

FRACTURED BY THE RAILROAD TRACKS NEIGHBORHOOD

Throughout the past century, the line of train and metro tracks through the district of Sants (Barcelona) has been an open wound in its urban fabric, dividing the district into two virtually unconnected parts along an 800-metre section, from Plaza de Sants to calle Riera Blanca, creating the resulting urban dysfunctions in terms of acoustic pollution and deterioration of the surroundings.

In the year 2002 the city’s administration decided to start up an urban renewal project for the Sants railway corridor. Having ruled out the option of putting it underground, it was decided to confine it inside a lightweight, transparent box for a good part of the section, with the roof being turned into an 800-metre-long raised and landscaped boulevard which would later be extended along the neighbouring municipalities as far as Cornellá, giving rise to a 5-km-long “green corridor”.



Initial state of the rail corridor



Final state of the rail corridor

