

DESCRIPTION & COST

The aim of the project is to transform four streets: Segre, Montnegre, Tordera and Montseny (the last three are in implementation phase) into a space that prioritizes pedestrians. We aim to improve the conditions of accessibility and the quality of the public space, creating a zone where pedestrian mobility is complemented with vehicle mobility. Parking is strictly regulated, as is circulation, aided by a 10km/hour speed limit.

To achieve these goals we propose:

Improving the area's physical conditions of accessibility, for which it is important to reduce the road space for vehicular use and incorporate handrails; and ensuring that the street's circulation rules are easily understood by clearly marking the areas for vehicular and pedestrian use, by way of a specific signage system in white non-slip paint. The parallel white lines mark the areas for pedestrian use and the yellow lines indicate private driveways and areas where parking is prohibited.

A third graphic set is based on the representation of leaves from a tree and constitutes a distinguishing element for the streets. Painted onto the orthogonal section is a carpet of leaves that recalls the shadows of trees.

To achieve continuity within the space, we propose a russet asphalt floor which makes no rigid distinction between the street's different uses: pedestrian circulation, vehicular circulation, parking, etc.

We propose a single-level asymmetrical street and an off-centre thoroughfare for vehicles located 1.5m from one side and 3.5m from the other. A widening of the space for pedestrians allows for an expansive street with stopping points that encourage relations between neighbours.

Given that there is currently parking spaces on both sides of the street and the participative sessions with local residents revealed the need to maintain some of these, the proposal provides for three parking spaces in each street, located according to a study of the entrances to existing homes and possible future entranceways. The proposal incorporates small concrete squares into the streets Tordera and Montnegre as rest places. The elements of the small square, the wall and the stairs, are proposed as outdoor rest and meeting places.

Vegetation and urban furnishings have been incorporated into the space in order to transform the path and the rest places into enjoyable moments for the local residents.

Given the steep gradient -between 14% and 20%- we included sections of handrails, attached to the façades, to facilitate walking up the streets.

In times of economic crisis, all interventions must be modestly priced. What cannot be done with money must be resolved through creativity and dedication. With a budget of just 55 €/ m2, the project includes no superfluous elements, unifying solutions and highlighting the elements that bring added value: trees for shade, bollards as seats and paint to lend character.

This is a small development, in which the local residents have actively collaborated in defining the problems and the solutions. It is our belief that involving the local residents in this project was a resounding success.

