Objectives

The project reverses the situation with two fundamental project decisions: the creation of a continuous topography that saves the gap between Reina Amàlia Street and Sant Pau Street with a slope of around 3%, and the articulation of a compositional mechanism of bands that allows organizing the multiplicity of uses with coherence.

This came out through a participatory process in which residents in the area voiced out their points of view and commented of the proposals that were being made. Local authorities were particularly keen on ensuring that the full process was transparent, open to all involved parties and within their planned estimate.

The objective was to transform the square into an element of contact between both urban areas and an opportunity to articulate the various confluences, in order to stop it being a cul-de-sac and become the gateway to Raval.

Description

Divided into two vaguely triangular halves, it concentrates the most active areas—children playgrounds, petanque, circulations...—near the residential facades of Lleiàtat and Reina Amàlia streets, and creates a quieter area in front of the facade of the Mili I Fontanals secondary school. The new basketball court that can be also used for the festive activities of the neighborhood is located near Ronda Sant Pau.

A great diagonal stepway, highlighted by lamps of a bigger size than in the rest of the square, connects the corner of Lleiàtat and Reina Amàlia with Ronda de Sant Pau, becoming the main axis that articulates the new relationship between the Raval and the Eixample.

Vegetation plays a fundamental role in the new image of the space through the combination of trees and plants that bloom at different times of the year. The square thus becomes a changing scenario throughout the seasons, a calendar of the neighborhood that consolidates day by day its symbolic aspect as a city space.

Construction works for the plaza were completed in December 2017. When pictures were taken, vegetation was in a vegetative state. It is expected that the square will start getting its final appearance in the spring of 2018.