

TeMA

Journal of
Land Use, Mobility and Environment

The Times They Are a-Changin' and cities have to face challenges which may not be further postponed. The three issues of the 13th volume will collect articles concerning the challenges that cities are going to face in the immediate future, providing readings and interpretations of these phenomena and, mostly, methods, tools, technics and innovative practices (climate proof cities, zero consumption cities, car free cities) oriented to gain and keep a new equilibrium between cities and new external agents.

TeMA is the Journal of Land Use, Mobility and Environment and offers papers with a unified approach to planning, mobility and environmental sustainability. With ANVUR resolution of April 2020, TeMA journal and the articles published from 2016 are included in the A category of scientific journals. From 2015, the articles published on TeMA are included in the Core Collection of Web of Science. It is included in Sparc Europe Seal of Open Access Journals, and the Directory of Open Access Journals.



THE CITY CHALLENGES AND EXTERNAL AGENTS.
METHODS, TOOLS AND BEST PRACTICES

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The cover image is a photo of the 1966 flood of the Arno in Florence (Italy).

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.

With ANVUR resolution of April 2020, TeMA Journal and the articles published from 2016 are included in A category of scientific journals. From 2015, the articles published on TeMA are included in the Core Collection of Web of Science. 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 is published under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 License and is blind peer reviewed at least by two referees selected among high-profile scientists. 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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REVIEW NOTE – Urban Planning Literature Review

After recovery: new urban challenges

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Abstract

Starting from the relationship between urban planning and mobility management, TeMA has gradually expanded the view of the covered topics, always remaining in the groove of rigorous scientific in-depth analysis. This section of the Journal, Review Notes, is the expression of a continuous updating of emerging topics concerning relationships between urban planning, mobility and environment, through a collection of short scientific papers written by young researchers. The Review Notes are made of five parts: Urban planning Literature Review; Town Planning International Rules and Legislation Overview; Urban Practices, Projects, and Innovative Approach; Framework of Scientific News and Events; Economy, Business and Land Use. Each of these sections examines a specific aspect of the broader information storage within the main interests of TeMA Journal.

In particular, the Urban Planning Literature Review section aims at presenting recent books and journals, within the global scientific panorama, on selected topics and issues.

The contribution discusses, with interesting scientific works, the significant impacts of Covid-19 pandemic on our lives and urban systems. Infections due to Sars-Cov-2 had and still have serious social, economic and health consequences, that each country around the world is currently experiencing. Moreover, myriad other challenges – especially climate change – are on the horizon and cities have to pivot to resilience, focus on their most vulnerable citizens and adopt a zero-tolerance for inequality.

Keywords

Resilience; Emergency; Covid-19

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1. Introduction

In 1920, a world-weary by the First World War and sickened by the 1918 flu pandemic desperately sought to move past the struggles and tragedies and start to rebuild lives. People were looking forward to "returning to normalcy," and today, exactly one hundred years later people all over the world find themselves in a similar position. The Covid-19 crisis and the political, economic and social disruptions it has caused have exposed the inadequacies of our current urban and economic systems. Amid global concern for lives, livelihoods and the planet, leaders find themselves at a historic crossroads for shaping the recovery and, at the same time, have a window of opportunity to reset economies and societies on a new trajectory of more inclusive and sustainable growth.

In line with the last issues and "Covid-19 vs City-20" Special issue of TeMA Journal (Gargiulo et al., 2020; Guida, 2020), I dedicated this section of Review Notes to scientific manuscripts and journals in the field of urban planning, whose main topic is the improvement of urban resilience to face the social, economical and healthy crisis due to the outbreak of a novel coronavirus and its consequent disease.

the corona pandemic hardest hit people living in cities, which now find themselves deeply affected by economic and social crisis. Poverty and inequalities are rapidly rising in cities, with new groups of people at risk of poverty – the 'new urban poor'. Addressing this crisis requires unprecedented bold actions by working together in solidarity between all levels of government to build a fair, inclusive and sustainable recovery for cities all over the world, leaving no one behind (Carpentieri, 2020). The future of cities has been the centre of debates in the last months all around the world. The reorganisation of public space, social and economic activity to new priorities in such a short period, has forced local governments to think different.

While a global pandemic has been considered a looming risk for decades (World Bank, 2020), Covid-19 violetly shackled the fragile ground of society, health systems, economies and governments worldwide. Amid extraordinary challenges and uncertainties, policymakers are under pressure to make decisions on managing the immediate impact of the pandemic and its consequences, considering that recent decisions will shape the state of the world for years to come.

Now, more than twelve months and 1,400,009 deaths into the Covid-19 pandemic make people longing for an end. Scientific communities are trying to answer this question and agree that we will maybe two different "ends", each with a separate timeline.

The first is an *epidemiological endpoint*, when herd immunity is achieved. It will occur when the proportion of society immune to Covid-19 is sufficient to prevent widespread, ongoing transmission. Many countries are hoping that a vaccine will do the bulk of the work needed to achieve herd immunity and researches predict that, by the end of 2020, the first commercial doses will be available. When this endpoint is reached, the public-health-emergency interventions, as limits and restrictions, deployed in 2020 will no longer be needed. While regular revaccinations may be needed, perhaps similar to annual flu shots, the threat of widespread transmission will be gone.

The second endpoint will occur when almost all aspects of social and economic life can resume without fear of ongoing mortality (when a mortality rate is no longer higher than a country's historical average) or long-term health consequences related to Covid-19. The process will be enabled by multidisciplinary tools and approaches, such as, from the healthcare side, vaccination of the highest-risk populations, improved therapeutics, continued strengthening of public-health responses, and increasing the social, economic and environmental resilience of urban areas. Among the main issues, tourism, public space, mobility and transport, green and smart economy and climate resilience need to be designed according to a new normality, opening a world of possibilities for structural changes where people and their health will be in the centre of urban transformation.

In fact, the next normal will not look exactly like the old—it might be different in surprising ways, with unexpected contours, and getting there will be gradual—but the transition will enable many familiar scenes,

such as air travel, bustling shops, humming factories, full restaurants, and public transit operating at capacity, to resume. These different temporal endpoints mean that Covid-19 will likely persist for years. Even with the most sophisticated testing and contact tracing, cities will suffer waves of infectious outbreaks until immunity takes hold or antiviral therapies and vaccines are developed. Nevertheless, cities cannot, and will not, stay locked down indefinitely, in order to avoid spiralling food prices, rising unemployment, economic disintegration and social and political unrest will follow.

Hence, both the epidemiological and normalcy ends to the Covid-19 pandemic are essential. The transition to the next normal will mark an important social and economic milestone, while herd immunity will be a more definitive end to the pandemic. At the same time, only strategic and integrated interventions can make this goal reachable in a short period, and this achievement will need joint actions of policymakers, stakeholders and citizens (Bottero, 2017). Increasing the resilience of health management, social, economic structures of cities is our chance to do more than undo the effects of the pandemic crisis and anticipate the new normalcy endpoint.

The next paragraph aims at focusing on how cities have been and still are vitally important as parts of the global human ecosystem, despite the pressure and disruption inflicted on urban centres and their citizens by the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. Post-pandemic challenges for urban environments

Shortly after the coronavirus overwhelmed Wuhan in early 2020, the pandemic's centre of gravity shifted westward from Seoul to Milan, Madrid and New York. Around the world, cities are just spreaders of infection but also key to containing it. The eventual "restart" of most economies depends on the condition of the biggest cities because they are engines of growth and productivity. Cities are dual-edged, as they are both parts of the problem and a potential solution to sick the "new normalcy" endpoint.

They intensify the spread and transmission of infectious disease through high dense human contacts. Today, about 4 billion people live in cities, more than half of the world's population. According to some researchers, around 600 cities generate two-thirds of global GDP. Since they are hubs for transnational commerce and mobility, densely populated and hyper-connected cities can amplify pandemic risk. Scholars have found that pandemics often emerge from the edge of cities. Viral outbreaks are frequently incubated and transmitted via peri-urban communities and transportation corridors at the outskirts of cities before they spread into their cores. It is not just cities, but also their local and global supply chains, travel networks, airports and specific neighbourhoods that are sources of contagion.

At the same time, cities play a central role in preparing for, mitigating and adapting to pandemics. That is nothing new, since many of the norms and rules for cities to manage infectious disease were first discussed at a global sanitary conference in 1851 (Howard-Jones, 1975). Today, cities' preparedness to Covid-19 pandemic varies a lot, according to their level of development and the socio-economic determinants of their populations: cities with a high concentration of urban poor and deep inequalities are potentially more vulnerable than those that are better resourced, less crowded, and more inclusive, while cities that are open, transparent, collaborative and adopt comprehensive responses are better equipped to manage pandemics than those that are not. Even though many acceptable practices have been applied it is still too early to declare a success (Patel, & Shah, 2020) for the response of some cities, such as Taipei and Singapore, that could count on good investigative capacities, health systems lessons learned by past pandemics (Bouffanais, & Lim). City networks have an opportunity to exert global leadership in shaping preparedness and response. There is an opening, then, for international coalitions of city leaders – including the C40, UCLG, Metropolis, the U20, the Mayors Migration Council and the Global Parliament of Mayors – to advocate for a seat at the decision-making table. City coalitions such as Eurocities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors are already powerful advocates for devolution and together with international networks can help give direction about practical ways

to reduce inequalities and secure the rights and needs of people living in situations of concentrated disadvantage. Cities have always exhibited a remarkable capacity to evolve in the wake of crises and served as testbeds for innovation. There is no doubt that the Covid-19 pandemic will trigger enduring changes to the built-space, city plans, building codes and the rules governing city life everywhere. Large built-up areas and bustling street life will likely give way to fewer retail stores, open green spaces, and more flexible work options. Public transport, cycling, pedestrian and other forms of micro-mobility could be prioritised over cars. Moreover, Covid-19 is neither the first nor the last pandemic cities will face. Myriad other challenges – especially climate change – are looming menacingly on the horizon. In the end, cities that pivot to resilience, focus on their most vulnerable and adopt a zero-tolerance for inequality will be the ones that survive and thrive in the 21st century. In the light of these challenges, the following books and journal aim at defining future scenarios for our cities, as both places of infection and potential solutions to Covid-19 pandemic effects.

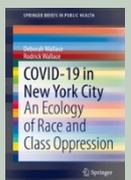
Journal of Urban Management



Editor-in-Chief: Shih-Kung Lai
Publisher: Elsevier
First publication year: 2012
ISSN code: 2226-5856

The Journal of Urban Management agrees that cities are complex systems and that only plans for urban development cannot deal with the issues directly derived from rapid urbanisation. Hence, the Journal has two aims: integrate the studies across fields in urban planning and management, and provide a more holistic perspective on problem-solving. The Journal explores innovative management skills for taming thorny problems that arise with global urbanisation and provides a platform to deal with urban affairs whose solutions must be looked at from an interdisciplinary perspective. It collects scientific articles in theoretical work and applications that are targeted at urban management worldwide, including developing and developed countries. Hence, it covers studies and research in planning, administering, regulating, and governing (PARG) urban complexity. The urban phenomena that are of interest cut across ecological, physical, economic, political, and social settings, with the belief that these settings interact with each other and should be treated as a whole. In the light of Covid-19 pandemic, interesting papers have been published on Journal of Urban Management. As stated in the Editorial Preface of the last issue of Journal of Urban Management, as the Covid-19 spreads worldwide, different viewpoints about the effects of the disease on the world pervade. Covid-19 pandemic is a complicated matter and based on the ideas derived from complexity theory, and we should be able to take practical actions fighting this virus on a scientific basis. Journal of Urban Management offers interesting insights on urban dynamics to face Sars-Cov-2 pandemic focusing, for example, on concepts of immediate resilience and adaption, the usability of public spaces to respect the social distance. In summary, given the uncertain duration and periodicity of the occurrence of Covid-19, the papers of the last issue of Journal of Urban Management attempt to critically review the built environmental think-tank that would be adaptive, predictive and responsive towards a "new" normal or future.

Covid-19 in New York City. An Ecology of Race and Class Oppression



Authors/Editors: Deborah Wallace, Rodrick Wallace
Publisher: Springer
Publication year: 2020
ISBN code: 978-3-030-59623-1

This book offers an engaging social epidemiological study of Covid-19 spread in New York City (NYC), the primary epicentre of the United States, due to the rapid, extreme rise of NYC case and mortality rates. Decades of public policies destructive of poor neighbourhoods of color heavily determined the spread within the City. Premature mortality rates revealed the "weathering" of policy-targeted communities: accelerated ageing due to chronic stress. Sars-Cov-2 attacks the elderly more severely than those under the age of 60. Communities with high proportions of prematurely aged residents proved fertile ground for Covid-19 illness and mortality. The very public policies that created swaths of white wealth across much of Manhattan and parts of Brooklyn destroyed the human diversity needed to ride out crises. The book is divided into five chapters; the first deals with premature death rate geography in New York City, and its implications during the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic; the second chapter is about markers of Covid-19 in NYC, at the ZIP Code Level; the third offers an overview of Covid-19 infections in the broader area, N.Y. Metro Region; the fourth examines pandemic control from upstream, finding analogies with firefighting and fire prevention; the fifth chapter focuses on the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic's explosion in the New York Metropolitan Region from the perspective of both historical trajectory and ideas of 'ecosystem resilience' transitions.

The Arup Profile: Issue 2



Authors/Editors: Josef Hargrave

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The Arup Profile: Issue 2 is the last issue edited by Arup Foresight team. Arup is an independent firm of designers, planners, engineers, architects, consultants and technical specialists, working across every aspect of the built environment. As Covid-19 has caused an unprecedented change to our lives, it has also impacted homes and offices, transit, energy and even food supply. This disruption also coincides with another crucial challenge we are facing with persistent carbon emissions and environmental degradation. Despite the twin crises, the main question that Arup is trying to answer is: how can we adequately respond and catalyse new opportunities and shape a sustainable future? The second issue of The Arup Profile invites technicians, researchers and policymakers to imagine and question our world as we adjust to the new normal and begin to consider ideas to build back better. Each contribution explores stories and ideas that consider everyday life in a post-pandemic world, to using hydrogen to accelerate the energy transition and strengthening food security in cities through urban agriculture. The issue also shares about the continuing work made by Arup engineers and consultants in enhancing the resilience of rail, healthcare and industry, and in designing decentralised commercial hubs as we begin to consider the future of the CBD. The Issue invites readers to imagine and question our world in a post-pandemic era and an opportunity to consider how we can design and build a better, more resilient future. Moreover, the Issues offer interesting insight, 'Beyond the curve'. It collects illustrations that were informed by a series of internal workshops, more comprehensive research and expert interviews to consider the implications of Covid-19 on the built environment. Each implication is supported by case studies from around the world captured on our insight platform, Arup Inspire, as well as expert opinions from Arup practitioners working across the built environment. The issue concerns new ideas to improve resilience and health security of homes, neighbourhoods, transit networks, offices and retail.

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