

Submission Template

Identification Code: NAD23

Project Location: "Plasticarska" Street

Narrative Description:

The choice of location for this competitive project to be on "Nikola Karev Boulevard," also known as "Plasticarska Street" in the collective memory of all of us is due to the fact that it's a traditionally commercial street filled with small artisanal and commercial units. Many people visit this location daily to buy specific products, and they mainly arrive by car, which introduces several problems that significantly diminish its overall quality.

The basic idea of influencing this street through our architectural and urbanistic approach emerged as a revolt against the state in which this street has been left to exist, despite being recently renewed and reconstructed. Since there is no possibility or initiative to resolve the chaotic conditions and issues that are part of the modern version of "Plasticarska," our solution is to elevate it to a new level - a bicycle-pedestrian street constructed as a rounded lightweight bridge structure made of a skeletal system of steel supports, finished in concrete and sculpturally shaped. It will feature and connect various contents for social activity and inclusivity for all people. This "light" skeletal system is complemented by cylindrical concrete "towers" serving as vertical connections to the street level, providing structural stability and reinforcement.

The goal is to address the numerous problems that this location faces, primarily due to the modern way of life and the increased number of vehicles in the city, especially on this street. This directly reduces pedestrian safety, as there are no suitable crosswalks, and jaywalking occurs at unmarked parts of the road. Parking occurs on sidewalks, and there are no dedicated bike lanes or safe corridors or activities for disabled individuals. Therefore, our solution offers a safe corridor for pedestrians and cyclists, a safe crossing from one side of the boulevard to the other through several platforms with stairs and elevators, and long bike ramps at the path ends.

Another characteristic related to this part of the city is that almost all existing facilities operate until a certain time and then close, making this street completely unattractive and not offering any other quality to attract more visitors or revitalize the surrounding area. That's why our project includes a series of social and cultural-entertainment activities, such as an amphitheater for small cultural events, open-air art exhibition panels, small open commercial and artisanal units giving local artisans the opportunity to display their handmade traditional crafts from our

region. This pedestrian street also incorporates several areas for relaxation and recreation, as well as open workspaces in the form of linear benches, loungers, tables, chairs, public toilets, and places to grab a snack and refreshment for visitors.

One of the most significant qualities we achieved with this solution is the increase in low and tall greenery, which is entirely absent in the existing location. It is supplemented by ambient water surfaces and children's play equipment for fun and inclusivity for the youngest. To achieve energy efficiency in this solution, specific circular solar panels are included on each of the towers to accumulate and utilize solar energy for the functioning of all facilities and the lighting of the pedestrian bridge.