels, some are statewide, some come from the autonomous regions, and others come from the municipalities, so Mataró is also limited in power as all the municipalities are.

Legally, one of the emerging issues, is the need of effective participation of the citizens, even though a lot of efforts are done in that direction (Rando Burgos 2020). So much so, that the European Union establishes, in the "*Libro Blanco sobre la gobernanza*", that it is needed to involve citizens in a more systematic way in the making and applying of policies. (European Commission 2001) That can be seen in Mataró and could be a reason why the participation is so institutionalised at the moment.

In the Spanish legislative system it is recognised in the Law 39/2015 that "*it is essential [...] the participation of the citizens and business in the processes of making the norms, as the fulfilment of those relapse on them*". (Jefatura del Estado 2015b) Also, even the Spanish Constitution marks, in its article 9.2, that the public administrations are responsible to promote and facilitate the participation of all citizens in the political, economic, cultural, and social life (Jefatura del Estado 2015a). And as we have stated from the point of view of the Right to the City by Lefebvre, the urban and public space it is a political and social construct that affects the previous concepts.

In all the policies at all levels, a lot of emphasis is being put on the public information phase as it is essential due to the special incidence that the plans have on the life of the citizens, this matches the importance given also by Arnstein as "*informing citizens [...] can be the most important step*

toward legitimate citizen participation” (Sherry 1969). That information, in the case of Mataró, is also regulated by the Autonomous Region of Catalonia where it states that the information should be published in the official diary of the session and the local newspapers and news sites. (Rando Burgos 2020) Such is the emphasis on participation that even the documents regarding the urban planning need to have an annex on citizen’s participation. This could be argued that it is set a base level of participation, as the Ladder of Participation does: sets the idea that the citizens have the right to shape or to help shaping their city in the urban plans. At the local level of Mataró, the regulation of participation also recognises the rights and tools for the citizens’ participation which has been mentioned before. (Mataró 2012)

6.2 Analysis of participatory tools

In this section several participatory tools from Mataró will be mapped and analysed to nourish the discussion and to answer the first research question *How are the participatory methods at the moment in Mataró?*. These participatory tools are then categorised on the Ladder of Participation framework to understand how far they encourage participation.

6.2.1 Prior Hearing to the Plenary Session

For this prior hearing, policy is also involved as it is a right to the citizen recognised by the Legislative Royal Decree 7/2015 of 30th of October where it states that the citizens have the right to present claims, propositions, allegations, observations, and complaints in order to receive an answer from the Administration. (Rando Burgos 2020) In Mataró, the Municipal Organic rule is the one which regulates the right of intervention before the Plenary Session of the City Council (Mataró 2012), everyone is invited to the Plenary Session to hear the public discussions and proposals. However, as Javier Páez states: *“I believe that there are more modern, up-to-date and useful methods to participate, to encourage citizen participation. The previous hearing is not known at all, only the four interested people and Vox know it.”*

This participatory tool, because it is very limited falls in the category of Tokenism when classifying it in the ladder of participation: Arnstein argues that public hearings are a way of consultation and if it is not combined with others methods of participation there is no action towards the citizens’ needs for granted. As Javier Páez states *“you don’t participate in social life, in political life, participating in the preliminary hearing [...] the only thing you do is complain or ask for something and you receive an answer”* (Appendix K) In the case of Mataró, there is an answer to the appeal although, depending on the topic, it is far insufficient. Normally, this allegations or exchange of information go one way, from the speaker to the council and then a response is given. *“The participation is just by giving a voice but not vote”* (Appendix Javier Páez K). On the other hand, this tool is complemented with a big process of information as all the questions registered are saved and free to access to everyone, so all the information is available for everyone that needs it online (Ajuntament de Mataró 2023a).

Nevertheless, lately, some political groups have used this participatory method as their own speaker and communicative platform because *“it has no political representation in the consistory”* (Appendix Javi K). This misuse of the participatory tools for the citizens can lead to distrust and

disassociate what it was meant for at the beginning.

6.2.2 Participation Councils

As it has been seen before, policy regulates all the participatory tools, at the Spanish, Catalan and municipal level. In the case of Mataró, these participatory/advisory councils are given by the city hall due to the citizen participation program in Catalonia. (Rando Burgos 2020)

The origin of this councils might have taken place in the democratic transition of Mataró when the commission of control and municipal information was created and the citizens were taking some power from the institutions. As it can be seen in Appendix A, nowadays in Mataró there are different types of participation councils. They are divided by focus area and geographical area in the city. These councils are safe spaces where participation is held by the stakeholders involved in the different areas or territories. Depending on what type of council they have some goals or others, but they all share debate and proposals as a common function. With this formal assemblies, the citizens actively participate and take decision in and for Mataró. (Mataró 2012)

Some assemblies for some matters such as housing or climate take part outside the formalities of these groups, were self-organised groups gather together to discuss those topics and take action for that, Jordi Tarradellas explains that *the associations outside the councils, they already talk outside the participation mechanisms [...] There are all these formulas of collaboration and cooperation and participation outside the law, the informal participation* (Appendix E). Some examples of those are PAH (Plataforma de Afectados por la Hipoteca) or the Sindicat de l'Habitatge for housing and FFF (Fridays For Future) for climate. In these cases, citizens take action and reclaim their right to their city skipping all the bureaucratic and established system of participation. Direct participation together with direct action have brought some results to the demands citizens have, like stopping evictions.

Comparing the participatory rules and the current website of the territorial councils, it can be seen that right now there are more councils and are better organised. The 11 neighbourhoods are grouped into 6 territorial councils instead of 5 as the rules established. Therefore, it can be said that some rules can change to better functioning and that there are no fixed terms, this is such a great new for the participatory scenery as the Townhall is willing to change if it is for the better.

This type of meetings or the neighborhood associations meetings are considered as consultation in the Ladder of Citizen Participation, even if they are the legitimated and official meetings or the more extraofficial ones. If they are not followed by any actions it is just used to get to know the citizens' opinions, as they have an informative and deliberative nature. Even though these meetings are open to everyone, it can happen that only the people more aware of the system or with time and willing to participate are able to join those. Therefore a lot of population is left behind and normally, they are the ones behind in the society itself: people with several or precarious jobs, difficulties in balancing life, barriers in the language, some sort of disability, etcetera.

Despite the fact that the urban model defined by the administration affects greatly to the citizens, with this participatory tool there is not much that can be done from the citizens in terms of urbanism, or any other topic. However, it could set a strong base for placing the stakeholders on each council and start creating a culture of participation that will spread across sectors. As a conclusion, this tool has potential to democratize the urban planning, and instead of being such informative and debating instrument, a partnership between the planners and the councils should

be made to end up with a collective outcome for a common city.

6.2.3 Participatory budgets

Participatory budgets are a democratic tool where the citizens can decide how to spend a budget line. (Participatory Budgeting Project 2021) Overall, it promotes democratic decision-making processes and empowers citizens to have a direct impact on the community. It steps up in terms of performance and accountability over the bureaucracy that is outdated, unrepresentative, and underperforming. (Pateman 2012)

This type of budgeting is one of the most powerful tools as it stays on the Citizen Power level of the Ladder of Citizen Participation. With the participatory budgets, that different Spanish cities are using, the power to decide on the municipal budget is given directly to the citizens. As a positive outcome, a more a participatory/direct democracy model is taking place in the sense that everyone have a vote and is not represented by somebody else, so the citizens can, potentially, get control over the city and shape them for themselves with a more equitable distribution of public resources.

In the case of Mataró, all citizens over 16 that are living and registered in Mataró can participate to decide what to do with 1,500,000 euros from that budget line and the results *"are binding"* (Appendix E). (Decidim Mataro 2023)

One of the main characteristics of this process is transparency, so it can be said that the information is public and flowing during the whole process, therefore, there is no lower level than Informing in the ladder of public participation. It is also worth to mention that this tool validates some other methods of participation in the city like the Municipal Councils, where the proposals are prioritised from the preselected ones.

However, despite all the wonders from the participatory budgets, in the last participatory budget of 2022, only a 1,5% of the people that could vote did it (1,649) (Decidim Mataro 2023). That can mean that the process is not the best designed or that people are not willing to participate other than when there is a problem or with the municipal elections. As a reflection of Jordi Tarradellas: *"It cost a lot to get to them"* (Appendix E). Therefore biggest challenge that this participatory process faces is the low participation. This 1.5% of participation does not correlate with other voting processes in the city: in the last national, European, municipal (excluding the ones from the 28th of May), the repetition of the national elections and the Catalan Parliament the voters were many more as the participation was 77.48%, 63.16%, 63.56%, 71.96%, and 82.58%, respectively. (Mataró 2019) So it can be seen that people participate in voting in different levels, Mataró's people are willing to participate. One reason to it, it may be that *"the voting system is not the easiest"* (Appendix I)

It could be said that in the participatory budget more people needs to participate to achieve those numbers as teenagers that are 16 and 17 years old are also included. However, the difference is still abysmal. Of course it is a multifactorial cause such as the culture of citizens where they vote and then leave the responsibility of governing the city to the elected people Appendix C or the lack of knowledge about this budgeting process. Another cause could be that the design of the participatory process is not the best as they can not reach to the target audience. Maybe, the steering committee that organises the whole process should have representatives of the community to create the rules so there is a full engagement since the beginning of the process. (Participatory Budgeting Project 2021)

The design process for the participatory budget starts with a previous phase of evaluating and learning from the previous participatory budget process, then it is defined how the participation process is going to be as well as being validated by politically and technically. (FEM MATARÓ 2022) Afterwards, the main participatory process starts, in the Figure 6.1 can be seen a general example of the phases:

1. Information campaign: it is clear that this phase lays in the Informing step on the participation ladder as the information is the main character going one-way flow - from officials to citizens- through social media, TV, the local newspapers, posters, etc.
2. Proposal phase: here the councils and the citizens can propose a maximum of 2 ideas or projects. Even citizens that are not registered in Mataró can do it, for instance if they live abroad, or they work or study in the city. This means shaping the city as the citizens would like to as also association of citizens can participate and gives a potential citizen control. However, the rest of the phases undermine this high level participatory potential. For the 2022 participatory budget 135 proposals were made: 108 from the citizens and 27 from the municipal councils.

After that proposal, there is a preselection process with a technical voting from the town hall office and the local government. 81 proposals were discarded and 54 passed the criteria. With that, it can be seen that the degree of citizen participation steps down to Placation as the city officials retain the right to judge the legitimacy or feasibility of the proposals. However, the criteria to exclude the ideas is public and it is mainly related to municipal competences, that lays in the city scale, legal issues, and technical feasibility. (FEM MATARÓ 2022) The technicians also merge together or eliminate the ones that are double or super similar.

After this validation process there is a week of feedback where the citizens can ask for clarifications and concrete questions and a new valuation of those proposals will be done. It is positive that the process is transparent and there is room for feedback and negotiation as it involves the citizens even in the phases where they are not the main actor.

3. Backing phase: in this phase the proposals that come from the citizens need some support from the citizens, at least 75 and each citizen could give 5 supports. Some of them didn't need any support as they were merged with proposals from the councils. Some restrictions from the offices are also present as only 20 citizens' proposals will pass to the next phase. (FEM MATARÓ 2022)
4. Technical validation: the group in charge of the participatory budgets interferes again to validate the previous processes, discard the proposals that did not get enough supports and merge the ones that passed. Also the offices that are going to be in charge of leading those projects have a voice in this phase studying and validating them. As transparency is a key aspect of this process, it is published the reasons of merging and discarding for each individual proposal. This phase alone just lays in the information rung of the ladder of participation although more stakeholders are involved.

In 2022, from the 36 that passed the support phase, 31 passed to the next round due to merging and one discarded proposal. As there has already been a selection procedure in the proposal phase, it is normal that in this phase there are not a lot of unsuitable proposals that the new actors (the area offices) can eliminate.

5. Prioritization phase: in this phase another actor comes into the scene, the Council of the City which selects the proposals that are going to be voted. In total, 18 proposals are prioritised for the next round, 12 of those should come from the municipal councils and 6 from the citizens, although these numbers can change if the minimum is not met in one of those two categories.

In this process, the Council of the City feels like a superior entity compared to the others councils, and the participation level goes back to Placation, as the regular citizens present in the Council of the City can be easily outvoted and outfoxed. (Sherry 1969)

6. Voting phase: finally, the online voting happens. Here, each citizen can vote as many projects as they want until they reach a spend between 1,050,000€ and 1,500,000€. The two most voted projects will be accepted for sure and then as many as possible until the maximum budget is met. (FEM MATARÓ 2022)

In this last participatory budget of 2022, 1,649 people voted, and voted a total of 5,806 times. Due to the budget limit, 5 proposals have been accepted adding a total of 1,4770,317€

7. Return phase: this phase has zero public participation, as it is the participation commission that takes action to validate the whole process and surveillance that the projects start. All the information is made public so the citizens can be informed of the process.

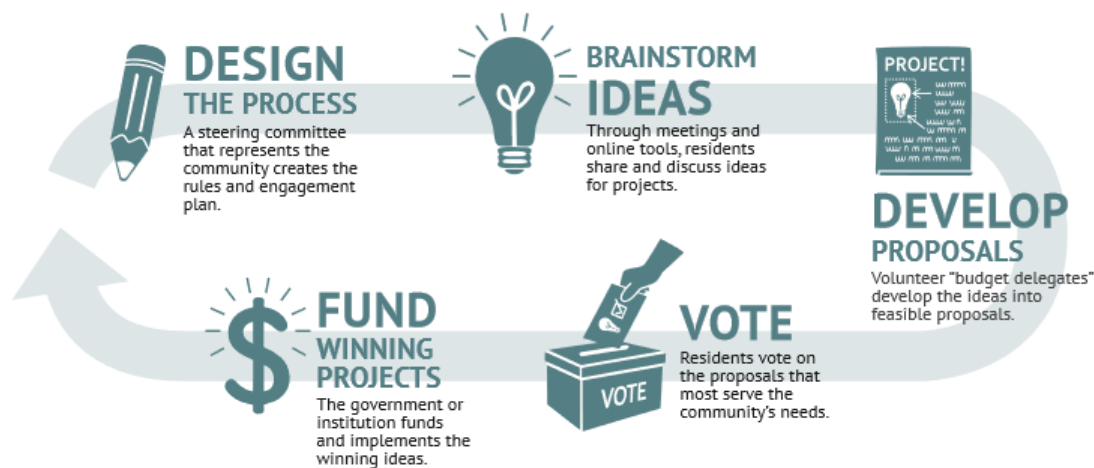


Figure 6.1: Participatory budget diagram. (Participatory Budgeting Project 2021)

6.2.4 Forums and Consells

In the new space of Espai Mataró Connecta, as it has been said in the chapter of Mataró, there are different forums and debates opportunities. These forums and debates are organised by the municipality mainly or it could be organised by any actor (Appendix E and bring together different stakeholders and agents for each topic in order to participate together in the finding of challenges for Mataró. The selection of the stakeholders is done by the municipality, the advisory commission, and the process council. (Ajuntament de Mataró 2022a)

Just to recall the different forums and topics treated, here there is, once again, the list of the different forums.

- Forum of Thriving City: production model, circular economy, sustainable tourism, digitization, private-public collaboration, etc.
- Forum of Inclusive City: gender equality, 15 min city, segregation, account for care. affordable housing, access to culture, etc.
- Forum of Resilient City: energy model, efficiency use of resources, mitigation and adaption to climate change, food sovereignty, etc.
- Forum of Ecological and Healthy City: energy transition, mobility, circularity, urban landscape, urban biodiversity, ecosystem restoration, etc.
- Forum of Smart and Connected City: collaborative economy, public participation, proximity facilities, urban labs, social innovation, digital rights, data economy, etc. (Decidim Mataró 2022)

Here, in contrast with the councils, there can be some impact, or it would be better to say some influence, into the urbanism. Of course it has to go through several stages, and the responsibility to organise those forums is from the municipality, the advisory commission, and the process council, but it brings back the idealization of the city back to the citizens. The councils focus a lot on information if that can be considered participation, as Sergi Morales points out *"what is the main complaint of all these councils? that the entities or people who participate there are simply going to listen to what the City Council, that's completely the Government explaining to them, right? And that what and that they have few, well, not few it doesn't have any decision-making capacity."* (Appendix I. In the same direction, Javier Páez shares that the entities and associations of the cities are well represented in the councils but is not a proper representation of the citizens of the city, only the active people that are aware of those processes participate, even him, an active local activist who has studied the city did not know he could participate when he was invited to.

It can be seen that the way of engaging people is improving or at least something new is tried, one of the objectives of the debates is to detect new actors. A positive aspect of these forums and debates is that they are recorded so everyone can access them online and as the councilor of urban space, Elizabet Ruiz said in one of those forums *"the debate is more important than consensus, debating is indispensable, essential and consensus is the next step"*. (Ajuntament de Mataró 2022a)

This might be a proper way to answer the second and third research questions *How can those participatory methods be improved and have a greater impact on the decision making process?*, new concepts such as the quadruple helix (Appendix E and spaces are tried while trying to engage all the stakeholders and bring these processes to actors that were never aware or able to access them and *How to bring back tactical urbanism and participation to the citizens to compensate the over institutionalization?* where any type of stakeholder can hold a meeting, debate, or public speak there to generate some interesting insights. Even though the majority of the debates are still organised by the municipality, it brings back some power to the people and tries new methods to bring the modelling of the city to as many people as possible.

6.3 Summary

To sum up, in this section, the most important points will be recapped. A lot of policy papers in several levels of public administration make a lot of emphasis in citizens' participation and information, which sets the base for a proper and real citizens' participation to happen as Arnstein stays.

The next Figure 6.2 tries to ease the reader the task of picturing how the participatory processes in Mataró are categorised in the ladder of participation of Arnstein.

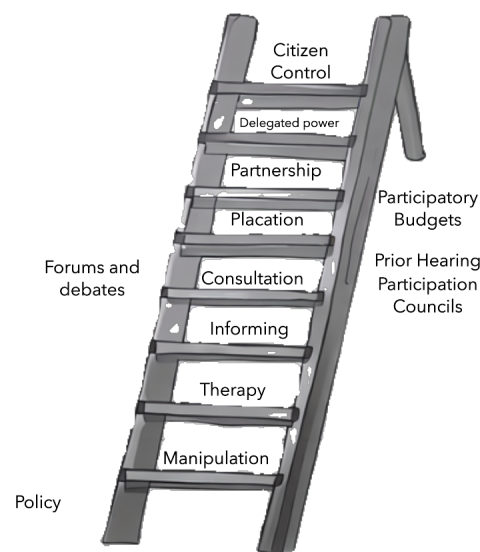


Figure 6.2: Ladder of Participation Mataró. (Source: Author)

As it can be seen, policy, an element mentioned in this chapter, is set at the base of the ladder as a representation that it allows the participation to happen and lay the foundations for it, it can be said that in this institutionalised participation scheme, policy is the cornerstone for it. Some policy document recap that public participation is a requirement for planners, however, it is always optional for citizens, in words of Jordi Tarradellas: *"are individual volunteers who participate in the city"* (Appendix E). Most of the analysed participatory tools are in the range of informing - consultation - placation, so basically falling in the group of rungs that belongs to Tokenism.

From this figure it can be add that the important aspect currently is to make progress and making efforts from the starting point. However, let's keep in mind that the final result, the goal is to increase participation to the point where equilibrium is met: the city can be managed and plans can go ahead while participation is present to meet the citizens' demands through a more

participatory democracy.

All of this chapter has focused on formal planning and top down initiatives. However, it is important to remember that cities are transformed by various combinations of formal and informal practices, planning, and processes, it was the case in the 60s-70s, but it is still the case recently with cases as "*La Teixidora*", a unused school that was squatted by el Sindicat de l'Habitatge of Mataró to make the neighborhood more active and self-organized activities. These bottom-up practices can be considered a form of tactical urbanism that brings the city back to the citizens and influences to a large degree outside the boundaries of formal planning.

Chapter 7

Discussion and Reflection

The following section has the purpose to discuss and reflect on some extra points regarding the analysis and the participation in Mataró. It is interesting to see how the different key concepts like participation, information, transparency, tactical urbanism, social struggle, and democracy interact with each other and the purpose is to bring them all together, here. The interviews are used to back up some arguments and revive the theories used during the report towards more open discussion. Also, some new frameworks have come up during this section such as the Theory of Citizen Participation and Communicative Planning. The structure of the discussion follows the next order: firstly, the public participation is presented and the impression of it from the people interviewed is discussed with some thoughts on the public participation processes of Mataró. Additionally, the historical urbanism in Mataró is brought back when speaking of informal planning. Finally, as could not be otherwise, the social aspects are considered and related with tactical urbanism.

Firstly, a concept that has been present throughout the document is public participation. Recalling the definition from the UN, public participation is *the process of decision making and problem solving, involving individuals and groups who represent diverse interests, expertise and points of view and who act for the good of all those affected by the decisions they make and the actions that follow* (Fred 2001). However, Mataró does not have such an extended definition of it: officially, *it is seen as the intervention in the management of local affairs, using the organs and ways of participation established by the law and rules.* (Mataró 2012). It can be seen that the Municipality gathers and sets the participation in boxes, where everything that falls outside those laws, like informal participation, is not considered public participation by them, even though, by all means, it is clearly citizen participation and involvement.

Another discussion point is that during the project both public participation and citizen participation have been used interchangeably, as both are generally used to indicate a process through which citizens have a voice in public policy decisions (Oregon University 2015), and that was the main aim of the citizen participation in Mataró: *"Having the citizen's voice that helps to shape your public policies or the way of doing"* (Appendix Jordi Tarradellas). However there can be slight differences between the two: public participation is for everyone of the general public, and every actor is welcome, meanwhile, citizen participation, only the citizens are included. In public participation, even ngos, business, institutions, academia are able to join together with the citi-

zens. Therefore public is greater and with more insights than citizen participation but in public participation the role and impact of the regular citizen is diminished. Additionally, public participation is a process, not a single event, of involving the general public in the activities of projects in government programs by the public authorities, that is done with a well-defined structure, such as the case of Mataró, whilst citizen participation can be an informal process or event that does not require official rules since it is not the city's responsibility. In summary, while both try to engage individuals in the processes of public decision-making, public participation follows the principles and rules to bring in those stakeholders affected by a decision, while citizen participation focuses on the citizens voice, even if it is an informal self-organised way. However, during this project both have been used indistinctly.

In words of Jordi Tarradellas: *"one thing is how the technical team understands public participation and another one is how the politicians do, which can be different"*. A definition of public participation *"could be the broad term of it and someone could even consider Twitter as a door to participation"*. The team of public participation, take a more pure definition of participation as *"the altruist involvement of the citizens' processes that calls the citizens to participate, obviously, the associations is participation... everything can be participation"*. Either way, the public workers need to assure that the participatory processes are very well done, that everything is clear. (Appendix Jordi Tarradellas)

It is clear that for the technical workers and the political actors in Mataró are aware and can differentiate between proper citizen participation from mere public information. Public information is the main focus on the participation office, *"not only in Mataró"*, and allows the public participation to happen, however the information has taken a lot of the attention and the public participation should go way beyond that. As a technical office worker, Jordi Tarradellas argues that *"We have been too many years, not only here in Mataró, but in many places, doing, I wouldn't say bad participation, otherwise I would tell you only information that is sometimes unnecessary or camouflage participation in information processes that they are not participation."* (Appendix Jordi Tarradellas) Landing these processes in the third rung of the Ladder of Citizen Participation, where Tokenism is.

This too much of a focus on information, which happens at all levels, even in the law, it may be because it is one of the cheapest ways of "participating", many agencies choose to exclude or minimize public participation in planning because of the expensive cost and time consumption (Oregon University 2015). Nevertheless, the question arises: is it even participating or just sets a fair start for real participation? Maybe is one of the easiest ways of reaching a larger number of people, maybe it is because it does not affect the course of the plans by the offices or interfere with them. This excess of useless information is criticised by the citizens and the political representatives are aware that can affect negatively the participation processes: *"I don't know how much sense it really makes, but it's clear when things don't quite make sense and we force them a bit to also disguise it as if we have a participation model and such, well in the end people are not stupid and people when they attend two or three sessions and that is simply so that they will inform me... well, listen... if it is just so they inform me... I don't know, I read the act or the news, the press release but I don't have to go there."* (Appendix Sergi Morales) (talking also from the perspective of a citizen of excess of information in the councils).

Another concept that moves parallel to the information which tend to be forgotten and is underestimated is transparency. The importance of it has been well known by the citizens of Mataró for a long time which can be seen in the Mataró chapter: as soon as the democracy came

after the dictatorship, the commission of information and transparency was created. It is important to take into account, information and transparency alone do not create participation, they allow it, so they should go hand by hand and coexists with other participation processes. Actually, the OCDE affirms that openness and transparency are key ingredients to build trust and necessary for democracy and progress, (Gurría, Angel 2018) so with transparency, trust would be rebuilt, which is needed in Mataró and democracy strengthen which is never wrong.

Regarding the participation processes and tools, as the politician Sergi Morales mentioned in the Appendix I *"they are like different legs from the participation model. I think it's good, that there are elements at the general level and other more particular ones at the city level"*. It can be agreed that the more participatory tools there are, the easier and better compensation of the faults from the individual mechanisms is, so it can be said that it is positive that there are many different participation tools in the current context. However, from the analysis, it can be concluded that even though some efforts are being made to involve citizens, there is a lot of useless participation without a final goal or project such as the councils, so the impact of those is weak and pointless. That brings back Henri Lefebvre, giving him a point when it was mentioned in the Right to the City that the *reconstruction of centrality was destroyed by the strategies of segregation* which in this case are the councils were people are segregated by areas, or neighbourhoods. In addition, from the analysis, and agreeing with Javier Páez, *"I am afraid that the citizen participation processes of the Mataró City Council are Tokenisme [...] we don't have the participatory experience, from my point of view"* (Appendix Javier).

In the interviews to the politicians in Appendix G and in Appendix I it is mentioned that elections is a way of publicly participate and has into account the citizens' perspective as they select what type of program they want for the city so they are already participating and deciding for the city model. In that case, the elections would be the most common, active, and accessible process of all the public participation processes that have been studied here. However, this tool or participation process is useless: it gives to the citizen a very very small power compared to the mechanisms that the institutions or other economic actors have and the program of the city they want it is not binding and could be changed. At this moment a new topic arise, *what is power?* and how is it given to the citizens as democracy was taught to us as the power of the citizens, which is its meaning etymologically *demos* as whole citizens and *kratos* as power. However, Arnstein does not mention democracy in his framework of the Ladder of Participation, and personally, I believe that it could have been brought up to spice up the topic of citizens' empowerment and to consider if a democracy gives enough power to the citizens. To scale up on Arnstein citizen empowerment, two topics are introduced in this discussion to compare them and reflect on the current system. These two topics are the current representative democracy and the second is the participatory democracy. It has been studied the case of Mataró which is a representative democracy and some politicians as Sergi Morales are aware of that *"there are two types, a more representative democracy versus the more participatory model of democracy."* (Appendix Sergi Morales). Both models have positive aspects, like in the representative democracy there is the legitimacy of the people voting for the politicians (Appendix Sergi Morales) and participating in the process, although in the recent elections of 28th of May, the abstention was 47.71% (Público 2023), that means that almost half of the population is not engaged or does not believe in the political representative system. On the other hand, there is the participatory democracy, where deliberation, discussion, and debate are central to it. (Pateman 2012). The first one is a more passive democracy while the second one is more active, and consent is a goal.

This active engagement on planning brings to the discussion some paradigms that could be an alternative to the current rationalist paradigm. There are different theories of active public participation in planning, and several approaches are used in planning. Most of those theories can be grouped in three paradigms regarding public participation which can be described as:

- The *rationalist paradigm* where the experts control the goals and the means to secure those goals. It is objective as it is done in the name of rationality and science. This could be categorised as the current system in Mataró.
- The *incremental paradigm* takes into account the past experiences and what is possible with the given situation or context. It aims to achieve consensus. Some power is given in the shape of negotiation between the interested parties.
- The *participatory paradigm* where the citizens are included and participate in the process. Different tools can be used to have citizen participation to a certain degree, but all of them look for the common values and goals in contrast with the experts concepts or stronger stakeholders. It is true that some tools include the citizens but not to the plans themselves as they are done and given by the office

(Elling 2017)

The relationship between urbanism and public participation it is almost nonexistent, because there is not any effect on urbanism or in the roots of those types of project, that are mainly decided by the technical office and no citizen nor association is included, except with the participatory budgets. That is due to the nature of the participatory tools analysed that are based on information and consultation. However, the direct/social participation, the one that it is not institutionalised, the one that goes through informal channels sometimes is even more effective than the official, that is the case of the process of urbanization of many cities in Catalonia such as Mataró with many informal settlements. Those bottom-up projects or actions, as it has been mentioned before, have proved to be the ones shaping the city most effectively and taking into account the social opinion.

One aspect that I have perceived from the citizens in social media groups is the distrust, from the citizens to the institutions and also to other citizens, which could be one of the reasons of the low participation. An example of this distrust is a recent bike self-repair station, where the tools were stolen the week after installing them. That can also create a relation of distrust from the institution towards the citizens. Maybe this happens due to the fact that, recently, citizens have been used to the governments to do the job and not involving themselves too much in shaping the city which has led to the participation to be controlled by the authorities and everyone seems to agree with those terms, as the office worker Sergi Bonilla shared in Appendix C.

However, there is hope of change and bring back a more together Mataró. The last April, the neighbours association of Mataró (AV Mataró) is trying to bring together all the different neighborhood associations and be stronger together and revive the Council of the City and improve the participation in those kind of organs. (Comas, Cugat 2023) Also, just this 11th of May, the president of the neighbours association of Cerdanyola, called into social action to take action on the matters of the neighborhood as the official and institutionalised way of present requests has not worked. Sarai thinks that it is easier to bring people together when "*it is a very emotional theme that unifies socially and territorially, a subject that align many people.*" (Appendix G)

As the politician Sarai Martínez points out in Appendix Sarai *It is not that the citizens do not implicate, that surely there is a great political disaffection, but I believe that it is politics that has distanced itself from the citizens. So participation has become a mere fact practically every 4 years.* From that input, it can bring different thoughts: firstly it brings the elections as a process of public participation at a level that can be compared as the other participation mechanisms by the politicians as it has been discussed before. And that politics is also responsible for that distrust and disaffection to participate. This low participation and involvement has, of course, many causes and is influence by a ton of factors, but this statement from Sarai Martínez is key: politics, politicians and the public authorities have set a distance from the citizens and needs to be rebuilt with a rethought of the participation model. *"There are two types, a more representative democracy versus the more participatory model of democracy."* (Appendix Sergi Morales) It can be concluded that a lot of more effort could be done by the public administration as right now is a very much so a representative participation model instead of a more democratic participation model. *"Neither does the Administration look for ideas or mechanisms, at least for trying not to recover[...]* But I think it's a matter not of those of the individual, but of the general social system that has been established" (Appendix Sarai). Also, Sarai Martínez is aware of the tendencies that the city has taken, sharing an analysis with Henri Lefebvre of the city of consumption and neoliberal urban model that has transformed the city to an object of consumption, Sarai argues that a general issue of the urban settlements is *"... a matter not of the individual, but of the general social system that has been established, individualism and capitalism itself, no?. The consumption methodology is generated and created that way, on purpose ..."*.

Javier Páez agrees that *"the Administration is the one who has to go looking for the population because they are the responsible of us having that issue"* (of distrust and low participation) Appendix Javier, but on the other hand, *the call into participation is very difficult out there, it is, it is absolutely complex.* and in addition, *"it is very difficult to access people that have never participated"* (Appendix Jordi) even with binding processes as the participatory budgets. In other cities, they do a campaign and pay the participants to engage them more, this is a type of reward that can be offered to the citizens.

This thesis has tried to keep the social aspect present as the urban space is understood as a social space where social needs are met and social relations are also created in this public space. Additionally, a perspective, on class struggle has been given, where social informal planning based on class struggle demands has taken place historically in Mataró. As it can be read on the Right to the City *"the massive, and therefore revolutionary, intervention of the people is indispensable for any social transformation, including those of the way we live, of the city and its space."* (Lefebvre 1968). This quote can be applied to Can Tuñí, to La Teixidora, Can San Pere, and many others transformative bottom-up approaches all over without the participation of the authorities.

Even though public participation is very low in the official channels, social citizen participation or non institutionalised participation is not that low, even though it was higher decades ago. It is present in the life of the neighbourhoods thanks to bottom-up tactical urbanism actions. Can San Pere in Premià de Mar and Can Tuñí in the neighbourhood of Cerdanyola are lessons of participating in the urban life and development by fighting, legally, democratically and directly for urban spaces by the working class, taking the steps that Henri mentions in the Right to the City: *"only groups, social classes and class fractions capable of revolutionary initiative can take over and realize to fruition solutions to urban problems. [...] The first thing to do is to defeat currently dominant strategies and ideologies"*. (Lefebvre 1968)

This bottom-up approach and cohesive goal of the city can be the answer for the last sub-question *How to bring back tactical urbanism and participation to the citizens to compensate the over institutionalization?*: it is the citizens themselves that need to demand it and take the power with the mechanism they have, otherwise, even if the public institutions look for that goal of involving citizens, if there is not a will from the citizens, there is not going to be any change. The transition to compensate the over institutionalization should be carried away by the citizens mostly, however, the institutions can just and simply facilitate it like enable places to meet.

However when people shape their city, and informal planning happens, it can have some negative consequences: *"The urban planning of this city is disastrous, that is, disastrous in all senses, that is, here the Via Europa is the best and now Havana is well designed. But the rest is disastrous, streets going up and down, houses. A report that they go in and go out, "bados" , where they do not touch different levels, that is. [...] And I believe that urbanism failed a lot there or we did not have in their day or they did not have in their day a vision of the city."* (Appendix Sarai) So the mix of informal planning and a not proper intervention of the authorities led to this urban planning mess.

A very strong participation or informal planning could lead to *"a counterpoint on the government plans, so the equilibrium needs to be found"* Appendix E These informal planning actions are normally categorised as tactical urbanism with the definition given in this report. In terms of tactical urbanism, it can be said that it is a well known concept by the interviewed actors in the Mataró's scene. However, there is no proper definition of tactical urbanism nor it has been properly developed as a top-down project in Mataró so the common citizen may not know what is it about although the bottom-up initiatives carried were and are tactical urbanism actions. Although these struggles create some tension between citizens and the administration there is an equilibrium and the understanding is the final result, with social urban projects that are not over institutionalised and under popular control as "La Teixidora" was. With these terms in mind, the question of how do we understand public space arises. In this project, the public space, the urban space is where urban social life happens, where the social interactions take place, art and history is alive.

The future, of course, is uncertain, the city has changed a lot in the past decades and there are a lot of issue and concerns which are more important than tactical urbanism right now in Mataró like safety, labour, housing, migration... Overall, all of this issues and any project that would happen in the future, with the knowledge of the past experiences of the citizens and the participation processes, must be tried out to be solved involving as many stakeholders as possible all together with a process of deinstitutionalisation and empowerment of citizens and social movements to a certain point of equilibrium. In order to deinstitutionalise the participation of the city it would imply decentralisation and delegation of power to other entities rather than the Town hall, as some neighbourhood associations, some popular assemblies, and any kind of entity or social group. This would bring some elements present in the participatory democratic theory such as individuals learning to participate, interacting with the democratic authorities structures, make Mataró's life more democratic, where individuals can participate in everyday lives, the creation of a participatory society where participation is in many aspects and areas of the city and not just the representatives elections. A structural change is also needed to get democratic participation at a deep level in the society, however, this change needs to be extrapolated at a national level and not only in Mataró. (Pateman 2012)

As a future task, it could be interesting to present this report to the municipality and be able to interview someone from the urban office which was not possible during the time of this report, rather the politician in charge or the technical office or both. The municipal election are the 28th

of May so a new wave of promises are coming and 4 years of governing are happening with new ideas, it should be everybody's work to introduce this participation ideas and shape the city for and by everyone.

Chapter 8

Conclusion

This report has done a research on the participatory processes and its relation with urbanism and tactical urbanism in Mataró. The ultimate goal was to explore those participatory methods and answer the research question:

How can public participation be used in Mataró for tactical urbanism projects?

To answer this question there are multiple responses and multiple factors, for instance, there could be a participatory budget just and only for tactical urbanism projects, or doing it in smaller territories of the city as proposed by Jordi Tarradellas (Appendix E). Also, in order to reactivate the urbanism council and engage more people there, remunerate the participation, monetarily or food or any other type of reward or recognition for the sessions/workshops, so the participants feel noticed and the positive experience allows them to participate more. However, there are some root issues that need to be addressed first.

One of the issues that needs to be addressed is that people do not feel part of the urban projects anymore, or even of the participation processes. They relegate this job and tasks to the administration. Maybe with a change on the methodology to participate, as mentioned before, it could be solved this too as people would feel more engaged and collaborative, which could be done by facilitating citizens' assemblies for the neighbours as some groups are demanding around Spain such as Extinction Rebellion. These methodology would take advantage of the roots people have for their neighborhood as these assemblies and participation will have an effect on the neighbourhood itself. In addition, it will set an atmosphere of participation which is more easygoing and not too much institutionalised. In fact, the neighbors' association of Cerdanyola called into action also to participate in open assemblies soon away from the institutionalization. These meetings will democratize the decisions on many topics, also in urban planning. The dynamics of information and debating will be broken in order to create a partnership between stakeholders.

Another related topic that has been a discussion in the report is the over institutionalisation of the participation. The deinstitutionalisation of participation and urbanism to a point of equilibrium should be the goal to regain the trust between citizens and between citizens and the public administration, and build a great environment for Mataró together. Through that process, the effort of redesigning participatory processes and how different actors interact could lead to a better

scenario where people participate more and, after all, participation and urbanism would go back to the roots, to the people of Mataró as they did along during its history. Another way of learning about the design of participation processes and also strengthen the relationships within the region in el Maresme is to get together with other towns and cities to exchange their processes and see what it works better and what could be suitable for each context. This exchange could be done from the institutions, but also from the citizens and social groups. For instance, a triple or quadruple helix approach would be a more open fit to take all the opinion's into account and decouple the patronising behaviour from the institutions to the citizens. All of these efforts would lead to a decentralisation and delegation of power, allowing the less powerful, the citizens and the informal associations, to manage greater resources and assume more responsibility.

Most of the participation mechanisms in Mataró are largely focused on information and consultation and it seems to be a comfortable stage as there is not a lot of progress in the recent years. It could be beneficial to make more progress and step up the level of citizen participation, also, more progress may mean to question the status quo, but if the goal is to establish a culture of participation, then that would be a side effect. This modification and redesign of the participatory process should target the outcome of those: from just plain information or consultation, it should go to real participation, Figure 8.1 tries to picture this transition process. Here, "real participation" is understood as a more participatory democracy with consent and communication to achieve an active public participation, where that participation is useful, leaves a mark on the public policies and the culture of participation, and creates a strong positive relationship between the public administration and the citizens in contrast with the current plain and boring status of the representative democracy. Nonetheless, it seems a bit ironic that the institution itself is going to deinstitutionalise the participation and the planning they have created towards a more collaborative or interactive planning towards a more participatory paradigm, so it might be prudent to say that this deinstitutionalisation could be done hand by hand from a bottom-up approach, and looking back to the history of Mataró, both tactical urbanism and participation has been bottom-up.

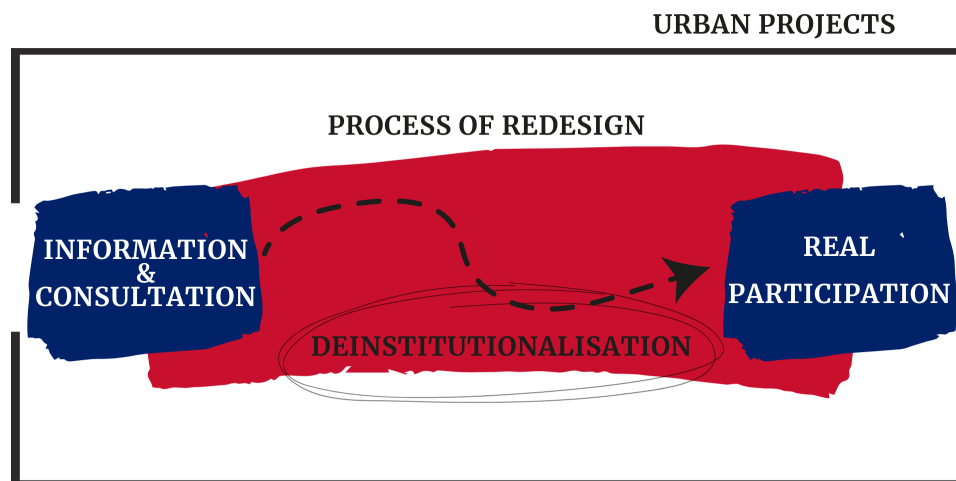


Figure 8.1: Deinstitutionalisation process.

Additionally, one of the current issues is failing to involve the citizens and to foster their loyalty to the different processes and projects, such as the cycling paths, where no participation was done and it created some tension and conflict over that public policy decision. Engaging the neighbors in urbanism projects is a must, because, after all, they will be the beneficiary and the main final player of the proposals and actions, they will enjoy those urban projects and benefit from them or suffer their fails: all of those urban spaces will affect the social, political, and cultural life of the people of Mataró, so it make sense to engage them since the beginning. In other words, the election of one or another urban model has such a great impact on citizens, that seems appropriate and precise that they are part of the process since the moment of idealization of the project, how? Maybe with specific tools and mechanisms for each individual project depending on the target group so they feel part of the project, with an overflowing effort of redesigning the processes, establishing the culture of participation since the schools with pedagogy and another way of looking at things, etc. This cultural change is going to be one of the most long and difficult challenges of Mataró, but Rome was not build in a day.

Finally, it is worth mention that the citizens are the ones that know better the needs of the city, its opportunities and weaknesses. Therefore, it is important to give them responsibility and they are entitled to take it and shape their Mataró they way they want and need, as they have done before with direct and social actions. No plan alone is able to fully control a city because the citizens take the city for themselves, with, for instance, bottom-up tactical urbanism, citizens are the cornerstone of the city, without them, there is no Mataró, so let's keep them as the base actor they are. The climate crisis and how the city is shaped is affecting everyone, therefore everyone is entitled to participate. If we want real change, we must get the decisions back to the roots and work together.

To conclude this report, and give hope to the participatory movement in Mataró, after an uncertain future after the elections, a quote that sums up, in my opinion, what Mataró needs:

In a democracy, it is the public that determines where it wants to go, and the role of its representatives and bureaucratic staff is to get them there. In other words, ends should be chosen democratically even though the means are chosen technocratically (Oregon University 2015)

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Appendix A

Appendix A: Sector and Territorial Councils

Article 1.1. Territorial Councils Territorial councils are a space for interaction among different residents, entities, and other organizations within a territory, where the exchange of information, debate, and citizen participation on issues directly affecting the territory in which they live, work, or engage in social, economic, cultural activities, etc., is encouraged. The council will become the highest body for participation and monitoring of municipal actions within the territory.

Article 1.2. Sectorial Councils Sectorial councils are spaces where different stakeholders participate in matters specific to the scope of each council's objective.

Article 1.3. City Council The City Council, as the Council of Councils, is the participatory and consultative body with a global character, aiming to debate and reach consensus on the major strategic guidelines of the city.

Consells sectorials Urban Planning Advisory Council of Mataró

Municipal Council for Coexistence

Municipal Council for the Elderly

Municipal Council for Mobility

Municipal Council for Consumer Affairs

Municipal Youth Council

Municipal Health Council

Municipal Council for the Environment

Municipal Council for Security and Prevention

Municipal Council for Solidarity and Cooperation

Municipal Council for Equal Opportunities

Consell territorials Territorial Council of Rocafonda-El Palau-Escorxador

Territorial Council of Cerdanyola

Territorial Council of Centre-Eixample-Havana

Territorial Council of the North

Territorial Council of the South-West

City Council

Consell de Ciutat (*Council of the City*) Article 1.3. It is the Council of councils and it is the participatory and consultation organ for global issues. Its goals are debating and reaching consensus.

Its objectives are:

1. To advise the City Council on the definition of the major policy guidelines and major city projects.
2. To debate and assess the conclusions of studies and work on strategic issues commissioned by the City Council.
3. To request the activation of any of the participation mechanisms provided for in the Citizen Participation Regulations and promote new participatory processes.
4. To study, discuss, and provide information on proposals submitted by territorial or sectorial councils.
5. Other matters.

(Mataró 2012)

Appendix B

Annex B: Sergi Bonilla's Interview Guide

Interview guide for interview with Sergi Benedicto Bonilla. The interview was made online through Zoom on the 28th of February of 2023. The interview was conducted in Catalan.

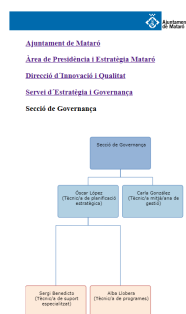


Figure B.1: Organigram Sergi Bonilla. Ajuntament de Mataró 2023b

- What is public participation for Mataró?
- What actors are in the participatory processes? Which are their tasks?
- How is power given to the citizens?
- What ways can citizens participate in Mataró?
- What goals do you want to achieve with public participation?
- How do you measure public participation and when is a participation process a success? And why some processes like the participatory budgets have so low participation?
- How is a participatory process designed and how does it work?

- What criteria is used for selecting participants?
- In the ladder of participation, where is Mataró's citizens' participation at? And where should it be?
- What limitations and possibilities do you think those processes give?
- What sectors are more "participable" and which are more difficult? Why do you think that happens? Why is urbanism not a very keen project?
- Is there any new normative proposal from 2012?
- Do you have any other contact that you think it would be interesting to interview, for instance, someone in the urbanism office?

Appendix C

Appendix C: Sergi Bonilla's Interview Summary

Interview summary of the interview with the technical officer Sergi Benedicto Bonilla. The interview was made online through Zoom on the 28th of February of 2023. The interview was conducted in Catalan. Due to bad recording of the audio that is unusable, a summary is made from the notes taken on the interview.

During the conversation with Sergi Bonilla, the insight of the participation office was given, and the public participation is considered "a mechanism to give opinion in different public policies, specific or generals. There groups a great range of mechanisms, from plain information to voting".

The different ways of participating in Mataró are the participatory budgets, proposals of names of the streets (nomenclator), different processes in the Decidim (We decide) Platform, City Council, Terrotory and Sectorial Councils. One of the issues is that there are only 600 people registered in the participatory councils.

One big challenge is the participation and involvement of citizens and there are several causes: the communication and the way it is done and targeted. The efforts are targeted towards people that are already in participatory dynamics, apart from those circles it is very difficult to reach out. Also the political culture of the citizens sometimes relies on the municipal elections: voting and giving away the responsibility towards governing the city, apart from some demonstrations unless the citizens are involved in a municipal movement. So it is very difficult to know what the citizens are looking for, exactly.

There are also some inside difficulties and resistance, there are some bureaucratic limits and the methodology is more or less accurate. However a debate is there since it was a goal to increase participation this legislature so, politicians and technicians are discussing about it.

There is some technocracy in the administration and sometimes it is unable to bring projects to happen and the people are aware of that. Some findings may set the path like the collaboration between a company and the civic collaboration, for example: Mataró Neta. (Mataró Neta (Clean Mataró) it merges all the plans of waste management in Mataró and cleaning streets, there is one app to report dirty spots or full containers which then is managed by the company and the user is

informed about the successful job).

In a macro strategic level, it is more difficult to increment participation, however, in micro there is some margin to make things happen and improve.

The participation processes in Mataró are set in the rungs of information, consultation, placation, so it could go up considerably more. As a positive aspect, it needs to be mentioned that there is a culture in the participation office of doing, redoing, evaluating, so they are always learning from the current processes.

Annex D: Jordi Tarradellas's Interview Guide

[illegible]

- Presentation of the Master and the Thesis
- Ask permission for recording and appearing in the report and in the appendixes.
- Who are you and what roles do you play?
- What is "public participation" for the public authorities in Mataró? What are you looking for with citizen participation? Why?
- What ways can people participate in Mataró?
- What are the actors in the participatory processes (Townhall office, entities associations, citizens, private actors)? How do you identify them and which are their tasks?

- How do you engage those actors? What criteria is used to select them?
- How is power given to the citizens?
- What limitations and possibilities are there in the participation processes?
- What is the Espai Mataró Connecta?
- Do citizens have power to decide? What impact have their decisions in the final measures from the administration?
- With all of this present, in the ladder of participation of Arnstein, in what level are these processes in Mataró? What would be a good level of equilibrium?
- How can public participation be used in Mataró for tactical urbanism projects and help sustainable development for the city?

Appendix E

Annex E: Jordi Tarradellas's Interview Transcript

Interview transcript of the interview with the technical officer Jordi Tarradellas. The interview was made online through Teams on the 23th of March of 2023. The interview was conducted in Catalan and was transcribed in the Spanish option in Teams, therefore, some mistakes could be in the transcription that was done using the Google Translate tool.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Actually, I am studying the master's degree of Sustainable Cities, doing the thesis here in Copenhagen. The idea was to see how citizen participation could affect. Ah, tactical urbanism projects for a city. with the case of Mataró of a specific case.

Jordi Tarradella Okay?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Jordi Tarradella Because, in fact, do you have some kind of relationship with Mataró?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I am from Mataró all my life. Yes, yes, yes, well I give Cerdanyola always.

Jordi Tarradella Ah, okay, okay, okay, okay, perfect. Okay, maybe it's not a random issue. not like because I know, a guy or I went once to the beach, okay, okay. Sure.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, not now. Yeah, well, I've always lived there.

Jordi Tarradella Okay? It's perfect.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo The idea is to come back

Jordi Tarradella Sooner or later.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, exactly. Okay so, first things, what do you do, Jordi? I have seen the organizational chart, the participation and the Space Mataró.

Jordi Tarradella Yes. Let's see, currently my job is in those, Mataró connecta that it is a new expensive equipment to boot, it is not even a year old. And basically, a citizen service office as an initial framework, but in reality I said from an office. Ah, basically this part of attending the

public is done. but it is such an attention that has improved in many aspects from the physical space itself, which is kind of nice more dynamics, there are all types of channels so that citizens can choose their types of channel , to which relations with the administration is the automatic presence, or telephone or face-to-face .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .Mhm .

Jordi Tarradella Although if it is automatic, it is capable of self-management. So my occupation, I am also from social citizen participation I am a social worker I have been around participation topics and in cultural issues, my function is basically that in this space this attention and this relationship that we build, relations with the citizenship in different ways and basically we have 2 spaces, the lab and the space CO, the space CO it is like that CO with hyphone because The Space it's called Co- because connect co grows, well, collaborate everything with co, and things happen, the hospital foundation is doing a reflection of their foundation, they are here doing their process of internal reflection.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Jordi Tarradella Also it can be done a debate about the law Yes is Yes open to the citizens. So I am in charge of this dynamization of the space, production and participation. This figure didn't exist in the town hall, no? No, it did not exist, but with each year, I've worked in terms of citizen participation, participatory budgets, Municipal Councils, entities, etc., etc. But culture is also already blocks, organizing the saint, yes, the asset records , so I have a profile like this that would be useful for everything, right? And then here it's needed to do a bit of everything. I am doing that currently.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo You didn't nail it, did you? Okay one question I have is, what is it, for the authorities in Mataró, for the town hall, for the Espai Connecta and the participation office, what is understood by public participation.

Jordi Tarradella What is public participation? One thing is how we technicians understand it and another how the politicians understand it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I am also conducting interviews with politicians, EH? I have.

Jordi Tarradella Okay, it may be different, I suppose we would all agree with the fact that... could be the broad term of it and someone could even consider Twitter as a door to participation

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Jordi Tarradella It would be a first door to participation and you then you can go to participation is pure, which I wouldn't say that with municipal councils , but the altruist involvement of the citizens' processes that calls the citizens to participate, obviously, the associations is participation... everything can be participation I think the topic. Above all, the differences that existed between technical politics and technical we are worried of the need to assure that the participatory processes are very well done, that everything is clear that there are always the phases needed the feedback phase to consolidate participants? Yes, that is, the technician was told that our main concern is that it is. And the politicians I suppose that you can find a bit of everything, but surely that this part more methodological or of the structure of participation they have it so much but they are more concerned... or they would like, surely that the participation, was higher in more topics however if you empower participation it could be a counter point.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, of course.

Jordi Tarradella a counterpoint on the government plans, so the equilibrium needs to be found. Right now there has been this balance of yes to participation but little.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No, no, I have already been an interview. And the public participation is also the listened in the elections. to those of the action as such and understood. they will not do public participation to all, cause we need to go on... I have already presented myself with a program that will lead her to vote. They already wanted this.

Jordi Tarradella Of course.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But yes, yes.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, no, no. Not everthing is participable. It is true that from the human resource from the citizens or implication of the citizens, it would be unsustainable. The concept of democracy, right now is a representative democracy. When I say that the technical staff, not all the technical staff want participation, eh, it is not the case that the staff want participation and the politicians don't, no, no. There are a lot of staff that are against participation cause it interferes with their decision making process. The participation staff yes, but not all the rest

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, I also here this interview and there was a reflection to it needs to be a technical staff, or a technical base above participation, cause if a project that it is impossible to develop.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But it seems to me that there should be a technical base there, right? Yeah.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, yes, well, the limits, the limits to participation are, they are key in any process.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Jordi Tarradella We are going to address this topic, but not this other one, that's important.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Hey, see? I am. The question was huh? What is the aim? What is citizen participation intended for?

Jordi Tarradella Well, in general terms, it is intended that the citizens get involves above an electoral system. Having the citizen's voice that helps to shape your public policies or the way of doing. I think the objective of the citizens' participation is this one, and it shareable technically and politically. We want them to participate to help us improve, not just as an empty goal of the government plans. Not just because I believe in participation, it needs to be useful. The folklorical participation to make us look good is useless, it needs to be one that stays, and leaves a mark.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah,Just so you looke good... the resources it consumes, the time Yes Yes Yes.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, and people and people, and the citizens themselves, for a citizen to have a bad process participatory participation, they don't come back, EH?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Jordi Tarradella We have a lot of participatory zombies.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Jordi Tarradella Oh, because a lot of people that comes by. What if you were not a good

process? Well, that's the human reality, if go to a place and I don't have a good experience I will not go again... unless we are believers I will give it a second chance, but that's it, if not whoever can go, but not me .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Jordi Tarradella Methodologically, the proposals need to be great, very prices, very well measured and mature for that

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes. Another question, more general, no need to go into detail. What ways of participating there are in Mataró, there is the participatory budgets, the sectorial councils, the territorial councils, the city assembly and... what was the name, it was annually.

Jordi Tarradella Well, I city council maybe.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Public hearings, audience. Yeah.

Jordi Tarradella The public hearing audience it is annual that talks about budgets too. There's also the city council, and there's also the participation that comes from the associations and entities network, the pure association creation and then I do things in the city. There are all the formulas of collaboration and cooperation and participation outside the law, the informal participation. Associations that are not associations, but still do things for the city, it is sociocultural participation, informal participation, mutual aid groups.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Jordi Tarradella All the groups of cultural associations operates as non-regulated cooperation. We wanted informal inheritance groups that are not associations, but I know that they are completed with things for the city. All that the saints are, what you have to contribute. The ones that brings figures are not an association, but are individual volunteers who participate in the city. In the Reis, or Carnestoltes. But regarding the public affairs, with this wide vision: with social networks, participatory budgets, and in the networks there are a lot of things that the citizens seems to want for the city, although you need to be selected cause sometimes the Twitter there are alot of things that are absolute nonsense. But once in a while you find something that you say, EP. So, social neetworks, or any other way of communicating with the authorities, it is unidirectional one-way participation. Then the other participatory area you have, aside of the councils, it would be that participatory processes would be actually created that you want the citizens to participate with. In the webpage DECIDIM there are a bit of everything, the classic participation and other processes as the definition of the areas for dogs... things like that, that are punctual things but the participation is requiered.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, I have seen that they could also propose, whatever to debate in the forums and so on?

Jordi Tarradella Yes, yes and in the plenary. There is The audience prior to the municipal plenary session it is a participatory process but it is very politicized, VOX comes as they do not have representation in the council. It comes and gives their speech.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo The political person and I have talked about it too. And a lot of times it was just to complain, but no proposals at all

Jordi Tarradella Yes. The space to create together, or construction for the citizens that are open, are complicated cause people tend to complain a lot. It is easier to complain than compliment. Also in live.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm Ya.

Jordi Tarradella If you go to a council, I have been to many, in the questions sections there were always the dog's poop, the dumpsters and the cutting of trees. And that was there always as a complain, it is the status and not asking what can we do together. Solutions so there are no poops, not only cleaning but also how we behave. It is complicated and complex.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes indeed, you are right. Could you name the actors that are in. Participatory processes.

Jordi Tarradella Yes. Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo There is the public entity of the Town hall, the citizens, the entities, are there any private actors as business, cause I've read that some business can organize debates in the new Espai Connecta.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, we, in terms of Espai Mataró, there's the ones that you mentioned, but in Espai Mataró, it is the method of the quadruple Helix.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Oh, You work with that concept.

Jordi Tarradella We try to work with that concept, even the quintuple helix, no, there's the quintuple now with the environment in. We try to work with that, not always but here in Espai Mataró, public companies are coming, that until now, there was not a lot of participation, but we try to invite all the actors that need to be invited. Yes, we can start talking about helixes, and maybe we have some more, but we think who has to participate to be in the process to create this specific thing. Is it just the network of associations? cause we are gonna debate the association movement in this century. We need all the legs of the system, sometimes also the politic leg, not because they are politics, but because the politicians are part of the process that is being designed. In a process, there can be individuals, politicians, business that are needed, for instance with urbanism, at the end, you need to engage everyone when you do a construction. A lot of silly stuff would end when incorporating everyone. I always say, at the moment of doing a municipal equipemtn, you need a pla of usage, and then a comission for that, even the cleaning people need to be involve. Why? because at the end they are the ones suffering the architecture. You need to incorporate in all the elements of creation and design. Maybe even incorporating some dogs for their plans, the idea is to count on everyone.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes. And now the specific question, how do you engage those actors? You can say, we have to invite all of these, cause they have a criteria on this project, but how do you convince them to take in.

Jordi Tarradella I think you have to convince them planning a very good project. listen, you come, you participate in this umber of sessions, they will look like this, we will work this and that, with this results... First, we need to sell a very clear process, we don't waste time. In other places, that we haven't done it here yet, in Barcelona they have, is paying for the participation. Paying sometimes people get scared... but to create a participation of quality, people talk about rewards, but is paying. This rewards, is in that way, or it can be the public recognition of the participants. When you do the feedback, count with the actors that have participated, this public recognition, sometimes is interesting also for business. I think that it's, preparing a good process and useful. Time is precious

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes. and how do you get to them? What is the methodology to

get the people that have never participated?

Jordi Tarradella Yes. The citizens that have never Participated... every time we have tried to get them, it is difficult. Hey? The participatory budgets that are binding in principle. It cost a lot to get to them, honestly, no, no... in other places to get them to create very concrete things what they do is a campaign and I say that I will pay, yes? and so you have citizenship otherwise it is very difficult because it got broken the relationship between citizens and the feeling of belonging where you are. Make participatory processes like a little town there will always have more participation than in a big city and basically it is a symbol of belonging, of affections, in fact participatory budgets one of the last things that we thought was that certainly it would be more interesting to do territorial participatory processes and not as a city level, in the case of Cerdanyola, just and simply a participatory budget for Cerdanyola. Obviously it couldn't be the same numbers than for all the city.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It is also curious that territorial council they have lots more participation than the sectorial.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, yes, yes, because there's more link. And I suppose you have a feeling of being the everyday life. The sectorial there are other collaboration, with associations outside the councils, they already talk outside the participation mechanisms. Sectorial are more difficult. The territorial, you talk about your area, and the calling to participation is so difficult. We have been too many years, not only here in Mataró, but in many places, doing, I wouldn't say bad participation, otherwise I would tell you only information that is sometimes unnecessary or camouflaging participation in information processes that they are not participation. It will be tough to bring back all the people, like the zombies that I told you before. There are people that have participated but they were not loyal to the process, so you lose them.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Just another question is about the ladder of citizen participation of Arnstein. There are 8 levels and the information about them. I would like to ask you at what level of citizen power is now Mataró at

Jordi Tarradella Of citizen power

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah, in the ladder of citizen power, from the 8 levels that are there, where is Mataró.

Jordi Tarradella I do not know that one.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I don't know if I can share the screen... Yes, the ladder of participation by Arnstein is this one. Ok, so can you see it now? The levels that there are manipulation, therapy, information, consulting which is just statistics, placation, where there is a working group but there was no negotiation for the criteria to choose these people and it is not binding, partnership is the negotiation where people have some real power, delegated power when the authorities give power to the citizens where they have more seats than the authorities and citizen control, as an example is Can San Pere.

Jordi Tarradella Yeah. There is a bit of everything, eh. So, here, we can talk of can Fugeroles, it is on the top but they are a private system, they rent the place although they have their own system and organization.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo They had some problems, last year or so, right?.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, well, They have had some things, but the TownHall did a proper job,

legally, that thing should have closed because of the rules, just to go through without paying too much attention. So here there is citizen control.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Jordi Tarradella Practically there is not delegated power, or so little. There are somethings, in management of a place, like the Esmandies, which is managed by an entity, other than that, there is not. We move a lot around informing and consultation. All day, it is where the Town Hall feels comfortable, informing unidirectional, I leave an open turn of speeches, like in an informative session when some construction is done in a street or something like that. Or the use of any informing media, like the social media or the news. The Consultation, we have a lot of those process.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But the participatory budgets... would you agree it is delegated power?

Jordi Tarradella Exactly, it would be a bit delegated of the decision but very filtered and then maybe yes, the delegation of the decision, apart from that, all the rest is consultation and information

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Right, but the filtration in the participatory budgets are citizens' proposals, no?

Jordi Tarradella yes, yes, yes. But then for instance there's no, that for me it would be the correct thing to do, the follow up commission of all of this. Also formed by the citizens. Not like you have decided now I do the rest byebye. But all the system should be like that, after the election a control by the citizens and maybe every year or half a year, just a follow up.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah sometimes we think that this follow up when you pay the consequences of a bad government is in the next elections but it should be during the mandate.

Jordi Tarradella Yeah. To sum up, the participatory budgets are low in the follow up. It needs to be a control of the proposals that the citizens have chosen and decided to make.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah, and regarding the Espai Mataró Connecta, the question is if the citizens have power of decision and in what degree are these decisions affecting the decisions from the Town hall. In this cooperation model, is it like 50-50?

Jordi Tarradella The decision making is complicated. We always talk about consulting processes because decision making process they hardly exist. Ok? It's better to be honest and say that it is consultation. The important thing is to go back with feedback with what I am doing with your participation. I cannot say that it will go to church, because I cannot assure that, but I can tell what was the outcome of the consultation. If you say that together we will co decide... well... after the process, will it be with the high hand... normally not. that's why it is consultation process and the outcome is this, was used here in this final product, or was discarded because X

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So transparency and information are key elements.

Jordi Tarradella Absolutely, sure. It is clear that people participate so the outcome of the process are their own ideas. If I participate and I don't get what I wanted I don't come back. That has happened. But that's not participation. 4 heads will think better than one

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya. The question was How can the participation be used in Mataró in the field of urbanism to help develop sustainable urbanism?

Jordi Tarradella Yes.

Jordi Tarradella I believe that the participation can be useful as you introduce it in the right moment it needs to be introduced. And more in urbanism.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Jordi Tarradella I have seen cases that omg, demential, you make a part or renovating and you don't count with the people that spend time there. Go there, the architect for instance and be there, with LEGOs or something and ask the problems or what improvements are needed. The problem is that we don't count with the user. It is true that sometimes the user is not clear, though. But normally is clear. The 4 old people now what tree makes shadow or where the bank to rest should be... If you make a park with a lot of curves super fancy, people just take the straight line, from beginning to end.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya, totally.

Jordi Tarradella Initially, in urbanism, not in the blank paper, but in the first sketch, people should be included, for their inputs, and it is not done. Although in the normative it should be done, but sometimes this memory is done based on a sectorial council to justify the participation. People say absolute truths and we need to hear them.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, and without all the technical vocabulary.

Jordi Tarradella They do not filter and they do not have the technical knowledge, just straight what they need. Exactly, do not make curves, people will cross the bushes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo You can see that everywhere

Jordi Tarradella Yeah, the other day in Premià, they did a scooter place, and all the surroundings were grass, so the users told them, you cannot put grass, it needs to be hard, otherwise we brake suddenly. This is as simple as not talking to the people that use scooters. Let's get rid of the idea that we know more, yeah we know more in many things but not of living there.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, totally. Like if I don't drive and I say I'm gonna put here the curves or this street in this direction.

Jordi Tarradella Totally, like tha annela ciclista, we have to count the user, the cyclist. We don't use this path, and more the ones that don't use the electric bike.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah, I am used to bike here that everything is plain and I am scared of biking in Mataró, would I be able?

Jordi Tarradella Maybe you change to an electric bike haha

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Maybe, and regarding the Anella Ciclista, they did it and then they asked a consultation to the people, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Jordi Tarradella The day that we innaugurated the Espai mataró connecta, that would be debates and reflections about things that happened in Mataró, we wanted to debate about the cycling lanes, after 4-5 months they were in. And as there was no consultation to the cycling groups while constructing it, what we did, with the mobility service, we wanted to do a reflection and revision also for the future of it. We ride with bikes all of it and then came back to debate about it but we did a posteriori. They did not do that previously. They had the funds and they needed to do it super fast, and with that excuse they did not count with the people, the policies were great but the execution of it wasn't.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Exactly, thumbs up to the what but failed to the how. mmm. Yeah and just a last thing regarding the debates of the 2030 Agenda in Mataró. With young people, and about the future of the city

Jordi Tarradella Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Are they binding? This debates?

Jordi Tarradella Yes. We had some cards about actions after the debates of things that need to be taken into account but it is not binding. Just to nourish the city. The challenge that we have is after this reflection process, with very general guidelines, that means that you need an agenda with everything clear in the future, for asking for funds and justify everything. The challenge is how do we involve the citizens when the topics are precise. The debating process was very rigid, we are happy, although it was not easy also to contact young people willing to participate.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Also with Fridays for Future, I was there, and one issue is that we were not a registered association.

Jordi Tarradella Well that's ok, you could also participate in the youth debate. YYou were invited. Here is the new model of participation, when I was advising some groups and they told me they wanted to be registered as an official entity I told them why?, what's the purpose. Do not do an association, it is useless, if you are a group of people that want to get together, just do it. The issue is how they are recognised from the authorities. Fridays for Future was a valid actor to talk to and was recognised as so, but how do we differentiate between the ones that are ok and the ones that are not..

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah, we were not an association but we could also ask for spaces.

Jordi Tarradella Yes, yes. If you come to us that want to use the space for something for the city, we will give it to you and we will ask our service and the offices to finish this events. We just contain the events, but I will talk to the office that handles the topics just to see if they are valid or not. Being an association does not mean you are a valid actor, maybe a group that is not registered as an association or entity is way more valid. We have to be aware of that, of where the involved people are.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, perfect. I think you should go now at 10, right?

Jordi Tarradella Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Thousand thank yours

Jordi Tarradella You are welcome. Thanks to you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I will put you in the document and send your quotes too. And let's see how it ends

Jordi Tarradella Yeah, and when you are done, send it to us. To me or to Sergi or to everyone.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, Let's see

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, let's see, let's see. With with with the thing goes now, I'll tell you, I hope to have good news. again, thank you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Adéu .

Jordi Tarradella Adéu .

Appendix F

Annex F: Sarai Martínez's Interview Guide

Interview guide for interview with Sarai Martínez Vega. The interview was made online on the 15th of March of 2023. The interview was conducted in Spanish.

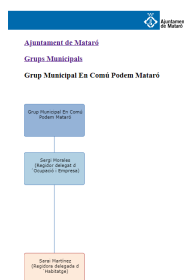


Figure F.1: Organigram Sarai Martínez

- Who are you, Sarai? And what are your tasks in your occupation in the government?
- What is public participation for Mataró?
- What objectives are wanted with public participation?
- What policies are in place to promote that public participation?
- How is power given to the citizens?
- What participatory mechanisms are there in the city? Can you tell me about the Consell de la ciutat, sectorials i territorials?
- What actors are there in the participatory processes? What are their tasks?

- Do you think public participation should be in every aspect of the city? Why or why not?
- How would you like a participatory process to be?
- In the ladder of participation, what level is now achieved and what is the desired one? Why?
- What areas are more important that people are/should be involved in the decision-making processes?
- Why do you think that the Urbanism Council has almost null activity? How would you encourage that participation?
- Why do you think people participate more in the territory councils than the sectorial councils?
- Do you do public audience annually?
- When do you think it is a success?
- What limitations and new opportunities can bring the participatory processes?
- One of the biggest participatory processes is the participatory budget, but still lack of participation, why do you think this happens?
- What would you consider a success for a participatory process?
- How can public participation be used in Mataró for tactical urbanism projects and help sustainable development for the city?
- How can those participatory methods be improved and have a greater impact on the decision making process?
- How is that beneficial to Mataró's citizens?
- Do you have any other contact that you think it would be interesting to interview, for instance, someone in the urbanism office?

Appendix G

Annex G: Sarai Martínez's Interview Transcript

Interview transcript of the interview with the politician Sarai Martínez Vega. The interview was made online through Teams on the 15th of March of 2023. The interview was conducted in Spanish and was transcribed through Teams, therefore, some mistakes could be in the transcription that was done using the Google Translate tool.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Bye . Alright testing.

Sarai Martínez The transcription. Es that ?

Enric González Gonzalo Ya. The thing is. Let's see, now it's in Spanish. Perfect, great. Yes, then, and later, of course, then I have to translate it into English. Oh well.

Sarai Martínez Sure.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay, then?

Sarai Martínez Al.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, first I'm going to introduce you a bit about the thesis. The thesis is about Tactical urbanism and how public participation processes can affect those HP projects. So, well, I'll first ask you, huh, who are we with? Who is sarai ?

Sarai Martínez Ouch.

Enric González Gonzalo Hehe. Why charge what charges do you have?

Sarai Martínez I love it now, now you leave me, it leaves me the freedom to do, I have a dream, it's no.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That cat, who are you, who were you, who will you be? No no.

Sarai Martínez Nothing. If I was going to tell you, I am the girl who left Calle Nuria at the age of 11 with a backpack full of dreams. That's how I describe myself. No? Well, no, who is Saray? Well, today I'm talking about today. Of course, I am a councilor in the Mataró City Council, for public housing policies.

Enric González Gonzalo Perfect. And are you in the stock market?

Sarai Martínez Well, if the Vice President of the public company for Urban Promotions does press.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It's perfect. Huh? Well, like this how is the thesis about public participation. As, let's say, a representative of the public entity, and of the Mataró City Council, I ask you, what is it for you or for Mataró ? How do you understand public participation?

Sarai Martínez Peace and citizen participation or participation?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, the citizen continuation.

Sarai Martínez One thing is clear to me, one thing is desire and another thing is reality, it seems to be worth it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo You can explain both, it's fine .

Sarai Martínez Of course, on the one hand, what is reality, in the end elections is still a representative participation, isn't it? where apparently every 4 years your or there are no elections and the representation of the citizenry is changing, not for the sake of municipal groups of different political acronyms that somehow redirect the politics of the city and what should, what I would like was not. Yes, I always say the involvement of citizens in decision making is needed, but, come on, I don't know if it's necessary day to day tasks, no, because there are many management things where knowledge of the thing is complicated to make a decision for the sake of reality, let's say.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Administrative, bureaucratic and realistic thing, not beyond the desire of it, but I do believe that there is little promotion of participation. It is not that the citizens do not implicate, that surely there is a great political disaffection, but I believe that it is politics that has distanced itself from the citizens. So participation has become a mere fact practically every 4 years. In my I would like dolls . Well, a more organized society does not represent common or joint interests and to be able to hold the debate and that the instrument that continues to be the politicians who call it does not execute or at least be valued, not for the sake of that decision of the citizenship, value in with we are going to decide from perspectives of principles each, each Group will have its own. I could tell you, I would look if, what they are deciding is a novel, it involves social cohesion, social justice, the, the territorial issue, whether it covers the more general public interest or is from a collective, to be able to establish or prioritize that political action. Therefore, the participation of citizens in political decision-making today and due to a lack of motivation, because I believe that at a political level they have already wanted there to be a disaffection. Manifestly.

Sarai Martínez Mm. I would tell you that it is almost nil. Like, huh? No, no, no, because of the representativeness, because it's not null because we were there every 4 years , huh? You present yourself with a program that there is evidence for you, a mandate plan is worth the commitment that you have with the citizenry.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez But yes, yes, we can say, we choose a place and we choose it, first you decide and then we perform in consequence. Technically it is legal, viable, economical. Well, and after that you take into account the principles of the base of each of your political group or manifest ideology. I will tell you that that appearance is very, very unnoticed many times.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha, okay? That was a question, yes.

Sarai Martínez As much as they tell us that we have to get participation and all this, huh? At least draw.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That's what I was going for because there is an office for public participation and citizen participation.

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Do you think? In other words, apart from those of citizen appropriation at the level of elections? How is citizen participation with these mechanisms at the Consell de Ciutat ? Territorial Council sectoral hashtag there are participatory aspects, etc., etc.

Sarai Martínez Sure, that's where we're going, right? I mean, yes. For example, participatory budgets.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Huh? Apparently good, I say apparently because there are many things that I always question, huh? But at first it was how people are choosing, no, I do n't know clearly that it is asphalt from the streets, no, I remember the first year that I said these are obligations of the administration, that is, you cannot choose not to have them in the street. Does the street have to be paved or do you have to know when it's going to run out? No, I don't think so.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo In other words, should this need be covered? No, it is not that it is done because I have decided, right?

Sarai Martínez Totally, right? So of course, all this is one of participation, right? Heh, it is true that at a certain moment, something had to start, but it is still mere advice when it comes to picking up concerns or manifestations, etc., which can be integrated at some point in some work I make it up in some park, not that idea, but they are still cheesy. Informative is like that, it goes with the proposal made. Politically speaking, which I also see as reasonable, since we don't have a clearinghouse, what are we doing here? Well, every time, well, maybe not. But it is true that it is more, it is more informative of reciprocity, of concerns . We are not going to say it, so to be a reality issue in participation. Not to say, the neighbors don't get together. Well, look, have they told me this? The City Council is going to meet tomorrow at H Community Board, no.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez From properties to see what we do, yes, that tells you, well, we're thinking of putting a bike, I know, where you want us to put it, we've thought about here, here , well, we're going to the place we like here, well, a little further over there, you know, and Some nuances , yes, you can qualify it, but you can't say I don't want Cali, how can I tell you, they are from Cali, scopia Cali, well, I don't know, are there exercise machines in the parks?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Vale yes yes .

Sarai Martínez Huh? Of course, you don't change it for adapted swings, no, this goes to another phase again. Let's say it like this.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha. Not great, great, because well, that's also a question for later. The issue of what level of participation you see and such very well. Well, then, taking into account all these mechanisms and also the elections and such and such. What objectives do you think are sought or should be sought with public participation?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That it is a general consensus, that it is simply, well, what is done now to inform and have a bit of statistics or that citizens really have an impact on the decision-making power of the city.

Enric González Gonzalo Others.

Sarai Martínez Sure. I have always considered that when it comes to executing anything, that is, it is true that the government that is there or the group that has won does not have ideas to implement, what do you think is the right thing to do? better for the city, right? Huh? Yes, it is true that the bike lane is not a clear example.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez Of course, tell you, you have left to govern and comply with what you consider, not in mobility, if you consider that the city is no longer the vehicle and little by little we are going to have to eliminate not true. Certain events from the past to move towards a more sustainable city x, are we going to put it that way? Huh? I believe that when it comes to executing, that is, not the idea, I believe that the idea should not be debated by the public.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez You can't stand up. Not to hold a referendum on bike lanes, yes or bike lanes no?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Okay, because that's why they voted for you, I mean, you've already gone with your letter, right? However. Sure. Now, within the execution of that action. That's where I do think you can get involved, not involving the city.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez But but all this has an impact on the day-to-day life of citizens , we are not going to say that it is not worth it. So, from there I believe that a pulse of participation can be generated there and that the city or those who are participating.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Huh? Those who are directly affected by where they live, those who don't, because in the end it's a city issue, we forget that too. Here there is a lot of segregation of neighborhoods of I don't know what and in the end each one ends up talking about their own door, no, but because politically I think they wanted to do it like this to keep things under control, not me, EH. In my opinion, I do not want to say that this was the case.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Okay, but you do have in some way in that projection, in that execution of you , of what you want, I think that there should be, or should we encourage more participation ?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Sure. Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay? Huh? Well, I had a question for you here. It was what policies are currently in use to promote public participation. And there is the public participation regulation, which is from 2012. Where all types of counsel , all types of law are registered . To participation, right to information, right to treat.

Sarai Martínez Yes, the participation regulations are also in the year, okay, but also in the year From past tenure now, yes or .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, but they have given me the past, yes.

Sarai Martínez For the participation is as annexed, that within the municipal Organic Regulation that tells you how the consistory should be in plenary sessions, the sessions of non-internal bodies at the political level were introduced or opened in some way in what was also the public hearing in the plenary session.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez It is worth a manifesto of having half an hour, not where every citizen or entity can go to suggest to complain, to propose, to ask. Okay where, we also had a debate there that I remember as convergence, do you know that you told me what you have to understand, what is representative participation or representation? Huh? Or direct participation and I told you many years ago that I understand it, that you don't want to understand it, that there is another way to participate, EH? A band of what is already established in this city is you, that's how it was, the meeting was very clear, I told him, he treated me as Subnormal, not good.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Yes, yes, yes, but hey, and?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Look, they can explain it to you well, they can show it to you, but they don't have to do it . Paripé.

Sarai Martínez Yeah, yeah, sure, sure. It's good, because convergence or citizens defends representative participation.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez It's worth one hundred percent and we're not going from there. Another thing is that you can write a letter, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Sarai Martínez And so it was in what way can we open up, not a bit what is direct participation in many issues? I already told you, that is, it is not whether a bike lane, a bike lane, yes or no, because I don't think that hopefully, but it means a super organized society to say what type of city we want, eh, but there is no news, but I'm telling you, but then there's also the public hearing that all the groups agree to, okay, each group said so, since they made their amendments, hey, watch out. . **Enric González Gonzalo** Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Even I proposed that the resolution proposals, which are direct executive agreements, not create an office, I don't know about housing, I make it up, huh? If it were approved by plenary, then in the future that idea would have to be executed, but in the end true. We all reached a consensus of good. That half an hour before the plenary session and Rue. Step, questions or complaints from citizens who could come to the plenary room to request something. I usually go well.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, and it is simply unidirectional. You mean someone goes to the public hearing and? But this information, the complaint, the proposal. And that's it.

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric González Gonzalo OO. Is something done then with it? Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Be good at answering him if you have the answer at that time when he is answered. Normally now it has become a place of complaint .

Enric González Gonzalo That is.

Sarai Martínez Okay, but?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Well, the box is using it very badly, very badly for its campaign, in the end it is perverting what I have said to put, but not because it is box, huh? It doesn't seem grotesque to me that a political party is occupying the space of citizenship, right? To do, anyway, but good. Is he almost a leader, we are going to say that he is one-way because you give him an answer and if you don't have it and it is true that you take your data, I don't know what you sit down to see what is happening and If it has a solution, because it is a complaint or whatever, well, if it is solved or an attempt is made to solve it or give an answer and why it is not solved, okay?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm , very good, yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Vale, and then the topic of advice . These mechanisms, can you tell me a little about the sectorial and territorial City Councils, because I also understand that the territorial ones are much more powerful. And much more participation than the sectorial ones and that there are sectoral councils that have not even been activated. Why do you think this is? Why do you think people are more attached to their neighborhood than ? A urbanism in general OO such.

Sarai Martínez First of all, because that's what I'm telling you, that is, I think since the. I think, huh? Since the years, especially from . Worth at least in mataró . This non-organizational nuclei were already being generated by small cities, small towns, not around what was killed . It's like that in the end, isn't it? And I think that when I said at the time, why don't we have people from Elsa's years , democratic city councils that were councilors, eh, eh? Isaac and later later but good.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez I think she is someone who feels rooted and identifies, not socially, with those around her, who have generated like that small town in Cerdanyola and have fought for improvements in their neighborhood in their day, at the time of transcription with the parks, with the water, with whatever. And she has already generated all that organicity and at a political level, I think that many times I think that it has already been interesting for it to be like that.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Sarai Martínez I consider and from there it has been reflected, not in that territory and sectoral regulation, that is, because I am here.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm . Ya.

Sarai Martínez It's good at the territorial level, we can divide it by territory, because killing is big, no, in the end, no, no. If it wouldn't be him constantly, I don't know, but at the same

time that you introduce the subjects that obey, no, because in the end the territory talks about its territory, but it doesn't stop talking about urbanism, it doesn't stop talking about health, no? stop talking, right?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez You introduce the subjects at the time of beyond bringing information, whatever, because perhaps there would be upload. General another way, but already interested in controlling the spaces.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes. Ya.

Sarai Martínez It's a way of control, now not so much, but the political parties have set the presidents, even if it was a neighbor from the don't introduce yourself. It is a way to generate.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Control control by de of the municipal groups. Do not get a reality in the transition period surely there was a lot of level. Socialists and level. I knew what the south was, not to generate each of its satellites in participation, which was very active, EH? Be careful that they are involved and militants from different political spaces. We are not going to deceive either, no, even if they were not politicians.

Sarai Martínez And I think it was done that way.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Because it is control, control goes, control was important and I think it is more, it always takes root, it is more, it feels more rooted to a territory, to a flag or not, or to a place than to a a thing, not a matter.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I no longer know if you were to say it was no.

Sarai Martínez I now live in mills.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay, but you didn't grow up in?

Sarai Martínez Me, me?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sarai Martínez I grew up on the rim, but I was already from the rim. But I live in the northern part of Sardinia, no more streets , but it was already Cerdanyola.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, well, already in Cerdanyola there was like that separation between Mataró and Pueblo Seco, well, even now people older than me meet them and I say, look, where are they going, I don't know what, to pick up my granddaughters in Mataró. Because he goes downtown, he says he's going. Not that low killed , now. YY there's like that separation of no, it's not that I'm a dry town, I'm Cerdanyola.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And those he killed .

Sarai Martínez Still that is , and still grandchildren and children?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Now why do I move a lot more, right?

Sarai Martínez But if not, and I think my friends too, that we were going to the tour, huh? Neither.

Sarai Martínez We have never been attracted to the center, we went down to spend Saturday afternoon to eat a hamburger from the sweets and up again. In any case, the saints my house has not been a subject nor my friends. We've got the saints down, huh? I mean, have our moms and dads ever been taken by the saints, huh?

Sarai Martínez Yeah, I think it was like.

Sarai Martínez I think that I don't know there, of course, in the time of the complicated ones because they were completely dictatorship town halls.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sarai Martínez But huh? A clear example that I'm going to visit maybe, I don't know if Bayern Valley next to Lyon can be useful for your master's degree, well, the Bayern Lion, Look, I'm writing it to you, son. Goes Bayern, Bayern. Let's see.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo If you want a city or.

Enric González Gonzalo Pueblecito.

Sarai Martínez Yes, it's one, it's one, it's good, if it's a city, it's León and it's like that. You know.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Sarai Martínez It's like me the other day, I read the whole story that where urbanism from the mentality, the one who ruled in his day, said this was a quagmire. That area and I began to arrive. Immigration?

Sarai Martínez And he said, urban planning and architecture have to do wonders and we are capable of generating in front of so many immigrant populations that they do not live in muddy areas. And what city do we want for the future?

Enric González Gonzalo OK?

Sarai Martínez And where he was very clear that public space and community areas, even if they were private homes, had to generate the society of the future. Know? Independently and I believe and I believe the people, for the sake of those bases.

Sarai Martínez So I think.

Sarai Martínez Totally, totally.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Had, huh? From there, well, it was done, it was done like this, not with the public administration, intervening and saying, Hey, this has to be like this. For example, in Cerdanyola it was I cook it for myself, I eat it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Here I am, in my house YY if not?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Hehehehe .

Sarai Martínez He damaged Los Molinos close everything everything. In fact, Juanra , who is from abroad, is from the Vallés, he says. The urban planning of this city is disastrous, that is, disastrous in all senses, that is, here the Via Europa is the best and now Havana is not, which is

well designed. But the rest is that it is disastrous, streets going up and down, houses. A report that they go in and go out, bados , where they do not touch different levels, that is.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Do you know? And I believe that urbanism failed a lot there or we did not have in their day or they did not have in their day a vision of the city.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, just like that.

Sarai Martínez No, no, they didn't project the future.

Enric González Gonzalo No, no.

Sarai Martínez Is.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Eh, okay, Eh, well, we are, we are anticipating some questions, but well, that's fine, nothing happens.

Sarai Martínez Ah, well, no, I'll go.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No, it's not great, it's great, it really comes out.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Then, huh? What actors are there in our participatory processes and what tasks do they have? And I, for example, see that there is the public administration, then there is the citizenry.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But is there another actor? Apart from the regulation that this vocal president I don't know what I don't know how many.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh?

Sarai Martínez But I don't understand you, wait, I want to pass you, wait, I'll pass you. Well, I'll pass it on to you later, remind me to send.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Is he worth it ?

Sarai Martínez Sorry I'm winding up.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Is the time a little bit a city or how ?

Enric González Gonzalo He is very well.

Sarai Martínez It's just that I was reading because I'm leaving now for Easter, well I don't know if I would tell you that it's a village roll.

Enric González Gonzalo OK, good.

Sarai Martínez It's Lion, but it's dependent.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sarai Martínez Because in the end, lion seems to be expelling, well, like everything.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya. . **Sarai Martínez** Is it amazing and when I read it with Juanra , who sent it to me and said, look at a city thought of the future in the sense of what we want with our city in urban planning, centralizing the human being as you say and I say well I have to go, you know?

Sarai Martínez I am.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Now, but he's on the run, León, León, but then too.

Sarai Martínez I'm a geek yes .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It's well done, it's good.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo The question is which actors are there in these participatory processes?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Who are the key players?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And what are your tasks? . **Sarai Martínez** Inside the consellers .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo De no, because it can also be like de de Del of any participatory process, such as processes. Are there participatory budgets too?

Sarai Martínez Ah, the greatest actors.

Sarai Martínez Those who have the most pulse are called political power.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez My opinion, huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, this is my personal opinion.

Sarai Martínez Ok? Then, for example, the territorial councils. When ideas come out, well, they are told. Hey, can you make it a bit participatory and mobilize people?

Sarai Martínez Male, that's why sometimes the streets are missing, some criteria have already been eliminated from the first time things were done. Participatory because it was how is it possible that the thing is not?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Hmm , but, Uh, well, but some bases of technical criteria are set, no, that is, it has to be investment money, it doesn't have to be things that are invested, they have to be feasible . It has no, that is, a totally legal basis. Despite this, some things slip through that I believe the administration has an obligation to do. Okay, it's not renovating a park.

Sarai Martínez But from there it is generated.

Sarai Martínez They are the neighborhood associations normally.

Sarai Martínez Huh? To those who are empowered when there are these ideas in the different puzzles so that they put the ideas within those of them.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez The budget is participatory, but I think that the first base is politics, that is, what is the administration, the political groups, EH? And then the most other actors that play, that play, that are quite a lot, are the neighborhood associations. Despite the fact that many times we say that they do not represent so many people, be careful because it is very deflated, but is it generalized, EH? In other words, social participation is very low.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Sarai Martínez Well, it's practically not, there isn't, it has to be a very emotional theme that

unifies socially and territorially , a subject alien to many people.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya mhm , yes.

Sarai Martínez An animal theme, the animal theme is a hyper-transversal theme, emotionally speaking, socially speaking. No?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, but for example, the interview I had with Sergi told me that there is no culture of participation here, it's a I vote every 4 years, if he votes and he's already at work.

Sarai Martínez Yes, but that's what I'm telling you. Neither does the Administration look for ideas or mechanisms, at least for trying to recover.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez But I think it's a matter not of those of the individual, but of the general social system that has been established, not individualism, capitalism itself , no. The consumption methodology is generated and created that way, on purpose.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .Ya.Ya.Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Economic dependence is not constantly on the human being, many times it doesn't. I consider no, that is, if I get too wet, I can lose my job, right? Despite knowing that it is an injustice, but I did not, I did not join the collective because of the individual consequences that I can feel, I know, yes, that we always say, the neighbor is to blame, but I think that we do not look for methodologies either, even if it is to try the thing.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, just like that, great, it's not good to know. It's good to know, I mean, not great from Ah, that's great, you don't look for things. It's not good to know.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh?

Sarai Martínez But in my opinion Eh Enric?

Sarai Martínez Ah.

Sarai Martínez Of course not.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, this this I, I am going to put the disclaimer of this, it is Saray's personal opinion, obviously to have the aspect of a person who has been publicly elected.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo YY who works in the administration.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But this is not it, it is the absolute truth. No no no.

Sarai Martínez No, I never, I hate that phrase, this is the truth.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, of course.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh? Ok, I'm using the participation ladder.

Enric González Gonzalo How I eat.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Theoretical concept.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Let's see if there are already different levels, okay?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So now you talk to me more or less about what level we are at,

what is simply reporting?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Or consulting?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And sometimes the issue that there are some people selected to speak on the subject, but what would be the ideal level of participation for you?

Sarai Martínez Mhm .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Did you want this in balance with my ideals or what I consider it should be and with what you have told me before?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That the technical level of the administration is present.

Sarai Martínez Yes, yes, always.

Sarai Martínez Huh? What the balance?

Sarai Martínez I think that in the process of executing the ideas, good with the balance from I don't know what, from what point of view to wear it or a number.

Sarai Martínez Yes, yes, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Isn't it, simply, for example, for example, see if we take better urban planning now because it is the topic that I am talking about to develop any urban planning project, it would be good if citizen participation reached such a level, not simply inform them, hey, is this going to be done or inform them and that we receive a consultation or take titi people without, without, without life? Criteria of the people we are picking or handpicking and saying, okay, this is going to be my control group.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That I am going to consult him.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Or simply, or give more feedback ? A bargaining power, to come and go.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Or if they have full power of decision YYY full. . **Sarai Martínez** Okay, I think it should be generated because I don't know, you can't, you can't be people with the same idea and that each one doesn't , that is, between them.

Sarai Martínez Could you somehow organize yourself?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez It is worth it so that representativeness arises and they debate their ideas and they can reach the balance of deciding things about the thing, urban planning.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez And the fact that there is constant feedback from the administration does not stop us from continuing to execute those ideas from the urban sphere is good, of course. It depends on the urban area. The thing is very complicated.

Sarai Martínez Eh, but.

Enric González Gonzalo Why? Why days is it complicated?

Sarai Martínez Because in the end, what from the urban field Eh, you don't stop thinking I don't stop playing almost you say urban. For me, urbanism is everything, right? And me inside the one here, in the house. I debate a lot that, for example, housing cannot be a thing within Serveis socials or of or of being to people. That is to say, well, then housing must be as it used to be in

urban planning, and I tell you, well, not for me, for me it should be in urban quality.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Sarai Martínez That is, where you think about how the streets, mobility, the green area, security, etc. are going to be, because urbanism is only going to mark the lines and quotas in hours according to the law, which is green area, which is for the use of public equipment. Where does the residential use go? Okay, and I think it should be under housing policies. Because? Where I want to generate a block of flats, then you are fine. From those people.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Where does the person live from? OK? I will have, we have to think about quality and what surrounds it. Where do we put the green zone, where do we put the equipment, how much do you know and don't tell me where you are?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo How far is the Bla Bla Health Center ?

Sarai Martínez Of course, don't tell me, this is the plan and here are the people and the rest has already been generated. No? No, you don't know, I reverse the thing. So when are you going to think about urbanism?

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm , yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes. . **Sarai Martínez** In an already built city. Be careful, it is not villarán, it is not billiards, the bar that is generated is from scratch, not as you want to project, not as the Sims that you generate the city.

Sarai Martínez Are you touching the day to day of the person?

Sarai Martínez When I am now thinking about urban regeneration, which I am passionate about, I believe that it is the future of this city, not regenerating URBAN. What urban regeneration means is lame. All of these pills from the individual blockade dwelling of the person.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez And how do you think you should live in quality? No, I mean, it can't be sidewalks, they can't be M streets. They have to be from , that which implies, I'm not making it up, that which implies that it's possible, that you wanted the blocks below, to generate them elsewhere to make it quality of life, with quality of life materials, on an individual level. I always say that if we are capable of looking to the future and urban rehabilitation and regeneration, it has to start from within the individual, from the house of .

Sarai Martínez To first improve your home, that is, not your life, but your home, your community, your street, your neighborhood and the city, that is, from the inside out.

Sarai Martínez Because if we only look at how we are making a square beautiful.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai MartínezNo, but we have am blocks every where the sun does not enter, where the ventilation is correct, where there is no elevator, where there is asbestos, where it is not to say where we live in two rooms where.

Sarai Martínez You can, you can, you can paint the stripes on Rosa's street, it's okay, but that's not going to change anything at all.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Explained to me.

Sarai Martínez Is.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, but that needs power.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo In revised, say Hey, it's going to be done like this because the best option is the right one.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And that.

Sarai Martínez Correct. There are examples, huh? But well, then, of course, you say, at what level? I think that it should be first if possible that society itself is not going to say at a social level, at a general level in a city of Mataró it is very complicated, but if you are going to work on urban planning, not starting with an activity and everything, well maybe the impacts, no more direct than if you start with housing, right?

Sarai Martínez How to generate from the house around.

Sarai Martínez Well, what among themselves, or try to get them to organize?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Choosing the representatives is worth, either for each block , not picking each block, but not only to talk about his block, but about his street. Also, that is, not different steps and then, with the feedback with the administration, that is, with the Win Win , no. In the end, hey, we have not thought of non-development measures to be able to.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Open a door inside your house and instead of rooms or what is a block with a floor of four out of four houses, it has to become . I make it up, that is, how do you not want to introduce the improvements in the day-to-day life of all the neighbors of all the neighbors, but through the fact that they organize a little beforehand.

Sarai Martínez Because if it's not too complicated, that's what happens to us in anything, community community level.

Sarai Martínez I think it should be like this, not try to promote self-organization, that when I go to AA neighboring communities, I say it a lot, I find myself sitting in a block of flats and I say, but who is the president? Do that we do not have, I go wrong .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It is that the culture of the President of the Community in Spain is puff .

Sarai Martínez Se.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Be super nervous la la the the job of that

Sarai Martínez Yes, then. . **Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo** Also, you deal with people.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Is it please?

Sarai Martínez Yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah. So I think that the first thing is to try to make the community exit go away.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Do you try a lot, do you know that the Community organizes itself, they do it well, if I don't know if an interview is needed, but you use it, that is, they try a lot, right ? That which is generated in community, that the Community of neighbors is established. Thereafter do not attempt the implication of of .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yesterday I was speaking.

Sarai Martínez Everyone on this I think first of all the .

Enric González Gonzalo Tell me, tell me.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Should the administration do this first step before contracting any issue with a room not from there of neighbors , who come, but, and talk about a bike lane for people? You know, I don't know.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo In other words, I, I was talking yesterday with a colleague who lives in Berlin and they have a plan like the street association.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo In the and they organize on the street and there was a guy who was sweating it out for the neighborhood and sweating it out for the town hall, where he cares is the street where he lives.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo YY who wanted to do something with plants on his street, he did it I don't know what and he came to the town hall because there was a plan to remove a parking space and put some seats, no, that is, there is no plant, we do it to remove because it cannot be one thing or the other.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So, legally, what if you have to do it? The neighborhood neighborhood association and him and the man was planned.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo If they take plants from me ?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo In a month there are .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Let's see, because I worry about my street and I want my street to have green.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And this pretty one.

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo YY is and they are very well organized at the street level and at the neighbor level and had a meeting with the residents of the street, which I have not seen in my life.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo No.

Sarai Martínez Well, as long as that's what I'm telling you is, why can't you decide? In other words, a technician comes to you, right? And to tell you no, you can't make an element bridge here, huh? Well, okay, or generating a bridge implies the entire budget for the entire mandate, that is, the economic viability is bankrupt then, but if it is self, well, but if the problem is created it is when some look at the last territorial council an extra man came who has my neighborhood or the or the the open Assembly of the mayor of doing for the neighborhoods and I went as a neighbor.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ha, ha.

Sarai Martínez Sara told me, that you come as a councilor, as a medicine, I as a neighbor who was going to war, I was going to see what my father is going to say, good and expensive, a man came. I didn't know good, inclusive, at the level of speaking and he says, but he only spoke of his street.

Sarai Martínez Let it be holes in the asphalt, what if the trees are very big and are blocking all the sun on the promenade. Yes, what else. He said well, that it only exists in your street , it will kill you . No, of course, because in the end, not in the end, every time you see theirs , why not? where he lives

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez And I think that I believe that this pulse has been generated from politics. Apart from the disaffection of many things, Eh, from the precariousness of that of individualism, from individual fear, that you are going to lose your life. I believe that this has been promoted from the system itself.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And it is also what you commented before that it was His the me in my apartment, my block, my street, my neighborhood and then my city.

Sarai Martínez Sure.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo If there is, if there is time and time now.

Sarai Martínez Sure, when you me, me, I always have them. We are capable of not selling to you, of explaining to the public that rehabilitating their block or rehabilitating the downspouts that are collapsing. Is the roof worth and is it like or to the neighbor, but to say what am I going to pay for? No. But if we are capable of telling them, it is that this is health.

Sarai Martínez It is to improve your quality of life.

Sarai Martínez Your security of life when you close the door of your house, you want the best, right? In quality, in the heat, in the cold, in the day to day. If we are able to convince them that regenerating or rehabilitating their home is a private matter, even if the administration has to promote measures, EH? If we are capable of telling you oysters, if each and every one of us thinks a little like this, we put each administration, on the one hand each floor has to put its part because legally it is not like a chicken coop for the whole world. No no.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez And we are able to tell them that surely I always ask the questions, but you who want to be cold in your houses when you are inside, when you go to rest, yes, man, how do I want to be cold.

Sarai Martínez But of course, well, then maybe you have to start thinking after years of building your home.

Sarai Martínez That maybe there are other mechanisms and other materials and that they make more quality, not that living with more quality inside your house.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez No, and so it's kind of good, well. Ah, there is a lot of pedagogy, right? And if we are capable, that is not to say. Hell, it's true, if I improve my windows, but at the same time

my stairs, not with an elevator, although it costs, although I don't, right now I don't need it, but my neighbor does, I can't need one me and it's quality of life too. Isn't that how we are doing, not seeing some façades that are falling down, they degrade the place but greatly degrade the danger side and all that it implies, eh?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Oysters, if we are able to ensure that our street is not degraded, it is not a place of segregation of poverty, which in the end ends up being good for all of us in the city.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez And I tell him, what are you going to ask me? But is this worth money? And where is the administration? What are you going to ask me? I would too, right?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez And I've already gone two things. It is the administration, it does not make money, the money is yours from your pockets.

Sarai Martínez Of all.

Sarai Martínez So free.

Sarai Martínez Error.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez When we are dealing with your private home, it is not a bank, it is not a street bank and the other thing we have to think about is, well, where can the administration help? Hey, if you make us a loan at zero interest, EH moment? There is a very small quota of €. I make it up huh or?

Sarai Martínez Look € for each person for their well-planned housing and the rest with such or not look at my blog that needs an investment of milk.

Sarai Martínez A transfer of use?

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez The block, when I die you can keep it at my leisure and while I live, I do all the works and live with sufficient quality until I die, with all the conditions, right ?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Well, but of course, they do it to you from an individualized implementation, that is, their mind is individual .

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm , yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo As is.

Sarai Martínez There isn't a fight, so, no, there isn't another grassroots organization to organize ourselves first. And who is competent? Or that we debate to make it move.

Sarai Martínez There isn't one with the same tune.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So, would you say that the quality of life is one of those in the areas where there should be more public participation? oo. What areas should have more participation? Because we are either touching many, many, many things at the same time, but that can't just be

grouped in one area, right?

Sarai Martínez Well, I always see, for example.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez Of course there are many topics to discuss, but for example I would enter an area in the construction of a city or how we want to generate the city of Del futuro. Starting from the urbanism, the URBAN is that the urbanism depends on how you take it. And they are figures and numbers, and norm. There the city can say little because I already told you where how many quotas of green area, I don't know what I don't know how much, but yes, I think that the area .

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez Let's call it urbanism based on urban quality. I think there should be more participation there. Of course, if they tell me in politics on one side, at the local level, huh? If you tell me in public health policy.

Sarai Martínez Man, that the citizens can decide how many you kill, how many rats, or how many plagues of rats?

Sarai Martínez Yes they exist.

Sarai Martínez No, of course it's also an issue, it's not an issue, or how much money we spend on the company that does control? Well, there is, I think not.

Sarai Martínez I don't know.

Sarai Martínez But yeah on.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, not applicable, yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez In everything that is the construction of From day to day in the field of streets in the field of.

Sarai Martínez In the urban field, everything that has to do with the creation of the city.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, great.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh? Okay, has it been someone?

Sarai Martínez That culture in the field, in the cultural field I also think there should be, should be.

Sarai Martínez Yeah.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But there is a lot of participation in the Council of the saints, for example.

Sarai Martínez Yes, but I thought not, desired no longer.

Sarai Martínez The same people.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez Almost always from a lifetime, from parents to children.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo MTV, they did not kill life.

Sarai Martínez And is that what I tell you?

Sarai Martínez Yes, so very little has the administration gone out of line, right?

Sarai Martínez From what a territorial section implies, not from a certain thing, eliminate this year the fact that we have sent sent not that the Three Kings parade.

Sarai Martínez Leaves the Marcos established territorially speaking until now and will pass through Cerdanyola, Latasa, etc. All this has an implication and an impact on many more people.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez I always say it, I don't say no to many people, you can't tell me then that I want it to be from the city? But if the administration does not.

Sarai Martínez Isn't she going to do it because it's a city issue, and if I'll be there, Martínez is never involved in the Saint, beyond when she stepped foot in adolescence with the pink eye, but but what about that? This, the same thing that happens to me happens to the

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo As it is, as it is, I think from my colleagues in my neighborhood. Well, me neither, I don't know without naming the nans .

Sarai Martínez And me.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo My my idea.

Sarai Martínez Sure.

Sarai Martínez You, I think that the culture of the source should be an organized social pulse because in the end the culture is generated by the citizens. . **Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo** Have you ever held a public hearing that was held annually?

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Can you explain a little how it works and what it is for?

Sarai Martínez Ah, that's right, the public hearings.

Sarai Martínez It is to publicize the public hearings.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Before, I did every year annually, but this mandate.

Sarai Martínez When did we say to do it al?

Sarai Martínez Principle of mandate to make known.

Sarai Martínez More informative because it has already been approved by God allowed ice.

Sarai Martínez Y.

Sarai Martínez And it's totally informative to sell.

Sarai Martínez The actions that can be open to all citizens each say their own. Well, yes, but that is not going to change what has been agreed at the mandate plan level.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha of Santa.

Sarai Martínez It's informative, it's.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm , yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, great.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo One question I had was about limitations.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo What do participatory processes have and the new opportunities that these participatory processes have.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo For example, the territorial one , a limitation that it has is that simply not from the territory, but AA more level more than I see it limiting, because such , such , such. Or I see that he has a future because he has these opportunities for dad. . **Sarai Martínez** I don't understand you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo For example, and I, for example, a territorial, I see it as correct, not that it is there, but imitation I see as limiting at the level of participation that only from the people of a neighborhood.

Sarai Martínez Good.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That is, if I am going to live, that is, if I work in the other neighborhood, I would also like to make decisions there, etc., etc., but I also see it as limiting. For example, I find it limiting how these brushes that are not disclosed are advertised.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo For the whole world, I see that as a limitation of these of these processes.

Sarai Martínez Right, yes you can.

Sarai Martínez Besides, as an individual as well.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez That is, it can also be integrated by individual people. The councillors . There is a lot, there are people, but well, I think that they always place us in a place and we stay there.

Sarai Martínez In.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Already on the web, which does not enter anymore.

Sarai Martínez Okay where huh? Yes, it seems that we adapt to new technologies, but new technologies today there is a technological gap that leaves many people behind, that is, the mailbox is paper, true, but no, we do not do it either for this, for generate towards the new change towards the new era. Not with the city and the previous appointments, it is a clear example, that is, but well, I don't know, I think there is a lack of promotion.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez By the Public Administrations on any topic. . **Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo** Do you think it was done on purpose?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo In other words, oversight?

Sarai Martínez Or not, or not, or not priority, that is.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Bash , nonsense always hurts me a lot, the phrase is that many things don't matter to citizens.

Sarai Martínez Good or not? . **Sarai Martínez** Ok?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya, but now.

Sarai Martínez Sure. Or is it that people don't participate because they don't want to?

Sarai Martínez Or not?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Right? So, of course, I think we're throwing balls out, no, so huh? I am pretty. I believe that the correct communication is not made, that there is not a space, time, or money to make sure that we reach the % of citizens about this information, which is very difficult, I can also understand that it is not a town of people , EH ? But.

Sarai Martínez But but neither do we even try, beyond what has always been done.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez That already works. . **Enric González Gonzalo** Ya.

Sarai Martínez And I doubt it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, okay.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Did I live, okay, no, then it would be over, we're finishing, huh? The question that I am asking myself is how the participatory processes can be used in the context of Mataró for tactical urbanism projects, to help the sustainable development of the city.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But when I asked this question, Sergi told me.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But this is the citizens have sustainable development. That is first.

Enric González Gonzalo Hehe.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sarai Martínez If you have, they have.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo If they want, they want.

Sarai Martínez Well, that's it, but let's go to the beginning, I'll go to the beginning.

Sarai Martínez Huh?

Sarai Martínez This is not an anarchy.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez I wish it would. I wish that system would work, huh? But I believe that there is a representation, a democracy that chooses its representatives to redirect.

Sarai Martínez Is the city supposedly worth?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez If I want to, I invent them, if I consider that the pink color, the facades, is cleaner for the lungs of the city, right? Because there I don't know, because medically there is

scientifically. This is how it shows and when I win I want my citizens to breathe better and live longer because it is quality of life.

Sarai Martínez Huh? Am I not going to ask the public what color I am going to paint the facades? . **Enric González Gonzalo** Yes.

Sarai Martínez Because I have an objective, if I create a more sustainable city because ideology is an ideological issue, sustainability in the quality of life or not public intervention in private factors, in private activities.

Sarai Martínez Whether the city wants it or not.

Sarai Martínez Hmm . A sustainable city.

Sarai Martínez I wouldn't start from that base, Enric.

Sarai Martínez I would start with how we introduce the debate on the sustainable city, not on whether to choose between yes or no. A sustainable city.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya mhm .

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez In the development of the idea.

Sarai Martínez How do we somehow empower or introduce the debates?

Sarai Martínez Maybe maybe from a super basic aspect like that, right? What is it that you want?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, a conversation.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sarai Martínez In some in health, no. If you start from the individual health EH health, from the person. Well, maybe not there. Different shades and identify the elements of fear. No? Because of course, any change produces insecurity, fear where I am going to leave the car? How can I not? No, no, no, if you introduce this painting you are not showing me that you are not going to use asbestos, but they are telling me.

Sarai Martínez Well, in the end it is how you generate if you empower the development of the idea of the city that you want .

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez But not in making a decision whether or not I want to paint the wall Rosa, I have already decided as a political group to consider, based on ideology.

Sarai Martínez What kind of celebration?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And they have already voted for me and they have already voted for me. In other words, it has already been decided that there is a bulk of the population. Agree with it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Then he has cut himself off a bit.

Enric González Gonzalo Can you hear me?

Sarai Martínez Web, they took me away from drinking.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I hear you now, but I see you frozen.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo What would you do to me if you see me?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Now I don't hear you anymore.

Sarai Martínez Enric Enric Maria is here.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Now I see you, now I do.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Can you hear me?

Sarai Martínez Ah, okay, it was gone now, now it is.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Fine, that's it. . **Sarai Martínez** Well, what I was saying to you, that is, to me, to me generates or

Sarai Martínez Is that then, what is there for? I believe in an organized society nothing today, for me democracy is surely bad, it is the least bad of the systems.

Sarai Martínez Hmm . And from there.

Sarai Martínez The base has to mark it, we like it more or whoever governs, we like it less. But citizenship, no, no, it can't, it shouldn't, it's just that it's unfeasible because human beings are of a different condition. Today everyone, huh?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez I don't know, no wonder. Well, the subject of that one with that one doesn't surprise me.

Sarai Martínez You have to question it, of course, that is, not always, that is, in doubt, and work on that idea, but I would tell you quickly, Enrique.

Sarai Martínez That the part the base part.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Right? And besides, I also understand that these processes of participation.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo They are much slower YY there are, and the cities continue to live and the city continues to move and we must move forward. It is not a question of.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, it depends on the criteria you are looking for, do not see or do it as soon as possible because there is a time in life or as participative as possible, with debates, reaching an agreement on everything, etcetera, etcetera.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It's going to take a long time.

Sarai Martínez It's that.

Sarai Martínez But political parties happen, I with with many times it is as it is. Open question, is that we are going to, is that we are not going to get anywhere. Or do we not mark the basic criteria? Not that it is feasible that it implies social cohesion, that is, some established bases.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric González Gonzalo Correct.

Sarai Martínez To be able to make the decision or can this be a chapel because we don't have it, that is, it isn't there? No, I wouldn't say used to it, but none of us have INTERIORIZED how that decision-making should be, because each one is from a mother and a father, they don't see things half gray and half white. Therefore, if we do not start from what color we start to be able to take something and the objective is unfeasible. It is unfeasible, because we are penguins in the end.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez We don't differentiate between all whites.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez Complicated it is. I think I'm complicated, what I would tell you is in the no, in decision-making as such, unless it is, well what I'm telling you, no. Holy crap, my street as the cobblestones should be. Or among all how we would like. I often imagine mills with painted façades, I know sometimes with painted façades of mills, no, when I went to Consuegra, when I was good or not, that is, of what? How do we introduce everyone, that we all feel identified with our neighborhood, with our I make it up, eh?

Sarai Martínez But of course, the idea is, I'm going to paint facades.

Sarai Martínez Hey, if you don't go with some clear things, it's because it's unfeasible. It is that if we would never make it to the band, to continue promoting the participation that has to be in parallel with the work, nuance of one thing.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez So that in the future, but I don't think that people want a sustainable city, people are going to tell you that as long as you leave me alone, don't make me spend money and such, well no. And from then on, you give me all that security , well, from then on, because in the end fears and personal insecurities do not stop having an affectation.

Sarai Martínez In the bus.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, yes, no, no, but for example, him.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Anecdotaly, one of the things that my supervisor missed a lot was surprise.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo He said, Oops, this is them, Danish. We are not doing this here, nor do we have it, nor is it being considered, it is having a public participation office.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, we have to decide. It will kill and all these things and talk oysters, but that is , even if it is not fully functional.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But it's already there, you know? Already? It is already in the debate, the subject is already being debated, ideas are already being generated and so on, he says. Oops, well, we don't have this here, look.

Enric González Gonzalo Ron.

Sarai Martínez In the municipal Organic Regulation.

Sarai Martínez Is that, the basic rules by law that a consistory must have , that is , how is the Plenary composed? The ground rules, huh? But on the side is the public hearing, that we introduce the modification and on the side. There is a very small part.

Sarai Martínez I will do very few articles that at the end talk about citizen participation.

Enric González Gonzalo Ah.

Sarai Martínez Also.

Sarai Martínez Who talks about the topic for him .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That is, the Lion you told me about.

Sarai Martínez Huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo This is the one you were telling me about.

Sarai Martínez Was n't in it I think.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Oh, okay?

Sarai Martínez Yes, and she talks about, for example, what they can ask for.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Let's say like this, it seems to me that it was a referendum, it has to get I don't know how many signatures they have to.

Sarai Martínez Ok?

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh? Well, and as a last question, now that you know more about the subject I'm dealing with and so on, do you have any contact that I could lose, that could be interesting for the project?

Sarai Martínez Of course, yes, you talk about the work from tactical urban planning based on sustainability.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Marcos galante, who is from our space, has done his master's final project in his DF, the other one I went to his exhibition, not from urbanism, but from sustainability and climate change and the impact o no, or the involvement of citizens in these concepts.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, it's super interesting.

Sarai Martínez That the Peña is like, what are you talking about? In other words, it is very difficult to sell the product, are we going to call it that from the sustainable field? No, because they are totally abstract concepts.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez And she's done a whole thesis on this.

Sarai Martínez So when , for example, do you want?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Could you give me your contact?

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, great. How do you ask him if he's okay with it?

Sarai Martínez I don't know if it will work for you, huh? It has nothing to do, it has nothing to do with urbanism, but it does mix the concepts of climate change, political sustainability with citizenship and it's like why don't people buy this product?

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Not anymore, no, but I think so.

Sarai Martínez Do you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It can be interesting.

Sarai Martínez And after that , Carlos Mira, Carlos García has answered me to see what he has told me.

Sarai Martínez It has been.

Sarai Martínez Ah.

Sarai Martínez Since it tells you something today.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sarai Martínez And you tell me, if you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And you tell me, what?

Sarai MV (Guest) Like ? Who else? Who else? Who else who else?

Sarai Martínez Does it tell you something today?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ah, okay, perfect, great, great.

Sarai Martínez Look at Marcos' phone.

Sarai Martínez I give it to you now I tell her that they give it to you.

Sarai Martínez .

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez .

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez Zero Zero .

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez . . **Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo** Okay, gallant mark, huh, did you tell me?

Sarai Martínez Gallant Marco.

Sarai Martínez And now.

Enric González Gonzalo Where are you from? It is killed .

Sarai Martínez Does not live in Barcelona.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Oh, okay?

Sarai Martínez And who else could you ask about this topic? Into urbanism? Man, how do you not want some urban planning technician, a director or something else, but is it more about

participation than the questions you have asked me or is it that you divide the issues?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo A little bit, but they don't happen to be thinking well, ask Alejandro Alejandro Páez who is also doing TF. The TFG.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo About I don't know what topic, he told me, but it was also about.

Sarai Martínez That's how he told me about his work.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Of citizenship YY of city and others.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And how the city is understood and I don't know what and I think I'm going to interview him too.

Enric González Gonzalo Huh? And then the teacher also told me to interview normal citizens.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But I was thinking about having a chat with Antonio Rodríguez.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But once you have all the other interviews and that is like a reflection table, hey look.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo How do you see this? The public administration sees it that way. What would ideally be like for you a society organized in such and such at the neighborhood level, city level and such?

Enric González Gonzalo Huh? But hey, we 'll see how things progress.

Sarai Martínez Okay, well, I don't know if you need any more technical profiles from the field of participation, from the urban field, from the field of activism, yes .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I already have it well because I have Sergi Benedicto participating.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo What has happened to me also in contact with participation?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Then I have you as administration.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That I am also thinking of asking Sergi as well to see his point of view, that's it.

Sarai Martínez Yes, no, no, no.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So Alejandro, I think there would be something like that for you too.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Then, if Carlos García already answers me, I already have the urban planning part.

Sarai Martínez Sure.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And then, to finish off and pick it all up, you you .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Antonio Rodríguez and is.

Sarai Martínez Well, Carlos García is the exchange officer, but he is of urban quality .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, but, but now, you know me.

Sarai Martínez Well, no, I think he's the best for you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Exactly, yes.

Sarai Martínez What's with double vision, huh?

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Sarai Martínez No, no, and she has a lot of knowledge, talent, you know? . **Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo** Lo In addition, Carlos helped me, he also reviewed me.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo End of degree project and it is quite poetic that the interviewer also gave him.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I have a conversation with him about the TFM.

Sarai Martínez Is it worth now to start the Energy Transition Office, EH?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Very good, very good.

Enric González Gonzalo En.

Sarai Martínez We'll wait for you at some point if you want.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It makes me a little sorry. Of course, which games he called me in that it was.

Sarai Martínez Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, last year, at the beginning of Master 's September October is Diego there.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But hey.

Sarai Martínez Yes, yes, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Could not.

Sarai Martínez Do you know someone my son? Hey, I know what foot daddy, I do so ask for the resume. Yes, yes, well, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya, ya, that's fine.

Sarai Martínez But hey, hey what ?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But hey, maybe, let's finish, huh?

Sarai Martínez No, no, no, no, no, no. I mean, it's not at all, no, no, no, the other way around.

Sarai Martínez Is that the future, so there will be YY Hyper hyper hyper things, where you can decide where you want to be?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes , yes, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yeah, we'll see.

Sarai Martínez Well, handsome, when? But when you come to visit, do you come to visit or not?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I'm thinking of going for my birthday, which is May , precisely on Monday, that of the elections.

Sarai Martínez Ah, later.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No, no, that is, on Monday.

Sarai Martínez Ah, it's not the nothing .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Exactly, and Sunday is the exception then? Well, being around going through the campaigns.

Sarai Martínez Oh yeah yeah.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And to be there yes.

Sarai Martínez will be son, I always encourage everyone. A belongs to belong, not until that day between political forces, because it is a day no, this does not have a holiday.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya ya It's already that and it is, you can't go out into the street to chat like that.

Sarai Martínez Well, handsome.

Sarai Martínez Which one?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, well, then we'll see how to look at it, but yes, that's the idea.

Sarai Martínez Good luck. When you finish the work, when do you have to deliver it ?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo We have to give it on June.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo We are, yes.

Sarai Martínez Nothing, nothing. . **Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo** Ah, but hey, that's it.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Enric González Gonzalo Great.

Sarai Martínez Well, handsome, well, let's talk about any little thing, if I think of someone who might shock you, he 'll send it to you, it's worth serving in all aspects of life.

Enric González Gonzalo Likewise.

Sarai Martínez Personal and professional and here we are.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo You FM that at the end.

Sarai Martínez I didn't.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez Didn't you see her? No, I did not see myself with the strength to continue.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No, that's it, that's it.

Sarai Martínez And to be aware and it was a topic that motivates me a lot, it's good that In fact, as it leads us to the end on a political level and we haven't generated it very well but.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez But I said, if I get into this adventure with everything I have on me that I stop doing, how can I stop doing it and we would create a problem, and a burden.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Sarai Martínez What a motivation then, you would think the same. Yes, I don't know, maybe in the end it's still two postgraduate degrees or a master's degree, right? Well, in the end what I want is to have the knowledge, not the rest, I don't need it. Or not? I do not know, I do not know.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sarai Martínez And I didn't, I didn't. I retired on vacation.

Sarai Martínez I warned and I would have to see it deliver December.

Enric González Gonzalo That's it.

Sarai Martínez And I was released, that is, my prisoner of conscience was released .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Already already as is?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It's fine.

Enric González Gonzalo Ay.

Sarai Martínez Yes, I signed up for another postgraduate course that didn't go ahead because it was, we didn't reach the quota for public housing policies in I don't know about these Rovira and Virgili Virgili . . **Enric González Gonzalo** OK?

Enric González Gonzalo Hehe.

Enric González Gonzalo Ya.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Have you already done it?

Sarai Martínez And let's see if this year they get it done because when I saw it I really wanted it, but I thought again I'm going to get into this in another one of this, but I'm very restless in life. In the end, it's still a topic that I'm passionate about and , well, one day there will surely be a job, but for now I simply do it because of my concerns in life, to have knowledge to be able to carry it out.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Knowledge does not occupy a place where it is.

Sarai Martínez Yes, yes, I will be one of those young girls who goes out with a backpack full of dreams and I walk.

Enric González Gonzalo Mhm .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, thank you very much for your time and for the interview.

Sarai Martínez I guess honey?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So go very well.

Sarai Martínez Anything, we're in.

Enric González Gonzalo Yes.

Sarai Martínez It would not be missing more.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo We do talk.

Sarai Martínez Let's talk, oops it cut me off again.

Enric González Gonzalo Can you hear me?

Sarai Martínez I don't know if they see me Ah, ok, ok, take care of yourself.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, now yes, yes, yes it should. See you. **Sarai Martínez** Now bye.

Appendix H

Annex H: Sergi Morales's Interview Guide

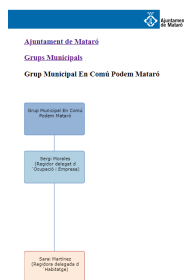


Figure H.1: Organigram Sergi Morales. Ajuntament de Mataró 2023d

- Who are you, Sergi? And what are your tasks in your occupation in the government?
- What is public participation for Mataró?
- What objectives are wanted with public participation?
- What policies are in place to promote that public participation?
- How is power given to the citizens?
- What participatory mechanisms are there in the city? Can you tell me about the Consell de la ciutat, sectorials i territorials?
- What actors are there in the participatory processes? What are their tasks?
- Do you think public participation should be in every aspect of the city? Why or why not?
- How would you like a participatory process to be?

- In the ladder of participation, what level is now achieved and what is the desired one? Why?
- What areas are more important that people are/should be involved in the decision-making processes?
- Why do you think that the Urbanism Council has almost null activity? How would you encourage that participation?
- Why do you think people participate more in the territory councils than the sectorial councils?
- Do you do public audience annually?
- When do you think it is a success?
- What limitations and new opportunities can bring the participatory processes?
- One of the biggest participatory processes is the participatory budget, but still lack of participation, why do you think this happens?
- What would you consider a success for a participatory process?
- How can public participation be used in Mataró for tactical urbanism projects and help sustainable development for the city?
- How can those participatory methods be improved and have a greater impact on the decision making process?
- How is that beneficial to Mataró's citizens?
- Do you have any other contact that you think it would be interesting to interview, for instance, someone in the urbanism office?

Appendix I

Appendix I: Sergi Morales's Interview Transcript

Interview transcript for interview with the politician Sergi Morales Díaz. The interview was made online through Teams on the 4th of April of 2023. The interview was conducted in Spanish and was transcribed through Teams, therefore, some mistakes could be in the transcription that was done using the Google Translate tool.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay? Well, I will explain to you the theme of the TFM project is tactical urbanism and how the participation processes can affect those projects. Ok, that is, I am analyzing both things and I am in the context of Mataró. OKAY? Ah, to begin with, I am comparing the concept of tactical urbanism with the one that comes from the public administration, a classic example that is everywhere, that of Barcelona. And then the example that comes from more than citizen movements, such as for him to sing, unite or what we did against structures to stop a street and see how AA affects citizenship. How citizens behave with the environment, etcetera, etcetera. What they pay toñi , I mean how it was devised, that the. Neighbors and neighbors went there to plant their own plants. In my life. Question, how do you see the relationship between these two types of tactical urbanism and which has a greater impact on society in the long term? As a little thought.

Sergi Morales But yes, but I have not understood the question between those two tactical urbanisms to which two are you referring?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo To the one who comes from the public authorities and the one who comes from below from Movimiento Ciudadano.

Sergi Morales You have to move to I don't know if extending the question, but for me they are two issues . Are they different to say some way? On the one hand, there are those actions that local governments or whatever level can undertake at the urban level that they do not suppose. I don't know how to tell you big transformation processes or big regulatory changes or.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, yes.

Sergi Morales They have a great implication in this regard at the level of processes, resources, etc., not to say any tactical can be, because it is on the street, I do not do any urban planning

action with a fence, at the beginning, at the end and from today the pedestrian needs to be done. Nothing more, you don't even need to do your level, I don't even put one that is going to enter your life and I say that this street is pedestrian.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Correct.

Sergi Morales I am already doing tactical urban planning, those who are not, the reference from Barcelona with the whole issue of terraces or the expansion of the sidewalk OO of the pipes, which would not be an example of this, not of of actions, which I believe that the idea is I believe that. In the opportunity of this type of urbanism from the point of view of the Governments, do they allow you to take actions, make decisions that have a very quick impact and that, on the other hand, are correctable very quickly, No? And there is what is interesting, that if it does not work, well, you can, you can modify it and no, you have not carried out an urban process of change.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And no one passes and that's it. Nothing happens here. Mhm .

Sergi Morales I don't know what even, even for example, in the case of Mataró, which is not such a tactical thing, it is more strategic, eh? With the issue of the bike lane, there are certain things that you say are good that I put, pilots, but tomorrow I can remove them, that is, no, you are not making a transformation friend, they have not instigated. You can put the piles, you can remove them, you can leave the line alone, you can make the decision that. Peso, with which, well, I think it is a tool, I think it is a conclusion for me , that is that it is a tool that has a rapid effect that does not require large decision-making processes and the most important that they allow Try things, try things in order to see which ones work which ones don't and based on that, on. And in and I have also rectified , right? Also, for example, we've made improvements to the polygon and made some changes. About the roundabout. Regarding how to have, for example, the crisis should circulate, if it is on the outside or to say good on the outside principle and names on the outside and giving way and not giving way. Things that allow you Try and if, and if you are not convinced to pull, pull back? No, the other thing you were considering. I don't consider it so much, part of what we could understand, although I'm not an expert on the subject, I don't consider it as much as what we could understand as tactical urbanism. I mean, when there is movement. Type that they are, be neighborhood, be cultural. Well, from ecologists of whatever type.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Bueno

Sergi Morales Means let's say depression in order to preserve whatever or condition whatever. I would rather opt there because it is a more strategic, tactical thing than when the neighbors of Cerdanyola and Mataró.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya. Yes. Mmm .

Sergi Morales They took to the streets, defend, maintain what you said. Andel, the park of El Parque de Cerdanyola, that it would remain for the neighborhood and everything for me is not a tactical thing for my image, it is a strategic thing, In fact, so strategic that years of such a park have not, and there we have, thanks to that, Cerdanyola has the main green area of Cerdanyola. See if he's strategic and not tactical, not like me. Or other moves?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales We can share it or not, what the entire Cantabrian health movement knows, because there is a movement of people who consider that there is a marriage . Is there an industrialist that has to be preserved, that I don't know what I don't know how much I don't, that wants to

influence urban planning, the type of city? I don't know what, but it's not a tactical thing. It has very long-term implications, so don't be too long-term. We have there the The parts of the building that were moved with him supposedly to be reconstructed on the site that now there is one more , ruling that he has to rebuild the same place where he was, I mean, that's why I differentiate, I think for something else is that the movements. Do you allow it? Social, environmental, neighborhood YY others. Can they also serve? Tactical urbanism to be able to test certain things at the city level that can have a very big impact. For example, one thing that makes us in mataró ni. Yes, the ones that I know here within the metropolitan area, for example, South America, because I know a lot. Every Sunday the main avenues all morning from from the morning to two o'clock in the afternoon they are closed to road traffic.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales And basically this is for la la . The demand of the people and such, then you see the princess as if there was a lot to change the giantess, that is, such.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Sergi Morales Well, on Sunday mornings then what does that generate, well, the group is that the whole world with the bicycle, the parents with the children, with the skates. In the end, when it feeds, well, I, South America, I saw it in Chile, for example.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha. Yes Yes.

Sergi Morales Because even companies are installed there in the middle of the promotion to distribute the water or distribute OY that generate a space for relationships, to do sports of I don't know what. At the same time that you are concentrating, not because they are sending me a message.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Mhm .

Sergi Morales Subliminal is also telling the unimagined population what the city could be like if we had a city much more raised from the use of people and that does not have the leading role that it has today within the cities. The space for the private vehicle, not putting in what can be a more tactical urbanism, more tactical decisions and what they serve. I believe that the great virtue that they serve above all as a test bench to test, determine things.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Claro. Yes, perfect, I, well, I told you the . The theme of the Can Tuñí park , because now there are many tactical urbanism guides, I don't know what and there is something called urban gardening, and that is what goes in groups to plant in places, for example, a concrete square they put compost there and they start planting plants there. And I mean, damn, this looks a lot like it. Now it's called URBAN gardening and I don't know what you put a name to it, cool, but. That has been a lifelong struggle of interests . Ok, and the other issue that I am analyzing is the issue of participatory processes in Mataró . OK?

Sergi Morales Aha.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So I have seen that the territorial councils are much more popular and have much more participation than some sectoral ones. If some sectoral, there are no minutes since 2018. Am I, I want to ask you, why do you think that happens?

Sergi Morales Why? I think it happens that there we participate in the territorial councils, than in the sectoral ones.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Sergi Morales Well, first, I don't know if this is an objective fact or a working hypothesis, because I don't, I don't know, if that is so or not.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo From what I have seen of the minutes, that is, no. For example there are some There are some sectors that do have participation, but there are others such as urban planning that do not, like the last one in 2018. And instead, in the territorial ones. Well, they do have more circulation. In fact, in the participation regulations there are territorial axes and now they have been redesigned and there is something like that and everything is more or less in place, because before it was the north south and now it is already by by neighborhoods and areas. In other words, there are changes in the territorial and since it has been updated and there is more activity, more activation than with some sectorial ones, some Eh, well, there are others that are more active.

Sergi Morales Of course, I think there are two issues, on the one hand, with regard to the participation model in general, which in fact was one of the objectives of this mandate that we have not met. General model of participation , which includes not only but also the issue of territorial councils and territorial councils.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo If you can tell me about all participation, EH? Of all the participation processes. Yeah.

Sergi Morales No, but for example now out there it includes, let's say everything that is the participation of the citizenry in the decisions of the City Council, from the participatory budgets with the example to the public hearing, to the previous hearing of the plenary sessions.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo We're going to talk about all that, so if you want to talk to me about running, tiramillas.

Sergi Morales Oh, okay, okay, so they are like different legs from the participation model. I think it's good, that there are elements at the general level and other more particular ones at the city level. Well, on a general level it is that participation in any area costs and costs more, especially after the pandemic , and we see that in The Associative World, in The Political World also that it costs more and more than ever. The participation of people because it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes.

Sergi Morales It has not reached a certain point for me as a larger society, I am speaking in general terms, that is, not a person is a world, but that people tend to mobilize based on a specific issue that worries them or that motivates them or that it affects them, no, but I know very well about that topic, because they move and when that topic ends, it already stopped.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo That's it, if I've seen you I don't remember anymore.

Sergi Morales Mobilize me no, that on the one hand, then there is another element also from the part of city councils that we should have reviewed this entire model. Hey? Of course, to what extent are these sectoral or territorial councils really listen to participation? No, because what is the main complaint of all these councils that the entities or people who participate there are simply going to listen to what the City Council, that's completely the Government explaining to them, right? And that what and that they have few, well, not few it doesn't have any decision-making capacity. The fact that the proposals are taken into account , then also. The operation differs a little depending on the of each Consell and territorial, to give you an example that we are discussing,

valuing this, many territorial and. And sectorial in the case that the Consell del norte, that I am president of the cinema, was mills, cami de la Serra Vista Alegre, okay?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales Huh? Of course, back in the previous mandate, the neighborhood associations had decided to stop participating in it. It didn't work anymore, In fact it didn't work with.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Holy of what? Mhm .

Sergi Morales To bless why they did not understand that it only served for the City Council to explain, no and therefore he was an informative boy, that they could not decide what was being talked about and what was being followed up on the issues that they proposed or was not. No longer binding, that I fought is binding, but in my mandatory to discuss certain issues with them and such good and there yes, it is not an effort, mainly me and the vice presidency la la, Eli, to go see all the neighborhood actions . And agree with them, how was it going to be? While the subject of the model that we talked about before that has not been done is reviewed, how would the work methodology be, for example, well, we sing. The rule, for example, We tied in all the meetings that last more or less hours that half of the topics were going to be the proposal of the town council on the agenda and the other half were always going to be topics proposed by the of the entities. OK? With which we know that there was always time, that they were topics that we arrived at and topics that were proposed to us that we previously sent.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales Well, for example, then we also established that the issues that were taken away, well, we were going to have a follow-up tool. In this case it was something very simple, an Excel file of all the issues that were being discussed, I almost told him, it's that something is missing, the trees have to be changed and they say no, because if they are going to be changed in months they didn't want it to be It would be kept there that within months we would have the possibility of seeing what we had decided had really been carried out.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo An unclear follow-up.

Sergi Morales Get, that is, therefore, I can not influence the issues that those of us who speak, can I follow up? It's not just that I go there, I laugh a lot and they listen to me and it stays there, but rather that you can give me a follow-up on the proposals that are being carried out and that I know at what moment it is. For example, the two territorial cars and it didn't work that way because it's a little power. The Consell, as I want to organize ours, has worked very well. In fact, we finished last week and the closing one. And the assessment of everything first was very positive. This is what concerns the sectoral Councils. Of course, there are some who do.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales I don't know how to tell you a value, while, for example, are has a mandatory nature, although it is not binding. For example, the heritage tuchel, not the city's heritage, that many urban actions, when there is heritage of whoever is material or landscape heritage of whatever type, there must be a mandatory report .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay? OK?

Sergi Morales That is, the patrimony has to be pronounced. Okay, it's one of the agreements we had.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, but listen, listen.

Sergi Morales It does not mean that it is binding, that is, that the Government has to position itself later, but if you have, you are obliged to listen to the first, since they say which one in writing. Then you can do whatever you want, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales But how do you have that obligation? Of course, in other areas, also the laws. For example, the issue of urban planning pixel spending, of course. The urban planning law, for example, already states that, in theory, all urban modification projects must have a participatory memory, that is, when you . Any modification, revision, change of approach from the urban point of view is underway.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo OK?

Sergi Morales What has grown me? In theory, there should be a report on the participation of entities, people affected in which they may have interests in the subject. Regarding this issue, not that the proposals have been made that have not been made and how you have addressed the entries. But when that is already part of the process. Having a body, a Participation Council for urban planning , then.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No.

Sergi Morales I don't know how much sense it really makes, but it's clear when things I think don't quite make sense and we force them a bit to also disguise it as if we have a participation model and such, well in the end people are not stupid and people when they attend two or three sessions and that simply so that they will inform me... well, listen... if it is just so they inform me... I don't know, I read the act or the or the news, the press release but I don't have to go there. Let's see.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo To the press release or the news from the insta, yes.

Sergi Morales asked. I think that can influence, no? In the degree of activity and participation of the sector councils.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . OK, perfect.

Sergi Morales Yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Then the the issue of participatory budgeting. Yes, as a project it is real money that people are going to manage in their own way with their own proposals, but the participation is 1.65%.

Sergi Morales Good.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Why does that happen? Why then, if you compare it with the participation in elections in Mataró, well, the a in the , then it is how people participate politically, but it is that they only participate in the elections once a year and then they say, I forget and that's it OO , that? What is missing? I don't know if it's a cultural thing, if it's a thing. Methodology of participatory budgets. what what what do you think?

Sergi Morales Well, here are two. Like two theories too. And where are some parties located where others are located? No, I think it has a lot to do with these things, which has also happened with the participatory budget, you mean? In the end and the legitimate also defend it. I'm not saying no, huh? In other words, there are two types, a more representative democracy versus the

more participatory model of democracy.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales And I, well, I was in a debate on TV, look at the last one, last week, I think. Or about two or weeks ago where some parties did not rebuke us, we say that you do not have to be asking for the day, people already ask them every four a. So, every year people vote, they are supposed to vote based on a program, on a series of proposals, not with which they do not exist. You are asking every day what we are going to do or what we are not going to do, I have already I voted and I have delegated my responsibility as a citizen and the one that in years I will evaluate if I have convinced myself that what he told me he was going to do was done or not done and if I will not change my vote or I will not vote then. But am I then there are those who think and the parties with which they thought that in the end if we want to build a Constitution, citizens involved, active, participatory, cohesive, involved, well it is important that citizens participate throughout the entire mandate , No? But also that they turned out. A little credible, but I think that the subject of participatory budgets has happened to me two things. send is that the voting system is not the easiest with this time.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Sergi Morales The platform system to decide, which is the platform that we are using to protect participants. Well, it could be easier, more intuitive. Even to my bed, well. If at the time of voting I had my difficulties because. I am going to vote and this too, directive, a little bit backwards and then. That also the system of participatory budgets. The previous filtering did not have to come anymore. From proposals that had ⁹, more than. Participation or cohesion? But that is, from previous work, that is, how do we get to have the proposals for each ? Throw the proposals to a filter and the filter keeps I don't know how many and such. Do you need me to say, well, did I make it bigger or not? Here's to you . The best occurrence? No, no, there is no prior work process , at the territorial and sectoral level, nor is it true that the Councils can make proposals, that the decision will come out later.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales Give me the public hearing the contract, I heard the city one. working mechanism between entities and another person and/or territory in the same area.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales So what was the problem there? That the launched people make proposals, some of them have to, well, a character. I don't know how to say populist can be somehow, no. In fact, nothing that wins, right? But if you come out proposing I want to make free parking on this street it is without status. In fact, one of the ones that won. Look at something like that, right? But then, on the other hand, also other things that don't make much sense because it's them. I don't know, I think that the participatory budgets that had to suppose an additional element of improvements of the elements of the city, but that they go a little further than what we are doing. But an example doesn't make sense. I think so from my point of view, huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, of course.

Sergi Morales So, participatory, win the thing about putting shades in schools, we won't see, we are crazy that schools have to put shade, since it already had to be.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sergi Morales We are going to talk by cell phone, so that the children do not scorch in the playground in June, we have to give a participatory budget, it had to be already out. Well good.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales I love the future, well. And then there is the other element, but I also believe that it is mobilizing and sliding, which is the speed of the public administration, that is, it approves those that have been approved a few months ago on a participatory budget proposal. It is very probable that most of them we will not see until two or years from now.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales No, I think that demotivates. Disappointment, there are no people when they see things, well, they also distance themselves, I think.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya. Hey? One of which I also interviewed A tarradellas from Espai connects.

Sergi Morales Aha.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo De Olvidarías and told me that perhaps the methodology he uses is not the most suitable and that there is a lot of debate about how he should do the , going to look for people, keeping them active can also from. I think the Bonilla series told me that sometimes the easy thing was to go to the people, who you already know are going to participate. From we go to this neighborhood association we go to this, to this entity, which we know will participate and the people who do not participate well, look, it is more complicated. And at least we validate that someone participates. There's this debate about participation in the town hall.

Sergi Morales I did not understand the question.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo There is this debate about how . Angra hashtag AA. The people on how to keep it active, how to get out, only from the station that always participates or this entity that always participates and go to the rest. They are not currently active.

Sergi Morales Ah, well, of course, I, oh, well, first there is a councilor responsible for the issue of participation. From the outset, who is the one who is supposed to be thinking about in .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It is the nuria .

Sergi Morales Huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo What is the Councilor's name?

Sergi Morales Of the topics of participation before it was Marisa and really Laura.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, I think I sent him an email, but hey.

Sergi Morales One of those to whom they take the participation themes was Marisa merchán and then they took it and passed it on to Laura. Almost yes. That is, if he says it is a subject of permanent debate in government.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Sergi Morales It is not, that is, it is an issue, it was one of the objectives of this mandate, revised a model of participation. If it was, it has been done, it has not been done.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No.

Sergi Morales For those who could not be done.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales The excuse that works for everyone about the pandemic, no. And from there, well, what you liked the most. It is more or less a subject of permanent debate in government. No, it is not. It is an issue that worries the yes that if it worries you because it is evidence, not that the people who participate are always the same. In the end, there are acts that involve the mobilization of human, economic and time resources, such as public hearings, which are supposed to be a space in which people can participate, ask directly the political leaders or criticize or whatever. final. Well, it's the H people who participate in all areas who go there to keep repeating what you've heard many times, not how you feel.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales Me until we do something to improve the dynamics of all that, well it's like.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Do you think Spinetta is going to revive this public participation?

Sergi Morales No, I think that spam will kill you. It is a greater degree of interaction, interaction between citizens and the institution in the sense that they are not only between. Cold as the model that existed up to now of the cinema service office. Some way the client? The client as a citizen that this is also inside, that I am killing, connects, but it is a space that goes much further, firstly through the different service channels that are supposed to be adapted AA to the reality of the person, more autonomous, less Autonomous, with more digital capabilities. A little bit of a system, it's not you who have to adapt, it's the system of the care model that adapts based on how you interact in this more bilateral relationship with the administration. No? Well if I take them.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo This is more for paperwork, right? Already. Yes.

Sergi Morales Yes, this is the most formal part, but not only a procedure, it is a procedure, but it is a simple procedure, from a certificate of registration or registration to the need for YY support to process a building license or a license I don't know what It is also planned that there may be a few days when there is a license team there to accompany and advise people, because perhaps they need more help. Is this worth apart from what is spam? Mataró, connect with it, therefore, improve this more bilateral relationship. Yami, more at the level of procedures, then there are the other spaces that are in the space that are thinking with the idea that things happen at the level of being interesting for the city, No? In fact, it is open to all entities of the city to things that the city council organizes. It is also a multipurpose space.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales That it is actually a space for a relationship with the citizenry, not the only previous one that has to be completely open and free acts AA the citizenry, but it can be an act from a union to a neighborhood group, to an act of one's own town hall, not therefore, that is a space beyond. Physics of relationship, of interaction, no. Even in the future. The idea is that a large screen will also be installed outside that will be an element of communication with the public.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Do people know, know, that is, let's say that the walls behind can see what is being done inside out, no, and when you are on the street you see what is being done or what is going to be done or whatever, no? ? Yes. Huh?

Sergi Morales And then we are also a third part of the project, it is thought of as a space that allows reflection, not innovation. I have seen that there are some forums, some debates, and

so on. I loved it so much internally, there aren't some actions that are purely internal, not how we improve the administration internally as spaces that are more mixed, not what they are. I love other external entities, whether they are people or entities.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes. Yes, I have another. If you can map me the different actors inside of a participatory process, for example, is the town hall. The technicians, the citizens, then there are also the companies if they want to participate. Am I missing someone in the photo?

Sergi Morales Let's see how you said this, it's not repeating.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo They see the city council as actors within a participation process. As a public entity. Then there are the technicians. It's like the citizens, it's also like the companies that also have to say no, that for example the nem was asked about the issue of the works of no, don't bother. The Christmas campaign I don't know what, I don't know how much, but I'm missing some more actor, some . I make a small group that no, that in the photo that you do not see.

Sergi Morales Man, I think there is a difference here, that is, when we talk about the town hall we are talking about several. We are talking?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm

Sergi Morales About the institution as such as a whole is a rather abstract thing. But then there is, let's say, the government. It is, the technicians are the opposition groups, all of that is part of what the city council is as an institution, no. So they have a role, no, you can't push the control position. Well, no, what about execution or whatever? It is not at the level of It is worth more towards the outside, me, me also at a level due to importance, I think they are on one side. In addition, there is a coordinating body that is the economic and social knife. That they are only long also of concertation, which we call it, which is a form of participation, getting it right in the end means agreeing to promote or develop policies jointly? I do not understand the economic and social knife, the reference actors. Part of the institution as such, since they are the social agents, that is, the most representative employers' associations and the most representative unions, in this case of Mataró , fail. I came for the patronal part. Commissions. And urgent by the trade union. After low. At a level we would have organized citizenship , not through. Of the different associations or movements, why? It is true that too. There is also one thing that is not, that I have not commented on, that everything is thought out, that is, in order to participate you have to have an association with statutes, with a registered Board of Directors. I don't know how many sites. And this annoying thing. I think that that that is a bit part of the past, that is, people now get together, I don't know with a financial market, I don't know.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, take back the yes, the fuss a bit. So this thing that it has the participation model, which is how I am here forever, well no, why do they want to articulate a movement or not? And the administration is not very prepared. To work in this informality. No.Mhm .

Sergi Morales No statutes with a Board of a Board of directors registered in the registry of entities of the majority Catalonia. Then also the entities that registered the municipal registry, that is, host, that is, you lose the desire before you start, no.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Sergi Morales So there he is, but hey, he would be in the most organized society through

associations, movements or whatever, and then the individual citizenry that also participates and interacts with the institution through the different channels, before suggestions, denunciation complaints or

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales And then you would even have. Organisms let's say for. More guarantor than is the aforementioned Ombudsman's office. And I think it would be an interesting element that we don't have now because there was a defense of the aforementioned. He died then. Now we are doing before naming that, we have approved the Regulation.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Very good.

Sergi Morales The Regulation of the Office of the Ombudsman and now it is going to be named differently, the people or entities of the city and such will be able to propose it and you have less for the Plenary, with a reinforced majority, right? But a figure also of. Of processing, giver of action vehicle in some way, of the resources of the complaints, of the concerns of the citizenry.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Cool, cool, cool, huh? Well, then also not much is needed. It is not necessary to talk much about the subject, but about the subject of the previous hearing. Yes, it seems interesting to me that the public can directly, EH, bring complaints or proposals and that they are heard and answered, but it is a bit wrong now, it is not working properly, not because it is used as a political platform by Vox, I have heard.

Sergi Morales Yes. Well. Sure, also. Made the law, made the trap, no. And as perverts, also determined. Tools the previous hearing that. They understand? I believe that there is no sense and interest for the people or entities of the city to be able to talk about points that are being held in full, and also to remember that the Room Regulations, the City Council Regulations, were modified . Because before they participated at the end of the Plenary Sessions. What I do then, is I was anticipating very late that there was. There was neither an audience nor anyone nor anything.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales So I spoke previously, in theory, with the idea that you can speak. Some of the issues that go to plenary, although it is true that it is completely open to the fact that you can talk about any issue, of course, when this is used, it is instrumented, instrumentalized by political parties. I believe that it is an error, that it is an error, because the parties already have our participation mechanisms, basically the main one, which is through.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales From the elections, right? So, this is perverting the spirit of de of these activation mechanisms, because in the end, if you as a party. The citizens have decided that you stay out. Is it what you can't, which is to use the mechanisms that citizens have permanently to go and proselytize the party, which is what some ultra-right forces do in the city, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales Because the citizens already said where you had to be, they said that you had to be outside the town hall.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes.

Sergi Morales Since they told you that you had to be out of understanding, then use the mechanism that is designed for the public and for entities or sensations. I believe. I will leave for

what was thought in the previous hearings, but. Is it possible because I read in the hand, can you do it?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay? Well, I don't know if you're familiar with the Arnstein Ladder for Citizen Participation . But is my or my the theory that I am using to have citizen participation under a spotlight? Villa, different levels. I think that he killed a lot in him. Inform that it is unidirectional. From the town hall to the citizens. Hey? I don't know, and there is also a lot of consultation, for example with the bike lanes. Citizens were consulted, but they were consulted, after making them. Statistically. There in some aspect that there is a relationship of equal to equal between the institution. And the citizenship. Or it is much more than citizenship, he reports. And then listen and if I've seen you I don't remember.

Sergi Morales Let's see, no, I wouldn't know how to answer you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Maybe there isn't, huh?

Sergi Morales They are at levels.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes.

Sergi Morales Different not when I repeat it then, in the end they have the legitimacy that they are there, not because they have fallen from heaven or because.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes, correct.

Sergi Morales Apparently you forget them, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Sergi Morales Political representatives have legitimacy, in the end, no, the people have voted for them, they have put them there, therefore, we cannot speak of an ordinary citizen, in decision-making within the city council, having the same legitimacy as a councilor, because it would not be true or correct either, I think. That's why we don't have elections, right? Now having said this. Hey? I think that we say that we say the one who holds the legitimacy. Politicians would not have to be much more open, much more sensitive to Ah, to what the vast majority of the population and citizens are claiming from us, not because sometimes it is also important to confuse or get confused in the sense that again sometimes, for example, when from the sides to visit, that is, people that they have a lot of power or a lot of influence, does not mean that for that reason they are representing the interests, generates. I mean, when Mr. Clos, who is the director of the real estate employers' association of the investment funds, I don't have a mayor of Barcelona, he is defending the interests. These people are very strong and the Socialist Party show listens to them because. Hey?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales I estimate that he does it, but he does not come out representing the majority, the social majority, not when the well, of course, also not the political function, I think that in the end it is the management of the different ones. The balance is impositions of interest, no, and what we should do is, especially from a vision of the left, is to compensate the lack. Oh. Of representativeness of the social majority that work for the social majority, not when we are talking about what I know about advancing more in the most common cities, people with more public space, with more I don't know what. In the end, who wins our speech and that they change our speech, which is that they are actually a minority. I don't think it's at the end. Those who go by car have won the story, not culturally or whatever it is that they have to have priority over others.

What yes, when most cities.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales Well, the people who go on foot, public transport by bicycle, almost all cities exceed the %, not without more, not in the case of Mataró it is the in the case of Barcelona it is the 30% of people who go on foot in bike or more public parties. However, the layout of public space is reversed. you say?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo As such.

Sergi Morales For some we are doing well, right? Someone here is, their interests are overrepresented, to say the least.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Huh? Is it enough to finish what limitations and what would you improve in the participatory processes of mataró? What limitations do they have and what? Why not the opportunities you think you may have in the future?

Sergi Morales I believe that at the level if we speak at the level of the future we have to go to.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Sergi Morales Less participatory bodies, but that make more sense. No? I probably. I think we have to think that the model of territorial councils makes sense and they are bodies that have a cross-cutting nature because they deal with all matters, what happens is that, however, also in Mataró I think that the people who have the responsibility have listen on they should have. Also at the competitive level.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Sergi Morales Barcelona or in other cities of the district councilor or newspaper councilor, which in some way is praxis, we already do it a little, no, but who is the person who has all the issues transversally. Santurbán, Instituto de Vivienda de I collected the garbage of whatever is in that territory. To this day, it is true that there are some territorial presidents, but they do not have any delegation of powers either. No role seems this cross function, beyond going there. And coordinate the meetings. So I think that. Since it is necessary to think and develop a little more in this role and in this figure of the neighborhood councilor, of the district councillor, who has a little. And a look of the killed. That sense is a bit too. Because of course, all the mayors who have been there also it has been convenient for them to be so. A very system.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya

Sergi Morales Presidentialist in the sense that everything happens in the mayor's afternoon, not because. No. And that, but that also leads to a model, well, very clientelistic, right? In other words, you may have spent years working in the territory of because x street. Or it can be fixed and you have pressure from the neighbors and so on and it can be fixed the day the mayor passes by, but you say based here on a prioritization plan based on models, not simply because the mayor passes by and says, do it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya. Already.

Sergi Morales It's for something to be done, he goes again in the plan to explain to the neighbors that it has been done because he has said to do it and then he goes again to remind them to remember that they did it for him and to kill him him at the end.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Sergi Morales We have to go a little from these more patronizing models that I believe that practically killed years of socialism as well. Surely this happens in every city, huh? It will not be exclusive to mataró , but to look for formulas of balance , of compensation, not that everything does not happen through the hand of. The mayor, because if not more we can be neglected. In the end we cannot be moving, well that, simply because of patronage interests and not because of the interests of the whole of the city. Therefore, I believe that a greater role must be given to the consistorial councils that the figure or existence of the council must be reviewed, because there is no district councilor bar. From the neighborhood and surely those that are more sectoral kotts . There would be, I believe that we have to reduce them in those cases in which they make sense, but it is interesting that they may have a prior prescriptive nature, because I believe that the example of. From a good Council, because it could be the heritage council , not when you see that an urban action has to be carried out that affects the relevant heritage of the city or when it is necessary to protect or unprotect, catalog any element of the city, well, even if you have to pronounce, not in advance and he has to make a report and he has to say an opinion, but we agree. I think that is where we have to go. That they are advancing even though they have a more active, more mandatory function, but surely you don't listen because the current number does not make much sense. And then you have to take a look at the whole issue of participatory budgets. Because the current model of where they are under the participation rate, well, they don't make much sense either.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Of course, other cities also have participatory budgets. I have not stopped to see how much participation they have, but it is something that is very widespread in Spain. In plan I have seen that Valencia different smaller municipalities also have descriptive budgets. And when I commented on it to my teacher, she told me Wow, so cool. We don't have this in Denmark. My goodness, how cool, I don't know what. Y. And let's do it. Yes, that's cool, that's cool. But in they killed or not cove. So, since we have one thing, a super tool. Potentially powerful but what. A shame.

Sergi Morales, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Vale, well, and many. Thanks for your time.

Sergi Morales Well , nothing.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I live with this, that's it.

Sergi Morales Very well, so we'll leave it here.

Appendix J

Appendix J: Javier Páez's Interview Guide

Interview guide for interview with Javier Páez. The interview was made online the 3th of April of 2023. The interview was conducted in Spanish.

- Who are you, Sergi? And what are your tasks in your occupation in the government?
- What is public participation for Mataró?
- What objectives are wanted with public participation?
- What policies are in place to promote that public participation?
- How is power given to the citizens?
- What participatory mechanisms are there in the city? Can you tell me about the Consell de la ciutat, sectorials i territorials?
- What actors are there in the participatory processes? What are their tasks?
- Do you think public participation should be in every aspect of the city? Why or why not?
- How would you like a participatory process to be?
- In the ladder of participation, what level is now achieved and what is the desired one? Why?
- What areas are more important that people are/should be involved in the decision-making processes?
- Why do you think that the Urbanism Council has almost null activity? How would you encourage that participation?
- Why do you think people participate more in the territory councils than the sectorial councils?
- Do you do public audience annually?

- When do you think it is a success?
- What limitations and new opportunities can bring the participatory processes?
- One of the biggest participatory processes is the participatory budget, but still lack of participation, why do you think this happens?
- What would you consider a success for a participatory process?
- How can public participation be used in Mataró for tactical urbanism projects and help sustainable development for the city?
- How can those participatory methods be improved and have a greater impact on the decision making process?
- How is that beneficial to Mataró's citizens?
- Do you have any other contact that you think it would be interesting to interview, for instance, someone in the urbanism office?

Appendix K

Appendix K: Javier Páez's Interview Transcript

Interview transcript for interview with the activist Javier Páez. The interview was made online through Teams on the 3th of April of 2023. The interview was conducted in Spanish and was transcribed through Teams, therefore, some mistakes could be in the transcription that was done using the Google Translate tool.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Huh? Well, now Javi, Eh, we are going to start the interview for the thesis of tactical urbanism and citizen participation, okay? Well, I chose you because you are a member of its future and you have carried out tactical urban planning actions. Have you participated in issues of citizen participation processes in Mataró and do you know them? And so I would like to know your opinions regarding these two issues and their interaction in the city, in the context of Mataró. Okay? First question, is. Apart from the introduction, what did I do? Who are you? Who is Javi?

Javi Who am I? OK.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, why? Because I have chosen you because you are here because you are in Fridays , etcetera.

Javi okay? Well, let me start, huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, come on, come on.

Javi Well, that's what I am Javier Pérez Jiménez. Ah, I am 18 years old , although I am about to turn and really since I am 14 years that is very, very young, but now since those years that I am involved in a social way in this climate sense, it has really always been this and recently they began to be monitors, which can also be said that in the area of activities there is no I know how to say it in Spanish, but culture.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi My activity is into climate activism and I really am part of Fridays for future thanks to my brother, no, who was the one who promoted it. And from here I introduced myself.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi And apart from the ideals that I have, which I take for granted , but it was really part of This is why I have said that this was the way to enter Fridays . Ah, what else can I say. I am a student, I'm going to do the Selectividad in June in my second year and little more than me.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Very good, very good. OK? Do you know the term tactical urbanism? Okay?

Javi Yes I know it, and if I know it it's thanks to. Well, to be on Fridays , but above all it even generated interest in me because I thanks to the pandemic. I began to write the problem that we find in the cities.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi And this must be added to the series of changes that have been promoted in Barcelona.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi That gave me the opportunity to think more, to reflect more on what they wanted to achieve and criticized these initiatives that came out in Barcelona and therefore to the good, because I was more interested in receiving a response, not to put it in a way. And that's how I conveyed, to put it mildly, these concerns to Fridays and that's why we held the first demonstration. With this theme, we did the first with this theme. On March .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . I would like to talk about this action of blocking the streets. And I would also like you to compare it with the tactical urban planning that comes from Barcelona, because that tactical urban planning... let me explain a bit. On the one hand the. So I would like you to compare and tell me which one you want more effective if they can live together? Pros and cons, more or less worth it in your humble opinion. Huh? From the tactical urbanism that comes from the authorities, and technical offices. Compared to the one that comes from the people who take to the streets, and also, since you have studied the the neighborhood of Cerdanyola and that there is that movement that now is not called so much tactical urbanism but. It's called guerrilla gardening and I don't know what , but, what was done with the park with Tuñi was a process of tactical urbanism that was also a class claim. But hey, if you can compare these two concepts of tactical urbanism for me, I would appreciate it.

Javi Ok, yeah, the example of Can Tuñi is not like what is happening now, for a simple reason, in that moment, there were no space for the green, for leisure, for social exchange, for culture. That action was the decision of the neighbours of being the right moment to squat the place as they dismantled the factory.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo So, can it be said that the demands are the same, more green spaces and more open and public spaces?

Javi Not having more, just having one because. Exactly, yes, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, but having, that is, having more than zero.

Javi A relevant difference to take into account is that now we do it solely and exclusively for the space occupied by cars and by cement.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi and at that time that problem was not such, because the streets were not even paved, but rather it was a transitory process, but because of urban anarchism, as it was an area that was not controlled by the city council. I mean , no, it wasn't supervised, it wasn't.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi And the people arrived. Immigrants and they made their own barracks, houses. OH, of course, if it is also, nobody controls it, well, you arrive and the only thing missing is that you have nothing, well, you make them as you can.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi No, so there was no regulation, to put it in a way, so all the harm was done to what were cultivated fields . Now they were constructions and that was in the 74. Therefore in the photos you can see it. There is already, the first blocks have already been established.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi But that's what I'm telling you, huh? No, there's none. The ground was meant for there wasn't one, it wasn't meant for this. Here we will make a park, it was not all houses and then it was the only opportunity to have a park.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay? Yes, yes, and now a more current context like Friday The Edge and the one that comes from the city council offices. Can you compare these two models of tactical urbanism for me?

Javi Tactical urbanism with?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo With Fridays for Future that claims the street as a public space that has to be for leisure and for people. And this more political demand from the city council offices. The political ideal of these streets should be for the citizens.

Javi, okay? Taking the example of Barcelona, I think it is.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo If you can give me an example of a Mataró , it would be it. But yes.

Javi Yes, I think there are differences, though.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi I think there are differences. In Barcelona. It is this tactical urbanism that has promoted the town hall is the translation of the social mobilizations that took place after the pandemic, because they were good, they were more frequent, there were many more and more quantity. It is also in another context, we are talking about a much more populated city in which deaths, in which people per year die from contaminating spherical, killing only with , that is, the problem is a lot is more serious, therefore.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Do you think that if there hadn't been these citizen demands, so many programs would not have been made with the same tactic?

Javi A see the ideals that govern the ruling party in Barcelona. they Are already directed towards those policies?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi But clearly they have been marked by the mobilizations, yes. That is, in. It was the year 2021 of the mm of the scholar revolts to ask for spaces. Good thing surrounding the schools were more to less peaceful, less trafficked. On the one hand, in the Maresme the national one was in Mataró , in Mataró. We do not cut the national other things. But Vilassar , malgrat also Premià, masnou . There it was lived more intensely. himself in the rest, not only in Barcelona, not only

with the riots but in the schools, but in the broadest sense in was It was 2021 the year of the explosion of this type of demonstrations, because Fridays is older, it is pre -pandemic and it was focused on other issues, but on the issue of air pollution, traffic was from the one of the good news about confinement, because it was when we saw no, we have to be distanced from that. When we went out onto the balcony and I was the first, I realized as a young man that he had always lived in Mataró .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

JaviDe that we moved them, humans disappeared and I returned to nature in the streets and it was very strong, that is, and I saw birds that I had never seen in the trees on the balcony. As an example, right?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi So then yes, to sum up in Barcelona, I think I do know if all these policies have been accentuated in Barcelona it has been thanks to the protest mobilizations of these groups. I'm sure. Okay, and then the Government, the Government has assumed and accepted because it is a matter of science and logic and health, okay?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well, so much , it wouldn't be not so much. It will not be because not everyone agrees.

JaviNot everything, but.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But, but that's another topic.

Javi Exactly, yes, but yes yes if you take people's health into account.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

JaviYa is more than enough to promote this type of measures . Ok, then it's why not, because well it's a completely cultural mental change, but well that's it. From here, Mataró. Mataró hasn't taken tactical urban planning policies, tactical urban planning, hasn't taken them and if he has taken them? It has been super concrete and of course, my perception of tactical urbanism is when. For this reason, because I understand tactical urbanism as well as the transition to implement what are now the . Now the works on the Superblocks are being done, you know? Let's see if I explain myself. They are doing the works on SuperBlocks and the and they are doing the pavement and everything is greener. But before I put the bollard painted on the floor in blue, I mean?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, and that process.

JaviExactly.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It is tactical urbanism, I mean, so that, so that you understand what I am understanding as tactical urbanism for my project, that is why I am interviewing you.

Javi I understand that.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo These urban planning projects, which don't last long and are cheap. And that they potentially have a great impact, so it is done for a while to collect data and see how the Community and citizens interact and what improvements there are, and then it is decided to implement or not?

Javi Well, Mataró him if he has done something. It was in the streets where they went to the central streets where cycling circle was going to be implemented .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi Split the road in half. and put the bike lane. Y then with the then with the redevelopment. Como is the example of Cami RAL is imposed.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo But well, but no, but they did that directly. That was not a trial period. Claro. Okay, yes.

Javi Exactly, yes, yes. Exactly, that is why this is the only thing, the closest thing that tactical urbanism has experienced in Mataró .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi Then he also has, now perhaps you haven't seen him on the Internet, well, on Twitter.

Javi That the good schools have made a plan for school life.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi They put in the pandemic, there were some bollards in the parking areas in front of the school doors so that the cars did not pass to kill him and that they literally had more space.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi Ah officially implementing it, that is, they are doing it permanently with paving stones, okay, but it is extremely useless.

Javi Therefore, as these have been the only measures that the Mataró City Council has taken, they are not the result of the social demand that we made, nor of the good one and because nobody else has done it, you know, that is not the result because we do not. We do not ask to widen the sidewalk more and only the doors of the schools, that is the comparison, EH? You put to Aragón street or Consell de Cent taken into account what is the current superior that they are doing?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi they take out about cool and the metre more than they have put on Gatassa avenue, ahead of request and it's shameful, it's shameful. In other words, it is also clear why in Mataró there is this idea of tactical urbanism, look for it in us, in the 3 demonstrations we did, but not in the media, it did not have an impact on the population, because in our demonstrations people did attend, but also doing a bit of self-criticism and also more by the administration.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi But there hasn't been much more demand, there hasn't been much more. and then? Well not that. What has been done has not been, has not been thanks to our mobilizations. It has not been. However, The current Government there is a part that is aware and proposes and wants, but it is minimal because we are the appearance and the part is the other. The other party that governs, which is the, well, the one that has the most weight. His electorate is not in line , no, he does not agree with that, therefore he has not implemented it and what is more, and elections are coming . The a cyclist plan from Mataró has been awarded the best cycling facility in Spain and nobody, absolutely nobody, has championed it, that is, it is an achievement, but on the other hand no one is using it. It was news. Yes, we have won, Boom. That's it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Once the comments have a plan, how should the others be? Well, they have presented themselves.

Javi Yes, but that is to say, in the sense that this issue of tactical urbanism, sustainable mobility,

traffic reduction, no, it is not silent, it has not permeated. At the moment, in our city. already, and an example is, well, that the modifications have not been and.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Would you say that it hasn't caught on? Well, in Mataró it was only done as let's say that tactical urbanism is the action that I know was done. Yes, yes, but I'm referring more to the one on the street, because one had to be done in a park.

Javi Exactly, and the other one was also done in one in a roundabout.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Which one?

JaviSe. In October of October 21 we did another in March in May and another in October , which we did in the Molinos. But with a tour.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Well. Let's focus on the example of this that the roundabout is worth.

Javi Yes, yes, yes, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Would you say tactical urbanism, which has more impact ? The one who comes from the people also takes, as is the example of Can Tuñi or the one who comes from the authorities. In the long term?

JaviA see, more impact. Regarding social and identity, yes, Ah, okay, but there are many types of impact on identity morality, well, obviously reivindicative, and social, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi But really, if that claim is made, it is because we want it to be established. So it's the role. This is when the public administration comes into play, in this case the city council, therefore, it is the one that has the most impact because it is the one that carries it out and spends the budget and towards the work and establishes it.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm , that is.

JaviFor that reason it has more impact.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo A combination of the two.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi But exactly, the ideal is a combination of the two, but from my point of view, although in Mataró the mobilizations have not continued, the city council, aware because it is aware of the problem, should implement it equally. What happens that citizen acceptance is not the same?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, okay.

JaviY for this reason they don't do it, if we don't. At the inauguration of Camí RAL.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Aha, yes.

JaviI met Juan Carlos Jerez, who was the the good one The councilor for urban planning and mobility. no, lie. Only mobility, urban planning, Nuria Moreno. He is the person with whom I have spoken the most about government, but we know each other. And he greeted me and such, I told him, what a change, right? I, good. And I think my comment was, it would be better if it were completely pedestrianized, because the only change has been that it's leveled and it was made real, but the traffic is the same.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi Ah, and the poorly marked bike lane. and he told me, Yes, you're right, but between us a. This is it, we would have to do it after the elections, he told me, this is everything, whoever wins whoever wins the next elections. The first thing, the first thing you have to do is close the traffic and such and such such . So, super brother-in-law, but.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi Accepting that they are not going to do it because it does not sell and because it is an idea that has not caught on and is not popularly liked. And also because it has managed us from my point of view, the city council has not done it, it has not done it conscientiously, that is.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm , yes. Okay?

Javi Because, that is, they are aware of the problem, but it doesn't sell, it doesn't sell, and since it doesn't sell, they don't take it seriously. If you had done a completely pedagogical campaign on this problem, what are we trying to do with the posters you made of everyone? Of all the problems that it entailed in our city, based on the study of ICE Global Age of Traffic. Well, as an example, with an example, well, this ends up sinking in, it's like tobacco. what do you want me to tell you?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Javi In addition to the pedagogical part with restrictions, it is a matter of being cultural. I mean, it's already unthinkable to let smoke inside bars again, you know? Well, it is until the measure is taken. Obviously there will be many people against and such, but it is a health and environmental issue.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Very good reflection. Huh? Well, apart from tactical urbanism, you also spoke about the participation processes, have you had some, have you been a participant in some participation processes? And one of them is the audience prior to the plenary session. Could you tell me a little about the hearing prior to the plenary session?

Javi My only experience. The hearing prior to the Plenary was in the pandemic. Therefore, it was online.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm , yes.

Javi Well, still online and so, well, only I explain it to you, but you already know. Is that in situation. In a normal situation, you can attend the town hall that takes place in the plenary room and half an hour before, it gives the option for citizens, with a limit of times per year, to intervene and be heard by the 27 councilors and that , and that they can be answered, that they be answered by a member of the Government. Ay, well, say your concerns with prior registration, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi And my experience, well, it was to read a manifesto for the day for Environment Day. World Environment Day, which was June twenty something? Yes , I remember correctly. And let's see, I don't have a very good experience because all I did was read a text that was cut off because there was a time limit.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Do you think it is a positive tool to encourage citizen participation?

Javi Citizen participation is not. just that you don't participate, it's not you don't participate in social life, in political life, participating in the preliminary hearing, I mean, eh? Because the only thing you do is complain or ask for something and you receive an answer, do you have a limit? I believe that there are more modern, up-to-date and useful methods to participate, to encourage

citizen participation. The previous hearing is not known at all, only the four interested people and Vox know, which is the only one.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi It is used as a tool to go every month to participate because it has no political representation in the consistory.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, Eh, I think it's very good that you put the issue on the table that it's not very well known because I think that's the big problem with all the participation mechanisms in Mataró.

Javi Exactly.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Let's continue talking about the councils, the sectorial and territorial ones. There are sectorial councils that have not even been activated. Why do you think it's happening?

Javi Okay, I'll give you my , a good, my experience Recently, this, okay? I went to the Youth Council.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi: That there are types of councils to the territorial or sectorial in the thematic sense or by neighborhoods, okay?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, and the one from the city.

JaviYes, and then there is that, exactly the one in the city. On the one hand, it is the one that I kill quickly is the territorial one, as far as I know it is the one from Cerdanyola, which. Ah, look, it's going to be funny because they recently invited me to go and I said, Gee, I didn't know you could attend as public.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi I didn't even know what there was that I had included in my work. Let me explain, in which I know well that the representation of the Presidency is political and the representation is of entities. And at a personal of active people who are considered appropriate to participate and then the participation, you have a voice, but no vote, everyone can go to the audience, you have a voice, but no vote, to put it in a way and that, well, in that sense, from my point of view the associations, the entities are well represented. So yes. So yes, because you are giving them a voice, but it is only the active population that unfortunately in the system in which we live is not no. It looks great for the photo and for the tweet, but the active population is not, it is not a real and exact representation of the population of a city. I mean, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Have you already participated in any sector Council?

Javi Of youth.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay?

Javi But really I have not formally participated because it was not constituted because it did not see a forum. Oh there was no quorum.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay, okay?

Javi Exactly, that. That's the that's the other part. So my experience in

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Why? Why do you think? Yes, why do you think there is more participation in the territorial councils than in the sectorial ones? give me your opinion as a person, who has participated in the participation processes.

Javi To begin with, and this, as common, the public administration has a history of not being close and open to the population. That to begin with and I, a person, who have participated, yes, yes, who have been part of in in participatory processes. I still have that stigma of not seeing it with good eyes. And to be skeptical and try to search, because that is if there is interest in these participatory processes. Whose fake they are, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Interesting

Javi And I think we have that integrated, but with good reason. Because what I tell you in the, well. Not so long ago, you didn't have it until today. I am afraid that the citizen participation processes of the Mataró City Council are Tokenisme, I fear they are. why? Because we don't have, we don't have the participatory experience, from my point of view.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi People have this fear and this perception of the public administration that has to be broken, but, that is, AAA. Through time and the effort that the city has to make , that of the city council is the effort that they have to make and to go looking for us. In other words, I think that right now the role it has, I have discussed it many times with the youth councilor and we agree right now, the Administration is the one who has to go looking for the population because they are the responsible of us having that issue.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi They have to break up that.

Javi Example when ? Urban agenda there is a youth forum in development and it is done on a working day during school hours. For them all to go to the schools and it was a success of participation. why? Because they took over the schools, they took the children and they participated actively.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Thank you, very good example. That was from youth forum?

Javi Yes, yes, because of the many forums they did. For example, so it's not very difficult, right? It is very difficult to imagine. Urban agenda this is a part is the positive part. I think that the best thing that the Urbana agenda was done , apart from in Mataró, We are also part of a forum. In a generic field, we were part of a forum of generating ideas, complaints from associations, entities and also business, Tecnocampus , was it was businessmen, we, entities, trained people, you know? That was also very good, but why? Because we are we are people, we were people. with a reason of being there, with a training, either through academic experience.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Or interest?

Javi Yes. For an active role, you know? But on the other hand. Is he still a great barrier to break or to achieve? It was going to the population to the general citizens.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi, you know? Example, participatory budgets only participated 1,600 people .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Now we will talk about participatory budgets.

JaviVale, but citizen participation.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Do you have that in Mataró there is a culture of there is , is there a culture of citizen participation or is it something that escapes us?

Javi Let's see, yes and no. Yes, no.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Can you develop?

JaviDevelopment details as follows. At first I was going to say no, but the first time, that is, something crossed my mind that broke that answer. Example, the democratic saints. The democratic saints in after the good fell the dictatorship and before it fell a little before. That Mataró has the biggest party we have today is, without a doubt, and not on the part of the administration. Thanks to citizen participation and popular organization. What did you take on your own initiative to reactivate it? 40 years ago the first democratic saints with the motto Las santas fem la festa major, which they decided to recover figures like. Momerota? Well, the thing is, it wasn't thanks to the public administration.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm . Yes.

Javi that is, in that, in those moments, the saints were. Organized and written by the people. Another example that I recently learned, because I learned, was that of La Ruixada like me. Well, I'm from Santa Ana, well, my teacher, who was explaining to us how the idea of the pink one was devised by some students from Santa Ana, which was good, they did colonies with the children and they always ended up with a syringe and said, damn, let's present this idea to the saints. And thanks to that we have ruixada.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I had a completely different idea, that it was the people who came from the correfoc heated up and the people kicked them out. From the balcony. Oh, okay?

JaviYes, exactly, that's it. It's, that's true, that's true, that's true. That is to say, after the heart is good in the, in the Premia, it depressed, still, it is made known with the hose and it is thrown away, that is true. It happened too, didn't it? but the idea of de Ruixada is this, do you know the one that was raised? And then there is also what happened, which ended up being banned.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I'll clarify later, because I have the same perception that there isn't much participation. Then, at the electoral level, they do participate 70-80%. Huh? But then at the level of these participatory processes... No. On the other hand, in Community of neighbors. Associations. Huh? Neighborhood associations. Entities everything, yes there is citizen participation, but then at the level of entering into combination and. Face to face with the public administration, there is a failure. And I don't understand why and then I was doing my analysis and I didn't understand why. But hey, that's why I was asking you if it had a participatory culture or not. So I like that you tell me yes and no, Ah, okay. Mhm .

JaviYes, but I also have one thing that I think is, it is a moral dilemma that I currently have, because recently I was a speak of a Barcelona philosophy professor and that was good for us because it led me to think about. There is a mass of population that is not active.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi It is not active on a social and political level, it is not.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi And the question that was raised to me is that they have how we have to respond. This must be accepted and assumed. Because it is their own decision, not to participate, because they believe so. Or do we really have to fight for a part of the population? I participated in those processes that concern them completely, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi Because it is also that, people who are participatory. From my experience I am finding them in everyone, everywhere, and there is an axis, that there is a part of the population, is it also due to personality, education? I don't know, I still don't know it. But it's true, I mean, I swear, you say, damn it, well here they are, but it also has one. It is understandable that you have to say them if you are an active person, because it is a bad thing for you to come here to participate and it is completely legal and necessary. But apart from the 130,000 inhabitants that we have in Mataró , the eighth most important city, the most important, with no population meaning in Catalonia, where are these people?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi, where are you?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Exactly now , look, I'm working now. Are you also looking at my screen?

Javi, what are you going to present me to? Oops, but you have to translate it for me, huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, don't worry.

Javi No, just kidding .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo I am working with this model, called the ladder of citizen participation. Huh? There are these different levels , it's okay where let's say that before climbing the ladder there is zero participation, okay and then there is manipulation, therapy, where there is also no direct participation. And then there is what is called the tokenism itself, which is false participation. Or that a participation is made by how to meet the quota, not and inform simply inform. Unidirectional information from administration to citizens is a way of participation. OK? I would ask you at what level do you think it is Mataró ? And at what level would you like it to be? Or should be Mataró . For example, if they have control it would be that one hundred percent of the decisions go through the citizens. Where in the councils the citizenry has a majority and can perfectly vote whatever they want. On Placation? For example, the Councils would be the Council of Ciudad , the citizens can participate in the plan, but the fact is that the president of the City Council is the mayor and there are also the technicians and the councilors and then basically they can vote against what the citizens decide. Okay? Consultation basically a consultation.

Javi Mhm .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Partnership yes, it is from you to you, where there is give and take. the partnership is where that would be . It is from you to you as equals, where there is feedback . A there is a bit of give and take, decisions and decisions are made together. So the delegated power? Is there more control by the citizens Okay?

Javi Mhm .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Y found is one hundred percent citizen. It would be like the... No, what's his name? From Premià that they squatted it.

Javi Ah Can San Pere.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Can San Pere, would be citizen control. Okay? This project is under citizen control sites.

Javi Mhm .Vale what he answers you will be very wide and without much basis. I also tell you.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo It's what I want, it's your opinion as a person who has participated in participation processes and to say, look, what I have participated with, I think.

Javi My experience is that we are currently in the consultation process. They has consulted us.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Numbers no, yes, statistically, numbers.

Javi why? Because we have been asked if you have consulted us. Have we been heard? But because have we asked for it?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi For example, in a way, you know? It has not been entirely his intention on his part, yes. In the end, in the end it has been like that, we have gone. In most of the time, for example, well, I'm telling you that, just because of work. It was recently done Cimera of cities for climate , was made in the technocampus and it made me angry, I told the Cesc and I told the Dani, very ironically, many of us could have been invited, that is. To understand me like this. But, on the other hand, we have received many emails and many things have been invited to participate. So in general, yes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo The subject of. When the public is consulted, do you think that this information is applicable or it is simply available and then we will see what we do with it .

Javi If it applies, okay, I think that applying, fully applying, no. Because? why? Because my experience with the 2030 Urban agenda at the end, well, the 2030 Urban agenda was presented . And the priorities? They came established, the priorities were to do the projects that they already had in mind, which is the plan that I tell you that I am not saying that it is wrong.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Javi Vale, but it was to do the , the City that rap, which is next to the tecnocampus . If you Mataró smart city , now a circular economy park.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi I don't know what was already predetermined for the conversion of the Sant Jaume hospital, it was already set in those projects, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi We placed a lot of emphasis on reducing traffic, traffic, well, I'm traffic, car traffic and renaturalization. Y in the priority number there is output, priority scale in the in the document was the 3rd.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya.

Javi That is, from 2027 to 2030 you know? Yes, let's see we were to see if he has consulted us. Sense in mind, the wording was granted to an external company. Se, that is, they read us what they had written to show us that they knew what had been written, that is, yes, if they consulted us, they listened to us, but the pillars were They were already pre-established. Que can be good or bad, Eh, it can be good or bad, because yes .Exactly.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, yes. At the level of we are basically talking about the level of participation, so the best proposal, but at the level of participation it is a bit lame.

Javi Sure, yes, really.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Okay, huh?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And then I would like to speak, I have also analyzed. The processes of the participatory budgets, where there is a 1.6% participation. Why do you think people when they have real power? they does not use it.

Javi Because, like all participation processes. Well, they are beginning to realize it and the example that they are beginning to realize what has been changed in mataró Connecta, but we still have to see how it ends, is that they are obsolete, they are not original, they do not dare to innovate. I don't know why, that is, if the technicians or the rulers themselves have to devise it. But we must investigate and test other citizen participation processes.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Like for example.

Javi I mean, I've seen it. Exactly, I'll explain. Yo that I looked at the last participatory budgets and those that. I went to vote, you know? I took my family, I took her to vote, you know? The only way to vote was online and super heavy, and another way was very good, that is, it was the best, the least bad was to go to the A la carpa.. Go to the tent that attended to the technicians and did the voting for you?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

Javi what's up? do you want? Do you want the population to participate? Looking for it is the first step, it is that it is the first step, it is that we have to go back to what we were before, we have to break that stigma that the administration is closed, therefore, if it is not closed, open up on I'm going to look for people.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Do you think that it is a fairly comfortable thing at the level of citizen participation that is now at a technical and political level? It may be the simplest. That is, I don't have to worry, I'm doing mine and I don't have to include another actor in it .

Javi The guy is here, he works. Uncle is working, I'm sitting in the tent, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo No, not in the sense of The Technician. He makes a project, the politician approves it, that's it, it's over. It is not necessary to ask another actor who is the citizenry to validate it.

Javi Mira, I know what I'm explaining to myself, I just got enlightened with , an example to see. In the works, in the sant Josep street Don't you know that reset should already be finished? But they were late because the city council consulted, well, no, to see if you ate. He consulted the decision to the dearest business company Mataró . The business association mataró said that they wanted their Christmas campaign to be respected and, therefore, that there was no work that I know of because the RAL cami had already complained because the campaign in the video had already been seen altered by the works that it was delayed until after a lifetime. Start the works with good, because we are doing the works now. The city council took citizens into account, let's see, businessmen are part of the citizenry, obviously.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, but they are not . There they are not representing the interests of the citizenry, they are representing the interests of the business.

Javi Exactly, but I consulted to see. It is an example of modification of the project by the.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes.

Javi But others, well, let's see, too. Now with the archaeological remains of cala madrona. Entities have made manifest and have pronounced themselves. A see, I don't know at all, true if they have been heard because they haven't. Has there been no response from the councilor to say Yes, I have heard you, you know? But the decision has been no, on the contrary, what they have achieved that they have spoken, you know? huh? And I also think that each thing in each module is quite important, but hey, it's the fault of poor management. In other words, when that territory, when that land belongs to the city council, the excavations should have been done, not when they have already sold the bloody circular economy park, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Ya. at what level you would like it to be. Participation processes in Mataró.

Javi So, can you repeat the partnership again ?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Partnerships from face to face that look at each other face to face with the citizens and the administration and collaborate together for mhm .To carry out a project?

JaviY the one with power delegated .

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, delegated power is the one for the people to play is where. Citizens acquire the level of of authority. De to make decisions that has the majority of seats.

JaviOkay, so I've been listening to the partnership . why? Let's see, it seems to me completely correct and healthy at a democratic level that there are spaces as tiring, but where there is citizen control, it seems legitimate to me.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, but that citizen control is also like.Supported.Reported as endorsed by the public administration.

JaviI believe that if there is one, there is a network of organized people who propose it and carry it out.Yo as a politician I would accept it but that the citizen in that of the delegated power have the same.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

JaviA yourself, role that a mayor who has been chosen through a democratic process to be in charge of the city I do not see it as correct and I do not think he has to have the same decision as.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .

JaviQue a councilor and David Bote you know and if instead they are doing partnership , well fulfilling their obligation or their moral and democratic obligation, not to listen to the citizens and more and not and more.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Also the technicians, huh? Also the technicians, who are the ones who run the projects.

Javi And more if I have experience or academic training on the subject in question. Know? I find that more, you have to talk to professionals and technicians of the, of the specific topic.you know? In other words, you are very good at listening to the citizens and you are completely aware.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo For example, the thing is, for example, the Pack in Tuñi, which is a successful project, there was no technician.There was no public authority.It was an attempt to do

a citizen control of that project and it was carried out and AA came out. Do you know? It arrived, it came out.

Javi Look at the story, the story that is written in a book is good, is it based on a book that maybe you like?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, I also use it on myself, on myself. I mean, no, I don't remember, I use it too.

Javi Well, no, but not from Cerdanyola.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Not that he was from Mataró, right?

Javi Yes, that's it, I'm glad you don't have it because that's where it is, which are interviews and different activists De Mataró.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes. I would say no, I'm not listening. No, I don't think so.

Javi Well, that's good and let's see, I've read it, I've read it. Thank you, I mean, for the library that I took, I don't have it, that's a book by a certain Sergi Morales, one from the tire who does interviews with different emblematic activists from the city of Mataró.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Mhm .Mhm .

Javi Do you know if Morales, for example, comes out very well, many activists from all the neighborhoods come out and the center in all areas is very good. And they explain, they do an interview, well. Do you remember that history is explained when there was this? It was November 10 of the 74, when they occupied Can Tuñi.

Javi What they did. Dos. I don't know if it was from the President of the Social Center or from the new neighborhood association of Cerdanyola, which was leaving at that time. He went to speak with that mayor who was not Pedro Crespo, he was someone else. It may be a bad memory and I don't remember. The name is in Dr. went to talk to the mayor. And the mayor was not a supporter, he was not a supporter of slowly allocating that to a park because they were destined to make apartments like the rest of them. at the end? Well, the the, the. The iconic phrase is that he said to you, how do you want to be remembered? Like the mayor who backed down that project? Or he accepted, and that's how it was, in the end he accepted that it was all a park and he was telling you that because. Well, because yes. It was a citizen initiative, but the city council did not intend to.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Of course, that's why I'm telling you, right? That the issue of what you were telling me, you, that there is a technical power or. The fact that there is a technicality behind a project does not mean that it will be useful. And on the other hand, there is that success story that citizens come from, that they were not trained in I don't know what, it was simply a claim and that it is a success story.

Javi Yes, well too.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo And that seems curious to me.

Javi Yes, also later, when it was good, well, when the plans were made for how we wanted the park to be. There were also many complaints because at first it was not. It was going to have a garden format. Gardens, you know? I mean, it was going to be super Happy Flower. It was not going to be a park.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, already very pretty, but not much to walk on, right?

Javi Exactly, right? No. A meeting place, you know?

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes.

Javi And so there was also a ruckus, but in the end it was a park, you know? But it is to say that yes, that there were its little things, but it was also a citizen initiative at one extreme. really an emblem of the city. And already and before? We turn practical, to put it in a way.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Yes, yes, perfect, well, very good reflections, really, we are done with the interview now. I'll send you when the la is ready .the job done , so thank you very much for your participation.

JaviName, not if Enric, since you left, I am already a man.

Enric Gonzalez Gonzalo Goodbye, thank you very much.

Javi Thank you very much and very good luck, I had so much fun