# Health: The Design, Planning and Politics of How and Where We Live

• **Paper / Proposal Title:**

Imagine, design and manage the midsized cities that must change for the citizen well-being

• **Format:**

Written paper / Presentation (pre-recorded)

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• **Abstract (300 words):**

A.D. 1300_Most of the European cities are compact centres enclosed in high walls fortified. The average extension of these cities is variable and is included in a range between 5 and 20 hectares. The structure is compact. Outside the walls only farmland and nature.

A.D. 1900_Cities expanded outside the walls with compact buildings aligned following an orthogonal road net structure. Occasionally, some blocks gave way to public gardens and public parks. Cities doubled, more or less, their surface. Streets became wide and characterized by a promiscuous traffic of pedestrians, tows and carriages. The car will still be a solitary appearance for many decades in midsize cities.

A.D. 2000_The expansion of cities, even midsize (50.000/200.000 inhabitants), leads to a surface occupation approximately five times bigger than the ancient and 19th century cities. The population increases dramatically. The number of cars comes to almost equate that of the inhabitants and 18th streets are occupied by lanes and parking areas. Pedestrians areas are limited to narrow footpaths.  The rate of air pollution explodes. The fine dust in the air blackens everything. Whether walking or by bike, going out involves a high risk to get lung diseases.

A.D. 2017_The concepts of Smart City, mobility, sustainability, renewable sources spread but most midsize cities lack financial resources, administrative structures and expertise to tackle these issues so drastic.

HOW CAN A MIDSIZE CITY IMPLEMENT THE CHANGE?

Through urban co-working and co-design applied in the resolution of the main urban pollution problems, working on the main factors that affect it.

Through the FAB city, where citizens, knowing the serious harm to health of a polluted city, promote active citizenship actions, which guide urban transformations and where professionals will be guided by citizens who become essential actors of this change.

This paper focuses on an applied case in the south of Italy during which I was appointed City Councillor of the City Planning Policies.

References:
Ratti, C., Claudel, M., *Open Source Architecture*, Thames & Hudson, New York 2015
Hirshberg, P., Dougherty, D., Kadanoff, M., *MAKER CITY. A pratical guide for reinvnting our cities*, Maker Media, San Francisco 2017
http://www.bitonto2020.it/

• **Author(s) Biography (200 words each):**

Nicola Parisi, architect, was born in Apulia, Italy, where he still lives today. He graduated at the Polytechnic of Bari and got a PhD in Architectural Design for Mediterranean Countries. In 2011, he became Assistant Professor for the Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture of the Polytechnic of Bari. In 2015, he was appointed as City Councillor for Urban Planning of the city of Bitonto, included in the Metropolitan City of Bari. He is creator and member of the management committee of the Technology Centre for Digital Fabrication, the FabLab Poliba. His interests are multifaceted and focused on various scales of the architectural design. He is involved in national and international research projects, summer schools and workshops on the development of the Mediterranean house with particular regard to the sustainability,

self-construction and smart cities. He deals with projects of urban regeneration, cultural promotion and tourism. He is now involved as scientific coordinator, in the urban design of the city and land of Bitonto through a new planning process, as a promoter, in the development of a network of the Urban Centres of the Metropolitan City of Bari. He is the author of 34 publications, articles, 4 monographs and drawings.