

TeMA

Journal of
Land Use, Mobility and Environment

There are a number of different future-city visions being developed around the world at the moment: one of them is Smart Cities: ICT and big data availability may contribute to better understand and plan the city, improving efficiency, equity and quality of life. But these visions of utopia need an urgent reality check: this is one of the future challenges that Smart Cities have to face.

Tema is the Journal of Land use, Mobility and Environment and offers papers with a unified approach to planning and mobility. TeMA Journal has also received the Sparc Europe Seal of Open Access Journals released by Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC Europe) and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).



SMART COMMUNITIES
BETWEEN E-GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

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Journal of
Land Use, Mobility and Environment

TeMA - Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment offers researches, applications and contributions with a unified approach to planning and mobility and publishes original inter-disciplinary papers on the interaction of transport, land use and Environment. Domains include: engineering, planning, modeling, behavior, economics, geography, regional science, sociology, architecture and design, network science, and complex systems.

The Italian National Agency for the Evaluation of Universities and Research Institutes (ANVUR) classified TeMA as one of the most highly regarded scholarly journals (Category A) in the Areas ICAR 05, ICAR 20 and ICAR21. TeMA Journal has also received the Sparc Europe Seal for Open Access Journals released by Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition (SPARC Europe) and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). TeMA publishes online under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License and is blind peer reviewed at least by two referees selected among high-profile scientists. TeMA is a four-monthly journal. TeMA has been published since 2007 and is indexed in the main bibliographical databases and it is present in the catalogues of hundreds of academic and research libraries worldwide.

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The Significance of Socio-Cultural
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SMART COMMUNITIES BETWEEN E-GOVERNANCE AND SOCIAL PARTICIPATION

ROCCO PAPA

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In a knowledge-based socioeconomy driven by technological change and innovation, new challenges are emerging. New information and communications technologies (NICT) are shaping the way people live, communicate, and work. Accordingly, innovative model of governance are needed with greater connectivity being facilitated by new technology; consequently, application of NICT in the local context leads to economic, social, and political transformations within the new smart community movement.

This second issue of the volume 7 of TeMA Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment focuses on this theme of e-governance and smart communities. In more details, the attention is put towards both the role of new information and communications technologies in the planning practice and on the ways society and citizen behavior has changed in the lasts decades, by mean of smart technologies.

In the FOCUS section three articles have been selected. The first article is named "Participation and Governance for more Human Smart Cities" by Gabriella Pultrone and analyses the concepts of participation and e-governance for more human cities. It starts from the idea that participation and governance are keywords on which to focus for a city conscious of its rich human and social capital, in which people are the real drivers of innovation and co-designers responsible for a smart city more humane and inclusive.

The second article titled "Social Mobile Marketing Evolution of Communication Strategies in the Web 2.0 Era" by Stefano Rocco has the purpose of understanding how small organizations can utilize networks that characterize new trends in marketing and provide some reflections on the future evolution of the research in this field. The third article by Giuseppe Trieste e Silvia Gabrielli is titled "Accessibility in Smart Cities" and question if the smart city is also an inclusive city.

The section Land-use, Mobility and Environment collects two articles of the broader theme of integration between mobility, urban planning and environment. The article "The Determinants of Transportation Mode Choice in the Middle Eastern Cities: The Kerman Case, Iran" by Hamid Soltanzadeh and Houshmand E. Masumi, gives insights on the determinants of transportation mode choices and decisions under the influence of regional and cultural aspects. The paper outlines such determinants in the Iranian city of

Kerman as a representative of the similar Middle Eastern cities located in hot-arid climates and Moslem cultures. The descriptive analysis of the results derived from a short survey that was a part of a larger study conducted in the second half of 2013 indicated that adding to accessibility to public transportation and the convenience of using it can persuade people to shift from car driving to public transit use. The main barriers to bicycling are sociocultural aspects, while for walking the obstacles are physical and environmental. Increasing the quality of pedestrian infrastructure and spaces is a stronger deterrent than personal attitudes against walking. Such findings show slight dissimilarities from the results of some of the western studies that find the built environment more effective. In the same section, the article by G.K. Sinniaha, M.Z. Shahib, G. Vigarc, P.T. Aditjandrad titled "Residential Location Preferences: the significance of socio-cultural and religious attributes", has the aim to explore residential location preferences and how they are related to travel behavior. The study suggests social and cultural issue such as racial diversity which is literally to be a significance context. The case study reported is based on Iskandar Malaysia's development region. Reliability Analysis and Factor Analysis are applied to determine that religious and culture are influential in terms of residential location preferences. These findings add a different perspective on travel behavior studies, which are heavily dominated by researches from Western Europe, North America and Australasia. It is suggested that transport researchers need to reject universal conclusions and be clearer about the contexts in which their findings most applied and multi-cultural scenarios to consider cultural and religious factors more extensively.

Finally the Review Pages define the general framework of the theme of Smart City Environmental Challenges with an updated focus of websites, publications, laws, urban practices and news and events on this subject.